

Combinatorial indices for matrix semigroups and finite automata

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The talk is based on a series of works with
Yu.A. Alpin,
A.M. Maksaev,
E.R. Shafeev

Positive and Non-negative matrices

Let $A \in M_n(\mathbb{R})$ be an $n \times n$ matrix with the real entries.

A is **positive** if all its entries are positive, $a_{ij} > 0$,

A is **non-negative**, if all $a_{ij} \geq 0$.

Combinatorial matrix theory is an efficient approach to investigate non-negative matrices. Here

matrix properties \longrightarrow graph theory constructions

- **Directed graph** (or digraph) $G = (V, E)$. Loops are permitted but multiple edges are not. Order of G is the number of vertices in it.

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- A **closed walk** is a $u \rightarrow v$ walk where $u = v$.
- A **cycle** is a closed $u \rightarrow v$ walk with distinct vertices except for $u = v$.
- The length of a shortest cycle in G is called the **girth** of G .

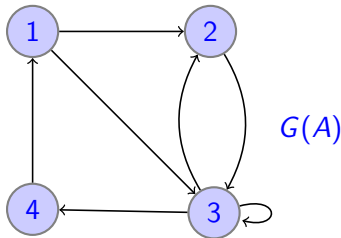
Correspondence between matrices and digraphs

Let $A = (a_{ij}) \in M_n(\mathbf{B})$. A corresponds to a digraph $G = G(A)$ of order n as follows. The vertex set is the set $V = \{1, \dots, n\}$. There is an edge (i, j) from i to j iff $a_{ij} \neq 0$. A is **adjacency** matrix of G .

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$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$



Definition

Non-negative $A \in M_n$, $A \geq 0$, $n \geq 2$, is called **decomposable** if \exists permutation matrix $P \in M_n$ such that

$$A = P \begin{pmatrix} B & 0 \\ C & D \end{pmatrix} P^t,$$

where B, D are square matrices and C is possibly a rectangular matrix. If A is not decomposable, then it is called **indecomposable**.

Definition

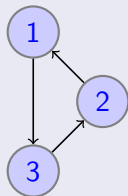
G is **strongly connected** iff for any $u, v \in V(G)$ there is an oriented path from u to v .

Theorem

Let $A \in M_n$, $A \geq 0$. TFAE

- A is indecomposable,
- $G(A)$ is strongly connected,
- $(I + A)^{n-1} > 0$,
- $\forall i, j, i \neq j, \exists k: (i, j)\text{-th element of } A^k \text{ is positive.}$

Example



$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$(I + A)^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

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Then $A^{k+1} = A^k \cdot A > 0$.

Theorem

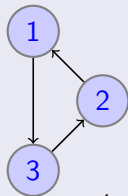
Let G be an digraph. THAE

- G is primitive,
- G is strongly connected and the GCD of all cycle lengths in G is 1,
- $A(G)$ is primitive.

Corollary

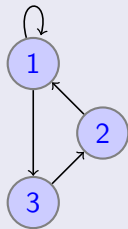
Let G be a primitive digraph. Then $\exp(G) = \exp(A(G))$.

Example



$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ is indecomposable and is

not primitive: $A^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$, $A^3 = I$, $A^4 = A$, etc.



$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ is primitive: $A^4 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

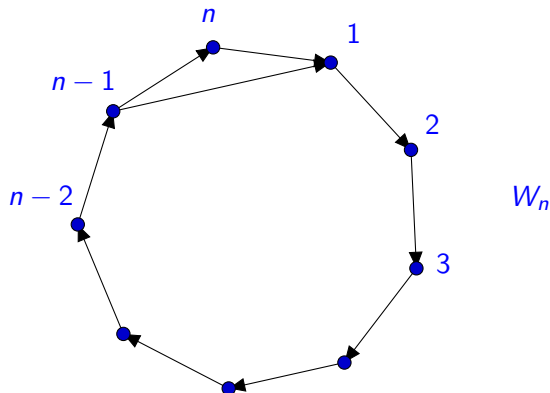
The Wielandt matrix is

$$W_n = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Theorem (Wielandt)

Let $A \in M_n$, $A \geq 0$. Then $\exp(A) \leq \exp(W_n) = (n-1)^2 + 1$.

Classical example



W_n is called a **Wielandt digraph**. It is the digraph with the maximal possible exponent, $(n-1)^2 + 1$.

Definition

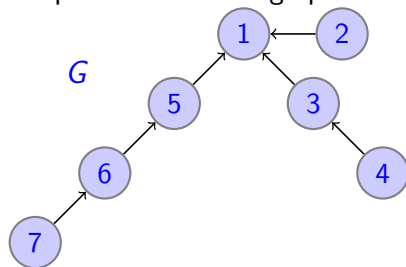
The *scrambling index* of a digraph G is the smallest positive integer k such that for every pair $u, v \in V(G)$, exists $w \in V(G)$ such that $u \xrightarrow{k} w$ and $v \xrightarrow{k} w$ in G .

The scrambling index of G is denoted by $k(G)$. If such w does not exist, let $k(G) = 0$.

$$k(W_n) = \left\lceil \frac{(n-1)^2 + 1}{2} \right\rceil < (n-1)^2 + 1 = \exp(W_n)$$

How to compute the scrambling index?

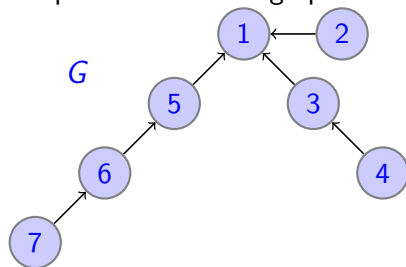
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What is the value of $k(G)$?

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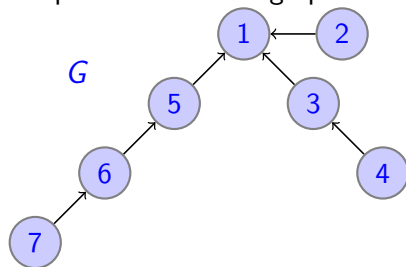


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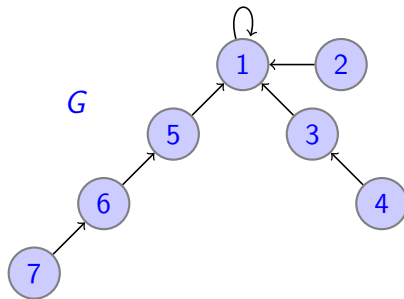
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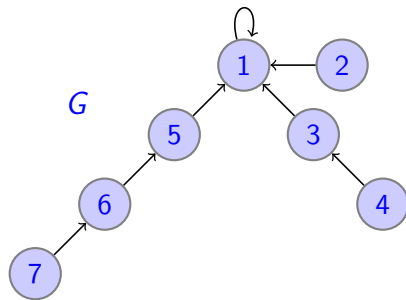
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Applications



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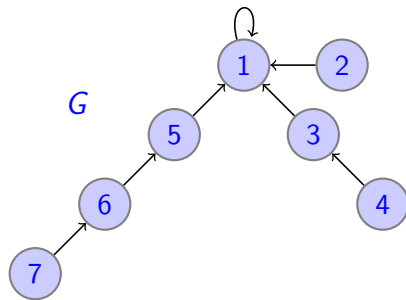
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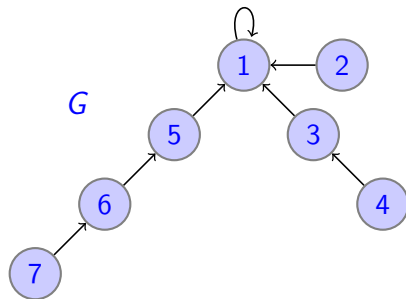


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$\forall a \in V(G)$, $a \xrightarrow{3} 1$, but it is impossible to get from 7 to 1 less than by 3 steps

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Applications: Markov chains

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Theorem (Akkelbek, Kirkland)

Let $P = (p_{ij})$ be an $n \times n$ primitive stochastic matrix with $k(P) = k$ and suppose that λ is a non-unit eigenvalue of P . Then $\tau(P^k) < 1$ and $|\lambda| \leq (\tau(P^k))^{1/k}$.

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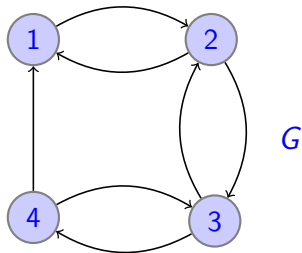
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- **The system continues in this way.**
- For some digraphs after certain time there exists a vertex that knows both bits of the information, independently on the choice of the initial two vertices. **When and what digraphs?**

How to compute the scrambling index?

Theorem (Lewin)

G is primitive iff G is strongly connected and $k(G) \neq 0$.

What is the value of $k(G)$?

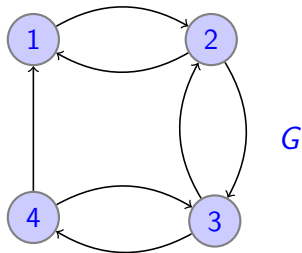


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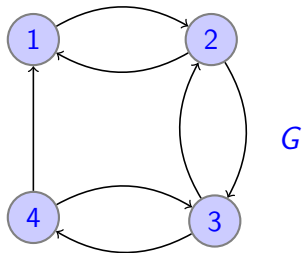
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$\Rightarrow k(G) = 0$.

Scrambling index in terms of the matrix theory

Definition (Seneta)

Matrix $A \in M_n(\mathbf{B})$ is named *scrambling matrix* if no two rows of it are orthogonal. Equivalently, if any two rows have at least one non-zero element in coincident position.

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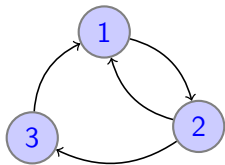
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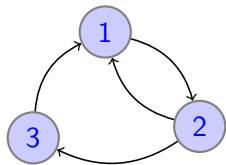
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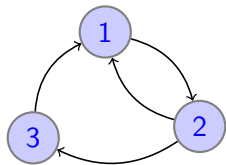


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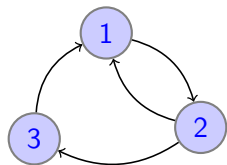
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$u = 2, v = 3$. Then $w = 3$ and the shortest paths are $2 \rightarrow 1 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 3$ and $3 \rightarrow 1 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 3$.

Some known bounds for the scrambling index

Theorem (Huang, Liu)

Let G be a primitive digraph of order $n \geq 2$ with d loops. Then

$$k(G) \leq n - \left\lceil \frac{d}{2} \right\rceil.$$

Denote

$$K(n, s) = n - s + \begin{cases} \left(\frac{s-1}{2} \right) n, & \text{when } s \text{ is odd,} \\ \left(\frac{n-1}{2} \right) s, & \text{when } s \text{ is even.} \end{cases}$$

Theorem (Akelbek, Kirkland)

Let G be a primitive digraph with n vertices and girth s . Then $k(G) \leq K(n, s)$.

Some known bounds for the scrambling index

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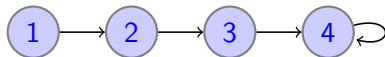
Let G be a *primitive* digraph of order $n \geq 3$. Then

$$k(G) \leq \left\lceil \frac{(n-1)^2 + 1}{2} \right\rceil.$$

Equality holds *iff* $G \cong W_n$.

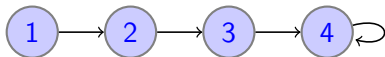
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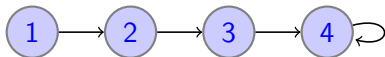
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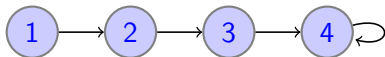
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- G is not primitive.
- G is not strongly connected.
- $k(G) = 3 \neq 0$.

Characterization of digraphs with $k(G) \neq 0$

Theorem (GM, 2019)

For an arbitrary digraph G the following conditions are equivalent:

- 1 $k(G) \neq 0$.
- 2 There exists a primitive subgraph G' of G s.t. $\forall v \in V(G) \exists w \in V(G')$ for which \exists a directed walk from v to w in G .

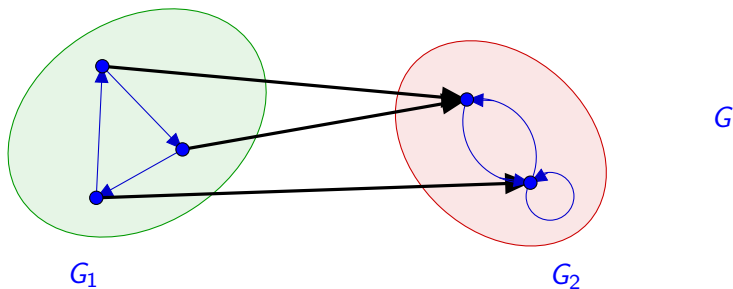
Definition

Let G be a directed graph. G has a $(G_1 \rightarrow G_2)$ -partition if G_1 and G_2 are non-empty subgraphs of the digraph G such that:

1. $V(G) = V(G_1) \sqcup V(G_2)$;
2. for each directed edge $e = (v_1, v_2) \in E(G)$, either $e \in E(G_1)$, or $e \in E(G_2)$, or $v_1 \in V(G_1), v_2 \in V(G_2)$.

Illustration

For a not strongly connected digraph G let us consider a $(G_1 \rightarrow G_2)$ -partition:



Remark

Geometrically this means that $V(G)$ is partitioned into two non-intersecting components $V(G_1)$ and $V(G_2)$ that are connected only by edges from G_1 to G_2 .

New upper bounds

Let G is not strongly connected digraph of order n with $k(G) \neq 0$ and G_1, G_2 be its $(G_1 \rightarrow G_2)$ -partition.

Theorem (GM, 2019)

Let s be a girth of G_2 . Then

$$k(G) \leq 1 + K(n-1, s).$$

Here,

$$K(n, s) = n - s + \begin{cases} \left(\frac{s-1}{2} \right) n, & \text{when } s \text{ is odd,} \\ \left(\frac{n-1}{2} \right) s, & \text{when } s \text{ is even.} \end{cases}$$

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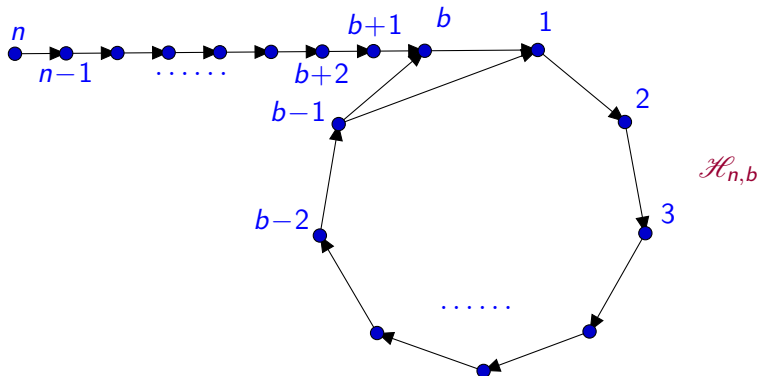
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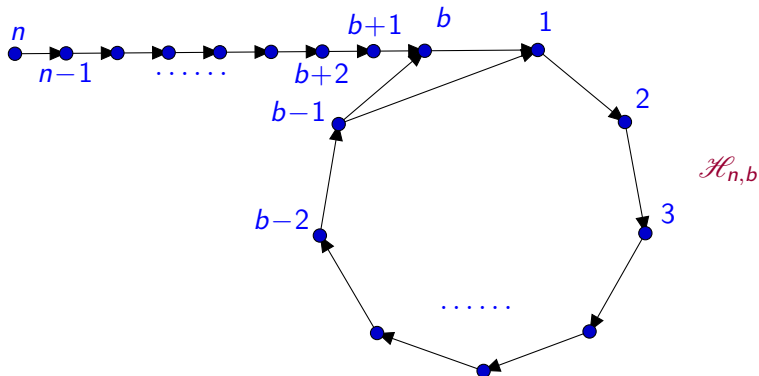
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If $b > 1$, then $k(\mathcal{H}_{n,b}) = n - b + \left\lceil \frac{(b-1)^2 + 1}{2} \right\rceil$.

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If $4 \leq n < 2b$, then equality holds if and only if $G \cong \mathcal{H}_{n,b}$.

Theorem (GM, 2019)

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Theorem (GM, 2019)

Let G be a *not strongly connected* digraph of order $n \geq 3$. Then

$$k(G) \leq 1 + \left\lceil \frac{(n-2)^2 + 1}{2} \right\rceil.$$

When $n \geq 4$, the equality holds if and only if $G \cong \mathcal{H}_{n,n-1}$.

Maps preserving scrambling index

Definition

- We say that T is a map *preserving the scrambling index*, if for all $A \in M_n(\mathbf{B})$ we have that $k(T(A)) = k(A)$.
- We say that T is a map *preserving the non-zero scrambling index*, if for all $A \in M_n(\mathbf{B})$, for which $k(A) \neq 0$, we have that $k(T(A)) = k(A)$.
- We say that T is a map *preserving the scrambling index on the set of primitive matrices* if \forall primitive $A \in M_n(\mathbf{B})$ we have that $k(T(A)) = k(A)$.

Theorem (Frobenius, 1896)

$T : M_n(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow M_n(\mathbb{C})$ — *linear, bijective,*

$$\det(T(A)) = \det A \quad \forall A \in M_n(\mathbb{C})$$



$$\exists P, Q \in GL_n(\mathbb{C}), \det(PQ) = 1 :$$

$$T(A) = PAQ \quad \forall A \in M_n(\mathbb{C})$$

or

$$T(A) = PA^t Q \quad \forall A \in M_n(\mathbb{C})$$

Definition

$T : M_{m,n}(\mathbb{F}) \rightarrow M_{m,n}(\mathbb{F})$ is **standard** iff

$\exists P \in GL_m(\mathbb{F}), Q \in GL_n(\mathbb{F})$:

$$T(A) = PAQ \quad \forall A \in M_{m,n}(\mathbb{F})$$

or $m = n$ and

$$T(A) = PA^tQ \quad \forall A \in M_{m,n}(\mathbb{F})$$

Let $X \in M_{m,n}(\mathbb{C})$. Then $C_r(X) \in M_{\binom{m}{r}, \binom{n}{r}}(\mathbb{C})$ consists from r -minors of X ordered lexicographically by rows and columns.

Theorem

[Schur, 1925] Let $T : M_{m,n}(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow M_{m,n}(\mathbb{C})$ be bijective and linear, $r, 2 \leq r \leq \min\{m, n\}$, be given. \exists bijective linear

$S : M_{\binom{m}{r}, \binom{n}{r}}(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow M_{\binom{m}{r}, \binom{n}{r}}(\mathbb{C})$ s.t.

$$C_r(T(X)) = S(C_r(X)) \quad \forall X \in M_{m,n}(\mathbb{C})$$

iff T is *standard*.

Theorem (Dieudonné, 1949)

$\Omega_n(\mathbb{F})$ is the set of singular matrices

$T : M_n(\mathbb{F}) \rightarrow M_n(\mathbb{F})$ — linear, bijective, $T(\Omega_n(\mathbb{F})) \subseteq \Omega_n(\mathbb{F})$



$$\exists P, Q \in GL_n(\mathbb{F})$$

$$T(A) = PAQ \quad \forall A \in M_n(\mathbb{F})$$

or

$$T(A) = PA^t Q \quad \forall A \in M_n(\mathbb{F})$$

E.B. Dynkin, Maximal subgroups of classical groups // The Proceedings of the Moscow Mathematical Society, 1 (1952) 39-166.

$$St_n(\mathbb{F}) \subseteq Fix(S) \subseteq GL_{n^2}(\mathbb{F})$$

The quantity of Linear Preservers for a given matrix invariant is a measure of its complexity. Indeed, to compute the invariant for a given matrix, we reduce it to a certain good form, where computations are easy.

$$\det(A) = \sum_{\sigma \in S_n} (-1)^n a_{1\sigma(1)} \cdots a_{n\sigma(n)}$$

- Computations of \det require $\sim O(n^3)$ operations

$$\text{per}(A) = \sum_{\sigma \in S_n} a_{1\sigma(1)} \cdots a_{n\sigma(n)}$$

- Computations of per require
 $\sim (n-1) \cdot (2^n - 1)$ multiplicative operations (Ryser formula).

The explanation

There are just few linear preservers of permanent in comparison with the determinant. Indeed,

Theorem (Marcus, May)

Linear transformation T is permanent preserver *iff*

$$T(A) = P_1 D_1 A D_2 P_2 \quad \forall A \in M_n(\mathbb{F}), \text{ or}$$

$$T(A) = P_1 D_1 A^t D_2 P_2 \quad \forall A \in M_n(\mathbb{F})$$

where D_i are invertible *diagonal* matrices, $i = 1, 2$, $\det(D_1 D_2) = 1$

P_i are *permutation* matrices, $i = 1, 2$

- Group theory

Question Is it possible that two non-isomorphic finite groups have the same group determinant?

Theorem (E. Formanek, D. Sibley)

A group determinant determines the group up to an automorphism

Proof is based on an extension of Dieudonné singularity preserver theorem to the direct products of matrix algebras.

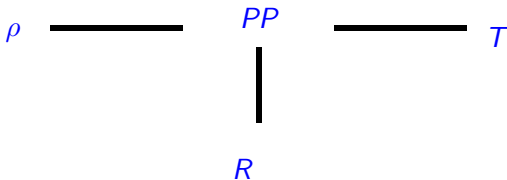
Preserve Problems

$\rho : M_n(R) \rightarrow S$ is a certain matrix invariant

$T : M_n(R) \rightarrow M_n(R)$

$$\rho(T(A)) = \rho(A) \quad \forall A \in M_n(R)$$

$T = ?$



Let \mathbb{F} be a field

$\emptyset \neq S \subseteq M_n(\mathbb{F})$	$T(S) \subseteq S$
$\rho : M_n(\mathbb{F}) \rightarrow \mathbb{F} \quad \forall A \in M_n(\mathbb{F})$	$\rho(T(A)) = \rho(A)$
$\sim : M_n(\mathbb{F})^2 \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$	$A \sim B \Rightarrow T(A) \sim T(B)$ $\forall A, B \in M_n(\mathbb{F})$
P – property in $M_n(\mathbb{F})$	$A \in P \Rightarrow T(A) \in P$

$T = ?$

The standard solution in linear case

There are $P, Q \in GL_n(\mathbb{F})$:

$$T(X) = PXQ \quad \forall X \in M_n(\mathbb{F})$$

or

$$T(X) = PXQ \quad \forall X^t \in M_n(\mathbb{F})$$

Basic methods to investigate PPs

1. Matrix theory
2. Theory of classical groups
3. Projective geometry
4. Algebraic geometry
5. Differential geometry
6. Dualisations
7. Tensor calculus
8. Functional identities
9. Model theory

Maps preserving scrambling index

Theorem

Let $n \geq 3$ and $T: M_n(\mathbf{B}) \rightarrow M_n(\mathbf{B})$ be an arbitrary mapping. Then T is a bijective additive operator which preserves non-zero scrambling index



\exists permutation matrix P such that $T(A) = P^T A P, \forall A \in M_n(\mathbf{B})$.

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For $A \in M_n(\mathbf{B})$ let us use the notation:

$$A_{id} = \sum_{k: A(k,k)=1} E_{kk}; \quad A_{od} = \sum_{i \neq j: A(i,j)=1} E_{ij}.$$

Maps preserving distinct values of the scrambling index

Theorem

Let $n \geq 3$ and $T: M_n(\mathbf{B}) \rightarrow M_n(\mathbf{B})$ be an additive bijective map.

- T preserves $k = 1$ iff \exists permutation matrices P, Q s.t.

$$T(A) = PAQ.$$

- T preserves $k = 0$ iff \exists a permutation matrix P , s.t.

$$T(A) = P^T A P.$$

- T preserves $k = \max$ iff \exists permutation matrices P, Q s.t.

$$T(A) = P^T A_{od} P + Q^T A_{id} Q \quad \text{for all } A \in M_n(\mathbf{B})$$

$$T(A) = P^T A_{od}^T P + Q^T A_{id} Q \quad \text{for all } A \in M_n(\mathbf{B})$$

Theorem

Let $n \geq 3$ and $T: M_n(\mathbf{B}) \rightarrow M_n(\mathbf{B})$ be the additive map preserves the scrambling index. Then T is a bijection.

Steps of the proof

1. Let $A, B \in M_n$. If A is primitive, then $A + B$ is primitive.
2. Let $A, B \in M_n$. If $k(A) \neq 0$, then $k(A + B) \neq 0$ and $k(A + B) \leq k(A)$.
3. Some notations: $C_n = E_{n,1} + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} E_{i,i+1}$ is the adjacency matrix of the elementary cycle $(12 \dots n)$. Then $W_n = C_n + E_{n-1,1}$ is the Wielandt matrix.
 $\mathcal{W} = \{A \in M_n(\mathbf{B}) \mid \exists P \in \mathcal{P}_n: P^T A P = W_n\}$ – Wielandt like
 $\mathcal{C} = \{A \in M_n(\mathbf{B}) \mid \exists P \in \mathcal{P}_n: P^T A P = C_n\}$ – cycles
 $\mathcal{E} = \{E_{ij} \in M_n(\mathbf{B}) \mid 1 \leq i, j \leq n\}$ – cells
 $\mathcal{D} = \{E_{ii} \in M_n(\mathbf{B}) \mid 1 \leq i \leq n\}$ – diagonal cells
 $\mathcal{N} = \mathcal{E} \setminus \mathcal{D} = \{E_{ij} \in \mathcal{E} \mid i \neq j\}$ – off-diagonal cells
4. By 2. $A \in \mathcal{W} \Rightarrow T(A) \in \mathcal{W}$.

Steps of the proof

5. T is bijective on \mathcal{W} .
 6. Let $n \geq 4$, $E_{ij} \in \mathcal{N}$. Then there exist two distinct matrices $W_1, W_2 \in \mathcal{W}$ such that $W_1 \circ W_2 = E_{ij}$, i.e. W_1 and W_2 have a unique non-zero entry in the position (i, j) .
 7. For any pair $E_{ij}, E_{kl} \in \mathcal{N}$, $E_{ij} \neq E_{kl}$, there exists a matrix $W \in \mathcal{W}$ such that $W \geq E_{ij}$, $W \not\geq E_{kl}$.
 8. Let $A \in M_n$. Then $T(A) = O$ iff $A = 0$.
 9. $T(\mathcal{N}) \subseteq \mathcal{N}$, and moreover, $T(\mathcal{N}) = \mathcal{N}$.
 10. For any digraph G the edge number $|E(G)| = |E(G(T(A(G))))|$.
 11. G does not have loops iff $G(T(A(G)))$ does not have loops.
 12. $T(\mathcal{C}) = \mathcal{C}$
 13. $T(\mathcal{D}) \subseteq \mathcal{D}$, and moreover, $T(\mathcal{D}) = \mathcal{D}$.
- Hence T is bijective!

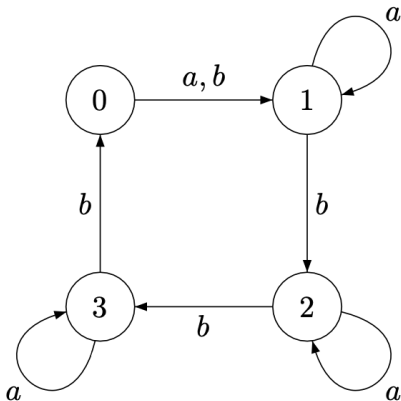
Application to minimal synchronizing automaton



Application to minimal synchronizing automaton

Definition

A word w is called a synchronizing (reset) word of a deterministic finite automaton *DFA* if w brings all states of the automaton to some specific state.



abbbabbba

Conjecture (Černý, 1964)

The shortest synchronizing word for any n -state complete DFA has length $\leq (n - 1)^2$.

Theorem (Černý, 1964)

There are DFAs with minimal synchronizing words of length exactly $(n - 1)^2$.

Theorem

All known bounds are of order n^3 .

Graphs of large exponent and/or scrambling index lead to examples of slowly synchronizing automata.

Thank you!