

The exact values of the entries of a Sinkhorn limit

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Problem

Given a square matrix with positive entries, turn it into a “close” doubly stochastic matrix of the same size (row and column sums are 1).

2×2 matrix:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 4 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

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$$\begin{bmatrix} 4 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Scale rows ...

$$\begin{bmatrix} .800000 & .200000 \\ .666667 & .333333 \end{bmatrix}$$

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2×2 matrix:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 4 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Scale rows, then columns ...

$$\begin{bmatrix} .545455 & .375000 \\ .454545 & .625000 \end{bmatrix}$$

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2 × 2 matrix:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 4 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Scale rows, then columns, then rows ...

$$\begin{bmatrix} .592593 & .407407 \\ .421053 & .578947 \end{bmatrix}$$

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2 × 2 matrix:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 4 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Scale rows, then columns, then rows, and so on . . .

$$\begin{bmatrix} .584615 & .413043 \\ .415385 & .586957 \end{bmatrix}$$

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Scale rows, then columns, then rows, and so on . . .

$$\begin{bmatrix} .585987 & .414013 \\ .414414 & .585586 \end{bmatrix}$$

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Scale rows, then columns, then rows, and so on . . .

$$\begin{bmatrix} .585752 & .414179 \\ .414248 & .585821 \end{bmatrix}$$

Problem

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Scale rows, then columns, then rows, and so on . . .

$$\begin{bmatrix} .585792 & .414208 \\ .414219 & .585781 \end{bmatrix}$$

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Scale rows, then columns, then rows, and so on . . .

$$\begin{bmatrix} .585785 & .414213 \\ .414215 & .585787 \end{bmatrix}$$

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In the limit, we obtain the **Sinkhorn limit** of $\begin{bmatrix} 4 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$.

Sinkhorn 1964: The limit exists.

Problem

Given a square matrix with positive entries, turn it into a “close” doubly stochastic matrix of the same size (row and column sums are 1).

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Scale rows, then columns, then rows, and so on ...

$$\begin{bmatrix} .585786 & .414214 \\ .414214 & .585786 \end{bmatrix} \approx \begin{bmatrix} 2 - \sqrt{2} & -1 + \sqrt{2} \\ -1 + \sqrt{2} & 2 - \sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

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Applications in computer science:

- preconditioning a linear system to improve numerical stability
- approximating the permanent of a matrix
- determining whether a graph has a perfect matching

Applications in other areas:

- predicting telephone traffic (Kruithof 1937)
video: <https://www.youtube.com/@EricRowland>
- transportation science (Deming–Stephan 1940)
- economics (Stone 1964)
- image processing (Herman–Lent 1976)
- operations research (Raghavan 1984)
- machine learning (Cuturi 2013)

Idel (2016) wrote a 100-page survey of Sinkhorn-related results.

Question

What are the exact entries of the Sinkhorn limit?

Notation:

$$\text{Sink}\left(\begin{bmatrix} 4 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} 2 - \sqrt{2} & -1 + \sqrt{2} \\ -1 + \sqrt{2} & 2 - \sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

Theorem (Nathanson 2020)

For a 2×2 matrix $A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$ with positive entries,

$$\text{Sink}(A) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{ad} + \sqrt{bc}} \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{ad} & \sqrt{bc} \\ \sqrt{bc} & \sqrt{ad} \end{bmatrix}.$$

For a **symmetric** 3×3 matrix A containing exactly 2 distinct entries, $\text{Sink}(A)$ was determined by Nathanson. 7 equivalence classes.

For a **symmetric** 3×3 matrix $A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{12} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{13} & a_{23} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix}$ with positive entries:

Theorem (Ekhad–Zeilberger 2019)

The top left entry x of $\text{Sink}(A)$ satisfies $c_4x^4 + \dots + c_1x + c_0 = 0$, where

$$c_4 = -(a_{12}^2 - a_{11}a_{22})(a_{13}^2 - a_{11}a_{33})(-a_{11}a_{22}a_{33} + a_{11}a_{23}^2 + a_{12}^2a_{33} - 2a_{12}a_{13}a_{23} + a_{13}^2a_{22})$$

$$\begin{aligned} c_3 = & (-4a_{11}^3a_{22}^2a_{33}^2 + 4a_{11}^3a_{22}a_{23}^2a_{33} + 4a_{11}^2a_{12}^2a_{22}a_{33}^2 - 3a_{11}^2a_{12}^2a_{23}^2a_{33} - 2a_{11}^2a_{12}a_{13}a_{22}a_{23}a_{33} + 4a_{11}^2a_{13}^2a_{22}^2a_{33} \\ & - 3a_{11}^2a_{13}^2a_{22}a_{23}^2 - 2a_{11}a_{12}^2a_{13}^2a_{22}a_{33} + 2a_{11}a_{12}^2a_{13}^2a_{23}^2 - a_{12}^4a_{13}^2a_{33} + 2a_{12}^3a_{13}^3a_{23} - a_{12}^2a_{13}^4a_{22}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} c_2 = & a_{11}(6a_{11}^2a_{22}^2a_{33}^2 - 6a_{11}^2a_{22}a_{23}^2a_{33} - 2a_{11}a_{12}^2a_{22}a_{33}^2 + 3a_{11}a_{12}^2a_{23}^2a_{33} - 2a_{11}a_{12}a_{13}a_{22}a_{23}a_{33} - 2a_{11}a_{13}^2a_{22}^2a_{33} \\ & + 3a_{11}a_{13}^2a_{22}a_{23}^2 + 2a_{12}^3a_{13}a_{23}a_{33} - 3a_{12}^2a_{13}^2a_{22}a_{33} - a_{12}^2a_{13}^2a_{23}^2 + 2a_{12}a_{13}^3a_{22}a_{23}) \end{aligned}$$

$$c_1 = -a_{11}^2(4a_{11}a_{22}^2a_{33}^2 - 4a_{11}a_{22}a_{23}^2a_{33} + a_{12}^2a_{23}^2a_{33} - 2a_{12}a_{13}a_{22}a_{23}a_{33} + a_{13}^2a_{22}a_{23}^2)$$

$$c_0 = a_{11}^3a_{22}a_{33}(a_{22}a_{33} - a_{23}^2)$$

Computed with Gröbner bases.

The entries are algebraic with degree at most 4.

For **general** 3×3 matrices, the Sinkhorn limit wasn't known!

$$\text{Sink} \left(\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 & 3 \\ 1 & 8 & 8 \\ 7 & 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \right) \approx \begin{bmatrix} .250338 & .377025 & .372637 \\ .066831 & .402607 & .530562 \\ .682830 & .220368 & .096801 \end{bmatrix}$$

What are these numbers? Assume they're algebraic.

Compute the top left entry to high precision:

$$x \approx .2503383740593684894545472868514292528338672217353016771994$$

Guess the degree. 4

Use the **PSLQ** integer relation algorithm to find a likely polynomial:

$$b_4x^4 + b_3x^3 + b_2x^2 + b_1x + b_0 \approx 0$$

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Use the **PSLQ** integer relation algorithm to find a likely polynomial:

$$36164989943x^4 + 333428071444x^3 + 65054452280x^2 - 41075578985x + 832844043 \approx 0$$

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Use the **PSLQ** integer relation algorithm to find a likely polynomial:

[garbage]

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Guess the degree. 5

Use the **PSLQ** integer relation algorithm to find a likely polynomial:

[garbage]

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What are these numbers? Assume they're algebraic.

Compute the top left entry to high precision:

$$x \approx .2503383740593684894545472868514292528338672217353016771994$$

Guess the degree. 6

Use the **PSLQ** integer relation algorithm to find a likely polynomial:

$$236379x^6 + 502124x^5 - 1610856x^4 + 19808x^3 + 661120x^2 - 94592x - 12288 = 0$$

Conjecture (Chen and Varghese 2019, Hofstra SSRP)

For 3×3 matrices A , the entries of $\text{Sink}(A)$ have degree at most 6.

It suffices to describe the **top left entry** of $\text{Sink}(A)$.

Fact

If we know one entry of $\text{Sink}(A)$ as a function of A , then we know them all.

Reason: Iterative scaling isn't sensitive to row or column order.

For a 3×3 matrix, what is the top left entry of $\text{Sink}(A)$? System of equations...

Row scaling — multiplication on the left.

Column scaling — multiplication on the right.

$$\text{Sink}(A) = \begin{bmatrix} s_{11} & s_{12} & s_{13} \\ s_{21} & s_{22} & s_{23} \\ s_{31} & s_{32} & s_{33} \end{bmatrix} \quad R = \begin{bmatrix} r_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & r_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & r_3 \end{bmatrix} \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix} \quad C = \begin{bmatrix} c_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & c_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & c_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

9 equations from $\text{Sink}(A) = RAC$:

$$s_{11} = r_1 a_{11} c_1 \quad s_{12} = r_1 a_{12} c_2 \quad s_{13} = r_1 a_{13} c_3$$

$$s_{21} = r_2 a_{21} c_1 \quad s_{22} = r_2 a_{22} c_2 \quad s_{23} = r_2 a_{23} c_3$$

$$s_{31} = r_3 a_{31} c_1 \quad s_{32} = r_3 a_{32} c_2 \quad s_{33} = r_3 a_{33} c_3$$

6 equations from row and column sums:

$$s_{11} + s_{12} + s_{13} = 1 \quad s_{11} + s_{21} + s_{31} = 1$$

$$s_{21} + s_{22} + s_{23} = 1 \quad s_{12} + s_{22} + s_{32} = 1$$

$$s_{31} + s_{32} + s_{33} = 1 \quad s_{13} + s_{23} + s_{33} = 1$$

Want s_{11} in terms of a_{ij} .

15 equations; eliminate 14 variables $r_1, r_2, r_3, c_1, c_2, c_3, s_{12}, s_{13}, \dots, s_{33}$.

Gröbner basis computation...

Theorem

The top left entry $x = s_{11}$ satisfies $b_6x^6 + \cdots + b_1x + b_0 = 0$, where . . .

$$\begin{aligned}b_6 &= (a_{11}a_{22} - a_{12}a_{21})(a_{11}a_{23} - a_{13}a_{21})(a_{11}a_{32} - a_{12}a_{31})(a_{11}a_{33} - a_{13}a_{31}) \\&\quad \cdot (a_{11}a_{22}a_{33} - a_{11}a_{23}a_{32} - a_{12}a_{21}a_{33} + a_{12}a_{23}a_{31} + a_{13}a_{21}a_{32} - a_{13}a_{22}a_{31}) \\b_5 &= -6a_{11}^5 a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{32} a_{33}^2 + 6a_{11}^5 a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{32}^2 a_{33} + 8a_{11}^4 a_{11} a_{12} a_{21} a_{22} a_{23} a_{32} a_{33}^2 \\&\quad - 5a_{11}^4 a_{12} a_{21} a_{23}^2 a_{32} a_{33} + 5a_{11}^4 a_{12} a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{31} a_{33}^2 - 8a_{11}^4 a_{12} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{32} a_{33} \\&\quad + 5a_{11}^4 a_{13} a_{21} a_{22}^2 a_{32} a_{33}^2 - 8a_{11}^4 a_{13} a_{21} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{32} a_{33} + 8a_{11}^4 a_{13} a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{31} a_{32} a_{33} \\&\quad - 5a_{11}^4 a_{11} a_{12} a_{22}^2 a_{33} a_{32}^2 - 2a_{11}^3 a_{12}^2 a_{21}^2 a_{23} a_{32} a_{33}^2 - 6a_{11}^3 a_{12}^2 a_{21} a_{22} a_{23} a_{31} a_{33}^2 \\&\quad + 6a_{11}^3 a_{12}^2 a_{21}^2 a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{32} a_{33} + 2a_{11}^3 a_{12}^2 a_{22}^2 a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{33}^2 - 6a_{11}^3 a_{12} a_{13} a_{21}^2 a_{22} a_{32} a_{33}^2 \\&\quad + 6a_{11}^3 a_{12} a_{13} a_{21}^2 a_{23}^2 a_{32} a_{33}^2 - 4a_{11}^3 a_{12} a_{13} a_{21}^2 a_{22} a_{31} a_{33}^2 + 4a_{11}^3 a_{12} a_{13} a_{21}^2 a_{23} a_{31} a_{32}^2 \\&\quad - 6a_{11}^3 a_{12} a_{13} a_{22}^2 a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{33}^2 + 6a_{11}^3 a_{12} a_{13} a_{22}^2 a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{32}^2 + 2a_{11}^3 a_{13}^2 a_{21}^2 a_{22}^2 a_{32} a_{33}^2 \\&\quad - 6a_{11}^3 a_{13} a_{21}^2 a_{22}^2 a_{31} a_{32} a_{33}^2 + 6a_{11}^3 a_{13} a_{21} a_{22} a_{23} a_{31} a_{32}^2 - 2a_{11}^3 a_{13}^2 a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{31} a_{32}^2 \\&\quad + a_{11}^2 a_{12}^3 a_{21}^2 a_{23} a_{31} a_{33}^2 - a_{11}^2 a_{12}^3 a_{21}^2 a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{33}^2 + a_{11}^2 a_{12}^2 a_{13} a_{21}^3 a_{32} a_{33}^2 \\&\quad + 4a_{11}^2 a_{12}^2 a_{13} a_{21}^2 a_{22} a_{31} a_{33}^2 - 4a_{11}^2 a_{12}^2 a_{13} a_{21}^2 a_{23} a_{31} a_{32} a_{33}^2 \\&\quad + 4a_{11}^2 a_{12}^2 a_{13} a_{21} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{33}^2 - 4a_{11}^2 a_{12}^2 a_{13} a_{21} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{32}^2 - a_{11}^2 a_{12}^2 a_{13} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{31}^3 \\&\quad - a_{11}^2 a_{12} a_{13}^2 a_{21}^2 a_{32} a_{33}^2 + 4a_{11}^2 a_{12} a_{13}^2 a_{21}^2 a_{22} a_{31} a_{32} a_{33}^2 - 4a_{11}^2 a_{12} a_{13}^2 a_{21}^2 a_{23} a_{31} a_{32}^2 \\&\quad + 4a_{11}^2 a_{12} a_{13}^2 a_{21}^2 a_{22}^2 a_{31} a_{33}^2 - 4a_{11}^2 a_{12} a_{13}^2 a_{21}^2 a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{32}^2 + a_{11}^2 a_{12} a_{13}^2 a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{31}^3 \\&\quad - a_{11}^2 a_{13}^2 a_{21}^2 a_{22} a_{31} a_{32}^2 + a_{11}^2 a_{13}^2 a_{21}^2 a_{22}^2 a_{31} a_{32}^2 - 2a_{11}^2 a_{12} a_{13}^2 a_{21}^2 a_{22} a_{31} a_{33}^2 \\&\quad + 2a_{11}^2 a_{12} a_{13}^2 a_{21}^2 a_{23} a_{31} a_{32}^2 - a_{12}^3 a_{13}^2 a_{21}^2 a_{31} a_{33}^2 + a_{12}^3 a_{13} a_{21}^2 a_{23} a_{31}^3 \\&\quad + a_{12}^2 a_{13}^3 a_{21}^2 a_{31} a_{32}^2 - a_{12}^2 a_{13}^3 a_{21}^2 a_{22} a_{31}^3\end{aligned}$$

Theorem

The top left entry $x = s_{11}$ satisfies $b_6x^6 + \cdots + b_1x + b_0 = 0$, where . . .

$$\begin{aligned}b_4 &= a_{11}(15a_{11}^4 a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{32} a_{33}^2 - 15a_{11}^4 a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{32} a_{33} - 12a_{11}^3 a_{12} a_{21} a_{22} a_{23} a_{32} a_{33}^2 \\&\quad + 10a_{11}^3 a_{12} a_{21} a_{23}^2 a_{32} a_{33} - 10a_{11}^3 a_{12} a_{22} a_{23} a_{31} a_{33}^2 + 12a_{11}^3 a_{12} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{32} a_{33} \\&\quad - 10a_{11}^3 a_{13} a_{21} a_{22} a_{32} a_{33}^2 + 12a_{11}^3 a_{13} a_{21} a_{22} a_{23} a_{32} a_{33} - 12a_{11}^3 a_{13} a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{31} a_{32} a_{33} \\&\quad + 10a_{11}^3 a_{13} a_{22} a_{23} a_{31} a_{32}^2 + a_{11}^2 a_{12}^2 a_{21} a_{23} a_{32} a_{33}^2 + 6a_{11}^2 a_{12}^2 a_{21} a_{22} a_{23} a_{31} a_{33}^2 \\&\quad - 6a_{11}^2 a_{12}^2 a_{21} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{32} a_{33} - a_{11}^2 a_{12} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{33} + 6a_{11}^2 a_{12} a_{13} a_{21} a_{22} a_{32} a_{33}^2 \\&\quad - 6a_{11}^2 a_{12} a_{13} a_{21}^2 a_{23} a_{32} a_{33} + 6a_{11}^2 a_{12} a_{13} a_{21} a_{22}^2 a_{31} a_{33}^2 - 6a_{11}^2 a_{12} a_{13} a_{21} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{32}^2 \\&\quad + 6a_{11}^2 a_{12} a_{13} a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{31} a_{33} - 6a_{11}^2 a_{12} a_{13} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{32} - a_{11}^2 a_{13}^2 a_{21} a_{22} a_{32} a_{33}^2 \\&\quad + 6a_{11}^2 a_{13}^2 a_{21} a_{22} a_{31} a_{32} a_{33} - 6a_{11}^2 a_{13}^2 a_{21} a_{22} a_{23} a_{31} a_{32}^2 + a_{11}^2 a_{13}^2 a_{22} a_{23} a_{31} a_{32}^2 \\&\quad - 2a_{11}^2 a_{12} a_{13}^2 a_{21} a_{22} a_{31} a_{33}^2 + 2a_{11}^2 a_{12} a_{13} a_{21} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{32}^2 + 2a_{11}^2 a_{12} a_{13}^2 a_{21}^2 a_{23} a_{31} a_{32}^2 \\&\quad - 2a_{11}^2 a_{12} a_{13}^2 a_{21} a_{22}^2 a_{31} a_{33} - 3a_{12}^2 a_{13}^2 a_{21} a_{22} a_{31} a_{33}^2 + 3a_{12}^2 a_{13}^2 a_{21} a_{23} a_{31} a_{32}^2) \\b_3 &= 2a_{11}^2(-10a_{11}^3 a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{32} a_{33}^2 + 10a_{11}^3 a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{32} a_{33} + 4a_{11}^2 a_{12} a_{21} a_{22} a_{23} a_{32} a_{33}^2 \\&\quad - 5a_{11}^2 a_{12} a_{21} a_{23}^2 a_{32} a_{33} + 5a_{11}^2 a_{12} a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{31} a_{33}^2 - 4a_{11}^2 a_{12} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{32} a_{33} \\&\quad + 5a_{11}^2 a_{13} a_{21} a_{22}^2 a_{32} a_{33}^2 - 4a_{11}^2 a_{13} a_{21} a_{22} a_{23} a_{32} a_{33}^2 + 4a_{11}^2 a_{13} a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{31} a_{32} a_{33} \\&\quad - 5a_{11}^2 a_{13} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{32}^2 - a_{11}^2 a_{12} a_{21} a_{22} a_{23} a_{31} a_{32}^2 + a_{11}^2 a_{12} a_{21} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{32} a_{33} \\&\quad - a_{11}^2 a_{12} a_{13} a_{21}^2 a_{22} a_{32} a_{33}^2 + a_{11}^2 a_{12} a_{13} a_{21} a_{23}^2 a_{32} a_{33}^2 - 2a_{11}^2 a_{12} a_{13} a_{21} a_{22}^2 a_{31} a_{33}^2 \\&\quad + 2a_{11}^2 a_{12} a_{13} a_{21} a_{22}^2 a_{31} a_{32}^2 - a_{11}^2 a_{12} a_{13} a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{31} a_{33}^2 + a_{11}^2 a_{12} a_{13} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{32}^2 \\&\quad - a_{11}^2 a_{13} a_{21} a_{22}^2 a_{31} a_{32} a_{33}^2 + a_{11}^2 a_{13} a_{21} a_{22} a_{23} a_{31} a_{32}^2 + a_{12}^2 a_{13} a_{21}^2 a_{23} a_{31} a_{32} a_{33} \\&\quad - a_{12}^2 a_{13} a_{21} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{33} - a_{12}^2 a_{13}^2 a_{21} a_{22} a_{31} a_{32} a_{33} + a_{12}^2 a_{13} a_{21} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{32})\end{aligned}$$

Theorem

The top left entry $x = s_{11}$ satisfies $b_6x^6 + \cdots + b_1x + b_0 = 0$, where . . .

$$\begin{aligned}b_2 &= a_{11}^3 (15a_{11}^2 a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{32} a_{33}^2 - 15a_{11}^2 a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{32} a_{33} - 2a_{11} a_{12} a_{21} a_{22} a_{23} a_{32} a_{33}^2 \\&\quad + 5a_{11} a_{12} a_{21} a_{23}^2 a_{32} a_{33} - 5a_{11} a_{12} a_{22} a_{23} a_{31} a_{33}^2 + 2a_{11} a_{12} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{32} a_{33} \\&\quad - 5a_{11} a_{13} a_{21} a_{22}^2 a_{32} a_{33}^2 + 2a_{11} a_{13} a_{21} a_{22} a_{23} a_{32}^2 a_{33} - 2a_{11} a_{13} a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{31} a_{32} a_{33} \\&\quad + 5a_{11} a_{13} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{32}^2 + a_{12} a_{13} a_{21} a_{22}^2 a_{31} a_{33}^2 - a_{12} a_{13} a_{21} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{32}^2) \\b_1 &= a_{11}^4 (-6a_{11} a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{32} a_{33}^2 + 6a_{11} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{32}^2 a_{33} - a_{12} a_{21} a_{23}^2 a_{32}^2 a_{33} \\&\quad + a_{12} a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{31} a_{33}^2 + a_{13} a_{21} a_{22}^2 a_{32} a_{33}^2 - a_{13} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{32}^2) \\b_0 &= a_{11}^5 a_{22} a_{23} a_{32} a_{33} (a_{22} a_{33} - a_{23} a_{32})\end{aligned}$$

Theorem

The top left entry $x = s_{11}$ satisfies $b_6x^6 + \cdots + b_1x + b_0 = 0$, where . . .

$$\begin{aligned}b_2 &= a_{11}^3 (15a_{11}^2 a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{32} a_{33}^2 - 15a_{11}^2 a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{32} a_{33} - 2a_{11} a_{12} a_{21} a_{22} a_{23} a_{32} a_{33}^2 \\&\quad + 5a_{11} a_{12} a_{21} a_{23}^2 a_{32} a_{33} - 5a_{11} a_{12} a_{22} a_{23} a_{31} a_{33}^2 + 2a_{11} a_{12} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{32} a_{33} \\&\quad - 5a_{11} a_{13} a_{21} a_{22}^2 a_{32} a_{33}^2 + 2a_{11} a_{13} a_{21} a_{22} a_{23} a_{32}^2 a_{33} - 2a_{11} a_{13} a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{31} a_{32} a_{33} \\&\quad + 5a_{11} a_{13} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{32}^2 + a_{12} a_{13} a_{21} a_{22}^2 a_{31} a_{33}^2 - a_{12} a_{13} a_{21} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{32}^2) \\b_1 &= a_{11}^4 (-6a_{11} a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{32} a_{33}^2 + 6a_{11} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{32}^2 a_{33} - a_{12} a_{21} a_{23}^2 a_{32}^2 a_{33} \\&\quad + a_{12} a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{31} a_{33}^2 + a_{13} a_{21} a_{22}^2 a_{32} a_{33}^2 - a_{13} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{32}^2) \\b_0 &= a_{11}^5 a_{22} a_{23} a_{32} a_{33} (a_{22} a_{33} - a_{23} a_{32})\end{aligned}$$

Better formulation?

Theorem

The top left entry $x = s_{11}$ satisfies $b_6x^6 + \cdots + b_1x + b_0 = 0$, where . . .

$$\begin{aligned}b_2 &= a_{11}^3 (15a_{11}^2 a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{32} a_{33}^2 - 15a_{11}^2 a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{32}^2 a_{33} - 2a_{11} a_{12} a_{21} a_{22} a_{23} a_{32} a_{33}^2 \\&\quad + 5a_{11} a_{12} a_{21} a_{23}^2 a_{32}^2 a_{33} - 5a_{11} a_{12} a_{22} a_{23} a_{31} a_{33}^2 + 2a_{11} a_{12} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{32} a_{33} \\&\quad - 5a_{11} a_{13} a_{21} a_{22}^2 a_{32} a_{33}^2 + 2a_{11} a_{13} a_{21} a_{22} a_{23} a_{32}^2 a_{33} - 2a_{11} a_{13} a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{31} a_{32} a_{33} \\&\quad + 5a_{11} a_{13} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{32}^2 + a_{12} a_{13} a_{21} a_{22}^2 a_{31} a_{33}^2 - a_{12} a_{13} a_{21} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{32}^2) \\b_1 &= a_{11}^4 (-6a_{11} a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{32} a_{33}^2 + 6a_{11} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{32}^2 a_{33} - a_{12} a_{21} a_{23}^2 a_{32}^2 a_{33} \\&\quad + a_{12} a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{31} a_{33}^2 + a_{13} a_{21} a_{22}^2 a_{32} a_{33}^2 - a_{13} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{32}^2) \\b_0 &= a_{11}^5 a_{22} a_{23} a_{32} a_{33} (a_{22} a_{33} - a_{23} a_{32})\end{aligned}$$

Better formulation?

$$\begin{aligned}b_6 &= (a_{11} a_{22} - a_{12} a_{21})(a_{11} a_{23} - a_{13} a_{21})(a_{11} a_{32} - a_{12} a_{31})(a_{11} a_{33} - a_{13} a_{31}) \\&\quad \cdot (a_{11} a_{22} a_{33} - a_{11} a_{23} a_{32} - a_{12} a_{21} a_{33} + a_{12} a_{23} a_{31} + a_{13} a_{21} a_{32} - a_{13} a_{22} a_{31})\end{aligned}$$

Theorem

The top left entry $x = s_{11}$ satisfies $b_6x^6 + \dots + b_1x + b_0 = 0$, where . . .

$$\begin{aligned}b_2 &= a_{11}^3 (15a_{11}^2 a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{32} a_{33}^2 - 15a_{11}^2 a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{32} a_{33} - 2a_{11} a_{12} a_{21} a_{22} a_{23} a_{32} a_{33}^2 \\&\quad + 5a_{11} a_{12} a_{21} a_{23}^2 a_{32} a_{33} - 5a_{11} a_{12} a_{22} a_{23} a_{31} a_{33}^2 + 2a_{11} a_{12} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{32} a_{33} \\&\quad - 5a_{11} a_{13} a_{21} a_{22}^2 a_{32} a_{33}^2 + 2a_{11} a_{13} a_{21} a_{22} a_{23} a_{32}^2 a_{33} - 2a_{11} a_{13} a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{31} a_{32} a_{33} \\&\quad + 5a_{11} a_{13} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{32}^2 + a_{12} a_{13} a_{21} a_{22}^2 a_{31} a_{33}^2 - a_{12} a_{13} a_{21} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{32}^2) \\b_1 &= a_{11}^4 (-6a_{11} a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{32} a_{33}^2 + 6a_{11} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{32}^2 a_{33} - a_{12} a_{21} a_{23}^2 a_{32}^2 a_{33} \\&\quad + a_{12} a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{31} a_{33}^2 + a_{13} a_{21} a_{22}^2 a_{32} a_{33}^2 - a_{13} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{32}^2) \\b_0 &= a_{11}^5 a_{22} a_{23} a_{32} a_{33} (a_{22} a_{33} - a_{23} a_{32})\end{aligned}$$

Better formulation?

$$\begin{aligned}b_6 &= (a_{11} a_{22} - a_{12} a_{21})(a_{11} a_{23} - a_{13} a_{21})(a_{11} a_{32} - a_{12} a_{31})(a_{11} a_{33} - a_{13} a_{31}) \\&\quad \cdot (a_{11} a_{22} a_{33} - a_{11} a_{23} a_{32} - a_{12} a_{21} a_{33} + a_{12} a_{23} a_{31} + a_{13} a_{21} a_{32} - a_{13} a_{22} a_{31}) \\&= \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{23} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{13} \\ a_{31} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix}\end{aligned}$$

b_6 is the product of 5 minors

Theorem

The top left entry $x = s_{11}$ satisfies $b_6x^6 + \dots + b_1x + b_0 = 0$, where . . .

$$\begin{aligned}b_2 &= a_{11}^3 (15a_{11}^2 a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{32} a_{33}^2 - 15a_{11}^2 a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{32} a_{33} - 2a_{11} a_{12} a_{21} a_{22} a_{23} a_{32} a_{33}^2 \\&\quad + 5a_{11} a_{12} a_{21} a_{23}^2 a_{32} a_{33} - 5a_{11} a_{12} a_{22} a_{23} a_{31} a_{33}^2 + 2a_{11} a_{12} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{32} a_{33} \\&\quad - 5a_{11} a_{13} a_{21} a_{22}^2 a_{32} a_{33}^2 + 2a_{11} a_{13} a_{21} a_{22} a_{23} a_{32}^2 a_{33} - 2a_{11} a_{13} a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{31} a_{32} a_{33} \\&\quad + 5a_{11} a_{13} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{32}^2 + a_{12} a_{13} a_{21} a_{22}^2 a_{31} a_{33}^2 - a_{12} a_{13} a_{21} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{32}^2) \\b_1 &= a_{11}^4 (-6a_{11} a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{32} a_{33}^2 + 6a_{11} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{32}^2 a_{33} - a_{12} a_{21} a_{23}^2 a_{32}^2 a_{33} \\&\quad + a_{12} a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{31} a_{33}^2 + a_{13} a_{21} a_{22}^2 a_{32} a_{33}^2 - a_{13} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{32}^2) \\b_0 &= a_{11}^5 a_{22} a_{23} a_{32} a_{33} (a_{22} a_{33} - a_{23} a_{32})\end{aligned}$$

Better formulation?

$$\begin{aligned}b_6 &= (a_{11} a_{22} - a_{12} a_{21})(a_{11} a_{23} - a_{13} a_{21})(a_{11} a_{32} - a_{12} a_{31})(a_{11} a_{33} - a_{13} a_{31}) \\&\quad \cdot (a_{11} a_{22} a_{33} - a_{11} a_{23} a_{32} - a_{12} a_{21} a_{33} + a_{12} a_{23} a_{31} + a_{13} a_{21} a_{32} - a_{13} a_{22} a_{31}) \\&= \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{23} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{13} \\ a_{31} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix}\end{aligned}$$

b_6 is the product of 5 minors involving a_{11}

Theorem

The top left entry $x = s_{11}$ satisfies $b_6x^6 + \dots + b_1x + b_0 = 0$, where . . .

$$\begin{aligned}b_2 &= a_{11}^3 (15a_{11}^2 a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{32} a_{33}^2 - 15a_{11}^2 a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{32} a_{33} - 2a_{11} a_{12} a_{21} a_{22} a_{23} a_{32} a_{33}^2 \\&\quad + 5a_{11} a_{12} a_{21} a_{23}^2 a_{32} a_{33} - 5a_{11} a_{12} a_{22} a_{23} a_{31} a_{33}^2 + 2a_{11} a_{12} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{32} a_{33} \\&\quad - 5a_{11} a_{13} a_{21} a_{22}^2 a_{32} a_{33}^2 + 2a_{11} a_{13} a_{21} a_{22} a_{23} a_{32}^2 a_{33} - 2a_{11} a_{13} a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{31} a_{32} a_{33} \\&\quad + 5a_{11} a_{13} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{32}^2 + a_{12} a_{13} a_{21} a_{22}^2 a_{31} a_{33}^2 - a_{12} a_{13} a_{21} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{32}^2) \\b_1 &= a_{11}^4 (-6a_{11} a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{32} a_{33}^2 + 6a_{11} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{32}^2 a_{33} - a_{12} a_{21} a_{23}^2 a_{32}^2 a_{33} \\&\quad + a_{12} a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{31} a_{33}^2 + a_{13} a_{21} a_{22}^2 a_{32} a_{33}^2 - a_{13} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{32}^2) \\b_0 &= a_{11}^5 a_{22} a_{23} a_{32} a_{33} (a_{22} a_{33} - a_{23} a_{32})\end{aligned}$$

Better formulation?

$$\begin{aligned}b_6 &= (a_{11} a_{22} - a_{12} a_{21})(a_{11} a_{23} - a_{13} a_{21})(a_{11} a_{32} - a_{12} a_{31})(a_{11} a_{33} - a_{13} a_{31}) \\&\quad \cdot (a_{11} a_{22} a_{33} - a_{11} a_{23} a_{32} - a_{12} a_{21} a_{33} + a_{12} a_{23} a_{31} + a_{13} a_{21} a_{32} - a_{13} a_{22} a_{31}) \\&= \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{23} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{13} \\ a_{31} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix}\end{aligned}$$

b_6 is the product of 5 minors involving a_{11} and 0 not.

Theorem

The top left entry $x = s_{11}$ satisfies $b_6x^6 + \dots + b_1x + b_0 = 0$, where . . .

$$\begin{aligned}b_2 &= a_{11}^3 (15a_{11}^2 a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{32} a_{33}^2 - 15a_{11}^2 a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{32} a_{33} - 2a_{11} a_{12} a_{21} a_{22} a_{23} a_{32} a_{33}^2 \\&\quad + 5a_{11} a_{12} a_{21} a_{23}^2 a_{32} a_{33} - 5a_{11} a_{12} a_{22} a_{23} a_{31} a_{33}^2 + 2a_{11} a_{12} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{32} a_{33} \\&\quad - 5a_{11} a_{13} a_{21} a_{22}^2 a_{32} a_{33}^2 + 2a_{11} a_{13} a_{21} a_{22} a_{23} a_{32}^2 a_{33} - 2a_{11} a_{13} a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{31} a_{32} a_{33} \\&\quad + 5a_{11} a_{13} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{32}^2 + a_{12} a_{13} a_{21} a_{22}^2 a_{31} a_{33}^2 - a_{12} a_{13} a_{21} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{32}^2) \\b_1 &= a_{11}^4 (-6a_{11} a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{32} a_{33}^2 + 6a_{11} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{32}^2 a_{33} - a_{12} a_{21} a_{23}^2 a_{32}^2 a_{33} \\&\quad + a_{12} a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{31} a_{33}^2 + a_{13} a_{21} a_{22}^2 a_{32} a_{33}^2 - a_{13} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{32}^2) \\b_0 &= a_{11}^5 a_{22} a_{23} a_{32} a_{33} (a_{22} a_{33} - a_{23} a_{32})\end{aligned}$$

Better formulation?

$$\begin{aligned}b_6 &= (a_{11} a_{22} - a_{12} a_{21})(a_{11} a_{23} - a_{13} a_{21})(a_{11} a_{32} - a_{12} a_{31})(a_{11} a_{33} - a_{13} a_{31}) \\&\quad \cdot (a_{11} a_{22} a_{33} - a_{11} a_{23} a_{32} - a_{12} a_{21} a_{33} + a_{12} a_{23} a_{31} + a_{13} a_{21} a_{32} - a_{13} a_{22} a_{31}) \\&= \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{23} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{13} \\ a_{31} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix}\end{aligned}$$

b_6 is the product of 5 minors involving a_{11} and 0 not.

b_0 is the product of 0 minors involving a_{11} and 5 not (and a_{11}^5).

Theorem

The top left entry $x = s_{11}$ satisfies $b_6x^6 + \dots + b_1x + b_0 = 0$, where . . .

$$\begin{aligned}b_2 &= a_{11}^3 (15a_{11}^2 a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{32} a_{33}^2 - 15a_{11}^2 a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{32} a_{33} - 2a_{11} a_{12} a_{21} a_{22} a_{23} a_{32} a_{33}^2 \\&\quad + 5a_{11} a_{12} a_{21} a_{23}^2 a_{32} a_{33} - 5a_{11} a_{12} a_{22} a_{23} a_{31} a_{33}^2 + 2a_{11} a_{12} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{32} a_{33} \\&\quad - 5a_{11} a_{13} a_{21} a_{22}^2 a_{32} a_{33}^2 + 2a_{11} a_{13} a_{21} a_{22} a_{23} a_{32}^2 a_{33} - 2a_{11} a_{13} a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{31} a_{32} a_{33} \\&\quad + 5a_{11} a_{13} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{32}^2 + a_{12} a_{13} a_{21} a_{22}^2 a_{31} a_{33}^2 - a_{12} a_{13} a_{21} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{32}^2) \\b_1 &= a_{11}^4 (-6a_{11} a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{32} a_{33}^2 + 6a_{11} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{32}^2 a_{33} - a_{12} a_{21} a_{23}^2 a_{32}^2 a_{33} \\&\quad + a_{12} a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{31} a_{33}^2 + a_{13} a_{21} a_{22}^2 a_{32} a_{33}^2 - a_{13} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{32}^2) \\b_0 &= a_{11}^5 a_{22} a_{23} a_{32} a_{33} (a_{22} a_{33} - a_{23} a_{32})\end{aligned}$$

Better formulation?

$$\begin{aligned}b_6 &= (a_{11} a_{22} - a_{12} a_{21})(a_{11} a_{23} - a_{13} a_{21})(a_{11} a_{32} - a_{12} a_{31})(a_{11} a_{33} - a_{13} a_{31}) \\&\quad \cdot (a_{11} a_{22} a_{33} - a_{11} a_{23} a_{32} - a_{12} a_{21} a_{33} + a_{12} a_{23} a_{31} + a_{13} a_{21} a_{32} - a_{13} a_{22} a_{31}) \\&= \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{23} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{13} \\ a_{31} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix}\end{aligned}$$

Multiply each b_k by a_{11} .

b_6 is the product of 5 minors involving a_{11} and 0 not.

b_0 is the product of 0 minors involving a_{11} and 5 not (and a_{11}^5).

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Better formulation?

$$\begin{aligned}b_6 &= (a_{11} a_{22} - a_{12} a_{21})(a_{11} a_{23} - a_{13} a_{21})(a_{11} a_{32} - a_{12} a_{31})(a_{11} a_{33} - a_{13} a_{31}) \\&\quad \cdot (a_{11} a_{22} a_{33} - a_{11} a_{23} a_{32} - a_{12} a_{21} a_{33} + a_{12} a_{23} a_{31} + a_{13} a_{21} a_{32} - a_{13} a_{22} a_{31}) \\&= \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{23} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{13} \\ a_{31} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix}\end{aligned}$$

Multiply each b_k by a_{11} .

$a_{11} b_6$ is the product of 6 minors involving a_{11} and 0 not.

$a_{11} b_0$ is the product of 0 minors involving a_{11} and 6 not (and a_{11}^6).

$a_{11} b_k$ involves products of k minors involving a_{11} and $6 - k$ not?

Theorem (Rowland–Wu 2024)

Let A be a 3×3 matrix with positive entries.

The top left entry x of $\text{Sink}(A)$ satisfies $b_6x^6 + \cdots + b_1x + b_0 = 0$, where

$$a_{11}b_6 = \Sigma\left(\{\} \{2\} \{2\} \{3\} \{3\} \{2,3\}\right)$$

$$a_{11}b_5 = -3\Sigma\left(\{\} \{2\} \{2\} \{3\} \{3\}\right) - \Sigma\left(\{\} \{2\} \{2\} \{3\} \{2,3\}\right) + \Sigma\left(\{2\} \{2\} \{3\} \{3\} \{2,3\}\right)$$

$$a_{11}b_4 = 4\Sigma\left(\{\} \{2\} \{2\} \{3\}\right) + \Sigma\left(\{\} \{2\} \{3\} \{2,3\}\right) - 3\Sigma\left(\{2\} \{2\} \{3\} \{3\}\right)$$

$$a_{11}b_3 = -4\Sigma\left(\{\} \{2\} \{2\}\right) - 5\Sigma\left(\{\} \{2\} \{3\}\right) + \Sigma\left(\{\} \{2\} \{2,3\}\right) + \Sigma\left(\{2\} \{2\} \{3\}\right) - \Sigma\left(\{2\} \{3\} \{2,3\}\right)$$

$$a_{11}b_2 = 4\Sigma\left(\{\} \{2\}\right) - 3\Sigma\left(\{\} \{2,3\}\right) + \Sigma\left(\{2\} \{3\}\right)$$

$$a_{11}b_1 = -3\Sigma\left(\{\}\right) - \Sigma\left(\{2\}\right) + \Sigma\left(\{2,3\}\right)$$

$$a_{11}b_0 = \Sigma\left(\right).$$

$\Sigma(S)$ is a sum of products of $|S|$ minors involving a_{11} and $6 - |S|$ not.

The pairs $\begin{smallmatrix} R \\ C \end{smallmatrix}$ specify row and column indices for the minors involving a_{11} .

Formal definitions:

Let $R \subseteq \{2, 3\}$ and $C \subseteq \{2, 3\}$ with $|R| = |C|$.

$$\Delta \binom{R}{C} = \det A_{\{1\} \cup R, \{1\} \cup C} \quad M(S) = \prod_{(R, C) \in S} \Delta \binom{R}{C} \cdot \prod_{(R, C) \notin S} \Gamma \binom{R}{C}$$

$$\Gamma \binom{R}{C} = a_{11} \det A_{R, C} \quad \Sigma(S) = \sum_{T \equiv S} M(T)$$

Coefficients:

$$a_{11} b_6 = a_{11} (a_{11}a_{22} - a_{12}a_{21}) (a_{11}a_{23} - a_{13}a_{21}) (a_{11}a_{32} - a_{12}a_{31}) (a_{11}a_{33} - a_{13}a_{31}) \\ \cdot (a_{11}a_{22}a_{33} - a_{11}a_{23}a_{32} - a_{12}a_{21}a_{33} + a_{12}a_{23}a_{31} + a_{13}a_{21}a_{32} - a_{13}a_{22}a_{31})$$

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Let $R \subseteq \{2, 3\}$ and $C \subseteq \{2, 3\}$ with $|R| = |C|$.

$$\Delta \binom{R}{C} = \det A_{\{1\} \cup R, \{1\} \cup C} \quad M(S) = \prod_{(R, C) \in S} \Delta \binom{R}{C} \cdot \prod_{(R, C) \notin S} \Gamma \binom{R}{C}$$

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Coefficients:

$$\begin{aligned} a_{11} b_6 &= a_{11} (a_{11}a_{22} - a_{12}a_{21}) (a_{11}a_{23} - a_{13}a_{21}) (a_{11}a_{32} - a_{12}a_{31}) (a_{11}a_{33} - a_{13}a_{31}) \\ &\quad \cdot (a_{11}a_{22}a_{33} - a_{11}a_{23}a_{32} - a_{12}a_{21}a_{33} + a_{12}a_{23}a_{31} + a_{13}a_{21}a_{32} - a_{13}a_{22}a_{31}) \\ &= \Delta \binom{\{1\}}{\{1\}} \Delta \binom{\{2\}}{\{2\}} \Delta \binom{\{2\}}{\{3\}} \Delta \binom{\{3\}}{\{2\}} \Delta \binom{\{3\}}{\{3\}} \Delta \binom{\{2, 3\}}{\{2, 3\}} \end{aligned}$$

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$$a_{11} b_0 = a_{11}^6 a_{22} a_{23} a_{32} a_{33} (a_{22} a_{33} - a_{23} a_{32})$$

Formal definitions:

Let $R \subseteq \{2, 3\}$ and $C \subseteq \{2, 3\}$ with $|R| = |C|$.

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$$a_{11} b_6 = a_{11} (a_{11} a_{22} - a_{12} a_{21}) (a_{11} a_{23} - a_{13} a_{21}) (a_{11} a_{32} - a_{12} a_{31}) (a_{11} a_{33} - a_{13} a_{31}) \\ \cdot (a_{11} a_{22} a_{33} - a_{11} a_{23} a_{32} - a_{12} a_{21} a_{33} + a_{12} a_{23} a_{31} + a_{13} a_{21} a_{32} - a_{13} a_{22} a_{31})$$

$$= \Delta \binom{\{1\}}{\{1\}} \Delta \binom{\{2\}}{\{2\}} \Delta \binom{\{2\}}{\{3\}} \Delta \binom{\{3\}}{\{2\}} \Delta \binom{\{3\}}{\{3\}} \Delta \binom{\{2, 3\}}{\{2, 3\}} \\ = M \binom{\{1\} \{2\} \{2\} \{3\} \{3\} \{2, 3\}}{\{1\} \{2\} \{3\} \{2\} \{3\} \{2, 3\}}$$

$$a_{11} b_0 = a_{11}^6 a_{22} a_{23} a_{32} a_{33} (a_{22} a_{33} - a_{23} a_{32}) \\ = \Gamma \binom{\{1\}}{\{1\}} \Gamma \binom{\{2\}}{\{2\}} \Gamma \binom{\{2\}}{\{3\}} \Gamma \binom{\{3\}}{\{2\}} \Gamma \binom{\{3\}}{\{3\}} \Gamma \binom{\{2, 3\}}{\{2, 3\}} \\ = M()$$

$$a_{11} b_1 = a_{11}^5 (-6 a_{11} a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{32} a_{33}^2 + 6 a_{11} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{32}^2 a_{33} - a_{12} a_{21} a_{23}^2 a_{32}^2 a_{33} \\ + a_{12} a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{31} a_{33}^2 + a_{13} a_{21} a_{22}^2 a_{32} a_{33}^2 - a_{13} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{32}^2)$$

Formal definitions:

Let $R \subseteq \{2, 3\}$ and $C \subseteq \{2, 3\}$ with $|R| = |C|$.

$$\Delta \binom{R}{C} = \det A_{\{1\} \cup R, \{1\} \cup C} \quad M(S) = \prod_{(R, C) \in S} \Delta \binom{R}{C} \cdot \prod_{(R, C) \notin S} \Gamma \binom{R}{C}$$

$$\Gamma \binom{R}{C} = a_{11} \det A_{R, C} \quad \Sigma(S) = \sum_{T \equiv S} M(T)$$

Coefficients:

$$\begin{aligned} a_{11} b_6 &= a_{11} (a_{11}a_{22} - a_{12}a_{21})(a_{11}a_{23} - a_{13}a_{21})(a_{11}a_{32} - a_{12}a_{31})(a_{11}a_{33} - a_{13}a_{31}) \\ &\quad \cdot (a_{11}a_{22}a_{33} - a_{11}a_{23}a_{32} - a_{12}a_{21}a_{33} + a_{12}a_{23}a_{31} + a_{13}a_{21}a_{32} - a_{13}a_{22}a_{31}) \\ &= \Delta \binom{\{1\}}{\{1\}} \Delta \binom{\{2\}}{\{2\}} \Delta \binom{\{2\}}{\{3\}} \Delta \binom{\{3\}}{\{2\}} \Delta \binom{\{3\}}{\{3\}} \Delta \binom{\{2, 3\}}{\{2, 3\}} \\ &= M \binom{\{1\} \{2\} \{2\} \{3\} \{3\} \{2, 3\}}{\{1\} \{2\} \{3\} \{2\} \{3\} \{2, 3\}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} a_{11} b_0 &= a_{11}^6 a_{22}a_{23}a_{32}a_{33} (a_{22}a_{33} - a_{23}a_{32}) \\ &= \Gamma \binom{\{1\}}{\{1\}} \Gamma \binom{\{2\}}{\{2\}} \Gamma \binom{\{2\}}{\{3\}} \Gamma \binom{\{3\}}{\{2\}} \Gamma \binom{\{3\}}{\{3\}} \Gamma \binom{\{2, 3\}}{\{2, 3\}} \\ &= M \binom{}{} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} a_{11} b_1 &= a_{11}^5 (-6a_{11}a_{22}^2a_{23}a_{32}a_{33}^2 + 6a_{11}a_{22}a_{23}^2a_{32}^2a_{33} - a_{12}a_{21}a_{23}^2a_{32}^2a_{33} \\ &\quad + a_{12}a_{22}^2a_{23}a_{31}a_{33}^2 + a_{13}a_{21}a_{22}^2a_{32}a_{33}^2 - a_{13}a_{22}a_{23}^2a_{31}a_{32}^2) \\ &= -3M \binom{\{1\}}{\{1\}} - M \binom{\{2\}}{\{2\}} - M \binom{\{2\}}{\{3\}} - M \binom{\{3\}}{\{2\}} - M \binom{\{3\}}{\{3\}} + M \binom{\{2, 3\}}{\{2, 3\}} \end{aligned}$$

Formal definitions:

Let $R \subseteq \{2, 3\}$ and $C \subseteq \{2, 3\}$ with $|R| = |C|$.

$$\Delta \binom{R}{C} = \det A_{\{1\} \cup R, \{1\} \cup C} \quad M(S) = \prod_{(R, C) \in S} \Delta \binom{R}{C} \cdot \prod_{(R, C) \notin S} \Gamma \binom{R}{C}$$

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Coefficients:

$$a_{11} b_6 = a_{11} (a_{11} a_{22} - a_{12} a_{21}) (a_{11} a_{23} - a_{13} a_{21}) (a_{11} a_{32} - a_{12} a_{31}) (a_{11} a_{33} - a_{13} a_{31}) \\ \cdot (a_{11} a_{22} a_{33} - a_{11} a_{23} a_{32} - a_{12} a_{21} a_{33} + a_{12} a_{23} a_{31} + a_{13} a_{21} a_{32} - a_{13} a_{22} a_{31})$$

$$= \Delta \binom{\{1\}}{\{1\}} \Delta \binom{\{2\}}{\{2\}} \Delta \binom{\{2\}}{\{3\}} \Delta \binom{\{3\}}{\{2\}} \Delta \binom{\{3\}}{\{3\}} \Delta \binom{\{2, 3\}}{\{2, 3\}} \\ = M \binom{\{1\} \{2\} \{2\} \{3\} \{3\} \{2, 3\}}{\{1\} \{2\} \{3\} \{2\} \{3\} \{2, 3\}}$$

$$a_{11} b_0 = a_{11}^6 a_{22} a_{23} a_{32} a_{33} (a_{22} a_{33} - a_{23} a_{32}) \\ = \Gamma \binom{\{1\}}{\{1\}} \Gamma \binom{\{2\}}{\{2\}} \Gamma \binom{\{2\}}{\{3\}} \Gamma \binom{\{3\}}{\{2\}} \Gamma \binom{\{3\}}{\{3\}} \Gamma \binom{\{2, 3\}}{\{2, 3\}} \\ = M()$$

$$a_{11} b_1 = a_{11}^5 (-6 a_{11} a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{32} a_{33}^2 + 6 a_{11} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{32}^2 a_{33} - a_{12} a_{21} a_{23}^2 a_{32}^2 a_{33} \\ + a_{12} a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{31} a_{33}^2 + a_{13} a_{21} a_{22}^2 a_{32} a_{33}^2 - a_{13} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{32}^2) \\ = -3M \binom{\{1\}}{\{1\}} - M \binom{\{2\}}{\{2\}} - M \binom{\{2\}}{\{3\}} - M \binom{\{3\}}{\{2\}} - M \binom{\{3\}}{\{3\}} + M \binom{\{2, 3\}}{\{2, 3\}} \\ = -3\Sigma \binom{\{1\}}{\{1\}} - \Sigma \binom{\{2\}}{\{2\}} + \Sigma \binom{\{2, 3\}}{\{2, 3\}}$$

2×2 :

The top left entry x of $\text{Sink}(\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix})$ satisfies $(ad - bc)x^2 - 2adx + ad = 0$. Equivalently,

$$\Sigma\left(\begin{array}{cc} \{\} & \{2\} \\ \{\} & \{2\} \end{array}\right) x^2 - 2\Sigma\left(\begin{array}{c} \{\} \\ \{\} \end{array}\right) x + \Sigma\left(\begin{array}{c} \{\} \\ \{\} \end{array}\right) = 0.$$

Why degree **2** for 2×2 matrices? $1 + 1 = 2$

Why degree **6** for 3×3 matrices? $1 + 4 + 1 = 6$

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix}$$

Combinatorial interpretation:

Number of minors not involving the first row or first column.

For $n \times n$ matrices: $\sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \binom{n-1}{j}^2 = \binom{2n-2}{n-1}$ $1, 2, 6, 20, 70, 252, \dots$

Conjecture

For $n \times n$ matrices A , the entries of $\text{Sink}(A)$ have degree at most $\binom{2n-2}{n-1}$.

$$D(n, n) = \{(R, C) : R \subseteq \{2, 3, \dots, n\} \text{ and } C \subseteq \{2, 3, \dots, n\} \text{ and } |R| = |C|\}$$

indexes minors of an $n \times n$ matrix not involving the first row or column.

Conjecture

Let $n \geq 1$. There exist integers $c_S(n)$, indexed by subsets $S \subseteq D(n, n)$, such that, for every $n \times n$ matrix A with positive entries, the top left entry x of $\text{Sink}(A)$ satisfies

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\binom{2n-2}{n-1}} \left(\sum_{\substack{S \subseteq D(n, n) \\ |S|=k}} c_S(n) M(S) \right) x^k = 0.$$

What are the coefficients $c_S(n)$?

Gröbner basis computations are infeasible for $n \geq 4$.
Interpolate from examples instead using PSLQ.

To get more data:

Definition

Let A be an $m \times n$ matrix with positive entries.

The *Sinkhorn limit* of A is obtained by iteratively scaling
so that each row sum is 1 and each column sum is $\frac{m}{n}$.

Existence (in a more general form): Sinkhorn 1967.

1.5 CPU years scaling matrices and recognizing 102K algebraic numbers
let us solve for 63K coefficients (and 56K parameterized by free variables).

Example

Let $S = \{\}.$

Table of coefficients of $c_S(m, n):$

	$n = 1$	2	3	4
$m = 1$				
2				
3				
4				

$$2 \times 2: \quad \Sigma \begin{pmatrix} \{\} & \{2\} \\ \{\} & \{2\} \end{pmatrix} x^2 - 2 \Sigma \begin{pmatrix} \{\} \\ \{\} \end{pmatrix} x + \Sigma \begin{pmatrix} \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$3 \times 3: \quad a_{11} b_1 = -3 \Sigma \begin{pmatrix} \{\} \\ \{\} \end{pmatrix} - \Sigma \begin{pmatrix} \{2\} \\ \{2\} \end{pmatrix} + \Sigma \begin{pmatrix} \{2,3\} \\ \{2,3\} \end{pmatrix}$$

Example

Let $S = \{\}.$

Table of coefficients of $c_S(m, n):$

	$n = 1$	2	3	4
$m = 1$				
2			-2	
3				
4				

$$2 \times 2: \quad \Sigma \begin{pmatrix} \{\} & \{2\} \\ \{\} & \{2\} \end{pmatrix} x^2 - 2 \Sigma \begin{pmatrix} \{\} \\ \{\} \end{pmatrix} x + \Sigma \begin{pmatrix} \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$3 \times 3: \quad a_{11} b_1 = -3 \Sigma \begin{pmatrix} \{\} \\ \{\} \end{pmatrix} - \Sigma \begin{pmatrix} \{2\} \\ \{2\} \end{pmatrix} + \Sigma \begin{pmatrix} \{2,3\} \\ \{2,3\} \end{pmatrix}$$

Example

Let $S = \begin{Bmatrix} \{ \} \\ \{ \} \end{Bmatrix}$.

Table of coefficients of $c_S(m, n)$:

		$n = 1$	2	3	4
		$m = 1$			
2			-2		
3				-3	
4					

$$2 \times 2: \quad \Sigma \begin{pmatrix} \{ \} & \{ 2 \} \\ \{ \} & \{ 2 \} \end{pmatrix} x^2 - 2 \Sigma \begin{pmatrix} \{ \} \\ \{ \} \end{pmatrix} x + \Sigma \left(\right) = 0$$

$$3 \times 3: \quad a_{11} b_1 = -3 \Sigma \begin{pmatrix} \{ \} \\ \{ \} \end{pmatrix} - \Sigma \begin{pmatrix} \{ 2 \} \\ \{ 2 \} \end{pmatrix} + \Sigma \begin{pmatrix} \{ 2, 3 \} \\ \{ 2, 3 \} \end{pmatrix}$$

Example

Let $S = \{\}.$

Table of coefficients of $c_S(m, n):$

		$n = 1$	2	3	4
$m = 1$	2		-2		
	3			-3	
	4				-4

$$2 \times 2: \quad \Sigma \begin{pmatrix} \{\} & \{2\} \\ \{\} & \{2\} \end{pmatrix} x^2 - 2 \Sigma \begin{pmatrix} \{\} \\ \{\} \end{pmatrix} x + \Sigma \begin{pmatrix} \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$3 \times 3: \quad a_{11} b_1 = -3 \Sigma \begin{pmatrix} \{\} \\ \{\} \end{pmatrix} - \Sigma \begin{pmatrix} \{2\} \\ \{2\} \end{pmatrix} + \Sigma \begin{pmatrix} \{2,3\} \\ \{2,3\} \end{pmatrix}$$

Example

Let $S = \{\}.$

Table of coefficients of $c_S(m, n):$

	$n = 1$	2	3	4
$m = 1$	-1	-2	-3	-4
2	-1	-2	-3	-4
3	-1	-2	-3	-4
4	-1	-2	-3	-4

This suggests $c_S(m, n) = -n.$

$$2 \times 2: \quad \Sigma \begin{pmatrix} \{\} & \{2\} \\ \{\} & \{2\} \end{pmatrix} x^2 - 2 \Sigma \begin{pmatrix} \{\} \\ \{\} \end{pmatrix} x + \Sigma \begin{pmatrix} \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$3 \times 3: \quad a_{11} b_1 = -3 \Sigma \begin{pmatrix} \{\} \\ \{\} \end{pmatrix} - \Sigma \begin{pmatrix} \{2\} \\ \{2\} \end{pmatrix} + \Sigma \begin{pmatrix} \{2,3\} \\ \{2,3\} \end{pmatrix}$$

Example

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2	-1	-2	-3	-4
3	-1	-2	-3	-4
4	-1	-2	-3	-4

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$$2 \times 2: \quad \Sigma \begin{pmatrix} \{\} & \{2\} \\ \{\} & \{2\} \end{pmatrix} x^2 - 2 \Sigma \begin{pmatrix} \{\} \\ \{\} \end{pmatrix} x + \Sigma \begin{pmatrix} \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$3 \times 3: \quad a_{11} b_1 = -3 \Sigma \begin{pmatrix} \{\} \\ \{\} \end{pmatrix} - \Sigma \begin{pmatrix} \{2\} \\ \{2\} \end{pmatrix} + \Sigma \begin{pmatrix} \{2,3\} \\ \{2,3\} \end{pmatrix}$$

For fixed S , the coefficient $c_S(m, n)$ seems to be a polynomial in m and n .

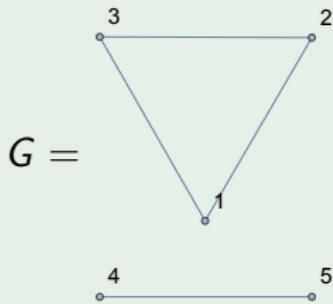
$c_S(m, n)$ seems to be the determinant of an adjacency-like matrix.

Recall

The **adjacency matrix** of a k -vertex graph is the $k \times k$ matrix with entries

$$a_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if vertices } i, j \text{ are connected by an edge} \\ 0 & \text{if not.} \end{cases}$$

Example



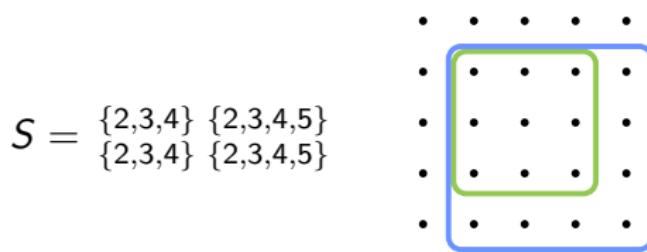
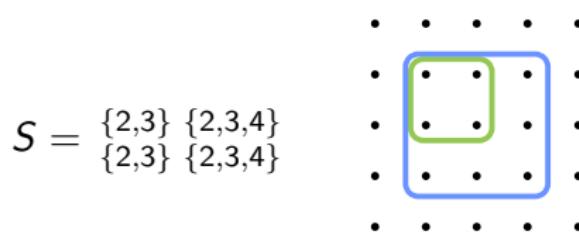
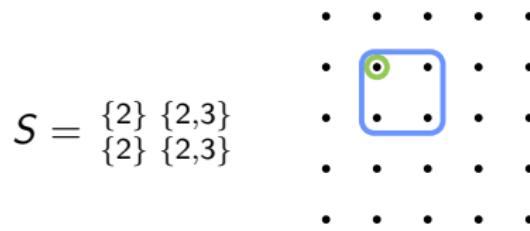
$$\text{adj}(G) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Connected components:

$$\det \text{adj}(G_1 + G_2) = \det \text{adj}(G_1) \cdot \det \text{adj}(G_2)$$

Underlying graph: Vertex set $S \subseteq D(m, n)$. What are the edges/links?

Type-1 links: Sizes differ by 1, and one is a subset of the other.



Type-2 links: Same sizes, and they differ in exactly 1 row or 1 column.

$$S = \begin{matrix} \{2\} & \{2\} \\ \{2\} & \{3\} \end{matrix}$$

A 5x5 matrix with dots representing entries. A green circle highlights the entry at (2,2) and a blue circle highlights the entry at (3,2).

$$S = \begin{matrix} \{2,3\} & \{2,3\} \\ \{2,3\} & \{3,4\} \end{matrix}$$

A 5x5 matrix with dots representing entries. A green double-line box highlights the 2x2 submatrix from (2,2) to (3,3), and a blue double-line box highlights the 2x2 submatrix from (3,2) to (4,3).

$$S = \begin{matrix} \{2,3,4\} & \{2,3,4\} \\ \{2,3,4\} & \{3,4,5\} \end{matrix}$$

A 5x5 matrix with dots representing entries. A green double-line box highlights the 3x3 submatrix from (2,2) to (4,4), and a blue double-line box highlights the 2x2 submatrix from (3,3) to (4,4).

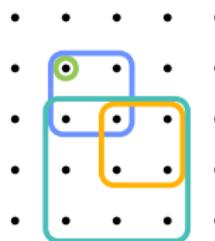
Type-1 links: Sizes differ by 1, and one is a subset of the other.

Type-2 links: Same sizes, and they differ in exactly 1 row or 1 column.

Connected components are built from these.

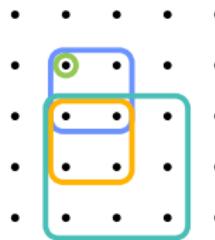
Two components:

$$S = \begin{matrix} \{2\} & \{2,3\} & \{3,4\} & \{3,4,5\} \\ \{2\} & \{2,3\} & \{3,4\} & \{2,3,4\} \end{matrix}$$



One component:

$$S = \begin{matrix} \{2\} & \{2,3\} & \{3,4\} & \{3,4,5\} \\ \{2\} & \{2,3\} & \{2,3\} & \{2,3,4\} \end{matrix}$$



To define $\text{adj}(S)$, it suffices to define it for linked pairs and singletons.

$\text{adj}_S(m, n)$ is a $|S| \times |S|$ matrix with entries that are linear in m, n .

Definition

Let $S = \begin{matrix} R_1 & R_2 \\ C_1 & C_2 \end{matrix}$. If R_1 and C_1 form a ...

- **type-1 link** with $|R_1| + 1 = |R_2|$,

$$\text{adj}_S(m, n) := \begin{bmatrix} |R_1|(m+n) - mn & m \\ -n & |R_2|(m+n) - mn \end{bmatrix}.$$

- **type-2 link** with $R_1 = R_2$,

$$\text{adj}_S(m, n) := \begin{bmatrix} |R_1|(m+n) - mn & -m \\ -m & |R_2|(m+n) - mn \end{bmatrix}.$$

- **type-2 link** with $C_1 = C_2$,

$$\text{adj}_S(m, n) := \begin{bmatrix} |R_1|(m+n) - mn & -n \\ -n & |R_2|(m+n) - mn \end{bmatrix}.$$

If R_1 and C_2 are **not linked**,

$$\text{adj}_S(m, n) := \begin{bmatrix} |R_1|(m+n) - mn & 0 \\ 0 & |R_2|(m+n) - mn \end{bmatrix}.$$

Example

For $S = \begin{Bmatrix} \{2\} & \{3\} & \{2,3\} \\ \{2\} & \{3\} & \{2,3\} \end{Bmatrix}$,

$$\text{adj}_S(m, n) = \begin{bmatrix} m + n - mn & 0 & m \\ 0 & m + n - mn & m \\ -n & -n & 2m + 2n - mn \end{bmatrix}.$$

This agrees with values we computed numerically.

Example

For $S = \begin{Bmatrix} \{2,3\} & \{2,3\} & \{2,3\} \\ \{2,3\} & \{2,4\} & \{2,5\} \end{Bmatrix}$,

$$\text{adj}_S(m, n) = \begin{bmatrix} 2m + 2n - mn & -m & -m \\ -m & 2m + 2n - mn & -m \\ -m & -m & 2m + 2n - mn \end{bmatrix}.$$

This **does not** agree with values we computed. A sign change is required:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2m + 2n - mn & m & m \\ m & 2m + 2n - mn & m \\ m & m & 2m + 2n - mn \end{bmatrix}$$

Summary

Each entry of an $m \times n$ Sinkhorn limit is algebraic with degree $\leq \binom{m+n-2}{m-1}$ (the number of minor specifications not involving the first row or column).

The polynomial describing an entry is a linear combination of $M(S)x^{|S|}$ where S ranges over the subsets of minor specifications.

The coefficient of $M(S)x^{|S|}$ is the determinant of an adjacency-like matrix. We don't know the signs of the off-diagonal entries.

All of this is conjectural.

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