

Almost-nonsingular Entry Pattern Matrices

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Entry pattern matrices

An **entry pattern matrix** (EPM for short) is a matrix in which:

- Each entry is an element of a specified set of **independent indeterminates**.
- Entries can be **the same**, but can not be a constant.

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Example

Let

$$A(x, y, z) = \begin{bmatrix} x & y \\ z & x \end{bmatrix}, B = \begin{bmatrix} x+y & 0 \\ z & x \end{bmatrix}$$

Then A is an entry pattern matrix with 3 indeterminates $\{x, y, z\}$ while B is not.

Almost-nonsingular EPMs

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A square EPM $A(x_1, \dots, x_k)$ is said to be **almost-nonsingular** over a field \mathbb{F} (or \mathbb{F} -almost-nonsingular) if

$$\det A(a_1, \dots, a_k) = 0 \Leftrightarrow a_1 = a_2 = \dots = a_k.$$

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Example

Let

$$A(x, y) = \begin{bmatrix} x & y & x & x \\ y & y & x & y \\ x & x & x & y \\ x & y & y & y \end{bmatrix}.$$

Then $\det A(a, b) = (a - b)^4$ over any field. Hence, A is almost-nonsingular over any field.

Almost-nonsingular EPMs

Let $\tau_{\mathbb{F}}(n)$ be the **maximum possible number** of indeterminates in an $n \times n$ EPM that is almost-nonsingular over \mathbb{F} . In the previous talk, I have given the bounds for $\tau_{\mathbb{F}}(n)$ for any field \mathbb{F} and any integer n and in particular, the exactly value of $\tau_{\mathbb{R}}(n)$ if n has an odd divisor greater than 3. This talk is to

- construct \mathbb{Q} -almost-nonsingular EPMs from \mathbb{Q} -irreducible polynomials. And
- prove that $\tau_{\mathbb{Q}}$ is bounded below by an increasing linear function on \mathbb{N} .

Universally Almost-nonsingular EPMs

Theorem

An EPM A is almost-nonsingular over any field only if it has two indeterminates. And for every $n \geq 4$, there exists such an almost-nonsingular EPM of size $n \times n$.

$$T_4 = A$$
$$T_{n+1} = \begin{cases} \begin{bmatrix} T_n & c_n \\ c_n^T & x \end{bmatrix} & \text{if } n \text{ is even} \\ \begin{bmatrix} T_n & c_n \\ c_n^T & y \end{bmatrix} & \text{if } n \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$$

where c_n is the last column of T_n .

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where c_n is the last column of T_n . Since

$$\det T_{n+1} = (x - y) \det T_n$$

Nonsingular Pseudo-EPMs

Let $S = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k\}$ be a set of independent indeterminates. We say that a matrix A whose entries are either zero or $\pm x_i$ is a **pseudo-EPM**.

Example

Let

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} x & y \\ z & x \end{bmatrix}, B = \begin{bmatrix} x & 0 \\ -x & -y \end{bmatrix}$$

Then A is a pseudo-EPM with 3 indeterminates and B is a pseudo-EPM with 2 indeterminates.

Nonsingular Pseudo-EPMs

A pseudo EPM is nonsingular over \mathbb{F} (or \mathbb{F} -nonsingular) if its non-zero completions are nonsingular over \mathbb{F} . A nonsingular pseudo EPM with k indeterminates is a nonsingular vector space of dimension k .

Theorem

If $A(x_1, \dots, x_k)$ is an \mathbb{F} -almost-nonsingular then $A(x_1, \dots, x_{k-1}, 0)$ is an \mathbb{F} -nonsingular pseudo EPM.

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} \det A(a_1, \dots, a_{k-1}, 0) &= 0 \\ \Leftrightarrow a_1 = a_2 = \dots = a_{k-1} &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

□

Constructions of almost-nonsingular EPMs over \mathbb{Q}

Let $P(x_1, \dots, x_k)$ be a \mathbb{Q} -nonsingular pseudo EPM. For an integer $m \geq 4$, we define $\Phi_m(P)$ to be the EPM of size $mn \times mn$ with indeterminates x_1, \dots, x_k, x , in which the $m \times m$ blocks in the (i, j) position is given by

$$\begin{cases} T_m(x_t, x) & \text{if } P_{ij} = x_t \\ T_m(x, x_t) & \text{if } P_{ij} = -x_t \\ xJ_m & \text{if } P_{ij} = 0 \end{cases}$$

Theorem

Let $P(x_1, \dots, x_k)$ be an $n \times n$ pseudo-EPM and let $m \geq 4$ be a positive integer. Then for any field \mathbb{F} , $\Phi_m(P)(x_1, \dots, x_k, x)$ is an \mathbb{F} -almost-nonsingular EPM if and only if $P(x_1, \dots, x_k)$ is \mathbb{F} -nonsingular.

Hence, it is reasonable to construct almost-nonsingular EPMs from nonsingular pseudo-EPMs.

Constructions of almost-nonsingular EPMs over \mathbb{Q}

If n is a power of 2 then $p(x) = x^n + 1$ is irreducible over \mathbb{Q} .

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Now, let α be a root of $p(x)$ and $\mathbb{F} = \mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$ and let $\mathcal{B} = \{1, \alpha, \dots, \alpha^{n-1}\}$ be a \mathbb{Q} -basis of \mathbb{F} .

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$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_a: \mathbb{F} &\rightarrow \mathbb{F} \\ b &\mapsto ab \end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_a: \mathbb{F} &\rightarrow \mathbb{F} \\ b &\mapsto ab \end{aligned}$$

Denote M_a the matrix of σ_a w.r.t. the basis \mathcal{B} . Then

$$\{M_1, M_\alpha, \dots, M_{\alpha^{n-1}}\}$$

is an \mathbb{Q} -linear space of dimension n and no two of them have the non-zero entries at the same position.

Therefore,

$$P := x_1 M_1 + x_2 M_\alpha + \cdots + x_n M_{\alpha^{n-1}}$$

is a pseudo-epm which is \mathbb{Q} -nonsingular.

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Theorem

If n is a power of 2, there exists a \mathbb{Q} -nonsingular pseudo-epm of size $n \times n$ which has n indeterminates. Hence, for every $m \geq 4$, there exists a \mathbb{Q} -almost-nonsingular EPM of size $mn \times mn$ which has $n + 1$ indeterminates.

$$\tau_{\mathbb{Q}}(m \cdot 2^k) \geq 2^k + 1 \text{ for every integer } m \geq 4, k \geq 0.$$

Similarly $x^n - x - 1$ is irreducible over \mathbb{Q} for every $n \geq 2$.

$$x_1 M_1 + \sum_{i=1, i \text{ odd}}^{n-1} x_i M_{\alpha^i}$$

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Theorem

Let n be a positive integer. Then for every $m \geq 4$, there exists a \mathbb{Q} -almost-nonsingular EPM of size $mn \times mn$ which has $\left\lceil \frac{n}{2} \right\rceil + 1$ indeterminates.

$$\tau_{\mathbb{Q}}(mn) \geq \left\lceil \frac{n}{2} \right\rceil + 1$$

Constructions of almost-nonsingular EPMs over \mathbb{Q}

If $n = n_1 + n_2$ then

$$\tau_{\mathbb{F}}(n) \geq \min\{\tau_{\mathbb{Q}}(n_1), \tau_{\mathbb{Q}}(n_2)\}$$

On the other hand, for $n \geq 12$, there exist non-negative integers s, t such that $n = 4s + 5t$, where $|s - t| \leq 4$. Hence,

$$\min\left\{\frac{s}{2}, \frac{t}{2}\right\} \geq \frac{n-20}{18} = \frac{n-2}{18} - 1$$

Theorem

Let n be a positive integer. Then

$$\tau_{\mathbb{Q}}(n) \geq \left\lceil \frac{n-2}{18} \right\rceil$$

THANK YOU!