

# How to Find Algebraic Relations?

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## Algebraic Relations – Elementary Viewpoint

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**Consequence:** The set of all algebraic relations forms a radical ideal.

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The ideal of algebraic relations among  $f_1(n), \dots, f_m(n)$  is precisely the kernel of this map,  $\ker \phi$ .

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*Summary:*

$$\{p \in \mathbb{K}[x_1, \dots, x_n] : p(f_1, \dots, f_m) \equiv 0\} = \ker \phi = I(P).$$

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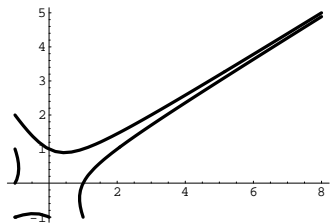
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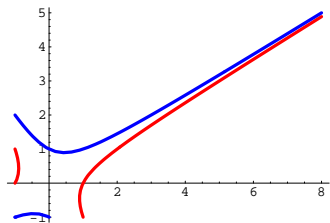
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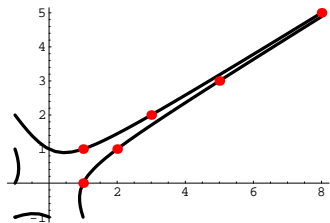


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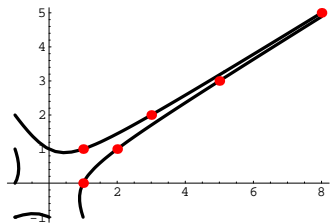
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Based on the geometric interpretation, it is straightforward to prove that  $\mathfrak{a}$  is really the ideal claimed above.

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decide

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(e.g., gfun can do this for  $f_i(n)$  P-finite.)

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Applications: Summation/Integration of special functions.

We have an algorithm that can find identities like

$$\sum_{k=0}^n ((k - \sqrt{k} + 1)H_k + 1)\sqrt{k!} = (1 + (n + 1)H_n)\sqrt{n!}$$

which depend on exploiting the relation  $\sqrt{n^2} - n = 0$ .

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Applications: Summation/Integration of special functions.  
We want to have an algorithm that can find identities like

$$\sum_{k=0}^n \frac{((-1)^k - 1)x + (-1)^k + 1}{2U_k(x) + (-1)^k - 1} = \frac{(1-2x)U_n(x) + (-1)^n + U_{n+1}(x)}{2U_n(x) + (-1)^n - 1}$$

which also depend on nontrivial relations.

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Today we discuss finding.

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Of course, “given sequences” makes only sense when attention is restricted to particular *classes* of sequences that admit finitary representations, e.g., by defining recurrence equations.

# *A Brute Force Attack*

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Consider the polynomial

$$p(x_1, x_2) = a_0x_1^2 + a_1x_1x_2 + a_2x_2^2 + a_3x_1 + a_4x_2 + a_5$$

with undetermined coefficients  $a_0, a_1, \dots, a_5$ .

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For  $p(x_1, x_2)$  to be an algebraic relation of  $f_1(n), f_2(n)$ , we must have

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For speed-up, use the Buchberger-Möller algorithm.

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*Note:* We can determine all algebraic relations up to a prescribed degree, but we get no information about existence/non-existence of higher degree relations.

## Example: Somos Sequences

A sequence  $C_n$  satisfying a nonlinear recurrence of the form

$$C_{n+r}C_n = \alpha_1 C_{n+r-1}C_{n+1} + \alpha_2 C_{n+r-2}C_{n+2} + \cdots \\ \cdots + \alpha_{\lfloor r/2 \rfloor} C_{n+r-\lfloor r/2 \rfloor} C_{n+\lfloor r/2 \rfloor}$$

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*Example:* Consider  $C_n$  defined via

$$C_{n+4}C_n = C_{n+3}C_{n+1} + C_{n+2}^2, \quad C_0 = C_1 = C_2 = C_3 = 1.$$

Does this sequence satisfy a Somos-like recurrence of orders 5, 6, 7, 8?

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Let  $\mathfrak{a} = \langle p_1, \dots, p_k \rangle \trianglelefteq \mathbb{Q}[x_0, \dots, x_8]$  be a Gröbner basis for the ideal generated by the quadratic relations.

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Let  $\mathfrak{a} = \langle p_1, \dots, p_k \rangle \trianglelefteq \mathbb{Q}[x_0, \dots, x_8]$  be a Gröbner basis for the ideal generated by the quadratic relations.

Make an ansatz with undetermined coefficients for the desired relation, e.g.,

$$C_{n+5}C_n = a_1 C_{n+4}C_{n+1} + a_2 C_{n+3}C_{n+2}$$

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Comparing coefficients gives  $a_1 = -1$ ,  $a_2 = 5$ .

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well, hardly ever. . .

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For sufficiently rich classes  $\mathcal{C}$  there is no hope for such an algorithm.

If we insist in a complete algorithm, we have to focus on smaller classes.

## *C-Finite Sequences*

*(joint work with B. Zimmermann)*

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*Recall:*  $f(n)$  is C-finite if

$$f(n+r) = a_0 f(n) + a_1 f(n+1) + \cdots + a_{r-1} f(n+r-1)$$

for some *constants*  $a_0, \dots, a_{r-1} \in \mathbb{K}$ .

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*Recall:*  $f(n)$  is C-finite if and only if

$$f(n) = p_1(n)\phi_1^n + p_2(n)\phi_2^n + \cdots + p_s(n)\phi_s^n \quad (n \geq 0)$$

where  $\phi_i$  are the roots of the characteristic polynomial

$$x^r - a_0 - a_1x - a_2x^2 - \cdots - a_{r-1}x^{r-1}$$

and  $p_i(n)$  is a polynomial whose degree is bounded by the multiplicity of the root  $\phi_i$ .

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## Arbitrary C-Finite Sequences

Let  $f_1(n), \dots, f_m(n)$  be C-finite sequences (given via recurrence and initial values). We wish to compute the ideal  $\alpha \trianglelefteq \mathbb{K}[x_1, \dots, x_m]$  of their algebraic relations.

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1. Write the sequences in the form

$$f_i(n) = p_{i,0}(n)\phi_1^n + \dots + p_{i,l}(n)\phi_l^n$$

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2. Compute the ideal

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For  $\phi_j \in \mathbb{Q}$  this is easy.

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3. Form the ideal

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*These are precisely the desired relations.*

## Example: Fibonacci Numbers

Let  $F_n$  denote the  $n$ th Fibonacci number ( $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ ).

*Exercise 6.81:* (Graham/Knuth/Patashnik) Let  $P(x, y)$  be a polynomial in  $x$  and  $y$  with integer coefficients. Find a necessary and sufficient condition that  $P(F_{n+1}, F_n) = 0$  for all  $n \geq 0$ .

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*Note:* We can determine *all* algebraic relations with this algorithm.

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$$F_{n+1} = \frac{5 + \sqrt{5}}{10} \left( \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^n + \frac{5 - \sqrt{5}}{10} \left( \frac{1 - \sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^n$$

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So  $\phi_1 = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \sqrt{5})$  and  $\phi_2 = \frac{1}{2}(1 - \sqrt{5})$ .

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are the relations among  $n, \phi_1^n, \phi_2^n$ .

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*Note:* Intermediate algebraic field extensions always cancel out in the final result.

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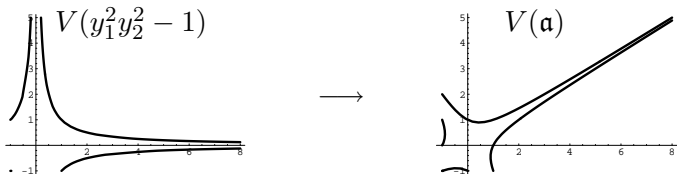
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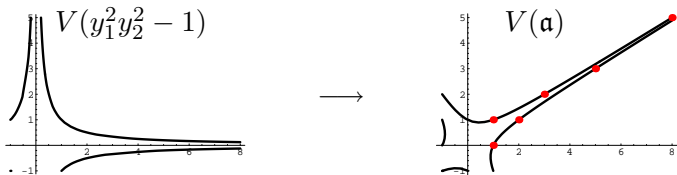
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## Multivariate Sequences

A sequence  $f: \mathbb{Z}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  is *multi-C-finite* if it satisfies a C-finite recurrence equation in every direction.

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Algebraic relations among multi-C-finite sequences can be found in very much the same way as for univariate sequences.



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### *Proving Identities*

For deciding  $p(F_n, F_{n+1}) = 0$  for a given polynomial  $p$ , compute a normal form of  $p$  wrt. a Gröbner basis of the ideal of algebraic relations.

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(This makes only sense if you have many  $p$  for the same sequences.)

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*“Express something in terms of something else”*

Given  $f(n)$  and  $g_1(n), \dots, g_m(n)$ , is there a formula

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Inspect polynomial with least degree with respect to that variable appearing in the Gröbner basis.

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Consequently, the sum  $f(n)$  *has no closed form* in terms of Fibonacci numbers.

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Next, use Gröbner bases to determine  $u, v, w$  with

$$1 = ux_1 + vx_2 + w(x_1^4 - 10x_1^3x_2 + 35x_1^2x_2^2 - 50x_1x_2^3 + 25x_2^4 - 1).$$

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It follows that  $1 = p(n)L_n + q(n)F_{n+1}$  for some  $p(n), q(n) \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Therefore  $\gcd(L_n, F_{n+1}) \mid 1$ . This suffices.

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- ▶ There is an algorithm which computes the algebraic relations among some given  $C$ -finite sequences.
- ▶ All these relations are consequences of multiplicative relations among the roots of the characteristic polynomial.
- ▶ A lattice basis for these relations can be computed with a number-theoretic algorithm. The rest can be done with Gröbner bases.

*What's next?*

*P*-finite sequences?

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- ▶ The algorithm presented earlier uses multiplicative relations among the singularities of the generating functions in order to make all the singularities cancel.
- ▶ Does this only work for rational generating functions (i.e. C-finite sequences)?
- ▶ Consider some examples. . .

## Example 1

Let  $f(n)$  be defined by

$$\begin{aligned} &4(2n + 3)(4n^2 - 1) f(n) + 4(2n + 3)(n + 1) f(n + 1) \\ &\quad - (n + 1)(n + 2)(2n - 3) f(n + 2) = 0, \\ &f(0) = f(1) = 1. \end{aligned}$$

## Example 1

Let  $f(n)$  be defined by

$$\begin{aligned} &4(2n + 3)(4n^2 - 1) f(n) + 4(2n + 3)(n + 1) f(n + 1) \\ &\quad - (n + 1)(n + 2)(2n - 3) f(n + 2) = 0, \\ &f(0) = f(1) = 1. \end{aligned}$$

There exist nontrivial algebraic relations among  $f(n)$  and  $f(n + 1)$ ,  
e.g.,

$$\begin{aligned} &((4n + 2)f(n) - (n - 4)f(n + 1)) \\ &\quad \times ((4n^2 - 10n - 6)f(n) - n(n + 1)f(n + 1)) = 0. \end{aligned}$$

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This is in accordance with the generating function

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} f(n)z^n = \frac{1}{12} \left( \frac{i}{(4z - 1)^{3/2}} + \frac{5i}{\sqrt{4z - 1}} - \frac{4}{\sqrt{4z + 1}} \right)$$

having the singularities  $+\frac{1}{4}$  and  $-\frac{1}{4}$ , which have a multiplicative relation.

## Example 2

Let  $f(n)$  be defined by

$$\begin{aligned} &2n(n+3)f(n) - (3n+8)(n+1)f(n+1) \\ &\quad + (3n+8)(n+2)f(n+2) - (n+3)(n+2)f(n+3) = 0, \\ &f(0) = 1, f(1) = 3, f(2) = \frac{9}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

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There are nontrivial relations among  $f(n), f(n+1), f(n+2)$   
(too long to fit on this slide).

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This is in accordance with the generating function

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} f(n)z^n = \frac{1}{1-2z} + \frac{1}{9}\sqrt{3}\left(\pi - 6 \arctan\left(\frac{1-2z}{\sqrt{3}}\right)\right)$$

having the singularities  $\frac{1}{2}$  and  $(1+i\sqrt{3})/2$ ,  $(1-i\sqrt{3})/2$ , the latter two bearing a multiplicative relation.

### Example 3

Let  $f(n)$  be defined as

$$f(n) = H_n(x)/n!$$

where  $H_n(x)$  is the  $n$ th Hermite polynomial.

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There do not seem to exist algebraic relations among  $f(n)$ ,  $f(n+1)$ .

### Example 3

Let  $f(n)$  be defined as

$$f(n) = H_n(x)/n!$$

where  $H_n(x)$  is the  $n$ th Hermite polynomial.

This is consistent with the generating function

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} f(n)z^n = \exp(2xz - z^2)$$

having no singularities.

*Can we construct  
a complete algorithm  
for finding algebraic relations  
among  $P$ -finite sequences  
using singularity analysis?*