Differential Type Operators, Rewriting Systems and Gröbner-Shirshov Bases

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Motivation: Classification of Linear Operators

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- Well-known examples include Galois theory where a field is studied by its automorphisms (the Galois group),
- and analysis and geometry where functions and manifolds are studied through their derivations, integrals and related vector fields.

Rota's Question

By the 1970s, several other operators had been discovered from studies in analysis, probability and combinatorics.

Average operator P(x)P(y) = P(xP(y)), Inverse average operator P(x)P(y) = P(P(x)y), (Rota-)Baxter operator $P(x)P(y) = P(xP(y) + P(x)y + \lambda xy)$, where λ is a fixed constant, Reynolds operator P(x)P(y) = P(xP(y) + P(x)y - P(x)P(y)).

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Rota posed the question of finding all the identities that could be satisfied by a linear operator defined on associative algebras. He also suggested that there should not be many such operators other than these previously known ones.

Quotation from Rota and Known Operators

"In a series of papers, I have tried to show that other linear operators satisfying algebraic identities may be of equal importance in studying certain algebraic phenomena, and I have posed the problem of finding all possible algebraic identities that can be satisfied by a linear operator on an algebra. Simple computations show that the possibility are very few, and the problem of classifying all such identities is very probably completely solvable. A partial (but fairly complete) list of such identities is the following. Besides endomorphisms and derivations, one has averaging operators, Reynolds operators and Baxter operators."

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- Little progress was made on finding all such operators while new operators have merged from physics and combinatorial studies, such as

Nijenhuis operator Leroux's TD operator

$$P(x)P(y) = P(xP(y) + P(x)y - P(xy)),$$

 $P(x)P(y) = P(xP(y) + P(x)y - xP(1)y).$

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- These previously known operators continued to find remarkable applications in pure and applied mathematics.
- Vast theories were established for differential algebra and difference algebra, with wide applications, including Wen-Tsun Wu's mechanical proof of geometric theorems and mathematics mechanization (based on work of Ritt).
- Rota-Baxter algebra has found applications in classical Yang-Baxter equations, operads, combinatorics, and most prominently, the renormalization of quantum field theory through the Hopf algebra framework of Connes and Kreimer.

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- A k-algebra R is called a PI algebra (Procesi, Rowen, ...) if there is a fixed element f(x₁, · · · , x_n) in the noncommutative polynomial algebra (that is, the free algebra) k⟨x₁, · · · , x_n⟩ such that

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Then an algebraic identity satisfied by a linear operator should be an element in a free algebra with an operator, a so called free operated algebra.

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- The adjoint functor of the forgetful functor from the category of operated algebras to the category of sets gives the free operated k-algebras.
- More precisely, a free operated k-algebra on a set X is an operated k-algebra (k ||X||, α_X) together with a map j_X : X → k ||X|| with the property that, for any operated algebra (R, β) together with a map f : X → R, there is a unique morphism f̄ : (k ||X||, α_X) → (R, β) of operated algebras such that f = f̄ ∘ j_X.

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With the embedding X ∪ [𝔐_{n-1}] → X ∪ [𝔐_n], we obtain an embedding of monoids i_n : 𝔐_n → 𝔐_{n+1}, giving the direct limit 𝔐(X) := lim 𝔐_n.

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- ▶ $\mathfrak{M}(X)$ can also be identified with elements of $M(X \cup \{[,]\})$ such that
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- $\mathfrak{M}(X)$ can also be constructed by rooted trees and Motzkin paths.

Theorem. 1. The set 𝔅(X), equipped with the concatenation product, the operator w ↦ ⌊w⌋, w ∈ 𝔅(X) and the natural embedding j_X : X → 𝔅(X), is the free operated monoid on X.
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- Elements in $\mathbf{k}\mathfrak{D}(Z)$ are called in differentially reduced form (DRF).
- Note that D(Z) is closed under multiplication by definition, but not under the operator [].

Operated Polynomial Identities

An operated k-algebra (*R*, *P*) is called an operated PI (OPI)
 k-algebra if there is a fixed element φ(x₁, ..., x_n) ∈ k ||x₁, ..., x_n|| such that

$$\phi(a_1, \cdots, a_n) = 0, \quad \forall a_1, \cdots, a_n \in R.$$

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Examples

1. When $\phi = [xy] - x[y] - [x]y$, a ϕ -operator (resp. algebra) is a differential operator (resp. algebra). 2. When $\phi = [x][y] - [x[y]] - [[x]y] - \lambda[xy]$, a ϕ -operator (resp. ϕ -algebra) is a Rota-Baxter operator (resp. algebra) of weight λ . 3. When $\phi = [x] - x$, then a ϕ -algebra is just an associative algebra. Together with a second identity from the noncommutative polynomial algebra $\mathbf{k}\langle X \rangle$, we get a PI-algebra.

Free ϕ -algebras

Proposition Let φ = φ(x₁, · · · , x_k) ∈ k ||X|| be given. For any set Z, the free φ-algebra on Z is given by the quotient operated algebra k ||Z|| / I_{φ,Z} where I_{φ,Z} is the operated ideal of k ||Z|| generated by the set

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Examples

- ▶ When $\phi = [x] x$, then the quotient $\mathbf{k} ||Z|| / I_{\phi,Z}$ gives the free algebra $\mathbf{k} \langle Z \rangle$ on Z.
- When φ = [xy] − x[y] − [x]y, then the quotient gives the free noncommutative polynomial differential algebra k(D(Z)) on Z.
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- What does this mean?

Examples of compatibility with associativity • Example 1: For $\phi(x, y) = [xy] - [x]y - x[y]$, we have $[xy] \mapsto [x]y + x[y]$.

Thus

$$\begin{split} & [(xy)z]\mapsto [xy]z+(xy)[z]\mapsto [x]yz+x[y]z+xy[z].\\ & [x(yz)]\mapsto [x](yz)+x[yz]\mapsto [x]yz+x[y]z+xy[z]. \end{split}$$

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▶ Example 3: Suppose $\phi(x, y) = [xy] - [y]x$. Then $[xy] \mapsto [y]x$. So

$$[w]uv \leftarrow [(uv)w] = [u(vw)] \mapsto [vw]u \mapsto [w]vu.$$

Thus a ϕ -algebra (R, δ) satisfies the weak commutativity:

$$\delta(w)(uv - vu) = 0, \forall u, v, w \in Z.$$

Differential type operators

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- They are of the form [xy] = N(x, y) where
 - 1. $N(x, y) \in \mathbf{k} ||x, y||$ is in DRF, namely, it does not contain $[uv], u, v \neq 1$, that is, N(x, y) is in $\mathbf{k} \mathfrak{D}(x, y)$;
 - 2. N(uv, w) = N(u, vw) is reduced to zero under the reduction $[xy] \mapsto N(x, y)$.

An operator identity $\phi(x, y) = 0$ is said of differential type if $\phi(x, y) = [xy] - N(x, y)$ where N(x, y) satisfies these properties. We call N(x, y) and an operator satisfying $\phi(x, y) = 0$ of differential type.

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- The above examples also satisfy
 - 1. The free ϕ -algebra on Z can be defined by the noncommutative polynomial algebra $\mathbf{k} \langle \Delta(Z) \rangle$ with a suitable operator. So $\mathfrak{D}(Z)$ is a canonical basis of the free object.
 - 2. The restriction $\mathbf{k} \langle \Delta(Z) \rangle \hookrightarrow \mathbf{k} ||Z|| \to \mathbf{k} ||Z|| / I_{\phi}(Z)$ is bijective.

Classification of differential type operators

► (Rota's Problem: the Differential Case) Find all operated polynomial identities of differential type by finding all expressions N(x, y) ∈ k ||x, y|| of differential type.

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- ► (Rota's Problem: the Differential Case) Find all operated polynomial identities of differential type by finding all expressions N(x, y) ∈ k ||x, y|| of differential type.
- Conjecture (OPIs of Differential Type) Let k be a field of characteristic zero. Every expression N(x, y) ∈ k ||x, y|| of differential type takes one of the forms below for some a, b, c, e ∈ k :

1.
$$b(x\lfloor y \rfloor + \lfloor x \rfloor y) + c\lfloor x \rfloor \lfloor y \rfloor + exy$$
 where $b^2 = b + ce$,

2.
$$ce^2yx + exy + c\lfloor y \rfloor \lfloor x \rfloor - ce(y\lfloor x \rfloor + \lfloor y \rfloor x),$$

3.
$$axy[1] + b[1]xy + cxy$$
,

4.
$$x\lfloor y \rfloor + \lfloor x \rfloor y + ax \lfloor 1 \rfloor y + bxy$$
,

5.
$$\lfloor x \rfloor y + a(x \lfloor 1 \rfloor y - xy \lfloor 1 \rfloor),$$

6.
$$x\lfloor y \rfloor + a(x\lfloor 1 \rfloor y - \lfloor 1 \rfloor xy)$$
.

• $\phi(x, y) := \lfloor xy \rfloor - N(x, y) \in \mathbf{k} \parallel x, y \parallel$ defines a rewriting system:

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More precisely, for g, g' ∈ k ||Z||, denote g →_{Σ_φ} g' if g' is obtained from g by replacing a subword ⌊ab⌋ in a monomial of g by N(a, b).

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 - convergent if it is both terminating and confluent.
- Theorem φ = [xy] − N(x, y) defines a differential type operator if and only if the rewriting system Σ_φ is convergent.

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- If the coefficient of s̄ in s is 1, we call s monic with respect to the monomial order <</p>

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▶ For $S \subseteq \mathbf{k} ||Z||$ and $u \in \mathbf{k} ||Z||$, we call *u* trivial modulo (*S*, *w*) if $u = \sum_i c_i q_i|_{s_i}$, with $c_i \in \mathbf{k}$, $q_i \in \mathfrak{M}^{\star}(Z)$, $s_i \in S$ and $q_i|_{\overline{s_i}} < w$.

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- The Gröbner-Shirshov condition can be weakened to requiring for only intersection and including compositions.

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- Suppose a well order > has been defined on 𝔐_n for n ≥ 0. Then for u, v ∈ Z ∪ ⌊𝔐_n⌋, define

$$u > v \Leftrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} u, v \in X, \text{ such that } u > v, \text{ or} \\ u \in \lfloor \mathfrak{M}_n \rfloor, v \in x, \text{ or} \\ u = \lfloor u' \rfloor, v = \lfloor v' \rfloor \in \lfloor \mathfrak{M}_n \rfloor \text{ such that } u' > v'. \end{array} \right.$$

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▶ We obtain a well order, still denoted by >, on the direct limit $\mathfrak{M}(Z) = \lim_{n \to \infty} \mathfrak{M}_n$.

Differential well ordering (cont'd)

Let deg_z(u) denote the number of z ∈ Z in u. Denote the weight of u by

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- Under this order, ⌊xy⌋ is greater than elements in Δ(x, y). Thus ⌊xy⌋ is the leading term for φ(x, y) = ⌊xy⌋ − N(x, y) when N(x, y) is in DRF.
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- $\phi(x, y)$ is of differential type;
- The rewriting system Σ_{ϕ} is convergent;
- Let Z be a set with a well ordering. With the differential order >, the set

$$\mathsf{S} := \mathsf{S}_{\phi} := \{ \phi(u, v) = \delta(uv) - \mathsf{N}(u, v) | \ u, v \in \mathfrak{M}(Z) \setminus \{\mathsf{1}\} \}$$

is a Gröbner-Shirshov basis in $\mathbf{k} ||Z||$.

The free φ-algebra on a set Z is the noncommutative polynomial k-algebra k(Δ(Z)), together with the operator d := d_Z on k(Δ(Z)) defined by the following recursion:

Let $u = u_1 u_2 \cdots u_k \in \widetilde{M}(\Delta(Z))$, where $u_i \in \Delta(Z), 1 \le i \le k$.

- 1. If k = 1, i.e., $u = \delta^{i}(x)$ for some $i \ge 0, x \in Z$, then define $d(u) = \delta^{(i+1)}(x)$.
- 2. If $k \ge 1$, then define $d(u) = N(u_1, u_2 \cdots u_k)$.

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- Words in Z ∪ [𝔐(Z)] are called indecomposable. Any 𝔅 ∈ 𝔐(Z) - {1} has a unique factorization 𝔅 = 𝔅₁ · · · 𝔅𝔥 of indecomposable words, called the standard decomposition.

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- We call φ(x, y) := [x][y] − [M(x, y)] of Rota-Baxter type if the above two conditions are satisfied.
- Rota-Baxter type operators can be similarly characterized in terms of convergent rewriting systems and Gröbner-Shirshov bases.

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What Rota-Baxter operator, average operator, Nijenhuis operator, etc. have in common is that they are of the form

[u][v] = [M(u, v)]

where M(u, v) is an expression involving u, v and P, i.e. $M(u, v) \in \mathbf{k} || u, v ||$.

Also, M(u, v) is formally associative:

$$M(M(u, v), w) = M(u, M(v, w))$$

modulo the relation $\phi_M := [u][v] - [M(u, v)]$.

 Further, free algebras in the corresponding categories (of Rota-Baxter algebras, of average algebras, ...) have a special basis. More precisely, The map

$$\mathsf{k}\{Z\}':=\mathsf{k}\mathfrak{M}'(Z) o\mathsf{k}\|Z\| o\mathsf{k}\|Z\|/I_{\phi,Z}$$

is bijective. Thus a suitable multiplication on $\mathbf{k}\{Z\}'$ makes it the free ϕ_M -algebra on Z.

► As we will see, these properties are related.

Classification of Rota-Baxter type operators

 Conjecture. Any Rota-Baxter type operator is necessarily of the form

$$P(x)P(y)=P(M(x,y)),$$

for an M(x, y) from the following list (new types in red).

- 1. xP(y) (average operator)
- 2. P(x)y (inverse average operator)
- 3. xP(y) + yP(x)
- 4. P(x)y + P(y)x
- 5. -P(xy) + xP(y) + P(x)y (Nijenhuis operator)
- 6. $xP(y) + P(x)y + e_1xy$ (RBA with weight e_1)
- 7. $xP(y) xP(1)y + e_1xy$
- 8. $P(x)y xP(1)y + e_1xy$
- 9. $xP(y) + P(x)y xP(1)y + e_1xy$

(generalized Leroux TD operator with weight e1)

- 10. $xP(y) + P(x)y xyP(1) xP(1)y + e_1xy$
- 11. $-P(xy) + xP(y) + P(x)y xP(1)y + e_1xy$
- 12. $xP(y) + P(x)y xP(1)y P(1)xy + e_1xy$
- 13. $d_0 x P(1) y + e_1 x y$ (generalized endomorphisms)
- 14. $d_2 y P(1) x + e_0 y x$

Summary and outlook

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- In the framework of bracketed polynomials, operators of differential type are defined by the convergence of special cases of the rewriting system from the operator identity. The fact that these special cases are enough for the general convergence is proved by Gröbner-Shirshov bases.
- For operators of Rota-Baxter type (including Rota-Baxter, average, Nijenhuis, Leroux's TD), a similar conjecture and equivalence can be established.
- In general, the linear operators that interested Rota (or maybe other mathematicians) should be the ones whose defining identities define convergent rewriting systems, or give Gröbner-Shirshov bases.

Thank You!