

# Signed colorings of generalized permutation arrays

SLC 62, Heilsbronn

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*joint work with J. A. Dias da Silva*

- Generalized permutation arrays
- Colorings of generalized permutation arrays
- Open problems
- Applications

# Generalized permutation arrays

A generalized permutation array

$$\Gamma = \begin{pmatrix} i_1 & i_2 & \dots & i_m \\ j_1 & j_2 & \dots & j_m \end{pmatrix}$$

with the properties

- (1)  $i_1 \leq i_2 \leq \dots \leq i_m$ ;
- (2)  $\{i_1, \dots, i_m\} = \{j_1, \dots, j_m\} = \{1, \dots, r\}$ ;
- (3)  $|\{k : i_k = 1\}| \geq |\{k : i_k = 2\}| \geq \dots \geq |\{k : i_k = r\}|$ .
- (4)  $|\{k : i_k = p\}| = |\{k : j_k = p\}|$ ,  $p = 1, \dots, r$ .

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The sequence

$$\lambda = (|\{k : i_k = 1\}|, |\{k : i_k = 2\}|, \dots, |\{k : i_k = r\}|)$$

is a partition of  $m$  and it is called the **multiplicity partition** of  $\Gamma$ .

The conjugate partition of  $\lambda$  is called the **rank partition** of  $\Gamma$  and it is denoted

$$\rho(\Gamma).$$

**Example.**

$$\Gamma = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 2 & 3 & 3 & 4 & 5 \\ 1 & 3 & 5 & 1 & 2 & 2 & 4 & 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

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$$\lambda = (3, 2^2, 1^2).$$

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# Signed colorings of normal arrays

Let  $\Gamma$  be a normal array.

Let  $\mu$  be a partition of  $m$ .

We say that  $\Gamma$  is  $\mu$ -**colorable** if it is possible to fill the Young diagram  $[\mu]$  with all the pairs

$$(i_k, j_k), \quad k = 1, \dots, m$$

in a way that there will be a bijection on every row of  $[\mu]$ .

The obtained Young tableau  $T^\mu$  is called a  $\mu$ -**coloring** of  $\Gamma$ .

A  $\rho(\Gamma)$ -coloring of  $\Gamma$  will be called a **full coloring** of  $\Gamma$ .

**Theorem.** If  $\Gamma$  is  $\mu$ -colorable, then  $\mu \preceq \rho(\Gamma)$ .

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If  $T^{\rho(\Gamma)}$  is a full coloring of  $\Gamma$ , then on row  $\nu$  there is a permutation  $\sigma_\nu$  of the set  $\{1, \dots, \rho_\nu\}$ , for every  $\nu \in \{1, \dots, \lambda_1\}$ .

The **sign** of  $T^{\rho(\Gamma)}$  is the product of the signs of the permutations  $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_{\lambda_1}$ , lying on the rows of  $T^{\rho(\Gamma)}$ .

We say that a full coloring of  $\Gamma$  is **positive** (respectively **negative**) if its sign is 1 (respectively  $-1$ ).

We denote

$$P(\Gamma)$$

the number of positive full colorings of  $\Gamma$ ;

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the number of negative full colorings of  $\Gamma$ .

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# Example

Let

$$\Gamma = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 2 & 3 & 3 & 4 & 5 \\ 1 & 3 & 5 & 1 & 2 & 2 & 4 & 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then,  $\rho(\Gamma)$  is the partition  $(5, 3, 1)$  and

$$T = \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline (1, 5) & (2, 2) & (3, 4) & (4, 1) & (5, 3) \\ \hline (1, 3) & (2, 1) & (3, 2) & & \\ \hline (1, 1) & & & & \\ \hline \end{array}$$

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A partition  $\lambda$  is said to be **sign uniform** if, for every array  $\Gamma$ , with multiplicity partition  $\lambda$ , whether  $N(\Gamma) = 0$  or  $P(\Gamma) = 0$ .

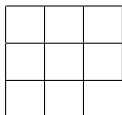
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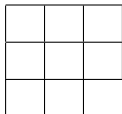
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# Problem 1

Given a normal array  $\Gamma$ , find necessary and sufficient conditions for the existence of a full coloring of  $\Gamma$ .

We have established a necessary condition for the existence of a full coloring of  $\Gamma$ , using a graph theoretic approach.

This problem is related to a problem about edge colorings of bipartite graphs, stated by Folkmann and Fulkerson in 1969, which is still an open problem.

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## Problem 2

Given a normal array  $\Gamma$ , whose multiplicity partition is not sign uniform, find conditions for the equality of  $P(\Gamma)$  and  $N(\Gamma)$ .

For normal arrays

$$\Gamma = \begin{pmatrix} i_1 & i_2 & \dots & i_{r^2} \\ j_1 & j_2 & \dots & j_{r^2} \end{pmatrix}$$

such that

$$\{(i_k, j_k) : k = 1, \dots, r^2\} = \{1, \dots, r\} \times \{1, \dots, r\}$$

there is a one-to-one correspondence between Latin squares of order  $r$  and full colorings of  $\Gamma$ .

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# Applications to Multilinear Algebra

Let  $V = \mathbb{C}^n$  and let  $(e_1, \dots, e_n)$  be a o.n. basis of  $V$ .

Let  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Let  $\Gamma_{m,n}$  be the set of the mappings from  $\{1, \dots, m\}$  to  $\{1, \dots, n\}$ .

Let  $\chi$  be an irreducible character of  $S_m$ .

The  $\chi$ -symmetry class of tensors on  $V$  is the span of the set of the decomposable symmetrized tensors  $e_\alpha^\chi$

$$\left\{ \frac{\chi(id)}{m!} \sum_{\sigma \in S_m} \chi(\sigma) e_{\alpha\sigma^{-1}(1)} \otimes \dots \otimes e_{\alpha\sigma^{-1}(m)} : \alpha \in \Gamma_{m,n} \right\}.$$

Grassmann space is the  $\epsilon$ -symmetry class of tensors.

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Otherwise, it is given by the formula

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where  $\beta = \alpha\tau$  and  $S_\alpha$  is the stabilizer of  $\alpha$ .

It is important to have conditions for the orthogonality of two symmetrized decomposable tensors.

Without loss of generality, we can suppose that  $\alpha$  is weakly increasing and  $|\alpha^{-1}(1)| \geq \dots \geq |\alpha^{-1}(n)|$ .



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It is easy to see that, under the previous conditions,  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are congruent modulo  $S_m$  if and only if

$$\Gamma = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha(1) & \alpha(2) & \dots & \alpha(m) \\ \beta(1) & \beta(2) & \dots & \beta(m) \end{pmatrix}$$

is a normal array.

**Theorem.** (Dias da Silva, MMT) If the multiplicity partition of  $\Gamma$  is equal to  $\chi$ , then

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# Example

Let  $\chi = (3, 2^2, 1^2)$ ,  $u = e_\alpha^\chi$ ,  $v = e_\beta^\chi$  and

$$\Gamma = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 2 & 3 & 3 & 4 & 5 \\ 1 & 3 & 5 & 1 & 2 & 2 & 4 & 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Since  $\chi$  is sign uniform and there is a full coloring of  $\Gamma$ , we know that  $N(\Gamma) \neq P(\Gamma)$ , so  $u$  and  $v$  are not orthogonal.

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