

Measuring thick monoids

Frenkel Elizaveta
Moscow State University, Università degli Studi di Firenze

joint work with V.N.Remeslennikov
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▶ Motivation

- ▶ To explain results of:
 - ⊗ E.F, V.N. Remeslennikov, *Special automata over free groups*, in preparation.

▶ Previously known

- ▶ ⊗ A. V. Borovik, A. G. Myasnikov and V. N. Remeslennikov, **Multiplicative measures on free groups**, *Intern. J. of Algebra and Computation*, 13 (2003), 6, pp. 705 – 731
- ▶ ⊗ E. Frenkel, A. G. Myasnikov and V. N. Remeslennikov, **Regular sets and counting in free groups**, in *Combinatorial and Geometric Group Theory*, Series “Trends in Mathematics”, (Birkhauser Verlag Basel/Switzerland, 2010), pp. 93–118

▶ Objects and methods

- ▶ Free groups, regular subsets.
- ▶ Asymptotic and algorithmic methods.

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Part I. Regular subsets of fg free groups

Let $X = \{x_1, \dots, x_m\}$ be a finite alphabet, M be a monoid over X with identity ϵ . Let $F = F(X)$ be the free group generated by X , i.e. all reduced words over X .

A **N**ondeterministic **F**inite **A**utomaton \mathcal{A} over monoid M is a finite directed graph (possibly with multiple edges and loops) with initial and finite states where the arcs are labeled with elements of M .

Reading the labels of paths from initial to final states defines the accepted language $L(\mathcal{A}) \subseteq M$.

$L \subseteq M$ is **regular** if $L = L(\mathcal{A})$ for some NFA over M .

Let R be an arbitrary subset of the free group F and let S_k be the sphere of radius k in the Cayley graph $C(F, X)$.

Denote by $f_k = \frac{|R \cap S_k|}{|S_k|}$. We shall call f_k relative frequencies of R in F .

We define λ -measure on subsets of F as

$$\lambda(R) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} f_k(R).$$

We say R is λ -measurable, if $\lambda(R)$ is finite.

A set R is termed **exponentially λ -measurable**, if $f_k(R) \leq q^k$ for all sufficiently large k and positive constant $q < 1$.

Generating function of a regular set

The **generating function** for R is a formal series in $R[[t]]$:

$$g_R(t) = \sum f_k t^k.$$

Theorem For a regular set $R \subseteq F$ the function $g_R(t)$ is a rational function of t with rational coefficients and either

- ▶ has no singularity at $t = 1$ (in this case R is exponentially λ -measurable) or
- ▶ has a simple pole at $t = 1$ (in this case R is thick).

In particular,

$$\text{Res}_1 g_R(t) = -\mu_0(R). \quad (1)$$

Algorithm I: Generating function of a regular set

Let A be **adjacency matrix** of \mathcal{A} such that entries a_{ij} ($i, j = 1, \dots, n$) corresponds to the number of arrows from the state i to the state j . Denote by R the subset of F accepted by \mathcal{A} .

Algorithm I:

1. Given an automaton \mathcal{A} , compute the adjacency matrix A .
2. Compute the fundamental matrix $B = tA(E - tA)^{-1}$ of \mathcal{A} , with b_{ij} in the ring of formal power series $R[[t]]$.
3. The generating function $g_R(t)$ is equal to $\sum_{i,j=1,n} b_{ij}$.

NB: Involves the matrix inversion and therefore slow for the size of automaton big enough.

Asymptotic classification of sets

A regular subset R of F is called **thick**, if μ_0 is strictly positive.

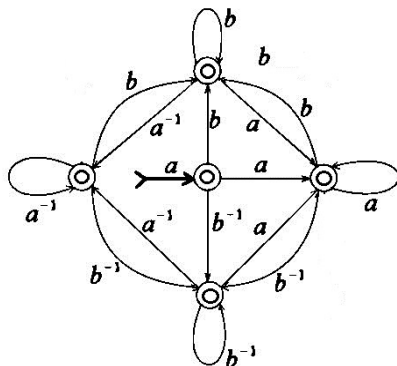
Theorem 1.[Borovik, Miasnikov, Remeslennikov; Averina, F.] Let F be a free group and R be a regular subset of F . Then

- 1.) every regular subset in F is either thick or exponentially λ -measurable;
- 2.) a regular subset in F is thick if and only if its prefix closure contains a cone.

Cones

A **cone** $C(w)$ with the handle w is a set of all elements in F containing the given word w as initial segment.

Example. $F = F(a, b)$ and $C(a)$:

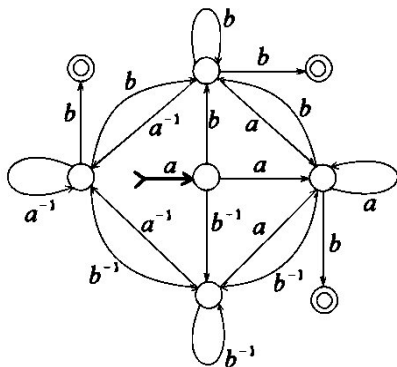


A cone with a **right-hand side handle**, i.e. the set of all words in F that **terminates** with w (we denote this sort of cones by $C[w]$).

Cones

A **double-based cone** with handles w_1, w_2 , is a set of all elements in F of the form $w_1 \circ f \circ w_2$, $f \in F$.

Example. $F = F(a, b)$ and $C(a, b)$:



Regular sets under the microscope:

- ▶ **Structure**
- ▶ **Thick sets**
- ▶ **Decomposition of special automata**

Special automata

Let $\mathcal{A} = (S, X \cup X^{-1}, \delta, i_0, Z)$ be a deterministic automaton. \mathcal{A} is called **special** over F if

- a. The initial vertex has no inedges;
- b. There is only one final state $z_0 \in Z$;
- c. \mathcal{A} does not contain inaccessible states;
- d. For every state $s \in S$ there is a direct path from s to the final state z_0 ;
- e. For any state $s \in S$, all arrows which enter s have the same label $x \in X \cup X^{-1}$. We shall say in this situation that s *has type* x .
- f. For any state s of type x in \mathcal{A} , all arrows exiting from s cannot have label x^{-1} .

Theorem 2. *Let L be a regular language in F . Then there exist a finite number of special automata $\mathcal{A}_1, \dots, \mathcal{A}_k$ such that L is a disjoint union of languages $L_0 = L(\mathcal{A}_0), \dots, L_k = L(\mathcal{A}_k)$ in F :*

$$L = L_0 \sqcup L_2 \sqcup \dots \sqcup L_k.$$

Further splitting

A regular subset $R = R(\mathcal{A})$ of a free group F is **tight**, if $i_0 = z_0$, and **loose** otherwise.

Lemma 3. Let $R = R(\mathcal{A})$ and $\mathcal{A} = (S, X \cup X^{-1}, i_0, z_0)$ be a special automaton over F . Then there exist regular languages R_1, R_2, R_3 in F such that R_1 is accepted by a special automaton and

1. if \mathcal{A} has at least one arrow exiting z_0 , then R_2 is non-empty and tight, R_3 is loose and

$$R = R_1 \circ R_2 \text{ is unambiguos}; \quad (2)$$

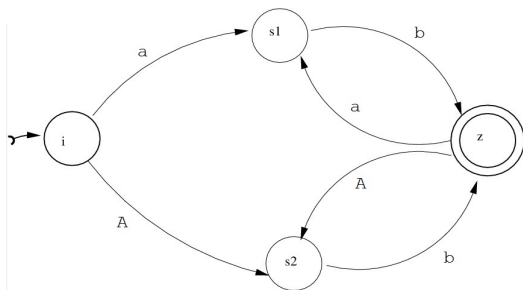
$$R_2 = 1 \sqcup R_3 \sqcup (R_3 \circ R_3) \sqcup (R_3 \circ R_3 \circ R_3) \sqcup \dots; \quad (3)$$

$$g_R(t) = g_{R_1}(t)g_{R_2}^*(t); \quad \lambda(R) = \lambda(R_1)\lambda^*(R_2). \quad (4)$$

2. if there is no arrows exiting z_0 , then $R_2 = R_3 = \emptyset$, $R = R_1$, $\lambda(R) = \lambda(R_1)$, and $g_R(t) = g_{R_1}(t)$.

Further splitting: example

Example. Let $X = \{a, b\}$ be an alphabet and $X \cup X^{-1} = \{a, b, A, B\}$. Consider the special automaton \mathcal{A} (the arrow with a tail corresponds to the initial state, and the finale state is drawn as a double circle).



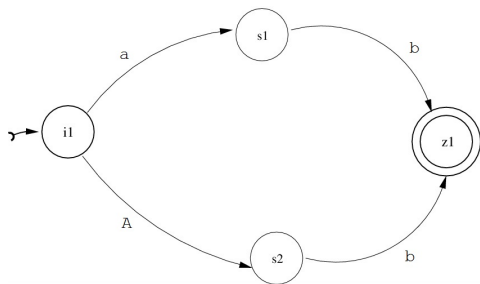
The special automaton \mathcal{A} .

$$R = R(\mathcal{A}) = ab((Ab)^*(ab)^*)^* \cup ay((ab)^*(Ab)^*)^* \sqcup$$

$$\sqcup Ab((ab)^*(Ab)^*)^* \cup Ab((Ab)^*(ab)^*)^*.$$

Further splitting: example

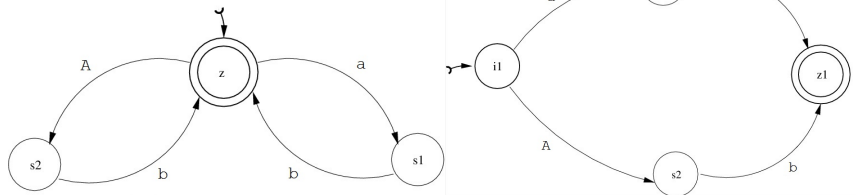
The set of first type $R_1 = ab \cup Ab$.



The special automaton \mathcal{A}_1 .

Further splitting: example

The sets of second type $R_2 = ((ab^*(Ab)^*)^*$ and third type $R_3 = ab \cup Ab$ with their automata \mathcal{A}_2 and \mathcal{A}_3 .



The automata $\mathcal{A}_2, \mathcal{A}_3$.

Thickness and speciality

It turns out that for regular sets accepted by special automaton their thickness can be easily checked.

An automaton \mathcal{A} accepting a tight set is called *X -complete* if for every state $s \in S$ of type x all arrows labeled by $X \cup X^{-1} \setminus \{x^{-1}\}$ exit from s .

Proposition 4. *Let \mathcal{A} be a special automaton, and $R = L(\mathcal{A})$ be a saturated set such that $R = R_1 \circ R_2$ is the splitting of the form above, with $R_1 = L(\mathcal{A}_1)$ and $R_2 = L(\mathcal{A}_2)$. If \mathcal{A}_2 is not X -complete, then R is exponentially λ -measurable.*

Thick monoids

How does thick monoids look like



This is **not** a thick monoid

Thickness and speciality

Indeed, let R_2 be a regular subset of F of second type accepted by the automaton \mathcal{A}_2 .

Then R_2 forms a monoid, and if \mathcal{A}_2 is X -complete, then the **monoid** R_2 is called **thick**.

An interesting fact about thick monoids is that we can describe them in terms of double-based cones. But not the only one!

Lemma 5. *Let R_2 be a thick monoid in F . Then*

1. $R_2 = C[x] \setminus C(x^{-1}, x) \cup \{1\}$ for some $x \in X \cup X^{-1}$,

2. $g_{R_2}(t) = \frac{(2m-1)t^2}{4m^2(1-t)} + 1 + \frac{t}{2m} + \frac{t^2}{4m^2} + \frac{t^3}{2m(2m-1-t)}$, and

3. $\mu_0(R_2) = \frac{2m-1}{4m^2}$.

Lemma 6. *Let $C(a, b)$ be a double-based cone with both handles a, b in $X \cup X^{-1}$. Then following holds:*

1. $f_k(C(a, b)) = f_k(C(c, d))$ and therefore $g_{C(a,b)}(t) = g_{C(c,d)}(t)$ for all a, b, c, d in $X \cup X^{-1}$ such that $ab \neq 1, cd \neq 1$. Further, $f_k(C(a, a^{-1})) = f_k(C(b, b^{-1}))$ for arbitrary $a, b \in X \cup X^{-1}$.

2. $f_k(C(a, a^{-1})) = (2m - 1)f_k(C(a, a)) - \frac{1}{2m(2m - 1)^{k-1}}$, for $k \geq 3$,

3. $g_{C(a,a)}(t) = \frac{t^2}{4m^2(1-t)} + \frac{t^2}{4m^2(2m-1)} + \frac{t^3}{2m(2m-1)(2m-1-t)}$,
and $g_{C(a,a^{-1})}(t) = \frac{t^2}{4m^2(1-t)} - \frac{t^2}{4m^2} - \frac{t^3}{2m(2m-1-t)}$,

4. $\mu_0(C(a, b)) = \mu_0(C(c, d)) = \frac{1}{4m^2}$ for all $a, b, c, d \in X \cup X^{-1}$.

Theorem 7. Let $R = C(u, v)$ be a double-based cone with handles u, v in F such that $u = u_0 \circ a$, $v = b \circ v_0$, where $u_0, v_0 \in F$ and $a, b \in X \cup X^{-1}$. Then

1. $g_R(t) = g_{C(a,b)}(t) \cdot \lambda^*(u_0) \cdot \lambda^*(v_0)$;

2. $\mu_0(R) = \frac{\lambda^*(u_0) \cdot \lambda^*(v_0)}{4m^2}$.

Theorem 8. A regular subset R of F is thick if and only if it contains a double-based cone $C(w, x)$, for some $x \in X \cup X^{-1}$ and $w \in F$.