

Growth Functions of Finite Algebras

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Answer: $d_{\mathbf{A}}(n) := \min\{g : \mathbf{A}^n \text{ has a generating set of size } g\}$.

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The “Few Subpowers” paper (BIMMVW) proves that \mathbf{A} has polynomially generated subpowers iff \mathbf{A} has a **cube term**.

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- ⑤ (M. Quick, N. Ruškuc, 2010) If \mathbf{A} is a finite ring, module, k -algebra or Lie algebra, then $d_{\mathbf{A}}$ is logarithmic if \mathbf{A} is perfect and linear otherwise.

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Answer: No.

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Basic Facts

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- 3 If \mathbf{A} is finite, then $\lceil \log_{|A|}(n) \rceil \leq d_{\mathbf{A}}(n) \leq |A|^n$.

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Pointed Cube Terms

Example

Write $\mathbf{A} \models F(1, x, 2) \approx x$ and $\mathbf{A} \models F(x, y, 3) \approx x$ as a matrix equation:

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F is a p -pointed, m -ary, k -cube term for \mathbf{A} if $\mathbf{A} \models F(M) \approx \begin{pmatrix} x \\ x \end{pmatrix}$ where M is a $k \times m$ -matrix consisting of p constants and some variables, and every column of M contains a symbol different from x .

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Some Results

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Let Σ be a set of basic identities involving only finitely many constant symbols. If Σ does not entail the existence a pointed cube term, then realizability of Σ imposes no restriction on growth functions. (Given any finite \mathbf{B} , there is a finite \mathbf{A} realizing Σ such that $d_{\mathbf{A}} = d_{\mathbf{B}}$.)

Theorem

If Σ is a set of basic identities that entails the existence a pointed cube term, then any finite algebra realizing Σ has growth function bounded by a polynomial.

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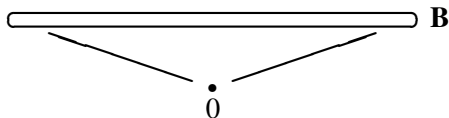
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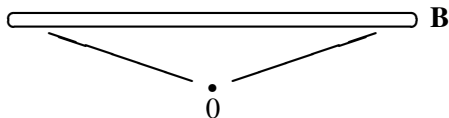


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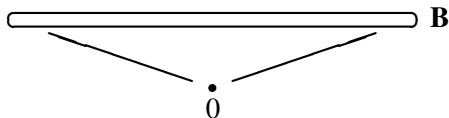
Stage 2: Show how to construct models of Σ of every cardinal larger than the number of constants in Σ .

Σ Restrictive \Rightarrow Pointed Cube Term

Assumption: Σ (involving finitely many constants) entails no pointed cube term.

Goal: Given finite \mathbf{B} , $|\mathbf{B}| > 1$, construct finite \mathbf{A} realizing Σ such that $d_{\mathbf{A}} = d_{\mathbf{B}}$.)

Stage 1: Show how to enlarge \mathbf{B} without changing $d_{\mathbf{B}}$. This uses the 1-point extension, $\mathbf{B}_0 = \langle \mathbf{B} \cup \{0\}; \wedge \rangle$:



Stage 2: Show how to construct models of Σ of every cardinal larger than the number of constants in Σ .

Stage 3: Show how to merge a sufficiently large model from Stage 1 with a sufficiently large model from Stage 2 to form \mathbf{A} with $d_{\mathbf{A}} = d_{\mathbf{B}}$.

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Example ($F(1, x, 2) \approx x, F(x, 2, 3) \approx x$)

Idea: Split coordinates of $[\mathbf{a}] \in \mathbf{A}^n$ into k equal size segments, $\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{a}_1 \\ \mathbf{a}_2 \end{bmatrix}$. Then

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shows how to generate $[\mathbf{a}]$ from more “highly processed” tuples.

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Must show: there are only polynomially many fully processed tuples.

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At present, the only growth rates we know are logarithmic, polynomial or exponential.

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- 2 If finite \mathbf{A} has a polynomial $B(x, y)$ with a 2-sided unit ($B(1, x) \approx x \approx B(x, 1)$), must the growth rate of \mathbf{A} be linear or logarithmic?
- 3 Is there a nice description of finite algebras with polynomially generated powers?