

PERMANENTAL INEQUALITIES FOR TOTALLY POSITIVE MATRICES

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Outline

- (1) Totally positive matrices
- (2) Inequalities and bounded ratios
- (3) A multigrading of $\mathbb{Z}[x_{1,1}, x_{1,2}, \dots, x_{n,n}]$ and the Bruhat order
- (4) Bounded ratio theorem
- (5) Open problems

Totally positive matrices

Given $n \times n$ matrix $A = (a_{i,j})$, subsets $I, J \subseteq [n] := \{1, \dots, n\}$, $|I| = |J|$, define square submatrix $A_{I,J} = (a_{i,j})_{i \in I, j \in J}$.

Call A *totally positive* if $\det(A_{I,J}) > 0$ whenever $|I| = |J|$.
Let $\mathcal{M}_n^{\text{TP}}$ be the set of $n \times n$ totally positive matrices.

Koteljanskii's inequality: For $A \in \mathcal{M}_n^{\text{TP}}$, $I, J \subseteq [n]$, we have

$$\det(A_{I \cup J, I \cup J}) \det(A_{I \cap J, I \cap J}) \leq \det(A_{I, I}) \det(A_{J, J}).$$

Question: For all $A \in \mathcal{M}_n^{\text{TP}}$, $I, J \subseteq [n]$, we do not have
$$\text{per}(A_{I \cup J, I \cup J}) \text{per}(A_{I \cap J, I \cap J}) \geq \text{per}(A_{I, I}) \text{per}(A_{J, J}).$$

Are these products related somehow?

Inequalities

Question: For which pairs of products

$$\text{prod}_1(A) := \text{per}(A_{I_1, J_1}) \cdots \text{per}(A_{I_r, J_r}),$$

$$\text{prod}_2(A) := \text{per}(A_{I'_1, J'_1}) \cdots \text{per}(A_{I'_r, J'_r})$$

do we have $\text{prod}_1(A) \leq \text{prod}_2(A)$ for all $A \in \mathcal{M}_n^{\text{TP}}$?

Question: For which pairs are there constants k_1, k_2 satisfying $k_1 \text{prod}_1(A) \leq \text{prod}_2(A) \leq k_2 \text{prod}_1(A)$ for all $A \in \mathcal{M}_n^{\text{TP}}$?

Question: Which rational functions

$$\frac{\text{per}(x_{I_1, J_1}) \cdots \text{per}(x_{I_r, J_r})}{\text{per}(x_{I'_1, J'_1}) \cdots \text{per}(x_{I'_q, J'_q})}$$

in variables $x = (x_{i,j})_{i,j \in [n]}$ are bounded above and nontrivially bounded below (not just by 0) on $\mathcal{M}_n^{\text{TP}}$?

Multigrading of $\mathbb{Z}[x_{1,1}, x_{1,2}, \dots, x_{n,n}]$

Given r -element multisets $M = 1^{\alpha_1} \dots n^{\alpha_n}$, $O = 1^{\beta_1} \dots n^{\beta_n}$, define the set of matrices and the $\mathbb{Z}$ -submodule

$$\mathcal{C}_{M,O} = \{C \in \text{Mat}_{n \times n}(\mathbb{N}) \mid \text{rowsums}(C) = \alpha, \text{ colsums}(C) = \beta\},$$

$$A_{M,O} := \text{span}_{\mathbb{Z}} \left\{ \prod_{i,j \in [n]} x_{i,j}^{c_{i,j}} \mid C \in \mathcal{C}_{M,O} \right\}.$$

We have $\mathbb{Z}[x] = \bigoplus_{r \geq 0} A_{M,O}$.

Define the *Bruhat order* on $\mathcal{C}_{M,O}$ by mapping

$$C \mapsto C^* = (c_{i,j}^*), \quad c_{i,j}^* = c_{1,1} + \dots + c_{i,j},$$

and declaring $C \leq D$ if $C^* \geq D^*$ in the componentwise order, i.e., $c_{i,j}^* \geq d_{i,j}^*$ for all i, j .

Example:

$$M = (1, 1, 2, 3) = 1^2 2^1 3^1, \quad O = (1, 2, 2, 2) = 1^1 2^3 3^0,$$

$$C_{M,O} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} < \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} < \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\},$$

$$\mathcal{A}_{M,O} = \text{span}_{\mathbb{Z}} \{ x_{1,1} x_{1,2} x_{2,2} x_{3,2}, \ x_{1,2}^2 x_{2,1} x_{3,2}, \ x_{1,2}^2 x_{2,2} x_{3,1} \},$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 1 & 3 & 3 \\ 1 & 4 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \geq_{\text{comp}} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2 & 2 \\ 1 & 3 & 3 \\ 1 & 4 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \geq_{\text{comp}} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2 & 2 \\ 0 & 3 & 3 \\ 1 & 4 & 4 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Bounded Ratio Theorem

Theorem: The rational function

$$R(x) = \frac{\text{per}(x_{I_1, J_1}) \cdots \text{per}(x_{I_r, J_r})}{\text{per}(x_{I'_1, J'_1}) \cdots \text{per}(x_{I'_q, J'_q})},$$

with associated matrices C, D defined by

$$\begin{aligned} c_{i,j} &= \#\{k \mid x_{i,j} \text{ on diagonal of submatrix } x_{I_k, J_k}\}, \\ d_{i,j} &= \#\{k \mid x_{i,j} \text{ on diagonal of submatrix } x_{I'_k, J'_k}\} \end{aligned}$$

is bounded above on $\mathcal{M}_n^{\text{TP}}$ if and only if $C \geq D$ in $\mathcal{C}_{M,O}$ for some M, O . Specifically, $R(x) \leq |I_1|! \cdots |I_r|!$.

Corollary: If $C = D$, then $R(x)$ is bounded above and below:

$$\frac{1}{|I'_1|! \cdots |I'_q|!} \leq R(x) \leq |I_1|! \cdots |I_r|!.$$

Example: Consider products in $\mathcal{A}_{1123,1222}$ and matrices

$$\text{prod}_1 = \text{per}(x_{12,12})x_{1,2}x_{3,2},$$

•	○			1	1	0	1	2	2
	•			0	1	0	1	3	3
	*			0	1	0	1	4	4

$$\text{prod}_2 = \text{per}(x_{13,12})x_{1,2}x_{2,2},$$

•	○			1	1	0	1	2	2
	*			0	1	0	1	3	3
	•			0	1	0	1	4	4

$$\text{prod}_3 = x_{1,1}x_{1,2}x_{2,2}x_{3,2},$$

•	○			1	1	0	1	2	2
	*			0	1	0	1	3	3
	?			0	1	0	1	4	4

$$\text{prod}_4 = x_{1,2}^2 \text{ per}(x_{23,12}),$$

•	•			0	2	0	0	2	2
○				1	0	0	1	3	3
	○			0	1	0	1	4	4

$$\text{prod}_5 = x_{1,2}^2 x_{2,1}x_{3,2},$$

•	•			0	2	0	0	2	2
○				1	0	0	1	3	3
	*			0	1	0	1	4	4

$$\text{prod}_6 = x_{1,2}^2 x_{2,2}x_{3,1},$$

•	•			0	2	0	0	2	2
	○			0	1	0	0	3	3
*				1	0	0	1	4	4

Products 1, 4, 6 have different exponent matrices, and we have

$$0 \leq \frac{\text{prod}_4}{\text{prod}_1} = \frac{x_{1,2}^2 \text{ per}(x_{23,12})}{\text{per}(x_{12,12})x_{1,2}x_{3,2}} \leq \overline{2!1!1!},$$

$$0 \leq \frac{\text{prod}_6}{\text{prod}_4} = \frac{x_{1,2}^2 x_{2,2} x_{3,1}}{x_{1,2}^2 \text{ per}(x_{23,12})} \leq \overline{1!1!1!1!},$$

$$0 \leq \frac{\text{prod}_6}{\text{prod}_1} = \frac{x_{1,2}^2 x_{2,2} x_{3,1}}{\text{per}(x_{12,12})x_{1,2}x_{3,2}} \leq \overline{1!1!1!1!}.$$

Products 1, 2, 3 (and 4, 5) have the same exponent matrices, and we have

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{1}{2!1!1!} &\leq \frac{\text{prod}_2}{\text{prod}_1} = \frac{\text{per}(x_{13,12})x_{1,2}x_{2,2}}{\text{per}(x_{12,12})x_{1,2}x_{3,2}} \leq \frac{2!1!1!}{1!1!1!}, \\ \frac{1}{2!1!1!} &\leq \frac{\text{prod}_3}{\text{prod}_1} = \frac{x_{1,1}x_{1,2}x_{2,2}x_{3,2}}{\text{per}(x_{12,12})x_{1,2}x_{3,2}} \leq \frac{1!1!1!1!}{1!1!1!1!}, \\ \frac{1}{2!1!1!} &\leq \frac{\text{prod}_3}{\text{prod}_2} = \frac{x_{1,1}x_{1,2}x_{2,2}x_{3,2}}{\text{per}(x_{13,12})x_{1,2}x_{2,2}} \leq \frac{1!1!1!1!}{1!1!1!1!}, \\ \frac{1}{2!1!1!} &\leq \frac{\text{prod}_5}{\text{prod}_4} = \frac{x_{1,2}^2 x_{2,1} x_{3,2}}{x_{1,2}^2 \text{per}(x_{23,12})} \leq \frac{1!1!1!1!}{1!1!1!1!}.\end{aligned}$$

Open Problems

Weak bounds for permanental Koteljanskii ratio on $\mathcal{M}_3^{\text{TP}}$:

$$\frac{1}{3!} \leq \frac{\text{per}(x_{12,12}) \text{per}(x_{23,23})}{\text{per}(x_{123,123})\text{per}(x_{2,2})} \leq 2!2!.$$

Problem: Find tight bounds in terms of $I, J \subseteq [n]$ for ratios

$$\frac{\text{per}(x_{I,I}) \text{per}(x_{J,J})}{\text{per}(x_{I \cup J, I \cup J}) \text{per}(x_{I \cap J, I \cap J})} \quad \text{on } \mathcal{M}_n^{\text{TP}}.$$

Problem: Fix $n, I = \{1, 3, \dots, 2n - 1\}, J = \{2, 4, \dots, 2n\}$.

Show that we have

$$\frac{\text{per}(x_{I,I}) \text{per}(x_{J,J})}{\text{per}(x_{[n],[n]}) \text{per}(x_{[n+1,2n],[n+1,2n]})} \leq 1 \quad \text{on } \mathcal{M}_n^{\text{TP}}.$$