

Cobham's theorem(s) I

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0-Motivations

Question

Given a set S , does there exist an algorithm (with finite memory) that recognizes the elements of S .

Examples

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- ▶ Subsets of groups or rings, $\mathbb{F}_p[X], \mathbb{Z} + i\mathbb{Z}, \dots$.

Some comments

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- ▶ We will use numeration systems
- ▶ and finite automata.

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It strongly depends on the numeration base (Cobham, 1969) and recognizable sets are not any subsets (Cobham, 1972).

An example

Let $E_{2^n} = \{2^n; n \in \mathbb{N}\}$.

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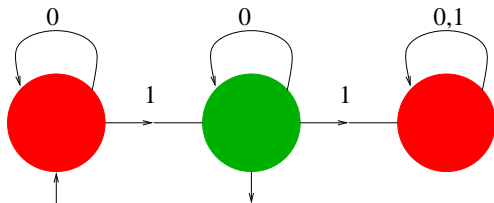
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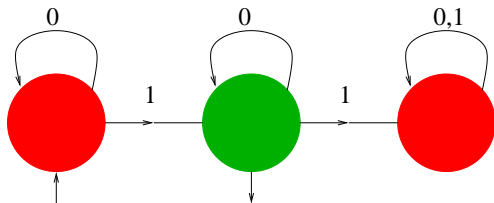
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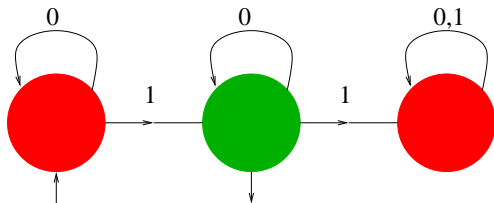


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Does E_{2^n} be 3-recognizable ? : Does there exist a finite automaton that recognizes $L_3(E_{2^n})$?

Other examples

The integer Cantor set : $E_C = \{n = \sum \epsilon_i 3^i \mid \epsilon_i \in \{0, 2\}\}$.

The Morse set : $E_M = \{n = \sum \epsilon_i 2^i \mid \sum \epsilon_i = 0 \pmod{2}\}$.

Recognizability in \mathbb{N}^d

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S. Eilenberg (*Automata, Languages, and Machines*, Acad. Press, 1972) : *The proof is correct, long and hard. It is a challenge to find a more reasonable proof of this fine theorem.*

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Let $x \in \{a, b, c\}^{\mathbb{N}}$ be the fixed point starting with a of the substitution

$$a \mapsto ab, \quad b \mapsto bc, \quad c \mapsto cc$$

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We say it is a **2-automatic sequence** (p -automatic in general).

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1. $\exists p \geq 1, s \in]0, 1[$,

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2. $\exists p \geq 1, m \geq 2, c \in \mathbb{Q}^+, \#E \cap \{1, \dots, n\} \sim c \left(\frac{\log n}{\log m} \right)^{p-1}$.

Summary

TODAY

I-Survey of Cobham's type results (logic, algebraic (transcendence), geometric (tilings), combinatorics on words, languages, automata, ...)

FRIDAY

II-Proof of Cobham's theorem (1969)
(using dynamical systems)

III-Open problems

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- ▶ (Christol, 1979) ($d = 1$, p prime)
 $f_E(X) = \sum_{n \in E} X^n \in \mathbb{F}_p[[X]]$ is **algebraic** over $\mathbb{F}_p(X)$.

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- ▶ (Eilenberg, 1972) the **p -kernel**
 $\#\{(1_E(a + p^k n))_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \mid a \leq p^k - 1, k \geq 1\}$ is finite.

"Logical" extension

Theorem (Semenov, 1977) p and q multiplicatively independent.
 $E \subset \mathbb{N}^d$ is both p and q -recognizable (or p and q -definable) if and only if E is definable in $\langle \mathbb{N}, + \rangle$.

Definability and Presburger arithmetic (1929)

Definition $E \subset \mathbb{N}^d$ is **definable** (resp. p -definable) if E is defined by a formula from $\langle \mathbb{N}, + \rangle$ (resp. $\langle \mathbb{N}, +, V_p \rangle$)

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- ▶ A priori : no constant ... or you should defined them by a formula ...

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- ▶ Other example : $X = \{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{N}^3; x+y=z\}$ is p -definable for all $p \geq 2$.
- ▶ **Theorem.** $E \subset \mathbb{N}$ is ultimately periodic iff E is definable in $\langle \mathbb{N}, + \rangle$.

Algebraic extension: Examples

Recall (Christol, 1979) : $E \subset \mathbb{N}$ is p -recognizable if and only if $f_E(X) = \sum_{n \in E} X^n \in \mathbb{F}_p[[X]]$ is algebraic over $\mathbb{F}_p(X)$.

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$f_{E_C}(X)$ is a solution of ... ? in $\mathbb{F}_3[[X]]$.

Hint : ... not difficult

Algebraic extension

Theorem (Christol, Kamae, Mendès-France, Rauzy, 1980) *Let A be a finite alphabet, $x \in \mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{N}}$, and, p and q two different prime numbers. Let $\alpha_p : A \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_p$ and $\alpha_q : A \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_q$ be one-to-one maps. Then,*

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$\sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \alpha_p(x_n) X^n \in \mathbb{F}_p[[X]]$ is algebraic over $\mathbb{F}_p(X)$ and $\sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \alpha_q(x_n) X^n \in \mathbb{F}_q[[X]]$ is algebraic over $\mathbb{F}_q(X)$ if, and only if, they are rational.

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Conjecture ? : If one of these numbers is irrational, $\sum_n \epsilon_n 3^{-n}$ and $\sum_n \epsilon_n 2^{-n}$, then one of them is transcendental.

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Proof of Allouche, 1999

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Theorem (Adamczewski-Bugeaud-Lucas, 2004) If $\zeta \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \mathbb{Q}$ is algebraic then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{p(n, b, \zeta)}{n} = +\infty,$$

where $p(n, b, \zeta)$ is the number of words of length n in the base b expansion of ζ .

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Conjecture : If ζ is an irrational algebraic number then for all n and b , $p(n, b, \zeta) = b^n$.

α -substitutive sequences

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- ▶ The Fibonacci sequence ($0 \mapsto 01, 1 \mapsto 0$) is $\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}$ -substitutive.

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Theorem (Durand, 2011) *Let $\alpha, \beta > 1$ be two multiplicatively independent Perron numbers. Then, x is both α and β -substitutive if and only if $x = uvvvvv\dots$*

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With the greedy algorithm, uniqueness of the expansion

$$\rho_U(n) = a_i \cdots a_0$$

$$n = a_i U_i + a_{i-1} U_{i-1} + \cdots + a_0 U_0;$$

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- ▶ **Answer :** (Durand, 1998) for Bertrand numeration systems, (Durand-Rigo, 2009) for abstract numeration systems.

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Theorem (Bell, 2006) *Let k, l be two multiplicatively independent integers. If a sequence $x \in R^{\mathbb{N}}$ is both (R, k) -regular and (R, l) -regular, then it satisfies a linear recurrence over R .*

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Theorem (Brusten PhD thesis, 2011) Let $k, l \geq 2$ be two multiplicatively independent integers. Let $X \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ be a compact set. Then, X is both weakly k - and l -recognizable iff it is definable in $\langle \mathbb{R}, +, <, 1 \rangle$.

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Theorem (Elekes-Keleti-Mathé, 2010) (Suppose K is not a finite union of intervals)

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