

More Vector Spaces with Atoms of Finite Lengths

Jingjie Yang
University of Oxford

Mikołaj Bojańczyk
University of Warsaw

Bartek Klin
University of Oxford

Abstract—*CRITICAL: Do Not Use Symbols, Special Characters, Footnotes, or Math in Paper Title or Abstract.

I. INTRODUCTION

II. RADO GRAPH, SANS COGS

\mathbb{A} is:

- oligomorphic if, for $d = 0, 1, 2, \dots$, \mathbb{A}^d only has finitely many orbits;
- \mathfrak{F} -oligomorphic if, for $d = 0, 1, 2, \dots$, $\text{Lin}_{\mathfrak{F}} \mathbb{A}^d$ only has finitely long chains.

Of note: with Stirling numbers of the second kind and Gaussian 2-binomial coefficients, the orbit counts are given by

$$\begin{aligned}\#\mathbb{N}^d &= \sum_{k=0}^d \left\{ \begin{matrix} d \\ k \end{matrix} \right\} \\ \#\mathbb{Q}^d &= \sum_{k=0}^d \left\{ \begin{matrix} d \\ k \end{matrix} \right\} k! \\ \#\mathbb{G}^d &= \sum_{k=0}^d \left\{ \begin{matrix} d \\ k \end{matrix} \right\} 2^{\binom{k}{2}} \\ \#\mathbb{V}_{\infty}^d &= \sum_{k=0}^d \left[\begin{matrix} d \\ k \end{matrix} \right]_2 \\ \#\mathbb{W}_{\infty}^d &= \sum_{k=0}^d \left[\begin{matrix} d \\ k \end{matrix} \right]_2 2^{\binom{k}{2}^W}\end{aligned}$$

To introduce:

- *smooth approximation by homogeneous substructures* [3] (N.B. ‘smooth approximation’ from [4, Definition 4] seems to be entirely different)
- *rough approximation of a homogeneous structure by finite substructures with few orbits (i.e., types) that cover the age of \mathbb{A}*

A. Symplectic vector spaces

Throughout this subsection let \mathfrak{f} denote a finite field.

Definition II.1. A *symplectic vector space* is an \mathfrak{f} -vector space \mathbb{W} equipped with a bilinear form $\omega : \mathbb{W} \times \mathbb{W} \rightarrow \mathfrak{f}$ that is

- alternating: $\omega(v, v) = 0$ for all v ; and
- non-degenerate: if $\omega(v, w) = 0$ for all w then $v = 0$.

Example II.2. Let \mathbb{W}_n be the \mathfrak{f} -vector space with basis $e_1, \dots, e_n, f_1, \dots, f_n$. Define ω by bilinearly extending

$$\omega(e_i, f_i) = 1 = -\omega(f_i, e_i), \quad \omega(-, *) = 0 \text{ elsewhere; } (\S)$$

one may straightforwardly check that ω is alternating and non-degenerate. Moreover, noticing that $\mathbb{W}_0 \subseteq \mathbb{W}_1 \subseteq \mathbb{W}_2 \subseteq \dots$, we obtain a countable-dimensional symplectic vector space $\mathbb{W}_{\infty} = \bigcup_n \mathbb{W}_n$.

We will take a straight-line path to prove the following in a self-contained manner. Detailed expositions can be found in [1, §III.3].

Theorem II.3. *The symplectic vector space \mathbb{W}_{∞} is smoothly approximated by $\mathbb{W}_0 \subseteq \mathbb{W}_1 \subseteq \mathbb{W}_2 \subseteq \dots$.*

To begin with, we will refer to vectors satisfying (\S) as a *symplectic basis* — indeed, they must be linearly independent. Such bases behave very much like the usual bases.

Lemma II.4. *Assume that \mathbb{W} is a symplectic vector space that is at most countable. Then any finite symplectic basis $e_1, \dots, e_n, f_1, \dots, f_n$ can be extended to a symplectic basis that spans the whole \mathbb{W} .*

Proof. Suppose that $e_1, \dots, e_n, f_1, \dots, f_n$ does not already span \mathbb{W} ; take v to be a witness (that is least according to some fixed enumeration of \mathbb{W} in the case it is infinite). Put

$$e_{n+1} = v - \sum_{i=1}^n \omega(e_i, v) f_i + \sum_{i=1}^n \omega(f_i, v) e_i$$

so that $\omega(e_i, e_{n+1}) = 0 = \omega(f_i, e_{n+1})$. By the non-degeneracy of ω , there is — rescaling if necessary — some w such that $\omega(e_{n+1}, w) = 1$. Now define

$$f_{n+1} = w - \sum_{i=1}^n \omega(e_i, w) f_i + \sum_{i=1}^n \omega(f_i, w) e_i$$

in a similar manner, making $e_1, \dots, e_n, e_{n+1}, f_1, \dots, f_n, f_{n+1}$ a symplectic basis that spans v . We go through every element of \mathbb{W} by continuing this way. \square

Given two symplectic vector spaces \mathbb{W} and \mathbb{W}' , we call a function f between $X \subseteq \mathbb{W}$ and $X' \subseteq \mathbb{W}'$ *isometric* if $\omega(f(x_1), f(x_2)) = \omega(x_1, x_2)$ for all $x_1, x_2 \in X$.

Proposition II.5. *$\mathbb{W}_0, \mathbb{W}_1, \mathbb{W}_2, \dots, \mathbb{W}_{\infty}$ are all the countable symplectic vector spaces up to linear isometric isomorphisms.*

Proof. Let \mathbb{W} be a countable symplectic vector space. By Lemma II.4, we can extend the empty symplectic basis to one that spans \mathbb{W} — call the basis vectors e'_i, f'_i . Then $e'_i \mapsto e_i, f'_i \mapsto f_i$ exhibits a linear isomorphism from \mathbb{W} to \mathbb{W}_n or \mathbb{W}_{∞} , which one easily checks to be isometric. \square

In particular \mathbb{W}_∞ is the essentially unique countable symplectic vector space; by Ryll-Nardzewski it is oligomorphic. We need one last fact about its finite counterparts.

Proposition II.6 (Witt Extension). *Any isometric injective linear map $f : X \subseteq \mathbb{W}_n \rightarrow \mathbb{W}_n$ can be extended to an isometric linear isomorphism $\mathbb{W}_n \rightarrow \mathbb{W}_n$.*

Proof. We proceed by induction on the dimension of $X^{\perp X}$, where we write

$$Y^{\perp Z} = \{y \in Y \mid \forall z \in Z : \omega(y, z) = 0\}$$

for subspaces $Y, Z \subseteq \mathbb{W}_n$.

Suppose first that $X^{\perp X} = X \cap \mathbb{W}_n^{\perp X}$ is the zero space. Notice that $\dim \mathbb{W}_n^{\perp X} = 2n - \dim X$:

- the map $\mathbb{W}_n \rightarrow (\mathbb{W}_n \xrightarrow{\text{lin}} f), v \mapsto \omega(v, -)$ is linear and injective since ω is bilinear and non-degenerate, so for dimension reasons it is also surjective;
- the restriction map $(\mathbb{W}_n \xrightarrow{\text{lin}} f) \rightarrow (X \xrightarrow{\text{lin}} f)$ is linear and surjective, since any basis for $X \subseteq \mathbb{W}_n$ can be extended to one for \mathbb{W}_n ;
- their composition $v \mapsto \omega(v, -)|_X$ is therefore linear, surjective, and has kernel $\mathbb{W}_n^{\perp X}$.

It follows that $\mathbb{W}_n^{\perp X}$ is the orthogonal complement of X in \mathbb{W}_n : by assumption and the above we have $X \cap \mathbb{W}_n^{\perp X} = \{0\}$, $X + \mathbb{W}_n^{\perp X} = \mathbb{W}_n$, and ω restricted to $X \times \mathbb{W}_n^{\perp X}$ is the zero function; we will use the notation

$$\mathbb{W}_n = X \oplus \mathbb{W}_n^{\perp X}.$$

On the other hand, as f is isometric, $f(X)^{\perp f(X)} = f(X^{\perp X})$ must also be the zero space, meaning $\mathbb{W}_n = f(X) \oplus \mathbb{W}_n^{\perp f(X)}$ by the same analysis. But $\dim \mathbb{W}_n^{\perp f(X)} = 2n - \dim f(X) = 2n - \dim X = \dim \mathbb{W}_n^{\perp X}$, so by Proposition II.5 there is a isometric linear isomorphism $g : \mathbb{W}_n^{\perp X} \rightarrow \mathbb{W}_n^{\perp f(X)}$. Combining f and g yields a linear isomorphism

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{W}_n &= X \oplus \mathbb{W}_n^{\perp X} \rightarrow f(X) \oplus \mathbb{W}_n^{\perp f(X)} = \mathbb{W}_n \\ x + y &\mapsto f(x) + g(y) \end{aligned}$$

which is isometric.

Now suppose $X^{\perp X}$ contains some non-zero vector x . By extending x to a basis of X we can find a complement Y for $\langle x \rangle$ in X ; then $X = \langle x \rangle \oplus Y$ by the assumption on x . Writing $Z = \mathbb{W}_n^{\perp Y}$, notice $Y \subseteq \mathbb{W}_n^{\perp Z}$ and $\dim Y = 2n - (2n - \dim Y) = \dim \mathbb{W}_n^{\perp Z}$. It follows that $\mathbb{W}_n^{\perp Z} = Y$ does not contain x , i.e., that some $z \in Z$ satisfies $\omega(x, z) = 1$. Consider $X' = \langle x, z \rangle \oplus Y$; we must have

$$X' = \langle x, z \rangle \oplus Y,$$

because if $\lambda x + \mu z \in \langle x, z \rangle$ lies also in $Y \subseteq X$, then $0 = \omega(x, \lambda x + \mu z) = \mu$ and so $\lambda = 0$ too. Similarly, as $f(x)$ is a non-zero vector in $f(X)^{\perp f(X)}$ and $f(X) = \langle f(x) \rangle \oplus f(Y)$, we can find a vector z' orthogonal to $\mathbb{W}_n^{\perp f(Y)}$ and satisfying $\omega(f(x), z') = 1$. Hence

$$x \mapsto f(x), z \mapsto z', y \mapsto f(y)$$

defines an isometric linear embedding

$$f' : X' = \langle x, z \rangle \oplus Y \rightarrow \langle f(x), z' \rangle \oplus f(Y) \subseteq \mathbb{W}_n$$

extending f . Finally, we can apply the inductive hypothesis to extend f' . Indeed, if $v = \lambda x + \mu z + y$ is in $X'^{\perp X'}$ then $\lambda = \omega(v, z) = 0 = \omega(v, x) = \mu$, so $v = y$ belongs to $X^{\perp X}$; as $x \in X^{\perp X} \setminus X'^{\perp X'}$, we have $\dim X'^{\perp X'} \leq \dim X^{\perp X} - 1$. \square

Smooth approximation is now immediate.

Proof of Theorem II.3. Firstly, observe that the restriction $\text{Aut}(\mathbb{W}_\infty)_{\{\mathbb{W}_n\}} \rightarrow \text{Aut}(\mathbb{W}_n)$ is surjective: any isometric linear automorphism of \mathbb{W}_n maps the standard symplectic basis to another symplectic basis, both of which can be extended to a symplectic basis of \mathbb{W}_∞ by Lemma II.4.

Now suppose $\pi \in \text{Aut}(\mathbb{W}_\infty)$ maps $(x_1, \dots, x_d) \in \mathbb{W}_n^d$ to $(y_1, \dots, y_d) \in \mathbb{W}_n^d$. By Proposition II.6, we may extend $\pi|_{\langle x_1, \dots, x_d \rangle} : \langle x_1, \dots, x_d \rangle \rightarrow \mathbb{W}_n$ to some $f \in \text{Aut}(\mathbb{W}_n)$ which still maps (x_1, \dots, x_d) to (y_1, \dots, y_d) . \square

Corollary II.7. *Provided \mathfrak{F} is of characteristic 0, the symplectic \mathfrak{f} -vector space \mathbb{W}_∞ is \mathfrak{F} -oligomorphic.*

B. Symplectic graphs

For this subsection let \mathfrak{f} be the two-element field.

Definition II.8. The *symplectic graph* $\widetilde{\mathbb{W}}_n$ has vertices \mathbb{W}_n and edges

$$v_1 \sim v_2 \iff \omega(v_1, v_2) = 1.$$

This is indeed an undirected graph: as ω is alternating, we have $\omega(v_1, v_2) = -\omega(v_2, v_1) = \omega(v_2, v_1)$.

Proposition II.9. $\text{Aut}(\widetilde{\mathbb{W}}_n) = \text{Aut}(\mathbb{W}_n)$.

Proof. Clearly any isometric linear automorphism of \mathbb{W}_n is a graph automorphism of $\widetilde{\mathbb{W}}_n$. Conversely, any $f \in \widetilde{\mathbb{W}}_n$ is evidently isometric. To show that f is linear, take $\lambda_1, \lambda_2 \in \mathfrak{f}$ and $v_1, v_2 \in \mathbb{W}$. We calculate:

$$\begin{aligned} &\omega\left(f\left(\sum_i \lambda_i v_i\right) - \sum_i \lambda_i f(v_i), f(w)\right) \\ &= \omega\left(f\left(\sum_i \lambda_i v_i\right), f(w)\right) - \sum_i \lambda_i \omega(f(v_i), f(w)) \\ &= \omega\left(\sum_i \lambda_i v_i, w\right) - \sum_i \lambda_i \omega(v_i, w) \\ &= \omega(0, w) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

for all $f(w) \in f(\mathbb{W}_n) = \mathbb{W}_n$; since ω is non-degenerate, we conclude that $f(\sum_i \lambda_i v_i) = \sum_i \lambda_i f(v_i)$. \square

Proposition II.10. *The number of orbits in $\widetilde{\mathbb{W}}_n^d$ is at most $\prod_{i=1}^d (2^{i-1} + 1) = O(2^{d(d-1)/2})$ for all n .*

Proof. By Proposition II.9 and Theorem II.3, the number of orbits in \mathbb{W}_∞^d is an upper bound; **this number is the OEIS sequence A028361**. \square

Proposition II.11 ([2, Theorem 8.11.2]). *Every graph on at most $2n$ vertices embeds into $\widetilde{\mathbb{W}}_n$.*

Proof. Let G be a graph on at most $2n$ vertices. The conclusion is trivial when $n = 0$. Also, if G contains no edges, we can choose any $2n$ of the 2^n vectors in $\langle e_1, \dots, e_n \rangle \subseteq \widetilde{\mathbb{W}}_n$.

So suppose $n \geq 1$ and G has an edge $s \sim t$. Let $G_{s,t}$ be the graph on vertices $G \setminus \{s, t\}$ with edges which we will specify later. By induction, some embedding $f : G_{s,t} \rightarrow \widetilde{\mathbb{W}}_{n-1}$ exists. Define $f' : G \rightarrow \widetilde{\mathbb{W}}_n$ by

$$\begin{aligned} x \in G_{s,t} &\mapsto f(x) - \llbracket x \sim s \rrbracket f_n + \llbracket x \sim t \rrbracket e_n \\ s &\mapsto e_n \\ t &\mapsto f_n \end{aligned}$$

where $\llbracket \phi \rrbracket$ is 1 if ϕ holds and 0 otherwise. Then we have $\omega(f'(x), f'(s)) = \llbracket x \sim s \rrbracket$ and $\omega(f'(x), f'(t)) = \llbracket x \sim t \rrbracket$ as desired, on one hand. On the other,

$$\begin{aligned} \omega(f'(x_1), f'(x_2)) &= \llbracket x_1 \sim x_2 \rrbracket + \llbracket x_1 \sim s \rrbracket \llbracket x_2 \sim t \rrbracket \\ &\quad + \llbracket x_1 \sim t \rrbracket \llbracket x_2 \sim s \rrbracket \end{aligned}$$

tells us how we should define the edge relation in $G_{s,t}$ for f' to be an embedding of graphs. \square

Theorem II.12. *The Rado graph is roughly approximated by $\widetilde{\mathbb{W}}_0 \subseteq \widetilde{\mathbb{W}}_1 \subseteq \widetilde{\mathbb{W}}_2 \subseteq \dots$.*

Corollary II.13. *Provided \mathfrak{F} is of characteristic 0, the Rado graph is \mathfrak{F} -oligomorphic.*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Hrushovski
Evans

REFERENCES

- [1] Emil Artin. *Geometric Algebra*. Tracts in Pure and Applied Mathematics. Interscience Publishers, 1957.
- [2] Chris Godsil and Gordon Royle. *Algebraic graph theory*. 1st ed. Graduate Texts in Mathematics. Springer, 2001. ISBN: 978-0-387-95241-3.
- [3] W. M. Kantor, Martin W. Liebeck, and H. D. Macpherson. “ \aleph_0 -Categorical Structures Smoothly Approximated by Finite Substructures”. In: *Proceedings of the London Mathematical Society* s3-59.3 (1989), pp. 439–463. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1112/plms/s3-59.3.439>. eprint: <https://londmathsoc.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/pdf/10.1112/plms/s3-59.3.439>. URL: <https://londmathsoc.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1112/plms/s3-59.3.439>.
- [4] Antoine Mottet and Michael Pinsker. “Smooth approximations: An algebraic approach to CSPs over finitely bounded homogeneous structures”. In: *J. ACM* 71.5 (Oct. 2024). ISSN: 0004-5411. DOI: 10.1145/3689207. URL: <https://doi.org/10.1145/3689207>.