Combinatorial structure behind Sinkhorn limits

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In the limit, we obtain the Sinkhorn limit.

The limit exists: Sinkhorn 1964.

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Question

What are the entries?

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$$\begin{bmatrix} 4 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Scale rows, then columns, then rows, and so on ...

$$\begin{bmatrix} .585786 & .414214 \\ .414214 & .585786 \end{bmatrix} \approx \begin{bmatrix} 2 - \sqrt{2} & -1 + \sqrt{2} \\ -1 + \sqrt{2} & 2 - \sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

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Notation:

$$\mathsf{Sink} \bigg(\begin{bmatrix} 4 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \bigg) = \begin{bmatrix} 2 - \sqrt{2} & -1 + \sqrt{2} \\ -1 + \sqrt{2} & 2 - \sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

Theorem (Nathanson 2020)

For a 2
$$\times$$
 2 matrix $A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$ with positive entries,

$$\mathsf{Sink}(A) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\mathit{ad}} + \sqrt{\mathit{bc}}} \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{\mathit{ad}} & \sqrt{\mathit{bc}} \\ \sqrt{\mathit{bc}} & \sqrt{\mathit{ad}} \end{bmatrix}.$$

For a symmetric
$$3 \times 3$$
 matrix $A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{12} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{13} & a_{23} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix}$ with positive entries:

Theorem (Ekhad–Zeilberger 2019)

The top-left entry x of Sink(A) satisfies $c_4x^4 + \cdots + c_1x + c_0 = 0$, where

$$\begin{aligned} c_4 &= -\left(a_{12}^2 - a_{11}a_{22}\right)\left(a_{13}^2 - a_{11}a_{23}\right)\left(-a_{11}a_{22}a_{33} + a_{11}a_{23}^2 + a_{12}^2a_{33} - 2a_{12}a_{13}a_{23} + a_{13}^2a_{22}\right) \\ c_3 &= \left(-4a_{11}^3a_{22}a_{23}^2 + 4a_{11}^3a_{22}a_{23}^2a_{33} + 4a_{11}^2a_{12}^2a_{22}a_{33} + 4a_{11}^2a_{12}^2a_{22}a_{33}^2 - 3a_{11}^2a_{12}^2a_{23}^2a_{33} - 2a_{11}^2a_{12}a_{13}a_{22}a_{23}a_{33} + 4a_{11}^2a_{13}^2a_{22}^2a_{33} \\ &\quad -3a_{11}^2a_{13}^2a_{22}a_{23}^2 - 2a_{11}a_{12}^2a_{13}^2a_{22}a_{33} + 2a_{11}a_{12}^2a_{13}^2a_{23}^2 - a_{12}^4a_{13}^2a_{33}^2 - a_{12}^2a_{13}^2a_{22} - a_{12}^2a_{13}^2a_{22}\right) \\ c_2 &= a_{11}\left(6a_{11}^2a_{22}^2a_{33}^2 - 6a_{11}^2a_{22}a_{23}^2a_{33} - 2a_{11}a_{12}^2a_{22}a_{33}^2 + 3a_{11}a_{12}^2a_{23}^2a_{33} - 2a_{11}a_{12}a_{13}a_{22}a_{23}a_{33} - 2a_{11}a_{12}^2a_{23}^2a_{23} - 2a_{11}a_{13}^2a_{22}^2a_{33} + 3a_{11}a_{12}^2a_{23}^2a_{33} - 2a_{11}a_{12}a_{13}a_{22}a_{23}a_{33} - 2a_{11}a_{13}^2a_{22}a_{23}\right) \\ c_1 &= -a_{11}^2\left(4a_{11}a_{22}^2a_{33}^2 - 4a_{11}a_{22}a_{23}^2a_{33} + a_{12}^2a_{23}^2a_{33} - 2a_{12}a_{13}a_{22}a_{23}a_{33} + a_{13}^2a_{22}a_{23}\right) \\ c_2 &= a_{11}^3a_{22}a_{33}\left(a_{22}a_{33} - a_{23}^2\right) \end{aligned}$$

Computed with Gröbner bases.

The entries are algebraic with degree at most 4.

$$\mathsf{Sink}\left(\begin{bmatrix}2 & 4 & 3\\ 1 & 8 & 8\\ 7 & 3 & 1\end{bmatrix}\right) \approx \begin{bmatrix}.250338 & .377025 & .372637\\ .066831 & .402607 & .530562\\ .682830 & .220368 & .096801\end{bmatrix}$$

Can we identify these numbers?

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Conjecture (Chen and Varghese 2019, Hofstra SSRP)

For 3×3 matrices A, the entries of Sink(A) have degree at most 6.

It suffices to describe the top-left entry of Sink(A).

Fact

If we know one entry of Sink(A) as a function of A, then we know them all.

Reason: Iterative scaling isn't sensitive to row or column order.

For a 3×3 matrix, what is the top-left entry of Sink(A)? System of equations...

Row scaling — multiplication on the left. Column scaling — multiplication on the right.

$$\mathsf{Sink}(A) = \begin{bmatrix} s_{11} & s_{12} & s_{13} \\ s_{21} & s_{22} & s_{23} \\ s_{31} & s_{32} & s_{33} \end{bmatrix} \qquad R = \begin{bmatrix} r_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & r_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & r_3 \end{bmatrix} \qquad A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix} \qquad C = \begin{bmatrix} c_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & c_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & c_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

9 equations from Sink(A) = RAC:

$$s_{11} = r_1 a_{11} c_1$$
 $s_{12} = r_1 a_{12} c_2$ $s_{13} = r_1 a_{13} c_3$
 $s_{21} = r_2 a_{21} c_1$ $s_{22} = r_2 a_{22} c_2$ $s_{23} = r_2 a_{23} c_3$
 $s_{31} = r_3 a_{31} c_1$ $s_{32} = r_3 a_{32} c_2$ $s_{33} = r_3 a_{33} c_3$

6 equations from row and column sums:

$$s_{11} + s_{12} + s_{13} = 1$$
 $s_{11} + s_{21} + s_{31} = 1$ $s_{21} + s_{22} + s_{23} = 1$ $s_{12} + s_{22} + s_{32} = 1$ $s_{13} + s_{32} + s_{33} = 1$ $s_{13} + s_{23} + s_{33} = 1$

Want s_{11} in terms of a_{ij} .

15 equations; eliminate 14 variables $r_1, r_2, r_3, c_1, c_2, c_3, s_{12}, s_{13}, \ldots, s_{33}$. Gröbner basis computation. . .

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$$b_4 = a_{11} \left(15a_{11}^4 a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{32}^2 a_{33}^2 - 15a_{11}^4 a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{32}^2 a_{33}^2 - 12a_{11}^3 a_{12} a_{21} a_{22} a_{23} a_{32}^2 a_{33}^2 - 33 \right. \\ + 10a_{11}^3 a_{12} a_{21} a_{22}^2 a_{23}^2 a_{32}^2 a_{33}^2 - 10a_{11}^3 a_{12} a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{31}^2 a_{33}^2 + 12a_{11}^3 a_{12} a_{22}^2 a_{23}^2 a_{31}^2 a_{33}^2 + 12a_{11}^3 a_{13}^2 a_{21}^2 a_{22}^2 a_{23}^2 a_{31}^2 a_{33}^2 - 10a_{11}^3 a_{13}^2 a_{21}^2 a_{22}^2 a_{23}^2 a_{33}^2 + 12a_{11}^3 a_{13}^2 a_{21}^2 a_{22}^2 a_{23}^2 a_{33}^2 - 12a_{11}^3 a_{13}^2 a_{22}^2 a_{23}^2 a_{31}^2 a_{32}^2 a_{33}^2 + 12a_{11}^3 a_{13}^2 a_{22}^2 a_{22}^2 a_{23}^2 a_{33}^2 - 12a_{11}^3 a_{13}^2 a_{22}^2 a_{23}^2 a_{31}^2 a_{32}^2 - a_{31}^2 a_{32}^2 a_{33}^2 + 12a_{11}^2 a_{12}^2 a_{21}^2 a_{22}^2 a_{23}^2 a_{32}^2 a_{33}^2 + 6a_{11}^2 a_{12}^2 a_{12}^2 a_{22}^2 a_{23}^2 a_{31}^2 a_{32}^2 - 6a_{11}^2 a_{12}^2 a_{13}^2 a_{21}^2 a_{22}^2 a_{23}^2 a_{33}^2 + 6a_{11}^2 a_{12}^2 a_{13}^2 a_{21}^2 a_{22}^2 a_{23}^2 a_{33}^2 - 6a_{11}^2 a_{12}^2 a_{13}^2 a_{21}^2 a_{22}^2 a_{23}^2 a_{33}^2 - 6a_{11}^2 a_{12}^2 a_{13}^2 a_{21}^2 a_{22}^2 a_{23}^2 a_{33}^2 + 6a_{11}^2 a_{12}^2 a_{13}^2 a_{21}^2 a_{22}^2 a_{23}^2 a_{33}^2 - 6a_{11}^2 a_{12}^2 a_{13}^2 a_{21}^2 a_{22}^2 a_{23}^2 a_{33}^2 + 6a_{11}^2 a_{12}^2 a_{13}^2 a_{22}^2 a_{23}^2 a_{33}^2 - 6a_{11}^2 a_{12}^2 a_{13}^2 a_{21}^2 a_{22}^2 a_{23}^2 a_{33}^2 + 6a_{11}^2 a_{12}^2 a_{13}^2 a_{22}^2 a_{23}^2 a_{33}^2 - 6a_{11}^2 a_{12}^2 a_{13}^2 a_{21}^2 a_{22}^2 a_{23}^2 a_{33}^2 + 6a_{11}^2 a_{12}^2 a_{13}^2 a_{21}^2 a_{22}^2 a_{23}^2 a_{33}^2 + 6a_{11}^2 a_{12}^2 a_{13}^2 a_{21}^2 a_{22}^2 a_{23}^2 a_{33}^2 + 6a_{11}^2 a_{12}^2 a_{12}^2 a_{22}^2 a_{23}^2 a_{33}^2 + 6a_{11}^2 a_{12}^2 a_{12}^2 a_{22}^2 a_{23}^2 a_{33}^2 + 6a_{11}^2 a_{12}^2 a_{12}^2 a_{22}^2 a_{23}^2 a_{33}^2 a_{33}^2 - 2a_{11}^2 a_{12}^2 a_{22}^2 a_{23}^2 a_{33}^2 a_{32}^2 - 2a_{11}^2 a_{12}^2 a_{22}^2 a_{23}^2 a_{33}^2 a_{32}^2 - 2a_{11}^2 a_{12}^2 a_{12}^2 a_{22}^2 a_{23}^2 a_{33}^2 a_{33}^2 + 2a_{11}^2 a_{12}^2 a_{12}^2 a_{$$

The top-left entry $x = s_{11}$ satisfies $b_6x^6 + \cdots + b_1x + b_0 = 0$, where...

$$\begin{split} b_2 &= a_{11}^3 \left(15 a_{11}^2 a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{32} a_{33}^2 - 15 a_{11}^2 a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{32}^2 a_{33} - 2 a_{11} a_{12} a_{21} a_{22} a_{23} a_{32} a_{33}^2 \right. \\ &+ 5 a_{11} a_{12} a_{21} a_{23}^2 a_{32}^2 a_{33}^2 - 5 a_{11} a_{12} a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{31} a_{33}^2 + 2 a_{11} a_{12} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{32}^2 a_{33} \\ &- 5 a_{11} a_{13} a_{21} a_{22}^2 a_{22}^2 a_{33}^2 + 2 a_{11} a_{13} a_{21} a_{22} a_{22}^2 a_{32}^2 a_{33}^2 - 2 a_{11} a_{13} a_{22}^2 a_{22}^2 a_{31} a_{32}^2 a_{23} a_{31} a_{32}^2 a_{33} \\ &+ 5 a_{11} a_{13} a_{22} a_{22}^2 a_{31} a_{32}^2 + a_{12} a_{13} a_{21} a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{32}^2 a_{33}^2 - a_{12} a_{13} a_{21} a_{22}^2 a_{23}^2 a_{31}^2 a_{32}^2 \right) \\ b_1 &= a_{11}^4 \left(-6 a_{11} a_{22}^2 a_{22} a_{32} a_{33}^2 + 6 a_{11} a_{22} a_{22}^2 a_{32}^2 a_{33}^2 - a_{12} a_{12} a_{23}^2 a_{23}^2 a_{33} + a_{12} a_{22}^2 a_{23}^2 a_{31}^2 a_{32}^2 \right) \\ b_1 &= a_{11}^4 \left(-6 a_{11} a_{22}^2 a_{22} a_{32} a_{33}^2 + a_{13} a_{21} a_{22}^2 a_{22}^2 a_{33}^2 - a_{13} a_{22}^2 a_{23}^2 a_{31}^2 a_{32}^2 \right) \\ b_2 &= a_{11}^5 a_{22} a_{23} a_{23} a_{33} \left(a_{22} a_{33} - a_{23} a_{32} \right) \end{split}$$

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Better formulation?

The top-left entry $x = s_{11}$ satisfies $b_6x^6 + \cdots + b_1x + b_0 = 0$, where...

$$\begin{split} b_2 &= a_{11}^3 \left(15a_{11}^2a_{22}^2a_{23}a_{32}a_{33}^2 - 15a_{11}^2a_{22}a_{23}^2a_{32}^2a_{33} - 2a_{11}a_{12}a_{21}a_{22}a_{23}a_{32}a_{33}^2\right. \\ &+ 5a_{11}a_{12}a_{21}a_{23}^2a_{32}^2a_{33}^2 - 5a_{11}a_{12}a_{22}^2a_{23}a_{31}a_{33}^2 + 2a_{11}a_{12}a_{22}a_{23}a_{31}a_{32}a_{33} \\ &- 5a_{11}a_{13}a_{21}a_{22}^2a_{32}a_{33}^2 + 2a_{11}a_{13}a_{21}a_{22}a_{23}a_{32}^2a_{33} - 2a_{11}a_{13}a_{22}^2a_{23}a_{31}a_{32}a_{23} \\ &+ 5a_{11}a_{13}a_{22}a_{23}^2a_{31}a_{32}^2 + a_{12}a_{13}a_{21}a_{22}a_{23}a_{32}^2a_{33} - a_{12}a_{13}a_{21}a_{23}^2a_{23}a_{31}a_{32}^2\right) \\ b_1 &= a_{11}^4 \left(-6a_{11}a_{22}^2a_{23}a_{32}a_{33}^2 + 6a_{11}a_{22}a_{23}a_{32}^2a_{33} - a_{12}a_{21}a_{23}^2a_{23}a_{32}^2a_{33} \right. \\ &+ a_{12}a_{22}^2a_{23}a_{31}a_{33}^2 + a_{13}a_{21}a_{22}^2a_{23}a_{33}^2 - a_{13}a_{22}a_{23}^2a_{31}a_{32}^2\right) \\ b_0 &= a_{11}^5a_{22}a_{23}a_{23}a_{33} \left(a_{22}a_{33} - a_{23}a_{32}\right) \end{split}$$

Better formulation?

$$\begin{array}{lll} b_6 = & (a_{11}a_{22} - a_{12}a_{21}) \left(a_{11}a_{23} - a_{13}a_{21}\right) \left(a_{11}a_{32} - a_{12}a_{31}\right) \left(a_{11}a_{33} - a_{13}a_{31}\right) \\ & \cdot \left(a_{11}a_{22}a_{33} - a_{11}a_{23}a_{32} - a_{12}a_{21}a_{33} + a_{12}a_{23}a_{31} + a_{13}a_{21}a_{32} - a_{13}a_{22}a_{31}\right) \end{array}$$

The top-left entry $x = s_{11}$ satisfies $b_6x^6 + \cdots + b_1x + b_0 = 0$, where...

$$\begin{split} b_2 &= a_{11}^3 \left(15a_{11}^2a_{22}^2a_{23}a_{32}a_{33}^2 - 15a_{11}^2a_{22}a_{23}a_{32}^2a_{33} - 2a_{11}a_{12}a_{21}a_{22}a_{23}a_{32}a_{33}^2\right. \\ &+ 5a_{11}a_{12}a_{21}a_{23}^2a_{23}^2a_{33} - 5a_{11}a_{12}a_{22}^2a_{23}a_{31}a_{33}^2 + 2a_{11}a_{12}a_{22}a_{23}a_{31}a_{32}a_{33} \\ &- 5a_{11}a_{13}a_{21}a_{22}^2a_{32}a_{33}^2 + 2a_{11}a_{13}a_{21}a_{22}a_{23}a_{32}^2a_{33} - 2a_{11}a_{13}a_{22}^2a_{23}a_{31}a_{32}a_{33} \\ &+ 5a_{11}a_{13}a_{22}a_{23}^2a_{31}a_{32}^2 + a_{12}a_{13}a_{21}a_{22}a_{31}a_{33}^2 - a_{12}a_{13}a_{21}a_{22}a_{32}a_{31}a_{32}^2\right) \\ b_1 &= a_{11}^4 \left(-6a_{11}a_{22}a_{23}a_{32}a_{33}^2 + 6a_{11}a_{22}a_{23}a_{32}^2a_{33} - a_{12}a_{12}a_{23}a_{32}^2a_{23}a_{31}a_{32}^2\right) \\ b_0 &= a_{11}^5a_{22}a_{23}a_{31}a_{33}^2 + a_{13}a_{21}a_{22}^2a_{23}a_{32}^2\right) \\ b_0 &= a_{11}^5a_{22}a_{23}a_{32}a_{33} \left(a_{22}a_{33} - a_{23}a_{32}\right) \end{split}$$

Better formulation?

b_6 : product of 5 minors

The top-left entry $x = s_{11}$ satisfies $b_6x^6 + \cdots + b_1x + b_0 = 0$, where...

$$\begin{split} b_2 &= a_{11}^3 \left(15a_{11}^2a_{22}^2a_{23}a_{32}a_{33}^2 - 15a_{11}^2a_{22}a_{23}a_{32}^2a_{33} - 2a_{11}a_{12}a_{21}a_{22}a_{23}a_{32}a_{33}^2\right. \\ &+ 5a_{11}a_{12}a_{21}a_{23}^2a_{23}^2a_{33} - 5a_{11}a_{12}a_{22}^2a_{23}a_{31}a_{33}^2 + 2a_{11}a_{12}a_{22}a_{23}a_{31}a_{32}a_{33} \\ &- 5a_{11}a_{13}a_{21}a_{22}^2a_{32}a_{33}^2 + 2a_{11}a_{13}a_{21}a_{22}a_{23}a_{32}^2a_{33} - 2a_{11}a_{13}a_{22}^2a_{23}a_{31}a_{32}a_{33} \\ &+ 5a_{11}a_{13}a_{22}a_{23}^2a_{31}a_{32}^2 + a_{12}a_{13}a_{21}a_{22}a_{31}a_{33}^2 - a_{12}a_{13}a_{21}a_{22}a_{32}a_{31}a_{32}^2\right) \\ b_1 &= a_{11}^4 \left(-6a_{11}a_{22}a_{23}a_{32}a_{33}^2 + 6a_{11}a_{22}a_{23}a_{32}^2a_{33} - a_{12}a_{12}a_{23}a_{32}^2a_{23}a_{31}a_{32}^2\right) \\ b_0 &= a_{11}^5a_{22}a_{23}a_{31}a_{33}^2 + a_{13}a_{21}a_{22}^2a_{23}a_{32}^2\right) \\ b_0 &= a_{11}^5a_{22}a_{23}a_{32}a_{33} \left(a_{22}a_{33} - a_{23}a_{32}\right) \end{split}$$

Better formulation?

$$\begin{array}{l} b_{6} = \left(a_{11}a_{22} - a_{12}a_{21}\right)\left(a_{11}a_{23} - a_{13}a_{21}\right)\left(a_{11}a_{32} - a_{12}a_{31}\right)\left(a_{11}a_{33} - a_{13}a_{31}\right) \\ & \cdot \left(a_{11}a_{22}a_{33} - a_{11}a_{23}a_{32} - a_{12}a_{21}a_{33} + a_{12}a_{23}a_{31} + a_{13}a_{21}a_{32} - a_{13}a_{22}a_{31}\right) \\ & = \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{23} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{13} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{13} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} \end{vmatrix} \cdot a_{32} \end{array}$$

 b_6 : product of 5 minors involving a_{11}

The top-left entry $x = s_{11}$ satisfies $b_6x^6 + \cdots + b_1x + b_0 = 0$, where...

$$\begin{split} b_2 &= a_{11}^3 \left(15a_{11}^2a_{22}^2a_{23}a_{32}a_{33}^2 - 15a_{11}^2a_{22}a_{23}a_{32}^2a_{33} - 2a_{11}a_{12}a_{21}a_{22}a_{23}a_{32}a_{33}^2\right. \\ &+ 5a_{11}a_{12}a_{21}a_{23}^2a_{23}^2a_{33} - 5a_{11}a_{12}a_{22}^2a_{23}a_{31}a_{33}^2 + 2a_{11}a_{12}a_{22}a_{23}a_{31}a_{32}a_{33} \\ &- 5a_{11}a_{13}a_{21}a_{22}^2a_{32}a_{33}^2 + 2a_{11}a_{13}a_{21}a_{22}a_{23}a_{32}^2a_{33} - 2a_{11}a_{13}a_{22}^2a_{23}a_{31}a_{32}a_{33} \\ &+ 5a_{11}a_{13}a_{22}a_{23}^2a_{31}a_{32}^2 + a_{12}a_{13}a_{21}a_{22}a_{31}a_{33}^2 - a_{12}a_{13}a_{21}a_{22}a_{32}a_{31}a_{32}^2\right) \\ b_1 &= a_{11}^4 \left(-6a_{11}a_{22}a_{23}a_{32}a_{33}^2 + 6a_{11}a_{22}a_{23}a_{32}^2a_{33} - a_{12}a_{12}a_{23}a_{32}^2a_{23}a_{31}a_{32}^2\right) \\ b_0 &= a_{11}^5a_{22}a_{23}a_{31}a_{33}^2 + a_{13}a_{21}a_{22}^2a_{23}a_{32}^2\right) \\ b_0 &= a_{11}^5a_{22}a_{23}a_{32}a_{33} \left(a_{22}a_{33} - a_{23}a_{32}\right) \end{split}$$

Better formulation?

$$\begin{array}{l} b_{6} = \ (a_{11}\,a_{22}\,-\,a_{12}\,a_{21})\, (a_{11}\,a_{23}\,-\,a_{13}\,a_{21})\, (a_{11}\,a_{32}\,-\,a_{12}\,a_{31})\, (a_{11}\,a_{33}\,-\,a_{13}\,a_{31}) \\ & \cdot \, (a_{11}\,a_{22}\,a_{33}\,-\,a_{11}\,a_{23}\,a_{32}\,-\,a_{12}\,a_{21}\,a_{33}\,+\,a_{12}\,a_{23}\,a_{31}\,+\,a_{13}\,a_{21}\,a_{32}\,-\,a_{13}\,a_{22}\,a_{31}) \\ & = \ \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \ \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{23} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \ \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \ \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{13} \\ a_{31} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \ \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} \end{array}$$

 b_6 : product of 5 minors involving a_{11} and 0 not.

The top-left entry $x = s_{11}$ satisfies $b_6x^6 + \cdots + b_1x + b_0 = 0$, where...

$$\begin{split} b_2 &= a_{11}^3 \left(15a_{11}^2a_{22}^2a_{23}a_{32}a_{33}^2 - 15a_{11}^2a_{22}a_{23}^2a_{32}^2a_{33} - 2a_{11}a_{12}a_{21}a_{22}a_{23}a_{32}a_{33}^2\right. \\ &+ 5a_{11}a_{12}a_{21}a_{23}^2a_{32}^2a_{33}^2 - 5a_{11}a_{12}a_{22}^2a_{23}a_{31}a_{33}^2 + 2a_{11}a_{12}a_{22}a_{23}a_{31}a_{32}a_{33} \\ &- 5a_{11}a_{13}a_{21}a_{22}^2a_{32}a_{33}^2 + 2a_{11}a_{13}a_{21}a_{22}a_{23}a_{32}^2a_{33} - 2a_{11}a_{13}a_{22}^2a_{23}a_{31}a_{32}a_{33} \\ &+ 5a_{11}a_{13}a_{22}a_{23}^2a_{31}a_{32}^2 + a_{12}a_{13}a_{21}a_{22}a_{23}a_{32}^2a_{33} - a_{12}a_{13}a_{21}a_{22}a_{23}a_{31}a_{32}^2\right) \\ b_1 &= a_{11}^4 \left(-6a_{11}a_{22}^2a_{23}a_{32}a_{33}^2 + 6a_{11}a_{22}a_{23}a_{32}^2a_{33} - a_{12}a_{21}a_{23}^2a_{23}a_{32}^2a_{33} \right. \\ &+ a_{12}a_{22}^2a_{23}a_{31}a_{33}^2 + a_{13}a_{21}a_{22}^2a_{23}a_{32}^2a_{33}^2 - a_{13}a_{22}a_{23}^2a_{31}a_{32}^2\right) \\ b_0 &= a_{11}^5a_{22}a_{23}a_{32}a_{33} \left(a_{22}a_{33} - a_{23}a_{32}\right) \end{split}$$

Better formulation?

$$\begin{array}{l} b_{6} = \left(a_{11}\,a_{22} - a_{12}\,a_{21}\right)\left(a_{11}\,a_{23} - a_{13}\,a_{21}\right)\left(a_{11}\,a_{32} - a_{12}\,a_{31}\right)\left(a_{11}\,a_{33} - a_{13}\,a_{31}\right) \\ & \cdot \left(a_{11}\,a_{22}\,a_{33} - a_{11}\,a_{23}\,a_{32} - a_{12}\,a_{21}\,a_{33} + a_{12}\,a_{23}\,a_{31} + a_{13}\,a_{21}\,a_{32} - a_{13}\,a_{22}\,a_{31}\right) \\ = \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{23} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{13} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{13} \\ a_{31} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} \end{array}$$

 b_6 : product of 5 minors involving a_{11} and 0 not.

 b_0 : product of 0 minors involving a_{11} and 5 not (and a_{11}^5).

The top-left entry $x = s_{11}$ satisfies $b_6x^6 + \cdots + b_1x + b_0 = 0$, where...

$$\begin{split} b_2 &= a_{11}^3 \left(15a_{11}^2a_{22}^2a_{23}a_{32}a_{33}^2 - 15a_{11}^2a_{22}a_{23}^2a_{32}a_{33} - 2a_{11}a_{12}a_{21}a_{22}a_{23}a_{32}a_{33}^2 a_{33}^2 \right. \\ &+ 5a_{11}a_{12}a_{21}a_{23}^2a_{32}^2a_{33}^2 - 5a_{11}a_{12}a_{22}^2a_{23}a_{31}a_{33}^2 + 2a_{11}a_{12}a_{22}a_{23}a_{31}a_{32}a_{33} \\ &- 5a_{11}a_{13}a_{21}a_{22}^2a_{32}a_{33}^2 + 2a_{11}a_{13}a_{21}a_{22}a_{23}a_{32}^2a_{33} - 2a_{11}a_{13}a_{22}^2a_{23}a_{31}a_{32}a_{33} \\ &+ 5a_{11}a_{13}a_{22}a_{23}^2a_{31}a_{32}^2 + a_{12}a_{13}a_{21}a_{22}a_{23}a_{32}^2a_{33} - a_{12}a_{13}a_{21}a_{22}a_{23}a_{31}a_{32}^2 \right) \\ b_1 &= a_{11}^4 \left(-6a_{11}a_{22}^2a_{23}a_{32}a_{33}^2 + 6a_{11}a_{22}a_{23}^2a_{32}^2a_{33} - a_{12}a_{21}a_{23}^2a_{23}a_{22}^2a_{33} \right. \\ &+ a_{12}a_{22}^2a_{23}a_{31}a_{33}^2 + a_{13}a_{21}a_{22}^2a_{23}a_{32}^2 - a_{13}a_{22}a_{23}^2a_{31}a_{32}^2 \right) \\ b_0 &= a_{11}^5a_{22}a_{23}a_{23}a_{33} \left(a_{22}a_{33} - a_{23}a_{32} \right) \end{split}$$

Better formulation?

$$\begin{array}{l} b_{6} = \left(a_{11}\,a_{22} - a_{12}\,a_{21}\right)\left(a_{11}\,a_{23} - a_{13}\,a_{21}\right)\left(a_{11}\,a_{32} - a_{12}\,a_{31}\right)\left(a_{11}\,a_{33} - a_{13}\,a_{31}\right) \\ & \cdot \left(a_{11}\,a_{22}\,a_{33} - a_{11}\,a_{23}\,a_{32} - a_{12}\,a_{21}\,a_{33} + a_{12}\,a_{23}\,a_{31} + a_{13}\,a_{21}\,a_{32} - a_{13}\,a_{22}\,a_{31}\right) \\ = \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{23} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{13} \\ a_{31} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{13} \\ a_{31} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} \end{array}$$

Multiply each b_k by a_{11} .

 b_6 : product of 5 minors involving a_{11} and 0 not.

 b_0 : product of 0 minors involving a_{11} and 5 not (and a_{11}^5).

The top-left entry $x = s_{11}$ satisfies $b_6x^6 + \cdots + b_1x + b_0 = 0$, where...

$$\begin{split} b_2 &= a_{11}^3 \left(15a_{11}^2a_{22}^2a_{23}a_{32}a_{33}^2 - 15a_{11}^2a_{22}a_{23}^2a_{32}^2a_{33} - 2a_{11}a_{12}a_{21}a_{22}a_{23}a_{32}a_{33}^2\right. \\ &+ 5a_{11}a_{12}a_{21}a_{23}^2a_{32}^2a_{33}^2 - 5a_{11}a_{12}a_{22}^2a_{23}a_{31}a_{33}^2 + 2a_{11}a_{12}a_{22}a_{23}a_{31}a_{32}a_{33} \\ &- 5a_{11}a_{13}a_{21}a_{22}^2a_{32}a_{33}^2 + 2a_{11}a_{13}a_{21}a_{22}a_{23}a_{32}^2a_{33} - 2a_{11}a_{13}a_{22}^2a_{23}a_{31}a_{32}a_{33} \\ &+ 5a_{11}a_{13}a_{22}a_{23}^2a_{31}a_{32}^2 + a_{12}a_{13}a_{21}a_{22}a_{23}a_{32}^2a_{33} - a_{12}a_{13}a_{21}a_{22}a_{23}a_{31}a_{32}^2\right) \\ b_1 &= a_{11}^4 \left(-6a_{11}a_{22}^2a_{23}a_{32}a_{33}^2 + 6a_{11}a_{22}a_{23}a_{32}^2a_{33} - a_{12}a_{21}a_{23}^2a_{23}a_{32}^2a_{33} \right. \\ &+ a_{12}a_{22}^2a_{23}a_{31}a_{33}^2 + a_{13}a_{21}a_{22}^2a_{23}a_{32}^2a_{33}^2 - a_{13}a_{22}a_{23}^2a_{31}a_{32}^2\right) \\ b_0 &= a_{11}^5a_{22}a_{23}a_{32}a_{33} \left(a_{22}a_{33} - a_{23}a_{32}\right) \end{split}$$

Better formulation?

$$\begin{array}{l} b_{6} = \left(a_{11}a_{22} - a_{12}a_{21}\right)\left(a_{11}a_{23} - a_{13}a_{21}\right)\left(a_{11}a_{32} - a_{12}a_{31}\right)\left(a_{11}a_{33} - a_{13}a_{31}\right) \\ & \cdot \left(a_{11}a_{22}a_{33} - a_{11}a_{23}a_{32} - a_{12}a_{21}a_{33} + a_{12}a_{23}a_{31} + a_{13}a_{21}a_{32} - a_{13}a_{22}a_{31}\right) \\ & = \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{23} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{13} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{13} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} \end{vmatrix} \cdot a_{32} \end{array}$$

Multiply each b_k by a_{11} .

 $a_{11}b_6$: product of 6 minors involving a_{11} and 0 not.

 b_0 : product of 0 minors involving a_{11} and 5 not (and a_{11}^5).

The top-left entry $x = s_{11}$ satisfies $b_6x^6 + \cdots + b_1x + b_0 = 0$, where...

$$\begin{split} b_2 &= a_{11}^3 \left(15a_{11}^2a_{22}^2a_{23}a_{32}a_{33}^2 - 15a_{11}^2a_{22}a_{23}^2a_{32}^2a_{33} - 2a_{11}a_{12}a_{21}a_{22}a_{23}a_{32}a_{33}^2\right. \\ &+ 5a_{11}a_{12}a_{21}a_{23}^2a_{32}^2a_{33}^2 - 5a_{11}a_{12}a_{22}^2a_{23}a_{31}a_{33}^2 + 2a_{11}a_{12}a_{22}a_{23}a_{31}a_{32}a_{33} \\ &- 5a_{11}a_{13}a_{21}a_{22}^2a_{32}a_{33}^2 + 2a_{11}a_{13}a_{21}a_{22}a_{23}a_{32}^2a_{33} - 2a_{11}a_{13}a_{22}^2a_{23}a_{31}a_{32}a_{33} \\ &+ 5a_{11}a_{13}a_{22}a_{23}^2a_{31}a_{32}^2 + a_{12}a_{13}a_{21}a_{22}a_{23}a_{32}^2a_{33} - a_{12}a_{13}a_{21}a_{22}a_{23}a_{31}a_{32}^2\right) \\ b_1 &= a_{11}^4 \left(-6a_{11}a_{22}^2a_{23}a_{32}a_{33}^2 + 6a_{11}a_{22}a_{23}a_{32}^2a_{33} - a_{12}a_{21}a_{23}^2a_{23}a_{32}^2a_{33} \right. \\ &+ a_{12}a_{22}^2a_{23}a_{31}a_{33}^2 + a_{13}a_{21}a_{22}^2a_{23}a_{32}^2a_{33}^2 - a_{13}a_{22}a_{23}^2a_{31}a_{32}^2\right) \\ b_0 &= a_{11}^5a_{22}a_{23}a_{32}a_{33} \left(a_{22}a_{33} - a_{23}a_{32}\right) \end{split}$$

Better formulation?

$$\begin{array}{l} b_{6} = \left(a_{11}\,a_{22} - a_{12}\,a_{21}\right)\left(a_{11}\,a_{23} - a_{13}\,a_{21}\right)\left(a_{11}\,a_{32} - a_{12}\,a_{31}\right)\left(a_{11}\,a_{33} - a_{13}\,a_{31}\right) \\ & \cdot \left(a_{11}\,a_{22}\,a_{33} - a_{11}\,a_{23}\,a_{32} - a_{12}\,a_{21}\,a_{33} + a_{12}\,a_{23}\,a_{31} + a_{13}\,a_{21}\,a_{32} - a_{13}\,a_{22}\,a_{31}\right) \\ = \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{23} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{13} \\ a_{31} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{13} \\ a_{31} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} \end{array}$$

Multiply each b_k by a_{11} .

 $a_{11}b_6$: product of 6 minors involving a_{11} and 0 not.

 $a_{11}b_0$: product of 0 minors involving a_{11} and 6 not (and a_{11}^6).

The top-left entry $x = s_{11}$ satisfies $b_6x^6 + \cdots + b_1x + b_0 = 0$, where...

$$\begin{split} b_2 &= a_{11}^3 \left(15a_{11}^2 a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{32} a_{33}^2 - 15a_{11}^2 a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{32}^2 a_{33} - 2a_{11} a_{12} a_{21} a_{22} a_{23} a_{32} a_{33}^2 \right. \\ &\quad + 5a_{11} a_{12} a_{21} a_{23}^2 a_{32}^2 a_{33} - 5a_{11} a_{12} a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{31} a_{33}^2 + 2a_{11} a_{12} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{32} a_{33} \\ &\quad - 5a_{11} a_{13} a_{21} a_{22}^2 a_{32} a_{33}^2 + 2a_{11} a_{13} a_{21} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{32}^2 a_{33} - 2a_{11} a_{13} a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{31}^2 a_{32} a_{33} \\ &\quad + 5a_{11} a_{13} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{31} a_{32}^2 + a_{12} a_{13} a_{21} a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{13}^2 a_{33}^2 - a_{12} a_{13} a_{21} a_{22}^2 a_{23}^2 a_{31}^2 a_{32}^2 \right) \\ b_1 &= a_{11}^4 \left(-6a_{11} a_{22}^2 a_{23} a_{32} a_{32}^2 a_{33}^2 + 6a_{11} a_{22} a_{23}^2 a_{32}^2 a_{33}^2 - a_{12} a_{21} a_{22}^2 a_{23}^2 a_{31}^2 a_{32}^2 \right) \\ b_0 &= a_{11}^5 a_{22} a_{23} a_{32} a_{33} \left(a_{22} a_{33} - a_{23} a_{32} \right) \end{split}$$

Better formulation?

$$\begin{array}{l} b_{6} = \left(a_{11}\,a_{22} - a_{12}\,a_{21}\right)\left(a_{11}\,a_{23} - a_{13}\,a_{21}\right)\left(a_{11}\,a_{32} - a_{12}\,a_{31}\right)\left(a_{11}\,a_{33} - a_{13}\,a_{31}\right) \\ & \cdot \left(a_{11}\,a_{22}\,a_{33} - a_{11}\,a_{23}\,a_{32} - a_{12}\,a_{21}\,a_{33} + a_{12}\,a_{23}\,a_{31} + a_{13}\,a_{21}\,a_{32} - a_{13}\,a_{22}\,a_{31}\right) \\ = \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{23} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{13} \\ a_{31} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{13} \\ a_{31} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} \end{array}$$

Multiply each b_k by a_{11} .

 $a_{11}b_6$: product of 6 minors involving a_{11} and 0 not.

 $a_{11}b_0$: product of 0 minors involving a_{11} and 6 not (and a_{11}^6).

 $a_{11}b_k$: products of k minors involving a_{11} and 6-k not?

Theorem (Rowland-Wu 2025+)

The top-left entry x satisfies $b_6x^6 + \cdots + b_1x + b_0 = 0$, where

$$\begin{split} &a_{11}b_{6} = \Sigma\left(\left\{\right\}, \left\{2\right\}, \left\{3\right\}, \left\{3\right\}, \left\{2,3\right\}\right\} \right) \\ &a_{11}b_{5} = -3\Sigma\left(\left\{\right\}, \left\{2\right\}, \left\{3\right\}, \left\{2\right\}, \left\{3\right\}, \left\{2\right\}, \left\{3$$

 $\Sigma(S)$ is a sum of products of |S| minors involving a_{11} and |S| not. The pairs C specify row and column indices for the minors involving a_{11} .

Degree: number of minors not involving the first row or first column.

What are the integers that appear?

Gröbner basis computations are infeasible for $n \ge 4$.

Instead, use PSLQ on examples and interpolate. Infeasible for $n \ge 6$.

Definition

Let A be an $m \times n$ matrix with positive entries.

The Sinkhorn limit of A is obtained by iteratively scaling so that each row sum is $\frac{1}{n}$ and each column sum is $\frac{m}{n}$.

The limit exists: Sinkhorn 1967 (in a more general form).

1.5 CPU years scaling matrices and recognizing 102K algebraic numbers let us solve for 63K coefficients (and 56K parameterized by free variables).

Conjecture (Rowland–Wu 2025+)

The coefficient of $\Sigma(S)x^{|S|}$ is $\det(\frac{1}{m}\operatorname{adj}_S(m,n))$.

 $adj_S(m, n)$ is an adjacency-like matrix. Underlying graph: Vertex set S. Edges?

Type-1 edges: Sizes differ by 1, and one is a subset of the other.

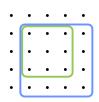
$$S = \begin{cases} 2 \\ \{2,3\} \end{cases}$$

$$S = \begin{cases} 2,3 \\ \{2,3\} \end{cases}$$

$$S = \begin{cases} 2,3 \\ \{2,3,4\} \end{cases}$$

$$S = \begin{cases} 2,3 \\ \{2,3,4\} \end{cases}$$

$$S = \begin{cases} 2,3,4 \} & \{2,3,4,5\} \\ \{2,3,4\} & \{2,3,4,5\} \end{cases}$$



Type-2 edges: Same sizes, and they differ in exactly 1 row or 1 column.

$$S = {2} {2} {2} {3}$$

$$S = \begin{cases} 2,3 \\ \{2,3\} \end{cases} \begin{cases} 2,3 \\ \{3,4\} \end{cases}$$

$$S = \begin{cases} 2,3 \\ \{2,3\} \\ \{3,4\} \end{cases}$$

$$S = \begin{cases} 2,3,4 \\ \{2,3,4\} \end{cases} \begin{cases} 2,3,4 \\ \{3,4,5\} \end{cases}$$



Connected components are built from these.

Two components:

$$S = \begin{cases} 2 & \{2,3\} & \{3,4\} & \{3,4,5\} \\ 2 & \{2,3\} & \{3,4\} & \{2,3,4\} \end{cases}$$



One component:

$$S = \begin{cases} 2 & \{2,3\} & \{3,4\} & \{3,4,5\} \\ 2 & \{2,3\} & \{2,3\} & \{2,3,4\} \end{cases}$$



References

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