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 PPN: 021838194  
 Bestelldatum 20-12-2005-11:14

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Titel: Multiplicative complexity of a bilinear form over a  
 (Aufsatz) commutative ring

Seiten: 281-286

Band Heft

Jahrgang  
 1981-00-00

Titel (Monographie/ Zeitschrift)

Mathematical foundations of computer science 1981 :  
 proceedings, 10th symposium,  
 Berlin [u.a.]  
 Springer

Lieferform:  
 PDF

Lieferart:  
 E-Mail alt. Post

Lieferung erwünscht bis:  
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A06558533X

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# Lecture Notes in Computer Science

Edited by G. Goos and J. Hartmanis

118

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## Mathematical Foundations of Computer Science 1981

Proceedings, 10th Symposium  
Štrbské Pleso, Czechoslovakia  
August 31 – September 4, 1981



Edited by J. Gruska and M. Chytil

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Springer-Verlag  
Berlin Heidelberg New York 1981

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CR Subject Classifications (1974): 5.1, 5.2, 5.3.

ISBN 3-540-10856-4 Springer-Verlag Berlin Heidelberg New York  
ISBN 0-387-10856-4 Springer-Verlag New York Heidelberg Berlin

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Printed in Germany

Printing and binding: Beltz Offsetdruck, Hemsbach/Bergstr.  
2145/3140-543210

MULTIPLICATIVE COMPLEXITY OF A BILINEAR FORM  
OVER A COMMUTATIVE RING

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Abstract. We characterize the class of Noetherian commutative rings  $K$  such that the multiplicative complexity of a bilinear form over  $K$  coincides with its rank. The asymptotic behaviour of the multiplicative complexity of bilinear forms from one special class over the polynomial rings is described, and in particular it is shown that there is no finite upper bound for the difference between the multiplicative complexity of a bilinear form from this class and the rank of this form. The relationship between the multiplicative complexity of a bilinear form over a ring  $K$  and homological properties of the ring is explained.

Introduction

Multiplicative complexity of a set of bilinear forms is a very intensively investigated subject in algebraic computational complexity theory (see for instance book [1] and references there). Sometimes instead of a bilinear form we speak about the coefficient matrix of the form. The multiplicative complexity of a set of bilinear forms is defined to be the least number of two-argument multiplications and divisions to be performed in the straight-line computations (containing the arithmetic instructions) which evaluate the set of bilinear forms under consideration. It is proved in [2], [3] that the multiplicative complexity of a set of bilinear forms with coefficient matrices  $A_1, \dots, A_\ell$  equals to the rank  $Rq$  of this set defined in the following manner:

$$Rq(A_1, \dots, A_\ell) = \min \left\{ R : A_1, \dots, A_\ell \text{ are contained in the linear span of some matrices } C_1, \dots, C_R \text{ each of which can be presented as a product of a column by a row } \right\}.$$

Multiplicative complexity (or rank  $Rq_F(A_1, \dots, A_\ell)$ ) depends on a choice of a field  $F$  when  $\ell > 1$ , but we omit an index  $F$  when there is no danger of misunderstanding.

In the previous papers on the multiplicative complexity, only

the case in which the matrices  $A_1, \dots, A_\ell$  were defined over some field  $F$  was considered. The most interesting results in this subject were the discovery of upper bounds for the multiplicative complexity of a set of bilinear forms corresponding to the problem of (1) matrix multiplication (see [4]) and (2) polynomial multiplication (see [5] for the case of an infinite field  $F$  and [6] for the case of a finite field  $F$ ). Obviously  $Rq_F(A)$  is equal to the usual rank of the matrix  $A$ . Already the determination of the multiplicative complexity of a pair of matrices presents difficulties and only for the case of an algebraically closed field  $F$  was the implicit formula for  $Rq_F(A, B)$  obtained in [7] and [8] (independently). Concerning the problem of investigating the rank from a general point of view, we mention also that in [9] the group of all linear transformations (over a field) preserving rank is characterized.

The present paper is apparently the first to treat the subject of multiplicative complexity in a more general setting, over a commutative ring rather than over a field. There are new difficulties to be overcome here. In fact here problems arise already when we attempt to evaluate the multiplicative complexity of a set consisting of only a single bilinear form. So we will limit our treatment to this case. In this case the definition of the multiplicative complexity yields the following equality :

$$Rq_K(A) = \min \left\{ R : A = u_1 \otimes v_1 + \dots + u_R \otimes v_R \quad \text{for some} \right. \\ \left. \text{columns } u_1, \dots, u_R \quad \text{and rows } v_1, \dots, v_R \right\}.$$

We have found that the multiplicative complexity is closely connected with some homological properties of the ring  $K$  (see §§ 1, 2).

We mention one interpretation of the multiplicative complexity  $Rq_K(A)$  in the case when  $K = F[x_1, \dots, x_d]$  is a ring of polynomials over a field  $F$  and when  $A = x_1 A_1 + \dots + x_d A_d$  where each  $A_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq d$ ) is a matrix over  $F$  (we shall say that such a matrix  $A$  is square free). Obviously  $Rq_K(A) \leq Rq_F(A_1, \dots, A_d)$ . The rank  $Rq_K(A)$  can be interpreted as the multiplicative complexity of a bilinear form  $A$  with parametric coefficients running over a  $d$ -dimensional linear variety. Consideration of multiplicative complexity over a ring (rather than over its field of quotients) ensures that the straight-line computation for calculating a given bilinear form is a correct one (i.e. does not require divisions by zero) for any values which may be assigned to the parameters  $x_1, \dots, x_d$ .

§ 1. Multiplicative complexity of a bilinear form over  
a ring and the rank of the form.

For every  $n \times m$  matrix  $A$  over a commutative (with the unity) ring  $K$  we denote by  $\text{rg } A$  the usual rank of  $A$  which is equal to the greatest size of the minors (of  $A$ ) distinguished from zero. For proving of the main theorem of §1 the following reformulation of  $\text{Rg}_K(A)$  is useful. Let  $K^m \supset M$  be the module of the rows of  $A$  ( $K^m$  is the free module of dimension  $m$ ). Then  $\text{Rg}_K(A)$  equals to the least number of generators of the modules  $M_i$  such that  $M \subset M_i \subset K^m$ . Obviously  $\min\{n, m\} \geq \text{Rg}_K(A) \geq \text{rg } A$ . A noetherian commutative ring  $K$  is called Rg-ring if  $\text{Rg}_K(A) = \text{rg } A$  for every matrix  $A$  over  $K$ . All the necessary information from the theory of rings and the homological algebra can be found in [11].

THEOREM 1. A ring  $K$  is Rg-ring iff

- 1)  $K = K_1 \oplus \dots \oplus K_t$  for some integral domains  $K_i (1 \leq i \leq t)$ ;
- 2) global homological dimension of the ring  $K$  (we denote it by  $\text{gldh}(K)$ ) is not greater than 2;
- 3) every projective  $K_i$ -module is free ( $1 \leq i \leq t$ ).

The proof of the theorem is exposed in [10] and consists of two stages. At the first stage the existence of the decomposition  $K = K_1 \oplus \dots \oplus K_t$  for Rg-ring  $K$  is proved with the help of the following lemma.

LEMMA 1. Let  $K$  be Rg-ring and  $K_S$  be its full quotient ring. Then  $K_S$  is a direct sum of some fields.

The second stage consists in proving of the theorem for the case when  $K$  is an integral domain, basing on the following lemma.

LEMMA 2. An integral domain  $K$  is Rg-ring iff for every  $K$ -module  $M \subset K^m$  vanishing of the torsion submodule of the factor-module  $K^m/M$  entails that  $M$  is free.

COROLLARY 1. a)  $F[x, y]$  is Rg-ring ( $F$  denotes a field here and further);

b) If  $K$  is a local ring and  $\text{gldh}(K) \leq 2$  then  $K$  is Rg-ring;

c) If  $\text{gldh}(K) = d \leq 2$  and  $K$  is an integral domain then

$\text{Rg}_K(A) \leq \text{rg } A + d$  for each matrix  $A$  over  $K$  (in particular if  $K$  is some Dedekind domain then  $\text{Rg}_K(A) \leq \text{rg } A + 1$ ).

Analogously the following problem can be put: to characterize the class of integral domains  $K$  such that an equality  $\text{Rg}_K(A_1, \dots, A_\ell) = \text{Rg}_F(A_1, \dots, A_\ell)$  is fulfilled for every set of matrices  $A_1, \dots, A_\ell$  over

$K$  where  $F$  is the quotient field of  $K$  (cf. the theorem 1). It is not difficult to show that under such condition  $K=F$ .

We define the direct sum  $A \oplus B$  of the matrices  $A, B$  as the matrix  $\begin{pmatrix} A & 0 \\ 0 & B \end{pmatrix}$ . We demonstrate that  $R_{q_K}$  (in distinction from

$\tau_q$ ) is not an additive function relatively to the operation of the direct sum of matrices over  $K$  for some (Dedekind) rings  $K$ .

Set, for example,  $K = \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{5}]$ ,  $A = \begin{vmatrix} \sqrt{5}-1 & 2 \\ 2 & \sqrt{5}+1 \end{vmatrix}$ , and  $A_p = A \oplus \dots \oplus A$

is the direct sum of  $p$  copies of  $A$ . Then  $\tau_q A_p = p$  and therefore  $R_{q_K}(A_p) < p+1$  by force of the item c) of the corollary 1. From the other hand it can be easily seen that  $R_{q_K}(A) = 2$ . Meanwhile the author conjectures that the additivity of  $R_{q_K}$  is valid for the case when  $K = F[x_1, \dots, x_d]$ .

## § 2. Multiplicative complexity of a square free bilinear form

We assume in the present paragraph that  $K = K_d = F[x_1, \dots, x_d]$  and  $A$  (with some indices or without them) is a square free  $m \times n$  matrix.

LEMMA 3.  $([10]) R_{q_K}(A) = \min \{ m+n - \tau_q V - \tau_q W \}$  where minimum is taken over such pairs of matrices  $V, W$  with their entries in  $F$  that  $VAW = 0$ .

COROLLARY 2.  $R_{q_K}(A_1 \oplus A_2) = R_{q_K}(A_1) + R_{q_K}(A_2)$  (cf. the example at the end of §1).

Set  $R^d(\tau) = \sup_{\tau_q A = \tau} R_{q_{K_d}}(A)$  and  $R(\tau) = \sup_d R^d(\tau)$ .

COROLLARY 3.  $R^d(\tau_1 + \tau_2) \geq R^d(\tau_1) + R^d(\tau_2)$ ,  $R(\tau_1 + \tau_2) > R(\tau_1) + R(\tau_2)$ .

LEMMA 4.  $R^d(\tau) \leq \tau + \left[ \frac{\tau}{2} \right] + \left[ \frac{\left[ \frac{\tau}{2} \right]}{2} \right] + \dots < 2\tau$  (if we denote by  $S_i$  the  $i^{\text{th}}$  item of the considered sum then  $S_{i+1} = \left[ \frac{S_i}{2} \right]$  where the number of the items in the sum equals to  $d-1$  ( $\tau \geq 1$ ,  $d > 2$ ,  $[e]$  is the entier of  $e$ )).

This lemma can be ascertained (see [10]) by the induction on  $d$  and  $\tau$  (the base of the induction consisting in the equality  $R^2(\tau) = \tau$  is valid by the item a) of the corollary 1).

COROLLARY 4.  $R^3(\tau) = \left[ \frac{3}{2} \tau \right]$ .

THEOREM 2.  $\lim_{z \rightarrow \infty} \frac{R(z)}{z} = 2$ .

The existence of the limit follows from the corollary 3, the upper bound for the limit is a consequence of the lemma 4. We construct a set of matrices  $\{A_{s,t}\}_{s,t \geq 1}$  such that  $\text{rg } A_{s,t} =$

$$\binom{s+t-2}{s-1}, \text{Rg}_{K_{s+t-1}}(A_{s,t}) = \min \left\{ \binom{s+t-1}{t}, \binom{s+t-1}{s} \right\} \quad (\text{see [10]}),$$

the matrix  $A_{s,t}$  is of the size  $\binom{s+t-1}{t} \times \binom{s+t-1}{s}$  and  $A_{s,t}$  has

its entries in the ring  $K_{s+t-1} = F[x_1, \dots, x_{s+t-1}]$ . ( $\binom{a}{b}$  is

a binomial coefficient). This construction will complete the proof

of the theorem because  $\frac{\text{Rg}_{K_{2t-1}}(A_{t,t})}{\text{rg } A_{t,t}} \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} 2$ .

Set  $s \times 1$  column  $A_{s,1}$  equal to  $(x_s, -x_{s-1}, \dots, (-1)^{s-1} x_1)^T$  and  $1 \times t$  row  $A_{1,t}$  equal to  $(x_1, \dots, x_t)$  for each  $s, t \geq 1$ . Then we define by recursion

$$A_{s+1,t+1} = \begin{vmatrix} A_{s+1,t} & x_{s+t+1} E \\ 0 & -A_{s,t+1} \end{vmatrix}$$

where  $E$  is the unity matrix.

REMARK. Observe that for every fixed  $p \geq 1$  the matrices  $\{A_{s,t}\}_{s+t=p+1}$  are the maps in Koszul complex of the ring  $K = K_p$  relatively to the set of elements  $\{x_1, \dots, x_p\}$ :

$$0 \rightarrow K^1 \xrightarrow{A_{1,p}} K^p \dots K^{\binom{p}{t}} \xrightarrow{A_{p+1-t,t}} K^{\binom{p}{t-1}} \dots K^p \xrightarrow{A_{p,1}} K^1 \rightarrow 0$$

In conclusion the author conjectures that for each regular ring  $K$   $\sup_B \frac{\text{Rg}_K(B)}{\text{rg } B} < \infty$ .

Acknowledgments. I would like to thank A.A.Suslin for useful discussions and A.O.Slisenko for attention.



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