

# Combinatorics 2017 Fall

## week5 note

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### Reference:

Extremal Combinatorics with applications in Computer Science. 2nd Edition. Stasys Jukna, Springer.

2017/10/20

A system of distinct representatives (SDR) for a sequence of set  $S_1, S_2, \dots, S_m$  (are not necessarily distinct) is a sequence of distinct elements  $x_1, \dots, x_m$ , s.t.  $x_i \in S_i, i \in [m]$ .

**Theorem 1 (Hall's marriage Theorem)** The sets of  $S_1, S_2, \dots, S_m$  has a SDR iff  $|\cup_{i \in I} S_i| \geq |I|$  for  $I \subset [m]$  (**Hall's condition**) i.e. for  $\forall k \in [m]$ , the union of any  $k$  sets has at least  $k$  elements.

Proof: " $\implies$ " If  $S_1, S_2, \dots, S_m$  have a SDR  $x_1, \dots, x_m$ , then  $\forall I \subset [m], |\cup_{i \in I} S_i| \geq |\{x_i, i \in I\}| = |I|$ .

$\Leftarrow$  Prove by induction on  $m$ . The case  $m = 1$  is clear. Assume the claim holds for any collection with  $< m$  sets.

- if for all  $I \subset [m], |\cup_{i \in I} S_i| \geq |I|$ , take  $x \in S_1$  as its representative, let  $S'_i = S_i \setminus \{x\}, i = 2, \dots, m$ . then for all  $I \subset [2, m], |\cup_{i \in I} S'_i| \geq |I|$ . by assumption  $S'_2, \dots, S'_m$  have a SDR  $x_2, \dots, x_m$ . then  $x_1, \dots, x_m$  is a SDR of  $S_1, \dots, S_m$ .
- if for some  $I \subset [m], |\cup_{i \in I} S_i| = |I| = k$  for some  $k$ . by recording  $S_i, i \in [m]$ , we may assume  $|\cup_{i=1}^k S_i| = k$ . by assumption,  $S_1, \dots, S_k$  have a SDR  $x_1, \dots, x_k$ . Let  $S'_i = S_i \setminus \{x_1, \dots, x_k\}, i \in [k+1, m]$ . then for all  $I \subset [k+1, m], |\cup_{i \in I} S'_i| \geq |I|$ , if not,  $|\cup_{i \in I} S_i| \cup (\cup_{j=1}^k S_j) < |I| + k$ , a contradiction. So by assumption  $S'_{k+1}, S'_{k+2}, \dots, S'_m$  have a SDR  $x_{k+1}, \dots, x_m$ , then  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m$  is a SDR of  $s_1, s_2, \dots, s_m$ .

**Corollary 2:**  $X$  is a set of size  $n, |S_i| = r, S_i \subset X, i \in [m].$  s.t.  $|\{i : x \in S_i\}| = d$  for all  $x \in X$ . If  $m \leq n$ , then  $S_1, \dots, S_m$  have a SDR.

**Proof:** Consider the incidence matrix  $M = (m_{x,i})$  of  $S_i, i \in [m]$ . That is  $M$  is a 0-1 matrix with  $|X|$  rows labeled by elements  $x \in X$ , and with  $m$  columns labeled by  $i \in [m]$ , such that  $m_{x,i} = 1$  iff  $x \in S_i$ , count the number of 1 in  $M$ . we have  $dn = mr$ , then  $m \leq n$  implies  $d \leq r$ . Suppose

$S_1, \dots, S_m$  don't have a SDR, by Hall's Theorem,  $\exists k$  sets  $S_{i_1}, \dots, S_{i_k}$  for some  $k \in [m]$ ,

$$|Y| = |S_{i_1} \cup \dots \cup S_{i_k}| < k$$

$\forall x \in Y$ , let  $d_x = |\{i \in [k] : x \in S_{i_j}\}| \leq d$ . count the number of 1 in rows labeled by  $x \in Y$  and columns  $i_j, j \in [k]$ .

$$rk = \sum_{j=1}^k |S_{i_j}| = \sum_{x \in Y} d_x \leq d|Y| < dk.$$

a contradiction.  $\square$

**Theorem3:** Suppose elements in  $X$  are colored either in red or in blue.  $S_i \subset X, i \in [m]$ , Then  $S_1, \dots, S_m$  have a SDR with  $\leq t$  red elements iff  $S_1, \dots, S_m$  have a SDR and  $\forall I \subset [m], \cup_{i \in I} S_i$  has  $\geq t$  blue elements.

**Proof:** " $\implies$ " Let  $x_1, \dots, x_m$  be a SDR of  $S_1, \dots, S_m$  with  $\leq t$  red elements. then  $\forall I \subset [m], \{x_i, i \in I\} \subset \cup_{i \in I} S_i$  has at least  $|I| - t$  blue elements.

" $\impliedby$ " Let  $R$  be the set of red elements in  $X$ . If  $|R| \leq t$ , trivial. Assume  $|R| > t$ , let  $S_{m+1} = S_{m+2} = \dots = S_{m+r} = R$ , where  $r = |R| - t$ . then  $S_1, \dots, S_m$  have a SDR with  $\leq t$  red elements  $\iff S_1, \dots, S_m, S_{m+1}, \dots, S_{m+r}$  have a SDR. So we need to check Hall's condition for  $S_1, \dots, S_{m+r}$ , let  $Y = \cup_{i \in I} S_i$ , if  $I \subset [m]$ , then  $|Y| \geq |I|$  since  $S_1, \dots, S_m$  have a SDR. if  $I = J_1 \cup J_2$ , where  $J_1 \subset [m], J_2 \subset [m+1, m+r]$ , then  $|J_2| \leq |R| - t, |Y| = |\cup_{i \in J_1} (S_i \setminus R)| + |R| \geq |J_1| - t + |R| = |J_1| + (|R| - t) \geq |J_1| + |J_2| = |I|$ .  $\square$

### Application

**Definition:** A  $r \times n (r \leq n)$  Latin rectangle is  $r \times n$  matrix over  $[n]$  s.t. numbers  $1, 2, \dots, n$  occurs once in each row and  $\leq$  once in each column. A Latin square is an  $n \times n$  Latin rectangle.

**Evans conjecture:** If fewer than  $n$  cells of an  $n \times n$  matrix are filled, then one can always complete it into a Latin square.

**Theorem4:** If  $r < n$ , then any given  $r \times n$  Latin rectangle can be extended to an  $(r+1) \times n$  Latin rectangle.

**Proof:** Let  $R$  be  $r \times n$  LR, For  $j \in [n]$ , let  $S_j$  be the set of integers in  $[n]$  which don't occur in the  $j$ -th column. Then it suffices to prove  $S_1, \dots, S_n$  have a SDR. Since  $|S_j| = n - r$ , and each  $i \in [n], i$  occurs in  $n - r$  sets  $S_j$ , by Corollary2,  $S_1, \dots, S_n$  have a SDR.  $\square$

**Definition:** An  $n \times n$  matrix  $A = \{A_{ij}\}$  with  $a_{ij} \geq 0$  is called doubly stochastic if  $\sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} = \sum_{i=1}^n a_{ij} = 1$  for  $\forall i, j \in [n]$ . If  $a_{ij} = 0$  or  $1$ , then it is a permutation matrix.

**Theorem5:** Every doubly stochastic matrix  $A$  is a convex combination of permutation matrixes, that is,  $\exists$  permutation matrixes  $P_1, \dots, P_s$  and non-negative reals  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_s$  s.t.  $A = \sum_{i=1}^s \lambda_i P_i$  and  $\sum_{i=1}^s \lambda_i = 1$ .

**Proof:** Let  $A$  be an  $n \times n$  doubly stochastic matrix, let  $m$  be the number of non-zero entries in  $A$ , then  $m \geq n$ . prove by induction on  $m$ . If  $m = n$ , then each non-zero entry is 1, so  $A$  itself is a permutation matrix. If  $m > n$  and the results holds for matrices with  $< m$  non-zero entries.

Define  $S_i = \{j : a_{ij} > 0\}, i \in [n]$ . If for some of the sets  $S_{i_1}, S_{i_2}, \dots, S_{i_k}, |\cup_{i=1}^k S_{i_k}| \leq k - 1$ . that is all non-zero entries in rows  $i_1, \dots, i_k$  occupy at most  $k - 1$  columns of, say columns  $j_1, \dots, j_{k-1}$ , if count by rows, we have the sum is  $k$ , but if count by columns, the sum is at most  $k - 1$ , a contradiction. By Hall's Theorem, there is a SDR  $j_1 \in S_1, j_2 \in S_2, \dots, j_n \in S_n$ . Take a permutation matrix  $P_1 = (P_{ij})$  with entries  $p_{ij} = 1$  iff  $j = j_1$ . Let  $\lambda_1 = \min\{a_{1j_1}, \dots, a_{nj_n}\}$ . and consider  $B_1 = A - \lambda_1 P_1$ . By definition of  $S_i$ , we have  $\lambda_1 > 0$ , matrix  $B_1$  has at most  $m - 1$  non-zero entries, and the row sum and column sum of  $B_1$  is  $1 - \lambda_1$ . Let  $A_1 = \frac{1}{1-\lambda_1} B_1$ , then  $A_1$  is a doubly stochastic matrix with less than  $m$  non-zero entries. By assumption  $A_1 = \mu_2 P_2 + \dots + \mu_s P_s$  a convex combination. Hence,  $A = \lambda_1 P_1 + (1 - \lambda_1) A_1 = \lambda_1 P_1 + (1 - \lambda_1) \mu_2 P_2 + \dots + (1 - \lambda_1) \mu_s P_s$ . Since  $\sum_{i=2}^s \mu_i = 1$ , we have  $\lambda_1 + (1 - \lambda_1)(\sum \mu_i) = 1$ .  $\square$