# Symbolic dynamics and bialgebras arXiv:2107.10734

E. Jeandel

Université de Lorraine, France



### Symbolic Dynamics

2 Categories for symbolic dynamics

### 3 Applications

# Conclusion

#### An edge shift is the set of all biinfinite walks (on edges) in a finite graph



#### An edge shift is the set of all biinfinite walks (on edges) in a finite graph



#### An edge shift is the set of all biinfinite walks (on edges) in a finite graph



- ... actactactact.actactactact ...
- ... teamteam.teamteam...
- ... eeeeeee.eeeeee...
- ... actactactact.eeeeeeee...
- ... actamteacte.amtamteact ...





use different symbols for *a* depending on the next symbol.  $ac \rightarrow ac$  $am \rightarrow bm$ 



use different symbols for *a* depending on the next symbol.  $ac \rightarrow ac$  $am \rightarrow bm$ 



use same symbols for c and m $ac \rightarrow ac$  $bm \rightarrow bc$ 



use same symbols for c and m $ac \rightarrow ac$  $bm \rightarrow bc$ 



More generally, choose a vertex to duplicate

- Duplicate the inputs
- Redistribute the outputs

or vice-versa

This can be defined directly on adjacency matrices:

#### Definition

Two matrices *M* and *N* are 1-step equivalent if M = RS and N = SR for (nonnecessarily square) nonnegative integral matrices *R*, *S* 

This can be defined directly on adjacency matrices:

#### Definition

Two matrices *M* and *N* are 1-step equivalent if M = RS and N = SR for (nonnecessarily square) nonnegative integral matrices *R*, *S* 

Example:

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad N = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$R = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad S = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

This can be defined directly on adjacency matrices:

#### Definition

Two matrices *M* and *N* are 1-step equivalent if M = RS and N = SR for (nonnecessarily square) nonnegative integral matrices *R*, *S* 

#### Definition

Strong shift equivalence (SSE) is the transitive closure of 1-step equivalence.

Graphs  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  represent conjugate edge shifts iff their adjacency matrices are SSE.

#### Main open problem of symbolic dynamics: decide conjugacy/SSE

- Open since the 70s
- Decidable for matrices in  $\mathbb{Z}$  (Krieger, 1980)
  - (almost the) same as conjugacy in  $GL_n(\mathbb{Z})$
- Decidable for one-sided edge-shifts (Williams, 1973)
  - The rewriting system on graphs is confluent.

#### Definition

An invariant is a function  $\psi$  s.t.  $\psi(M) = \psi(N)$  if M and N are SSE.

- To prove that *M* and *N* are NOT SSE, just find an invariant that distinguishes them
- Examples:
  - Trace of the matrix
  - More generally, number of cycles of size k
  - The entropy (exponential growth of the number of paths of size *n*)
  - .

In this talk: A systematic way to find invariants

### Symbolic Dynamics

# 2 Categories for symbolic dynamics

### 3 Applications

# Conclusion

Build a category where arrows can represent matrices and equivalence classes of SSE.

#### Folklore

The bialgebra PROP is exactly the PROP of nonnegative integer matrices.

#### Folklore

The bialgebra PROP is exactly the PROP of nonnegative integer matrices.

A commutative monoid  $(\eta: 0 \rightarrow 1, \mu: 2 \rightarrow 1)$ 

#### Folklore

The bialgebra PROP is exactly the PROP of nonnegative integer matrices.

A commutative monoid ( $\eta: 0 \rightarrow 1, \mu: 2 \rightarrow 1$ )  $\longrightarrow$ 

A cocommutative comonoid ( $\epsilon: 1 \rightarrow 0, \Delta: 1 \rightarrow 2$ )  $\rightarrow \bullet$ 

#### Folklore

The bialgebra PROP is exactly the PROP of nonnegative integer matrices.

A commutative monoid  $(\eta : 0 \to 1, \mu : 2 \to 1) \longrightarrow$ A cocommutative comonoid  $(\epsilon : 1 \to 0, \Delta : 1 \to 2) \longrightarrow$ Bialgebra rules



#### Folklore

The bialgebra PROP is exactly the PROP of nonnegative integer matrices.

arrows  $n \rightarrow m$  are exactly matrices of size  $m \times n$ .



#### Technically, our matrices represent graph, so with inputs = outputs

SSE states that  $RS \equiv SR$ , how can we simulate that ?

#### Technically, our matrices represent graph, so with inputs = outputs

SSE states that  $RS \equiv SR$ , how can we simulate that ?

With a trace!

Consider the traced bialgebra prop (the previous prop + a trace).

# Trace

Consider the traced bialgebra prop (the previous prop + a trace).





### Trace

In this prop, we can associate a scalar t(M) to each matrix M.



### Trace

In this prop, we can associate a scalar t(M) to each matrix M. Is it true that t(M) = t(N) iff M and N are SSE ?



$$M = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$
 and  $N = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \end{pmatrix}$  satisfy  $t(M) = t(N)$  but are not SSE.



t(M) = t(N) iff *M* and *N* are flow-equivalent, another equivalence notion coming from symbolic dynamics

(First observed by David Hillman, 1995)

We have lost a notion of time, that we need to recover

# Solution

We add a generator that is a morphism for both the monoid and the comonoid.



# Solution

We add a generator that is a morphism for both the monoid and the comonoid.



# Solution

We add a generator that is a morphism for both the monoid and the comonoid.

#### Theorem

In this prop, t(M) = t(N) iff M and N are SSE.

Needs some new (easy) results in symbolic dynamics for the proof.

#### To recap: we need one bialgebra, a bialgebra morphism and a trace.

### Symbolic Dynamics

2 Categories for symbolic dynamics

# 3 Applications

# Conclusion

What do we gain from it ?

- If one knows a concrete representation of this prop, one can decide conjugacy
- One can find invariants !

- Let  $\mathfrak{C}$  be our category.
- Let  ${\mathfrak D}$  be any traced category that contains a bialgebra
- By the universal property, there is a functor from  $\mathfrak C$  to  $\mathfrak D$
- Using this functor, we can associate to each matrix *M* an arrow  $\psi(M)$  in  $\mathfrak{D}$  s.t.  $\psi(M) = \psi(N)$  if *M* and *N* are SSE.

#### Good news: There are a lot of bialgebras in the wild

Bad news:

- Some of them are in categories that are not traced
- Some of them are Hopf algebras
  - Hopf algebras represent matrices with coefficients in  $\mathbb{Z},$  not in  $\mathbb{Z}_+$

#### • If *M* is a finite abelian monoid, $\mathbb{K}[M]$ has a structure of a bialgebra

- Product is the monoid product extended linearly
- Coproduct is the copy extended linearly

#### Theorem

Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be an additive monoid, and h an homomorphism. Then the number of solutions in  $\mathcal{M}$  of the equation h(Mx) = x is an invariant for SSE.

# Example from algebra 2/2

- $\mathbb{K}[X]$  has a structure of a bialgebra
  - Product is the product of polynomials
  - Coproduct is defined by  $\Delta(X) = 1 \otimes X + X \otimes 1$

Problem: no trace!

# Example from algebra 2/2

- $\mathbb{K}[X]$  has a structure of a bialgebra
  - Product is the product of polynomials
  - Coproduct is defined by  $\Delta(X) = 1 \otimes X + X \otimes 1$

Solution: Replace  $\mathbb{K}[X]$  by formal series in a complete semiring (like  $\mathbb{R}_+ \cup \{+\infty\}$ ). If we take the morphism h(X) = tX we get:

#### Theorem

The quantity  $f_M(t) = \frac{1}{\det(I - tM)}$  is an invariant for SSE

This is the well-known Zeta function of a subshift.

Let  $\mathfrak{D}$  be a category with finite limits and colimits.

- Suppose one has a monoid X in a  $\mathfrak{D}$  wih a morphism h.
- It extends to a bialgebra using the diagonal map as a comonoid.

Problem: What if there is no trace in  $\mathfrak{D}$ ?

Let  $\mathfrak{D}$  be a category with finite limits and colimits.

- Suppose one has a monoid X in a  $\mathfrak{D}$  wih a morphism h.
- It extends to a bialgebra using the diagonal map as a comonoid.

Solution: Replace  $\mathfrak{D}$  with  $\operatorname{cospan}(\mathfrak{D})$  which is a compact category.

Let  $\mathfrak{D}$  be a category with finite limits and colimits.

- Suppose one has a monoid X in a  $\mathfrak{D}$  wih a morphism h.
- It extends to a bialgebra using the diagonal map as a comonoid.



Let  $\ensuremath{\mathfrak{D}}$  be a category with finite limits and colimits.

- Suppose one has a monoid X in a  $\mathfrak{D}$  wih a morphism h.
- It extends to a bialgebra using the diagonal map as a comonoid.



- Starting with the monoid (ℤ, +) in the category of abelian groups, we obtain the *Bowen-Franks* group (1977)
- Starting with the monoid (ℤ[t], +) in the category of ℤ[t]-modules, we obtain the dimension group of Krieger (1977)

### Symbolic Dynamics

2 Categories for symbolic dynamics

### 3 Applications



- We have a systematic way to find invariants
- Investigate new bialgebras to find new invariants!