Lower Bounds Against Sums of Ordered Set-Multilinear ABPs

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Algebraic Models of Computation



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VNP: Explicit Polynomials

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Our Results

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An algebraic formula is set-multilinear with respect to $\{x_1, \ldots, x_d\}$ if every node in it

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An ABP is set-multilinear with respect to $\{x_1, \ldots, x_d\}$ if every path in it

computes a set-multilinear monomial with respect to $\{\mathbf{x}_1, \ldots, \mathbf{x}_d\}$.

Ordered Set-Multilinear ABPs (osmABPs)

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$$\text{IMM}_{n,d} = \sum_{1 \le i_1, \dots, i_{d-1} \le n} x_{1,i_1}^{(1)} \cdot \left(\prod_{j=2}^{d-1} x_{i_{j-1},i_j}^{(j)}\right) \cdot x_{i_{d-1},i_d}^{(d)}$$

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Note: $IMM_{n,d}$ is complete for the set of polynomials of degree *d* that are computable by osmABPs (also smABPs and ABPs) which had width at most *n* in every layer.

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[Raz]: For $d = O(\frac{\log n}{\log \log n})$, if f is computable by a formula of size s = poly(n), then it is also computable by a set-multilinear formula of size poly(n).

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• $n^{\Omega(\log n)}$ set-multilinear formula LB for $\text{IMM}_{n,n}$ implies formula LB due to self-reducibility.

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But f need not be self-reducible unless f is computable by an osmABP.

How different are the powers of smABPs and osmABPs?

Our First Result: There is a polynomial $G_{n,d}(\mathbf{x})$ which is set-multilinear with respect to $\mathbf{x} = {\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_d}$, where $|\mathbf{x}_i| \le n$ for each $i \in [d]$, such that:

- it has a set-multilinear branching program of size poly(n, d),
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Our Second Result: There is polynomial $G_{n,n}(\mathbf{x})$ which is set-multilinear with respect to a set of $\Theta(n)$ buckets, each of size $\Theta(n)$, such that

- it has a set-multilinear branching program of size poly(n),
- but any $\sum \text{osmABP}$ computing $G_{n,n}(\mathbf{x})$ requires total-width $\exp(\Omega(n^{1/1000}))$.

The Result: Let $P_{n,d}(\mathbf{x})$ be a polynomial of degree d that is set-multilinear w.r.t the partition $\mathbf{x} = {\mathbf{x}_1, \ldots, \mathbf{x}_d}$ where $|\mathbf{x}_i| \le n$ for every $i \in [d]$, If $P_{n,d}$ can be computed by an ABP of size s, then it can also be computed by a $\sum \text{osmABP}$ of max-width s and total-width $2^{O(d \log d)}s$.

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Our Third Result: For $\omega(\log n) = d \le n$, there is a polynomial $G_{n,d}(\mathbf{x})$ which is set-multilinear w.r.t $\mathbf{x} = \{\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_d\}$, where $|\mathbf{x}_i| \le n$ for every $i \in [d]$, such that:

- $G_{n,d}$ is computable by a set-multilinear ABP of size poly(n),
- any $\sum \text{osmABP}$ of max-width poly(n) computing $G_{n,d}$ requires total-width $2^{\Omega(d)}$.

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Our Fifth Result: For $\omega(\log n) = d \le n$, there is polynomial family $\{F_{n,d}(\mathbf{x})\}$, in VP, which is set-multilinear with respect to a set of $\Theta(d)$ buckets, each of size $\Theta(n)$, such that

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[Bhargav-Dwivedi-Saxena]

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[Arvind-Raja]

Any $\sum_{i=1}^{t}$ osmABP computing the $n \times n$ permanent polynomial has max-width $2^{\Omega(n/t)}$.

ROABPs: An ABP computing $f \in \mathbb{F}[x_1, \ldots x_n]$ is an ROABP, in order $\sigma \in S_n$, if there are *n* layers in the ABP and, for each $i \in [n]$, every edge in layer *i* is labelled a polynomial in $x_{\sigma(i)}$.

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Proof Sketch:

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- $f \in \mathbb{F}[\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_d]$ is a set-multilinear polynomial for which $\sum \text{osmABP LB}$ is known.
- Define $g_f(x_1, \ldots, x_d) = \sum_{\mathbf{e} \in [n]^d} \prod_{i=1}^{e_i} x_i^{e_i} \cdot \operatorname{coeff}_{x_{i,e_i}}(f)$.

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- Suppose g_f is computable by a $\sum \text{ROABP}$, $\sum A_j$, with A_j ordered σ_j .
- Construct a $\sum \text{osmABP}$, $\sum A'_j$, with A'_j ordered σ_j , by replacing $x_i^{e_i}$ by x_{i,e_i} for $e_i \in [n_i]$ and erasing other components on each edge.

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- Check that this $\sum \text{osmABP}$ computes f and use known LB.

[Ramya-Rao]

There exists an explicit multilinear polynomial family $\{g_n(x_1, \ldots, x_n)\}$, in VP, such that any $\sum \text{ROABP}$ computing g_n has total width $2^{\Omega\left(\frac{n^{1/6}}{\log n}\right)}$.

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[Ghoshal-Rao]

There exists an explicit multilinear polynomial family $\{g_n(x_1, \ldots, x_n)\}$, in VBP, such that any $\sum \text{ROABP}$ computing g_n that has max-width poly(n) must have total width $2^{\Omega(n^{1/500})}$.

Proof Overviews

Lower Bound for osmABPs



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If \mathcal{A} is the smallest osmABP computing f, then

$$\operatorname{size}(\mathcal{A}) = \sum_{i=1}^{d} \operatorname{rank}(M_{f,\sigma}(k)).$$

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For t = 1, ..., d/2, if $P_t = (i_t, j_t)$, then each of the following happens with probability 1/2:

• i_t -th position is assigned -k and j_t -th position is assigned +k

Fix an even $d \in \mathbb{N}$ arbitrarily. We will define a distribution \mathcal{D} over the set $\{-k, +k\}^d$.

$$P_1 = (1,2), \ \mathcal{P}_1 = \{P_1\}, \ [L_1,R_1] = [1,2].$$

For t = 2, ..., d/2, each of the following happens with probability 1/3:

•
$$P_t = (L_{t-1} - 1, R_{t-1} + 1), \ \mathcal{P}_t = \mathcal{P}_{t-1} \cup \{P_t\}, \ [L_t, R_t] = [L_{t-1} - 1, R_{t-1} + 1]$$

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$$P_t = (R_{t-1} + 1, R_{t-1} + 2), P_t = P_{t-1} \cup \{P_t\}, [L_t, R_t] = [L_{t-1}, R_{t-1} + 2]$$

•
$$P_t = (L_{t-1} - 2, L_{t-1} - 1), \ \mathcal{P}_t = \mathcal{P}_{t-1} \cup \{P_t\}, \ [L_t, R_t] = [L_{t-1} - 2, R_{t-1} + 1]$$

For t = 1, ..., d/2, if $P_t = (i_t, j_t)$, then each of the following happens with probability 1/2:

- i_t -th position is assigned -k and j_t -th position is assigned +k
- i_t -th position is assigned +k and j_t -th position is assigned -k

The Hard Polynomial

$$G_{n,d} = \sum_{\mathcal{P}_{d/2}} \prod_{(i,j)\in\mathcal{P}} y_{i,j} y_{j,i} \cdot \left(\sum_{k=1}^n x_{i,k} x_{j,k}\right).$$

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• For every $\sigma \in S_d$, there is some \mathcal{P} such that for at least d/8 of the $P = (i, j) \in \mathcal{P}$, $i \in$ $\{\sigma(1), \ldots \sigma(\frac{d}{2})\} \& j \in \{\sigma(1 + \frac{d}{2})), \ldots \sigma(d)\}$
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• Using union bound we will get the lower bound if we can show that:

When
$$w\sim \mathcal{D}, ext{ for } g=\sum_{u_1,...,u_{q-1}}\prod_{j=1}^q g_{u_{j-1},u_j}, ext{ with high probability } \mu_w(g) ext{ is far from full.}$$

To show: For $g = \sum_{u_1,...,u_{q-1}} \prod_{j=1}^q g_{u_{j-1},u_j}, \mu_w(g)$ is far from full with high probability if $w \sim \mathcal{D}$.

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- For hard polynomial in VP, choose q wisely and then use Chernoff bound.
- For hard polynomial in VBP, choose q wisely and then use many violations lemma.

Open Questions

1. PIT for $\sum ROABP$?

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Thank you!