

Invariants of non-unique factorization

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Definition

An integral domain R is *factorial* if for each non-unit $r \in R$,

- 1 there is a *factorization* $r = u_1 \cdots u_k$ as a product of irreducibles, and
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The point: it's nontrivial.

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An *arithmetical congruence monoid* is a **multiplicative** submonoid

$$M_{a,b} = \{n : n \equiv a \pmod{b}\} \subset \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$$

for $a, b > 0$ with $a^2 \equiv a \pmod{b}$.

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 $= (3^2) \cdot (7^2) = (3 \cdot 7) \cdot (3 \cdot 7)$.

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$McN = \langle 6, 9, 20 \rangle = \{0, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 20, 21, \dots\}$.

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Factorization invariants

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Fix a commutative, cancellative monoid (M, \cdot) . For each non-unit $m \in M$,

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- This is (almost) the best we could hope for.

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- $\rho(n) \leq 20/6$ for all $n \in McN$.

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- Elasticity of $M_{4,6}$ is *not accepted*.

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Let $S = \langle n_1, \dots, n_k \rangle \subset (\mathbb{N}, +)$. For $n \in S$,

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Theorem (Barron–O–Pelayo, 2014)

Let $S = \langle n_1, \dots, n_k \rangle$. For $n > n_k(n_{k-1} - 1)$,

$$M(n + n_1) = 1 + M(n)$$

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Equivalently, $M(n)$, $m(n)$ are eventually quasilinear:

$$M(n) = \frac{1}{n_1}n + a_0(n)$$

$$m(n) = \frac{1}{n_k}n + b_0(n)$$

for periodic functions $a_0(n)$, $b_0(n)$.

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$$m(181) = 11 \quad \text{and} \quad 181 = 2(6) + 1(9) + 8(20)$$

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$$m(1000001) = ?$$

$$m(181) = 11 \quad \text{and} \quad 181 = 2(6) + 1(9) + 8(20)$$

$$m(1000001) = 50002 \quad \text{and} \quad 1000001 = 2(6) + 1(9) + 49993(20)$$

Factorization lengths in numerical monoids

Theorem (Barron–O–Pelayo, 2014)

Let $S = \langle n_1, \dots, n_k \rangle$. For $n > n_k(n_{k-1} - 1)$,

$$M(n + n_1) = 1 + M(n) \quad \text{and} \quad m(n + n_k) = 1 + m(n).$$

$S = \langle 6, 9, 20 \rangle$:

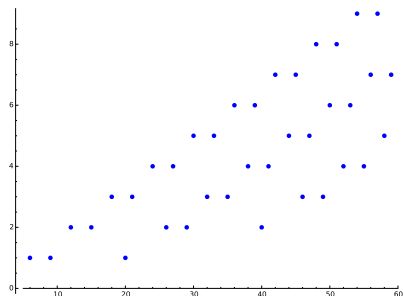
Factorization lengths in numerical monoids

Theorem (Barron–O–Pelayo, 2014)

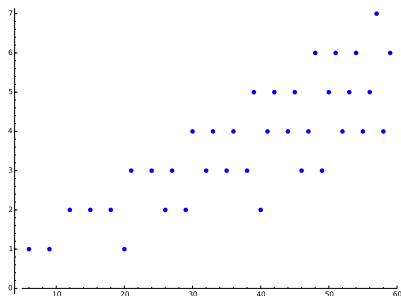
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$M(n) : S \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$



$m(n) : S \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$

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$S = \langle 5, 16, 17, 18, 19 \rangle$:

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