

# Convolution of $k$ -regular sequences

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*Remark 0.1.* For matrices  $A$  and  $B$ , let  $A \otimes B$  denote their tensor product. Then for matrices  $A, A_0, A_1, B, B_0, B_1$  of appropriate dimensions, we have

$$\begin{aligned} (A_0 \otimes B) + (A_1 \otimes B) &= (A_0 + A_1) \otimes B \\ (A \otimes B_0) + (A \otimes B_1) &= A \otimes (B_0 + B_1) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$(A_0 \otimes B_0)(A_1 \otimes B_1) = (A_0 A_1) \otimes (B_0 B_1).$$

Note that for scalars  $a$  and  $b$ , we may identify  $ab = (a) \otimes (b)$ , where  $(a)$  and  $(b)$  are  $1 \times 1$ -matrices.

For a linear representation  $(u_X, X, w_X)$  of a  $k$ -regular sequence  $x$ , we denote its right vector-valued sequence by  $v_X(n) := \prod_{j=0}^{\ell-1} X(n_j) w_X$  if  $n = (n_{\ell-1} \dots n_0)_k$  is the standard binary expansion of  $n$ . In particular, we have  $x(n) = u_X^\top v_X(n)$  for all  $n \geq 0$  and  $v_X(0) = w_X$ .

**Theorem A.** *Let  $x$  and  $y$  be  $k$ -regular sequences with linear representations  $(u_X, X, w_X)$  and  $(u_Y, Y, w_Y)$ , respectively. Then the convolution*

$$z = \left( \sum_{0 \leq j \leq n} x(j) y(n-j) \right)_{n \geq 0}$$

*of  $x$  and  $y$  is  $k$ -regular with linear representation*

$$\left( \begin{pmatrix} u_X \otimes u_Y \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, Z, \begin{pmatrix} w_X \otimes w_Y \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right)$$

*satisfying*

$$Z(0) = \begin{pmatrix} A_0 & B_0 & 0 \\ 0 & A_{k-1} & B_{k-1} \\ 0 & A_{k-2} & B_{k-2} \end{pmatrix}, \quad Z(1) = \begin{pmatrix} A_1 & B_1 & 0 \\ A_0 & B_0 & 0 \\ 0 & A_{k-1} & B_{k-1} \end{pmatrix}$$

and

$$Z(r) = \begin{pmatrix} A_r & B_r & 0 \\ A_{r-1} & B_{r-1} & 0 \\ A_{r-2} & B_{r-2} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{for all } r \geq 2,$$

with

$$A_r = \sum_{0 \leq s \leq r} (X(s) \otimes Y(r-s)), \quad B_r = \sum_{r < s < k} (X(s) \otimes Y(k+r-s))$$

for all  $0 \leq r < k$ .

**Lemma 0.2.** *Suppose we are in the set-up of Theorem A. Let  $v_X$  and  $v_Y$  be the right vector-valued sequences associated with the linear representations  $(u_X, X, w_X)$  and  $(u_Y, Y, w_Y)$ , respectively, and define*

$$v'(n) := \sum_{0 \leq j \leq n} v_X(j) \otimes v_Y(n-j).$$

Then

$$z = \left( (u_X^\top \otimes u_Y^\top) v'(n) \right)_{n \geq 0}.$$

*Proof.* We have

$$\begin{aligned} z(n) &= \sum_{0 \leq j \leq n} u_X^\top v_X(j) u_Y^\top v_Y(n-j) = (u_X^\top \otimes u_Y^\top) \sum_{0 \leq j \leq n} (v_X(j) \otimes v_Y(n-j)) \\ &= (u_X^\top \otimes u_Y^\top) v'(n) \end{aligned}$$

which proves the lemma. □

**Lemma 0.3.** *Suppose we are in the set-up of Theorem A. The right vector-valued sequence  $v'$  of Lemma 0.2 satisfies*

$$v'(kn+r) = A_r v'(n) + B_r v'(n-1)$$

for all  $n \geq 0$  and  $0 \leq r < k$  with

$$A_r = \sum_{0 \leq s \leq r} (X(s) \otimes Y(r-s)), \quad B_r = \sum_{r < s < k} (X(s) \otimes Y(k+r-s))$$

for all  $0 \leq r < k$  and where  $v'(-1) = 0$  because it is an empty sum.

*Proof.* For  $n \geq 0$  and  $0 \leq r < k$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
v'(kn+r) &= \sum_{0 \leq j \leq kn+r} v_X(j) \otimes v_Y(kn+r-j) \\
&= \sum_{0 \leq ki+s \leq kn+r} v_X(ki+s) \otimes v_Y(k(n-i)+r-s) \\
&= \sum_{\substack{0 \leq s \leq r \\ 0 \leq i \leq n}} v_X(ki+s) \otimes v_Y(k(n-i)+r-s) \\
&\quad + \sum_{\substack{r < s < k \\ 0 \leq i \leq n-1}} v_X(ki+s) \otimes v_Y(k(n-i-1)+k+r-s) \\
&= \sum_{\substack{0 \leq s \leq r \\ 0 \leq i \leq n}} (X(s)v_X(i)) \otimes (Y(r-s)v_Y(n-i)) \\
&\quad + \sum_{\substack{r < s < k \\ 0 \leq i \leq n-1}} (X(s)v_X(i)) \otimes (Y(k+r-s)v_Y(n-i-1)) \\
&= \sum_{0 \leq s \leq r} (X(s) \otimes Y(r-s)) \sum_{0 \leq i \leq n} (v_X(i) \otimes v_Y(n-i)) \\
&\quad + \sum_{r < s < k} (X(s) \otimes Y(k+r-s)) \sum_{0 \leq i \leq n-1} (v_X(i) \otimes v_Y(n-i-1)) \\
&= \sum_{0 \leq s \leq r} (X(s) \otimes Y(r-s))v'(n) + \sum_{r < s < k} (X(s) \otimes Y(k+r-s))v'(n-1).
\end{aligned}$$

□

**Proposition 0.4.** Let  $z = (u'v'(n))_{n \geq 0}$  be a  $k$ -regular sequence with left vector  $u'$  and right vector-valued sequence  $v'$  satisfying

$$v'(kn+r) = A_r v'(n) + B_r v'(n-1)$$

for all  $n \geq 0$  and  $0 \leq r < k$  with some matrices  $A_r$  and  $B_r$  for all  $0 \leq r < k$ .

Then  $z$  has a linear representation

$$\left( \begin{pmatrix} u' \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, Z, \begin{pmatrix} v'(0) \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right)$$

with right vector-valued sequence  $v_Z(n) = (v'(n), v'(n-1), v'(n-2))^\top$  and satisfying

$$Z(0) = \begin{pmatrix} A_0 & B_0 & 0 \\ 0 & A_{k-1} & B_{k-1} \\ 0 & A_{k-2} & B_{k-2} \end{pmatrix}, \quad Z(1) = \begin{pmatrix} A_1 & B_1 & 0 \\ A_0 & B_0 & 0 \\ 0 & A_{k-1} & B_{k-1} \end{pmatrix}$$

and

$$Z(r) = \begin{pmatrix} A_r & B_r & 0 \\ A_{r-1} & B_{r-1} & 0 \\ A_{r-2} & B_{r-2} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{for all } r \geq 2.$$

*Proof.* The result is a straight-forward generalization (from scalar coefficients to our matrix-valued coefficients  $A_r$  and  $B_r$ ) of a special case of [2, Theorem A]. It can also be easily verified by a direct computation.  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem A.* The convolution  $z$  of the two  $k$ -regular sequences  $x$  and  $y$  is indeed again  $k$ -regular; see [1, Theorem 3.1]. The linear representation follows by combining Lemma 0.2, Lemma 0.3 and Proposition 0.4.  $\square$

## References

- [1] Jean-Paul Allouche and Jeffrey Shallit, *The ring of  $k$ -regular sequences*, Theoret. Comput. Sci. **98** (1992), no. 2, 163–197. MR 1166363
- [2] Clemens Heuberger, Daniel Krenn, and Gabriel F. Lipnik, *Asymptotic analysis of  $q$ -recursive sequences*, Algorithmica **84** (2022), no. 9, 2480–2532. MR 4467813