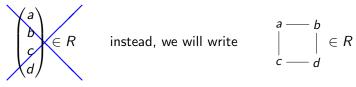
Supernilpotence Need Not Imply Nilpotence

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Let \mathbb{A} be an algebra and $\mathbb{R} < \mathbb{A}^4$.

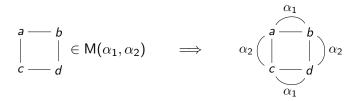




Let α_1, α_2 be congruences of A. The (α_1, α_2) -squares of A are

$$\mathsf{M}(\alpha_1,\alpha_2) \coloneqq \mathsf{Sg}_{\mathbb{A}^4} \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \mathsf{a} \underbrace{\qquad} \mathsf{b} \quad \mathsf{c} \underbrace{\qquad} \mathsf{c} \\ \left| \begin{array}{c} \\ \mathsf{a} \end{array} \right|, \left| \begin{array}{c} \\ \mathsf{a} \end{array} \right| \left| (\mathsf{a},\mathsf{b}) \in \alpha_1, \ (\mathsf{c},\mathsf{d}) \in \alpha_2 \right\} \\ \mathsf{a} \underbrace{\qquad} \mathsf{b} \quad \mathsf{d} \underbrace{\qquad} \mathsf{d} \end{array} \right\}$$

Observe



$$\mathsf{M}(\alpha_1,\alpha_2) \coloneqq \mathsf{Sg}_{\mathbb{A}^4} \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \mathsf{a} - \mathsf{b} \quad \mathsf{c} - \mathsf{c} \\ | \quad | , \quad | \quad | \\ \mathsf{a} - \mathsf{b} \quad \mathsf{d} - \mathsf{d} \end{array} \mid (\mathsf{a},\mathsf{b}) \in \alpha_1, \ (\mathsf{c},\mathsf{d}) \in \alpha_2 \right\}$$

 α_1 centralizes α_2 modulo δ if ... [write

[write $C(\alpha_1, \alpha_2; \delta)$]

$$\forall \begin{vmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{vmatrix} \in \mathsf{M}(\alpha_1, \alpha_2), \quad \delta \left(\begin{vmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{vmatrix} \right) \Rightarrow \quad \begin{vmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{vmatrix} \Rightarrow \quad \delta \left(\begin{vmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{vmatrix} \right) \delta$$

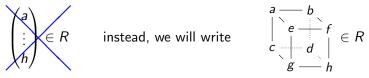
The **commutator** of α_1 and α_2 is the smallest δ satisfying the above,

$$[\alpha_1, \alpha_2] \coloneqq \bigwedge_{\mathsf{C}(\alpha_1, \alpha_2; \delta)} \delta$$

Can we generalize this to a higher arity commutator?

Let \mathbb{A} be an algebra and $\mathbb{R} < \mathbb{A}^{2^3}$.





Let $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3$ be congruences of A. The $(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3)$ -cubes of A are

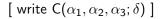
$$\mathsf{M}(\alpha_{1},\alpha_{2},\alpha_{3}) \coloneqq \mathsf{Sg}_{\mathbb{A}^{2^{3}}} \left\{ \begin{array}{cccc} a & b & c & c & c & e & e \\ | & a & b & b & c & c & c \\ | & a & b & b & d & c & c \\ | & a & b & d & d & f & e \\ | & a & b & d & d & f & e \\ | & a & b & d & d & f & f \\ | & (c,d) \in \alpha_{2}, \\ | & (c,f) \in \alpha_{3} \end{array} \right\}$$

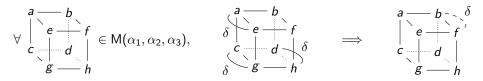
Observe



$$\mathsf{M}(\alpha_{1},\alpha_{2},\alpha_{3}) \coloneqq \mathsf{Sg}_{\mathbb{A}^{2^{3}}} \left\{ \begin{array}{cccc} a & b & c & c & e & e \\ | & a & b & b \\ a & b & b \\ a & b & d \\ a & b & d \\ a & b & d \\ \end{array} \right\} \xrightarrow{c & c} c & e & e & e \\ | & f & f & f \\ e & e & f \\ c & c & c \\ e & c & f \\ e & c & c \\ e &$$

 α_1, α_2 centralize α_3 modulo δ if ...





The **3-dim commutator** of $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3$ is the smallest δ satisfying the above,

$$[\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3] \coloneqq \bigwedge_{\mathsf{C}(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3; \delta)} \delta$$

Can we generalize this to a higher arity commutator?

Yes, even for arbitrary n!

A general definition of the commutator yields general notions of abelianness, solvability, and nilpotence.

- A is abelian if [1, 1] = 0.
- Define the derived series,

$$[\alpha]_{\mathbf{0}} \coloneqq \alpha \qquad \qquad [\alpha]_{n+1} \coloneqq [[\alpha]_n, [\alpha]_n].$$

A is *m*-solvable if $[1]_m = 0$ for some *m*.

• define the lower central series,

$$(\alpha]_0 \coloneqq \alpha \qquad (\alpha]_{n+1} \coloneqq [\alpha, (\alpha]_n].$$

A is (left) *m*-nilpotent if $(1]_m = 0$ for some *m*.

• The higher dimensional commutator has its own series,

$$\alpha \ge [\alpha, \alpha] \ge [\alpha, \alpha, \alpha] \ge \cdots \ge [\alpha, \dots, \alpha] \ge \dots$$

A is (m+1)-supernilpotent if $[1, \ldots, 1] = 0$ (*m*-ary)

(1 is the universal congruence and 0 is the trivial congruence)

For an algebra ${\mathbb A}$ we have general notions of

- abelianness nilpotence
- solvability

supernilpotence

How are these related?

How are nilpotence and supernilpotence related?

Does supernilpotence imply nilpotence?

Theorem (Moorhead)

If \mathbb{A} satisfies a non-trivial idempotent equational condition, then "Yes".

Theorem (Kearnes, Szendrei)

If \mathbb{A} is finite, then "Yes".

Theorem (M+M)

Supernilpotence does not imply nilpotence in general.

Moore* (KU), Moorhead (Charles) Supernilpotence Need Not Imply Nilpotence

Idea: Construct \mathbb{A} as simply as possible.

- Make A 2-supernilpotent: [1, 1, 1] = 0.
- When [·, ·] is not symmetric, there are many different notions of nilpotence. All of them imply solvability.
- Make A not solvable.

What does [1, 1, 1] = 0 mean?

We will need to carefully analyze the generation of M(1, 1, 1).

$$M(1,1,1) := \operatorname{Sg}_{\mathbb{A}^{2^3}} \left\{ \begin{array}{c} a & \underline{b} & a & \underline{a} & \underline{a} & \underline{a} & \underline{a} & \underline{a} & \underline{a} \\ | & \underline{a} & \underline{b} & b & \underline{b} & \underline$$

What is the simplest way to ensure [1, 1, 1] = 0?

- consider $\mathbb{A} = \langle A ; t(x,y) \rangle$ where t(x,y) is injective (infinite \mathbb{A})
- generating M(1,1,1) in layers, look for first failure of (†)

$$t\begin{pmatrix}a_{1} & b_{1} & a_{2} & b_{2} \\ | & a_{1} & f_{1} \\ c_{1} & d_{1} & c_{2} & f_{2} \\ c_{1} & d_{1} & c_{2} & d_{2} \\ c_{1} & d_{1} & c_{2} & d_{2} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix}a & b \\ a & f \\ c & d \\ c & d\end{vmatrix}$$
(all in M(1, 1, 1))

• A is 2-supernilpotent! A is also nilpotent!

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$$t\begin{pmatrix}a_{1} & b_{1} & a_{2} & b_{2} \\ a_{1} & b_{1} & a_{2} & b_{2} \\ c_{1} & d_{1} & c_{2} & d_{2} \\ c_{1} & d_{1} & c_{2} & d_{2} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix}a & b \\ a & b \\ c & b \\ c & d \end{vmatrix}$$
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• A is 2-supernilpotent! A is also nilpotent!

Idea:

- $\mathbb{A} = \langle A ; t(x, y) \rangle$, injective t(x, y)
- carefully redefine t(x, y) to sabotage injectivity and nilpotence
- be clever so that t(x, y) is injective enough to ensure [1, 1, 1] = 0

Define

$$O \coloneqq \{ \sigma_i^j \mid i, j \in \mathbb{N} \}, \qquad R \coloneqq \{ r_i^j \mid i, j \in \mathbb{N} \}, \qquad A \coloneqq O \cup R \cup \mathbb{N}.$$

Fix an injection $s: A^2 \to \mathbb{N}$. Define

$$t\begin{pmatrix} r_{4i}^{j} - r_{4i+2}^{j} & r_{4i}^{j} - r_{4i}^{j} \\ | & | & , & | & | \\ r_{4i}^{j} - r_{4i+2}^{j} & r_{4i+2}^{j} - r_{4i+2}^{j} \end{pmatrix} := \begin{array}{c} o_{i}^{j} - r_{i}^{j+1} \\ := & | & | \\ o_{i}^{j} - r_{i+1}^{j+1} \end{array}$$

Otherwise, define $t(x,y) \coloneqq s(x,y)$. Let $\mathbb{A} = \langle A ; t(x,y) \rangle$.

Observe: t(x, y) is injective except when the output is in *O*.

Define $A = O \cup R \cup \mathbb{N}$ and

$$t\begin{pmatrix} r_{4i}^{j}-r_{4i+2}^{j} & r_{4i}^{j}-r_{4i}^{j} \\ | & | & , & | \\ r_{4i}^{j}-r_{4i+2}^{j} & r_{4i+2}^{j}-r_{4i+2}^{j} \end{pmatrix} \coloneqq \begin{array}{c} o_{i}^{j}-r_{i}^{j+1} \\ \vdots & | & | \\ o_{i}^{j}-r_{i+1}^{j+1} \\ \end{array},$$

otherwise define t(x, y) := s(x, y) for some injection $s : A^2 \to \mathbb{N}$.

\mathbbm{A} is not solvable

- Dervived series: $[\alpha]_0 \coloneqq \alpha$, $[\alpha]_{n+1} \coloneqq [[\alpha]_n, [\alpha]_n]$.
- $R^j := \{r_i^j \mid i, j \in \mathbb{N}\}$ is contained in a $[\mathbb{1}]_j$ -class (induction on j).
- Thus $[1]_j \neq 0$ for any j, so \mathbb{A} is not solvable.

Define $A = O \cup R \cup \mathbb{N}$ and

$$t\begin{pmatrix} r_{4i}^{j} - r_{4i+2}^{j} & r_{4i}^{j} - r_{4i}^{j} \\ | & | & , & | & | \\ r_{4i}^{j} - r_{4i+2}^{j} & r_{4i+2}^{j} \cdot r_{4i+2}^{j} \end{pmatrix} := \begin{array}{c} o_{i}^{j} - r_{i}^{j+1} \\ | & | & | \\ o_{i}^{j} - r_{i+1}^{j+1} \end{array}$$

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Generating M(1, 1, 1) in layers, look for first instance of

$$t\begin{pmatrix}a_{1} - b_{1} & a_{2} - b_{2} \\ | e_{1} - f_{1} & | e_{2} - f_{2} \\ c_{1} - d_{1} & | & c_{2} - d_{2} \\ g_{1} - h_{1} & g_{2} - h_{2}\end{pmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix}a - b \\ | a - f \\ c - d \\ c - d \end{vmatrix}, \qquad b \neq f$$

Observations

• If
$$t(a, b) = t(c, d)$$
 then $a = c$.

- Argument squares: if 3 back-to-front edges are equal, then the 4th is too.
- $b_2 \neq f_2$, otherwise b = f. At most 2 back-to-front edges in the second argument cube are equal.

The rest of the argument is technical ...

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The rest of the argument is technical ...

Theorem (M+M)

The algebra \mathbb{A} is 3-supernilpotent but not solvable.

- nilpotence and solvability can be generalized using the *n*-ary commutator
- call the generalized notions *n*-dimensional nilpotence and solvability
- a similar construction yields $\mathbb{A}_n := \langle A ; t(x_1, \dots, x_n) \rangle$.

Theorem (M+M)

The algebra \mathbb{A}_n is (n+1)-supernilpotent but not n-dimensional solvable.

Supernilpotence Need Not Imply Nilpotence

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Thank you for your attention.