

# On the Set of Indices of Convergence for Reducible Tournament Matrices

CHEN Xiaogen<sup>[a],\*</sup>

<sup>[a]</sup>School of Information Science and Technology, Zhanjiang Normal University Zhanjiang 524048, People's Republic of China.

\*Corresponding author.

Address: School of Information Science and Technology, Zhanjiang Normal University Zhanjiang 524048, People's Republic of China.

**Supported by** Guangdong Provincial Natural Science Foundation of China(No:9151027501000039)

Received 20 October, 2011; accepted 10 January, 2012

---

## Abstract

We obtain that the set of indices of convergence for  $n$  by  $n$  reducible tournament matrices.

## Key words

Boolean matrix; Reducible tournament matrix; Primitive exponent; Convergent index

---

CHEN Xiaogen (2012). On the Set of Indices of Convergence for Reducible Tournament Matrices. *Studies in Mathematical Sciences*, 4(2), 48-53. Available from: URL: <http://www.cscanada.net/index.php/sms/article/view/j.sms.1923845220120402.2001> DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.3968/j.sms.1923845220120402.2001>

---

## 1. INTRODUCTION

A Boolean matrix is a matrix over the binary Boolean algebra  $\{0, 1\}$ , where the (Boolean) addition and (Boolean) multiplication in  $\{0, 1\}$  are defined as  $a + b = \max\{a, b\}$ ,  $ab = \min\{a, b\}$  (we assume  $0 < 1$ ).

Let  $\mathfrak{B}_n$  denote the set of all  $n$  by  $n$  matrices over the Boolean algebra  $\{0, 1\}$ . Then  $\mathfrak{B}_n$  forms a finite multiplicative semigroup of order  $2^{n^2}$ . Let  $B \in \mathfrak{B}_n$ . The sequence of powers  $B^0 = I, B^1, B^2, \dots$ , clearly forms a finite sub-semigroup of  $\mathfrak{B}_n$ , and then there exists a least nonnegative integer  $k = k(B)$  such that  $B^k = B^{k+t}$  for some  $t \geq 1$ , and there exists a least positive integer  $p = p(B)$  such that  $B^k = B^{k+p}$ . The integer  $k = k(B)$  and  $p = p(B)$  are called the index of convergence of  $B$  and the period of convergence of  $B$  respectively or simply the "index" and "period" of  $B$ .

For  $B \in \mathfrak{B}_n$ , if there is a permutation matrix  $P$  such that  $PBP^T = A$ , then we say  $B$  is permutation similar to a matrix  $A$  (written  $B \sim A$ ).

A matrix  $B \in \mathfrak{B}_n$  is reducible if  $B \sim \begin{pmatrix} B_1 & 0 \\ C & B_2 \end{pmatrix}$ , where  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  are square (non-vacuous), and  $B$  is irreducible if it is not reducible.

A Boolean matrix  $B \in \mathfrak{B}_n$  is primitive if there is a nonnegative integer  $k$  such that  $B^k = J$ , the all-ones matrix. The least such  $k$  is called the exponent of  $B$ , denoted by  $\gamma(B)$ . It is easy to verify that if  $B$  is a primitive matrix, then  $k(B) = \gamma(B)$ . Hence, the concept of index of a Boolean matrix is in fact a generalization of the concept of the primitive exponent of a primitive matrix.

It is well known that  $B$  is primitive if and only if  $B$  is irreducible and  $p(B) = 1$ .

A matrix  $A = [a_{ij}] \in \mathfrak{B}_n$  is called tournament matrix if  $a_{ii} = 0$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ) and  $a_{ij} + a_{ji} = 1$  ( $1 \leq i < j \leq n$ ). Let  $\mathfrak{T}_n$  denote the set of all  $n \times n$  tournament matrices. Notice that a matrix  $T_n \in \mathfrak{T}_n$  satisfies the

equation

$$A_n + A_n^T = J_n - I_n$$

where  $J_n$  is the matrix of all 1's and  $I_n$  is the identity matrix.

Our main interests are in the study of the index  $k(B)$ . In particular, we are interested in the study of the index set (set of the indices) for various classes of  $n$  by  $n$  Boolean matrices. The index (or exponent) set problem of primitive Boolean matrices is already settled in [1]. In this paper we give the index set of reducible tournament matrices.

## 2. PRELIMINARIES

The notation and terminology used in this paper will basically follow those in [1]. For convenience of the reader, we will include here the necessary definitions and basic results in [3,5,6].

We use the following notations.

$$\bar{T}_n = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 1 & \cdots & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & \cdots & \cdots & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}_{n \times n} \quad (n \geq 3), \quad \mathbb{T}_l = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 1 & \cdots & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}_{l \times l},$$

$$\mathcal{T}_{3m} = \begin{pmatrix} \bar{T}_3 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ J & \bar{T}_3 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ J & \cdots & J & \bar{T}_3 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathcal{I}_{3m} = \begin{pmatrix} I_3 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ J & I_3 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ J & \cdots & J & I_3 \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $J$  is the matrix of all 1's,  $I_3$  is the identity matrix of order 3.

**Lemma 2.1 ([2]):** Let  $T_n \in \mathfrak{T}_n$ . Then

$$T_n \sim \begin{pmatrix} A_1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ J & A_2 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ J & J & A_3 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ J & J & J & \cdots & A_k \end{pmatrix},$$

where all the blocks  $J$  below the diagonal are matrices of 1's, and the diagonal blocks  $A_1, \dots, A_k$  are irreducible components of  $T_n$ . Let  $A_i$  be  $n_i$  by  $n_i$  matrix,  $1 \leq i \leq k, 1 \leq n_i \leq n$ . Then  $k$  and  $n_i$  are uniquely determined by  $T_n$ .

It is obvious that the irreducible tournament matrix of order 1 is zero matrix of order 1, the irreducible tournament matrix of order 2 is not exists, and the irreducible tournament matrix of order 3 is isomorphic to  $\bar{T}_3$ . Hence, in Lemma2.1, the diagonal blocks  $A_i$  is zero matrix of order 1, or  $\bar{T}_3$ , or irreducible tournament matrix of order  $m_i(4 \leq m_i \leq n)$ . Let  $A_i \neq (0)_{1 \times 1}$  (if there exists),  $A_{i+1} = A_{i+2} = \dots = A_{i+l_i} = (0)_{1 \times 1}, A_{i+l_i+1} \neq (0)_{1 \times 1}$ (if there exists). Then

$$\begin{pmatrix} A_{i+1} & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ J & A_{i+2} & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ J & J & \cdots & A_{i+l_i} \end{pmatrix} = \mathbb{T}_{l_i} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 1 & \cdots & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}_{l_i \times l_i}$$

Let  $A_j \neq \bar{T}_3$  (if there exists),  $A_{j+1} = A_{j+2} = \dots = A_{j+q_i} = \bar{T}_3, A_{j+q_i+1} \neq \bar{T}_3$ (if there exists). Then

$$\begin{pmatrix} A_{j+1} & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ J & A_{j+2} & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ J & J & \cdots & A_{j+q_i} \end{pmatrix} = \mathcal{T}_{3q_i} = \begin{pmatrix} \bar{T}_3 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ J & \bar{T}_3 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \\ J & \cdots & J & \bar{T}_3 \end{pmatrix}_{3q_i \times 3q_i}.$$

We have

**Lemma 2.2:** Let  $T_n \in \mathfrak{T}_n$ . Then

$$T_n \sim \begin{pmatrix} B_1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ J & B_2 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ J & J & B_3 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ J & J & J & \cdots & B_g \end{pmatrix},$$

where all the blocks J below the diagonal are matrices of 1's, and the diagonal blocks  $B_i$  is  $\mathcal{T}_{3q_i}$ , or  $\mathbb{T}_{l_i}$ , or irreducible  $T_{m_i} \in \mathfrak{T}_{m_i}, 4 \leq m_i \leq n, 1 \leq i \leq g, 0 \leq 3q_i, l_i \leq n$ , and  $q_i, l_i, m_i, g$  are uniquely determined by  $T_n$ .

Clearly,  $p(\mathbb{T}_{l_i}) = p(T_{m_i}) = 1, p(\mathcal{T}_{3q_i}) = 3$  in Lemma 2.2. Hence we have

**Lemma 2.3:** Let  $T_n \in \mathfrak{T}_n$ . Then  $p(T_n) = 1$  or 3.

**Lemma 2.4 ([3]):** If  $T_n \in \mathfrak{T}_n$  and  $n \geq 4$ . Then  $T_n$  is primitive if and only if  $T_n$  is irreducible.

It is obvious that  $3 \times 3$  tournament matrix is not primitive, the primitive exponent of  $4 \times 4$  irreducible tournament matrix is 9. For  $n > 4$ , we have

**Lemma 2.5 ([3]):** If  $T_n \in \mathfrak{T}_n$  and  $n \geq 5$ , then  $\gamma(T_n) \leq n + 2$ .

**Lemma 2.6 ([5]):** Let  $n \geq 5$ , then  $\gamma(\bar{T}_n) = n + 2$ .

**Lemma 2.7([5]):** If  $n \geq 5, T_n \in \mathfrak{T}_n$  is irreducible. Then  $\gamma(T_n) = n + 2$  if and only if  $T_n$  is isomorphic to  $\bar{T}_n$ .

**Lemma 2.8 ([3]):** If  $3 \leq e \leq n + 2$  and  $n \geq 6$ , then there exists an irreducible  $T_n \in \mathfrak{T}_n$  such that  $\gamma(T_n) = e$ .

For  $n$  by  $n$  tournament matrices, the set of primitive exponents is  $\{3, 4, \dots, n + 2\}(n \geq 6)$  in [3]. We have that the set of indices of convergence for  $n \times n$  reducible tournament matrices with period  $p$ .

### 3. THE SET OF INDICES OF CONVERGENCE FOR REDUCIBLE TOURNAMENT MATRICES

We use the following notations.

$\mathfrak{I}\mathfrak{T}_n$ : irreducible matrices in  $\mathfrak{T}_n$ ,

$\mathfrak{I}\mathfrak{R}_n$ : reducible matrices in  $\mathfrak{T}_n$ ,

$\mathfrak{I}\mathfrak{T}(n, p)$ : matrices with period  $p$  in  $\mathfrak{I}\mathfrak{T}_n$ ,

$\mathfrak{I}\mathfrak{R}(n, p)$ : matrices with period  $p$  in  $\mathfrak{I}\mathfrak{R}_n$ ,

$ITI(n, p)$ : indices of convergence of matrices in  $\mathfrak{I}\mathfrak{T}(n, p)$ ,

$ITR(n, p)$ : indices of convergence of matrices in  $\mathfrak{I}\mathfrak{R}(n, p)$ .

$ITR(n)$ : indices of convergence of matrices in  $\mathfrak{I}\mathfrak{R}_n$ .

**Theorem 3.1:** Let  $T_n \in \mathfrak{I}\mathfrak{R}(n, p)$  and  $n \geq 10$ . Then  $k(T_n) \leq n - p + 2$ .

**Proof:** Let  $T_n \in \mathfrak{I}\mathfrak{R}(n, p)$ . It is obvious that  $k(T_n) = \max_{1 \leq i \leq g} \{k(B_i)\} = \max_{1 \leq i \leq g} \{l_i, k(B_{m_i})\} = \max_{1 \leq i \leq g} \{l_i, m_i + 2\}$  in Lemma 2.2, where  $n \geq 10$  and  $4 \leq m_i < n$ . By Lemma 2.3,  $p(T_n) = 1$  or 3.

If  $p(T_n) = 1$ . There does not exist  $B_i$  that is  $\mathcal{T}_{3q_i}, 1 \leq i \leq g, 1 \leq 3q_i$ , in Lemma 2.2. Hence  $k(T_n) = \max_{1 \leq i \leq g} \{l_i, m_i + 2\} \leq n - 1 + 2 = n - p + 2$ .

If  $p(T_n) = 3$ . There exists  $B_i$  that is  $\mathcal{T}_{3q_i}$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq g, 1 \leq 3q_i$ , in Lemma 2.2. Hence  $k(T_n) = \max_{1 \leq i \leq g} \{l_i, m_i + 2\} \leq n - 3 + 2 = n - p + 2$ .

Let  $T_n^{(1)} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ J & \bar{T}_{n-1} \end{pmatrix}$  and  $T_n^{(2)} = \begin{pmatrix} \bar{T}_3 & 0 \\ J & \bar{T}_{n-3} \end{pmatrix}$ . Then  $T_n^{(1)} \in \mathfrak{TR}(n, 1)$  and  $T_n^{(2)} \in \mathfrak{TR}(n, 3)$ . By Lemma 2.6,  $k(T_n^{(1)}) = k(\bar{T}_{n-1}) = n - 1 + 2 = n + 1$  and  $k(T_n^{(2)}) = k(\bar{T}_{n-3}) = n - 3 + 2 = n - 1$ . where  $n \geq 10$ . We complete the proof.

**Theorem 3.2:** Let  $n \geq 2$ . Then

$$ITR(n, 1) = \begin{cases} \{n\} & n = 2, 3, 4, \\ \{5, 9\} & n = 5, \\ \{4, 6, 7, 9\} & n = 6, \\ [3, 9] & n = 7, \\ [3, n + 1] & n \geq 8. \end{cases}$$

where  $[3, n + 1] = \{3, 4, \dots, n + 1\}$ .

**Proof:** Note that  $\mathbb{T}_l \in \mathfrak{TR}(n, 1)$  and  $k(\mathbb{T}_l) = l (l \geq 1)$ , hence  $n (\geq 2) \in ITR(n, 1)$ . It is easily verified that

$ITI(5, 1) = \{4, 6, 7\}$ . Now let  $\tilde{T}_5 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ J & T_4 \end{pmatrix}$ , where  $T_4 \in \mathfrak{TS}(4, 1)$ , then  $\tilde{T}_5 \in \mathfrak{TR}(5, 1)$  and  $k(\tilde{T}_5) = k(T_4) = 9$ .

Let  $\tilde{T}_6 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ J & T_5 \end{pmatrix}$ , where  $T_5 \in \mathfrak{TS}(5, 1)$ , then  $\tilde{T}_6 \in \mathfrak{TR}(6, 1)$  and  $k(\tilde{T}_6) = k(T_5)$ . Let  $\hat{T}_6 = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{T}_2 & 0 \\ J & T_4 \end{pmatrix}$ , where  $T_4 \in \mathfrak{TS}(4, 1)$ , then  $\hat{T}_6 \in \mathfrak{TR}(6, 1)$  and  $k(\hat{T}_6) = k(T_4)$ . Hence  $ITR(6, 1) = \{4, 6, 7, 9\}$ . By Lemma 2.8, it is obvious that  $ITR(7, 1) = [3, 9]$ .

For  $n \geq 8$ , let  $\tilde{T}_n = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ J & \bar{T}_{n-1} \end{pmatrix}$ , where  $\bar{T}_{n-1} \in \mathfrak{TS}(n - 1, 1)$ , then  $\tilde{T}_n \in \mathfrak{TR}(n, 1)$  and  $k(\tilde{T}_n) = k(\bar{T}_{n-1})$ . By Lemma 2.8,  $ITR(n, 1) = [3, n + 1]$ . We complete the proof.

**Theorem 3.3:** Let  $n \geq 4$ . Then

$$ITR(n, 3) = \begin{cases} \{1\} & n = 4, \\ \{1, 2\} & n = 5, \\ \{0, 2, 3\} & n = 6, \\ \{1, 2, 4, 9\} & n = 7, \\ \{2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9\} & n = 8, \\ [0, 9] & n = 9, \\ [0, n - 1] & n > 10 \text{ and } 3 \mid n, \\ [1, n - 1] & n \geq 10 \text{ and } 3 \nmid n. \end{cases}$$

where  $[0, n - 1] = \{0, 1, 2, 3, \dots, n - 1\}$ .

**Proof:** Note that  $k(\mathcal{T}_{3q_i}) = 0 (3q_i > 0)$ , hence  $0 \in ITR(n, 3)$ , where  $n \geq 3$  and  $3 \mid n$ .

Let  $\tilde{T}_4 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ J & \bar{T}_3 \end{pmatrix}$ , then  $k(\tilde{T}_4) = 1 \in ITR(4, 3)$ .

Let  $\tilde{T}_5 = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{T}_2 & 0 \\ J & \bar{T}_3 \end{pmatrix}$ , then  $k(\tilde{T}_5) = 2 \in ITR(5, 3)$  and let  $\hat{T}_5 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ J & \bar{T}_3 & 0 \\ J & J & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ , then  $k(\hat{T}_5) = 1 \in ITR(5, 3)$ .

Let  $\tilde{T}_6 = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{T}_3 & 0 \\ J & \bar{T}_3 \end{pmatrix}$ , then  $k(\tilde{T}_6) = 3 \in ITR(6, 3)$  and let  $\hat{T}_6 = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{T}_2 & 0 & 0 \\ J & \bar{T}_3 & 0 \\ J & J & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ , then  $k(\hat{T}_6) = 2 \in ITR(6, 3)$ . It is easy to see that  $ITR(7, 3) = \{1, 2, 4, 9\}$ ,  $ITR(8, 3) = \{2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9\}$  and  $ITR(9, 3) = [0, 9]$ .

Suppose  $n \geq 10$ . Let  $\tilde{T}_n = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{T}_3 & 0 \\ J & T_{n-3} \end{pmatrix}$ , where  $T_{n-3} \in \mathfrak{TS}(n-3, 1)$ , by Lemma 2.8,  $\tilde{T}_n \in \mathfrak{TR}(n, 3)$  and  $k(\tilde{T}_n) = k(\tilde{T}_{n-3}) \in [3, n-1]$ .  
 If  $n = 3m$ . Let

$$\tilde{T}_n = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{T}_1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ J & \tilde{T}_3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ J & J & \mathbb{T}_1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ J & J & J & \tilde{T}_3 & 0 & 0 \\ J & J & J & J & \mathbb{T}_1 & 0 \\ J & J & J & J & J & \mathcal{T}_{3(m-3)} \end{pmatrix},$$

and

$$\hat{T}_n = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{T}_1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ J & \tilde{T}_3 & 0 & 0 \\ J & J & \mathbb{T}_2 & 0 \\ J & J & J & \mathcal{T}_{3(m-2)} \end{pmatrix},$$

then  $k(\tilde{T}_n) = 1$ , and  $k(\hat{T}_n) = 2$ .

If  $n = 3m + 1$ . Let  $\tilde{T}_n = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{T}_1 & 0 \\ J & \mathcal{T}_{3m} \end{pmatrix}$ , and

$$\hat{T}_n = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{T}_2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ J & \tilde{T}_3 & 0 & 0 \\ J & J & \mathbb{T}_2 & 0 \\ J & J & J & \mathcal{T}_{3(m-2)} \end{pmatrix},$$

then  $k(\tilde{T}_n) = 1$ , and  $k(\hat{T}_n) = 2$ .

If  $n = 3m + 2$ . Let  $\tilde{T}_n = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{T}_1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ J & \tilde{T}_3 & 0 & 0 \\ J & J & \mathbb{T}_1 & 0 \\ J & J & J & \mathcal{T}_{3(m-1)} \end{pmatrix}$ , and  $\hat{T}_n = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{T}_2 & 0 \\ J & \mathcal{T}_{3m} \end{pmatrix}$ , then  $k(\tilde{T}_n) = 1$ , and

$k(\hat{T}_n) = 2$ . Hence If  $n \geq 10$ , then

$$ITR(n, 3) = \begin{cases} [0, n-1] & n > 10 \text{ and } 3 \mid n, \\ [1, n-1] & n \geq 10 \text{ and } 3 \nmid n. \end{cases}$$

We complete the proof.

By Theorem 3.2 and Theorem 3.3, we have

**Corollary 3.4** Let  $n \geq 8$ . Then

$$ITR(n) = \begin{cases} [0, n+1] & n > 10 \text{ and } 3 \mid n, \\ [1, n+1] & n \geq 10 \text{ and } 3 \nmid n. \end{cases}$$

## REFERENCES

- [1] Bolian Liu (2006). *Combinatorial Matrix Theory* (Second Edition). Beijing: Science Press.
- [2] Richard A. Brualdi (2006). *Combinatorial Matrix Classes* (First Edition). Cambridge University Press. New York.
- [3] J.W., Moon & N.J., Pullman (1967). *On the Power of Tournament Matrices*. *Comb. Theory*, 3, 1-9.

- [4] Jiang ZM & Shao JY (1991). On the Set of Indices of Convergence for Reducible Matrices *Linear Algebra and Its Application*, 148, 265–278.
- [5] Xue-mei Ye (2007). Characterization of the Tournament with Primitive Exponent Reaching Its Secondary Value *Journal of Mathematical Research and Exposition*, 4, 715–718.
- [6] Bo Zhou & Jian Shen (2002). On Generalized Exponents of Tournaments *Taiwanese J. Math.*, 6, 565–572.