Bounds on Symmetric Numerical Semigroups

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A Familiar Problem

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Example

Given only coins worth 3 and 4 cents, the largest value that we cannot obtain is $3 \cdot 4 - 3 - 4 = 5$.

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The set $\langle 3, 5, 7 \rangle = \{ 3a + 5b + 7c \mid a, b, c \in \mathbb{N}_0 \} = \{ 0, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, \ldots \}.$

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The smallest set $\{a_1, a_2, \ldots, a_n\}$ s.t. $\Gamma = \{a_1x_1 + \cdots + a_nx_n \mid x_i \in \mathbb{N}_0\}$ consists of the **minimal generators** of Γ .

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Motivation

• Any semigroup contains at most one of (k, F - k). Thus, a symmetric semigroup contains the **maximum** number of elements below its Frobenius number.

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Conjecture



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- Generalization: N(g, 2g k) for $1 \le k \le g$.

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Bibliography

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