



## Reconstruction of complete interval tournaments. II.

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**Abstract.** Let  $a$ ,  $b$  ( $b \geq a$ ) and  $n$  ( $n \geq 2$ ) be nonnegative integers and let  $\mathcal{T}(a, b, n)$  be the set of such generalised tournaments, in which every pair of distinct players is connected at most with  $b$ , and at least with  $a$  arcs. In [40] we gave a necessary and sufficient condition to decide whether a given sequence of nonnegative integers  $D = (d_1, d_2, \dots, d_n)$  can be realized as the out-degree sequence of a  $T \in \mathcal{T}(a, b, n)$ . Extending the results of [40] we show that for any sequence of nonnegative integers  $D$  there exist  $f$  and  $g$  such that some element  $T \in \mathcal{T}(g, f, n)$  has  $D$  as its out-degree sequence, and for any  $(a, b, n)$ -tournament  $T'$  with the same out-degree sequence  $D$  hold  $a \leq g$  and  $b \geq f$ . We propose a  $\Theta(n)$  algorithm to determine  $f$  and  $g$  and an  $O(d_n n^2)$  algorithm to construct a corresponding tournament  $T$ .

### 1 Introduction

Let  $a$ ,  $b$  ( $b \geq a$ ) and  $n$  ( $n \geq 2$ ) be nonnegative integers and let  $\mathcal{T}(a, b, n)$  be the set of such generalised tournaments, in which every pair of distinct players is connected at most with  $b$ , and at least with  $a$  arcs. The elements of  $\mathcal{T}(a, b, n)$  are called  $(a, b, n)$ -tournaments. The vector  $D = (d_1, d_2, \dots, d_n)$  of the out-degrees of  $T \in \mathcal{T}(a, b, n)$  is called *the score vector* of  $T$ . If the elements of  $D$  are in nondecreasing order, then  $D$  is called *the score sequence* of  $T$ .

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An arbitrary vector  $D = (d_1, d_2, \dots, d_n)$  of nonnegative integers is called *graphical vector*, iff there exists a loopless multigraph whose degree vector is  $D$ , and  $D$  is called *digraphical vector* (or *score vector*) iff there exists a loopless directed multigraph whose out-degree vector is  $D$ .

A nondecreasingly ordered graphical vector is called *graphical sequence*, and a nondecreasingly ordered digraphical vector is called *digraphical sequence* (or *score sequence*).

The number of arcs of  $T$  going from player  $P_i$  to player  $P_j$  is denoted by  $m_{ij}$  ( $1 \leq i, j \leq n$ ), and the matrix  $\mathcal{M} = [1. \ n, 1. \ n]$  is called *point matrix* or *tournament matrix* of  $T$ .

In the last sixty years many efforts were devoted to the study of both types of vectors, resp. sequences. E.g. in the papers [8, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 26, 30, 32, 34, 36, 45, 68, 84, 85, 88, 90, 98] the graphical sequences, while in the papers [1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 11, 17, 27, 28, 29, 31, 33, 37, 49, 48, 50, 55, 58, 57, 60, 61, 62, 64, 65, 66, 69, 78, 79, 82, 94, 86, 87, 97, 100, 101] the score sequences were discussed.

Even in the last two years many authors investigated the conditions, when  $D$  is graphical (e.g. [4, 9, 12, 13, 22, 23, 24, 25, 38, 39, 43, 47, 51, 52, 59, 75, 81, 92, 93, 95, 96, 104]) or digraphical (e.g. [5, 35, 40, 46, 54, 56, 63, 67, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 83, 87, 89, 102]).

In this paper we deal only with directed graphs and usually follow the terminology used by K. B. Reid [79, 80]. If in the given context  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $n$  are fixed or non important, then we speak simply on *tournaments* instead of generalised or  $(a, b, n)$ -tournaments.

We consider the loopless directed multigraphs as generalised tournaments, in which the number of arcs from vertex/player  $P_i$  to vertex/player  $P_j$  is denoted by  $m_{ij}$ , where  $m_{ij}$  means the number of points won by player  $P_i$  in the match with player  $P_j$ .

The first question: how one can characterise the set of the score sequences of the  $(a, b, n)$ -tournaments. Or, with another words, for which sequences  $D$  of nonnegative integers does exist an  $(a, b, n)$ -tournament whose out-degree sequence is  $D$ . The answer is given in Section 2.

If  $T$  is an  $(a, b, n)$ -tournament with point matrix  $\mathcal{M} = [1. \ n, 1. \ n]$ , then let  $E(T)$ ,  $F(T)$  and  $G(T)$  be defined as follows:  $E(T) = \max_{1 \leq i, j \leq n} m_{ij}$ ,  $F(T) = \max_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} (m_{ij} + m_{ji})$ , and  $g(T) = \min_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} (m_{ij} + m_{ji})$ . Let  $\Delta(D)$  denote the set of all tournaments having  $D$  as out-degree sequence, and let  $e(D)$ ,  $f(D)$  and  $g(D)$  be defined as follows:  $e(D) = \{\min E(T) \mid T \in \Delta(D)\}$ ,  $f(D) = \{\min F(T) \mid T \in \Delta(D)\}$ , and  $g(D) = \{\max G(T) \mid T \in \Delta(D)\}$ . In the sequel we use the short notations  $E$ ,  $F$ ,  $G$ ,  $e$ ,  $f$ ,  $g$ , and  $\Delta$ .

Hulett et al. [39, 99], Kapoor et al. [44], and Tripathi et al. [91, 92] investigated the construction problem of a minimal size graph having a prescribed degree set [77, 103]. In a similar way we follow a mini-max approach formulating the following questions: given a sequence  $D$  of nonnegative integers,

- How to compute  $e$  and how to construct a tournament  $T \in \Delta$  characterised by  $e$ ? In Section 3 a formula to compute  $e$ , and an algorithm to construct a corresponding tournament are presented.
- How to compute  $f$  and  $g$ ? In Section 4 an algorithm to compute  $f$  and  $g$  is described.
- How to construct a tournament  $T \in \Delta$  characterised by  $f$  and  $g$ ? In Section 5 an algorithm to construct a corresponding tournament is presented and analysed.

We describe the proposed algorithms in words, by examples and by the pseudocode used in [14].

Researchers of these problems often mention different applications, e.g. in biology [55], chemistry Hakimi [32], and Kim et al. in networks [47].

## 2 Existence of a tournament with arbitrary degree sequence

Since the numbers of points  $m_{ij}$  are not limited, it is easy to construct a  $(0, d_n, n)$ -tournament for any  $D$ .

**Lemma 1** *If  $n \geq 2$ , then for any vector of nonnegative integers  $D = (d_1, d_2, \dots, d_n)$  there exists a loopless directed multigraph  $T$  with out-degree vector  $D$  so, that  $E \leq d_n$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $m_{n1} = d_n$  and  $m_{i,i+1} = d_i$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n-1$ , and let the remaining  $m_{ij}$  values be equal to zero. ■

Using weighted graphs it would be easy to extend the definition of the  $(a, b, n)$ -tournaments to allow *arbitrary real values* of  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $D$ . The following algorithm NAIVE-CONSTRUCT works without changes also for input consisting of real numbers.

We remark that Ore in 1956 [66] gave the necessary and sufficient conditions of the existence of a tournament with prescribed in-degree and out-degree vectors. Further Ford and Fulkerson [17, Theorem11.1] published in 1962

necessary and sufficient conditions of the existence of a tournament having prescribed lower and upper bounds for the in-degree and out-degree of the vertices. Their results also can serve as basis of the existence of a tournament having arbitrary out-degree sequence.

### 2.1 Definition of a naive reconstructing algorithm

Sorting of the elements of  $D$  is not necessary.

*Input.*  $n$ : the number of players ( $n \geq 2$ );

$D = (d_1, d_2, \dots, d_n)$ : arbitrary sequence of nonnegative integer numbers.

*Output.*  $\mathcal{M} = [1..n, 1..n]$ : the point matrix of the reconstructed tournament.

*Working variables.*  $i, j$ : cycle variables.

NAIVE-CONSTRUCT( $n, D$ )

```

01 for i ← 1 to n
02   for j ← 1 to n
03     do  $m_{ij} \leftarrow 0$ 
04  $m_{n1} \leftarrow d_n$ 
05 for i ← 1 to n - 1
06   do  $m_{i,i+1} \leftarrow d_i$ 
07 return  $\mathcal{M}$ 

```

The running time of this algorithm is  $\Theta(n^2)$  in worst case (in best case too). Since the point matrix  $\mathcal{M}$  has  $n^2$  elements, this algorithm is asymptotically optimal.

## 3 Computation of $e$

This is also an easy question. From here we suppose that  $D$  is a nondecreasing sequence of nonnegative integers, that is  $0 \leq d_1 \leq d_2 \leq \dots \leq d_n$ . Let  $h = \lceil d_n / (n - 1) \rceil$ .

Since  $\Delta(D)$  is a finite set for any finite score vector  $D$ ,  $e(D) = \min\{E(T) \mid T \in \Delta(D)\}$  exists.

**Lemma 2** *If  $n \geq 2$ , then for any sequence  $D = (d_1, d_2, \dots, d_n)$  there exists a  $(0, b, n)$ -tournament  $T$  such that*

$$E \leq h \quad \text{and} \quad b \leq 2h, \tag{1}$$

and  $h$  is the smallest upper bound for  $e$ , and  $2h$  is the smallest possible upper bound for  $b$ .

**Proof.** If all players gather their points in a uniform as possible manner, that is

$$\max_{1 \leq j \leq n} m_{ij} - \min_{1 \leq j \leq n, i \neq j} m_{ij} \leq 1 \quad \text{for } i = 1, 2, \dots, n, \quad (2)$$

then we get  $E \leq h$ , that is the bound is valid. Since player  $P_n$  has to gather  $d_n$  points, the pigeonhole principle [6, 15, 42] implies  $E \geq h$ , that is the bound is not improvable.  $E \leq h$  implies  $\max_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} m_{ij} + m_{ji} \leq 2h$ . The score sequence  $D = (d_1, d_2, \dots, d_n) = (2n(n-1), 2n(n-1), \dots, 2n(n-1))$  shows, that the upper bound  $b \leq 2h$  is not improvable. ■

**Corollary 1** *If  $n \geq 2$ , then for any sequence  $D = (d_1, d_2, \dots, d_n)$  holds  $e(D) = \lceil d_n/(n-1) \rceil$ .*

**Proof.** According to Lemma 2  $h = \lceil d_n/(n-1) \rceil$  is the smallest upper bound for  $e$ . ■

### 3.1 Definition of a construction algorithm

The following algorithm constructs a  $(0, 2h, n)$ -tournament  $T$  having  $E \leq h$  for any  $D$ .

*Input.*  $n$ : the number of players ( $n \geq 2$ );

$D = (d_1, d_2, \dots, d_n)$ : arbitrary sequence of nonnegative integer numbers.

*Output.*  $\mathcal{M} = [1..n, 1..n]$ : the point matrix of the tournament.

*Working variables.*  $i, j, l$ : cycle variables;

$k$ : the number of the "larger parts" in the uniform distribution of the points.

PIGEONHOLE-CONSTRUCT( $n, D$ )

```

01 for  $i \leftarrow 1$  to  $n$ 
02   do  $m_{ii} \leftarrow 0$ 
03    $k \leftarrow d_i - (n-1) \lfloor d_i/(n-1) \rfloor$ 
04   for  $j \leftarrow 1$  to  $k$ 
05     do  $l \leftarrow i + j \pmod{n}$ 
06      $m_{il} \leftarrow \lceil d_n/(n-1) \rceil$ 
07   for  $j \leftarrow k + 1$  to  $n - 1$ 
08     do  $l \leftarrow i + j \pmod{n}$ 
09      $m_{il} \leftarrow \lfloor d_n/(n-1) \rfloor$ 
10 return  $\mathcal{M}$ 

```

The running time of PIGEONHOLE-CONSTRUCT is  $\Theta(n^2)$  in worst case (in best case too). Since the point matrix  $\mathcal{M}$  has  $n^2$  elements, this algorithm is asymptotically optimal.

## 4 Computation of $f$ and $g$

Let  $S_i$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ) be the sum of the first  $i$  elements of  $D$ ,  $B_i$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ) be the binomial coefficient  $n(n-1)/2$ . Then the players together can have  $S_n$  points only if  $fB_n \geq S_n$ . Since the score of player  $P_n$  is  $d_n$ , the pigeonhole principle implies  $f \geq \lceil d_n/(n-1) \rceil$ .

These observations result the following lower bound for  $f$ :

$$f \geq \max \left( \left\lceil \frac{S_n}{B_n} \right\rceil, \left\lceil \frac{d_n}{n-1} \right\rceil \right). \quad (3)$$

If every player gathers his points in a uniform as possible manner then

$$f \leq 2 \left\lceil \frac{d_n}{n-1} \right\rceil. \quad (4)$$

These observations imply a useful characterisation of  $f$ .

**Lemma 3** *If  $n \geq 2$ , then for arbitrary sequence  $D = (d_1, d_2, \dots, d_n)$  there exists a  $(g, f, n)$ -tournament having  $D$  as its out-degree sequence and the following bounds for  $f$  and  $g$ :*

$$\max \left( \left\lceil \frac{S}{B_n} \right\rceil, \left\lceil \frac{d_n}{n-1} \right\rceil \right) \leq f \leq 2 \left\lceil \frac{d_n}{n-1} \right\rceil, \quad (5)$$

$$0 \leq g \leq f. \quad (6)$$

**Proof.** (5) follows from (3) and (4), (6) follows from the definition of  $f$ . ■

It is worth to remark, that if  $d_n/(n-1)$  is integer and the scores are identical, then the lower and upper bounds in (5) coincide and so Lemma 3 gives the exact value of  $F$ .

In connection with this lemma we consider three examples. If  $d_i = d_n = 2c(n-1)$  ( $c > 0$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n-1$ ), then  $d_n/(n-1) = 2c$  and  $S_n/B_n = c$ , that is  $S_n/B_n$  is twice larger than  $d_n/(n-1)$ . In the other extremal case, when  $d_i = 0$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, n-1$ ) and  $d_n = cn(n-1) > 0$ , then  $d_n/(n-1) = cn$ ,  $S_n/B_n = 2c$ , so  $d_n/(n-1)$  is  $n/2$  times larger, than  $S_n/B_n$ .

Player/Player	P <sub>1</sub>	P <sub>2</sub>	P <sub>3</sub>	P <sub>4</sub>	P <sub>5</sub>	P <sub>5</sub>	Score
P <sub>1</sub>	—	0	0	0	0	0	0
P <sub>2</sub>	0	—	0	0	0	0	0
P <sub>3</sub>	0	0	—	0	0	0	0
P <sub>4</sub>	10	10	10	—	5	5	40
P <sub>5</sub>	10	10	10	5	—	5	40
P <sub>6</sub>	10	10	10	5	5	—	40

Figure 1: Point matrix of a  $(0, 10, 6)$ -tournament with  $f = 10$  for  $D = (0, 0, 0, 40, 40, 40)$ .

If  $D = (0, 0, 0, 40, 40, 40)$ , then Lemma 3 gives the bounds  $8 \leq f \leq 16$ . Elementary calculations show that Figure 1 contains the solution with minimal  $f$ , where  $f = 10$ .

In [40] we proved the following assertion.

**Theorem 1** For  $n \geq 2$  a nondecreasing sequence  $D = (d_1, d_2, \dots, d_n)$  of nonnegative integers is the score sequence of some  $(a, b, n)$ -tournament if and only if

$$aB_k \leq \sum_{i=1}^k d_i \leq bB_n - L_k - (n-k)d_k \quad (1 \leq k \leq n), \quad (7)$$

where

$$L_0 = 0, \text{ and } L_k = \max \left( L_{k-1}, bB_k - \sum_{i=1}^k d_i \right) \quad (1 \leq k \leq n). \quad (8)$$

The theorem proved by Moon [61], and later by Kemnitz and Dolff [46] for  $(a, a, n)$ -tournaments is the special case  $a = b$  of Theorem 1. Theorem 3.1.4 of [22] is the special case  $a = b = 2$ . The theorem of Landau [55] is the special case  $a = b = 1$  of Theorem 1.

#### 4.1 Definition of a testing algorithm

The following algorithm INTERVAL-TEST decides whether a given  $D$  is a score sequence of an  $(a, b, n)$ -tournament or not. This algorithm is based on Theorem 1 and returns  $W = \text{TRUE}$  if  $D$  is a score sequence, and returns  $W = \text{FALSE}$  otherwise.

*Input.*  $\mathbf{a}$ : minimal number of points divided after each match;  
 $\mathbf{b}$ : maximal number of points divided after each match.

*Output.*  $W$ : logical variable ( $W = \text{TRUE}$  shows that  $D$  is an  $(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{n})$ -tournament).

*Local working variables.*  $i$ : cycle variable;

$L = (L_0, L_1, \dots, L_n)$ : the sequence of the values of the loss function.

*Global working variables.*  $\mathbf{n}$ : the number of players ( $\mathbf{n} \geq 2$ );

$D = (d_1, d_2, \dots, d_n)$ : a nondecreasing sequence of nonnegative integers;

$B = (B_0, B_1, \dots, B_n)$ : the sequence of the binomial coefficients;

$S = (S_0, S_1, \dots, S_n)$ : the sequence of the sums of the  $i$  smallest scores.

INTERVAL-TEST( $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}$ )

```

01 for  $i \leftarrow 1$  to  $\mathbf{n}$ 
02   do  $L_i \leftarrow \max(L_{i-1}, \mathbf{b}B_n - S_i - (\mathbf{n} - i)d_i)$ 
03     if  $S_i < \mathbf{a}B_i$ 
04       then  $W \leftarrow \text{FALSE}$ 
05         return  $W$ 
06     if  $S_i > \mathbf{b}B_n - L_i - (\mathbf{n} - i)d_i$ 
07       then  $W \leftarrow \text{FALSE}$ 
08         return  $W$ 
09 return  $W$ 

```

In worst case INTERVAL-TEST runs in  $\Theta(\mathbf{n})$  time even in the general case  $0 < \mathbf{a} < \mathbf{b}$  ( $\mathbf{n}$  the best case the running time of INTERVAL-TEST is  $\Theta(\mathbf{n})$ ). It is worth to mention, that the often referenced Havel–Hakimi algorithm [32, 36] even in the special case  $\mathbf{a} = \mathbf{b} = 1$  decides in  $\Theta(\mathbf{n}^2)$  time whether a sequence  $D$  is digraphical or not.

## 4.2 Definition of an algorithm computing $f$ and $g$

The following algorithm is based on the bounds of  $f$  and  $g$  given by Lemma 3 and the logarithmic search algorithm described by D. E. Knuth [53, page 410].

*Input.* No special input (global working variables serve as input).

*Output.*  $\mathbf{b}$ :  $f$  (the minimal  $F$ );

$\mathbf{a}$ :  $g$  (the maximal  $G$ ).

*Local working variables.*  $i$ : cycle variable;

$l$ : lower bound of the interval of the possible values of  $F$ ;

$u$ : upper bound of the interval of the possible values of  $F$ .



*Global working variables.*  $n$ : the number of players ( $n \geq 2$ );  
 $D = (d_1, d_2, \dots, d_n)$ : a nondecreasing sequence of nonnegative integers;  
 $B = (B_0, B_1, \dots, B_n)$ : the sequence of the binomial coefficients;  
 $S = (S_0, S_1, \dots, S_n)$ : the sequence of the sums of the  $i$  smallest scores;  
 $W$ : logical variable (its value is TRUE, when the investigated  $D$  is a score sequence).

MINF-MAXG

```

01  $B_0 \leftarrow S_0 \leftarrow L_0 \leftarrow 0$                                 ▷ Initialisation
02 for  $i \leftarrow 1$  to  $n$ 
03     do  $B_i \leftarrow B_{i-1} + i - 1$ 
04          $S_i \leftarrow S_{i-1} + d_i$ 
05  $l \leftarrow \max(\lceil S_n/B_n \rceil, \lceil d_n/(n-1) \rceil)$ 
06  $u \leftarrow 2 \lceil d_n/(n-1) \rceil$ 
07  $W \leftarrow \text{TRUE}$                                                 ▷ Computation of f
08 INTERVAL-TEST(0, l)
09 if  $W = \text{TRUE}$ 
10     then  $b \leftarrow l$ 
11         go to 21
12  $b \leftarrow \lceil (l + u)/2 \rceil$ 
13 INTERVAL-TEST(0, f)
14 if  $W = \text{TRUE}$ 
15     then go to 17
16  $l \leftarrow b$ 
17 if  $u = l + 1$ 
18     then  $b \leftarrow u$ 
19         go to 21
20 go to 14
21  $l \leftarrow 0$                                                     ▷ Computation of g
22  $u \leftarrow f$ 
23 INTERVAL-TEST(b, b)
24 if  $W = \text{TRUE}$ 
25     then  $a \leftarrow f$ 
26         go to 37
27  $a \leftarrow \lceil (l + u)/2 \rceil$ 
28 INTERVAL-TEST(0, a)
29 if  $W = \text{TRUE}$ 
30     then  $l \leftarrow a$ 
31         go to 33

```



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```

08   do  $a_i \leftarrow \lceil 2S_i / (n^2 - n) \rceil$ 
09       if  $a_i > a$ 
10           then  $a \leftarrow a_i$ 
11 for  $i \leftarrow 1$  to  $n$  ▷ Computation of f
12   do  $L_i \leftarrow \max(L_{i-1}, bB_n - S_i - (n - i)d_i)$ 
13        $b_i \leftarrow (S_i + (n - i)d_i + L_i) / B_i$ 
14       if  $b_i < b$ 
15           then  $b \leftarrow b_i$ 
16 return  $a, b$ 

```

**Lemma 5** *Algorithm LINEAR-MING-MAXG computes the values  $f$  and  $g$  for arbitrary sequence  $D = (d_1, d_2, \dots, d_n)$  in  $\Theta(n)$  time.*

**Proof.** Lines 01–03, 07, and 18 require only constant time, lines 04–06, 09–12, and 13–17 require  $\Theta(n)$  time, so the total running time is  $\Theta(n)$ . ■

## 5 Tournament with $f$ and $g$

The following reconstruction algorithm SCORE-SLICING2 is based on balancing between additional points (they are similar to „excess”, introduced by Brauer et al. [10]) and missing points introduced in [40]. The greediness of the algorithm Havel–Hakimi [32, 36] also characterises this algorithm.

This algorithm is an extended version of the algorithm SCORE-SLICING proposed in [40].

### 5.1 Definition of the minimax reconstruction algorithm

The work of the slicing program is managed by the following program MINI-MAX.

*Input.* No special input (global working variables serve as input).

*Output.*  $\mathcal{M} = [1 \dots n, 1 \dots n]$ : the point matrix of the reconstructed tournament.

*Local working variables.*  $i, j$ : cycle variables.

*Global working variables.*  $n$ : the number of players ( $n \geq 2$ );

$D = (d_1, d_2, \dots, d_n)$ : a nondecreasing sequence of nonnegative integers;

$p = (p_0, p_1, \dots, p_n)$ : provisional score sequence;

$P = (P_0, P_1, \dots, P_n)$ : the partial sums of the provisional scores;

$\mathcal{M}[1 \dots n, 1 \dots n]$ : matrix of the provisional points.

MINI-MAX

---

```

01 MINF-MAXG                                ▷ Initialisation
02  $p_0 \leftarrow 0$ 
03 for  $i \leftarrow 1$  to  $n$ 
04     do for  $j \leftarrow 1$  to  $i - 1$ 
05         do  $\mathcal{M}[i, j] \leftarrow b$ 
06     for  $j \leftarrow i$  to  $n$ 
07         do  $\mathcal{M}[i, j] \leftarrow 0$ 
08      $p_i \leftarrow d_i$ 
09 if  $n \geq 3$                                 ▷ Score slicing for  $n \geq 3$  players
10     then for  $k \leftarrow n$  downto 3
11         do SCORE-SLICING2( $k, \mathbf{p}_k, \mathcal{M}$ )
12 if  $n = 2$                                 ▷ Score slicing for 2 players
13     then  $m_{1,2} \leftarrow p_1$ 
14          $m_{2,1} \leftarrow p_2$ 
15 return  $\mathcal{M}$ 

```

## 5.2 Definition of the score slicing algorithm

The key part of the reconstruction is the following algorithm SCORE-SLICING2 [40].

During the reconstruction process we have to take into account the following bounds:

$$a \leq m_{i,j} + m_{j,i} \leq b \quad (1 \leq i < j \leq n); \quad (9)$$

$$\text{modified scores have to satisfy (7);} \quad (10)$$

$$m_{i,j} \leq p_i \quad (1 \leq i, j \leq n, i \neq j); \quad (11)$$

$$\text{the monotonicity } p_1 \leq p_2 \leq \dots \leq p_k \text{ has to be saved } (1 \leq k \leq n) \quad (12)$$

$$m_{ii} = 0 \quad (1 \leq i \leq n). \quad (13)$$

*Input.*  $k$ : the number of the actually investigated players ( $k > 2$ );

$\mathbf{p}_k = (p_0, p_1, p_2, \dots, p_k)$  ( $k = 3, 4, \dots, n$ ): prefix of the provisional score sequence  $\mathbf{p}$ ;

$\mathcal{M}[1 \dots n, 1 \dots n]$ : matrix of provisional points.

*Output.*  $\mathcal{M}[1 \dots n, 1 \dots n]$ : matrix of provisional points;

$\mathbf{p}_k = (p_0, p_1, p_2, \dots, p_k)$  ( $k = 2, 3, 4, \dots, n - 1$ ): prefix of the provisional score sequence  $\mathbf{p}$ .

*Local working variables.*  $\mathbf{A} = (A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n)$ : the number of the additional points;

$M$ : missing points (the difference of the number of actual points and the number of maximal possible points of  $P_k$ );  
 $d$ : difference of the maximal decreaseable score and the following largest score;  
 $y$ : minimal number of sliced points per player;  
 $f$ : frequency of the number of maximal values among the scores  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_{k-1}$ ;  
 $i, j$ : cycle variables;  
 $m$ : maximal amount of sliceable points;  
 $P = (P_0, P_1, \dots, P_n)$ : the sums of the provisional scores;  
 $x$ : the maximal index  $i$  with  $i < k$  and  $m_{i,k} < b$ .  
*Global working variables.*  $n$ : the number of players ( $n \geq 2$ );  
 $B = (B_0, B_1, B_2, \dots, B_n)$ : the sequence of the binomial coefficients;  
 $a$ : minimal number of points divided after each match;  
 $b$ : maximal number of points divided after each match.

SCORE-SLICING2( $k, \mathbf{p}_k, \mathcal{M}$ )

```

01  $P_0 \leftarrow 0$                                 ▷ Initialisation
02 for  $i \leftarrow 1$  to  $k - 1$ 
03   do  $P_i \leftarrow P_{i-1} + p_i$ 
04    $A_i \leftarrow P_i - aB_i$ 
05  $M \leftarrow (k - 1)b - p_k$ 
06 while  $M > 0$  and  $A_{k-1} > 0$   ▷ There are missing and additional points
07   do  $x \leftarrow k - 1$ 
08     while  $r_{x,k} = b$ 
09       do  $x \leftarrow x - 1$ 
10      $f \leftarrow 1$ 
11     while  $p_{x-f+1} = p_{x-f}$ 
12       do  $f = f + 1$ 
13      $d \leftarrow p_{x-f+1} - p_{x-f}$ 
14      $m \leftarrow \min(b, d, \lceil A_x/f \rceil, \lceil M/f \rceil)$ 
15     for  $i \leftarrow f$  downto 1
16       do  $y \leftarrow \min(b - m_{x+1-i,k}, m, M, A_{x+1-i}, p_{x+1-i})$ 
17          $m_{x+1-i,k} \leftarrow m_{x+1-i,k} + y$ 
18          $p_{x+1-i} \leftarrow p_{x+1-i} - y$ 
19          $m_{k,x+1-i} \leftarrow m_{k,x+1-i} - m_{x+1-i,k}$ 
20          $M \leftarrow M - y$ 
21     for  $j \leftarrow i$  downto 1
22        $A_{x+1-i} \leftarrow A_{x+1-i} - y$ 
23 while  $M > 0$  and  $A_{k-1} = 0$   ▷ No additional points
  
```

```

24   do for  $i \leftarrow k - 1$  downto 1
25        $y \leftarrow \min(m_{k,i}, M, m_{k,i+m_i,k-a})$ 
26        $m_{ki} \leftarrow m_{k,i} - y$ 
27        $M \leftarrow M - y$ 
28   return  $p_k, \mathcal{M}$ 

```

Let's consider an example. Figure 2 shows the point table of a  $(2, 10, 6)$ -tournament  $T$ .

Player/Player	P <sub>1</sub>	P <sub>2</sub>	P <sub>3</sub>	P <sub>4</sub>	P <sub>5</sub>	P <sub>6</sub>	Score
P <sub>1</sub>	—	1	5	1	1	1	9
P <sub>2</sub>	1	—	4	2	0	2	9
P <sub>3</sub>	3	3	—	5	4	4	19
P <sub>4</sub>	8	2	5	—	2	3	20
P <sub>5</sub>	9	9	5	7	—	2	32
P <sub>6</sub>	8	7	5	6	8	—	34

Figure 2: The point table of a  $(2, 10, 6)$ -tournament  $T$ .

The score sequence of  $T$  is  $D = (9, 9, 19, 20, 32, 34)$ . In [40] the algorithm SCORE-SLICING2 resulted the point table represented in Figure 3.

Player/Player	P <sub>1</sub>	P <sub>2</sub>	P <sub>3</sub>	P <sub>4</sub>	P <sub>5</sub>	P <sub>6</sub>	Score
P <sub>1</sub>	—	1	1	6	1	0	9
P <sub>2</sub>	1	—	1	6	1	0	9
P <sub>3</sub>	1	1	—	6	8	3	19
P <sub>4</sub>	3	3	3	—	8	3	20
P <sub>5</sub>	9	9	2	2	—	10	32
P <sub>6</sub>	10	10	7	7	0	—	34

Figure 3: The point table of  $T$  reconstructed by SCORE-SLICING2.

The algorithm MINI-MAX starts with the computation of  $f$ . MINF-MAXG called in line 01 begins with initialisation, including provisional setting of the elements of  $\mathcal{M}$  so, that  $m_{ij} = b$ , if  $i > j$ , and  $m_{ij} = 0$  otherwise. Then MINF-MAXG sets the lower bound  $l = \max(9, 7) = 9$  of  $f$  in line 05 and tests it in line 08 by INTERVAL-TEST. The test shows that  $l = 9$  is large enough so MINI-MAX sets  $b = 9$  in line 12 and jumps to line 21 and begins to compute  $g$ . INTERVAL-TEST called in line 23 shows that  $a = 9$  is too large, therefore

MINF-MAXG continues with the test of  $\alpha = 5$  in line 27. The result is positive, therefore comes the test of  $\alpha = 7$ , then the test of  $\alpha = 8$ . Now  $u = l + 1$  in line 33, so  $\alpha = 8$  is fixed, and the control returns to line 02 of MINI-MAX.

Lines 02–08 contain initialisation, and MINI-MAX begins the reconstruction of a  $(8, 9, 6)$ -tournament in line 9. The basic idea is that MINI-MAX successively determines the won and lost points of  $P_6$ ,  $P_5$ ,  $P_4$  and  $P_3$  by repeated calls of SCORE-SLICING2 in line 11, and finally it computes directly the result of the match between  $P_2$  and  $P_1$  in lines 12–14.

At first MINI-MAX computes the results of  $P_6$  calling SCORE-SLICING2 with parameter  $k = 6$ . The number of additional points of the first five players is  $A_5 = 89 - 8 \cdot 10 = 9$  according to line 04, the number of missing points of  $P_6$  is  $M = 5 \cdot 9 - 34 = 11$  according to line 05. Then SCORE-SLICING2 determines the number of maximal numbers among the provisional scores  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_5$  ( $f = 1$  according to lines 10–12) and computes the difference between  $p_5$  and  $p_4$  ( $d = 12$  according to line 13). In line 14 we get, that  $m = 9$  points are sliceable, and  $P_5$  gets these points in the match with  $P_6$  in line 17, so the number of missing points of  $P_6$  decreases to  $M = 11 - 9 = 2$  (line 20) and the number of additional point decreases to  $A_5 = 9 - 9 = 0$ . Therefore the computation continues in lines 23–28 and  $m_{64}$  and  $m_{63}$  will be decreased by 1 resulting  $m_{64} = 8$  and  $m_{63} = 8$  as the seventh line and seventh column of Figure 4 show. The returned score sequence is  $\mathbf{p}_5 = (9, 9, 19, 20, 23)$ .

Player/Player	$P_1$	$P_2$	$P_3$	$P_4$	$P_5$	$P_6$	Score
$P_1$	—	4	4	1	0	0	9
$P_2$	4	—	4	1	0	0	9
$P_3$	4	4	—	7	4	0	19
$P_4$	7	7	1	—	5	0	20
$P_5$	8	8	4	3	—	9	32
$P_6$	9	9	8	8	0	—	34

Figure 4: The point table of  $T$  reconstructed by MINI-MAX.

Second time MINI-MAX calls SCORE-SLICING2 with parameter  $k = 5$ , and get  $A_4 = 9$  and  $M = 13$ . At first  $P_4$  gets 1 point, then  $P_3$  and  $P_4$  get both 4 points, reducing  $M$  to 4 and  $A_4$  to 0. The computation continues in line 23 and results the further decrease of  $m_{54}$ ,  $m_{53}$ ,  $m_{52}$ , and  $m_{51}$  by 1, resulting  $m_{54} = 3$ ,  $m_{53} = 4$ ,  $m_{52} = 8$ , and  $m_{51} = 8$  as the sixth row of Figure 4 shows. The returned score sequence is  $\mathbf{p}_4 = (9, 9, 15, 15)$

Third time MINI-MAX calls SCORE-SLICING2 with parameter  $k = 4$ , and get  $A_3 = 11$  and  $M = 11$ . At first  $P_3$  gets 6 points, then  $P_3$  further 1 point, and  $P_2$  and  $P_1$  also both get 1 point, resulting  $m_{34} = 7$ ,  $m_{43} = 2$ ,  $m_{42} = 8$ ,  $m_{24} = 1$ ,  $m_{14} = 1$  and  $m_{14} = 8$ , further  $A_3 = 0$  and  $M = 2$ . The computation continues in lines 23–28 and results a decrease of  $m_{43}$  by 1 point resulting  $m_{43} = 1$ ,  $m_{42} = 7$ , and  $m_{41} = 7$ , as the fifth row and fifth column of Figure 4 show. The returned score sequence is  $\mathbf{p}_3 = (8, 8, 8)$ .

Fourth time MINI-MAX calls SCORE-SLICING2 with parameter  $k = 3$ , and gets  $A_2 = 8$  and  $M = 10$ . At first  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  get 4 points, resulting  $m_{13} = 4$ , and  $m_{23} = 4$ , and  $M = 2$ , and  $A_2 = 0$ . Then MINI-MAX sets in lines 23–26  $m_{31} = 4$  and  $m_{32} = 4$ . The returned score sequence is  $\mathbf{p}_2 = (4, 4)$ .

Finally MINI-MAX sets  $m_{12} = 4$  and  $m_{21} = 4$  in lines 14–15 and returns the point matrix represented in Figure 4.

The comparison of Figures 3 and 4 shows a large difference between the simple reconstruction of SCORE-SLICING2 and the minimax reconstruction of MINI-MAX: while in the first case the maximal value of  $m_{ij} + m_{ji}$  is 10 and the minimal value is 2, in the second case the maximum equals to 9 and the minimum equals to 8, that is the result is more balanced (the given  $D$  does not allow to build a perfectly balanced  $(k, k, n)$ -tournament).

### 5.3 Analysis of the minimax reconstruction algorithm

The main result of this paper is the following assertion.

**Theorem 2** *If  $n \geq 2$  is a positive integer and  $D = (d_1, d_2, \dots, d_n)$  is a non-decreasing sequence of nonnegative integers, then there exist positive integers  $f$  and  $g$ , and a  $(g, f, n)$ -tournament  $T$  with point matrix  $\mathcal{M}$  such, that*

$$f = \min(m_{ij} + m_{ji}) \leq b, \quad (14)$$

$$g = \max m_{ij} + m_{ji} \geq a \quad (15)$$

for any  $(a, b, n)$ -tournament, and algorithm LINEAR-MINF-MAXG computes  $f$  and  $g$  in  $\Theta(n)$  time, and algorithm MINI-MAX generates a suitable  $T$  in  $O(d_n n^2)$  time.

**Proof.** The correctness of the algorithms SCORE-SLICING2, MINF-MAXG implies the correctness of MINI-MAX.

Lines 1–46 of MINI-MAX require  $O(\log(d_n/n))$  uses of MING-MAXF, and one search needs  $O(n)$  steps for the testing, so the computation of  $f$  and  $g$  can be executed in  $O(n \log(d_n/n))$  times.



The reconstruction part (lines 47–55) uses algorithm SCORE-SLICING2, which runs in  $O(bn^3)$  time [40]. MINI-MAX calls SCORE-SLICING2  $n - 2$  times with  $f \leq 2\lceil d_n/n \rceil$ , so  $n^3 d_n/n = d_n n^2$  finishes the proof. ■

The property of the tournament reconstruction problem that the extremal values of  $f$  and  $g$  can be determined independently and so there exists a tournament  $T$  having both extremal features is called linking property. This concept was introduced by Ford and Fulkerson in 1962 [17] and later extended by A. Frank in [22].

## 6 Summary

A nondecreasing sequence of nonnegative integers  $D = (d_1, d_2, \dots, d_n)$  is a score sequence of a  $(1, 1, 1)$ -tournament, iff the sum of the elements of  $D$  equals to  $B_n$  and the sum of the first  $i$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, n - 1$ ) elements of  $D$  is at least  $B_i$  [55].

$D$  is a score sequence of a  $(k, k, n)$ -tournament, iff the sum of the elements of  $D$  equals to  $kB_n$ , and the sum of the first  $i$  elements of  $D$  is at least  $kB_i$  [46, 60].

$D$  is a score sequence of an  $(a, b, n)$ -tournament, iff (7) holds [40].

In all 3 cases the decision whether  $D$  is digraphical requires only linear time.

In this paper the results of [40] are extended proving that for any  $D$  there exists an optimal minimax realization  $T$ , that is a tournament having  $D$  as its out-degree sequence, and maximal  $G$ , and minimal  $F$  in the set of all realizations of  $D$ .

In a continuation [41] of this paper we construct balanced as possible tournaments in a similar way if not only the out-degree sequence but the in-degree sequence is also given.

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