The LiveDesign Paradigm

Synthesizing Qualitative Policy Statements with Quantitative Economic Measures

Gautam Dasgupta, dasgupta@columbia.edu

Based on *combinatorics of words*, a novel approach is introduced to study the temporal evolution of policy strategies in an *algorithmic sense*.

Hitherto all models yield restricted qualitative output. The model on four word alphabet (described below) will stimulate research and will be of interest for practical use.

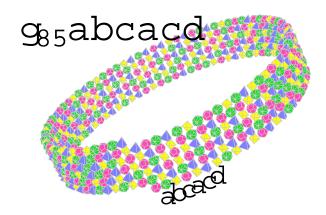
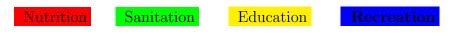


Figure 1: Development of an Abelian Square-free Chain depicting sustainable development parameters:



Quantification of sustainability

The morphism (function in the conventional sense of calculus) is denoted by g. Its arguments are initial letters of the chain. The next set of characters are defined by g, and an illustration of rule 85, ref. [1] is in Figure 1. A segment is defined to be Abelian square-free if no two adjacent parts are identical after permutation. Within the context of *combinatorics of words* a strategic layout of the succeeding characters will attribute such (hard to construct) Abelian square-free patterns.

It has been conjectured that during the policy development a sequence of steps (dictated by a morphism g) are followed. The sustainability of the socio-economic model (simplified by the four characters of *nutrition*, *sanitation*, *education* and *recreation* – as the basic building blocks) is depicted by the evolving chain. The degree of compliance to the Abelian square-free characterization furnishes a quantitative measure of sustainability. Hence a quantitative value symbolizes the *path for a policy*.

This application of pure mathematics in socio-economic policy analysis typifies the intellectual merit of this multi-disciplined workshop. An NSF proposal and a PhD dissertation will result based on the recommendations of the participants incorporating classical results from *theoretical computer science* ref. [2].

References

- Veikko Keränen. Abelian Squares are Avoidable on 4 Letters. ICALP Press, 1992.
- [2] B. Mossé. Reconnaissabilité des substitutions et complexité des suites automatiques. Bulletin de la Société Mathématique de France, 124:329– 346, 1996.