

# Computer Algebra for Lattice Path Combinatorics

Alin Bostan

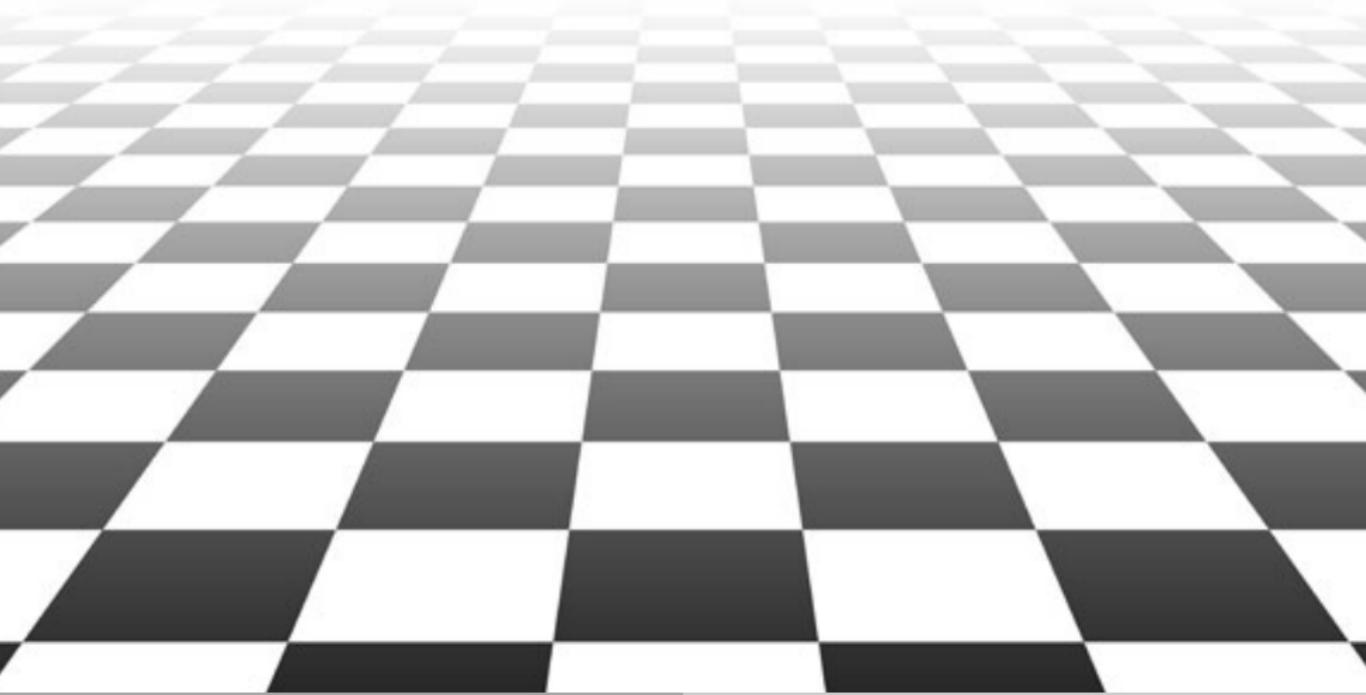


The 74th Séminaire Lotharingien de Combinatoire  
Ellwangen, March 23–25, 2015

# Overview

- ① Monday: General presentation
- ② Tuesday: Guess'n'Prove
- ③ Wednesday: Creative telescoping

## Part III: Creative telescoping



# DIAGONALS

# Pólya's theorem

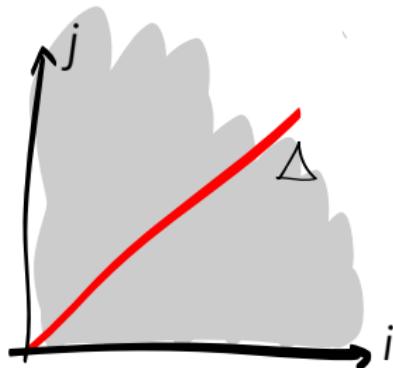
## Definition

If  $F$  is a formal power series

$$F = \sum_{i_1, \dots, i_n \geq 0} a_{i_1, \dots, i_n} x_1^{i_1} \cdots x_n^{i_n},$$

its *diagonal* is

$$\text{Diag}(F) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sum_i a_{i, \dots, i} t^i.$$



Theorem (Pólya, 1922)

Diagonals of bivariate rational functions are *algebraic*.

# Pólya's theorem

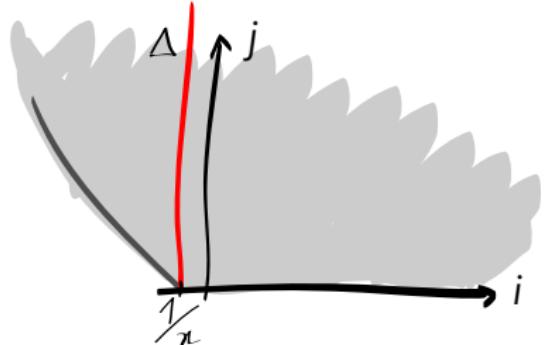
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Theorem (Pólya, 1922)

Diagonals of bivariate rational functions are algebraic.

## Proof:

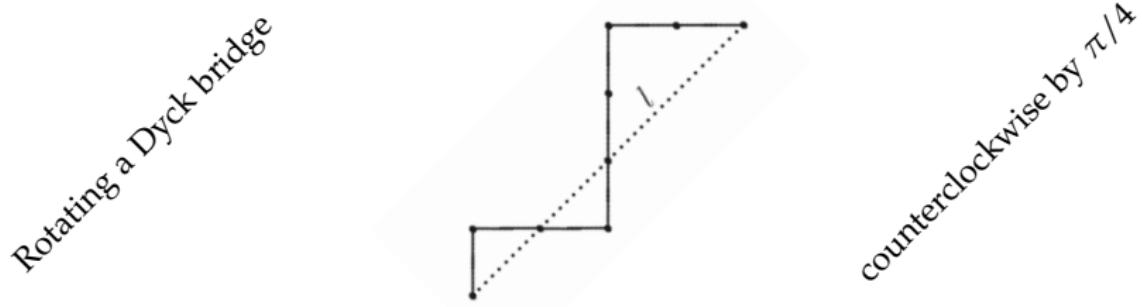
$$\text{Diag}(F) = [x^{-1}] \frac{1}{x} F\left(x, \frac{t}{x}\right) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{|x|=\epsilon} F\left(x, \frac{t}{x}\right) \frac{dx}{x}$$

and evaluating the integral by residues concludes (residues are algebraic)

## Example: Dyck walks

$$\mathfrak{S} = \{(1,1), (1,-1)\}$$

Let  $B_n$  be the number of **Dyck bridges** (i.e.  $\mathfrak{S}$ -walks in  $\mathbb{Z}^2$  starting at  $(0,0)$  and ending on the horizontal axis), of length  $n$



$B_n$  = number of  $\{(1,0), (0,1)\}$ -walks in  $\mathbb{Z}^2$  from  $(0,0)$  to  $(n,n)$

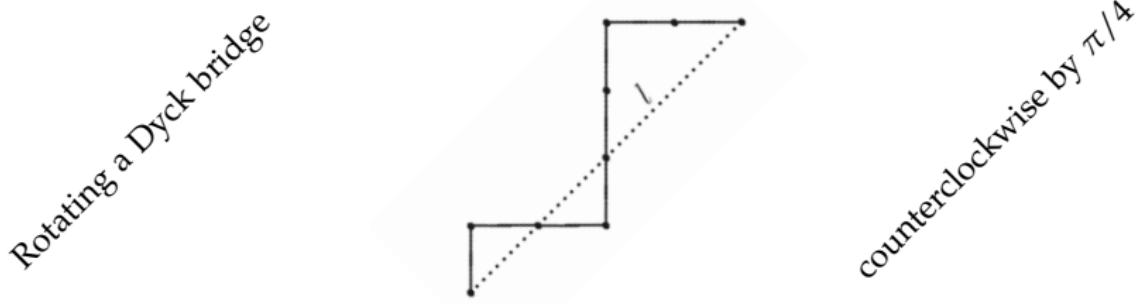
$$\implies B(t) = \sum_{n \geq 0} B_n t^n = \text{Diag} \left( \frac{1}{1-x-y} \right)$$

$$B(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{|x|=\epsilon} \frac{dx}{x - x^2 - t} = \frac{1}{1-2x} \Big|_{x=\frac{1-\sqrt{1-4t}}{2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-4t}}$$

## Example: Dyck walks

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Let  $B_n$  be the number of **Dyck bridges** (i.e.  $\mathfrak{S}$ -walks in  $\mathbb{Z}^2$  starting at  $(0,0)$  and ending on the horizontal axis), of length  $n$



$$B_n = \text{number of } \{(1,0), (0,1)\}\text{-walks in } \mathbb{Z}^2 \text{ from } (0,0) \text{ to } (n,n) = \binom{2n}{n}$$

$$\implies B(t) = \sum_{n \geq 0} B_n t^n = \text{Diag} \left( \frac{1}{1-x-y} \right)$$

$$B(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{|x|=\epsilon} \frac{dx}{x - x^2 - t} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-4t}} = \sum_{n \geq 0} \binom{2n}{n} t^n$$

## Rothstein-Trager resultant

Let  $A, B \in \mathbb{K}[x]$  with  $\deg(A) < \deg(B)$  and squarefree monic denominator  $B$ .  
The rational function  $F = A/B$  has simple poles only.

If  $F = \sum_i \frac{\gamma_i}{x - \beta_i}$ , then the residue  $\gamma_i$  of  $F$  at the pole  $\beta_i$  equals  $\gamma_i = \frac{A(\beta_i)}{B'(\beta_i)}$ .

**Theorem.** The residues  $\gamma_i$  of  $F$  are roots of the Rothstein-Trager resultant

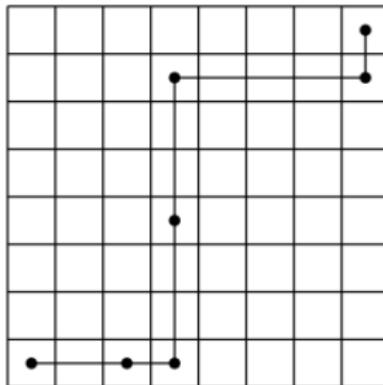
$$R(t) = \text{Res}_x(B(x), A(x) - t \cdot B'(x)).$$

**Proof.** Poisson's formula:  $R(t) = \prod_i \left( A(\beta_i) - t \cdot B'(\beta_i) \right)$ .

- ▶ This resultant is useful for symbolic integration of rational functions.
- ▶ [Bronstein 1992] generalized this result to multiple poles.

## Example: diagonal Rook paths

**Question:** A chess Rook can move any number of squares horizontally or vertically in one step. How many paths can a Rook take from the lower-left corner square to the upper-right corner square of an  $N \times N$  chessboard? Assume that the Rook moves right or up at each step.



1, 2, 14, 106, 838, 6802, 56190, 470010, ...

## Example: diagonal Rook paths

Generating function of the sequence

$$1, 2, 14, 106, 838, 6802, 56190, 470010, \dots$$

is

$$\text{Diag}(F) = [x^0] F(x, t/x) = \frac{1}{2i\pi} \oint F(x, t/x) \frac{dx}{x}, \quad \text{where} \quad F = \frac{1}{1 - \frac{x}{1-x} - \frac{y}{1-y}}.$$

By [residue theorem](#),  $\text{Diag}(F)$  is a sum of roots  $y(t)$  of the Rothstein-Trager resultant

```
> F:=1/(1-x/(1-x)-y/(1-y)):  
> G:=normal(1/x*subs(y=t/x,F)):  
> factor(resultant(denom(G),numer(G)-y*diff(denom(G),x),x));
```

$$t^2(1-t)(2y-1)(36ty^2-4y^2+1-t)$$

**Answer:** Generating series of diagonal Rook paths is  $\frac{1}{2} \left( 1 + \sqrt{\frac{1-t}{1-9t}} \right)$ .

# Pólya's theorem

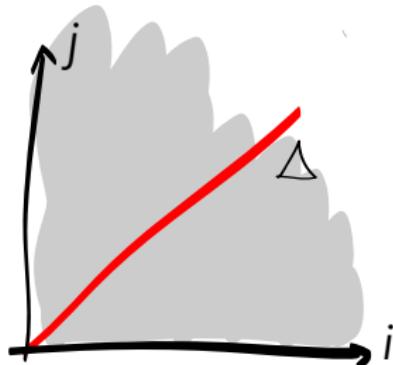
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Theorem (Pólya, 1922)

Diagonals of bivariate rational functions are *algebraic*.<sup>x</sup>

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<sup>x</sup>The converse is also true [Furstenberg, 1967]

# Pólya's theorem

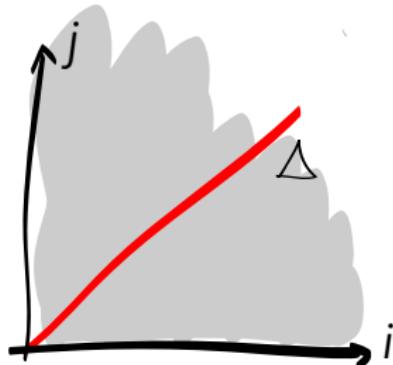
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Theorem (Pólya, 1922)

Diagonals of bivariate rational functions are *algebraic*.

- This is false for more than 2 variables. E.g.

$$\text{Diag} \left( \frac{1}{1-x-y-z} \right) = \sum_{n \geq 0} \binom{3n}{n, n, n} t^n = {}_2F_1 \left( \begin{matrix} \frac{1}{3}, \frac{2}{3} \\ 1 \end{matrix} \middle| 27t \right) \text{ is transcendental}$$

# Pólya's theorem

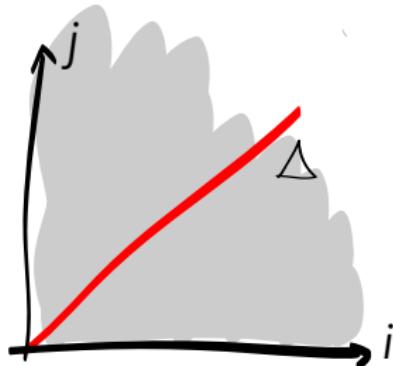
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Theorem (Pólya, 1922)

Diagonals of bivariate rational functions are *algebraic* and thus  $D$ -finite.

- Algebraic equation has *exponential size* [B., Dumont, Salvy, 2015]
- Differential equation has *polynomial size* [B., Chen, Chyzak, Li, 2010]

# Lipshitz's theorem

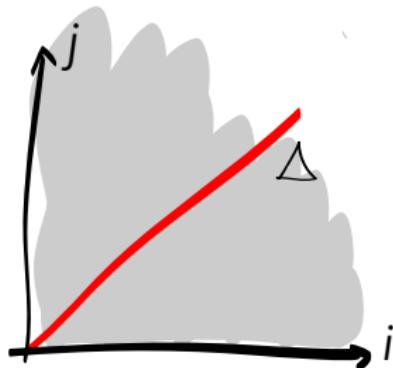
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its *diagonal* is

$$\text{Diag}(F) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sum_i a_{i, \dots, i} t^i.$$



Theorem (Lipshitz, 1988)

Diagonals of rational functions are **D-finite**.

## Example: Diagonal Rook paths on a 3D chessboard

Question [Erickson 2010]

How many ways can a Rook move from  $(0, 0, 0)$  to  $(N, N, N)$ , where each step is a positive integer multiple of  $(1, 0, 0)$ ,  $(0, 1, 0)$ , or  $(0, 0, 1)$ ?

1, 6, 222, 9918, 486924, 25267236, 1359631776, 75059524392, ...

Answer [B.-Chyzak-Hoeij-Pech 2011]: GF of 3D diagonal Rook paths is

$$G(t) = 1 + 6 \cdot \int_0^t \frac{{}_2F_1\left(\begin{matrix} 1/3 & 2/3 \\ 2 & \end{matrix} \middle| \frac{27x(2-3x)}{(1-4x)^3}\right)}{(1-4x)(1-64x)} dx$$

# Proof of Lipshitz's theorem on the 3D Rooks example

**Problem:** Show that  $\text{Diag}(F)$  is D-finite, where  $F(x, y, z)$  is

$$\left(1 - \sum_{n \geq 1} x^n - \sum_{n \geq 1} y^n - \sum_{n \geq 1} z^n\right)^{-1} = \frac{(1-x)(1-y)(1-z)}{1-2(x+y+z)+3(xy+yz+zx)-4xyz}$$

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**Argument:** if one is able to find a nonzero differential operator of the form

$$L(t, \partial_t, \partial_x, \partial_y) = P(t, \partial_t) + (\text{higher-order terms in } \partial_x \text{ and } \partial_y)$$

that annihilates  $G = \frac{1}{xy} \cdot F\left(x, \frac{y}{x}, \frac{t}{y}\right)$ , then  $P(t, \partial_t)$  annihilates  $\text{Diag}(F)$ .

# Proof of Lipschitz's theorem on the 3D Rooks example

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**Proof:**

①  $\text{Diag}(F) = [x^0 y^0] F\left(x, \frac{y}{x}, \frac{t}{y}\right)$

②  $0 = L(G) = P(G) + \partial_x(\cdot) + \partial_y(\cdot)$

③  $0 = [x^{-1} y^{-1}] L(G) = [x^{-1} y^{-1}] P(G) = P([x^{-1} y^{-1}] G) = P(\text{Diag}(F))$

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► **Remaining task:** Show that such an  $L$  does exist.

# Proof of Lipshitz's theorem on the 3D Rooks example

**Counting argument:** By Leibniz's rule, the  $\binom{N+4}{4}$  rational functions

$$t^i \partial_t^j \partial_x^k \partial_y^\ell(G), \quad 0 \leq i + j + k + \ell \leq N$$

are contained in the  $\mathbb{Q}$ -vector space of dimension  $\leq 18(N+1)^3$  spanned by

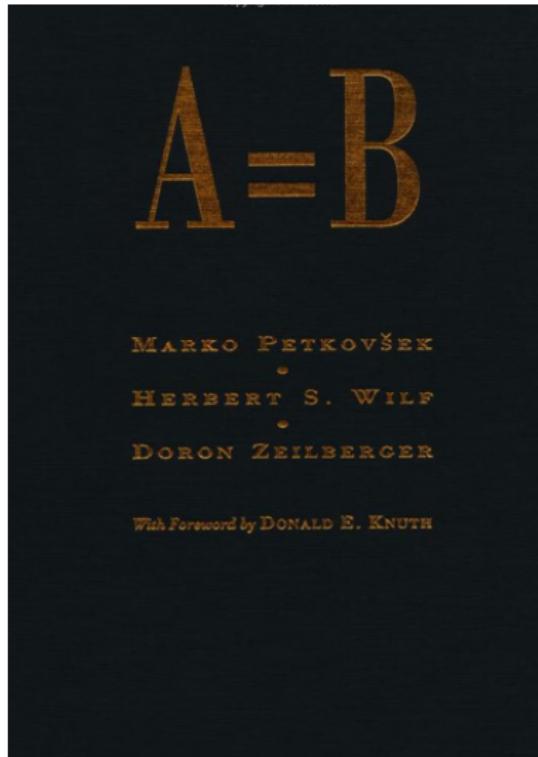
$$\frac{t^i x^j y^k}{\text{denom}(G)^{N+1}}, \quad 0 \leq i \leq 2N+1, 0 \leq j \leq 3N+2, 0 \leq k \leq 3N+2.$$

- ▶ If  $\binom{N+4}{4} > 18(N+1)^3$ , then there exists  $L(t, \partial_t, \partial_x, \partial_y)$  (resp.  $P(t, \partial_t)$ ) of total degree at most  $N$ , such that  $LG = 0$  (resp.  $P(\text{Diag}(F)) = 0$ ).
- ▶  $N = 425$  is the smallest integer satisfying  $\binom{N+4}{4} > 18(N+1)^3$
- ▶ Finding the operator  $P$  by Lipshitz' argument would require solving a linear system with 1,391,641,251 unknowns and 1,391,557,968 equations!
- ▶ A better solution is provided by **creative telescoping**.

# Creative Telescoping

# Creative Telescoping

General framework in computer algebra –initiated by Zeilberger in the '90s–  
for computing multiple integrals and sums with parameters.



## Examples I: hypergeometric summation

- $\sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} (-1)^k \binom{a+b}{a+k} \binom{a+c}{c+k} \binom{b+c}{b+k} = \frac{(a+b+c)!}{a!b!c!}$  [Dixon 1891]
- $A_n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k}^2 \binom{n+k}{k}^2$  satisfies the recurrence [Apéry 1978]:

$$(n+1)^3 A_{n+1} = (34n^3 + 51n^2 + 27n + 5)A_n - n^3 A_{n-1}.$$

(Neither Cohen nor I had been able to prove this in the intervening two months  
[Van der Poorten 1979])

- $\sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k}^2 \binom{n+k}{k}^2 = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \binom{n+k}{k} \sum_{j=0}^k \binom{n}{k}^3$  [Strehl 1992]

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$$(n+1)^3 A_{n+1} = (34n^3 + 51n^2 + 27n + 5)A_n - n^3 A_{n-1}.$$

(The specific problem was mentioned to Don Zagier, who solved it with irritating speed [Van der Poorten 1979])

- $\sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k}^2 \binom{n+k}{k}^2 = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \binom{n+k}{k} \sum_{j=0}^k \binom{n}{k}^3$  [Strehl 1992]

## Examples II: Integrals and Diagonals

- $\int_0^1 \frac{\cos(zu)}{\sqrt{1-u^2}} du = \int_1^{+\infty} \frac{\sin(zu)}{\sqrt{u^2-1}} du = \frac{\pi}{2} J_0(z);$
- $\int_0^{+\infty} x J_1(ax) I_1(ax) Y_0(x) K_0(x) dx = -\frac{\ln(1-a^4)}{2\pi a^2}$  [Glasser-Montaldi 1994];
- $\frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint \frac{(1+2xy+4y^2) \exp\left(\frac{4x^2y^2}{1+4y^2}\right)}{y^{n+1}(1+4y^2)^{\frac{3}{2}}} dy = \frac{H_n(x)}{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor!}$  [Doetsch 1930];
- $\text{Diag} \frac{1}{(1-x-y)(1-z-u)-xyzu} = \sum_{n \geq 0} A_n t^n$  [Straub 2014].

# Summation by Creative Telescoping

$$I_n := \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} = 2^n.$$

**IF** one knows Pascal's triangle:

$$\binom{n+1}{k} = \binom{n}{k} + \binom{n}{k-1} = 2\binom{n}{k} + \binom{n}{k-1} - \binom{n}{k},$$

then summing over  $k$  gives

$$I_{n+1} = 2I_n.$$

The initial condition  $I_0 = 1$  concludes the proof.

# Creative Telescoping for Sums

$$F_n = \sum_k u_{n,k} = ?$$

**IF** one knows  $P(n, S_n)$  and  $R(n, k, S_n, S_k)$  s.t.

$$(P(n, S_n) + \Delta_k R(n, k, S_n, S_k)) \cdot u_{n,k} = 0$$

(where  $\Delta_k$  is the difference operator,  $\Delta_k \cdot v_{n,k} = v_{n,k+1} - v_{n,k}$ ),  
then the sum “telescopes”, leading to

$$P(n, S_n) \cdot F_n = 0.$$

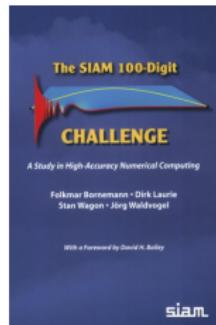
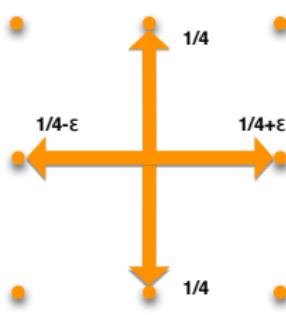
# Zeilberger's Algorithm [1990]

**Input:** a **hypergeometric** term  $u_{n,k}$ , i.e.,  $u_{n+1,k}/u_{n,k}$  and  $u_{n,k+1}/u_{n,k}$  rational functions in  $n$  and  $k$ ;

**Output:**

- a linear recurrence ( $P$ ) satisfied by  $F_n = \sum_k u_{n,k}$
- a **certificate** ( $Q$ ), s.t. checking the result is easy from  
 $P(n, S_n) \cdot u_{n,k} = \Delta_k Q \cdot u_{n,k}$ .

## Example: SIAM flea



$$U_{n,k} := \binom{2n}{2k} \binom{2k}{k} \binom{2n-2k}{n-k} \left(\frac{1}{4} + c\right)^k \left(\frac{1}{4} - c\right)^k \frac{1}{4^{2n-2k}},$$

$$p_n = \sum_{k=0}^n U_{n,k} \quad = \text{probability of return to } (0,0) \text{ at step } 2n.$$

```
> p:=SumTools[Hypergeometric][Zeilberger](U,n,k,Sn);  
  
[(4 n2 + 16 n + 16) Sn2 + (-4 n2 + 32 c2 n2 + 96 c2 n - 12 n + 72 c2 - 9) Sn  
+ 128 c4 n + 64 c4 n2 + 48 c4, ... (BIG certificate)...]
```

# Creative Telescoping for Integrals

$$I(t) = \oint_{\gamma} H(t, x) dx = ?$$

IF one knows  $P(t, \partial_t)$  and  $R(t, x, \partial_t, \partial_x)$  s.t.

$$(P(t, \partial_t) + \partial_x R(t, x, \partial_t, \partial_x)) \cdot H(t, x) = 0,$$

then the integral “telescopes”, leading to

$$P(t, \partial_t) \cdot I(t) = 0.$$

## Example: diagonal Rook paths again

Generating function of the sequence

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is

$$\text{Diag}(F) = [x^0] F(x, t/x) = \frac{1}{2i\pi} \oint F(x, t/x) \frac{dx}{x}, \quad \text{where } F = \frac{1}{1 - \frac{x}{1-x} - \frac{y}{1-y}}.$$

By the **creative telescoping**,  $\text{Diag}(F)$  satisfies the differential equation

```
> F:=1/(1-x/(1-x)-y/(1-y)):  
> G:=normal(1/x*subs(y=t/x,F)):  
> Zeilberger(G, t, x, Dt)[1];
```

$$(9t^2 - 10t + 1)\partial_t^2 + (18t - 14)\partial_t$$

**Answer:** Generating series of diagonal Rook paths is  $\frac{1}{2} \left( 1 + \sqrt{\frac{1-t}{1-9t}} \right).$

# CT for Multiple rational integrals

Problem:

$\mathbf{x} = x_1, \dots, x_n$  — integration variables

$t$  — parameter

$H(t, \mathbf{x})$  — rational function

$\gamma$  —  $n$ -cycle in  $\mathbb{C}^n$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \\ \\ \\ \end{array} \right\} \oint_{\gamma} H(t, \mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x}$$

## Principle of creative telescoping

$$\underbrace{\sum_{k=0}^r c_k(t) \frac{\partial^k H}{\partial t^k}}_{\text{telescopic relation}} = \overbrace{\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial A_i}{\partial x_i}}^{\text{certificate}} \implies \overbrace{\left( \sum_{k=0}^r c_k(t) \partial_t^k \right)}^{\text{telescopor}} \cdot \oint_{\gamma} H d\mathbf{x} = 0$$

## Task:

- ① find the  $c_k(t)$  which satisfy a telescopic relation,
- ② ideally, without computing the certificate ( $A_i$ ).

## Example: Perimeter of an ellipse

Perimeter of an ellipse with eccentricity  $e$  and semi-major axis 1 [Euler, 1733]

$$p(e) = \int_0^1 \sqrt{\frac{1-e^2x^2}{1-x^2}} dx = \oint \frac{dxdy}{1 - \frac{1-e^2x^2}{(1-x^2)y^2}},$$

CT finds the telescopic relation:

$$\begin{aligned} & \left( (e - e^3) \partial_e^2 + (1 - e^2) \partial_e + e \right) \cdot \left( \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1-e^2x^2}{(1-x^2)y^2}} \right) = \\ & \quad \partial_x \left( -\frac{e(-1-x+x^2+x^3)y^2(-3+2x+y^2+x^2(-2+3e^2-y^2))}{(-1+y^2+x^2(e^2-y^2))^2} \right) \\ & \quad + \partial_y \left( \frac{2e(-1+e^2)x(1+x^3)y^3}{(-1+y^2+x^2(e^2-y^2))^2} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $(e - e^3)p'' + (1 - e^2)p' + ep = 0$ .  
(Note the size of the certificate.)

## Example: 3D rook paths [B.-Chyzak-Hoeij-Pech 2011]

**Task:** Given  $G$  in  $\mathbb{Q}(t, x, y)$ , construct a linear differential operator  $P(t, \partial_t)$ , and two rational functions  $R$  and  $S$  in  $\mathbb{Q}(t, x, y)$  such that

$$P(G) = \frac{\partial R}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial S}{\partial y}.$$

**Solution:** Creative telescoping!

```
> G:=subs(y=y/x,z=t/y,1/(1-x/(1-x)-y/(1-y)-z/(1-z)))/y/x:  
> P,R,S:=op(op(Mgfun:-creative_telescoping(G,t::diff,[x::diff,y::diff]))):  
> P;
```

$$\begin{aligned} P = & t(t-1)(64t-1)(3t-2)(6t+1)\partial_t^3 \\ & +(4608t^4 - 6372t^3 + 813t^2 + 514t - 4)\partial_t^2 \\ & +4(576t^3 - 801t^2 - 108t + 74)\partial_t \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ The whole computation takes < 10 seconds on a personal laptop.
- ▶ Proves a recurrence conjectured by [Erickson 2010]

# Brief review on CT algorithms

Brief and incomplete

## General-purpose creative telescoping algorithms:

- using linear algebra [Lipshitz, 1988];
  - using non-commutative Gröbner bases:
    - and elimination [Takayama, 1990];
    - and rational resolution of differential equations [Chyzak, 2000];
    - and heuristics [Koutschan, 2010].
- Drawbacks: Bad or unknown complexity; unsatisfactory performance on medium-sized problems; all compute certificates.

## Rational case:

- univariate integrals [B., Chen, Chyzak, Li, 2010];
- double integrals [Chen, Kauers, Singer, 2012].

## Univariate case: CT by Hermite reduction

**Problem:** Given  $H = P/Q \in \mathbb{K}(t, x)$  compute  $\oint_{\gamma} H(t, x) dx$

**Hermite reduction:**  $H$  can be written in **reduced form**

$$H = \partial_x(g) + \frac{a}{Q^*},$$

where  $Q^*$  is the squarefree part of  $Q$  and  $\deg_x(a) < d^* := \deg_x(Q^*)$ .

**CT Algorithm** [B., Chen, Chyzak, Li, 2010]

(1) For  $i = 0, 1, \dots, d^*$  compute Hermite reduction of  $\partial_t^i(H)$ :

$$\partial_t^i(H) = \partial_x(g_i) + \frac{a_i}{Q^*}, \quad \deg_x(a_i) < d^*$$

(2) Find the first linear relation over  $\mathbb{K}(t)$  of the form  $\sum_{k=0}^r c_k a_k = 0$ .

►  $L = \sum_{k=0}^r c_k \partial_t^k$  is a **telescopers** (and  $\sum_{k=0}^r \eta_k g_k$  the corresponding certificate).

## Multiple case: Polynomial time computation

$H = \frac{P}{Q}$  — a rational function in  $t$  and  $\mathbf{x} = x_1, \dots, x_n$

$d_{\mathbf{x}}$  — the degree of  $Q$  w.r.t.  $\mathbf{x}$

$d_t$  —  $\max(\deg_t P, \deg_t Q)$

Theorem (B., Lairez, Salvy, 2013)

A telescopier for  $H$  can be computed using  $\tilde{\mathcal{O}}(e^{3n} d_{\mathbf{x}}^{8n} d_t)$  operations.

The minimal telescopers has order  $\leq d_{\mathbf{x}}^n$  and degree  $\mathcal{O}(e^n d_{\mathbf{x}}^{3n} d_t)$ .

These size bounds are generically reached.

- ▶ First polynomial time algorithm for rational creative telescoping.
- ▶ It avoids the costly computation of certificates.
- ▶ Generically, certificates have size  $\Omega(d_{\mathbf{x}}^{n^2/2})$ .
- ▶ General-purpose algorithms have double-exponential complexity.
- ▶ Applies to diagonals:  $\text{Diag}(F)(t) = \frac{1}{(2\pi i)^n} \oint F\left(\frac{t}{x_1 \dots x_n}, x_1, \dots, x_n\right).$

## Griffiths–Dwork method for the generic case

Linear reduction classical in algebraic geometry;  
Generalization of Hermite's reduction.

## Fast linear algebra on polynomial matrices

Macaulay matrices encoding Gröbner bases computations;  
Sophisticated algorithms due to Villard, Storjohann, Zhou, etc.

## Deformation technique for the general case

Input perturbation using a new free variable.

- ▶ Recent, highly non-trivial, extension by [Lairez, 2015] tremendously improves the efficiency of the algorithm.

## WALKS IN THE QUARTER PLANE

The 19 D-finite cases with nonzero orbit sum

Task: Prove Cases 1–19 in the tables [B. & Kauers 2009] for  $F(t; 1, 1)$

	OEIS	$\mathfrak{S}$	Pol size	ODE size		OEIS	$\mathfrak{S}$	Pol size	ODE size
1	A005566		—	3, 4	13	A151275		—	5, 24
2	A018224		—	3, 5	14	A151314		—	5, 24
3	A151312		—	3, 8	15	A151255		—	4, 16
4	A151331		—	3, 6	16	A151287		—	5, 19
5	A151266		—	5, 16	17	A001006		2, 2	2, 3
6	A151307		—	5, 20	18	A129400		2, 2	2, 3
7	A151291		—	5, 15	19	A005558		—	3, 5
8	A151326		—	5, 18	20	A151265		6, 8	4, 9
9	A151302		—	5, 24	21	A151278		6, 8	4, 12
10	A151329		—	5, 24	22	A151323		4, 4	2, 3
11	A151261		—	4, 15	23	A060900		8, 9	3, 5
12	A151297		—	5, 18					

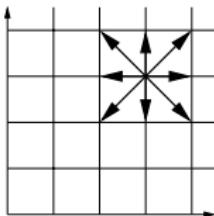
Equation sizes = {order, degree}@{algeq, diffeq}

# Task: Prove Cases 1–19 in the tables [B. & Kauers 2009] for $F(t; 1, 1)$

	OEIS	$\mathcal{G}$	alg?	asympt		OEIS	$\mathcal{G}$	alg?	asympt	
1	A005566		N	$\frac{4}{\pi} \frac{4^n}{n}$		13	A151275		N	$\frac{12\sqrt{30}}{\pi} \frac{(2\sqrt{6})^n}{n^2}$
2	A018224		N	$\frac{2}{\pi} \frac{4^n}{n}$		14	A151314		N	$\frac{\sqrt{6}\lambda\mu C^{5/2}}{5\pi} \frac{(2C)^n}{n^2}$
3	A151312		N	$\frac{\sqrt{6}}{\pi} \frac{6^n}{n}$		15	A151255		N	$\frac{24\sqrt{2}}{\pi} \frac{(2\sqrt{2})^n}{n^2}$
4	A151331		N	$\frac{8}{3\pi} \frac{8^n}{n}$		16	A151287		N	$\frac{2\sqrt{2}A^{7/2}}{\pi} \frac{(2A)^n}{n^2}$
5	A151266		N	$\frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{3}{\pi}} \frac{3^n}{n^{1/2}}$		17	A001006		Y	$\frac{3}{2} \sqrt{\frac{3}{\pi}} \frac{3^n}{n^{3/2}}$
6	A151307		N	$\frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{5}{2\pi}} \frac{5^n}{n^{1/2}}$		18	A129400		Y	$\frac{3}{2} \sqrt{\frac{3}{\pi}} \frac{6^n}{n^{3/2}}$
7	A151291		N	$\frac{4}{3\sqrt{\pi}} \frac{4^n}{n^{1/2}}$		19	A005558		N	$\frac{8}{\pi} \frac{4^n}{n^2}$
8	A151326		N	$\frac{2}{\sqrt{3\pi}} \frac{6^n}{n^{1/2}}$		20	A151265		Y	$\frac{2\sqrt{2}}{\Gamma(1/4)} \frac{3^n}{n^{3/4}}$
9	A151302		N	$\frac{1}{3} \sqrt{\frac{5}{2\pi}} \frac{5^n}{n^{1/2}}$		21	A151278		Y	$\frac{3\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{2}\Gamma(1/4)} \frac{3^n}{n^{3/4}}$
10	A151329		N	$\frac{1}{3} \sqrt{\frac{7}{3\pi}} \frac{7^n}{n^{1/2}}$		22	A151323		Y	$\frac{\sqrt{23}^{3/4}}{\Gamma(1/4)} \frac{6^n}{n^{3/4}}$
11	A151261		N	$\frac{12\sqrt{3}}{\pi} \frac{(2\sqrt{3})^n}{n^2}$		23	A060900		Y	$\frac{4\sqrt{3}}{3\Gamma(1/3)} \frac{4^n}{n^{2/3}}$
12	A151297		N	$\frac{\sqrt{3}B^{7/2}}{2\pi} \frac{(2B)^n}{n^2}$						

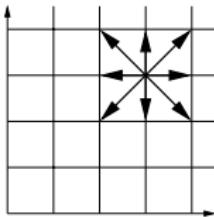
$$A = 1 + \sqrt{2}, \quad B = 1 + \sqrt{3}, \quad C = 1 + \sqrt{6}, \quad \lambda = 7 + 3\sqrt{6}, \quad \mu = \sqrt{\frac{4\sqrt{6}-1}{19}}$$

# The group of a model



The polynomial  $\chi_{\mathfrak{S}} := \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathfrak{S}} x^i y^j = \sum_{i=-1}^1 B_i(y) x^i = \sum_{j=-1}^1 A_j(x) y^j$

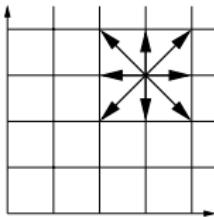
# The group of a model



The polynomial  $\chi_{\mathfrak{S}} := \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathfrak{S}} x^i y^j = \sum_{i=-1}^1 B_i(y) x^i = \sum_{j=-1}^1 A_j(x) y^j$  is left invariant under

$$\psi(x, y) = \left( x, \frac{A_{-1}(x)}{A_{+1}(x)} \frac{1}{y} \right), \quad \phi(x, y) = \left( \frac{B_{-1}(y)}{B_{+1}(y)} \frac{1}{x}, y \right),$$

# The group of a model

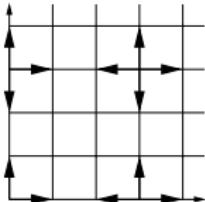


The polynomial  $\chi_{\mathfrak{S}} := \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathfrak{S}} x^i y^j = \sum_{i=-1}^1 B_i(y) x^i = \sum_{j=-1}^1 A_j(x) y^j$  is left invariant under

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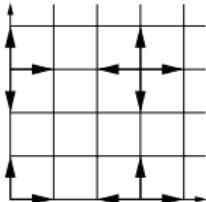
and thus under any element of the group

$$\mathcal{G}_{\mathfrak{S}} := \langle \psi, \phi \rangle.$$



$J = 1 - t \cdot \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathfrak{S}} x^i y^j = 1 - t \left( x + \frac{1}{x} + y + \frac{1}{y} \right)$  is invariant under the change of  $(x,y)$  into, respectively:

$$\left( \frac{1}{x}, y \right), \left( \frac{1}{x}, \frac{1}{y} \right), \left( x, \frac{1}{y} \right).$$

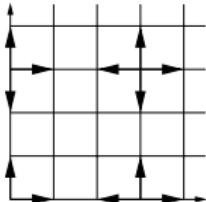


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$$\left( \frac{1}{x}, y \right), \left( \frac{1}{x}, \frac{1}{y} \right), \left( x, \frac{1}{y} \right).$$

“Kernel equation”:

$$J(t; x, y) xyF(t; x, y) = xy - txF(t; x, 0) - tyF(t; 0, y)$$

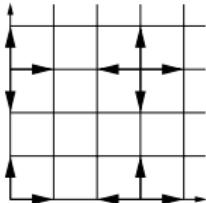


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“Kernel equation”:

$$\begin{aligned} J(t; x, y) xy F(t; x, y) &= xy - txF(t; x, 0) - tyF(t; 0, y) \\ - J(t; x, y) \frac{1}{x} y F(t; \frac{1}{x}, y) &= - \frac{1}{x} y + t \frac{1}{x} F(t; \frac{1}{x}, 0) + tyF(t; 0, y) \end{aligned}$$

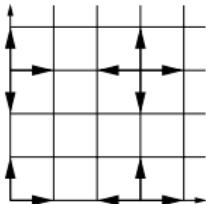


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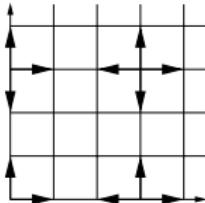


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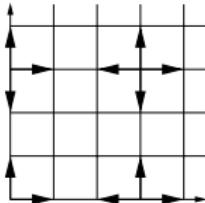
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Summing up yields the orbit equation:

$$\sum_{\theta \in \mathcal{G}} (-1)^\theta \theta(xy F(t; x, y)) = \frac{xy - \frac{1}{x} y + \frac{1}{x} \frac{1}{y} - x \frac{1}{y}}{J(t; x, y)}$$



$J = 1 - t \cdot \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathfrak{S}} x^i y^j = 1 - t \left( x + \frac{1}{x} + y + \frac{1}{y} \right)$  is invariant under the change of  $(x, y)$  into, respectively:

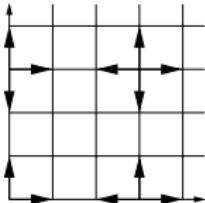
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Taking positive parts yields:

$$[x^>][y^>] \sum_{\theta \in \mathcal{G}} (-1)^\theta \theta (xy F(t; x, y)) = [x^>][y^>] \frac{xy - \frac{1}{x} y + \frac{1}{x} \frac{1}{y} - x \frac{1}{y}}{J(t; x, y)}$$



$J = 1 - t \cdot \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathfrak{S}} x^i y^j = 1 - t \left( x + \frac{1}{x} + y + \frac{1}{y} \right)$  is invariant under the change of  $(x, y)$  into, respectively:

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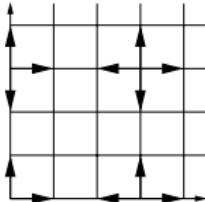
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Summing up and taking positive parts yields:

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# D-Finiteness via the finite group [Bousquet-Mélou & Mishna 2010]



$J = 1 - t \cdot \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathfrak{S}} x^i y^j = 1 - t \left( x + \frac{1}{x} + y + \frac{1}{y} \right)$  is invariant under the change of  $(x, y)$  into, respectively:

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“Kernel equation”:

$$\begin{aligned}
 J(t; x, y)xyF(t; x, y) &= xy - txF(t; x, 0) - tyF(t; 0, y) \\
 -J(t; x, y)\frac{1}{x}yF(t; \frac{1}{x}, y) &= -\frac{1}{x}y + t\frac{1}{x}F(t; \frac{1}{x}, 0) + tyF(t; 0, y) \\
 J(t; x, y)\frac{1}{x}\frac{1}{y}F(t; \frac{1}{x}, \frac{1}{y}) &= \frac{1}{x}\frac{1}{y} - t\frac{1}{x}F(t; \frac{1}{x}, 0) - t\frac{1}{y}F(t; 0, \frac{1}{y}) \\
 -J(t; x, y)x\frac{1}{y}F(t; x, \frac{1}{y}) &= -x\frac{1}{y} + txF(t; x, 0) + t\frac{1}{y}F(t; 0, \frac{1}{y})
 \end{aligned}$$

$$GF = \text{PosPart} \left( \frac{\text{OS}}{\text{kernel}} \right)$$

## Cases 1–19 are D-Finite

Theorem [Bousquet-Mélou & Mishna, 2010]

Let  $\mathfrak{S}$  be one of the step sets 1–19. Then, the invariant group  $\mathcal{G}$  is finite and:

$$xyt F(t; x, y) = [x^>][y^>] \frac{\sum_{\theta \in \mathcal{G}} (-1)^{\theta} \theta(xy)}{J(t; x, y)}.$$

In particular,  $F(t; x, y)$  is D-finite.

## Cases 1–19 are D-Finite

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Let  $\mathfrak{S}$  be one of the step sets 1–19. Then, the invariant group  $\mathcal{G}$  is finite and:

$$xyt F(t; x, y) = [x^>][y^>] \frac{\sum_{\theta \in \mathcal{G}} (-1)^\theta \theta(xy)}{J(t; x, y)}.$$

In particular,  $F(t; x, y)$  is D-finite.

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**TOO LARGE TO BE MERELY WRITTEN!**

## Explicit Expressions for the Cases 1–19

Theorem [B.-Chyzak-van Hoeij-Kauers-Pech, 2015]

Let  $\mathfrak{S}$  be one of the step sets 1–19. Then, the generating series  $F(t; x, y)$  is expressible using iterated integrals of  ${}_2F_1$  expressions.

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Let  $\mathfrak{S}$  be one of the step sets 1–19. Then, the generating series  $F(t; 1, 1)$  is expressible using iterated integrals of  ${}_2F_1$  expressions.

Example: King walks in the quarter plane (A025595)

$$\begin{aligned} F(t; 1, 1) &= \frac{1}{t} \int_0^t \frac{1}{(1+4x)^3} \cdot {}_2F_1\left(\begin{matrix} \frac{3}{2}, \frac{3}{2} \\ 2 \end{matrix} \middle| \frac{16x(1+x)}{(1+4x)^2}\right) dx \\ &= 1 + 3t + 18t^2 + 105t^3 + 684t^4 + 4550t^5 + 31340t^6 + 219555t^7 + \dots \end{aligned}$$

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► Proof uses Creative telescoping, ODE factorization, ODE solving:

- ① If  $R = \sum_{\theta} \frac{(-1)^{\theta} \theta(xy)}{J(t; x, y)}$ , then  $F = [u^{-1}v^{-1}]H$ , for  $H = \frac{R(t; 1/u, 1/v)}{(1-xu)(1-yv)}$ .
- ② If  $P \in \mathbf{Q}(x, y)[t]\langle\partial_t\rangle$  and  $U, V \in \mathbf{Q}(x, y, u, v, t)$  such that  $L(H) = \partial_u U + \partial_v V$ , then  $L(F(t; x, y)) = 0$ .  
Use creative telescoping for finding  $L$ .
- ③ Factor  $L$  as  $L_2 \cdot P_1 \cdots P_t$ , where  $L_2$  has order 2 and the  $P_i$  have order 1.  
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Works also for  $(0, 0)$ ,  $(x, 0)$ , and  $(0, y)$ !

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For  $F(t; x, y)$ , run whole process for  $F(t; 0, 0)$ ,  $F(t; x, 0)$ , and  $F(t; 0, y)$ , then substitute into Kernel equation!

# Hypergeometric Series Occurring in Explicit Expressions for $F(t; 1, 1)$

	hyp <sub>1</sub>	hyp <sub>2</sub>	w		hyp <sub>1</sub>	hyp <sub>2</sub>	w
1	${}_2F_1\left(\begin{matrix} \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} \\ 1 \end{matrix} \middle  w\right)$	${}_2F_1\left(\begin{matrix} \frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{2} \\ 2 \end{matrix} \middle  w\right)$	$16t^2$	10	${}_2F_1\left(\begin{matrix} \frac{7}{4}, \frac{9}{4} \\ 2 \end{matrix} \middle  w\right)$	${}_2F_1\left(\begin{matrix} \frac{9}{4}, \frac{11}{4} \\ 3 \end{matrix} \middle  w\right)$	$\frac{64(t^2+t+1)t^2}{(12t^2+1)^2}$
2	${}_2F_1\left(\begin{matrix} \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} \\ 1 \end{matrix} \middle  w\right)$		$16t^2$	11	${}_2F_1\left(\begin{matrix} \frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{2} \\ 2 \end{matrix} \middle  w\right)$	${}_2F_1\left(\begin{matrix} \frac{1}{2}, \frac{5}{2} \\ 3 \end{matrix} \middle  w\right)$	$\frac{16t^2}{4t^2+1}$
3	${}_2F_1\left(\begin{matrix} \frac{3}{2}, \frac{3}{2} \\ 2 \end{matrix} \middle  w\right)$		$\frac{16t}{(2t+1)(6t+1)}$	12	${}_2F_1\left(\begin{matrix} \frac{5}{4}, \frac{7}{4} \\ 1 \end{matrix} \middle  w\right)$	${}_2F_1\left(\begin{matrix} \frac{5}{4}, \frac{7}{4} \\ 2 \end{matrix} \middle  w\right)$	$\frac{64t^3(2t+1)}{(8t^2-1)^2}$
4	${}_2F_1\left(\begin{matrix} \frac{3}{2}, \frac{3}{2} \\ 2 \end{matrix} \middle  w\right)$		$\frac{16t(1+t)}{(1+4t)^2}$	13	${}_2F_1\left(\begin{matrix} \frac{7}{4}, \frac{9}{4} \\ 2 \end{matrix} \middle  w\right)$	${}_2F_1\left(\begin{matrix} \frac{7}{4}, \frac{9}{4} \\ 3 \end{matrix} \middle  w\right)$	$\frac{64t^2(l^2+1)}{(16t^2+1)^2}$
5	${}_2F_1\left(\begin{matrix} \frac{3}{4}, \frac{5}{4} \\ 1 \end{matrix} \middle  w\right)$	${}_2F_1\left(\begin{matrix} \frac{5}{4}, \frac{7}{4} \\ 2 \end{matrix} \middle  w\right)$	$64t^4$	14	${}_2F_1\left(\begin{matrix} \frac{7}{4}, \frac{9}{4} \\ 2 \end{matrix} \middle  w\right)$	${}_2F_1\left(\begin{matrix} \frac{9}{4}, \frac{11}{4} \\ 3 \end{matrix} \middle  w\right)$	$\frac{64(t^2+t+1)t^2}{(12t^2+1)^2}$
6	${}_2F_1\left(\begin{matrix} \frac{7}{4}, \frac{9}{4} \\ 2 \end{matrix} \middle  w\right)$	${}_2F_1\left(\begin{matrix} \frac{7}{4}, \frac{9}{4} \\ 3 \end{matrix} \middle  w\right)$	$\frac{64t^3(1+t)}{(1-4t^2)^2}$	15	${}_2F_1\left(\begin{matrix} \frac{1}{4}, \frac{3}{4} \\ 1 \end{matrix} \middle  w\right)$	${}_2F_1\left(\begin{matrix} \frac{3}{4}, \frac{5}{4} \\ 2 \end{matrix} \middle  w\right)$	$64t^4$
7	${}_2F_1\left(\begin{matrix} \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} \\ 1 \end{matrix} \middle  w\right)$	${}_2F_1\left(\begin{matrix} \frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{2} \\ 1 \end{matrix} \middle  w\right)$	$\frac{16t^2}{4t^2+1}$	16	${}_2F_1\left(\begin{matrix} \frac{7}{4}, \frac{9}{4} \\ 2 \end{matrix} \middle  w\right)$	${}_2F_1\left(\begin{matrix} \frac{9}{4}, \frac{11}{4} \\ 3 \end{matrix} \middle  w\right)$	$\frac{64t^3(1+t)}{(1-4t^2)^2}$
8	${}_2F_1\left(\begin{matrix} \frac{5}{4}, \frac{7}{4} \\ 2 \end{matrix} \middle  w\right)$	${}_2F_1\left(\begin{matrix} \frac{7}{4}, \frac{9}{4} \\ 2 \end{matrix} \middle  w\right)$	$\frac{64t^3(2t+1)}{(8t^2-1)^2}$	19	${}_2F_1\left(\begin{matrix} -\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} \\ 1 \end{matrix} \middle  w\right)$	${}_2F_1\left(\begin{matrix} \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} \\ 2 \end{matrix} \middle  w\right)$	$16t^2$
9	${}_2F_1\left(\begin{matrix} \frac{7}{4}, \frac{9}{4} \\ 2 \end{matrix} \middle  w\right)$	${}_2F_1\left(\begin{matrix} \frac{7}{4}, \frac{9}{4} \\ 3 \end{matrix} \middle  w\right)$	$\frac{64t^2(t^2+1)}{(16t^2+1)^2}$				

## Theorem

- In cases 1–19, both  $F(t; x, y)$  and  $F(t; 0, 0)$  are transcendental.
- In cases 1–16 and 19,  $F(t; 1, 1)$  is transcendental.
- Specific simplifications prove algebraicity of  $F(t; 1, 1)$  in cases 17–18.

**Proof:** Define  $G = (P_1 \cdots P_t)(F)$  so that  $L_2(G) = 0$ .

- $F$  is algebraic  $\implies G$  is algebraic.
- Computing a few coefficients of  $G$  shows that this is not 0 on all cases of interest.
- Applying Kovacic's algorithm to  $L_2$  decides whether  $L_2$  has nonzero algebraic solutions.

Local theory of D-finite functions  $\longrightarrow$

Systematic method for coefficient asymptotics

(Flajolet and Odlyzko's singularity analysis)

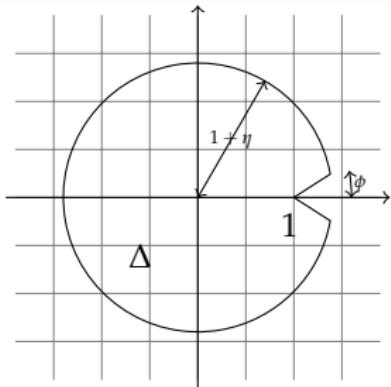
$$f(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} f_n z^n \quad \longrightarrow \quad f_n \sim \dots$$

- Determine dominant singularities of the complex-analytic function  $f$ .
- Find asymptotic expansion

$$f(z) =_{z \rightarrow s} \sum_{\alpha, \gamma} c_{\alpha, \gamma} (s - z)^\alpha \left( \ln \frac{1}{s - z} \right)^\gamma \quad (1)$$

- Syntactic transfer into an asymptotic expansion for  $f_n$

# Transfer Theorems [Flajolet & Odlyzko 1990]



For  $f(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} f_n z^n$  analytic in  $\Delta \setminus \{1\}$ :

$f(z)$	$f_n$	assumptions
$O((1-z)^\alpha)$	$O(n^{-(\alpha+1)})$	$\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$
$o((1-z)^\alpha)$	$o(n^{-(\alpha+1)})$	$\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$
$\sim C(1-z)^\alpha$	$\sim \frac{Cn^{-(\alpha+1)}}{\Gamma(-\alpha)}$	$\alpha \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \mathbb{N}$
$\sum_{j=0}^{m-1} c_j (1-z)^{\alpha_j} + O((1-z)^A)$	$\sum_{j=0}^{m-1} \frac{c_j n^{-(\alpha_j+1)}}{\Gamma(-\alpha_j)} + O(n^{-(A+1)})$	$\alpha_1 \leq \dots \leq \alpha_{m-1} < A$
$O((1-z)^\alpha (\ln(1-z)^{-1})^\gamma)$	$O(n^{-(\alpha+1)} (\ln n)^\gamma)$	$\alpha, \gamma \in \mathbb{R}$
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$\sim C(1-z)^\alpha (\ln(1-z)^{-1})^\gamma$	$\sim \frac{Cn^{-(\alpha+1)} (\ln n)^\gamma}{\Gamma(-\alpha)}$	$\alpha, \gamma \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \mathbb{N}$
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	

# One Example: at $(1, 1)$

$$Q = \frac{1}{t} \int f \quad \text{for } f = (1 - 2t)(1 + 2t)^{-3/2}(1 + 6t)^{-3/2} {}_2F_1\left(\begin{matrix} \frac{3}{2} & \frac{3}{2} \\ 2 & \end{matrix} \middle| w\right)$$

where  $w = \frac{16t}{(1 + 2t)(1 + 6t)}$

Singularities:  $\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{6}, w = 1, w = \infty \rightarrow$  Dominant singularities  $= \pm \frac{1}{6}$ .

$$f(t) \sim_{t \rightarrow \frac{1}{6}^-} \frac{\sqrt{6}}{\pi} (1 - 6t)^{-1} \quad \rightarrow \quad \frac{\sqrt{6}}{\pi} 6^n$$

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$$\frac{1}{t} \int f \rightarrow f_n \sim \frac{\sqrt{6}}{\pi} \frac{6^n}{n+1}$$

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Creative telescoping helps the uniform treatment of several questions:

- compute differential operators that witness D-finiteness,
- algebraic vs transcendental nature of series,
- asymptotics of coefficients.

## **BACK TO THE EXERCISE**

**-Solution-**

## An exercise involving the model



Let  $\mathfrak{S} = \{\text{N}, \text{W}, \text{SE}\}$ . A  $\mathfrak{S}$ -walk is a path in  $\mathbb{Z}^2$  using only steps from  $\mathfrak{S}$ . Show that, for any integer  $n$ , the following quantities are equal:

- (i) the number of  $\mathfrak{S}$ -walks of length  $n$  confined to the upper half plane  $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{N}$  that start and end at the origin  $(0, 0)$ .
- (ii) the number of  $\mathfrak{S}$ -walks of length  $n$  confined to the quarter plane  $\mathbb{N}^2$  that start at the origin  $(0, 0)$  and finish on the diagonal  $x = y$ ;

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For instance, for  $n = 3$ , this common value is 3:

- (i)  $(0,0) \mapsto (-1,0) \mapsto (-1,1) \mapsto (0,0)$ ,  $(0,0) \mapsto (0,1) \mapsto (-1,1) \mapsto (0,0)$   
and  $(0,0) \mapsto (0,1) \mapsto (1,0) \mapsto (0,0)$ , i.e., W-N-SE, N-W-SE, N-SE-W
- (ii)  $(0,0) \mapsto (0,1) \mapsto (1,0) \mapsto (0,0)$ ,  $(0,0) \mapsto (0,1) \mapsto (0,2) \mapsto (1,1)$  and  
 $(0,0) \mapsto (0,1) \mapsto (1,0) \mapsto (1,1)$ , i.e., N-SE-W, N-N-SE, N-SE-N

# A recurrence relation for -walks in $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{N}$

$h(n; i, j) =$  # walks in  $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{N}$  of length  $n$  from  $(0, 0)$  to  $(i, j)$ , with  $\mathfrak{S} =$  

The numbers  $h(n; i, j)$  satisfy

$$h(n; i, j) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } j < 0 \text{ or } n < 0, \\ \sum_{\substack{(i', j') \in \mathfrak{S} \\ i'=i, j'=j}} h(n-1; i-i', j-j') & \text{if } n = 0, \\ & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

```
> h:=proc(n,i,j)
option remember;
  if j<0 or n<0 then 0
  elif n=0 then if i=0 and j=0 then 1 else 0 fi
  else h(n-1,i,j-1)+h(n-1,i+1,j)+h(n-1,i-1,j+1) fi
end:

> A:=series(add(h(n,0,0)*t^n,n=0..12),t,12);
```

$$A = 1 + 3t^3 + 30t^6 + 420t^9 + O(t^{12})$$

# A recurrence relation for -walks in $\mathbb{N}^2$

$q(n; i, j)$  = # walks in  $\mathbb{N}^2$  of length  $n$  from  $(0, 0)$  to  $(i, j)$ , with  $\mathfrak{S}$  = 

The numbers  $q(n; i, j)$  satisfy

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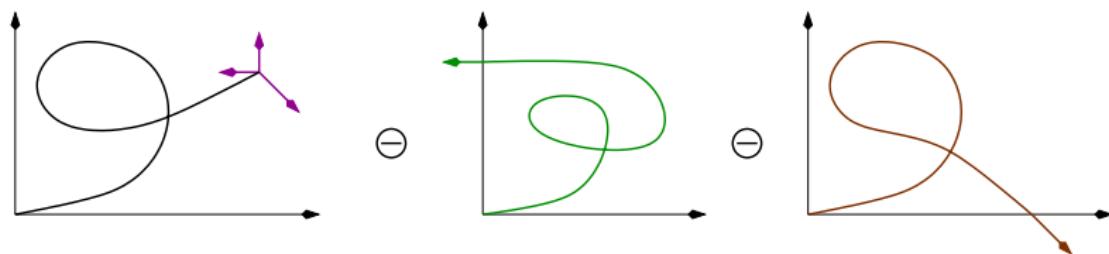
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... and the corresponding functional equation for  $\mathbb{N}^2$

Generating function:  $Q(t; x, y) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{i=0}^n \sum_{j=0}^n q(n; i, j) t^n x^i y^j \in \mathbb{Q}[x, y][[t]]$

Kernel equation ( $\bar{x} = 1/x$ ,  $\bar{y} = 1/y$ ):

$$Q(t; x, y) \equiv Q(x, y) = 1 + t(y + \bar{x} + x\bar{y})Q(x, y) - t\bar{x}Q(0, y) - tx\bar{y}Q(x, 0)$$



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$$(1 - t(y + \bar{x} + x\bar{y}))xyQ(x, y) = xy - tyQ(0, y) - tx^2Q(x, 0)$$

Task (Q): Find  $B(t) = [x^0] Q(x, \bar{x})$

... and the corresponding functional equation for  $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{N}$

Generating function:  $H(t; x, y) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{i=-n}^n \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} h(n; i, j) t^n x^i y^j \in \mathbb{Q}[x, \bar{x}, y][[t]]$

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Task (H): Find  $A(t) = [x^0] H(x, 0)$

# The kernel method for $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{N}$

- The kernel equation reads (with  $K(x, y) = 1 - t(y + \bar{x} + x\bar{y})$ ):

$$K(x, y)yH(x, y) = y - t x H(x, 0)$$

- Let

$$y_0 = \frac{x - t - \sqrt{(t - x)^2 - 4t^2x^3}}{2tx} = xt + t^2 + (x^2 + \bar{x})t^3 + (3x + \bar{x}^2)t^4 + \dots$$

be the (unique) root in  $\mathbb{Q}[x, \bar{x}][[t]]$  of  $K(x, y_0) = 0$ .

- Then

$$0 = K(x, y_0)yH(x, y_0) = y_0 - t x H(x, 0),$$

thus

$$H(x, 0) = \frac{y_0}{tx} \quad \text{and} \quad H(x, y) = \frac{y - y_0}{tx}.$$

- In conclusion: the GF of excursions in the half-plane is

$$A(t) = \left[ x^0 \right] \frac{y_0}{tx}.$$

## The group of the model



Step set  $\mathfrak{S} = \{(-1, 0), (0, 1), (1, -1)\}$ , with characteristic polynomial

$$\chi(x, y) = \frac{1}{x} + y + x \cdot \frac{1}{y} = \bar{x} + y + x\bar{y}$$

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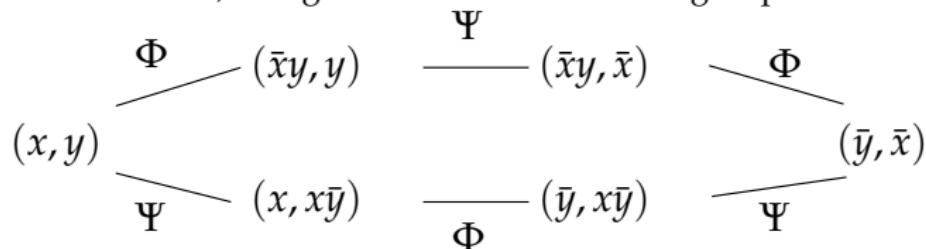
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$\Phi$  and  $\Psi$  are involutions, and generate a finite dihedral group  $\mathfrak{G}$  of order 6:



# The kernel method for $\mathbb{N}^2$

- The kernel equation reads (with  $K(x, y) = 1 - t(y + \bar{x} + x\bar{y})$ ):

$$K(x, y)xyQ(x, y) = xy - tx^2Q(x, 0) - tyQ(0, y)$$

- The orbit of  $(x, y)$  under  $\mathfrak{G}$  is

$$(x, y) \xleftarrow{\Phi} (\bar{x}y, y) \xleftarrow{\Psi} (\bar{x}y, \bar{x}) \xleftarrow{\Phi} (\bar{y}, \bar{x}) \xleftarrow{\Psi} (\bar{y}, x\bar{y}) \xleftarrow{\Phi} (x, x\bar{y}) \xleftarrow{\Psi} (x, y).$$

- All transformations of  $\mathfrak{G}$  leave  $K(x, y)$  invariant. Hence

$$\begin{aligned} K(x, y) xyQ(x, y) &= xy - tx^2Q(x, 0) - tyQ(0, y) \\ -K(x, y) \bar{x}y^2Q(\bar{x}y, y) &= -\bar{x}y^2 + t\bar{x}^2y^2Q(\bar{x}y, 0) + tyQ(0, y) \\ K(x, y) \bar{x}^2yQ(\bar{x}y, \bar{x}) &= \bar{x}^2y - t\bar{x}^2y^2Q(\bar{x}y, 0) - t\bar{x}Q(0, \bar{x}). \end{aligned}$$

- Summing up yields the (half) orbit equation

$$\begin{aligned} K(x, y) \left( xyQ(x, y) - \bar{x}y^2Q(\bar{x}y, y) + \bar{x}^2yQ(\bar{x}y, \bar{x}) \right) \\ = xy - \bar{x}y^2 + \bar{x}^2y - tx^2Q(x, 0) - t\bar{x}Q(0, \bar{x}). \end{aligned}$$

# Conclusion

- We finally solve the (half) orbit equation

$$\begin{aligned} K(x, y) \left( xyQ(x, y) - \bar{x}y^2Q(\bar{x}y, y) + \bar{x}^2yQ(\bar{x}y, \bar{x}) \right) \\ = xy - \bar{x}y^2 + \bar{x}^2y - tx^2Q(x, 0) - t\bar{x}Q(0, \bar{x}). \end{aligned}$$

- Substitute  $y$  in this equation by  $\bar{x}$ , resp. by  $y_0$ , yields

$$\begin{array}{rcl} K(x, \bar{x})Q(x, \bar{x}) & = & 1 & -tx^2Q(x, 0) - t\bar{x}Q(0, \bar{x}) \\ 0 & = & xy_0 - \bar{x}y_0^2 + \bar{x}^2y_0 & -tx^2Q(x, 0) - t\bar{x}Q(0, \bar{x}) \end{array}$$

- By subtraction:

$$Q(x, \bar{x}) = \frac{1 - (xy_0 - \bar{x}y_0^2 + \bar{x}^2y_0)}{1 - t(2\bar{x} + x^2)} = \frac{y_0}{tx}$$

- In conclusion: the GF of diagonal walks in the quarter-plane is

$$B(t) = [x^0] Q(x, \bar{x}) = [x^0] \frac{y_0}{tx},$$

thus equal to  $A(t)$ , the GF of excursions in the half-plane.

QED

## Bonus: explicit expression

We have proved that both  $A(t)$  and  $B(t)$  are equal to

$$\left[ x^0 \right] \frac{-\sqrt{(t-x)^2 - 4t^2x^3}}{2t^2x^2}$$

Creative telescoping gives a differential equation for  $A(t)$  and  $B(t)$ :

```
> G:=sqrt((t-x)^2 - 4*t^2*x^3)/(2*t^2*x^2);  
> deq:=diffop2de(Zeilberger(G/x, t, x, Dt) [1], [Dt,t], y(t));
```

$$(27t^4 - t)y''(t) + (108t^3 - 4)y'(t) + 54t^2y(t) = 0.$$

Its solution is

$$A(t) = B(t) = {}_2F_1\left(\begin{matrix} 1/3 & 2/3 \\ 2 & \end{matrix} \middle| 27t^3\right) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(3n)!}{n!^3} \frac{t^{3n}}{n+1}.$$

Thus the two sequences are equal to

$$a_{3n} = b_{3n} = \frac{(3n)!}{n!^2 \cdot (n+1)!}, \quad \text{and} \quad a_m = b_m = 0 \quad \text{if } 3 \text{ does not divide } m.$$

## Bonus 2: Solving directly the kernel equation for $\mathbb{N}^2$

- Orbit equation:

$$\begin{aligned} xyQ(x, y) - \bar{x}y^2Q(\bar{x}y, y) + \bar{x}^2yQ(\bar{x}y, \bar{x}) \\ - \bar{x}\bar{y}Q(\bar{y}, \bar{x}) + x\bar{y}^2Q(\bar{y}, x\bar{y}) - x^2\bar{y}Q(x, x\bar{y}) = \\ \frac{xy - \bar{x}y^2 + \bar{x}^2y - \bar{x}\bar{y} + x\bar{y}^2 - x^2\bar{y}}{1 - t(y + \bar{x} + x\bar{y})} \end{aligned}$$

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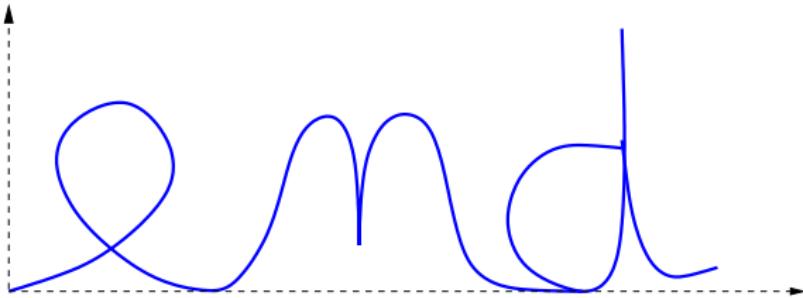
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Thanks for your attention!