

# Laguerre digraphs and continued fractions

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*Based on Joint Work With*

Alex Dyachenko, Matthias Pétréolle, Alan Sokal

- 1 Laguerre digraphs
- 2 Combinatorics of continued fractions
- 3 Jacobi–Rogers matrix
- 4 Biane history
- 5 Foata–Zeilberger history
- 6 List of applications

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## Definition

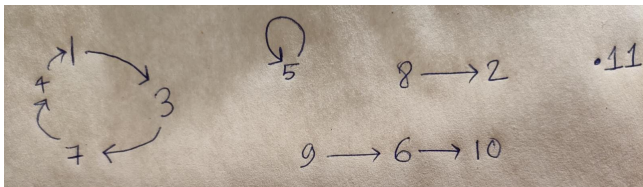
A **Laguerre digraph** of size  $n$  is a directed graph where each vertex has a distinct label from the label set  $\{1, \dots, n\}$  and has indegree 0 or 1 and outdegree 0 or 1.

# Laguerre digraph

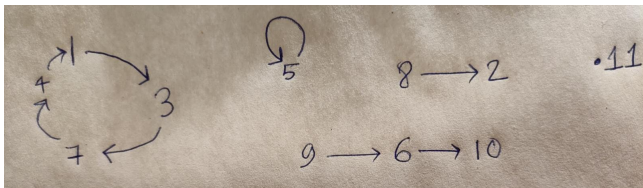
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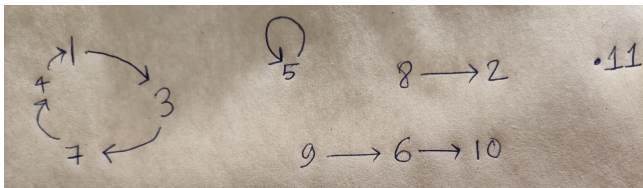
Example:



# Connected components



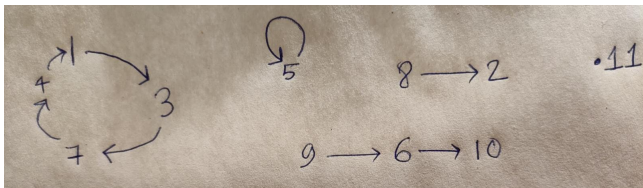
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- Directed cycle
- Directed paths

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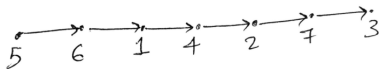
Laguerre digraphs generalise permutations in 2 different ways

- 1 No paths - Cyclic structure of permutations



$$\sigma = (1, 5, 2, 6, 7, 3)(4)$$

- 2 One path, no cycles - linear structure of permutation



$$\sigma = 5614273$$

# Enumeration

$LD_{n,k}$  - Set of Laguerre digraphs on  $n$  vertices with  $k$  paths

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## Proposition

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{G \in LD_n} \lambda^{\text{cyc}(G)} x^{\text{pa}(G)} \frac{t^n}{n!} = \exp\left(\frac{xt}{1-t} + \lambda \log \frac{1}{1-t}\right)$$

*In particular,  $LD_{n,k}$  is enumerated by*

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Therefore

$$|LD_{n,k}| = \binom{n}{k} \frac{n!}{k!}$$

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Each Laguerre digraph is a labelled collection of directed paths and directed cycles

Laguerre polynomials are a sequence of orthogonal polynomials

$$L_n^{(\alpha)}(x) = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n+\alpha}{n-k} \frac{(-x)^k}{k!}$$

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$$\mathcal{L}_n^{(\alpha)}(x) = n! L_n^{(\alpha)}(-x) = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} (n+\alpha)(n-1+\alpha)\cdots(k+1+\alpha)x^k$$

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Laguerre digraphs after Sokal (2022)

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Jacobi-type continued fraction (J-fraction)

$$\frac{1}{1 - \gamma_0 t - \frac{\beta_1 t^2}{1 - \gamma_1 t - \frac{\beta_2 t^2}{1 - \gamma_2 t - \frac{\beta_3 t^2}{\ddots}}}}$$

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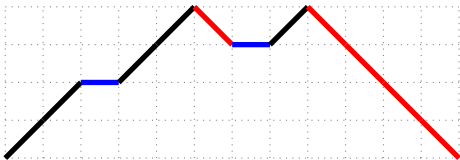
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Associated C-fraction outside of combinatorial literature

Consider a Motzkin path, let's say

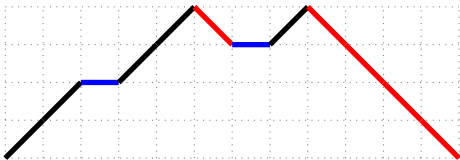
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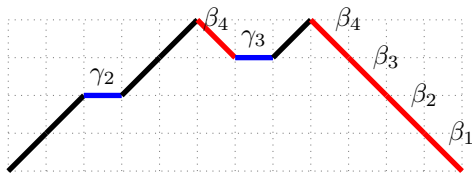


Assign weights:

- $\nearrow : 1$
- $\rightarrow$  from height  $i \rightarrow i : \gamma_i$
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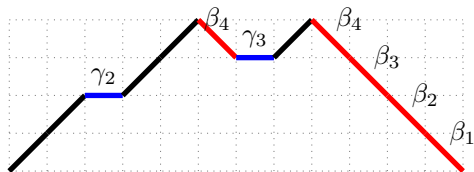


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$$\text{Weight} = \beta_1 \beta_2 \beta_3 \beta_4^2 \gamma_2 \gamma_3$$

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Theorem (Flajolet '80)

*The  $a_n$  are weighted sum of Motzkin paths with  $n$  steps.*

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Gateway for proving continued fractions using bijective combinatorics :-D

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# Jacobi–Rogers Matrix

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$J_{n,k}$  = Weighted sum of partial Motzkin paths  $(0,0)$  to  $(n,k)$

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Also known as Stieltjes table/tableau

If

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n t_n = \frac{1}{1 - \gamma_0 t - \frac{\beta_1 t^2}{1 - \gamma_1 t - \frac{\beta_2 t^2}{1 - \ddots}}}$$

then

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Question: If J-fraction for  $a_n$  is known, combinatorially understand matrix J

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Jacobi-type continued fraction for  $n!$ :

$$1 + 1!t + 2!t^2 + 3!t^3 + 4!t^4 + \dots = \frac{1}{1 - 1 \cdot t - \frac{1 \cdot t^2}{1 - 3 \cdot t - \frac{4 \cdot t^2}{1 - 5 \cdot t - \frac{9 \cdot t^2}{1 - \ddots}}}}$$

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- Foata–Zeilberger (1990)
- Biane (1993)

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Each permutation  $\sigma$  corresponds to  $(\omega, \xi)$  where  $\omega$  is Motzkin path and choice of labels  $\xi$



# Construction of path for $n!$

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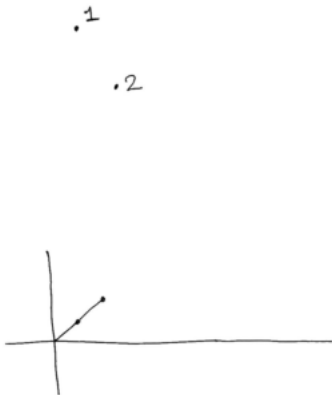


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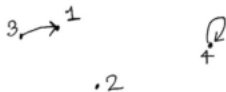


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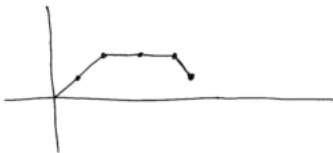
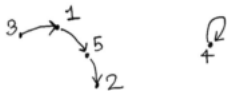


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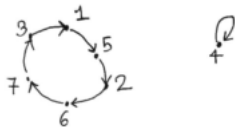


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When  $a_n = n!$ ,

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n t^n = \frac{1}{1 - t - \frac{1t^2}{1 - 3t - \frac{4t^2}{1 - \dots}}}$$

$$J_{n,k} = \binom{n}{k} \frac{n!}{k!}$$

These count Laguerre digraphs with  $k$  paths

Flag of Laguerre digraphs exhibiting Biane's construction

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$$\emptyset \subset$$

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$$\emptyset \subset \cdot 1$$

# Biane history

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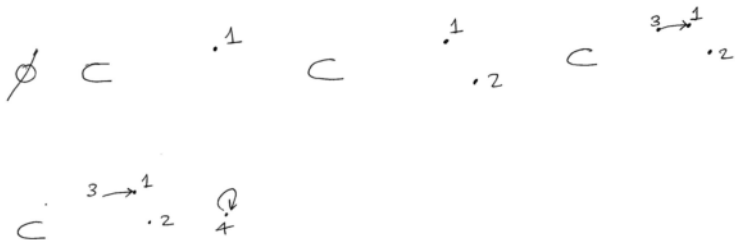
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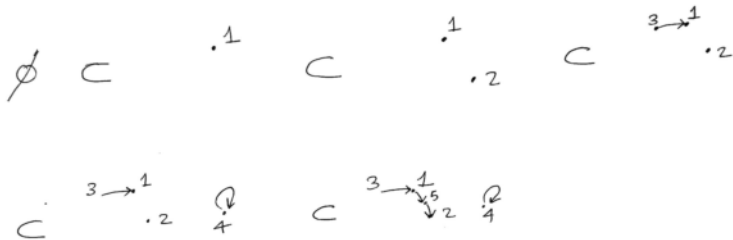
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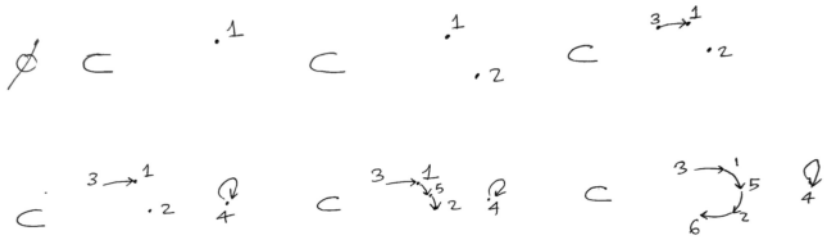
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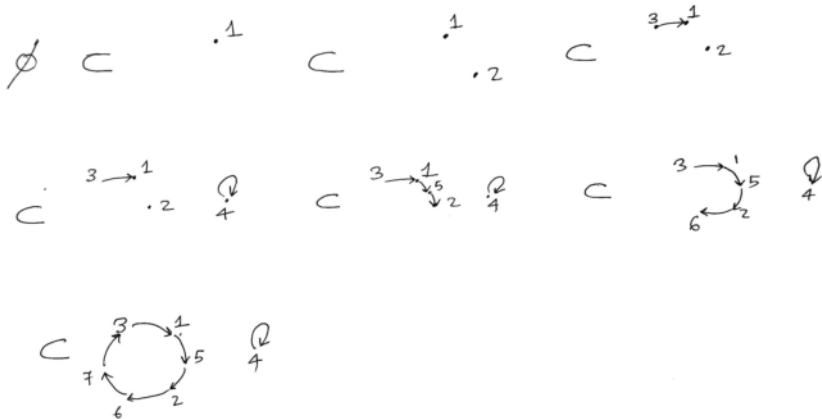
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Insertion of edges rather than vertices at each step

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Define sets

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Twist in story: Can keep track of cycles being created using  
Foata–Zeilberger bijection

- 1 Laguerre digraphs
- 2 Combinatorics of continued fractions
- 3 Jacobi–Rogers matrix
- 4 Biane history
- 5 Foata–Zeilberger history
- 6 List of applications**

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- cycle double rise  $\sigma^{-1}(i) < i < \sigma(i)$
- cycle double fall  $\sigma^{-1}(i) > i > \sigma(i)$
- fixed point  $i = \sigma(i) = \sigma^{-1}(i)$



# Record classification

Consider  $\sigma$  as a word  $\sigma(1)\sigma(2)\dots\sigma(n)$ :

- $i$  is record if for every  $j < i$  we have  $\sigma(j) < \sigma(i)$   
left-to-right-maxima
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


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Each  $i$  is one of the following four types:

- rar - record-antirecord 
- errec - exclusive record 
- earec - exclusive antirecord 
- nrar - neither record-antirecord 

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- rar
- nrfix

# Continued fractions counting permutation statistics

Consider 11-variable polynomials

$$P_n(x_1, x_2, y_1, y_2, u_1, u_2, v_1, v_2, w, z) = \sum_{\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n} x_1^{\text{eareccpeak}(\sigma)} x_2^{\text{eareccdfall}(\sigma)} y_1^{\text{ereccval}(\sigma)} y_2^{\text{ereccdrise}(\sigma)} z^{\text{rar}(\sigma)} \times \\ u_1^{\text{nrcpeak}(\sigma)} u_2^{\text{nrcdfall}(\sigma)} v_1^{\text{nrcval}(\sigma)} v_2^{\text{nrcdrise}(\sigma)} w^{\text{nrfix}(\sigma)} \lambda^{\text{cyc}(\sigma)}$$

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Theorem (D. (2023), Conjectured by Sokal–Zeng (2022))

$$= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_n(x_1, x_2, y_1, y_2, u_1, u_2, y_1, v_2, w, z, \lambda) t^n$$
$$= \frac{1}{1 - \lambda z \cdot t - \frac{\lambda x_1 y_1 \cdot t^2}{1 - (x_2 + y_2 + \lambda w) \cdot t - \frac{(\lambda + 1)(x_1 + u_1) y_1 \cdot t^2}{1 - ((x_2 + v_2) + (y_2 + v_2) + \lambda w) \cdot t - \frac{(\lambda + 2)(x_1 + 2u_1) y_1 \cdot t^2}{1 - \dots}}}}$$

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Can also prove a 4-variable continued fraction conjectured in 1996 by Randrianarivony–Zeng.

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Branched continued fractions for Laguerre polynomials and total positivity

Thank you

