Lattice walks at the Interface of Algebra, Analysis and Combinatorics BIRS, Banff, Canada - September 20th, 2017

Winding angles of simple walks on $\mathbb{Z}^{2}$
Timothy Budd
Based on arXiv:1709.04042 and w.i.p.

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- Can we compute the following generating function?

$$
W_{\ell, p}^{(\alpha)}(t):=\sum_{w} t^{|w|} \mathbf{1}_{\left\{w_{0}=(p, 0),\left|w_{|w|}\right|=\ell, \theta^{w}=\alpha\right\}} . \quad\left(p, \ell \geq 1, \alpha \in \frac{\pi}{2} \mathbb{Z}\right)
$$




## Building blocks

- Three types of building blocks: type $A, B, J$.

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- To formalize this: fix $k=4 t \in(0,1)$ and choose convenient Hilbert space + basis.





## Building blocks (operators)

- Let basis $\left(e_{p}\right)_{p=1}^{\infty}$ of $\ell^{2}(\mathbb{C})$ be such that $\left\langle e_{l}, e_{p}\right\rangle=p \mathbf{1}_{\{I=p\}}$ and let

$$
\left\langle e_{l}, \mathbf{A}_{k} e_{p}\right\rangle=I p A_{l, p}(t), \quad\left\langle e_{l}, \mathbf{B}_{k} e_{p}\right\rangle=B_{l, p}(t), \quad\left\langle e_{l}, \mathbf{J}_{k} e_{p}\right\rangle=I J_{l, p}(t) .
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- Then indeed $\mathbf{J}_{k}=\mathbf{A}_{k} \mathbf{B}_{k}$ :

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I J_{l, p}(t)=I \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} A_{l, m}(t) B_{m, p}(t)=\sum_{m=1}^{\infty}\left\langle e_{l}, \mathbf{A}_{k} e_{m}\right\rangle \frac{1}{m}\left\langle e_{m}, \mathbf{B}_{k} e_{p}\right\rangle=\left\langle e_{l}, \mathbf{A}_{k} \mathbf{B}_{k} e_{p}\right\rangle
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$$

- $\mathbf{A}_{k}, \mathbf{B}_{k}, \mathbf{J}_{k}$ are bounded, self-adjoint and commuting! Simultaneous eigenvalue decomposition?



## Putting the building blocks together

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- $w$ is encoded by a simple walk $\left(\alpha_{j}\right)_{j=0}^{N}$ on $\frac{\pi}{2} \mathbb{Z}$ from 0 to $\alpha$ together with a sequence ( $\left.w^{(0)}, \ldots, w^{(N)}\right)$ of "matching" walks with $w^{(0)}, \ldots, w^{(N-1)}$ of type $J$ and $w^{(N)}$ of type $B$.




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- Hence $W_{\ell, p}^{(\alpha)}(t)=\left\langle e_{l}, \mathbf{Y}_{k}^{(\alpha)} e_{p}\right\rangle$ where $\mathbf{Y}_{k}^{(\alpha)}$ is formally given by

$$
\mathbf{Y}_{k}^{(\alpha)}=\sum_{N=0}^{\infty} \#\{\text { simple walks from } 0 \text { to } \alpha \text { of length } N\} \cdot \mathbf{J}_{k}^{N} \mathbf{B}_{k}
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## The operator $\mathbf{J}_{k}$

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J_{\ell, p}(t)=\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} t^{n} \frac{p}{n}\binom{n}{\frac{n-p}{2}}\binom{n}{\frac{n-\ell}{2}} \mathbf{1}_{\{n-p \text { and } n-\ell \text { nonnegative and even }\}}
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- Not only is $\mathbf{J}_{k}$ self-adjoint, $\left\langle e_{\ell}, \mathbf{J}_{k} e_{p}\right\rangle=\ell J_{\ell, p}(t)$, but also $\mathbf{J}_{k}=\mathbf{R}_{k}^{\dagger} \mathbf{R}_{k}$ with (recall $k=4 t$ )

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\mathbf{R}_{k} e_{p}:=\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} e_{n}\left(\frac{k}{4}\right)^{n / 2} \frac{p}{n}\binom{n}{\frac{n-p}{2}} \mathbf{1}_{\{n-p \geq 0 \text { and even }\}}
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& =\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} e_{n}\left[z^{n}\right] \psi_{k}(z)^{p}, \quad \psi_{k}(z):=\frac{1-\sqrt{1-k z^{2}}}{\sqrt{k} z}
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## Dirichlet space $\mathcal{D}$

- $\mathcal{D}=\mathcal{D}(\mathbb{D})$ is Hilbert space of analytic functions $f$ on the unit disk $\mathbb{D} \subset \mathbb{C}$ with $f(0)=0$ and finite norm w.r.t. $\left(\mathrm{d} A(x+i y):=\frac{1}{\pi} \mathrm{~d} x \mathrm{~d} y\right)$

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- By conformal invariance of the Dirichlet inner product,

$$
\left\langle f, \mathbf{J}_{k} g\right\rangle_{\mathcal{D}}=\left\langle f, \mathbf{R}_{k}^{\dagger} \mathbf{R}_{k} g\right\rangle_{\mathcal{D}}=\left\langle f \circ \psi_{k}, g \circ \psi_{k}\right\rangle_{\mathcal{D}}=\langle f, g\rangle_{\mathcal{D}\left(\psi_{k}(\mathbb{D})\right)} .
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- To diagonalize $\mathbf{J}_{k}$ it suffices to find a basis $\left(f_{m}\right)$ that is orthogonal w.r.t. both $\langle\cdot, \cdot\rangle_{\mathcal{D}(\mathbb{D})}$ and $\langle\cdot, \cdot\rangle_{\mathcal{D}\left(\Psi_{k}(\mathbb{D})\right)}$.


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- Look for a nice conformal mapping.
- An elliptic integral does the job $\left(k^{\prime}=\sqrt{1-k^{2}}, k_{1}=\frac{1-k^{\prime}}{1+k^{\prime}}\right)$

$$
v_{k_{1}}(z)=\frac{1}{4 K\left(k_{1}\right)} \int_{0}^{z} \frac{\mathrm{~d} x}{\sqrt{\left(k_{1}-x^{2}\right)\left(1-k_{1} x^{2}\right)}}=\frac{\operatorname{arcsn}\left(\frac{z}{\sqrt{k_{1}}}, k_{1}\right)}{4 K\left(k_{1}\right)}
$$



- The push-forward of $f \in \mathcal{D}$ extends to an analytic function on the strip $\mathbb{R}+i\left(-T_{k}, T_{k}\right)$ that is even around $\pm 1 / 4$, hence 1 -periodic.

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- Hence basis

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f_{m}(z)=\cos \left(2 \pi m\left(v_{k_{1}}(z)+1 / 4\right)\right)-\cos (\pi m / 2), \quad m \geq 1
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- Conclusion: $\mathbf{J}_{k}$ has eigenvectors $\left(f_{m}\right)_{m \geq 1}$ and eigenvalues

$$
\frac{\left\langle f_{m}, f_{m}\right\rangle_{\mathcal{D}\left(\psi_{k}(\mathbb{D})\right)}}{\left\langle f_{m}, f_{m}\right\rangle_{\mathcal{D}(\mathbb{D})}}=\frac{\sinh \left(2 m \pi T_{k}\right)}{\sinh \left(4 m \pi T_{k}\right)}=\frac{1}{q_{k}^{m / 2}+q_{k}^{-m / 2}}, \quad q_{k}=e^{-\pi \frac{K\left(k^{\prime}\right)}{K(k)}} \text { "nome" }
$$



- May work out eigenvalues of $\mathbf{A}_{k}$ and $\mathbf{B}_{k}$ too (eigenvectors $\left.\left(f_{m}\right)_{m \geq 1}\right)$ :

$\mathbf{A}_{k}: \frac{\pi}{2 K(k)} \frac{m}{q_{k}^{-m / 2}-q_{k}^{m / 2}}$

$\mathbf{B}_{k}: \frac{2 K(k)}{\pi} \frac{1}{m} \frac{1-q_{k}^{m}}{1+q_{k}^{m}}$

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- Recall $W_{\ell, p}^{(\alpha)}(t)=\left\langle e_{l}, \mathbf{Y}_{k}^{(\alpha)} e_{p}\right\rangle, \alpha \in \frac{\pi}{2} \mathbb{Z}$, where

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\mathbf{Y}_{k}^{(\alpha)}=\sum_{N=0}^{\infty} \#\{\text { simple walks from } 0 \text { to } \alpha \text { of length } N\} \cdot \mathbf{J}_{k}^{N} \mathbf{B}_{k} .
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It has eigenvalues

$$
\mathbf{Y}_{k}^{(\alpha)} f_{m}=\frac{2 K(k)}{\pi} \frac{1}{m} q_{k}^{m|\alpha| / \pi} f_{m}
$$

## Reflection principle

- For $I=\left(\beta_{-}, \beta_{+}\right), \beta_{ \pm} \in \frac{\pi}{4} \mathbb{Z}, \alpha \in I \cap \frac{\pi}{2} \mathbb{Z}$ and $p, \ell$ even, let

$$
W_{\ell, p}^{(\alpha, l)}(t)=\sum_{w} t^{|w|} \mathbf{1}_{\left\{w_{0}=(p, 0),\left|w_{|w|}\right|=\ell, \theta^{w}=\alpha, \theta_{i}^{w} \in I \text { for } 1 \leq i<|w|\right\}} .
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- If $\theta^{w} \in 2 \beta_{+}-\alpha+\delta \mathbb{Z}$ then $\theta^{w^{\prime}} \in \alpha+\delta \mathbb{Z}, \delta=2\left(\beta_{+}-\beta_{-}\right)$.

$$
W_{\ell, p}^{(\alpha, l)}(t)=\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty}\left(W_{\ell, p}^{(\alpha+n \delta)}(t)-W_{\ell, p}^{\left(2 \beta_{+}-\alpha+n \delta\right)}(t)\right) .
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- $W_{\ell, p}^{(0,(-\pi / 4, \pi / 2))}(t)=\left\langle e_{\ell}, \mathbf{X} e_{p}\right\rangle_{\mathcal{D}}$ and $\mathbf{X}$ has e.v. $\frac{2 K(k)}{\pi m} \frac{1-q_{k}^{m}}{1+q_{k}^{m / 2}+q_{k}^{m}}$.


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More examples see [TB,'17, Theorem 1] for the general case.

$\left\langle e_{\ell}, \bullet e_{p}\right\rangle_{\mathcal{D}}, \frac{2 K(k)}{\pi m} \frac{1-q_{k}^{m}}{1+q_{k}^{m / 2}+q_{k}^{m}}$

$\frac{1}{l}\left\langle e_{\ell}, \bullet e_{p}\right\rangle_{\mathcal{D}}, \frac{1}{q_{k}^{m \alpha / \pi}+q_{k}^{-m \alpha / \pi}}$

$\frac{1}{\ell p}\left\langle e_{\ell}, \bullet e_{p}\right\rangle_{\mathcal{D}}, \frac{\pi m}{2 K(k)} \frac{1}{q_{k}^{-m \alpha / \pi}-q_{k}^{m \alpha / \pi}}$

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Angle doubling $\leftrightarrow$ Landen transformation

- Disregarding $K(k)$ the spectra only depend on $\alpha$ and $k=4 t$ through the combination $q_{k}^{\alpha / \pi}$.

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- Deserves a combinatorial explanation!

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## A partial explanation

- Consider loops $w$, i.e. $w_{0}=w_{|w|} \in\{(1,0),(2,0), \ldots\}$, with winding angle $\theta^{w}=\alpha \in 2 \pi \mathbb{Z}$ and $\theta_{i}^{w}<\alpha$ for $i<|w|$.
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- Substituting $x \rightarrow \sqrt{k_{1}(t) / 4}$ in g.f. of Dyck paths on the slit plane with fixed endpoints yields the corresponding g.f. for diagonal walks.

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## Application: Excursions

- Consider set $\mathcal{E}$ of excursions from the origin (rectilinear or diagonal).

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F^{(\alpha)}(t):=\sum_{w \in \mathcal{E}} t^{|w|} \mathbf{1}_{\{\theta w=\alpha\}}, \quad \alpha \in \frac{\pi}{2} \mathbb{Z} .
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\end{aligned}
$$



## Excursions in cones

- For $I=\left(\beta_{-}, \beta_{+}\right), \beta_{ \pm} \in \frac{\pi}{4} \mathbb{Z}, \alpha \in I \cap \frac{\pi}{2} \mathbb{Z}$, a reflection principle shows

$$
\begin{aligned}
F^{(\alpha, l)}(t) & :=\sum_{w \in \mathcal{E}} t^{|w|} \mathbf{1}_{\left\{w_{1}=(1,1), \theta^{w}=\alpha, \theta_{i}^{w} \in I \text { for all } i\right\}} \\
& =\frac{1}{4} \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}\left(F^{(\alpha+n \delta)}(t)-F^{\left(2 \beta_{+}-\alpha+n \delta\right)}(t)\right), \quad \delta:=2\left(\beta_{+}-\beta_{-}\right)
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& \text { where }
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
F(t, b):=\sum_{\alpha \in \frac{\pi}{2} \mathbb{Z}} F^{(\alpha)}(t) e^{i b \alpha}=\frac{1}{\cos \left(\frac{\pi b}{2}\right)}\left[1-\frac{\pi \tan \left(\frac{\pi b}{4}\right)}{2 K(k)} \frac{\theta_{1}^{\prime}\left(\frac{\pi b}{4}, \sqrt{q_{k}}\right)}{\theta_{1}\left(\frac{\pi b}{4}, \sqrt{q_{k}}\right)}\right]
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- $t \mapsto F(t, b)$ is algebraic for $b \in \mathbb{Q} \backslash \mathbb{Z}$ and transcendental for $b \in \mathbb{Z}$ !


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- $t \mapsto F^{(\alpha, l)}(t)$ is algebraic if $\beta_{+}-\beta_{-} \in \frac{\pi}{2} \mathbb{Z}+\frac{\pi}{4}$

$$
\text { (or if } \beta_{ \pm} \in \frac{\pi}{2} \mathbb{Z} \text { and either } \beta_{+}-\beta_{-} \in \pi \mathbb{Z}+\frac{\pi}{2} \text { or } \alpha \in \pi \mathbb{Z}+\frac{\pi}{2} \text { or } \beta_{+}-\alpha \in \pi \mathbb{Z} \text { ). }
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## Gessel's sequence

- Special case $\alpha=0, I=(-\pi / 4, \pi / 2)$ :

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F^{(0, l)}(t)=\frac{1}{4} F\left(t, \frac{4}{3}\right)=\frac{1}{2}\left[\frac{\sqrt{3} \pi}{2 K(4 t)} \frac{\theta_{1}^{\prime}\left(\frac{\pi}{3}, \sqrt{q_{k}}\right)}{\theta_{1}\left(\frac{\pi}{3}, \sqrt{q_{k}}\right)}-1\right]
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- Gessel's conjecture, proved in [Kauers, Koutschan, Zeilberger, '09], [Bostan, Kurkova, Raschel, '13], [Bousquet-Mélou, '16], [Bernardi, Bousquet-Mélou, Raschel, '17]:

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- Another proof: check that both satisfy same algebraic equation.



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- Walks with small steps: $\mathcal{S} \subset\{-1,0,1\}^{2} \backslash\{(0,0)\}$
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- $\Phi_{p}$ is a bijection with rooted planar maps of perimeter $p$ with
- for each face of degree $d \geq 1$ an excursion above or below axis from $(0,0)$ to $(d-2,0)$
- for each vertex an excursion above axis from $(0,0)$ to $(-2,0)$.


## Walks on the slit plane

- This extends to a bijection $\Phi_{I, p}$ between walks on the slit plane from $(p, 0)$ to $(-I, 0)$ and rooted planar maps with perimeter $p$ and
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From walks to loop-decorated maps


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- A very similar enumeration problem ( $O(n)$ loop model on random planar maps) has been solved in the mathematical physics literature.
[Borot, Bouttier, Guitter, '11] [Borot, Bouttier, Duplantier, '16]


## Other walks with small steps?

- Generalization to walks with step set $\mathcal{S} \subset\{-1,0,1\}^{2} \backslash\{(0,0)\}$.

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- Depending on symmetries of $\mathcal{S}$ :

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\alpha \in 2 \pi \mathbb{Z}, \quad \alpha \in \pi \mathbb{Z}, \quad \text { or } \quad \alpha \in \frac{\pi}{2} \mathbb{Z}
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Thanks for you attention!
Comments?

