

# Creative Telescoping

—From 1G to 4G algorithms—

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M2, CR06

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*[50] Develop computer programs for simplifying sums that involve binomial coefficients.*

- ▷ **Today**: how computer algebra uses Bernoulli's 1682 idea –systematically and algorithmically–, to solve Knuth's 1969 exercise, and more

# DIAGONALS

## Definition

If  $F$  is a multivariate 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 the univariate power series

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**Example:** if  $n = 1$ , then (trivially)

$$\text{Diag}(F) = F(t).$$



# Diagonals of multivariate power series

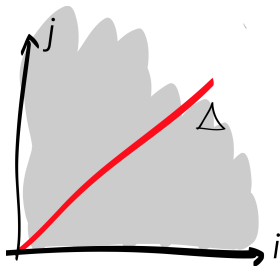
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$$\text{Diag}(F) = \sum_{n \geq 0} \binom{2n}{n} t^n = 1 + 2t + 6t^2 + 20t^3 + 70t^4 + \dots$$

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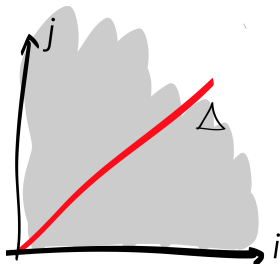
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▷  $\text{Diag}(F)$  is not a rational function, even though  $F$  is rational.

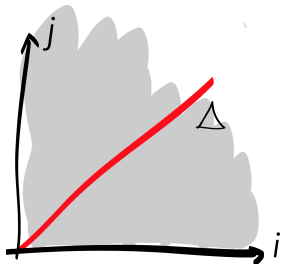
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Theorem (Pólya, 1922)

Diagonals of *bivariate* rational functions are *algebraic*.

# Pólya's theorem

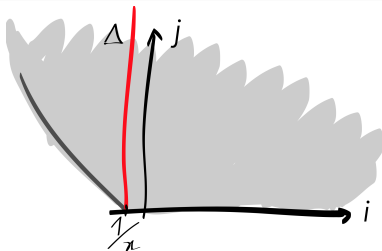
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## Theorem (Pólya, 1922)

Diagonals of *bivariate* rational functions are *algebraic*.

**Proof:** Since  $F\left(x, \frac{t}{x}\right) = \sum_{i,j} a_{i,j} x^{i-j} t^j$  we have that  $\text{Diag}(F) = [x^0]F\left(x, \frac{t}{x}\right)$ .

Therefore, by Cauchy's integral theorem,

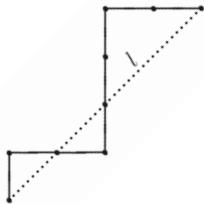
$$\text{Diag}(F) = [x^{-1}] \frac{1}{x} F\left(x, \frac{t}{x}\right) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{|x|=\epsilon} F\left(x, \frac{t}{x}\right) \frac{dx}{x}.$$

By the Residue Theorem: last integral is a sum of residues, all algebraic.  $\square$

## Example: Dyck walks

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

Rotating a Dyck bridge



counterclockwise by  $\pi/4$

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

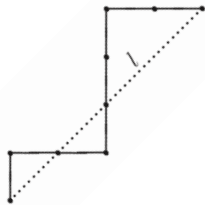
$$\implies B(t) = \sum_{n \geq 0} B_n t^n = \text{Diag} \left( \frac{1}{1-x-y} \right)$$

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

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## Rothstein-Trager resultant

Let  $A, B \in \mathbb{K}[x]$  be such that  $\deg(A) < \deg(B)$ , with  $B$  squarefree. In particular, the rational function  $F = A/B$  has simple poles only.

**Lemma.** The residue  $r_i$  of  $F$  at the pole  $p_i$  equals  $r_i = \frac{A(p_i)}{B'(p_i)}$ .

**Proof.** If  $F = \sum_i \frac{r_i}{x - p_i}$ , then  $r_i = (F \cdot (x - p_i))|_{x=p_i} = \frac{A(x)}{\prod_{j \neq i} (x - p_j)}(p_i)$

**Theorem.** The residues  $r_i$  of  $F$  are roots of the resultant

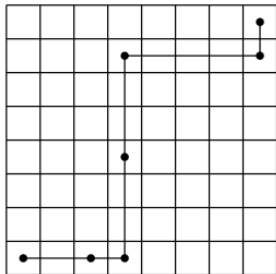
$$R(t) = \text{Res}_x(B(x), A(x) - t \cdot B'(x)).$$

**Proof.** By Poisson's formula:  $R(t) = \prod_i (A(p_i) - t \cdot B'(p_i))$ . □

- ▷ Introduced by [Rothstein-Trager 1976] for the (indefinite) integration of rational functions.
- ▷ Generalized by [Bronstein 1992] 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 only 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

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

**Residue theorem:**  $\text{Diag}(F)$  is a sum of roots  $y$  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  $\frac{1}{2} \left( 1 + \sqrt{\frac{1-t}{1-9t}} \right)$ .

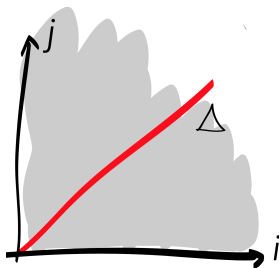
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Theorem (Pólya, 1922)

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

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

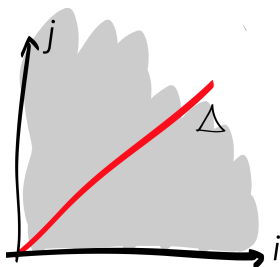
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▷ This is false for more than 2 variables. E.g.

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

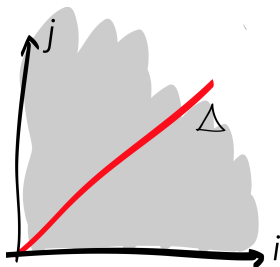
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Theorem (Pólya, 1922)

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

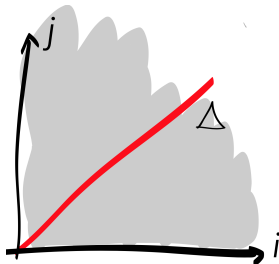
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Theorem (Lipshitz, 1988)

Diagonals of *multivariate* 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, van 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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**Idea:** 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  $\text{Diag}(F)$ .



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

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

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

**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

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

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▷ If  $N$  is such that **# unknowns** =  $\binom{N+4}{4} > 18(N+1)^3 =$  **# equations**, then there exists  $L(t, \partial_t, \partial_x, \partial_y)$  of total degree at most  $N$ , such that  $LG = 0$ .

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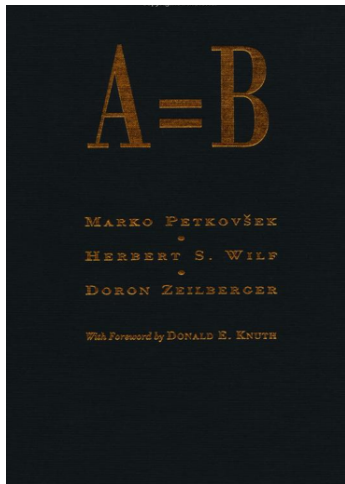
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- ▷  $N = 425$  is the smallest integer satisfying  $\binom{N+4}{4} > 18(N+1)^3$  (!)
- ▷ Finding the operator  $P$  by Lipshitz' argument would require solving a linear system with 1,391,641,251 unknowns and 1,391,557,968 equations (!)
- ▷ A better solution is provided by **creative telescoping**.



# CREATIVE TELESCOPING

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



## Examples I: hypergeometric summation

- $\sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} (-1)^k \binom{a+b}{a+k} \binom{b+c}{b+k} \binom{c+a}{c+k} = \frac{(a+b+c)!}{a!b!c!}$  [Dixon 1903]

- $A_n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k}^2 \binom{n+k}{k}^2$  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])*

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

## Examples I: hypergeometric summation

$$\bullet \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} (-1)^k \binom{a+b}{a+k} \binom{b+c}{b+k} \binom{c+a}{c+k} = \frac{(a+b+c)!}{a!b!c!} \quad [\text{Dixon 1903}]$$

$$\bullet A_n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k}^2 \binom{n+k}{k}^2 \text{ satisfies the recurrence } [\text{Apéry 1978}]:$$

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

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

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

## Examples II: Integrals and Diagonals

$$\bullet \int_0^1 \frac{\cos(zu)}{\sqrt{1-u^2}} du = \int_1^{+\infty} \frac{\sin(zu)}{\sqrt{u^2-1}} du = \frac{\pi}{2} J_0(z)$$

$$\bullet \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint \frac{(1+2xy+4y^2) \exp\left(\frac{4x^2y^2}{1+4y^2}\right)}{y^{n+1}(1+4y^2)^{\frac{3}{2}}} dy = \frac{H_n(x)}{[n/2]!} \quad [\text{Doetsch 1930}]$$

$$\bullet \int_0^{+\infty} x J_1(ax) I_1(ax) Y_0(x) K_0(x) dx = -\frac{\ln(1-a^4)}{2\pi a^2} \quad [\text{Glasser-Montaldi'94}]$$

$$\bullet \text{Diag} \frac{1}{(1-x-y)(1-z-u)-xyzu} = \sum_{n \geq 0} A_n t^n \quad [\text{Straub 2014}].$$

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

Principle: **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  $k$  telescopes and yields

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

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

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

**IF** one knows  $P(n, S_n)$  (**telescoper**) and  $R(n, k, S_n, S_k)$  (**certificate**) such that

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

(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.,  $\frac{u_{n+1,k}}{u_{n,k}}$  and  $\frac{u_{n,k+1}}{u_{n,k}}$  are in  $\mathbb{Q}(n, k)$

**Output:**

- a linear recurrence, called **telescoper**, ( $P$ ) satisfied by  $F_n = \sum_k u_{n,k}$
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> tel:=Zpair[1];
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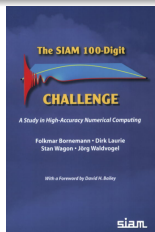
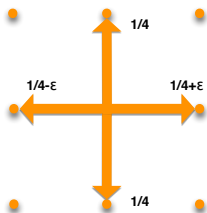
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- ▷ This is a proof that  $I_n := \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k}$  satisfies  $I_{n+1} = 2 \cdot I_n$ .
- ▷ Can check using the **certificate**:

```
> cert:=Zpair[2];  
> iszero:=(subs(n=n+1,T) - 2*T) - (subs(k=k+1,cert) - cert);  
> simplify(convert(%,GAMMA));
```

$$0$$

## Example: from the SIAM challenges



$$U_{n,k} := \binom{2n}{2k} \binom{2k}{k} \binom{2n-2k}{n-k} \left(\frac{1}{4} + c\right)^k \left(\frac{1}{4} - c\right)^k \frac{1}{4^{2n-2k}},$$
$$p_n = \sum_{k=0}^n U_{n,k} = \text{probability of return to } (0,0) \text{ at step } 2n.$$

```
> p:=SumTools[Hypergeometric][Zeilberger](U,n,k,Sn);
```

$$\begin{aligned} & [(4n^2 + 16n + 16)Sn^2 + (-4n^2 + 32c^2n^2 + 96c^2n - 12n + 72c^2 - 9)Sn \\ & \quad + 128c^4n + 64c^4n^2 + 48c^4, \dots(\text{BIG certificate})\dots] \end{aligned}$$

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

**IF** one knows  $P(t, \partial_t)$  (**telescoper**) and  $Q(t, x, \partial_t, \partial_x)$  (**certificate**) such that

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

then the integral “telescopes”, leading to

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

# The Almkvist-Zeilberger Algorithm [1990]

**Input:** a **hyperexponential** function  $H(t, x)$ , i.e.,  $\frac{\partial H}{\partial t}$  and  $\frac{\partial H}{\partial x}$  are in  $\mathbb{Q}(t, x)$

**Output:**

- a linear differential operator  $P(t, \partial_t)$  satisfied by  $I(t) = \oint_{\gamma} H(t, x) dx$
- a  $G(t, x) \in \mathbb{Q}(t, x)$  such that  $P(t, \partial_t) \cdot H(t, x) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (G(t, x) \cdot H(t, x))$ .

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**Algorithm:** Write  $\mathbb{L} = \mathbb{Q}(t)$ . For  $r = 0, 1, 2, \dots$  do

- ① compute  $a(x) := \frac{\partial H}{\partial x} \in \mathbb{L}(x)$  and  $b_k(x) := \frac{\partial^k H}{\partial t^k} \in \mathbb{L}(x)$  for  $k = 0, \dots, r$
- ② decide whether the inhomogeneous parametrized LDE

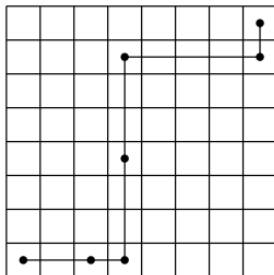
$$\frac{\partial G}{\partial x} + a(x) \cdot G = \sum_{k=0}^r c_k \cdot b_k(x)$$

admits a rational solution  $G \in \mathbb{L}(x)$ , for some  $c_0, \dots, c_r \in \mathbb{L}$  not all zero

- ③ if so, then return  $P := \sum_{k=0}^r c_k \partial_t^k$  and  $G$ ; else increase  $r$  by 1 and repeat

## 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 only right or up at each step.

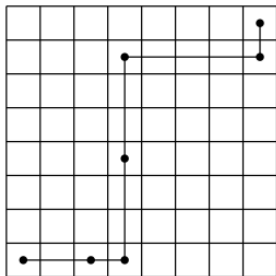


$$(r_n)_{n \geq 0} : \quad 1, 2, 14, 106, 838, 6802, 56190, 470010, \dots$$



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$$(r_n)_{n \geq 0} : \quad 1, 2, 14, 106, 838, 6802, 56190, 470010, \dots$$

**Answer:**  $r_N = N$ th coefficient in the Taylor expansion of  $\frac{1}{2} \left( 1 + \sqrt{\frac{1-x}{1-9x}} \right)$ .

# Diagonal Rook paths via Creative Telescoping

Generating function of the sequence

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

is

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

**Creative telescoping** computes a differential equation satisfied by  $\text{Diag}(F)$ :

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

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

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

# Creative Telescoping 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  $\mathbb{C}^n$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \mathbf{x} = x_1, \dots, x_n \\ t \\ H(t, \mathbf{x}) \\ \gamma \end{array} \right\} \oint_{\gamma} H(t, \mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x}$$

## Principle of creative telescoping

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

**Task:**

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

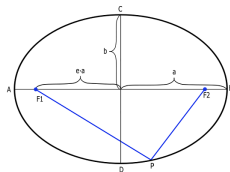
## Example: Perimeter of an ellipse

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$$p(e) = 4 \int_0^1 \sqrt{\frac{1 - e^2 u^2}{1 - u^2}} du = 4 \oint \frac{du dv}{1 - \frac{1 - e^2 u^2}{(1 - u^2)v^2}}$$

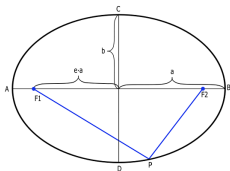


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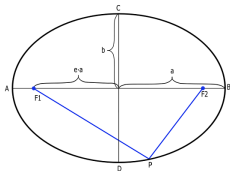
$$\begin{aligned} & \left( (e - e^3) \partial_e^2 + (1 - e^2) \partial_e + e \right) \cdot \left( \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1 - e^2 u^2}{(1 - u^2) v^2}} \right) = \\ & \partial_u \left( - \frac{e(-1 - u + u^2 + u^3) v^2 (-3 + 2u + v^2 + u^2 (-2 + 3e^2 - v^2))}{(-1 + v^2 + u^2 (e^2 - v^2))^2} \right) \\ & + \partial_v \left( \frac{2e(-1 + e^2) u (1 + u^3) v^3}{(-1 + v^2 + u^2 (e^2 - v^2))^2} \right) \end{aligned}$$

▷ Conclusion:  $p(e) = \frac{\pi}{2} \cdot {}_2F_1 \left( -\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} \mid e^2 \right) = 2\pi - \frac{\pi}{2} e^2 - \frac{3\pi}{32} e^4 - \dots$

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$$\begin{aligned} & \left( (e - e^3) \partial_e^2 + (1 - e^2) \partial_e + e \right) \cdot \left( \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1 - e^2 u^2}{(1 - u^2)v^2}} \right) = \\ & \partial_u \left( \frac{-e(-1 - u + u^2 + u^3)v^2(-3 + 2u + v^2 + u^2(-2 + 3e^2 - v^2))}{(-1 + v^2 + u^2(e^2 - v^2))^2} \right) \\ & \quad + \partial_v \left( \frac{2e(-1 + e^2)u(1 + u^3)v^3}{(-1 + v^2 + u^2(e^2 - v^2))^2} \right) \end{aligned}$$

▷ Drawback: Size(certificate)  $\gg$  Size(telescopier).