

# Counting planar Eulerian orientations

Claire Pennarun

Joint work with Nicolas Bonichon,  
Mireille Bousquet-Mélou and Paul Dorbec

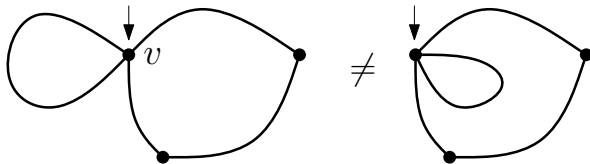
LaBRI, Bordeaux

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## SOME DEFINITIONS

We consider:

- **planar maps** , rooted in a corner
- with loops and multiple edges



$n$ : number of edges (= 4)

$v$  is the root-vertex

$\Delta$ : root-degree (= 4)

# ADDING STRUCTURE

Statistical physics and combinatorics: maps equipped with a **structure**

- proper  $q$ -colouring [Tutte 73-84...]
- spanning tree [Mullin 67...]
- Ising model [Kazakov 86...]
- Schnyder woods [Schnyder 89...]
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In this talk → **Eulerian orientations**

## EULERIAN ORIENTATIONS (PEO)

An oriented planar map is a **planar Eulerian orientation (PEO)** if every vertex has **in-degree and out-degree equal** .

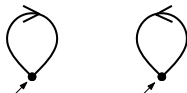
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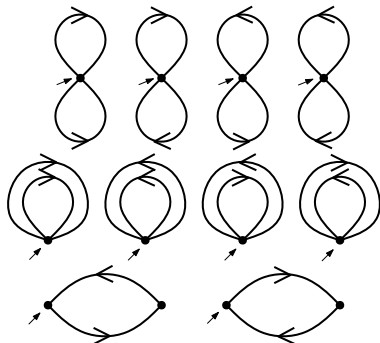
$n = 0$



$n = 1$



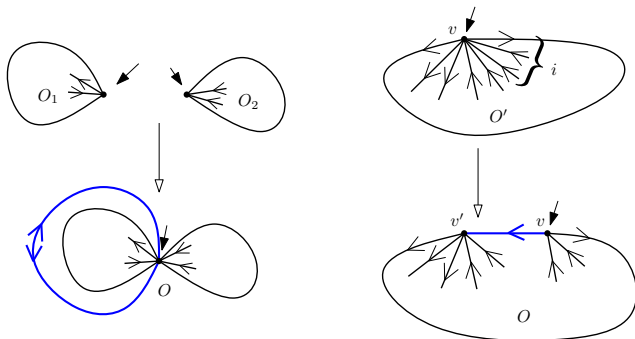
$n = 2$



# DECOMPOSITION OF PEO

Two ways of creating a PEO:

- merge two PEOs  $O_1, O_2$  and orient the new edge
- split the root-vertex at index  $i$  iff the resulting map is still a PEO

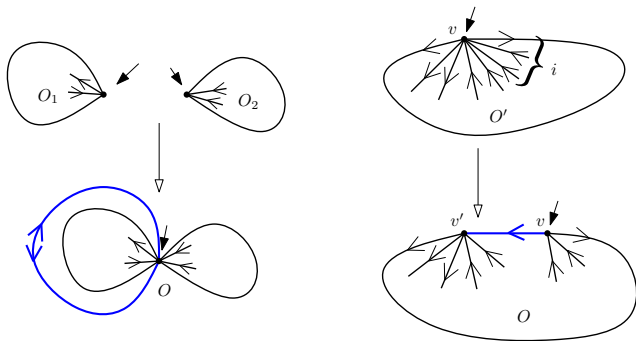




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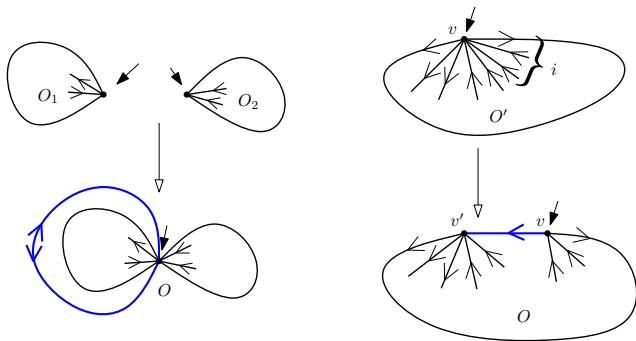


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Remember the **full orientation** around the root: **no recurrence relation**  
with a finite number of parameters

## COMPUTING THE FIRST TERMS

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$n$	$o(n)$	$n$	$o(n)$	$n$	$o(n)$
0	1	6	37 548	12	37 003 723 200
1	2	7	350 090	13	393 856 445 664
2	10	8	3 380 520	14	4 240 313 009 272
3	66	9	33 558 024	15	46 109 094 112 170
4	504	10	340 670 720		
5	4 216	11	3 522 993 656		

Not already in the OEIS!

## APPROXIMATION OF THE GROWTH RATE

$$\mu = \text{growth rate of PEOs} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} o(n)^{1/n}$$

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Variant of Fekete's Lemma (1923):  $\mu = \sup_{n \geq 1} o(n)^{1/n} \in \mathbb{R}_+^*$

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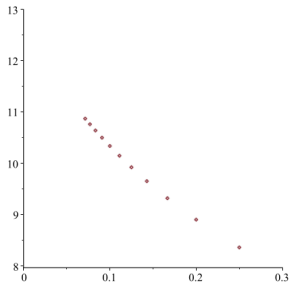
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$\frac{o(n+1)}{o(n)}$  as a function of  $1/n \rightarrow$



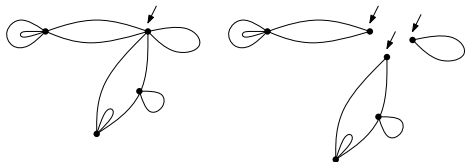
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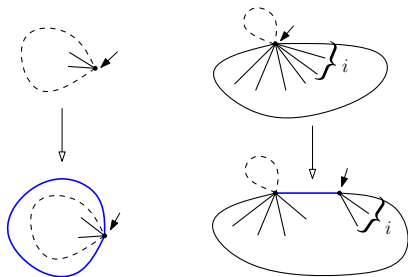
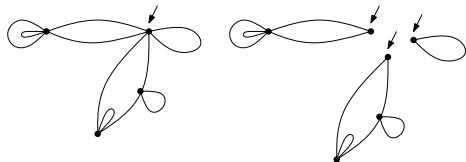
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Operations to create a prime map:

- Add a loop around any map
- Split at index  $i \leq \Delta(P_\ell)$  in the last prime  $P_\ell$  of any map

## SUBSETS (AND SUPERSSETS) OF $\mathcal{O}$

Two families of sets of orientations  $\mathcal{O}_k^-$  and  $\mathcal{O}_k^+$  s.t.

$$\mathcal{O}_k^- \subset \mathcal{O}_{k+1}^- \subset \mathcal{O} \subset \mathcal{O}_{k+1}^+ \subset \mathcal{O}_k^+$$

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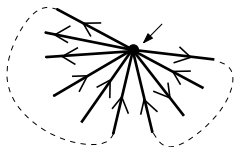
The atomic map (one vertex, no edges) is in  $\mathcal{O}_k^-$ .

Fewer splits allowed  $\rightarrow$  the number of orientations necessary to look at form now a word of finite length, which we can use as a parameter

## ALGEBRAIC SYSTEM FOR $\mathcal{O}^{(k)-} \equiv \mathcal{O}^-$

The **root-word**  $w(O)$  of a map  $O$  is the binary word formed as follows in counterclockwise order around the root-vertex:

- 1 if there is an out-edge,
- 0 if there is an in-edge.

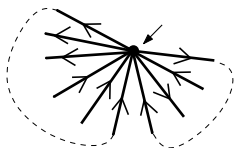


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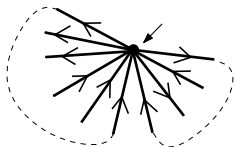
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$F_w(t)$  : g.f. of the set  $\{O \in \mathcal{O}^- \mid \mathbf{w}(O) = w\}$

$L_w(t)$  : g.f. of the set  $\{O \in \mathcal{O}^- \mid \mathbf{w}(O) = uw \text{ for some } u\}$

$F'_w(t)$ ,  $L'_w(t)$  : their counterparts for **prime** maps of  $\mathcal{O}^-$ .

## AN EXAMPLE: EQUATION FOR $F'_w(t)$

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For  $w$  balanced,  $2 \leq |w| \leq 2k$ :



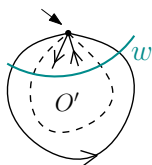
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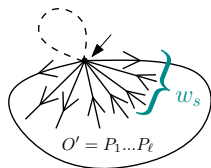
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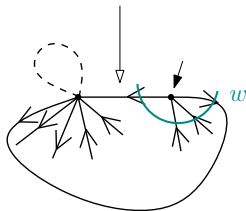
$$F'_w = tF_{w_c} + tL_\varepsilon L'_{w_s}$$



$$\mathbf{w}(O') = w_c$$



$w_s$  is a suffix of  $\mathbf{w}(P_\ell)$



# ALGEBRAIC SYSTEM FOR $\mathcal{O}^{(k)}$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l}
 F_w = \sum_{w=uv} F_u F'_v \quad |w| \leq 2k - 2 \\
 L_w = \begin{cases} L_\varepsilon L'_w + \sum_{w=uv, u \neq \varepsilon} L_u F'_v & |w| \leq 2k - 2 \\
 1 + L_\varepsilon L'_\varepsilon & w = \varepsilon \end{cases} \\
 F'_w = tF_{w_c} + tL_\varepsilon L'_{w_s} \quad |w| \leq 2k \\
 L'_w = \begin{cases} tL_{w_p} + tF_{w_c} + tL_\varepsilon L'_w + \\
 tL_\varepsilon \sum_{\substack{u=vw \\ u \text{ balanced} \\ 0 < |u| \leq 2k}} (L'_u - F_u) + tL_\varepsilon (L'_{w'} - F'_{w'}) & |w| \leq 2k - 2 \\
 2tL_\varepsilon + tL_\varepsilon L'_\varepsilon & w = \varepsilon \end{cases}
 \end{array} \right.$$

$$w = \varepsilon \Rightarrow F_w = 1, F'_w = 0$$

$$w \text{ non-balanced} \Rightarrow F_w = F'_w = 0.$$

## SMALL EXAMPLE: SUBSETS, $k = 1$

0/1 symmetry  $\rightarrow$  divide the number of equations by 2

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Eliminating all series but  $L_\varepsilon$ : cubic equation for  $L_\varepsilon$ :

$$t^2 L_\varepsilon^3 + t(t-4)L_\varepsilon^2 + (2t+1)L_\varepsilon - 1 = 0$$

## SMALL EXAMPLE: SUBSETS, $k = 2$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l}
 F_{01} = F_{10} = F'_{01}, \\
 F'_{10} = F'_{01} = t + tL_\varepsilon L'_1, \\
 F'_{1100} = tF_{10} + tL_\varepsilon L'_{100}, \\
 F'_{1010} = tF_{01} + tL_\varepsilon L'_{010}, \\
 F'_{0110} = tL_\varepsilon L'_{110}, \\
 L_\varepsilon = 1 + L_\varepsilon L'_\varepsilon, \\
 L_0 = L_1 = L_\varepsilon L'_0, \\
 L_{00} = L_{11} = L_\varepsilon L'_{00}, \\
 L_{01} = L_{10} = L_\varepsilon L'_{01}, \\
 L'_\varepsilon = 2tL_\varepsilon + tL_\varepsilon(L'_\varepsilon + 2(L'_0 - F'_{10} + L'_{100} - F'_{1100} + L'_{010} - F'_{1010} + L'_{110} - F'_{0110})), \\
 L'_0 = L'_1 = tL_\varepsilon + tL_\varepsilon(L'_0 + L'_0 - F'_{10} + L'_{100} - F'_{1100} + L'_{010} - F'_{1010} + L'_{110} - F'_{0110}), \\
 L'_{00} = tL_0 + tL_\varepsilon(L'_{00} + L'_{100} - F'_{1100}), \\
 L'_{10} = L'_{01} = tL_1 + t + tL_\varepsilon(L'_{10} + L'_1 - F'_{01} + L'_{010} - F'_{1010} + L'_{110} - F'_{0110}), \\
 L'_{100} = tL_{10} + tL_\varepsilon(L'_{100} + L'_{100} - F'_{1100}), \\
 L'_{010} = tL_{01} + tL_\varepsilon(L'_{010} + L'_{010} - F'_{1010}), \\
 L'_{110} = tL_{11} + tL_\varepsilon(L'_{110} + L'_{110} - F'_{0110}).
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Generate the systems automatically then **eliminate** the variables with Maple (keeping  $L_\varepsilon$ )

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inf	1	3	10.60
inf	2	6	10.97
inf	3	20	11.22
inf	4	258	11.44 <sup>(*)</sup>
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Let  $\mu_k^-$  be the growth rate of the set  $\mathcal{O}_k^-$ . Then  $\mu_k^- \rightarrow_{k \rightarrow \infty} \mu$ .

# SUPERSETS OF PEO

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One **catalytic variable**  $x$  (for the half-degree of the root)

Same kind of systems, but with **divided differences** !

For  $k = 1$ :

$$\begin{cases} L_\varepsilon(t, x) &= 1 + L_\varepsilon(t, x)L'_\varepsilon(t, x), \\ L'_\varepsilon(t, x) &= 2txL_\varepsilon(t, x) + tL_\varepsilon(t, 1) \left( 2xL'_0(t, 1) + \frac{x}{x-1} (L'_\varepsilon(t, x) - xL'_\varepsilon(t, 1)) \right), \\ L'_0(t, x) &= txL_\varepsilon(t, x) + tL_\varepsilon(t, 1) \left( xL'_0(t, 1) + \frac{x}{x-1} (L'_0(t, x) - xL'_0(t, 1)) \right). \end{cases}$$

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sup	4	–	13.017 <sup>(*)</sup>
sup	3	–	13.031 <sup>(*)</sup>
sup	2	28	13.047
sup	1	3	13.065

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# FINALLY...

- What is the **nature** of the generating function of PEOs?
- What if we restrict the **vertex degrees**? (4-regular, [Kostov 00])
- Find **another grammar / decomposition** for the PEOs?

# FINALLY...

- What is the **nature** of the generating function of PEOs?
- What if we restrict the **vertex degrees**? (4-regular, [Kostov 00])
- Find **another grammar / decomposition** for the PEOs?

Thank you!