

# Binomial Determinants for Tiling Problems Yield to the Holonomic Ansatz

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Combinatorics and Algebras from A to Z  
Birthday Conference for Amitai Regev and Doron Zeilberger

The logo for the Radon Institute for Computational and Applied Mathematics (RICAM) at the Austrian Academy of Sciences. It features the text "ÖAW RICAM" in a black serif font. The "Ö" has two dots above it. The text is centered between two horizontal blue bars, one above and one below.

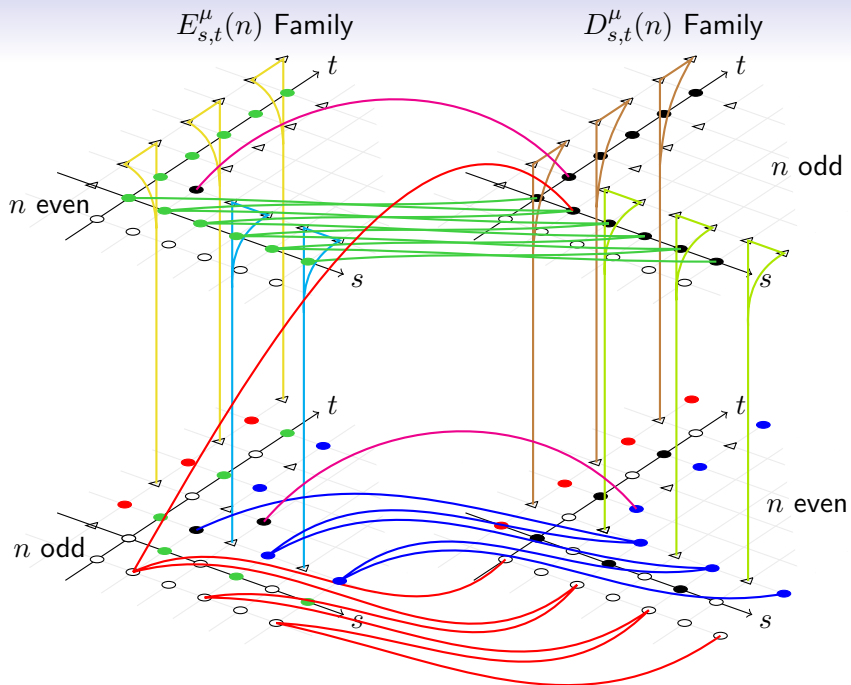
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# Motivation

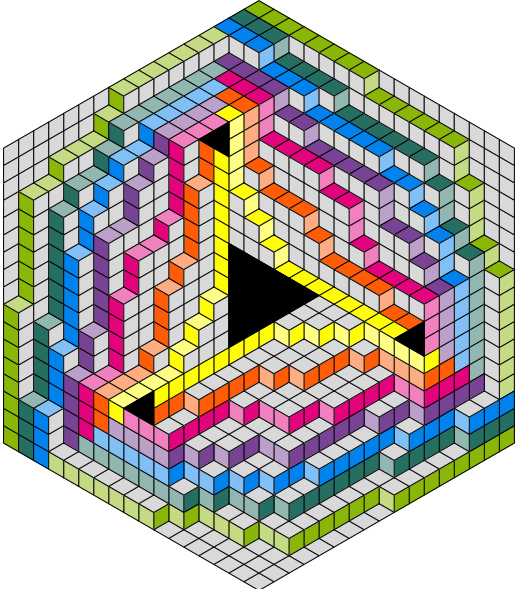
## “Conjecture 37” (Lascoux/Krattenthaler 2005)

Let  $\mu$  be an indeterminate and  $m, r \in \mathbb{Z}$ . If  $m \geq r \geq 1$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} & \det_{\substack{1 \leq i \leq 2m-1 \\ 1 \leq j \leq 2m-1}} \left( \binom{\mu + i + j + 2r - 4}{j + 2r - 2} - \delta_{i, j+2r-2} \right) = \\ & (-1)^{m-r} \cdot 2^{4m+(m-r)(m-r-1)-3r} \cdot \left( \prod_{i=0}^{2r-3} i! \right) \cdot \left( \prod_{i=0}^{m-1} \frac{i! (i+1)!}{(2i)! (2i+2)!} \right) \\ & \times (\mu - 1) \cdot \left( \frac{\mu}{2} + r - \frac{1}{2} \right)_{m-r} \cdot \left( \prod_{i=1}^{2r-2} (\mu + i - 1)_{2m+2r-2i-1} \right) \\ & \times \left( \prod_{i=0}^{r-2} \frac{((2m - 2i - 3)!)^2}{((m - i - 2)!)^2 (2m + 2i - 1)! (2m + 2i + 1)!} \right) \\ & \times \left( \prod_{i=0}^{\lfloor \frac{m-r-1}{2} \rfloor} \left( \frac{\mu}{2} + 3i + 3r - \frac{1}{2} \right)_{m-r-2i-1} \left( -\frac{\mu}{2} - 3m + 3i + 3 \right)_{m-r-2i}^2 \right) \end{aligned}$$



# Cyclically Symmetric Rhombus Tilings of a Holey Hexagon



## Families of Binomial Determinants

**Definition:** For  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , for  $s, t \in \mathbb{Z}$ , and for  $\mu$  an indeterminate, define the following  $(n \times n)$ -determinants:

$$D_{s,t}^{\mu}(n) := \det_{\substack{1 \leq i \leq n \\ 1 \leq j \leq n}} \left( \binom{\mu + i + j + s + t - 4}{j + t - 1} + \delta_{i+s, j+t} \right),$$

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**History:**  $D_{0,0}^{\mu}(n)$  was introduced in the work of Andrews in 1979–1980 in the context of descending plane partitions:

Inventiones math. 53, 193–225 (1979)

*Inventiones  
mathematicae*

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### Plane Partitions (III): The Weak Macdonald Conjecture

George E. Andrews\*

The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pennsylvania 16802, U.S.A.

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**Example:**  $D_{4,6}^{\mu}(5)$  is the determinant of the matrix

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## Ugly Example

$$D_{3,3}^{\mu}(7) = \frac{1}{22122558259200000} (\mu^{25} + 335\mu^{24} + 53170\mu^{23} + 5219210\mu^{22} + 353884975\mu^{21} + 17654136185\mu^{20} + 675334978420\mu^{19} + 20393582102960\mu^{18} + 496547143637215\mu^{17} + 9902234513723585\mu^{16} + 163628567918015170\mu^{15} + 2259409940615500610\mu^{14} + 26220413043850095745\mu^{13} + 256610136017431510535\mu^{12} + 2120496573913057782520\mu^{11} + 14782628582961949481060\mu^{10} + 86673574436964799906960\mu^9 + 425074251314867787511760\mu^8 + 1729277578550904467089920\mu^7 + 5765988504741630995828160\mu^6 + 15490845170481326463535104\mu^5 + 32714130921152175099417600\mu^4 + 52316431952932423423180800\mu^3 + 59610947649553163501568000\mu^2 + 43184734857314137866240000\mu + 14982065085331066060800000)$$

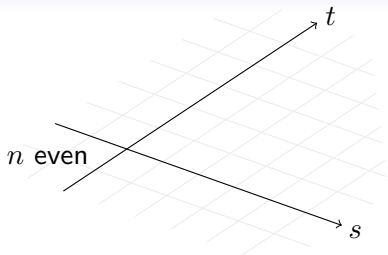
## Nice Example

$$\begin{aligned} E_{1,5}^\mu(7) = & \frac{1}{14835437123150020608000000} (-\mu^{36} - 200\mu^{35} - 19159\mu^{34} - \\ & 1171436\mu^{33} - 51394672\mu^{32} - 1724423456\mu^{31} - 46048129836\mu^{30} - \\ & 1005506521104\mu^{29} - 18305564269902\mu^{28} - 281867442349584\mu^{27} - \\ & 3711004634220450\mu^{26} - 42124413821616840\mu^{25} - \\ & 414889994727011100\mu^{24} - 3562629353787488640\mu^{23} - \\ & 26764739256385498620\mu^{22} - 176333020693153028880\mu^{21} - \\ & 1020132335713727670105\mu^{20} - 5184100772592640581480\mu^{19} - \\ & 23125258686352150100735\mu^{18} - 90390456977427664781740\mu^{17} - \\ & 308644189797756712933964\mu^{16} - 916403980791449441431840\mu^{15} - \\ & 2350093624208246581241696\mu^{14} - 5154412290653177844256384\mu^{13} - \\ & 9525414800317726242119808\mu^{12} - 14472568507785350993547264\mu^{11} - \\ & 17255372452899442525004544\mu^{10} - 14360009990096346869615616\mu^9 - \\ & 4453778806728199172840448\mu^8 + 8910764739632797324222464\mu^7 + \\ & 18620314976835976877015040\mu^6 + 19676254731549280468992000\mu^5 + \\ & 13589211129691858698240000\mu^4 + 6195378277541943705600000\mu^3 + \\ & 1707950341804208947200000\mu^2 + 216751516409659392000000\mu) = \end{aligned}$$

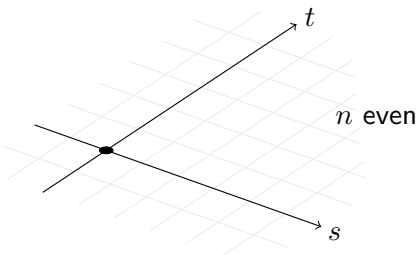
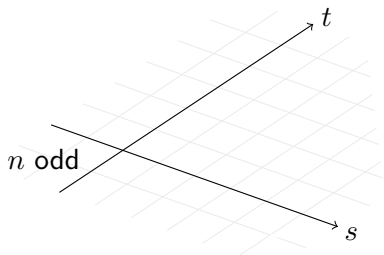
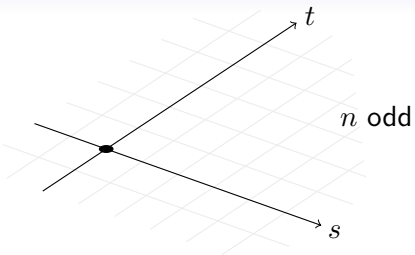
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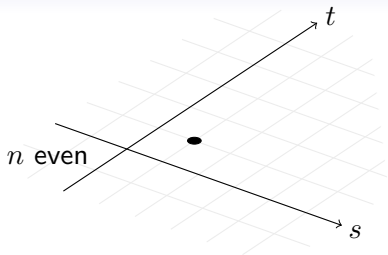
$E_{s,t}^\mu(n)$  Family



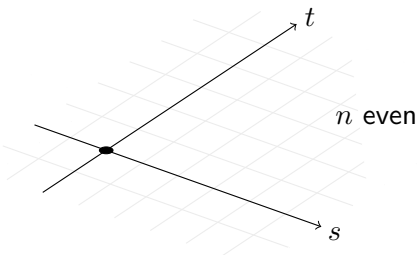
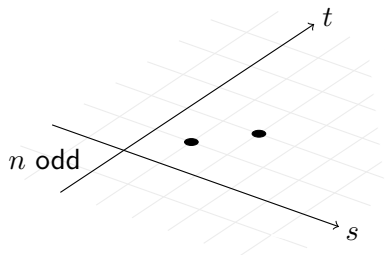
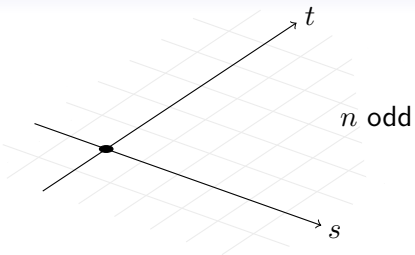
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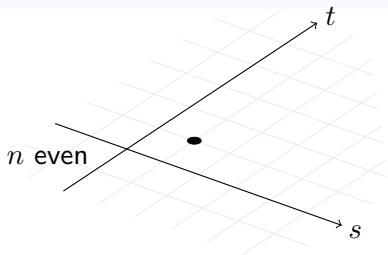
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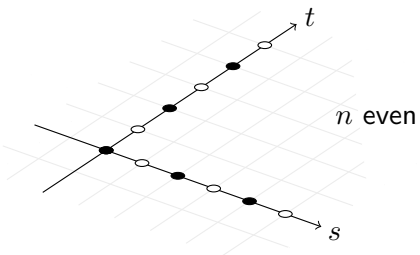
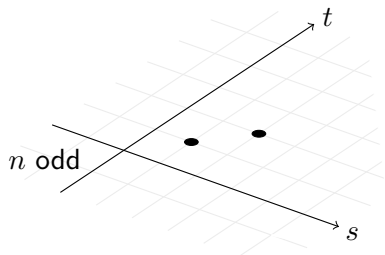
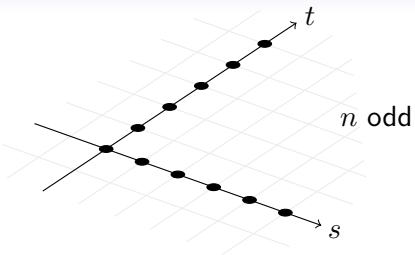
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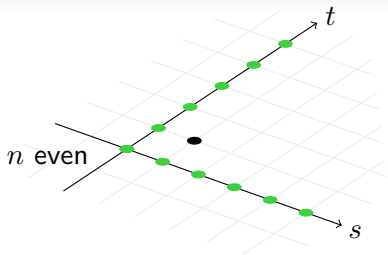
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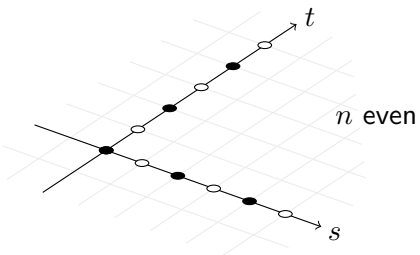
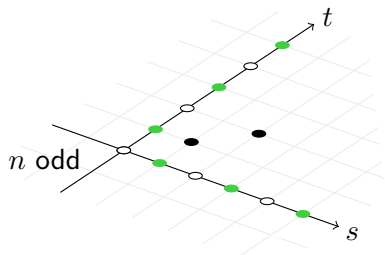
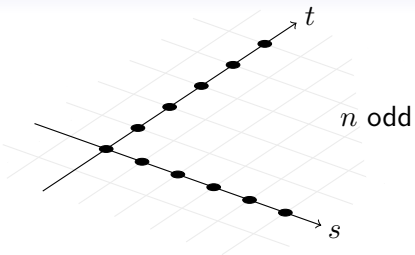
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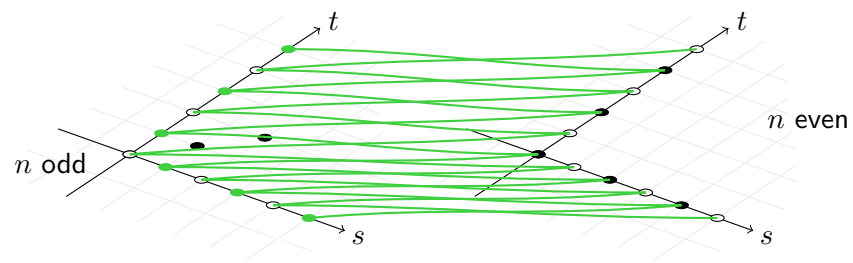
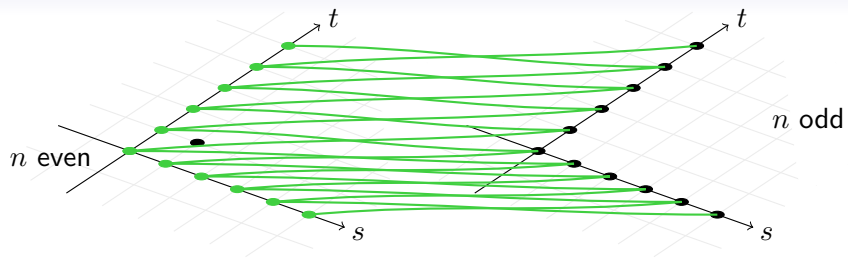


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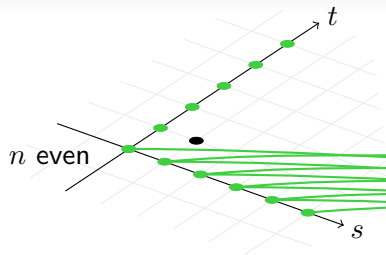


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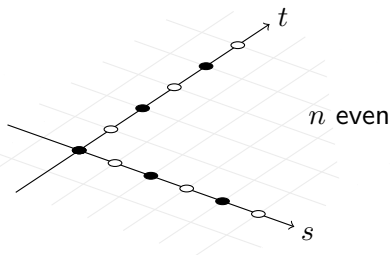
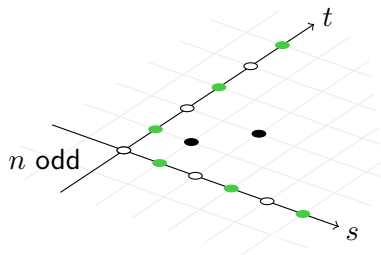
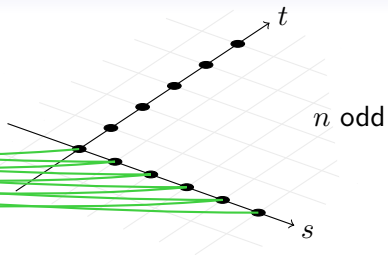
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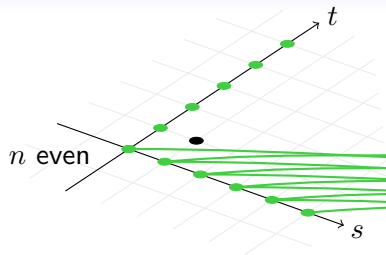
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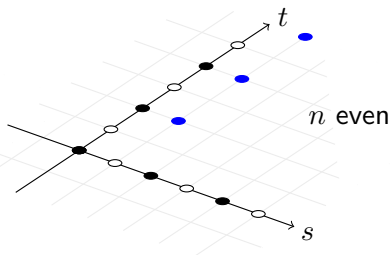
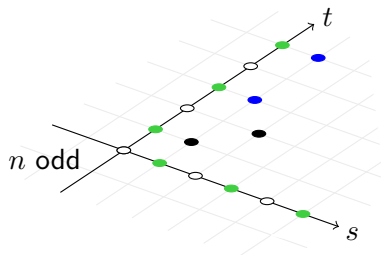
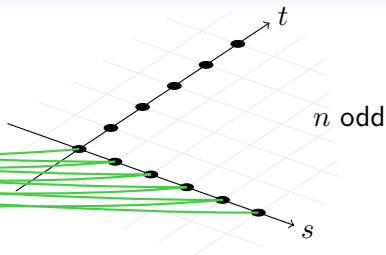
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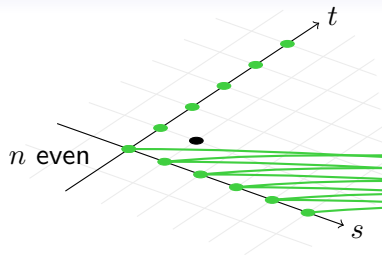
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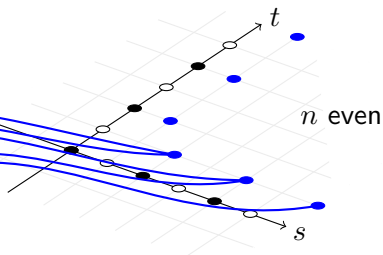
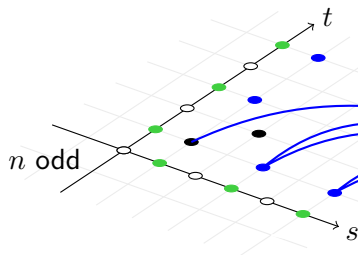
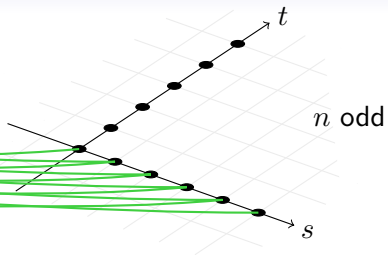
$D_{s,t}^\mu(n)$  Family



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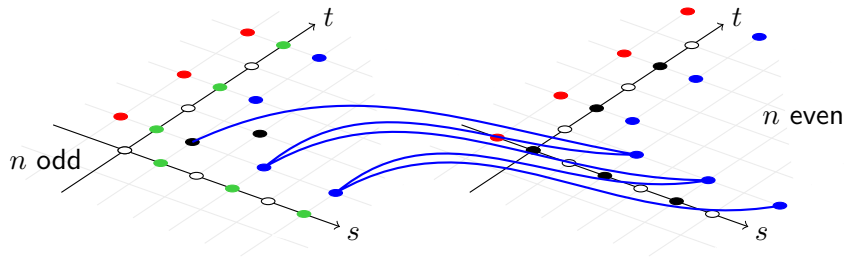
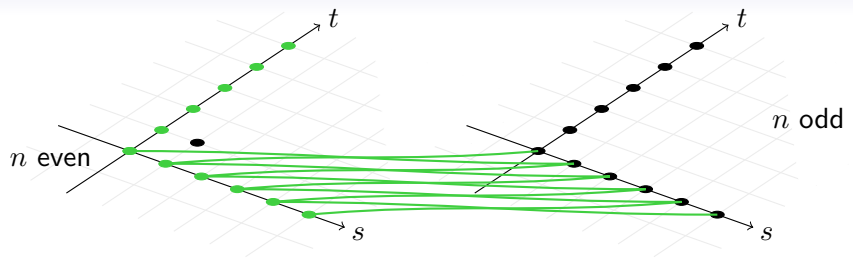


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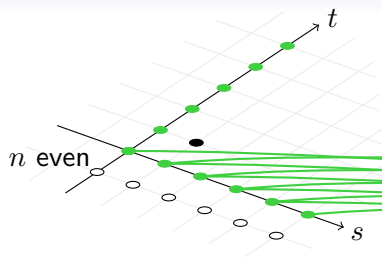


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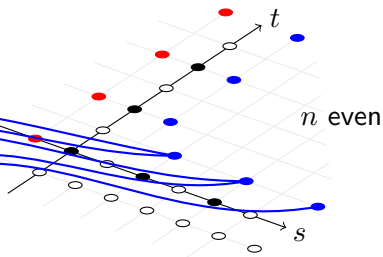
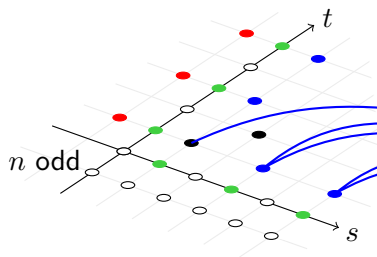
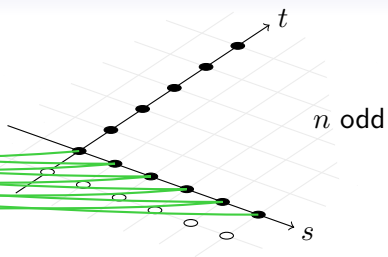
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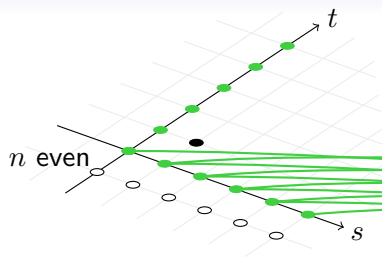
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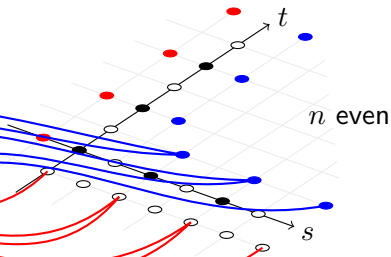
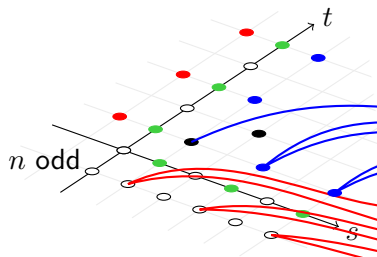
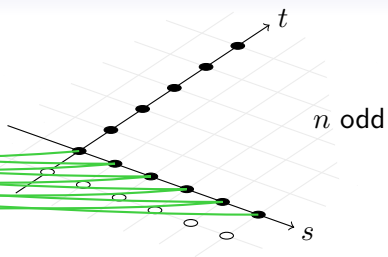
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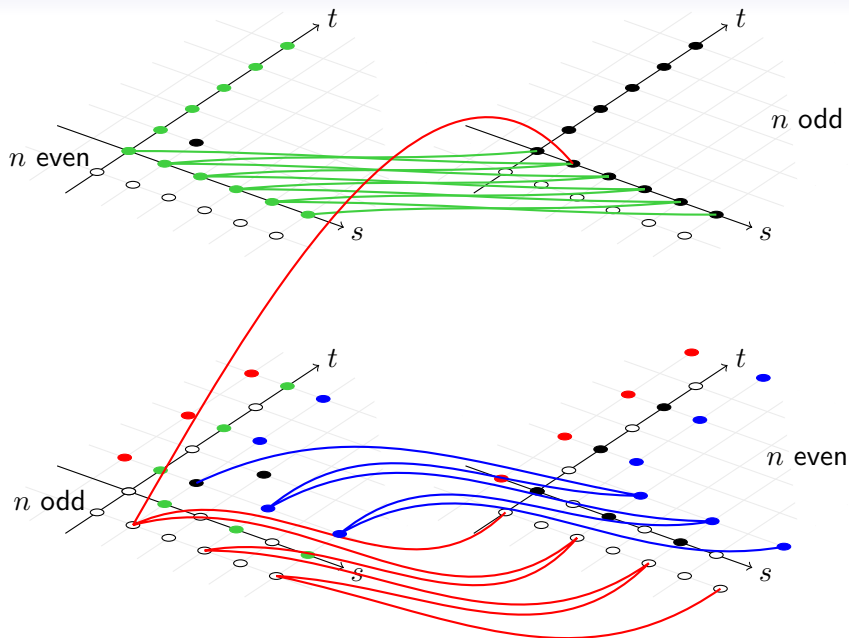


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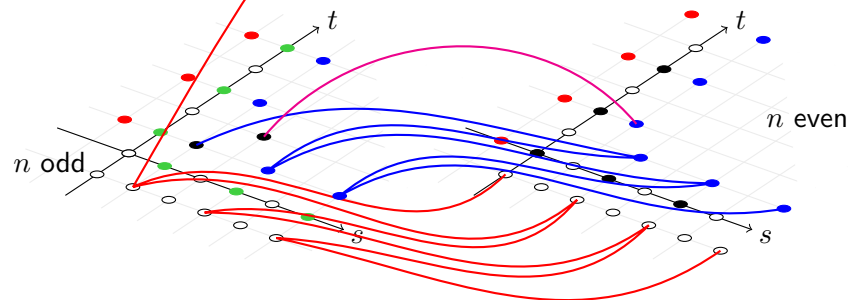
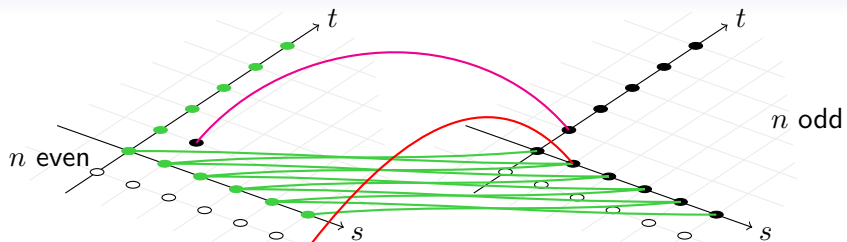
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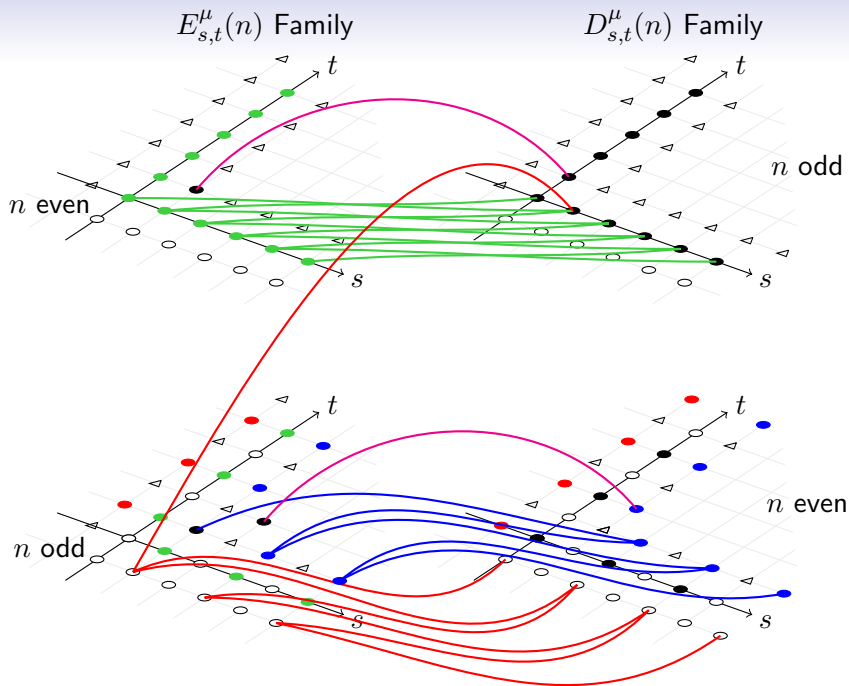
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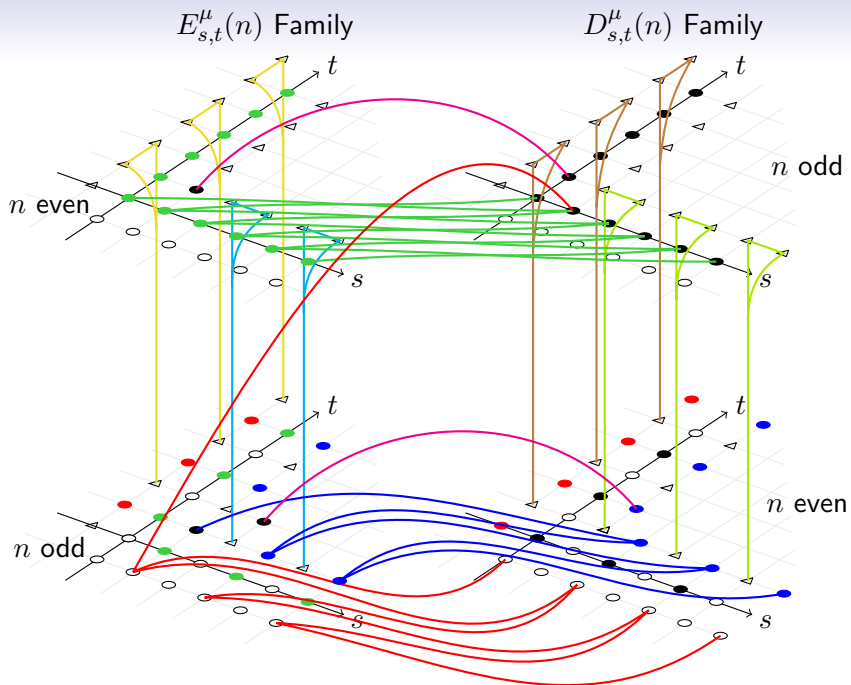


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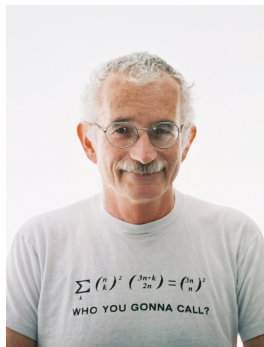






# HOLONOMIC ANSATZ!!!

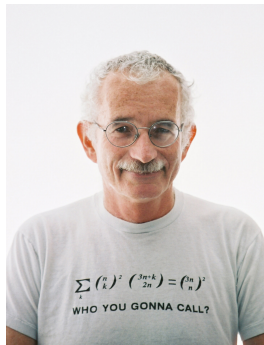
**Problem:** Prove a determinantal identity of the form  $\det_{1 \leq i, j \leq n} (a_{i,j}) = b_n$



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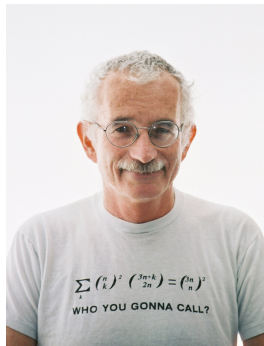
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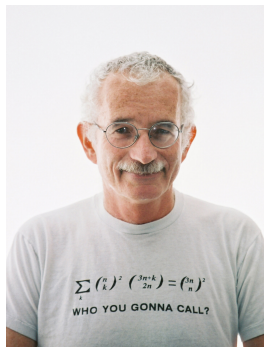


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$$\mathcal{A}_n = \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} & & & \\ & \mathcal{A}_{n-1} & & \\ \hline a_{n,1} & \cdots & a_{n,n-1} & a_{n,n} \end{array} \right)$$



**Laplace expansion:**

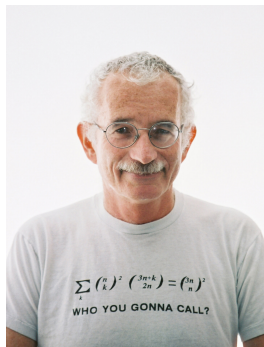
$$\det(\mathcal{A}_n) = a_{n,1} \text{Cof}_{n,1} + \dots + a_{n,n-1} \text{Cof}_{n,n-1} + a_{n,n} \det(\mathcal{A}_{n-1})$$

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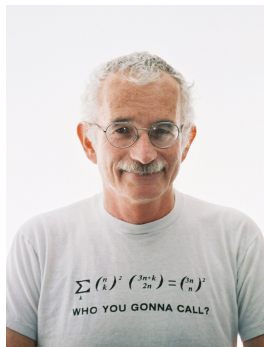
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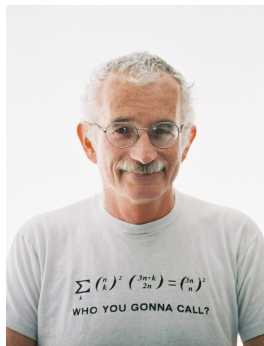
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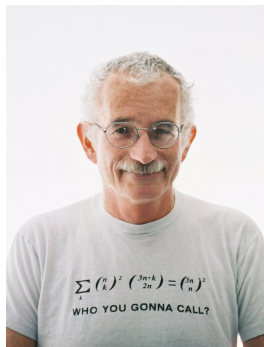
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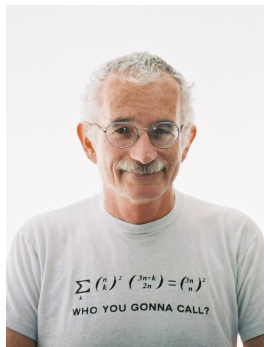
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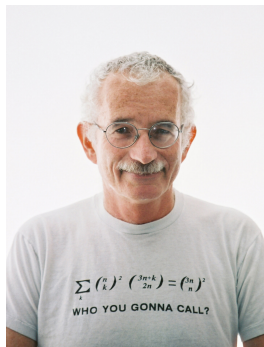
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$$0 = \sum_{j=1}^n a_{i,j} c_{n,j} \quad (1 \leq i < n), \quad c_{n,n} = 1$$

# E-Mail from Doron during LP conference

From Doron Zeilberger ★

Subject **challenge**

To Me <christoph.koutschan@ricam.oeaw.ac.at> ★

Cc philippe@illinois.edu ☆

Dear Christoph,

Philippe Di Francesco just gave a great talk at the Lattice path conference mentioning, inter alia, a certain conjectured determinant.

It is

Conj. 8.1 (combined with Th. 8.2) in  
<https://arxiv.org/pdf/2102.02920.pdf>

I am curious if you can prove it by the Koutschan-Zeilberger-Aek holonomic ansatz method.

If you can do it before Friday, June 25, 2021, 17:00 Paris time, I will mention it in my talk in that conference.

Best wishes

Doron

## E-Mail from Doron during LP conference

**Conjecture 8.1.** *The total numbers  $Z_n^{20V} = Z_n^{DT}$  of configurations of the 20V model on the quadrangle  $\Omega_n$  and of domino tilings of the Aztec triangle  $\mathcal{T}_n$  read:*

$$(8.1) \quad Z_n^{20V} = Z_n^{DT} = 2^{n(n-1)/2} \prod_{i=0}^{n-1} \frac{(4i+2)!}{(n+2i+1)!}$$

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**Theorem 8.2.** *The number  $Z_n^{20V}$  of configurations of the 20V model on the quadrangle  $\mathcal{Q}_n$  reads:*

$$(8.2) \quad Z_n^{20V} = \det_{0 \leq i \leq j \leq n-1} \left( 2^i \binom{i+2j+1}{2j+1} - \binom{i-1}{2j+1} \right)$$

with the convention  $\binom{m}{p} = 0$  for all  $-1 \leq m < p$ .



## Outline and Links for Doron Zeilberger's Talk , June 25, 2021, CIRM

1. Thanks Cyril et. al.

2. Warning: not a proper math talk (quote Kimmo)

3. The triumphs of "Guess and Check":

- Comment on MBM's talk: This simple-minded approach that ultimately lead to the **FIRST** proof of Gessel's conjecture, gives a (very **ELEMENTARY!**) [one-line proof of the Kreweras walk formula](#) (for the quarter plane) (mentioned in this [masterpiece](#)), a similar proof should exist for the three-quarter-plane.
- Comment on Mourad I.'s talk: Christian Krathenthaler noticed that the expression of Brennan that he conjectured to be a polynomial in  $q$ , is nothing but MacMahon's box formula that immediately proves that not only are they polynomials, but they have positive coefficients. (e.g. see [here](#))
- Comment on Philippe Di-F's great talk. Using this [nice experimental-yet-rigorous approach](#) (that ultimately lead to the proof of the qTSP conjecture) Christoph Koutschan [proved](#) Philippe Di-F's determinant conjecture! (that another CK could not do) (see [certificate](#))

4. Congratulate MBM, implicit honors

5. Memory Lane: FPSAC 1991 (show proceedings), MBM's defense (the one who laughed, show thesis)

6. [my report](#)

7. [shocking shortcut](#)



# Switching Lemma

**Recall:**

$$D_{s,t}^{\mu}(n) := \det_{\substack{1 \leq i \leq n \\ 1 \leq j \leq n}} \left( \binom{\mu + i + j + s + t - 4}{j + t - 1} + \delta_{i+s, j+t} \right),$$

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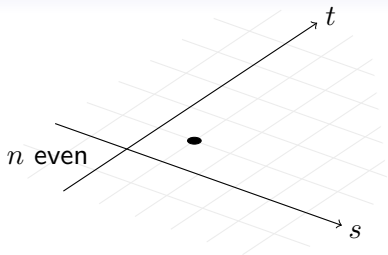
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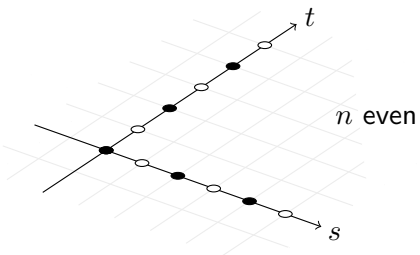
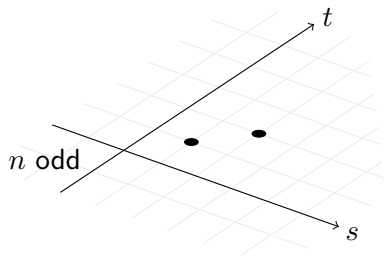
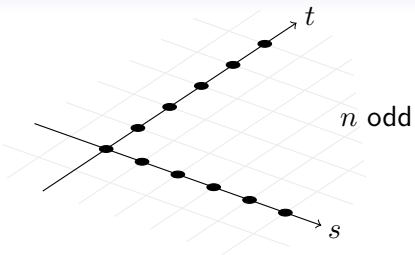
**Lemma:** Let  $A_{s,t}^{\mu}(n)$  be either  $D_{s,t}^{\mu}(n)$  or  $E_{s,t}^{\mu}(n)$ . For real numbers  $s, t \notin \{-1, -2, \dots\}$  with  $t - s \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ ,

$$A_{s,t}^{\mu}(n) = \prod_{i=0}^{t-s-1} \frac{(\mu + s + i - 1)_n}{(i + s + 1)_n} \cdot A_{t,s}^{\mu}(n).$$

$E_{s,t}^\mu(n)$  Family

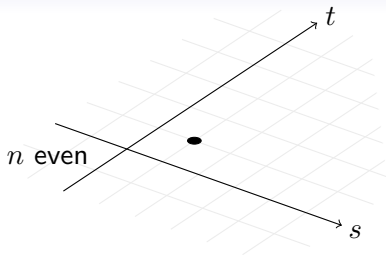


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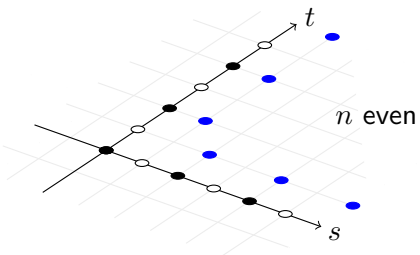
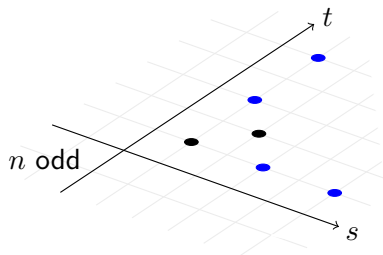
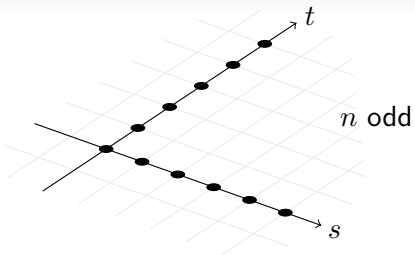




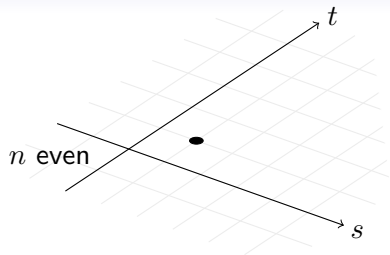
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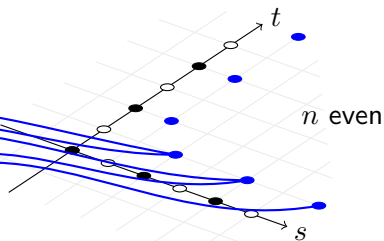
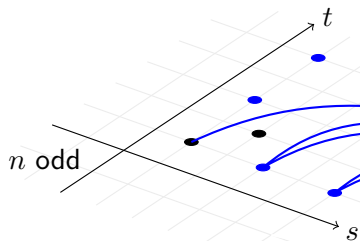
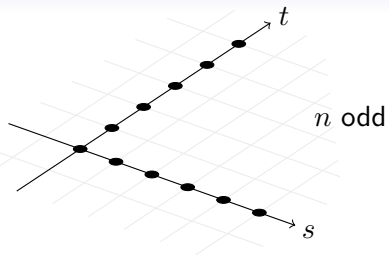
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## Proof of the Lascoux/Krattenthaler Conjecture

$$\frac{D_{2r,1}^{\mu}(2m)}{E_{2r-1,1}^{\mu+3}(2m-1)} = \frac{E_{2r+1,1}^{\mu}(2m+1)}{D_{2r,1}^{\mu+3}(2m)}$$

## Proof of the Lascoux/Krattenthaler Conjecture

**Lemma:** For  $m, r \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $m \geq r \geq 1$ ,

$$\frac{D_{2r,1}^{\mu}(2m)}{E_{2r-1,1}^{\mu+3}(2m-1)} = \frac{(m+r-1)(\mu-1)(\mu+2m+1)(\mu+2r)}{2m(2r-1)(\mu+2)(\mu+2m+2r-1)},$$

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$$\frac{E_{2r+1,1}^{\mu}(2m+1)}{D_{2r,1}^{\mu+3}(2m)} = \frac{(m+r)(\mu-1)(\mu+2m+2)(\mu+2r+1)}{2r(2m+1)(\mu+2)(\mu+2m+2r+1)}.$$

**Theorem:** For  $m, r \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $m \geq r \geq 1$ ,

$$E_{2r-1,1}^{\mu}(2m-1) = \frac{(-1)^{m-r} (\mu-1) (\mu+2r-1)_{2m-2}}{(2r-2)! (m+r-1)_{m-r+1} \left(\frac{\mu}{2} + r\right)_{m-r}} \\ \times \prod_{i=1}^{m-r} \frac{(\mu+2i+6r-5)_{i-1}^2 \left(\frac{\mu}{2} + 2i + 3r - 2\right)_i^2}{(i)_i^2 \left(\frac{\mu}{2} + i + 3r - 2\right)_{i-1}^2}.$$

## Proof of the Lascoux/Krattenthaler Conjecture

**Lemma:** For  $m, r \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $m \geq r \geq 1$ ,

$$\frac{D_{2r,1}^\mu(2m)}{E_{2r-1,1}^{\mu+3}(2m-1)} = \frac{(m+r-1)(\mu-1)(\mu+2m+1)(\mu+2r)}{2m(2r-1)(\mu+2)(\mu+2m+2r-1)},$$

$$\frac{E_{2r+1,1}^\mu(2m+1)}{D_{2r,1}^{\mu+3}(2m)} = \frac{(m+r)(\mu-1)(\mu+2m+2)(\mu+2r+1)}{2r(2m+1)(\mu+2)(\mu+2m+2r+1)}.$$

**Theorem:** For  $m, r \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $m \geq r \geq 1$ ,

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**Corollary:** Apply the switching lemma to obtain  $E_{1,2r-1}^\mu(2m-1)$ .

# Proof of the Lascoux/Krattenthaler Conjecture

**Lemma:** For  $n, s \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $n \geq s \geq 1$ ,

$$\frac{A_{s,1}^{\mu}(n)}{B_{s-1,1}^{\mu+3}(n-1)} = \frac{(n+s-2)(\mu-1)(\mu+n+1)(\mu+s)}{2n(s-1)(\mu+2)(\mu+n+s-1)},$$

where  $(A, B, s, n)$  is  $(D, E, 2r, 2m)$  or  $(E, D, 2r+1, 2m+1)$ .

**Theorem:** For  $m, r \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $m \geq r \geq 1$ ,

$$E_{2r-1,1}^{\mu}(2m-1) = \frac{(-1)^{m-r} (\mu-1) (\mu+2r-1)_{2m-2}}{(2r-2)! (m+r-1)_{m-r+1} \left(\frac{\mu}{2} + r\right)_{m-r}} \\ \times \prod_{i=1}^{m-r} \frac{(\mu+2i+6r-5)_{i-1}^2 \left(\frac{\mu}{2} + 2i+3r-2\right)_i^2}{(i)_i^2 \left(\frac{\mu}{2} + i+3r-2\right)_{i-1}^2}.$$

**Corollary:** Apply the switching lemma to obtain  $E_{1,2r-1}^{\mu}(2m-1)$ .

## Matrix Transformations

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \mathcal{D}_{2,1}^{\mu}(4) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} =$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \binom{\mu+1}{1} & \binom{\mu+2}{2} + 1 & \binom{\mu+3}{3} & \binom{\mu+4}{4} \\ \binom{\mu+2}{1} & \binom{\mu+3}{2} & \binom{\mu+4}{3} + 1 & \binom{\mu+5}{4} \\ \binom{\mu+3}{1} & \binom{\mu+4}{2} & \binom{\mu+5}{3} & \binom{\mu+6}{4} + 1 \\ \binom{\mu+4}{1} & \binom{\mu+5}{2} & \binom{\mu+6}{3} & \binom{\mu+7}{4} \end{pmatrix}$$

## Matrix Transformations

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \mathcal{D}_{2,1}^{\mu}(4) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} =$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \binom{\mu+1}{1} & \binom{\mu+2}{2} + 1 & \binom{\mu+3}{3} & \binom{\mu+4}{4} \\ \binom{\mu+2}{1} - \binom{\mu+1}{1} & \binom{\mu+3}{2} - \binom{\mu+2}{2} - 1 & \binom{\mu+4}{3} - \binom{\mu+3}{3} + 1 & \binom{\mu+5}{4} - \binom{\mu+4}{4} \\ \binom{\mu+3}{1} - \binom{\mu+2}{1} & \binom{\mu+4}{2} - \binom{\mu+3}{2} & \binom{\mu+5}{3} - \binom{\mu+4}{3} - 1 & \binom{\mu+6}{4} - \binom{\mu+5}{4} + 1 \\ \binom{\mu+4}{1} - \binom{\mu+3}{1} & \binom{\mu+5}{2} - \binom{\mu+4}{2} & \binom{\mu+6}{3} - \binom{\mu+5}{3} & \binom{\mu+7}{4} - \binom{\mu+6}{4} - 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Matrix Transformations

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \mathcal{D}_{2,1}^{\mu}(4) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} =$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \binom{\mu+1}{1} & \binom{\mu+2}{2} + 1 & \binom{\mu+3}{3} & \binom{\mu+4}{4} \\ \binom{\mu+1}{0} & \binom{\mu+2}{1} - 1 & \binom{\mu+3}{2} + 1 & \binom{\mu+4}{3} \\ \binom{\mu+2}{0} & \binom{\mu+3}{1} & \binom{\mu+4}{2} - 1 & \binom{\mu+5}{3} + 1 \\ \binom{\mu+3}{0} & \binom{\mu+4}{1} & \binom{\mu+5}{2} & \binom{\mu+6}{3} - 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Matrix Transformations

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \mathcal{D}_{2,1}^{\mu}(4) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} =$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \binom{\mu+1}{1} & \binom{\mu+2}{2} + \binom{\mu+1}{1} + 1 & \binom{\mu+3}{3} & \binom{\mu+4}{4} \\ \binom{\mu+1}{0} & \binom{\mu+2}{1} + \binom{\mu+1}{0} - 1 & \binom{\mu+3}{2} + 1 & \binom{\mu+4}{3} \\ \binom{\mu+2}{0} & \binom{\mu+3}{1} + \binom{\mu+2}{0} & \binom{\mu+4}{2} - 1 & \binom{\mu+5}{3} + 1 \\ \binom{\mu+3}{0} & \binom{\mu+4}{1} + \binom{\mu+3}{0} & \binom{\mu+5}{2} & \binom{\mu+6}{3} - 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Matrix Transformations

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \mathcal{D}_{2,1}^\mu(4) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} =$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \binom{\mu+1}{1} & \binom{\mu+2}{2} + \binom{\mu+2}{1} & \binom{\mu+3}{3} & \binom{\mu+4}{4} \\ \binom{\mu+1}{0} & \binom{\mu+2}{1} + \binom{\mu+2}{0} - 1 & \binom{\mu+3}{2} + 1 & \binom{\mu+4}{3} \\ \binom{\mu+2}{0} & \binom{\mu+3}{1} + \binom{\mu+3}{0} & \binom{\mu+4}{2} - 1 & \binom{\mu+5}{3} + 1 \\ \binom{\mu+3}{0} & \binom{\mu+4}{1} + \binom{\mu+4}{0} & \binom{\mu+5}{2} & \binom{\mu+6}{3} - 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Matrix Transformations

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \mathcal{D}_{2,1}^{\mu}(4) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} =$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \binom{\mu+1}{1} & \binom{\mu+3}{2} & \binom{\mu+3}{3} & \binom{\mu+4}{4} \\ \binom{\mu+1}{0} & \binom{\mu+3}{1} - 1 & \binom{\mu+3}{2} + 1 & \binom{\mu+4}{3} \\ \binom{\mu+2}{0} & \binom{\mu+4}{1} & \binom{\mu+4}{2} - 1 & \binom{\mu+5}{3} + 1 \\ \binom{\mu+3}{0} & \binom{\mu+5}{1} & \binom{\mu+5}{2} & \binom{\mu+6}{3} - 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Matrix Transformations

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$$\begin{pmatrix} \binom{\mu+1}{1} & \binom{\mu+3}{2} & \binom{\mu+3}{3} + \binom{\mu+3}{2} & \binom{\mu+4}{4} \\ \binom{\mu+1}{0} & \binom{\mu+3}{1} - 1 & \binom{\mu+3}{2} + \binom{\mu+3}{1} & \binom{\mu+4}{3} \\ \binom{\mu+2}{0} & \binom{\mu+4}{1} & \binom{\mu+4}{2} + \binom{\mu+4}{1} - 1 & \binom{\mu+5}{3} + 1 \\ \binom{\mu+3}{0} & \binom{\mu+5}{1} & \binom{\mu+5}{2} + \binom{\mu+5}{1} & \binom{\mu+6}{3} - 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Matrix Transformations

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \mathcal{D}_{2,1}^{\mu}(4) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} =$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \binom{\mu+1}{1} & \binom{\mu+3}{2} & \binom{\mu+4}{3} & \binom{\mu+4}{4} \\ \binom{\mu+1}{0} & \binom{\mu+3}{1} - 1 & \binom{\mu+4}{2} & \binom{\mu+4}{3} \\ \binom{\mu+2}{0} & \binom{\mu+4}{1} & \binom{\mu+5}{2} - 1 & \binom{\mu+5}{3} + 1 \\ \binom{\mu+3}{0} & \binom{\mu+5}{1} & \binom{\mu+6}{2} & \binom{\mu+6}{3} - 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Matrix Transformations

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \mathcal{D}_{2,1}^{\mu}(4) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} =$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \binom{\mu+1}{1} & \binom{\mu+3}{2} & \binom{\mu+4}{3} & \binom{\mu+4}{4} + \binom{\mu+4}{3} \\ \binom{\mu+1}{0} & \binom{\mu+3}{1} - 1 & \binom{\mu+4}{2} & \binom{\mu+4}{3} + \binom{\mu+4}{2} \\ \binom{\mu+2}{0} & \binom{\mu+4}{1} & \binom{\mu+5}{2} - 1 & \binom{\mu+5}{3} + \binom{\mu+5}{2} \\ \binom{\mu+3}{0} & \binom{\mu+5}{1} & \binom{\mu+6}{2} & \binom{\mu+6}{3} + \binom{\mu+6}{2} - 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Matrix Transformations

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \mathcal{D}_{2,1}^\mu(4) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} =$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \binom{\mu+1}{1} & \binom{\mu+3}{2} & \binom{\mu+4}{3} & \binom{\mu+5}{4} \\ \binom{\mu+1}{0} & \binom{\mu+3}{1} - 1 & \binom{\mu+4}{2} & \binom{\mu+5}{3} \\ \binom{\mu+2}{0} & \binom{\mu+4}{1} & \binom{\mu+5}{2} - 1 & \binom{\mu+6}{3} \\ \binom{\mu+3}{0} & \binom{\mu+5}{1} & \binom{\mu+6}{2} & \binom{\mu+7}{3} - 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

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$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \mathcal{D}_{2,1}^\mu(4) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} =$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \binom{\mu+1}{1} & \binom{\mu+3}{2} & \binom{\mu+4}{3} & \binom{\mu+5}{4} \\ \binom{\mu+1}{0} & \binom{\mu+3}{1} - 1 & \binom{\mu+4}{2} & \binom{\mu+5}{3} \\ \binom{\mu+2}{0} & \binom{\mu+4}{1} & \binom{\mu+5}{2} - 1 & \binom{\mu+6}{3} \\ \binom{\mu+3}{0} & \binom{\mu+5}{1} & \binom{\mu+6}{2} & \binom{\mu+7}{3} - 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathcal{L} \cdot \mathcal{D}_{2,1}^\mu(4) \cdot \mathcal{R} = \begin{pmatrix} * & * & * & * \\ - & - & - & - \\ 1 & & & \\ 1 & & \mathcal{E}_{1,1}^{\mu+3}(3) & \\ 1 & & & \end{pmatrix}$$

## Proof via the Holonomic Ansatz

To show:

$$\frac{A_{s,1}^{\mu}(n)}{B_{s-1,1}^{\mu+3}(n-1)} = \frac{(n+s-2)(\mu-1)(\mu+n+1)(\mu+s)}{2n(s-1)(\mu+2)(\mu+n+s-1)}$$

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Laplace expansion:

$$\begin{aligned} A_{s,1}^{\mu}(n) &= \det \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{a}_{1,1} & \tilde{a}_{1,2} & \cdots & \tilde{a}_{1,n} \\ 1 & & & \\ 1 & & \mathcal{B}_{s-1,1}^{\mu+3}(n-1) & \\ 1 & & & \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \tilde{a}_{1,1} \cdot \text{Cof}_{1,1}(n-1) + \dots + \tilde{a}_{1,n} \cdot \text{Cof}_{1,n}(n-1). \end{aligned}$$

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With  $c_{n,j} := \text{Cof}_{1,j}(n-1)/\text{Cof}_{1,1}(n-1)$ , we obtain

$$\frac{A_{s,1}^{\mu}(n)}{B_{s-1,1}^{\mu+3}(n-1)} = \sum_{j=1}^n \tilde{a}_{1,j} \cdot c_{n,j}$$

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Laplace expansion:

$$A_{s,1}^{\mu}(n) = \det \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{a}_{1,1} & \tilde{a}_{1,2} & \cdots & \tilde{a}_{1,n} \\ 1 & & & \\ 1 & & B_{s-1,1}^{\mu+3}(n-1) & \\ 1 & & & \end{pmatrix}$$
$$= \tilde{a}_{1,1} \cdot \text{Cof}_{1,1}(n-1) + \dots + \tilde{a}_{1,n} \cdot \text{Cof}_{1,n}(n-1).$$

With  $c_{n,j} := \text{Cof}_{1,j}(n-1)/\text{Cof}_{1,1}(n-1)$ , we obtain

$$\frac{A_{s,1}^{\mu}(n)}{B_{s-1,1}^{\mu+3}(n-1)} = \sum_{j=1}^n \tilde{a}_{1,j} \cdot c_{n,j} \stackrel{!}{=} R_{s,1}^{\mu}(n).$$

## Proof via the Holonomic Ansatz

**Guess:**  $c_{n,j}$  satisfies a holonomic system of recurrence equations.

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$$\begin{aligned}p_{0,2}^{[1]} \cdot c_{n,j+2} + p_{1,0}^{[1]} \cdot c_{n+1,j} + p_{0,1}^{[1]} \cdot c_{n,j+1} + p_{0,0}^{[1]} \cdot c_{n,j} &= 0 \\p_{1,1}^{[2]} \cdot c_{n+1,j+1} + p_{1,0}^{[2]} \cdot c_{n+1,j} + p_{0,1}^{[2]} \cdot c_{n,j+1} + p_{0,0}^{[2]} \cdot c_{n,j} &= 0 \\p_{2,0}^{[3]} \cdot c_{n+2,j} + p_{1,0}^{[3]} \cdot c_{n+1,j} + p_{0,1}^{[3]} \cdot c_{n,j+1} + p_{0,0}^{[3]} \cdot c_{n,j} &= 0\end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned}p_{2,0}^{[3]} = &-(j - 2n - 4)(j - 2n - 3)(\mu + 6n + 5)(\mu + 6n + 7)(\mu + \\&6n + 9)(n + r - 1)(n + r)(j + \mu + 2n + 3)(j + \mu + 2n + 4)(2j^4 + \\&3j^3\mu - 6j^3n + j^3 + j^2\mu^2 - 12j^2\mu n - 3j^2\mu + 12j^2n^2 - 30j^2n - \\&8j^2 - 4j\mu^2n - 2j\mu^2 + 24j\mu n^2 - 8j\mu n - 6j\mu + 72jn^2 + 12jn - 4j + \\&8\mu^2n^2 + 4\mu^2n + 40\mu n^2 + 20\mu n + 48n^2 + 24n)(\mu + 2n + 2r)(\mu + \\&2n + 2r + 1)(\mu + 2n + 2r + 2)(\mu + 2n + 2r + 3)(\mu + 4n + 2r + 1)\end{aligned}$$

## Proof via the Holonomic Ansatz

**Prove:** in the case where  $(A, B, s, n)$  is  $(D, E, 2r, 2m)$

$$\sum_{j=1}^{2m} \binom{\mu + j + 2r - 1}{j} \cdot c_{2m,j} - \sum_{j=1}^{2r-1} c_{2m,j} = R_{2r,1}^{\mu}(2m).$$

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- ▶ Abandon the original definition  $c_{n,j} := \frac{\text{Cof}_{1,j}(n-1)}{\text{Cof}_{1,1}(n-1)}$ .

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- ▶ Abandon the original definition  $c_{n,j} := \frac{\text{Cof}_{1,j}(n-1)}{\text{Cof}_{1,1}(n-1)}$ .
- ▶ Use the conjectured holonomic description for  $c_{n,j}$  instead.

## Proof via the Holonomic Ansatz

**Prove:** in the case where  $(A, B, s, n)$  is  $(D, E, 2r, 2m)$

$$c_{2m,1} = 1,$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^{2m} \binom{\mu + i + j + 2r - 3}{j-1} \cdot c_{2m,j} - c_{2m,i+2r-2} = 0, \quad (2 \leq i \leq 2m),$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^{2m} \binom{\mu + j + 2r - 1}{j} \cdot c_{2m,j} - \sum_{j=1}^{2r-1} c_{2m,j} = R_{2r,1}^{\mu}(2m).$$

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- ▶ Use the conjectured holonomic description for  $c_{n,j}$  instead.
- ▶ The first two identities prove  $c_{n,j} = \frac{\text{Cof}_{1,j}(n-1)}{\text{Cof}_{1,1}(n-1)}$ .

## Proof via the Holonomic Ansatz

**Prove:** in the case where  $(A, B, s, n)$  is  $(D, E, 2r, 2m)$

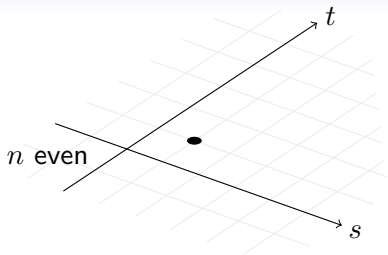
$$c_{2m,1} = 1,$$

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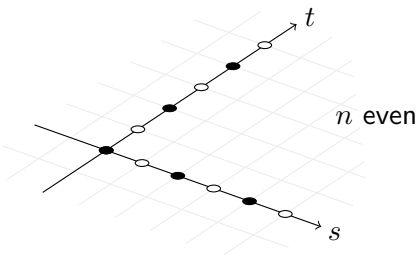
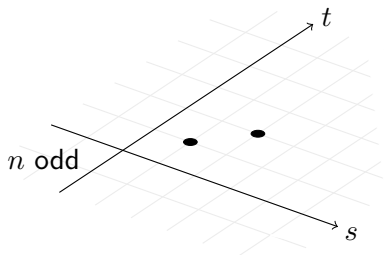
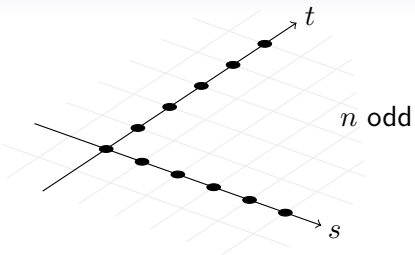
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- ▶ Abandon the original definition  $c_{n,j} := \frac{\text{Cof}_{1,j}(n-1)}{\text{Cof}_{1,1}(n-1)}$ .
- ▶ Use the conjectured holonomic description for  $c_{n,j}$  instead.
- ▶ The first two identities prove  $c_{n,j} = \frac{\text{Cof}_{1,j}(n-1)}{\text{Cof}_{1,1}(n-1)}$ .
- ▶ The third identity proves the claimed quotient of determinants.

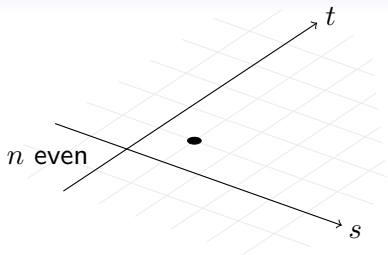
$E_{s,t}^\mu(n)$  Family



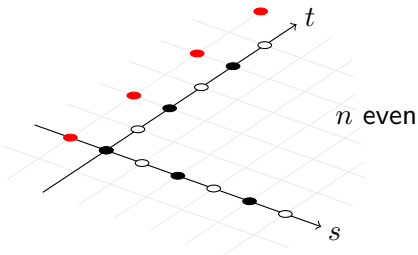
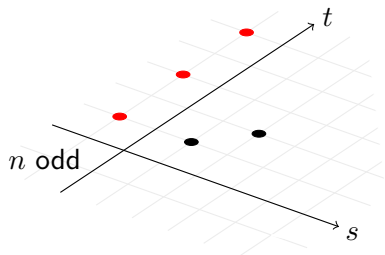
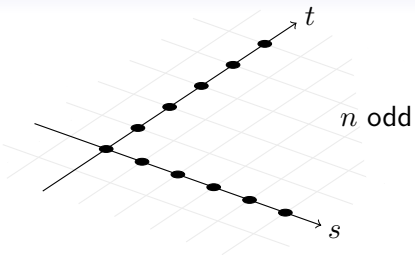
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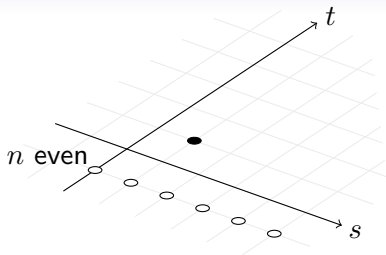
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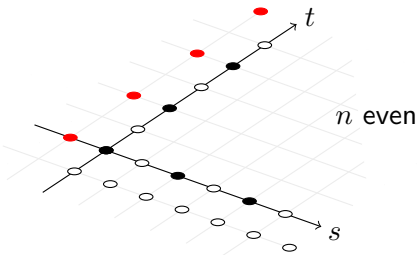
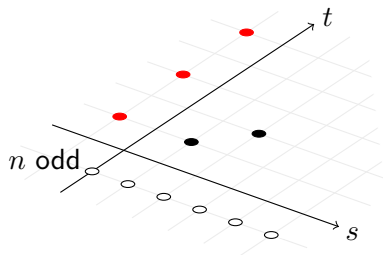
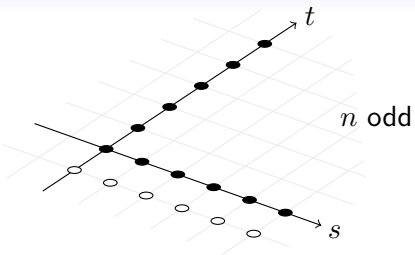
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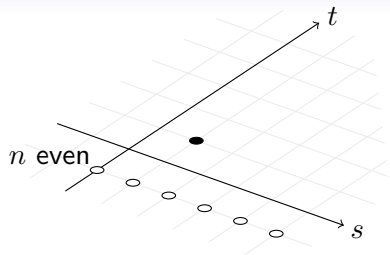
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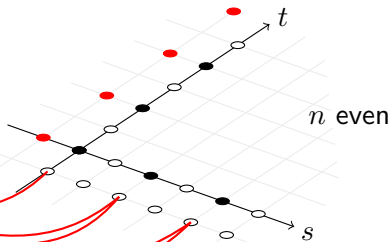
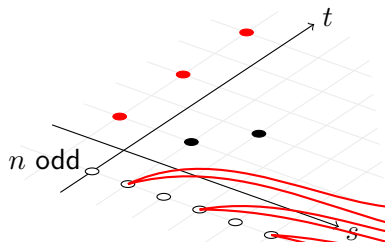
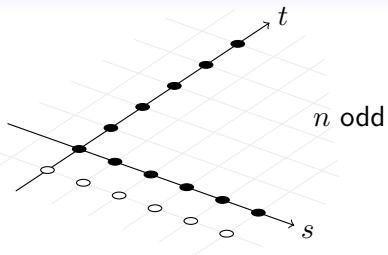
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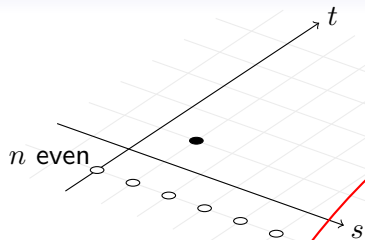
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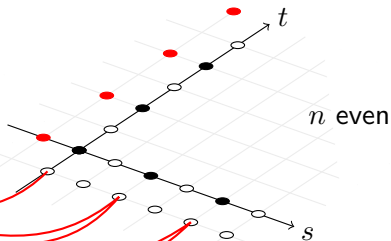
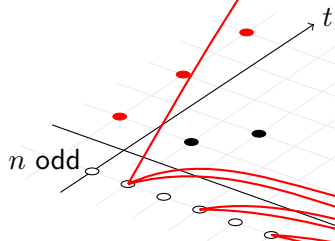
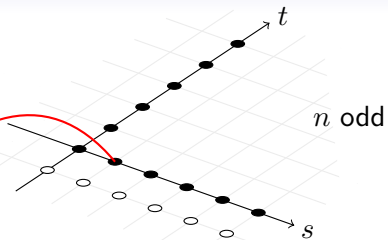
$D_{s,t}^\mu(n)$  Family



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$D_{s,t}^\mu(n)$  Family



# Proof of a Conjecture for $s = -1$

**Theorem:** For  $m, r \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $m \geq r \geq 1$ ,

$$E_{-1, 2r-1}^{\mu}(2m+1) = \frac{(-1)^{m-r} (3-\mu) (m+r+1)_{m-r}}{2^{2m-2r+1} \left(\frac{\mu}{2} + r - \frac{3}{2}\right)_{m-r+1}} \cdot \left( \prod_{i=1}^{2m} \frac{(\mu+i-3)_{2r}}{(i)_{2r}} \right) \\ \times \left( \prod_{i=1}^{m-r} \frac{(\mu+2i+6r-3)_i^2 \left(\frac{\mu}{2} + 2i + 3r - 1\right)_{i-1}^2}{(i)_i^2 \left(\frac{\mu}{2} + i + 3r - 1\right)_{i-1}^2} \right).$$

## Proof of a Conjecture for $s = -1$

$$\frac{D_{-1,2r}^{\mu}(2m)}{E_{-1,2r-1}^{\mu+3}(2m-1)}$$

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## Proof of a Conjecture for $s = -1$

$$\frac{D_{2r,-1}^\mu(2m)}{E_{2r-1,-1}^{\mu+3}(2m-1)} = \frac{0}{0}$$

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**Lemma:** For  $m, r \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $m > r \geq 1$ ,

$$\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{D_{2r+\varepsilon, -1+\varepsilon}^{\mu}(2m)}{E_{2r-1+\varepsilon, -1+\varepsilon}^{\mu+3}(2m-1)} = \frac{2r(2m-1)(\mu-3)(\mu+2m+2r-2)}{\mu(m+r)(\mu+2m-3)(\mu+2r-2)},$$

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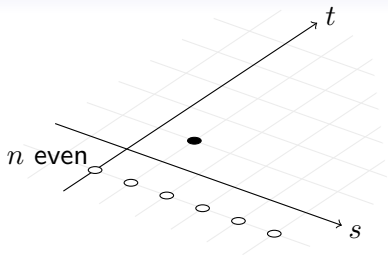
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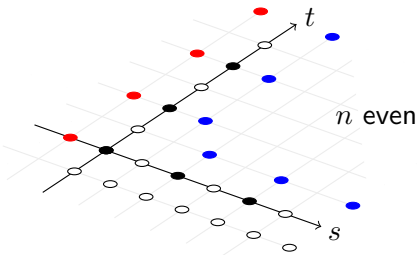
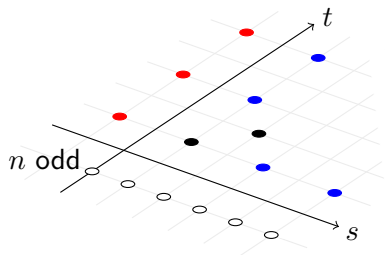
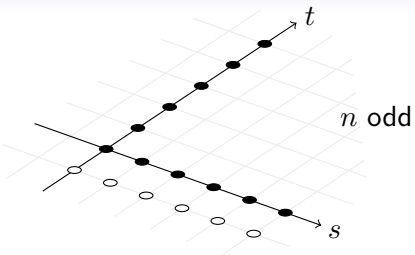
Calculations went close to the limits and required a lot of “human guidance”, for several reasons:

- ▶ Intermediate results are quite large (several 100 MB) due to the extra two parameters  $\mu$  and  $r$ .
- ▶ Some of the certificates had poles close to the summation boundaries.
- ▶ Additional sums coming from the Kronecker deltas in combination with the row and column operations, some of which having non-natural boundaries.

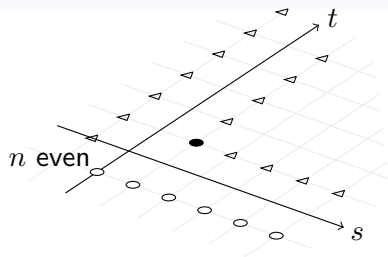
$E_{s,t}^\mu(n)$  Family



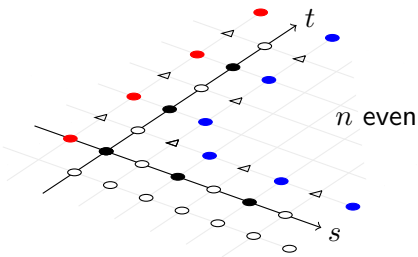
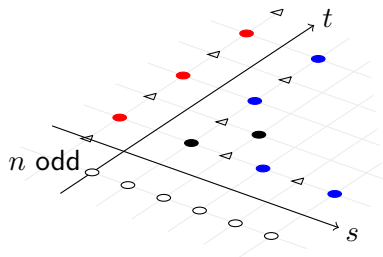
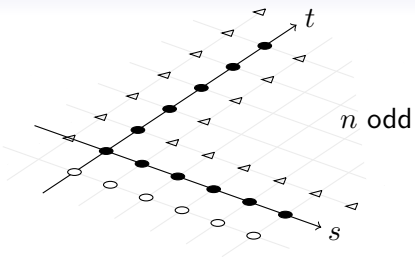
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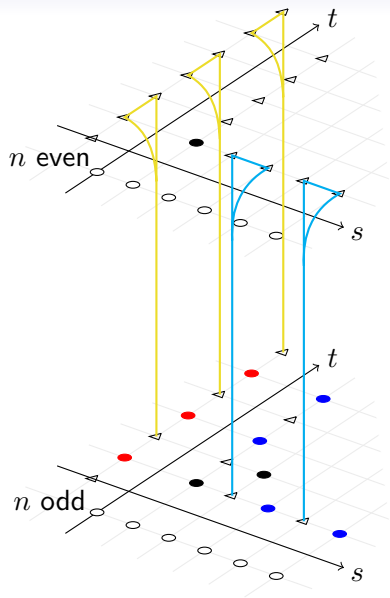
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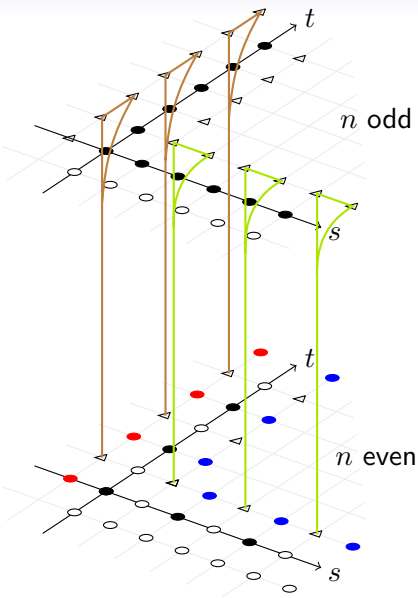
$D_{s,t}^\mu(n)$  Family



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## Triangle Relations

**Corollary:** Let  $\mu$  be an indeterminate, and let  $m, r \in \mathbb{Z}$ .  
If  $m > r \geq 1$ , then

$$\frac{E_{2r,1}^{\mu}(2m+1)}{E_{2r,1}^{\mu}(2m)} =$$

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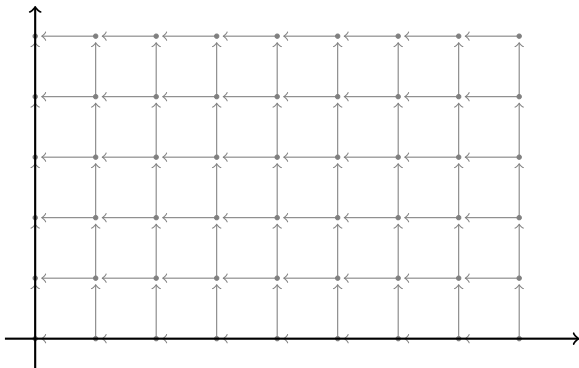
$$\frac{E_{2r+1,1}^{\mu}(2m)}{E_{2r,1}^{\mu}(2m)} = \frac{(-1)^{m-r} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)_{m-r+1} (\mu + 2m + 4r - 1)_{m-r+1}}{(2m - 2r + 1) \left(\frac{\mu}{2} + m + 2r\right)_{m-r} \left(\frac{\mu}{2} + 3r - \frac{1}{2}\right)_{m-r+1}}.$$

## Lindström-Gessel-Viennot Lemma

It implies that the determinant without the Kronecker delta

$$\det_{1 \leq i, j \leq n} \begin{pmatrix} \mu + i + j + s + t - 4 & \\ & j + t - 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

counts  $n$ -tuples of non-intersecting paths in the lattice  $\mathbb{N}^2$ :

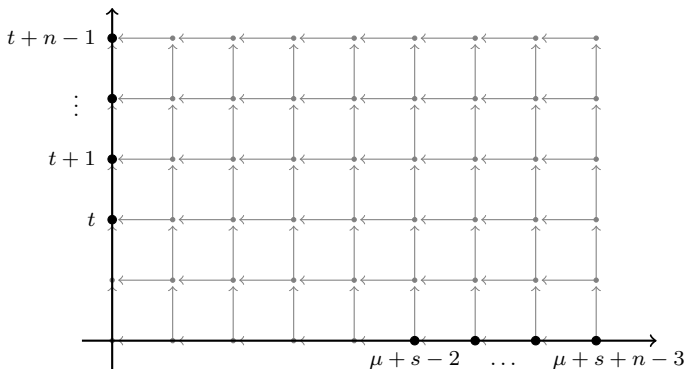


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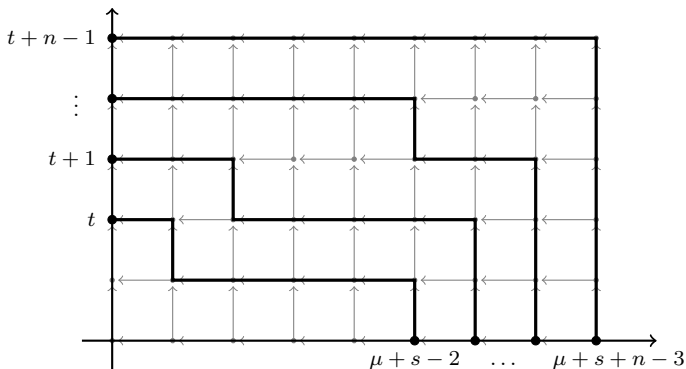


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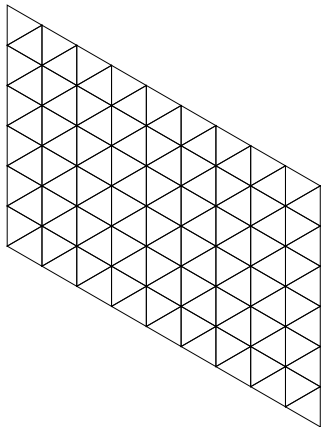
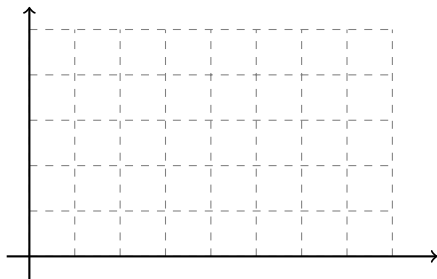
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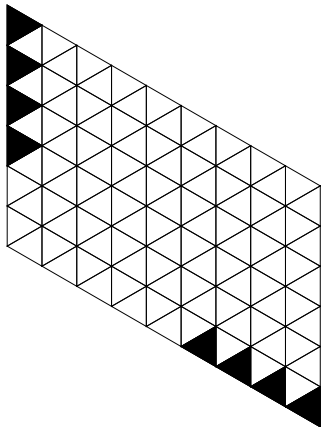
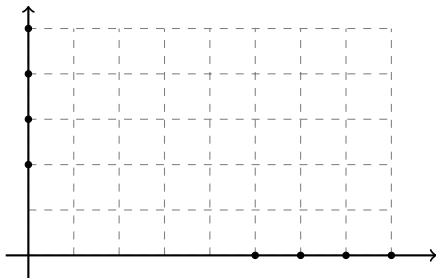
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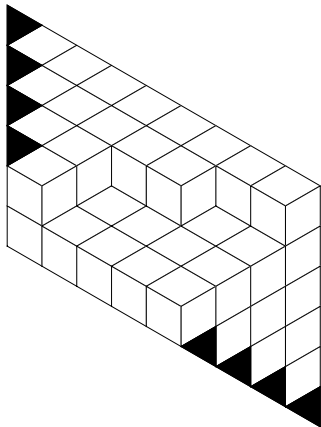
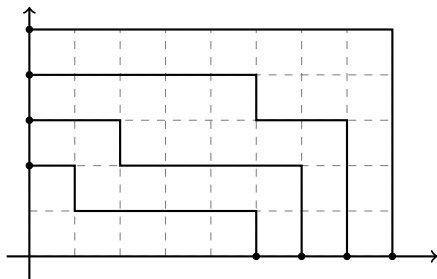
# Lattice Paths $\longleftrightarrow$ Rhombus Tilings



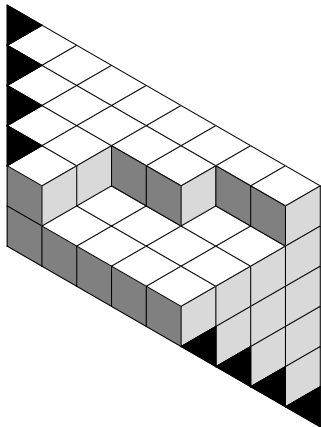
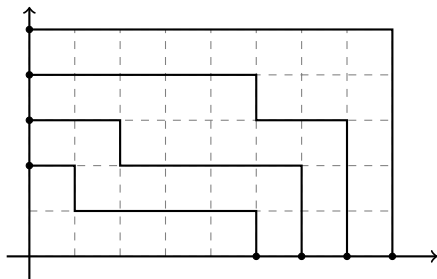
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## Expansion of Kronecker Deltas

$$\text{Laplace expansion: } \begin{vmatrix} \cdots & b_{1,6} & b_{1,7} + 1 & b_{1,8} & \cdots \\ \cdots & b_{2,6} & b_{2,7} & b_{2,8} + 1 & \cdots \\ & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \end{vmatrix} =$$

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By applying this procedure recursively, one obtains

$$D_{s,t}^{\mu}(n) = \sum_{I \subseteq \{1, \dots, n-s+t\}} (-1)^{(s-t) \cdot |I|} \det(B_{I+s-t}^I) \quad (s \geq t),$$

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where  $B_J^I$  denotes the matrix that is obtained by deleting all rows with indices in  $I$  and all columns with indices in  $J$  from the matrix

$$B = \left( \binom{\mu + i + j + s + t - 4}{j + t - 1} \right)_{1 \leq i, j \leq n}$$

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$$E_{s,t}^{\mu}(n) = \sum_{I \subseteq \{1, \dots, n-s+t\}} (-1)^{(s-t+1) \cdot |I|} \det(B_{I+s-t}^I) \quad (s \geq t),$$

where  $B_J^I$  denotes the matrix that is obtained by deleting all rows with indices in  $I$  and all columns with indices in  $J$  from the matrix

$$B = \left( \binom{\mu + i + j + s + t - 4}{j + t - 1} \right)_{1 \leq i, j \leq n}$$

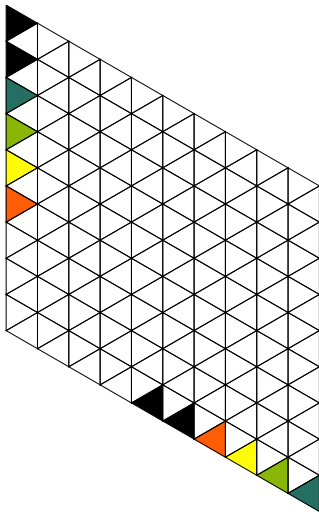
# Hexagonal Fusion

$$s = 1$$

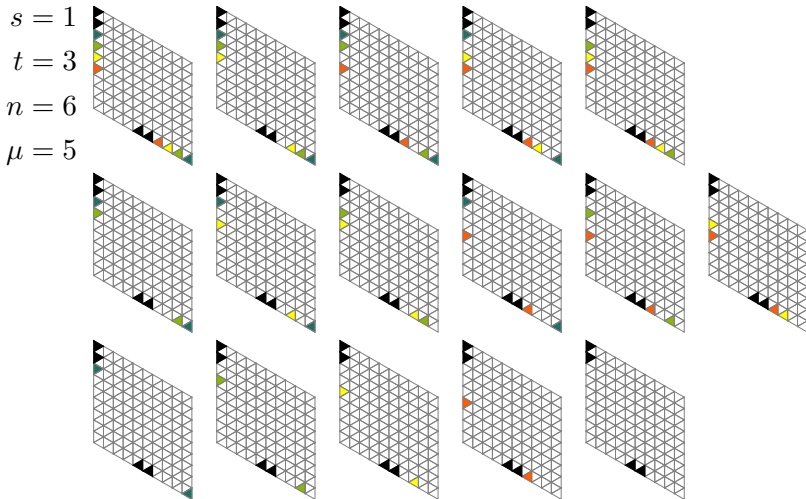
$$t = 3$$

$$n = 6$$

$$\mu = 5$$



# Hexagonal Fusion



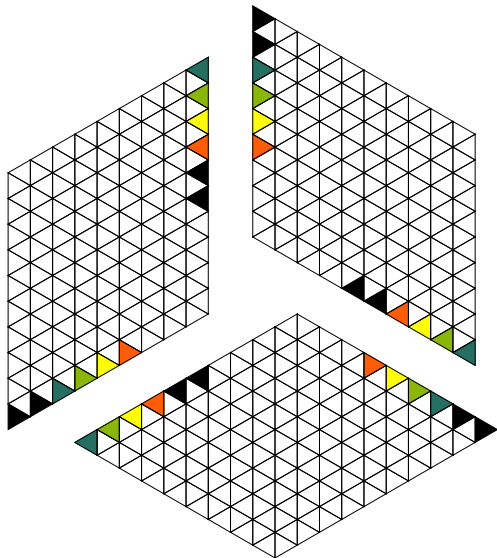
# Hexagonal Fusion

$$s = 1$$

$$t = 3$$

$$n = 6$$

$$\mu = 5$$



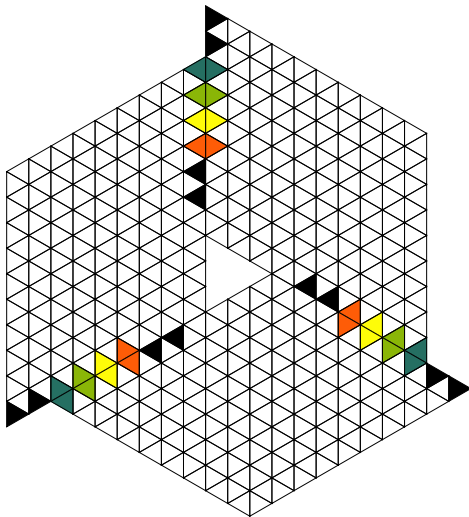
# Hexagonal Fusion

$$s = 1$$

$$t = 3$$

$$n = 6$$

$$\mu = 5$$





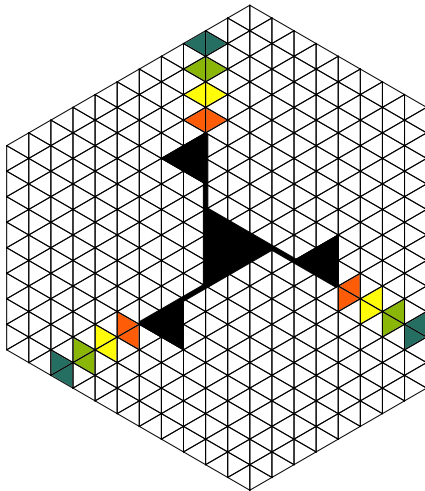
# Hexagonal Fusion

$$s = 1$$

$$t = 3$$

$$n = 6$$

$$\mu = 5$$



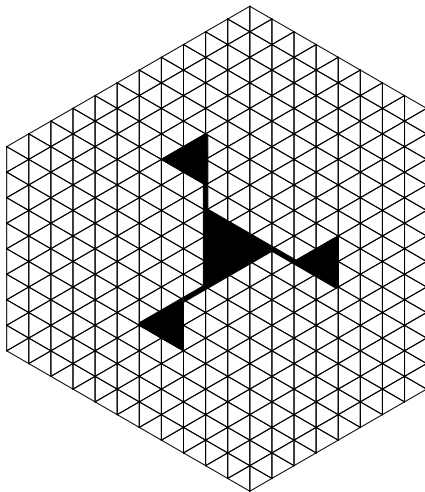
# Hexagonal Fusion

$$s = 1$$

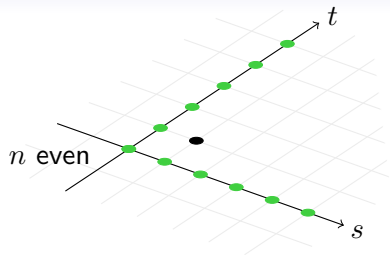
$$t = 3$$

$$n = 6$$

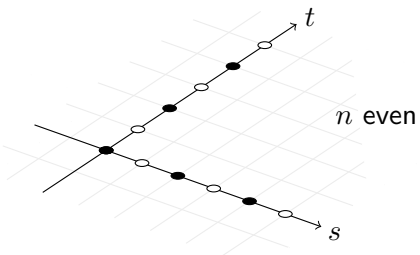
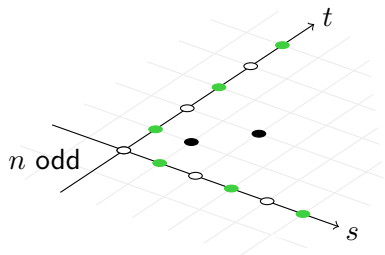
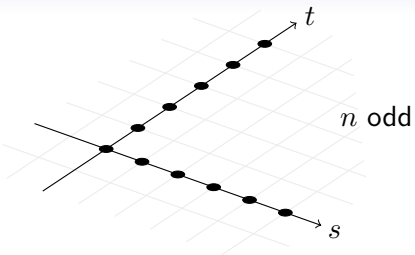
$$\mu = 5$$



$E_{s,t}^\mu(n)$  Family

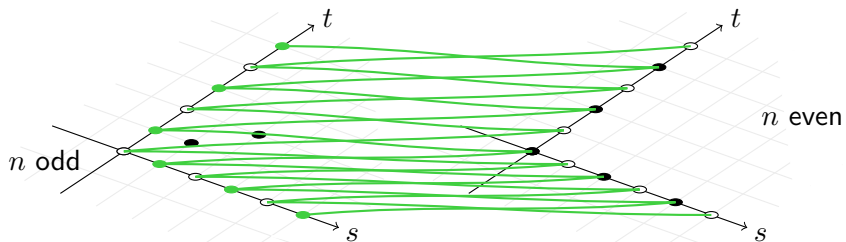
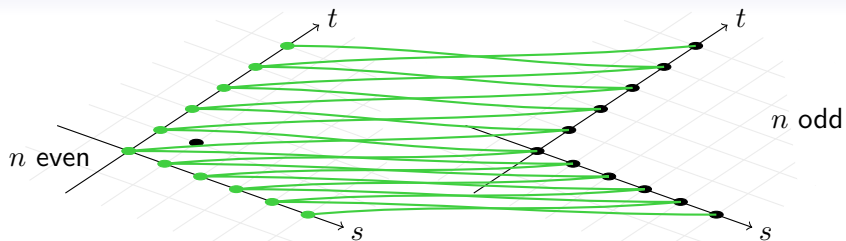


$D_{s,t}^\mu(n)$  Family



$E_{s,t}^\mu(n)$  Family

$D_{s,t}^\mu(n)$  Family



## A Combinatorial Proof

**Lemma:** For  $n, s \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $n \geq s \geq 1$  and  $n > 1$ ,

$$E_{s,0}^{\mu}(n) = D_{s-1,0}^{\mu+3}(n-1),$$

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## A Combinatorial Proof

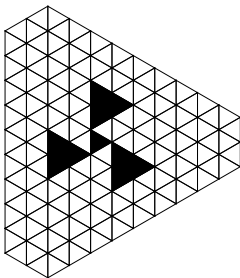
**Lemma:** For  $n, s \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $n \geq s \geq 1$  and  $n > 1$ ,

$$E_{s,0}^\mu(n) = D_{s-1,0}^{\mu+3}(n-1),$$

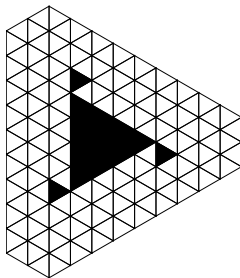
$$D_{s,0}^\mu(n) = E_{s-1,0}^{\mu+3}(n-1).$$

**Proof (by example):**

$$D_{2,0}^3(4)$$



$$E_{1,0}^6(3)$$



## A Combinatorial Proof

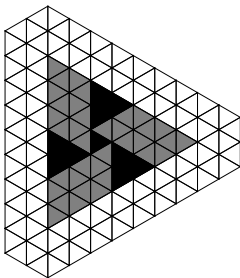
**Lemma:** For  $n, s \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $n \geq s \geq 1$  and  $n > 1$ ,

$$E_{s,0}^{\mu}(n) = D_{s-1,0}^{\mu+3}(n-1),$$

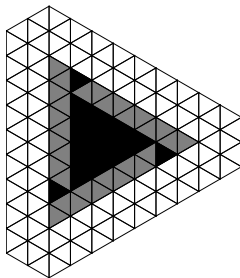
$$D_{s,0}^{\mu}(n) = E_{s-1,0}^{\mu+3}(n-1).$$

**Proof (by example):**

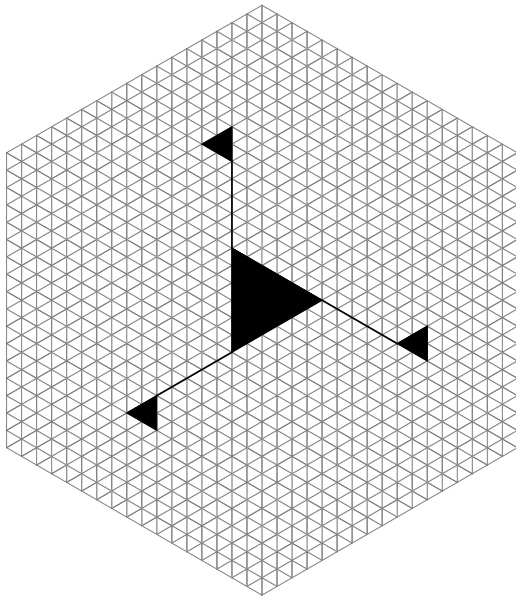
$$D_{2,0}^3(4)$$



$$E_{1,0}^6(3)$$



Happy Birthday!



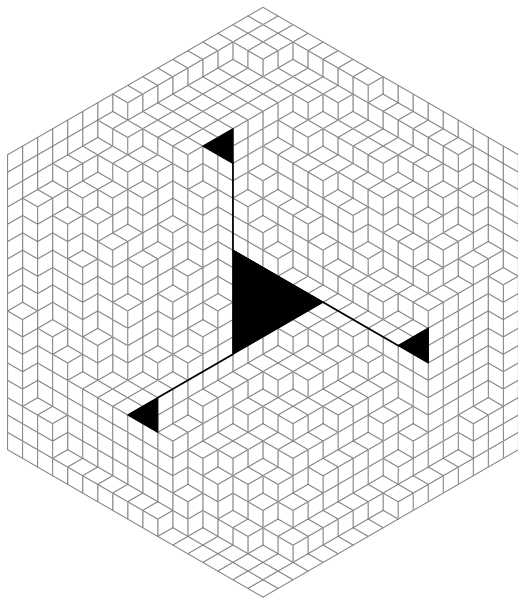
$$s = 5$$

$$t = 7$$

$$n = 8$$

$$\mu = 8$$

Happy Birthday!



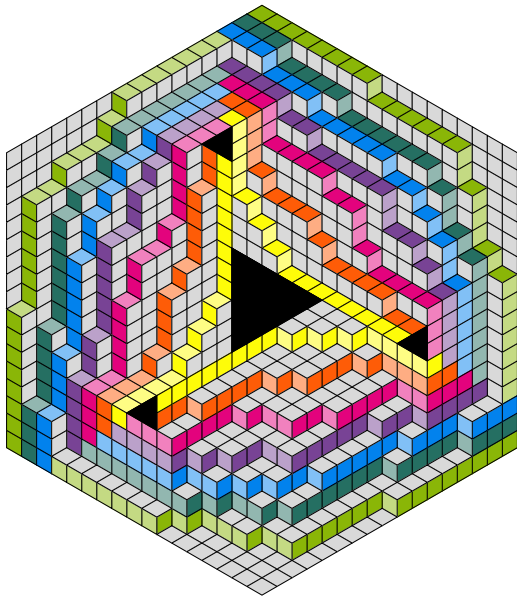
$$s = 5$$

$$t = 7$$

$$n = 8$$

$$\mu = 8$$

Happy Birthday!



$$s = 5$$

$$t = 7$$

$$n = 8$$

$$\mu = 8$$