

# Computer Algebra Tools for Summation and Integration

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# RISC

(Research Institute for Symbolic Computation)



Located in Hagenberg (Linz, Austria)



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Founded by Bruno Buchberger in 1989



# Overview of this talk

## Introduction to

- holonomic and  $\partial$ -finite functions
- creative telescoping
- our Mathematica package `HolonomicFunctions`

## Applications in

- numerical analysis
- combinatorics
- quantum topology
- particle physics



## Some notation

- $\mathbb{K}$ : computable field, usually  $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{Q}$
- $D_x$  operator “partial derivative w.r.t.  $x$ ”,  
i.e.,  $D_x(f(x)) = f'(x)$
- $x$  is called a *continuous variable*.
- $S_n$ : shift operator in  $n$ ,  
i.e.,  $S_n(f(n)) = f(n + 1)$
- $n$  is called a *discrete variable*.
- $\mathbb{O}$ : an *Ore algebra* (operator algebra)
- $\text{Ann}_{\mathbb{O}} f = \{P \in \mathbb{O} : P(f) = 0\}$ : annihilator of the function  $f$



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**Note:** noncommutative multiplication

$$D_x x = x D_x + 1 \quad \text{and} \quad S_n n = n S_n + S_n$$

or more general

$$D_x \cdot a(x) = a(x) D_x + a'(x) \quad \text{and} \quad S_n a(n) = a(n + 1) S_n$$



## $\partial$ -finite functions

**Definition:** Let

- $n_1, \dots, n_a$  be a set of discrete variables
- $x_1, \dots, x_b$  be a set of continuous variables
- $\mathbb{F} = \mathbb{K}(n_1, \dots, n_a, x_1, \dots, x_b)$
- $\mathbb{O} = \mathbb{F}[S_{n_1}, \dots, S_{n_a}, D_{x_1}, \dots, D_{x_b}]$  be the Ore algebra containing the corresponding operators.

Then a function  $f(n_1, \dots, n_a, x_1, \dots, x_b)$  is called  $\partial$ -finite w.r.t.  $\mathbb{O}$  if  $\mathbb{O} / \text{Ann}_{\mathbb{O}} f$  is a finite-dimensional  $\mathbb{F}$ -vector space.



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We omit the more complicated definition for the closely related concept of *holonomic functions*.



## $\partial$ -finite functions: Example

All derivatives (w.r.t.  $x$  and  $y$ ) of  $\sin\left(\frac{x+y}{x-y}\right)$  are of the form

$$r_1(x, y) \sin\left(\frac{x+y}{x-y}\right) + r_2(x, y) \cos\left(\frac{x+y}{x-y}\right), \quad r_1, r_2 \in \mathbb{Q}(x, y)$$

e.g.,

$$\begin{aligned} D_x^3 D_y^2 \bullet \sin\left(\frac{x+y}{x-y}\right) &= \frac{32(3x^4 + 12yx^3 - 30y^2x^2 - 4y^3x + 9y^4)}{(x-y)^9} \sin\left(\frac{x+y}{x-y}\right) \\ &\quad - \frac{16(6x^5 - 33yx^4 + 80y^3x^2 - 54y^4x + 3y^5)}{(x-y)^{10}} \cos\left(\frac{x+y}{x-y}\right) \end{aligned}$$



## Annihilating ideals

All operators that annihilate a function  $f$  form a *left ideal* in the corresponding operator algebra  $\mathbb{O}$ .

We represent such left ideals by their *Gröbner bases*; this allows us

- to decide the equality of two ideals
- to decide ideal membership
- to eliminate certain operators or variables

A function is  $\partial$ -finite w.r.t.  $\mathbb{O}$  if  $\text{Ann}_{\mathbb{O}} f$  is a zero-dimensional left ideal in  $\mathbb{O}$ .

**Example:** A Gröbner basis for the annihilator of  $\sin\left(\frac{x+y}{x-y}\right)$  in  $\mathbb{O} = \mathbb{Q}(x, y)[D_x, D_y]$  is given by

$$\{xD_x + yD_y, (x - y)^4 D_y^2 - 2(x - y)^3 D_y + 4x^2\}.$$



# Closure properties of $\partial$ -finite functions

## Closure properties:

- sum
- product
- application of an Ore operator
- algebraic substitution (of a continuous variable)
- subsequence /  $\mathbb{Q}$ -linear substitution (of a discrete variable)
- definite summation and integration



# Closure properties of $\partial$ -finite functions

## Closure properties:

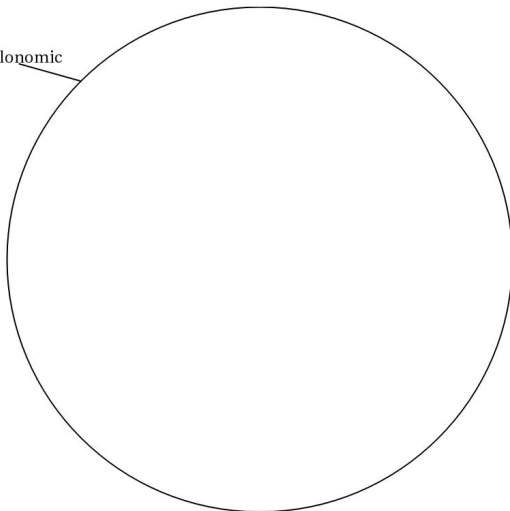
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In contrast to holonomic closure properties, the closure properties for  $\partial$ -finite functions can be computed quite easily (using linear algebra and an FGLM-like algorithm).

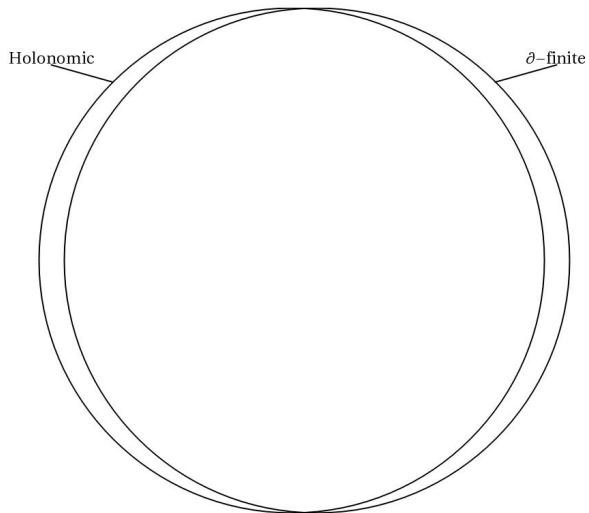


# The Universe of Holonomic Functions

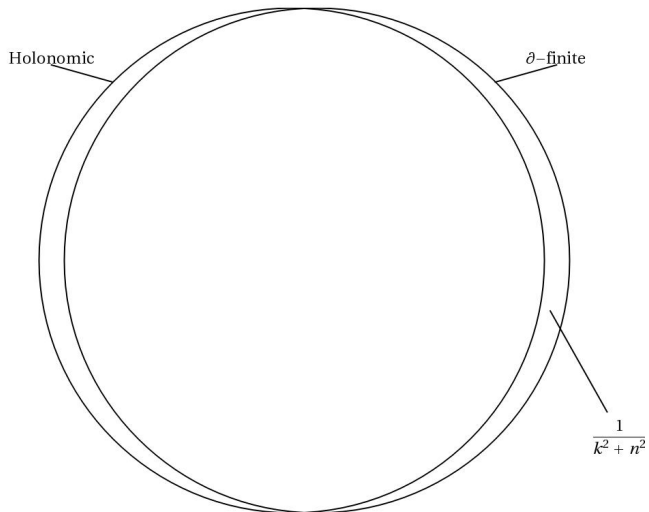
Holonomic



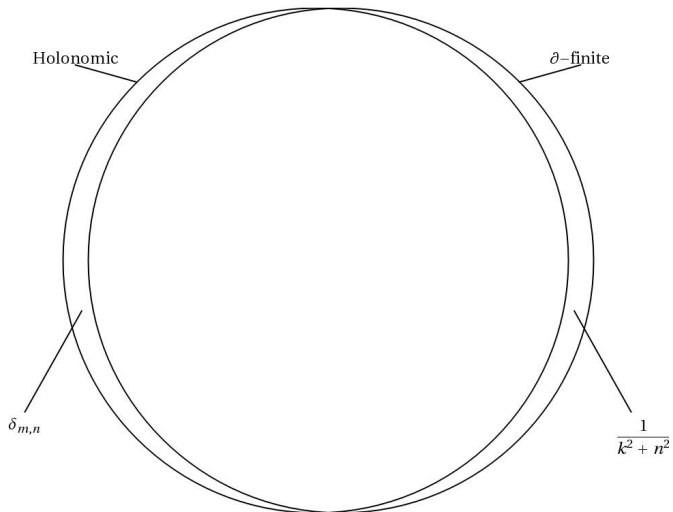
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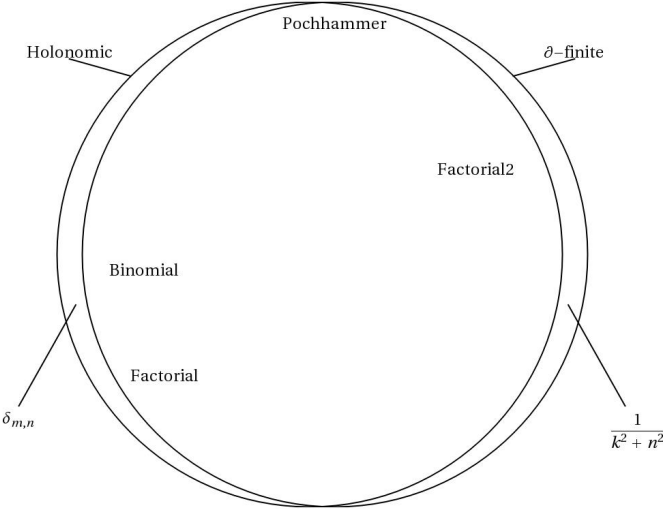
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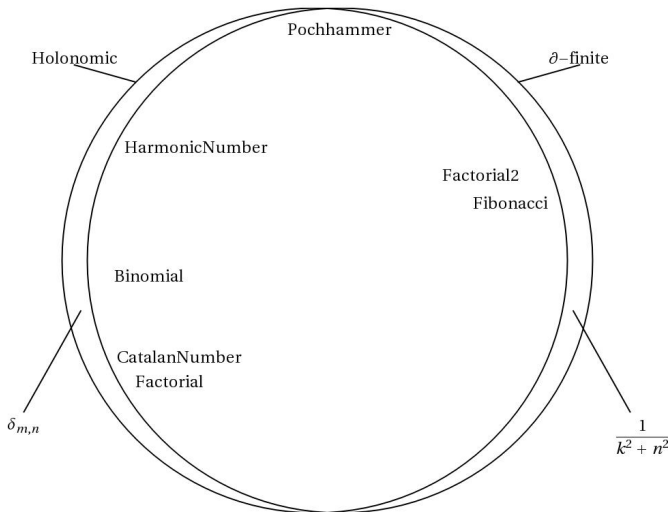
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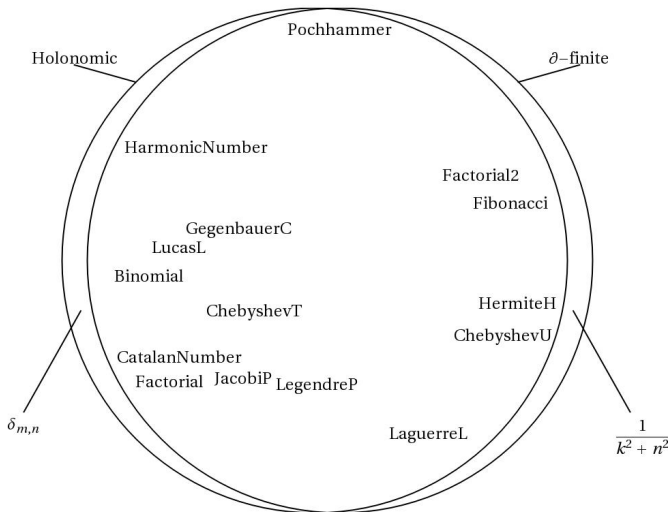
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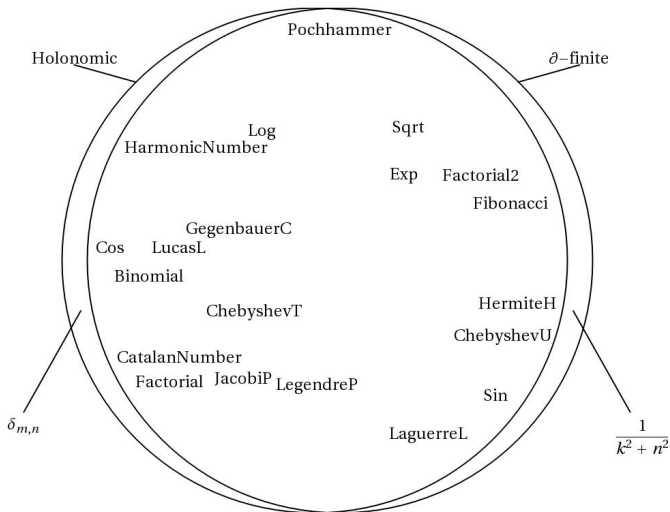
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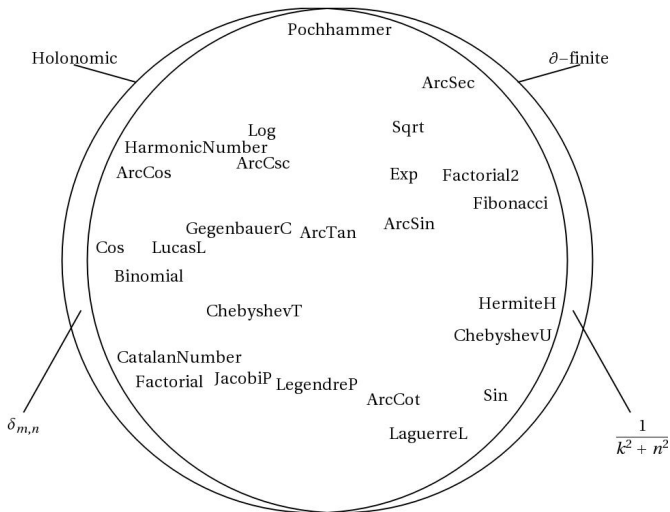
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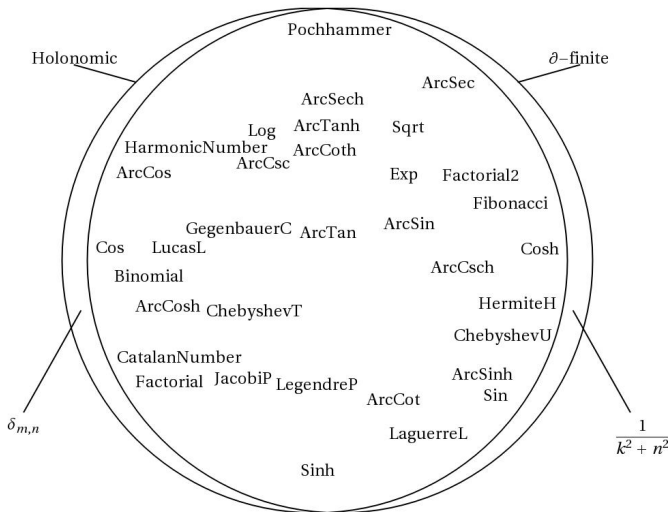
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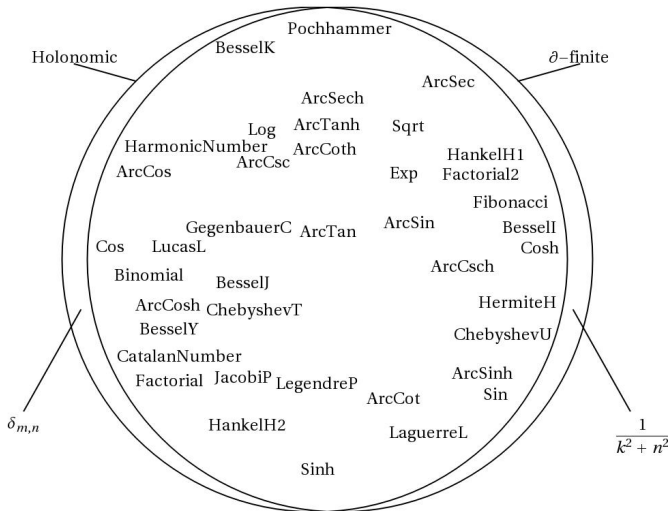
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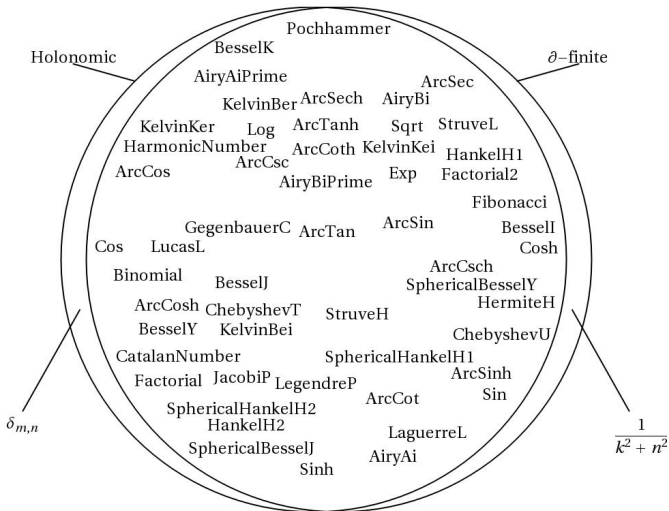
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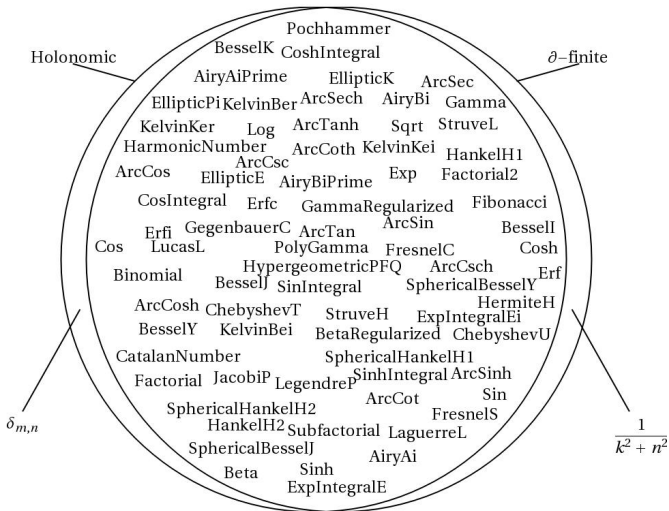
# The Universe of Holonomic Functions



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# Application 1

Relations for speeding up FEM



## Problem setting

Simulate the propagation of electromagnetic waves using the Maxwell equations

$$\frac{dH}{dt} = \text{curl } E, \quad \frac{dE}{dt} = -\text{curl } H$$

where  $H$  and  $E$  are the magnetic and the electric field respectively. Define basis functions (in 2D) in order to approximate the solution:

$$\varphi_{i,j}(x, y) :=$$

$$(1-x)^i P_j^{(2i+1,0)}(2x-1) P_i\left(\frac{2y}{1-x} - 1\right)$$

**Problem:** need to represent the partial derivatives of  $\varphi_{i,j}(x, y)$  in the original basis (i.e., as linear combinations of shifts of the  $\varphi_{i,j}(x, y)$  itself)



## The Gröbner approach

The numerists need a relation of the form

$$\sum_{(k,l) \in A} a_{k,l}(i,j) \frac{d}{dx} \varphi_{i+k,j+l}(x,y) = \sum_{(m,n) \in B} b_{m,n}(i,j) \varphi_{i+m,j+n}(x,y),$$

that is free of  $x$  and  $y$  (and similarly for  $\frac{d}{dy}$ ).



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- consider the operators  $D_x$ ,  $S_i$ , and  $S_j$
- basis functions  $\varphi_{i,j}(x,y)$  are  $\partial$ -finite with respect to them
- compute generators of an annihilating left ideal for  $\varphi_{i,j}(x,y)$
- represent them in the algebra  
 $\mathbb{Q}(i,j)[x,y][D_x; 1, D_x][S_i; S_i, 0][S_j; S_j, 0]$
- compute a Gröbner basis in order to eliminate  $x$  and  $y$



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- compute a Gröbner basis in order to eliminate  $x$  and  $y$
- takes very long, interrupt as soon as a desired operator is found
- result is quite big (2 pages of output)
- because of “extension/contraction” we can not be sure that we obtain the smallest operator



## The ansatz approach

The numerists need a relation of the form

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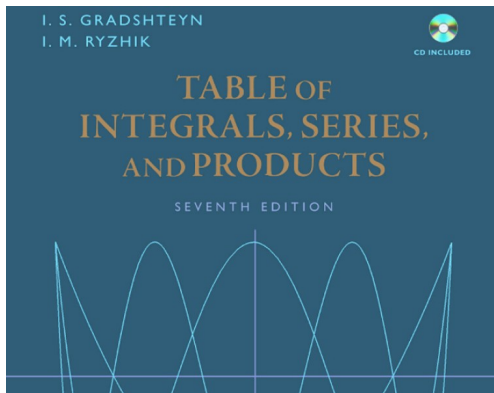
that is free of  $x$  and  $y$  (and similarly for  $\frac{d}{dy}$ ).

- work in the algebra  $\mathbb{Q}(i, j, x, y)[D_x; 1, D_x][S_i; S_i, 0][S_j; S_j, 0]$
- compute a Gröbner basis  $G$  of a  $\partial$ -finite annihilating ideal for  $\varphi_{i,j}(x, y)$
- choose index sets  $A$  and  $B$
- reduce the above ansatz with  $G$
- do coefficient comparison with respect to  $x$  and  $y$
- solve the resulting linear system for  $a_{k,l}, b_{m,n} \in \mathbb{Q}(i, j)$
- can find the “smallest” relation
- certain optimizations (e.g., using homomorphic images)  
reduce the computation time to a few seconds



# Application 2

## Special Function Identities



# Creative telescoping

- can treat symbolic sums and integrals
- delivers a recurrence / differential equation / annihilating ideal
- for summation of  $f(k, n_1, \dots, n_a)$  w.r.t.  $k$  find an operator of the form

$$Q(n_1, \dots, n_a, S_{n_1}, \dots, S_{n_a}) + (S_k - 1)R(k, n_1, \dots, n_a, S_k, S_{n_1}, \dots, S_{n_a})$$

- for integrating  $f(t, x_1, \dots, x_b)$  w.r.t.  $t$  find an operator of the form

$$Q(x_1, \dots, x_b, D_{x_1}, \dots, D_{x_b}) + D_t R(t, x_1, \dots, x_b, D_t, D_{x_1}, \dots, D_{x_b})$$



## Chyzak's extension of Zeilberger's fast algorithm

**Example:** integrate a function in two continuous variables.

**Given:**  $\text{Ann}_{\mathbb{O}} f$ , the annihilator of a  $\partial$ -finite function  $f(x, y)$  in the Ore algebra  $\mathbb{O} = \mathbb{K}(x, y)[D_x, D_y]$ .

**Find:** Operators  $Q(y, D_y)$  and  $R(x, y, D_x, D_y)$  such that  $Q + D_x \cdot R \in \text{Ann}_{\mathbb{O}} f$ .

1. compute a Gröbner basis  $G$  of  $\text{Ann}_{\mathbb{O}} f$  in order to know the set  $U = \{u_1, \dots, u_k\}$  of monomials that can not be reduced by  $\text{Ann}_{\mathbb{O}} f$ , i.e., the elements under the stairs of  $G$
2. make an ansatz for  $Q(y, D_y) = \sum_{i=0}^d \eta_i(y) D_y^i$  and  $R(x, y, D_x, D_y) = \sum_{j=1}^k \phi_j(x, y) u_j$
3. reduce  $Q + D_x \cdot R$  with  $G$  and set all coefficients to zero
4. solve the corresponding coupled system of differential equations (for rational solutions)
5. if there is no solution, increase  $d$



## Some special function identities

$$\sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k}^2 \binom{k+n}{k}^2 = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \binom{k+n}{k} \sum_{j=0}^k \binom{k}{j}^3 \quad (1)$$

$$\int_0^{\infty} \frac{1}{(x^4 + 2ax^2 + 1)^{m+1}} dx = \frac{\pi P_m^{(m+\frac{1}{2}, -m-\frac{1}{2})}(a)}{2^{m+\frac{3}{2}}(a+1)^{m+\frac{1}{2}}} \quad (2)$$

$$e^{-x} x^{a/2} n! L_n^a(x) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-t} t^{\frac{a}{2}+n} J_a(2\sqrt{tx}) dt \quad (3)$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{H_m(x) H_n(x) r^m s^n e^{-x^2}}{m! n!} dx = \sqrt{\pi} e^{2rs} \quad (4)$$

$$\int_{-1}^1 (1-x^2)^{\nu-\frac{1}{2}} e^{iax} C_n^{(\nu)}(x) dx = \frac{\pi 2^{1-\nu} i^n \Gamma(n+2\nu) a^{-\nu} J_{n+\nu}(a)}{n! \Gamma(\nu)} \quad (5)$$

$$\frac{\sin(\sqrt{z^2 + 2tz})}{z} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-t)^n y_{n-1}(z)}{n!} \quad (6)$$



## Computer proof of a special function identity

We consider identity (3):

$$e^{-x} x^{a/2} n! L_n^a(x) = \int_0^\infty e^{-t} t^{\frac{a}{2}+n} J_a(2\sqrt{tx}) dt.$$

Annihilator[Exp[-x]\*x^(a/2)\*n!\*LaguerreL[n, a, x],  
{S[a], S[n], Der[x]}]

$$\{2S_n - 2xD_x + (-a - 2n - 2), \\ 4x^2D_x^2 + (4x^2 + 4x)D_x + (-a^2 + 2ax + 4nx + 4x), \\ 2xS_a^2 + (2ax + 2x^2 + 2x)D_x + (-a^2 + ax - a + 2nx + 2x)\}$$

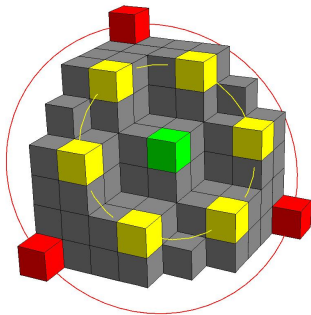
CreativeTelescoping[Exp[-t]\*t^(a/2+n)\*BesselJ[a, 2\*Sqrt[t\*x],  
Der[t], {S[a], S[n], Der[x]}]

$$\{\{-2S_n + 2xD_x + (a + 2n + 2), \\ 4x^2D_x^2 + (4x^2 + 4x)D_x + (-a^2 + 2ax + 4nx + 4x), \\ 2xS_a^2 + (2ax + 2x^2 + 2x)D_x + (-a^2 + ax - a + 2nx + 2x)\}, \\ \{-2t, -4tx, -2tx\}\}$$

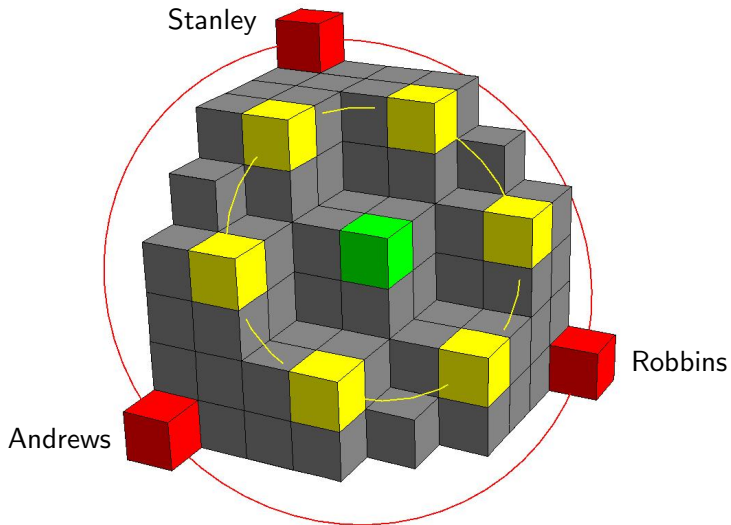


# Application 3

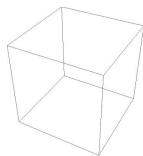
Proof of the  $q$ -TSPP conjecture



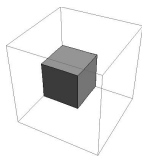
# $q$ -TSPP



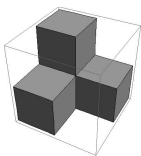
Let  $T(n)$  denote set of TSPPs with largest part at most  $n$ .



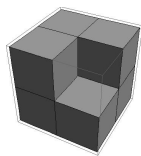
$q^0$



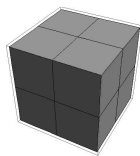
$q^1$



$q^2$



$q^3$



$q^4$

Andrews-Robbins  $q$ -TSPP conjecture:

$$\sum_{\pi \in T(n)} q^{|\pi/S_3|} = \prod_{1 \leq i \leq j \leq k \leq n} \frac{1 - q^{i+j+k-1}}{1 - q^{i+j+k-2}}$$

For  $q = 1$ :

$$|T(n)| = \prod_{1 \leq i \leq j \leq k \leq n} \frac{i + j + k - 1}{i + j + k - 2} \quad (\text{Stembridge})$$



# The determinant

Reduction by Soichi Okada:

The  $q$ -TSPP conjecture is true if

$$\det(a_{i,j})_{1 \leq i, j \leq n} = \prod_{1 \leq i \leq j \leq k \leq n} \left( \frac{1 - q^{i+j+k-1}}{1 - q^{i+j+k-2}} \right)^2 =: b_n$$

where

$$a_{i,j} := q^{i+j-1} \left( \begin{bmatrix} i+j-2 \\ i-1 \end{bmatrix}_q + q \begin{bmatrix} i+j-1 \\ i \end{bmatrix}_q \right) + (1+q^i)\delta_{i,j} - \delta_{i,j+1}$$

where

$$\begin{bmatrix} n \\ k \end{bmatrix}_q := \frac{(1 - q^n)(1 - q^{n-1}) \cdots (1 - q^{n-k+1})}{(1 - q^k)(1 - q^{k-1}) \cdots (1 - q)}$$



## The holonomic ansatz

Second reduction by Doron Zeilberger:

“Pull out of the hat” a discrete function  $c_{n,j}$  and prove

$$c_{n,n} = 1 \quad (n \geq 1),$$

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

$$\sum_{j=1}^n c_{n,j} a_{n,j} = \frac{b_n}{b_{n-1}} \quad (n \geq 1).$$

Then  $\det(a_{i,j})_{1 \leq i,j \leq n} = b_n$  holds.



## The result...

... is about 7GB large (corresponding to some million printed pages).

A short version will soon appear in PNAS (Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America):

Christoph Koutschan, Manuel Kauers, Doron Zeilberger:  
*A proof of George Andrews' and David Robbins'  $q$ -TSPP conjecture*



# Application 4

Quantum Topology and Knot Theory



## A multiple sum

While studying invariants of such knots, Stavros Garoufalidis asked me to evaluate the following sum:

$$\sum_{k=0}^{2n} (2k+1) \left( (1-)^k a(k, n) \right)^s$$

with

$$a(k, n) = \sum_{j=\max(3n, k+2n)}^{\min(4n, k+3n)} (-1)^j \binom{j+1}{k+2n+1} \binom{k}{j-3n}^2 \binom{2n-k}{4n-j}.$$

The package `HolonomicFunctions` can compute the recurrence for the sum up to  $s = 6$ . This recurrence has order 12, coefficient degrees about 500 and integer coefficients with several hundred decimal digits.



# Application 5

## Particle Physics



## A Feynman integral

Johannes Blümlein and his colleagues from DESY are studying integrals like the following:

$$\int_0^1 \int_0^1 \frac{w^{-1-\varepsilon/2}(1-z)^{\varepsilon/2}z^{-\varepsilon/2}}{(z+w-wz)^{1-\varepsilon}} (1-w^{n+1} - (1-w)^{n+1}) dw dz$$

The physicists are interested in a recurrence in  $n$  for this integral. Such a recurrence can be obtained by means of creative telescoping.

