# Analytic theory of monoidal categories

Or: Strategies to avoid counting





### Avoiding counting in general



• Reminder We analyzed  $b_n = \#$  inde. summands of  $V^{\otimes n}$  for groups

Question What about general categories?

 $\blacktriangleright$  Additive Krull–Schmidt are assumed to hold together with  $\mathbb K ext{-linear}$ 

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### Avoiding counting in general



We have

$$\beta = \lim_{n \to \infty} \sqrt[n]{b_n} = \dim_{\mathbb{K}} V$$

- Start Recall that dominating growth is the dimension
- Question In what generality is that true?
- Minimal assumptions A functor  $\mathcal{F}$  to vector spaces to define  $\beta = \dim_{\mathbb{K}} \mathcal{F}(X)$





## Avoiding counting in general



• Rabbit counting à la Fibonacci using the matrices:

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, M^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}, M^3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}, M^4 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 3 & 5 \end{pmatrix}, \dots$$

▶ Thus, the growth rate of the entries of  $M^n$  is  $\sim \sqrt{5} \cdot 1 = n^0 \cdot \phi^n$ 



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We randomly walk on some (connected) graph = at each step choose the next step/edge randomly but equally likely "coin flip walk"

Recurrent := We will hit the start infinitely often with P(rob)=1 <> one finds home; transient := not recurrent <> one moves out

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Id random walk = take a step left / right with probability 1/2

Question What is the probability p<sub>home</sub> of return to the origin (=home)?

• Plotting this convinces one quickly that  $p_{home} = 1$ 



2d random walk = take a step left / right / up / down with probability 1/4

- Question What is the probability p<sub>home</sub> of return to the origin (=home)?
- Plotting this gives a quite ambiguous result



• 3d random walk = take a step left / right / up / down / in / out with probability 1/6

- Question What is the probability p<sub>home</sub> of return to the origin (=home)?
- Plotting this convinces one quickly that  $p_{home} < 1$



- ▶ Theorem (Pólya ~1921)  $\mathbb{Z}^d$  is recurrent/transient  $\Leftrightarrow d \leq 2/d > 2$
- ► A drunkard will find their way home, but a drunken bird may get lost forever
- Observation Extending  $\mathbb{Z}^d$  by a finite graph does not change the theorem

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► Theorem (Pólya ~1921) b<sub>n</sub>(V) for V a completely reducible faithful group rep in char zero is recurrent ⇔ Γ is virtually Z<sup>d</sup> for d ∈ {0,1,2}

Virtually means we allow extensions by finite groups

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For what  $\Gamma$  and V is  $b_n$  recurrent/transient?

- Recurrent
  - (i) Arbitrary field, finite group  $\Gamma$  and V any  $\Gamma$ -rep
  - (ii) Arbitrary field, finite tensor cat  $\Gamma$  and V any object
  - (iii) Arbitrary field, Hecke cat  $\Gamma$  for a finite Coxeter group and V any object

## Transient

►

- (i) Char. zero, any group such that  $\Gamma \subset \operatorname{GL}(V)$  is not a torus of rank 0,1,2
- (ii) Some assumptions, quantum group  $\Gamma$  and V any nontrivial tilting rep
- (iii) Char. zero, Hecke cat  $\Gamma$  for an affine Weyl group and V any nontrivial object





Theorem For certain recurrent problems the beta theorem is true with  $\beta =$  largest eigenvalue of M and

$$b_n \sim a_n = h(n) \cdot n^0 \cdot \beta^n$$

where  $h \colon \mathbb{N} \to (0,1]$  is periodic of finite period (we do this in a second)

certain = some annoying assumptions that are omitted



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►



- ▶ Take a finite based  $\mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ -algebra R with basis  $C = \{c_0, ..., c_{r-1}, ...\}$
- Assume that R is the Grothendieck ring of our starting category
- For a<sub>i</sub> ∈ ℝ<sub>≥0</sub>, the action matrix M of c = a<sub>0</sub> · c<sub>0</sub> + ... + a<sub>r-1</sub> · c<sub>r-1</sub> ∈ R is the matrix of left multiplication of c on C
- ► Assume that *M* has a leading eigenvalue *λ* of multiplicity one; all other eigenvalues of the same absolute value are exp(k2πi/h)*λ* for some *h*
- ► Denote the right and left eigenvectors of M for  $\lambda$  and  $\exp(k2\pi i/h)\lambda$  by  $v_i$  and  $w_i$ , normalized such that  $w_i^T v_i = 1$
- ▶ Let  $v_i w_i^T [1]$  denote taking the sum of the first column of the matrix  $v_i w_i^T$
- ► The formula  $b(n) \sim a(n)$  we are looking for is  $(\zeta = \exp(2\pi i/h))$

 $b(n) \sim \left(v_0 w_0^T [1] \cdot 1 + v_1 w_1^T [1] \cdot \zeta^n + v_2 w_2^T [1] \cdot (\zeta^2)^n + ... + v_{h-1} w_{h-1}^T [1] \cdot (\zeta^{h-1})^n \right) \cdot \lambda^n$ 

• The variance is 
$$|b_n - a_n| \leq (\lambda_{sec})^n + n^d$$















**Example** For the SL<sub>2</sub> Verlinde category over  $\mathbb{C}$  at level k and V=gen. object:

$$a(n) = \begin{cases} \frac{[1]_q + \dots + [k]_q}{[1]_q^2 + \dots + [k]_q^2} \cdot \left(2\cos(\pi/(k+1))\right)^n & \text{if } k \text{ is even,} \\ \left(\frac{[1]_q + \dots + [k]_q}{[1]_q^2 + \dots + [k]_q^2} \cdot 1 + \frac{[1]_q - [2]_q + \dots - [k-1]_q + [k]_q}{[1]_q^2 + \dots + [k]_q^2} \cdot (-1)^n \right) \cdot \left(2\cos(\pi/(k+1))\right)^n & \text{if } k \text{ is odd.} \end{cases}$$

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**Example** For  $SL_2(\mathbb{F}_p)$ ,  $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{F}_p$  and  $V = \mathbb{F}_p^2$  we get:

$$a(n) = \left(\frac{1}{2p-2} \cdot 1 + \frac{1}{2p^2 - 2p} \cdot (-1)^n\right) \cdot 2^n$$

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**Example** For dihedral Soergel bimodules of  $D_m$ ,  $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{C}$  and  $V = B_{st}$  we get:

$$a(n) = \frac{1}{2m} \cdot 4^n$$





▶ The variance is given by  $(\lambda_{sec})^n$  (second largest EV)

• Example Above for  $SL_2(\mathbb{F}_5)$ ,  $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{F}_5$  and  $V = \mathbb{F}_5^2$ ,  $\lambda_{sec} =$ golden ratio

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**Example** For the Klein four group  $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}\times\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ ,  $\mathbb{K}=\overline{\mathbb{F}_2}$  and  $V=Z_3=3d$  inde. we get:

$$b_n \sim 3^n$$



The Hecke category (finally) for a finite Coxeter group W,  $\mathbb{K}$  char zero field, V = any indecomposable object,  $[V] = \sum_{s \in W} m_s \cdot s$ 

#### We have

$$b_n \sim a_n = |1/|W| \cdot |n^0| \cdot (\sum_{s \in W} m_s)^n$$

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#### We have

$$b_n \sim a_n = ??? \cdot \frac{n^{-\# \text{pos. roots}/2}}{(\sum_{s \in W} m_s)^n}$$

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The Hecke category (finally) for any other Coxeter group W,  $\mathbb{K}$  char zero field, V = any indecomposable object,  $[V] = \sum_{s \in W} m_s \cdot s$ 

#### We have

$$b_n \sim a_n = ??? \cdot \frac{n^{???}}{n} \cdot (\sum_{s \in W} m_s)^n$$

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#### Random walks and growth problems



- ▶ Theorem (Pálya ~1921) b<sub>2</sub>(V) for V a completely reducible faithful group rep in char zero is recurrent  $record \in \Gamma$  is virtually  $\mathbb{Z}^d$  for  $d \in \{0, 1, 2\}$
- Virtually means we allow extensions by finite groups

#### Asymptotics for recurrent categories



There is still much to do...













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 $\frac{|v_1 + \cdots + v_n|}{||v_1 + \cdots + |v_1|} \cdot 1 + \frac{|v_1 - |v_1 + \cdots + |v_n||}{||v_1 + \cdots + |v_n||} \cdot (-1)^n \Big) \cdot \left(2\cos(\pi/(k+1))\right)^n \quad \text{if } k \text{ is odd.}$ pic theory of manufact arregarias for Strategies to avoid counting Aug 2021 A / 6



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#### Asymptotics for recurrent categories



#### Thanks for your attention!