

# Ascents in Non-Negative Lattice Paths

Benjamin Hackl

joint work with *Clemens Heuberger* and *Helmut Prodinger*



February 14, 2018



This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-  
NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International License.

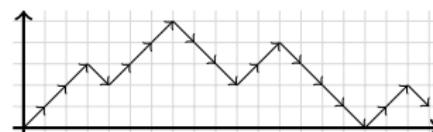


Der Wissenschaftsfonds.

# Łukasiewicz Paths

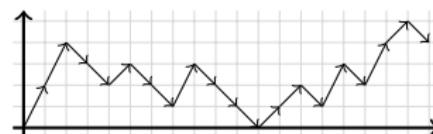
## Dyck Meanders:

- ▶ Sequences of  $\{-1, 1\} \triangleq \{\searrow, \nearrow\}$ ,
  - ▶ Never below axis.



Łukasiewicz Paths:

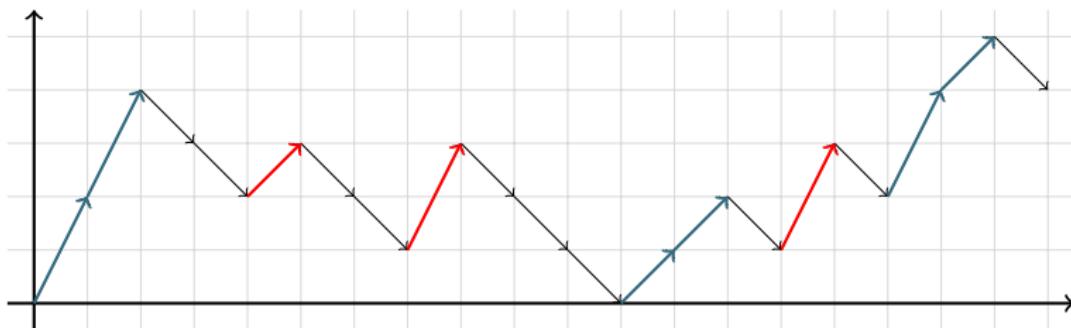
- ▶ Sequences of  $S = \{-1\} \cup N$ ,  $N \subseteq \mathbb{N}_0$ ,
  - ▶ Never below axis.



**Notation.**  $S(u) \dots$  GF of  $\mathcal{S}$ ,  $S_+(u) = S(u) - u^{-1}$ .

$$\mathcal{S} = \{-1, 0, 2\} \iff S(u) = u^{-1} + 1 + u^2, \quad S_+(u) = 1 + u^2$$

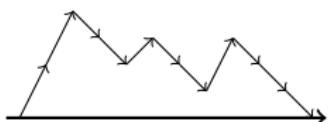
# Ascents



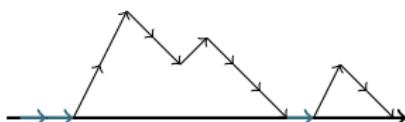
- ▶ **Ascent:** maximal sequence of non-negative steps,
- ▶  **$r$ -Ascent:** ascent of length  $r$ .

## Path Classes of Interest

- ▶ **Excursions:** end on axis
- ▶ **Dispersed Excursions:** additional step ( $\rightarrow$ ) only on axis
- ▶ **Meanders:** all non-negative paths



Excursion

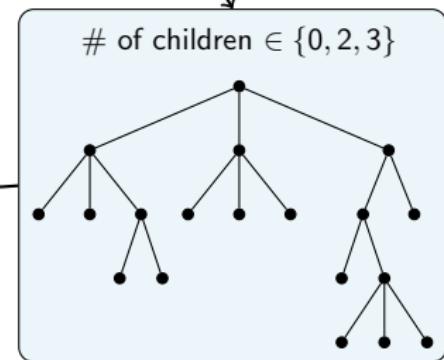
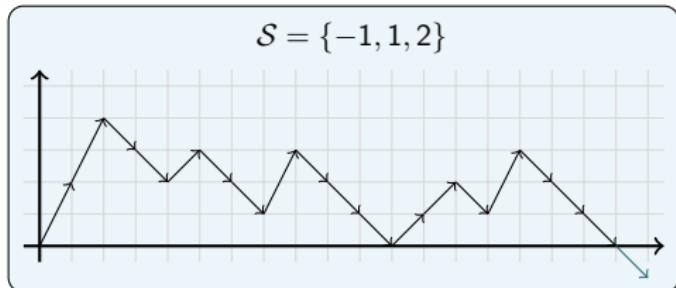


Dispersed Excursion



Meander

# Bijection: Excursions $\longleftrightarrow$ Trees



Result

$\text{Excursions}(S) \longleftrightarrow \text{Plane Trees}(S + 1)$

# Exploiting the Tree Structure

## Theorem

- ▶  $V(z, t) \dots$  OGF of  $\mathcal{V}$ : plane trees, # of children  $\in \mathcal{S} + 1$ 
  - ▶  $z \dots$  size of tree
  - ▶  $t \dots$   $r$ -ascents in corresponding Łukasiewicz excursion

Then:

- ①  $V(z, t)/z \dots$  Łukasiewicz excursions w.r.t.  $\mathcal{S}$
- ②  $V(0, t) = 0$  and  $V(z, t) = z L(z, t, V(z, t))$  with

$$L(z, t, v) = \frac{1}{1 - z S_+(v)} + (t - 1)(z S_+(v))^r,$$

which enumerates seq. of non-negative steps.  $v \dots$  height

- ① Consequence of bijection.
- ② Decompose w.r.t. leftmost path:

$$\mathcal{V} = \circ \times \text{SEQ}(\circ \times \sum_{s \in \mathcal{S}, s \geq 0} \mathcal{V}^s)$$

# From Excursions to Arbitrary Paths

## Observation:

- ▶  $L(z, t, v)z/v \rightsquigarrow$  sequence of non-negative steps followed by ↘
- ▶  $\frac{1}{1-L(z, t, v)z/v} \rightsquigarrow$  all paths (also crossing axis) ending on ↘
- ▶ subtract “bad paths”: excursion  $\times$  ↘  $\times$  arbitrary, i.e.,

$$\frac{V(z, t)}{z} \frac{z}{v} \frac{1}{1 - L(z, t, v)z/v}.$$

## Theorem

- ▶  $F(z, t, v)$  ... OGF counting Łukasiewicz paths w.r.t.  $S$ 
  - ▶  $z$  ... length,  $t$  ...  $r$ -ascents,  $v$  ... ending altitude

## Then:

$$F(z, t, v) = \frac{v - V(z, t)}{v - z L(z, t, v)} L(z, t, v).$$

- ▶  $v = 0 \rightsquigarrow$  excursions,  $v = 1 \rightsquigarrow$  meanders

# OGF for Dispersed Excursions

## Theorem

- ▶  $D(z, t) \dots$  OGF for dispersed excursions

$$D(z, t) = \frac{1}{z} \frac{V(z, t)}{1 - V(z, t)}$$

**Proof.** Decomposition:  $(\text{excursion} \times \rightarrow)^* \times \text{excursion}$ .

$$\Rightarrow D(z, t) = \frac{1}{1 - z} \frac{V(z, t)}{V(z, t)/z} \frac{V(z, t)}{z}.$$

□

# Expressing Partial Derivatives

## Proposition

Partial derivatives of the form  $\partial_t^j V(z, t)|_{t=1}$  can be expressed in terms of  $V(z, 1)$ , e.g.,

$$\partial_t V(z, t)|_{t=1} = -z \frac{(V(z, 1) - z)^r}{V(z, 1)^{r+2} S'(V(z, 1))}.$$

**Sketch of Proof.** Implicit differentiation of defining equation

$$V(z, t) = z L(z, t, V(z, t)).$$

□

## Remark.

- ▶  $V(z, 1)$  satisfies  $V(z, 1) = zV(z, 1)S(V(z, 1))$ ,
- ▶ ↪ i.e., it has type  $y = z\varphi(y)$
- ▶ analytic details (singular expansion, ...) via **singular inversion!**

# Periodic Walks

## Observation:

- ▶ Dyck excursions ( $\mathcal{S} = \{-1, 1\}$ ) only touch axis after even number of steps  $\rightsquigarrow \mathcal{S}$  is 2-periodic

## Proposition

$$p = \gcd_{s \in \mathcal{S}}(s + 1) \implies \mathcal{S} \text{ is } p\text{-periodic}$$

**Proof.**  $S(u)^n \dots$  GF of unrestricted paths of length  $n$ .  $u \dots$  height.

$$[u^0]S(u)^n = [u^n](uS(u))^n = [u^n]Q(u^p)^n,$$

with  $Q(u^p) = uS(u)$ .

□

- ▶ Technical Detail:  $V(z, 1)$  has  $p$  square root singularities on its radius of convergence!

# Singular Expansions of $V$

## Proposition

- ▶  $\mathcal{S}$  has period  $p$ ,
- ▶  $\tau > 0 \dots$  “structural constant”, unique positive solution of  $S'(\tau) = 0$ .

Then:

- ①  $V(z, 1)$  has radius of convergence  $\rho = 1/S(\tau)$ ,
- ② dominant singularities: square-root singularities at  $\zeta\rho$ 
  - ▶  $\zeta \dots$  pth root of unity
- ③ Singular expansion  $z \rightarrow \zeta\rho$ :

$$V(z, 1) = \zeta\tau - \zeta \sqrt{\frac{2S(\tau)}{S''(\tau)}} \left(1 - \frac{z}{\zeta\rho}\right)^{1/2} + O\left(1 - \frac{z}{\zeta\rho}\right).$$

# Excursions – Result

## Theorem ( $r$ -Ascents in Excursions)

- ▶  $r \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ ,  $p \geq 1 \dots$  period of  $S$ ,
  - ▶  $\tau > 0 \dots$  structural constant; define  $c := \tau S(\tau)$ ,
  - ▶  $E_{n,r} \dots$  RV counting  $r$ -ascents in (unif. random) Łukasiewicz excursions of length  $n$ .
- ①  $E_{n,r} = 0$  if  $n \not\equiv 0 \pmod p$ ,
  - ② For  $n \equiv 0 \pmod p$  and  $n \rightarrow \infty$ :

$$\mathbb{E} E_{n,r} = \frac{(c-1)^r}{c^{r+2}} n + O(1),$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{V} E_{n,r} = & \left( \frac{(c-1)^r}{c^{r+2}} + \frac{(2c-2r-3)(c-1)^{2r}}{c^{2r+4}} \right. \\ & \left. - \frac{(c-1)^{2r-2}(2c-r-2)^2}{c^{2r+3}\tau^3 S''(\tau)} \right) n + O(n^{1/2}).\end{aligned}$$

# Excursions – Examples 1/2

## Example ( $r$ -Ascents in Dyck paths)

- $\mathcal{S} = \{-1, 1\}$ ,  $p = 2$ ,  $\tau = 1$ .
- Explicit  $V(z, 1) = \frac{1-\sqrt{1-4z^2}}{2z} \Rightarrow$  higher precision!

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}D_{2n,r} &= \frac{n}{2^{r+1}} - \frac{(r+1)(r-4)}{2^{r+3}} \\ &\quad + \frac{(r^2 - 11r + 22)(r+1)r}{2^{r+6}} n^{-1} + O(n^{-2})\end{aligned}$$

$$\mathbb{V}D_{2n,r} = \left( \frac{1}{2^{r+1}} - \frac{r^2 - 2r + 3}{2^{2r+3}} \right) n + O(1)$$

## Excursions – Examples 2/2

### Example (2018–02–14)

- ▶  $\mathcal{S} = \{-1, 2, 14, 2018\}$ ,  $S(u) = u^{-1} + u^2 + u^{14} + u^{2018}$ ,  $p = 3$ ,
  - ▶  $\tau > 0 : S'(\tau) = 0 \rightarrow \tau \approx 0.74556$
- ① If  $n \not\equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ , then  $E_{n,r} = 0$ .
- ② Else:

$$\mathbb{E}E_{n,r} \sim 0.49132 \dots \cdot (0.29906 \dots)^r n$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{V}E_{n,r} \sim & (0.49132 \dots \cdot (0.29906 \dots)^r \\& - 0.24139 \dots \cdot (0.14669 \dots + 2r)(0.29906 \dots)^{2r} \\& - 0.03348 \dots \cdot (0.85330 \dots - r)^2(0.29906 \dots)^{2r-2})n\end{aligned}$$

# Dispersed Excursions – Result

## Theorem ( $r$ -Ascents in Dispersed Excursions, $\tau \neq 1$ )

- ▶  $r \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ ,  $p \geq 1 \dots$  period of  $\mathcal{S}$ ,
  - ▶  $\tau > 0 \dots$  structural constant,  $\tau \neq 1$ ,
  - ▶  $d_n \dots$  number of dispersed excursions of length  $n$ ,
  - ▶  $D_{n,r} \dots$  RV counting  $r$ -ascents in dispersed excursions of length  $n$
- ① For  $n \rightarrow \infty$  and  $n \equiv k \pmod{p}$ ,  $0 \leq k < p$

$$d_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \frac{p\tau^k(\tau^p(p-k-1) + k+1)}{(1-\tau^p)^2} \sqrt{\frac{S(\tau)^3}{S''(\tau)}} S(\tau)^n n^{-3/2} + O(S(\tau)^n n^{-5/2}).$$
$$\text{② } \mathbb{E}D_{n,r} = \frac{(\tau S(\tau) - 1)^r}{(\tau S(\tau))^{r+2}} n + O(1).$$

# Dispersed Excursions – Special Case

## Proposition ( $r$ -Ascents in Dispersed Dyck Paths)

- $\mathcal{S} = \{-1, 1\}$ ,  $p = 2$ ,  $\tau = 1$ .

$$d_n = \binom{n}{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} 2^n n^{-1/2} - \frac{2 - (-1)^n}{2\sqrt{2\pi}} 2^n n^{-3/2} + O(2^n n^{-5/2}),$$

$$\mathbb{E}D_{n,r} = \frac{n}{2^{r+2}} - \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{r-2}{2^{r+2}} n^{1/2} + \frac{(r-1)(r-4)}{2^{r+3}} + O(n^{-1/2}).$$

# Meanders – Result

Theorem ( $r$ -Ascents in Meanders,  $\tau \neq 1$ )

- ▶  $\tau > 0 \dots$  structural constant,  $\tau \neq 1$ ,
- ▶  $M_{n,r} \dots$  RV counting  $r$ -ascents in meanders of length  $n$

Then:

$$\mathbb{E}M_{n,r} = \mu n + c_S + O\left(\left(\frac{S(\tau)}{S(1)}\right)^n n^{5/2}\right), \quad \mathbb{V}M_{n,r} = \sigma^2 n + O(1),$$

with

$$\mu = \frac{(S(1) - 1)^r}{S(1)^{r+2}}, \quad \sigma^2 = \mu + \frac{(S(1) - 1)^{2r}(2S(1) - 3 - 2r)}{S(1)^{2r+4}}.$$

Also,  $M_{n,r}$  is asymptotically normally distributed for  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

## Meanders – Special Cases

### Proposition ( $r$ -Ascents in Dyck Meanders)

- $\mathcal{S} = \{-1, 1\}$ ,  $p = 2$ ,  $\tau = 1$ .

$$\mathbb{E}M_{n,r} = \frac{n}{2^{r+2}} + \frac{\sqrt{2\pi}(r-2)}{2^{r+3}}n^{1/2} - \frac{r^2 - r - 8}{2^{r+3}} + O(n^{-1/2}),$$

$$\mathbb{V}M_{n,r} = \frac{2^{r+3} - r^2(\pi - 2) + 4r(\pi - 3) - 4\pi + 10}{2^{2r+5}}n + O(n^{1/2}).$$

### Proposition ( $r$ -Ascents in Motzkin Meanders)

- $\mathcal{S} = \{-1, 0, 1\}$ ,  $p = 1$ ,  $\tau = 1$ .

$$\mathbb{E}M_{n,r} = \frac{2^r}{3^{r+2}}n + \frac{\sqrt{3\pi}(r-4)2^{r-2}}{3^{r+2}}n^{1/2} + O(1),$$

$$\mathbb{V}M_{n,r} = \frac{3^{r+2}2^{r+4} - 2^{2r}(3r^2(\pi - 2) - 8r(3\pi - 10) + 48\pi - 144)}{16 \cdot 3^{2r+4}}n + O(n^{1/2}).$$

# Summary

## Bijection

