

Computing Solutions of Linear Mahler Equations

Frédéric Chyzak



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Joint work with Th. Dreyfus, Ph. Dumas, and M. Mezzarobba

Mahler operator of radix b ($b \in \mathbb{N}$, $b \geq 2$, y a function or series):

$$(My)(x) = y(x^b).$$

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- enumeration of words
- complexity analysis of divide-and-conquer algorithms
- partition theory
- transcendence theory

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In contrast, if $b = \text{char } \mathbb{K}$ and is prime, all solutions y are algebraic:
 $y(x^b) = y(x)^b.$

Targeted classes

Given L of order r , with polynomial coefficients of degree $\leq d$, find algorithms of reasonable complexity for:

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Challenge

- $L(x^n)$ has degree $d + b^r n$,
- similarly, change of unknowns $y = \frac{\tilde{y}}{q} \rightarrow \deg M^r q = b^r \deg q$.

For $b = 3$, look for a solution $y = \sum_{n \geq 0} y_n x^n$ of

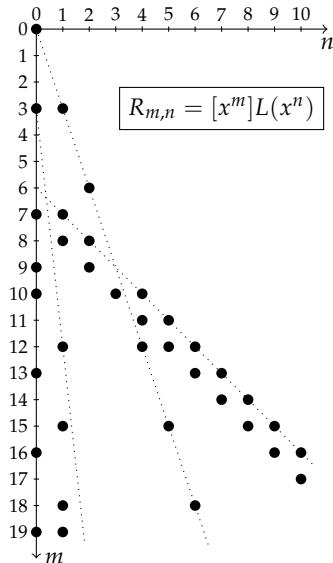
$$\begin{aligned} L &= x^3(1 - x^3 + x^6)(1 - x^7 - x^{10}) M^2 \\ &\quad - (1 - x^{28} - x^{31} - x^{37} - x^{40}) M \\ &\quad + x^6(1 + x)(1 - x^{21} - x^{30}). \end{aligned}$$

Series Solutions: Understanding the Linear System

For $b = 3$, look for a solution $y = \sum_{n \geq 0} y_n x^n$ of

$$L = (x^3 - x^6 + x^9 - x^{10} + 2x^{13} - 2x^{16} + x^{19}) M^2 \\ - (1 - x^{28} - x^{31} - x^{37} - x^{40}) M \\ + (x^6 + x^7 - x^{27} - x^{28} - x^{36} - x^{37}).$$

$L \longleftrightarrow$ infinite matrix $R = (R_{m,n})$

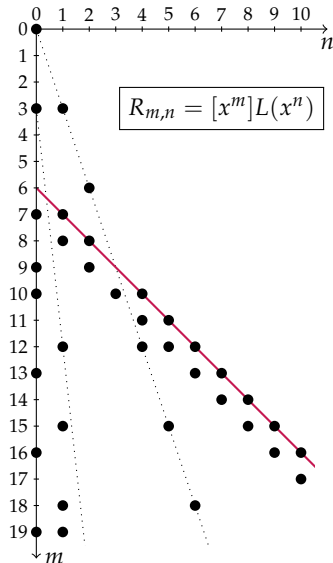


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$$x^n \xrightarrow{x^6} x^{n+6}$$

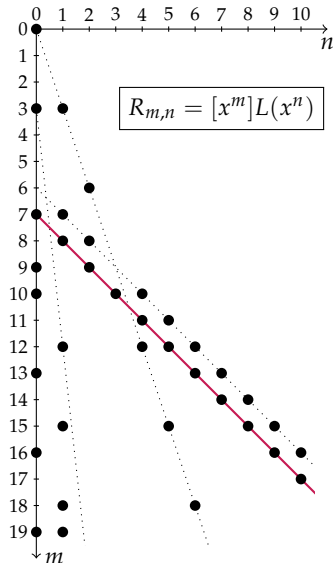


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$$x^n \xrightarrow{x^7} x^{n+7}$$

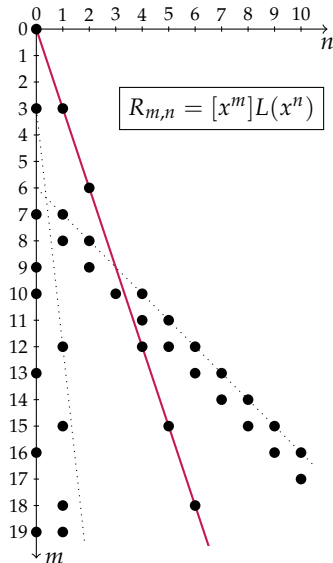


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$$x^n \xrightarrow{M} x^{3n}$$

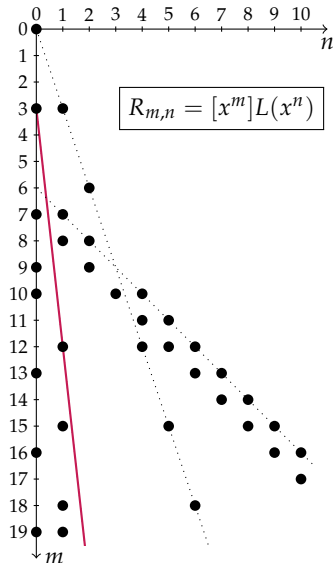


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$$x^n \xrightarrow{x^3 M^2} x^{9n+3}$$

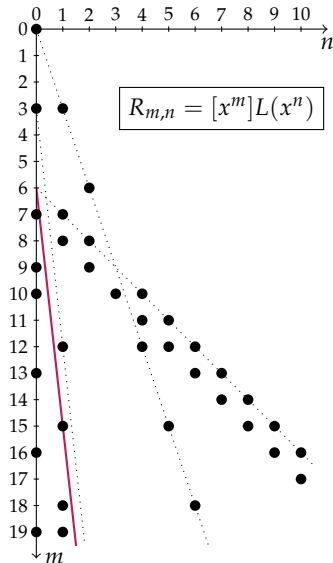


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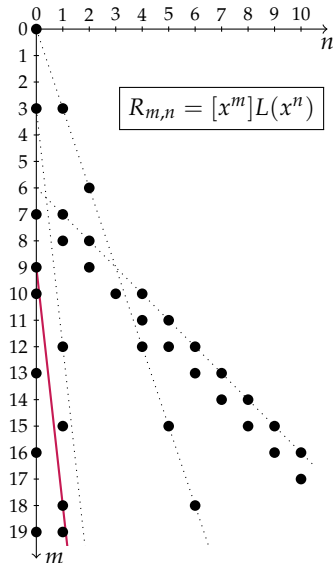


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$$x^n \xrightarrow{x^9 M^2} x^{9n+9}$$

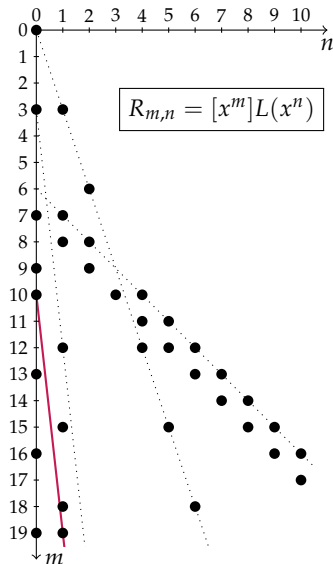


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$$x^n \xrightarrow{x^{10} M^2} x^{9n+10}$$

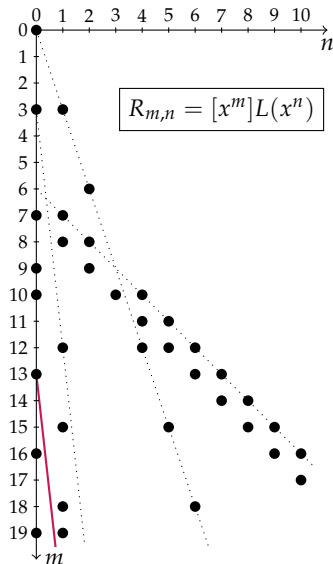


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$$x^n \xrightarrow{x^{13} M^2} x^{9n+13}$$

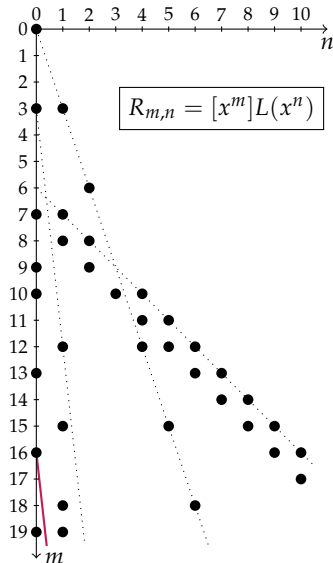


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$$x^n \xrightarrow{x^{16} M^2} x^{9n+16}$$

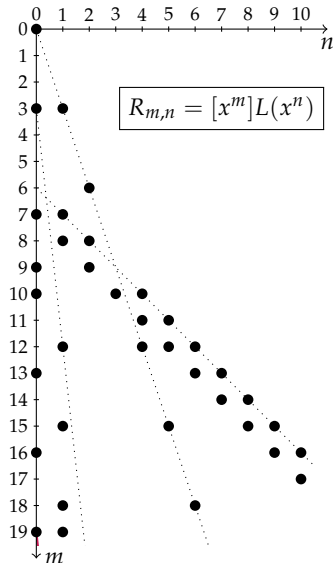


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$$x^n \xrightarrow{x^{19} M^2} x^{9n+19}$$

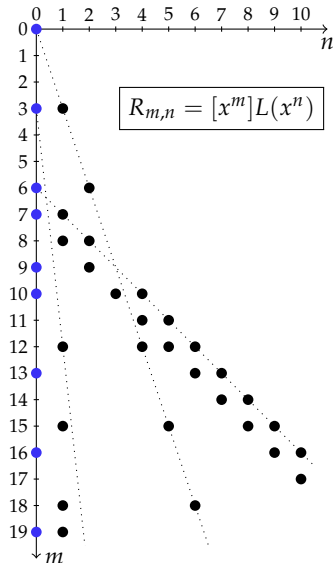


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$x^0 \xrightarrow{L}$ span of the \bullet 's

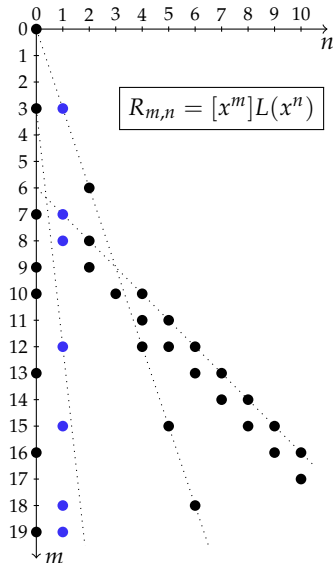


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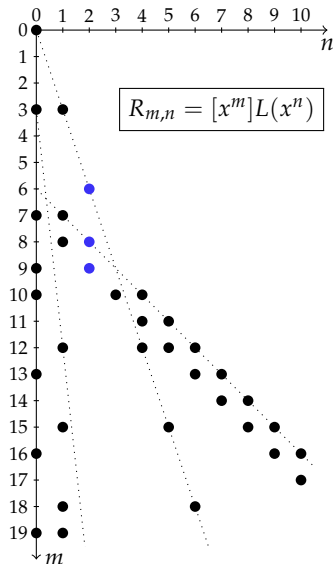


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$x^2 \xrightarrow{L}$ span of the •'s

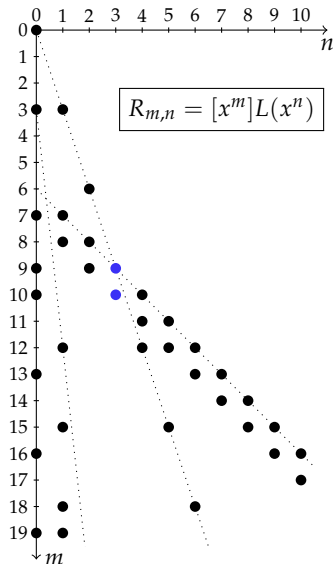


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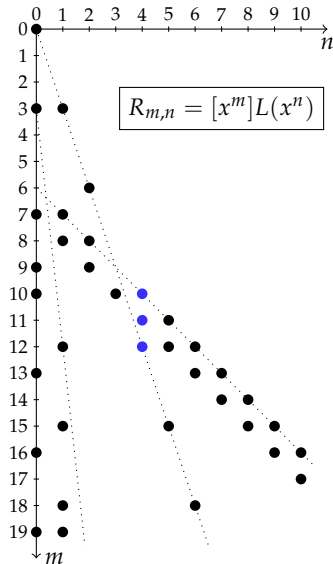


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$x^4 \xrightarrow{L}$ span of the •'s

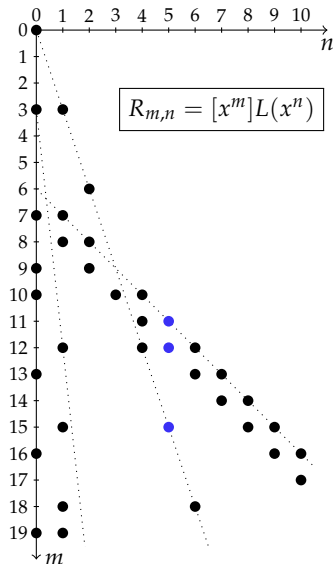


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$x^5 \xrightarrow{L}$ span of the •'s

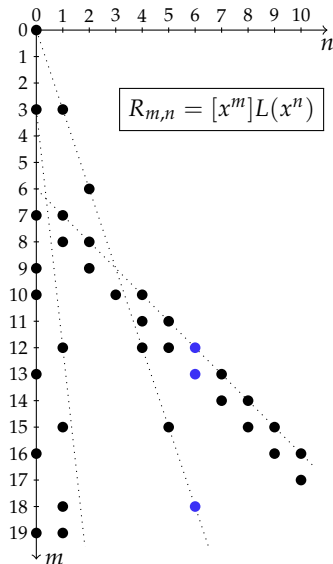


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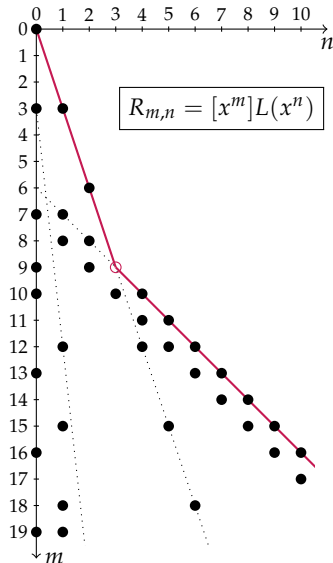


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$$x^n \xrightarrow{L} \circ x^{\min(n+6, 3n)} + \dots$$

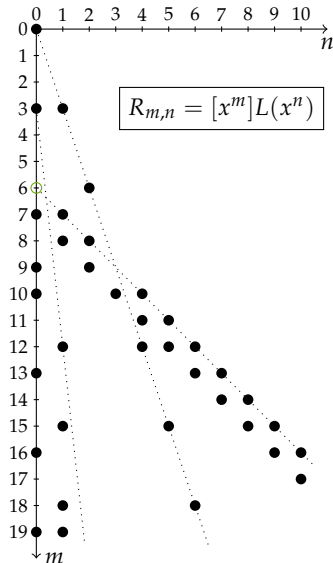


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$$x^0 \xrightarrow{L} x \neq 6$$

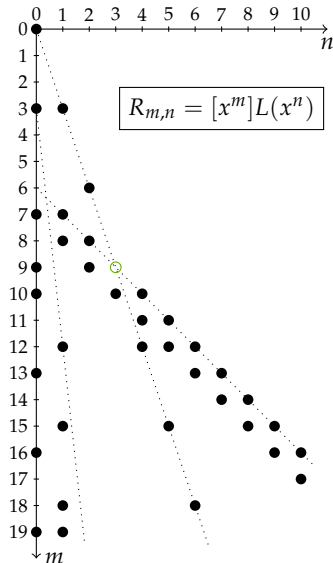


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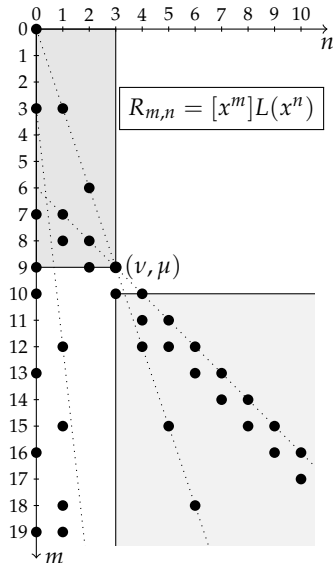
$$x^3 \xrightarrow{L} x^{>9}$$



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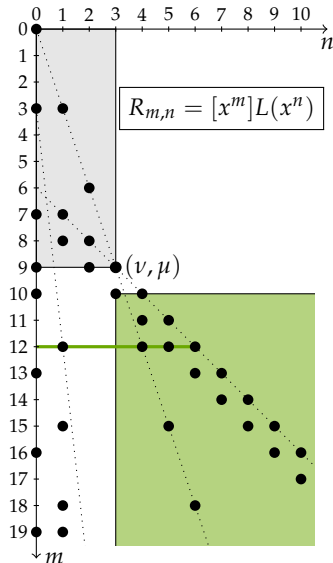


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$m = 12 \longrightarrow y_6$ in terms of y_5, y_4, y_1

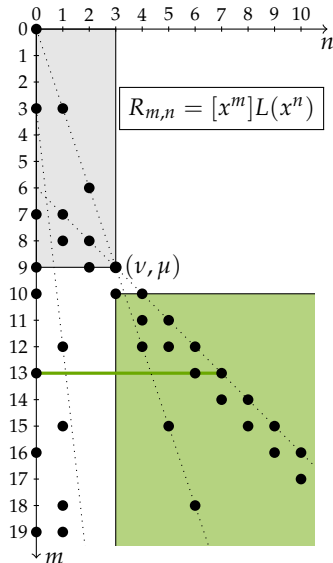


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$m = 13 \longrightarrow y_7$ in terms of y_6, y_5, y_0

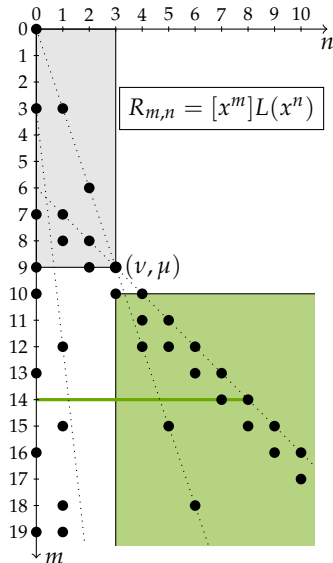


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$m = 14 \longrightarrow y_8$ in terms of y_7

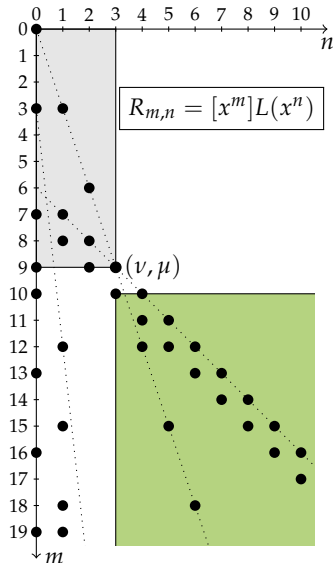


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$m \geq 10 \rightarrow y_{m-6}$ in terms of lower indices



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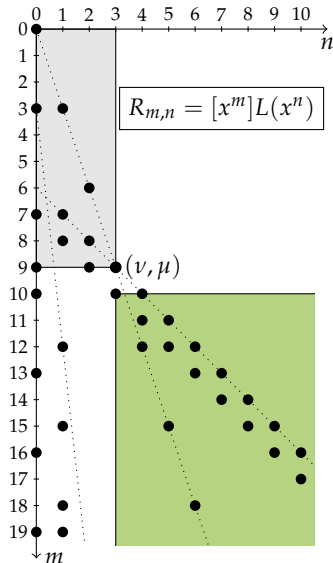
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For $m \geq 10$, y_{m-6} can be determined uniquely by

$$\left(y_{\frac{m-3}{9}} - y_{\frac{m-6}{9}} + y_{\frac{m-9}{9}} - y_{\frac{m-10}{9}} - y_{\frac{m-19}{9}} \right) \\ - \left(y_{\frac{m}{3}} - y_{\frac{m-28}{3}} - y_{\frac{m-31}{3}} - y_{\frac{m-37}{3}} - y_{\frac{m-40}{3}} \right) \\ + \left(y_{m-6} + y_{m-7} - y_{m-27} - y_{m-28} - y_{m-36} - y_{m-37} \right) = 0$$

where $y_s = 0$ if $s \notin \mathbb{N}$.



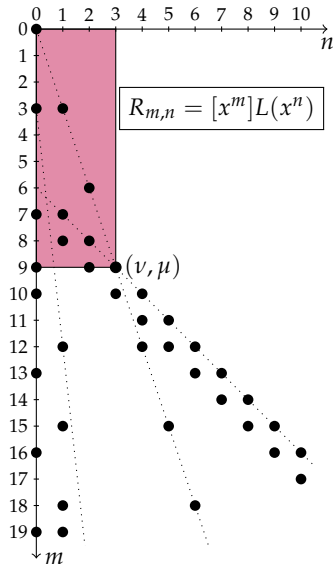
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y_0, \dots, y_3 can be determined uniquely by

$$\left(y_{\frac{m-3}{3}} - y_{\frac{m-6}{3}} + y_{\frac{m-9}{3}} - y_{\frac{m-10}{3}} - y_{\frac{m-19}{3}} \right) \\ - \left(y_{\frac{m}{3}} - y_{\frac{m-28}{3}} - y_{\frac{m-31}{3}} - y_{\frac{m-37}{3}} - y_{\frac{m-40}{3}} \right) \\ + \left(y_{m-6} + y_{m-7} - y_{m-27} - y_{m-28} - y_{m-36} - y_{m-37} \right) = 0 \\ \text{for } 0 \leq m \leq 9, \text{ where } y_s = 0 \text{ if } s \notin \mathbb{N}.$$



Series Solutions: Understanding the Linear System

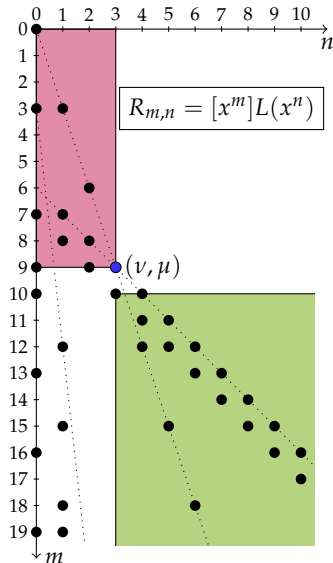
For $b = 3$, look for a solution $y = \sum_{n \geq 0} y_n x^n$ of

$$L = (x^3 - x^6 + x^9 - x^{10} + 2x^{13} - 2x^{16} + x^{19}) M^2 \\ - (1 - x^{28} - x^{31} - x^{37} - x^{40}) M \\ + (x^6 + x^7 - x^{27} - x^{28} - x^{36} - x^{37}).$$

$y_0, \dots, y_v \longleftrightarrow$ eqns for $0 \leq m \leq \mu$

y_v is free \longleftrightarrow coeff. at $(v, \mu) = 0$

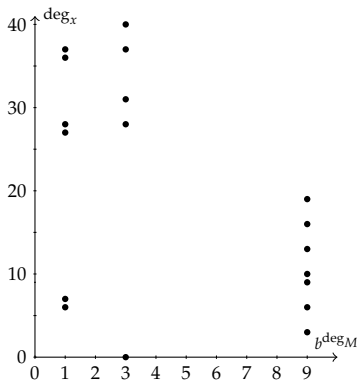
y_n for $n > v \longleftrightarrow$ eqns for $m > \mu$



Newton diagram

collection of points (b^k, j) associated with the monomials $x^j M^k$ of L

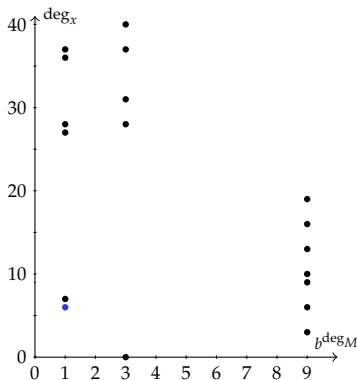
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Newton diagram

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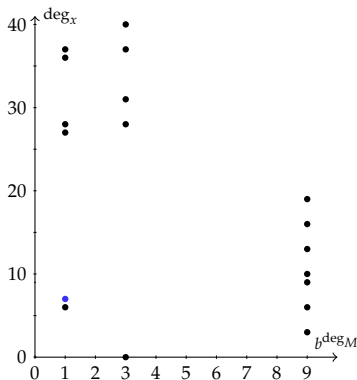
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Newton diagram

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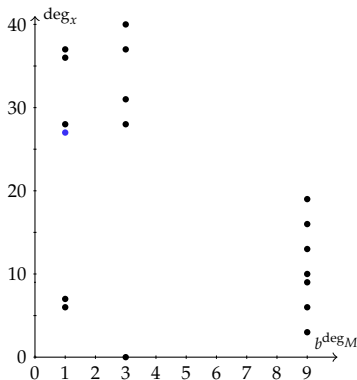
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Newton diagram

collection of points (b^k, j) associated with the monomials $x^j M^k$ of L

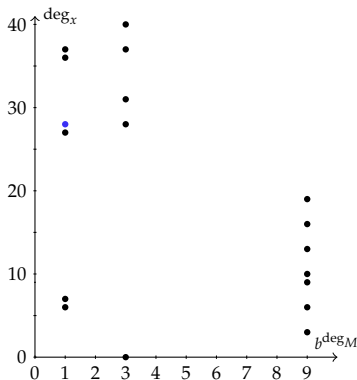
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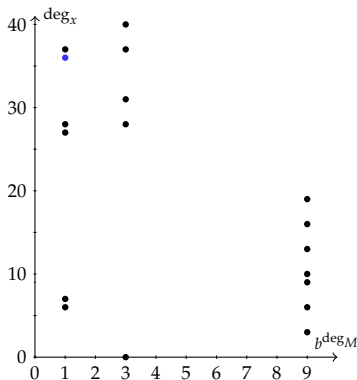


Newton Diagrams, Newton Polygons

Newton diagram

collection of points (b^k, j) associated with the monomials $x^j M^k$ of L

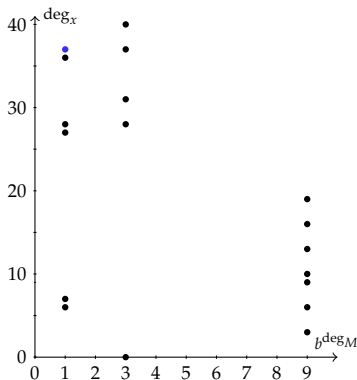
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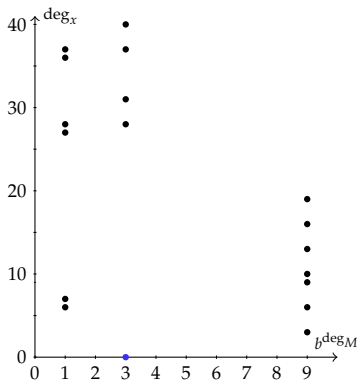
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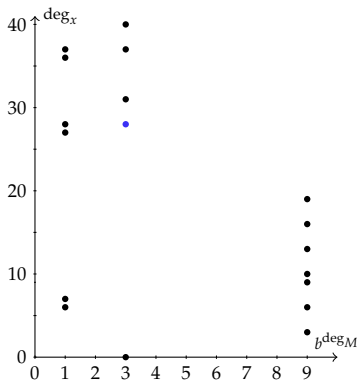


Newton Diagrams, Newton Polygons

Newton diagram

collection of points (b^k, j) associated with the monomials $x^j M^k$ of L

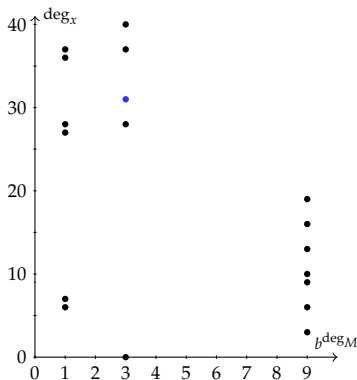
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Newton diagram

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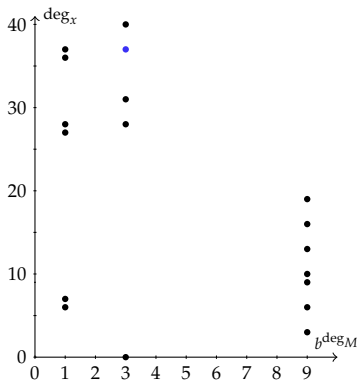
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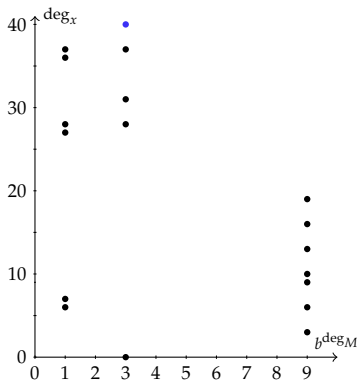
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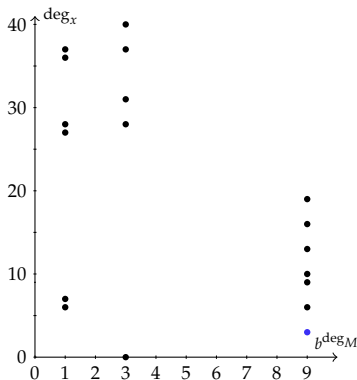
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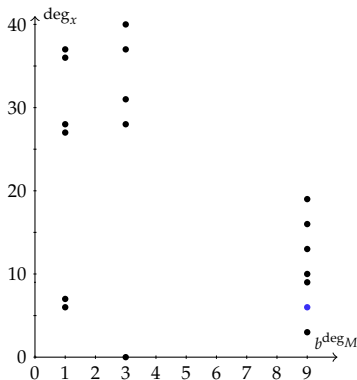
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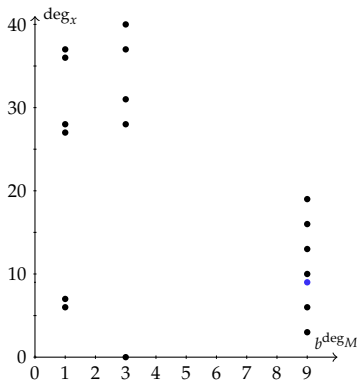
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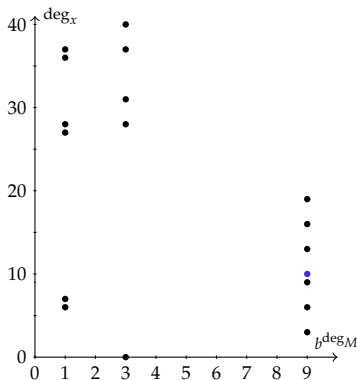
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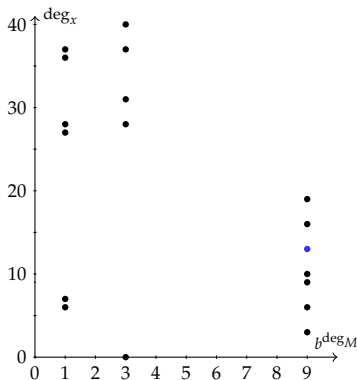
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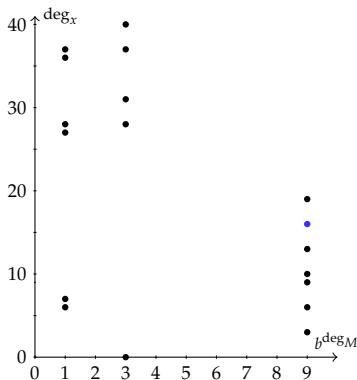
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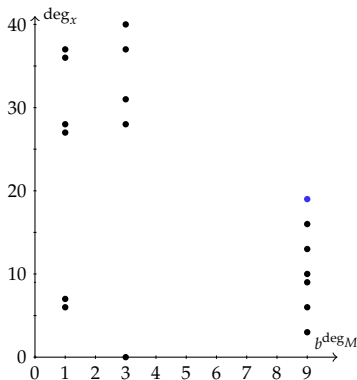
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Newton Diagrams, Newton Polygons

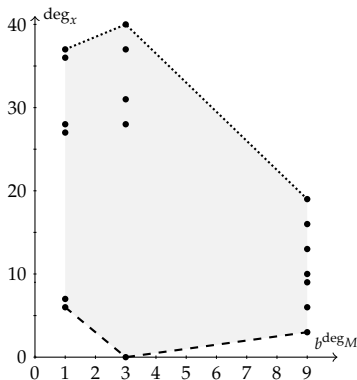
Newton diagram

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Newton polygons = boundary of convex hull

- lower Newton polygon \longleftrightarrow valuations,
- upper Newton polygon \longleftrightarrow degrees.



Newton Diagrams, Newton Polygons

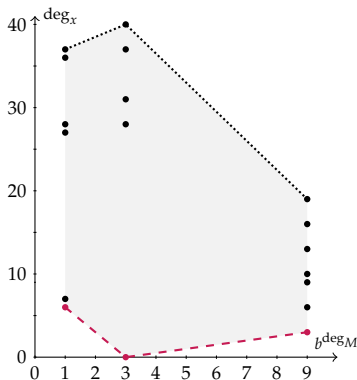
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Newton Diagrams, Newton Polygons

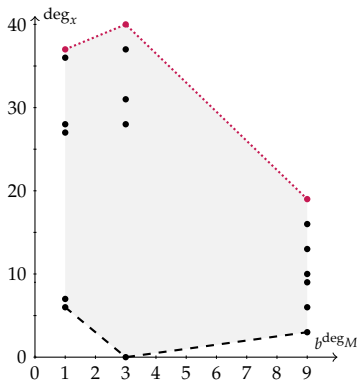
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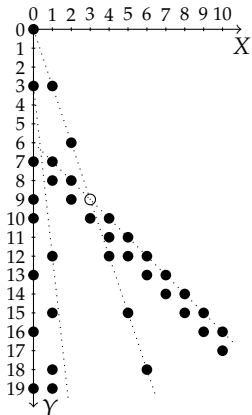
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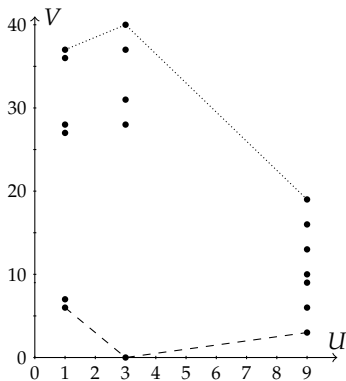


Link between the Linear System and the Newton Polygon

Linear system



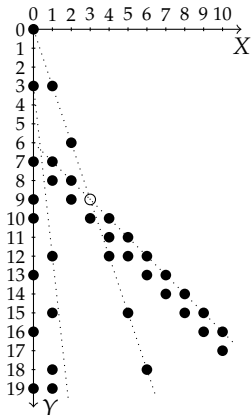
Newton diagram



Link between the Linear System and the Newton Polygon

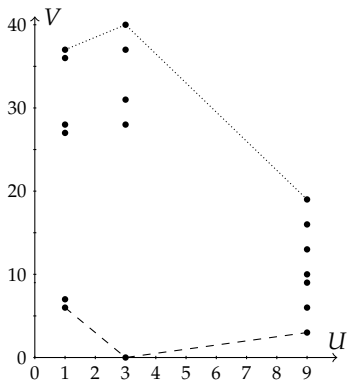
Linear system

line $Y = j + b^k X$



Newton diagram

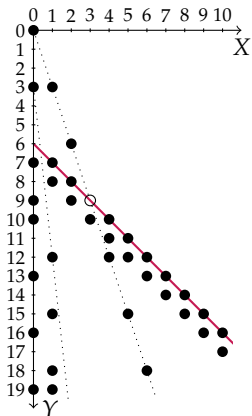
point (b^k, j)



Link between the Linear System and the Newton Polygon

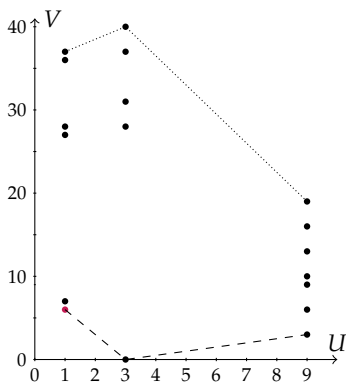
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Newton diagram

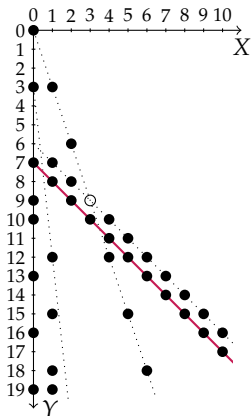
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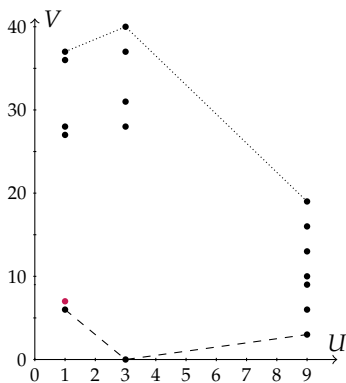
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Newton diagram

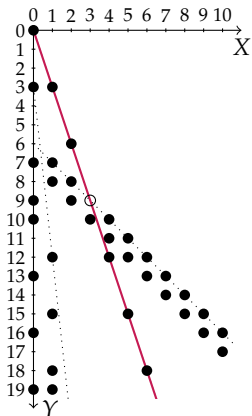
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Link between the Linear System and the Newton Polygon

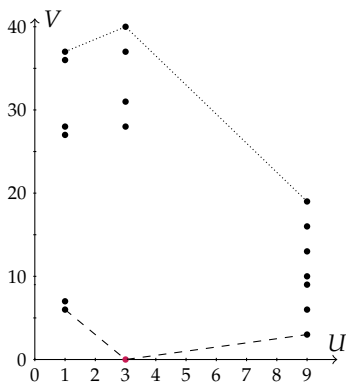
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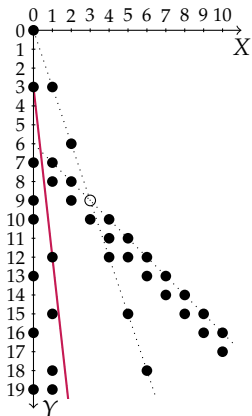
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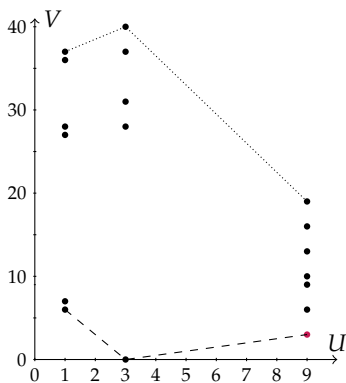
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Newton diagram

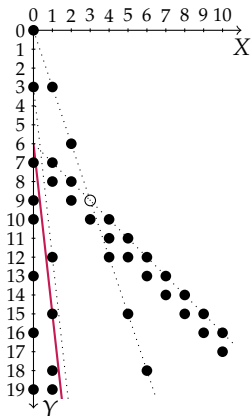
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Link between the Linear System and the Newton Polygon

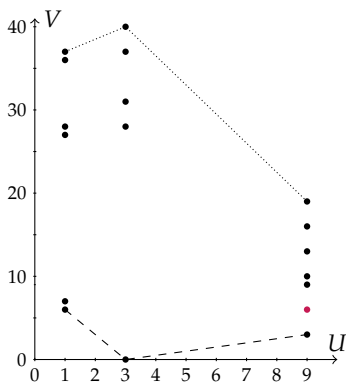
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Newton diagram

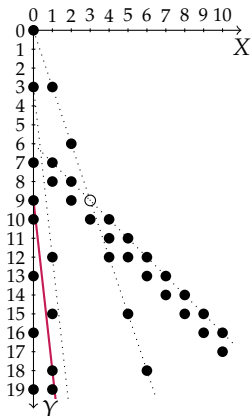
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Link between the Linear System and the Newton Polygon

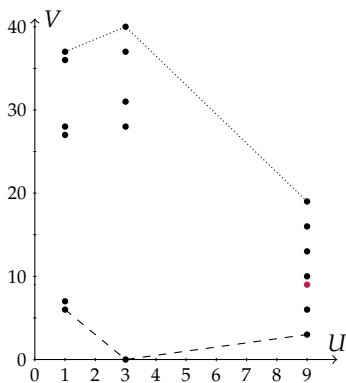
Linear system

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Newton diagram

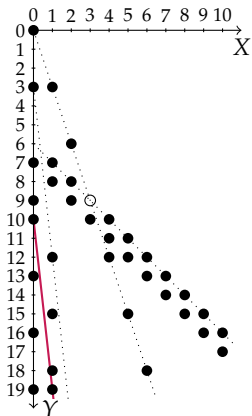
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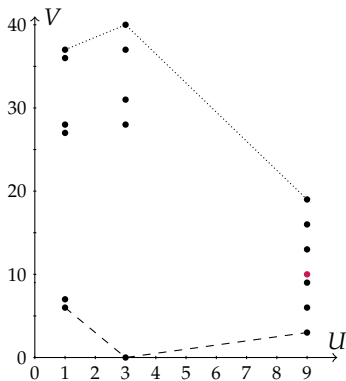
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Newton diagram

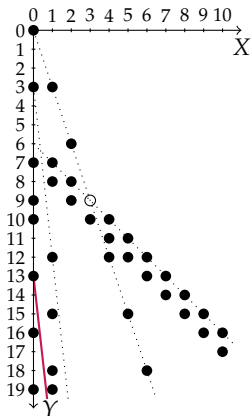
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Link between the Linear System and the Newton Polygon

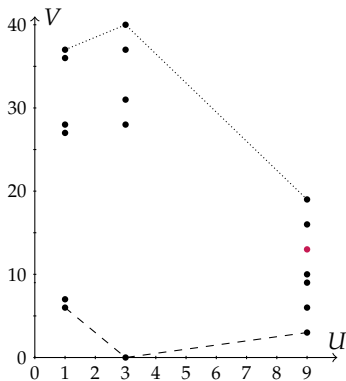
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Newton diagram

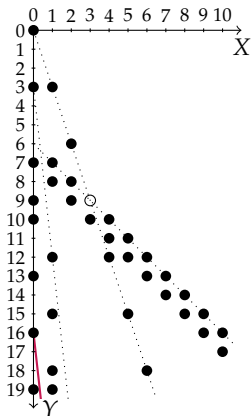
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Link between the Linear System and the Newton Polygon

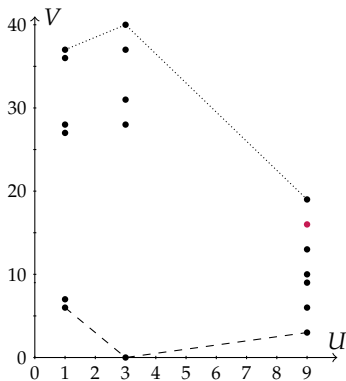
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Newton diagram

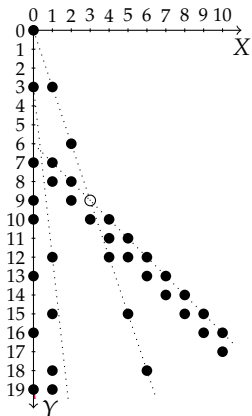
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Link between the Linear System and the Newton Polygon

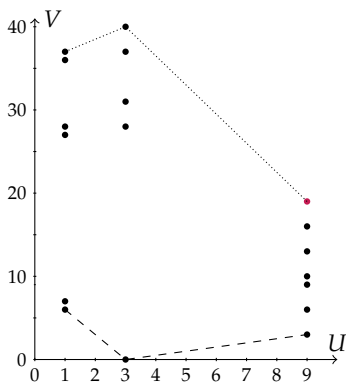
Linear system

line $Y = j + b^k X$



Newton diagram

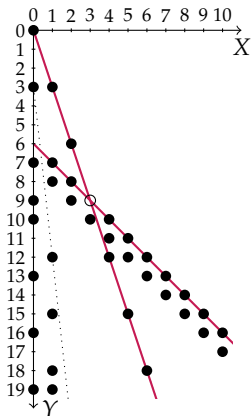
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Link between the Linear System and the Newton Polygon

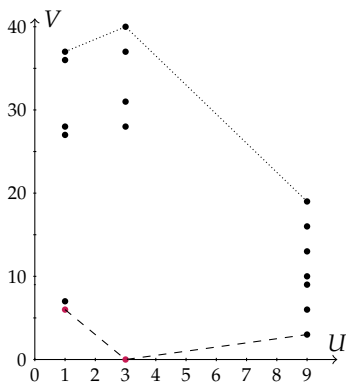
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Newton diagram

point (b^k, j)

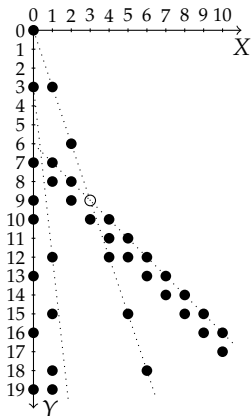


Link between the Linear System and the Newton Polygon

Linear system

line $Y = j + b^k X$

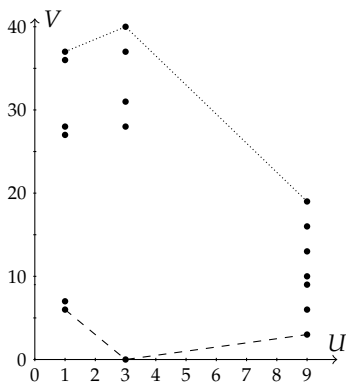
point (n, m)



Newton diagram

point (b^k, j)

line $V = m - nU$

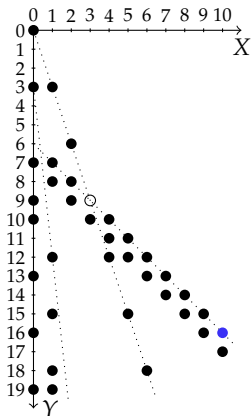


Link between the Linear System and the Newton Polygon

Linear system

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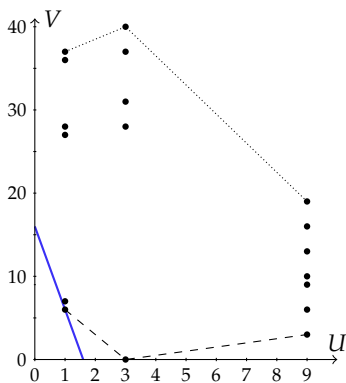
point (n, m)



Newton diagram

point (b^k, j)

line $V = m - nU$

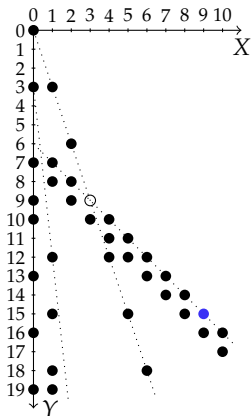


Link between the Linear System and the Newton Polygon

Linear system

line $Y = j + b^k X$

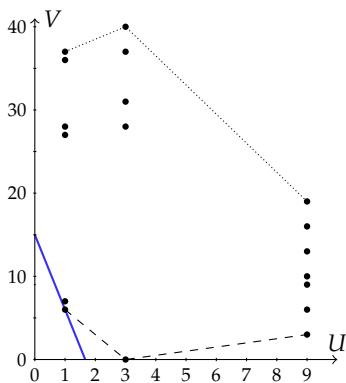
point (n, m)



Newton diagram

point (b^k, j)

line $V = m - nU$

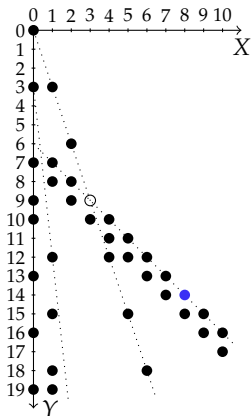


Link between the Linear System and the Newton Polygon

Linear system

line $Y = j + b^k X$

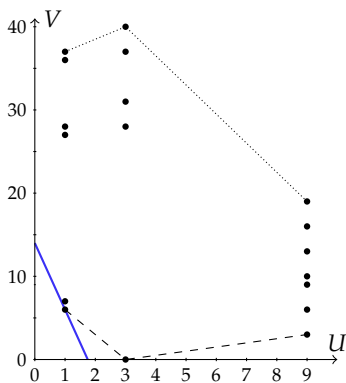
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line $V = m - nU$

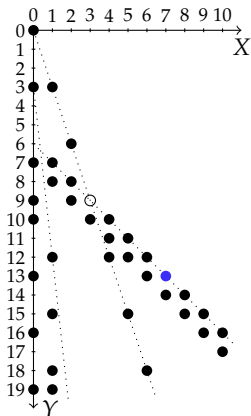


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Linear system

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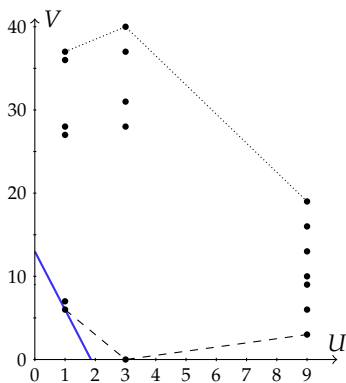
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point (b^k, j)

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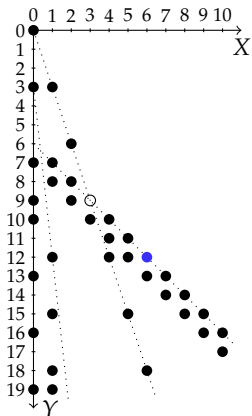


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Linear system

line $Y = j + b^k X$

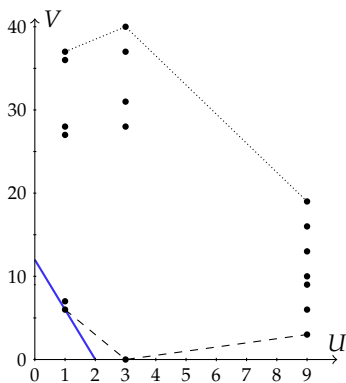
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line $V = m - nU$

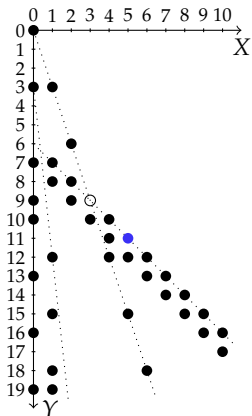


Link between the Linear System and the Newton Polygon

Linear system

line $Y = j + b^k X$

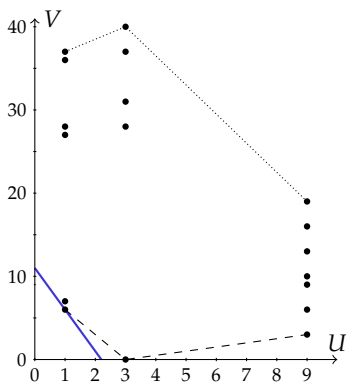
point (n, m)



Newton diagram

point (b^k, j)

line $V = m - nU$

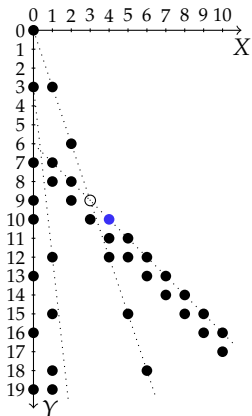


Link between the Linear System and the Newton Polygon

Linear system

line $Y = j + b^k X$

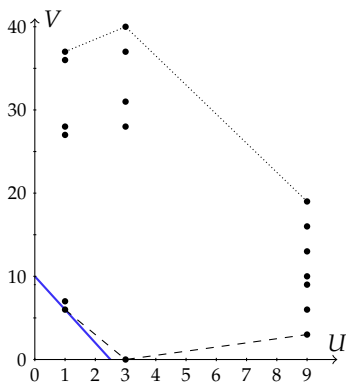
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Newton diagram

point (b^k, j)

line $V = m - nU$

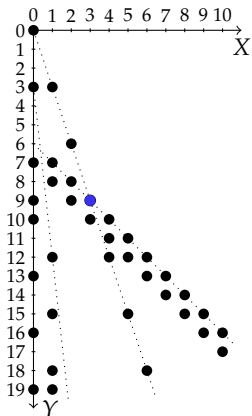


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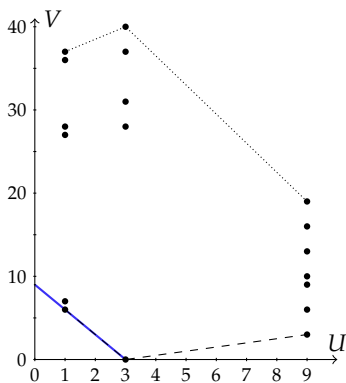
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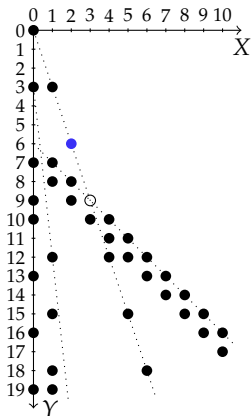


Link between the Linear System and the Newton Polygon

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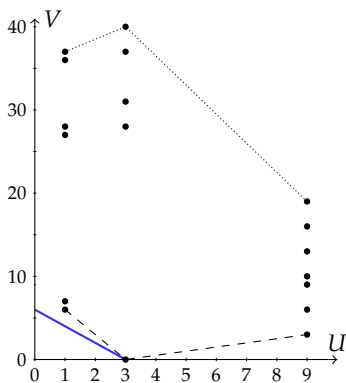
point (n, m)



Newton diagram

point (b^k, j)

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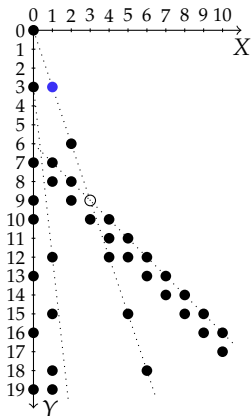


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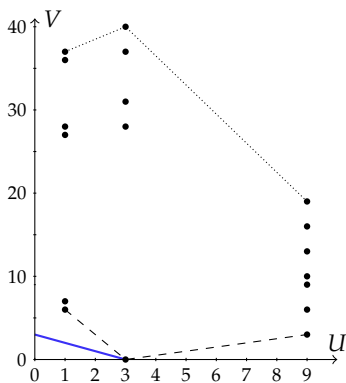
point (n, m)



Newton diagram

point (b^k, j)

line $V = m - nU$

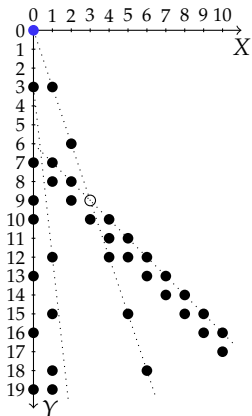


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line $Y = j + b^k X$

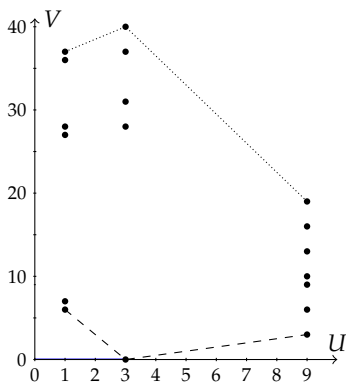
point (n, m)



Newton diagram

point (b^k, j)

line $V = m - nU$

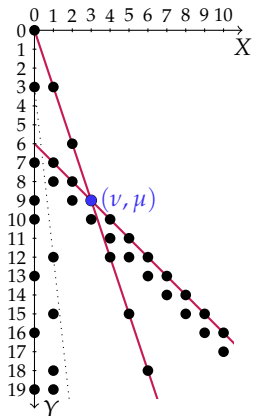


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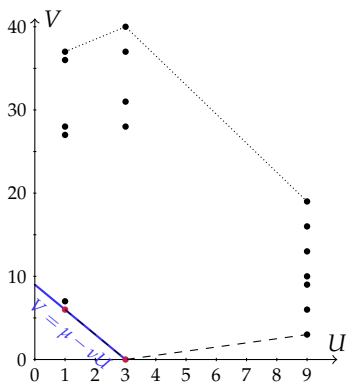
point (n, m)



Newton diagram

point (b^k, j)

line $V = m - nU$



Bounds for Series and Polynomial Solutions

$$L = \ell_r(x)M^r + \cdots + \ell_0(x), \quad \ell_0 \ell_r \neq 0, \quad 0 \leq v_k = \text{val } \ell_k, \quad d_k = \text{deg } \ell_k \leq d.$$

Size of singular system (“approximate series solutions”)

$$\nu = \max_{k \geq 1} \frac{v_0 - v_k}{b^k - 1}, \quad \mu = v_0 + \nu.$$

Any series solution to order $O(x^\nu + 1)$ can be prolonged uniquely.

Bound on valuation v of a series solution

$$-\frac{v_r}{b^{r-1}(b-1)} \leq v = -\frac{v_{k_2} - v_{k_1}}{b^{k_2} - b^{k_1}} \leq \frac{v_0}{b-1},$$

where $v = -$ slope of edge $[(b^{k_1}, v_{k_1}), (b^{k_2}, v_{k_2})]$ in lower Newton polygon.

Bound on degree δ of any polynomial solution

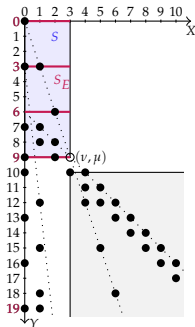
$$\delta = -\frac{d_{k_1} - d_{k_2}}{b^{k_1} - b^{k_2}} \leq \frac{d}{b^{r-1}(b-1)},$$

where $\delta = -$ slope of edge $[(b^{k_1}, v_{k_1}), (b^{k_2}, v_{k_2})]$ in upper Newton polygon.

Solving the Singular System. Series and Polynomial Solutions

Algorithm

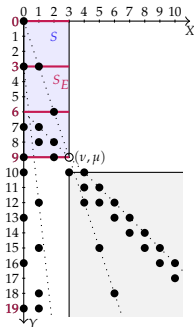
- ① $h := \lfloor \mu \rfloor + 1$, $w := \lfloor v \rfloor + 1$, $E := (\min_k (v_k + nb^k))_{0 \leq n < w}$.
- ② $S :=$ upper left subsystem $\in \mathbb{K}^{h \times w}$.
- ③ $S_E :=$ submatrix of S given by the rows of index in E .
- ④ $G := \ker S_E \in \mathbb{K}^{w \times \rho}$ with $\rho = \dim \ker S_E \leq r$.
(forward substitution)
- ⑤ For $1 \leq j \leq \rho$,
 - ① $g_j := G_{0,j} + G_{1,j}x + \dots + G_{w-1,j}x^{w-1} \in \mathbb{K}[x]$,
 - ② $\sum_{0 \leq i < h} s'_{i,j}x^i := Lg_j(x) \bmod x^h$.
- ⑥ $S' := (s'_{i,j}) \in \mathbb{K}^{h \times \rho}$.
- ⑦ $K := \ker S' \in \mathbb{K}^{\rho \times \sigma}$ with $\sigma = \dim \ker S' \leq r$.
(Ibarra, Moran, Hui, 1982)
- ⑧ $F := GK \in \mathbb{K}^{w \times \sigma}$.
- ⑨ Return (f_1, \dots, f_σ) where $f_j = F_{0,j} + \dots + F_{w-1,j}x^{w-1}$.



Solving the Singular System. Series and Polynomial Solutions

Algorithm

- ① $h := \lfloor \mu \rfloor + 1$, $w := \lfloor \nu \rfloor + 1$, $E := (\min_k (v_k + nb^k))_{0 \leq n < w}$.
- ② $S :=$ upper left subsystem $\in \mathbb{K}^{h \times w}$. $O(rwh)$
- ③ $S_E :=$ submatrix of S given by the rows of index in E .
- ④ $G := \ker S_E \in \mathbb{K}^{w \times \rho}$ with $\rho = \dim \ker S_E \leq r$.
(forward substitution) $O(rw^2)$
- ⑤ For $1 \leq j \leq \rho$, $O(r^2 M(h))$
 - ① $g_j := G_{0,j} + G_{1,j}x + \dots + G_{w-1,j}x^{w-1} \in \mathbb{K}[x]$,
 - ② $\sum_{0 \leq i < h} s'_{i,j} x^i := Lg_j(x) \bmod x^h$.
- ⑥ $S' := (s'_{i,j}) \in \mathbb{K}^{h \times \rho}$.
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(Ibarra, Moran, Hui, 1982) $O(r^{w-1}h)$
- ⑧ $F := GK \in \mathbb{K}^{w \times \sigma}$. $O(r^{w-1}w)$
- ⑨ Return (f_1, \dots, f_σ) where $f_j = F_{0,j} + \dots + F_{w-1,j}x^{w-1}$.



Theorem (correctness and complexity)

[cf. naive $O(v_0^w)$]

Returns a basis of approximate series solutions in $O(rv_0^2 + r^2 M(v_0))$ ops.

Solving the Singular System. Series and Polynomial Solutions

Algorithm

- ① $h := 3d + 1$, $w := \lfloor \frac{d}{br - br - 1} \rfloor + 1$, $E := (\max_k(d_k + nb^k))_{0 \leq n < w}$.
- ② $S :=$ upper left subsystem $\in \mathbb{K}^{h \times w}$. $O(rwh)$
- ③ $S_E :=$ submatrix of S given by the rows of index in E .
- ④ $G := \ker S_E \in \mathbb{K}^{w \times \rho}$ with $\rho = \dim \ker S_E \leq r$.
(backward substitution) $O(rw^2)$
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(Ibarra, Moran, Hui, 1982) $O(r^{\omega-1}h)$
- ⑧ $F := GK \in \mathbb{K}^{w \times \sigma}$. $O(r^{\omega-1}w)$
- ⑨ Return (f_1, \dots, f_σ) where $f_j = F_{0,j} + \dots + F_{w-1,j}x^{w-1}$.

Theorem (correctness and complexity)

[cf. naive $O(d^\omega)$]

Returns a basis of polynomial solutions in $\tilde{O}(d^2/b^r + M(d))$ ops.

$$\sum_{k=0}^r \ell_k M^k \left(\frac{p}{q} \right) = 0, \quad p \wedge q = 1, q(0) \neq 0.$$

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$$\sum_{k=0}^{r-1} \ell_k (M^r q) \left((M^k q)^{-1} \bigvee_{i=0}^{r-1} M^i q \right) (M^k p) + \ell_r \left(\bigvee_{i=0}^{r-1} M^i q \right) (M^r p) = 0.$$

Initiating the Quest for Denominator Bounds

$$\sum_{k=0}^r \ell_k M^k \left(\frac{p}{q} \right) = 0, \quad p \wedge q = 1, q(0) \neq 0.$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{r-1} \ell_k (M^r q) \underbrace{\left((M^k q)^{-1} \prod_{i=0}^{r-1} M^i q \right)}_{\text{polynomial}} (M^k p) + \ell_r \left(\prod_{i=0}^{r-1} M^i q \right) (M^r p) = 0.$$

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$$M^r q \mid \ell_r \prod_{i=0}^{r-1} M^i q$$

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$$M^r q \mid \ell_r \prod_{i=0}^{r-1} M^i q$$

$$q(\alpha) = 0 \text{ and } \beta^{b^r} = \alpha \implies \ell_r(\beta) = 0 \text{ or } (q(\alpha') = 0 \text{ for } \alpha' = \beta^{b^i}, i < r)$$

Initiating the Quest for Denominator Bounds

$$\sum_{k=0}^r \ell_k M^k \left(\frac{p}{q} \right) = 0, \quad p \wedge q = 1, q(0) \neq 0.$$

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Initiating the Quest for Denominator Bounds

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Geometric intuition

If α , not a root of unity, is a root of q , it generates:

- a finite sequence $\alpha_0 = \alpha, \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n$ of two by two distinct roots of q ,
- then, a b^r th root β_n of α_n that is a root of ℓ_r .

The Graeffe Operator: a Quasi-Inverse for the Mahler Operator

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \gamma = \alpha^b & (Gp)(\gamma) = 0 & Gp = \operatorname{Res}_y(y^b - x, p(y)) & & \\ \uparrow & \uparrow & \uparrow & & \\ \alpha \in \mathbb{C} & p(\alpha) = 0 & p \in \mathbb{K}[x] & & \\ \downarrow & \downarrow & \downarrow & & \\ \beta^b = \alpha & (Mp)(\beta) = 0 & Mp = p(x^b) & & \end{array}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \deg Mp &= b \deg p, & \deg Gp &= \deg p, \\ GMp &= p^b, & p &| MGp. \end{aligned}$$

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Key lemma

Given $\ell \in \mathbb{K}[x]$:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} q \in \mathbb{K}[x] \setminus \mathbb{K} \\ x \nmid q \\ M^r q \mid \ell \vee_{i=0}^{r-1} M^i q \end{array} \right. \implies \exists u \in \mathbb{K}[x] \setminus \mathbb{K}, \quad M^r u \mid \ell \quad \text{or} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} M^{r-1} u \mid \ell \\ q \mid Gu \end{array} \right.$$

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 \downarrow & \downarrow & \downarrow & & \\
 \beta^b = \alpha & (Mp)(\beta) = 0 & Mp = p(x^b) & &
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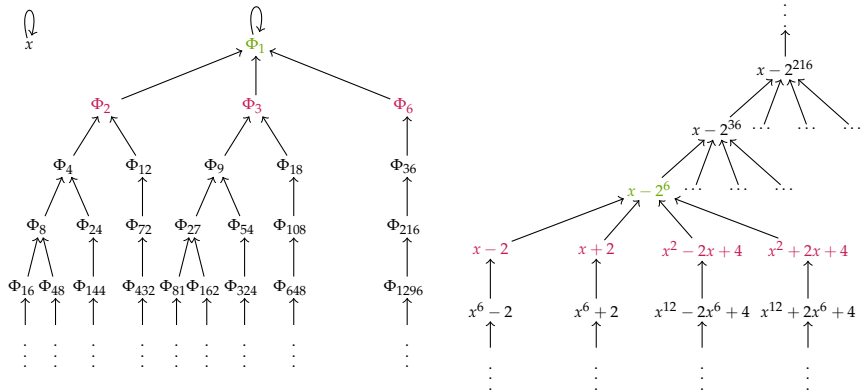
Remark: **left case** impossible $\implies q$ is a product of cyclotomic polynomials.

Graph of (Radical of) Graeffe Operator for $b = 6$ in $\mathbb{Q}[x]$

$$Mp = \prod_{q \text{ s.t. } \sqrt{G}(q)=p} q$$

$$M\Phi_1 = \Phi_1 \Phi_2 \Phi_3 \Phi_6$$

$$M(x-2^6) = (x-2)(x+2)(x^2-2x+4)(x^2+2x+4)$$

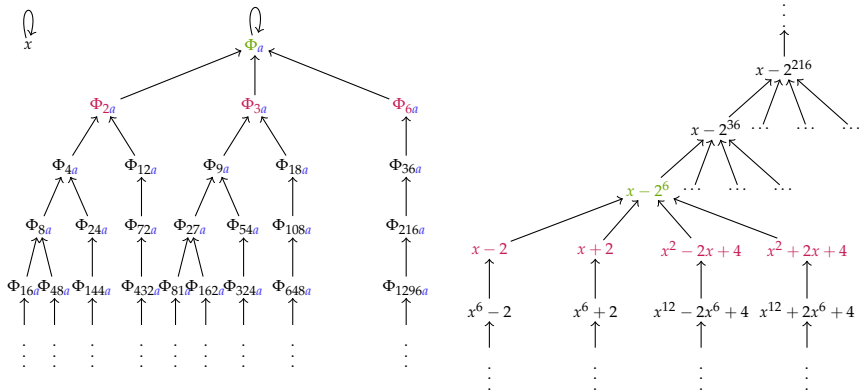


Graph of (Radical of) Graeffe Operator for $b = 6$ in $\mathbb{Q}[x]$

$$Mp = \prod_{q \text{ s.t. } \sqrt{G}(q)=p} q$$

$$M\Phi_a = \Phi_a \Phi_{2a} \Phi_{3a} \Phi_{6a}, \quad a \wedge 6 = 1$$

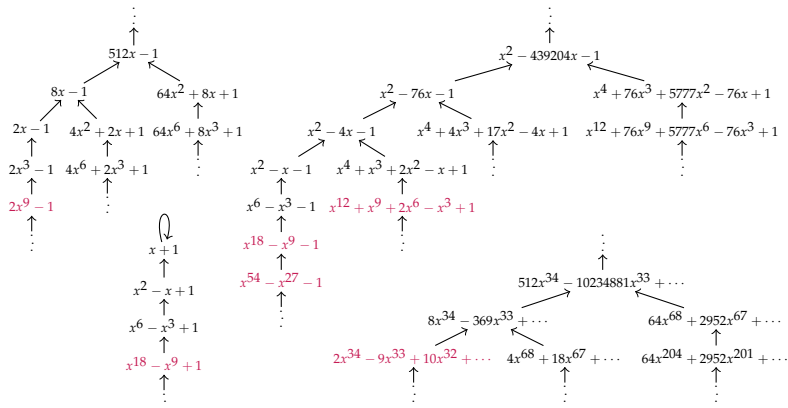
$$M(x - 2^6) = (x - 2)(x + 2)(x^2 - 2x + 4)(x^2 + 2x + 4)$$



Looking for a Denominator: an Example When $b = 3$

$$L = (2x^9 - 1)(x^{18} - x^9 - 1)(x^{12} + x^9 + 2x^6 - x^3 + 1)(x^{18} - x^9 + 1)(2x^{34} - 9x^{33} + 10x^{32} + \dots)(x^{54} - x^{27} - 1)M^2 + \dots$$

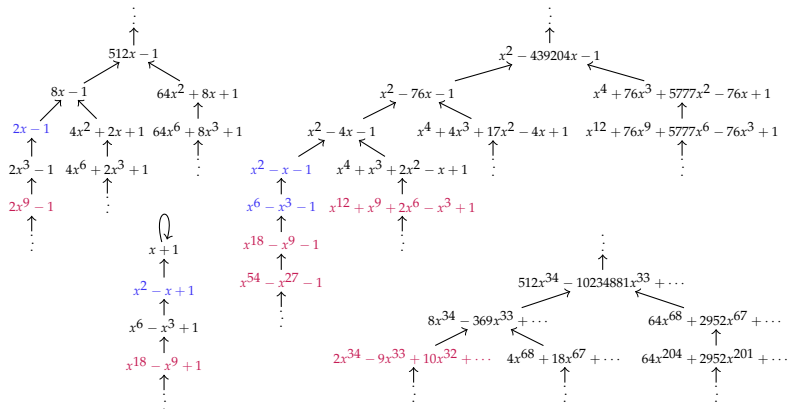
$$L\left(\frac{p}{q}\right) = 0, \quad M^2q \mid \ell_2(q \vee Mq).$$



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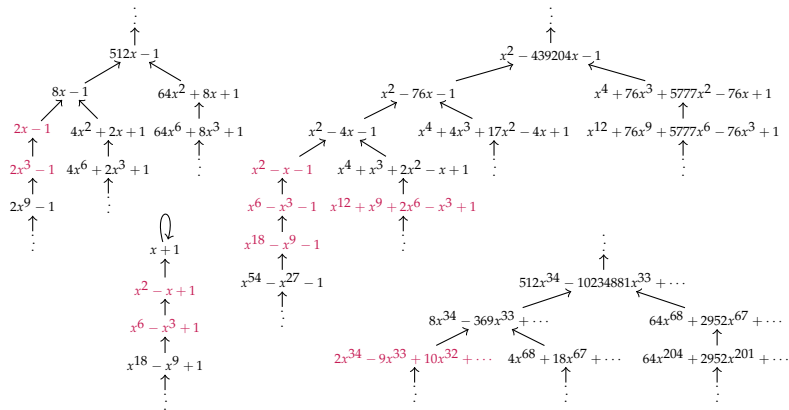


$$u_1 = (2x - 1)(x^2 - x + 1)(x^2 - x - 1)(x^6 - x^3 - 1) \implies M^2u_1 \mid \ell_2$$

Looking for a Denominator: an Example When $b = 3$

$$L[u_1] = (2x-1)(x^2-x+1)(x^2-x-1)(2x^3-1)(x^6-x^3+1)(x^6-x^3-1)(x^{12}+x^9+\dots)(x^{18}-x^9-1)(2x^{34}-9x^{33}+\dots)M^2+\dots$$

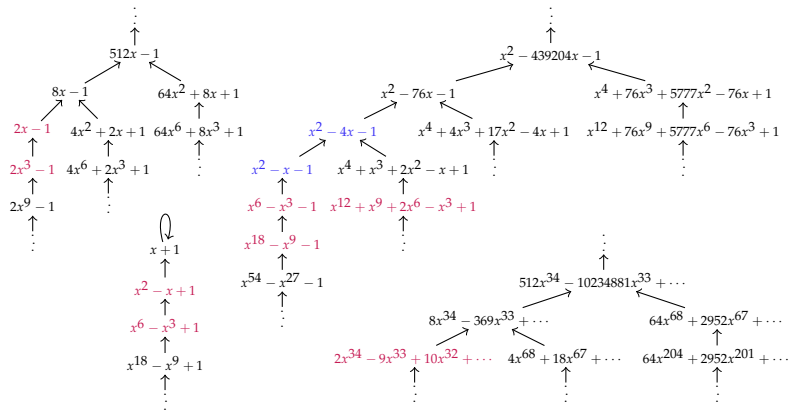
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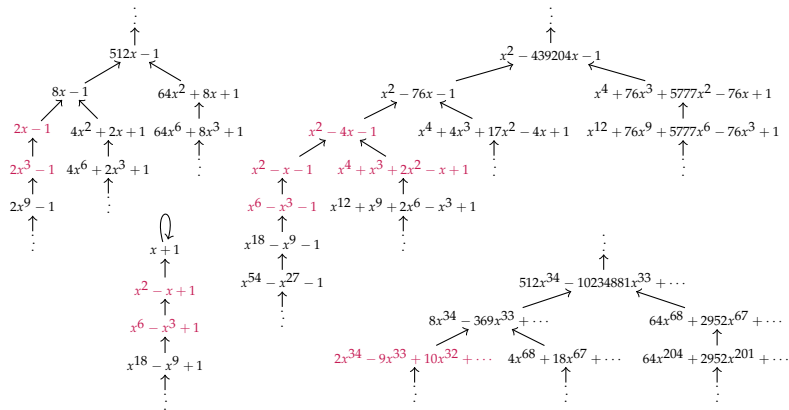


$$u_2 = (x^2 - x - 1)(x^2 - 4x - 1) \implies M^2u_2 \mid \ell_2$$

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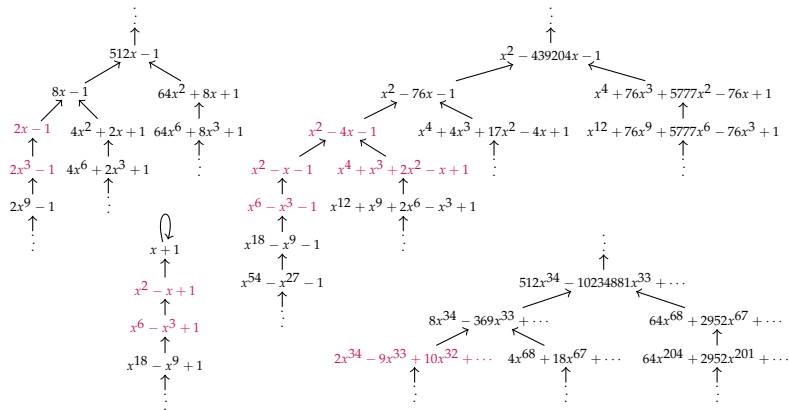
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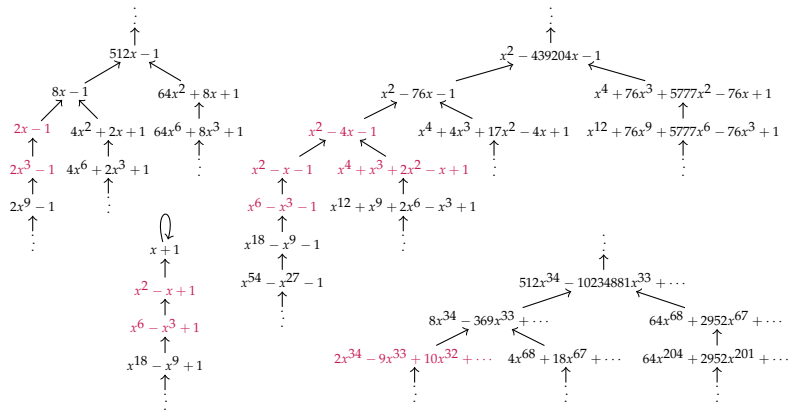


$$u_3 = 1$$

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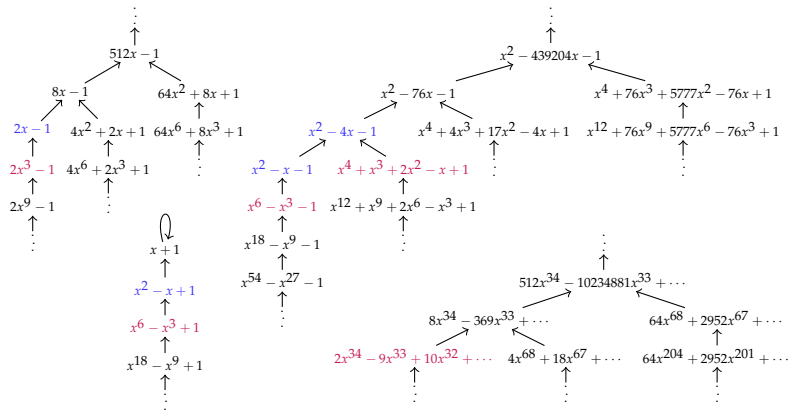
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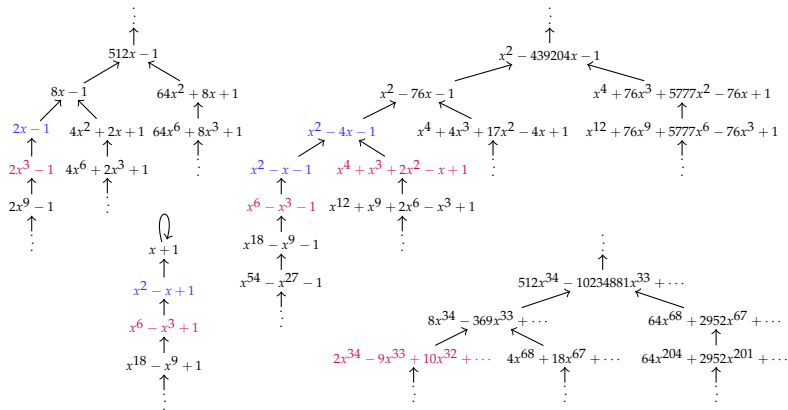


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Looking for a Denominator: an Example (Conclusion)

Operator to solve:

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Denominator bound found:

$$q^* = u_1 u_2 G \tilde{u} = (2x - 1)(x^2 - x + 1)^2(x^2 - x - 1)^2(x^2 - 4x - 1)(x^6 - x^3 - 1)$$

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Remark: $\deg \ell_2 = 145 > \deg \ell_2[u_1] = 84 > \deg \ell_2[u_1 u_2] = 62$.

Computing Denominator Bounds

$$\ell = \sum_{n \geq 0} c_n x^n \xrightarrow{\text{ith section in radix } b} \sum_{n \geq 0} c_{b^r n + i} x^n =: f_i$$

Algorithm

- ① Set $\ell = \ell_r$, then repeat for $k = 1, 2, \dots$:
 - ① set $u_k = \bigwedge_{i=0}^{b^r-1} f_i$ where $\ell = \sum_{i=0}^{b^r-1} x^i M^r f_i$ with $f_i \in \mathbb{K}[x]$;
 - ② set $\ell = (\ell / M^r u_k) \bigvee_{i=0}^{r-1} M^i u_k$until $\deg u_k = 0$.
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Theorem (correctness)

Assume $Ly = 0$ with $y = \frac{p}{x^{\bar{v}}q}$ and $q(0) \neq 0$. Then, $q \mid q^*$.

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Theorem (complexity and degree bounds)

- algorithm runs in $O(d M(d) \log d)$ ops
- $\deg q^* \leq d$ if $b = 2$, $\deg q^* \leq d/b^{r-1}$ if $b \geq 3$

Summary

- theory of Newton polygons
- algorithms for formal series solutions, polynomial solutions, and rational-function solutions.
- algorithms for denominator bounds:
 - good: complexity is polynomial in r and d ,
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Ongoing/Future work

- algorithms for Puiseux-series solutions,
- the case $\ell_0 = 0$,
- infinite-product solutions,
- rational solutions of Riccati-type equation.