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# *Analytic Algebraic Combinatorics*

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The logo for Simon Fraser University (SFU), consisting of the letters "SFU" in white on a red rectangular background.

SFU

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*Work in collaboration with Mercedes Rosas (Seville) & Sheila Sundaram (Pierrepont,)*



$\mathcal{S}_{\lambda, \mu, \nu}$

## Kronecker Coefficients

$$\lambda = (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_\ell)$$

$$\mu = (\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_m)$$

$$\nu = (\nu_1, \nu_2, \dots, \nu_n)$$



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# Kronecker Coefficients

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The Kronecker coefficients  $g_{\lambda, \mu, \nu}$  describe the decomposition of the tensor product of two Specht modules (irreducible representations of the symmetric group) into irreducible representations.

$$V_{\mu} \otimes V_{\nu} = \bigoplus g_{\lambda, \mu, \nu} V_{\lambda}$$

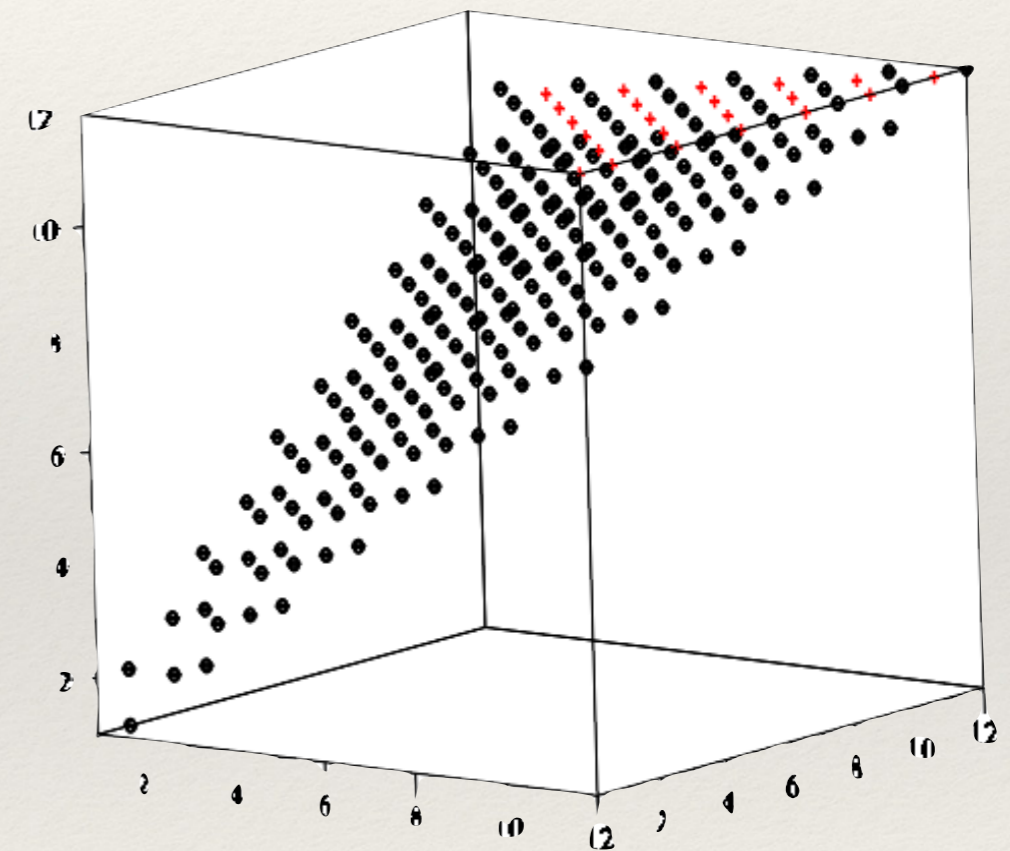
*We will not revisit this definition again during the talk.*



# Mysterious creatures

Many longstanding open problems:

- Combinatorial interpretation (*like Littlewood-Richardson?*)
- Effective computation in the general case.
- Determine when a coefficient is zero.



$$(24-k, k) (24-i, i) (24-j, j)$$

The cone of non-zero values. Red = zero



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# What is known?

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Many things!

- For fixed **partition lengths**, the function behaves like a quasipolynomial. Related to **integer points in a polytope**.
- This quasipolynomial is (theoretically) computable but previous results have high complexity in the lengths of the partitions
  - [[Baldoni, Vergne, Walter 16](#)] (Maple package); [[Christandl, Doran, Walter 12](#)]
- Asymptotics possible using [Barvinok algorithm](#)
- **Our contribution:**
  - Minimal dimension of the polytope;
  - **Explicit** expressions for small cases;
  - Applying *ACSV* to *simplify* the presentation of the asymptotics.



# Main result

Simple Arithmetic Formulas



# New: An explicit formula

**THEOREM 1** (M., Rosas, Sundaram 2018+)

If  $|\lambda| \leq 4, |\mu| \leq 2, |\nu| \leq 2, \mu_2 \geq \nu_2$

$$g_{\mu,\nu,\lambda} = [y^{\nu_2}][x^{\mu_2}] \frac{P_\lambda(x, y)}{(1 - y/x)(1 - xy)(1 - x)(1 - y)}$$

$$P_\lambda(x, y) = y^{\lambda_3+\lambda_4}(x^{\lambda_2+\lambda_4} - x^{\lambda_2+\lambda_3+1} - x^{\lambda_1+\lambda_4+1} + x^{\lambda_1+\lambda_3+2}) + y^{\lambda_2+\lambda_4+1}(-x^{\lambda_3+\lambda_4-1} + x^{\lambda_2+\lambda_3+1} + x^{\lambda_1+\lambda_4+1})$$

**COROLLARY 2** (A simple bound)

$$g_{\mu,\nu,\lambda} \leq [y^{\nu_2-\lambda_3-\lambda_4}][x^{\mu_2-\lambda_2-\lambda_4}] \frac{1}{(1 - y/x)(1 - xy)(1 - x)(1 - y)}$$

**COROLLARY 3** (Quasipolynomiality)

$\tilde{g}_{\mu,\nu,\lambda}$







# Proof sketch

Schur function

$$s_\alpha[x_1, \dots, x_n] = s_\alpha[X] = \frac{\det[x_i^{\alpha_j + j - 1}]}{\prod (x_i - x_j)}$$

Jacobi's identity

$$s_\lambda[XY] = \sum_{\mu, \nu} g_{\mu, \nu, \lambda} s_\mu[X] s_\nu[Y]$$

$$\frac{\prod (x_i - x_j) \prod (y_i - y_j)}{\prod (x^i y^j - x^k y^\ell)} a_{\lambda + \delta_{nm}}[XY] = \sum_{\mu, \nu} g_{\mu, \nu, \lambda} a_{\mu + \delta_n}[X] a_{\nu + \delta_m}[Y]$$



# A small, yet illustrative, example

$$\frac{\prod (x_i - x_j) \prod (y_i - y_j)}{\prod (x^i y^j - x^k y^\ell)} a_{\lambda + \delta_{nm}} [XY] = \sum_{\mu, \nu} g_{\mu, \nu, \lambda} a_{\mu + \delta_n} [X] a_{\nu + \delta_m} [Y]$$

$n=m=2$

$$\frac{a_{\lambda + \delta_{nm}} [XY]}{(1 - y/x)(1 - xy)(1 - x)(1 - y)} = \sum_{\mu, \nu} g_{\mu, \nu, \lambda} (x^{\mu_1 + 1} - x^{\mu_2})(y^{\nu_1 + 1} - y^{\nu_2})$$



# Sample Computation

$$g_{\mu,\nu,\lambda} = [u^{\nu_2} v^{\mu_2 \nu_2}] \frac{P_\lambda(u, uv)}{(1-uv)(1-uv^2)(1-u)(1-v)}$$

$$P_\lambda(x, y) = y^{\lambda_3+\lambda_4}(x^{\lambda_2+\lambda_4} - x^{\lambda_2+\lambda_3+1} - x^{\lambda_1+\lambda_4+1} + x^{\lambda_1+\lambda_3+2}) \\ + y^{\lambda_2+\lambda_4+1}(-x^{\lambda_3+\lambda_4-1} + x^{\lambda_2+\lambda_3+1} + x^{\lambda_1+\lambda_4+1})$$

**Remark.** If the monomial  $x^a y^b$  makes a non-zero contribution from  $P_\lambda$ , then it contributes

$$[u^{\nu_2-b} v^{\mu_2+\nu_2-a-b}] \frac{1}{(1-u)(1-v)(1-uv)(1-uv^2)}$$

$$\lambda = (12, 7, 4, 1), \mu = \nu = (12, 12)$$

$$P_\lambda = y^5(x^8 - x^{12} - x^{14} + x^{18}) + y^9(-x^4 + x^{12} + x^{14})$$

$$g_{\mu,\nu,\lambda} = p(7,11) - p(7,7) - p(7,5) - p(7,1) - p(3,11) + p(3,3) + p(3,1) \\ = 32 - 20 - 12 + 2 - 10 + 6 + 2 = 0$$



# Combinatorial Interpretation

Lattice point enumerators of polytopes



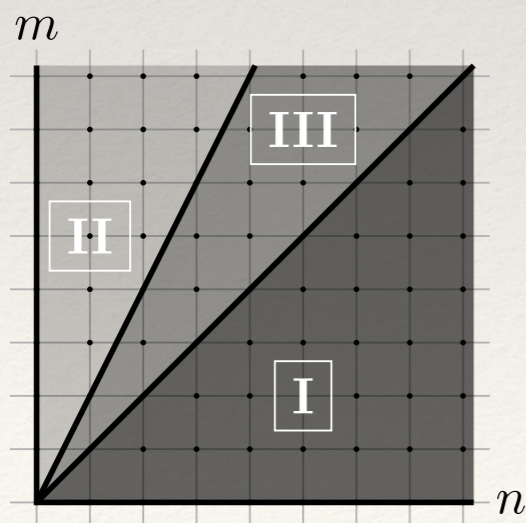
# A vector partition function

A vector partition generalizes an integer partition.

$$[u^n v^m] \frac{1}{(1-u)(1-v)(1-uv)(1-uv^2)}$$

$$= \# \left\{ (x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4) \in \mathbb{N}^4 : \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} x_3 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} x_4 \\ 2x_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} n \\ m \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

$$= \# \{ \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{N}^4 \mid A\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} n \\ m \end{bmatrix} \} \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$



Region		$ps(n, m)$
I	$m \leq n$	$\frac{m^2}{4} + m + \frac{7}{8} + \frac{(-1)^m}{8}$
II	$2n \leq m$	$\frac{n^2}{2} + \frac{3n}{2} + 1$
III	$n \leq m \leq 2n$	$nm - \frac{n^2}{2} - \frac{m^2}{4} + \frac{n+m}{2} + \frac{7}{8} + \frac{(-1)^m}{8}$



# Vector partition function

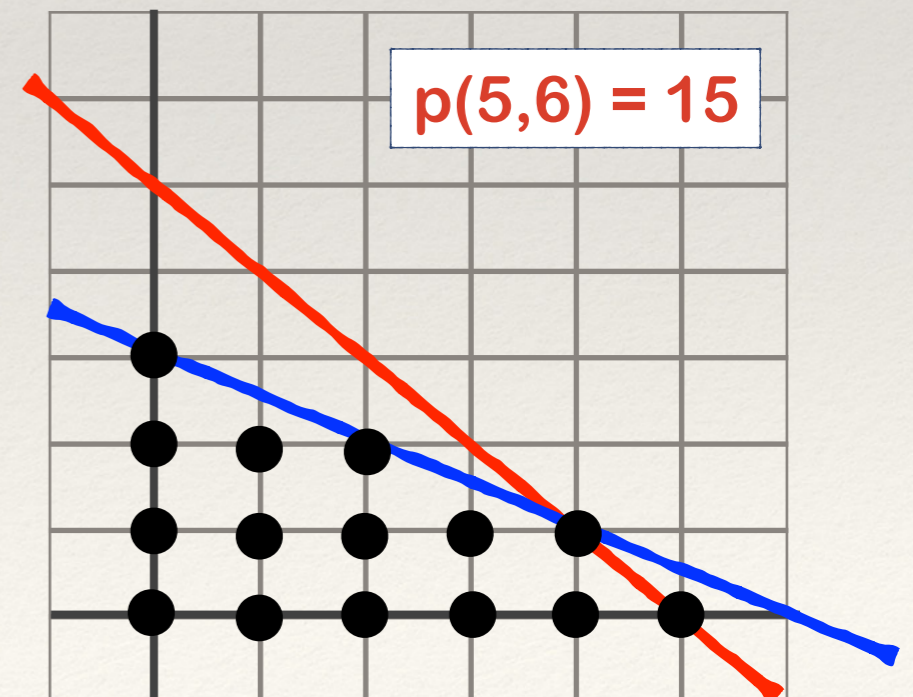
$$[u^n v^m] \frac{1}{(1-u)(1-v)(1-uv)(1-uv^2)}$$

$$= \# \left\{ (x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4) \in \mathbb{N}^4 : \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} x_3 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} x_4 \\ 2x_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} n \\ m \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

$$x_1 + x_3 + x_4 = n \quad x_2 + x_3 + 2x_4 = m$$

$$x_3 + x_4 \leq n \quad x_3 + 2x_4 \leq m$$

$p(n,m) = \#$  integer points inside the lines.

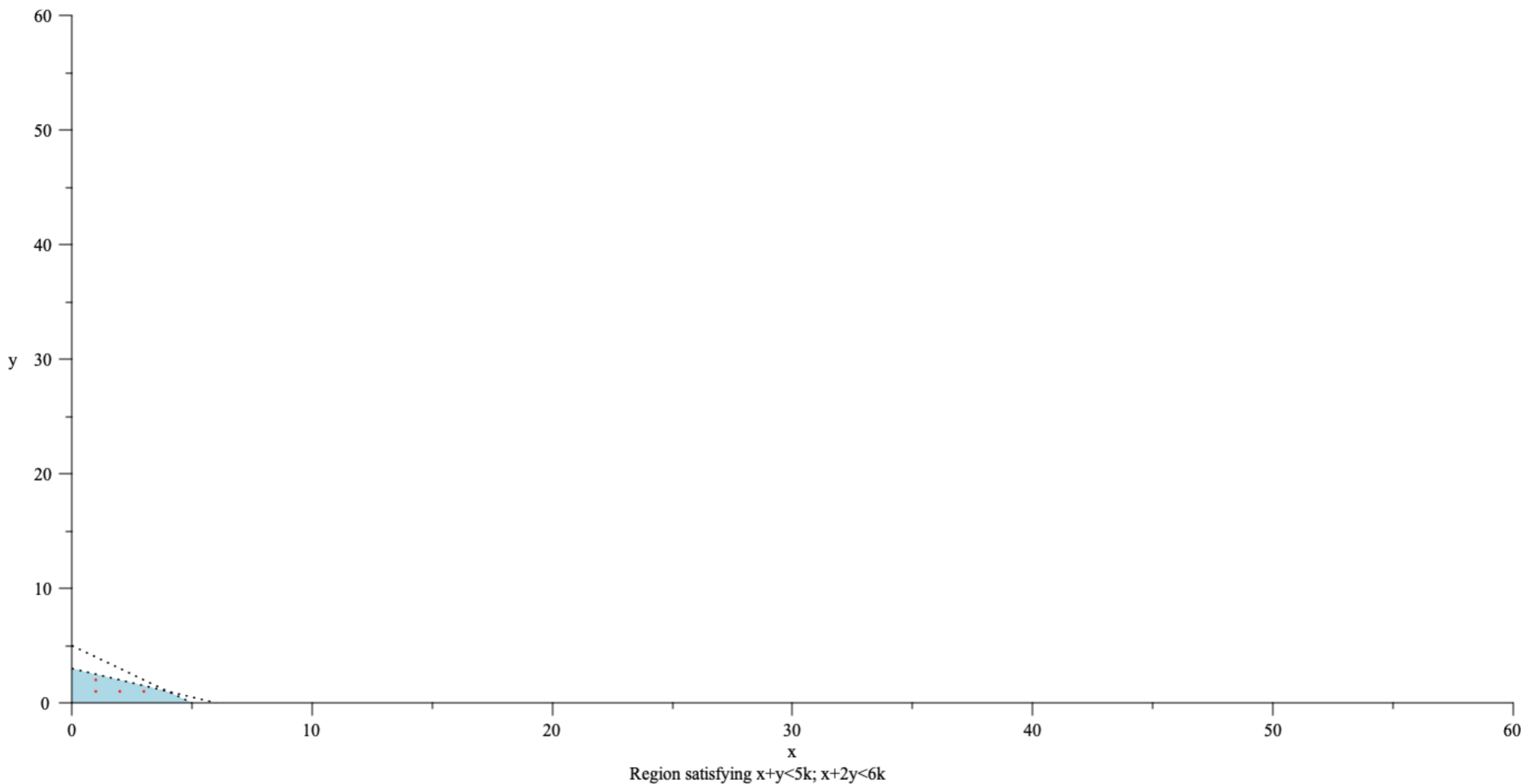




How many integer points in the region?

$$x_3 + x_4 \leq 5k \quad x_3 + 2x_4 \leq 6k$$

$k = 1.$





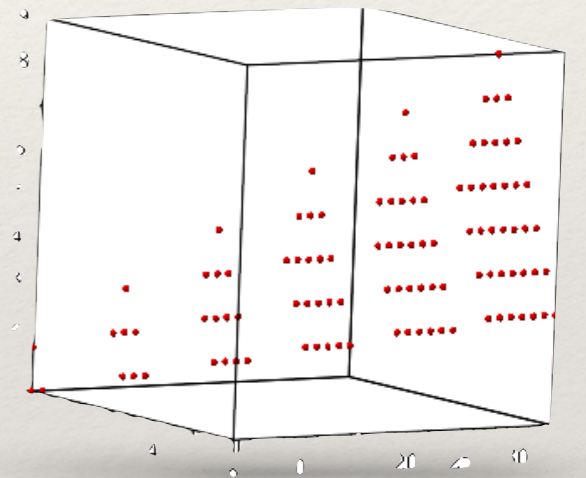
# Lattice point enumerator

## Ehrhart Theory (1960s)

Dilate the polytope, find the number of integer points inside.

$$x_3 + x_4 \leq kn \quad x_3 + 2x_4 \leq km$$

$$= [u^{kn} v^{km}] \frac{1}{(1 - uv)(1 - uv^2)(1 - u)(1 - v)}$$



- For fixed  $n, m$ , this is a **quasipolynomial** in  $k$ .
- The leading constant of the polynomial is the area (Pick's theorem)
- Generalized for polytopes in arbitrary dimension.



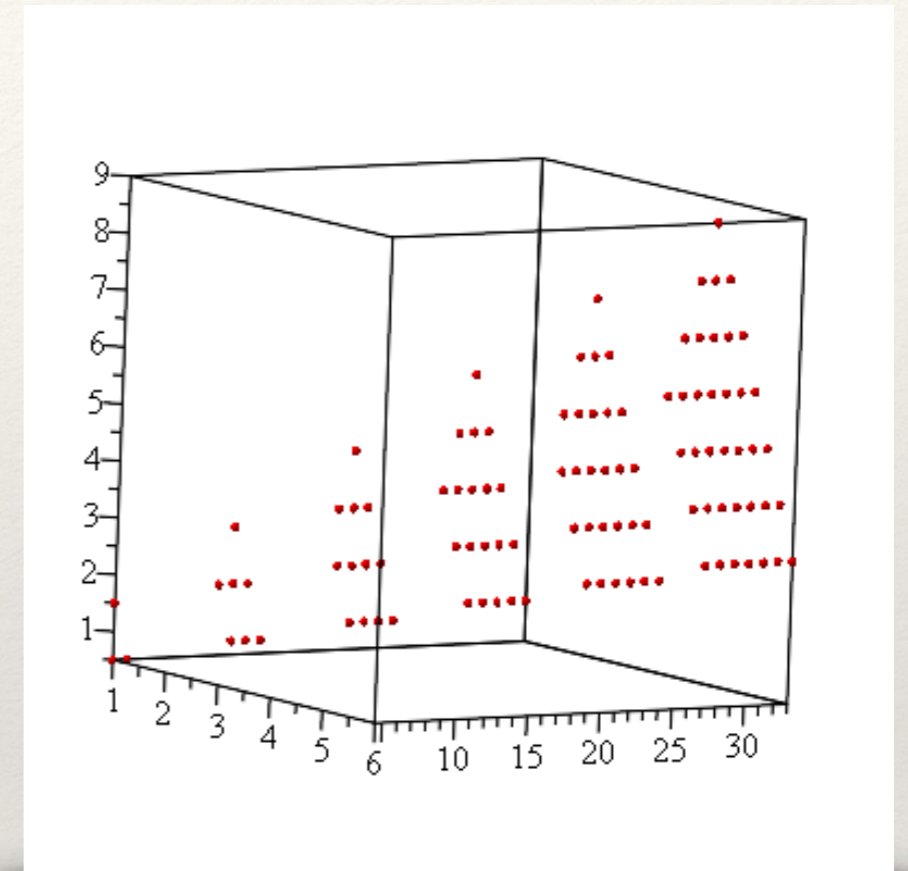
# Dilations of KCs

$$\lambda = (6,3,2), \mu = (8,3), \nu = (7,4)$$

$$g_{(6,3,2),(8,3),(7,4)} = 3$$

$$g_{(12,6,4),(16,6),(14,8)} = 7$$

$$g_{(18,9,6),(24,9),(21,12)} = 12$$



$$g_{k\mu, k\nu, k\lambda} = [u^{2k}v^k] \frac{1}{(1-u)(1-v)(1-uv)(1-uv^2)}$$

Let us make the generating function



*One interesting implication of the quasipolynomiality property is that, knowing the Kronecker coefficients asymptotically, in fact we know them completely.*

— Manivel, 2014



# Asymptotic formulas

Analytic **C**ombinatorics in **S**everal **V**ariables



# Diagonals of Rational Functions

$$\Delta(1 + x^2 + y + 5xyz + 3xy^2 + 2xy^2z^2 + 3x^2y^2z^2 + \dots)$$
$$= 1 + 5t + 3t^2 + \dots$$



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# Diagonals of series

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$$\Delta \sum a_{ijk} x^i y^j z^k := \sum a_{nnn} t^n$$

$$\Delta^{(r,s)} \sum_{i \geq 0, j \geq 0} a_{ij} x^i y^j := \sum_{n \geq 0} a_{rn sn} t^n$$

$$\Delta^{(r,s)} \frac{1}{1-x-y} = \Delta \sum_{i \geq 0, j \geq 0} \binom{i+j}{j} x^i y^j = \sum_{n \geq 0} \binom{(r+s)n}{rn} t^n$$



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# Generating function as a diagonal

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$$\sum z^k [u^{kr} v^{ks}] \frac{1}{(1-uv)(1-uv^2)(1-u)(1-v)}$$
$$= \Delta^{(r,s)} \frac{1}{(1-uv)(1-uv^2)(1-u)(1-v)}$$

- Any lattice point enumerator is a diagonal of a rational function.
- We use ACSV techniques to determine the asymptotic growth of the coefficient



# Analytic combinatorics

**Problem:** Given  $F(x, y, z) = \frac{G(x, y, z)}{H(x, y, z)}$ , write  $\Delta^{(r,s)}F(x, y, z) = \sum f_n t^n$

Determine  $\Phi(n)$  so that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f_n}{\Phi(n)} = 1$$

1. Determine “minimal critical point”
2. Decompose the rational  $G/H$  into a sum such that denominator of each summand has a transversal intersection at this point
3. Apply formulas to determine contribution at the point

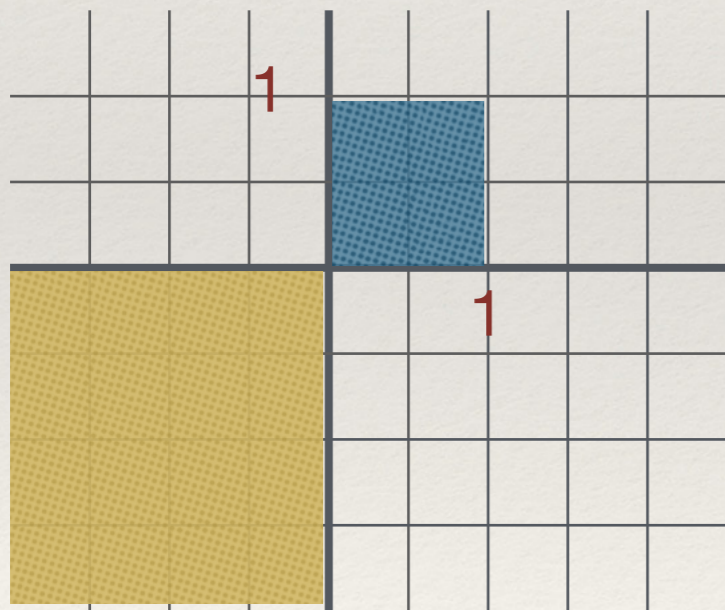


# Visualizing the domain of convergence

$$\{(|x|, |y|) : (x, y) \in \mathbb{C}^2, F(x, y) \text{ convergent} \}$$

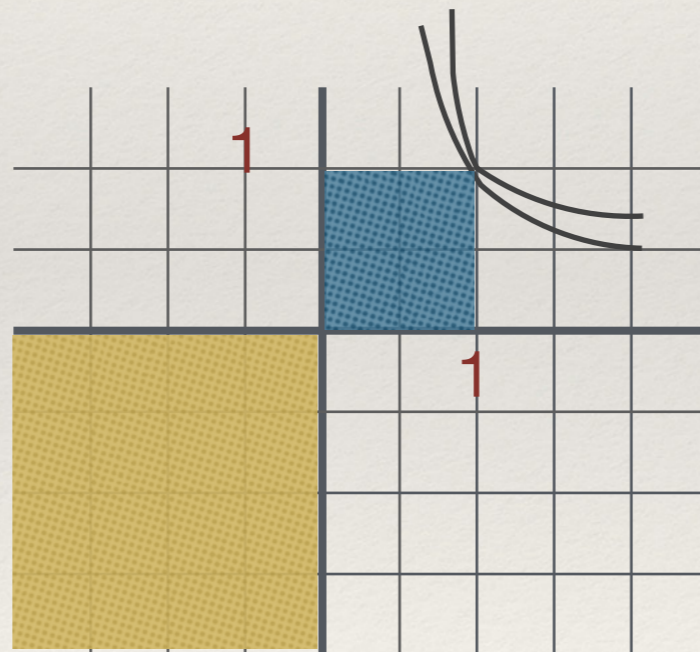
$$\{(\log |x|, \log |y|) : (x, y) \in \mathbb{C}^2, F(x, y) \text{ convergent} \}$$

$$\frac{1}{(1-x)(1-y)}$$



$$|x| < 1 \quad |y| < 1$$

$$\frac{1}{(1-xy)(1-xy^2)(1-x)(1-y)}$$



$$|x| < 1 \quad |y| < 1$$

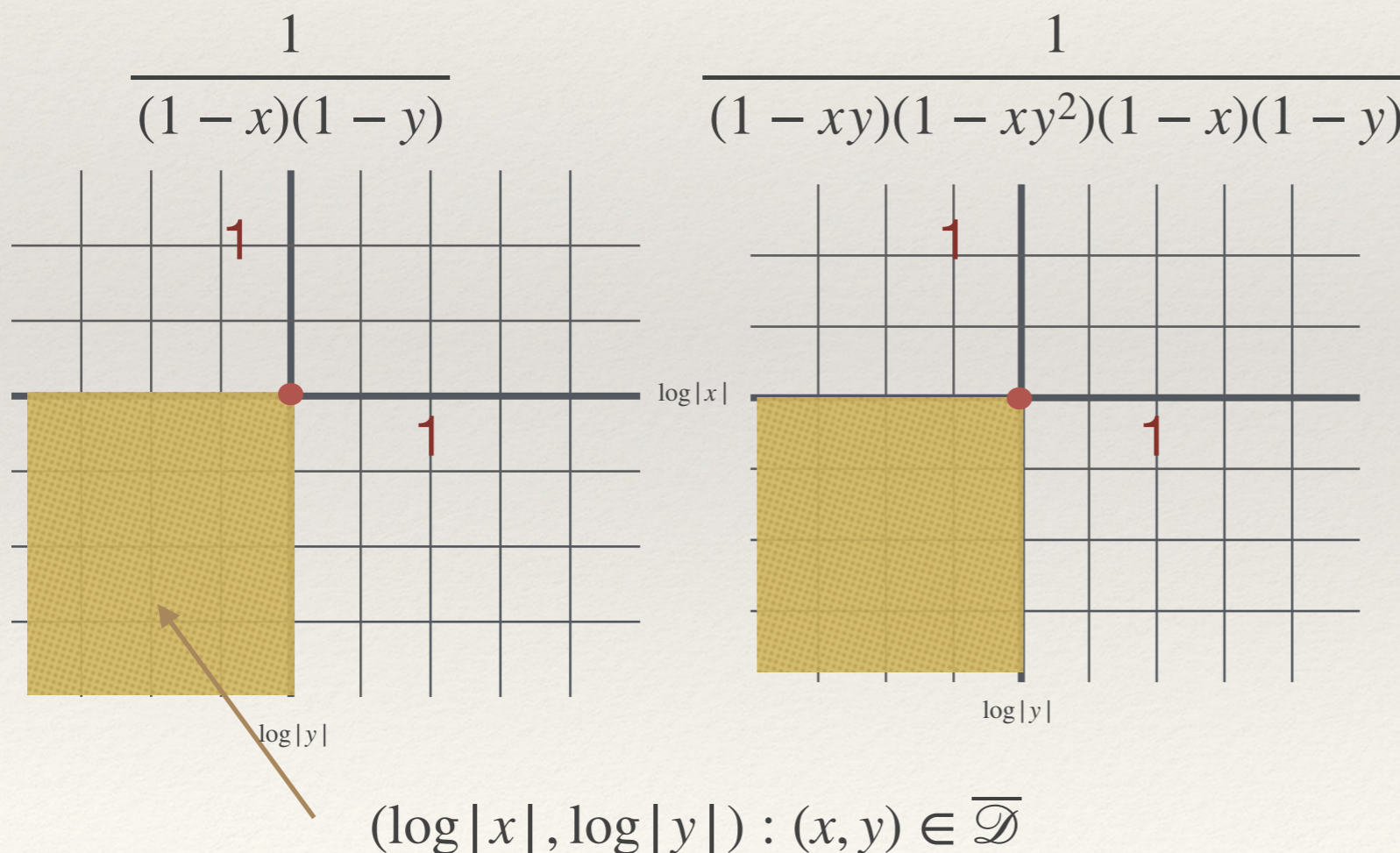
## TEST:

What will be the domain of given partition function?



# The minimal critical point

Find  $(\log|x|, \log|y|)$  which maximizes  $r \log|x| + s \log|y|$   
 (with  $(x, y)$  in closure of the domain of convergence)



Exponential growth:

$$\left( |x|^{-r} |y|^{-s} \right)^n$$

**The minimal critical point for any partition functions is  $(1, 1, \dots, 1)$**

The exponential growth is always 1.

*(We knew this, but here we deduced it on our own.)*



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# Subexponential growth

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1. Separate the rational into terms such that each has a transversal intersection at its critical point.
2. Apply a formula to each term.
3. Given  $(r,s)$ , sum over contributing terms.

$$\frac{1}{(1-uv)(1-uv^2)(1-u)(1-v)}$$
$$= \frac{(1+v)(uv+1)}{(-uv^2+1)^2(1-u)^2} - \frac{(1+v)u(uv+1)}{(1-u)^3(-uv^2+1)} + \frac{(1+v)u^2}{(1-u)^3(-uv+1)} - \frac{v^3}{(1-v)^2(-uv^2+1)^2} - \frac{v^3}{(1-v)^3(-uv^2+1)} + \frac{v^2}{(1-v)^3(-uv+1)}$$



# Splitting the rational into parts

$$\begin{array}{c} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \\ 1 \quad 2 \quad 3 \quad 4 \end{array} \quad H1 = (1 - u) \quad H2 = (1 - v) \quad H3 = (1 - uv) \quad H4 = (1 - uv^2)$$

$$(1 - uv) = (1 - u) + u(1 - v) \quad H3 = H1 + uH2$$

$$\frac{1}{H1 H2 H3 H4} = \frac{H3}{H1 H2 H3^2 H4} = \frac{H1 + uH2}{H1 H2 H3^2 H4} = \frac{1}{H2 H3^2 H4} + \frac{u}{H1 H3^2 H4}$$

$$= \frac{(1+v)(uv+1)}{(-uv^2+1)^2(1-u)^2} - \frac{(1+v)u(uv+1)}{(1-u)^3(-uv^2+1)} + \frac{(1+v)u^2}{(1-u)^3(-uv+1)} - \frac{v^3}{(1-v)^2(-uv^2+1)^2} - \frac{v^3}{(1-v)^3(-uv^2+1)} + \frac{v^2}{(1-v)^3(-uv+1)}$$



# Formula

**Theorem 10.3.1** (Pemantle Wilson 2013)

$$\frac{G(x, y)}{H_1(x, y)^k H_2(x, y)^\ell} = \sum_{(i, j) \in \mathbb{N}^2} a_{i, j} x^i y^j \quad M = \left[ \begin{array}{cc} \frac{\partial H_1(x, y)}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial H_1(x, y)}{\partial y} \\ \frac{\partial H_2(x, y)}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial H_2(x, y)}{\partial y} \end{array} \right] \Big|_{(x, y) = (1, 1)}$$

$$a_{r, s} \sim \frac{1}{(k-1)!(\ell-1)!} \frac{G(x_0, y_0)}{\det(M)} \left( (r, s) \times M \right)^{(k-1, \ell-1)}$$

**Notation:**  $(x, y)^{(a, b)} := x^a y^b$



# Asymptotic formulas for atomic Kronecker coefficients

$$\sum f_n z^n = \Delta^{(r,s)} \frac{1}{(1-u)(1-uv)(1-uv^2)(1-v)}$$

$$f_n \sim$$

$$r < s$$

$$\frac{(rn)^2}{4}$$

$$r = s$$

$$\left(\frac{rn}{2}\right)^2$$

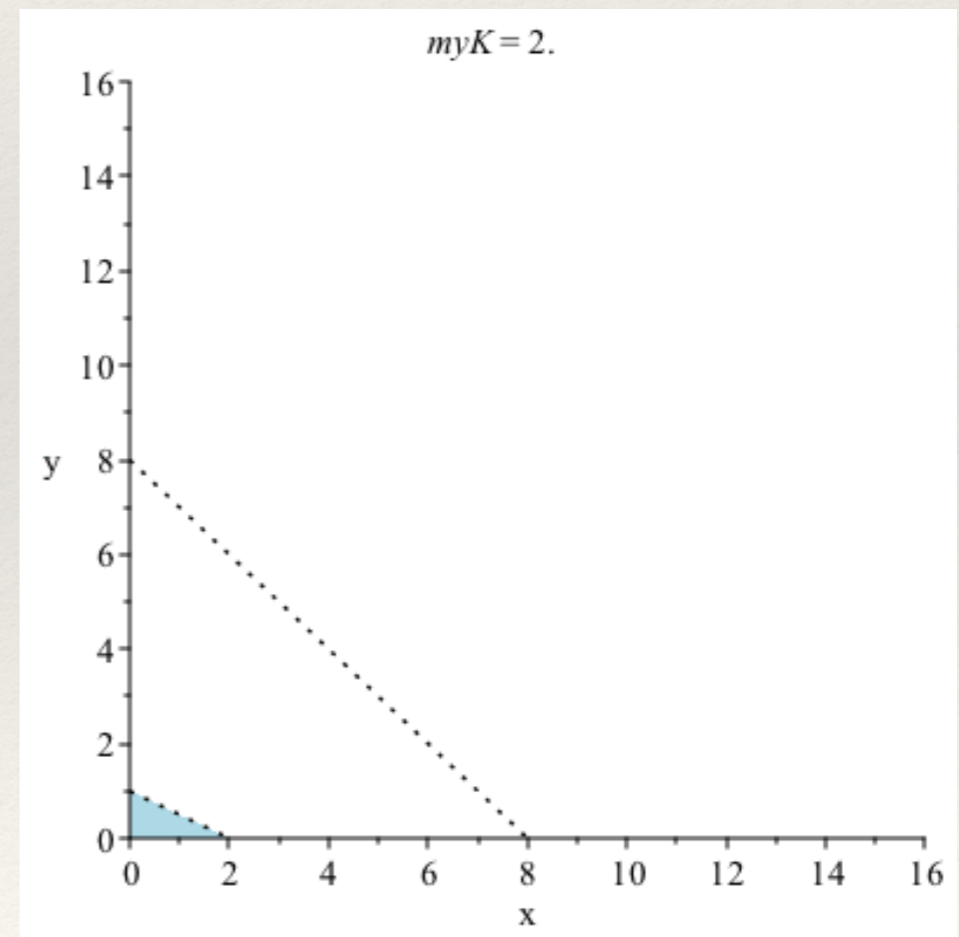
$$r/2 < s < r$$

$$rsn^2 - \frac{(sn)^2}{2} - \frac{(rn)^2}{4}$$

$$s \leq r/2$$

$$\frac{sn^2}{2}$$

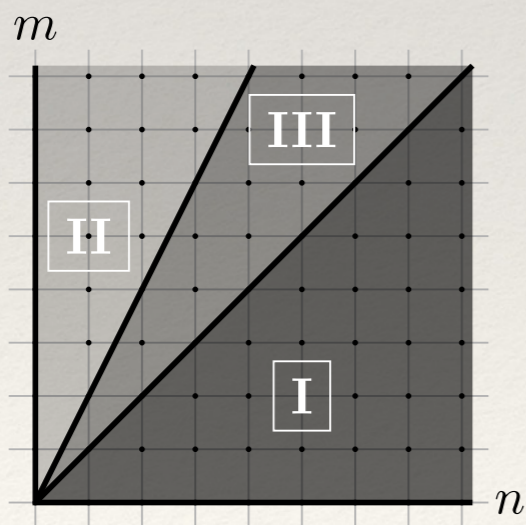
$$(r, s) = (2, 1) \implies f_n \sim n^2/2$$





# Easy to confirm

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 r < s & \frac{(rn)^2}{4} \\
 r = s & \left(\frac{rn}{2}\right)^2 \\
 r/2 < s < r & rs n^2 - \frac{(sn)^2}{2} - \frac{(rn)^2}{4} \\
 s \leq r/2 & \frac{sn^2}{2}
 \end{array}$$



Region		$p_S(n, m)$
I	$m \leq n$	$\frac{m^2}{4} + m + \frac{7}{8} + \frac{(-1)^m}{8}$
II	$2n \leq m$	$\frac{n^2}{2} + \frac{3n}{2} + 1$
III	$n \leq m \leq 2n$	$nm - \frac{n^2}{2} - \frac{m^2}{4} + \frac{n+m}{2} + \frac{7}{8} + \frac{(-1)^m}{8}$



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# Asymptotic formulas for general dilated Kronecker coefficients?

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$$g_{\mu,\nu,\lambda} = [u^{\nu_2} v^{\mu_2 \nu_2}] \frac{P_\lambda(u, uv)}{(1 - uv)(1 - uv^2)(1 - u)(1 - v)}$$

- In general, we will have diagonals with a more complicated numerator
- This affects the constant term, primarily ....
- ... but when it is zero, the degree of the sub-exponential growth can drop.



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# Example

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$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{G}_{(k,k),(k,k),(k,k)} &= [x^k y^k] (x^k - 2x^{k+1} + x^{k+2}) \bar{F}_{2,2}(x, y) \\ &= [u^k v^k] \frac{(1 - 2v + v^2)}{(1 - u)(1 - v)(1 - uv)(1 - uv^2)} \\ &= \begin{cases} 1, & k \text{ even} \\ 0, & k \text{ odd.} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

- The numerator  $(1-2v+v^2)$  is 0 at  $(1, 1)$  as its derivative,  $(-2+2v)$ . As a consequence, the degree drops by 2. It is “quasi-constant”.
- This example illustrates that KCs are **not** pure polytope enumerators.



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# Perspectives

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- Determine exact and asymptotic formulas for Kronecker coefficient dilations of “higher dimension”
- Combinatorial interpretation of Kronecker Coefficients
- Develop inequalities to determine when it is zero.
- Develop more automated/ computational methods for ACSV
- Many problems from representation theory are diagonal problems. Apply similar tools.



# For more details...

**An elementary approach to the  
quasipolynomiality of the Kronecker coefficients**

Marni Mishna, Mercedes Rosas, Sheila Sundaram

<https://arxiv.org/abs/1811.10015>



*Merci  
beaucoup.*

The text "Merci beaucoup." is written in a fluid, black cursive script. The word "Merci" is on the top line, and "beaucoup." is on the bottom line. The entire phrase is enclosed within a decorative, hand-drawn frame of swirling lines. This frame is embellished with several leafy sprigs and a small white heart with a black outline at the bottom right. Small black dots are scattered throughout the decorative flourishes, adding to the intricate design.