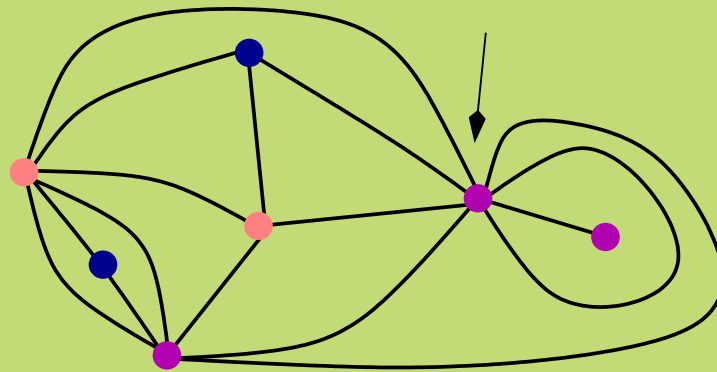


The 3-state Potts model on planar maps



Mireille Bousquet-Mélou
CNRS, Université de Bordeaux, F

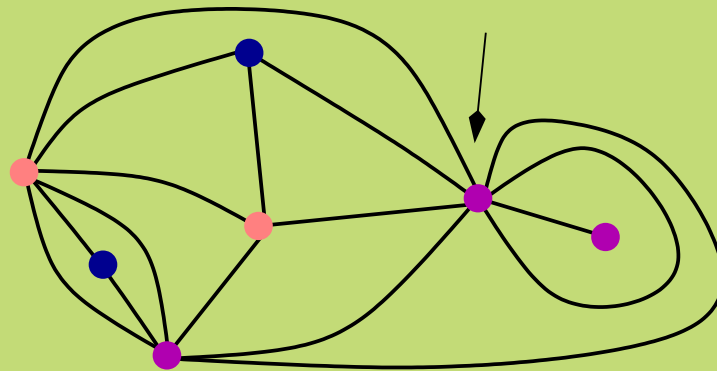
Hadrien Notarantonio
Université Paris Cité, F

Dress code at the Puffing Billy race, 1998

Tony
et
le petit Laurent



The 3-state Potts model on planar maps

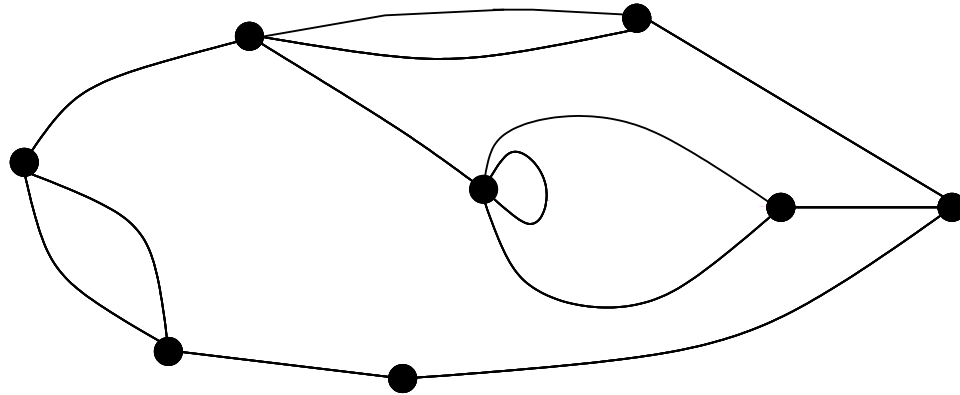


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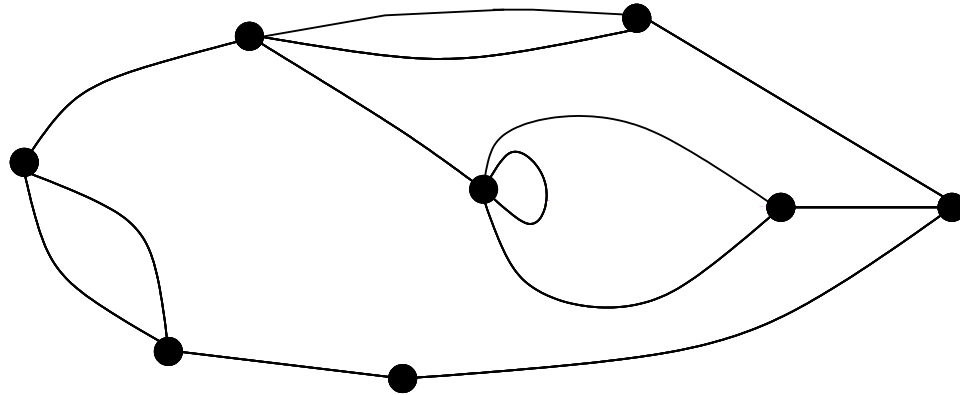
Planar maps

Def. A connected planar (multi)graph, given with a proper embedding in the plane, taken up to continuous deformation.



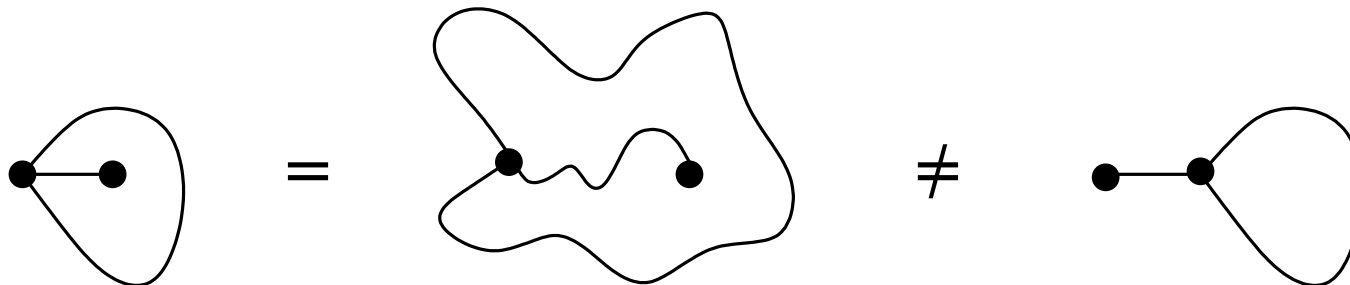
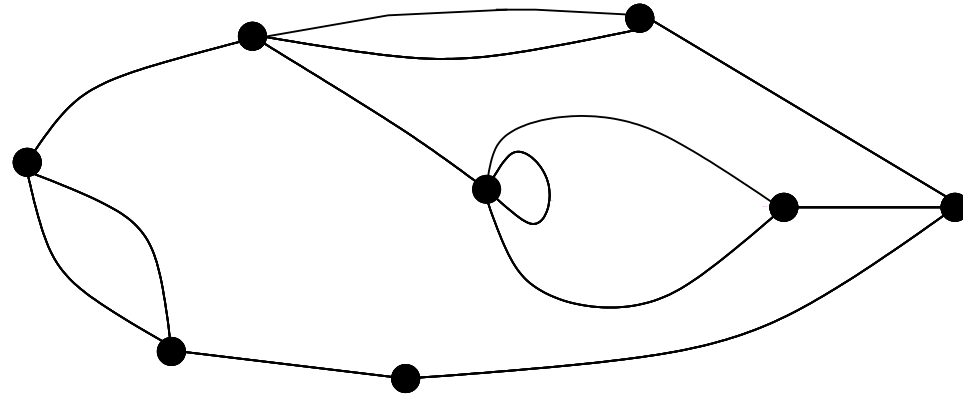
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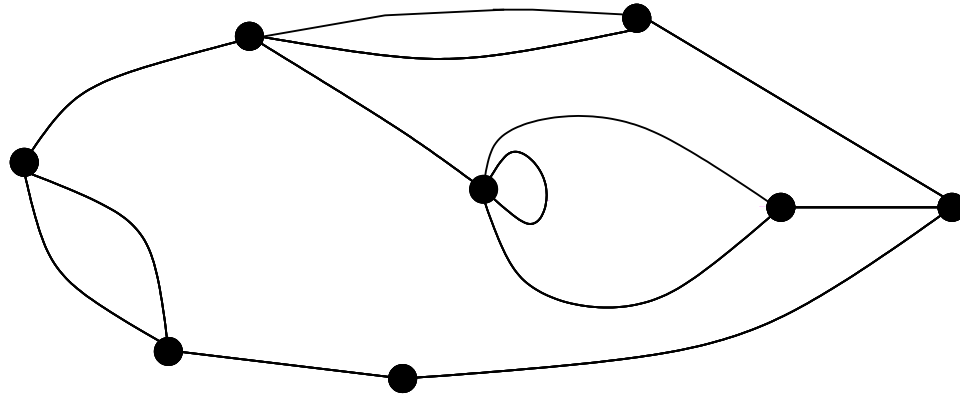


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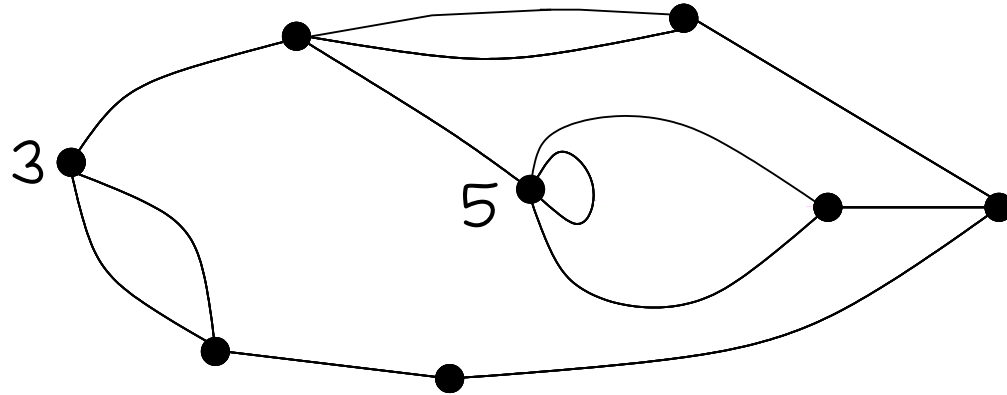


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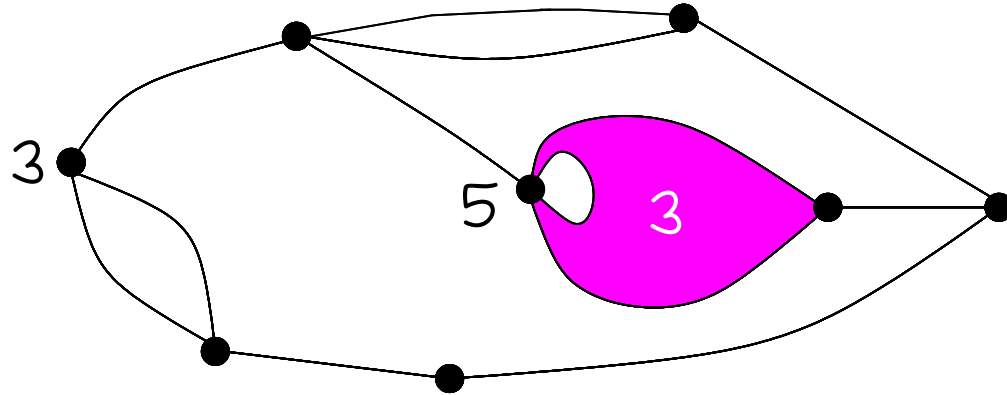


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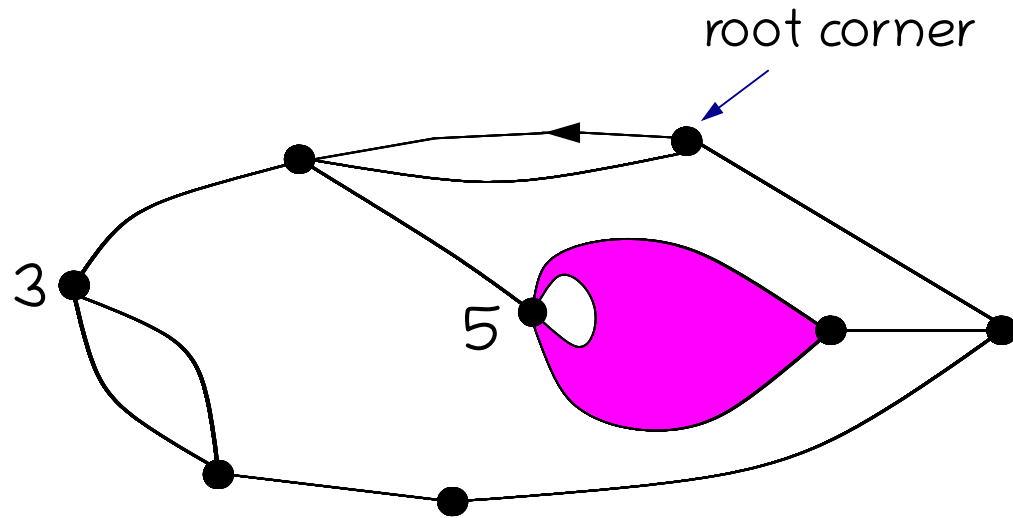


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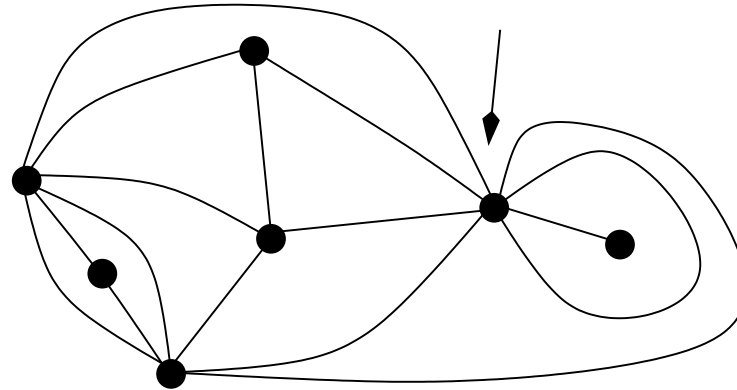
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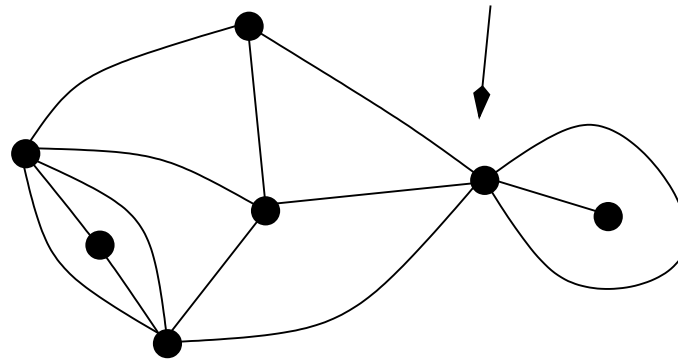
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Near-triangulation: all **finite** faces have degree 3

Generating functions

- For a class of maps \mathcal{C} , equipped with some size (edge number...),

$$C := \sum_{M \in \mathcal{C}} t^{e(M)}.$$

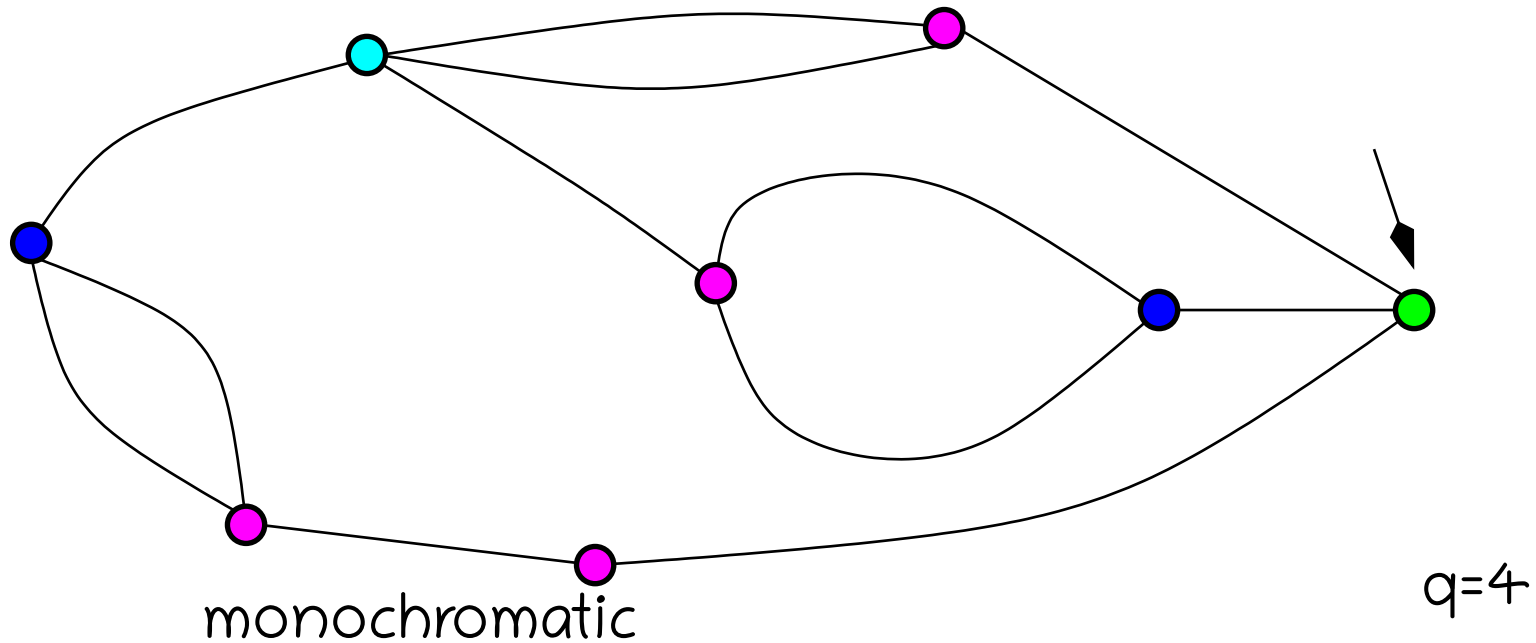
- Multivariate versions, with more variables.
- The series C is **algebraic of degree k** if

$$P(C, t) = 0$$

for some irreducible polynomial P of degree k in its first variable.

Vertex colourings of maps

Definition. Vertices are coloured in q colours



Proper colouring: neighbour vertices get different colours.

Potts model: a generalisation

The q -state Potts model on planar maps

Definition. Let q be positive integer, M a map. The partition function of the (q -state) Potts model on M (or: **Potts polynomial** of M) is

$$P_M(q, \nu) := \sum_{c: V(M) \rightarrow \{1, \dots, q\}} \nu^{m(c)},$$

where $m(c)$ is the number of monochromatic edges in the colouring c .

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Example.

$$P_M(q, \nu) := q\nu + q(q-1).$$



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Properties

- polynomial in q and ν
- duality: for $q = (\nu - 1)(\nu^* - 1)$,

$$(\nu^* - 1)^{f(M)-1} P_M(q, \nu) = (\nu - 1)^{f(M^*)-1} P_{M^*}(q, \nu^*).$$

The Potts GF of near-triangulations

The Potts GF of (planar) near-triangulations is

$$T(y) \equiv T(q, v, t; y) = \sum_M P_M(q, v) t^{v(M)} y^{\text{od}(M)},$$

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Equivalently,

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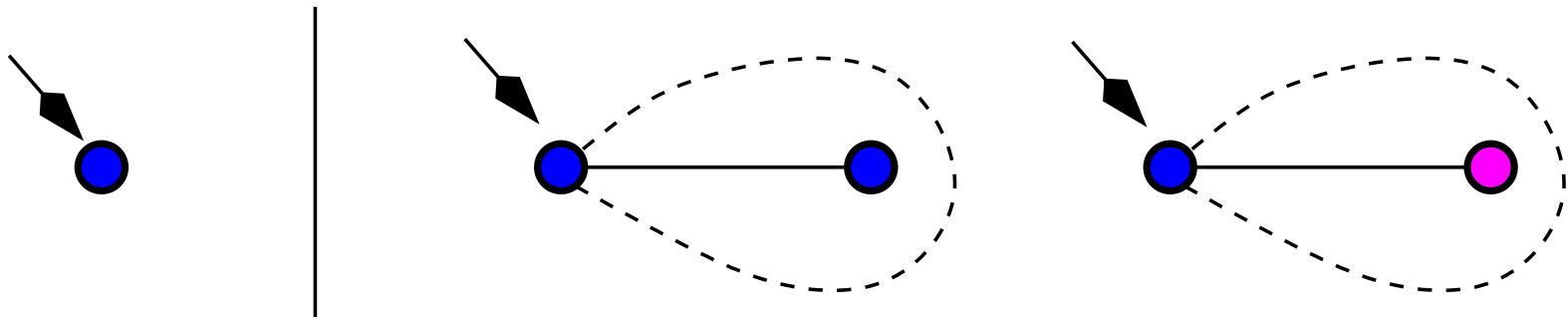
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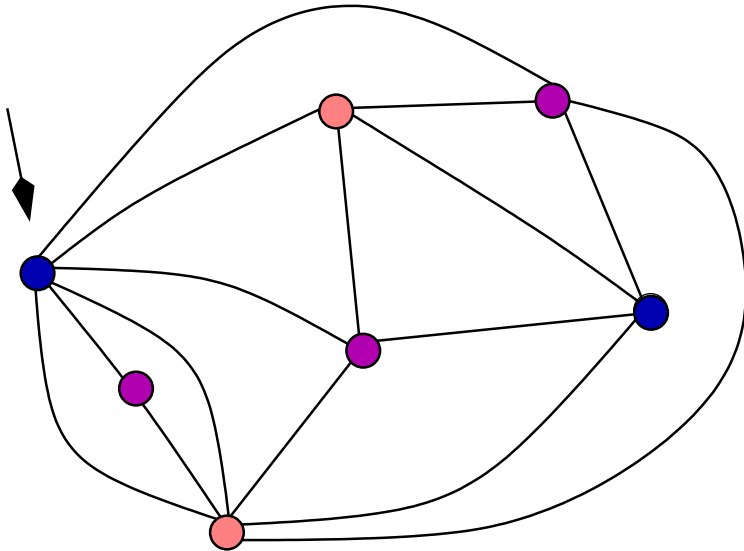
where c is a q -colouring of the vertices of M .

First coefficients:

$$T(y) = qt + yq(v + q - 1)(v + y)t^2 + \mathcal{O}(t^3).$$



I. An old result, and a new one

$$18t^4 - 2t^3 + (24t^2 - 12t + 1)T_3 + 8T_3^2 = 0.$$


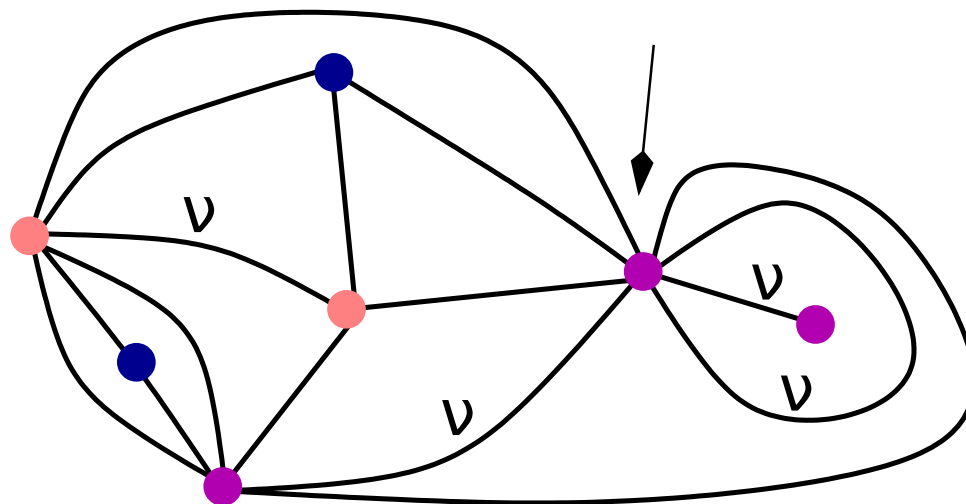
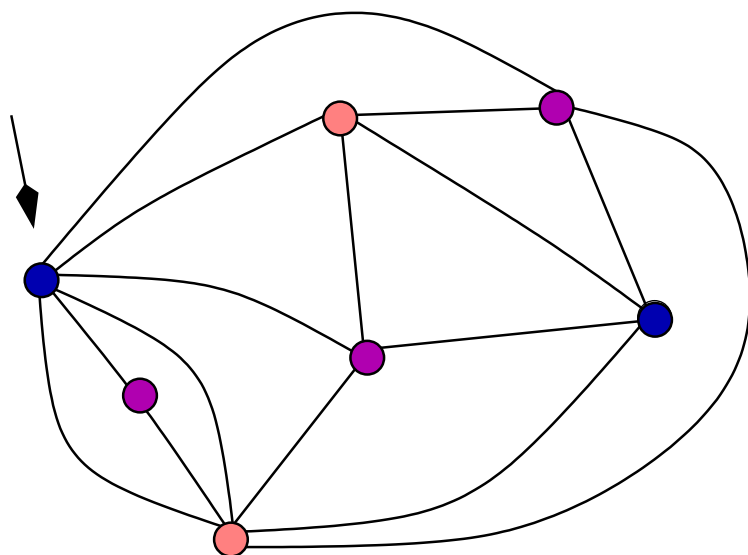
Properly 3-coloured triangulations



An old result [Tutte 1963]

The generating function T_3 of properly 3-coloured triangulations (counted by vertices) is algebraic of degree 2:

$$18t^4 - 2t^3 + (24t^2 - 12t + 1)T_3 + 8T_3^2 = 0.$$



A new result [mbm-Notarantonio 2025]

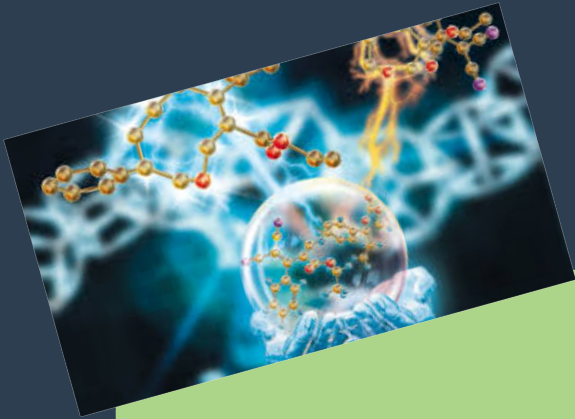
The 3-Potts generating function of triangulations (counted by vertices) is algebraic of degree 11.

Proposition. For any $i \geq 1$, the 3-Potts generating function T_i of near-triangulations of outer degree i is algebraic of degree 11 .

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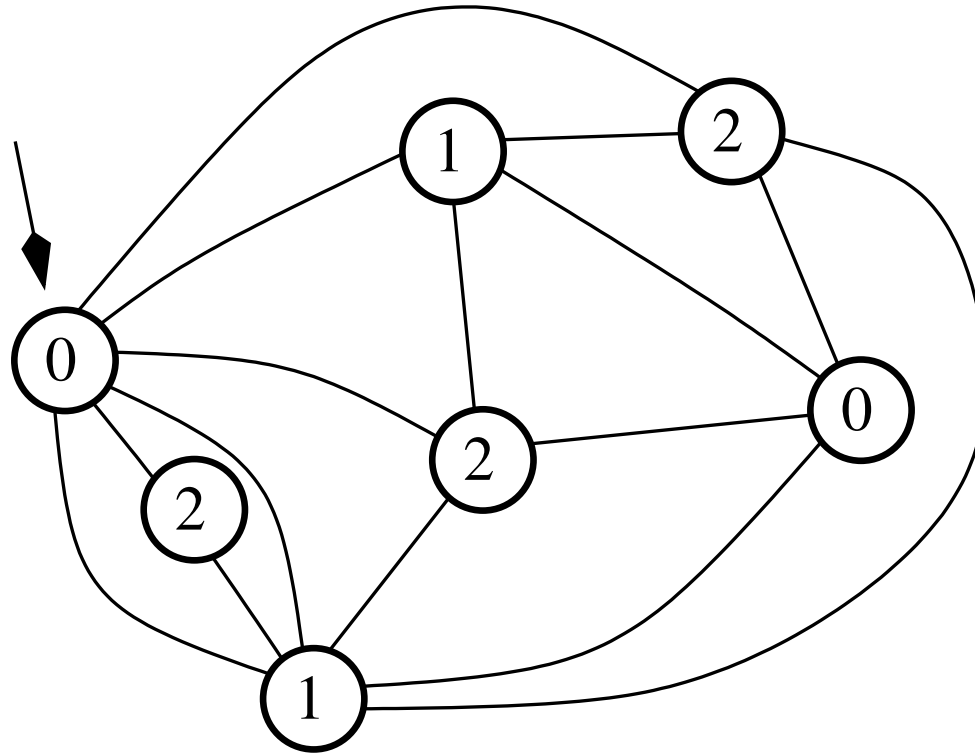
Minimal polynomial of the derivative of T_1 (degree 2 in t):

$$\begin{aligned}
 & 276480 \dot{T}_1^{11} v^7 - 27648 v^6 (31v + 24) \dot{T}_1^{10} + 1152 v^5 (1021v^2 + 1678v + 541) \dot{T}_1^9 \\
 & - 18 v^4 (46080 v^3 t + 51935 v^3 + 138243 v^2 + 92253 v + 17089) \dot{T}_1^8 \\
 & + 72 v^3 (1920 v^3 (17v + 7) t + 6545 v^4 + 25755 v^3 + 26863 v^2 + 10253 v + 1144) \dot{T}_1^7 \\
 & - 4 v^2 (1008 v^3 (727 v^2 + 586 v + 127) t + 38596 v^5 + 219355 v^4 + 322318 v^3 + 190022 v^2 + 43274 v + 2915) \dot{T}_1^6 \\
 & + 4 v (216 v^3 (2433 v^3 + 2879 v^2 + 1255 v + 153) t + 8027 v^6 + 67626 v^5 + 134820 v^4 + 109109 v^3 + 38007 v^2 \\
 & + 5103 v + 188) \dot{T}_1^5 + (41472 v^6 (v - 1) t^2 - 12 v^3 (78871 v^4 + 122456 v^3 + 80010 v^2 + 19688 v + 1375) t \\
 & - 3876 v^7 - 53138 v^6 - 145202 v^5 - 151460 v^4 - 71656 v^3 - 14332 v^2 - 958 v - 18) \dot{T}_1^4 + (-13824 v^5 (5v + 1) (v - 1) t^2 \\
 & + 8 v^2 (5v + 1) (6823 v^4 + 11843 v^3 + 9045 v^2 + 2429 v + 100) t + 208 v^7 + 6088 v^6 + 24600 v^5 + 31836 v^4 + 19256 v^3 \\
 & + 5040 v^2 + 440 v + 12) \dot{T}_1^3 + (1728 v^4 (v - 1) (5v + 1)^2 t^2 - 12 v (3v + 1) (1358 v^5 + 2771 v^4 + 2504 v^3 + 868 v^2 \\
 & + 58 v + 1) t - 312 v^6 - 2401 v^5 - 3747 v^4 - 2821 v^3 - 899 v^2 - 78 v - 2) \dot{T}_1^2 + v (-96 v^2 (v - 1) (5v + 1)^3 t^2 \\
 & + 4 (v + 1) (1229 v^5 + 2390 v^4 + 2114 v^3 + 697 v^2 + 49 v + 1) t + (104 v^4 + 189 v^3 + 177 v^2 + 67 v + 3)) \dot{T}_1 \\
 & + 2 v^2 (v - 1) (5v + 1)^4 t^2 - 2 v^2 (v + 2) (104 v^4 + 189 v^3 + 177 v^2 + 67 v + 3) t = 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

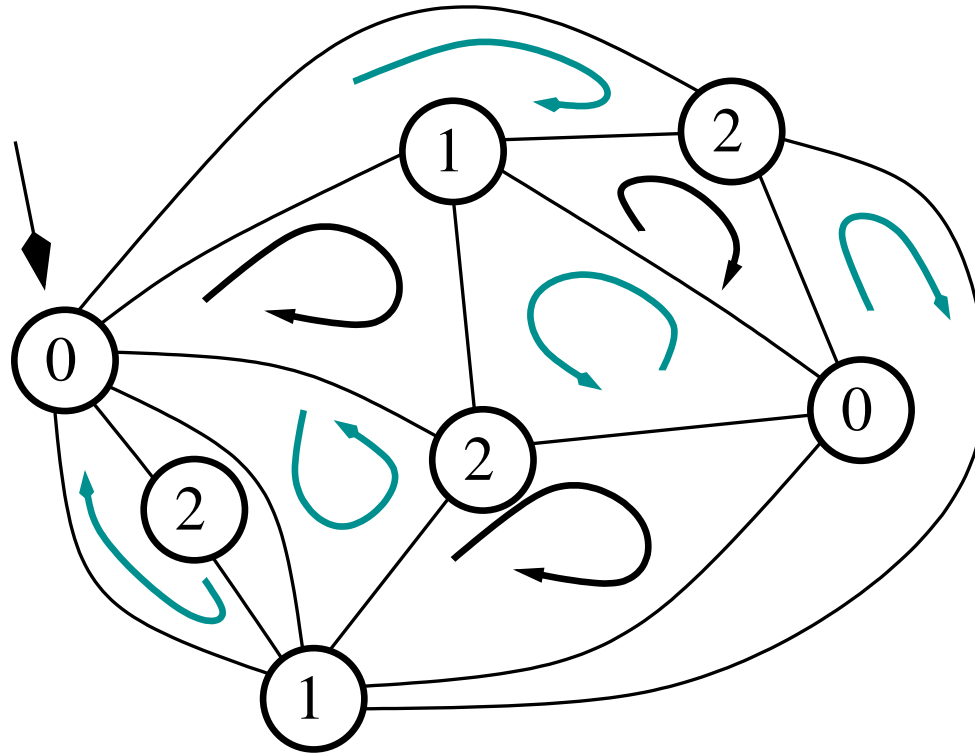


II. Equations, equations, equations

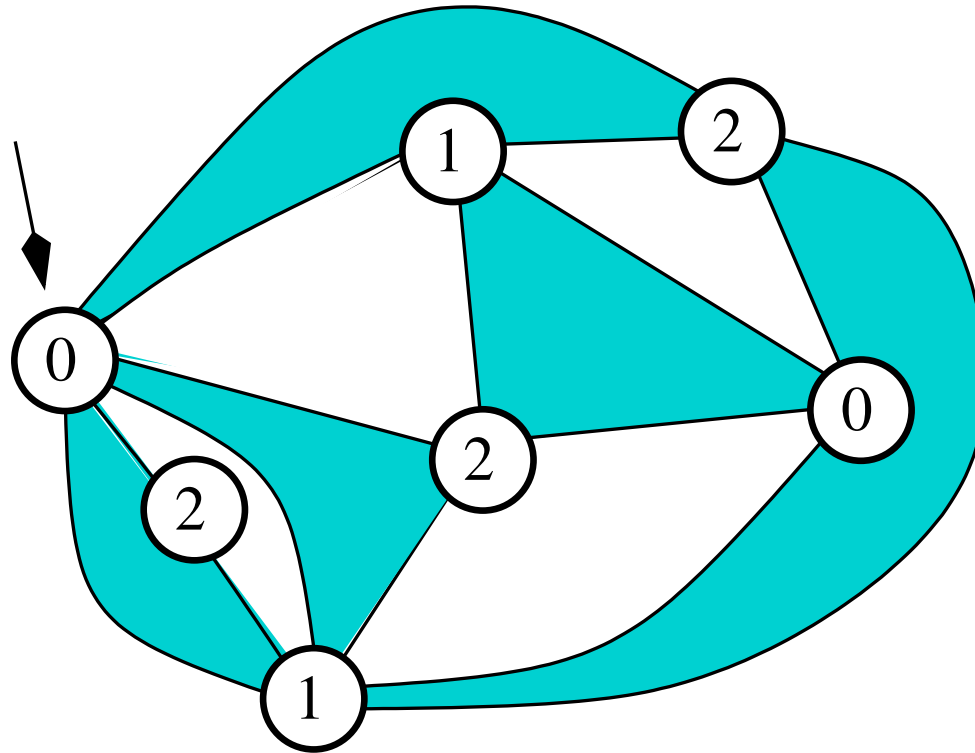
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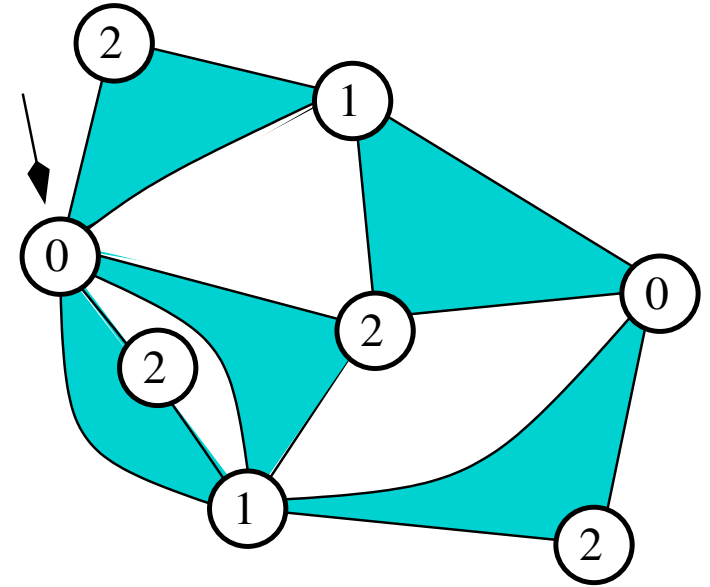


Properly 3-coloured triangulations \Leftrightarrow face-bicoloured triangulations

Properly 3-coloured triangulations are 1-catalytic

Face-bicoloured near-triangulations,
by vertices and outer degree:

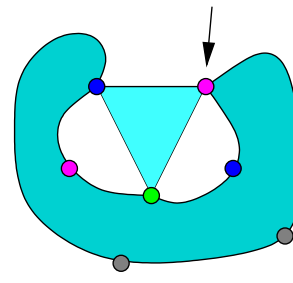
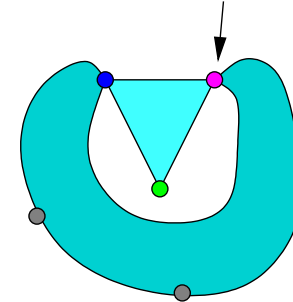
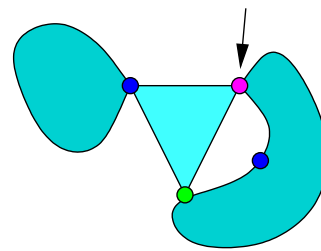
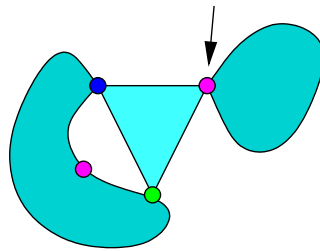
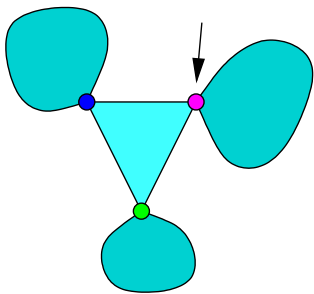
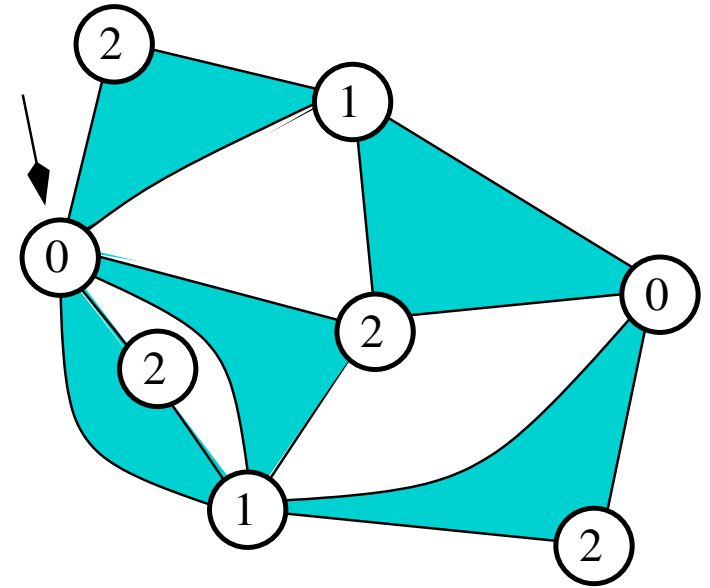
$$B(t; y) \equiv B(y) = \sum_{M} t^{v(M)} y^{od(M)/3}$$



Properly 3-coloured triangulations are 1-catalytic

Face-bicoloured **near-triangulations**,
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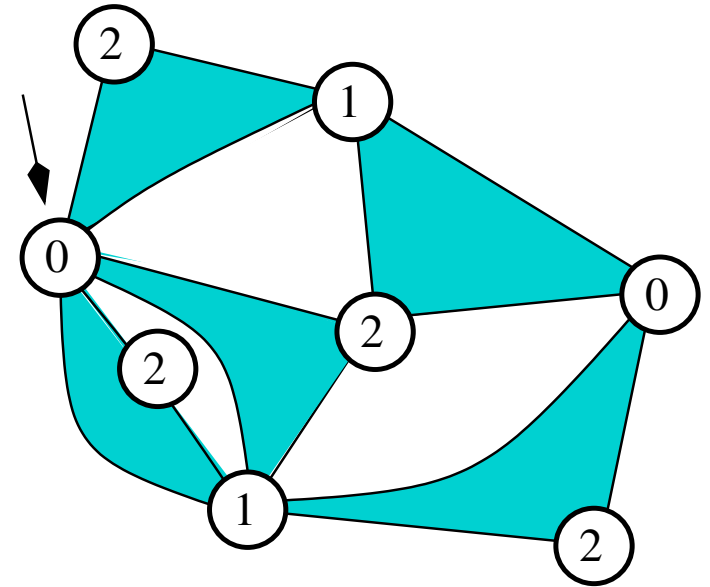
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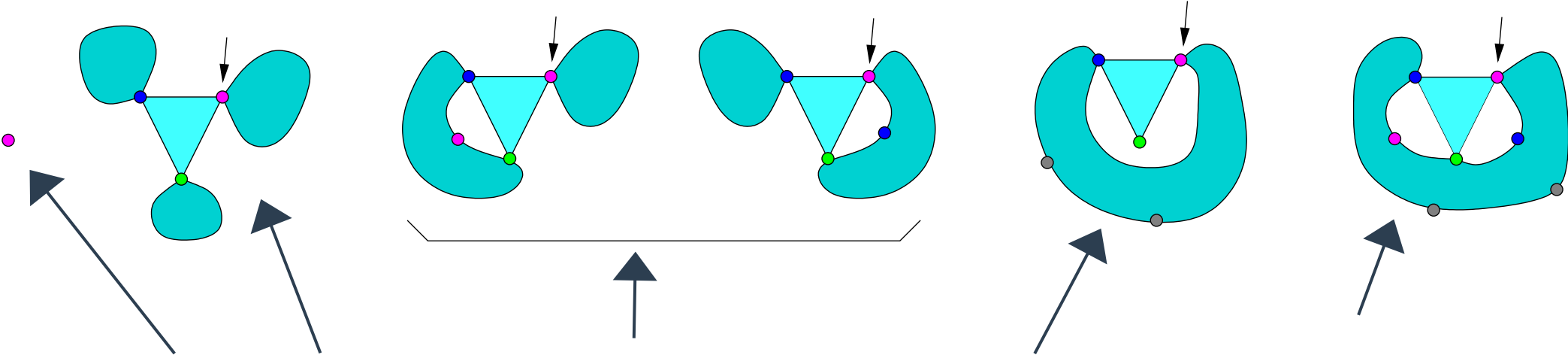
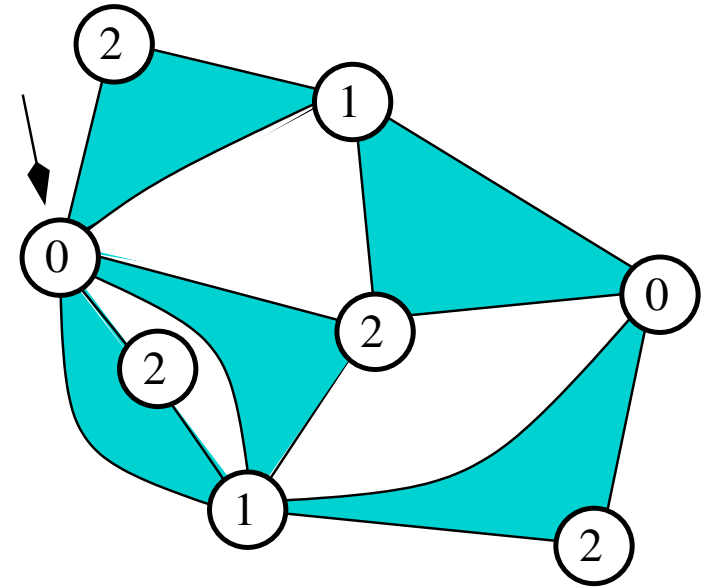
$$B(y) = t + yB(y)^3 + 2B(y)(B(y) - t) + t(B(y) - t) + \frac{B(y) - t - yB_1}{y}$$

$B_1 = [y]B(y)$: near-triangulations of outer degree 3

Properly 3-coloured triangulations are 1-catalytic

Face-bicoloured **near-triangulations**,
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$$B(t; y) \equiv B(y) = \sum_M t^{v(M)} y^{\text{od}(M)/3}$$



$$\text{Pol}(B(y), B_1, t, y) = 0$$

An equation in one **catalytic** variable, y

3-Potts on triangulations is 1-catalytic as well

... but this is a more complicated story ! [Bernardi-mbm 11]

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when $q \neq 0, 4$ is of the
form $4\cos(k\pi/m)^2$.
Includes $q=2, 3$.

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Proposition. There exists an explicit polynomial Pol such that the 3-Potts GF of near-triangulations satisfies:

$$\text{Pol}(T(y), T_1, T_3, T_5, T_7, v, t, y) = 0$$

where

$$T_i = [y^i]T(y)$$

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No combinatorial
explanation

One-catalytic implies algebraic !

Theorem [Popescu 86] [mbm-Jehanne 06]

If a polynomial equation

$$\text{Pol}(S(t;y), A_1(t), \dots, A_k(t), t, y) = 0$$

with coefficients in some field \mathbb{F} has a **unique solution** $S(t;y)$, $A_1(t)$, ..., $A_k(t)$ in **formal power series**, then all these series are **algebraic** over $\mathbb{F}(t,y)$.

[mbm-Jehanne 06] An effective procedure.

3-Potts on near-triangulations is algebraic

Proposition. Let $q=3$. There exists an explicit polynomial such that

$$\text{Pol}(T(y), T_1, T_3, T_5, T_7, v, t, y) = 0 \quad (1)$$

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Corollary. The 3-Potts GF of near-triangulations $T(y)$ is **algebraic**.

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Now a solution...
What happened?

III. Solving 1-catalytic equations

General approach to 1-catalytic equations [mbm-AJ]

Consider the 1-catalytic equation

$$\text{Pol}(S(y), A_1, A_2, A_3, A_4, t, y) = 0.$$

Theorem: Let $\Delta(a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4, t, y)$ be the discriminant of $\text{Pol}(s, a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4, t, y)$ in its first variable.

Then, as a polynomial in y , $\Delta(A_1, A_2, A_3, A_4, t, y)$ has 4 double roots Y_1, Y_2, Y_3, Y_4 .

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\Rightarrow system of 8 polynomial equations for $A_1, A_2, A_3, A_4, Y_1, Y_2, Y_3, Y_4$

$$\Delta(A_1, A_2, A_3, A_4, t, Y_i) = \partial_y \Delta(A_1, A_2, A_3, A_4, t, Y_i) = 0, \quad i = 1 \dots 4.$$

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$$\Delta(A_1, A_2, A_3, A_4, t, Y_i) = \partial_y \Delta(A_1, A_2, A_3, A_4, t, Y_i) = 0, \quad i = 1 \dots 4.$$

- **3-Potts on near-triangulations:** $\Delta(T_1, T_3, T_5, T_7, t, y)$ has degree **26 in y** , total degree **10 in the T_i 's**.

General approach to 1-catalytic equations [mbm-AJ]

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General approach to 1-catalytic equations [mbm-AJ]

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Solution for 3-Potts on near-triangulations

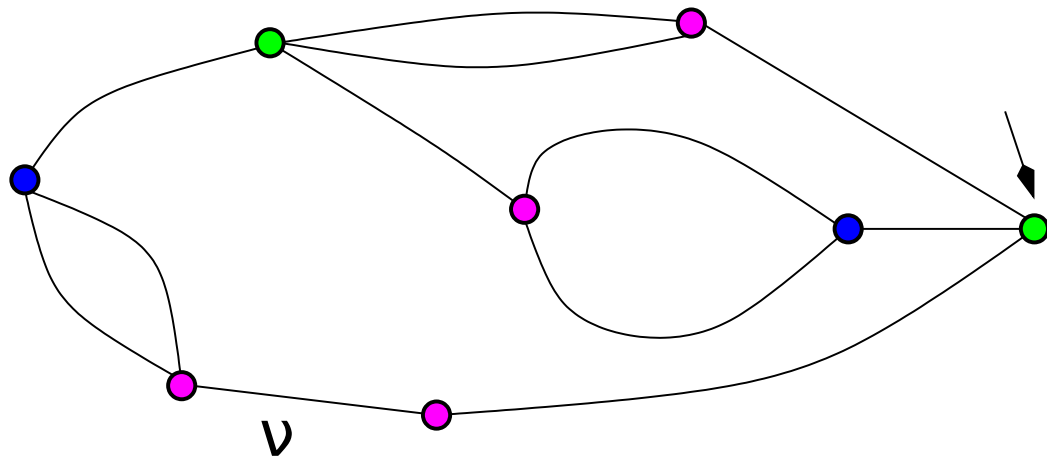
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The case of general planar maps

Proposition. The 3-Potts generating function $M_1(v, t)$ of **general planar maps** is algebraic of **degree 22**, with an explicit minimal polynomial.

[mbm-Notarantonio 25]

- Same starting point with D_+ , D_-
- Alternative solution technique



IV. Asymptotics

Asymptotics for 3-Potts on near-triangulations

Proposition. Fix $\nu > 0$. The 3-Potts GF T_i of near-triangulations of outer degree i has radius of convergence ρ_ν where

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta_1(\nu, \rho_\nu) &= 0 \quad \text{for} \quad 0 < \nu \leq \nu_c := 1 + 3/\sqrt{47}, \\ \Delta_2(\nu, \rho_\nu) &= 0 \quad \text{for} \quad \nu_c \leq \nu,\end{aligned}$$

for explicit polynomials Δ_1 and Δ_2 of degrees 5 and 9 in ρ .

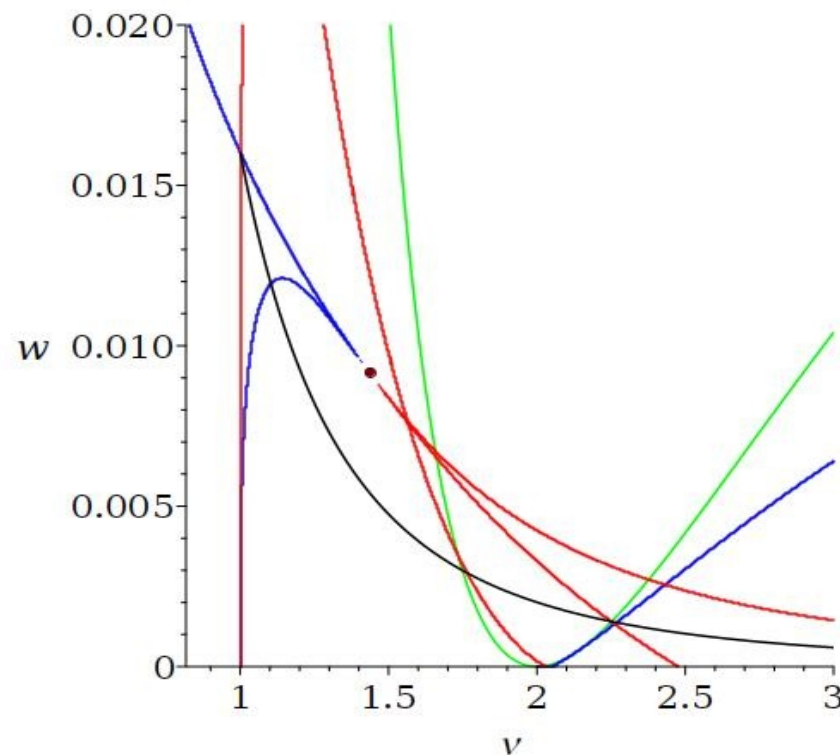
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Roots of
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As t approaches ρ ,

$$T_i = \alpha_\nu + \beta_\nu(1 - t/\rho_\nu) + \gamma_\nu(1 - t/\rho_\nu)^\alpha(1 + o(1)),$$

with

$$\alpha = 3/2 \quad \text{if} \quad \nu \neq \nu_c, \quad \alpha = 6/5 \quad \text{if} \quad \nu = \nu_c.$$

Final remarks

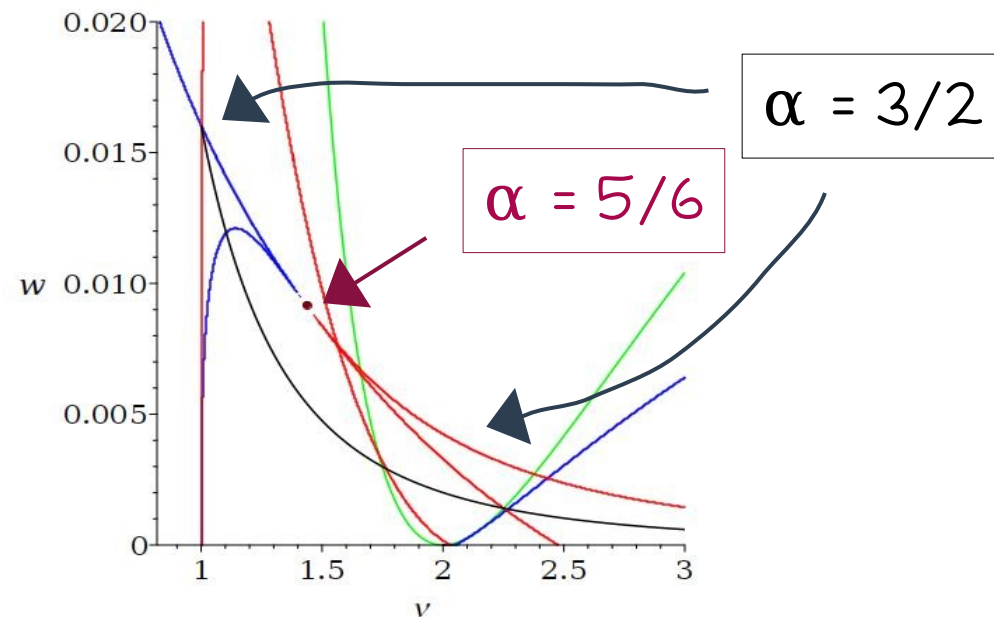
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Final remarks

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- Some missing tools (asymptotics):
 - Systematic way of ruling out other dominant singularities?
[Chen-Turunen 23, Chen 21(a), Albenque et al. 21]

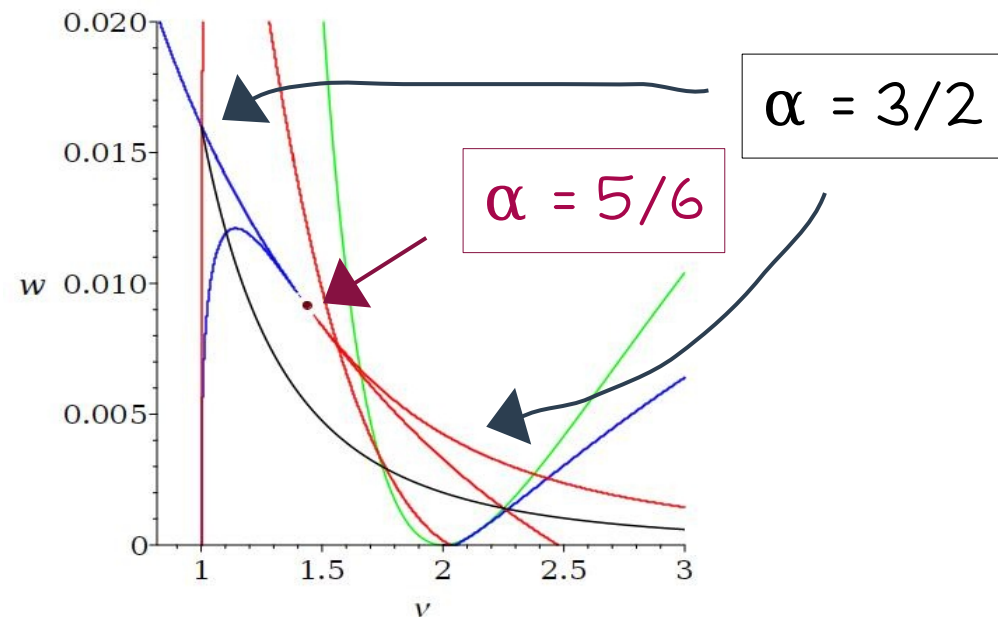
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Merci !

