



Florence Theory Group Day

# Algebraic Area of Lattice Random Walks and Exclusion Statistics

Joint work with Stéphane Ouvry (UPSaclay) and Alexios Polychronakos (CCNY)

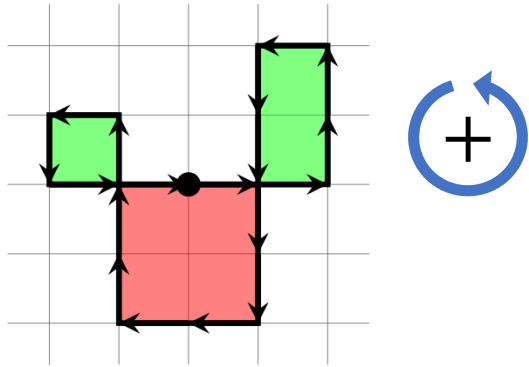
Li GAN

GGI Boost Postdoctoral Fellow

PhD at Université Paris-Saclay

March 25, 2024

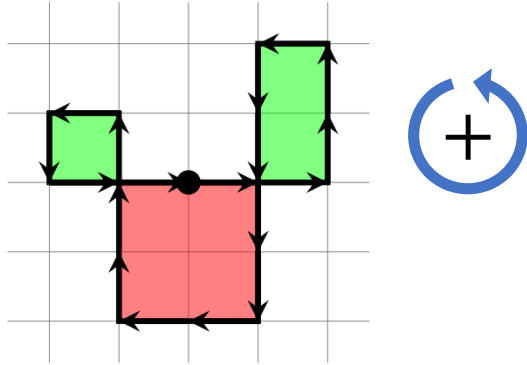
# Algebraic area $A$ of closed random walks on a square lattice



Algebraic area: area swept by the closed walk, weighted by the winding number in each winding sector

$$A = +1 + 2 - 4 = -1$$

## Algebraic area $A$ of closed random walks on a square lattice



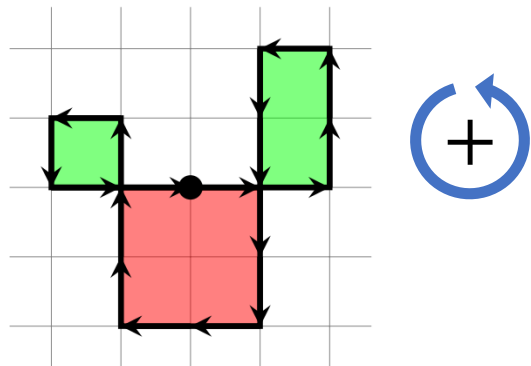
$$A = +1 + 2 - 4 = -1$$

Algebraic area: area swept by the closed walk, weighted by the winding number in each winding sector

Question: a formula for the number  $C_n(A)$  of closed  $n$ -step square lattice walks that enclose an algebraic area  $A$ ? ( $n$  is necessarily even,  $n=2n$ )

e.g.  $C_2(0) = 4$ ,  $C_4(0) = 28$ ,  $C_4(1) = C_4(-1) = 4$

# Algebraic area $A$ of closed random walks on a square lattice

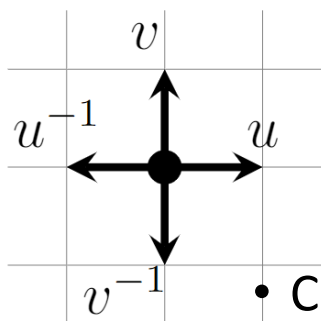


$$A = +1 + 2 - 4 = -1$$

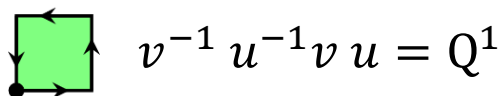
Algebraic area: area swept by the closed walk, weighted by the winding number in each winding sector

Question: a formula for the number  $C_n(A)$  of closed  $n$ -step square lattice walks that enclose an algebraic area  $A$ ? ( $n$  is necessarily even,  $n=2n$ )

e.g.  $C_2(0) = 4, C_4(0) = 28, C_4(1) = C_4(-1) = 4$



## square lattice walks



$$v^{-1} u^{-1} v u = Q^1$$

- Commutation relation:  $v u = Q u v$
- Generating function for algebraic area enumeration of  $n$ -step closed walks

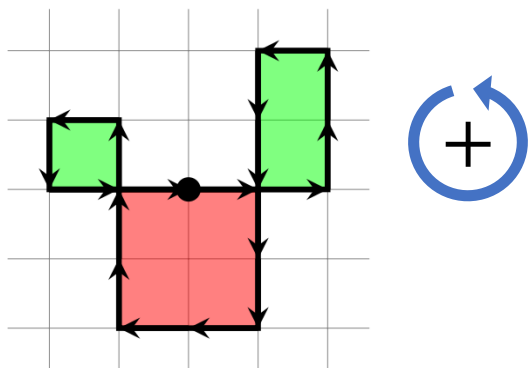
$$(u + u^{-1} + v + v^{-1})^n = \sum_A C_n(A) Q^A + \dots$$

$$\mathbf{Tr} (v^n u^m) = \delta_{n,0} \delta_{m,0}$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{Tr} (u + u^{-1} + v + v^{-1})^n = \sum_A C_n(A) Q^A$$

e.g.,  $\mathbf{Tr} (u + u^{-1} + v + v^{-1})^4 = 28 + 4Q + 4Q^{-1}$

# Algebraic area $A$ of closed random walks on a square lattice

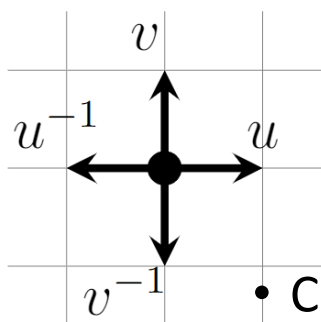


$$A = +1 + 2 - 4 = -1$$

Algebraic area: area swept by the closed walk, weighted by the winding number in each winding sector

Question: a formula for the number  $C_n(A)$  of closed  $n$ -step square lattice walks that enclose an algebraic area  $A$ ? ( $n$  is necessarily even,  $n=2n$ )

e.g.  $C_2(0) = 4$ ,  $C_4(0) = 28$ ,  $C_4(1) = C_4(-1) = 4$



## square lattice walks

$$v^{-1} u^{-1} v u = Q$$

- Commutation relation:  $v u = Q u v$
- Generating function for algebraic area enumeration of  $n$ -step closed walks

$$(u + u^{-1} + v + v^{-1})^n = \sum_A C_n(A) Q^A + \dots$$

$$\text{Tr} (v^n u^m) = \delta_{n,0} \delta_{m,0}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Tr} (u + u^{-1} + v + v^{-1})^n = \sum_A C_n(A) Q^A$$

e.g.,  $\text{Tr} (u + u^{-1} + v + v^{-1})^4 = 28 + 4Q + 4Q^{-1}$

## physics

**Hofstadter model:** a charged particle hopping on a square lattice in a perpendicular magnetic field

- Hamiltonian  $H = u + u^{-1} + v + v^{-1}$   
 $u, v$  are "magnetic translation operators"
- $Q = e^{2\pi i \phi / \phi_0}$ ;  $\phi / \phi_0$ : magnetic flux per plaquette  
rational flux  $\phi / \phi_0 = p/q$  with  $p, q$  coprime
- $\sum_A C_n(A) Q^A = \text{Tr} H^n$       **aim:  $\text{Tr} H^n$**

Rational flux, i.e.,  $Q = e^{2\pi i p/q}$  with  $p, q$  coprime

$u, v$ :  $q \times q$  “clock” and “shift” matrices

$$u = e^{ik_x} \begin{pmatrix} Q & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & Q^2 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & Q^3 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & Q^{q-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad v = e^{ik_y} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

### Quantum trace

$$\mathbf{Tr} H^n = \frac{1}{q} \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{dk_x}{2\pi} \frac{dk_y}{2\pi} \text{tr} H^n$$

Rational flux, i.e.,  $Q = e^{2\pi i p/q}$  with  $p, q$  coprime

$u, v$ :  $q \times q$  “clock” and “shift” matrices

$$u = e^{ik_x} \begin{pmatrix} Q & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & Q^2 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & Q^3 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & Q^{q-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad v = e^{ik_y} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Quantum trace

$$\text{Tr } H^n = \frac{1}{q} \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{dk_x}{2\pi} \frac{dk_y}{2\pi} \text{tr } H^n$$

$u \rightarrow -uv, v \rightarrow v$   
 $k_x = k_y = 0, \mathbf{n} < q$   
 reduces to

Usual trace

$$\text{Tr } H^n = \frac{1}{q} \text{tr } H_2^n$$

$$H_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & f_1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ g_1 & 0 & f_2 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & g_2 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & f_{q-1} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & g_{q-1} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$f_k = 1 - Q^k, \quad g_k = 1 - Q^{-k}$$

Aim:  $\text{tr } H_2^n$

Rational flux, i.e.,  $Q = e^{2\pi i p/q}$  with  $p, q$  coprime

$u, v$ :  $q \times q$  “clock” and “shift” matrices

$$u = e^{ik_x} \begin{pmatrix} Q & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & Q^2 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & Q^3 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & Q^{q-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad v = e^{ik_y} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Quantum trace

$$\text{Tr } H^n = \frac{1}{q} \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{dk_x}{2\pi} \frac{dk_y}{2\pi} \text{tr } H^n$$

$u \rightarrow -uv, v \rightarrow v$   
 $k_x = k_y = 0, \mathbf{n} < q$   
 reduces to

Usual trace

$$\text{Tr } H^n = \frac{1}{q} \text{tr } H_2^n$$

$$H_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & f_1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ g_1 & 0 & f_2 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & g_2 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & f_{q-1} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & g_{q-1} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$f_k = 1 - Q^k, \quad g_k = 1 - Q^{-k}$$

**Aim:**  $\text{tr } H_2^n$

- Approach 1: **secular determinant**  $\det(I - z H_2)$  and its relation to **exclusion statistics**

$$\ln \det(I - z H_2) = \text{tr } \ln(I - z H_2) = - \sum_{\mathbf{n}=1}^{\infty} \frac{z^{\mathbf{n}}}{\mathbf{n}} \text{tr } H_2^{\mathbf{n}}$$

- Approach 2: **direct computation** (combinatorics of periodic Dyck paths)

$$\text{tr } H_2^{\mathbf{n}} = \sum_{k_1=1}^q \sum_{k_2=1}^q \cdots \sum_{k_{\mathbf{n}}=1}^q h_{k_1 k_2} h_{k_2 k_3} \cdots h_{k_{\mathbf{n}} k_1} \quad h_{ij}: \text{matrix element of } H_2$$



## Approach 1: via secular determinant $\det(I - z H_2)$

Secular determinant  $\det(I - z H_2) = \sum_{n=0}^{\lfloor q/2 \rfloor} (-1)^n Z_n z^{2n}$

$$H_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & f_1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ g_1 & 0 & f_2 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & g_2 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & f_{q-1} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & g_{q-1} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Kreft coefficient  $Z_n = \sum_{k_1=1}^{q-2n+1} \sum_{k_2=1}^{k_1} \cdots \sum_{k_n=1}^{k_{n-1}} s_{k_1+2n-2} s_{k_2+2n-4} \cdots s_{k_{n-1}+2} s_{k_n}$ ,  $s_k := g_k f_k = 4 \sin^2(k\pi p/q)$   
[\[Kreft 1993\]](#) “+2 shifts”  $Z_0 = 1$

e.g., for  $q = 7$ ,  $Z_3 = s_1 s_3 s_5 + s_1 s_3 s_6 + s_1 s_4 s_6 + s_2 s_4 s_6$

# Approach 1: via secular determinant $\det(I - z H_2)$

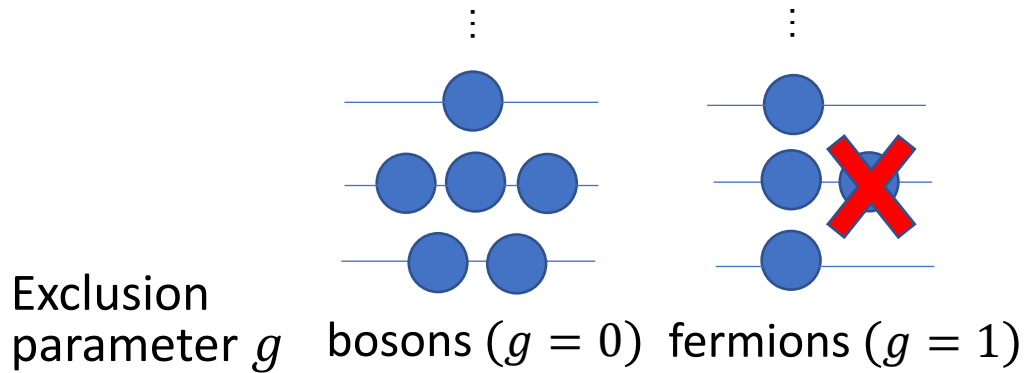
Secular determinant  $\det(I - z H_2) = \sum_{n=0}^{\lfloor q/2 \rfloor} (-1)^n Z_n z^{2n}$

$$H_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & f_1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ g_1 & 0 & f_2 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & g_2 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & f_{q-1} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & g_{q-1} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Kreft coefficient  $Z_n = \sum_{k_1=1}^{q-2n+1} \sum_{k_2=1}^{k_1} \cdots \sum_{k_{n-1}=1}^{k_{n-2}} s_{k_1+2n-2} s_{k_2+2n-4} \cdots s_{k_{n-1}+2} s_{k_n}$ ,  $s_k := g_k f_k = 4 \sin^2(k\pi p/q)$   
 [Kreft 1993] “+2 shifts”  $Z_0 = 1$

e.g., for  $q = 7$ ,  $Z_3 = s_1 s_3 s_5 + s_1 s_3 s_6 + s_1 s_4 s_6 + s_2 s_4 s_6$

Interpretation in statistical mechanics



$Z_n$ : partition function for  $n$  particles occupying  $q - 1$  energy levels. These particles obey  $g = 2$  **exclusion statistics** (no two particles can occupy adjacent quantum states)  
 stronger exclusion than fermions!

Closed random walks on a square lattice



**Exclusion statistics** with exclusion parameter  $g = 2$

Use techniques from statistical mechanics to compute  $\text{tr } H_2^n$

# Approach 1: via secular determinant $\det(I - z H_2)$

Kreft coefficient  $Z_n = \sum_{k_1=1}^{q-2n+1} \sum_{k_2=1}^{k_1} \cdots \sum_{k_n=1}^{k_{n-1}} s_{k_1+2n-2} s_{k_2+2n-4} \cdots s_{k_{n-1}+2} s_{k_n}$ ,  $s_k := g_k f_k = 4 \sin^2(k\pi p/q)$

Introduce cluster coefficient  $b_n$  via  $\log \left( \sum_{n=0}^{\lfloor q/2 \rfloor} Z_n x^n \right) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n x^n$ ,  $\text{tr } H_2^{n=2n} = 2n(-1)^{n+1} b_n$

$$\text{tr } H_2^{n=2n} = 2n \sum_{\substack{l_1, l_2, \dots, l_j \\ \text{composition of } n}} c_2(l_1, l_2, \dots, l_j) \sum_{k=1}^{q-j} s_k^{l_1} s_{k+1}^{l_2} \cdots s_{k+j-1}^{l_j}$$

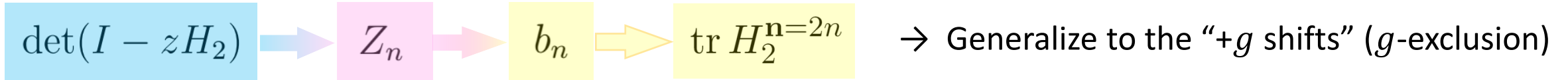
The composition is an ordered partition.

e.g. four compositions of  $n=3$ : (3), (2,1), (1,2), (1,1,1)

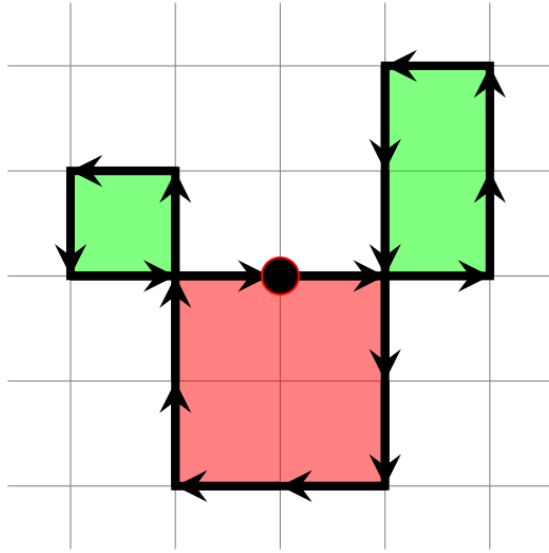
$$c_2(l_1, l_2, \dots, l_j) = \frac{1}{l_1} \prod_{i=2}^j \binom{l_{i-1} + l_i - 1}{l_i}$$

$$C_n(A) = 2n \sum_{\substack{l_1, l_2, \dots, l_j \\ \text{composition of } n}} c_2(l_1, l_2, \dots, l_j) \sum_{k_3=-l_3}^{l_3} \sum_{k_4=-l_4}^{l_4} \cdots \sum_{k_j=-l_j}^{l_j} \binom{l_1 + A + \sum_{i=3}^j (i-2)k_i}{l_1 + A + \sum_{i=3}^j (i-2)k_i} \binom{l_2 - A - \sum_{i=3}^j (i-1)k_i}{l_2 - A - \sum_{i=3}^j (i-1)k_i} \prod_{i=3}^j \binom{2l_i}{l_i + k_i}$$

[Ouvry, Wu 2019]

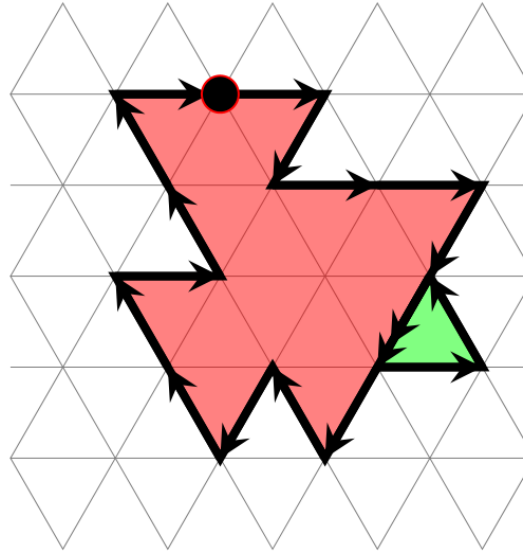


# Closed random walks on various lattices



Square

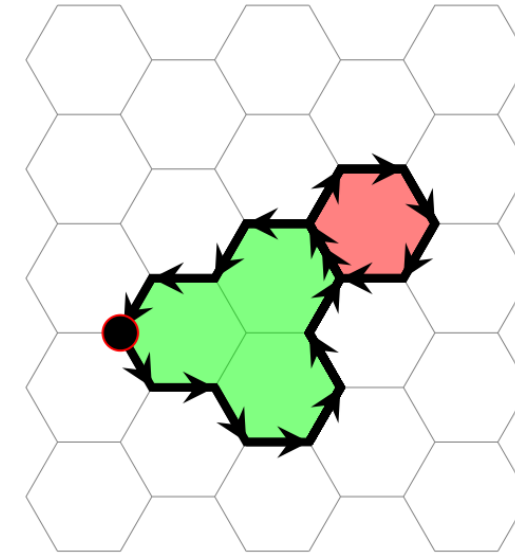
$$g = 2$$



Chiral\* triangular

$$g = 3$$

[\[Ouvry, Polychronakos 2019\]](#)

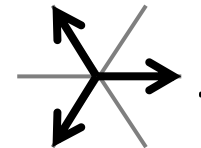


Honeycomb

mixture of  $g = 1$  and  $g = 2$

[\[Gan, Ouvry, Polychronakos 2022\]](#)

\* Only three out of six directions at each step are allowed, that is



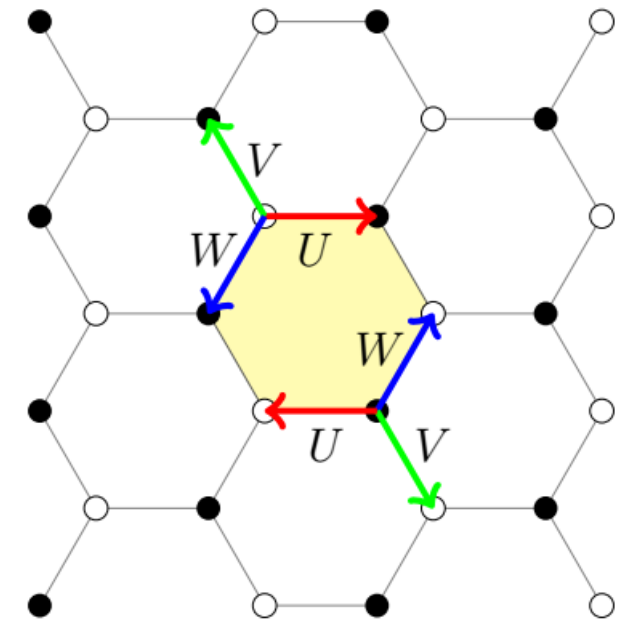
# Honeycomb lattice walks

Hamiltonian  $H = U + V + W$

honeycomb algebra  $U^2 = V^2 = W^2 = I, (UVW)^2 = Q$

$$U = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & u \\ u^{-1} & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad V = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & v \\ v^{-1} & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad W = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & Q^{1/2}vu^{-1} \\ Q^{-1/2}uv^{-1} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$H = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & u + v + Q^{1/2}vu^{-1} \\ u^{-1} + v^{-1} + Q^{-1/2}uv^{-1} & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & A \\ A^\dagger & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad H_{1,2} = AA^\dagger \quad \text{set } e^{-ik_x} = -Q^{1/2} \\ k_y = 0, \mathbf{n} < q$$

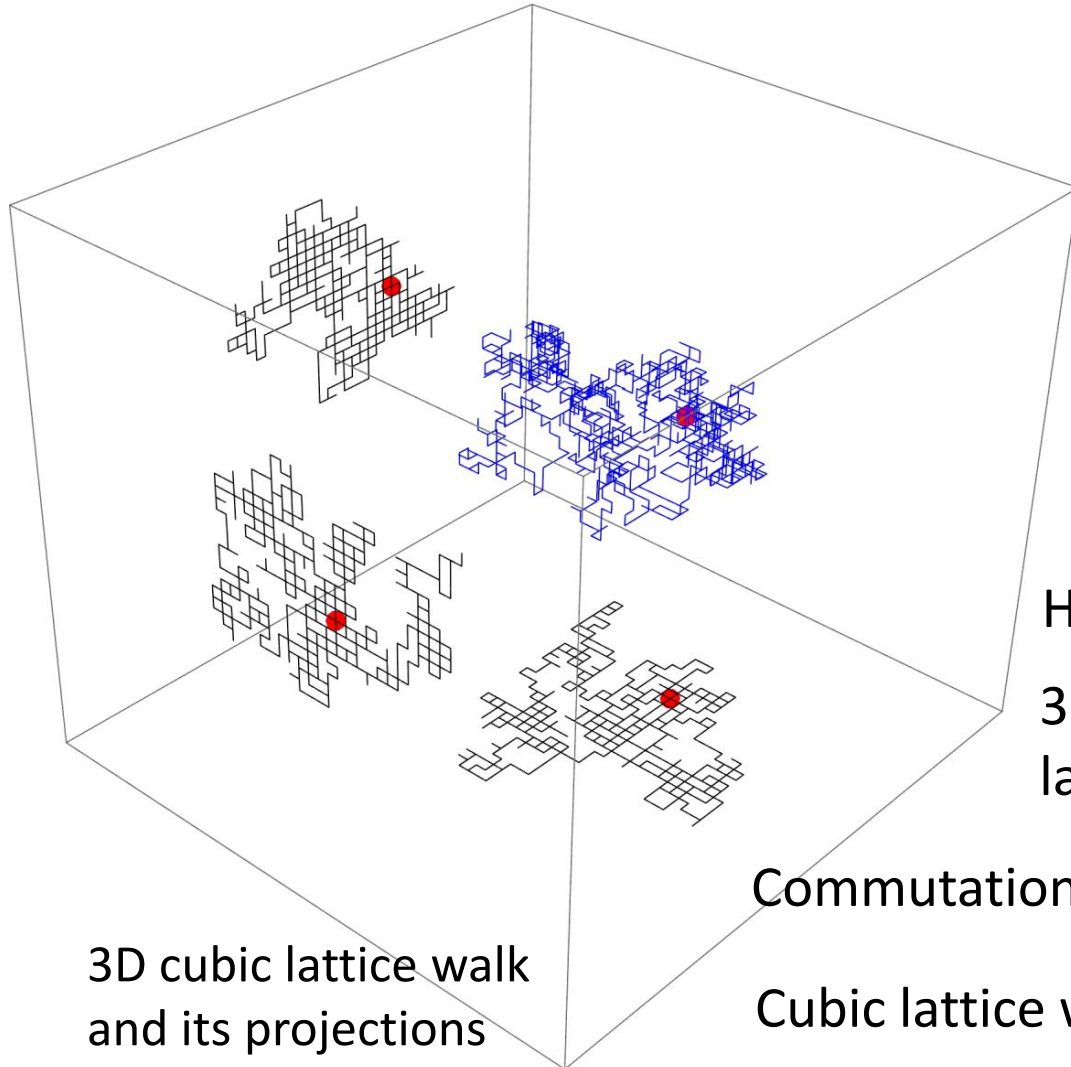


$$\det(I - zH) = \det(I - z^2 H_{1,2}) = \sum_{n=0}^q (-1)^n Z_n z^{2n}$$

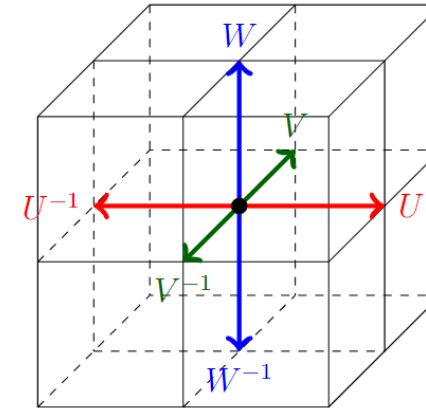
$$\det(I - z^2 H_{1,2}) \longrightarrow Z_n \longrightarrow b_n \longrightarrow \text{Tr } H^{n=2n} = \text{Tr } H_{1,2}^n = \frac{1}{q} \text{tr } H_{1,2}^n$$

# Cubic lattice walks [\[Gan 2023\]](#)

How to define the algebraic area?



**Algebraic area of 3D walks:** sum of algebraic areas obtained from the walk's projection onto the  $xy$ ,  $yz$ ,  $zx$ -planes along the  $-z$ ,  $-x$ ,  $-y$  directions



$$\text{Hamiltonian } H = U + V + W + U^{-1} + V^{-1} + W^{-1}$$

3D Hofstadter model: a charged particle hopping on a cubic lattice coupled to a magnetic field  $\mathbf{B} = (1,1,1)$

Commutation relations  $VU = QUV, WV = QVW, UW = QWU$

3D cubic lattice walk and its projections

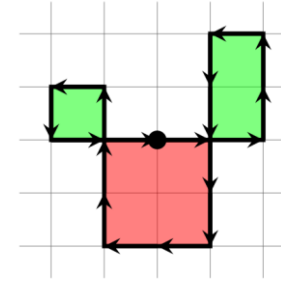
Cubic lattice walks



mixture of  $g=1$ ,  $g=1$ , and  $g = 2$  with equal numbers of  $g=1$  exclusion particles of two types

# Take-home message

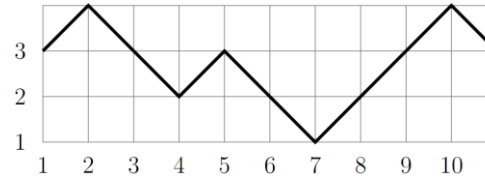
Algebraic area enumeration of closed lattice random walks



Quantum exclusion statistics

Combinatorics of Dyck/Motzkin paths

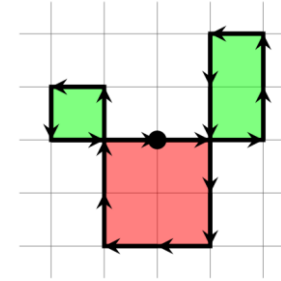
## Outlook



- Various lattice random walks, e.g., triangular lattice [\[thesis\]](#), hypercubic lattice [\[ongoing work\]](#)
- Classification of random walks based on the exclusion parameter  $g$
- Connection to exactly solvable models  
e.g., open Ising spin-1/2 chain: *free-fermionic* spectrum  $\pm\epsilon_1 \pm \epsilon_2 \pm \dots$  with  $\epsilon_k$  obtained from  $g = 2$  exclusion matrix  $H_2$  [\[Baxter 1989\]](#), closed Ising chain [\[ongoing work\]](#)
- Potential applications in high energy physics?

# Take-home message

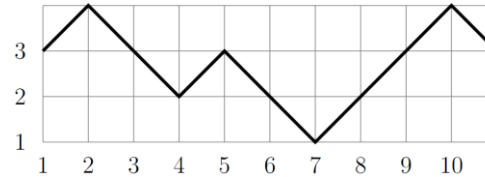
Algebraic area enumeration of closed lattice random walks



Quantum exclusion statistics

Combinatorics of Dyck/Motzkin paths

## Outlook



- Various lattice random walks, e.g., triangular lattice [\[thesis\]](#), hypercubic lattice [\[ongoing work\]](#)
- Classification of random walks based on the exclusion parameter  $g$
- Connection to exactly solvable models  
e.g., open Ising spin-1/2 chain: *free-fermionic* spectrum  $\pm\epsilon_1 \pm \epsilon_2 \pm \dots$  with  $\epsilon_k$  obtained from  $g = 2$  exclusion matrix  $H_2$  [\[Baxter 1989\]](#), closed Ising chain [\[ongoing work\]](#)
- Potential applications in high energy physics?

Thank You!