

Course IMSc, Chennai, India

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Combinatorial theory of orthogonal polynomials  
and continued fractions

Xavier Viennot  
CNRS, LaBRI, Bordeaux  
[www.viennot.org](http://www.viennot.org)

mirror website  
[www.imsc.res.in/~viennot](http://www.imsc.res.in/~viennot)

# Chapter 4

## Expanding a power series into continued fraction

### Chapter 4b

IMSc, Chennai  
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Xavier Viennot  
CNRS, LaBRI, Bordeaux  
[www.viennot.org](http://www.viennot.org)

mirror website  
[www.imsc.res.in/~viennot](http://www.imsc.res.in/~viennot)

## Chapter 4

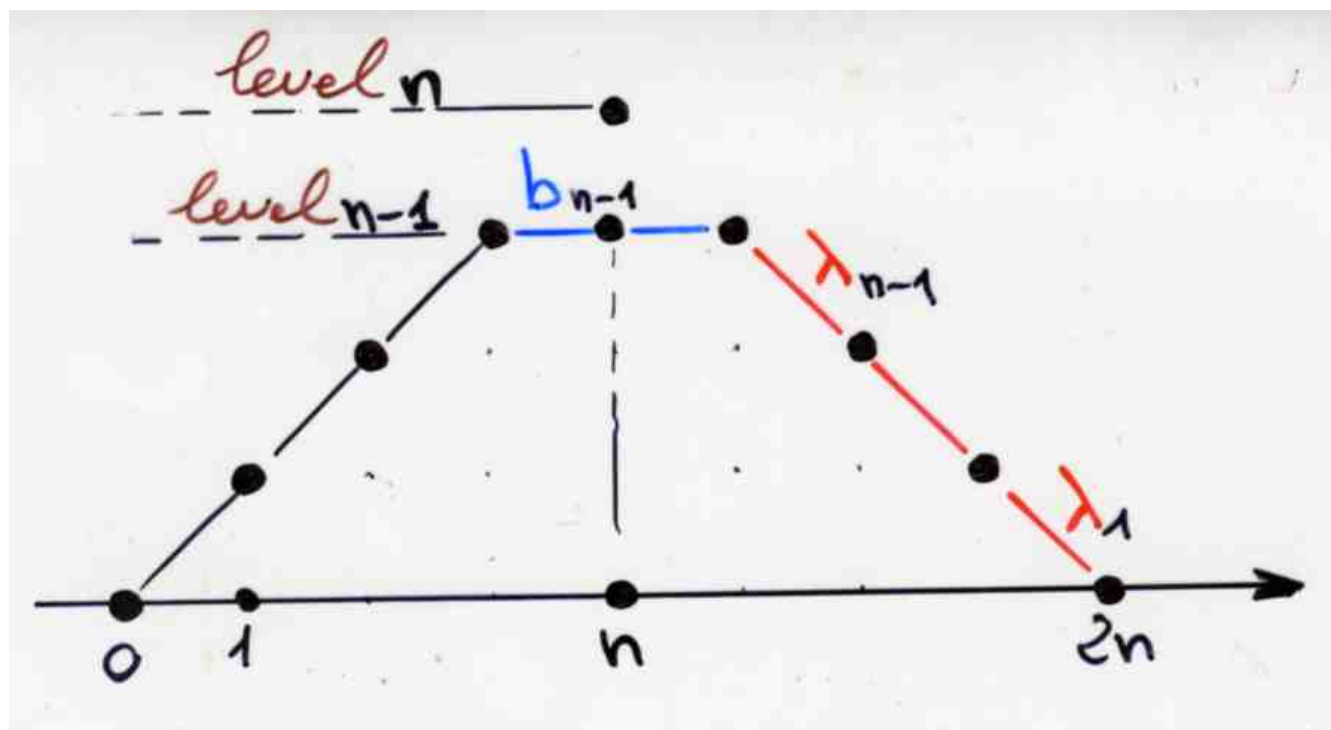
equivalently:

computing the coefficients

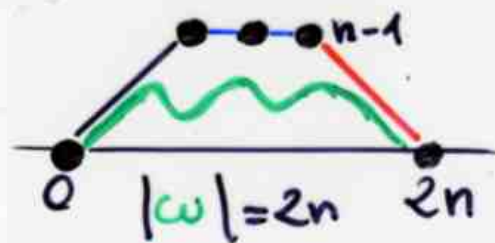
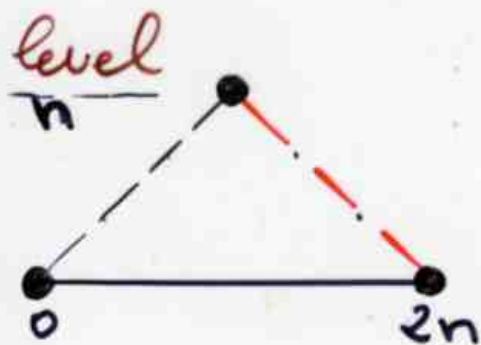
$$\lambda_k \quad b_k$$

of the 3-terms linear recurrence knowing  
the moments of the orthogonal polynomials

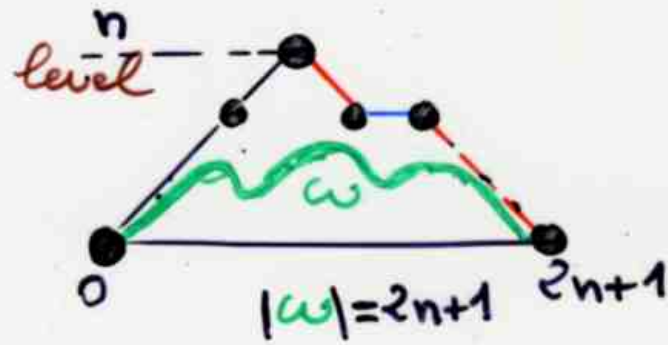
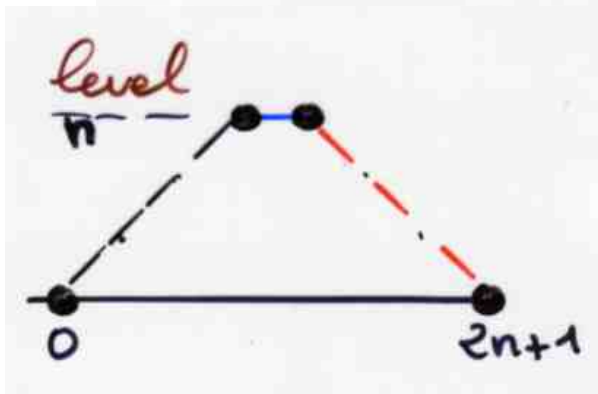
Reminding Ch 4a



$$\mu_{2n} = \lambda_1 \cdots \lambda_n + \sum_{\omega \text{ Motzkin path}} v(\omega)$$

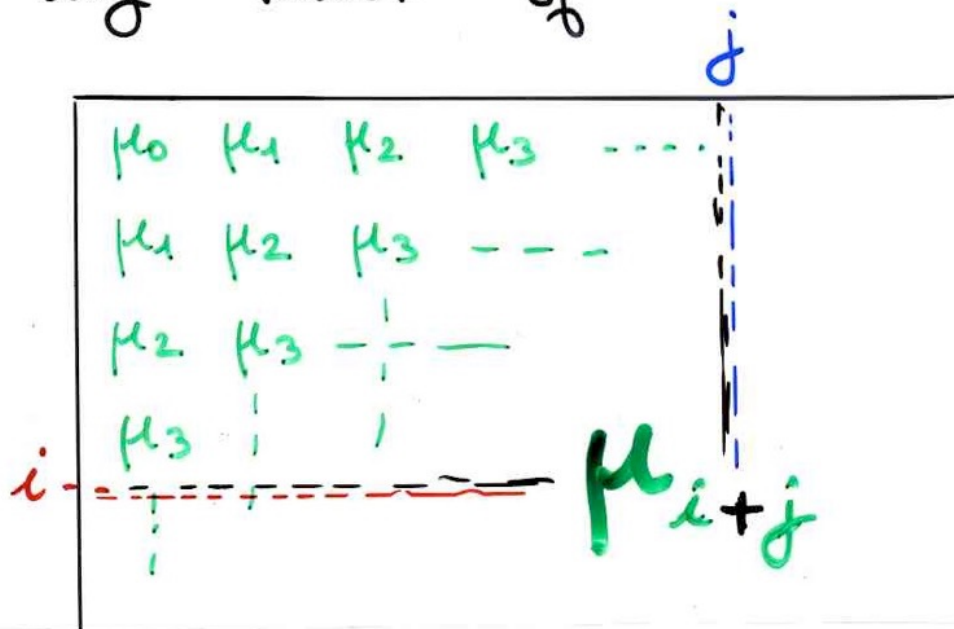


$$\mu_{2n+1} = \lambda_1 \lambda_n b_n + \sum_{\omega \text{ Motzkin path}} v(\omega)$$



# Hankel determinant

any minor of

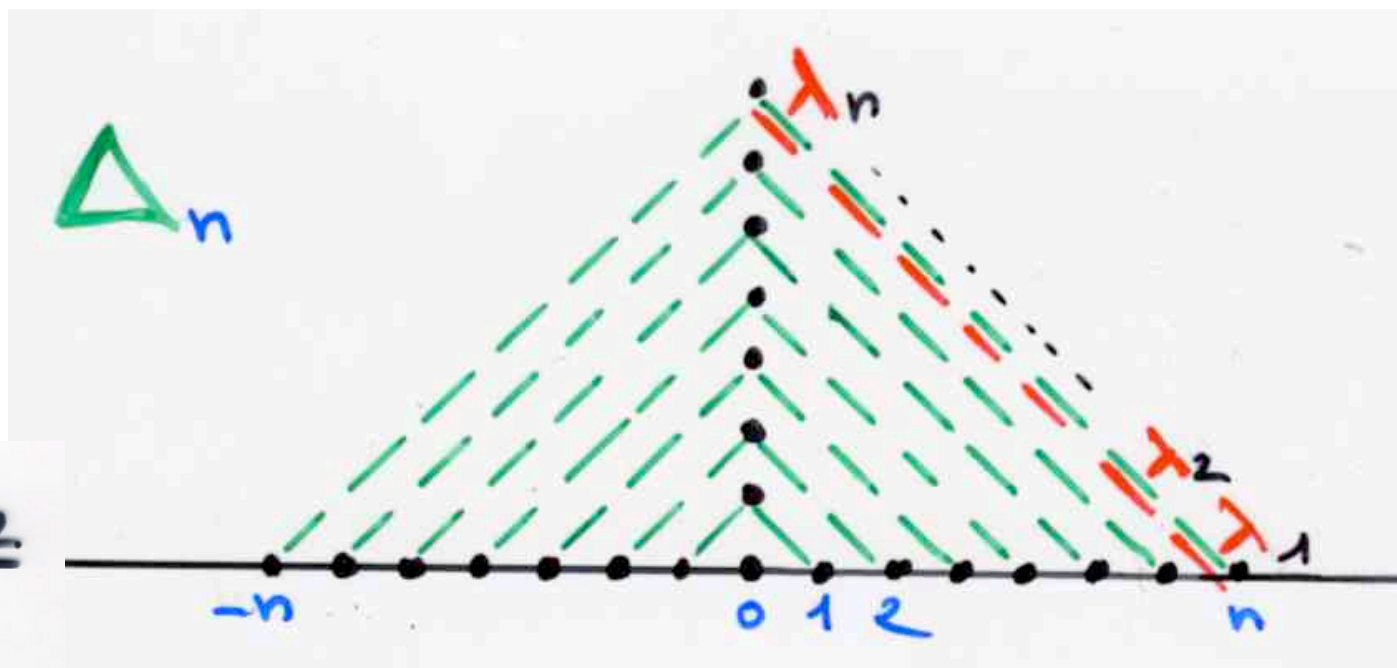


$$H \left( \begin{array}{c} \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k \\ \beta_1, \dots, \beta_k \end{array} \right)$$

$$0 \leq \alpha_1 < \dots < \alpha_k$$
$$0 \leq \beta_1 < \dots < \beta_k$$

$$\Delta_n = \det \begin{bmatrix} \mu_0 & \mu_1 & \dots & \mu_n \\ \mu_1 & \mu_2 & \dots & \mu_{n+1} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \mu_n & \mu_{n+1} & \dots & \mu_{2n} \end{bmatrix}$$

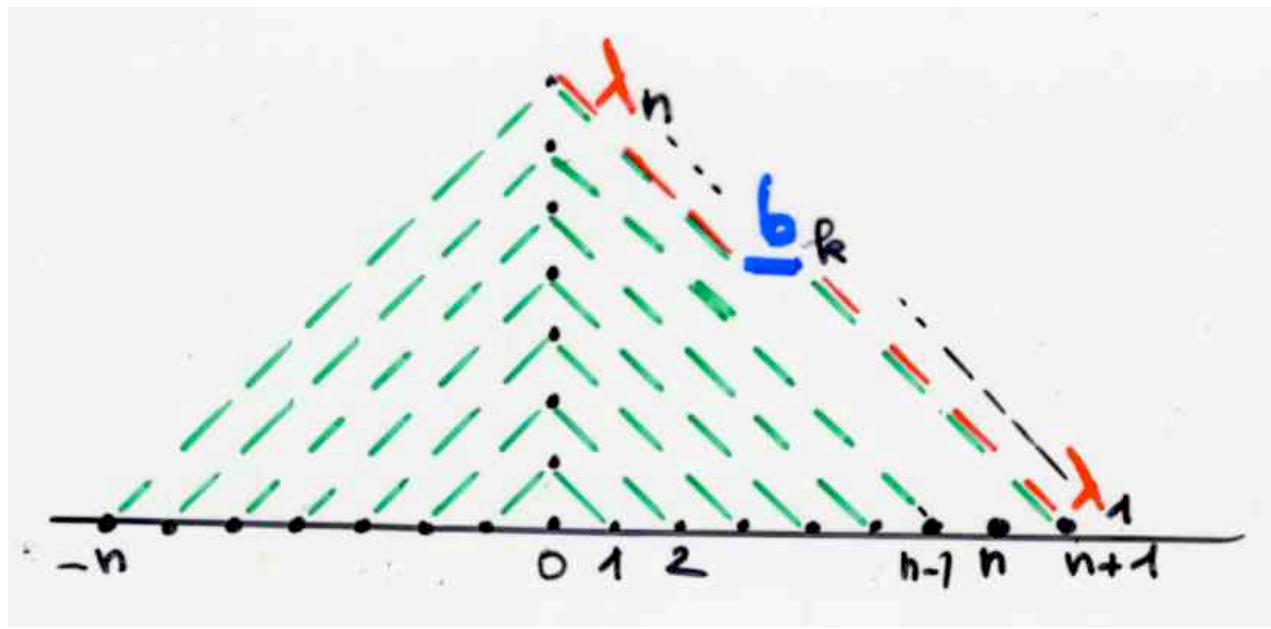
$$\Delta_n = H \begin{pmatrix} 0, 1, \dots, n \\ 0, 1, \dots, n \end{pmatrix}$$



$$\Delta_n = \frac{\Delta_n \Delta_{n-2}}{\Delta_{n-1}^2}$$

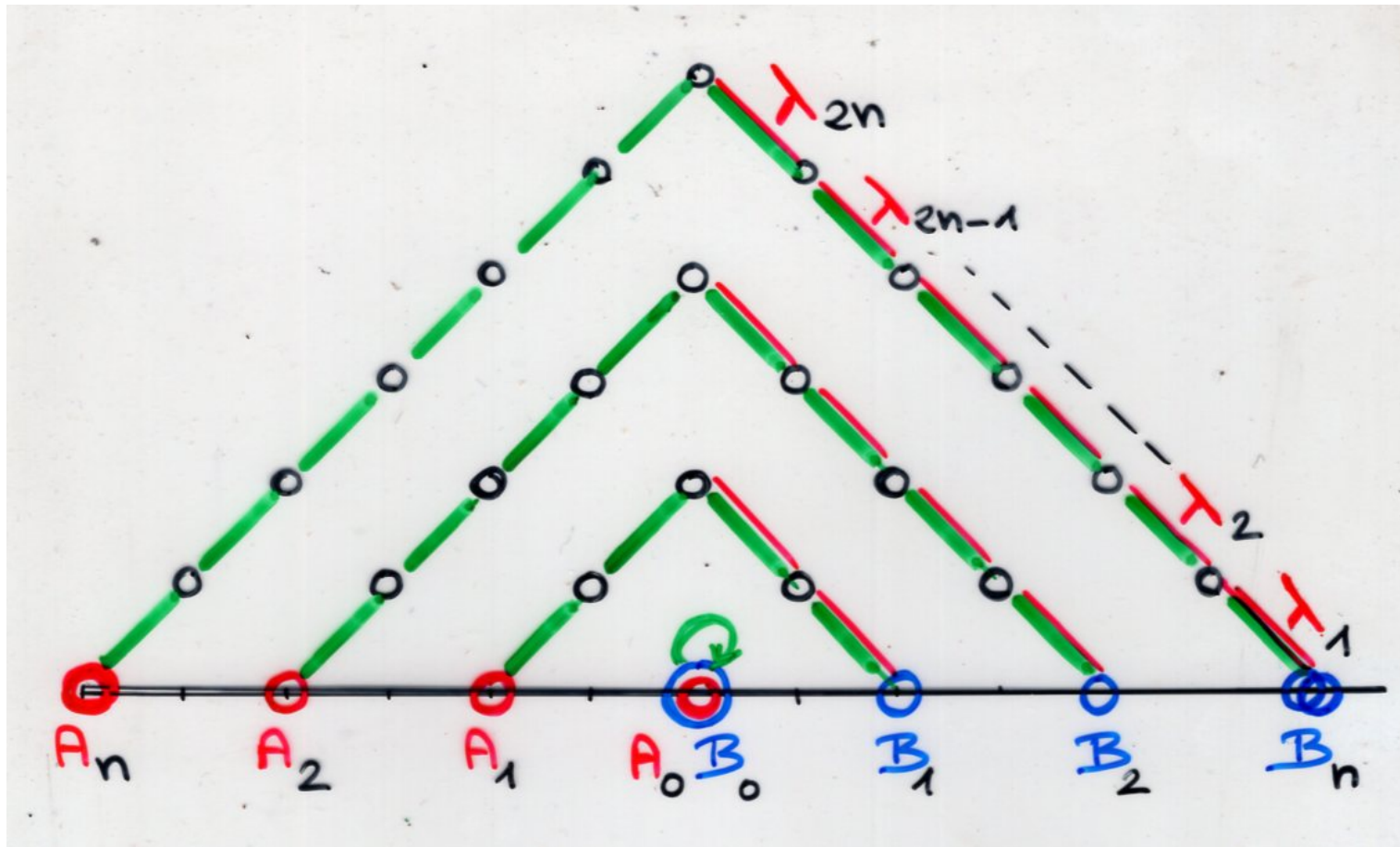


$$\chi_n = H(0, 1, \dots, n-1, n; 0, 1, \dots, n-1, n+1)$$

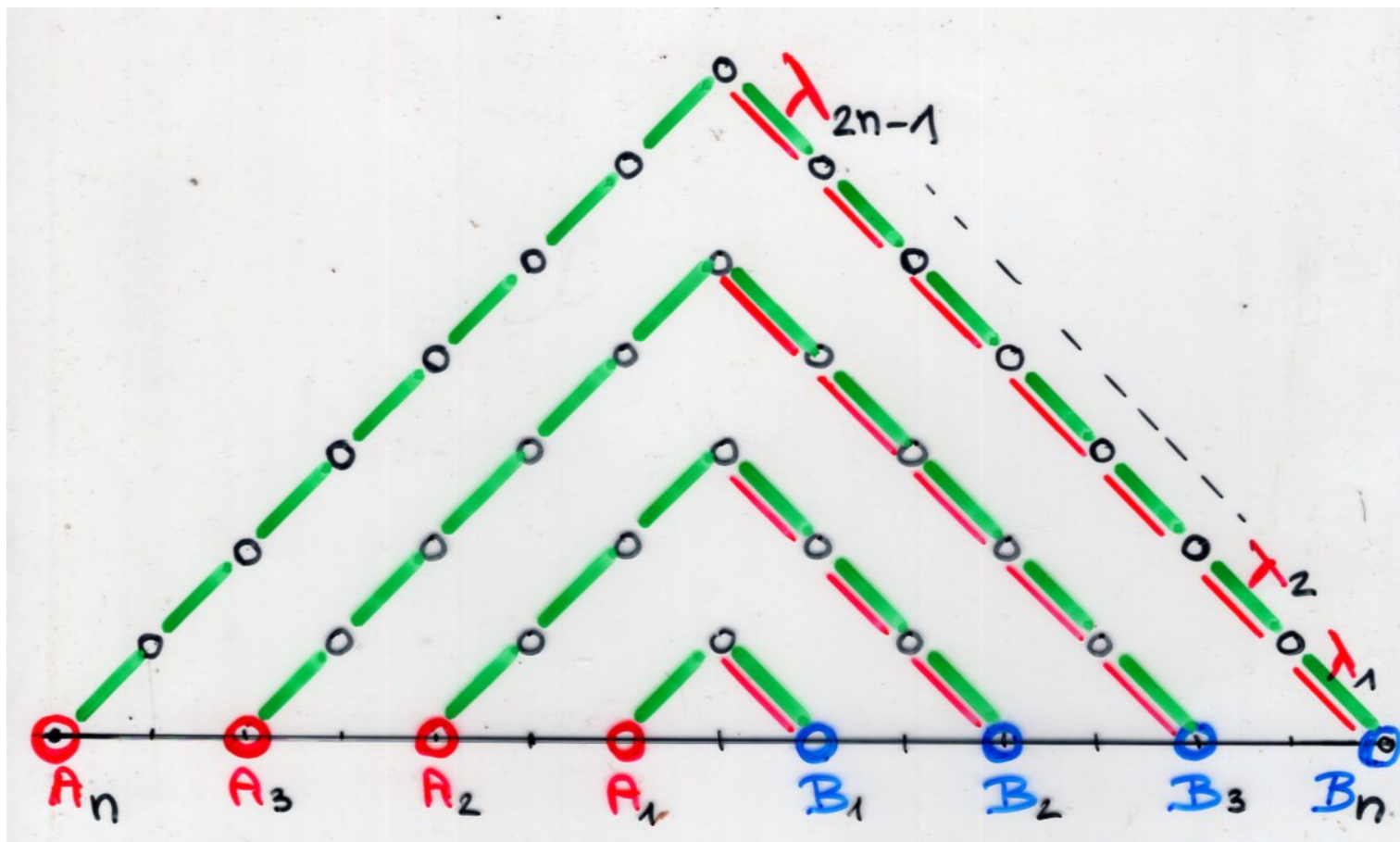


$$b_n = \frac{\chi_n}{\Delta_n} - \frac{\chi_{n-1}}{\Delta_{n-1}}$$

$$\Delta_n^{(0)}(\nu) = H_\nu(0, 1, \dots, n)$$



$$\Delta_n^{(1)}(\gamma) = H_\nu \left( \begin{matrix} 1, \dots, n \\ 1, \dots, n \end{matrix} \right)$$



$$\lambda_{2n} = \frac{\Delta_n^{(0)}(\nu)}{\Delta_{n-1}^{(0)}(\nu)} \cdot \frac{\Delta_n^{(1)}(\nu)}{\Delta_{n-1}^{(1)}(\nu)} \quad (n \geq 1)$$

$$\lambda_{2n+1} = \frac{\Delta_{n+1}^{(1)}(\nu)}{\Delta_n^{(1)}(\nu)} \cdot \frac{\Delta_n^{(0)}(\nu)}{\Delta_{n-1}^{(0)}(\nu)} \quad (n \geq 0)$$

Ramanujan's algorithm

Ramanujan's  
algorithm

Notebook  
Chapter 12, entry 17

Write

$$\frac{1}{1} + \frac{a_1 x}{1} + \frac{a_2 x}{1} + \frac{a_3 x}{1} + \dots = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} A_k (-x)^k,$$

where  $A_0 = 1$ .

Let

$$P_n = a_1 a_2 \dots a_{n-1} (a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n), \quad n \geq 1$$

Then

$$P_1 = A_1$$

$$P_2 = A_2$$

$$P_3 = A_3 - a_1 A_2$$

$$P_4 = A_4 - (a_1 + a_2) A_3$$

$$P_5 = A_5 - (a_1 + a_2 + a_3) A_4 + a_1 a_3 A_3$$

$$P_6 = A_6 - (a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + a_4) A_5 + (a_1 a_3 + a_2 a_4 + a_1 a_4) A_4$$

In general, for  $n \geq 1$

$$P_n = \sum_{0 \leq k < \frac{n}{2}} (-1)^k \varphi_k(n) A_{n-k}$$

where  $\varphi_0(n) \equiv 1$  and  $\varphi_r(n)$ ,  $r \geq 1$ , is defined recursively by

$$\varphi_r(n+1) - \varphi_r(n) = a_{n-1} \varphi_{r-1}(n-1)$$



# bijective proof

with the notations of the course :

$$a_k = \lambda_k$$

$(k \geq 1)$

$$A_n = \mu_n$$

$(n \geq 0)$

The continued fraction is the Stieljes continued fraction

$$S(t; \lambda)$$

A diagram illustrating a Stieljes continued fraction. It consists of a series of horizontal bars connected by vertical lines, forming a staircase pattern. The top bar is labeled '1'. Below it, the first vertical line is labeled '1 - λ<sub>1</sub>t' in red. The second bar is labeled '1 - λ<sub>2</sub>t' in red. The pattern continues with a dashed line, another bar, and a final vertical line labeled '1 - λ<sub>k</sub>t' in red, followed by another dashed line. The bars are drawn with thick black lines, and the labels are in red ink.

$$\sum_{n \geq 0} \mu_n t^n =$$

$$S(t; \lambda)$$

$$\mu_n = \sum_{|\omega| = 2n} v(\omega)$$

Dyck paths

$v$   
related  
to  $\{\lambda_k\}$

$$\varphi_r(n) = \sum_{\alpha} v(\alpha)$$

$\alpha$   
pavage of  $[0, n-2]$   
with  $r$  dimers

$$d(\alpha) = r$$

Ramanujan's theorem can be restated as:

$$\sum_{0 \leq k < \frac{n}{2}} \left( \sum_{(\alpha, \omega)} (-1)^k v(\alpha) v(\omega) \right) =$$

- $\alpha$  pavage of  $[0, n-2]$  with  $k = d(\alpha)$  dimers
- $\omega$  Dyck path  $|\omega| = 2n - 2k$

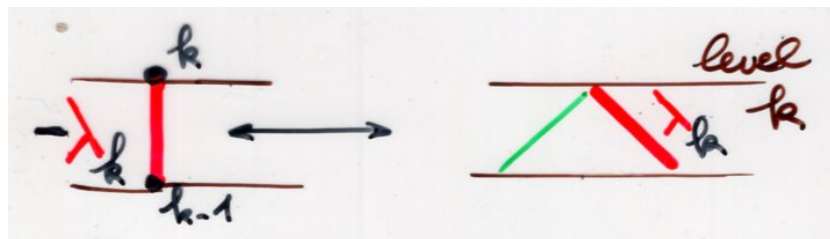
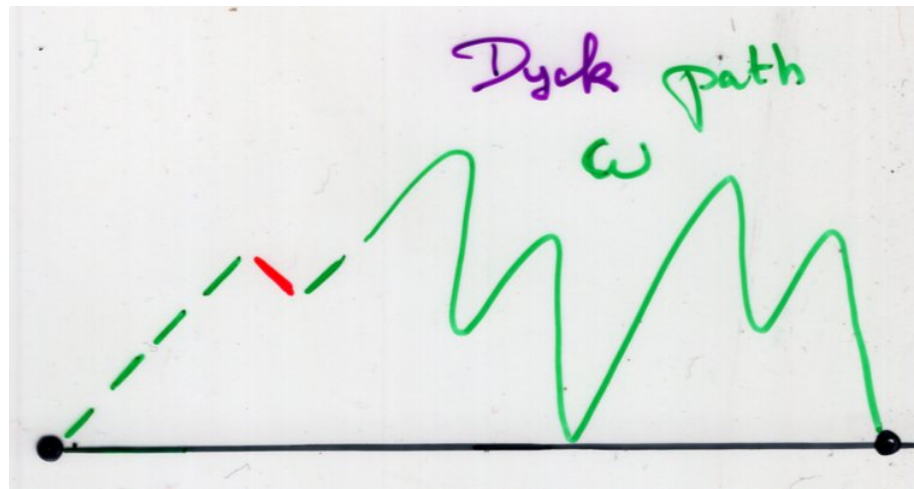
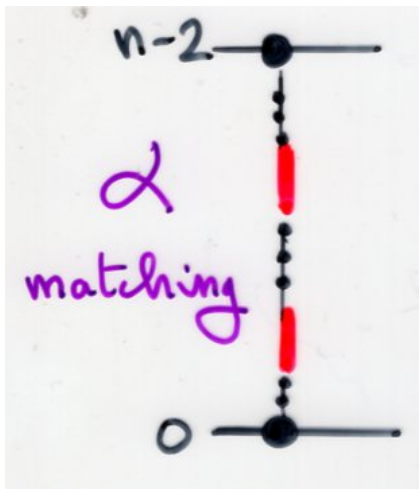
$$= \lambda_1 \cdots \lambda_{n-1} (\lambda_1 + \cdots + \lambda_n)$$

here pavages are only with dimers, that is are in fact matchings (of  $[0, n-2]$ ).

sign-reversing  
weight preserving involution


$$(\alpha, \omega) \xrightarrow{\Phi} (\alpha', \omega')$$

same involution as in Ch 1c, 26-27  
(different "border" conditions)



$h(\alpha)$  = smallest index  $i$  of  $[0, n-2]$   
"occupied" by a dimer  
(if  $\alpha \neq \emptyset$ )


$h(\omega)$  = level of the starting point  
of the first elementary step  
SE



(always exist)

$$\begin{cases} (i) & h(\alpha) \leq h(\omega) \\ (ii) & h(\alpha) > h(\omega) \end{cases}$$

$$(i) \quad h(\alpha) \leq h(\omega) \quad \text{and} \quad \alpha \neq \emptyset$$

delete from the passage  $\alpha$  the leftmost piece, i.e. the dimer  $(i, i+1)$  if  $i = h(\alpha)$   
 incorporate  in the path  $\omega$  as  $(i+1, i+2)$  steps

equivalently the level of the first vertex of  is  $i$

$$(\alpha, \omega) \xrightarrow{\Phi} (\alpha', \omega')$$

$$\begin{aligned} h(\omega') &= h(\alpha) \\ h(\alpha') &> h(\alpha) \end{aligned}$$

we are in  
 case (ii)

the weight is preserved:  
 $v(\alpha)v(\omega) = v(\alpha')v(\omega')$

sign-reversing

$$(ii) \quad h(\alpha) > h(\omega) \quad \text{and} \quad h(\omega) \leq (n-2)$$

delete from the path  $\omega$  the  
 $(i, i+1)^{\text{th}}$  steps



and add the dimer  $(i-1, i)$  to  $\alpha$

$$(\alpha, \omega) \xrightarrow{\Phi} (\alpha', \omega')$$

$$h(\omega') = h(\alpha) + 1$$
$$h(\alpha') > h(\alpha) + 1$$

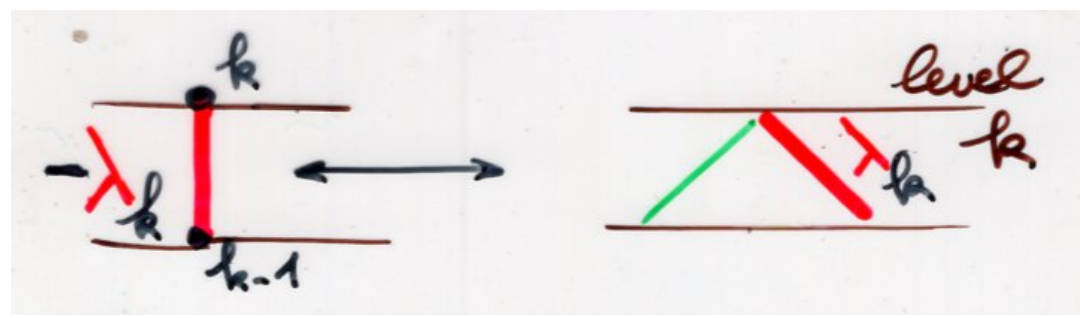
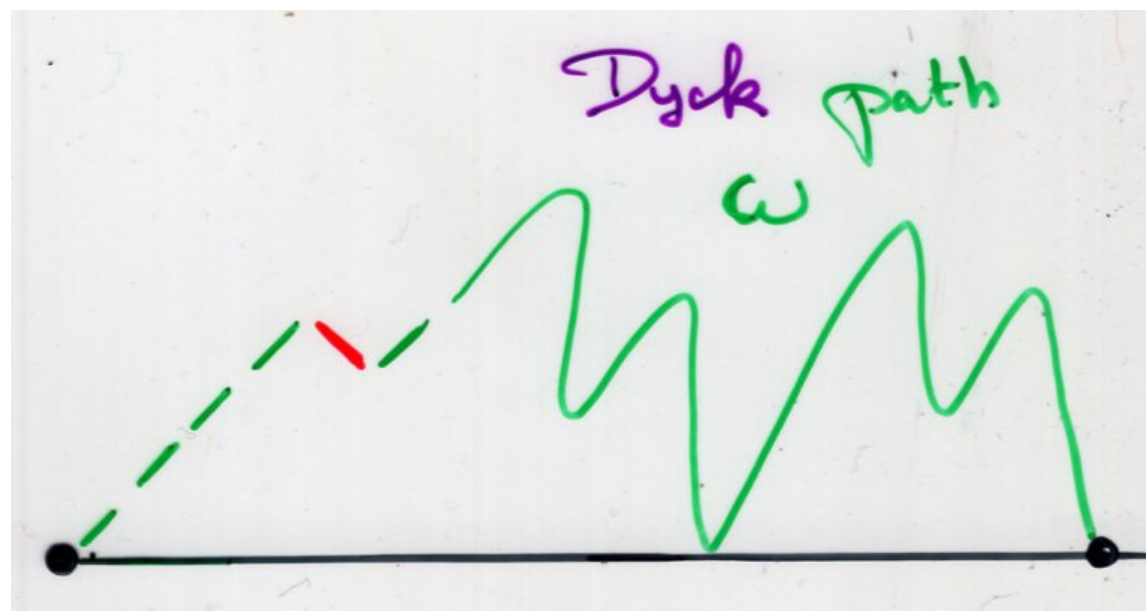
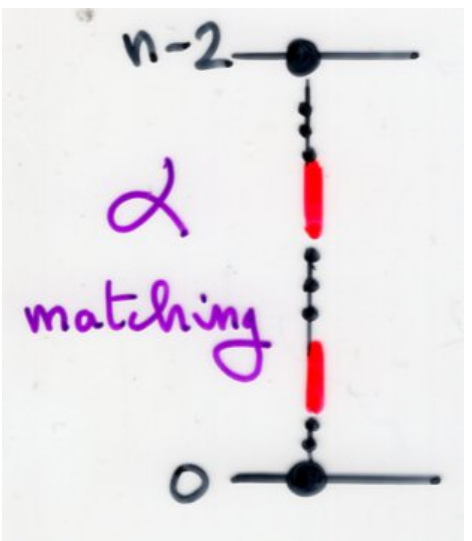
we are in  
case (i)

the weight is preserved:


$$v(\alpha) v(\omega) = v(\alpha') v(\omega')$$

sign-reversing

$$(\alpha, \omega) \xrightarrow{\Phi} (\alpha', \omega')$$






$\Phi$  is not defined for the pairs  
 $\alpha = \phi$ ,  $\omega$  with length  $|\omega| = 2n$   
 and the first  $(n-1)$  steps are   
 NE

thus:

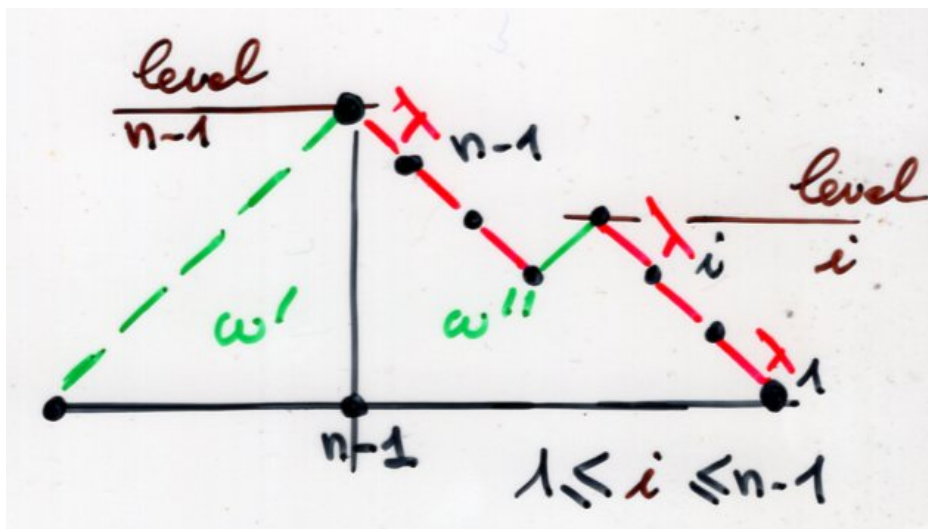
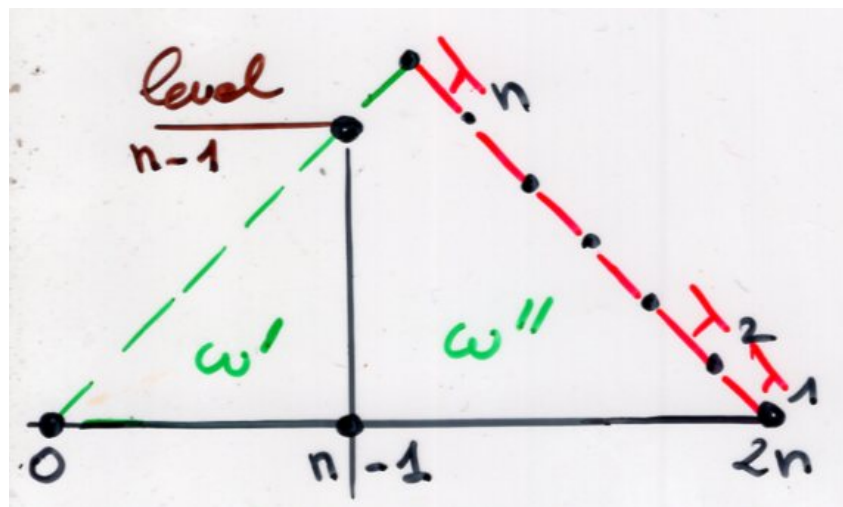
$$\omega = \omega' \omega''$$

$\omega''$  is of the following type:

$$\begin{cases} \omega' = ( / )^{n-1} \\ \omega'' = \text{"Dyck path"} \end{cases} \text{" } (n-1) \text{ level}$$


$|\omega''| = n+1$   
 level

$\omega''$  is of the following type:



total weight:

=

$$\lambda_1 \cdots \lambda_n + \sum_{1 \leq i \leq n-1} \lambda_i (\lambda_1 \cdots \lambda_{n-1})$$

$$\sum_{0 \leq k < \frac{n}{2}} \left( \sum_{(\alpha, \omega)} (-1)^k v(\alpha) v(\omega) \right) = \sum_{|\omega|=2n} v(\omega)$$

Dyck paths

$$\omega = \omega' \omega''$$

- $\alpha$  pavage of  $[0, n-2]$  with  $k = d(\alpha)$  dimers
- $\omega$  Dyck path  $|\omega| = 2n - 2k$

$$= \lambda_1 \cdots \lambda_n + \sum_{1 \leq i \leq n-1} \lambda_i (\lambda_1 \cdots \lambda_{n-1})$$

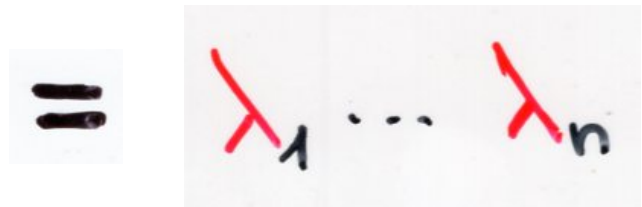
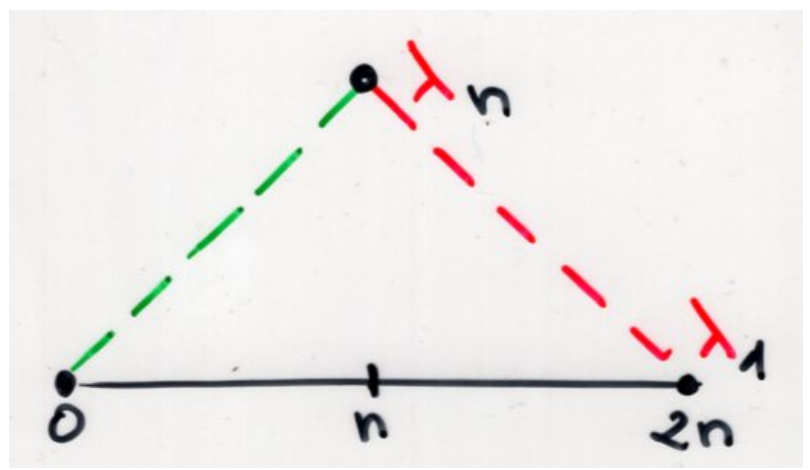
end of the proof  $\square$

If we change the definition of  $\varphi_r(n)$   
 by taking  $\varphi_r(n+1) = \overline{\varphi}_r(n)$

i.e.  $\overline{\varphi}_r(n) = \sum_{\alpha} v(\alpha)$   
 $\alpha$  pavages of  $[0, n-1]$   
 with  $r$  dimers

same formula, same involution  
 but now  $\Phi$  is not defined for the  
 pair  $(\alpha, \omega)$ ,  $\alpha = \emptyset$ ,  $\omega$  Dyck path  
 $|\omega| = 2n$ , the first  $n$  steps are NE.

i.e.  
 $\omega =$



other proofs

Berndt, Lamphere, Wilson (1985)

Goulden, Jackson (1984)

Andrews

by induction  
a "sieving process"  
(analogue to "inclusion-exclusion")

$$b = \{b_k\}_{k \geq 0}$$

$$\lambda = \{\lambda_k\}_{k \geq 1}$$

$$J(t; b, \lambda)$$

Goulden, Jackson (1984)

$$P_k^*(t) f(t) - \delta P_{k-1}^*(t) =$$

$$\lambda_1 \cdots \lambda_k t^k f_k(t)$$

$$f_k(t) = t^k J(t) J^{[1]}(t) \cdots J^{[k]}(t)$$

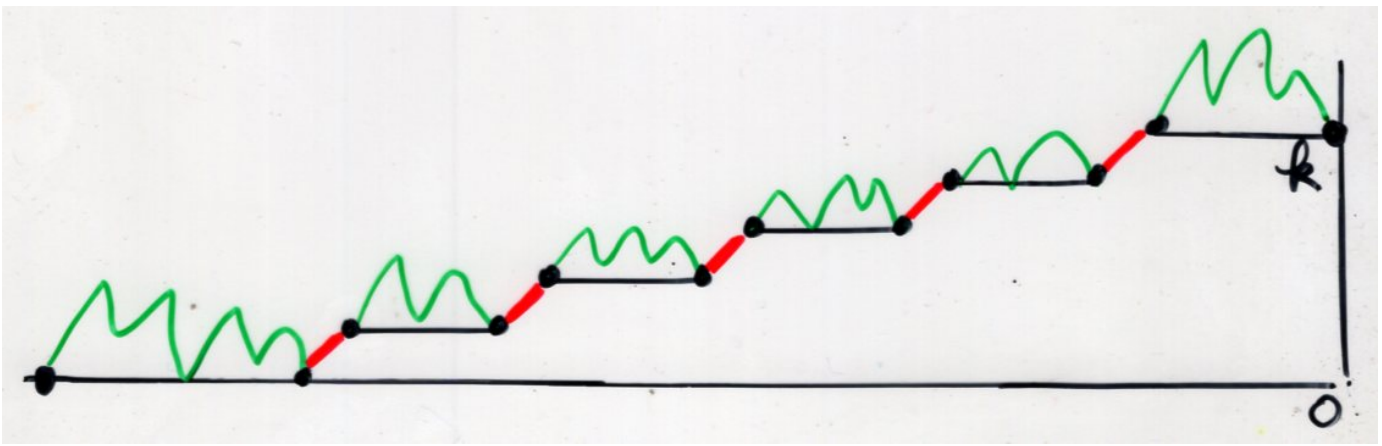
$$J^{[k]}(t) = \frac{1}{1 - b_k t - \lambda_{k+1} t^2} \frac{1}{1 - b_{k+1} t - \lambda_{k+2} t^2} \cdots$$

in fact

$$f_k(t) = \sum_{\omega} v(\omega) t^{|\omega|}$$

$\omega$   
Motekin path  
 $0 \rightsquigarrow k$

$$f_0(t) = f(t)$$
$$= J(t)$$

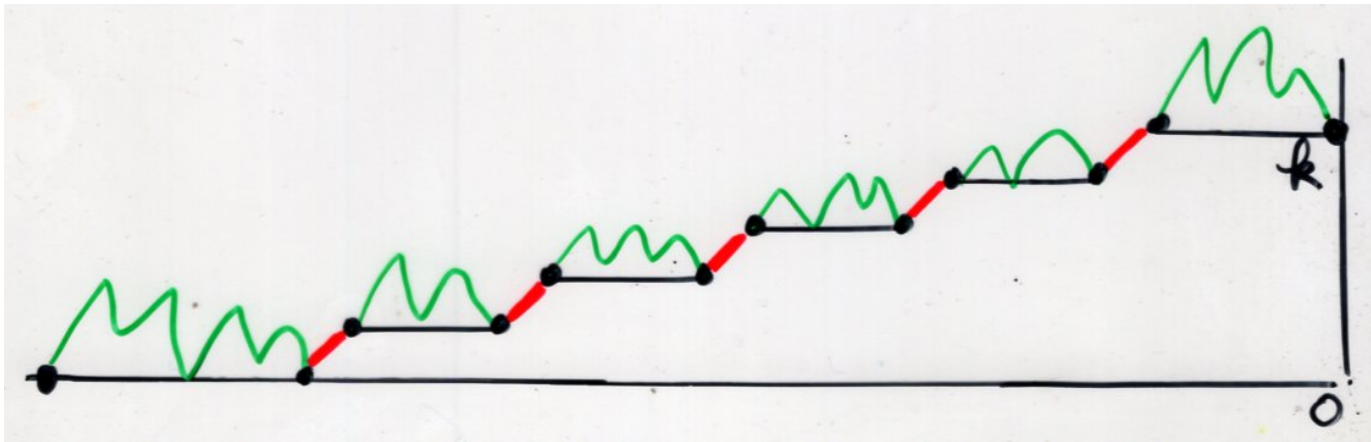




$f_k(t)$ 

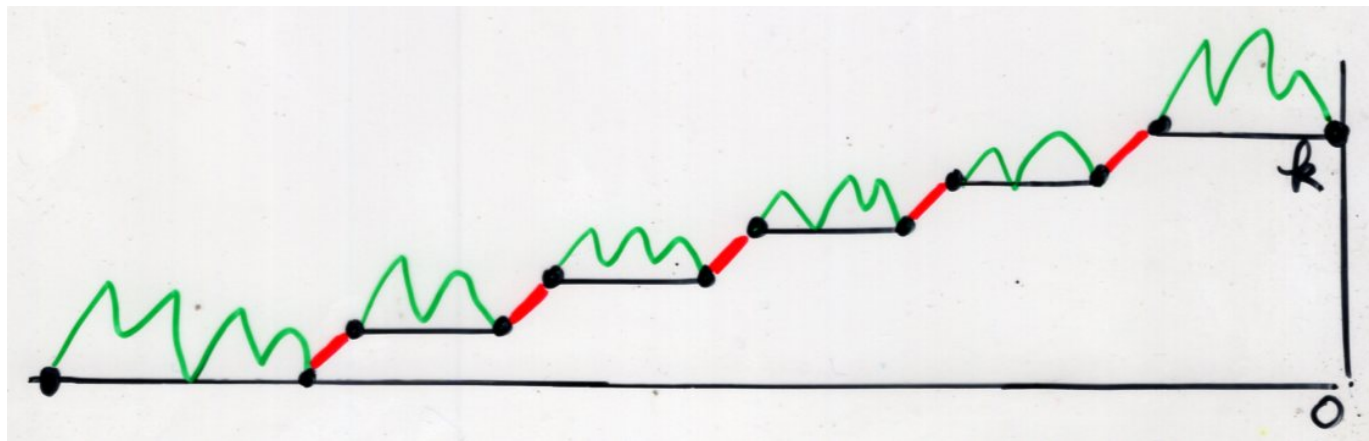
$$= \sum_{n \geq k} \mu_{n,k} t^n$$

coefficient of the vertical polynomials  
 $V_n(x)$ , inverse polynomials of  $T_n(x)$   
(→ Ch 1d, 26-36)



$$f_k(t) = t^k J(t) J^{[1]}(t) \cdots J^{[k]}(t)$$

$$J^{[k]}(t) = \frac{1}{1 - b_k t - \lambda_{k+1} t^2} \frac{1}{1 - b_{k+1} t - \lambda_{k+2} t^2} \cdots$$



$$P_k^*(t) = \sum_{\alpha} (-1)^{|\alpha|} v(\alpha) t^{m(\alpha) + 2d(\alpha)}$$

$\alpha$   
pavage of  $[0, n-1]$

$$|\alpha| = m(\alpha) + d(\alpha)$$

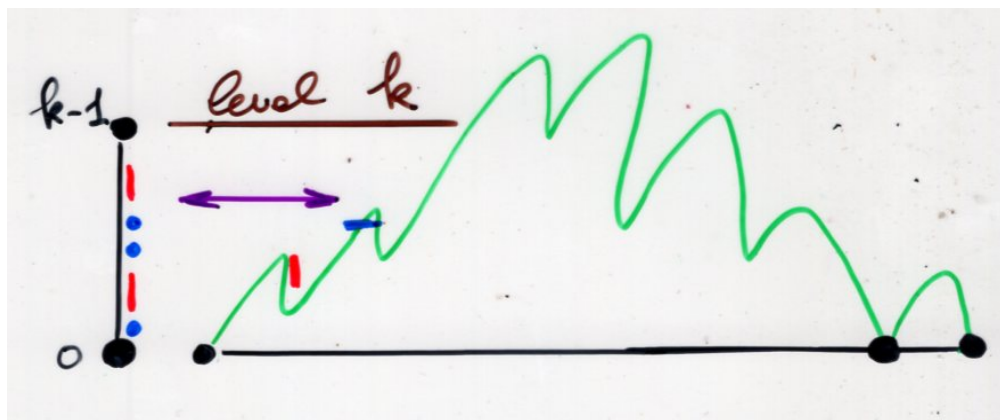
$m(\alpha)$  = number of monomers  
of the pavage  $\alpha$

$d(\alpha)$  = number of dimers  
of the pavage  $\alpha$

$$P_k^*(t) f(t) =$$

$$\sum_{(\alpha, \omega)} (-1)^{|\alpha|} v(\alpha) v(\omega) t^{m(\alpha) + 2d(\alpha) + |\omega|}$$

$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \alpha \text{ pavage of } [0, k-1] \\ \omega \text{ Motzkin path } 0 \rightsquigarrow 0 \end{array} \right.$




sign-reversing  
 weight preserving involution

same involution as in Ch 1c, 26-27  
 (different "border" conditions)

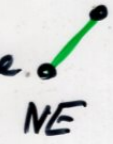
$$P_k^*(t) f(t) =$$

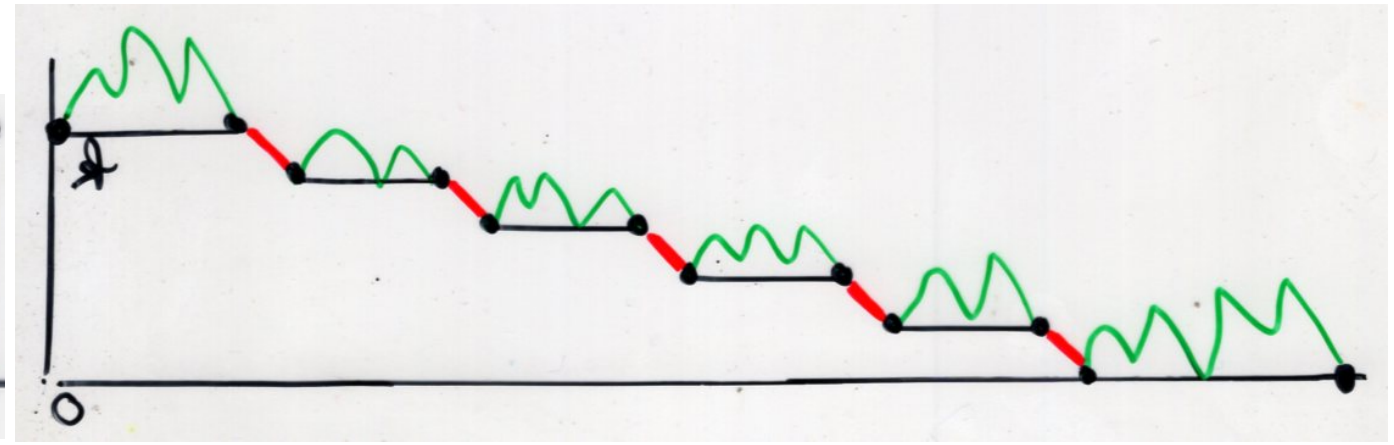
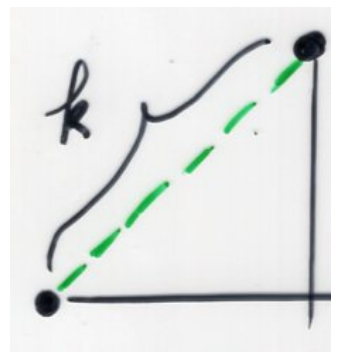
$$\sum_{(\alpha, \omega)} (-1)^{|\alpha|} v(\alpha) v(\omega) t^{m(\alpha) + 2d(\alpha) + |\omega|}$$

- $\alpha$  empty package
- $\omega$  Motzkin path  $0 \rightsquigarrow 0$  such that the first  $k$  steps are 

or

- $\alpha$  package of  $[0, k-1]$  such that  $0$  is an isolated point
- $\omega$  empty path

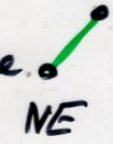
$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \bullet \alpha \text{ empty pavage} \\ \bullet \omega \text{ Motzkin path } 0 \rightsquigarrow 0 \end{array} \right.$   
 such that the first  $k$  steps are 

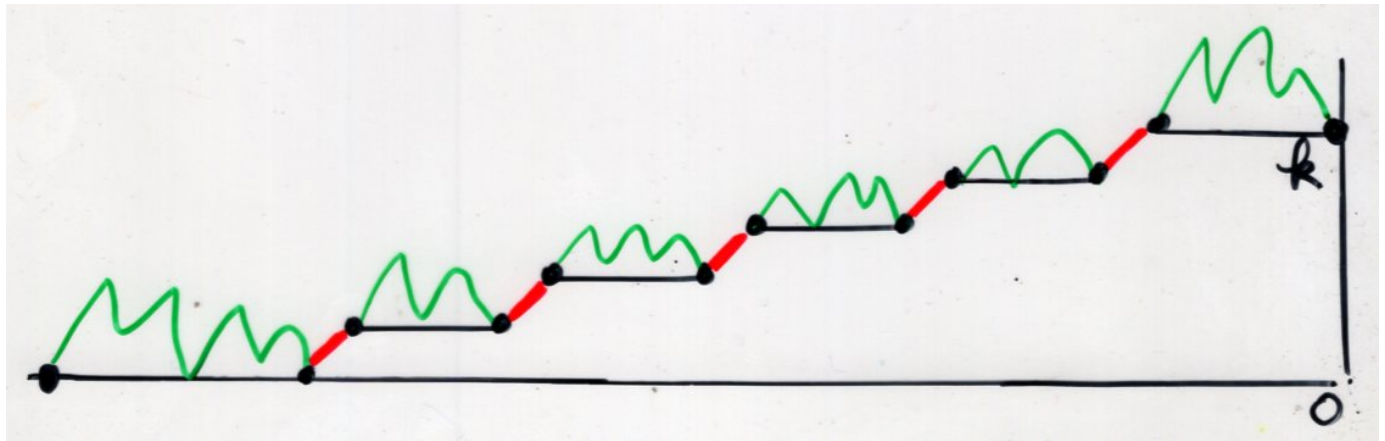
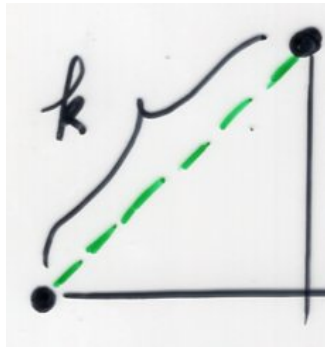


$$t^k$$

$$\sum_{\omega \text{ Motzkin path}} v(\omega) t^{|\omega|}$$

$$k \rightsquigarrow 0$$

$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \bullet \alpha \text{ empty pavage} \\ \bullet \omega \text{ Motzkin path } 0 \rightsquigarrow k \end{array} \right.$   
 such that the first  $k$  steps are 



$$t^k$$

$$\lambda_1 \dots \lambda_k f_k(t)$$

$$f_k(t) = \sum_{\substack{\omega \\ \text{Motzkin path} \\ 0 \rightsquigarrow k}} v(\omega) t^{|\omega|}$$

$$P_k^*(t) f(t) =$$

$$\sum_{(\alpha, \omega)} (-1)^{|\alpha|} v(\alpha) v(\omega) t^{m(\alpha) + 2d(\alpha) + |\omega|}$$

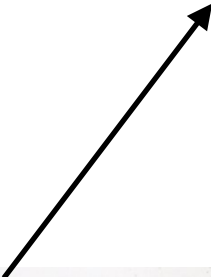
or


- $\alpha$  parage of  $[0, k-1]$  such that
- 0 is an isolated point
- $\omega$  - empty path

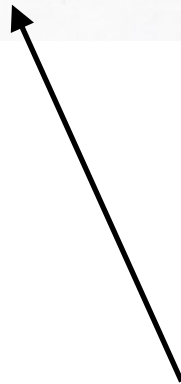
$$\mathcal{S} P_{k-1}^*(t)$$



$$P_k^*(t) f(t) = t^k \lambda_1 \dots \lambda_k f_k(t) + \mathcal{S} P_{k-1}^*(t)$$



- $\alpha$  empty pavage
- $\omega$  Motzkin path  $0 \rightsquigarrow 0$  such that the first  $k$  steps are 

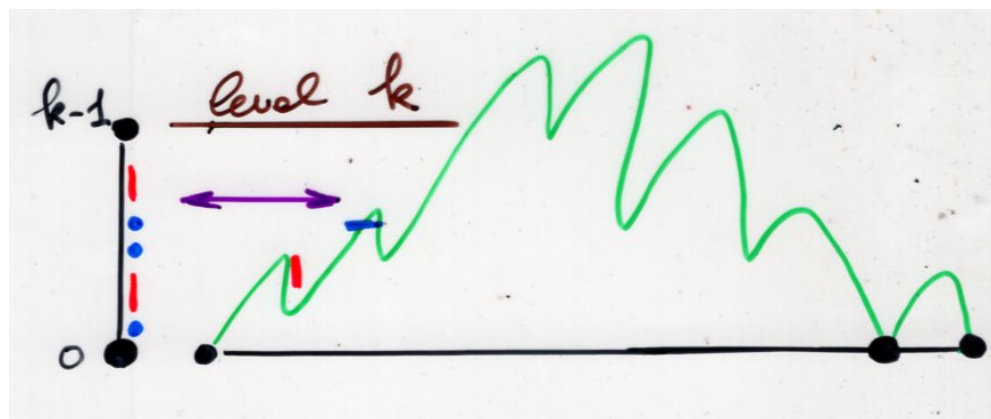


- $\alpha$  pavage of  $[0, k-1]$  such that  $0$  is an isolated point
- $\omega$  empty path

$$P_k^*(t) f(t) - \mathcal{S} P_{k-1}^*(t) = t^k \lambda_1 \dots \lambda_k f_k(t)$$

same "essence" of the involution  
sign-reversing, weight preserving

(with some variations  
and "different border conditions")



- Ramanujan's formula  
(Notebook, entry 17, Ch. 12)
- The "main theorem" Ch 1  
⇒ Favard's theorem
- Convergents of continued fractions

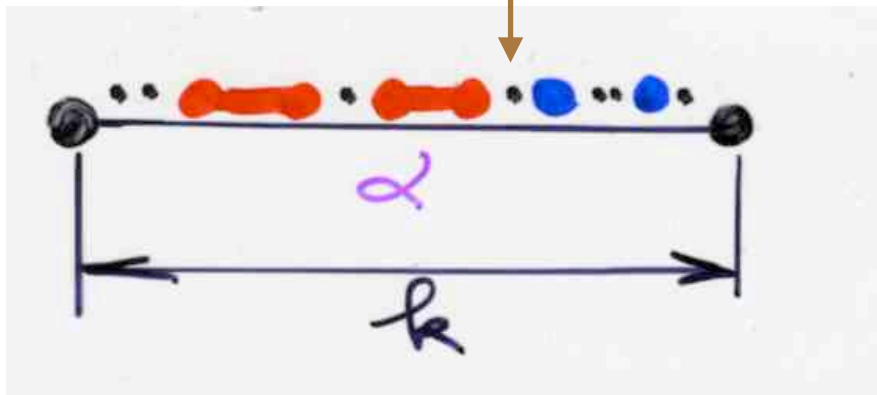
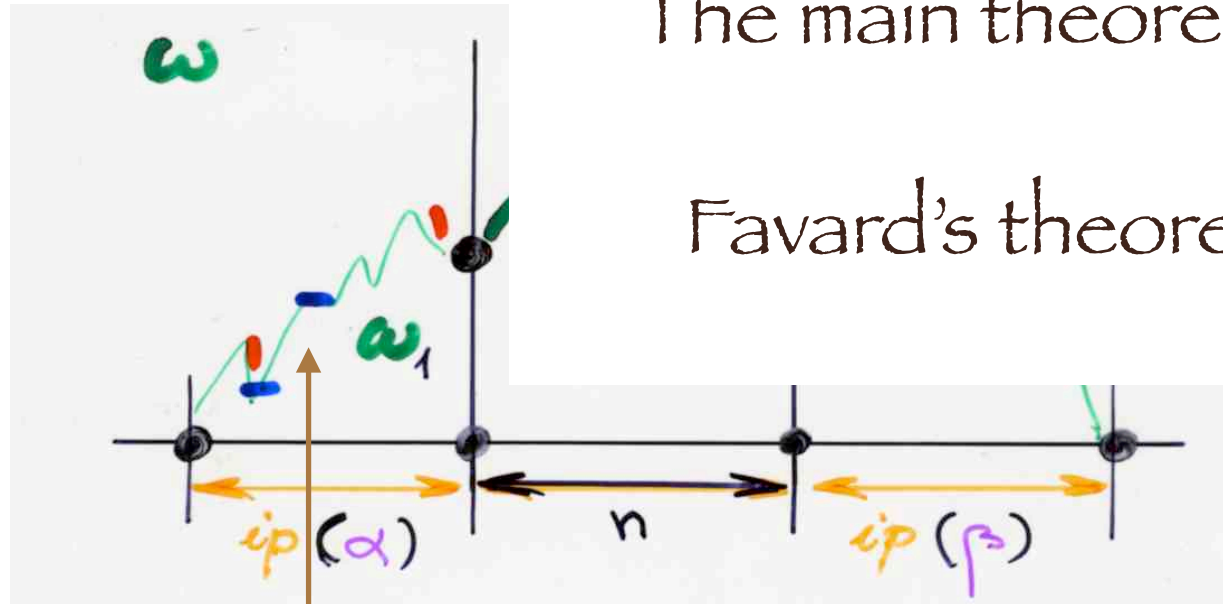
- Goulden, Jackson formula

$$P_k^*(t) f(t) - S P_{k-1}^*(t) = t^k \lambda_1 \cdots \lambda_k f_k(t)$$

.....

The main theorem

Favard's theorem



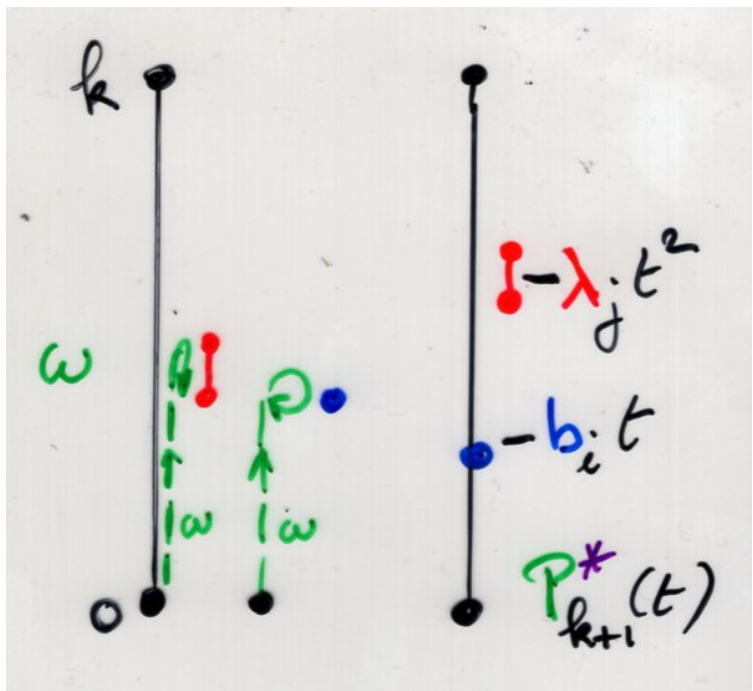
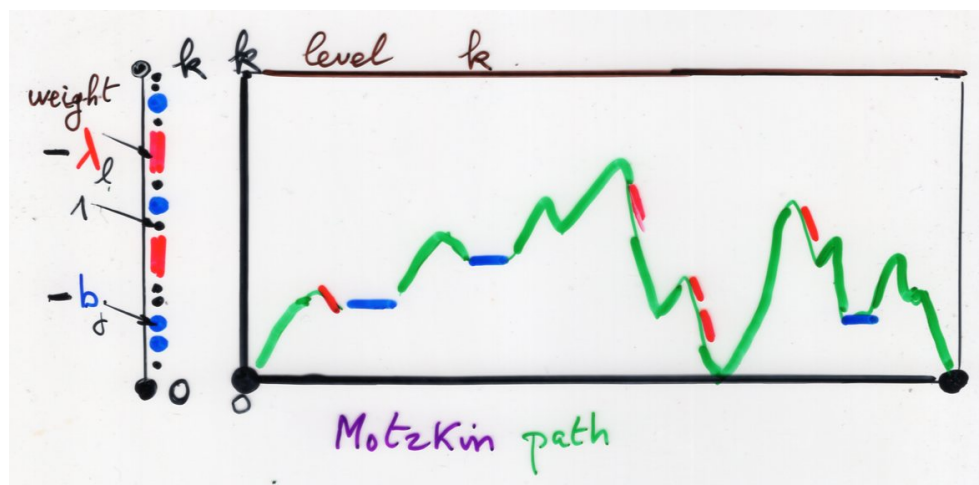
$$(\omega, \alpha, \beta) \in E_{n,k,l} \setminus L_{n,k,l}$$

$$P_{k+1}^*(t)$$

$$\left[ \sum_{\omega} v(\omega) t^{|\omega|} \right]$$

Motzkin path  
height  $\leq k$

$$= \delta P_k^*(t)$$



The quotient-difference algorithm

# continued fractions

$$\sum_{n \geq 0} \mu_n t^n = \frac{1}{1 - \frac{\lambda_1 t}{1 - \frac{\lambda_2 t}{\dots \frac{\lambda_k t}{\dots}}}}$$

$\mu_0 = 1$

$S(t; \lambda)$

Stieltjes continued fraction

$$\sum_{n \geq 0} \nu_n t^n = S(t; \lambda)$$

Stieltjes continued fraction

$$\{\nu_n\}_{n \geq 0} \longrightarrow \lambda = \{\lambda_k\}_{k \geq 1}$$

equivalently  $P_{k+1}(x) = x P_k(x) - \lambda_k P_{k-1}(x)$

$$\begin{cases} \mu_{2n} = \nu_n \\ \mu_{2n+1} = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\sum_{n \geq 0} \nu_n t^n = S(t; \lambda)$$

Stieltjes continued fraction

$$\{\nu_n\}_{n \geq 0}$$

(moments)

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n \geq 0} \mu_{2n} t^{2n} &= S(t^2; \lambda) \\ &= J(t; 0, \lambda) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{cases} \mu_{2n} = \nu_n \\ \mu_{2n+1} = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} b_k = 0 \\ (k \geq 0) \end{cases}$$

the ring  $\mathbb{K}$  is a field



quotient-difference  
algorithm

qd-algorithm

Steifel (1958)

Rutishauser (1957)

Henrici (1958, 1974)

Gragg (1972)

continued fractions  
orthogonal polynomials

→ Padé approximants

applied mathematics

numerical analysis  
theoretical physics

Sogo (1993)

application of the  $qd$ -algorithm  
to the solution of the Toda molecule equation

"Excited states of Calogero-Sutherland-Moser model - classification by Young diagrams"

numerical analysis  
theoretical physics

→ Padé approximants

books:

Baker (1975)

Baker, Graves-Morris (1981)  
(vols 1, 2)

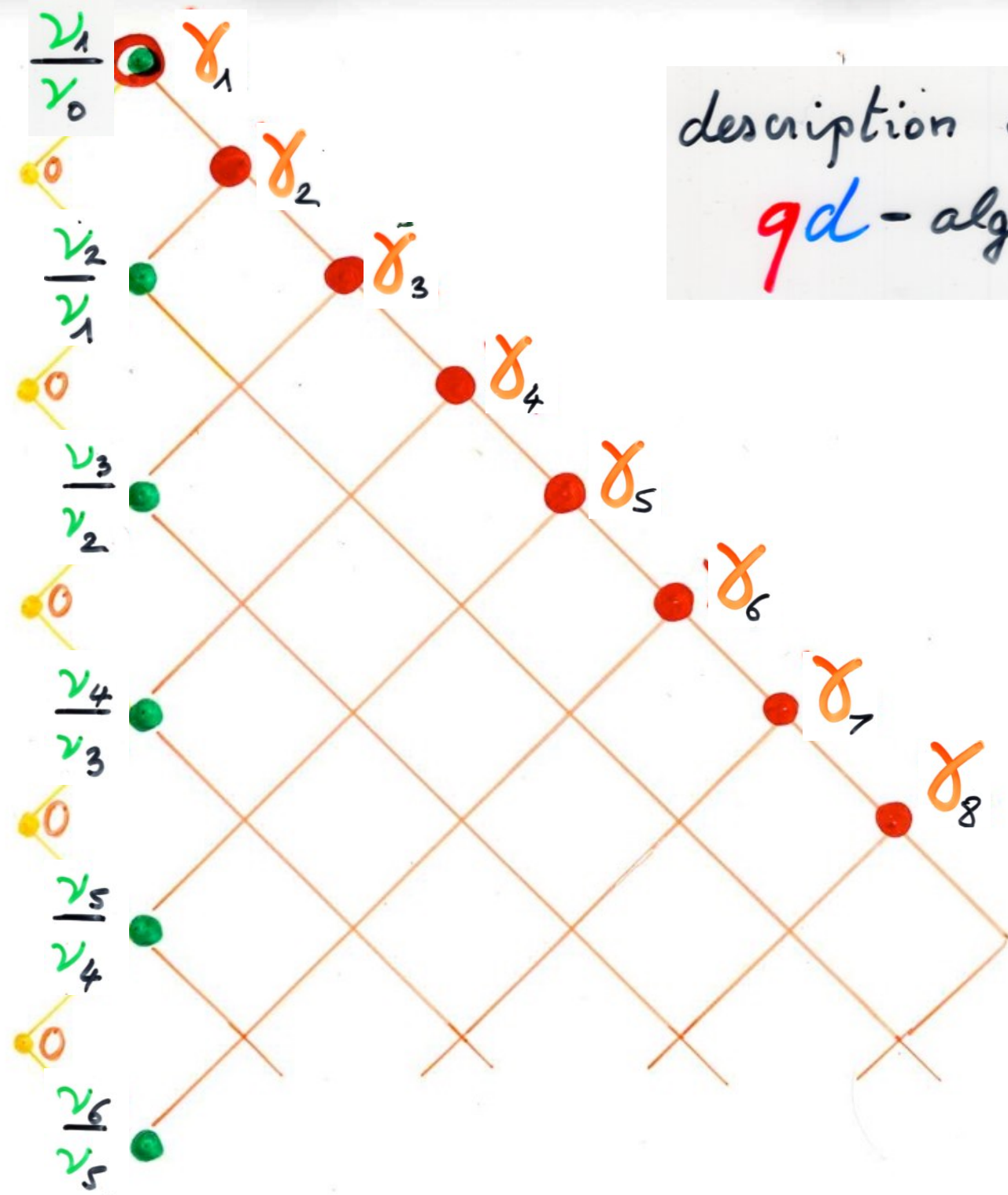
Brezinski (1980)

Gilewicz (1978)

combinatorial  
interpretation

Roblet (1994)

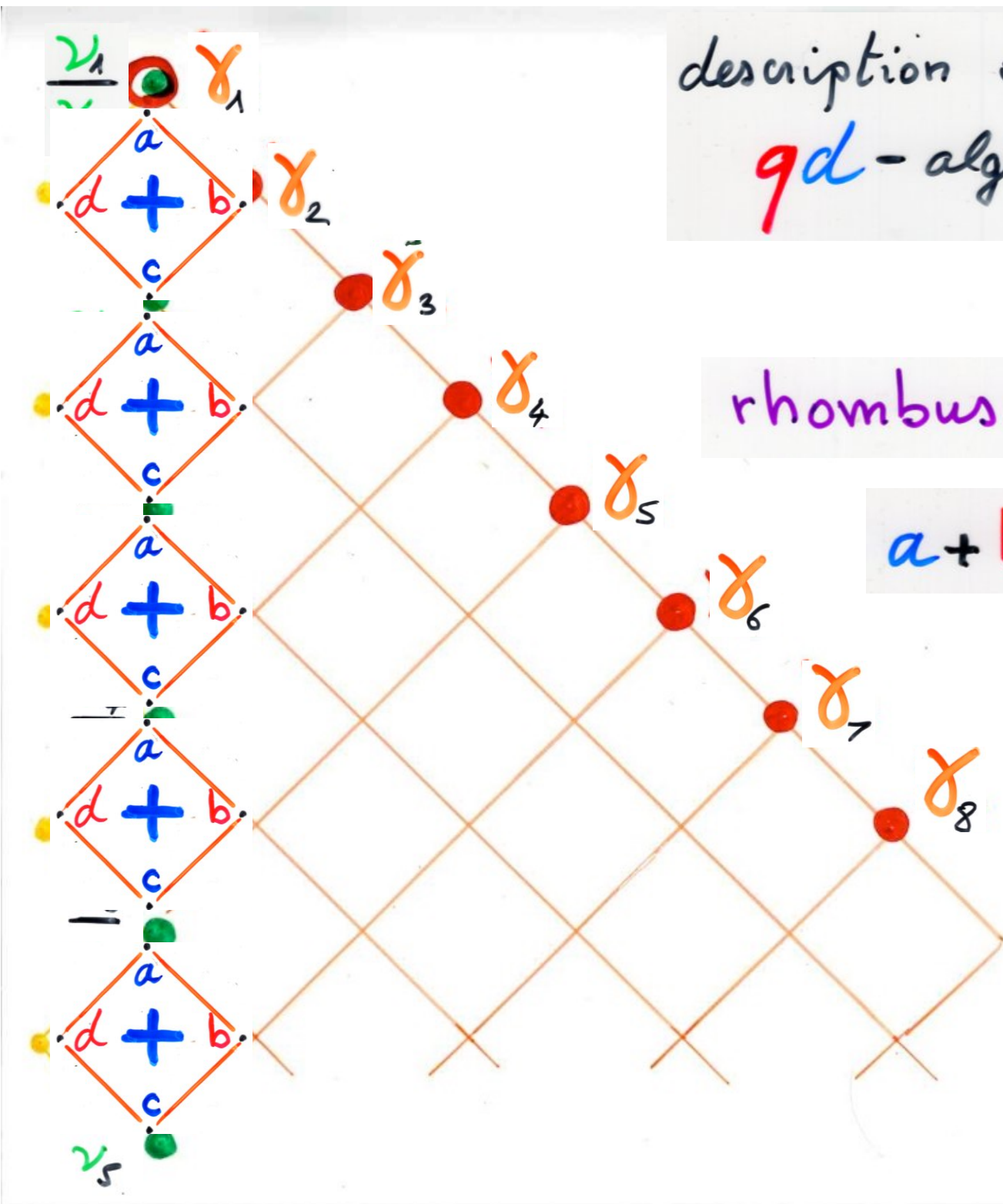
description of the  
**qd**-algorithm



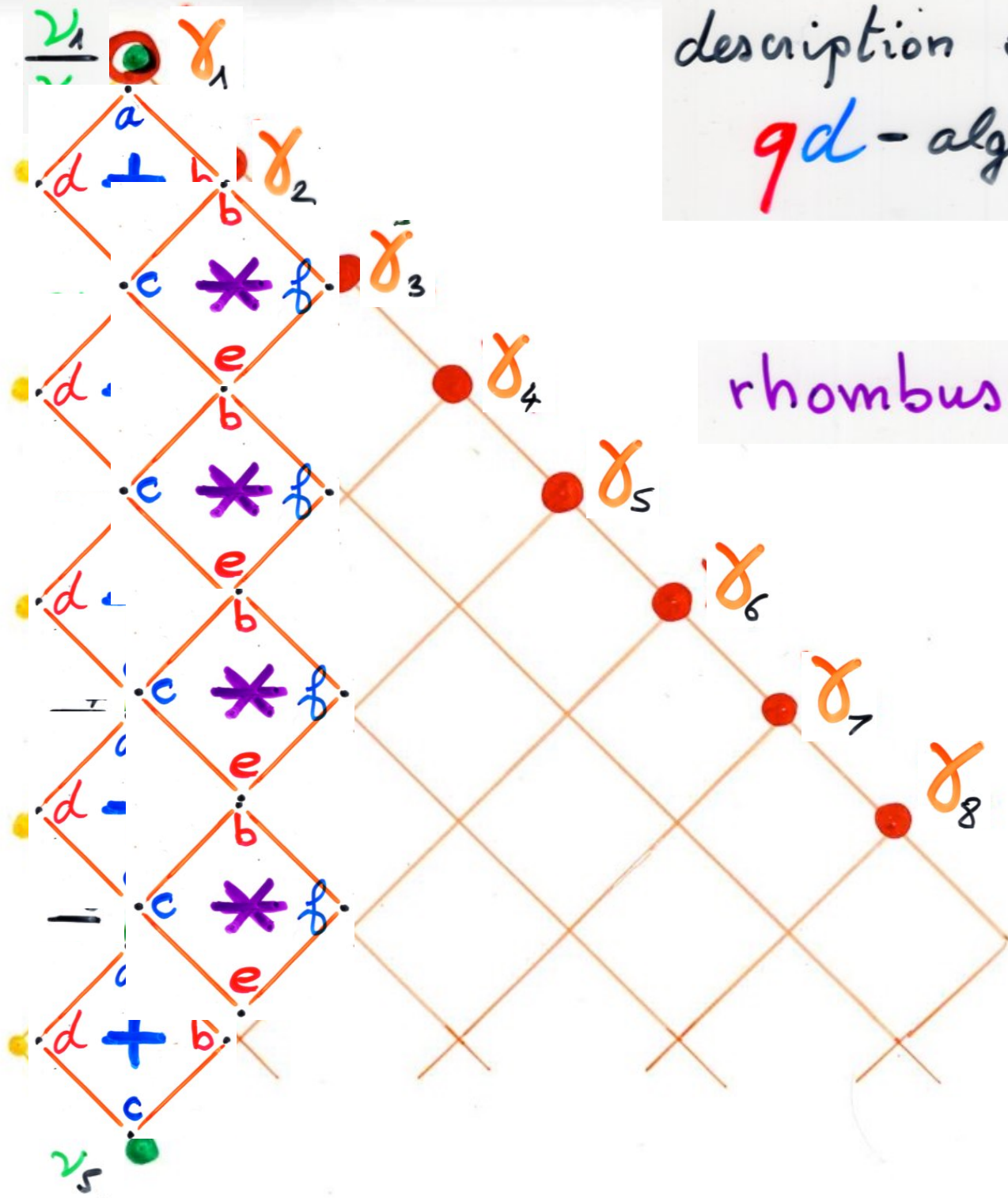
description of the  
 $qd$ -algorithm

rhombus rules

$$a + b = c + d$$



description of the  
 $qd$ -algorithm



rhombus rules

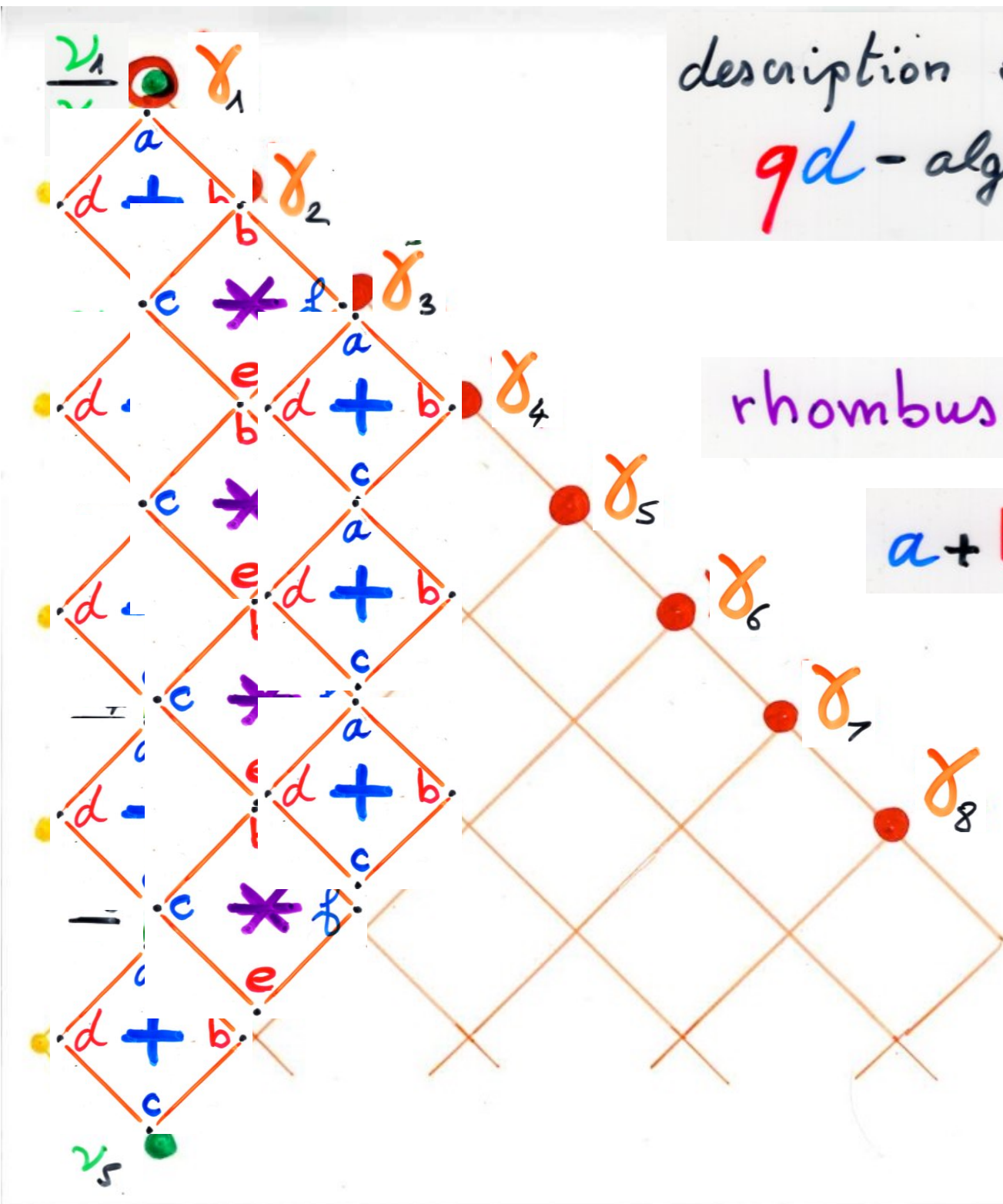
$$bf = ec$$

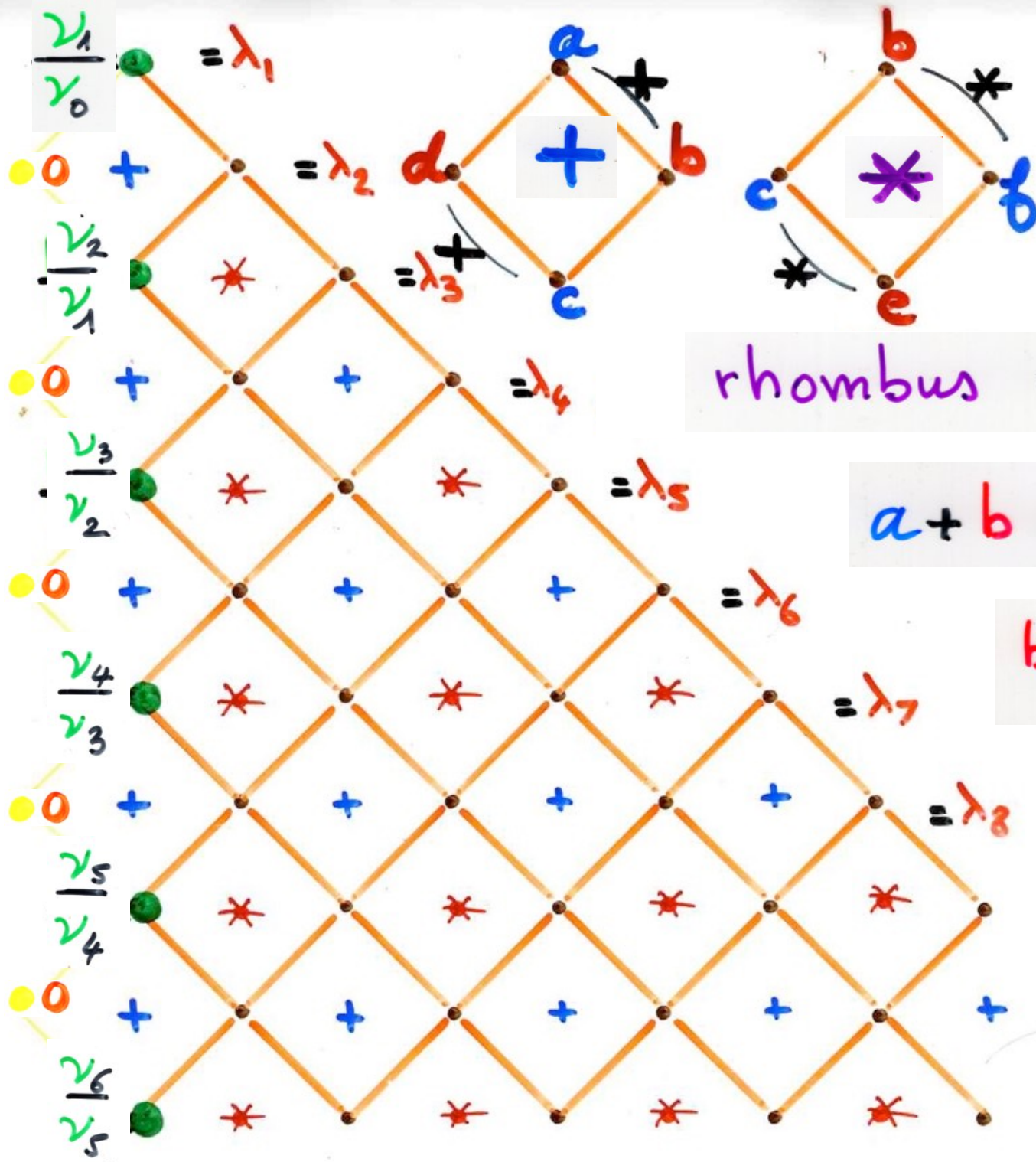
description of the  
qd - algorithm

rhombus rules

$$a + b = c + d$$

$$bf = ec$$





$$\frac{\nu_1}{\nu_0}$$

$$= \lambda_1$$

$$0 +$$

$$= \lambda_2$$

$$d +$$

$$+$$

$$+$$

$$\frac{\nu_2}{\nu_1}$$

$$*$$

$$= \lambda_3$$

$$0 +$$

$$+$$

$$= \lambda_4$$

$$\frac{\nu_3}{\nu_2}$$

$$*$$

$$*$$

$$= \lambda_5$$

$$0 +$$

$$+$$

$$+$$

$$= \lambda_6$$

$$\frac{\nu_4}{\nu_3}$$

$$*$$

$$*$$

$$*$$

$$= \lambda_7$$

$$0 +$$

$$+$$

$$+$$

$$+$$

$$= \lambda_8$$

$$\frac{\nu_5}{\nu_4}$$

$$*$$

$$*$$

$$*$$

$$*$$

$$0 +$$

$$+$$

$$+$$

$$+$$

$$\frac{\nu_6}{\nu_5}$$

$$*$$

$$*$$

$$*$$

$$*$$

rhombus rules

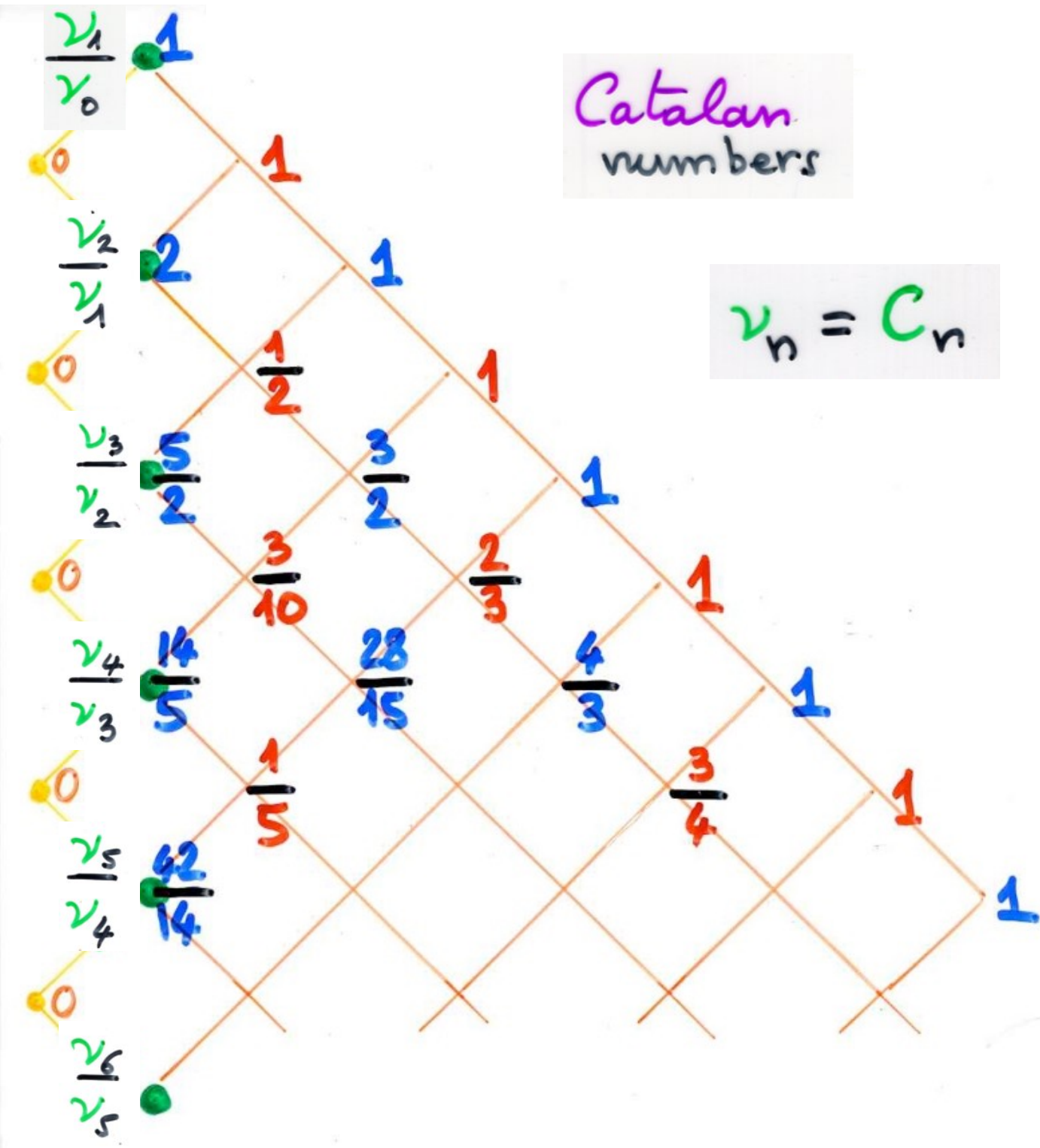
$$a + b = c + d$$

$$bf = ec$$



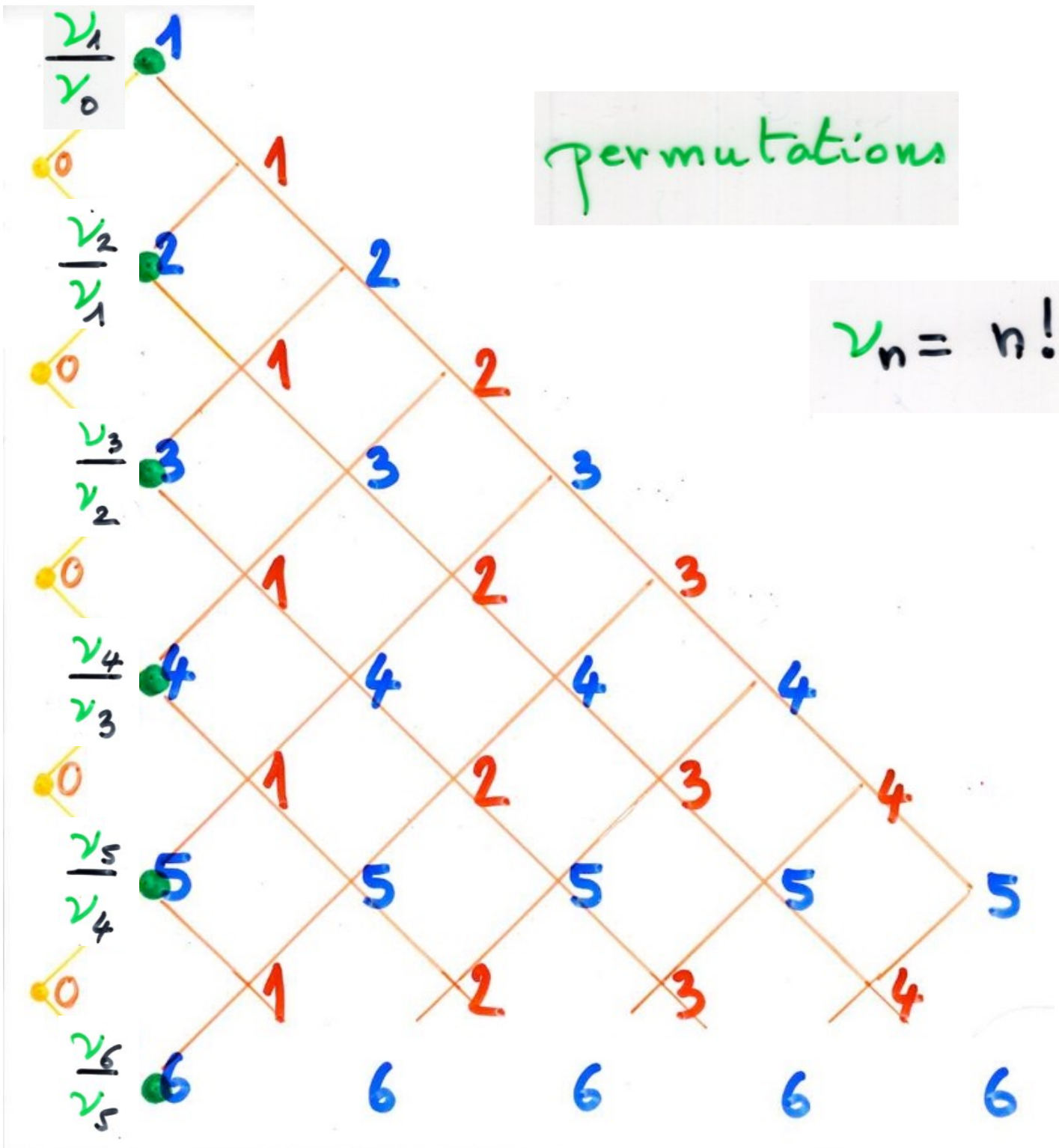
Catalan numbers

$$v_n = C_n$$



permutations

$$\nu_n = n!$$





The qd-transform

$$S(t; \gamma)$$

$$\gamma = \{\gamma_k\}_{k \geq 1}$$

Definition

the  $qd$ -transform

$$\gamma = \{\gamma_k\}_{k \geq 1} \longrightarrow \gamma' = \{\gamma'_k\}_{k \geq 1}$$

$$\gamma_k, \gamma'_k \in \mathbb{K} \\ (k \geq 1)$$

$$\gamma' = qd(\gamma)$$

$$S(t; \gamma) = 1 + \gamma_1 t S(t; \gamma')$$

( Hermite polynomials  
or involutions with no fixed points )

4 examples

$$\gamma = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, \dots$$

↓

$$\gamma' = 3, 2, 5, 4, 7, 6, 9, 8, 11, 10, \dots$$

- $\gamma_k = k$ , then  $\gamma'_k = k$  if  $k$  even  
 $\gamma'_k = k+2$  if  $k$  odd

(Catalan numbers)

$$\gamma = 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, \dots$$

$$\gamma' = 2, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{2}, \frac{2}{3}, \frac{4}{3}, \frac{3}{4}, \frac{5}{4}, \frac{4}{5}, \frac{6}{5}, \frac{5}{6}, \dots$$

•  $\gamma_k = 1$ , then  $\gamma'_{2k} = \frac{k}{k+1}$ ,  $\gamma'_{2k-1} = \frac{k+1}{k}$

(Euler's continued fraction for  $n!$ )

$$\begin{aligned}\gamma &= 1, 1, 2, 2, 3, 3, 4, 4, 5, 5, \dots \\ \downarrow \\ \gamma' &= 2, 1, 3, 2, 4, 3, 5, 4, 6, 5, \dots\end{aligned}$$

•  $\gamma_k = \left\lceil \frac{k}{2} \right\rceil, \begin{cases} \gamma'_k = \frac{k}{2} & k \text{ even} \\ \gamma'_k = 1 + \left\lceil \frac{k}{2} \right\rceil & k \text{ odd} \end{cases}$   
 $k \geq 1$



- $$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \gamma_k = 1, \quad k \text{ odd} \\ \gamma_k = 2, \quad k \text{ even} \end{array} \right. \quad (\text{small Schröder}) \\ \text{numbers}$$

$$\gamma = 1, 2, 1, 2, 1, 2, 1, 2, \dots$$



$$\gamma' = 3, \frac{2}{3}, \frac{7}{3}, \frac{6}{7}, \frac{15}{7}, \frac{14}{15}, \frac{31}{15}, \frac{30}{31}, \frac{63}{31}, \frac{62}{63}$$

$$\gamma'_{2k} = \frac{2^{k+1} - 2}{2^{k+1} - 1}, \quad \gamma'_{2k-1} = \frac{2^{k+1} - 1}{2^k - 1} \quad (k > 1)$$

## Proposition

$$\text{Let } \gamma = \{\gamma_k\}_{k \geq 1}, \gamma' = \{\gamma'_k\}_{k \geq 1}$$

be two sequences of  $\mathbb{K}$

$$\gamma' = \text{qdt}(\gamma)$$

iff for every  $k \geq 0$

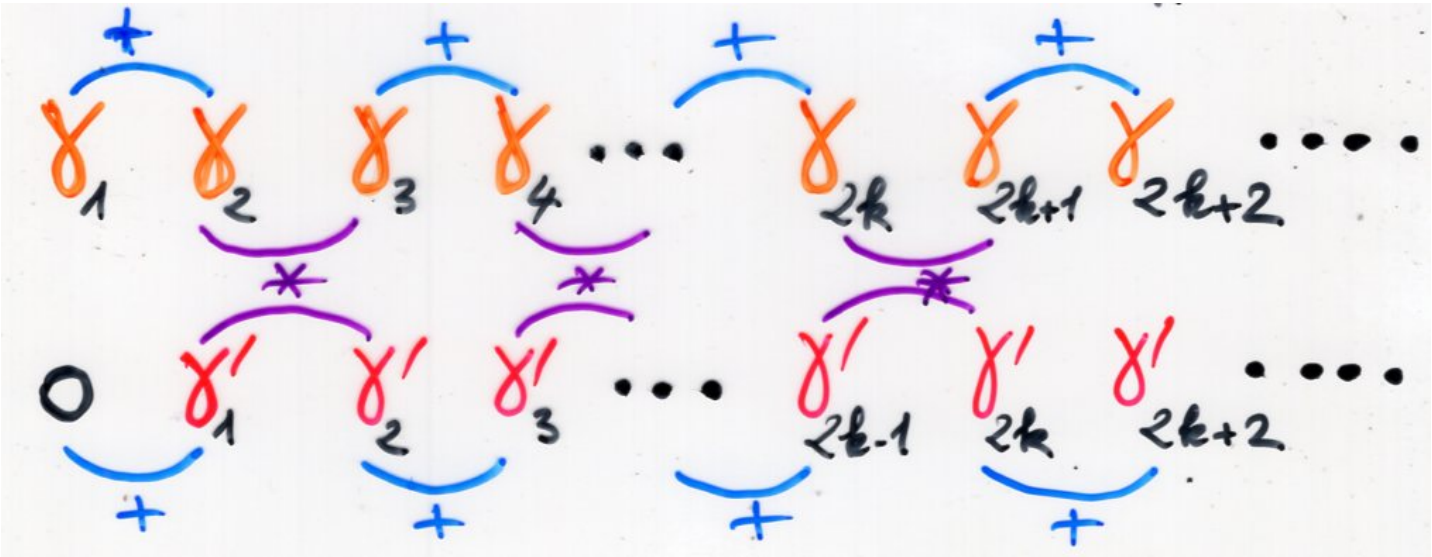
$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \gamma_{2k+1} + \gamma_{2k+2} = \gamma'_{2k} + \gamma'_{2k+1} \\ \gamma_{2k} \gamma_{2k+1} = \gamma'_{2k-1} \gamma'_{2k} \end{array} \right.$$

+  
sum

\*  
product

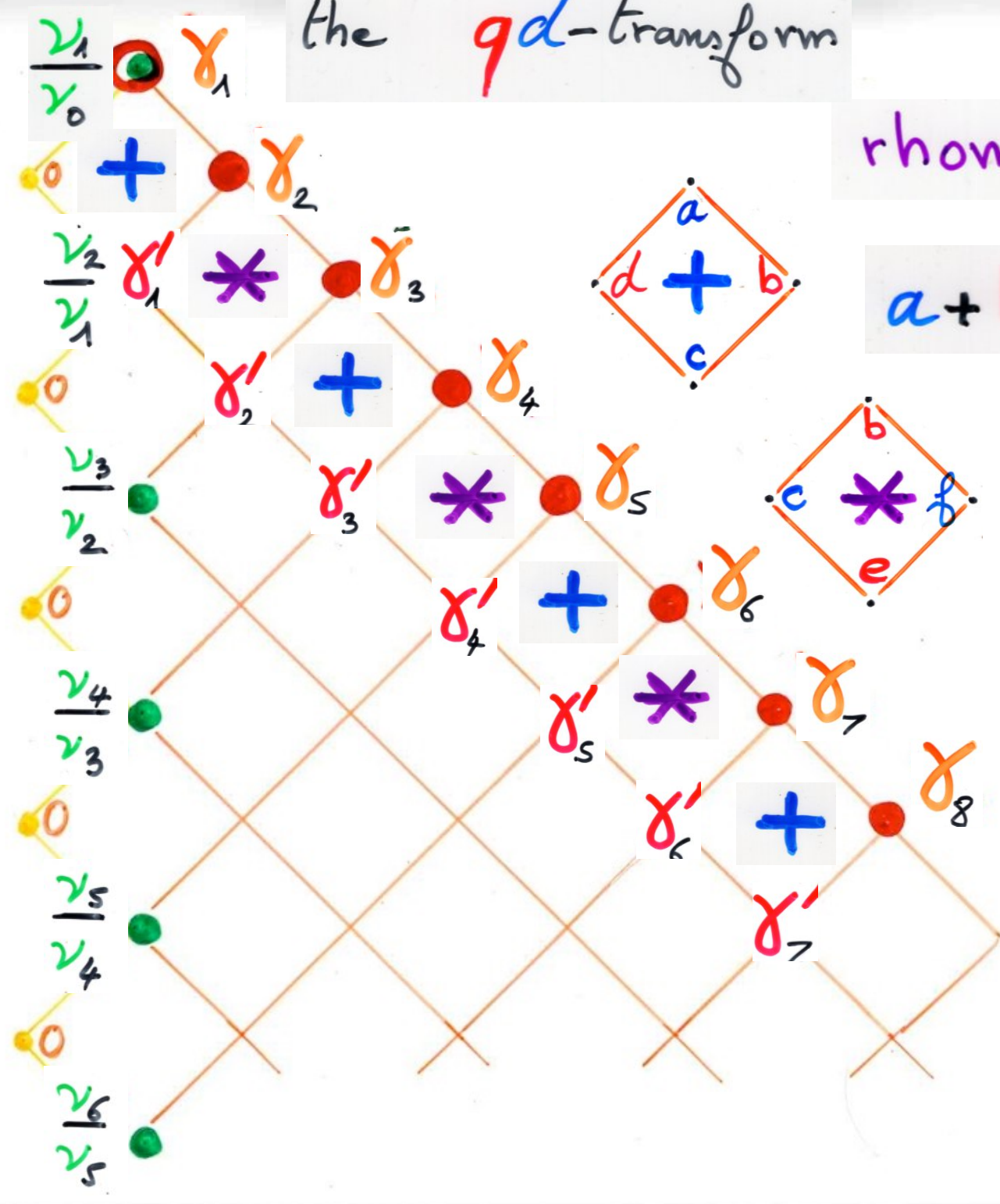
the  $qd$ -transform

computation of  $\{\gamma'_k\}$  from  $\{\gamma_k\}$   
as soon as  $\gamma'_k \neq 0$



the  $qd$ -transform

rhombus rules



$$a + b = c + d$$

$$bf = ec$$

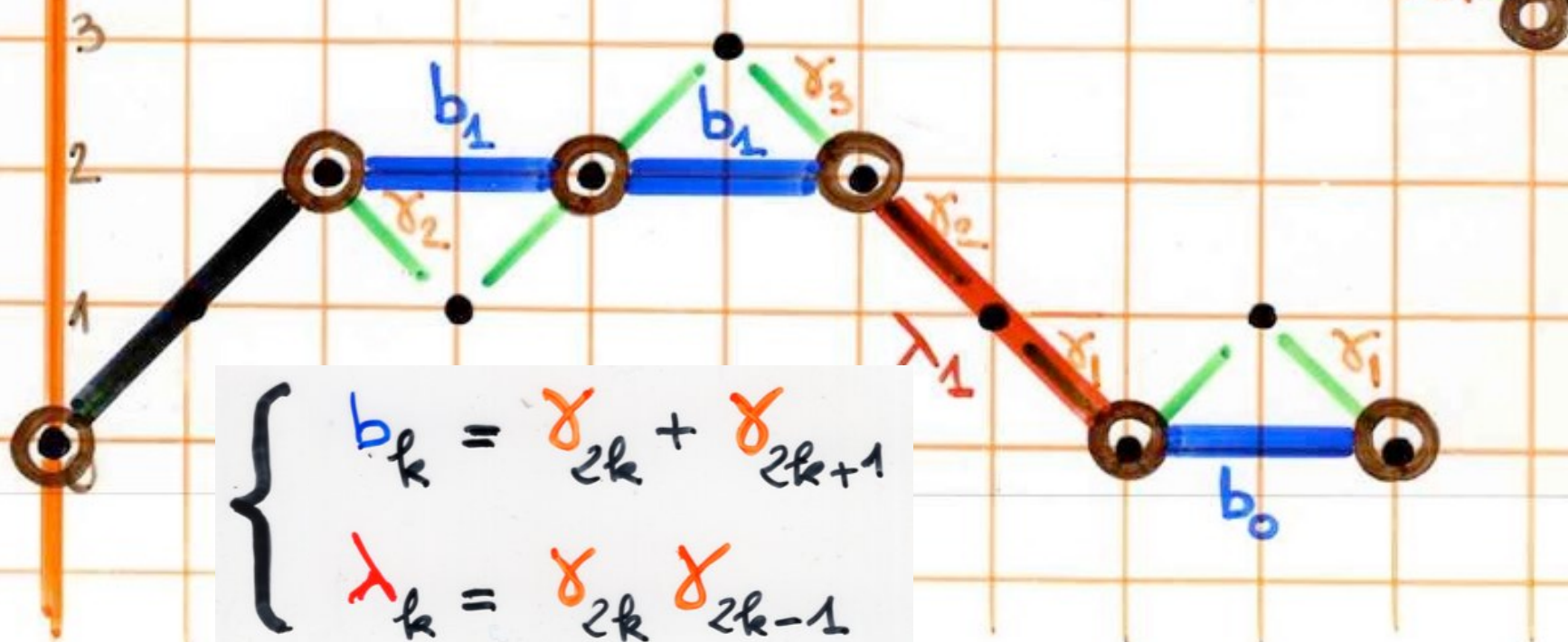
proof:

contraction

T

level  $2k$

$$S(t; \gamma) = J(t; b, \lambda)$$



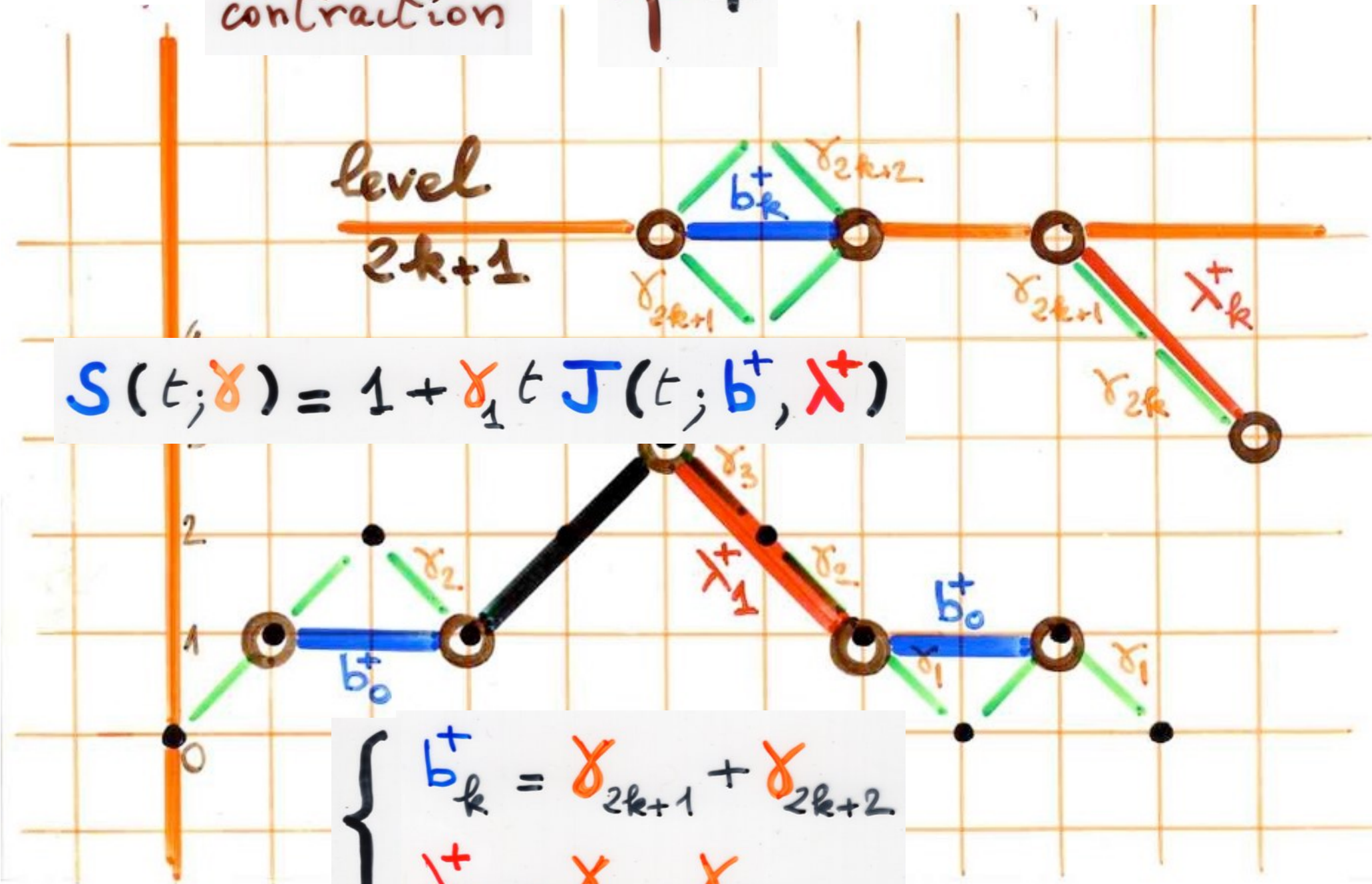
contraction

$T^+$

level  
 $2k+1$

$$S(t; \delta) = 1 + \delta_1 t J(t; b^+, \lambda^+)$$

$$\begin{cases} b_k^+ = \delta_{2k+1} + \delta_{2k+2} \\ \lambda_k^+ = \delta_{2k+1} \delta_{2k} \end{cases}$$



$$S(t; \gamma) = 1 + \gamma_1 t J(t; b^+, \lambda^+)$$

contraction

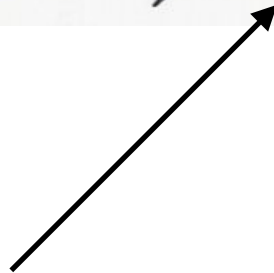
T



contraction

T+

$$S(t; \gamma')$$



$$qd(\gamma)$$



$$\begin{cases} b_k = \gamma_{2k} + \gamma_{2k+1} \\ \lambda_k = \gamma_{2k} \gamma_{2k-1} \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} b_k^+ = \gamma_{2k+1} + \gamma_{2k+2} \\ \lambda_k^+ = \gamma_{2k+1} \gamma_{2k} \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} \gamma_{2k+1} + \gamma_{2k+2} = \gamma'_{2k} + \gamma'_{2k+1} \\ \gamma_{2k} \gamma_{2k+1} = \gamma'_{2k-1} \gamma'_{2k} \end{cases}$$

+  
sum

\*  
product

$$z_n = \sum_{\substack{|\omega|=2n \\ \text{Dyck paths}}} v_\gamma(\omega)$$

$\gamma = \{\gamma_k\}_{k \geq 1}$

$$z_n = z_1 \sum_{\substack{|\omega|=2n-2 \\ \text{Dyck paths}}} v_{qd(\gamma)}(\omega)$$

"compression"  
of weighted Dyck paths

ex:  $C_n = \sum_{|\omega|=2n-2} \checkmark_{qd(1,1,\dots)}(\omega)$

(Catalan numbers)

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma &= 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, \dots \\ \downarrow \\ \gamma' &= 2, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{2}, \frac{2}{3}, \frac{4}{3}, \frac{3}{4}, \frac{5}{4}, \frac{4}{5}, \frac{6}{5}, \frac{5}{6}, \dots \end{aligned}$$

•  $\gamma_k = 1$ , then  $\gamma'_{2k} = \frac{k}{k+1}$ ,  $\gamma'_{2k-1} = \frac{k+1}{k}$

Combinatorial proof for  
the quotient-difference algorithm

The  $qd$ -algorithm

$$\gamma^{(0)} = \gamma = \{ \gamma_k \}_{k \geq 1}$$

$$S(t; \gamma) = \sum_{n \geq 0} \gamma_n t^n$$

define  $\gamma^{(m)} = \{ \gamma_k^{(m)} \}_{k \geq 1}$

$$= qd^{(m)}(\gamma)$$

$$S(t; \gamma) =$$

$$1 + \gamma_1^{(0)} t S(t; \gamma^{(1)})$$

$$1 + \gamma_1^{(0)} t + \gamma_1^{(0)} \gamma_1^{(1)} t^2 S(t; \gamma^{(2)})$$

.....

$$1 + \gamma_1^{(0)} t + \gamma_1^{(0)} \gamma_1^{(1)} t^2 + \dots + \underbrace{\gamma_1^{(0)} \gamma_1^{(1)} \dots \gamma_1^{(n-1)}}_{\gamma_n} t^n S(t; \gamma^{(n)})$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\gamma_n}$

$$\gamma_1^{(n)} = \frac{\gamma_{n+1}}{\gamma_n}$$

$$(n \geq 0)$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \gamma_{2k+1}^{(n)} + \gamma_{2k+2}^{(n)} = \gamma_{2k}^{(n+1)} + \gamma_{2k+1}^{(n+1)} \quad + \text{ sum} \\ \gamma_{2k}^{(n)} \gamma_{2k+1}^{(n)} = \gamma_{2k-1}^{(n+1)} \gamma_{2k}^{(n+1)} \quad * \text{ product} \end{array} \right.$$

Rhombus rules

change of notations: (and of colour!)

$$\gamma_{2k}^{(n)} = e_k^{(n)}, \quad \gamma_{2k+1}^{(n)} = q_{k+1}^{(n)}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} q_{k+1}^{(n)} + e_{k+1}^{(n)} = q_{k+1}^{(n+1)} + e_k^{(n+1)} \\ e_k^{(n)} q_{k+1}^{(n)} = e_k^{(n+1)} q_k^{(n+1)} \end{array} \right.$$

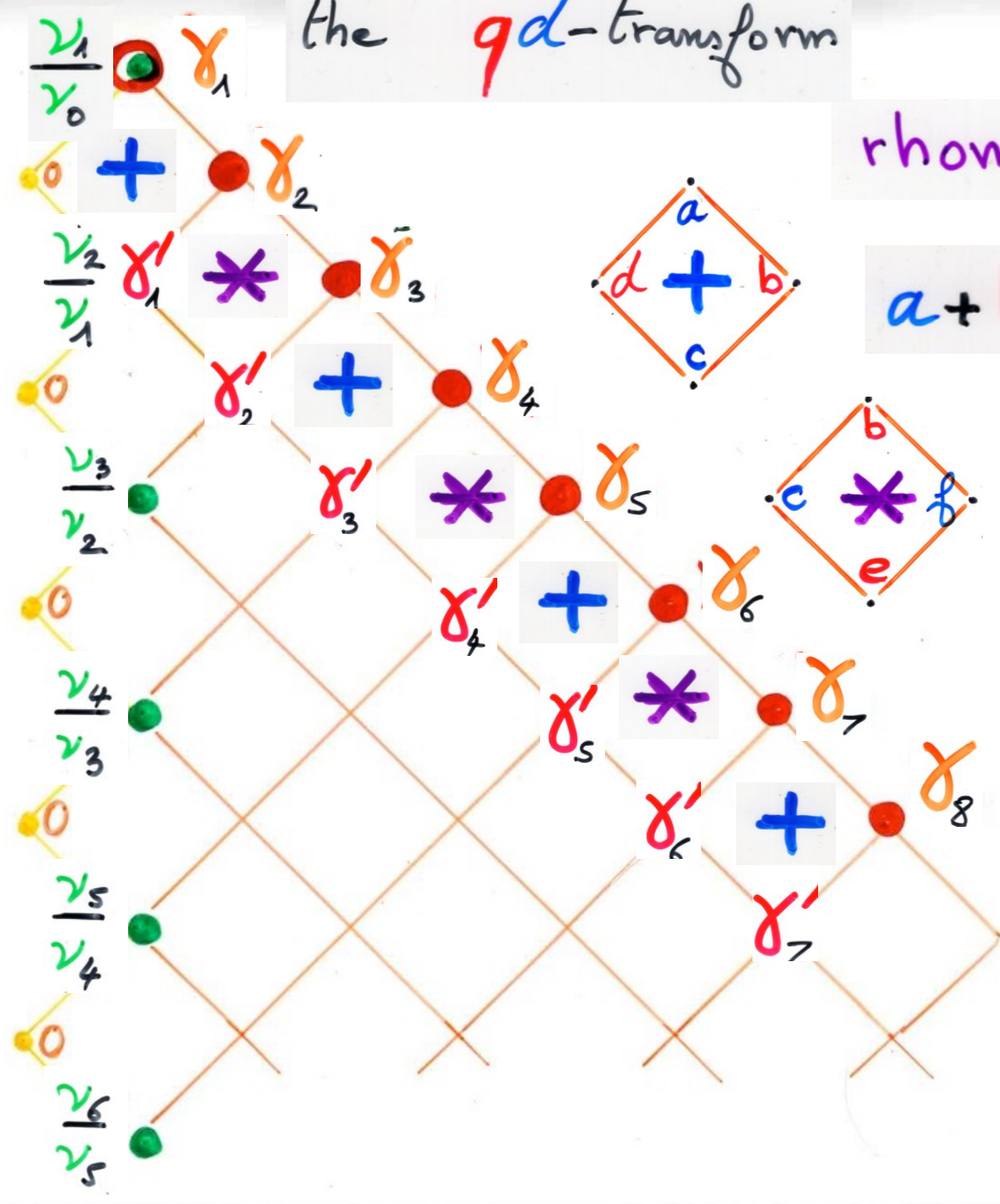
with initial conditions:

$$e_0^{(n)} = 0, \quad q_1^{(n)} = \frac{\gamma_{n+1}}{\gamma_n}, \quad \text{for every } n \geq 0$$



the  $qd$ -transform

rhombus rules

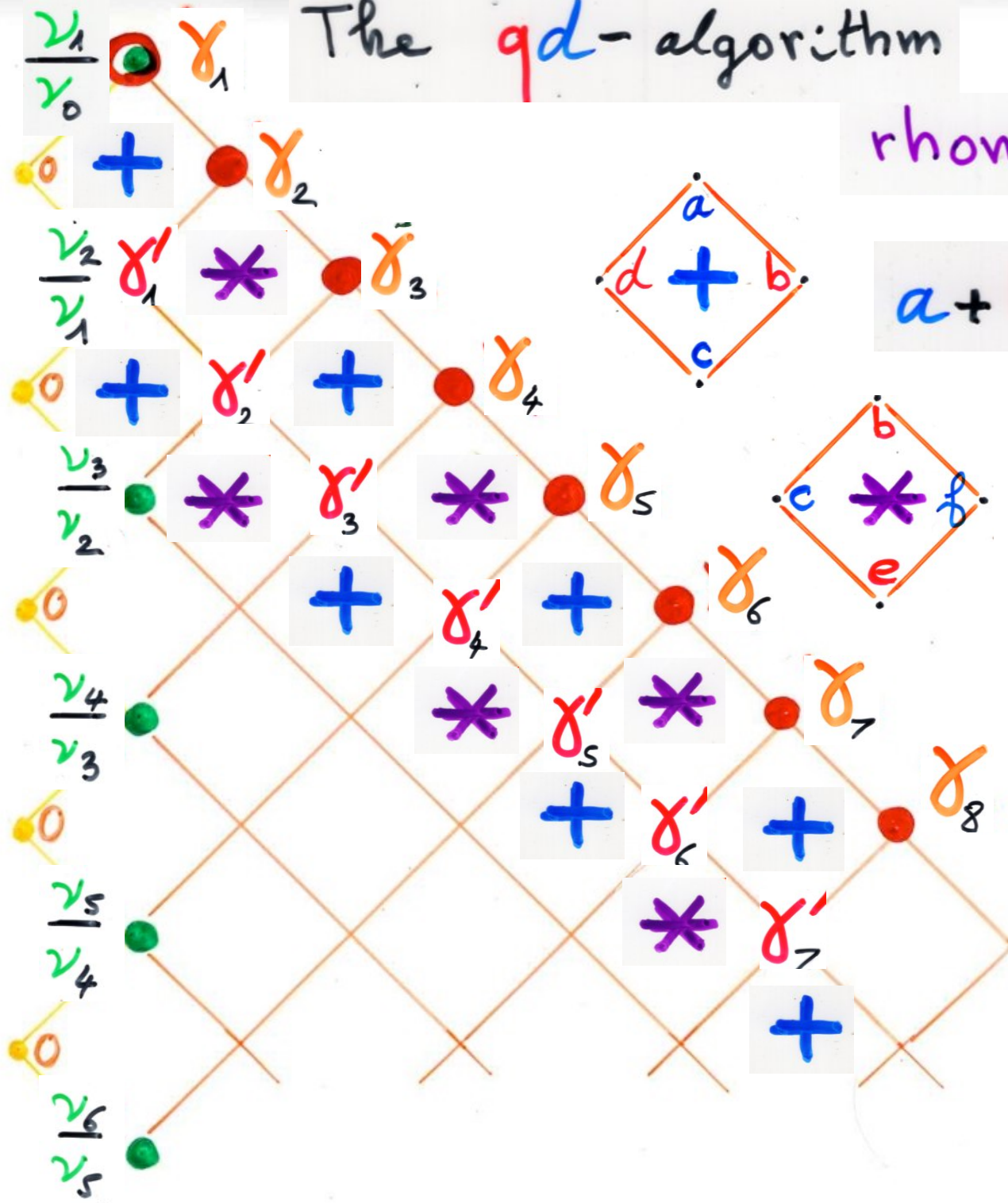


$$a + b = c + d$$

$$bf = ec$$

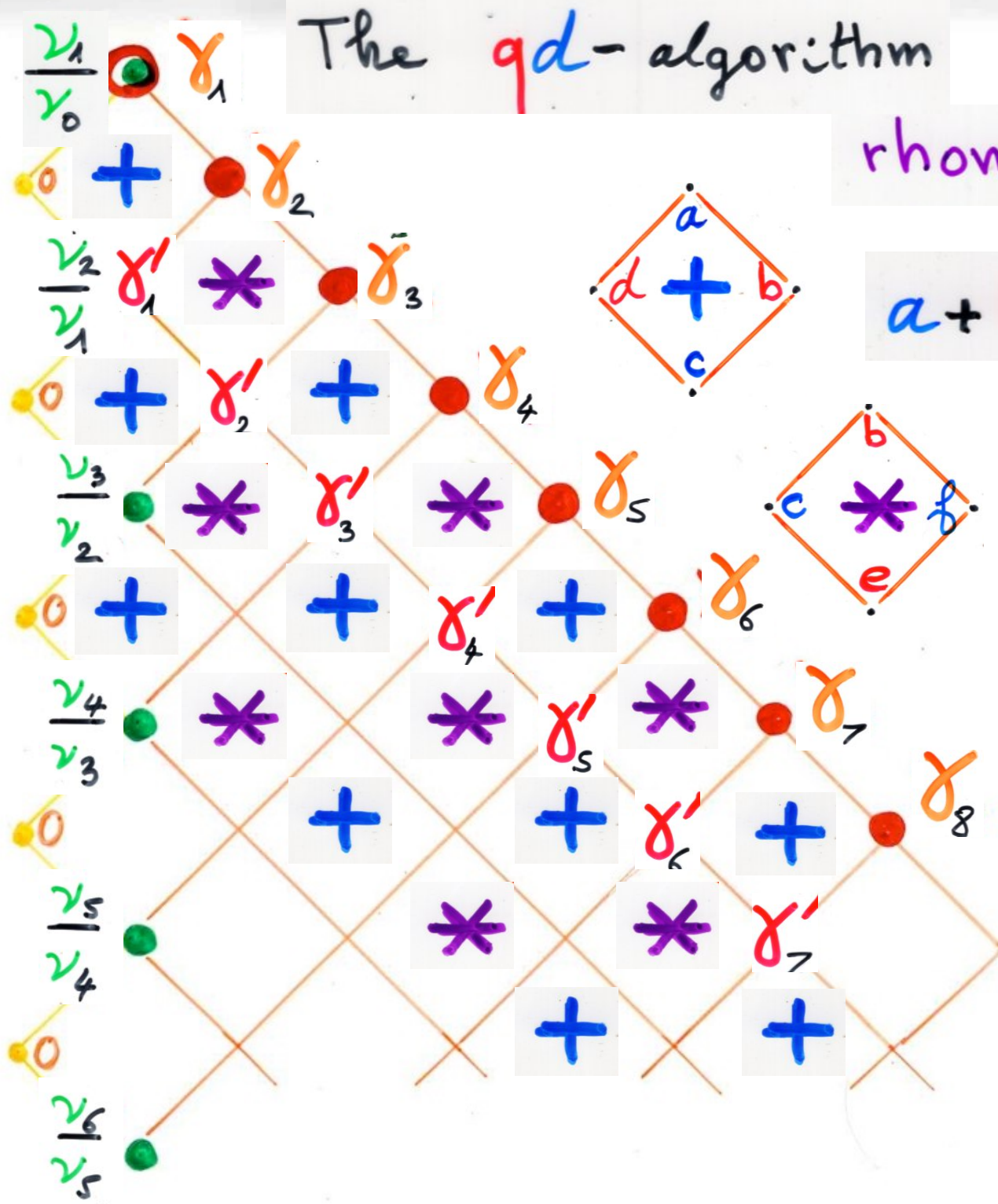
# The qd-algorithm

rhombus rules



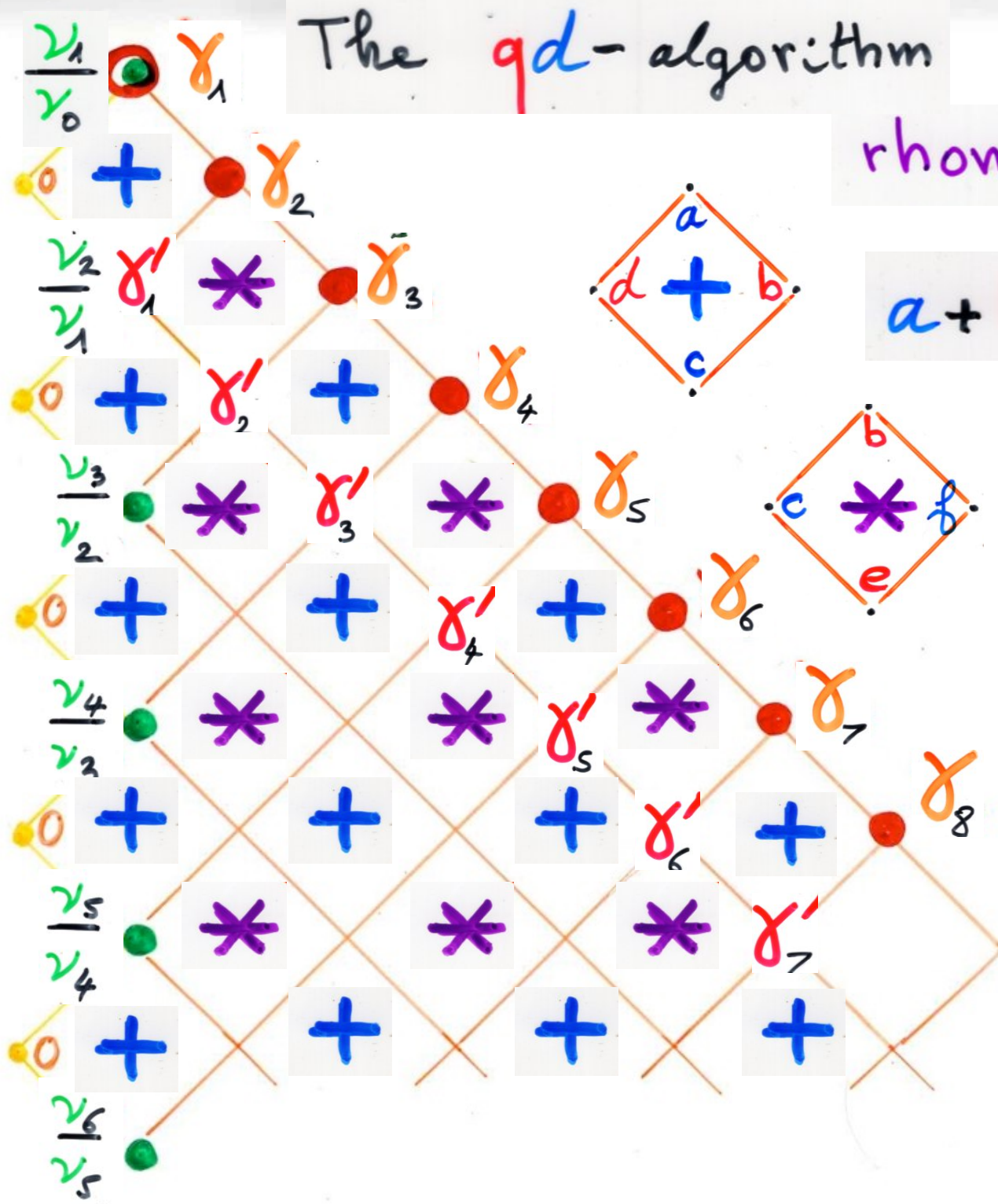
# The qd-algorithm

rhombus rules

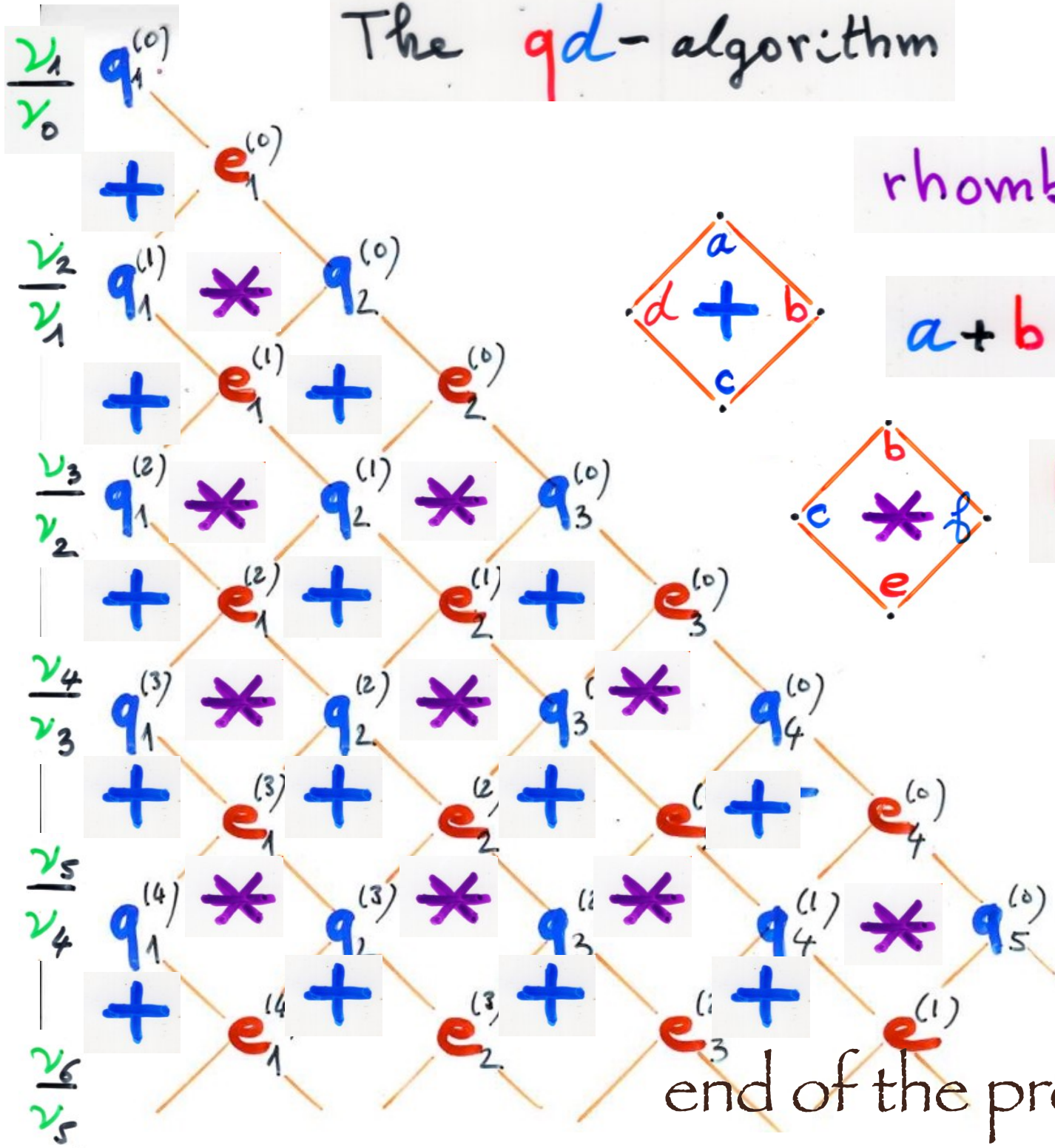


# The qd-algorithm

rhombus rules



# The $qd$ -algorithm



rhombus rules

$$a + b = c + d$$

$$bf = ec$$

end of the proof  $\square$

Expression with  
Hankel determinants

$$\gamma_{n+i} = \gamma_n \sum_{|\omega|=2i} \gamma^{(n)}(\omega)$$

Dyck paths

"compression"  
of weighted Dyck paths

$$|\omega| = 2n + 2p \rightarrow |\omega'| = 2p$$

$$\gamma^{(n)} = \{ \gamma_i^{(n)} \}_{i \geq 0}$$

$$\gamma_i^{(n)} = \gamma_{n+i}$$

$$i, n \geq 0$$

$$\overline{\gamma}^{(n)} = \{ \overline{\gamma}_i^{(n)} \}_{i \geq 0}$$

$$\overline{\gamma}_i^{(n)} = \frac{\gamma_{n+i}}{\gamma_n}$$

$$\mathbf{v} = \{v_n\}_{n \geq 0}$$

$$H_k^{(n)}(\mathbf{v})$$

$$H_k^{(n)} = H \left( \begin{matrix} n, n+1, \dots, n+k-1 \\ n, n, \dots, n \end{matrix} \right)$$

$$H_k^{(n)}(\mathbf{v}) = H_k^{(0)}(\mathbf{v}^{(n)})$$

$$H_k^{(n+1)}(\mathbf{v}) = H_k^{(1)}(\mathbf{v}^{(n)})$$

$$H_k^{(n)}(\mathbf{v}) = (v_n)^k H_k^{(0)}(\overline{\mathbf{v}}^{(n)})$$

$$H_k^{(n+1)}(\mathbf{v}) = (v_n)^k H_k^{(1)}(\overline{\mathbf{v}}^{(n)})$$



$$v_{n+i} = v_n \sum_{|\omega|=2i} V_{\gamma^{(n)}}(\omega)$$

Dyck paths

$$\overline{v}_i^{(n)} = \frac{v_{n+i}}{v_n}$$

$$S(t; \gamma^{(n)}) = \sum_{i \geq 0} \overline{v}_i^{(n)} t^i$$

a kind of "compression"  
of non-crossing Dyck paths

$$\frac{H_k^{(n)}(\nu)}{H_{k-1}^{(n)}(\nu)}$$

=

$$\nu_n \gamma_1^{(n)} \gamma_2^{(n)} \dots \gamma_{2k-2}^{(n)}$$

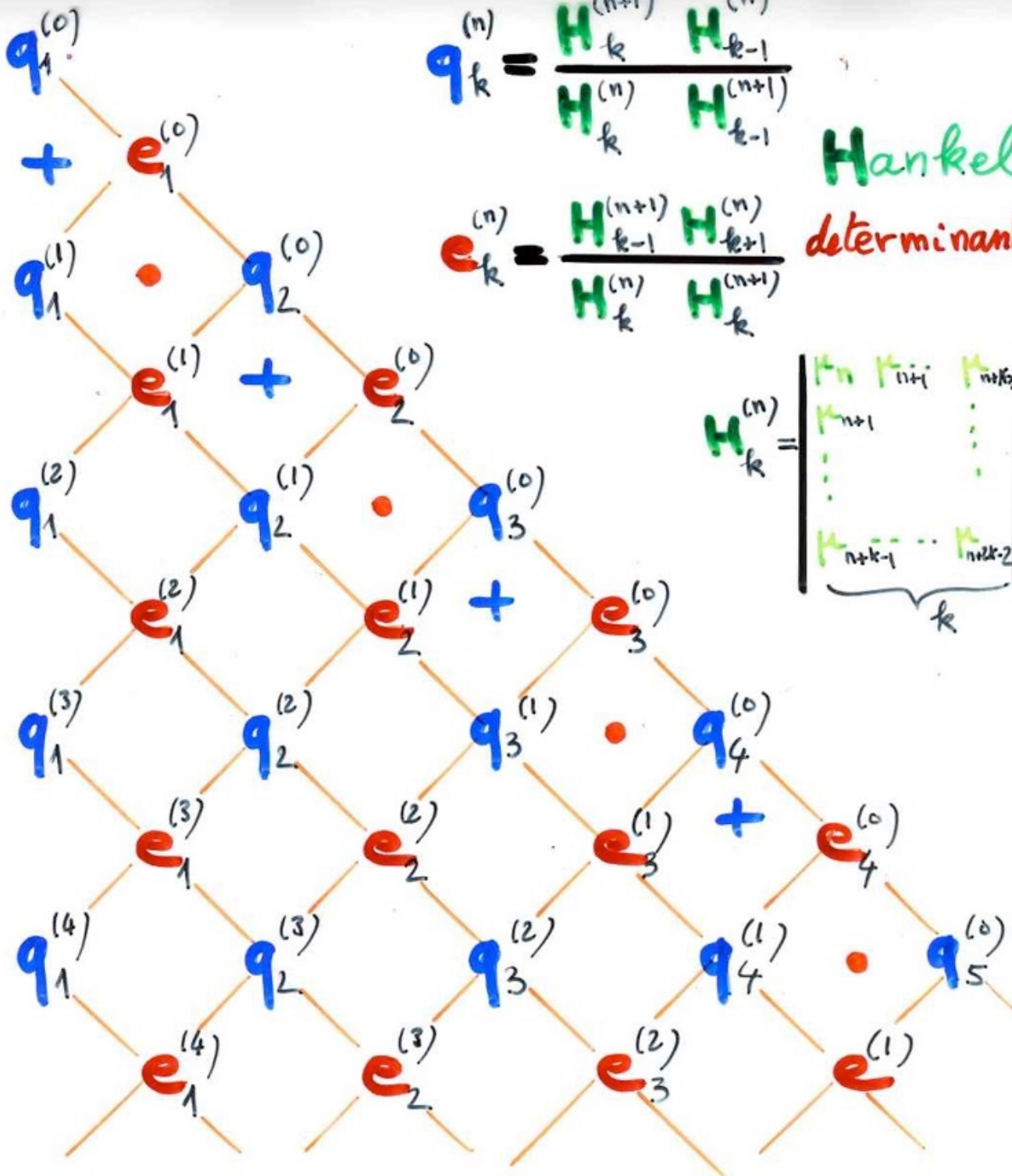
$$\frac{H_k^{(n+1)}(\nu)}{H_{k-1}^{(n+1)}(\nu)}$$

=

$$\nu_n \gamma_1^{(n)} \gamma_2^{(n)} \dots \gamma_{2k-1}^{(n)}$$

$$q_k^{(n)} = \frac{H_k^{(n+1)} H_{k-1}^{(n)}}{H_{k-1}^{(n+1)} H_k^{(n)}}$$

$$e_k^{(n)} = \frac{H_{k+1}^{(n)} H_{k-1}^{(n+1)}}{H_k^{(n)} H_k^{(n+1)}}$$



$$q_k^{(n)} = \frac{H_k^{(n+1)} H_{k-1}^{(n)}}{H_k^{(n)} H_{k-1}^{(n+1)}}$$

$$e_k^{(n)} = \frac{H_{k-1}^{(n+1)} H_{k+1}^{(n)}}{H_k^{(n)} H_k^{(n+1)}}$$

Hankel  
determinant

$$H_k^{(n)} = \begin{vmatrix} H_n & H_{n+1} & \dots & H_{n+k-1} \\ H_{n+1} & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ \vdots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ H_{n+k-1} & \dots & \dots & H_{n+k-2} \end{vmatrix}_k$$

Corollary

Starting from the sequence  $\{\gamma_n\}_{n \geq 0}$   
the  $qd$ -algorithm can be performed  
iff  $H_k^{(n)}(\gamma) \neq 0$  for every  $n, k \geq 0$

Corollary

The  $qd$ -transform of sequence  
 $\gamma = \{\gamma_k\}_{k \geq 1}$  exists

iff  $H_k^{(1)}(\gamma) \neq 0$  and  $H_k^{(2)}(\gamma) \neq 0$   
for every  $k \geq 0$

Complexity of the algorithms

Direct algorithm with Motzkin paths

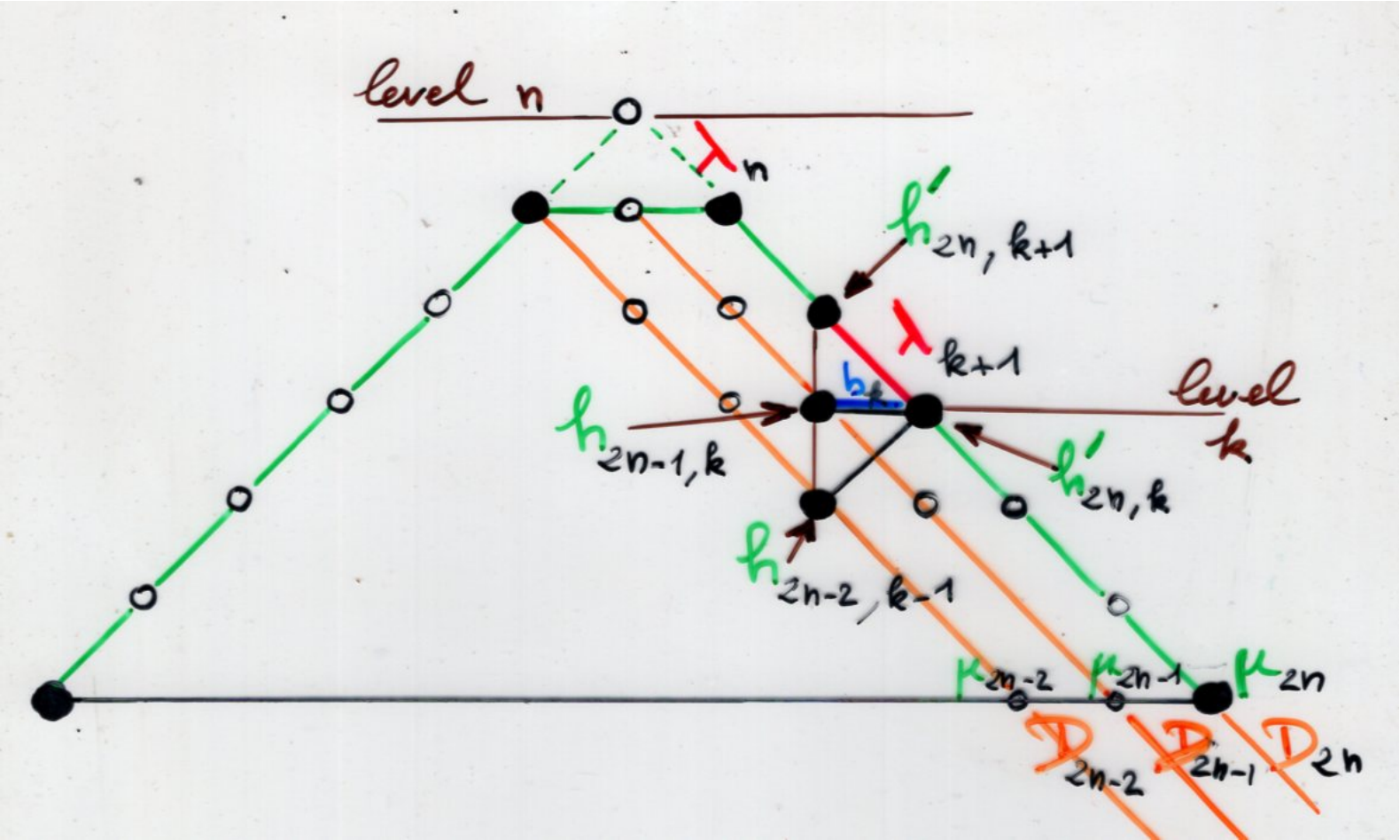
number of divisions:

- direct paths algorithm: linear  $n$
- Ramanujan formula: linear  $n$
- $qd$ -algorithm : quadratic  $n^2$

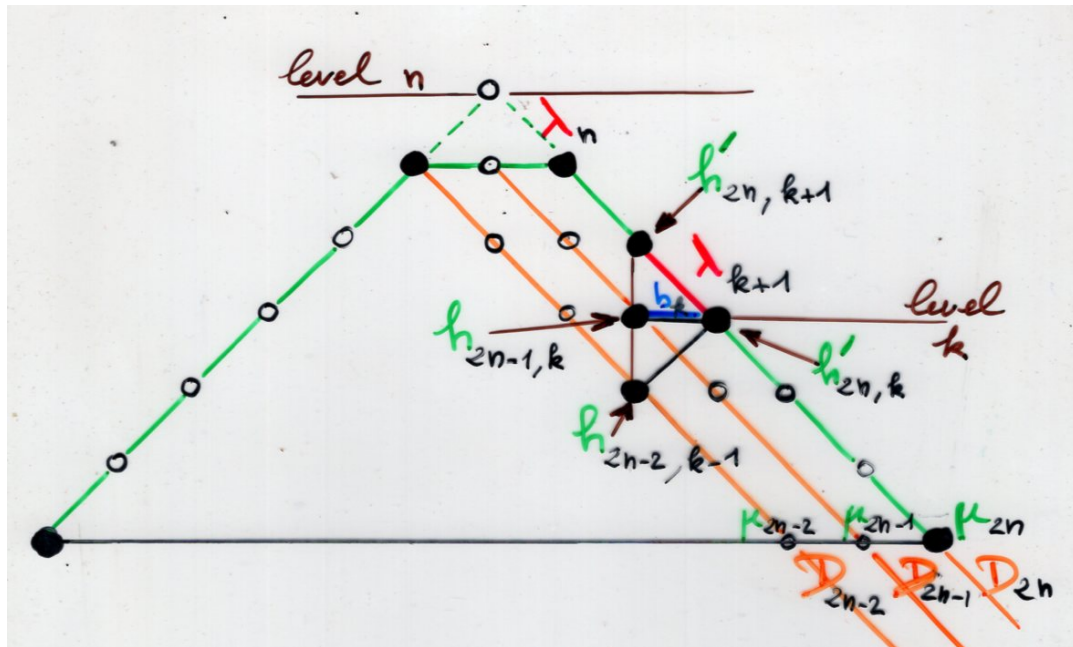
$$P_n = \sum_{0 \leq k < \frac{n}{2}} (-1)^k \varphi_k(n) A_{n-k}$$

$$\varphi_r(n+1) - \varphi_r(n) = a_{n-1} \varphi_{n-1}(n-1)$$

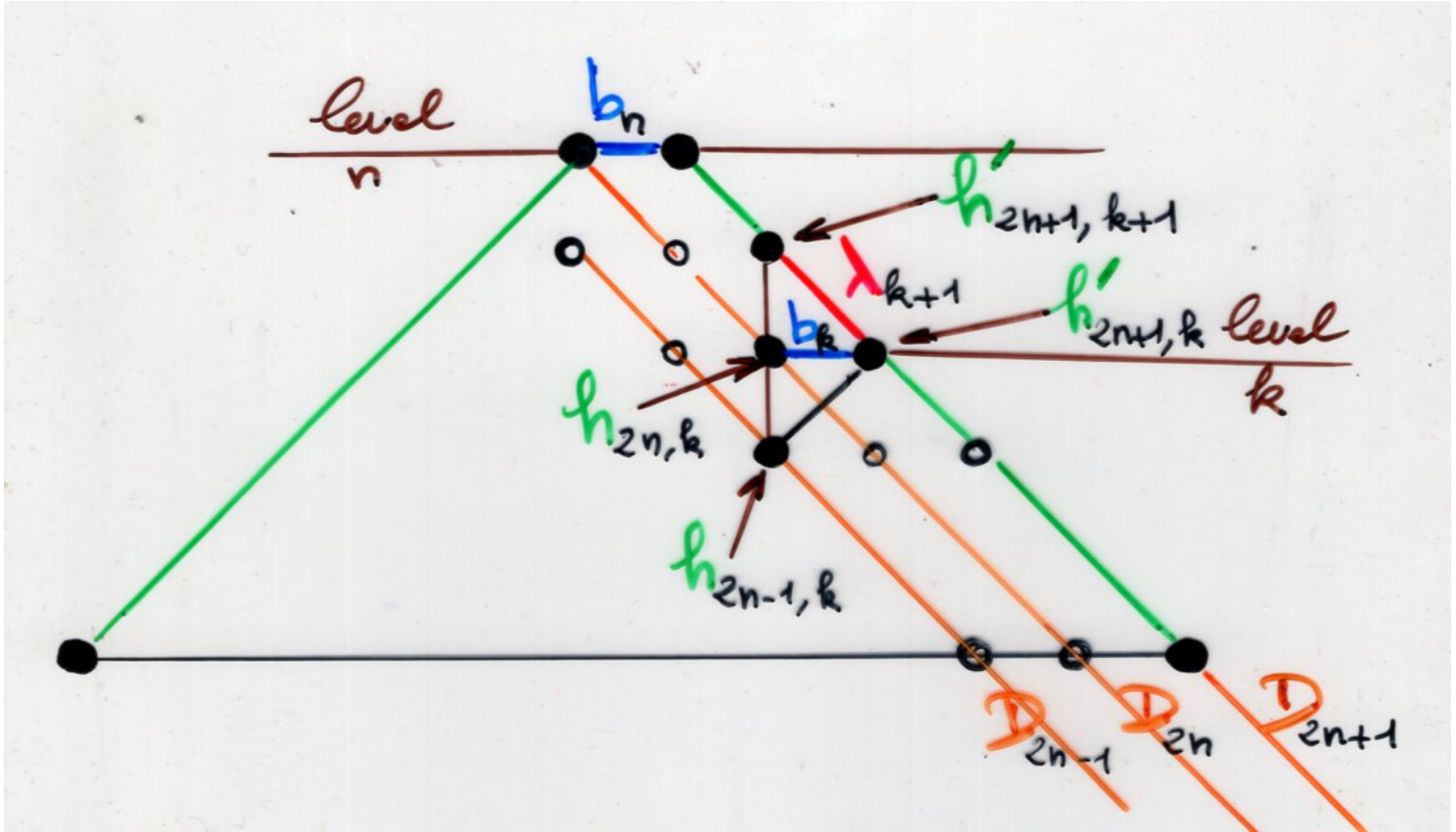
$$P_n = a_1 a_2 \cdots a_{n-1} (a_1 + a_2 + \cdots + a_n), \quad n \geq 1$$







$$\left\{ \begin{aligned}
 h'_{2n, n-1} &= b_{n-1} h_{2n-1, n-1} + h_{2n-2, n-2} \\
 \hline
 h'_{2n, k} &= \lambda_{k+1} h'_{2n, k+1} + b_k h_{2n-1, k} + h_{2n-2, k-1} \\
 \hline
 &\text{(for } k=n-2, \dots, 1) \\
 h'_{2n, 0} &= \lambda_1 h'_{2n, 1} + b_0 \mu_{2n-1} \\
 \mu_{2n} &= h'_{2n, 0} + (\lambda_1 \dots \lambda_{n-1}) \lambda_n \\
 \\
 h_{2n, k} &= h'_{2n, k} + (\lambda_{k+1} \dots \lambda_n)
 \end{aligned} \right.$$





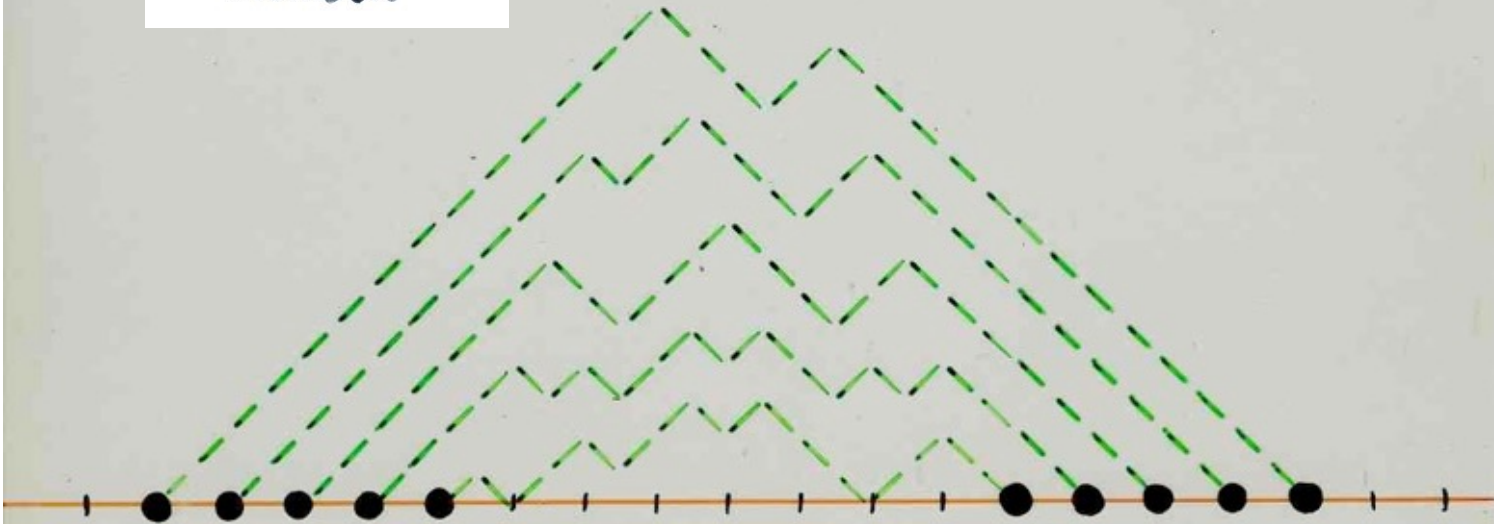
# Combinatorial applications

$$\begin{vmatrix} C_n & C_{n+1} & \dots & C_{n+k-1} \\ C_{n+1} & \dots & \dots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ C_{n+k-1} & \dots & \dots & C_{n+2k-2} \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} \frac{(i+j+2k)}{(i+j)}$$

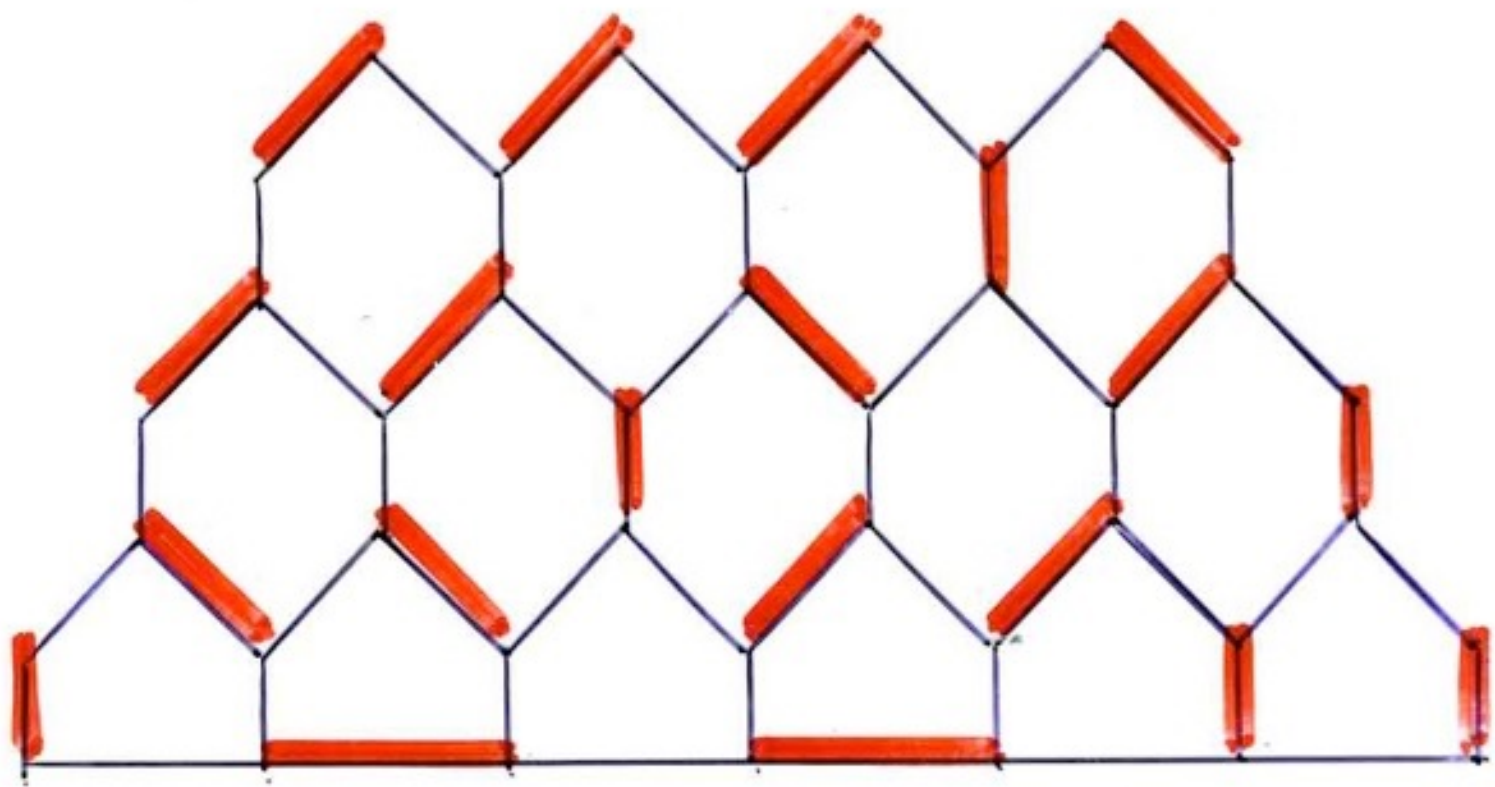
Hankel  
determinant  
of  
Catalan  
numbers

Hankel  
determinant  
of  
Catalan  
numbers



$$2k = 4$$

$$n = 3$$

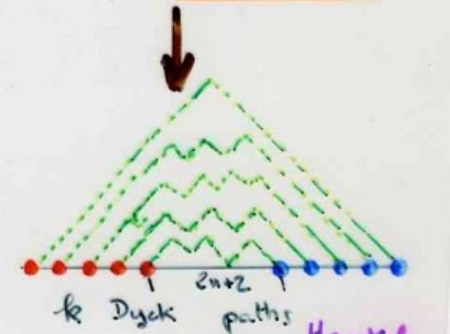
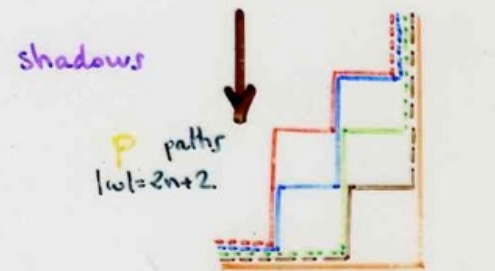
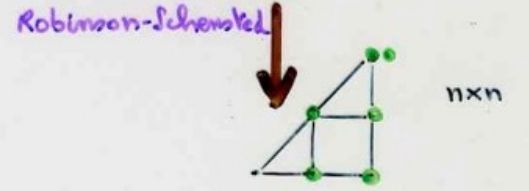
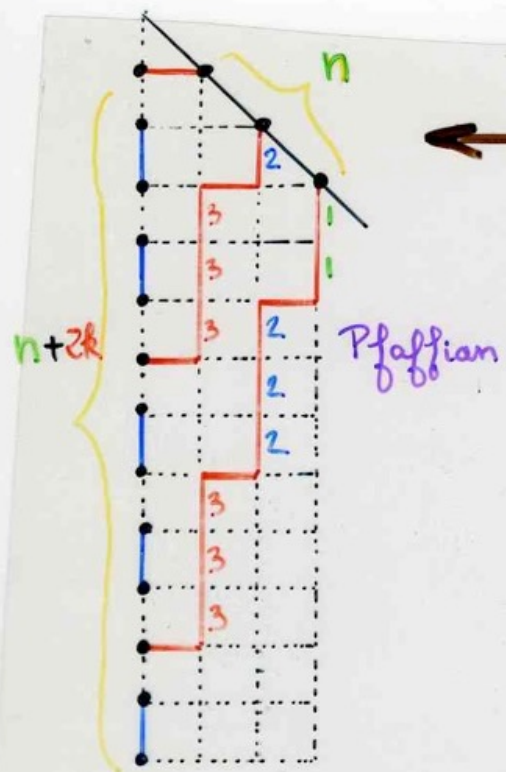


$$H_{n,k}^*$$

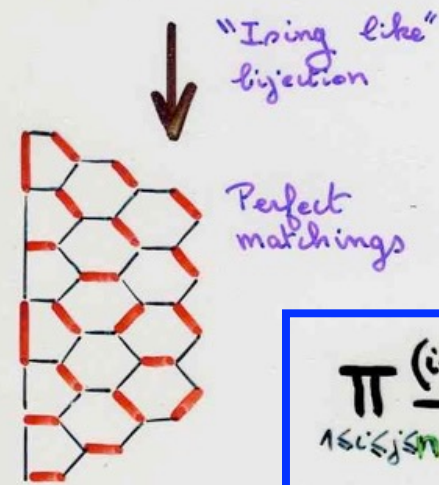
number of  
perfect  
matchings  
of  
 $H_{n,k}^*$

$$= \prod_{1 \leq i \leq j \leq n} \frac{(i+j+2k)}{(i+j)}$$



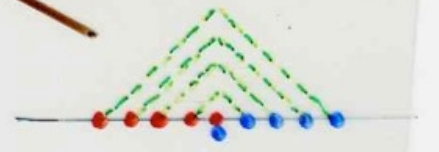


Hankel determinants  
Contraction  
QD-algorithm



$$\prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} \frac{(i+j+2k)}{(i+j)}$$

De Sainte-Catherine, X.V.  
(1985)

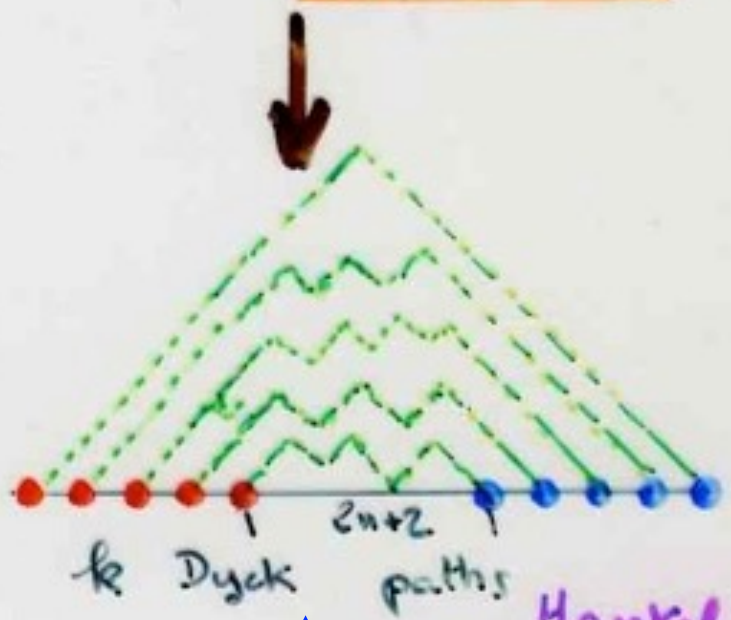


$$|w| = 2n+2$$



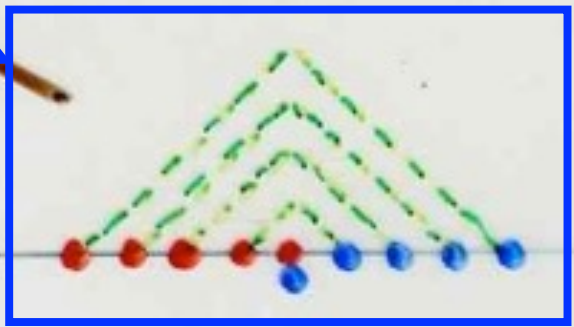
"Ising like" bijection

Perfect matchings



Hankel determinants  
 Contractions  
 QD-algorithm

$$\prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} \frac{(i+j+2k)}{(i+j)}$$



## Proposition

qd-table for Catalan

$$q_k^{(n)} = \frac{(2n+2k-1)(2n+2k)}{(n+2k-1)(n+2k)}$$

$$e_k^{(n)} = \frac{2k(2k+1)}{(n+2k)(n+2k+1)}$$

*Proof.* We just have to check that these numbers satisfy the rhombus rules (18). We have successively

$$\begin{aligned}
 e_k^{(n)} q_{k+1}^{(n)} &= \frac{2k(2k+1)(2n+2k+1)(2n+2k+2)}{(n+2k)(n+2k+1)(n+2k+1)(n+2k+2)} = e_k^{(n+1)} q_k^{(n+1)}. \\
 q_{k+1}^{(n)} + e_{k+1}^{(n)} &= \frac{(2n+2k+1)(2n+2k+2)}{(n+2k+1)(n+2k+2)} + \frac{(2k+2)(2k+3)}{(n+2k+2)(n+2k+3)}, \\
 &= \frac{4n^3 + n^2(16k+18) + n(24k^2 + 52k + 26) + 2(2k+1)(2k+2)(2k+3)}{(n+2k+1)(n+2k+2)(n+2k+3)}, \\
 &= \frac{(2n+2k+3)(2n+2k+4)}{(n+2k+2)(n+2k+3)} + \frac{2k(2k+1)}{(n+2k+1)(n+2k+2)}, \\
 &= q_{k+1}^{(n+1)} + e_k^{(n+1)}. \square
 \end{aligned}$$

**Corollary 11.** *The number of non-crossing configurations of  $k$  Dyck paths  $\eta = (w_1, w_2, \dots, w_k)$  such that for  $i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq k$ ,  $w_i$  goes from the point  $(-2i+2, 0)$  to the point  $(2n+2i-2, 0)$  is*

$$d_{n,k} = \prod_{1 \leq i < j < n} \frac{i+j+2k}{i+j}.$$

**Corollary 11.** *The number of non-crossing configurations of  $k$  Dyck paths  $\eta = (w_1, w_2, \dots, w_k)$  such that for  $i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq k$ ,  $w_i$  goes from the point  $(-2i + 2, 0)$  to the point  $(2n + 2i - 2, 0)$  is*

$$d_{n,k} = \prod_{1 \leq i < j < n} \frac{i + j + 2k}{i + j}.$$

*Proof.* From the above considerations, this number is the  $k \times k$  Hankel determinant (for  $\mu_n = C_n$ )

$$H_k^{(n)} = (C_n)^k (q_1^{(n)} e_1^{(n)})^{k-1} (q_2^{(n)} e_2^{(n)})^{k-2} \dots (q_{k-1}^{(n)} e_{k-1}^{(n)}), \quad (27)$$

with  $q_k^{(n)}$  and  $e_k^{(n)}$  defined by (26). We have successively

$$C_n q_1^{(n)} e_1^{(n)} q_2^{(n)} e_2^{(n)} \dots q_{k-1}^{(n)} e_{k-1}^{(n)} = \frac{(2k-1)!(2n+2k-2)!}{(n+2k-1)!(n+2k-2)},$$

$$d_{n,k}/d_{n,k-1} = \frac{(2k+n)(2k+n+1) \dots (2k+2n-2)}{2k(2k+1) \dots (2k+n-2)},$$

$$d_{n,k}/d_{n,k-1} = H_k^{(n)} / H_{k-1}^{(n)}, \quad (n \geq 1, k \geq 2). \quad (28)$$

With  $d_{n,1} = C_n = H_1^{(n)}$  ( $n \geq 1$ ). We deduce  $H_k^{(n)} = d_{n,k}$ . □

The formula of corollary 11 reappeared in Physics in the context of directed polymers with watermelons topology in the presence of a wall. Extensions are given in Guttmann, Krattenthaler, Viennot [13]. This work follows Guttmann

$$H_k^{(n)} = \binom{n}{k} (q_1 e_1)^{k-1} (q_2 e_2)^{k-2} \cdots (q_{k-1} e_{k-1})$$

$$= \prod_{1 \leq i \leq j < n} \frac{i+j+2k}{i+j}$$

The idea of compression of paths  
and configurations of  
non-crossing Dyck paths

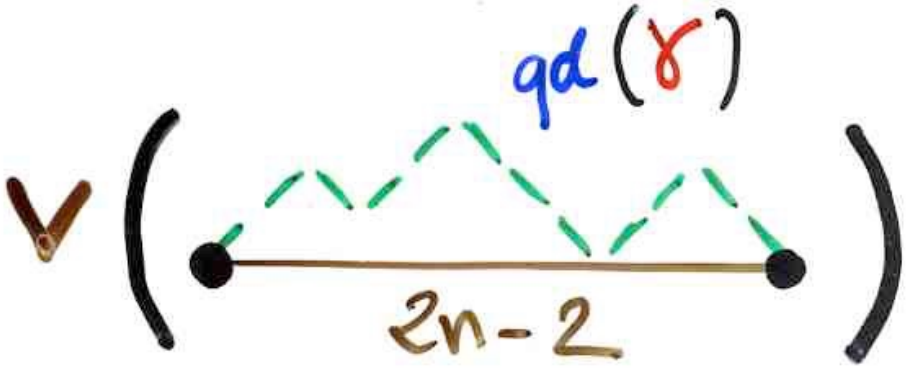
Catalan

$$C_n =$$

$$\frac{1}{n+1} \binom{2n}{n}$$



Catalan

$$C_n = \frac{1}{n+1} \binom{2n}{n} = \gamma_1^{(0)} \sum_{\omega} \nu \left( \text{qd}(\gamma) \right)$$


Catalan

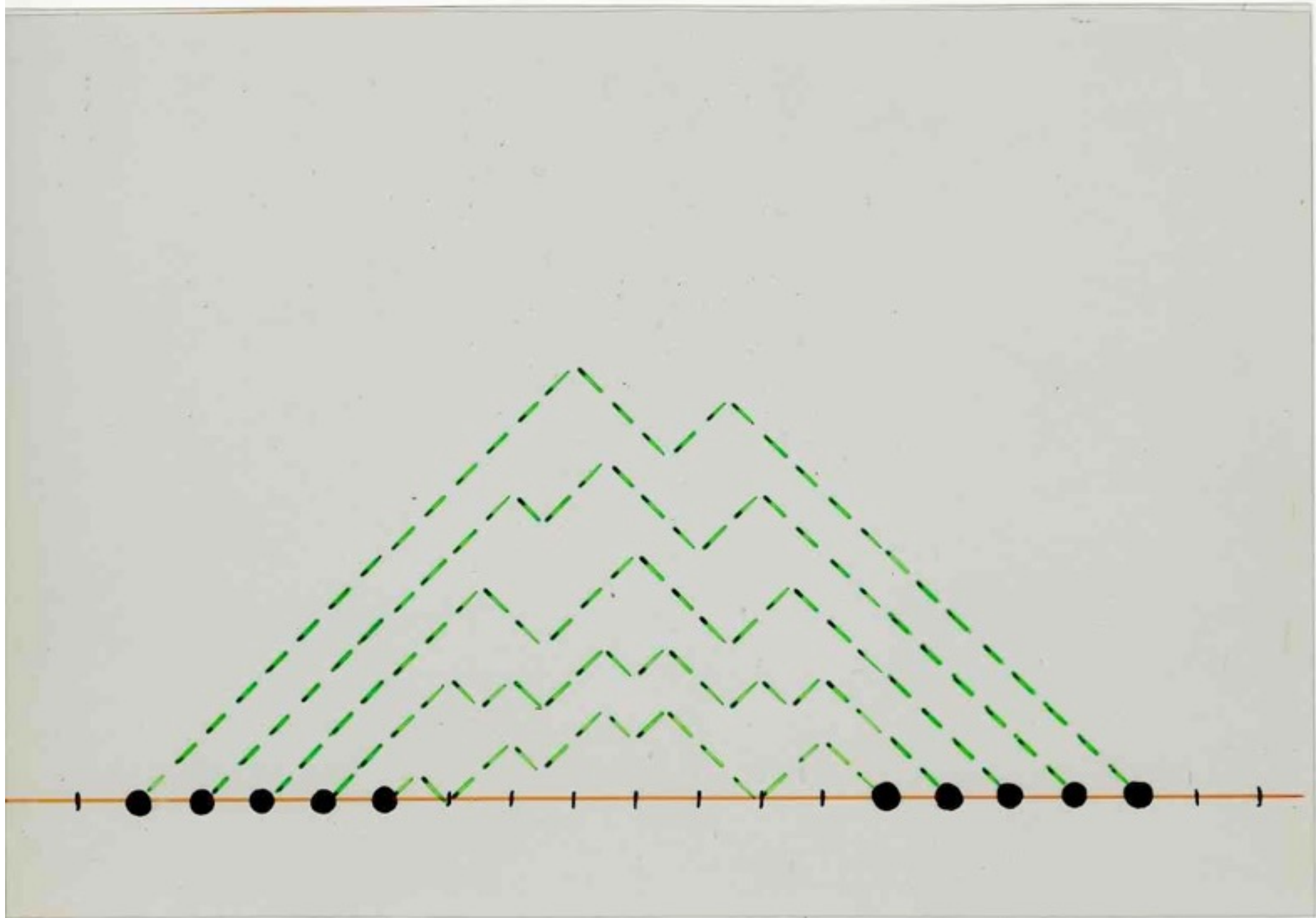
$$C_n = \gamma_1^{(0)} \gamma_1^{(1)} \sum_{\omega} v \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{qd}^{(2)}(\delta) \\ \text{---} \\ 2n-4 \end{array} \right)$$

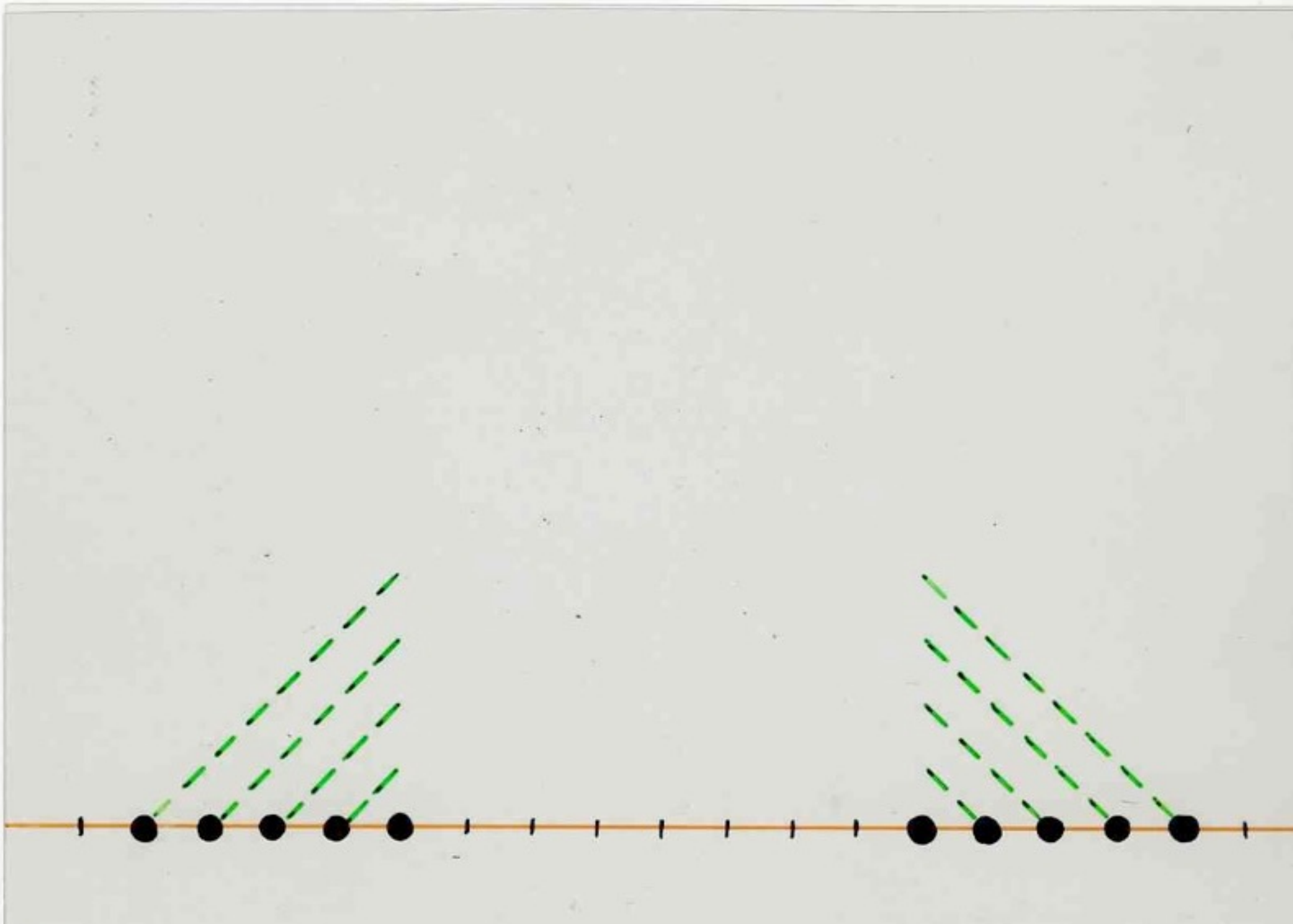
$\frac{1}{n+1} \binom{2n}{n}$

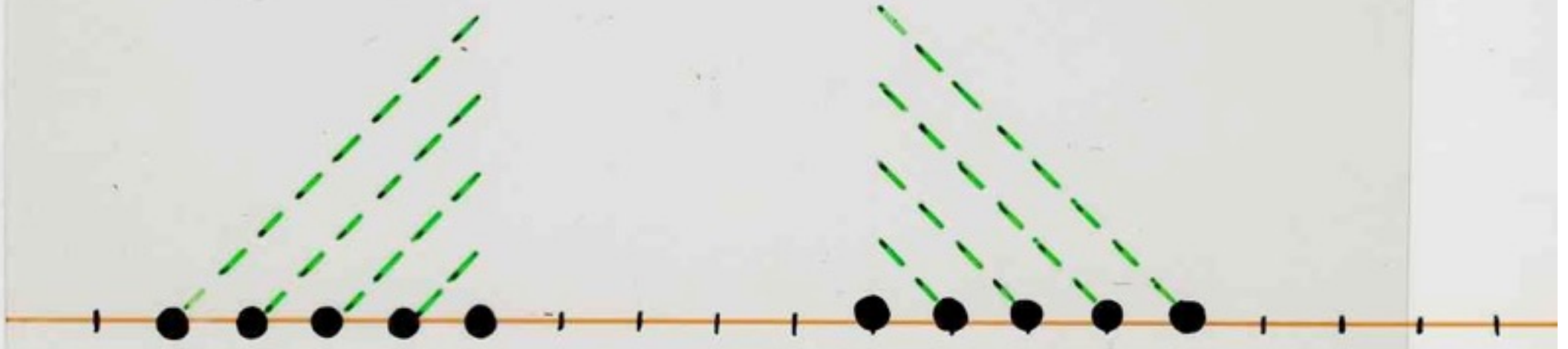
Catalan

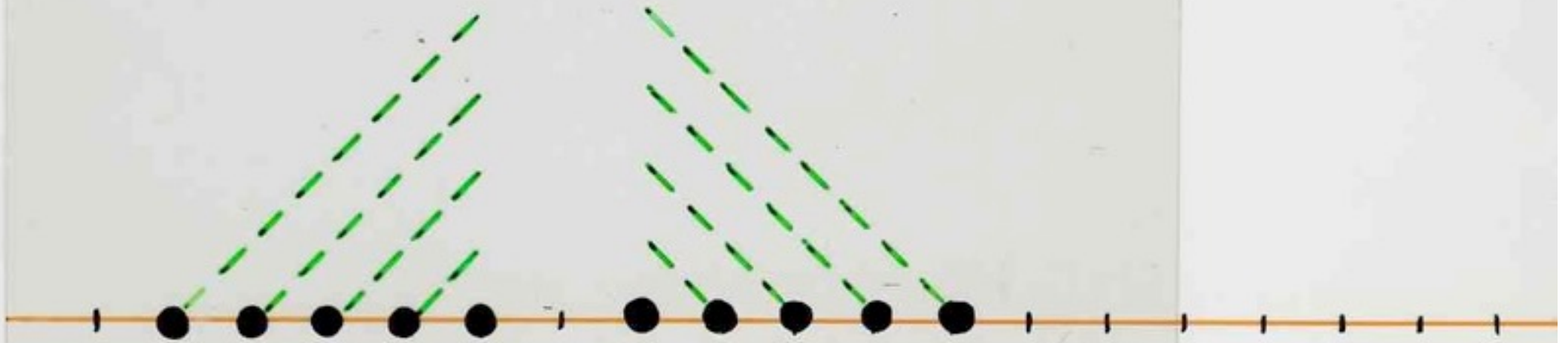
$$C_n = \gamma_1^{(0)} \gamma_1^{(1)} \cdots \gamma_1^{(n-1)} \vee \left( \overset{(n-1)}{\text{qd}} (\gamma) \bullet \right)$$

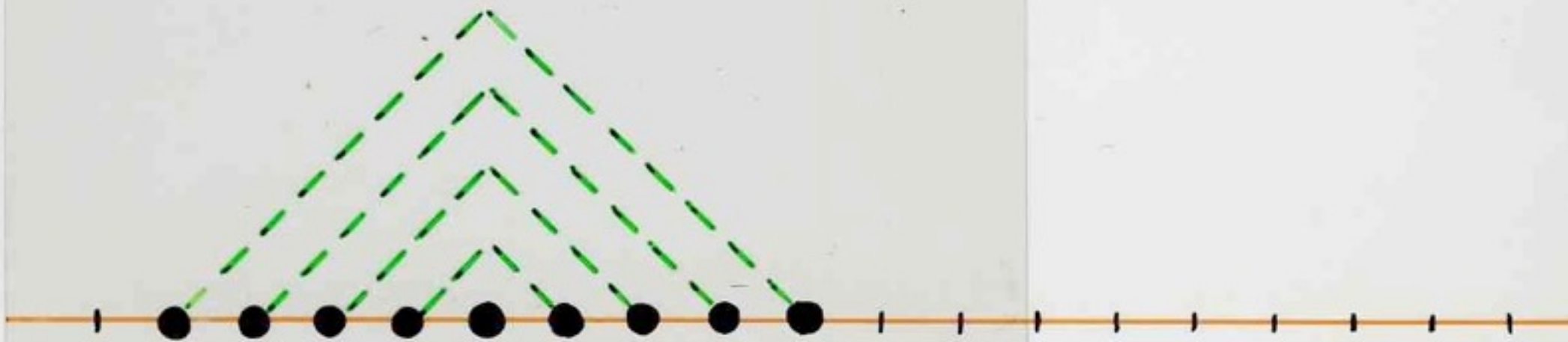
$$\frac{1}{n+1} \binom{2n}{n}$$









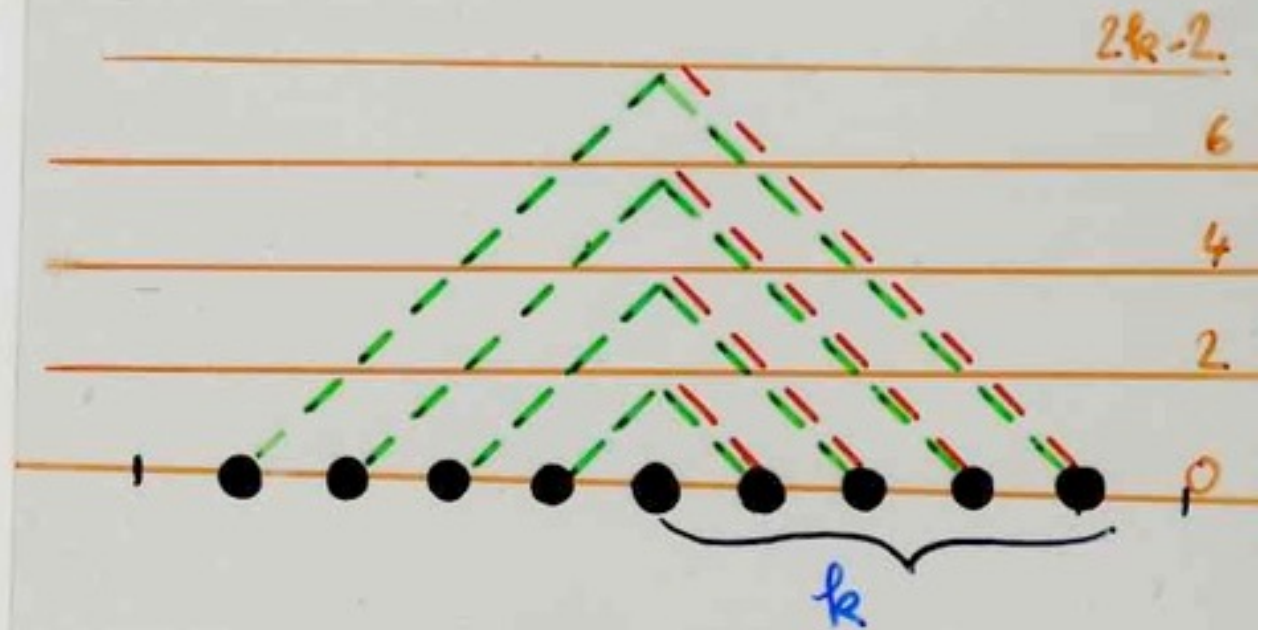




$\Delta_{n, k}$

$k$  paths

$$= \begin{pmatrix} \gamma_1^{(n)} & \gamma_2^{(n)} \end{pmatrix}^{k-1} \begin{pmatrix} \gamma_3^{(n)} & \gamma_4^{(n)} \end{pmatrix}^{k-2} \dots \begin{pmatrix} \gamma_{2k-1}^{(n)} & \gamma_{2k-2}^{(n)} \end{pmatrix}$$



Research problem

number of  
 perfect  
 matchings  
 of  
 $H_{n,k}^*$

$$= \prod_{1 \leq i \leq j < n} \frac{i+j+2k}{i+j}$$

$$H_k^{(n)} = \binom{n}{k} (q_1 e_1)^{k-1} (q_2 e_2)^{k-2} \cdots (q_{k-1} e_{k-1})$$

$$\frac{(\text{product})}{(\text{product})} = \prod_{i,j} \frac{a_{ij}}{b_{ij}}$$

many formulae of the type

$$a_n = \frac{(\text{product})}{(\text{product})}$$

$$a_{(\text{something})} = \frac{(\text{product})}{(\text{product})}$$

(determinant)

- hook-length formula  
Young tableaux
- ASM alternating sign matrices
- TSSCPP
- .....

bijjective proof ?

$$a_{(\text{something})} =$$

$$\frac{(\text{product})}{(\text{product})}$$

$$(\text{product}) a_{(\text{something})} = (\text{product})$$

## Research idea

look at

$a$  (something)

as a product of rational numbers

$$= \frac{a_{(1)}}{b_{(1)}} \times \dots \times \frac{a_{(n)}}{b_{(n)}}$$

coming from some kind of  
"compression" of configurations of  
non-crossing configurations of paths  
related to some determinants

