

Guessing with Little Data

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Motivating Example: OEIS A172671

$$a_n := \#\{A \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^{3n \times 6} \mid \text{row sums} = 2, \text{column sums} = n\}$$

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Questions:

- ▶ Recurrence? Efficient method for computing next terms?
- ▶ Nature of the generating function?

Nature of the Sequence

Answer 1: Denote by c_i ($1 \leq i \leq 21$) the number of rows of type i :

$$a_n = \sum_{\substack{0 \leq c_1, \dots, c_{21} \leq n \\ + \text{lin. constraints}}} \binom{3n}{c_1, c_2, \dots, c_{21}}$$

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$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n = \text{Diag} \left(\frac{1}{1 - x_1 x_2 - x_1 x_3 - \dots - x_5 x_6 - x_1^2 - \dots - x_6^2} \right)$$

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How to construct this recurrence / ODE?

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Ansatz: $c_0 a_n + c_1 a_{n+1} + \cdots + c_r a_{n+r} = 0$

leads to a linear system $M \cdot x = 0$ with

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} a_0 & a_1 & \cdots & a_r \\ a_1 & a_2 & \cdots & a_{r+1} \\ a_2 & a_3 & \cdots & a_{r+2} \\ a_3 & a_4 & \cdots & a_{r+3} \\ a_4 & a_5 & \cdots & a_{r+4} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \end{pmatrix}$$

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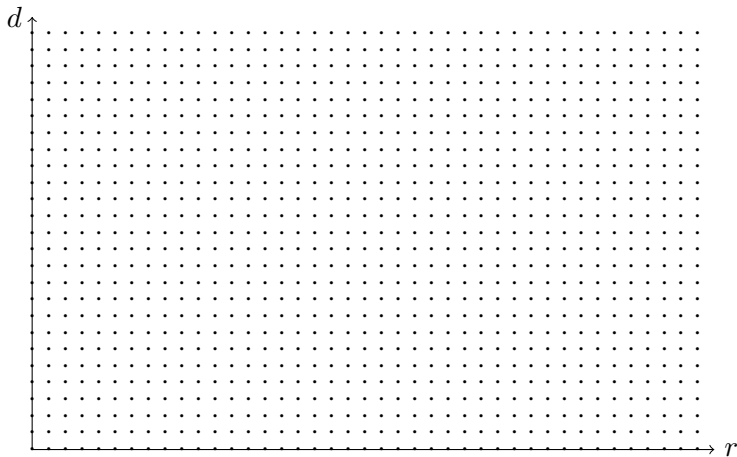
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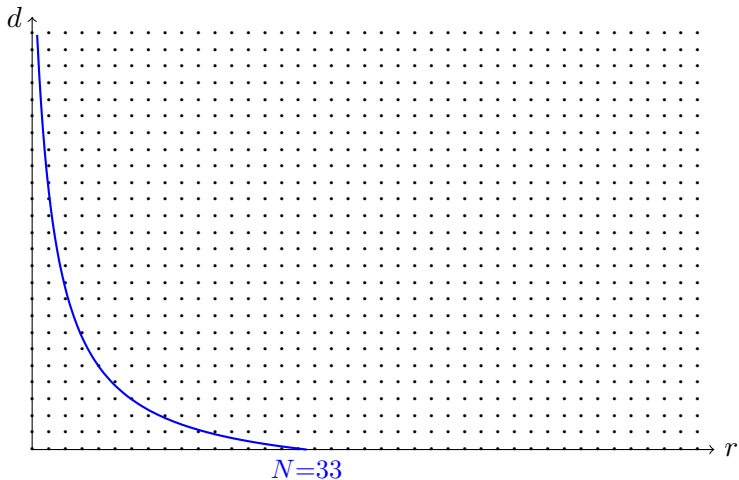
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- ▶ To trust the result, we need $N - r + 1 \geq (r+1)(d+1)$.
- ▶ For sequence A172671 we know only 33 terms, i.e. we can try $(r, d) = (1, 15), (2, 9), (3, 6), (4, 5), (6, 3), (7, 2), (10, 1), (16, 0)$.

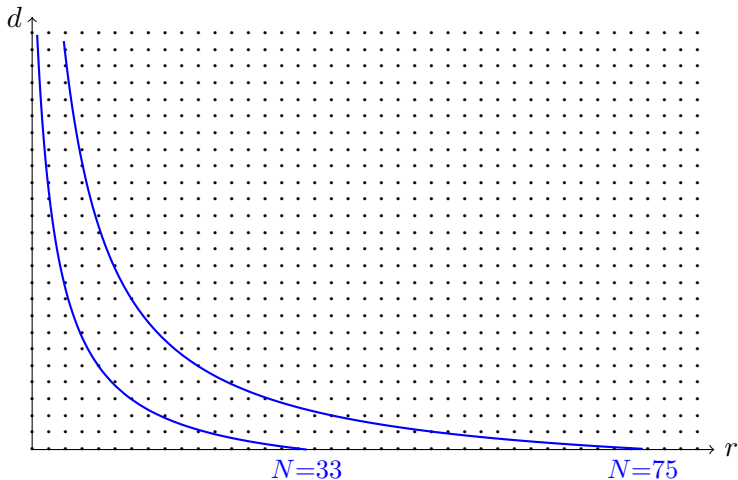
Trading Order vs. Degree



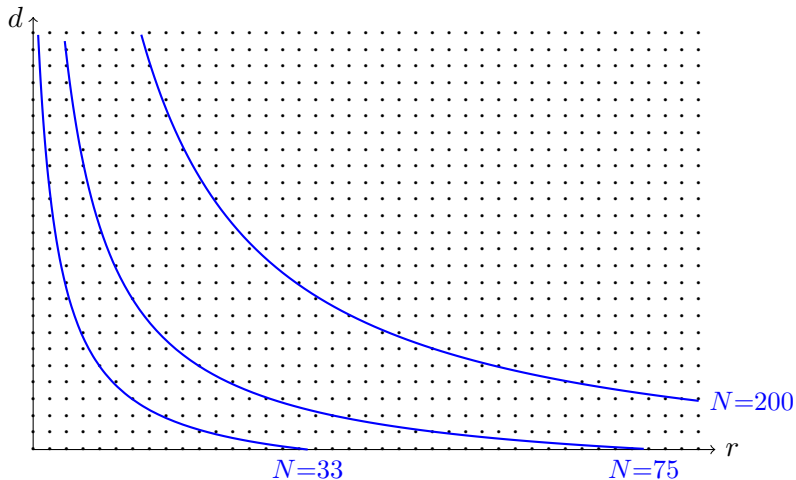
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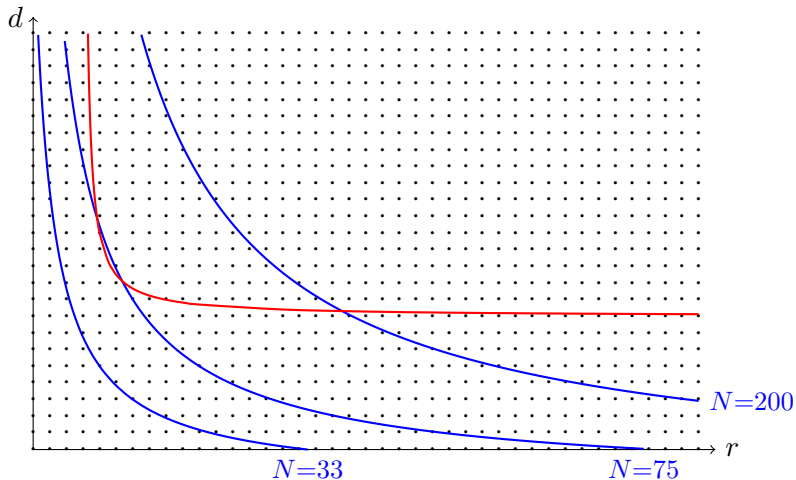
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→ Employ a lattice reduction algorithm (LLL, BKZ, ...).

Lattice Basis

Let $v_1, \dots, v_\ell \in \mathbb{Z}^m$. They generate a lattice

$$\mathcal{L} = \{c_1 v_1 + \dots + c_\ell v_\ell \mid c_1, \dots, c_\ell \in \mathbb{Z}\}.$$

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- Clearing denominators is not enough.

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A lattice reduction algorithm computes a basis $w_1, \dots, w_\ell$ of $\mathcal{L}$ that consists of short vectors.

Caveat: Before we had computed a $\mathbb{Q}$ -vector space basis of $\ker M$.

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- ▶ It can be computed, e.g. using the Hermite normal form.

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The Generic Case

Theorem [Bombieri–Vaaler, 1983] Let $M \in \mathbb{Z}^{k \times m}$ with $k < m$, and let g be the gcd of all $k \times k$ minors of M . Then $\ker_{\mathbb{Z}} M$ contains a nonzero element $x \in \mathbb{Z}^m$ with

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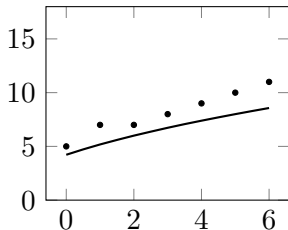
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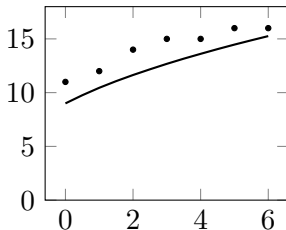
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- If we seek for an order-4 and degree-5 recurrence we obtain

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- Same with order-4 and degree-3, we could get something like

$$(n-4)(2234n^2 + 719n - 6083) \cdot a_n + \\ (n-4)(5672n^2 - 4375n + 6727) \cdot a_{n+1} - \\ (n-4)(9959n^2 - 4399n - 7710) \cdot a_{n+2} + \\ (n-4)(n-3)(1322n + 1174) \cdot a_{n+3} + \\ (n-4)(n-3)(n-2)1909 \cdot a_{n+4} = 0.$$

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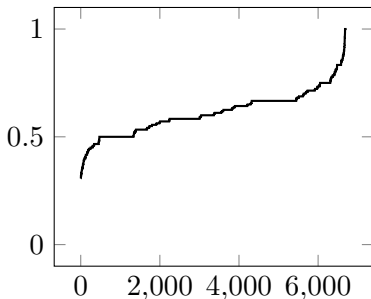
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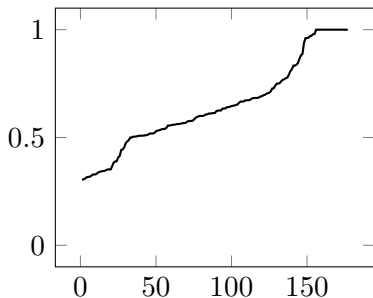
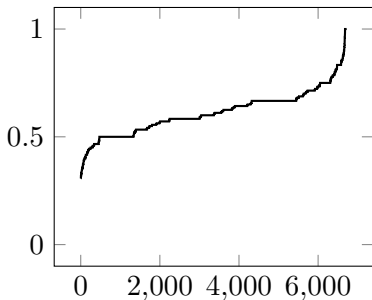
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 & \quad + 795176466036180480n^9 + 4485660756765878340n^8 + 18521224670025594405n^7 \\
 & \quad + 56639217843614362320n^6 + 128197997261515989990n^5 + 211964073373172447460n^4 \\
 & \quad + 248660072114197834440n^3 + 195845152107619591920n^2 \\
 & \quad + 92743576895010081600n + 19927056990544704000)a_n \\
 & + (194741607456n^{13} + 8763372335520n^{12} + 181116778854528n^{11} + 2276272139092056n^{10} \\
 & \quad + 19409301171931086n^9 + 118570454113296582n^8 + 533897028046714761n^7 \\
 & \quad + 1794118103056008945n^6 + 4499490897537212457n^5 + 8317813242144219813n^4 \\
 & \quad + 11017108466619178896n^3 + 9901273828612752684n^2 \\
 & \quad + 5411908796200065936n + 1358800904704763520)a_{n+1} \\
 & + (-7905964176n^{13} - 375533298360n^{12} - 8210014228350n^{11} - 109384917208164n^{10} \\
 & \quad - 990927551678562n^9 - 6445641158908164n^8 - 30971993224981077n^7 \\
 & \quad - 111314492026841106n^6 - 299240095376493090n^5 - 594271149013691226n^4 \\
 & \quad - 847459848696773373n^3 - 821800045816910820n^2 \\
 & \quad - 485718284438018172n - 132150596906568240)a_{n+2} \\
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1166349337

Neil Sloane (05.03.2022, about A189281): In the text of the paper you say the coefficients are small! Au contraire. In fact the amount of data in the g.f. is comparable with the data in the original 35-term b-file for the sequence.

If you print the g.f. and then print the data, the number of digits in the two printouts look about the same. When this happens, surely you should be worried. I am very worried, and I think the g.f. needs more justification.

In fact the g.f. looks wrong. I use gfun all the time, and when the g.f. looks like this, like something you would find in the dumpster behind a restaurant, then I would not even consider it :D

972123687656328288735978572104329068283230362616209131997797645253144907352505487518710000

Result for A172671

Trustworthy?

$$\begin{aligned} & (10346454767880n^{13} + 439724327634900n^{12} + 8541142111645605n^{11} + 100346408873891460n^{10} \\ & \quad + 795176466036180480n^9 + 4485660756765878340n^8 + 18521224670025594405n^7 \\ & \quad + 56639217843614362320n^6 + 128197997261515989990n^5 + 211964073373172447460n^4 \\ & \quad + 248660072114197834440n^3 + 195845152107619591920n^2 \\ & \quad + 92743576895010081600n + 19927056990544704000)a_n \\ & + (194741607456n^{13} + 8763372335520n^{12} + 181116778854528n^{11} + 2276272139092056n^{10} \\ & \quad + 19409301171931086n^9 + 118570454113296582n^8 + 533897028046714761n^7 \\ & \quad + 1794118103056008945n^6 + 4499490897537212457n^5 + 8317813242144219813n^4 \\ & \quad + 11017108466619178896n^3 + 9901273828612752684n^2 \\ & \quad + 5411908796200065936n + 1358800904704763520)a_{n+1} \\ & + (-7905964176n^{13} - 375533298360n^{12} - 8210014228350n^{11} - 109384917208164n^{10} \\ & \quad - 990927551678562n^9 - 6445641158908164n^8 - 30971993224981077n^7 \\ & \quad - 111314492026841106n^6 - 299240095376493090n^5 - 594271149013691226n^4 \\ & \quad - 847459848696773373n^3 - 821800045816910820n^2 \\ & \quad - 485718284438018172n - 132150596906568240)a_{n+2} \\ & + (-34192224n^{13} - 1709611200n^{12} - 39348646744n^{11} - 551960207552n^{10} \\ & \quad - 5264405804862n^9 - 36048494147578n^8 - 182315015737541n^7 \\ & \quad - 689472630263907n^6 - 1949560872565283n^5 - 4070539427181535n^4 \\ & \quad - 6099491170412670n^3 - 6211013227585736n^2 \\ & \quad - 3851899366258336n - 1098712786184832)a_{n+3} \\ & + (3784n^{13} + 198660n^{12} + 4794801n^{11} + 70437960n^{10} \\ & \quad + 702635490n^9 + 5025358332n^8 + 26510256652n^7 \\ & \quad + 104430770292n^6 + 307166340054n^5 \\ & \quad + 666220125600n^4 + 1035598237875n^3 \\ & \quad + 1092435142500n^2 + 700889050000n \\ & \quad + 206542200000)a_{n+4} \end{aligned}$$

90
202410
747558000
3536978063850
19292117692187340
115428185943399529200
737005538936597762145600
4937928427617947420104982250
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Result for A172671

Trustworthy?

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202410
747558000
3536978063850
19292117692187340
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Result for A172671

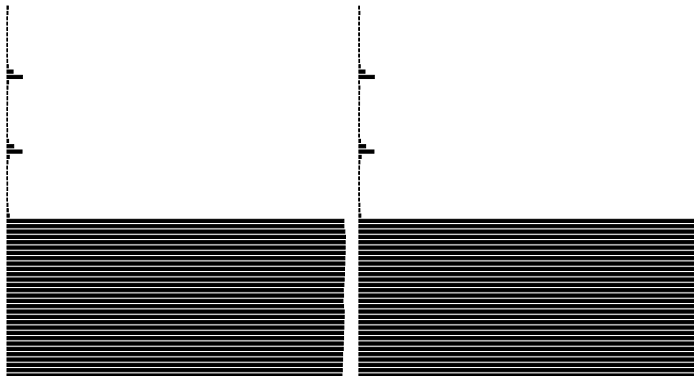
Trustworthy!

$$\begin{aligned} & 416745(n+2)(3n+4)(3n+5)(3n+7)(3n+8)(3n+10)(3n+11)(3n+13)(3n+14) \\ & \times (3784n^4 + 62436n^3 + 384549n^2 + 1047914n + 1066254)a_n \\ & + 9(3n+7)(3n+8)(3n+10)(3n+11)(3n+13)(3n+14) \\ & \times (29681696n^7 + 712360704n^6 + 7253307424n^5 \\ & + 40621828312n^4 + 135172900470n^3 + 267337368752n^2 \\ & + 291083104767n + 134667010044)a_{n+1} \\ & - 9(n+3)(3n+10)(3n+11)(3n+13)(3n+14) \\ & \times (10844944n^8 + 309080904n^7 + 3833838118n^6 \\ & + 27035659722n^5 + 118560795930n^4 + 331121212914n^3 \\ & + 575194973415n^2 + 568260550317n + 244478848756)a_{n+2} \\ & - (n+3)(n+4)^3(3n+13)(3n+14) \\ & \times (3799136n^7 + 98777536n^6 + 1092573240n^5 \\ & + 6662600832n^4 + 24184813590n^3 + 52244190090n^2 \\ & + 62174897623n + 31442101253)a_{n+3} \\ & + (n+3)(n+4)^3(n+5)^5 \\ & \times (3784n^4 + 47300n^3 + 219945n^2 \\ & + 450988n + 344237)a_{n+4} \end{aligned}$$

90
202410
747558000
3536978063850
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737005538936597762145600
4937928427617947420104982250
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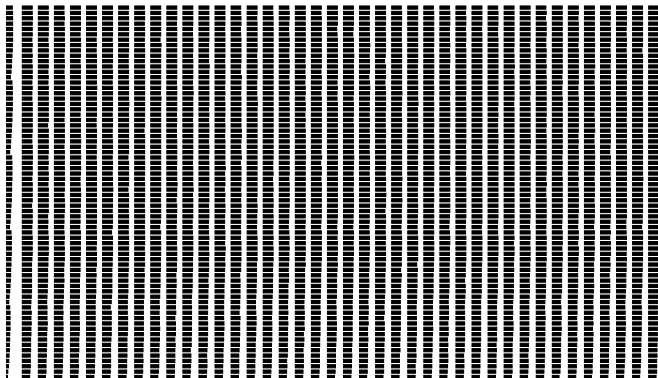
Result for A172671

First two vectors of $\ker_{\mathbb{Z}} M$:



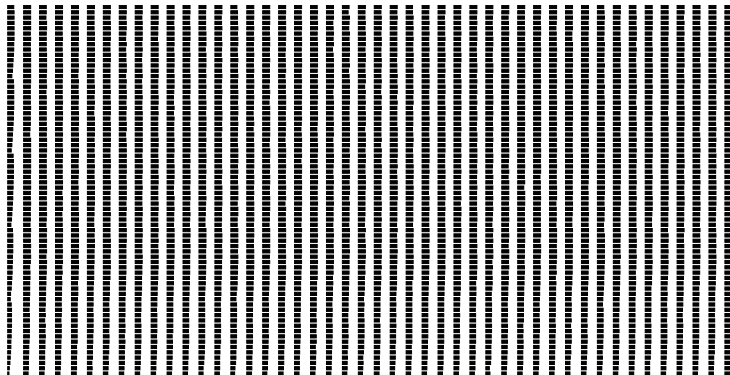
Result for A172671

LLL-basis of $\ker_{\mathbb{Z}} M$, using $N = 33$:



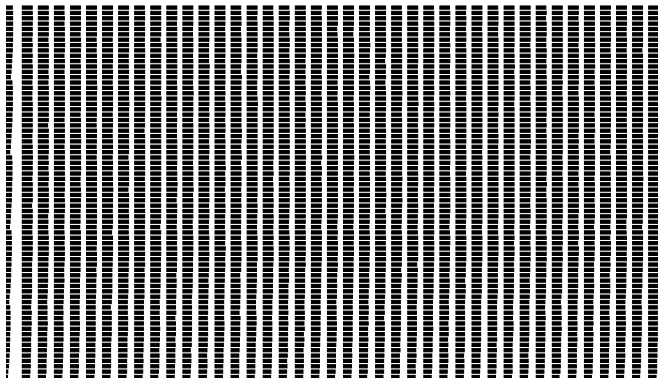
Result for A172671

LLL-basis of $\ker_{\mathbb{Z}} M$, using $N = 28$:



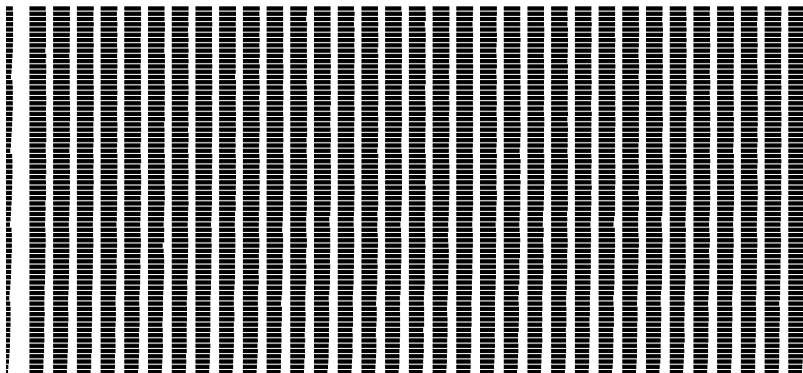
Result for A172671

LLL-basis of $\ker_{\mathbb{Z}} M$, using $N = 33$:



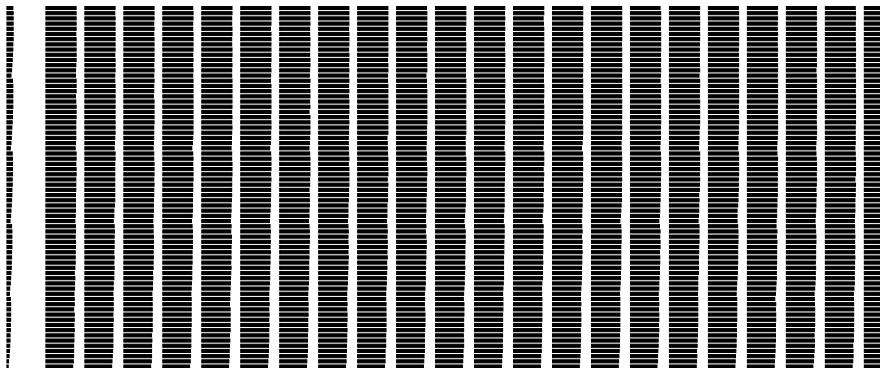
Result for A172671

LLL-basis of $\ker_{\mathbb{Z}} M$, using $N = 40$:



Result for A172671

LLL-basis of $\ker_{\mathbb{Z}} M$, using $N = 50$:



Human Insight

Erich Kaltofen (16.07.2022): I have viewed the video of your ISSAC talk. A very interesting and clever idea.

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- Recurrence for b_n has the same order (namely, 4), but the coefficient degree drops from 13 to 8.

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- ▶ With the classical linear algebra guessing, we can find this simplified recurrence using only 48 terms, instead of 75 terms.

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- ▶ Recurrence for b_n has the same order (namely, 4), but the coefficient degree drops from 13 to 8.
- ▶ With the classical linear algebra guessing, we can find this simplified recurrence using only 48 terms, instead of 75 terms.
- ▶ But the LLL-based guessing required only 24 terms for a_n , and it requires only 17 terms to find the simpler recurrence for b_n .

A188818

Number of $n \times n$ binary arrays without the pattern 01 diagonally or antidiagonally.

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- ▶ The OEIS has only 32 terms of this sequence.

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- ▶ The OEIS has only 32 terms of this sequence.
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- ▶ The OEIS has only 32 terms of this sequence.
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A188818

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$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \checkmark$$

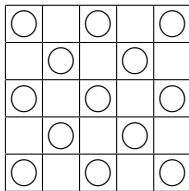
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Questions:

- ▶ Can we compute more terms?
- ▶ Can we show that A188818 is D-finite?
- ▶ Can we prove that the guessed recurrence is correct?

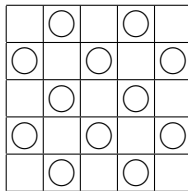
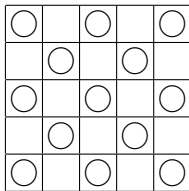
A188818

Chessboard decomposition:

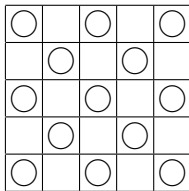
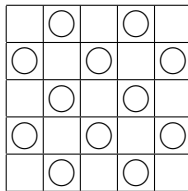


A188818

Chessboard decomposition:

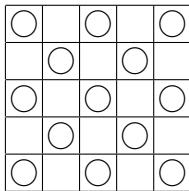


Chessboard decomposition:

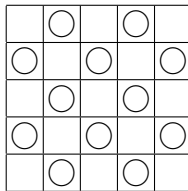
 b_n  w_n

A188818

Chessboard decomposition:



b_n

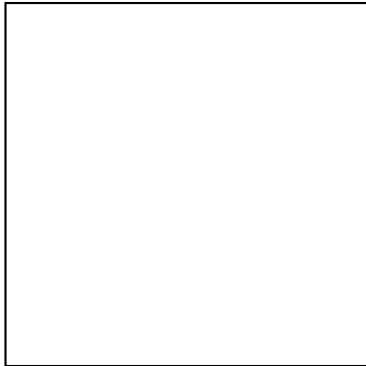


w_n

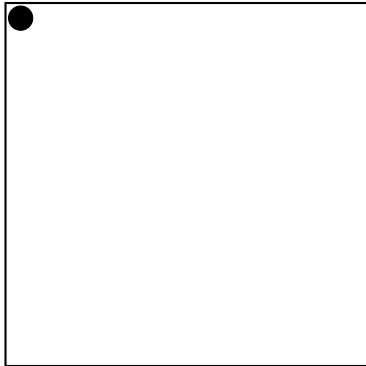
Hence, we obtain:

$$a_n = b_n \cdot w_n$$

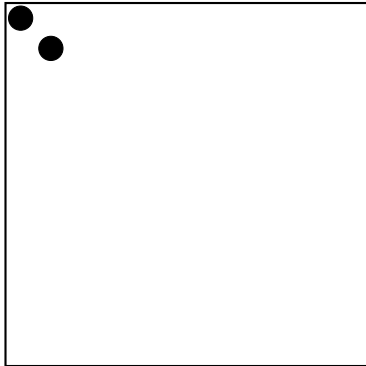
A188818



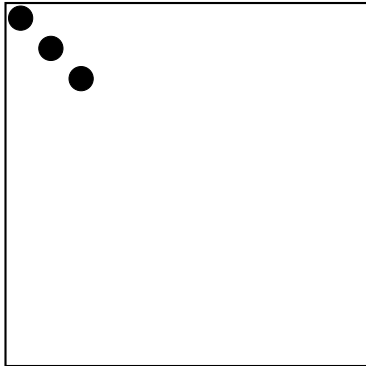
A188818



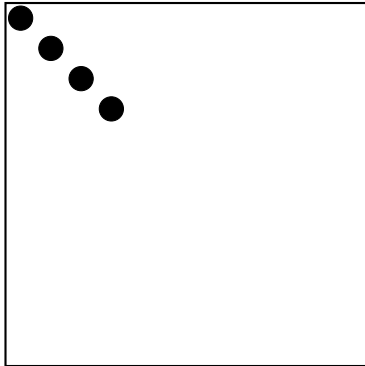
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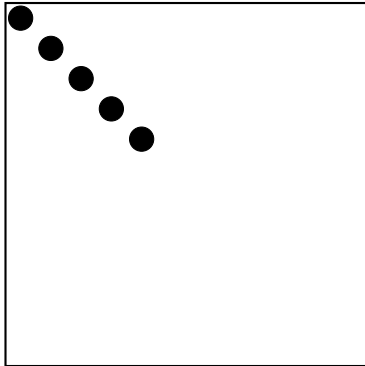
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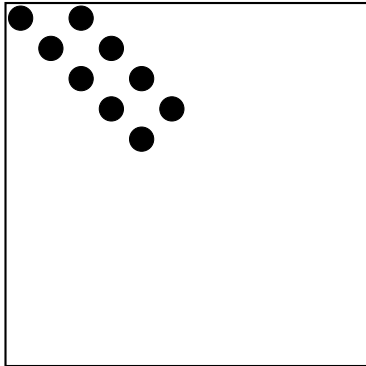
A188818



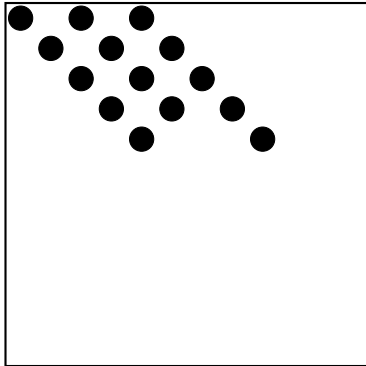
A188818



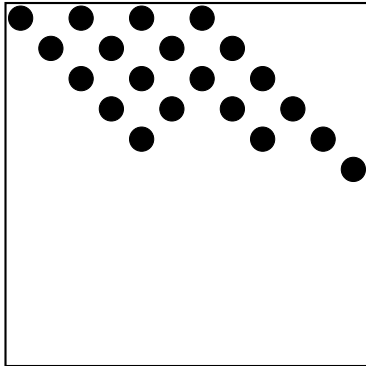
A188818



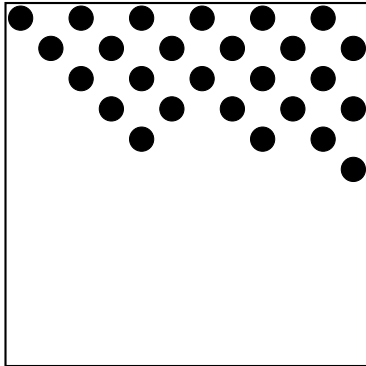
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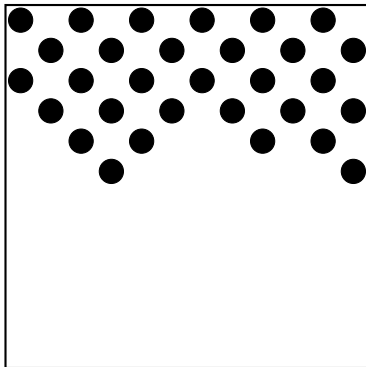
A188818



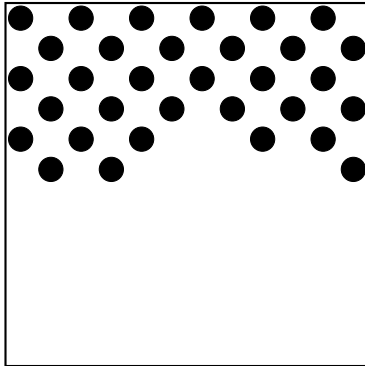
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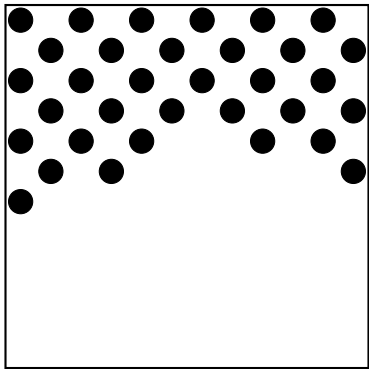
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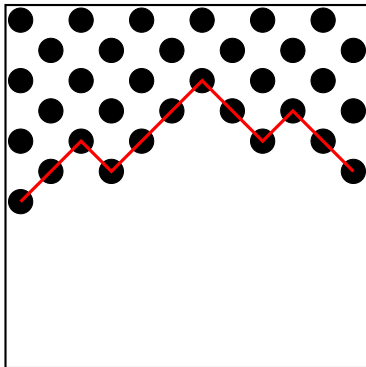
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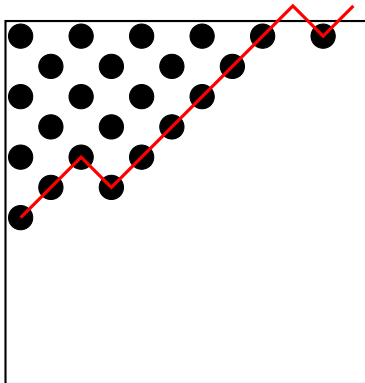
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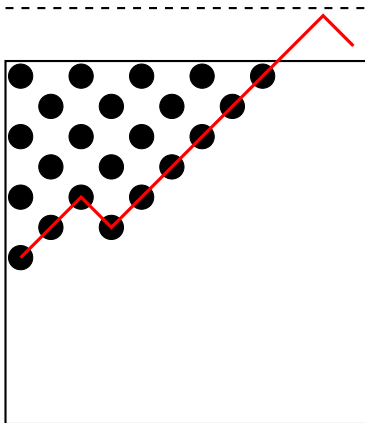
A188818



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- $$|L((a, b) \rightarrow (c, d) \mid x \geq y)| = \binom{c+d-a-b}{c-a} - \binom{c+d-a-b}{c-b+1}.$$

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D-finiteness is clear, recurrence can be derived by creative telescoping.

A189281

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18	9202313110506	124470791290376112779747519538
75	154873904848803	3597058248632667485834774744787
410	2762800622799362	107559658152025736992729145688602
2729	52071171437696453	3324154021716716493547315823808809
20906	1033855049655584786	106067493846954075776733869818571690
181499	21567640717569135515	3490771207487802026912252686947947027
1763490	471630531427793184474	118383998479651470880820236769742970626
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- ▶ Still: too little data to guess a recurrence with our method!

A339987

Number of labeled graphs on $2n$ vertices s.t. $n - 1$ vertices have degree 3 and the remaining $n + 1$ vertices have degree 1:

1, 4, 90, 8400, 1426950, 366153480, 134292027870, ...

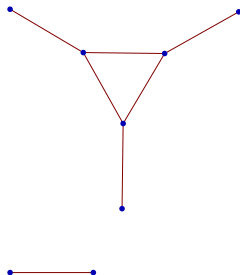
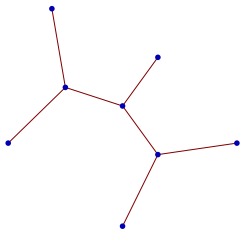
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Minimal Number of Terms for Guessing

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#	85994	48240	3056	853	25	8	1	1	...	1

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- ▶ Thus, $(*)$ can be recovered from the single term $D_8 = 265729$.

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- ▶ For example, the recurrence for A172671 could be guessed using 24 terms, while LA requires at least 75 terms.
- ▶ We identified trustworthy, yet-unknown recurrences for several entries in the OEIS, which could not be found otherwise.

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- ▶ Our algorithm is applicable to medium-sized examples where computing more terms is prohibitively expensive.
- ▶ In practice, it often succeeds to reduce the required number of sequence terms to 50% and less.
- ▶ For example, the recurrence for A172671 could be guessed using 24 terms, while LA requires at least 75 terms.
- ▶ We identified trustworthy, yet-unknown recurrences for several entries in the OEIS, which could not be found otherwise.
- ▶ The output of the algorithm is a guess and thus non-rigorous. Independent verification is necessary to obtain a theorem!

Conclusion

- ▶ We designed a method for guessing recurrence equations, using fewer terms than classical LA methods.
- ▶ Our algorithm is applicable to medium-sized examples where computing more terms is prohibitively expensive.
- ▶ In practice, it often succeeds to reduce the required number of sequence terms to 50% and less.
- ▶ For example, the recurrence for A172671 could be guessed using 24 terms, while LA requires at least 75 terms.
- ▶ We identified trustworthy, yet-unknown recurrences for several entries in the OEIS, which could not be found otherwise.
- ▶ The output of the algorithm is a guess and thus non-rigorous. Independent verification is necessary to obtain a theorem!
- ▶ We were not able to find a recurrence for the notorious Av(1324) sequence. . .