

# Computing the $N$ -th term of a $q$ -holonomic sequence<sup>1,2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>Joint work with Alin Bostan, [arxiv.org/abs/2012.08656](https://arxiv.org/abs/2012.08656)

<sup>2</sup>Slides available at [homepage.univie.ac.at/sergey.yurkevich/data/Nthqhol\\_slides.pdf](https://homepage.univie.ac.at/sergey.yurkevich/data/Nthqhol_slides.pdf)

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- Tremendous number of applications:
  - Algebraic complexity theory (e.g., evaluation of polynomials [Strassen, 1977])
  - Computations on real numbers (e.g., constants approximation [Chudnovsky<sup>2</sup>, 1987])
  - Algorithmic number theory (e.g., Wilson primes search [Costa, Gerbicz, Harvey, 2014])
  - Effective algebraic geometry (e.g., counting points on curves [Harvey, 2014])
  - etc.

# Holonomic (aka P-recursive) sequences

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- $u_n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k}^2 \binom{n+k}{k}$  satisfies  $(n+2)^2 u_{n+2} - (11n^2 + 33n + 25)u_{n+1} - (n+1)^2 u_n = 0$ .



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[Strassen, 1977], [Chudnovsky<sup>2</sup>, 1988].

Naive:  $O(N)$

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## (Arithmetic) complexity basics

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- $O(\cdot)$  stands for the big-Oh notation and  $\tilde{O}(\cdot)$  is used to hide polylogarithmic factors in the argument.
- $\mathbf{M}(d)$  is the cost of multiplication of two polynomials in  $\mathbb{K}[x]$  of degree  $d$ . It is known that  $\mathbf{M}(d) = O(d \log d \log \log d) = \tilde{O}(d)$ . (Using FFT) Naive:  $O(d^2)$
- Given  $P(x) \in \mathbb{K}[x]$  of degree  $d$ , one can evaluate  $P(x)$  at  $q, q^2, \dots, q^d \in \mathbb{K}$  simultaneously in complexity  $O(\mathbf{M}(d))$ . (Using Bluestein's trick) Naive:  $O(d^2)$
- Two matrices in  $\mathbb{K}^{n \times n}$  can be multiplied in complexity  $O(n^\omega)$ , where the best current bound is  $\omega < 2.3729$ . Naive:  $O(n^3)$

# Main theorem

## Theorem (Bostan, Y., 2020)

Let  $q \in \mathbb{K} \setminus \{1\}$  and  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ . Let  $(u_n)_{n \geq 0}$  be a  $q$ -holonomic sequence satisfying the recurrence

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and assume that  $c_r(q, q^k)$  is nonzero for  $k = 0, \dots, N$ . Then,  $u_N$  can be computed in  $O(\mathbf{M}(\sqrt{N})) = \tilde{O}(\sqrt{N})$  operations in  $\mathbb{K}$ . Naive:  $O(N)$



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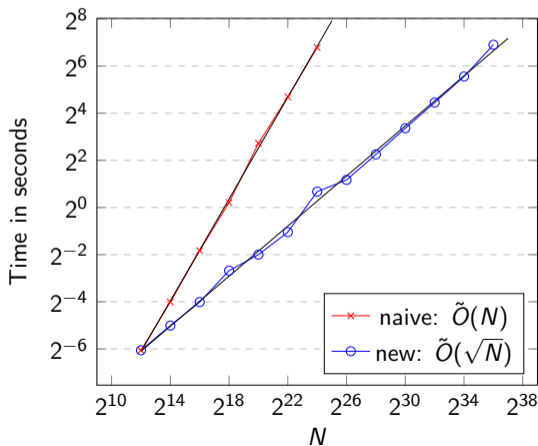
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## Theorem (Bostan, Y. 2020)

Under the assumptions of the theorem above, let  $d \geq 1$  be the maximum of the degrees of  $c_0(q, y), \dots, c_r(q, y)$ . Then, for any  $N > d$ , the term  $u_N$  can be computed in  $O(r^\omega \sqrt{Nd} + r^2 \mathbf{M}(\sqrt{Nd}))$  operations in  $\mathbb{K}$ .

# Timings

Computing the  $N$ -th term of  $u_n = \sum_{k=0}^n q^{k^2} \in \mathbb{F}_p$ , where  $p = 2^{50} + 55$  is prime and  $q \in \mathbb{F}_p$  randomly chosen.



## An application: evaluation of polynomials

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- [Nogneng, Schost, 2018]: The truncated Jacobi theta function

$$\vartheta_N(x) := 1 + x + x^4 + x^9 + \cdots + x^{N^2}$$

can be evaluated at  $q \in \mathbb{K}$  in  $\tilde{O}(\sqrt{N})$  arithmetic operations.

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- Same complexity and reasoning for  $\prod_{i=0}^N (x - a^i)$ , or  $q$ -Hermite polynomials, or  $\prod_{i=1}^{\infty} (1 - x^i)^3 \bmod x^n$ , etc.



# Idea of the proof

Note that

$$c_r(q, q^n)u_{n+r} + \cdots + c_0(q, q^n)u_n = 0$$

can be translated into a first-order matrix-vector recurrence

$$\begin{bmatrix} u_{n+r} \\ \vdots \\ u_{n+1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{c_{r-1}(q, q^n)}{c_r(q, q^n)} & \cdots & -\frac{c_1(q, q^n)}{c_r(q, q^n)} & -\frac{c_0(q, q^n)}{c_r(q, q^n)} \\ 1 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} u_{n+r-1} \\ \vdots \\ u_n \end{bmatrix} =: M(q^n) \times \begin{bmatrix} u_{n+r-1} \\ \vdots \\ u_n \end{bmatrix} .$$

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$\Rightarrow$  New problem: Given  $M(x) \in \mathbb{K}[x]^{r \times r}$ , compute  $M(q^{N-1}) \cdots M(q)M(1)$  fast.

# Matrix $q$ -factorial with baby-step/giant-step

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- (3) Return the product  $P(Q^{s-1}) \cdots P(Q)P(1)$ .

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- (3) Return the product  $P(Q^{s-1}) \cdots P(Q)P(1)$ .  $O(s)$

# Main takeaways

- The fast computation of the  $N$ -th term in a sequence has important consequences and many applications.
- Given a  $q$ -holonomic sequence, we can compute its  $N$ -th term faster than naively:  $O(\mathbf{M}(\sqrt{N})) = \tilde{O}(\sqrt{N})$  instead of  $O(N)$ .

## $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{Q}$ : Bit complexity

- If  $q$  is an integer, the arithmetic complexity model is replaced by the bit-complexity model.
- $\mathbf{M}_{\mathbb{Z}}(n)$  denotes the cost of multiplication of two integers of bitsize  $n$ .
- It is now known that  $\mathbf{M}_{\mathbb{Z}}(n) = O(n \log n) = \tilde{O}(n)$  [Harvey, van der Hoeven].
- Let  $B$  be the bitsize of  $q$  and  $(u_n)_{n \geq 0}$   $q$ -holonomic. Naively,  $u_N$  can be computed in  $\tilde{O}(N^3 B)$ . We can do better (using binary splitting):

### Theorem (Bostan, Y. 2020)

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and assume that  $c_r(q, q^k)$  is nonzero for  $k = 0, \dots, N$ . The term  $u_N$  can be computed in  $\tilde{O}(N^2 B)$  bit operations, where  $B$  is the bitsize of  $q$ .

## Computation of several terms

### Theorem (Bostan, Y. 2020)

*Under the assumptions of the main theorem, let  $N_1 < N_2 < \dots < N_s = N$  be positive integers, where  $s \leq \sqrt{N}$ . Then, the terms  $u_{N_1}, \dots, u_{N_s}$  can be computed altogether in  $O(\mathbf{M}(\sqrt{N}) \log N)$  operations in  $\mathbb{K}$ .*