# Analytic Combinatorics in Several Variables 

Robin Pemantle and Mark Wilson

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## About the book

Cambridge Studies in Advanced Mathematics
140

## Analytic <br> Combinatorics <br> in Several <br> Variables



## Dedication

To the memory of Philippe Flajolet, on whose shoulders stands all of the work herein.

## The book is in four parts

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I General introduction and univariate methods

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IV Appendices

## The Big Question

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Can I really use these methods without a ridiculous investment of time?


## Scope of method

## Structures with recursive nature

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- Analysis of algorithms


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- Tilings


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- Analysis of algorithms
- Various families of trees and other graphs
- Probability: random walks, queuing theory, etc.
- Stat mech: particle ensembles, quantum walks, etc.
- Tilings
- Random polynomials


## Running example

## Example

Lattice paths to $(2 n, 2 n, 2 n)$ with steps $\{(2,0,0),(0,2,0),(0,0,2),(1,1,0),(1,0,1),(0,1,1)\}$.

$$
F(x, y, z)=\frac{1}{1-x^{2}-y^{2}-z^{2}-x y-x z-y z}
$$

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2. Behavior of $\mathbf{f}$ near the dominant singularity(ies) determines the exact asymptotics

Rational multivariate case
$\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x})=\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{x}) / \mathbf{Q}(\mathbf{x})$ : singularity is the surface $\mathcal{V}:=\{\mathbf{Q}=0\}$.
Carry out same two steps.

## STEP 1: Find dominant singularity

1a. Algebra
1b. Geometry

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## Step 1a: Algebra

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Answer: [1].
Aha, it's smooth.

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1. Introduction
2. Enumeration
3. Univariate asymptotics
4. Complex analysis: univariate saddle integrals
5. Complex analysis: multivariate saddle integrals
6. Symbolic algebra
7. Geometry of minimal points (amoebas)

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## Univariate integrals

$$
\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) e^{-\lambda t^{2} / 2} d t=\sqrt{2 \pi} f(0) \lambda^{-1 / 2}
$$

## Step 1b: Geometry

Next, we use what we know from Step 1a to draw a picture of the singularities "nearest to the origin". In one variable, "nearest" means the least value of $|z|$. In several variables, we mean those points $\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r}\right) \in \mathcal{V}$ with $\left(\left|x_{1}\right|, \ldots,\left|x_{d}\right|\right)$ minimal in the partial order.

## Step 1b: Geometry

Chapter 7 is the science of determining this set, which is a portion of the boundary of the amoeba of $Q$. Typically, this set is a real $(d-1)$-dimensional subspace of $\mathcal{V}$. There is a science to this, which you can read about in Chapter 7.

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Often we change to logarithmic coordinates, in which case the amoeba looks something like this.


## Step 1b: Geometry

In many natural cases, the coefficients of $f$ are nonnegative. In this case there is a Pringsheim theorem telling us that the postiive real points of $\mathcal{V}$ are minimal points.

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## Completing Step 1

Having described the minimal points, we find the dominating point $z \in \mathcal{V}$ (or $x$ in the amoeba boundary) corresponding to the asymptotic direction $r$ of interest. It will be the point on the minimal surface normal to $r$.

## Completing Step 1

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Example: $Q=1-x^{2}-y^{2}-z^{2}-x y-x z-y z$. By symmetry, the point

$$
z_{*}:=\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}\right)
$$

is the dominating point for the diagonal direction. The exponential growth rate of $a_{r}$ is $z^{-r}$. Thus,

$$
a_{2 n, 2 n, 2 n}=(216+o(1))^{n}
$$

## The fancy stuff: Morse theory

What if the coefficients are not guaranteed to be nonnegative real numbers?

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\begin{aligned}
F & =\frac{P}{Q} \\
Q & =x^{5} y^{2}+2 x^{2} y-2 x^{3} y+4 x+y-2
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The generating function counts certain combinatorial objects but it is only nonnegative in a certain region where the parameters make sense.

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> The only minimal point is the rightmost point, but the dominating point is the middle point.

> This is difficult to determine but you will not usually need to!

## Step 1b: Geometry

Summary: computing the minimal points is not trivial, but in many cases it is not much more than high school geoemtry.

In other words: you don't need Chapter 7 to get started, and it's not so bad anyway.

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a_{r} \sim C(\hat{r}) n^{(1-d) / 2} \gamma^{n}
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where

- $\gamma=z_{*}^{-\hat{r}}$
- $C$ is computed in an elementary but tedious way from the partial derivatives of $P$ and $Q$ at $z_{*}$ (it is the curvature of the minimal surface in logarithmic coordinates).


## Step 2, running example

$$
\begin{aligned}
\hat{r} & =(1,1,1) \\
Q & =1-x^{2}-y^{2}-z^{2}-x y-x z-y z \\
z_{*} & =\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}\right) \\
\gamma & =6^{3 / 2} \\
C(\hat{r}) & =\frac{\sqrt{3}}{5 \pi}
\end{aligned}
$$

which leads to

$$
a_{2 n, 2 n, 2 n} \sim 216^{n}\left[\frac{\sqrt{3}}{5 \pi n}+O\left(n^{-2}\right)\right]
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The $O\left(n^{-2}\right)$ term is $\frac{169 \sqrt{3}}{5625 \pi n^{2}}$.
Adding this term gives relative error of 0.000023 with $n=16$.
"Easily": SAGE code exists written by A. Raichev + MCW

## Multivariate complex analysis

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Instead of integrating $f(z) \exp (-\lambda \phi(z)) d z$ near where $\phi^{\prime}$ vanishes, we integrate near where $\nabla \phi$ vanishes:

$$
\int f(z) \exp (-\lambda \phi(z)) \sim\left(\frac{2 \pi}{\lambda}\right)^{d / 2} f(0) \mathcal{H}^{-1 / 2}
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Time to update the checklist.

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- Chapters 12 and 13: wrapping it up (examples and further speculation)


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- Chapter 10: interesections of smooth surfaces
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- Chapters 12 and 13: wrapping it up (examples and further speculation)

I will not pretened Chapters 10 and 11 are easy, but you will not need Chapter 11 unless you are lucky enough to run across GF's with an unusual nature.

## Interlude: diagonal computation not recommended

Self-intersections such as are in Chapter 10 arise when one computes asymtotics of an algebraic $d$-variate generating function $F$ by embedding it as a diagonal of a rational function.

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Unextracting the diagonal, unlike diagonal extraction, is not too hard and allows us to extend everything we know about rational functions to the algebraic case. Now that you know about it, we can check off Chapters 12 and 13.

## Part III checklist, updated

- $\checkmark$ Chapter 9: smooth points
- Chapter 10: interesections of smooth surfaces
- Chapter 11: more complicated local geometry
- $\checkmark$ Chapters 12 and 13: wrapping it up (examples and further speculation)


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Case (iii): More complicated local geometry

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Requires theory of hyperbolic polynomials, generalized functions, Leray and Petrovsky cycles and some classical inverse Fourier transform computations.

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Case (ii): Self-intersecting smooth surfaces
Requires theory of iterated residues
Case (iii): More complicated local geometry
Requires theory of hyperbolic polynomials, generalized functions, Leray and Petrovsky cycles and some classical inverse Fourier transform computations.

These are difficult and we are not going to check them off today.

## You know what to do!



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