

# Heegaard Floer homologies and rational cuspidal curves

joint with Ch. Livingston

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this is a special property of semigroups of singular points!

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- We have  $\#G_{4,7} = \mu/2$  and  $\max\{x \in G_{4,7}\} = 17 = \mu - 1$ .
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$$I(m) := \#\{x \in \mathbb{Z}, x \geq m, x \notin S_{4,7}\}.$$

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$$I_{4,7}(5) = \#\{5, 6, 9, 10, 13, 17\} = 6.$$

- Always  $I(0) = \mu/2$ ,  $I(x) = 0$  for  $x \geq \mu$  and  $I(-n) = n + \mu/2$  for  $n > 0$ .

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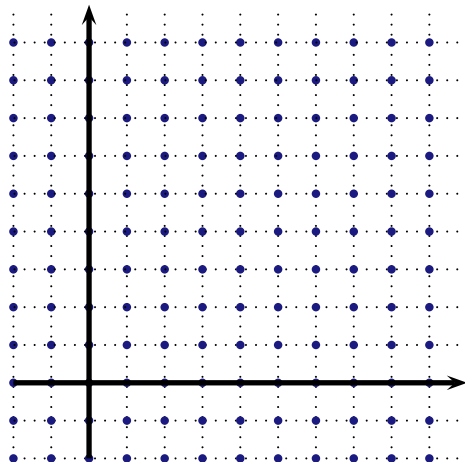
or:

$$\Delta_{4,7} = 1 - t + t^4 - t^5 + t^7 - t^9 + t^{11} - t^{13} + t^{14} - t^{17} + t^{18}.$$

This is the **Alexander polynomial of the knot of the singularity.**

# The staircase

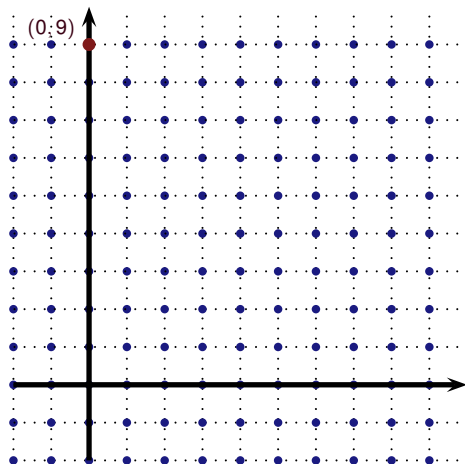
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# The staircase

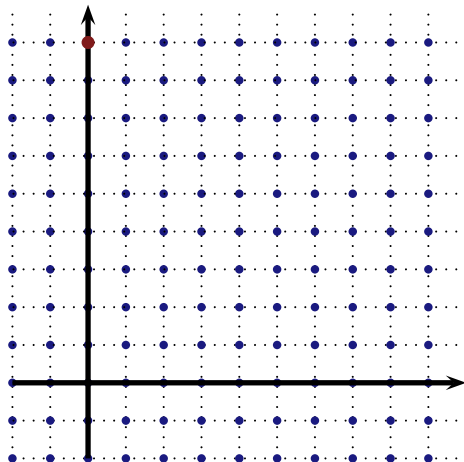
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●  $9 = 18/2$

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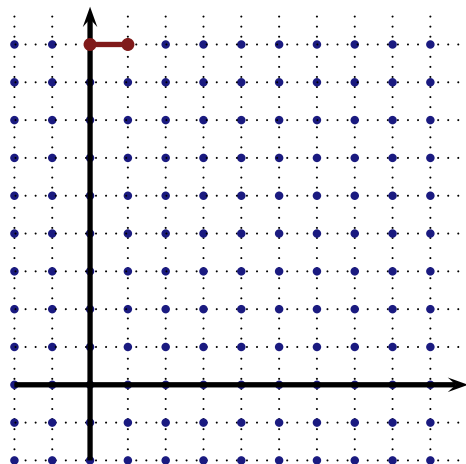
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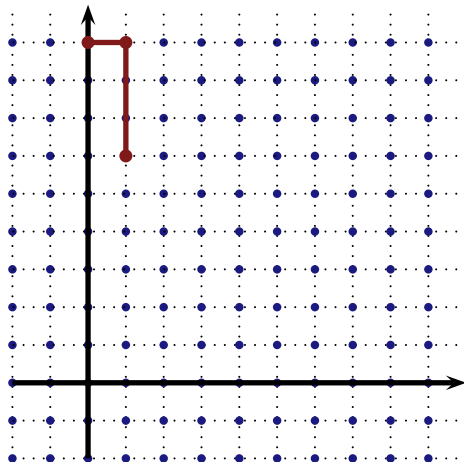
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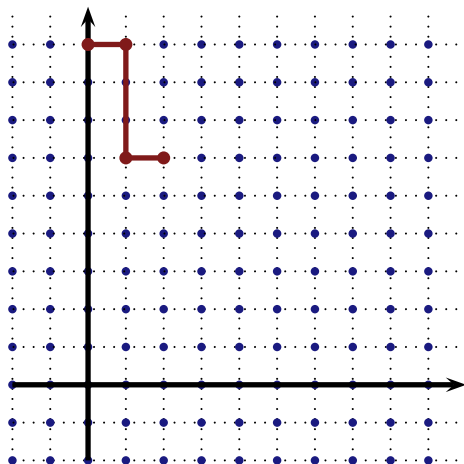
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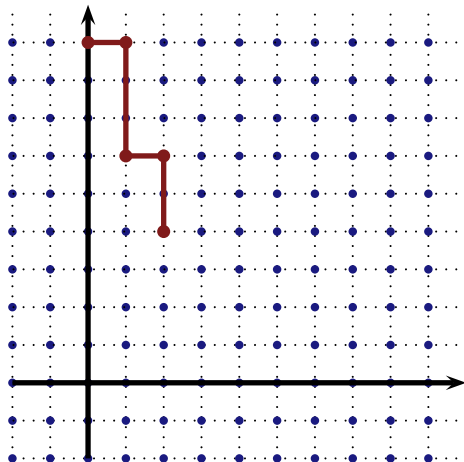
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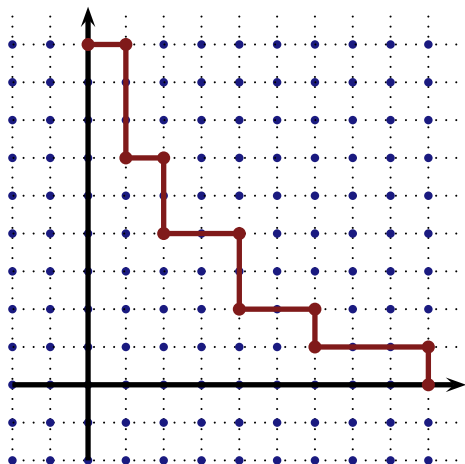
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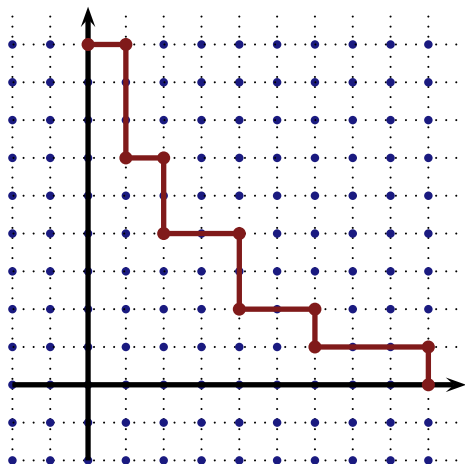
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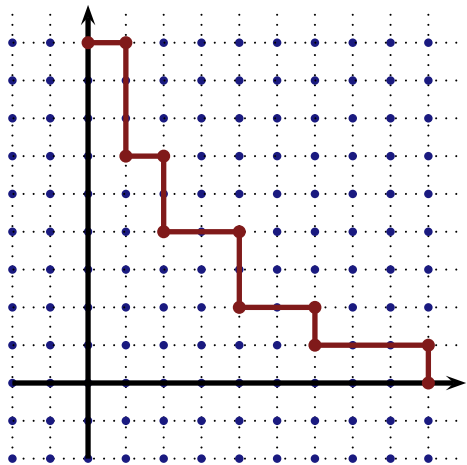
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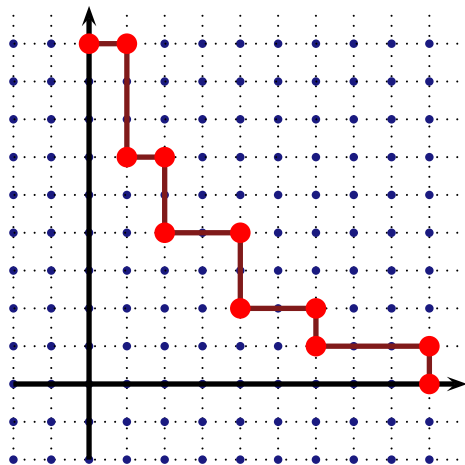
- $9 = g(T_{4,7})$
- $18 - 17 = 1$
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- ... and so on
- Symmetry reflects symmetry of  $\Delta$



# The staircase complex

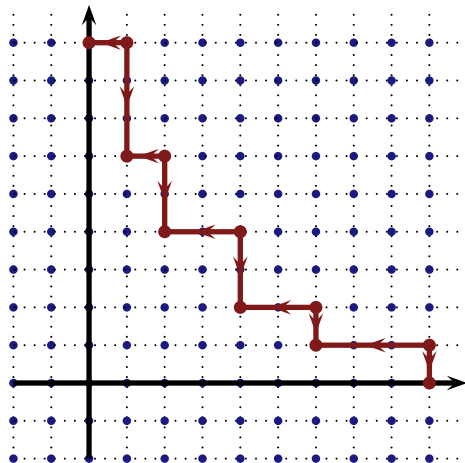


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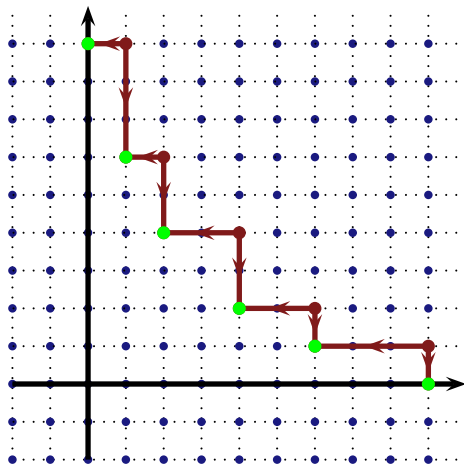
- Place  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  for each vertex.

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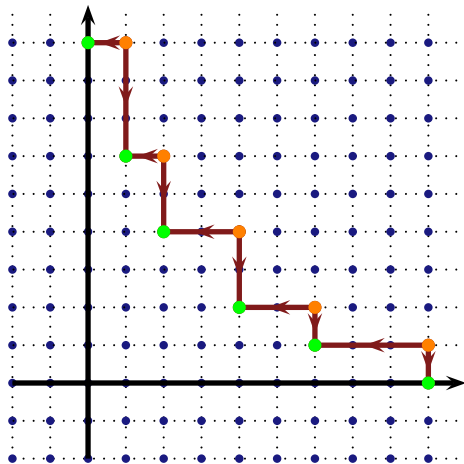
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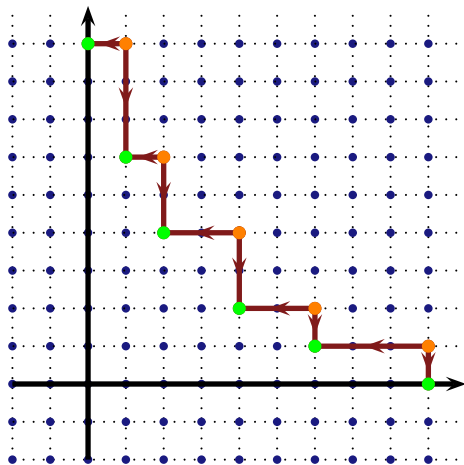
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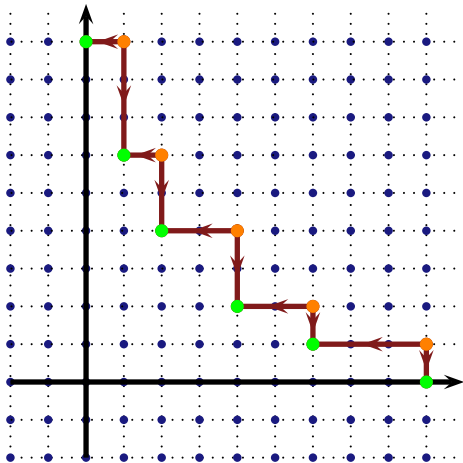
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- Type B vertices.
- Bifiltration is given by coordinates.
- Absolute grading of a type A vertex is 0, of type B is 1.

# Now there comes something really scary

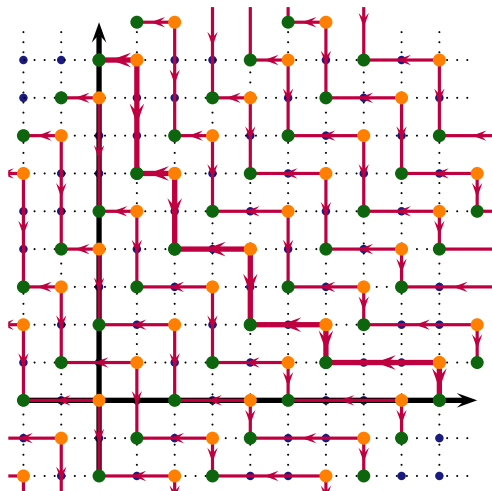
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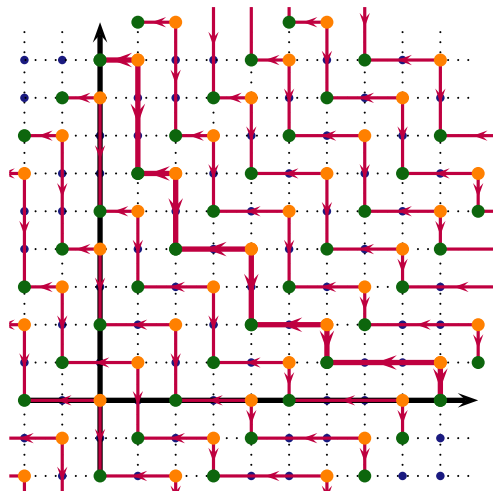
We will tensor the staircase complex by  $\mathbb{Z}_2[U, U^{-1}]$ .  
Are you ready for the challenge?

# Tensoring



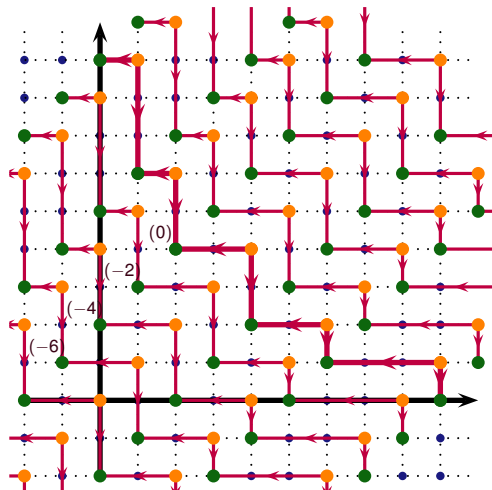
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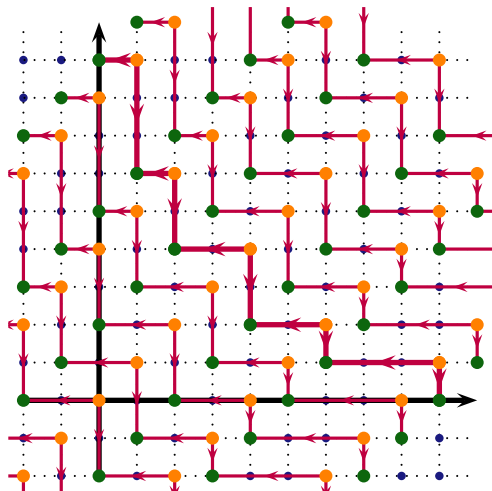
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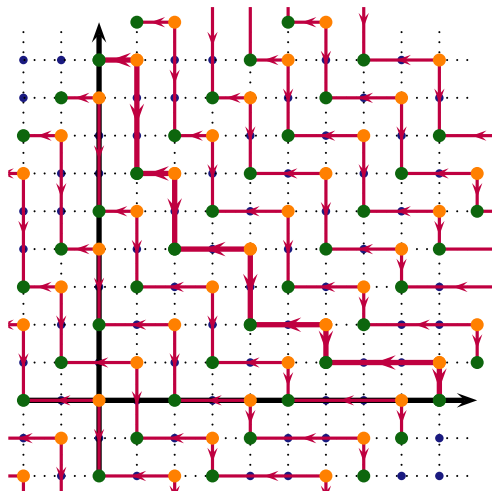
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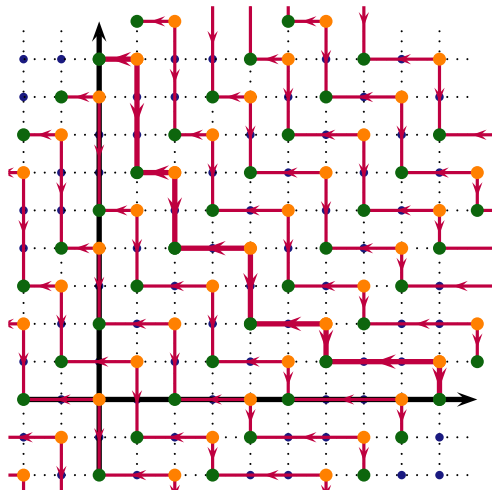
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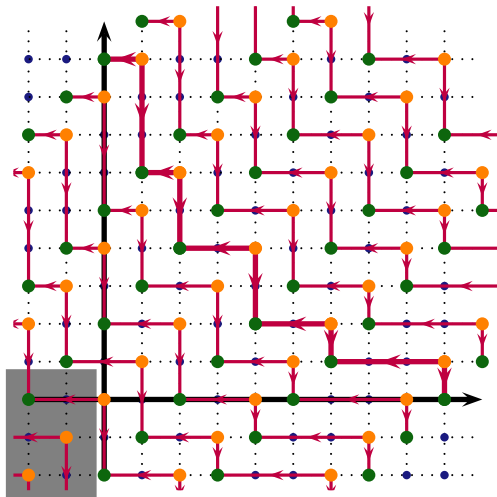
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- The resulting complex is  $\text{CFK}^\infty(K)$  if  $K$  is an algebraic knot.
- Actually, it is enough that  $K$  is so called an  $L$ -space knot.

# The function $J(m)$

●  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Here  
 $m = 1$ .



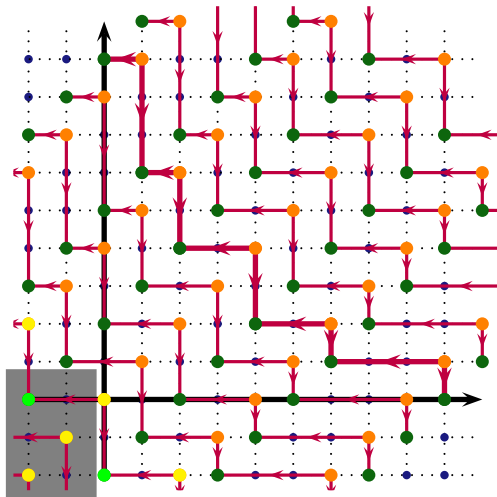
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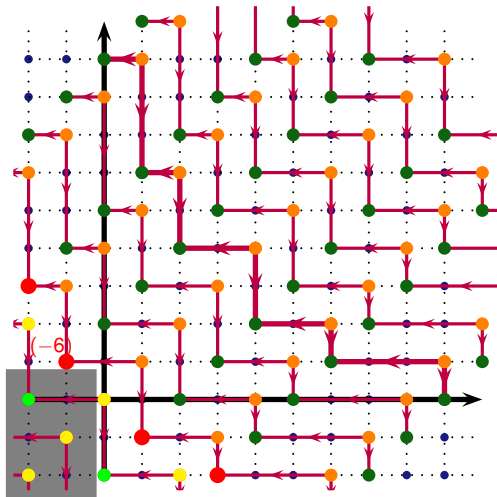


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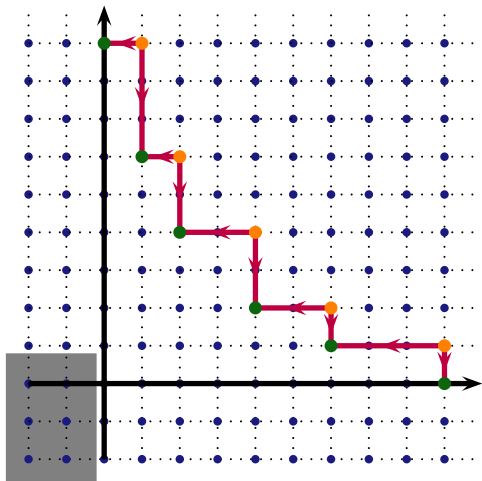
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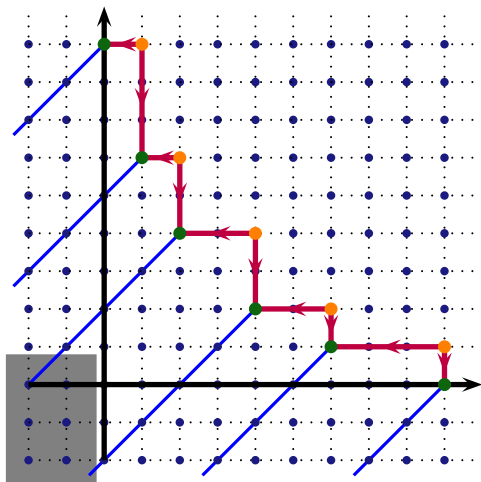
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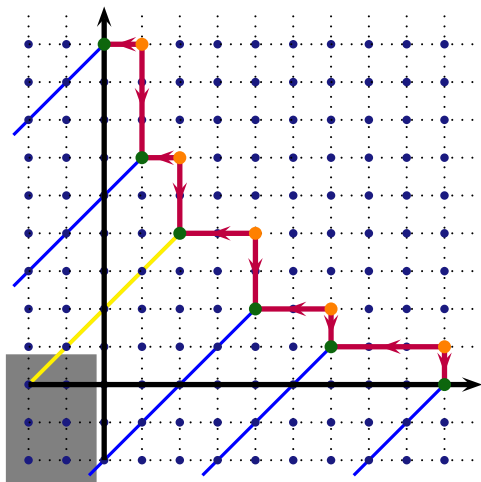
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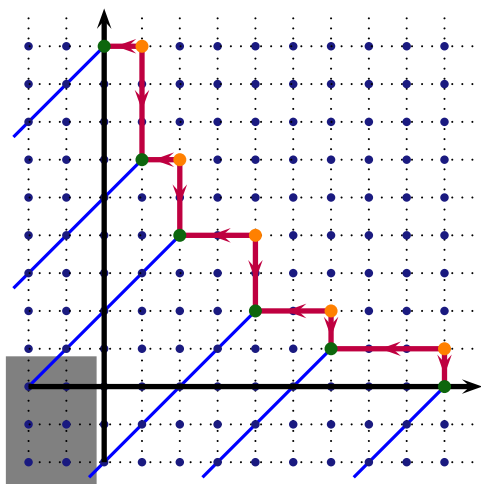
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- $J(m) = l(m - g)$ .

Now you may start wondering:

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Oh where, oh where has the true  
mathematics gone?



## Proposition

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$$d(S_q^3(K), \mathfrak{s}_m) = \frac{(q - 2m)^2 - q}{4q} - 2J(m).$$

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## Theorem

If  $M^3$  bounds a *smooth negative definite* manifold  $W^4$  and  $\mathfrak{s}$  is a  $spin^c$  structure on  $M^3$ , that is a restriction of a  $spin^c$  structure  $\mathfrak{t}$  on  $W$ , then

$$d(M, \mathfrak{s}) \geq \frac{c_1^2(\mathfrak{t}) - 2\chi(W) - 3\sigma(W)}{4}.$$

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- Then  $M = S_{\partial^2}^3(K)$ ,  $K$  is connected sum of links of singularities. Suppose that  $C$  is unicuspidal.
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Generalizations apply for many singular points.

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This detects the unknotting number of torus knots.



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- In general weak, but it uses **smooth** structure, unlike semicontinuity of spectrum.
- $(6; 7)$  cannot be perturbed to  $(4; 9)$ , even though the spectrum allows it.

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- Generalize for curves with higher genus (joint project with Ch. Livingston).
- Generalize for curves in Hirzebruch surfaces (joint project with K. Moe).
- Relate staircases to lattice homology by András Némethi.
- Can one classify all the rational unicuspidal curves in  $\mathbb{C}P^2$ ?  
For many cusps other tools are more useful.