# Bipolar orientations and blossoming trees 

Marie Albenque (CNRS, Paris)<br>Joint work with Dominique Poulalhon

Kolkom, November 17th 2012

Plane Maps.
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There is one special face which is infinite: the outer face.

## Plane Bipolar Orientations

A plane bipolar orientation is a plane map:

- endowed with an acyclic orientation,
- with a unique source vertex (without ingoing edges),
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Theorem : The number $\Theta_{i j}$ of bipolar orientations with $i+2$ vertices and $j+1$ faces is equal to:

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\Theta_{i j}=\frac{2(i+j)!(i+j+1)!(i+j+2)!}{i!(i+1)!(i+2)!j!(j+1)!(j+2)!}
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[Baxter '01]
[Fusy, Poulalhon, Schaeffer '09]
[Bonichon, Bousquet-Mélou, Fusy '10]
[Felsner, Fusy, Noy, Orden '11]

## Enumeration

One of the main question when studying some families of maps:

## How many maps belong to this family ?

- Recursive decomposition: Tutte '60s. Baxter '01
- Matrix integrals: t'Hooft '74,Brézin, Itzykson, Parisi and Zuber '78.
- Representation of the symmetric group: Goulden and Jackson '87.
- Bijective approach with labeled trees: Cori-Vauquelin '81, Schaeffer '98, Bouttier, Di Francesco and Guitter '04, Bernardi, Chapuy, Fusy, Miermont, ...
- Bijective approach with blossoming trees: Schaeffer '98, Schaeffer and Bousquet-Mélou '00, Poulalhon and Schaeffer '05, Fusy, Poulalhon and Schaeffer '06.


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## What is a blossoming tree ?

A blossoming tree is a plane tree where vertices can carry opening stems or closing stems, such that :
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$\Rightarrow$ Accessible orientation of the map without ccw cycles.

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Can we always find a blossoming tree from a plane map ?
Theorem : [A., Poulalhon]
If a plane map $M$ has a marked vertex $v$ is endowed with an orientation such that:

- there exists a directed path from any vertex to $v$,
- there is no counterclockwise cycle,
then there exists a unique blossoming tree rooted at $v$ whose closure is $M$ endowed with the same orientation.

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Proof by induction on the number of faces + identification of closure edges ....
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Blossoming trees and bipolar orientations


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Description/enumeration of these trees ?

## Blossoming trees and triplet of paths

$T_{\text {bip }}(i, j)=$ blossoming trees obtained after opening a bipolar orientation with $i+2$ vertices and $j+1$ faces

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Proposition: [A., Poulalhon]
There exists a one-to-one correspondence between :

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Encoding of the blossoming tree $=$ contour word $=$ word on $\{e, \bar{e}, b, \bar{b}\}$ s.t.:
$e, \bar{e}$ : first time, second time we see an edge
$b, \bar{b}$ : opening stem, closing stem.
$w=e b b b \bar{e} e e e \bar{b} \bar{e} e \bar{b} b b \bar{e} \bar{e} \bar{b} b \bar{e} e \bar{b} b \bar{e} \bar{b} e \bar{b} \bar{b} \bar{e}$

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Trees of $T_{\text {bip }}$ and triple of paths


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& w=e b, \quad w[e, \bar{e}] \text { and } w[b, \bar{b}]=\text { Dyck words, } \\
& w=\ldots b \ldots \bar{e} \ldots \bar{b} \ldots, \quad w=e \ldots e \ldots \bar{b} \ldots \bar{e} \ldots
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$w=e b b b \bar{e} e e e \bar{b} \bar{e} e \bar{b} b b \bar{e} \bar{e} \bar{b} b \bar{e} e \bar{b} b \bar{e} \bar{b} e \bar{b} \bar{b} \bar{e}$

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\end{aligned}
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w=e b b b \bar{e} e e e \bar{b} \bar{e} e \bar{b} b b \bar{e} \bar{e} \bar{b} b \bar{e} e \bar{b} b \bar{e} \bar{b} e \bar{b} \bar{b} \bar{e}
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$$
w_{2}=\bar{e} \bar{b} \bar{e} \bar{b} \bar{e} \bar{e} \bar{b} \bar{e} \bar{b} \bar{e} \bar{e} \bar{b} \bar{b} \bar{b} \bar{e}
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$+w_{3}=w[\bar{e}, b]=$ triple of paths !

## Summary

Proposition: [A., Poulalhon]
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triplet of non-intersecting paths with $i \varrho$ and $j \multimap$ and fixed first and final points

Corollary: The number $\Theta_{i j}$ of bipolar orientations with $i+2$ vertices and $j+1$ faces is equal to:

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## General framework ?

Theorem requires accessible orientation without ccw cycles :
Too much too ask ?
NO!
Map $M$ fixed + function $\alpha: V(M) \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$,
$\alpha$-orientation $=$ orientation of the edges such that $\forall v \in V(M)$, out $(v)=\alpha(v)$.

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## Proposition: [Felsner '04]

If a map $M$ admits an $\alpha$-orientation, then there exists a unique $\alpha$-orientation without ccw cycles.
If there exists one accessible $\alpha$-orientation, all of them are accessible.

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Our framework can be applied to many families of maps :

- Simple triangulations and quadrangulations
- Eulerian and general maps
- Non-separable maps
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