# Asymptotic Analysis For Lattice Walks Derived From Zeckendorf Decompositions 

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- Introduction to the Lattice Walks
- Overview of Main Results and Simulations
- Technical Lemmas
- Proof of Main Results
- Future Work


# Definition (Fibonacci Numbers) <br> The Fibonacci Numbers are a sequence defined recursively with $F_{n+1}=F_{n}+F_{n-1} \forall n \geq 2$ where $F_{1}=1$ and $F_{2}=2$. 

Beginning of sequence: $1,2,3,5,8,13,21,34,55, \ldots$

## Definition (Zeckendorf Decompositions)

A Zeckendorf Decomposition is a way to write a natural number as the sum of non-adjacent Fibonacci Numbers. They also give an alternative definition for the Fibonacci Numbers.

## Theorem (Zeckendorf's Theorem)

Every natural number has a unique Zeckendorf Decomposition.
Example (Greedy Algorithm):

- 335
- $335=233+102$
- $335=233+89+13$


## Definition (Simple Jump Paths (in 2D))

A simple jump path is a path on the lattice grid where each movement on the lattice grid consists of at least one unit movement to the left and one unit movement downward.

Examples of simple jump paths (from $(7,7)$ to $(0,0)$ )

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- We count simple jump paths from $(a, b)$ to $(0,0)$, where $a, b \in \mathbb{N}^{+}$
- Let the number of simple jump paths from $(a, b)$ to $(0,0)$ be denoted $s_{a, b}$; always include $(a, b)$ and $(0,0)$
- Let the number of simple jump paths from $(a, b)$ to $(0,0)$ with $k$ steps be denoted $t_{a, b, k}$
- Analogue in $d=1$ resembles base-2 expansion


## Theorem (E. Chen, R. Chen, L. Guo, C. Jiang, S.M., J.S.,

P.Y.)

Simple Path Gaussianity on d-dimensional Lattice: Let $n$ be a positive integer, and consider the distribution of the number of summands among all simple jump paths with starting point $\left(p_{1}, p_{2}, \ldots, p_{d}\right)$ where $1 \leq p_{1}, p_{2}, \ldots, p_{d} \leq n$, and each path represents a (not necessarily unique) decomposition of some positive number. This distribution converges to a Gaussian as $n \rightarrow \infty$ with mean $\frac{1}{2} n+1$ and standard deviation $\frac{\sqrt{n}}{2 \sqrt{d}}$.


- Easiest to visualize what is going on when $d=2$
- Simple jump paths over a square lattice for $n=10$, starting point $(10,10)$
- Plotted points represent $\left\{t_{10,10, k}\right\}_{k=1}^{10}$, with best-fit Gaussian


## Simulations and Explanation of Main Result Statements



- Simple jump paths over a rectangular lattice with starting point $(70,30)$
- Plotted points represent $\left\{t_{30,70, k}\right\}_{k=1}^{30}$, with best-fit Gaussian


## Counting Simple Jump Paths

## Lemma (Simple Jump Path Partition Lemma)

If $s_{d}(n)$ denotes the number of $d$-dimensional paths from $(n, n, \ldots, n)$ to the origin and $t_{d}(n, k)$ denotes the number of such paths with $k$ steps, then $s_{d}(n)=\sum_{k=1}^{n} t_{d}(n, k)$.

- Here $t_{d}(n, k)$ denotes the number of simple jump paths of $k$ steps starting from point $(n, n, \ldots, n)$ in $d$-dimensions


## Counting Simple Jump Paths

## Lemma (The Cookie Problem)

The number of ways of dividing $C$ identical cookies among $P$ distinct people is $\binom{C+P-1}{P-1}$.

## Lemma (Enumerating Simple Jump Paths in d-dimensions)

$\forall n \in \mathbb{N}, 1 \leq k \leq n, t_{d}(n, k)=\binom{n-1}{k-1}^{d}$.

- Every $\binom{n-1}{k-1}$ is the number of ways to group $k$ objects into $n$ nonempty groups
- Groupings are independently determined, use Cookie Problem lemma

Useful formulas and notation:

- $p\left(x_{k}\right)$ : probability of event $x_{k}$ occurring, one of finitely many values (events)
- Density function: $f_{d}(k, n):=\frac{t_{d}(n+1, k+1)}{s_{d}(n+1)}=\frac{\binom{n}{k}^{d}}{s_{d}(n+1)}$
- Mean (discrete): $\mu=\sum x_{k} p\left(x_{k}\right)$
- Variance (discrete): $\sigma^{2}=\sum\left(x_{n}-\mu\right)^{2} p\left(x_{n}\right)$
- Gaussian (continuous): Density

$$
\left(2 \pi \sigma^{2}\right)^{-1 / 2} \exp \left(-(x-\mu)^{2} / 2 \sigma^{2}\right)
$$

## Lemma (Mean on $d$-dimensional Lattice)

$\forall n \in \mathbb{N}^{+}, \mu_{d}(n+1)=\frac{1}{2} n+1 \sim \frac{n}{2}$.

- The mean is independent of $d$


## Lemma (Standard Deviation on Square Lattice)

$\forall n \in \mathbb{N}^{+}, \sigma_{1}(n+1)=\frac{\sqrt{n}}{2}, \sigma_{2}(n+1)=\frac{n}{2 \sqrt{2(n-1)}} \sim \frac{\sqrt{n}}{2 \sqrt{2}}$.

- Calculate using definition of first moment (mean) and second moment (standard deviation)
- Use index shift: $\sum_{k=1}^{n+1}$ becomes $\sum_{k=0}^{n},\binom{n}{k-1}$ becomes $\binom{n}{k}$
- Use binomial expansion and standard techniques for evaluating binomial coefficients


## Lemma (Standard Deviation on d-dimensional Lattice)

$\forall d \geq 2, n \in \mathbb{N}^{+}, \sigma_{d}(n+1) \leq \sigma_{1}(n+1) \leq \frac{\sqrt{n}}{2}$

- We weren't able to find closed-form expression for $\sigma$ in higher dimensions
- For example, the evaluation of $\sum_{k=0}^{n} k^{d}\binom{n}{k}^{d}$ cannot be generalized for $d>2$
- The variance decreases as $d$ increases, and it is largest when $d=1$, proven using symmetry of binomial coefficients
- In fact, it holds that $\sigma_{d}(n+1) \sim \frac{\sqrt{n}}{2 \sqrt{d}}$


## Lemma (Bounding the random variable)

Consider all simple jump paths from $(n+1, n+1, \ldots, n+1)$ to the origin in $d$-dimensions. If $K$ is the random variable denoting the number of steps in each path, then the probability that $K$ is at least $\frac{n^{\epsilon} \sqrt{n}}{2}$ from the mean is at most $n^{-2 \epsilon}$.

- By Chebyshev's Inequality,

$$
\operatorname{Prob}\left(\left|K-\mu_{d}\right| \geq n^{\epsilon} \sigma_{d}(n+1)\right) \leq \frac{1}{n^{2 \epsilon}}
$$

- As $\sigma_{d} \leq \frac{\sqrt{n}}{2}$ by the previous lemma, we only decrease the probability on the left if we replace $\sigma_{d}(n+1)$ with $\frac{\sqrt{n}}{2}$
- If we write $K$ as $\mu_{d}(n+1)+l \cdot \frac{\sqrt{n}}{2}$, then with probability tending to 1 we may assume $|I| \leq n^{\epsilon}$


## Theorem (Simple Path Gaussianity on d-dimensional Lattice)

Let $n$ be a positive integer, and consider the distribution of the number of summands among all simple jump paths with starting point $\left(p_{1}, p_{2}, \ldots, p_{d}\right)$ where $1 \leq p_{1}, p_{2}, \ldots, p_{d} \leq n$, and each distribution represents a (not necessarily unique) decomposition of some positive number. This distribution converges to a Gaussian as $n \rightarrow \infty$ with mean $\frac{1}{2} n+1$ and standard deviation $\frac{\sqrt{n}}{2 \sqrt{d}}$.

- Write $k$ as $\mu_{d}(n+1)+l \cdot \frac{\sqrt{n}}{2}$, $l$ is the number of standard deviations from the mean
- Density function: $f_{d}(n+1, k+1):=\frac{t_{d}(n+1, k+1)}{s_{d}(n+1)}=\frac{\binom{n}{k}^{d}}{s_{d}(n+1)}$
- Use Stirling's Approximation on each factor: $m!\sim m^{m} e^{-m} \sqrt{2 \pi m}$
- End result of Stirling expansion is $f_{d}(n+1, k+1)=$ $\frac{2^{d n} n^{d / 2}}{s_{d}(n+1)}\left(\frac{n^{n}}{2^{n} k^{k}(n-k)^{n-k} \sqrt{2 \pi k(n-k)}}\right)^{d} \cdot\left(1+O\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)\right)$
- Since $k, n-k$ are close to $n / 2$, the main term becomes

$$
\begin{aligned}
f_{\text {main }} & :=\frac{n^{n}}{2^{n} k^{k}(n-k)^{n-k} \sqrt{2 \pi k(n-k)}} \\
& =\frac{1}{\sqrt{\frac{\pi n^{2}}{2}}} \cdot \frac{1}{\left(1-\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}\right)^{\frac{n-l \sqrt{n}+1}{2}}\left(1+\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}\right)^{\frac{n+l \sqrt{n}+1}{2}}}
\end{aligned}
$$

- Denote the denominator of the second fraction as $q_{n+1}$, approximate it using Taylor expansion
- Eventually we get $q_{n+1}=e^{\frac{\left(k-\mu_{d}(n+1)\right)^{2}}{n / 2}} \cdot e^{O\left(n^{-1 / 6}\right)}$
- Then, for $|I| \leq n^{1 / 9}$,

$$
f_{d}(n+1, k+1)=\frac{2^{d n} n^{d / 2}}{s_{d}(n+1)\left(\pi n^{2} / 2\right)^{d / 2}} \cdot e^{-\frac{d\left(k-\mu_{d}(n+1)\right)^{2}}{n / 2}} e^{O\left(n^{-1 / 6}\right)}
$$

- The second exponential is negligible as $n \rightarrow \infty$; the first exponential is Gaussian with mean $\mu_{d}(n+1)$ and variance $\sigma_{d}(n+1)^{2}=\frac{n}{4 d}$
- The normalization constant is
$s_{d}(n+1) \sim 2^{d n}\left(\frac{\pi n}{2}\right)^{\frac{1-d}{2}} d^{-\frac{1}{2}}$


## Definition (Generalized Jump Paths (in 2D))

A generalized jump path is a path on the lattice grid where each movement on the lattice grid consists of either at least one unit movement to the left or one unit movement downward.

Examples of generalized jump paths (from $(7,7)$ to $(0,0)$ )

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## Theorem (E. Fang, J.J., Z. Lee, D. Li, E. Lu, S.M., D.S. J.S.)

Generalized Path Gaussianity on 2-dimensional Lattice: Let $g((p, q), k)$ denote the number of generalized jump paths from the point $(p, q)$ using exactly $k$ moves. As $p, q \rightarrow \infty$, $g((p, q), k)$ is Gaussian with respect to $k$.

- $g(\mathbf{p}, k)$ is Generalized Jump Paths from $\mathbf{p}$ with $k$ moves
- $u(\mathbf{p}, k)$ counts paths that don't necessarily end at $(0,0)$.
- $u(\mathbf{p}, k)=g(\mathbf{p}, k)+g(\mathbf{p}, k+1)$

In 2 dimensions,

$$
\begin{aligned}
u((p, q), k) & =u((p, q-1), k)+u((p, q-1), k-1) \\
& +u((p-1, q), k)+u((p-1, q), k-1) \\
& -u((p-1, q-1), k)-u((p-1, q-1), k-1)
\end{aligned}
$$

- Let $F_{p, q}(x)=u((p, q), k) x^{k}$


## Claim

$$
F_{p, q}(x)=(1+x)^{p} \sum_{k=0}^{q}\binom{q}{k}\binom{p+k}{k} x^{k}
$$

## Counting Lemma Statements

## Combinatorics Method

- Let $r(\mathbf{p}, n)$ be defined identically to $g(\mathbf{p}, n)$ but allowing stationary points
- Let $s(\mathbf{p}, n, k)$ correspond to $r(\mathbf{p}, n)$ where there are at least $k$ stationary points
By Stars and Bars,

$$
r(\mathbf{p}, n)=\prod_{i=1}^{d}\binom{p_{i}+n-1}{p_{i}}
$$

- Observe $s(\mathbf{p}, n, k)=\binom{n}{k} r(p, n-k)$

Then by inclusion-exclusion,

$$
g(\mathbf{p}, n)=\sum_{k=0}^{n-1}(-1)^{k}\binom{n}{k} r(\mathbf{p}, n-k)
$$

## Counting Lemma Statements

## Combinatorics Method

## Current Result

In 2-D,
$g((p, q), n)=\sum_{i=0}^{n}(-1)^{k}\binom{n}{i}\binom{(p-1)+n-i}{(n-1)-i}\binom{(q-1)+n-i}{(n-1)-i}$
where WLOG $p \leq q$

## Simplification

Inner term counts $(S, T, U)$ such that

- $S \subseteq[n], T \subseteq[p+n-1] \backslash S, U \subseteq[q+n-1] \backslash S$
- $|S|+|T|=|S|+|U|=n-1$

Define $f$ where $f$ toggles minimum term of $S \cup(U \cap T)$

- $f$ is it's own involution
- $f$ flips parity of $|S|$
- Ordered pairs defined on $f$ sum to 0
- Only need to sum if $f$ not well-defined


## Counting Lemma Statements

## Combinatorics Method

Let the set where $f$ is not well-defined be $E$. Then, we can conclude

$$
\sum_{i=0}^{n}(-1)^{k}\binom{n}{i}\binom{(p-1)+n-i}{(n-1)-i}\binom{(q-1)+n-i}{(n-1)-i}=|E|
$$

$f$ is not well-defined if and only if

- $S=\varnothing$
- $T \cap U \cap[n]=\varnothing$

Basic combinatorial arguments then yield

$$
g((p, q), n)=\sum_{i=0}^{n-1}\binom{p-1}{i}\binom{p-1+n-i}{p}\binom{q}{n-i-1}
$$

## Counting Lemma Statements

## Combinatorics Method

- Use $u((p, q), n)=g((p, q), n)+g((p, q), n+1)$

$$
u((p, q), n)=\sum_{i=0}^{n}\binom{p}{i}\binom{p+n-i}{p}\binom{q}{n-i}
$$

- Plugging into $F_{p, q}(x)$ :

$$
F_{p, q}(x)=(1+x)^{p} \sum_{k=0}^{q}\binom{q}{k}\binom{p+k}{k} x^{k}
$$

## Setup

- $X_{p, q}$ is random variable counting length of path
- $A, B$ random variables,

$$
P(A=k) \propto\binom{p}{k}, P(B=k) \propto\binom{q}{k}\binom{p+k}{k}
$$

- $X_{p, q}=A_{p, q}+B_{p, q}$ by previous result


## Goals

## Well Known

$A$ is Gaussian with mean $\frac{p}{2}$, standard $\operatorname{dev} \frac{p}{4}$

## Theorem

$B$ is Gaussian with mean $\frac{q-p+\sqrt{p^{2}+6 p q+q^{2}}}{4}$
The proofs are routine calculations.

## Outline

- Use Stirling's Approximation
- Set $k=a n+t \sqrt{n}$ where $a$ is mean and standard deviation is $O(\sqrt{n})$.
- Taylor Expansion about $\frac{t}{\sqrt{n}}$
- Show probability $|t|>n^{0.1} \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$


## Final Results

- The number of generalized jump paths is Gaussian with respect to the number of jumps.
- Mean: $\frac{p+q}{4}+\frac{\sqrt{p^{2}+6 p q+q^{2}}}{4}$
- Variance: $\frac{p+q}{8}+\frac{(p+q)^{2}}{8 \sqrt{p^{2}+6 p q+q^{2}}}$


## Future Work

- Work out expected Gaussianity result for compound paths in higher dimensions
- Investigate rates of convergence to Gaussian
- What happens if we allow points on lattice to be visited more than once?
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