

Maple-assisted proof of empirical formula for A267242

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Consider a "state" of the system to be a 1×9 binary array x , where $x_1 \dots x_5$ represent a row, and for j from 6 to 9, $x_j = 1$ if this row and the previous ones have already determined that column $j - 4$ is lexicographically greater than column $j - 5$. In particular if $x_1 \neq x_2$ we must have $x_6 = 1$ and similarly for the others.

We enumerate the 162 possible states:

```
> S[2]:= [[0,0,0],[0,0,1],[0,1,1],[1,0,1],[1,1,0],[1,1,1]]:
for i from 3 to 5 do
  S[i]:= map(proc(t) [op(t[1..i-1]),t[i-1],op(t[i..-1]),0], [op(t
[1..i-1]),t[i-1],op(t[i..-1]),1],
[op(t[1..i-1]),1-t[i-1],op(t[i..-1]),1] end proc, S[i-1])
od:
states:= S[5]:
nops(states);
```

162 (1)

Although it is not part of the $n \times 5$ array, we may imagine that we start in state $[0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0]$. Let T be the 162×162 transition matrix where $T_{ij} = 1$ if state j can be followed by state i .

```
> T:= Matrix(162,162,proc(i,j) local k;
  if add(states[j,k]-states[i,k],k=1..5) > 0 then return 0 fi;
  for k from 6 to 9 do if states[j,k]>states[i,k] then return 0
fi od;
  for k from 1 to 4 do if states[i,k]>=states[i,k+1] and states
[j,k+5]<>states[i,k+5] then return 0 fi od;
1
end proc):
```

Then we should have $a_n = u^T T^n e$ where $u = (1, \dots, 1)^T$ and $e = (1, 0, \dots, 0)^T$. To check, we compute the first few terms of the sequence. .

```
> E:= Vector(162): E[1]:= 1:
U[0]:= Vector[row](162,1):
for k from 1 to 25 do U[k]:= U[k-1].T od:
seq(U[j] . E, j=1..25);
```

6, 34, 232, 1986, 20040, 220235, 2499080, 28501471, 323067002, 3626695952, 40306404192, (2)
443852375808, 4848323701804, 52590398731297, 567018802063680,
6081537709403509, 64929807220896558, 690446673537426382, 7315972510023985656,
77274873614152163086, 813900638760063735376, 8550527339833707689319,
89620491846900286358232, 937357144562779343633051, 9785093901830068685014370

Now the empirical formula is

```
> Emp:= a(n) = 52*a(n-1) -1196*a(n-2) +16140*a(n-3) -142918*a(n-4)
+879116*a(n-5) -3875668*a(n-6) +12442580*a(n-7) -29232481*a(n-8)
+50015232*a(n-9) -61355336*a(n-10) +52355680*a(n-11) -29405200*a
(n-12) +9744000*a(n-13) -1440000*a(n-14):
```

This corresponds to $u^T P(T) T^n e = 0$ where $P(x)$ is the following polynomial of degree 15:

```
> P := x^14 - add(coef(rhs(Emp), a(n-i)) * x^(14-i), i=1..14);  
P := x^14 - 52 x^13 + 1196 x^12 - 16140 x^11 + 142918 x^10 - 879116 x^9 + 3875668 x^8  
      - 12442580 x^7 + 29232481 x^6 - 50015232 x^5 + 61355336 x^4 - 52355680 x^3  
      + 29405200 x^2 - 9744000 x + 1440000
```

(3)

It turns out that $u^T P(T) = 0$. The verification of this completes the proof.

```
> UP := add(coef(P, x, j) * U[j], j=0..14);  
UP . UP^%T;
```

0

(4)