Extensions and restrictions of Wythoff's game preserving Wythoff's sequence as set of ${\mathcal P}$ positions

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http://www.discmath.ulg.ac.be/

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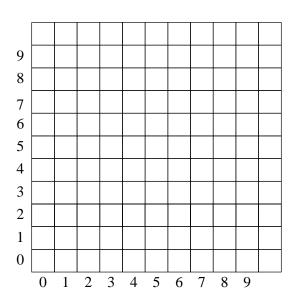


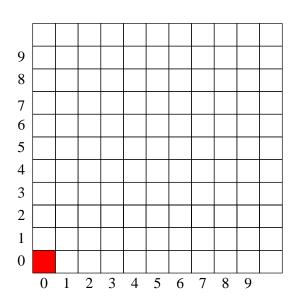
W. A. Wythoff, A modification of the game of Nim, *Nieuw Arch. Wisk.* **7** (1907), 199–202.

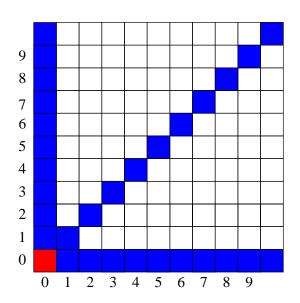
RULES OF THE GAME

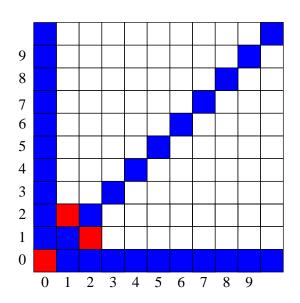
- Two players play alternatively
- Two piles of tokens
- Remove
 - any positive number of tokens from one pile or,
 - the same positive number from the two piles.
- The one who takes the last token wins the game (last move wins).

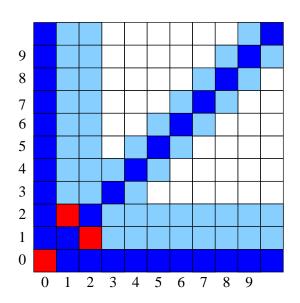
Set of moves : $\{(i,0), i>0\} \cup \{(0,j), j>0\} \cup \{(k,k), k>0\}$

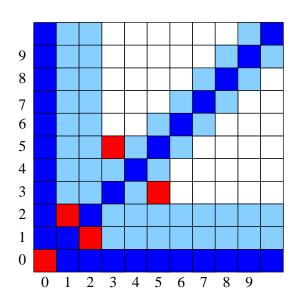


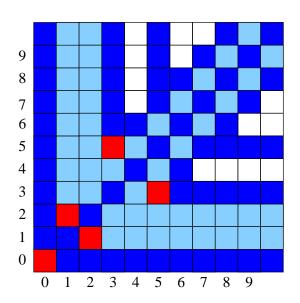


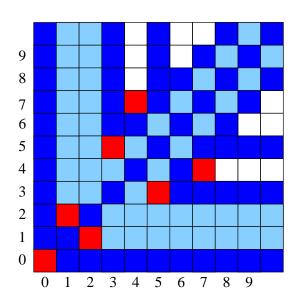


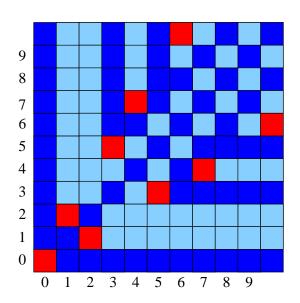


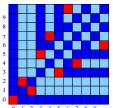












$$(0,0),\; (1,2),\; (3,5),\; (4,7),\; (6,10),\; \dots$$

P-POSITION

A \mathcal{P} -position is a position q from which the *previous* player (moving to q) can force a win.

N-POSITION

A \mathcal{N} -position is a position p from which the *actual* player has an option leading ultimately to win the game.

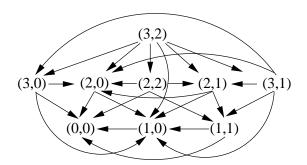
Question : Are all positions $\mathcal N$ or $\mathcal P$?



Initial position (i_0, j_0) , by symmetry, take only $(i \ge j)$

- ▶ **Vertices** : $\{(i,j), i \le i_0, j \le j_0\}$
- **Edges**: from each position to all its options:

$$\begin{array}{c|cccc} i > 0 & & (i,j) & \rightarrow & (i-k,j) \\ j > 0 & & (i,j) & \rightarrow & (i,j-k) \\ i,j > 0 & & (i,j) & \rightarrow & (i-k,j-k) \end{array} \right| \begin{array}{c} k = 1, \dots, i \\ k = 1, \dots, j \\ k = 1, \dots, \min(i,j) \end{array}$$



REMARK

Due to the rules, the game graph for Wythoff's game is acyclic.

THEOREM [BERGE]

Any finite acyclic digraph has a unique kernel. Moreover, this kernel can be obtained efficiently.

REMINDER/DEFINITION OF A KERNEL

A kernel in a graph G = (V, E) is a subset $W \subseteq V$

- ▶ stable : $\forall x, y \in W$, $(x, y) \notin E$
- ▶ absorbing : $\forall x \in V \setminus W$, $\exists y \in W : (x, y) \in E$.

REMARK

Due to the rules, the game graph for Wythoff's game is **acyclic**.

THEOREM [BERGE]

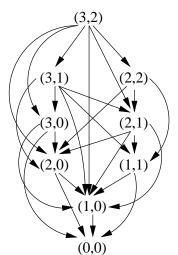
Any finite acyclic digraph has a unique kernel.

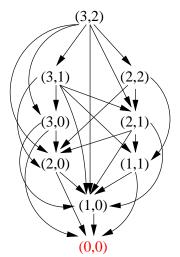
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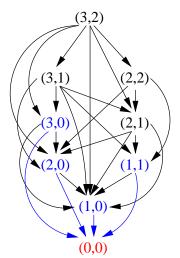
REMINDER/DEFINITION OF A KERNEL

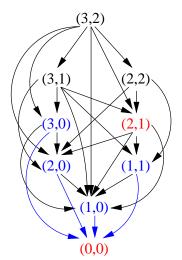
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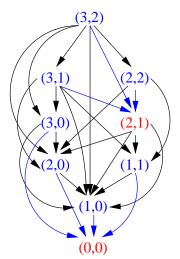
- ▶ stable : $\forall x, y \in W, (x, y) \notin E$
- ▶ absorbing : $\forall x \in V \setminus W$, $\exists y \in W : (x, y) \in E$.











For Wythoff's game, its game graph has a unique kernel *K*.

- ► stable: from a position in K, you always play out of K,
- absorbing : from a position outside K, you can play into K,
- ightharpoonup (0,0) has to belong to K, otherwise K won't be absorbing.

COROLLARY

The set of \mathcal{P} -positions is exactly the kernel K and all the other positions are \mathcal{N} -positions.

$\{\mathcal{P}\text{-positions}\}\supseteq K$

If p is a position in K, then it is a \mathcal{P} -position because there is a *winning strategy* outside K.

$\{\mathcal{P}\text{-positions}\}\subseteq K$

If p is a \mathcal{P} -position not in K, then there is a move from p to K, thus p is a \mathcal{N} -position!



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- ► stable: from a position in K, you always play out of K,
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P-POSITION OF THE WYTHOFF'S GAME I

$$(A_n, B_n)_{n \ge 0} = (0, 0), (1, 2), (3, 5), (4, 7), \dots$$

$$\forall n \ge 0, \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} A_n = Mex\{A_i, B_i \mid i < n\} \\ B_n = A_n + n \end{array} \right.$$

P-POSITION OF THE WYTHOFF'S GAME II

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 \cdots \mathcal{F} a b a a b a b a b a a b a a b a

P-POSITIONS OF THE WYTHOFF'S GAME III

$$(A_n, B_n)_{n\geq 0} = (\lfloor n\tau \rfloor, \lfloor n\tau^2 \rfloor).$$

- A.S. Fraenkel, How to beat your Wythoff games' opponent on three fronts, Amer. Math. Monthly 89 (1982), 353–361.
- A.S. Fraenkel, Heap games, Numeration systems and Sequences, Annals of Combinatorics 2 (1998), 197–210.
- ► A.S. Fraenkel, The Raleigh Game, INTEGERS (2007).
- E. Duchêne, M.R., A morphic approach to combinatorial games: the Tribonacci case, to appear in RAIRO Theoret. Inform. Appl.
- ▶ E. Duchêne, M.R., A class a cubic Pisot unit games, to appear in *Monat. für Math.*

Different sets of moves / more piles \downarrow Different sets of $\mathcal P$ -positions to characterize...

OUR GOAL / DUAL QUESTION

Consider extensions or restrictions of Wythoff's game that keep the set of \mathcal{P} -positions of Wythoff's game invariant.

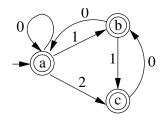
Characterize the different sets of moves...

Same set of $\mathcal{P}\text{-positions}$ as Wythoff's game

DURING OUR JOURNEY...

Canonical construction [Cobham'72] : morphisms \rightarrow automata

$$\varphi: \mathbf{a} \mapsto \mathbf{abc}, \ \mathbf{b} \mapsto \mathbf{ac}, \ \mathbf{c} \mapsto \mathbf{b}$$



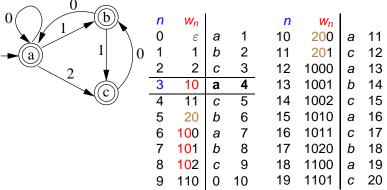
 $arphi^\omega(\mathsf{a}) = \mathsf{abcacbabcbacabcaabcbabcacb} \cdots$

Consider the language $L = L(\mathcal{M}) \setminus 0\{0, 1, 2\}^*$.

Remark: Positions in $\varphi^{\omega}(a)$ are counted from 1.



Take the words of *L* in genealogical order (abstract system)



Not a "positional" system, no sequence behind.

EXAMPLE:

The 4th letter is a, it corresponds to $w_3 = 10$.

Since
$$\varphi(a) = abc$$
, we consider
$$\begin{cases} w_30 = 100 = w_i \\ w_31 = 101 = w_{i+1} \\ w_32 = 102 = w_{i+2} \end{cases}$$
then the $(i + 1)$ st, $(i + 2)$ st, $(i + 3)$ st letters are a, b, c .

$$\operatorname{rep}_{L}(i) := w_{i}, \quad \operatorname{val}_{L}(w_{i}) := i$$

PROPOSITION

Let the *n*th letter of $\varphi^{\omega}(a)$ be σ and w_{n-1} be the *n*th word in L. If $\varphi(\sigma) = x_1 \cdots x_r$, then $x_1 \cdots x_r$ appears in $\varphi^{\omega}(a)$ in positions $\operatorname{val}_L(w_{n-1}x_1) + 1, \ldots, \operatorname{val}_L(w_{n-1}x_r) + 1$.

For Wythoff's game: Fibonacci word \mathcal{F} , $L = 1\{01, 0\}^* \cup \{\varepsilon\}$ and we get the usual Fibonacci system $\rho_F : \mathbb{N} \to L$, $\pi_F : L \to \mathbb{N}$.

COROLLARY

- ▶ If the *n*th letter in \mathcal{F} is a ($n \ge 1$), then this a produces through φ a factor ab occupying positions $\pi_F(\rho_F(n-1)0)+1$ and $\pi_F(\rho_F(n-1)1)+1$.
- ▶ If the *n*th letter in \mathcal{F} is b ($n \ge 1$), then this b produces through φ a letter a occupying position $\pi_F(\rho_F(n-1)0) + 1$.



$$\operatorname{rep}_{L}(i) := W_{i}, \quad \operatorname{val}_{L}(W_{i}) := i$$

PROPOSITION

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- ▶ If the *n*th letter in \mathcal{F} is b ($n \ge 1$), then this b produces through φ a letter a occupying position $\pi_F(\rho_F(n-1)0) + 1$.



REMINDER ON FIBONACCI NUMERATION SYSTEM

Fibonacci sequence : $F_{i+2} = F_{i+1} + F_i$, $F_0 = 1$, $F_1 = 2$ Use greedy expansion, ..., 21, 13, 8, 5, 3, 2, 1

E. Zeckendorf, Représentation des nombres naturels par une somme des nombres de Fibonacci ou de nombres de Lucas, *Bull. Soc. Roy. Sci. Liège* **41** (1972), 179–182.



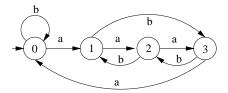
In fact, this is a special case of the following result.

THEOREM [A. MAES, M.R. '02]

The set of S-automatic sequences is exactly the set of morphic words.

Take any regular language genealogically ordered \oplus DFAO

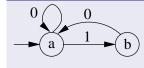
$$i$$
 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 ··· $\operatorname{rep}_{S}(i)$ ε a b aa ab bb aaa aab abb bbb ···



 $01023031200231010123023031203120231002310123010123\cdots$

n	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
	а	b	а	а	b	а	b	а	а	b	а	а	
A_i	1		3	4		6		8	9		11	12	
B_i		2			5		7			10			
$\rho_F(n-1)$	ω	_	10	100	101	1000	1001	1010	10000	10001	10010	10100	

P-POSITIONS OF THE WYTHOFF'S GAME IV



For all $n \ge 1$, we have

$$A_n = \pi_F(\rho_F(n-1)0) + 1$$

 $B_n = \pi_F(\rho_F(A_n-1)1) + 1.$

MORE?

Can we get a "morphic characterization" of the Wythoff's matrix?

Let's try something...

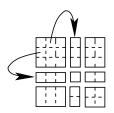
and the coding

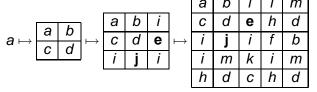
$$\mu$$
: e, g, j, $l \mapsto 1$, a, b, c, d, f, h, i, k, $m \mapsto 0$

O. Salon, Suites automatiques à multi-indices, *Séminaire de théorie des nombres*, Bordeaux, 1986–1987, exposé 4.

SHAPE-SYMMETRIC MORPHISM [A. MAES '99]

If P is the infinite bidimensional picture that is the fixpoint of φ , then for all $i, j \in \mathbb{N}$, if $\varphi(P_{i,j})$ is a block of size $k \times \ell$ then $\varphi(P_{j,i})$ is of size $\ell \times k$

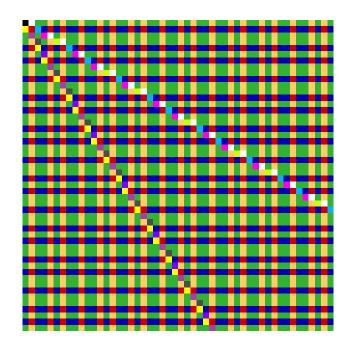




sizes: 1, 2, 3, 5

$\cdots \mapsto$	а	b	i	İ	m	İ	т	i	-
	С	d	е	h	d	h	d	h	
	i	j	i	f	b	i	m	i	
	i	m	k	i	m	g	b	i	
	h	d	С	h	d	h	d	е	
	i	m	i	I	m	i	m	i	
	h	d	h	С	d	h	d	h	
	i	m	İ	İ	j	İ	т	İ	

size: 8,...



$MORPHISMS \rightarrow AUTOMATA$

We can do the same as for the unidimensional case : Automaton with input alphabet

$$\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

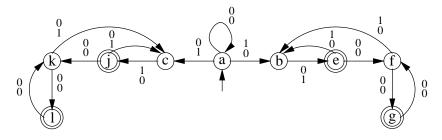
$$\varphi(r) = \begin{bmatrix} s & t \\ u & v \end{bmatrix}, \quad \begin{bmatrix} s & t \\ u & v \end{bmatrix}, \quad \begin{bmatrix} s & t \\ u & v \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{or} \quad \begin{bmatrix} s & t \\ u & v \end{bmatrix}$$

we have transitions like

$$r \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}} \mathbf{s}, \quad r \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}} \mathbf{t}, \quad r \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}} \mathbf{u}, \quad r \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}} \mathbf{v}.$$



We get (after trimming useless part with four states)



This automaton accepts the words

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 w_1 \cdots w_\ell \\ w_1 \cdots w_\ell 0 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } \begin{pmatrix} w_1 \cdots w_\ell 0 \\ 0 w_1 \cdots w_\ell \end{pmatrix}$$

where $w_1 \cdots w_\ell$ is a valid *F*-representation ending with an <u>even</u> number of zeroes.

Such a characterization is well-known, but differs from the one we get previously...

REMINDER

For all $n \ge 1$, we have

$$A_n = \pi_F(\rho_F(n-1)0) + 1$$

 $B_n = \pi_F(\rho_F(A_n-1)1) + 1.$

It is hopefully the same, but why?

• First case : $\rho_F(n-1) = u0$

$$\rho_F(A_n) = \rho_F(\pi_F(\underbrace{\rho_F(n-1)0}_{u00}) + 1) = u01 \text{ no zero}$$

$$\rho_F(A_n - 1) = u00$$
 and

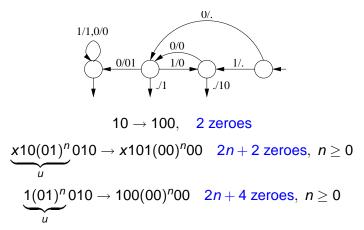
$$\rho_F(B_n) = \rho_F(\pi_F(\rho_F(A_n - 1)1) + 1) = u010$$
 one zero

• Second case : $\rho_F(n-1) = u01$

$$\rho_F(A_n) = \rho_F(\pi_F(\underbrace{\rho_F(n-1)0}_{u010}) + 1) = "u011" \dots$$

Normalize u011 or look for the successor of u010

Use the transducer (R to L) computing the successor [Frougny'97]



$$\rho_F(A_n - 1) = u010$$
 and

$$\rho_F(B_n) = \rho_F(\pi_F(\underbrace{\rho_F(A_n-1)1}_{u0101}) + 1) = "u0102" \dots$$

 $101 \rightarrow 1000$, 3 zeroes

$$\underbrace{x10(01)^n}_{u}$$
0101 $\rightarrow x101(00)^n$ 000 $2n+3$ zeroes, $n \ge 0$

 $1(01)^n 0101 \rightarrow 100(00)^n 000$ 2n + 5 zeroes, $n \ge 0$

Conclusion : " A_n even number of zeroes, B_n one more", OK



EXTENSION PRESERVING SET OF \mathcal{P} -POSITIONS

To decide whether or not a move can be adjoined to Wythoff's game without changing the set K of \mathcal{P} - positions, it suffices to check that it does not change the stability property K.

Remark: absorbing property holds true whatever the adjoined move is.

Consequence

A move (i,j) can be added IFF it prevents to move from a \mathcal{P} -position to another \mathcal{P} -position.

In other words, a necessary and sufficient condition for a move $(i,j)_{i< j}$ to be adjoined is that it does not belong to

$$\{(A_n-A_m,B_n-B_m): n>m\geq 0\}\cup\{(A_n-B_m,B_n-A_m): n>m\geq 0\}$$



Thanks to the previous characterizations of A_n , B_m ,

PROPOSITION

A move $(i,j)_{i < j}$ can be adjoined to without changing the set of \mathcal{P} -positions IFF

$$(i,j) \neq (\lfloor n\tau \rfloor - \lfloor m\tau \rfloor, \lfloor n\tau^2 \rfloor - \lfloor m\tau^2 \rfloor) \ \forall n > m \geq 0$$

and

$$(i,j) \neq (\lfloor n\tau \rfloor - \lfloor m\tau^2 \rfloor, \lfloor n\tau^2 \rfloor - \lfloor m\tau \rfloor) \ \forall n > m \geq 0$$



For all $i, j \ge 0$, $W_{i,j} = 1$ IFF Wythoff's game with the adjoined move (i,j) has Wythoff's sequence as set of \mathcal{P} -positions,

COROLLARY

Let $I \subseteq \mathbb{N}$. Wythoff's game with adjoined moves

$$\{(x_i,y_i):i\in I,x_i,y_i\in\mathbb{N}\}$$

has the same sequence (A_n, B_n) as set of \mathcal{P} -positions

IFF

$$W_{x_i,y_i} \neq 1$$
 for all $i \in I$.

Are we done? Complexity issue

We investigate tractable extensions of Wythoff's game, we also need to test these conditions in polynomial time. And the winner can consummate a win in at most an exponential number of moves.

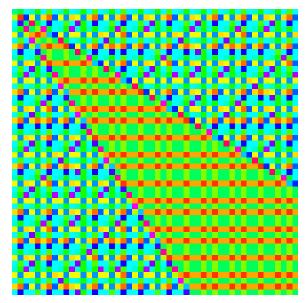
MANY "EFFORTS" LEAD TO THIS

For any pair (i,j) of positive integers, we have $W_{i,j} = 1$ if and only if one the three following properties is satisfied:

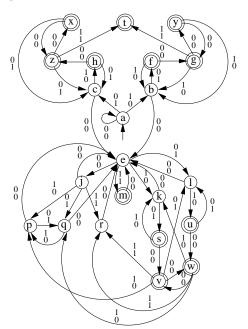
- $(\rho_F(i-1), \rho_F(j-1)) = (u0, u01)$ for any valid F-representation u in $\{0, 1\}^*$.
- $(\rho_F(i-2), \rho_F(j-2)) = (u0, u01)$ for any valid F-representation u in $\{0, 1\}^*$.
- $(\rho_F(j-A_i-2), \rho_F(j-A_i-2+i)) = (u1, u'0)$ for any two valid *F*-representations u and u' in $\{0, 1\}^*$.

MORPHIC CHARACTERIZATION OF W... IN PROGRESS

and the coding ν : $a, b, c, d, e, i, j, k, l, n, o, p, q, r \mapsto 0$ $f, g, h, m, s, t, u, v, w, x, y, z \mapsto 1$.



Corresponding automaton



SOME OF THE MACHINERY BEHIND



LEMMA

Let \mathcal{F}_n be the prefix of \mathcal{F} of length n. For any finite factor *bua* occurring in \mathcal{F} with |u|=n, we have $|u|_a=|\mathcal{F}_n|_a$ and $|u|_b=|\mathcal{F}_n|_b$.

EXAMPLE

Take u = aabaab, bua of length 8 starts in \mathcal{F} from position 7. $\mathcal{F}_6 = abaaba$ is a permutation of u.

$$\mathcal{F}=\underbrace{abaaba}_{\mathcal{F}_6}\underbrace{bua}_{u}$$
bua baababaaba \cdots

Proof: algebraic

LEMMA

Let $n \ge 1$ be such that $B_{n+1} - B_n = 2$. Then $\rho_F(B_n - 1)$ ends with 101.

Proof : Morphic structure of ${\mathcal F}$

PROPOSITION

$$\{(A_j - A_i, B_j - B_i) \mid j > i \ge 0\} = \{(A_n, B_n) \mid n > 0\}$$
$$\cup \{(A_n + 1, B_n + 1) \mid n > 0\}$$

Proof : Density of the $\{n\tau\}$'s in [0,1]

LEMMA

Let $u1 \in \{0,1\}^*$ be a valid *F*-representation. If $\rho_F(\pi_F(u1) + n)1$ is also a valid *F*-representation, then

$$\pi_F(\rho_F(\pi_F(u1) + n)1) = \pi_F(u00) + \pi_F(\rho_F(n-1)0) + 4.$$

Otherwise, $\rho_F(\pi_F(u1) + n)1$ is not a valid *F*-representation and

$$\pi_F(\rho_F(\pi_F(u1) + n)0) = \pi_F(u00) + \pi_F(\rho_F(n)0) + 2.$$

Proof : Morphic structure of \mathcal{F}

THEOREM

Let i, j be such that $A_j - B_i = n > 0$. We have

$$B_i - A_i = B_i + A_n + 1.$$



CONCLUDING RESULT

THEOREM

There is no redundant move in Wythoff's game. In particular, if any move is removed, then the set of \mathcal{P} -positions changes.