

# The Yang-Baxter equation, braces and Thompson's group $F$

Algebra Days in Caen 2022: from Yang-Baxter to Garside,  
Caen 2022

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# The quantum Yang-Baxter equation - QYBE

The  
Yang-Baxter  
equation and  
Thompson's  
group  $F$

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QYBE

Inverse  
monoids

Partial  
solutions

1st Results

Thomson  
group  $F$

2nd Results

Let  $R : V \otimes V \rightarrow V \otimes V$  be a linear operator, where  $V$  is a vector space.

The QYBE is the equality  $R^{12}R^{13}R^{23} = R^{23}R^{13}R^{12}$  of linear transformations on  $V \otimes V \otimes V$ , where  $R^{ij}$  means  $R$  acting on the  $i$ -th and  $j$ -th components.

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The  
Yang-Baxter  
equation and  
Thompson's  
group  $F$

Fabienne  
Chouraqui

QYBE

Inverse  
monoids

Partial  
solutions

1st Results

Thomson  
group  $F$

2nd Results

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The  
Yang-Baxter  
equation and  
Thompson's  
group  $F$

Fabienne  
Chouraqui

QYBE

Inverse  
monoids

Partial  
solutions

1st Results

Thomson  
group  $F$

2nd Results

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The  
Yang-Baxter  
equation and  
Thompson's  
group  $F$

Fabienne  
Chouraqui

QYBE

Inverse  
monoids

Partial  
solutions

1st Results

Thomson  
group  $F$

2nd Results

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A set-theoretical solution  $(X, r)$  of the QYBE [Drinfeld]

- $V$  is a vector space spanned by a set  $X$ .
- $R$  is the linear operator induced by a mapping  $r : X \times X \rightarrow X \times X$ , that satisfies  $r^{12}r^{23}r^{12} = r^{23}r^{12}r^{23}$ .

# Properties of a solution $(X, r)$

The  
Yang-Baxter  
equation and  
Thompson's  
group  $F$

Fabienne  
Chouraqui

QYBE

Inverse  
monoids

Partial  
solutions

1st Results

Thomson  
group  $F$

2nd Results

Let  $X = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  and let  $r$  be defined in the following way:  
 $r(i, j) = (\sigma_i(j), \gamma_j(i))$ , where  $\sigma_i, \gamma_i : X \rightarrow X$ .

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The  
Yang-Baxter  
equation and  
Thompson's  
group  $F$

Fabienne  
Chouraqui

QYBE

Inverse  
monoids

Partial  
solutions

1st Results

Thomson  
group  $F$

2nd Results

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Proposition [Etingof, Schedler, Soloviev - 1999]

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- $(X, r)$  is braided  $\Leftrightarrow \sigma_i\sigma_j = \sigma_{\sigma_i(j)}\sigma_{\gamma_j(i)}$  and  
 $\gamma_j\gamma_i = \gamma_{\gamma_j(i)}\gamma_{\sigma_i(j)}$   
and  $\gamma_{\sigma_{\gamma_j(i)}(k)}\sigma_i(j) = \sigma_{\gamma_{\sigma_j(k)}(i)}\gamma_k(j)$ ,  $1 \leq i, j, k \leq n$ .

# The QYBE group: the structure group of $(X, S)$

The  
Yang-Baxter  
equation and  
Thompson's  
group  $F$

Fabienne  
Chouraqui

QYBE

Inverse  
monoids

Partial  
solutions

1st Results

Thomson  
group  $F$

2nd Results

Assumption: The pair  $(X, r)$  is non-degenerate, involutive and braided. It is called **a non-degenerate, involutive set-solution**.

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The  
Yang-Baxter  
equation and  
Thompson's  
group  $F$

Fabienne  
Chouraqui

QYBE

Inverse  
monoids

Partial  
solutions

1st Results

Thomson  
group  $F$

2nd Results

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The structure group  $G$  of  $(X, r)$  [Etingof, Schedler, Soloviev]

- The generators:  $X = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$ .

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Yang-Baxter  
equation and  
Thompson's  
group  $F$

Fabienne  
Chouraqui

QYBE

Inverse  
monoids

Partial  
solutions

1st Results

Thomson  
group  $F$

2nd Results

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The  
Yang-Baxter  
equation and  
Thompson's  
group  $F$

Fabienne  
Chouraqui

QYBE

Inverse  
monoids

Partial  
solutions

1st Results

Thomson  
group  $F$

2nd Results

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*There are exactly  $\frac{n(n-1)}{2}$  defining relations.*

# Example

Let  $X = \{x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3\}$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma_0 &= (0)(1)(2, 3) & \sigma_1 &= (1, 2, 0, 3) \\ \sigma_2 &= (2)(3)(0, 1) & \sigma_3 &= (1, 3, 0, 2)\end{aligned}\tag{1}$$

The solution is indecomposable with defining relations:

$$\begin{aligned}x_1 x_1 &= x_2 x_0 & x_1 x_0 &= x_3 x_2 \\ x_0 x_3 &= x_2 x_1 & x_1 x_2 &= x_0 x_1 \\ x_2 x_3 &= x_3 x_0 & x_3^2 &= x_0 x_2\end{aligned}\tag{2}$$

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The center of  $G$  is generated by  $\Delta = (x_0 x_1)^2 = (x_2 x_3)^2$



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The  
Yang-Baxter  
equation and  
Thompson's  
group  $F$

Fabienne  
Chouraqui

QYBE

**Inverse  
monoids**

Partial  
solutions

1st Results

Thomson  
group  $F$

2nd Results

## Definition of an inverse semigroup and an inverse monoid

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The  
Yang-Baxter  
equation and  
Thompson's  
group  $F$

Fabienne  
Chouraqui

QYBE

Inverse  
monoids

Partial  
solutions

1st Results

Thomson  
group  $F$

2nd Results

## Definition of an inverse semigroup and an inverse monoid

- A *regular semigroup* is a semigroup  $S$  such that for every element  $s \in S$  there exists at least one element  $s^* \in S$  such that  $ss^*s = s$  and  $s^*ss^* = s^*$ .  
 $s^*$  is called *an inverse of  $s$* .

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An inverse semigroup is a regular semigroup in which all the idempotents commute: the set  $E(S)$  of idempotents of an inverse semigroup  $S$  is a commutative subsemigroup.  
 $E(S)$  is ordered by  $e \leq f$  iff  $ef = e = fe$ .

# Commutative inverse monoids

## Some definitions ( $X$ a set)

- A *partial function* of  $X$  is a function  $f$  between two (non-necessarily proper) subsets of  $X$ , the domain and the range of  $f$  are denoted by  $\mathcal{D}_f$ , and  $\mathcal{R}_f$  respectively.

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## In a commutative inverse monoid $A$ generated by a set $X$ :

- Every element is in corr. with a partial function with **finite support**  $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $x_j \mapsto m_j$ .

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The  
Yang-Baxter  
equation and  
Thompson's  
group  $F$

Fabienne  
Chouraqui

QYBE

Inverse  
monoids

Partial  
solutions

1st Results

Thomson  
group  $F$

2nd Results

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- The identity is  $0_X$ , the zero function on  $X$ .

# Symmetric inverse monoids

The  
Yang-Baxter  
equation and  
Thompson's  
group  $F$

Fabienne  
Chouraqui

QYBE

Inverse  
monoids

Partial  
solutions

1st Results

Thomson  
group  $F$

2nd Results

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The  
Yang-Baxter  
equation and  
Thompson's  
group  $F$

Fabienne  
Chouraqui

QYBE

Inverse  
monoids

Partial  
solutions

1st Results

Thomson  
group  $F$

2nd Results

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If  $f, g \in I_X$ , then  $f \circ g$  is the composition of partial maps in the largest domain where it makes sense, that is  $\mathcal{D}_{f \circ g} = g^{-1}(\mathcal{D}_f \cap \mathcal{R}_g)$ , and  $\mathcal{R}_{f \circ g} = f(\mathcal{D}_f \cap \mathcal{R}_g)$ .

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The  
Yang-Baxter  
equation and  
Thompson's  
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Fabienne  
Chouraqui

QYBE

Inverse  
monoids

Partial  
solutions

1st Results

Thomson  
group  $F$

2nd Results

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The  
Yang-Baxter  
equation and  
Thompson's  
group  $F$

Fabienne  
Chouraqui

QYBE

Inverse  
monoids

Partial  
solutions

1st Results

Thomson  
group  $F$

2nd Results

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- There is a zero element: the vacuous map  $\emptyset \rightarrow \emptyset$ .
- The idempotents of  $I_X$  are the partial identities on  $X$ .

# Operations on inverse monoids

Let  $S$  be a semigroup,  $M$  be a monoid

$M$  is said to *act on  $S$  (on the left) (by endomorphisms)* if there exists a map  $M \times S \rightarrow S$ , denoted by  $(a, s) \mapsto a \bullet s$  satisfying the following conditions:

- for any  $a, b \in M, s \in S, (ab) \bullet s = a \bullet (b \bullet s)$ .
- for any  $a \in M, s, s' \in S, a \bullet (ss') = (a \bullet s)(a \bullet s')$ .
- for every  $s \in S, 1 \bullet s = s$ .



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Let  $M$  act on  $S$  (on the left) (by endomorphisms)

The semidirect product  $S \rtimes M$  is not an inverse semigroup!!!

# The restricted product of inverse semigroups

Let  $M, S$  be inverse semigroups. Let  $E(M)$  denote the set of idempotents of  $M$  (ordered by  $e \leq f$  if and only if  $ef = e = fe$ ). Assume the following assumptions:

- $M$  acts on  $S$  by endomorphisms.
- There exists a surjective homomorphism  $\epsilon : S \rightarrow E(M)$ .
- For each  $s \in S$ , there exists  $\epsilon(s) \in E(M)$  such that

$$\epsilon(s) \leq e \iff e \bullet s = s, \forall e \in E(M)$$

Let  $S \rtimes M$  be the following set with the binary operation defined below:

$$S \rtimes M = \{(s, m) \in S \times M \mid r(m) = \epsilon(s)\}$$

$$(s, m)(s', m') = (s(m \bullet s'), mm')$$

$S \rtimes M$  is an inverse semigroup.

# Definition and properties of a partial solution

Let  $X \neq \emptyset$  be a set. Let  $\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{R} \subseteq X \times X$ .

Define  $r : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{R}$ , by  $r(x, y) = (\sigma_x(y), \gamma_y(x))$ , where  
 $\sigma_x : \mathcal{D}_{\sigma_x} \rightarrow \mathcal{R}_{\sigma_x}$ ,  $\gamma_y : \mathcal{D}_{\gamma_y} \rightarrow \mathcal{R}_{\gamma_y}$ ;  $\mathcal{D}_{\sigma_x}, \mathcal{R}_{\sigma_x}, \mathcal{D}_{\gamma_y}, \mathcal{R}_{\gamma_y} \subseteq X$

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- $(x, y) \in \mathcal{D}$  if and only if  $y \in \mathcal{D}_{\sigma_x}$  and  $x \in \mathcal{D}_{\gamma_y}$ .

# Definition and properties of a partial solution

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Define  $r : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{R}$ , by  $r(x, y) = (\sigma_x(y), \gamma_y(x))$ , where  
 $\sigma_x : \mathcal{D}_{\sigma_x} \rightarrow \mathcal{R}_{\sigma_x}$ ,  $\gamma_y : \mathcal{D}_{\gamma_y} \rightarrow \mathcal{R}_{\gamma_y}$ ;  $\mathcal{D}_{\sigma_x}, \mathcal{R}_{\sigma_x}, \mathcal{D}_{\gamma_y}, \mathcal{R}_{\gamma_y} \subseteq X$

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- $(X, r)$  is *non-degenerate*, if  $\forall x, y \in X$ ,  $\sigma_x$  and  $\gamma_y$  are bijective (i.e.  $\sigma_x$  and  $\gamma_y$  are partial bijections of  $X$ ).

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- $(X, r)$  is *involutive* if for all pairs  $(x, y) \in X^2$ ,  $x \in \mathcal{D}_{\gamma_y}$  if and only if  $y \in \mathcal{D}_{\sigma_x}$ , and additionally if  $r(x, y)$  is defined, then  $r^2(x, y)$  is also defined and satisfies  $r^2 = Id$ .



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- $(X, r)$  is *square-free*, if  $\forall x \in X$ ,  $(x, x) \in \mathcal{D}$  and  $r(x, x) = (x, x)$ .



# An example of square-free partial solution

The  
Yang-Baxter  
equation and  
Thompson's  
group  $F$

Fabienne  
Chouraqui

QYBE

Inverse  
monoids

Partial  
solutions

1st Results

Thomson  
group  $F$

2nd Results

If  $(X, r)$  is braided, we call  $(X, r)$  a *partial set-theoretic solution*. If  $(X, r)$  is a non-degenerate, involutive partial set-theoretic solution, we call it a *partial solution*.

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Thompson's  
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Fabienne  
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Inverse  
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Partial  
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1st Results

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# The structure inverse monoid of a partial solution

The  
Yang-Baxter  
equation and  
Thompson's  
group  $F$

Fabienne  
Chouraqui

QYBE

Inverse  
monoids

Partial  
solutions

1st Results

Thomson  
group  $F$

2nd Results

Let  $(X, r)$  be a partial set-theoretic solution.

- The *structure group* of  $(X, r)$  is  
$$G(X, r) = \text{Gp}\langle X \mid xy = \sigma_x(y)\gamma_y(x) ; (x, y) \in \mathcal{D} \rangle.$$

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The structure group of a trivial partial solution is a partially commutative group (or a right-angled Artin group)

A partial solution  $(X, r)$  is *trivial* if for every  $x \in X$ ,  
 $\sigma_x = \text{Id}_{\mathcal{D}_{\sigma_x}}$ ,  $\gamma_x = \text{Id}_{\mathcal{D}_{\gamma_x}}$ .



# Properties of square-free partial solutions 1

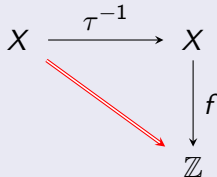
Let  $(X, r)$  be a partial set-theoretic solution.

$I_X$ : the symmetric inverse monoid.

$A$ : the commutative inverse monoid (partial  $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ , finite support).

Let  $\tau \in I_X$  and  $f \in A$ ,  $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  a partial function

$I_X$  acts (totally) on  $A$  by endomorphisms:  $\tau \bullet f = f \circ \tau^{-1}$



# Properties of square-free partial solutions 2

Let  $x \in X$ ,  $g, h \in \text{IM}(X, r)$ ,  $f \in A$ :

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# Characterization of square-free partial solutions

The  
Yang-Baxter  
equation and  
Thompson's  
group  $F$

Fabienne  
Chouraqui

QYBE

Inverse  
monoids

Partial  
solutions

1st Results

Thomson  
group  $F$

2nd Results

## Theorem 1 [F.C]

$$\pi : \text{IM}(X, r) \rightarrow A$$

$$x_i \mapsto \delta_i$$

$$\pi(gh) = \pi(g) + g \bullet \pi(h)$$

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Furthermore,  $\delta_x(y)$  is not defined for  $y \in X \setminus \mathcal{R}_{\sigma_x}$ .

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The  
Yang-Baxter  
equation and  
Thompson's  
group  $F$

Fabienne  
Chouraqui

QYBE

Inverse  
monoids

Partial  
solutions

1st Results

Thomson  
group  $F$

2nd Results

**Theorem 2 [F.C]** The restricted product  $A \rtimes I_X$  is defined by:

$$A \rtimes I_X = \{(f, \tau) \in A \times I_X \mid \mathcal{R}_\tau = \mathcal{D}_f\}$$
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**Theorem 3 [F.C]**

Let  $(X, r)$  be a square-free partial solution, with  $\text{IM}(X, r)$ .

$$\psi : \text{IM}(X, r) \rightarrow A \rtimes I_X$$
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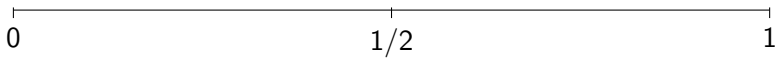
is an injective homomorphism of monoids.

Furthermore,  $\text{Im}(\psi)$  is an inverse monoid.

# Dyadic subdivisions

The  
Yang-Baxter  
equation and  
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Fabienne  
Chouraqui



QYBE

Inverse  
monoids

Partial  
solutions

1st Results

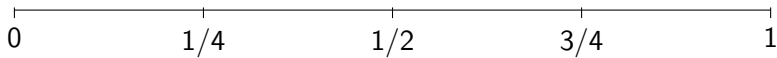
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2nd Results

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QYBE

Inverse  
monoids

Partial  
solutions

1st Results

**Thomson  
group  $F$**

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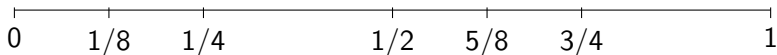
Inverse  
monoids

Partial  
solutions

1st Results

Thomson  
group  $F$

2nd Results



Any subdivision of the interval  $[0, 1]$  obtained by repeatedly cutting intervals in half is called a *dyadic subdivision*.

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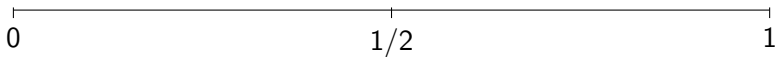
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Partial  
solutions

1st Results

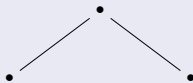
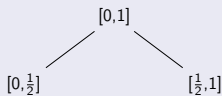
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To each dyadic interval there corresponds a binary tree:



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Thompson's  
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Chouraqui

QYBE

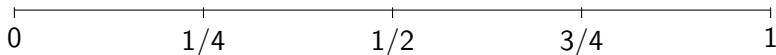
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monoids

Partial  
solutions

1st Results

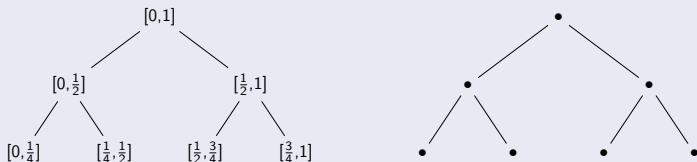
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2nd Results



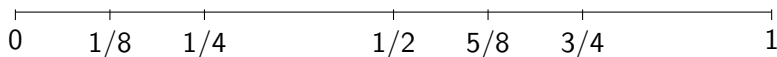
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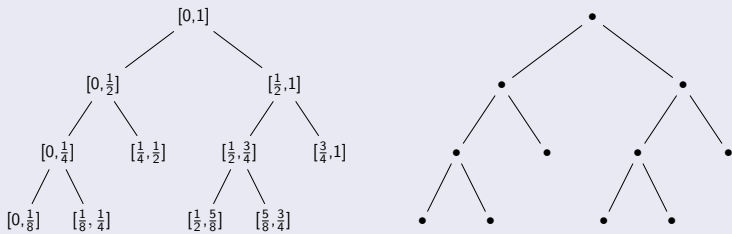


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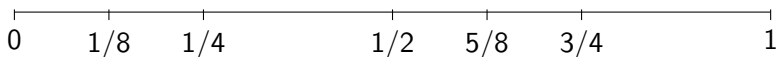


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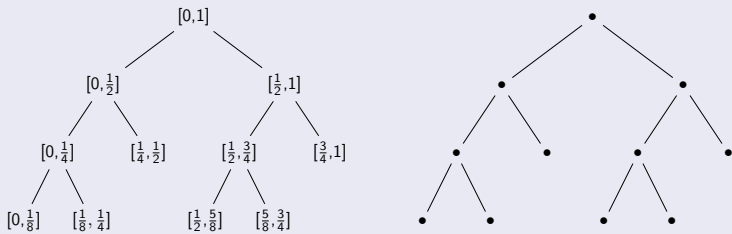


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# Introduction to Thomson group $F$ (1)

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Thompson's  
group  $F$

Fabienne  
Chouraqui

QYBE

Inverse  
monoids

Partial  
solutions

1st Results

**Thomson  
group  $F$**

2nd Results

Given  $\mathcal{D}$ ,  $\mathcal{R}$ , with the same number of cuts, a *dyadic rearrangement* of  $[0, 1]$  is a piecewise-linear  $f : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$  that sends each interval of  $\mathcal{D}$  linearly onto the corresponding interval of  $\mathcal{R}$ . The set of all dyadic rearrangements forms a group under composition: the Thomson group  $F$ .

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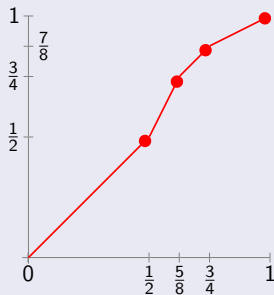
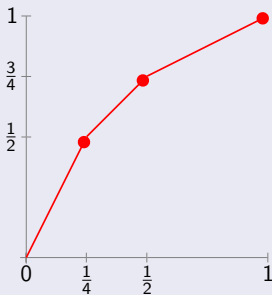
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Dyadic rearrangements for  $x_0$  at left and  $x_1$  at right



# Introduction to Thomson group $F$ (2)

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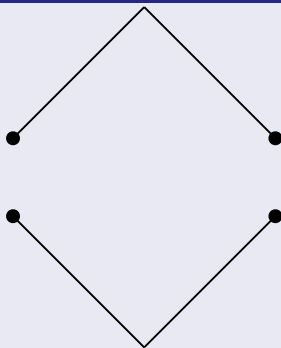
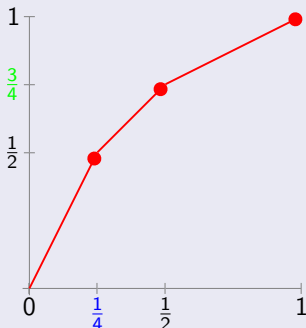
Partial  
solutions

1st Results

Thomson  
group  $F$

2nd Results

The dyadic rearrangement and tree diagram for  $x_0$



# Introduction to Thomson group $F$ (2)

The  
Yang-Baxter  
equation and  
Thompson's  
group  $F$

Fabienne  
Chouraqui

QYBE

Inverse  
monoids

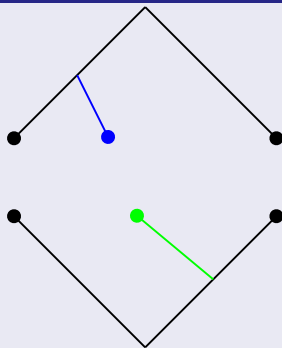
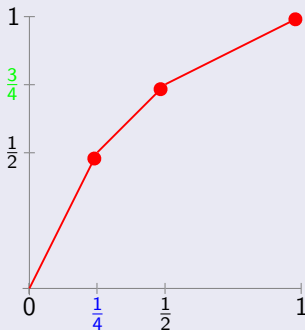
Partial  
solutions

1st Results

Thomson  
group  $F$

2nd Results

The dyadic rearrangement and tree diagram for  $x_0$



# Introduction to Thompson group $F$ 3

The  
Yang-Baxter  
equation and  
Thompson's  
group  $F$

Fabienne  
Chouraqui

QYBE

Inverse  
monoids

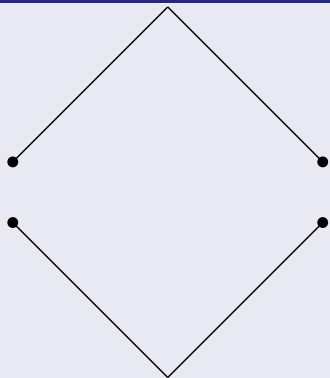
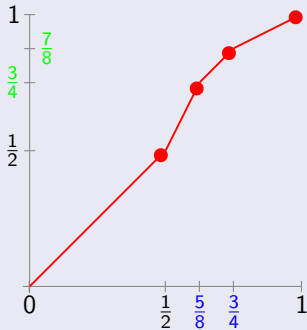
Partial  
solutions

1st Results

Thomson  
group  $F$

2nd Results

## The dyadic rearrangement and tree diagram for $x_1$



# Introduction to Thomson group $F_3$

The  
Yang-Baxter  
equation and  
Thompson's  
group  $F$

Fabienne  
Chouraqui

QYBE

Inverse  
monoids

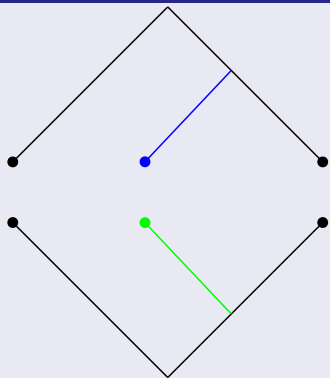
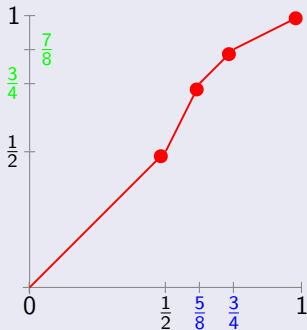
Partial  
solutions

1st Results

Thomson  
group  $F$

2nd Results

## The dyadic rearrangement and tree diagram for $x_1$





# Introduction to Thomson group $F_3$

The  
Yang-Baxter  
equation and  
Thompson's  
group  $F$

Fabienne  
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QYBE

Inverse  
monoids

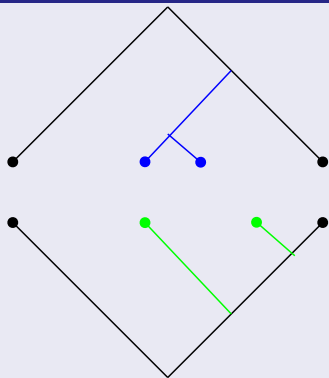
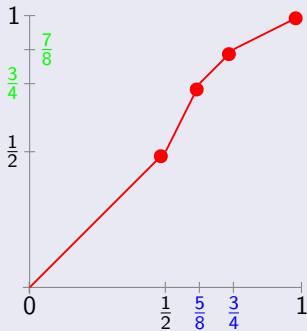
Partial  
solutions

1st Results

Thomson  
group  $F$

2nd Results

## The dyadic rearrangement and tree diagram for $x_1$



# Several presentations of Thompson group $F$

The  
Yang-Baxter  
equation and  
Thompson's  
group  $F$

Fabienne  
Chouraqui

QYBE

Inverse  
monoids

Partial  
solutions

1st Results

Thomson  
group  $F$

2nd Results

The elements  $x_0$  and  $x_1$  generate Thompson's group  $F$  with:

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The  
Yang-Baxter  
equation and  
Thompson's  
group  $F$

Fabienne  
Chouraqui

QYBE

Inverse  
monoids

Partial  
solutions

1st Results

Thomson  
group  $F$

2nd Results

The elements  $x_0$  and  $x_1$  generate Thompson's group  $F$  with:

**1**  $\langle x_0, x_1 \mid x_2 x_1 = x_1 x_3, x_3 x_1 = x_1 x_4 \rangle$ , where  $x_2 = x_0 x_1 x_0^{-1}$   
and  $x_3 = x_0^2 x_1 x_0^{-2}$ ,  $x_4 = x_0^3 x_1 x_0^{-3}$ .

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The  
Yang-Baxter  
equation and  
Thompson's  
group  $F$

Fabienne  
Chouraqui

QYBE

Inverse  
monoids

Partial  
solutions

1st Results

Thomson  
group  $F$

2nd Results

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- 2  $\langle x_0, x_1 \mid x_2x_0 = x_0x_3, x_3x_0 = x_0x_4 \rangle$ , where  $x_2 = x_0^{-1}x_1x_0$   
and more generally  $x_{n+1} = x_{n-1}^{-1}x_nx_{n-1}$ ,  $2 \leq n \leq 4$ .

# Several presentations of Thompson group $F$

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An infinite presentation of Thompson group  $F$

$$\langle x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots \mid x_nx_k = x_kx_{n+1}, k < n \rangle$$
$$x_n = x_0x_{n-1}x_0^{-1} = x_0^{n-1}x_1x_0^{-(n-1)}$$

# $F$ as the structure group of a partial solution (1)

## Definition of a partial solution

Let  $X = \{x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots\}$ . Let  $\sigma_n : X \rightarrow X$  and  $\gamma_n : X \rightarrow X$  be the following partial functions.

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$$\sigma_n(k) = \begin{cases} k & k \leq n \\ \text{not defined} & k = n + 1 \\ k - 1 & k \geq n + 2 \end{cases}$$

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$$\mathcal{D}_{\sigma_n} = X \setminus \{x_{n+1}\} \quad \mathcal{R}_{\sigma_n} = X$$

$$\mathcal{D}_{\gamma_n} = X \setminus \{x_{n-1}\} \quad \mathcal{R}_{\gamma_n} = X \setminus \{x_{n-1}, x_{n+1}\}$$



# $F$ as the structure group of a partial solution $\mathcal{F}$ (2)

The  
Yang-Baxter  
equation and  
Thompson's  
group  $F$

Fabienne  
Chouraqui

QYBE

Inverse  
monoids

Partial  
solutions

1st Results

Thomson  
group  $F$

2nd Results

## Definition of a partial solution $\mathcal{F}$

Let define the following partial function:

$$\begin{aligned} r : X \times X &\rightarrow X \times X \\ r(x_i, x_j) &= (x_{\sigma_i(j)}, x_{\gamma_j(i)}) \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

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## Lemma

$(X, r)$  is a square-free, non-degenerate, involutive partial set-theoretic solution, denoted by  $\mathcal{F}$ .

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The  
Yang-Baxter  
equation and  
Thompson's  
group  $F$

Fabienne  
Chouraqui

QYBE

Inverse  
monoids

Partial  
solutions

1st Results

Thomson  
group  $F$

2nd Results

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## Theorem [F.C]

Let  $r : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{R}$  and  $\mathcal{F}$  as defined above. Then

- 1  $G(X, r)$ , the structure group of  $\mathcal{F}$ , is isomorphic to the Thompson group  $F$ .
- 2  $\text{IM}(X, r)$ , the structure inverse monoid of  $\mathcal{F}$ , embeds into the inverse monoid  $A \rtimes \text{I}_X$ , where  $A$  is the commutative inverse monoid  $\{f : \mathcal{D}_f \rightarrow \mathbb{Z} \mid \mathcal{D}_f \subseteq X\}$ , with pointwise operation, and  $\text{I}_X$  is the inverse symmetric monoid.

# Some remarks to conclude

- $G(X, r)$ , with  $X$  finite, is a Garside group. Garside groups are torsion-free and biautomatic.  $F$  is also torsion-free, but it is not known whether it is automatic.

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- The quotient group  $F/F'$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}^2$ , and so any proper quotient of  $F$  is abelian. This is not necessarily the case for the structure group of a solution.
- What can be said about the other Thompson's groups  $F, T, V$ , with  $F \subset T \subset V$ ?

# The end

The  
Yang-Baxter  
equation and  
Thompson's  
group  $F$

Fabienne  
Chouraqui

QYBE

Inverse  
monoids

Partial  
solutions

1st Results

Thomson  
group  $F$

2nd Results

Thank you!