

# Sets of Lengths of Puiseux Monoids

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# Introduction

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**Motivation:** *A realization theorem for sets of lengths in numerical monoids* by Alfred Geroldinger and Wolfgang Schmid.

## Main Results:

- ① An atomic Puiseux monoid with full system of sets of lengths is constructed.
- ② The Characterization Problem for the family of non-finitely generated Puiseux monoids is answered negatively.
- ③ A family of Puiseux monoids with all their sets of lengths having extremal cardinality (one or infinity) is constructed.
- ④ The intersection of the systems of sets of lengths of all nontrivial atomic Puiseux monoids is found.
- ⑤ We show that finding  $L(2)$  in the elementary primary Puiseux monoid is as hard as answering the Goldbach's conjecture.

# Outline

## 1 Preliminary

## 2 First Main Result: A Puiseux monoid with full system of sets of lengths

## 3 Consequences of First Main Result

## 4 Second Main Result: A Puiseux monoid whose sets of lengths have extremal cardinality

## 5 Consequences of Second Main Result

# What is a Puiseux monoid?

## Definition (Puiseux monoid)

A *Puiseux monoid* is an additive submonoid of  $\mathbb{Q}$  consisting of nonnegative rational numbers.

**Proposition (Gilmer):** Puiseux monoids account (up to isomorphism) for any possible nontrivial additive submonoid of  $\mathbb{Q}$  that is not a group.

## Observations:

- Not every Puiseux monoid is atomic:  $\langle 1/2^n \mid n \in \mathbb{N} \rangle$ .
- There are atomic Puiseux monoids containing infinitely many atoms (i.e., irreducibles):  $\langle 1/p \mid p \text{ is prime} \rangle$ .
- There are atomic Puiseux monoids containing non-atomic submonoids:  $\langle 1/(2^p p) \mid p \text{ is prime} \rangle$  and its submonoid  $\langle 1/2^n \mid n \in \mathbb{N} \rangle$ .

# Puiseux monoids and numerical monoids

## Definition (numerical monoid)

A *numerical monoid* is a cofinite submonoid of  $(\mathbb{N}_0, +)$ .

Every numerical monoid is naturally a Puiseux monoid and the next characterization follows easily.

**Observation:** A nontrivial Puiseux monoid  $M$  is isomorphic to a numerical monoid if and only if  $M$  is finitely generated.

**Remark:** The family of Puiseux monoids generalizes that of numerical monoids.

# Why should we care about Puiseux monoids?

- ① They are nice, beautiful, and fun.
- ① They are a useful source of counter/examples to the service of commutative ring theory and factorization theory:
  - Puiseux monoids were crucial to find the first example of an atomic integral domain that fails to satisfy the ACCP (this is due to Anne Grams);
  - Anderson-Anderson-Zafrullah use Puiseux monoids to build an example of an ACCP domain that is not a bounded factorization domain (BFD).
  - Anderson-Anderson-Zafrullah use Puiseux monoids to build an example of a BFD whose integral closure is not a BFD.
- ② They provide a new playground to investigate potential pathological behavior of arithmetic of factorizations as most Puiseux monoids are neither  $C$ -monoids nor transfer Krull.
- ③ They facilitate the study of numerical monoids by providing a common universe where infinitely many rescaled copies of numerical monoids coexist.

# Some notation

**Notation:** Let  $\mathbb{N} := \{1, 2, \dots\}$  and  $\mathbb{P}_{\text{fin}} := \{S \subset \mathbb{N}_{\geq 2} : |S| < \infty\}$ .

**Assumption:** Each monoid here is assumed to be commutative, cancellative, and reduced. Let  $M$  be a monoid.

- Let  $\mathcal{A}(M)$  be the set of atoms (i.e., irreducibles) of  $M$ .
- Let  $Z(M)$  denote the factorization monoid of  $M$ , that is the free commutative monoid on  $\mathcal{A}(M)$ .
- Let  $\phi: Z(M) \rightarrow M$  be the only monoid homomorphism satisfying  $\phi(a) = a$  for all  $a \in \mathcal{A}(M)$ .
- For  $x \in M$ , we set  $Z(x) := \phi^{-1}(x)$ .
- If  $z = a_1 \dots a_k \in Z(M)$ , then  $|z| := k$  is called the *length* of  $z$ .
- The *set of lengths* of  $x \in M$  is  $L(x) := \{|z| : z \in Z(x)\}$ .
- The *system of sets of lengths* of  $M$  is  $\mathcal{L}(M) := \{L(x) : x \in M\}$ .

# Monoids with full system of sets of lengths

## Definition (full system of sets of lengths)

A BF-monoid  $M$  is said to have *full system of sets of lengths* if  $\mathcal{L}(M) = \{\{0\}, \{1\}\} \cup \mathbb{P}_{\text{fin}}$ .

## Theorem (Kainrath, 1999)

Let  $M$  be Krull monoid, and let  $G$  be the class group of  $M$ . If  $G$  is infinite and every class of  $G$  contains at least a prime, then  $M$  has full system of sets of lengths.

**Definition:** The system of sets of lengths of an integral domain  $R$  is  $\mathcal{L}(R^\bullet)$ , where  $R^\bullet$  denotes the multiplicative monoid of  $R$ .

## Theorem (Frisch-Nakato-Rissner, 2017)

If  $\mathcal{O}_K$  is the ring of integers of a given number field  $K$ , then the domain  $\text{Int}(\mathcal{O}_K)$  has full system of sets of lengths.

# A realization theorem for sets of lengths

## Theorem (Geroldinger-Schmid, 2017)

Let  $L \subset \mathbb{N}_{\geq 2}$  be a finite nonempty set and  $f: L \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  a map. Then there exist a numerical monoid  $M$  and a squarefree element  $x \in M$  such that the following conditions hold:

- ①  $L(x) = L$ ;
- ②  $|Z_\ell(x)| = f(\ell)$  for every  $\ell \in L$ .

# Puiseux monoid with full system of sets of lengths

## Theorem (G., 2017)

*[First Main Result] There exists an atomic Puiseux monoid with full systems of sets of lengths.*

### Sketch of proof:

- ① Number the sets in  $\mathbb{P}_{\text{fin}}$ , say  $S_1, S_2, \dots$
- ② For each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , use Geroldinger-Schmid Theorem to find a numerical monoid  $M_n \subset \mathbb{Q}_{\geq 0}$  and  $x_n \in M_n$  such that  $L(x_n) = S_n$ .
- ③ Then rescale  $M_n$  by  $(p_n - 1)/p_n$  (for a large prime  $p_n$ ) such that  $\mathcal{A}(M_n) \notin M_{n-1}$  for any  $n \geq 2$ .
- ④ Finally, take  $M$  to be the smallest Puiseux monoid containing  $M_n$  for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . □

# A consequence of our First Main Result

We can use our first main result to somehow generalize the Geroldinger-Schmid Theorem.

**Question:** Given  $S_1, S_2, \dots, S_n \subset \mathbb{P}_{\text{fin}}$ , can we find a numerical monoid  $M$  and elements  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in M$  such that  $L(x_i) = S_i$ ?

## Corollary (First Main Result)

*For all  $S_1, S_2, \dots, S_n \subset \mathbb{P}_{\text{fin}}$ , there exist a numerical monoid  $M$  and  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in M$  such that  $L(x_i) = S_i$ .*

# The Characterization Problem

**Characterization Problem:** Given a family  $\mathcal{F}$  of atomic monoids, does  $\mathcal{L}(M) = \mathcal{L}(M')$  for  $M, M' \in \mathcal{F}$  always imply that  $M \cong M'$ ?

If  $\mathcal{F}$  is some family of Krull monoid, we have the next conjecture.

## Conjecture (The Characterization Problem for Krull monoids)

Let  $M$  and  $M'$  be Krull monoids with respective finite abelian class groups  $G$  and  $G'$  each of their classes contains at least one prime divisor. Assume also that the Davenport constant  $D(G) \geq 4$ . If  $\mathcal{L}(M) = \mathcal{L}(M')$ , then  $M \cong M'$ .

If  $\mathcal{F}$  is the family of numerical monoid, we have a negative answer.

## Theorem (Amos-Chapman-Hine-Paixao, 2007)

There are distinct (and so non-isomorphic) numerical monoids with the same system of sets of lengths.

# The Characterization Problem for Puiseux monoids

**Lemma 1:** The homomorphisms of Puiseux monoids are precisely those given by rational multiplication.

If  $\mathcal{F}$  consists of all non-finitely generated atomic Puiseux monoids, we still have a negative answer to the Characterization Problem.

## Corollary (First Main Result)

*There exist two non-isomorphic non-finitely generated atomic Puiseux monoids with the same system of sets of lengths.*

### Sketch of proof:

- ① Take  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  to be two disjoint infinite sets of primes.
- ② Construct a Puiseux monoid  $M_1$  as in the proof of First Main Result by considering only primes in  $P_1$  when rescaling.
- ③ Construct a Puiseux monoid  $M_2$  as in the proof of First Main Result by considering only primes in  $P_2$  when rescaling.
- ④ Finally, use Lemma 1 above to show that  $M_1 \not\cong M_2$ . □

## Second Main Result

### Corollary (First Main Result)

*There is an atomic Puiseux monoid  $M$  such that  $\mathbb{P}_{fin} \subset \mathcal{L}(M)$ .*

Our second main result complements our first main result as condition  $\mathbb{P}_{fin} \subset \mathcal{L}(M)$  is replaced by  $\mathbb{P}_{fin} \cap \mathcal{L}(M) = \emptyset$ .

### Theorem (G., 2017)

*[Second Main Result] There is an atomic Puiseux monoid  $M$  such that  $\mathbb{P}_{fin} \cap \mathcal{L}(M) = \emptyset$ , which implies that*

$$\{|\mathcal{L}(x)| : x \in M\} = \{1, \infty\}.$$

# Bifurcus and anti-bifurcus Puiseux monoids

**Definition:** An atomic monoid  $M$  is *bifurcus* if  $2 \in L(x)$  for every  $x \in M^\bullet \setminus \mathcal{A}(M)$ .

## Theorem (G.-O'Neill, 2017)

*There exists a bifurcus Puiseux monoid.*

**Question:** Do anti-bifurcus Puiseux monoids exist?

**Definition:** An atomic monoid  $M$  is *anti-bifurcus* if  $2 \notin L(x)$  for every  $x \in M$  such that  $|L(x)| < \infty$ .

## Corollary (Second Main Theorem)

*There exists an anti-bifurcus Puiseux monoid.*

# Intersection of systems of sets of lengths of numerical monoids

**Theorem (Geroldinger-Schmid, 2017)**

We have

$$\bigcap \mathcal{L}(M) = \{\{0\}, \{1\}, \{2\}\},$$

where the intersection is taken over all numerical monoids  $M \subset \mathbb{N}_0$ . More precisely, for every  $s \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 6}$ , we have

$$\bigcap_{|\mathcal{A}(M)|=s} \mathcal{L}(M) = \{\{0\}, \{1\}, \{2\}\},$$

and, for every  $s \in \{2, 3, 4, 5\}$ , we have

$$\bigcap_{|\mathcal{A}(M)|=s} \mathcal{L}(M) = \{\{0\}, \{1\}, \{2\}, \{3\}\}.$$

# Intersection of systems of sets of lengths of Puiseux monoids

## Corollary (Second Main Result)

We have

$$\bigcap \mathcal{L}(M) = \{\{0\}, \{1\}\},$$

where the intersection is taking over all nontrivial atomic Puiseux monoids.

# Relation to Goldbach's conjecture

**Definition:** A *Goldbach's number* is a positive even integer that can be expressed as the sum of two odd primes. Let  $G$  denote the set of Goldbach's numbers.

## Conjecture (Goldbach, 1742)

$$G = \{2n \mid n \in \mathbb{N}_{\geq 2}\}.$$

## Theorem (Helfgott, 2013)

*Every odd  $n \geq 7$  can be written as the sum of three prime numbers.*

# A ‘simple’ set of lengths and the Goldbach’s conjecture

## Definition (elementary primary Puiseux monoid)

We call the monoid  $E = \langle 1/p \mid p \text{ is prime} \rangle$  the *elementary primary Puiseux monoid*.

- $2 \in E$ ;
- $E$  is (hereditarily) atomic;
- $E$  is not a BF-monoid.

## Proposition (G., 2017)

$$\mathsf{L}_E(2) = \mathsf{G}.$$

# References

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# End of Presentation

**THANK YOU!**