

A particular robot has three commands:

**F:** Move forward a unit distance;

**L:** Turn left  $90^\circ$ ;

**R:** Turn right  $90^\circ$ .

A *program* is a sequence of commands. We consider particular programs  $P_n$  (for  $n \geq 0$ ) in this question. The basic program  $P_0$  just instructs the robot to move forward:

$$P_0 = \mathbf{F}.$$

The program  $P_{n+1}$  (for  $n \geq 0$ ) involves performing  $P_n$ , turning left, performing  $P_n$  again, then turning right:

$$P_{n+1} = P_n \mathbf{L} P_n \mathbf{R}.$$

So, for example,  $P_1 = \mathbf{F L F R}$ .

(i) Write down the program  $P_2$ .

(ii) How far does the robot travel during the program  $P_n$ ? In other words, how many **F** commands does it perform?

(iii) Let  $l_n$  be the total number of commands in  $P_n$ ; so, for example,  $l_0 = 1$  and  $l_1 = 4$ .

Write down an equation relating  $l_{n+1}$  to  $l_n$ . Hence write down a formula for  $l_n$  in terms of  $n$ . No proof is required. **Hint:** consider  $l_n + 2$ .

(iv) The robot starts at the origin, facing along the positive  $x$ -axis. What direction is the robot facing after performing the program  $P_n$ ?

(v) The left-hand diagram on the opposite page shows the path the robot takes when it performs the program  $P_1$ . On the right-hand diagram opposite, draw the path it takes when it performs the program  $P_4$ .

(vi) Let  $(x_n, y_n)$  be the position of the robot after performing the program  $P_n$ , so  $(x_0, y_0) = (1, 0)$  and  $(x_1, y_1) = (1, 1)$ . Give an equation relating  $(x_{n+1}, y_{n+1})$  to  $(x_n, y_n)$ .

What is  $(x_g, y_g)$ ? What is  $(x_{gk}, y_{gk})$ ?