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Proof of a positivity conjecture by M. Kontsevich.

We prove a conjecture of Kontsevich, which asserts that the iterations of the noncommutative rational map $F_r : (x, y) \mapsto (xyx^{-1}, (1 + y^r)x^{-1})$ are given by noncommutative Laurent polynomials with nonnegative integer coefficients. (Received September 19, 2011)