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**Patrick M Ingram\*** (pingram@yorku.ca). *Laurent polynomials and critical heights of singular perturbations*. Preliminary report.

A singular perturbation of a polynomial  $P(z) \in \mathbb{C}[z]$  is a rational function of the form  $f(z) = P(z) + \frac{\epsilon}{(z-\beta)^e}$ , where  $\beta$  is often taken to be a periodic and/or critical point for  $P$ . We investigate what one can say about the arithmetic complexity of the critical orbits of  $f$  compared to those of  $P$ . (Received February 18, 2018)