

# Vexillary Double Stanley Symmetric Functions

- joint work with:
- Zach Hamaker (UF)
  - Tianyi Yu (UCSD)

Michigan State University — Combinatorics and Graph Theory  
Seminar

5 April 2023

# Tableaux

For  $\lambda = (\lambda_1 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_\ell)$  an integer partition

and  $A \subseteq \mathbb{Z}$ , let

$$\text{SSYT}_A(\lambda) = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{semistandard Young tableaux of shape } \lambda \\ \text{with all entries belonging to } A. \end{array} \right\}$$

In this work, we'll usually

take:

$A$	shorthand notation
$\mathbb{Z}_{>0}$	$\text{SSYT}_{>0}(\lambda)$
$\mathbb{Z}_{\leq 0}$	$\text{SSYT}_{\leq 0}(\lambda)$
$[k] = \{1, \dots, k\}$	$\text{SSYT}_k(\lambda)$

ex. of SSYT

$$\begin{array}{cccccc} & \leq & \leq & \dots & \leq & \\ \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ \wedge \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 4 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{array} & \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 2 & 4 & 5 \\ \hline 2 & 3 & 3 & 3 & 3 & 5 & \\ \hline 3 & 4 & 5 & 5 & 5 & 6 & \\ \hline 6 & 6 & 7 & & & & \\ \hline 7 & & & & & & \\ \hline 8 & & & & & & \\ \hline \end{array} & & & & & & \end{array}$$

(matrix coordinates)

$$T(4,2) = 6$$

↑      ↑  
row    column

$$\text{SSYT}_3(2,1) = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} 1 \ 1 \quad 1 \ 1 \quad 1 \ 2 \quad 1 \ 2 \\ 2 \quad , \ 3 \quad , \ 2 \quad , \ 3 \quad , \\ \\ 1 \ 3 \quad , \ 1 \ 3 \quad 2 \ 2 \quad 2 \ 3 \\ 2 \quad , \ 3 \quad , \ 3 \quad , \ 3 \end{array} \right\}$$

Schur functions let  $X = (\dots, x_{-1}, x_0, x_1, \dots)$  be commuting variables  
 $y = (\dots, y_{-1}, y_0, y_1, \dots)$   $X_+ = (x_1, x_2, \dots)$

Assign each  $T \in \text{SSYT}_A(\lambda)$  the weight

$$\text{wt}(T) = \prod_{(i,j) \in \lambda} X_{T(i,j)} = X_1^{\# \text{ of } 1\text{'s}} X_2^{\# \text{ of } 2\text{'s}} \dots X_k^{\# \text{ of } k\text{'s}}$$

The Schur function  $S_\lambda$  is

$$S_\lambda(X_+) = S_\lambda(x_1, x_2, \dots) = \sum_{T \in \text{SSYT}(\lambda)} \text{wt}(T)$$

Replace by "k" to get poly. in  $x_1, \dots, x_k$ .

ex.

1	1	1	2	2	4	5
2	3	3	3	3	5	
3	4	5	5	5	6	
6	6	7				
7						
8						

T

$$x_1^3 x_2^3 x_3^5 x_4^2 x_5^5 x_6^3 x_7^2 x_8$$

$f(x_+)$  is symmetric if it is invariant under any permutation of the variable indices.

- char. of poly. irred. rep. of general linear groups

- distinguished basis for ring of symmetric functions

# Stanley Symmetric Function

$$w = s_{a_1} \dots s_{a_\ell}$$

For  $w \in S_n$  with  $\ell = \ell(w) = \# \text{inv}(w)$  and  $R(w) = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{reduced words} \\ \text{for } w \end{array} \right\}$ ,

$$F_w(x_+) = F_w(x_1, x_2, \dots) = \sum_{(a_1, \dots, a_\ell) \in R(w)} \sum_{\substack{1 \leq i_1 \leq \dots \leq i_\ell \\ a_j < a_{j+1} \Rightarrow i_j < i_{j+1}}} x_{i_1} \dots x_{i_\ell} .$$

(Stanley 1984)  
to compute  $\# R(w)$

can also be defined using Schubert poly.  
(next slides  $\rightarrow$ )

THM.  $F_w(x_+) = \sum_{\lambda} c_{\lambda} S_{\lambda}(x_+)$

"Schur-positive"

$$c_{\lambda} = \# \left\{ T \in \text{SSYT}(\lambda^t) : \begin{array}{l} \text{column word} \\ \text{of } T \in R(w) \end{array} \right\}$$

read column entries  
bottom to top,  
right to left.

- (PROOFS)
- Edelman-Greene 1987
  - Morse-Schilling 2015

# Schubert polynomials (Lascoux-Schützenberger 1982)

- Generalize Schur polynomials

$$\begin{aligned} \{ \text{partitions } \lambda \} &\leftrightarrow \{ \text{Grassmannian } w_\lambda \} \\ S_\lambda &\leftrightarrow \mathcal{S}_{w_\lambda} \end{aligned}$$

at most one descent  
 $w(i) > w(i+1)$

- Coset representatives for  $\mathbb{Z}[x_1, \dots, x_n] / \mathcal{I} \cong H^*(\mathbb{F}l(\mathbb{C}^n), \mathbb{Z})$

complete flag variety

- Dual character of an associated Weyl module

$\{ V_\bullet = \{0\} \subset V_1 \subset \dots \subset V_n = \mathbb{C}^n \}$   
with  $\dim V_j = j$

- Have saturated Newton polytopes that are generalized permutahedra

⊗ LOTS OF COMBINATORIAL FORMULAS!!

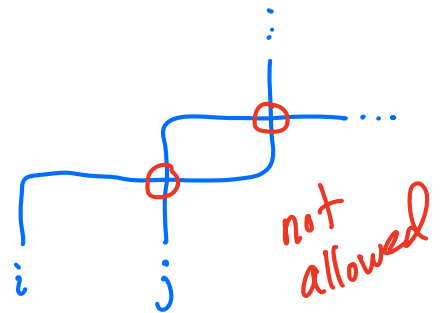
will define them using one  $\rightarrow$

# Schubert poly. via bumpless pipe dreams

A bumpless pipe dream is a tiling of  $n \times n$  grid using  
 (reduced)  $\left\{ \begin{array}{c} \square \\ \text{"blank"} \end{array} \right\} \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \square \\ \text{two vertical lines} \\ \text{"are"} \end{array} \right\} \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \square \\ \text{two horizontal lines} \\ \text{"jay"} \end{array} \right\} \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \square \\ \text{bottom-left corner} \\ \text{"cross"} \end{array} \right\} \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \square \\ \text{top-right corner} \\ \text{"cross"} \end{array} \right\} \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \square \\ \text{full cross} \\ \text{"cross"} \end{array} \right\}$

such that:

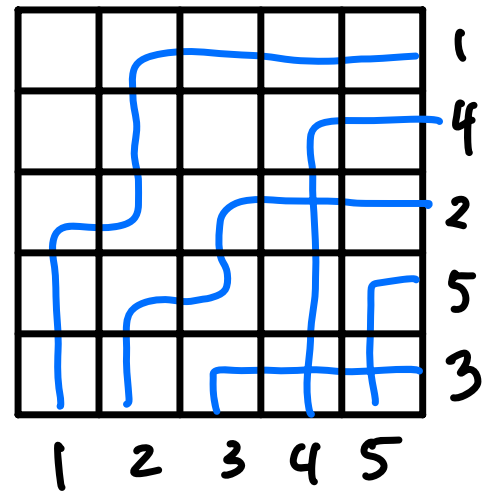
- $n$  pipes enter from the bottom
- exit to the right
- no two pipes cross more than once.



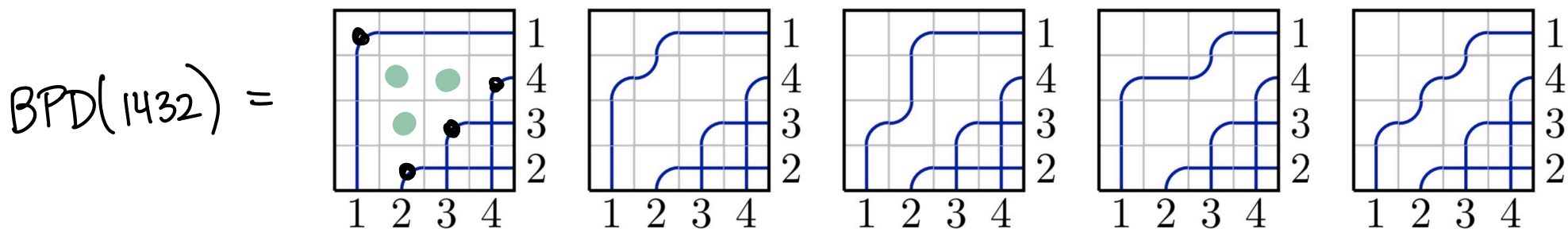
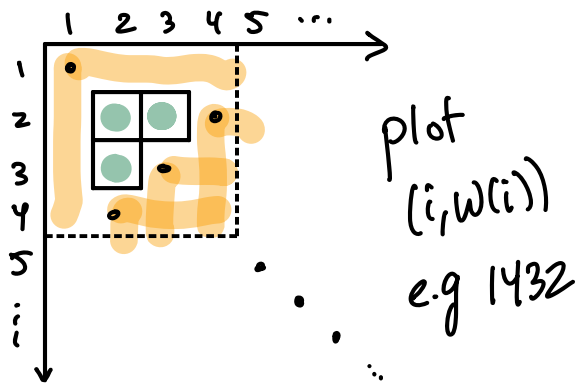
Pipes labeled  $1, 2, \dots, n$  from left to right as they enter.

Exit order determines a permutation

For fixed  $w \in S_n$ , let  $BPD(w)$  denote the set of all associated BPD's.



BPD(w) generated by  
"droop moves":



$$wt(B) = \prod_{(i,j) \in B(B)} (x_i - y_j) ;$$

has weight  $= (x_1 - y_1)(x_2 - y_1)(x_2 - y_3)$

$$\zeta_w(x_+, y_+) = \sum_{B \in \text{BPD}(w)} wt(B)$$

in  $x_1, x_2, \dots, y_1, y_2, \dots$

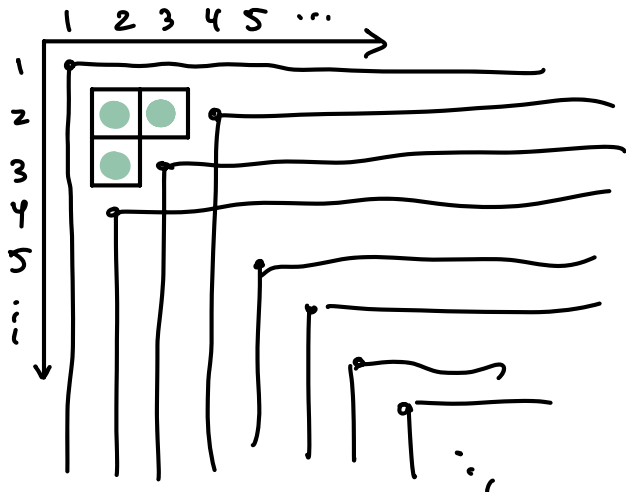
set  $y_i = 0$   
to get

$$\zeta_w(x_+) = \zeta_w(x_+, 0)$$

# Stanley via Schubert

$w \in S_n \leftrightarrow S_{n+1}$  by appending fixed point:

$$1432 \equiv 14325 \equiv 143256 \dots$$

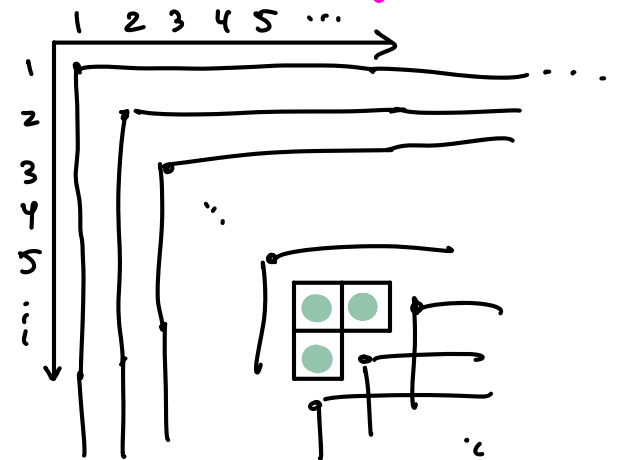


Notice this doesn't affect  $\tilde{S}_w(x_1, y)$ .

$$\text{So } \tilde{S}_w(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \tilde{S}_w(x_1, x_2, \dots)$$

(Pre-pending fixed points does affect  $\tilde{S}_w(x_1, y)$ .)

$$F_w(x_+) = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \tilde{S}_{12 \dots k \oplus w}(x_+, 0)$$





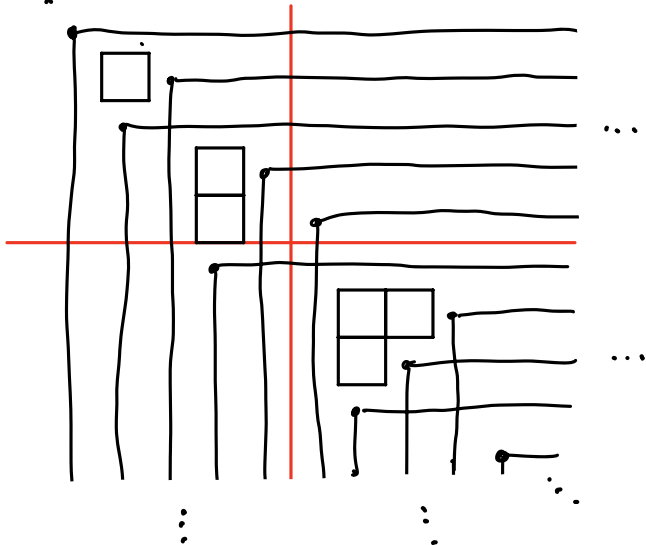


# Backstable Schubert poly.

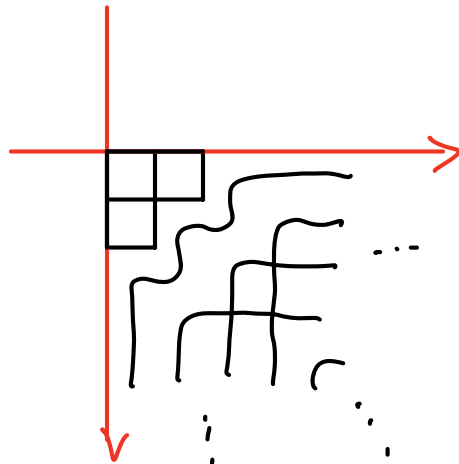
in  $x_i, y_i$  for  $i \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

(Lam-Lee-Shimozono)  
2018

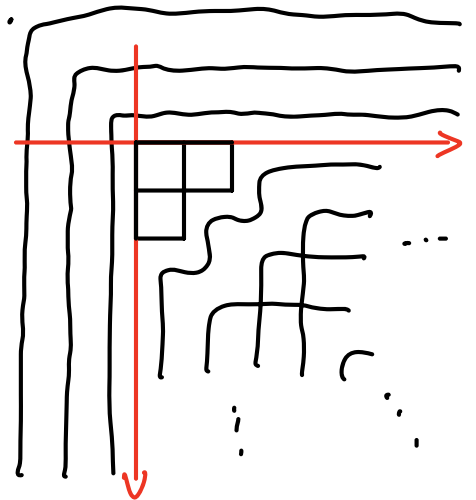
$$\overleftarrow{S}_w(x, y) = \sum_{B \in \text{BPD}_{\mathbb{Z}}(w)} \text{wt}(B)$$



$\text{BPD}_{\mathbb{Z}}(w)$  gen. same way,  
but never stops.



before, no more  
moves



$F_w(x, y)$  defined from this,  
but need algebra.

So  $\overleftarrow{S}_w(x, y)$  is  
a formal power  
series in  $x, y$ .

Algebra For  $k \geq 1$ , let  $P_k(x,y) = \sum_{i \leq 0} (x_i^k - y_i^k)$   
 ( $k^{\text{th}}$  double power sum)

$\{P_j(x,y) : j \geq 1\}$  generates a  $\mathbb{Q}[y]$ -algebra  $\Lambda(x,y)$ .

ring of double symmetric functions.  
 Molev 2009

Def. •  $f$  is back symmetric if there is  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $s_i(f) = f \ \forall i < k$ .

distinguished basis  $\{\overleftarrow{S}_\lambda(x,y)\}$

"  $\overleftarrow{B}_{w_\lambda}(x,y)$   
 O-Grass.

- back stable double power series ring

$$\overleftarrow{R}(x,y) = \Lambda(x,y) \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}[y]} \mathbb{Q}[x,y].$$

$$w_\lambda(i) = i + \begin{cases} \lambda_{i-c} & i \leq 0 \\ -\lambda_i & i > 0 \end{cases}$$

- let  $\eta : \mathbb{Q}[x,y] \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}[y]$   
 $x_i \mapsto y_i$

THM.  $\overleftarrow{B}_w(x,y) \in \overleftarrow{R}(x,y)$ .

- This induces  $\eta_y : \overleftarrow{R}(x,y) \rightarrow \Lambda(x,y) \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}[y]} \mathbb{Q}[y] \cong \Lambda(x,y)$

(Think of  $\overleftarrow{S}_\lambda(x,y) = \sum_{T \in \text{SSYT}_{\leq 0}(\lambda)}$   $\text{wt}(T)$  ← double weight, defined soon.

- $\Delta(x, y)$  ring of double symmetric functions
- $\overleftarrow{R}(x, y)$  backstable double power series ring
- $\overleftarrow{S}_w(x, y) \in \overleftarrow{R}(x, y)$ 
  - have sym. part and polynomial part
- $\eta_y: \overleftarrow{R}(x, y) \rightarrow \Delta(x, y)$  substitutes  $x_i \mapsto y_i$  in the polynomial parts

Define 
$$F_w(x, y) = \eta_y(\overleftarrow{S}_w(x, y))$$

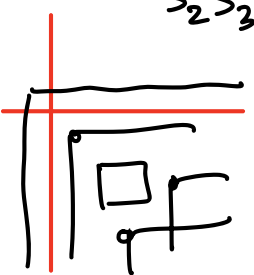
double Stanley symmetric function

Note: when  $w$  321-avoiding,  $F_w(x, y)$  is Molev's (2009) skew double Schur function

Example Use transition equation for  $\overleftarrow{G}_w(x,y)$  to compute:

1342

$$\begin{aligned} \overleftarrow{G}_{s_2 s_3} &= (x_3 - y_2) \overleftarrow{G}_{s_2} + \overleftarrow{G}_{s_1 s_2} \dots | 20 \dots \\ &= (x_3 - y_2) \overleftarrow{G}_{s_2} + (x_2 - y_1) \overleftarrow{G}_{s_1} + \overleftarrow{G}_{s_0 s_1} \\ &= (x_3 - y_2) \overleftarrow{G}_{s_2} + (x_2 - y_1) \overleftarrow{G}_{s_1} + (x_1 - y_0) \overleftarrow{G}_{s_0} + \overleftarrow{G}_{s_{-1} s_0} \end{aligned}$$



$$= (x_3 - y_2) \left[ \overleftarrow{G}_{s_0} + (x_1 - y_1) + (x_2 - y_2) \right] + (x_2 - y_1) \left[ \overleftarrow{G}_{s_0} + (x_1 - y_1) \right] + (x_1 - y_0) \overleftarrow{G}_{s_0} + \overleftarrow{S}_{(1,1)}$$

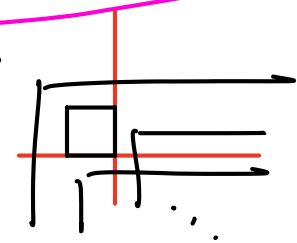
0-Grass  $\Rightarrow S_{(1,1)}$   
 $\Delta(x,y)$

Apply  $\eta_y$ :  $F_{s_2 s_3} = \eta_y \left( \overleftarrow{G}_{s_2 s_3} \right)$

$$\begin{aligned} &= (y_3 - y_2) \overleftarrow{S}_{(1)} + (y_2 - y_1) \overleftarrow{S}_{(1)} + (y_1 - y_0) \overleftarrow{S}_{(1)} + \overleftarrow{S}_{(1,1)} \\ &= (y_3 - y_0) \overleftarrow{S}_{(1)} + \overleftarrow{S}_{(1,1)}. \end{aligned}$$

telescope

$\overleftarrow{S}_{(1)} \Rightarrow \Delta(x,y)$



so  $\eta_y$  ignores.

$$F_{S_2 S_3} = (y_3 - y_0) S_{(1)} + S_{(1,1)}.$$

$$a_{(1,1,1)}^{31542} = (y_1 - y_2)(y_1 - y_4)$$

for example

In general,  $F_{S_{k-1} S_k} = S_{(1,1)} + (y_k - y_0) S_{(1)}.$

THM. For any  $w \in S_{\mathbb{Z}}$ , if  $F_w(x, y) = \sum_{\mu} a_{\mu}^w(y) \overleftarrow{S}_{\mu}(x, y)$   
 (LLS 18) then

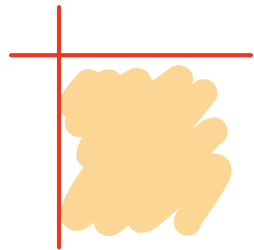
"Graham" positivity  $a_{\mu}^w(y) \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0} [y_i - y_j : \underbrace{i < j}]$

$$1 < 2 < 3 < \dots < -3 < -2 < -1 < 0$$

Goal: Explain  $a_{\mu}^w(y) \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0} [y_i - y_j : i < j]$  combinatorially.

Today: Explanation when  $w$  vexillary (2143-avoiding) and has positive support. (fixes all non-pos. integers)

Fix a vexillary permutation  $v$  with pos. support.



THM. There is a (weight-preserving) bijection  
 $\gamma: \text{BPD}_{\mathbb{Z}}(v) \rightarrow \text{SSYT}_{\mathbb{Z}}^f(\lambda)$ , ← flagged SSYT  
 i.e. max entry in row  $i \leq f_i$ .

(Weigandt 21,  
Kreiman 06)

where  $f = (f_1 \leq \dots \leq f_\ell)$  and  $\lambda = (\lambda_1 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_\ell)$  are determined by  $v$ .

(Note: for  $v$  with pos. support one has  $f > 0$ .)

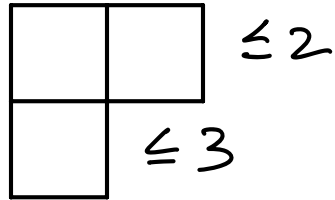
$$\text{wt}(T) = \prod_{(i,j)} (x_{T_{ij}} - y_{T_{ij}+j-i}).$$

# Flagged tableaux and bijection to $BPD_{\mathbb{Z}}(v)$ .

$v = 1432$

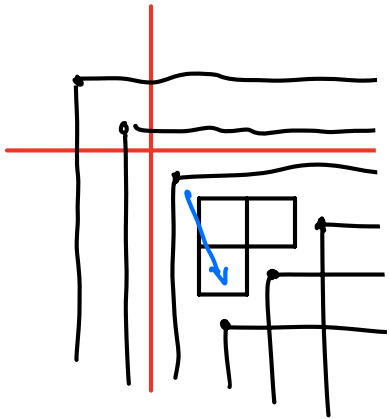
$\lambda = (2, 1)$

$\phi = (2, 1, 3)$



$$SSYT_{\geq 0}^f(\lambda) = \left\{ \begin{matrix} 1 & 1 \\ 2 & \end{matrix}, \begin{matrix} 1 & 1 \\ 3 & \end{matrix}, \begin{matrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & \end{matrix}, \begin{matrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & \end{matrix}, \begin{matrix} 2 & 2 \\ 3 & \end{matrix} \right\}$$

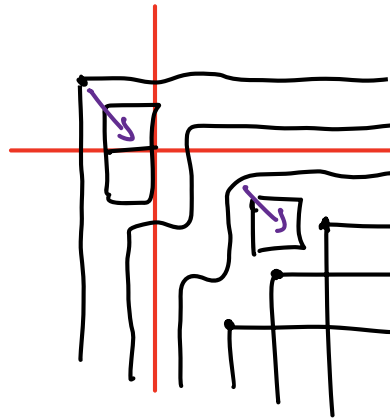
↳  $SSYT_{\mathbb{Z}}^f(\lambda)$  allows for non-pos. as well



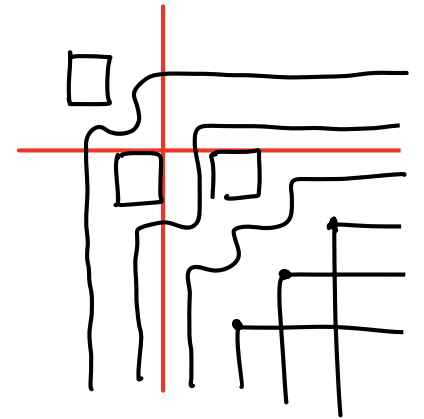
$\begin{matrix} 2 & 2 \\ 3 & \end{matrix}$



$\begin{matrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & \end{matrix}$



$\begin{matrix} 0 & 2 \\ 1 & \end{matrix}$



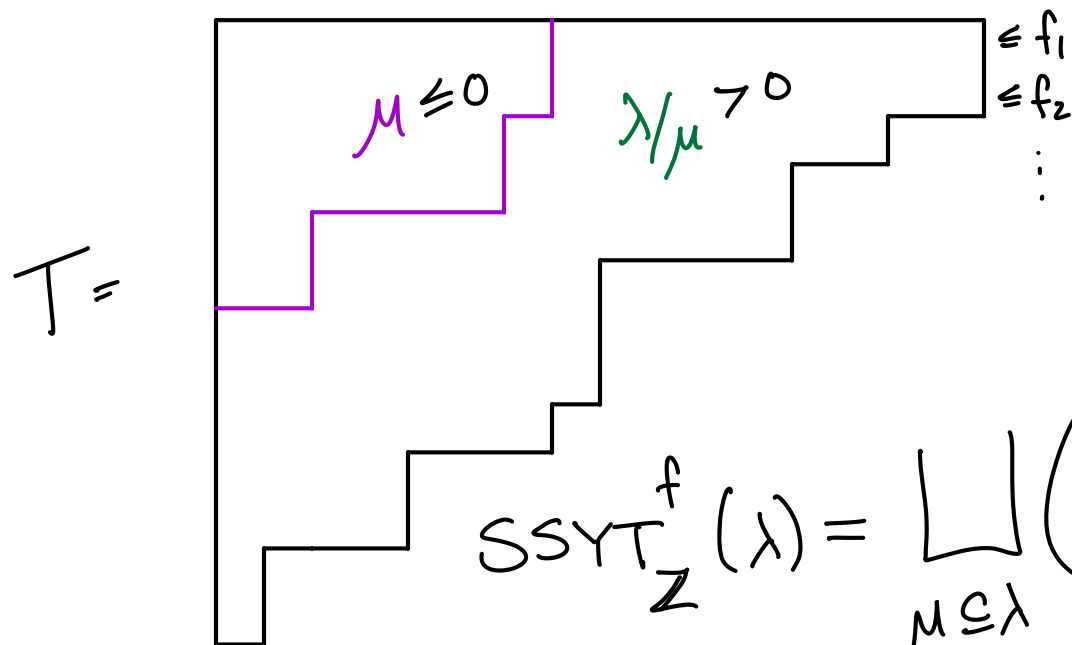
$\begin{matrix} -1 & 1 \\ 1 & \dots \end{matrix}$

So  $\sum_{\leftarrow} G_v(x, y) = \sum_{B \in BPD_{\mathbb{Z}}(v)} wt(B) = \sum_{T \in SSYT_{\mathbb{Z}}^f(\lambda)} wt(T)$

*We can partition these tableaux.*



Given any  $T \in \text{SSYT}_{\mathbb{Z}}^f(\lambda)$



all these  
 $f_i > 0$   
and  $f_1 \leq f_2 \leq \dots$

$$\text{SSYT}_{\mathbb{Z}}^f(\lambda) = \bigsqcup_{\mu \subseteq \lambda} \left( \text{SSYT}_{\leq 0}^{\leq 0}(\mu) \times \text{SSYT}_{> 0}^f(\lambda/\mu) \right)$$

$\uparrow \leftarrow S_{\mu}^f$ 
 $\uparrow S_{\lambda/\mu}^f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N, y)$   
polynomial

$S_0$

$$\overleftarrow{S}_v = \sum_B \text{wt}(B) = \sum_T \text{wt}(T) = \sum_{\mu \subseteq \lambda} S_{\lambda/\mu}^f \cdot \overleftarrow{S}_{\mu}$$

need to show  $\eta_y$   
of this is in  $\mathbb{Z}[y_1 - y_i, \dots]$

where  $S_{\lambda/\mu}^f = \sum_{T \in \text{SSYT}_{> 0}^f(\lambda/\mu)} \text{wt}(T)$

Cor. For  $\nu$  vex. with pos. support, when

$$F_\nu(x|y) = \sum_\mu a_\mu^\nu(y) \overleftarrow{S}_\mu(x|y)$$

then we have that

$$a_\mu^\nu(y) = \eta_y \left( S_{\lambda/\mu}^f(x|y) \right)$$

$$= \sum_{T \in \text{SSYT}_{>0}^f(\lambda/\mu)} \prod_{(i,j) \in \lambda/\mu} \left( y_{\underline{T(i,j)}} - y_{\underline{T(i,j)+j-i}} \right)$$

want  $T(i,j) < T(i,j) + j - i$ .

$1 < 2 < \dots < -2 < -1 < 0$

$T(i,j) > 0 \quad \forall i,j$  here

$$a_{\mu}^{\nu}(y) = \sum_{\text{TESSYT}_{>0}^f(\lambda/\mu)} \prod_{(i,j) \in \lambda/\mu} (y_{T(i,j)} - y_{T(i,j)+j-i})$$

- $\lambda/\mu$  can be disconnected, but then

$$S_{\lambda/\mu}^f = \prod_{\nu} S_{\nu}^f.$$

- if  $\nu$  lies above main diagonal then  $j-i > 0$ . ✓

$\Rightarrow$  suffices to show that  $\eta_y(S_{\nu}^f)$  is Graham positive whenever  $\nu$  lies entirely beneath the main diagonal.

Cor.  $a_{\mu}^{\lambda} = \sum_{\gamma} (S_{\lambda/\mu}^{\gamma}) = 0$  whenever  $\lambda/\mu$  contains a box in Durfee square of  $\lambda$ . (or  $\mu \neq \lambda$ )

Q: For which  $i$  is  $S_{\lambda}^{\mu}$  symmetric in  $x_i, x_{i+1}$ ?

$$SSYT_{>0}^{(2,3)}(2,1) = \left\{ \begin{array}{c} 1 \ 1 \\ 2 \end{array}, \begin{array}{c} 1 \ 1 \\ 3 \end{array}, \begin{array}{c} 1 \ 2 \\ 2 \end{array}, \begin{array}{c} 1 \ 2 \\ 3 \end{array}, \begin{array}{c} 2 \ 2 \\ 3 \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\text{wt}(\tau) = (x_1 - y_1)(x_2 - y_3)(x_3 - y_2)$$

$$S_{(2,1)}^{(2,3)}$$

is symmetric in  $x_1, x_2$ .

$$\left( \begin{array}{l} x_1^2 x_2 + x_1 x_2^2 + x_1^2 x_3 \\ + x_1 x_2 x_3 + x_2^2 x_3 \end{array} \right)$$

Lemma:  $S_{\lambda}^f(x, y)$  sym. in  $x_i, x_{i+1}$  whenever  $i$  not in  $f$ .

Proof: Bender-Knuth type argument.

Cor.  $S_{\lambda}^f(x, y) = \tau \cdot S_{\lambda}^f(x, y)$  whenever  $\tau$  permutes  $\{f_i+1, \dots, f_{i+1}\}$   
 $\uparrow$   $\tau$  acts on  $x$ -variable indices

THM. There is a perm.  $\pi$  and flag  $F$  such that

$$\eta_y [S_{\lambda}^f(x, y)] = \eta_y [\pi \cdot S_{\lambda}^F(x, y)].$$

Moreover, the right-hand side is in  $\sum_{\geq 0} [y_i - y_j : i < j]$ .

(Proof only needed that  $\lambda$  and  $f$  satisfy  $f_i - f_{i+1} \leq \lambda_i - \lambda_{i+1} + 1$ .)

General vexillary case: Fix  $v \in S_{\mathbb{Z}}$  vex.

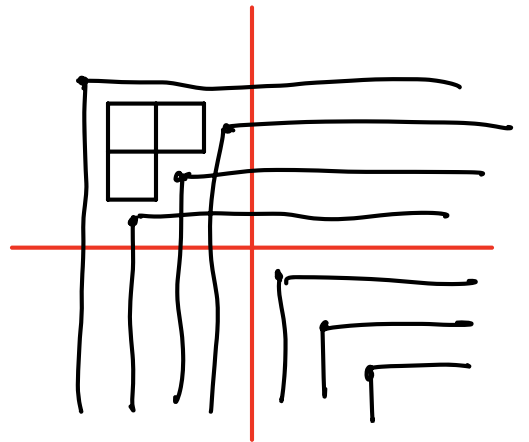
Then  $(\lambda, f)$  satisfy  $f_i - f_{i+1} \leq \lambda_i - \lambda_{i+1} + 1$ .

Outline: • Show that  $(\lambda, f)$  "compatible"  $\Rightarrow \eta_y(S_{\lambda}^f) \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}[y_1, y_2, \dots]$

for any  $f$ .

(we have the  $f > 0$  case above.)

- We proved it for  $f < 0$ .
- Can combine these to get  
for any  $f$ .



## Future Directions

- What about non-vex.?

- what about K-theoretic setting?

(our argument for  $f > 0$  can be upgraded to set-valued tableaux.)