

# A Diagram-Like Basis for the Multiset Partition Algebra

(Part of my thesis work under the supervision of Rosa Orellana)

MSU Combinatorics and  
Graph Theory seminar

September 21, 2022

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I. Products of Diagrams

II. Motivation and Dualities

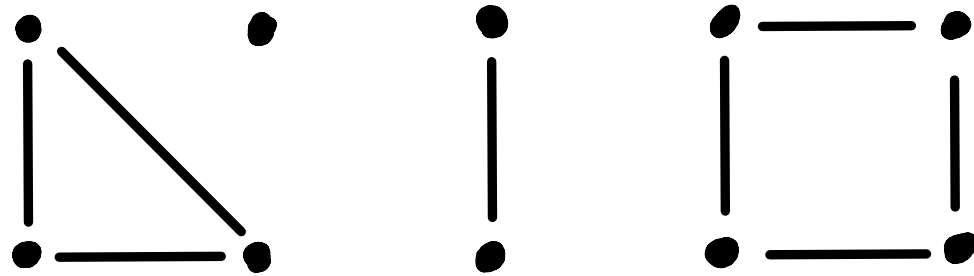
III. The Partition Algebra and the Diagram Basis

IV. The Multiset partition Algebra and a Diagram-like Basis

V. Representations, Subalgebras, and Generators

## A Monoid Structure on Diagrams

An example of what we'll call a partition diagram:



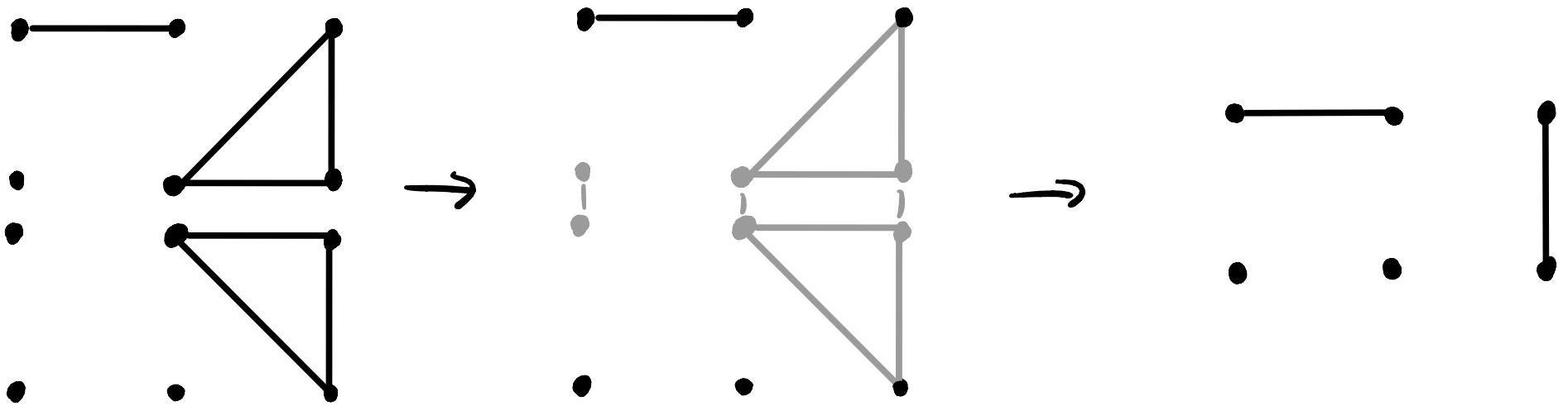
### Key features:

- Has  $r$  labeled vertices on top and bottom for some  $r > 0$
- The vertices are grouped into connected components by edges

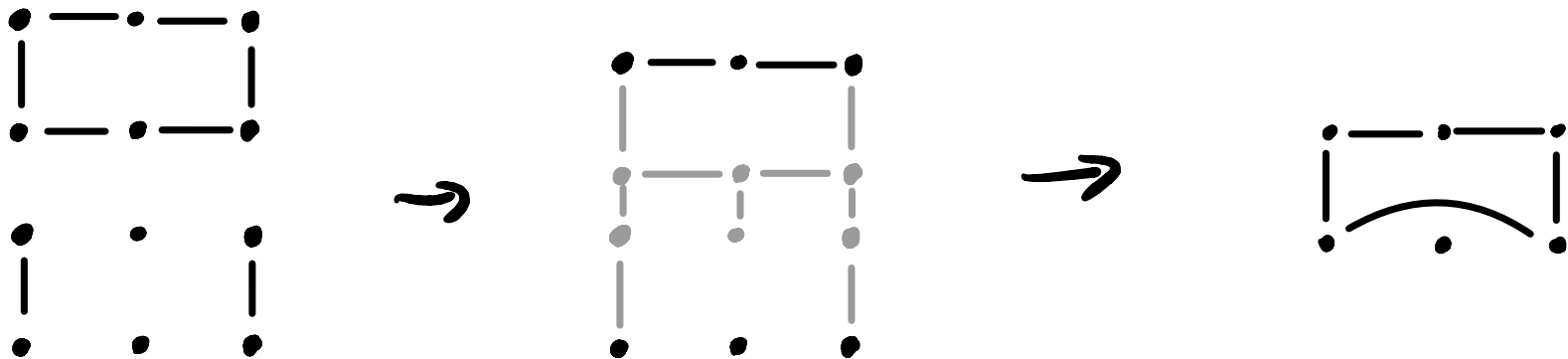
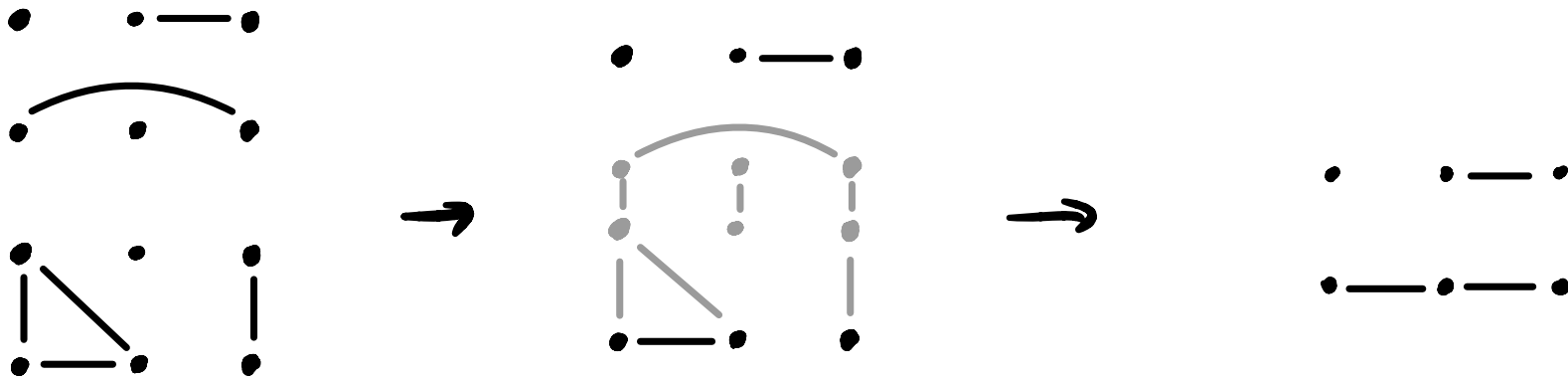
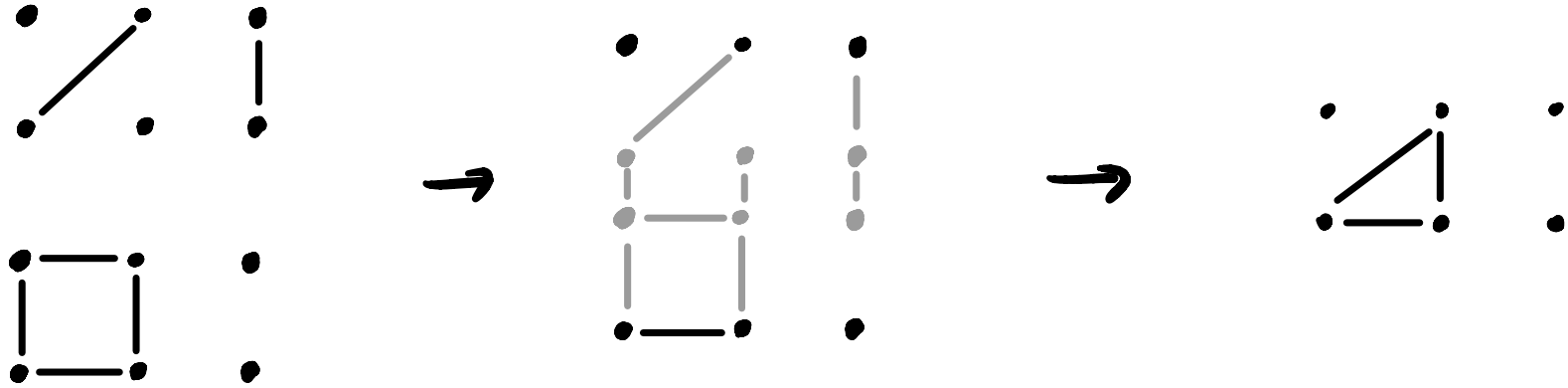
## A Monoid Structure on Diagrams

A multiplication formula:

- i) Put the first diagram on top of the second, identifying corresponding vertices in the middle
- ii) Restrict to the top and bottom, preserving which vertices are connected in the larger diagram



# A Monoid Structure on Diagrams



## Schur-Weyl Duality

$V_n$  : an  $n$ -dimensional  $\mathbb{C}$ -vector space

$GL_n(\mathbb{C})$  : group of  $n \times n$  invertible matrices over  $\mathbb{C}$

$GL_n(\mathbb{C})$  acts on  $V_n$  by the usual matrix-vector multiplication

$V_n^{\otimes r}$  : the  $r^{\text{th}}$  tensor power of  $V_n$ . You can think of elements here as  $v_1 \otimes v_2 \otimes \dots \otimes v_r$  with each  $v_i \in V_n$  (really they're linear combinations of these but we only need to work with a basis)

$GL_n(\mathbb{C})$  also acts on  $V_n^{\otimes r}$  in the following way:

$$A \cdot (v_1 \otimes v_2 \otimes \dots \otimes v_r) = (A v_1) \otimes (A v_2) \otimes \dots \otimes (A v_r)$$

## Schur-Weyl Duality

$S_r$  : The symmetric group on  $r$  symbols

$S_r$  also acts on  $V_n^{\otimes r}$  by permuting the factors:

$$\sigma \cdot (v_1 \otimes v_2 \otimes \dots \otimes v_r) = v_{\sigma^{-1}(1)} \otimes v_{\sigma^{-1}(2)} \otimes \dots \otimes v_{\sigma^{-1}(r)}$$

$$GL_n(\mathbb{C}) \curvearrowright V_n^{\otimes r} \curvearrowright S_r$$

Natural question: How do these two actions interact with each other?

## Schur-Weyl Duality

$$GL_n(\mathbb{C}) \curvearrowright V_n^{\otimes r} \curvearrowleft S_r$$

It's not too hard to see these actions commute i.e.

$$\sigma \cdot (A \cdot (v_1 \otimes \dots \otimes v_r)) = A \cdot (\sigma \cdot (v_1 \otimes \dots \otimes v_r))$$

The more interesting fact is that they are **mutual centralizers**

(the  $S_r$  action gives all the maps that commute with the  $GL_n(\mathbb{C})$  action and vice versa)

This is called **Schur-Weyl duality**, first discovered by Schur and then popularized by Weyl who used it to classify  $U_n$  and  $GL_n$  representations



## Schur-Weyl Duality

Main point:

This duality connects the representation theory of the two objects, letting us better understand both by studying either.

More precisely:

As a consequence, we have a decomposition

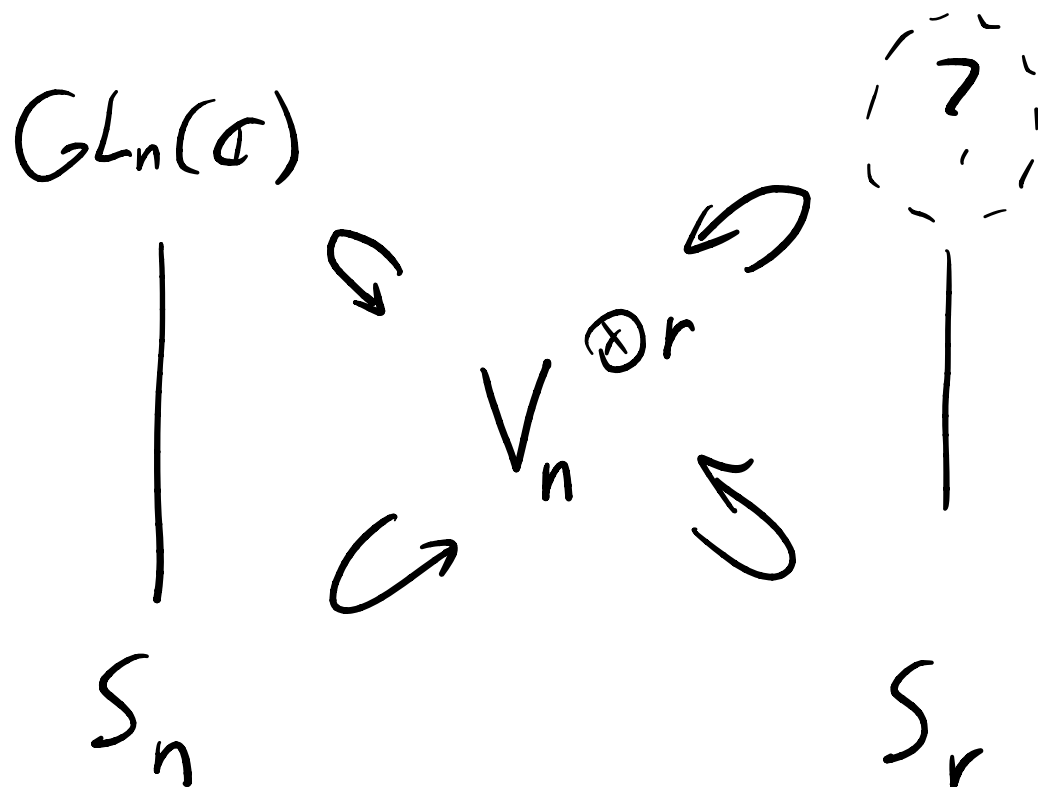
$$V_n^{\otimes r} \cong \bigoplus_{\lambda} E^{\lambda} \otimes S^{\lambda}$$

as a  $GL_n(\mathbb{C}) \times S_r$  module, giving us e.g.

- A correspondence between irreducible  $GL_n(\mathbb{C})$  and  $S_r$  modules where the multiplicity of one is the dimension of the other
- The same coefficients show up studying  $E^{\lambda} \otimes E^{\mu}$   
and  $(S^{\lambda} \otimes S^{\mu}) \uparrow_{S_{|\lambda|} \times S_{|\mu|}}^{S_{|\lambda|+|\mu|}}$

## The Partition Algebra

We can restrict the action of  $GL_n(\mathbb{C})$  to just the  $n \times n$  permutation matrices



The object that completes this picture is what is called the **partition Algebra**

## The Partition Algebra

What does this  $S_n$  action look like?

Write  $e_1, \dots, e_n$  for a basis of  $V_n$ , then for  $\sigma \in S_n$

$$\sigma \cdot e_i = e_{\sigma(i)}$$

write  $\underline{i} = (i_1, \dots, i_r)$  with  $1 \leq i_1, \dots, i_r \leq n$ ,

then  $e_{\underline{i}} = e_{i_1} \otimes \dots \otimes e_{i_r}$  for all such  $\underline{i}$  forms a basis of  $V_n^{\otimes r}$ .

For  $\sigma \in S_n$ ,

$$\sigma \cdot e_{\underline{i}} = (\sigma e_{i_1}) \otimes \dots \otimes (\sigma e_{i_r}) = e_{\sigma(i_1)} \otimes \dots \otimes e_{\sigma(i_r)} = e_{\sigma(\underline{i})}$$

where  $\sigma(\underline{i}) = (\sigma(i_1), \dots, \sigma(i_r))$

## The Partition Algebra

Given this action of  $S_n$ , how do we determine what maps commute with it?

$\text{End}(V_n^{\otimes r})$ : the space of linear maps  $V_n^{\otimes r} \rightarrow V_n^{\otimes r}$

$\text{End}_{S_n}(V_n^{\otimes r})$ : the maps in  $\text{End}(V_n^{\otimes r})$  which commute with the  $S_n$  action

We're looking for a basis of  $\text{End}_{S_n}(V_n^{\otimes r})$

## The Partition Algebra

Generally for  $M \in \text{End}(V_n^{\otimes r})$ , we can describe it by:

$$M e_{\underline{i}} = \sum_{\underline{j}} M_{\underline{j}}^{\underline{i}} e_{\underline{j}}$$

The condition  $M \in \text{End}_{S_n}(V_n^{\otimes r})$  amounts to

$$\sigma M e_{\underline{i}} = M \sigma e_{\underline{i}}$$

$$\sum_{\underline{j}} M_{\underline{j}}^{\underline{i}} e_{\sigma(\underline{j})} = \sum_{\underline{j}} M_{\underline{j}}^{\sigma(\underline{i})} e_{\underline{j}}$$

Comparing the coefficient on  $e_{\sigma(\underline{j})}$  tells us that

$$M_{\underline{j}}^{\underline{i}} = M_{\sigma(\underline{j})}^{\sigma(\underline{i})} \quad \text{for all } \underline{i}, \underline{j}, \sigma.$$

# The Partition Algebra

Visualizing some of these conditions for  $\text{End}_{S_3}(V_3^{\otimes 2})$ :

$i \backslash j$	11	12	13	21	22	23	31	32	33
11	a								
12			b						c
13		b							
21						b			c
22			c	a					
23	c			b					
31					c			b	
32						b			
33									a

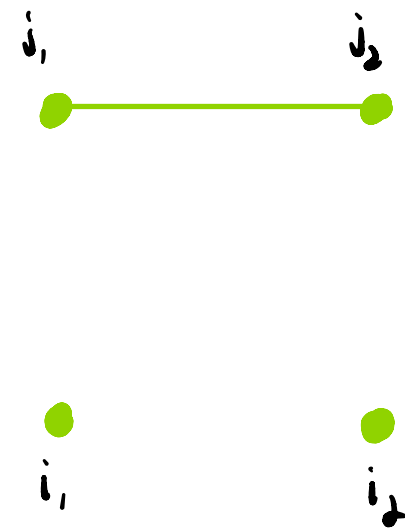
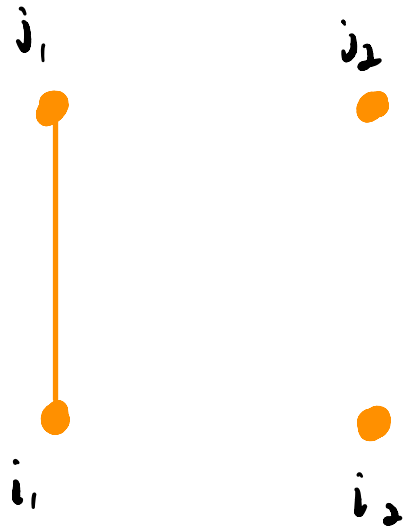
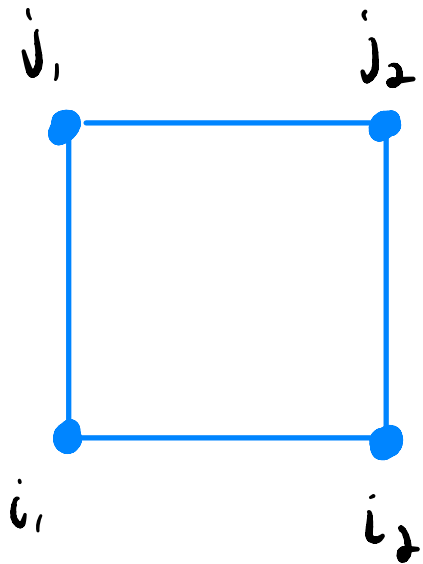
$\sigma$			
$\epsilon$	<u>(11, 11)</u>	<u>(12, 13)</u>	<u>(12, 33)</u>
(12)	22, 22	21, 23	21, 33
(13)	33, 33	32, 31	32, 11
(23)	11, 11	13, 12	13, 22
(123)	22, 22	23, 21	23, 11
(132)	33, 33	31, 32	31, 22

Each of these orbits represents a basis element, so how

can we compactly represent these orbits?

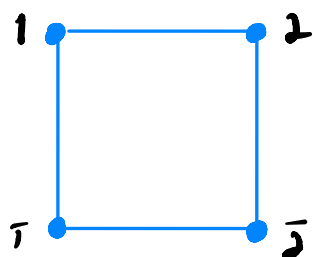
# The Partition Algebra

$\sigma$	$(i_1, i_2, j_1, j_2)$		
$\varepsilon$	<u>(11, 11)</u>	<u>(12, 13)</u>	<u>(12, 33)</u>
(12)	22, 22	21, 23	21, 33
(13)	33, 33	32, 31	32, 11
(23)	11, 11	13, 12	13, 22
(23)	22, 22	23, 21	23, 11
(132)	33, 33	31, 32	31, 22

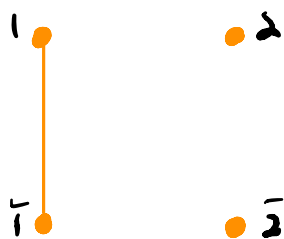


## The Partition Algebra

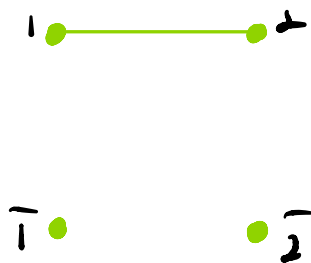
If we label these graphs with  $1, \dots, r$  on top and  $\bar{1}, \dots, \bar{r}$  on the bottom, we get set partitions from connected components



$$\{\{1, 2, \bar{1}, \bar{2}\}\}$$



$$\{\{1, \bar{1}\}, \{2\}, \{\bar{2}\}\}$$



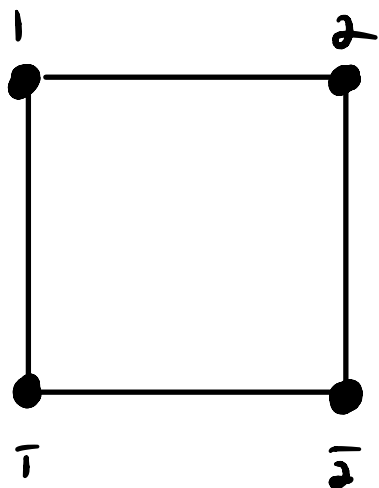
$$\{\{1, 2\}, \{\bar{1}\}, \{\bar{2}\}\}$$

Write  $\Delta_r$  for the set of these set partitions of  $[r] \cup [\bar{r}]$

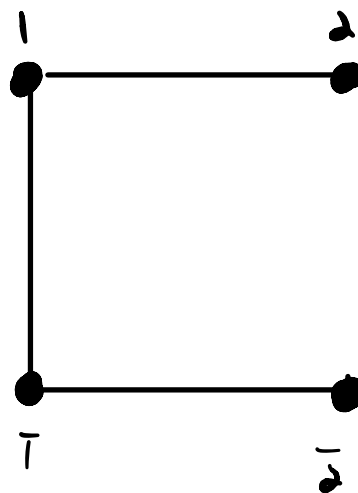


## The Partition Algebra

These graphs representing an orbit are not unique. E.g.



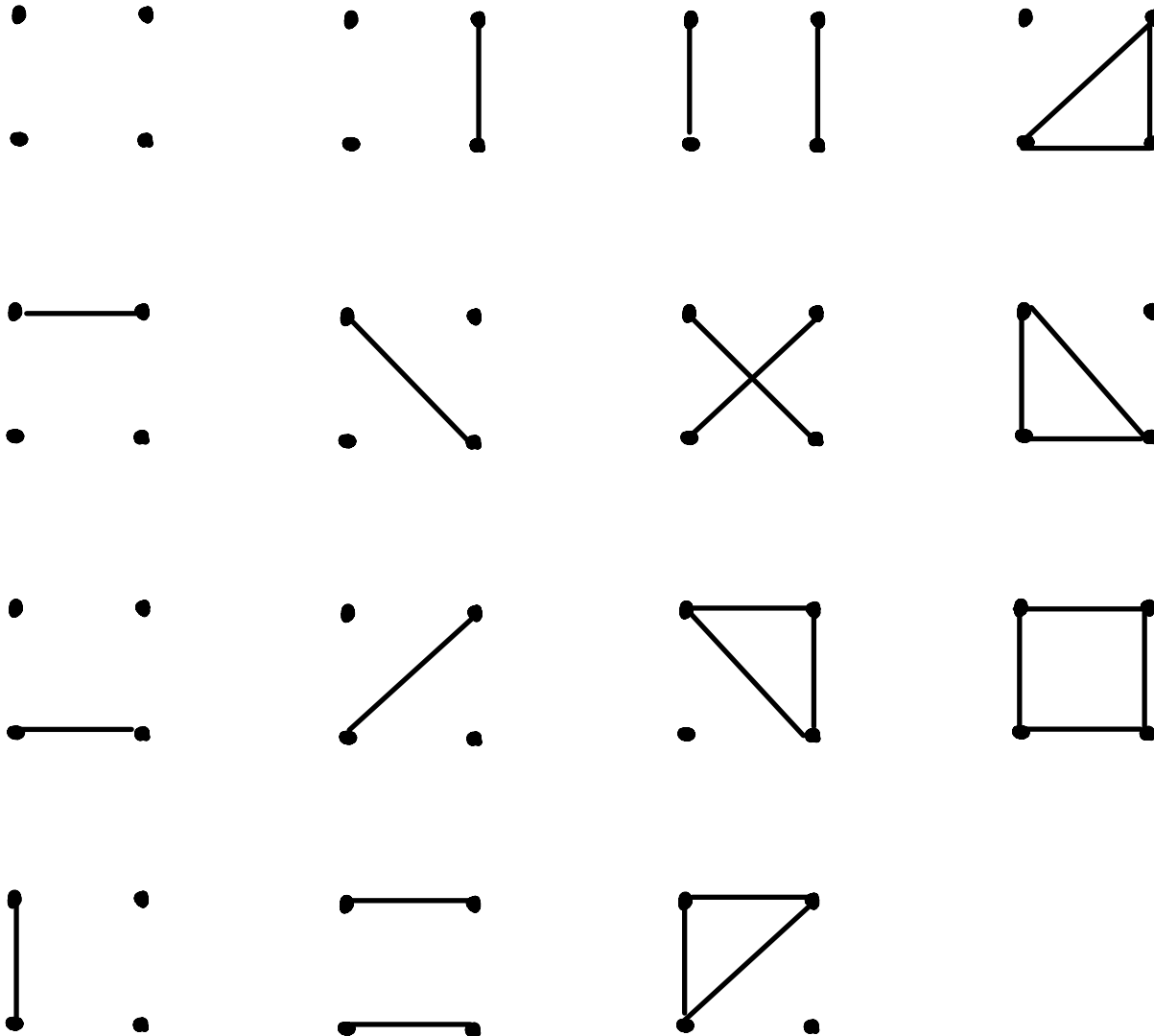
and



represent the same orbit. However, all the graphs representing a particular orbit have the same connected components. So we define a **diagram** as an equivalence class of graphs on the vertices  $[r] \cup [\bar{r}]$  with the same connected components.

# The Partition Algebra

For example,  $\text{End}_{s_4}(V_4^{\otimes 2})$  has a basis indexed by:



(need  $n \geq 2$  for all the diagrams to appear)

## The Partition Algebra

We'll now call  $\text{End}_{S_n}(V_n^{\otimes r})$  the **partition algebra**  $P_r(n)$  (introduced by P. Martin in 1990s)

The basis obtained this way is called the **orbit basis**, which we'll write as

$$\left\{ T_\pi : \pi \in \Delta_r \right\}$$

This basis does a great job capturing the vector space structure of  $P_r(n)$ , but it doesn't do much to elucidate the algebra structure.

# The Partition Algebra

An example of orbit basis multiplication:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{T}_{\begin{array}{c} \bullet \text{---} \bullet \\ \bullet \text{---} \bullet \\ \bullet \end{array}} \mathcal{T}_{\begin{array}{c} \bullet \text{---} \bullet \\ \bullet \text{---} \bullet \\ \bullet \end{array}} &= (n-4) \mathcal{T}_{\begin{array}{c} \bullet \text{---} \bullet \\ \bullet \text{---} \bullet \\ \bullet \end{array}} + (n-3) \mathcal{T}_{\begin{array}{c} \bullet \text{---} \bullet \\ \bullet \text{---} \bullet \\ \bullet \end{array}} \\ &+ (n-3) \mathcal{T}_{\begin{array}{c} \bullet \text{---} \bullet \\ \bullet \text{---} \bullet \\ \bullet \end{array}} + (n-2) \mathcal{T}_{\begin{array}{c} \bullet \text{---} \bullet \\ \bullet \text{---} \bullet \\ \bullet \end{array}} \end{aligned}$$

## The Partition Algebra

Given set partitions  $\pi = \{A_1, \dots, A_s\}$ ,  $\nu = \{B_1, \dots, B_t\}$ ,

we say that  $\nu$  is a **coarsening** of  $\pi$  and write

$\nu \leq \pi$  if each  $A_i$  is contained in some  $B_j$ .

$$\{ \{1, 2, \bar{1}, \bar{2}\}, \{3, \bar{3}\} \} \leq \{ \{1, \bar{1}\}, \{2, \bar{2}\}, \{3\}, \{\bar{3}\} \}$$

$$\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \bullet & \bullet \\ \hline \bullet & \bullet \\ \hline \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ | \\ \bullet \end{array} \leq \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ | \\ \bullet \\ | \\ \bullet \\ | \\ \bullet \end{array}$$

## The Partition Algebra

There is another basis  $\{L_\pi\}$  called the **diagram basis** given by

$$L_\pi = \sum_{\nu \leq \pi} T_\nu$$

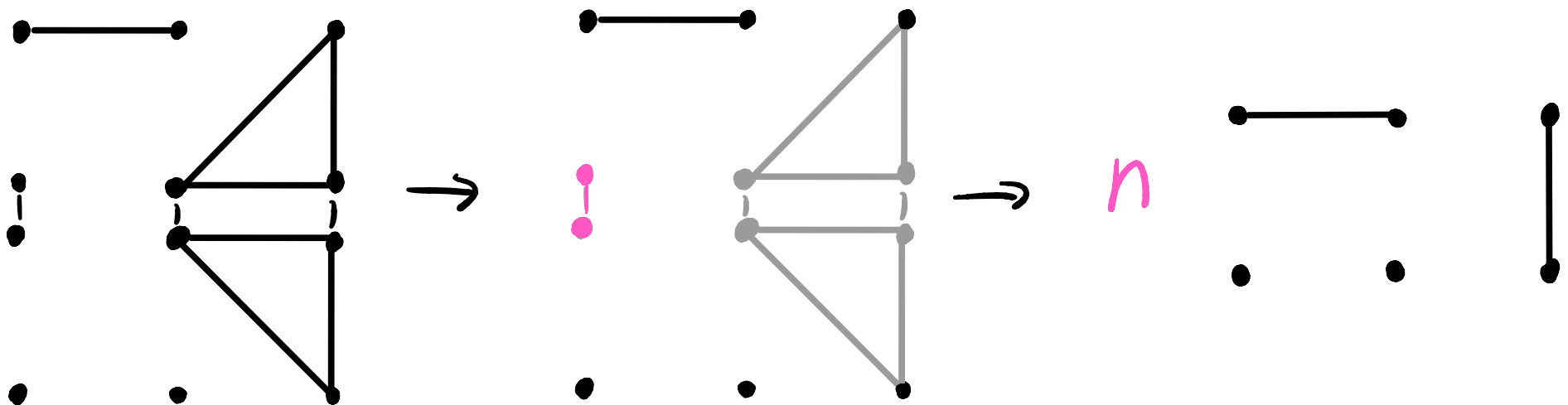
Revisiting the two diagrams from the earlier multiplication example, we see the diagram basis multiplication looks more like our nice multiplication from earlier:

$$L_{\begin{array}{ccc} & \bullet & \\ \bullet & \diagdown & \bullet \\ \bullet & \diagup & \bullet \end{array}} L_{\begin{array}{ccc} & \bullet & \\ \bullet & \diagup & \bullet \\ \bullet & \diagdown & \bullet \end{array}} = n L_{\begin{array}{ccc} & \bullet & \\ \bullet & \bullet & \bullet \\ \bullet & \bullet & \bullet \end{array}}$$

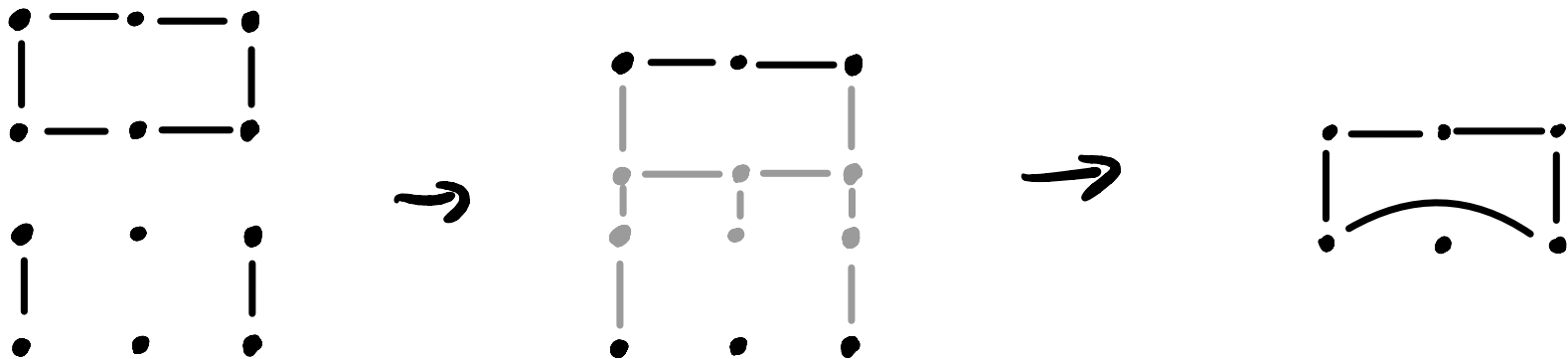
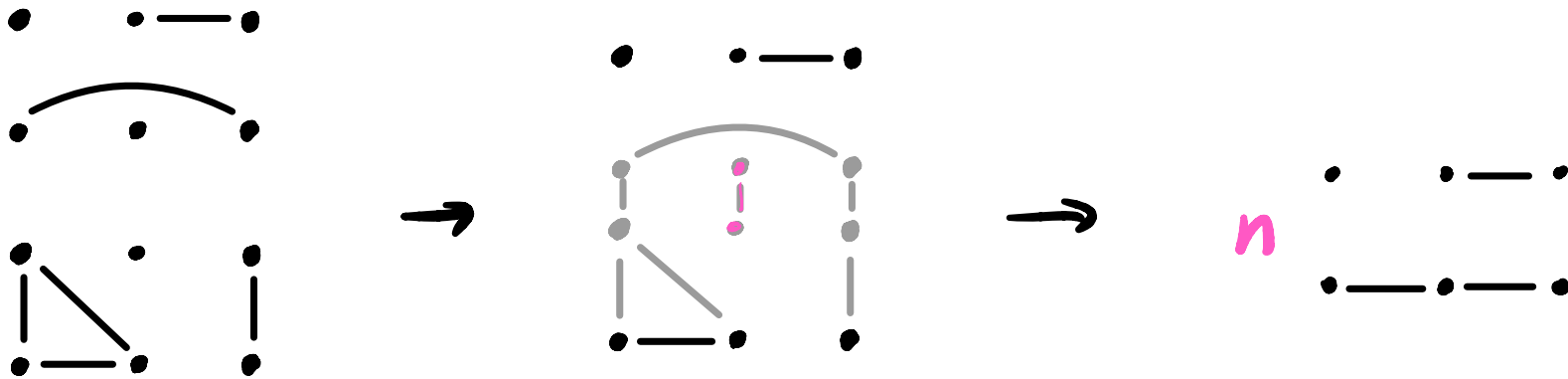
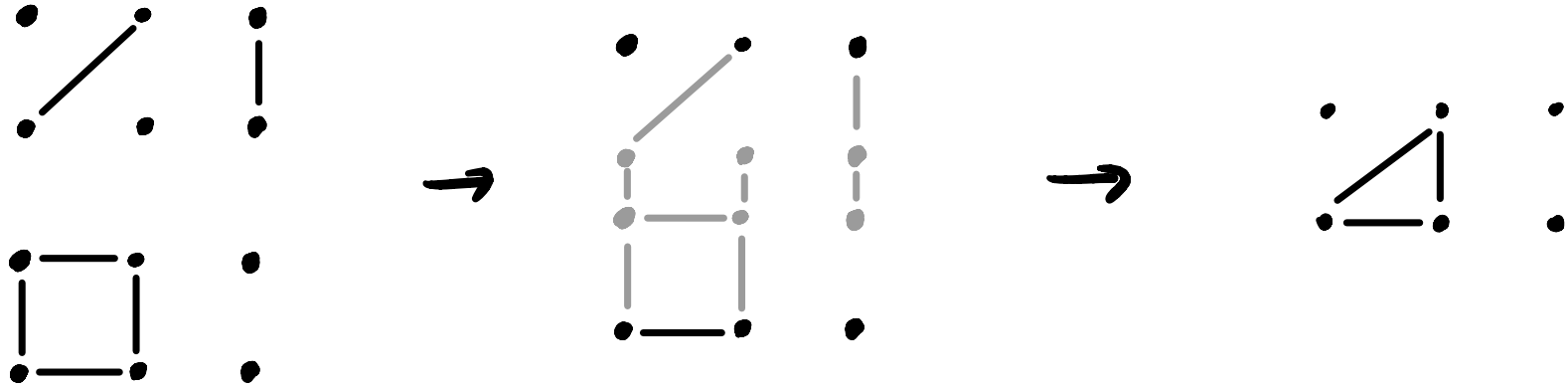
# The Partition Algebra

The formula:

- i) Put the first diagram on top of the second, identifying corresponding vertices in the middle
- ii) Restrict to the top and bottom, preserving which vertices are connected in the larger diagram
- iii) Record a coefficient of  $n^c$  where  $c$  is the number of components stranded in the middle of the larger diagram.



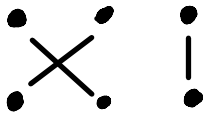

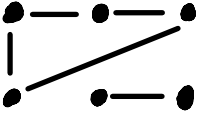
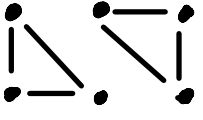

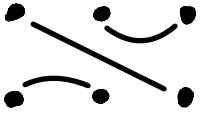
# The Partition Algebra





# The Partition Algebra

$$G \hookrightarrow V_n^{\otimes r} \rightleftarrows A$$

<u>G</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>Typical Element</u>	
$GL_n$	$\mathbb{C}S_r$		
$O_n$	Brauer Algebra ( $Br(n)$ )		(matchings)
$G(m, p, n)$	Tanabe Algebra ( $T_{m, p, r}(n)$ )		(subtle, but akin to $\#top \equiv \#bottom \pmod{m}$ )
$S_n$	Partition Algebra		
$U_q(\mathfrak{sl}_2)$	Motzkin Algebra		(components of size $\leq 2$ , non-crossing)
$U_q(\mathfrak{sl}_2)$	Temperley-Lieb Algebra		(non-crossing matchings)

## Howe Duality

$V_{n,k}$ : The space of  $n \times k$  matrices over  $\mathbb{C}$

$P^r(V_{n,k})$ : The space of homogeneous polynomial forms of degree  $r$  on  $V_{n,k}$

Think of the monomials like  $x_{\underline{i}\underline{j}} = x_{i_1 j_1} \cdots x_{i_r j_r}$  with  
 $1 \leq i_1, \dots, i_r \leq n$  and  $1 \leq j_1, \dots, j_r \leq k$

where the indeterminate  $x_{ij}$  picks out entry  $(i,j)$  in the matrix.

$$x_{12} x_{13} x_{22} \left( \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 & 1 & 5 \\ 6 & 3 & 7 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \right) = 2 \cdot 1 \cdot 3$$

## Howe Duality

A matrix  $A \in GL_n(\mathbb{C})$  acts on  $f \in P^r(V_{n,k})$  by

$$(A.f)(x) = f(A^{-1}x)$$

In 1980s, Roger Howe determined the centralizer:

$$GL_n(\mathbb{C}) \curvearrowright P^r(V_{n,k}) \curvearrowleft GL_k(\mathbb{C})$$

where  $B \in GL_k(\mathbb{C})$  acts by

$$(B.f)(x) = f(xB)$$

# Howe Duality

$GL_n(\mathbb{C})$



$S_n$



$P^r(V_{n,k})$

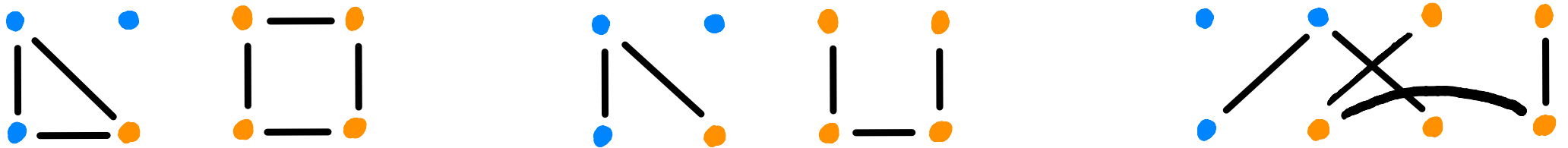


$GL_k(\mathbb{C})$

## The Multiset Partition Algebra

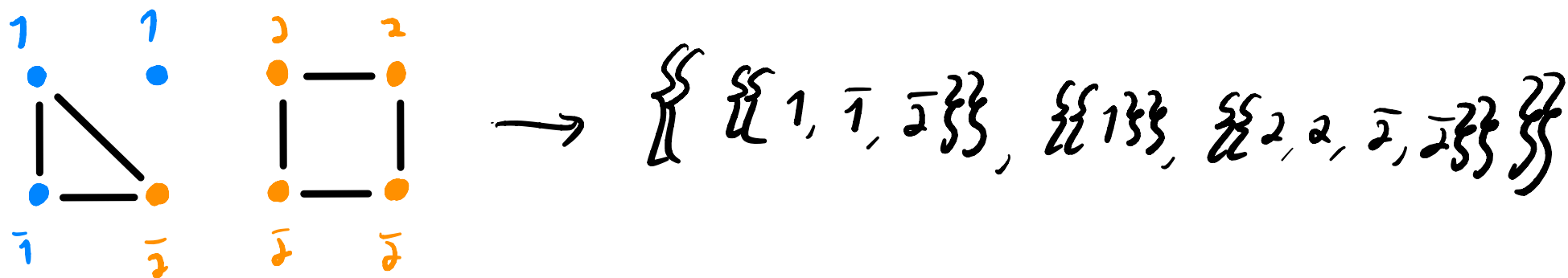
Orellana and Zabrocki (2020) examined  $\text{End}_{S_n}(P^r(V_{n,k}))$ , describing an orbit basis for it and dubbing it  $MP_{r,k}(n)$ , the multiset partition algebra

This basis is indexed by partition diagrams whose vertices are colored from a set of  $k$  colors, with identically colored vertices among the top or bottom indistinguishable:



# The Multiset Partition Algebra

Like before, these diagrams represent partitions, but this time repetition is allowed (indicated by the double brackets):



We'll write  $\tilde{\Delta}_{r, \bar{r}}$  for these multiset partitions with entries

from  $[r] \cup [\bar{r}]$  with  $r$  unbarred and  $r$  barred entries. We'll

write  $\tilde{\pi}$  or  $\tilde{v}$  for a particular such multiset partition.

Note, I will consistently use these colors:

$$1 = \blacksquare$$

$$2 = \blacksquare$$

# The Multiset Partition Algebra

Writing  $\{ \mathcal{O}_{\tilde{\pi}} : \tilde{\pi} \in \tilde{\Delta}_{r,k} \}$  for the orbit basis

obtained by Orrellana and Zabrocki, an example of its multiplication is:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{O}_{\begin{array}{cc} \bullet & \bullet \\ \bullet & \bullet \end{array}} \mathcal{O}_{\begin{array}{cc} \bullet & \bullet \\ \bullet & \bullet \end{array}} &= (n-3) \mathcal{O}_{\begin{array}{cc} \bullet & \bullet \\ \bullet & \bullet \end{array}} + (n-2) \mathcal{O}_{\begin{array}{cc} \bullet & \bullet \\ \bullet & \bullet \end{array}} \\
 &+ \mathcal{O}_{\begin{array}{cc} \bullet & \bullet \\ \bullet & \bullet \end{array}} + 2 \mathcal{O}_{\begin{array}{cc} \bullet & \bullet \\ \bullet & \bullet \end{array}}
 \end{aligned}$$

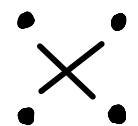
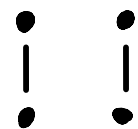
# The Multiset Partition Algebra

Let  $A_r(n) \subseteq P_r(n)$ , and define a new algebra

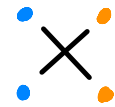
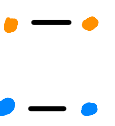
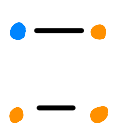
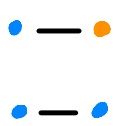
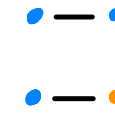
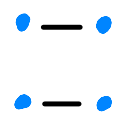
$\tilde{A}_{r,k}(n)$  called the corresponding Painted algebra with basis

$\{D_{\tilde{\pi}}^{\sim}: \tilde{\pi} \text{ obtained by coloring the vertices of a diagram in } A_r(n)\}$

$B_2(n)$



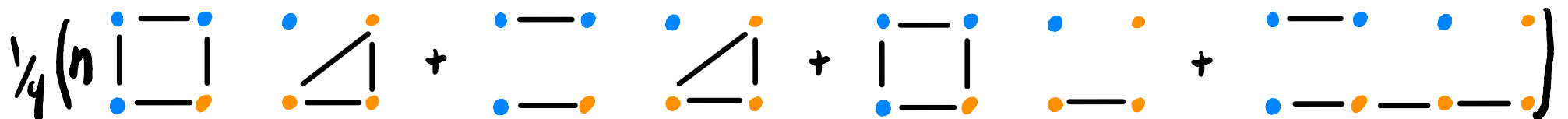
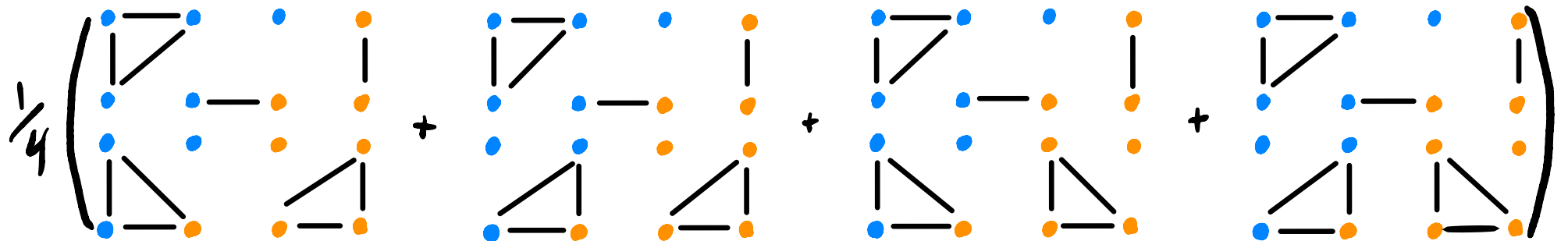
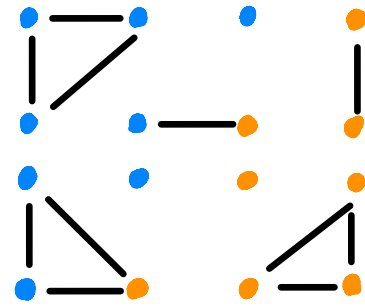
$\tilde{B}_{2,2}(n)$





# The Multiset Partition Algebra

If the multiplicities of colors in the bottom of one diagram match those in the top of the other, their product is given by the following averaging. Otherwise it is zero.



# The Multiset Partition Algebra

Theorem | There is an isomorphism

$$\varphi: MP_{r,k}(n) \rightarrow \tilde{P}_{r,k}(n)$$

# The Multiset Partition Algebra

## Idea of proof

We need to establish that  $\ell(\mathcal{O}_{\tilde{\pi}} \mathcal{O}_{\tilde{\nu}}) = \ell(\mathcal{O}_{\tilde{\pi}}) \ell(\mathcal{O}_{\tilde{\nu}})$ .

After algebraic manipulation, this comes down to handling a sum of the form

$$\sum_{\sigma \in S_r} \sum_{\gamma} 1$$

Where  $\gamma$  is a set partition of  $[r] \cup [\tilde{r}] \cup [\bar{r}]$  subject to conditions depending on  $\tilde{\pi}$ ,  $\tilde{\nu}$ , and  $\sigma$ . It turns out:

- The set of  $\sigma$  for which there exists a  $\gamma$  is a nice product of subgroups
- The number of  $\gamma$  is the same for any  $\sigma$  and can be enumerated via an orbit-stabilizer argument.

## The Multiset Partition Algebra

The change-of-basis  $\mathcal{O}_{\tilde{\pi}} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}_{\tilde{\pi}}$  is given by:

$$\mathcal{D}_{\tilde{\pi}} = \sum_{\tilde{\nu} \leq \tilde{\pi}} \frac{c_{\tilde{\nu}, \tilde{\pi}}}{w(\tilde{\nu})} \mathcal{O}_{\tilde{\nu}}$$

where  $c_{\tilde{\nu}, \tilde{\pi}}$  is, for a fixed  $\pi$  which can be painted to get  $\tilde{\pi}$ , the number of  $\nu$  such that  $\nu \leq \pi$  and  $\nu$  can be painted to obtain  $\tilde{\nu}$ ,

$w(\tilde{\nu})$  is a coefficient depending on  $\tilde{\nu}$

This basis  $\{\mathcal{D}_{\tilde{\pi}}\}$  is the diagram-like basis.

## Representations

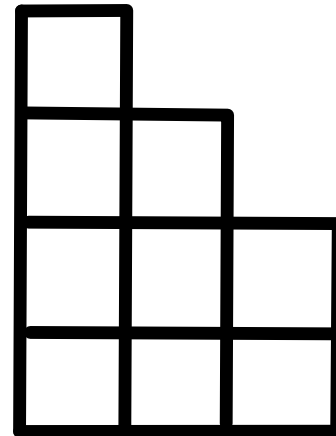
A partition  $\lambda$  of  $n$  is a weakly decreasing sequence

$(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_\ell)$  of positive integers which sum to  $n$ . we

write  $\lambda \vdash n$  for such a partition

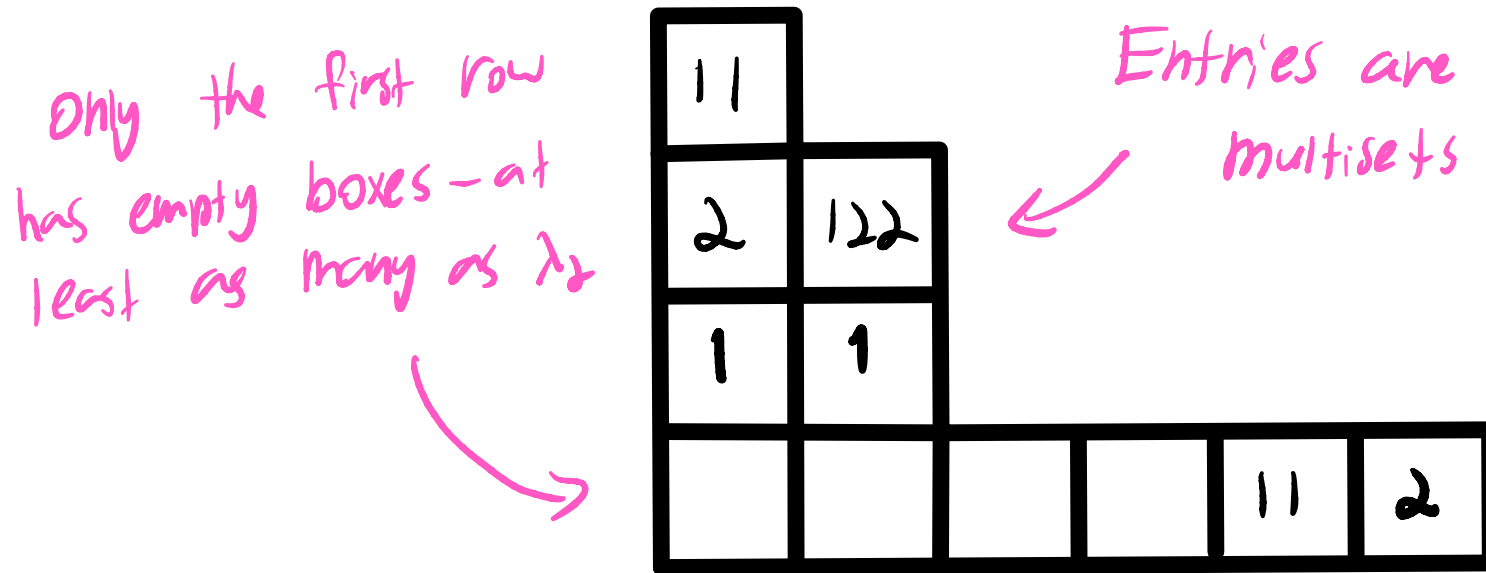
The Young diagram of  $\lambda$  is an array of left-justified boxes with  $\lambda_i$  boxes in the  $i^{\text{th}}$  row from the bottom. E.g.:

$(3, 3, 2, 1)$



# Representations

A multiset partition tableau of shape  $\lambda$  is a filling of  $\lambda$ 's Young diagram like so:



Write  $MSPT(\lambda, r, \kappa)$  for the set of these tableaux with a total of  $r$  numbers from  $[\kappa]$ .

## Representations

Order multisets by the last-letter order

$$11 < 2$$

$$12 < 22$$

$$22 < 122$$

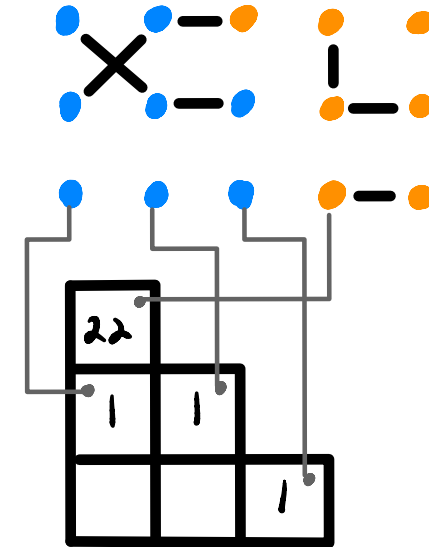
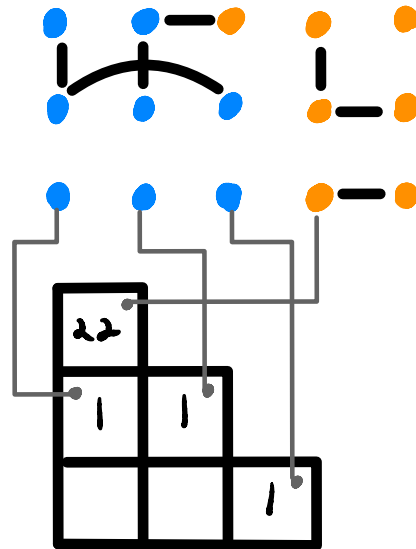
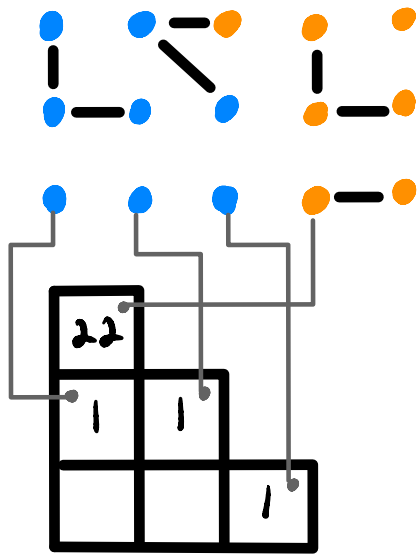
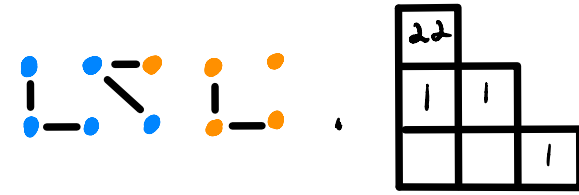
A semistandard multiset partition tableau has rows weakly increasing and columns strictly increasing:

22					
2	12				
1	1				
				11	2

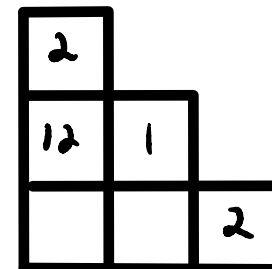
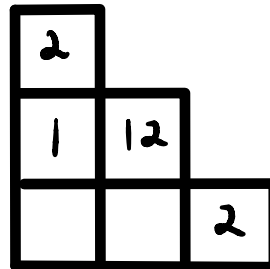
Write  $SSMSP T(\lambda, \nu, \kappa)$  for these

# Representations

An example of the action:




X Two blocks above the first row get combined





# Representations



$$\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 22 \\ \hline 1 & 1 \\ \hline & & 1 \\ \hline \end{array} = \frac{1}{3} \left( \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 2 \\ \hline 1 & 12 \\ \hline & & 2 \\ \hline \end{array} + \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 2 \\ \hline 12 & 1 \\ \hline & & 2 \\ \hline \end{array} \right)$$

Straightening  
algorithm

$$= \frac{1}{3} \left( \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 2 \\ \hline 1 & 12 \\ \hline & & 2 \\ \hline \end{array} + \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 12 \\ \hline 1 & 2 \\ \hline & & 2 \\ \hline \end{array} - \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 2 \\ \hline 1 & 12 \\ \hline & & 2 \\ \hline \end{array} \right)$$

Write  $\Lambda^{MP_{r,n}(n)} = \{ \lambda + n : SSMSPT(\lambda, r, n) \neq \emptyset \}$

$MP_{r,n}^\lambda := \text{Span of } SSMSPT(\lambda, r, n) \text{ for } \lambda \in \Lambda^{MP_{r,n}(n)}$

Theorem The  $MP_{r,n}^\lambda$  for  $\lambda \in \Lambda^{MP_{r,n}(n)}$  form a complete set of irreducible representations for  $MP_{r,n}(n)$  for  $n \geq 2r$ .

## Subalgebras

Theorem  $\text{End}_{G(m,p,n)}(\mathcal{P}^r(V_{n,\kappa})) \cong \tilde{T}_{r,m,p,\kappa}(n)$

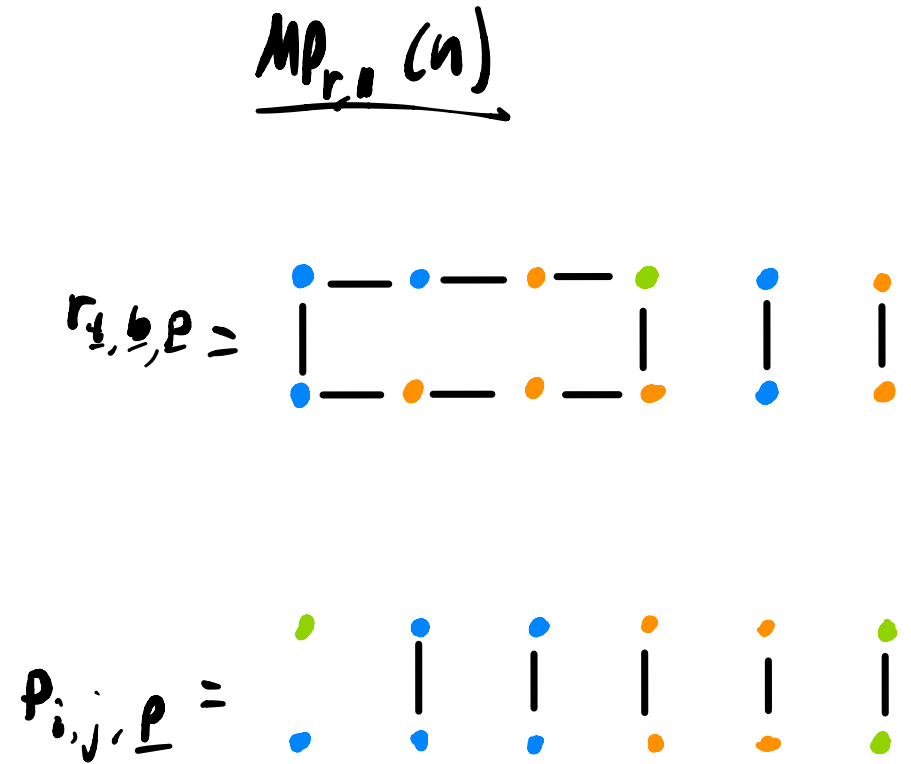
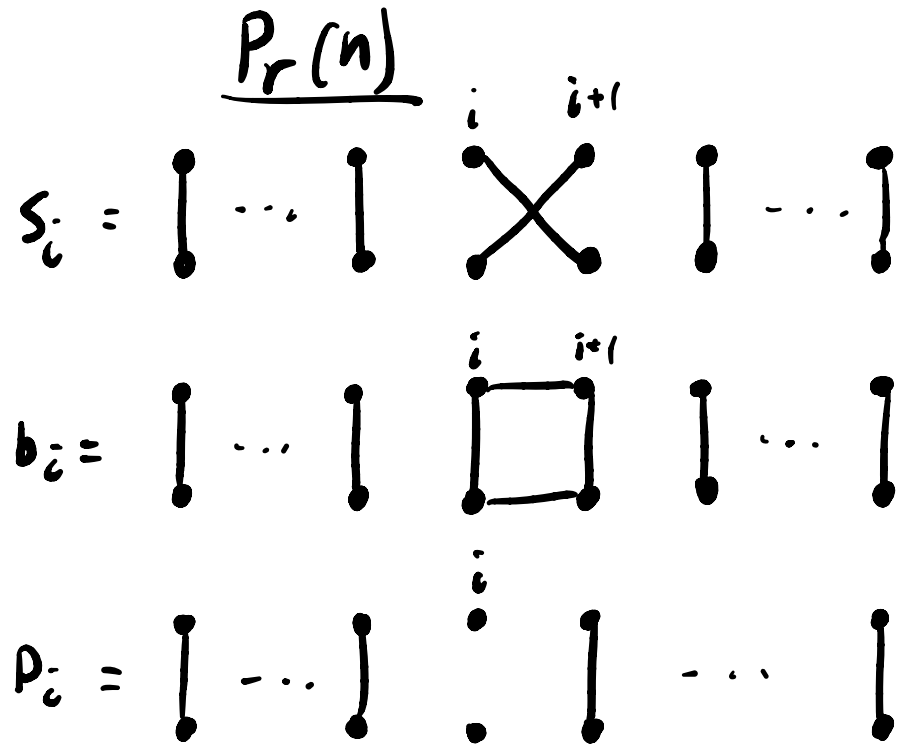
But recall that  $\text{End}_{G(m,p,n)}(V_n^{\otimes r}) \cong T_{r,m,p}(n)$

Conjecture If  $G$  is a reductive algebraic

subgroup of  $GL_n$ , and  $\text{End}_G(V_n^{\otimes r}) \cong A_r(n)$ ,

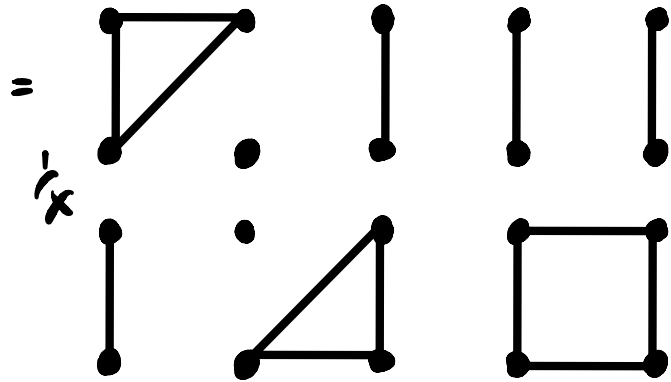
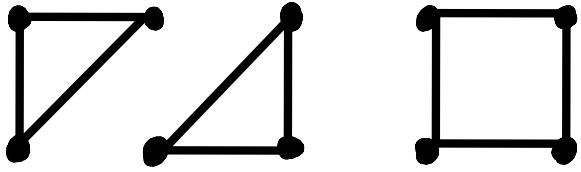
then  $\text{End}_G(\mathcal{P}^r(V_{n,\kappa})) \cong \tilde{A}_{r,\kappa}(n)$ .

# Generators

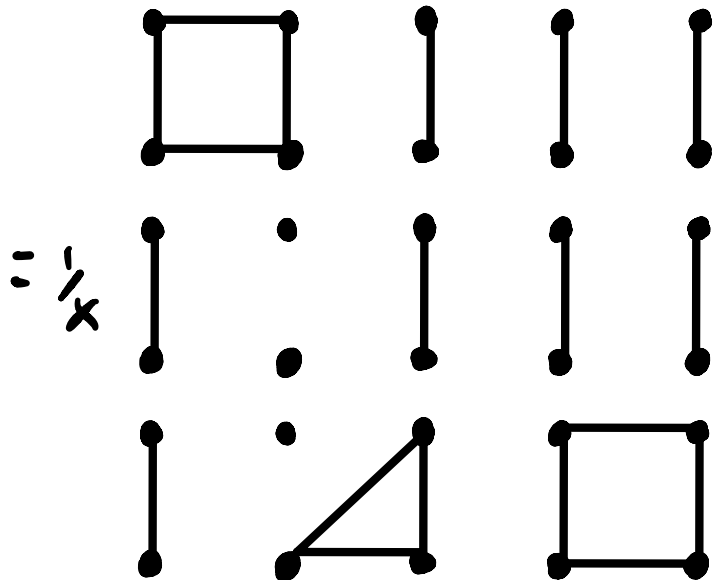


Thank  
you!

# Generators



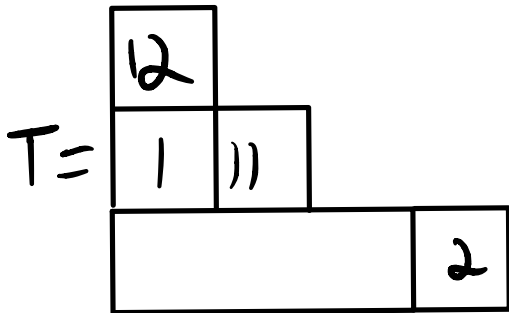
(i) Factor out  
"interesting" block



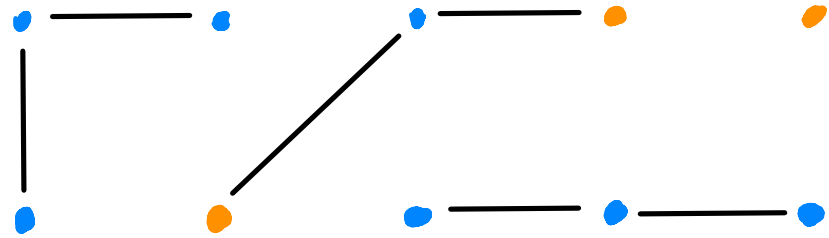
(ii) Write diagram  
with single interesting  
block in terms  
of generators

# Representations

Tabloid diagram



$$[T] = \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ | \\ \bullet \end{array}$$



Poly tabloid element

$$v_T = \sum_{\sigma \in C(T)} \text{sgn}(\sigma) [\sigma \cdot T]$$

$MP_{r, \lambda}^\lambda$  is the span of  $\bar{v}_T$  in the quotient by elements with

fewer than  $\lambda_2 + \dots + \lambda_l$  propagating blocks

07 2020

Thm 5.10