

A crystal-like structure on shifted tableaux

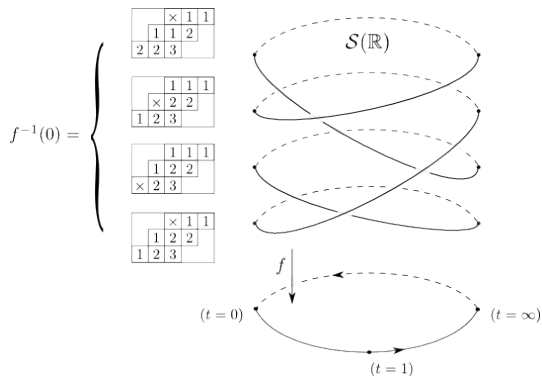
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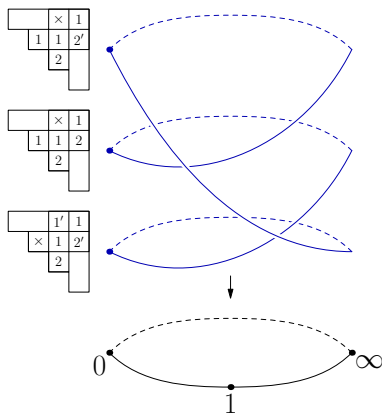
Rocky Mountain Algebraic Combinatorics Seminar
April 20, 2018

Motivation: Schubert curves



- ▶ **Grassmannian:** $\text{Gr}(k, n)$ is the set of all k -planes in n -space
- ▶ Monodromy of real *Schubert curves* in $\text{Gr}(k, n)$ over \mathbb{RP}^1 described by “jeu de taquin” operations (Speyer, 2012)
- ▶ Simplified using crystal operators E_i, F_i (G., Levinson, 2015)
- ▶ **Key fact:** E_i, F_i commute with jeu de taquin

Motivation: Type B Schubert curves



- ▶ Real Schubert curves in *Orthogonal grassmannian* $OG(n, 2n + 1)$ described by shifted Young tableaux (Purbhoo; G., Levinson, Purbhoo)
- ▶ **Question:** Are there “crystal” operators on shifted tableaux that commute with shifted jeu de taquin?

Outline

Part 1: Ordinary tableau crystals
(known)

Part 2: Combinatorial “Crystals” for
shifted tableaux (new!)

Tableaux and Schur functions

- ▶ **Skew shape:** λ/μ (below, $\lambda = (5, 3, 3)$ and $\mu = (2, 1)$)
- ▶ **Semistandard Young tableau (SSYT):** Entries increasing down columns, weakly increasing across rows

		1	3	3
	2	2		
1	3	4		

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- ▶ **Weight:** $\text{wt}(T) = (m_1, m_2, \dots)$ where m_i is the number of i 's in T . Weight is (2, 2, 3, 1) above.

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- ▶ **Schur function:** $s_{\lambda/\mu}(x_1, x_2, \dots) = \sum_{T \in \text{SSYT}(\lambda/\mu)} x^T$

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- ▶ **Schur function:** $s_{\lambda/\mu}(x_1, x_2, \dots) = \sum_{T \in \text{SSYT}(\lambda/\mu)} x^T$
- ▶ Schur functions are symmetric in x_i variables.

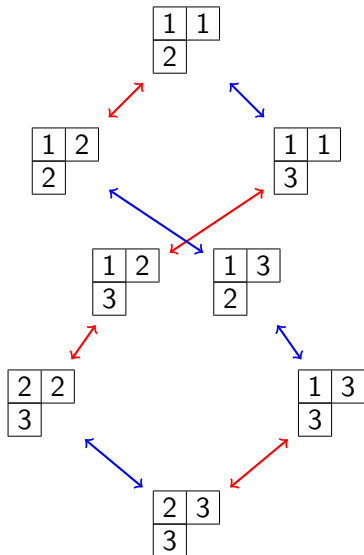
Crystal structure on tableaux

$$s_{(2,1)}(x_1, x_2, x_3) =$$

$$\begin{aligned} & x_1^2 x_2 \\ & + x_1 x_2^2 + x_1^2 x_3 \\ & + 2x_1 x_2 x_3 \\ & + x_2^2 x_3 + x_1 x_3^2 \\ & + x_2 x_3^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$F_1 : \swarrow \quad F_2 : \searrow$$

$$E_1 : \nearrow \quad E_2 : \nwarrow$$



Type A Crystals

- ▶ Arise from representation theory of Lie algebras.

Example: $\mathfrak{sl}_2 = \{M \in \text{Mat}(2) : \text{tr}(M) = 0\}$ generated by:

$$e = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad f = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad h = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

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- ▶ **Type A_n Crystal:** A set \mathcal{B} along with operators

$$e_i, f_i : \mathcal{B} \rightarrow \mathcal{B} \cup \{\emptyset\}, \quad \varepsilon_i, \varphi_i : \mathcal{B} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$$

for $1 \leq i \leq n$, and a map $\text{wt} : \mathcal{B} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^{n+1}$ such that:

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- (1) If $X, Y \in \mathcal{B}$ then $e_i(X) = Y$ iff $f_i(Y) = X$. In this case,

$$\varepsilon_i(Y) = \varepsilon_i(X) - 1, \quad \varphi_i(Y) = \varphi_i(X) + 1$$

and $\text{wt}(Y) = \text{wt}(X) + (0^{i-1}, 1, -1, 0^{n-i})$

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- (2) For any i and any $X \in \mathcal{B}$, $\varphi_i(X) - \varepsilon_i(X) = \text{wt}(X)_i - \text{wt}(X)_{i+1}$.
(Often $\varphi_i(X) =$ number of f_i steps that can be applied to X .)

Defining Tableaux crystals: Jeu de Taquin slides

- ▶ Inner slide:

	*	1	3	3
	2	2		
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Defining Tableaux crystals: Jeu de Taquin slides

- ▶ Outer slide:

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1	3	*		

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- ▶ **Rectification:** Sequence of jeu de taquin slides leading to a straight shape tableau $\text{rect}(T)$.
- ▶ T is **highest weight** if $\text{rect}(T)$ is highest weight for its shape:

1	1	1	1	1
2	2			
3				

Tableaux crystal structure

- ▶ Straight shape SSYT's of shape $(5, 3)$ with entries 1, 2:

1	1	1	1	1
2	2	2		

1	1	1	1	2
2	2	2		

1	1	1	2	2
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Tableaux crystal structure

- ▶ Straight shape SSYT's of shape $(5, 3)$ with entries 1, 2:

$$\emptyset \xleftarrow{E_1} \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \hline 2 & 2 & 2 & & \\ \hline \end{array} \xrightleftharpoons[E_1]{F_1} \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 \\ \hline 2 & 2 & 2 & & \\ \hline \end{array} \xrightleftharpoons[E_1]{F_1} \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 2 \\ \hline 2 & 2 & 2 & & \\ \hline \end{array} \xrightarrow{F_1} \emptyset$$

- ▶ F_1 changes last 1 to 2 if possible, maps to \emptyset otherwise. E_1 changes first 2 in top row to 1 if possible, maps to \emptyset otherwise.

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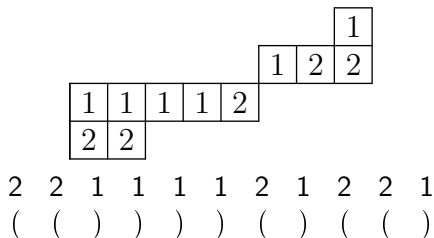
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- ▶ F_1 changes last 1 to 2 if possible, maps to \emptyset otherwise. E_1 changes first 2 in top row to 1 if possible, maps to \emptyset otherwise.
- ▶ Outer slides to get maps F_1, E_1 on skew tableaux:

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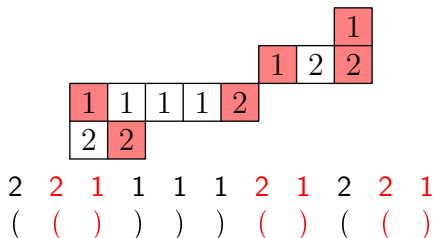
Tableaux crystal structure

- ▶ **Local rule for skew shapes:** In reading word, substitute 2 = '(' and 1 = ')', match parentheses.



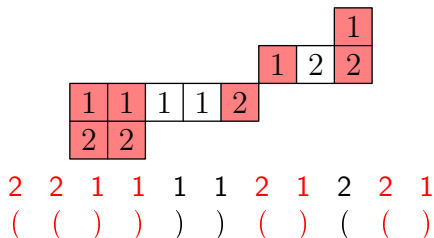
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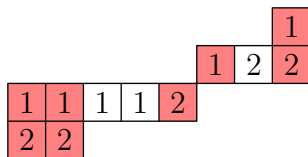
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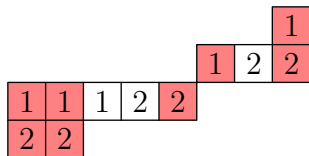


2 2 1 1 1 1 2 1 2 2 1
(()))) () (()

- ▶ F_1 changes the rightmost unmatched 1 to 2 if it exists.

Tableaux crystal structure

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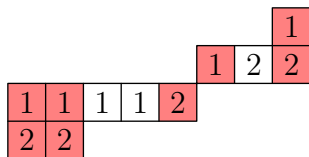


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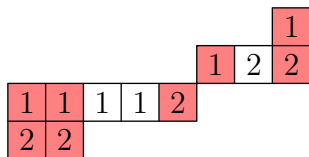


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- ▶ **Coplactic:** E_1, F_1 commute with all JDT slides

Operators E_i and F_i for general i

- ▶ E_i and F_i defined similarly on the subword or subtableau of letters $i, i + 1$.

Example

$$F_2(1221332) = 1231332:$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 1 & 2 & 2 & 1 & 3 & 3 & 2 \\ & &) &) & (& (&) \end{array}$$

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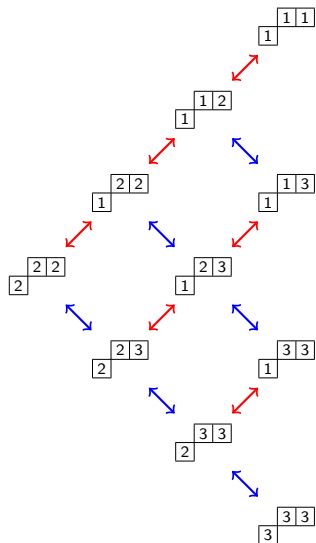
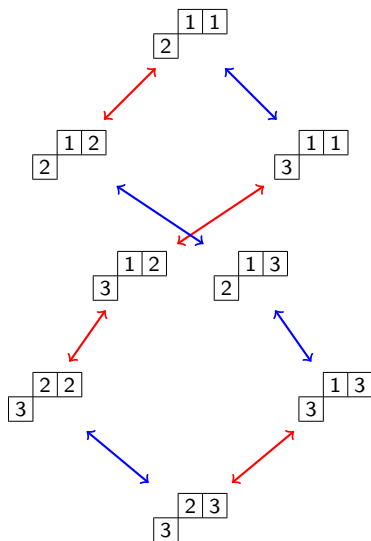
- ▶ Highest weight \iff killed by all E_i 's (top of crystal graph).
- ▶ Skew **Littlewood-Richardson Rule**:

$$s_{\lambda/\mu} = \sum_{\nu} c_{\mu\nu}^{\lambda} s_{\nu}$$

where $c_{\mu\nu}^{\lambda}$ is the number of highest weight tableaux of shape λ/μ and weight ν .

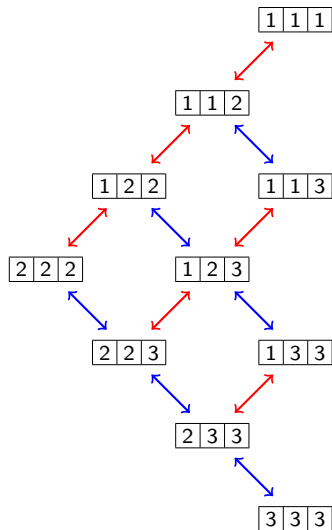
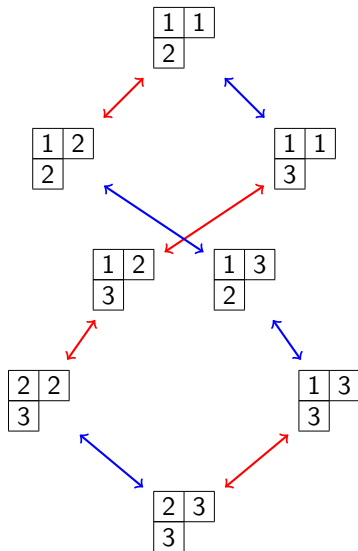
Example

$$S_{(3,1)}/(1) =$$



Example

$$s_{(3,1)/(1)} = s_{(2,1)} + s_{(3)}$$



Alternately: Stembridge's axiomatic description

View crystal as a \mathbb{Z}^n -weighted, edge-labeled (by $1, \dots, n-1$) directed graph G . Arrow labeled i is f_i .

Basic structure:

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Axiom. Following an edge $w \xrightarrow{i} x$ lowers the weight:
 $\text{wt}(x) - \text{wt}(w) = \alpha_i = (0, \dots, -1, 1, \dots, 0)$.

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Axiom. For each i , the i -connected components are **strings**:

$$\bullet \xrightarrow{i} \bullet \xrightarrow{i} \bullet \xrightarrow{i} \bullet \xrightarrow{i} \bullet \xrightarrow{i} \bullet$$

Set $\varepsilon_i(w) = \#e_i$ -steps available starting from w ,
 $\varphi_i(w) = \#f_i$ -steps.

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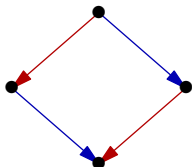
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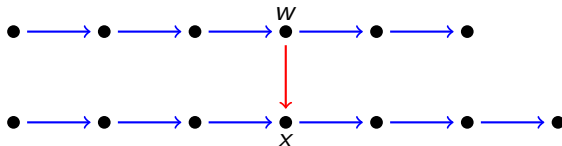
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Axiom. For $|i - j| > 1$: edges commute:

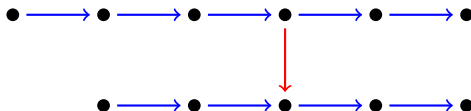


Length axiom

Axiom. Suppose $w \xrightarrow{i \pm 1} x$. Then the i -strings passing through w and x are related in one of the following two ways:

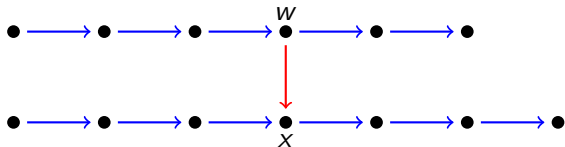


OR

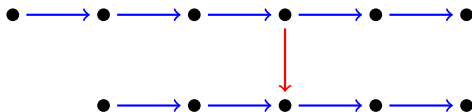


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OR



$$(\varepsilon_i(w) - \varepsilon_i(x), \varphi_i(w) - \varphi_i(x)) = (0, -1) \text{ or } (1, 0).$$

Axioms relating arrows \xrightarrow{i} , $\xrightarrow{i+1}$

Axiom. Suppose $w \xrightarrow{i} x$ and $w \xrightarrow{i+1} y$. Compare ε values:

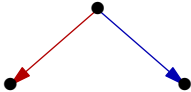
$$\begin{aligned}\Delta &:= (\varepsilon_{i+1}(w) - \varepsilon_{i+1}(x), \varepsilon_i(w) - \varepsilon_i(y)) \\ &= (1, 1), (1, 0), (0, 1) \text{ or } (0, 0).\end{aligned}$$

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Then:

$\Delta \neq (0, 0)$	$\Delta = (0, 0)$
	

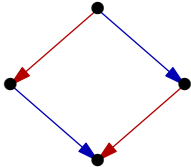
Also: dual versions of same axioms (for going backwards).

Axioms relating arrows \xrightarrow{i} , $\xrightarrow{i+1}$

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Then:

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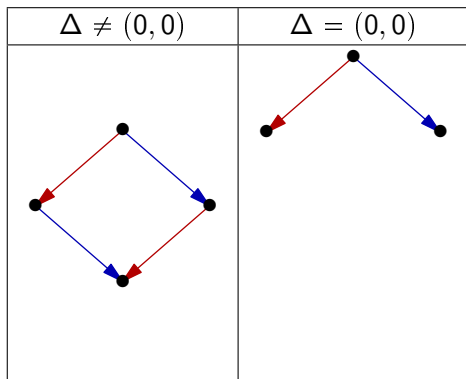
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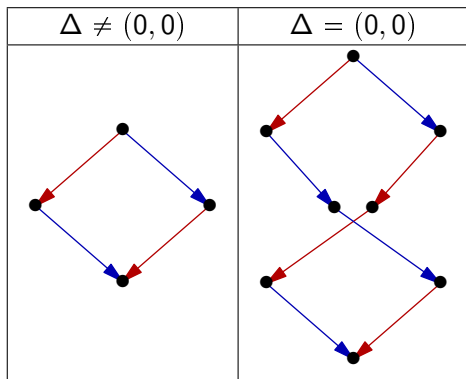
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Theorem (Stembridge '03)

Let G be a finite connected graph satisfying the local axioms.

Then G has a unique highest-weight element g^ , with $\text{wt}(g^*) = \lambda$ a partition, and canonically $G \cong \text{SSYT}(\lambda, n)$.*

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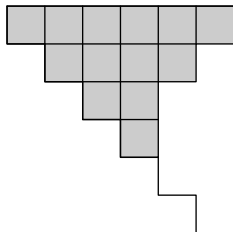
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- ▶ Morse-Schilling (2015): Crystal-theoretic proof of Schur positivity for Stanley symmetric functions

Part 2: Shifted tableaux

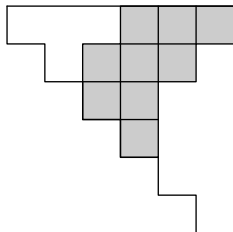
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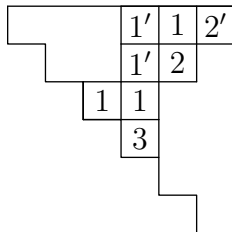
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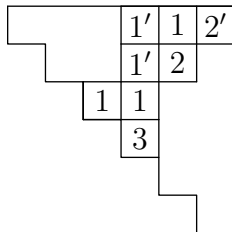
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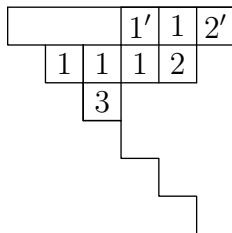
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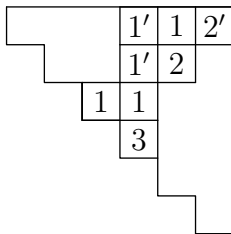
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Schur Q -functions (Hall-Littlewood, Stembridge,...)

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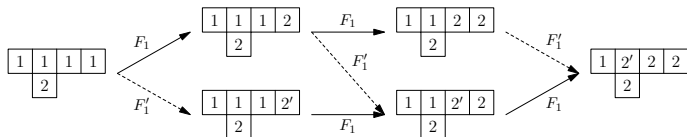


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- ▶ **Highest weight:** JDT rectification has weight equal to shape
- ▶ **Character:** $x^T = 2^{\ell(T)} x_1^{m_1} x_2^{m_2} \dots$ where $\ell(T)$ is the number of nonzero entries in $\text{wt}(T)$. Above, $x^T = 8x_1^5 x_2^2 x_3$.
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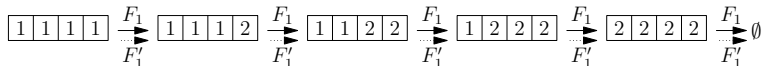
$$Q_{\lambda/\mu}(x_1, x_2, \dots) = \sum_{T \in \text{ShST}(\lambda/\mu)} x^T$$

Operators E_i, F_i, E'_i, F'_i (G., Levinson, Purbhoo.)

- Consider $i = 1$ as before. Restrict to alphabet $\{1', 1, 2', 2\}$.
Shape can have two rows:

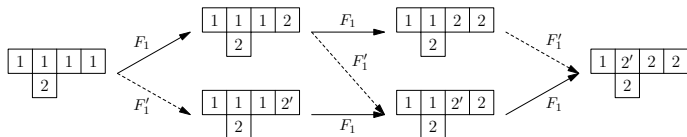


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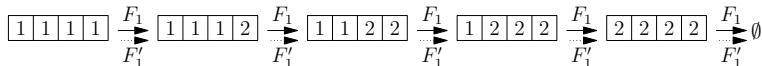


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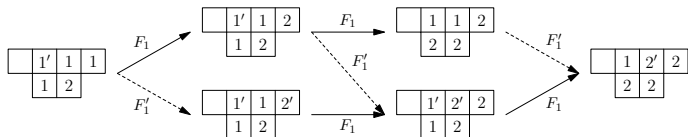
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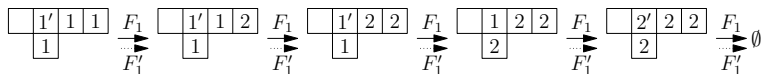
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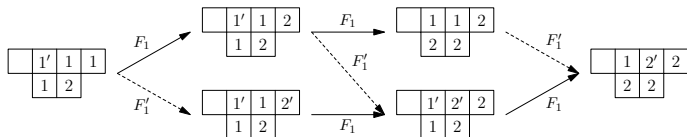
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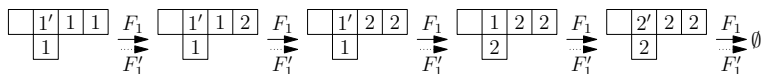
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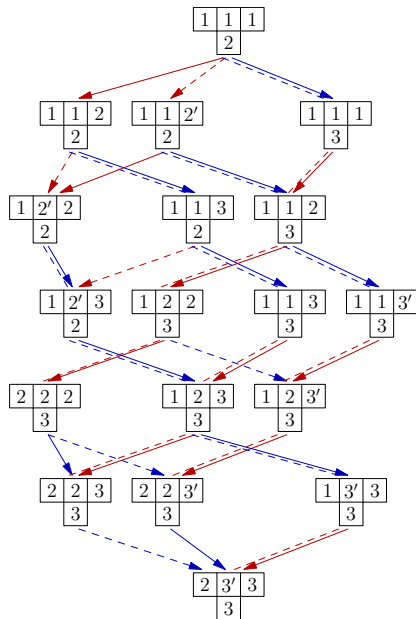


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- Theorem.** (G., Levinson, Purbhoo, 2016.) There are local, fast ($O(n)$) combinatorial rules for these operators that do not require JDT, similar to parentheses rule for ordinary tableaux. (arxiv:1706.09969)

Crystal-like structure

- ▶ “Crystal graph” for $i = 1, 2$:

$$\boxed{F_1 \quad F'_1 \quad F_2 \quad F'_2}$$



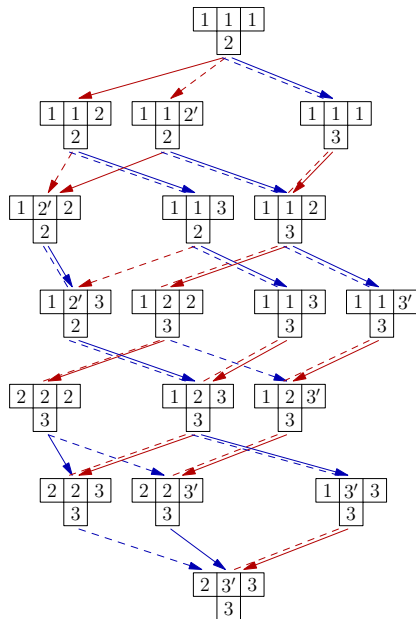
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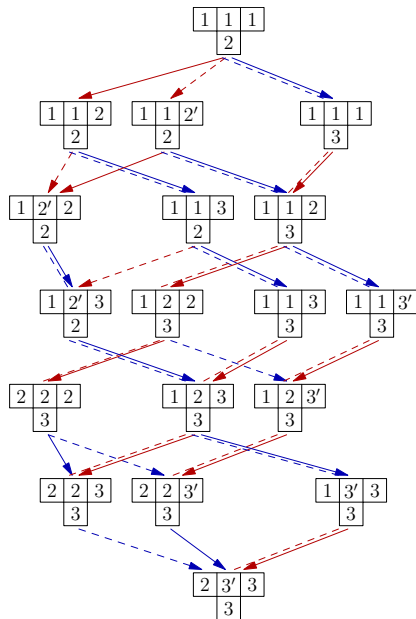
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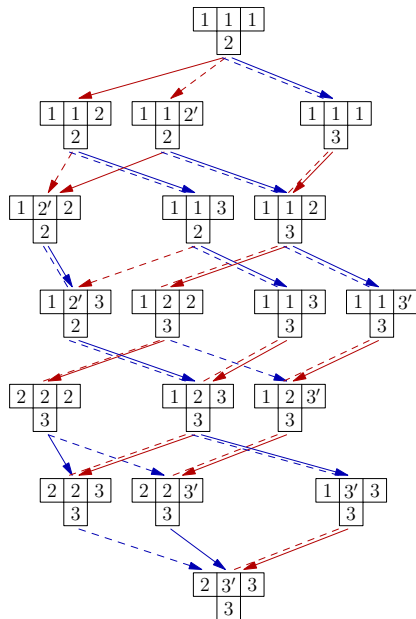
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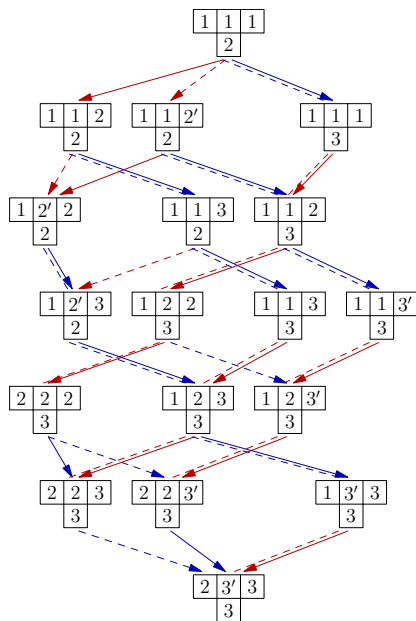
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Axioms for shifted tableau crystals

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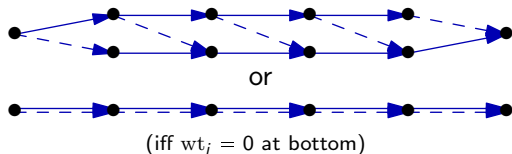
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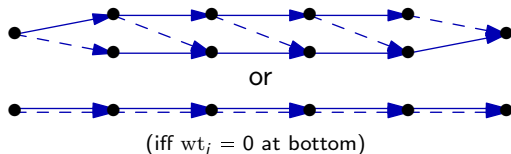
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Set $\varepsilon_i(w), \varphi_i(w) =$ **total** # steps to top, bottom
Also $\varepsilon'_i, \varphi'_i$ (# $\{--\rightarrow\}$ only) and $\hat{\varepsilon}_i, \hat{\varphi}_i$ (# $\{\rightarrow\}$ only).

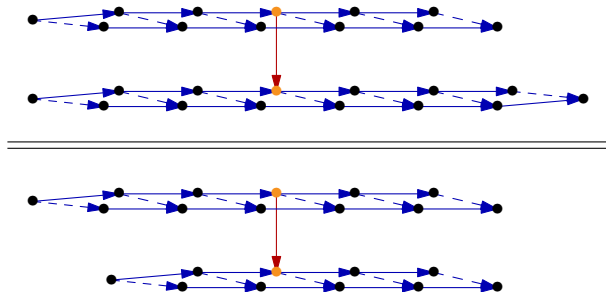
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Axiom. Suppose $w \xrightarrow{i \pm 1 \text{ or } i \pm 1'} x$. Then

$$(\varepsilon_i(w) - \varepsilon_i(x), \varphi_i(w) - \varphi_i(x)) = (0, -1) \text{ or } (1, 0).$$

Same two possibilities as Stembridge:



Relations between $\xrightarrow{1 \text{ or } 1'}$, $\xrightarrow{2 \text{ or } 2'}$

Suppose we have two edges: $w \xrightarrow{1 \text{ or } 1'} x$, $w \xrightarrow{2 \text{ or } 2'} y$.

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Conditions	Axiom	Conditions	Axiom
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$\Delta = (0, 0)$, $\varphi_2(w) = 1$, $\widehat{\varphi}_2(w) = 0$		$\widehat{\varepsilon}_1(w) > 0$	

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Note: No axiom for $\{f_1, f'_2\}$ when $\widehat{\varepsilon}_1(w) = 0$!

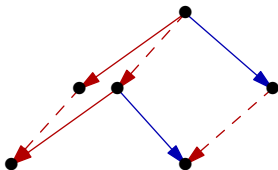
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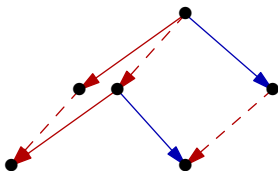
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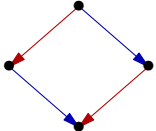
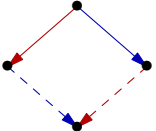
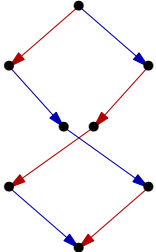
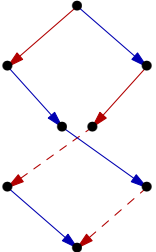


Then, the axioms for $\{f_1, f_2\}$ resemble Stembridge axioms!

Relations between $\xrightarrow{1}$, $\xrightarrow{2}$

Assume f'_1 is not defined at w , and $f_2 \neq f'_2$ ('strict' solid edge).

Axioms for $\{f_1, f_2\}$:

Conditions	Axiom	Conditions	Axiom
$\Delta = (0, 1), (1, 0)$		$\Delta = (1, 1)$	
$\Delta = (0, 0),$ $\hat{\varphi}_1(f_2(w)) \geq 2$		$\Delta = (0, 0),$ $\hat{\varphi}_1(f_2(w)) < 2$	

Uniqueness of shifted tableau crystals

Theorem (G., Levinson)

Let G be a finite connected graph satisfying these local axioms.

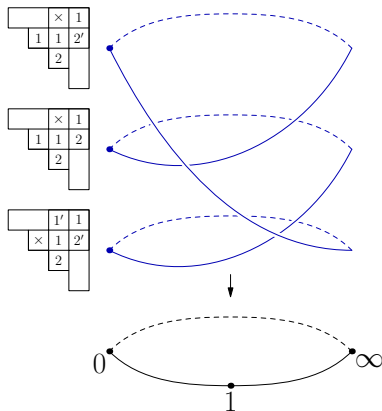
- ▶ G has a unique maximal element g^* , and $\text{wt}(g^*) = \sigma$ is a **strict** partition.
- ▶ There is a canonical isomorphism $\text{ShSYT}(\sigma, n) \xrightarrow{\sim} G$.

In particular, the generating function

$$\sum_{g \in G} 2^{\ell(\text{wt}(g))} x^{\text{wt}(g)}$$

is Schur Q positive.

Application: Type B Schubert curves

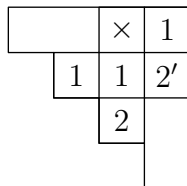
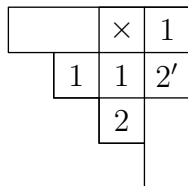


- ▶ Zero fiber labeled by tableaux of a skew shifted shape consisting of a marked inner corner ('x') and a highest weight tableau of a fixed weight ν .

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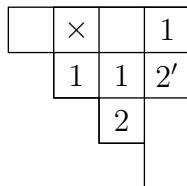
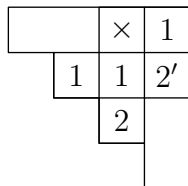


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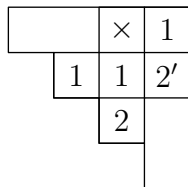


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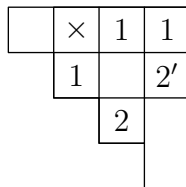
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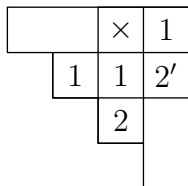
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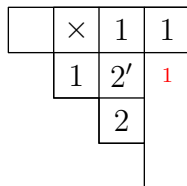
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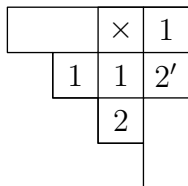
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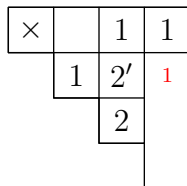
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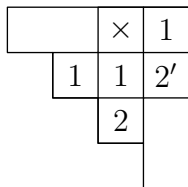
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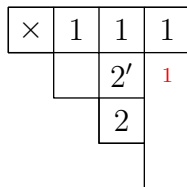
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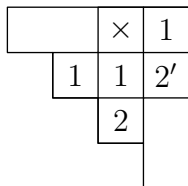
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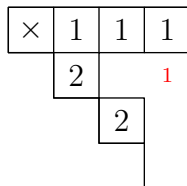
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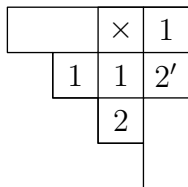
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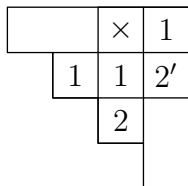
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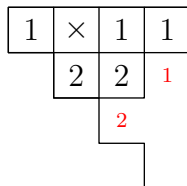
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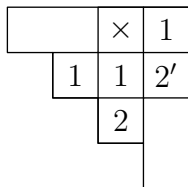
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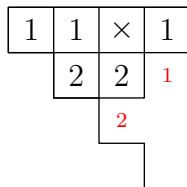
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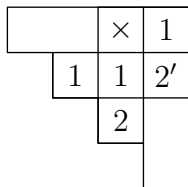
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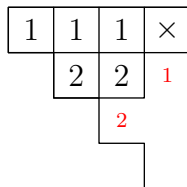
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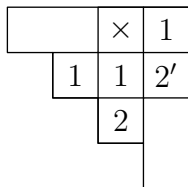
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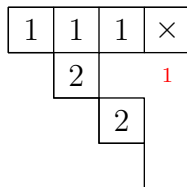
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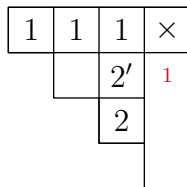
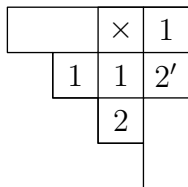
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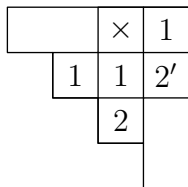


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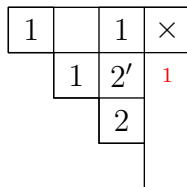
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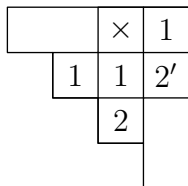
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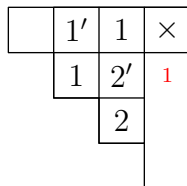
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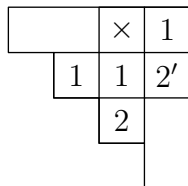
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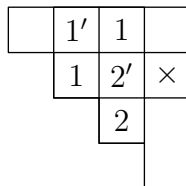
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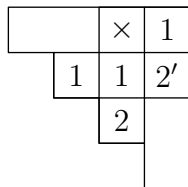
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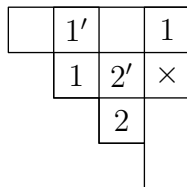
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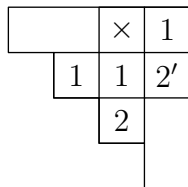
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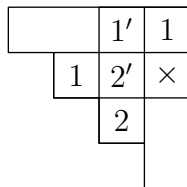
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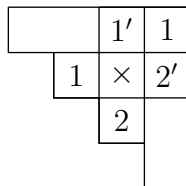
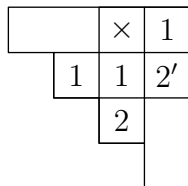
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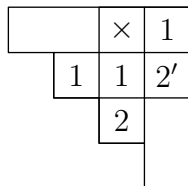


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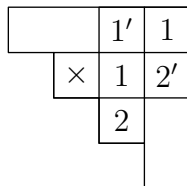
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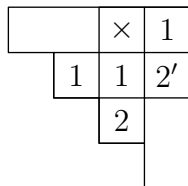
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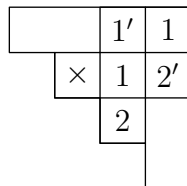
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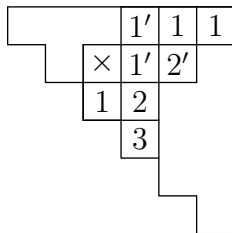
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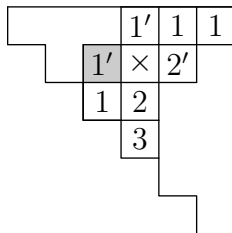
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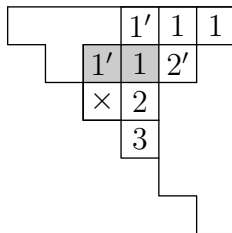
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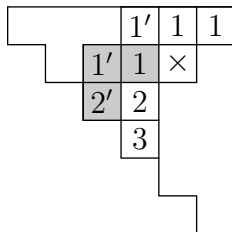
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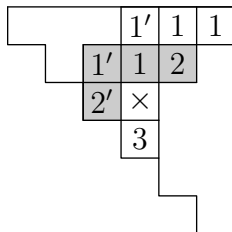
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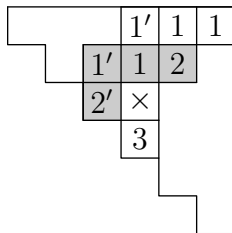
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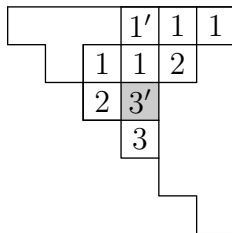
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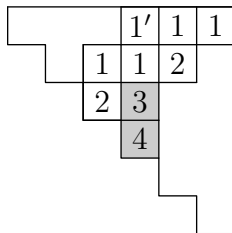
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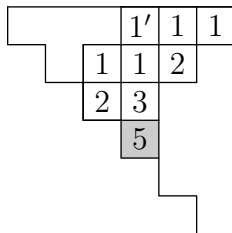
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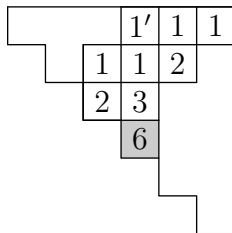
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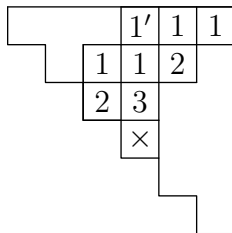
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Future work

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- ▶ Geometry of type B Schubert curves (monodromy operator now understood in terms of crystal-like operators).



THANK YOU!