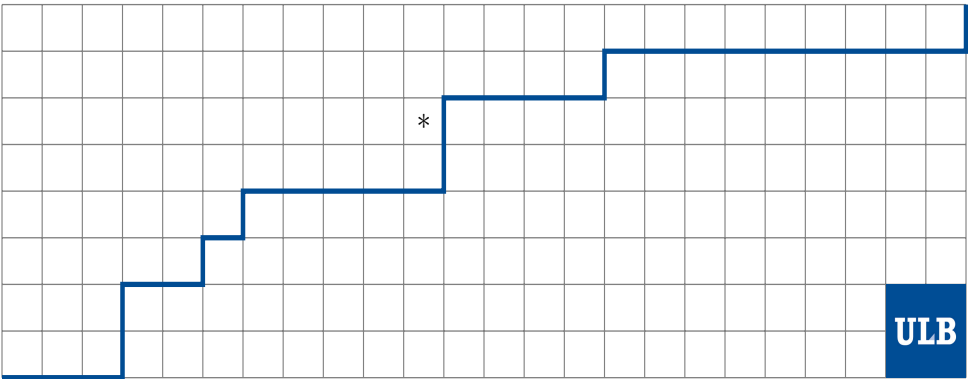


# The generalised Delta square conjecture

Anna Vanden Wyngaerd

joint work with Michele D'Adderio and Alessandro Iraci

April 15, 2019



# MacDonald Polynomials

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## Macdonald Positivity Conjecture

$\tilde{K}_{\lambda\mu}(q,t) \in \mathbb{N}[q,t]$ , i.e. the Macdonald polynomials are *Schur positive*



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Strategy to prove Schur positivity of Macdonald Polynomials

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- ▶ Proved by Haiman in 2001, using tools from Algebraic Geometry

## The Delta operators

Working on the Macdonald positivity conjecture, Garsia and Haiman introduced the  $\mathfrak{S}_N$ -module  $DH_n$  of **diagonal harmonics**. It turns out that

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- ▶ Just a few weeks ago, Zabrocki found a module extending the diagonal harmonics, whose bi-graded Frobenius characteristic he conjectured to be  $\Delta'_{e_{n-k-1}} e_n$ .

# Combinatorial interpretations

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*Function*

$$\nabla e_n = \Delta_{e_n} e_n$$

*Conjecture*

**Shuffle conjecture**

Haglund, Haiman, Loehr  
Remmel, Ulyanov, 2005.

*Proof*

Carlsson  
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$$\nabla (-1)^{n-1} p_n$$

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$$\frac{[n-k]_t}{[n]_t} \Delta_{h_m} \Delta_{e_{n-k}} (-1)^{n-1} p_n$$

Generalised  
Delta square conjecture  
D-I-VW

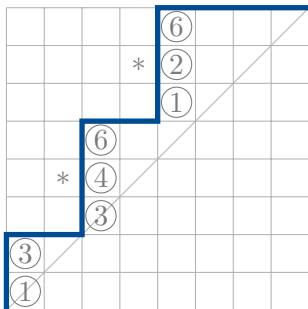


## The Delta conjecture

$$\Delta'_{e_{n-k-1}} e_n = \sum_{D \in \text{LD}(n)^{*k}} q^{\text{dinv}(D)} t^{\text{area}(D)} x^D$$

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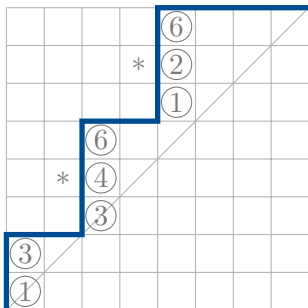
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$\text{LD}(n)^{*k}$ : labelled decorated Dyck paths

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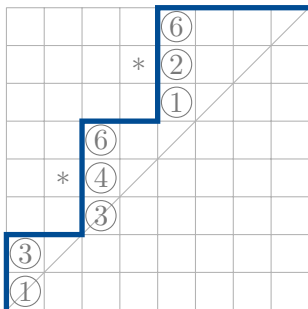


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► Dyck path of size  $n$

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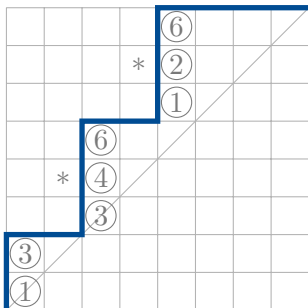


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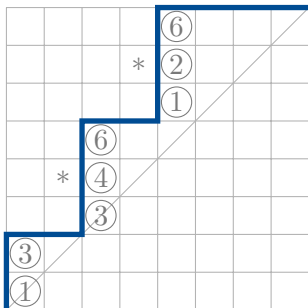


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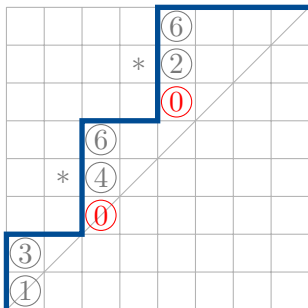


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- ▶ labels strictly increasing in columns

## The generalised Delta conjecture

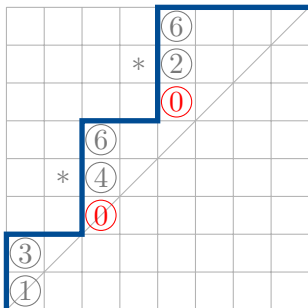
$$\Delta_{h_m} \Delta'_{e_{n-k-1}} e_n = \sum_{D \in \text{PLD}(m,n)^{*k}} q^{\text{dinv}(D)} t^{\text{area}(D)} x^D$$



$\text{PLD}(m, n)^{*k}$ : *partially labelled decorated Dyck paths*

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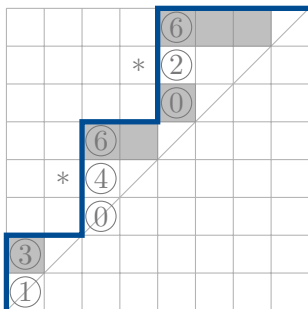
$\text{PLD}(m, n)^{*k}$ : *partially* labelled decorated Dyck paths

- ▶  $m$  zero labels,  $n$  nonzero labels
- ▶ first label cannot be zero



## The generalised Delta conjecture

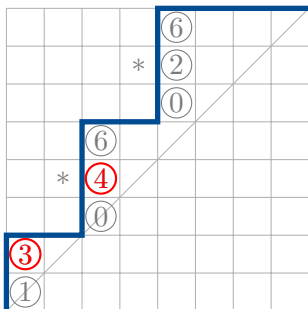
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**Area:** number of whole squares between the path and  $y = x$ , and *not* in a row containing a decorated rise.

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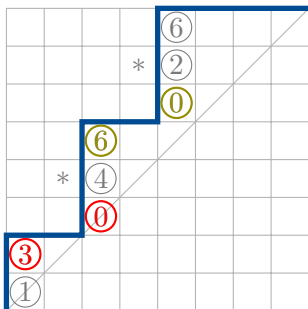


Dinv: count the number of pairs

- ▶ same diagonal,  
lower label < upper label  
(primary dinv)

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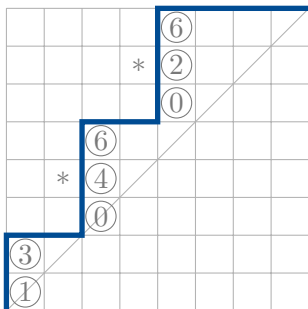


Div: count the number of pairs

- ▶ same diagonal,  
lower label < upper label  
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- ▶ lower step one diagonal above  
upper step  
lower label > upper label  
(secondary div)

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$$x^D := \prod_{i=1}^{m+n} x_{l_i(D)}$$

where  $l_i(D)$  is the label of the  $i$ -th vertical step of  $D$  and we set  $x_0 = 1$ .

# Generalised Delta conjecture: state of the art

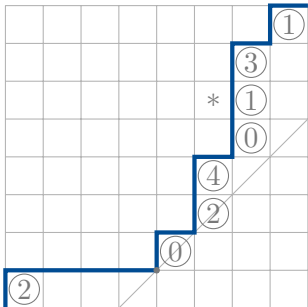
Conditions	Reference
$m = 0$ and $k = 0$	Carlsson-Mellit
$m = 0$ and $q = 0$	Garsia-Haglund-Remmel-Yoo
$m = 0$ and $q = 1$	Romero
$m = 0$ and $\langle \cdot, h_{n-d}h_d \rangle$	D'Adderio-Iraci
$\langle \cdot, e_{n-d}h_d \rangle$	D-I-VW
$t = 0$ or $q = 0$	D-I-VW

## The generalised Delta square conjecture

$$\frac{[n-k]_t}{[n]_t} \Delta_{h_m} \Delta_{e_{n-k}} (-1)^{n-1} p_n = \sum_{P \in \text{PLSQ}^E(m,n)^{*k}} q^{\text{dinv}(P)} t^{\text{area}(P)} x^P$$

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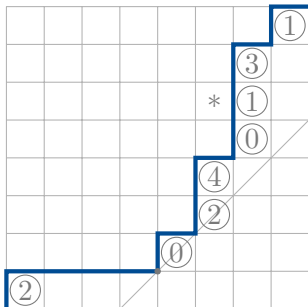
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$\text{PLSQ}^E(m, n)^{*k}$ : partially labelled,  
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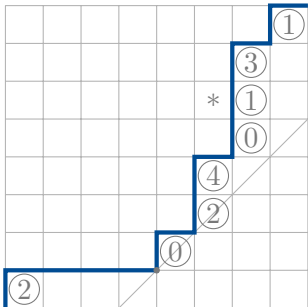


- $\text{PLSQ}^E(m, n)^{*k}$ : partially labelled, decorated square paths ending east
- Square paths of size  $m + n$  ending east



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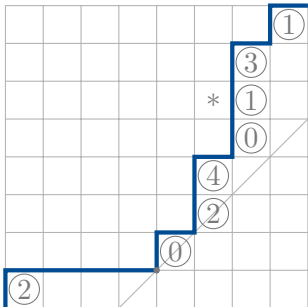


$\text{PLSQ}^E(m, n)^{*k}$ : partially labelled, decorated square paths ending east

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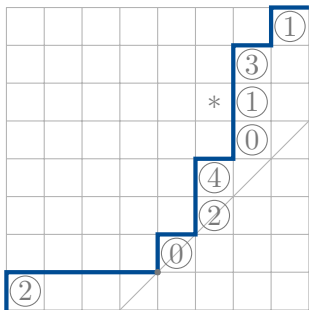


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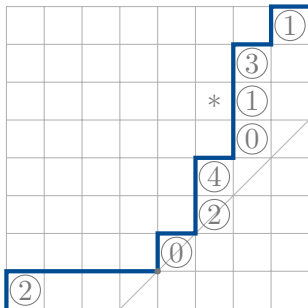
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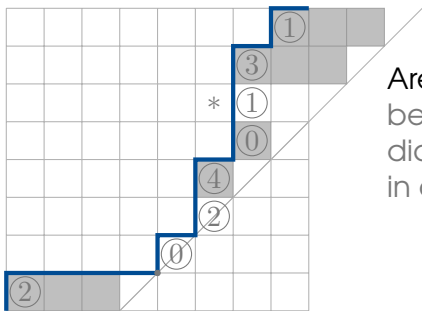
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- ▶ if the first step is north, its label is nonzero.



## The generalised Delta square conjecture

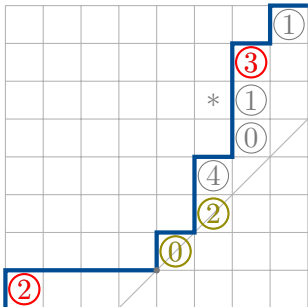
$$\frac{[n-k]_t}{[n]_t} \Delta_{h_m} \Delta_{e_{n-k}} (-1)^{n-1} p_n = \sum_{P \in \text{PLSQ}^E(m,n)^{*k}} q^{\text{div}(P)} t^{\text{area}(P)} x^P$$



**Area:** number of whole squares between the path and the lowest diagonal touched by the path and *not* in a row containing a decorated rise.

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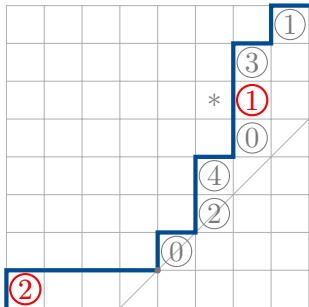


Dinv

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lower label < upper label

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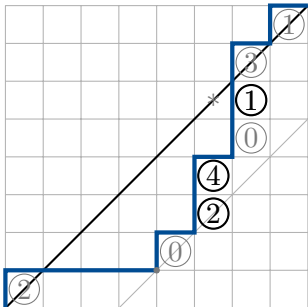


Div

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lower label < upper label
- ▶ Secondary: lower step one  
diagonal above upper step  
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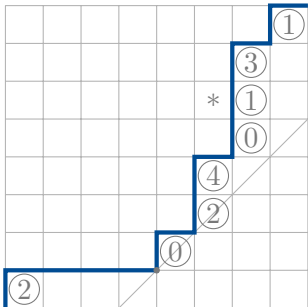
### Dinv

- ▶ Primary: same diagonal  
lower label < upper label
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diagonal above upper step  
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- ▶ Bonus: +1 for every nonzero label  
under the line  $x = y$



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$$\mathbf{x}^D := \prod_{i=1}^{m+n} x_{l_i(D)}$$

where  $l_i(D)$  is the label of the  $i$ -th vertical step of  $D$  and we set  $x_0 = 1$ .

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  - ▶ The Schröder case, i.e.

$$\frac{[n-k]_t}{[n]_t} \langle \Delta_{h_m} \Delta_{e_{n-k}} (-1)^{n-1} p_n, e_{n-d} h_d \rangle$$

## Schröder case: combinatorial meaning

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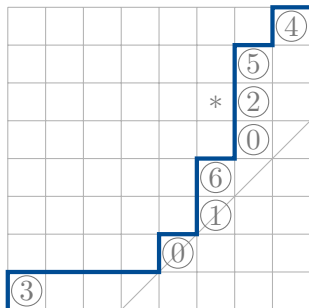
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reading word

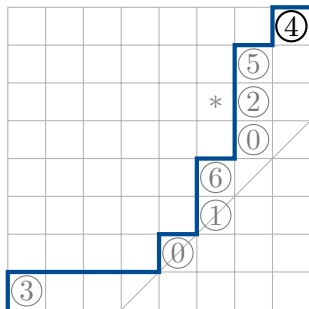


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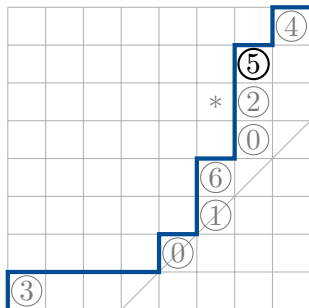
4

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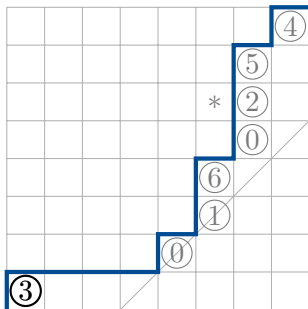
4 5

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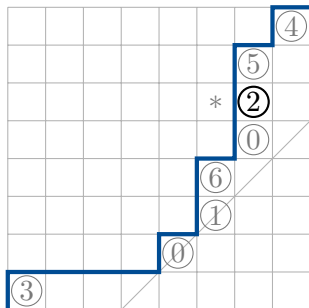
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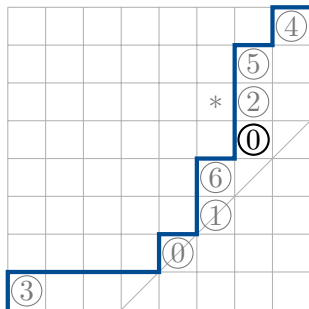
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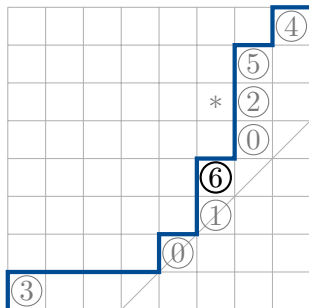
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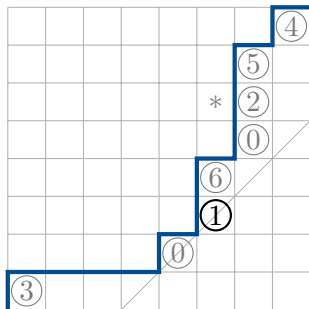
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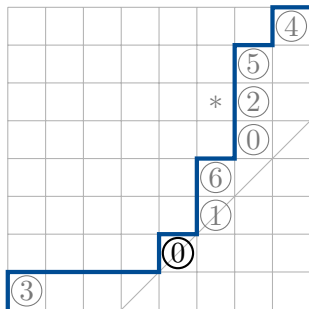
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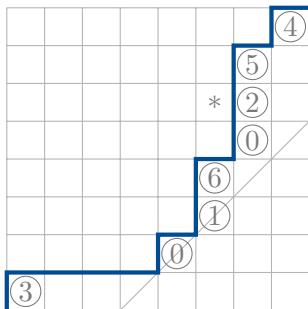


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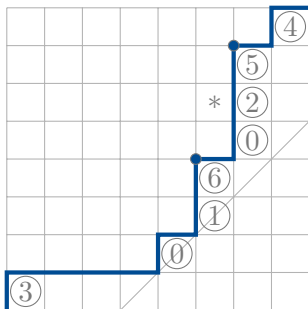
4	5	3	2	0	6	1	0
				0			0
4		3	2			1	
	5				6		

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 4   3 2      1  
   5      6

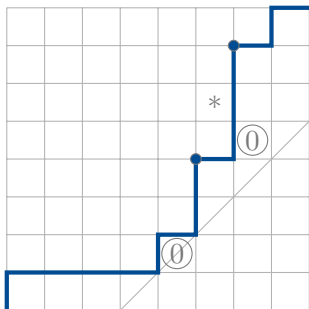
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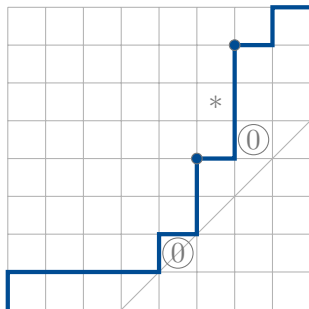
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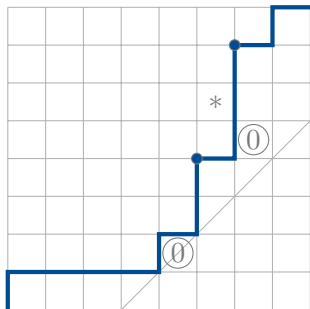
$$\text{SQ}^E(m, n)^{*k, od}$$

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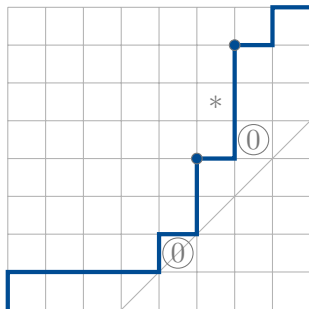
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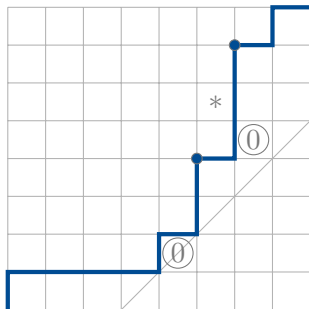
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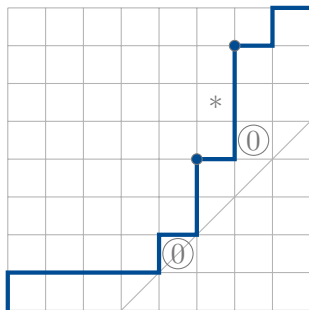
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- ▶  $m$  zero labels in valleys
- ▶  $d$  decorations on peaks
- ▶  $\text{div}$  induced by the implied labelling.



# Schröder case: sketch of the proof

Two families of functions

- ▶  $F_{n,k;p}^{(d,\ell)}$  such that

$$\sum_{k=1}^{n-\ell} F_{n,k;p}^{(d,\ell)} = \langle \Delta_{h_p} \Delta'_{e_{n-\ell-1}} e_n, e_{n-d} h_d \rangle.$$

- ▶  $S_{n,k;p}^{(d,\ell)}$  such that

$$\sum_{k=1}^{n-\ell} S_{n,k;p}^{(d,\ell)} = \frac{[n-\ell]_t}{[n]_t} \langle \Delta_{h_p} \Delta_{e_{n-\ell}} (-1)^{n-1} p_n, e_{n-d} h_d \rangle.$$

# Schröder case: sketch of the proof

## Theorem (D-I-VW)

$$F_{n,k;p}^{(d,\ell)} = \sum_{P \in F} q^{\text{dinv}(P)} t^{\text{area}(P)} \qquad S_{n,k;p}^{(d,\ell)} = \sum_{P \in S} q^{\text{dinv}(P)} t^{\text{area}(P)}$$

Where  $F \subseteq S \subseteq \text{SQ}^E(p, n)^{* \ell, \text{od}}$  such that

- ▶  $P \in F \Rightarrow P$  is a Dyck path
- ▶  $P \in S \Leftrightarrow$  the number of vertical steps starting from the lowest diagonal and that are not a zero valley equals  $k$ .

To prove this, we show that both sides satisfy the same recursion.

## Theorem: recursion for $F$ (D-I-VW)

For  $k, \ell, d, p \geq 0$ ,  $n \geq k + \ell$  and  $n + p \geq d$ , the  $F_{n,k;p}^{(d,\ell)}$  satisfy the following recursion: for  $n \geq 1$

$$F_{n,n;p}^{(d,\ell)} = \delta_{\ell,0} q^{\binom{n-d}{2}} \begin{bmatrix} n \\ n-d \end{bmatrix}_q \begin{bmatrix} n+p-1 \\ p \end{bmatrix}_q$$

and, for  $n \geq 1$  and  $1 \leq k < n$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} F_{n,k;p}^{(d,\ell)} &= t^{n-k-\ell} \sum_{j=0}^p \sum_{s=0}^k q^{\binom{s}{2}} \begin{bmatrix} k \\ s \end{bmatrix}_q \begin{bmatrix} k+j-1 \\ j \end{bmatrix}_q \\ &\times t^{p-j} \sum_{u=0}^{n-k-\ell} \sum_{v=0}^{s+j} q^{\binom{v}{2}} \begin{bmatrix} s+j \\ v \end{bmatrix}_q \begin{bmatrix} s+j+u-1 \\ u \end{bmatrix}_q F_{n-k,u+v;p-j}^{(d-k+s,\ell-v)}, \end{aligned}$$

with initial conditions

$$F_{0,k;p}^{(d,\ell)} = \delta_{k,0} \delta_{p,0} \delta_{d,0} \delta_{\ell,0} \quad \text{and} \quad F_{n,0;p}^{(d,\ell)} = \delta_{n,0} \delta_{p,0} \delta_{d,0} \delta_{\ell,0}.$$

## Theorem: recursion for $S$ (D-I-VW)

For  $k, \ell, d, p \geq 0$ ,  $n \geq k + \ell$  and  $n \geq d$ , the  $S_{n,k;p}^{(d,\ell)}$  satisfy the following recursion: for  $n \geq 1$

$$S_{n,n;p}^{(d,\ell)} = \delta_{\ell,0} q^{\binom{n-d}{2}} \begin{bmatrix} n \\ n-d \end{bmatrix}_q \begin{bmatrix} n+p-1 \\ p \end{bmatrix}_q$$

and, for  $n \geq 1$  and  $1 \leq k < n$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} S_{n,k;p}^{(d,\ell)} &= F_{n,k;p}^{(d,\ell)} + q^k t^{n-\ell-k} \sum_{j=0}^p \sum_{s=0}^k q^{\binom{s}{2}} \begin{bmatrix} s+j \\ s \end{bmatrix}_q \begin{bmatrix} k+j-1 \\ s+j-1 \end{bmatrix}_q \times \\ &\times t^{p-j} \sum_{u=0}^{n-\ell-k} \sum_{v=0}^{s+j} q^{\binom{v}{2}} \begin{bmatrix} u+v \\ v \end{bmatrix}_q \begin{bmatrix} s+j+u-1 \\ s+j-v \end{bmatrix}_q S_{n-k,u+v;p-j}^{(d-k+s,\ell-v)}, \end{aligned}$$

with initial conditions

$$S_{0,k;p}^{(d,\ell)} = \delta_{k,0} \delta_{p,0} \delta_{d,0} \delta_{\ell,0} \quad \text{and} \quad S_{n,0;p}^{(d,\ell)} = \delta_{n,0} \delta_{p,0} \delta_{d,0} \delta_{\ell,0}.$$

Thank you for you attention

## Variables for the $S$ recursion

- ▶  $p$  is the number of zero valleys.
- ▶  $n$  is the number of vertical steps that are not zero valleys.
- ▶  $k$  is the number of minima in the area word whose index is not a zero valley.
- ▶  $\ell$  is the number of decorated rises.
- ▶  $d$  is the number of decorated peak
- ▶  $k - s$  is the number of decorated peaks at height 0.
- ▶  $s$  is the number of minima in the area word whose index is not a decorated peak nor a zero valley.
- ▶  $j$  is the number of zero valleys at height 0.
- ▶  $v$  is the number of decorated rises at height 1.
- ▶  $u + v$  is the number of  $m + 1$ 's in the area word whose index is not a zero valley.

# Strategy for the $S$ -recursion

- ▶ Start from a path  $P$  in  $S = \text{SQ}^E(p, n \setminus k)^{*l, \circ d}$ .
- ▶ If it is a Dyck path, thanks to the  $F$  recursion it is counted by  $F_{n,k;p}^{(d,\ell)}$ .
- ▶ Otherwise, remove all the minima from the area word, and then remove both the corresponding decoration on peaks, and decorations on rises at height one (which are not rises any more).
- ▶ In this way we obtain a path in

$$\text{SQ}^E(p - j, n - k \setminus u + v)^{*l-v, \circ d - (k-s)}.$$

## Variables for the $F$ recursion

- ▶  $k$  is the number of zeroes in the area word whose index is not a zero valley.
- ▶  $k - s$  is the number of decorated peaks at height 0.
- ▶ The previous two imply that  $s$  is the number of zeroes in the area word whose index is not a decorated peak nor a zero valley.
- ▶  $j$  is the number of zero valleys at height 0.
- ▶  $v$  is the number of decorated rises at height 1.
- ▶  $u + v$  is the number of 1's in the area word whose index is not a zero valley.



# Representation theory

$$\rho : \mathfrak{S}_n \longrightarrow \text{GL} \left( \bigoplus_{(i,j) \in \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}} V^{(j,j)} \right)$$

- ▶  $V^{(i,j)}$  are  $\rho$  invariant
- ▶ Character

$$\chi_\rho = \text{tr} \circ \rho : \mathfrak{S}_n \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$$

- ▶ We can decompose  $\chi_\rho = \sum_{(i,j)} \chi_\rho^{(i,j)}$  and  $\chi_\rho^{(i,j)} = \sum c_\lambda \chi_\lambda$  where  $c_\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$  (multiplicity) and  $\chi_\lambda$  are the irreducible characters of  $(\rho|_{V^{(i,j)}}, V^{(i,j)})$  (one per conjugacy class)

# Frobenius Characteristic map

$$\mathcal{F} : \text{Class}(\mathfrak{S}_n) \rightarrow \Lambda_{\mathbb{C}}^n$$
$$f \mapsto \frac{1}{n!} \sum_{\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n} f(\sigma) p_{\lambda(\sigma)}$$

- ▶ Irreducible characters get sent to Schur functions
- ▶ If a symmetric function is the image of the character of a representation by the Frobenius map then it must be Schur positive because  $\mathcal{F}$  is linear
- ▶ Bi-graded Frobenius characteristic map

$$\mathcal{F} : \chi_{\rho} \mapsto \sum_{(i,j)} q^i t^j \mathcal{F}(\chi_{\rho}^{(i,j)})$$

# Symmetric functions

$\Lambda_K := K[X_1, \dots, X_N]^{\mathfrak{S}_N}$  space of symmetric functions.

$$\Lambda_K = \bigoplus_{i=1}^{\infty} \Lambda_K^n$$

where  $\Lambda_K^n$  is the space of homogeneous symmetric functions of degree  $n$ .

- ▶ A lot of different basis for  $\Lambda_K^n$ , indexed by partitions of  $n$ : elementary  $e_\lambda$ , homogeneous  $h_\lambda$ , power symmetric  $p_\lambda$ .
- ▶ Link with representation theory of  $\mathfrak{S}_n$ : the Frobenius characteristic map:

$$\mathcal{F} : \text{Class}(\mathfrak{S}_n) \rightarrow \Lambda_K^n$$

- ▶ Schur functions  $s_\lambda$  form another basis and are the image of the irreducible characters by the Frobenius map.
- ▶ Scalar product  $\langle, \rangle$  on  $\Lambda_K^n$  such that  $s_\lambda$  are orthonormal  $\rightarrow \mathcal{F}$  is an isometry