



k-Schur
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Partitions and
Young Tableaux

Atoms and
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Henry Twiss

University of Minnesota

July 2020



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k-Schur functions $s_{\lambda}^{(k)}$ are sums of Schur functions over a special set of tableaux $\mathbb{A}_{\lambda}^{(k)}$ with coefficients in $\mathbb{Z}[t]$.



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We assume familiarity with the definition of partitions and Young tableaux.



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We assume familiarity with the definition of partitions and Young tableaux. Let

$$\text{dg}(\lambda) = \{(i, j) \mid 1 \leq i \leq \ell(\lambda) \text{ and } 1 \leq j \leq \lambda_i\}.$$



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We give partitions the ordering $\lambda \subseteq \mu$ if $\text{dg}(\lambda) \subset \text{dg}(\mu)$.



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If $\lambda = (3, 2, 1)$ and $\mu = (6, 3, 1)$, then $\lambda < \mu$.



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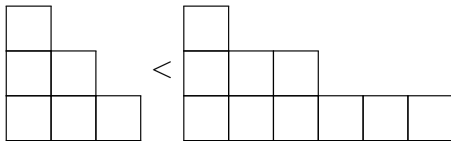
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Given a Young tableau T , the reading word w of T is read from top to bottom and left to right.



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Given a Young tableau T , the reading word w of T is read from top to bottom and left to right.

If T is

5		
4	4	
1	2	2



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If T is

5		
4	4	
1	2	2

then $w = 544122$.



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We call λ *k*-bounded if $\lambda_1 \leq k$.



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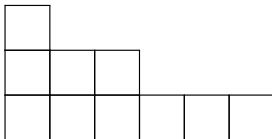
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We call λ *k*-bounded if $\lambda_1 \leq k$. The partition



is 6-bounded and not 5-bounded.



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Definition 1.1

If $\lambda \subseteq \mu$, μ/λ is called a skew partition and its cells are $\text{dg}(\mu) - \text{dg}(\lambda)$.



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Definition 1.1

If $\lambda \subseteq \mu$, μ/λ is called a skew partition and its cells are $\text{dg}(\mu) - \text{dg}(\lambda)$. μ/λ is a horizontal (vertical) strip if there is at most one cell in each column (row).



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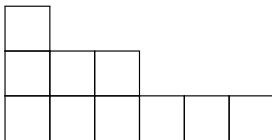
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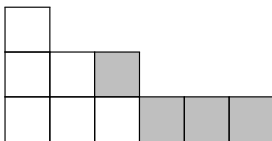
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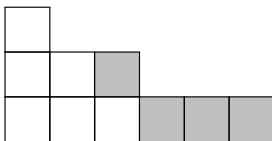
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Horizontal (vertical) strips **do not** need to lie in a single row (column).



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Definition 1.2

If $(i, j) \in \text{dg}(\lambda)$, then the hook length $\text{hook}_\lambda(i, j)$ is the number of cells above and to the right of (i, j) including (i, j) .



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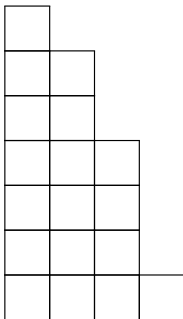
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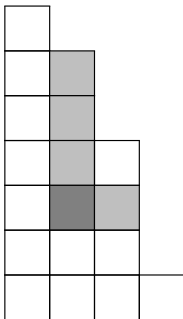
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If $\lambda = (4, 3, 3, 3, 2, 2, 1)$, then $\text{hook}_\lambda(3, 2) = 5$





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Definition 1.3

The k -split of λ , denoted $\lambda^{\rightarrow k}$, is a list of partitions formed by successively splitting off parts of λ with hook length k , starting with the first part, until that is no longer possible.



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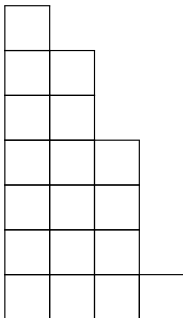
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The k -split of λ , denoted $\lambda \rightarrow^k$, is a list of partitions formed by successively splitting off parts of λ with hook length k , starting with the first part, until that is no longer possible.

For the previous partition,





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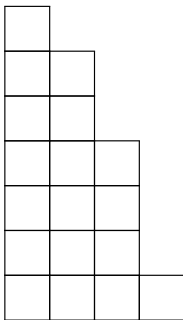
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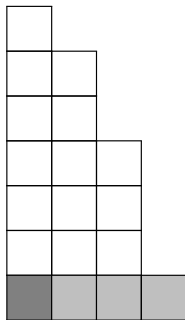
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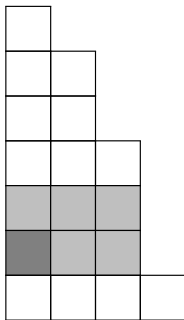
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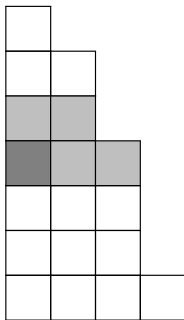
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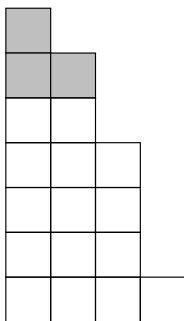
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Definition 2.1

Let T be a semi-standard Young tableau. The charge $\text{charge}(T)$ is computed as follows:



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- Starting from the rightmost 1, choose a sequence of i cells containing $1, 2, \dots, i$ such that the $j + 1$ th cell is the south-eastern most one above j modulo $\text{shape}(T)$.



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- Construct an index vector l according to the rule:

$$l_1 = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad l_r = \begin{cases} l_{r-1} + 1 & \text{if } r \text{ is east of } r-1, \\ l_{r-1} & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$



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- Remove the labels in the cells corresponding to this sequence and repeat.



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- Remove the labels in the cells corresponding to this sequence and repeat.
- $\text{charge}(T)$ is the sum of the entries of all l .



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Let T

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



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They have index vectors



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$$I = [0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 2]$$



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Let T

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

		3				
1			2			

They have index vectors

$$I = [0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 2] \quad \text{and} \quad I = [0, 0, 1, 1, 1]$$



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Let T

6						
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Let T

6						
4	5					
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		3				
1			2			

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Let T

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

They have index vectors

$$I = [0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 2], \quad I = [0, 0, 1, 1, 1], \quad \text{and} \quad I = [0, 1, 1].$$

So $\text{charge}(T) = 9$.



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Definition 2.2

Let σ_i be the operator which acts on a SSTY T with a labels i and b labels $i + 1$ as follows:



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Definition 2.2

Let σ_i be the operator which acts on a SSTY T with a labels i and b labels $i + 1$ as follows:

- Take the subword of w consisting of only i s and $(i + 1)$ s.



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Definition 2.2

Let σ_i be the operator which acts on a SSTY T with a labels i and b labels $i + 1$ as follows:

- Take the subword of w consisting of only i s and $(i + 1)$ s.
- Place a closed parenthesis “)” under each letter i .



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- Place a closed parenthesis “)” under each letter i .
- Place an open parenthesis “(” under each letter $i + 1$.



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- Take the subword of w consisting of only i s and $(i + 1)$ s.
- Place a closed parenthesis “)” under each letter i .
- Place an open parenthesis “(” under each letter $i + 1$.
- From right to left change the free parentheses such that the reading word has b labels i and a labels $i + 1$.



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- Place an open parenthesis “(” under each letter $i + 1$.
- From right to left change the free parentheses such that the reading word has b labels i and a labels $i + 1$.
- Place the new word back into $\text{shape}(T)$.



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Consider

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



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Consider

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

There are $a = 7$ threes and $b = 4$ fours.



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

There are $a = 7$ threes and $b = 4$ fours. The action of σ_3 is

$$4334333334 \rightarrow 4334344444$$

$$()()())())(\quad ()()((($$

Producing

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



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Definition 2.3

Let \mathbb{B}_r be the operator which acts on SSTY T as follows:



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Definition 2.3

Let \mathbb{B}_r be the operator which acts on SSTY T as follows:

- Adds a horizontal strip of size r to T in all possible ways.



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Definition 2.3

Let \mathbb{B}_r be the operator which acts on SSTY T as follows:

- Adds a horizontal strip of size r to T in all possible ways.
- Acts by operators σ_i to change the weight so that there are r labels 1.



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Definition 2.3

Let \mathbb{B}_r be the operator which acts on SSTY T as follows:

- Adds a horizontal strip of size r to T in all possible ways.
- Acts by operators σ_i to change the weight so that there are r labels 1.

\mathbb{B}_3 acts on

3
2
1

 by returning the following set tableaux:

1	1
---	---



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Definition 2.3

Let \mathbb{B}_r be the operator which acts on SSTY T as follows:

- Adds a horizontal strip of size r to T in all possible ways.
- Acts by operators σ_i to change the weight so that there are r labels 1.

\mathbb{B}_3 acts on

3
2
1 1

 by returning the following set tableaux:

4
3
2 2
1 1 1

4
3
2
1 1 1 2

3
2 2
1 1 1 4

3
2
1 1 1 2 4



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Definition 2.4

Given a SSYT T , let T_1 be the first row of T and $T_{2\sim}$ be the SSYT with T_1 removed.



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Definition 2.4

Given a SSYT T , let T_1 be the first row of T and $T_{2\sim}$ be the SSYT with T_1 removed. Given a word w we will construct a SSYT by insertion $k \rightarrow T$ recursively as follows:



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Definition 2.4

Given a SSYT T , let T_1 be the first row of T and $T_{2\sim}$ be the SSYT with T_1 removed. Given a word w we will construct a SSYT by insertion $k \rightarrow T$ recursively as follows:

- Start with the leftmost letter in w , and call it k .



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Definition 2.4

Given a SSYT T , let T_1 be the first row of T and $T_{2\sim}$ be the SSYT with T_1 removed. Given a word w we will construct a SSYT by insertion $k \rightarrow T$ recursively as follows:

- Start with the leftmost letter in w , and call it k .
- If $T = \emptyset$, $k \rightarrow T$ is \boxed{k} .



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Definition 2.4

Given a SSYT T , let T_1 be the first row of T and $T_{2\sim}$ be the SSYT with T_1 removed. Given a word w we will construct a SSYT by insertion $k \rightarrow T$ recursively as follows:

- Start with the leftmost letter in w , and call it k .
- If $T = \emptyset$, $k \rightarrow T$ is \boxed{k} .
- If k is larger than the largest entry in T_1 , then $k \rightarrow T$ is given by appending k at the end of T_1 .



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Definition 2.4

Given a SSYT T , let T_1 be the first row of T and $T_{2\sim}$ be the SSYT with T_1 removed. Given a word w we will construct a SSYT by insertion $k \rightarrow T$ recursively as follows:

- Start with the leftmost letter in w , and call it k .
- If $T = \emptyset$, $k \rightarrow T$ is \boxed{k} .
- If k is larger than the largest entry in T_1 , then $k \rightarrow T$ is given by appending k at the end of T_1 .
- Otherwise, find the leftmost entry in T_1 larger than k and let it be k' . Then $k \rightarrow T$ is given as the SSYT with first row T_1 except that k' has been replaced by k and the remaining rows are given by the insertion $T_{2\sim} \rightarrow k'$.



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Let $w = 34112312$.



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Let $w = 34112312$. The the Schensted algorithm yields:

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Let $w = 34112312$. The the Schensted algorithm yields:

3



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Let $w = 34112312$. The the Schensted algorithm yields:

3	4
---	---



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Let $w = 34\mathbf{1}12312$. The the Schensted algorithm yields:

3	
$\mathbf{1}$	4



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Let $w = 341\color{red}12312$. The the Schensted algorithm yields:

3	4
1	1



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Let $w = 34112312$. The the Schensted algorithm yields:

3	4	
1	1	2



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Let $w = 34112312$. The the Schensted algorithm yields:

3	4		
1	1	2	3



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Let $w = 34112312$. The the Schensted algorithm yields:

3			
2	4		
1	1	1	3



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Let $w = 34112312$. The the Schensted algorithm yields:

3	4		
2	3		
1	1	1	2



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Let $w = 34112312$. The the Schensted algorithm yields:

3	4		
2	3		
1	1	1	2

The Schensted algorithm is a piece of a well-known algorithm: Robinson-Schensted-Kunuth algorithm (RKS).



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Let $w = 34112312$. The the Schensted algorithm yields:

3	4		
2	3		
1	1	1	2

The Schensted algorithm is a piece of a well-known algorithm: Robinson-Schensted-Kunuth algorithm (RKS). Denote the Schensted algorithm by RKS.



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Let $\lambda^{(*)} = (\lambda^{(1)}, \dots, \lambda^{(r)})$ be a sequence of partitions with $r = \ell(\lambda^{(1)})$.



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Let $\lambda^{(*)} = (\lambda^{(1)}, \dots, \lambda^{(r)})$ be a sequence of partitions with $r = \ell(\lambda^{(1)})$. Decompose $w = uv$ where u is the largest subword not containing r .



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Let $\lambda^{(*)} = (\lambda^{(1)}, \dots, \lambda^{(r)})$ be a sequence of partitions with $r = \ell(\lambda^{(1)})$. Decompose $w = uv$ where u is the largest subword not containing r . Let v' be v with letters $1, \dots, r$ deleted.



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Let $\lambda^{(*)} = (\lambda^{(1)}, \dots, \lambda^{(r)})$ be a sequence of partitions with $r = \ell(\lambda^{(1)})$. Decompose $w = uv$ where u is the largest subword not containing r . Let v' be v with letters $1, \dots, r$ deleted.

Definition 2.5

T is katabolizable with respect to $\lambda^{(*)}$ if



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Let $\lambda^{(*)} = (\lambda^{(1)}, \dots, \lambda^{(r)})$ be a sequence of partitions with $r = \ell(\lambda^{(1)})$. Decompose $w = uv$ where u is the largest subword not containing r . Let v' be v with letters $1, \dots, r$ deleted.

Definition 2.5

T is katabolizable with respect to $\lambda^{(*)}$ if

- T contains a subtableau of shape and weight $\lambda^{(1)}$.



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Let $\lambda^{(*)} = (\lambda^{(1)}, \dots, \lambda^{(r)})$ be a sequence of partitions with $r = \ell(\lambda^{(1)})$. Decompose $w = uv$ where u is the largest subword not containing r . Let v' be v with letters $1, \dots, r$ deleted.

Definition 2.5

T is katabolizable with respect to $\lambda^{(*)}$ if

- T contains a subtableau of shape and weight $\lambda^{(1)}$.
- $\text{RKS}(v'u)$ is $(\lambda^{(2)}, \dots, \lambda^{(r)})$ katabolizable with labels shifted by r .



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3			
2	2	3	
1	1	1	4

is $((3, 2), (2, 1))$ katabolizable.



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3			
2	2	3	
1	1	1	4

is $((3, 2), (2, 1))$ katabolizable.

$$r = 2, \quad u = 3, \quad v = 2231114, \quad \text{and} \quad v' = 34.$$



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3			
2	2	3	
1	1	1	4

is $((3, 2), (2, 1))$ katabolizable.

$$r = 2, \quad u = 3, \quad v = 2231114, \quad \text{and} \quad v' = 34.$$

$\text{RKS}(v'u)$ is

4	
3	3



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Definition 2.6

Let $\mathbb{K}^{\rightarrow k}$ be the operator on a set of tableaux with partition weight λ which acts by removing all tableau that are not katabolizable with respect to the k -split of λ and keeping all others.



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Consider the set

3		
2	4	
1	1	5

3		
2	5	
1	1	4

4		
2	3	
1	1	5

4		
2	5	
1	1	3



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Consider the set

3		
2	4	
1	1	5

3		
2	5	
1	1	4

4		
2	3	
1	1	5

4		
2	5	
1	1	3

The action of $\mathbb{K}^{\rightarrow 3}$ only keeps

3		
2	5	
1	1	4



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Definition 2.7

If λ is a k -bounded partition, the k -atom $\mathbb{A}_\lambda^{(k)}$ is the set of tableaux recursively defined by



Definition 2.7

If λ is a k -bounded partition, the k -atom $\mathbb{A}_\lambda^{(k)}$ is the set of tableaux recursively defined by

$$\mathbb{A}_\lambda^{(k)} = \mathbb{K}^{\rightarrow k} \mathbb{B}_{\lambda_1} \mathbb{A}_{(\lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_{\ell(\lambda)})}^{(k)},$$

where $\mathbb{A}_\emptyset^{(k)}$ is the empty tableau.



Definition 2.7

If λ is a k -bounded partition, the k -atom $\mathbb{A}_\lambda^{(k)}$ is the set of tableaux recursively defined by

$$\mathbb{A}_\lambda^{(k)} = \mathbb{K}^{\rightarrow k} \mathbb{B}_{\lambda_1} \mathbb{A}_{(\lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_{\ell(\lambda)})}^{(k)},$$

where $\mathbb{A}_\emptyset^{(k)}$ is the empty tableau.

Some atoms:



Definition 2.7

If λ is a k -bounded partition, the k -atom $\mathbb{A}_\lambda^{(k)}$ is the set of tableaux recursively defined by

$$\mathbb{A}_\lambda^{(k)} = \mathbb{K}^{\rightarrow k} \mathbb{B}_{\lambda_1} \mathbb{A}_{(\lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_{\ell(\lambda)})}^{(k)},$$

where $\mathbb{A}_\emptyset^{(k)}$ is the empty tableau.

Some atoms:

- $\mathbb{A}_{11}^{(3)} = \begin{array}{|c|} \hline 2 \\ \hline 1 \\ \hline \end{array}$



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Definition 2.7

If λ is a k -bounded partition, the k -atom $\mathbb{A}_\lambda^{(k)}$ is the set of tableaux recursively defined by

$$\mathbb{A}_\lambda^{(k)} = \mathbb{K}^{\rightarrow k} \mathbb{B}_{\lambda_1} \mathbb{A}_{(\lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_{\ell(\lambda)})}^{(k)},$$

where $\mathbb{A}_\emptyset^{(k)}$ is the empty tableau.

Some atoms:

- $\mathbb{A}_{11}^{(3)} = \begin{array}{|c|} \hline 2 \\ \hline 1 \\ \hline \end{array}$

- $\mathbb{A}_{221}^{(3)} = \begin{array}{|c|} \hline 3 \\ \hline 2 \\ \hline 1 \\ \hline \end{array} \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 2 \\ \hline 1 & 1 & 3 \\ \hline \end{array}$



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Definition 2.7

If λ is a k -bounded partition, the k -atom $\mathbb{A}_{\lambda}^{(k)}$ is the set of tableaux recursively defined by

$$\mathbb{A}_{\lambda}^{(k)} = \mathbb{K}^{\rightarrow k} \mathbb{B}_{\lambda_1} \mathbb{A}_{(\lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_{\ell(\lambda)})}^{(k)},$$

where $\mathbb{A}_{\emptyset}^{(k)}$ is the empty tableau.

Some atoms:

- $\mathbb{A}_{11}^{(3)} = \begin{array}{|c|} \hline 2 \\ \hline 1 \\ \hline \end{array}$
- $\mathbb{A}_{221}^{(3)} = \begin{array}{|c|} \hline 3 \\ \hline 2 \\ \hline 1 \\ \hline \end{array} \begin{array}{|c|} \hline 2 \\ \hline 1 \\ \hline \end{array} \begin{array}{|c|} \hline 1 \\ \hline \end{array} \begin{array}{|c|} \hline 3 \\ \hline \end{array}$
- $\mathbb{A}_{3211}^{(4)} = \begin{array}{|c|} \hline 4 \\ \hline 3 \\ \hline 2 \\ \hline 1 \\ \hline \end{array} \begin{array}{|c|} \hline 2 \\ \hline 2 \\ \hline 1 \\ \hline \end{array} \begin{array}{|c|} \hline 3 \\ \hline 2 \\ \hline 1 \\ \hline \end{array} \begin{array}{|c|} \hline 1 \\ \hline \end{array} \begin{array}{|c|} \hline 4 \\ \hline \end{array}$



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Definition 2.8

The k -Schur function $s_{\lambda}^{(k)}$ is defined by

$$s_{\lambda}^{(k)} := \sum_{T \in \mathbb{A}_{\lambda}^{(k)}} t^{\text{charge}(T)} s_{\text{shape}(T)}.$$



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Definition 2.8

The k -Schur function $s_{\lambda}^{(k)}$ is defined by

$$s_{\lambda}^{(k)} := \sum_{T \in \mathbb{A}_{\lambda}^{(k)}} t^{\text{charge}(T)} s_{\text{shape}(T)}.$$

Take away: $s_{\lambda}^{(k)}$ is a sum of Schur functions with coefficients in $\mathbb{Z}[t]$.



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The k -Schur function $s_{\lambda}^{(k)}$ is defined by

$$s_{\lambda}^{(k)} := \sum_{T \in \mathbb{A}_{\lambda}^{(k)}} t^{\text{charge}(T)} s_{\text{shape}(T)}.$$

Take away: $s_{\lambda}^{(k)}$ is a sum of Schur functions with coefficients in $\mathbb{Z}[t]$.

Some k -Schur functions:



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Definition 2.8

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- $s_{11}^{(3)} = s_{11}$.



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Some k -Schur functions:

- $s_{11}^{(3)} = s_{11}$.
- $s_{211}^{(3)} = s_{211} + ts_{31}$.



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Some k -Schur functions:

- $s_{11}^{(3)} = s_{11}$.
- $s_{211}^{(3)} = s_{211} + ts_{31}$.
- $s_{3211}^{(4)} = s_{3211} + ts_{421}$.



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References

Thanks!

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