## I. Kostant partition function and flow polytopes

$K_{A_{n}}\left(a_{1}, \ldots, a_{n+1}\right)$ number of ways of writing $\left(a_{1}, \ldots, a_{n+1}\right)$ as an $\mathbb{N}$-combination of positive roots $e_{i}-e_{j}, i<j$.

$$
\begin{aligned}
K_{A_{3}}(1,0,0,-1)=4: \quad(1,0,0,-1) & =e_{1}-e_{4} \\
& =\left(e_{1}-e_{3}\right)+\left(e_{3}-e_{4}\right) \\
& =\left(e_{1}-e_{2}\right)+\left(e_{2}-e_{4}\right) \\
& =\left(e_{1}-e_{2}\right)+\left(e_{2}-e_{3}\right)+\left(e_{3}-e_{4}\right)
\end{aligned}
$$



- Kostant (1958) used them to give formulas for weight multiplicities of irreducible representations of semisimple Lie algebras. Lusztig (1983) studied a $q$-analogue.

Combinatorial approach (Baldoni-Vergne 2001)
View ways counted in $K_{A_{n}}(\cdot)$ as lattice points of a flow polytope $\mathcal{F}_{G}\left(a_{1}, \ldots, a_{n+1}\right)$

$$
P_{n}:=\mathcal{F}_{G}(1,0, \ldots, 0,-1) \quad \text { volume }\left(P_{n}\right)=K_{G}(1,2,3, \ldots)=C_{1} C_{2} \cdots C_{n-2} \quad C_{i}=\frac{1}{i+1}\binom{2 i}{i}
$$

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
\text { volume equals } & \text { Zeilberger 1999 by } \\
\text { \# lattice points } & \text { identity related to } \\
\text { similar to permutahedra } & \text { Selberg integral }
\end{array}
$$

## Results

- [1] Extend from Lie type $A$ to Lie types $B, C, D$


$$
K_{D_{2}}(2,0,0)=5
$$

- [2][3] Connection to space of diagonal harmonics $D H_{n}$, shuffle conjecture new polytope $Q_{n}:=\mathcal{F}_{G}(1,1, \ldots,-n), n!$ vertices, volume $\left(Q_{n}\right)=\frac{\binom{n}{2}!}{\prod_{i}(2 i-1)^{n-i}} C_{1} \cdots C_{n-1}$

$$
K_{A_{3}}(1,1,1,-3)=7:
$$



- [4] $\mathcal{F}_{G}(1,0, \ldots,-1)$ when $G$ is planar $\mathcal{F}_{G} \equiv$ order polytope of poset from dual of $G$ Corollary: certain Kostant partition functions count linear extensions of posets.
- [5] lattice/Ehrhart theory flow polytopes parallel to generalized permutahedra


## References

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[4] K. Mészáros, A.H. M., and J. Striker. , arXiv:1510.03357.
[5] K. Mészáros, A.H. M., Lidskii formulas for lattice points of flow polytopes, in preparation.

## II. Hook formulas for skew shapes

The irreducible representations of the symmetric group $S_{n}$ are indexed by partitions $\lambda$ of $n$.
The dimension $f_{\lambda}$ of the irreducible representation counts standard tableaux: fillings of the diagram of $\lambda$ with all entries $1,2, \ldots, n$ increasing in rows and columns (Young 1900)

|  |  |
| :--- | :--- |
|  |  |
| $\lambda=(3,2)$ |  |

$$
f^{(3,2)}=5
$$



| 1 | 3 | 5 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 2 | 4 |  |
|  |  |  |

$f^{\lambda}$ has a product formula: the hook-length formula (Frame-Robinson-Thrall 1954)

$$
f^{\lambda}=\frac{n!}{\prod_{(i, j) \in \lambda} \operatorname{hook}(i, j)}
$$



$$
f^{(3,2)}=\frac{5!}{1 \cdot 1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4}=5
$$

Applications:
uniform sampling

- Greene-Nijenhuis-Wilf 79
- Novelli-Pak-Stoyanovski 97


Limit shapes (Plancherel)

- GL $(\infty)$ : Vershik-Kerov 77
- probability: Logan-Shepp 78
- free probability: Biane 98



## III. $q$-analogue of placements of non-attacking rooks

In complexity theory computing the permanent of a (0-1) matrix is hard (\#P-complete) (Valiant 79)

$$
\operatorname{perm}(A)=\sum_{w \in S_{n}} A_{1 w_{1}} \cdots A_{n w_{n}}
$$

For an $n \times n$ 0-1 matrix $A$, $\operatorname{perm}(A)=\#$ placements of $n$ non-attacking rooks on support of $A$.
 some nice cases:
diagram of partition

$\operatorname{perm}(A)=\prod_{i}\left(\lambda_{i}-i+1\right)$
derangements

$d_{n}=\sum_{i=0}^{n}(-1)^{i}\binom{n}{i}(n-i)!$

## Results

new $q$-analogue of rook placements [1]: for $S \subset\{1,2, \ldots, n\} \times\{1,2, \ldots, n\}$ $M_{q}(S):=\#\left\{\right.$ invertible matrices $A$ entries in finite field $\mathbb{F}_{q}$ support in $\left.S\right\} \subseteq \mathrm{GL}_{n}\left(\mathbb{F}_{q}\right)$

- Theorem: enumerative $q$-analogue of rook placements:

$$
\text { i.e. } \lim _{q \rightarrow 1} M_{q}(S)=\#\{\text { rook placements in } S\}
$$

- not always polynomial in $q$, can be Polynomial On Residue Classes (Stembridge 98)
- polynomial in $q$ when support is diagram of partition (Haglund 97)
and when support is a skew diagram [2]
- Theorem: polynomial in $q$ when zeros are on inversions of any permutation [4] proved using coding theory (settling conjecture from [2])
- not known if there are non PORC examples


Fano plane

not polynomial in $q$ (Stembridge)

## References

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## IV. Colored factorizations in $S_{n}$ and $\mathrm{GL}_{n}\left(\mathbb{F}_{q}\right)$

Structure constants of the group algebra of the symmetric group count factorizations
$F_{\lambda, \mu}=\#\left\{\left(\pi_{1}, \pi_{2}\right) \mid \pi_{1}, \pi_{2} \in S_{n}, \quad\right.$ cycle type $\pi_{1}=\lambda$, cycle type $\left.\pi_{2}=\mu, \quad \pi_{1} \pi_{2}=(12 \ldots n)\right\}$
$F_{\lambda^{(1)}, \lambda^{(2)}, \ldots, \lambda^{(k)}}$ Case of $k$ permutations:
related to maps, constellations, matrix integrals, and Hurwitz problem of counting ramified covers of the sphere.

Example

constellation

- if $\lambda^{(i)}=21^{n-2}, k=n-1 \quad F_{21^{n-2}, \ldots, 21^{n-2}}=n^{n-2}$.
factorizations $(1,2, \ldots, n)$ into $n-1$ transpositions
(Hurwitz 1891, Dénes 1959)

Positive formulas for general $F_{\lambda, \mu}$ have exponentially many terms (Goupil-Schaeffer 1998)
Approach: (Harer-Zagier 86, Jackson 88, Schaeffer-Vassilieva 08)
In the generating function of $F_{\lambda / \mu}$ do a change of basis like $x^{r} \rightarrow x(x-1) \cdots(x-r+1)$
and obtain new coefficients $C_{\alpha, \beta}$.
$C_{\alpha, \mu}$ count factorizations with colored cycles, usually they have nicer formulas
Results (symmetric group $S_{n}$ )

- two factors [1]

- $k$ factors (Jackson 88, bijective proof [2])

where $\ell_{i}=\ell\left(\alpha^{(i)}\right), \quad S_{r_{1}, \ldots, r_{k}}^{n}:=\#\left\{\left(S_{1}, \ldots, S_{n}\right), \mid \quad S_{i} \subsetneq[k], r_{j}\right.$ sets $S_{i}$ contain $\left.j\right\}$,

In $\mathrm{GL}_{n}\left(\mathbb{F}_{q}\right)$ (Lewis-Reiner-Stanton 2013; Huang-Lewis-Reiner 2015):

- analogue of long cycle $(1,2, \ldots, n) \longrightarrow$ Singer cycle
- analogue of number of cycles of $\pi \longrightarrow$ fixed space dimension of matrix
- number of factorizations Singer cycle in $\mathrm{GL}_{n}\left(\mathbb{F}_{q}\right)$ into $n$ reflections is $\left(q^{n}-1\right)^{n}$


## Results [3]

$F_{r, s}(n, q)=\#\left\{(A, B) \mid A, B \in \mathrm{GL}_{n}\left(\mathbb{F}_{q}\right), \quad A \cdot B=\right.$ fixed Singer cycle, dimension fixed space $\left.A, B=r, s\right\}$

## References

$F_{r, s}(n, q) \longrightarrow$ change of basis $\longrightarrow C_{r, s}(n, q)=\frac{q^{r s-r-s}\left(q^{n}-q^{r}-q^{s}+1\right)}{(q-1)[n-1]!} \frac{[n-r-1]![n-s-1]!}{[n-r-s]!}$
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