

# 25 years of LLT polynomials

Jean-Yves Thibon

Université Gustave Eiffel

LeclercFest

# Original motivation: plethysm

- Irreducible tensor representations of  $GL(n, \mathbb{C})$ :

$$\rho_\lambda : GL(n, \mathbb{C}) \longrightarrow GL(V_\lambda), \quad V_\lambda \subseteq (\mathbb{C}^n)^{\otimes k}$$

- $\lambda$  partition of  $k$  with at most  $n$  parts
- Character: Schur function  $s_\lambda = \text{ch}(\rho_\lambda)$
- Composition of two representations  $\rho$  of character  $f$  and  $\eta$  of character  $g$ :

$\text{ch}(\eta \circ \rho) =: g \circ f$  plethysm of  $f$  by  $g$ , also denoted by  $g[f]$

- The problem: compute

$$s_\lambda[s_\mu] = \sum_{\nu} d_{\lambda\mu}^{\nu} s_{\nu}$$

- More precisely, find a *combinatorial* description
- if  $\lambda \vdash d$ ,  $s_\lambda[s_\mu]$  is a part of

$$s_\mu^d = \sum_{\nu \vdash nd} c_{\mu\mu \dots \mu}^\nu s_\nu = \sum_{\lambda \vdash d} f^\lambda s_\lambda[s_\mu]$$

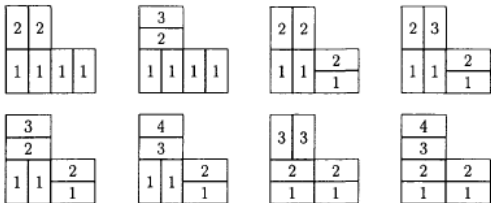
where  $c_{\mu\mu \dots \mu}^\nu$  are the Littlewood-Richardson coefficients, and  $f^\lambda$  the number of standard tableaux of shape  $\lambda$ .

- For  $d = 2$ , no multiplicities

$$V \otimes V = S^2(V) \oplus \Lambda^2(V) \Leftrightarrow s_\mu^2 = h_2[s_\mu] + e_2[s_\mu]$$

- First problem: split the Littlewood-Richardson tableaux into two sets, corresponding to the symmetric and antisymmetric parts of the square.
- Idea (B.L.) Formulate a version of the LR-rule with domino tableaux, and split according to the parity of half the number of horizontal dominos.

$$s_{21}^2 = s_{42} + s_{411} + s_{33} + 2s_{321} + s_{3111} + s_{222} + s_{2211}$$



$$\begin{cases} h_2[s_{21}] &= s_{42} + s_{321} + s_{3111} + s_{222} \\ e_2[s_{21}] &= s_{411} + s_{33} + s_{321} + s_{2211} \end{cases}$$

[C. Carré, B. Leclerc, Séminaire Lotharingien de Combinatoire, B31c (1993), 8 pp; J. Alg. Combin. 4 (1995), 201–231]

# What about higher powers?

Next step suggested by previous LLT results on Hall-Littlewood functions at roots of unity

- Hall-Littlewood functions

$$P_\mu P_\nu = \sum_\lambda f_{\mu\nu}^\lambda(t) P_\lambda$$

such that  $g_{\mu\nu}^\lambda(q) = q^{n(\lambda)-n(\mu)-n(\nu)} f_{\mu\nu}^\lambda(q^{-1})$  (Hall algebra)

- Kostka numbers

$$s_\lambda = \sum_\mu K_{\lambda\mu}(t) P_\mu$$

- Kostka numbers are special LR coefficients

$$K_{\lambda\mu} = c_{\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_r}^\lambda$$

- Dual HL functions

$$\langle Q'_\mu, P_\nu \rangle = \delta_{\mu\nu} \quad (\langle \mathbf{s}_\lambda, \mathbf{s}_\mu \rangle = \delta_{\lambda\mu})$$

are  $t$ -analogues of products  $h_\mu$

$$Q'_\mu = \sum_{\lambda} K_{\lambda\mu}(t) \mathbf{s}_\lambda \longrightarrow h_\mu \quad (t \rightarrow 1)$$

- The Kostka-Foulkes polynomials  $K_{\lambda\mu}(t) \in \mathbb{N}[t]$
- The  $\tilde{K}_{\lambda\mu}(q)$  are (parabolic) Kazhdan-Lusztig polynomials for the affine symmetric group

# Roots of unity and plethysm formulae

- $t = 1$  is not the only interesting value
- For  $t = \zeta$  a primitive  $r$ th root of unity

$$Q'_{\lambda}(X; \zeta) = Q'_{\mu}(X; \zeta) \prod_{i \geq 1} [Q'_{(ir)}(X; \zeta)]^{q_i}$$

where  $\lambda = (1^{m_1} 2^{m_2} \dots n^{m_n})$ ,  $m_i = r q_i + r_i$  with  $0 \leq r_i < r$ , and  $\mu = (1^{r_1} 2^{r_2} \dots n^{r_n})$ .

- and for rectangular partitions, we obtain plethysms with power-sums

$$Q'_{(nr)}(X; \zeta) = (-1)^{(r-1)n} p_r[h_n(X)]$$

Consider the (reducible)  $GL(n, \mathbb{C})$ -module

$$V = \Lambda^{\nu_1} \mathbb{C}^n \otimes \Lambda^{\nu_2} \mathbb{C}^n \otimes \dots \otimes \Lambda^{\nu_r} \mathbb{C}^n$$

and the cyclic shift operator  $\gamma : V^{\otimes d} \mapsto V^{\otimes d}$

$$\gamma(v_1 \otimes v_2 \otimes \dots \otimes v_d) = v_d \otimes v_1 \otimes \dots \otimes v_{d-1}$$

Its eigenspaces  $W^{(k)}$  are representations of  $GL(n, \mathbb{C})$ .

The previous formulae imply a combinatorial description of their characters  $\ell_d^{(k)}[e_\nu]$ .

**Can we do the same starting with  $V = V_\lambda$  irreducible ?**

**Answer: ribbon tableaux**



# Ribbon tableaux and products of Schur functions

A Schur function  $s_\lambda(X)$  is a sum over semi-standard Young tableaux  $t$  of shape  $\lambda$

$$s_\lambda(X) = \sum_{t \in \text{Tab}(\lambda)} X^t$$

where  $X^t = \prod_i x_i^{m_i}$ ,  $m_i$  number of occurrences of  $i$  in  $t$ .

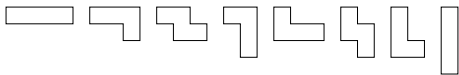
A product of  $r$  Schur functions  $s_{\mu^{(i)}}$  is a sum over  $r$ -tuples of tableaux

$$s_{\mu^{(1)}} s_{\mu^{(2)}} \cdots s_{\mu^{(r)}} = \sum_{(t_1, \dots, t_r)} X^{t_1} X^{t_2} \cdots X^{t_r}$$

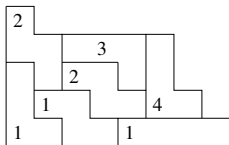
$r$ -tuples of tableaux  $\longleftrightarrow$   $r$ -ribbon tableaux

# Ribbons (rim-hooks) and ribbon tableaux

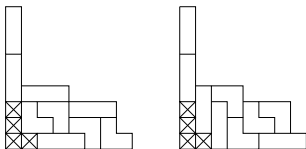
Here are the ( $2^3 = 8$ ) 4-ribbons



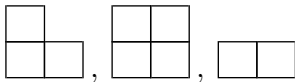
and a 4-ribbon tableau of shape (87661) and weight (3211)



The partition  $\lambda = (87^2 41^5)$  has as 3-core  $\nu = (211)$

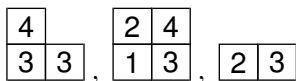


and as 3-quotient the triple  $((21), (22), (2))$

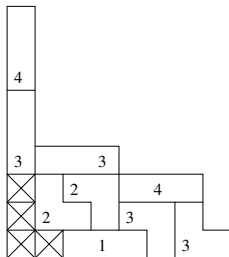


# The Stanton-White bijection

Choosing as 3-core  $\kappa = (211)$ , the triple



with weights  $(0021), (1111), (0110)$  corresponds to the 3-ribbon tableau of shape  $\lambda = (87^241^5)$  and weight  $\mu = (1242)$ .



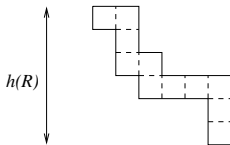
If  $\mu$  is the partition with  $r$ -quotient  $(\mu^{(0)}, \dots, \mu^{(r-1)})$  and empty  $r$ -core

$$s_{\mu^{(0)}} s_{\mu^{(1)}} \cdots s_{\mu^{(r-1)}} = \sum_{T \in \text{Tab}_r(\mu, \cdot)} X^T$$

where  $\text{Tab}_r(\mu, \cdot)$  is the set of  $r$ -ribbon tableaux of shape  $\mu$

A natural statistic on ribbon tableaux is the sum of the heights of the ribbons

Example:  $r = 11$ ,  $h(R) = 6$



# Spin and cospin

The relevant statistic is rather  $h(R) - 1$ , and for compatibility with Hall-Littlewood functions, one introduces the *spin*

$$s(R) = \frac{1}{2}(h(R) - 1), \quad s(T) = \sum_{R \in T} s(R)$$

(a half-integer in general) and the *cospin* (an integer)

$$\tilde{s}(T) = s_r^*(\mu) - s(T) \quad \text{for } T \in \text{Tab}_r(\mu, \cdot)$$

The most general  $q$ -LR coefficients are defined by

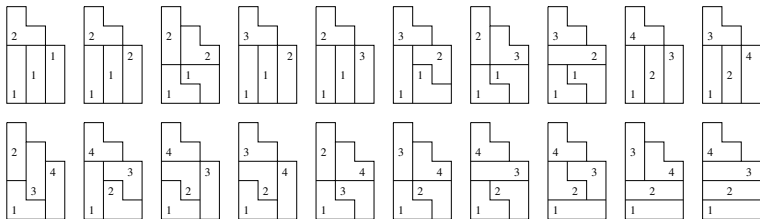
$$\tilde{G}_\mu = \sum_{T \in \text{Tab}_r(\mu, \cdot)} q^{\tilde{s}(T)} X^T = \sum_{\lambda} c_{\mu^{(0)}, \mu^{(1)}, \dots, \mu^{(r-1)}}^\lambda(q) s_\lambda(X)$$

The 3-quotient of  $\lambda = (33321)$  is  $((1), (1, 1), (1))$  and the  $q$ -analogue of  $s_1 s_{11} s_1$  (in this order) is

$$\begin{aligned}
 & m_{31} + (1 + q)m_{22} + (2 + 2q + q^2)m_{211} + (3 + 5q + 3q^2 + q^3)m_{1111} \\
 &= (s_{31} - s_{22} - s_{211} + 2s_{1111}) + (1 + q)(s_{22} - s_{211} + s_{1111}) \\
 &+ (2 + 2q + q^2)(s_{211} - 3s_{1111}) + (3 + 5q + 3q^2 + q^3)s_{1111} \\
 &= s_{31} + qs_{22} + (q + q^2)s_{211} + q^3s_{1111}
 \end{aligned}$$

The  $c_{\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_r}^\lambda(q)$  are defined by an alternating sum but are in  $\mathbb{N}[q]$ .

The monomial expansion above is given by the 3-ribbon tableaux of shape  $(33321)$  and dominant weight





# The $H$ -functions

- Family of spin  $t$ -analogues related to HL functions.
- A partition of the form  $\lambda = r\mu = (r\mu_1, \dots, r\mu_s)$  has empty  $r$ -core
- Its  $r$ -quotient is obtained by grouping the parts of  $\mu$  according to their class modulo  $r$

$$\lambda(i) = \{\mu_j \mid j \equiv -i \pmod{r}\}$$

- For any  $r$ , the symmetric functions

$$H_{\mu}^{(r)}(X; t) = \sum_{T \in \text{Tab}_r(r\mu, \cdot)} t^{s(T)} X^T$$

form a basis which is unitriangular on Schur functions

- It can be proved that for  $r \geq \ell(\mu)$ ,

$$H_{\mu}^{(r)}(X; t) = Q'_{\mu}(X; t)$$

# Some conjectures for $H$ -functions

- **Monotonicity**  $H_{\mu}^{(r+1)} - H_{\mu}^{(r)}$  is positive on the Schur basis, that is, the coefficients are in  $\mathbb{N}[t]$ .
- **Plethysm** When  $\mu = \nu^r$ , for  $\zeta$  a primitive  $r$ -th root of unity,

$$H_{\nu^r}^{(r)}(\zeta) = (-1)^{(r-1)|\nu|} p_r[s_{\nu}]$$

and when  $d|r$  and  $\zeta$  is a primitive  $d$ -th root of unity,

$$H_{\nu^r}^{(r)}(\zeta) = (-1)^{(d-1)|\nu|r/d} p_d^{r/d}[s_{\nu}] .$$

- Equivalently,

$$H_{\nu^r}^{(r)}(t) \pmod{1 - t^r} = \sum_{i=0}^{r-1} t^i \ell_r^{(i)}[s_{\nu}]$$

- **Proved by Kazuto Iijima** [European J. Combin. **34** (2013) 968–986]

# Examples

The  $H$ -functions associated with the partition  $\lambda = (3211)$  are

$$H_{3211}^{(2)} = s_{3211} + t s_{322} + t s_{331} + t s_{4111} \\ + (t + t^2) s_{421} + t^2 s_{43} + t^2 s_{511} + t^3 s_{52}$$

$$H_{3211}^{(3)} = s_{3211} + t s_{322} + (t + t^2) s_{331} + t s_{4111} \\ + (t + 2t^2) s_{421} + (t^2 + t^3) s_{43} + (t^2 + t^3) s_{511} \\ + 2t^3 s_{52} + t^4 s_{61}$$

$$H_{3211}^{(4)} = s_{3211} + t s_{322} + (t + t^2) s_{331} + t s_{4111} + (t + 2t^2 + t^3) s_{421} \\ + (t^2 + t^3 + t^4) s_{43} + (t^2 + t^3 + t^4) s_{511} \\ + (2t^3 + t^4 + t^5) s_{52} + (t^4 + t^5 + t^6) s_{61} + t^7 s_7 \\ = Q'_{3211}$$

The plethysms of  $s_{21}$  with the cyclic characters  $\ell_3^{(i)}$  are given by the reduction modulo  $1 - t^3$  of  $H_{222111}^{(3)}$

$$\begin{aligned}
 H_{222111}^{(3)} = & t^9 s_{63} + (t+1)t^7 s_{621} + t^6 s_{6111} + (t+1)t^7 s_{54} \\
 & + (t^3 + 2t^2 + 2t + 1)t^5 s_{531} + (t^2 + 2t + 1)t^5 s_{522} \\
 & + (t^3 + 2t^2 + 2t + 1)t^4 s_{5211} + (t+1)t^4 s_{51111} \\
 & + (t^2 + 2t + 1)t^5 s_{441} + (t^3 + 2t^2 + 3t + 2)t^4 s_{432} \\
 & + (2t^3 + 3t^2 + 3t + 1)t^3 s_{4311} + (t^3 + 3t^2 + 3t + 2)t^3 s_{4221} \\
 & + (t^3 + 2t^2 + 2t + 1)t^2 s_{42111} + t^3 s_{411111} + (t^3 + 1)t^3 s_{333} \\
 & + (2t^3 + 3t^2 + 2t + 1)t^2 s_{3321} + (t^2 + 2t + 1)t^2 s_{33111} \\
 & + (t^2 + 2t + 1)t^2 s_{3222} + (t^3 + 2t^2 + 2t + 1)t s_{32211} \\
 & + (t+1)t s_{321111} + (t+1)t s_{22221} + s_{222111}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$l_3^{(0)} = s_3 + s_{111}$$

$$l_3^{(1)} = s_{21}$$

$$l_3^{(2)} = s_{21}$$

In general,

$$l_n^{(k)} = \sum_{\substack{t \in \text{STab}(n) \\ \text{maj}(t) \equiv k \pmod{n}}} s_{\text{shape}(t)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (h_3 + e_3)[s_{21}] &= s_{222111} + 2s_{331111} + 3s_{4311} + 2s_{32211} + 2s_{42111} \\ &\quad + 3s_{4221} + 2s_{3222} + 2s_{3321} + s_{411111} \\ &\quad + 2s_{333} + s_{6111} + 2s_{531} + 2s_{5211} + 2s_{432} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} s_{21}[s_{21}] &= s_{3222} + 3s_{3321} + 2s_{32211} + 2s_{42111} + s_{22221} + s_{33111} \\ &\quad + s_{321111} + 3s_{4311} + 3s_{4221} + s_{441} + s_{522} \\ &\quad + 2s_{5211} + s_{51111} + 2s_{531} + 3s_{432} + s_{621} + s_{54} \end{aligned}$$

# Ribbons tableaux and the Fock space

- The algebra of symmetric functions can be identified with the Fock space representation of  $\widehat{\mathfrak{gl}}_\infty$ .

$$s_\lambda \leftrightarrow |\lambda\rangle = v_{i_1} \wedge v_{i_2} \wedge v_{i_3} \wedge \dots \quad \text{where } i_k = \lambda_k - k + 1$$

- This induces actions of  $\widehat{\mathfrak{gl}}_r = \widehat{\mathfrak{sl}}_r + \mathcal{H}_r$  where  $\mathcal{H}_r$  is a Heisenberg algebra
- Bosonic Fock space  $\mathcal{F} = \mathbb{C}[x_1, x_2, \dots] \simeq \mathbf{Sym}(x_k = \frac{1}{k}p_k)$
- Action of  $\widehat{\mathfrak{gl}}_r$  on  $\mathcal{F}$ :
  - the generator  $B_k$  of  $\mathcal{H}_r$  acts by  $rk \frac{\partial}{\partial p_{rk}}$  for  $k > 0$  and as the multiplication by  $p_{-rk}$  for  $k < 0$ .
  - Action of the generators of  $\widehat{\mathfrak{sl}}_r$  particularly simple in the basis of Schur functions  $s_\lambda$ .

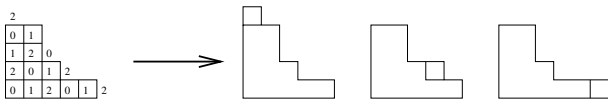
For a node  $\gamma$  in  $i$ th row and  $j$ th column of  $\lambda$  let  $r(\gamma) = j - i \pmod r$ .

Then,

$$e_i s_\lambda = \sum s_\nu, \quad f_i s_\lambda = \sum s_\mu,$$

where  $\nu$  (resp.  $\mu$ ) runs through all partitions obtained from  $\lambda$  by removing (resp. adding) a node of residue  $i$ .

For example,  $f_2$  of  $\widehat{s}l_3$  acts on  $s_{5322}$  by



- $U(\mathcal{H}_r) = p_r \circ \text{Sym}$  is as well generated by the

$$V_k = \text{'multiplication by } p_r \circ h_k \text{'}$$

$$V_k s_\lambda = \sum (-1)^{\mathbf{h}(\mu/\lambda)} s_\mu$$

sum over all partitions  $\mu$  such that  $\mu/\lambda$  is a horizontal  $r$ -ribbon strip of weight  $k$ , where

$$\mathbf{h}(\mu/\lambda) = \sum_R (h(R) - 1)$$

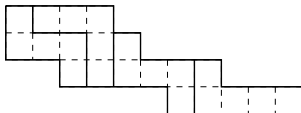
sum over all the  $r$ -ribbons  $R$  tiling  $\mu/\lambda$ .

- and their adjoints  $U_k$

$$U_k s_\mu = \sum (-1)^{\mathbf{h}(\mu/\lambda)} s_\lambda$$

sum over all partitions  $\lambda$  such that  $\mu/\lambda$  is a horizontal  $r$ -ribbon strip of weight  $k$ .





A horizontal 5-ribbon strip of weight 4 and spin  $\frac{7}{2}$

- In the  $\mathbb{Q}(q)$ -vector space

$$\mathcal{F} = \bigoplus_{\lambda \in \mathbf{P}} \mathbb{Q}(q) |\lambda\rangle$$

$\gamma = (a, b) \in \mathbb{Z}_+ \times \mathbb{Z}_+$  is an indent  $i$ -node of  $\lambda$  if a box of residue  $i = a - b \pmod r$  can be added to  $\lambda$  at position  $(a, b)$

- Similarly, a node of residue  $i$  which can be removed is called a removable  $i$ -node.
- $i \in \{0, 1, \dots, r - 1\}$
- $\lambda, \nu$  such that  $\nu/\lambda = \gamma = \boxed{i}$

## Defining some numbers associated with a partition

- $N_i(\lambda) = \#\{\text{indent } i\text{-nodes of } \lambda\} - \#\{\text{removable } i\text{-nodes of } \lambda\},$
- $N_i^l(\lambda, \nu) = \#\{\text{indent } i\text{-nodes of } \lambda \text{ on the } \textit{left} \text{ of } \gamma \text{ (not counting } \gamma)\} - \#\{\text{removable } i\text{-nodes of } \lambda \text{ on the } \textit{left} \text{ of } \gamma\},$
- $N_i^r(\lambda, \nu) = \#\{\text{indent } i\text{-nodes of } \lambda \text{ on the } \textit{right} \text{ of } \gamma \text{ (not counting } \gamma)\} - \#\{\text{removable } i\text{-nodes of } \lambda \text{ on the } \textit{right} \text{ of } \gamma\},$
- $N^0(\lambda) = \#\{\text{0-nodes of } \lambda\}.$

One can construct  $q$ -analogues of the previous representations

$$f_i|\lambda\rangle = \sum_{\mu} q^{N_i^{r(\lambda,\mu)}}|\mu\rangle, \quad e_i|\mu\rangle = \sum_{\lambda} q^{N_i^{l(\lambda,\mu)}}|\lambda\rangle$$

$$q^{h_i}|\lambda\rangle = q^{N_i(\lambda)}|\lambda\rangle \quad \text{and} \quad q^D|\lambda\rangle = q^{-N^0(\lambda)}|\lambda\rangle$$

defines an action of  $U_q(\widehat{\mathfrak{sl}}_r)$

- Can be extended to  $U_q(\widehat{\mathfrak{gl}}_r)$  ( $q$ -wedges and  $q$ -bosons of [Kashiwara-Miwa-Stern 1996].)
- Key point: ‘ $q$ -bosons’  $B_k$  can be replaced by  $q$ -analogues of  $U_k$  and  $V_k$

$$V_k|\lambda\rangle = \sum (-q)^{-\mathbf{h}(\mu/\lambda)}|\mu\rangle \quad U_k|\mu\rangle = \sum (-q)^{-\mathbf{h}(\mu/\lambda)}|\lambda\rangle$$

- The relations  $[U_i, U_j] = [V_i, V_j] = 0$  prove that the  $H$ -functions are symmetric (more elementary proofs since then)

- Identify  $\mathcal{F}_q \simeq \mathbb{Q}(q) \otimes \text{Sym}$  by  $|\lambda\rangle = s_\lambda$
- Define a linear operator  $\psi_q^r : \mathcal{F}_q \longrightarrow \mathcal{F}_q$  by

$$\psi_q^r(h_\lambda) = V_{\lambda_1} V_{\lambda_2} \cdots V_{\lambda_r} |\emptyset\rangle$$

- Then,

$$\psi_q^n(h_\mu) = \sum_{T \in \text{tab}_r(\cdot, \mu)} (-q)^{-2s(T)} s_{\text{shape}(T)}$$

- The image  $\{\psi_q^r(g_\lambda)\}$  of any basis  $\{g_\lambda\}$  is a basis of the space of  $U_q(\widehat{\mathfrak{sl}}_r)$ -highest weight vectors in  $\mathcal{F}_q$ .
- Taking  $g_\lambda = s_\lambda$ , we have

$$\langle \psi_q^r(s_\lambda), s_\mu \rangle = (-q)^{2s_r^*(\mu)} c_{\mu^{(0)}, \dots, \mu^{(r-1)}}^\lambda (q^2)$$

$((\mu^{(0)} \dots, \mu^{(r-1)})$   $r$ -quotient of  $\mu$ ).

# Canonical bases

- As an  $U_q(\widehat{\mathfrak{gl}}_r)$ -module,  $\mathcal{F}_q$  is irreducible.
- But as  $U_q(\widehat{\mathfrak{sl}}_r)$ -module,

$$\mathcal{F}_q \simeq \bigoplus_{m \geq 0} L(\Lambda_0 - m\delta)^{\oplus p(m)}$$

- Each simple  $U_q(\widehat{\mathfrak{sl}}_r)$ -module  $L(\Lambda_0 - m\delta)$  has a canonical basis but these cannot be pieced together to form a canonical basis of the whole  $\mathcal{F}_q$  under  $U_q(\widehat{\mathfrak{gl}}_r)$ .
- Such a basis ( $G_\lambda^-$ ) was defined in [Leclerc-T. 1996].
- All the  $q$ -plethysms  $\psi_q^r(s_\nu)$  are members of this basis.
- The coefficients of the dual basis on Schur functions were conjectured to give the decomposition matrices of quantized Schur algebras at roots of unity.

- The proof of this conjecture [Varagnolo-Vasserot 1999] allows one to identify the  $q$ -LR coefficients with parabolic KL polynomials [Leclerc-T. 2000]
- Then, a result of [Kashiwara-Tanisaki 1999] shows that  $c_{\mu^{(0)}, \dots, \mu^{(r-1)}}^\lambda(q) \in \mathbb{N}[q]$
- A combinatorial proof is still wanted for general  $r$ .
- Combinatorial formula for  $r = 3$  [J. Blasiak, Math. Z. **283** (2016), 601–628]
- LLT polynomials have been defined for other root systems by Lecouvey [European J. of Combin. **30** (2009) 157–191], and Grojnowski-Haiman (unpublished)
- In both versions, the coefficients are parabolic KL polynomials

# Upper and lower canonical bases of $\mathcal{F}_q$

- There is a unique  $q$ -semi-linear endomorphism  $x \mapsto \bar{x}$  of  $\mathcal{F}_q$  such that  $\overline{|\emptyset\rangle} = |\emptyset\rangle$ ,  $\overline{f_i x} = f_i \bar{x}$  and  $\overline{V_k x} = V_k \bar{x}$ .
- In terms of  $q$ -wedges, reverse a prefix and normalize

$$|\lambda\rangle = u_l = u_{i_1} \wedge_q u_{i_2} \wedge_q \cdots u_{i_m} \wedge_q \cdots$$

$$\overline{u_l} = (-1)^{\binom{k}{2}} q^{\alpha_{n,k}(l)} u_{i_k} \wedge_q u_{i_{k-1}} \wedge_q \cdots \wedge_q u_{i_1} \wedge_q u_{i_{k+1}} \wedge_q u_{i_{k+2}} \wedge_q \cdots$$

- Let

$$\mathcal{L}^+ = \bigoplus_{\lambda} \mathbb{Z}[q]|\lambda\rangle \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{L}^- = \bigoplus_{\lambda} \mathbb{Z}[q^{-1}]|\lambda\rangle$$

- There exists bases  $G_{\lambda}^+$  and  $G_{\lambda}^-$  of  $\mathcal{F}_q$  characterized by

$$\begin{aligned} (i) \quad \overline{G_{\lambda}^+} &= G_{\lambda}^+, \quad \overline{G_{\lambda}^-} = G_{\lambda}^- \\ (ii) \quad G_{\lambda}^+ &\equiv |\lambda\rangle \pmod{q\mathcal{L}^+}, \quad G_{\lambda}^- \equiv |\lambda\rangle \pmod{q^{-1}\mathcal{L}^-} \end{aligned}$$



- Let

$$G_{\mu}^{+} = \sum_{\lambda} d_{\lambda\mu}(q) |\lambda\rangle$$

and

$$G_{\lambda}^{-} = \sum_{\mu} e_{\lambda\mu}(-q^{-1}) |\mu\rangle$$

- Then,

$$e_{\lambda\mu}(q) = \sum_{x \in \widehat{\mathfrak{G}}(a)} (-q)^{\ell(x)} P_{w_v x, w_u}(q)$$

$$d_{\lambda\mu}(q) = \sum_{y \in \mathfrak{G}_m} (-q)^{\ell(y)} P_{y \widehat{w}_u, \widehat{w}_v}(q)$$

(parabolic KL polynomials of Deodhar).

# Quantized Schur algebras at roots of 1

- $S_n(\zeta)$  with  $\zeta$  a primitive  $r$ -th root of 1
- $W(\lambda)$  Weyl modules.  $L(\mu)$  simple modules
- **Conjecture** [LLT] let  $\{W(\lambda)^i\}$  be the Jantzen filtration

$$d_{\lambda'\mu'}(q) = \sum_{i \geq 0} [W(\lambda)^i / W(\lambda)^{(i+1)} : L(\mu)] q^i$$

- Extends the LLT conjecture proved by Ariki.
- Proved by Varagnolo-Vasserot for  $q = 1$ .
- **Proved by P. Shan** [ Represent. Theory 16 (2012), 212-269] for  $\zeta = e^{2i\pi/k}$ ,  $k \leq -3$
- One has  $[d_{\lambda\mu}(q)] = [e_{\lambda'\mu'}(-q)]^{-1}$ .

# Back to Hall-Littlewood functions

- Why do we have  $\tilde{K}_{\lambda\mu}(q) = c_{\mu_1, \dots, \mu_r}^\lambda(q)$  ?
- One can now deduce it from an earlier result of Lusztig

$$e_{N\lambda, N\mu}(q) = \tilde{K}_{\lambda\mu}(q^2) \quad (N \geq m)$$

- Original proof [LLT97]: cell decompositions of unipotent varieties
- Open problem: similar interpretation for other LLT polynomials ?
- Cospin  $q$ -analogues  $\tilde{G}_\mu(X; 1 + q)$  of products of arbitrary vertical strips are  $e$ -positive [P. Alexandersson, arXiv:1903.03998; M. d'Adderio, JCTA 172 (2020)],
- Not true in general. Known for  $\tilde{Q}'_\mu(X; 1 + q)$ , special case of a property of Hall polynomials

# Unipotent varieties

- The coefficients  $\tilde{g}_{\nu\mu}(q)$  of the monomial expansions

$$\tilde{Q}'_{\mu}(X; q) := \sum_{\lambda} \tilde{K}_{\lambda\mu}(q) s_{\lambda} = \sum_{\nu} \tilde{g}_{\nu\mu}(q) m_{\nu}$$

are the Poincaré polynomials of certain algebraic varieties.

- Let  $u \in GL(n, \mathbb{C})$  be a unipotent element of Jordan type  $\mu$ , and let  $\mathcal{F}_{\nu}$  be the variety of  $\nu$ -flags in  $V = \mathbb{C}^n$

$$V_{\nu_1} \subset V_{\nu_1+\nu_2} \subset \dots \subset V_{\nu_1+\dots+\nu_r} = V$$

where  $\dim V_i = i$ .

- The unipotent variety  $\mathcal{F}_{\nu}^u$  is the set of fixed points of  $u$  in  $\mathcal{F}_{\nu}$ .

# Cell decompositions

- Cell decomposition of  $\mathcal{F}_\nu^u$  involving only cells of even real dimensions  $\simeq \mathbb{C}^d$  [Shimomura 1980].
- Hence, the Poincaré polynomial has the form

$$\Pi_{\nu\mu}(t^2) = \sum_i t^{2i} \dim H_{2i}(\mathcal{F}_\nu^u, \mathbb{Z})$$

and  $\Pi_{\nu\mu}(q) = |\mathcal{F}_\nu^u[\mathbb{F}_q]|$ , which can be shown (by means of the Hall algebra) to be

$$|\mathcal{F}_\nu^u[\mathbb{F}_q]| = \tilde{g}_{\nu\mu}(q)$$

- Cells are parametrized by *tablets*.

- For  $\mu, \nu$  arbitrary compositions of  $n$ , a  $\mu$ -tabloid of shape  $\nu$  is a filling of the diagram with row lengths  $\nu_1, \nu_2, \dots, \nu_r$  such that  $i$  occurs  $\mu_i$  times, each row nondecreasing.
- For example,

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| 3 |   |   |
| 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 1 | 1 | 3 |
| 2 | 3 |   |

is a  $(5, 1, 3)$ -tabloid of shape  $(2, 3, 3, 1)$

# Inversion statistic on tabloids

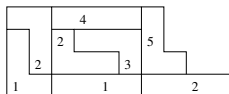
- Dimension  $d(\mathbf{t})$  of the cell  $c_{\mathbf{t}}$  explicitly given by Shimomura.
- A slightly modified version  $e(\mathbf{t})$  (having the same distribution) can be interpreted as a kind of ‘inversion number’ on  $r$ -tuple of rows ( $e$ -inversions) [Terada 1993]
- Tabloid  $\mathbf{t} = (w_1, \dots, w_r) \simeq r$ -tuple of row tableaux.
- $y$  the  $k$ -th letter of  $w_i$
- $x$  the  $k$ -th letter of  $w_j$
- For  $x < y$   $(y, x)$  is an  $e$ -inversion if either (a)  $i < j$  or (b)  $i > j$  and there is on the right of  $x$  in  $w_j$  a letter  $u < y$
- $e(\mathbf{t})$  is equal to the number of inversions  $(y, x)$  in  $\mathbf{t}$ .

# Inversions and cospin

Stanton-White correspondence maps  $\mathbf{t}$  to  $T$  such that  $\tilde{s}(T) = e(\mathbf{t})$  For example,

$$\mathbf{t} = \left( \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 2 & 3 \\ \hline 1 & 1 \\ \hline \end{array}, \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 1 & 2 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \hline \end{array}, \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 4 & 5 \\ \hline 3 & 1 \\ \hline \end{array}, \begin{array}{|c|} \hline 2 \\ \hline 1 \\ \hline \end{array} \right)$$

has  $e(T) = 7$  and is mapped to



of cospin 7.



# Recent progress

- The generalized inversion number  $e(\mathbf{t})$  has been extended to arbitrary  $r$ -tuples of tableaux [Schilling-Shimozono-White, Adv. Applied Math. **30** (2003) 258–272]
- Another version working with tuples of skew tableaux has been found by Haglund, Haiman, and Loehr [ J. Amer. Math. Soc. **18** (2005), 735–761]
- It allowed these authors to prove the Schur positivity of Macdonald polynomials  $\tilde{H}_\mu(x; q, t)$  by expressing them as  $\mathbb{N}[q^{-1}, t]$  linear combination of special LLT polynomials
- These special polynomials are  $q$ -analogues of products of ribbon Schur functions
- The proof uses quasi-symmetric functions
- This suggests connections with noncommutative symmetric functions and combinatorial Hopf algebras

# Macdonald $J$ functions and unicellular LLT-polynomials

- Haglund and Wilson [arXiv:1701.05622]: Macdonald's  $J_\mu(x; q, t)$  in terms of the quasi-symmetric chromatic polynomials [Shareshian-Wachs] of certain graphs
- Here, these chromatic polynomials are symmetric
- They are related to unicellular LLT-polynomials ( $t$ -analogues of  $s_1^n$  given by tuples of skew partitions with a single box) by

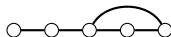
$$X_G(t, X) = (t - 1)^{-n} \text{LLT}_G(t, (t - 1)X)$$

[Carlsson and Mellit, J. Amer. Math. Soc. 31 (2018), 661–697]

# Dyck graphs

- The graphs  $G$  are simple graphs with vertices labelled  $1, \dots, n$ , such that if there is an edge  $(i, j)$  with  $i < j$ , then all the  $(i', j')$  with  $i \leq i' < j' \leq j$  are also edges of  $G$ .
- The number of such graphs is the Catalan number  $c_n$ .
- Encoding by partitions contained in a staircase

|   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| × | × |   |   | 5 |
| × | × |   | 4 |   |
| × |   | 3 |   |   |
|   | 2 |   |   |   |
| 1 |   |   |   |   |



- A coloring is proper if  $c_i \neq c_j$  whenever  $(i, j) \in E(G)$ . We denote by  $C(G)$  the set of proper colorings of  $G$ .
- The chromatic quasi-symmetric function of  $G$  expands in the  $M$  basis of  $QSym$

$$X_G(t, X) = \sum_{c \in C(G)} t^{\text{asc}_G(c)} x_{c_1} x_{c_2} \cdots x_{c_n} = \sum_{c \in \text{PC}(G)} t^{\text{asc}_G(c)} M_{\text{Ev}(c)}(X),$$

where  $\text{PC}(G)$  denotes the set of proper packed colorings,  $\text{asc}_G(c)$  is the number of edges  $(i < j)$  such that  $c_i < c_j$ , and  $\text{Ev}(c)$  is the evaluation of  $c$ .

# Some combinatorial Hopf algebras

- $A = \{a_1 < a_2 < a_3 < \dots\}$  totally ordered alphabet
- **WQSym**: “Word Quasi-Symmetric functions”

$$\mathbf{M}_u = \sum_{\text{pack}(w)=u} w$$

$$\mathbf{M}_{121} = aba + aca + ada + bcb + bdb + cdc + \dots$$

- Algebra:

$$\mathbf{M}_{u'} \mathbf{M}_{u''} = \sum_{\substack{u=vw \\ \text{pack}(v)=u', \text{pack}(w)=u''}} \mathbf{M}_u$$

- Hopf algebra  $\Delta \mathbf{M}_u = \mathbf{M}_u(A \oplus B)$  (ordinal sum)
- Projection to *QSym*:  $\mathbf{M}_u(X) = M_I(X)$

- The Guay-Paquet Hopf algebra  $\mathcal{G}$ : linear span of finite simple undirected graphs with vertices labelled by the first integers.
- Product:  $G \cdot H = G \cup H[n]$  where  $H[n]$  is  $H$  with labels shifted by the number  $n$  of vertices of  $G$ .
- Coproduct:  $G$  graph on  $n$  vertices,  $w \in [r]^n$ , coloring of  $G$ ;  $G|_w$  tensor product  $G_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes G_r$  of the restrictions of  $G$  to vertices colored  $1, 2, \dots, r$ .

$$\Delta^r G := \sum_{w \in [r]^n} t^{\text{asc}_G(w)} G|_w. \quad (1)$$

- The subspace  $\mathcal{D}$  of  $\mathcal{G}$  spanned by Dyck graphs is a Hopf subalgebra.

- Given a Dyck graph  $G$ , define

$$\mathbf{X}_G(t, A) = \sum_{c \in \text{PC}(G)} t^{\text{asc}_G(c)} \mathbf{M}_c(A) \in \mathbf{WQSym}.$$

- Then, [Novelli, T., arXiv:1907.00077]  $G \mapsto \mathbf{X}_G(A)$  is a morphism of Hopf algebras from  $\mathcal{G}$  to  $\mathbf{WQSym}$ .
- The  $(1 - t)$  transform and its inverse can be extended to  $\mathbf{WQSym}$
- Applying it to  $\mathbf{X}_G$ , we find

$$(t - 1)^n \mathbf{X}_G \left( t, \frac{|A|}{|t - 1|} \right) = \sum_{u \in \text{PW}_n} t^{\text{asc}_G(u)} \mathbf{M}_u(A).$$

The r.h.s. is therefore a noncommutative lift of the LLT polynomial  $\text{LLT}_G$ .

$$\mathbf{X}_{(\circ \ \circ \ \circ)} = \sum_{w \in PW(3)} \mathbf{M}_w$$

$$\mathbf{X}_{(\circ \text{---} \circ \ \circ)} = t \mathbf{M}_{121} + t \mathbf{M}_{122} + t \mathbf{M}_{123} + t \mathbf{M}_{132} + \mathbf{M}_{211} \\ + \mathbf{M}_{212} + \mathbf{M}_{213} + t \mathbf{M}_{231} + \mathbf{M}_{312} + \mathbf{M}_{321}$$

$$\mathbf{X}_{(\circ \ \circ \text{---} \circ)} = t \mathbf{M}_{112} + \mathbf{M}_{121} + t \mathbf{M}_{123} + \mathbf{M}_{132} + t \mathbf{M}_{212} \\ + t \mathbf{M}_{213} + \mathbf{M}_{221} + \mathbf{M}_{231} + t \mathbf{M}_{312} + \mathbf{M}_{321}$$

$$\mathbf{X}_{(\circ \text{---} \circ \text{---} \circ)} = t \mathbf{M}_{121} + t^2 \mathbf{M}_{123} + t \mathbf{M}_{132} + t \mathbf{M}_{212} \\ + t \mathbf{M}_{213} + t \mathbf{M}_{231} + t \mathbf{M}_{312} + \mathbf{M}_{321}$$

$$\mathbf{X}_{\left( \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ \circ \text{---} \circ \text{---} \circ \\ \text{---} \end{array} \right)} = t^3 \mathbf{M}_{123} + t^2 \mathbf{M}_{132} + t^2 \mathbf{M}_{213} + t \mathbf{M}_{231} + t \mathbf{M}_{312} + \mathbf{M}_{321}$$



# Analogue of $F$ -positivity

$$\check{\Phi}_u = \sum_{v \geq \bar{u}} \mathbf{M}_{\bar{v}} \mapsto F_l(X)$$

$$\mathbf{LLT}_G = \sum_{\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n} t^{\text{asc}_G(\sigma)} \check{\Phi}_{\min'_{G_\emptyset}(\sigma)}$$

where  $G_\emptyset$  is the graph with  $n$  vertices and no edges.

$$\mathbf{LLT}_{(\circ \ \circ \ \circ)} = \check{\Phi}_{123} + \check{\Phi}_{122} + \check{\Phi}_{112} + \check{\Phi}_{121} + \check{\Phi}_{212} + \check{\Phi}_{111},$$

$$\mathbf{LLT}_{(\circ \text{---} \circ \ \circ)} = t \check{\Phi}_{123} + t \check{\Phi}_{122} + \check{\Phi}_{112} + t \check{\Phi}_{121} + \check{\Phi}_{212} + \check{\Phi}_{111},$$

$$\mathbf{LLT}_{(\circ \ \circ \text{---} \circ)} = t \check{\Phi}_{123} + \check{\Phi}_{122} + t \check{\Phi}_{112} + \check{\Phi}_{121} + t \check{\Phi}_{212} + \check{\Phi}_{111},$$

$$\mathbf{LLT}_{(\circ \text{---} \circ \text{---} \circ)} = t^2 \check{\Phi}_{123} + t \check{\Phi}_{122} + t \check{\Phi}_{112} + t \check{\Phi}_{121} + t \check{\Phi}_{212} + \check{\Phi}_{111}.$$

# A conjecture

Let  $\hat{Q}'(X; t) = (1 - t)^{-\ell(\mu)} Q'(X; t)$ .

Spin-unicellular LLT

$$X_G(t) = (1 - t)^{-n} LLT_G((1 - t)X; t)$$

Define

$$(1 - t)^{-n} LLT_G(X; t) = \sum_{\mu \vdash n} c_G^\mu(t) \hat{Q}'(X; t)$$

Conjecture (Novelli-T., in preparation)

*The coefficient  $c_G^\mu(t)$  is given by an explicit statistic  $st_G(\pi)$  on set partitions of type  $\mu$  which are compatible with  $G$ , i.e. such that the extremities of an edge are not in the same block:*

$$c_G^\mu(t) = \sum_{\pi \in \Pi_\mu} t^{st_G(\pi)}$$

For the graph  $G = \circ - \circ - \circ \overset{\frown}{-} \circ - \circ$

$$LLT_G = \hat{Q}'_{111111} + (t^3 + 2t^2 + 2t)\hat{Q}'_{21111} + (t^3 + 2t^2 + t)\hat{Q}'_{221}$$

|   |   |
|---|---|
| $\{\{1\}, \{2, 4\}, \{3, 5\}\}$         | 1 |
| $\{\{1, 4\}, \{2\}, \{3, 5\}\}$         | 2 |
| $\{\{1, 4\}, \{2, 5\}, \{3\}\}$         | 3 |
| $\{\{1, 5\}, \{2, 4\}, \{3\}\}$         | 2 |
| $\{\{1\}, \{2\}, \{3, 5\}, \{4\}\}$     | 1 |
| $\{\{1\}, \{2, 5\}, \{3\}, \{4\}\}$     | 2 |
| $\{\{1\}, \{2, 4\}, \{3\}, \{5\}\}$     | 1 |
| $\{\{1, 5\}, \{2\}, \{3\}, \{4\}\}$     | 3 |
| $\{\{1, 4\}, \{2\}, \{3\}, \{5\}\}$     | 2 |
| $\{\{1\}, \{2\}, \{3\}, \{4\}, \{5\}\}$ | 0 |

Thanks to the Haglund-Wilson formula, this would provide an explicit expression of Macdonald polynomials in terms of Hall-Littlewood functions.

Bon anniversaire Bernard !