

Some Topics in Algebraic Combinatorics

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Outline

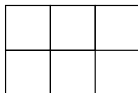
1. Examples of Combinatorics Problems

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2. Definition of Posets

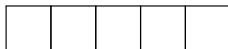
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1. Examples of Combinatorics Problems
2. Definition of Posets
3. Young tableaux



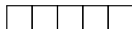
Example Combinatorial Problems

- ▶ n -colorings of 1×5 boards.

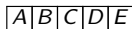


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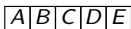


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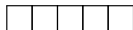
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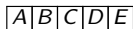
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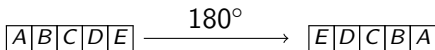
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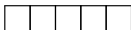


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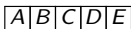


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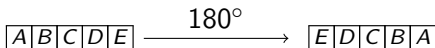
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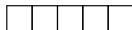
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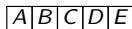
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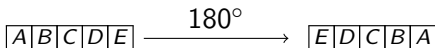
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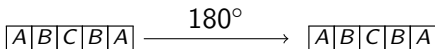
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- ▶ Special Case



n -Colorings of 1×5 Board

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- ▶ The number of equivalence class of colorings which don't equal their 180° rotation is

$$\frac{1}{2}(n^5 - n^3)$$

Burnside Lemma:

- ▶ Let Y be a finite set and G a subgroup of a symmetric group. For each $\pi \in G$, let

$$\text{Fix}(\pi) = \{y \in Y : \pi(y) = y\},$$

so $\#\text{Fix}(\pi)$ is the number of cycles of length one in the permutation π . Let Y/G be the set of orbits of G . Then

$$|Y/G| = \frac{1}{\#G} \sum_{\pi \in G} \#\text{Fix}(\pi)$$

Burnside Lemma: Example

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The number of equivalence class of colorings which don't equal their 180° rotation.

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- ▶ The total number of equivalence class is $\frac{1}{2}(n^3 + n^5)$
- ▶ The total number of rectangle colorings which equal their 180° is n^3
- ▶ The number of equivalence class of colorings which don't equal their 180° rotation is $\frac{1}{2}n^5 - \frac{1}{2}n^3$

Burnside Lemma: Example

Let X be the 2×2 chessboard and let it be labeled as

1	2
3	4

$C = \{r, b, y\}$. A typical coloring can be

r	b
y	r

How many ways can we color a 2×2 chessboard with two red squares, one blue square and one yellow square?

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How many ways can we color a 2×2 chessboard with two red squares, one blue square and one yellow square? 12

we denote Y is the set of all 12 colorings.

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- ▶ G_5 is the group of all rotations and reflections.

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- ▶ $G_4 = \{(1), (1243), (14)(23), (1342)\}$ is the group of all rotations.
- ▶ G_5 is the group of all rotations and reflections.
- ▶ G_6 is the symmetric group of all 24 permutations of Y .

For each of these groups, how many inequivalence classes do we get? For this we can use Burnside Theorem.

Burnside Lemma: Example(G_1)

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- ▶ There are 12 colorings in all with two red squares, one blue square, and one yellow square, and all are inequivalent under the trivial group.

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$$|Y/G_2| = \frac{1}{2}(12 + 0) = 6$$

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$$|Y/G_2| = \frac{1}{2}(12 + 0) = 6$$

- ▶ There are 6 inequivalent colorings.

r	r
b	y

r	b
r	y

r	y
r	b

b	y
r	r

r	b
y	r

r	y
b	r

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- ▶ $G_3 = \{(1), (23)\}$ is the group generated by a reflection in the main diagonal.
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$$|Y/G_3| = \frac{1}{2}(12 + 2) = 7$$

- ▶ There are 7 inequivalent colorings.

r	r
b	y

r	r
y	b

b	y
r	r

y	b
r	r

r	b
y	r

b	r
r	y

y	r
r	b

Burnside Lemma: Example(G_4)

- ▶ $G_4 = \{(1), (1243), (14)(23), (1342)\}$ is the group of all rotations.
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$$|Y/G_4| = \frac{1}{4}(12 + 0 + 0 + 0) = 3$$

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$$|Y/G_4| = \frac{1}{4}(12 + 0 + 0 + 0) = 3$$

- ▶ There are 3 inequivalent colorings.

r	r
y	b

r	r
b	y

r	b
y	r

Burnside Lemma: Example(G_5)

► G_5 is the group of all rotations and reflections. Therefore,

$$G_5 = \{(1), (1243), (14)(23), (1342), (12)(34), (13)(24), (23), (14)\}$$

Burnside Lemma: Example(G_5)

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$$\# \text{Fix}(1) = 12, \# \text{Fix}(14) = 2, \# \text{Fix}(23) = 2$$



$$|Y/G_5| = \frac{1}{8}(12 + 2 + 2) = 2$$

- ▶ There are 2 inequivalent colorings.

r	r	r	b
b	y	y	r

Burnside Lemma: Example(G_6)

- ▶ G_6 is the symmetric group of all 24 permutations of X .

Burnside Lemma: Example(G_6)

- ▶ G_6 is the symmetric group of all 24 permutations of X .
- ▶ There is only one equivalence class.

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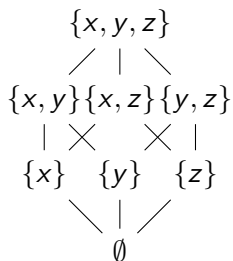
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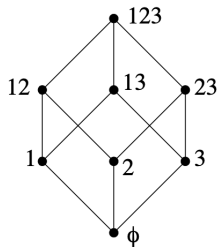
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- ▶ E.g. \mathbb{N} , \mathbb{Z} , and \mathbb{R} with usual ordering.
- ▶ Assume that $S = \{1, 2, 3\}$ is a 3-element set and P contains all its subsets.
- ▶ P in this case called a finite boolean algebra of rank 3 and is denoted by $B_{\{1,2,3\}}$.
- ▶ If $x, y \in P$, then define $x \leq y$ in P if $x \subseteq y$ as sets.

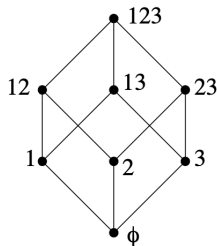
Hasse Diagrams

- Hasse diagram can be a simple way to represent small posets.



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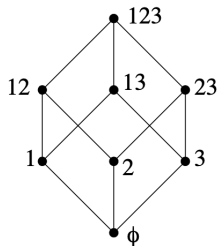
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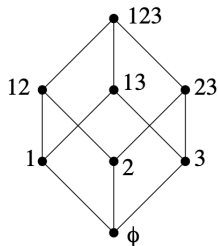
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- ▶ If $x < y$ in P (i.e., $x \leq y$ and $x \neq y$), then y is drawn “above” x .
- ▶ An edge is drawn between x and y if y covers x , i.e., $x < y$ and no element z satisfies $x < z < y$. We then write $x \lessdot y$ or $y \gtrdot x$.

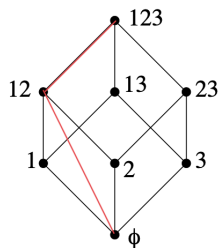
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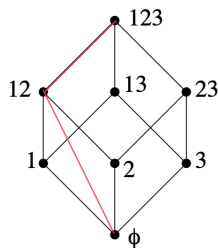
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- ▶ By the transitivity property (P3), all the relations of a finite poset are determined by the cover relations, so the Hasse diagram determines P .

Chain



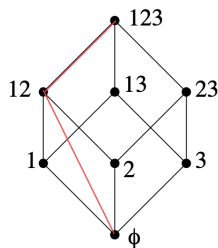
- A chain C in a poset is a totally ordered subset of P , i.e., if $x, y \in C$ then either $x \leq y$ or $y \leq x$ in P .

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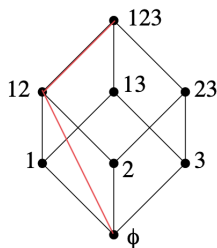
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- ▶ E.g. $\{\emptyset, \{1, 2\}, \{1, 2, 3\}\}$ is a chain.

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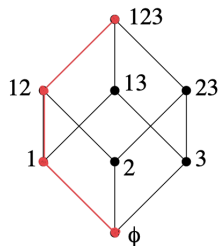
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- ▶ E.g. $\{\emptyset, \{1, 2\}, \{1, 2, 3\}\}$ is a chain.
- ▶ A finite chain is said to have length n if it has $n + 1$ elements.

Chain



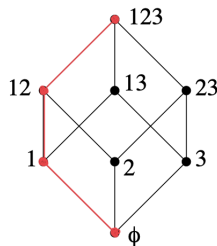
- ▶ A chain C in a poset is a totally ordered subset of P , i.e., if $x, y \in C$ then either $x \leq y$ or $y \leq x$ in P .
- ▶ E.g. $\{\emptyset, \{1, 2\}, \{1, 2, 3\}\}$ is a chain.
- ▶ A finite chain is said to have length n if it has $n + 1$ elements.
- ▶ $\{\emptyset, \{1\}, \{1, 2\}, \{1, 2, 3\}\}$ has length 3.
 $\{\emptyset, \{1\}, \{1, 2\}\}$ has length 2.

Chain



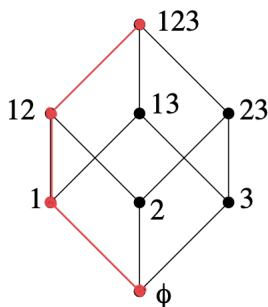
- A chain is maximal if it's contained in no larger chain.

Chain



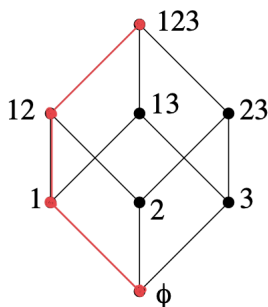
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- ▶ E.g. $\{\emptyset, \{1\}, \{1, 2\}, \{1, 2, 3\}\}$,
 $\{\emptyset, \{1\}, \{1, 3\}, \{1, 2, 3\}\}$,
 $\{\emptyset, \{2\}, \{1, 2\}, \{1, 2, 3\}\}$ are all maximal and many more.

Chain



- A finite poset is *graded* of rank n if every maximal chain has length n .

Chain



- ▶ A finite poset is *graded* of rank n if every maximal chain has length n .
- ▶ $P = \{\emptyset, \{1\}, \{2\}, \{3\}, \{1, 2\}, \{1, 3\}, \{2, 3\}, \{1, 2, 3\}\}$ is finite and has rank 3

Partition

- ▶ A partition λ of an integer $n \geq 0$ is a sequence $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots)$ of integers $\lambda_i \geq 0$ satisfying $\lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \geq \dots$ and $\sum_{i \geq 1} \lambda_i = n$.

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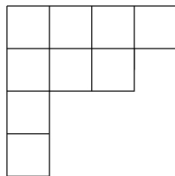
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- ▶ If λ is a partition of n , then we denote this by $|\lambda| = n$.
Written $\lambda \vdash n$.
- ▶ The seven partitions of 5 are (5), (4, 1), (3, 2), (3, 1, 1), (2, 2, 1), (2, 1, 1, 1), and (1, 1, 1, 1, 1).

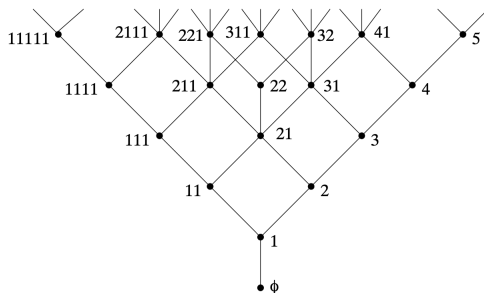
Young Diagram

- ▶ The Young Diagram (Diagram) of a partition λ is a left-justified array of squares, with λ_i squares in the i th row.



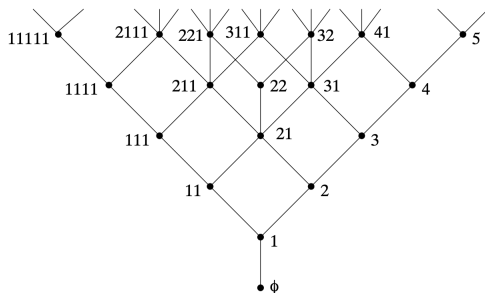
- ▶ The example above is the Young diagram of $(4, 3, 1, 1)$.

Hasse Walk



- Hasse diagram of Y has no loops or multiple edges, a walk of length n is specified by a sequence $\lambda_0, \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$ of vertices of Y .

Hasse Walk



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- ▶ A walk in the Hasse diagram of a poset is a *Hasse walk* (or just walk for this section.)

Young tableaux

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 - ▶ $\lambda^i > \lambda^{i+1}$ and $|\lambda^i| = |\lambda^{i+1}| + 1$
- ▶ If the walk W has steps of types $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_{n-1}, A_n$, respectively, where each A_i is either U or D , then we say that W is of type

$$A_n A_{n-1} \cdots A_2 A_1$$

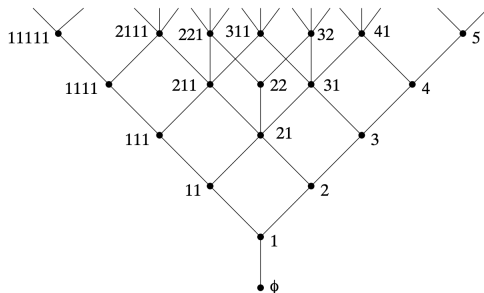
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- ▶ The reason that the type of a walk is written in the opposite order to that of the walk is because we regard U and D as linear transformations.

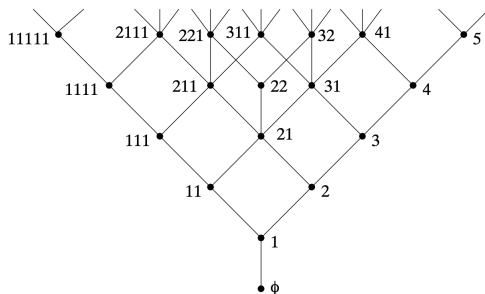
Example



- ▶ The walk $\emptyset, 1, 2, 1, 11, 111, 211, 21, 22, 21, 31, 41$ is of type $U U D D U U U U D U U = U^2 D^2 U^4 D U^2$.

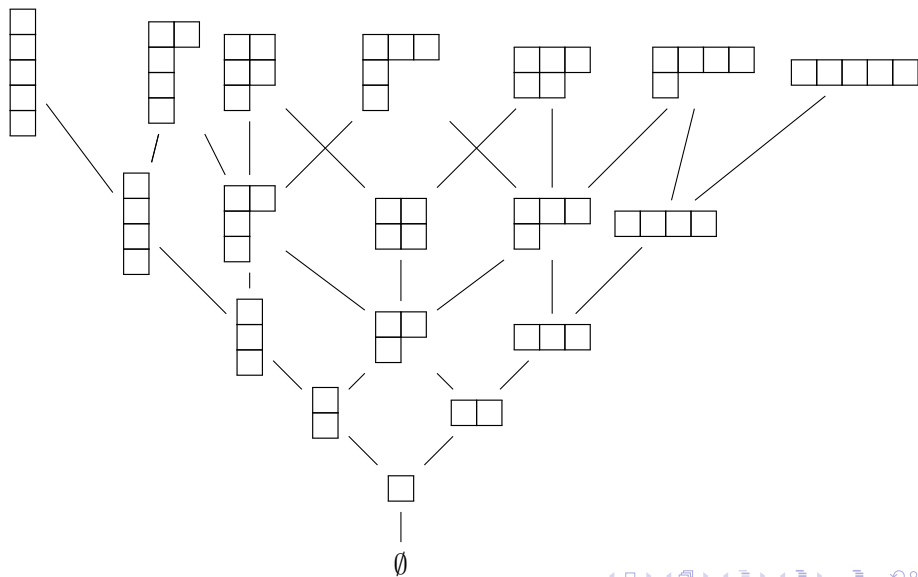
The Walks of Type U^n which begin at \emptyset

- ▶ The Walks of Type U^n which begin at \emptyset are just saturated chain $\emptyset = \lambda^0 \triangleleft \lambda^1 \triangleleft \dots \triangleleft \lambda^n$.

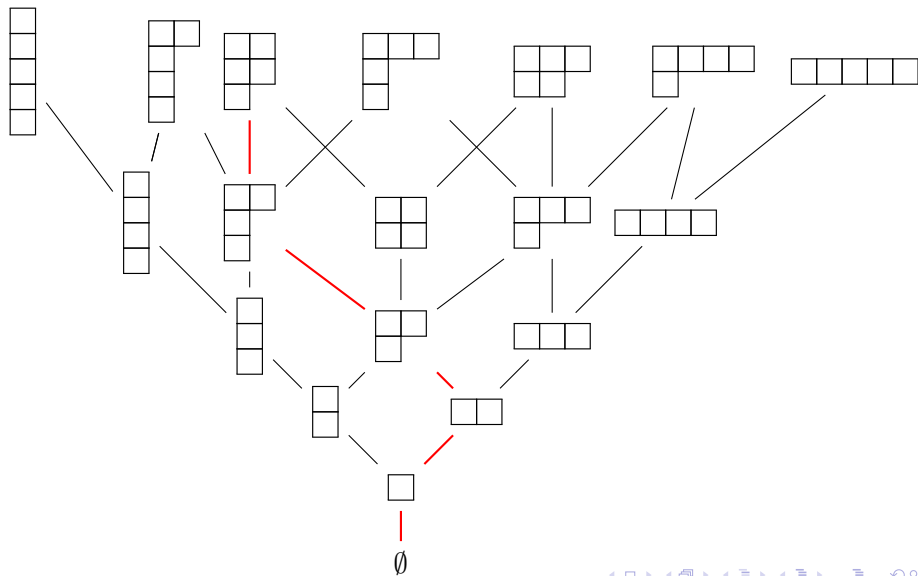


- ▶ Goal: Count the number of walks of type U^n .

Young Lattice



An example of U^5



An example of U^5

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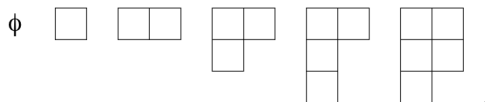
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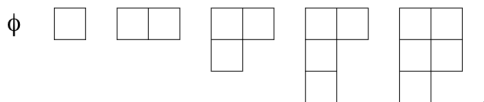
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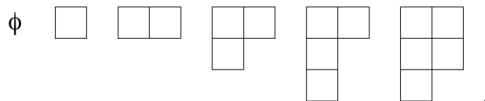
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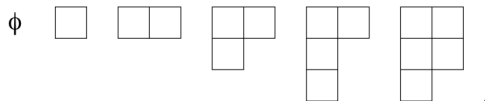
- ▶ We can visualize it on the Hasse diagram.

An example of U^5



- We can specify the walk by taking the final diagram and inserting an i into square s if s was added at the i th step.

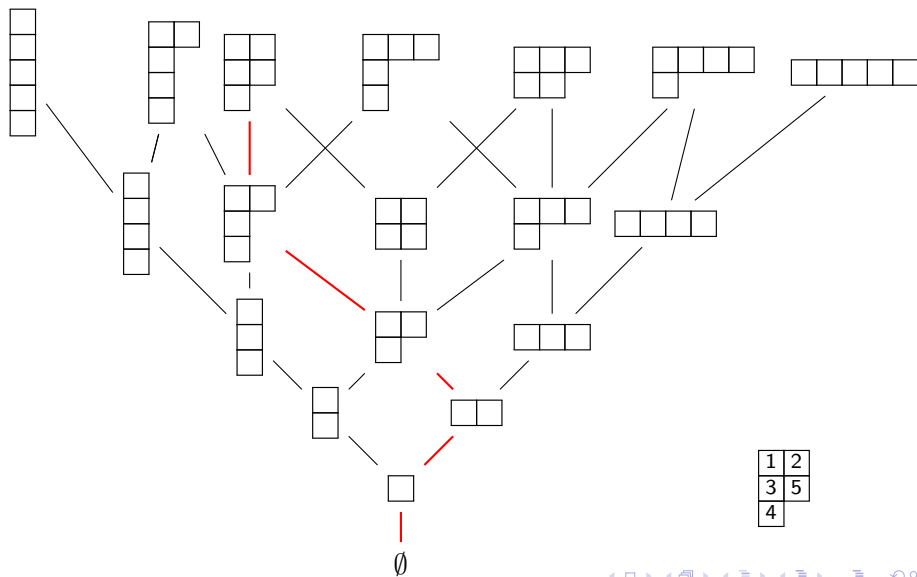
An example of U^5



- ▶ We can specify the walk by taking the final diagram and inserting an i into square s if s was added at the i th step.
- ▶ Thus the above walk is encoded by the "tableau"

1	2
3	5
4	

An example of U^5



Standard Young Tableaux (SYT)

- ▶ The standard Young Tableaux consists of the Young diagram D of some partition λ of an integer n , together with number $1, 2, \dots, n$ inserted into the squares of D .

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- ▶ We call λ the shape of the SYT τ , denoted $\lambda = \text{sh}(\tau)$.
- ▶ Define f^λ the number of SYT of shape λ .

The example of SYT of $\lambda = (2, 2, 1)$

- ▶ There are 5 SYT of shape $(2, 2, 1)$, given by

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1	2
3	4
5	

1	2
3	5
4	

1	3
2	4
5	

1	3
2	5
4	

1	4
2	5
3	

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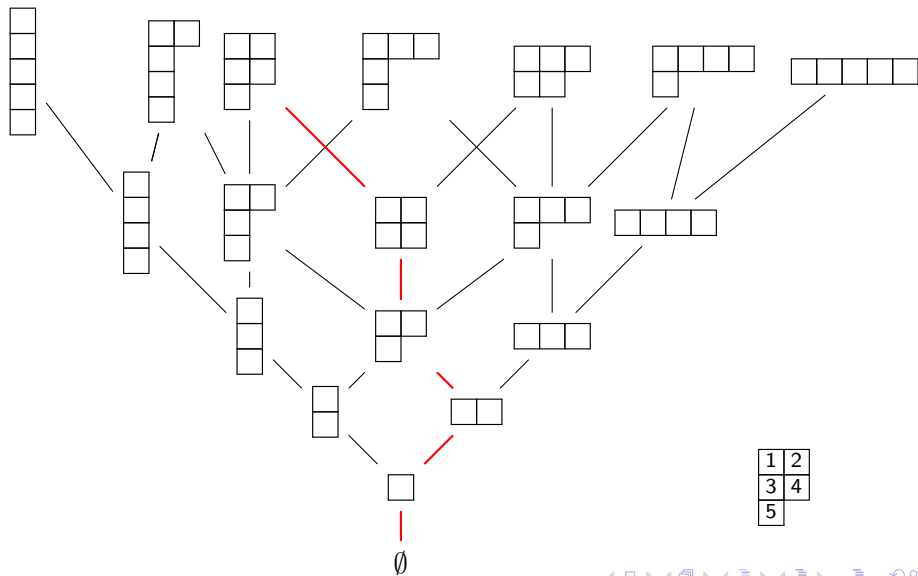
1	3
2	4
5	

1	3
2	5
4	

1	4
2	5
3	

- Thus $f^{(2,2,1)} = 5$

An example of U^5



1	2
3	4
5	

Hook Length Formula

- ▶ Subgoal: How many SYT are there for a single shape λ ?
- ▶ Let u be a square of the Young diagram of the partition λ . Define the hook $H(u)$ of u to be the set of all squares directly to the right of u or directly below u , including u itself and $h(u) = |H(u)|$.

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- ▶ Below is the diagram of the partition $(4, 2, 2)$.

6	5	2	1
3	2		
2	1		

Theorem: Hook Length Formula

► **Theorem:** Let $\lambda \vdash n$. Then

$$f^\lambda = \frac{n!}{\prod_{u \in \lambda} h(u)}.$$

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$$f^{(4,2,2)} = \frac{(4+2+2)!}{6 \cdot 5 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 1} = 56.$$

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► Hence, there are 56 SYT of shape $(4, 2, 2)$

Example: $\lambda = (2, 2, 1)$

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3	1
1	

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Example: $\lambda = (2, 2, 1)$

4	2
3	1
1	

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

► Hence, there are 5 SYT of shape $(2, 2, 1)$

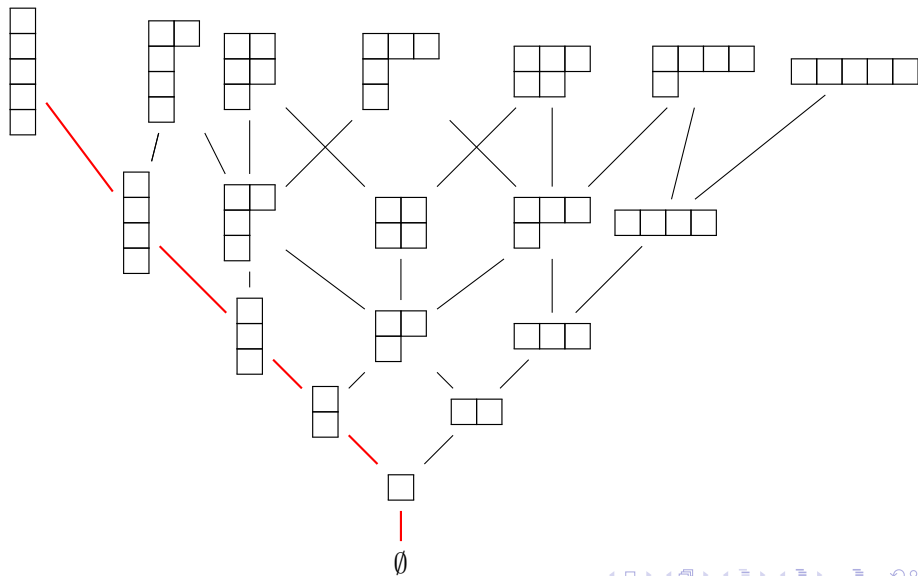
Goal

- ▶ Goal: Count the number of walks of type U^n . Call this number T_n .
- ▶ Let's do the case where $n = 5$.

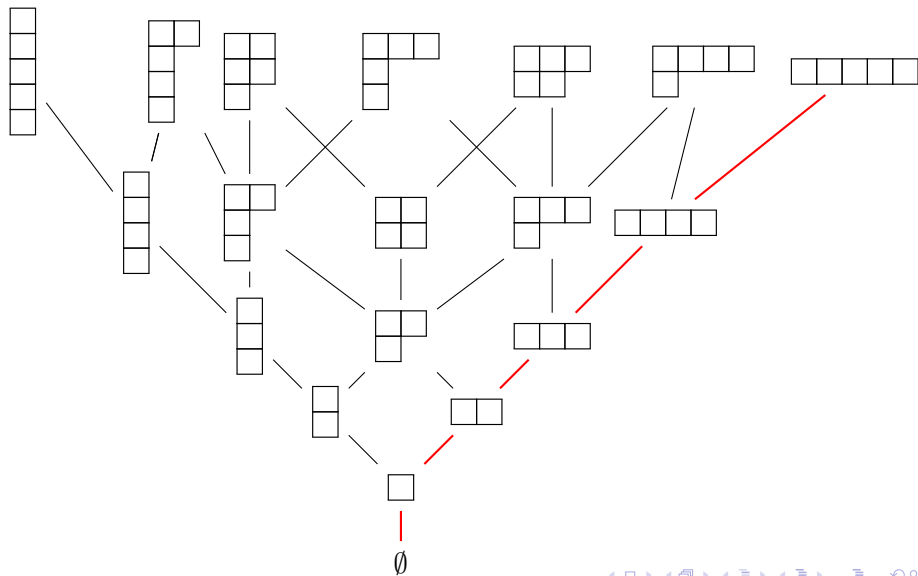
$$T_n = \sum_{\lambda \vdash n} f^\lambda = \sum_{\lambda \vdash n} \frac{n!}{\prod_{u \in \lambda} h(u)}$$

Now we calculate T_5

$$\lambda = (11111)$$



$$\lambda = (5)$$



U^5

5	1
3	
2	
1	

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

5	2	1
2		
1		

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

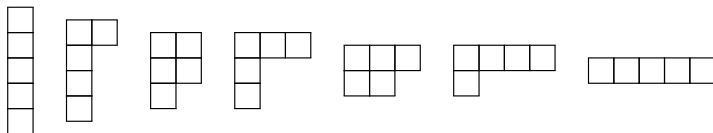
4	3	1
2	1	

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

5	3	2	1
1			

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

Goal



$$T_5 = 1 + 4 + 5 + 3 + 5 + 4 + 1 = 23.$$

Thank you

Citation:

Stanley, Richard, "Topics in Algebraic Combinatorics"