

# Deforming the motivic Segre classes of Schubert cells in the Grassmannian

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# Divided difference operators

Define  $R := \mathbb{Z}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ . Let  $s_i$  be the transposition in  $S_n$  that swaps  $i$  and  $i + 1$ . This defines an action of  $S_n$  on  $R$ , where  $s_i$  swaps  $x_i$  and  $x_{i+1}$ .

Definition (Demazure 1973, 1974)

Consider the  $\mathbb{Z}$ -linear operators on  $R$ , one for each  $i = 1, \dots, n - 1$ :

$$\partial_i(f) := \frac{f - s_i(f)}{x_{i+1} - x_i}, \quad f \in R.$$

The  $\partial_i$  are called **divided difference operators**.

For  $w = s_{i_1} \circ \dots \circ s_{i_k}$  reduced, define  $\partial_w := \partial_{s_{i_1}} \circ \dots \circ \partial_{s_{i_k}}$ . The operator  $\partial_w$  does not depend on the choice of reduced expression for  $w$ .

Example

$$\partial_2(x_1 x_3) = \frac{x_1 x_3 - s_2(x_1 x_3)}{x_3 - x_2} = \frac{x_1 x_3 - x_1 x_2}{x_3 - x_2} = x_1 \in R.$$

## $S_n$ -actions

Let  $\Lambda_k^n$  be the set of 01 sequences with  $k$  1's and  $n - k$  0's. The swap  $s_i$  acts on  $\Lambda_k^n$  by swapping the  $i$ -th and  $(i + 1)$ -th entries of a sequence. Define the word  $\omega := 1^k 0^{n-k}$ .

### Example

The sequence  $1001110 \in \Lambda_4^7$ . We have  $s_2(1001110) = 0101110$ .

Consider the ring  $\tilde{R} := \bigoplus_{\Lambda_k^n} R = \bigoplus_{\Lambda_k^n} \mathbb{Z}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ .

The transposition  $s_i$  acts on  $\tilde{R}$  by  $s_i((f_\lambda)_{\lambda \in \Lambda_k^n}) := (s_i(f_\lambda))_{s_i(\lambda) \in \Lambda_k^n}$ .

### Example

Consider  $(f_{110}, f_{101}, f_{011}) = (x_1 x_2, x_2^2, x_1 x_3^4) \in \tilde{R}$ , indexed by  $\Lambda_2^3$ . Then

$$s_1(x_1 x_2, x_2^2, x_1 x_3^4) = (s_1(x_1 x_2), s_1(x_1 x_3^4), s_1(x_2^2)) = (x_1 x_2, x_2 x_3^4, x_1^2).$$

# GKM conditions and Schubert classes

Definition (Goresky-Kottwitz-MacPherson 1996)

An element  $(f_\lambda)_{\lambda \in \Lambda_k^n} \in \tilde{R}$  is called **GKM** if:

whenever  $\lambda = (i, j)(\lambda')$ , the difference  $f_\lambda - f_{\lambda'}$  is divisible by  $x_i - x_j$  in  $R$ .

## Example

The sequences  $(1, 1, 1)$  and  $(0, 0, 0, (x_1 - x_2)(x_1 - x_3)(x_2 - x_3))$  in  $\tilde{R}$  indexed by  $\Lambda_1^3 = \{(f_{100}, f_{010}, f_{001})\}$  are GKM.

Definition (Schubert classes)

Fix  $\Lambda_k^n$ . Define in  $\tilde{R}$ , an element  $S_{\omega|\lambda} := \begin{cases} \prod_{i>j:\lambda_i<\lambda_j} x_i - x_j, & \text{if } \lambda = \omega; \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$

The other  $S_\lambda$  are defined by the rule  $S_{w^{-1}(\omega)} := \partial_w(S_\omega)$ .

The  $S_\lambda$  are GKM and called **Schubert classes**.

# Multiplying Schubert classes

## Definition (Schubert basis)

The  $\mathbb{Z}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ -subalgebra of  $\tilde{R}$  generated by  $\{S_\lambda\}_{\lambda \in \Lambda_k^n}$  is  $H_T(\text{Gr}(k, n))$ .  
The  $S_\lambda$  form  $\mathbb{Z}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ -basis for the subalgebra: the **Schubert basis**.

Let us run an example for  $\Lambda_1^2$ . Recall the operator

$$\partial_1(f) := \frac{f - s_1(f)}{x_2 - x_1}.$$

We have

$$S_{10} = [0, x_2 - x_1]; \quad S_{01} = \partial_1(S_{10}) = [1, 1].$$

Let us compute all products and express them in terms of the  $S_\lambda$ :

$$S_{10}^2 = (x_2 - x_1)S_{10}; \quad S_{10} \cdot S_{01} = S_{10}; \quad S_{01}^2 = S_{01}.$$

The structure constants lie in  $\mathbb{N}[x_2 - x_1]$ .

## Question

Is there a combinatorial formula for the structure constants in  $S_\lambda$  basis?

# Knutson-Tao puzzles

Consider the following **puzzle pieces**, equipped with a function from  $\{1, 2, 3, \dots\}^2$  to  $\mathbb{Z}[x_1, x_2, \dots]$  called its **fugacity**.

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{0} \\ \hline \end{array} \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{0} \\ \hline \end{array} = \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{1} \\ \hline \end{array} \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{1} \\ \hline \end{array} = \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{1} \\ \hline \end{array} \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{0} \\ \hline \end{array} = \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{10} \\ \hline \end{array} \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{1} \\ \hline \end{array} = \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{0} \\ \hline \end{array} \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{10} \\ \hline \end{array} = \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{10} \\ \hline \end{array} \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{1} \\ \hline \end{array} = 1
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{1} \\ \hline \end{array} \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{1} \\ \hline \end{array} = \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{0} \\ \hline \end{array} \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{10} \\ \hline \end{array} = \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{0} \\ \hline \end{array} \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{0} \\ \hline \end{array} = 1
 \end{array}
 \begin{array}{c}
 \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{0} \\ \hline \end{array} \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{1} \\ \hline \end{array} = x_j - x_i.
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{0} \\ \hline \end{array} \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{0} \\ \hline \end{array} = \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{1} \\ \hline \end{array} \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{1} \\ \hline \end{array} = \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{0} \\ \hline \end{array} \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{10} \\ \hline \end{array} = \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{10} \\ \hline \end{array} \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{1} \\ \hline \end{array} = \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{1} \\ \hline \end{array} \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{0} \\ \hline \end{array} = 1 \text{ (allow rotations)}
 \end{array}$$

# Knutson-Tao puzzles

A **Knutson-Tao puzzle** is a triangle with side labels  $\lambda, \mu, \nu$  in  $\Lambda_k^n$  that is tiled by the puzzle pieces.

The **fugacity** of a puzzle is the product of fugacities of its tiles. The fugacity of a rhombus tile is  $x_i - x_j$ , where  $i$  is the  $i$ -th NE-to-SW diagonal, and  $j$  is the  $j$ -th NW-to-SE diagonal in the puzzle.



$\lambda, \mu, \nu :=$  sum of puzzle fugacities over all puzzles with  $\lambda, \mu, \nu$  boundary.

## Example

For  $\lambda = 100$  (left),  $\mu = 010$  (right),  $\nu = 100$  (bottom):

$$\text{fug} = (x_1 - x_2) \cdot 1 \cdot 1 = x_1 - x_2.$$

# Knutson-Tao puzzles

## Theorem (Knutson-Tao 2003)

For any  $\lambda, \mu \in \Lambda_k^n$ , the product  $S_\lambda \cdot S_\mu$  is

$$S_\lambda \cdot S_\mu = \sum_{\nu} \begin{array}{c} \lambda \quad \mu \\ \nu \end{array} S_\nu.$$

Thus the structure constants lie in  $\mathbb{N}[x_1 - x_2, x_2 - x_3, \dots, x_{n-1} - x_n]$ .

Recall our computation in a previous example:

$$S_{10}^2 = (x_1 - x_2)S_{10}; \quad S_{10} \cdot S_{01} = S_{10}; \quad S_{01}^2 = S_{01}.$$

We compute

$$\begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{ccc} & 0 & 1 \\ & \diagdown & \diagup \\ 1 & & 1 \\ \diagup & & \diagdown \\ 1 & & 0 \\ \diagdown & & \diagup \\ 1 & & 0 \end{array} & = x_1 - x_2 & \begin{array}{ccc} & 0 & 0 \\ & \diagdown & \diagup \\ 1 & & 1 \\ \diagup & & \diagdown \\ 1 & & 0 \\ \diagdown & & \diagup \\ 1 & & 0 \end{array} & = 1 & \begin{array}{ccc} & 1 & 0 \\ & \diagdown & \diagup \\ 0 & & 0 \\ \diagup & & \diagdown \\ 0 & & 1 \\ \diagdown & & \diagup \\ 0 & & 1 \end{array} & = 1 \end{array}$$



# Positive formulas

## Question

What is a positive formula?

## Example

Say I have a basis  $B_1, \dots, B_n$ , and the structure constants for this basis live in  $\mathbb{N}$ . The structure constants are **positive** because  $\mathbb{N}$  is a monoid and  $\mathbb{N} \cap (-\mathbb{N}) = (0)$ .

## Definition (Knutson–Zinn-Justin 2021)

A **positivity monoid** is a monoid  $M$  such that  $M \cap (-M) = (0)$ . If the structure constants for a basis live in a positivity monoid, then the structure constants are **positive**.

## Example

$\mathbb{N}[x_1 - x_2, x_2 - x_3, \dots, x_{n-1} - x_n]$  is a positivity monoid.

# K-theory divided difference operator

Define  $R := \mathbb{Z}[e^{\pm x_1}, \dots, e^{\pm x_n}]$ . Let  $s_i$  be the transposition in  $S_n$  that swaps  $i$  and  $i + 1$ . This defines an action of  $S_n$  on  $R$ , where  $s_i$  swaps  $e^{x_i}$  and  $e^{x_{i+1}}$ .

Definition (Demazure 1973, 1974)

Consider the  $\mathbb{Z}$ -linear operators on  $R$ , one for each  $i = 1, \dots, n - 1$ :

$$\partial_i(f) := \frac{f - e^{x_{i+1}-x_i} s_i(f)}{1 - e^{x_{i+1}-x_i}}, \quad f \in R.$$

The  $\partial_i$  are called **divided difference operators**.

For  $w = s_{i_1} \circ \dots \circ s_{i_k}$  reduced, define  $\partial_w := \partial_{s_{i_1}} \circ \dots \circ \partial_{s_{i_k}}$ . The  $\partial_w$  does not depend on the choice of reduced expression for  $w$ .

Example

$$\partial_1(e^{x_1}) = \frac{e^{x_1} - e^{x_2-x_1} s_1(e^{x_1})}{1 - e^{x_2-x_1}} = \frac{e^{x_1}(1 - e^{2x_2-2x_1})}{1 - e^{x_2-x_1}} = \frac{e^{x_1}(1 - e^{x_2-x_1})(1 + e^{x_2-x_1})}{1 - e^{x_2-x_1}} \in R.$$

## K-theory GKM conditions

Define the ring  $\tilde{R} := \bigoplus_{\Lambda_k^n} R$ . Recall the action  $s_i((f_\lambda)_\lambda) := (s_i(f_\lambda))_{s_i(\lambda)}$ .

Definition (e.g., Knutson-Roşu, Cor. A.5, 2003)

An element  $(f_\lambda)_{\lambda \in \Lambda_k^n} \in \tilde{R}$  is called **GKM** if:

whenever  $\lambda = (i, j)(\lambda')$ , we have  $f_\lambda - f_{\lambda'}$  is divisible by  $1 - e^{x_i - x_j}$  in  $R$ .

Definition (Schubert classes)

Fix  $\Lambda_k^n$ . Define in  $\tilde{R}$ , an element

$$S_\omega|_\lambda := \begin{cases} \prod_{i>j: \lambda_i < \lambda_j} (1 - e^{x_i - x_j}), & \text{if } \lambda = \omega; \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

The other  $S_\lambda$  are defined by the rule  $S_{w^{-1}(\omega)} := \partial_w(S_\omega)$ .

The  $S_\lambda$  are GKM and called **Schubert classes**.

# Multiplying Schubert classes

## Definition (Schubert basis)

The  $\mathbb{Z}[e^{\pm x_1}, \dots, e^{\pm x_n}]$ -subalgebra of  $\tilde{R}$  generated by  $\{S_\lambda\}_{\lambda \in \Lambda_k^n}$  is  $K_T(\text{Gr}(k, n))$ . The  $S_\lambda$  form  $\mathbb{Z}[e^{\pm x_1}, \dots, e^{\pm x_n}]$ -basis for the subalgebra: the **Schubert basis**.

## Theorem (Pechenik-Yong 2017, Wheeler-Zinn-Justin 2019)

For any  $\lambda, \mu \in \Lambda_k^n$ , the product  $S_\lambda \cdot S_\mu$  is

$$S_\lambda \cdot S_\mu = \sum_{\nu} \left( \begin{array}{c} \lambda \quad \mu \\ \nu \end{array} \right) S_\nu,$$

where the tiles and fugacities of puzzle pieces are now different. The structure constants are “positive”, in the sense:  $(-1)^{\ell(\nu) - \ell(\lambda) - \ell(\mu)} \left( \begin{array}{c} \lambda \quad \mu \\ \nu \end{array} \right)$  lies in the positivity monoid

$$\mathbb{N}[e^{x_2 - x_1}, e^{x_3 - x_2}, \dots, e^{x_n - x_{n-1}}, 1 - e^{x_2 - x_1}, 1 - e^{x_3 - x_2}, \dots, 1 - e^{x_n - x_{n-1}}].$$

## $\hbar$ -deformations of $H_T$ classes

Define  $R := \mathbb{Z}[x_1, \dots, x_n, \hbar]$ . Define an action of  $S_n$  on  $R$ , where  $s_i$  swaps  $x_i$  and  $x_{i+1}$  and fixes  $\hbar$ . Define the ring  $\tilde{R} := \bigoplus_{\lambda \in \Lambda_k^n} \text{Frac}(R)$ .

### Definition

Consider the  $\mathbb{Z}$ -linear operators on  $R$ , one for each  $i = 1, \dots, n-1$ :

$$\partial_i := \frac{\hbar}{x_i - x_{i+1}} + \frac{x_i - x_{i+1} - \hbar}{x_i - x_{i+1}} s_i.$$

The  $\partial_i$  will be called "**cohomological Deligne-Lusztig operators**".

Define in  $\tilde{R}$ , an element  $S_\omega|_\lambda := \begin{cases} \prod_{i>j: \lambda_i < \lambda_j} \frac{x_i - x_j}{\hbar - (x_i - x_j)}, & \text{if } \lambda = \omega; \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$

The other  $S_\lambda$  are defined by the rule  $S_{w^{-1}(\omega)} := \partial_w(S_\omega)$ .

The  $S_\lambda$  are called **Segre-Schwartz-MacPherson classes**.

There is a positive puzzle formula for the structure constants for  $S_\lambda$  in terms of Knutson-Tao puzzles [Knutson-Zinn-Justin 2021].

## $q$ -deformation of $K_T$ classes

Define  $R := \mathbb{Z}[e^{\pm x_1}, \dots, e^{\pm x_n}, q^2]$ . Define an action of  $S_n$  on  $R$ , where  $s_i$  swaps  $e^{x_i}$  and  $e^{x_{i+1}}$  and fixes  $q^2$ . Define the ring  $\tilde{R} := \bigoplus_{\lambda \in \Lambda_k^n} \text{Frac}(R)$ .

### Definition

Consider the  $\mathbb{Z}$ -linear operators on  $R$ , one for each  $i = 1, \dots, n-1$ :

$$\partial_i := \frac{1 - q^2}{1 - e^{x_{i+1} - x_i}} + \frac{1 - q^2 e^{x_i - x_{i+1}}}{1 - e^{x_i - x_{i+1}}} s_i.$$

The  $\partial_i$  are called **Deligne-Lusztig operators**.

Define in  $\tilde{R}$ , an element  $S_\omega|_\lambda := \begin{cases} \prod_{i>j: \lambda_i < \lambda_j} \frac{1 - e^{x_j - x_i}}{1 - q^2 e^{x_j - x_i}}, & \text{if } \lambda = \omega; \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$

The other  $S_\lambda$  are defined by the rule  $S_{w^{-1}(\omega)} := \partial_w(S_\omega)$ .

The  $S_\lambda$  are called **motivic Segre classes**.

There is a positive puzzle formula for the structure constants for  $S_\lambda$  in terms of Knutson-Tao puzzles [Knutson-Zinn-Justin 2021].

# A note on Chern classes

## Remark

The element  $1 - e^{x_i - x_{i+1}}$  is the first equivariant Chern class (in  $K$ -theory) of the homogeneous line bundle  $\mathcal{L}_{x_{i+1} - x_i} \rightarrow G/B$ . Let's replace  $1 - e^{x_i - x_{i+1}}$  by  $c_1(\mathcal{L}_{x_{i+1} - x_i})$  everywhere in the motivic Segre classes.

$$K_T : \quad \partial_i := \frac{1 - q^2}{c_1(\mathcal{L}_{x_i - x_{i+1}})} + \frac{1 - q^2(1 - c_1(\mathcal{L}_{x_i - x_{i+1}}))}{c_1(\mathcal{L}_{x_{i+1} - x_i})} s_i.$$

$$S_\omega|_\lambda := \begin{cases} \prod_{i>j: \lambda_i < \lambda_j} \frac{c_1(\mathcal{L}_{x_i - x_j})}{1 - q^2(1 - c_1(\mathcal{L}_{x_i - x_j}))}, & \text{if } \lambda = \omega; \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

$$S_{w^{-1}(\omega)} := \partial_w(S_\omega).$$

## Question

What if we replace  $c_1$  by a Chern class in another cohomology theory?

## 'Connective' $K$ -theory

An algebraic oriented cohomology theory  $h^*$  is a functor:

$$h^*: \{\text{smooth algebraic varieties}\} \rightarrow \{\text{graded, commutative, unital rings}\},$$

that satisfies 'cohomology-type' axioms.

### Example

Chow ring theory and  $K$ -theory are oriented cohomology theories.

There is an oriented cohomology theory called **connective  $K$ -theory**. After a localization, the first equivariant Chern class in connective  $K$ -theory sends  $\mathcal{L}_{x_{i+1}-x_i}$  to  $\beta^{-1}(1 - e^{x_i - x_{i+1}})$ , where  $\beta$  is a free variable.

Let's replace everything with this new Chern class!



# Deforming the motivic Segre classes

The new operator and classes for connective  $K$ -theory (after localizing):

$$\partial_i := \frac{\beta(1-q^2)}{1-e^{x_{i+1}-x_i}} + \frac{\beta(1-q^2) + q^2(1-e^{x_i-x_{i+1}})}{1-e^{x_i-x_{i+1}}} s_i.$$

$$S_\omega|_\lambda := \begin{cases} \prod_{i>j:\lambda_i<\lambda_j} \frac{1-e^{x_i-x_j}}{\beta(1-q^2)+q^2(1-e^{x_i-x_j})}, & \text{if } \lambda = \omega; \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

$$S_{w^{-1}(\omega)} := \partial_w(S_\omega)$$

## Lemma

$\partial_w := \partial_{i_1} \circ \cdots \circ \partial_{i_k}$  is independent of the reduced expression  $w = s_{i_1} \cdots s_{i_k}$ :

1.  $\partial_i \circ \partial_{i+1} \circ \partial_i = \partial_{i+1} \circ \partial_i \circ \partial_{i+1}$  for  $i = 1, \dots, n-2$ .
2.  $\partial_i \circ \partial_j = \partial_j \circ \partial_i$  for all  $|i-j| > 1$ .

Therefore, the classes  $S_\lambda$  are well-defined.

The  $\beta = 1$  specialization recovers the motivic Segre classes  $S_\lambda^{K_T}$ .

The  $\beta = 0$  'limit' recovers the homogenizations  $(h+1)^{\text{length}(\lambda)} S_\lambda^{H_T}$ .

# The puzzle formula

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \begin{array}{ccccc}
 \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ \diagdown \diagup \\ 0 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ \diagup \diagdown \\ 0 \end{array} = 1 & \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ \diagdown \diagup \\ 1 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ \diagup \diagdown \\ 1 \end{array} = 1 & \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ \diagdown \diagup \\ 0 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ \diagup \diagdown \\ 1 \end{array} = 1 & \begin{array}{c} 10 \\ \diagdown \diagup \\ 1 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ \diagup \diagdown \\ 10 \end{array} = 1 & \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ \diagdown \diagup \\ 10 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} 10 \\ \diagup \diagdown \\ 0 \end{array} = 1
 \end{array} \\
 & \begin{array}{ccccc}
 \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ \diagdown \diagup \\ 1 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} 10 \\ \diagup \diagdown \\ 0 \end{array} = \frac{\beta(1-q^2)}{y_\lambda} & \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ \diagdown \diagup \\ 10 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ \diagup \diagdown \\ 0 \end{array} = \frac{\beta(1-q^2)}{y_\lambda} & \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ \diagdown \diagup \\ 1 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ \diagup \diagdown \\ 0 \end{array} = \frac{q(1-e^\lambda)}{y_\lambda} & \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ \diagdown \diagup \\ 10 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ \diagup \diagdown \\ 10 \end{array} = \frac{\beta q(q^2-1)}{y_\lambda} \\
 & \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ \diagdown \diagup \\ 1 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} 10 \\ \diagup \diagdown \\ 1 \end{array} = \frac{\beta(1-q^2)e^\lambda}{y_\lambda} & \begin{array}{c} 10 \\ \diagdown \diagup \\ 0 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ \diagup \diagdown \\ 0 \end{array} = \frac{\beta(1-q^2)e^\lambda}{y_\lambda} & \begin{array}{c} 10 \\ \diagdown \diagup \\ 0 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ \diagup \diagdown \\ 10 \end{array} = \frac{qQ(\beta)(1-e^\lambda)}{y_\lambda} \\
 & \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ \diagdown \diagup \\ 10 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} 10 \\ \diagup \diagdown \\ 1 \end{array} = \frac{qQ(\beta)(1-e^\lambda)}{y_\lambda} & \begin{array}{c} 10 \\ \diagdown \diagup \\ 0 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} 10 \\ \diagup \diagdown \\ 1 \end{array} = \frac{\beta Q(\beta)(q^2-1)e^\lambda}{qy_\lambda} & \begin{array}{c} 10 \\ \diagdown \diagup \\ 10 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} 10 \\ \diagup \diagdown \\ 10 \end{array} = Q(\beta) \\
 & \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ \diagdown \diagup \\ 0 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ \diagup \diagdown \\ 1 \end{array} = 1 & \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ \diagdown \diagup \\ 1 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ \diagup \diagdown \\ 1 \end{array} = 1 & \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ \diagdown \diagup \\ 1 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} 10 \\ \diagup \diagdown \\ 1 \end{array} = 1 & \begin{array}{c} 10 \\ \diagdown \diagup \\ 0 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ \diagup \diagdown \\ 1 \end{array} = 1 & \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ \diagdown \diagup \\ 10 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ \diagup \diagdown \\ 10 \end{array} = 1 & \begin{array}{c} 10 \\ \diagdown \diagup \\ 10 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} 10 \\ \diagup \diagdown \\ 10 \end{array} = \frac{-Q(\beta)}{q} \\
 & \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ \diagdown \diagup \\ 0 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ \diagup \diagdown \\ 1 \end{array} = 1 & \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ \diagdown \diagup \\ 1 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ \diagup \diagdown \\ 1 \end{array} = 1 & \begin{array}{c} 10 \\ \diagdown \diagup \\ 0 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ \diagup \diagdown \\ 1 \end{array} = 1 & \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ \diagdown \diagup \\ 10 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ \diagup \diagdown \\ 10 \end{array} = 1 & \begin{array}{c} 10 \\ \diagdown \diagup \\ 0 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} 10 \\ \diagup \diagdown \\ 1 \end{array} = 1 & \begin{array}{c} 10 \\ \diagdown \diagup \\ 10 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} 10 \\ \diagup \diagdown \\ 10 \end{array} = -q
 \end{array}
 \end{aligned}$$

Theorem (G. 2025+)

$$(q^{\text{length}(\lambda)} S_\lambda) \cdot (q^{\text{length}(\mu)} S_\mu) = \sum_{\nu} \begin{array}{c} \lambda \\ \triangle \\ \nu \end{array}^{\mu} (q^{\text{length}(\nu)} S_\nu)$$

# Positivity

Define  $Q(\beta) := q^2 + \beta - q^2\beta$ .

Consider the submonoid  $M$  of  $\text{Frac}(\mathbb{Z}[\beta][e^{\pm x_1}, \dots, e^{\pm x_n}, q^{\pm 1}])$ , defined as the set of sums of products of the factors over all  $1 \leq i < j \leq n$ :

$$-q^{\pm} \quad Q(\beta) \quad e^{x_j - x_i} \quad \frac{\beta(1-q^2)}{\beta(1-q^2) + q^2(1-e^{x_j - x_i})} \quad - \frac{1-e^{x_j - x_i}}{\beta(1-q^2) + q^2(1-e^{x_j - x_i})}.$$

Then  $M$  is a positivity monoid.

As the structure constants in the  $S_\lambda$  basis live in  $M$ , it is in this sense that our puzzle formula is positive.

## Question

What are the deformed classes  $S_\lambda$ ?

## Theorem (Localization package)

Let  $X$  be a smooth complex algebraic variety that has an algebraic action of a complex torus  $T := (\mathbb{C}^\times)^n$ , and assume this action has finitely many fixed points  $F$ . The natural ring homomorphisms

$$H_T(X) \rightarrow \bigoplus_{f \in F} H_T(\text{pt}) \simeq \bigoplus_{f \in F} \mathbb{Z}[x_1, \dots, x_n];$$

$$K_T(X) \rightarrow \bigoplus_{f \in F} K_T(\text{pt}) \simeq \bigoplus_{f \in F} \mathbb{Z}[e^{\pm x_1}, \dots, e^{\pm x_n}],$$

induced by the inclusions  $\{\text{fixed point}\} \hookrightarrow X$ , are injective.

## Definition

The **Grassmannian**  $\text{Gr}(k, n)$  is the smooth projective algebraic variety consisting of  $k$ -dimensional subspaces of  $\mathbb{C}^n$ . It has an algebraic action of an  $n$ -dimensional torus  $T := (\mathbb{C}^\times)^n$ . The cotangent bundle  $T^*(\text{Gr}(k, n))$  has an action of  $T \times \mathbb{C}^\times$ , where  $T$  acts on the base  $\text{Gr}(k, n)$  and  $\mathbb{C}^\times$  scales the cotangent fibres.

# Recall the GKM conditions

## Definition

An element  $(f_\lambda)_{\lambda \in \Lambda_k^n} \in \bigoplus_{\lambda \in \Lambda_k^n} \mathbb{Z}[x_1, \dots, x_n, \hbar]$  is called **GKM** if:

whenever  $\lambda = (i, j)(\lambda')$ , the difference  $f_\lambda - f_{\lambda'}$  is divisible by  $x_i - x_j$ .

A GKM class  $(f_\lambda)_{\lambda \in \Lambda_k^n}$  can be identified with a class in  $H_{T \times \mathbb{C}^\times}(T^*\mathrm{Gr}(k, n))$ .

## Definition

An element  $(f_\lambda)_{\lambda \in \Lambda_k^n} \in \bigoplus_{\lambda \in \Lambda_k^n} K_{T \times \mathbb{C}^\times}(\mathrm{pt}) = \bigoplus_{\lambda \in \Lambda_k^n} \mathbb{Z}[e^{\pm x_1}, \dots, e^{\pm x_n}, q^2]$  is called **GKM** if:

whenever  $\lambda = (i, j)(\lambda')$ , we have  $f_\lambda - f_{\lambda'}$  is divisible by  $1 - e^{x_i - x_j}$ .

A GKM class  $(f_\lambda)_{\lambda \in \Lambda_k^n}$  can be identified with a class in  $K_{T \times \mathbb{C}^\times}(T^*\mathrm{Gr}(k, n))$ .

**SSM and motivic Segre classes are quotients of classes that satisfy GKM called 'stable classes'.**

## What are the deformed classes?

Recall the operator  $\partial_i := \frac{\beta(1-q^2)}{1-e^{x_{i+1}-x_i}} + \frac{\beta(1-q^2)+q^2(1-e^{x_i-x_{i+1}})}{1-e^{x_i-x_{i+1}}} S_i$ .

Clear the denominators in the  $S_\lambda$  to define classes  $\text{St}_\lambda$ :

$$\text{St}_\omega := \left( \prod_{i>j:\omega_i<\omega_j} (\beta(1-q^2) + q^2(1-e^{x_i-x_j})) \right) S_\omega; \quad \text{St}_{w^{-1}(\omega)} := \partial_w(\text{St}_\omega).$$

### Lemma

The elements  $\text{St}_\lambda$  satisfy:

whenever  $\lambda = (i, j)(\lambda')$ , the difference  $\text{St}_\lambda - \text{St}_{\lambda'}$  is divisible by  $c_1(\mathcal{L}_{x_i-x_j})$ .

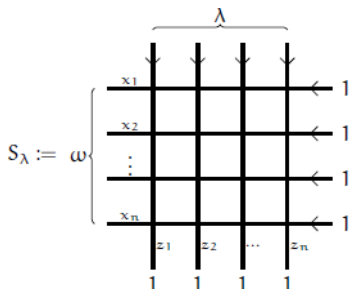
### Question (WORK IN PROGRESS)

Does the previous lemma imply that the  $\text{St}_\lambda$  come from geometric ‘stable classes’ in the connective  $K$ -ring of  $T^*(\text{Gr}(k, n))$ ?

Answer: Almost surely yes– work in progress

# Rational function representatives for deformed classes

$$\widehat{R}(\beta, e^\lambda)_K := \begin{array}{c} e^{\lambda_1} \quad e^{\lambda_2} \\ \begin{array}{c} \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \end{array} \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} 1 \wedge 1 \quad 1 \wedge 0 \quad 0 \wedge 1 \quad 0 \wedge 0 \\ 1 \vee 1 \quad 1 \vee 0 \quad 0 \vee 1 \quad 0 \vee 0 \end{array} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{\beta(1-q^2)e^\lambda}{Q(\beta)-q^2e^\lambda} & \frac{qQ(\beta)(1-e^\lambda)}{Q(\beta)-q^2e^\lambda} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{q(1-e^\lambda)}{Q(\beta)-q^2e^\lambda} & \frac{\beta(1-q^2)}{Q(\beta)-q^2e^\lambda} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$



**"Sum over all possible grids, and add the fugacities together"**

# Rational function representatives for deformed classes

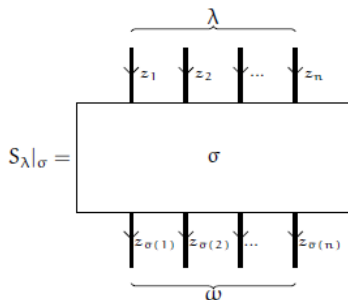
$$\begin{aligned}
 S_{01} &= \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline \begin{array}{c} x_1 \\ 0 \end{array} & 1 & 1 \end{array} \\ \hline \begin{array}{c} x_2 \\ 1 \end{array} & 1 & 1 \end{array} \\ \hline & \begin{array}{c} z_1 \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} z_2 \end{array} \\ \hline \end{array} = \frac{\beta(1-q^2)}{Q(\beta) - q^2(x_1/z_1)} \\
 \\
 S_{10} &= \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline \begin{array}{c} x_1 \\ 0 \end{array} & 0 & 1 \end{array} \\ \hline \begin{array}{c} x_2 \\ 1 \end{array} & 1 & 1 \end{array} \\ \hline & \begin{array}{c} z_1 \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} z_2 \end{array} \\ \hline \end{array} = \frac{q(1-x_1/z_1)}{Q(\beta) - q^2(x_1/z_1)} \cdot \frac{\beta(1-q^2)}{Q(\beta) - q^2(x_1/z_2)}
 \end{aligned}$$

The rational functions  $S_\lambda$  represent the homogenizations  $q^{\text{length}(\lambda)} S_\lambda$  of the connective elements  $S_\lambda$  defined earlier.



# Rational function representatives for deformed classes

The following diagram equals the evaluation  $x_i := z_{\sigma^{-1}(i)}$  in  $S_\lambda$ :



$$S_{01|01} = \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline z_1 & z_2 \\ \hline 0 & 1 \\ \hline 0 & 1 \\ \hline \end{array} \end{array} = 1$$

$$S_{10|01} = \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline z_1 & z_2 \\ \hline 1 & 0 \\ \hline 0 & 1 \\ \hline \end{array} \end{array} = 0$$

$$S_{01|10} = \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline z_1 & z_2 \\ \hline 0 & 1 \\ \hline 0 & 1 \\ \hline \end{array} \end{array} = \frac{\beta(1-q^2)}{Q(\beta) - q^2(z_2/z_1)}$$

$$S_{10|10} = \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline z_1 & z_2 \\ \hline 1 & 0 \\ \hline 0 & 1 \\ \hline \end{array} \end{array} = \frac{q(1 - z_2/z_1)}{Q(\beta) - q^2(z_2/z_1)}$$

# Proof of puzzle rule: rational function R-matrix

The rational functions  $S_\lambda$  can also be defined using the following matrix entries, with  $x_\lambda = \beta^{-1}(1 - e^\lambda)$  and  $y_\lambda = \beta(1 - q^2) + q^2(1 - e^\lambda)$ .

$$R_{bb}(\beta, x_\lambda) = \begin{matrix} \lambda_1 & \lambda_2 \\ \swarrow & \searrow \\ \text{ } & \end{matrix} =$$

	$1 \wedge 1$	$1 \wedge 0$	$1 \wedge 10$	$0 \wedge 1$	$0 \wedge 0$	$0 \wedge 10$	$10 \wedge 1$	$10 \wedge 0$	$10 \wedge 10$
$1 \vee 1$	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
$1 \vee 0$	0	$\frac{(1-q^2)(1-\beta x_\lambda)}{y_\lambda}$	0	$\frac{Q(\beta)qx_\lambda}{y_\lambda}$	0	0	0	0	0
$1 \vee 10$	0	0	$\frac{1-q^2}{y_\lambda}$	0	0	0	$\frac{Q(\beta)qx_\lambda}{y_\lambda}$	0	0
$0 \vee 1$	0	$\frac{qx_\lambda}{y_\lambda}$	0	$\frac{1-q^2}{y_\lambda}$	0	0	0	0	0
$0 \vee 0$	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
$0 \vee 10$	0	0	0	0	0	$\frac{1-q^2}{y_\lambda}$	0	$\frac{qx_\lambda}{y_\lambda}$	0
$10 \vee 1$	0	0	$\frac{qx_\lambda}{y_\lambda}$	0	0	0	$\frac{(1-q^2)(1-\beta x_\lambda)}{y_\lambda}$	0	0
$10 \vee 0$	0	0	0	0	0	$\frac{Q(\beta)qx_\lambda}{y_\lambda}$	0	$\frac{(1-q^2)(1-\beta x_\lambda)}{y_\lambda}$	0
$10 \vee 10$	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1

# Proof of puzzle rule: puzzle R-matrix

$$R_{gr}(\beta, x_\lambda) = \begin{matrix} \lambda_1 & \lambda_2 \\ \swarrow & \searrow \\ \text{X} & \end{matrix} =$$

$$\begin{matrix} & 1 \wedge 1 & 1 \wedge 0 & 1 \wedge 10 & 0 \wedge 1 & 0 \wedge 0 & 0 \wedge 10 & 10 \wedge 1 & 10 \wedge 0 & 10 \wedge 10 \\ \begin{matrix} 1 \vee 1 \\ 1 \vee 0 \\ 1 \vee 10 \\ 0 \vee 1 \\ 0 \vee 0 \\ 0 \vee 10 \\ 10 \vee 1 \\ 10 \vee 0 \\ 10 \vee 10 \end{matrix} & \left( \begin{array}{ccccccccc} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{(1-q^2)(1-\beta x_\lambda)}{y_\lambda} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{qx_\lambda}{y_\lambda} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{1-q^2}{y_\lambda} & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{Q(\beta)(q^2-1)(1-\beta x_\lambda)}{qy_\lambda} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & \frac{(1-q^2)(1-\beta x_\lambda)}{y_\lambda} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{Q(\beta)qx_\lambda}{y_\lambda} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{Q(\beta)qx_\lambda}{y_\lambda} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{1-q^2}{y_\lambda} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{q(q^2-1)}{y_\lambda} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & Q(\beta) \end{array} \right) \end{matrix}$$

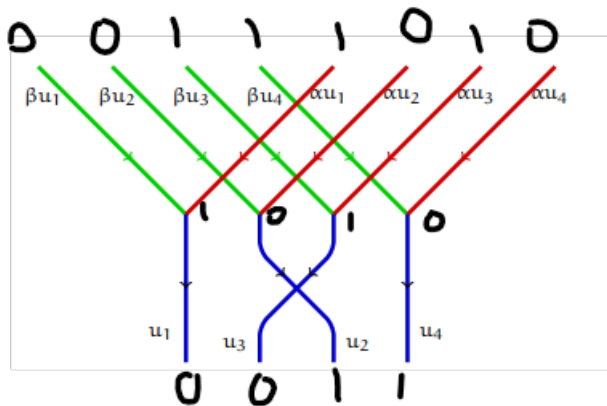
# Proof of the puzzle rule

The following diagram equals  $0101 \begin{array}{c} \triangle \\ 0110 \end{array} 0101$ .

$$\sum_{L_1, \dots, L_{12} \in \{0, 1, 10\}} \begin{array}{c} \triangle \\ \begin{array}{ccccccc} & & 1 & & 0 & & \\ & \swarrow & & \searrow & & \swarrow & \searrow \\ 0 & L_4 & L_1 & 1 & & & \\ & \swarrow & & \searrow & & \swarrow & \searrow \\ 1 & L_9 & L_6 & L_5 & L_2 & 0 & \\ & \swarrow & & \searrow & & \swarrow & \searrow \\ 0 & L_{12} & L_{11} & L_{10} & L_8 & L_7 & L_3 & 1 \\ & \swarrow & & \searrow & & \swarrow & \searrow \\ 0 & & 1 & & 1 & & 0 & \end{array} \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{cccc} 1 & 0 & & \\ qz_4 \swarrow & \searrow q^{-1}z_1 & & \\ 0 & 1 & & \\ qz_3 \swarrow & \searrow q^{-1}z_2 & & \\ 1 & 0 & & \\ qz_2 \swarrow & \searrow q^{-1}z_3 & & \\ 0 & 1 & & \\ qz_1 \swarrow & \searrow q^{-1}z_4 & & \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \end{array}$$

# Proof of the puzzle rule

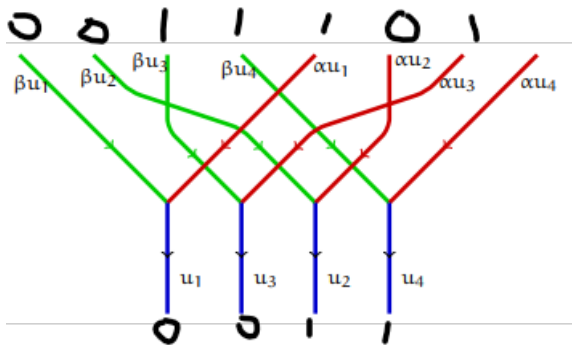
The following diagram computes  $0011 \triangle 1010 S_{1010|0101}$ .



Removing  $1010$  in the center, it computes  $\sum_v 0011 \triangle 1010 S_v|_{0101}$ .

## Proof of the puzzle rule

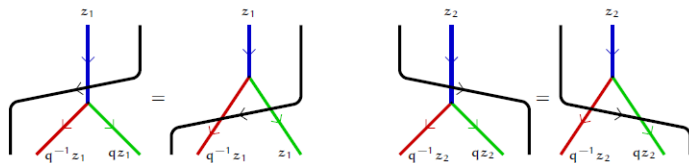
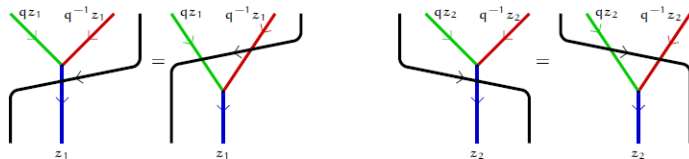
The following diagram computes  $S_{0011|0101} \cdot S_{1010|0101}$  (I am sweeping details under the rug!) Note: red and green matrices “equal” blue matrix (almost).



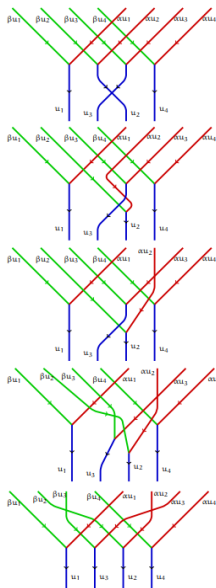
Must prove that this diagram equals previous one! Equality of formula at all restrictions implies equality of classes.

# Proof of the puzzle rule

The following hold!



# Proof of the puzzle rule





# Acknowledgements

My advisor Allen Knutson has helped me every step of the way.

I learned about connective  $K$ -theory through Kirill Zainoulline; he suggested I pursue the puzzle story for connective  $K$  and see what happens.

David Anderson outlined the proof of GKM for connective  $K$ -theory.

Timothy Miller and Travis Scrimshaw helped me realize that I should seek polynomial/rational function representatives for my deformed classes in order for Allen and Paul's proofs to work.

Thanks to Rui Xiong and Paul Zinn-Justin for helpful conversations and correspondences.