## K-theoretic Catalan functions

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## Overview

- Schubert calculus
- Catalan functions
- 3 K-theoretic Catalan functions

## Overview of Schubert Calculus Combinatorics

## Geometric problem

Find  $c_{\lambda\mu}^{\nu}=\#$  of points in intersection of subvarieties in a variety X.

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### Representatives

Special basis of polynomials  $\{f_{\lambda}\}$  such that  $f_{\lambda}\cdot f_{\mu}=\sum_{
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Combinatorial study of  $\{f_{\lambda}\}$  enlightens the geometry (and cohomology).

# Overview of Schubert Calculus Combinatorics (cont.)

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### Goal

Identify  $\{f_{\lambda}\}$  in explicit (simple) terms amenable to calculation and proofs.

## Classical Schubert Calculus

## Geometric problem

Find  $c_{\lambda\mu}^{\nu}=\#$  of points in intersection of Schubert varieties  $\{X_{\lambda}\}_{\lambda\subseteq(n^m)}$  in variety  $X=\operatorname{Gr}(m,n)$ .

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## Representatives

Special basis of Schur polynomials  $\{s_{\lambda}\}$  such that  $s_{\lambda} \cdot s_{\mu} = \sum_{\nu} c_{\lambda\mu}^{\nu} s_{\nu}$  for combinatorially understood Littlewood-Richardson coefficients  $c_{\lambda\mu}^{\nu}$ .

• Complete homogeneous symmetric function: for  $r \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $h_r = \sum_{i_1 \leq \cdots \leq i_r} x_{i_1} \cdots x_{i_r}$ .

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- For  $\lambda \in \mathbb{Z}^{\ell}$ ,  $h_{\lambda} = h_{\lambda_1} \cdots h_{\lambda_{\ell}}$ .
- Raising operators  $R_{i,j}(h_{\lambda}) = h_{\lambda + \epsilon_i \epsilon_j}$

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• Schur function  $s_{\lambda} = \prod_{i < j} (1 - R_{ij}) h_{\lambda}$  (Jacobi-Trudi)

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Theory	$f_{\lambda}$
(Co)homology of Grassmannian	Schur functions
(Co)homology of flag variety	Schubert polynomimals
Quantum cohomology of flag variety	Quantum Schuberts
(Co)homology of Types BCD Grassmannian	Schur- $P$ and $Q$ functions
(Co)homology of affine Grassmannian	(dual) k-Schur functions
K-theory of Grassmannian	Grothendieck polynomials
K-homology of affine Grassmannian	K-k-Schur functions

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### **Focus**

K-theory and K-homology of the affine Grassmannian

Simulatenously generalizes K-theory of Grassmannian and (co)homology of affine Grassmannian.



#### What is known?

• K-theory classes of Grassmannian (not affine!) represented by "Grothendieck polynomials." We are interested in their dual:

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- ② Homology classes of affine Grassmannian represented by k-Schur functions (t = 1).
- (Lam et al., 2010) leave open the question: what is a direct formulation of the K-homology representatives of the affine Grassmannian (K-k-Schur functions)?

## Remember?

### Goal

Identify  $\{f_{\lambda}\}$  in explicit (simple) terms amenable to calculation and proofs.

A root ideal  $\Psi$  of type  $A_{\ell-1}$  positive roots: given by Dyck path (lattice path above diagonal).



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## Catalan Function (Chen, 2010; Panyushev, 2010; Blasiak et al., 2019)

For  $\Psi$  and  $\gamma \in \mathbb{Z}^\ell$ 

$$H(\Psi; \gamma)(x) = \prod_{(i,j) \in \Delta^+_\ell \setminus \Psi} (1 - R_{ij}) h_{\gamma}(x)$$

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- $\Psi = \varnothing \Longrightarrow H(\varnothing; \gamma) = s_{\gamma}$
- $\Psi = \text{all roots} \Longrightarrow H(\Psi; \gamma) = h_{\gamma}$

### k-Schur root ideal for $\lambda$

For 
$$k \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$$
 and  $\lambda = (\lambda_1 \geq \ldots \geq \lambda_\ell) \in \mathbb{Z}^\ell$ ,

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$$\Delta^{4}(3,3,2,2,1,1) = \begin{array}{c} 3 \\ 3 \\ 2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{array} \leftarrow \text{row } i \text{ has } 4 - \lambda_{i} \text{ non-roots}$$

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## k-Schur is a Catalan function (Blasiak et al., 2019).

For partition  $\lambda$  with  $\lambda_1 \leq k$ ,

$$s_{\lambda}^{(k)} = H(\Delta^k(\lambda); \lambda).$$

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- Also the Schur expansion of a *k*-Schur function has positive coefficients.

### Remark

(Blasiak et al., 2019) show results for k-Schur functions with parameter t, but t=1 specialization is necessary for Schubert calculus.

# **Lowering Operators**

- Recall *K*-theory/homology of affine Grassmannian simultaneously generalizes:
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# **Lowering Operators**

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  - Homology of affine Grassmannian:  $s_{\lambda}^{(k)} = \prod_{(i,j) \in \Delta^+ \setminus \Delta^k(\lambda)} (1 R_{ij}) h_{\lambda}$
- ullet Extra ingredient: lowering operators  $L_j(h_\lambda) = h_{\lambda \epsilon_j}$

$$L_3\left(\begin{array}{c} \\ \\ \end{array}\right) = \begin{array}{c} \\ \\ \end{array}$$

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$$\mathcal{K}(\Psi;\mathcal{L};\gamma) := \prod_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{L}} (1-L_j) \prod_{(i,j) \in \Delta^+_{\ell} \setminus \Psi} (1-R_{ij}) k_{\gamma}$$

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### Example

non-roots of  $\Psi$  in blue, roots of  $\mathcal L$  marked with ullet



$$K(\Psi; \mathcal{L}; 54332)$$
  
=  $(1 - L_4)^2 (1 - L_5)^2$   
 $\cdot (1 - R_{12})(1 - R_{34})(1 - R_{45})k_{54332}$ 

Answer (Blasiak-Morse-S., 2020)

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For K-homology of affine Grassmannian,

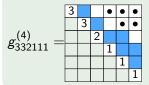
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### Example



$$\Delta^+ \setminus \Psi = \Delta_6^+ \setminus \Delta^{(4)}(332111), \mathcal{L} = \Delta^{(5)}(332111)$$

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# Property and Further Work

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## Theorem (Blasiak-Morse-S., 2020)

The  $g_{\lambda}^{(k)}$  "branching coefficients" are alternating by degree, i.e. the  $b_{\lambda\mu}^{(k)}$  in

$$g_{\lambda}^{(k)}=\sum_{\mu}b_{\lambda\mu}^{(k)}g_{\mu}^{(k+1)}$$

satisfy  $(-1)^{|\lambda|-|\mu|}b_{\lambda\mu}^{(k)}\in\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ .

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- ② Combinatorially describe branching coefficients:  $g_{\lambda}^{(k)} = \sum_{\mu} ?? g_{\mu}^{(k+1)}$ .
- **3** Combinatorially describe  $g_{\lambda}^{(k)} = \sum_{\mu} ?? s_{\mu}^{(k)}$ .

### References

#### Thank you!

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