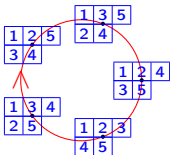


# Schur-positive grid classes and cyclic descents of SYT

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Dartmouth College

Joint work with Ron Adin and Yuval Roichman



Oberwolfach, May 2018

# Permutations and quasisymmetric functions

Let  $\pi = \pi_1 \dots \pi_n \in \mathcal{S}_n$  be a permutation.

The **descent set** of a  $\pi$  is

$$\text{Des}(\pi) = \{i \in [n-1] : \pi_i > \pi_{i+1}\}.$$

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Define the fundamental quasisymmetric function

$$F_\pi = \sum_{\substack{i_1 \leq i_2 \leq \dots \leq i_n \\ i_j < i_{j+1} \text{ if } j \in \text{Des}(\pi)}} x_{i_1} x_{i_2} \cdots x_{i_n}.$$

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**Example:** For  $\pi = 132$ ,  $\text{Des}(\pi) = \{2\}$  and

$$F_{132} = \sum_{i_1 \leq i_2 < i_3} x_{i_1} x_{i_2} x_{i_3} = x_1^2 x_2 + x_1^2 x_3 + x_2^2 x_3 + \cdots + x_1 x_2 x_3 + x_1 x_2 x_4 + \dots$$

Quasisymmetric: coeff of  $x_{i_1}^{\alpha_1} \dots x_{i_k}^{\alpha_k}$  is the same for any  $i_1 < \dots < i_k$ .

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Define  $Q(A)$  similarly if  $A$  is a multiset.

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  - involutions,
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- [Adin–Roichman '15]: Sets of the form  $\{\pi \in \mathcal{S}_n : \text{inv}(\pi) = k\}$ .

# A new Schur-positive set

$\pi \in \mathcal{S}_n$  is an **arc permutation** if every prefix of  $\pi$  forms an interval in  $\mathbb{Z}_n$ . Let  $\mathcal{A}_n =$  set of arc permutations in  $\mathcal{S}_n$ .



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$\mathcal{A}_n$  is Schur-positive, and

$$Q(\mathcal{A}_n) = s_n + s_{1^n} + \sum_{k=2}^{n-2} s_{n-k, 2, 1^{k-2}} + 2 \sum_{k=1}^{n-2} s_{n-k, 1^k}.$$

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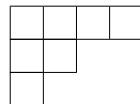
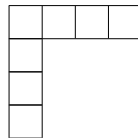
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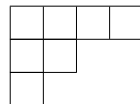
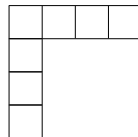
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Incidentally,

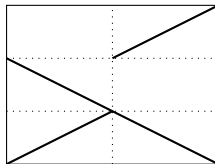
$\mathcal{A}_n = \mathcal{S}_n(1324, 1342, 2413, 2431, 3124, 3142, 4213, 4231)$ .

# Geometric grid classes

Let  $M$  be a  $\{0, 1, -1\}$ -matrix.

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Gamma(M) =$$

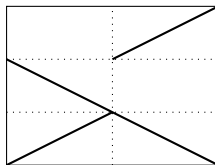


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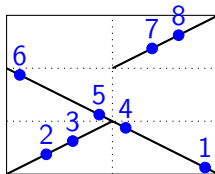
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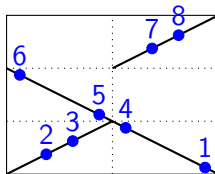
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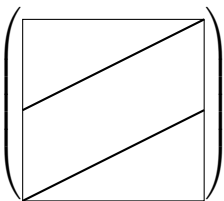
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**Theorem (Albert, Atkinson, Bouvel, Ruškuc, Vatter '13)**

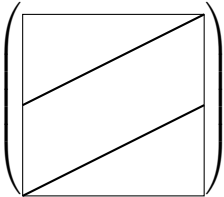
*Every geometric grid class can be characterized by avoidance of a finite set of patterns.*



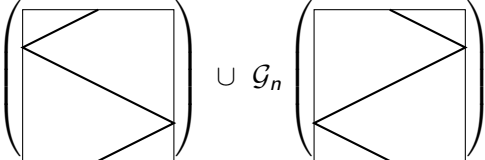
# Examples of geometric grid classes

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Arc permutations can be expressed as a union of two geometric grid classes:

$$\mathcal{A}_n = \mathcal{G}_n \left( \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \square \\ \hline \end{array} \right) \cup \mathcal{G}_n \left( \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \square \\ \hline \end{array} \right).$$




# Schur-positive geometric grid classes

[E.-Roichman '15]: One-column grid classes are Schur-positive.

$$Q \left( \mathcal{G}_5 \left( \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \hline \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \hline \end{array} \right) \right) = s_5 + 2s_{4,1} + 2s_{3,2} + 3s_{3,1^2} + 4s_{2^2,1} + 4s_{2,1^3} + s_{1^5}.$$

[E.-Roichman '15]: Layered permutations are Schur-positive.

$$Q \left( \mathcal{G}_n \left( \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \diagup \quad \cdot \quad \cdot \\ \hline \cdot \quad \diagup \quad \cdot \\ \hline \cdot \quad \cdot \quad \diagup \\ \hline \end{array} \right) \right) = s_n + s_{n-1,1} + s_{n-2,1^2}.$$

# Vertical rotations

Let  $c \in \mathcal{S}_n$  be the  $n$ -cycle  $c = (1, 2, \dots, n)$ , and let  $C_n = \langle c \rangle = \{c^k : 0 \leq k < n\}$  be the subgroup it generates.

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## Theorem (E.-Roichman '15)

*For a one-column grid class  $\mathcal{H}_n$ , the multiset  $C_n \mathcal{H}_n$  is Schur-positive.*



# Arc permutations revisited

## Corollary

$\mathcal{A}_n$  is Schur-positive.

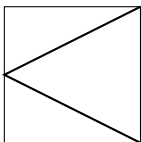
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## Theorem (E.-Roichman '16)

*For every Schur-positive set  $A \subseteq \mathcal{S}_{n-1}$ , the set  $AC_n$  is Schur-positive.*





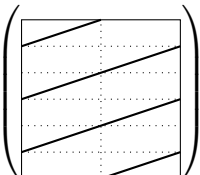
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For example,  $\mathcal{G}_n$   is Schur-positive.

As a byproduct of the proof, we get a notion of cyclic descents on SYT of certain shapes.

# Cyclic descents of permutations

The **cyclic descent set** of  $\pi \in \mathcal{S}_n$  is

$$\text{cDes}(\pi) = \begin{cases} \text{Des}(\pi) \cup \{n\} & \text{if } \pi_n > \pi_1, \\ \text{Des}(\pi) & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

**Example:**  $\text{cDes}(51432) = \{1, 3, 4\}$ ,  $\text{cDes}(21543) = \{1, 3, 4, 5\}$ .

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Introduced by Cellini '95; further studied by Dilks, Petersen and Stembridge '09 among others.

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Indeed, we can just define  $\phi$  by

$$\pi_1 \pi_2 \dots \pi_{n-1} \pi_n \xrightarrow{\phi} \pi_n \pi_1 \pi_2 \dots \pi_{n-1}$$

# Standard Young Tableaux

A **standard Young tableau (SYT)** of skew shape  $\lambda/\mu$  is a filling of the diagram of  $\lambda/\mu$  with the numbers  $1, \dots, n$  (where  $n = \#\text{boxes}$ ) so that entries increase along rows and along columns.

Examples:

$$\lambda = (4, 3, 1)$$

1	2	4	8
3	5	7	
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$$\lambda/\mu = (5, 3, 3, 1)/(2, 1)$$

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	1	5		
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$$\lambda/\mu = (5, 3, 3, 1)/(2, 1)$$

		2	3	9
	1	5		
4	7	8		
6				

Denote the set of all SYT of shape  $\lambda/\mu$  by **SYT**( $\lambda/\mu$ ).

# Descents of SYT

The **descent set** of a standard Young tableau  $T$  is

$$\text{Des}(T) = \{i : i + 1 \text{ is in a lower row than } i\}.$$





# Cyclic descent extensions

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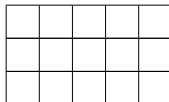
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- (a)  $\text{cDes}(T) \cap [n-1] = \text{Des}(T)$ ,
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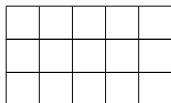


# SYT of rectangular shapes



For  $r \mid n$ , let  $\lambda = (r, \dots, r) \vdash n$  be a rectangular shape.

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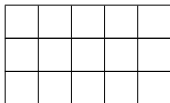


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**Theorem (Rhoades '10)**

*There exists a cyclic descent extension for  $\lambda = (r, \dots, r)$ .*

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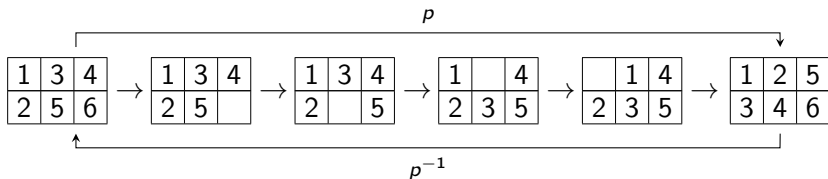
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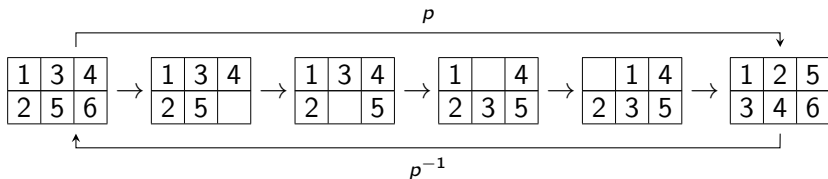
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Here, the bijection  $\phi$  that shifts cDes is Schützenberger's *jeu-de-taquin* promotion operator  $p$ .

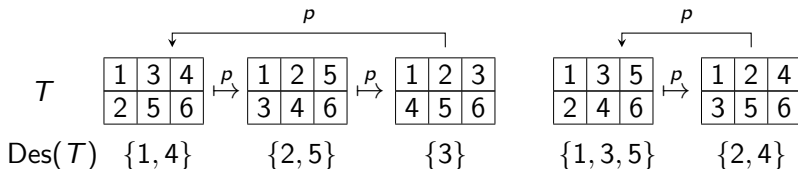
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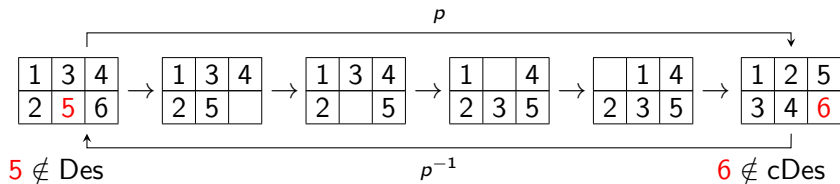
$p$  determines a  $\mathbb{Z}_n$ -action. Here are the orbits for  $\lambda = (3,3)$ :



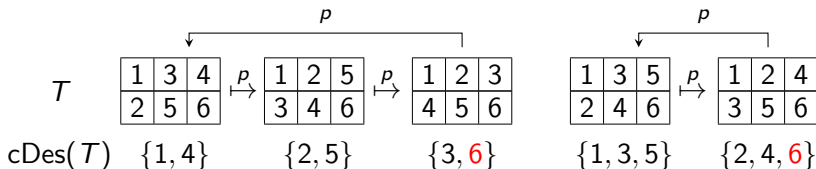




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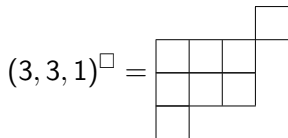


To define  $\text{cDes}$  on  $T \in \text{SYT}(r, \dots, r)$ , let

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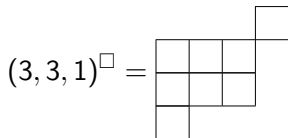
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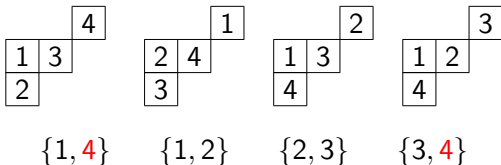
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What is the definition of cDes and  $\phi$  in this case?

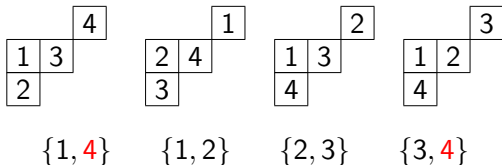
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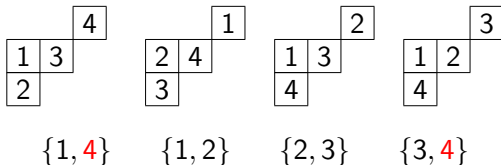


For  $T \in \text{SYT}(\lambda^\square)$ , let  $n \in \text{cDes}(T)$  iff

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What is  $\text{jdt}(T - d)$ ?



# A *jeu-de-taquin* straightening algorithm

Given an SYT  $T$  with  $n$  boxes, let  $T + k$  be obtained by adding  $k \bmod n$  to each entry.

$$T = \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline & & \boxed{6} \\ \hline \boxed{1} & \boxed{3} & \boxed{5} \\ \hline \boxed{2} & \boxed{4} & \\ \hline \end{array}$$

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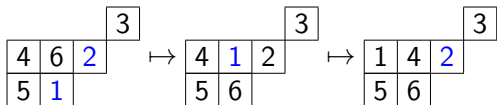
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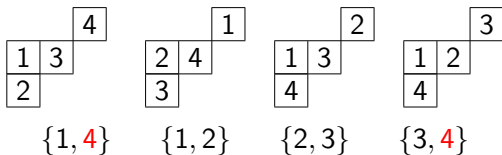
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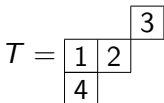
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**Note:** promotion is just  $p(T) = \text{jdt}(T + 1)$ ,  $p^{-1}(T) = \text{jdt}(T - 1)$ .

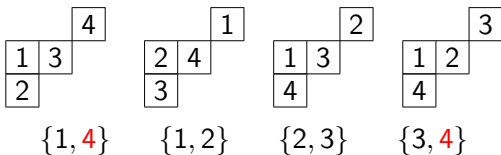
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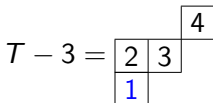
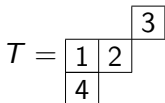


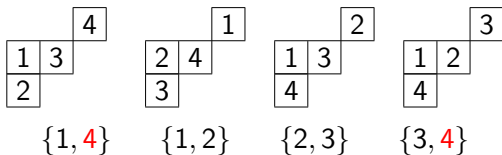


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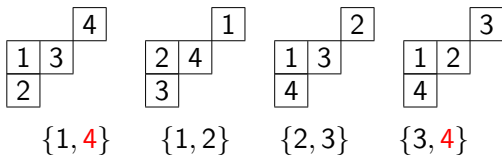


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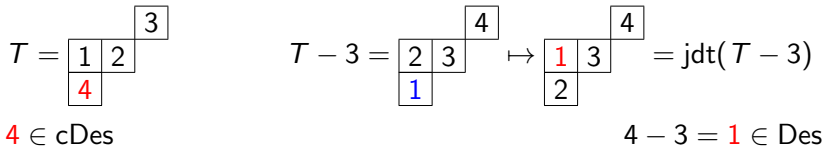
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# The bijection $\phi$ that shifts cDes on $\text{SYT}(\lambda^{\square})$

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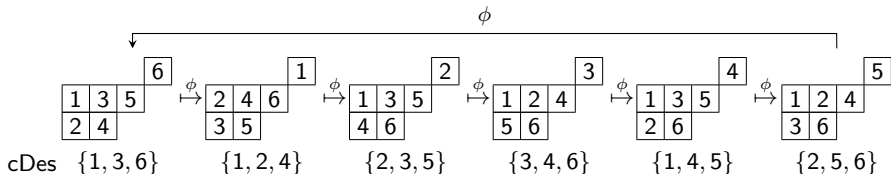
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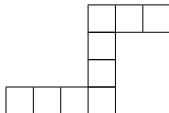
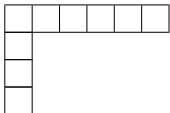


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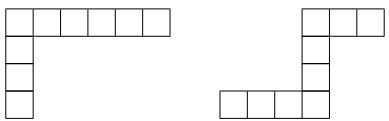




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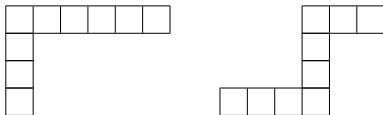


**Fact:** If  $\lambda/\mu$  is a connected ribbon (other than a single row or column), then there is **no cyclic descent extension** for  $\lambda/\mu$ .

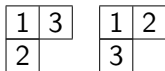
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Des( $T$ )    {1}    {2}    3?

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**Question:** Can we find an explicit description of cDes for other shapes  $\lambda/\mu$ ?

# Explicit description of cDes for some shapes

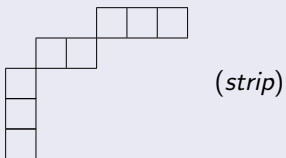
## Theorem (Adin-E.-Roichman '17)

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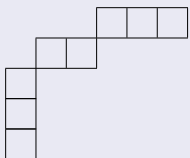




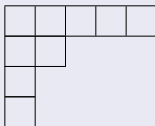
# Explicit description of cDes for some shapes

## Theorem (Adin-E.-Roichman '17)

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*(strip)*

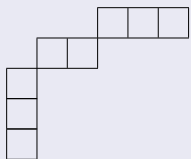


*(hook plus a box)*

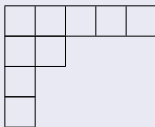
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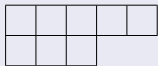
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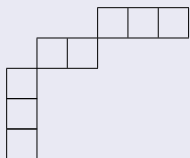


(two-row straight)

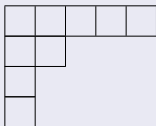
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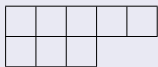
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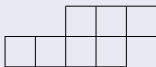
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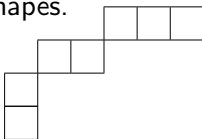
(two-row straight)



(two-row skew)

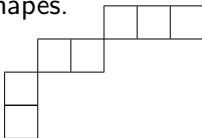
# Definition of cDes on strips

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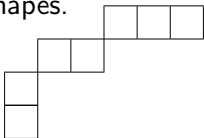


For  $T \in \text{SYT}(\lambda/\mu)$ , let  $n \in \text{cDes}(T)$  iff

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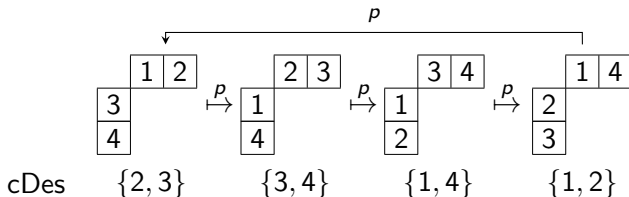
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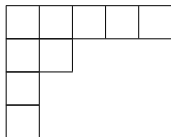
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Again, the promotion operator  $p : T \mapsto \text{jdt}(T + 1)$  shifts cDes:



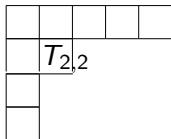
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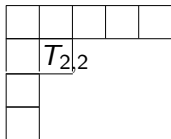
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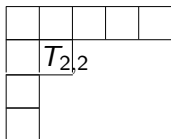
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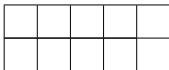
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We have a complicated explicit definition of a bijection  $\phi$  that shifts cDes. In this case it doesn't determine a  $\mathbb{Z}_n$ -action.

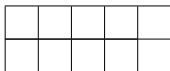
# cDes on two-row straight shapes

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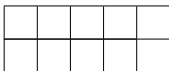


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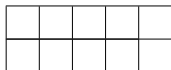


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Examples:

$9 \in \text{cDes} \left( \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 & 3 & 5 & 9 \\ \hline 4 & 6 & 7 & 8 & \\ \hline \end{array} \right)$  because  $8 = 7 + 1$ ,  $4 > 2$  and  $6 > 3$ .

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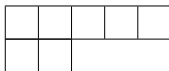
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# cDes on two-row straight shapes

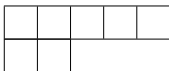
- When  $\lambda = (n - 2, 2)$ , the definition of cDes viewed as a two-row shape coincides with the definition viewed as a hook plus a box.



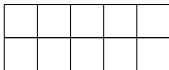


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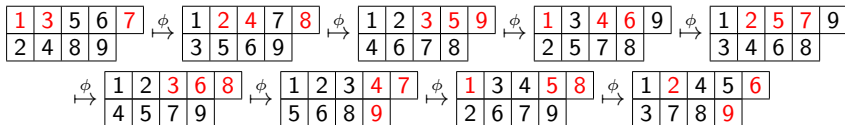


- For  $\lambda = (r, r)$ , the definition of cDes viewed as a two-row shape coincides with Rhoades' definition viewed as a rectangular shape.



# $\phi$ on two-row straight shapes

For two-row straight shapes, we have an explicit definition of a map  $\phi$  that shifts cDes, but it does not determine a  $\mathbb{Z}_n$ -action.



(cDes in red)

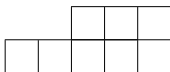
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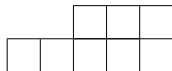
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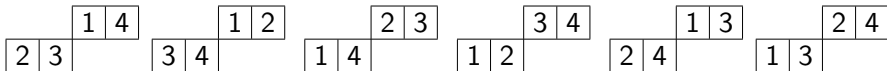
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We have no explicit description of  $\phi$  in this case.

# Non-uniqueness of cDes

For many shapes, the definition of cDes is not unique.

**Example:** Let  $\lambda/\mu = (4, 2)/(2)$ .

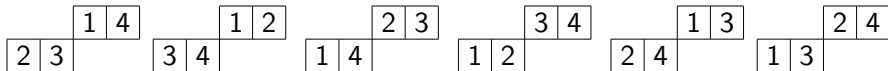




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Our definition of cDes:

{1}          {2}          {3}          {4}          {1, 3}          {2, 4}

Another possible definition of cDes:

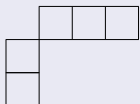
{1}          {2, 4}          {3}          {4}          {1, 3}          {2}



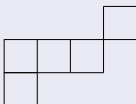
# Uniqueness of cDes for near-hooks

## Theorem (Adin-E.-Roichman '17)

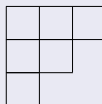
Suppose that either  $\lambda/\mu$  or its  $180^\circ$ -rotation is “one cell away from a hook”, i.e.



*hook minus its corner cell*



*hook plus a disconnected cell*



*hook plus an internal cell*

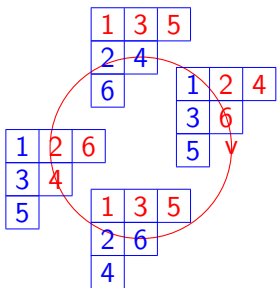
Then  $\text{cDes}$  on  $\text{SYT}(\lambda/\mu)$  is uniquely defined.

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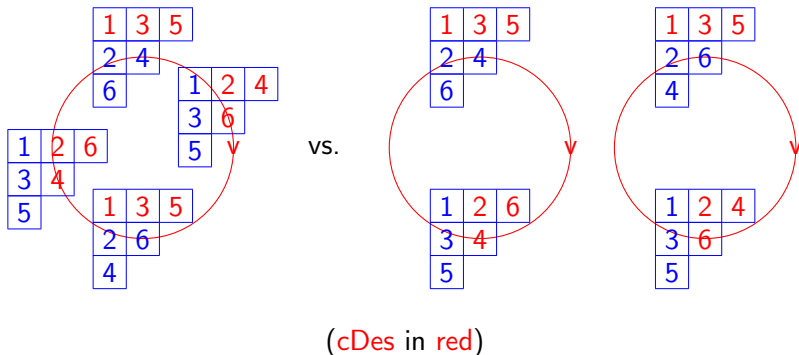


vs.

(cDes in red)

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# Thanks!



**FPSAC**  
**DARTMOUTH COLLEGE**  
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**Hanover, NH, USA**

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<b>Ioana Dumitriu</b> University of Washington, US	<b>Gilles Schaeffer</b> École Polytechnique, France
<b>Jang Soo Kim</b> Sungkyunkwan University, South Korea	<b>Einar Steingrímsson</b> University of Strathclyde, Scotland
	<b>Jan Felipe van Diejen</b> Universidad de Talca, Chile

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FPSAC 2018 is supported by a generous gift for Dartmouth Conferences from Fannie and Alan Leslie, and by the National Science Foundation.

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