

# Day 4: Dihedral Sieving Phenomena

6/6/19

TAs: Sarah and Andy

Session today at 1:30pm in Vincent 209

Based on work by Rao & Suk 2017 REU

## 1. Cyclic Sieving & $q$ -analogues

- (a) subsets,  $q$ -binomials
- (b) polygon dissections,  $q$ -Catalans

## 2. Dihedral Sieving

- (a) subsets
- (b) triangulations,  $(q, t)$ -Catalans

## 3. REU Problem 4

### 1. Cyclic Sieving

Have in mind a finite set  $X$  e.g.  $X = \binom{[n]}{k} = k$ -subsets of  $[n] := \{1, \dots, n\}$ .

and some polynomial  $X(q) \in \mathbb{Z}[q]$  that is a  $q$ -analogue of  $\#X$

meaning:  $[X(q)]_{q=1} = \#X$

e.g.  $\#X = \# \binom{[n]}{k} = \binom{n}{k} = \frac{n!}{(n-k)!k!}$

$X(q) := \begin{bmatrix} n \\ k \end{bmatrix}_q = \frac{[n]_q!}{[n-k]_q! [k]_q!}$  where  $[n]_q! = [n]_q [n-1]_q \dots [1]_q$   
and  $[n]_q = 1 + q + \dots + q^{n-1}$

Note:  $[n]_{q=1}! = n!$ , and so  $\begin{bmatrix} n \\ k \end{bmatrix}_{q=1} = \binom{n}{k}$

e.g.  $\begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}_q = \frac{[6]_q [5]_q [4]_q}{[3]_q [2]_q [1]_q} = \frac{(1+q+\dots+q^5)(1+q+\dots+q^4)(1+q+q^2+q^3)}{(1+q+q^2)(1+q)(1)}$

$= (1+q^3)(1+q^2) [5]_q$

$= 1+q+2q^2+3q^3+3q^4+3q^5+2q^7+q^8+q^9$

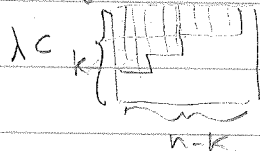
$\in \mathbb{Z}[q]$

$\begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}_q = \dots = 1+q+2q^2+2q^3+3q^4+2q^5+2q^6+q^7+q^8$

REU Exercise 9

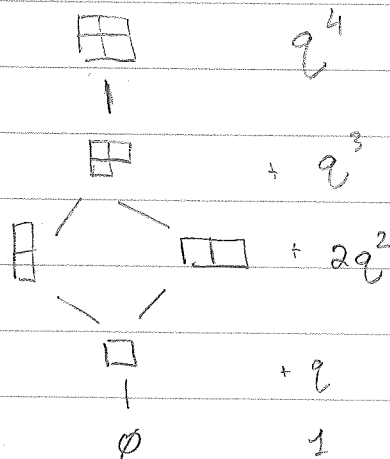
(a) show  $\begin{bmatrix} n \\ k \end{bmatrix}_q = q^k \begin{bmatrix} n-1 \\ k \end{bmatrix}_q + \begin{bmatrix} n-1 \\ k-1 \end{bmatrix}_q$  "q-Pascal"

(b) Show  $\begin{bmatrix} n \\ k \end{bmatrix}_q = \sum_{\lambda \subset k} q^{|\lambda|}$   
 Ferrers/Jung diagrams



e.g.  $\begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}_q : k=2, n-k=2.$

Possible  $\lambda$ :



(c) Show  $\begin{bmatrix} n \\ k \end{bmatrix}_q = p^d$  where  $p$  is prime (so  $\exists$  a finite field  $\mathbb{F}_q = \mathbb{F}_{p^d}$  of size  $q = p^d$ )  
 $= \# \{ k\text{-dim } \mathbb{F}_q\text{-linear subspaces of } (\mathbb{F}_q)^n \}$

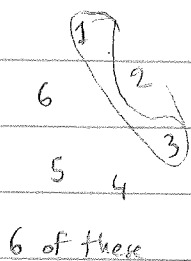
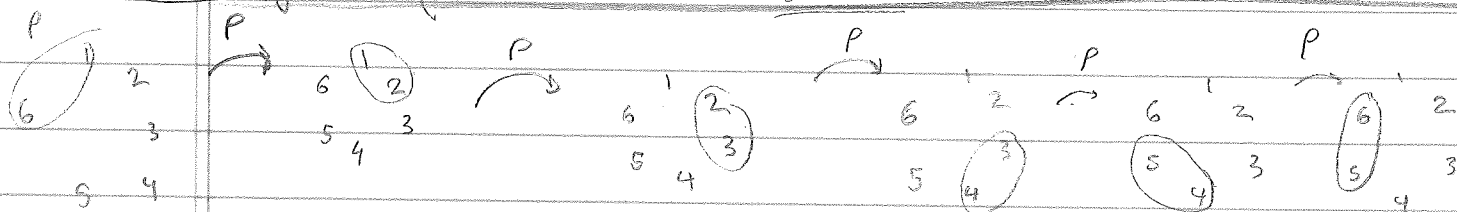
Now assume  $X$  has the action of a cyclic group  $C := C_m \cong \mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}$   
 (written  $C \curvearrowright X$ )  $= \langle p \rangle = \{1, p, p^2, \dots, p^{m-1}\}$   
"acts on"

permuting  $X$ .

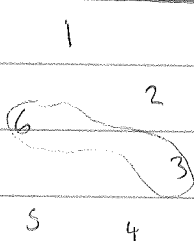
e.g.  $C_n \curvearrowright X = \begin{pmatrix} [n] \\ k \end{pmatrix}$  via  $p \cdot \{i_1, \dots, i_k\} = \{i_1+1, \dots, i_k+1\}$

← read the values mod  $n$ .

e.g.  $X = \begin{pmatrix} [6] \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$  has 3  $C_6$ -orbits:



6 of these



3 of these



Def. (Stanton-Whit-R, 2014). Say  $(X \curvearrowright C_m, X(q))$  exhibits a cyclic sieving phenomenon (CSP) if for every  $p^k \in C_m$  one has  $\# X^{p^k} := \# \{x \in X : p^k(x) = x\} = [X(q)]_q = \binom{m}{k}_q$ ,  $q = e^{2\pi i/m}$ .

(a) Thm (RSW, 2004)  $(X = \begin{pmatrix} [n] \\ k \end{pmatrix} \curvearrowright C_n, X(q) = \begin{bmatrix} n \\ k \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}_q)$  exhibits a CSP.

$$\binom{6}{2}_q = \frac{[6]_q!}{[2]_q! [4]_q!}$$

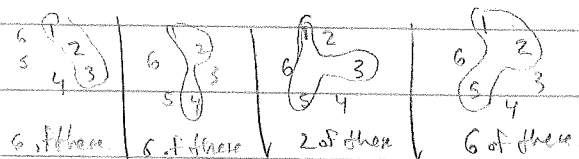
$$= \begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}_q : q = 1 \rightsquigarrow \binom{6}{2} = 15 = \# X = \# X^1 \text{ (no surprise).}$$

$$q = \zeta_6^3 = -1 \rightsquigarrow 3 = \# X^{\zeta_6^3}$$

$$q = \zeta_6^2 \rightsquigarrow 0$$

$$q = \zeta_6 \rightsquigarrow 0.$$

$\begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}_q : q = 1 \binom{6}{3}$  orbits:



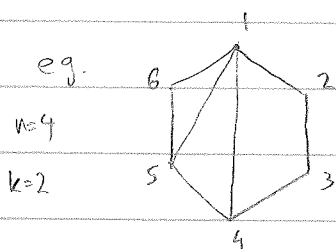
6 of these | 5 of these | 2 of these | 6 of these.

$q = -1$  not 0. (nothing fixed by  $180^\circ$  rotation).

$$q = \zeta_6^2 = e^{2\pi i/3} \rightsquigarrow 2.$$

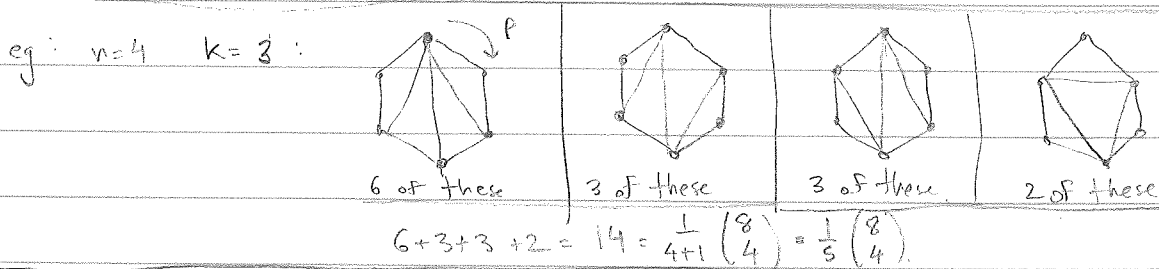
$$q = \zeta_6 \rightsquigarrow 0.$$

(b) Thm (Kirkman 1857) (Cayley 1890)  $\#$  } dissections of  $n+2$ -sided polygon using  $k$ -noncrossing diagonals  $\left. \vphantom{\#} \right\} = \frac{1}{n} \binom{n}{k+1} \binom{n+k+1}{k}$

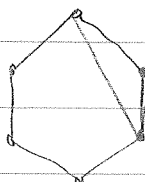


When  $k=n-1 \rightarrow \#$  triangulations of  $n+2$ -gon  $\left. \vphantom{\#} \right\} = \frac{1}{n} \binom{n}{n} \binom{2n+1}{n-1}$   
 $= \frac{1}{n+1} \binom{2n}{n}$

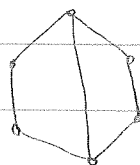
= Catalan #s.



$n=4$   $k=1$ :



6 of these



3 of these

$$6+3=9 = \frac{1}{4} \binom{4}{2} \binom{6}{1}$$

Thm (RSW 2004)  $(X = \bigcup_{n \geq 0} C_n, X(q) = \left[ \begin{matrix} n \\ k+1 \end{matrix} \right]_q \left[ \begin{matrix} n+k+1 \\ k \end{matrix} \right]_q \frac{1}{[n]_q})$

- exhibits a CSP.

$n=4$   $k=2$ :  $X(q) = \frac{1}{[4]_q} \left[ \begin{matrix} 4 \\ 2 \end{matrix} \right]_q \left[ \begin{matrix} 6 \\ 1 \end{matrix} \right]_q = (1+q^2+q^4)(1+q+q^2)$

$q=1 \rightsquigarrow 9$

$q=-1 \rightsquigarrow 3$

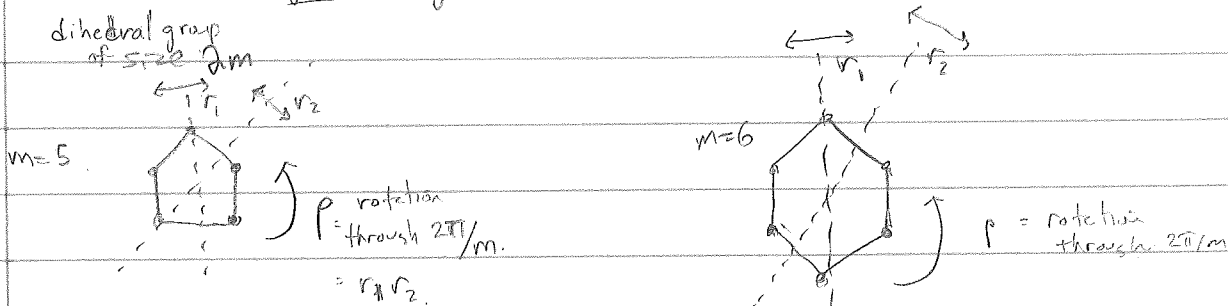
$q = \sum_{i=0}^2 q^i \rightsquigarrow 0$

$q = \sum_{i=0}^3 q^i \rightsquigarrow 0$

## 2. Dihedral Group

Lots of sets  $X$  with  $C_m$  action actually have an action of  $I_2(m)$

$I_2(m) :=$  (linear) symmetries of a regular  $m$ -gon



$$I_2(m) = \underbrace{\{1, p, \dots, p^{m-1}\}}_{m \text{ rotations}}, \underbrace{\{r_1, r_1 p, r_1 p^2, \dots, r_1 p^{m-1}\}}_{m \text{ reflections}} \quad (\text{call } r_1 = r)$$

### REU Exercise 10

(a) Show  $I_2(m)$  has this (abstract) presentation

$$I_2(m) \cong \langle \underbrace{r, p}_{\text{generators}} \mid \underbrace{r^2 = p^m, r p r^{-1} = p^{-1}}_{\text{relations}} \rangle$$

(b) Show that the defining representation  $I_2(m) \xrightarrow{\varphi_{\text{def}}} GL_2(\mathbb{R}) \subset GL_2(\mathbb{C})$   
(= group homomorphism  $I_2(m) \rightarrow GL(V)$ )

$$r \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$p \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix} \quad \theta = \frac{2\pi}{m}$$

is equivalent via some change of basis matrix  $P \in GL_2(\mathbb{C})$  to

this representation:

$$I_2(m) \xrightarrow{\varphi^{(P)}} GL_2(\mathbb{C})$$

$$r \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$p \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} \zeta_m & 0 \\ 0 & \zeta_m^{-1} \end{pmatrix}$$

meaning

$$P^{-1} \varphi_{\text{def}}(w) P = \varphi^{(P)}(w)$$

for all  $w \in W$

(c). Show that all of the inequivalent characters are these:

isomorphic to  $GL_1(\mathbb{C}) = \mathbb{C}^\times$   
 (linear)

only when  $m$  is even.

	$\chi_1$	$\chi_2$	$\rho = \chi_1 \chi_2$
$\mathbb{1}$	+1	+1	+1
$\chi_1$	-1	+1	-1
$\chi_2$	+1	-1	-1
det.	-1	-1	+1

(d) Show that  $I_2(m) \xrightarrow{\rho^k} GL_2(\mathbb{C})$  for  $k=1, \dots, m-1$ .

$$\rho \mapsto \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\rho^k \mapsto \begin{bmatrix} \zeta_m^k & \\ & \zeta_m^{-k} \end{bmatrix}$$

define representations of  $I_2(m)$ , and they are inequivalent for  $k=1, 2, \dots, \lfloor \frac{m-1}{2} \rfloor$

Q: Is there a dihedral sieving phenomenon (DSP)?

A: Yes, at least for  $m$  odd!

def/ (Rao-Suk 2017) Given a finite set  $X \subseteq I_2(m)$  with  $m$  odd and a polynomial  $X(q, t) \in \mathbb{Z}[q, t]$  that is symmetric in  $q, t$  (i.e.  $X(q, t) = X(t, q)$ ).

Say  $(X \subseteq I_2(m), X(q, t))$  exhibits a DSP if

$$\forall w \in I_2(m) \quad \# X^w = \begin{cases} X(q, t) & q=\lambda_1, t=\lambda_2 \\ & t=\lambda_2 \end{cases}$$

where  $\{\lambda_1, \lambda_2\}$  are eigenvalues of  $w$  in  $\Psi_{\det(w)}$  or  $\Psi^{(1)}$

$$\text{i.e. } \det(X I_2(m) - \Psi_{\det(w)}) = X^2 - (\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)X + \lambda_1 \lambda_2$$

in other words,  $\# X^w = \int X(q, t) |_{q=1, t=1}$  if  $w = r$

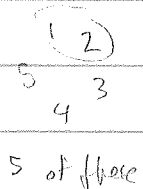
$$\int X(q, t) |_{q=\zeta_m^k, t=\zeta_m^{-k}} \text{ if } w = \rho^k$$

(a) Subsets. Thm (Rao-Suk) 2017 For  $n$  odd, 1

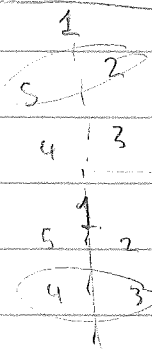
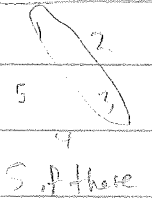
$(X = \binom{[n]}{k}) \hookrightarrow I_2(m)$ ,  $X(q,t) = \binom{[n]}{k}_{q,t}$  exhibits a DSP.  
 where  $\binom{[n]}{k}_i = \frac{[n]!}{[n-k]! [k]!}$   $[n]! = [n] [n-1] \dots [1]$   
 $[n] = q^{n-1} + q^{n-2} + \dots + q + 1$

e.g.  $n=5, k=2$ .  $X(q,t) = \binom{[5]}{2} = \binom{[5]}{2}_q = q^6 + q^5 + 2q^4 + 2q^3 + 2q^2 + q + 1$

orbit



$q, t = 1, 1 \rightarrow \binom{5}{2} = 10$   
 $q, t = q, q^{-1} \rightarrow 0$   
 $q, t = 1, -1 \rightarrow 2$



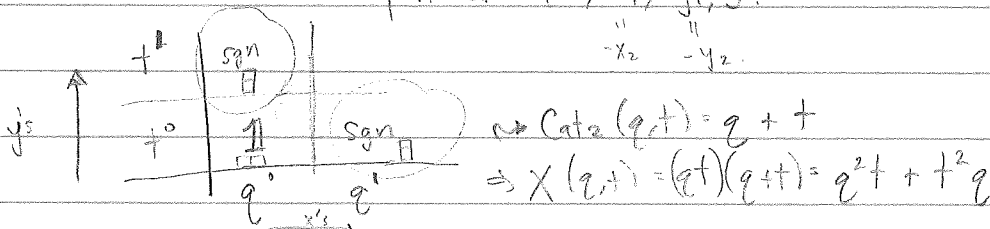
(b) Triangulations Thm (Rao-Suk 2019) For  $n$  odd,

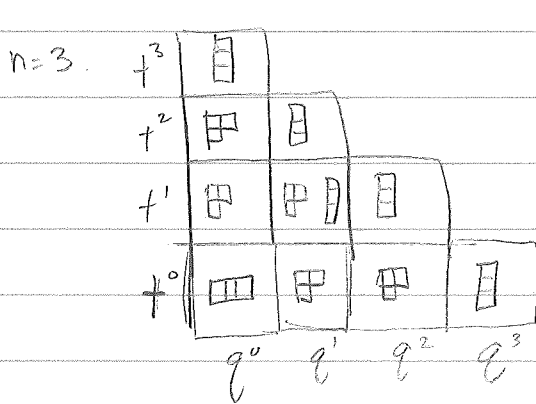
$(X = \text{Triangulations of } (n+2)\text{-gon}) \hookrightarrow I_2(n+2)$ ,  $X(q,t) = (q,t)^{\binom{n}{2}} \text{Cata}_n(q,t)$

exhibits a DSP where  $\text{Cata}_n(q,t) = \text{Garsia-Haiman's } (q,t)\text{-Catalan}$   
 = bigraded Hilbert series Polynomial  
 for the sym-isotypic component  
 of the ring of diagonal harmonics

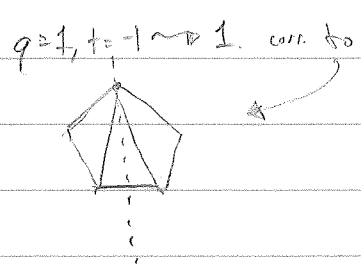
$\sum_{\text{diagonally}} \mathbb{C} = \mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_n, y_1, \dots, y_n] / \langle \mathbb{C}[x, y]_{\geq 3n} \rangle$   
 ideal gen by Sym poly of positive degree.

e.g.  $n=2$ .  $\mathbb{C}[x_1, x_2, y_1, y_2] / \langle (x_1+x_2), (y_1+y_2), x_1^2+x_2^2, y_1^2+y_2^2, (x_1 y_1 + x_2 y_2) \rangle$   
 =  $\mathbb{C}$ -span of  $\{1, x_i, y_i\}$





$$X(q,t) = (qt)^{\binom{3}{2}} (q^3 + q^2t + qt^2 + t^3 + qt)$$



### 3. REU Problem 4

(a) Prove Conj (Rao-Sik, 2019) For  $n$  odd, one also has a DSP:

$$\mathcal{P} \left\{ X = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{dissections of } (n+2)\text{-gon} \\ \text{with } k \text{ diagonals} \end{array} \right\} \right\} \hookrightarrow \mathcal{I}_2(n+2), X(q,t) = (qt)^{\binom{n}{2}} \sum_{n, n-1, k} (q,t)$$

i.e.  $\tilde{S}_{3,11}(q,t) = q^2 + qt + t^2 + qt$  for  $\mathbb{F}$

"little"  $q-t$  Schröder polynomials giving the bigraded multiplicities for

in  $\frac{\mathcal{C}(q,t)}{\mathcal{C}(k,t)}$

(b) Generalize to  $X(q,t) = (qt)^{\binom{n}{2}} \left( (q,t)\text{-Fuss-Catalan poly} \right)$   
 and  $X = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{quadrangulations, pentagonalizations} \\ \text{of polygons} \end{array} \right\}$

CSP version of this is in Eu-Fu.

and to  $(q,t)$ -Fuss-Schröder polynomials and Fuss dissections.

(c) Maybe even a rational  $(q,t)$ -Catalan version?

(d) Q: What is a DSP for even  $\mathbb{P}$ ?