A quasisymmetric invariant for families of posets

Doriann Albertin

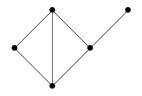
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2023-01-30

Joint work with J. C. Aval & H. Mlodecki

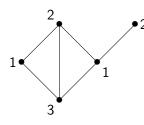
Context

Context • ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ Stanley's invariant



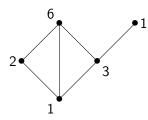
$$X_G =$$

Stanley's invariant



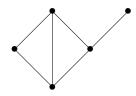
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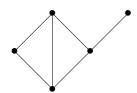


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QSym & FQSym

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Definition (Stanley '95)

Given a graph G, its chromatic symmetric function is:

$$X_{G}(\mathbf{x}) := \sum_{\kappa} \prod_{i \in \mathbb{N}} x_{i}^{\#\kappa^{-1}(i)} \in \mathit{Sym} \subsetneq \mathbb{Q}[[\mathbf{x}]],$$

where $\mathbf{x} := \{x_i \mid i \in \mathbb{N}\}$ is a commutative alphabet, and the sum ranges over all proper colorings of G.

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Stanley's invariant

Obvious fact: $G \sim H \Rightarrow X_G = X_H$.

Context

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Conjecture (Stanley '95)

Chromatic symmetric functions distinguish trees.

Perspectives

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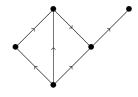
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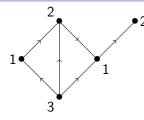
Read "the restriction of the map $G \mapsto X_G$ to trees is injective".

This conjecture spanned a lot of interest and is still open.

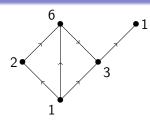
This is not its story.



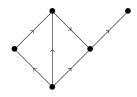
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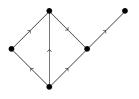
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Definition (Shareshian & Wachs '16, Ellzey '17)

Given an oriented graph \vec{G} with no cycle, its **chromatic** quasisymmetric function is:

$$X_{\vec{G}}({m{x}},t) := \sum_{\kappa} t^{\mathsf{asc}(\kappa)} \prod_{i \in \mathbb{N}} x_i^{\#\kappa^{-1}(i)} \in \mathit{QSym}[t] \subsetneq \mathbb{Q}[[{m{x}}]][t],$$

where $\operatorname{asc}(\kappa)$ denotes the number of *naturally labeled* edges in \vec{G} , meaning that the orientation respects the natural order on the colors.

Conjecture (Alexandersson & Sulzgruber '21)

Chromatic quasisymmetric functions distinguish directed trees.

Context

Oriented graphs

Conjecture (Alexandersson & Sulzgruber '21)

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Observation

This conjecture is neither stronger nor weaker than Stanley's!

Perspectives

Conjecture (Alexandersson & Sulzgruber '21)

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We will focus on a stronger conjecture, and look at the leading coefficient of the chromatic quasisymmetric functions.

Perspectives

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Context

Conjecture (TBD)

The leading coefficient of the chromatic quasisymmetric function distinguishes some family of oriented graphs.

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What does the leading coefficient in t of $X_{\vec{G}}(\mathbf{x},t)$ look like?

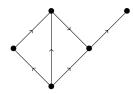
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Conjecture (TBD)

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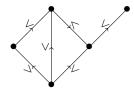


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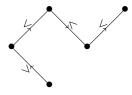


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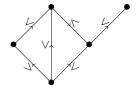
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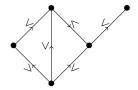


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$$[t^6]X_{\vec{G}}(\mathbf{x},t) = \sum_{1 \le i \le j \le k \le l} x_i x_j x_k x_l$$

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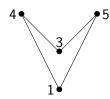
Perspectives

Context ○○○○○◆○○○○

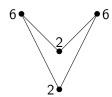


$$\bar{K}_P(\mathbf{x}) =$$

Context



$$\bar{K}_P(\mathbf{x}) = x_1^1 x_3^1 x_4^1 x_5^1$$



$$ar{K}_P(\mathbf{x}) = x_1^1 x_3^1 x_4^1 x_5^1 + x_2^2 x_6^2 + \dots$$





$$ar{\mathcal{K}}_{P}(m{x}) = x_1^1 x_3^1 x_4^1 x_5^1 \ + x_2^2 x_6^2 \ + \dots \ \in \mathit{QSym}.$$



$$ar{K}_P(\mathbf{x}) = x_1^1 x_3^1 x_4^1 x_5^1 + x_2^2 x_6^2 + \dots \in QSym.$$

Definition

Given a poset P, a **strict** P-**partition** is a map $f: P \mapsto \mathbb{N}$ such that $i \leq_P j \Rightarrow f(i) < f(j)$.

The strict P-partition enumerator is:

$$\bar{K}_P(\mathbf{x}) := \sum_f \prod_{i \in \mathbb{N}} x_i^{\#f^{-1}(i)},$$

where the sum ranges over all P-partitions

Conjecture (Hasebe & Tsujie '17)

Strict partition enumerators distinguish trees.

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Conjecture (Hasebe & Tsujie '17)

Strict partition enumerators distinguish trees.

This conjecture is stronger than Alexandersson & Sulzgruber's. We know strict partition enumerators distinguish:

- bowtie and N-free posets (Hasebe & Tsujie '17),
- width 2 posets (Liu & Weselcouch '20),
- rooted trees (Hasebe & Tsujie '17, Zhou '20),
- series-parallel posets (Liu & Weselcouch '21),
- •

Definition

Given a *labeled* poset (P, ω) , a (P, ω) -partition is a map $f: P \mapsto \mathbb{N}$ such that:

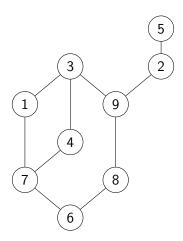
$$\forall i \lessdot_P j, \begin{cases} \omega(i) < \omega(j) \Rightarrow f(i) \leq f(j) \\ \omega(i) > \omega(j) \Rightarrow f(i) < f(j) \end{cases}$$

The (P, ω) -partition enumerator is:

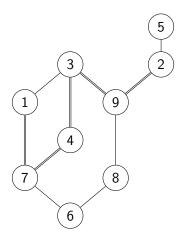
$$\mathcal{K}_{(P,\omega)}(oldsymbol{x}) \coloneqq \sum_f \prod_{i \in \mathbb{N}} x_i^{\#f^{-1}(i)},$$

where the sum ranges over all (P, ω) -partitions

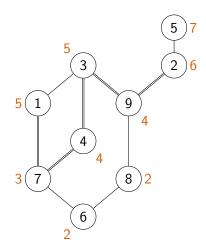
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Mixed *P*-partitions



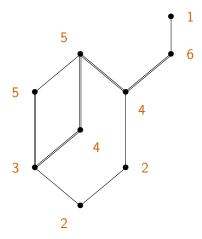
Context ○○○○○○○●○ Mixed *P*-partitions



Mixed P-partitions



Context ○○○○○○○●○ Mixed *P*-partitions



00000000000 Mixed P-partitions

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Partition enumerators don't distinguish trees: $K \vee = K \wedge$.

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Question

What other families of posets are characterized by their partition enumerators?

QSym & FQSym

QSyll

Definition

 $QSym \subseteq \mathbb{Q}[[X]]$ is the Hopf algebra of formal power series over the ordered commutative alphabet X such that for all $i_1 < \ldots < i_k$, $j_1 < \ldots < j_k$ and $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_k) \models n$, $\prod_{\ell \in [k]} x_{i_\ell}^{\alpha_\ell}$ and $\prod_{\ell \in [k]} x_{j_\ell}^{\alpha_\ell}$ have equal coefficients.

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$$QSym \ni x_1^1 x_2^3 x_3^1 + \dots$$

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$$QSym \ni x_1^1 x_2^3 x_3^1 + x_2^1 x_4^3 x_5^1 + x_{12}^1 x_{42}^3 x_{77}^1 + \dots$$

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$$QSym \ni x_1^1 x_2^3 x_3^1 + x_2^1 x_4^3 x_5^1 + x_{12}^1 x_{42}^3 x_{77}^1 + \dots =: M_{131}$$

Proposition

QSym is spanned by the monomial basis, indexed by integer compositions:

$$\forall \alpha \vDash n, \quad M_{\alpha} := \sum_{i_1 < \dots < i_k} \prod_{\ell \in [k]} x_{i_\ell}^{\alpha_\ell}.$$

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QSym is spanned by the fundamental basis, indexed by integer compositions:

$$\forall \alpha \vDash \mathbf{n}, \quad F_{\alpha} := \sum_{\beta \leq \alpha} M_{\beta}.$$



$$\mathcal{K}_{(P,\omega)} = \sum_{\sigma \in \mathscr{L}(P,\omega)} F_{\mathsf{des}(\sigma)}.$$

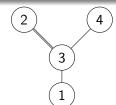


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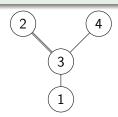
QSym

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Context QSym

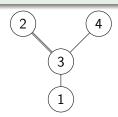
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$$\mathscr{L}(P,\omega) = \{1324, 1342\}$$

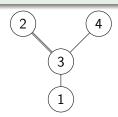
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$$\mathcal{L}(P,\omega) = \{13|24,134|2\}$$

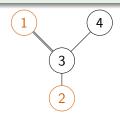
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 $K_{(P,\omega)} = F_{22} + F_{31}$

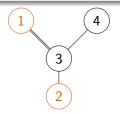
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$$\mathcal{L}(P,\omega') = \{23|14,234|1\}$$

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 $K_{(P,\omega')} = F_{22} + F_{31}$

Theorem (Hazewinkel '01, Lam & Pylyavskyy '08)

QSym is a unique factorization domain.

Proposition

The Hopf algebra **FQSym** $\subsetneq \mathbb{Q}[[A]]$ admits a basis \mathbb{F} indexed by permutations with:

$$\mathbb{F}_{\sigma} := \sum_{\mathsf{std}(w) = \sigma} \prod_{i \in [n]} a_{w_i},$$

$$\mathbb{F}_{\sigma} \cdot \mathbb{F}_{\tau} = \sum_{\nu \in \sigma \bar{\square} \tau} \mathbb{F}_{\nu},$$

where A is a non-commutative alphabet.

$$12 \cdot 12 \cdot 12 = 12 \cdot 12 \cdot 13 = 1243 + 1423 + 4123 + 1432 + 4132 + 4312$$
.

Proposition

FQSym

 $QSym \hookrightarrow \textbf{FQSym}$ through the map

$$F_{\alpha} \mapsto \sum_{\mathsf{des}(\sigma)=\alpha} \mathbb{F}_{\sigma}.$$

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FQSym

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This is nice, because otherwise, computing products in *QSym* is hard:

$$F_{\alpha} \cdot F_{\beta} = K_{P_{\alpha}} \cdot K_{P_{\beta}} = K_{P_{\alpha} \sqcup P_{\beta}}.$$

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Fair rooted trees

Theorem (Aval Djenabou McNamara '23+)

Partition enumerators distinguish fair rooted forests.



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Recursive definition:

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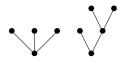
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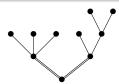
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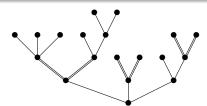
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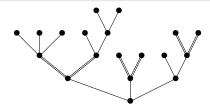


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Recursive definition:

- $\bullet \in \mathcal{C}$,
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- $\uparrow f \in \mathcal{C}$,
- \uparrow $f \in C$.



Lemma (Aval Djenabou & McNamara '23+)

The partition enumerator of a fair rooted tree is irreducible in QSym.

Technical. Has a counterpart in most proof of similar results.

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Sketch of the proof of the Theorem:

Assume $K_f = K_g$. Use irreducibility and unique factorization in QSym to assume f and g are connected.

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Assume $K_f = K_g$. Use irreducibility and unique factorization in QSym to assume f and g are connected.

If $f = \bullet \uparrow f'$, all linear extensions of f start with a descent:

$$K_f = K_g = \sum_{\alpha} c_{\alpha} F_{1,\alpha}$$
 and so g can be written $\bullet \uparrow g'$.

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 and so g can be written $\bullet \uparrow g'$.

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Theorem (Aval Djenabou McNamara '23+)

Partition enumerators distinguish fair rooted forests.

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The case
$$f = \bullet \uparrow f'$$
 is similar.

Doriann Albertin

Fair series-parallel posets

 $\bullet \in \mathcal{C}$,

$$ullet \in \mathcal{C}$$
,

$$P \sqcup Q \in \mathcal{C}$$
,



$$ullet$$
 $\in \mathcal{C}$,

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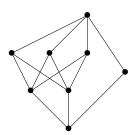
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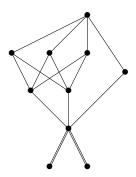


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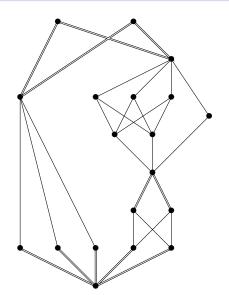


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The latter being a consequence of:

Lemma (A. Aval & Mlodecki '23+)

Let f be a homogeneous quasisymmetric function, such that all elements of its support in the fundamental basis have a common descent. Then f is irreducible in QSym.

Main result

Sketch of the irreducibility proof:

Assume that $K_P = f_1 f_2$.

$$\left(\sum_{\alpha \vDash n} c_{\alpha} F_{\alpha}\right) := K_{P} = f_{1} f_{2} =: \left(\sum_{\beta \vDash n_{1}} d_{\beta} F_{\beta}\right) \cdot \left(\sum_{\gamma \vDash n_{2}} e_{\gamma} F_{\gamma}\right).$$

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$$\sum_{\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n} c_{\mathsf{des}(\sigma)} \mathbb{F}_\sigma = \sum_{\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n} \left(\sum_{\sigma \in au oxdiv
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Context 000000000 Main result

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Let $\beta \vDash n_1$ and $\gamma \vDash n_2$ such that $d_\beta \neq 0$. It is easy to build $\sigma_{\beta,\gamma}$ such that :

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} q \not\in \operatorname{des}(\sigma_{\beta,\gamma}), \\ \operatorname{des}(\sigma^{|[1,n_1]}) = \beta, \\ \operatorname{des}(\sigma^{|[n_1+1,n]}) = \gamma. \end{array} \right.$$

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So that any product $d_{\beta}e_{\gamma}$ with $d_{\beta}\neq 0$ is null. Which is absurd.

Partition enumerators distinguish fair series-parallel posets.

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Suppose $K_P = K_{P'}$. As before, use irreducibility and unique factorization to assume P and P' are connected.

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Indeed, all linear extensions of P' have the same first q values.

By contradiction, let $\sigma, \nu \in \mathcal{L}(P')$, $i \in \sigma_{|[q]} \setminus \nu_{|[q]}$ and $j \in \nu_{|[q]} \setminus \sigma_{|[q]}$.

Pick i and j to minimize their distance to position q in σ .

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In the end, we have two linear extensions of the form:

$$au_1 = i | j |$$
 $au_2 = j | j |$

and one of them has an ascent in q, which is absurd.

Doriann Albertin

Perspectives

A conjecture

Recall:

Theorem (Hasebe & Tsujie '17)

Strict partition enumerators distinguish rooted forests.

and

Theorem (Stanley '71)

$$K_{(P,\omega)} = \sum_{\sigma \in \mathscr{L}(P,\omega)} F_{\mathsf{des}(\sigma)}.$$

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Conjecture (A., Aval & Mlodecki 23+)

 $\sum_{\sigma \in \mathscr{L}_1(P,\omega)} F_{\mathsf{des}(\sigma)} \text{ distinguishes naturally labeled rooted forests.}$

We checked this for forests with up to 15 inner nodes

Conjecture

The partition enumerator of a connected binary tree is irreducible in QSym.

This was checked up to 11 inner nodes.

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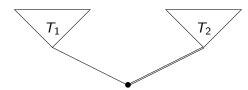
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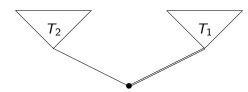


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On binary trees

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On binary trees

Context

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but this is still not enough.

