

# Outside nested decompositions and Schur function determinants

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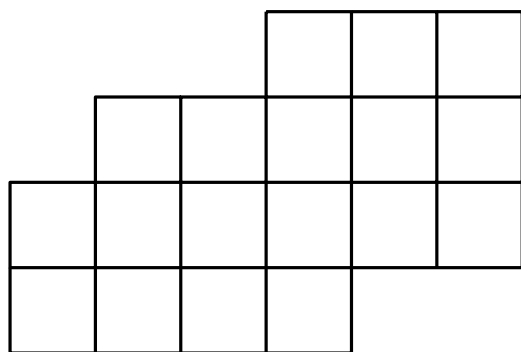
Technische Universität Wien

77th SLC, Strobl

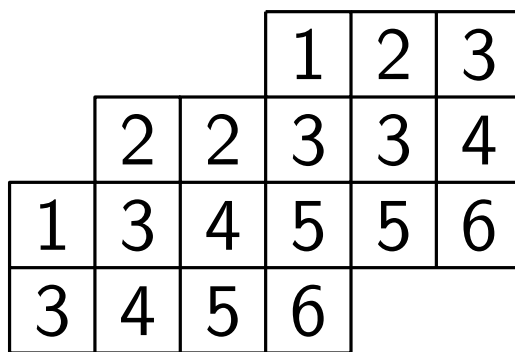
September 12, 2016

# (Semi)standard Young tableaux

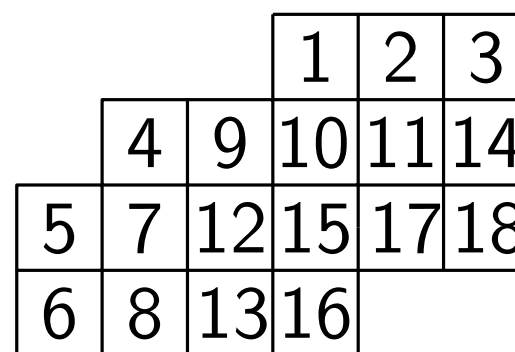
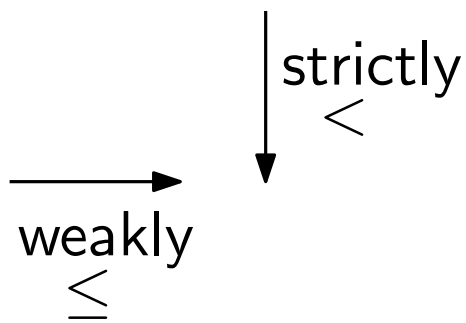
# (Semi)standard Young tableaux (SSYT/SYT)



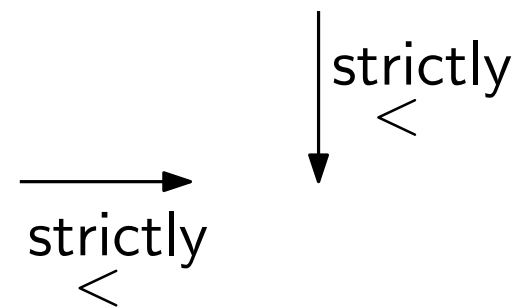
$$\lambda/\mu = (6, 6, 6, 4)/(3, 1)$$



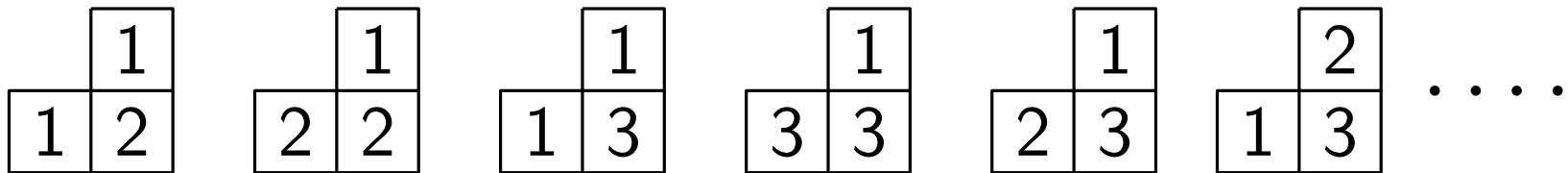
SSYT



SYT



Schur function  $s_{\lambda/\mu}(X)$  and  $f^{\lambda/\mu}$



$s_{\lambda/\mu}(X)$  is the generating function of SSYT.

$$s_{(2,2)/(1)}(X) = x_1^2 x_2 + x_1 x_2^2 + x_1^2 x_3 + x_1 x_3^2 + \boxed{2x_1 x_2 x_3} + \dots$$

$\implies$  the number  $f^{\lambda/\mu}$  of SYT with entries from 1 to  $|\lambda/\mu|$  is  $f^{(2,2)/(1)} = [x_1 x_2 x_3] s_{(2,2)/(1)}(X) = 2$ .

Determinantal formulas for  $s_{\lambda/\mu}(X)$

$$s_{\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array}}(X) = \det \begin{bmatrix} s_{\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array}}(X) & s_{\begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array}}(X) \\ s_{\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \square \\ \hline \end{array}}(X) & s_{\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array}}(X) \end{bmatrix}$$

Jacobi-Trudi determinant

$$s_{\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array}}(X) = \det \begin{bmatrix} s_{\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \square \\ \hline \square \\ \hline \end{array}}(X) & s_{\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \square \\ \hline \square \\ \hline \square \\ \hline \end{array}}(X) \\ s_{\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \square \\ \hline \end{array}}(X) & s_{\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \square \\ \hline \square \\ \hline \end{array}}(X) \end{bmatrix}$$

Dual Jacobi-Trudi determinant

$$s_{\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array}}(X) = \det \begin{bmatrix} s_{\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array}}(X) & s_{\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \square \\ \hline \square \\ \hline \end{array}}(X) \\ s_{\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array}}(X) & s_{\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \square \\ \hline \end{array}}(X) \end{bmatrix}$$

Giambelli determinant

$$s_{\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array}}(X) = \det \begin{bmatrix} s_{\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array}}(X) & s_{\begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array}}(X) \\ s_{\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \square \\ \hline \end{array}}(X) & s_{\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array}}(X) \end{bmatrix}$$

Jacobi-Trudi determinant

$$s_{\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array}}(X) = \det \begin{bmatrix} s_{\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \square \\ \hline \end{array}}(X) & s_{\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array}}(X) \\ s_{\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \square \\ \hline \end{array}}(X) & s_{\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array}}(X) \end{bmatrix}$$

Dual Jacobi-Trudi determinant

$$s_{\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array}}(X) = \det \begin{bmatrix} s_{\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array}}(X) & s_{\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \square \\ \hline \end{array}}(X) \\ s_{\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array}}(X) & s_{\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \square \\ \hline \end{array}}(X) \end{bmatrix}$$

Giambelli determinant

$$s_{\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \color{red}\cdot & \color{red}\cdot \\ \hline \color{red}\cdot & \color{red}\cdot \\ \hline \end{array}}(X) = \det \begin{bmatrix} s_{\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \color{red}\cdot & \color{red}\cdot \\ \hline \end{array}}(X) & s_{\begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline \color{red}\cdot & \color{red}\cdot & \color{red}\cdot \\ \hline \end{array}}(X) \\ s_{\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \color{red}\cdot \\ \hline \end{array}}(X) & s_{\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \color{red}\cdot & \color{red}\cdot \\ \hline \end{array}}(X) \end{bmatrix}$$

Jacobi-Trudi determinant

$$s_{\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \color{red}\cdot & \color{red}\cdot \\ \hline \color{red}\cdot & \color{red}\cdot \\ \hline \end{array}}(X) = \det \begin{bmatrix} s_{\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \color{red}\cdot \\ \hline \end{array}}(X) & s_{\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \color{red}\cdot & \color{red}\cdot \\ \hline \end{array}}(X) \\ s_{\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \color{red}\cdot \\ \hline \end{array}}(X) & s_{\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \color{red}\cdot & \color{red}\cdot \\ \hline \end{array}}(X) \end{bmatrix}$$

Dual Jacobi-Trudi determinant

$$s_{\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \color{red}\cdot & \color{red}\cdot \\ \hline \color{red}\cdot & \color{red}\cdot \\ \hline \end{array}}(X) = \det \begin{bmatrix} s_{\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \color{red}\cdot & \color{red}\cdot \\ \hline \end{array}}(X) & s_{\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \color{red}\cdot \\ \hline \end{array}}(X) \\ s_{\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \color{red}\cdot & \color{red}\cdot \\ \hline \end{array}}(X) & s_{\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \color{red}\cdot \\ \hline \end{array}}(X) \end{bmatrix}$$

Giambelli determinant

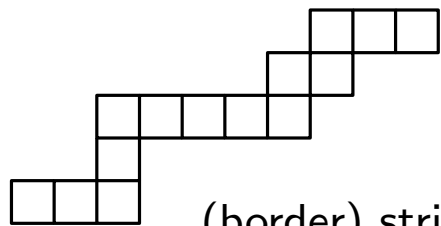


Jacobi-Trudi determinant and its dual  $s_{\lambda/\mu}(X)$ ,  
 Giambelli determinant  $s_{\lambda}(X)$ ,  
 Lascoux and Pragacz determinant  $s_{\lambda/\mu}(X)$ ,

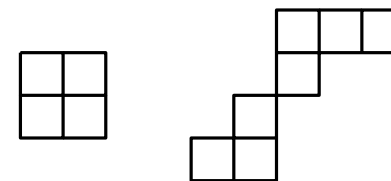
Hamel and Goulden determinant  $s_{\lambda/\mu}(X)$ ,  
 (outside decompositions)

unified  
by

Reference: A.M. Hamel and I.P. Goulden, Planar decompositions of tableaux and Schur function determinants, *Europ. J. Combinatorics*, 16, 461-477, 1995.



(border) strip or ribbon



are not allowed

# Hamel and Goulden's Determinant

Motivation: unify different determinantal expressions of  $s_{\lambda/\mu}(X)$

Hamel and Goulden determinant,  
(outside decompositions)

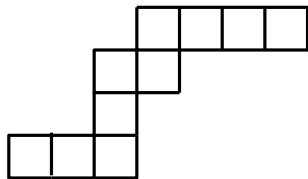
If the skew diagram of  $\lambda/\mu$  is edgewise connected. Then, for any outside decomposition  $\Phi = (\theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_g)$  of the skew shape  $\lambda/\mu$ , we have

$$s_{\lambda/\mu}(X) = \det[s_{\theta_i \# \theta_j}(X)]_{i,j=1}^g$$

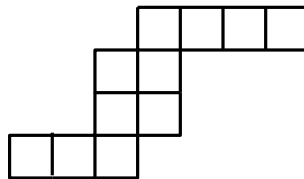
where  $s_{\emptyset}(X) = 1$  and  $s_{\theta_i \# \theta_j}(X) = 0$  if  $\theta_i \# \theta_j$  is undefined.

(Border) strips (or ribbons):

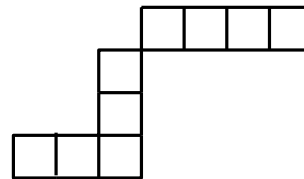
A skew diagram  $\theta$  is a (border) strip if  $\theta$  is edgewise connected and contains no  $2 \times 2$  blocks of boxes.



Yes



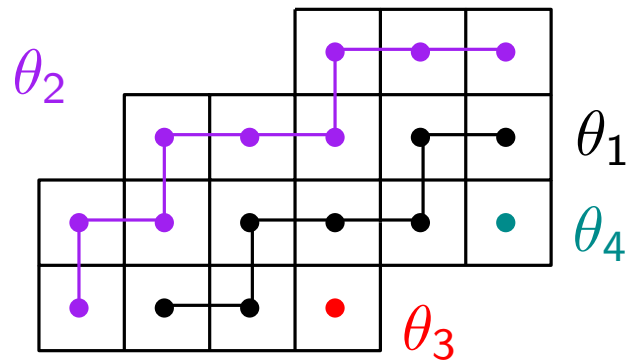
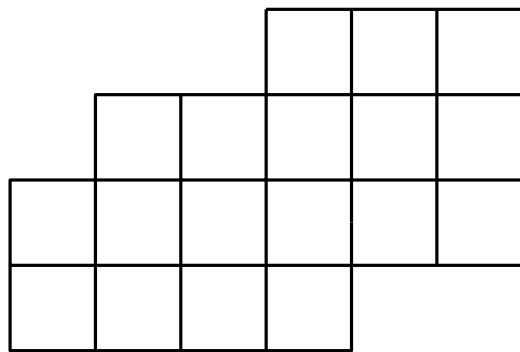
No



No

$\phi = (\theta_1, \theta_2, \theta_3, \theta_4)$  is an outside decomposition

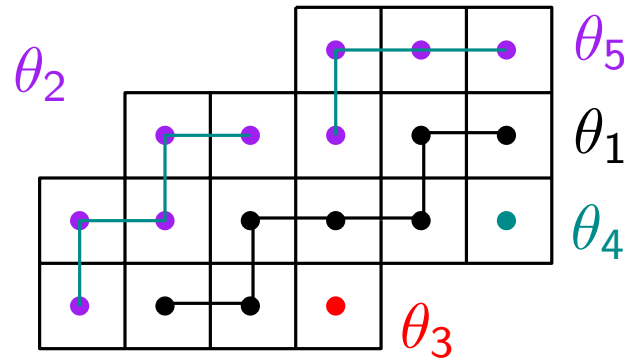
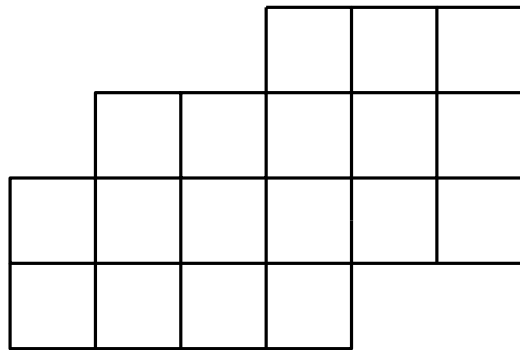
- (1)  $\theta_i$  is a (border) strip for all  $i$ ;
- (2) the disjoint union of all (border) strips is the skew shape  $\lambda/\mu$ ;
- (3) every starting box (resp. ending box) of  $\theta_i$  is on the bottom or left (resp. the top or right) perimeter of the skew shape  $\lambda/\mu$ .



Yes

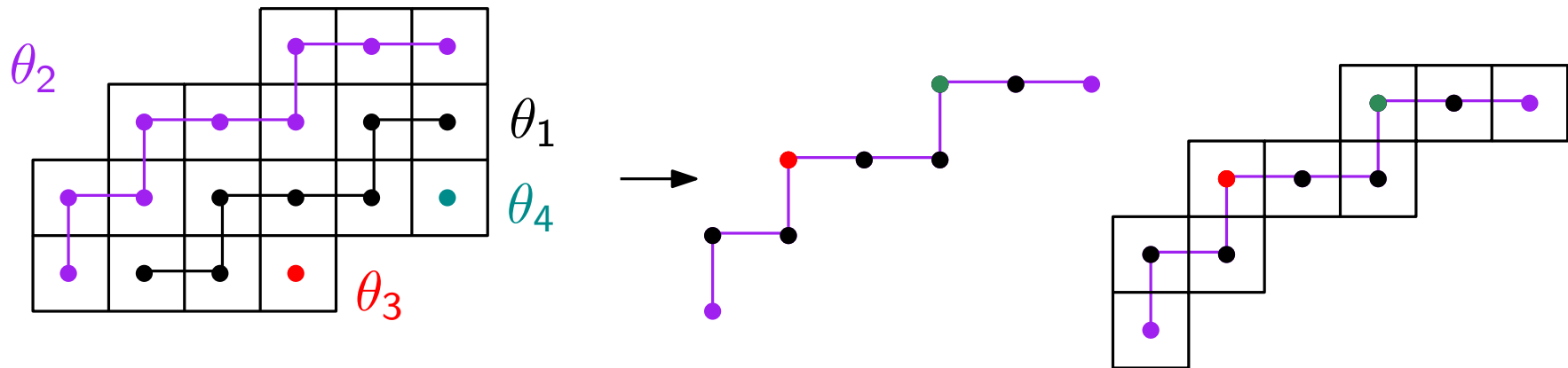
$\phi = (\theta_1, \theta_2, \theta_3, \theta_4, \theta_5)$  is not an outside decomposition

- (1)  $\theta_i$  is a (border) strip for all  $i$ ;
- (2) the disjoint union of all (border) strips is the skew shape  $\lambda/\mu$ ;
- (3) every starting box (resp. ending box) of  $\theta_i$  is on the bottom or left (resp. the top or right) perimeter of the skew shape  $\lambda/\mu$ .



No

Outside decomposition (is nested)  $\rightarrow$  cutting strip  $\rightarrow$  operator  $\#$



E.g.,  $\theta_4 \# \theta_3 = (3, 3)/(2)$  and  $\theta_3 \# \theta_4$  is undefined.

Simplify the definition of  $\theta_i \# \theta_j$  from Hamel and Goulden's paper:  
 W.Y.C. Chen, G.G Yan and A.L.B Yang, Transformations of border  
 strips and Schur function determinants, J. Algebr. Comb. 21,  
 379-394, 2005.

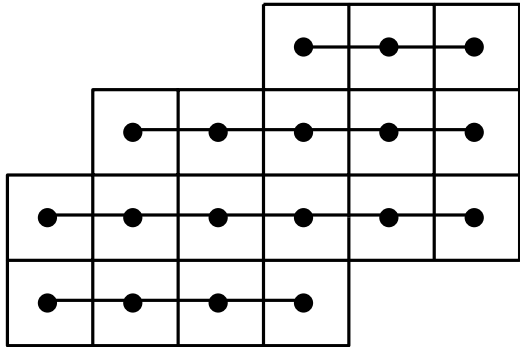
Hamel and Goulden determinant,  
(outside decompositions)

If the skew diagram of  $\lambda/\mu$  is edgewise connected. Then, for any outside decomposition  $\Phi = (\theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_g)$  of the skew shape  $\lambda/\mu$ , we have

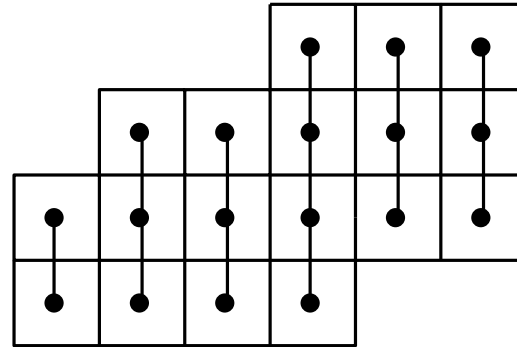
$$s_{\lambda/\mu}(X) = \det[s_{\theta_i \# \theta_j}(X)]_{i,j=1}^g,$$

where  $s_{\emptyset}(X) = 1$  and  $s_{\theta_i \# \theta_j}(X) = 0$  if  $\theta_i \# \theta_j$  is undefined.

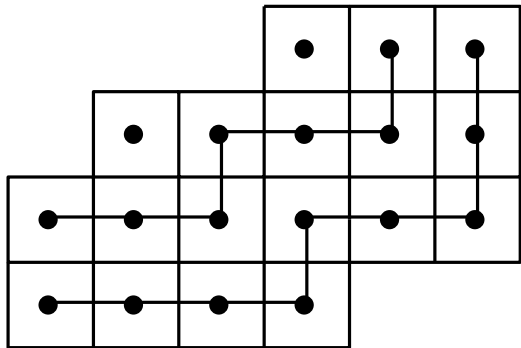




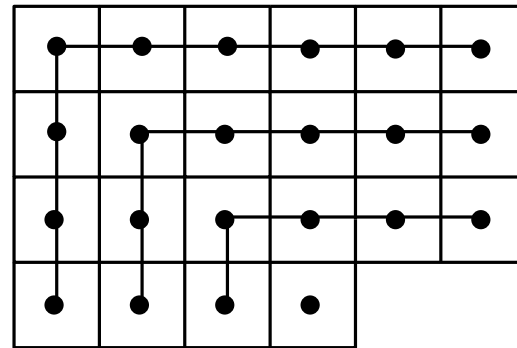
Jacobi-Trudi determinant



Dual Jacobi-Trudi determinant

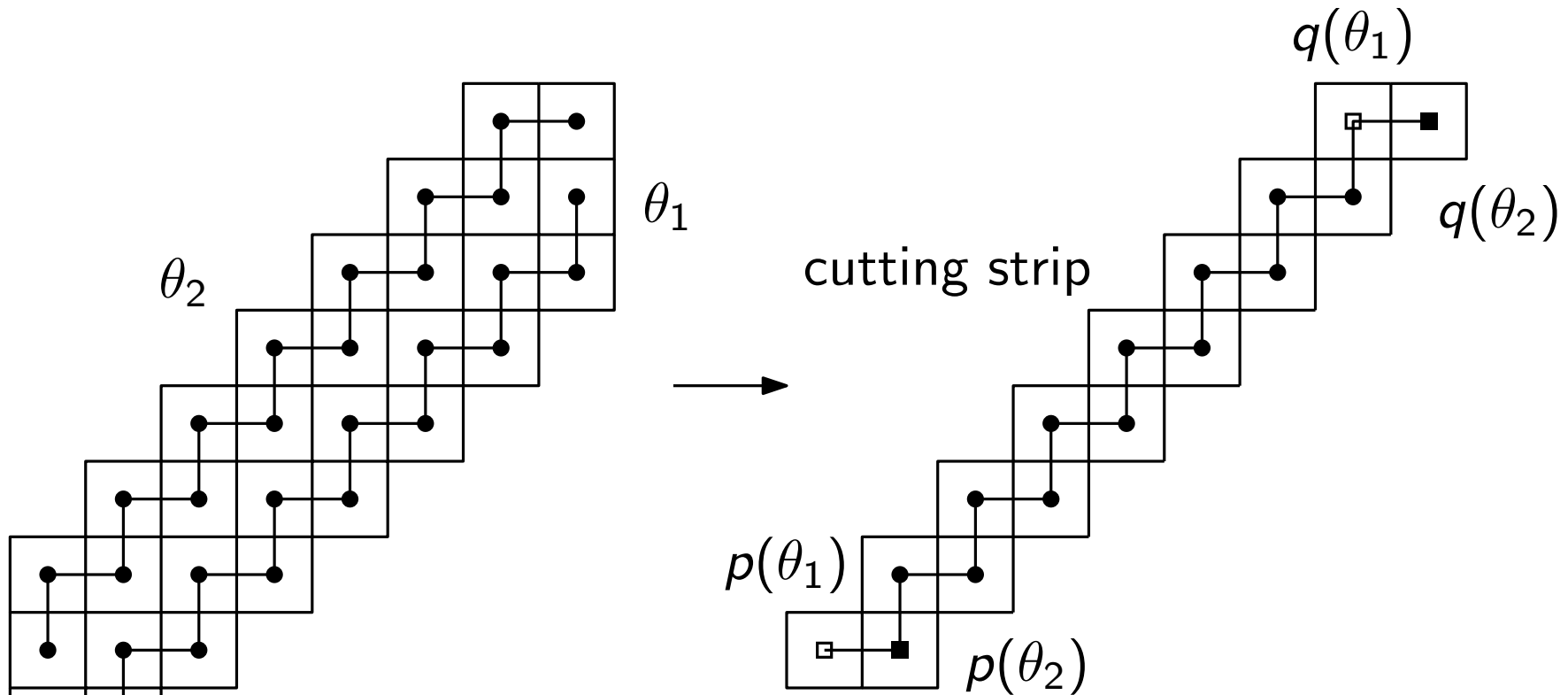


Lascoux-Pragacz determinant



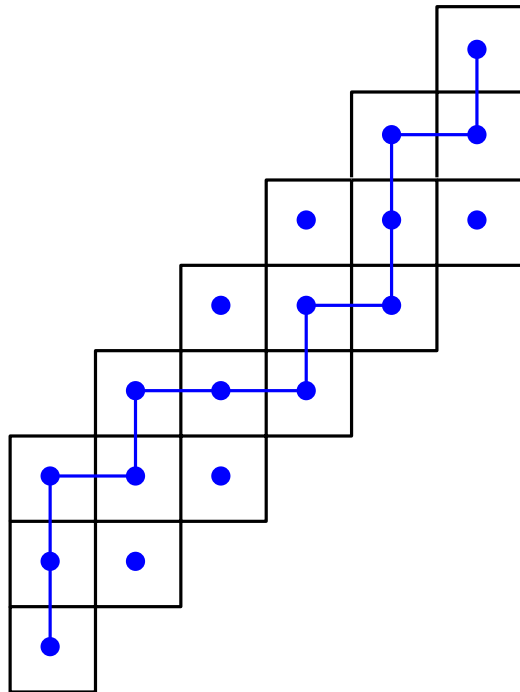
Giambelli determinant

Positive side: simplify some determinants

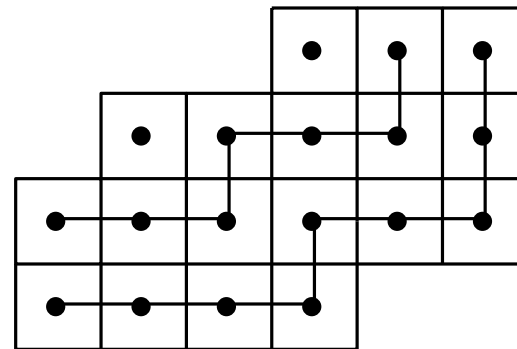


$$s_{\lambda/\mu}(X) = \det \begin{bmatrix} s_{\theta_1}(X) & s_{\theta_1 \# \theta_2}(X) \\ s_{\theta_2 \# \theta_1}(X) & s_{\theta_2}(X) \end{bmatrix}$$

Negative side: can not simplify some determinants

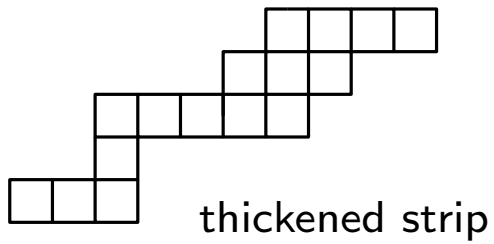


# minimal strips = # columns

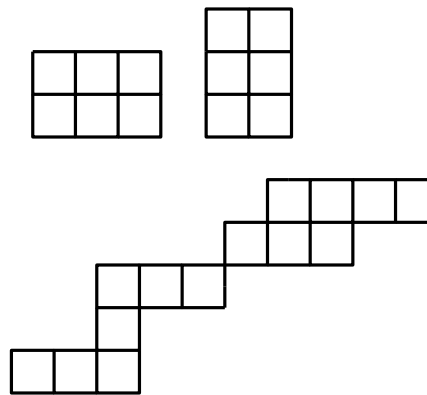


# minimal strips = # rows

# Main results (outside nested decompositions)



is allowed



are not allowed

Main results:

a determinantal expression of  $s_{\lambda/\mu}(X)p_{1^r}(X)$   
(outside nested decompositions)

If the skew diagram of  $\lambda/\mu$  is edgewise connected. Then, for any outside nested decomposition  $\Phi = (\Theta_1, \Theta_2, \dots, \Theta_g)$  of the skew shape  $\lambda/\mu$ , we have

$$p_{1^r}(X)s_{\lambda/\mu}(X) = \det[s_{\Theta_i \# \Theta_j}(X)]_{i,j=1}^g \text{ where } p_{1^r}(X) = \left(\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} x_i\right)^r,$$

$s_{\emptyset}(X) = 1$ ,  $s_{\Theta_i \# \Theta_j}(X) = 0$  if  $\Theta_i \# \Theta_j$  is undefined  
and  $r$  is the number of common special corners of  $\Phi$ .

Main results:

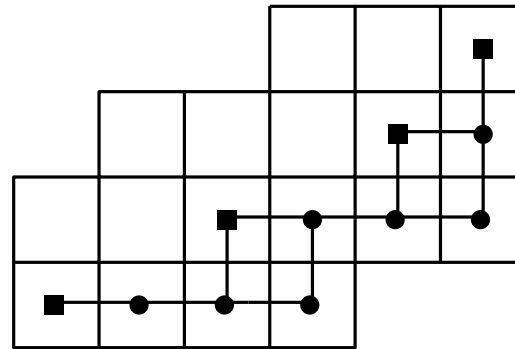
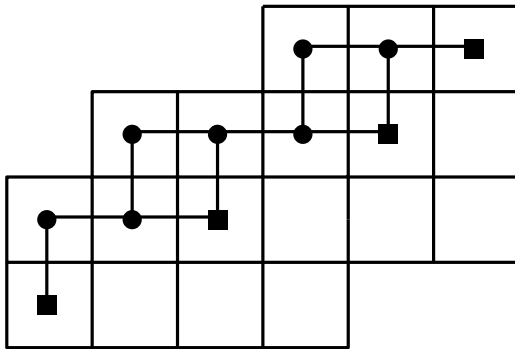
a determinantal expression of  $s_{\lambda/\mu}(X)p_{1^r}(X)$  + exponential specialization  
(outside nested decompositions)

If the skew diagram of  $\lambda/\mu$  is edgewise connected. Then, for any outside nested decomposition  $\Phi = (\Theta_1, \Theta_2, \dots, \Theta_g)$  of the skew shape  $\lambda/\mu$ , we have

$$f^{\lambda/\mu} = |\lambda/\mu|! \det[(|\Theta_i \# \Theta_j|!)^{-1} f^{\Theta_i \# \Theta_j}]_{i,j=1}^g$$

where  $f^\emptyset = 1$  and  $f^{\Theta_i \# \Theta_j} = 0$  if  $\Theta_i \# \Theta_j$  is undefined.

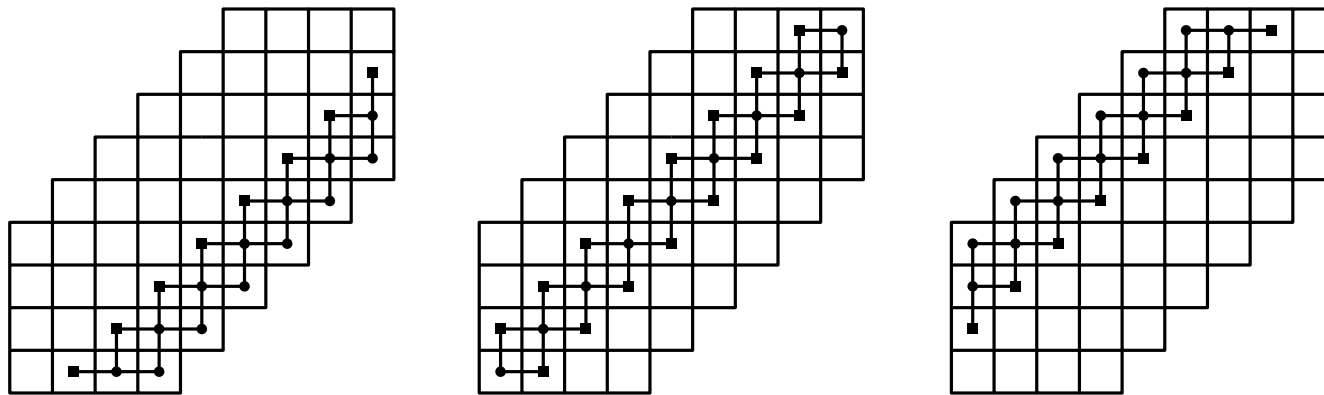
Outside nested decomposition:



$$p_{1^4}(X) s_{(6,6,6,4)/(3,1)}(X) = \det \begin{bmatrix} \begin{array}{cccc} & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \end{array} & \begin{array}{cccc} & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{cccc} & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \end{array} & \begin{array}{cccc} & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \end{array} \end{bmatrix}$$

Application to the  $m$ -strip tableaux:

Reference: Y. Baryshnikov and D. Romik, Enumeration formulas for Young tableaux in a diagonal strip, Israel Journal of Mathematics 178, 157-186, 2010.



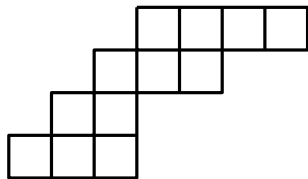
an outside nested decomposition of an  $m$ -strip diagram



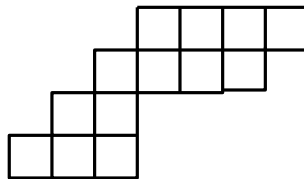
# Outside nested decompositions

### Thickened strips:

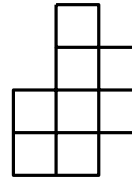
A skew diagram  $\Theta$  is a thickened strip if  $\Theta$  is edgewise connected and neither contains a  $3 \times 2$  block of boxes nor a  $2 \times 3$  block of boxes.



Yes

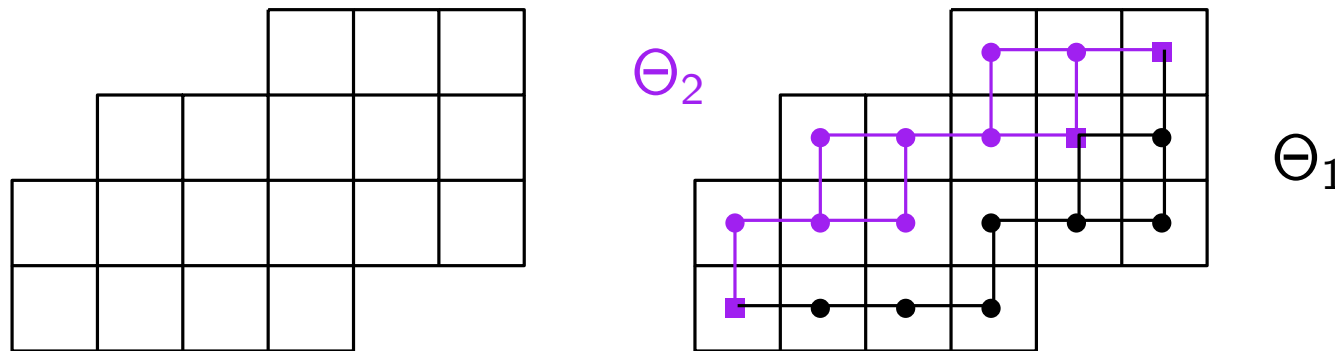


No



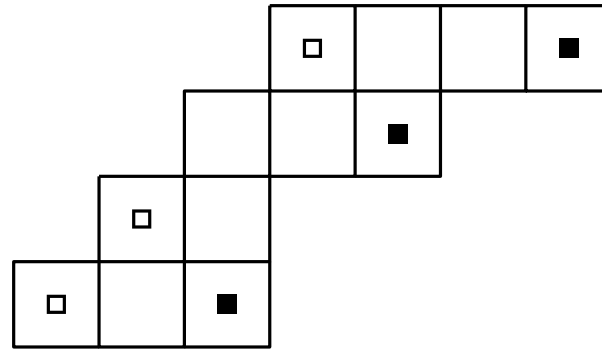
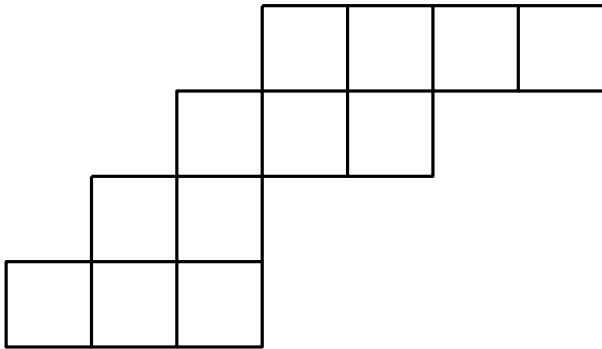
No

$\Phi = (\Theta_1, \Theta_2)$  is an outside thickened strip decomposition.



- (1)  $\Theta_i$  is a thickened strip for all  $i$ .
- (2) the union of all thickened strips is the skew shape  $\lambda/\mu$ .
- (3) every starting box (resp. ending box) of  $\Theta_i$  is on the bottom or left (resp. the top or right) perimeter of the skew shape  $\lambda/\mu$ .
- (4) allowed common special corners (next page)

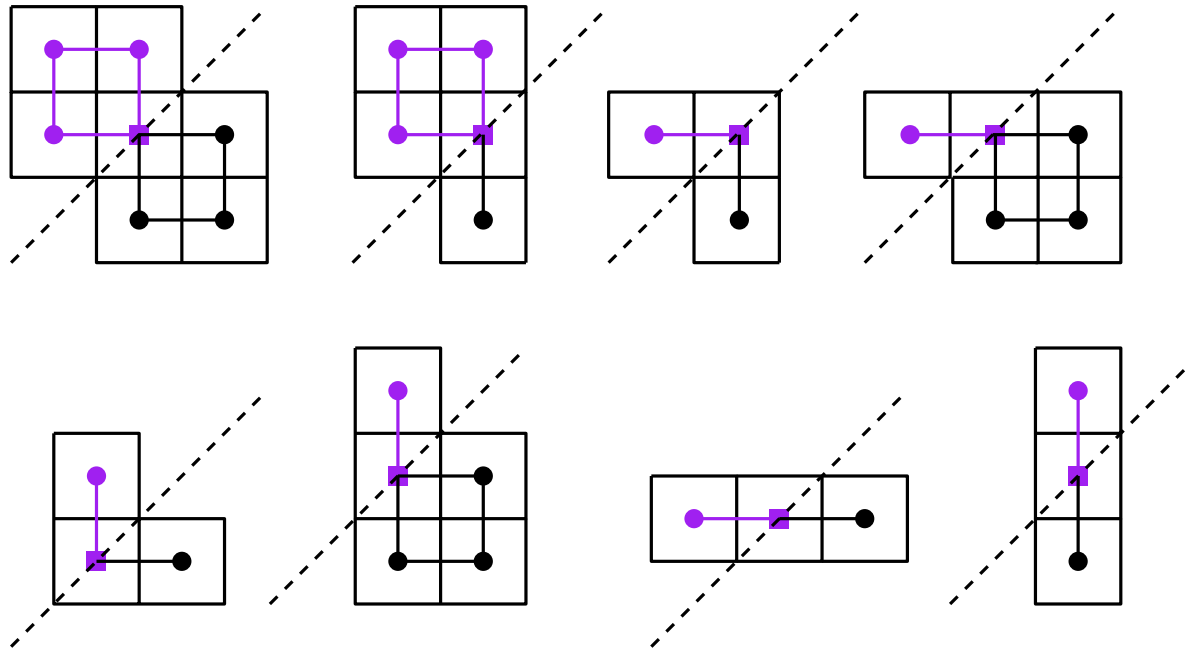
Special corners: ■ and □



Special upper corners: □

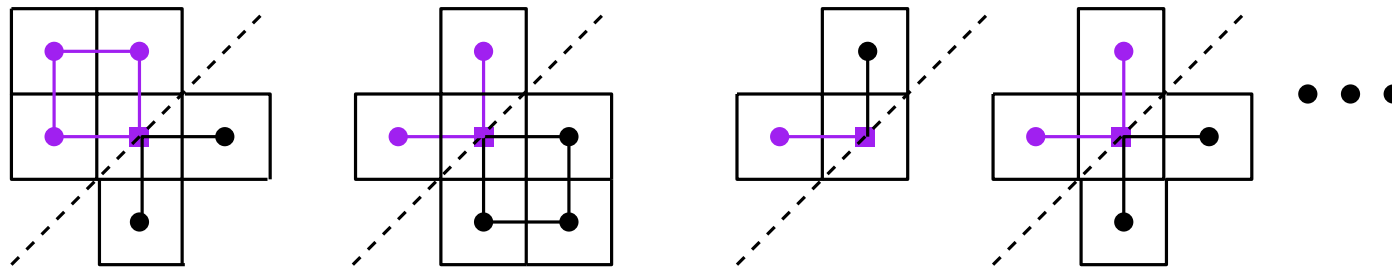
Special lower corners: ■

Outside thickened strip decompositions:

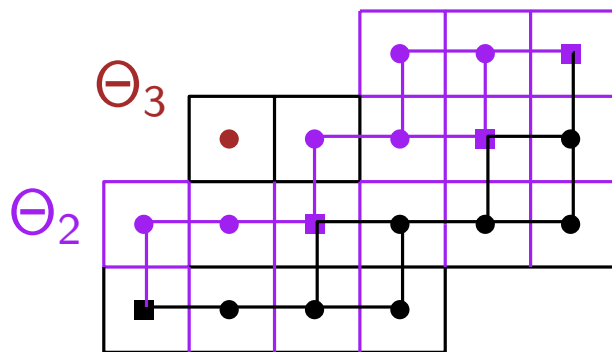


allowed common special corners

Non-outside thickened strip decomposition:

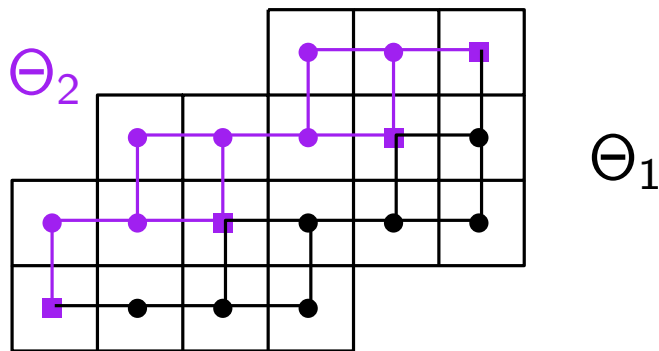


NOT allowed common special corners

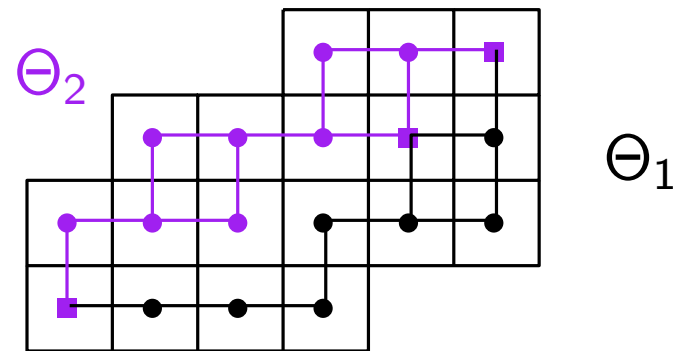


$\Theta_1$  is not an outside thickened strip decomposition.

Outside nested decompositions:



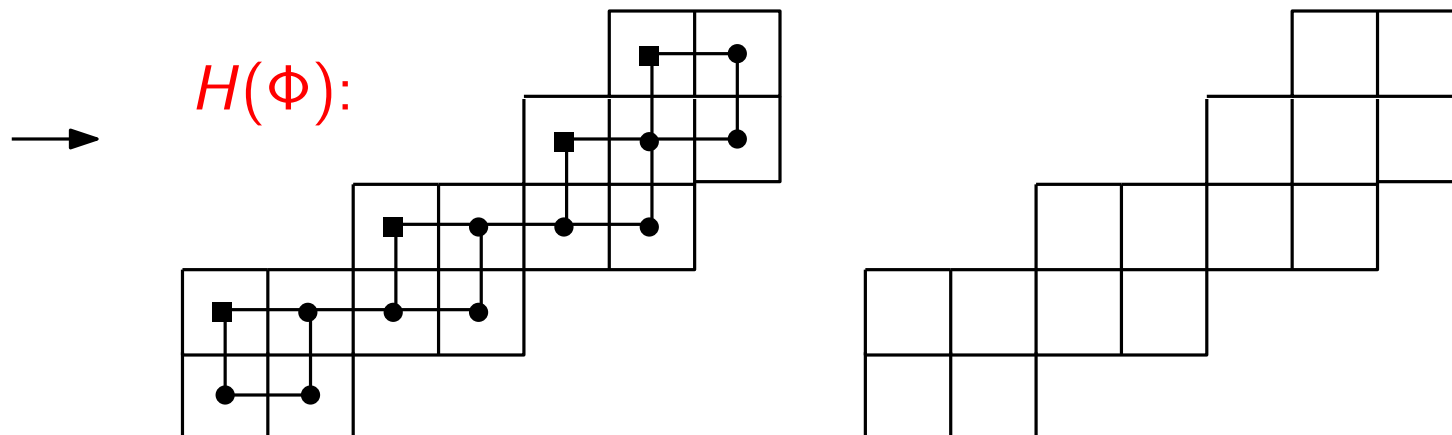
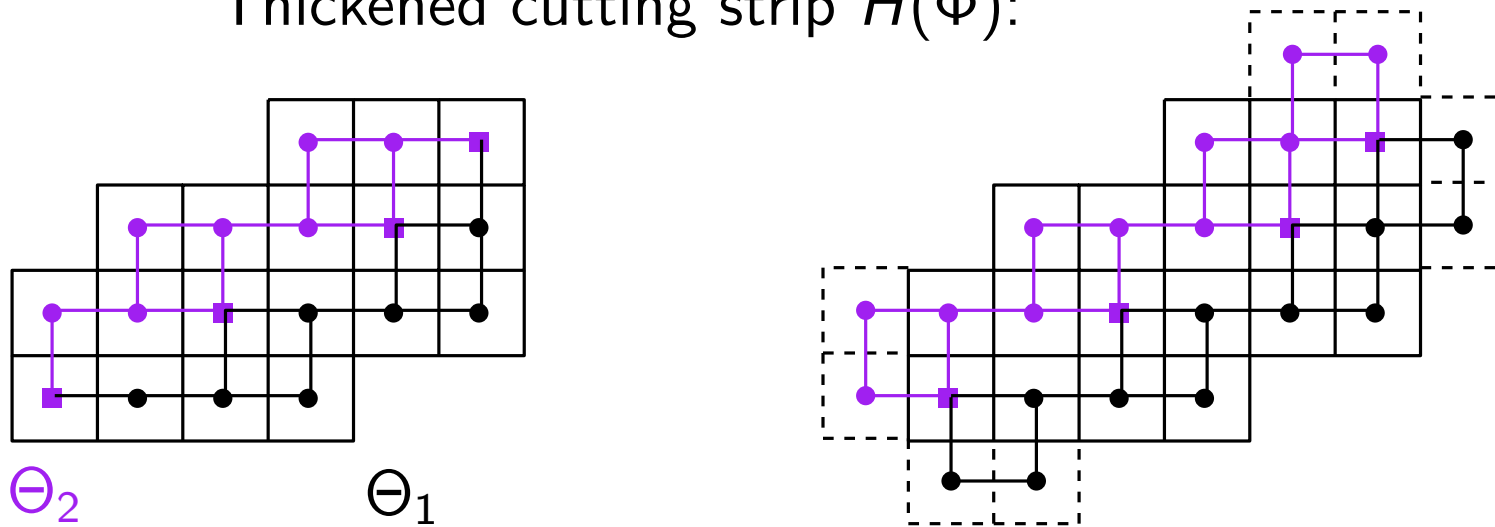
Yes



No

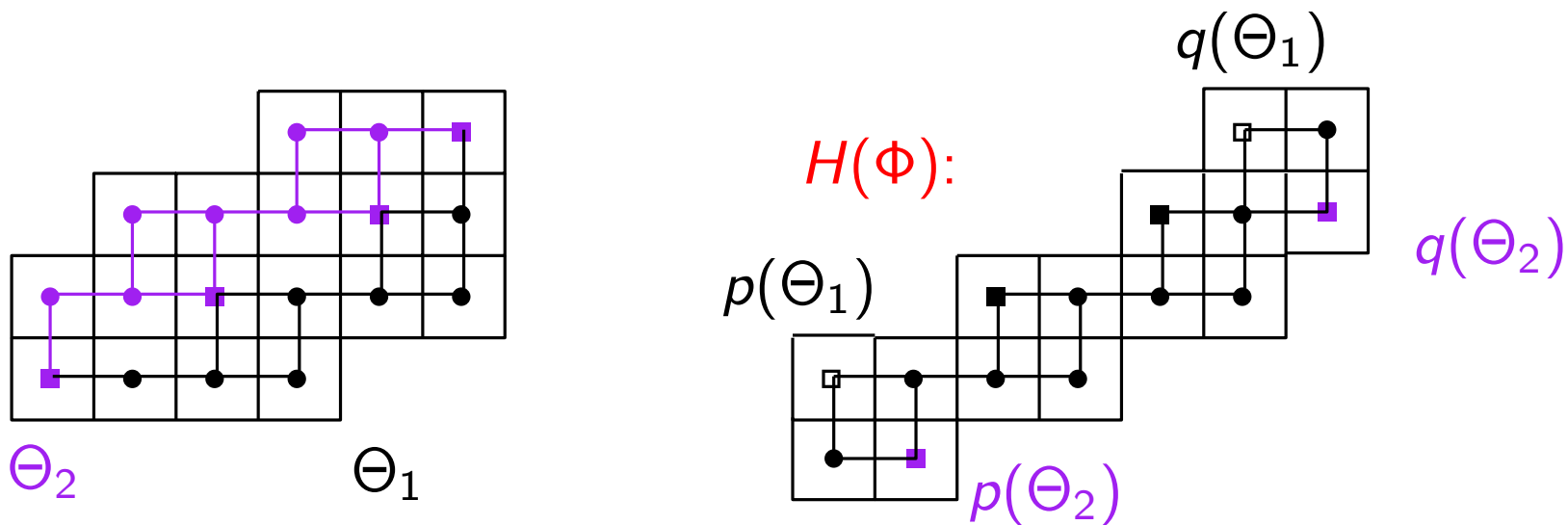
for all  $c$ , all boxes of content  $c$  all go up or all go right;  
 or all boxes of content  $c$  are all special corners;  
 or all boxes of content  $(c + 1)$  are all special corners.

Thickened cutting strip  $H(\Phi)$ :



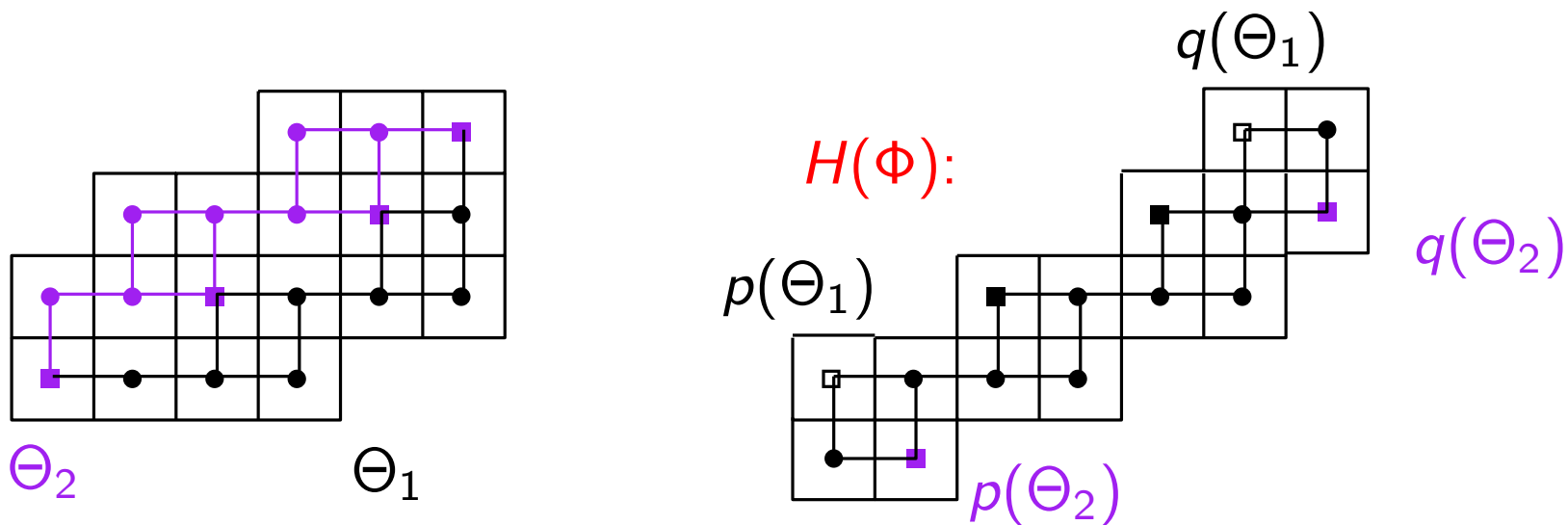


Define  $\Theta_i \# \Theta_j = [p(\Theta_j), q(\Theta_i)]$



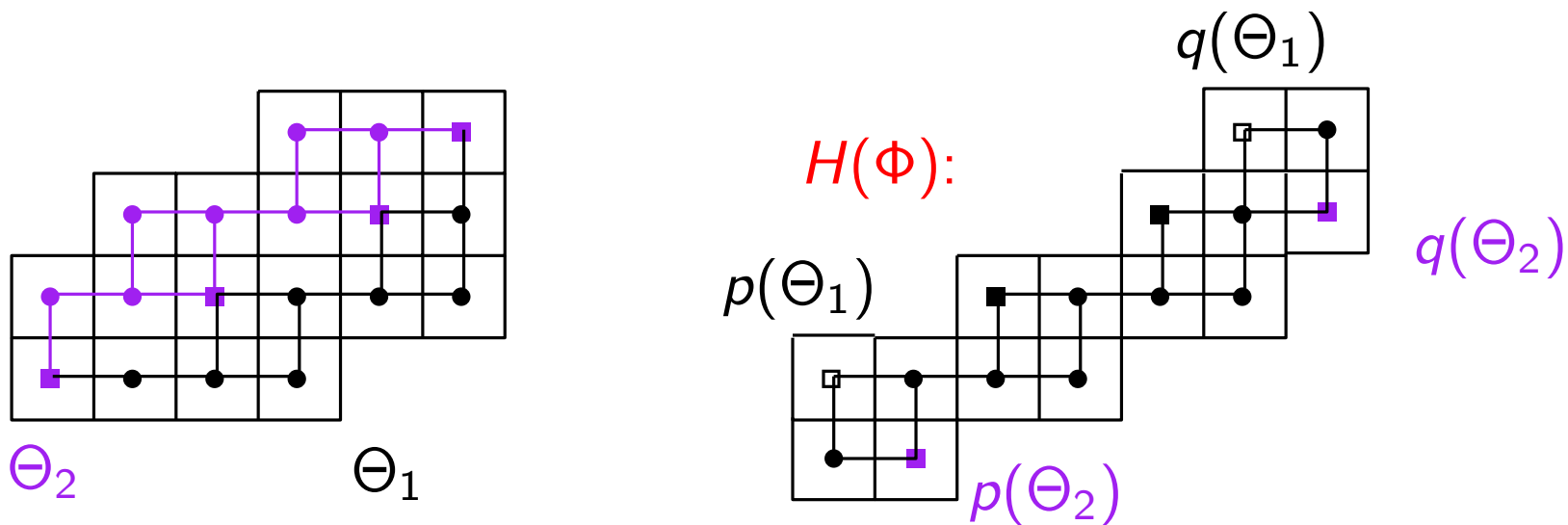
$$p_{1^4}(X) s_{(6,6,6,4)/(3,1)}(X) = \det \begin{bmatrix} s_{\Theta_1}(X) & s_{\Theta_1 \# \Theta_2}(X) \\ s_{\Theta_2 \# \Theta_1}(X) & s_{\Theta_2}(X) \end{bmatrix}$$

Define  $\Theta_i \# \Theta_j = [p(\Theta_j), q(\Theta_i)]$



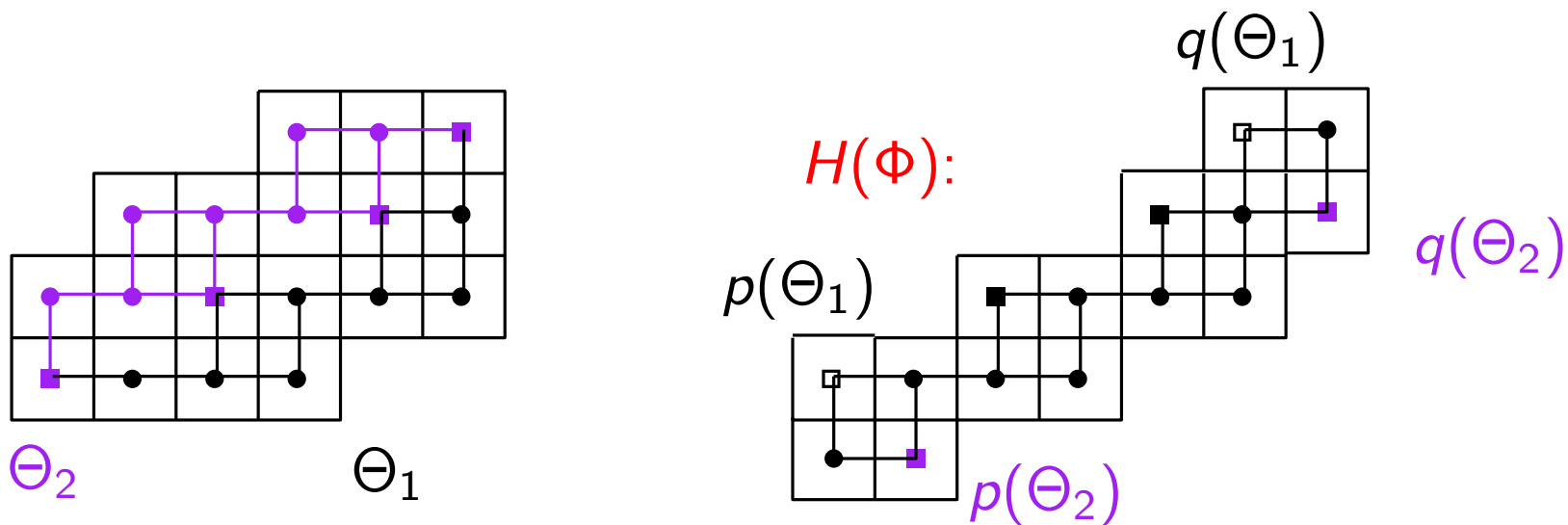
$$p_{1^4}(X) s_{(6,6,6,4)/(3,1)}(X) = \det \begin{bmatrix} \text{Diagram 1} & \text{Diagram 2} \\ \text{Diagram 3} & \text{Diagram 4} \end{bmatrix}$$

Define  $\Theta_i \# \Theta_j = [p(\Theta_j), q(\Theta_i)]$



$$p_{1^4}(X) s_{(6,6,6,4)/(3,1)}(X) = \det \begin{bmatrix} \text{Diagram 1} & \text{Diagram 2} \\ \text{Diagram 3} & \text{Diagram 4} \end{bmatrix}$$

Define  $\Theta_i \# \Theta_j = [p(\Theta_j), q(\Theta_i)]$



$$f(6,6,6,4)/(3,1) = (18)! \det \begin{bmatrix} f \begin{array}{c} \text{Young diagram} \\ \times \frac{1}{(11)!} \end{array} & f \begin{array}{c} \text{Young diagram} \\ \times \frac{1}{(11)!} \end{array} \\ f \begin{array}{c} \text{Young diagram} \\ \times \frac{1}{(11)!} \end{array} & f \begin{array}{c} \text{Young diagram} \\ \times \frac{1}{(11)!} \end{array} \end{bmatrix}$$

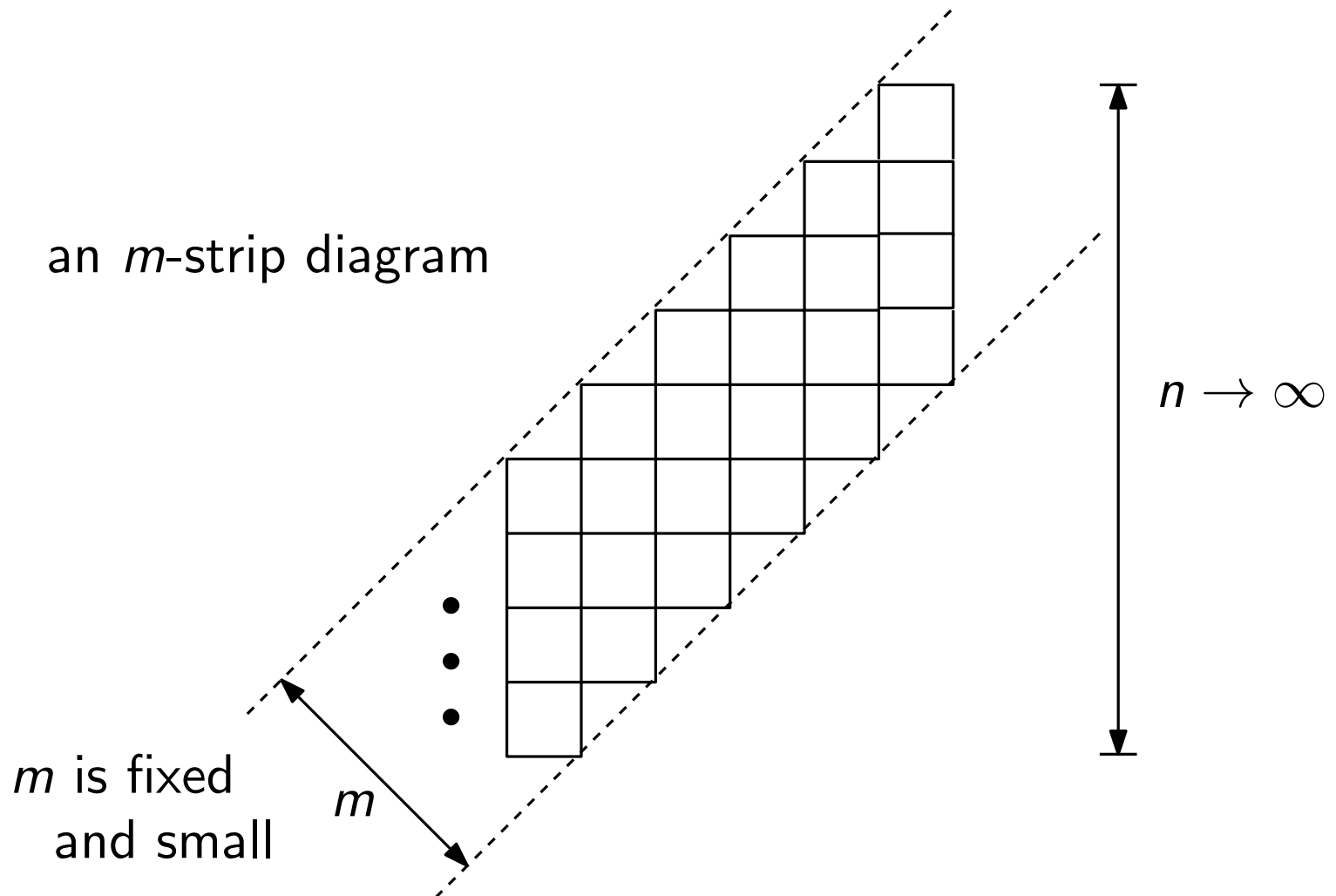
Proof of the main results:

The proof consists of three main steps:

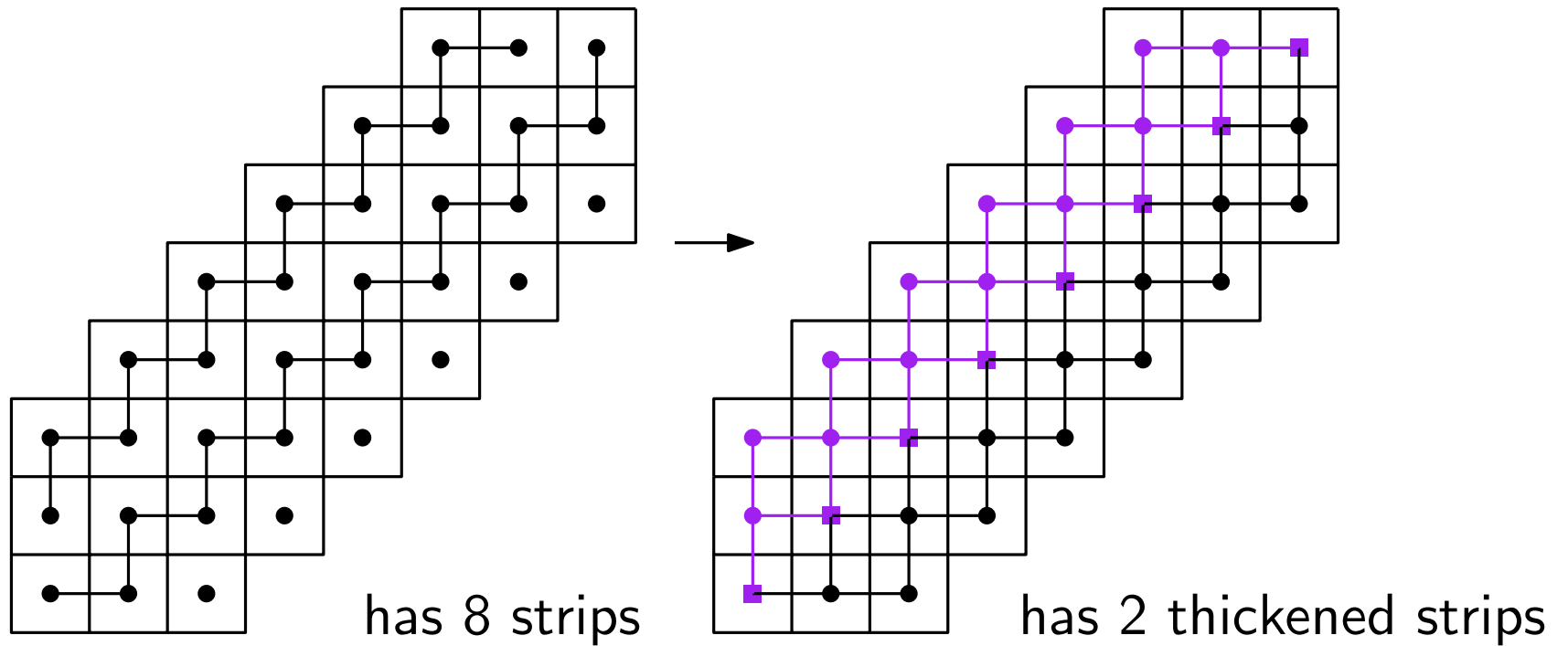
- (1) SSYT  $\rightarrow$  a sequence of non-crossing double lattice paths based on the bijection between SSYT and a sequence of non-intersecting lattice paths in Hamel and Goulden's paper.
- (2) Define a sequence of separable double lattice paths, whose generating function is  $p_{1^r}(X)s_{\lambda/\mu}(X)$ .
- (3) Construct an involution on all non-separable sequences of double lattice paths, so that only the separable ones contribute the determinant  $\det[s_{\Theta_i \# \Theta_j}(X)]$ .

[Reference: J.R. Stembridge, Nonintersecting paths, pfaffians and plane partitions, Adv. Math., 83, 96-131, 1990.]

# Applications



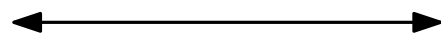
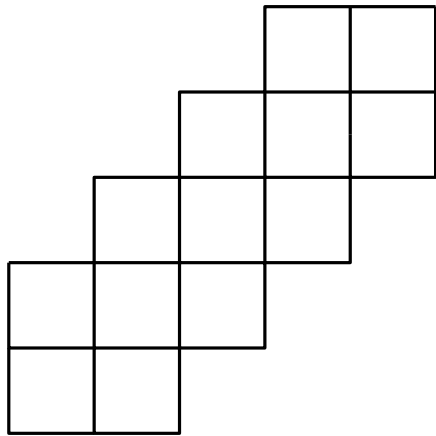
# Examples: a 5-strip diagram





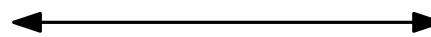
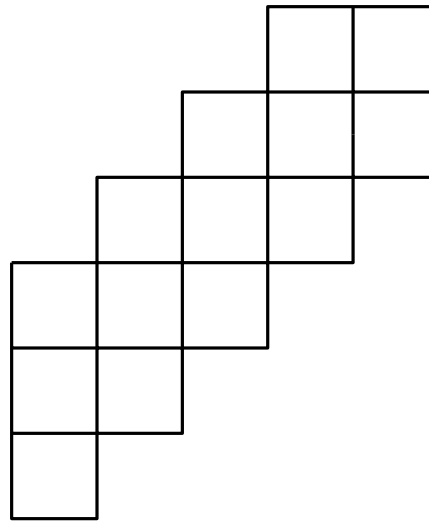
## Counting 3-strip tableaux

$\mathcal{D}_{3n-2}$



$n$  columns  
 $(3n - 2)$  boxes

$\mathcal{D}_{3n-1}^*$

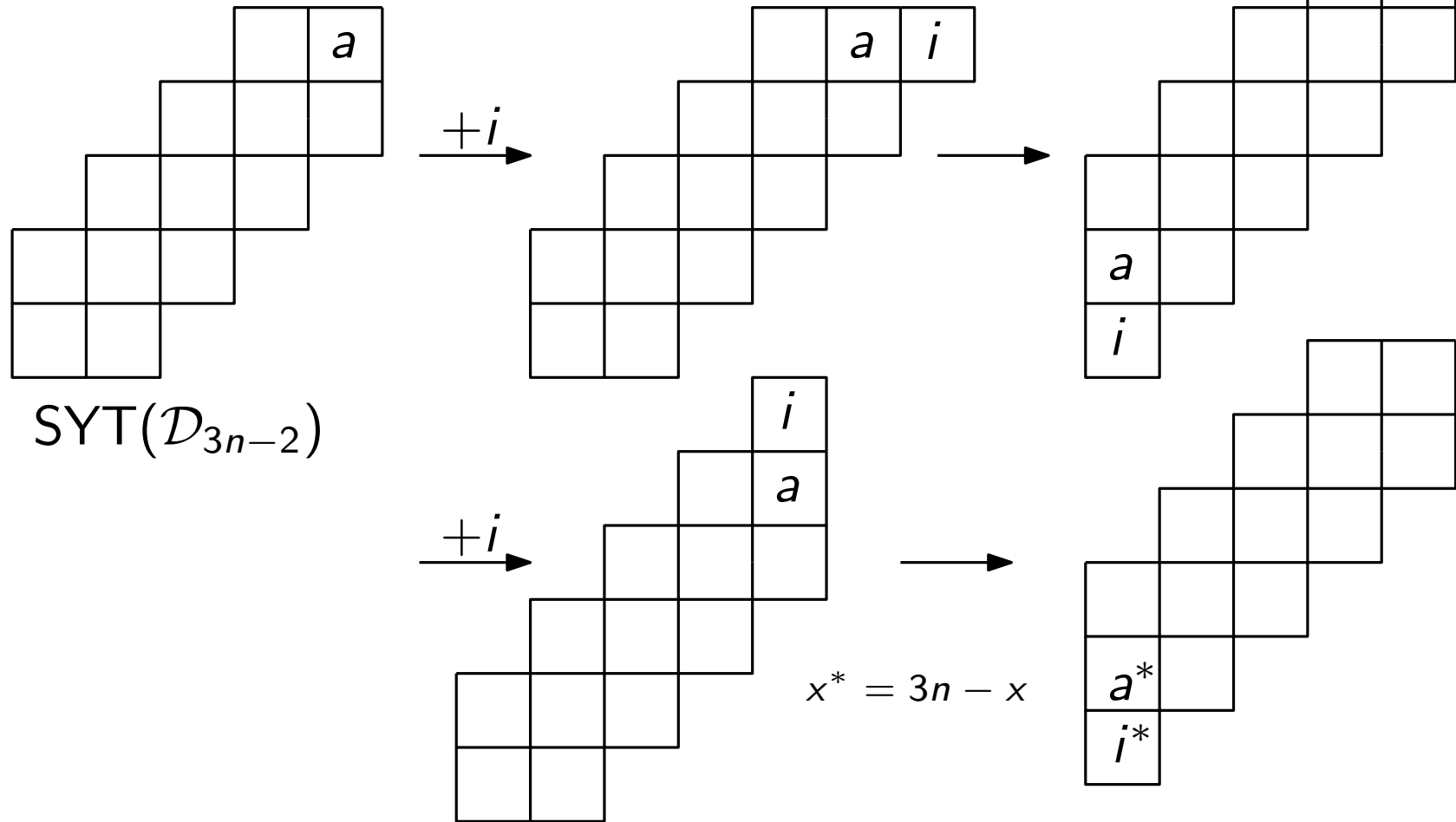


$n$  columns  
 $(3n - 1)$  boxes

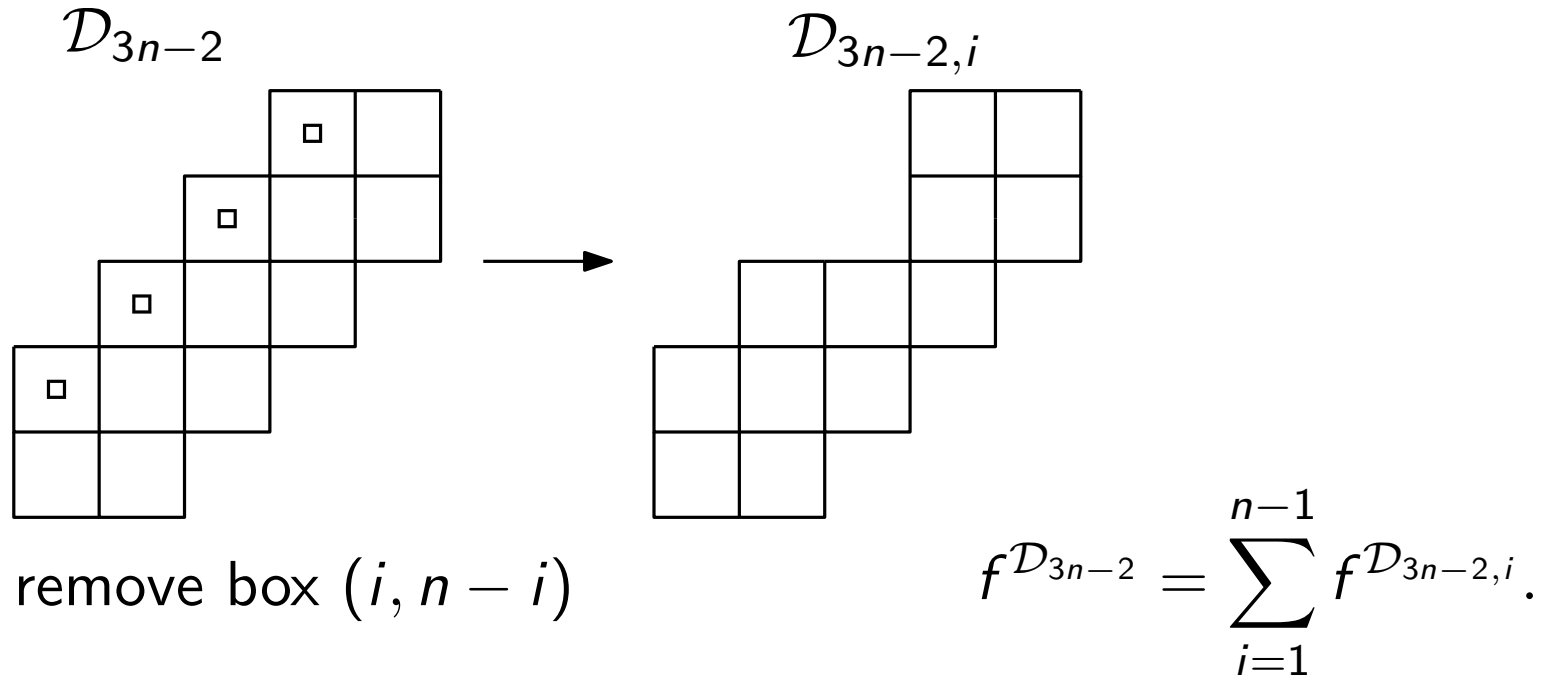
To prove  $(3n - 1)f^{\mathcal{D}_{3n-2}} = 2f^{\mathcal{D}_{3n-1}^*}$

# Counting 3-strip tableaux

To prove  $(3n - 1)f^{\mathcal{D}_{3n-2}} = 2f^{\mathcal{D}_{3n-1}^*}$



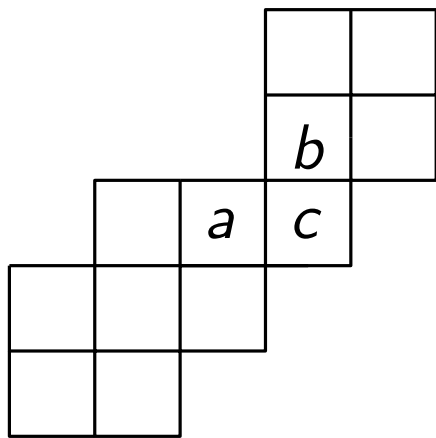
## Counting 3-strip tableaux



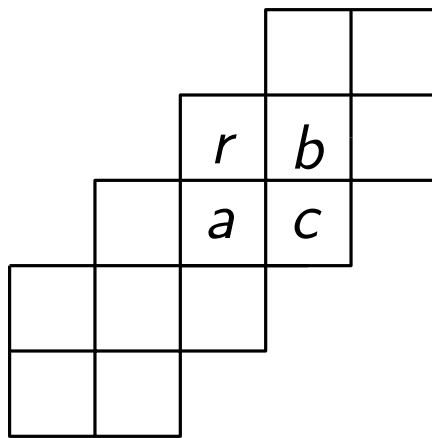
To prove

$$(3n - 2)f^{\mathcal{D}_{3n-2,i}} = f^{\mathcal{D}_{3n-2}} + \binom{3n - 2}{3i - 1} f^{\mathcal{D}_{3i-1}^*} f^{\mathcal{D}_{3n-3i-1}^*}.$$

$$(3n - 2)f^{\mathcal{D}_{3n-2,i}} = f^{\mathcal{D}_{3n-2}} + \binom{3n - 2}{3i - 1} f^{\mathcal{D}_{3i-1}^*} f^{\mathcal{D}_{3n-3i-1}^*}.$$



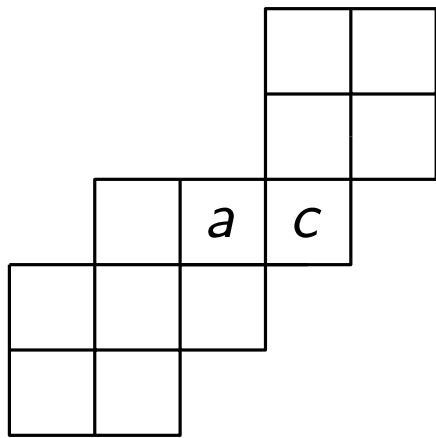
$\xrightarrow{+r}$



if  $r < \min\{a, b\}$

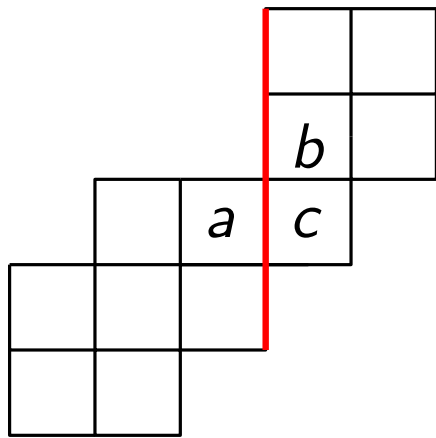
$\text{SYT}(\mathcal{D}_{3n-2,i})$

$$(3n - 2)f^{\mathcal{D}_{3n-2,i}} = f^{\mathcal{D}_{3n-2}} + \binom{3n - 2}{3i - 1} f^{\mathcal{D}_{3i-1}^*} f^{\mathcal{D}_{3n-3i-1}^*}.$$



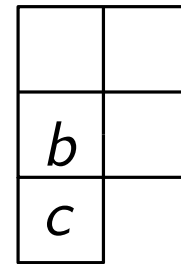
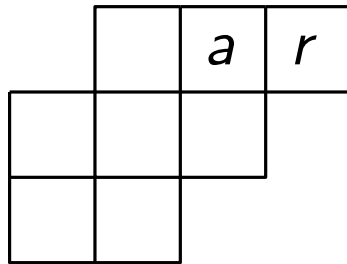
$\text{SYT}(\mathcal{D}_{3n-2,i})$

$\xrightarrow{+r}$

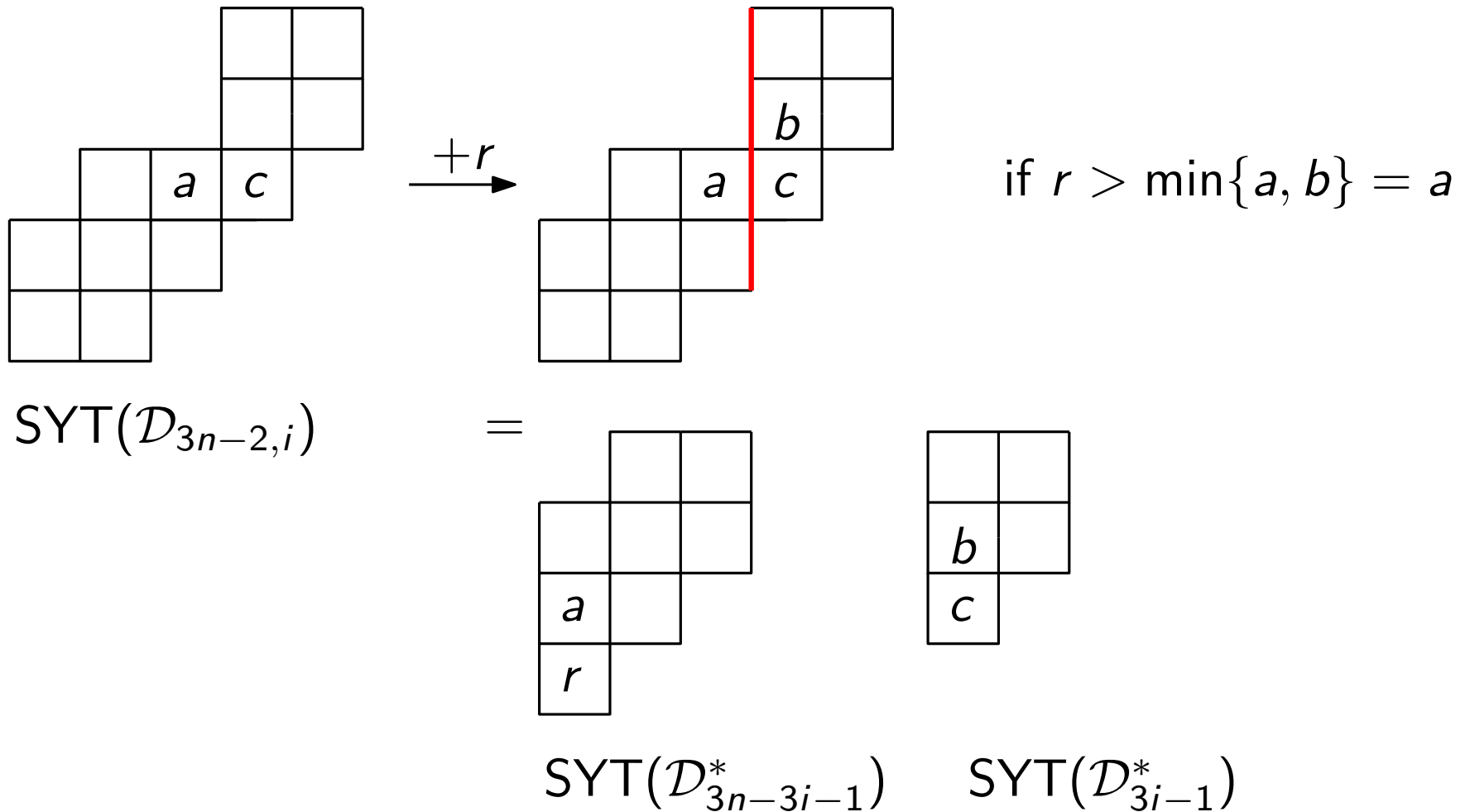


if  $r > \min\{a, b\} = a$

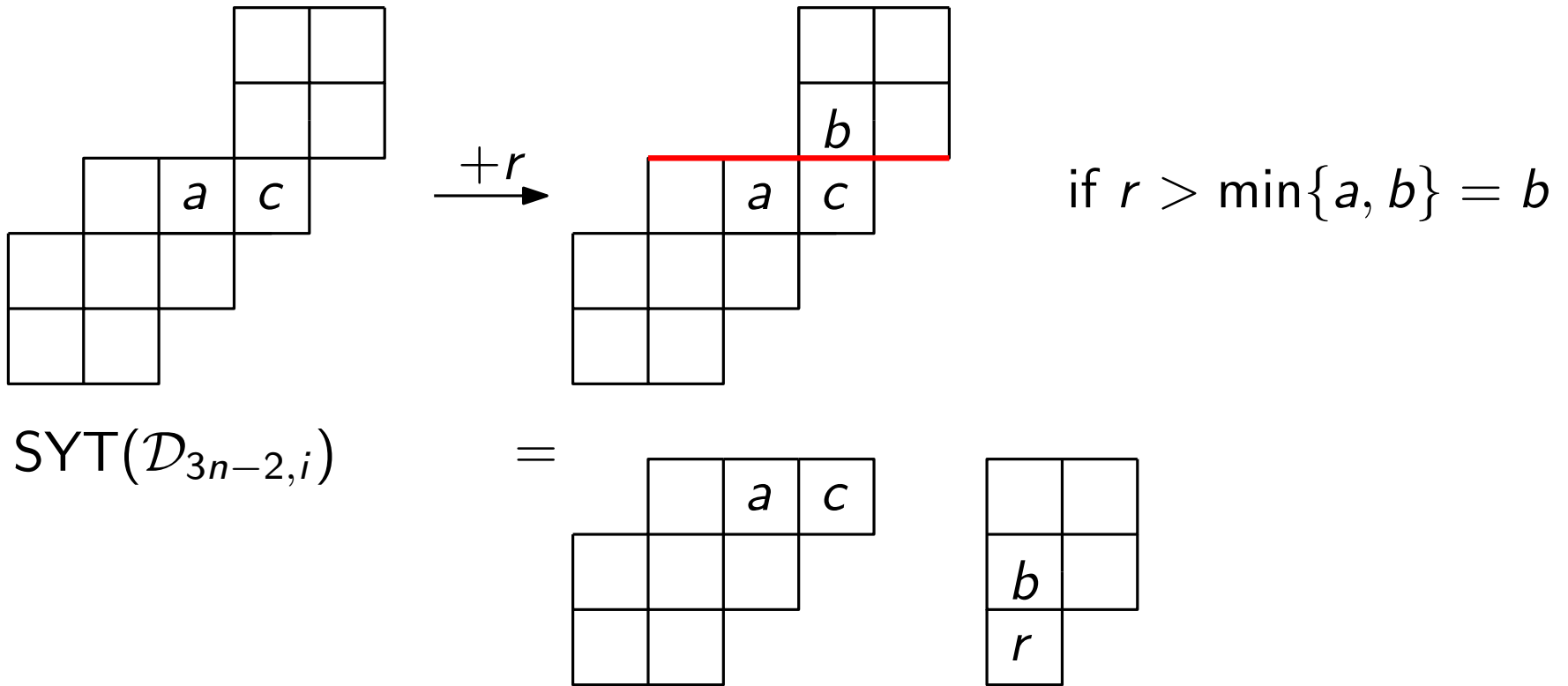
$=$



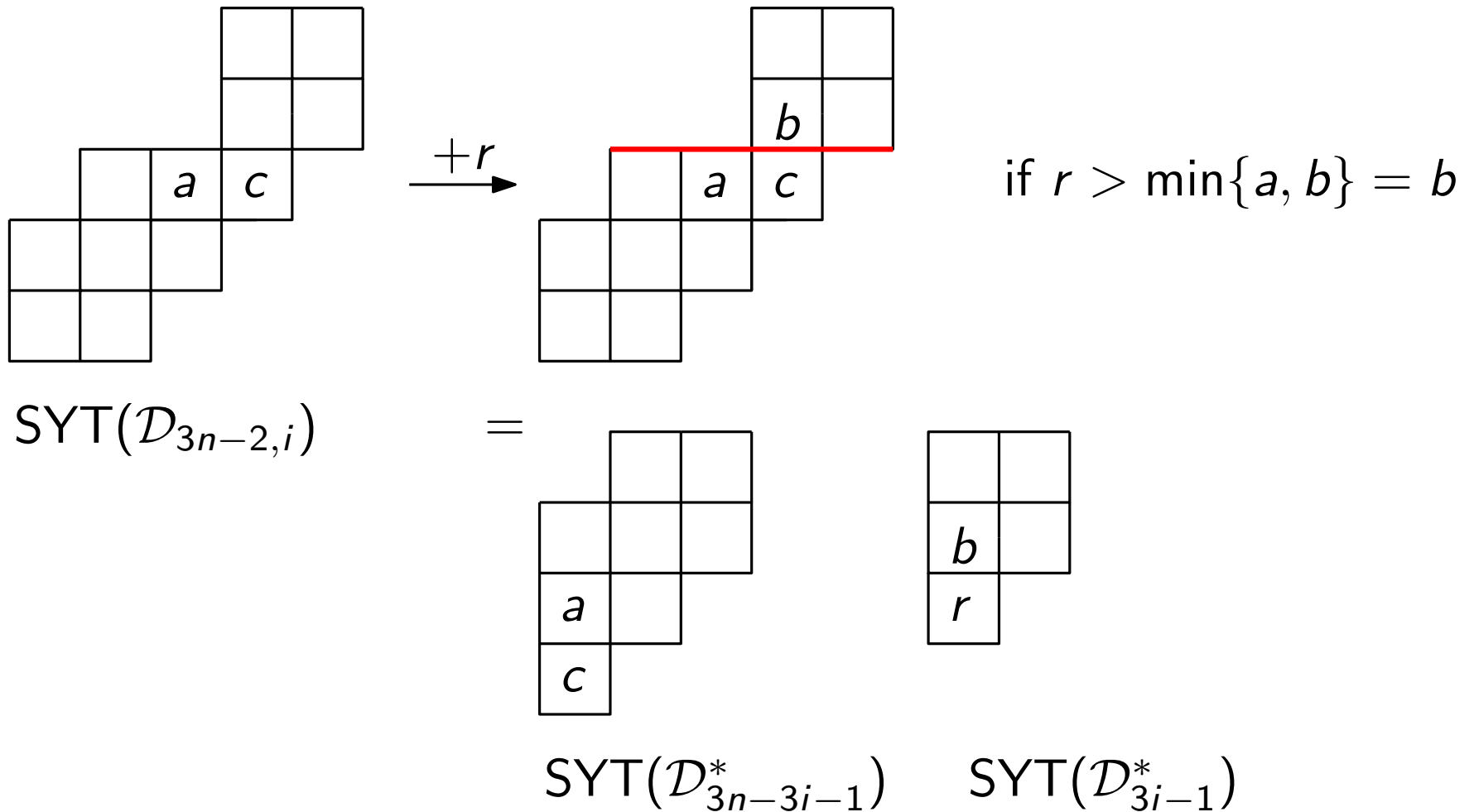
$$(3n - 2)f^{\mathcal{D}_{3n-2,i}} = f^{\mathcal{D}_{3n-2}} + \binom{3n - 2}{3i - 1} f^{\mathcal{D}_{3i-1}^*} f^{\mathcal{D}_{3n-3i-1}^*}.$$



$$(3n - 2)f^{\mathcal{D}_{3n-2,i}} = f^{\mathcal{D}_{3n-2}} + \binom{3n - 2}{3i - 1} f^{\mathcal{D}_{3i-1}^*} f^{\mathcal{D}_{3n-3i-1}^*}.$$



$$(3n - 2)f^{\mathcal{D}_{3n-2,i}} = f^{\mathcal{D}_{3n-2}} + \binom{3n - 2}{3i - 1} f^{\mathcal{D}_{3i-1}^*} f^{\mathcal{D}_{3n-3i-1}^*}.$$





$$(3n - 1)f^{\mathcal{D}_{3n-2}} = 2f^{\mathcal{D}_{3n-1}^*}.$$

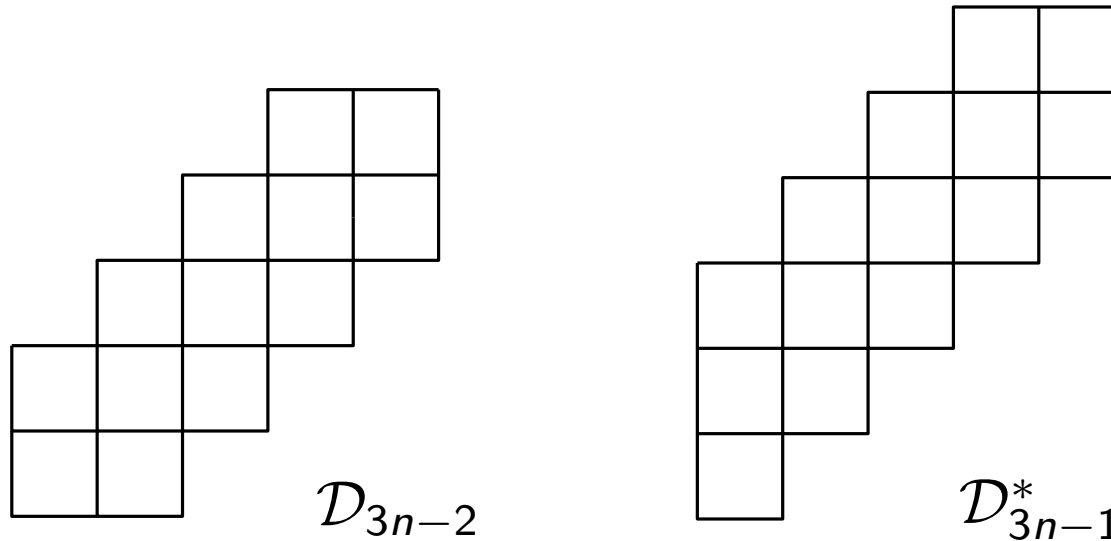
$$(3n - 2)f^{\mathcal{D}_{3n-2,i}} = f^{\mathcal{D}_{3n-2}} + \binom{3n - 2}{3i - 1} f^{\mathcal{D}_{3i-1}^*} f^{\mathcal{D}_{3n-3i-1}^*}.$$

$$\begin{array}{l} g.f. \\ \implies \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} f(x) = 2g(x), \\ f'(x) = 1 + g(x)^2. \end{array} \quad \implies \quad \begin{array}{l} f(x) = 2 \tan(x/2), \\ g(x) = \tan(x/2). \end{array}$$

where

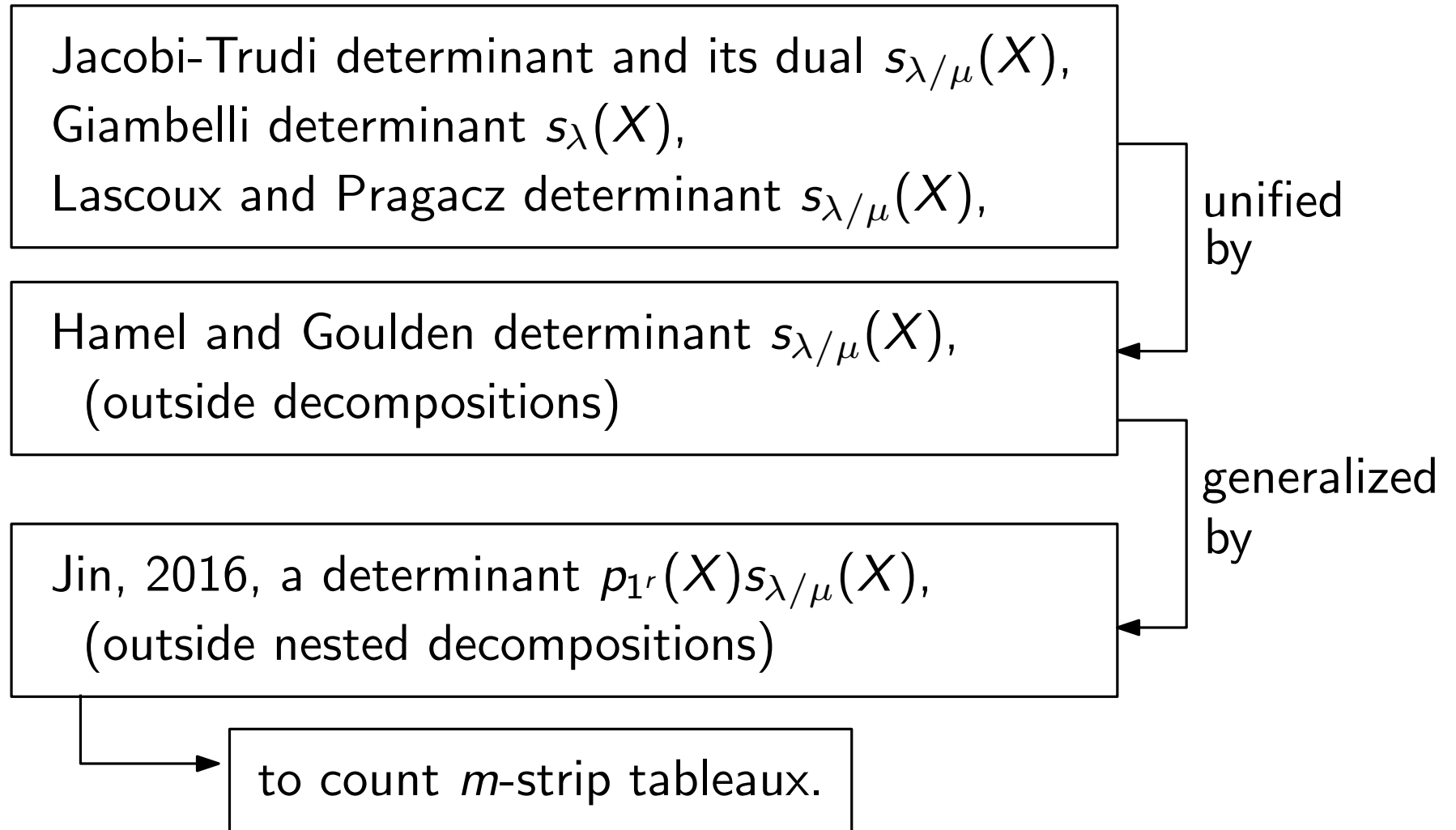
$$f(x) = \sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{f^{\mathcal{D}_{3n-2}}}{(3n - 2)!} x^{2n-1}, \quad g(x) = \sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{f^{\mathcal{D}_{3n-1}^*}}{(3n - 1)!} x^{2n-1}.$$

## Counting 3-strip tableaux



$$f^{\mathcal{D}_{3n-2}} = \frac{(3n-2)! E_{2n-1}}{(2n-1)! 2^{2n-2}}, \quad f^{\mathcal{D}_{3n-1}^*} = \frac{(3n-1)! E_{2n-1}}{(2n-1)! 2^{2n-1}}.$$

## Summary:



Vielen Dank!