

# Representation Growth and Symmetric Groups

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Partition of  $n$ : sequence of positive integers

$(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_r)$  such that

$$\sum_{i=1}^r \lambda_i = n.$$

The  $\lambda_i$  are the parts.

Partitions can be represented as tableaux, with number of boxes in each row equal to size of each part; e.g.,

$$(4, 4, 1) \leftrightarrow \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|} \hline \square & \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \square & & & \\ \hline \end{array}$$

Number of partitions of  $n$  is same as number of conjugacy classes of  $S_n$ .

There is a bijection between partitions of  $n$  and irreducible ordinary characters of  $S_n$ .

Write  $\chi^\lambda$  for character corresponding to  $\lambda$ . The degree is given by the **Hook Order Formula**.

Let  $x$  be a box in  $\lambda$ . Then  $h(x)$  equals the number of boxes below  $x$ , plus those to the right of  $x$ , plus 1. We have

$$\chi^\lambda(\mathbf{1}) = \frac{n!}{\prod_{x \in \lambda} h(x)}$$

Conjugate partition  $\lambda^c$  of  $\lambda$ : partition whose tableau is reflection of  $\lambda$ .

For every  $\lambda$ , both  $\lambda$  and  $\lambda^c$  have the same hook numbers. Are there any others?

Cluster: set of partitions with same hook numbers.

$\lambda$  is a partition, with  $r$  rows,  $c$  columns.

Write  $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_r)$ .

Let  $p$  be an integer with  $1 \leq p \leq r - 1$ .

Remainder of  $\lambda$ : bottom  $r - p$  rows.

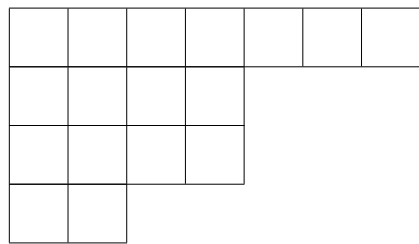
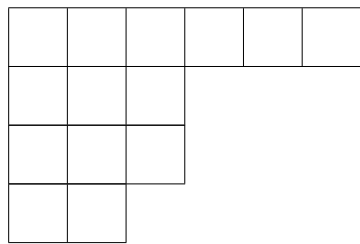
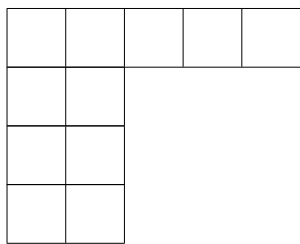
Rump of  $\lambda$ : top  $p$  rows.

Front section of  $\lambda$ : front piece of the rump.

Extension of  $\lambda$ : the number  $\lambda_p - \lambda_{p+1}$ .

Periodic cluster: can add boxes to first  $p$  rows of all partitions and still get a cluster.

$(5 + n, 5 + n, 2 + n, 2)$



$(4 + n, 4 + n, 1 + n, 1, 1)$

