

Series of lectures:  
jeu de taquin and asymptotic representation theory

Piotr Śniady

## plan for today

### Lecture 2A

how to prove *asymptotic determinism of the last box insertion?*

- RSK and (plactic) Littlewood–Richardson rule,
- Jucys–Murphy elements,

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### Lecture 2B

asymptotic representation theory  
of the symmetric groups  $\mathfrak{S}_n$  for  $n \rightarrow \infty$  and  $\mathfrak{S}_\infty$

- Thoma characters of  $\mathfrak{S}_\infty$ ,
- random tableaux, random paths in Young graph,
- jeu de taquin,

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# Lecture 2A: proof of asymptotic determinism of RSK insertion

Piotr Śniady

Polska Akademia Nauk

## RSK is a bijection...

Input:

- word  $\mathbf{w} = (w_1, \dots, w_n)$

Output:

- semistandard tableau  $P$ ,
- standard tableau  $Q$ ,

tableaux  $P$  and  $Q$  have  
the same shape with  $n$  boxes

example:

 $\mathbf{w} = (23, 53, 74, 16, 99, 70, 82, 37, 41)$ 

74	99		
23	53	70	
16	37	41	82

insertion tableau  $P(\mathbf{w})$ 

8	9		
4	6	7	
1	2	3	5

recording tableau  $Q(\mathbf{w})$

## Robinson-Schensted-Knuth algorithm — induction step

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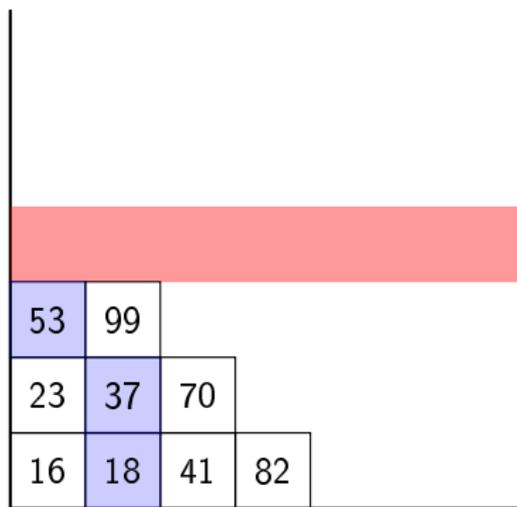
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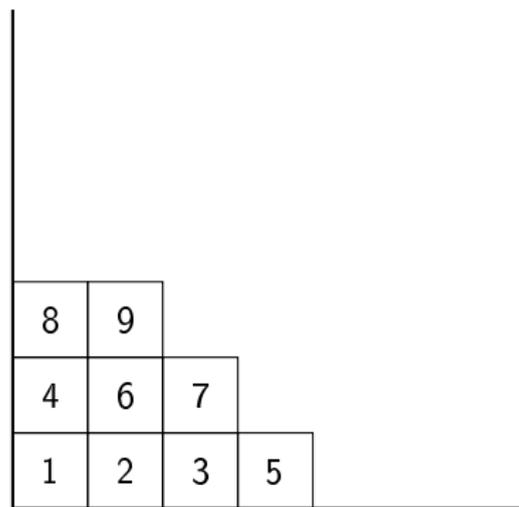
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## Robinson-Schensted-Knuth algorithm — induction step



The insertion tableau  $P(\mathbf{w})$  is a Young diagram with three rows. The first row contains the numbers 53 and 99. The second row contains 23, 37, and 70. The third row contains 16, 18, 41, and 82. The cells containing 53, 99, 37, and 18 are shaded blue. A solid red horizontal bar is positioned above the first row of the tableau.

53	99		
23	37	70	
16	18	41	82

insertion tableau  $P(\mathbf{w})$ 


The recording tableau  $Q(\mathbf{w})$  is a Young diagram with three rows. The first row contains the numbers 8 and 9. The second row contains 4, 6, and 7. The third row contains 1, 2, 3, and 5.

8	9		
4	6	7	
1	2	3	5

recording tableau  $Q(\mathbf{w})$ 

$$\mathbf{w} = (23, 53, 74, 16, 99, 70, 82, 37, 41, 18)$$

## Robinson-Schensted-Knuth algorithm — induction step

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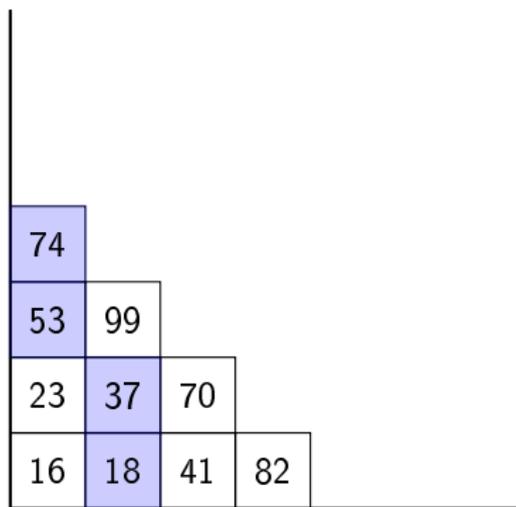
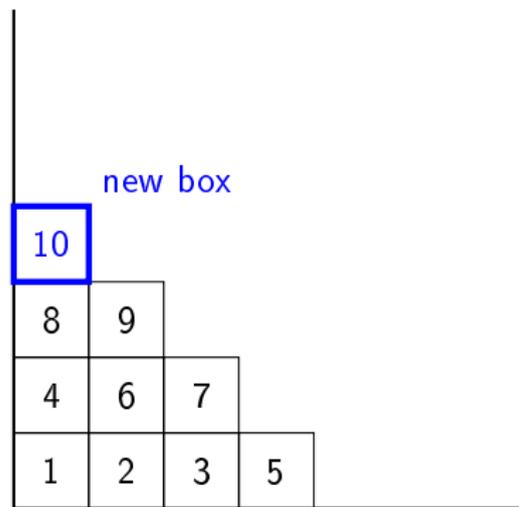
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## Robinson-Schensted-Knuth algorithm — induction step

insertion tableau  $P(\mathbf{w})$ recording tableau  $Q(\mathbf{w})$ 

$$\mathbf{w} = (23, 53, 74, 16, 99, 70, 82, 37, 41, 18)$$

## Robinson-Schensted-Knuth algorithm — induction step

74			
53	99		
23	37	70	
16	18	41	82

insertion tableau  $P(\mathbf{w})$ 

10			
8	9		
4	6	7	
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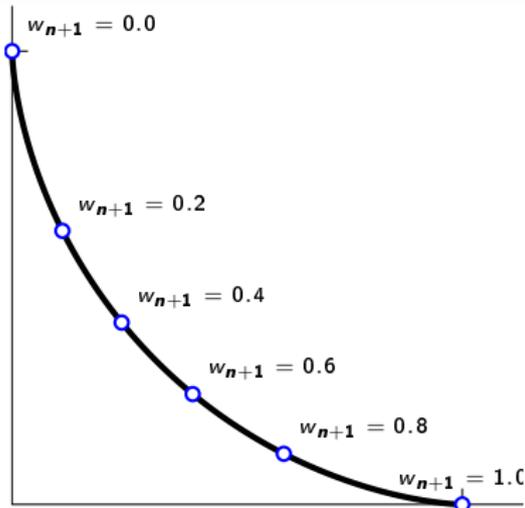
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$$\mathbf{w} = (23, 53, 74, 16, 99, 70, 82, 37, 41, 18)$$

## key problem

let  $\mathbf{w} = (w_1, \dots, w_n, w_{n+1})$ ,  
with  $w_1, \dots, w_n$  random, iid  $U(0, 1)$   
and  $w_{n+1}$  deterministic

$\square$  is the box containing  $n + 1$   
in the recording tableau  $Q(\mathbf{w}) \dots$

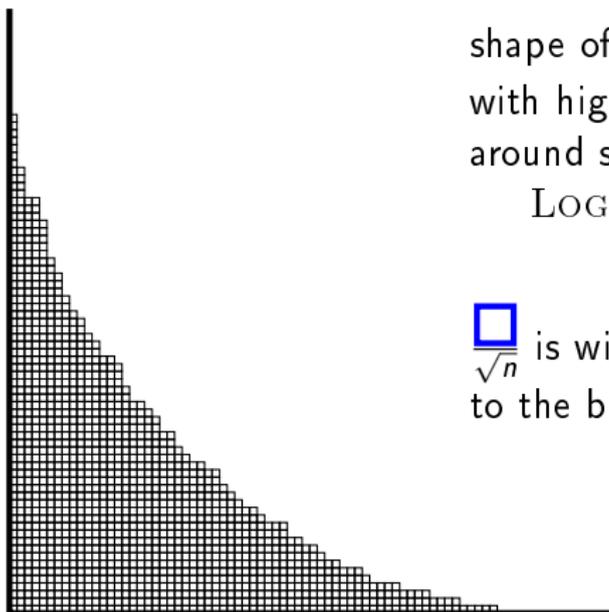


## key theorem, ROMIK&ŚNIADY 2015

$$\left\| \frac{\square}{\sqrt{n}} - (\text{RSK} \cos w_{n+1}, \text{RSK} \sin w_{n+1}) \right\| \xrightarrow[\text{in probability}]{n \rightarrow \infty} 0$$

this lecture = proof of this result

## the limit shape



shape of  $Q_n$  (scaled by factor  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}$ )  
with high probability concentrates  
around some explicit shape

LOGAN, SHEPP, VERSHIK, KEROV

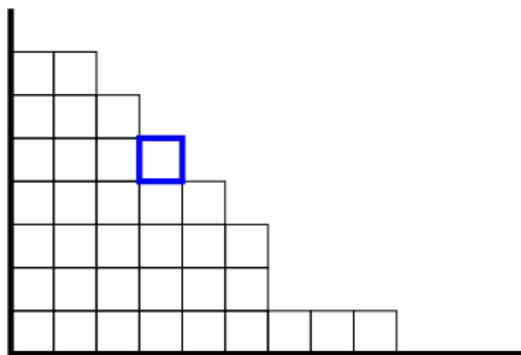


$\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}$  is with high probability close  
to the boundary of this limit shape

## reduction of the problem: adding randomness

instead of (for **deterministic**  $w_{n+1}$ )...

$$Q(w_1, \dots, w_n, w_{n+1}) \setminus Q(w_1, \dots, w_n) = \{ \square \}$$

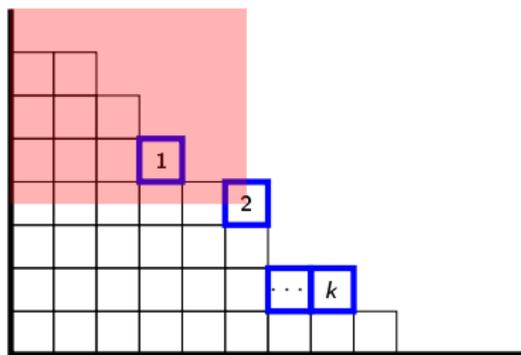




## reduction of the problem: adding randomness

we study (for **random**  $0 < t_1 < \dots < t_k < 1$ )

$$Q(w_1, \dots, w_n, t_1, \dots, t_k) \setminus Q(w_1, \dots, w_n) = \{ \boxed{1}, \dots, \boxed{k} \}$$



## homework

if  $w_{n+1} < t_i$  then  $\square$  is north-west from  $\boxed{i}$

for  $\frac{i}{k} \approx w_{n+1} + \epsilon$ , this happens with high probability, as  $k \rightarrow \infty$

# Littlewood–Richardson coefficients

irreducible representation  $\rho^\lambda$  of the symmetric group  $\mathfrak{S}_n$   $\longleftrightarrow$  Young diagram  $\lambda$  with  $n$  boxes

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Littlewood–Richardson coefficients

$$\left( \rho^\lambda \otimes \rho^\mu \right) \begin{matrix} \uparrow \mathfrak{S}_{|\lambda|+|\mu|} \\ \downarrow \mathfrak{S}_{|\lambda|} \times \mathfrak{S}_{|\mu|} \end{matrix} = \bigoplus_{\nu} c_{\lambda, \mu}^{\nu} \rho^{\nu}$$


---

random irreducible component of reducible representation  $V$ :

$$\mathbb{P}(\nu) = \frac{(\text{multiplicity of } \nu \text{ in } V) \cdot (\text{dimension of } \rho^{\nu})}{\text{dimension of } V}$$

## plactic Littlewood–Richardson rule

if  $0 \leq w_1, \dots, w_n \leq 1$  is a random sequence, such that

$$\text{shape of RSK}(w_1, \dots, w_n) = \lambda;$$

and  $0 \leq t_1, \dots, t_k \leq 1$  is a random sequence, such that

$$\text{shape of RSK}(t_1, \dots, t_k) = \mu$$

then the random Young diagram

$$\text{shape of RSK}(w_1, \dots, w_n, t_1, \dots, t_k)$$

has the same distribution as random irreducible component of

$$\rho^\lambda \otimes \rho^\mu \uparrow \begin{matrix} \mathfrak{S}_{n+k} \\ \mathfrak{S}_n \times \mathfrak{S}_k \end{matrix}$$

## plactic Littlewood–Richardson rule

if  $0 \leq w_1, \dots, w_n \leq 1$  is a random sequence, such that

$$\text{shape of RSK}(w_1, \dots, w_n) = \lambda;$$

and  $0 \leq t_1, \dots, t_k \leq 1$  is a random sequence, such that

$$\text{shape of RSK}(t_1, \dots, t_k) = (k) = \boxed{\phantom{0}} \boxed{\phantom{0}} \boxed{\phantom{0}} \boxed{\phantom{0}} \boxed{\phantom{0}}$$

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$$\rho^\lambda \otimes \rho^{(k)} \uparrow_{\mathfrak{S}_n \times \mathfrak{S}_k}^{\mathfrak{S}_{n+k}}$$

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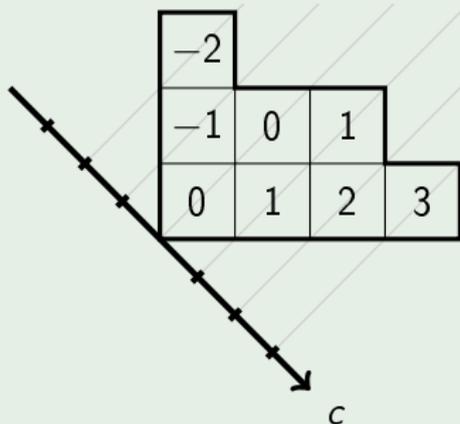
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## content of the box

$$\text{content}(\square) = (x\text{-coordinate}) - (y\text{-coordinate})$$

## Example



$$\text{content of Young diagram} = (-2, -1, 0, 0, 1, 1, 2, 3)$$

## Jucys–Murphy elements

$$X_i = (1, i) + (2, i) + \cdots + (i-1, i) \quad \text{for } i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$$

$X_1, \dots, X_n$  are elements of the symmetric group algebra  $\mathbb{C}[\mathfrak{S}_n]$

for any Young diagram  $\lambda$  with contents  $(c_1, \dots, c_n)$   
and a symmetric polynomial  $f(x_1, \dots, x_n)$

$$\chi^\lambda(f(X_1, \dots, X_n)) = \frac{\text{Tr } \rho^\lambda(f(X_1, \dots, X_n))}{\text{Tr } \rho^\lambda(1)} = ?$$

## Jucys–Murphy elements

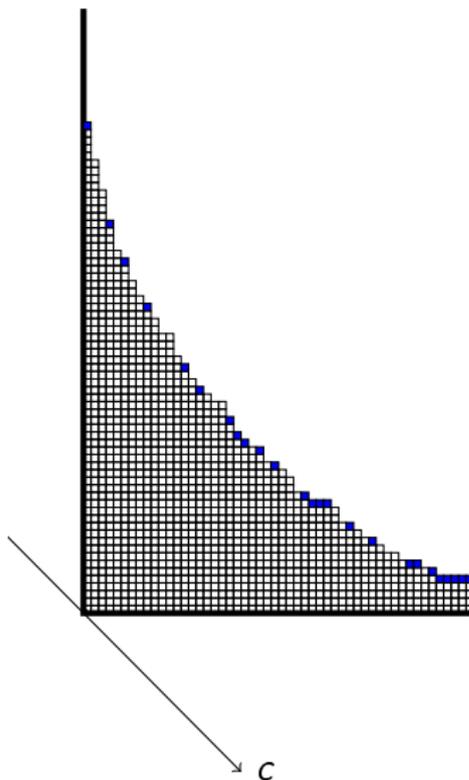
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# growth of Young diagrams and Jucys–Murphy elements



let  $\lambda \vdash n$ ,  $\mu \vdash k$  be fixed Young diagrams

let  $\nu$  be a random irreducible component of  
 $\rho^\lambda \otimes \rho^\mu \uparrow_{\mathfrak{S}_n \times \mathfrak{S}_k}^{\mathfrak{S}_{n+k}}$

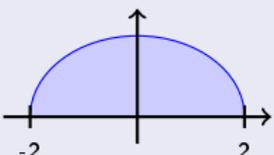
let  $c_1, \dots, c_k$  be the contents of boxes of  
 $\nu \setminus \lambda$

then for any symmetric polynomial  
 $f(x_{n+1}, \dots, x_{n+k})$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} (\chi^\lambda \otimes \chi^\mu) \left( f(X_{n+1}, \dots, X_{n+k}) \downarrow_{\mathfrak{S}_n \times \mathfrak{S}_k}^{\mathfrak{S}_{n+k}} \right) \\ = \mathbb{E} f(c_1, \dots, c_k) \end{aligned}$$

## semicircle law

if  $k \approx \sqrt[4]{n}$

$$\mu_k := \frac{1}{k} \left( \delta_{\frac{c_1}{\sqrt{n}}} + \cdots + \delta_{\frac{c_k}{\sqrt{n}}} \right) \xrightarrow[n \rightarrow \infty]{\text{in probability}} \mu_{SC} =$$


where  $c_j = c(\boxed{j})$

Hint:

$p$ -th moment of left-hand-side  $\frac{1}{k} \sum_j \left( \frac{c_j}{\sqrt{n}} \right)^p$  is a random variable,  
show that the mean converges to

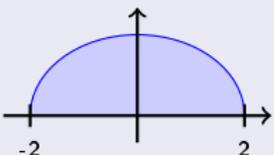
$p$ -th moment of  $\mu_{SC}$  (Catalan numbers!)

show that the variance converges to zero;

use Jucys–Murphy elements

## semicircle law

if  $k \approx \sqrt[4]{n}$

$$\mu_k := \frac{1}{k} \left( \delta_{\frac{c_1}{\sqrt{n}}} + \cdots + \delta_{\frac{c_k}{\sqrt{n}}} \right) \xrightarrow[n \rightarrow \infty]{\text{in probability}} \mu_{\text{SC}} =$$


where  $c_j = c(\boxed{j})$

since  $c_1 < \cdots < c_k$ , this implies that

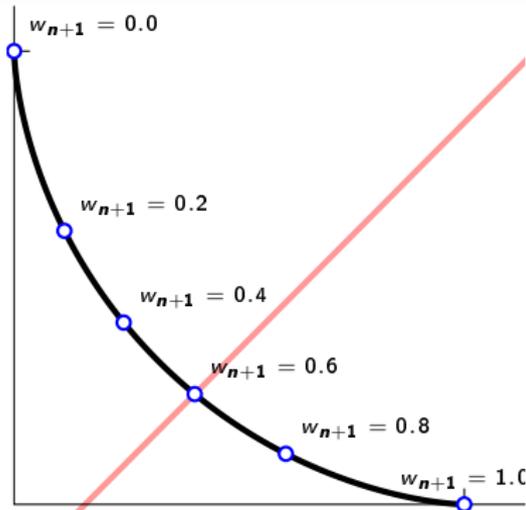
$$w_{n+1} + \epsilon \approx \frac{i}{k} = F_{\mu_k} \left( \frac{c(\boxed{i})}{\sqrt{n}} \right) \xrightarrow{\text{in probability}} F_{\mu_{\text{SC}}} \left( \frac{c(\boxed{i})}{\sqrt{n}} \right)$$

$$F_{\mu_{\text{SC}}}^{-1}(w_{n+1} + \epsilon) \approx \frac{c(\boxed{i})}{\sqrt{n}}$$

## key problem

let  $\mathbf{w} = (w_1, \dots, w_n, w_{n+1})$ ,  
with  $w_1, \dots, w_n$  random, iid  $U(0, 1)$   
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$\square$  is the box containing  $n + 1$   
in the recording tableau  $Q(\mathbf{w}) \dots$



## key theorem, ROMIK&ŚNIADY 2015

$$\left\| \frac{\square}{\sqrt{n}} - (\text{RSKcos } w_{n+1}, \text{RSKsin } w_{n+1}) \right\| \xrightarrow[\text{in probability}]{n \rightarrow \infty} 0$$