# Top degree components of Grothendieck and Lascoux polynomials 

Jianping Pan (NCSU) and Tianyi Yu (UCSD)

January 31, 2023

## Outline

1. Grothendieck polynomials. Bottom layer and top layer.
2. Lascoux polynomials. Bottom layer and top layer.
3. Span of the top layers. Connections to a $q$-analogue of Bell numbers.

## Grothendieck polynomials

Define $\partial_{i}(f):=\frac{f-s_{i} f}{x_{i}-x_{i+1}}$, where $s_{i}$ swaps $x_{i}$ and $x_{i+1}$. For instance,

$$
\partial_{1}\left(x_{1}^{3} x_{3}\right)=\frac{x_{1}^{3} x_{3}-x_{2}^{3} x_{3}}{x_{1}-x_{2}}=x_{1}^{2} x_{3}+x_{1} x_{2} x_{3}+x_{2}^{2} x_{3}
$$

Then for $w \in S_{n}$,

$$
\mathfrak{G}_{w}:= \begin{cases}x_{1}^{n-1} x_{2}^{n-2} \cdots x_{n-1} & \text { if } w=[n, n-1, \ldots, 1] \\ \partial_{i}\left(\left(1+x_{i+1}\right) \mathfrak{G}_{w s_{i}}\right) & \text { if } w(i)<w(i+1)\end{cases}
$$

## Grothendieck polynomials

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathfrak{G}_{2143} & =x_{1}^{2} x_{2} x_{3} \\
& +x_{1}^{2} x_{2}+x_{1}^{2} x_{3}+x_{1} x_{2} x_{3} \\
& +x_{1}^{2}+x_{1} x_{2}+x_{1} x_{3}
\end{aligned}
$$

- Inhomogeneous.
- Only have positive integer coefficients.


## Schubert polynomials

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathfrak{G}_{2143} & =x_{1}^{2} x_{2} x_{3} \\
& +x_{1}^{2} x_{2}+x_{1}^{2} x_{3}+x_{1} x_{2} x_{3} \\
& +x_{1}^{2}+x_{1} x_{2}+x_{1} x_{3} \quad \leftarrow \text { Schubert polynomial } \mathfrak{S}_{2143}
\end{aligned}
$$

What is the leading monomial of a Schubert polynomial $\mathfrak{S}_{w}$ ?

## Leading Monomial

Tail-Lex order: Compare monomials by first comparing the power of $x_{n}$, then $x_{n-1}, x_{n-2}, \ldots$.

$$
x_{1} x_{2}^{3} x_{3}^{2}>x_{1}^{4} x_{2} x_{3}^{2}
$$

The leading monomial of a polynomial is the largest monomial in it.

$$
\mathfrak{S}_{2143}=x_{1}^{2}+x_{1} x_{2}+x_{1} x_{3}
$$

What is the leading monomial of $\mathfrak{S}_{w}$ ?

## Inversion code

For $w \in S_{n}$, an inversion is $(i, j)$ with $w(i)>w(j)$ and $i<j$. The inversion code of $w$, denoted as invcode $(w)$, is a code where the $i^{\text {th }}$ entry is the number of inversions $(i, j)$.
For instance, invcode $(21543)=(1,0,2,1,0)$.

Theorem (Billey-Jockusch-Stanley)
The leading monomial of $\mathfrak{S}_{w}$ is $x^{\text {invcode }(w)}$.

## Rothe diagrams

Construct the Rothe diagram $R D(21543)$.


The weight of a diagram is a sequence where the $i^{\text {th }}$ entry is the number of tiles on row $i . \operatorname{wt}(R D(21543))=(1,0,2,1,0)$.

Fact: $\operatorname{invcode}(w)=\mathrm{wt}(R D(w))$.

## Top layer of Grothendieck polynomials

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathfrak{G}_{2143} & =x_{1}^{2} x_{2} x_{3} \quad \leftarrow \widehat{\mathfrak{G}}_{2143} \\
& +x_{1}^{2} x_{2}+x_{1}^{2} x_{3}+x_{1} x_{2} x_{3} \\
& +x_{1}^{2}+x_{1} x_{2}+x_{1} x_{3}
\end{aligned}
$$

How to compute their leading monomials?

## rajcode

## Definition (Pechenik-Speyer-Weigandt)

Take $w \in S_{n}$. For each $i$, find a longest increasing subsequence in $w$ that starts at $w(i)$. Count how many numbers on the right of $w(i)$ are not involved.

- When $i=1,21543$. Three numbers not involved: 1,4,3.
- When $i=2,21543$. Two numbers not involved: 4,3.
- When $i=3,21543$. Two numbers not involved: 4,3.
- When $i=4$, 21543. One number not involved: 3.
- When $i=5,21543$. No numbers not involved.

$$
\text { rajcode }(21543)=(3,2,2,1,0)
$$

## Leading monomial of $\widehat{\mathfrak{G}}_{w}$

Theorem (Pechenik-Speyer-Weigandt)

- The leading monomial of $\widehat{\mathfrak{G}}_{w}$ is $x^{\text {rajcode }(w)}$.
- Two permutations $u$ and $v$ have the same rajcode if and only if $\widehat{\mathfrak{G}}_{u}$ is a scalar multiple of $\widehat{\mathfrak{G}}_{v}$.

For example, $\widehat{\mathfrak{G}}_{21543}$ has leading monomial $x_{1}^{3} x_{2}^{2} x_{3}^{2} x_{4}$.

## Lascoux polynomials

For weak compositions $\alpha$,

$$
\begin{gathered}
\mathfrak{L}_{\alpha}:= \begin{cases}x^{\alpha} & \text { if } \alpha_{1} \geqslant \alpha_{2} \geqslant \ldots \\
\partial_{i}\left(x_{i}\left(1+x_{i+1}\right) \mathfrak{L}_{s_{i} \alpha}\right) & \text { if } \alpha_{i}<\alpha_{i+1} .\end{cases} \\
\mathfrak{G}_{w}:= \begin{cases}x_{1}^{n-1} x_{2}^{n-2} \cdots x_{n-1} & \text { if } w=[n, n-1, \ldots, 1] \\
\partial_{i}\left(\left(1+x_{i+1}\right) \mathfrak{G}_{w s_{i}}\right) & \text { if } w(i)<w(i+1) .\end{cases}
\end{gathered}
$$

Theorem (Shimozono-Y)
For $w \in S_{n}, \mathfrak{G}_{w}$ expands positively into $\mathfrak{L}_{\alpha}$.

$$
\mathfrak{G}_{2143}=\mathfrak{L}_{101}+\mathfrak{L}_{2}+\mathfrak{L}_{201}
$$

## Key polynomials

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathfrak{L}_{102} & =\left(x_{1}^{2} x_{2}^{2} x_{3}+x_{1}^{2} x_{2} x_{3}^{2}\right) \\
& +\left(x_{1}^{2} x_{2}^{2}+2 x_{1}^{2} x_{2} x_{3}+x_{1} x_{2}^{2} x_{3}+x_{1} x_{2} x_{3}^{2}+x_{1}^{2} x_{3}^{2}\right) \\
& +\left(x_{1}^{2} x_{2}+x_{1} x_{2}^{2}+x_{1} x_{2} x_{3}+x_{1}^{2} x_{3}+x_{1} x_{3}^{2}\right) \quad \leftarrow \kappa_{102}
\end{aligned}
$$

Theorem (Lascoux-Schützenberger)
The key polynomial $\kappa_{\alpha}$ has leading monomial $x^{\alpha}$.

## Top layer of Lascoux polynomials

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathfrak{L}_{102} & =\left(x_{1}^{2} x_{2}^{2} x_{3}+x_{1}^{2} x_{2} x_{3}^{2}\right) \quad \leftarrow \widehat{\mathfrak{L}}_{102} \\
& +\left(x_{1}^{2} x_{2}^{2}+2 x_{1}^{2} x_{2} x_{3}+x_{1} x_{2}^{2} x_{3}+x_{1} x_{2} x_{3}^{2}+x_{1}^{2} x_{3}^{2}\right) \\
& +\left(x_{1}^{2} x_{2}+x_{1} x_{2}^{2}+x_{1} x_{2} x_{3}+x_{1}^{2} x_{3}+x_{1} x_{3}^{2}\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

Question: What is the leading monomial of $\widehat{\mathfrak{L}}_{\alpha}$ ?

## Key diagram

The following is the key diagram of $(1,2,0,5,2)$.


$$
D((1,2,0,5,2))
$$

## Dark clouds

- Iterate through each row from bottom to top.
- For each row, find the rightmost tile on this row with no dark clouds underneath.
- If such a tile exists, turn it into a dark cloud.



## Snow

Fill spaces above each dark cloud by snowflakes


## rajcode of a weak composition



$$
\operatorname{snow}(D((1,2,0,5,2)))
$$

Definition (Pan-Y)
The rajcode of a weak composition $\alpha$ is $\operatorname{wt}(\operatorname{snow}(D(\alpha)))$.
For instance, rajcode $((1,2,0,5,2))=(3,3,2,5,2)$

## Top Lascoux polynomials

Theorem (Pan-Y)

- The leading monomial of $\widehat{\mathfrak{L}}_{\alpha}$ is $x^{\text {rajcode }(\alpha)}$.
- Two weak compositions $\alpha$ and $\gamma$ have the same rajcode if and only if $\widehat{\mathfrak{L}}_{\alpha}$ is a scalar multiple of $\widehat{\mathfrak{L}}_{\gamma}$.

Theorem (Pechenik-Speyer-Weigandt)

- The leading monomial of $\widehat{\mathfrak{G}}_{w}$ is $x^{\text {rajcode }(w)}$.
- Two permutations $u$ and $v$ have the same rajcode if and only if $\widehat{\mathfrak{G}}_{u}$ is a scalar multiple of $\widehat{\mathfrak{G}}_{v}$.

Corollary (Pan-Y)
Let $\operatorname{raj}(\alpha)$ be the sum of entries in rajcode $(\alpha)$. Then $\widehat{\mathfrak{L}}_{\alpha}$ has degree raj $(\alpha)$.

## Snow on Rothe diagrams

We can do the same construction on a Rothe diagram.


Theorem (Pan-Y)
The weight of $\operatorname{snow}(R D(w))$ is the same as rajcode( $w$ ) defined by Pechenik, Speyer and Weigandt.

## Space spanned by $\widehat{\mathfrak{G}}_{w}$

Let $\widehat{V}_{n}$ be the $\mathbb{Q}$-span of $\widehat{\mathfrak{G}}_{w}$ with $w \in S_{n}$.
Proposition (Pan-Y)
Let $C_{n}$ be the set of weak compositions entry-wise at most
$(n-1, \cdots, 2,1,0)$. Then $\widehat{V}_{n}$ is also the $\mathbb{Q}$-span of $\widehat{\mathfrak{Z}}_{\alpha}$ with $\alpha \in C_{n}$.

Questions:

- Can we find bases of $\widehat{V_{n}}$ ? A basis consisting of $\widehat{\mathfrak{G}}_{w}$ by [Pechenik-Speyer-Weigandt]
- What is the dimension of $\widehat{V_{n}}$ ? $B_{n}$, the $n^{\text {th }}$ Bell number by [Pechenik-Speyer-Weigandt]
- What is the Hilbert series of $\widehat{V_{n}}$ ?


## Extracting a basis from a spanning set

## Recall:

## Theorem (Pan-Y)

- The leading monomial of $\widehat{\mathfrak{L}}_{\alpha}$ is $x^{\text {rajcode }(\alpha)}$.
- Two weak compositions $\alpha$ and $\gamma$ have the same rajcode if and only if $\widehat{\mathfrak{L}}_{\alpha}$ is a scalar multiple of $\widehat{\mathfrak{L}}_{\gamma}$.

Partition the spanning set of $\widehat{V_{4}}$ into equivalence classes by rajcode:

$$
\begin{gathered}
\{0000\},\{1000\},\{0100,1100\}, \\
\{0010,1010,0110,1110\}, \\
\{2000\},\{0200\},\{1200,2200\}, \\
\{2100\},\{2010,2110\},\{3000\}, \\
\{0210,1210,2210\},\{3100\}, \\
\{3200\},\{3010,3110\},\{3210\} .
\end{gathered}
$$

## Snowy weak compositions

## Definition (Pan-Y)

A weak composition is snowy if its positive entries are distinct.

a snowy weak composition in $C_{6}$
Theorem (Pan-Y)
Each $\alpha \in C_{n}$ has the same rajcode as exactly one snowy weak composition in $C_{n}$.

## Bases of $\widehat{V_{n}}$

Theorem (Pan-Y)
The space $\widehat{V}_{n}$ has basis $\left\{\widehat{\mathfrak{L}}_{\alpha}: \alpha \in C_{n}\right.$ is snowy $\}$.

For instance, $\widehat{V_{3}}$ has basis
and $\widehat{V_{4}}$ has basis

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \left\{\widehat{\mathfrak{L}}_{0000}, \widehat{\mathfrak{L}}_{0100}, \widehat{\mathfrak{L}}_{0010}, \widehat{\mathfrak{L}}_{0200}, \widehat{\mathfrak{L}}_{0210}, \widehat{\mathfrak{Z}}_{0110},\right.
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \widehat{\mathfrak{L}}_{2000}, \widehat{\mathfrak{L}}_{2100}, \widehat{\mathfrak{L}}_{2010}, \widehat{\mathfrak{L}} 2200, \widehat{\mathfrak{C}} 2210, \widehat{\mathfrak{S}} 2110, \\
& \left.\widehat{\mathfrak{L}}_{3000}, \widehat{\mathfrak{L}}_{3100}, \widehat{\mathfrak{L}}_{3010}, \widehat{\mathfrak{L}}_{3200}, \widehat{\mathfrak{L}}_{3210}, \widehat{\mathfrak{L}}_{31 \mathrm{Q}}\right\} .
\end{aligned}
$$

## Hilbert series

## Definition

Suppose $A$ is a polynomial vector space with a basis $\mathfrak{B}$ consisting of homogeneous polynomials. Then $\operatorname{Hilb}(A ; q):=\sum_{f \in \mathfrak{B}} q^{\operatorname{deg}(f)}$.

For instance, $\widehat{V_{3}}$ has basis

$$
\left\{\widehat{\mathfrak{L}}_{000}, \widehat{\mathfrak{L}}_{100}, \widehat{\mathfrak{L}}_{010}, \widehat{\mathfrak{L}}_{200}, \widehat{\mathfrak{L}}_{210}\right\}, \text { so }
$$

$$
\operatorname{Hilb}\left(\widehat{V_{3}} ; q\right)=q^{0}+q^{1}+q^{2}+q^{2}+q^{3} .
$$

In general,

$$
\operatorname{Hilb}\left(\widehat{V_{n}} ; q\right)=\sum_{\text {snowy } \alpha \in C_{n}} q^{\operatorname{raj}(\alpha)}
$$

where $\operatorname{raj}(\alpha)$ is the sum of rajcode $(\alpha)$.

## $q$-analogue of Bell numbers

Define the polynomial $S_{n, k}(q)$ recursively:

$$
S_{n+1, k}(q)=q^{k-1} S_{n, k-1}(q)+[k]_{q} S_{n, k}(q)
$$

with base cases $S_{0, k}(q)=S_{0, k}$. It is called a $q$-analogue of $S_{n, k}$.

The $q$-analogue of $B_{n}$ is $B_{n}(q):=\sum_{k=0}^{n} S_{n, k}(q)$.

Question: How to write $B_{n}(q)$ as a generating function?

## Non-attacking rook diagrams

A non-attacking rook diagram is a diagram with at most one tile in each column or row.
Let Rook ${ }_{n}$ be the set of non-attacking rook diagrams within the staircase that has length $n-r$ in row $r$.


An element of Rook6

## $B_{n}(q)$ via Rooks

Define the Northwest statistic NW(•) on Rook ${ }_{n}$.


$$
\operatorname{NW}(R)=10
$$

Theorem (Garsia-Remmel)

$$
\sum_{R \in \mathrm{Rook}_{n}} q^{\mathrm{NW}(R)}=\operatorname{rev}\left(B_{n}(q)\right)
$$

where $\operatorname{rev}(\cdot)$ means to reverse all the coefficients.

## Bijection

There is a bijection between snowy weak compositions in $C_{n}$ and Rook ${ }_{n}$.


## Bijection



If $\alpha \mapsto R$, then $\operatorname{raj}(\alpha)=\operatorname{NW}(R)$.

Hilbert series of $\widehat{V_{n}}$

$\operatorname{Hilb}\left(\widehat{V_{n}} ; q\right)=\sum_{\substack{\alpha \in C_{n}, \alpha \text { is snowy }}} q^{\operatorname{raj}(\alpha)}=\sum_{R \in \operatorname{Rook}_{n}} q^{\mathrm{NW}(R)}=\operatorname{rev}\left(B_{n}(q)\right)$

## Span of all top Lascoux polynomials

Let $\widehat{V}$ be the span of all top Lascoux polynomials.
Theorem (Pan-Y)

- $\widehat{V_{1}} \subseteq \widehat{V_{2}} \subseteq \cdots \subseteq \widehat{V}$.
- $\widehat{V}=\bigcup_{n \geq 1} \widehat{V}_{n}$.
- $\widehat{V}$ has basis $\left\{\widehat{\mathfrak{L}}_{\alpha}: \alpha\right.$ is snowy $\}$.
$-\operatorname{Hilb}(\widehat{V} ; q)=\lim _{n \rightarrow \infty} \operatorname{Hilb}\left(\widehat{V_{n}} ; q\right)=\prod_{m>0}\left(1+\frac{q^{m}}{1-q}\right)$

$$
\begin{gathered}
\widehat{\mathfrak{L}}_{(0,3,1,5)} \times \widehat{\mathfrak{L}}_{(2,4,0,0)} \\
=\widehat{\mathfrak{L}}_{(4,8,1,5)}+\widehat{\mathfrak{L}}_{(6,7,1,5)}+\widehat{\mathfrak{L}}_{(5,9,1,4)}+2 \widehat{\mathfrak{L}}_{(6,8,1,4)}+\widehat{\mathfrak{L}}_{(6,9,1,3)}+\widehat{\mathfrak{L}}_{(7,8,1,3)}
\end{gathered}
$$

Theorem (Y 2023+)
If $\alpha$ and $\beta$ are snowy, then $\widehat{\mathfrak{L}}_{\alpha} \times \widehat{\mathfrak{L}}_{\beta}$ can be expanded into top Lascoux polynomials with positive coefficients.

Problem: Find a combinatorial formula for the coefficients.

## Relations between $\widehat{\mathfrak{L}}_{\alpha}$ and the Schubert polynomials

Every $\widehat{\mathfrak{L}}_{\alpha}$ is a Schubert polynomial, after "reversal".

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \widehat{\mathfrak{L}}_{31524}=x^{(5,5,5,3,3)}+x^{(5,5,4,4,3)}+x^{(5,4,5,4,3)}+x^{(5,5,4,3,4)}+x^{(5,4,5,3,4)} \\
& \mathfrak{S}_{24153}=x^{(2,2,0,0,0)}+x^{(2,1,1,0,0)}+x^{(2,1,0,1,0)}+x^{(1,2,1,0,0)}+x^{(1,2,0,1,0)}
\end{aligned}
$$

A solution of this problem would solve the Schubert problem.

## Thank you!



