## Positroids, knots, and q, t-Catalan numbers

### Pavel Galashin (UCLA)

#### March 26, 2021

Joint work with Thomas Lam (arXiv:2012.09745)



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- Point count:  $\# \operatorname{Gr}(k, n; \mathbb{F}_q) = {n \brack k}_q.$
- Poincaré polynomial:  $\sum_{i} q^{i} \dim H^{2i}(Gr(k, n; \mathbb{C})) = {n \brack k}_{q}$ .
- Reason: Schubert decomposition.

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$$\Pi_{k,n}^{\circ} := \{ X \in \operatorname{Gr}(k,n) \mid \Delta_{1,\ldots,k}(X), \Delta_{2,\ldots,k+1}(X), \ldots, \Delta_{n,1,\ldots,k-1}(X) \neq 0 \},\$$

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#### Theorem (G.–Lam (2020))

Let gcd(k, n) = 1. Then the point count and the Poincaré polynomial of  $\Pi_{k,n}^{\circ}$  are

$$\#\Pi_{k,n}^{\circ}(\mathbb{F}_q) = (q-1)^{n-1} \cdot C'_{k,n-k}(q), \qquad \mathcal{P}(\Pi_{k,n}^{\circ};q) = (q+1)^{n-1} \cdot C''_{k,n-k}(q^2).$$

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Corollary: a uniformly random point of  $Gr(k, n; \mathbb{F}_q)$  belongs to  $\Pi_{k,n}^{\circ}(\mathbb{F}_q)$  with probability  $\frac{(q-1)^n}{q^n-1}.$ 

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Corollary: a uniformly random point of  $Gr(k, n; \mathbb{F}_q)$  belongs to  $\Pi_{k,n}^{\circ}(\mathbb{F}_q)$  with probability  $\frac{(q-1)^n}{q^n-1}. \qquad \longleftarrow \text{ does not depend on } k?!$  Rational *q*, *t*-Catalan numbers: (introduced by Garsia–Haiman (1996) and Loehr–Warrington (2009))

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# Theorem (G.–Lam (2020))

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- Catalan case b = a + 1: both properties follow from Haiman '94, '02.

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- Arbitrary *a*, *b*: symmetry follows from Mellit '16, unimodality appears new.

Let gcd(k, n) = 1. Then the bigraded Poincaré polynomial of  $\prod_{k,n}^{\circ}$  is given by

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#### • Let $G = SL_n(\mathbb{C})$ , $B, B_-$ are subgroups of upper and lower triangular matrices.

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If  $c(wv^{-1}) = 1$  then

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- When  $c(wv^{-1}) = 1$ ,  $\hat{\beta}_{v,w}$  is a knot, i.e., has a unique connected component.









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# Thanks!