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#### A v-ANALOGUE OF PEEL'S THEOREM

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ABSTRACT. We compute the v-decomposition numbers  $d_{\lambda\mu}(v)$  for  $\lambda$  being a hook partition, and  $\mu$  e-regular.

#### 1. Introduction

Throughout we fix an integer  $e \geq 2$ . Lascoux, Leclerc, and Thibon [8] used the representation theory of the quantum affine algebra  $U_v(\widehat{\mathfrak{sl}}_e)$  to introduce for every pair of partitions  $\lambda$  and  $\sigma$ , with  $\sigma$  e-regular, a polynomial  $d_{\lambda\sigma}(v)$  with integer coefficients (which depends on e). They conjectured these polynomials to be v-analogues of decomposition numbers for Hecke algebras at complex e-th root of unity (hence the term 'v-decomposition numbers'); this conjecture was proved later by Ariki [1]. These v-decomposition numbers are also known to be parabolic affine Kazhdan-Lusztig polynomials.

Leclerc's lectures [9] are a good introduction to this subject as well as a convenient reference for the results we need here.

The purpose of this note is to prove the following theorem, which describes the v-decomposition numbers corresponding to rows labelled by hook partitions:

**Theorem 1.** For  $0 \le i \le n-1$ , let  $\alpha_i^n = (n-i, 1^i)$  and denote its 'e-regularised' partition by  $(\alpha_i^n)^R$  (see §2.1).

(1) If 
$$e > 3$$
, then

$$\begin{split} d_{\alpha_i^n(\alpha_i^n)^R}(v) &= \begin{cases} v^{\lfloor i/e \rfloor}, & \text{if } e \nmid n, \text{ or both } e \mid n \text{ and } i < n - \frac{n}{e}, \\ v^{\lfloor i/e \rfloor + 1}, & \text{if } e \mid n \text{ and } i \geq n - \frac{n}{e}; \end{cases} \\ d_{\alpha_i^n(\alpha_{i-1}^n)^R}(v) &= v^{\lfloor i/e \rfloor + 1}, & \text{if } e \mid n \text{ and } 1 \leq i < n - \frac{n}{e}; \\ d_{\alpha_i^n(\alpha_{i+1}^n)^R}(v) &= v^{\lfloor i/e \rfloor}, & \text{if } e \mid n \text{ and } n - \frac{n}{e} \leq i < n; \\ d_{\alpha_i^n}(\sigma_i^n)^R(v) &= 0, & \text{for all other } e\text{-regular } \sigma\text{ 's.} \end{split}$$

(2) If 
$$e = 2$$
, then

$$d_{\alpha_i^n(\alpha_j^n)^R}(v) = \begin{cases} v^{\lfloor i/2 \rfloor}, & \text{if } j \leq i < n-j \text{ and } i-j \text{ even}, \\ v^{(i+1)/2}, & \text{if } 2 \mid n, \ j < i < n-j, \ i \text{ odd and } j \text{ even}, \\ v^{i/2+1}, & \text{if } 2 \mid n, \ j < i < n-j, \ i \text{ even and } j \text{ odd}; \end{cases}$$
 
$$d_{\alpha_i^n\sigma}(v) = 0, & \text{for all other } e\text{-regular } \sigma\text{'s}.$$

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Peel [13] initiated the study of the corresponding decomposition numbers of symmetric group algebras in odd characteristic, and this is continued by James [4, Theorem 6.22] and James-Mathas [6, Theorem 7.6] for Hecke algebras at complex e-th root of unity with  $e \geq 2$ . When we use these theorems of James and James-Mathas together with Ariki's theorem [1], we can then conclude that these v-decomposition numbers, when non-zero, are monic monomials. However, we do not make use of this fact here and work entirely in the context of the basic  $U_v(\widehat{\mathfrak{sl}}_e)$ -module (or the Fock space), thereby providing another proof of these corresponding decomposition numbers of Hecke algebras when we evaluate these v-decomposition numbers at v=1 and use Ariki's theorem.

This paper is organised as follows: in section 2, we introduce the background theory and obtain some useful preliminary results. We then prove part (1) and (2) of Theorem 1 in sections 3 and 4 respectively.

#### 2. Background

2.1. **Partitions.** A partition is a nonincreasing sequence  $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots)$  of nonnegative integers. We write  $|\lambda| = \sum_i \lambda_i$ . If  $|\lambda| = n$ , we say that  $\lambda$  is a partition of n. We denote the set of partitions of n by  $\mathcal{P}_n$ , and write  $\mathcal{P} = \bigcup_n \mathcal{P}_n$  for the set of all partitions. A partition  $\lambda$  is e-regular if and only if there is no i such that  $\lambda_i = \lambda_{i+1} = \dots = \lambda_{i+e-1} \neq 0$ . We identify a partition  $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots)$  with its Young diagram

$$\{(j,k) \in \mathbb{Z}^+ \times \mathbb{Z}^+ \mid 1 \le k \le \lambda_j \}.$$

The standard lexicographic and dominance ordering on  $\mathcal{P}_n$  are denoted by > and > respectively, and we introduce a total ordering > on  $\mathcal{P}$  as follows:  $\lambda > \mu$  if, and only if, either  $|\lambda| > |\mu|$  or both  $|\lambda| = |\mu|$  and  $\lambda > \mu$ .

Given any integer j, we write  $\overline{j}$  for its residue class modulo e. The residue of a node (j,k) in a Young diagram  $\mu$  is  $\overline{k-j}$ . If (j,k) has residue i, we say that (j,k) is an i-node. If in removing (j,k) from  $\mu$ , we obtain a Young diagram  $\lambda$  then we call (j,k) a removable i-node of  $\mu$  or an indent i-node of  $\lambda$ 

A ladder  $\ell = \ell_r$  is a set of nodes of the form

$$\{(j,k) \in \mathbb{Z}^+ \times \mathbb{Z}^+ \mid k = (1-e)j + r\}.$$

All nodes in  $\ell_r$  have residue  $\overline{r}$ . The intersection of a ladder with the Young diagram  $\lambda$  is a ladder of  $\lambda$ . If we replace each ladder of  $\lambda$  by the same number of nodes as high up as possible in the same ladder, then we obtain an e-regular partition which is labelled  $\lambda^R$  [5, 6.3.48].

2.2. The algebra  $U_v(\widehat{\mathfrak{sl}}_e)$  and its basic module. The algebra  $U = U_v(\widehat{\mathfrak{sl}}_e)$  is the associative algebra over  $\mathbb{C}(v)$  with generators  $e_i$ ,  $f_i$ ,  $k_i$ ,  $k_i^{-1}$  ( $0 \le i \le e-1$ ), d,  $d^{-1}$  subject to certain relations for which the interested reader may refer to, for example, [9, §4]. An important U-module is the Fock space representation  $\mathcal{F}[3, 12]$ , which as a  $\mathbb{C}(v)$ -vector space has a basis  $\{s(\lambda)\}_{\lambda \in \mathcal{P}}$ . For our purposes an explicit description of the action of just the  $f_i$ 's on  $\mathcal{F}$  will suffice.

Let  $\lambda$  be a partition with m indent i-nodes  $(j_1, k_1), (j_2, k_2), \ldots, (j_m, k_m)$ , and write  $\mu$  for the partition obtained by adding these m indent nodes to  $\lambda$ .

Let  $N_r$  be the number of indent *i*-nodes of  $\lambda$  not equal to  $(j_s, k_s)$  for all s that are situated to the right of  $(j_r, k_r)$  minus the number of removable i-nodes of  $\lambda$  situated to the right of  $(j_r, k_r)$ . Let  $N(\lambda, \mu) = \sum_{r=1}^m N_r$ . We have

$$f_i^{(m)}s(\lambda) = \sum_{\mu} v^{N(\lambda,\mu)}s(\mu),$$

where  $f_i^{(m)} = f_i^m / (\prod_{r=1}^m \frac{v^r - v^{-r}}{v - v^{-1}})$ , and the sum is over all Young diagrams  $\mu$  obtained from  $\lambda$  by adding m indent i-nodes.

We identify the basic U-module  $M(\Lambda_0)$  with the U-submodule of  $\mathcal{F}$  generated by  $s(\emptyset)$ . This is an irreducible highest weight module for U, and has a distinguish basis  $\{G(\sigma)\}$ , called the canonical basis or lower global crystal basis, which is indexed by e-regular partitions  $\sigma$  [7]. Let  $\langle -, - \rangle$  denote the inner product on  $\mathcal{F}$  for which  $\{s(\lambda) \mid \lambda \in \mathcal{F}\}$  is orthonormal. Then the v-decomposition number  $d_{\lambda\sigma}(v)$  is defined as  $\langle G(\sigma), s(\lambda) \rangle$ , the coefficient of  $s(\lambda)$  in  $G(\sigma)$ . These v-decomposition numbers are shown to have the following properties:

**Theorem 2** ([8, Theorem 6.8], [14]; see also [11, Theorem 6.28]). We have

$$d_{\sigma\sigma}(v) = 1,$$
  
$$d_{\lambda\sigma}(v) \in v\mathbb{N}[v] \text{ for all } \lambda \neq \sigma.$$

Furthermore,  $d_{\lambda\sigma}(v) \neq 0$  only if  $\lambda \leq \sigma$ , and  $\lambda$  and  $\sigma$  have the same e-core.

Lascoux, Leclerc and Thibon provided a recursive combinatorial algorithm to calculate  $G(\sigma)$ 's. Now commonly known as the LLT algorithm, it is based on the following principle:

**Theorem 3.** Let  $\sigma$  be an e-regular partition, and let  $\widetilde{\sigma}$  be the partition obtained by removing the rightmost ladder of  $\sigma$ , which has residue r and size k. Then

$$f_r^{(k)}(G(\widetilde{\sigma})) = G(\sigma) + \sum_{\substack{\mu \triangleleft \sigma \\ \mu \ e-regular}} L_{\mu}(v)G(\mu),$$

with  $L_{\mu}(v) = L_{\mu}(v^{-1}) \in \mathbb{N}[v, v^{-1}].$ 

- 2.3. Notations. We adopt the following notations in this paper:
  - (1) If  $x, y, x y \in \bigoplus_{\lambda \in \mathcal{P}} \mathbb{N}[v, v^{-1}]s(\lambda)$ , then we write  $y \mid x$ . For example,  $d_{\lambda\mu}(v)s(\lambda) \mid G(\mu)$  by Theorem 2, and, keeping the notation of Theorem 3,  $G(\sigma)$ ,  $L_{\lambda}(v)G(\lambda) \mid f_r(G(\widetilde{\sigma}))$ .
  - notation of Theorem 3,  $G(\sigma)$ ,  $L_{\lambda}(v)G(\lambda) \mid f_r(G(\widetilde{\sigma}))$ . (2) If  $x \in \mathcal{F}$ , then  $[x]_{hook} = \sum_n \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \langle x, s(\alpha_i^n) \rangle s(\alpha_i^n)$ , the 'hook-part' of x
  - (3) If  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ , then  $\overline{k}$  denotes the residue class of k modulo e, and

$$\delta_k = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } e \mid k; \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

(4) We denote the hook partition  $(n-i,1^i)$  (for  $0 \le i < n$ ) by  $\alpha_i^n$ .

2.4. **Some useful results.** We collate together some results which we shall require.

**Proposition 4.** Keep the notations of Theorem 3, and let  $\langle f_r^{(k)}(G(\widetilde{\sigma})), s(\lambda) \rangle = p(v) \ (\lambda \triangleleft \sigma).$ 

- (1) If p(v) = 1, then  $\lambda$  is e-regular,  $L_{\lambda}(v) = 1$  and  $d_{\lambda\sigma}(v) = 0$ .
- (2) If  $p(v) = v^m$  with m > 0, and  $d_{\lambda\mu}(v) \neq v^m$  for all e-regular  $\mu$  with  $\lambda \triangleleft \mu \triangleleft \sigma$ , then  $d_{\lambda\sigma}(v) = v^m$ .
- (3) If  $p(v) \in \mathbb{N}[v]$ , and  $\langle f_r^{(k)}(G(\widetilde{\sigma})), s(\mu) \rangle \in v\mathbb{N}[v]$  for all e-regular  $\mu$  with  $\lambda \triangleleft \mu \triangleleft \sigma$ , then  $L_{\lambda}(v) = p(0)$  and  $d_{\lambda\sigma}(v) = p(v) p(0)$ .

*Proof.* By Theorem 3,  $p(v) = d_{\lambda\sigma}(v) + \sum_{\mu} L_{\mu}(v) d_{\lambda\mu}(v)$ , where the sum runs over e-regular partitions  $\mu \triangleleft \sigma$ .

If  $p(v) = v^m$  with  $m \ge 0$ , then since  $L_{\mu}(v) \in \mathbb{N}[v, v^{-1}], d_{\lambda\mu}(v), d_{\lambda\sigma}(v) \in \mathbb{N}[v]$ , we have either

- $d_{\lambda\sigma}(v) = v^m$ , or
- $d_{\lambda\sigma}(v) = 0$ , and  $L_{\mu_0}(v) = 1$ ,  $d_{\lambda\mu_0}(v) = v^m$  for some e-regular  $\mu_0 \triangleleft \sigma$  while  $L_{\mu}(v)d_{\lambda\mu}(v) = 0$  for all other e-regular  $\mu \triangleleft \sigma$ .

Thus, (2) follows since  $d_{\lambda\mu_0}(v) \neq v^m$  with m > 0 implies  $\lambda \triangleleft \mu_0$  by Theorem 2, while (1) follows since  $d_{\lambda\nu}(v) \neq 1$  unless  $\lambda = \nu$  by Theorem 2.

For (3), if  $L_{\mu}(v) \neq 0$  for some  $\lambda \triangleleft \mu \triangleleft \sigma$ , let  $\mu_0$  be maximal in the dominance order among these. Then  $\left\langle f_r^{(k)}(G(\widetilde{\sigma})), s(\mu_0) \right\rangle = d_{\mu_0\sigma}(v) + L_{\mu_0}(v)$  by Theorems 2 and 3. Thus,

$$L_{\mu_0}(v) = \left\langle f_r^{(k)}(G(\widetilde{\sigma})), s(\mu_0) \right\rangle - d_{\mu_0 \sigma}(v) \in v \mathbb{N}[v]$$

by our hypothesis and Theorem 2. But this contradicts  $L_{\mu}(v) = L_{\mu}(v^{-1})$ . Thus,  $L_{\mu}(v) = 0$  for all  $\lambda \triangleleft \mu \triangleleft \sigma$ , so that  $p(v) = d_{\lambda\sigma}(v) + L_{\lambda}(v)$ . If  $p(v) = a_0 + a_1 v + \dots + a_m v^m$ , then the fact that  $L_{\lambda}(v) = L_{\lambda}(v^{-1}) \in \mathbb{N}[v, v^{-1}]$ , as well as  $d_{\lambda\sigma}(v) \in v\mathbb{N}[v]$ , forces  $L_{\lambda}(v) = a_0 = p(0)$  and  $d_{\lambda\sigma}(v) = a_1 v + \dots + a_m v^m = p(v) - p(0)$ .

The following lemma follows immediately from the Young diagram of a hook partition.

**Lemma 5.** We have  $[f_r(s(\lambda))]_{hook} = 0$  unless  $\lambda = \alpha_i^n$  for some  $i, n \in \mathbb{N}$  with i < n, and

$$[f_r(s(\alpha_i^n))]_{hook} = \delta_{n-i-r}s(\alpha_i^{n+1}) + \delta_{r+i+1}v^{\delta_{n+1}-\delta_n+\delta_r}s(\alpha_{i+1}^{n+1}).$$

In particular, if  $x \in \mathcal{F}$ , then  $[f_r(x)]_{hook} = [f_r([x]_{hook})]_{hook}$ .

The following v-decomposition numbers are computed by Lyle in her Ph.D. thesis.

Proposition 6 ([10, Theorem 2.2.3]).

- (1) If  $e \ge 3$  and  $e \mid n$ , then  $d_{(n-1,1),(n)}(v) = v = d_{(n-1,2),(n+1)}(v)$ .
- (2) If e = 2 and  $0 \le i < n/2$ , then

$$d_{(n-i,i)\sigma}(v) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } \sigma = (n-i,i); \\ v, & \text{if } \sigma = (n-i+1,i-1) \text{ and } 2 \mid n; \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

### 3. Part (1) of Theorem 1

Throughout this section, we assume  $e \geq 3$ . For each  $i \in \mathbb{Z}$ , we denote its quotient and remainder, when i is divided by e-1, by  $q_i$  and  $s_i$  respectively. If  $0 \leq i < n$ , let

$$\beta_i^n = \begin{cases} (n-i, (q_i+1)^s, q_i^{e-1-s_i}), & \text{if } n-i > q_i+1; \\ ((q_i+1)^{s_i+1}, q_i^{e-2-s_i}, n-i-1), & \text{if } n-i \le q_i+1. \end{cases}$$

Then  $\beta_i^n = (\alpha_i^n)^R$ . It is not difficult to check that the condition  $n-i > q_i+1$  is equivalent to  $i \leq (n-1)(1-\frac{1}{e})$ . Furthermore, if  $j = \lfloor (n-1)(1-\frac{1}{e}) \rfloor$ , then

$$\beta_0^n > \beta_1^n > \dots > \beta_j, \quad \beta_{j+1} < \beta_{j+2} < \dots < \beta_{n-1},$$

and  $\beta_j \geq \beta_{j+1}$  with equality if and only if  $e \mid n$ .

Before we state the main theorem of this section, we prove the following proposition, which helps to take care of a special case later:

**Proposition 7.** Suppose  $i, n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  satisfy  $e \mid n, (e-1) \mid i \text{ and } 0 < n-i < i/(e-1)$ . Then  $d_{\beta_{i-1}^n \beta_i^n}(v) = v \text{ and } d_{\beta_{i-2}^n \beta_i^n}(v) = 0$ .

*Proof.* The rightmost ladder of  $\beta_i^n = (q_i + 1, q_i^{e-2}, n - i - 1)$  has size 1 and residue  $\overline{q_i}$ , and removing it produces  $\beta_{i-1}^{n-1} = (q_i^{e-1}, n - i - 1)$ . Since  $\beta_{i-1}^n = (q_i^{e-1}, n - i)$  has a unique removable  $\overline{q_i}$ -node (removal of this node produces  $\beta_{i-1}^{n-1}$ ), so that  $\langle f_{\overline{q_i}}(s(\mu)), s(\beta_{i-1}^n) \rangle = 0$  for all  $\mu \neq \beta_{i-1}^{n-1}$ , we have

$$\langle f_{\overline{q_i}}(G(\beta_{i-1}^{n-1})), s(\beta_{i-1}^n) \rangle = \langle f_{\overline{q_i}}(s(\beta_{i-1}^{n-1})), s(\beta_{i-1}^n) \rangle = v.$$

Now if  $\beta_{i-1}^n \triangleleft \lambda \triangleleft \beta_i^n$ , then  $\lambda = (q_i + 1, q_i^{e-3}, q_i - 1, n - i)$ , so that  $\lambda$  has a unique removable  $\overline{q_i}$ -node, and its removal produces  $\widetilde{\lambda} = (q_i^{e-2}, q_i - 1, n - i)$ . Thus,

$$\left\langle f_{\overline{q_i}}(G(\beta_{i-1}^{n-1})), s(\lambda) \right\rangle = \left\langle f_{\overline{q_i}}(d_{\widetilde{\lambda}\beta_{i-1}^{n-1}}(v)s(\widetilde{\lambda})), s(\lambda) \right\rangle = d_{\widetilde{\lambda}\beta_{i-1}^{n-1}}(v),$$

so that  $d_{\beta_{i-1}^n\beta_i^n}(v)=v$  by Theorem 2 and Proposition 4(3) .

For  $d_{\beta_{i-2}^n\beta_i^n}(v)$ , note that  $\beta_{i-2}^n=(q_i^{e-2},q_i-1,n-i+1)$  has a unique removable  $\overline{q_i}$ -node, and removing it produces  $\nu=(q_i^{e-2},q_i-2,n-i+1)$ . We have  $d_{\nu\beta_{i-1}^{n-1}}(v)=d_{(m-2,2),(m)}(v)$  where  $m=q_i-n-i+1$ , by [2, Theorem 1], which in turn equals v by Proposition 6(1). Hence

$$\left\langle f_{\overline{q_i}}(G(\beta_{i-1}^{n-1})),s(\beta_{i-2}^n)\right\rangle = \left\langle f_{\overline{q_i}}(vs(\nu),s(\beta_{i-2}^n)\right\rangle = 1.$$

Thus, by Proposition 4(1),  $d_{\beta_{i-2}^n \beta_i^n}(v) = 0$ .

The following is a reformulation of Part (1) of Theorem 1.

**Theorem 8.** Suppose  $e \geq 3$ . Then

$$[G(\beta_i^n)]_{hook} = \begin{cases} v^{\lfloor i/e \rfloor} s(\alpha_i^n) + \delta_n v^{\lfloor (i+1)/e \rfloor + 1} s(\alpha_{i+1}^n), & \text{if } i \leq (n-1)(1 - \frac{1}{e}); \\ v^{\lfloor i/e \rfloor + \delta_n} s(\alpha_i^n) + \delta_n v^{\lfloor (i-1)/e \rfloor} s(\alpha_{i-1}^n), & \text{if } i > (n-1)(1 - \frac{1}{e}). \end{cases}$$

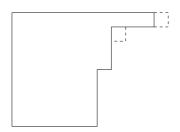
Furthermore,  $[G(\sigma)]_{hook} = 0$  for all other e-regular  $\sigma$ 's.

Note. When  $e \mid n$  and  $i = \lfloor (n-1)(1-\frac{1}{e}) \rfloor$ , then the formulas for  $[G(\beta_i^n)]_{hook}$  and  $[G(\beta_{i+1}^n)]_{hook}$  as stated in Theorem 8 coincide as expected, since  $G(\beta_i^n) = G(\beta_{i+1}^n)$ .

Proof. We prove by induction. For n=0,1, the theorem is trivially true. Let  $\sigma$  be an e-regular partition of n such that  $[G(\sigma)]_{hook} \neq 0$ , and assume the theorem holds for all e-regular partitions  $\lambda \prec \sigma$ . Suppose the rightmost ladder of  $\sigma$  has residue r and size k, and removing this ladder produces  $\widetilde{\sigma}$ . By Theorem 3 and Lemma 5,  $[G(\widetilde{\sigma})]_{hook} \neq 0$ , so that by induction hypothesis,  $\widetilde{\sigma} = \beta_i^{n-k}$  for some i. Let  $q, s \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that i = q(e-1) + s, with  $0 \leq s < e-1$ .

We have the following two cases to consider:

Case 1. 
$$i \leq (n-k-1)(1-\frac{1}{e})$$
:



$$\widetilde{\sigma} = \beta_i^{n-k} = (n-k-i, (q+1)^s, q^{e-1-s})$$

From the above Young diagram of  $\tilde{\sigma}$ , we see that the rightmost ladder of  $\sigma$  has size 1 (i.e. k=1), containing either the indent node in the first or second row of  $\tilde{\sigma}$ , the latter only if n-1-i=q+2 and  $s\geq 1$ . These two sub-cases correspond to  $r=\overline{n-1-i}$  and  $r=\overline{q}$  respectively, and will be considered separately. We note that by induction hypothesis, we have

$$(*) \qquad [G(\widetilde{\sigma})]_{hook} = v^{\lfloor i/e \rfloor} s(\alpha_i^{n-1}) + \delta_{n-1} v^{\lfloor (i+1)/e \rfloor + 1} s(\alpha_{i+1}^{n-1}).$$

Case 1a.  $r = \overline{n-1-i}$ : In this subcase,  $\sigma = \beta_i^n$ . From (\*), Theorem 3 and Lemma 5, we see that

$$[f_r(G(\widetilde{\sigma}))]_{hook} = [v^{\lfloor i/e \rfloor} f_r(s(\alpha_i^{n-1})) + \delta_{n-1} v^{\lfloor (i+1)/e \rfloor + 1} f_r(s(\alpha_{i+1}^{n-1}))]_{hook}$$

$$= v^{\lfloor i/e \rfloor} s(\alpha_i^n) + \delta_n v^{\lfloor i/e \rfloor + \delta_{i+1} + 1} s(\alpha_{i+1}^n)$$

$$= v^{\lfloor i/e \rfloor} s(\alpha_i^n) + \delta_n v^{\lfloor (i+1)/e \rfloor + 1} s(\alpha_{i+1}^n).$$

By induction hypothesis, if  $\lambda < \sigma$ ,  $d_{\alpha_i^n \lambda}(v) = 0$ , and  $d_{\alpha_{i+1}^n \lambda}(v) = 0$  unless  $\lambda = \beta_{i+1}^n$ , in which case  $d_{\alpha_{i+1}^n \lambda}(v) = v^{\lfloor (i+1)/e \rfloor}$ . Thus, by Proposition 4(2),

$$[G(\sigma)]_{hook} = v^{\lfloor i/e \rfloor} s(\alpha_i^n) + \delta_n v^{\lfloor (i+1)/e \rfloor + 1} s(\alpha_{i+1}^n)$$

as required.

Case 1b.  $r = \overline{q}$ : Here,  $s \ge 1$  and n - 1 - i = q + 2. By Lemma 5,  $f_r(s(\alpha_i^{n-1})) = 0$ . Since  $[G(\sigma)]_{hook} \ne 0$ , we see from (\*), Theorem 3 and Lemma 5 that  $[f_r(\delta_{n-1}s(\alpha_{i+1}^{n-1}))]_{hook} \ne 0$ . This forces  $e \mid (n-1)$  and s = e - 2. Thus  $\widetilde{\sigma} = (q+2, (q+1)^{e-2}, q)$ 

and 
$$\sigma = ((q+2)^2, (q+1)^{e-3}, q) = \beta_{i+2}^n$$
 and 
$$[f_r(G(\widetilde{\sigma}))]_{hook} = [f_r(v^{\lfloor (i+1)/e \rfloor + 1}s(\alpha_{i+1}^{n-1}))]_{hook}$$
$$= v^{\lfloor (i+1)/e \rfloor + \delta_r}s(\alpha_{i+2}^n)$$
$$= v^{\lfloor (i+2)/e \rfloor}s(\alpha_{i+2}^n)$$

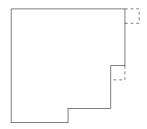
By induction hypothesis and Proposition 4(2),

$$[G(\sigma)]_{hook} = [f_r(G(\widetilde{\sigma}))]_{hook} = v^{\lfloor (i+2)/e \rfloor} s(\alpha_{i+2}^n)$$

as required.

Case 2.  $i > \lfloor (n-k-1)(1-\frac{1}{e}) \rfloor$ : By induction hypothesis, we have

$$(**) \qquad [G(\widetilde{\sigma})]_{hook} = v^{\lfloor i/e \rfloor + \delta_{n-k}} s(\alpha_i^{n-k}) + \delta_{n-k} v^{\lfloor (i-1)/e \rfloor} s(\alpha_{i-1}^{n-k}).$$



$$\widetilde{\sigma} = \beta_i^{n-k} = ((q+1)^{s+1}, q^{e-2-s}, n-k-i-1)$$

From the above Young diagram of  $\widetilde{\sigma}$ , we see that the rightmost ladder of  $\sigma$  contains either of the first two indent nodes of  $\widetilde{\sigma}$ , or both. These three sub-cases correspond to (a)  $k=1, r=\overline{q+1}$ , (b)  $k=1, r=\overline{-i-1}$  and (c)  $k=2, r=\overline{q+1}=\overline{-i-1}$  respectively:

Case 2a.  $k=1, r=\overline{q+1}$ : Since  $[G(\sigma)]_{hook}\neq 0$ , we see from (\*\*), Theorem 3 and Lemma 5(1) that either  $[f_r(s(\alpha_i^{n-1}))]_{hook}$  or  $[f_r(\delta_{n-1}s(\alpha_{i-1}^{n-1}))]_{hook}\neq 0$ . Suppose that  $[f_r(\delta_{n-1}s(\alpha_{i-1}^{n-1}))]_{hook}\neq 0$ . Then  $e\mid (n-1)$ , and s=0 by Lemma 5(1). If n-i-1=q, then  $\widetilde{\sigma}=\beta_{i-1}^n$ , and we have dealt with this in subcase 1b. If n-i-1< q, then by Proposition 7, we have  $d_{\beta_{i-1}^{n-1}\widetilde{\sigma}}(v)=v$  and  $d_{\beta_{i-2}^{n-1}\widetilde{\sigma}}(v)=0$ . As the two removable nodes of  $\beta_{i-1}^n=(q^{e-1},n-i)$  have residue r, and removing them in turn produces  $\beta_{i-1}^{n-1}=(q^{e-1},n-i-1)$  and  $\beta_{i-2}^{n-1}=(q^{e-2},q-1,n-i)$ , we see that

$$\langle f_r(G(\widetilde{\sigma})), s(\beta_{i-1}^n) \rangle = \langle f_r(vs(\beta_{i-1}^{n-1})), s(\beta_{i-1}^n) \rangle$$
  
= 1.

Thus  $G(\beta_{i-1}^n) \mid f_r(G(\widetilde{\sigma}))$  by Proposition 4(1). Since

$$[f_r(v^{\lfloor (i-1)/e \rfloor}s(\alpha_{i-1}^{n-1}))]_{hook} = v^{\lfloor (i-1)/e \rfloor}s(\alpha_{i-1}^n)$$
$$= d_{\alpha_{i-1}^n\beta_{i-1}^n}(v)s(\alpha_{i-1}^n)$$

from induction hypothesis, we see that  $[f_r(v^{\lfloor (i-1)/e \rfloor}s(\alpha_{i-1}^{n-1}))]_{hook}$  gives zero contribution to  $[G(\sigma)]_{hook}$ .

We thus conclude that  $[f_r(s(\alpha_i^{n-1}))]_{hook} \neq 0$ . Consequently,  $s = \overline{n-2}$  (equivalently,  $r = \overline{n-i-1}$ ) or s = e-2. If s =

 $\overline{n-2} \neq e-2$ , then since  $\beta_i^n = ((q+1)^{s+1}, q^{e-2-s}, n-i-1)$  has two removable r-nodes, and removing them in turn produces  $\widetilde{\sigma}$  and  $\mu = ((q+1)^{s+1}, q^{e-3-s}, q-1, n-i-1)$ , we have

$$\langle f_r(G(\widetilde{\sigma})), s(\beta_i^n) \rangle = \langle f_r(s(\sigma) + d_{\mu \widetilde{\sigma}}(v)s(\mu)), s(\beta_i^n) \rangle$$
  
= 1 +  $vd_{\mu \widetilde{\sigma}}(v)$ 

Note that by [2, Theorem 1],  $d_{\mu\tilde{\sigma}}(v) = d_{(m-1,1),(m)}(v)$ , where m = q - (n - i - 2), which in turn equals v by Lemma 5(2). Thus  $\langle f_r(G(\tilde{\sigma})), s(\beta_i^n) \rangle = 1 + v^2$ . Now, if  $\beta_i^n \triangleleft \lambda \triangleleft \sigma$ , then

$$\lambda = ((q+1)^{s+2}, q^{e-3-s}, n-i-2),$$

which has a unique removable r-node that upon removal produces  $\widetilde{\lambda} = ((q+1)^{s+2}, q^{e-4-s}, q-1, n-i-2) \not \subset \widetilde{\sigma}$ . Thus,

$$\langle f_r(G(\widetilde{\sigma})), s(\lambda) \rangle = d_{\widetilde{\lambda}\widetilde{\sigma}}(v) \left\langle f_r(s(\widetilde{\lambda})), s(\lambda) \right\rangle = 0$$

by Theorem 2, so that  $G(\beta_i^n) \mid f_r(G(\widetilde{\sigma}))$  (and  $d_{\beta_i^n \sigma}(v) = v^2$ ) by Proposition 4(3). But

$$\begin{split} \langle f_r(G(\widetilde{\sigma})), s(\alpha_i^n) \rangle &= \left\langle f_r(v^{\lfloor i/e \rfloor + \delta_{n-1}} s(\alpha_i^{n-1}), s(\alpha_i^n) \right\rangle \\ &= v^{\lfloor i/e \rfloor + \delta_{n-1}} \\ &= d_{\alpha_i^n \beta_i^n}(v), \end{split}$$

so that  $[f_r(v^{\lfloor i/e \rfloor + \delta_{n-1}} s(\alpha_i^{n-1}))]_{hook}$  gives zero contribution to  $[G(\sigma)]_{hook}$ , a contradiction. Thus, s = e-2, and hence  $\sigma = \beta_{i+1}^n$ 

$$\begin{split} [f_r(G(\widetilde{\sigma}))]_{hook} &= [f_r(v^{\lfloor i/e \rfloor + \delta_{n-1}} s(\alpha_i^{n-1}))]_{hook} \\ &= \delta_n v^{\lfloor i/e \rfloor + \delta_{n-1}} s(\alpha_i^n) + v^{\lfloor i/e \rfloor + \delta_r + \delta_n} s(\alpha_{i+1}^n) \\ &= \delta_n v^{\lfloor i/e \rfloor} s(\alpha_i^n) + v^{\lfloor (i+1)/e \rfloor + \delta_n} s(\alpha_{i+1}^n) \end{split}$$

By induction hypothesis and Proposition 4(2) (similar to that used in Case 1a), we have  $[G(\sigma)]_{hook} = [f_r(G(\widetilde{\sigma}))]_{hook}$  as required.

Case 2b. k = 1,  $r = \overline{-i - 1}$ : Here,  $\sigma = \beta_{i+1}^n$ , and

$$\begin{split} [f_r(G(\widetilde{\sigma})]_{hook} &= [f_r(v^{\lfloor i/e \rfloor + \delta_{n-1}} s(\alpha_i^{n-1}) + \delta_{n-1} v^{\lfloor (i-1)/e \rfloor} s(\alpha_{i-1}^{n-1}))]_{hook} \\ &= \delta_n v^{\lfloor i/e \rfloor} s(\alpha_i^n) + v^{\lfloor i/e \rfloor + \delta_n + \delta_r} s(\alpha_{i+1}^{n-1}) \\ &= \delta_n v^{\lfloor i/e \rfloor} s(\alpha_i^n) + v^{\lfloor (i+1)/e \rfloor + \delta_n} s(\alpha_{i+1}^{n-1}). \end{split}$$

By induction hypothesis and Proposition 4(2) (similar to that used in Case 1a), we have  $[G(\sigma)]_{hook} = [f_r(G(\widetilde{\sigma}))]_{hook}$  as required.

Case 2c. k = 2,  $r = \overline{q+1}$ : Here,  $\widetilde{\sigma} = ((q+1)^{e-1}, q)$ ,  $\sigma = (q+2, (q+1)^{e-1}) = \beta_i^n$ , and

$$\begin{split} [f_r^{(2)}(G(\widetilde{\sigma}))]_{hook} &= [f_r^{(2)}(v^{\lfloor i/e \rfloor}s(\alpha_i^{n-2}))]_{hook} \\ &= v^{\lfloor i/e \rfloor + \delta_r}s(\alpha_{i+1}^n) \\ &= v^{\lfloor (i+1)/e \rfloor}s(\alpha_{i+1}^n) \end{split}$$

By induction hypothesis and Proposition 4(2), we have  $[G(\sigma)]_{hook} = [f_r^{(2)}(G(\widetilde{\sigma}))]_{hook}$  as required.

4. Part (2) of Theorem 1

In this section, we deal with the case of e = 2. Let  $\beta_i^n = (n - i, i)$  for i < n/2. Then  $\beta_i^n = (\alpha_i^n)^R = (\alpha_{n-1-i}^n)^R$ .

The following is just a reformulation of part (2) of Theorem 1.

**Theorem 9.** For  $0 \le i < n/2$ ,

$$[G(\beta_i^n)]_{hook} = \sum_{\substack{i \leq j < n-i \\ j \equiv i \, (\text{mod } 2)}} \left( v^{\lfloor j/2 \rfloor} s(\alpha_j^n) + \delta_n v^{\lfloor j/2 \rfloor + 1 + \delta_{i+1}} s(\alpha_{j+1}^n) \right).$$

Furthermore,  $[G(\sigma)]_{hook} = 0$  for all other 2-regular  $\sigma$ 's.

*Proof.* We prove by induction on n. The theorem is trivially true for n=0,1. Now suppose that  $[G(\sigma)]_{hook} \neq 0$ , and that the theorem holds for all 2-regular  $\mu \prec \sigma$ . Let  $\widetilde{\sigma}$  be the partition obtained by removing the last ladder of  $\sigma$ , which has size k and residue r. Then  $[G(\widetilde{\sigma})]_{hook} \neq 0$  by Theorem 3 and Lemma 5. By inductive hypothesis,  $\widetilde{\sigma} = \beta_i^{n-k} = (n-k-i,i)$  for some i < (n-k)/2. Thus,  $1 \leq k \leq 3$ .

Case 1: k = 1: In this case,  $\sigma = \beta_i = (n - i, i)$  with i < (n - 1)/2, and  $r = \overline{n - i - 1}$ . By inductive hypothesis,

$$[G(\widetilde{\sigma}))]_{hook} = \sum_{\substack{i \leq j < n-1-i \\ j \equiv i \; (\text{mod 2})}} \left( v^{\lfloor j/2 \rfloor} s(\alpha_j^{n-1}) + \delta_{n-1} v^{\lfloor j/2 \rfloor + 1 + \delta_{i+1}} s(\alpha_{j+1}^{n-1}) \right).$$

Thus, by Lemma 5, we have

$$\begin{split} [f_r(G(\widetilde{\sigma}))]_{hook} &= \sum_{\substack{i \leq j < n-1-i \\ j \equiv i \; (\text{mod } 2)}} \left( v^{\lfloor j/2 \rfloor} [f_r(s(\alpha_j^{n-1}))]_{hook} + \delta_{n-1} v^{\lfloor j/2 \rfloor + 1 + \delta_{i+1}} [f_r(s(\alpha_{j+1}^{n-1}))]_{hook} \right) \\ &= \sum_{\substack{i \leq j < n-1-i \\ j \equiv i \; (\text{mod } 2)}} \left( v^{\lfloor j/2 \rfloor} s(\alpha_j^n) + \delta_n v^{\lfloor j/2 \rfloor + 1 + \delta_{i+1}} s(\alpha_{j+1}^n) + \delta_{n-1} v^{\lfloor j/2 \rfloor + 1} s(\alpha_{j+2}^n) \right) \\ &= \sum_{\substack{i \leq j < n-1-i \\ j \equiv i \; (\text{mod } 2)}} \left( v^{\lfloor j/2 \rfloor} s(\alpha_j^n) + \delta_n v^{\lfloor j/2 \rfloor + 1 + \delta_{i+1}} s(\alpha_{j+1}^n) \right) + \delta_{n-1} [G(\beta_{i+2}^n)]_{hook}, \end{split}$$

by inductive hypothesis. Now by Proposition 6(2),

$$d_{\beta_j^{n-1}\widetilde{\sigma}}(v) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } j = i; \\ v, & \text{if } j = i+1 \text{ and } 2 \mid (n-1); \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Furthermore,  $\left\langle f_r(s(\lambda)), s(\beta_j^n) \right\rangle = 0$  unless  $\lambda = \beta_{j-1}^{n-1}$  (when  $r = \overline{j}$ ) or  $\beta_j^{n-1}$  (when  $r = \overline{n-j-1}$ ). As such, we have

$$\begin{split} \left\langle f_r(G(\widetilde{\sigma})), s(\beta_j^n) \right\rangle &= \sum_{\lambda} d_{\lambda \widetilde{\sigma}}(v) \left\langle f_r(s(\lambda)), s(\beta_j^n) \right\rangle \\ &= \delta_{r-j} v^{\delta_n - \delta_{n-1}} d_{\beta_{j-1}^{n-1} \widetilde{\sigma}}(v) + \delta_{r-n+j+1} d_{\beta_j^{n-1} \widetilde{\sigma}}(v) \\ &= \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } j = i; \\ 1, & \text{if } j = i+2 \text{ and } 2 \mid (n-1); \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \end{split}$$

Thus, keeping the notations of Theorem 3, we have in fact  $L_{\beta_{i+2}^n}(v) = \delta_{n-1}$ , and  $L_{\beta_j^n}(v) = 0$  for all  $j \neq i, i+2$  by Proposition 4(3). Hence, together with induction hypothesis, we have

$$[G(\sigma)]_{hook} = \sum_{\substack{i \leq j < n-i \\ j \equiv i \, (\text{mod 2})}} \left( v^{\lfloor j/2 \rfloor} s(\alpha_j^n) + \delta_n v^{\lfloor j/2 \rfloor + 1 + \delta_{i+1}} s(\alpha_{j+1}^n) \right)$$

as claimed.

Case 2: k=2: In this case,  $\sigma=(a+1,a)=\beta_a^n$  and  $\widetilde{\sigma}=(a,a-1)=\beta_{a-1}^{n-2}$ , where n=2a+1, and  $r=\overline{a}$ . By induction hypothesis,  $[G(\widetilde{\sigma})]_{hook}=v^{\lfloor (a-1)/2\rfloor}s(\alpha_{a-1}^{n-2})$ , so that by Lemma 5, we have

$$[f_r^{(2)}(G(\widetilde{\sigma}))]_{hook} = v^{\lfloor (a-1)/2 \rfloor + \delta_a} s(\alpha_a^n)$$
$$= v^{\lfloor a/2 \rfloor} s(\alpha_a^n).$$

Since  $d_{\alpha_a^n \mu}(v) = 0$  for all  $\mu \triangleleft \sigma$  by induction hypothesis, we have  $[G(\sigma)]_{hook} = v^{\lfloor a/2 \rfloor} s(\alpha_a^n)$  by Proposition 4(2) as claimed.

Case 3: k = 3: In this case,  $\sigma = (3, 2, 1)$ . As  $\sigma$  is a 2-core partition, we have  $G(\sigma) = \sigma$  by Theorem 2, contradicting  $[G(\sigma)]_{hook} \neq 0$ .

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