

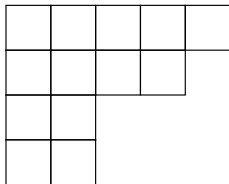
# Transitivity of Bender–Knuth Moves on Standard and Semistandard Young Tableaux

Sophia Liao  
mentor: Prof. Leonid Rybnikov

Proof School

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# Standard Young Tableaux



# Standard Young Tableaux

1	3	5	9	10
2	4	7	11	
6	8			
12	13			

# Bender–Knuth Moves

The operation  $t_i$  swaps the numbers  $i$  and  $i + 1$  if possible.

1	3	5	9	10
2	4	7	11	
6	8			
12	13			

# Bender–Knuth Moves

The operation  $t_i$  swaps the numbers  $i$  and  $i + 1$  if possible.

1	3	5	9	10
2	4	7	11	
6	8			
12	13			

Applying  $t_2$ ...

# Bender–Knuth Moves

The operation  $t_i$  swaps the numbers  $i$  and  $i + 1$  if possible.

1	2	5	9	10
3	4	7	11	
6	8			
12	13			

Applying  $t_2$ ...

# Bender–Knuth Moves

The operation  $t_i$  swaps the numbers  $i$  and  $i + 1$  if possible.

1	2	5	9	10
3	4	7	11	
6	8			
12	13			

Applying  $t_6$ ...

# Bender–Knuth Moves

The operation  $t_i$  swaps the numbers  $i$  and  $i + 1$  if possible.

1	2	5	9	10
3	4	6	11	
7	8			
12	13			

Applying  $t_6$ ...



# Bender–Knuth Moves

The operation  $t_i$  swaps the numbers  $i$  and  $i + 1$  if possible.

1	2	5	9	10
3	4	6	11	
7	8			
12	13			

Applying  $t_9$ ...

# Bender–Knuth Moves

The operation  $t_i$  swaps the numbers  $i$  and  $i + 1$  if possible.

1	2	5	9	10
3	4	6	11	
7	8			
12	13			

Applying  $t_9$ ...

...Does not result in a valid standard Young tableaux.

# Transitivity

Is there a sequence of  $t_i$  moves between these standard Young tableaux?

1	2	5	6
3	4	8	
7			

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	
8			

# Transitivity

Is there a sequence of  $t_i$  moves between these standard Young tableaux?

1	2	4	6
3	5	8	
7			

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	
8			

# Transitivity

Is there a sequence of  $t_i$  moves between these standard Young tableaux?

1	2	3	6
4	5	8	
7			

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	
8			

# Transitivity

Is there a sequence of  $t_i$  moves between these standard Young tableaux?

1	2	3	5
4	6	8	
7			

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	
8			

# Transitivity

Is there a sequence of  $t_i$  moves between these standard Young tableaux?

1	2	3	4
5	6	8	
7			

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	
8			

# Transitivity

Is there a sequence of  $t_i$  moves between these standard Young tableaux?

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	
8			

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	
8			



# Transitivity

Is there a sequence of  $t_i$  moves between these standard Young tableaux?

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	
8			

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	
8			

Yes! But is this always the case?

# Double Transitivity?

1	2	5	6
3	4		

1	2	4	5
3	6		

# Double Transitivity?

1	2	5	6
3	4		

1	2	4	5
3	6		

↓  $t_3$

1	2	5	6
3	4		

1	2	3	5
4	6		

# Double Transitivity?

1	2	5	6
3	4		

1	2	4	5
3	6		

↓  $t_3$

1	2	5	6
3	4		

1	2	3	5
4	6		

↓  $t_4$

1	2	4	6
3	5		

1	2	3	4
5	6		

# Double Transitivity?

1	2	3	4
5	6		

1	2	3	5
4	6		



1	2	3	6
4	5		

1	2	4	5
3	6		

# Double Transitivity?

1	2	3	4
5	6		

**A**

1	2	3	5
4	6		

**B**



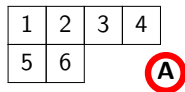
1	2	3	6
4	5		

**C**

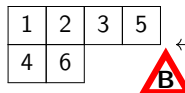
1	2	4	5
3	6		

**D**

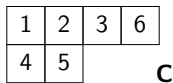
# Double Transitivity?



$t_4$

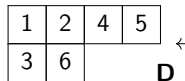


$t_5$

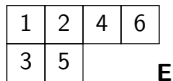


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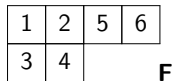
$t_3$



$t_5$



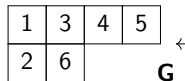
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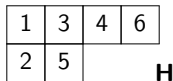
$t_2$

$t_2$

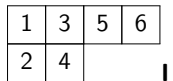
$t_2$



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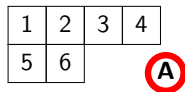


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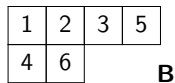


Goal: **C** and **D**

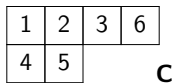
# Double Transitivity?



$t_4$



$t_5$

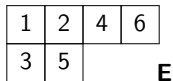


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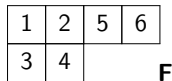
$t_3$



$t_5$



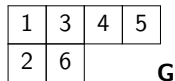
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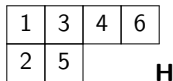
$t_2$

$t_2$

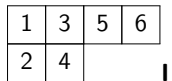
$t_2$



$t_5$



$t_4$

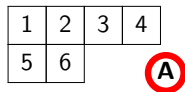


Goal: **C** and **D**

Actions:  $t_3$



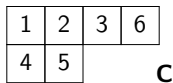
# Double Transitivity?



$t_4$

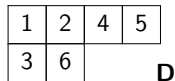


$t_5$

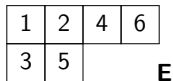


$t_3$

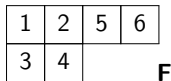
$t_3$



$t_5$



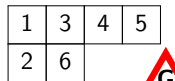
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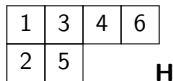
$t_2$

$t_2$

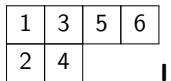
$t_2$



$t_5$



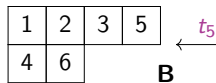
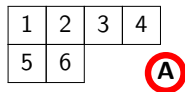
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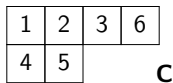
Goal: **C** and **D**

Actions:  $t_3 t_2$

# Double Transitivity?

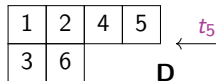


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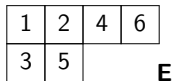


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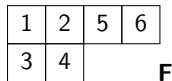
$t_3$



$t_5$



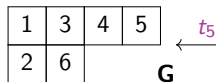
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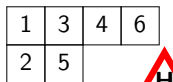
$t_2$

$t_2$

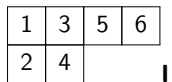
$t_2$



$t_5$



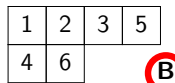
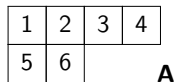
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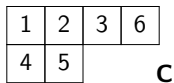
Goal: **C** and **D**

Actions:  $t_3 t_2 t_5$

# Double Transitivity?

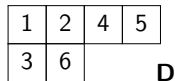


$t_5$

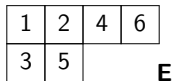


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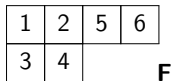
$t_3$



$t_5$



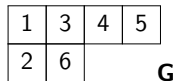
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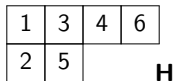
$t_2$

$t_2$

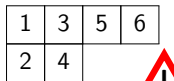
$t_2$



$t_5$



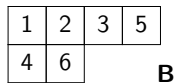
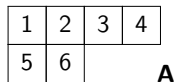
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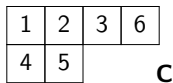
Goal: **C** and **D**

Actions:  $t_3 t_2 t_5 t_4$

# Double Transitivity?

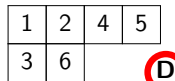


$t_5$

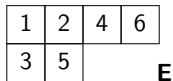


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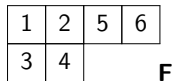
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$t_5$



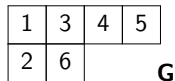
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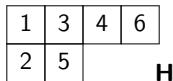
$t_2$

$t_2$

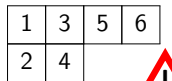
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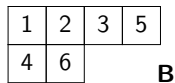
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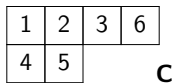
Goal:  and 

Actions:  $t_3 t_2 t_5 t_4 t_3$

# Double Transitivity?

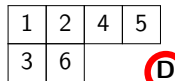


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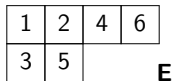


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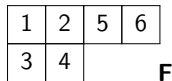
$t_3$



$t_5$



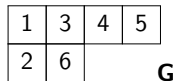
$t_4$



$t_2$

$t_2$

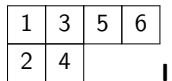
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$t_5$



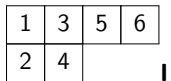
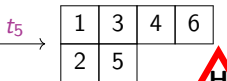
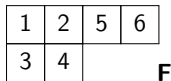
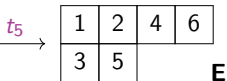
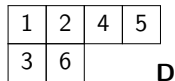
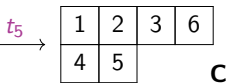
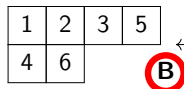
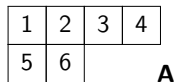
$t_4$



Goal: **C** and **D**

Actions:  $t_3 t_2 t_5 t_4 t_3 t_4$

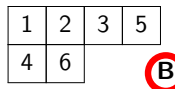
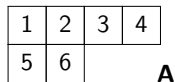
# Double Transitivity?



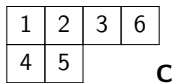
Goal: **C** and **D**

Actions:  $t_3 t_2 t_5 t_4 t_3 t_4 t_3$

# Double Transitivity?

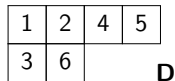


$t_5$

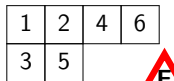


$t_3$

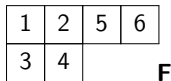
$t_3$



$t_5$



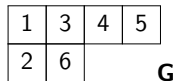
$t_4$



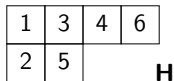
$t_2$

$t_2$

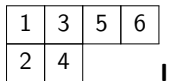
$t_2$



$t_5$



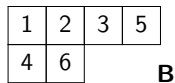
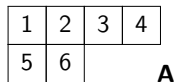
$t_4$



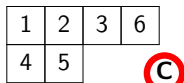
Goal: **C** and **D**

Actions:  $t_3 t_2 t_5 t_4 t_3 t_4 t_3 t_2$

# Double Transitivity?

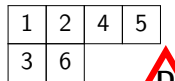


$t_5$

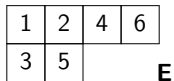


$t_3$

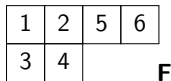
$t_3$



$t_5$



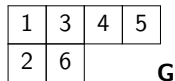
$t_4$



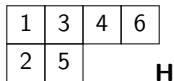
$t_2$

$t_2$

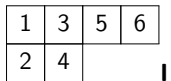
$t_2$



$t_5$



$t_4$



Goal: **C** and **D**

Actions:  $t_3 t_2 t_5 t_4 t_3 t_4 t_3 t_2 t_5$



# Double Transitivity!

## Theorem (Liao 2024)

*Let  $\lambda$  be a partition which is not hook-shaped. If  $\lambda^T \neq \lambda$ , then there are 2 orbits for pairs of standard Young tableaux of  $\lambda$  under the Bender–Knuth moves.*

# Double Transitivity!

## Theorem (Liao 2024)

*Let  $\lambda$  be a partition which is not hook-shaped. If  $\lambda^T \neq \lambda$ , then there are 2 orbits for pairs of standard Young tableaux of  $\lambda$  under the Bender–Knuth moves.*

## Theorem (Liao 2024)

*Let  $\lambda$  be a partition which is not hook-shaped. If  $\lambda^T = \lambda$ , then there are 3 orbits for pairs of standard Young tableaux of  $\lambda$  under the Bender–Knuth moves.*

## Conjecture (Liao 2024)

*Let  $\lambda$  be a partition which is not hook-shaped. If  $\lambda^T \neq \lambda$ , then there are 5 orbits for triples of standard Young tableaux of  $\lambda$  under the Bender–Knuth moves.*

## Conjecture (Liao 2024)

Let  $\lambda$  be a partition which is not hook-shaped. If  $\lambda^T \neq \lambda$ , then there are “**as few orbits as possible**” for  $n$ -tuples of standard Young tableaux of  $\lambda$  under the Bender–Knuth moves.

# $n$ -Transitivity

## Conjecture (Liao 2024)

Let  $\lambda$  be a partition which is not hook-shaped. If  $\lambda^T \neq \lambda$ , then there are “**as few orbits as possible**” for  $n$ -tuples of standard Young tableaux of  $\lambda$  under the Bender–Knuth moves.

## Conjecture (Liao 2024)

Let  $\lambda$  be a partition which is not hook-shaped. If  $\lambda^T \neq \lambda$  and  $\text{SYT}(\lambda) \geq n$ , then there are

$$\sum_{\ell=1}^k \left( \frac{2^{k-\ell}}{(\ell-1)!} \cdot \sum_{i=0}^{\ell-1} (-1)^i \binom{\ell-1}{i} (\ell-i)^{k-1} \right)$$

orbits for  $n$ -tuples of standard Young tableaux of  $\lambda$  under the Bender–Knuth moves.

# Semistandard Young Tableaux

The columns strictly increase, but the rows are nondecreasing.

1	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	3
2	2	3	3	3				
4	4	5						
5	6							

# Semistandard Young Tableaux

The operation  $t_i$  swaps the numbers  $i$  and  $i + 1$  if possible.

1	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	3
2	2	3	3	3				
4	4	5						
5	6							

# Semistandard Young Tableaux

The operation  $t_i$  swaps the numbers  $i$  and  $i + 1$  if possible.

1	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	3
2	2	3	3	3				
4	4	5						
5	6							

Applying  $t_2$ ...



# Semistandard Young Tableaux

The operation  $t_i$  ~~swaps the numbers  $i$  and  $i + 1$  if possible.~~

1	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	3
2	2	3	3	3				
4	4	5						
5	6							

Applying  $t_2$ ...?

# Semistandard Young Tableaux

The operation  $t_i$  swaps the **number of occurrences** of  $i$  and  $i + 1$  in each row.

1	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	3
2	2	3	3	3				
4	4	5						
5	6							

Applying  $t_2 \dots ?$

# Semistandard Young Tableaux

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1	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	3
2	2	2	3	3				
4	4	5						
5	6							

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The operation  $t_i$  swaps the **number of occurrences** of  $i$  and  $i + 1$  in each row.

1	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	3
2	2	2	3	3				
4	4	5						
5	6							

Applying  $t_2$ ...?

But what if we started with a different tableaux?

# Semistandard Young Tableaux

The operation  $t_i$  swaps the **number of occurrences** of  $i$  and  $i + 1$  in each row.

1	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	3
2	3	3	3	3				
4	4	5						
5	6							

Applying  $t_2$ ...?

# Semistandard Young Tableaux

The operation  $t_i$  swaps the **number of occurrences** of  $i$  and  $i + 1$  in each row.

1	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	3
2	2	2	2	3				
4	4	5						
5	6							

Applying  $t_2 \dots ?$

# Semistandard Young Tableaux

The operation  $t_i$  ~~swaps the number of occurrences of  $i$  and  $i + 1$  in each row:~~

1	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	3
2	2	2	2	3				
4	4	5						
5	6							

Applying  $t_2$ ...?

# Semistandard Young Tableaux

The operation  $t_i$  ~~swaps the number of occurrences of  $i$  and  $i + 1$  in each row.~~

1	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	3
2	3	3	3	3				
4	4	5						
5	6							

Applying  $t_2$ ...?



# Semistandard Young Tableaux

The operation  $t_i$  ~~swaps the number of occurrences of  $i$  and  $i + 1$  in each row:~~

1	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	3
2	3	3	3	3				
4	4	5						
5	6							

Applying  $t_2$ ...?

# Semistandard Young Tableaux

The operation  $t_i$  swaps the number of occurrences of  $i$  and  $i + 1$  in each row, excluding “locked columns.”

1	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	3
2	3	3	3	3				
4	4	5						
5	6							

Applying  $t_2 \dots$

# Semistandard Young Tableaux

The operation  $t_i$  swaps the number of occurrences of  $i$  and  $i + 1$  in each row, excluding “locked columns.”

1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	3
2	2	3	3	3				
4	4	5						
5	6							

Applying  $t_2 \dots$

# Semistandard Young Tableaux

The operation  $t_i$  swaps the number of occurrences of  $i$  and  $i + 1$  in each row, excluding “locked columns.”

1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	3
2	2	3	3	3				
4	4	5						
5	6							

Applying  $t_1 \dots$

# Semistandard Young Tableaux

The operation  $t_i$  swaps the number of occurrences of  $i$  and  $i + 1$  in each row, excluding “locked columns.”

1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	3
2	2	3	3	3				
4	4	5						
5	6							

Applying  $t_1 \dots$

# Semistandard Young Tableaux

The operation  $t_i$  swaps the number of occurrences of  $i$  and  $i + 1$  in each row, excluding “locked columns.”

1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	3
2	2	3	3	3				
4	4	5						
5	6							

Applying  $t_1 \dots$

# Semistandard Young Tableaux

The operation  $t_i$  swaps the number of occurrences of  $i$  and  $i + 1$  in each row, excluding “locked columns.”

1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	3
2	2	3	3	3				
4	4	5						
5	6							

Applying  $t_1 \dots$

# Semistandard Young Tableaux Are Not Transitive

1	1	2	2
3	3		



1	2	2	2
3	3		



# Semistandard Young Tableaux Are Not Transitive (at all)

1	1	2	2
3	3		



1	1	2	3
2	3		

# But They Are Sometimes a Little Transitive

## Theorem (Liao 2024)

*Let  $\lambda$  be a 2-row partition. Then there is a sequence of Bender–Knuth moves between two semistandard Young tableaux of  $\lambda$  if their set of counts are the same and includes a count of 1.*

# But They Are Sometimes a Little Transitive

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*Let  $\lambda$  be a 2-row partition. Then there is a sequence of Bender–Knuth moves between two semistandard Young tableaux of  $\lambda$  if their set of counts are the same and includes a count of 1.*

1	2	2	2
3	3		



1	2	2	3
2	3		

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