# Multiplicities of Schubert Varieties 

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## Preliminary Definitions

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- Points of the flag variety correspond to complete flags, which are chains of subspaces:

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- $B$ acts on $G / B$ by left multiplication.
- The orbit $B w B / B$ where $w$ is a permutation matrix is called a Schubert Cell.


## Schubert Varieties

The Schubert variety $X_{w}$ is the closure of the Schubert cell $B w B / B$.

## Schubert Varieties

Question: What local properties of a Schubert variety $X_{w}$ can be recovered from the combinatorics of the permutation $w$ ?

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## Theorem (Lakshmibai, Sandhya 1990)

The Schubert variety $X_{w}$ is smooth if and only if $w$ avoids the permutations 3412 and 4231

## Pattern avoidance

- A permutation $w$ is said to contain a permutation $v$ if, when written in one-line notation, $w$ contains a subsequence in the same relative order as $v$. Otherwise, we say that $w$ avoids $v$.


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## Pattern avoidance

- A permutation $w$ is said to contain a permutation $v$ if, when written in one-line notation, $w$ contains a subsequence in the same relative order as $v$. Otherwise, we say that $w$ avoids $v$.
- For instance, 563421 contains the permutation 4231.
- So $X_{563421}$ is not smooth.


## Multiplicity

- The Hilbert-Samuel multiplicity of a local ring $(R, \mathfrak{m}, \mathbb{C})$ is the degree of the projectiive tangent cone $\operatorname{Proj}\left(\operatorname{gr}_{m} R\right)$ as a subvariety of the projective tangent space $\operatorname{Proj}\left(\mathrm{sym}^{*} \mathfrak{m} / \mathfrak{m}^{2}\right)$.
- For a scheme $X$ and a point $p$, the multiplicity of $X$ at $p$ is the multiplicity of the local ring $\left(\mathcal{O}_{X_{p}}, \mathfrak{m}_{p}, \mathbb{C}\right)$.


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- For a scheme $X$ and a point $p$, the multiplicity of $X$ at $p$ is the multiplicity of the local ring $\left(\mathcal{O}_{X_{p}}, \mathfrak{m}_{p}, \mathbb{C}\right)$.
- A variety is smooth if and only if it has multiplicity one at all points.


## A first attempt at characterizing Schubert varieties of multiplicity at most two

- Question: Is there a set of permutations $S$ such that a Schubert variety $X_{w}$ has multiplicity at most two if and only if $w$ avoids the permutations in $S$ ?


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- Answer: No


## A first attempt at characterizing Schubert varieties of multiplicity at most two

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- Answer: No
- The permutation 354612 embeds in 4657312 , but $X_{354612}$ has multiplicity three while $X_{4657312}$ has multiplicity two.


## Schubert points

- The points of $X_{w}$ that correspond to permutations are called Schubert points. For a permutation $x$, we denote the Schubert point by $e_{x}$. Moreover $e_{x}$ is a Schubert point of $X_{w}$ precisely when $x \leq w$ in Bruhat order.


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- Every point on a Schubert variety is in the $B$-orbit of some Schubert point, and the $B$-action gives an isomorphism between local neighborhoods.
- So if we want to study local properties of Schubert varieties, it suffices to focus on Schubert points.


## The Rothe Diagram

To calculate the local equations for $X_{w}$, we will need to construct the Rothe Diagram for $w$. We will proceed by example for $w=819372564$.

## The Rothe Diagram

Start with the permutation matrix for $w$.

$$
\left[\begin{array}{lllllllll}
0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0
\end{array}\right]
$$

## The Rothe Diagram

Our diagram starts with a $9 \times 9$ grid with dots in place of each 1 in the permutation matrix. Draw a hook that extends north and east of each dot.


## The Rothe Diagram

The Rothe Diagram consists of the positions not in any hook, designated by squares. The essential set consists of the northeast corners of the connected components of the diagram, designated by E's.


## The Kazhdan-Lusztig ideal

- The rank function for a permutation $w$ is $r_{w}(p, q)=\#\{k \leq q \mid w(k) \geq p\}$.


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- For a permutation $x \in S_{n}$, let let $Z^{(x)}$ be the $n \times n$ matrix where the entries at $(x(i), i)$ are 1 for all $i$; the entries at $(x(i), a)$ and $(b, i)$ are 0 for $a>i$ and $b<x(i)$; and the remaining entries are variables.


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- Let $Z_{i j}^{(x)}$ be the southwest submatrix of $Z^{(x)}$ with northeast corner $(i, j)$.


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- Let $Z_{i j}^{(x)}$ be the southwest submatrix of $Z^{(x)}$ with northeast corner $(i, j)$.
- The Kazhdan-Lusztig ideal $\mathcal{I}_{x, w}$ is generated by the size $1+r_{w}(p, q)$ minors of $Z_{i j}^{x}$ over all $i, j$.


## The Kazhdan-Lusztig ideal

Theorem
Let $\mathcal{N}_{x, w}:=\operatorname{Spec}\left(\mathbb{C}\left[Z^{(x)}\right] / \mathcal{I}_{x, w}\right)$. Then $\mathcal{N}_{X, w} \times \mathbb{A}^{1(x)}$ is isomorphic to an affine neighborhood of $X_{w}$ at $e_{x}$.

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Theorem
Let $\mathcal{N}_{x, w}:=\operatorname{Spec}\left(\mathbb{C}\left[Z^{(x)}\right] / \mathcal{I}_{x, w}\right)$. Then $\mathcal{N}_{x, w} \times \mathbb{A}^{l(x)}$ is isomorphic to an affine neighborhood of $X_{w}$ at $e_{x}$.

- In particular, a local property $\mathcal{P}$ holds at $e_{x}$ on $X_{w}$ if and only if $\mathcal{P}$ holds at the origin 0 on $\mathcal{N}_{x, w}$.


## Schubert varieties of multiplicity at most two

- We can simplify our computations by restricting our attention to $e_{i d}$. This is because mult $e_{u}\left(X_{w}\right) \geq \operatorname{mult}_{e_{v}}\left(X_{w}\right)$ when $u \leq v \leq w$ in Bruhat order.


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- We can restrict our attention to Schubert varieties that are local complete intersections (LCI). This is because Schubert varieties are Cohen-Macaulay. If a variety is Cohen-Macaulay and has multiplicity at most two, then it must be LCl .


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- We can restrict our attention to Schubert varieties that are local complete intersections (LCI). This is because Schubert varieties are Cohen-Macaulay. If a variety is Cohen-Macaulay and has multiplicity at most two, then it must be LCl .
- $\mathcal{I}_{i d, w}$ has a known set of minimal generators corresponding to diagram boxes when $X_{w}$ is LCl .
- If $X_{w}$ is LCl , then there are strong restrictions on where the essential set boxes may appear.


## The shifted diagram

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- These constraints are sufficient to provide a characterization of Schubert varieties of multiplicity at most two based on the Rothe diagram.
- For an entry $(a, b)$ in the Rothe diagram, shift every entry $(p, q) \neq(a, b)$ in the Rothe diagram southwest by $r_{w}(p, q)$. The resulting diagram is the shifted diagram for $w$ at $(a, b)$.


## The shifted diagram

The Rothe diagram for $w=819372564$


## The shifted diagram

The shifted diagram for $w=819372564$ at $(6,6)$


## A characterization for Schubert varieties of multiplicity at most two

- If the shifted diagram at $(a, b)$ contains an entry $r_{w}(a, b)$ southwest of $(a, b)$, then $(a, b)$ is called a double box.
- If the shifted diagram at $(a, b)$ contains a hook of length $r_{w}(a, b)+1$ with vertex $r_{w}(a, b)$ southwest of $(a, b)$, then $(a, b)$ is called a triple box.


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## Theorem (M.)

If $X_{w}$ is an LCI Schubert variety, then it has multiplicity at least three if and only if it contains a triple box or two double boxes. Moreover, it suffices to check only the southwest corners of each connected component and essential set boxes that are not defined by inclusions.

## Thank you!

