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# GENERALIZED FOULKES MODULES AND MAXIMAL AND MINIMAL CONSTITUENTS OF PLETHYSMS OF SCHUR FUNCTIONS

ROWENA PAGET AND MARK WILDON

ABSTRACT. This paper proves a combinatorial rule giving all maximal and minimal partitions  $\lambda$  such that the Schur function  $s_\lambda$  appears in a plethysm of two arbitrary Schur functions. Determining the decomposition of these plethysms has been identified by Stanley as a key open problem in algebraic combinatorics. As corollaries we prove three conjectures of Agaoka on the partitions labelling the lexicographically greatest and least Schur functions appearing in an arbitrary plethysm. We also show that the multiplicity of the Schur function labelled by the lexicographically least constituent may be arbitrarily large. The proof is carried out in the symmetric group and gives an explicit non-zero homomorphism corresponding to each maximal or minimal partition.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Fix  $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$  and let  $S_m \wr S_n$  be the wreath product of the symmetric groups  $S_m$  and  $S_n$ , acting as a transitive imprimitive subgroup of  $S_{mn}$ . Let  $\mu$  and  $\nu$  be partitions of  $m$  and  $n$ , respectively. Let  $S^\lambda$  denote the Specht module for  $\mathbb{Q}S_r$  labelled by the partition  $\lambda$  of  $r$ . The object of this article is to prove Theorems 1.2 and 1.3 below which give a combinatorial characterization of the maximal and minimal partitions  $\lambda$  in the dominance order on partitions of  $mn$  such that  $S^\lambda$  is a summand of the *generalized Foulkes module*

$$H_\mu^\nu = (S^\mu \otimes S^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}}.$$

Here  $S^\mu \otimes S^\nu$  denotes the  $\mathbb{Q}(S_m \wr S_n)$ -module with underlying vector space  $(S^\mu)^{\otimes n} \otimes S^\nu$  defined in §2.7. Two notable features of the proof are that it is carried out entirely in the symmetric group, and that it gives an explicitly defined non-zero  $\mathbb{Q}S_{mn}$ -homomorphism  $S^\lambda \rightarrow H_\mu^\nu$  for each maximal or minimal partition  $\lambda$ . The required background is relatively light: a reader familiar with the basic results on symmetric group representations in [26] should find the proof is self-contained.

Restated in the language of polynomial representations of infinite general linear groups, Theorems 1.2 and 1.3 determine the maximal and minimal

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partitions labelling the irreducible summands  $\nabla^\lambda(E)$  of  $\nabla^\nu(\nabla^\mu E)$ , where  $\nabla^\lambda$  is the Schur functor for the partition  $\lambda$  and  $E$  is a  $\mathbb{Q}$ -vector space of sufficiently high dimension. In particular, the special cases  $\nu = (n)$  or  $\nu = (1^n)$  give new results on the summands of  $\text{Sym}^n(\nabla^\mu E)$  and  $\bigwedge^n(\nabla^\mu E)$ . Equivalently, Theorems 1.2 and 1.3 determine the maximal and minimal partitions  $\lambda$  such that  $s_\lambda$  appears with a non-zero coefficient in the plethysm  $s_\nu \circ s_\mu$  of the Schur functions  $s_\nu$  and  $s_\mu$ . We discuss these connections and give further applications of our main theorem in §9 below. In particular, we prove three conjectures of Agaoka [2, Conjectures 1.2, 2.1 and 4.1] on the lexicographically greatest and least constituents of  $s_\nu \circ s_\mu$ . We survey the relatively few existing results on these plethysms, and give some further motivation for the study of plethysms, later in the introduction.

The following combinatorial definitions are needed to state our main theorems. Example 1.4 below illustrates these definitions and theorems.

**Definition 1.1.**

- (i) A tableau with entries in  $\mathbb{N}$  is *conjugate-semistandard* if its rows are strictly increasing and its columns are weakly increasing.
- (ii) A *conjugate-semistandard tableau family* of shape  $\mu^d$  is a set of  $d$  conjugate-semistandard  $\mu$ -tableaux.
- (iii) Let  $\kappa$  be a partition of  $n$  with exactly  $c$  parts. A *conjugate-semistandard tableau family tuple* of shape  $\mu^\kappa$  is a tuple  $(\mathcal{T}_1, \dots, \mathcal{T}_c)$  where  $\mathcal{T}_i$  is a conjugate-semistandard tableau family of shape  $\mu^{\kappa_i}$ , for each  $i$ .
- (iv) Let  $(\mathcal{T}_1, \dots, \mathcal{T}_c)$  be a conjugate-semistandard tableau family tuple. Let  $M$  be the greatest entry of the  $\mu$ -tableaux in the families  $\mathcal{T}_1, \dots, \mathcal{T}_c$ . The *weight* of  $(\mathcal{T}_1, \dots, \mathcal{T}_c)$  is the composition  $(\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_M)$  such that the total number of occurrences of  $j$  in the  $\mu$ -tableaux in the families  $\mathcal{T}_1, \dots, \mathcal{T}_c$  is  $\gamma_j$ , for each  $j \in \{1, \dots, M\}$ .
- (v) The *type* of a conjugate-semistandard tableau family tuple of weight  $\gamma$ , where  $\gamma$  is a partition, is the conjugate partition  $\gamma'$ .

Our main theorems are as follows.

**Theorem 1.2.** *Let  $\mu$  be a partition of  $m$  and let  $\nu$  be a partition of  $n$ . The maximal partitions  $\lambda$  in the dominance order that label the Specht modules  $S^\lambda$  such that  $S^\lambda$  is a summand of  $H_\mu^\nu$  are precisely the maximal weights of the conjugate-semistandard tableau family tuples of shape  $\eta^{\nu'}$  where  $\eta = \mu'$ .*

**Theorem 1.3.** *Let  $\mu$  be a partition of  $m$  and let  $\nu$  be a partition of  $n$ . Set  $\kappa = \nu'$  if  $m$  is even, and  $\kappa = \nu$  if  $m$  is odd. The minimal partitions  $\lambda$  in the dominance order that label the Specht modules  $S^\lambda$  such that  $S^\lambda$  is a summand of  $H_\mu^\nu$  are precisely the minimal types of the conjugate-semistandard tableau family tuples of shape  $\mu^\kappa$ .*

We show in §7 that Theorem 1.2 follows easily from Theorem 1.3 by multiplying by the sign representation of  $S_{mn}$ . We therefore focus on the proof of Theorem 1.3. Throughout this article the partitions  $\lambda$ ,  $\mu$ ,  $\nu$  and  $\kappa$  have the meanings in Theorems 1.2 and 1.3.

The special cases of Theorem 1.3 when  $\mu = (m)$  or  $\mu = (1^m)$  were proved by the authors in [35]; in these cases a conjugate-semistandard tableau family of shape  $\mu^d$  is simply a family of  $d$  distinct subsets or multisubsets (respectively) of  $\mathbb{N}$ . It appears to be impossible to make a routine generalization of the proof in [35], and so we have at many points adopted a different approach. In particular, we do not use Garnir relations to prove that our homomorphisms from Specht modules to generalized Foulkes modules are well-defined, instead relying on the combinatorial argument given in §7.

Our methods also bound the multiplicity of the Specht module summands given by Theorems 1.2 and 1.3: the multiplicity is bounded above in Theorem 6.1 and below in Proposition 8.1. In Corollary 9.8 we show that the multiplicity of the Specht module summand of  $H_\mu^\nu$  labelled by the lexicographically least partition may be arbitrarily large; by contrast, the multiplicity of the Specht module labelled by the lexicographically greatest partition is always 1, by Corollary 9.1.

**Example 1.4.** Part of the poset of conjugate-semistandard  $(2, 1)$ -tableaux under the majorization order  $\leq_{\text{maj}}$  in Definition 2.8 is shown in Figure 1 below. By Lemma 2.11, if  $(\mathcal{T}_1, \dots, \mathcal{T}_c)$  is a conjugate-semistandard tableau family tuple of minimal type then each  $\mathcal{T}_i$  is downwardly closed under  $\leq_{\text{maj}}$ ; that is, if  $t \in \mathcal{T}_i$  and  $s \leq_{\text{maj}} t$ , then  $s \in \mathcal{T}_i$ . The five closed conjugate-semistandard tableau families of shape  $(2, 1)^4$  are shown in Figure 2. The first four have minimal type; note the third and fourth share the same minimal type. Therefore, by Theorem 1.3, the minimal partitions  $\lambda$  such that  $S^\lambda$  is a summand of the generalized Foulkes module  $H_{(2,1)}^{(4)}$  are  $(5, 1^7)$ ,  $(4, 2, 2, 1^4)$  and  $(3, 3, 2, 2, 1, 1)$ . Proposition 8.1 implies that the multiplicity of  $S^{(3,3,2,2,1,1)}$  is 2. Since  $(8, 4)$  is the weight of the unique conjugate-semistandard tableau family tuple of shape  $(2, 1)^{(1,1,1,1)}$ , it follows from Theorem 1.2 that the unique maximal partition  $\lambda$  such that  $S^\lambda$  is a summand of  $H_{(2,1)}^{(4)}$  is  $(8, 4)$ .

We leave it as an exercise to the reader to use Theorems 1.2 and 1.3 together with Figure 1 and Lemma 2.11 to show that the minimal partitions  $\lambda$  such that  $S^\lambda$  is a summand of  $H_{(2,1)}^{(3,1)}$  are  $(4, 2, 1^6)$  and  $(3, 2, 2, 2, 1^3)$ , and the maximal partitions are  $(8, 3, 1)$  and  $(7, 5)$ .

**Motivation.** D. E. Littlewood defined the plethysm of symmetric functions in 1936. Since then progress on the decomposition of the plethysm  $s_\nu \circ s_\mu$  as an integral linear combination of Schur functions has been made via

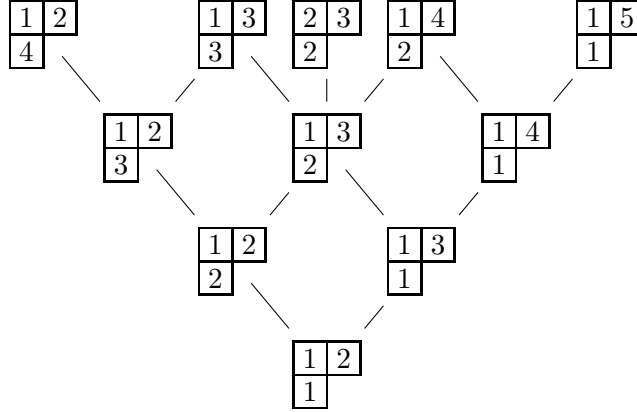


FIGURE 1. Part of the poset of conjugate-semistandard  $(2,1)$ -tableaux under the majorization order.

Tableau family	Type
$\left\{ \begin{array}{ c c } \hline 1 & 2 \\ \hline 1 & \\ \hline \end{array} , \begin{array}{ c c } \hline 1 & 3 \\ \hline 1 & \\ \hline \end{array} , \begin{array}{ c c } \hline 1 & 4 \\ \hline 1 & \\ \hline \end{array} , \begin{array}{ c c } \hline 1 & 5 \\ \hline 1 & \\ \hline \end{array} \right\}$	$(5, 1^7)$
$\left\{ \begin{array}{ c c } \hline 1 & 2 \\ \hline 1 & \\ \hline \end{array} , \begin{array}{ c c } \hline 1 & 2 \\ \hline 2 & \\ \hline \end{array} , \begin{array}{ c c } \hline 1 & 3 \\ \hline 1 & \\ \hline \end{array} , \begin{array}{ c c } \hline 1 & 4 \\ \hline 1 & \\ \hline \end{array} \right\}$	$(4, 2, 2, 1^4)$
$\left\{ \begin{array}{ c c } \hline 1 & 2 \\ \hline 1 & \\ \hline \end{array} , \begin{array}{ c c } \hline 1 & 2 \\ \hline 2 & \\ \hline \end{array} , \begin{array}{ c c } \hline 1 & 3 \\ \hline 1 & \\ \hline \end{array} , \begin{array}{ c c } \hline 1 & 3 \\ \hline 2 & \\ \hline \end{array} \right\}$	$(3, 3, 2, 2, 1, 1)$
$\left\{ \begin{array}{ c c } \hline 1 & 2 \\ \hline 1 & \\ \hline \end{array} , \begin{array}{ c c } \hline 1 & 2 \\ \hline 2 & \\ \hline \end{array} , \begin{array}{ c c } \hline 1 & 2 \\ \hline 3 & \\ \hline \end{array} , \begin{array}{ c c } \hline 1 & 3 \\ \hline 1 & \\ \hline \end{array} \right\}$	$(3, 3, 2, 2, 1, 1)$
$\left\{ \begin{array}{ c c } \hline 1 & 2 \\ \hline 1 & \\ \hline \end{array} , \begin{array}{ c c } \hline 1 & 2 \\ \hline 2 & \\ \hline \end{array} , \begin{array}{ c c } \hline 1 & 2 \\ \hline 3 & \\ \hline \end{array} , \begin{array}{ c c } \hline 1 & 2 \\ \hline 4 & \\ \hline \end{array} \right\}$	$(4, 2, 2, 2, 2)$

FIGURE 2. The closed conjugate-semistandard tableau families of shape  $(2,1)^4$ .

symmetric functions, via polynomial representations of general linear groups and via the representation theory of symmetric groups. However, few general results have been found. Finding a combinatorial rule for the multiplicities  $\langle s_\nu \circ s_\mu, s_\lambda \rangle$  that demonstrates their positivity was identified as a key open problem in algebraic combinatorics by Stanley in [39, Problem 9].

One motivation for this problem is a long-standing conjecture of Foulkes [16], which states that if  $m \leq n$  then  $s_{(n)} \circ s_{(m)} - s_{(m)} \circ s_{(n)}$  is a non-negative integral linear combination of Schur functions. Foulkes' Conjecture was proved when  $m = 2$  in [40], when  $m = 3$  in [14], when  $m = 4$  in [32], and recently when  $m = 5$  in [10]. It has also been proved when  $n$  is very

much larger than  $m$  by Brion [7], using methods from geometric invariant theory. In this connection, we note that if  $E$  is a complex vector space, then the decomposition of  $s_{(n)} \circ s_\mu$  gives the polynomial representations of  $\mathrm{GL}(E)$  appearing in the  $n$ th component  $\mathrm{Sym}^n \nabla^\mu(E)$  of the coordinate ring  $\mathcal{O}(\nabla^\mu(E))$ . Our results apply to these rings; we find some new invariants for the special linear group at the end of §9.

The plethysms  $\nabla^\lambda \wedge^m(E)$  appear in the problem of describing relations between the  $m \times m$  minors of generic matrices [8, §1.5]. Plethysms can also be used to construct polynomial representations of general linear groups: for example,  $\nabla^{(2,2)}(E)$  is the kernel of the canonical surjection from  $\mathrm{Sym}^2(\mathrm{Sym}^2(E))$  to  $\mathrm{Sym}^{(4)}(E)$ ; thus,  $s_2 \circ s_2 = s_{(2,2)} + s_{(4)}$ . This is generalized and given a geometric interpretation in [19, §14.4]. A further motivation comes from enumerative combinatorics. For example, by [37, (5.8)], the number of  $k$ -regular graphs on  $n$  vertices (counted up to isomorphism) is  $\langle s_{(n)} \circ s_{(k)}, s_{(nk/2)} \circ s_2 \rangle$ . Finally we mention that a better understanding of plethysm coefficients is essential to Mulmuley and Sohoni's geometric approach to the  $\mathrm{VP} \neq \mathrm{VNP}$  problem in algebraic complexity theory: see [9] for an introduction.

**Background.** The existing results on the plethysm of Schur functions fall into three classes: explicit decompositions of  $s_\nu \circ s_\mu$  for particular  $\nu$  or  $\mu$ , theorems on constituents of special forms, and results which relate plethysm coefficients. Most of these results were obtained by symmetric function methods; for uniformity, we use this language throughout our survey.

Explicit decompositions of the plethysms  $s_\nu \circ s_{(m)}$  are known when  $\nu$  is a partition of  $n \leq 4$ ; see Littlewood [30] for  $n = 2$ , Thrall [40, Theorem 5] or Dent and Siemons [14, Theorem 4.1] for  $\nu = (3)$ , and Foulkes [17, Theorem 27] and Howe [22, Section 3.5 and Remark 3.6(b)] for the remaining cases. For sufficiently small partitions  $\nu$  and  $\mu$ , the plethysm  $s_\nu \circ s_\mu$  can readily be calculated using any of the computer algebra systems MAGMA [6], GAP [20] or SYMMETRICA [28]. (There are also many hand calculations in early papers: see for example [40, pages 383, 388].) A new recurrence satisfied by the multiplicities  $\langle s_{(n)} \circ s_{(m)}, s_\lambda \rangle$  was given in [15, Proposition 5.1] and used to verify Foulkes' Conjecture for  $m + n \leq 19$ , extending an earlier computation in [33] for  $m + n \leq 17$ . This recurrence was generalized to the plethysms  $s_\nu \circ s_{(m)}$  in [12, Theorem 6.2.6]. The plethysms  $s_2 \circ s_\mu$  and  $s_{(12)} \circ s_\mu$ , describing the decomposition of  $\nabla^\mu(E) \otimes \nabla^\mu(E)$  into its symmetric and antisymmetric parts, are determined by [13, Theorem 4.1].

Several other results, like our Theorems 1.2 and 1.3, give information about constituents of a special form. By the Cayley–Sylvester formula, the multiplicity of  $s_{(mn-d,d)}$  in  $s_{(n)} \circ s_{(m)}$  is the number of partitions of  $d$  whose

Young diagram is contained in the Young diagram of  $(m^n)$ , minus the number of partitions of  $d-1$  satisfying the same restriction. The multiplicities of the Schur functions  $s_{(mn-d,1^d)}$ ,  $s_{(mn-d-s,s,1^d)}$  and  $s_{(mn-d-2t,2^t,1^d)}$ , in  $s_\nu \circ s_\mu$  were found by Langley and Remmel in [29]. Giannelli [21, Theorem 1.2] later found the multiplicities of a wider class of constituents of  $s_{(n)} \circ s_{(m)}$  labelled by ‘near-hook’ partitions.

Foulkes’ Conjecture gives one conjectural relationship between plethysm coefficients. There are further theorems which given a constituent of a plethysm of Schur functions yield constituents of related plethysms, such as Foulkes’ Second Conjecture, proved (in a more general form) by Brion in [7, §2], which states that  $\langle s_{(n)} \circ s_{(m)}, s_\lambda \rangle \leq \langle s_{(n)} \circ s_{(m+1)}, s_{\lambda+(n)} \rangle$  for any partition  $\lambda$  of  $mn$ ; here the addition is componentwise, as for weights of representations of general linear groups. This setting may also be used to prove Proposition 4.3.4 in [24], which states that if  $\langle s_n \circ s_m, s_\lambda \rangle \geq 1$  and  $\langle s_{\tilde{n}} \circ s_m, s_{\tilde{\lambda}} \rangle \geq 1$  then  $\langle s_{n+\tilde{n}} \circ s_m, s_{\lambda+\tilde{\lambda}} \rangle \geq 1$ . Newell proved in [34] that  $\langle s_{(n)} \circ s_{(m)}, s_\lambda \rangle = \langle s_{(1^n)} \circ s_{(m+1)}, s_{\lambda+(1^n)} \rangle$  and  $\langle s_{(1^n)} \circ s_{(m)}, s_\lambda \rangle = \langle s_{(n)} \circ s_{(m+1)}, s_{\lambda+(1^n)} \rangle$ . A result of a similar flavour was found by de Boeck in [12] who showed that  $\langle s_{(n)} \circ s_{(1^m)}, s_\lambda \rangle \leq \langle s_{(n+1)} \circ s_{(1^m)}, s_{\lambda+(1^m)} \rangle$ . Another relationship between plethysms was proved by Manivel [31], who showed that the two-variable symmetric function  $(s_{(n^k)} \circ s_{(m+k-1)})(x_1, x_2)$  is symmetric under any permutation of  $m, n$  and  $k$ , generalizing the Cayley–Sylvester formula. Taking  $k = 1$  and swapping  $k$  and  $n$  gives  $(s_{(n)} \circ s_{(m)})(x_1, x_2) = (s_{(1^n)} \circ s_{(m+n-1)})(x_1, x_2)$ ; this is the combinatorial expression of the Wronskian isomorphism: see for example [1, §2.5].

**Outline.** In §2 we set out our notation and prove some preliminary results. In §3 we define explicit models for the modules  $H_\mu^\nu$  using  $\nu$ -tableaux whose entries are certain  $\mu$ -tableaux. We believe these models are of independent interest and will be of use beyond their applications in this paper. In §4 we define, for each conjugate-semistandard tableau family tuple of shape  $\mu^\kappa$  and type  $\lambda$ , a homomorphism from  $\widetilde{M}^\lambda$  into our model for  $H_\mu^\nu$ , where  $\widetilde{M}^\lambda$  is the twisted Young permutation module defined in §2.3 below. In §5 we show that these homomorphisms are non-zero. In §6 we show that given a non-zero homomorphism  $S^\lambda \rightarrow H_\mu^\nu$ , there is a conjugate-semistandard tableau family tuple of shape  $\mu^\kappa$ . These two sections contain the main work in the proof, and may be read independently of each other. In §7 we combine them to prove Theorem 1.3; we then deduce Theorem 1.2 by an easy sign twist.

The outline of the proof of Theorem 1.3 is as follows: by Proposition 5.1, if there is a conjugate-semistandard tableau family tuple of type  $\lambda$  and shape  $\mu^\kappa$ , then there is a non-zero homomorphism  $\widetilde{M}^\lambda \rightarrow H_\mu^\nu$ . By Lemma 2.1, it follows that there is a summand  $S^{\lambda^\dagger}$  of  $H_\mu^\nu$  for some  $\lambda^\dagger \trianglelefteq \lambda$ . (Here  $\trianglelefteq$  denotes

the dominance order on partitions.) On the other hand, by Theorem 6.1, given any such summand, there is a conjugate-semistandard tableau family tuple of the corresponding type. Hence tuples of minimal type correspond to the summands of  $H_\mu^\nu$  labelled by minimal partitions.

In §8 we give a sufficient condition for the homomorphisms defined with respect to distinct conjugate-semistandard tableau family tuples of the same type to be linearly independent. Example 8.3 gives an indication of the more complicated behaviour when this condition does not hold. We end in §9 with applications of this result and our two main theorems to the conjectures of Agaoka mentioned earlier. In addition, we characterize all generalized Foulkes modules having a unique minimal Specht module summand in the dominance order.

## 2. PRELIMINARY DEFINITIONS AND RESULTS

**2.1. Young diagrams.** We define the *Young diagram* of a partition  $\gamma$  with exactly  $k$  parts by  $[\gamma] = \{(i, j) : 1 \leq i \leq k, 1 \leq j \leq \gamma_j\}$ . We refer to the elements of  $[\gamma]$  as *boxes* and draw Young diagrams in the ‘English’ convention, where the largest part appears at the top.

**2.2. Tableaux.** Let  $\gamma$  be a partition and let  $\Omega$  be a set. A  $\gamma$ -*tableau*  $t$  with entries from  $\Omega$  is a function  $t : [\gamma] \rightarrow \Omega$ . If  $(i, j) \in [\gamma]$  and  $t$  is a tableau with entries from  $\Omega$  then the *entry in position*  $(i, j)$  of  $t$  is  $(i, j)t \in \Omega$ . If  $t$  is injective then we say the entries are *distinct*. The *conjugate* of a  $\gamma$ -tableau  $t$  is the  $\gamma'$ -tableau defined by  $(i, j)t' = (j, i)t$ . The symmetric group  $S_\Omega$  acts on the set of  $\gamma$ -tableaux with entries from  $\Omega$ : if  $\phi \in S_\Omega$  and  $t$  is such a tableau, then  $t\phi$  is the  $\gamma$ -tableau defined by  $(i, j)(t\phi) = ((i, j)t)\phi$ .

We also need a place permutation action: if  $\sigma \in S_{[\gamma]}$  then  $t \cdot \sigma$  is the  $\gamma$ -tableau defined by  $(i, j)(t \cdot \sigma) = ((i, j)\sigma^{-1})t$ . Thus if  $t$  has entry  $\alpha$  in position  $(i, j)$  then  $t \cdot \sigma$  has entry  $\alpha$  in position  $(i, j)\sigma$ . We define the groups of *row place permutations of  $\gamma$*  and *column place permutations of  $\gamma$*  to be the Young subgroups  $\text{RPP}(\gamma)$  and  $\text{CPP}(\gamma)$  of  $S_{[\gamma]}$  having as their orbits the rows of  $[\gamma]$  and the columns of  $[\gamma]$ , respectively. Given a  $\gamma$ -tableau  $t$  with entries from  $\Omega$ , we define the *tabloid*  $\{t\}$  and *columnar tabloid*  $\|t\|$  to be the equivalence classes of  $t$  up to the action of  $\text{RPP}(\gamma)$  and  $\text{CPP}(\gamma)$ , respectively. Thus  $\{t\}$  and  $\|t\|$  are determined by the multisets of entries in the rows and columns of  $t$ , respectively.

We represent  $\gamma$ -tableaux with entries from  $\Omega$  by filling the boxes of  $[\gamma]$  with elements of  $\Omega$ ; if  $t$  is a  $\gamma$ -tableau then we represent the corresponding tabloid  $\{t\}$  by removing vertical lines from  $t$  and the corresponding columnar tabloid  $\|t\|$  by removing horizontal lines from  $t$ .



For example, if  $t = \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 \\ \hline 1 & 3 \\ \hline \end{array}$  then  $\{t\} = \frac{\overline{1\ 2}}{\overline{1\ 3}}$  and  $\|t\| = \left| \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 \\ \hline 1 & 3 \\ \hline \end{array} \right|$ ; here  $\gamma = (2, 2)$  and  $\Omega$  may be taken to be  $\mathbb{N}$ .

**2.3. Specht and dual Specht modules.** Fix  $r \in \mathbb{N}$ , a partition  $\gamma$  of  $r$  and a set  $\Omega$  of size  $r$ . Throughout this subsection all tableaux, and so all tabloids and columnar tabloids, have distinct entries from  $\Omega$ .

The action of  $S_\Omega$  on  $\gamma$ -tableaux with entries from  $\Omega$  commutes with the place permutation action of  $S_{[\gamma]}$ . Thus setting  $\{t\}\phi = \{t\phi\}$  for  $\phi \in S_\Omega$  and  $\{t\}$  a  $\gamma$ -tabloid gives a well-defined action of  $S_\Omega$  on the set of  $\gamma$ -tabloids. Let  $M^\gamma$  denote the *Young permutation module* for  $\mathbb{Q}S_\Omega$  spanned by all  $\gamma$ -tabloids. Let  $\widetilde{M}^\gamma = M^\gamma \otimes \langle v \rangle$  where  $\langle v \rangle$  affords the sign representation of  $S_\Omega$ . We write  $|t|$  for the element of  $\widetilde{M}^\gamma$  corresponding to the  $\gamma$ -tableau  $t$ . Thus if  $t$  is a  $\gamma$ -tableau and  $\tau \in \text{CPP}(\gamma)$  then  $|t \cdot \tau| = |t| \text{sgn}(\tau)$ ; up to a sign,  $|t|$  is determined by the corresponding columnar tabloid  $\|t\|$ . We note that our definition of  $\widetilde{M}^\gamma$  agrees with Fulton's in [18, Chapter 7].

Given a  $\gamma$ -tableau  $t$ , let  $e(t) \in M^\gamma$  be the corresponding *polytabloid* defined by  $e(t) = \sum_{\tau \in \text{CPP}(\gamma)} \{t \cdot \tau\} \text{sgn}(\tau)$  and let  $\tilde{e}(t) \in \widetilde{M}^\gamma$  be the corresponding *dual polytabloid* defined by  $\tilde{e}(t) = \sum_{\sigma \in \text{RPP}(\gamma)} |t \cdot \sigma|$ . Let  $S^\gamma \subseteq M^\gamma$  be the *Specht module* spanned by all polytabloids  $e(t)$  for  $t$  a  $\gamma$ -tableau. Let  $\widetilde{S}^\gamma \subseteq \widetilde{M}^\gamma$  be the *dual Specht module* spanned by all dual polytabloids  $\tilde{e}(t)$  for  $t$  a  $\gamma$ -tableau. Since the action of  $S_\Omega$  commutes with the place permutation action of  $\text{CPP}(\gamma)$ , we have

$$e(t)\phi = e(t\phi) \tag{1}$$

for  $\phi \in S_\Omega$ . Hence the Specht module  $S^\gamma$  is cyclic, generated by any polytabloid. (An analogous result holds for  $\widetilde{S}^\gamma$ .)

There are canonical  $\mathbb{Q}S_\Omega$ -homomorphisms  $\widetilde{M}^\gamma \rightarrow S^\gamma$  and  $M^\gamma \rightarrow \widetilde{S}^\gamma$  defined by  $|t| \mapsto e(t)$  and  $\{t\} \mapsto \tilde{e}(t)$ , respectively. By [18, §7.4, Lemma 5], the composition  $S^\gamma \rightarrow M^\gamma \rightarrow \widetilde{S}^\gamma$  is an isomorphism. By [26, Theorems 4.12 and 6.7], Specht and dual Specht modules are irreducible and each irreducible module for  $\mathbb{Q}S_\Omega$  is isomorphic to a unique Specht module  $S^\delta$  for  $\delta$  a partition of  $r$ . Moreover,

$$S^\lambda \otimes \text{sgn} \cong \widetilde{S}^\lambda \cong S^\lambda. \tag{2}$$

For example, the Specht module  $S^{(2,2)}$  and the dual Specht module  $\widetilde{S}^{(2,2)}$  for  $\mathbb{Q}S_4$  are generated by

$$\begin{aligned} e\left(\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 \\ \hline 3 & 4 \\ \hline \end{array}\right) &= \frac{\overline{1\ 2}}{\overline{3\ 4}} - \frac{\overline{2\ 3}}{\overline{1\ 4}} - \frac{\overline{1\ 4}}{\overline{2\ 3}} + \frac{\overline{3\ 4}}{\overline{1\ 2}}, \\ \tilde{e}\left(\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 \\ \hline 3 & 4 \\ \hline \end{array}\right) &= \left| \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 \\ \hline 3 & 4 \\ \hline \end{array} \right| + \left| \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 2 & 1 \\ \hline 3 & 4 \\ \hline \end{array} \right| + \left| \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 \\ \hline 4 & 3 \\ \hline \end{array} \right| + \left| \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 2 & 1 \\ \hline 4 & 3 \\ \hline \end{array} \right|, \end{aligned}$$

respectively. Setting  $t = \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 \\ \hline 3 & 4 \\ \hline \end{array}$ , these generators are the images of  $|t| \in \widetilde{M}^{(2,2)}$  and  $\{t\} \in M^{(2,2)}$ , under the respective canonical homomorphisms.

As mentioned in the outline, the following lemma is key to the proof of the main theorem.

**Lemma 2.1.** *If  $S^{\lambda^\dagger}$  is a summand of  $\widetilde{M}^\lambda$  then  $\lambda \supseteq \lambda^\dagger$ .*

*Proof.* Multiplying by the sign representation using (2), this follows from Young's rule (see, for instance [18, Corollary 1, page 92]) or [38, Proposition 7.18.7]).  $\square$

**2.4. Symbols.** Let  $\lambda$  be a partition. We define the *symbol* of a box  $(x, y) \in [\lambda]$  to be the formal symbol  $y_x$ . We say that  $y$  is the *number* and  $x$  is the *index* of  $y_x$ . Let  $\Omega^\lambda$  be the set of all symbols  $y_x$  for  $(x, y) \in [\lambda]$ . Let  $I(\lambda) \leq S_{\Omega^\lambda}$  be the Young subgroup of  $S_{\Omega^\lambda}$  having as its orbits the sets  $\{y_x : 1 \leq x \leq \lambda'_y\}$  for each  $y \in \{1, \dots, \lambda_1\}$ . We order  $\Omega^\lambda$  by first comparing on numbers, then on indices: thus  $y'_{x'} < y_x$  if and only if  $y' < y$  or  $y' = y$  and  $x' < x$ . Let  $t_\lambda$  be the  $\lambda$ -tableau with entries from  $\Omega^\lambda$  defined by  $(x, y)t_\lambda = y_x$ . Since  $I(\lambda)$  permutes entries within the columns of  $t_\lambda$ , we have  $e(t_\lambda) = \{t\}b_\lambda$  where  $b_\lambda = \sum_{\vartheta \in I(\lambda)} \vartheta \operatorname{sgn}(\vartheta)$ .

**2.5. Total order on conjugate-semistandard tableaux.** Let  $\Omega$  be totally ordered by  $<$  and let  $A = \{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_d\}$  and  $B = \{\beta_1, \dots, \beta_d\}$  be multisubsets of  $\Omega$  such that  $\alpha_1 \leq \dots \leq \alpha_d$  and  $\beta_1 \leq \dots \leq \beta_d$ . The *colexicographic order* on multisubsets of  $\Omega$  is defined by  $A < B$  if and only if for some  $q$  we have  $\alpha_q < \beta_q$  and  $\alpha_{q+1} = \beta_{q+1}, \dots, \alpha_d = \beta_d$ . It is a total order.

**Definition 2.2.** Let  $u$  and  $v$  be distinct conjugate-semistandard  $\mu$ -tableaux with entries in  $\mathbb{N}$ . Let column  $j$  be the rightmost column in which  $u$  and  $v$  differ, and let  $A$  and  $B$  be the multisets of entries in column  $j$  of  $u$  and  $v$ , respectively. We set  $u < v$  if and only if  $A < B$  in the colexicographic order on multisubsets of  $\mathbb{N}$ .

**2.6. Pre-orders on tableaux.** It will be useful to compare tableaux under relations that are reflexive and transitive, but fail (in general) to be anti-symmetric. Such relations are called pre-orders. Let  $\leq$  be a pre-order on a set  $\Omega$ . Thus  $\alpha \leq \alpha$  and if  $\alpha \leq \beta$  and  $\beta \leq \gamma$  then  $\alpha \leq \gamma$  for all  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in \Omega$ . There may exist distinct  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  such that  $\alpha \leq \beta$  and  $\beta \leq \alpha$ . We write  $\alpha < \beta$  to mean that  $\alpha \leq \beta$  and  $\beta \not\leq \alpha$ . A key property we need is stated in the following lemma.

**Lemma 2.3.** *Let  $\leq$  be a pre-order on a set  $\Omega$  and let  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_d, \beta_1, \dots, \beta_d \in \Omega$ . If  $\alpha_i \leq \beta_i$  for each  $i$ , and there exists a permutation  $\phi \in S_d$  such that  $\beta_{i\phi} \leq \alpha_i$  for each  $i$ , then  $\beta_i \leq \alpha_i$  for each  $i$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $i \in \{1, \dots, d\}$ . If  $i$  is in a cycle of  $\phi$  of length  $r$  then

$$\alpha_i \geq \beta_{i\phi} \geq \alpha_{i\phi} \geq \dots \geq \beta_{i\phi^{r-1}} \geq \alpha_{i\phi^{r-1}} \geq \beta_{i\phi^r} = \beta_i.$$

By transitivity, it follows that  $\beta_i \leq \alpha_i$ , as required.  $\square$

**Definition 2.4.** Let  $\leq$  be a pre-order on a set  $\Omega$ . Let  $u$  and  $v$  be tableaux of the same shape with entries from  $\Omega$ .

- (i) If the multisets of entries of  $u$  and  $v$  agree in every column then we set  $u \leq_{\text{col}} v$ . Suppose that column  $j$  is the rightmost column for which the multisets differ. If it is possible to order the entries in column  $j$  of  $u$  and  $v$  so that  $u$  has entries  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_d$  and  $v$  has entries  $\beta_1, \dots, \beta_d$  with  $\alpha_1 \leq \beta_1, \dots, \alpha_d \leq \beta_d$  then we set  $u \leq_{\text{col}} v$ .
- (ii) We set  $u \leq_{\text{row}} v$  if  $u' \leq_{\text{col}} v'$ .

It is easily seen that  $\leq_{\text{col}}$  and  $\leq_{\text{row}}$  are pre-orders on the set of  $\gamma$ -tableaux with entries from  $\Omega$ . Moreover  $\leq_{\text{col}}$  and  $\leq_{\text{row}}$  induce pre-orders on the set of  $\gamma$ -columnar tabloids and  $\gamma$ -tabloids with entries from  $\Omega$ , respectively. We reuse the symbols  $\leq_{\text{col}}$  and  $\leq_{\text{row}}$  for these induced pre-orders. (An example is given at the end of this subsection.)

**Definition 2.5.** Let  $\leq$  be a pre-order on a set  $\Omega$ . Let  $u$  be a tableau with entries from  $\Omega$ . We say that  $u$  is *row-standard* if whenever  $u$  has a row with entries  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_d$ , read from left-to-right, we have  $\alpha_1 < \dots < \alpha_d$ . We say that  $u$  is *column-standard* if  $u'$  is row-standard.

**Lemma 2.6.** *Let  $\leq$  be a pre-order on a set  $\Omega$  and let  $\gamma$  be a partition.*

- (i) *Let  $u$  be a row-standard  $\gamma$ -tableau with entries from  $\Omega$ . If  $\sigma \in \text{RPP}(\gamma)$  and  $\sigma \neq \text{id}$  then  $\|u \cdot \sigma\| <_{\text{col}} \|u\|$ .*
- (ii) *Let  $v$  be a column-standard  $\gamma$ -tableau with entries from  $\Omega$ . If  $\tau \in \text{CPP}(\gamma)$  and  $\tau \neq \text{id}$  then  $\{v \cdot \tau\} <_{\text{row}} \{v\}$ .*

*Proof.* For (i), let  $j$  be maximal such that there exists  $i$  with  $(i, j)\sigma \neq (i, j)$ . Let  $R = \{i : (i, j)\sigma \neq (i, j)\}$  and let  $i \in R$ . Since  $\sigma \in \text{RPP}(\gamma)$  we have  $(i, j)(u \cdot \sigma) = (i, j')u$  for some  $j' < j$ . Since  $u$  is row-standard  $(i, j')u < (i, j)u$ . Therefore  $(i, j)(u \cdot \sigma) < (i, j)u$  for each  $i \in R$  and  $(i, j)(u \cdot \sigma) = (i, j)u$  for each  $i \notin R$ . It now follows from the definition of  $<_{\text{col}}$  (comparing on column  $j$ ) and Lemma 2.3 that  $\|u \cdot \sigma\| <_{\text{col}} \|u\|$ . The proof of (ii) is similar.  $\square$

The orders defined in Definition 2.4 are useful even when  $\leq$  is a total order. For example, if  $\Omega = \mathbb{N}$  and  $\leq$  is the usual total order on  $\mathbb{N}$ , then the pre-order  $\leq_{\text{col}}$  on tableaux of shape  $(2, 2)$  satisfies  $\|s\| \leq_{\text{col}} \|t\| <_{\text{col}} \|u\|$  and  $\|t\| \leq_{\text{col}} \|s\|$ , where

$$s = \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 \\ \hline 2 & 1 \\ \hline \end{array}, \quad t = \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 2 & 1 \\ \hline 1 & 2 \\ \hline \end{array}, \quad u = \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 \\ \hline 1 & 2 \\ \hline \end{array}.$$

We use this pre-order in Lemma 5.3 and the proof of Proposition 5.1; we also use Lemma 2.6 in a case where  $\leq$  is itself a pre-order in this proof.

**2.7. Modules for wreath products.** Let  $H$  be a finite group and let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Let  $W$  be a  $\mathbb{Q}H$ -module and let  $Z$  be a  $\mathbb{Q}S_n$ -module. The outer tensor product  $W^{\otimes n}$  is a module for  $\mathbb{Q}H^n$ . The symmetric group  $S_n$  acts on this module by  $(w_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes w_n)\sigma = w_{1\sigma^{-1}} \otimes \cdots \otimes w_{n\sigma^{-1}}$  for  $\sigma \in S_n$ . Combining the actions of  $H^n$  and  $S_n$  on  $W^{\otimes n}$  we obtain a  $\mathbb{Q}(H \wr S_n)$ -module  $X$ , as constructed in §4.3 of [25]. Let  $\text{Inf}_{S_n}^{S_m \wr S_n} Z$  denote the  $\mathbb{Q}(S_m \wr S_n)$ -module inflated from  $Z$  using the canonical epimorphism  $S_m \wr S_n \rightarrow S_n$ . We define  $W \circledast Z$  to be the  $\mathbb{Q}(H \wr S_n)$ -module  $X \otimes \text{Inf}_{S_n}^{S_m \wr S_n} Z$ . (The symbol  $\circledast$  was introduced, in a more general context, in [11].)

Importantly this construction is functorial in both  $W$  and  $Z$ . Thus given a  $\mathbb{Q}H$ -homomorphism  $f : W \rightarrow W'$  and a  $\mathbb{Q}S_n$ -homomorphism  $g : Z \rightarrow Z'$  there is a corresponding  $\mathbb{Q}(H \wr S_n)$ -homomorphism  $f \circledast g : W \circledast Z \rightarrow W' \circledast Z'$ , defined by  $((w_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes w_n) \otimes z)(f \circledast g) = (w_1 f \otimes \cdots \otimes w_n f) \otimes z g$ .

**2.8. Closed conjugate-semistandard tableau families.** While not logically essential to the proof of Theorem 1.3, in practice it is very useful to know that a conjugate-semistandard tableau family tuple of minimal type satisfies the closure property used in Example 1.4.

**Definition 2.7.** Let  $A$  and  $B$  be finite subsets of a totally ordered set such that  $A = \{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_d\}$  and  $B = \{\beta_1, \dots, \beta_d\}$ , where  $\alpha_1 < \dots < \alpha_d$  and  $\beta_1 < \dots < \beta_d$ . If  $\alpha_i \leq \beta_i$  for each  $i$  then we say that  $B$  majorizes  $A$ .

**Definition 2.8.** Let  $u$  and  $v$  be conjugate-semistandard  $\mu$ -tableaux with entries in  $\mathbb{N}$ . We say that  $v$  majorizes  $u$ , and write  $u \leq_{\text{maj}} v$  if row  $i$  of  $v$  majorizes row  $i$  of  $u$  for each  $i$ .

**Definition 2.9.**

- (i) A conjugate-semistandard tableau family  $\mathcal{T}$  is *closed* if whenever  $v \in \mathcal{T}$  and  $u$  is a conjugate-semistandard tableau such that  $u \leq_{\text{maj}} v$ , we have  $u \in \mathcal{T}$ .
- (ii) A conjugate-semistandard tableau family tuple  $(\mathcal{T}_1, \dots, \mathcal{T}_c)$  is *closed* if  $\mathcal{T}_i$  is closed for each  $i$ .

From the part of the poset of conjugate-semistandard  $(2, 1)$ -tableaux shown in Figure 1, one can read off the five closed conjugate-semistandard tableau families of shape  $(2, 1)^4$  in Figure 2. The first four families listed are of minimal type and the final family is of non-minimal type  $(4, 2^4)$ . Each of the five closed conjugate-semistandard tableau families has a well-defined type. This is true in general.

**Proposition 2.10.** *If  $\mathcal{T}$  is a closed conjugate-semistandard tableau family then  $\mathcal{T}$  has a well-defined type.*

The authors have a proof of Proposition 2.10 by a variation on the Bender–Knuth involution (see [4, page 47]). Since the proposition is used only in the following result, which is not logically essential to the two main theorems, and its proof is not short, we have chosen to omit it from this paper.

**Lemma 2.11.** *If  $\mathcal{T}$  is a conjugate-semistandard tableau family of minimal type then  $\mathcal{T}$  is closed.*

*Proof.* Let  $\mathcal{T}$  have shape  $\mu^d$ . Suppose for a contradiction, that  $\mathcal{T}$  is not closed. Then there exists  $v \in \mathcal{T}$  and a conjugate-semistandard  $\mu$ -tableau  $u$  such that  $u \leq_{\text{maj}} v$  and  $u \notin \mathcal{T}$ . Choose  $u$  maximal in the  $\leq_{\text{maj}}$  order with this property. Let  $(i, j)$  be minimal in the lexicographic order such that  $(i, j)u \neq (i, j)v$ . Let  $(i, j)v = r$ . Since  $(i, j)u < r$  and  $(i-1, j)u = (i-1, j)v$  and  $(i, j-1)u = (i, j-1)v$  (when these entries are defined), the tableau  $v^-$  obtained from  $v$  by replacing the entry  $r$  in position  $(i, j)$  with  $r-1$  is conjugate-semistandard. Moreover  $u \leq_{\text{maj}} v^- \leq_{\text{maj}} v$ , so by choice of  $u$ , we have  $u = v^-$  and so  $v^- \notin \mathcal{T}$ . By replacing  $v$  by  $v^-$  and repeating this process we eventually obtain a closed conjugate-semistandard tableau family; by Proposition 2.10, this family has a well-defined type that is strictly smaller than the type of  $\mathcal{T}$ .  $\square$

It immediately follows that each of the families in a conjugate-semistandard tableau family tuple of minimal type is closed.

### 3. MODELS FOR GENERALIZED FOULKES MODULES

**3.1. Preliminaries.** Recall that  $\mu$  and  $\nu$  are partitions of  $m$  and  $n$ , respectively. Let  $\Omega$  be a set of size  $mn$ . Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be the set of  $\mu$ -tableaux with distinct entries from  $\Omega$ . Let  $\mathcal{N}(\Omega)$  be the set of  $\nu$ -tableaux  $\mathbf{T}$  with entries from  $\mathcal{M}$  such that the union of the sets of entries of the  $\mu$ -tableaux in  $\mathbf{T}$  is  $\Omega$ . (Generally we use capital letters to denote tableaux whose entries are themselves tableaux and bold capital letters for elements of  $\mathcal{N}(\Omega)$ .) For brevity we write  $\mathcal{N}$  for  $\mathcal{N}(\Omega)$  in this section.

Given  $\phi \in S_\Omega$  and  $\mathbf{T} \in \mathcal{N}$  we define  $\mathbf{T}\phi$  by making  $\phi$  act on each entry of each  $\mu$ -tableau in  $\mathbf{T}$ : thus  $(i, j)(\mathbf{T}\phi) = ((i, j)\mathbf{T})\phi$  for each  $(i, j) \in [\nu]$ , where, in turn, if  $(i, j)T = t$  then  $(a, b)(t\phi) = ((a, b)t)\phi$  for each  $(a, b) \in [\mu]$ . Given  $\sigma = (\sigma_{(i, j)} : (i, j) \in [\nu]) \in \text{RPP}(\mu)^n$ , and a tableau  $\mathbf{T} \in \mathcal{N}$ , let  $\mathbf{T} \star \sigma \in \mathcal{N}$  be defined by  $(i, j)(\mathbf{T} \star \sigma) = (i, j)\mathbf{T} \cdot \sigma_{(i, j)}$ . We define  $\mathbf{T} \star \pi$  for  $\pi \in \text{CPP}(\mu)^n$  similarly. We define  $\text{sgn}(\pi) = \prod_{(i, j) \in [\nu]} \text{sgn}(\pi_{(i, j)})$ .

Define  $N = \langle \{\mathbf{T}\} : \mathbf{T} \in \mathcal{N} \rangle_{\mathbb{Q}}$  and  $\tilde{N} = \langle |\mathbf{T}| : \mathbf{T} \in \mathcal{N} \rangle_{\mathbb{Q}}$ . We define  $\mathbb{Q}S_{\Omega}$ -submodules  $R$  and  $C$  of  $N$  by

$$\begin{aligned} R &= \langle \{\mathbf{T} \star \sigma\} - \{\mathbf{T}\} : \mathbf{T} \in \mathcal{N}, \sigma \in \text{RPP}(\mu)^n \rangle_{\mathbb{Q}}, \\ C &= \langle \{\mathbf{T} \star \pi\} - \text{sgn}(\pi)\{\mathbf{T}\} : \mathbf{T} \in \mathcal{N}, \pi \in \text{CPP}(\mu)^n \rangle_{\mathbb{Q}} \end{aligned}$$

and  $\mathbb{Q}S_{\Omega}$ -submodules  $\tilde{R}$  and  $\tilde{C}$  of  $\tilde{N}$  by

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{R} &= \langle |\mathbf{T} \star \sigma| - |\mathbf{T}| : \mathbf{T} \in \mathcal{N}, \sigma \in \text{RPP}(\mu)^n \rangle_{\mathbb{Q}}, \\ \tilde{C} &= \langle |\mathbf{T} \star \pi| - \text{sgn}(\pi)|\mathbf{T}| : \mathbf{T} \in \mathcal{N}, \pi \in \text{CPP}(\mu)^n \rangle_{\mathbb{Q}}. \end{aligned}$$

Observe that if  $\mathbf{T}, \mathbf{U} \in \mathcal{N}$  and, for each  $(i, j) \in [\nu]$ , the  $\mu$ -tableau entries  $(i, j)\mathbf{T}, (i, j)\mathbf{U}$  of  $\mathbf{T}$  and  $\mathbf{U}$  agree up to the order of their rows, then  $\{\mathbf{T}\}$  and  $\{\mathbf{U}\}$  are congruent modulo  $R$ . Informally put, working modulo  $R$  we may regard the  $\mu$ -tableau entries of tableaux in  $\mathcal{N}$  as  $\mu$ -tabloids.

**3.2. Models.** To make this idea more precise we shall give explicit bases for  $N/R$  and  $\tilde{N}/\tilde{R}$  and explicit isomorphisms  $N/R \cong (M^{\mu} \otimes M^{\nu}) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}}$  and  $\tilde{N}/\tilde{R} \cong (M^{\mu} \otimes \tilde{M}^{\nu}) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}}$ . For this we must suppose that  $\Omega$  is totally ordered; row-standard and column-standard for  $\mu$ -tableaux then have their expected meanings from Definition 2.5. If  $s$  and  $t$  are  $\mu$ -tableaux with disjoint sets of entries from  $\Omega$ , we set  $s <_{\text{disj}} t$  if the least entry of  $s$  is strictly smaller than the least entry of  $t$ .

**Definition 3.1.** Let  $\mathcal{NR}$  be the set of  $\mathbf{T} \in \mathcal{N}$  such that each  $\mu$ -tableau entry of  $\mathbf{T}$  is row-standard. Let  $\mathcal{NR}_{\text{row}}$  be the set of  $\mathbf{T} \in \mathcal{NR}$  such that  $\mathbf{T}$  is row-standard in the order  $<_{\text{disj}}$ . Let  $\mathcal{NR}_{\text{col}}$  be the set of  $\mathbf{T} \in \mathcal{NR}$  such that  $\mathbf{T}$  is column-standard in the order  $<_{\text{disj}}$ .

We need a small extension of the construction in §2.7. Given  $\nu$  a partition of  $n$ , a  $\mathbb{Q}S_m$ -module  $W$  and a  $\mathbb{Q}S_n$ -module  $Z$ , let  $S_{\nu} \leq S_n$  denote the Young subgroup labelled by  $\nu$  and let  $W \otimes_{\nu} Z$  denote the  $\mathbb{Q}(S_m^n \rtimes S_{\nu})$ -module obtained by restricting  $W \otimes Z$  to  $S_m^n \rtimes S_{\nu}$ . We also need the characterization of induced modules in Alperin [3, Chapter III, Corollary 3]: if  $X$  is a  $\mathbb{Q}G$ -module and  $Y$  is a  $\mathbb{Q}K$ -module, where  $G \leq K$  are finite groups, then  $Y \cong X \uparrow_G^K$  if and only if  $Y \downarrow_G$  has a  $\mathbb{Q}G$ -submodule  $W$  such that  $W$  generates  $Y$  as a  $\mathbb{Q}K$ -module,  $W$  is isomorphic to  $X$  as a  $\mathbb{Q}G$ -module, and  $\dim Y = |K : G| \dim X$ .

**Proposition 3.2.** Let  $G_{\nu} = S_m^n \rtimes S_{\nu}$ . Identify  $S_{mn}$  and  $S_{\Omega}$  via the unique order preserving bijection  $\{1, \dots, mn\} \rightarrow \Omega$ . Under this identification there

are isomorphisms

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{(i)} \quad N/R &\cong (M^\mu \otimes_{\nu} \mathbb{Q}_{S_n}) \uparrow_{G_\nu}^{S_{mn}} \cong (M^\mu \otimes M^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}}, \\
\text{(ii)} \quad N/C &\cong (\widetilde{M}^\mu \otimes_{\nu} \mathbb{Q}_{S_n}) \uparrow_{G_\nu}^{S_{mn}} \cong (\widetilde{M}^\mu \otimes M^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}}, \\
\text{(iii)} \quad \widetilde{N}/\widetilde{R} &\cong (M^\mu \otimes_{\nu'} \text{sgn}_{S_n}) \uparrow_{G_{\nu'}}^{S_{mn}} \cong (M^\mu \otimes \widetilde{M}^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}}, \\
\text{(iv)} \quad \widetilde{N}/\widetilde{C} &\cong (\widetilde{M}^\mu \otimes_{\nu'} \text{sgn}_{S_n}) \uparrow_{G_{\nu'}}^{S_{mn}} \cong (\widetilde{M}^\mu \otimes \widetilde{M}^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}}.
\end{aligned}$$

Moreover  $N/R$  has  $\{\{\mathbf{T}\}+R : \mathbf{T} \in \mathcal{NR}_{\text{row}}\}$  as a basis and  $\widetilde{N}/\widetilde{R}$  has  $\{|\mathbf{T}|+\widetilde{R} : \mathbf{T} \in \mathcal{NR}_{\text{col}}\}$  as a basis.

*Proof.* Let  $t$  be a  $\mu$ -tableau with distinct entries from  $\{1, \dots, m\}$ . Let  $u$  be a  $\nu$ -tableau with distinct entries from  $\{1, \dots, n\}$  whose rows are fixed setwise by  $S_\nu \leq S_n$ . Then  $\langle\{u\}\rangle$  affords the trivial representation of the Young subgroup  $S_\nu \leq S_n$ . It is clear that  $(\{t\} \otimes \dots \otimes \{t\}) \otimes \{u\} \in M^\mu \otimes M^\nu$  generates  $M^\mu \otimes_{\nu} \langle\{u\}\rangle$  as a  $\mathbb{Q}G_\nu$ -module and  $M^\mu \otimes M^\nu$  as a  $\mathbb{Q}(S_m \wr S_n)$ -module. Moreover,  $\dim M^\mu \otimes_{\nu} \langle\{u\}\rangle = (\dim M^\mu)^n$  and  $|S_m \wr S_n : G_\nu| = |S_n : S_\nu| = \dim M^\nu$ , so

$$(\dim M^\mu \otimes_{\nu} \langle\{u\}\rangle) |S_m \wr S_n : G_\nu| = (\dim M^\mu)^n \dim M^\nu = \dim M^\mu \otimes M^\nu.$$

Hence, by the characterization of induced modules,

$$M^\mu \otimes M^\nu \cong (M^\mu \otimes_{\nu} \mathbb{Q}_{S_n}) \uparrow_{G_\nu}^{S_m \wr S_n}$$

and so  $(M^\mu \otimes M^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}} \cong (M^\mu \otimes_{\nu} \mathbb{Q}_{S_n}) \uparrow_{G_\nu}^{S_{mn}}$ . This proves the second isomorphism in (i).

Let  $\iota : \{1, \dots, mn\} \rightarrow \Omega$  be the unique order preserving bijection. For each  $(i, j) \in [\nu]$ , if  $(i, j)$  is the  $\ell$ th box of  $[\nu]$  in the lexicographic order on  $[\nu]$ , then set  $\Gamma_{(i,j)} = \{(\ell-1)m+1, \dots, \ell m\} \iota$ . For each  $(i, j) \in [\nu]$  let  $t_{(i,j)}$  be the  $\mu$ -tableau obtained from the fixed  $\mu$ -tableau  $t$  by replacing each entry  $r \in \{1, \dots, m\}$  with the  $r$ th smallest entry of  $\Gamma_{(i,j)}$ . (This choice is made for definiteness; any  $\mu$ -tableau with the same set of entries may be used.) For each  $(a, b) \in [\mu]$ , let

$$\Delta_{(a,b)} = \{(a, b)t_{(i,j)} : (i, j) \in [\nu]\}$$

be the set of entries of the tableaux  $t_{(i,j)}$  in position  $(a, b)$ . Let  $H_\Omega$  be the subgroup of  $\prod_{(a,b) \in [\mu]} S_{\Delta_{(a,b)}}$  consisting of all permutations that permute the  $\Gamma_{(i,j)}$  as blocks for their action. (These definitions are illustrated in the example following this proof.) There are isomorphism of abstract groups  $H_\Omega \cong S_{\Delta_{(a,b)}} \cong S_n$  for each  $(a, b) \in [\mu]$ . Let  $H_{\Omega_\nu} \leq H_\Omega$  be the Young subgroup of  $H_\Omega$  whose orbits on the blocks  $\Gamma_{(i,j)}$  are

$$\{\Gamma_{(1,j)} : j \in \{1, \dots, \nu_1\}\}, \dots, \{\Gamma_{(k,j)} : j \in \{1, \dots, \nu_k\}\}$$

where  $k$  is the number of parts of  $\nu$ . The subgroup

$$G_{\Omega_\nu} = \left( \prod_{(i,j) \in [\nu]} S_{\Gamma_{(i,j)}} \right) \rtimes H_{\Omega_\nu} \quad (3)$$

of  $S_\Omega$  is then conjugate to  $G_\nu \leq S_{mn}$ , after identifying  $S_{mn}$  and  $S_\Omega$  via the bijection  $\iota$ . Let  $\mathbf{V} \in \mathcal{N}$  be the  $\nu$ -tableau with entries from  $\mathcal{M}$  defined by  $(i,j)\mathbf{V} = t_{(i,j)}$ . It is clear that  $\langle \{\mathbf{V}\} + R \rangle$  affords the trivial representation of the subgroup

$$\left( \prod_{(i,j) \in [\nu]} \text{Stab}_{S_{\Gamma_{(i,j)}}} \{t_{(i,j)}\} \right) \rtimes H_{\Omega_\nu}$$

of  $G_{\Omega_\nu}$ . Therefore the  $\mathbb{Q}G_{\Omega_\nu}$ -submodule of  $N/R$  generated by  $\{\mathbf{V}\} + R$  is isomorphic to  $M^\mu \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}S_n} \mathbb{Q}S_n$ , after identifying  $G_\nu$  and  $G_{\Omega_\nu}$  via the bijection  $\iota$ . The first isomorphism in (i) now follows from the characterization of induced modules: it is given explicitly by  $\{\mathbf{V}\} + R \mapsto \{t\} \otimes \cdots \otimes \{t\} \otimes \{u\}$ . This completes the proof of (i).

Now define

$$\mathcal{NR}_X = \{\mathbf{U} \in \mathcal{NR} : (i,j)\mathbf{U} \text{ has distinct entries from } \Gamma_{(i,j)} \text{ for all } (i,j) \in [\nu]\}$$

and let  $X$  be the  $\mathbb{Q}G_{\Omega_\nu}$ -submodule of  $N/R$  generated by  $\{\mathbf{V}\} + R$ . It follows from the choice of subsets  $\Gamma_{(i,j)}$  that  $\mathcal{NR}_X \subseteq \mathcal{NR}_{\text{row}}$  and that the elements  $\{\mathbf{U}\} + R$  for  $\mathbf{U} \in \mathcal{NR}_X$  form a basis for  $X$  that is permuted transitively by  $G_{\Omega_\nu}$ . (This basis will be used later in the proof of Proposition 3.8.) Considering the vector space decomposition  $N/R = \bigoplus_{\phi} X\phi$  where  $\phi$  runs over a set of coset representatives for the cosets of  $G_{\Omega_\nu}$  in  $S_\Omega$ , we see that  $N/R$  has a basis as claimed.

The remaining parts can be proved similarly. For instance, for (iii), replace  $\langle \{u\} \rangle$  with  $\langle |u| \rangle$  affording the sign representation of the Young subgroup  $S_\nu \leq S_n$ , replace  $\{\mathbf{V}\} + R$  with  $|\mathbf{V}| + \tilde{R}$ , and replace  $H_\Omega$  with a Young subgroup whose orbits on the blocks  $\Gamma_{(i,j)}$  are

$$\{\Gamma_{(i,1)} : i \in \{1, \dots, \nu'_1\}\}, \dots, \{\Gamma_{(i,c)} : i \in \{1, \dots, \nu'_c\}\},$$

where  $c = \nu_1$ . The isomorphism is given by  $|\mathbf{V}| + R \mapsto \{t\} \otimes \cdots \otimes \{t\} \otimes |u|$ .  $\square$

To illustrate the proof of (i), we take  $\mu = (2,1)$  and  $\nu = (3,1)$ . Let  $\Omega = \{1, \dots, 12\}$  with the natural order; thus  $\iota$  is the identity map. If we take  $t = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$  then

$$t_{(1,1)} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \quad t_{(1,2)} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 5 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}, \quad t_{(1,3)} = \begin{bmatrix} 7 & 8 \\ 9 \end{bmatrix}, \quad t_{(2,1)} = \begin{bmatrix} 10 & 11 \\ 12 \end{bmatrix}$$

and  $\mathbf{V} \in \mathcal{N}$  is the  $(3,1)$ -tableau with these  $(2,1)$ -tableaux as entries. The blocks  $\Gamma_{(i,j)}$  for  $(i,j) \in [\nu]$  are the entries of these  $(2,1)$ -tableaux, and



$\Delta_{(1,1)} = \{1, 4, 7, 10\}$ ,  $\Delta_{(1,2)} = \{2, 5, 8, 11\}$ ,  $\Delta_{(2,1)} = \{3, 6, 9, 12\}$ . The subgroup  $H_\Omega \leq S_{\{1,4,7,10\}} \times S_{\{2,5,8,11\}} \times S_{\{3,6,9,12\}}$  is generated by the permutations  $(1, 4, 7, 10)(2, 5, 8, 11)(3, 6, 9, 12)$  and  $(1, 4)(2, 5)(3, 6)$ . It permutes the  $\Gamma_{(i,j)}$  as blocks for its action. The subgroup  $H_{\Omega_\nu}$  is generated by the permutations  $(1, 4, 7)(2, 5, 8)(3, 6, 9)$  and  $(1, 4)(2, 5)(3, 6)$  and  $G_{\Omega_\nu} = (S_{\{1,2,3\}} \times S_{\{4,5,6\}} \times S_{\{7,8,9\}} \times S_{\{10,11,12\}}) \rtimes H_{\Omega_\nu}$ .

The set  $\mathcal{NR}_X$  consists of all  $\begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline s & t & u \\ \hline v & & \\ \hline \end{array} \in \mathcal{N}$  such that

$$s \in \left\{ \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 \\ \hline 3 & \\ \hline \end{array}, \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 3 \\ \hline 2 & \\ \hline \end{array}, \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 2 & 3 \\ \hline 1 & \\ \hline \end{array} \right\}, \quad t \in \left\{ \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 4 & 5 \\ \hline 6 & \\ \hline \end{array}, \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 4 & 6 \\ \hline 5 & \\ \hline \end{array}, \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 5 & 6 \\ \hline 4 & \\ \hline \end{array} \right\},$$

$$u \in \left\{ \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 7 & 8 \\ \hline 9 & \\ \hline \end{array}, \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 7 & 9 \\ \hline 8 & \\ \hline \end{array}, \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 8 & 9 \\ \hline 7 & \\ \hline \end{array} \right\}, \quad v \in \left\{ \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 10 & 11 \\ \hline 12 & \\ \hline \end{array}, \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 10 & 12 \\ \hline 11 & \\ \hline \end{array}, \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 11 & 12 \\ \hline 10 & \\ \hline \end{array} \right\}.$$

Thus the  $\mathbb{Q}G_{\Omega_\nu}$ -submodule  $X$  of  $N/R$  generated by  $\{\mathbf{V}\} + R$  is isomorphic to  $M^{(2,1)} \otimes_{\nu} \mathbb{Q}S_4$  and has  $\{\{\mathbf{U}\} + R : \mathbf{U} \in \mathcal{NR}_X\}$  as a basis permuted transitively by  $G_{\Omega_\nu}$ .

**3.3. Maps.** We noted in §2.7 that  $W \otimes Z$  is functorial in  $W$  and  $Z$ . From the canonical projections  $\widetilde{M}^\lambda \rightarrow S^\lambda$  and  $M^\lambda \rightarrow \widetilde{S}^\lambda$  defined in §2.3 we obtain the canonical projections made explicit in the following proposition. (The two projections not given are the only two we do not use.)

**Proposition 3.3.** *Let  $\mathbf{T} \in \mathcal{N}$ . The homomorphisms (i)  $\widetilde{N}/\widetilde{R} \rightarrow N/R$ , (ii)  $N/R \rightarrow \widetilde{N}/\widetilde{R}$ , (iii)  $\widetilde{N}/\widetilde{R} \rightarrow \widetilde{N}/\widetilde{C}$ , (iv)  $N/R \rightarrow N/C$ , (v)  $\widetilde{N}/\widetilde{C} \rightarrow \widetilde{N}/\widetilde{R}$ , (vi)  $N/C \rightarrow N/R$ , corresponding to the compositions*

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(i)} & (M^\mu \otimes \widetilde{M}^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}} \rightarrow (M^\mu \otimes S^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}} \hookrightarrow (M^\mu \otimes M^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}} \\ \text{(ii)} & (M^\mu \otimes M^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}} \rightarrow (M^\mu \otimes \widetilde{S}^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}} \hookrightarrow (M^\mu \otimes \widetilde{M}^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}} \\ \text{(iii)} & (M^\mu \otimes \widetilde{M}^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}} \rightarrow (\widetilde{S}^\mu \otimes \widetilde{M}^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}} \hookrightarrow (\widetilde{M}^\mu \otimes \widetilde{M}^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}} \\ \text{(iv)} & (M^\mu \otimes M^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}} \rightarrow (\widetilde{S}^\mu \otimes M^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}} \hookrightarrow (\widetilde{M}^\mu \otimes M^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}} \\ \text{(v)} & (\widetilde{M}^\mu \otimes \widetilde{M}^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}} \rightarrow (S^\mu \otimes \widetilde{M}^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}} \hookrightarrow (M^\mu \otimes \widetilde{M}^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}} \\ \text{(vi)} & (\widetilde{M}^\mu \otimes M^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}} \rightarrow (S^\mu \otimes M^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}} \hookrightarrow (M^\mu \otimes M^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}} \end{aligned}$$

are defined on the generators  $|\mathbf{T}| + \widetilde{R}$ ,  $\{\mathbf{T}\} + R$ ,  $|\mathbf{T}| + \widetilde{R}$ ,  $\{\mathbf{T}\} + R$ ,  $|\mathbf{T}| + \widetilde{C}$ ,  $\{\mathbf{T}\} + C$  of their respective domains by

$$\begin{aligned}
|\mathbf{T}| + \tilde{R} &\mapsto \sum_{\tau \in \text{CPP}(\nu)} \{\mathbf{T} \cdot \tau\} \text{sgn}(\tau) + R, \\
\{\mathbf{T}\} + R &\mapsto \sum_{\tau \in \text{RPP}(\nu)} |\mathbf{T} \cdot \tau| + \tilde{R}, \\
|\mathbf{T}| + \tilde{R} &\mapsto \sum_{\sigma \in \text{RPP}(\mu)^n} |\mathbf{T} \star \sigma| + \tilde{C}, \\
\{\mathbf{T}\} + R &\mapsto \sum_{\sigma \in \text{RPP}(\mu)^n} \{\mathbf{T} \star \sigma\} + C, \\
|\mathbf{T}| + \tilde{C} &\mapsto \sum_{\pi \in \text{CPP}(\mu)^n} |\mathbf{T} \star \pi| \text{sgn}(\pi) + \tilde{R}, \\
\{\mathbf{T}\} + C &\mapsto \sum_{\pi \in \text{CPP}(\mu)^n} \{\mathbf{T} \star \pi\} \text{sgn}(\pi) + R.
\end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* We prove (iii) to illustrate the action of the group  $\text{RPP}(\mu)^n$ . There is no loss of generality in taking  $\mathbf{T}$  to be the tableau  $\mathbf{V} \in \mathcal{N}$  defined in the proof of Proposition 3.2. Also, as in this proof, let  $t$  be a  $\mu$ -tableau with distinct entries from  $\{1, \dots, m\}$  and let  $u$  be a  $\nu$ -tableau with distinct entries from  $\{1, \dots, n\}$  such that  $\langle |u| \rangle$  affords the sign representation of  $S_\nu$ . By the proof of Proposition 3.2 there are isomorphisms  $\tilde{N}/\tilde{R} \cong (M^\mu \otimes \tilde{M}^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}}$  and  $\tilde{N}/\tilde{C} \cong (\tilde{M}^\mu \otimes \tilde{M}^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}}$  defined by  $|\mathbf{V}| + \tilde{R} \mapsto \{t\} \otimes \dots \otimes \{t\} \otimes |u|$  and  $|\mathbf{V}| + \tilde{C} \mapsto |t| \otimes \dots \otimes |t| \otimes |u|$ , respectively. The image of  $\{t\}$  under the canonical surjection  $M^\mu \rightarrow \tilde{S}^\mu$  is  $\sum_{\sigma \in \text{RPP}(\mu)} |t \cdot \sigma|$ . Hence the induced map  $\tilde{N}/\tilde{R} \rightarrow \tilde{N}/\tilde{C}$  satisfies

$$|\mathbf{V}| + \tilde{R} \mapsto \sum_{\sigma \in \text{RPP}(\mu)^n} |\mathbf{V} \star \sigma| + \tilde{C},$$

since for  $\sigma = (\sigma_{(i,j)} : (i,j) \in [\nu]) \in \text{RPP}(\mu)^n$  we have  $(i,j)(\mathbf{V} \star \sigma) = t_{(i,j)} \cdot \sigma_{(i,j)}$ .  $\square$

**3.4. Models for plethystic Specht modules.** In this subsection, we combine the results so far to give explicit models for the  $\mathbb{Q}S_{mn}$ -modules  $(S^\mu \otimes M^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}}$  and  $(S^\mu \otimes \tilde{M}^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}}$ . These models are used in §6.

**Definition 3.4.** Let  $\mathcal{N}_{\text{row}}$  be the set of  $\mathbf{T} \in \mathcal{N}$  such that each row of  $\mathbf{T}$  is strictly increasing under  $<_{\text{disj}}$  and let  $\mathcal{N}_{\text{col}}$  be the set of  $\mathbf{T} \in \mathcal{N}$  such that each column of  $\mathbf{T}$  is strictly increasing under  $<_{\text{disj}}$ .

We note that  $\mathcal{NR}_{\text{row}} = \mathcal{NR} \cap \mathcal{N}_{\text{row}}$  and  $\mathcal{NR}_{\text{col}} = \mathcal{NR} \cap \mathcal{N}_{\text{col}}$ .

**Definition 3.5.** For each  $\mathbf{T} \in \mathcal{N}$ , define

$$\begin{aligned} e_{\text{row}}(\mathbf{T}) &= \sum_{\pi \in \text{CPP}(\mu)^n} \{\mathbf{T} \star \pi\} \text{sgn}(\pi) + R \in N/R, \\ e_{\text{col}}(\mathbf{T}) &= \sum_{\pi \in \text{CPP}(\mu)^n} |\mathbf{T} \star \pi| \text{sgn}(\pi) + \tilde{R} \in \tilde{N}/\tilde{R}. \end{aligned}$$

The elements  $e_{\text{row}}(\mathbf{T})$  and  $e_{\text{col}}(\mathbf{T})$  behave much like ordinary polytabloids. In particular, we have

$$e_{\text{row}}(\mathbf{T})\phi = e_{\text{row}}(\mathbf{T}\phi) \quad \text{and} \quad e_{\text{col}}(\mathbf{T})\phi = e_{\text{col}}(\mathbf{T}\phi) \quad (4)$$

for any  $\phi \in S_\Omega$ . The following lemma shows that a linear relation between polytabloids in  $S^\mu$  implies linear relations in the submodules of  $N/R$  and  $\tilde{N}/\tilde{R}$  isomorphic to  $(S^\mu \otimes M^\mu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}}$  and  $(S^\mu \otimes \tilde{M}^\mu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}}$ , respectively.

**Lemma 3.6.** *Let  $\mathbf{T} \in \mathcal{N}$ . Let  $(i, j) \in [\nu]$ , let  $t = (i, j)\mathbf{T}$  and let  $\Gamma$  be the set of entries of  $t$ . Suppose that  $e(t) = \sum_v c_v e(v)$  where the sum is over  $\mu$ -tableaux  $v$  with distinct entries from  $\Gamma$  and  $c_v \in \mathbb{Q}$  for each  $v$ . For each such  $v$ , let  $\mathbf{T}_v \in \mathcal{N}$  be obtained from  $\mathbf{T}$  by replacing the entry  $t$  in position  $(i, j)$  with  $v$ .*

- (i) *If  $\mathbf{T} \in \mathcal{N}_{\text{row}}$  then  $e_{\text{row}}(\mathbf{T}) = \sum_v c_v e_{\text{row}}(\mathbf{T}_v)$  and  $\mathbf{T}_v \in \mathcal{N}_{\text{row}}$  for each  $v$ .*
- (ii) *If  $\mathbf{T} \in \mathcal{N}_{\text{col}}$  then  $e_{\text{col}}(\mathbf{T}) = \sum_v c_v e_{\text{col}}(\mathbf{T}_v)$  and  $\mathbf{T}_v \in \mathcal{N}_{\text{col}}$  for each  $v$ .*

*Proof.* We prove (i); the proof of (ii) is similar, using part (iii) of Proposition 3.2 rather than part (i). For each  $(i', j') \in [\nu]$ , let  $\Gamma_{(i', j')}$  be the set of entries of the  $\mu$ -tableau  $(i', j')\mathbf{T}$ . Given any  $\pi \in \text{CPP}(\mu)^n$  there exists a unique permutation

$$\tilde{\pi} \in \prod_{(i', j') \neq (i, j)} S_{\Gamma_{(i', j')}}$$

such that  $(i', j')(\mathbf{T} \star \pi) = ((i', j')\mathbf{T})\tilde{\pi}$  for all  $(i', j') \neq (i, j)$ . Note that  $\text{sgn}(\pi) = \text{sgn}(\tilde{\pi}) \text{sgn}(\pi_{(i, j)})$ . Moreover, since each  $\mathbf{T}_v$  agrees with  $\mathbf{T}$  in its positions other than  $(i, j)$ , we have

$$(i', j')(\mathbf{T}_v \star \pi) = ((i', j')\mathbf{T}_v)\tilde{\pi}$$

for all  $(i', j') \neq (i, j)$ . Let  $H = \{\tilde{\pi} : \pi \in \text{CPP}(\mu)^n\}$ . By these remarks

$$e_{\text{row}}(\mathbf{T}) = \sum_{\phi \in H} \sum_{\pi_{(i, j)} \in \text{CPP}(\mu)} \{\mathbf{T} \star \pi_{(i, j)}\} \text{sgn}(\pi_{(i, j)}) \phi \text{sgn}(\phi) + R,$$

and

$$\sum_v c_v e_{\text{row}}(\mathbf{T}_v) = \sum_v \sum_{\phi \in H} \sum_{\pi_{(i, j)} \in \text{CPP}(\mu)} \{\mathbf{T}_v \star \pi_{(i, j)}\} \text{sgn}(\pi_{(i, j)}) \phi \text{sgn}(\phi) + R,$$

where, by a small abuse of notation, we regard  $\pi_{(i,j)} \in \text{CPP}(\mu)$  as an element of  $\text{CPP}(\mu)^n$  acting trivially on all  $\mu$ -tableaux not in position  $(i, j)$  of a  $\nu$ -tableau. It therefore suffices to show that

$$\sum_{\pi_{(i,j)} \in \text{CPP}(\mu)} \{\mathbf{T} \star \pi_{(i,j)}\} \text{sgn}(\pi_{(i,j)}) + R = \sum_{\pi_{(i,j)} \in \text{CPP}(\mu)} \sum_v c_v \{\mathbf{T}_v \star \pi_{(i,j)}\} \text{sgn}(\pi_{(i,j)}) + R.$$

By Proposition 3.2(i), the  $\{\mathbf{U}\} + R$  for  $\mathbf{U} \in \mathcal{NR}_{\text{row}}$  are a basis for  $N/R$ . Since  $\mathbf{T} \in \mathcal{NR}_{\text{row}}$ , the coefficient of  $\{\mathbf{U}\} + R$  in either side is zero unless  $\{(i', j')\mathbf{U}\} = \{(i', j')\mathbf{T}\}$  for each  $(i', j') \neq (i, j)$ . (Since  $\mathbf{U} \in \mathcal{NR}_{\text{row}}$ , this determines  $\mathbf{U}$  up to the entry in position  $(i, j)$ .) Suppose that  $(i, j)\mathbf{U} = u$ . Then the coefficient of  $\{\mathbf{U}\} + R$  in the left-hand side is the coefficient of  $\{u\}$  in  $e(t)$ , and the coefficient of  $\{\mathbf{U}\} + R$  in the right-hand side is the coefficient of  $\{u\}$  in  $\sum_v c_v e(v)$ . These agree by hypothesis.  $\square$

By the Standard Basis Theorem (see [26, Theorem 8.5]), if  $t$  is a  $\mu$ -tableau with distinct entries from  $\Gamma \subseteq \Omega$  then  $e(t) \in S^\mu$  is an integral linear combination of polytabloids  $e(u)$  for standard  $\mu$ -tableaux  $u$  with distinct entries from  $\Gamma$ . This motivates the following definition.

**Definition 3.7.** Let  $\mathcal{NS}$  be the set of  $\mathbf{T} \in \mathcal{N}$  such that all  $\mu$ -tableau entries of  $\mathbf{T}$  are standard. Let  $\mathcal{NS}_{\text{row}} = \mathcal{NS} \cap \mathcal{NR}_{\text{row}}$  and let  $\mathcal{NS}_{\text{col}} = \mathcal{NS} \cap \mathcal{N}_{\text{col}}$ .

**Lemma 3.8.**

- (i) *The set  $\{e_{\text{row}}(\mathbf{S}) : \mathbf{S} \in \mathcal{NS}_{\text{row}}\}$  is a basis for a submodule of  $N/R$  isomorphic to  $(S^\mu \otimes M^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}}$ .*
- (ii) *The set  $\{e_{\text{col}}(\mathbf{S}) : \mathbf{S} \in \mathcal{NS}_{\text{col}}\}$  is a basis for a submodule of  $\tilde{N}/\tilde{R}$  isomorphic to  $(S^\mu \otimes \tilde{M}^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}}$ .*

*Proof.* We prove (i); the proof of (ii) is similar. Let  $\mathbf{V} \in \mathcal{N}$  be as constructed in the proof of Proposition 3.2. Let  $V$  be the  $\mathbb{Q}S_\Omega$ -submodule of  $N/R$  generated by  $e_{\text{row}}(\mathbf{V})$ . By Proposition 3.3(vi),  $V$  is isomorphic to  $(S^\mu \otimes M^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}}$ . It remains to show that  $V$  has a basis as claimed.

Let  $G_{\Omega_\nu}$  be as defined in (3) in the proof of Proposition 3.2. (Recall that, after identifying  $S_{mn}$  with  $S_\Omega$ ,  $G_{\Omega_\nu}$  is conjugate to  $S_m^n \times S_\nu$ .) Let  $\mathcal{NR}_X$  be as defined in the proof of Proposition 3.2. Recall that  $\{\{\mathbf{U}\} + R : \mathbf{U} \in \mathcal{NR}_X\}$  is a basis for a  $\mathbb{Q}G_{\Omega_\nu}$ -submodule  $X$  of  $N/R$  isomorphic to  $M^\mu \otimes_\nu \mathbb{Q}_{S_n}$  (after identifying  $G_\nu$  with  $G_{\Omega_\nu}$ ), and that the basis elements are permuted transitively by  $G_{\Omega_\nu}$ . By definition of the sets  $\Gamma_{(i,j)}$  in the construction of  $\mathbf{V}$ , we have  $\mathcal{NR}_X \subseteq \mathcal{NR}_{\text{row}}$ .

Let  $Z$  be the  $\mathbb{Q}G_{\Omega_\nu}$ -submodule of  $X$  generated by  $e_{\text{row}}(\mathbf{V})$ . By Propositions 3.2(i) and 3.3(vi),  $Z$  is isomorphic to  $S^\mu \otimes_\nu \mathbb{Q}_{S_n}$  (after identifying  $G_\nu$  with  $G_{\Omega_\nu}$ ). By (4) we have  $e_{\text{row}}(\mathbf{V})\psi = e_{\text{row}}(\mathbf{V}\psi)$  for  $\psi \in G_{\Omega_\nu}$ . Since the

top group  $H_{\Omega_\nu}$  in the definition of  $G_{\Omega_\nu}$  acts trivially on  $X$ , we may assume that  $\psi \in \prod_{(i,j) \in [\nu]} S_{\Gamma_{(i,j)}}$  and so each  $\mu$ -tableau entry  $(i, j)(\mathbf{V}\psi)$  has the same set of entries as  $(i, j)\mathbf{V}$ . Thus  $(i, j)(\mathbf{V}\psi)$  has distinct entries from  $\Gamma_{(i,j)}$  for all  $(i, j) \in [\nu]$ . By repeated applications of Lemma 3.6 and the Standard Basis Theorem we may express each  $e_{\text{row}}(\mathbf{V}\psi)$  as a linear combination of elements  $e_{\text{row}}(\mathbf{S})$  for  $\mathbf{S} \in \mathcal{NS}_{\text{row}} \cap \mathcal{NR}_X$ . Hence the elements  $e_{\text{row}}(\mathbf{S})$  for  $\mathbf{S} \in \mathcal{NS}_{\text{row}} \cap \mathcal{NR}_X$  span  $Z$ . By dimension counting, using the isomorphism  $Z \cong S^\mu \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}_{S_n}}$ , we see that they are linearly independent.

Finally since  $N/R$  is induced from  $X$ , there is a vector space decomposition

$$N/R = \bigoplus_{\phi} X\phi$$

where  $\phi$  runs over a set of coset representatives for  $G_{\Omega_\nu}$  in  $S_\Omega$ . The result now follows because  $\phi$  sends the basis  $\{e_{\text{row}}(\mathbf{S}) : \mathbf{S} \in \mathcal{NS}_{\text{row}} \cap \mathcal{NR}_X\}$  of  $Z$  to a basis of the relevant subspace of  $N/R$ .  $\square$

#### 4. HOMOMORPHISMS DEFINED USING CONJUGATE-SEMISTANDARD TABLEAU FAMILY TUPLES

In this section we use the models defined in §3 to define the homomorphisms needed to prove Theorem 1.3.

##### 4.1. Tableaux from conjugate-semistandard tableau family tuples.

Let  $\mathcal{T} = (\mathcal{T}_1, \dots, \mathcal{T}_c)$  be a conjugate-semistandard tableau family tuple of shape  $\mu^\kappa$  and type  $\lambda$ , as in Theorem 1.3. For each  $i \in \{1, \dots, c\}$  and each  $j \in \{1, \dots, \kappa_i\}$ , let  $s_{(i,j)}$  be the  $j$ th smallest conjugate-semistandard tableau in  $\mathcal{T}_i$  under the total order  $<$  defined in Definition 2.2. Let  $S$  be the  $\kappa$ -tableau defined by  $(i, j)S = s_{(i,j)}$  for each  $(i, j)$ . Each entry of  $S$  is a  $\mu$ -tableau with entries from  $\mathbb{N}$ ; for each  $i \in \mathbb{N}$  the total number of  $i$ s that appear is  $\lambda'_i$ .

Let  $\Omega^\lambda$  be the set of symbols defined in §2.4. Let  $\mathbf{S}$  be a  $\kappa$ -tableau obtained by appending indices to the entries of each  $\mu$ -tableau  $(i, j)S$  so that the set of all the entries of the  $\mu$ -tableaux in  $\mathbf{S}$  is  $\Omega^\lambda$  and so that each  $\mu$ -tableau in  $\mathbf{S}$  has strictly increasing columns in the total order on  $\Omega^\lambda$  defined in §2.4. For definiteness we fix the following procedure: start with the  $\mu$ -tableau  $(1, 1)S$ , and continue in lexicographic order of the boxes of  $\nu$ , finishing with the  $\mu$ -tableau  $(c, \kappa_c)S$ , appending indices within each  $\mu$ -tableau in lexicographic order of the boxes of  $\mu$ . (For an example see Example 4.2.)

Let  $\mathbf{T}_\mathcal{T} = \mathbf{S}'$  if  $m$  is even and let  $\mathbf{T}_\mathcal{T} = \mathbf{S}$  if  $m$  is odd. Recall that  $\nu = \kappa'$  if  $m$  is even, and  $\nu = \kappa$  if  $m$  is odd. Thus  $\mathbf{T}_\mathcal{T}$  is a  $\nu$ -tableau in the set  $\mathcal{N}(\Omega^\lambda)$ , as defined in §3.1.

**4.2. Homomorphisms.** Identify  $S_{mn}$  with  $S_{\Omega^\lambda}$  using the unique order preserving bijection  $\{1, \dots, mn\} \rightarrow \Omega^\lambda$  and identify the  $\mathbb{Q}S_{\Omega^\lambda}$ -modules  $N/R$ ,

$\tilde{N}/\tilde{R}$ ,  $N/C$ ,  $\tilde{N}/\tilde{C}$  defined in §3 with the  $\mathbb{Q}S_{mn}$ -modules  $(M^\mu \otimes M^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}}$ ,  $(M^\mu \otimes \tilde{M}^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}}$ ,  $(\tilde{M}^\mu \otimes M^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}}$ ,  $(\tilde{M}^\mu \otimes \tilde{M}^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}}$  by four fixed isomorphisms. (These isomorphisms exist by Proposition 3.2.)

Let  $t_\lambda$  be the  $\lambda$ -tableau with distinct entries from  $\Omega^\lambda$  defined in §2.4. Note that  $|t_\lambda|$  generates  $\tilde{M}^\lambda$  as a  $\mathbb{Q}S_{\Omega^\lambda}$ -module. Let  $b_\lambda = \sum_{\vartheta \in I(\lambda)} \text{sgn}(\vartheta)\vartheta$ , where  $I(\lambda)$  is the index permuting group defined in §2.4. We define homomorphisms  $f_{\mathcal{T}}$  and  $g_{\mathcal{T}}$  by

$$\begin{aligned} f_{\mathcal{T}} : \tilde{M}^\lambda &\rightarrow (M^\mu \otimes \tilde{M}^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}}, & |t_\lambda|f_{(\mathcal{T}_1, \dots, \mathcal{T}_c)} &= |\mathbf{T}_{\mathcal{T}}|b_\lambda + \tilde{R}, \\ g_{\mathcal{T}} : \tilde{M}^\lambda &\rightarrow (M^\mu \otimes M^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}}, & |t_\lambda|g_{(\mathcal{T}_1, \dots, \mathcal{T}_c)} &= \{\mathbf{T}_{\mathcal{T}}\}b_\lambda + R. \end{aligned}$$

Define

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{f}_{\mathcal{T}} : \tilde{M}^\lambda &\rightarrow (\tilde{S}^\mu \otimes S^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}}, \\ \bar{g}_{\mathcal{T}} : \tilde{M}^\lambda &\rightarrow (\tilde{S}^\mu \otimes \tilde{S}^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}} \end{aligned}$$

by composing  $f_{\mathcal{T}}$  with the canonical surjection  $(M^\mu \otimes \tilde{M}^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}} \twoheadrightarrow (M^\mu \otimes S^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}} \twoheadrightarrow (\tilde{S}^\mu \otimes S^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}}$  and composing  $g_{\mathcal{T}}$  with the canonical surjection  $(M^\mu \otimes M^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}} \twoheadrightarrow (M^\mu \otimes \tilde{S}^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}} \twoheadrightarrow (\tilde{S}^\mu \otimes \tilde{S}^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}}$ , respectively. We remind the reader that these definitions require the four fixed isomorphisms. For example, the image of the homomorphism  $\bar{f}_{\mathcal{T}}$  is, strictly speaking, a submodule of  $N/C$ ; to obtain  $\bar{f}_{\mathcal{T}}$  as defined above we must identify  $N/C$  with  $(\tilde{M}^\mu \otimes M^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}}$ .

We have the following explicit description of the homomorphisms  $\bar{f}_{\mathcal{T}}$  and  $\bar{g}_{\mathcal{T}}$ .

**Proposition 4.1.** *The images of  $|t_\lambda| \in \tilde{M}^\lambda$  under the homomorphisms  $\bar{f}_{\mathcal{T}}$  and  $\bar{g}_{\mathcal{T}}$  are*

$$\begin{aligned} |t_\lambda|\bar{f}_{\mathcal{T}} &= \sum_{\substack{\vartheta \in I(\lambda) \\ \tau \in \text{CPP}(\nu) \\ \sigma \in \text{RPP}(\mu)^n}} \{(\mathbf{T}_{\mathcal{T}}\vartheta \cdot \tau) \star \sigma\} \text{sgn}(\vartheta) \text{sgn}(\tau) + C, \\ |t_\lambda|\bar{g}_{\mathcal{T}} &= \sum_{\substack{\vartheta \in I(\lambda) \\ \tau \in \text{RPP}(\nu) \\ \sigma \in \text{RPP}(\mu)^n}} |(\mathbf{T}_{\mathcal{T}}\vartheta \cdot \tau) \star \sigma| \text{sgn}(\vartheta) + \tilde{C}, \end{aligned}$$

respectively.

*Proof.* This is immediate from Proposition 3.3.  $\square$

We end this section with an example of these homomorphisms.

**Example 4.2.** Take  $m = 3$ ,  $n = 5$ ,  $\mu = (2, 1)$  and  $\nu = (4, 1)$ . Take the conjugate-semistandard tableau family tuple

$$\mathcal{T} = \left( \left\{ \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 \\ \hline 1 & \\ \hline \end{array} \right\}, \left\{ \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 \\ \hline 2 & \\ \hline \end{array} \right\}, \left\{ \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 3 \\ \hline 1 & \\ \hline \end{array} \right\}, \left\{ \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 3 \\ \hline 2 & \\ \hline \end{array} \right\} \right), \left\{ \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 \\ \hline 1 & \\ \hline \end{array} \right\}$$

of shape  $(2, 1)^{(4,1)}$  and type  $(3^2, 2^3, 1^3)$ . (We have written tableaux in the total order  $<$  defined in Definition 2.2.) Appending indices to the tableaux in  $\mathcal{T}$  we obtain

$$\mathbf{T}_{\mathcal{T}} = \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|} \hline \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1_1 & 2_1 \\ \hline 1_2 & \\ \hline \end{array} & \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1_3 & 2_2 \\ \hline 2_3 & \\ \hline \end{array} & \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1_4 & 3_1 \\ \hline 1_5 & \\ \hline \end{array} & \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1_6 & 3_2 \\ \hline 2_4 & \\ \hline \end{array} \\ \hline \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1_7 & 2_5 \\ \hline 1_8 & \\ \hline \end{array} & & & \\ \hline \end{array} \in \mathcal{N}(\Omega^{(3^2, 2^3, 1^3)}).$$

The corresponding homomorphism

$$\bar{g}_{\mathcal{T}} : \widetilde{M}^{(3^2, 2^3, 1^3)} \rightarrow (\widetilde{S}^{(2,1)} \otimes \widetilde{S}^{(4,1)}) \uparrow_{S_3 \wr S_5}^{S_{15}} \subseteq (\widetilde{M}^{(2,1)} \otimes \widetilde{M}^{(4,1)}) \uparrow_{S_3 \wr S_5}^{S_{15}} \cong \widetilde{N}/\widetilde{C}$$

sends the generator  $|t_{(3^2, 2^3, 1^3)}|$  to

$$\sum_{\substack{\vartheta \in I^{(3^2, 2^3, 1^3)} \\ \tau \in \text{RPP}(4,1) \\ \sigma \in \text{RPP}(2,1)^5}} \text{sgn}(\vartheta) \left( \left( \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|} \hline \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1_1 & 2_1 \\ \hline 1_2 & \\ \hline \end{array} & \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1_3 & 2_2 \\ \hline 2_3 & \\ \hline \end{array} & \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1_4 & 3_1 \\ \hline 1_5 & \\ \hline \end{array} & \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1_6 & 3_2 \\ \hline 2_4 & \\ \hline \end{array} \\ \hline \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1_7 & 2_5 \\ \hline 1_8 & \\ \hline \end{array} & & & \\ \hline \end{array} \vartheta \cdot \tau \right) \star \sigma + \widetilde{C}.$$

The proof of Proposition 5.1 shows that the coefficient of  $|\mathbf{T}_{\mathcal{T}}| + \widetilde{C}$  in  $|t_{\lambda}| \bar{g}_{\mathcal{T}}$  is 2; correspondingly,  $\vartheta = (1_1, 1_7)(1_2, 1_8)(2_1, 2_5)$  swaps the two  $(2, 1)$ -tableaux in the first column of each columnar tabloid on the right-hand side, so  $\text{sgn}(\vartheta)|(\mathbf{T}_{\mathcal{T}} \vartheta \cdot \tau) \star \sigma| = |(\mathbf{T}_{\mathcal{T}} \cdot \tau) \star \sigma|$  for all  $\tau \in \text{RPP}(4, 1)$  and  $\sigma \in \text{RPP}(2, 1)^5$ .

We saw in Example 4.2 that  $\mathcal{T}$  has minimal type. It therefore follows from Theorem 1.3 and Lemma 2.1 that the kernel of  $\bar{g}_{\mathcal{T}}$  contains the Garnir relations generating the kernel of the canonical homomorphism  $\widetilde{M}^{(3^2, 2^3, 1^3)} \rightarrow S^{(3^2, 2^3, 1^3)}$ . (In this case it is also possible to prove this in a more explicit way by adapting the argument used in [35, Proposition 5.2].) Hence we obtain a well-defined homomorphism from  $S^{(3^2, 2^3, 1^3)}$  to the module  $(\widetilde{S}^{(2,1)} \otimes \widetilde{S}^{(4,1)}) \uparrow_{S_3 \wr S_5}^{S_{15}}$  isomorphic to  $H_{(2,1)}^{(4,1)}$ . We continue in Example 8.2 to show that the multiplicity of  $S^{(3^2, 2^3, 1^3)}$  in  $H_{(2,1)}^{(4,1)}$  is 2.

## 5. THE HOMOMORPHISMS $\bar{f}_{\mathcal{T}}$ AND $\bar{g}_{\mathcal{T}}$ ARE NON-ZERO

In this section we prove the following proposition on the homomorphisms defined in §4.2

**Proposition 5.1.** *Let  $(\mathcal{T}_1, \dots, \mathcal{T}_c)$  be a conjugate-semistandard tableau family tuple of shape  $\mu^k$  and type  $\lambda$ .*

(i) *If  $m$  is even then the homomorphism*

$$\bar{f}_{(\mathcal{T}_1, \dots, \mathcal{T}_c)} : \widetilde{M}^{\lambda} \rightarrow (\widetilde{S}^{\mu} \otimes S^{\nu}) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}}$$

*is non-zero.*

(ii) If  $m$  is odd then the homomorphism

$$\bar{g}_{(\mathcal{T}_1, \dots, \mathcal{T}_c)} : \widetilde{M}^\lambda \rightarrow (\widetilde{S}^\mu \otimes \widetilde{S}^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}}$$

is non-zero.

The proof of Proposition 5.1 uses Lemma 2.6 and the three further lemmas below. Given a  $\mu$ -tableau  $t$  with entries from  $\Omega^\lambda$  let  $D(t)$  be the *deindexed* tableau with entries from  $\mathbb{N}$  obtained by removing indices from the entries in  $t$ . Let  $\mathcal{N} = \mathcal{N}(\Omega^\lambda)$  be as defined in §3.1.

**Lemma 5.2.** *Let  $\mathbf{T} \in \mathcal{N}$ . Let  $\pi, \pi' \in \text{CPP}(\mu)^n$  and let  $\rho, \rho' \in \text{RPP}(\nu)$ . If  $(\mathbf{T} \cdot \rho) \star \pi = (\mathbf{T} \cdot \rho') \star \pi'$  then  $\rho = \rho'$  and  $\pi = \pi'$ .*

*Proof.* For each  $(i, j) \in [\nu]$ , the  $\mu$ -tableau in position  $(i, j)\rho$  of  $(\mathbf{T} \cdot \rho) \star \pi$  has the same set of entries as the  $\mu$ -tableau in position  $(i, j)\rho'$  of  $(\mathbf{T} \cdot \rho') \star \pi'$ . Since the sets of entries of the  $\mu$ -tableaux in any element of  $\mathcal{N}$  are disjoint, it follows that  $(i, j)\rho = (i, j)\rho'$  for all  $(i, j) \in [\nu]$ . Hence  $\rho = \rho'$ . It is now clear that  $\pi = \pi'$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 5.3.** *Let  $t_1, \dots, t_n$  be  $\mu$ -tableaux with entries in  $\Omega^\lambda$  such that each  $\|D(t_i)\|$  is conjugate-semistandard. Let  $\sigma_i \in \text{RPP}(\mu)$  for each  $i$ . Suppose that the multisets  $\{\|D(t_1 \cdot \sigma_1)\|, \dots, \|D(t_n \cdot \sigma_n)\|\}$  and  $\{\|D(t_1)\|, \dots, \|D(t_n)\|\}$  are equal. Then  $\sigma_1 = \dots = \sigma_n = \text{id}$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\leq$  be the usual total order on  $\mathbb{N}$  and let  $\leq_{\text{col}}$  be the order induced by  $\leq$  on  $\mu$ -columnar tabloids with entries in  $\mathbb{N}$ , defined in Definition 2.4. By Lemma 2.6(i), since each  $D(t_i)$  is row-standard under  $\leq$ , we have  $\|D(t_i \cdot \sigma_i)\| \leq_{\text{col}} \|D(t_i)\|$  for each  $i$ . By assumption, there exists  $\phi \in S_n$  such that  $\|D(t_i \phi)\| \leq_{\text{col}} \|D(t_i \cdot \sigma_i)\|$  for all  $i$ . By Lemma 2.3, applied with the pre-order  $\leq_{\text{col}}$ , we have  $\|D(t_i)\| \leq_{\text{col}} \|D(t_i \cdot \sigma_i)\|$  for all  $i$ . Hence, by another application of Lemma 2.6(i),  $\sigma_i = \text{id}$  for all  $i$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 5.4.** *Let  $\psi \in I(\lambda)$ , the group of index permutations, and let  $\mathbf{T} \in \mathcal{N}(\Omega^\lambda)$ . If  $\mathbf{T}\psi \cdot \rho = \mathbf{T}$  where either  $\rho \in \text{RPP}(\nu)$  or  $\rho \in \text{CPP}(\nu)$  then*

$$\text{sgn } \psi = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } m \text{ is even} \\ \text{sgn } \rho & \text{if } m \text{ is odd.} \end{cases}$$

*Proof.* We suppose that  $\rho \in \text{RPP}(\nu)$ : the other case is similar. Let  $\tilde{\rho}$  be the permutation of  $\Omega^\lambda$  induced by  $\rho$ . By hypothesis  $\tilde{\rho} = \psi^{-1} \in I(\lambda)$ . If  $x_y \tilde{\rho} = x_z$  with  $y \neq z$  then  $x_y$  and  $x_z$  are entries of distinct  $\mu$ -tableaux in the same row of  $\mathbf{T}$ , say  $s$  and  $t$ , and  $x'_y \tilde{\rho}$  is an entry of  $t$  whenever  $x'_y$  is an entry of  $s$ . Hence  $\tilde{\rho}$  has exactly  $m$  cycles of length  $\ell$  for each  $\ell$ -cycle in  $\rho$ . The lemma follows.  $\square$



We are now ready to prove Proposition 5.1. We prove part (i) in full, and then indicate the changes needed for (ii).

*Proof of Proposition 5.1(i).* By Proposition 4.1, we obtain a contribution to the coefficient of  $\{\mathbf{T}_\tau\} + C$  in  $|t_\lambda| \overline{f}_{(\mathcal{T}_1, \dots, \mathcal{T}_c)}$  for each  $\vartheta \in I(\lambda)$ ,  $\tau \in \text{CPP}(\nu)$  and  $\sigma \in \text{RPP}(\mu)^n$  satisfying the condition  $\{(\mathbf{T}_\tau \vartheta \cdot \tau) \star \sigma\} + C = \{\mathbf{T}_\tau\} + C$ . This condition holds if and only if there exist  $\pi \in \text{CPP}(\mu)^n$  and  $\rho \in \text{RPP}(\nu)$  such that  $((\mathbf{T}_\tau \vartheta \cdot \tau) \star \sigma) \star \pi \cdot \rho = \mathbf{T}_\tau$ . If such  $\pi$  and  $\rho$  exist they are unique, by Lemma 5.2. The coefficient is therefore

$$\sum_{\substack{\vartheta \in I(\lambda) \\ \tau \in \text{CPP}(\nu) \\ \sigma \in \text{RPP}(\mu)^n \\ \pi \in \text{CPP}(\mu)^n \\ \rho \in \text{RPP}(\nu) \\ ((\mathbf{T}_\tau \vartheta \cdot \tau) \star \sigma) \star \pi \cdot \rho = \mathbf{T}_\tau}} \text{sgn}(\vartheta) \text{sgn}(\tau) \text{sgn}(\pi)$$

where  $\text{sgn}(\pi) = \prod_{(i,j) \in [\nu]} \text{sgn}(\pi_{(i,j)})$  is as defined in §3.1.

Let  $\vartheta, \tau, \sigma, \pi, \rho$  satisfy  $((\mathbf{T}_\tau \vartheta \cdot \tau) \star \sigma) \star \pi \cdot \rho = \mathbf{T}_\tau$ . Let  $t_{(i,j)} = (i, j) \mathbf{T}_\tau$ . The tableau in position  $(i, j) \tau$  of  $\mathbf{T}_\tau \vartheta \cdot \tau$  is  $t_{(i,j)} \vartheta$ . Since  $\vartheta$  permutes indices,  $\rho$  acts a position permutation on  $\nu$ -tableaux in  $\mathcal{N}$  while leaving the multiset of  $\mu$ -tableaux entries invariant, and  $\pi$  acts as a column permutation on each  $\mu$ -tableau entry of a tableau in  $\mathcal{N}$ , there is an equality of multisets

$$\{ \|D(t_{(i,j)} \cdot \sigma_{(i,j)\tau})\| : (i, j) \in [\nu] \} = \{ \|D(t_{(i,j)})\| : (i, j) \in [\nu] \}. \quad (5)$$

Hence, by Lemma 5.3,  $\sigma_{(i,j)\tau} = \text{id}$  for all  $(i, j) \in [\nu]$ , and so  $\sigma = \text{id}$ .

Let  $\leq$  be the pre-order on  $\mu$ -tableaux with entries from  $\Omega^\lambda$  defined by  $s \leq t$  if and only if  $D(s) \leq D(t)$ , where  $<$  is the total order in Definition 2.2. The tableau  $\mathbf{T}_\tau$  is column-standard under  $\leq$ . Let  $\leq_{\text{row}}$  be the pre-order on the set of tabloids  $\{\mathbf{T}\}$  for  $\mathbf{T} \in \mathcal{N}$  defined by Definition 2.4(ii) using  $\leq$ . If  $\tau \neq \text{id}$  then, by Lemma 2.6(ii),  $\{\mathbf{T}_\tau \vartheta \cdot \tau\} <_{\text{row}} \{\mathbf{T}_\tau\}$ . Since the total order  $<$  is preserved by column position permutations on  $\mu$ -tableaux and  $\leq_{\text{row}}$  depends only on the sets of entries in the rows of a tableau in  $\mathcal{N}$ , it follows that  $\{((\mathbf{T}_\tau \vartheta \cdot \tau) \star \pi) \cdot \rho\} <_{\text{row}} \{\mathbf{T}_\tau\}$ , a contradiction. Therefore  $\tau = \text{id}$ .

We now have  $(\mathbf{T}_\tau \vartheta \star \pi) \cdot \rho = \mathbf{T}_\tau$ . For each  $(i, j) \in [\nu]$  there exists  $(i, j') \in [\nu]$  such that  $((i, j) \mathbf{T}_\tau \vartheta) \cdot \pi_{(i,j)} = (i, j') \mathbf{T}_\tau$ . Because the  $\mu$ -tableau entries of  $\mathbf{T}_\tau$  are conjugate-semistandard after deindexing, this shows that  $\pi_{(i,j)}$  acts on the entry in position  $(i, j)$  of  $\mathbf{T}_\tau \vartheta$  by permuting indices. Let  $\tilde{\pi}_{(i,j)} \in I(\lambda)$  be the permutation induced by  $\pi_{(i,j)}$  and let

$$\psi = \prod_{(i,j) \in [\nu]} \vartheta \tilde{\pi}_{(i,j)} \in I(\lambda).$$

By Lemma 5.4 we have  $\text{sgn} \psi = 1$ . It follows that  $\text{sgn}(\vartheta) = \text{sgn}(\pi)$  and  $\text{sgn}(\vartheta) \text{sgn}(\tau) \text{sgn}(\pi) = \text{sgn}(\vartheta) \text{sgn}(\pi) = 1$ . Hence the coefficient of  $\{\mathbf{T}_\tau\} + C$  in  $|t_\lambda| \overline{f}_\tau$  is strictly positive.  $\square$

*Proof of Proposition 5.1(ii).* A similar argument shows that the coefficient of  $|\mathbf{T}_{\mathcal{T}}| + \tilde{C}$  in  $t_{\lambda}\bar{g}_{(\mathcal{T}_1, \dots, \mathcal{T}_c)}$  is

$$\sum_{\substack{\vartheta \in I(\lambda) \\ \tau \in \text{RPP}(\nu) \\ \sigma \in \text{RPP}(\mu)^n \\ \pi \in \text{CPP}(\mu)^n \\ \rho \in \text{CPP}(\nu) \\ ((\mathbf{T}_{\mathcal{T}}\vartheta \cdot \tau) \star \sigma) \star \pi, \rho = \mathbf{T}_{\mathcal{T}}}} \text{sgn}(\vartheta) \text{sgn}(\pi) \text{sgn}(\rho).$$

Let  $\vartheta, \tau, \sigma, \pi, \rho$  satisfy  $((\mathbf{T}_{\mathcal{T}}\vartheta \cdot \tau) \star \sigma) \star \pi \cdot \rho = \mathbf{T}_{\mathcal{T}}$ . The argument for case (i) shows that (5) holds, and hence  $\sigma_{(i,j)} = \text{id}$  for all  $(i, j) \in [\nu]$ . Let  $\leq$  be as defined in case (i). The tableau  $\mathbf{T}_{\mathcal{T}}$  is row-standard under the pre-order  $\leq$ . Hence by Lemma 2.6(i), if  $\tau \neq \text{id}$  then  $\|\mathbf{T}_{\mathcal{T}}\vartheta \cdot \tau\| <_{\text{col}} \|\mathbf{T}_{\mathcal{T}}\|$ . A similar argument now shows that  $\|((\mathbf{T}_{\mathcal{T}}\vartheta \cdot \tau) \star \pi) \cdot \rho\| <_{\text{col}} \|\mathbf{T}_{\mathcal{T}}\|$ , a contradiction. Therefore  $\tau = \text{id}$ . Now define  $\psi$  as before, and apply Lemma 5.4 to get  $\text{sgn}(\vartheta) \text{sgn}(\pi) = \text{sgn}(\psi) = \text{sgn}(\rho)$ , showing that the coefficient of  $|\mathbf{T}_{\mathcal{T}}| + \tilde{C}$  in  $|t_{\lambda}\bar{f}_{\mathcal{T}}|$  is strictly positive.  $\square$

Under certain technical hypotheses the homomorphisms  $\bar{f}_{\mathcal{T}}$  and  $\bar{g}_{\mathcal{T}}$  for distinct conjugate-semistandard tableau family tuples  $\mathcal{T}$  are linearly independent; this is discussed in Section 8.

## 6. CONJUGATE-SEMISTANDARD TABLEAU FAMILIES TUPLES FROM HOMOMORPHISMS

The aim of this section is to prove the following theorem.

**Theorem 6.1.** *Let  $q$  be the number of conjugate-semistandard tableau family tuples of shape  $\mu^{\kappa}$  and type  $\lambda$ . Then*

$$\dim \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Q}S_{mn}}(S^{\lambda}, (S^{\mu} \otimes S^{\nu}) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}}) \leq q.$$

The proof uses the results in §3, taking the set  $\Omega$  to be  $\Omega^{\lambda}$  with its usual order, namely  $y_x < y'_{x'}$  if and only if  $y < y'$  or both  $y = y'$  and  $x < x'$ . Recall that, by Definition 3.7,  $\mathcal{NS}$  is the set of all  $\nu$ -tableaux with standard  $\mu$ -tableaux entries such that the union of all the entries of the  $\mu$ -tableaux is  $\Omega^{\lambda}$ ,  $\mathcal{NS}_{\text{row}}$  is the subset of  $\mathcal{NS}$  of  $\nu$ -tableaux with strictly increasing rows under the order  $<_{\text{disj}}$  (defined in Section 3.2), and  $\mathcal{NS}_{\text{col}}$  is the subset of  $\mathcal{NS}$  of  $\nu$ -tableaux with strictly increasing columns under  $<_{\text{disj}}$ . Let  $\mathcal{B}_{\text{row}}$  and  $\mathcal{B}_{\text{col}}$  be the bases of the submodules of  $N/R$  and  $\tilde{N}/\tilde{R}$  isomorphic to  $(S^{\mu} \otimes M^{\nu}) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}}$  and  $(S^{\mu} \otimes \tilde{M}^{\nu}) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}}$ , respectively, given in Lemma 3.8. Thus  $\mathcal{B}_{\text{row}}$  consists of all

$$e_{\text{row}}(\mathbf{S}) = \sum_{\pi \in \text{CPP}(\mu)^n} \{\mathbf{S} \star \pi\} \text{sgn}(\pi) + R$$

where  $\mathbf{S} \in \mathcal{NS}_{\text{row}}$  and  $\mathcal{B}_{\text{col}}$  consists of all

$$e_{\text{col}}(\mathbf{S}) = \sum_{\pi \in \text{CPP}(\mu)^n} |\mathbf{S} \star \pi| \text{sgn}(\pi) + \tilde{R}$$

where  $\mathbf{S} \in \mathcal{NS}_{\text{col}}$ .

The key idea in the proof of Theorem 6.1, when  $m$  is even, is to pull back a  $\mathbb{Q}S_{mn}$ -homomorphism  $S^\lambda \rightarrow (S^\mu \otimes S^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}}$  to a  $\mathbb{Q}S_{\Omega^\lambda}$ -homomorphism  $h : \tilde{M}^\lambda \rightarrow \tilde{N}/\tilde{R}$  with image contained in the submodule of  $\tilde{N}/\tilde{R}$  with basis  $\mathcal{B}_{\text{col}}$  isomorphic to  $(S^\mu \otimes \tilde{M}^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}}$ . We show that if  $|t_\lambda| h = \sum_{\mathbf{S} \in \mathcal{NS}_{\text{col}}} c_{\mathbf{S}} e_{\text{col}}(\mathbf{S})$  then there is a conjugate-semistandard tableau family tuple of shape  $\mu^\kappa$  and type  $\lambda$  corresponding to each  $\mathbf{S}$  with  $c_{\mathbf{S}} \neq 0$ . If  $m$  is odd we obtain the same result by replacing  $\tilde{N}/\tilde{R}$  with  $N/R$  and using the submodule with basis  $\mathcal{B}_{\text{row}}$ . To make this correspondence precise we require the definitions below. Recall from §5 that if  $t$  is a  $\mu$ -tableau with entries from  $\Omega^\lambda$  then the deindexed tableau  $D(t)$  is the  $\mu$ -tableau with entries from  $\mathbb{N}$  obtained by removing indices from the entries of  $t$ .

**Definition 6.2.** Let  $\mathbf{T} \in \mathcal{N}(\Omega^\lambda)$ .

- (i) Suppose  $m$  is even. For each  $j \in \{1, \dots, \nu_1\}$ , let  $\mathcal{T}_j = \{D(t_1), \dots, D(t_{\nu'_j})\}$  where  $t_1, \dots, t_{\nu'_j}$  are the entries in column  $j$  of  $\mathbf{T}$ . Define  $D_{\text{col}}(\mathbf{T}) = (\mathcal{T}_1, \dots, \mathcal{T}_{\nu_1})$ .
- (ii) Suppose  $m$  is odd. For each  $i \in \{1, \dots, \nu'_1\}$ , let  $\mathcal{T}_i = \{D(t_1), \dots, D(t_{\nu_i})\}$  where  $t_1, \dots, t_{\nu_i}$  are the entries in row  $i$  of  $\mathbf{T}$ . Define  $D_{\text{row}}(\mathbf{T}) = (\mathcal{T}_1, \dots, \mathcal{T}_{\nu'_1})$ .

**Definition 6.3.** Let  $t$  be a  $\mu$ -tableau with entries from  $\Omega^\lambda$ . We say that  $t$  is *separated* if no two distinct symbols  $y_x$  and  $y_{x'}$  lie in the same row of  $t$ .

Theorem 6.1 is an easy corollary of the following proposition and its analogue for  $m$  odd.

**Proposition 6.4.** Let  $h : \tilde{M}^\lambda \rightarrow (S^\mu \otimes \tilde{M}^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}}$  be a homomorphism of  $\mathbb{Q}S_{mn}$ -modules. Identifying the domain with the  $\mathbb{Q}S_{\Omega^\lambda}$ -module generated by  $|t_\lambda|$  and the codomain with the submodule of  $\tilde{N}/\tilde{R}$  with basis  $\mathcal{B}_{\text{col}}$ , let

$$|t_\lambda| h = \sum_{\mathbf{U} \in \mathcal{P}} c_{\mathbf{U}} e_{\text{col}}(\mathbf{U}) \tag{6}$$

where  $\mathcal{P} \subseteq \mathcal{NS}_{\text{col}}$  and  $c_{\mathbf{U}} \neq 0$  for each  $\mathbf{U} \in \mathcal{P}$ .

- (i) If  $\mathbf{U} \in \mathcal{P}$  and  $t$  is a  $\mu$ -tableau entry of  $\mathbf{U}$  then  $t$  is separated.
- (ii) If  $\mathbf{U} \in \mathcal{P}$  and  $s$  and  $t$  are  $\mu$ -tableau entries in different positions in the same column of  $\mathbf{U}$  then  $D(s) \neq D(t)$ .

To obtain the analogous version of Proposition 6.4 for odd  $m$ , replace  $(S^\mu \otimes \tilde{M}^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}}$  with  $(S^\mu \otimes M^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}}$ ,  $\mathcal{NS}_{\text{col}}$  with  $\mathcal{NS}_{\text{row}}$  and columns with rows in (ii).

*Proof of Theorem 6.1 assuming Proposition 6.4.* We first suppose that  $m$  is even, then indicate the very minor changes needed if  $m$  is odd. Pull back a non-zero homomorphism  $S^\lambda \rightarrow (S^\mu \otimes S^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}}$  to a non-zero homomorphism  $\widetilde{M}^\lambda \rightarrow (S^\mu \otimes \widetilde{M}^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}}$ , and let  $h : \widetilde{M}^\lambda \rightarrow \widetilde{N}/\widetilde{R}$  be the corresponding homomorphism of  $\mathbb{Q}S_{\Omega^\lambda}$ -modules with image contained in the submodule of  $\widetilde{N}/\widetilde{R}$  with basis  $\{e_{\text{col}}(\mathbf{S}) : \mathbf{S} \in \mathcal{NS}_{\text{col}}\}$ . Let  $|t_\lambda|_h = \sum_{\mathbf{S} \in \mathcal{P}} c_{\mathbf{S}} e_{\text{col}}(\mathbf{S})$ , as in (6).

Let  $\mathbf{T} \in \mathcal{P}$ . If  $t$  is a  $\mu$ -tableau entry of  $\mathbf{T}$ , then  $t$  is standard, so if  $y_x, y'_{x'}$  are entries in the same row of  $t$  then  $y_x < y'_{x'}$ . Moreover, by Proposition 6.4(i), we have  $y \neq y'$ . Therefore the rows of  $D(t)$  are strictly increasing. Similarly, since  $t$  is standard, the columns of  $D(t)$  are weakly increasing. It now follows from Proposition 6.4(ii) that  $D_{\text{col}}(\mathbf{T})$  is a conjugate-semistandard tableau family tuple of shape  $\mu^\kappa$ . (Recall that  $\kappa = \nu'$  when  $m$  is even.)

Suppose that  $\mathbf{U} \in \mathcal{NS}_{\text{col}}$  is such that  $D_{\text{col}}(\mathbf{U}) = D_{\text{col}}(\mathbf{T})$ . There is an index permutation  $\vartheta \in I(\lambda)$  and a column place permutation  $\tau \in \text{CPP}(\nu)$  such that  $\mathbf{U} = \mathbf{T}\vartheta \cdot \tau$ . Observe that  $e_{\text{col}}(\mathbf{U}) = e_{\text{col}}(\mathbf{T}\vartheta \cdot \tau) = \text{sgn}(\tau) e_{\text{col}}(\mathbf{T}\vartheta)$ . Applying  $\vartheta$  to both sides of (6), we see from the summand  $c_{\mathbf{T}} e_{\text{col}}(\mathbf{T})\vartheta$  that the coefficient of  $e_{\text{col}}(\mathbf{U})$  in  $|t_\lambda|_\vartheta h$  is  $\text{sgn}(\tau) c_{\mathbf{T}}$ . Since  $|t_\lambda|_\vartheta = \text{sgn}(\vartheta) |t_\lambda|$ , it follows that  $\text{sgn}(\vartheta) c_{\mathbf{U}} = \text{sgn}(\tau) c_{\mathbf{T}}$ . Hence the number of independent choices for the coefficients in (6) is at most  $q$ , the number of conjugate-semistandard tableau family tuples of shape  $\mu^\kappa$  and type  $\lambda$ . Therefore  $\dim \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Q}S_{\Omega}}(\widetilde{M}^\lambda, \langle \mathcal{B}_{\text{col}} \rangle) \leq q$ . Since

$$\dim \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Q}S_{mn}}(\widetilde{M}^\lambda, (S^\mu \otimes S^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}}) \leq \dim \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Q}S_{\Omega^\lambda}}(\widetilde{M}^\lambda, \langle \mathcal{B}_{\text{col}} \rangle)$$

the theorem follows.

For  $m$  odd, instead start with a non-zero homomorphism  $S^\lambda \rightarrow (S^\mu \otimes \widetilde{S}^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}}$  and pull it back to a non-zero homomorphism  $\widetilde{M}^\lambda \rightarrow (S^\mu \otimes \widetilde{M}^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}}$ . Then replace  $e_{\text{col}}(\mathbf{S}) \in \mathcal{NS}_{\text{col}}$  with  $e_{\text{row}}(\mathbf{S}) \in \mathcal{NS}_{\text{row}}$ ,  $\mathcal{B}_{\text{col}}$  with  $\mathcal{B}_{\text{row}}$  and  $D_{\text{col}}(\mathbf{T})$  with  $D_{\text{row}}(\mathbf{T})$  throughout, and use that  $e_{\text{row}}(\mathbf{T}\vartheta \cdot \tau) = e_{\text{row}}(\mathbf{T})\vartheta$  for  $\tau \in \text{RPP}(\nu)$  and  $\vartheta \in I(\lambda)$ .  $\square$

**6.1. Proof of Proposition 6.4.** The main result needed to prove Proposition 6.4 is Proposition 6.5 below; this result may be seen as a modular version of Pieri's rule. An example is given following the proof. Recall that a subset of a Young diagram is said to be a *vertical strip* if it contains no two boxes in the same row.

**Proposition 6.5.** *Let  $\Gamma$  be a subset of  $\Omega^\lambda$  of size  $m$ . Let*

$$b = \sum_{\vartheta \in S_\Gamma \cap I(\lambda)} \vartheta \text{sgn}(\vartheta).$$

*Let  $d = \lambda_1$ . For each  $y \in \{1, \dots, d\}$ , let  $\Gamma_y = \{y_1, \dots, y_{\lambda_y}\} \cap \Gamma$ . The  $e(t)b$  such that*

- (i)  $t$  is a standard  $\mu$ -tableau with entries from  $\Gamma$ ,
  - (ii) the boxes of  $t$  occupied by the symbols in each  $\Gamma_y$  form a vertical strip,
  - (iii) if  $y_x, y_{x'} \in \Gamma_y$  and  $x < x'$  then  $y_x$  appears in a lower numbered row than  $y_{x'}$ ,
- are a basis for the  $\mathbb{Q}S_\Gamma$ -module  $S^\mu b$ .

*Proof.* By repeated applications of Pieri's rule (in the dual form stated in [38, page 340]), the multiplicity of  $\chi^\mu$  in  $(\prod_{y=1}^d \text{sgn}_{\Gamma_y}) \uparrow^{S_\Gamma}$  is the number of sequences of partitions

$$\emptyset = \mu_0 \subset \mu_1 \subset \dots \subset \mu_{d-1} \subset \mu_d = \mu \quad (7)$$

such that each  $[\mu_y]/[\mu_{y-1}]$  is a vertical strip and  $|\mu_y| - |\mu_{y-1}| = |\Gamma_y|$ . Let  $S$  be the set of such sequences. Define  $\hat{b} = b / \prod_{y=1}^d |\Gamma_y|$ . Note that  $\hat{b}$  is an idempotent and that if  $v \in S^\mu \hat{b}$  then  $\langle v \rangle$  affords the sign representation of  $\prod_{y=1}^d \Gamma_y$ . By Frobenius reciprocity, we see that  $\dim S^\mu \hat{b} = |S|$ .

Given a sequence in  $S$  as in (7), let  $t$  be the standard  $\mu$ -tableau with entries from  $\Gamma$  such that, for each  $y$ , the boxes  $[\mu_y]/[\mu_{y-1}]$  are occupied by the elements of  $\Gamma_y$ , ordered as in condition (iii). Let  $T$  be the set of tableaux obtained in this way. Notice that if  $t \in T$  and  $\vartheta \in S_\Gamma \cap I(\lambda)$  then the tableau  $u$  obtained from  $t\vartheta$  by sorting its columns into increasing order is standard. Let  $\vartheta_u$  be the unique permutation such that  $t\vartheta\vartheta_u = u$ . If  $\vartheta' \in S_\Gamma \cap I(\lambda)$  gives the same tableau  $u$  after sorting the columns of  $t\vartheta'$ , then  $\vartheta\vartheta_u = \vartheta'\vartheta'_u$ , so  $\text{sgn}(\vartheta)\text{sgn}(\vartheta_u) = \text{sgn}(\vartheta')\text{sgn}(\vartheta'_u)$ . Hence there exists  $C \in \mathbb{N}$  such that the expansion of  $e(t)b$  in the standard basis of  $S^\mu$  is

$$e(t)b = C \sum_u c_u e(u),$$

where the sum is over all standard  $\mu$ -tableaux  $u$  with entries from  $\Gamma$  such that the sets of entries of  $u$  and  $t$  in each vertical strip  $[\mu_y]/[\mu_{y-1}]$  are equal, and  $c_u \in \{+1, -1\}$  for each  $u$ . Hence the  $e(t)b$  for  $t \in T$  are linearly independent. Since  $\dim S^\mu b = \dim S^\mu \hat{b} = |S| = |T|$ , they form a basis for  $S^\mu b$ .  $\square$

For example, if  $\Gamma = \Omega^{(3,2)} = \{1_1, 1_2, 2_1, 2_2, 3_1\}$ , then

$$b_{(3,2)} = \sum_{\vartheta \in S_\Gamma \cap I(\lambda)} \vartheta \text{sgn}(\vartheta) = (1 - (1_1, 1_2))(1 - (2_1, 2_2)),$$

and

$$S^{(3,2)}b_{(3,2)} = \left\langle e \left( \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1_1 & 2_1 & 3_1 \\ \hline 1_2 & 2_2 & \\ \hline \end{array} \right) \right\rangle.$$

If instead  $\mu = (2, 2, 1)$  then

$$S^{(2,2,1)}b_{(3,2)} = \left\langle e \left( \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1_1 & 2_1 \\ \hline 1_2 & 2_2 \\ \hline 3_1 & \\ \hline \end{array} \right), e \left( \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1_1 & 2_1 \\ \hline 1_2 & 3_1 \\ \hline 2_2 & \\ \hline \end{array} \right) - e \left( \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1_1 & 2_2 \\ \hline 1_2 & 3_1 \\ \hline 2_1 & \\ \hline \end{array} \right) \right\rangle.$$

The first two tableaux above form the set  $T$  defined in the proof; correspondingly, Pieri's rule implies the multiplicity of the character of  $S^{(2,2,1)}$  in  $(\text{sgn}_{S_2} \times \text{sgn}_{S_2}) \uparrow^{S_5}$  is 2.

We remark that using the James–Peel filtration of a Specht module by Specht modules labelled by skew-partitions (see [27, §3]) one can adapt the proof of Proposition 6.5 to avoid assuming Pieri's rule; the rule then follows as a corollary.

*Proof of Proposition 6.4.* We have  $|t_\lambda|b_\lambda = C|t_\lambda|$  where  $C = |I_\lambda|$ . Hence the image of the homomorphism  $h$  is contained in the subspace of  $\tilde{N}/\tilde{R}$  spanned by the  $e_{\text{col}}(\mathbf{T})b_\lambda$  for  $\mathbf{T} \in \mathcal{NS}_{\text{col}}$ .

Let  $\mathbf{T} \in \mathcal{NS}_{\text{col}}$ . For each  $(i, j) \in [\nu]$ , let  $\Gamma_{(i,j)}$  be the set of entries of the  $\mu$ -tableau  $(i, j)\mathbf{T}$ , let  $I(\lambda)_{(i,j)} = S_{\Gamma_{(i,j)}} \cap I(\lambda)$  and let

$$b_{(i,j)} = \sum_{\vartheta \in S_{I(\lambda)_{(i,j)}}} \vartheta \text{sgn}(\vartheta).$$

Choosing coset representatives  $\phi_1, \dots, \phi_e$  for  $\prod_{(i,j) \in [\nu]} I(\lambda)_{(i,j)}$  in  $I(\lambda)$ , we see that

$$e_{\text{col}}(\mathbf{T})b_\lambda = \sum_{k=1}^e e_{\text{col}}(\mathbf{T}) \prod_{(i,j) \in [\nu]} b_{(i,j)} \phi_k \text{sgn}(\phi_k).$$

Each  $b_{(i,j)}$  acts on  $\mathbf{T}$  by permuting the entries of the  $\mu$ -tableau in position  $(i, j)$  of  $\mathbf{T}$ , so by Proposition 6.5,  $e_{\text{col}}(\mathbf{T}) \prod_{(i,j)} b_{(i,j)}$  is a linear combination of  $e_{\text{col}}(\mathbf{U})$  for  $\mathbf{U} \in \mathcal{NS}_{\text{col}}$  such that each  $\mu$ -tableau entry of  $\mathbf{U}$  is separated. Since the coset representatives  $\phi_k$  permute indices while leaving numbers fixed, we have  $e_{\text{col}}(\mathbf{T})b_\lambda = \sum_{\mathbf{U} \in \mathcal{NS}_{\text{col}}} c_{\mathbf{U}} e_{\text{col}}(\mathbf{U})$  where if  $c_{\mathbf{U}} \neq 0$  then each  $\mu$ -tableau entry of  $\mathbf{U}$  is separated. It follows that

$$\langle e_{\text{col}}(\mathbf{T})b_\lambda : \mathbf{T} \in \mathcal{NS}_{\text{col}} \rangle \subseteq W$$

where  $W$  is the subspace of  $\tilde{N}/\tilde{R}$  spanned by the  $e_{\text{col}}(\mathbf{U})$  for  $\mathbf{U} \in \mathcal{NS}_{\text{col}}$  such that each  $\mu$ -tableau entry of  $\mathbf{U}$  is separated.

To show that condition (ii) in Proposition 6.4 holds, it will be convenient to say that  $\mathbf{T} \in \mathcal{NS}_{\text{col}}$  has a *column repeat* if there exist distinct  $(i, j)$  and  $(i', j) \in [\nu]$  such that the  $\mu$ -tableau entries  $s = (i, j)\mathbf{T}$  and  $t = (i', j)\mathbf{T}$  of  $\mathbf{T}$  satisfy  $D(s) = D(t)$ . Suppose that  $\mathbf{T} \in \mathcal{NS}_{\text{col}}$  has a column repeat, described by this notation, and let

$$\psi = \prod_{(a,b) \in [\mu]} ((a, b)s, (a, b)t).$$

By hypothesis,  $\psi \in I(\lambda)$ . Observe that  $s\psi = t$ ,  $t\psi = s$ , and that  $\psi$  leaves all other  $\mu$ -tableau entries of  $\mathbf{T}$  fixed. Therefore  $|\mathbf{T}\psi| = -|\mathbf{T}|$ . More generally, if  $\pi \in \text{CPP}(\mu)^n$  then, since the index permuting action of  $I(\lambda)$  commutes

with place permutations, we have

$$|\mathbf{T} \star \pi|(1 + \psi) = |\mathbf{T} \star \pi| + |\mathbf{T}\psi \star \pi| = |\mathbf{T} \star \pi| - |\mathbf{T} \star \pi'|$$

where  $\pi' \in \text{CPP}(\mu)^n$  is obtained from  $\pi$  by swapping the permutations indexed by  $(i, j)$  and  $(i', j)$ . Hence, taking coset representatives  $\vartheta_1, \dots, \vartheta_d$  for  $\langle \psi \rangle \leq I(\lambda)$ , and noting that  $\text{sgn}(\psi) = 1$  since  $m$  is even, we get

$$\begin{aligned} e_{\text{col}}(\mathbf{T})b_\lambda &= \sum_{\pi \in \text{CPP}(\mu)^n} |\mathbf{T} \star \pi|(1 + \psi) \sum_{k=1}^d \vartheta_k \text{sgn}(\vartheta_k) \\ &= \sum_{\pi \in \text{CPP}(\mu)^n} (|\mathbf{T} \star \pi| - |\mathbf{T} \star \pi'|) \sum_{k=1}^d \vartheta_k \text{sgn}(\vartheta_k) \\ &= \sum_{\pi \in \text{CPP}(\mu)^n} (|\mathbf{T} \star \pi|) \sum_{k=1}^d \vartheta_k \text{sgn}(\vartheta_k) - \sum_{\pi \in \text{CPP}(\mu)^n} (|\mathbf{T} \star \pi|) \sum_{k=1}^d \vartheta_k \text{sgn}(\vartheta_k) \\ &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

It therefore suffices to show that if  $\mathbf{T}$  has separated  $\mu$ -tableau entries,  $\mathbf{T}$  does not have a column repeat and  $e_{\text{col}}(\mathbf{U})$  appears in the expansion of  $e_{\text{col}}(\mathbf{T})b_\lambda$  in the basis  $\mathcal{NS}_{\text{col}}$ , then  $\mathbf{U}$  does not have a column repeat.

Let  $\vartheta \in I(\lambda)$ . For each  $(i, j) \in [\nu]$ , let  $v_{(i,j)}$  be the  $\mu$ -tableau obtained from  $(i, j)\mathbf{T}\vartheta$  by sorting its columns into increasing order. Since  $(i, j)\mathbf{T}$  is a separated  $\mu$ -tableau, each  $v_{(i,j)}$  is standard. Let  $\mathbf{V}$  be defined by  $(i, j)\mathbf{V} = v_{(i,j)}$ . Sorting the columns of  $\mathbf{V}$  into increasing order in the order  $<_{\text{disj}}$  we obtain  $\mathbf{U} \in \mathcal{NS}_{\text{col}}$  such that  $e_{\text{col}}(\mathbf{T})\vartheta = \pm e_{\text{col}}(\mathbf{U})$ . Since  $\vartheta$  permutes indices while leaving numbers fixed, we have

$$\{D((1, j)\mathbf{T}), \dots, D((\nu'_j, j)\mathbf{T})\} = \{D((1, j)\mathbf{U}), \dots, D((\nu'_j, j)\mathbf{U})\}$$

for each  $j \in \{1, \dots, \nu_1\}$ . Therefore  $\mathbf{U}$  does not have a column repeat, as required.  $\square$

If  $m$  is odd then the proof should be modified by replacing columns with rows. In the second step of the proof we have  $\{\mathbf{T}\}\psi = \{\mathbf{T}\}$  and  $\text{sgn}(\psi) = -1$ , since  $m$  is odd, and a similar argument shows that  $e_{\text{row}}(\mathbf{T})b_\lambda = 0$ .

## 7. PROOFS OF THEOREMS 1.2 AND 1.3

Theorem 1.3 follows easily from Proposition 5.1 and Theorem 6.1 using the following lemma.

**Lemma 7.1.**

- (i) If  $S^\lambda$  is a summand of  $H_\mu^\nu$  then there is a conjugate-semistandard tableau family tuple of shape  $\mu^\kappa$  and type  $\lambda^*$  with  $\lambda \supseteq \lambda^*$ .
- (ii) If there is a conjugate-semistandard tableau family tuple of shape  $\mu^\kappa$  and type  $\lambda^*$  then there is a summand  $S^{\lambda^\dagger}$  of  $H_\mu^\nu$  with  $\lambda^* \supseteq \lambda^\dagger$ .

*Proof.* Part (i) is immediate from Theorem 6.1, taking  $\lambda^* = \lambda$ . For (ii), by Proposition 5.1 there is a non-zero homomorphism from  $\widetilde{M}^{\lambda^*}$  into  $H_\mu^\nu$ . The result now follows since, by Lemma 2.1, if  $S^{\lambda^\dagger}$  is a summand of  $\widetilde{M}^{\lambda^*}$  then  $\lambda^* \supseteq \lambda^\dagger$ .  $\square$

This completes the proof of Theorem 1.3. To deduce Theorem 1.2 we twist by the sign representation. The restriction of  $\text{sgn}_{S_{mn}}$  to  $S_m \wr S_n$  is  $\text{sgn}_{S_m} \otimes \mathbb{Q}_{S_n}$  if  $m$  is even and  $\text{sgn}_{S_m} \otimes \text{sgn}_{S_n}$  if  $m$  is odd. Hence

$$H_\mu^\nu \otimes \text{sgn}_{S_{mn}} = (S^\mu \otimes S^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}} \otimes \text{sgn}_{S_{mn}} \cong \begin{cases} (S^{\mu'} \otimes S^\nu) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}} & \text{if } m \text{ is even} \\ (S^{\mu'} \otimes S^{\nu'}) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}} & \text{if } m \text{ is odd.} \end{cases}$$

It now follows from (2) in §2.3 that  $S^\lambda$  is a maximal summand of  $H_\mu^\nu$  if and only if  $S^{\lambda'}$  is a minimal summand of  $H_{\mu'}^\nu$ , if  $m$  is even, or  $H_{\mu'}^{\nu'}$ , if  $m$  is odd. By Theorem 1.3 this holds (in either case) if and only if  $\lambda'$  is a minimal type, that is  $\lambda$  is a maximal weight of a conjugate-semistandard tableau family tuple of shape  $\eta^{\nu'}$  where  $\eta = \mu'$ .

## 8. LINEAR INDEPENDENCE OF HOMOMORPHISMS

In this section we extend the argument in the proof of Proposition 5.1 to give a sufficient condition for homomorphisms defined using different conjugate-semistandard tableau family tuples of the same type to be linearly independent.

To simplify the statement of this result we write  $t \in \mathcal{T}$  to mean that the tableau  $t$  belongs to one of the tableau families in the conjugate-semistandard tableau family tuple  $\mathcal{T}$ . Let  $\leq_{\text{col}}$  denote the order on  $\mu$ -columnar tabloids defined in the proof of Lemma 5.3, obtained by taking  $\leq$  to be the usual order on  $\mathbb{N}$  in Definition 2.4. Recall that  $\kappa = \nu'$  if  $m$  is even and  $\kappa = \nu$  if  $m$  is odd.

**Proposition 8.1.** *Let  $\mathcal{T}^{(1)}, \dots, \mathcal{T}^{(d)}$  be conjugate-semistandard tableau family tuples of shape  $\mu^\kappa$  and type  $\lambda$ . Suppose that for each  $e \in \{1, \dots, d\}$  there exists a conjugate-semistandard tableau  $s^{(e)} \in \mathcal{T}^{(e)}$  such that if  $c < e$  and  $u \in \mathcal{T}^{(c)}$  then  $\|u\| <_{\text{col}} \|s^{(e)}\|$ .*

- (i) *If  $m$  is even then the homomorphisms  $\bar{f}_{\mathcal{T}^{(1)}}, \dots, \bar{f}_{\mathcal{T}^{(d)}} : S^\lambda \rightarrow H_\mu^\nu$  are linearly independent.*



- (ii) If  $m$  is odd then the homomorphisms  $\bar{g}_{\mathcal{T}(1)}, \dots, \bar{g}_{\mathcal{T}(d)} : S^\lambda \rightarrow H_\mu^\nu$  are linearly independent.

*Proof.* We give the proof for  $m$  even and then explain the minor changes needed if  $m$  is odd.

For each  $c \in \{1, \dots, d\}$ , let  $\mathbf{T}^{(c)}$  be the tableau in  $\mathcal{N}(\Omega^\lambda)$  corresponding to  $\mathcal{T}^{(c)}$ . Suppose for a contradiction that there is a linear dependency involving  $\bar{f}_{\mathcal{T}(1)}, \dots, \bar{f}_{\mathcal{T}(e)}$  in which the coefficient of  $\bar{f}_{\mathcal{T}(e)}$  is non-zero. The proof of Proposition 5.1 shows that the coefficient of  $\{\mathbf{T}^{(e)}\} + C$  in  $|t_\lambda| \bar{f}_{\mathcal{T}(e)}$  is non-zero. Using the definition of  $\bar{f}_{\mathcal{T}(e)}$  in Proposition 4.1, we see that there exists  $c < e$  and  $\vartheta \in I(\lambda)$ ,  $\tau \in \text{CPP}(\nu)$  and  $\sigma \in \text{RPP}(\mu)^n$  such that  $\{\mathbf{T}^{(e)}\} + C = \pm\{(\mathbf{T}^{(c)}\vartheta \cdot \tau) \star \sigma\} + C$ . Hence there exist  $\pi \in \text{CPP}(\mu)^n$  and  $\rho \in \text{RPP}(\nu)$  such that

$$\mathbf{T}^{(e)} = (((\mathbf{T}^{(c)}\vartheta \cdot \tau) \star \sigma) \star \pi) \cdot \rho.$$

Let  $t_{(i,j)} = (i, j)\mathbf{T}^{(e)}$  and  $u_{(i,j)} = (i, j)\mathbf{T}^{(c)}$  for  $(i, j) \in [\nu]$ .

Repeating the argument in the first step in the proof of Proposition 5.1, we get

$$\{\|D(t_{(i,j)})\| : (i, j) \in [\nu]\} = \{\|D(u_{(i,j)} \cdot \sigma_{(i,j)\tau})\| : (i, j) \in [\nu]\}.$$

But by Lemma 2.6(i), we have  $\|D(u_{(i,j)} \cdot \sigma_{(i,j)\tau})\| \leq_{\text{col}} \|D(u_{(i,j)})\| <_{\text{col}} \|D(s^{(e)})\|$ . By transitivity,  $\|D(u_{(i,j)} \cdot \sigma_{(i,j)\tau})\| <_{\text{col}} \|D(s^{(e)})\|$ ; in particular,  $\|D(u_{(i,j)} \cdot \sigma_{(i,j)\tau})\| \neq \|D(s^{(e)})\|$ . Since  $\|D(s^{(e)})\|$  is a member of the left-hand set, this is a contradiction.

If  $m$  is odd then instead we look at the coefficient of  $|\mathbf{T}^{(e)}| + \tilde{C}$ , and instead take  $\tau \in \text{RPP}(\nu)$  and  $\rho \in \text{CPP}(\nu)$ . The proof is otherwise unchanged.  $\square$

**Example 8.2.** Let

$$s_1 = \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 \\ \hline 1 & \\ \hline \end{array}, \quad s_2 = \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 \\ \hline 2 & \\ \hline \end{array}, \quad s_3 = \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 \\ \hline 3 & \\ \hline \end{array}, \quad s_4 = \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 3 \\ \hline 1 & \\ \hline \end{array}, \quad s_5 = \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 3 \\ \hline 2 & \\ \hline \end{array}.$$

Define  $\mathcal{S} = (\{s_1, s_2, s_3, s_4\}, \{s_1\})$ . Note that  $\mathcal{S}$  has the same shape and type as  $\mathcal{T} = (\{s_1, s_2, s_4, s_5\}, \{s_1\})$  from Example 4.2. Since  $\|s_5\|$  is the greatest element of  $\{\|s_1\|, \dots, \|s_5\|\}$  in the order  $\leq_{\text{col}}$  used in Proposition 8.1, the homomorphisms  $\bar{g}_{\mathcal{S}}$  and  $\bar{g}_{\mathcal{T}}$  are linearly independent. Hence the multiplicity of  $S^{(3^2, 2^3, 1^3)}$  in  $H_{(2,1)}^{(4,1)}$  is at least 2.

If  $(\mathcal{U}_1, \mathcal{U}_2)$  is a conjugate-semistandard tableau family tuple of shape  $(2, 1)^{(4,1)}$  of minimal type then, by Lemma 2.11,  $\mathcal{U}_1$  and  $\mathcal{U}_2$  are closed. Hence  $\mathcal{U}_2 = \{s_1\}$  and  $\mathcal{U}_1$  appears in the table in Figure 2. Therefore  $\mathcal{S}$  and  $\mathcal{U}$  are the only conjugate-semistandard tableau family tuples of shape  $(2, 1)^{(4,1)}$  and type  $(3^2, 2^3, 1^3)$ . Thus Theorem 6.1 implies that the multiplicity of  $S^{(3^2, 2^3, 1^3)}$  in  $H_{(2,1)}^{(4,1)}$  is at most 2. Therefore the multiplicity is exactly 2.

To motivate a further example, we remark on one obvious source of linearly dependent homomorphisms. Suppose that  $n$  is even and that  $\mathcal{U}$  and  $\mathcal{V}$  are conjugate-semistandard tableau families of shape  $\mu^r$  where  $r = n/2$ . Let  $\lambda$  be the type of  $(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{V})$  and let  $\mathbf{T}_{(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{V})}$  and  $\mathbf{T}_{(\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{U})}$  be the corresponding elements of  $\mathcal{N}(\Omega^\lambda)$ . By the definition in §4,  $\mathbf{T}_{(\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{U})}$  is obtained from  $\mathbf{T}_{(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{V})}$  by swapping the two  $\mu$ -tableaux in each row, if  $m$  is even, and in each column, if  $m$  is odd. It now follows easily from Proposition 4.1 that when  $m$  is even the homomorphisms corresponding to  $(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{V})$  and  $(\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{U})$  from  $S^\lambda$  into  $(M^\mu \otimes S^{(2^r)}) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}}$  are equal. If  $m$  is odd the homomorphisms from  $S^\lambda$  into  $(M^\mu \otimes \tilde{S}^{(r,r)}) \uparrow_{S_m \wr S_n}^{S_{mn}}$  agree up to a sign of  $(-1)^r$ . In either case, they are linearly dependent.

**Example 8.3.** Define

$$u = \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 \\ \hline 4 & \\ \hline \end{array}, \quad v = \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 2 & 3 \\ \hline 2 & \\ \hline \end{array}, \quad w = \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 3 \\ \hline 3 & \\ \hline \end{array}, \quad x = \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 4 \\ \hline 2 & \\ \hline \end{array}.$$

Note that these tableaux are incomparable in the majorization order. The set of conjugate-semistandard tableaux majorized by one of  $u, v, w$  and  $x$  is

$$\mathcal{T} = \left\{ \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 \\ \hline 1 & \\ \hline \end{array}, \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 \\ \hline 2 & \\ \hline \end{array}, \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 \\ \hline 3 & \\ \hline \end{array}, \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 \\ \hline 4 & \\ \hline \end{array}, \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 3 \\ \hline 1 & \\ \hline \end{array}, \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 3 \\ \hline 2 & \\ \hline \end{array}, \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 2 & 3 \\ \hline 2 & \\ \hline \end{array}, \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 3 \\ \hline 3 & \\ \hline \end{array}, \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 4 \\ \hline 1 & \\ \hline \end{array}, \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 4 \\ \hline 2 & \\ \hline \end{array} \right\}.$$

Let  $t_1, \dots, t_{10}$  denote these tableaux, in increasing order under  $<$ , the total order from §2.5, as written above. Note that  $u = t_4$ ,  $v = t_7$ ,  $w = t_8$  and  $x = t_{10}$ . The type  $\lambda = (4^4, 3^5, 2^5, 1^7)$  is minimal for the existence of a conjugate-semistandard tableau family tuple of shape  $(2, 1)^{(8,8)}$ ; up to the equivalence  $(\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{U}) \sim (\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{V})$  there are exactly five such tuples. Writing  $\mathcal{S}_{ab} = \{t_1, t_2, t_3, t_5, t_6, t_9\} \cup \{a, b\}$  for  $a, b$  distinct elements of  $\{u, v, w, x\}$ , the five tuples are

$$(\mathcal{S}_{uv}, \mathcal{S}_{wx}), (\mathcal{S}_{ux}, \mathcal{S}_{wv}), (\mathcal{S}_{uw}, \mathcal{S}_{vx}), (\mathcal{S}_{uv}, \mathcal{S}_{uw}), (\mathcal{S}_{vx}, \mathcal{S}_{wx}).$$

(This claim is not logically essential to this example; it may be verified using the Haskell [36] program `TableauFamilies` available from the second author's website<sup>1</sup>.)

For each  $i \in \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$ , let  $\mathbf{S}_i \in \mathcal{N}(\Omega^\lambda)$  be the  $(8, 8)$ -tableau with  $(2, 1)$ -tableau entries corresponding to the  $i$ th tuple above, as defined in §4.1. Let  $\mathbf{S}_i^\dagger \in \mathcal{N}(\Omega^\lambda)$  be obtained from  $\mathbf{S}_i$  by reordering the entries in each of its two rows so that the two  $(2, 1)$ -tableaux with entries from  $\Omega^\lambda$  obtained by appending indices to elements of  $\{u, v, w, x\}$  appear in positions  $(1, 7), (1, 8), (2, 7), (2, 8)$ . We may perform this reordering so that applying the deindexing map  $D$  to the entries in positions  $(1, 7), (1, 8), (2, 7), (2, 8)$

<sup>1</sup>[www.ma.rhul.ac.uk/~uvah099](http://www.ma.rhul.ac.uk/~uvah099)

of the  $\mathbf{S}_i^\dagger$  gives the following tableaux:

$$\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline u & v \\ \hline w & x \\ \hline \end{array}, \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline u & x \\ \hline w & v \\ \hline \end{array}, \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline u & w \\ \hline v & x \\ \hline \end{array}, \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline u & v \\ \hline u & w \\ \hline \end{array}, \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline v & x \\ \hline w & x \\ \hline \end{array}. \quad (8)$$

For each  $i$  we have a corresponding homomorphism  $g_i : \widetilde{M}^\lambda \rightarrow (M^{(2,1)} \otimes M^{(8,8)}) \uparrow_{S_3 \wr S_8}^{S_{24}}$ , as defined in §4.2. Since  $\lambda$  has minimal type,  $g_i$  induces a non-zero homomorphism  $S^\lambda \rightarrow (M^{(2,1)} \otimes M^{(8,8)}) \uparrow_{S_3 \wr S_8}^{S_{24}}$ . Define a homomorphism  $\tilde{g}_i : S^\lambda \rightarrow (M^{(2,1)} \otimes \tilde{S}^{(8,8)}) \uparrow_{S_3 \wr S_8}^{S_{24}}$  by composing this induced map with the canonical surjection  $(M^{(2,1)} \otimes M^{(8,8)}) \uparrow_{S_3 \wr S_8}^{S_{24}} \rightarrow (M^{(2,1)} \otimes \tilde{S}^{(8,8)}) \uparrow_{S_3 \wr S_8}^{S_{24}}$ . Thus

$$e(t_\lambda) \tilde{g}_i = \sum_{\substack{\vartheta \in I(\lambda) \\ \tau \in \text{RPP}((8,8))}} |\mathbf{S}_i \vartheta \cdot \tau| \text{sgn}(\vartheta) + \tilde{R} = \sum_{\substack{\vartheta \in I(\lambda) \\ \tau \in \text{RPP}((8,8))}} |\mathbf{S}_i^\dagger \cdot \tau| \vartheta \text{sgn}(\vartheta) + \tilde{R}$$

for each  $i$ , where the second equality holds because  $\mathbf{S}_i = \mathbf{S}_i^\dagger \sigma_i$  for some  $\sigma_i \in \text{RPP}((8,8))$ , and the place permutation action of  $\text{RPP}((8,8))$  commutes with the index permutation action of  $I(\lambda)$ . Hence

$$e(t_\lambda) \tilde{g}_i = \sum_{\vartheta \in I(\lambda)} \tilde{e}(\mathbf{S}_i^\dagger) \vartheta \text{sgn}(\vartheta) + \tilde{R} \quad (9)$$

for each  $i$ . Indicating  $(2,1)$ -tableaux with entries from  $\Omega^\lambda$  by the deindexed tableaux used to define them, (9) implies that

$$e(t_\lambda) \tilde{g}_1 = \sum_{\vartheta \in I(\lambda)} \tilde{e} \left( \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline t_1 & t_2 & t_3 & t_5 & t_6 & t_9 & u & v \\ \hline t_1 & t_2 & t_3 & t_5 & t_6 & t_9 & w & x \\ \hline \end{array} \right) \vartheta \text{sgn}(\vartheta) + \tilde{R}. \quad (10)$$

Working with  $(8,8)$ -tableaux with entries from the set of formal symbols  $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 1^*, 2^*, 3^*, 4^*, 5^*, 6^*, \alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta\}$ , the (dual) Garnir relation

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{e} \left( \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & \alpha & \beta \\ \hline 1^* & 2^* & 3^* & 4^* & 5^* & 6^* & \gamma & \delta \\ \hline \end{array} \right) &= -\tilde{e} \left( \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & \alpha & \delta \\ \hline 1^* & 2^* & 3^* & 4^* & 5^* & 6^* & \gamma & \beta \\ \hline \end{array} \right) - \tilde{e} \left( \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & \alpha & \gamma \\ \hline 1^* & 2^* & 3^* & 4^* & 5^* & 6^* & \beta & \delta \\ \hline \end{array} \right) \\ &- \tilde{e} \left( \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & \alpha & 6^* \\ \hline 1^* & 2^* & 3^* & 4^* & 5^* & \beta & \gamma & \delta \\ \hline \end{array} \right) - \dots - \tilde{e} \left( \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & \alpha & 1^* \\ \hline \beta & 2^* & 3^* & 4^* & 5^* & 6^* & \gamma & \delta \\ \hline \end{array} \right) \end{aligned}$$

holds in  $\tilde{S}^{(8,8)}$ . Applying this relation to  $\tilde{e}(\mathbf{S}_1^\dagger)$ , as it appears in (10), and using the definition of  $\mathbf{S}_2^\dagger$  and  $\mathbf{S}_3^\dagger$  in (8), we get

$$\tilde{e}(\mathbf{S}_1^\dagger) = -\tilde{e}(\mathbf{S}_2^\dagger) \vartheta_2 - \tilde{e}(\mathbf{S}_3^\dagger) \vartheta_3 - \tilde{e}(\mathbf{T}_1) - \dots - \tilde{e}(\mathbf{T}_6)$$

for some  $\vartheta_2, \vartheta_3 \in I(\lambda)$  and some  $\mathbf{T}_1, \dots, \mathbf{T}_6 \in \mathcal{N}(\Omega^\lambda)$ . Note that in the first row of each  $\mathbf{T}_j$  there are two tableaux  $t$  and  $t^*$  with entries from  $\Omega^\lambda$  such that the deindexed tableaux  $D(t)$  and  $D(t^*)$  are equal. For each  $j$ , let  $\psi_j \in I(\lambda)$  be the unique permutation that is the product of three disjoint transpositions such that  $t\psi_j = t^*$ . Thus  $\tilde{e}(\mathbf{T}_j)(1 + \text{sgn}(\psi_j)\psi_j) = 0$ . Hence

$$\sum_{\vartheta \in I(\lambda)} \tilde{e}(\mathbf{S}_1^\dagger) \vartheta \text{sgn}(\vartheta) = -\text{sgn}(\vartheta_2) \sum_{\vartheta \in I(\lambda)} \tilde{e}(\mathbf{S}_2^\dagger) \vartheta \text{sgn}(\vartheta) - \text{sgn}(\vartheta_3) \sum_{\vartheta \in I(\lambda)} \tilde{e}(\mathbf{S}_3^\dagger) \vartheta \text{sgn}(\vartheta)$$

and so  $e(t_\lambda)\tilde{g}_1 = -\text{sgn}(\vartheta_2)e(t_\lambda)\tilde{g}_2 - \text{sgn}(\vartheta_3)e(t_\lambda)\tilde{g}_3$ . It follows that the homomorphisms  $\tilde{g}_1, \tilde{g}_2, \tilde{g}_3$  are linearly dependent.

Therefore the multiplicity of  $S^{(4^4, 3^5, 2^5, 1^7)}$  in  $H_{(2,1)}^{(2^8)}$  is at most 4. Calculation using symmetric functions in the computer algebra package MAGMA [6] shows that in fact the multiplicity is exactly 4.

## 9. LEXICOGRAPHICALLY MAXIMAL AND MINIMAL CONSTITUENTS

In this section we determine the lexicographically minimal and maximal partitions labelling summands of the generalized Foulkes modules  $H_\mu^\nu$ . This problem was addressed by Agaoka [2], in the context of plethysms of symmetric functions, who made sixteen conjectures on the form of such partitions. It is remarkable that although tableaux (as opposed to Young diagrams) never formally appear in [2], all of these conjectures are correct.

The following description of the lexicographically greatest constituent [2, Conjecture 1.2] was first proved by Iijima in [23, Theorem 4.2]. We give an alternative proof using Theorem 1.2.

**Corollary 9.1.** *Let  $\mu$  be a partition of  $m$  with  $k$  parts and let  $\nu$  be a partition of  $n$  with  $\ell$  parts. The lexicographically greatest partition labelling a Specht module occurring as a summand of  $H_\mu^\nu$  is*

$$(n\mu_1, \dots, n\mu_{k-1}, n(\mu_k - 1) + \nu_1, \nu_2, \dots, \nu_\ell).$$

Moreover, this Specht module appears with multiplicity 1.

*Proof.* By Theorem 1.2 it suffices to find the lexicographically maximal weight of a conjugate-semistandard tableau family tuple of shape  $\eta^{\nu'}$  where  $\eta = \mu'$ . Conjugating  $\mu'$ -tableaux, such a tuple becomes  $(\mathcal{T}_1, \dots, \mathcal{T}_c)$  where  $c$  is the first part of  $\nu$  and each  $\mathcal{T}_i$  is a set of  $\nu'_i$  distinct semistandard  $\mu$ -tableaux. To maximise the weight in the lexicographic order, we maximise the number of 1s occurring as entries in these  $\mu$ -tableaux, then the number of 2s, and so on. Hence we take  $\mathcal{T}_i = \{t_1, t_2, \dots, t_{\nu'_i}\}$  where  $(a, b)t_i = a$  if  $a < k$  or  $j < \mu_k$  and  $(k, \mu_k)t_i = k + i - 1$ . The weight of this family is  $(n\mu_1, \dots, n\mu_{k-1}, n(\mu_k - 1) + \nu_1, \nu_2, \dots, \nu_\ell)$ . Since there is a unique family of this weight, Theorem 6.1 implies that the multiplicity is 1.  $\square$

The description of the lexicographically minimal partition is more complicated. It is stated in the following two corollaries of Theorem 1.3, which prove Conjectures 2.1 and 4.1 of [2]. We need the following definition.

**Definition 9.2.** We define the *join* of partitions  $\lambda$  and  $\tilde{\lambda}$ , to be the partition whose multiset of parts is the union of the multisets of parts of  $\lambda$  and  $\tilde{\lambda}$ .

For example, the join of  $(4, 2, 1, 1)$  and  $(6, 2, 2, 1)$  is  $(6, 4, 2^3, 1^3)$ .

**Corollary 9.3.** *The lexicographically least partition labelling a Specht module occurring as a summand of  $H_\mu^\nu$  is obtained by taking the join of the lexicographically least partitions labelling Specht modules occurring as summands of  $H_\mu^{(\nu_i)}$  if  $m$  is odd or of  $H_\mu^{(1^{\nu_i})}$  if  $m$  is even.*

*Proof.* This is immediate from Theorem 1.3 since the lexicographically minimal type of a conjugate-semistandard tableau family tuple occurs when each conjugate-semistandard tableau family within the tuple has lexicographically minimal type.  $\square$

For example, the conjugate-semistandard tableau families  $\{s_1, s_2, s_3, s_4\}$  and  $\{s_1, s_2, s_4, s_5\}$  seen in Examples 4.2 and 8.2 have lexicographically minimal type  $(3^2, 2^2, 1^2)$  and so the lexicographically least partition labelling a Specht module occurring as a summand of  $H_{(2,1)}^{(4,1)}$  is  $(3^2, 2^2, 1^2) \sqcup (2, 1) = (3^2, 2^3, 1^3)$ . By Example 8.2, this summand has multiplicity 2.

It remains to describe the lexicographically minimal type of a conjugate-semistandard tableau family of shape  $\mu^n$ . For this need a final pre-order: if  $s$  and  $t$  are conjugate-semistandard  $\mu$ -tableaux with multisets of entries  $A, B \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ , then we set  $s \leq_{\text{entry}} t$  if  $A \leq B$  in the colexicographic order on subsets on  $\mathbb{N}$ , defined in §2.5. It is clear that a conjugate-semistandard tableau family of shape  $\mu^n$  is of lexicographically minimal type if and only if it is the initial segment of length  $n$  under a total order refining  $\leq_{\text{entry}}$ .

**Example 9.4.** Let  $\mu = (3, 1)$ . Recall that  $\leq$  denotes the total order on conjugate-semistandard  $\mu$ -tableaux defined in Definition 2.2. Let  $\leq$  be the total order refining  $\leq_{\text{entry}}$  under which, if  $s$  and  $t$  are conjugate-semistandard  $\mu$ -tableaux with the same multiset of entries,  $s \leq t$  if and only if  $s \leq t$ . For example, the initial segment of  $\leq$  of length 10 is

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccc} \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 & 3 \\ \hline 1 & & \\ \hline \end{array} < \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 & 3 \\ \hline 2 & & \\ \hline \end{array} < \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 & 3 \\ \hline 3 & & \\ \hline \end{array} < \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 & 4 \\ \hline 1 & & \\ \hline \end{array} < \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 & 4 \\ \hline 2 & & \\ \hline \end{array} \\ < \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 3 & 4 \\ \hline 1 & & \\ \hline \end{array} < \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 & 3 \\ \hline 4 & & \\ \hline \end{array} < \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 & 4 \\ \hline 3 & & \\ \hline \end{array} < \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 3 & 4 \\ \hline 2 & & \\ \hline \end{array} < \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 2 & 3 & 4 \\ \hline 2 & & \\ \hline \end{array}. \end{array}$$

The tableaux in positions 7, 8 and 9 have equal multisets of entries, so their order in the initial segment depends on our choice of  $\leq$  to refine  $\leq_{\text{entry}}$ . Thus if  $n \leq 10$  then there is a unique conjugate-semistandard tableau family of shape  $(3, 1)^n$  and lexicographically minimal type, except when  $n = 7$  or  $n = 8$ , in which case there are three.

We now give an algorithm that, given  $\mu$  a partition of  $m$  and a positive integer  $n$ , outputs all initial segments of length  $n$  of the total orders refining  $\leq_{\text{entry}}$ . The freedom to choose the refinement of  $\leq_{\text{entry}}$  enters only in Step F of the algorithm. The special case  $\mu = (m)$  of this algorithm is a well known method for finding initial segments of the colexicographic order on sets: see for instance [5, page 25].

Let  $\text{CS}(\mu, k)$  denote the set of conjugate-semistandard  $\mu$ -tableaux with entries taken from  $\{1, 2, \dots, k\}$ . We write  $\mu \rightarrow_c \vartheta$  to mean that  $[\vartheta]$  is obtained from  $[\mu]$  by removing  $c$  boxes, no two lying in the same row.

**Algorithm 9.5.** Perform Steps 1 up to  $m$ , then Step F.

- [Step 1] Choose  $k_1$  maximal such that  $|\text{CS}(\mu, k_1)| \leq n$ . Let  $\mathcal{T}_{(1)} = \text{CS}(\mu, k_1)$ .
- [Step  $j$  for  $j \in \{2, \dots, m\}$ ] Let  $(k_1, \dots, k_{j-1}) = (\ell_1^{c_1}, \dots, \ell_q^{c_q})$  where the  $\ell_i$  are distinct. Choose  $k_j \in \mathbb{N}_0$  maximal such that

$$\sum |\text{CS}(\vartheta, k_j)| \leq n - (|\mathcal{T}_{(1)}| + \dots + |\mathcal{T}_{(j-1)}|)$$

where the sum is over all sequences of partitions  $(\vartheta^{(1)}, \dots, \vartheta^{(q)})$  such that

$$\mu \rightarrow_{c_1} \vartheta^{(1)} \rightarrow_{c_2} \dots \rightarrow_{c_{q-1}} \vartheta^{(q-1)} \rightarrow_{c_q} \vartheta^{(q)} = \vartheta. \quad (11)$$

For each sequence of partitions, take all  $\mu$ -tableaux  $t$  such that (i)  $t$  has entries  $\ell_i + 1$  in the positions of  $\vartheta^{(i)}/\vartheta^{(i-1)}$ , for each  $i \in \{1, \dots, q\}$ , and (ii)  $t$  has an element of  $\text{CS}(\vartheta, k_j)$  in the positions of  $\vartheta$ . Let  $\mathcal{T}_{(j)}$  be the set of such tableaux.

- [Step F] Let  $(k_1, \dots, k_m) = (\ell_1^{d_1}, \dots, \ell_r^{d_r})$ . Let  $\mathcal{S}$  be the union over all sequences  $\mu \rightarrow_{d_1} \vartheta^{(1)} \rightarrow_{d_2} \vartheta^{(2)} \rightarrow_{d_m} \vartheta^{(r-1)} \rightarrow_{d_r} \vartheta^{(r)} = \emptyset$  of the set of  $\mu$ -tableaux constructed as in (i), by putting  $\ell_i + 1$  in the positions of  $\vartheta^{(i)}/\vartheta^{(i-1)}$  for each  $i \in \{1, \dots, r\}$ . The required initial segments are precisely the sets

$$\mathcal{T}_{(1)} \cup \dots \cup \mathcal{T}_{(m)} \cup \mathcal{U}$$

where  $\mathcal{U}$  is any subset of  $\mathcal{S}$  of size  $n - (|\mathcal{T}_{(1)}| + \dots + |\mathcal{T}_{(m)}|)$ .

Since  $\text{CS}(\vartheta, 0) = \emptyset$  whenever  $\vartheta$  is non-empty, there is always a suitable choice of  $k_j$  in each Step  $j$ . By the maximality of  $k_j$ , the sum  $|\text{CS}(\vartheta, k_j + 1)|$  over all sequences as in (11) exceeds  $n - (|\mathcal{T}_{(1)}| + \dots + |\mathcal{T}_{(j-1)}|)$ . The analogous sum of  $|\text{CS}(\phi, k_j + 1)|$  over all sequences with a further step  $\vartheta^{(q)} \rightarrow_1 \vartheta^{(q+1)} = \phi$ , if  $k_j > k_{j-1}$ , or an extra box removed in  $\vartheta^{q-1} \rightarrow_{c_{q-1}+1} \vartheta^{(q)} = \phi$  if  $k_j = k_{j-1}$ , is at least as great, since putting  $k_j + 1$  in the boxes removed in the new final step gives all tableaux counted by the original sum (and possibly some further tableaux that do not have strictly increasing rows). The sequence  $(k_1, k_2, \dots, k_m)$  is therefore weakly decreasing and the construction in (i) and (ii) gives conjugate-semistandard  $\mu$ -tableaux, with minimum possible maximal entries. Similarly, the maximality of  $k_m$  implies that  $|\mathcal{S}| \geq n - (|\mathcal{T}_{(1)}| + \dots + |\mathcal{T}_{(m)}|)$ . Thus  $\mathcal{S}$  is the set of conjugate-semistandard  $\mu$ -tableaux having exactly  $d_i$  entries equal to  $\ell_i + 1$  for each  $i \in \{1, \dots, r\}$ . Therefore Algorithm 9.5 constructs the required initial segments.

The computer software mentioned earlier includes an implementation of the algorithm.

**Example 9.6.** Take  $\mu = (3, 1)$  and  $n = 7$ . In Step 1, since  $|\text{CS}((3, 1), 3)| = 3 \leq 7$ , while  $|\text{CS}((3, 1), 4)| = 15 > 7$ , we take  $k_1 = 3$  and

$$\mathcal{T}_{(1)} = \left\{ \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 & 3 \\ \hline 1 & & \\ \hline \end{array}, \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 & 3 \\ \hline 2 & & \\ \hline \end{array}, \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 & 3 \\ \hline 3 & & \\ \hline \end{array} \right\}.$$

In Step 2, there are two sequences of partitions to consider:  $(3, 1) \rightarrow_1 (3)$  and  $(3, 1) \rightarrow_1 (2, 1)$ . Since  $|\text{CS}((3), k)| + |\text{CS}((2, 1), k)|$  is 2 when  $k = 2$  and 9 when  $k = 3$ , we take  $k_2 = 2$  and

$$\mathcal{T}_{(2)} = \left\{ \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 & 4 \\ \hline 1 & & \\ \hline \end{array}, \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 & 4 \\ \hline 2 & & \\ \hline \end{array} \right\}.$$

In Step 3, there are three sequences of partitions to consider:  $(3, 1) \rightarrow_1 (3) \rightarrow_1 (2)$ ,  $(3, 1) \rightarrow_1 (2, 1) \rightarrow_1 (2)$  and  $(3, 1) \rightarrow_1 (2, 1) \rightarrow_1 (1, 1)$ . The corresponding sum is 1 if  $k_3 = 1$  and 5 if  $k_3 = 2$ , so we take  $k_3 = 1$  and

$$\mathcal{T}_{(3)} = \left\{ \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 3 & 4 \\ \hline 1 & & \\ \hline \end{array} \right\}.$$

In Step 4 there are again three sequences of partitions to consider:  $(3, 1) \rightarrow_1 (3) \rightarrow_1 (2) \rightarrow_1 (1)$ ,  $(3, 1) \rightarrow_1 (2, 1) \rightarrow_1 (2) \rightarrow_1 (1)$  and  $(3, 1) \rightarrow_1 (2, 1) \rightarrow_1 (1, 1) \rightarrow_1 (1)$ . The corresponding sum is 0 if  $k_4 = 0$  and 3 if  $k_4 = 1$ , so we take  $k_4 = 0$  and  $\mathcal{T}_{(4)} = \emptyset$ . In the final step, Step F, we have

$$\mathcal{S} = \left\{ \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 & 3 \\ \hline 4 & & \\ \hline \end{array}, \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 & 4 \\ \hline 3 & & \\ \hline \end{array}, \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 3 & 4 \\ \hline 2 & & \\ \hline \end{array} \right\}.$$

(Note these are precisely the tableaux obtained by instead taking  $k_4 = 1$  in Step 4.) As expected from Example 9.4, any tableau in  $\mathcal{S}$  may be chosen to complete an initial segment of length 7 in a total order refining  $\leq_{\text{entry}}$ ; the output of the algorithm is the three tableaux families  $\mathcal{T}_{(1)} \cup \mathcal{T}_{(2)} \cup \mathcal{T}_{(3)} \cup \mathcal{T}_{(4)} \cup \{t\}$ , where  $t \in \mathcal{S}$ .

The following corollary is Conjecture 4.2 in [2]. It has a constructive proof using Algorithm 9.5.

**Corollary 9.7.** *With the notation as above, for each  $j \in \{1, \dots, m\}$ , let  $a_j = n - (|\mathcal{T}_{(1)}| + \dots + |\mathcal{T}_{(j)}|)$  and let  $b_j = |\mathcal{T}_{(j)}|(m+1-j)/k_j$ . The lexicographically least partition labelling a Specht module occurring as a summand of  $H_\mu^{(n)}$  if  $m$  is odd or of  $H_\mu^{(1^n)}$  if  $m$  is even is*

$$((k_1 + 1)^{a_1}, k_1^{b_1 - a_1}, (k_2 + 1)^{a_2}, k_2^{b_2 - a_2}, \dots, (k_m + 1)^{a_m}, k_m^{b_m - a_m})$$

where it may be necessary to reorder and regroup the parts to form a partition.

*Proof.* Algorithm 9.5 constructs a conjugate-semistandard tableau family tuple of shape  $\mu^n$  and lexicographically least type. It remains to show that its type is as claimed. For  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, k\}$  and  $\eta$  any partition, the total number of occurrences of  $i$  as an entry in a member of  $\text{CS}(\eta, k)$  is  $|\text{CS}(\eta, k)| |\eta| / k$ . (This is essentially the statement that the Schur function  $s_\eta$  is symmetric.) Hence the type of the family  $\mathcal{T}_{(1)}$  is  $k_1^{b_1}$ . Now consider the entry  $k_1 + 1$ . It appears in a removable box of each tableau in  $\mathcal{T}_{(2)} \cup \dots \cup \mathcal{T}_{(m)} \cup \mathcal{U}$ . (If  $k_1 = k_2$  there may be other entries in these tableaux equal to  $k_1 + 1$ ; these will be counted shortly.) Since there are  $a_1 = n - |\mathcal{T}_{(1)}|$  such tableaux, the contribution to the type of the initial segment from entries considered so far is  $((k_1 + 1)^{a_1}, k_1^{b_1 - a_1})$ . This gives the first two terms.

Let  $j \in \{2, \dots, m\}$ . By the construction in (i) in Step  $j$ , the number of occurrences of any  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, k_j\}$  in the tableaux in  $\mathcal{T}_{(j)}$  is

$$\sum \frac{|\vartheta| |\text{CS}(\vartheta, k_j)|}{k_j} = \frac{|\mathcal{T}_{(j)}| (m + 1 - j)}{k_j} = b_j,$$

where the sum is over all sequences (11). Similarly to the case  $j = 1$ , we count one appearance of  $k_j + 1$  in each of the  $a_j$  tableaux in  $\mathcal{T}_{(j+1)} \cup \dots \cup \mathcal{T}_{(m)} \cup \mathcal{U}$ . The contribution to the type of the initial segment is therefore  $((k_j + 1)^{a_j}, k_j^{b_j - a_j})$ .

All entries of the tableaux in  $\mathcal{U}$  are now accounted for, so the type of the initial segment is as claimed.  $\square$

By Theorem 6.1, if there is a unique conjugate-semistandard tableau family of the lexicographically minimal type then the multiplicity of the lexicographic minimal Specht module is 1. Conversely, if there are two or more such families then we have a choice of which tableaux to choose from the final set  $\mathcal{S}$  in Algorithm 9.5: the unique greatest element  $u$  under  $\leq_{\text{col}}$  is obtained by putting the entries  $\ell_1 + 1$  as far to the right as possible, then doing the same with the entries  $\ell_2 + 1$ , and so on. Thus  $t <_{\text{col}} u$  for all  $t \in \mathcal{U}$  with  $t \neq u$ , and taking subsets  $\mathcal{U}$  and  $\mathcal{U}'$  of  $\mathcal{S}$  of the appropriate size such that  $u \in \mathcal{U}$  and  $u \notin \mathcal{U}'$  gives families satisfying the hypotheses for Proposition 8.1, and so the multiplicity is at least 2.

In general the multiplicity of the lexicographically minimal Specht module may be arbitrarily large.

**Corollary 9.8.** *Let  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ . Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and let  $\nu = (1^n)$  if  $m$  is even and  $(n)$  if  $m$  is odd. The multiplicity of the lexicographically minimal constituent of  $H_{(m-1,1)}^\nu$  is equal to  $\binom{m-1}{e}$  for some  $e \in \{1, \dots, m-1\}$ . Moreover all these values are attained for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .*

*Proof.* If the sequence  $(k_1, \dots, k_m)$  created by Algorithm 9.5 has a repeated element, say  $k$ , then since there is a unique conjugate-semistandard  $(m -$



$1, 1$ -tableau with two occurrences of  $k + 1$ , the final set  $\mathcal{S}$  is a singleton. Otherwise  $\mathcal{S}$  consists of all  $m - 1$  standard Young tableaux with content  $\{k_1 + 1, \dots, k_m + 1\}$ . In this case there are  $\binom{m-1}{e}$  conjugate-semistandard tableau families of shape  $(m - 1, 1)^n$ , where  $e = n - (|\mathcal{T}_{(1)}| + \dots + |\mathcal{T}_{(m)}|)$ .

Conversely, let  $\prec$  be the total order refining  $\leq_{\text{entry}}$  defined in the same way as Example 9.4. Let  $h_1 > h_2 > \dots > h_m$ , and for  $h \in \{h_1, \dots, h_{m-1}\}$ , let  $t(h)$  be the unique conjugate-semistandard  $(m - 1, 1)$ -tableau with content  $\{h_1, h_2, \dots, h_m\}$  having  $h$  in position  $(2, 1)$ . There is an initial segment of  $\prec$  ending

$$t(h_1) \prec t(h_2) \prec \dots \prec t(h_{m-1}).$$

(When this initial segment is constructed using Algorithm 9.5,  $k_i + 1 = h_i$  for each  $i \in \{1, \dots, m\}$ .) Therefore, given any  $e \in \{1, \dots, m - 1\}$  there exists  $n$  such that there are exactly  $\binom{m-1}{e}$  conjugate-semistandard tableau families of shape  $(m - 1, 1)^n$  and lexicographically minimal type, corresponding to the  $\binom{m-1}{e}$  choices in Step F. Suppose that  $\mathcal{T}^{(1)}, \dots, \mathcal{T}^{(d)}$  are these families and let  $\lambda$  be their common type. Since the columnar tableaux  $\|t(h_1)\|, \|t(h_2)\|, \dots, \|t(h_{m-1})\|$  are totally ordered under  $\leq_{\text{col}}$  with  $\|t(h_1)\| \leq_{\text{col}} \|t(h_2)\| \leq_{\text{col}} \dots \leq_{\text{col}} \|t(h_{m-1})\|$ , we see that the hypotheses for Proposition 8.1 are satisfied. We therefore have  $\binom{m-1}{e}$  linearly independent homomorphisms from  $S^\lambda$  to  $H_{(m-1,1)}^\nu$ . By Theorem 6.1, the multiplicity is exactly  $\binom{m-1}{e}$ .  $\square$

We remark that the least  $n$  such that the multiplicity in Corollary 9.8 attains its maximum value of  $\binom{m-1}{\lfloor (m-1)/2 \rfloor}$  is  $m^2/2 - 1$  if  $m$  is even, and  $(m^2 - 1)/2$  if  $m$  is odd.

For the uniqueness result mentioned at the end of the introduction we need the following proposition. Recall that a partition of the form  $(a^b)$  for  $a, b \in \mathbb{N}$  is said to be *rectangular*.

**Proposition 9.9.** *There is a unique conjugate-semistandard tableau family of shape  $\mu^n$  and maximal weight if and only if  $m = 1$ , or  $n = 1$ , or  $\mu$  is rectangular and  $n = 2$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $t$  be the  $\mu$ -tableau such that  $(a, b)t = b$  for all  $(a, b) \in [\mu]$ . Let  $e$  be least such that row  $e$  of  $[\mu]$  has a removable box. The box  $(e, \mu_e)$  of  $t$  contains  $\mu_e$ ; this is the greatest number appearing in  $t$ . For  $c \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $t^{+c}$  be the conjugate-semistandard tableau obtained from  $t$  by replacing this entry with  $\mu_e + c$ . Let  $\eta = \mu'$ . Note that  $\eta$  has  $\mu_e$  parts, with  $\eta_{\mu_e} = e$ . The weight of the conjugate-semistandard tableau family  $\{t, t^{+1}, \dots, t^{+(n-1)}\}$  is the partition  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  such that  $[\lambda_{\text{max}}]$  is obtained from  $[n\eta]$  by removing  $n - 1$  boxes from row  $\mu_e$  (these correspond to the entries equal to  $\mu_e$  changed in the definition of  $t^{+c}$ ) and inserting one box in each of the previously empty rows  $\mu_e + 1, \dots, \mu_e + n - 1$ . Since the first  $\mu_e - 1$  rows of  $[n\eta]$  are unaffected,

it is clear that  $\{t, t^+, \dots, t^{+(n-1)}\}$  is the conjugate-semistandard tableau family of shape  $\mu^n$  and lexicographically maximal weight. (This is a special case of Corollary 9.1 and [23, Theorem 4.2].)

Assume that  $m \neq 1$ . If  $n \geq 3$  or  $\mu$  is not a rectangle, then the conjugate-semistandard tableau family of lexicographically minimal type has no entry equal to  $\mu_e + n - 1$ . Its weight has fewer parts than  $\lambda_{\max}$ , and so is incomparable with  $\lambda_{\max}$  in the dominance order.  $\square$

We give a brief example. The conjugate-semistandard tableau family of shape  $(3, 3)^3$  and lexicographically maximal weight is

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 & 3 \\ \hline 1 & 2 & 3 \\ \hline \end{array}, \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 & 3 \\ \hline 1 & 2 & 4 \\ \hline \end{array}, \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 & 3 \\ \hline 1 & 2 & 5 \\ \hline \end{array} \right\}.$$

As seen in the proof of Proposition 9.9, its weight is  $(6, 6, 4, 1, 1)$ , obtained from  $[3\mu'] = [(6, 6, 6)]$  by removing two boxes from the lowest row, and inserting new boxes in rows 4 and 5. The conjugate-semistandard tableau family of lexicographically minimal type is

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 & 3 \\ \hline 1 & 2 & 3 \\ \hline \end{array}, \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 & 3 \\ \hline 1 & 2 & 4 \\ \hline \end{array}, \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 & 3 \\ \hline 1 & 3 & 4 \\ \hline \end{array} \right\};$$

it has the incomparable weight  $(6, 5, 5, 2)$ .

Recall that  $\kappa = \nu'$  if  $m$  is even and  $\kappa = \nu$  if  $m$  is odd.

**Corollary 9.10.** *Let  $m \geq 2$ .*

- (i) *There is a unique partition  $\lambda$ , maximal in the dominance order on partitions, such that  $S^\lambda$  is a summand of  $H_\mu^\nu$  if and only if either  $\nu = (n)$  or  $\mu$  is rectangular and  $\nu$  has exactly two parts.*
- (ii) *There is a unique partition  $\lambda$ , minimal in the dominance order on partitions, such that  $S^\lambda$  is a summand of  $H_\mu^\nu$  if and only if either  $\kappa = (1^n)$  or  $\mu$  is rectangular and  $\kappa = (2^c, 1^d)$  for some  $c, d \in \mathbb{N}$ .*

*Proof.* This follows immediately from Proposition 9.9 using Theorem 1.2 for (i) and Theorem 1.3 for (ii).  $\square$

When  $\mu = (a^b)$ , the unique closed conjugate-semistandard tableau family of shape  $\mu^2$  has type  $(a+1, a^{2b-2}, a-1)$ . Using this it is routine to determine the partitions  $\lambda$  in Corollary 9.10 explicitly. For example, if  $m$  is even then the unique minimal partition  $\lambda$  such that  $S^\lambda$  is a summand of  $H_{(a^b)}^{(n-c, c)}$  is  $((a+1)^c, a^{(2b-2)c+b(n-2c)}, (a-1)^c)$ .

We end with an observation on invariants of special linear groups.

**Corollary 9.11.** *Let  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ . Suppose that  $m$  is odd and  $n = |\text{CS}(\mu, k)|$ . Let  $d = mn/k$  and let  $E$  be a  $b$ -dimensional complex vector space. There is a unique polynomial invariant of degree  $n$  for the action of  $\text{SL}(E)$  on  $\nabla^\mu(E)$ .*

*Proof.* As seen in the proof of Corollary 9.7, the conjugate-semistandard tableau family of shape  $\mu^n$  consisting of all tableaux with greatest entry at most  $k$  has lexicographically minimal type  $(k^d)$ . (This proves [2, Conjecture 2.2].) By the remark following Corollary 9.7, the multiplicity of  $S^{(k^d)}$  in  $H_\mu^{(n)}$  is 1. Hence  $\nabla^{(k^d)}(E)$  has multiplicity 1 in  $\text{Sym}^n \nabla^\mu(E)$ . Since

$$\nabla^{(k^d)}(E) \cong \left(\bigwedge^d E\right)^{\otimes k} \cong \det^k,$$

the result follows.  $\square$

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