# Character Formulas for $\boldsymbol{q}$-Rook Monoid Algebras 

MOMAR DIENG** momar@math.ucdavis.edu<br>Department of Mathematics, University of California, Davis, CA 95616, USA<br>TOM HALVERSON ${ }^{\dagger}$ halverson@macalester.edu<br>Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, Macalester College, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55105, USA<br>VAHE POLADIAN vahe.poladian@cs.cmu.edu<br>Department of Computer Science, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburg, PA 15231, USA

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#### Abstract

The $q$-rook monoid $R_{n}(q)$ is a semisimple $\mathbb{C}(q)$-algebra that specializes when $q \rightarrow 1$ to $\mathbb{C}\left[R_{n}\right]$, where $R_{n}$ is the monoid of $n \times n$ matrices with entries from $\{0,1\}$ and at most one nonzero entry in each row and column. We use a Schur-Weyl duality between $R_{n}(q)$ and the quantum general linear group $U_{q} \mathfrak{g l}(r)$ to compute a Frobenius formula, in the ring of symmetric functions, for the irreducible characters of $R_{n}(q)$. We then derive a recursive Murnaghan-Nakayama rule for these characters, and we use Robinson-Schensted-Knuth insertion to derive a Roichman rule for these characters. We also define a class of standard elements on which it is sufficient to compute characters. The results for $R_{n}(q)$ specialize when $q=1$ to analogous results for $R_{n}$.


Keywords: rook monoid, character, Hecke algebra, symmetric functions

## 0. Introduction

The rook monoid $R_{n}$ is the monoid of $n \times n$ matrices with entries from $\{0,1\}$ and at most one nonzero entry in each row and column (these correspond with the possible placements of nonattacking rooks on an $n \times n$ chessboard). It contains an isomorphic copy of the symmetric group $S_{n}$ as the rank $n$ (permutation) matrices. The $q$-rook monoid $R_{n}(q)$ is an "IwahoriHecke algebra" of $R_{n}$. It is a semisimple $\mathbb{C}(q)$-algebra so that when $q \rightarrow 1, R_{n}(q)$ specializes to the complex monoid algebra $\mathbb{C}\left[R_{n}\right]$. Recently, the representation theory of $R_{n}(q)$ was analyzed. Solomon [20] found a faithful action of $R_{n}(q)$ on tensor space. Halverson [10] showed that $R_{n}(q)$ and the quantum general linear group are in Schur-Weyl duality and found explicit combinatorial constructions for the irreducible $R_{n}(q)$-representations.
In this paper we study the combinatorics of $R_{n}(q)$-characters. First, we use Schur-Weyl duality to prove the following identity in the ring of symmetric functions

$$
\begin{equation*}
q_{\mu}\left(1, x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r} ; q\right)=\sum_{k=0}^{n} \sum_{\lambda \vdash k} \chi_{R_{n}(q)}^{\lambda}\left(T_{\mu}\right) s_{\lambda}\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r}\right) . \tag{0.1}
\end{equation*}
$$

[^0]Here $q_{\mu}$ is a $q$-analog of the power sum symmetric function $p_{\mu}, s_{\lambda}$ is the Schur function, and $\chi_{R_{n}(q)}^{\lambda}\left(T_{\mu}\right)$ is the irreducible character of $R_{n}(q)$ indexed by $\lambda$ and evalauated at a certain element $T_{\mu}$. This is a generalization of the Frobenius formula of Ram [15] for the IwahoriHecke algebra $H_{n}(q)$ of the symmetric group $S_{n}$, which in turn is a generalization of Frobenius' [5] original formula from 1900,

$$
\begin{equation*}
p_{\mu}\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r}\right)=\sum_{\lambda \vdash n} \chi_{S_{n}}^{\lambda}(\mu) s_{\lambda}\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r}\right) . \tag{0.2}
\end{equation*}
$$

Here $\chi_{S_{n}}^{\lambda}(\mu)$ is the irreducible character of $S_{n}$ indexed by $\lambda$ and evaluated on the conjugacy class with cycle type $\mu$.

We use our Frobenius formula to derive two combinatorial methods for computing $\chi_{R_{n}(q)}^{\lambda}\left(T_{\mu}\right):$
(1) We give a recursive rule for computing $\chi_{R_{n}(q)}^{\lambda}\left(T_{\mu}\right)$ by removing broken border strips from $\lambda$. This rule is an analog of the Murnaghan-Nakayama rule for $S_{n}$ characters, which was generalized to $H_{n}(q)$-characters in [15].
(2) We give a rule for computing $\chi_{R_{n}(q)}^{\lambda}\left(T_{\mu}\right)$ as weighted sums of standard tableaux. This rule is a generalization of Roichman's rule [17] for the irreducible characters of $H_{n}(q)$.

We use our Frobenius formula to show that the character table of $R_{n}(q)$, denoted $\Xi_{R_{n}(q)}$, is of the form

$$
\Xi_{R_{n}(q)}=\begin{array}{|c|c|}
\hline \Xi_{R_{n-1}(q)} & 0  \tag{0.3}\\
\hline * & \Xi_{H_{n}(q)} \\
\hline
\end{array}
$$

where $\Xi_{R_{n-1}(q)}$ is the character table of $R_{n-1}(q)$ and $\Xi_{H_{n}(q)}$ is the character table of $H_{n}(q)$. The elements in $*$ are explicitly determined by either our Murnaghan-Nakayama rule or our Roichman rule.

The characters of the rook monoid $R_{n}(q=1)$ were originally studied in the 1950 s by Munn [14], who writes $R_{n}$ characters in terms of $S_{k}$ characters with $0 \leq k \leq n$. As an example, Munn produces the character table of $R_{4}$. In the Appendix we produce the character table of $R_{4}(q)$. Setting $q=1$ in our table gives Munn's table, exactly. Munn also determines a "cycle-link" type for the elements of $R_{n}$, and he shows that $R_{n}$ characters are constant on cycle-link classes. In Section 5, we show that the irreducible $R_{n}(q)$-characters are completely determined by their values on the set of standard elements $T_{\mu}, \mu \vdash k, 0 \leq k \leq n$. Our element $T_{\mu}$ specializes at $q=1$ to a rook element with "cycle-link" type $\mu$, and we show how to use "rook diagrams" determine cycle-link type.

Solomon [19] determined yet another way to compute $R_{n}(q=1)$ characters. He writes the $R_{n}$ character table as a product $A Y=Y B$ where $Y$ is a block diagonal matrix whose
blocks are the characters of the symmetric groups $S_{k}, 0 \leq k \leq n$, and $A$ and $B$ are matrices that can be computed combinatorially.

The $q$-rook monoid was first introduced by Solomon [18] as an analog of the IwahoriHecke algebra for the finite algebraic monoid $\mathrm{M}_{n}\left(\mathbb{F}_{q}\right)$ of $n \times n$ matrices over a finite field with $q$ elements with respect to its "Borel subgroup" of invertible upper triangular matrices. In [20], Solomon gives a presentation of $R_{n}(q)$ and defines a faithful action of $R_{n}(q)$ on tensor space. In [8], Halverson and A. Ram show that $R_{n}(q)$ is a quotient of the Iwahori-Hecke algebra of type $B_{n}$ and prove that $R_{n}(q)$ is semisimple over $\mathbb{C}$ whenever $[n]!\neq 0$, where $[n]!=[n][n-1] \cdots[1]$ and $[k]=q^{k-1}+q^{k-2}$ $+\cdots+1$.

## 1. $q$-Rook monoid algebras

### 1.1. The rook monoid

Let $S_{n}$ denote the group of permutations of the set $\{1,2, \ldots, n\}$. Identify $\sigma \in S_{n}$ with the matrix having a 1 in the $(i, j)$-position if $\sigma(i)=j$. For $1 \leq i \leq n-1$, let $s_{i} \in S_{n}$ be the transposition of $i$ and $i+1$.

The rook monoid $R_{n}$ is the monoid of $n \times n$ matrices having entries from $\{0,1\}$ with at most one nonzero entry in each row and column. There are $\binom{n}{k}^{2} k$ ! matrices in $R_{n}$ having rank $k$, and thus

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left|R_{n}\right|=\sum_{k=0}^{n}\binom{n}{k}^{2} k!. \tag{1.1}
\end{equation*}
$$

We have $S_{n} \subseteq R_{n}$ as the rank $n$ matrices.
Let $E_{i, j}$ be the $n \times n$ matrix unit with a 1 in the $(i, j)$-position and 0 s everywhere else. In $R_{n}$, define

$$
\begin{align*}
\nu & =E_{1,2}+E_{2,3}+\cdots+E_{n-1, n}, & & \\
\pi_{j} & =E_{j+1, j+1}+E_{j+2, j+2}+\cdots+E_{n, n}, & & 1 \leq j \leq n-1  \tag{1.2}\\
\varepsilon_{j} & =I_{n}-E_{j, j}, & & 1 \leq j \leq n,
\end{align*}
$$

where $I_{n}$ is the identity matrix. Let $\pi_{n}$ be the zero matrix, and note that $\pi_{1}=\varepsilon_{1}$. Munn [14] shows that the complex monoid algebra

$$
\mathbb{C}\left[R_{n}\right]=\left\{\sum_{x \in R_{n}} \alpha_{x} x \mid \alpha_{x} \in \mathbb{C}\right\}
$$

is semisimple. Note that $\pi_{n}$ is the zero matrix but it is not the zero element in $\mathbb{C}\left[R_{n}\right]$ (the zero element in $\mathbb{C}\left[R_{n}\right]$ is the linear combination with $\alpha_{x}=0$ for all $x$ ).

### 1.2. The $q$-rook monoid

Let $q$ be an indeterminate. For $n \geq 2$, define the $q$-rook monoid $R_{n}(q)$ to be the associative $\mathbb{C}(q)$-algebra with generators $1, T_{1}, \ldots, T_{n-1}, P_{1}, \ldots, P_{n}$ and defining relations
(A1) $T_{i}^{2}=q \cdot 1+(q-1) T_{i}, \quad$ for $1 \leq i \leq n-1$,
(A2) $T_{i} T_{i+1} T_{i}=T_{i+1} T_{i} T_{i+1}, \quad$ for $1 \leq i \leq n-2$,
(A3) $\quad T_{i} T_{j}=T_{j} T_{i}, \quad$ when $|i-j| \geq 2$,
(A4) $T_{i} P_{j}=P_{j} T_{i}=q P_{j}, \quad$ for $1 \leq i<j \leq n$,
(A5) $\quad T_{i} P_{j}=P_{j} T_{i}, \quad$ for $1 \leq j<i \leq n-1$,
(A6) $P_{i}^{2}=P_{i}, \quad$ for $1 \leq i \leq n$,
(A7) $\quad P_{i+1}=q P_{i} T_{i}^{-1} P_{i}, \quad$ for $2 \leq i \leq n$.
Define $R_{0}(q)=\mathbb{C}(q)$ and define $R_{1}(q)$ to be the associative $\mathbb{C}(q)$-algebra spanned by 1 and $P_{1}$ subject to $P_{1}^{2}=P_{1}$. The subalgebra of $R_{n}(q)$ generated by $T_{1}, \ldots, T_{n-1}$ is isomorphic to the Iwahori-Hecke algebra of type $H_{n}(q)$ of type $A_{n-1}$ (see [20] or [10] for a proof that they can be identified).

Solomon defined $R_{n}(q)$ in [18] and gave it a presentation in [20]. The presentation (1.3) is proved in [10]. Solomon [18, 20] shows that $R_{n}(q)$ is semisimple with dimension

$$
\begin{equation*}
\operatorname{dim}\left(R_{n}(q)\right)=\sum_{k=0}^{n}\binom{n}{k}^{2} k!. \tag{1.4}
\end{equation*}
$$

When $q \rightarrow 1, R_{n}(q)$ specializes to $\mathbb{C}\left[R_{n}\right]$. Under this specialization, we have $T_{i} \rightarrow s_{i}$ and $P_{i} \rightarrow \pi_{i}$.

### 1.3. Partitions and tableaux

We use the notation of [12] for partitions and compositions. A composition $\lambda$ of the positive integer $n$, denoted $\lambda \models n$, is a sequence of nonnegative integers $\lambda=\left(\lambda_{1}, \lambda_{2}, \ldots, \lambda_{t}\right)$ such that $|\lambda|=\lambda_{1}+\cdots+\lambda_{t}=n$. The composition $\lambda$ is a partition, denoted $\lambda \vdash n$, if $\lambda_{1} \geq \lambda_{2} \geq \cdots \geq \lambda_{t}$. The length $\ell(\lambda)$ is the number of nonzero parts of $\lambda$. The Young diagram of a partition $\lambda$ is the left-justified array of boxes with $\lambda_{i}$ boxes in the $i$ th row. We let $m_{i}(\lambda)$ be the number of parts of $\lambda$ equal to $i$, and we sometimes write $\lambda=\left(1^{m_{1}(\lambda)}, 2^{m_{2}(\lambda)}, \ldots\right)$. For example,

$$
\text { if } \lambda=(5,5,3,1)=\left(1,3,5^{2}\right)=\begin{array}{|l|l|l|l|l}
\hline & & & & \\
\hline & & & & \\
\hline & & & & \\
\hline & & &
\end{array} \quad \text { then }|\lambda|=14 \text { and } \ell(\lambda)=4
$$

If $\lambda$ is a partition with $0 \leq|\lambda| \leq n$, then we say that an $n$-standard tableau of shape $\lambda$ is a filling of the diagram of $\lambda$ with numbers from $\{1,2, \ldots, n\}$ such that
(1) each number from $\{1,2, \ldots, n\}$ appears in $\lambda$ at most once,
(2) the rows of $\lambda$ increase from left to right, and
(3) the columns of $\lambda$ increase from top to bottom.

Similarly, an $n$-column strict tableaux of shape $\lambda$ is the same as an $n$-standard tableau except that we allow the rows to weakly increase. Thus,

$$
\begin{array}{|l|l|l|l|}
\hline 2 & 3 & 9 & 10 \\
\hline 5 & 7 & 12 & 15 \\
\hline 6 & 11 & 13 & \\
\hline
\end{array} \quad \text { is a 16-standard tableau of shape }(4,4,3)
$$

\[

\]

### 1.4. Irreducible representations

The irreducible representations of $R_{n}(q)$ and $\mathbb{C}\left[R_{n}\right]$ are indexed by partitions in the set

$$
\begin{equation*}
\Lambda_{n}=\{\lambda \vdash k \mid 0 \leq k \leq n\} . \tag{1.5}
\end{equation*}
$$

For $\lambda \in \Lambda_{n}$, we let $M^{\lambda}$ be the irreducible $\mathbb{C}\left[R_{n}\right]$-module indexed by $\lambda$ and let $\chi_{R_{n}}^{\lambda}$ be its character, and we let $M_{q}^{\lambda}$ be the irreducible $\mathbb{C}\left[R_{n}\right]$-module indexed by $\lambda$ and let $\chi_{R_{n}(q)}^{\lambda}$ be its character. The dimensions of $M^{\lambda}$ and $M_{q}^{\lambda}$ are given by

$$
\begin{equation*}
\operatorname{dim}\left(M^{\lambda}\right)=\operatorname{dim}\left(M_{q}^{\lambda}\right)=\#(n \text {-standard tableaux of shape } \lambda)=\binom{n}{|\lambda|} f_{\lambda}, \tag{1.6}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $f_{\lambda}$ is the number of $|\lambda|$-standard tableaux of shape $\lambda$ given by the hook formula (see [21], Theorem 3.10.2).

The $R_{n}$-module $M^{\lambda}$ is studied in [6, 14, 19]. In [6], C. Grood determines the analog of Young's natural basis for $M^{\lambda}$. In [10], analogs of Young's seminormal bases of both $M_{q}^{\lambda}$ and $M^{\lambda}$ are constructed, and the action of the generators of $R_{n}(q)$ and $R_{n}$ on this basis are described explicitly.

### 1.5. Standard elements

Define $\gamma_{1}=T_{\gamma_{1}}=1$ and

$$
\begin{align*}
\gamma_{t} & =s_{1} s_{2} \cdots s_{t-1}  \tag{1.7}\\
T_{\gamma_{t}} & =T_{1} T_{2} \cdots T_{t-1}
\end{align*}
$$

For a composition $\mu=\left(\mu_{1}, \mu_{2}, \ldots, \mu_{\ell}\right)$ with $|\mu|=k$ and $0 \leq k \leq n$, define

$$
\begin{align*}
\gamma_{\mu} & =\gamma_{\mu_{1}} \otimes \gamma_{\mu_{2}} \otimes \cdots \otimes \gamma_{\mu_{\ell}} \\
T_{\gamma_{\mu}} & =T_{\gamma_{\mu_{1}}} \otimes T_{\gamma_{\mu_{2}}} \otimes \cdots \otimes T_{\gamma_{\mu_{\ell}}} \tag{1.8}
\end{align*}
$$

and

$$
\begin{align*}
& d_{\mu}=\pi_{n-k} \otimes \gamma_{\mu} \\
& T_{\mu}=P_{n-k} \otimes T_{\gamma_{\mu}} \tag{1.9}
\end{align*}
$$

where we view $T_{\mu}=P_{k} \otimes T_{\gamma_{\mu_{1}}} \otimes \cdots \otimes T_{\gamma_{\mu_{\ell}}} \in R_{k}(q) \otimes R_{\mu_{1}}(q) \otimes \cdots \otimes R_{\mu_{\ell}}(q) \subseteq R_{n}(q)$. For example, if $n=15$ and $\mu=(5,3,2,2)$, then

$$
T_{\mu}=P_{3}\left(T_{4} T_{5} T_{6} T_{7}\right)\left(T_{9} T_{10}\right)\left(T_{12}\right)\left(T_{14}\right)
$$

In [15] it is shown that $H_{n}(q)$-characters are completely determined by their value on $T_{\gamma_{\mu}}$. In Section 5 we show that characters of $R_{n}(q)$ and $\mathbb{C}\left[R_{n}\right]$ are completely determined by their values on $T_{\mu}$ and $d_{\mu}$. Since both the irreducible representations and the standard elements are indexed by $\Lambda_{n}$, we see that the character table is square with these labels.

When $q \rightarrow 1$, we have $R_{n}(q) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}\left[R_{n}\right]$ with $T_{\mu} \rightarrow d_{\mu}$. Furthermore, in [10], we construct $M_{q}^{\lambda}$ so that $M_{1}^{\lambda}=M^{\lambda}$, and the action of $T_{\mu}$ specializes at $q=1$ to the action of $d_{\mu}$. It follows that the characters also specialize upon setting $q=1$,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left.\chi_{R_{n}(q)}^{\lambda}\left(T_{\mu}\right)\right|_{q=1}=\chi_{R_{n}}^{\lambda}\left(d_{\mu}\right) . \tag{1.10}
\end{equation*}
$$

## 2. A Frobenius formula for the $\boldsymbol{q}$-rook monoid

In this section, we use the Schur-Weyl duality between $R_{n}(q)$ and the quantum general linear group $U_{q} \mathfrak{g l}(r)$ to derive a Frobenius formula for the irreducible characters of $R_{n}(q)$.

We define $U_{q} \mathfrak{g l}(r)$ as in Jimbo [11], except with his parameter $q$ replaced by $q^{1 / 2}$. Let $U_{q} \mathfrak{g l}(r)$ be the $\mathbb{C}\left(q^{1 / 4}\right)$-algebra given by generators

$$
e_{i}, f_{i}(1 \leq i<r) \quad \text { and } \quad q^{ \pm \varepsilon_{i} / 2}(1 \leq i \leq n)
$$

with relations

$$
\begin{aligned}
q^{\varepsilon_{i} / 2} q^{\varepsilon_{j} / 2} & =q^{\varepsilon_{j} / 2} q^{\varepsilon_{i} / 2}, \quad q^{\varepsilon_{i} / 2} q^{-\varepsilon_{i} / 2}=q^{-\varepsilon_{i} / 2} q^{\varepsilon_{i} / 2}=1, \\
q^{\varepsilon_{i} / 2} e_{j} q^{-\varepsilon_{i} / 2} & =\left\{\begin{array}{ll}
q^{-\frac{1}{2}} e_{j}, & \text { if } j=i-1, \\
q^{\frac{1}{2}} e_{j}, & \text { if } j=i, \\
e_{j}, & \text { otherwise, },
\end{array} \quad q^{\varepsilon_{i} / 2} f_{j} q^{-\varepsilon_{i} / 2}= \begin{cases}q^{\frac{1}{2}} f_{j}, & \text { if } j=i-1, \\
q^{-\frac{1}{2}} f_{j}, & \text { if } j=i, \\
f_{j}, & \text { otherwise },\end{cases} \right. \\
e_{i} f_{j}-f_{j} e_{i} & =\delta_{i j} \frac{q^{\frac{1}{2}\left(\varepsilon_{i}-\varepsilon_{i+1}\right)}-q^{-\frac{1}{2}\left(\varepsilon_{i}-\varepsilon_{i+1}\right)}}{q^{\frac{1}{2}}-q^{-\frac{1}{2}}},
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& e_{i \pm 1} e_{i}^{2}-\left(q^{\frac{1}{2}}+q^{-\frac{1}{2}}\right) e_{i} e_{i \pm 1} e_{i}+e_{i}^{2} e_{i \pm 1}=0 \\
& f_{i \pm 1} f_{i}^{2}-\left(q^{\frac{1}{2}}+q^{-\frac{1}{2}}\right) f_{i} f_{i \pm 1} f_{i}+f_{i}^{2} f_{i \pm 1}=0, \\
& e_{i} e_{j}=e_{j} e_{i}, \quad f_{i} f_{j}=f_{j} f_{i}, \quad \text { if }|i-j|>1
\end{aligned}
$$

Define

$$
t_{i}=q^{\frac{\varepsilon_{i}}{4}}(1 \leq i \leq r) \quad k_{i}=t_{i} t_{i+1}^{-1} \quad(1 \leq i \leq r-1)
$$

There is a Hopf algebra structure (see [11], p. 248) on $U_{q} \mathfrak{g l}(r)$ with comultiplication $\Delta$ and counit $u$ given by

$$
\begin{align*}
& \Delta\left(e_{i}\right)=e_{i} \otimes k_{i}^{-1}+k_{i} \otimes e_{i}, \quad u\left(e_{i}\right)=0, \\
& \Delta\left(f_{i}\right)=f_{i} \otimes k_{i}^{-1}+k_{i} \otimes f_{i}, \quad u\left(f_{i}\right)=0,  \tag{2.1}\\
& \Delta\left(t_{i}\right)=t_{i} \otimes t_{i}, \quad u\left(t_{i}\right)=1 .
\end{align*}
$$

### 2.1. Representations and characters of $U_{q} \mathfrak{g l}(r)$

Let $\mathfrak{h}$ be a Cartan subalgebra of the Lie algebra $\mathfrak{g l}(r)$, and let $\varepsilon_{1}, \ldots, \varepsilon_{r}$ be an orthonormal basis for $\mathfrak{h}^{*}$ with respect to an inner product (, ). The weight lattice is $L=\sum_{i=1}^{r} \mathbb{Z} \varepsilon_{i}$, and the dominant integral weights are of the form

$$
\lambda=m_{1} \varepsilon_{1}+\cdots+m_{r} \varepsilon_{r}, \quad m_{i} \in \mathbb{Z}, m_{1} \geq m_{2} \geq \cdots \geq m_{r}
$$

We identify the dominant weight $\lambda$ with the sequence $\left(\lambda_{1}, \ldots, \lambda_{r}\right)$, and we let $V_{q}(\lambda)$ denote the irreducible $U_{q} \mathfrak{g l}(r)$-module with dominant weight $\lambda$ (see [2], Section 10.1, for example).

Any finite dimensional $U_{q} \mathfrak{g l}(r)$-module $V$ has a basis $B$ consisting of weight vectors, where, for each $b \in B$, there exists $\operatorname{wt}(b) \in L$ such that

$$
t_{i} b=q^{\frac{1}{4}\left(\varepsilon_{i}, \mathrm{wt}(b)\right)} b, \quad 1 \leq i \leq r
$$

Let $x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r}$ be indeterminates, and define the character of $V$ to be

$$
\begin{equation*}
\operatorname{ch}(V)=\sum_{b \in B} x^{\mathrm{wt}(b)} \tag{2.2}
\end{equation*}
$$

where if $\mathrm{wt}(b)=a_{1} \varepsilon_{1}+\cdots+a_{r} \varepsilon_{r}$, then $x^{\mathrm{wt}(b)}=x_{1}^{a_{1}} \cdots x_{r}^{a_{r}}$. It is known (see [2], Proposition 10.1.5) that $\operatorname{ch}\left(V_{q}(\lambda)\right)$ is the same as the corresponding character of $\mathfrak{g l}(r)$, and so it is given by the Weyl denominator formula. Thus, when $\lambda$ is a partition, the character of $V_{q}(\lambda)$ is given by the Schur function,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\operatorname{ch}\left(V_{q}(\lambda)\right)=s_{\lambda}\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r}\right)=\frac{\operatorname{det}\left(x_{i}^{\lambda_{j}+r-j}\right)}{\operatorname{det}\left(x_{i}^{r-j}\right)} \tag{2.3}
\end{equation*}
$$

### 2.2. The bitrace

If $V$ is a finite-dimensional $U_{q} \mathfrak{g l}(r)$-module and $Z=E n d_{U_{q} \mathfrak{g l}(r)}(V)$ is its centralizer algebra, then define, for each $\phi \in Z$,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\operatorname{btr}(\phi)=\sum_{b \in B} x^{\mathrm{wt}(b)}\left(\left.\phi b\right|_{b}\right), \tag{2.4}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $B$ is a weight basis of $V$ (a basis consisting of weight vectors) and $\left.\phi b\right|_{b}$ is the coefficient of $b$ in $\phi b$. For $\mu \in L$, let $V_{\mu}$ denote the $\mu$-weight space of $V$. Then, since $Z$ commutes with $U_{q} \mathfrak{g l}(r)$, we know that $Z$ preserves weight spaces, and so by summing over weight spaces we get

$$
\operatorname{btr}(\phi)=\sum_{\mu \in L} \operatorname{dim}\left(V_{\mu}\right) x^{\mu} \operatorname{tr}_{V_{\mu}}(\phi)
$$

where $\operatorname{tr}_{V_{\mu}}(\phi)$ is the trace of $\phi$ on $V_{\mu}$. In particular $b \operatorname{tr}(\phi)$ is a weighted sum of usual traces, and it satisfies the trace property, $\operatorname{btr}\left(\phi_{1} \phi_{2}\right)=\operatorname{btr}\left(\phi_{2} \phi_{1}\right)$ for all $\phi_{1}, \phi_{2} \in Z$.

Now, by double centralizer theory (see for example [3], Section 3D), we have a decomposition of the form

$$
V \cong \bigoplus_{\lambda} V_{q}(\lambda) \otimes Z^{\lambda}
$$

where $Z^{\lambda}$ is an irreducible $Z$-module and the sum is over the highest weights $\lambda$ for which $V_{q}(\lambda)$ is a constituent of $V$. For each module $V_{q}(\lambda) \otimes Z^{\lambda}$ we choose a basis $\left\{b_{i}^{\lambda} \otimes z_{j}^{\lambda}\right\}$, where $B_{\lambda}=\left\{b_{i}\right\}$ is a weight basis of $V_{q}(\lambda)$ and $\left\{z_{j}^{\lambda}\right\}$ is a basis of $Z^{\lambda}$. The bitrace becomes

$$
\begin{equation*}
\operatorname{btr}(\phi)=\left.\sum_{\lambda} \sum_{b \in B_{\lambda}} x^{\mathrm{wt}(b)} \sum_{j} \phi z_{j}^{\lambda}\right|_{z_{j}^{\lambda}}=\sum_{\lambda} \operatorname{ch}\left(V_{q}(\lambda)\right) \chi_{Z}^{\lambda}(\phi) \tag{2.5}
\end{equation*}
$$

Here $\left.\phi z_{j}^{\lambda}\right|_{z_{j}^{\lambda}}$ is the coefficient of $z_{j}^{\lambda}$ in $\phi z_{j}^{\lambda}$, and $\chi_{Z}^{\lambda}(\phi)=\left.\sum_{j} \phi z_{j}^{\lambda}\right|_{z_{j}^{\lambda}}$ is the character of $Z^{\lambda}$ evaluated at $\phi$. We thank Arun Ram for suggesting this derivation of (2.5).

### 2.3. Schur-Weyl duality

The "fundamental" $r$-dimensional $U_{q} \mathfrak{g l}(r)$-module $V=V_{q}((1))=V_{q}\left(\omega_{1}\right)$ is the vector space

$$
V=\mathbb{C}\left(q^{1 / 4}\right)-\operatorname{span}\left\{v_{1}, \ldots, v_{r}\right\}
$$

(so that the symbols $v_{i}$ form a basis of $V$ ) with $U_{q} \mathfrak{g l}(r)$-action given by (see [11], Proposition 1)

$$
e_{i} v_{j}=\left\{\begin{array}{ll}
v_{j+1}, & \text { if } j=i, \\
0, & \text { if } j \neq i,
\end{array} \quad f_{i} v_{j}= \begin{cases}v_{j-1}, & \text { if } j=i+1, \\
0, & \text { if } j \neq i+1,\end{cases}\right.
$$

and

$$
t_{i} v_{j}= \begin{cases}q^{1 / 4} v_{j}, & \text { if } j=i \\ v_{j}, & \text { if } j \neq i\end{cases}
$$

The "trivial" 1-dimensional $U_{q} \mathfrak{g l}(r)$-module $W=V_{q}(\emptyset)$ is the vector space

$$
W=\mathbb{C}\left(q^{1 / 4}\right)-\operatorname{span}\left\{v_{0}\right\}
$$

(so that the symbol $v_{0}$ is a basis of $W$ ) with $U_{q} \mathfrak{g l}(r)$-action given by the counit $u$

$$
e_{i} v_{0}=f_{i} v_{0}=0 \quad \text { and } \quad t_{i} v_{0}=v_{0}
$$

Let $U=V \oplus W$ so that $U$ has basis $v_{0}, v_{1}, \ldots, v_{r}$. The coproduct on $U_{q} \mathfrak{g l}(r)$ is coassociative, so we can form the $n$-fold tensor product representation $U^{\otimes n}$. The simple tensors $v_{i_{1}} \otimes \cdots \otimes v_{i_{n}}$ form a basis for $U^{\otimes n}$, i.e.,

$$
U^{\otimes n}=\mathbb{C}(q)-\operatorname{span}\left\{v_{i_{1}} \otimes \cdots \otimes v_{i_{n}} \mid 0 \leq i_{j} \leq n\right\} .
$$

Define an action of $R_{n}(q)$ on $U^{\otimes n}$ as follows. The action of a generator $T_{k}, 1 \leq k \leq n-1$, and $P_{j}, 1 \leq j \leq n$, on a simple tensor $\mathbf{v}=v_{i_{1}} \otimes \cdots \otimes v_{i_{n}}$ in $U^{\otimes n}$ is given by

$$
\begin{align*}
& T_{k} \mathbf{v}= \begin{cases}q \mathbf{v}, & \text { if } i_{k}=i_{k+1} \\
(q-1) \mathbf{v}+q^{1 / 2} s_{k} \mathbf{v}, & \text { if } i_{k}<i_{k+1} \\
q^{1 / 2} s_{k} \mathbf{v}, & \text { if } i_{k}>i_{k+1}\end{cases}  \tag{2.6}\\
& P_{j} \mathbf{v}= \begin{cases}\mathbf{v}, & \text { if } i_{1}=i_{2}=\cdots=i_{j}=0 \\
0, & \text { otherwise }\end{cases}
\end{align*}
$$

where $s_{k}$ acts on $\mathbf{v}$ by place permutation,

$$
s_{k}\left(v_{i_{1}} \otimes \cdots \otimes v_{i_{k}} \otimes v_{i_{k+1}} \otimes \cdots \otimes v_{i_{n}}\right)=v_{i_{1}} \otimes \cdots \otimes v_{i_{k+1}} \otimes v_{i_{k}} \otimes \cdots \otimes v_{i_{n}} .
$$

Solomon [20] first proved that (2.6) extends to an action of $R_{n}(q)$ on tensor space, although he used a different generator $N$ in place of the $P_{i}$, and he proved that the action is faithful when $r \geq n$.

Halverson [10] proved that $R_{n}(q)$ commutes with $U_{q} \mathfrak{g l}(r)$ on $U^{\otimes n}$, and so if $r \geq n$,
 irreducibles as

$$
\begin{equation*}
U^{\otimes n} \cong \bigoplus_{k=0}^{n} \bigoplus_{\lambda \vdash k} V_{q}(\lambda) \otimes M_{q}^{\lambda} \tag{2.7}
\end{equation*}
$$

as a bimodule for $U_{q} \mathfrak{g l}(r) \otimes R_{n}(q)$. Here, $V_{q}(\lambda)$ is the irreducible $U_{q} \mathfrak{g l}(r)$-module of highest weight $\lambda$, and $M_{q}^{\lambda}$ is the irreducible $R_{n}(q)$-module corresponding to $\lambda$.

### 2.4. A Frobenius formula

Putting together (2.3), (2.5) and (2.7), proves
Proposition 2.1 For all $h \in R_{n}(q)$, we have

$$
\operatorname{btr}(h)=\sum_{k=0}^{n} \cdot \sum_{\lambda \vdash k} s_{\lambda}\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r}\right) \chi_{R_{n}(q)}^{\lambda}(h),
$$

where $\chi_{R_{n}(q)}^{\lambda}$ is the irreducible $R_{n}(q)$ character labeled by $\lambda$.
Let $n=n_{1}+n_{2}, d_{1} \in R_{n_{1}}(q)$, and $d_{2} \in R_{n_{2}}(q)$. Then the bitrace of $d_{1} \otimes d_{2} \in R_{n}(q)$ on $U^{\otimes n}$ satisfies $\operatorname{btr}\left(d_{1} \otimes d_{2}\right)=\operatorname{btr}\left(d_{1}\right) \operatorname{btr}\left(d_{2}\right)$, where $\operatorname{btr}\left(d_{i}\right)$ is the bitrace of $d_{i}$ on $U^{\otimes n_{i}}$ (the proof is identitical to that in [7] Section 5, since $d_{1}$ acts on the first $n_{1}$ tensor slots and $d_{2}$ acts on the last $n_{2}$ tensor slots). Thus if $\mu=\left(\mu_{1}, \ldots, \mu_{\ell}\right)$ is a composition with $0 \leq|\mu| \leq n$, and $T_{\mu}$ is defined as in (1.9), then

$$
\begin{equation*}
\operatorname{btr}\left(T_{\mu}\right)=\operatorname{btr}\left(P_{n-k}\right) \operatorname{btr}\left(T_{\mu_{1}}\right) \cdots \operatorname{btr}\left(T_{\mu_{\ell}}\right) \tag{2.8}
\end{equation*}
$$

As in [15], let $q_{0}\left(x_{0}, x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r} ; q\right)=1$, and for a positive integer $k$ define

$$
\begin{equation*}
q_{k}\left(x_{0}, x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r} ; q\right)=\sum_{I=\left(i_{1}, \ldots, i_{k}\right)} q^{e(I)}(q-1)^{\ell(I)} x_{i_{1}} \cdots x_{i_{k}} \tag{2.9}
\end{equation*}
$$

where the sum is over all weakly increasing sequences $I=\left(0 \leq i_{1} \leq \cdots \leq i_{k} \leq r\right), e(I)$ is the number of $i_{j} \in I$ such that $i_{j}=i_{j+1}$, and $\ell(I)$ is the number of $i_{j} \in I$ such that $i_{j}<i_{j+1}$. For a composition $\mu=\left(\mu_{1}, \mu_{2}, \ldots, \mu_{\ell}\right)$, define

$$
\begin{equation*}
q_{\mu}=q_{\mu_{1}} q_{\mu_{2}} \cdots q_{\mu_{\ell}} \tag{2.10}
\end{equation*}
$$

## Proposition 2.2

(a) The bitrace of $T_{\gamma_{k}}$ on $U^{\otimes k}$ is $\operatorname{btr}\left(T_{\gamma_{k}}\right)=q_{k}\left(x_{0}, x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r} ; q\right)$.
(b) The bitrace of $P_{k}$ on $U^{\otimes k}$ is $\operatorname{btr}\left(P_{k}\right)=1$.
(c) For a composition $\mu$ with $0 \leq|\mu| \leq n$, the bitrace of $T_{\mu}$ on $U^{\otimes n}$ is

$$
\operatorname{btr}\left(T_{\mu}\right)=q_{\mu}\left(x_{0}, \ldots, x_{r} ; q\right)
$$

Proof: Recall from Section 2.3, that $t_{i} v_{0}=v_{0}$, and for $1 \leq j \leq r, t_{j} v_{j}=q^{\frac{1}{4}} v_{j}$ and $t_{i} v_{j}=v_{j}$ if $i \neq j$. Let $x_{0}=1$. Then

$$
x^{\mathrm{wt}\left(v_{0}\right)}=1=x_{0} \quad \text { and } \quad x^{\mathrm{wt}\left(v_{j}\right)}=x^{\varepsilon_{j}}=x_{j}, \quad 1 \leq j \leq r
$$

so the simple tensors $v_{i_{1}} \otimes \cdots \otimes v_{i_{n}}$ form a weight basis of $U^{\otimes n}$ satisfying

$$
x^{\operatorname{wt}\left(v_{i_{1}} \otimes \cdots \otimes v_{i_{n}}\right)}=x_{i_{1}} \cdots x_{i_{n}} .
$$

Now, the proof of (a) is exactly as the proof of [15], Theorem 4.1. For (b), we have $P_{k}\left(v_{i_{1}} \cdots v_{i_{k}}\right)=0$ unless $i_{1}=\cdots=i_{n}=0$, and $P_{k}\left(v_{0} \cdots v_{0}\right)=v_{0} \cdots v_{0}$. Part (c) follows from (a), (b), and (2.8).

Combining Propositions 2.1 and 2.2(c), we have the following Frobenius formula for $R_{n}(q)$.

Theorem 2.3 Let $\mu$ be a composition with $0 \leq|\mu| \leq n$. Then

$$
q_{\mu}\left(1, x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r} ; q\right)=\sum_{k=0}^{n} \sum_{\lambda \vdash k} \chi_{R_{n}(q)}^{\lambda}\left(T_{\mu}\right) s_{\lambda}\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r}\right)
$$

where $T_{\mu}$ is defined in (1.9) and $\chi_{R_{n}(q)}^{\lambda}$ is the irreducible $R_{n}(q)$-character labeled by $\lambda$.
We saw in (1.10) that upon setting $q=1$ we have $\left.\chi_{R_{n}(q)}^{\lambda}\left(T_{\mu}\right)\right|_{q=1}=\chi_{R_{n}}^{\lambda}\left(d_{\mu}\right)$. Furthermore, it is easy to see that $q_{\mu}\left(x_{0}, x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r} ; 1\right)=p_{\mu}\left(x_{0}, x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r}\right)$, since when $q=1$ in (2.9) we must have $i_{1}=i_{2}=\cdots=i_{k}$. Thus, setting $q=1$ in Theorem 2.3, gives

Theorem 2.4 Let $\mu$ be a composition with $0 \leq|\mu| \leq n$. Then

$$
p_{\mu}\left(1, x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r}\right)=\sum_{k=0}^{n} \sum_{\lambda \vdash k} \chi_{R_{n}}^{\lambda}\left(d_{\mu}\right) s_{\lambda}\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r}\right),
$$

where $d_{\mu}$ is defined in (1.9) and $\chi_{R_{n}}^{\lambda}$ is the irreducible $R_{n}$-character indexed by $\lambda$.

The next corollary (of Theorem 2.3) tells us that the character table of $R_{n}(q)$ has the form shown in (0.3).

Corollary 2.5 Let $\lambda \in \Lambda_{n}$ and let $\mu$ be a composition with $0 \leq|\mu| \leq n$, then
(a) if $|\lambda|>|\mu|$, then $\chi_{R_{n}(q)}^{\lambda}\left(T_{\mu}\right)=0$.
(b) if $|\lambda| \leq|\mu|$, then $\chi_{R_{n}(q)}^{\lambda}\left(T_{\mu}\right)=\chi_{R_{|\mu|}(q)}^{\lambda}\left(T_{\gamma_{\mu}}\right)$.

Proof: From Theorem 2.3, we see that

$$
\sum_{k=0}^{n} \sum_{\lambda \vdash k} \chi_{R_{n}(q)}^{\lambda}\left(T_{\mu}\right) s_{\lambda}\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r}\right)=\sum_{k=0}^{|\mu|} \sum_{\lambda \vdash k} \chi_{R_{|\mu|}(q)}^{\lambda}\left(T_{\gamma_{\mu}}\right) s_{\lambda}\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r}\right),
$$

since each side of this equation equals $q_{\mu}\left(x_{0}, x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r} ; q\right)$. This is an identity in the ring of symmetric functions, and the Schur functions are linearly independent, so the corollary follows from equating the coefficient of $s_{\lambda}$ on both sides. In particular, when $|\lambda|>|\mu|$ the coefficient of $s_{\lambda}$ on the right side is 0 , proving part (a).

## 3. Murnaghan-Nakayama rules

If $\lambda$ and $\mu$ are partitions, we say that $\mu \subseteq \lambda$ if $\mu_{i} \leq \lambda_{i}$ for each $i$. The skew shape $\lambda / v$ consists of the boxes that are in $\lambda$ and not in $\mu$. Two boxes in $\lambda / \mu$ are adjacent if they share a common edge, and $\lambda / \nu$ is connected if you can travel from any box to any other via a path of adjacent boxes. A skew shape $\lambda / v$ is a broken border strip (bbs) if it does not contain any $2 \times 2$ blocks of boxes, and a broken border strip is a border strip if it is a single connected component. Each broken border strip $\lambda / v$ contains $c c(\lambda / \nu)$ connected components (border strips).

The width and height of a border strip $b$ are defined, respectively, by

$$
\begin{align*}
& w(b)=(\text { the number of columns that } b \text { occupies })-1, \\
& h(b)=(\text { the number of rows that } b \text { occupies })-1 \tag{3.1}
\end{align*}
$$

For a skew shape $\lambda / \nu$, we define

$$
w t_{\lambda / v}(q)= \begin{cases}(q-1)^{c c(\lambda / v)-1} \prod_{b} q^{w(b)}(-1)^{h(b)}, & \text { if } \lambda / v \text { is a bbs }  \tag{3.2}\\ 0, & \text { otherwise }\end{cases}
$$

where the product is over the connected components (border strips) $b$ in $\lambda / \nu$. For example

is a broken border strip consisting of two connected components $b_{1}$ and $b_{2}$ with $w\left(b_{1}\right)=$ $2, h\left(b_{1}\right)=1$ and $w\left(b_{2}\right)=3, h\left(b_{2}\right)=2$. Thus its weight is $(q-1) q^{2}(-1) q^{3}(-1)^{2}=$ $-(q-1) q^{5}$.

A key step in proving the Murnaghan-Nakayama rule for $H_{n}(q)$ is the following proposition [15] (see also [7]), which is a $q$-analog of [12], Section 3, Example 11(2),

Proposition 3.1 (Ram [15]) If $v \vdash(n-k)$, then

$$
q_{k}\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r} ; q\right) s_{v}\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r}\right)=\sum_{\lambda \vdash n} w t_{\lambda / v}(q) s_{\lambda}\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r}\right),
$$

where $q_{k}$ is defined in (2.9), $s_{v}$ is the Schur function, and the sum is over all partitions $\lambda$ such that $\lambda / v$ is a broken border strip of size $k$.

To extend this result to our setting, we first expand $q_{t}\left(1, x_{1}, x_{2}, \ldots, x_{r} ; q\right)$ in terms of $q_{k}\left(x_{1}, x_{2}, \ldots, x_{r} ; q\right)$.

Lemma 3.2 For $t \geq 0$, we have

$$
q_{t}\left(1, x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r} ; q\right)=\sum_{k=0}^{t} f_{k, t}(q) q_{k}\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r} ; q\right)
$$

where

$$
f_{k, t}(q)= \begin{cases}q^{t-1}, & \text { if } k=0  \tag{3.3}\\ (q-1) q^{t-k-1}, & \text { if } 0<k<t \\ 1, & \text { if } k=t\end{cases}
$$

Proof: By definition $q_{t}\left(1, x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r} ; q\right)=\sum_{I} q^{e(I)}(q-1)^{\ell(I)} x_{i_{1}}, \ldots, x_{i_{k}}$, where the sum is over all sequences $I=\left(i_{1}, \ldots, i_{t}\right)$ of the form $0 \leq i_{1} \leq i_{2} \leq \cdots \leq i_{t} \leq r$. We let $K$ represent the subsequence of $I$ containing all the strictly positive terms in $I$, and let $k=|K|$.

Now we sum the terms in $q_{t}\left(1, x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r} ; q\right)$ according to $k$. The terms with $k=t$ contribute

$$
\sum_{K=\left(i_{1}, \ldots, i_{t}\right)} q^{e(K)}(q-1)^{\ell(K)} x_{i_{1}}, \ldots, x_{i_{t}}=q_{t}\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r} ; q\right)
$$

since $1 \leq i_{1} \leq i_{2} \leq \cdots \leq i_{t} \leq r$. The terms with $0<k<t$ each have $t-k-1$ equalities between 0 s and one jump from a 0 subscript to a nonzero subscript. Thus, they contribute

$$
\begin{aligned}
& (q-1) \sum_{k=1}^{t-1} q^{t-k-1} \sum_{K=\left(i_{t-k+1}, \ldots, i_{t}\right)} q^{e(K)}(q-1)^{\ell(K)} x_{i_{t-k+1}}, \ldots, x_{i_{t}} \\
& \quad=(q-1) \sum_{k=1}^{t-1} q^{t-k-1} q_{k}\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r} ; q\right) .
\end{aligned}
$$

Finally, there is one term with $k=0$. It has the form

$$
q^{t-1} x_{0}, \ldots, x_{0}=q^{t-1} q_{0}\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r} ; q\right)
$$

Summing these three cases gives the desired result.
Proposition 3.3 If $v \in \Lambda_{n-t}$, then

$$
q_{t}\left(1, x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r} ; q\right) s_{v}\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r}\right)=\sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda_{n}} f_{|\lambda / v|, t}(q) w t_{\lambda / v}(q) s_{\lambda}\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r}\right)
$$

where the nonzero terms in this sum are over the partitions $\lambda \in \Lambda_{n}$ such that $\lambda / v$ is a broken border strip with $0 \leq|\lambda / \nu| \leq t$.

Proof: By Proposition 3.1 and Lemma 3.2, if $v \in \Lambda_{n-t}$, we have

$$
\begin{aligned}
q_{t}\left(1, x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r} ; q\right) s_{v}\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r}\right) & =\sum_{k=0}^{t} f_{k, t}(q) q_{k}\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r} ; q\right) s_{v}\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r}\right) \\
& =\sum_{k=0}^{n} f_{k, t}(q) \sum_{\lambda \vdash(|v|+k)} w t_{\lambda / v}(q) s_{\lambda}\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r}\right) .
\end{aligned}
$$

We now are ready to derive a Murnaghan-Nakayama rule for computing the irreducible characters of $R_{n}(q)$.

Theorem 3.4 Let $\lambda \in \Lambda_{n}$ and let $\mu=\left(\mu_{1}, \ldots, \mu_{\ell}\right)$ be a composition with $0 \leq|\mu| \leq n$. Let $\mu_{\ell}=t$ and $\bar{\mu}=\left(\mu_{1}, \ldots, \mu_{\ell-1}\right)$. Then

$$
\chi_{R_{n}(q)}^{\lambda}\left(T_{\mu}\right)=\sum_{\nu \in \Lambda_{n-t}} f_{|\lambda / \nu|, t}(q) w t_{\lambda / v}(q) \chi_{R_{n-t}(q)}^{v}\left(T_{\bar{\mu}}\right)
$$

where $w t_{\lambda / v}(q)$ is defined in (3.2) and $f_{k, t}(q)$ is defined in (3.3). The nonzero terms in this sum correspond to partitions $v \in \Lambda_{n-t}$ such that $\lambda / v$ is a broken border strip with $0 \leq|\lambda / \mu| \leq t$.

Proof: From Theorem 2.3 and Proposition 3.3, we have

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda_{n}} \chi_{R_{n}(q)}^{\lambda}\left(T_{\mu}\right) s_{\lambda}\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r}\right) \\
& \quad=q_{\mu}\left(1, x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r} ; q\right) \\
& \quad=q_{\bar{\mu}}\left(1, x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r} ; q\right) q_{t}\left(1, x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r} ; q\right) \\
& \quad=\sum_{\nu \in \Lambda_{n-t}} \chi_{R_{n-t}(q)}^{\nu}\left(T_{\bar{\mu}}\right) s_{v}\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r}\right) q_{t}\left(1, x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r} ; q\right) \\
& \quad=\sum_{\nu \in \Lambda_{n-t}} \chi_{R_{n-t}(q)}^{v}\left(T_{\bar{\mu}}\right) \sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda_{n}} f_{|\lambda / \nu|, t}(q) w t_{\lambda / v}(q) s_{\lambda}\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r}\right) \\
& \quad=\sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda_{n}}\left(\sum_{v \in \Lambda_{n-t}} \chi_{R_{n-t}(q)}^{\nu}\left(T_{\bar{\mu}}\right) f_{|\lambda / v|, t}(q) w t_{\lambda / v}(q)\right) s_{\lambda}\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r}\right) .
\end{aligned}
$$

Now compare coefficients of the $s_{\lambda}$, which are a basis in the ring of symmetric functions.

When $q=1$, definitions (3.3) and (3.2) become

$$
f_{k, t}(1)= \begin{cases}1, & \text { if } k=0 \text { or } k=t  \tag{3.4}\\ 0, & \text { otherwise }\end{cases}
$$

$$
w t_{\lambda / v}(1)= \begin{cases}(-1)^{h(\lambda / v)}, & \text { if } \lambda / v \text { is a border strip }  \tag{3.5}\\ 0, & \text { otherwise }\end{cases}
$$

It follows that the Murnaghan-Nakayama rule for the rook monoid is
Theorem 3.5 Let $\lambda \in \Lambda_{n}$ and let $\mu=\left(\mu_{1}, \ldots, \mu_{\ell}\right)$ be a composition with $0 \leq|\mu| \leq n$. Let $\mu_{\ell}=t$ and $\bar{\mu}=\left(\mu_{1}, \ldots, \mu_{\ell-1}\right)$. Then

$$
\chi_{R_{n}}^{\lambda}\left(d_{\mu}\right)=\sum_{\nu \in \Lambda_{n-t}}(-1)^{h(\lambda / \nu)} \chi_{R_{n-t}}^{v}\left(d_{\bar{\mu}}\right),
$$

where the sum is over partitions $v \in \Lambda_{n-t}$ such that either $v=\lambda$ or $\lambda / v$ is a border strip of size $t$.

## 4. Robinson-Schensted-Knuth insertion and Roichman weights

Fix $r \geq n$. For a partition $\mu=\left(\mu_{1}, \ldots, \mu_{\ell}\right) \in \Lambda_{n}$ define $B(\mu)$ to be the set of partial sums of $\mu$ so that

$$
\begin{equation*}
B(\mu)=\left\{\mu_{1}, \mu_{1}+\mu_{2}, \ldots, \mu_{1}+\cdots+\mu_{\ell}\right\} \tag{4.1}
\end{equation*}
$$

For $\mu \vdash k$, define the $\mu$-weight of $x_{i_{1}}, \ldots, x_{i_{k}}$, with $0 \leq i_{j} \leq r$, to be

$$
\begin{equation*}
w t_{\mu}\left(x_{i_{1}}, \ldots, x_{i_{k}}\right)=\prod_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \notin B(\mu)}}^{k} \phi_{\mu}\left(j, x_{i_{1}}, \ldots, x_{i_{n}}\right), \tag{4.2}
\end{equation*}
$$

where

$$
\phi_{\mu}\left(j, x_{i_{1}}, \ldots, x_{i_{k}}\right)=\left\{\begin{array}{ll}
-1 & \text { if } i_{j}<i_{j+1} \\
0, & \text { if } i_{j} \geq i_{j+1} \\
q, & \text { otherwise }
\end{array} \text { and } i_{j+1}<i_{j+2} \text { and } i_{j+1} \notin B(\mu),\right.
$$

Proposition 4.1 ([16]) We have $q_{\emptyset}=1$, and for $\mu \vdash k$ with $1 \leq k \leq n$, we have

$$
q_{\mu}\left(x_{0}, x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r} ; q\right)=\sum_{x_{i_{1}}, \ldots, x_{i_{k}}} w t_{\mu}\left(x_{i_{1}}, \ldots, x_{i_{k}}\right) x_{i_{1}}, \ldots, x_{i_{k}}
$$

where the sum is over all words $x_{i_{1}}, \ldots, x_{i_{k}}$ with $0 \leq i_{j} \leq r$.
Let $\lambda \in \Lambda_{n}$ and recall our definition, in Section 1.3, of an $n$-standard tableau $Q_{\lambda}$ of shape $\lambda$. In this section we will place the numbers that are missing from $Q_{\lambda}$ in a standard tableau
of shape $(n-|\lambda|)$ to the right of $\lambda$. Thus, our example from Section 1.3 becomes,

$$
Q_{\lambda}=\left(\begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|}
\hline 2 & 3 & 9 & 10 \\
\hline 5 & 7 & 12 & 15 \\
\hline 6 & 11 & 13 \\
\hline
\end{array}, \begin{array}{ll|l|l|l|l}
\hline 1 & 4 & 8 & 14 & 16 \\
\hline
\end{array}\right) \text { is a 16-standard tableau of shape }(4,4,3) .
$$

In this way we identify $n$-standard tableaux with ordered pairs of standard tableaux, such that the second tableau is a single row, and there is a total of $n$ boxes. We write $Q_{\lambda}=\left(Q_{\lambda}^{(1)}, Q_{\lambda}^{(2)}\right)$ where $Q_{\lambda}^{(1)}$ is the original tableau and $Q_{\lambda}^{(2)}$ is the single row of "missing" entries.

In a similar fashion we identify $n$-column strict tableau $P_{\lambda}$ with an ordered pair of columnstrict tableau, but such that the second tableau is a single row of length $n-|\lambda|$ containing all 0s. Thus, our example from Section 1.3 becomes

$$
P_{\lambda}=\left(\begin{array}{l|l|l|l|l|l|l|l|l}
\hline 1 & 1 & 3 & 4 \\
\hline 3 & 3 & 8 & 8 \\
\hline 8 & 8 & 9 & & & \left.\begin{array}{ll}
0 & 0
\end{array}\right) & & & \\
\hline
\end{array}\right.
$$

We write $P_{\lambda}=\left(P_{\lambda}^{(1)}, P_{\lambda}^{(2)}\right)$ where $P_{\lambda}^{(1)}$ is the original tableau and $P_{\lambda}^{(2)}$ is the single row of 0 s . The Schur function can be written as

$$
\begin{equation*}
s_{\lambda}\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r}\right)=\sum_{P_{\lambda}} x_{1}^{m_{1}\left(P_{\lambda}\right)} x_{2}^{m_{2}\left(P_{\lambda}\right)}, \ldots, x_{r}^{m_{r}\left(P_{\lambda}\right)} \tag{4.3}
\end{equation*}
$$

where the sum is over all $r$-column strict tableaux of shape $\lambda$ and $m_{i}\left(P_{\lambda}\right)$ is the number of times that $i$ appears in $P_{\lambda}$.

For an $n$-standard tableau $Q_{\lambda}$ of shape $\lambda$ define

$$
\begin{equation*}
w t_{\mu}\left(Q_{\lambda}\right)=\prod_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \notin B(\mu)}}^{k} \psi_{\mu}\left(j, Q_{\lambda}\right) \tag{4.4}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $B(\mu)$ is as defined in (4.1) and

$$
\psi_{\mu}\left(j, Q_{\lambda}\right)= \begin{cases}-1, & \text { if } j+1 \text { is southwest of } j \text { in } Q_{\lambda}, \\ 0, & \text { if } j+1 \text { is northeast of } j \text { in } Q_{\lambda} \text { and } j+2 \text { is } \\ \quad \text { southwest of } j+1 \text { in } Q_{\lambda} \text { and } j+1 \notin B(\mu), \\ q, & \text { otherwise. }\end{cases}
$$

Here, by "southwest" we mean south (below) and/or west (left), by "northeast" we mean north (above) and/or east (right) or both. Furthermore, we consider the entries of $Q_{\lambda}^{(1)}$ to be southwest of those in $Q_{\lambda}^{(2)}$. Notice that $j+1$ cannot be south and east of $j$ in a standard tableau. For example, in the standard tableau $Q_{\lambda}$ above, 2 is southwest of 1,3 is northeast of 2,4 is northeast of 3,5 is southwest of 4 , etc.

The Robinson-Schensted-Knuth (RSK) correspondence (see [21], Section 3.2) is an algorithm which gives a bijection between sequences $x_{i_{1}}, \ldots, x_{i_{n}}$, with $1 \leq i_{j} \leq m$, and pairs $(P, Q)$ where $P$ is a column-strict tableaux, $Q$ is a standard tableau, and $P$ and $Q$ have shape $\lambda$ for some partition $\lambda$ with $n$ boxes. The RSK algorithm constructs the pair of tableaux $(P, Q)$ iteratively,

$$
(\emptyset, \emptyset)=\left(P_{0}, Q_{0}\right),\left(P_{1}, Q_{1}\right), \ldots,\left(P_{n}, Q_{n}\right)=(P, Q)
$$

in such a way that
(1) $P_{j}$ is a column strict tableau that contains $j$ boxes, and $Q_{j}$ is a standard tableau that has the same shape as $P_{j}$,
(2) $P_{j}$ is obtained from $P_{j-1}$ by column inserting $i_{j}$ into $P_{j-1}$, denoted $P_{j}=P_{j-1} \leftarrow i_{j}$, as follows
(a) Insert $i_{j}$ into the first column of $P_{j-1}$ by displacing the smallest number $\geq i_{j}$; if every number is $<i_{j}$, add $i_{j}$ to the bottom of the first column,
(b) If $i_{j}$ displaces $x$ from the first column, insert $x$ into the second column using the rules of (a),
(c) Repeat for each subsequent column until a number is added to the bottom of some (possibly empty) column,
(3) $Q_{j}$ is obtained from $Q_{j-1}$ by putting $j$ in the newly added box (i.e., the box created in going from $P_{j-1}$ to $P_{j}$ ).

The standard tableau $Q$ is called the recording tableau.
We modify RSK insertion to work for $n$-standard and $n$-column strict tableaux. Given a sequence $x_{i_{1}}, \ldots, x_{i_{n}}$ with $0 \leq i_{j} \leq r$, our insertion scheme constructs a sequence $(\emptyset, \emptyset)=\left(P_{0}, Q_{0}\right), \ldots,\left(P_{n}, Q_{n}\right)=(P, Q)$, where $P_{i}=\left(P_{i}^{(1)}, P_{i}^{(2)}\right)$ is an $i$-semistandard tableaux, $Q_{i}=\left(Q_{i}^{(0)}, Q_{i}^{(1)}\right)$ is an $i$-standard tableaux, and $P_{i}$ and $Q_{i}$ have the same shape. Our insertion rule uses usual column insertion in one of the components according to the following rule:

$$
\left(P_{j-1}^{(1)}, P_{j-1}^{(2)}\right) \leftarrow i_{j}= \begin{cases}\left(P_{j-1}^{(1)} \leftarrow i_{j}, P_{j-1}^{(2)}\right), & \text { if } i_{j}>0 \\ \left(P_{j-1}^{(1)}, P_{j-1}^{(2)} \leftarrow i_{j}\right), & \text { if } i_{j}=0\end{cases}
$$

That is, insert 0 s into the second tableau and insert nonzero numbers into the first tableau, using usual column insertion in both cases. Again, we construct $Q_{i}$ from $Q_{i-1}$ by putting $i$ into the new box added in the $i$ th step. For example, the result of inserting $x_{2}, x_{1}, x_{0}, x_{2}, x_{0}$ is

Two well-known properties of RSK insertion are
(4) If $i_{j}<i_{j+1}$ and $P_{j+1}=\left(P_{j-1} \leftarrow i_{j}\right) \leftarrow i_{j+1}$, then $j+1$ is southwest of $j$ in $Q_{j+1}$,
(5) If $i_{j} \geq i_{j+1}$ and $P_{j+1}=\left(P_{j-1} \leftarrow i_{j}\right) \leftarrow i_{j+1}$, then $j+1$ is southwest of $j$ in $Q_{j+1}$,

In our modified insertion, we always keep the 0 s to the right (northeast) of the nonzero numbers, so properties (1) and (2) still hold. By property (2), the second tableau in our insertion will always be a single row. Thus, our insertion establishes a bijection between sequences $x_{i_{1}}, \ldots, x_{i_{n}}$, with $0 \leq i_{j} \leq r$, and pairs $(P, Q)$, where $P$ is an $n$-column strict tableau, and $Q$ is an $n$-standard tableau, each having shape $\lambda \vdash k$ with $0 \leq k \leq n$ (note that $k$ is the number of nonzero subscripts in $x_{i_{1}}, \ldots, x_{i_{n}}$ ). Furthermore, it follows from (4.2), (4.4), and properties (4) and (5) of RSK insertion that this bijection is weight preserving, i.e., for all $\mu \in \Lambda_{n}$,

$$
\begin{align*}
& \text { if }(P, Q) \text { results from inserting } x_{i_{1}}, \ldots, x_{i_{n}} \text {, then } \\
& w t_{\mu}\left(x_{i_{1}}, \ldots, x_{i_{n}}\right)=w t_{\mu}(Q) \text { and } x^{P}=x_{i_{1}}, \ldots, x_{i_{n}} \text {. } \tag{4.5}
\end{align*}
$$

Proposition 4.2 For each $\mu \in \Lambda_{n}$, we have

$$
q_{\mu}\left(x_{0}, \ldots, x_{r} ; q\right)=\sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda_{n}}\left(\sum_{Q_{\lambda}} w t_{\mu}\left(Q_{\lambda}\right)\right) s_{\lambda}\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r}\right)
$$

where the inner sum is over all $n$-standard tableaux of shape $\lambda$.
Proof: Using (4.5) and Proposition 4.1, we have

$$
\begin{aligned}
q_{\mu}\left(x_{0}, \ldots, x_{r} ; q\right) & =\sum_{x_{i_{1}}, \ldots, x_{i_{n}}} w t_{\mu}\left(x_{i_{1}}, \ldots, x_{i_{n}}\right) x_{i_{1}}, \ldots, x_{i_{n}} \\
& =\sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda_{n}} \sum_{P_{\lambda}, Q_{\lambda}} w t_{\mu}\left(Q_{\lambda}\right) x^{P_{\lambda}} \\
& =\sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda_{n}}\left(\sum_{Q_{\lambda}} w t_{\mu}\left(Q_{\lambda}\right)\right)\left(\sum_{P_{\lambda}} x^{P_{\lambda}}\right) \\
& =\sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda_{n}}\left(\sum_{Q_{\lambda}} w t_{\mu}\left(Q_{\lambda}\right)\right) s_{\lambda}\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r}\right),
\end{aligned}
$$

where the sums are over all $n$-column strict tableaux $P_{\lambda}$ of shape $\lambda$ and all $n$-standard tableaux $Q_{\lambda}$ of shape $\lambda$.

By comparing coefficients of the $s_{\lambda}$, which are linearly independent in the ring of symmetric functions, in Theorem 2.3 and Proposition 4.2, we get the following theorem. It is a generalization of Roichman's rule [17] for $H_{n}(q)$.

Theorem 4.3 For $\mu, \lambda \in \Lambda_{n}$, we have

$$
\chi_{R_{n}(q)}^{\lambda}\left(T_{\mu}\right)=\sum_{Q_{\lambda}} w t_{\mu}\left(Q_{\lambda}\right),
$$

where the sum is over all $n$-standard tableaux of shape $\lambda$.
All of our calculations work when $q=1$, and so we have
Corollary 4.4 Let $\mu \in \Lambda_{n}$. Then
(1) $p_{\mu}\left(1, x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r}\right)=\sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda_{n}}\left(\sum_{Q_{\lambda}} w t_{\mu}\left(Q_{\lambda}\right)\right) s_{\lambda}\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r}\right)$,
(2) For each $\lambda \in \Lambda_{n}, \chi_{R_{n}}^{\lambda}\left(d_{\mu}\right)=\sum_{Q_{\lambda}} w t_{\mu}\left(Q_{\lambda}\right)$,
where in each case $Q_{\lambda}$ varies over all $n$-standard tableaux of shape $\lambda$ and $w t_{\mu}$ is computed as in (4.4) with $q=1$.

## 5. Standard elements

We now show that $R_{n}(q)$-characters are completely determined by their values on the standard elements $T_{\mu}$. In doing so, we show that $R_{n}(q)$ satisfies a basic construction similar to the partition algebra [9]. In Section 5.2, we define rook diagrams and use them to show how to explicitly "conjugate" elements of $R_{n}$ to get standard elements $d_{\mu}$.

### 5.1. Standard elements in $R_{n}(q)$

The elements $s_{1}, \ldots, s_{n-1}$ generate $S_{n}$, and a reduced word for $w \in S_{n}$ is a product $w=$ $s_{i_{1}}, \ldots, s_{i_{k}}$ with $k$ minimal. Given a reduced word $w=s_{i_{1}} s_{i_{2}}, \ldots, s_{i_{k}} \in S_{n}$, let $T_{w}=$ $T_{i_{1}} T_{i_{2}}, \ldots, T_{i_{k}} \in H_{n}(q)$. The element $T_{w}$ is well-defined (independent of choice of the reduced word for $w$ ), and the elements $T_{w}, w \in S_{n}$, form a basis of $H_{n}(q)$. Furthermore,

Theorem 5.1 (Ram [15]) The characters of $H_{n}(q)$ are completely determined by their values on the set $\left\{T_{\gamma_{\mu}} \mid \mu \vdash n\right\}$.

The proof in [15] of Theorem 5.1 shows that for any $w \in S_{n}$ there exists $a_{w \mu} \in \mathbb{Z}[q]$ such that $T_{w}=\sum_{\mu \vdash n} a_{w \mu} T_{\gamma_{\mu}}$ In [7] we give a new basis $\left\{L_{w} \mid w \in S_{n}\right\}$ for $H_{n}(q)$ such that for any character $\chi$, we have $\chi\left(L_{w}\right)=\chi\left(T_{\gamma_{\mu}}\right)$, where $\mu$ is the cycle type of the permutation $w$.

For $1 \leq i \leq n$, define $T_{i, i}=1$, and define

$$
T_{i, j}=T_{j-1} T_{j-2}, \ldots, T_{i}, \quad \text { for } 1 \leq i<j \leq n .
$$

Let $A=\left\{a_{1}, a_{2}, \ldots, a_{k}\right\} \subseteq\{1,2, \ldots, n\}$, and assume that $a_{1}<a_{2}<\cdots<a_{k}$. Define

$$
T_{A}=T_{1, a_{1}} T_{2, a_{2}}, \ldots, T_{k, a_{k}}
$$

Now for $0 \leq k \leq n$, define,

$$
\Omega_{k}=\left\{\begin{array}{l|l}
(A, B, w) & \begin{array}{l}
A, B \subseteq\{1,2, \ldots, n\},|A|=|B|=k, \\
w \in S_{\{k+1, \ldots, n\}},
\end{array}
\end{array}\right\}
$$

where $S_{\{k+1, \ldots, n\}}$ is the symmetric group of permutations of $\{k+1, \ldots, n\}$. Define

$$
T_{(A, B, w)}=T_{A} T_{w} P_{k} T_{B}^{-1}, \quad(A, B, w) \in \Omega_{k}
$$

Then let $\Omega=\bigcup_{k=0}^{n} \Omega_{k}$, and we have
Theorem 5.2 ([10]) The set $\left\{T_{(A, B, w)} \mid(A, B, w) \in \Omega\right\}$ is a $\mathbb{C}(q)$-basis of $R_{n}(q)$.
The following relations are easy to verify in $R_{n}(q)$

$$
\begin{align*}
T_{i}^{-1} & =q^{-1} T_{i}+\left(q^{-1}-1\right) \cdot 1,  \tag{5.1}\\
\left(T_{1} T_{2}, \ldots, T_{\ell}\right) T_{j} & =T_{j+1}\left(T_{1} T_{2}, \ldots, T_{\ell}\right), 1 \leq j<\ell .  \tag{5.2}\\
P_{i} P_{j} & =P_{\max (i, j)}  \tag{5.3}\\
P_{i+1} & =P_{i} T_{i} P_{i}-(q-1) P_{i} . \tag{5.4}
\end{align*}
$$

Lemma 5.3 Let $A_{n-1}$ be the subalgebra of $R_{n}(q)$ generated by $T_{2}, \ldots, T_{n-1}, P_{2}, \ldots, P_{n}$. Then for each $b \in R_{n}(q)$ there exists $a \in A_{n-1}$ such that $P_{1} b P_{1}=a P_{1}=P_{1} a$.

Proof: First note that $P_{1}$ commutes with $a \in A_{n-1}$ by (A4) in (1.3) and by (5.3). It is sufficient to prove the statement for $b=g_{1} g_{2}, \ldots, g_{k}$ where for each $i$, we have $g_{i} \in$ $\left\{T_{1}, \ldots, T_{n-1}, P_{1}, \ldots, P_{n}\right\}$. We show that $P_{1} g_{1} g_{2}, \ldots, g_{k} P_{1}=a P_{1}, a \in A_{n-1}$ by induction on $k$. When $k=1$, we have $P_{1} g_{1} P_{1}=g_{1} P_{1}$ if $g_{1} \neq T_{1}, P_{1}$. Furthermore, $P_{1} P_{1} P_{1}=P_{1} \cdot 1$, and by (5.4),

$$
P_{1} T_{1} P_{1}=P_{2}+(q-1) P_{1}=\left(P_{2}+(q-1) \cdot 1\right) P_{1}
$$

When $k>1$, we can assume $g_{1} \notin A_{n-1}$, otherwise $P_{1}\left(g_{1}, \ldots, g_{k}\right) P_{1}=g_{1} P_{1}\left(g_{2}, \ldots, g_{k}\right)$ $P_{1}$, and we can apply induction to $P_{1}\left(g_{2}, \ldots, g_{k}\right) P_{1}$. If $g_{1}=P_{1}$ we have $P_{1}\left(g_{1} g_{2}, \ldots, g_{k}\right) P_{1}$ $=P_{1}\left(g_{2}, \ldots, g_{k}\right) P_{1}$, and we can again apply induction. Thus, we assume that $g_{1}=T_{1}$. First we see that,

$$
P_{1}\left(T_{1} T_{2}, \ldots, T_{k}\right) P_{1}=P_{1} T_{1} P_{1}\left(T_{2}, \ldots, T_{k}\right)=\left(P_{2}+(q-1) \cdot 1\right)\left(T_{2}, \ldots, T_{k}\right) P_{1}
$$

Now assume that for some $\ell \geq 1, b=T_{1}, \ldots, T_{\ell} g_{\ell+1}, \ldots, g_{k}, g_{\ell+1} \neq T_{\ell+1}$, and consider the possibilities for $g_{\ell+1}$. If $g_{\ell+1}=T_{\ell}$, then we can use relation (A1) in (1.3) to write $P_{1} b P_{1}=q P_{1} b^{\prime} P_{1}+(q-1) P_{1} b^{\prime \prime} P_{1}$, where $b^{\prime}$ and $b^{\prime \prime}$ are both shorter words than $b$, so we can apply induction to each term. If $g_{\ell+1}=T_{j}$ with $j>\ell+1$, then $T_{j}$ commutes with all the elements to its left, and so it can be factored out making the word shorter. If $g_{\ell+1}=T_{j}$ with $j<\ell$, then by (5.2), $P_{1}\left(T_{1}, \ldots, T_{\ell}\right) T_{j}=T_{j+1} P_{1}\left(T_{1}, \ldots, T_{\ell}\right)$ and again induction can
be applied. If $g_{\ell+1}=P_{j}$, then by (5.4) and induction, $P_{1}\left(T_{1}, \ldots, T_{\ell}\right) P_{j}\left(g_{\ell+2}, \ldots, g_{k}\right) P_{1}=$ $P_{1}\left(T_{1}, \ldots, T_{\ell}\right) P_{1} P_{j} P_{1}\left(g_{\ell+2}, \ldots, g_{k}\right) P_{1}=a_{1} P_{1} P_{j} a_{2} P_{1}=a_{1} P_{j} a_{2} P_{1}$ for some $a_{1}, a_{2} \in$ $A_{n-1}$.

Proposition 5.4 The map $\rho: R_{n-1}(q) \rightarrow P_{1} R_{n}(q) P_{1}$ defined by

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
\rho\left(T_{i}\right)=P_{1} T_{i+1}=T_{i+1} P_{1}, & 1 \leq i \leq n-2, \\
\rho\left(P_{i}\right)=P_{i+1}, & 1 \leq i \leq n-1 .
\end{array}
$$

is an isomorphism.
Proof: Lemma 5.3 tells us that $P_{1} R_{n}(q) P_{1}=P_{1} A_{n-1}=A_{n-1} P_{1}$, and since $A_{n-1}$ is generated by $T_{i}, 2 \leq i \leq n-1$, and $P_{i}, 2 \leq i \leq n$, we see that $\rho$ maps $R_{n-1}(q)$ onto $P_{1} R_{n}(q) P_{1}$. Since $P_{1}$ commutes with $A_{n-1}$, it is easy to check that $\rho\left(T_{i}\right)$ and $\rho\left(P_{i}\right)$ satisfy the same relations (1.3) as $T_{i}$ and $P_{i}$, and thus $\rho$ is a homomorphism. To see that it is one-to-one, we compare dimensions. When we specialize $q=1$ in $P_{1} R_{n}(q) P_{1}$, the specialized algebra is the $\mathbb{C}$-span of the rook matrices of the form $\pi_{1} d \pi_{1}$, where $d \in R_{n}$. These are all the matrices in $R_{n}$ having their first row and first column equal to 0 . There are $\left|R_{n-1}\right|=\operatorname{dim}\left(R_{n-1}(q)\right)$ such matrices. Furthermore, under such a specialization, the dimension cannot go up. This is because $P_{1} R_{n}(q) P_{1}$ is generated by elements $P_{1} T_{i} P_{1}, P_{1} P_{k} P_{1}$ whose structure constants are well-defined (no poles) at $q=1$ (see [4], Section 68.A).

Theorem 5.5 If $\chi$ is an irreducible character of $R_{n}(q)$, then $\chi$ is completely determined by its values on $T_{\mu}, \mu \vdash k, 0 \leq k \leq n$.

Proof: The proof is by induction on $n$ with the cases $n=0,1$ being trivial. Let $n>$ 1 and let $\chi$ be a character of $R_{n}(q)$. It is sufficient to compute $\chi$ on a basis element $T_{(A, B, w)},(A, B, w) \in \Omega$. If $|A|=|B|=0$, then $T_{(A, B, w)}=T_{w} \in H_{n}(q)$ and by Theorem 5.1, $\chi\left(T_{w}\right)$ can be written in terms of the values $\chi\left(T_{\gamma_{\mu}}\right), \mu \vdash n$. If $|A|=|B|>0$, then we use the trace property of $\chi$ and (5.3) to get

$$
\chi\left(T_{A} T_{w} P_{k} T_{B}^{-1}\right)=\chi\left(T_{B}^{-1} T_{A} T_{w} P_{k}\right)=\chi\left(T_{B}^{-1} T_{A} T_{w} P_{k} P_{1}^{2}\right)=\chi\left(P_{1} T_{B}^{-1} T_{A} T_{w} P_{k} P_{1}\right)
$$

Since $|A|=|B|>0$, we have $P_{1} T_{B}^{-1} T_{A} T_{w} P_{k} P_{1} \in P_{1} A_{n-1} P_{1} \cong R_{n-1}(q)$. By induction, $\chi\left(P_{1} T_{B}^{-1} T_{A} T_{w} P_{k} P_{1}\right)$ can be written in terms of $\chi\left(\rho\left(T_{\mu}\right)\right)$ where $T_{\mu}$ is a standard element in $R_{n-1}(q)$. Since $\rho$ increases the subscripts of $T_{i}$ and $P_{k}$ by one and then multiplies by $P_{1}, \rho\left(T_{\mu}\right)$ is a standard element of $R_{n}(q)$.

### 5.2. Rook diagrams

We say that a rook diagram is a graph on two rows of $n$ vertices, having $k$ edges with $0 \leq k \leq n$ such that each edge is adjacent to one vertex in each row, and each vertex is incident to at most one edge. We multiply two rook diagrams $d_{1}$ and $d_{2}$ by placing $d_{1}$ above
$d_{2}$ and identifying the vertices in the bottom row of $d_{1}$ with the corresponding vertices in the top row of $d_{2}$. For example,

$=0.00 \cdot 0$

If we assign to each rook diagram $d$ the $n \times n, 0-1$ matrix having a 1 in row $i$ and column $j$ if and only if the $i$ th vertex in the top row of $d$ is connected to the $j$ th vertex in the bottom row, then this identification is an isomorphism with the rook monoid. Under this identification, we have, for $1 \leq i \leq n-1$ and $1 \leq j \leq n$,


Let $\gamma_{1}=1$ and let $\nu_{1}$ be the diagram consisting of a single column of vertices with no edges. For $t>1$, let


For a rook diagram $d$ we compute the cycle and link type of $d$ as follows: connect each vertex in the top row with the vertex directly below it by a dotted line. We call the connected components of this new diagram blocks. Each block is one of the following
(a) A $t$-cycle $\left(i_{1}, i_{2}, \ldots, i_{t}, i_{1}\right)$, with $1 \leq t \leq n$, where $i_{1}$ maps to $i_{2}, i_{2}$ maps to $i_{3}$, and so on until $i_{t-1}$ maps to $i_{t}$ and $i_{t}$ maps to $i_{1}$.
(b) A $t$-link $\left[i_{1}, i_{2}, \ldots, i_{t}\right]$, with $1 \leq t \leq n$, where $i_{1}$ maps to $i_{2}, i_{2}$ maps to $i_{3}$, and so on until $i_{t-1}$ maps to $i_{t}$. By definition, we let $v_{1}$ be the $1-l i n k$ (a single column of vertices with no edges).

The sizes of the cycles in $d$ form a partition $\mu$ called the cycle type of $d$, and the sizes of the links form a partition $\tau$ called the link type of $d$. They satisfy $|\tau|+|\rho|=n$. For example, the diagram $d_{2}$ from (5.5) has cycle type (2) and link type (5, 1).

Two elements $d_{1}$ and $d_{2}$ of $R_{n}$ are conjugate, written $d_{1} \sim d_{2}$ if there exists $\pi \in S_{n}$ so that $\pi d_{1} \pi^{-1}=d_{2}$. Notice that if $d$ is a rook diagram, then $\pi d \pi^{-1}$ is the rook diagram given by rearranging the vertices of $d$, in both the top and bottom row, according to $\pi$. If $d_{1}$ and $d_{2}$ are rook diagrams in $R_{n_{1}}$ and $R_{n_{2}}$, respectively, then $d_{1} \otimes d_{2}$ is the rook diagram in $R_{n_{1}+n_{2}}$ obtained by placing $d_{2}$ to the right of $d_{1}$. It is easy to check that
(1) $\pi d \pi^{-1}$ has the same cycle-link type as $d$.
(2) $d \sim b_{1} \otimes b_{2} \otimes \cdots \otimes b_{k}$ where each $b_{i}$ is a single block.
(3) $b_{1} \otimes b_{2} \sim b_{2} \otimes b_{1}$
(4) Each $t$-cycle is conjugate to $\gamma_{t}$ and each $t$-link is conjugate to $\nu_{t}$.

It follows that if $d$ has cycle type $\mu=\left(\mu_{1}, \ldots, \mu_{\ell}\right)$ and link type $\tau=\left(\tau_{1}, \ldots, \tau_{m}\right)$, then

$$
\begin{equation*}
d \sim v_{\tau_{1}} \otimes v_{\tau_{2}} \otimes \cdots \otimes v_{\tau_{m}} \otimes \gamma_{\mu_{1}} \otimes \gamma_{\mu_{2}} \otimes \cdots \otimes \gamma_{\mu_{\ell}} . \tag{5.6}
\end{equation*}
$$

For a composition $\mu=\left(\mu_{1}, \ldots, \mu_{\ell}\right)$ with $0 \leq|\mu| \leq n$, define

$$
\begin{align*}
\gamma_{\mu} & =\gamma_{\mu_{1}} \otimes \gamma_{\mu_{2}} \otimes \cdots \otimes \gamma_{\mu_{\ell}}, \text { and }  \tag{5.7}\\
d_{\mu} & =\pi_{n-|\mu|} \otimes \gamma_{\mu} .
\end{align*}
$$

For example, if $\mu=(4,4,2,1) \vdash 11$ and $n=14$, then


This is the $q \rightarrow 1$ specialization of the element $T_{\mu}$ defined in (3.3). Using rook diagrams, we now provide a more streamlined proof to a result found in Munn [14].

Proposition 5.6 ([14]) If $\chi$ is any character of $R_{n}(q)$, and d is a rook diagram with cycle type $\mu$, then

$$
\chi(d)=\chi\left(d_{\mu}\right)
$$

Proof: From (5.6) we know that $\chi(d)=\chi\left(d^{\prime}\right)$ where $d^{\prime}=v_{\tau_{1}} \otimes \cdots \otimes v_{\tau_{m}} \otimes \gamma_{\mu}$. If $d^{\prime}$ has an isolated vertex (a vertex adjacent to no edges) in the $k$ th position of the top row that is part of a link $v_{t}$ with $t>1$, then

$$
d^{\prime}=\varepsilon_{k} d^{\prime} \quad \text { and } \quad d \varepsilon_{k}=d^{\prime \prime}
$$

where in $d^{\prime \prime}$ the link $v_{t}$ is replaced by $v_{t-1} \otimes v_{1}$. Furthermore, by the trace property $\chi$, we have $\chi\left(d^{\prime}\right)=\chi\left(\varepsilon_{k} d^{\prime}\right)=\chi\left(d^{\prime} \varepsilon_{k}\right)=\chi\left(d^{\prime \prime}\right)$. Recursive application of this process, replaces all the $t$-links with the $t$-fold tensor product of $\nu_{1}$, and the result is proved.

## Appendix: Character table of $\boldsymbol{R}_{\mathbf{4}}(\boldsymbol{q})$

We index the rows of the character table for $R_{n}(q)$ by the irreducible representations and the columns by the standard elements. Thus, for $\lambda, \mu \in \Lambda_{n}$, we let the entry in the row indexed by $\lambda$ and the column indexed by $\mu$ be $\chi_{R_{n}(q)}^{\lambda}\left(T_{\mu}\right)$. Below, we give the character
table of $R_{4}(q)$. It contains the character tables of $R_{3}(q), R_{2}(q), R_{1}(q)$, and $R_{0}(q)$ as well as $H_{4}(q), H_{3}(q), H_{2}(q), H_{1}(q)$, and $H_{0}(q)$ on the diagonal (see $\left.(0.3)\right)$. Upon setting $q=1$ we obtain the character table of $R_{n}$ first given in [14].

| Character table of $R_{4}(q)$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\left(1^{4}\right)$ | $\left(21^{3}\right)$ | $\left(2^{2}\right)$ | $(31)$ | $(4)$ |
| $\left(1^{4}\right)$ | 1 | -1 | 1 | 1 | -1 |
| $\left(21^{3}\right)$ | 3 | $q-2$ | $1-2 q$ | $1-q$ | $q$ |
| $\left(2^{2}\right)$ | 2 | $q-1$ | $q^{2}+1$ | $-q$ | 0 |
| $(31)$ | 3 | $2 q-1$ | $q(q-2)$ | $q(q-1)$ | $-q^{2}$ |
| $(4)$ | 1 | $q$ | $q^{2}$ | $q^{2}$ | $q^{3}$ |
| $\left(1^{3}\right)$ | 4 | $q-3$ | $2(1-q)$ | $2-q$ | $q-1$ |
| $(21)$ | 8 | $4(q-1)$ | $2(q-1)^{2}$ | $1-3 q+q^{2}$ | $q(1-q)$ |
| $(3)$ | 4 | $3 q-1$ | $2 q(q-1)$ | $q(2 q-1)$ | $q^{2}(q-1)$ |
| $\left(1^{2}\right)$ | 6 | $3(q-1)$ | $1-4 q+q^{2}$ | $(q-1)^{2}$ | $q(1-q)$ |
| $(2)$ | 6 | $2(2 q-1)$ | $1-2 q+3 q^{2}$ | $2 q(q-1)$ | $q^{2}(q-1)$ |
| $(1)$ | 4 | $3 q-1$ | $2 q(q-1)$ | $q(2 q-1)$ | $q^{2}(q-1)$ |
| $\emptyset$ | 1 | $q$ | $q^{2}$ | $q^{2}$ | $q^{3}$ |


|  | $\left(1^{3}\right)$ | $(21)$ | $(3)$ | $\left(1^{2}\right)$ | $(2)$ | $(1)$ | $\emptyset$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\left(1^{4}\right)$ | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| $\left(21^{3}\right)$ | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| $\left(2^{2}\right)$ | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| $(31)$ | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| $(4)$ | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| $\left(1^{3}\right)$ | 1 | -1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| $(21)$ | 2 | $q-1$ | $-q$ | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| $(3)$ | 1 | $q$ | $q^{2}$ | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| $\left(1^{2}\right)$ | 3 | $q-2$ | $1-q$ | 1 | -1 | 0 | 0 |
| $(2)$ | 3 | $2 q-1$ | $q(q-1)$ | 1 | $q$ | 0 | 0 |
| $(1)$ | 3 | $2 q-1$ | $q(q-1)$ | 2 | $q-1$ | 1 | 0 |
| $\emptyset$ | 1 | $q$ | $q^{2}$ | 1 | $q$ | 1 | 1 |

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