

# Dimer Models and Hypergeometric Systems.

Jan Stienstra

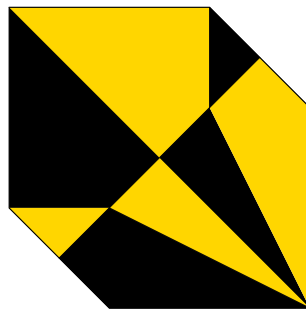
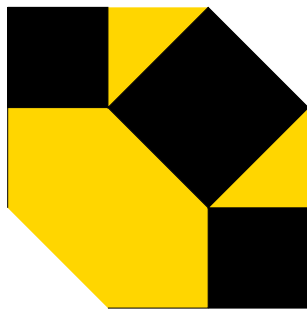
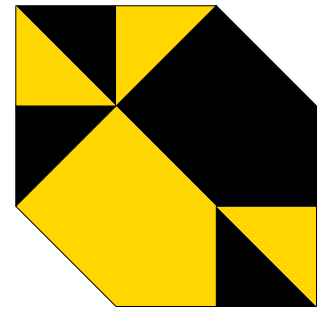
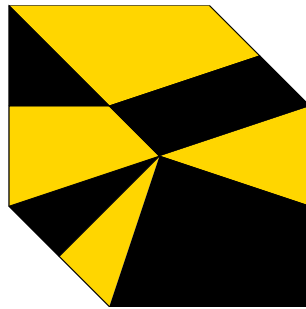
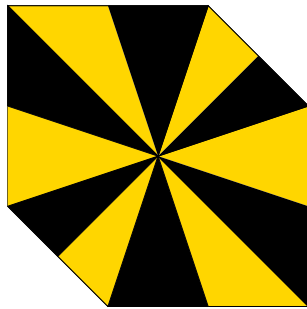
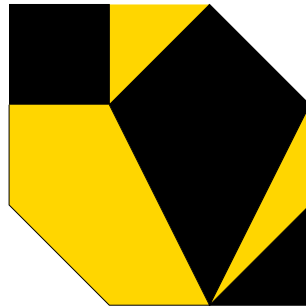
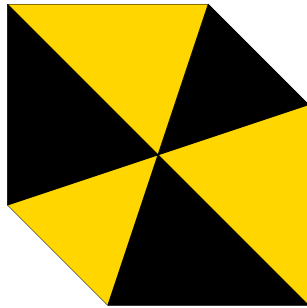
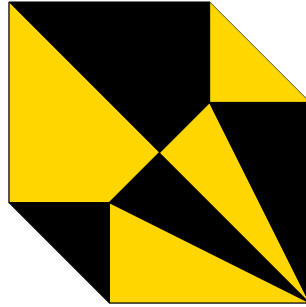
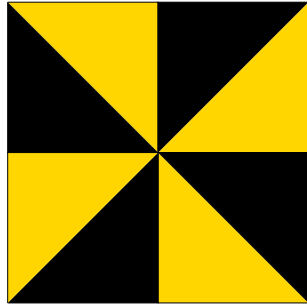
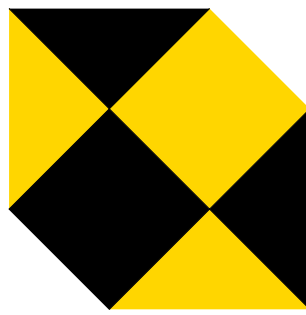
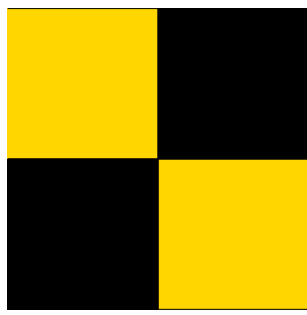
talk at BIRS May 13, 2011

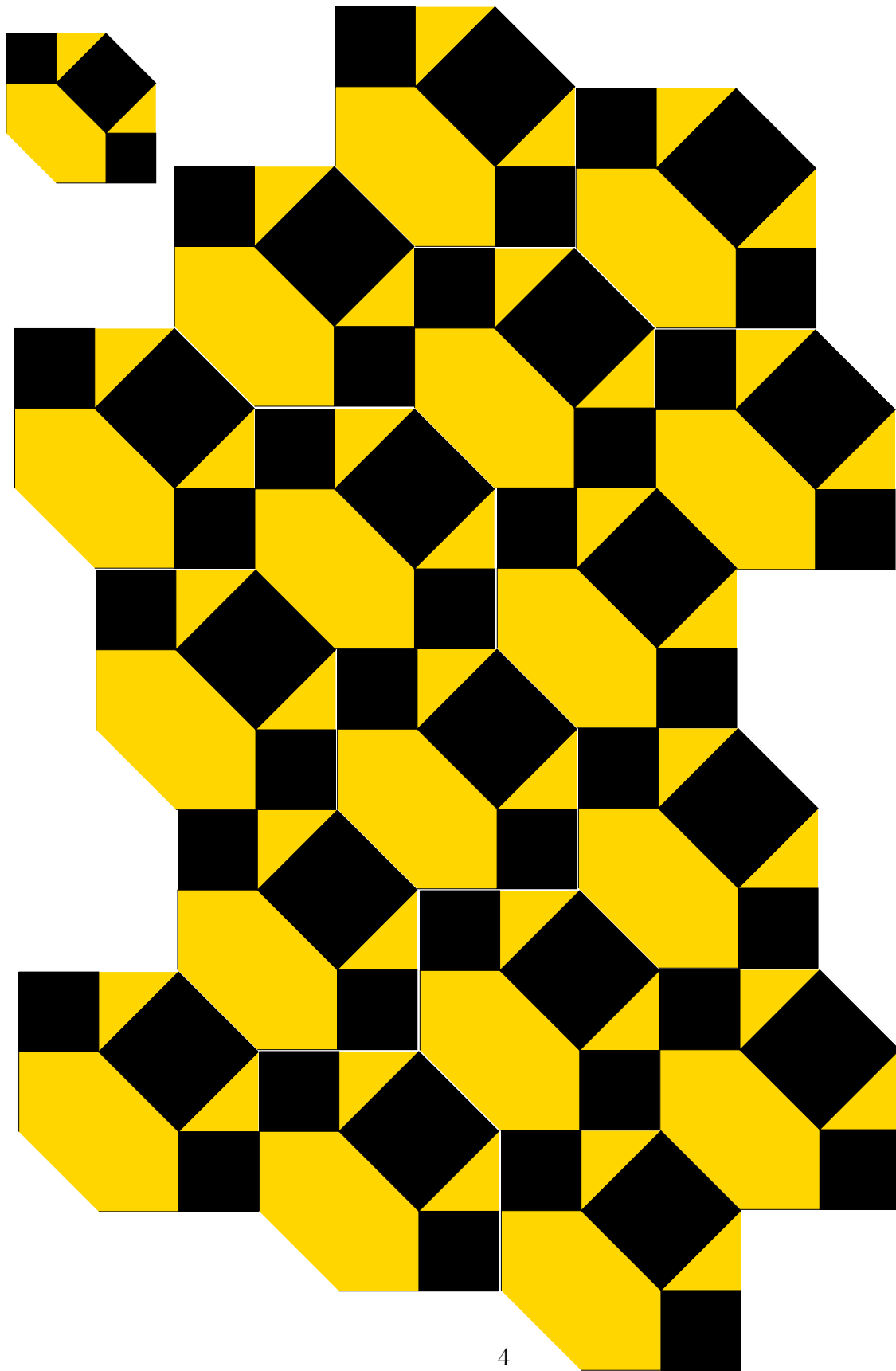
Dimer Model is:

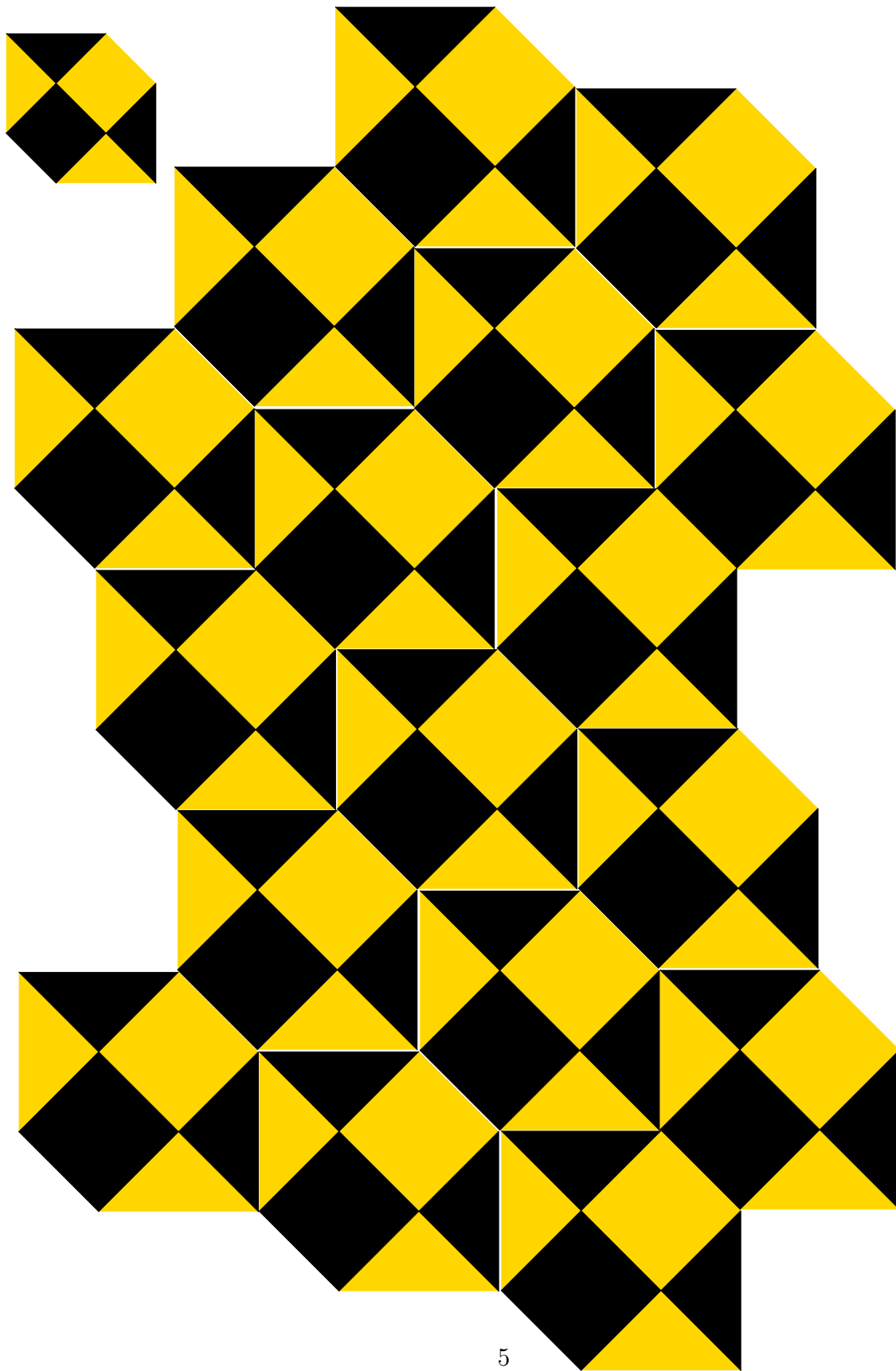
finite bipartite tiling of an  
oriented surface without boundary

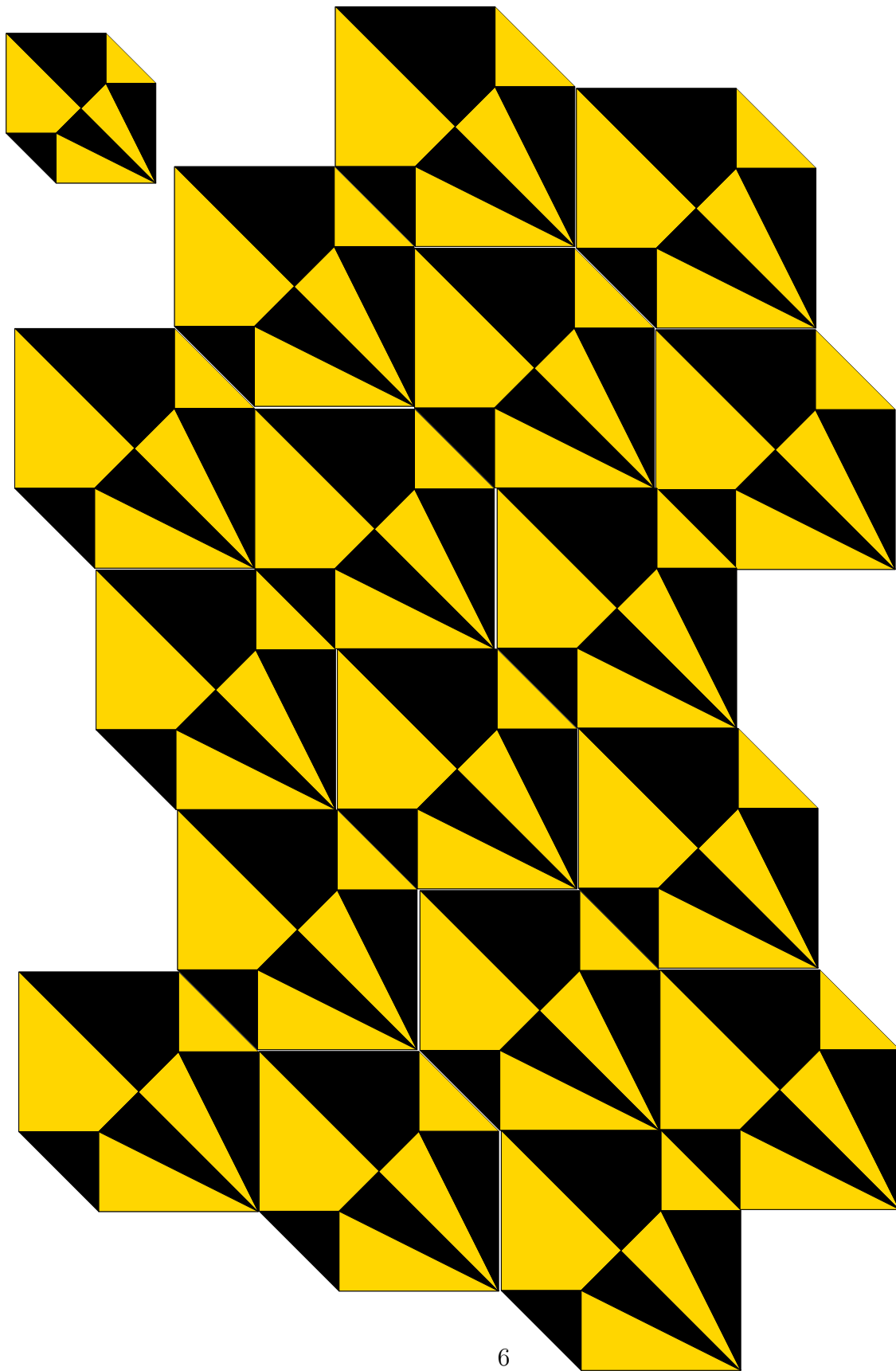
Balanced Dimer Model:

# black cells = # white cells









## Dimer Model

$$Q = (Q_0, Q_1, Q_2^\bullet, Q_2^\circ, b, w, s, t)$$

$Q_0$  = set of vertices

$Q_1$  = set of edges

$Q_2^\bullet$  = set of black cells

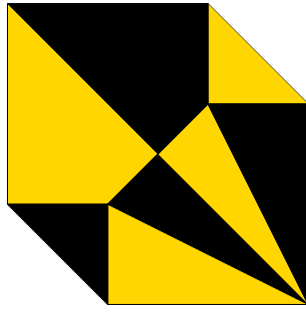
$Q_2^\circ$  = set of white cells

$$(b, w, s, t) : Q_1 \longrightarrow Q_2^\bullet \sqcup Q_2^\circ \sqcup Q_0 \sqcup Q_0$$

$$(b, w, s+t) : \mathbb{Z}Q_1 \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}Q_2^\bullet \oplus \mathbb{Z}Q_2^\circ \oplus \mathbb{Z}Q_0$$

lattice  $\mathbf{M}_Q =$

$$\ker((b, w, s+t)^\vee : \mathbb{Z}Q_2^\bullet \oplus \mathbb{Z}Q_2^\circ \oplus \mathbb{Z}Q_0 \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}Q_1)$$



$Q_1$	$\xrightarrow{b,w,s,t}$	$Q_2^\bullet$	$Q_2^\circ$	$Q_0$	$Q_0$
1		1	1	2	4
2		1	2	1	2
3		1	3	4	1
4		2	1	4	5
5		2	2	5	1
6		2	3	1	3
7		2	4	3	4
8		3	1	5	2
9		3	2	2	4
10		3	4	4	5
11		4	2	4	5
12		4	3	3	4
13		4	4	5	3



$$\begin{bmatrix}
1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\
1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\
0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\
0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\
0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\
0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1
\end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix}
1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
-1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\
0 & 0 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\
0 & -1 & -1 & -2 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1
\end{bmatrix}^t$$

$$N = \#Q_0$$

Grassmannian of lines in  $\mathbb{P}^{N-1}$ :

$$\mathbf{G}(2, N) = \mathrm{Gl}(2) \backslash \mathrm{M}(2, N)$$

Plücker coordinates on  $\mathbf{G}(2, N)$ :

$$[k, m] \quad \text{for } k, m = 1, \dots, N$$

$$[k, m]((y_{ij})) = y_{1k}y_{2m} - y_{2k}y_{1m}$$

$$N' = \#Q_2^\bullet = \#Q_2^\circ$$

$E_{pq}$  =  $N' \times N'$ -matrix with  
 1 in position  $p, q$   
 0 elsewhere

**Definition:**

The **Grassmann-Kasteleyn matrix** of dimer model  $Q$  is:

$$\mathbf{K}_Q = \sum_{e \in Q_1} [s(e) \ t(e)] E_{b(e)w(e)}$$

$Q_1$	$\xrightarrow{b,w,s,t}$	$Q_2^\bullet$	$Q_2^\circ$	$Q_0$	$Q_0$
1		1	1	2	4
2		1	2	1	2
3		1	3	4	1
4		2	1	4	5
5		2	2	5	1
6		2	3	1	3
7		2	4	3	4
8		3	1	5	2
9		3	2	2	4
10		3	4	4	5
11		4	2	4	5
12		4	3	3	4
13		4	4	5	3

$$\mathbf{K}_Q = \begin{pmatrix} [2\ 4] & [1\ 2] & [4\ 1] & 0 \\ [4\ 5] & [5\ 1] & [1\ 3] & [3\ 4] \\ [5\ 2] & [2\ 4] & 0 & [4\ 5] \\ 0 & [4\ 5] & [3\ 4] & [5\ 3] \end{pmatrix}$$

Torus  $\mathbb{C}^{*Q_0}$  acts on  $\mathbb{P}^{N-1}$   
by coordinatewise multiplication.

$\rightsquigarrow$

$\mathbb{C}^{*Q_0}$  acts on coordinate ring of  $\mathbf{G}(2, N)$

Torus  $\mathbb{C}^{*Q_2^\bullet}$  ( resp.  $\mathbb{C}^{*Q_2^\circ}$  )  
acts on  $N' \times N'$ -matrices by  
left (resp. right) multiplication with  
diagonal matrices

$\rightsquigarrow \rightsquigarrow$

Torus  $\mathbb{C}^{*Q_2^\bullet} \times \mathbb{C}^{*Q_2^\circ} \times \mathbb{C}^{*Q_0}$  acts on  
 Grassmann-Kasteleyn matrix  $\mathbf{K}_Q$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
 (\alpha, \beta, \gamma) * \mathbf{K}_Q &= \\
 \sum_{e \in Q_1} \alpha(b(e)) \beta(w(e)) \gamma(s(e)) \gamma(t(e)) & \\
 [s(e) \ t(e)] E_{b(e)w(e)} &
 \end{aligned}$$

Note:

$$\begin{aligned}
 (\alpha, \beta, \gamma) * \mathbf{K}_Q &= \mathbf{K}_Q \\
 &\Leftrightarrow \\
 (\alpha, \beta, \gamma) &\in \mathbf{M}_Q \otimes \mathbb{C}^*
 \end{aligned}$$

## Definition

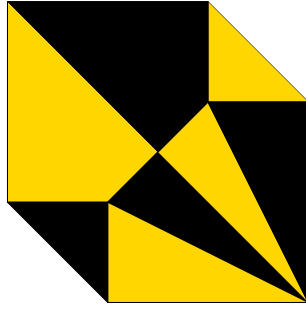
The **Chow form** of the dimer model  $Q$  is the determinant of the Grassmann-Kasteleyn matrix of  $Q$ ,

$$\mathbf{Chow}_Q = \det \mathbf{K}_Q,$$

considered as a homogeneous element of degree  $N'$  in the coordinate ring of  $\mathbf{G}(2, N)$

## Definition

The **Spectral hypersurface**  $\mathbf{Spec}_Q$  of the dimer model  $Q$  is the closed subscheme of the Grassmannian  $\mathbf{G}(2, N)$  defined by the Chow form  $\mathbf{Chow}_Q$



$$\mathbf{K}_Q = \begin{pmatrix} [2\ 4] & [1\ 2] & [4\ 1] & 0 \\ [4\ 5] & [5\ 1] & [1\ 3] & [3\ 4] \\ [5\ 2] & [2\ 4] & 0 & [4\ 5] \\ 0 & [4\ 5] & [3\ 4] & [5\ 3] \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{Chow}_Q &= [41][34][52][45] - [41][45][45][45] \\ &+ [24][13][45][45] - [12][34][52][34] \\ &+ [24][34][24][34] + [12][45][45][34] \\ &- [24][51][45][34] - [41][51][52][53] \\ &+ [12][13][52][53] + [41][45][24][53] \\ &- [24][13][24][53] \end{aligned}$$



## Definition

A **dimer** is a pair of adjacent cells.

A **dimer configuration** (a.k.a. perfect matching) is a set of dimers such that every cell belongs to exactly one dimer in that set.

The monomials in the Chow form correspond bijectively with dimer configurations

Torus  $\mathbb{C}^{*Q_2^\bullet} \times \mathbb{C}^{*Q_2^\circ} \times \mathbb{C}^{*Q_0}$  acts on  $\mathbb{P}^{N-1}$  via the factor  $\mathbb{C}^{*Q_0}$ ;  
 $\mathbb{C}^{*Q_0}$  acts by coordinatewise multiplication.

$$\mathbf{M}_Q \otimes \mathbb{C}^* \subset \mathbb{C}^{*Q_2^\bullet} \times \mathbb{C}^{*Q_2^\circ} \times \mathbb{C}^{*Q_0}$$

$\rightsquigarrow \rightsquigarrow$

Torus  $\mathbf{M}_Q \otimes \mathbb{C}^*$  acts on  $\mathbb{P}^{N-1}$

## Theorem

If  $\text{rank } \mathbf{M}_Q = N - 1$  then

1. point  $\mathbf{y}$  in  $\mathbf{G}(2, N)$  is on the spectral hypersurface  $\mathbf{Spec}_Q$

$\Leftrightarrow$

line  $\mathbf{y}$  in  $\mathbb{P}^{N-1}$  intersects the closure of orbit  $(\mathbf{M}_Q \otimes \mathbb{C}^*)[1 : \dots : 1]$

2. point  $\mathbf{x}$  in  $\mathbb{P}^{N-1}$  is in the closure of orbit  $(\mathbf{M}_Q \otimes \mathbb{C}^*)[1 : \dots : 1]$

$\Leftrightarrow$

every line in  $\mathbb{P}^{N-1}$  through  $\mathbf{x}$  “is” a point on  $\mathbf{Spec}_Q$

## Consequence:

new equations for  $\overline{(\mathbf{M}_Q \otimes \mathbb{C}^*)[1 : \dots : 1]}$ ,  
namely:

$$\mathbf{x} \in \overline{(\mathbf{M}_Q \otimes \mathbb{C}^*)[1 : \dots : 1]}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow$$

$$\mathbf{Chow}_Q(\langle \mathbf{xz} \rangle) = 0, \quad \forall \mathbf{z} \in \mathbb{P}^{N-1}$$

## Another consequence:

For a point  $\mathbf{y}$  on the spectral hypersurface  $\mathbf{Spec}_Q$  the intersection points of the corresponding line in  $\mathbb{P}^{N-1}$  with  $\overline{(\mathbf{M}_Q \otimes \mathbb{C}^*)[1 : \dots : 1]}$  are found as follows:

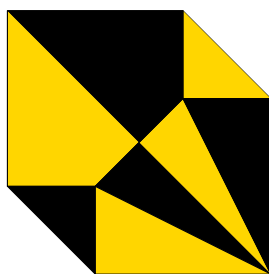
Take points  $\mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{x}'$  on  $\mathbf{y}$  with  $\mathbf{x}'$  not in  $(\mathbf{M}_Q \otimes \mathbb{C}^*)[1 : \dots : 1]$ . Points on line  $\mathbf{y}$  are  $\mathbf{x} + t\mathbf{x}'$  with  $t \in \mathbb{C}$ .

Then  $\mathbf{x} + t\mathbf{x}'$  is an intersection point iff  $\det(\mathbf{K}_Q(\langle \mathbf{xz} \rangle) + t\mathbf{K}_Q(\langle \mathbf{x}'\mathbf{z} \rangle)) = 0$  for every  $\mathbf{z} \in \mathbb{P}^{N-1}$ .

In particular, if  $\mathbf{Chow}_Q(\langle \mathbf{x}'\mathbf{z} \rangle) \neq 0$ ,  
then

$t$  is an eigenvalue of the matrix

$$\mathbf{K}_Q(\langle \mathbf{z}\mathbf{x}' \rangle)^{-1} \mathbf{K}_Q(\langle \mathbf{x}\mathbf{z} \rangle)$$

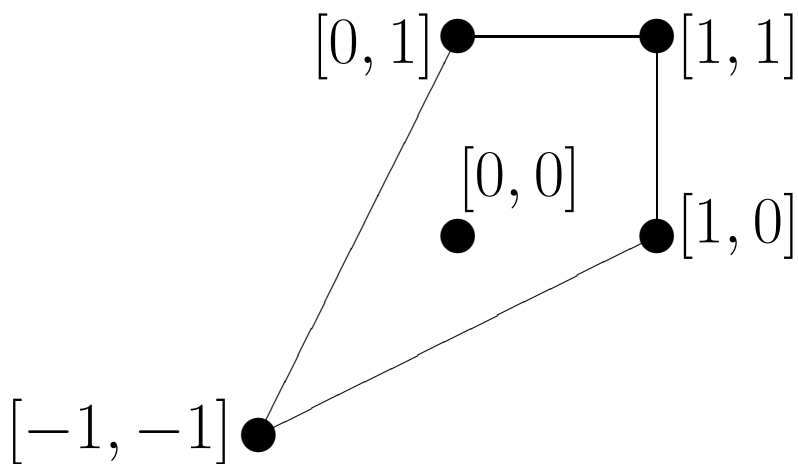


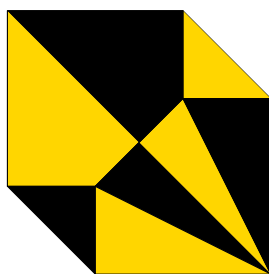
$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & -1 & -2 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\rightsquigarrow$

$$\begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

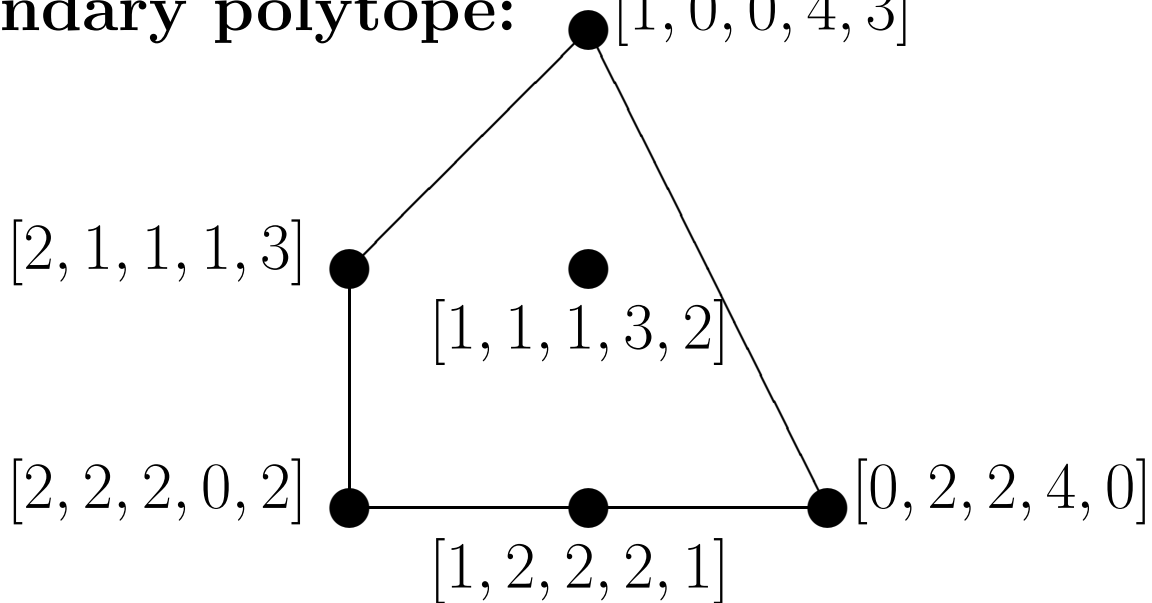
**Primary polytope:**





$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbf{Chow}_Q &= [41][34][52][45] - [41][45][45][45] \\
 &+ [24][13][45][45] - [12][34][52][34] + [24][34][24][34] \\
 &+ [12][45][45][34] - [24][51][45][34] - [41][51][52][53] \\
 &+ [12][13][52][53] + [41][45][24][53] - [24][13][24][53]
 \end{aligned}$$

**Secondary polytope:**  $[1, 0, 0, 4, 3]$





$$\begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \rightsquigarrow$$

Laurent polynomial

$$F_{\mathbf{u}}(\xi) = u_1 \xi_1^{-1} \xi_2^{-1} + u_2 \xi_1 + u_3 \xi_2 + u_4 + u_5 \xi_1 \xi_2$$

Zero locus of  $F_{\mathbf{u}}(\xi)$  is intersection of orbit  $(\mathbf{M}_Q \otimes \mathbb{C}^*)[1 : \dots : 1]$  with hyperplane  $\mathbf{u}^\perp$  in  $\mathbb{P}^{N-1}$ .

## Hypergeometric structures

- PDE systems.....
- power series .....
- integrals

$$I(\mathbf{u}, z, \mathbf{s}) = \int_{\square} (F_{\mathbf{u}}(\xi))^z \xi^{\mathbf{s}-1} d\xi$$

with

$$\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{C}^N, \quad z \in \mathbb{C}, \quad \mathbf{s} \in \mathbb{C}^{\text{rank } \mathbf{M}_Q - 2}$$

$$\square = \square_{\theta} = \{\xi \in \mathbb{C}^{\text{rank } \mathbf{M}_Q - 2} \mid \text{Arg} \xi = \theta\}$$

or

$$\square = \square_{\mathbf{r}} = \{\xi \in \mathbb{C}^{\text{rank } \mathbf{M}_Q - 2} \mid \|\xi\| = \mathbf{r}\}$$

for fixed  $\theta, \mathbf{r}$ .

Domain of integration should avoid zero locus of  $F_{\mathbf{u}}(\xi)$ ; i.e.

$\theta$  not in **co-amoeba**, resp.

$\text{Log } \mathbf{r}$  not in **amoeba** of zero locus

## Fourier-Laplace integrals

$$\int c(\lambda) e^{\lambda \cdot \mathbf{u}} d\lambda$$

This satisfies GKZ hypergeometric PDEs iff

$c$  vanishes outside  $\overline{(\mathbf{M}_Q \otimes \mathbb{C}^*)}(1, \dots, 1)$

and

transforms under the action of  $\mathbf{M}_Q \otimes \mathbb{C}^*$  according to some character.

The dimer model approach attempts to reconstruct  $c$  from its behavior on lines in  $\mathbb{P}^{N-1}$  which intersect

$\overline{(\mathbf{M}_Q \otimes \mathbb{C}^*)}(1, \dots, 1)$ ; i.e.

reconstruct  $c$  from its Radon transform, which is a function on the spectral hypersurface  $\mathbf{Spec}_Q$ .

For a point  $\mathbf{y}$  in  $\mathbf{Spec}_Q$  we have the following function  $\Phi_{\mathbf{y}}(\mathbf{u})$  of  $\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{C}^N$ , which satisfies the GKZ hypergeometric PDE's of order  $> 1$ .

Take points  $\mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{x}'$  on line  $\mathbf{y}$  with  $\mathbf{x}'$  not in  $\overline{(\mathbf{M}_Q \otimes \mathbb{C}^*)}[1 : \dots : 1]$ . Then

$$\Phi_{\mathbf{y}}(\mathbf{u}) = \sum e^{\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{u} + t \mathbf{x}' \cdot \mathbf{u}},$$

the sum is over the eigenvalues of the matrix  $\mathbf{K}_Q(\langle \mathbf{z} \mathbf{x}' \rangle)^{-1} \mathbf{K}_Q(\langle \mathbf{x} \mathbf{z} \rangle)$  for some  $\mathbf{z} \in \mathbb{P}^{N-1}$  with  $\langle \mathbf{x}' \mathbf{z} \rangle \notin \mathbf{Spec}_Q$ .

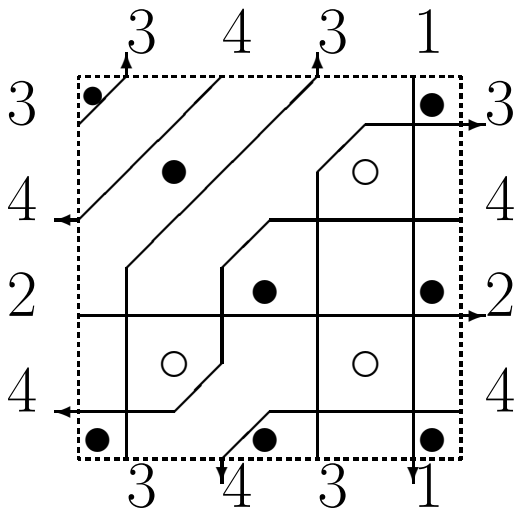
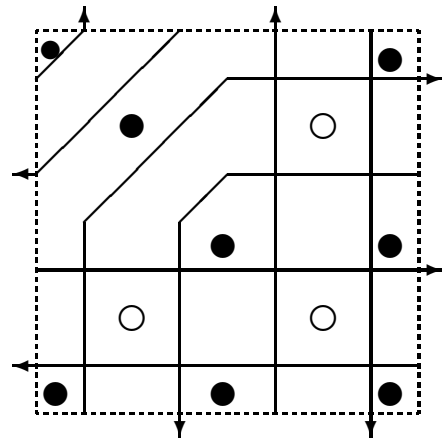
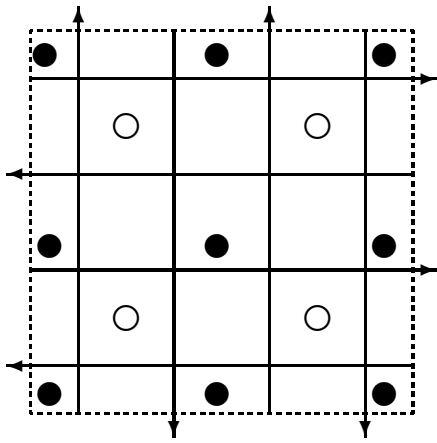
This can be written more elegantly as:

$$\Phi_{\mathbf{y}}(\mathbf{u}) = e^{\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{u}} \text{Trace} \left( e^{(\mathbf{x}' \cdot \mathbf{u})} \mathbf{K}_Q(\langle \mathbf{z} \mathbf{x}' \rangle)^{-1} \mathbf{K}_Q(\langle \mathbf{x} \mathbf{z} \rangle) \right)$$

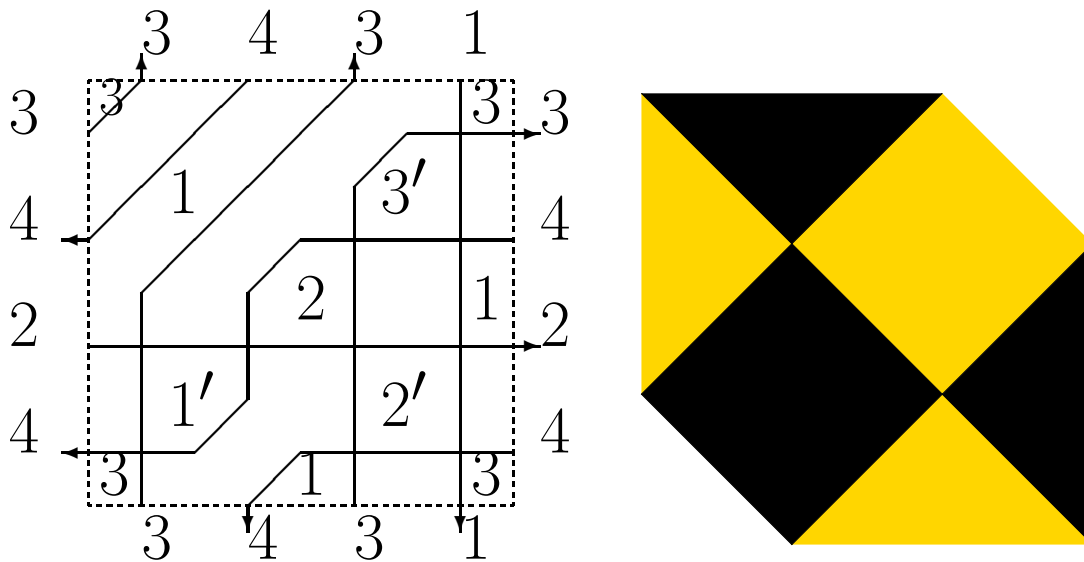
# Gulotta's algorithm for

$$F_{\mathbf{u}}(\xi) = u_1 + u_3\xi + u_4\xi^2 + u_2\xi^3$$

$$B_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & -2 \\ -1 & 0 & 2 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$



winding numbers of zig-zag paths given by columns of  $B_2$



In the left-hand picture each intersection point is incident to two zigzag-paths and two numbered 2-cells as indicated in the matrix

$$\mathbf{K}_Q = \begin{pmatrix} [2\ 3] & [4\ 2] & [3\ 4] \\ [1\ 2] + [3\ 4] & [2\ 3] & [4\ 1] \\ [4\ 1] & [3\ 4] & [1\ 3] \end{pmatrix}$$

which is equal to the Grassmann-Kasteleyn matrix of the dimer model on the right.