



# Latin cubes, Kronecker coefficients, and tensor invariants

Damir Yeliussizov (Kazakh-British TU)

Joint work with Alimzhan Amanov

SOCALDM 2024, UCLA

# **1. Latin squares**

# Latin squares (for AI)



# Latin squares (for us)

- $n \times n$  square filled with  $1, \dots, n$
- Each row & column is a permutation

1	2	3	4
3	1	4	2
2	4	1	3
4	3	2	1

# Latin squares

- $n \times n$  square filled with  $1, \dots, n$
- Each row & column is a permutation

Real life application?

1	2	3	4
3	1	4	2
2	4	1	3
4	3	2	1

# Latin squares

- $n \times n$  square filled with  $1, \dots, n$
- Each row & column is a permutation

Real life application?



1	2	3	4
3	1	4	2
2	4	1	3
4	3	2	1

# Sign of Latin square

$$\text{sgn}(L) := \prod_{\text{rows } \sigma} \text{sgn}(\sigma) \times \prod_{\text{cols } \sigma} \text{sgn}(\sigma)$$

1	2	3	4
3	1	4	2
2	4	1	3
4	3	2	1

Ex:  $\text{sgn}(L) = -1$

# Sum of signs

$$AT_2(n) := \sum_{n \times n \text{ Latin squares } L} \text{sgn}(L)$$

# Sum of signs

$$AT_2(n) := \sum_{n \times n \text{ Latin squares } L} \text{sgn}(L)$$

$AT_2(n) = 0$  if  $n$  is odd

# Sum of signs

$$AT_2(n) := \sum_{n \times n \text{ Latin squares } L} \text{sgn}(L)$$

$AT_2(n) = 0$  if  $n$  is odd

**Conjecture** (Alon–Tarsi, 1992).  $AT_2(n) \neq 0$  if  $n$  is even.

# Sum of signs

$$AT_2(n) := \sum_{n \times n \text{ Latin squares } L} \text{sgn}(L)$$

$AT_2(n) = 0$  if  $n$  is odd

**Conjecture** (Alon–Tarsi, 1992).  $AT_2(n) \neq 0$  if  $n$  is even.

"Proof":

# Sum of signs

$$AT_2(n) := \sum_{n \times n \text{ Latin squares } L} \text{sgn}(L)$$

$AT_2(n) = 0$  if  $n$  is odd

**Conjecture** (Alon–Tarsi, 1992).  $AT_2(n) \neq 0$  if  $n$  is even.

"Proof":  $AT_2(2) = 2$ ,  $AT_2(4) = 576$ ,  $AT_2(6) = 199065600$ ,  $AT_2(8) = 1262123552342016000$   
(for physicists)

# Sum of signs

$$AT_2(n) := \sum_{n \times n \text{ Latin squares } L} \text{sgn}(L)$$

$AT_2(n) = 0$  if  $n$  is odd

**Conjecture** (Alon–Tarsi, 1992).  $AT_2(n) \neq 0$  if  $n$  is even.

"Proof":  $AT_2(2) = 2$ ,  $AT_2(4) = 576$ ,  $AT_2(6) = 199065600$ ,  $AT_2(8) = 1262123552342016000$   
(for physicists)

COLORINGS AND ORIENTATIONS OF GRAPHS

N. ALON\* and M. TARSI

We do believe, however, that the sum is nonzero for every even  $m$ , but at the moment we are unable to prove it.

# Sum of signs

$$AT_2(n) := \sum_{n \times n \text{ Latin squares } L} \text{sgn}(L)$$

$AT_2(n) = 0$  if  $n$  is odd

**Conjecture (Alon–Tarsi, 1992).**  $AT_2(n) \neq 0$  if  $n$  is even.

"Proof":  $AT_2(2) = 2$ ,  $AT_2(4) = 576$ ,  $AT_2(6) = 199065600$ ,  $AT_2(8) = 1262123552342016000$   
(for physicists)

COLORINGS AND ORIENTATIONS OF GRAPHS

N. ALON\* and M. TARSI

- AT motivation: Dinitz conjecture (proved later by Galvin '94)
- AT implies Rota's basis conjecture [Huang-Rota '94, Onn '97]
- AT holds for  $n=p+1$ ,  $p-1$  for primes  $p$  [Drisko '97, Glynn '10]

We do believe, however, that the sum is nonzero for every even  $m$ , but at the moment we are unable to prove it.

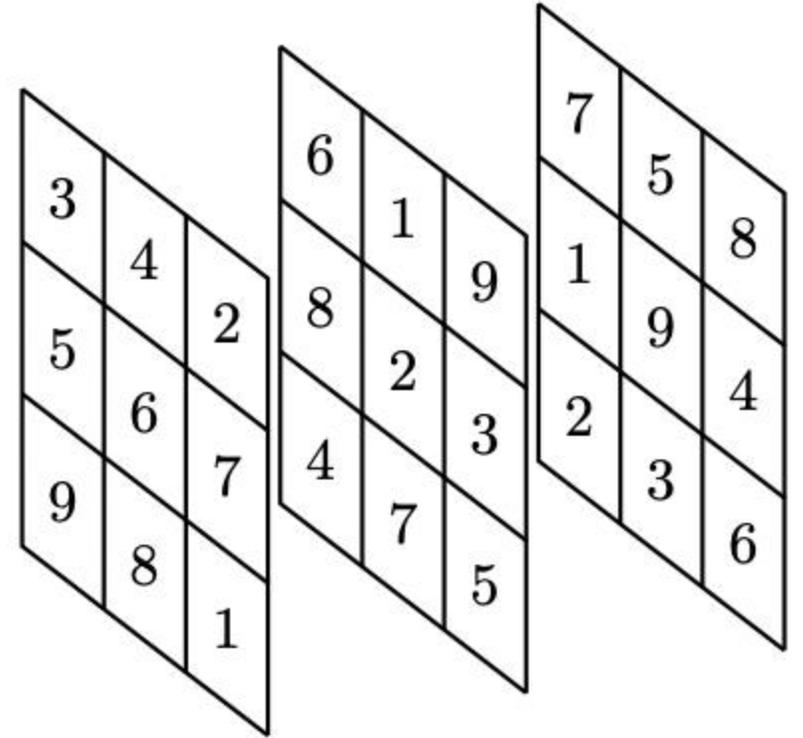
## **2. Latin cubes**

# Latin cubes (for AI)



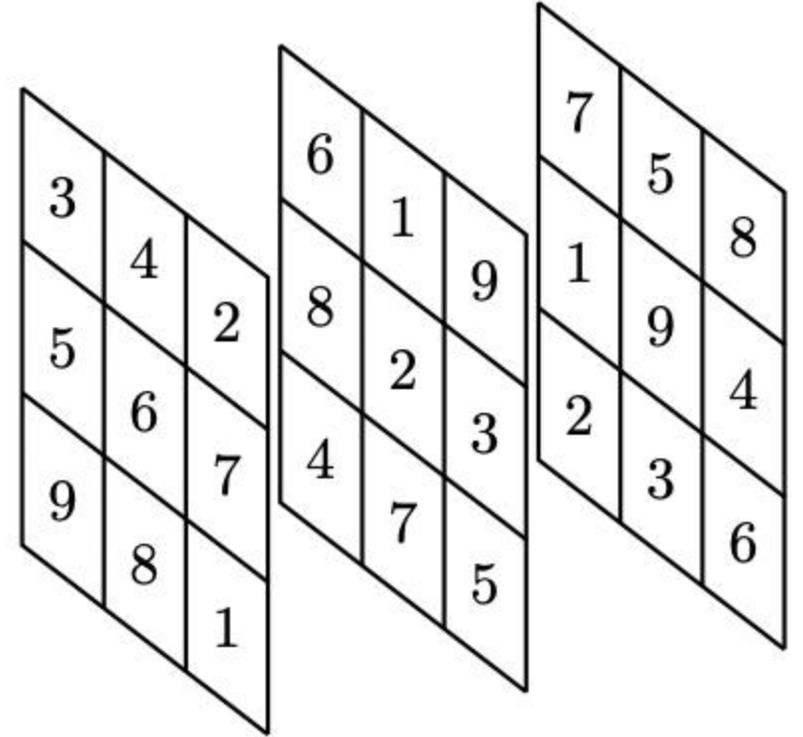
# Latin cubes (for me)

- $k \times k \times k$  cube filled with  $1, \dots, k^2$
- Each **slice** is a permutation of  $1, \dots, k^2$



# Latin cubes

- $k \times k \times k$  cube filled with  $1, \dots, k^2$
- Each **slice** is a permutation of  $1, \dots, k^2$



$$\text{sgn}(L) := \prod_{\sigma \text{ slices in dir. 1}} \text{sgn}(\sigma) \times \prod_{\sigma \text{ slices in dir. 2}} \text{sgn}(\sigma) \times \prod_{\sigma \text{ slices in dir. 3}} \text{sgn}(\sigma)$$

# 3d Alon—Tarsi

$$AT_3(k) := \sum_{k \times k \times k \text{ Latin cubes } L} \text{sgn}(L)$$

# 3d Alon—Tarsi

$$AT_3(k) := \sum_{k \times k \times k \text{ Latin cubes } L} \text{sgn}(L) \quad AT_3(k) = 0 \text{ for odd } k > 1.$$

# 3d Alon—Tarsi

$$AT_3(k) := \sum_{k \times k \times k \text{ Latin cubes } L} \text{sgn}(L) \quad AT_3(k) = 0 \text{ for odd } k > 1.$$

**Problem** (Bürgisser–Ikenmeyer, 2017):  $AT_3(k) \neq 0$  for even  $k$ ?

# 3d Alon—Tarsi

$$AT_3(k) := \sum_{k \times k \times k \text{ Latin cubes } L} \text{sgn}(L) \quad AT_3(k) = 0 \text{ for odd } k > 1.$$

**Problem** (Bürgisser–Ikenmeyer, 2017):  $AT_3(k) \neq 0$  for even  $k$ ?

True for  $k = 2, 4$ .

# 3d Alon—Tarsi

$$AT_3(k) := \sum_{k \times k \times k \text{ Latin cubes } L} \text{sgn}(L) \quad AT_3(k) = 0 \text{ for odd } k > 1.$$

**Problem** (Bürgisser–Ikenmeyer, 2017):  $AT_3(k) \neq 0$  for even  $k$ ?

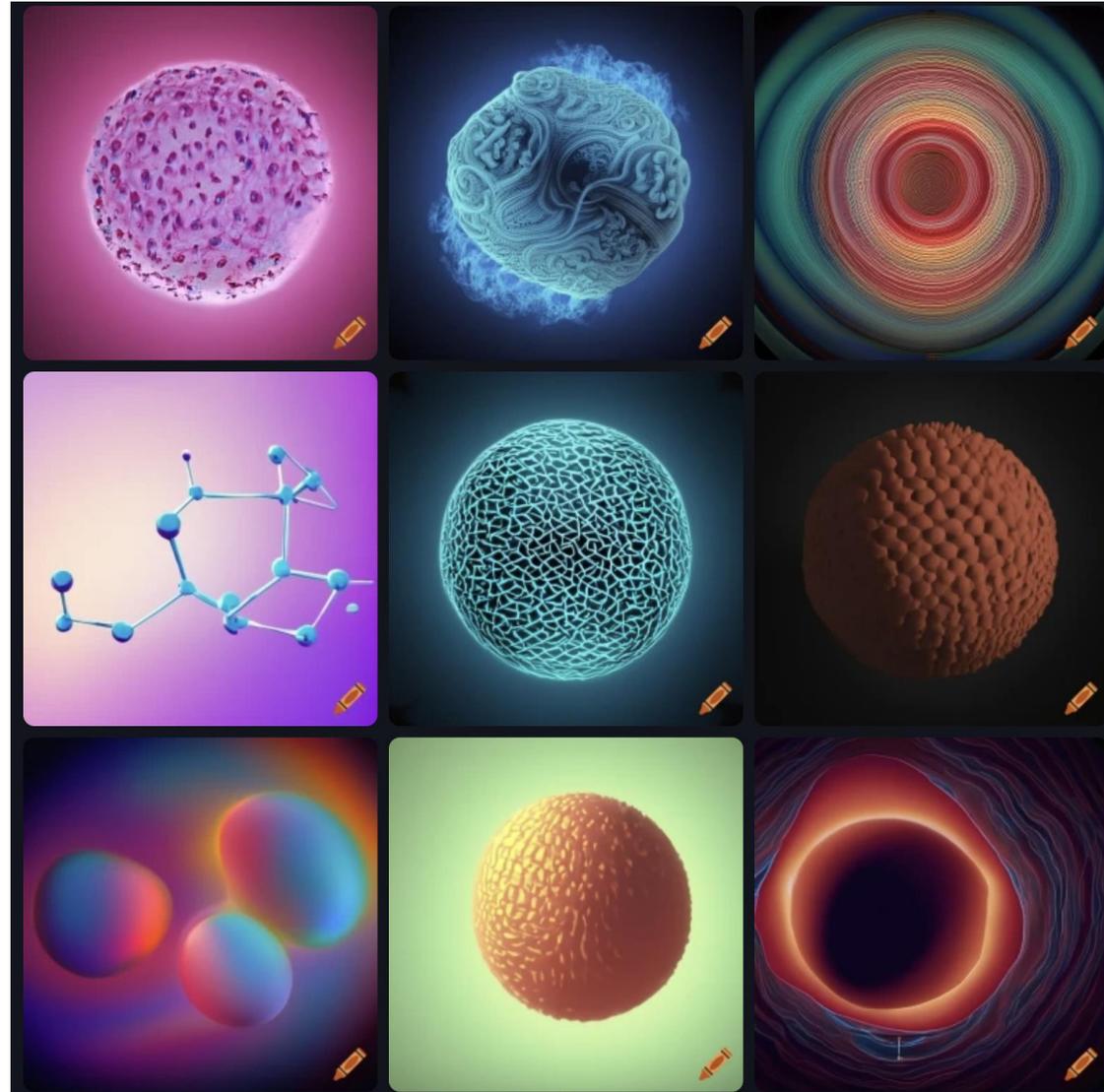
True for  $k = 2, 4$ .

*Motivation:* Geometric Complexity Theory

Fundamental SL-invariant (like 3d determinant) at unit cubic tensor

# **3. Kronecker coefficients**

# Kronecker coefficients (for AI)



# Kronecker coefficients (for you)

$g(\lambda, \mu, \nu) = \text{mult. } S^\lambda \text{ in } S^\mu \otimes S^\nu$ , where  $S^\alpha$  is irreducible representation (Specht module) of  $S_n$  indexed by partition  $\alpha$

$$s_\lambda(x_i y_j) = \sum_{\mu, \nu} g(\lambda, \mu, \nu) s_\mu(x_i) s_\nu(y_j)$$

$$\text{Schur polynomials } s_\lambda(x_1, \dots, x_n) := \frac{\det[x_i^{\lambda_j + n - j}]}{\prod_{i < j} (x_i - x_j)}$$

- Important in Algebraic Combinatorics and Representation Theory
- No combinatorial interpretation known
- Deciding positivity is NP-hard [Ikenmeyer-Mulmuley-Walter, 2017]

# Rectangular Kronecker coefficients

Fix  $k$  and for  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$  consider the sequence:

$$g_n := g(k^n, k^n, k^n) \qquad \dim \mathbb{C}[(\mathbb{C}^n)^{\otimes 3}]_{nk}^{\mathrm{SL}_n^{\times 3}}$$

# Rectangular Kronecker coefficients

Fix  $k$  and for  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$  consider the sequence:

$$g_n := g(k^n, k^n, k^n) \qquad \dim \mathbb{C}[(\mathbb{C}^n)^{\otimes 3}]_{nk}^{\mathrm{SL}_n^{\times 3}}$$

Ex:  $k = 2$ ,  $g_n = 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 0, 0, \dots$

# Rectangular Kronecker coefficients

Fix  $k$  and for  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$  consider the sequence:

$$g_n := g(k^n, k^n, k^n)$$

$$\dim \mathbb{C}[(\mathbb{C}^n)^{\otimes 3}]_{nk}^{\mathrm{SL}_n^{\times 3}}$$

Ex:  $k = 2$ ,  $g_n = 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 0, 0, \dots$

Basic properties:  $g_n = 0$  for  $n > k^2$  and  
symmetry:  $g_n = g_{k^2-n}$

# Conjectures

$$g_n := g(k^n, k^n, k^n)$$

Fix  $k$  even.

**Conjecture 1.** (AY, 2023)  $g_n > 0$  for all  $n \leq k^2$

# Conjectures

$$g_n := g(k^n, k^n, k^n)$$

Fix  $k$  even.

**Conjecture 1.** (AY, 2023)  $g_n > 0$  for all  $n \leq k^2$

Ex:  $k = 4$ ,  $g_n = 1, 1, 1, 2, 5, 6, 13, 14, 18, 14, 13, 6, 5, 2, 1, 1, 1$

# Conjectures

$$g_n := g(k^n, k^n, k^n)$$

Fix  $k$  even.

**Conjecture 1.** (AY, 2023)  $g_n > 0$  for all  $n \leq k^2$

Ex:  $k = 4$ ,  $g_n = 1, 1, 1, 2, 5, 6, 13, 14, 18, 14, 13, 6, 5, 2, 1, 1, 1$

**Conjecture 2.** (AY, 2023)  $\{g_n\}_{n=0, \dots, k^2}$  is unimodal.

# Conjectures

$$g_n := g(k^n, k^n, k^n)$$

Fix  $k$  even.

**Conjecture 1.** (AY, 2023)  $g_n > 0$  for all  $n \leq k^2$

Ex:  $k = 4$ ,  $g_n = 1, 1, 1, 2, 5, 6, 13, 14, 18, 14, 13, 6, 5, 2, 1, 1, 1$

**Conjecture 2.** (AY, 2023)  $\{g_n\}_{n=0, \dots, k^2}$  is unimodal.

Note:  $k = 3$ ,  $g_n = 1, 1, 0, 1, 1, 1, 1, 0, 1, 1$

# Progress

$$g_n := g(k^n, k^n, k^n)$$

**Conjecture 1.** (AY, 2023)  $g_n > 0$  for all  $n \leq k^2$

Special cases:  $n < 4$ ,  $n = k$  [Tewari, Bürgisser-Ikenmeyer, Bessenrodt-Behns]

# Progress

$$g_n := g(k^n, k^n, k^n)$$

**Conjecture 1.** (AY, 2023)  $g_n > 0$  for all  $n \leq k^2$

Special cases:  $n < 4$ ,  $n = k$  [Tewari, Bürgisser-Ikenmeyer, Bessenrodt-Behns]

**Theorem** (AY, 2023).

(i)  $g_n > 0$  for  $n < \sqrt{k}/2$

# Progress

$$g_n := g(k^n, k^n, k^n)$$

**Conjecture 1.** (AY, 2023)  $g_n > 0$  for all  $n \leq k^2$

Special cases:  $n < 4$ ,  $n = k$  [Tewari, Bürgisser-Ikenmeyer, Bessenrodt-Behns]

**Theorem** (AY, 2023).

(i)  $g_n > 0$  for  $n < \sqrt{k}/2$

(ii) RH  $\implies g_n > 0$  for  $n < \sqrt{k} - \frac{2}{\pi}k^{1/4} \log k$  (not a joke)

# Progress

$$g_n := g(k^n, k^n, k^n)$$

**Conjecture 1.** (AY, 2023)  $g_n > 0$  for all  $n \leq k^2$

Special cases:  $n < 4$ ,  $n = k$  [Tewari, Bürgisser-Ikenmeyer, Bessenrodt-Behns]

**Theorem** (AY, 2023).

- (i)  $g_n > 0$  for  $n < \sqrt{k}/2$
- (ii) RH  $\implies g_n > 0$  for  $n < \sqrt{k} - \frac{2}{\pi}k^{1/4} \log k$  (not a joke)
- (iii)  $AT_2(k) \neq 0 \implies g_n > 0$  for  $n \leq k$  (cf. [Kumar, 2015])

# Progress

$$g_n := g(k^n, k^n, k^n)$$

**Conjecture 1.** (AY, 2023)  $g_n > 0$  for all  $n \leq k^2$

Special cases:  $n < 4$ ,  $n = k$  [Tewari, Bürgisser-Ikenmeyer, Bessenrodt-Behns]

**Theorem** (AY, 2023).

- (i)  $g_n > 0$  for  $n < \sqrt{k}/2$
- (ii) RH  $\implies g_n > 0$  for  $n < \sqrt{k} - \frac{2}{\pi}k^{1/4} \log k$  (not a joke)
- (iii)  $AT_2(k) \neq 0 \implies g_n > 0$  for  $n \leq k$  (cf. [Kumar, 2015])
- (iv)  $AT_3(k) \neq 0 \implies g_n > 0$  for  $n \leq k^2$

# Progress

$$g_n := g(k^n, k^n, k^n)$$

**Conjecture 1.** (AY, 2023)  $g_n > 0$  for all  $n \leq k^2$

Special cases:  $n < 4$ ,  $n = k$  [Tewari, Bürgisser-Ikenmeyer, Bessenrodt-Behns]

**Theorem** (AY, 2023).

- (i)  $g_n > 0$  for  $n < \sqrt{k}/2$
- (ii) RH  $\implies g_n > 0$  for  $n < \sqrt{k} - \frac{2}{\pi}k^{1/4} \log k$  (not a joke)
- (iii)  $AT_2(k) \neq 0 \implies g_n > 0$  for  $n \leq k$  (cf. [Kumar, 2015])
- (iv)  $AT_3(k) \neq 0 \implies g_n > 0$  for  $n \leq k^2$

- Proofs rely on SL-invariants of tensors
- We also prove for generalized Kroneckers (of many partitions)

# Unimodality of 'qubit' Kroneckers $\bigwedge \mathbb{C}^2 \otimes \dots \otimes \mathbb{C}^2$

$$\beta_n := g(\underbrace{2^n, \dots, 2^n}_{d \text{ times}}) \quad d \geq 3 \text{ odd fixed}$$

# Unimodality of 'qubit' Kroneckers $\bigwedge \mathbb{C}^2 \otimes \dots \otimes \mathbb{C}^2$

$$\beta_n := g(\underbrace{2^n, \dots, 2^n}_{d \text{ times}}) \quad d \geq 3 \text{ odd fixed}$$

Ex: For  $d = 5$  and  $n = 0, \dots, 2^{d-1}$  we have

$$\beta_n = 1, 1, 5, 11, 35, 52, 112, 130, 166, 130, 112, 52, 35, 11, 5, 1, 1$$

# Unimodality of 'qubit' Kroneckers $\bigwedge \mathbb{C}^2 \otimes \dots \otimes \mathbb{C}^2$

$$\beta_n := g(\underbrace{2^n, \dots, 2^n}_{d \text{ times}}) \quad d \geq 3 \text{ odd fixed}$$

Ex: For  $d = 5$  and  $n = 0, \dots, 2^{d-1}$  we have

$$\beta_n = 1, 1, 5, 11, 35, 52, 112, 130, 166, 130, 112, 52, 35, 11, 5, 1, 1$$

**Theorem** (AY, 2023).  $\{\beta_n\}_{n=0, \dots, 2^{d-1}}$  is unimodal.

# Unimodality of 'qubit' Kroneckers $\bigwedge \mathbb{C}^2 \otimes \dots \otimes \mathbb{C}^2$

$$\beta_n := g(\underbrace{2^n, \dots, 2^n}_{d \text{ times}}) \quad d \geq 3 \text{ odd fixed}$$

Ex: For  $d = 5$  and  $n = 0, \dots, 2^{d-1}$  we have

$$\beta_n = 1, 1, 5, 11, 35, 52, 112, 130, 166, 130, 112, 52, 35, 11, 5, 1, 1$$

**Theorem** (AY, 2023).  $\{\beta_n\}_{n=0, \dots, 2^{d-1}}$  is unimodal.

Proof: Hard Lefschetz theorem on associated highest weight spaces of  $d$ -qubits

