

# Weighted posets and the enriched monomial basis of QSym [slides]

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these slides:

<https://github.com/darijgr/fpsac21eta/raw/main/fps21eta-talk.pdf>

extended abstract:

<https://www.mat.univie.ac.at/~slc/wpapers/FPSAC2021/586Grinberg.pdf>

## Summary of our work

Hsiao defines in [5] the **monomial peak functions**  $\eta_\alpha$ : a class of quasisymmetric functions indexed by **odd compositions** of  $n$ .

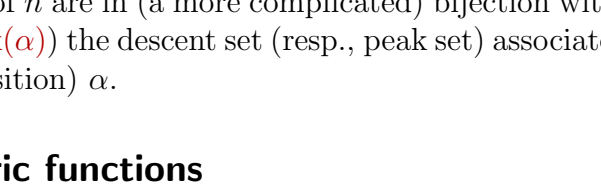
$$\eta_\alpha = (-1)^{(n-\ell(\alpha))/2} \sum_{i_1 \leq \dots \leq i_p} 2^{\{(i_1, i_2, \dots, i_p)\}} x_{i_1}^{\alpha_1} x_{i_2}^{\alpha_2} \dots x_{i_p}^{\alpha_p}.$$

They provide a monomial-like basis to Stembridge's algebra of peaks [6] and are related to Stembridge peak functions  $K_\alpha$  through

$$K_\alpha = \sum_{\substack{\beta \in \text{Odd}(n); \\ \text{Peak}(\beta) \subseteq \text{Peak}(\alpha)}} \eta_\beta.$$

In the present work:

- We show that monomial peak functions may be extended to a **basis of (the whole) QSym**. We name this new basis the **enriched monomial basis** of QSym.
- We relate it to other bases of QSym, compute its **antipode** and **coproduct**.
- We introduce **weighted posets** and their **enriched P-partitions** of [6], which generalize both the weighted posets of [2] and the enriched P-partitions of [6], whose generating functions give a **universal framework** for many types of quasisymmetric functions.



- We use our framework to compute the **product** of two enriched monomials:

$$\eta_\alpha \eta_\beta = \sum_{\substack{\gamma \in \text{ow}(\beta); \\ I \subseteq (S_\beta(\gamma) \setminus (S_\beta(\gamma) - 1)) \setminus \{1\}}} (-1)^{|I|} \eta_{\alpha \sqcup I \gamma}.$$

## 1. Notation and basic definitions

### 1.1. Compositions and permutations statistics

- $\mathbb{P} = \{1, 2, \dots\}$ ,  $\mathbb{N} = \{0, 1, \dots\}$ ,  $[n] = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ ,  $S_n$  the symmetric group on  $[n]$ .
- $\text{Comp}(n)$  is the set of **compositions**  $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_p)$  of  $n$ .  $\text{Odd}(n)$  is the set of **odd compositions** of  $n$  containing only odd integers. Let  $\ell(\alpha) := p$ ,  $|\alpha| := \sum \alpha_i = n$ .
- The **descent set**  $\text{Des}(\pi)$  of  $\pi \in S_n$  is  $\text{Des}(\pi) = \{1 \leq i \leq n-1 \mid \pi(i) > \pi(i+1)\}$ .
- The **peak set**  $\text{Peak}(\pi)$  of  $\pi$  is  $\text{Peak}(\pi) = \{2 \leq i \leq n-1 \mid \pi(i-1) < \pi(i) > \pi(i+1)\}$ .
- Compositions of  $n$  are in bijection with descent sets of permutations in  $S_n$ , while odd compositions of  $n$  are in (a more complicated) bijection with peak sets. Denote  $\text{Des}(\alpha)$  (resp.  $\text{Peak}(\alpha)$ ) the descent set (resp., peak set) associated with composition (resp., odd composition)  $\alpha$ .

### 1.2. Quasisymmetric functions

- For any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_p) \in \text{Comp}(n)$ , define the **monomial quasisymmetric function**  $M_\alpha$  and the **fundamental quasisymmetric function**  $L_\alpha$  by

$$M_\alpha = \sum_{i_1 < \dots < i_p} x_{i_1}^{\alpha_1} x_{i_2}^{\alpha_2} \dots x_{i_p}^{\alpha_p}, \quad L_\alpha = \sum_{\substack{i_1 \leq \dots \leq i_n; \\ j \in \text{Des}(\alpha) \Rightarrow i_j < i_{j+1}}} x_{i_1} x_{i_2} \dots x_{i_n}.$$

- As an example, for  $n=3$ , we have

$$M_{(2,1)} = \sum_{i < j} x_i^2 x_j = x_1^2 x_2 + x_1^2 x_3 + x_2^2 x_3 + x_1^2 x_4 + x_2^2 x_4 + x_3^2 x_4 + \dots$$

$$L_{(2,1)} = \sum_{i \leq j < k} x_i x_j x_k = x_1^2 x_2 + x_1^2 x_3 + x_1 x_2 x_3 + x_2^2 x_3 + x_1^2 x_4 + x_1 x_2 x_4 + x_2^2 x_4 + \dots$$

- The families  $(M_\alpha)_{n \in \mathbb{N}, \alpha \in \text{Comp}(n)}$  and  $(L_\alpha)_{n \in \mathbb{N}, \alpha \in \text{Comp}(n)}$  are two bases of the  $\mathbf{k}$ -module  $\text{QSym}$  of quasisymmetric functions. They are related through

$$L_\alpha = \sum_{\substack{\beta \in \text{Comp}(n); \\ \text{Des}(\alpha) \subseteq \text{Des}(\beta)}} M_\beta. \quad (1)$$

### 1.3. Peak and monomial peak functions

- In [6], Stembridge introduces **peak quasisymmetric functions**. Given  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $\alpha \in \text{Odd}(n)$ , the corresponding function is

$$K_\alpha = \sum_{\substack{i_1 \leq \dots \leq i_n; \\ j \in \text{Peak}(\alpha) \Rightarrow i_{j-1} < i_j < i_{j+1}}} 2^{\{(i_1, i_2, \dots, i_n)\}} x_{i_1} x_{i_2} \dots x_{i_n} \in \text{QSym}.$$

- Hsiao defines in [5] the **monomial peak functions**. For any odd composition  $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_p) \in \text{Odd}(n)$ , the corresponding function is

$$\eta_\alpha = (-1)^{(n-\ell(\alpha))/2} \sum_{i_1 \leq \dots \leq i_p} 2^{\{(i_1, i_2, \dots, i_p)\}} x_{i_1}^{\alpha_1} x_{i_2}^{\alpha_2} \dots x_{i_p}^{\alpha_p} \in \text{QSym}. \quad (2)$$

- An identity similar to Equation (1) relates peak and monomial peak functions:

$$K_\alpha = \sum_{\substack{\beta \in \text{Odd}(n); \\ \text{Peak}(\beta) \subseteq \text{Peak}(\alpha)}} \eta_\beta. \quad (3)$$

### 1.4. Posets and P-partitions

- A **labelled poset**  $P = ([n], <_P)$  is an arbitrary partial order  $<_P$  on the set  $[n]$ .
- Let  $P = ([n], <_P)$  be a labelled poset. A **P-partition** is a map  $f: [n] \rightarrow \mathbb{P}$  that satisfies the two following conditions:
  - (i) If  $i <_P j$ , then  $f(i) \leq f(j)$ .
  - (ii) If  $i <_P j$  and  $i > j$ , then  $f(i) < f(j)$ .
- Let  $\mathbb{P}^\pm$  be the (unusually) totally ordered set

$$\mathbb{P}^\pm = \{-1 < 1 < -2 < 2 < -3 < 3 < \dots\} = \mathbb{P} \cup (-\mathbb{P}).$$

Let  $P = ([n], <_P)$  be a labelled poset. An **enriched P-partition** is a map  $f: [n] \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^\pm$  that satisfies the following two conditions:

- (i) If  $i <_P j$  and  $i < j$ , then  $f(i) < f(j)$  or  $f(i) = f(j) \in \mathbb{P}$ .
- (ii) If  $i <_P j$  and  $i > j$ , then  $f(i) < f(j)$  or  $f(i) = f(j) \in -\mathbb{P}$ .

- A more general concept was defined in [3]:

Let  $\mathcal{Z}$  be a subset of  $\mathbb{P}^\pm$ , and  $P = ([n], <_P)$  be a labelled poset. A **Z-enriched P-partition** is an enriched P-partition  $f: [n] \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^\pm$  with  $f([n]) \subseteq \mathcal{Z}$ . Let  $\mathcal{A}_Z(P)$  denote the set of Z-enriched P-partitions.

- Let  $X = \{x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots\}$ ,  $P = ([n], <_P)$ , and  $\mathcal{Z} \subseteq \mathbb{P}^\pm$ . Define the **Z-generating function of P** as the formal power series

$$\Gamma_{\mathcal{Z}}([n], <_P) = \sum_{f \in \mathcal{A}_Z([n], <_P)} \prod_{1 \leq i \leq n} x_{f(i)}. \quad (4)$$

- Given  $\pi \in S_n$ , let  $P_\pi = ([n], <_\pi)$  denote the labelled poset where the order relation  $<_\pi$  is such that  $\pi_i <_\pi \pi_j$  if and only if  $i < j$  (see Figure 1).

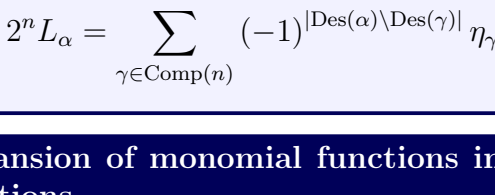


Figure 1: The labelled poset associated to permutation  $\pi$ .

For  $\mathcal{Z} = \mathbb{P}$ , this recovers Gessel's P-partition enumerator (called  $\Gamma(P)$  in [1]).

- Set  $L_\pi = \Gamma_{\mathbb{P}}([n], <_\pi)$  and  $K_\pi = \Gamma_{\mathbb{P}^\pm}([n], <_\pi)$ . The function  $L_\pi$  is equal to the fundamental quasisymmetric function  $L_\alpha$  indexed by the unique composition  $\alpha$  such that  $\text{Des}(\alpha) = \text{Des}(\pi)$ . Similarly,  $K_\pi$  is equal to the peak function  $K_\alpha$  indexed by the unique odd composition  $\alpha$  such that  $\text{Peak}(\alpha) = \text{Peak}(\pi)$ .

- Given two permutations  $\pi \in S_n$  and  $\sigma \in S_m$ , we have

$$\Gamma_{\mathcal{Z}}([n], <_\pi) \cdot \Gamma_{\mathcal{Z}}([m], <_\sigma) = \sum_{\gamma \in \text{ow}(\pi \circ \sigma)} \Gamma_{\mathcal{Z}}([n+m], <_\gamma). \quad (5)$$

This recovers the known facts that

$$L_\pi L_\sigma = \sum_{\gamma \in \text{ow}(\pi \circ \sigma)} L_\gamma, \quad K_\pi K_\sigma = \sum_{\gamma \in \text{ow}(\pi \circ \sigma)} K_\gamma.$$

## 2. The enriched monomial basis of QSym

### 2.1. The enriched monomial functions

#### Definition 1: Enriched monomials

For any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and any composition  $\alpha \in \text{Comp}(n)$ , we define a quasisymmetric function  $\eta_\alpha \in \text{QSym}$  (called an **enriched monomial quasisymmetric function**) by

$$\eta_\alpha = \sum_{\substack{\beta \in \text{Comp}(n); \\ \text{Des}(\beta) \subseteq \text{Des}(\alpha)}} 2^{\ell(\beta)} M_\beta. \quad (6)$$

#### Examples

- Setting  $n=5$  and  $\alpha = (1, 3, 1)$  in this definition, we obtain

$$\eta_{(1,3,1)} = \sum_{\substack{\beta \in \text{Comp}(5); \\ \text{Des}(\beta) \subseteq \{1,4\}}} 2^{\ell(\beta)} M_\beta \quad (\text{since } \text{Des}(1,3,1) = \{1,4\})$$

$$= 2^{\ell(5)} M_{(5)} + 2^{\ell(1,4)} M_{(1,4)} + 2^{\ell(4,1)} M_{(4,1)} + 2^{\ell(1,3,1)} M_{(1,3,1)}$$

$$= 2M_{(5)} + 4M_{(1,4)} + 4M_{(4,1)} + 8M_{(1,3,1)}.$$

- For any positive integer  $n$ , we have  $\eta_{(n)} = 2M_{(n)}$  (since the composition  $(n)$  satisfies  $\text{Des}(n) = \emptyset$ ).

- When  $\alpha$  is odd, this recovers Hsiao's monomial peak  $\eta_\alpha$  up to sign.

#### Proposition 1: Power series expansion

Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_p) \in \text{Comp}(n)$ . Then,

$$\eta_\alpha = \sum_{\substack{i_1 \leq \dots \leq i_n; \\ j \in \text{Des}(\alpha) \Rightarrow i_{j-1} = i_j = i_{j+1}}} 2^{\{(i_1, i_2, \dots, i_n)\}} x_{i_1} x_{i_2} \dots x_{i_n}$$

$$= \sum_{i_1 \leq i_2 \leq \dots \leq i_p} 2^{\{(i_1, i_2, \dots, i_p)\}} x_{i_1}^{\alpha_1} x_{i_2}^{\alpha_2} \dots x_{i_p}^{\alpha_p}.$$

#### Proposition 2: Relation to fundamental basis

Let  $n$  be a positive integer. Let  $\alpha \in \text{Comp}(n)$ . Then,

$$\eta_\alpha = 2 \sum_{\gamma \in \text{Comp}(n)} (-1)^{|\text{Des}(\gamma) \setminus \text{Des}(\alpha)|} L_\gamma$$

and

$$2^n L_\alpha = \sum_{\gamma \in \text{Comp}(n)} (-1)^{|\text{Des}(\alpha) \setminus \text{Des}(\gamma)|} \eta_\gamma.$$

#### Proposition 3: Expansion of monomial functions in enriched monomial functions

For any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $\beta \in \text{Comp}(n)$ , we have

$$2^{\ell(\beta)} M_\beta = \sum_{\substack{\alpha \in \text{Comp}(n); \\ \text{Des}(\alpha) \subseteq \text{Des}(\beta)}} (-1)^{\ell(\beta) - \ell(\alpha)} \eta_\alpha.$$

## 2.2. The $\eta_\alpha$ as a basis, antipode and coproduct

#### Theorem 1: Enriched monomials are a basis of QSym

Assume that 2 is invertible in  $\mathbf{k}$ . Then, the family  $(\eta_\alpha)_{n \in \mathbb{N}, \alpha \in \text{Comp}(n)}$  is a **basis** of the  $\mathbf{k}$ -module  $\text{QSym}$ .

The  $\mathbf{k}$ -module  $\text{QSym}$  is a Hopf algebra; let  $S$  be its antipode.

#### Proposition 4: Antipode of enriched monomials

Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $\alpha \in \text{Comp}(n)$ . Then, the antipode  $S$  of  $\text{QSym}$  satisfies

$$S(\eta_\alpha) = (-1)^{\ell(\alpha)} \eta_{\text{rev } \alpha}. \quad (7)$$

Here, if  $\alpha := (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_p)$ , then  $\text{rev } \alpha := (\alpha_p, \alpha_{p-1}, \dots, \alpha_1)$ .

#### Theorem 2: Coproduct of enriched monomials

Consider the coproduct  $\Delta: \text{QSym} \rightarrow \text{QSym} \otimes \text{QSym}$  of the Hopf algebra  $\text{QSym}$  (see [4, §5.1]). Let  $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_p)$  be a composition. Then,

$$\Delta(\eta_\alpha) = \sum_{k=0}^p \eta_{(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_k)} \otimes \eta_{(\alpha_{k+1}, \alpha_{k+2}, \dots, \alpha_p)}.$$

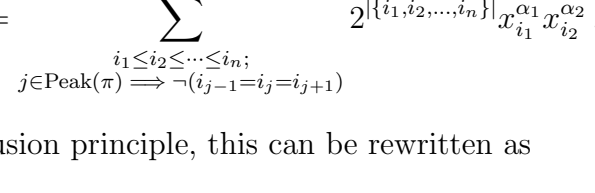
## 3. The product rule for the enriched monomial basis

### 3.1. Weighted posets and their Z-generating functions

Now we generalize the Z-generating function of a labelled poset by putting exponents on the  $x_{f(i)}$ 's:

#### Definition 2: Labelled weighted posets

A **labelled weighted poset** is a triple  $P = ([n], <_P, \epsilon)$  where  $([n], <_P)$  is a labelled poset and  $\epsilon: [n] \rightarrow \mathbb{P}$  is a map (called the **weight function**). In a labelled weighted poset, each node is marked with two numbers: its label  $i \in [n]$  and its weight  $\epsilon(i)$ .



For any set  $\mathcal{Z} \subseteq \mathbb{P}^\pm$ , we define the **Z-generating function**  $\Gamma_{\mathcal{Z}}([n], <_P, \epsilon)$  of the labelled weighted poset  $([n], <_P, \epsilon)$  by

$$\Gamma_{\mathcal{Z}}([n], <_P, \epsilon) = \sum_{f \in \mathcal{A}_Z([n], <_P)} \prod_{1 \leq i \leq n} x_{f(i)}^{\epsilon(i)}. \quad (8)$$

If  $\mathcal{Z} = \mathbb{P}$  or  $\mathcal{Z} = \mathbb{P}^\pm$ , this power series  $\Gamma_{\mathcal{Z}}([n], <_P, \epsilon)$  lies in  $\text{QSym}$ .

#### Proposition 5: Decomposition of $\Gamma_{\mathcal{Z}}([n], <_P, \epsilon)$ into linear extensions

Let  $P = ([n], <_P, \epsilon)$  be a labelled weighted poset. Let  $\mathcal{L}(P)$  be the set of all linear extensions of the poset  $([n], <_P)$ . Then,

$$\Gamma_{\mathcal{Z}}([n], <_P, \epsilon) = \sum_{([n], <_L) \in \mathcal{L}(P)} \Gamma_{\mathcal{Z}}([n], <_L, \epsilon). \quad (9)$$

### 3.2. Universal quasisymmetric functions

If a labelled poset  $P = ([n], <_P)$  is totally ordered (i.e.,  $<_P$  is total), it can be described by a permutation  $\pi \in S_n$ . In this case, we give its Z-generating function  $\Gamma_{\mathcal{Z}}([n], <_P, \epsilon)$  a new name:

#### Definition 3: Universal quasisymmetric functions

Let  $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n)$  be a composition. Let  $\pi = \pi_1 \dots \pi_n$  (in one-line notation) be a permutation in  $S_n$ .

Let  $P_{\pi, \alpha} = ([n], <_{\pi, \alpha})$  denote the labelled weighted poset composed of the labelled poset  $([n], <_\pi)$  and the weight function

$$\alpha: \pi_i \mapsto \alpha_i.$$

$$\pi_1, \alpha_1 \longrightarrow \pi_2, \alpha_2 \longrightarrow \dots \longrightarrow \pi_n, \alpha_n$$

We define the **universal quasisymmetric function**  $U_{\pi, \alpha}^{\mathcal{Z}}$  as the generating function

$$U_{\pi, \alpha}^{\mathcal{Z}} = \Gamma_{\mathcal{Z}}([n], <_{\pi, \alpha}). \quad (10)$$

Thus, by (9), each Z-generating function  $\Gamma_{\mathcal{Z}}([n], <_P, \epsilon)$  is a sum of  $U_{\pi, \alpha}^{\mathcal{Z}}$ 's.

The  $U_{\pi, \alpha}^{\mathcal{Z}}$ 's include, as particular cases, all four bases we have seen so far (thus the "universal"):

#### Proposition 6: Specialisation of universal quasisymmetric functions

Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Let  $id_n$  and  $\overline{id}_n$  denote the two permutations in  $S_n$  given by  $id_n = 1\ 2\ 3 \dots n$  and  $\overline{id}_n = n\ n-1\ n-2 \dots 1$  (in one-line notation). Let  $(1^n)$  be the composition  $(1, 1, \dots, 1)$  of  $n$ . Then:

- For any  $\pi \in S_n$ , we have

$$U_{\pi, (1^n)}^{\mathbb{P}} = L_\pi, \quad U_{\pi, (1^n)}^{\mathbb{P}^\pm} = K_\pi.$$

- For any composition  $\alpha$  with  $n$  entries, we have

$$U_{id_n, \alpha}^{\mathbb{P}} = M_\alpha, \quad U_{id_n, \alpha}^{\mathbb{P}^\pm} = \eta_\alpha \quad (11)$$

(where we identify  $\alpha$  with the appropriate weight function as in the definition above).

### 3.3. Product rule

#### Theorem 3: Product of universal quasisymmetric functions

Let  $\mathcal{Z}$  be a subset of  $\mathbb{P}^\pm$ . Let  $\pi$  and  $\sigma$  be two permutations in  $S_n$  and  $S_m$ , and let  $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$  and  $\beta = (\beta_1, \dots, \beta_m)$  be two compositions with  $n$  and  $m$  entries. The  $U_{\pi, \alpha}^{\mathcal{Z}}$  and  $U_{\sigma, \beta}^{\mathcal{Z}}$  are two universal quasisymmetric functions is given by

$$U_{\pi, \alpha}^{\mathcal{Z}} U_{\sigma, \beta}^{\mathcal{Z}} = \sum_{(\tau, \gamma) \in (\pi, \alpha) \sqcup (\sigma, \beta)} U_{\tau, \gamma}^{\mathcal{Z}} \quad (12)$$

where the sum is over all ways to shuffle  $\pi$  with  $m + \sigma$  and  $\alpha$  with  $\beta$  using the same permutation – shuffle  $\alpha$  with  $\beta$ .

This follows from (9) and from the obvious product rule for  $\Gamma_{\mathcal{Z}}([n], <_\pi, \alpha)$ 's:

$$\Gamma_{\mathcal{Z}}([n], <_\pi, \alpha) \cdot \Gamma_{\mathcal{Z}}([m], <_\sigma, \beta) = \Gamma_{\mathcal{Z}}([n+m], <_{\pi \sqcup \sigma}, \alpha \sqcup \beta), \quad (13)$$

where  $<_{\pi \sqcup \sigma}$  is the disjoint union of the relation  $<_\pi$  on  $[n]$  and the (shifted-by- $n$ ) relation  $<_\sigma$  on  $[n+1, n+m]$ .

### 3.4. Product of enriched monomials

Let  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  be two compositions with  $n$  and  $m$  entries. Equations (11) and (12) imply:

$$\eta_\alpha \eta_\beta = U_{id_n, \alpha}^{\mathbb{P}^\pm} U_{id_m, \beta}^{\mathbb{P}^\pm} = \sum_{(\tau, \gamma) \in (id_n, \alpha) \sqcup (id_m, \beta)} U_{\tau, \gamma}^{\mathbb{P}^\pm}. \quad (14)$$

We shall now rewrite this as an alternating sum of  $\eta_\gamma$ 's.

#### Definition 4: Composition reduction

Let  $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$  be a composition with  $n$  entries. For any  $1 < i < n$ , let  $\alpha^{i \downarrow i+1}$  denote the following composition with  $n-2$  entries:

$$\alpha^{i \downarrow i+1} = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{i-2}, \alpha_{i-1} + \alpha_i + \alpha_{i+1}, \alpha_{i+2}, \dots, \alpha_n).$$

Furthermore, if  $I = \{i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_k\} \subseteq [2, n-1]$  is a set containing no two consecutive integers, then we set

$$\alpha^{\downarrow I} = \left( (\dots (\alpha^{i_k} \dots)^{i_{k-1}})^{i_{k-2}} \dots \right)^{i_1}.$$

(In particular,  $\alpha^{\downarrow \emptyset} = \alpha$ .)

**Example:** If  $\alpha = ($