





See-saw pairs and plethysm

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Based on join work with





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Plethysm and the algebra of uniform block permutations, 2022.
 The lattice of submonoids of the uniform block permutations containing the symmetric group (arXiv:2405.09710), 2024.
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The symmetric group

- \rightarrow The symmetric group S_{n} .
- \diamond A representation is a homomorphism: ρ
- \diamond The irreducible representations \mathbb{S}^{λ} are indexed by partitions of n.
- \diamond The module, \mathbb{S}^{λ} is spanned by standard tableaux of shape λ . **Example:** (2,2) $\begin{vmatrix} 2 & 4 \\ 1 & 3 \end{vmatrix}$ $\begin{vmatrix} 3 & 4 \\ 1 & 2 \end{vmatrix}$
- ♦ The character of a representation: trace($\rho(\sigma)$), for $\sigma \in S_n$.
- A Restriction of representations: Res^{S_{k+m}}_{S_ℓ×S_m} S^ℓ = ⊕ (S^λ ⊗ S^μ)^{c^ℓ_{λ,μ}}

Sagan's book

$$: \mathbf{S}_n \to GL_d$$
.

	(1)(2)(3)	(1,2)(3)	(1,2,3
$\chi^{(1,1,1)}$	1	-1	1
$\chi^{(2,1)}$	2	0	-1
$\chi^{(3)}$	1	1	1

 $\lambda \vdash k, \mu \vdash m$



The General Linear Group

- ♦ The general linear group $GL_n = GL_n(\mathbb{C})$ is the group of invertible $n \times n$ matrices.
- A representation is a homomorphism: $\rho : GL_n \to GL_m$.
- ♦ For any $g \in GL_n$, $\rho(g)$ is an $m \times m$ matrix.
 - Irreducible polynomial representation are indexed by partitions λ with at most *n* parts: \bigvee^{λ}
 - **Example:** $V^{(2)}$ $\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \mapsto \begin{bmatrix} a^2 & 2ab & b^2 \\ ac & ad + bc & bd \\ c^2 & 2cd & d^2 \end{bmatrix}$
 - $T = \begin{bmatrix} 8 \\ 7 & 8 & 9 \\ 3 & 5 & 6 & 7 \\ 1 & 2 & 2 & 4 & 4 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$
 - **Example:** $\mathbb{V}^{(2)}$ in GL_2 has basis $\boxed{11}$ $\boxed{12}$ $\mathbb{V}^{(2)}$ in GL_3 has basis

The module, \bigvee^{λ} is spanned by semistandard tableaux of shape λ with entries in $\{1, \ldots, n\}$.









The General Linear Group

◆ The character of a representation: trace($\rho(g)$), for $g \in GL_{n}$.

 \diamond The characters of the polynomial irreducible representations of GL_n are evaluations of Schur functions (Schur polynomials).



Example: $\lambda = (6,4,3,1)$ $T = \begin{bmatrix} 8 \\ 7 & 8 & 9 \\ 3 & 5 & 6 & 7 \\ 1 & 3 & 3 & 4 & 4 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$



Computing characters of elements:

If $g = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$ has eigenvalues θ_1 and θ_2 , then $\operatorname{trace}(\rho^{(2)}(g)) = s_{(2)}(\theta_1, \theta_2) = \theta_1^2 + \theta_1 \theta_2 + \theta_2^2$.



SSYT "semistandard Young tableaux"

$$x^T = x_1 x_3^3 x_4^2 x_5^2 x_6 x_7^2 x_8^2 x_9$$

- **Example:** The character of the GL_2 representation $V^{(2)}$ is $s_{(2)}(x_1, x_2) = x_1^2 + x_1x_2 + x_2^2$ |2|2||2|1 | 1



Characters and symmetric functions

Polynomial

Representation of GL_n

Representation

 $\sqrt{/}$

 $\mathbf{Sym}^{\lambda_1}V \otimes \cdots \otimes \mathbf{Sym}^{\lambda_\ell}V$

 $\wedge^{\lambda_1} V \otimes \cdots \otimes \wedge^{\lambda_\ell} V$

 $\mathbb{V}^{\lambda} \otimes \mathbb{V}^{\mu} \cong \bigoplus \left(\mathbb{V}^{\nu} \right)^{c_{\lambda,\mu}^{\nu}}$

Same as for restriction of S_n -representations.



$c_{\lambda,\mu}^{\nu}$ are the Littlewood-Richarson coeffs.

Plethysm - composing characters

 $\tau \circ \rho : GL_n$

 GL_n representation: $\rho : GL_n \to GL_m$ GL_m representation: $\tau : GL_m \to GL_r$ Then the composition is a representation of (

We call the character of the composition: plethysm. If f and g are symmetric functions, then the plethysm is denoted by f[g]. $[-x^2 + x^2 + x$

Example:
$$s_{(2)}(x_1, x_2) = x_1^2 + x_1 x_2 + x_2^2$$

111 112 212
 $s_{(2)}[s_{(2)}(x_1, x_2)] = s_2(x_1^2, x_1 x_2, x_2^2)$
 $= x_1^4 + x_1^3 x_2 - \frac{11111}{1112}$
 $= s_4(x_1, x_2) + s_{2,2}(x_1 + x_2) + \frac{11}{2}$

$$GL_n$$
.
 $\rightarrow GL_r$

$$s_{(2)}(x_1, x_2, x_3) = x_1^2 + x_1 x_2 + x_1 x_3 + x_2^2 + x_2 x_3 + x_3$$

$$11 \quad 12 \quad 13 \quad 22 \quad 23 \quad 3$$



 (x_1, x_2)



Plethysm Problem

Problem: Find a combinatorial interpretation for the coefficients $a_{\lambda,\mu}^{\nu} \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ in the expansion

Very few special cases are known: **Carre and Leclerc:** $s_2[s_{\mu}]$ and $s_{1,1}[s_{\mu}]$ **COSSZ:** $s_{\lambda}[s_m]$ when $\lambda \vdash 3$. Howe: $s_4[s_m]$ complicated expressions for the coefficients. Littlewood (see Macdonal page 138): $s_n[s_2]$, $s_n[s_{1,1}]$, $s_1^n[s_2]$ and $s_{1^n}[s_{1,1}]$. Bowman, Paget, Wildon - stable coefficients in s[n](s[m]). **Remark:** A solution for $s_m[s_n]$ would help prove Foulkes' Conjecture: For n > m $S_n[S_m] - S_m[S_n]$ is Schur-positive.

Subproblem: We are interested in the plethysm $s_{\lambda}[s_m]$.



Restriction to the symmetric group

 $S_n \subset GL_n$



The symmetric group as the group of permutation matrices is a subgroup of GL_{n} .



 GL_n

$$(3,1)^{\oplus 2} \oplus \mathbb{S}^{(2,2)}$$

Littlewood, Buttler and King, Narayanan, Paul, Prasad and Srivastava '22

Restricting Characters

- \diamond Every character of GL_n is a character of S_n . **Example:** Restrict the representation $\mathbb{V}^{(2)}$ of GL_3 to S_3 . $+ x_1x_3 + x_2^2 + x_2x_3 + x_3^2$ I contraction $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ matrix for each $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ 1,1,1 1,-1,1 1, ξ,ξ^2 **Eigenvalues** $s_2(1,1,1) = 6$ $s_2(1,-1,1) = 2$ $s_2(1,\xi,\xi^2) = 0$

$$s_{(2)}(x_1, x_2, x_3) = x_1^2 + x_1 x_2 +$$
on $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

The decomposition for $S_{(2)}(x_1, x_2, x_3)$ as an S_3 character is

$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$		(1)(2)(3)	(1,2)(3)	(1,2,3)
$\chi^{(2,1)}$ 2 0 -1	$\chi^{(1,1,1)}$	1	-1	1
	$\chi^{(2,1)}$	2	0	-1
$\chi^{(3)}$ 1 1 1	$\chi^{(3)}$	1	1	1

< 6

$$y_{2,0} > = 2 < 1,1,1 > + 2 < 2,0, -1 >$$

= 2 $\chi^{(3)} + 2 \chi^{(2,1)}$

Restricting Characters - Symmetric Functions

◆ Zabrocki and I introduced a new basis of symmetric functions : { \tilde{s}_{λ} : λ a partition } such that if Ξ_{μ} are the eigenvalues of permutation matrices, we have



Using this basis, the restriction problem is

μ





Restricting Characters - Symmetric Functions

Theorem: [O - Zabrocki]

 $h_{\mu} = \sum M_{\lambda,\mu} \tilde{s}_{\lambda}$

and content μ .

Example: If $\mu = (2,1)$ the entries are multisets of 1,1,2.



♦ Recall: h_{μ} is the character of $Sym^{\mu_1}V \otimes \cdots \otimes Sym^{\mu_\ell}V$.

where $M_{\lambda,\mu}$ is the number of semi standard multiset filled tableaux of shape $(r, \lambda)/\lambda_1$

 $h_{21} = 4\tilde{s}_1 + 7\tilde{s}_1 + 3\tilde{s}_{11} + 4\tilde{s}_2 + \tilde{s}_{21} + \tilde{s}_3$.

Plethysm and Restriction



Littlewood '1950s and reformulated by Scharf and Thibon

Theorem:
$$r_{\lambda,\mu} = \langle s_{\lambda}, s_{\mu}[1 + s_1 + s_2 + s_3 + \cdots] \rangle$$

Subproblem: We are interested in the plethysm $s_{\lambda}[s_m]$.

μ

See-saw pairs



If (A_2, B_1) and (A_1, B_2) are centralizer pairs then

$$\operatorname{Res}_{B_1}^{A_1} V_{A_1}^{\lambda} \cong \bigoplus_{\mu} (V_{B_1}^{\mu})^{m_{\lambda,\mu}} \quad \text{and} \quad \operatorname{Res}_{B_2}^{A_2} V_{A_2}^{\mu} \cong \bigoplus_{\lambda} (V_{B_2}^{\lambda})^{m_{\lambda,\mu}}$$

Let A_1, A_2, B_1, B_2 be groups/algebras such that $B_1 \subset A_1, B_2 \subset A_2$. All acting on the same vector space W.

 $A_2 \cong \mathbf{End}_{B_1}(W)$ $B_2 \cong \mathbf{End}_{A_1}(W)$

Restricting Characters - See-saw approach



Think of $S_n \subseteq GL_n$ as the subgroup of permutation matrices acting diagonally on $V^{\otimes k}$ $\sigma \cdot (v_1 \otimes v_2 \otimes \cdots \otimes v_k) = \sigma v_1 \otimes \sigma v_2 \otimes \cdots \otimes \sigma v_k$

what commutes with this action?



 $\{\{1, 3, \overline{1}, \overline{2}\}, \{2, \overline{4}\}, \{4, 6, \overline{3}, \overline{6}\}, \{5, \overline{7}\}, \{7, 8, 9, \overline{5}, \overline{8}, \overline{9}\}\}$

By Schur-Weyl duality (GL_n, S_k) is a centralizer pair

1990s: Jones and Martin



Partition Algebra

♦ For any positive integer k, let [k] = {1,...,k} and [k] = {1,...,k}

 \diamond The partition algebra, $P_k(n)$ has **Basis:** set partitions of $[k] \cup [\overline{k}]$ **Example:**





♦ The partition algebra, $P_k(n)$ has an identity $1 = \{\{1, \overline{1}\}, \dots, \{k, k\}\}$ and it has dimension equal B(2k), the Bell number.

Halverson-Ram, Halverson, Jacobson-Halverson, etc.

 $P_k(n)$ and S_n form a centralizer pair

The partition algebra is not always semisimple, but in the cases when it is semisimple, we have

 $V_{P_k(n)}^{(n-|\lambda|,\lambda)}$ - The irreducible representations are indexed by partitions λ such that $\lambda_1 + \lambda_2 + \cdots \leq k$

Irreducible have bases consisting of standard tableau where entries are sets.

$$V_{P_3(6)}^{(4,2)} = \operatorname{span}\left\{ \begin{array}{c|c} & 3 \\ \hline 1 & 2 \end{array}, \begin{array}{c|c} & 2 \\ \hline 1 & 3 \end{array}, \begin{array}{c|c} & 2 \\ \hline 1 & 3 \end{array}, \end{array} \right\}$$

Jones 1994 - $(P_k(n), S_n)$ form a centralizer pair





Our see-saw pair



$\operatorname{Res}_{\mathsf{S}_{k}}^{P_{k}(n)}V_{P_{k}(n)}^{\mu}\cong\bigoplus_{\lambda}\left(\mathbb{S}^{\lambda}\right)^{\oplus r_{\lambda,\mu}}$ $\operatorname{\mathsf{Res}}^{GL_n}_{S_m} \overset{\lambda}{\simeq} \bigoplus \bigoplus (\mathbb{S}^{\mu})^{\bigoplus r_{\lambda,\mu}}$ μ

Idea: To solve the restriction problem, solve the restriction of $P_k(n)$ to S_k

An approach for restriction

 U_k the uniform block permutation algebra.

$$S_k < \dots$$

Why U_k ? It is smaller and has a rich structure. $dim(U_k)$ 1 1 3 16

Goal: Give a combinatorial construction of representations of U_k using tableaux.





4	5	6
21,147	678,570	27,644,437
131	1,496	22,482

Uniform Block permutations



Note: \bigcup_{k} is a monoid algebra.

No parameter!

Idempotents and *J*-classes

Idempotents: For each $\pi \vdash [k]$, we define an idempotent

 $e_{\pi} = \{A \cup \overline{A} : A \in \pi\}$

Example: $e_{\{2\},\{7\},\{1,4\},\{3,6\},\{5,8,9\}\}} = \int_{-1}^{+1} \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}$

The set $E(U_k) = \{e_{\pi} : \pi \vdash [k]\}$ is a complete set of idempotents.

Note: U_k is the union of \mathcal{J} – classes.





Uniform block permutations

 U_k is semisimple and its irreducible representations are indexed by

 $I_{k} = \left\{ \left(\lambda^{(1)}, \lambda^{(2)}, \dots, \lambda^{(k)} \right) : \lambda^{(i)} \text{ are partitions such that } \sum_{i=1}^{\kappa} i |\lambda^{(i)}| = k \right\}$

Example: $I_3 = \{((3), \emptyset, \emptyset), ((2, 1), \emptyset, \emptyset), ((1, 1, 1), \emptyset, \emptyset), ((1), (1), \emptyset), (\emptyset, \emptyset, (1))\}$

A uniform tableau $T = (T^{(1)}, \dots, T^{(k)})$ of shape $\vec{\lambda} \in I_k$ is a tableau where each $T^{(i)}$ is filled with blocks of size i and the blocks in T form a set partition of [k].

The irreducible representations of U_k :

 $V_{U_{\iota}}^{\vec{\lambda}} := \operatorname{span} \left\{ T \text{ is a uniform tableau of shape } \vec{\lambda} \right\}$ Example: $V_{U_3}^{((1),(1),\cdot)} = \operatorname{span}\left\{\left(1, 23\right)\right\}$

$$\Big), \Big(\boxed{2}, \boxed{13}\Big), \Big(\boxed{3}, \boxed{12}\Big)\Big\}$$

Characters for UBP

Explicit formulas for the characters!

 $\chi_{\mathsf{U}_{k}}^{\bar{\lambda}}(d_{\vec{\mu}}) = \sum b_{\vec{\mu}}^{\vec{\nu}}\chi_{G_{\lambda}}^{\bar{\lambda}}(d_{\vec{\nu}})$ $\vec{\nu} \in I_k: |\nu^{(i)}| = a_i$ Let $\mu = (\cdot, (1,1), \cdot, \cdot)$, so that $\lambda = (2,2)$ Example:

Note: Coefficients are always integers. We found and explicit formula for $b_{\vec{n}}^{\nu}$.



Theorem: [OSSZ] For $\vec{\lambda}, \vec{\mu} \in I_k, a_i = |\lambda^{(i)}|, \lambda = (1^{a_1}2^{a_2}...k^{a_k})$ and $G_{\lambda} \cong S_{a_1} \times \cdots \times S_{a_k}$



Connection to plethysm

Our problem: We want to compute:



Defined a Frobenius map and connected to symmetric functions.

Theorem: Multiplicity of \mathbb{S}^{μ} in $\operatorname{Res}_{S_{\mu}}^{U_{k}} V_{U_{k}}^{\vec{\lambda}}$ is $\langle s_{\lambda^{(1)}}[s_{1}]s_{\lambda^{(2)}}[s_{2}]\cdots s_{\lambda^{(k)}}[s_{k}], s_{\mu}\rangle = a_{\vec{\lambda},\mu}$ $\operatorname{\mathsf{Res}}_{S_k}^{\mathsf{U}_k} V_{U_k}^{\vec{\lambda}} \cong \bigoplus$ $\mu \vdash k$

If $\vec{\lambda} = (\cdot, ..., \cdot, \lambda, ...)$ where λ is in m^{th} position: $\langle S_{\lambda}[S_m],$

Question: How do we do the restriction/induction so that we get new information?

 S_k

$$(\mathbb{S})^{\bigoplus a_{\vec{\lambda},\mu}}$$

$$s_{\mu} > = a^{\mu}_{\lambda,(m)}$$

Submonoids of UBP

We are interested in the submonoids of U_k that contain S_k and how they are related.

Proposition: Every submonoid of U_k containing S_k is the union of \mathcal{J} – classes.



Monoids : $S_3 = J_{(1,1,1)} \subset (S_3 \cup J_{(3)}) \subset (S_3 \cup J_{(3)} \cup J_{(2,1)}) = U_k$

Number of submonoids:

$k \mid$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
$\left n_k \right $	1	2	3	6	10	31	63	287	1099	8640

Theorem: The set $\{M \text{ monoid such that } S_k \subseteq M \subseteq U_k\}$ with order \subseteq is a distributive lattice. (2,1)(3)Ø 12131114154689129789119 2525655957 62658



A new order on partitions

Definition: $\lambda, \mu \vdash k$, then $\mu \leq \lambda$ if there are set partitions $\pi_0, \pi_1, \ldots, \pi_{\ell} \vdash [k]$ of type λ with join $\pi_0 \lor \ldots \lor \pi_{\ell}$ of type μ .



Theorem: Every monoid $M \subseteq U_k$ containing S_k is of the form: $M = S_k \cup \bigcup J_{\mu}$ where *I* is an order ideal of $(\operatorname{Par}_k \setminus \{(1^k)\}, \leq)$ $\mu \in I$

Theorem: $\lambda, \mu \in \text{Part}_k \setminus \{(1^k)\}$. Then iff μ is coarser than λ and $SP_{>1}(\mu) \ge SP_{>1}(\lambda)$. $\mu \leq \lambda$





Final Remarks

New combinatorics:











Final Remarks



Faulstich, Sturmfels, and Sverrisdottir - connections of UBP to algebraic varieties.



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