

Bayrischzell Workshop 2007

On the algebraic foundation of
perturbative quantum field theory
and its roots in
invariant theory

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CSI Bayrischzell

- QFT axiomatics
- Vertex operator algebras
- Representation theory of finite groups
- Algebraic geometry schemes
- Harmonic elements, cyclicity

Our DNA test (method of choice)
algebraic combinatorics

QFT

data:

- state space $\mathcal{H}$ (complex Hilbert space)
- vacuum vector $\Omega \in \mathcal{H}$
- unitary rep. of the Poincaré algebra (group)
 $(g, \Lambda) \rightarrow U(g, \Lambda)$
- set of fields $\{\phi_a\}$; operator valued distribution
 $f \mapsto \Phi_a(f)$ f test function on $\mathcal{M}$
 (g.h. manifold)

(Wightman) axioms:

$$W1: U(g, \Lambda) \phi_a(f) U(g, \Lambda)^{-1} = \phi_a(f)$$

$$U(g, 1) = e^{\sum a_i P_i} \quad P_i \text{ self adj. op. mutually com.}$$

W2: stable vacuum

$$U(g, \Lambda) |\Omega\rangle = |\Omega\rangle \quad \text{and spectrum of the } P_a \text{ in the forward light cone (positivity)}$$

W3: completeness $|\Omega\rangle \in$ domain of each poly. funct. of the P_a and $\{P_a(\phi_a(f))\}$ is dense in $\mathcal{H}$

W4: locality

$$\phi_a(f) \phi_b(g) = \phi_b(g) \phi_a(f) \quad \text{if } f, g \text{ are space like separated} \quad x \in \text{supp } f, y \in \text{supp } g \quad |x-y| > \sigma \quad \forall x, y$$

4 Vertex algebras

data:

$V = V_0 + V_1$ superspace, $|0\rangle$ vacuum vector,

state field correspondence $a \longrightarrow Y(a, z) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} a_{(n)} z^{-n-1}$

$$Y \in \text{End}(V)[z]$$

axioms:

V1: translation covariance

$$[T, Y(a, z)] = \partial Y(a, z); \quad Y(a, z)|0\rangle = e^{zT}(a)$$

$$T \in \text{End}(V); \quad [T, a_{(n)}] = -n a_{(n-1)}; \quad Ta = a_{(-2)}|0\rangle$$

V2: vacuum

$$Y(|0\rangle, z) = \text{Id}_V \quad Y(a, z)|0\rangle|_{z=0} = a$$

$$|0\rangle_{(n)} = \delta_{n,-1} \quad a_{(n)}|0\rangle = 0 \quad \forall n \geq 0 \quad a_{(-1)}|0\rangle = a$$

V3: locality

$$\text{for } N \gg 0 \quad (z-w)^N Y(a, z) Y(b, w) = (-1)^{\partial a \partial b} (z-w)^N Y(b, w) Y(a, z)$$

recall

$$\delta(z-w) = z^{-1} \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \left(\frac{w}{z}\right)^n = w^{-1} \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \left(\frac{z}{w}\right)^n = \delta(w-z)$$

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... normal ordering, modes

$$a(z) = a_-(z) + a_+(z) = \sum_{n \geq 0} a_{(n)} z^{-n-1} + \sum_{n < 0} a_{(n)} z^{-n-1}$$

def: (normal order)

$$:a(z)b(w): = a_+(z)b(w) + b(w)a_-(z) \quad \text{2ad2}$$

OPE:

$$a(z)b(w) = \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} \frac{a(w)_{(j)} b(w)}{(z-w)^{j+1}} + :a(z)b(w):$$

$$\text{with } a(w)_{(j)} b(w) = \text{Res}_z [a(z), b(w)] (z-w)^j$$

Examples: Current algebras, Witt, Virasoro, ...

$$\text{let } [\alpha_m, \alpha_n] = m \delta_{m,-n} K \quad [K, \alpha_n] = 0$$

$$\hookrightarrow a(z) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \alpha_n z^{-n-1} \in V = V_0$$

$$[a(z), a(w)] = \partial_w \delta(z-w) K$$

$$a(z)a(w) \simeq \frac{K}{(z-w)^2} + \text{hdom. terms}$$

, free boson'

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Irreducibles ($V = V_0$)

V : look for a distinguished basis $\{V^\lambda\}$ of irreducibles (indecomposables) $V = \bigoplus_\lambda V^\lambda$

GL, U, S_n : Schur: "the irreps. are indexed by integer partitions $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3, \dots)$ "

characters: $ch(V^\lambda) = s_\lambda$ Schur function

$$s_\lambda = \sum_{T \in SSYT} x^T; \quad x^T = x_1^{t_1} \dots x_n^{t_n}$$

$[1 \dots n] \xrightarrow{T} \lambda$

$11 \quad 12 \quad 12 \quad 13 \quad \dots$
 $\downarrow \quad \downarrow \quad \downarrow \quad \downarrow$
 $x_1^2 x_2 \quad x_1 x_2^2 \quad 2 x_1 x_2 x_3 \quad \dots$

s_λ from Bernstein (Vertex) operators

$$H(u) = \sum_{n \geq 0} h_n u^n \quad h_n = s_{(n)} \cong \boxed{\boxed{\dots \boxed{n}}}$$

$$E^\perp(-u^{-1}) = \sum_{n \geq 0} (-1)^n e_n^\perp u^{-n} \quad e_n = s_{(1^n)} \cong \boxed{\begin{matrix} \vdots \\ 1 \end{matrix}}$$

$e_n^\perp$ 'remove n vertical boxes'
 $\mathfrak{g}^\perp$ is a derivation

$$\mathcal{B}(u) = H(u) E^\perp(-u^{-1}) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \mathcal{B}_n u^n \in V \otimes V^*$$

$$\mathcal{B}(u_1, \dots, u_k) = H(u_1) \dots H(u_k) E^\perp(-u_k^{-1}) \dots E^\perp(-u_1^{-1})$$

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$$\begin{aligned} B(u_1) B(u_2) &= (1 - \frac{u_1}{u_2}) B(u_1, u_2) \\ &= (1 - \frac{u_1}{u_2}) : B(u_1) B(u_2) : \end{aligned}$$

now

$$\begin{aligned} \Lambda_\lambda &= [u^\lambda] B(u_1) \dots B(u_\ell u) 1 \\ &= [u^\lambda] \prod_{1 \leq j} (1 - \frac{u_j}{u}) H(u_1) \dots H(u_\ell) 1 \\ &= [u^\lambda] \prod_{1 \leq j} (1 - \frac{u_j}{u}) \sum h_{n_1} h_{n_2} \dots h_{n_\ell} u_1^{n_1} u_2^{n_2} \dots u_\ell^{n_\ell} \\ &= \det (h_{\lambda_i - i + j}) \end{aligned}$$

power sums

$$\mathbb{Q} \otimes V = \text{Span}_{\mathbb{Q}} \{p_n\}$$

$$P_k(z) = \sum_{i=1}^n z_i^k$$

$$\Lambda_\lambda = \sum_{\mu \vdash |\lambda|} \chi_\mu(\lambda) p_\mu$$

 $\chi_\mu(\lambda)$ characters of $S_{|\lambda|}$

$$h_n = \sum_{\lambda \vdash n} z_\lambda^{-1} p_\lambda$$

$$\mathcal{P}_t = \sum_{n \geq 1} p_n t^n = t d_t \ln H(t)$$

$$p_n^\perp \cong n \frac{\partial}{\partial p_n} \quad \hookrightarrow \pi_0 = 1, \pi_n = p_n, \pi_{-n} = n \frac{\partial}{\partial p_n}$$

$$\hookrightarrow [\pi_n, \pi_{-m}] = \delta_{n-m} \pi_0$$

$$B(u) = \exp(\sum p_n u^n) \exp(\sum \hookrightarrow^n p_n^\perp u^{-n})$$

Tensor product (semi) ring structure

$$V \cong \text{Span} \{V^\lambda\} \cong \text{Rep}^+(GL(N)) \quad N \rightarrow \infty$$

$\downarrow \text{ch}$

$$\Lambda \cong \bigoplus_n \bigoplus_{\lambda \vdash n} \Lambda_\lambda$$

ring of sym functions in
infinitely many variables

$$V^\lambda \otimes V^\mu \xrightarrow{\text{ch}} \Lambda_\lambda \cdot \Lambda_\mu = \sum_\nu c_{\lambda\mu}^\nu \Lambda_\nu$$

$$c_{\lambda\mu}^\nu \in \mathbb{Z}_+ \quad \text{Littlewood-Richardson}$$

formally add negative weight spaces / characters

$$\hookrightarrow \Lambda \cong (\Lambda, \oplus, \otimes) \quad \text{character ring}$$

Actually we find:

Thm: Λ is the (universal) commutative,

cocommutative, self dual (w.r.t. $\langle \Lambda_\lambda | \Lambda_\mu \rangle = \delta_{\lambda\mu}$)

graded, connected Hopf algebra

$\hookrightarrow$ allows to write GL as an algebraic
group scheme (via its characters ...)

Invariants

Ex plane conics (*) $ax^2 + 2bxy + cy^2 + 2dx + 2ey + f = 0$

$$\vec{x} = (x, y, 1)^t \quad M = \begin{pmatrix} a & b & d \\ b & c & e \\ d & e & f \end{pmatrix} \quad X = \begin{pmatrix} p & q & r \\ -q & p & m \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \in E(2)$$

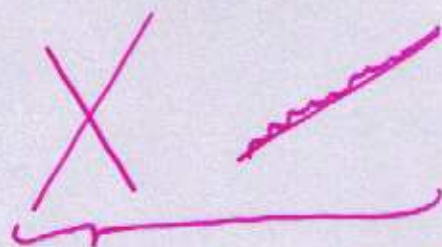
$$(*) \hookrightarrow \vec{x}^t M \vec{x} = 0$$

$$\det X \neq 0, \quad p^2 + q^2 = 1$$

curves up to rigid motion:

$$([a, b, c, d, e, f])^{E(2)} \cong ([D, T, E])$$

$$T = a + c \cong \text{tr}(O(2)) \quad E = ac - b^2 \cong \det(O(2)) \quad D = \text{disc } X$$



degenerate, $D = 0$

$$\text{and } \vec{x}^t M \vec{x} = 0$$

factorizes into 2 linear factors

every point (D, T, E)

corresponds to a unique

plane conic (up to Euclidean

motion)

now allow scalings and remove degenerate cases:

$$X \rightarrow rX$$

$$D \rightarrow r^6 D, \quad E \rightarrow r^4 E, \quad T \rightarrow r^2 T$$

$$\mathbb{C}[a, b, c, d, e, f, \frac{1}{D}]^{R \times E(U)} \sim \mathbb{C}[A, B, C]_{\sim}$$

$$A = \frac{E^3}{D^2}, \quad B = \frac{T^3}{D}, \quad C = \frac{ET}{D}$$

$$\boxed{AB - C^3 = 0}$$

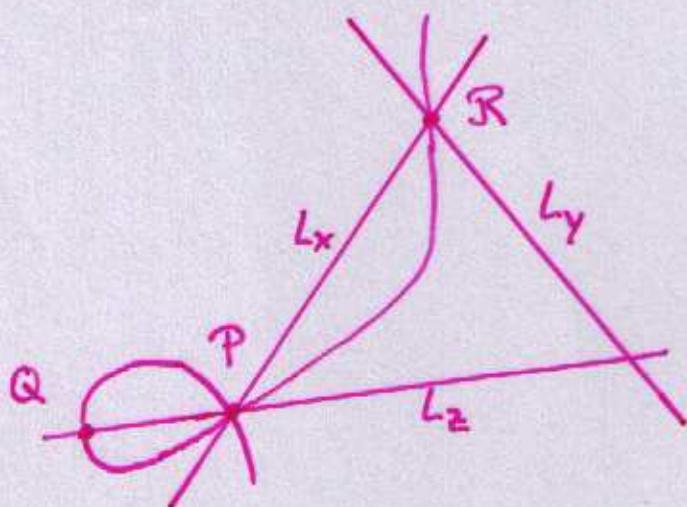
$$\mathbb{C}[A, B, C]_{\sim} = \mathbb{C}[A, B] + \mathbb{C}[A, B]C + \mathbb{C}[A, B]C^2$$

module over $\mathbb{C}[A, B]$

The moduli space for nondegenerate curves of degree 2 in the Euclidean plane is the affine surface in

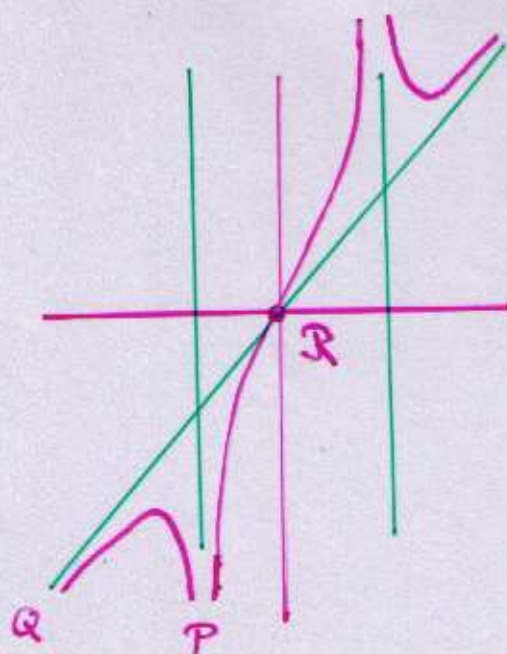
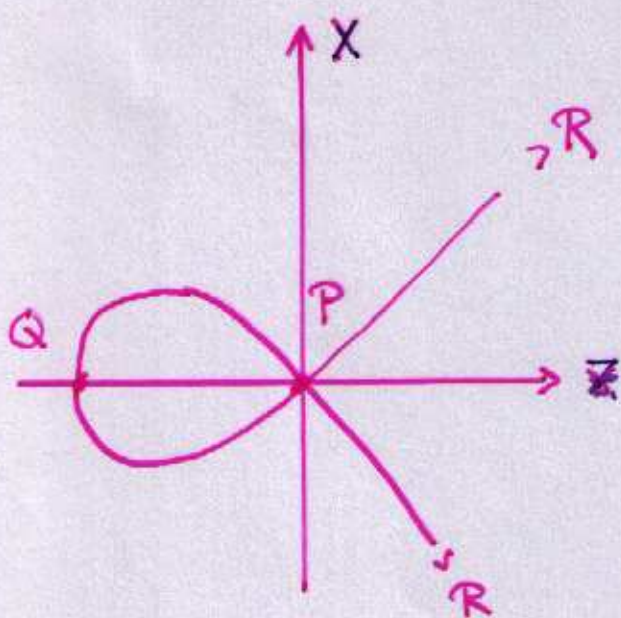
$\mathbb{A}^3$ defined by the equation $xz - y^3 = 0$

projective plane curves

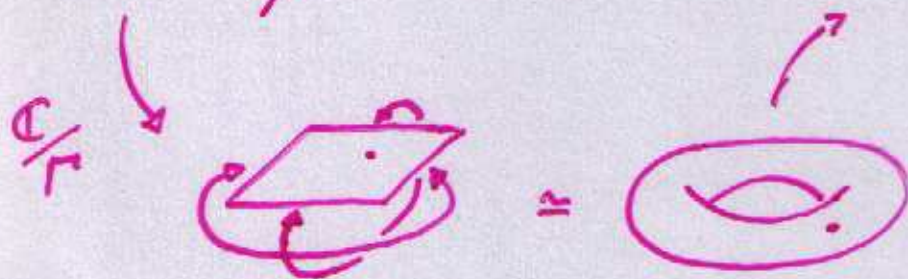
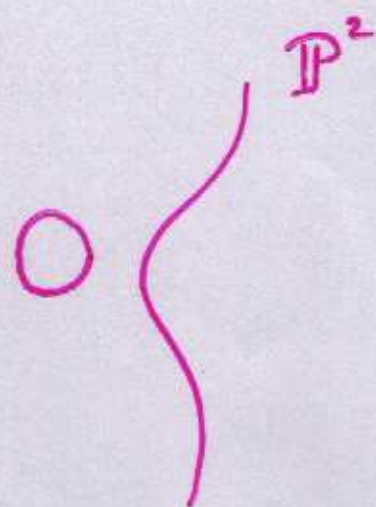
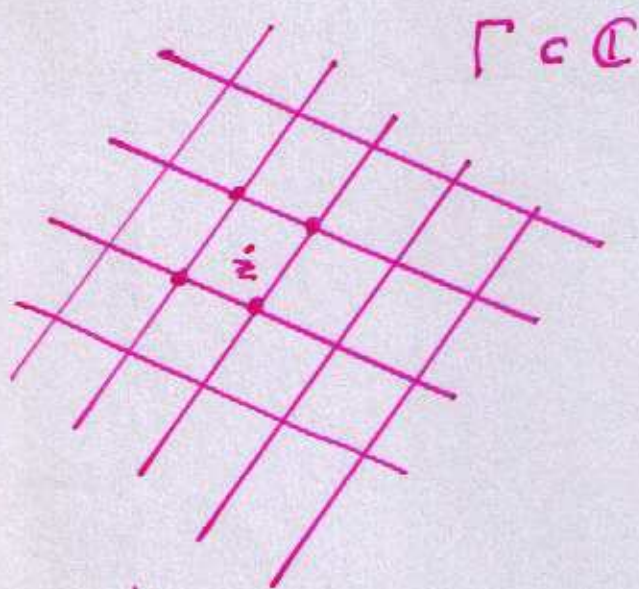


$\swarrow L_z \Rightarrow \infty$

$\swarrow L_y \Rightarrow \infty$



affine covers of the projective
plane curve $y^2x - x^2z - x^3 = 0$



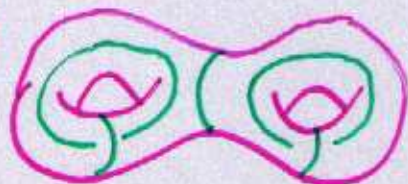
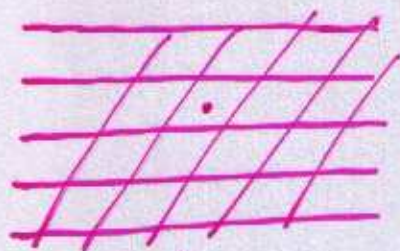
$$\mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^2$$

$$z \rightarrow (p(z), p'(z), 1) \simeq (X, Y, Z)$$

$$Y^2 Z = 4X^3 - g_2 XZ - g_3 Z^3$$

Weierstrass
p-function

$g_n \sim$ Eisenstein



Dirichlet L-functions
(automorphic forms)

$$\mathbb{C}/\Gamma' \subset \Gamma$$

Invariants of Groups

$$V \cong x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n \quad f(x_1 \dots x_n) \in \mathbb{C}[x_1 \dots x_n]$$

$f(x)$ is invariant w.r.t. $A \in \text{End}(V)$

$(g \ni G \xrightarrow{\rho} GL \cong \text{End}(V))$ if

$$i) \quad f(Ax) = f\left(\sum_i a_{ii} x_i, \dots, \sum_i a_{ni} x_i\right)$$

coordinate ~~function~~ transformation 'linear subst.'

(characters, Casimirs ...)

$$ii) \quad D_A = \sum_{i,j} a_{ij} x_i \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \quad \text{and} \quad D_A f(x) = 0$$

invariant under derivation

(infinitesimal invariants $\rightarrow$ lie alg)

$$\mathbb{C}[x_1 \dots x_n] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}[x_1 \dots x_n]^G$$

, coordinates' , invariants'

G 'nice' then

$$\mathbb{C}[x_1 \dots x_n] = \underbrace{\mathbb{C}[x_1 \dots x_n]^G}_{\text{free, Cohen-Macaulay}} \otimes \mathcal{H}_G$$

, coinvariants'

standard example:

$$S(V) = S^G(V) \otimes \mathcal{H}_G$$

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Example:

$$S_k \subset GL(k) \quad \text{Let } W = V^{\otimes k}$$

$$GL(k \cdot n) \cdot W \simeq GL(n) \cdot V^{\otimes k} \cdot S_k$$

$$g = (h, \sigma) : W \rightarrow W$$

$$(h, \sigma)(v_1 \otimes \dots \otimes v_k) = (h v_{\sigma(1)}, \dots, h v_{\sigma(k)})$$

$\rightarrow GL(n)$ characters are described by

Schur-Weyl duality via polynomial invariants under S_n

FFT of invariant theory

$$\mathbb{Z}[x_1, \dots, x_n]^{S_n} \simeq \mathbb{Z}[\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n] \quad \deg x_i = 1$$

$$\sigma_1 = \sum_i x_i, \quad \sigma_2 = \sum_{i < j} x_i x_j, \quad \dots, \quad \sigma_n = x_1 x_2 \dots x_n$$

$$\deg \sigma_1 = 1 \quad \deg \sigma_2 = 2$$

$$\deg \sigma_n = n$$

S and S^G are graded rings

$$S = \bigoplus_{d \geq 0} S_d \quad S^G = \bigoplus_{d \geq 0} S^G \cap S_d$$

useful information

$$\text{Hilb}_t(S^G) = \sum_{d \geq 0} \dim(S^G \cap S_d) t^d \in \mathbb{Z}[[t]]$$

$|G|$ order of G (Holien)

$$\text{Hilb}_t(S^G) = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} \frac{1}{\det(1 - t g)} \simeq \frac{\int_{\text{def}} \exp \text{tr} \ln(1 - t g)}{\int_{\text{def}} \exp \text{tr} \ln(1 - t g) |_{\text{def}}}$$

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Facts about invariant rings

Thm: (Hilbert-Noether) If $G \subset GL(N)$ is finite, then $S(V)^G$ is a finitely generated $\mathbb{F}$ -algebra.

Def: A ring A is Cohen-Macaulay if there exists a polynomial algebra $\mathbb{F}(x_1, \dots, x_n) \subset A$ such that A is free and finite over $\mathbb{F}(x_1, \dots, x_n)$. That is $\exists (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_s) \in A$ such that

$$A = \sum_{i=1}^s \mathbb{F}(x_1, \dots, x_n) \alpha_i$$

s is the transcendence degree

Thm: (Hochster-Egan) If $G \subset GL(V)$ is finite, nonmodular, then $S(V)^G$ is Cohen-Macaulay

$$\Rightarrow Av: S \rightarrow S \quad Av(x) = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{\psi \in G} \psi \cdot x$$

$$\text{Im } Av \cong S^G$$

Recall:

$$S^{S_n} \cong \mathbb{Z}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$$

$$S^{R \times E(2)} \cong \bigoplus_{i=0}^2 \mathbb{C}[x_1, x_2] x_3^i \quad x_3^0 = 1$$

Cohen-Macaulay

16 Example (Stanley)

$$V = \mathbb{F}_x \oplus \mathbb{F}_y \quad \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z} = \{\delta \mid \delta = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}\}$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \psi \\ \delta^0 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ \delta^1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ \delta^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \\ \delta^3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \det(1 - t\delta) \\ (1 - t^4)^2 \\ (1 + t^2) \\ (1 + t)^2 \\ (1 + t^2) \end{array} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Hilb}_t S(V)^{\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}} = \frac{1}{4} \left[\frac{1}{(1-t)^2} + \frac{2}{1+t^2} \right. \right. \\ \left. \left. + \frac{1}{(1+t)^2} \right] \right. \\ \left. = \frac{1+t^4}{(1-t^2)(1-t^4)} \right\}$$

$\hookrightarrow$ generators f_1, f_2, f_3 with degrees 2, 4, 4

$$\begin{aligned} S(V)^{\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}} &= \mathbb{F}[f_1, f_2] + \mathbb{F}[f_1, f_2] f_3 \\ &= \frac{\mathbb{F}[x, y, z]}{(z^2 - x^2 y + 4y^2)} \end{aligned}$$

$$f_1 = x^2 + y^2, \quad f_2 = x^2 y^2, \quad f_3 = x^3 y - x y^3$$

with syzygy: $f_3^2 = f_1^2 f_2 - 4 f_2^2$

$$A_V(\vec{x}) = \frac{1}{4} (x^2 + \cancel{+x} + x^2) \simeq x^2$$

$\vdots$

$\{f_i\}$ as reduced Gröbner basis

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Thm: let $G \subset GL(V)$ finite, nonmodular and
assume $S^G(V) = \mathbb{F}[x_1 \dots x_n]$ with $\deg x_i = d_i$

i) $|G| = d_1 \dots d_n$

ii) # of (pseudo) reflections in G is $\sum_{i=1}^n (d_i - 1)$

Thm: (Chevalley-Shepard-Todd-Bourbaki)

let $G \subset GL(V)$ finite, nonmodular subgroup ~~of $GL(V)$~~

then G is a (pseudo) reflection group iff

S^G is a polynomial algebra.

(modular case: Serre S^G poly. $\rightarrow G$ refl. grp)

Every reflection defines an action on S via

$$x \in V \quad s \cdot x = x + \lambda_x \alpha = x + \Delta(x) \alpha \quad \Delta: V \rightarrow \mathbb{F}$$

$$\text{and } s \cdot (xy) = (s \cdot x)(s \cdot y)$$

$$\hookrightarrow \Delta(xy) = \Delta(x)y + x\Delta(y) + \Delta(x)\Delta(y)\alpha$$

, 'Stein derivation' (dual cousin of Rota-Baxter)

Extended invariants

$$V \longrightarrow S(V) \otimes E(V) \ni f(x) dx$$

$$(S \otimes E)^G \simeq S^G \otimes E^G \quad G\text{-inv. diff. forms}$$

$$\text{Hilb}_{t,q}((S \otimes E)^G) = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} \frac{\det(1 + tqg)}{\det(1 - tg)}$$

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Ring of Covariants $S(V)$, $I =$ ideal in S generated by $\bigoplus_{d \geq 1} S_d$

(formal power series of sym. fct with vanishing const. term)

 $S_G = \frac{S}{I}$ ring of covariantsThm. S_G gives the regular rep. of G ; $\dim_{\mathbb{F}} S_G = |G|$ Harmonics (better use Hopf alg. here...) $S^*(V) \cong S(V^*)$ graded dual of $S(V)$ Def: $\mathcal{D}_\alpha : S \rightarrow S$ differential operator, induced from $S^* \otimes S \rightarrow S$ action

$$\mathcal{D}_\alpha(x) = \langle \alpha, x \rangle \quad \forall x \in V$$

$$\mathcal{D}_\alpha(xy) = \mathcal{D}_\alpha(x)y + x \mathcal{D}_\alpha(y)$$

$$(\mathcal{D}_\alpha(x) = \langle x_{(1)}, \alpha \rangle x_{(2)})$$

Proof: ~~ref~~

(19) $\mathcal{R}_+^* = \sum_{i \geq 1} S^* G$ G -inv. diff. op. without const. term

Def: $x \in S$ is harmonic if $\mathcal{D}_\alpha(x) = 0$

$\forall \alpha \in \mathcal{R}_+^*$. Denote $\mathcal{H} = \{x, \mathcal{D}_\alpha(x) = 0\}$

For A_n, B_n, D_n type lie groups this reduces to

$\Delta(x) = 0$ where $\Delta = \sum_i \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i^2}$ 'Laplacian'

Thm: (Steinberg) $\text{char } F = p$, $G \subset GL(V)$, finite, grp.

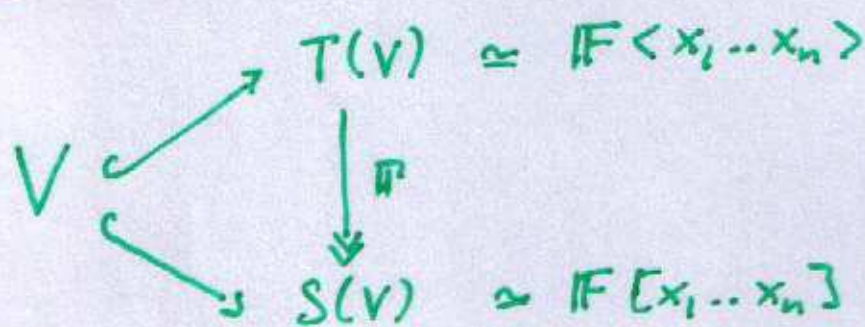
G is a reflection group, iff H is a cyclic S^* module

$\hookrightarrow \exists 10$ so that $\mathcal{H}$ is generated by (stew derivations of) reflections $\mathcal{H} = \text{Span} \{ \Delta_{s_{i_1}} \dots \Delta_{s_{i_k}} 10 \}$
 10 is given by the unique stew invariant $\mathcal{Q}$ of highest weight.

Thm: If H is a cyclic S module then G is a (pseudo) reflection group.

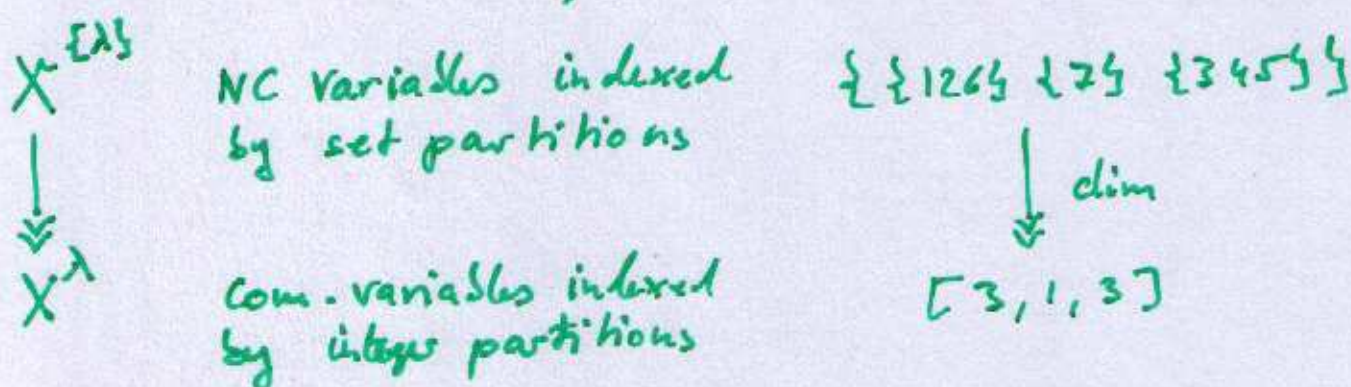
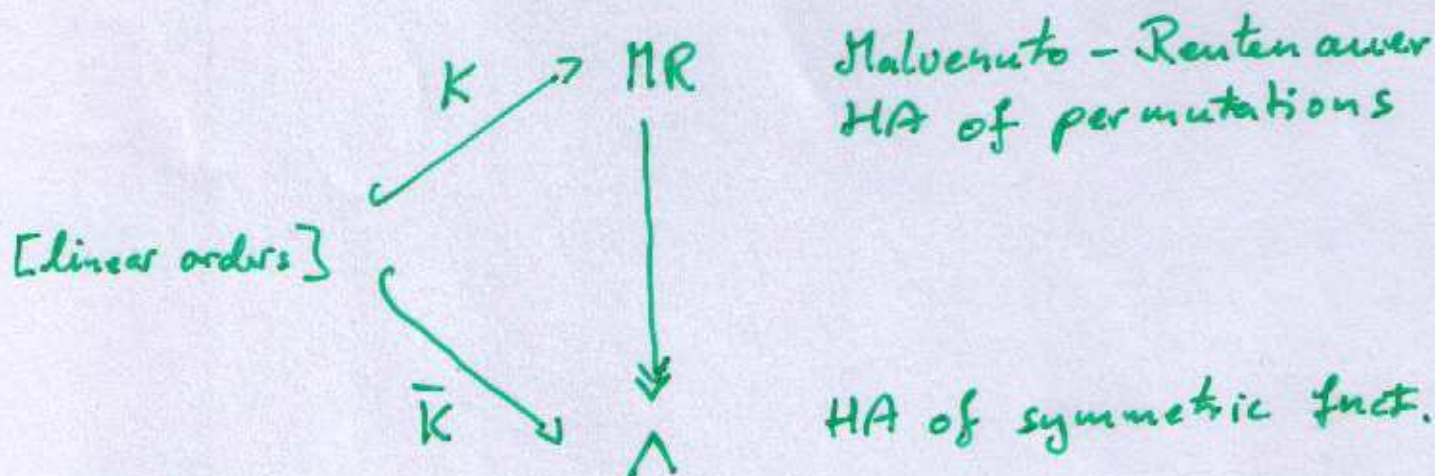
$\hookrightarrow S \cong S^G \oplus S_G = S^G \oplus \mathcal{H}$

20 ... and noncommutativity?



Very general machinery of lax tensor functors

$K, \bar{K} : \text{Species} \longleftrightarrow \text{Hopf algebras}$ Aguiar, Mahajan



The HA structure lifts to NC vars, but not the geometry. However, one finds NCHA such that they contain the same information as the com. HA : Bezenohl-Schroder, NC character theory of the sym. grp.

21 Positivity / Combinatorics

recall: $V^\lambda \otimes V^\mu = \bigoplus_{\nu} c_{\lambda\mu}^{\nu} V^{\nu}$

with $c_{\lambda\mu}^{\nu} \in \mathbb{Z}_+$

Integrable models $\rightarrow$ (6-vertex, square ice, ...)

give Hall-Littlewood, Macdonald sym fkt.

$$\Lambda[t] \approx \mathbb{Z}[t]\Lambda \quad \Lambda[q,t] \approx \mathbb{Z}[q,t]\Lambda$$

where positivity is also available

(very diff. proof by M. Haiman)

- such things can be 'counted'
 - $\hookrightarrow$ explicit combinatorial evaluations
 - $\hookrightarrow$ Littlewood-Richardson rule
- such things give dimensions of
(quantum) holonomies and cohomologies
of some Hilbert scheme ---
 $\Rightarrow$ geometry ?!

Analogy: (Sci Fi)

$\mathcal{PQFT} \longleftrightarrow \text{rep. theory (Com. HA)}$

state space

$\mathcal{H} \approx \text{Span} \{ |a\rangle \}$

vacuum

$\mathcal{H}$ as cyclic S -module

unique skew invariant
highest weight $\lambda \in S_6$

state field corresp.

$a \rightarrow Y(a, z)$

Schur-Function,

Vertex operators $\in \text{End } \Lambda[z]$

transl. covariance

Cohen-Macaulay transcendence
degree?

locality

$\rightarrow$ positivity + ?

allows to compute in $F(S)$

field of fractions, and

come back to S

renormalization

$\leftarrow \frac{?}{?}$

, path integral'

Hilbert series + Molien thm.
(Frob. characteristics)

drawback:

analogy moves to NC Hopf algebras but
loses the geometric aspects

$\Rightarrow$ ALL ABOVE GIVEN THEOREMS ARE FALSE
FOR NON FINITE GROUPS