

# $SL_2$ -Action on Hilbert Schemes and Calogero–Moser Spaces

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ABSTRACT. We study the natural  $GL_2$ -action on the Hilbert scheme of points in the plane, resp.  $SL_2$ -action on the Calogero–Moser space. We describe the closure of the  $GL_2$ -orbit, resp.  $SL_2$ -orbit, of each point fixed by the corresponding diagonal torus. We also find the character of the representation of the group  $GL_2$  in the fiber of the Procesi bundle and its Calogero–Moser analogue over the  $SL_2$ -fixed point.

## 1. Introduction

The natural action of the group  $GL_2$  on  $\mathbb{C}^2$  induces a  $GL_2$ -action on  $\text{Hilb}^n \mathbb{C}^2$ , the Hilbert scheme of  $n$  points in the plane. There is also a similar action of the group  $SL_2$  on  $X_{\mathbf{c}}$ , the Calogero–Moser space. The fixed points of the corresponding maximal torus  $\mathbb{C}^* \times \mathbb{C}^*$ , resp.  $\mathbb{C}^*$ , of diagonal matrices, are labeled by partitions. Let  $y_\lambda \in \text{Hilb}^n \mathbb{C}^2$ , resp.  $x_\lambda \in X_{\mathbf{c}}$ , denote the point labeled by a partition  $\lambda$ . It turns out that such a point is fixed by the group  $SL_2$  if and only if  $\lambda = (m, m - 1, \dots, 2, 1) =: \mathbf{m}$  is a *staircase* partition. In the Hilbert scheme case, this has been observed by Kumar and Thomsen [KT]. The case of the Calogero–Moser space can be deduced from the Hilbert scheme case using “hyper-Kähler rotation”. A different, purely algebraic proof is given in Section 3.

The theory of rational Cherednik algebras gives an  $SL_2 \times \mathfrak{S}_n$ -equivariant vector bundle  $\mathcal{R}$  of rank  $n!$  on the Calogero–Moser space. Thus,  $\mathcal{R}|_{x_{\mathbf{m}}}$ , the fiber of  $\mathcal{R}$  over the  $SL_2$ -fixed point, acquires the structure of a  $SL_2 \times \mathfrak{S}_n$ -representation. We find the character formula of this representation in terms of Kostka–Macdonald polynomials. The vector bundle  $\mathcal{R}$  is an analogue of the Procesi bundle  $\mathcal{P}$ , a  $GL_2 \times \mathfrak{S}_n$ -equivariant vector bundle of rank  $n!$  on  $\text{Hilb}^n \mathbb{C}^2$ . Our formula agrees with the character of the representation of  $GL_2 \times \mathfrak{S}_n$  in  $\mathcal{P}|_{y_{\mathbf{m}}}$ , the fiber of  $\mathcal{P}$  over the  $GL_2$ -fixed point, obtained by Haiman [H]. It is, in fact, possible to derive our character formula for  $\mathcal{R}|_{x_{\mathbf{m}}}$  from the one for  $\mathcal{P}|_{y_{\mathbf{m}}}$ . However, the character formula for  $\mathcal{P}|_{y_{\mathbf{m}}}$ , as well as the construction of the Procesi bundle itself, involves the  $n!$ -theorem.

In Section 2, we review some general results about  $SL_2$ -actions. In Section 3, we apply these results to show that, for any  $\lambda$ , the  $SL_2$ -orbit of  $x_\lambda$  is closed in  $X_{\mathbf{c}}$ . The  $GL_2$ -orbit of  $y_\lambda$  is not closed in  $\text{Hilb}^n \mathbb{C}^2$ , in general, and we describe the closure in Section 4.

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### 2. $\mathfrak{sl}_2$ -Actions

Let  $T \subset SL_2$  be the maximal torus of diagonal matrices. The group  $T$  acts on the Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{sl}_2$  by conjugation. Let  $(E, H, F)$  be the standard basis of  $\mathfrak{sl}_2$ .

Let  $X$  be an algebraic variety equipped with a  $T$ -action, and let  $\text{Vect}(X)$  be the Lie algebra of algebraic vector fields on  $X$ . The  $T$ -action on  $X$  induces a  $T$ -action on  $\text{Vect}(X)$  by Lie algebra automorphisms. An algebraic variety  $X$  equipped with a Lie algebra homomorphism  $\mathfrak{sl}_2 \rightarrow \text{Vect}(X)$  such that the action of  $\text{Lie}T \subset \mathfrak{sl}_2$  can be integrated to a  $T$ -action will be referred to as a  $(\mathfrak{sl}_2, T)$ -variety.

Given a group  $G$  and a  $G$ -variety  $X$ , we write  $X^G$  for the fixed point set of  $G$ . Given an  $(\mathfrak{sl}_2, T)$ -variety  $X$ , we write  $X^{\mathfrak{sl}_2}$  for the closed subset with reduced scheme structure of  $X$  defined as the zero locus of all vector fields contained in the image of the map  $\mathfrak{sl}_2 \rightarrow \text{Vect}(X)$ . Clearly, we have  $X^{\mathfrak{sl}_2} \subset X^T$ . Any variety with an  $SL_2$ -action has an obvious structure of an  $(\mathfrak{sl}_2, T)$ -variety. In such a case, we have  $X^{SL_2} = X^{\mathfrak{sl}_2}$ .

**THEOREM 2.1.** *Let  $X$  be smooth quasi-projective variety equipped with an  $(\mathfrak{sl}_2, T)$ -action. Then:*

- (i) *If  $x \in X^T$  is an isolated fixed point, then  $x \in X^{\mathfrak{sl}_2}$  if and only if all the weights of  $T$  on  $T_x X$  are odd.*
- (ii) *If the  $(\mathfrak{sl}_2, T)$ -action on  $X$  comes from a nontrivial  $SL_2$ -action with dense orbit, then the set  $X^{SL_2}$  is finite.*

*Proof.* (i) Let  $x \in X^{\mathfrak{sl}_2}$ , and let  $\mathfrak{m}$  be the maximal ideal in the local ring  $\mathcal{O}_{X,x}$  defining this point. Then  $\mathfrak{sl}_2$  acts on  $\mathfrak{m}/\mathfrak{m}^2$ . Since  $x$  is a isolated fixed point for the  $T$ -action, the degree zero weight space is 0, and so all  $\mathfrak{sl}_2$ -modules appearing in  $\mathfrak{m}/\mathfrak{m}^2$  must have odd weight spaces only.

Conversely, assume that all nonzero weight spaces in  $\mathfrak{m}/\mathfrak{m}^2$  have odd weight. We need to show that  $\mathfrak{sl}_2$  acts in this case, that is,  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathfrak{m}) \subset \mathfrak{m}$ . By Sumihiro’s theorem [S] any  $T$ -orbit is contained in an affine  $T$ -stable Zariski open subset of  $X$ . Therefore, replacing  $\mathcal{O}_{X,x}$  by some affine  $T$ -stable neighborhood, we may assume that  $X$  is an affine  $T$ -variety with  $\mathfrak{sl}_2$ -action and isolated fixed point defined by  $\mathfrak{m} \triangleleft \mathbb{C}[X]$ . Then  $\mathbb{C}[X] = \mathbb{C}1 \oplus \mathfrak{m}$  as a  $T$ -module. In particular, every homogeneous element of nonzero degree belongs to  $\mathfrak{m}$ . If  $z \in \mathfrak{m}$  is homogeneous of degree  $\neq -2$ , then  $\deg E(z) = \deg z + 2 \neq 0$ . Thus,  $E(z) \in \mathfrak{m}$ . On the other hand, if  $\deg z = -2$ , then our assumptions imply that  $z \in \mathfrak{m}^2$ , and hence  $E(z) \in \mathfrak{m}$ . A similar argument applies for  $F$ .

Part (ii) is a result of Bialynicki-Birula, [BB, Theorem 1]. □

Let  $N(T)$  be the normalizer of  $T$  in  $SL_2$ . The Borel subgroup of upper-triangular matrices in  $SL_2$  is denoted  $B$ . Its opposite is  $B^-$ . The following two lemmas follow directly from the classification of closed subgroups of  $SL_2$ . We include proofs for the reader’s convenience.

**LEMMA 2.1.** *Let  $\mathcal{O}$  be a one-dimensional homogeneous  $SL_2$ -space. Then  $\mathcal{O} \simeq SL_2/B$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $K = \text{Stab}_{SL_2}(x)$  for some  $x \in \mathcal{O}$ , a closed subgroup of  $SL_2$ . Let  $\mathfrak{k}$  be the Lie algebra of  $K$ . Since  $\dim \mathfrak{k} = 2$ , it is a solvable subalgebra of  $\mathfrak{sl}_2$ . Therefore it is conjugate to  $\mathfrak{b}$ . Without loss of generality,  $\mathfrak{k} = \mathfrak{b}$ . This means that  $K^\circ = B \subset K \subset N_{SL_2}(B) = B$ . □

**LEMMA 2.2.** *Let  $\mathcal{O}$  be an  $SL_2$ -orbit in an affine variety  $X$ . Assume that the stabilizer of  $x \in \mathcal{O}$  contains  $T$ . Then  $\mathcal{O}$  is closed in  $X$ , and  $\text{Stab}_{SL_2}(x)$  is one of  $T$ ,  $N(T)$ , or  $SL_2$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $X$  be an affine variety, and  $G$  a reductive group acting on  $X$ . If the stabilizer of a point  $x$  contains a maximal torus  $T$  of  $G$ , then  $\mathcal{O}$  is closed. Indeed, since  $B \cdot x = U \cdot x$  in this case and every  $U$ -orbit in  $X$  is closed, it follows that  $B \cdot x$  is closed in  $X$ . This implies that  $G \cdot x$  is closed since  $G/B$  is projective. The lemma follows since  $T$ ,  $N(T)$ , and  $SL_2$  are the only reductive subgroups of  $SL_2$ . □

**LEMMA 2.3.** *Let  $X$  be a complete  $SL_2$ -variety, and  $\mathcal{O}$  an orbit such that the stabilizer of  $x \in \mathcal{O}$  equals  $T$ , resp.  $N(T)$ .*

- (1) *There is a finite (surjective) equivariant morphism  $\mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1 \rightarrow \overline{\mathcal{O}}$ , resp.  $\mathbb{P}^2 \rightarrow \overline{\mathcal{O}}$ , which is the identity on  $\mathcal{O}$ .*
- (2) *This morphism is an isomorphism if and only if  $\overline{\mathcal{O}}$  is normal.*
- (3) *In all cases,  $\overline{\mathcal{O}} \setminus \mathcal{O} \simeq \mathbb{P}^1$  and  $\overline{\mathcal{O}}^{SL_2} = \emptyset$ .*

*Proof.* We explain how the lemma can be deduced from the results of [M].

Matsushima’s theorem implies that  $\mathcal{O}$  is affine. Therefore, by [EGA, Corollaire 21.12.7], the complement  $Y = \overline{\mathcal{O}} \setminus \mathcal{O}$  has pure codimension one. By Theorem 2.1(ii) there are only finitely many zero-dimensional orbits in  $Y$ . Therefore Lemma 2.1 implies that each irreducible component  $Y_i$  of  $Y$  (being one-dimensional) must contain an orbit  $\simeq SL_2/B$ . Since this orbit is complete, it is closed in  $Y_i$ , that is,  $Y_i \simeq SL_2/B$ . Moreover, this implies that  $Y_i \cap Y_j = \emptyset$  for  $i \neq j$ , and hence  $\overline{\mathcal{O}}^{SL_2} = Y^{SL_2} = \emptyset$ .

The space  $\overline{\mathcal{O}}$  is an  $SL_2$ -equivariant completion of  $\mathcal{O}$  in the sense of [M, Definition 1.1.1]. By [M, Theorem 5.1],  $\mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1$  is the unique (up to equivariant isomorphism) normal completion of  $\mathcal{O} \simeq SL_2/T$  with  $\mathcal{O}$  being equivariantly identified with the complement  $\mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1 \setminus \Delta$  of the diagonal. Similarly, loc. cit. implies that  $\mathbb{P}^2$  is the unique (up to equivariant isomorphism) normal completion of  $\mathcal{O} \simeq SL_2/N(T)$  with  $\mathcal{O}$  being equivariantly identified with the complement  $\mathbb{P}^2 \setminus C$ , where  $C$  is a nondegenerate quadric. In both cases, the complement is equivariantly identified with  $SL_2/B$ . □

### 3. Calogero–Moser Spaces

Let  $(W, \mathfrak{h})$  be a finite Coxeter group with  $S$  the set of all reflections in  $W$  and  $\mathbf{c} : S \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  a conjugate invariant function. For each  $s \in S$ , we fix eigenvectors  $\alpha_s \in \mathfrak{h}^*$  and  $\alpha_s^\vee \in \mathfrak{h}$  with eigenvalue  $-1$ . Associated to this data is the rational Cherednik

algebra  $H_c(W)$  at  $t = 0$ . It is the quotient of the skew group ring  $T^*(\mathfrak{h} \oplus \mathfrak{h}^*) \rtimes W$  by the relations

$$[y, x] = - \sum_{s \in S} \mathbf{c}(s) \frac{\alpha_s(y)x(\alpha_s^\vee)}{\alpha_s(\alpha_s^\vee)}, \quad \forall x \in \mathfrak{h}^*, y \in \mathfrak{h},$$

and  $[x, x'] = [y, y'] = 0$  for  $x, x' \in \mathfrak{h}^*$  and  $y, y' \in \mathfrak{h}$ . We choose a  $W$ -invariant inner product  $(-, -)$  on  $\mathfrak{h}$ . The form defines a  $W$ -isomorphism  $\mathfrak{h}^* \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathfrak{h}, x \mapsto \check{x}$ .

### 3.1. The centre of $H_c(W)$

The center  $Z(H_c(W))$  of  $H_c(W)$  has a natural Poisson structure, making  $H_c(W)$  into a Poisson module. Let  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  be a basis of  $\mathfrak{h}^*$ , and  $y_1, \dots, y_n$  the dual basis. Then the elements

$$E = -\frac{1}{2} \sum_i x_i^2, \quad F = \frac{1}{2} \sum_i y_i^2, \quad H = \frac{1}{2} \sum_i x_i y_i + y_i x_i \tag{3.1}$$

are central and form an  $\mathfrak{sl}_2$ -triple under the Poisson bracket. Their action on  $H_c(W)$  is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \{E, x\} = \{F, \check{x}\} = 0, \quad \{E, \check{x}\} = x, \quad \{F, x\} = \check{x}, \\ \{H, x\} = x, \quad \{H, \check{x}\} = -\check{x}, \end{aligned}$$

and  $\{\mathfrak{sl}_2, w\} = 0$  for all  $w \in W$ . Their action on  $H_c(W)$  is locally finite. Therefore this action can be integrated to get a locally finite action of  $SL_2(\mathbb{C})$  on  $H_c(W)$  by algebra automorphisms. Explicitly, this action is given on generators by

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \cdot x = ax + c\check{x}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \cdot \check{x} = bx + d\check{x}, \\ \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \cdot w = w, \quad \forall x \in \mathfrak{h}^*, w \in W. \end{aligned}$$

The Calogero–Moser space  $X_c(W)$  is an affine variety defined as  $\text{Spec } Z(H_c(W))$ . The action of  $SL_2(\mathbb{C})$  restricts to  $Z(H_c(W))$  and induces a Hamiltonian action on  $X_c(W)$  such that its differential is the action of  $\mathfrak{sl}_2$  given by the vector fields  $\{E, -\}, \{F, -\}$ , and  $\{H, -\}$ .

There are only finitely many  $T$ -fixed points on  $X_c(W)$ . When the Calogero–Moser space is smooth, the  $T$ -fixed points are naturally labeled  $x_\lambda$  with  $\lambda \in \text{Irr}(W)$ . These fixed points are uniquely specified by the fact that the simple head  $L(\lambda)$  of the baby Verma module  $\Delta(\lambda)$  is supported at  $x_\lambda$ ; see [G] for details.

Consider the element  $w_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  in  $SL_2$ . It normalizes  $T$ .

**LEMMA 3.1.** *Assume that  $X_c(W)$  is smooth. Let  $x_\lambda \in X_c(W)$  be the  $T$ -fixed point labeled by the representation  $\lambda \in \text{Irr}(W)$ . Then  $w_0 \cdot x_\lambda$  is the fixed point labeled by  $\lambda \otimes \text{sgn}$ , where  $\text{sgn}$  is the sign representation.*

*Proof.* The automorphism of  $H_c(W)$  defined by  $w_0$  is the Fourier transform  $\mathbb{F}$  of order 4; it is defined by

$$\mathbb{F} : \quad x \mapsto \check{x}, \quad y \mapsto -\check{y}, \quad w \mapsto w, \quad \forall x \in \mathfrak{h}^*, y \in \mathfrak{h}, w \in W;$$

see [EG, p. 283]. The fixed point  $w_0 \cdot x$  is the support of  ${}^{w_0}L(\lambda)$ . Thus, it suffices to show that  ${}^{w_0}L(\lambda) \simeq L(\lambda \otimes \text{sgn})$ . This is a standard result.  $\square$

DEFINITION 3.1. An  $(H_c, \mathfrak{sl}_2)$ -module  $M$  is both a left  $H_c(W)$ -module and left  $\mathfrak{sl}_2$ -module such that the morphism  $H_c(W) \otimes M \rightarrow M$  is a morphism of  $\mathfrak{sl}_2$ -modules.

Every finite-dimensional  $(H_c(W), \mathfrak{sl}_2)$ -module is set-theoretically supported at an  $SL_2$ -fixed point. However, not every finite-dimensional  $H_c(W)$ -module set-theoretically supported at an  $SL_2$ -fixed point has a compatible  $\mathfrak{sl}_2$ -action.

Let  $e$  denote the trivial idempotent in  $\mathbb{C}W$ . Then  $e$  is  $SL_2$ -invariant, and hence  $H_c(W)e$  is an  $(H_c, \mathfrak{sl}_2)$ -module. Thinking of  $H_c(W)e$  as a finitely generated  $Z(H_c(W))$ -module, we get an  $SL_2 \times W$ -equivariant coherent sheaf  $\mathcal{R}$  on  $X_c(W)$ . When the latter space is smooth,  $\mathcal{R}$  is a vector bundle of rank  $|W|$ .

### 3.2. Type A

Let  $H_c$  be the rational Cherednik algebra for the symmetric group  $\mathfrak{S}_n$  at  $t = 0$  and  $\mathbf{c} \neq 0$ . In this case, both the set of  $T$ -fixed points in the CM-space  $X_c := X_c(\mathfrak{S}_n)$  and the set of (isomorphism classes of) simple irreducible representations of  $\mathfrak{S}_n$  are labeled by partitions of  $n$ . We write  $\mathfrak{m}_\lambda$  for the maximal ideal of the  $T$ -fixed point corresponding to a partition  $\lambda$ .

NOTATION 3.1. From now on, the staircase partition  $(m, m - 1, \dots, 1)$  will be denoted  $\mathbf{m}$ . Given a partition  $\lambda$ , the corresponding representation of the symmetric group will be denoted  $\pi_\lambda$ . The finite-dimensional irreducible  $SL_2$ -module with highest weight  $m \geq 0$  will be denoted  $V(m)$ .

7	5	3	1
5	3	1	
3	1		
1			

(3.2)

Let  $x$  be a box of the partition  $\lambda$ . The *hook length*  $h(x)$  of  $x$  is the number of boxes strictly to the right of  $x$  plus the number of boxes strictly below plus one. In the staircase partition (3.2), the entry of the box is the corresponding hook length. The *hook polynomial* of  $\lambda$  is defined to be

$$H_\lambda(q) = \prod_{x \in \lambda} (1 - q^{h(x)}).$$

Let  $(q)_n = \prod_{i=1}^n (1 - q^i)$  and denote by  $n(\lambda)$  the partition statistic  $\sum_{i \geq 1} (i - 1)\lambda_i$ . We write  $\chi_T(U)$  for the character of a finite-dimensional  $T$ -representation  $U$ .

LEMMA 3.2. Let  $x_\lambda$  be the  $T$ -fixed point of  $X_c$  labeled by the partition  $\lambda$ . Then

$$\chi_T(T_{x_\lambda} X_c) = \sum_{x \in \lambda} q^{h(x)} + q^{-h(x)}.$$

*Proof.* It is known that the graded multiplicity of  $\pi_\lambda$  in the coinvariant ring  $\mathbb{C}[\mathfrak{h}]/\langle \mathbb{C}[\mathfrak{h}]_+^W \rangle$  is given by  $(q)_{(n)} q^{n(\lambda)} H_\lambda(q)^{-1}$ , the so called “fake polynomial”. If we decompose  $T_{x_\lambda} \mathbf{X}_\mathbf{c} = (T_{x_\lambda} \mathbf{X}_\mathbf{c})^+ \oplus (T_{x_\lambda} \mathbf{X}_\mathbf{c})^-$  into its positive and negative weight parts, then Theorem 4.1 and Corollary 4.4 of [B2] imply that

$$\chi_T((T_{x_\lambda} \mathbf{X}_\mathbf{c})^+) = \sum_{x \in \lambda} q^{h(x)}, \quad \text{since } \chi_T(\mathbb{C}[(T_{x_\lambda} \mathbf{X}_\mathbf{c})^+]) = \frac{1}{H_\lambda(q)}.$$

The fact that  $T$  preserves the symplectic form on  $\mathbf{X}_\mathbf{c}$  implies that  $\chi_T((T_{x_\lambda} \mathbf{X}_\mathbf{c})^-) = \sum_{x \in \lambda} q^{-h(x)}$ . □

The following observation is elementary.

LEMMA 3.3. *Let  $\lambda$  be a partition such that every hook length in  $\lambda$  is odd. Then  $\lambda$  is a staircase partition.*

Lemma 3.3, together with Lemma 3.2 and Theorem 2.1, implies that  $SL_2$ -fixed points in  $\mathbf{X}_\mathbf{c}$  are very rare:

THEOREM 3.1. *If  $n = \frac{m(m+1)}{2}$  for some integer  $m$ , then  $\mathbf{X}_\mathbf{c}^{sl_2} = \{x_\mathbf{m}\}$ . Otherwise,  $\mathbf{X}_\mathbf{c}^{sl_2} = \emptyset$ .*

The lemma, together with Theorem 2.1, implies the following:

PROPOSITION 3.1. *There exists a finite-dimensional  $(H_\mathbf{c}, sl_2)$ -module if and only if  $n = \frac{m(m+1)}{2}$  for some  $m$ . In this case, any such module  $M$  is set-theoretically supported at the fixed point  $x_\mathbf{m}$  labeled by the staircase partition.*

*Proof.* If  $M$  is an  $(H_\mathbf{c}, sl_2)$ -module, then its set-theoretic support must be  $SL_2$ -stable. If  $M$  is also finite dimensional, then this support is a finite collection of points. These points must be  $SL_2$ -fixed since the group is connected. The result follows from Theorem 3.1.

Finally, we must show that there exists at least one  $(H_\mathbf{c}, sl_2)$ -module supported at  $x_\mathbf{m}$ . Let  $\mathfrak{m} \triangleleft Z(H_\mathbf{c})$  be the maximal ideal of  $x_\mathbf{m}$ . Then  $\{sl_2, \mathfrak{m}\} \subset \mathfrak{m}$ . Recall that the  $H_\mathbf{c}$ -module  $H_\mathbf{c}e$  is an  $(H_\mathbf{c}, sl_2)$ -module. Thus,  $H_\mathbf{c}e/\mathfrak{m}H_\mathbf{c}e$  is a (simple)  $(H_\mathbf{c}, sl_2)$ -module supported at  $x_\mathbf{m}$ . □

Recall that there is a unique simple  $H_\mathbf{c}$ -module  $L(\lambda)$  supported at each of the  $T$ -fixed points  $x_\lambda$ . Notice that we have shown the following:

COROLLARY 3.1. *The simple module  $L(\mathbf{m}) \simeq H_\mathbf{c}e/\mathfrak{m}_\mathbf{m}H_\mathbf{c}e$  is an  $(H_\mathbf{c}, sl_2)$ -module.*

Equivalently, the above arguments show that  $sl_2$  acts on the fiber  $\mathcal{R}_\mathbf{m}$  of  $\mathcal{R}$  at  $x_\mathbf{m}$ . The formula for the character of the tangent space of  $\mathbf{X}_\mathbf{c}(\mathbb{S}_n)$  at  $x_\mathbf{m}$  given by Lemma 3.2 shows that

$$T_{x_\mathbf{m}} \mathbf{X}_\mathbf{c} \simeq V(m) \otimes V(m - 1) \tag{3.3}$$

as  $SL_2$ -modules.

Next, we describe the  $SL_2$ -orbits  $\mathcal{O}_\lambda := SL_2 \cdot x_\lambda$  of the  $T$ -fixed points  $x_\lambda$ . First, we note that Lemma 2.2 implies the following:

LEMMA 3.4. *The orbit  $\mathcal{O}_\lambda$  is closed, and  $\text{Stab}_{SL_2}(x_\lambda)$  is reductive.*

Lemma 3.1, Theorem 3.1, and Lemma 3.4 imply that

PROPOSITION 3.2. *Let  $\lambda$  be a partition of  $n$ . Then, we have the following three alternatives:*

1.  $\lambda \neq \lambda^t$  and  $\mathcal{O}_\lambda = \mathcal{O}_{\lambda^t} \simeq SL_2/T$ ;
2.  $\lambda = \lambda^t \neq \mathbf{m}$  and  $\mathcal{O}_\lambda \simeq SL_2/N(T)$ ;
3.  $\lambda = \mathbf{m}$  and  $\mathcal{O}_\lambda = \{x_{\mathbf{m}}\}$ .

### 3.3. The $SL_2$ -Structure of $\mathcal{R}_{\mathbf{m}}$

We define the  $SL_2$ -module

$$U_{\mathbf{m}} := (V(m-1) \oplus V(m-2)) \otimes \bigotimes_{i=1}^{m-2} (V(i) \oplus V(i-1))^{\otimes 2}.$$

PROPOSITION 3.3. *There is an isomorphism of  $SL_2$ -modules:*

$$\mathcal{R}_{\mathbf{m}} \simeq [U_{\mathbf{m}} \otimes U_{m-2} \otimes \cdots \otimes U_{2,1}]^{\oplus \dim \pi_{\mathbf{m}}}, \tag{3.4}$$

where the final term  $U_{2,1}$  is either  $U_2$  or  $U_1$  depending on whether  $m$  is even or odd.

*Proof.* As an  $(H_{\mathbb{C}}, \mathfrak{sl}_2)$ -module,  $\mathcal{R}_{\mathbf{m}}$  equals  $H_{\mathbb{C}}e/mH_{\mathbb{C}}e$ . As an  $H_{\mathbb{C}}$ -module,  $H_{\mathbb{C}}e/mH_{\mathbb{C}}e$  is isomorphic to  $L(\mathbf{m})$ . Thus, it suffices to show that the character of  $L(\mathbf{m})$  as an  $SL_2$ -module equals the character of the right-hand side of equation (3.4). The character of  $L(\mathbf{m})$  is given in [B1, Lemma 3.3]. However, we must shift the grading on  $L(\mathbf{m})$  from that given in loc. cit., so that the isomorphism  $H_{\mathbb{C}}e/mH_{\mathbb{C}}e \rightarrow L(\mathbf{m})$  is graded, that is, we require that the one-dimensional space  $eL(\mathbf{m})$  lies in degree zero. Then,

$$\chi_T(L(\mathbf{m})) = q^{-n(\mathbf{m})} \frac{H_{\mathbf{m}}(q)}{(1-q)^n} \dim \pi_{\mathbf{m}}.$$

Note that  $n(\mathbf{m}) = \frac{1}{6}(m-1)m(m+1)$ . For the staircase partition, the character of  $L(\mathbf{m})$  has a natural factorization. The largest hook in  $\mathbf{m}$  is  $(m, 1^{m-1})$ , and  $\mathbf{m} = (m, 1^{m-1}) + [m-2]$ ; therefore peeling away the hooks gives  $q^{-n(\mathbf{m})}/q^{-n((m-2))} = q^{-(m-1)^2}$  and

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{H_{\mathbf{m}}(q)}{(1-q)^{2m-1} H_{[m-2]}(q)} &= \frac{1}{(1-q)^{2m-1}} \left( (1-q^{2m-1}) \prod_{i=1}^{m-1} (1-q^{2i-1})^2 \right) \\ &= \frac{1-q^{2m-1}}{1-q} \prod_{i=1}^{m-1} \left( \frac{1-q^{2i-1}}{1-q} \right)^2. \end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$\frac{H_{\mathbf{m}}(q)q^{-(m-1)^2}}{(1-q)^{2m-1}H_{[m-2]}(q)} = (q^{m-1} + q^{m-2} + \dots + q^{-(m-1)}) \cdot \prod_{i=1}^{m-2} (q^i + q^{i-1} + \dots + q^{-i})^2.$$

This is precisely the character of  $U_m$ . □

We would like to refine this character by taking into account the action of  $W$  too. We decompose  $L(\mathbf{m})$  as a  $W \times SL_2$ -module,

$$L(\mathbf{m}) = \bigoplus_{\lambda \vdash n} \pi_\lambda \otimes V_\lambda. \tag{3.5}$$

Then the *exponents* of  $\lambda$  are defined to be the positive integers  $0 \leq e_1 \leq e_2 \leq \dots$  such that  $V_\lambda = \bigoplus_i V(e_i)$ . The fact that  $L(\mathbf{m})$  is the regular representation as a  $W$ -module implies that

$$\dim \pi_\lambda = \sum_i (e_i + 1) = \dim V_\lambda.$$

EXAMPLE 3.1. For  $m = 3$ , we have  $n = 6$  and

$\lambda$	$e_1, e_2, \dots$
(6)	0
(5, 1)	1, 2
(4, 2)	1, 2, 3
(4, 1, 1)	0, 1, 2, 3
(3, 3)	0, 3
(3, 2, 1)	0, 1 <sup>2</sup> , 2 <sup>2</sup> , 4
(3, 1, 1, 1)	0, 1, 2, 3
(2, 2, 2)	0, 3
(2, 2, 1, 1)	1, 2, 3
(2, 1, 1, 1, 1)	1, 2
(1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1)	0

LEMMA 3.5. *The exponents of  $\lambda$  equal the exponents of  $\lambda^t$ .*

*Proof.* There is an algebra isomorphism  $\text{sgn} : \mathbb{H}_{\mathbf{c}} \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathbb{H}_{-\mathbf{c}}$  defined by  $\text{sgn}(x) = x$ ,  $\text{sgn}(y) = y$ , and  $\text{sgn}(w) = (-1)^{\ell(w)}w$ , where  $x \in \mathfrak{h}^*$ ,  $y \in \mathfrak{h}$ ,  $w \in \mathfrak{S}_n$ , and  $\ell$  is the length function. It is clear from (3.1) that  $\text{sgn}$  is  $SL_2$ -equivariant. Moreover,  ${}^{\text{sgn}}L(\lambda) \simeq L(\lambda^t)$ . In particular,  ${}^{\text{sgn}}L(\mathbf{m}) \simeq L(\mathbf{m})$ . This isomorphism maps  $V_\lambda$  to  $V_{\lambda^t}$  since  ${}^{\text{sgn}}\pi_\lambda \simeq \pi_\lambda \otimes \text{sgn} \simeq \pi_{\lambda^t}$ . □

Using the deeper combinatorics of Macdonald polynomials, we prove the following:

PROPOSITION 3.4.  $\chi_T(V_\lambda) = \tilde{K}_{\lambda, \mathbf{m}}(q, q^{-1})$ .



*Proof.* Let  $s_\lambda$  denote the Schur polynomial associated to the partition  $\lambda$  so that  $s_\lambda[\frac{Z}{1-q}]$  is a particular plethystic substitution of  $s_\lambda$ ; we refer the reader to [H] for details.

The module  $L(\mathbf{m})$  is a graded quotient of the Verma module  $\Delta(\mathbf{m}) = H_{\mathbf{c}}(W) \otimes_{\mathbb{C}[\mathfrak{h}^*] \rtimes W} \pi_{\mathbf{m}}$ . The graded  $W$ -character of  $\Delta(\mathbf{m})$  is given by  $s_{\mathbf{m}}[\frac{Z}{1-q}]$ . As shown in [G], the graded multiplicity of  $L(\mathbf{m})$  in  $\Delta(\mathbf{m})$  is given by

$$(q)_n^{-1} q^{-n(\mathbf{m})} f_{\mathbf{m}}(q) = H_{\mathbf{m}}(q)^{-1} = \prod_{i=1}^m (1 - q^{2i-1})^{-(m-i)}.$$

Therefore, the graded  $W$ -character, shifted by  $q^{-n(\mathbf{m})}$  so that  $eL(\mathbf{m})$  is in degree zero, of  $L(\mathbf{m})$  equals  $q^{-n(\mathbf{m})} H_{\mathbf{m}}(q) s_{\mathbf{m}}[\frac{Z}{1-q}]$ . This implies that

$$\chi_T(V_\lambda) = \left\langle s_\mu, q^{-n(\mathbf{m})} \prod_{i=1}^m (1 - q^{2i-1})^{m-i} s_{\mathbf{m}} \left[ \frac{Z}{1-q} \right] \right\rangle. \tag{3.6}$$

The fact that the right-hand side of (3.6) equals  $\tilde{K}_{\lambda, \mathbf{m}}(q, q^{-1})$  follows from the property of transformed Macdonald polynomials [H, Proposition 3.5.10].  $\square$

### 3.4. Other Coxeter Groups

In this section we sketch how we can perform a similar analysis for other Coxeter groups  $W$ . First,  $X_{\mathbf{c}}(W)$  might be singular. In this case the torus fixed points  $x_\Omega$  are labeled by Calogero–Moser families  $\Omega \subset \text{Irr } W$ . Lemma 3.1 still holds, except now  $w_0 \cdot x_\Omega = x_{\Omega \otimes \text{sgn}}$ , where  $\Omega \otimes \text{sgn} := \{\lambda \otimes \text{sgn} \mid \lambda \in \Omega\}$  is another Calogero–Moser family. Thus, if  $x_\Omega$  is fixed by  $SL_2$ , then necessarily  $\Omega = \Omega \otimes \text{sgn}$ . Next, provided that the fixed point  $x = x_\lambda$  is smooth, the analogue of Lemma 3.2 still holds. Using Theorem 4.1 and Corollary 4.4 of [B2], we can compute the character  $\chi_T(T_{x_\lambda} X_{\mathbf{c}})$ , though it is hard to give a formula in general. For instance, when  $W$  is a Weyl group of type  $B/C$  and  $\mathbf{c}$  generic, then  $\lambda = (\lambda^{(1)}, \lambda^{(2)})$  is a bipartition of  $n$ , and

$$\chi_T(T_{x_\lambda} X_{\mathbf{c}}) = \sum_{x \in \lambda^{(1)} \cup \lambda^{(2)}} q^{2h(x)} + q^{-2h(x)}. \tag{3.7}$$

These two observations give partial information on  $X_{\mathbf{c}}(W)^{\mathfrak{sl}_2}$ , which is sufficient in some cases to determine all  $SL_2$ -fixed points. Again, if  $W$  is a Weyl group of type  $B/C$  and  $\mathbf{c}$  generic, then (3.7) implies that all weights of  $T$  on the tangent space  $T_{x_\lambda} X_{\mathbf{c}}$  are even. Thus, it cannot be an  $\mathfrak{sl}_2$ -module. This implies that  $X_{\mathbf{c}}^{\mathfrak{sl}_2} = \emptyset$ .

Similarly, if  $W$  is of type  $G_2$  and  $\mathbf{c}$  is generic, then there are five  $T$ -fixed points, four of which are smooth and one is singular. This is the unique isolated singularity. Since the singular locus is  $SL_2$ -stable, this singular point is fixed by  $SL_2$ . The other four  $T$ -fixed points are not  $SL_2$ -fixed (already  $w_0$  as in Lemma 3.1 does not fix any of these points).

More generally,  $SL_2$  preserves the symplectic leaves in  $X_{\mathbf{c}}(W)$ . In particular, the zero-dimensional leaves give  $SL_2$ -fixed points. These zero-dimensional leaves

are labeled by *cuspidal* Calogero–Moser families; see [BT]. Therefore each cuspidal Calogero–Moser family gives rise to an  $SL_2$ -fixed point. The cuspidal families for Coxeter groups of type  $A, B, D$  and  $I_2(m)$  are classified in loc. cit.

### 4. The Hilbert Scheme of Points in the Plane

The group  $SL_2$  also acts naturally on the Hilbert scheme  $\text{Hilb}^n \mathbb{C}^2$  of  $n$  points in the plane. This is the restriction of a  $GL_2$ -action induced by the natural action of  $GL_2$  on  $\mathbb{C}^2$ .

#### 4.1. Fixed points

The  $T$ -fixed points  $y_\lambda$  in  $\text{Hilb}^n \mathbb{C}^2$  are also labeled by partitions  $\lambda$  of  $n$ . If  $I$  is the  $T$ -fixed codimension  $n$  ideal labeled by  $\lambda$ , then it is uniquely defined by the fact that the corresponding quotient  $\mathbb{C}[x, y]/I_\lambda$  has basis given by  $x^i y^j$  with

$$(i, j) \in Y_\lambda := \{(i, j) \in \mathbb{Z}^2 \mid 0 \leq j \leq \ell(\lambda) - 1, 0 \leq i \leq \lambda_j - 1\},$$

the *Young tableau* of  $\lambda$ . The orbit  $GL_2 \cdot y_\lambda$  is denoted  $\mathcal{O}_\lambda$ . We identify  $\mathbb{C}^\times$  with the scalar matrices in  $GL_2$ . Then  $(\text{Hilb}^n \mathbb{C}^2)^{\mathbb{C}^\times}$  is the moduli space of homogeneous ideals of codimension  $n$  in  $\mathbb{C}[x, y]$ , as studied in [I]. It is a smooth projective  $GL_2$ -stable subvariety of  $\text{Hilb}^n \mathbb{C}^2$  containing the points  $y_\lambda$ . Notice that the  $GL_2$ -orbits and  $SL_2$ -orbits in  $(\text{Hilb}^n \mathbb{C}^2)^{\mathbb{C}^\times}$  agree since the action factors through  $PGL_2$ .

LEMMA 4.1. *If  $n = \frac{m(m+1)}{2}$  for some integer  $m$ , then  $(\text{Hilb}^n \mathbb{C}^2)^{GL_2} = \{y_{\mathbf{m}}\}$ . Otherwise,  $(\text{Hilb}^n \mathbb{C}^2)^{GL_2} = \emptyset$ .*

*Proof.* This follows from [KT, Lemma 12]. Alternatively, notice that if  $y_\lambda$  is fixed by  $GL_2$ , then  $\mathbb{C}[x, y]/I_\lambda$  is a  $GL_2$ -module. Since each graded piece of  $\mathbb{C}[x, y]$  is an irreducible  $GL_2$ -module, this implies that there is some  $m$  such that  $I_\lambda = \mathbb{C}[x, y]_{\geq m}$  and hence  $\lambda = \mathbf{m}$ . □

We say that a partition  $\lambda$  is *steep* if  $\lambda_1 > \dots > \lambda_\ell > 0$ .

PROPOSITION 4.1. *Let  $\lambda \neq \mathbf{m}$  be a partition of  $n$  and set  $K = \text{Stab}_{SL_2}(y_\lambda)$ .*

- (1) *If  $\lambda$  is steep, then  $K = B$ , and if  $\lambda^t$  is steep, then  $K = B_-$ . In both cases,  $\mathcal{O}_\lambda \simeq \mathbb{P}^1$ .*
- (2) *If neither  $\lambda$  nor  $\lambda^t$  is steep, then  $K = T$  if  $\lambda \neq \lambda^t$  and  $K = N(T)$  if  $\lambda = \lambda^t$ . In both cases the complement to  $\mathcal{O}_\lambda$  in  $\overline{\mathcal{O}}_\lambda$  equals  $\mathbb{P}^1$ .*
- (3) *The orbit  $\mathcal{O}_\lambda$  is closed if and only if  $\lambda$  or  $\lambda^t$  is steep.*

*Proof.* If  $\lambda$  is steep, then [KT, Lemma 12] shows that  $B \subset K$ . If  $\dim K > \dim B$ , then  $\dim K = 3$ , that is,  $K = SL_2$  and  $\lambda = \mathbf{m}$  (notice that  $\mathbf{m}$  is the only partition such that both  $\lambda$  and  $\lambda^t$  are steep). Therefore  $\dim B = \dim K$ , and hence  $K^\circ = B$ . But then  $N_{SL_2}(B) = B$  implies that  $K = B$ . Since  $y_{\lambda^t} = w_0 \cdot y_\lambda$ , if  $\lambda^t$  is steep, then  $K = w_0 B w_0^{-1} = B_-$ . This proves part (1).

Assume now that neither  $\lambda$  nor  $\lambda^t$  is steep. Let  $\text{Lie } K = \mathfrak{k}$ . Since  $\mathfrak{k} \supset \mathfrak{t}$ , but  $\mathfrak{k} \not\subset \mathfrak{b}, \mathfrak{s}l_2$ , we have  $\mathfrak{k} = \mathfrak{t}$ , and hence  $K = T$  or  $N(T)$ . Then part (2) follows from

Lemma 2.3. Notice that Lemma 2.3 is applicable here even though  $\text{Hilb}^n \mathbb{C}^2$  is not complete; this is because  $\mathcal{O}_\lambda$  is contained in the punctual Hilbert scheme  $\text{Hilb}_0^n \mathbb{C}^2 \subset \text{Hilb}^n \mathbb{C}^2$  of all ideals supported at  $0 \in \mathbb{C}^2$ . This  $SL_2$ -stable subvariety is complete.

Part (3) follows directly from parts (1) and (2). □

QUESTION 4.1. For which  $\lambda$  is  $\overline{\mathcal{O}}_\lambda$  normal?

Associate with a partition  $\lambda$  the diagonals  $d_k := |\{(i, j) \in Y_\lambda \mid i + j = k\}|$ , where  $k = 0, 1, \dots$ . That is,  $d_k$  is the number of boxes lying on the line  $x + y = k$ . For instance, if  $\lambda = (4, 3, 3, 1, 1)$ , then the diagonals  $(d_0, d_1, \dots)$  are  $(1, 2, 3, 4, 2)$ . Now construct a new partition  $U(\lambda)$  from  $\lambda$  by setting  $U(\lambda)_i = \{d_k \mid d_k \geq i\}$ . It is again a partition of  $|\lambda|$ . Pictorially, if we visualize the Young tableau  $Y_\lambda$  in the English style, as in (3.2), then on the  $k$ th diagonal (where there are  $d_k$  boxes), we have simply moved all boxes as far to the top-right as possible. For example,  $U(4, 3, 3, 1, 1) = (5, 4, 2, 1)$ . If instead we move all boxes on the  $k$ th diagonal as far to the bottom left as possible, we get  $U(\lambda)^t$ .

LEMMA 4.2. *Let  $\lambda$  be a partition.*

- (1) *The partition  $U(\lambda)$  is steep, and  $U(\lambda) = \lambda$  if and only if  $\lambda$  is steep.*
- (2)  *$U(\lambda) = \mathbf{m}$  if and only if  $\lambda = \mathbf{m}$ .*

*Proof.* It is clear from the construction that  $U(\lambda)$  is steep; if  $\lambda_{i-1} = \lambda_i$  for some  $i$ , then we can move the box at the end of  $i$ th row further up and to the right on the diagonal that it belongs to. Similarly, if  $\lambda$  is steep, then  $\lambda_{i-1} > \lambda_i$  for all  $i$  such that  $\lambda_i \neq 0$  implies that there is always a box “above and to the right” of a given box, that is, if  $(i, j) \in Y_\lambda$  and  $i \neq 0$ , then  $(i - 1, j + 1) \in Y_\lambda$  (this can be viewed as an alternative definition of steep).

Part (2) is also immediate from the construction. □

PROPOSITION 4.2. *Let  $\lambda$  be a partition such that neither  $\lambda$  nor  $\lambda^t$  is steep. Then  $\overline{\mathcal{O}}_\lambda = \mathcal{O}_\lambda \sqcup \mathcal{O}_{U(\lambda)}$ .*

*Proof.* Grade  $\mathbb{C}[x, y]$  by putting  $x$  and  $y$  in degree one. Then every  $I \in \mathcal{O}_\lambda$  is graded,  $I = \bigoplus_{k \geq 0} I_k$ , and  $\dim I_k$  is independent of  $I$ . Since  $\dim (I_\lambda)_k = k + 1 - d_k$ , we deduce that  $\dim I_k = k + 1 - d_k$  for all  $I \in \mathcal{O}_\lambda$ . By Proposition 4.1 (2) and Lemma 2.3 we know that  $\overline{\mathcal{O}}_\lambda = \mathcal{O}_\lambda \sqcup \mathcal{O}'$ , where  $\mathcal{O}' \simeq SL_2/B$ . Thus, there exists a steep partition  $\mu \neq \mathbf{m}$  such that  $\mathcal{O}' = \mathcal{O}_\mu$ .

The Hilbert–Mumford criterion implies that there exists  $I \in \mathcal{O}_\lambda$  such that  $J = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} t \cdot I$  is a  $T$ -fixed point in  $\mathcal{O}_\mu$ . Thus, either  $J = I_\mu$  or  $J = I_{\mu^t}$ . Without loss of generality,  $J = I_\mu$ . This implies that  $\dim (I_\mu)_k = k + 1 - d_k$ . Since  $\mu$  is steep,  $(I_\mu)_k$  is a  $B$ -submodule of  $\mathbb{C}[x, y]_k$ ; cf. Proposition 4.1 (1). Therefore,  $\{x^k, x^{k-1}y, \dots, x^{k+1-d_k}y^{d_k-1}\}$  is a basis of  $(\mathbb{C}[x, y]/I_\mu)_k$ , that is,  $\{(i, j) \in Y_\mu \mid i + j = k\}$  equals  $\{(k, 0), (k - 1, 1), \dots, (k + 1 - d_k, d_k - 1)\}$ . But  $U(\lambda)$  is uniquely defined by this property. Hence  $\mu = U(\lambda)$ . □

REMARK 4.1. For any (homogeneous) ideal  $I \in (\text{Hilb}^n \mathbb{C}^2)^{\mathbb{C}^\times}$ ,  $I$  is fixed by  $B$  if and only if each  $I_k$  is a  $B$ -submodule of  $\mathbb{C}[x, y]_k$ . But the  $B$ -submodules of  $\mathbb{C}[x, y]_k$  are the same as the  $U$ -submodules of  $\mathbb{C}[x, y]_k$ . This implies that  $I$  is  $B$ -fixed if and only if it is  $U$ -fixed.

It is known (see, e.g., [GS, Theorem 5.6]) that the Hilbert scheme fits into a flat family  $p : \mathfrak{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{A}^1$  such that  $p^{-1}(0) \simeq \text{Hilb}^n \mathbb{C}^2$  and  $p^{-1}(\mathbf{c}) \simeq \mathbf{X}_{\mathbf{c}}$  for  $\mathbf{c} \neq 0$ . Moreover,  $SL_2$  acts on  $\mathfrak{X}$  such that the map  $p$  is equivariant with  $SL_2$  acting trivially on  $\mathbb{C}$ . The identification of the fibers is also equivariant. The set-theoretic fixed point set  $\mathfrak{X}^T$  decomposes

$$\mathfrak{X}^T = \bigsqcup_{\lambda \vdash n} \mathbb{A}_\lambda,$$

into a union of connected components  $\mathbb{A}_\lambda$ , where  $\mathbb{A}_\lambda \simeq \mathbb{A}^1$  with  $p^{-1}(\mathbf{c}) \cap \mathbb{A}_\lambda = \{x_\lambda\}$  for  $\mathbf{c} \neq 0$  and  $p^{-1}(0) \cap \mathbb{A}_\lambda = \{y_\lambda\}$ . The only thing that is not immediate here is that the parameterization of the fixed points in  $\mathbf{X}_{\mathbf{c}}$  match those of  $\text{Hilb}^n \mathbb{C}^2$ . But this can be seen from Lemma 3.2, [H, Lemma 5.4.5], and from the fact that a partition is uniquely defined by its hook polynomial.

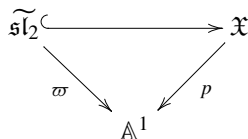
Then the  $SL_2$ -varieties  $SL_2 \cdot \mathbb{A}_\lambda$  are connected. Assume that neither  $\lambda$  nor  $\lambda^t$  is steep. Then there are equivariant trivializations

$$SL_2 \cdot \mathbb{A}_\lambda \simeq SL_2/N(T) \times \mathbb{A}^1 \quad \text{or} \quad SL_2 \cdot \mathbb{A}_\lambda \simeq SL_2/T \times \mathbb{A}^1,$$

depending on whether  $\lambda = \lambda^t$  or not.

Let  $\mathfrak{s}\mathfrak{l}_2 \rightarrow \mathfrak{sl}_2$  be Grothendieck’s simultaneous resolution and write  $\varpi$  for the composition  $\mathfrak{s}\mathfrak{l}_2 \rightarrow \mathfrak{sl}_2 \rightarrow \mathfrak{sl}_2//SL_2 \cong \mathbb{A}^1$ , where the second map is  $a \mapsto \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr } a$ .

CONJECTURE 4.1. Let  $\lambda \neq \mathbf{m}$  be a steep partition. There exists an  $SL_2$ -equivariant embedding  $\widetilde{\mathfrak{s}\mathfrak{l}}_2 \hookrightarrow \mathfrak{X}$  sending the  $B$ -fixed point  $[1 : 0] \in \mathbb{P}^1 \subset \widetilde{\mathfrak{s}\mathfrak{l}}_2$  to  $y_\lambda$  and such that the following diagram commutes:



REMARK 4.2. Conjecture 4.1 has been confirmed by Li Yu in the case  $n = 3$ .

### 4.2. The Procesi Bundle

The Procesi bundle  $\mathcal{P}$  on  $\text{Hilb}^n \mathbb{C}^2$  is a  $GL_2 \times \mathfrak{S}_n$ -equivariant vector bundle of rank  $n!$ . See [H] and references therein for details. The fiber  $\mathcal{P}_{\mathbf{m}}$  is a  $GL_2 \times \mathfrak{S}_n$ -module, decomposing as

$$\mathcal{P}_{\mathbf{m}} = \bigoplus_{\mu \vdash n} V_\mu \otimes \pi_\mu.$$

As  $GL_2$ -modules, we have a decomposition  $V_\mu = \bigoplus_i V(m_i, n_i)$  into a direct sum of irreducible  $GL_2$ -modules  $V(m_i, n_i)$  with highest weight  $(m_i, n_i)$ ; here  $m_i, n_i \in$

$\mathbb{Z}$  with  $m_i \geq n_i$ . We call  $(m_1, n_1), (m_2, n_2), \dots$  the *graded exponents* of  $\mu$ . Let  $H$  denote the 2-torus of diagonal matrices in  $GL_2$ . The character of  $V_\mu$  is given by the cocharge Kostka–Macdonald polynomial

$$\chi_H(V_\lambda) = \tilde{K}_{\lambda, \mathbf{m}}(q, t). \tag{4.1}$$

Notice that this implies  $\tilde{K}_{\lambda, \mathbf{m}}(q, t) = \tilde{K}_{\lambda, \mathbf{m}}(t, q)$ . This can also be deduced directly from the definition of Macdonald polynomials (see e.g. [H, Proposition 3.5.10]). Similarly, equation (4.1), together with standard properties [H, Proposition 3.5.12] of Macdonald polynomials, implies that

$$V_{\lambda^t} \simeq V_\lambda^* \otimes \det^{\otimes n(\mathbf{m})}.$$

Thus, if the exponents of  $\lambda$  are  $(m_1, n_1), \dots$ , then the exponents of  $\lambda^t$  are

$$(n(\mathbf{m}) - n_1, n(\mathbf{m}) - m_1), \dots$$

QUESTION 4.2. Is there an explicit formula for the graded exponents of  $\lambda^t$ ?

Next, we explain how Lemma 3.5 and Proposition 3.4 can be deduced from the statements of Section 4.2, *provided* that we use Haiman’s  $n!$  theorem.

Let  $u$  be a formal variable, and  $H_{uc}$  the flat  $\mathbb{C}[u]$ -algebra such that  $H_{uc}/\langle u \rangle \simeq H_0$  and  $H_{uc}/\langle u - 1 \rangle \simeq H_c$ . By [GS, Theorem 5.5], the space  $\mathfrak{X}$  can be identified with a moduli space of  $\lambda$ -stable  $H_{uc}$ -modules  $L$  such that  $L|_{\mathfrak{S}_n} \simeq \mathbb{C}\mathfrak{S}_n$ . Here  $\lambda$  is a generic stability parameter; see loc. cit. for definitions. As such,  $\mathfrak{X}$  comes equipped with a canonical bundle  $\tilde{\mathcal{P}}$  such that each fiber is an  $H_{uc}$ -module. The action of  $SL_2$  on  $\mathfrak{X}$  lifts to  $\tilde{\mathcal{P}}$ .

THEOREM 4.1. *For  $\mathbf{c} \neq 0$ ,  $\tilde{\mathcal{P}}|_{p^{-1}(\mathbf{c})} \simeq \mathcal{R}$  and  $\tilde{\mathcal{P}}|_{p^{-1}(0)} \simeq \mathcal{P}$ .*

*Proof.* The first claim follows from [EG, Section 3], and the second is a consequence of Haiman’s proof of the  $n!$ -conjecture; see the proof of [GS, Theorem 5.3] and references therein. □

COROLLARY 4.1. *As  $\mathfrak{S}_n \times SL_2$ -modules,  $\mathcal{R}_{\mathbf{m}} \simeq \mathcal{P}_{\mathbf{m}}$ , and hence  $\chi_T(V_\lambda) = \chi_H(V_\lambda)|_{t=q^{-1}}$ .*

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