

Notation: For $\lambda, \mu \vdash n$, t a λ -tableau we define

$$A_t \in \text{End}_{\mathbb{C}}(M^{\mu}) \text{ by } A_t := \sum_{\pi \in C_t} \text{sgn}(\pi) \varphi_{\pi}^{\mu}$$

Note that if $\lambda = \mu$, $A_t([E]) = e_t$, the polytabloid associated to t .

Now we are going to use the Dominance lemma.

Lemma Let $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $\lambda, \mu \vdash n$, t^{λ} a λ -tableau and s^{μ} a μ -tableau such that $A_{t^{\lambda}}([s^{\mu}]) \neq 0$. Then $\lambda \geq \mu$.

Moreover, if $\lambda = \mu$, then $A_{t^{\lambda}}([s^{\mu}]) = \pm e_{t^{\lambda}}$.

Proof: We show that if $A_{t^{\lambda}}([s^{\mu}]) \neq 0$ then the assumption of the dominance lemma holds.

Suppose there are $i \neq j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ such that i, j are located in the same row of s^{μ} and also in the same column of t^{λ} . Then the transposition $(i, j) \in C_{t^{\lambda}}$.

Then $H := \{\text{id}, (i, j)\} \leq C_{t^{\lambda}}$. Let $\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \dots, \sigma_k \in C_{t^{\lambda}}$ such that $C_{t^{\lambda}} = \bigcup_{1 \leq r \leq k} \sigma_r H$. Compute

$$A_{t^{\lambda}}([s^{\mu}]) = \sum_{\pi \in C_{t^{\lambda}}} \text{sgn}(\pi) \varphi_{\pi}^{\mu}([s^{\mu}]) =$$

$$= \sum_{r=1}^k \left(\text{sgn}(\sigma_r \pi) \varphi_{\sigma_r \pi}^{\mu}([s^{\mu}]) \right) = \sum_{r=1}^k \left(\text{sgn}(\sigma_r) [\sigma_r \times s^{\mu}] + \text{sgn}(\sigma_r(i, j)) \cdot [\sigma_r \times (i, j) \times s^{\mu}] \right)$$

(12)

$$= \sum_{r=1}^k \operatorname{sgn}(\sigma_r) [\sigma_r * s^\mu] - \operatorname{sgn}(\sigma_r) [\sigma_r * (i_{ij}) * s^\mu]$$

Prove Since i, j are located in the same row of s^μ

$$(i_{ij}) * s^\mu \sim s^\mu \text{ and hence also}$$

$$\sigma_r * ((i_{ij}) * s^\mu) \sim \sigma_r * s^\mu$$

But then $A_{t^\lambda}([s^\mu]) = 0$. So if $A_{t^\lambda}([s^\mu]) \neq 0$

each pair of elements located in the same row of s^μ is not located in the same column of t^λ . The dominance lemma applies and $\lambda \supseteq \mu$ follows.

Assume now $\lambda = \mu$ and $A_{t^\lambda}([s^\mu]) \neq 0$. We already know that $A_{t^\lambda}([s^\mu]) \neq 0$ implies that the assumption of the Dominance lemma is satisfied. In the proof of the Dominance lemma we constructed a λ -tableau u^λ satisfying a), b) on page (4). a) can be translated as

$$\exists \sigma \in C_{t^\lambda} \quad \sigma * [t^\lambda] = u^\lambda \quad (\text{cf Remark on page (4)})$$

If $\lambda = \mu$, the condition b) on page (4) can be stated briefly as

$$t^\mu \sim u^\lambda$$

$$\text{Now compute } A_{t^\lambda}[s^\mu] = \sum_{\pi \in C_{t^\lambda}} \operatorname{sgn}(\pi) \varphi_\pi^\lambda [s^\mu] =$$

$$= \sum_{\pi \in C_{t^\lambda}} \operatorname{sgn}(\pi) \varphi_\pi^\lambda [u^\lambda] = \sum_{\pi \in C_{t^\lambda}} \operatorname{sgn}(\pi) \varphi_\pi^\lambda [\sigma * t^\lambda] =$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \sum_{\pi \in C_{t\lambda}} \text{sgn}(\sigma) \text{sgn}(\sigma\pi) \varphi_{\pi\sigma}^\lambda([t^\lambda]) = \text{sgn}(\sigma) \sum_{\pi' \in C_{t\lambda}} \text{sgn}(\pi') \varphi_{\pi'}^\lambda([t^\lambda]) \\
&\quad \uparrow \\
&\quad \sigma \in C_{t\lambda} \\
&= \text{sgn}(\sigma) e_t \quad \square
\end{aligned}$$

Corollary Let $m \in \mathbb{N}$, $\lambda \vdash m$, t a λ -tableau,

$$A_t := \sum_{\pi \in C_t} \text{sgn}(\pi) \varphi_\pi^\lambda \in \text{End}_{\mathbb{C}}(M^\lambda). \text{ Then}$$

$$\text{Im } A_t = \mathbb{C} e_t$$

Proof: $\text{Im } A_t$ is the subspace of M^λ generated by

$\{A_t([s]) \mid s \text{ is a } \lambda\text{-tableau}\}$. If $A_t([s]) \neq 0$, then $A_t([s]) = \pm e_t \in \mathbb{C} e_t$. By the definition of polytabloid $A_t([t]) = e_t$. Thus $\text{Im } A_t = \mathbb{C} e_t \quad \square$

On M^λ we consider a "standard" scalar product $\langle -, - \rangle$

$$\text{given by } \langle [t], [s] \rangle = \begin{cases} 0 & t \text{ and } s \text{ are not equivalent} \\ 1 & t \sim s \end{cases}$$

where t, s are tableaux of shape λ

The operator A_t considered in the Corollary is self-adjoint,

since if $[u], [v]$ are λ -tabloids, then

$$\begin{aligned}
\langle A_t([u]), [v] \rangle &= \left\langle \sum_{\pi \in C_t} \text{sgn}(\pi) [\pi \times u], [v] \right\rangle = \\
&= \begin{cases} \text{sgn}(\pi) \text{ if } [v] = \pi \times [u] \text{ for some } \pi \in C_t \\ 0 & \text{if } [v] \notin \{\pi \times [u] \mid \pi \in C_t\} \end{cases}
\end{aligned}$$

Similarly $\langle [u], A_t([v]) \rangle = \begin{cases} \text{sgn}(\sigma) & \text{if } \exists \sigma \in C_t \text{ s.t. } \sigma * [v] = [u] \\ 0 & \text{if } [u] \notin \{\sigma * [v] \mid \sigma \in C_t\} \end{cases} \quad (15)$

So $\langle A_t([u]), [v] \rangle = \langle [u], A_t([v]) \rangle$ for every λ -tableaux $[u], [v]$.

Consequently $\langle A_t(x), y \rangle = \langle x, A_t(y) \rangle \quad \forall x, y \in M^\lambda$.

Subrepresentation Theorem Let $m \in \mathbb{N}$, $\lambda \vdash m$

Let $V \subseteq M^\lambda$ be a φ^λ -invariant subspace of M^λ .

Then either $S^\lambda \subseteq V$ or $V \subseteq (S^\lambda)^\perp$

Remark: Recall S^λ is the subspace of M^λ spanned by $\{e_t \mid t \text{ is a } \lambda\text{-tableau}\}$. And we proved that S^λ is φ^λ -invariant.

Proof: a) Assume $\exists t$ a λ -tableau and $v \in V$ such that $A_t(v) \neq 0$, where $A_t = \sum_{\pi \in C_t} \text{sgn}(\pi) \varphi_\pi^\lambda$

Then $A_t(v) \in V$, since V is φ^λ -invariant.

On the other hand $\text{Im } A_t = \mathbb{C} e_t$, so

$e_t \in V$. Finally $\forall \sigma \in S_m \quad e_{\sigma * t} = \varphi_\sigma^\lambda(e_t) \in V$, for $\sigma \in S_m$ (again use V is φ^λ -invariant)

So in this case V contains all polytableaux associated to tableaux of shape λ . In particular $S^\lambda \subseteq V$.

b) $\forall \lambda$ -tableau t and $\forall v \in V$ $A_t(v) = 0$

$$\text{Then } \langle e_t, v \rangle = \langle A_t([t]), v \rangle = \langle [t], A_t(v) \rangle = 0$$

for every $v \in V$, t a λ -tableau

$$S^\lambda = \langle \{e_t \mid t \in X^\lambda\} \rangle, \text{ therefore } S^\lambda \subseteq V^\perp, \&$$

$$V \subseteq (S^\lambda)^\perp$$

□

Corollary Let $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $\lambda \vdash n$, $\psi^\lambda: S_n \rightarrow \text{Aut}_{\mathbb{C}}(S^\lambda)$

the Specht representation associated to λ . Then

ψ^λ is irreducible.

Proof: Assume ψ^λ is not irreducible. Then there exists a ψ^λ -invariant subspace of S^λ , $0 \neq V \subset S^\lambda$.

Since $\psi^\lambda = \varphi_{S^\lambda}^\lambda$, V is also φ^λ -invariant.

Obviously $V \subset S^\lambda$ and $V \not\subseteq (S^\lambda)^\perp$ contradicts the

subrepresentation theorem

□

Finally we are left to check that if $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $\lambda, \mu \vdash n$ and $\lambda \neq \mu$, then ψ^λ and ψ^μ are not equivalent.

Assume ψ^λ and ψ^μ are equivalent. Then Maschke's

theorem implies $\Pi^\lambda = S^\lambda \oplus C^\lambda$, $\Pi^\mu = S^\mu \oplus C^\mu$, where

C^λ is a φ^λ -invariant subspace of Π^λ and

C^μ is a φ^μ -invariant subspace of Π^μ

Let $T \in \text{Mor}(\varphi^\lambda, \varphi^\mu)$ be an isomorphism in $\text{Rep}_\mathbb{C}(S_n)$

Then $\bar{T} := T \oplus 0 \in \text{Mor}(\varphi^\lambda, \varphi^\mu)$ is a morphism in $\text{Rep}_\mathbb{C}(S_n)$

with image S^μ . Compute for a λ -tableau t

$$\bar{T}(e_t) = \bar{T}\left(\sum_{\pi \in C_t} \text{sgn}(\pi) \varphi_{\pi}^{\lambda}([t])\right)$$

$$= \sum_{\pi \in C_t} \text{sgn}(\pi) \varphi_{\pi}^{\mu}(\bar{T}([t]))$$

Since $\bar{T} \neq 0$, the operator $\sum_{\pi \in C_t} \text{sgn}(\pi) \varphi_{\pi}^{\mu} \in \text{End}_{\mathbb{C}}(\Pi^{\mu})$ is nonzero. Therefore $\exists s \in X^{\mu}$ such that $\sum_{\pi \in C_t} \text{sgn}(\pi) \varphi_{\pi}^{\mu}([s]) \neq 0$

Therefore $\lambda \supseteq \mu$ by Lemma on page (11)

Symmetric argument gives $\mu \supseteq \lambda$ and we conclude

that $\mu = \lambda$ if φ^λ and φ^μ are equivalent.

So we are done.

Theorem Let $m \in \mathbb{N}$, $\varphi^\lambda: S_m \rightarrow \text{Aut}_{\mathbb{C}}(S^\lambda)$ the Specht representation defined on page (10)

(a) $\forall \lambda \vdash m$ $\varphi^\lambda \in \text{Rep}_{\mathbb{C}}(S_m)$ is irreducible

(b) $\forall \varphi \in \text{Rep}_{\mathbb{C}}(S_m)$ ~~if~~ irreducible there exists unique $\lambda \vdash m$ such that φ is equivalent to φ^λ