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SL_2 -ACTION ON HILBERT SCHEMES AND CALOGERO-MOSER SPACES

GWYN BELLAMY AND VICTOR GINZBURG

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

1.1. 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_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. $x_\lambda \in X_c$, denote the point labeled by a partition λ . 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 below.

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, $\mathcal{R}|_{x_m}$, 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 $\mathcal{P}|_{y_m}$, 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 $\mathcal{R}|_{x_m}$ from the one for $\mathcal{P}|_{y_m}$. However, the character formula for $\mathcal{P}|_{y_m}$, 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 λ , the SL_2 -orbit of x_λ is closed in X_c . The GL_2 -orbit of y_λ is not closed in $\text{Hilb}^n \mathbb{C}^2$, in general, and we describe the closure in §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 an (\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 so all \mathfrak{sl}_2 -modules appearing in $\mathfrak{m}/\mathfrak{m}^2$ must have odd weight spaces only.

Conversely, assume that all non-zero weight spaces in $\mathfrak{m}/\mathfrak{m}^2$ have odd weight. We need to show that \mathfrak{sl}_2 acts in this case i.e. $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathfrak{m}) \subset \mathfrak{m}$. By Sumihiro's Theorem [S], it is known that 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 non-zero 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 lemmata follow directly from the classification of closed subgroups of SL_2 . We include proofs for the reader's convenience.

Lemma 2.2. *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 2.3. *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 2.4. *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 2.2 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 i.e. $Y_i \simeq SL_2/B$. 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 non-degenerate 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 $H_{\mathbf{c}}(W)$ 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 an W -isomorphism $\mathfrak{h}^* \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathfrak{h}$, $x \mapsto \tilde{x}$.

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

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

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

$$\{E, x\} = \{F, \tilde{x}\} = 0, \quad \{E, \tilde{x}\} = x, \quad \{F, x\} = \tilde{x}, \quad \{H, x\} = x, \quad \{H, \tilde{x}\} = -\tilde{x}.$$

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

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

The Calogero-Moser space $X_{\mathbf{c}}(W)$ is an affine variety defined as $\text{Spec } Z(H_{\mathbf{c}}(W))$. The action of $SL_2(\mathbb{C})$ restricts to $Z(H_{\mathbf{c}}(W))$ and induces a Hamiltonian action on $X_{\mathbf{c}}(W)$, 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_λ , 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_λ ; see [G] for details.

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

Lemma 3.2. *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 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

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

see [EG, page 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 3.3. A (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 a SL_2 -fixed point. However, not every finite dimensional $H_c(W)$ -module set-theoretically supported at a 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 a (H_c, \mathfrak{sl}_2) -module. Thinking of $H_c(W)e$ as a finitely generated $Z(H_c(W))$ -module, we get a $SL_2 \times W$ -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 $c \neq 0$. 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}_λ for the maximal ideal of the T -fixed point corresponding to a partition λ .

Notation 3.4. From now on, the staircase partition $(m, m-1, \dots, 1)$ will be denoted \mathfrak{m} . Given a partition λ , the corresponding representation of the symmetric group will be denoted π_λ . 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			

(3.5)

Let x be a box of the partition λ . The *hook length* $h(x)$ of x is the number boxes strictly to the right of x plus the number strictly below plus one. In the above staircase partition the entry of the box is the corresponding hook length. The *hook polynomial* of λ 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 3.6. *Let x_λ be the T -fixed point of X_c labeled by the partition λ . 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 π_λ 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 $T_{x_\lambda} X_c = (T_{x_\lambda} X_c)^+ \oplus (T_{x_\lambda} X_c)^-$ into its positive and negative weight parts, then Theorem 4.1 and Corollary 4.4 of [B2] imply that

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

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

The following observation is elementary.

Lemma 3.7. *Let λ be a partition such that every hook length in λ is odd. Then λ is a staircase partition.*

Lemma 3.7, together with Lemma 3.6 and Theorem 2.1 imply that SL_2 -fixed points in X_c are very rare. Namely,

Theorem 3.8. *If $n = \frac{m(m+1)}{2}$, for some integer m , then $X_c^{sl_2} = \{x_m\}$. Otherwise, $X_c^{sl_2} = \emptyset$.*

The lemma, together with Theorem 2.1 implies

Proposition 3.9. *There exists a finite dimensional (H_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_m labeled by the staircase partition.*

Proof. If M is a (H_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 3.8.

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

Recall that there is a unique simple H_c -module $L(\lambda)$ supported at each of the T -fixed points x_λ . Notice that we have shown,

Corollary 3.10. *The simple module $L(\mathfrak{m}) \simeq H_c e / \mathfrak{m} H_c e$ is a (H_c, sl_2) -module.*

Equivalently, the above arguments show that sl_2 acts on the fiber \mathcal{R}_m of \mathcal{R} at x_m . The formula for the character of the tangent space of $X_c(\mathfrak{S}_n)$ at x_m given by Lemma 3.6 shows that

$$T_{x_m} X_c \simeq V(m) \otimes V(m-1), \tag{3.11}$$

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_λ . First, we note that Lemma 2.3 implies that

Lemma 3.12. *The orbit \mathcal{O}_λ is closed and $\text{Stab}_{SL_2}(x_\lambda)$ is reductive.*

Lemma 3.2, Theorem 3.8 and Lemma 3.12 imply that

Proposition 3.13. *Let λ be a partition of n . Then, one has the following 3 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 3.14. *There is an isomorphism of SL_2 -modules:*

$$\mathcal{R}_{\mathbf{m}} \simeq [U_{\mathbf{m}} \otimes U_{m-2} \otimes \cdots \otimes U_{2,1}]^{\oplus \dim \pi_{\mathbf{m}}} \quad (3.15)$$

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 $(\mathbb{H}_{\mathbb{C}}, \mathfrak{sl}_2)$ -module, $\mathcal{R}_{\mathbf{m}}$ equals $\mathbb{H}_{\mathbb{C}}e/\mathfrak{m}\mathbb{H}_{\mathbb{C}}e$. As $\mathbb{H}_{\mathbb{C}}$ -modules, $\mathbb{H}_{\mathbb{C}}e/\mathfrak{m}\mathbb{H}_{\mathbb{C}}e$ 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 (3.15). The character of $L(\mathbf{m})$ is given in [B1, Lemma 3.3]. However, we must shift the grading on $L(\mathbf{m})$ from the one given in *loc. cit.* so that the isomorphism $\mathbb{H}_{\mathbb{C}}e/\mathfrak{m}\mathbb{H}_{\mathbb{C}}e \rightarrow L(\mathbf{m})$ is graded i.e. 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,

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

This is precisely the character of $U_{\mathbf{m}}$. □

One 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,

$$L(\mathbf{m}) = \bigoplus_{\lambda \vdash n} \pi_\lambda \otimes V_\lambda. \quad (3.16)$$

Then the *exponents* of λ are defined to be the positive integers $0 \leq e_1 \leq e_2 \leq \cdots$ 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 3.17. For $m = 3$, we have $n = 6$ and

λ	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 ² , 2 ² , 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 3.18. *The exponents of λ equal the exponents of λ^t .*

Proof. There is an algebra isomorphism $\text{sgn} : \mathbb{H}_{\mathfrak{c}} \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathbb{H}_{-\mathfrak{c}}$ 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 ℓ is the length function. It is clear from (3.1) that 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_λ to V_{λ^t} since ${}^{\text{sgn}}\pi_\lambda \simeq \pi_\lambda \otimes \text{sgn} \simeq \pi_{\lambda^t}$. \square

Using the deeper combinatorics of Macdonald polynomials, we prove

Proposition 3.19. $\chi_T(V_\lambda) = \tilde{K}_{\lambda, \mathbf{m}}(q, q^{-1})$.

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

The module $L(\mathbf{m})$ is a graded quotient of the Verma module $\Delta(\mathbf{m}) = \mathbb{H}_{\mathfrak{c}}(W) \otimes_{\mathbb{C}[\mathfrak{h}^*] \rtimes W} \pi_{\mathbf{m}}$. The graded W -character of $\Delta(\mathbf{m})$ is given by $s_{\mathbf{m}} \left[\frac{Z}{1-q} \right]$. 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 $q^{-n(\mathbf{m})} H_{\mathbf{m}}(q) s_{\mathbf{m}} \left[\frac{Z}{1-q} \right]$. This implies that

$$\chi_T(V_\lambda) = \left\langle s_\mu, q^{-n(\mathbf{m})} \prod_{i=1}^m (1 - q^{2i-1})^{m-i} s_{\mathbf{m}} \left[\frac{Z}{1-q} \right] \right\rangle. \quad (3.20)$$

The fact that the right hand side of (3.20) 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 one can perform a similar analysis for other Coxeter groups W . First, $X_{\mathfrak{c}}(W)$ might be singular. In this case the torus fixed points x_Ω are labeled by Calogero-Moser families $\Omega \subset \text{Irr } W$. Lemma 3.2 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_Ω is fixed by SL_2 then necessarily $\Omega = \Omega \otimes \text{sgn}$. Next, provided the fixed point $x = x_\lambda$ is smooth, the analogue of Lemma 3.6 still holds. Using Theorem 4.1 and Corollary 4.4 of [B2], one can compute the character $\chi_T(T_{x_\lambda} X_{\mathfrak{c}})$, though it is hard to give a

formula in general. For instance, when W is a Weyl group of type B/C and \mathfrak{c} generic, then $\lambda = (\lambda^{(1)}, \lambda^{(2)})$ is a bipartition of n and

$$\chi_T(T_{x_\lambda} X_{\mathfrak{c}}) = \sum_{x \in \lambda^{(1)} \cup \lambda^{(2)}} q^{2h(x)} + q^{-2h(x)}. \quad (3.21)$$

These two observations give partial information on $X_{\mathfrak{c}}(W)^{\mathfrak{sl}_2}$, 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 \mathfrak{c} generic, then (3.21) implies that all weights of T on the tangent space $T_{x_\lambda} X_{\mathfrak{c}}$ are even. Thus, it cannot be a \mathfrak{sl}_2 -module. This implies that $X_{\mathfrak{c}}^{\mathfrak{sl}_2} = \emptyset$.

Similarly, if W is of type G_2 and \mathfrak{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 3.2 does not fix any of these points).

More generally, SL_2 preserves the symplectic leaves in $X_{\mathfrak{c}}(W)$. 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 a 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. The T -fixed points y_λ in $\text{Hilb}^n \mathbb{C}^2$ are also labeled by partitions λ of n . If I is the T -fixed, codimension n ideal labeled by λ , 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 λ . The orbit $GL_2 \cdot y_\lambda$ is denoted \mathcal{O}_λ . 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_λ . 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_λ is fixed by GL_2 , then $\mathbb{C}[x, y]/I_\lambda$ is an 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 $\lambda = \mathbf{m}$. \square

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

Proposition 4.2. *Let $\lambda \neq \mathbf{m}$ be a partition of n and set $K = \text{Stab}_{SL_2}(y_\lambda)$.*

- (1) *If λ is steep then $K = B$, and if λ^t is steep then $K = B_-$. In both cases, $\mathcal{O}_\lambda \simeq \mathbb{P}^1$.*
- (2) *If neither λ or λ^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}_λ in $\overline{\mathcal{O}_\lambda}$ equals \mathbb{P}^1 .*
- (3) *The orbit \mathcal{O}_λ is closed if and only if λ or λ^t is steep.*

Proof. If λ is steep then [KT, Lemma 12] shows that $B \subset K$. If $\dim K > \dim B$, then $\dim K = 3$ i.e. $K = SL_2$ and $\lambda = \mathbf{m}$ (notice that \mathbf{m} is the only partition such that both λ and λ^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 λ^t is steep then $K = w_0 B w_0^{-1} = B_-$. This proves part (1).

Assume now that neither λ nor λ^t are steep. Let $\text{Lie } K = \mathfrak{k}$. Since $\mathfrak{k} \supset \mathfrak{t}$, but $\mathfrak{k} \not\subseteq \mathfrak{b}, \mathfrak{sl}_2$, we have $\mathfrak{k} = \mathfrak{t}$ and hence $K = T$ or $N(T)$. Then part (2) follows from Lemma 2.4. Notice that Lemma 2.4 is applicable here even though $\text{Hilb}^n \mathbb{C}^2$ is not complete; this is because \mathcal{O}_λ 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). \square

Question 4.3. For which λ is $\overline{\mathcal{O}_\lambda}$ normal?

Associate to a partition λ 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 λ 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_λ in the English style, as in (3.5), 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. E.g. $U(4, 3, 3, 1, 1) = (5, 4, 2, 1)$. 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 4.4. *Let λ be a partition.*

- (1) *The partition $U(\lambda)$ is steep and $U(\lambda) = \lambda$ if and only if λ 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 one 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 λ 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 i.e. 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. \square

Proposition 4.5. *Let λ be a partition such that neither λ nor λ^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 4.2 (2) and Lemma 2.4, 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 some $I \in \mathcal{O}_\lambda$ such that $J = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} t \cdot I$ is a T -fixed point in \mathcal{O}_μ . 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 μ is steep, $(I_\mu)_k$ is a B -submodule of $\mathbb{C}[x, y]_k$, cf. Proposition 4.2 (1). Therefore, $\{x^k, x^{k-1}y, \dots, x^{k+1-d_k}y^{d_k-1}\}$ is a basis of $(\mathbb{C}[x, y]/I_\mu)_k$ i.e. $\{(i, j) \in Y_\mu \mid i + j = k\}$ equals $\{(k, 0), (k-1, 1), \dots, (k+1-d_k, d_k-1)\}$. But $U(\lambda)$ is uniquely defined by this property. Hence $\mu = U(\lambda)$. \square

Remark 4.6. 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 eg [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 $p^{-1}(c) \simeq X_c$ for $c \neq 0$. 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}_λ , where $\mathbb{A}_\lambda \simeq \mathbb{A}^1$ with $p^{-1}(c) \cap \mathbb{A}_\lambda = \{x_\lambda\}$ for $c \neq 0$ 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 X_c match those of $\text{Hilb}^n \mathbb{C}^2$. But this can be seen from Lemma 3.6, [H, Lemma 5.4.5] and 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 λ nor λ^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 $\widetilde{\mathfrak{sl}}_2 \rightarrow \mathfrak{sl}_2$ be Grothendieck's simultaneous resolution and write ϖ for the composition $\widetilde{\mathfrak{sl}}_2 \rightarrow \mathfrak{sl}_2 \rightarrow \mathfrak{sl}_2//SL_2 \cong \mathbb{A}^1$, where the second map is $a \mapsto \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr } a$.

Conjecture 4.7. Let $\lambda \neq \mathbf{m}$ be a steep partition. There exists a SL_2 -equivariant embedding $\widetilde{\mathfrak{sl}}_2 \hookrightarrow \mathfrak{X}$ sending the B -fixed point $[1 : 0] \in \mathbb{P}^1 \subset \widetilde{\mathfrak{sl}}_2$ to y_λ and such that the following diagram commutes

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \widetilde{\mathfrak{sl}}_2 & \hookrightarrow & \mathfrak{X} \\ & \searrow \varpi & \swarrow p \\ & & \mathbb{A}^1 \end{array}$$

Remark 4.8. Conjecture 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 μ . Let H denote the 2-torus of diagonal matrices in GL_2 . The character of V_μ is given by the cocharge Kostka-Macdonald polynomial,

$$\chi_H(V_\lambda) = \widetilde{K}_{\lambda, \mathbf{m}}(q, t). \quad (4.9)$$

Notice that this implies $\widetilde{K}_{\lambda, \mathbf{m}}(q, t) = \widetilde{K}_{\lambda, \mathbf{m}}(t, q)$. This can also be deduced directly from the definition of Macdonald polynomials e.g. [H, Proposition 3.5.10]. Similarly, equation (4.9), together with standard properties [H, Proposition 3.5.12] of Macdonald polynomials imply that

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

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

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

Question 4.10. Is there an explicit formula for the graded exponents of λ ?

Next we explain how Lemma 3.18 and Proposition 3.19 can be deduced from the statements of section 4.2, *provided* one uses 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 λ -stable H_{uc} -modules L such that $L|_{\mathfrak{S}_n} \simeq \mathbb{C}\mathfrak{S}_n$. Here λ 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 a H_{uc} -module. The action of SL_2 on \mathfrak{X} lifts to $\tilde{\mathcal{P}}$.

Theorem 4.11. *For $c \neq 0$, $\tilde{\mathcal{P}}|_{p^{-1}(c)} \simeq \mathcal{R}$ 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. \square

Corollary 4.12. *As $\mathfrak{S}_n \times SL_2$ -modules, $\mathcal{R}_m \simeq \mathcal{P}_m$ and hence $\chi_T(V_\lambda) = \chi_H(V_\lambda)|_{t=q^{-1}}$.*

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SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS AND STATISTICS, UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW, UNIVERSITY GARDENS, GLASGOW G12 8QW

E-mail address: gwyn.bellamy@glasgow.ac.uk

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS, UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO, CHICAGO, IL 60637, USA.

E-mail address: ginzburg@math.uchicago.edu