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## Multiplicity spaces in classical symplectic branching

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## Some notation

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- $\Lambda_n^+ = \{(\lambda_1 \geq \cdots \geq \lambda_n) : \lambda_i \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}\}$
- Irreducible (polynomial) representations of  $GL(n, \mathbb{C})$ :

$$\lambda \in \Lambda_n^+ \leftrightarrow V_\lambda$$

## Chain of groups

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• Let  $\mu = (\mu_1, ..., \mu_{n-1}) \in \Lambda_{n-1}^+$  and  $\lambda = (\lambda_1, ..., \lambda_n) \in \Lambda_n^+$ . Then  $\mu$  interlaces  $\lambda$ , written  $\mu < \lambda$ , if for i = 1, ..., n - 1,

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## Gelfand-Zeitlin basis

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$$\begin{split} V_{\lambda} &\cong & \bigoplus_{\substack{\mu \in \Lambda_{n-1}^{+} \\ \mu < \lambda}} V_{\mu} \otimes \mathcal{N}_{\mu}^{\lambda} \\ &\cong & \bigoplus_{\substack{\mu \in \Lambda_{n-1}^{+} \\ \mu < \lambda}} \left( \bigoplus_{\substack{\kappa \in \Lambda_{n-2}^{+} \\ \kappa < \mu}} V_{\kappa} \otimes \mathcal{N}_{\kappa}^{\mu} \right) \otimes \mathcal{N}_{\mu}^{\lambda} \end{split}$$

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 $\vdots$   
 $\cong \bigoplus_{\substack{\lambda^{(i)} \in \Lambda_i^+ \\ \lambda^{(i)} < \lambda^{(i+1)}}} V_{\lambda^{(1)}} \otimes \mathcal{N}_{\lambda^{(1)}}^{\lambda^{(2)}} \otimes \cdots \otimes \mathcal{N}_{\lambda^{(n-1)}}^{\lambda^{(n)}}$ 

where the sum is over all  $\lambda^{(i)} \in \Lambda_i^+$  such that  $\lambda^{(i)} < \lambda^{(i+1)}$  for i = 1, ..., n-1 and  $\lambda^{(n)} = \lambda$ .

• 
$$SO(n, \mathbb{C}) \supset SO(n-1, \mathbb{C}) \supset \cdots$$

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#### Problem

*Is it possible to resolve the multiplicities and construct a Gelfand-Zeitlin type basis for the symplectic group?* 

## Some history

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- Shtepin ('93) odd symplectic Lie algebras
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- Our approach to this problem is based on classical invariant theory.

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•  $\mathcal{M}^{\lambda}_{\mu} = Hom_{Sp(n-1,\mathbb{C})}(W_{\mu}, W_{\lambda})$ • Generically dim  $\mathcal{M}^{\lambda}_{\mu} > 1$ .



#### We will show that there is a natural irreducible action of

$$L=\prod_{i=1}^n SL(2,\mathbb{C})$$

on  $\mathcal{M}^{\lambda}_{\mu}$ .

### Starting point

• Let  $\mu \in \Lambda_{n-1}^+$  and  $\lambda \in \Lambda_n^+$ . Then  $\mathcal{M}_{\mu}^{\lambda}$  is an  $SL(2, \mathbb{C})$ -module:

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• What's the  $SL(2, \mathbb{C})$ -module structure of  $\mathcal{M}_{\mu}^{\lambda}$ ?

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## Double Interlacing

#### Theorem

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• If  $\mu \ll \lambda$  then we call  $(\mu, \lambda)$  a double interlacing pair. Let

$$\mathfrak{D} = \{(\mu, \lambda) | \mu \ll \lambda\}$$

be the set of all double interlacing pairs.

## The module structure of symplectic multiplicity spaces

For k ≥ 0, let F<sub>k</sub> be the (k + 1)-dimensional irreducible representation of SL(2, C).

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Theorem (Molev '99, Wallach-Y '09)

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$$\mathcal{M}^{\lambda}_{\mu} \cong \bigotimes_{i=1}^{n} F_{r_i(\mu,\lambda)}$$

as  $SL(2, \mathbb{C})$ -modules.

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## An example

• 
$$\lambda = (6, 4, 3, 3, 1)$$
 and  $\mu = (4, 3, 1, 1)$ .

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- $\lambda = (6, 4, 3, 3, 1)$  and  $\mu = (4, 3, 1, 1)$ .
- Write the entries out in non-increasing order:

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 $\mathcal{M}_{\mu}^{\lambda} \cong F_2 \otimes F_1 \otimes F_0 \otimes F_0 \otimes F_1$ 

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### Another question

• For  $(\mu, \lambda) \in \mathfrak{D}$  set

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an irreducible 
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• The previous theorem can be reformulated as:

$$\mathcal{M}^{\lambda}_{\mu} \cong \mathcal{A}^{\lambda}_{\mu}|_{SL(2,\mathbb{C})}$$

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• Does there exist a natural action of L on  $\mathcal{M}^{\lambda}_{\mu}$  such that  $\mathcal{M}^{\lambda}_{\mu} \cong \mathcal{A}^{\lambda}_{\mu}$ ?

### Branching algebra

### • $Sp(n,\mathbb{C}) \supset B_n = T_n N_n$

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### Branching algebra

- $Sp(n,\mathbb{C}) \supset B_n = T_n N_n$
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$$\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{O}(N_n \setminus Sp(n, \mathbb{C}))^{N_{n-1}}$$

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#### Definition

An order type  $\sigma$  is a word in the alphabet  $\{\geq, \leq\}$  of length n-1. Let  $\Sigma$  be the set of order types.

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$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_i &= " \geq " \Rightarrow \mu_i \geq \lambda_{i+1} \\ \sigma_i &= " \leq " \Rightarrow \mu_i \leq \lambda_{i+1} \end{aligned}$$

• E.g.  $\lambda = (3, 2, 1)$  and  $\mu = (3, 0)$ . Then  $(\mu, \lambda)$  is of order type  $(\geq \leq)$ .

## A family of subalgebras

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•  $\mathcal{M}_{\sigma}$  is an  $SL(2, \mathbb{C})$ -subalgebra of  $\mathcal{M}$ .

### A canonical isomorphism

Let

$$V = \underbrace{\mathbb{C}^2 \oplus \cdots \oplus \mathbb{C}^2}_{n} \oplus \underbrace{\mathbb{C} \oplus \cdots \oplus \mathbb{C}}_{n-1}$$

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- $L \curvearrowright \mathcal{O}(V)$  by right translation, and  $\mathcal{O}(V)$  is an  $SL(2, \mathbb{C})$ -algebra by restriction.

### A canonical isomorphism

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#### Theorem

Let  $\sigma \in \Sigma$ . Then  $\mathcal{M}_{\sigma}$  and  $\mathcal{O}(V)$  are canonically isomorphic as  $SL(2, \mathbb{C})$ -algebras. In particular,  $\mathcal{M}_{\sigma}$  is a polynomial algebra.

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## Glueing the actions

• The above theorem allows us to canonically transfer the *L*-action from  $\mathcal{O}(V)$  to  $\mathcal{M}_{\sigma}$ . We have a family of *L*-algebras

 $\{\mathcal{M}_{\sigma}\}_{\sigma\in\Sigma}$ 

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• The action of L is well-defined on the intersections of these subalgebras, allowing us to glue them together obtaining a representation of L on  $\mathcal{M}$ .

#### Main result

#### Theorem

There is a unique representation  $(\Phi, M)$  of  $L = \prod_{i=1}^{n} SL(2, \mathbb{C})$  such that,

• for all 
$$(\mu, \lambda) \in \mathfrak{D}$$
,  $\mathcal{M}^{\lambda}_{\mu} \cong \mathcal{A}^{\lambda}_{\mu} = \bigotimes_{i=1}^{n} F_{r_i(\mu, \lambda)}$ , and

**2** for all  $\sigma \in \Sigma$ , *L* acts as algebra automorphisms on  $\mathcal{M}_{\sigma}$ .

Moreover,  $\Phi|_{SL(2,\mathbb{C})}$  is the natural action of  $SL(2,\mathbb{C})$  on  $\mathcal{M}$ .

# An application

• 
$$T_L \subset L = \prod_{i=1}^n SL(2,\mathbb{C})$$
 maximal torus.

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• Let  $\mathcal{M}^{\lambda}_{\mu}(\gamma)$  be the  $\mathcal{T}_{L}$ -weight space indexed by  $\gamma$ .

### An application continued...

• 
$$\lambda \in \Lambda_n^+$$
.

$$W_{\lambda} \cong \bigoplus_{\substack{\mu \in \Lambda_{n-1}^+ \\ \mu \ll \lambda}} W_{\mu} \otimes \mathcal{M}_{\mu}^{\lambda}$$

### An application continued...

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$$\cong \bigoplus_{\substack{\mu \in \Lambda_{n-1}^{+} \\ \mu \ll \lambda}} \bigoplus_{\substack{\gamma \in \Lambda_{n}^{+} \\ \mu < \gamma < \lambda^{+}}} W_{\mu} \otimes \mathcal{M}_{\mu}^{\lambda}(\gamma)$$

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