A geometric realisation of affine 0-Schur algebras.

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# Introduction

# Background: The double flag variety approach to q-Schur algebras

#### 2.1 Flag varieties as projective algebraic varieties

Include a discussion of flag varieties in a finite dimensional vector space. Explain: topology of projective space; Plücker embedding of Grassmannian in a projective space; flag varieties as a closed subset in a product of Grassmannians - show that the inclusion of one subspace into another is a closed condition - given by vanishing of some homogenous polynomials which should appear as minors of a matrix.

References for this material include [1][J. Harris: A First Course in Algebraic Geometry]; [2][D. Hudec: The Grassmannian as a Projective Variety]; [4][P. Morandi: Algebraic Groups, Grassmannians and Flag Varieties].

# The cyclic flags approach to affine q-Schur algebras

Fix natural numbers n and r.

**Definition 3.0.1** (compositions). A composition of r into n parts is an n-tuple  $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \ldots, \lambda_n) \in \mathbb{Z}^n$  of non-negative integers whose sum equals r. Denote the set of compositions of r into n parts by  $\Lambda_0$ .

**Definition 3.0.2** (infinite periodic matrices). Let  $\Lambda_1$  be the set of matrices  $A = (a_{i,j})_{i,j \in \mathbb{Z}}$  with integer entries  $a_{i,j}$  satisfying the following conditions:

- $a_{i,j} \geq 0$  for each  $i, j \in \mathbb{Z}$ ;
- each row or column has only finitely many non-zero entries;
- the sum of the entries in any n consecutive rows or columns equals r;
- $a_{i-n,j-n} = a_{i,j}$  for each  $i, j \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

These matrices are referred to as infinite periodic matrices.

**Definition 3.0.3** (source and target). Given  $A \in \Lambda_1$ , let ro A and co A be the compositions of r into n parts given by

ro 
$$A = \left(\sum_{j \in \mathbb{Z}} a_{1,j}, \dots, \sum_{j \in \mathbb{Z}} a_{n,j}\right)$$

and

$$\operatorname{co} A = \left(\sum_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} a_{i,1}, \dots, \sum_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} a_{i,n}\right).$$

 $A \in \Lambda_1$  is said to go from  $\operatorname{co} A$  to  $\operatorname{ro} A$ .

**Definition 3.0.4** (diagonal matrices). Given  $\lambda \in \Lambda_0$ , let  $D_{\lambda} \in \Lambda_1$  be the matrix given by  $(D_{\lambda})_{i,j} = 0$  for  $i, j \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $i \neq j$  and  $(D_{\lambda})_{i,i} = \lambda_i$  for  $i \in \mathbb{Z}$ ; where the indices are taken modulo n.

#### 3.1 Cyclic flags

Fix  $n, r \in \mathbb{N}$  and let  $\mathbf{k}$  be a field. Let  $\mathcal{S}$  be the  $\mathbf{k}$ -algebra  $\mathbf{k}[\varepsilon, \varepsilon^{-1}]$  and let  $\mathcal{R}$  be the subalgebra generated by  $\varepsilon$ , so  $\mathcal{R} = \mathbf{k}[\varepsilon]$ . Let V be a free  $\mathcal{S}$ -module of rank r. Let G be the automorphism group of the  $\mathcal{S}$ -module V, so G is isomorphic to  $\mathrm{GL}_r(\mathcal{S})$ . A lattice in V is a  $\mathcal{R}$ -submodule L of V with  $\mathcal{S} \otimes_{\mathcal{R}} L = V$ . In particular, a lattice is an  $\mathcal{R}$ -submodule of V which is a free  $\mathcal{R}$ -module of rank r.

**Lemma 3.1.1.** Let L be a lattice in V.  $L/\varepsilon L$  is a torsion  $\mathcal{R}$ -module, where  $\varepsilon$  acts as zero.  $L/\varepsilon L$  is a free  $\mathcal{R}/\langle \varepsilon \rangle$ -module of rank r; that is,  $L/\varepsilon L$  is an r-dimensional  $\mathbf{k}$ -vector space.

*Proof.* L is a free  $\mathcal{R}$ -module of rank r, with  $L \subset V$ . Given an  $\mathcal{R}$ -basis  $\{x_1, \ldots, x_r\}$  of L,  $\{\varepsilon x_1, \ldots, \varepsilon x_r\}$  is an  $\mathcal{R}$ -basis of  $\varepsilon L$ . Finally, the cosets  $\{x_1 + \varepsilon L, \ldots, x_r + \varepsilon L\}$  give a basis for  $L/\varepsilon L$  over  $\mathcal{R}/\langle \varepsilon \rangle \cong \mathbf{k}$ .

Let  $\mathcal{F} = \mathcal{F}_{\mathbf{k}}(n,r)$  be the set of collections  $(L_i)_{i\in\mathbb{Z}}$  of lattices in V with  $L_i \subset L_{i+1}$  and  $\varepsilon L_i = L_{i-n}$  for each  $i \in \mathbb{Z}$ . These collections of lattices in V are referred to as cyclic flags in V.

G acts on  $\mathcal{F}$  by  $(g \cdot L)_i = g(L_i)$  for each  $i \in \mathbb{Z}$ , given  $g \in G$  and  $L \in \mathcal{F}$ . The G-orbits in  $\mathcal{F}$  are indexed by the set  $\Lambda_0$  of compositions of r into n parts: the G-orbit in  $\mathcal{F}$  corresponding to  $\lambda \in \Lambda_0$  is

$$\mathcal{F}_{\lambda} = \left\{ L \in \mathcal{F} : \dim \left( \frac{L_i}{L_{i-1}} \right) = \lambda_i \text{ for each } i \in \mathbb{Z} \right\}$$

**Definition 3.1.1.** The periodic characteristic matrix of a pair of cyclic flags  $(L, L') \in \mathcal{F} \times \mathcal{F}$  is the matrix  $A(L, L') = (a_{i,j})_{i,j \in \mathbb{Z}}$  with entries

$$a_{i,j} = \dim_{\mathbf{k}} \left( \frac{L_i \cap L'_j}{L_i \cap L'_{i-1} + L_{i-1} \cap L'_i} \right)$$

for each  $i, j \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

The diagonal action of G on  $\mathcal{F} \times \mathcal{F}$  has orbits indexed by the set  $\Lambda_1$  of infinite periodic matrices (see definition 3.0.2). The G-orbit corresponding to  $A \in \Lambda_1$  is denoted  $\mathcal{O}_A$  and consists of those pairs  $(L, L') \in \mathcal{F} \times \mathcal{F}$  with periodic characteristic matrix A(L, L') equal to A.

Lemma 3.1.2. (alternative expression for characteristic matrix) Alternatively,

$$a_{i,j} = \dim_{\mathbf{k}} \left( \frac{L_{i-1} + L_i \cap L'_j}{L_{i-1} + L_i \cap L'_{j-1}} \right)$$

for each  $i, j \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

*Proof.* Set  $U = L_i \cap L'_j$  and  $U' = L_{i-1} + L_i \cap L'_{j-1}$ . Then  $U + U' = L_{i-1} + L_i \cap L'_j$  and  $U \cap U' = L_i \cap L'_j \cap L_{i-1} + L_i \cap L'_{j-1}$ . Applying the isomorphism theorems, U + U'/U' is naturally isomorphic to  $U/U \cap U'$  as a vector space. In particular,

$$\frac{L_{i-1} + L_i \cap L'_j}{L_{i-1} + L_i \cap L'_{j-1}} = \frac{L_i \cap L'_j}{L_{i-1} \cap L'_j + L_i \cap L'_{j-1}}$$

and thus the dimensions of these spaces are both equal to  $a_{i,j}$ .

**Lemma 3.1.3** (transposing characteristic matrix). Given a pair of flags  $(L, L') \in \mathcal{F}^2$ , the matrices A(L, L') and A(L', L) are related by the transpose. In particular,  $A(L, L')_{i,j} = A(L', L)_{j,i}$  for each  $i, j \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

*Proof.* By swapping the roles of i and j and swapping L and L' it is clear that  $A(L, L')_{i,j}$  and  $A(L', L)_{j,i}$  are both given by the dimension of the **k**-vector space

$$\frac{L_i \cap L_j'}{L_{i-1} \cap L_j' + L_i \cap L_{j-1}'},$$

for each  $i, j \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

**Lemma 3.1.4** (a codimension formula). Given  $(L, L') \in \mathcal{F}^2$  and  $i, j \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,

$$\dim_{\mathbf{k}} \left( \frac{L_i}{L_i \cap L'_j} \right) = \sum_{s \le i, t > j} a_{s,t},$$

where  $A(L, L') = (a_{i,j})_{i,j \in \mathbb{Z}}$ .

Proof. COMPLETE THIS PROOF

**Lemma 3.1.5** (nested flags). Given  $(L, L') \in \mathcal{F}^2$ ,  $L' \subset L$  if and only if  $A(L, L')_{i,j} = 0$  for  $i, j \in \mathbb{Z}$  with i > j.

*Proof.* Suppose  $L, L' \in \mathcal{F}$  with  $L' \subset L$ , meaning  $L'_j \subset L_j$  for each  $j \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Then for i > j,  $L_i \cap L'_j = L'_j$ ,  $L_{i-1} \cap L'_j = L'_j$  and  $L_i \cap L'_{j-1}$ , which shows

$$A(L, L')_{i,j} = \dim_{\mathbf{k}} \left( \frac{L'_j}{L'_{j-1} + L'_j} \right) = 0$$

as required. Conversely, suppose A(L, L') is upper triangular, meaning  $A(L, L')_{i,j} = 0$  when i > j. Using Lemma 3.1.4,

$$\dim_{\mathbf{k}} \left( \frac{L_i'}{L_i' \cap L_i} \right) = \sum_{s>i,t \le i} a_{s,t} = 0,$$

so  $L_i \cap L'_i = L'_i$  and thus  $L'_i \subset L_i$  for each  $i \in \mathbb{Z}$ , as required.

Corollary 3.1.6 (diagonal orbits). Given  $L, L' \in \mathcal{F}$ , L = L' if and only if  $A(L, L')_{i,j} = 0$  whenever  $i \neq j$ . In particular,

$$\mathcal{O}_{D_{\lambda}} = \{(L, L) \in \mathcal{F}^2 : L \in \mathcal{F}_{\lambda}\},\$$

for each  $\lambda \in \Lambda_0$ .

#### 3.1.1 A product on orbits

Given  $A, B \in \Lambda_1$  with  $\operatorname{co} A = \operatorname{ro} B$ , define

$$Y_{A,B} = \{(L, L', L'') \in \mathcal{F}^3 : (L, L') \in \mathcal{O}_A \text{ and } (L', L'') \in \mathcal{O}_B\},$$

$$X_{A,B} = \{(L,L'') \in \mathcal{F}^2 : \exists L' \in \mathcal{F} \text{ with } (L,L') \in \mathcal{O}_A \text{ and } (L',L'') \in \mathcal{O}_B\}.$$

If also  $L \in \mathcal{F}_{\text{ro}\,A}$ , define the L-slices of  $Y_{A,B}$  and  $X_{A,B}$  respectively as

$$Y_{A,B}^{L} = \{ (L', L'') \in \mathcal{F}^2 : (L, L', L'') \in Y_{A,B} \},$$
$$X_{A,B}^{L} = \{ L'' \in \mathcal{F} : (L, L'') \in X_{A,B} \}.$$

**Observation 1.** There are only finitely many G-orbits in  $X_{A,B}$ .

**Lemma 3.1.7.** Given 
$$A \in \Lambda_1$$
,  $X_{D_{\lambda},A} = \mathcal{O}_A$  if  $\lambda = \operatorname{ro} A$  and  $X_{A,D_{\lambda}} = \mathcal{O}_A$  if  $\lambda = \operatorname{co} A$ .

Proof. Let  $A \in \Lambda_1$  and set  $\lambda = \text{ro }A$ .  $Y_{D_{\lambda},A}$  is the set of triples  $(L,L',L'') \in \mathcal{F}^3$  with  $(L,L') \in \mathcal{O}_{D_{\lambda}}$ , thus L = L' by Corollary 3.1.6, and  $(L',L'') \in \mathcal{O}_A$ .  $X_{D_{\lambda},A}$  is the projection of  $Y_{D_{\lambda},A}$ , which equals  $\mathcal{O}_A$ .

Similarly, if  $\lambda = \operatorname{co} A$ ,  $Y_{A,D_{\lambda}}$  is the set of triples  $(L,L',L'') \in \mathcal{F}^3$  with  $(L,L') \in \mathcal{O}_A$  and L'' = L', so  $X_{A,D_{\lambda}}$  is exactly the orbit  $\mathcal{O}_B$ .

#### 3.1.2 Triple products

Given  $A, B, C \in \Lambda_1$  with  $\operatorname{co} A = \operatorname{ro} B$  and  $\operatorname{co} B = \operatorname{ro} C$  and  $L \in \mathcal{F}_{\operatorname{ro} A}$ , there are spaces  $X_{A,B,C}$ ,  $Y_{A,B,C}$  and their respective L-slices, defined as follows:

$$Y_{A,B,C} = \{(L,L',L'',L''') \in \mathcal{F}^4 : (L,L') \in \mathcal{O}_A, (L',L'') \in \mathcal{O}_B \text{ and } (L'',L''') \in \mathcal{O}_C\},$$

$$X_{A,B,C} = \{(L,L''') \in \mathcal{F}^2 : \exists (L',L'') \in \mathcal{O}_B \text{ with } (L,L') \in \mathcal{O}_A \text{ and } (L'',L''') \in \mathcal{O}_C\},$$

$$Y_{A,B,C}^L = \{(L',L'',L''') \in \mathcal{F}^3 : (L,L',L'',L''') \in Y_{A,B,C}\},$$

$$X_{A,B,C}^L = \{L''' \in \mathcal{F} : (L,L''') \in X_{A,B,C}\}.$$

#### 3.2 Convolution algebras

Suppose **k** is a finite field and let q denote the number of elements of **k**. Consider the set S of G-invariant functions  $\mathcal{F} \times \mathcal{F} \to \mathbb{Z}$  with constructible support. S is a free  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module with a basis consisting of the indicator functions of the G-orbits in  $\mathcal{F} \times \mathcal{F}$ . Define an operation  $\star$  on S as follows: for each  $f, g \in S$ ,  $f \star g \in S$  is given by

$$(f \star g)(L, L'') = \sum_{L' \in \mathcal{F}} f(L, L')g(L', L''),$$

for  $(L, L'') \in \mathcal{F} \times \mathcal{F}$ .

 $f \star g$  is well defined since the supports of f and g consist of finitely many G-orbits, so there are only finitely many  $L' \in \mathcal{F}$  such that  $f(L, L')g(L', L'') \neq 0$ , given  $(L, L'') \in \mathcal{F} \times \mathcal{F}$ .  $f \star g$  is constant on G-orbits and is supported on finitely many G-orbits, so  $f \star g \in S$ .

**Lemma 3.2.1.** The set S together with the operation  $\star$  is an associative  $\mathbb{Z}$ -algebra with identity element  $\iota$  given by  $\iota(L,L)=1$  and  $\iota(L,L')=0$  for  $L'\neq L$ .

*Proof.* Given  $f, g, h \in S$  and  $(L, L''') \in \mathcal{F} \times \mathcal{F}$ ,

$$\begin{split} ((f\star g)\star h)(L,L''') &= \sum_{L''} (f\star g)(L,L'') h(L'',L''') \\ &= \sum_{L''} \sum_{L'} f(L,L') g(L',L'') h(L'',L''') \\ &= (f\star (g\star h))(L,L'''), \end{split}$$

thus  $\star$  is associative.  $\iota$  is the multiplicative identity since

$$(\iota \star f)(L, L'') = \sum_{L'} \iota(L, L') f(L', L'') = f(L, L'')$$

and

$$(f \star \iota)(L, L'') = \sum_{L'} f(L, L')\iota(L', L'') = f(L, L''),$$

for each  $f \in S$  and  $(L, L'') \in \mathcal{F} \times \mathcal{F}$ .

Given  $A \in \Lambda_1$ , let  $e_A \in S$  denote the indicator function of the orbit  $\mathcal{O}_A$ . S is a free  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module with basis  $\{e_A : A \in \Lambda_1\}$ . There exist  $\gamma_{A,B,C;q} \in \mathbb{Z}$  for  $A,B,C \in \Lambda_1$  such that

$$e_A \star e_B = \sum_{C \in \Lambda_1} \gamma_{A,B,C;q} e_C$$

for each  $A, B \in \Lambda_1$ . Then

$$\begin{split} \gamma_{A,B,C;q} &= (e_A \star e_B)(L,L'') \\ &= \sum_{L'} e_A(L,L') e_B(L',L'') \\ &= \# \{ L' : (L,L') \in \mathcal{O}_A \text{ and } (L',L'') \in \mathcal{O}_B \}, \end{split}$$

for any  $(L, L'') \in \mathcal{O}_C$ .

#### 3.3 Affine q-Schur algebras

There exist polynomials  $\gamma_{A,B,C} \in \mathbb{Z}[q]$  for  $A,B,C \in \Lambda_1$  such that  $\gamma_{A,B,C}(q) = \gamma_{A,B,C;q}$  for any prime power q, following [3, section 4]. The affine q-Schur algebra  $\hat{S}_q(n,r)$  is a  $\mathbb{Z}[q]$ -algebra which is a free  $\mathbb{Z}[q]$ -module with basis  $\{e_A : A \in \Lambda_1\}$  and with multiplication given by

$$e_A e_B = \sum_C \gamma_{A,B,C} e_C.$$

Given the existence of these 'universal polynomials'  $\gamma_{A,B,C} \in \mathbb{Z}[q]$ , it follows from Lemma 3.2.1 that  $\hat{S}_q(n,r)$  is an associative  $\mathbb{Z}[q]$ -algebra with multiplicative identity given by

$$1 = \sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda_0} e_{D_{\lambda}}.$$

# Quivers with relations for affine q-Schur algebras

#### 4.1 Basic results and notation

#### 4.1.1 Elementary matrices

For each  $i, j \in \mathbb{Z}$ , let  $\mathcal{E}_{i,j}$  be the  $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}$  'elementary periodic matrix' with entries given by  $(\mathcal{E}_{i,j})_{s,t} = 1$  if (s,t) = (i+cn, j+cn) for some  $c \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $(\mathcal{E}_{i,j})_{s,t} = 0$  otherwise. Clearly  $\mathcal{E}_{i,j} = \mathcal{E}_{i+n,j+n}$  for each  $i,j \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Recall from Definition 3.0.4 that the diagonal matrix associated to a composition  $\lambda \in \Lambda_0$  is

$$D_{\lambda} = \lambda_1 \mathcal{E}_{1,1} + \dots + \lambda_n \mathcal{E}_{n,n}.$$

 $\{e_{D_{\lambda}}: \lambda \in \Lambda_0\}$  is a set of pairwise orthogonal idempotents in  $\hat{S}_q(n,r)$  with  $\sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda_0} e_{D_{\lambda}} = 1$ , as a result of Lemma 3.1.7.

Given  $i \in [1, n]$  and  $\lambda \in \Lambda_0$  with  $\lambda_{i+1} > 0$ , define

$$E_{i,\lambda} = e_{D_{\lambda} + \mathcal{E}_{i,i+1} - \mathcal{E}_{i+1,i+1}}$$

and define

$$E_i = \sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda_0: \lambda_{i+1} > 0} E_{i,\lambda}.$$

Given  $i \in [1, n]$  and  $\lambda \in \Lambda_0$  with  $\lambda_i > 0$ , define

$$F_{i,\lambda} = e_{D_{\lambda} + \mathcal{E}_{i+1,i} - \mathcal{E}_{i,i}}$$

and define

$$F_i = \sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda_0: \lambda_i > 0} F_{i,\lambda}$$

#### 4.1.2 Transpose involution

**Lemma 4.1.1.** Transposition gives a homomorphism of  $\mathbb{Z}[q]$ -modules  $\top : \hat{S}_q(n,r) \to \hat{S}_q(n,r)$  with  $\top(e_A) = e_{A^\top}, \ \top \circ \top = 1$  and  $\top(e_A e_B) = \top(e_B) \top(e_A)$ .

*Proof.* Let  $A, B, C \in \Lambda_1$  and let  $\mathbf{k}$  be a finite field with  $\mathbf{q} = \# \mathbf{k}$  elements. If  $(L, L'') \in \mathcal{O}_C$  then  $(L'', L) \in \mathcal{O}_{C^{\top}}$  and

$$\begin{split} \gamma_{A,B,C;\mathbf{q}} &= \# \{ L' : (L,L') \in \mathcal{O}_A \text{ and } (L',L'') \in \mathcal{O}_B \} \\ &= \# \{ L' : (L'',L') \in \mathcal{O}_{B^\top} \text{ and } (L',L) \in \mathcal{O}_{A^\top} \} \\ &= \gamma_{B^\top,A^\top,C^\top;\mathbf{q}} \end{split}$$

It then follows that  $\top(e_A e_B) = \top(e_B) \top(e_A)$ .

The transpose relates the  $E_i$ ,  $F_i$  and  $1_{\lambda}$  in the following way:  $\top(E_{i,\lambda}) = F_{i,\lambda}$ ,  $\top(F_{i,\lambda}) = E_{i,\lambda-\varepsilon_i+\varepsilon_{i+1}}$  and  $\top(1_{\lambda}) = 1_{\lambda}$ . In particular,  $\top(E_i) = F_i$  and  $\top(F_i) = E_i$ .

#### 4.1.3 A multiplication rule

**Lemma 4.1.2.** Given  $A \in \Lambda_1$  and  $i \in [1, n]$  with ro  $A_{i+1} > 0$ ,

$$E_i e_A = \sum_{p \in \mathbb{Z}: a_{i+1,p} > 0} q^{\sum_{j > p} a_{i,j}} [[a_{i,p} + 1]] e_{A + \mathcal{E}_{i,p} - \mathcal{E}_{i+1,p}}.$$

Given  $A \in \Lambda_1$  and  $i \in [1, n]$  with ro  $A_i > 0$ ,

$$F_i e_A = \sum_{p \in \mathbb{Z}: a_{i,p} > 0} q^{\sum_{j < p} a_{i+1,j}} [[a_{i+1,p} + 1]] e_{A + \mathcal{E}_{i+1,p} - \mathcal{E}_{i,p}}.$$

Note that these formulas are still valid in the cases  $E_i e_A = 0$  and  $F_i e_A = 0$ , provided it is understood that  $e_B = 0$  whenever  $B \notin \Lambda_1$ . There are similar formulas for right multiplication by  $E_i$  and  $F_i$ , obtained by applying the transpose involution to the above.

Corollary 4.1.3. Given  $A \in \Lambda_1$  and  $j \in [1, n]$  with  $\operatorname{co} A_{j+1} > 0$ ,

$$e_A F_j = \sum_{p \in \mathbb{Z}: a_{p,j+1} > 0} q^{\sum_{i > p} a_{i,j}} [[a_{p,j} + 1]] e_{A + \mathcal{E}_{p,j} - \mathcal{E}_{p,j+1}}.$$

Given  $A \in \Lambda_1$  and  $j \in [1, n]$  with  $\operatorname{co} A_j > 0$ ,

$$e_A E_j = \sum_{p \in \mathbb{Z}: a_{p,j} > 0} q^{\sum_{i < p} a_{i,j+1}} [[a_{p,j+1} + 1]] e_{A + \mathcal{E}_{p,j+1} - \mathcal{E}_{p,j}}.$$

Proof.

$$\begin{split} e_{A}F_{j} &= \top \left( E_{j}e_{A^{\top}} \right) \\ &= \top \left( \sum_{p \in \mathbb{Z}: a_{p,j+1} > 0} q^{\sum_{i > p} a_{i,j}} [[a_{p,j} + 1]] e_{A^{\top} + \mathcal{E}_{j,p} - \mathcal{E}_{j+1,p}} \right) \\ &= \sum_{p \in \mathbb{Z}: a_{p,j+1} > 0} q^{\sum_{i > p} a_{i,j}} [[a_{p,j} + 1]] e_{A + \mathcal{E}_{p,j} - \mathcal{E}_{p,j+1}}, \end{split}$$

where the second equality comes from Lemma 4.1.2. Similarly,

$$e_{A}E_{j} = \top \left(F_{j}e_{A^{\top}}\right)$$

$$= \top \left(\sum_{p \in \mathbb{Z}: a_{p,j} > 0} q^{\sum_{i < p} a_{i,j+1}} [[a_{p,j+1} + 1]] e_{A^{\top} + \mathcal{E}_{j+1,p} - \mathcal{E}_{j,p}}\right)$$

$$= \sum_{p \in \mathbb{Z}: a_{p,j} > 0} q^{\sum_{i < p} a_{i,j+1}} [[a_{p,j+1} + 1]] e_{A + \mathcal{E}_{p,j+1} - \mathcal{E}_{p,j}}.$$

#### 4.2 Relations

Note that  $E_i^{r+1} = F_i^{r+1} = 0$  while

$$E_i^r = [r]_! e_{r\mathcal{E}_{i,i+1}}$$

and

$$F_i^r = [r]_! e_{r\mathcal{E}_{i+1}}.$$

**Lemma 4.2.1** (quantum Serre relations:  $n \geq 3$ ). Suppose  $n \geq 3$ . The following relations hold in  $\hat{S}_{q}(n,r)$ :

$$E_i E_i - E_i E_i = 0$$

$$F_i F_i - F_i F_i = 0$$

unless  $j = i \pm 1$ ;

$$E_i E_{i+1}^2 - (1+q)E_{i+1}E_i E_{i+1} + q E_{i+1}^2 E_i = 0$$
  
$$E_i^2 E_{i+1} - (1+q)E_i E_{i+1}E_i + q E_{i+1}E_i^2 = 0$$

and

$$F_{i+1}F_i^2 - (1+q)F_iF_{i+1}F_i + qF_i^2F_{i+1} = 0$$
  
$$F_{i+1}^2F_i - (1+q)F_{i+1}F_iF_{i+1} + qF_iF_{i+1}^2 = 0.$$

*Proof.* Here we introduce temporary notation for the basis elements: Write  $[A] = e_A$ . Take  $\lambda \in \Lambda_0$ .

$$E_i E_{i+1}^2 1_{\lambda} = [2][D_{\lambda} + 2X_{i+1,i+2} + X_{i,i+2}] + [2][D_{\lambda} + 2X_{i+1,i+2} + X_{i,i+1}]$$

$$E_{i+1}E_iE_{i+1}1_{\lambda} = [D_{\lambda} + 2X_{i+1,i+2} + X_{i,i+1}] + [2][D_{\lambda} + 2X_{i+1,i+1} + X_{i,i+1}]$$

$$E_{i+1}^2 E_i 1_{\lambda} = [2][D_{\lambda} + 2X_{i+1,i+2} + X_{i,i+1}]$$

Then

$$(E_i E_{i+1}^2 - (1+q)E_{i+1}E_i E_{i+1} + q E_{i+1}^2 E_i)1_{\lambda} = 0,$$

for each  $\lambda \in \Lambda_0$ . The relation  $E_i E_{i+1}^2 - (1+q) E_{i+1} E_i E_{i+1} + q E_{i+1}^2 E_i = 0$  then follows.

The relations between  $F_i$  and  $F_{i+1}$  may be obtained directly, as above, or by applying the transpose operator to the relations already derived: note that the two sets of relations are related by swapping  $E_i$  and  $F_i$  and reversing the order of multiplication.

**Lemma 4.2.2** (quantum Serre relations: n = 2). In the case n = 2, the quantum Serre relations will be of total degree 4. Look at the presentation of quantum groups for candidate relations. If that fails, brute force won't be too hard.

**Lemma 4.2.3.**  $[E_i, F_j] = 0$  unless j = i.

$$E_i F_i - F_i E_i = \sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda_0} ([\lambda_i] - [\lambda_{i+1}]) 1_{\lambda}.$$

For  $\lambda \in \Lambda_0$ , let  $R_{\lambda} = e_{\lambda_1} \mathcal{E}_{0,1} + \cdots + \lambda_n} \mathcal{E}_{n-1,n}$ . Write  $R = \sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda_0} R_{\lambda}$ . Note  $R_{\lambda} = R1_{\lambda}$ . Given  $A \in \Lambda_1$  and  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ , let  $A[m] \in \Lambda_1$  be given by  $A[m]_{i,j} = a_{i,j+m}$  and let  $A^{[m]}$  be given by  $A^{[m]}_{i,j} = a_{i+m,j}$  for each  $i \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

**Lemma 4.2.4** (Shifting). If  $A \in \Lambda_1$  then

$$Re_A = e_{A^{[\pm 1]}}$$

and

$$e_A R = e_{A_{[+1]}}$$
.

Conjugation by R gives an automorphism  $\rho$  of  $\hat{S}_q(n,r)$  satisfying  $\rho^n = 1$ .

#### 4.3 quivers with relations

Denote by  $\Lambda_0$  the set of compositions of r into n parts. That is,  $\Lambda_0$  is the set of  $\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}^n$  with non-negative entries which sum to r. Let  $\varepsilon_i \in \mathbb{Z}^n$  be the ith elementary vector and write  $\alpha_i = \varepsilon_i - \varepsilon_{i+1}$  for each  $i \in [1, n]$ . Then  $\lambda + \alpha_i \in \Lambda_0$  if  $\lambda_{i+1} > 0$  and  $\lambda - \alpha_i \in \Lambda_0$  if  $\lambda_i > 0$ .

Let  $\Gamma = \Gamma(n,r)$  be the quiver with set of vertices  $\Lambda_0$ , with the following arrows:

For  $\lambda \in \Lambda_0$  and  $i \in [1, n]$ , there is an arrow  $e_{i,\lambda} : \lambda \to \lambda + \alpha_i$  if  $\lambda_{i+1} > 0$  and there is an arrow  $f_{i,\lambda} : \lambda \to \lambda - \alpha_i$  if  $\lambda_i > 0$ .

Denote by  $\mathbb{Z}[q]\Gamma$  the path  $\mathbb{Z}[q]$ -algebra of  $\Gamma$ . Thus  $\mathbb{Z}[q]\Gamma$  is a free  $\mathbb{Z}[q]$ -module with a basis given by the set of paths in  $\Gamma$ , with multiplication given by the concatenation of paths. If p starts where q ends, the product pq is the path q followed by p. Write  $e_{i,\lambda} = 0$  unless  $\lambda, \lambda + \alpha_i \in \Lambda_0$  and write  $f_{i,\lambda} = 0$  unless  $\lambda, \lambda - \alpha_i \in \Lambda_0$ .

By construction, there is a homomorphism of  $\mathbb{Z}[q]$ -algebras

$$\phi \colon \mathbb{Z}[q]\Gamma \to \hat{S}_q(n,r)$$

given by

$$\phi(e_{i,\lambda}) = E_{i,\lambda}$$
  
$$\phi(f_{i,\lambda}) = F_{i,\lambda}$$
  
$$\phi(k_{\lambda}) = 1_{\lambda},$$

for  $i \in [1, n]$  and  $\lambda \in \Lambda_0$ .

The image of  $\phi$  is the subalgebra of  $\hat{S}_q(n,r)$  generated by  $E_i$ ,  $F_i$  for  $i \in [1,n]$  and  $1_{\lambda}$  for  $\lambda \in \Lambda_0$ , since  $E_{i,\lambda} = E_i 1_{\lambda}$  and  $F_{i,\lambda} = F_i 1_{\lambda}$ , while  $E_i = \sum_{\lambda} E_{i,\lambda}$  and  $F_i = \sum_{\lambda} F_{i,\lambda}$ . In general  $\phi$  is not surjective, so this does not always lead to a presentation of  $\hat{S}_q(n,r)$ .

#### 4.3.1 Exceptional case n=2.

Describe the quiver.

Define an ideal of relations in the path algebra.

Write down the homomorphism from the bound quiver algebra to the q-Schur algebra.

#### 4.3.2 Typical case.

Suppose  $n \geq 3$ . Then  $\Gamma = \Gamma(n, r)$  has vertex set  $\Lambda_0$ . Define  $e_i, f_i \in \mathbb{Z}[q]\Gamma(n, r)$  by

$$e_i = \sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda_0} e_{i,\lambda}$$

and

$$f_i = \sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda_0} f_{i,\lambda},$$

with the convention  $e_{i,\lambda} = 0$  unless  $\lambda_{i+1} > 0$  and  $f_{i,\lambda} = 0$  unless  $\lambda_i > 0$ . Let  $k_{\lambda}$  denote the constant path at vertex  $\lambda$ .  $\{k_{\lambda} : \lambda \in \Lambda_0\}$  is a set of pairwise orthogonal idempotents in  $\mathbb{Z}[q]\Gamma(n,r)$ .

Let  $I(n,r) \subset \mathbb{Z}[q]\Gamma(n,r)$  be the ideal generated by the expressions

$$e_{i}e_{i+1}^{2} - (1+q)e_{i+1}e_{i}e_{i+1} + qe_{i+1}^{2}e_{i}$$

$$e_{i}^{2}e_{i+1} - (1+q)e_{i}e_{i+1}e_{i} + qe_{i+1}e_{i}^{2}$$

$$f_{i+1}f_{i}^{2} - (1+q)f_{i}f_{i+1}f_{i} + qf_{i}^{2}f_{i+1}$$

$$f_{i+1}^{2}f_{i} - (1+q)f_{i+1}f_{i}f_{i+1} + qf_{i}f_{i+1}^{2}$$

$$e_{i}f_{j} - f_{j}e_{i} - \delta_{i,j} \sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda_{0}} ([\lambda_{i}] - [\lambda_{i+1}])k_{\lambda}$$

Recall that a relation is a  $\mathbb{Z}[q]$ -linear combination of paths with common start and end vertices. The relations involving paths  $\lambda \to \mu$  are given by  $1_{\mu} \exp 1_{\lambda}$ , for each of the above expressions.

**Lemma 4.3.1.** There is a homomorphism of  $\mathbb{Z}[q]$ -algebras

$$\phi \colon \mathbb{Z}[q]\Gamma(n,r)/I(n,r) \to \hat{S}_q(n,r)$$

given by

$$\phi(e_{i,\lambda}) = E_{i,\lambda}$$

$$\phi(f_{i,\lambda}) = F_{i,\lambda}$$

$$\phi(k_{\lambda}) = 1_{\lambda}.$$

## A generic affine algebra

#### 5.1 Introducing the generic affine algebra

Assume  $\mathbf{k} = \mathbb{C}$  and fix  $n, r \geq 1$ . Let  $\mathcal{S}$  be the  $\mathbf{k}$ -algebra  $\mathbf{k}[\varepsilon, \varepsilon^{-1}]$  and let  $\mathcal{R}$  be the subalgebra generated by  $\varepsilon$ , namely  $\mathcal{R} = \mathbf{k}[\varepsilon]$ . Let V be a free  $\mathcal{S}$ -module of rank r and let  $\mathcal{F} = \mathcal{F}_{\mathbf{k}}(n, r)$  be the set of n-periodic cyclic flags in V; so  $\mathcal{F}$  consists of collections  $L = (L_i)_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$  of  $\mathcal{R}$ -lattices in V with  $L_i \subset L_{i+1}$  for  $i \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $\varepsilon L_i = L_{i-n}$  for  $i \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Let G be the group of S-module automorphisms of V. Thus G is isomorphic to  $GL_r(S)$ . G acts on F with orbits  $\{F_{\lambda} : \lambda \in \Lambda_0\}$ , where  $\Lambda_0$  is the set of compositions of r into n parts, as in Definition 3.0.1.

The diagonal action of G on  $\mathcal{F} \times \mathcal{F}$  has orbits  $\{\mathcal{O}_A : A \in \Lambda_1\}$ , where  $\mathcal{O}_A$  consists of those pairs of flags with periodic characteristic matrix equal to A. Definitions of the periodic characteristic matrix and the set  $\Lambda_1$  are given in Definition 3.1.1 and Definition 3.0.2 respectively. In particular, the periodic characteristic matrix of a pair  $(L, L') \in \mathcal{F} \times \mathcal{F}$  is the  $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}$  matrix  $A = (a_{i,j})_{i,j \in \mathbb{Z}}$ , with

$$a_{i,j} = \dim \left( \frac{L_i \cap L'_j}{L_{i-1} \cap L'_j + L_i \cap L'_{j-1}} \right)$$

for each  $i, j \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Recall that ro, co:  $\Lambda_1 \to \Lambda_0$  are the maps given by

$$\operatorname{ro} A = \left(\sum_{j \in \mathbb{Z}} a_{1,j}, \dots, \sum_{j \in \mathbb{Z}} a_{n,j}\right)$$

and

$$\operatorname{co} A = \left(\sum_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} a_{i,1}, \dots, \sum_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} a_{i,n}\right)$$

for each  $A \in \Lambda_1$ . Given  $A \in \Lambda_1$ , write  $A : \operatorname{co} A \to \operatorname{ro} A$ .

The purpose of this chapter is to define a category with objects  $\Lambda_0$  and morphisms  $\Lambda_1$ ; where  $\operatorname{Hom}(\lambda,\mu)=\{A\in\Lambda_1:\operatorname{ro} A=\mu,\operatorname{co} A=\lambda\}$ . Given  $A,B\in\Lambda_1$  let  $\Lambda_{1A,B}$  be the set of  $C\in\Lambda_1$  such that there exist  $L,L',L''\in\mathcal{F}$  with  $(L,L')\in\mathcal{O}_A,(L',L'')\in\mathcal{O}_B$  and  $(L,L'')\in\mathcal{O}_C$ . It will be shown that  $\Lambda_1$  admits a partial order  $\leq$  such that, given  $A,B\in\Lambda_1$  with  $\operatorname{ro} B=\operatorname{co} A,\Lambda_{1A,B}$  has a maximum element A\*B. It will be shown that \* is associative, leading to the construction of a category with the described properties.

The generic affine algebra  $\hat{G}(n,r)$  is then defined to be the  $\mathbb{Z}$ -algebra of this category. It will be shown that  $\hat{G}(n,r)$  gives a realisation of the affine 0-Schur algebra  $\hat{S}_0(n,r)$  when r < n. It is expected that a more refined presentation of the generic algebra and the 0-Schur algebra will allow the conditions on the parameters to be relaxed slightly: the r = n case is approachable, which may extend to the case r < 2n.

#### 5.2 A partial order

Given  $i, j \in \mathbb{Z}$ , define maps  $d_{i,j}$  and  $\bar{d}_{i,j}$  on  $\Lambda_1$  by setting

$$d_{i,j}A = \sum_{s \le i, t > j} a_{s,t}$$

and

$$\bar{d}_{i,j}A = \sum_{s>i,t\leq j} a_{s,t}$$

for each  $A \in \Lambda_1$ .

**Lemma 5.2.1.** Let  $A \in \Lambda_1$ , with  $A = (a_{i,j})_{i,j \in \mathbb{Z}}$  and write  $d_{i,j} = d_{i,j}A$  for  $i, j \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Then

$$d_{i,j} - d_{i-1,j} = \sum_{t>j} a_{i,t}$$

and

$$d_{i,j} - d_{i,j-1} = -\sum_{s < i} a_{s,j}.$$

*Proof.* Let  $i, j \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Then

$$d_{i,j} - d_{i-1,j} = \sum_{s \le i, t > j} a_{s,t} - \sum_{s \le i-1, t > j} a_{s,t} = \sum_{t > j} a_{i,t}.$$

Similarly,

$$d_{i,j} - d_{i,j-1} = \sum_{s \le i, t > j} a_{s,t} - \sum_{s \le i, t > j-1} a_{s,t} = -\sum_{s \le i} a_{s,j}.$$

**Lemma 5.2.2.** Let  $A \in \Lambda_1$ , with  $A = (a_{i,j})_{i,j \in \mathbb{Z}}$  and write  $d_{i,j} = d_{i,j}A$  for each  $i, j \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Then

$$a_{i,j} = d_{i,j-1} - d_{i-1,j-1} + d_{i-1,j} - d_{i,j}$$

for each  $i, j \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Proof. Using Lemma 5.2.1,

$$a_{i,j} = \sum_{t>j-1} a_{i,t} - \sum_{t>j} a_{i,t}$$
  
=  $(d_{i,j-1} - d_{i-1,j-1}) - (d_{i,j} - d_{i-1,j}).$ 

Alternatively,

$$a_{i,j} = \sum_{s \le i} a_{s,j} - \sum_{s \le i-1} a_{s,j}$$
  
=  $-(d_{i,j} - d_{i,j-1}) + (d_{i-1,j} - d_{i-1,j-1}).$ 

**Lemma 5.2.3.** The relation  $\leq$  on  $\Lambda_1$ , defined by  $A \leq B$  if and only if  $d_{i,j}A \leq d_{i,j}B$  for all  $i, j \in \mathbb{Z}$ , is a partial order.

*Proof.* It is clear that  $\leq$  is reflexive and transitive, so it remains to see  $\leq$  is antisymmetric. Suppose  $A, B \in \Lambda_1$  with  $A \leq B$  and  $B \leq A$ . Then  $d_{i,j}A = d_{i,j}B$  for each  $i, j \in \mathbb{Z}$ , which shows A = B as a result of Lemma 5.2.2.

The partial order on  $\Lambda_1$  induces a partial order on the set of G-orbits in  $\mathcal{F} \times \mathcal{F}$ , such that  $\mathcal{O}_A \leq \mathcal{O}_B$  if and only if  $A \leq B$ . The following lemma is rephrased from Lemma 3.1.4 and gives some geometric significance to the partial order on  $\Lambda_1$ .

**Lemma 5.2.4.** Let  $A \in \Lambda_1$  and take  $(L, L') \in \mathcal{O}_A$ . Then

$$\dim\left(\frac{L_i}{L_i \cap L_j'}\right) = d_{i,j}A$$

and

$$\dim\left(\frac{L_j'}{L_i\cap L_j'}\right) = \bar{d}_{i,j}A,$$

for each  $i, j \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

*Proof.* This is a rephrasing of Lemma 3.1.4.

#### 5.3 Grassmannians and related varieties

Here we collect a few elementary results on Grassmannians and some related varieties. In this section, let V be an n-dimensional  $\mathbf{k}$ -vector space and let  $0 \le d \le n$  be an integer. There is a linear map  $\phi^{(d)} \colon \Lambda^d(V) \to \operatorname{Hom}(V, \Lambda^{d+1}(V))$  given by  $\phi^{(d)}(\alpha)(v) = \alpha \wedge v$  for  $\alpha \in \Lambda^d(V)$  and  $v \in V$ . The kernel of  $\phi^{(d)}(\alpha)$  is the space of divisors of  $\alpha$ ,  $D_{\alpha} = \{v \in V : \alpha \wedge v = 0\}$ . An element  $\alpha \in \Lambda^d(V)$  is said to be totally decomposable if  $\alpha = \alpha_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge \alpha_d$ , where  $\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_d \in V$  are linearly independent. The dimension of  $D_{\alpha}$  is at most d and  $\dim(D_{\alpha}) = d$  precisely when  $\alpha$  is totally decomposable. Consequently, the rank of  $\phi^{(d)}(\alpha)$  is at least n - d and  $\alpha$  is totally decomposable if and only if rank  $\phi^{(d)}(\alpha) \le n - d$ , which hold if and only if the  $(n - d + 1) \times (n - d + 1)$ -minors of a matrix of  $\phi^{(d)}(\alpha)$  are all zero.

**Lemma 5.3.1.**  $\{(U_1, U_2) \in \operatorname{Gr}_{d_1}(V) \times \operatorname{Gr}_{d_2}(V) : \dim(U_1 \cap U_2) \geq a\}$  is a projective variety, for each  $d_1, d_2, a \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $d_1, d_2, a \leq n$ .

*Proof.* As above, there is a linear map  $\Psi \colon \Lambda^{d_1}V \oplus \Lambda^{d_2}V \to \operatorname{Hom}(V, \Lambda^{d_1+1}(V) \oplus \Lambda^{d_2+1}(V))$  given by  $\Psi(\alpha, \beta)(v) = (\alpha \wedge v, \beta \wedge v)$ . Given  $\alpha \in \Lambda^{d_1}(V)$  and  $\beta \in \Lambda^{d_2}(V)$ , the kernel of  $\Psi(\alpha, \beta)$  is  $D_{\alpha} \cap D_{\beta}$  and so the rank of  $\Psi(\alpha, \beta)$  is  $n - \dim(D_{\alpha} \cap D_{\beta})$ .

Let  $U_i \in \operatorname{Gr}_{d_i}(V)$  and suppose  $p_i(U_i) = [\alpha_i]$ , where  $p_i$  is the Plücker embedding of  $\operatorname{Gr}_{d_i}(V)$  in  $\mathbb{P}(\Lambda^{d_i}(V))$ , so  $U_i = D_{\alpha_i} = \ker \phi^{(d_i)}(\alpha)$ . Therefore the kernel of  $\Psi(\alpha_1, \alpha_2)$  is  $U_1 \cap U_2$ , so the condition that  $\dim(U_1 \cap U_2) \geq a$  is equivalent to the condition that  $\Psi(\alpha_1, \alpha_2)$  has rank at most n-a. After fixing a basis of V, this condition is given by the vanishing of the  $(n-a+1) \times (n-a+1)$  minors of the matrix of  $\Psi(\alpha_1, \alpha_2)$  with respect to this basis. Therefore  $\{(U_1, U_2) \in \operatorname{Gr}_{d_1}(V) \times \operatorname{Gr}_{d_2}(V) : \dim(U_1 \cap U_2) \geq a\}$  is a closed subset of the product of Grassmannians  $\operatorname{Gr}_{d_1}(V) \times \operatorname{Gr}_{d_2}(V)$ , so is a projective variety.

[CONFIRM THE VALIDITY OF THIS.] More precisely, the entries of a matrix of  $\Psi(\alpha_1, \alpha_2)$  are homogeneous polynomials of degree 1 in the Plücker coordinates on  $\operatorname{Gr}_{d_1}(V) \times \operatorname{Gr}_{d_2}(V)$  since

 $\Psi$  is linear and so the minors of  $\Psi(\alpha_1, \alpha_2)$  are also homogeneous polynomials in the Plücker coordinates.

**Lemma 5.3.2.** Let V be an n-dimensional vector space over  $\mathbf{k}$  and let  $d_1, d_2, a \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $d_1, d_2, a \leq n$ . The following hold:

- 1.  $\{(U_1, U_2) \in \operatorname{Gr}_{d_1}(V) \times \operatorname{Gr}_{d_2}(V) : \dim(U_1 \cap U_2) = a\}$  is a quasiprojective variety;
- 2.  $\{(U_1, U_2) \in \operatorname{Gr}_{d_1}(V) \times \operatorname{Gr}_{d_2}(V) : U_1 \subset U_2\}$  is a projective variety;
- 3. Given  $U_2 \in \operatorname{Gr}_{d_2}(V)$ ,  $\{U_1 \in \operatorname{Gr}_{d_1}(V) : \dim(U_1 \cap U_2) \geq a\}$  is a projective variety;
- 4. Given  $U_2 \in Gr_{d_2}(V)$ ,  $\{U_1 \in Gr_{d_1}(V) : \dim(U_1 \cap U_2) = a\}$  is a quasiprojective variety;
- 5. Given  $U_2 \in Gr_{d_2}(V)$ ,  $\{U_1 \in Gr_{d_1}(V) : U_1 \subset U_2\}$  is a projective variety;
- 6. Given  $U_2 \in Gr_{d_2}(V)$ ,  $\{U_1 \in Gr_{d_1}(V) : U_2 \subset U_1\}$  is a projective variety.

*Proof.* Let  $X_i$  denote the space in statement i of the lemma. To emphasise the dependence of  $X_i$  on a, write  $X_{i,a}$ .

 $X_1$  is a quasiprojective variety since it is equal to the intersection of the projective variety  $\{(U_1,U_2)\in\operatorname{Gr}_{d_1}(V)\times\operatorname{Gr}_{d_2}(V):\dim(U_1\cap U_2)\geq a\}$  with the open set  $\{(U_1,U_2)\in\operatorname{Gr}_{d_1}(V)\times\operatorname{Gr}_{d_2}(V):\dim(U_1\cap U_2)\leq a\}$ .

Given  $(U_1, U_2) \in \operatorname{Gr}_{d_1}(V) \times \operatorname{Gr}_{d_2}(V)$ ,  $U_1 \subset U_2$  if and only if  $\dim(U_1 \cap U_2) \geq d_1$ , so Lemma 5.3.1 shows  $X_2$  is a projective variety.

Let  $\pi_i$ :  $\operatorname{Gr}_{d_1}(V) \times \operatorname{Gr}_{d_2}(V) \to \operatorname{Gr}_{d_i}(V)$  be the projection map onto the *i*-th factor, for i = 1, 2. The completeness property of projective varieties ensures that  $\pi_i$  is a closed morphism. Observe that

$$X_3 = \{ U_1 \in \operatorname{Gr}_{d_1}(V) : \dim(U_1 \cap U_2) \ge a \}$$
  
=  $\pi_1(\{(U_1, W) \in \operatorname{Gr}_{d_1}(V) \times \operatorname{Gr}_{d_2}(V) : \dim(U_1 \cap W) \ge a \} \cap \pi_2^{-1}\{U_2\}).$ 

The fibre of  $\pi_2$  over  $U_2$  is closed, so the intersection of the fibre with the variety from Lemma 5.3.1 is closed and then the image of this intersection under  $\pi_1$  is closed. This shows  $X_3$  is a projective variety.

 $X_4$  is a quasiprojective variety since it is the complement of the subvariety  $X_{3,a+1}$  in  $X_{3,a}$ . Finally, 5-6 follow as special cases of 3 since  $X_5 = X_{3,d_1}$  and  $X_6 = X_{3,d_2}$ .

#### 5.4 Geometry of affine flag varieties

Given  $L \in \mathcal{F}$ ,  $N, a \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $\lambda \in \Lambda_0$  define

$$\Pi_{N,\lambda}(L) = \{ L' \in \mathcal{F}_{\lambda} : \varepsilon^{N} L_{0} \subset L'_{0} \subset \varepsilon^{-N} L_{0} \}.$$

and

$$\Pi_{N,\lambda}^a(L) = \left\{ L' \in \mathcal{F}_{\lambda} : \varepsilon^N L_0 \subset L'_0 \subset \varepsilon^{-N} L_0, \dim \left( \frac{\varepsilon^{-N} L_0}{L'_0} \right) = a \right\}.$$

**Lemma 5.4.1.** Given  $L \in \mathcal{F}$ ,  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $\lambda \in \Lambda_0$ ,

$$\Pi_{N,\lambda}(L) = \bigcup_{a:0 \le a \le 2Nr} \Pi_{N,\lambda}^a(L).$$

*Proof.* If  $L' \in \Pi_{N,\lambda}(L)$  then  $\varepsilon^N L_0 \subset L'_0 \subset \varepsilon^{-N} L_0$  and the  $\mathbf{k}[\varepsilon]$ -module  $\varepsilon^{-N} L_0/L'_0$  is naturally isomorphic to  $(\varepsilon^{-N} L_0/\varepsilon^N L_0)/(L'_0/\varepsilon^N L_0)$ , so

$$\dim_{\mathbf{k}} \left( \frac{\varepsilon^{-N} L_0}{L'_0} \right) \le \dim_{\mathbf{k}} \left( \frac{\varepsilon^{-N} L_0}{\varepsilon^N L_0} \right) = 2Nr.$$

**Lemma 5.4.2.** Given  $L \in \mathcal{F}$ ,  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\lambda \in \Lambda_0$  and  $a \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $0 \le a \le 2Nr$ ,  $\Pi_{N,\lambda}^a(L)$  is a projective algebraic variety.

*Proof.* Let W be the  $\mathbf{k}[\varepsilon]$ -module  $\varepsilon^{-1-N}L_0/\varepsilon^N L_0$ , which has dimension (2N+1)r over  $\mathbf{k}$ . Let  $d_i = 2Nr - a + \lambda_1 + \cdots + \lambda_i$  for each  $i = 1, \ldots, n$ . The correspondence between submodules of  $\varepsilon^{-1-N}L_0$  which contain  $\varepsilon^N L_0$  and submodules of  $\varepsilon^{-1-N}L_0/\varepsilon^N L_0$  determines a map

$$\rho \colon \Pi_{N \lambda}^a(L) \to \operatorname{Gr}_{d_1}(W) \times \cdots \times \operatorname{Gr}_{d_n}(W),$$

with  $\rho(L') = (L_1/\varepsilon^N L_0, \dots, L_n/\varepsilon^N L_0).$ 

Let  $\mathcal{X}$  be the space of  $(U_1, \ldots, U_n) \in \operatorname{Gr}_{d_1}(W) \times \cdots \times \operatorname{Gr}_{d_n}(W)$  with  $U_i \subset U_{i+1}$  for  $i = 1, \ldots, n-1$  and  $\varepsilon U_n \subset U_1$ . Lemma 5.3.2 shows that each of these conditions is closed, so  $\mathcal{X}$  is a closed subset of  $\operatorname{Gr}_{d_1}(W) \times \cdots \times \operatorname{Gr}_{d_n}(W)$ , therefore  $\mathcal{X}$  is a projective algebraic variety.

The image of  $\rho$  is contained in  $\mathcal{X}$  since

$$\varepsilon L'_n/\varepsilon^N L_0 = L'_0/\varepsilon^N L_0 \subset L'_1/\varepsilon^N L_0 \subset \cdots \subset L'_n/\varepsilon^N L_0.$$

Suppose  $(U_1, \ldots, U_n) \in \mathcal{X}$ . Then  $U_i$  is a  $\mathbf{k}[\varepsilon]$ -module, since  $\varepsilon U_i \subset \varepsilon U_n \subset U_1 \subset U_i$ , for each  $i = 1, \ldots, n$ , so  $U_i$  lifts uniquely to a  $\mathbf{k}[\varepsilon]$ -module  $L'_i$  with  $\varepsilon^N L_0 \subset L'_i \subset \varepsilon^{-1-N} L_0$ . Therefore  $L'_1, \ldots, L'_n$  are  $\mathbf{k}[\varepsilon]$ -lattices with  $L_i \subset L_{i+1}$  for  $i = 1, \ldots, n-1$  and  $\varepsilon L'_n \subset L'_1$ , with

$$\dim (\varepsilon^{-1-N} L_0/L'_n) = \dim (W/W_n) = (2N+1)r - d_n = a$$

and

$$\dim (L'_i/L'_{i-1}) = \dim (W_i/W_{i-1}) = d_i - d_{i-1} = \lambda_i,$$

for each  $i=2,\ldots,n$ . Therefore there is a unique  $L'\in\Pi^a_{N,\lambda}(L)$  such that  $\rho(L')=(W_1,\ldots,W_n)$ , where L' is given by  $L'_{i+cn}=\varepsilon^{-c}L'_i$  for  $i=1,\ldots,n$  and  $c\in\mathbb{Z}$ . It follows  $\rho$  is injective and  $\mathrm{im}\,\rho=\mathcal{X}$ , which is a projective variety, so  $\Pi^a_{N,\lambda}(L)$  is a projective variety.

**Lemma 5.4.3.** Given  $L \in \mathcal{F}$ ,  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\lambda \in \Lambda_0$  and  $a \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $0 \le a \le 2Nr$ ,  $\Pi_{N,\lambda}^a(L)$  is a subvariety of  $\Pi_{N+1,\lambda}^{a+r}(L)$ .

*Proof.* If  $L' \in \Pi_{N,\lambda}^a(L)$ , then  $\varepsilon^{N+1}L_0 \subset \varepsilon^N L_0 \subset L'_0 \subset \varepsilon^{-N}L_0 \subset \varepsilon^{-(N+1)}L_0$  and

$$\dim\left(\frac{\varepsilon^{-(1+n)}L_0}{L_0'}\right) = \dim\left(\frac{L_0}{\varepsilon L_0}\right) + \dim\left(\frac{\varepsilon^{-N}L_0}{L_0'}\right) = r + a,$$

which shows that  $\Pi_{N,\lambda}^a(L) \subset \Pi_{N+1,\lambda}^{a+r}(L)$ . For  $L' \in \Pi_{N+1,\lambda}^{a+r}(L)$ , if additionally  $\varepsilon^N L_0 \subset L'_0 \subset \varepsilon^{-N} L_0$ , then

$$\dim\left(\frac{\varepsilon^{-(N+1)}L_0}{L_0'}\right) = r + \dim\left(\frac{\varepsilon^{-N}L_0}{L_0'}\right),\,$$

which shows  $L' \in \Pi_{N,\lambda}^a(L)$ . Thus  $\Pi_{N,\lambda}^a(L)$  is the subspace of  $\Pi_{N+1,\lambda}^{a+r}(L)$  defined by the closed conditions  $\varepsilon^N L_0 \subset L'_0$  and  $L'_0 \subset \varepsilon^{-N} L_0$ .

**Lemma 5.4.4.** Let  $\lambda \in \Lambda_0$ ,  $M, N \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $L, \tilde{L} \in \mathcal{F}$ ,  $0 \le a \le 2Nr$ ,  $0 \le b \le 2Mr$ .  $\Pi_{N,\lambda}^a(L) \cap \Pi_{M,\lambda}^b(\tilde{L})$  is a closed set in  $\Pi_{N,\lambda}^a(L)$ . In particular, if the intersection is nonempty it is a projective algebraic variety.

*Proof.* Observe  $\Pi^a_{N,\lambda}(L) \cap \Pi^b_{M,\lambda}(\tilde{L})$  is the subset of  $\Pi^a_{N,\lambda}(L)$  defined by the additional closed conditions that  $\varepsilon^M \tilde{L}_0 \subset L'_0$  and  $L'_0 \subset \varepsilon^{-M} \tilde{L}_0$ , so is closed.

**Lemma 5.4.5.** Suppose  $L \in \mathcal{F}$ ,  $N, a \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $\lambda \in \Lambda_0$  with  $a \leq 2Nr$ . For each  $g \in G$ , the natural map (restriction of the action map)  $\Pi^a_{N,\lambda}(L) \to \Pi^a_{N,\lambda}(gL)$  is an isomorphism of projective varieties.

Proof. If  $L' \in \Pi_{N,\lambda}^a(L)$ , then  $\varepsilon^N L_0 \subset L'_0 \subset \varepsilon^{-N} L_0$  and so  $\varepsilon^N g(L_0) \subset g(L'_0) \subset \varepsilon^{-N} g(L_0)$ , so  $gL' \in \Pi_{N,\lambda}^a(L)$ . Thus g and  $g^{-1}$  induce mutually inverse morphisms of varieties  $g: \Pi_{N,\lambda}^a(L) \to \Pi_{N,\lambda}^a(gL)$  and  $g^{-1}: \Pi_{N,\lambda}^a(gL) \to \Pi_{N,\lambda}^a(L)$ .

#### 5.4.1 Action through an algebraic group

Given  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ , define

$$H_N = \left\{ h \in G_L : h = 1 \text{ on } \frac{\varepsilon^{-(1+N)} L_0}{\varepsilon^N L_0} \right\}.$$

Explicitly, the condition h=1 on  $\varepsilon^{-(1+N)}L_0/\varepsilon^N L_0$  means:  $h(x)+\varepsilon^N L_0=x+\varepsilon^N L_0$  for  $x\in \varepsilon^{-(1+N)}L_0$ . Observe that  $H_{N+1}\subset H_N$  for  $N\in\mathbb{N}$  since  $h(x)+\varepsilon^N L_0=x+\varepsilon^N L_0$  whenever  $x\in \varepsilon^{-(1+N)}L_0$ .

#### EDITORIAL REMARK:

Maybe the cleanest way to write this is to describe the natural group homomorphism  $G_L \to \operatorname{GL}(W)$  and state that  $H_{N,L}$  is the kernel of this group homomorphism. The next lemma should describe the image and deduce  $G_L/H_{N,L}$  is a connected algebraic group, possibly with the last result relegated to a corollary.

**Lemma 5.4.6.** Given  $L \in \mathcal{F}$  and  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $G_L/H_{N,L}$  is a connected algebraic group.

Proof. Let W be the  $\mathbb{C}[\varepsilon]$ -module  $\varepsilon^{-(1+N)}L_0/\varepsilon^N L_0$ .  $\varepsilon^{2N+1}$  acts as zero on W and  $\mathbb{C}[\varepsilon]/\langle \varepsilon^{2N+1}\rangle \otimes_{\mathbb{C}[\varepsilon]} W$  is a free  $\mathbb{C}[\varepsilon]/\langle \varepsilon^{2N+1}\rangle$ -module of rank r. Given  $g \in G_{L_0}$ , g is a  $\mathbb{C}[\varepsilon]$ -module automorphism of  $\varepsilon^{-(1+N)}L_0$  and  $\varepsilon^N L_0$  is a g-invariant submodule, so there is an automorphism  $\bar{g}: W \to W$  fitting into a commutative diagram

$$0 \longrightarrow \varepsilon^{N} L_{0} \longrightarrow \varepsilon^{-1-N} L_{0} \longrightarrow W \longrightarrow 0$$

$$\downarrow \qquad \qquad \downarrow \qquad \qquad \downarrow$$

$$0 \longrightarrow \varepsilon^{N} L_{0} \longrightarrow \varepsilon^{-1-N} L_{0} \longrightarrow W \longrightarrow 0$$

The natural map  $: G_{L_0} \to GL(W)$  is a group homomorphism with kernel consisting of those  $g \in G_{L_0}$  such that  $\bar{g} = 1$ : that is,  $g(x) \in x + \varepsilon^{2N+1}L_0$  for each  $x \in L_0$ .

The image of  $G_{L_0}$  in GL(W) may be described by equations in the coordinates on GL(W) with respect to a  $\mathbb{C}$ -basis of W. W has a basis  $\{x_1, \ldots, x_r\}$  over  $\mathbb{C}[\varepsilon]/\langle \varepsilon^{2N+1} \rangle$ , therefore the complex vector space W has a basis  $\{y_j : j \in \mathbb{Z}, 1-2Nr \leq j \leq r\}$  given by

$$y_{i-cr} = \varepsilon^c x_i$$

for  $1 \leq i \leq r$  and  $0 \leq c \leq 2N$ . There are coordinate functions  $\gamma_{i,j} \colon \mathrm{GL}(W) \to \mathbb{C}$  with respect to this basis, given by

$$g(y_j) = \sum_{i} \gamma_{ij}(g) y_i.$$

If  $g \in GL(W)$  is  $\varepsilon$ -linear, then  $g(y_{i-r}) = g(\varepsilon y_i) = \varepsilon g(y_i)$  and therefore  $\gamma_{i-r,j-r}(g) = \gamma_{i,j}(g)$  for all i, j. This shows that the image of  $G_{L_0}$  in GL(W) is the parabolic subgroup consisting of elements of the form

$$A_0 A_1 A_2 \cdots A_{2N}$$

$$0 A_0 A_1 \cdots A_{2N-1}$$

$$\cdots \cdots \cdots$$

$$0 0 \cdots A_0 A_1$$

$$0 0 \cdots 0 A_0,$$

where  $A_0 \in GL_r(\mathbb{C})$  and  $A_1, \ldots, A_{2N} \in M_r(\mathbb{C})$ , which is a closed subgroup of GL(W). The image of  $G_{L_0}$  in GL(W) is identified with the (nonempty) open set  $GL_r(\mathbb{C}) \times M_r(\mathbb{C})^{2N}$  in the affine space  $M_r(\mathbb{C})^{2N+1}$ , so the image of  $G_{L_0}$  is irreducible. This shows that  $G_{L_0}/H_{N,L_0}$  is a connected algebraic group.

Moreover,  $G_L = G_{L_1} \cap \cdots \cap G_{L_n}$ , so the image of  $G_L$  in GL(W) is a closed subgroup.  $G_L/H_{N,L}$  is naturally isomorphic to the subgroup of GL(W) defined by the equations  $\gamma_{i-r,j-r} = \gamma_{i,j}$  and for  $j = 1, \ldots, r$  the equations  $\gamma_{i,j} = 0$  for  $i > \lambda_1 + \cdots + \lambda_s$ , where s is given by  $\lambda_1 + \cdots + \lambda_{s-1} < j \le \lambda_1 + \cdots + \lambda_s$ . Therefore  $G_L/H_{N,L}$  is isomorphic to the product  $\mathcal{P}_{\lambda} \times M_r(\mathbb{C}) \times \cdots \times M_r(\mathbb{C})$ , where  $\mathcal{P}_{\lambda}$  is a parabolic subgroup of GL(W), so is irreducible.

Given  $g \in G$ , the map  $G_L \to G_{gL}$  sending h to  $ghg^{-1}$  is a group isomorphism which descends to an isomorphism of algebraic groups  $G_L/H_{N,L} \to G_{gL}/H_{N,gL}$ . Thus we have a commuting diagram of morphisms of varieties, where the vertical arrows are isomorphisms:

$$G_L/H_{N,L} \times \Pi_{N,\lambda}^a(L) \longrightarrow \Pi_{N,\lambda}^a(L)$$

$$\downarrow \qquad \qquad \downarrow$$

$$G_{gL}/H_{N,gL} \times \Pi_{N,\lambda}^a(gL) \longrightarrow \Pi_{N,\lambda}^a(gL)$$

#### 5.4.2 Incidence in affine flag varieties

**Lemma 5.4.7.** Given  $N, a, b, c \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\lambda, \mu \in \Lambda_0$ ,  $L \in \mathcal{F}$  and  $i, j \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,

$$\left\{ (L',L'') \in \Pi_{N,\lambda}^a(L) \times \Pi_{N,\mu}^b(L) : \dim \left( \frac{L_i'}{L_i' \cap L_j''} \right) \le c \right\}$$

is a projective variety.

Proof. There is  $M \geq N$  so that  $\varepsilon^M L_0 \subset L_i' \subset \varepsilon^{-M} L_0$  and  $\varepsilon^M L_0 \subset L_j'' \subset \varepsilon^{-M} L_0$ . Let a' = a + (M - N)r and b' = b + (M - N)r. Lemma 5.4.3 shows that  $\Pi_{N,\lambda}^a(L)$  is a subvariety of  $\Pi_{M,\lambda}^{a'}(L)$ , so  $\Pi_{N,\lambda}^a(L) \times \Pi_{N,\mu}^b(L)$  is a subvariety of  $\Pi_{M,\lambda}^{a'}(L) \times \Pi_{M,\mu}^{b'}(L)$ .

The fact that

$$\dim\left(\frac{L_i'}{L_i'\cap L_j''}\right)=\dim\left(\frac{L_i'/\varepsilon^ML_0}{L_i'/\varepsilon^ML_0\cap L_j''/\varepsilon^ML_0}\right),$$

together with Lemma 5.4.2 and Lemma 5.3.1, shows that

$$\left\{ (L', L'') \in \Pi_{M, \lambda}^{a'}(L) \times \Pi_{M, \mu}^{b'}(L) : \dim \left( \frac{L'_i}{L'_i \cap L''_j} \right) \le c \right\}$$

is a projective variety, so the intersection with  $\Pi^a_{N,\lambda}(L) \times \Pi^b_{N,\mu}(L)$  is also a projective variety.  $\square$ 

**Lemma 5.4.8.** Given  $N, a, c \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\lambda \in \Lambda_0$ ,  $L \in \mathcal{F}$  and  $i, j \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,

$$\left\{ L' \in \Pi_{N,\lambda}^a(L) : \dim \left( \frac{L_i}{L_i \cap L'_j} \right) \le c \right\}$$

and

$$\left\{ L' \in \Pi_{N,\lambda}^a(L) : \dim \left( \frac{L'_j}{L_i \cap L'_j} \right) \le c \right\}$$

are projective varieties.

*Proof.* This is a result of Lemma 5.3.2, since

$$\dim\left(\frac{L_i'}{L_i'\cap L_j''}\right)=\dim\left(\frac{L_i'/\varepsilon^ML_0}{L_i'/\varepsilon^ML_0\cap L_j''/\varepsilon^ML_0}\right),$$

where  $M \geq N$  is chosen so that  $\varepsilon^M L_0 \subset L_i' \subset \varepsilon^{-M} L_0$  and  $\varepsilon^M L_0 \subset L_j'' \subset \varepsilon^{-M} L_0$  for each  $(L', L'') \in \Pi_{N,\lambda}^a(L) \times \Pi_{N,\mu}^b(L)$ .

#### 5.5 Geometry of orbits

**Lemma 5.5.1.** Given  $A \in \Lambda_1$ , there is  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\varepsilon^N L_0 \subset L'_0 \subset \varepsilon^{-N} L_0$  for each  $(L, L') \in \mathcal{O}_A$ . In this case

$$\dim\left(\frac{\varepsilon^{-N}L_0}{L_0'}\right) = d_{nN,0}(A).$$

*Proof.* Given  $A \in \Lambda_1$ , there is  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  so that  $a_{i,j} = 0$  whenever |j - i| > nN. If  $(L, L') \in \mathcal{O}_A$  then

$$\dim\left(\frac{L'_0}{L'_0\cap\varepsilon^{-N}L_0}\right) = \dim\left(\frac{L'_0}{L'_0\cap L_{nN}}\right) = \sum_{s>nN,t\leq 0} a_{s,t} = 0,$$

so it follows  $L'_0 \subset \varepsilon^{-N} L_0$ . Similarly,

$$\dim\left(\frac{\varepsilon^N L_0}{\varepsilon^N L_0 \cap L_0'}\right) = \dim\left(\frac{L_{-nN}}{L_{-nN} \cap L_0'}\right) = \sum_{s \le -nN, t > 0} a_{s,t} = 0,$$

which shows  $\varepsilon^N L_0 \subset L_0'$ . Moreover,

$$\dim\left(\frac{\varepsilon^{-N}L_0}{L_0'}\right) = \dim\left(\frac{\varepsilon^{-N}L_0}{\varepsilon^{-N}L_0 \cap L_0'}\right) = \sum_{s \le nN, t > 0} a_{s,t} = d_{nN,0}(A),$$

as a result of Lemma 5.2.4.

**Lemma 5.5.2.** Given  $A \in \Lambda_1$  and  $L \in \mathcal{F}_{ro A}$ ,  $X_A^L$  is a quasiprojective variety.

*Proof.* There is  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $X_A^L \subset \Pi_{N,\lambda}^a(L)$ , where  $a = d_{nN,0}A$  and  $\lambda = \operatorname{co} A$ . If  $L' \in \Pi_{N,\lambda}^a(L)$  then

$$L_{-Nn} = \varepsilon^N L_0 \subset L_0' \subset L_1' \subset L_n' \subset \varepsilon^{-1-N} L_0 = L_{(N+1)n}.$$

Therefore  $X_A^L$  is the subset of  $\Pi_{N,\lambda}^a(L)$  defined by the conditions  $\dim(L_i/L_i \cap L_j') = d_{i,j}A$  for  $i: -Nn \le i < j$  and  $\dim(L_j'/L_i \cap L_j') = \bar{d}_{i,j}A$  for  $i: j < i \le (N+1)n$ , for  $j=1,\ldots,n$ .

The set of  $L' \in \Pi_{N,\lambda}^a(L)$  with  $\dim(L_i/L_i \cap L'_j) \leq d_{i,j}A$  for  $j = 1, \ldots, n$  and  $i : -Nn \leq i < j$  and  $\dim(L'_j/L_i \cap L'_j) \leq \bar{d}_{i,j}A$  for  $j = 1, \ldots, n$  and  $i : j < i \leq (N+1)n$  is a projective algebraic variety, as a result of Lemma 5.4.7.

Similarly, the set of  $L' \in \Pi_{N,\lambda}^a(L)$  satisfying the conditions  $\dim(L_i/L_i \cap L'_j) \ge d_{i,j}A$  (for i < j) and  $\dim(L'_i/L_i \cap L'_j) \ge \bar{d}_{i,j}A$  (for i > j) is open in  $\Pi_{N,\lambda}^a(L)$ .

Thus  $X_A^L$  is a nonempty open subset of a projective variety, so is a quasiprojective variety as claimed.

**Lemma 5.5.3.** Given  $A \in \Lambda_1$  and  $L \in \mathcal{F}_{roA}$ ,  $X_A^L$  is an irreducible quasi-projective variety.

Proof. Lemma 5.5.2 shows that  $X_A^L$  is a quasiprojective variety. In particular,  $X_A^L$  is a locally-closed subset of  $\Pi_{N,\text{co }A}^a(L)$  for some  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $a = d_{nN,0}(A)$ . Lemma 5.4.6 shows  $G_L/H_{N,L}$  is a connected algebraic group acting algebraically on  $\Pi_{N,\text{co }A}^a(L)$ , so each orbit is irreducible. In particular, if  $L' \in X_A^L$ , then  $X_A^L = G_L \cdot L' = G_L/H_{N,L} \cdot L'$  is irreducible.

Consequently, the closure of  $X_A^L$  is an irreducible projective variety.

#### 5.5.1 Geometry of orbit products

Suppose  $A, B \in \Lambda_1$  with  $\operatorname{co} A = \operatorname{ro} B$ . Recall the notation

$$Y_{A,B} = \{(L, L', L'') \in \mathcal{F}^3 : (L, L') \in \mathcal{O}_A, (L', L'') \in \mathcal{O}_B\}$$

and

$$X_{A,B} = \{(L,L'') \in \mathcal{F}^2 : \exists L' \in \mathcal{F} \text{ with } (L,L',L'') \in Y_{A,B}\}.$$

 $X_{A,B}$  is the image of  $Y_{A,B}$  under the forgetful map  $(L,L',L'')\mapsto (L,L'').$ 

**Lemma 5.5.4.** There is  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that

$$\varepsilon^N L_0 \subset L_0'' \subset \varepsilon^{-N} L_0$$

for each  $(L, L'') \in X_{A,B}$ .

*Proof.* There exist  $N_1, N_2 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that

$$\varepsilon^{N_1}L_0 \subset L_0' \subset \varepsilon^{-N_1}L_0$$

and

$$\varepsilon^{N_2}L_0'\subset L_0''\subset \varepsilon^{-N_2}L_0',$$

for each  $(L,L',L'') \in Y_{A,B}$ . Then, for  $(L,L',L'') \in Y_{A,B}$ ,

$$L_0'' \subset \varepsilon^{-N_2} L_0' \subset \varepsilon^{-(N_1+N_2)} L_0$$

and

$$\varepsilon^{N_1+N_2}L_0\subset \varepsilon^{N_2}L_0'\subset L_0''$$
.

In particular, taking  $N = N_1 + N_2$ , we have

$$\varepsilon^N L_0 \subset L_0'' \subset \varepsilon^{-N} L_0$$

for each  $(L, L'') \in X_{A,B}$ .

**Lemma 5.5.5.** Suppose  $N_1, N_2 \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $\varepsilon^{N_1} L_0 \subset L_0 \subset \varepsilon^{-N_1} L_0$  and  $\varepsilon^{N_2} L_0' \subset L_0'' \subset \varepsilon^{-N_2} L_0'$  for each  $(L, L', L'') \in Y_{A,B}$  and let  $N = N_1 + N_2$ . Then

$$\dim\left(\frac{\varepsilon^{-N}L_0}{L_0''}\right) = d_{nN_1,0}(A) + d_{nN_2,0}(B)$$

and

$$\dim\left(\frac{L_0''}{\varepsilon^N L_0}\right) = 2Nr - d_{nN_1,0}(A) + d_{nN_2,0}(B),$$

for each  $(L, L'') \in X_{A,B}$ .

*Proof.* Suppose  $(L, L'') \in X_{A,B}$  and  $L' \in \mathcal{F}$  so that  $(L, L', L'') \in Y_{A,B}$ . As in lemma 5.5.4,  $\varepsilon^N L_0 \subset L_0'' \subset \varepsilon^{-N} L_0$ , so

$$\dim\left(\frac{\varepsilon^{-N}L_0}{L_0''}\right)+\dim\left(\frac{L_0''}{\varepsilon^NL_0}\right)=\dim\left(\frac{\varepsilon^{-N}L_0}{\varepsilon^NL_0}\right).$$

As a **k**-vector space,  $\varepsilon^{-N}L_0/\varepsilon^N L_0$  is isomorphic to  $(L_0/\varepsilon L_0)^{2N}$ , which has dimension 2Nr, so

$$\dim\left(\frac{L_0''}{\varepsilon^N L_0}\right) = 2Nr - \dim\left(\frac{\varepsilon^{-N} L_0}{L_0''}\right).$$

It remains to compute the codimension of  $L_0''$  in  $\varepsilon^{-N}L_0$ . Note  $L_0'' \subset \varepsilon^{-N_2}L_0' \subset \varepsilon^{-N}L_0$ , so

$$\dim\left(\frac{\varepsilon - NL_0}{L_0''}\right) = \dim\left(\frac{\varepsilon^{-N}L_0}{\varepsilon^{-N_2}L_0'}\right) + \dim\left(\frac{\varepsilon^{-N_2}L_0'}{L_0''}\right).$$

$$\dim\left(\frac{\varepsilon^{-N}L_0}{\varepsilon^{-N_2}L'_0}\right) = \dim\left(\frac{\varepsilon^{-N_1}L_0}{L'_0}\right)$$

$$= \dim\left(\frac{L_{nN_1}}{L_{nN_1} \cap L'_0}\right)$$

$$= \sum_{s \le nN_1, t > 0} A_{s,t}$$

$$= d_{nN_1,0}(A).$$

$$\dim\left(\frac{\varepsilon^{-N_2}L_0'}{L_0''}\right) = \dim\left(\frac{L_{nN_2}'}{L_{nN_2}' \cap L_0''}\right)$$
$$= \sum_{s \le nN_2, t > 0} B_{s,t}$$
$$= d_{nN_2,0}(B).$$

Refer to Section 3.1.1 for definitions of the spaces  $X_{A,B}^L$  and  $Y_{A,B}^L$ .

**Lemma 5.5.6.** Given  $A, B \in \Lambda_1$  with ro  $B = \operatorname{co} A$  and  $(L, L', L'') \in \mathcal{F}^3$  with  $(L, L') \in \mathcal{O}_A$  and  $(L', L'') \in \mathcal{O}_B$ ,

$$X_{A,B}^{L} = G_L G_{L'} L''$$
$$= G_L X_B^{L'}.$$

Proof.  $X_{A,B}^L$  is the image of  $Y_{A,B}^L$  under the forgetful map  $(N', N'') \mapsto N''$ . If  $\alpha \in G_L$  and  $\beta \in G_{L'}$  then  $(L, \alpha L, \alpha \beta L'') \in Y_{A,B}$  since  $(L, \alpha L') = \alpha (L, L') \in \mathcal{O}_A$  and  $(\alpha L', \alpha \beta L'') = \alpha \beta (\beta^{-1} L', L'') = \alpha \beta (L', L'') \in \mathcal{O}_B$ . Consequently,  $G_L G_{L'} L'' \in X_{A,B}^L$ .

For the reverse inclusion, if  $(N', N'') \in Y_{A,B}^L$  then  $(L, N') \in \mathcal{O}_A$  and  $(N', N'') \in \mathcal{O}_B$ , so there exist  $\sigma_1, \sigma_2 \in G$  such that  $(L, N') = \sigma_1(L, L')$  and  $(N', N'') \in \sigma_2(N', N'')$ . Then  $(L, N', N'') = (L, \sigma_1 L', \sigma_1(\sigma_1^{-1}\sigma_2)L'')$  with  $\sigma_1 \in G_L$  and  $\sigma_1^{-1}\sigma_2 \in G_{L'}$ . Thus  $X_{A,B}^L = G_L G_{L'} L''$ .

The second equality follows since  $X_B^{L'} = G_{L'}L''$ .

**Lemma 5.5.7.** There is  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $H_N \subset G_{L'}$ . Consequently,  $H_{N'} \subset G_{L'}$  whenever  $N' \geq N$ .

*Proof.* Choose  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\varepsilon^N L_0 \subset L_0' \subset \varepsilon^{-N} L_0$ . Then

$$\varepsilon^N L_0 \subset L_0' \subset L_1' \subset \cdots \subset L_n' \subset \varepsilon^{-(1+N)} L_0.$$

Let  $h \in H_N$ .  $h(x) + \varepsilon^N L_0 = x + \varepsilon^N L_0$  for  $x \in \varepsilon^{-(1+N)} L_0$ , so  $h(L_i') \subset L_i'$  for i = 0, 1, ..., n. Moreover,  $h^{-1}$  stabilises  $L_i'$ , so  $h(L_i') = L_i'$  for i = 0, 1, ..., n and therefore for  $i \in \mathbb{Z}$ . This shows  $h \in G_{L_i'}$  as required, so  $H_N \subset G_{L_i'}$ .

 $H_N$  is generally not normal in  $G_{L'}$ , though the space of (right) cosets of  $H_N$  in  $G_{L'}$  will still be irreducible.

**Lemma 5.5.8.**  $G_{L'}/H_N$  is irreducible, provided  $H_N \subset G_{L'}$ .

*Proof.* Needs a proof.  $\Box$ 

**Lemma 5.5.9.** Given  $A, B \in \Lambda_1$  with  $\operatorname{co} A = \operatorname{ro} B$  and  $L \in \mathcal{F}_{\operatorname{ro} A}$ ,  $Y_{A,B}^L$  is a quasiprojective variety.

Proof. There is  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\varepsilon^N L_0 \subset L_0' \subset \varepsilon^{-N} L_0$  and  $\varepsilon^N L_0' \subset L_0'' \subset \varepsilon^{-N} L_0'$  for each (L, L', L'') with  $(L, L') \in \mathcal{O}_A$  and  $(L', L'') \in \mathcal{O}_B$ . Let  $a = d_{nN,0}(A)$  and  $b = d_{nN,0}(B)$ . Then  $Y_{A,B}^L$  is the subset of  $\Pi_{N,co\,A}^a(L) \times \Pi_{2N,co\,B}^{a+b}(L)$  defined by the conditions

$$\dim\left(\frac{L_i}{L_i\cap L'_j}\right) = d_{i,j}(A)$$

and

$$\dim\left(\frac{L_i'}{L_i'\cap L_j''}\right) = d_{i,j}(B)$$

for each  $i, j \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

it remains to justify why these are locally closed conditions on the product and why there are effectively only finitely many conditions. Thus  $Y_{A,B}^L$  is a locally closed subset of  $\Pi_{N,\operatorname{co} A}^a(L) \times \Pi_{2N,\operatorname{co} B}^{a+b}(L)$  so is a quasiprojective variety.

**Proposition 5.5.10.** Given  $A, B \in \Lambda_1$  with  $\operatorname{co} A = \operatorname{ro} B$  and  $L \in \mathcal{F}_{\operatorname{ro} A}$ ,  $Y_{A,B}^L$  is an irreducible quasi-projective variety.

Proof. There is  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\varepsilon^N L_0 \subset L_0' \subset \varepsilon^{-N} L_0$  and  $\varepsilon^N L_0' \subset L_0'' \subset \varepsilon^{-N} L_0'$  for each  $(L', L'') \in Y_{A,B}^L$ . Write  $a = d_{nN,0}(A)$  and  $b = d_{nN,0}(B)$ , so  $Y_{A,B}^L \subset \Pi_{N,\operatorname{co} A}^a(L) \times \Pi_{2N,\operatorname{co} B}^{a+b}(L)$ . Lemma 5.5.9 shows that  $Y_{A,B}^L$  is a locally closed subset of  $\Pi_{N,\operatorname{co} A}^a(L) \times \Pi_{2N,\operatorname{co} B}^{a+b}(L)$  and thus a quasiprojective variety, so it remains to show  $Y_{A,B}^L$  is irreducible.

For any  $L' \in X_A^L$ ,  $Y_{A,B}^L = G_L \cdot (\{L'\} \times X_B^{L'}) = G_L/H_{2N,L} \cdot (\{L'\} \times X_B^{L'})$ .  $\overline{X_B^{L'}}$  is an irreducible subvariety of  $\Pi_{N,\operatorname{co} B}^b(L')$ , which is a subvariety of  $\Pi_{2N,\operatorname{co} B}^{a+b}(L)$ , so  $\{L'\} \times \overline{X_B^{L'}}$  is an irreducible subvariety of  $\Pi_{N,\operatorname{co} A}^a(L) \times \Pi_{2N,\operatorname{co} B}^{a+b}(L)$ . In particular,  $\{L'\} \times X_B^{L'}$  is an irreducible (locally closed) subspace of  $\Pi_{N,\operatorname{co} A}^a(L) \times \Pi_{2N,\operatorname{co} B}^{a+b}(L)$ .  $G_L/H_{2N,L}$  is a connected algebraic group acting algebraically on  $\Pi_{N,\operatorname{co} A}^a(L) \times \Pi_{2N,\operatorname{co} B}^{a+b}(L)$  and  $Y_{A,B}^L$  is the image of  $G_L/H_{2N,L} \times \{L'\} \times X_B^{L'}$  under the action map, so  $Y_{A,B}^L$  is irreducible.

**Lemma 5.5.11.** Given  $A, B \in \Lambda_1$  with  $\operatorname{co} A = \operatorname{ro} B$  and  $L \in \mathcal{F}_{\operatorname{ro} A}$ ,  $X_{A,B}^L$  is an irreducible topological space.

*Proof.*  $X_{A,B}^L$  is the image of  $Y_{A,B}^L$  under the projection  $\mathcal{F}_{co\,A} \times \mathcal{F}_{co\,B} \to \mathcal{F}_{co\,B}$  and  $Y_{A,B}^L$  is irreducible, by Proposition 5.5.10, so  $X_{A,B}^L$  is irreducible.

Proof. There is  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\varepsilon^N \underline{L_0} \subset L'_0 \subset \varepsilon^{-N} L_0$  and  $\varepsilon^N L'_0 \subset L''_0 \subset \varepsilon^{-N} L'_0$  for each  $(L, L') \in \mathcal{O}_A$  and  $(L', L'') \in \mathcal{O}_B$ . Then  $\overline{X_B^{L'}}$  is an irreducible subvariety of  $\Pi^b_{N,\operatorname{co} B}(L')$ , which is in turn a subvariety of  $\Pi^{a+b}_{2N,\operatorname{co} B}(L)$ . Thus  $X_B^{L'}$  is an irreducible subspace of  $\Pi^{a+b}_{2N,\operatorname{co} B}(L)$ .  $G_L/H_{2N,L}$  is a connected algebraic group acting morphically on  $\Pi^{a+b}_{2N,\operatorname{co} B}(L)$ , therefore  $X_{A,B}^L = G_L/H_{2N,L} \cdot X_B^{L'}$  is irreducible.

**Remark 1.**  $X_{A,B}^L$  is a union of finitely many  $G_L$ -orbits, each of which is locally closed, so  $X_{A,B}^L$  is constructible. Lemma 5.5.11 shows that  $X_{A,B}^L$  is irreducible. Investigate whether  $X_{A,B}^L$  is actually locally closed and therefore an irreducible quasiprojective variety.

**Proposition 5.5.12.** Given  $A, B \in \Lambda_1$  with  $\operatorname{co} A = \operatorname{ro} B$  and  $L \in \mathcal{F}_{\operatorname{ro} A}$ , there is a unique open  $G_L$ -orbit in  $X_{A,B}^L$ .

Proof.  $X_{A,B}^L$  consists of finitely many  $G_L$ -orbits and is an irreducible topological space, by Lemma 5.5.11. Consequently,  $X_C^L$  is dense in  $X_{A,B}^L$  for some  $C \in \Lambda_{1A,B}$ . Lemma 5.5.2 shows that  $X_C^L$  is locally closed in  $X_{A,B}^L$ , so  $X_C^L$  is open in  $\overline{X_C^L} = X_{A,B}^L$ . Irreducibility of  $X_{A,B}^L$  shows that there is a unique open  $G_L$ -orbit, since two non-empty open sets in  $X_{A,B}^L$  intersect non-trivially, thus any two open  $G_L$  orbits in  $X_{A,B}^L$  coincide.

#### 5.6 Existence of a maximum

**Lemma 5.6.1.** Given  $A, A' \in \Lambda_1$  with ro  $A = \operatorname{ro} A'$  and  $\operatorname{co} A = \operatorname{co} A'$ ,  $A' \leq A$  if and only if  $X_{A'}^L \subset \overline{X_A^L}$  for any  $L \in \mathcal{F}_{\operatorname{ro} A}$ .

*Proof.* Needs a proof.  $\Box$ 

**Proposition 5.6.2.** Given  $A, B \in \Lambda_1$  with  $\operatorname{co} A = \operatorname{ro} B$ ,  $\Lambda_{1A,B}$  has a maximum element.

*Proof.* Let  $L \in \mathcal{F}_{ro\,A}$ .  $X_{A,B}^L$  is irreducible by Lemma 5.5.11 and is the union of finitely many  $G_L$ -orbits, namely

$$X_{A,B}^L = \bigcup_{C \in \Lambda_{1A,B}} X_C^L.$$

This shows that  $X_C^L$  is dense in  $X_{A,B}^L$  for some  $C \in \Lambda_{1A,B}$ . Lemma 5.5.2 shows that the  $G_L$ -orbits in  $X_{A,B}^L$  are locally closed, so a dense  $G_L$ -orbit is open in  $X_{A,B}^L$ . Lemma 5.6.1 shows that the characteristic matrix of the dense  $G_L$ -orbit is a maximum in  $\Lambda_{1A,B}$ .

#### 5.7 Associativity

Refer to Section 3.1.2 for definitions of the spaces  $X_{A,B,C}^L$  and  $Y_{A,B,C}^L$ . Recall that  $X_{A,B,C}^L$  is the image of  $Y_{A,B,C}^L$  under the forgetful map f, given by f(L',L'',L''')=L''' for each  $(L',L'',L''')\in Y_{A,B,C}^L$ .

**Lemma 5.7.1.** Given  $A, B, C \in \Lambda_1$  with ro  $C = \operatorname{co} B$ , ro  $B = \operatorname{co} A$  and a tuple of flags  $(L, L', L'', L''') \in \mathcal{F}^4$  with  $(L, L') \in \mathcal{O}_A$ ,  $(L', L'') \in \mathcal{O}_B$  and  $(L'', L''') \in \mathcal{O}_C$ ,

$$X_{A,B,C}^{L} = G_L G_{L'} G_{L''} L'''.$$

Proof. Given  $\alpha \in G_L$ ,  $\beta \in G_{L'}$  and  $\gamma \in G_{L''}$ ,  $(L, \alpha L', \alpha \beta L'', \alpha \beta \gamma L''') \in Y_{A,B,C}$  since  $(L, \alpha L') = \alpha(L, L') \in \mathcal{O}_A$ ,  $(\alpha L', \alpha \beta L'') = \alpha \beta(L', L'') \in \mathcal{O}_B$  and  $(\alpha \beta L'', \alpha \beta \gamma L''') = \alpha \beta \gamma(L'', L''') \in \mathcal{O}_C$ . This shows  $G_L G_{L'} G_{L''} L''' \in X_{A,B,C}^L$ .

Given  $(N', N'', N''') \in Y_{A,B,C}^L$ , there exist  $\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \sigma_3 \in G$  such that  $(L, N') = \sigma_1(L, L')$ ,  $(N', N'') = \sigma_2(L', L'')$  and  $(N'', N''') = \sigma_3(L'', L''')$ ; then  $N' = \sigma_1 L' = \sigma_2 L'$ ,  $N'' = \sigma_2 L'' = \sigma_3 L''$  and  $N''' = \sigma_3 L'''$ . Thus

$$(L,N',N'',N''')=(L,\sigma_1L',\sigma_1(\sigma_1^{-1}\sigma_2)L'',\sigma_1(\sigma_1^{-1}\sigma_2)(\sigma_2^{-1}\sigma_3)L''')$$

where  $\sigma_1 \in G_L$ ,  $\sigma_1^{-1}\sigma_2 \in G_{L'}$  and  $\sigma_2^{-1}\sigma_3 \in G_{L''}$ .

**Lemma 5.7.2.** Given  $A, B, C \in \Lambda_1$  with  $\operatorname{co} A = \operatorname{ro} B$  and  $\operatorname{co} B = \operatorname{ro} C$  and  $L \in \mathcal{F}_{\operatorname{ro} A}$ ,  $Y_{A,B,C}^L$  is a quasiprojective variety.

Proof. There is  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\varepsilon^N L_0 \subset L_0' \subset \varepsilon^{-N} L_0$ ,  $\varepsilon^N L_0' \subset L_0'' \subset \varepsilon^{-N} L_0'$  and  $\varepsilon^N L_0'' \subset L_0''' \subset \varepsilon^{-N} L_0''$  for each  $(L', L'', L''') \in Y_{A,B,C}^L$ . Let  $a = d_{nN,0}(A)$ ,  $b = d_{nN,0}(B)$  and  $c = d_{nN,0}(C)$ . Then  $Y_{A,B,C}^L$  is the subset of  $\Pi_{N,\text{co }A}^a(L) \times \Pi_{2N,\text{co }B}^{a+b}(L) \times \Pi_{3N,\text{co }C}^{a+b+c}(L)$  defined by the conditions

$$\dim\left(\frac{L_i}{L_i\cap L_j'}\right) = d_{i,j}(A),$$

$$\dim\left(\frac{L_i'}{L_i'\cap L_j''}\right) = d_{i,j}(B),$$

and

$$\dim\left(\frac{L_i''}{L_i''\cap L_j'''}\right)=d_{i,j}(C)$$

for each  $i, j \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

it remains to shows these conditions define locally closed subsets of the triple product and that there are effectively finitely many conditions.

Thus  $Y_{A,B,C}^L$  is a locally closed subset of the projective variety  $\Pi_{N,\operatorname{co} A}^a(L) \times \Pi_{2N,\operatorname{co} B}^{a+b}(L) \times \Pi_{3N,\operatorname{co} C}^{a+b+c}(L)$ , so  $Y_{A,B,C}^L$  is a quasiprojective variety.

**Lemma 5.7.3.** Given  $A, B, C \in \Lambda_1$  with  $\operatorname{co} A = \operatorname{ro} B$  and  $\operatorname{co} B = \operatorname{ro} C$  and  $L \in \mathcal{F}_{\operatorname{ro} A}$ ,  $Y_{A,B,C}^L$  is an irreducible quasiprojective variety.

Proof. There is  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\varepsilon^N L_0 \subset L_0' \subset \varepsilon^{-N} L_0$ ,  $\varepsilon^N L_0' \subset L_0'' \subset \varepsilon^{-N} L_0'$  and  $\varepsilon^N L_0'' \subset L_0''' \subset \varepsilon^{-N} L_0''$  for each  $(L', L'', L''') \in Y_{A,B,C}^L$ . Lemma 5.4.6 shows that  $G_L/H_{3N,L}$  is a connected algebraic group acting algebraically on  $\Pi = \Pi_{N,\text{co }A}^a(L) \times \Pi_{2N,\text{co }B}^{a+b}(L) \times \Pi_{3N,\text{co }C}^{a+b+c}(L)$ .

Let  $L' \in X_A^L$ .  $Y_{A,B,C}^L = G_L \cdot (\{L'\} \times Y_{B,C}^{L'}. Y_{B,C}^{L'}. Y_{B,C}^{L'}$  is an irreducible quasiprojective variety;  $\overline{Y_{B,C}^{L'}}$  is an irreducible subvariety of  $\Pi_{N,\operatorname{co}B}^b(L') \times \Pi_{2N,\operatorname{co}C}^{b+c}(L')$ , which is a subvariety of  $\Pi_{2N,\operatorname{co}B}^{a+b}(L) \times \Pi_{3N,\operatorname{co}C}^{a+b+c}(L)$ . Thus  $\{L'\} \times \overline{Y_{B,C}^{L'}}$  is an irreducible subvariety of  $\Pi$ . Therefore  $Y_{A,B,C}^L$  is the image of the irreducible space  $G_L/H_{3N,L} \times \{L'\} \times Y_{B,C}^{L'}$  under the action map, so  $Y_{A,B,C}^L$  is irreducible. Lemma 5.7.2 shows that  $Y_{A,B,C}^L$  is quasiprojective, so  $Y_{A,B,C}^L$  is an irreducible quasiprojective variety.

Corollary 5.7.4. Given  $A, B, C \in \Lambda_1$  with  $\operatorname{co} A = \operatorname{ro} B$  and  $\operatorname{co} B = \operatorname{ro} C$  and  $L \in \mathcal{F}_{\operatorname{ro} A}$ ,  $X_{A,B,C}^L$  is an irreducible topological space.

*Proof.*  $X_{A,B,C}^L$  is the image of  $Y_{A,B,C}^L$  under the forgetful map f and  $Y_{A,B,C}^L$  is irreducible, by Lemma 5.7.3, so  $X_{A,B,C}^L$  is irreducible.

**Lemma 5.7.5.** Given matrices  $A, B, C \in \Lambda_1$  with  $\operatorname{co} A = \operatorname{ro} B$  and  $\operatorname{co} B = \operatorname{ro} C$  and  $L \in \mathcal{F}_{\operatorname{ro} A}$ , there is a unique open  $G_L$ -orbit in  $X_{A,B,C}^L$ .

Proof.  $X_{A,B,C}^L$  is irreducible, by Corollary 5.7.4, and consists of finitely many  $G_L$ -orbits, so contains a dense  $G_L$ -orbit. In particular, there is  $D \in \Lambda_1$  such that  $\overline{X_D^L} = X_{A,B,C}^L$ . Lemma 5.5.2 shows that the  $G_L$ -orbits are locally closed in  $X_{A,B,C}^L$ . In particular,  $X_D^L$  is open in  $\overline{X_D^L} = X_{A,B,C}^L$ . Therefore, there is an open  $G_L$ -orbit in  $X_{A,B,C}^L$ . There is a unique open  $G_L$ -orbit since  $X_{A,B,C}^L$  is irreducible.

**Lemma 5.7.6.** Given  $A, B, C \in \Lambda_1$  with  $\operatorname{co} A = \operatorname{ro} B$  and  $\operatorname{co} B = \operatorname{ro} C$  and  $L \in \mathcal{F}_{\operatorname{ro} A}$ ,  $f^{-1}(X_{A*B,C}^L)$  is open in  $Y_{A,B,C}^L$ .

Proof.

$$f^{-1}(X_{A*B,C}^L) = \left\{ (L', L'', L''') \in Y_{A,B,C}^L : \dim\left(\frac{L_i}{L_i \cap L_j''}\right) \text{ is maximal, for each } i, j \in \mathbb{Z} \right\}$$

is open in  $Y_{A,B,C}^L$  since  $f^{-1}(X_{A*B,C}^L)$  is defined by finitely many open conditions; the function on  $X_{A,B}^L$  given by  $L''\mapsto \dim\left(\frac{L_i}{L_i\cap L_j''}\right)$  is lower semicontinuous, so maximising such a function is an open condition in  $X_{A,B}^L$ .

**Lemma 5.7.7.** Given  $A, B, C \in \Lambda_1$  with  $\operatorname{co} A = \operatorname{ro} B$  and  $\operatorname{co} B = \operatorname{ro} C$  and  $L \in \mathcal{F}_{\operatorname{ro} A}$ ,  $f^{-1}(X_{A,B*C}^L)$  is open in  $Y_{A,B,C}^L$ .

Proof.

$$f^{-1}(X_{A,B*C}^L) = \left\{ (L',L'',L''') \in Y_{A,B,C}^L : \dim\left(\frac{L_i'}{L_i' \cap L_j'''}\right) \text{ is maximal, for each } i,j \in \mathbb{Z} \right\}$$

is open in  $Y_{A,B,C}^L$ , as it is defined by finitely many open conditions; the function on  $X_A^L \times X_{A,B*C}^L$  given by  $(L',L''') \mapsto \dim \left(\frac{L_i'}{L_i' \cap L_j'''}\right)$  is lower semicontinuous, so maximising this function is an open condition on  $X_A^L \times X_{A,B*C}^L$ .

Conjecture 1. Given  $A, B, C \in \Lambda_1$  with  $\operatorname{co} A = \operatorname{ro} B$  and  $\operatorname{co} B = \operatorname{ro} C$  and  $L \in \mathcal{F}_{\operatorname{ro} A}$ ,  $X_{A*B,C}^L$  and  $X_{A,B*C}^L$  are open and dense in  $X_{A,B,C}^L$ .

**Remark 2.** If f is shown to be an open map then this result follows from Lemma 5.7.6 and Lemma 5.7.7.

**Proposition 5.7.8.** Given  $A, B, C \in \Lambda_1$  with  $\operatorname{co} A = \operatorname{ro} B$  and  $\operatorname{co} B = \operatorname{ro} C$ , (A \* B) \* C = A \* (B \* C).

*Proof.* Take  $A, B, C \in \Lambda_1$  with  $\operatorname{co} A = \operatorname{ro} B$  and  $\operatorname{co} B = \operatorname{ro} C$  and fix  $L \in \mathcal{F}_{\operatorname{ro} A}$ .

 $X_{(A*B)*C}^L$  is open in  $X_{A*B,C}^L$ , so  $f^{-1}X_{(A*B)*C}^L$  is open in  $f^{-1}X_{A*B,C}^L$ . Lemma 5.7.6 shows that  $f^{-1}X_{A*B,C}^L$  is open in  $Y_{A,B,C}^L$ , so  $f^{-1}X_{(A*B)*C}^L$  is open in  $Y_{A,B,C}^L$ . Similarly,  $X_{A*(B*C)}^L$  is open in  $X_{A,B*C}^L$  and  $f^{-1}X_{A,B*C}^L$  is open in  $Y_{A,B,C}^L$ , by Lemma 5.7.7, so  $f^{-1}X_{A*(B*C)}^L$  is open in  $Y_{A,B,C}^L$ .

Lemma 5.7.3 shows that  $Y_{A,B,C}^L$  is irreducible, so  $f^{-1}X_{(A*B)*C}^L$  and  $f^{-1}X_{A*(B*C)}^L$  have nonempty intersection. Therefore the  $G_L$ -orbits  $X_{(A*B)*C}^L$  and  $X_{A*(B*C)}^L$  intersect nontrivially, so are the same  $G_L$ -orbit. In particular, (A\*B)\*C = A\*(B\*C).

#### 5.8 The generic algebra

**Lemma 5.8.1.** Given  $\lambda \in \Lambda_0$  and  $A \in \Lambda_1$ ,  $D_{\lambda} * A = A$  if  $\operatorname{ro} A = \lambda$  and  $A * D_{\lambda} = A$  if  $\operatorname{co} A = \lambda$ .

*Proof.* Lemma 3.1.7 shows that  $\Lambda_{1D_{\lambda},A} = \{A\}$  if  $\lambda = \text{ro } A$  and  $\Lambda_{1A,D_{\lambda}} = \{A\}$  if  $\lambda = \text{co } A$ , which proves the result.

**Theorem 5.8.2.** The following constitutes a small category: the set of objects is  $\Lambda_0$  and the set of morphisms is  $\Lambda_1$ . Given compositions  $\lambda, \mu \in \Lambda_0$ , the morphisms with source  $\lambda$  and target  $\mu$  are those matrices  $A \in \Lambda_1$  with  $\operatorname{co} A = \lambda$  and  $\operatorname{ro} A = \mu$ . Given  $\lambda, \mu, \nu \in \Lambda_0$  and  $A, B \in \Lambda_1$  with  $B: \lambda \to \mu$  and  $A: \mu \to \nu$  the composition is  $A * B: \lambda \to \nu$ .

*Proof.* Proposition 5.6.2 shows that the composition is well defined while Proposition 5.7.8 establishes associativity of the composition. Lemma 5.8.1 shows that  $D_{\lambda} \colon \lambda \to \lambda$  is the identity morphism for each  $\lambda \in \Lambda_0$ . Thus  $(\Lambda_0, \Lambda_1, \text{co}, \text{ro}, *)$  is a category.

Write  $\mathcal{G}(n,r)$  to denote this so-called 'generic category'.

**Example 1.** The objects in  $\mathcal{G}(2,2)$  are compositions of 2 into 2 parts, namely (0,2), (1,1) and (2,0). The set of morphisms from  $\lambda$  to  $\mu$  is the set of infinite periodic matrices  $A \in \Lambda_1[2,2]$  with  $\operatorname{co} A = \lambda$  and  $\operatorname{ro} A = \mu$ , which is a countably infinite set for any pair of compositions  $\lambda, \mu \in \Lambda_0[2,2]$ .

**Definition 5.8.1** (Generic algebra). The generic affine algebra  $\hat{G}(n,r)$  is the category  $\mathbb{Z}$ -algebra of  $\mathcal{G}(n,r)$ . In particular,  $\hat{G}(n,r)$  is a free  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module with basis  $\{e_A : A \in \Lambda_1\}$  and with associative multiplication given by

$$e_A * e_B = \begin{cases} e_{A*B} & \text{if } \operatorname{co} A = \operatorname{ro} B \\ 0 & \text{if } \operatorname{co} A \neq \operatorname{ro} B. \end{cases}$$

The multiplicative identity in  $\hat{G}(n,r)$  is

$$1 = \sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda_0} e_{D_\lambda}.$$

# A realisation of affine zero Schur algebras

We aim to prove the isomorphism theorem in the cases r < n and  $n \le r < 2n$  separately. Below are crude versions of the statements we want to prove.

**Theorem 6.0.1.** Assume r < n. The map  $\psi : \hat{G}(n,r) \to \hat{S}_0(n,r)$ , given by  $\psi(E_i) = E_i$ ,  $\psi(F_i) = F_i$  and  $\psi(1_{\lambda}) = 1_{\lambda}$ , is an isomorphism of  $\mathbb{Z}$ -algebras.

**Theorem 6.0.2.** Assume  $n \leq r < 2n$ . There is a unique homomorphism of  $\mathbb{Z}$ -algebras  $\hat{\psi} \colon \hat{G}(n,r) \to \hat{S}_0(n,r)$  such that  $\hat{\psi}(R) = R$  and  $\hat{\psi} = \psi$  on the subalgebra of  $\hat{G}(n,r)$  generated by the  $E_i$ ,  $F_i$  and  $1_{\lambda}$ .  $\hat{\psi}$  is an isomorphism of  $\mathbb{Z}$ -algebras.

#### 6.1 Preliminary results

Recall from Definition 5.8.1 that the generic algebra  $\hat{G}(n,r)$  is an associative  $\mathbb{Z}$ -algebra which is a free  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module with an atomic basis  $\{e_A:A\in\Lambda_1\}$ : given  $A,B\in\Lambda_1$  with  $\operatorname{co} A=\operatorname{ro} B,$   $e_Ae_B=e_{A*B}$ .

#### 6.1.1 Elementary basis elements

Given  $i \in [1, n]$  and  $\lambda \in \Lambda_0$  such that  $\lambda_{i+1} > 0$ , define

$$E_{i,\lambda} = e_{D_{\lambda} + \mathcal{E}_{i,i+1} - \mathcal{E}_{i+1,i+1}}$$

and

$$E_i = \sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda_0: \lambda_{i+1} > 0} E_{i,\lambda}.$$

Given  $i \in [1, n]$  and  $\lambda \in \Lambda_0$  such that  $\lambda_i > 0$ , define

$$F_{i,\lambda} = e_{D_{\lambda} + \mathcal{E}_{i+1,i} - \mathcal{E}_{i,i}}$$

and

$$F_i = \sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda_0: \lambda_i > 0} F_{i,\lambda}.$$

#### 6.1.2 Transpose involution

**Lemma 6.1.1.** The  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module automorphism  $\top$  of  $\hat{G}(n,r)$  given by  $e_A \mapsto e_{A^{\top}}$  is a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -algebra antihomomorphism: that is,

$$e_{A^{\top}} * e_{B^{\top}} = e_B * e_A$$

for each  $A, B \in \Lambda_1$ . Moreover,  $\top(E_{i,\lambda}) = F_{i,\lambda+\alpha_i}$ ,  $\top(F_{i,\lambda}) = E_{i,\lambda-\alpha_i}$  and  $\top(1_{\lambda}) = 1_{\lambda}$ , for permissible  $(i,\lambda) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \Lambda_0$ .

*Proof.* This is a consequence of Lemma 4.1.1. It must also be shown that the transpose operation on  $\Lambda_1$  is order preserving.

#### 6.1.3 Multiplication rules

**Lemma 6.1.2.** Given  $A \in \Lambda_1$  and  $i \in [1, n]$  such that ro  $A_{i+1} > 0$ ,

$$E_i e_A = e_{A + \mathcal{E}_{i,p} - \mathcal{E}_{i+1,p}},$$

where  $p = \max\{p' \in \mathbb{Z} : a_{i+1,p'} > 0\}$ . Given  $A \in \Lambda_1$  and  $i \in [1, n]$  such that ro  $A_i > 0$ ,

$$F_i e_A = e_{A + \mathcal{E}_{i+1,p} - \mathcal{E}_{i,p}},$$

where  $p = \min\{p' \in \mathbb{Z} : a_{i,p'} > 0\}.$ 

Similar formulas for right multiplication by  $E_i$  and  $F_i$  are obtained by applying the transpose.

#### 6.2 Presentation of the generic algebra.

Recall that  $\Lambda_0$  denotes the set of compositions of r into n parts. That is,  $\Lambda_0$  is the set of tuples  $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n) \in \mathbb{Z}^n$  with each  $\lambda_i$  non-negative and  $\lambda_1 + \dots + \lambda_n = r$ . Given  $i \in [1, n]$ , let  $\varepsilon_i = (0, \dots, 1, \dots, 0) \in \mathbb{Z}^n$  be the i-th elementary vector and let  $\alpha_i = \varepsilon_i - \varepsilon_{i+1}$ . Then given  $\lambda \in \Lambda_0$ , we have  $\lambda + \alpha_i \in \Lambda_0$  provided  $\lambda_{i+1} > 0$  and  $\lambda - \alpha_i \in \Lambda_0$  provided  $\lambda_i > 0$ .

Let  $\Gamma = \Gamma(n, r)$  be the quiver with set of vertices  $\Lambda_0$  with arrows  $e_{i,\lambda} : \lambda \to \lambda + \alpha_i$  (if  $\lambda_{i+1} > 0$ ) and  $f_{i,\lambda} : \lambda \to \lambda - \alpha_i$  (if  $\lambda_i > 0$ ). Thus there are no arrows between  $\lambda$  and  $\mu$  unless  $\lambda = \mu \pm \alpha_i$  for some  $i \in [1, n]$ .

If  $n \geq 3$  then neighbouring vertices are connected by two arrows, one of each direction. In the case n = 2, neighbouring vertices are joined by four arrows, two of each direction. The  $\mathbb{Z}\Gamma$  denote the path  $\mathbb{Z}$  algebra of  $\Gamma$ . By construction of  $\Gamma$ , there is a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -algebra homomorphism  $\mathbb{Z}\Gamma \to \hat{G}(n,r)$  with  $e_{i,\lambda} \mapsto E_{i,\lambda}$ ,  $f_{i,\lambda} \mapsto F_{i,\lambda}$  and  $k_{\lambda} = 1_{\lambda}$ . We aim to describe the image and kernel of the morphism to give a presentation of the generic algebra by a quiver with relations, when possible. In general, we should obtain a presentation of a subalgebra of the generic algebra consisting of the so-called aperiodic elements (c.f. [3]).

**Definition 6.2.1.** (aperiodicity)  $A \in \Lambda_1$  is aperiodic if for each  $l \in \mathbb{Z} \setminus \{0\}$  there exists  $i \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $a_{i,i+l} = 0$ . Denote the set of aperiodic elements in  $\Lambda_1$  by  $\Lambda_1^{ap}$ . Note that  $\Lambda_1^{ap} = \Lambda_1$  if r < n. Linear combinations of the basis elements corresponding to aperiodic matrices are also said to be aperiodic - if A is aperiodic, we say  $e_A$  is aperiodic.

**Lemma 6.2.1.** Let  $A \in \Lambda_1$  and write  $\lambda = \text{ro } A$ . If A is aperiodic and  $\lambda_{i+1} > 0$ , then  $E_i * e_A$  is aperiodic. If A is aperiodic and  $\lambda_i > 0$ , then  $F_i * e_A$  is aperiodic.

Proof. Suppose  $A \in \Lambda_1$  is aperiodic and  $\lambda_{i+1} > 0$ , where  $\lambda = \operatorname{ro} A$ . There is  $p \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $a_{i+1,p} > 0$  and  $a_{i+1,p'} = 0$  whenever p' > p. Lemma 6.1.2 shows that  $E_i * e_A = e_B$ , where  $B = A + \mathcal{E}_{i,p} - \mathcal{E}_{i+1,p}$ . Let  $l \in \mathbb{Z} \setminus \{0\}$ . If  $l \notin \{p-i,p-i-1\}$ , then  $b_{s,s+l} = a_{s,s+l}$  for each  $s \in \mathbb{Z}$ , so there is  $s \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $b_{s,s+l} = a_{s,s+l} = 0$ , since A is aperiodic. If l = p - i, then  $b_{i+1,i+1+l} = b_{i+1,p+1} = a_{i+1,p+1} = 0$ , by maximality of p. If l = p - i - 1, there is  $s \neq i+1$  such that  $a_{s,s+l} = 0$ , since A is aperiodic and  $a_{i+1,i+1+l} = a_{i+1,p} > 0$ , so  $b_{s,s+l} = a_{s,s+l} = 0$ . Therefore,  $B = A + \mathcal{E}_{i,p} - \mathcal{E}_{i+1,p}$  is aperiodic.

Suppose  $A \in \Lambda_1$  is aperiodic and  $\lambda_i > 0$ , where  $\lambda = \text{ro } A$ . Lemma 6.1.2 shows that  $F_i * e_A = e_C$  where  $C = A + \mathcal{E}_{i+1,p} - \mathcal{E}_{i,p}$  and  $p = \min\{p' \in \mathbb{Z} : a_{i,p'} > 0\}$ . Let  $l \in \mathbb{Z} \setminus \{0\}$ . If  $l \notin \{p-i, p-i-1\}$  then  $c_{s,s+l} = a_{s,s+l}$  for each  $s \in \mathbb{Z}$ , so there is  $s \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $c_{s,s+p} = a_{s,s+p} = 0$ , by aperiodicity of A. If l = p - i, then  $a_{i,i+l} = a_{i,p} > 0$ , so there is  $s \neq i$  such that  $a_{s,s+l} = 0$ . Then  $c_{s,s+l} = a_{s,s+l} = 0$ . Finally, if l = p - i - 1, then  $c_{i,i+l} = a_{i,p-1} = 0$  by minimality of p. Thus C is aperiodic as required.

**Definition 6.2.2.** (Weight function) Define the weight function  $\operatorname{wt}: \Lambda_1 \to \mathbb{Z}$  by

$$\operatorname{wt} A = \sum_{i \in [1, n], j \in \mathbb{Z}} |j - i| a_{i, j}$$

for each  $A \in \Lambda_1$ . The sum is taken over a transversal of the set of congruence classes of (i, j) modulo (n, n) for  $i, j \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

**Lemma 6.2.2.** Let  $A \in \Lambda_1$  and write  $\lambda = \text{ro } A$ . Suppose  $\lambda_{i+1} > 0$  and set  $p = \max\{p' \in \mathbb{Z} : a_{i+1,p'} > 0\}$ . If p > i then  $\text{wt } e_{i,\lambda} * A = 1 + \text{wt } A$ . If  $p \leq i$  then  $\text{wt } e_{i,\lambda} * A = -1 + \text{wt } A$ . Suppose  $\lambda_i > 0$  and set  $q = \min\{q' \in \mathbb{Z} : a_{i,q'} > 0\}$ . If  $q \leq i$  then  $\text{wt } f_{i,\lambda} * A = 1 + \text{wt } A$ . If q > i then  $\text{wt } f_{i,\lambda} * A = -1 + \text{wt } A$ .

Proof. Lemma 6.1.2 shows that  $e_i A = A + \mathcal{E}_{i,p} - \mathcal{E}_{i+1,p}$ , so wt  $e_i A - \text{wt } A = |p-i| - |p-i-1|$ , which equals 1 if p > i and equals -1 if  $p \le i$ . Similarly,  $f_i A = A + \mathcal{E}_{i+1,q} - \mathcal{E}_{i,q}$  by Lemma 6.1.2, so wt  $f_i A - \text{wt } A = |q-i-1| - |q-i|$ , which equals -1 if q > i and equals 1 if  $q \le i$ .

**Lemma 6.2.3.** If  $A \in \Lambda_1$  is aperiodic, then  $e_A$  may be obtained from  $1_{co A}$  by finitely many applications of  $E_i$  and  $F_i$  for  $i \in [1, n]$ .

**Proposition 6.2.4.** The  $\mathbb{Z}$ -subalgebra of  $\hat{G}(n,r)$  generated by  $E_{i,\lambda}$ ,  $F_{i,\lambda}$  and  $1_{\lambda}$  has  $\mathbb{Z}$ -basis  $\{e_A : A \in \Lambda_1^{ap}\}$ , where  $\Lambda_1^{ap} \subset \Lambda_1$  is the set of aperiodic elements.

Proof.

#### 6.2.1 The typical case.

**Lemma 6.2.5.** The following relations hold in  $\hat{G}(n,r)$   $(n \geq 3)$ :

$$E_i E_j - E_j E_i = 0$$

$$F_i F_j - F_j F_i = 0$$

unless |j - i| = 1.

$$E_i E_{i+1}^2 - E_{i+1} E_i E_{i+1} = 0$$

$$E_i^2 E_{i+1} - E_i E_{i+1} E_i = 0$$

$$F_{i+1} F_i^2 - F_i F_{i+1} F_i = 0$$

$$F_{i+1}^2 F_i - F_{i+1} F_i F_{i+1} = 0$$

$$E_i F_j - F_j E_i = 0$$

unless j = i.

$$E_i Fi - F_i E_i + \sum_{\lambda: \lambda_i = 0, \lambda_{i+1} > 0} 1_{\lambda} - \sum_{\lambda: \lambda_i > 0, \lambda_{i+1} = 0} 1_{\lambda} = 0.$$

#### 6.2.2 Exceptional case.

In this case, the quiver  $\Gamma(2,r)$  has vertices  $\Lambda_0[2,r] = \{(0,r),(1,r-1),\ldots,(r,0)\}$ ; adjacent vertices are connected by two pairs of arrows with opposite orientation:  $(e_1,f_1)$  and  $(e_2,f_2)$ . The relations arising from  $\hat{G}(2,r)$  are of a more complicated form - in particular, the serre relations of total degree 3 will not hold in this case - so this case will be treated separately and at a later date.

## Further directions

#### 7.1 Further results on affine zero Schur algebras

[1] Investigate link between this generic product and the generic extension of representations. Shifting to the non-negative subalgebra to do computations purely in terms of generic extensions of quiver representations.

#### 7.2 Deformed group algebras of symmetric groups

[2] Degenerate group algebras of symmetric groups: write down a presentation of the degenerate group algebras, with generators given by the transpositions, or 2-cycles. Type up the computations done for degenerate group algebras for  $S_3$  and  $S_4$ . Formulate propositions for the general case: the transpositions generate the degenerate group algebra; lemma: 'these' relations hold; these generators and relations give a presentation of the degenerate group algebras.

Terminology: deformed group algebra.

# **Bibliography**

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