

SL2Reps

Constructs representations of $SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$.

0.1

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Chapter 1

Introduction

This package, `SL2Reps`, provides methods for constructing and testing matrix presentations of the representations of $SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$.

Irreducible representations of prime-power level are constructed individually by means of Weil representations, and from these a list of all representations of a given degree or level may be produced. The format is designed to be useful in the study of modular tensor categories in particular.

1.1 Installation

To install `SL2Reps`, first download it from `TODD`, then place it in the `pkg` subdirectory of your GAP installation (or in the `pkg` subdirectory of any other GAP root directory, for example one added with the `-l` argument).

`SL2Reps` is then loaded with the GAP command

```
gap> LoadPackage( "SL2Reps" );
```

1.2 Usage

Specific irreducible representations may be constructed via the methods in Chapter 5, while lists of irreducible representations with a given degree or level may be constructed with those in Chapter 3.

This package uses an `InfoClass`, `InfoSL2Reps`. It may be set to 0 (silent), 1 (info), or 2 (verbose). To change it, use

```
gap> SetInfoLevel(InfoSL2Reps, k);
```

Chapter 2

Description

The group $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z})$ is generated by $\mathfrak{s} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ and $\mathfrak{t} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ (which satisfy the relations $\mathfrak{s}^4 = (\mathfrak{st})^3 = \mathrm{id}$). Thus, any complex representation ρ of $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z})$ on \mathbb{C}^n (where $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ is called the *degree* of ρ) is defined by the $n \times n$ matrices $S = \rho(\mathfrak{s})$ and $T = \rho(\mathfrak{t})$. In fact, any such representation factors through $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/\ell\mathbb{Z})$ for some $\ell \in \mathbb{Z}^+$; the smallest such ℓ is called the *level* of ρ . We therefore present representations in the form of a record

```
rec(S, T, degree, level, name)
```

where the name follows the conventions of [NW76]. Note that our definition of \mathfrak{s} follows that of [Nob76]; other authors prefer the inverse, i.e. $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$. When working with that convention, one must invert the S matrices output by this package.

Throughout, we denote by \mathfrak{e} the map $k \mapsto e^{2\pi i k}$ (an isomorphism from \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z} to the group of finite roots of unity in \mathbb{C}).

2.1 Construction

For any representation ρ of $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z})$, we may decompose ρ as a direct sum of irreducible representations of prime-power level using the Chinese remainder theorem. Therefore, to characterize all representations of $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z})$, it suffices to consider irreducible representations (irreps) of $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/p^\lambda\mathbb{Z})$.

Such representations may be constructed using Weil representations as described in [Nob76, Section 1]. The Weil representations used by this package have the following form. Let p be a prime number and $\lambda \in \mathbb{Z}^+$. Choose a $\mathbb{Z}/p^\lambda\mathbb{Z}$ -module M of rank 1 or 2, and a quadratic form Q on M , such that (M, Q) is of one of the three types described in Section 2.2. The *quadratic module* (M, Q) then gives rise to a representation of $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/p^\lambda\mathbb{Z})$ on the vector space $V = \mathbb{C}^M$ of complex-valued functions on M . This representation is denoted $W(M, Q)$.

With a finite number of exceptions, every representation of $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/p^\lambda\mathbb{Z})$ may be found as a subrepresentation of $W(M, Q)$ for an appropriate choice of (M, Q) [NW76, Hauptsatz 2] (the 18 exceptions may be found as the tensor product of two such subrepresentations; these may be generated with `SL2ExceptionalIrreps` (3.3.1)).

The subrepresentations in question are often of the form $W(M, Q, \chi)$, defined as follows. Let \mathfrak{A} be an abelian subgroup of $\mathrm{Aut}(M, Q) = \{ \varphi \in \mathrm{Aut}(M) \mid Q(\varphi(x)) = Q(x) \text{ for all } x \in M \}$ and $\chi \in \hat{\mathfrak{A}}$. Define $V_\chi = \{ f \in V \mid f(\varphi(x)) = \chi(\varphi) f(x) \text{ for all } x \in M \text{ and } \varphi \in \mathfrak{A} \}$ which is a $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/p^\lambda\mathbb{Z})$ -invariant subspace of V . We then denote by $W(M, Q, \chi)$ the subrepresentation of $W(M, Q)$ corresponding to V_χ .

In this context, we will frequently refer to a character χ as being *primitive*, which means that it can not be written in the form $\chi' \circ \pi$, where π is the canonical projection from \mathfrak{A} to the corresponding automorphism group \mathfrak{A}' of some quadratic module (pM, Q') with $Q'(px) = pQ(x)$ for all $x \in M$ and $\chi' \in \hat{\mathfrak{A}}'$.

All representations of $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z})$ may then be found as direct sums of these prime-power irreps.

2.2 Weil representation types

2.2.1 Type D

Let p be prime and $\lambda \geq 1$. Then the Weil representation arising from the quadratic module with $M = \mathbb{Z}/p^\lambda\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/p^\lambda\mathbb{Z}$ and $Q(x, y) = \frac{xy}{p^\lambda}$ is said to be of type D and denoted $D(p, \lambda)$. Information on (M, Q) may be obtained via `SL2ModuleD` (5.1.1), and subrepresentations of $D(p, \lambda)$ with level p^λ may be constructed via `SL2IrrepD` (5.1.2).

2.2.2 Type N

Let p be prime and $\lambda \geq 1$. Then the Weil representation arising from the quadratic module with $M = \mathbb{Z}/p^\lambda\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/p^\lambda\mathbb{Z}$ and $Q(x, y) = \frac{x^2 + xy + \frac{1+u}{4}y^2}{p^\lambda}$ (where, for $p \neq 2$, u is chosen so that $u \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ with $\left(\frac{-u}{p}\right) = -1$, and for $p = 2$, $u = 3$) is said to be of type N and denoted $N(p, \lambda)$. Information on (M, Q) may be obtained via `SL2ModuleN` (5.2.1), and subrepresentations of $D(p, \lambda)$ with level p^λ may be constructed via `SL2IrrepN` (5.2.2).

2.2.3 Type R

The construction of type R varies depending on whether $p = 2$.

First, if p is an odd prime, let $\lambda \geq 2$, $\sigma \in \{1, \dots, \lambda\}$, and $r, t \in \{1, u\}$ with u a quadratic non-residue mod p . Then define $M = \mathbb{Z}/p^\lambda\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/p^{\lambda-\sigma}\mathbb{Z}$ and $Q(x, y) = \frac{r(x^2 + p^\sigma ty^2)}{p^\lambda}$.

On the other hand, if $p = 2$, let $\lambda \geq 2$, $\sigma \in \{0, \dots, \lambda - 2\}$ and $r, t \in \{1, 3, 5, 7\}$. Then define $M = \mathbb{Z}/2^{\lambda-1}\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/2^{\lambda-\sigma-1}\mathbb{Z}$ and $Q(x, y) = \frac{r(x^2 + 2^\sigma ty^2)}{2^\lambda}$.

In either case, the resulting representation is said to be of type R and denoted $R(p, \lambda, \sigma, r, t)$. Information on (M, Q) may be obtained via `SL2ModuleR` (5.3.1), and subrepresentations of $R(p, \lambda, \sigma, r, t)$ with level p^λ may be constructed via `SL2IrrepR` (5.3.2). Note that if $\sigma = \lambda$ for $p \neq 2$, then the second factor of M is trivial (and hence t is irrelevant); this special case is handled by `SL2IrrepUnary` (5.3.3).

Chapter 3

Lists of representations

3.1 Lists by degree

3.1.1 SL2PrimePowerIrrepsOfDegree

- ▷ `SL2PrimePowerIrrepsOfDegree(degree)` (function)
Returns: a list of records of the form `rec(S, T, degree, level, name)`
Constructs a list of all irreps of $SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$ that are exactly the given degree and have prime power level.

3.1.2 SL2PrimePowerIrrepsOfDegreeAtMost

- ▷ `SL2PrimePowerIrrepsOfDegreeAtMost(max_degree)` (function)
Returns: a list of records of the form `rec(S, T, degree, level, name)`
Constructs a list of all irreps of $SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$ that are at most the given degree and have prime power level.

3.1.3 SL2IrrepsOfDegree

- ▷ `SL2IrrepsOfDegree(degree)` (function)
Returns: a list of records of the form `rec(S, T, degree, level, name)`
Constructs a list of all irreps of $SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$ that are exactly the given degree.

3.1.4 SL2IrrepsOfDegreeAtMost

- ▷ `SL2IrrepsOfDegreeAtMost(degree)` (function)
Returns: a list of records of the form `rec(S, T, degree, level, name)`
Constructs a list of all irreps of $SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$ that are at most the given degree.

3.2 Lists by level

3.2.1 SL2PrimePowerIrrepsOfLevel

- ▷ `SL2PrimePowerIrrepsOfLevel(p, lambda)` (function)
Returns: a list of records of the form `rec(S, T, degree, level, name)`
Constructs a list of all irreps of $SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$ with level exactly p^λ .

3.3 Lists of exceptional representations

3.3.1 SL2ExceptionalIrreps

▷ `SL2ExceptionalIrreps(arg)`

(function)

Returns: a list of records of the form `rec(S, T, degree, level, name)`

Constructs a list of the 18 exceptional irreps of $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z})$.

Chapter 4

Methods for testing

4.1 Testing

4.1.1 SL2WithConjClasses

- ▷ `SL2WithConjClasses(p, ld)` (function)
Returns: the group $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/p^\lambda\mathbb{Z})$ with conjugacy classes set to the format we use.

4.1.2 SL2ChiST

- ▷ `SL2ChiST(S, T, p, ld)` (function)
Returns: a list representing a character of $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/p^\lambda\mathbb{Z})$
Converts the modular data (S, T) , which must have level dividing p^λ , into a character of $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/p^\lambda\mathbb{Z})$, presented in a form matching the conjugacy classes used in `SL2WithConjClasses`.

4.1.3 SL2IrrepPositionTest

- ▷ `SL2IrrepPositionTest(p, lambda)` (function)
Returns: a boolean
Constructs and tests all irreps of level dividing p^λ by checking their positions in $\mathrm{Irr}(G)$.

Chapter 5

Irreducible representations of prime-power level

Methods for generating individual irreducible representations of $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/p^\lambda\mathbb{Z})$ for a given level p^λ .

In each case (except the unary type R , for which see `SL2IrrepRUnary` (5.3.3)), the underlying module M is of rank 2, so its elements have the form (x, y) and are thus represented by lists $[x, y]$.

5.1 Representations of type D

See 2.2.1.

5.1.1 SL2ModuleD

▷ `SL2ModuleD(p , ld)` (function)

Returns: a record `rec(Agrp, Bp, Char, IsPrim)` describing (M, Q)

Constructs information about the underlying quadratic module (M, Q) of type D .

`Agrp` is a list describing the elements of $\mathfrak{A} = (\mathbb{Z}/p^\lambda\mathbb{Z})^\times$ (see [NW76, Section 2.1]). The group \mathfrak{A} has the following form. When $p = 2$ and $\lambda \geq 3$, it is generated by $\alpha = -1$ and $\zeta = 5$. Otherwise, it is cyclic; in this case, we choose a generator α and (for simplicity) say $\zeta = 1$. Each element a of \mathfrak{A} is represented in `Agrp` by a list `[v, a, a_inv]`, where `v` is a list defined by $a = \alpha^{v[1]} \zeta^{v[2]}$.

`Bp` is a list of representatives for the \mathfrak{A} -orbits on M^\times , which correspond to a basis the $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/p^\lambda\mathbb{Z})$ -invariant subspace associated to any primitive character $\chi \in \hat{\mathfrak{A}}$ with $\chi^2 \neq 1$. For other characters, we must use different bases which are particular to each case.

`Char(i, j)` converts two integers i, j to a function representing a character of \mathfrak{A} . Each character in $\hat{\mathfrak{A}}$ is of the form $\chi_{i,j}$, given by
$$\chi_{i,j}(\alpha^v \zeta^w) \mapsto \mathbf{e}\left(\frac{vi}{\alpha}\right) \mathbf{e}\left(\frac{wj}{\zeta}\right)$$
 Note that j is irrelevant in the cases where \mathfrak{A} is cyclic.

`IsPrim(chi)` tests whether the output of `Char(i, j)` represents a primitive character. A character is primitive if it is injective on $\langle o \rangle \leq \mathfrak{A}$, where o is defined as follows. If $p = 2$ and $\lambda \geq 3$, $o = 5$. If $\lambda = 1$, $o = \alpha$. In all other cases, $o = 1 + p$.

5.1.2 SL2IrrepD

▷ SL2IrrepD(p , ld , chi_index) (function)

Returns: a list of lists of the form $[S, T]$

Constructs the modular data for the irreducible representation(s) of type D with level p^λ corresponding to the character χ indexed by $chi_index = [i, j]$ (see the discussion of $Char(i, j)$ in SL2ModuleD (5.1.1)).

Depending on the parameters, $W(M, Q)$ will contain either 1 or 2 such irreps.

5.2 Representations of type N

See 2.2.2.

5.2.1 SL2ModuleN

▷ SL2ModuleN(p , ld) (function)

Returns: a record $rec(Agrp, Bp, Char, IsPrim, Nm, Prod)$ describing (M, Q)

Constructs information about the underlying quadratic module (M, Q) of type N .

$Agrp$ is a list describing the elements of $\mathfrak{A} = \{\varepsilon \in M^\times \mid Nm(\varepsilon) = 1\}$ (see [NW76, Section 2.2]). The group \mathfrak{A} has the following form. When $\lambda \geq 2$, it is generated by α and ζ : for $p = 2$, $|\alpha| = 2^{\lambda-2}$ and $|\zeta| = 6$, while for $p \neq 2$, $|\alpha| = p^{\lambda-1}$ and $|\zeta| = p + 1$. On the other hand, when $\lambda = 1$, \mathfrak{A} is cyclic; in this case, we choose a generator ζ with $|\zeta| = p + 1$ and (for simplicity) say $\alpha = 1$. Each element a of \mathfrak{A} is represented in $Agrp$ by a list $[v, a]$, where v is a list defined by $a = \alpha^{v[1]} \zeta^{v[2]}$.

Bp is a list of representatives for the \mathfrak{A} -orbits on M^\times , which correspond to a basis the $SL_2(\mathbb{Z}/p^\lambda\mathbb{Z})$ -invariant subspace associated to any primitive character $\chi \in \hat{\mathfrak{A}}$ with $\chi^2 \neq 1$. For other characters, we must use different bases which are particular to each case.

$Char(i, j)$ converts two integers i, j to a function representing a character of \mathfrak{A} . Each character in $\hat{\mathfrak{A}}$ is of the form $\chi_{i,j}$, given by $\backslash(\backslash chi_{\{i,j\}}(\alpha^{\{v\}} \zeta^{\{w\}}) \mapsto \mathbf{e}^{\left(\frac{vi}{\alpha} \right)} \mathbf{e}^{\left(\frac{wj}{\zeta} \right)} \sim \backslash$. Note that i is irrelevant in the cases where \mathfrak{A} is cyclic.

$IsPrim(chi)$ tests whether the output of $Char(i, j)$ represents a primitive character. As a special case, for $p = 2$, $\lambda = 2$, a character is primitive if $\chi(-1) = -1$. For all other cases, a character is primitive if it is injective on $\langle o \rangle \leq \mathfrak{A}$, where o is defined as follows. If $\lambda = 1$, $o = \zeta$; otherwise $o = \alpha$.

$Nm(a)$ and $Prod(a, b)$ are the norm and product functions on M , respectively.

5.2.2 SL2IrrepN

▷ SL2IrrepN(p , ld , chi_index) (function)

Returns: a list of lists of the form $[S, T]$

Constructs the modular data for the irreducible representation(s) of type N with level p^λ corresponding to the character χ indexed by $chi_index = [i, j]$ (see the discussion of $Char(i, j)$ in SL2ModuleN (5.2.1)).

Depending on the parameters, $W(M, Q)$ will contain either 1 or 2 such irreps.

5.3 Representations of type R

See 2.2.3.

5.3.1 SL2ModuleR

▷ `SL2ModuleR(p, ld, sigma, r, t)` (function)

Returns: a record `rec(Agrp, Char, IsPrim, Nm, Ord, Prod, c, tM)` describing (M, Q)

Constructs information about the underlying quadratic module (M, Q) of type R .

`Agrp` describes the elements of $\mathfrak{A} = \{\varepsilon \in M^\times \mid \text{Nm}(\varepsilon) = 1\}$ (see [NW76, Section 2.3 - 2.5]).

Representatives for the \mathfrak{A} -orbits on M^\times can depend on the choice of character, even for primitive characters χ with $\chi^2 \neq 1$. Thus, we cannot provide them here, and they are instead calculated by `SL2IrrepR` (5.3.2).

`Char(i, j)` converts the `chi_index` used in `SL2IrrepR` (5.3.2) to a function.

`IsPrim(chi)` tests whether a given character (e.g. from `Char`) is primitive.

`Nm(a)`, `Ord(a)`, and `Prod(a, b)` are the norm, order, and product functions on M , respectively.

`c` is a scalar used in calculating the S -matrix; namely $c = \frac{1}{|M|} \sum_{x \in M} \mathbf{e}(Q(x))$.

`tM` is the group $M - pM$.

5.3.2 SL2IrrepR

▷ `SL2IrrepR(p, ld, sigma, r, t, chi_index)` (function)

Returns: a list of lists of the form $[S, T]$

Constructs the modular data for the irreducible representation(s) of type R with level p^λ corresponding to the character χ indexed by `chi_index`.

When $\sigma = \lambda$, this falls through to `SL2IrrepRUnary` (5.3.3).

5.3.3 SL2IrrepRUnary

▷ `SL2IrrepRUnary(p, ld, r)` (function)

Returns: a list of lists of the form $[S, T]$

Constructs the modular data for the irreducible representation(s) of unary type R (that is, with $\sigma = \lambda$) with level p^λ .

References

- [Nob76] Alexandre Nobs. Die irreduziblen Darstellungen der Gruppen $SL_2(Z_p)$, insbesondere $SL_2(Z_2)$. I. *Comment. Math. Helv.*, 51(4):465–489, 1976. [4](#)
- [NW76] Alexandre Nobs and Jürgen Wolfart. Die irreduziblen Darstellungen der Gruppen $SL_2(Z_p)$, insbesondere $SL_2(Z_p)$. II. *Comment. Math. Helv.*, 51(4):491–526, 1976. [4](#), [9](#), [10](#), [11](#)

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