## McKay correspondence

#### Jacob Fjeld Grevstad

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#### Abstract

The goal of this thesis is to establish a 1-1 correspondence between quivers created from the four following sets whenever G is a finite subgroup of  $SL(2,\mathbb{C})$  and S is the power series ring  $\mathbb{C}[\![x,y]\!]$ 

- $\bullet\,$  The Maximal Cohen-Macaulay modules of the fixed ring  $S^G.$
- The indecomposable projective modules of the skew group algerba S#G.
- The indecomposable projective modules of  $\operatorname{End}_{S^G}(S)$ .
- The irreducible representations of G (indecomposable  $\mathbb{C}G$ -modules).

Much of the thesis will be used to define these four quivers and to develope tools to establish such a correspondence. A similar correspondence can be established for a general field k and a finite subgroup of GL(n,k) with order nonzero in k, but the case for  $SL(2,\mathbb{C})$  is the most interesting as the quivers will be extended Dynkin diagrams.

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## 1 Finite subgroups of SL(2,C)

## 2 Characters and irreducible representations

This section is largely based on the book by [James and Liebeck, 2001].

Recall that the trace of a matrix is defined to be the sum of its diagonal elements and that the trace satisfies two important equations. Namely

$$tr(A+B) = tr(A) + tr(B)$$
 and  $tr(AB) = tr(BA)$ 

For a given representation of G,  $\rho: G \to GL_n(\mathbb{C})$ , we define its character by  $\chi_{\rho}: G \to \mathbb{C}$ ,  $\chi_{\rho}(g) = tr(\rho(g))$ .

**Proposition 2.1.** Conjugate elements in G take the same value under a character.

*Proof.* Let g and g' be in the same conjugacy class. Then there exists an element h such that  $h^{-1}gh = g'$ . Then we have

$$\chi(g') = \chi(h^{-1}gh) = tr(\rho(h)^{-1}\rho(g)\rho(h)) \stackrel{*}{=} tr(\rho(g)\rho(h)\rho(h)^{-1}) = tr(\rho(g)) = \chi(g)$$

In (\*) we use the fact that 
$$tr(AB) = tr(BA)$$
.

**Lemma 2.1.** For a finite abelian group G any irreducible representation must be 1-dimensional.

Proof. Let  $\rho: G \to GL(V)$  be an irreducible representation. Since G is abelian we have that  $\rho(g)\rho(h)v = \rho(h)\rho(g)v$ . Thus multiplication by  $\rho(g)$  respects the action of G and we have that  $\rho(g)$  is a homomorphism of G-representations between  $\rho$  and itself. Then by Schur's lemma<sup>1</sup>  $\rho(g)$  must be a scalar multiplication. In other words every matrix  $\rho(g)$  for  $g \in G$  is diagonal (it is a scaling of identity). This implies that  $\rho$  can be written as a direct sum of 1-dimensional representations, but since  $\rho$  is irreducible  $\rho$  must be 1-dimensional.

**Proposition 2.2.** If  $\chi$  is the character of a representation,  $\rho$ , with dimension n of a group G, and g is an element of G with order m, then the following holds

(1) 
$$\chi(1) = n$$

(2)  $\chi(g)$  is the sum of m-th roots of unity.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Statement and proof of Schur's lemma can be found in the appendix A.1

$$(3) \ \chi(g^{-1}) = \overline{\chi(g)}$$

Proof.

(1) The first result is immidiate.

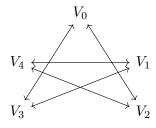
$$\chi(1) = tr \left( \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & 1 \end{bmatrix} \right) = n$$

- (2) Since  $\langle g \rangle$  is an abelian group,  $\rho$  decomposes into n 1-dimensional  $\langle g \rangle$ representations. Then there is a basis such that  $\rho(g)$  is diagonal. Since g has order m it follows that the diagonal entries of  $\rho(g)$  must be m-th roots of unity. Thus  $\chi(g) = tr(\rho(g))$  must be the sum of m-th roots of unity.
- (3) Using the same basis as above and the fact that  $\underline{\omega}^{-1} = \overline{\omega}$  when  $\underline{\omega}$  is a root of unity we see that  $\chi(g^{-1}) = tr(\rho(g)^{-1}) = \overline{tr(\rho(g))} = \overline{\chi(g)}$ .

3 The McKay quiver

**Definition 3.1.** Let G be a finite subgroup of  $GL(n, \mathbb{C})$ , and let V be the cannonical representation (the one that sends g to g). Then we define the  $\underline{McKay\ quiver}$  of G to be the quiver with vertices the irreducible representations of G, denoted  $V_i$ . For two irreducible representations  $V_i$  and  $V_j$  we say there is an arrow from the former to the latter if and only if  $V_j$  is a direct summand of  $V \otimes V_i$ .

**Example 3.1.** Let G be the group generated by  $g = \begin{bmatrix} \omega^2 & 0 \\ 0 & \omega^3 \end{bmatrix}$ , where  $\omega$  is the primitive fifth root of unity. Then there are five different irreducible representations, the one sending g to  $\omega$ ,  $\omega^2$ ,  $\omega^3$ ,  $\omega^4$  respectively, and the trivial representation. Denote the representation sending g to  $\omega^i$  by  $V_i$ , and let  $V = V_2 \oplus V_3$  be the cannonical representation. Note that  $V_i \otimes V_j = V_{i+j}$ , where i+j is understood to be modulo 5. Then we get the following McKay-quiver



#### 4 Krull-Remack-Schmidt

This section is largely based on the book by [Leuschke and Wiegand, 2012]. Here we will prove the Krull-Remack-Schmidt theorem for complete local noetherian rings.

We say a ring satisfies Krull-Remack-Schmidt if the following condition holds:

- (i) Any finitely generated module can be written as the finite direct sum of indecomposable modules.
- (ii) If

$$\bigoplus_{i=1}^{m} M_i \cong \bigoplus_{j=1}^{n} N_j$$

for indecomposable  $M_i$ 's and  $N_j$ 's, then m=n and there is a permutation,  $\sigma \in S_n$ , such that  $M_i \cong N_{\sigma(i)}$  for all  $i=1,2,\cdots,n$ .

It's clear that (i) golds for any noetherian ring, since any decomposition of a noetherian module must eventually reach an indecomposable. In this chapter we will focus on proving (ii).

# 5 Skew group algebra S#G indecomposable projectives

This section is largely based on the book by [Leuschke and Wiegand, 2012]. This section will use definitions and theorems from representation theory as taught in the courses MA3203 - Ring Theory and MA3204 - homological algebra. Since I do not assume knowledge of this I have created appendix A. I will try to use footnotes to indicate where such theorems are used.

**Definition 5.1.** If G is a subgroup of  $GL_n(\mathbb{C})$ , we can extend the group action of G to  $\mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ . We then define the skew group algebra  $\mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_n] \# G$  to be the algebra generated by elements of the form  $f \cdot g$  with  $f \in \mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  and  $g \in G$ , and we define the multiplication by

$$(f_1 \cdot g_1) \cdot (f_2 \cdot g_2) = (f_1 \cdot f_2^{g_1}) \cdot (g_1 \cdot g_2)$$

Where  $f^g$  denotes the image of f under the action of g.

**Theorem 5.1.** We have an isomorphism of rings

$$e\mathbb{C}[\![x,y]\!]\#Ge\simeq\mathbb{C}[\![x,y]\!]^G$$

where  $e = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} g$ .

Proof. Let  $f^g$  denote the image of f under the action of g. Then if we let f(x,y)g be an element of the skew algebra we get that  $ef(x,y)ge = f(x,y)^e \cdot ege = f(x,y)^e \cdot e = e \cdot f(x,y)$ . It then follows that  $e\mathbb{C}[\![x,y]\!]\#Ge$  is isomorphic to the image of  $\mathbb{C}[\![x,y]\!]$  under the action of e. Since ge = g for all  $g \in G$  it is clear that the image of e is contained in the fixed ring. For the converse you just need to notice that the fixed ring is fixed under e and thus is contained in the image.

**Lemma 5.1.** Let  $S = \mathbb{C}[\![x,y]\!]$ . An S#G-module is projective if and only if it is projective as an S-module.

*Proof.* Onlyifity follows from S#G being a free S-module, it is isomorphic to  $\bigoplus_{g\in G} S$ . Thus we need only show ifity.

First we need to see that an S#G-linear map is just an S-linear map such that f(g(m)) = g(f(m)) for all  $g \in G$ . Equivalently  $f(m) = g(f(g^{-1}(m)))$ . This allows us to define a group action on S-linear maps by  $f^g(m) = g(f(g^{-1}(m)))$ . Then we can restate it as

$$\operatorname{Hom}_{S\#G}(M,N) = \operatorname{Hom}_{S}(M,N)^{G}$$

Clearly if f is S#G-linear then it's in  $\operatorname{Hom}_S(M,N)^G$ . To see the other inclusion, let f be an S-linear map that is fixed under G. Then  $f(s \cdot gm) = sf(gm) = s \cdot g(f(g^{-1}gm)) = s \cdot gf(m)$ , and hence f is S#G-linear. Nextly I want to show that  $-^G$  is an exact functor.

If K is the kernel of a map  $f: M \to N$ , then the kernel of the inuced map  $f^G: M^G \to N^G$  is of course just  $K \cap M^G$  which equals  $K^G$ . Assume f is epi and let  $n \in N^G$ . Consider a preimage m such that f(m) = n. Let  $\theta = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} g(m)$ . Then  $\theta$  is in  $M^G$  and  $f(\theta) = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} g(f(m)) = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} n = n$ .

This implies that if  $\operatorname{Hom}_S(P,-)$  is exact then  $\operatorname{Hom}_S(P,-)^G = \operatorname{Hom}_{S\#G}(P,-)$  is exact and our lemma follows.

**Theorem 5.2.** Let  $S = \mathbb{C}[\![x,y]\!]$  and let  $\mathfrak{m} = \langle x,y \rangle_S$  be the radical of S. Then there are bijections between the indecomposable projective S#G-modules and the indecomposable  $\mathbb{C}G$ -modules given by

$$\mathcal{F}: P \longmapsto P/\mathfrak{m}P$$

$$\mathcal{G}: S \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} W \longleftarrow W$$

Where the S#G-module structure on  $S \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} W$  is given by  $(s \cdot g) \cdot f \otimes v = sf^g \otimes v^g$ .

*Proof.* First we should show that  $S \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} W$  is an irreducible projective S # Gmodule and that  $P/\mathfrak{m}P$  is infact an irreducible  $\mathbb{C}G$ -module. Since  $S \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} W$ is a free S-module it follows from lemma 5.1 that it is projective. To see
that it is irreducible we will first study it as an S-module and exploit the
fact that  $\operatorname{Hom}_{S\# G}(M,N) \subseteq \operatorname{Hom}_{S}(M,N)$ .

Since  $\mathfrak{m}$  is the radical of S we have that

$$\frac{S \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} W}{\mathfrak{m} S \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} W} \cong S/\mathfrak{m} \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} W \cong \mathbb{C} \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} W \cong W$$

W is the top of  $S \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} W$ . Further since the projection is S # G-linear we have that  $S \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} W$  is the projective cover of W also as S # G-modules. Then since W is simple it follows that  $S \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} W$  is an indecomposable projective.

It's clear that  $P/\mathfrak{m}P$  is a  $\mathbb{C}G$ -module, because  $\mathbb{C}G$  is a subring of S#G. To see that it's indecomposable we will first show that it's indecomposable as an S#G-module. By considering P and  $P/\mathfrak{m}P$  as S-modules and using the same argument as above we see that P is the projective cover of  $P/\mathfrak{m}P$ . Then since P is indecomposable  $P/\mathfrak{m}P$  must also be indecomposable as an S#G-module.

To see that this implies  $P/\mathfrak{m}P$  is indecomposable as a  $\mathbb{C}G$ -module notice that  $P/\mathfrak{m}P$  is annihilated by the ideal  $\langle \mathfrak{m} \rangle$ . This means it's an indecomposable as S#G-module if and only if it's indecomposable as an  $S\#G/\langle \mathfrak{m} \rangle$ -module. Then since  $S\#G/\langle \mathfrak{m} \rangle \cong \mathbb{C}G$  it follows that  $P/\mathfrak{m}P$  is an indecomposable  $\mathbb{C}G$ -module.

To see that the given maps are bijections we will show that they are mutual inverses. First to see that  $\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{G}(W)) \cong W$  we simply look at the definition

$$\frac{S \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} W}{\mathfrak{m} S \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} W} \cong S/\mathfrak{m} \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} W \cong \mathbb{C} \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} W \cong W$$

Next we consider  $\mathcal{G}(\mathcal{F}(P)) = S \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} P/\mathfrak{m}P$ . We have already seen that it's projective. Both P and  $S \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} P/\mathfrak{m}P$  have a natural projection onto  $P/\mathfrak{m}P$ , and by projectivity we get an induced S#G-linear map from  $S \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} P/\mathfrak{m}P$  to P:

$$S \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} P/\mathfrak{m}P$$

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

$$P \xrightarrow{\mathsf{k}} P/\mathfrak{m}P$$

Further since  $\mathfrak{m}$  is the radical of S, both P and  $S \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} P/\mathfrak{m}P$  are projective covers of  $P/\mathfrak{m}P$  (as S-modules). This means that the map is an isomorphism of S-modules, and therefor it is also an isomorphism of S#G-modules.  $\square$ 

#### 5.1 The Gabriel quiver

**Definition 5.2.** For a skew group algebra S#G we define its <u>Gabriel quiver</u> to be the quiver with verticies as the indecomposable projective modules of S#G. The arrows are given by taking the minimal projective resolution of  $P/\mathfrak{m}P$ , where  $\mathfrak{m}$  is as defined above. If the minimal projective resolution of  $P/\mathfrak{m}P$  is given by

$$\cdots \longrightarrow Q_1 \longrightarrow Q_0 \longrightarrow 0$$

We say there is an arrow from P to P' if P' appears as a direct summand of  $Q_1$ .

**Definition 5.3.** Exterior algebra .....

**Proposition 5.1.** If S is the ring of formal power series over  $\mathbb{C}$  in n variables, and G is a finite group acting on S, let  $V = \mathfrak{m}/\mathfrak{m}^2$ . Then the minimal projective resolution of  $\mathbb{C} \cong S/\mathfrak{m}$  is given by

$$0 \longrightarrow S \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} \bigwedge^{n} V \xrightarrow{\partial_{n}} \cdots \xrightarrow{\partial_{2}} S \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} \bigwedge^{1} V \xrightarrow{\partial_{1}} S \longrightarrow 0$$

Where  $\partial_p$  is the S#G-linear map defined by

$$\partial_p(s \otimes x_{i_1} \wedge x_{i_2} \wedge \dots \wedge x_{i_p}) = \sum_{i=1}^p (-1)^{j+1} s x_{i_j} \otimes x_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge \hat{x}_{i_j} \wedge \dots \wedge x_{i_p}$$

Where  $x_{i_1} \wedge x_{i_2} \wedge \cdots \wedge x_{i_p}$  is one of the standard basis vectors for  $\bigwedge^n V$ , namely  $i_1 < i_2 < \cdots < i_p$ , and  $\hat{x}_j$  means that  $x_j$  is ommitted.

*Proof.* First we should show that this is a projective resolution. Note that since the maps are S#G-linear, showing that it's a minimal free resolution as an S-module implies it is a minimal projective resolution as an S#G-module. Then what we need to show is

- (i)  $\operatorname{Cok} \partial_1 = \mathbb{C}$
- (ii)  $\partial_{p-1} \circ \partial_p = 0$  for all p
- (iii)  $\operatorname{Im} \partial_{p+1} = \operatorname{Ker} \partial_p \text{ for } p \geq 2$
- (i) is clear since the image of  $\partial_1$  is  $\mathfrak{m}$ . (ii) can be shown through a quick

computation

$$\partial_{p-1} \circ \partial_{p} (s \otimes x_{i_{1}} \wedge \cdots \wedge x_{i_{p}}) =$$

$$\partial_{p-1} \left( \sum_{j=1}^{p} (-1)^{j+1} s x_{i_{j}} \otimes x_{i_{1}} \wedge \cdots \hat{x}_{j} \wedge \cdots \wedge x_{i_{p}} \right) =$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^{p} (-1)^{j+1} \left( \sum_{k=1}^{j-1} (-1)^{k+1} s x_{i_{j}} x_{i_{k}} \otimes x_{i_{1}} \wedge \cdots \hat{x}_{i_{k}} \wedge \cdots \wedge \cdots \hat{x}_{j} \wedge \cdots \wedge x_{i_{p}} +$$

$$\sum_{k=j+1}^{p} (-1)^{k} s x_{i_{j}} x_{i_{k}} \otimes x_{i_{1}} \wedge \cdots \hat{x}_{i_{j}} \wedge \cdots \wedge \cdots \hat{x}_{k} \wedge \cdots \wedge x_{i_{p}} \right)$$

From here we notice that the term with j < k is canceled by the term where k < j, because they are the negatives of each other. Thus the composition is 0. This would then imply that  $\operatorname{Im} \partial_{p+1} \subseteq \operatorname{Ker} \partial_p$ , so for part (iii) we need only show that  $\operatorname{Ker} \partial_p \subseteq \operatorname{Im} \partial_{p+1}$ .

First some notation: let  $\mathfrak{I}_p$  be the set of all tuples  $(i_1, i_2, \dots, i_p)$  with  $i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_p$  and  $1 \le i_j \le n$ , and let  $x_I$  denote  $x_{i_1} \wedge \dots x_{i_p}$  when  $I = (i_1, \dots, i_p)$ . Then assume

$$\sum_{I\in\mathfrak{I}_p} s_I \otimes x_I$$

is in the kernel of  $\partial_{p}$ .

## 6 The endomorphism ring of S as an $S^G$ -module

Isomorphism to S#G implies proj SG j-j,  $S^G$  direct summands of S.

**Theorem 6.1.** Let S be the complex power series ring in two variables, G be a finite subgroup of  $GL_2(\mathbb{C})$ ,  $R = S^G$  the fixed ring of S under the action of G, and  $(S\#G)^G$  be the fixed ring of S#G under left multiplication by G. Then S is isomorphic to  $(S\#G)^G$  as R-modules.

*Proof.* To see this we will define an injective R-linear map from S to S#G and show that it's image is  $(S\#G)^G$ . Let  $\rho: S \to S\#G$  be given by

$$\rho(s) = \sum_{g \in G} s^g \cdot g.$$

It's clear that it's injective and it is R-linear because

$$\rho(rs) = \sum_{g \in G} r^g s^g \cdot g = r \sum_{g \in G} s^g \cdot g.$$

It should also be clear that the image is contained in  $(S\#G)^G$  because

$$h \cdot \rho(s) = \sum_{g \in G} h \cdot s^g \cdot g = \sum_{g \in G} s^{hg} \cdot hg = \rho(s).$$

To see that the image is all of  $(S\#G)^G$  consider an arbitrary element in  $(S\#G)^G$ ,  $\psi = \sum_{g \in G} s_g \cdot g$ . Since  $\psi$  is fixed under left multiplication by G we must have that

$$\sum_{g \in G} s_g^h \cdot hg = \sum_{g \in G} s_g \cdot g,$$

in particular  $s_h$  must equal  $s_1^h$  and it follows that  $\psi = \rho(s_1)$ .

Theorem 6.2.

## 7 Maximal Cohen-Macaulay modules of $S^G$

**Definition 7.1.** If R is a local ring with residual field k we define the <u>depth</u> of a module, M, to be the minimal n such that the extension  $\operatorname{Ext}_R^n(k, \overline{M})$  is non-zero.

**Definition 7.2.** If R is a commutative ring and M is an R-module, a <u>regular sequence</u> is a sequence of elements of R,  $r_1, r_2, \dots r_n$  such that  $M/\langle r_1, \dots, r_i \rangle M$  is non-zero and multiplication by  $r_i$  is injective on  $M/\langle r_1, \dots, r_{i-1} \rangle M$ .

**Definition 7.3.** If M is a module over a local ring R with Krull-dimension d we say that M is  $\underline{maximal\ Cohen\ Macaulay\ (MCM)}$  if the depth of M equals d.

**Theorem 7.1.** If G is a finite subgroup of  $GL_n(\mathbb{C})$ , S is the formal power series ring in n variables and  $R = S^G$  is the ring fixed under the action of G, then R is a sirect summand of S as R-modules.

*Proof.* Consider the map  $\pi: S \to R$  given by

$$\pi(s) = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} s^g$$

It's clear that the image of  $\pi$  is in R because an action from G wil just permute the order of teh sum. Further

$$\pi(r) = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} r^g = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} r = r,$$

so  $\pi$  splits the inclusion  $R \hookrightarrow S$  which shows that R is a direct summand of S.

# **Appendices**

### A Representation theory

Define rep of ring

Define group representation this is the same as  $\mathbb{C}G$ -rep

#### Theorem A.1.

Schur's lemma
Projective module + exact hom
indec module + direct sum
indec proj = summand of ring = idempotent of ring
projective resolution
Ext

### 8 Random Thoughts I need to figure out

I R=S then they have the same depth meaning M is cohen macaulay iff it's projective dimension is 0 (Auslander-Buschsbauw), but that means its a direct summand of S as S(=R)-module, which make sense. If I can show that R = S/(f) fro some polynomial f, can I show R-direct summands of S have projective dimension 1 over S? Can I show R has depth depth(S)-1? Then I also need to prove Auslander-Buschsbauw...

If P is indec projective then it is teh direct summand of a free module. Then there is a non-zero map to the ring. If P is not a summand of the ring then P decomposes, contradiction. Why do we need KRS???????

#### References

[James and Liebeck, 2001] James, G. and Liebeck, M. (2001). Representations and characters of groups. Cambridge University Press, New York, second edition.

[Leuschke and Wiegand, 2012] Leuschke, G. J. and Wiegand, R. (2012). Cohen-Macaulay representations, volume 181 of Mathematical Surveys and Monographs. American Mathematical Society, Providence, RI.