

# ORBIFOLD HILBERT SCHEMES AND A GENERALIZATION OF CORES AND QUOTIENTS

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ABSTRACT. We study the connection between the combinatoric of certain partition statistics and the topology of the Hilbert schemes of certain orbifold surfaces.

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This paper is written for two largely distinct audiences. On the one hand, we write for algebraic geometers interested in Hilbert schemes of points and orbifold surfaces. On the other hand, combinatorialists studying partitions. As such, there is more expository material than perhaps is standard. In particular, we have two introductions, one for geometers, and one for combinatorialists.

## 1. INTRODUCTION FOR GEOMETERS

[24]

From the geometric point of view, this paper studies the topology of Hilbert schemes of points on

$$\mathbb{C}^2/G$$

, where

$$G$$

is an abelian group.

The motivation here is much structure in the topology of Hilbert schemes of point on a smooth surface  $S$ : Gottsche, building on the work of Ellingsrud and Strømme for  $\mathbb{C}^2$ , found product formulas for generating functions of their cohomology, which implied a stabilization result on their homology. Later, Grojnowski and Nakajima [22, 33] explained these product formulas using geometric representation theory. This background is discussed at length in Section 4.

With the philosophy that, viewed as stacks, orbifolds should behave just as well as smooth surfaces, it is a natural question to ask whether similar structure is found in the topology of Hilbert schemes on orbifold surfaces. It is natural to start

product formulas in this case, reminiscent of Gottsche's formula, in terms of the Chen-Ruan cohomology of  $[\mathbf{C}^2/\mathbf{Z}_r]$ .

The bulk of work, however, concerns a subtlety that does not arise in the case of a smooth surface. When  $X$  is a smooth surface,  $\text{Hilb}_n(X)$  is always connected; however,  $\text{Hilb}_n([\mathbf{C}^2/G])$  is usually not connected. The tautological bundle  $\mathbf{C}[x, y]/\mathcal{I}$  over a point  $\mathcal{I} \subset \text{Hilb}_n([\mathbf{C}^2/G])$  is a  $n$ -dimensional representation of  $G$ , and so its class in  $K^0(G)$  is a discrete invariant. For  $v$  an  $n$ -dimensional representation of  $G$ , denote by  $\text{Hilb}_v([\mathbf{C}^2/G]) \subset \text{Hilb}_n([\mathbf{C}^2/G])$  the locus of ideals with  $\mathbf{C}[x, y]/\mathcal{I} \cong v$  as  $G$ -representations. When  $G$  is abelian, it turns out that the  $\text{Hilb}_v([\mathbf{C}^2/G])$  are connected.

In this point of view, the regular representation of  $G$ , which we will denote  $R$ , plays a special role. Adding a smooth point of  $[\mathbf{C}^2/G]$  corresponds to adding a copy of the regular representation. Furthermore, for some representations  $v$ , the ideals in  $\text{Hilb}_v([\mathbf{C}^2/G])$  will be supported only over the singular points in  $\mathbf{C}^2/G$ . For instance,  $\text{Hilb}_1([\mathbf{C}^2/G])$  will always be isomorphic to the  $G$  fixed locus  $(\mathbf{C}^2)^G$ .

Its dependence of  $\text{Hilb}_v([\mathbf{C}^2/G])$  on  $v$  behaves very differently in the direction of the regular representation and the other directions. In the direction of the regular representation, we prove:

**Theorem 1.2.** Let  $v \in K^0(G)$  be arbitrary. As  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , and  $k$  fixed, the homology  $h_k(\text{Hilb}_{v+nR}([\mathbf{C}^2/\mathbf{Z}/r\mathbf{Z}]))$  stabilizes. The generating function of the stable homology is

$$\prod_{m \geq 1} \frac{1}{(1 - t^{2m})^{|r|}}$$

The proof is combinatorial; a conjectural topological meaning is that all the cohomology of  $\text{Hilb}_v$  is *tautological*, and that in the stable limit there are no relations among the tautological generators.

**Conjecture 1.3.** Let  $v$  be any representation so that  $\text{Hilb}_v([\mathbf{C}^2/\mathbf{Z}_r])$  is concentrated over the origin. Then the cohomology

$$\bigoplus_{m \geq 0} \text{Hilb}_{v+mR}$$

carries an action of the Heisenberg algebra modeled on the cohomology of the minimal resolution of  $\mathbf{C}^2/\mathbf{Z}_r$ ; it is an infinite sum of highest weight representations.

### 1.1. Piecewise quadratic behavior of “small” representations.

**Theorem 1.4.** For every class in  $\bar{v} \in K^0(G)/R$  there is a unique representative  $\tilde{v} \in K^0(G)$ , so that  $\text{Hilb}_{\tilde{v}}([\mathbf{C}^2/\mathbf{Z}_r])$  is small.

We have that  $\dim \tilde{v}$  and  $\dim \text{Hilb}_{\tilde{v}}([\mathbf{C}^2/\mathbf{Z}_r])$  are piecewise quadratic functions on  $K^0(G)/R$ .

The geometric meaning or origin of  $\dim \tilde{v}$  is piecewise quadratic is not clear to us; the proof and motivation for stating this theorem are both combinatorial. That  $\dim \text{Hilb}_{\tilde{v}}$  is piecewise quadratic follows from Riemann-Roch and the fact that  $\dim \tilde{v}$  is.

We believe the quadratic part to be related to the intersection pairing of the minimal resolution of  $\mathbf{C}^2/\mathbf{Z}_r$ , and speculate that the piecewise behavior is related to stability conditions for the McKay quiver.

## 2. INTRODUCTION FOR COMBINATORIALISTS

The combinatorial content of our work is a generalization of cores and quotients.

Cores and quotients are useful in studying the following statistics on

For combinatorialists: Cores and quotients of partitions initially arose in the study of the modular representation theory of the symmetric group, but have found roles in number theory and representation theory, among others. A lesser known occurrence is in the geometry of Hilbert schemes of points.

Using this geometry as motivation, we introduce here some new partitions statistics, and use a generalization of cores and quotients of partitions to study them. Our first statistic turns out to be the size of our generalized quotient, and it counts cells where certain linear combinations of the arm and leg lengths satisfy a congruence condition. We conjecture that  $(q, t)$  counting partitions with respect to size and this new statistic satisfy explicit product formulas that are  $t$ -analogs of the Euler product (or more generally,  $t$ -analogs of the formula for partitions coming from cores and quotients).

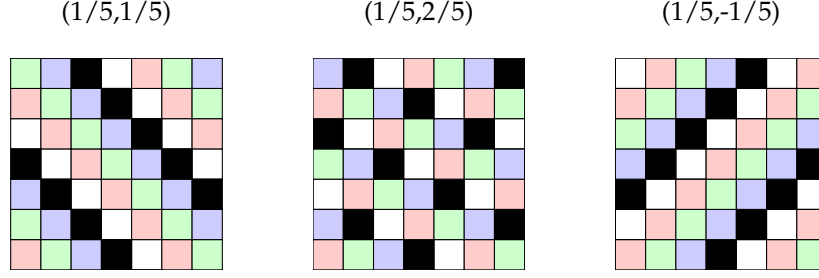
We prove that “ $G$ -core” partitions are in bijection with lattice points, and their size is given by a piecewise quadratic function.

Buryak conjectured [8], and later proved with Feigin [9], and simplified the proof with Nakajima [1], the following version.

**Theorem 2.1** (Buryak-Feigin-Nakajima). Let  $\mathbf{C}^*$  act on  $\mathbf{C}^2$  by  $t \cdot (x, y) = (t^a x, t^b y)$ ,  $a, b \geq 0$ . Then

$$\sum_{k,n} h^k(\text{Hilb}_n(\mathbf{C}^2)^{\mathbf{C}^*}) q^n t^k = \prod_{a+b} \frac{1}{1-q^\ell} \prod_{(a+b) \mid \ell} \frac{1}{1-q^\ell t}$$

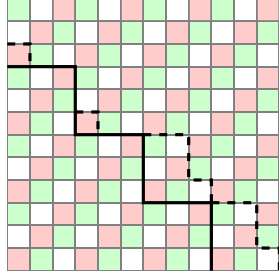
The proofs given by Buryak-Feigin, and Buryak-Feigin-Nakajima are algebraic geometric, and go through quiver varieties. An obvious first step in trying to prove our conjectures combinatorially would be to prove Theorem 2.1 combinatorially.



By adding a  $1 \times r$  strip to the bottom right corner of a partition, it is immediate that if a class  $v \in K(G)$  is represented by a partition, then  $v + V_G$  is as well.

**Definition 2.2.** The  $\bar{K}(G) = K(G)/V_G$

It is not hard to see that any class in  $\bar{K}(G)$  is represented by a partition: a block staircase partition with blocks of size  $|G|$  will be a multiple of  $V_G$ , and then modifications on each step can add a multiple of  $G$  plus one of any given color. Below, the bottom two stairs each have the effect of adding one white box in  $\bar{K}(G)$ , while the top two stairs each add one red box.



**Question 1.** Given a class  $\bar{v} \in \bar{K}(G)$ , what is the smallest class  $v \in K(G)$  represented by a partition?

**2.1. Acknowledgements.** Research on this work was supported by NSF grant NUMBER HERE, and CITE TOM's GRANT?

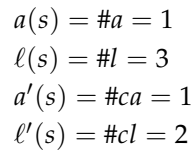
Thanks to Amin Gholampour, Yunfeng Jiang, and Martijn Kool for asking a question that began this work, and to Tom Bridgeland for useful conversations.

### 3. BACKGROUND: PARTITIONS

**3.1. Partitions.** A partition of  $n$  is a nonincreasing sequence of numbers  $\lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_\ell > 0$  with  $\sum \lambda_i = n$ . The *length*  $\ell(\lambda)$  of a partition is the number of parts, the *size*  $|\lambda|$  is the sum of the parts. We use  $\mathcal{P}$  to denote the set of all partitions, and  $\mathcal{P}_n$  to denote the partitions of  $n$ .

Rather than a list of numbers, we usually view partitions in terms of their *Young diagrams*. We draw our Young diagrams as subsets of a grid in the first quadrant, with the square in the corner being  $(0,0)$ , and with the columns being the parts of  $\lambda$ .

**Example 3.1.** Below is the Young diagram of  $\lambda = 4 + 4 + 3 + 2 + 2 + 2$ . The cell  $(3, 1)$  is marked  $s$ ; the cells in the arm and leg of  $s$  are labeled  $a$  and  $l$ , respectively, and the cells in the coarm and coleg of  $s$  are labeled  $ca$  and  $cl$ , respectively/



The boundary path is the directed lattice path starting at positive infinity on the  $y$  axis, descending along the  $y$  axis, tracing the boundary of  $\lambda$ , and then going along the  $x$ -axis to positive infinity. One way to view this is as a bi-infinite word consisting of the letters  $S$ s and  $E$ ; we will use the *Maya diagram*, this is, on the simplest level, just translating  $S$ 's into empty circles, and the  $E$ 's into filled in circles, or stones.

#### 4. BACKGROUND: HILBERT SCHEMES OF POINTS ON SMOOTH SURFACES

The Hilbert scheme of points in the plane parameterizes ideals  $\mathcal{I}$  of  $R$  of codimension  $n$ .

$$\mathrm{Hilb}_n(\mathbf{C}^2) = \{\mathcal{I} \subset R \mid \dim_{\mathbf{C}} R/\mathcal{I} = n\}$$

The space  $\text{Hilb}_n(\mathbb{C}^2)$  is smooth and connected of dimension  $2n$ . Geometrically,  $\text{Hilb}_n(\mathbb{C}^2)$  should be thought of as follows. Let  $\text{Sym}^n(\mathbb{C}^2) = (\mathbb{C}^2)^n / S_n$  be the set of  $n$  unordered points in  $\mathbb{C}^2$ .  $\text{Sym}^n(\mathbb{C}^2)$  is singular for  $n > 1$ , with singularities occurring where the points are not unique. If  $P = \{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n\}$  is a set of  $n$  distinct points in the plane, then on the one hand the ideal  $\mathcal{I}_P = \{f \in R \mid f(p) = 0 \text{ for } p \in P\}$  of functions vanishing on  $P$  is in  $\text{Hilb}_n$ . If two of the points collide,

there is still a limiting ideal  $\mathcal{I}$  consisting of. The resulting ideal is not reduced, and the non-reduced structure “remembers” some of how they collide.

The ring  $R/\mathcal{I}$  is the structure ring of  $n$  points, counted with multiplicity, in the plane; when points collide, they have a non-reduced scheme structure.

**Example 4.1.** Let  $(a, b) \neq (0, 0) \in \mathbb{C}^2$ , and let  $P_t$  be the pair of distinct points  $(0, 0)$  and  $(at, bt)$ . What is the limit of  $\mathcal{I}_{P_t}$  as  $t \rightarrow 0$ ?

The ideal  $\mathcal{I}_{P_t}$  of functions vanishing on these points is

$$(\{x, y\})(\{x - at, y - bt\}) = (\{x(x - at), x(y - bt), y(x - at), y(y - bt)\})$$

Setting  $t = 0$ , we see that the limiting ideal should contain  $x^2, xy$  and  $y^2$ . If it were just the ideal generated by these three monomials, it would have codimension 3, not two, so it must contain something else.

Taking the difference of the the middle two generators, we see that  $\mathcal{I}_{P_t}$  contains the element  $bt x - at y$ , and since it is an ideal and  $t$  is a nonzero scalar, it must contain  $bx - ay$ . Since this element is independent of  $t$ , we see that it certain should be contained in the limit as well; including this along with all monomials of degree two or higher gives an ideal of codimension 2 as desired.

Another way of writing the ideal  $\mathcal{I}_{P_0}$  is as

$$\mathcal{I}_{P_0} = \{f \in R \mid f(0) = \partial_v f(0) = 0\}$$

where here  $v = (a, b)$  is the direction the two points collided in. Thus, the non-reduced scheme structure at  $\mathcal{I}_{P_0}$  *remembers* the direction the in which the points collided.

**Definition 4.2.** The *Hilbert-Chow morphism*  $HC : \text{Hilb}_n(S) \rightarrow \text{Sym}^n(S)$  sends an ideal  $\mathcal{I}$  to

$$HC : \mathcal{I} \mapsto \sum_{p \in S} \dim_p(R/\mathcal{I})$$

For  $n = 1$ , the Hilbert-Chow morphism is an isomorphism  $\text{Hilb}_1(S) \rightarrow S$ . When  $n = 2$ ,  $HC$  is an isomorphism over the locus of distinct points, while over any point  $2p \in \text{Sym}^2(S)$ , the fiber of  $HC$  is a  $\mathbb{P}^1$ .

The Hilbert-Chow morphism is a resolution of singularities.

The torus  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^2$  acts on the plane  $\mathbb{C}^2$  in the obvious way,  $(s, t) \cdot (\alpha, \beta) = (s\alpha, t\beta)$  and hence on  $R = \mathbb{C}[x, y]$  and  $\text{Hilb}_n(\mathbb{C}^2)$ .

**Warning 4.3.** The elements of  $R$  are functions on  $\mathbb{C}^2$ , and thus  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^2$  acts with *opposite* weights as might naively be expected, that is

$$(s, t) \cdot x^n y^m = s^{-n} t^{-m} x^n y^m$$

**Definition 4.4.** The *tautological bundle*  $\mathbb{E}$  over the Hilbert scheme of points has fiber  $R/\mathcal{I}$  over  $\mathcal{I}$ ; it is a rank  $n$  bundle on  $\text{Hilb}_n$ .

**4.2. Structure in the Topology of Hilbert schemes.** The main motivation of this work is the structure found in the topology of Hilbert schemes of points in surfaces. This section recalls this structure.

Perhaps the key point in these results is the appears simpler when looking at the Hilbert schemes together for all  $n$ , rather than just for any fixed  $n$ .

**Definition 4.5.** A *graded space*  $X$  is just a disjoint union

$$X = \coprod_{n \in \mathbf{Z}} X_n$$

Often our spaces will be positively graded, and we will denote the graded space as formal power series with coefficients in **Var**, **Top**, etc.

$$X = \bigoplus X_n q^n$$

This is manifested on the first level by product formulas.

**Definition 4.6.** Let

$$\text{Hilb}_S = \bigoplus_{n=0}^{\infty} \text{Hilb}_n(S) q^n$$

**Definition 4.7.** For a space  $X$ , the Poincare polynomial

$$P_t(X) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} b_k(X) t^k$$

If  $X$  is a graded topological space, with finite dimensional graded pieces, then  $P_t(X)$  is naturally an element of  $\mathbf{Z}[t][[q]]$ .

**Definition 4.8.** The *Grothendieck ring of varieties*  $K_0(\mathbf{Var}_k)$  is a quotient of the free abelian group on the set of isomorphism classes of varieties over  $k$ . We quotient out by relations of the form

$$[X] = [Y] + [X \setminus Y]$$

whenever  $Y$  is a closed subvariety of  $X$ .

The product structure is given by

$$[X] \times [Y] = [X \times Y]$$

Again, if  $X$  is a graded space with positively graded pieces, then  $[X]$  will be an element of  $K_0(\mathbf{Var}_k)[[q]]$ .

In  $K_0(\mathbf{Var}_k)$ , affine spaces are denoted  $\mathbf{L}^k = [\mathbf{C}^k]$ .

**Example 4.9** (Projective space). The fact that the Riemann sphere is obtained from  $\mathbf{C}$  by adding a point at infinity translates to the identity  $[\mathbf{P}^1] = \mathbf{L} + 1$ .

More generally, the decomposition  $\mathbf{P}^n = \mathbf{C}^n \cup \mathbf{P}^{n-1}$  gives

$$[\mathbf{P}^n] = \mathbf{L}^n + [\mathbf{P}^{n-1}] = \mathbf{L}^n + \mathbf{L}^{n-1} + \cdots + 1 = \frac{1 - \mathbf{L}^{n+1}}{1 - \mathbf{L}}$$

If we let  $\mathbf{P} = \sum \mathbf{P}^n q^n$ , then a short computation with the previous line gives

$$[\mathbf{P}] = \frac{1}{(1-q)(1-q\mathbf{L})}$$

The first such product formula was the following result of

The study of the topology of  $\text{Hilb}_n(S)$  began with the following result:

**Theorem 4.10** (Ellingsrud and Strømme [17]).

$$P_t(\text{Hilb}_S) = \prod_{\ell=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{1-t^{2\ell-2}q^\ell}$$

$$[\text{Hilb}_S] = \prod_{\ell=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{1-\mathbf{L}^{\ell+1}q^\ell}$$

Ellingsrud and Strømme actually focused more on  $\text{Hilb}_n(\mathbf{P}^2)$ . We recount their proof in the next two sections as the geometric content of our work is essentially a small continuation of their methods.

Göttsche extended

**Theorem 4.11** (Göttsche, [21]). Let  $S$  be a smooth quasiprojective surface, and when  $b_i$  appears in isolation, let it be  $b_i(S)$ . Then:

$$P_t(\text{Hilb}_S) = \prod_{\ell \geq 1} \frac{(1+t^{2\ell-1}q^\ell)^{b_1}(1+t^{2\ell+1}q^\ell)^{b_3}}{(1-t^{2\ell-2}q^\ell)^{b_0}(1-t^{2\ell}q^\ell)^{b_2}(1-t^{2\ell+2}q^\ell)^{b_4}}$$

Göttsche's original proof used the Weil conjectures to reduce to the local model of the smooth surfaces,  $S = \mathbf{C}^2$ , where his formula is exactly Ellingsrud and Strømme's result.

Later proofs used power structures on the Grothendieck ring of varieties to ... . This power structure was extended to orbifolds in [], and so the missing piece is an analogous result to Ellingsrud-Strømme for the local models of orbifold surfaces, namely  $\mathbf{C}^2/G$  for  $G$  a finite group.

**4.2.1. Corollaries and extensions of Göttsche.** We will also investigate orbifold analogs of several results closely related to Göttsche's formula.

First, Göttsche observed the following easy corollary to his formula:

**Corollary 4.12.** Suppose  $S$  is connected. Then for fixed  $k$  and large  $n$ ,  $b_k(S^{[n]})$  stabilizes

*Proof.* The point is that there is exactly one factor in the product formula that has no  $t$ 's, namely  $1/(1-q)$ . If we remove this term, we may expand the rest of the product as a series in  $t$ , and the coefficient of  $t^k$  will be a polynomial  $p_k(q)$  in  $q$ .

Adding the  $1/(1-q)$  term back in means that once a monomial  $q^k t^m$  occurs, it will now also occur for all higher powers of  $k$ . Hence, we see that once  $n \geq \deg(p_k)$ , we will have  $b_k(\text{Hilb}_n(S)) = p_k(1)$ .  $\square$



Grojnowski and Nakajima [22, 33] gave another proof by categorifying Göttsche's formula. The power series on the right hand side is the  $(q, t)$  character of the highest weight representation of the Heisenberg algebra modeled on  $H^*(S)$ . Thus, one is lead to hope that the vector space

$$H^*(\text{Hilb}_S) = \bigoplus_{k \geq 0} H^k()$$

can naturally be given an action of this Heisenberg algebra. This is exactly what Grojnowski and Nakajima did, using nested Hilbert schemes of points. This result categorifies Göttsche's formula, and gives another proof of it.

In case the quasiprojective surface  $S$  is the minimal resolution of the ADE singularity, this Heisenberg action is part of a quantum group action for the corresponding semisimple quantum group.

Further categorifications of this action are areas of active study; the Heisenberg action on  $\text{Hilb}_{\mathbb{C}^2}$  is related to, while in case  $S$  is the resolution of an ADE singularity the action has been further categorified by Cautis and Licata [11] to a “categorical action” on the derived category of Coherent sheaves  $D(\text{Hilb}_S)$ ; the quantum group action is categorified in [10].

In another direction, Heisenberg actions on  $K^*(\text{Hilb}_{\mathbb{C}^2})$  have been studied and related to shuffle algebras in [18, 35].

**4.3. Proof of Proof of Ellingsrud and Strømme.** In this section we present a detailed proof of Ellingsrud and Strømme's result. Many proofs of this are in the literature; for instance [12] (IS IT IN THIS OR ONLY THE THESIS?) gives a largely combinatorial one, and [34] Our proof is essentially the combinatorial one in [12], or , but made more so in that we use the boundary path of the partition instead of “systems of arrows”.

The main tool we use to understand the topology of  $\text{Hilb}_n(\mathbb{C}^2)$  is the  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^2$  action induced by the  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^2$  action on  $\mathbb{C}^2$ .

**4.3.1. Warm-up: Euler Characteristic of  $\text{Hilb}_n(\mathbb{C}^2)$ .** Setting  $t = -1$  in Lemma gives

$$\chi(\text{Hilb}_{\mathbb{C}^2}) = \prod_{k \geq 0} \frac{1}{1 - q^k}$$

and so  $\chi(\text{Hilb}_n(\mathbb{C}^2)) = p(n)$ .

The pertinent fact about the Euler characteristic that makes it easy to compute is that it is additive over subvarieties: if  $X \subset Y$  closed, then  $\chi(Y) = \chi(X) + \chi(Y \setminus X)$ .

Note that this is not true for real manifolds; take, the example of a point in  $S^1$ , both the point and its complement have euler characteristic 1, while  $S^1$  has euler characteristic 0. We briefly sketch the proof in case  $X$  is a complex *submanifold*. If  $U$  and  $V$  are an open covering, then the Mayer-Vietoris sequence and the definition of  $\chi$  give

$$\chi(Y) = \chi(U) + \chi(V) - \chi(U \cap V)$$

Taking  $U = Y \setminus X$ , and  $V$  a tubular neighborhood of  $X$ , we see that  $U \cap V$  will be a homotopy equivalent to the normal sphere bundle of  $X$  in  $Y$ . Each sphere we will be the unit sphere sitting inside the normal bundle of  $X$  – since  $X$  is a complex submanifold, this will be an odd dimensional sphere, having euler characteristic zero.

**Lemma 4.13.** Suppose that  $X$  has a  $\mathbf{C}^*$  action, with fixed point set  $X^{\mathbf{C}^*}$ . Then  $\chi(X) = \chi(X^{\mathbf{C}^*})$ .

*idea.* There is a stratification of  $X$  according to its stabilizer subgroup. For a subgroup  $H \subset G$ , we let  $X^{(H)}$  denote the subset with stabilizer group  $H$ . Then  $X^{(H)}$  has a free action of  $G/H$ , and so is a  $G/H$  bundle over the quotient  $X^{(H)}/(G/H)$ . Since

We apply  $\chi(X) = \chi(X^T) + \chi(X \setminus X^T)$ . The action of  $\mathbf{C}^*$  on  $X \setminus X^T$  will further decompose  $\square$

**Lemma 4.14.** The  $T$ -fixed points on  $\text{Hilb}_n(\mathbf{C}^2)$  are the monomial ideals

*Proof.* A monomial  $x^\alpha y^\beta$  is just scaled by the action of  $T$ , and hence an ideal generated by monomials will be  $T$  fixed.

In the other direction, suppose that an ideal is  $T$  fixed, and  $f \in \mathcal{I}$  is a generator that is not a monomial; we show all monomials in  $f$  are actually in  $\mathcal{I}$ . The idea is that  $t \cdot f \in \mathcal{I}$  for any  $t \in T$ . If  $f$  is the sum of  $k$  monomials, then there are  $t_1, \dots, t_k \in \mathbf{C}^*$  so that  $t_i f$  are linearly independent over  $\mathbf{C}$ ; inverting the matrix that expresses  $t_i f$  in terms of the monomials  $m_i$  we see that  $m_i$  is a linear combination of the  $f_i$  and hence in  $\mathcal{I}$ .  $\square$

But there is a bijection between monomial ideals with  $\dim R/\mathcal{I} = n$  and partitions of  $n$  – the monomials not in  $\mathcal{I}$  will form a basis for  $\dim R/\mathcal{I}$ , and will form the squares of a partition.

$x^0 y^3$	$x^1 y^3$	$x^2 y^3$	$x^3 y^3$	$x^4 y^3$	
$x^0 y^2$	$x^1 y^2$	$x^2 y^2$	$x^3 y^2$	$x^4 y^2$	
$x^0 y^1$	$x^1 y^1$	$x^2 y^1$	$x^3 y^1$	$x^4 y^1$	
$x^0 y^0$	$x^1 y^0$	$x^2 y^0$	$x^3 y^0$	$x^4 y^0$	

$\mathcal{I}$   
 $(x^3, xy, y^2)$

$\lambda$   
 $(2, 1, 1)$

**4.3.2. Białynicki-Birula decomposition.** To capture the Poincare polynomial instead of just the Euler characteristic, Ellingsrud and Strømme make use of the Białynicki-Birula decomposition of  $\text{Hilb}_n(\mathbf{C}^2)$  [4], which is closely related to Morse theory.

The role of the Morse flow will be played by the flow  $x \mapsto \varepsilon x$  as  $\varepsilon \in \mathbf{C}^*$  tends toward zero. We assume that the  $\mathbf{C}^*$  action on  $X$  is such that this limit point exists for all  $x \in X$ .

Let  $p$  be a fixed point of the  $\mathbf{C}^*$  action. Then linearizing the  $\mathbf{C}^*$  action on  $X$  gives a  $\mathbf{C}^*$  action on  $T_p X$ , and so  $T_p X$  is not just a vector space but a  $\mathbf{C}^*$  representation, and hence decomposes into a direct sum of irreducible representations. Let  $V_a$  denote the irreducible representation of  $\mathbf{C}^*$  where  $\varepsilon \in \mathbf{C}^*$  acts as  $\varepsilon^a$ .

Let  $T_p^+ X$  (respectively  $T_p^- X$ ) denote the subspace of  $T_p X$  where the  $\mathbf{C}^*$  action acts with a positive (respectively negative) exponent, and let  $T_p^0(X)$  denote the subspace where  $\mathbf{C}^*$  acts trivially. Thus, if we consider the flow  $X$  sending  $\lambda$  toward 0,  $T_p^+ X$  are the directions that are flowing toward  $p$ , and  $T_p^- X$  are the directions flowing away from  $p$ .

Note that if  $p$  is an isolated fixed point, then  $T_p^0(X) = 0$ .

$$T_p X = \bigoplus_{n \in \mathbf{Z}} V_n^{e_n}$$

then

$$T_p^+ X = \bigoplus_{n > 0} V_n^{e_n}$$

Let

$$\mathcal{S}_p = \{x \in X \mid \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \varepsilon x = p\}$$

Then the Białynicki-Birula decomposition states that  $X = \sqcup_p \mathcal{S}_p$ ; the point is that  $\mathcal{S}_p$  is a subvariety isomorphic to  $A_k$ .

We saw in Section [REFER BACK TO ] that if  $X$  is a variety with a  $\mathbf{C}^*$  action with  $k$  isolated fixed points, then  $\chi(X) = k$ . If we know the weights of the  $\mathbf{C}^*$  action on the tangent spaces of the fixed points, the Białynicki-Birula decomposition leverages this result to give the betti numbers of  $X$ , or even further the class of  $X$  in the Grothendieck ring of varieties.

**4.3.3. Tangent space to a monomial ideal.** To apply the Białynicki-Birula decomposition to  $\text{Hilb}_n(\mathbf{C}^2)$ , one must have a  $\mathbf{C}^*$ -action with eights of the  $\mathbf{C}^*$  action on  $T_\lambda \text{Hilb}_n(\mathbf{C}^2)$ .

**Lemma 4.15** (Ellingsrud and Strømme [17]).

$$T_\lambda \text{Hilb}_n(\mathbf{C}^2) = \sum_{\square \in \lambda} \left( x^{-\ell(\square)} y^{a(\square)+1} + x^{\ell(\square)+1} y^{-a(\square)} \right)$$

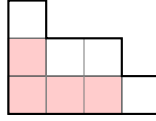
Before giving a proof, we show how Lemma 4.15 implies Ellingsrud and Strømme's results.

To apply Białynicki-Birula, one needs a  $\mathbf{C}^*$  action with isolated fixed points, not a  $(\mathbf{C}^*)^2$  action. The solution is to pick any generic subtorus. We will pick the action on  $\mathbf{C}^2$  with weights  $(\varepsilon, 1)$ , so that in the flow  $\lambda \rightarrow 0$  the positive directions are the stable directions. The choice of subtorus weights should really be integer

numbers, and by  $(1, \varepsilon)$  we mean an action  $(N, 1)$  with  $N \gg n$ . Since  $a(\square)$  and  $\ell(\square)$  are bounded by  $n$ , this means that we will always have  $a(\square)\varepsilon \ll 1$ , and similarly with  $\ell(\square)$ .

Recall Warning 4.3 that  $\mathbf{C}^*$  will act with *opposite* weights on  $x$  and  $y$ , so that  $t \cdot (x^\alpha y^\beta) = t^{-\alpha\varepsilon - \beta} x^\alpha y^\beta$ .

Restricted to this subtorus, the term  $x^{-\ell(\square)} y^{a(\square)+1}$  has weight  $\varepsilon\ell(\square) - a(\square) - 1$ , which will never be positive or zero. The term  $x^{\ell(\square)+1} y^{-a(\square)}$  has weight  $a(\square) - \varepsilon(\ell(\square) + 1)$ , which will be positive if and only if  $a(\square) > 0$ .  $a(\square) = 0$  exactly on the top square of each column of  $\lambda$ , and so viewing the columns as the parts of  $\lambda$ , we see that the  $i$ th column contributes  $\lambda_i - 1$  to  $\dim^+(\lambda)$ , as we meant to show.



$\dim^+(\lambda)$  is number of shaded squares

It should be noted that although any generic  $\mathbf{C}^*$  action will have isolated fixed points, and hence can be used to compute the cohomology of  $\text{Hilb}_n(\mathbf{C}^2)$ , different  $\mathbf{C}^*$  action will provide different statistics. Since all these statistics compute the same thing, they must be equidistributed. This was apparently first observed geometrically by Haiman, and Loehr and Warrington gave a combinatorial proof in [31], furthermore they extend the statistics to the non-isolated case. It would be interesting to have a geometric understanding of the bijections in [31].

We begin with the following the description of the the tangent space to the Hilbert scheme:

**Lemma 4.16.**

$$T_{\mathcal{I}} \text{Hilb}_n(\mathbf{C}^2) = \text{Hom}_R(\mathcal{I}, R/\mathcal{I})$$

Lemma 4.16 actually holds in any dimension, for any smooth variety.

Before giving a quick proof, we give a plausibility argument in analogy with the Grassmannian. If  $V \subset W$  is a  $k$  dimensional subspace, then  $T_V \text{Gr}_k(W) = \text{Hom}(V, W/V) = \text{Hom}(V, W/V)$ . This gives a description of the deformations of  $\mathcal{I}$  as a vector subspace of  $R$ . For the deformation to remain an ideal it is plausible that we should require the deformation to be a map of  $R$  modules and not just vector spaces.

*Proof.* More formally, it is a general fact that first order deformations of objects are given by  $\text{Ext}^1(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{F})$ , and obstructions to these deformations are given by  $\text{Ext}^2(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{F})$ ; starting from this fact and considering the long exact sequences by taking  $\text{Hom}(\mathcal{I}, -)$  to

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{I} \rightarrow R \rightarrow R/\mathcal{I} \rightarrow 0$$

gives

$$0 \rightarrow \text{Hom}(\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{I}) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(\mathcal{I}, R) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(\mathcal{I}, R/\mathcal{I}) \rightarrow \text{Ext}^1(\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{I}) \rightarrow \text{Ext}^1(\mathcal{I}, R)$$

Since  $\mathcal{I}$  is an ideal that eventually contains  $x^n, y^m$ , we have  $\text{Hom}(\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{I}) \cong \text{Hom}(\mathcal{I}, R)$  and  $\text{Ext}^1(\mathcal{I}, R) = 0$ , and so indeed we have  $\text{Hom}(\mathcal{I}, R/\mathcal{I}) \cong \text{Ext}^1(\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{I})$ .  $\square$

We can now complete the proof of the tangent weight statement.

Let  $T_\lambda^{a,b}$  denote the  $(a,b)$ -isotypical component of  $T_{\mathcal{I}_\lambda} \text{Hilb}_n(\mathbb{C}^2)$ . Let  $f \in \text{Hom}(\mathcal{I}_\lambda, R/\mathcal{I}_\lambda)$  have weight  $(a,b)$ .

$$f(x^\alpha y^\beta) = c x^{\alpha-a} y^{\beta-b}$$

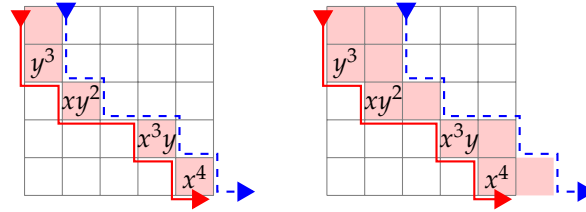
for some constant  $c_{\alpha,\beta}$  (that can be different for different monomials).

Let  $P_\lambda$  be the boundary path of  $\lambda$ ; for  $(a,b)$  in  $\mathbb{Z}^2$ , let  $P_\lambda(a,b)$  denote the boundary path of  $\lambda$  shifted to the right by  $a$  and up by  $b$ .

**Lemma 4.17.** Let  $B_\lambda(a,b)$  be the set of bounded regions above  $P_\lambda$  and below  $P_\lambda(a,b)$ . For  $U \in B_\lambda(a,b)$ , let  $f_U$  denote the map that multiplies monomials in  $U$  by  $x^{-a}y^{-b}$  and sends monomials not in  $B_\lambda(a,b)$  to 0. Then the  $f_U$  form a basis for  $T_\lambda^{a,b}$ .

*Proof.* To be a map of  $R$ -modules the map must commute with multiplication by  $x$  and  $y$ . Thus, if  $x^{\alpha-a+1}y^{\beta-b} \notin \mathcal{I}$ , we must have  $c_{\alpha+1,\beta} = c_{\alpha,\beta}$ , and similarly with  $y$ . Thus, to be a map of  $R$ -modules, we see that monomials in the same component must get multiplied by the same constant.

If a region is not bounded, then one of the generators of  $\mathcal{I}$  contained in that region would be mapped to a monomial with negative exponents, which it can't do; therefore it must be multiplied by 0.

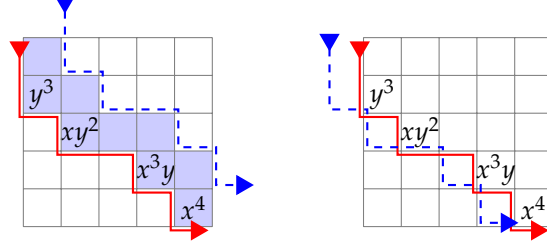


The picture on the left shows  $(1,0)$  is three dimensional. The region containing  $y^3$  is unbounded; indeed,  $y^3$  would have to map to  $x^{-1}y^3 \notin R/\mathcal{I}$ .

The picture on the right shows  $(2,0)$  is one dimensional;  $y^3$  and  $xy^2$  would each map to things not in  $R/\mathcal{I}$  because they are in an unbounded region. We also have that  $x^3y$  and  $x^4$  must get multiplied by the same constant, since  $xf(x^3y) = x^2y = yf(x^4)$  and  $x^2y \in R\mathcal{I}$ .  $\square$

We now prove Lemma 4.15. First, observe that  $T_\lambda^{(a,b)}$  is empty if  $(a,b)$  are both negative or both non-negative. If both are non-negative, then there are no cells at

all below  $P_\lambda(a, b)$  and above  $P_\lambda$ . If both are positive, then the cells below  $P_\lambda(a, b)$  and  $P_\lambda$  form a single unbounded region.



The left shows that for  $(1, 1)$  are both positive, then there is a single unbounded region. The right shows that for  $(-1, 0)$  there are no cells above  $P_\lambda$  and below  $P_\lambda(-1, 0)$ . Thus, exactly one of  $a, b$  is negative; assume it is  $a$ . We must show that the elements of  $B_\lambda(a, b)$  are in bijection with the cells  $\square \in \lambda$  having  $a = \ell(\square)$  and  $b = -a(\square) - 1$  (recall the sign from Warning 4.3).

Consider a region of cells above  $P_\lambda$  and below  $P_\lambda(-a, -b)$ . There are two possible directions this region could be unbounded – along the positive  $y$  or  $x$ -axes. Since  $b$  is positive, there are no squares far along the  $x$ -axis both below  $P_\lambda(-a, -b)$  and above  $P_\lambda$ , and so the region is automatically bounded in that direction.

We must therefore guarantee the region is bounded at the bottom right. This will happen when a South step of  $P_\lambda$  starts at the same point as East step of  $P_\lambda(-a, -b)$ .

Bounded cells will thus be in bijection with pairs of such cells. Translating the East step back  $(a, b)$  to its original place on the boundary strip, we find these two steps give an inversion in the  $P_\lambda$  and hence a cell of  $\lambda$ . The arm length of this cell will be  $b + 1$ , and the leg will have size  $a$ .

An analogous argument shows that tangent directions with  $b$  negative correspond to the other terms in the sum.

## 5. BACKGROUND: HILBERT SCHEMES OF POINTS ON ORBIFOLDS

**5.1. Orbifolds and stacks.** We turn now to Hilbert schemes on orbifolds. An orbifold is, first of all, a space where every point has a neighborhood isomorphic to  $\mathbf{C}^n/G$ , where  $G$  is a finite group. Viewed this way, orbifolds are mildly singular spaces.

Instead, it is often better to take the stacky point of view, in which we change categories, giving

In the naive point of view, the local model is  $G$ -invariant objects of  $\mathbf{C}^n$ ; in the stacky point of view, this is replaced with  $G$ -equivariant behavior. Rather than

**5.2. Orbifold Hilbert schemes.** Thus, the Hilbert scheme of  $n$  points on  $\mathbf{C}^2/G$  should parameterize  $G$ -equivariant ideals of  $R$ , which are  $G$ -invariant ideals.

$$\mathrm{Hilb}_n(\mathbf{C}^2/G) = \{\mathcal{I} \subset R\} = \mathrm{Hilb}_n(\mathbf{C}^2)^G$$

Viewing  $\text{Hilb}_n([\mathbb{C}^2/G])$  as the fixed point set of the  $G$  action on  $\mathbb{C}^2$  is much simpler than the stack theoretic viewpoint, and will be our main way of dealing with the stacks. The stack theoretic viewpoint provides our motivation – from this point of view, orbifolds should behave like smooth spaces, and hence one is led to look for analogs of Göttsche’s formula for them.

As the fixed point of a finite group acting on a smooth space, we immediately see that  $\text{Hilb}_n([\mathbb{C}^2/G])$  are smooth.

**Example 5.1.**  $\text{Hilb}_1([X/G]) = X^G$ , the fixed point set of  $G$ . This is drastically different behavior than Hilbert schemes on spaces, where  $\text{Hilb}_1(S) = S$ .

**Example 5.2.** We now look at  $\text{Hilb}_2([\mathbb{C}^2/G])$  for  $G = \mathbb{Z}_2, \mathbb{Z}_3$ .

First, we examine  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ , where the nontrivial element acts on  $\mathbb{C}^2$  by multiplication by  $-1 : (s, t) \mapsto (-s, -t)$ . First, we look at the fixed points where the two points are distinct: it sends a pair of distinct points  $\{p, q\}$  to  $\{-p, -q\}$ , and so this is fixed if and only if  $p = -q$ . As long as  $p \neq 0, -p \neq p$ , and so we see that this locus is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{C}^2 \setminus \{(0, 0)\} / \mathbb{Z}^2$ .

Now we examine this action over the locus where the two points are identical. First, if the scheme is supported at  $p$ , then its image under the  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  action is supported at  $-p$ , and so to be fixed it must be supported over 0. Furthermore, any ideal supported at 0 will be  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  invariant – the group action just multiplies  $x, y$  by  $-1$ , and we had a basis that was

There are two  $\mathbb{Z}_3$  actions on  $\mathbb{C}^2$  with an isolated fixed point – the diagonal action and the anti-diagonal action.

In either case, there are no fixed points on  $\text{Hilb}_2(\mathbb{C}^2)$  away from the locus where both points are supported at 0.

In the diagonal case, the same argument as in the  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  case shows that any ideal supported over the origin will be invariant, and we have

$$\text{Hilb}_2(S_{1/3}) = \mathbb{P}^1$$

In the anti-diagonal case,  $x$  and  $y$  are scaled by different numbers. So the only linear generator of  $\mathcal{I}, bx - ay$ , will not be fixed unless  $b = 0$  or  $a = 0$ , and so we see that  $\text{Hilb}_2(S_{2/3})$  consists of two points.

Here we have another marked difference from the case of non-orbifold surfaces: Hilbert schemes of points on orbifolds need not be connected.

The fact that orbifold Hilbert schemes are disconnected is easily explained by a discrete invariant. Since  $R, \mathcal{I}$  both have  $G$  actions, the module  $R/\mathcal{I}$  is not just a vector space but a representation of  $G$ . These are discrete invariants, and so obviously one representation of  $G$  cannot deform into another.

**Definition 5.3.** For  $v$  a representation of  $G$ , we define

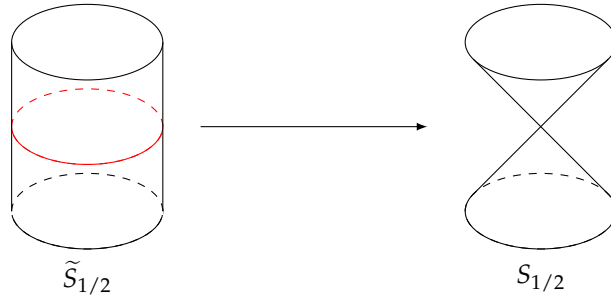
$$\mathrm{Hilb}_v(\mathbb{C}^2/G) = \{\mathcal{I} | R/\mathcal{I} = v\}$$

It turns out the  $\mathrm{Hilb}_v$  are connected.

The tautological bundle on  $\mathrm{Hilb}_n$  splits into  $r$  distinct tautological bundles, according to how the group  $G$  acts

This discussion also helps explain why increasing  $n$  a point does not correspond to a smooth point of  $\mathbb{C}^2/G$ . Smooth points of  $\mathbb{C}^2/G$  correspond to points in  $\mathbb{C}^2$  where  $G$  acts freely. If  $\mathcal{O}_{Gp}$  is the structure sheaf of the orbit of such a point, then  $G$  acts on  $\mathcal{O}_{Gp}$  as the regular representation. Thus

Thus, the generic point of  $\mathrm{Hilb}_{\mathbb{C}[G]}(\mathbb{C}^2/G)$  – often called  $G - \mathrm{Hilb}$  in the literature – will correspond to a smooth point of  $\mathbb{C}^2/G$ . As  $G - \mathrm{Hilb}$  is smooth from our discussion before, and since the image of the Hilbert-Chow morphism is the  $G$  invariant sets, we really have a map  $G - \mathrm{Hilb} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^2/G$  that is an isomorphism away from the singular points, and so we see  $G - \mathrm{Hilb}$  is a resolution of  $\mathbb{C}^2/G$ .

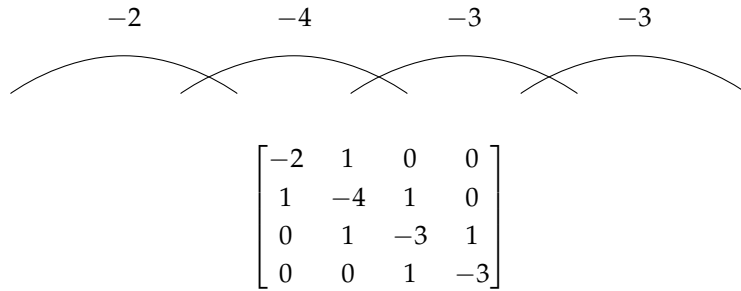


In fact, singularities of the form  $\mathbb{C}^2/G$  have a unique minimal resolution, and  $G - \mathrm{Hilb}$  is this resolution:

**Theorem 5.4.** The map  $G - \mathrm{Hilb} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^2/G$  is the minimal resolution.

Theorem 5.4 is useful because it gives a modular interpretation of the minimal resolution. It also shows the geometry of the minimal resolution appearing.

The resolution of the  $\mathbb{C}^2/G$  singularity is rational; hence the exceptional locus is a tree of  $\mathbb{P}^1$ 's joining together. In case  $G$  is cyclic, the resolution is actually a chain of rational curves with negative self intersection. See Chapter 10 of [15] for a thorough discussion of this.





The number and self-intersection of the components of the exception divisor are given by the *Hirzebruch-Jung* continued fraction expansion of  $r/a$ . That is, if we write

$$\frac{r}{a} = b_1 - \frac{1}{b_2 - \frac{1}{b_3 - \frac{1}{\ddots - \frac{1}{b_r}}}}$$

then the exception divisor as  $r$  components in a chain, and the  $i$ th component has self-intersection  $-b_i$ .

**Example 5.5** (Diagonal action). Consider the diagonal action of  $\mathbf{Z}_r$  on  $\mathbf{C}^2$ ; this corresponds to  $a = 1$ , and so the Hirzebruch-Jung continued fraction is simply  $r/1 = r$ . The exceptional divisor consists of one component with self intersection  $-r$ .

**Example 5.6** (The anti-diagonal case). In this case, the Hirzebruch-Jung continued fraction is

$$r/(r-1) = 2 - \underbrace{\frac{1}{2 - \frac{1}{\ddots - \frac{1}{2}}}}_{r-1 \text{ times}}$$

Thus, the resolution consists of a chain  $r-1$  -2 curves.

**Example 5.7** (The other  $\mathbf{Z}_5$  case). As a final example, consider  $\mathbf{Z}_5$  acting with weights  $(1,2)$ . Switching the role of  $x$  and  $y$ , this is equivalent to  $\mathbf{Z}_5$  acting with weights  $(1,3)$ .

We have the continued fraction expansions

$$5/2 = 3 - \frac{1}{2}$$

$$5/3 = 2 - \frac{1}{3}$$

The minimal resolution thus consists of a -3 curve meeting a -2 curve; the choice of which direction we choose as  $x$  and  $y$  corresponds to which edge of the chain we start at.

The intersection pairing of the minimal resolution  $\tilde{S}_{a/r}$  will play an important role later. The components of the exception curve form a basis for

**5.3. McKay Correspondence.** The McKay correspondence relates the geometry of  $\tilde{S}_G$  to the representation theory of  $G$ .

**Definition 5.8.** Let  $G$  be a finite group, and  $W$  a representation of  $G$ . The *McKay graph*  $\Gamma_W$  is the directed graph with vertex set  $\text{irreps}(G)$ , and if  $U$  and  $V$  are two irreps of  $G$ , the multiplicity of the edges from  $U$  to  $V$  is the multiplicity of  $V$  in  $U \otimes W$ .

The subgroups of  $SU_2$  have an ADE classification. There are two infinite series: cyclic groups, binary dihedral groups, and double covers of the isometries of the symmetries of the platonic solids.

McKay observed [32] that when  $G \subset SL_2(\mathbb{C})$ , the McKay graph of the defining two dimension representation was the *affine* version of the corresponding ADE Dynkin diagram. Removing the vertex corresponding to the trivial representation gives the usual ADE Dynkin diagram. Furthermore, the exceptional locus of the minimal resolution  $\tilde{S}_G$  of the corresponding singularity has all  $-2$  curves, with dual graph the corresponding Dynkin diagram.

A geometric explanation of this was first given by Gonzalez-Sprinberg and Verdier [20], by constructing vector bundles  $E_\rho$  on the minimal resolution  $\tilde{S}_G$ , labeled by the irreducible representations  $\rho$  of  $G$ , so that  $c_1(E_\rho)$  was the corresponding component of the exception divisor.

Ito and Nakamura observed the  $G$ -Hilb is the minimal resolution [26].

The description of the minimal resolution  $\tilde{S}_G$  as  $G$ -Hilb gives a natural construction of these vector bundles: for each irrep  $\rho$  of  $G$ , we have on the one hand a tautological bundle  $\mathbb{E}_\rho$  over  $G$ -Hilb, and on the other hand a vertex of the McKay graph.

$$c_1(\mathbb{E}_\rho) = E_\rho$$

Furthermore, viewing the minimal resolution as a moduli space of objects on the orbifold gives rise to powerful tools using the derived category.

In dimensions higher than two, Hilbert schemes of points on a smooth surface are not smooth, and we no longer have any reason to expect that  $G$ -Hilb would be smooth, or a crepant resolution of  $\mathbb{C}^n/G$  – indeed, in dimensions 4 or higher, gorenstein quotient singularities need not have crepant resolutions.

It turns out that in many cases of interest,  $G$ -Hilb is smooth in this case, and a crepant resolution of  $\mathbb{C}^2/G$ . This was proven by Bridgeland, King and Reid in [7] for dimension three, and Haiman’s work on  $\text{Hilb}_n(\mathbb{C}^2)$  is essentially showing that it is  $S_n$ -Hilb( $\mathbb{C}^n$ ).

**5.4. The special McKay correspondence.** When  $G$  is not in  $SL_2$ , the number of components in the exception divisor of  $\tilde{S}_G$  is strictly less than the number of nontrivial irreducible representations of  $G$ . The *special McKay correspondence*

started by Wunram [37] picks out a subset of the irreps of  $G$ , called the *special* representations, and gives a labeling of the irreducible components of the exception divisor of  $G$  by the special representations, so that we still have  $c_1(\mathbb{E}_\rho) = E_\rho$ .

Kidoh [30] in the cyclic case and Ishii [25] in the general case proved that we still have  $G$  Hilb is the minimal resolution.

Ito [27] gave the following combinatorial description of the special representations.

**Theorem 5.9** ([27], Theorem 3.7). Defines  $B(G)$  to be the set of monomials which are not divisible by any  $G$ -invariant monomial, and defines  $L(G)$  to be the set of monomials not divisible by  $xy, x^{|G|}, y^{|G|}$ . Then a representation  $\rho$  is special if and only if the corresponding monomial is not contained in  $B(G) \setminus L(G)$ .

Although we will work mainly at the level of homology, it is worth noting the McKay and special McKay correspondences hold at the level of derived categories. (KAPRANOV-VASSEROT, ISHII)

**5.5. Colored square counting.** The core construction helps us with the colored box square counting:

Consider the function

$$P_G(q_0, \dots, q_{r-1}) = \sum_{\lambda \in \mathcal{P}} \mathbf{q}^{|\lambda|_G}$$

where

$$\mathbf{q}^{|\lambda|_G} = \prod_{i=0}^{r-1} q_i^{|\lambda|_i^G}$$

that counts partitions according to their full colored square count as opposed to just their size; alternatively, the coefficient of  $\mathbf{q}^v$  is the euler characteristic of  $\text{Hilb}_v(\mathbb{C}^2/G)$ .

What can we say about  $P_G$ ? First, we consider the case where  $G \subset SL_2$ . Let  $Q = q_0 q_1 \cdots q_{r-1}$ . The core construction gives

$$P_G = \prod_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(1 - Q^i)^r} \sum_w Q^{A(w)} \mathbf{q}^w$$

Thus, we see in this case  $P_G$  is a multivariable theta function.

In case  $r = 2$ , this has an infinite product expansion using the Jacobi identity. In fact, work of Boulet shows that actually the case  $G = \mathbf{Z}_2 \times \mathbf{Z}_2$  has an infinite product expansion. Letting  $q_{00}, q_{01}, q_{10}, q_{11}$  denote the variables, we have

**Theorem 5.10** (Boulet [6]).

$$P_{\mathbf{Z}_2 \times \mathbf{Z}_2} = \prod_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{(1 + q_{00}^i q_{01}^{i-1} q_{10}^{i-1} q_{11}^{i-1})(1 + q_{00}^i q_{01}^i q_{10}^i q_{11}^{i-1})}{(1 - q_{00}^i q_{01}^i q_{10}^i q_{11}^i)(1 - q_{00}^i q_{01}^i q_{10}^{i-1} q_{11}^{i-1})(1 - q_{00}^i q_{01}^{i-1} q_{10}^i q_{11}^{i-1})}$$

However, even the one variable specialization  $P_{\mathbb{Z}_3}(q, 1, 1)$  does not have a nice infinite product expression, as observed by Balázs Szendrői [36]; as it has a root at  $-e^{\pi/\sqrt{3}}$  [5].

**5.6. Dijkgraaf, orbifold partitions, and the topology of Quot schemes.** Specialization where one  $q_i$  is set to  $q$  and all others are set to one is studied in [16], where they are all called *orbifold partitions of the first type*. There, they show that these specializations are characters of the affine Kac-Moody lie algebras.

We briefly mention that they also introduce *orbifold partitions of the second type*, where only cells of the given color are coordinated. Combinatorially, this can be viewed as putting an equivalence relation on partitions, so that two partitions are equivalent if they contain exactly the same boxes of color  $i$ . Algebraically, instead of considering  $G$ -equivariant ideals of  $R$ , this is working  $G$ -invariantly. That is, we have the ring  $R^G$  of  $G$  invariant elements of  $R$ . The ring  $R$  is a module over  $R^G$ , and splits into a direct sum of modules indexed by the irreducible representations of  $R$ . Rather than counting ideals in  $R$  with quotient having length  $n$ , they are counting submodules of  $R_i$  of colength  $n$ .

Geometrically,  $R^G$  is the ring of functions on the singular space  $\mathbb{C}^2/G$ . The modules  $R_i$  are spaces of sections of sheave  $\mathcal{F}_i$  that are  $T$  equivariant, and so they correspond to the euler characteristic of the quot scheme.

**Question 2.** What can be said about the Quot? Homology groups, decomposition in the grothendieck ring of varieites, etc.

How are these related to the topo

**5.7. Hilbert schemes of points in the plane.** That is, we look for

$$\mathrm{DH}_G(q, t) := \sum_{n, k \geq 0} b_k(\mathrm{Hilb}_n(\mathbb{C}^2/G)) t^k q^n$$

**5.7.1. Homological stability.** The analogs of stabilization and geometric representation theory work on the level of connected Hilbert scheme.

**Theorem 5.11.**  $P_t(\mathrm{Hilb}_G^{\delta+nG})$  stabilizes to  $1/(t, t)_{\infty}^{|G|}$

Note that the right hand side is independent of  $m$  and  $\delta$ .

*Proof.* Combinatorics – a generalization of cores and quotients of partitions □

**Conjecture 5.12.** The stable cohomology of  $\mathrm{Hilb}_G^{\delta+nG}$  is freely generated by the Chern classes of the  $|G|$  tautological bundles.

**5.7.2. Heisenberg Action.**

**Conjecture 5.13.** Let  $\delta \in K_0(G)$  be small, and  $G$  cyclic. Then

$$\bigoplus_{k \geq 0} H_*(\mathrm{Hilb}_G^{\delta+kG})$$

admits the action of a Heisenberg algebra based on the cohomology of the minimal resolution of  $\mathbb{C}^2/G$ .

Evidence: Let  $c$  be the number of rational curves in the minimal resolution of  $\mathbb{C}^2/G$ . Then

$$\mathcal{CH}_G^\delta \cdot (q, qt^2)_\infty \cdot (qt^2, qt^2)_\infty^c$$

has positive coefficients; but higher powers start giving negative coefficients.

### 5.7.3. Resolutions of $(\mathbb{C}^2/G)^n/S_n$ . One family of resolutions

Let  $X_G$  be the minimal resolution of  $\mathbb{C}^2/G$ . Then  $\text{Hilb}_n(X_G)$  is a resolution of  $(\mathbb{C}^2/G)^n/S_n$ .

Another family of resolutions

Let  $\delta \in K^0(G)$  be such that  $\text{Hilb}^\delta([\mathbb{C}^2/G]) = pt$ . Then  $\text{Hilb}^{\delta+nG}([\mathbb{C}^2/G])$  is a resolution of  $(\mathbb{C}^2/G)^n/S_n$ .

Stabilization implies that for fixed  $\delta$ , and large  $n$ , this second resolution will be bigger than the first resolution.

Changing Stability? But, it seems as  $\delta \rightarrow \infty$ , this second family of resolutions converges to the first.

## 6. WARM-UP: CORES, QUOTIENTS, AND THE ANTIDIAGONAL CASE

In this section, we focus on the anti-diagonal case  $-1/r$ ; that is, where  $A = \mathbb{Z}_r$  acting with weights  $(1, -1)$ . In this case, much is already well known: combinatorially, cores and quotients, together with the abacus construction, give us much information. Topologically, we are in the  $SL_2$  case, and the components of the Hilbert scheme have a description as Nakajima quiver varieties.

Though there has been some work connecting the combinatorial and geometric viewpoints, we suspect more c

**6.1. Colored boxes.** In the anti-diagonal case, the coloring scheme of the cells is a familiar object in the student of partitions, but not one as frequently connected to core and quotient partitions.

**Definition 6.1.** The *content*  $c(\square)$  of a cell  $\square = (i, j) \in \lambda$  is  $c(\square) = i - j$

-4	-3	-2	-1	0
-3	-2	-1	0	1
-2	-1	0	1	2
-1	0	1	2	3
0	1	2	3	4

Each cell is labeled by its content

It is immediate from the definition, that if we let  $\mathbf{C}_{1,-1}^*$  be the torus that acts on  $x$  with weight 1 and  $y$  with weight 0, then the content  $c(\square)$  is just the weight of the  $\mathbf{C}^*$  action on the corresponding monomial in  $R/\mathcal{I}_\lambda$ .

Furthermore, the multiset of the contents of  $\lambda \bmod r$  is just the class of  $[R/\mathcal{I}] \in K^0(\mathbf{Z}_r)$ .

**6.2. Topology of orbifold Hilbert schemes.** To determine the topology of  $\text{Hilb}([\mathbf{C}^2/G])$ , it is convenient to view it as  $\text{Hilb}(\mathbf{C}^2)^G$ . When  $G$  is abelian, it can be simultaneously diagonalized, and we can pick the torus  $(\mathbf{C}^*)^2$  we have acting on  $\mathbf{C}^2$  to be the one acting on the diagonal coordinates for  $G$ , so that the  $G$  action commutes with the torus action.

Since the torus commutes with  $G$ , the torus action will act on  $\text{Hilb}_n([\mathbf{C}^2/G])$ . Since  $G$  is in fact a subgroup of the torus, we see that  $\text{Hilb}_n(\mathbf{C}^2)^{\mathbf{C}^*} \subset \text{Hilb}_n(\mathbf{C}^2)^G$ , and so all the monomial ideals are  $G$  invariant. Thus, we see that as long as  $G$  is abelian, we have

$$\chi(\text{Hilb}_{[\mathbf{C}^2/G]}) = \chi(\text{Hilb}_{\mathbf{C}^2}) = \prod \frac{1}{1-q^n}$$

Similarly, we can use the Ellingsrud-Strømme's calculation of torus weights on  $T_\lambda \text{Hilb}_n$  to use the Białynicki-Birula decomposition to find the Betti numbers of  $\text{Hilb}_n([\mathbf{C}^2/G])$ . The tangent directions to  $\text{Hilb}_n(\mathbf{C}^2)^G$  within  $\text{Hilb}_n(\mathbf{C}^2)$  are simply the  $G$  invariant directions. If  $G$  is a cyclic group, a term in Lemma 4.15 will be  $G$  invariant if and only if the arm and leg satisfy some linear congruence relation; for  $G$  a product of two cyclic groups, it will be a system of linear relations.

**Definition 6.2.** Let  $\lambda$  be a partition of  $n$ , and  $k < r$  relatively prime. Then  $\dim_{k/r}(\lambda)$  is the dimension of  $T_\lambda \text{Hilb}_n([\mathbf{C}^2/G_{k/r}])$ .

Furthermore, let  $\mathbf{C}^*$  act on  $\mathbf{C}^2$  with weights  $(\varepsilon, 1)$ , and consider the induced  $\mathbf{C}^*$  action on  $\text{Hilb}_n([\mathbf{C}^2/G_{k/r}])$ . We define  $\dim_r^\pm \lambda$  to be the dimension of the positive and negative eigenspaces of this action on  $T_\lambda(\text{Hilb}_n([\mathbf{C}^2/G_{k/r}]))$ .

**Lemma 6.3.** We have

$$\begin{aligned} \dim_{k/r}(\lambda) &= \# \left\{ \square \in \lambda \mid \ell(\square) - ka(\square) \in \{-1, k\} \bmod r \right\} \\ \dim_{k/r}^+(\lambda) &= \# \left\{ \square \in \lambda \mid \ell(\square) - ka(\square) = -1 \bmod r \text{ and } a(\square) > 0 \right\} \\ \dim_{k/r}^- &= \dim_{k/r} - \dim_{k/r}^+ \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* Let  $L$  denote the representation where the standard generator of  $G_{k/r}$  acts as  $\exp(2\pi i/r)$ . Under the inclusion  $i : G_{k/r} \in T$ , we have  $i^*(T_1) = L, i^*(T_2) = L^k$ . Thus, we see that as a  $G_{k/r}$ -rep, we have

$$T_\lambda \text{Hilb}_n(\mathbf{C}^2) = \sum_{\square \in \lambda} L^{-\ell(\square) + ka(\square) + k} + L^{\ell(\square) + 1 - ka(\square)}$$

The tangent space to  $\text{Hilb}_n(\mathbb{C}^2/G_{k/r})$ , being the  $G$  invariant directions, will correspond to the exponents that are divisible by  $r$ . This immediately gives the first line.

To find the positive eigendirections, we intersect our answer to the first line with Prop whatever.

The last line is just saying that all fixed points are isolated.  $\square$

Combinatorially, it seems awkward that cells with  $a(\square) = 0$  are included in the negative eigenspace instead of the positive eigenspace, and it is natural to make the following definition:

**Definition 6.4.** The *combinatorial* positive and negative dimensions,  $\text{cdim}_{k/r}^{\pm}(\lambda)$  are defined by

$$\begin{aligned}\text{cdim}_{k/r}^+(\lambda) &= \#\left\{\square \in \lambda \mid \ell(\square) - ka(\square) = -1 \pmod{r}\right\} \\ \text{cdim}_{k/r}^-(\lambda) &= \#\left\{\square \in \lambda \mid \ell(\square) - ka(\square) = k \pmod{r}\right\}\end{aligned}$$

**Example 6.5** (Hook Lengths). The case when  $G \subset SL_2$  is  $k = r - 1$ , or equivalently,  $k = -1$ . In this case, we have

$$\text{cdim}_{-1/r}^+(\lambda) = \text{cdim}_{-1/r}^-(\lambda) = \#\left\{\square \in \lambda \mid h(\square) = 0 \pmod{r}\right\}$$

and so these statistics count the number of cells with hook lengths divisible by  $r$ .

The generating functions for  $\text{cdim}_{k/r}^+$  and  $\text{dim}_{k/r}^+$  are closely related.

**Lemma 6.6.**

$$\prod_{m>0} (1 - q^{mr} t^m) \sum_{\lambda \in \mathcal{P}} q^{|\lambda|} t^{\text{cdim}_{k/r}^+(\lambda)} = \prod_{m>0} (1 - q^{mr} t^{m-1}) \sum_{\lambda \in \mathcal{P}} q^{|\lambda|} t^{\text{dim}_{k/r}^+(\lambda)}$$

*Proof.* The two statistics  $\text{cdim}_{k/r}^+$  and  $\text{dim}_{k/r}^+$  both count cells  $\square$  satisfying the congruence relation  $\ell(\square) - ka(\square) = -1 \pmod{r}$ ; the combinatorial dimension includes those cells with  $a(\square) = 0$ , while the usual dimension does not.

If a square satisfies  $a(\square) = 0$  it is on the top of its column; when  $a(\square) = 0$  the congruence relation becomes simply asking that  $\ell(\square) + 1$  is divisible by  $r$ . Since  $\square$  is at the top of its column, that means the two differ whenever we have a part of  $\lambda$  appearing at least  $kr$  times. In particular, the two statistics agree on partitions  $\lambda$  where no part has multiplicity  $r$  or greater.

If there are  $r$  or more parts of size  $m$  in  $\lambda$ , one may remove  $r$  parts of them, resulting in removing an  $r \times k$  rectangle of squares from  $\lambda$ . Doing so will not change  $\ell(\square) - ka(\square) \pmod{r}$  for any square in  $\lambda$  – we haven't changed the arm or leg of any square to the right of the rectangle removed, while we have reduced the leg of any square to the right by  $r$ . Furthermore, each row of squares we removed will contain exactly one square contributing to  $\text{cdim}_{k/r}^+(\lambda)$ , since each square in a

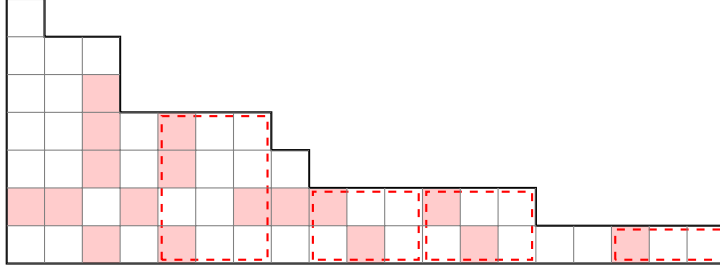
row has the same arm length, and as we move across the row from right to left the leg lengths decrease by 1.

Thus, we have seen that if we let  $\mathcal{P}^{<r}$  to denote the set of partitions with multiplicities of all parts less than  $r$ , we have

$$\prod_{m>0} \frac{1}{1 - q^{mr} t^m} \sum_{\lambda \in \mathcal{P}} q^{|\lambda|} t^{\text{cdim}_{k/r}^+(\lambda)} = \sum_{\lambda \in \mathcal{P}^{<r}} q^{|\lambda|} t^{\text{cdim}_{k/r}^+(\lambda)}$$

The same analysis holds for  $\text{dim}_{k/r}^+$ , except now the top row of each rectangle removed does not contribute to  $\text{dim}^+$ , explaining why the powers of  $t$  in the product are one lower.

The shaded cells are the cells contributing to  $\text{cdim}_{1/3}^+(\lambda)$ ; that is, those cells  $\square$  with  $\ell(\square) - a(\square) = -1 \pmod 3$ . The regions contained in the dashed red lines correspond to the parts removed – notice that each row of each region contains one shaded box, and that removing the dashed regions does not change whether the leftover cells are shaded or not.





- (1)  $\lambda$  is a  $t$ -core
- (2)  $\lambda$  has no boundary strips of length  $t$
- (3)  $\lambda$  has no cells  $\square$  with  $t|h(\square)$
- (4) It is not possible to remove one square of each content from  $\lambda$
- (5)  $\lambda$  is the only partition with its set of contents
- (6)  $\mathcal{I}_\lambda$  is an isolated point in  $\text{Hilb}_n([\mathbf{C}^2/G_{-1/t}])$

Many of these

**6.3. Abacus construction.** The abacus construction builds on the boundary path description of partitions in Section .

Rather than working with bi-infinite strings of letters, we will prefer to work with *Maya diagrams*, which we now describe. The conventions in the following discussion are based on the “fermionic” viewpoint of partitions and lattice paths, based on Dirac’s electron sea model, see [29] for more.

**6.4. Paths.** We will use  $\mathbf{Z}_{1/2}$  to denote the set of half integers  $\mathbf{Z} + 1/2$ , i.e.,  $-1/2$  and  $3/2$  are in  $\mathbf{Z}_{1/2}$ , but  $2$  is not.  $\mathbf{Z}_{1/2}^+$  will denote the positive half integers, and  $\mathbf{Z}_{1/2}^-$  will denote the negative.

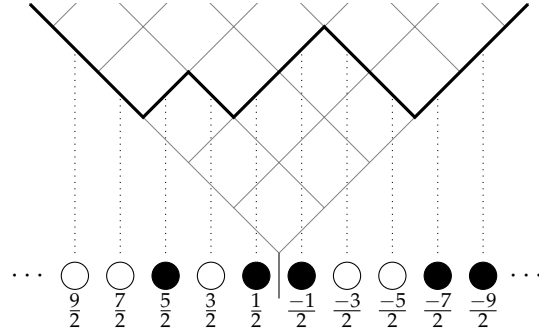
**Definition 6.9.** A state  $S$  is a subset  $S \subset \mathbf{Z}^{1/2}$  so that the symmetric difference of  $S$  with  $\mathbf{Z}_{1/2}^-$  is finite; that is  $S \cap \mathbf{Z}_{1/2}^+$  and  $S^c \cap \mathbf{Z}_{1/2}^-$  are both finite. We call  $|S \cap \mathbf{Z}_{1/2}^-| - |S \cap \mathbf{Z}_{1/2}^+|$  the *charge* of  $S$ .

We will typically represent a state by a *Maya diagram* – this is a sequence of circles labeled by  $\mathbf{Z}_{1/2}$ , with the positive entries going to the left and the negative entries to the right. A black bead is placed at each of the entries of  $S$ , and the entries not in  $S$  are displayed as white circles.

We now describe a bijection between the set of partitions  $\mathcal{P}$  to the set of charge 0 states/

**6.4.1.** We draw partitions in “Russian notation” – rotated  $\pi/4$  radians counter-clockwise and scaled up by a factor of  $\sqrt{2}$ , so that each segment of the border path of  $\lambda$  is centered above a half integer on the  $x$ -axis, with origin above the square 0.

**Example 6.10.** We illustrate the bijection in the case of  $\lambda = 3 + 2 + 2$ . The corresponding state  $S_\lambda$  consists of two electrons with energy  $5/2$  and  $1/2$ , and two positrons with energy  $3/2$  and  $5/2$ .

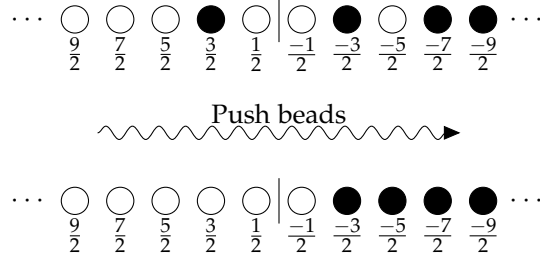


The bijection between partitions and states of charge zero may be modified to give a bijection between partitions and states of charge  $c$  for any  $c \in \mathbf{Z}$ . Simply translate the partition to the right by  $c$ .

**6.5. Abaci.** Rather than view the Maya diagram as a series of stones in a line, we now view it as beads on the runner of an abacus. Sliding the beads to be right justified allows the charge of the state to be read off, as it is easy to see how many electrons have been added or are missing from the vacuum state.

In what follows, we mix our metaphors and talk about electrons and protons on runners of an abacus.

**Example 6.11.** Consider Example ??, where the Maya diagram consists of two positrons and an electron. Pushing the beads to be right justified, we see the first bead is one step to the right of zero, and hence the original state had charge 1.



**6.5.1. Cells and hook lengths.** The cells  $\square \in \lambda$  are in bijection with the *inversions* of the boundary path; that is, by pairs of segments  $(\text{step}_1, \text{step}_2)$ , where  $\text{step}_1$  occurs before  $\text{step}_2$ , but  $\text{step}_1$  is traveling NE and  $\text{step}_2$  is traveling SE. The bijection sends  $\square$  to the segments at the end of its arm and leg.

Translating to the fermionic viewpoint, cells of  $\lambda$  are in bijection with pairs

$$\{(e, e - k) \mid e \in \mathbf{Z}_{1/2}, k > 0\}$$

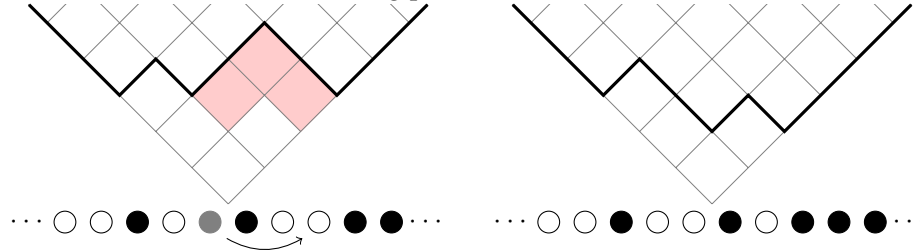
of a filled energy level  $e$  and an

The arm  $a(\square)$  corresponds to the number of energy levels between  $e$  and  $e - k$  that are empty; the leg  $\ell(\square)$  is the number of energy levels between  $e$  and  $e - k$  that are full. The hook length  $h(\square)$  of the corresponding cell is  $k$ , the distance between the two sets with

Recall that a *rim hook* of length  $a$  of  $\lambda$  is a size  $a$  subset of the cells of  $\lambda$  so that removing the rim hook gives a small partition, and the rim hook does not contain a  $2 \times 2$  box.

**Lemma 6.12.** Rimhooks of size  $a$  in  $\lambda$  are in bijection with cells  $\square \in \lambda$  with  $h(\square) = a$ . Removing the rimhook corresponds to moving the stone at  $e$  and playing at  $e - k$  instead.

This is illustrated in the following picture:



If  $(e, e - k)$  is such a pair, reducing the energy of the electron from  $e$  to  $e - k$  changes  $\lambda$  by removing the rim hook corresponding to the cell  $\square$ . This rim-hook has length  $k$ .

**Definition 6.13.** The  $r$ -core of  $\lambda$ , denoted  $\mathbf{core}_r(\lambda)$ , the partition obtained from  $\lambda$  by iteratively choosing a rim-hook of size  $r$  and removing it.

It is not clear from the above definition that  $\mathbf{core}_r(\lambda)$  is well defined – it seems possible that removing rim hooks in different orders could result in different partitions. We will see later that it is in fact well defined. Assuming that  $\mathbf{core}_r(\lambda)$  is well defined, it follows from Lemma 6.12 that  $\mathbf{core}_r(\lambda)$  is an  $r$ -core.

**Example 6.14.** The cell  $\square = (2, 1)$  of  $\lambda = 3 + 2 + 2$  (See Example 6.10). Here,  $h(\square) = 3$ , and corresponds to the electron in energy state  $1/2$  and the empty energy level  $-5/2$ ; which are three apart.

**6.6. Bijections.** The essence of the cores and quotient construction is that, rather than place the electrons corresponding to  $\lambda$  on one runner, we place them on  $r$  different runners, putting the energy levels  $ka - i - 1/2$  on runner  $i$  – i.e., every  $r$ th bead goes to the same runner, as in Figure ??

The charge  $c_i$  on the  $i$ th runner need not be 0, but using the change, we may still view the beads on the  $i$ th runner as a Maya diagram of a partition.

**Definition 6.15.** The  $r$ -quotient of  $\lambda$ , denoted  $\mathbf{quot}_r(\lambda)$  is an  $r$ -tuple of partitions, where the  $i$ th partition  $\mathbf{quot}_r^i(\lambda)$  is obtained by reading off the  $i$ th runner of the  $r$ -abacus of  $\lambda$  as a partition.

The size of the  $r$ -quotient is the sum of the sizes of the individual partitions:

$$|\mathbf{quot}_r(\lambda)| = \sum_{i=1}^r |\mathbf{quot}_r^i(\lambda)|$$

The abacus construction also gives us another way to view the  $r$ -core of a partition  $\lambda$ . Since removing an  $r$ -border strip corresponds to moving a bead  $r$  spots to the right to an empty position, on the  $r$  abacus this corresponds to moving a bead one step to the right on its runner. Thus,

**Lemma 6.16.** We have

$$\begin{aligned} |\lambda| &= |\mathbf{core}_r \lambda| + r|\mathbf{quot}_r \lambda| \\ \mathrm{cdim}_{-1/r}^+(\lambda) &= |\mathbf{quot}_r \lambda| \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* To form the core of  $\lambda$  from  $\lambda$ , we slide the beads on each runner of the abacus. Each time we slide a bead one step, we are removing an  $r$ -strip from  $\lambda$ , and hence decreasing the size of  $\lambda$  by one. On the other hand, we are removing a single cell from  $\tilde{\lambda}$ . □

**Corollary 6.17.** Let  $\mathcal{C}_r$  denote the set of  $r$ -core partitions. We have

$$\sum_{\lambda \in \mathcal{C}_a} q^{|\lambda|} = \frac{(q^r; q^r)_\infty}{(q; q)_\infty}$$

Moreover, we have

$$\sum_{\lambda \in \mathcal{P}} q^{|\lambda|} t^{\mathrm{cdim}^+ - 1/r(\lambda)} = \frac{(q^r; q^r)_\infty}{(q; q)_\infty} \frac{1}{(q^r t; q^r t)_\infty^r}$$

And hence:

$$P_t(\mathrm{Hilb}_{[\mathbb{C}^2/G]}) = \frac{(q^r; q^r)_\infty}{(q; q)_\infty} \frac{1}{(q^r t^2; q^r t^2)_\infty^{r-1} (q^r; q^r t^2)_\infty}$$

The process is reversible – if we have  $a$ -different Maya diagrams whose charge sums to 0, we may interleave the beads of them together as in Figure ??, and merge them to get a partition.

The  $a$ -quotient of  $\lambda$  records information about the  $a$ -hooks of  $\lambda$ . If we have a cell  $\square \in \lambda$ , with hooklength  $h(\square) = ka$  divisible by  $a$ , then the two energy levels of  $\mathrm{inversion}(\square)$  lie on the same runner. Similarly, any inversion of energy states on the same runner corresponds to a cell with hook length divisible by  $a$ .

Thus,  $\lambda$  is an  $a$ -core if and only if the beads on each runner of the  $a$ -abacus are right justified, that is, if the  $a$ -quotient of  $\lambda$  is zero. Moving a bead on the  $a$ -abacus, corresponds to removing a border strip of length  $a$ , and so sliding all the beads on

each runner all the way to the right corresponds to removing all  $a$ -hooks in  $\lambda$ . We see that the order we make the moves doesn't matter, as the end result will always be the same.

Although the total charge of all the runners must be zero, the charge need not be evenly divided among the runners. Let  $c_i$  be the charge on the  $i$ th runner; then we have  $\sum c_i = 0$ , and the  $c_i$  determine  $\lambda$ .

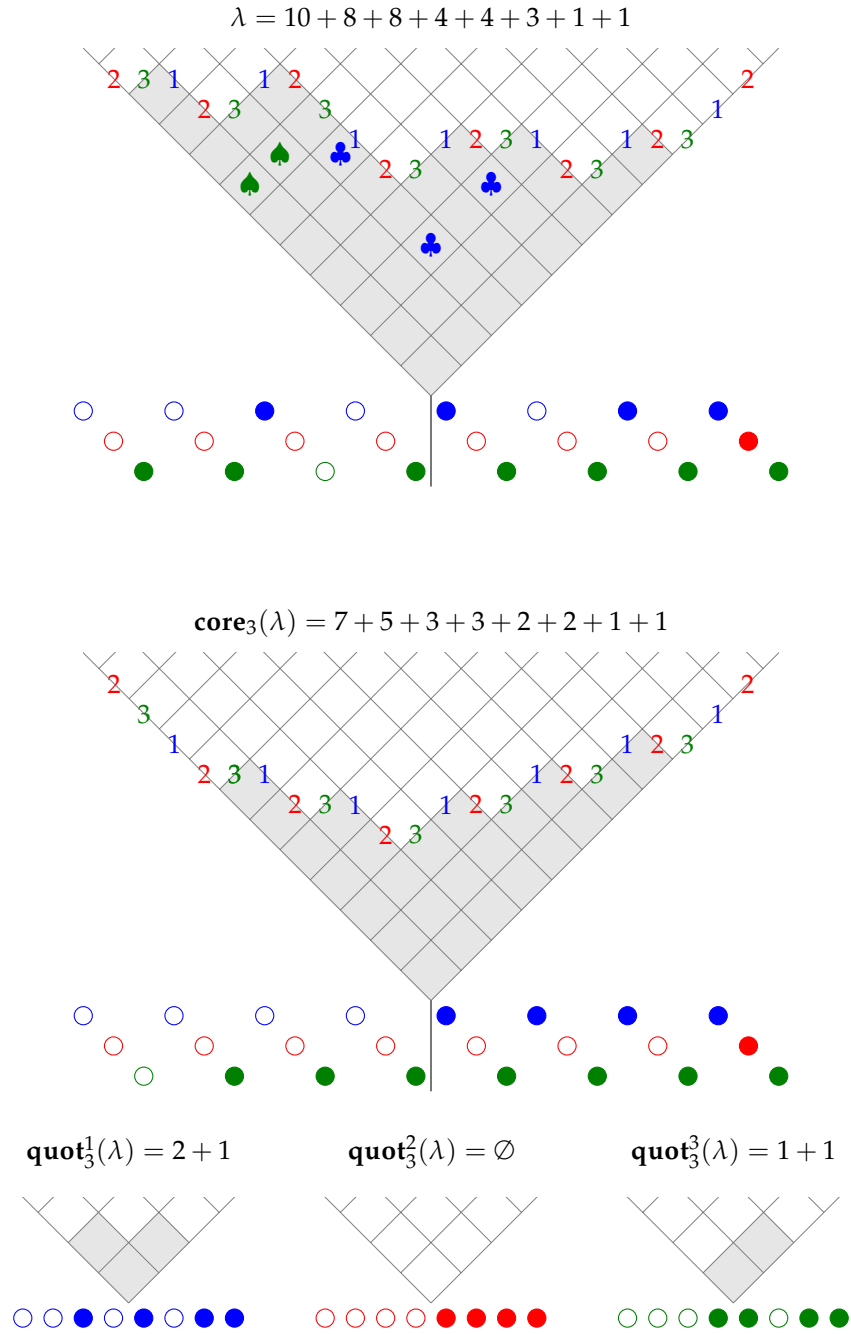
Similarly, given any  $\mathbf{c} = (c_0, \dots, c_{a-1}) \in \mathbf{Z}^a$  with  $\sum c_i = 0$ , there is a unique right justified abacus with charge  $c_i$  on the  $i$ th runner. The corresponding partition is an  $a$ -core which we denote  $\mathbf{core}_a(\mathbf{c})$ .

We have shown:

**Lemma 6.18.** There is a bijection

$$\mathbf{core}_a : \{(c_0, \dots, c_{a-1} | c_i \in \mathbf{Z}, \sum c_i = 0\} \rightarrow \{\lambda | \lambda \text{ is in } a\text{-core}\}$$

**Example 6.19.** We illustrate that  $\mathbf{core}_3(0, 3, -3) = 7 + 5 + 3 + 3 + 2 + 2 + 1 + 1$ . The numbers on the boundary path illustrate which runner of the abacus that step belongs to.



**6.7. Leaving and arriving word description.** We now describe a slight shift in perspective on cores that will help when we generalize them. One way to label the colors of the paths is in terms of the contents of the cells they border.

**6.8. Size of an  $a$ -core.** The core and quotient bijection above in particular gives a bijection between  $a$ -cores and points in a lattice  $a - 1$  dimensional lattice. We have parametrized the lattice above in the *charge* coordinates.

**Definition 6.20.** The  $r$ -charge of a partition  $\lambda$  is the  $c^G(\lambda)$  vector in  $\Lambda_a = \{(c_i) \mid \sum c_i = 0\}$  where  $c_i^G(\lambda)$  is the charge of the  $i$ th runner of  $\lambda$  when written on the  $a$ -abacus.

**Theorem 6.21.** The size of a core is a quadratic function in the charge coordinates;

$$|\mathbf{core}_a(\mathbf{c})| = \frac{a}{2} \sum_{k=0}^{a-1} c_k^2 + kc_k$$

In fact, each colored cell count is a quadratic function in the charge coordinates.

$$|\mathbf{core}_a(\mathbf{c})|_i^G = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=0}^{a-1} c_k^2 + \sum_{k>i} c_k$$

We are not sure where Theorem 6.21 originates; it is proved independently in [19, 16]. The proof is not difficult and uses the interaction of Frobenius coordinates and the abacus, see ; the first statement is proved in [28] and is easily extended to the second statement.

Note that since the quadratic part of  $|\mathbf{core}_a(\mathbf{c})|_i^G$  is independent of  $i$ , the quadratic part is adding a number of copies of the regular representation. Hence, Theorem 6.21 implies:

**Corollary 6.22.** There is a linear relation between the charge functions  $c_i(\lambda)$  the class  $[\lambda]^G$ .

In fact, an explicit form of this linear change of variables will hold in general, even though

that there is a linear change of variables between the charge coordinates and the colored box coordinates. This second fact we will prove this second fact directly in Theorem ??

## 7. CONJECTURED PRODUCT FORMULA

In this section we state the conjectured product formula. Section 7.1 gives some examples and describes the general form the product formula takes. In Section 7.2 we give an explicit conjectural formula in terms of Chen-Ruan cohomology, while in Section 7.3 we give an explicit conjectural formula relating interchanging arms and co-legs. Section 7.4 proves the equivalence of the two formulations of the conjecture.

**7.1. Initial observations toward the product formula.** To state our conjectural product formula, we will use the Pochhammer symbol

$$(a; x)_\infty := \prod_{\ell \geq 0} (1 - ax^\ell)$$

We will also use the following extension of the Pochhammer symbol:

$$(a_1, \dots, a_n; x)_\infty = \prod_{i=1}^n (a_i; x)_\infty$$

**Example 7.1.** Göttsche's formula Using the Pochhammer symbol, Göttsche's formula becomes:

$$\sum_{n \geq 0} b_k(\text{Hilb}_n(S)) t^k q^n = \frac{(-qt; qt^2)_\infty^{b_1} (-qt^3; qt^2)_\infty^{b_3}}{(q; qt^2)_\infty^{b_0} (qt^2; qt^2)_\infty^{b_2} (qt^4; qt^2)_\infty^{b_4}}$$

Using the Białyński-Birula calculation of Section ??, it is easy to write code to compute the generating function; see for instance the Sage code at [?]. Having gathered this data, one can then take log of the generating function and begin to look for product formulas. For a given group  $G$ , such formulas are readily found, the difficulty is then finding a general pattern. We begin with some initial observations in this direction.

**Example 7.2.** GLM's  $\mathbf{Z}_3$  example In [23], Gusein-Zade, Luengo, Melle-Hernández conjectured

$$\text{DH}_{1/3} = \frac{1}{(1-q)} \frac{1}{(1-qt^2)} \frac{1}{(1-q^3)} \frac{1}{(1-q^4t^2)} \frac{1}{(1-q^5t^4)} \frac{1}{(1-q^6t^2)} \cdots$$

Using the Pochhammer symbol, this becomes

$$\begin{aligned} \text{DH}_{1/3} &= \frac{1}{(q; t^2q^3)_\infty} \frac{1}{(q^2t^2; t^2q^3)_\infty} \frac{1}{(q^3; t^2q^3)_\infty} \\ &= \frac{1}{(q, q^2t^2, q^3; t^2q^3)_\infty} \end{aligned}$$

**Example 7.3.**  $\mathbf{Z}_5$  actions For  $\mathbf{Z}_5$ , there are two groups not contained in  $SL_2$ . The diagonal action has a similar form to the diagonal  $\mathbf{Z}_3$ :

$$\text{DH}_{1/5} = \frac{1}{(q, q^2t^2, q^3, q^4t^2, q^5; q^5t^2)_\infty}$$

That is, if we set  $t = -1$ , we obtain the usual Euler product. The term  $q^n$  term in the product occurs with coefficient  $t^{2w(n)}$ , where  $w(n) = \lfloor n/5 \rfloor + \epsilon_{1/5}(n)$ , and

$$\epsilon_{1/5}(n) = \begin{cases} 0 & n \cong 0, 1, 3 \pmod{5} \\ 1 & n \cong 2, 4 \pmod{5} \end{cases}$$

For the other action, we have:

$$\text{DH}_{2/5} = \frac{1}{(q, q^2, q^3t^2, q^4t^2, q^5; q^5t^2)_\infty}$$

Equivalently, the term  $q^n$  term in the product occurs with coefficient  $t^{2w(n)}$ , where  $w(n) = \lfloor n/5 \rfloor + \epsilon_{2/5}(n)$ , and



$$\epsilon_{2/5}(n) = \begin{cases} 0 & n \cong 0, 1, 2 \pmod{5} \\ 1 & n \cong 3, 4 \pmod{5} \end{cases}$$

**Example 7.4.** Diagonal  $\mathbf{Z}_4$ -conjecture of GLM In the previous two examples the intersection of  $G$  with  $SL_2$  was trivial; while in Section ?? we saw how cores and quotients gave a product formula for the case when  $G \subset SL_2$ . When  $G$  is not contained in  $SL_2$  but has a nontrivial intersection, the generating function  $DH_G$  appears to contain elements from both.

When  $\mathbf{Z}_4$  acts diagonally, Gusein-Zade, Luengo, Melle-Hernández made the following conjecture:

$$DH_{1/4} = \frac{(q^2; q^2)_\infty^2}{(q; q^2)_\infty} \frac{1}{(q^2, t^2 q^2, q^4, t^2 q^4; t^2 q^4)_\infty}$$

7.1.1. *Summary.* It seems in general that if  $G \cap SL_2 = \{1\}$  then  $DH_G$  has a product formula that is a simple  $t$ -deformation of the usual Euler-product. More specifically, it seems that

$$DH_G = \prod_{h=1}^r \frac{1}{(q^h t^{\epsilon(h)}; q^r t^2)_\infty}$$

with  $\epsilon(h)$  either 0 or 2; the question is then to describe  $\epsilon(h)$ .

When  $G \cap SL_2 = \mathbf{Z}_k$ , then it appears that  $DH_G$  is a  $t$ -deformation of the usual  $k$ -core and quotient product formula, with the  $t$ -terms only affecting the  $k$ -quotient terms. More specifically, it seems that

$$DH_G = \frac{(q^k; q^k)_\infty^k}{(q; q)_\infty} \prod_{m=1}^{r/k} \frac{1}{(q^{km} t^{\epsilon_{1,m}}, q^{km} t^{\epsilon_{2,m}}, \dots, q^{km} t^{\epsilon_{k,m}}; q^r t^2)_\infty}$$

with  $\epsilon_{i,j}$  either 0 or 2; the question is then to describe  $\epsilon_{i,j}$ .

In Göttsche's formula, terms with  $\epsilon(h) = 0$  correspond to elements of  $J_0(S)$ , and terms with  $\epsilon(h) = 2$  corresponds to elements of  $H_2(S)$ . Thus, one might hope for a description of the  $\epsilon(h)$  in terms of the cohomology of the stack  $[\mathbf{C}^2/G]$ . The correct cohomology theory to use appears to be Chen-Ruan cohomology.

## 7.2. Product formula: geometry.

7.2.1. *Chen-Ruan cohomology.* The Chen-Ruan cohomology  $H_{CR}^*(\mathcal{X})$  of an orbifold  $\mathcal{X}$  was discovered as a byproduct of defining the quantum cohomology of such orbifolds [13]. As a vector space, the Chen-Ruan cohomology is the usual cohomology of the inertial orbifold  $\mathcal{IX}$  of  $\mathcal{X}$ . As a set  $\mathcal{IX}$  is the space of constant maps from  $S^1$  to  $\mathcal{X}$ ; more algebraically,

$$\mathcal{IX} = \{(x, (g)) | x \in \mathcal{X}, (g) \in \text{conj}(G_x)\}$$

Every isotropy group  $G_x$  has an identity element  $e_x$ , the subset of  $(x, e_x)$  naturally forms a copy of  $X$ . Elements  $(x, (g))$  with  $(g)$  nontrivial form other components of  $\mathcal{IX}$  called *twisted sectors*.

Thus, for  $\mathcal{X} = [\mathbf{C}^2/G]$ , we see that

$$H_{CR}^*(\mathcal{X}) = H^*(\mathcal{IX}) = \bigoplus_{g \in \text{conj}(G)} (\mathbf{C}^2)^g$$

has a basis indexed by conjugacy classes of  $G$ .

However, Chen-Ruan cohomology has a different product and grading than  $H^*(\mathcal{IX})$ . Each twisted sector has a degree shifting number  $\iota(g)$ , obtained as follows.

Since  $g \in G_x$ , and  $g$  acts on  $T_x$ . It acts trivially on the tangent directions to  $\text{fix}(g)$ , and nontrivial on the normal directions. Diagonalizing the action on the normal bundle, we see that  $g$  is a diagonal matrix with entries

$$(\exp(2\pi i a_1/r), \exp(2\pi i a_2/r), \dots, \exp(2\pi i a_m/r))$$

Then  $\iota(g) = \sum a_i/r$ ; sometimes called the logarithmic trace of  $g$ .

The grading shift number is in general only a rational number  $-\iota(g) \in \mathbf{Z}$  if and only if the determinant of  $g$  is trivial. Thus, in case all isotropy groups  $G_x$  are in  $SL_2$ , then the Chen-Ruan cohomology is integrally graded.

**Example 7.5** (Antidiagonal action). When  $G \subset SL_2$ , we have that

$$\iota(g) = \begin{cases} 0 & g = 0 \\ 1 & g \neq 0 \end{cases}$$

Thus, the dimension of  $H_{CR}^*([\mathbf{C}^2/G])$  is equal to the number of conjugacy classes of  $G$  (which is the number of irreps of  $G$ ). We have  $H_{CR}^0$  is one dimensional, with the rest of the classes being two dimensional. Thus we have

$$H_{CR}^*([\mathbf{C}^2/G]) \cong H^*(\tilde{S}_G)$$

as graded vector spaces (actually, as rings in this case).

**Theorem 7.6** (Yasuda [38]). Let  $\mathcal{X}$  an effective orbifold, and  $\tilde{X} \rightarrow |\mathcal{X}|$  a crepant resolution of the coarse moduli space. Then :

$$H_{CR}^*(\mathcal{X}) = H^*(\tilde{X})$$

as graded vector spaces.

Note that the products do not necessarily agree; quantum corrections are needed; the *Crepant Resolution Conjecture* states that, properly understood, the quantum cohomology of  $\mathcal{X}$  and  $\tilde{X}$  should agree. See [14] for discussion of the details and reference to other sources.

**Example 7.7.** Let  $\mathbf{Z}_r$  act diagonally, with element  $g_k$  acting as  $(\exp(k2\pi i/r), \exp(k2\pi i/r))$ . Then we have  $\iota(g_k) = 2k/r$ .

The Chen-Ruan cohomology of  $[\mathbf{C}^2/G]$  is rationally graded, with  $d$  with  $0 \leq d < 4$

$$0 \rightarrow G \cap SL_2 \rightarrow G \rightarrow \mathbf{C}^*$$

Our conjectural product formula for  $\mathrm{DH}_G$  is easiest to state in case  $G \cap SL_2 = 1$ . In this case, the action of  $G$  on  $\wedge T^*\mathbf{C}^2$  is faithful; taking  $r$  times the logarithmic trace of this action gives a bijection between  $G$  and  $\{0, \dots, r-1\}$ .

Let  $F(g)$  and  $I(g)$  denote the fractional and integral parts of  $\iota(g)$ .

If  $G \cap SL_2 = \{1\}$ , then  $F(G)$  gives a bijection between  $G$  and  $\{0, 1/r, \dots, (r-1)/r\}$ .

**Conjecture 7.8** (Johnson). Let  $G$  be cyclic, and define  $k = |G \cap SL_2|$

$$\mathcal{H}_G(q, t) = \frac{(q^k; q^k)_\infty}{(q, q)_\infty} \prod_{g \in G} \frac{1}{(q^{r(1-F(g))} t^{2I(g)}, q^r t^2)_\infty}$$

**Example 7.9** (Diagonal action,  $r$ -odd). Let  $r = 2k + 1$ . The element of  $\mathbf{Z}_r$  that acts on  $K$  as  $\exp(2\pi i/r)$  acts 1 on the tangent space as  $\exp(2\pi i k/r)$ , and thus as  $\iota = 2k/(2k+1) < 1$ .

Odd powers of this element will have  $\iota < 1$ , while even powers will have  $\iota > 1$ , giving

In the limit as  $r \rightarrow \infty$  odd, we get Buryak-Feigin's result

$$\prod_{n \text{ odd}} \frac{1}{1 - q^n} \prod_{m \text{ even}} \frac{1}{1 - tq^m}$$

**Example 7.10** ( $S_{2/5}$ ). We have

$g$	$r(1 - F(g))$	$I(g)$
1	2	0
2	4	1
3	1	0
4	3	1

Thus, we have

$$\frac{1}{(q, q^2, q^3 t, q^4 t, q^5 t^2, q^5 t^2)_\infty}$$

**7.3. Product formula: combinatorics.** We now give a different description of the product formula, at least for the case when  $G \subset SL_2 = 1$ , with motivation coming from combinatorics. In particular, our conjecture is a strengthening of results of Bacher-Manivel [2] and Bessenrodt [3], which show that the total number cells in all partitions of  $n$  with arm length  $A$  and leg length  $L$  is equal to the total number of parts of size  $A + L + 1$  in partitions of  $n$ .

7.3.1. The combinatorial motivation for the distribution of  $\text{cdim}_{k/r}(\lambda)$  is to define a new statistic,  $\text{pdim}_{k/r}$  that simply replaces arm with the co-leg.

**Definition 7.11.**

$$\text{pdim}_{k/r}(\lambda) = \# \left\{ \square \in \lambda \mid \ell(\square) - k\text{col}(\square) = -1 \pmod{r} \right\}$$

The immediate benefit of this definition is that this both  $\ell(\square)$  and  $\text{col}(\text{square})$  depend only on the row  $\square$  is in, and not on the global shape of the partition. Thus, viewing the rows of the partition as the parts of the partition, it is immediate that the  $(q, t)$ -enumeration of partitions has a product formula that is just a  $t$ -deformation of the standard Euler product, that is, we have

$$\sum_{\lambda \in \mathcal{P}} q^{|\lambda|} t^{|\text{pdim}_{k/r}(\lambda)|} = \prod_{m \geq 1} \frac{1}{1 - q^m t^{z_{k/r}(m)}}$$

for some function  $z(m)$ .

It is an easy observation that when  $k+1$  is relatively prime to  $r$ , then  $z_{k/r}(m)$  has the same basic structure as the weights  $w_{k/r}(m)$  appearing in the distribution of

**Lemma 7.12.** If  $(k+1, r) = 1$ , then

$$w_{k/r}(m) = \varepsilon_{k/r}(m) + \lfloor m/r \rfloor$$

where  $\varepsilon_{k/r}(m)$  is either 0 or 1 and only depends on  $m \pmod{r}$ .

*Proof.* This follows from the fact that, as we move one box to the left in a row,  $\ell(\square) - k\text{col}(\square)$  increases by  $k+1$ . Thus, when  $k+1$  is relatively prime to  $r$ , in any string of  $r$  boxes in a single row,  $\ell(\square) - k\text{col}(\square)$  will take on every residue class  $\pmod{r}$  exactly once.  $\square$

**Conjecture 7.13.**

$$\sum_{\lambda \in \mathcal{P}} q^{|\lambda|} t^{|\text{pdim}_{k/r}(\lambda)|} = \sum_{\lambda \in \mathcal{P}} q^{|\lambda|} t^{|\text{cdim}_{k/r}(\lambda)|}$$

**Example 7.14.** Consider  $\text{pdim}_{1/r}$ , for  $r$

**Proposition 7.15.** If we take the first derivative of Conjecture 7.13 with respect to  $t$ , and then set  $t = 1$ , then the resulting equation is true.

*Proof.* First, consider the left hand side;  $\sum_{\lambda \in \mathcal{P}} q^{|\lambda|} t^{|\text{cdim}(\lambda)|}$ . If we take the derivative of  $t$  and set  $t = 1$ , we get

$$\sum_n q^n \sum_{\lambda \in \mathcal{P}_n} \sum_{\square \in \lambda} \delta(\ell(\square) - k\text{col}(\square) = -1 \pmod{r}),$$

that is, the coefficient of  $q^n$  is the total number of squares in all partions of  $n$  that have  $\ell(\square) - k\text{col}(\text{square}) = -1 \pmod{r}$ .

Here, a part of length  $L$  will contribute

Similarly, when we take the derivative with respect to  $t$  and set  $t = 1$  on the right hand side, the coefficient of  $q^n$  is the total number of squares in all partitions of  $n$  with  $\ell(\square) - ka(\square) = -1 \pmod r$ .

For any possible non-negative values  $L$  and  $A$  satisfying  $L - kA = -1 \pmod r$ , we can count the number of squares  $\square$  in all partitions of  $n$  with  $a(\square) = A$  and  $\ell(\square) = L$ . By the results of Bacher Manivel and Bessenrodt, this is equal to the number of all parts of length  $A + L + 1$  in all partitions of  $n$ .

But for any such values of  $L$  and  $A$ , in every part of size  $A + L + 1$  there will be a unique  $\square$  with  $\text{col}(\square) = A$  and  $\ell(\square) = L$ , and this square will contribute to the left hand side.

□

#### 7.4. Equivalence of the two product formulas.

**Proposition 7.16.** Conjecture 7.8 is equivalent to Conjecture 7.13

*Proof.* By Lemma ??, we only need to prove that the powers of  $t$  in the two conjectural product formulas agree for the first  $r$  terms; that is, we need to show that  $\epsilon_{k/r}(m) = \varepsilon_{k/r}(m)$  for  $1 \leq m \leq r$ .

Now, for  $\varepsilon_{k/r}(m) = 1$ , we need

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\in \{m, m - (k+1), \dots, m - (m-1)(k+1)\} \\ -m &\in \{0, -(k+1), \dots, -(m-1)(k+1)\} \\ \frac{-m}{k+1} &\in \{0, -1, \dots, -(L-1)\} \end{aligned}$$

Where we have worked in  $\mathbb{Z}_r$ . Equivalently, if we choose the representative of  $[-m/(k+1)] \in \mathbb{Z}/r\mathbb{Z}$  to be in  $\{0, \dots, r-1\}$ , then we need  $-m/(k+1) > -m$ .

From the Chen-Ruan point of view, a part of length  $m < r$ , with  $m \cong -(k+1)s \pmod r$  will contribute if we have to carry when we add  $s$  and  $ks$ , that is

$$\begin{aligned} ks &\in \{-1, \dots, -s\} \\ (k+1)s &\in \{0, \dots, s-1\} \\ m &\in \{0, -1, \dots, -s+1\} \\ m &\in \{0, -1, \dots, m/(k+1) + 1\} \end{aligned}$$

That is, we need  $m > m/(k+1)$ , if we choose the representative of  $m/(k+1) \in \mathbb{Z}_r$  to be  $< r$ .

□

## 8. GENERALIZED CORES AND APPLICATIONS

This section introduces *rational cores and quotients*, and applies them to the study of  $|\lambda|_G$  and  $\text{cdim}(\lambda)$ . In particular, we prove two results: the topology of  $\text{Hilb}_v$  stabilizes, and that the size of  $k/r$ -cores is piecewise quadratic.

The basic construction of  $k/r$ -cores and quotients is the  $k/r$ -abacus. This parallels the usual abacus construction of regular cores and quotients, but is more complicated: rather than regularly cycling through the  $r$  runners, the runners the electrons/beads are placed on depends on whether the previous state was filled with an electron or left empty.

The construction is also essentially the arriving/departing word construction of [31]. We begin by making this explicit, and explaining usual  $r$ -cores in terms of leaving words.

### 8.1. The regular abacus in terms of leaving words. To connect

The construction of  $G$ -cores and quotients is exactly parallel to the



*Proof.* First, note  $\varphi$  is an isomorphism of lattices, as the  $w_i$  and  $f_i$  generate each lattice subject to the relation  $\sum w_i = 0, \sum f_i = 0$ .

It suffices to show that if  $\mu$  is obtained from  $\lambda$  by removing a single box  $\square$ , then  $[\lambda]^G - [\mu]^G = \varphi(c^G(\lambda) - c^G(\mu))$ . Suppose that  $\square$  had color  $i$ ; then in  $\lambda$  the border path travels above  $\square$  and has color  $i$ , while in  $\mu$  the border path travels below  $\square$  and has color  $i + a$ . All other up-sloping steps of  $\lambda$  and  $\mu$  agree. In removing the box, we deleted a box of color  $i$  from  $\lambda$ , and thus  $[\lambda]^G - [\mu]^G = f_i$ . We also removed one bead from the  $i$ th runner, increasing  $c_i^G$  by 1, and added a bead to the  $i + a$  runner, decreasing  $c_{i+a}^G$  by 1. □

## 9. RIEMANN-ROCH CALCULATION

**9.1. Riemann-Roch Theorem.** Although the ext groups  $\text{Ext}^i(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{G})$  between two sheaves depend delicately on the sheaves involved, the Euler pairing

$$\chi(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{G}) = \sum_{i \geq 0} \text{Ext}^i(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{G})$$

only depends upon the  $K$ -theory classes of  $\mathcal{F}$  and  $\mathcal{G}$ .

**Example 9.1.** Let  $p$  and  $q$  be two points of  $\mathbb{C}^2$ . If  $p \neq q$ , then the structure sheaves  $\mathcal{O}_p$  and  $\mathcal{O}_q$  have disjoint support, and so  $\text{Ext}^i(\mathcal{O}_p, \mathcal{O}_q) = 0$  for all  $i$ .

If  $p = q$  we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Ext}^0(\mathcal{O}_p, \mathcal{O}_p) &= 1 \\ \text{Ext}^1(\mathcal{O}_p, \mathcal{O}_p) &= 2 \\ \text{Ext}^2(\mathcal{O}_p, \mathcal{O}_p) &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

In both cases,  $\chi(\mathcal{O}_p, \mathcal{O}_q) = 0$ .

The Riemann-Roch formula gives an evaluation of the Euler pairing strictly in terms of the  $K$ -theory class. Since our orbifolds are global quotients we can just use an equivariant Riemann-Roch formula, and since there are isolated fixed points it has a particularly nice form

In particular, for  $\mathbb{C}^2/G$ , the Euler pairing will be equivalent to

The exterior algebra of  $\mathbb{C}^2$  is a graded  $G$  representation, with  $\wedge^0 \mathbb{C}^2$  the trivial representation, and  $\wedge^2 \mathbb{C}^2$  in piece 0, and  $\wedge^1 \mathbb{C}^2 = \mathbb{C}^2$  in degree 1.

**Definition 9.2.** The super McKay pairing is  $Q_{SM}(V, W) = \dim(V \otimes W^\vee \otimes \wedge^* \mathbb{C}^2)^G$ .

**Theorem 9.3** (Equivariant Riemann-Roch).

$$\chi(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{G}) = Q_{SM}([\mathcal{F}], [\mathcal{G}])$$



**9.2. Application to cores.** We now apply the Riemann-Roch theorem to the dimension and  $K$ -theory classes of cores. Specifically, we will address the following question: given a class  $v \in \overline{K}(G)$ , what can we say about the dimension and  $K$ -theory class of the core Hilbert scheme in class  $v$ ?

First, note that pairing with  $[V_G]$  just counts the dimension, and since the super dimension of  $\wedge^* \mathbb{C}^2$  is zero, it is in the kernel of the McKay pairing. Geometrically, this corresponds to the fact that adding the structure sheaf of a smooth point on  $[\mathbb{C}^2/G]$  will change the  $K^0$  theory class by  $V_G$ , but the smooth point may be added disjoint from the support of the rest of the sheaf and the sheaf it is being paired with and hence not change any of the ext groups.

Thus, the Euler pairing  $\chi$  descends to a pairing on  $\overline{K}(G) = K^0(G)/V_G$ . Given a class  $v \in \overline{K}(G)$ , what is the minimum lift to  $\tilde{v} \in K^0(G)$  with  $[\tilde{v}] = v$  and  $\text{Hilb}_{\tilde{v}}$  nonempty?

As vector spaces,  $\overline{K}(G)$  is isomorphic to the subset of  $K^0(G)$  with entries summing to zero, but quite as lattices. Therefore for  $G$  abelian we introduce the space

$$S_G^0 = \left\{ v \in K^0(G; \mathbb{Z}[1/|G|]) \mid \sum_{\chi \in \text{irreps}(G)} (\chi, v) = 0 \right\}$$

and we have an isomorphism  $S_G^0$  and  $\overline{K}(G)$ .

**Lemma 9.4.** Let  $k$  be the index of  $K_{[\mathbb{C}^2/G]} \in K(G)$ .

Then

$$\tilde{v} = v + \frac{1}{2} (Q_M(v) + \dim \text{Hilb}_{\tilde{v}} - v_0 - v_k) [V_G]$$

*Proof.* We calculate  $\chi(\tilde{v}, \tilde{v})$  in two different ways, once from the definition, and once using the Riemann-Roch theorem.

Let  $\mathcal{O}_{\tilde{v}}$  be any quotient sheaf with the right  $K$ -theory class.

We first use

$$\chi(\tilde{v}, \tilde{v}) = \dim \text{Ext}^0(\mathcal{O}_{\tilde{v}}, \mathcal{O}_{\tilde{v}}) - \dim \text{Ext}^1(\mathcal{O}_{\tilde{v}}, \mathcal{O}_{\tilde{v}}) + \dim \text{Ext}^2(\mathcal{O}_{\tilde{v}}, \mathcal{O}_{\tilde{v}})$$

By definition  $\text{Ext}^0(\mathcal{O}_{\tilde{v}}, \mathcal{O}_{\tilde{v}}) = \text{Hom}_R(R/\mathcal{I}, R/\mathcal{I})^G$ . Now since  $\mathcal{O}_v$  is a quotient of  $R$  it is generated by 1, and so to define a homomorphism we just need to say where 1 maps. Since  $\mathcal{I}$  is an ideal, it can map to any entry of  $R/\mathcal{I}$ . Since one is fixed by  $G$ , for the homomorphism to be  $G$  invariant we must preserve weight and map to something invariant. So  $\dim \text{Ext}^0(\mathcal{O}_{\tilde{v}}, \mathcal{O}_{\tilde{v}}) = \tilde{v}_0$ .

Using Serre-duality,  $\dim \text{Ext}^2(\mathcal{O}_{\tilde{v}}, \mathcal{O}_{\tilde{v}}) = \dim \text{Ext}^0(\mathcal{O}_{\tilde{v}}, K \otimes \mathcal{O}_{\tilde{v}})$ . The effect of tensoring by  $K$  is just to change the  $G$  action – an invariant vector of  $\mathcal{O}_{\tilde{v}} \otimes K$  is just a vector that transforms as  $K^\vee$  in  $\mathcal{O}_{\tilde{v}}$ . So  $\dim \text{Ext}^2(\mathcal{O}_{\tilde{v}}, \mathcal{O}_{\tilde{v}}) = \tilde{v}_{-k}$ .

Finally  $\dim \text{Ext}^1(\mathcal{O}_{\tilde{v}}, \mathcal{O}_{\tilde{v}}) = \dim \text{Hilb}_{\tilde{v}}$ . So  $\chi(\tilde{v}, \tilde{v}) = \tilde{v}_0 + \tilde{v}_{-k} - \dim \text{Hilb}_{\tilde{v}}$ . If we write  $\tilde{v} = v + M[V_G]$ , then  $\tilde{v}_i = v_i + M$ , and so

$$(1) \quad \chi(\tilde{v}, \tilde{v}) = v_0 + v_{-k} + 2M - \dim \text{Hilb}_{\tilde{v}}$$

On the other hand, using Euler pairing using Riemann-Roch works exactly the same way, and we have

$$(2) \quad \chi(\tilde{v}, \tilde{v}) = Q_{SM}(v + M[V_G], v + M[V_G]) = Q_M(v, v)$$

using the fact that  $[V_G]$  is in the kernel of  $Q_{SM}$ .

Setting Equations 1 and 2 equal and solving for  $M$  gives the desired result.  $\square$

**Corollary 9.5.** The map  $v \mapsto \dim \text{Hilb}_{\tilde{v}}$  is a piecewise quadratic function.

*Proof.* Using cores, we have already seen that  $\tilde{v}$  is a piecewise quadratic function of  $v$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 9.6.** If  $G \in SL_2$ . Then

$$\tilde{v} = v - v_0 + \frac{1}{2}Q_M(v, v)[V_G]$$

In particular, we see  $\tilde{v}$  is a quadratic function of  $v$ .

*Proof.* When  $G \in SL_2$ , the canonical bundle  $K_{[\mathbb{C}^2/G]}$  is trivial, and so  $k = 0$ . Furthermore, when  $G \in SL_2$ , the core partitions are isolated points and hence have dimension 0.  $\square$

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