# Geometric Langlands duality for $PGL_2^{\times 3}/PGL_2^{diag}$

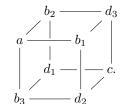
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ABSTRACT. In this note, we study the local relative geometric Langlands conjecture of Ben-Zvi–Sakellaridis–Venkatesh for the spherical subgroup  $\operatorname{PGL}_2^{\operatorname{diag}}$  of the triple product  $\operatorname{PGL}_2^{\times 3}$  (and also for the spherical subgroup  $G_2$  of  $\operatorname{SO}_8/\mu_2$ ), whose corresponding Langlands dual  $\operatorname{SL}_2^{\times 3}$ -variety can be identified with the space  $(\mathbf{A}^2)^{\otimes 3} \cong \mathbf{A}^8$  of  $2 \times 2 \times 2$ -cubes. Our analysis relies on a construction of Bhargava relating  $2 \times 2 \times 2$ -cubes to quadratic forms and the Cayley hyperdeterminant as studied by Gelfand-Kapranov-Zelevinsky.

### 1. Introduction

The goal of this brief note is to study the geometrization of a story from the arithmetic context pioneered by Jacquet, Kudla-Harris, and Ichino among many others (see, e.g., [HK91, Ich08]). Fix an eighth root of unity  $\zeta_8$ , let i be the resulting square root of -1, and write  $k := \mathbf{Q}(\zeta_8) \cong \mathbf{Q}(i, \sqrt{2})$ .

**Notation 1.1.** Let std denote the standard representation of  $SL_2$ , so that  $std^{\otimes 3}$  consists of cubes



Fix an integer n. Equip  $\operatorname{std}^{\otimes 3}$  with the grading where the entries of a cube have the following weights: a lives in weight -4n, each  $b_i$  lives in weight -2n, c lives in weight 2n, and each  $d_i$  lives in weight 0. Write  $\operatorname{std}^{\otimes 3}(4n, 2\vec{n}, -2n, \vec{0})$  to denote the corresponding graded variety.

Similarly, equip  $SL_2$  with the grading where the entries of a matrix  $\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$  have the following weights: a and d live in weight 0, b lives in weight 2n, and c lives in weight -2n. Write  $SL_2(-2n\rho)$  to denote this graded group. Then there is a natural graded action of  $SL_2(-2n\rho)^{\times 3}$  on  $std^{\otimes 3}(4n, 2n, -2n, \vec{0})$ .

Recall that the process of *shearing* discussed in [Rak20, Lur15], as well as [Dev23, Section 2.1], converts gradings into homological shifts (more precisely, it sends a module in weight n to the same module shifted homologically by n). This

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functor is symmetric monoidal when restricted to the subcategory of modules in *even* weights, and therefore extends to an operation on evenly graded stacks. As in [**Dev23**], we will state all of our results with "arithmetic shearing" in the sense of [**BZSV23**, Section 6.7].

**Theorem 1.2** (Derived geometric Satake for  $PGL_2^{\times 3}/PGL_2^{diag}$ ). Suppose that the  $PGL_2^{\times 3}[t]$ -action on  $PGL_2^{\times 3}(t)/PGL_2^{diag}(t)$  is optimal in the sense of [**Dev23**, Hypothesis 3.5.21]. There is an equivalence<sup>1</sup>

$$\mathrm{Shv}^{c,\mathrm{Sat}}_{\mathrm{PGL}^{\times 3}_{2}\llbracket t\rrbracket}(\mathrm{PGL}^{\times 3}_{2}(\!(t)\!)/\mathrm{PGL}^{\mathrm{diag}}_{2}(\!(t)\!));k) \simeq \mathrm{Perf}^{\mathrm{sh}}(\mathrm{std}^{\otimes 3}(4,\vec{2},-2,\vec{0})/\mathrm{SL}_{2}(-2\rho)^{\times 3}),$$

where Perf<sup>sh</sup> denotes the  $\infty$ -category of perfect complexes on the shearing of the quotient stack  $\operatorname{std}^{\otimes 3}(4,\vec{2},-2,\vec{0})/\operatorname{SL}_2(-2\rho)^{\times 3}$ . Moreover, this equivalence is equivariant for the action of the spherical Hecke category for  $\operatorname{PGL}_2^{\times 3}$ .

Let  $PSO_{2n} := SO_{2n}/\mu_2$ . Then, the embedding  $PGL_2^{diag} \subseteq PGL_2^{\times 3}$  can be identified with the diagonal embedding  $SO_3 \subseteq SO_3 \times PSO_4$ , so Theorem 1.2 could be viewed as a special case of the geometrized analogue of the Gan-Gross-Prasad period.

A similar argument shows a variant for PSO<sub>8</sub>. Namely, there is an embedding  $G_2 \subseteq \text{PSO}_8$  given by triality, which exhibits  $G_2$  as a spherical subgroup of PSO<sub>8</sub>. To see that this situation is analogous to that of Theorem 1.2, note that the Dynkin diagram  $\bullet$  of  $A_1$  is obtained from the Dynkin diagram  $\bullet \bullet \bullet$  of  $A_1^{\times 3}$  by folding with respect to the obvious action of the symmetric group  $\Sigma_3$ . In the same way, the Dynkin diagram  $\bullet \bullet \bullet$  of  $G_2$  is obtained from the Dynkin diagram  $\bullet \bullet \bullet$  of  $G_2$  by folding with respect to the action of  $\Sigma_3$  permuting the three vertices around the branching vertex.

**Theorem 1.3** (Derived geometric Satake for  $PSO_8/G_2$ ). Suppose that the  $PSO_8[t]$ -action on  $PSO_8((t))/G_2((t))$  is optimal in the sense of [**Dev23**, Hypothesis 3.5.21]. Then there is an equivalence

$$\operatorname{Shv}_{\operatorname{PSO}_8[\![t]\!]}^{c,\operatorname{Sat}}(\operatorname{PSO}_8/G_2(\!(t)\!);k) \simeq \operatorname{Perf}^{\operatorname{sh}}(\operatorname{std}^{\otimes 3}(12,\vec{6},-6,\vec{0})/\operatorname{SL}_2(-6\rho)^{\times 3} \times \mathbf{A}^1(4)).$$

The proofs of Theorem 1.2 and Theorem 1.3 reduce to showing that the conditions of  $[\mathbf{Dev23}]$ , Theorem 3.5.20] are met. This ultimately relies on studying Bhargava's construction from  $[\mathbf{Bha04}]$  relating  $2 \times 2 \times 2$ -matrices to quadratic forms, and the work  $[\mathbf{GKZ94}]$  of Gelfand-Kapranov-Zelevinsky describing the relationship to Cayley's hyperdeterminant.

Remark 1.4. Following the philosophy of [Dev23], it should also be possible to use a variant of the methods of this article to prove analogues of Theorem 1.2 and Theorem 1.3 for sheaves with coefficients in connective complex K-theory ku. We have not attempted to do this, but we expect the corresponding 1-parameter deformation of  $\operatorname{std}^{\otimes 3}$  over  $\pi_*(\mathrm{ku}) \cong \mathbf{Z}[\beta]$  to be a rather interesting ku-Hamiltonian  $\operatorname{SL}_2^{\times 3}$ -variety.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>The ∞-category on the left-hand side is as in [**Dev23**, Definition 3.5.15]; see Definition 3.1 for a quick review. We expect the results of this article continue to hold if one considers sheaves with coefficients in  $\mathbf{Z}[i, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}]$ .

Remark 1.5. The equivalence of Theorem 1.2 can heuristically be viewed as geometric Langlands for PGL<sub>2</sub> on the "doubled raviolo", obtained by gluing three formal disks along their common punctured disk. We expect Theorem 1.2 to be related to the work of [MT12].

**Remark 1.6.** The quotient stack  $\operatorname{std}^{\otimes 3}/\operatorname{SL}_2^{\times 3}$  is also studied (in different language, of course) in quantum information theory; see Remark 2.12 below.

Theorem 1.2 and Theorem 1.3 are predicted by (the Betti version of) the local geometric conjecture of Ben-Zvi–Sakellaridis–Venkatesh; see [**BZSV23**, Conjecture 7.5.1]. My homotopy-theoretic interpretation of their conjecture is as follows. Suppose G is a reductive group over  $\mathbf{C}$  and G/H is an affine homogeneous spherical G-variety (meaning that it admits an open B-orbit for its natural left  $B \subseteq G$ -action). Then, there should be a dual graded  $\check{G}$ -variety  $\check{M}$  equipped with a moment map  $\mu: \check{M} \to \check{\mathfrak{g}}^*$ , and an equivalence of the form

$$\operatorname{Shv}_{G[\![t]\!]}^{c,\operatorname{Sat}}(G(\!(t)\!)/H(\!(t)\!);\mathbf{C}) \simeq \operatorname{Perf}^{\operatorname{sh}}(\check{M}/\check{G}),$$

where Perf<sup>sh</sup> denotes the  $\infty$ -category of perfect complexes on the shearing of  $\check{M}/\check{G}$  with respect to its given grading. In fact, [**BZSV23**, Section 4] gives an explicit construction of this predicted dual  $\check{M}$ , and in the examples  $(G, H) = (\operatorname{PGL}_2^{\times 3}, \operatorname{PGL}_2^{\operatorname{diag}})$  and  $(\operatorname{PSO}_8, G_2)$ , one can compute that the stacky quotient  $\check{M}/\check{G}$  is isomorphic to the right-hand sides of Theorem 1.2 and Theorem 1.3 respectively.<sup>2</sup>

**Remark 1.7.** Lest Theorem 1.2 seem like an oddly specific example to focus on, we note that it is essentially the *only* "new" example of a spherical pair (G, H) of the form  $(H^{\times j}, H^{\text{diag}})$ , as shown by the following lemma.

**Lemma 1.8.** Suppose H is a simple linear algebraic group over  $\mathbb{C}$ . Then the subgroup  $H^{\text{diag}} \subseteq H^{\times j}$  is spherical if and only if:

- (a) j = 2, and H arbitrary;
- (b) j = 3 and H is of type  $A_1$ .

PROOF. If the subgroup  $H^{\text{diag}} \subseteq H^{\times j}$  is spherical, there is an open  $H^{\text{diag}}$  orbit on the flag variety of  $H^{\times j}$ . This implies that the dimension of H must be at least  $j|\Phi^+|$ , where  $\Phi^+$  is the set of positive roots; equivalently, one needs  $\operatorname{rank}(H) \geq (j-2)|\Phi^+|$ . Of course, this is always satisfied if j=2 (this is the group case corresponding to the symmetric subgroup  $H^{\text{diag}} \subseteq H \times H$ ). Using the classification of simple linear algebraic groups over  $\mathbb{C}$ , it is easy to see that the only other case when the above inequality can hold is when j=3 and H is of type  $A_1$ ; one can then check by hand that the diagonal subgroup in this case is indeed spherical.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>In the first case, this computation is straightforward given the prescription of [**BZSV23**, Section 4]; see [**Sak13**, Example 7.2.4] for a reference. The computation in the second case goes as follows. As in [**BZSV23**, Remark 7.1.1], the quotient stack  $\check{M}/\check{G}$  can be identified with the quotient  $\check{V}_X/\check{G}_X$ , where  $\check{G}_X$  is the Gaitsgory-Nadler/Sakellaridis-Venkatesh/Knop-Schalke dual group of X and  $\check{V}_X$  is constructed in [**BZSV23**, Section 4.5]. In the case  $X = \text{PSO}_8/G_2$ , a calculation shows that  $\check{G}_X$  is the Levi subgroup of the maximal parabolic subgroup of PSO<sub>8</sub> corresponding to the central vertex of the  $D_4$  Dynkin diagram; so  $\check{G}_X \cong \text{SL}_2^{\times 3}$ . Using the prescription of [**BZSV23**, Section 4.5], one can check that  $\check{V}_X \cong \text{std}^{\otimes 3} \oplus \mathbf{A}^1$ , where  $\check{G}_X$  acts only on the first factor. See, e.g., [**Sak13**, Line 9 of Table in Appendix A].

In the first case of Lemma 1.8, [BZSV23, Conjecture 7.5.1] is precisely the derived geometric Satake equivalence of [BF08]. Therefore, the only other case of Lemma 1.8 is when H is simple of type  $A_1$ , and Theorem 1.2 precisely addresses [BZSV23, Conjecture 7.5.1] for the adjoint form PGL<sub>2</sub> of H.

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# 2. Some properties of $std^{\otimes 3}$

In this section, we establish some basic properties of  $\operatorname{std}^{\otimes 3}$  as a  $\operatorname{SL}_2^{\times 3}$ -variety; our base field will always be k, and we will write  $\check{G} = \operatorname{SL}_2^{\times 3}$ . Some of this material appears in [**Bha04**]. In particular, Construction 2.3 is due to Bhargava.

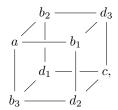
**Observation 2.1.** An element  $A=\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & -a \end{pmatrix} \in \mathfrak{sl}_2$  can be identified with a binary quadratic form  $q_A(x,y)=cx^2+2iaxy+by^2$ . Under this identification, the adjoint action of  $g\in \mathrm{SL}_2$  on  $\mathfrak{sl}_2$  is given by the action on (x,y) of the conjugate of g by the matrix  $\mathrm{diag}(\zeta_8,\zeta_8^{-1})$ . Explicitly, if  $g=\begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \beta \\ \gamma & \delta \end{pmatrix}$ , the action sends

$$x \mapsto i\delta x + \beta y,$$
  
 $y \mapsto \gamma x - i\alpha y.$ 

Note, moreover, that the discriminant of  $q_A(x, y)$  is  $4\det(A)$ .

Warning 2.2. Note that under Observation 2.1, the element of  $\mathfrak{sl}_2$  associated to a binary quadratic form  $bx^2 + axy + cy^2$  is not the symmetric matrix associated to the quadratic form! Indeed, the associated symmetric matrix is  $\binom{b}{a/2} \binom{a/2}{c}$ , while the associated element of  $\mathfrak{sl}_2$  is  $\binom{-ai/2}{b} \binom{c}{ai/2}$ .

Construction 2.3. The affine space  $A^8 = std^{\otimes 3}$  can be regarded as parametrizing cubes



which we will represent by a tuple  $(a, \vec{b}, c, \vec{d})$ ; we will often use the symbol  $\mathcal{C}$  to denote such a cube. If  $\{e_1, e_2\}$  are a basis for std, the above cube corresponds to the element of std<sup> $\otimes 3$ </sup> given by

$$ae_1 \otimes e_1 \otimes e_1 + b_1e_2 \otimes e_1 \otimes e_1 + b_2e_1 \otimes e_2 \otimes e_1 + b_3e_1 \otimes e_1 \otimes e_2 + d_1e_1 \otimes e_2 \otimes e_2 + d_2e_2 \otimes e_1 \otimes e_2 + d_3e_2 \otimes e_2 \otimes e_1 + ce_2 \otimes e_2 \otimes e_2.$$

Associated to a cube C are three pairs of matrices, given by slicing along the top, leftmost, or front faces:

$$M_{1} = \begin{pmatrix} a & b_{2} \\ b_{3} & d_{1} \end{pmatrix}, N_{1} = \begin{pmatrix} b_{1} & d_{3} \\ d_{2} & c \end{pmatrix},$$

$$M_{2} = \begin{pmatrix} a & b_{1} \\ b_{3} & d_{2} \end{pmatrix}, N_{2} = \begin{pmatrix} b_{2} & d_{3} \\ d_{1} & c \end{pmatrix},$$

$$M_{3} = \begin{pmatrix} a & b_{1} \\ b_{2} & d_{3} \end{pmatrix}, N_{3} = \begin{pmatrix} b_{3} & d_{2} \\ d_{1} & c \end{pmatrix};$$

each of these defines a binary quadratic form

$$q_i(x,y) = -\det(M_i x + N_i y).$$

Explicitly,

$$q_1(x,y) = \det(M_1)x^2 + (ac + b_1d_1 - b_2d_2 - b_3d_3)xy + \det(N_1)y^2,$$

$$q_2(x,y) = \det(M_2)x^2 + (ac - b_1d_1 + b_2d_2 - b_3d_3)xy + \det(N_2)y^2,$$

$$q_3(x,y) = \det(M_3)x^2 + (ac - b_1d_1 - b_2d_2 + b_3d_3)xy + \det(N_3)y^2.$$

Viewing  $\mathfrak{sl}_2$  as the space of binary quadratic forms as in Observation 2.1, these three quadratic forms define a map

$$\mu: \mathrm{std}^{\otimes 3} \to \mathfrak{sl}_2^{\times 3}$$
.

An easy check shows that this map is  $\check{G}$ -equivariant.

**Remark 2.4.** The standard  $SL_2$ -equivariant symplectic structure on std defines an  $SL_2^{\times 3}$ -equivariant symplectic structure on  $std^{\otimes 3}$ . This action is Hamiltonian, and one can verify that the map  $\mu: std^{\otimes 3} \to \mathfrak{sl}_2^{\times 3} \cong (\mathfrak{sl}_2^*)^{\times 3}$  from Construction 2.3 is in fact the moment map for this  $SL_2^{\times 3}$ -action.

Lemma 2.5 (Cayley). The composite

$$\operatorname{std}^{\otimes 3} \xrightarrow{\mu} \mathfrak{sl}_{2}^{\times 3} \to \mathfrak{sl}_{2}^{\times 3} /\!\!/ \check{G}$$

factors through the diagonal inclusion  $\mathfrak{sl}_2/\!\!/\mathrm{SL}_2 \to \mathfrak{sl}_2^{\times 3}/\!\!/\check{G}$ . In fact, the induced map  $\mathrm{std}^{\otimes 3} \to \mathfrak{sl}_2/\!\!/\mathrm{SL}_2$  defines an isomorphism

$$\operatorname{std}^{\otimes 3} /\!\!/ \check{G} \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathfrak{sl}_2 /\!\!/ \operatorname{SL}_2.$$

PROOF. The map  $\mathfrak{sl}_2^{\times 3} \to \mathfrak{sl}_2^{\times 3} /\!\!/ \check{G}$  sends a triple of matrices to their determinants, or equivalently a triple of quadratic forms to their discriminants. Therefore, we need to check that the three quadratic forms of Construction 2.3 have the same discriminant. This is an easy check: one finds that their common discriminant is

$$\det(q_i) = a^2c^2 + b_1^2d_1^2 + b_2^2d_2^2 + b_3^2d_3^2 - 2(ab_1cd_1 + ab_2cd_2 + ab_3cd_3)$$

$$+ b_1b_2d_1d_2 + b_1b_3d_1d_3 + b_2b_3d_2d_3) + 4(ad_1d_2d_3 + b_1b_2b_3c).$$
(1)

It remains to check that the map  $\operatorname{std}^{\otimes 3}/\!\!/\check{G} \to \mathbf{A}^1$  defined by this polynomial is an isomorphism. This is stated/proved in [**GKZ94**, Proposition 1.7 in Chapter 14], and is due to Cayley.

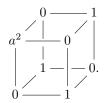
**Notation 2.6.** Write det to denote the map  $\operatorname{std}^{\otimes 3} \to \mathfrak{sl}_2/\!\!/\operatorname{SL}_2$  from Lemma 2.5, so that if  $\mathcal{C}$  is a cube,  $\operatorname{det}(\mathcal{C})$  is the quantity of (1).

We will now define an analogue of the Kostant slice, as it will be needed to apply [**Dev23**, Theorem 3.5.20] (see [**Dev23**, Strategy 1.2.1(b)]). For the purposes of our discussion, one should view this Kostant section as an analogue of the construction of the companion matrix associated to a characteristic polynomial.

Construction 2.7. If n is an integer, let  $\vec{n}$  denote the triple (n, n, n). Let

$$\kappa: \mathfrak{sl}_2/\!\!/ \mathrm{SL}_2 \cong \mathbf{A}^1/\!\!/ (\mathbf{Z}/2) \cong \mathbf{A}^1 \to \mathrm{std}^{\otimes 3}$$

denote the map sending  $a^2 \mapsto (a^2, \vec{0}, 0, \vec{1})$ . This corresponds to the cube



In this case,  $\det(\kappa(a^2)) = 4a^2$ , so that  $\kappa$  defines a section of det (at least up to the unit  $4 \in k^{\times}$ ). The associated quadratic forms are all equal, and are given by

$$q_1(x,y) = q_2(x,y) = q_3(x,y) = a^2x^2 - y^2,$$

which corresponds to the traceless matrix  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ a^2 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \in \mathfrak{sl}_2$ . (Note that this is exactly the companion matrix associated to the characteristic polynomial  $y^2 - a^2$ .)

One of the key properties of the Kostant section/companion matrices is that a matrix  $A \in \mathfrak{sl}_2$  is conjugate to  $\kappa(\det(A))$  if and only if A is regular (i.e., the minimal polynomial of A agrees with its characteristic polynomial), if and only if A is nonzero. We will now prove an analogous result concerning  $\kappa: \mathbf{A}^1 \to \mathrm{std}^{\otimes 3}$ .

**Proposition 2.8.** The  $\check{G}$ -orbit of the image of  $\kappa$  is a dense open subscheme whose complement has codimension 3.

PROOF. We will use the classification of  $\check{G}$ -orbits on  $\operatorname{std}^{\otimes 3}$  as in [**GKZ94**, Example 4.5 in Chapter 14]; see Figure 1 for a graph of the seven orbits of  $\check{G}$  on  $\operatorname{std}^{\otimes 3}$ . Namely, if  $\lambda \neq 0$ , all elements of  $\det^{-1}(\lambda)$  are in a single  $\check{G}$ -orbit. (In fact, all elements in the fiber  $\det^{-1}(1)$  are in the  $\check{G}$ -orbit of  $(1,\vec{0},1,\vec{0})$ .) The  $\check{G}$ -orbit of  $\det^{-1}(\mathbf{G}_m)$  is open and dense, and hence is 8-dimensional; moreover, it agrees with the  $\check{G}$ -orbit of  $\kappa(\mathbf{G}_m)$ . Next, there is a maximal  $\check{G}$ -orbit inside the fiber  $\det^{-1}(0)$ , given by the orbit of  $(0,\vec{0},0,\vec{1})=\kappa(0)$ . This orbit is 7-dimensional, and the largest  $\check{G}$ -orbits contained in the complement  $\det^{-1}(0)-\check{G}\cdot\kappa(0)$  have dimension 5. In particular, the complement of  $\check{G}\cdot\kappa(\mathbf{A}^1)\subseteq\operatorname{std}^{\otimes 3}$  has dimension 5, i.e., codimension 8-5=3.

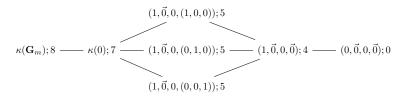


FIGURE 1.  $\check{G}$ -orbits on  $\operatorname{std}^{\otimes 3}$ , representatives, and their dimensions (indicated after the semicolon), connected by closure. Note that  $\kappa(0) = (0, \vec{0}, 0, \vec{1})$ , and that the  $\check{G}$ -orbit of  $\kappa(1) = (1, \vec{0}, 0, \vec{1})$  is the same as the  $\check{G}$ -orbit of  $(1, \vec{0}, 1, \vec{0})$ .

Remark 2.9. As explained in  $[\mathbf{GKZ94}, \, \mathbf{Example} \, 4.5 \, \text{in Chapter 14}]$ , the closure of the associated orbits inside  $\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{std}^{\otimes 3}) = \mathbf{P}^7$  can be described as follows. First, the closure of the generic orbit is  $\mathbf{P}^7$ . Next, the closure of the orbit of next smallest dimension is the zero locus of det, which cuts out the dual variety of the Segre embedding  $(\mathbf{P}^1)^{\times 3} \hookrightarrow \mathbf{P}^7$  (just as the usual determinant for  $2 \times 2$ -matrices cuts out the quadric  $\mathbf{P}^1 \times \mathbf{P}^1 \hookrightarrow \mathbf{P}^3$ ). The projective orbit associated to  $(1, \vec{0}, 0, (0, 1, 0))$ , say, is cut out inside the locus  $\{\det = 0\}$  by the Segre embedding  $\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{std}) \times \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{std}^{\otimes 2}) = \mathbf{P}^1 \times \mathbf{P}^3 \to \mathbf{P}^7$ . Finally, the minimal nonzero orbit is cut out by the Segre embedding  $(\mathbf{P}^1)^{\times 3} \to \mathbf{P}^7$ .

Proposition 2.10. There is an isomorphism

$$\mathfrak{sl}_2/\!\!/\mathrm{SL}_2 \times_{\mathrm{std}^{\otimes 3}/\check{G}} \mathfrak{sl}_2/\!\!/\mathrm{SL}_2 \cong \operatorname{Spec} k[a,\alpha_i^{\pm 1},\frac{\alpha_i-\alpha_i^{-1}}{a}|1 \leq i \leq 3]^{\mathbf{Z}/2}/(\alpha_1\alpha_2\alpha_3=1)$$

of group schemes over  $\mathfrak{sl}_2/\!\!/\mathrm{SL}_2 = \operatorname{Spec} k[a^2]$ , where the action of  $\mathbf{Z}/2$  sends  $a \mapsto -a$  and  $\alpha_i \mapsto \alpha_i^{-1}$ , and the group structure is such that each  $\alpha_i$  is grouplike.

PROOF. The fiber product on the left identifies with the subgroup of  $\mathfrak{sl}_2/\!\!/ \mathrm{SL}_2 \times \check{G}$  of those  $(a^2, \vec{g})$  such that  $\vec{g} = (g_1, g_2, g_3) \in \mathrm{SL}_2^{\times 3}$  stabilizes  $\kappa(a^2)$ . The trick to determining this stabilizer is to use Bhargava's construction from Construction 2.3: if  $\vec{g}$  stabilizes a cube  $\mathfrak{C}$ , it must also stabilize the corresponding triple  $\mu(\mathfrak{C}) \in \mathfrak{sl}_2^{\times 3}$  of quadratic forms.

First, a simple calculation shows that if a is a unit, the triple of matrices

$$\vec{g} = \left(\sqrt{\frac{i}{2}} \begin{pmatrix} -i & a^{-1} \\ ia & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \sqrt{\frac{i}{2}} \begin{pmatrix} -i & a^{-1} \\ ia & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \frac{i}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} -1 & a^{-1} \\ a & 1 \end{pmatrix}\right) \in \operatorname{SL}_2^{\times 3}$$

sends

$$\kappa(a^2) \mapsto -\sqrt{2}(a^2, \vec{0}, a^{-1}, \vec{0}).$$

The triple  $\vec{g}$  can be thought of as "diagonalizing"  $\kappa(a^2)$ . The stabilizer of the cube  $-\sqrt{2}(a^2,\vec{0},a^{-1},\vec{0})$  precisely consists of triples of matrices of the form

(2) 
$$\left( \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \alpha_1^{-1} \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_2 & 0 \\ 0 & \alpha_2^{-1} \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_3 & 0 \\ 0 & \alpha_3^{-1} \end{pmatrix} \right) \text{ with } \alpha_1 \alpha_2 \alpha_3 = 1.$$

For  $\alpha \in \mathbf{G}_m$ , let  $h(\alpha)$  denote the matrix

$$h(\alpha) = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} \alpha + \alpha^{-1} & \frac{\alpha^{-1} - \alpha}{a} \\ a^2 \cdot \frac{\alpha^{-1} - \alpha}{a} & \alpha + \alpha^{-1} \end{pmatrix} \in SL_2.$$

Conjugating (2) by the element  $\vec{g} \in \check{G}$ , we find that the triple  $(h(\alpha_1), h(\alpha_2), h(\alpha_3))$  of matrices stabilizes  $\kappa(a^2)$  as long as  $\alpha_1\alpha_2\alpha_3=1$  and  $a^2 \in \mathbf{G}_m \subseteq \mathbf{A}^1$ . (See [BFM05, Section 3.2] for a slight variant of this calculation.) Note that the subgroup of such triples is 2-dimensional, and therefore the associated homogeneous  $\check{G}$ -space is 9-2=7-dimensional. Using that the  $\check{G}$ -orbit of  $\kappa(a^2)$  is also 7-dimensional (e.g., by [GKZ94, Example 4.5 in Chapter 14]), it is not hard to see from this calculation (by a limiting argument for  $a \to 0$ ) that the stabilizer of the family  $\kappa(\mathbf{A}^1) \subseteq \operatorname{std}^{\otimes 3}$  is precisely the claimed group scheme.

Remark 2.11. A direct calculation shows that the stabilizer of  $\kappa(0)$  is isomorphic to the subgroup of triples of matrices of the form  $\begin{pmatrix} \pm 1 & \mp \gamma_i \\ 0 & \pm 1 \end{pmatrix}$  for  $1 \leq i \leq 3$  with  $\gamma_1 + \gamma_2 + \gamma_3 = 0$ . This subgroup is, of course, isomorphic to  $\mu_2^{\times 3} \times \mathbf{G}_a^{\times 2}$ ; it is also isomorphic to the fiber over a = 0 of the group scheme of Proposition 2.10.

Remark 2.12. As mentioned in Remark 1.6, the quotient stack  $\operatorname{std}^{\otimes 3}/\operatorname{SL}_2^{\times 3}$  is studied in quantum information theory. For instance, in  $[\mathbf{DVC00}]$ , Dür-Vidal-Cirac study the orbit structure of  $\operatorname{SL}_2^{\times 3}$  acting on  $\operatorname{std}^{\otimes 3}$  (in particular, they recover Figure 1 independently of  $[\mathbf{GKZ94}]$ ). For the interested reader, let us describe the translation between our notation/terminology and that of quantum information theory. Our base field will now be  $k = \mathbf{C}$ . An element of  $\operatorname{std}^{\otimes n}$  (really, of the projective space  $\mathbf{P}(\operatorname{std}^{\otimes n}) \cong \mathbf{P}^{2^n-1}$ ) is called an n-qubit, and the action of  $\operatorname{SL}_2^{\times n}$  is via stochastic local operations and classical communication (SLOCC) operators (replacing  $\operatorname{SL}_2^{\times n}$  by  $\operatorname{GL}_2^{\times n}$  simply amounts to dropping the word "stochastic"). The space std is equipped with a basis  $\{|0\rangle, |1\rangle\}$ , and a cube  $\mathfrak{C} = (a, \vec{b}, c, \vec{d}) \in \operatorname{std}^{\otimes 3}$  corresponds to the three-qubit<sup>3</sup>

$$a|000\rangle + b_1|100\rangle + b_2|010\rangle + b_3|001\rangle + d_1|011\rangle + d_2|101\rangle + d_3|110\rangle + c|111\rangle.$$

The state

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(1,\vec{0},1,\vec{0}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|000\rangle + |111\rangle)$$

is known as the Greenberger-Horne-Zeilinger (GHZ) state, and the state

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}\kappa(0) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}(0,\vec{1},0,\vec{0}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}(|001\rangle + |010\rangle + |100\rangle)$$

is called the W state. These two states are known to represent two very different kinds of quantum entanglement; from the perspective of this article, the reason for this is simply that the Cayley hyperdeterminant of the GHZ state is nonzero, but the Cayley hyperdeterminant of the W state vanishes. Nevertheless, the proof of Proposition 2.10 shows that there is a natural degeneration of (the SLOCC/SL $_2^{\times 3}$ -equivalence class of) the GHZ state into the W state. Indeed, the GHZ state can be transformed into the cube  $\frac{1}{2}\kappa(1)$ , which admits a natural degeneration to the W state via the one-parameter family

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{a^4+3}}\kappa(a^2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{a^4+3}} \left( a^2 |000\rangle + |011\rangle + |101\rangle + |110\rangle \right).$$

In fact, this state already appears as [DVC00, Equation 20].

Remark 2.13. Fix an integer n. Then the  $\check{G}$ -variety  $\operatorname{std}^{\otimes 3}$  admits a natural grading, where the entries of a cube  $(a, \vec{b}, c, \vec{d})$  have the following weights: a lives in weight -4n, b lives in weight -2n, c lives in weight 2n, and d lives in weight 0. Write  $\operatorname{std}^{\otimes 3}(4n, 2\vec{n}, -2n, \vec{0})$  to denote the associated graded variety. Equip  $\mathfrak{sl}_2$  with the grading where the entries of a matrix  $\binom{a}{c} - \binom{b}{d}$  have the following weights: a lives in weight -2n, b lives in weight 0, and c lives in weight -4n. Similarly, equip  $\operatorname{SL}_2$  with the grading coming from  $2n\rho$ , so that the entries of a matrix  $\binom{a}{c} - \binom{b}{d}$  have the following weights: a and d live in weight 0, b lives in weight 2n, and c lives in weight -2n. With these gradings, the  $\operatorname{SL}_2^{\times 3}$ -equivariant map  $\mu$ :  $\operatorname{std}^{\otimes 3} \to \mathfrak{sl}_2^{\times 3}$  is a  $\operatorname{graded}$  map, and  $\kappa$  defines a graded map  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(2n)/\!\!/\operatorname{SL}_2 \cong \mathbf{A}^1(4n) \to \operatorname{std}^{\otimes 3}(4n, 2\vec{n}, -2n, \vec{0})$ . The cases n=1 and n=3 will be relevant below (corresponding to Theorem 1.2 and Theorem 1.3, respectively).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Technically, a qubit is required to have norm 1, so one must rescale  $\mathcal{C}$  by  $\sqrt{a^2 + \|\vec{b}\|^2 + c^2 + \|\vec{d}\|^2}$ ; but this could in theory introduce a singularity when  $a^2 + \|\vec{b}\|^2 + c^2 + \|\vec{d}\|^2 = 0$ . We will ignore this point below.

### 3. The proof

Before proceeding, let us remind the reader of the definition of the left-hand side of the equivalence of Theorem 1.2, following [**Dev23**, Definition 3.5.15].

**Definition 3.1.** Let G be a compact Lie group, and let  $H \subseteq G$  be a closed subgroup such that  $H_{\mathbf{C}} \subseteq G_{\mathbf{C}}$  is a spherical subgroup. Let  $\operatorname{Shv}_{G[\![t]\!]}^c(G(\!(t))/H(\!(t)); \mathbf{Q})$  denote the ∞-category of  $G[\![t]\!]$ -equivariant sheaves of  $\mathbf{Q}$ -modules on  $G(\!(t)\!)/H(\!(t)\!)$  which are constructible for the orbit stratification on  $G(\!(t)\!)/H(\!(t)\!)$ . Note that since the orbit stratification is countable (by assumption that  $H_{\mathbf{C}} \subseteq G_{\mathbf{C}}$  is a spherical subgroup and  $[\mathbf{GN10}, \text{ Theorem 3.2.1}]$ ), the ∞-category  $\operatorname{Shv}_{G[\![t]\!]}^c(G(\!(t)\!)/H(\!(t)\!); \mathbf{Q})$  is well-defined. There is a natural left-action of the  $\mathbf{E}_3$ -monoidal ∞-category  $\operatorname{Shv}_{G[\![t]\!]}^c(G(\!(t)\!); \mathbf{Q}\!)$  on  $\operatorname{Shv}_{G[\![t]\!]}^c(G(\!(t)\!)/H(\!(t)\!); \mathbf{Q}\!)$ , and in particular, a left-action of  $\operatorname{Rep}(\check{G})$  by the abelian geometric Satake theorem of  $[\mathbf{MV07}]$ . Let  $\operatorname{IC}_0 \in \operatorname{Shv}_{G[\![t]\!]}^c(G(\!(t)\!)/H(\!(t)\!); \mathbf{Q}\!)$  denote the pushforward  $i_!\mathbf{Q}$  of the constant sheaf along the inclusion  $(G/H)(\mathbf{C}[\![t]\!]) \to (G/H)(\mathbf{C}(\!(t)\!))$ . Let  $\operatorname{Shv}_{G[\![t]\!]}^c(G(\!(t)\!)/H(\!(t)\!); \mathbf{Q}\!)$  denote the full subcategory of  $\operatorname{Shv}_{G[\![t]\!]}^c(G(\!(t)\!)/H(\!(t)\!); \mathbf{Q}\!)$  generated by  $\operatorname{IC}_0$  under the action of  $\operatorname{Rep}(\check{G})$ . If k is any  $\mathbf{Q}$ -algebra, base-changing along the unit map defines the ∞-category  $\operatorname{Shv}_{G[\![t]\!]}^c(G(\!(t)\!)/H(\!(t)\!); k)$ .

PROOF OF THEOREM 1.2. It suffices to verify conditions (a) and (b) of [**Dev23**, Theorem 3.5.20], which gives a criterion for establishing an equivalence of k-linear  $\infty$ -categories of the form

$$\operatorname{Shv}_{G[\![t]\!]}^{c,\operatorname{Sat}}(G(\!(t)\!)/H(\!(t)\!);k) \simeq \operatorname{Perf}(\operatorname{sh}^{1/2}\check{M}/\check{G}).$$

The map  $\kappa$  is given by the map  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(2)/\!\!/\mathrm{SL}_2 \to \mathrm{std}^{\otimes 3}(4,\vec{2},-2,\vec{0})$  from Construction 2.7. For condition (a) of  $[\mathbf{Dev23}]$ , Theorem 3.5.20], we need to show that if  $\check{J}_X = \mathfrak{sl}_2(2)/\!\!/\mathrm{SL}_2 \times_{\mathrm{std}^{\otimes 3}(4,\vec{2},-2,\vec{0})/\check{G}} \mathfrak{sl}_2(2)/\!\!/\mathrm{SL}_2$ , the ring of regular functions on the quotient  $(\mathfrak{sl}_2(2)/\!\!/\mathrm{SL}_2 \times \check{G})/\check{J}_X$  is isomorphic (as a graded algebra) to  $\mathfrak{O}_{\mathrm{std}^{\otimes 3}(4,\vec{2},-2,\vec{0})}$ . The quotient  $(\mathfrak{sl}_2(2)/\!\!/\mathrm{SL}_2 \times \check{G})/\check{J}_X$  identifies with the  $\check{G}$ -orbit of the image of  $\kappa$ , which has complement of codimension 3 in  $\mathrm{std}^{\otimes 3}$  by Proposition 2.8; therefore, the algebraic Hartogs theorem implies that there is a graded isomorphism  $\mathfrak{O}_{(\mathfrak{sl}_2(2)/\!\!/\mathrm{SL}_2 \times \check{G})/\check{J}_X} \cong \mathfrak{O}_{\mathrm{std}^{\otimes 3}(4,\vec{2},-2,\vec{0})}$ . For condition (b) of  $[\mathbf{Dev23}]$ , Theorem 3.5.20], we need to check that there is

For condition (b) of [**Dev23**, Theorem 3.5.20], we need to check that there is an isomorphism

$$\check{J}_X \cong \operatorname{Spec} \operatorname{H}^{\operatorname{PGL}_2}_*(\Omega(\operatorname{PGL}_2^{\times 3}/\operatorname{PGL}_2^{\operatorname{diag}});k)$$

of graded group schemes over  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(2)/\!\!/\mathrm{SL}_2 \cong \mathrm{Spec}\,\mathrm{H}^*_{\mathrm{PGL}_2}(*;k).$  There is an isomorphism

(3) 
$$\operatorname{Spec} H^{\operatorname{PGL}_2}_*(\Omega \operatorname{PGL}_2; k) \cong \operatorname{Spec} k[a, \alpha^{\pm 1}, \frac{\alpha - \alpha^{-1}}{a}]^{\mathbf{Z}/2},$$

and the action of the  $\mathbb{Z}/2$  on the left-hand side sends  $a \mapsto -a$  and  $\alpha \mapsto \alpha^{-1}$ . This is proved, e.g., in [BFM05], and also follows from [Dev23, Example 3.6.16]. The Künneth theorem implies that there is an isomorphism

$$\operatorname{Spec} H_*^{\operatorname{PGL}_2}(\Omega(\operatorname{PGL}_2^{\times 3}); k) \cong \operatorname{Spec} k[a, \alpha_i^{\pm 1}, \frac{\alpha_i - \alpha_i^{-1}}{a} | 1 \le i \le 3]^{\mathbf{Z}/2},$$

and the fiber sequence

$$\operatorname{PGL}_2^{\operatorname{diag}} \to \operatorname{PGL}_2^{\times 3} \to \operatorname{PGL}_2^{\times 3}/\operatorname{PGL}_2^{\operatorname{diag}}$$

implies that

$$\operatorname{Spec} \mathrm{H}^{\mathrm{PGL}_2}_*(\Omega(\mathrm{PGL}_2^{\times 3}/\mathrm{PGL}_2^{\mathrm{diag}});k) \cong \operatorname{Spec} \left(k[a,\alpha_i^{\pm 1},\frac{\alpha_i-\alpha_i^{-1}}{a}|1\leq i\leq 3]/(\alpha_1\alpha_2\alpha_3-1)\right)^{\mathbf{Z}/2},$$

The desired isomorphism now follows from this observation and Proposition 2.10.

**Remark 3.2.** The proof of Theorem 1.3 is exactly the same as the proof of Theorem 1.2 above. Indeed, one only needs to observe that  $PSO_8/G_2$  is homotopy equivalent to  $\mathbf{R}P^7 \times \mathbf{R}P^7$  (which follows, e.g., from the fact that  $Spin_8/G_2 \simeq S^7 \times S^7$ )<sup>4</sup>. The replacement of (3) is given by [**Dev23**, Proposition 4.8.6], which gives an isomorphism

Spec 
$$H_*^{G_2}(\Omega \mathbf{R} P^7; k) \cong \operatorname{Spec} k[a, b, \alpha^{\pm 1}, \frac{\alpha - \alpha^{-1}}{a}]^{\mathbf{Z}/2}$$

where a is in weight -6 and b is in weight -4.

**Remark 3.3.** Remark 2.4 guarantees that the equivalence of Theorem 1.2 is compatible with the action of the spherical Hecke category  $\operatorname{Shv}_{(\operatorname{PGL}_2^{\times 3} \times \operatorname{PGL}_2^{\times 3})[\![t]\!]}^{c,\operatorname{Sat}}(\operatorname{PGL}_2^{\times 3}((t));k) \simeq \operatorname{Perf}^{\operatorname{sh}}(\mathfrak{sl}_2^{\times 3}(2-2\rho)/\operatorname{SL}_2^{\times 3}(-2\rho))$ . Namely, there is a commutative diagram

$$\begin{split} \operatorname{Shv}^{c,\operatorname{Sat}}_{(\operatorname{PGL}^{\times 3}_2 \times \operatorname{PGL}^{\times 3}_2)[\![t]\!]}(\operatorname{PGL}^{\times 3}_2(\!(t)\!);k) &\xrightarrow{\phantom{a}} \operatorname{Perf}^{\operatorname{sh}}(\mathfrak{sl}_2^{\times 3}(2-2\rho)/\operatorname{SL}^{\times 3}_2(-2\rho)) \\ & \downarrow^{\operatorname{act on IC}_0} & \downarrow^{\mu^*} \\ \operatorname{Shv}^{c,\operatorname{Sat}}_{\operatorname{PGL}^{\times 3}_2[\![t]\!]}(\operatorname{PGL}^{\times 3}_2(\!(t)\!)/\operatorname{PGL}^{\operatorname{diag}}_2(\!(t)\!);k) &\xrightarrow{\phantom{a}} \operatorname{Perf}^{\operatorname{sh}}(\operatorname{std}^{\otimes 3}(4,\vec{2},-2,\vec{0})/\operatorname{SL}^{\times 3}_2(-2\rho)), \end{split}$$

where  $\mu^*$  is given by pullback along the moment map for the Hamiltonian  $SL_2^{\times 3}$ -action on  $std^{\otimes 3}$ .

**Remark 3.4.** Let  $k = \mathbf{Q}_2(\zeta_8)$ . The theory of 2-compact groups as studied, e.g., in [AG09], suggests viewing the Dwyer-Wilkerson space DW<sub>3</sub> from [DW93] as an analogue of the groups SO<sub>3</sub>  $\cong$  PGL<sub>2</sub> and  $G_2$ ; see Table 1. The 2-complete space DW<sub>3</sub> is equipped with an  $\mathbf{E}_1$ -structure, and it has finite mod 2 cohomology. It is therefore natural to ask whether there is an analogue of Theorem 1.2 and Theorem 1.3, where PGL<sub>2</sub> and  $G_2$  are replaced by DW<sub>3</sub>; this is closely related to [Dev23, Appendix C(p)].

It is difficult to answer this question since the representation theory of DW<sub>3</sub> is not well-understood. For instance, it does not seem to be known whether there is a 2-compact group G with an  $\mathbf{E}_1$ -map DW<sub>3</sub>  $\to G$  such that  $G/\mathrm{DW}_3 \simeq \mathbf{R}P^{15} \times \mathbf{R}P^{15}$ 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>Perhaps the most "conceptual" way to see that  $\operatorname{Spin}_8/G_2 \simeq S^7 \times S^7$  is as follows. Using triality, one can identify  $\operatorname{Spin}_8$  with the subgroup of  $\operatorname{SO}_8^{\times 3}$  of those triples  $(A_1,A_2,A_3)$  such that  $A_1(x_1)A_2(x_2) = A_3(x_1x_2)$  for octonions  $x_1,x_2$ . Under this presentation,  $G_2$  corresponds to the subgroup where  $A_1 = A_2 = A_3$ . The subgroups where  $A_1 = A_3$  (resp.  $A_2 = A_3$ ) are both isomorphic to  $\operatorname{Spin}(7)$ ; these are sometimes denoted  $\operatorname{Spin}^\pm(7)$ . The action of  $\operatorname{Spin}_8$  on  $S^7 \times S^7$  sends  $(x,y) \mapsto (A_1x,A_2y)$ ; one can check that this is transitive, and that the stabilizer of the point (1,1) is precisely  $\operatorname{Spin}^+(7) \cap \operatorname{Spin}^-(7) \cong G_2$ .

That there is an equivalence  $\mathrm{Spin}_8/G_2 \simeq S^7 \times S^7$  at the level of cohomology with  $\mathbf{Z}[1/2]$ -coefficients, at least, is much simpler: on group cohomology, the map  $G_2 \to \mathrm{Spin}_8$  is given by the map  $\mathbf{Z}[1/2, p_1, p_2, p_3, c_4] \to \mathbf{Z}[1/2, c_2, c_6]$  sending  $p_1 \mapsto -c_2$ ,  $p_2 \mapsto 0$ ,  $p_3 \mapsto -c_6$ , and  $c_4 \mapsto 0$ . The Serre spectral sequence for the fibration  $\mathrm{Spin}_8/G_2 \to BG_2 \to B\mathrm{Spin}_8$  implies that  $\mathrm{H}^*(\mathrm{Spin}_8/G_2;\mathbf{Z}[1/2]) \cong \mathbf{Z}[1/2, \sigma(p_2), \sigma(c_4)]/(\sigma(p_2)^2, \sigma(c_4)^2)$ , where  $\sigma(p_2)$  and  $\sigma(c_4)$  both live in (homological) weight -7. This is precisely the cohomology of  $S^7 \times S^7$ , as desired.

Group	Rank	Dimension	$\mathbf{F}_2$ -cohomology of $BG$	Weyl group
$G_n$	n	$(2^{n+1}-1)n$	$\widehat{\operatorname{Sym}}^*(\mathbf{F}_2^{n+1}(-1))^{\operatorname{GL}_{n+1}(\mathbf{F}_2)}$	$\mathbf{Z}/2 \times \mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbf{F}_2)$
$PGL_2$	1	3	$\mathbf{F}_{2}[\![w_{2},w_{3}]\!]$	$\mathbf{Z}/2$
$G_2$	2	14	$\mathbf{F}_{2}[\![w_4,w_6,w_7]\!]$	$\mathbf{Z}/2 \times \Sigma_3$
$DW_3$	3	45	$\mathbf{F}_{2}[\![w_{8},w_{12},w_{14},w_{15}]\!]$	$\mathbf{Z}/2 \times \mathrm{PSL}_2(\mathbf{F}_7)$

TABLE 1. Analogies between the (2-compact) groups  $PGL_2 = SO_3$ ,  $G_2$ , and  $DW_3$ ; all of these are Poincaré duality complexes of dimension indicated in the third column. Here,  $w_n$  denotes the nth Stiefel-Whitney class, and the ring in the fourth column is known as the algebra of rank n+1 Dickson invariants. Note, also, that the Weyl group of  $DW_3$  is called  $G_{24}$  in the Shephard-Todd classification.

(analogous to the equivalences  $\operatorname{PGL}_2^{\times 3}/\operatorname{PGL}_2 \cong \mathbf{R}P^3 \times \mathbf{R}P^3$  and  $\operatorname{PSO}_8/G_2 \cong \mathbf{R}P^7 \times \mathbf{R}P^7$ ). If such a G exists, and there is a good theory of  $G[\![t]\!]$ -equivariant sheaves of k-modules, it seems reasonable to expect that there is an equivalence of the form

$$\operatorname{Shv}_{G[\![t]\!]}^{c,\operatorname{Sat}}(G(\!(t)\!)/\operatorname{DW}_3(\!(t)\!);k) \cong \operatorname{Perf}^{\operatorname{sh}}(\operatorname{std}^{\otimes 3}(28,\vec{14},-14,\vec{0})/\operatorname{SL}_2(-14\rho)^{\times 3} \times \mathbf{A}^2(8,12)).$$

Here, the "Whittaker" factor  $\mathbf{A}^2(8,12)$  on the right-hand side comes from the isomorphism

$$\operatorname{Spf} H^*(BDW_3; k) := \operatorname{Spf} H^*(BDW_3; \mathbf{Z}_2) \otimes_{\mathbf{Z}_2} k \cong \widehat{\mathbf{A}}^3(8, 12, 28),$$

which follows from running the Bockstein spectral sequence on

$$H^*(BDW_3; \mathbf{F}_2) \cong \mathbf{F}_2[w_8, w_{12}, w_{14}, w_{15}],$$

and the fact that the Bockstein sends  $w_{14} \mapsto w_{15}$ . One can check that such a G, if it existed, would have rational cohomology given by

$$H^*(BG; \mathbf{Z}_2) \otimes_{\mathbf{Z}_2} k \cong k[\![c_4, c_6, c_{14}, x, y]\!],$$

where both x and y live in cohomological degree 16.

In an email, Jesper Grodal told me that such a G cannot exist (it would have to be the 2-completion of a compact Lie group, but no compact Lie group has the desired cohomology). Despite this, one can wonder about the analogue of the "regular centralizer" group scheme calculation from Theorem 1.2:

- Is there a good notion of genuine equivariant DW<sub>3</sub>-cohomology (with coefficients in  $k = \mathbf{Q}_2(\zeta_8)$ , say)? One should have Spec  $\mathrm{H}^*_{\mathrm{DW}_3}(*;k) \cong \mathbf{A}^3(8,12,28)$ .
- Is there a faithful (basepoint-preserving) action of DW<sub>3</sub> on  $S^{15}$ , which descends to an action of DW<sub>3</sub> on (the 2-completion of)  $\mathbb{R}P^{15}$ ?
- For the above expected action, is there an isomorphism

$$\mathrm{Spec}\, \mathrm{H}^{\mathrm{DW}_3}_*(\Omega(\mathbf{R}P^{15} \times \mathbf{R}P^{15}); k) \cong \mathbf{A}^2(8,12) \times (\mathbf{A}^1(28) \times_{\mathrm{std}^{\otimes 3}(28,\vec{14},-14,\vec{0})/\mathrm{SL}_2(-14\rho)^{\times 3}} \mathbf{A}^1(28))$$

of graded group schemes over k?

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