

8.15 Schur-Weyl duality and irreps of $GL(d, K)$

Refs: ① § 11.16 of Moore

② Fulton & Harris, Chap 6.

In a general physical system, the full representation space is given by tensor product of single-particle Hilbert spaces $\mathcal{H}_n = \bigotimes^n \mathcal{H}_1$. So naturally we want to understand how it decomposes into smaller irreps. Now we try to understand the structure of $V^{\bigotimes n}$, where V is a general rep. ($V = K^d$, $K = \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}$)

We start simple, with $V \otimes V$. It forms a natural rep of S_2 :

$$\sigma = (12): \quad v_i \otimes v_j \longmapsto v_j \otimes v_i$$

Define Yang symmetrizers $C_+ = e + (12)$ $\boxed{112}$

$$C_- = e - (12) \quad \boxed{1\bar{1}}$$

$$C_+ V^{\bigotimes 2} = \text{span} \{ v_i \otimes v_j + v_j \otimes v_i \} =: \text{Sym}^2 V$$

$$C_- V^{\bigotimes 2} = \text{span} \{ v_i \otimes v_j - v_j \otimes v_i \} =: \Lambda^2 V$$

$$V^{\bigotimes 2} \cong \text{Sym}^2 V \oplus \Lambda^2 V \stackrel{u}{=} D^+ \oplus D^- \quad \text{isotypic decomposition}$$
$$\dim = \frac{d(d+1)}{2} \quad \frac{d(d-1)}{2}$$

Any element $t \in V^{\otimes 2}$ is given by a rank-2 tensor:

$$t = \sum_{ij} a_{ij} v_i \otimes v_j \quad (a \in \mathbb{K}^{d^2})$$

S_2 can be seen as equally acts on the tensor a :

$$\sigma \cdot t = \sum_{ij} a_{ij} v_j \otimes v_i = \sum_{ij} a_{ji} v_i \otimes v_j$$

$$\text{i.e. } (\sigma \cdot a)_{ij} = a_{ji}$$

Now consider V the rep of G , some internal sym, then $V \otimes V$ is naturally a rep of G .

$$T(g)(v_1 \otimes v_2) = T(g)v_1 \otimes T(g)v_2$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{on tensor: } T(g) \cdot t &= \sum_{ij} a_{ij} (T(g)v_i \otimes T(g)v_j) \\ &= \sum_{ij} a_{ij} M_{ki}(g) M_{lj}(g) v_k \otimes v_l \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{i.e. } (g \cdot a)_{kl} = \sum_{ij} M(g)_{ki} M(g)_{lj} a_{ij}$$

(contracts the column index)

Now, a very useful observation:

the action of G and S_n commutes on $V^{\otimes n}$

$$\begin{cases} g \cdot \sigma v_i \otimes v_j = g \cdot v_j \otimes v_i = \sum_{kl} M_{kj}(g) M_{li}(g) v_k \otimes v_l \\ \sigma \cdot g v_i \otimes v_j = \sigma \sum_{kl} M_{ki}(g) M_{lj}(g) v_k \otimes v_l = \sum_{kl} M_{kj}(g) M_{li}(g) v_k \otimes v_l \end{cases}$$

$V^{\otimes n}$ is a rep of $G \times S_n$

What's the significance?

We can perform isotypic decomposition of $V^{\otimes n}$ as

$$V^{\otimes n} \cong \bigoplus_{\lambda} D^{\lambda} \otimes R_{\lambda}$$

λ a partition of n . i.e. labels an irrep. of S_n

$D^{\lambda} = \text{Hom}_{S_n}(R_{\lambda}, V^{\otimes n})$ is the degeneracy space/multiplicity space

spanned by all linear maps from R_{λ} into $V^{\otimes n}$

that commute with S_n action

$$(T \in D^{\lambda}, \quad T(v \cdot r) = v \cdot T(r))$$

Schur - Weyl duality theorem: (Fulton & Harris's for proofs)

$$V^{\otimes n} \cong \bigoplus_{\lambda} D_{\lambda} \otimes R_{\lambda}$$

R_{λ} are the irreps of S_n

$D_{\lambda} = \text{Hom}_{S_n}(R_{\lambda}, V^{\otimes n})$ the degeneracy space.

The representations D_{λ} are irreducible representations of $GL(d, K)$ (and its subgroups)

All irreps can be found by varying n

Thus, to construct D_{λ} , as we have seen earlier,

can be done by decomposition into irreps of S_n , which

can be done using Young symmetrizers.

$$V^{\otimes n} \cong \bigoplus_T P(T) V^{\otimes n}$$

$\{T\}$ are standard tableaux

Example. Spin-0 and 1 rep of $SU(2)$

Consider $G = SU(2)$ and S_2

$$V = \{ |+\rangle, |-\rangle \}$$

$$V^{\otimes 2} = \{ |s_1\rangle \otimes |s_2\rangle, s_i \in V \} \quad \dim = 4$$

$$V^{\otimes 2} \cong W_1 \oplus W_0$$

$$W_1 = \text{Sym}^2 V = \{ |1,1\rangle, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|+\rangle \otimes |+\rangle + |-\rangle \otimes |-\rangle), |1,0\rangle, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|+\rangle \otimes |-\rangle + |-\rangle \otimes |+\rangle), |1,-1\rangle \}$$

$$W_0 = \Lambda^2 V = \{ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|+\rangle \otimes |-\rangle - |-\rangle \otimes |+\rangle), |0,0\rangle \}$$

Now, consider the group action of $g \in SU(2)$ on V .

$$g = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & -\bar{\beta} \\ \beta & \bar{\alpha} \end{pmatrix} \quad |+\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad |-\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{cases} g|+\rangle = \alpha|+\rangle + \beta|-\rangle & (= g_1|+\rangle + g_2|-\rangle) \\ g|-\rangle = -\bar{\beta}|+\rangle + \bar{\alpha}|-\rangle \end{cases}$$

$$g|1,1\rangle = g|+\rangle \otimes g|+\rangle = \alpha^2|++\rangle + \alpha\beta(|+-\rangle + |-+\rangle) + \beta^2|--\rangle$$

$$= \alpha^2|1,1\rangle + \sqrt{2}\alpha\beta|1,0\rangle + \beta^2|1,-1\rangle$$

$$g|1, -1\rangle = \bar{\beta}^2 |++\rangle - \bar{\alpha}\bar{\beta} (|+-\rangle + |-+\rangle) + \bar{\alpha}^2 |--\rangle$$

$$= \bar{\beta}^2 |1, 1\rangle - \sqrt{2} \bar{\alpha}\bar{\beta} |1, 0\rangle + \bar{\alpha}^2 |1, -1\rangle$$

$$g|1, 0\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (g|+\rangle \otimes g|-\rangle + g|-\rangle \otimes g|+\rangle)$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (-2\bar{\alpha}\bar{\beta} |++\rangle + (\alpha^2 - \beta^2) (|+-\rangle + |-+\rangle) + 2\bar{\alpha}\beta |--\rangle)$$

$$= -\sqrt{2} \bar{\alpha}\bar{\beta} |1, 1\rangle + (\alpha^2 - \beta^2) |1, 0\rangle + \sqrt{2} \bar{\alpha}\beta |1, -1\rangle$$

$$D'(g) = \begin{pmatrix} |1, 1\rangle & |1, 0\rangle & |1, -1\rangle \\ \alpha^2 & -\sqrt{2}\bar{\alpha}\bar{\beta} & \bar{\beta}^2 \\ \sqrt{2}\bar{\alpha}\beta & \alpha^2 - \beta^2 & -\sqrt{2}\bar{\alpha}\bar{\beta} \\ \beta^2 & \sqrt{2}\bar{\alpha}\beta & \bar{\alpha}^2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{Wigner-D' matrix}$$

Later: $\text{Sym}^n(\mathbb{C}^2)$ are irreps of $SU(2)$ defined by the trivial irrep of S_n . $\dim = \binom{n+d-1}{n} \stackrel{d=2}{=} n+1$

For $W_0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|+-\rangle - |-+\rangle) \equiv |0, 0\rangle$ Scalar/trivial

$$g \cdot |0, 0\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\alpha^2 |+-\rangle - \beta^2 |-+\rangle)$$

$$g|+\rangle = \alpha|+\rangle + \beta|-\rangle$$

$$- (\alpha^2 |+-\rangle - \beta^2 |-+\rangle)$$

$$g|-\rangle = -\bar{\beta}|+\rangle + \bar{\alpha}|-\rangle$$

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

\Rightarrow Tensors of definite symmetries (obtained via Young symmetrizers) transform as irreps of $GL(d, \mathbb{C})$.

Example. $V^{\otimes 3} = \text{span} \{ v_i \otimes v_j \otimes v_k \}$

S_3	$[1^3]$	$3[1^2]$	$2[1^3]$
1^+	1	1	1
1^-	1	-1	1
2	2	0	-1

$\chi([1^3]) = d^3$

$\chi([1^2]) = d^2$

$\chi([1^3]) = d$

$v_i \otimes v_j \otimes v_k$

$$a_{1^+} = \langle \chi_{1^+}, \chi \rangle = \frac{1}{6} (d^3 \cdot 1 + d^2 \cdot 3 + d \cdot 2) = \frac{1}{6} d(d+1)(d+2)$$

$$a_{1^-} = \langle \chi_{1^-}, \chi \rangle = \frac{1}{6} (d^3 - 3d^2 + 2d) = \frac{1}{6} d(d-1)(d-2)$$

$$a_2 = \langle \chi_2, \chi \rangle = \frac{1}{6} (2d^3 - 2d) = \frac{1}{3} d(d+1)(d-1)$$

① $[1^2 3]$ $C = PQ = e + (12) + (13) + (23) + (123) + (132)$

$$C \cdot V^{\otimes 3} = \text{span} \{ \sum_{\sigma} v_{\sigma(i)} \otimes v_{\sigma(j)} \otimes v_{\sigma(k)} \}$$

$$= \text{Sym}^3 V$$

$$t = \sum a_{ijk} v_i \otimes v_j \otimes v_k$$

$$C \cdot t = \sum a_{ijk} v_{\sigma(i)} \otimes v_{\sigma(j)} \otimes v_{\sigma(k)}$$


$$= \sum a_{\sigma(i)\sigma(j)\sigma(k)} v_i \otimes v_j \otimes v_k$$

$$\Rightarrow (C \cdot a)_{ijk} = a_{\sigma(i)\sigma(j)\sigma(k)}$$

$$(a_s)_{ijk} = \sum_{\sigma} a_{\sigma(i)\sigma(j)\sigma(k)} = \sum_{\sigma} a_{\sigma(i)\sigma(j)\sigma(k)}$$

$$\Rightarrow (a_s)_{jik} = (a_s)_{ijk}$$

$$(C a_s)_{ijk} = (a_s)_{ijk}$$

②  $c = e - (12) - (13) - (23) + (123) + (132)$

$$(a_\lambda)_{ijk} = \sum_{\sigma} \text{sgn}(\sigma) a_{\sigma^{-1}(i), \sigma^{-1}(j), \sigma^{-1}(k)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (a_\lambda)_{jik} &= (\tau(ij) a_\lambda)_{ijk} \\ &= \sum_{\sigma} \tau(ij) \text{sgn}(\sigma) a_{\sigma^{-1}(i), \sigma^{-1}(j), \sigma^{-1}(k)} \\ &= \sum_{\sigma} \text{sgn}(\sigma) a_{\sigma^{-1}(j), \sigma^{-1}(i), \sigma^{-1}(k)} \\ &= \sum_{\sigma} \text{sgn}(\sigma \tau(ij)) a_{\sigma^{-1}(i), \sigma^{-1}(j), \sigma^{-1}(k)} \\ &= - \sum_{\sigma} \text{sgn}(\sigma) a_{\sigma^{-1}(i), \sigma^{-1}(j), \sigma^{-1}(k)} \\ &= - (a_\lambda)_{ijk} \end{aligned}$$

if $d=2$: $i, j, k \in \{1, 2\}$

$$a_{1,1,2}^{\lambda} = -a_{1,1,2} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{all elements } a_{ijk} = 0$$

$V = k^d$. the irrep corresponding to a Young diagram is 0 if d is smaller than the number of rows of the Young diagram.

③ $\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 \\ \hline 3 & \\ \hline \end{array}$

$$C_{(2,1)} = (e + (12))(e - (13)) = e + \underline{(12)} - \underline{(13)} - \underline{(132)}$$

$$C_{(2,1)} V^{\otimes 3} = \text{span} \{ v_i \otimes v_j \otimes v_k + \underline{v_j \otimes v_i} \otimes v_k - \underline{v_k \otimes v_j} \otimes v_i - \underline{v_k \otimes v_i} \otimes v_j \}$$

$$(a_2)_{ijk} = a_{ijk} + \underline{a_{jik}} - \underline{a_{kji}} - \underline{a_{jki}} \quad i \rightarrow k \rightarrow j$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{l} \sigma: v_i \otimes v_j \otimes v_k \rightarrow v_{\sigma(i)} \otimes v_{\sigma(j)} \otimes v_{\sigma(k)} \\ a_{ijk} \rightarrow a_{\sigma^{-1}(i)\sigma^{-1}(j)\sigma^{-1}(k)} \end{array} \right) \quad i \leftarrow k \leftarrow j$$

$$\begin{cases} (a_2)_{ijk} + (a_2)_{jki} + (a_2)_{kij} = 0 & - A \\ (a_2)_{\underline{ijk}} = -(a_2)_{\underline{kji}} & - B \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 3 \\ \hline 2 & \\ \hline \end{array} : B \rightarrow (a_2)_{ijk} = -(a_2)_{jik}$$

In physics. $\text{Sym}^n V$ for bosons $\lambda = (n)$

$\Lambda^n V$ for fermions $\lambda = (1, 1, \dots, 1)$

other partitions: parastatistics

2. $G = \text{SU}(2) \subset \text{GL}(2, \mathbb{C})$ irreps

We consider Young diagrams with at most 2 rows.

$$T = \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 3 & \dots & 2k-1 & 2k+1 & \dots & 2k+l \\ \hline 2 & 4 & & & 2k & & \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_k \quad \underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_l$

The corresponding Young symmetrizer.

$$C_T = P_T Q_T$$

$$C_T \cdot v_{i_1} \otimes v_{i_2} \otimes \dots \otimes v_{i_n} \quad (i_m \in \{1, 2\}) \quad \begin{pmatrix} v_{i_1} \wedge v_{i_2} \\ := v_{i_1} \otimes v_{i_2} \\ - v_{i_2} \otimes v_{i_1} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= P_T (v_{i_1} \wedge v_{i_2}) \otimes (v_{i_3} \wedge v_{i_4}) \otimes \dots \otimes (v_{i_{2k-1}} \wedge v_{i_{2k}})$$

$$Q_T = \prod_{i=1}^k e_{-(2i-1, 2i)} \otimes v_{i_{2k+1}} \otimes \dots \otimes v_{i_{2k+l}}$$

$$v_{i_{2j-1}} \wedge v_{i_{2j}} \neq 0 \iff i_{2j-1} \neq i_{2j} \quad v_1 \wedge v_2 \text{ or } v_2 \wedge v_1$$

The non-zero images of C_T is

$$C_T \bigotimes_{j=1}^n v_{i_j} = \underbrace{P_T \left[\bigotimes_{i=1}^k (v_1 \wedge v_2) \right]}_{(-1)^{\sum_i i}} \otimes v_{i_{2k+1}} \otimes \dots \otimes v_{i_{2k+l}}$$

$$= (-1)^{\sum_i i} \bigotimes_{i=1}^k (v_1 \wedge v_2) \otimes P_{T'} (v_{i_{2k+1}} \otimes \dots \otimes v_{i_{2k+l}})$$

$$T' = \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline & & & & \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_l$

$v^{\otimes n}$ as rep of $\text{SU}(2)$.

$u \in \text{SU}(2)$ acts on v_1, v_2

$$\begin{aligned} u \cdot (v_1 \wedge v_2) &= u(v_1 \otimes v_2 - v_2 \otimes v_1) \\ &= \sum_{ij} u_{i1} u_{j2} v_i \otimes v_j - \sum_{ij} u_{i2} u_{j1} v_i \otimes v_j \\ &= (u_{11} u_{12} - u_{12} u_{11}) v_1 \otimes v_1 + \\ &\quad (u_{11} u_{22} - u_{12} u_{21}) v_1 \otimes v_2 + \\ &\quad (u_{21} u_{12} - u_{22} u_{11}) v_2 \otimes v_1 + \\ &\quad (u_{21} u_{22} - u_{22} u_{21}) v_2 \otimes v_2 \\ &= (\det u) v_1 \wedge v_2 \end{aligned}$$

$$u^{\otimes n} \left(C_T \otimes_j v_{i_j} \right) = (\cancel{\det u})^k (-1)^k \otimes_i^k (v_1 \wedge v_2) \otimes u^{\otimes l} P_T(v_{i_{2k+1}} \otimes \dots \otimes v_{i_{2k+l}})$$

$u \in \text{SU}(2)$ acts non-trivially only on $P_T(v_{i_{2k+1}} \otimes \dots \otimes v_{i_{2k+l}})$

\Rightarrow irreps of $\text{SU}(2)$ is in one-to-one correspondence with Young diagrams of a single row of l boxes

Dimension of the irrep.

$$d=2: \quad \binom{l+d-1}{d} = \binom{l+1}{l} = l+1$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{span} \{ v_{i_1} \otimes \dots \otimes v_{i_l} \} \\ &\quad i_1 \leq i_2 \leq \dots \leq i_l \\ &\dim = l+1 \end{aligned}$$

in physics, $l=2j$ "spin- j representation of $\text{SU}(2)$ "

\Rightarrow irreps: $\text{Sym}^l V$. $V \cong \mathbb{C}^2$ the fundamental rep.