

# The wreath products $G_{H,1,k} = H \wr S_k$

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## 1 The groups $G_{H,1,n}$

The semidirect product  $G_{H,1,n} = H^n \rtimes S_n$  is the group of permutations with edges colored by elements of  $H$ . The product is the usual product on permutations with the convention that elements of  $H$  slide along edges and multiply when they collide. The group  $G_{H,1,n}$  is generated by the elements

$$t_i(h) = \begin{array}{c} \bullet \quad \bullet \quad \cdots \quad \bullet \quad \overset{h}{\bullet} \quad \bullet \quad \cdots \quad \bullet \\ \vdots \quad \vdots \quad \cdots \quad \vdots \quad \vdots \quad \vdots \quad \cdots \quad \vdots \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \quad \cdots \quad \bullet \quad \bullet \quad \bullet \quad \cdots \quad \bullet \end{array}, \quad \text{for } 1 \leq i \leq n, h \in H,$$

$$s_{ij} = \begin{array}{c} \bullet \quad \cdots \quad \bullet \quad \overset{i}{\bullet} \quad \cdots \quad \overset{j}{\bullet} \quad \bullet \quad \cdots \quad \bullet \\ \vdots \quad \vdots \quad \vdots \quad \vdots \quad \vdots \quad \vdots \quad \vdots \quad \vdots \quad \vdots \\ \bullet \quad \cdots \quad \bullet \quad \bullet \quad \cdots \quad \bullet \quad \bullet \quad \cdots \quad \bullet \end{array}, \quad \text{for } 1 \leq i < j \leq n,$$

and the subgroup  $H^n$  consists of the elements

$$t_h = t_1(h_1)t_2(h_2) \cdots t_n(h_n), \quad \text{where } h = (h_1, \dots, h_n), h_i \in H.$$

The operation in the semidirect product in the group

$$G_{H,1,n} = H^n \rtimes S_n = \{t_h w \mid h \in H^n, w \in S_n\}$$

is determined by the product in  $S_n$ , and

$$\begin{aligned} t_h t_k &= t_{hk}, & \text{for } h, k \in H^n, & \text{ and} \\ w t_h &= t_{w h} w, & \text{where } w(h_1, \dots, h_n) &= (h_{w(1)}, \dots, h_{w(n)}), \end{aligned} \tag{1.1}$$

for  $w \in S_n$  and  $h = (h_1, \dots, h_n) \in H^n$ .

Let  $H^*$  be an index set for the conjugacy classes of  $H$  and let  $H_\alpha$ ,  $\alpha \in H^*$ , be a set of conjugacy class representatives. Let

$$G_{H,1,n}^* = \{\mu = (\mu^{(\alpha)})_{\alpha \in H^*} \mid \mu \text{ has } n \text{ boxes total}\},$$

be the set of  $H^*$ -multipartitions, tuples of partitions with components indexed by the elements of  $H^*$ , such that the total number of boxes in the multipartition is  $n$ . Then the elements

$$\gamma_\mu = \text{PICTURE}, \quad \text{for } \mu \in G_{H,1,n}^*,$$

are a set of conjugacy class representatives for  $G_{H,1,n}$ . The centralizer of  $\gamma_\mu$  in  $G_{H,1,n}$  is

$$Z_G(\gamma_\mu) = ???$$

with

$$\text{Card}(Z_G(\mu)) = ???.$$

Each element of  $G(r, p, n)$  is conjugate by elements of  $S_n$  to a disjoint product of cycles of the form

$$\xi_i^{\lambda_i} \cdots \xi_k^{\lambda_k}(i, i+1, \dots, k).$$

By conjugating this cycle by  $\xi_i^{-c} \xi_{i+1}^{c\lambda_i} \xi_{i+2}^{\lambda_i + \lambda_{i+1}} \cdots \xi_k^{\lambda_i + \cdots + \lambda_{k-1}} \in G(r, r, n)$ , we have

$$\xi_i^{-c} \xi_k^{c + \lambda_i + \cdots + \lambda_k}(i, \dots, k), \quad \text{where } c = (k-i)\lambda_i + (k-i-1)\lambda_{i+1} + \cdots + \lambda_{k-1}.$$

If  $i_1, i_2, \dots, i_\ell$  denote the minimal indices of the cycles and  $c_1, \dots, c_\ell$  are the numbers  $c$  for the various cycles, then after conjugating by  $\xi_{i_1}^{c_1} \cdots \xi_{i_{\ell-1}}^{c_{\ell-1}} \xi_{i_\ell}^{-(c_1 + \cdots + c_{\ell-1})} \in G(r, r, n)$ , each cycle becomes

$$\xi_k^{\lambda_i + \cdots + \lambda_k}(i, \dots, k) \quad \text{except the last, which is} \quad \xi_{i_\ell}^{-a} \xi_n^b(i_\ell, \dots, n),$$

where  $a = c_1 + \cdots + c_\ell$  and  $b = a + \lambda_{i_\ell} + \cdots + \lambda_n$ . If  $k = n - i_\ell + 1$  is the length of the last cycle, then conjugating the last cycle by  $\xi_{i_\ell}^{k-1} \xi_{i_\ell+1}^{-1} \cdots \xi_n^{-1} \in G(r, r, n)$  gives

$$\xi_{i_\ell}^{-a+k} \xi_n^{b-k}(i_\ell, \dots, n).$$

If we conjugate the last cycle by  $\xi_{i_\ell}^p \in G(r, p, n)$ , we have

$$\xi_{i_\ell}^{-a+p} \xi_n^{b-p}(i_\ell, \dots, n).$$

In summary, any element  $g$  of  $G(r, p, n)$  is conjugate to a product of disjoint cycles where each cycle is of the form

$$\xi_k^a(i, i+1, \dots, k), \quad 0 \leq a \leq r-1,$$

except possibly the last cycle, which is of the form

$$\xi_{i_\ell}^a \xi_n^b(i_\ell, i_\ell+1, \dots, n), \quad \text{with } 0 \leq a \leq \gcd(p, k) - 1,$$

where  $k = n - i_\ell + 1$  is the length of the last cycle.

Let  $Z_{G(r,p,n)}(g) = \{h \in G(r, p, n) \mid hg = gh\}$  denote the centralizer of  $g \in G(r, p, n)$ . Since  $G(r, p, n)$  is a subgroup of  $G(r, 1, n)$ ,

$$Z_{G(r,p,n)}(g) = Z_{G(r,1,n)}(g) \cap G(r, p, n),$$

for any element  $g \in G(r, p, n)$ . Suppose that  $g$  is an element of  $G(r, 1, n)$  which is a product of disjoint cycles of the form  $\xi_k^a(i, \dots, k)$  and that  $h \in G(r, 1, n)$  commutes with  $g$ . Conjugating  $g$  by  $h$  effects some combination of the following operations on the cycles of  $g$ :

- (a) permuting cycles of the same type,  $\xi_k^a(i, \dots, k)$  and  $\xi_m^b(j, \dots, m)$  with  $b = a$  and  $k - i = m - j$ ,
- (b) conjugating a single cycle  $\xi_k^a(i, \dots, k)$  by powers of itself, and
- (c) conjugating a single cycle  $\xi_k^a(i, \dots, k)$  by  $\xi_i^b \cdots \xi_k^b$ , for any  $0 \leq b \leq r-1$ .

Furthermore, the elements of  $G(r, 1, n)$  which commute with  $g$  are determined by how they “rearrange” the cycles of  $g$  and a count (see [Mac, p. 170]) of the number of such operations shows that if  $g \in G(r, 1, n)$  and  $m_{a,k}$  is the number of cycles of type  $\xi_{i+k}^a(i, i+1, \dots, i+k)$  for  $g$ , then

$$\text{Card}(Z_{G(r,1,n)}(g)) = \prod_{a,k} (m_{a,k}! \cdot k^{m_{a,k}} \cdot r). \quad (1.2)$$

Let  $\hat{H}$  be an index set for the irreducible  $H$  modules. If  $\gamma \in \hat{H}$  then let  $\hat{H}^\gamma$  be an index set for a basis of  $H^\gamma$  so that

$$H^\gamma \text{ has basis } \{m_P \mid P \in \hat{H}^\gamma\}, \quad \text{with } H\text{-action} \quad h m_P = \sum_{Q \in \hat{H}^\gamma} h_{QP} m_Q,$$

for appropriate constants  $h_{QP} \in \mathbb{C}$ .

Let  $\lambda = (\lambda^{(\alpha)})_{\alpha \in \hat{H}}$  be a  $\hat{H}$ -tuple of partitions with  $n$  boxes total. A *standard tableau* of shape  $\lambda$  is a filling of the boxes of  $\lambda$  with  $1, 2, \dots, n$  such that, in each partition  $\lambda^{(\alpha)}$ ,

- (a) the rows increase from left to right,
- (b) the columns increase from top to bottom.

The rows and columns of each partition  $\lambda^{(\alpha)}$  are numbered as for matrices and

$$\begin{aligned} T(i) & \text{ is the box containing } i \text{ in } T, \\ c(b) & = j - i, \text{ if } b \text{ is in position } (i, j), \text{ and} \\ s(b) & = \alpha, \text{ if } b \text{ is in } \lambda^{(\alpha)}, \end{aligned}$$

The numbers  $c(b)$  and  $s(b)$  are the *content* and the  $\hat{H}$ -*type* of the box  $b$ , respectively.

### PICTURE

**Theorem 1.1.** *Use notations as in (???) and (???).*

- (a) *The irreducible representations  $G_n^\lambda$  of the group  $G_{H,1,n} = H^n \rtimes S_n$  are indexed by the set*

$$\hat{G}_n = \{\lambda = (\lambda^{(\alpha)})_{\alpha \in \hat{H}} \mid \lambda \text{ has } n\text{-boxes total}\},$$

*of  $\hat{H}$  multipartitions with  $n$  boxes total.*

- (b)  $\dim G_n^\lambda = \sum_{\alpha \in \hat{H}} \dim(H^\alpha) \dim(S_n^{\lambda^{(\alpha)}})$ .

- (c) *The irreducible  $G_{H,1,n}$  module*

$$G_{r,1,n}^\lambda \text{ has basis } \{(m_{P(1)} \otimes \cdots \otimes m_{P(n)}) \otimes v_T \mid T \in \hat{S}^\lambda, P^{(i)} \in \hat{H}^{s(T(i))}\}$$

*with  $G_{H,1,n}$  action given by*

$$\begin{aligned} t_i(h)(m_{P(1)} \otimes \cdots \otimes m_{P(n)} \otimes v_T) & = m_{P(1)} \otimes \cdots \otimes h m_{P^{(i)}} \otimes \cdots \otimes m_{P(n)} \otimes v_T, \\ s_i(m_{P(1)} \otimes \cdots \otimes m_{P(n)} \otimes v_T) & = s_i(m_{P(1)} \otimes \cdots \otimes m_{P(n)}) \otimes s_i v_T, \end{aligned}$$

*where*

$$s_i v_T = (s_i)_{TT} v_T + (1 + (s_i)_{TT}) v_{s_i T},$$

with

$$(s_i)_{TT} = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{c(T(i)) - c(T(i-1))}, & \text{if } s(T(i)) = s(T(i-1)), \\ 0, & \text{if } s(T(i)) \neq s(T(i-1)), \end{cases}$$

$c(T(i))$  is the content of the box containing  $i$  in  $T$ ,

$s_i T$  is the same as  $T$  except that  $i$  and  $i-1$  are switched,

$v_{s_i T} = 0$  if  $s_i T$  is not standard.

*Proof.* The following argument determining the simple  $G_{H,1,n}$  modules is often called *Clifford theory*. Let  $G^\lambda$  be a simple  $G_{H,1,n} = H^n \rtimes S_n$  module. Let  $H^\gamma$  be a simple  $H^n$  submodule of  $G^\lambda$ . Then  $wH^\gamma$  is another simple  $H^n$  submodule of  $G^\lambda$  and

$$G^\lambda = \sum_{w \in S_n} wH^\gamma,$$

since the right hand side is an  $H^n \rtimes S_n$  submodule of  $G^\lambda$ . Let

$$S_\gamma = \{w \in S_n \mid wH^\gamma \cong H^\gamma\} = \{w \in S_n \mid w\gamma = \gamma\}.$$

Thus

$$G^\lambda = \sum_{w_i \in S_n/S_\gamma} w_i N = \text{Ind}_{H^n \rtimes S_\gamma}^{H^n \rtimes H_n}(N), \quad \text{where} \quad N = \sum_{w \in S_\gamma} wH^\gamma.$$

Then

$$N \cong H^\gamma \otimes S_\gamma^\lambda \quad \text{with action} \quad hw(m \otimes v) = hwm \otimes vm,$$

where  $S_\gamma^\lambda$  is a simple  $S_\gamma$  module. Since we are free to choose  $\gamma$  in its  $S_n$  orbit we may assume that  $\gamma$  is of the form

$$\gamma = \underbrace{(\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_1)}_{\mu_1 \text{ times}} \underbrace{(\gamma_2, \dots, \gamma_2)}_{\mu_2 \text{ times}} \dots \underbrace{(\gamma_\ell, \dots, \gamma_\ell)}_{\mu_\ell \text{ times}} \quad \text{so that} \quad S_\gamma = S_{\mu_1} \times S_{\mu_2} \times \dots \times S_{\mu_\ell},$$

where  $\mu = (\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_\ell)$  is a partition of  $n$ . An irreducible representation of  $S_\gamma$  is indexed by a tuple of partitions, one partition for each  $\gamma_i$  that appears in  $\gamma$ , so that the total number of boxes in the tuple of partitions is  $n$ .

Let us make this construction more explicit. Using the notation in (???), the simple  $H^n$  modules are indexed by the set  $\hat{H}^n$  and a simple  $H^n$  module

$$H^{(\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n)} \quad \text{has basis} \quad \{m_{P(1)} \otimes \dots \otimes m_{P(n)} \mid P^{(i)} \in \hat{H}^{\gamma_i}\}.$$

Then the action of  $S_n$  on  $H^n$  modules in (???) is given by

$$w(m_{P(1)} \otimes \dots \otimes m_{P(n)}) = m_{P(w(1))} \otimes \dots \otimes m_{P(w(n))}, \quad \text{for } w \in S_n,$$

defines an action of  $S_n$  on the irreducible  $H^n$  modules. The resulting action of  $S_n$  on  $\hat{H}^n$  is given by

$$w(\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n) = (\gamma_{w(1)}, \dots, \gamma_{w(n)}).$$

Returning to the setup in equation (???),

$$wH^\gamma = H^{w\gamma}, \quad \text{for } w \in S_n.$$

(The fact that  $wH^\gamma = H^{w\gamma}$  means that in this case the cocycles (factor sets) that appear in Clifford theory are trivial.)  $\square$

The *Casimir element* is the sum of the elements in the conjugacy class of  $s_{12}$ ,

$$\kappa_n = \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} \sum_{h \in H} t_i(h) t_j(h^{-1}) s_{ij},$$

with notations as in (???).

**Theorem 1.2.**

(a) The Casimir element  $\kappa_n$  for  $G_{H,1,n}$  is a central element of the group algebra of  $G_{H,1,n}$  such that

$$\kappa_n \text{ acts on } G_n^\lambda \text{ by the constant } \sum_{b \in \lambda} c(b).$$

(b) Let  $H^*$  be an index set for the conjugacy classes of  $H$  and let  $\mu \in H^*$ . Let

$$z(\mu) = \sum_{h \in \mathcal{C}_\mu} \sum_{i=1}^n t_i(h),$$

where the sum is over all elements of  $H$  in the conjugacy class  $\mu$ . Then  $z(\mu)$  is an element of the center of the group algebra of  $G_{H,1,n}$  and

$$z(\mu) \text{ acts on } G_n^\lambda \text{ by the constant } \sum_{\alpha \in \tilde{H}} \frac{\chi_H^\alpha(\mu)}{\dim(H^\alpha)}.$$

*Proof.*

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{|H|} \sum_{h \in H} h m_Q \otimes h^{-1} m_P &= \sum_{h,R,S} A_{RQ}^\alpha(h) A_{SP}^\beta(h^{-1}) (m_R \otimes m_S) \\ &= \sum_{R,S} (m_R \otimes m_S) \sum_{h \in H} A_{RQ}^\alpha(h) A_{SP}^\beta(h^{-1}). \end{aligned}$$

Define an element of  $\text{Hom}(H^\alpha, H^\beta)$ ,

$$\varphi_{QS}^{\alpha\beta}: H^\alpha \rightarrow H^\beta, \quad \text{by} \quad \varphi_{QS}^{\alpha\beta}(m_P) = \delta_{QP} m_S.$$

Then as elements of  $\text{Hom}(H^\alpha, H^\beta)$ ,

$$g \sum_{h \in H} h \varphi_{QS}^{\alpha\beta} h^{-1} = \sum_{h \in H} g h \varphi_{QS}^{\alpha\beta} (gh)^{-1} g,$$

and

$$\text{Tr} \left( \sum_{h \in H} h \varphi_{QS}^{\alpha\alpha} h^{-1} \right) = \text{Tr} \left( \sum_{h \in H} \varphi_{QS}^{\alpha\alpha} \right) = |H| \delta_{QS},$$

and thus, by Schur's lemma,

$$\sum_{h \in H} h \varphi_{QS}^{\alpha\beta} h^{-1} = \frac{|H|}{d_\lambda} \delta_{\alpha\beta} \delta_{QS} \cdot \text{id}$$

where  $d_\alpha = \dim(H^\alpha)$ . Thus

$$\sum_{h \in H} A_{RQ}^\alpha(h) A_{SP}^\beta(h^{-1}) = \left( \sum_{h \in H} A^\alpha(h) \varphi_{QS} A^\beta(h^{-1}) \right)_{RP} = \frac{|H|}{d_\alpha} \delta_{\alpha\beta} \delta_{QS} \delta_{RP}.$$

Hence

$$\frac{1}{|H|} \sum_{h \in H} h m_Q \otimes h^{-1} m_P = \frac{1}{d_\alpha} \delta_{\alpha\beta} (m_P \otimes m_Q)$$

(a) Let  $x_1 = 0$  and, for  $2 \leq k \leq n$  let

$$x_k = \sum_{h \in H} \sum_{1 \leq i < k} t_i(h) t_k(h^{-1}) s_{ik} \quad \text{so that} \quad x_1 + x_2 + \cdots + x_n = \kappa_n. \quad (1.3)$$

Then

$$x_k = s_k x_k s_k + \sum_{h \in H} t_{k-1}(h) s_k t_{k-1}(h^{-1}). \quad (1.4)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} x_k(m_P \otimes v_T) &= \left( s_k x_{k-1} s_k + \sum_{h \in H} s_k t_k(h) t_{k-1}(h^{-1}) \right) (m_P \otimes v_T) \\ &= s_k \left( c(T(k-1)) (s_k)_{TT} (s_k m_P \otimes v_T) + c(T(k)) (1 + (s_k)_{TT}) (s_k m_P \otimes v_{s_k T}) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \sum_{h \in H} t_{k-1}(h^{-1}) t_k(h) (m_P \otimes v_T) \right) \\ &= s_k \left( c(T(k)) s_k (m_P \otimes v_T) + (c(T(k-1)) - c(T(k))) (s_k)_{TT} (m_P \otimes v_T) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \sum_{h \in H} t_{k-1}(h^{-1}) t_k(h) (m_P \otimes v_T) \right) \\ &= \begin{cases} s_k (c(T(k)) s_k v_T + ((-1) + 1) v_T), & \text{if } s(T(k)) = s(T(k-1)), \\ s_k (c(T(k)) s_k v_T + (0 + 0) v_T), & \text{if } s(T(k)) \neq s(T(k-1)), \end{cases} \\ &= c(T(k)) v_T. \end{aligned}$$

(b) Since  $\sum_{h \in \mathcal{C}_\mu}$  acts on  $H^\alpha$  by the constant

$$\frac{\chi_H^\alpha(\mu)}{\dim(H^\alpha)}$$

it follows that

$$\left( \sum_{h \in \mathcal{C}_\mu} t_i(h) \right) (m_P \otimes v_T) = \sum_{h \in \mathcal{C}_\mu} (t_i(h) m_P \otimes v_T) = \frac{\chi_H^{(\alpha_i)}(\mu)}{\dim(H^{(\alpha_i)})} (m_P \otimes v_T).$$

Part (b) of the theorem now follows by summing over  $i$ . □

For example, if

$$\begin{aligned} H = \mathbb{Z}/r\mathbb{Z}, & \quad \text{then} \quad \hat{H} = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, r-1\}, \\ H = \mathbb{Z}, & \quad \text{then} \quad \hat{H} = \mathbb{C}^*, \\ H = \mathbb{C}^*, & \quad \text{then} \quad \hat{H} = \mathbb{Z}, \end{aligned}$$

where, in the last case  $\hat{H}$  indexes the rational representations of  $H = \mathbb{C}^*$ .

## 1.1 Characters of $G_{H,1,n}$

Let  $\mu \in G_n^*$ . Then

$$|Z_{G_n}(\mu)| = \prod_{\beta \in H^*} \left( |Z_{S_n}(\mu^{(\beta)})| \cdot |Z_H(\beta)|^{\ell(\mu^{(\beta)})} \right).$$

Let  $H^*$  be an index set for the conjugacy classes of  $H$  and, for each  $\beta \in H^*$ , let

$$x^{(\beta)} = \{x_1^{(\beta)}, x_2^{(\beta)}, \dots\} \quad \text{be a set of variables indexed by } \beta,$$

and let

$$p_\mu(x) = \prod_{\beta \in H^*} p_{\mu^{(\beta)}}(x^{(\beta)}), \quad \text{for } \mu \in G_n^*,$$

so that  $p_\mu(x)$  is the product of power symmetric functions from each of the variable sets  $x^{(\beta)}$ . Define a "change of variables" from the  $x^{(\beta)}$  variables, which are indexed by  $\beta \in H^*$ , to  $y^{(\alpha)}$  variables indexed by  $\alpha \in \hat{H}$ , by setting

$$p_r(y^{(\alpha)}) = \sum_{\beta \in H^*} \frac{\chi_{\hat{H}}^\alpha(\beta) p_r(x^{(\beta)})}{|Z_H(\beta)|}, \quad \text{for each } \alpha \in \hat{H}, \text{ and each } r \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}.$$

Define

$$s_\lambda(y) = \prod_{\alpha \in \hat{H}} s_{\lambda^{(\alpha)}}(y^{(\alpha)}), \quad \text{for } \lambda \in \hat{G}_n.$$

Then

$$s_\lambda(y) = \sum_{\mu \in \hat{G}_n^*} \frac{\chi_{\hat{G}_n}^\lambda(\mu) p_\mu(x)}{|Z_{G_n}(\mu)|} \quad \text{and} \quad p_\mu(x) = \sum_{\lambda \in \hat{G}_n} \overline{\chi_{\hat{G}_n}^\lambda(\mu)} s_\lambda(y),$$

for  $\lambda \in \hat{G}_n$  and  $\mu \in G_n^*$ .

## 2 The groups $G_{H,H/K,n}$

Let  $H$  be a group. Assume that  $H$  is abelian so that there is a well defined map  $\phi: G_{H,1,n} \rightarrow H$  given by  $\phi(t_h w) = h_1 \cdots h_n$ , for  $h = (h_1, \dots, h_n) \in H^n$  and  $w \in S_n$ . Let  $K$  be a subgroup of  $H$  and define a normal subgroup  $G_{H,H/K,n}$  of  $G_{H,1,n}$  by the exact sequence

$$\{1\} \longrightarrow G_{H,H/K,n} \longrightarrow G_{H,1,n} \longrightarrow H/K \longrightarrow \{1\}$$

$$t_h w \longmapsto h_1 h_2 \cdots h_n.$$

Thus

$$G_{H,H/K,n} = \{t_h w \mid h_1 h_2 \cdots h_n \in K\} \quad \text{with order} \quad |G^K| = |H|^{n-1} |K| n!.$$

Let  $H$  be an abelian group and let  $\hat{H}$  be an index set for the simple  $H$ -modules. The *dual group* is the set  $\hat{H}$  with the operation induced by tensor product of  $H$ -modules. If  $H = \mathbb{C}^*$  then the irreducible representations of  $H$  (as an algebraic group) are

$$X^k: \quad \mathbb{C}^* \longrightarrow \mathbb{C}^* \quad \text{for } k \in \mathbb{Z}, \quad \text{and} \quad X^k X^\ell = X^{k+\ell},$$

$$x \longmapsto x^k$$

so that  $\hat{H} \cong \mathbb{Z}$ . If  $H = (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  then  $\hat{H}$  is a lattice,

$$\hat{H} \cong \mathbb{Z}^n, \quad \text{with} \quad X^\lambda X^\mu = X^{\lambda+\mu},$$

for  $\lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{Z}^n$ . If  $H$  is a finite abelian group then

$$H \cong \mathbb{Z}/r_1\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/r_2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \cdots \oplus \mathbb{Z}/r_\ell\mathbb{Z} \quad \text{and} \quad \hat{H} \cong \mathbb{Z}/r_1\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/r_2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \cdots \oplus \mathbb{Z}/r_\ell\mathbb{Z},$$

a quotient of the lattice in (???), so that

$$\hat{H} = \{X^\lambda \mid \lambda = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n) \text{ with } \lambda_i \in \mathbb{Z}/r_i\mathbb{Z}\}.$$

Let  $H$  be abelian and let  $\hat{H}$  be the dual group of  $H$ . The group  $\hat{H}$  acts on the group algebra of  $H^n$  by algebra automorphisms,

$$\begin{aligned} X^\lambda: \quad \mathbb{C}H^n &\longrightarrow \mathbb{C}H^n \\ t_{(h_1, \dots, h_n)} &\longmapsto X^\lambda(h_1 h_2 \cdots h_n) t_{(h_1, \dots, h_n)} \end{aligned}$$

and on the group algebra of  $G_{H,1,n} = H^n \rtimes S_n$  by algebra automorphisms,

$$\begin{aligned} X^\lambda: \quad \mathbb{C}G_{H,1,n} &\longrightarrow \mathbb{C}G_{H,1,n} \\ t_{(h_1, \dots, h_n)} w &\longmapsto X^\lambda(h_1 h_2 \cdots h_n) t_{(h_1, \dots, h_n)} w \end{aligned}$$

Let  $\hat{K}$  be a subgroup of  $\hat{H}$ . Then the subalgebra of  $\mathbb{C}G_{H,1,n}$  fixed by  $\hat{K}$  is

$$(\mathbb{C}G_{H,1,n})^{\hat{K}} = \text{span}\{t_{(h_1, \dots, h_n)} w \mid X^\lambda(h_1 h_2 \cdots h_n) = 1, \text{ for all } X^\lambda \in \hat{K}\}.$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} (\mathbb{C}G_{H,1,n})^{\hat{K}} &= \text{span}\{t_{(h_1, \dots, h_n)} w \mid h_1 h_2 \cdots h_n \in K\} \\ &= \mathbb{C}G_{H,H/K,n}, \quad \text{where } K = \bigcap_{\lambda \in \hat{K}} \ker(X^\lambda). \end{aligned}$$

### 3 The groups $G_{r,p,n}$

The group  $G_{H,H/K,n}$  is

denoted  $G_{r,p,n}$  if  $H$  is a cyclic group of order  $r$  and  $H/K$  is order  $p$ .

Note that  $p$  is not necessarily prime and  $p$  divides  $r$ . The group  $G_{r,p,n}$  can be realised as the group of  $n \times n$  matrices such that

- (a) There is exactly one nonzero entry in each row and each column,
- (b) The nonzero entries are  $r$ th roots of unity,
- (c) The  $(r/p)$ th power of the product of the nonzero entries is 1.

Special cases of these groups are

- (1)  $G_{r,1,1}$ , the cyclic group of order  $r$ ,
- (2)  $G_{r,r,2}$ , the dihedral group of order  $2r$ ,





where

$$G_n = G_{H,1,n} = H^n \rtimes S_n \quad \text{and} \quad G_{n+\frac{1}{2}} = G_{H,1,n} \times G_{H,1,1},$$

so that  $G_{n+\frac{1}{2}}$  is a ‘‘Levi subgroup’’ of  $G_{n+1}$ . The tower  $\hat{G}$  has

vertices on level  $n$ : multipartitions  $\lambda = (\lambda^{(\alpha)})_{\alpha \in \hat{H}}$  with  $n$  boxes total,

vertices on level  $n + \frac{1}{2}$ : pairs  $(\lambda, \square_\alpha)$ , where  $\lambda \in \hat{G}_n$ ,  $\alpha \in \hat{H}$ .

edges from level  $n$  to level  $n + \frac{1}{2}$ :

$\lambda \rightarrow (\lambda, \square_\alpha)$  for each  $\alpha \in \hat{H}$ .

edges from level  $n + \frac{1}{2}$  to level  $n$ :

$(\mu, \square_\alpha) \rightarrow \nu$  if  $\nu$  is obtained from  $\mu$  by adding a box to  $\mu^{(\alpha)}$ .

For each  $0 \leq m \leq r-1$  the elements  $t_i^m$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , form a conjugacy class in  $G(r, 1, n)$  and the elements  $t_i^m t_j^{-m}(i, j)$ ,  $1 \leq i < j \leq n$ ,  $0 \leq m \leq r-1$ , form another conjugacy class in  $G(r, 1, n)$ . Thus the elements

$$z_s(m) = \sum_{i=1}^n t_i^m, \quad 0 \leq m \leq r-1, \quad \text{and} \quad z_\ell = \frac{1}{r} \sum_{m=0}^{r-1} \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} t_i^m t_j^{-m}(i, j),$$

are elements of  $Z(\mathbb{C}G(r, 1, n))$ . So  $z_s(m)$  and  $z_\ell$  must act by a constant on any irreducible representation  $S^\lambda$  of  $G(r, 1, n)$ . Define  $x_1 = 0$ ,

$$x_k = \left( \sum_{\substack{1 \leq i < j \leq k \\ 0 \leq \ell \leq r-1}} t_i^\ell t_j^{-\ell}(i, j) \right) - \left( \sum_{\substack{1 \leq i < j \leq k-1 \\ 0 \leq \ell \leq r-1}} t_i^\ell t_j^{-\ell}(i, j) \right) = \frac{1}{r} \sum_{1 \leq i < k, 0 \leq \ell \leq r-1} t_i^\ell t_k^{-\ell}(i, k), \quad \text{for } 2 \leq k \leq n, \text{ and}$$

$$y_k = \left( \sum_{i=1}^k t_i \right) - \left( \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} t_i \right) = t_k, \quad \text{for } 1 \leq k \leq n.$$

**Theorem 4.1.** *The elements  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  and  $y_1, \dots, y_n$  all commute with each other and the action of these elements on the irreducible representation  $S^\lambda$  of  $G(r, 1, n)$  is given by*

$$y_k v_T = s(T(k)) v_T \quad \text{and} \quad x_k v_T = c(T(k)) v_T,$$

for all standard tableaux  $T$ .

*Proof.* The proof is by induction on  $k$  using the relations

$$x_k = s_k x_{k-1} s_k + \sum_{\ell=0}^{r-1} y_{k-1}^\ell s_k y_{k-1}^{-\ell} \quad \text{and} \quad y_k = s_k y_{k-1} s_k.$$

The base cases

$$x_1 v_T = 0 = c(T(1)) v_T \quad \text{and} \quad y_1 v_T = s(T(1)) v_T$$

are immediate from the definitions. Then

$$\begin{aligned}
y_k v_T &= s_k y_{k-1} s_k \\
&= s_k (s(T(k-1))(s_k)_{TT} v_T + (1 + (s_k)_{TT}) s(T(k)) v_{s_k T}) \\
&= s_k (s(T(k)) s_k v_T + (s(T(k-1)) - s(T(k)))(s_k)_{TT} v_T) \\
&= s(T(k)) v_T + 0 = s(T(k)) v_T, \quad \text{and}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
x_k v_T &= \left( s_k x_{k-1} s_k + \frac{1}{r} \sum_{\ell=0}^{r-1} s_k y_{k-1}^{-\ell} y_k^\ell \right) v_T \\
&= s_k \left( c(T(k-1))(s_k)_{TT} v_T + c(T(k))(1 + (s_k)_{TT}) v_{s_k T} + \frac{1}{r} \sum_{\ell=0}^{r-1} s(T(k-1))^{-\ell} s(T(k))^\ell v_T \right) \\
&= s_k \left( c(T(k)) s_k v_T + (c(T(k-1)) - c(T(k)))(s_k)_{TT} v_T + \frac{1}{r} \sum_{\ell=0}^{r-1} (s(T(k))^{-1} s(T(k)))^\ell v_T \right) \\
&= \begin{cases} s_k (c(T(k)) s_k v_T + ((-1) + 1) v_T, & \text{if } s(T(k)) = s(T(k-1)), \\ s_k (c(T(k)) s_k v_T + (0 + 0) v_T, & \text{if } s(T(k)) \neq s(T(k-1)), \end{cases} \\
&= c(T(k)) v_T.
\end{aligned}$$

□

Define an action of  $H$  on  $\hat{H}$  by

$$h\alpha = \chi_h \otimes \alpha,$$

and extend this to an action of  $H$  on the simple  $G_{H,1,n}$  modules by

$$m_P \otimes v_T \longmapsto m_{hP} \otimes v_{hT}.$$

**Theorem 4.2.**

- (a) The simple  $G_{H,H/K,n}$  modules are indexed by pairs  $(\bar{\lambda}, \mu)$  where  $\bar{\lambda} \in K \backslash \hat{G}_n$ ,  $\mu \in \hat{K}_\lambda$ , where  $K_\lambda$  is the stabilizer of  $\lambda$  in  $K$ .
- (b) The simple  $G_{H,H/K,n}$  module, then for any fixed representative  $\lambda$  of the coset  $\bar{\lambda}$ ,

$$G_{K,n}^{(\bar{\lambda}, \mu)} = p_\mu G_n^\lambda, \quad \text{where } p_\mu = \sum_{k \in K_\lambda} \chi^\mu(k^{-1}) k,$$

is the minimal idempotent of  $K_\lambda$  corresponding to the module  $K_\lambda^\mu$ .

- (c) As a  $(G_{H,H/K,n}, K_\lambda)$  bimodule

$$G^\lambda = \bigoplus_{\mu \in \hat{K}_\lambda} G_n^{(\lambda, \mu)} \otimes K_\lambda^\mu.$$

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