# Young Group Theorists, Sept 2022, Les Diablerets

#### Generalized Foulkes Module

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Representation Theory of  $S_n$ 

Foulkes Module

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Questions

### Generalized Foulkes Module

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### Overview

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# Representation Theory of $S_n$

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Let  $\lambda \vdash n$ . A Young diagram of  $\lambda$  is a 2 dimensional diagram with n boxes put together such that  $j^{th}$  row has  $\lambda_j$  boxes. If  $\lambda = (2, 2)$ , its Young diagram is



We can fill the boxes of a Young diagram with elements from  $\{1,...,n\}$ . Such a box is called a *Young tableau*. As an example

$$t_1 = \boxed{\begin{array}{c|c} 1 & 2 \\ \hline 3 & 4 \end{array}}$$

$$t_2 = \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 3 \\ \hline 2 & 4 \\ \hline \end{array}.$$

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Question

Let  $C_t$  and  $R_t$  be the set of column and row stabilizers of tableau t and

$$k_t = \sum_{\sigma \in C_t, \nu \in R_t} sgn(\sigma)\sigma\nu.$$

Then the polytabloid  $e_t = k_t t$  generates a  $KS_n$  module, the Specht module  $S^{\mu}$ .

#### Specht Module $S^{\mu}$

Let char(K)=0. Then the set  $\{S^{\mu} \mid \mu \vdash n\}$  forms the complete set of irreducible modules of  $KS_n$ .

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#### Foulkes Module

$$F_{(b)}^a = \operatorname{Inf}_{S_b}^{S_a \wr S_b} 1 \uparrow^{S_{ab}} . \tag{1}$$

In other words, let  $P^{a^b}$  be the set of partitions of  $\{1, \ldots, ab\}$  into b sets of size a each. Then the Foulkes module is the permutation module of  $S_{ab}$  acting on  $P^{a^b}$ .

### Foulkes Module

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#### Thrall, 1942

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$$F_{(b)}^2 = \bigoplus_{\lambda \vdash b} S^{2\lambda},\tag{2}$$

$$F_{(2)}^{b} = \bigoplus_{\substack{\lambda \vdash b \\ \lambda \text{ has 2 parts}}} S^{2\lambda} \tag{3}$$

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#### Generalized Foulkes Module

$$F_{\nu}^{a} = \operatorname{Inf}_{S_{b}}^{S_{a} \wr S_{b}} S^{\nu} \uparrow^{S_{ab}}. \tag{4}$$

- Let t be a  $\nu$  tableau and X be an  $(a^b)$  ordered partition of the set  $\{1,..,ab\}$ . Then  $t_X$  is the  $\nu$  shaped diagram with  $X_l$  as the  $(i,j)^{th}$  entry where l is the  $(i,j)^{th}$  entry of t.
- A set of basis elements of  $\operatorname{Inf}_{S_b}^{S_a \wr Sb} S^{\nu}$  is  $\{e_{t_X} \mid t \text{ is a standard } \nu \text{ tableau}\}.$
- The generalized Foulkes module  $F_{\nu}^{a}$  is generated by  $e_{t_{X}}$ .

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As an example, let  $\nu=(2,2)$ . For

$$t = \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 \\ \hline 3 & 4 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$t_X = \frac{|X_1|X_2|}{|X_3|X_4|}$$

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Questions

- Paget and Wildon in 2019 gave the description of minimal constituents of the generalized Foulkes module.
- de Boeck in 2015 gave a description of certain irreducible constituents of the Foulkes module and the twisted Foulkes module  $F^a_{(1^b)}$ .

Generalized Module

Generalized

Foulkes Module

To get more insight into  $F_{\nu}^{a}$  we restrict it to  $S_{b} \times S_{n-b}$ . It is decomposed as a sum of natural submodules. One such module is  $V_{\nu}^{a}$ . It is generated by  $e_{t_{1,Y}}$ , where Y is a  $(a-1)^{b}$  ordered partition of  $\{b+1,..,ab\}$  and

$$t_{1,Y} = \frac{(1, Y_1)(2, Y_2)}{(3, Y_3)(4, Y_4)}.$$

$$V_{(b)}^{a} = \bigoplus_{\lambda \vdash b} S^{\lambda} \otimes F_{\lambda}^{(a-1)} \tag{5}$$

$$V_{(b)}^{a} = \bigoplus_{\lambda \vdash b} S^{\lambda} \otimes F_{\lambda}^{(a-1)}$$

$$V_{(1^{b})}^{a} = \bigoplus_{\lambda \vdash b} S^{\lambda} \otimes F_{\lambda^{\perp}}^{(a-1)}$$

$$(5)$$

Foulkes Module

**Foulkes** Module

Let  $H = S_b \times S_b$  and  $G = S_b \times (S_{a-1} \wr S_b)$ . Then

$$V_{\nu}^{a} \cong \operatorname{Inf}_{H}^{G} V_{\nu}^{2} \uparrow^{S_{b} \times S_{n-b}} \tag{7}$$

Thus, the study of  $V_{\nu}^2$  gives an interesting insight on the general case.

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Let  $\lambda, \mu, \nu \vdash b$ .

#### Kronecker Coefficient

The Kronecker coefficient  $K_{\nu}^{\lambda,\mu}$  is the multiplicity of  $S^{\nu}$  in the  $S_b$  module  $S^{\lambda}\otimes S^{\mu}$ .

#### Main Theorem

The multiplicity of  $S^{\lambda} \otimes S^{\mu}$  in  $V_{\nu}^{2}$  is equal to the Kronecker coefficient  $k_{\nu}^{\lambda,\mu}$ .

Interestingly, it is a NP hard problem to decide whether  $K_{\nu}^{\lambda,\mu}$  is zero.

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#### Foulkes Module

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### Let $\lambda + (1)^b = (\lambda_1 + 1, \dots, \lambda_b + 1, \lambda_{b+1}, \dots, \lambda_k).$

If  $\lambda$  has more then b parts then the multiplicity of  $S^\lambda$  in  $F^a_\nu$  is 0.

#### Corollary

The multiplicity of  $S^{\lambda+(1)^b}$  in  $F^{a+1}_{\nu^\perp}$  is the same as multiplicity of  $S^\lambda$  in  $F^a_\nu$ .

A generalized form of this corollary has been proved by de Boeck, Paget and Wildon. Though, their technique is quite different.

## Questions

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- Determine the complexity of calculating the multiplicity of  $S^{\lambda}$  in  $F^a_{\nu}$ ?
- Find a way to generalize  $F_{\nu}^{a}$  into  $F_{\nu}^{\lambda}$  with  $\lambda \vdash a$ . Can we find an analog of main theorem in  $F_{\nu}^{\lambda}$ ?

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# Thank You