

Lecture to be given at the 36th Lotharingian Seminar,
Thurnau, Germany. 19-22 March 1196.

Plethysm and the Non-Compact Groups $Sp(2n, R)$

B.G.Wybourne

Instytut Fizyki, Uniwersytet Mikołaja Kopernika
ul. Grudziądzka 5/7

87-100 Toruń

Poland

Summary

- Why $Sp(2n, R)$?
- The $Sp(2n, R) \rightarrow U(n)$ Decomposition
- Plethysms in $Sp(2n, R)$
- Some New S -function Identities
- Stability Properties of Kronecker Products and Plethysms
- Concluding Remarks

Why $Sp(2n, R)$?

- **Physics Motivation** - $Sp(2n, R)$ is the dynamical group of the n -dimensional isotropic harmonic oscillator.
- The infinite-dimensional fundamental unitary irreps $\langle s; (0) \rangle$ and $\langle s; (1) \rangle$ are of particular significance as they are spanned by the infinite set of single particle states of *even* and *odd* parity respectively.
- For N -particle systems we need to resolve symmetrised N -th powers of the two fundamental irreps. i.e, Plethysms $s_\lambda(\langle s; (0) \rangle)$ and $s_\lambda(\langle s; (1) \rangle)$ where $\lambda \vdash N$.
- Arbitrary positive discrete harmonic series irreps of $Sp(2n, R)$ will be labelled as $\langle \frac{k}{2}; (\lambda) \rangle$ or equivalently as $\langle s\kappa; (\lambda) \rangle$ where κ and s are respectively the integer and residue parts of $\frac{k}{2}$.

The $Sp(2n, R) \rightarrow U(n)$ Decomposition

- Under the restriction $Sp(2n, R) \rightarrow U(n)$ a given irrep of $Sp(2n, R)$ decomposes into an infinite set of finite dimensional irreps of the unitary group $U(n)$. In the case of the two fundamental irreps of $Sp(2n, R)$ we have

$$\langle s; (0) \rangle \rightarrow \varepsilon^{\frac{1}{2}} M_+ \quad (1)$$

$$\langle s; (1) \rangle \rightarrow \varepsilon^{\frac{1}{2}} M_- \quad (2)$$

where M_+ and M_- are the *even* and *odd* weight S -functions $\{m\}$ appearing in the infinite series

$$M = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \{m\} \quad (3)$$

- Notice that the expansion is essentially stable with respect to n .

- In general one has

$$\langle \frac{k}{2}; (\lambda) \rangle \rightarrow \varepsilon^{\frac{k}{2}} \cdot \{ \{ \lambda_s \}_N^k \cdot D_N \}_N \quad (4)$$

where $N = \min(n, k)$, D is the infinite S -function series

$$D = \sum_{\delta} \{ \delta \} \quad (5)$$

where the δ are partitions involving only *even* parts. The subscript N means that all terms involving partitions into more than N parts are to be discarded. The first \cdot indicates a product in $U(n)$ and the second \cdot a product in $U(N)$.

- $\{ \lambda_s \}^k$ is a *signed sequence* of terms $\pm \{ \rho \}$ such that $\pm \{ \rho \}$ is equivalent to $\{ \lambda \}$ under the modification rules of the orthogonal group $O(k)$.
- Notice that Eq. (4) is stable for $n \geq k$. Sometimes it is *prematurely stable* for smaller values of n .

- **Example, the terms to weight 16 for the decomposition of the irrep $\langle s1; (21) \rangle$ of $Sp(6, R)$ to $U(3)$ are:-**

$$\begin{aligned}
&\{s1; 21\} && + \{s1; 31^2\} && + \{s1; 32\} && + \{s1; 3^2 1\} \\
&+ \{s1; 41\} && + \{s1; 421\} && + \{s1; 43\} && + \{s1; 432\} \\
&+ \{s1; 51^2\} && + \{s1; 52\} && + 2\{s1; 531\} && + \{s1; 53^2\} \\
&+ \{s1; 54\} && + \{s1; 542\} && + \{s1; 5^2 1\} && + \{s1; 5^2 3\} \\
&+ \{s1; 61\} && + \{s1; 621\} && + \{s1; 63\} && + \{s1; 632\} \\
&+ \{s1; 641\} && + \{s1; 643\} && + \{s1; 65\} && + \{s1; 652\} \\
&+ \{s1; 654\} && + \{s1; 71^2\} && + \{s1; 72\} && + 2\{s1; 731\} \\
&+ \{s1; 73^2\} && + \{s1; 74\} && + \{s1; 742\} && + 2\{s1; 751\} \\
&+ 2\{s1; 753\} && + \{s1; 76\} && + \{s1; 762\} && + \{s1; 7^2 1\} \\
&+ \{s1; 81\} && + \{s1; 821\} && + \{s1; 83\} && + \{s1; 832\} \\
&+ \{s1; 841\} && + \{s1; 843\} && + \{s1; 85\} && + \{s1; 852\} \\
&+ \{s1; 861\} && + \{s1; 87\} && + \{s1; 91^2\} && + \{s1; 92\} \\
&+ 2\{s1; 931\} && + \{s1; 93^2\} && + \{s1; 94\} && + \{s1; 942\} \\
&+ 2\{s1; 951\} && + \{s1; 96\} && + \{s1; 10 1\} && + \{s1; 10 21\} \\
&+ \{s1; 10 3\} && + \{s1; 10 32\} && + \{s1; 10 41\} && + \{s1; 10 5\} \\
&+ \{s1; 11 1^2\} && + \{s1; 11 2\} && + 2\{s1; 11 31\} && + \{s1; 11 4\} \\
&+ \{s1; 12 1\} && + \{s1; 12 21\} && + \{s1; 12 3\} && + \{s1; 13 1^2\} \\
&+ \{s1; 13 2\} && + \{s1; 14 1\} && &&
\end{aligned}$$

Plethysms in $Sp(2n, R)$

- We are primarily interested in plethysms of the form $\{\lambda\}(\langle s; (0) \rangle)$ and $\{\lambda\}(\langle s; (1) \rangle)$. These plethysms involve infinite sets of $Sp(2n, R)$ irreps. No general procedure seems to be known. We can evaluate the terms, up to a given weight by first decomposing the $Sp(2n, R)$ into $U(n)$ irreps, performing the plethysm at the $U(n)$ level and then inverting to get irreps of $Sp(2n, R)$. This has been done for all $\lambda \vdash 4$ and in some cases to $\lambda \vdash 6$. Remarkably, one finds that generally

$$\begin{aligned} \{2\}(\langle s; (0) \rangle) &= \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \langle 1; (0 + 4i) \rangle \\ \{1^2\}(\langle s; (0) \rangle) &= \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \langle 1; (2 + 4i) \rangle \\ \{2\}(\langle s; (1) \rangle) &= \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \langle 1; (2 + 4i) \rangle \\ \{1^2\}(\langle s; (1) \rangle) &= \langle 1; (1^2) \rangle + \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \langle 1; (4 + 4i) \rangle \end{aligned}$$

This result implies that the following S -function identity must hold

$$\{1^2\}(M_+) \equiv \{2\}(M_-) \tag{6}$$

as indeed may be shown to be the case.

- In precisely the same manner one finds

$$\{1^2\}(L_+) \equiv \{2\}(L_-) \quad (7)$$

where L_+ and L_- are respectively the positive and neagative terms of the series

$$L = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} (-1)^m \{1^m\} \quad (8)$$

Still further identities arise for the infinite S -function series defined by

$$\begin{aligned} A_{\pm} &= L_{\pm}(\{1^2\}) & B_{\pm} &= M_{\pm}(\{1^2\}) \\ C_{\pm} &= L_{\pm}(\{2\}) & D_{\pm} &= M_{\pm}(\{2\}) \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

Use of the associativity property of plethysms leads directly to

$$\{1^2\}(Z_+) \equiv \{2\}(Z_-) \quad (10)$$

for $Z = A, B, C, D$. Furthermore,

$$\{2\}(Z) = ZZ_+ \quad \text{and} \quad \{1^2\}(Z) = ZZ_- \quad (11)$$

These identities appear to be unknown.

An Unusual S -function Identity

- The study of plethysms within the group $Sp(2n, R)$ leads to still further identities involving infinite series of S -functions. The observation that

$$\{21^2\}(\langle s; (0) \rangle) \equiv \{31\}(\langle s; (1) \rangle) \quad (12)$$

leads to the remarkable S -function identity

$$\{21^2\}(M_+) \equiv \{31\}(M_-) \quad (13)$$

which generalises to

$$\{\sigma\}(\{1^2\}(M_+)) \equiv \{\sigma\}(\{2\}(M_-)) \quad (14)$$

Again these identities extend to the series Z defined earlier.

Stability of Kronecker Products and Plethysms

- A given plethysm, Kronecker product or decomposition will be said to be *stable* if at the stable value of $n = n_s$ there is a one-to-one mapping between the resultant list of irreps obtained at the stable value n_s and those obtained for all values of $n > n_s$.
- The $Sp(2n, R)$ Kronecker product

$$\left\langle \frac{k}{2}(\lambda) \right\rangle \times \left\langle \frac{\ell}{2}(\nu) \right\rangle = \left\langle \frac{(k+\ell)}{2}(\{\lambda_s\}^k \cdot \{\nu_s\}^\ell \cdot D) \right\rangle_{k+\ell, n} \quad (15)$$

is certainly stable for all $n \geq (k+\ell)$. We say *certainly* because in some cases *premature stability* may occur for values of $n < (k+\ell)$.

- One observes that the third-order plethysms for the two fundamental irreps stabilise at $n = 3$ which is consistent with the stabilisation of the products $\langle s; (0) \rangle \times \langle 1; (\mu) \rangle$ and $\langle s; (1) \rangle \times \langle 1; (\mu) \rangle$ at $n = 3$ and for similar reasons stabilisation of the N -th order plethysms must occur at $n = N$ as observed. Again, premature stabilisation for individual plethysms may occur for $n < N$. Thus for $N = 3$ all the plethysms stabilise at $n = 2$ except for $\{1^3\}(\langle s; (1) \rangle)$ which stabilises at $n = 3$. Stabilisation for arbitrary N occurs at $n = N - 1$ except for $\{1^N\}(\langle s; (1) \rangle)$ which stabilises at $n = N$.

Plethysm Conjugacy?

- Below we give two short examples of plethysms with terms kept to weight 10

$$\{4\}(\langle s; (0) \rangle) =$$

$$\begin{array}{lll} \langle 2; (0) \rangle & + \langle 2; (4) \rangle & + \langle 2; (4^2) \rangle \\ + \langle 2; (6) \rangle & + \langle 2; (62) \rangle & + \langle 2; (73) \rangle \\ + 2 \langle 2; (8) \rangle & + \langle 2; (91) \rangle & + \langle 2; (10) \rangle \end{array}$$

$$\{1^4\}(\langle s; (1) \rangle) =$$

$$\begin{array}{lll} \langle 2; (1^4) \rangle & + \langle 2; (41^2) \rangle & + \langle 2; (4^2) \rangle \\ + \langle 2; (61^2) \rangle & + \langle 2; (62) \rangle & + \langle 2; (73) \rangle \\ + 2 \langle 2; (81^2) \rangle & + \langle 2; (91) \rangle & \end{array}$$

- Looking at the above results one cannot be but struck by the apparent simple mapping between them. Indeed looking at much more extensive tabulations one observes that the terms in $\{\lambda\}(\langle s; (0) \rangle)$ are simply related to those in $\{\tilde{\lambda}\}(\langle s; (1) \rangle)$ by a one-to-one mapping subject to the following simple rules:-

$$\begin{array}{llll} \lambda \vdash 2 & (0) \rightarrow (1^2) & & \\ \lambda \vdash 3 & (0) \rightarrow (1^3) & (a) \rightarrow (a1) & (a1) \rightarrow (a) \\ \lambda \vdash 4 & (0) \rightarrow (1^4) & (a) \rightarrow (a1^2) & (a1^2) \rightarrow (a) \\ \lambda \vdash 5 & (0) \rightarrow (1^5) & (a) \rightarrow (a1^3) & (a1^3) \rightarrow (a) \\ & & (ab) \rightarrow (ab1) & (ab1) \rightarrow (ab) \\ \lambda \vdash 6 & (0) \rightarrow (1^6) & (a) \rightarrow (a1^4) & (a1^4) \rightarrow (a) \\ & & (ab) \rightarrow (ab1^2) & (ab1^2) \rightarrow (ab) \end{array}$$

Concluding Remarks

- The study of plethysms for the non-compact group $Sp(2n, R)$ throws up many surprises that could be of interest to combinatorialists. As the group is associated with infinite dimensional irreps it is not surprising that infinite series of S -functions arise.
- The subject is wide open and barely explored. The conjugacy relations just noticed hint at further structure to be discovered.
- Tables of the relevant plethysms are located at <http://www.phys.uni.torun.pl/~bgw/>

Acknowledgements

This work has been supported by a grant from the Polish KBN. All calculations were made using SCHUR.