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Horn inequalities for nonzero Kronecker coefficients

N. Ressayre

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Abstract

The Kronecker coefficients $g_{\alpha\beta\gamma}$ and the Littlewood-Richardson coefficients $c_{\alpha\beta}^{\gamma}$ are nonnegative integers depending on three partitions α , β , and γ . By definition, $g_{\alpha\beta\gamma}$ (resp. $c_{\alpha\beta}^{\gamma}$) are the multiplicities of the tensor product decomposition of two irreducible representations of symmetric groups (resp. linear groups). By a classical Littlewood-Murnaghan's result the Kronecker coefficients extend the Littlewood-Richardson ones.

The nonvanishing of the Littlewood-Richardson coefficient $c_{\alpha\beta}^{\gamma}$ implies that (α, β, γ) satisfies some linear inequalities called Horn inequalities. In this paper, we extend the essential Horn inequalities to the triples of partitions corresponding to a nonzero Kronecker coefficient.

Along the way, we describe the set of tripless (α, β, γ) of partitions such that $c_{\alpha\beta}^{\gamma} \neq 0$ and $l(\alpha) \leq e$, $l(\beta) \leq f$ and $l(\gamma) \leq e + f$, for some given positive integers e and f. This set is the natural analogue of the classical Horn semigroup when one thinks about $c_{\alpha\beta}^{\gamma}$ as the branching multiplicities for the subgroup $\mathrm{GL}_{e} \times \mathrm{GL}_{f}$ of GL_{e+f} .

1 Introduction

If $\alpha = (\alpha_1 \geq \alpha_2 \geq \cdots \geq \alpha_e \geq 0)$ is a partition, we set $|\alpha| = \sum_i \alpha_i$ in such a way α is a partition of $|\alpha|$. Consider the symmetric group S_n on n letters. The irreducible representations of S_n are parametrized by the partitions of n, see e.g. [Mac95, I. 7]. Let $[\alpha]$ denote the representation of $S_{|\alpha|}$ corresponding to α . The Kronecker coefficients $g_{\alpha\beta\gamma}$, depending on three partitions α , β , and γ of the same integer n, are defined by

$$[\alpha] \otimes [\beta] = \sum_{\gamma} g_{\alpha\beta\gamma}[\gamma]. \tag{1}$$

The length $l(\alpha)$ of the partition α is the number of nonzero parts α_i . Let V be a complex vector space of dimension d. If $l(\alpha) \leq d$ then $S^{\alpha}V$ denotes the Schur power (see e.g. [FH91]): it is an irreducible polynomial representation of the linear group $\mathrm{GL}(V)$. Let β be a second partition such that $l(\beta) \leq d$. Then the Littlewood-Richardson coefficients $c_{\alpha\beta}^{\gamma}$ are defined by

$$S^{\alpha}V \otimes S^{\beta}V = \sum_{\gamma} c^{\gamma}_{\alpha\beta} S^{\gamma}V. \tag{2}$$

The partition obtained by suppressing the first part of α is denoted by $\bar{\alpha} = (\alpha_2 \ge \alpha_3 \dots)$. Observe that $\bar{\alpha}_1 = \alpha_2$. We state a classical result due to Littlewood and Murnaghan (see for example [JK81]).

Proposition 1 Let α , β and γ be three partitions of the same integer n.

(i) If $g_{\alpha\beta\gamma} \neq 0$ then

$$(n - \alpha_1) + (n - \beta_1) \ge n - \gamma_1. \tag{3}$$

(ii) If
$$(n - \alpha_1) + (n - \beta_1) = n - \gamma_1$$
 then

$$g_{\alpha\beta\gamma} = c_{\bar{\alpha}\bar{\beta}}^{\bar{\gamma}}.$$
 (4)

In this paper, we prove many other inequalities similar to the identity (3), that are consequences of the nonvanishing of $g_{\alpha\beta\gamma}$. For the partitions (α, β, γ) satisfying equality in such an inequality, we prove a reduction rule for $g_{\alpha\beta\gamma}$ similar to the identity (4).

Observe that the formula (4) shows that the Kronecker coefficients extend the Littlewood-Richardson ones. Indeed, given $\bar{\alpha}$, $\bar{\beta}$ and $\bar{\gamma}$, one can find $\alpha=(\alpha_1,\bar{\alpha}), \beta=(\beta_1,\bar{\beta})$ and $\gamma=(\gamma_1,\bar{\gamma})$ such that $|\alpha|=|\beta|=|\gamma|=:n,$ $(n-\alpha_1)+(n-\beta_1)=n-\gamma_1$. Then $c_{\bar{\alpha}\bar{\beta}}^{\bar{\gamma}}=g_{\alpha\beta\gamma}$ is a Kronecker coefficient. If $c_{\bar{\alpha}\bar{\beta}}^{\bar{\gamma}}\neq 0$ then $(\bar{\alpha},\bar{\beta},\bar{\gamma})$ satisfy the Horn inequalities (see e.g. [Ful00] or below for details). If $g_{\alpha\beta\gamma}\neq 0$, our inequalities for (α,β,γ) extend some Horn inequalities. Fix such an inequality $\varphi(\bar{\alpha},\bar{\beta},\bar{\gamma})\geq 0$. We want to find an inequality $\tilde{\varphi}(\alpha,\beta,\gamma)\geq 0$ such that

- (i) If $g_{\alpha\beta\gamma} \neq 0$ then $\tilde{\varphi}(\alpha,\beta,\gamma) \geq 0$;
- (ii) If $(n \alpha_1) + (n \beta_1) = n \gamma_1$ then $\tilde{\varphi}(\alpha, \beta, \gamma) = \varphi(\bar{\alpha}, \bar{\beta}, \bar{\gamma})$.

For example, a Weyl's theorem [Wey12] asserts that if $c_{\bar{\alpha}\;\bar{\beta}}^{\bar{\gamma}}\neq 0$ then

$$\bar{\gamma}_{e+j-1} \le \bar{\beta}_{j-1},\tag{5}$$

whenever $l(\bar{\alpha}) \leq e$ and $j \geq 2$.

Before stating our extension of Weyl's theorem, we introduce some notation. Let S(r,d) denote the set of subsets of $\{1, \dots, d\}$ with r elements. Given $I = \{i_1 < \dots < i_r\} \in S(r,d)$ and $\alpha = (\alpha_1 \geq \dots \geq \alpha_d)$ a partition of length at most d, we set $\alpha_I = (\alpha_{i_1} \geq \dots \geq \alpha_{i_r})$. Observe that $\bar{\alpha}_I = (\alpha_{i_1+1} \geq \dots \geq \alpha_{i_r+1})$.

Theorem 1 Let e and f be two positive integers. Let α , β , and γ be three partitions of the same integer n such that

$$l(\alpha) \le e+1, \quad l(\beta) \le f+1, \quad and \quad l(\gamma) \le e+f+1.$$
 (6)

Let $j \in \{2, \dots, f+1\}$.

(i) If $g_{\alpha\beta\gamma} \neq 0$ then

$$n + \gamma_1 + \gamma_{e+j} \le \alpha_1 + \beta_1 + \beta_j \tag{7}$$

(ii) Set
$$J = \{1, \dots, f\} - \{j-1\}$$
 and $K = \{1, \dots, e+f\} - \{e+j-1\}$. If $n + \gamma_1 + \gamma_{e+j} = \alpha_1 + \beta_1 + \beta_j$ then

$$g(\alpha, \beta, \gamma) = \sum_{l(x) \le 2e, \, l(y) \le 2} c(x, \bar{\beta}_J; \bar{\gamma}_K) \cdot c(\gamma_1 \ge \gamma_j, y; \beta_1 \ge \beta_j) \cdot g(\bar{\alpha}, x, y).$$

Remark. In the statement of Theorem 1 (and sometimes below) we denote $c_{\alpha\beta}^{\gamma}$ and $g_{\alpha\beta\gamma}$ respectively by $c(\alpha,\beta;\gamma)$ and $g(\alpha,\beta,\gamma)$.

Theorem 1 extends Weyl's theorem in the sense that if $(n - \alpha_1) + (n - \beta_1) = n - \gamma_1$ then the inequality (7) is equivalent to $\gamma_{e+j} \leq \beta_j$, that is to the inequality (5).

For $I \in \mathcal{S}(r,d)$, consider the partition

$$\tau^{I} = (d - r + 1 - i_1 \ge d - r + 2 - i_2 \ge \dots \ge d - i_r).$$

Set $|\alpha_I| := \sum_{i \in I} \alpha_i$. Observe that $|\bar{\alpha}_I| := \sum_{i \in I} \alpha_{i+1}$. We can now state our main result.

Theorem 2 Let α , β , and γ be three partitions of the same integer n satisfying the conditions (6).

Assume that $g_{\alpha\beta\gamma} \neq 0$. Then

$$n + |\bar{\alpha}_I| - \alpha_1 + |\bar{\beta}_J| - \beta_1 \ge |\bar{\gamma}_K| - \gamma_1, \tag{8}$$

for any 0 < r < e, 0 < s < f, $I \in \mathcal{S}(r,e)$, $J \in \mathcal{S}(s,f)$ and $K \in \mathcal{S}(r+s,e+f)$ such that

$$c_{\tau^I \tau^J}^{\tau^K} = 1. \tag{9}$$

If $(n - \alpha_1) + (n - \beta_1) = n - \gamma_1$ then the inequality (8) is equivalent to

$$|\bar{\alpha}_I| + |\bar{\beta}_J| \ge |\bar{\gamma}_K|,\tag{10}$$

which is a Horn inequality (see [Ful00] or Section 4).

Remark. Since inequalities (3), (7) and (8) are linear in (α, β, γ) , the condition $g_{\alpha\beta\gamma} \neq 0$ in Proposition 1 and Theorem 1 and 2 can be replaced by the weaker condition $g_{k\alpha\,k\beta\,k\gamma} \neq 0$ for some positive k.

We get a reduction formula for the coefficients $g_{\alpha\beta\gamma}$ if the inequality (8) is saturated. If $I \in \mathcal{S}(r,d)$, we denote by $I_- \in \mathcal{S}(d-r,d)$ the complement of I in $\{1,\ldots,d\}$. By symmetry we also set $I_+ = I$.

Theorem 3 Let α , β , and γ be three partitions of the same integer n satisfying the conditions (6).

Let (I, J, K) be a triple that appears in Theorem 2 (in particular satisfying the condition (9)). We assume that

$$n + |\bar{\alpha}_I| - \alpha_1 + |\bar{\beta}_J| - \beta_1 = |\bar{\gamma}_K| - \gamma_1.$$
 (11)

Then $g(\alpha, \beta, \gamma)$ is equal to

$$\sum_{a,b,x,y,u,v} c(\bar{\alpha}_{I_{-}},\bar{\beta}_{J_{-}};y) \cdot c(x,y;\bar{\gamma}_{K_{+}}) \cdot c(u,v;\bar{\gamma}_{K_{-}}) \cdot c(a,u;\bar{\alpha}_{I}) \cdot c(b,v;\bar{\beta}_{J}) \cdot g(a,b,x),$$

$$(12)$$

where the sum runs over the partitions a, b, x, y, u, v satisfying

$$\begin{array}{l} l(x) \leq (e-r)(f-s), & l(a) \leq e-r, & l(u) \leq e-r, \\ l(y) \leq r+s, & l(b) \leq f-s, & l(v) \leq f-s. \end{array} \tag{13}$$

Note that in Theorem 3, we needn't assume that $g_{\alpha\beta\gamma} \neq 0$.

Let $\operatorname{Kron}(e+1,f+1,e+f+1)$ denote the set of triples (α,β,γ) of partitions such that $|\alpha|=|\beta|=|\gamma|,\ g_{\alpha\beta\gamma}\neq 0$ and $l(\alpha)\leq e+1,\ l(\beta)\leq f+1,\ l(\gamma)\leq e+f+1$. Then $\operatorname{Kron}(e+1,f+1,e+f+1)$ is a finitely generated semigroup in $\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^{2e+2f+3}$. In particular, the cone $\mathbb{Q}_{\geq 0}$ $\operatorname{Kron}(e+1,f+1,e+f+1)$ generated by $\operatorname{Kron}(e+1,f+1,e+f+1)$ is a closed convex polyhedral cone.

Theorem 4 The inequalities (7) in Theorem 1 and the inequalities (8) in Theorem 2 are essential, that is correspond to codimension one faces of $\mathbb{Q}_{>0} \operatorname{Kron}(e+1, f+1, e+f+1)$.

One can guess to describe the complete minimal list \mathcal{L} of inequalities characterizing $\mathbb{Q}_{\geq 0}$ Kron(e+1,f+1,e+f+1). Such a list is known for the Littlewood-Richardson coefficients (see Theorem 7 below for details). In principle, [Res10] gives \mathcal{L} . Nevertheless, it is known to be untractable to make this description very explicit. Indeed, one first need to describe the so-called adapted one-parameter subgroups by describing the collection of hyperplanes spanned by subsets of a given set: a tricky combinatorial problem. And secondly one need to understand an unknown Schubert problem. In this paper we describe a natural subset of \mathcal{L} related with the Horn cone.

Inequality (3) defines a codimension one face \mathcal{F}_{LM} of $\mathbb{Q}_{\geq 0}$ Kron(e+1, f+1, e+f+1). Here "LM" stands for Littlewood-Murnaghan. Each Horn inequality (10) or Weyl inequality (5) define a face \mathcal{F} of codimension two contained in \mathcal{F}_{LM} . By convex geometry \mathcal{F} has to be contained in a second codimension one face \mathcal{F}' of $\mathbb{Q}_{\geq 0}$ Kron(e+1, f+1, e+f+1). Basically, Theorem 1 and 2 describe this face \mathcal{F}' .

Comparaison between Theorems 1 and 2. With I, J and K respectively equal to $\{1, \ldots, e\}, \{1, \ldots, f\} - \{j-1\}, \text{ and } \{1, \ldots, e+f\} - \{e+j-1\}$ (where $j \in \{2, \ldots, f+1\}$), we have $c_{\tau^I \tau^J}^{K} = 1$. The inequality (8) gives

$$2n + 2\gamma_1 + \gamma_i \ge 2\alpha_1 + 2\beta_1 + \beta_i. \tag{14}$$

This inequality is satisfied if $g_{\alpha\beta\gamma} \neq 0$. But the corresponding face has codimension 2 in $\mathbb{Q}_{\geq 0}$ Kron(e+1, f+1, e+f+1). Hence the inequality (14) is not essential. More precisely, it is a consequence of inequalities (3) and (7).

In Section 2, we define and compare several semigroups. In Section 3, we recall some results from [Res10] that allows to describe some cones generated

by these semigroups. In Section 4, we describe the support of the LR-coefficients $c_{\alpha\beta}^{\gamma}$ for partitions satisfying $l(\alpha) \leq e$, $l(\beta) \leq f$ and $l(\gamma) \leq e + f$, for fixed positive integers e and f. Note that these assumptions are natural if one thinks about the LR-coefficients as multiplicities for the branching from $GL_e \times GL_f$ to GL_{e+f} . It is a variation of the classical Horn problem. The next sections contain the proofs of the statements of the introduction.

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2 Semigroups

2.1 Definitions

2.1.1 Kronecker semigroups

We extend the definition of $g_{\alpha\beta\gamma}$ to any triple (α, β, γ) of partitions by setting $g_{\alpha\beta\gamma} = 0$ if the condition $|\alpha| = |\beta| = |\gamma|$ does not hold. Let e, f, and g be three positive integers. We define $\operatorname{Kron}(e, f, g)$ to be the set of triples (α, β, γ) of partitions such that $g_{\alpha\beta\gamma} \neq 0$ and $l(\alpha) \leq e, l(\beta) \leq f, l(\gamma) \leq g$. It is well known that $\operatorname{Kron}(e, f, g)$ is a finitely generated semigroup of $\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^{e+f+g}$.

2.1.2 Littlewood-Richardson semigroups

We define LR(e, f, g) to be the set of triples (α, β, γ) of partitions such that $c_{\alpha\beta}^{\gamma} \neq 0$ and $l(\alpha) \leq e, l(\beta) \leq f, l(\gamma) \leq g$. It is well known that LR(e, f, g) is a finitely generated semigroup of $\mathbb{Z}_{>0}^{e+f+g}$.

2.1.3 Branching semigroups

Let G be a connected reductive subgroup of a complex connected reductive group \hat{G} . Fix maximal tori $T \subset \hat{T}$ and Borel subgroups $B \supset T$ and $\hat{B} \supset \hat{T}$ of G and \hat{G} . Let X(T) denote the group of characters of T and let $X(T)^+$ denote the set of dominant characters. The irreducible representation of highest weight $\nu \in X(T)^+$ is denoted by V_{ν} . Similarly, we use the notation $X(\hat{T})$, $X(\hat{T})^+$, $V_{\hat{\nu}}$ relatively to \hat{G} . The subspace of G-fixed vectors of the G-module V is denoted by V^G . Set

$$c_{\nu\,\hat{\nu}} = \dim(V_{\nu}^* \otimes V_{\hat{\nu}})^G. \tag{15}$$

The branching problem is equivalent to the knowledge of these coefficients since

$$V_{\hat{\nu}} = \sum_{\nu \in X(T)^{+}} c_{\nu \,\hat{\nu}} V_{\nu},\tag{16}$$

as a G-module. Consider the set

$$LR(G, \hat{G}) = \{ (\nu, \hat{\nu}) \in X(T)^+ \times X(\hat{T})^+ : c_{\nu \hat{\nu}} \neq 0 \}.$$

By a result of Brion and Knop (see [É92]), $LR(G, \hat{G})$ is a finitely generated semigroup.

2.1.4 GIT semigroups

Let G be a complex reductive group acting on an irreducible projective variety X. Let $\operatorname{Pic}^G(X)$ denote the group of G-linearized line bundles on X. The space $\operatorname{H}^0(X,\mathcal{L})$ of regular sections of \mathcal{L} is a G-module. Consider the set

$$LR(G, X) = \{ \mathcal{L} \in Pic^{G}(X) : H^{0}(X, \mathcal{L})^{G} \neq \{0\} \}.$$
 (17)

Since X is irreducible, the product of two nonzero G-invariant sections is a nonzero G-invariant section and LR(G, X) is a semigroup.

2.2 Relations between these semigroups

2.2.1 Kronecker semigroups as branching semigroups.

Let E and F be two complex vector spaces of dimension e and f. Consider the group $G = \operatorname{GL}(E) \times \operatorname{GL}(F)$. Using Schur-Weyl duality, the Kronecker coefficient $g_{\alpha\beta\gamma}$ can be interpreted in terms of representations of G. Namely (see for example [Mac95, FH91]) $g_{\alpha\beta\gamma}$ is the multiplicity of $S^{\alpha}E \otimes S^{\beta}F$ in $S^{\gamma}(E \otimes F)$. More precisely, let γ be a partition such that $l(\gamma) \leq ef$. Then the simple $\operatorname{GL}(E \otimes F)$ -module $S^{\gamma}(E \otimes F)$ decomposes as a sum of simple G-modules as follows

$$S^{\gamma}(E \otimes F) = \sum_{\substack{\text{partitions } \alpha, \ \beta \text{ s.t.} \\ l(\alpha) \le e, \ l(\beta) \le f}} g_{\alpha\beta\gamma} S^{\alpha}E \otimes S^{\beta}F. \tag{18}$$

As a consequence

$$\mathrm{Kron}(e,f,ef) = \mathrm{LR}(\mathrm{GL}(E) \times \mathrm{GL}(F),\mathrm{GL}(E \otimes F)) \cap (\mathbb{Z}^e \times \mathbb{Z}^f \times (\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0})^{ef}).(19)$$

2.2.2 Littlewood-Richardson semigroups as branching semigroups

Since the Littlewood-Richardson coefficients are multiplicities for the tensor product decomposition of GL_n , we have

$$LR(e, e, e) = LR(GL_e, GL_e \times GL_e) \cap ((\mathbb{Z}_{>0})^e)^3.$$
(20)

The Littlewood-Richardson coefficients have another interpretation in terms of representations of linear groups. Consider the embedding of $GL(E) \times GL(F)$ in $GL(E \oplus F)$ as a Levi subgroup by its natural action on $E \oplus F$. Then (see[Mac95, Chapter I, 5.9])

$$S^{\gamma}(E \oplus F) = \sum_{\substack{\text{partitions } \alpha, \ \beta \text{ s.t.} \\ l(\alpha) \le e, \ l(\beta) \le f}} c_{\alpha\beta}^{\gamma} S^{\alpha} E \otimes S^{\beta} F. \tag{21}$$

In particular

$$LR(e, f, e + f) = LR(GL_e \times GL_f, GL_{e+f}) \cap (\mathbb{Z}^e \times \mathbb{Z}^f \times (\mathbb{Z}_{>0})^{e+f}). \tag{22}$$

2.2.3 Branching semigroups as GIT semigroups

We use notation of Section 2.1.3 and we assume that G and \hat{G} are semisimple simply connected. Consider the diagonal action of G on $X = G/B \times \hat{G}/\hat{B}$. Note that $\operatorname{Pic}^G(X)$ identifies with $X(T) \times X(\hat{T})$. Then Borel-Weyl's theorem implies that $\operatorname{LR}(G,\hat{G}) = \operatorname{LR}(G,X)$.

2.2.4 Kronecker semigroups as GIT semigroups

If V is a complex finite dimensional vector space, let $\mathcal{F}l(V)$ denote the variety of complete flags of V. Given integers a_i such that $1 \leq a_1 < \cdots < a_s \leq \dim(V) - 1$, we denote by $\mathcal{F}l(a_1, \cdots, a_s; V)$ the variety of flags $V_1 \subset \cdots \subset V_s \subset V$ such that $\dim(V_i) = a_i$ for any i. If α is a partition with at most $\dim(V)$ parts then \mathcal{L}_{α} (resp. \mathcal{L}^{α}) denotes the $\mathrm{GL}(V)$ -linearized line bundle on $\mathcal{F}l(V)$ such that the space $\mathrm{H}^0(\mathcal{F}l(V), \mathcal{L}_{\alpha})$ (resp. $\mathrm{H}^0(\mathcal{F}l(V), \mathcal{L}^{\alpha})$) is isomorphic to $S^{\alpha}V^*$ (resp. $S^{\alpha}V$) as a $\mathrm{GL}(V)$ -module.

Assume that E and F are two linear spaces of dimension e+1 and f+1. Set $G=\mathrm{GL}(E)\times\mathrm{GL}(F)$. Consider the variety

$$X = \mathcal{F}l(E) \times \mathcal{F}l(F) \times \mathcal{F}l(1, \dots, e+f+1; E \otimes F)$$

endowed with its natural G-action. Let α , β , and γ be three partitions such that $l(\alpha) \leq e+1$, $l(\beta) \leq f+1$, and $l(\gamma) \leq e+f+1$. Consider the $\mathrm{GL}(E)$ -linearized line bundle \mathcal{L}^{α} on $\mathcal{F}l(E)$, and respectively \mathcal{L}^{β} on $\mathcal{F}l(F)$. Since $l(\gamma) \leq e+f+1$, the line bundle \mathcal{L}_{γ} on $\mathcal{F}l(E \otimes F)$ is the pullback of a line bundle (still denoted by \mathcal{L}_{γ}) on $\mathcal{F}l(1,\cdots,e+f+1;E\otimes F)$. Consider the line bundle $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}^{\alpha} \otimes \mathcal{L}^{\beta} \otimes \mathcal{L}_{\gamma}$ on X endowed with its natural G-action. Then

$$H^0(X, \mathcal{L}) \simeq S^{\alpha} E \otimes S^{\beta} F \otimes S^{\gamma} (E \otimes F)^*,$$

and, by the formula (18),

$$g_{\alpha\beta\gamma} = \dim(\mathrm{H}^0(X,\mathcal{L})^G).$$
 (23)

The map $(\alpha, \beta, \gamma) \mapsto \mathcal{L}^{\alpha} \otimes \mathcal{L}^{\beta} \otimes \mathcal{L}_{\gamma}$ extends to a linear isomorphism from $\mathbb{Z}^{2e+2f+3}$ onto $\operatorname{Pic}^{G}(X)$. This isomorphism allows to identify $\operatorname{LR}(G, X)$ with a subset of $\mathbb{Z}^{2e+2f+3}$. The equality (23) implies that

$$Kron(e+1, f+1, e+f+1) = (\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0})^{2e+2f+3} \cap LR(G, X).$$

3 Descriptions of branching and GIT cones

3.1 GIT cones

Assume that the connected reductive group G acts on the smooth projective variety X and that $\operatorname{Pic}^G(X)$ has finite rank. Consider the cone $\mathbb{Q}_{\geq 0}\operatorname{LR}(G,X)$ generated in $\operatorname{Pic}^G(X)\otimes\mathbb{Q}$ by the points of $\operatorname{LR}(G,X)$. The G-linearized ample line bundles on X generated an open convex cone $\operatorname{Pic}^G(X)^+_{\mathbb{Q}}$ in $\operatorname{Pic}^G(X)\otimes\mathbb{Q}$. In this section, we recall from [Res10] a description of the faces of $\mathbb{Q}_{\geq 0}\operatorname{LR}(G,X)$ that intersect $\operatorname{Pic}^G(X)^+_{\mathbb{Q}}$.

Let \mathcal{L} be a G-linearized line bundle on X. Consider the associated set of semistable points

$$X^{\mathrm{ss}}(\mathcal{L}) = \{x \in X \ : \ \exists k > 0 \text{ and } \sigma \in \mathrm{H}^0(X, \mathcal{L}^{\otimes k})^G \qquad \sigma(x) \neq 0\}.$$

Assume that $X^{\mathrm{ss}}(\mathcal{L})$ is nonempty. Then the projective variety $\mathrm{Proj}(\bigoplus_{k\geq 0}\mathrm{H}^0(X,\mathcal{L}^{\otimes k})^G)$ is denoted by $X^{\mathrm{ss}}(\mathcal{L})/\!\!/ G$. For later use, observe that $\dim(\mathrm{H}^0(X,\mathcal{L}^{\otimes k})^G)$ is $O(k^{\dim(X^{\mathrm{ss}}(\mathcal{L})/\!\!/ G}))$. If moreover \mathcal{L} is ample, $X^{\mathrm{ss}}(\mathcal{L})/\!\!/ G$ is the categorical quotient of $X^{\mathrm{ss}}(\mathcal{L})$ by G. In general, there is a canonical G-invariant regular map

$$\pi: X^{\mathrm{ss}}(\mathcal{L}) \longrightarrow X^{\mathrm{ss}}(\mathcal{L}) /\!\!/ G.$$
 (24)

Let λ be a one parameter subgroup of G. The set

$$P(\lambda) = \{ g \in G : \lim_{t \to 0} \lambda(t) g \lambda(t^{-1}) \text{ exists in } G \}$$

is a parabolic subgroup of G. Consider an irreducible component C of the fixed point set X^{λ} of λ in X. Set

$$C^{+} = \{ x \in X : \lim_{t \to 0} \lambda(t) x \in C \}.$$

By Białynicki-Birula's theorem, C^+ is an irreducible smooth locally closed subvariety of X. Moreover it is stable by the action of $P(\lambda)$. Consider on $G \times C^+$ the following action of the group $P(\lambda)$:

$$p.(g,x) = (gp^{-1}, px).$$

There exists a quotient variety denoted by $G \times_{P(\lambda)} C^+$. We denote by [g:x], the class of $(g,x) \in G \times C^+$. The following formula

$$h.[g:x] = [hg:x] \qquad \forall h \in G,$$

endows $G \times_{P(\lambda)} C^+$ with a G-action. Consider the G-equivariant morphism

$$\eta: G \times_{P(\lambda)} C^+ \longrightarrow X$$

$$[g:x] \longmapsto gx.$$

The pair (C, λ) is said to be well covering if there exists a $P(\lambda)$ -stable open subset Ω of C^+ such that

- (i) the restriction of η to $G \times_{P(\lambda)} \Omega$ is an open immersion;
- (ii) Ω intersects C.

For any $\mathcal{L} \in \operatorname{Pic}^G(X)$, there exists an integer $\mu^{\mathcal{L}}(C,\lambda)$ such that

$$\lambda(t)\tilde{z} = t^{-\mu^{\mathcal{L}}(C,\lambda)}\tilde{z},$$

for any $t \in \mathbb{C}^*$, $z \in C$ and \tilde{z} in the fiber \mathcal{L}_z over z in \mathcal{L} .

Theorem 5 (see [Res10])

- (i) For any well covering pair (C, λ) and any $\mathcal{L} \in LR(G, X)$, we have $\mu^{\mathcal{L}}(C, \lambda) \leq 0$.
- (ii) For any face \mathcal{F} of $\mathbb{Q}_{\geq 0} \operatorname{LR}(G, X)$ intersecting $\operatorname{Pic}^G(X)^+_{\mathbb{Q}}$ there exists a well covering pair (C, λ) such that $(\mathcal{L} \otimes 1) \in \mathcal{F}$ if and only if $\mu^{\mathcal{L}}(C, \lambda) = 0$, for any ample \mathcal{L} in $\mathbb{Q}_{\geq 0} \operatorname{LR}(G, X)$.
- (iii) Let (C, λ) be a well covering pair and \mathcal{L} be ample in LR(G, X). Then $\mu^{\mathcal{L}}(C, \lambda) = 0$ if and only if $X^{ss}(\mathcal{L}) \cap C$ is not empty.

3.2 Branching cones

With notation of Section 2.1.3, we want to describe the cone $\mathbb{Q}_{\geq 0} \operatorname{LR}(G, \hat{G})$ generated by $\operatorname{LR}(G, \hat{G})$. We assume that no nonzero ideal of the Lie algebra $\operatorname{Lie}(G)$ of G is an ideal of that $\operatorname{Lie}(\hat{G})$ of \hat{G} : this assumption implies that the cone $\mathbb{Q}_{\geq 0} \operatorname{LR}(G, \hat{G})$ has nonempty interior in $(X(T) \times X(\hat{T})) \otimes \mathbb{Q}$.

Consider the natural pairing $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ between the one parameter subgroups and the characters of tori T or \hat{T} . Let W (resp. \hat{W}) denote the Weyl group of T (resp. \hat{T}). If λ is a one parameter subgroup of T (and thus of \hat{T}), we denote by W_{λ} (resp. \hat{W}_{λ}) the stabilizer of λ for the natural action of the Weyl group.

The cohomology group $H^*(G/P(\lambda), \mathbb{Z})$ is freely generated by the Schubert classes σ_w parameterized by the elements $w \in W/W_{\lambda}$. Assume that λ is dominant. Let w_0 be the longest element of W. If $w \in W/W_{\lambda}$, we denote by $w^{\vee} \in W/W_{\lambda}$ the class of w_0w . By this way $\sigma_{w^{\vee}}$ and σ_w are Poincaré dual. We consider $\hat{G}/\hat{P}(\lambda)$, $\sigma_{\hat{w}}$ as above but with \hat{G} in place of G. Consider also the canonical G-equivariant immersion $\iota: G/P(\lambda) \longrightarrow \hat{G}/\hat{P}(\lambda)$; and the corresponding morphism ι^* in cohomology.

Recall from [RR11], the definition of Levi-movability for the pair $(\sigma_w, \sigma_{\hat{w}})$. For the purpose of this paper it is only useful to known that if $(\sigma_w, \sigma_{\hat{w}})$ is Levi-movable then $\iota^*(\sigma_{\hat{w}}).\sigma_w$ is a nonzero multiple of the class [pt] of the point. Moreover the converse is true if $\hat{G}/\hat{P}(\lambda)$ is minuscule.

Consider the set $\operatorname{Wt}_T(\operatorname{Lie}(\hat{G})/\operatorname{Lie}(G))$ of nontrivial weights of T in $\operatorname{Lie}(\hat{G})/\operatorname{Lie}(G)$ and the set of hyperplanes H of $X(T) \otimes \mathbb{Q}$ spanned by some elements of $\operatorname{Wt}_T(\operatorname{Lie}(\hat{G})/\operatorname{Lie}(G))$. For each such hyperplane H there exist exactly two opposite indivisible one parameter subgroups $\pm \lambda_H$ which are orthogonal (for the paring $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$) to H. The so obtained one parameter subgroups are called admissible and form a W-stable set.

Theorem 6 (see [Res10])

Recall that no nonzero ideal of Lie(G) is an ideal of $\text{Lie}(\hat{G})$. Then, the cone $\mathbb{Q}_{\geq 0} LR(G, \hat{G})$ has nonempty interior in $X(T \times \hat{T}) \otimes \mathbb{Q}$.

A dominant weight $(\nu, \hat{\nu})$ belongs to $\mathbb{Q}_{\geq 0} \operatorname{LR}(G, \hat{G})$ if and only if

$$\langle \hat{w}\lambda, \hat{\nu}\rangle \le \langle w\lambda, \nu\rangle \tag{25}$$

for any dominant admissible one parameter subgroup λ of T and for any pair $(w, \hat{w}) \in W/W_{\lambda} \times \hat{W}/\hat{W}_{\lambda}$ such that

(i)
$$\iota^*(\sigma_{\hat{w}}) \cdot \sigma_{w^{\vee}} = [pt] \in H^*(G/P(\lambda), \mathbb{Z}), \text{ and }$$

(ii) the pair $(\sigma_{w^{\vee}}, \sigma_{\hat{w}})$ is Levi-movable.

Moreover, the inequalities (25) are pairwise distinct and no one can be omitted.

4 Description of LR(e, f, e + f)

4.1 The statement

Theorem 7 Let α , β , and γ be three partitions such that $l(\alpha) \leq e$, $l(\beta) \leq f$ and $l(\gamma) \leq e + f$.

Then $c_{\alpha\beta}^{\gamma} \neq 0$ if and only if

$$|\alpha| + |\beta| = |\gamma|,\tag{26}$$

and

$$\gamma_{f+i} \le \alpha_i \le \gamma_i, \quad \gamma_{e+j} \le \beta_j \le \gamma_j,$$
 (27)

for any $i \in \{1, \dots, e\}$ and $j \in \{1, \dots, f\}$, and

$$|\gamma_K| \le |\alpha_I| + |\beta_J|,\tag{28}$$

for any 0 < r < e and 0 < s < f, for any $I \in \mathcal{S}(r,e)$, $J \in \mathcal{S}(s,f)$ and $K \in \mathcal{S}(r+s,e+f)$ such that

$$c_{\tau^I \tau^J}^{\tau^K} = 1. \tag{29}$$

Moreover, the inequalities (27) or (28) are pairwise distinct and no one can be omitted.

The partitions α and β in the statement of Theorem 7 are also partitions of length at most e+f. Hence the nonvanishing of $c_{\alpha\beta}^{\gamma}$ is equivalent to $(\alpha, \beta, \gamma) \in \mathbb{Q}_{\geq 0} LR(e+f, e+f, e+f)$. But, by the classical Horn conjecture (see e.g. [Ful00]), this cone is characterized by the inequalities

$$|\gamma_{K'}| \ge |\alpha_{I'}| + |\beta_{J'}| \tag{30}$$

where $\sharp I' = \sharp J' = \sharp K'$ and

$$c_{\tau^{I'}\tau^{J'}}^{\tau^{K'}} = 1. (31)$$

In some sense, Theorem 7 selects among the inequalities (30) those that remain essential when one imposes $l(\alpha) \leq e$ and $l(\beta) \leq f$.

Each inequality (28) has to be consequence of at least one Horn inequality (30). Indeed, by setting $\tilde{I} = I_{-} \cup \{e+s+1,\ldots,e+f\}$ and $\tilde{J} = J_{-} \cup \{f+r+1,\ldots,e+f\}$, one can check that, under the assumptions of Theorem 7 and modulo the equality (26), the inequality (28) is equivalent to

$$|\gamma_{K_{-}}| \ge |\alpha_{\tilde{I}}| + |\beta_{\tilde{I}}|. \tag{32}$$

But $\sharp \tilde{I} = \sharp \tilde{J} = \sharp K_- = e + f - r - s$. One can check that

$$c_{\tau^I \tau^J}^{\tau^K} = c_{\tau^{\tilde{I}} \tau^{\tilde{J}}}^{\tau^{K_-}}.$$

Hence the assumption (29) implies that the condition (32) is an Horn inequality (30) for the cone $\mathbb{Q}_{>0} LR(e+f,e+f,e+f)$.

For the proof of Theorem 7, we need to recall some notations and results on Schubert calculus on Grassmannians.

4.2 Schubert Calculus

Let $\mathbb{G}(r,n)$ be the Grassmann variety of r-dimensional linear subspaces of $V = \mathbb{C}^n$. Let F_{\bullet} : $\{0\} = F_0 \subset F_1 \subset F_2 \subset \cdots \subset F_n = V$ be a complete flag of V. Let $I = \{i_1 < \cdots < i_r\} \in \mathcal{S}(r,n)$. The Schubert variety $X_I(F_{\bullet})$ in $\mathbb{G}(r,n)$ is defined to be

$$X_I(F_{\bullet}) = \{ L \in \mathbb{G}(r, n) : \dim(L \cap F_{i_i}) \ge j \text{ for } 1 \le j \le r \}.$$

The Poincaré dual of the homology class of $X_I(F_{\bullet})$ is denoted by σ_I . It does not depend on F_{\bullet} . The classes σ_I form a \mathbb{Z} -basis of the cohomology ring of $\mathbb{G}(r,n)$. Recall from the introduction the definition of the partition τ^I . Then σ_I has degree $2|\tau^I|$. A first cohomological interpretation of the Littlewood-Richardson coefficients is given by the formula (see e.g. [Man01])

$$\sigma_I.\sigma_J = \sum_{K \in \mathcal{S}(r,n)} c_{\tau^I \ \tau^J}^{\tau^K} \sigma_K, \tag{33}$$

for any I, J in S(r, n).

Let r and s be two integers such that 0 < r < e and 0 < s < f. Fix an identification $\mathbb{C}^{e+f} = \mathbb{C}^e \oplus \mathbb{C}^f$ and consider the morphism

$$\phi_{r,s}: \mathbb{G}(r,e) \times \mathbb{G}(s,f) \longrightarrow \mathbb{G}(r+s,e+f)$$

$$(F,G) \longmapsto F \oplus G.$$

The associated comorphism in cohomology is

$$\phi_{r,s}^*: \mathrm{H}^*(\mathbb{G}(r+s,e+f),\mathbb{Z}) \longrightarrow \mathrm{H}^*(\mathbb{G}(r,e) \times \mathbb{G}(s,f),\mathbb{Z}).$$

By Kuneth's formula, the family $(\sigma_I \otimes \sigma_J)_{(I,J) \in \mathcal{S}(r,e) \times \mathcal{S}(s,f)}$ is a basis of $H^*(\mathbb{G}(r,e) \times \mathbb{G}(s,f),\mathbb{Z})$. A second cohomological interpretation of the Littlewood-Richardson coefficients is given by the formula

$$\phi_{r,s}^*(\sigma_K) = \sum_{(I,J)\in\mathcal{S}(r,e)\times\mathcal{S}(s,f)} c_{\tau^I \tau^J}^{\tau^K} (\sigma_I \otimes \sigma_J), \tag{34}$$

for any $K \in \mathcal{S}(r+s, e+f)$.

4.3 Proof of Theorem 7

By the Knutson-Tao theorem of saturation (see [KT99]), $c_{\alpha\beta}^{\gamma} \neq 0$ if and only if (α, β, γ) belongs to the cone $\mathbb{Q}_{\geq 0} LR(e, f, e+f)$. It remains to prove that the inequalities (27) and (28) characterize the cone $\mathbb{Q}_{\geq 0} LR(e, f, e+f)$ in a minimal way.

Let us fix bases for the two vector spaces E and F of dimension e and f. Consider the group $\hat{G} = \operatorname{SL}(E \oplus F)$, its subgroup $G = S(\operatorname{GL}(E) \times \operatorname{GL}(F))$ and on $E \oplus F$ the basis obtained by concatenating the bases of E and F. Let \hat{T} be the maximal torus of \hat{G} consisting in diagonal matrices. It is contained in G; set $T = \hat{T}$. Let \hat{B} be the Borel subgroup of \hat{G} consisting in upper triangular matrices. Set $B = \hat{B} \cap G$. Let ε_i be the character of \hat{T} mapping a matrix in \hat{T} to its i^{th} diagonal entry. Since $\sum_i \varepsilon_i = 0$, $(\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_{e+f-1})$ is a \mathbb{Z} -basis of $X(\hat{T})$.

Let α , β , and γ be three partitions of length less or equal to e, f, and e+f. The highest weight of the \hat{G} -module $S^{\gamma}(E \oplus F)$ is $\tilde{\gamma} = (\gamma_1 - \gamma_{e+f})\varepsilon_1 + \cdots + (\gamma_{e+f-1} - \gamma_{e+f})\varepsilon_{e+f-1}$. The highest weight of the G-module $S^{\alpha}E \otimes S^{\beta}F$ is $(\alpha, \beta) = (\alpha_1 - \beta_f)\varepsilon_1 + \cdots + (\alpha_e - \beta_f)\varepsilon_e + (\beta_1 - \beta_f)\varepsilon_{e+1} + \cdots + (\beta_{f-1} - \beta_f)\varepsilon_{e+f-1}$. Then, by the formula (21)

$$(\alpha, \beta, \gamma) \in LR(e, f, e + f) \iff (S^{\alpha}E^* \otimes S^{\beta}F^* \otimes S^{\gamma}(E \oplus F))^{GL(E) \times GL(F)} \neq 0,$$

$$\iff |\alpha| + |\beta| = |\gamma|$$
and
$$(S^{\alpha}E^* \otimes S^{\beta}F^* \otimes S^{\gamma}(E \oplus F))^G \neq 0,$$

$$\iff |\alpha| + |\beta| = |\gamma|$$
and
$$((\alpha, \beta), \tilde{\gamma}) \in LR(G, \hat{G}).$$

In particular, to determine the inequalities for the cone $\mathbb{Q}_{\geq 0} LR(e, f, e + f)$, it is sufficient to describe $\mathbb{Q}_{\geq 0} LR(G, \hat{G})$. We do this using Theorem 6.

The set of weights of T acting on $\operatorname{Lie}(\hat{G})/\operatorname{Lie}(G)$ is the set of weights of T acting on $F^* \otimes E$ and their opposite. Explicitly $\operatorname{Wt}_T(\operatorname{Lie}(\hat{G})/\operatorname{Lie}(G)) = \pm \{\varepsilon_i - \varepsilon_{e+j} \mid 1 \leq i \leq e \text{ and } 1 \leq j \leq f\}$. Let $(a_1, \ldots, a_e, b_1, \ldots, b_f) \in \mathbb{Z}^{e+f}$ be the exponents of a one parameter subgroup λ of T; they satisfy $\sum_i a_i + \sum_j b_j = 0$. Then $\langle \lambda, \varepsilon_i - \varepsilon_{e+j} \rangle = 0$ if and only if $a_i = b_j$. It follows that if λ is admissible then the integers a_i and b_j take at most two values. If moreover λ is dominant then there exist integers r, s, and c > d such that $a_1 = \cdots = a_r = b_1 = \cdots = b_s = c$ and $a_{r+1} = \cdots = a_e = b_{s+1} = \cdots = b_f = d$. If moreover λ is indivisible, $c = \frac{e+f-r-s}{(r+s)\wedge(e+f)}$ and $d = \frac{-r-s}{(r+s)\wedge(e+f)}$, where λ denotes the gcd. Let $\lambda_{r,s}$ denote the so obtained one-parameter subgroup of T. Conversely, one easily checks that $\lambda_{r,s}$ is an admissible dominant one-parameter subgroup of T, if 0 < r < e and 0 < s < f or if the pair (r,s) is one of the four exceptional ones $\{(1,0), (0,1), (e-1,f), (e,f-1)\}$.

The inclusions $G/P(\lambda_{r,s}) \subset \hat{G}/\hat{P}(\lambda_{r,s})$ associated to the four exceptional cases are $\mathbb{P}(E) \subset \mathbb{P}(E \oplus F)$, $\mathbb{P}(F) \subset \mathbb{P}(E \oplus F)$, $\mathbb{P}(E^*) \subset \mathbb{P}(E^* \oplus F^*)$ and $\mathbb{P}(F^*) \subset \mathbb{P}(E^* \oplus F^*)$. Consider $\mathbb{P}(E) \subset \mathbb{P}(E \oplus F)$. The restriction of $\sigma_{\{f+i\}} \in H^*(\mathbb{P}(E \oplus F), \mathbb{Z})$ in $H^*(\mathbb{P}(E), \mathbb{Z})$ is $\sigma_{\{i\}}$. Then Theorem 6 implies that

$$(e+f)\alpha_i - |\alpha| - |\beta| \ge (e+f)\gamma_{f+i} - |\gamma|.$$

Modulo the identity (26), this is equivalent to $\gamma_{f+i} \leq \alpha_i$. Similarly, we get the three other inequalities (27).

Fix now 0 < r < e and 0 < s < f. The inclusion $G/P(\lambda_{r,s}) \subset \hat{G}/\hat{P}(\lambda_{r,s})$ is the morphism $\phi_{r,s}$ defined in Section 4.2. Consider $\sigma_I \otimes \sigma_J \in H^*(\mathbb{G}(r,e) \times \mathbb{G}(s,f),\mathbb{Z})$ and $\sigma_K \in H^*(\mathbb{G}(r+s,e+f),\mathbb{Z})$ such that $\phi_{r,s}^*(\sigma_K).(\sigma_I \otimes \sigma_J)^{\vee} = [pt]$. Here the Levi movability is automatic since $\hat{G}/\hat{P}(\lambda_{r,s})$ is cominuscule. Modulo (26), the inequality (25) of Theorem 6 corresponding to $\sigma_I \otimes \sigma_J$ and σ_K is the inequality (28). Then the theorem follows from Theorem 6.

4.4 Complement on stretched Littlewood-Richardson coefficients

Lemma 1 Let α , β , and γ be three partitions such that $l(\alpha) \leq e$, $l(\beta) \leq f$ and $l(\gamma) \leq e + f$.

Then, the map $n \longmapsto c_{n\alpha n\beta}^{n\gamma}$ is polynomial of degree not greater than

$$\binom{e}{2} + \binom{f}{2} + \binom{e+f}{2} - e^2 - f^2 + 1,$$

where
$$\binom{e}{2} = \frac{e(e-1)}{2}$$
.

Proof. Since $c_{\alpha\beta}^{\gamma} = c_{\beta\alpha}^{\gamma}$, we may assume that $e \leq f$. By [DW02], the function $\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0} \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$, $n \longmapsto c_{n\alpha n\beta}^{n\gamma}$ is polynomial.

Recall that E and F are complex vector spaces of dimension e and f. Set $G = GL(E) \times GL(F)$ and $X = \mathcal{F}l(E) \times \mathcal{F}l(F) \times \mathcal{F}l(E \oplus F)$. Consider on X the line bundle $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}^{\alpha} \otimes \mathcal{L}^{\beta} \otimes \mathcal{L}_{\gamma}$. Since $c_{n\alpha n\beta}^{n\gamma} = \dim(H^{0}(X, \mathcal{L}^{\otimes n})^{G})$, the degree of $c_{n\alpha n\beta}^{n\gamma}$ is equal to the dimension of $X^{\text{ss}}(\mathcal{L})/\!\!/G$.

Consider the map π defined in (24). By Chevalley Theorem, since π is dominant, for any general $y \in X^{ss}(\mathcal{L})$, one has

$$\dim \pi^{-1}(\pi(y)) = \dim(X^{\operatorname{ss}}(\mathcal{L})) - \dim(X^{\operatorname{ss}}(\mathcal{L})//G).$$

But, π is G-invariant and $\pi^{-1}(\pi(y))$ contains G.y. Then

$$\dim \pi^{-1}(\pi(y)) \ge \dim(G.y) = \dim(G) - \dim(G_y),$$

where G_y is the stabilizer of y in G. But, for any $x \in X$, we have $\dim(G.x) \le \dim(G.y)$ and

$$\dim(X^{\mathrm{ss}}(\mathcal{L})/\!/G) \le \dim(X) - \dim(G) + \dim(G_x).$$

We now claim that there exists x such that $\dim(G_x) = 1$. Then the lemma follows.

We now prove the claim by constructing explicitly x, that is, defining complete flags of E, F and $E \oplus F$. Fix bases (η_1, \ldots, η_e) and $(\zeta_1, \ldots, \zeta_f)$ of E and F. On E and F, we consider the two standard flags F_{\bullet}^E and F_{\bullet}^F in these bases. Consider on $E \oplus F$, the following base

$$(\eta_e + \zeta_f, \eta_e + \eta_{e-1} + \zeta_{f-1}, \dots, \eta_e + \dots + \eta_1 + \zeta_{f-e+1}, \eta_1 + \zeta_{f-e}, \dots, \eta_1 + \zeta_1)$$

and the associated flag $F_{\bullet}^{E \oplus F}$. One easily checks that $x = (F_{\bullet}^{E}, F_{\bullet}^{F}, F_{\bullet}^{E \oplus F})$ works.

5 Faces of $\mathbb{Q}_{\geq 0} \operatorname{Kron}(e+1, f+1, e+f+1)$

5.1 Murnaghan's face

The cone $\mathbb{Q}_{\geq 0}$ Kron(e+1, f+1, e+f+1) is contained in the linear subspace of points $(\alpha, \beta, \gamma) \in \mathbb{Q}^{e+1} \times \mathbb{Q}^{f+1} \times \mathbb{Q}^{e+f+1}$ that satisfy $|\alpha| = |\beta| = |\gamma|$. In particular its dimension is at most 2e + 2f + 1.

Recall that $\bar{\alpha} = (\alpha_2 \ge \alpha_3 \cdots)$, if $\alpha = (\alpha_1 \ge \alpha_2 \cdots)$. By Proposition 1, the points (α, β, γ) in $\mathbb{Q}_{>0}$ Kron(e+1, f+1, e+f+1) satisfy

$$|\bar{\alpha}| + |\bar{\beta}| \ge |\bar{\gamma}|. \tag{35}$$

The set of points of $\mathbb{Q}_{\geq 0}$ Kron(e+1, f+1, e+f+1) such that equality holds in the inequality (35) is a face \mathcal{F}^M (M stands for Murnaghan) of the cone $\mathbb{Q}_{\geq 0}$ Kron(e+1, f+1, e+f+1). Consider the linear map

$$\pi: \mathbb{Q}^{2e+2f+3} \longrightarrow \mathbb{Q}^{2e+2f}$$
$$(\alpha, \beta, \gamma) \longmapsto (\bar{\alpha}, \bar{\beta}, \bar{\gamma}).$$

Lemma 2 The face \mathcal{F}^M maps by π to $\mathbb{Q}_{\geq 0} LR(e, f, e + f)$. Moreover each fiber of π over $\mathbb{Q}_{\geq 0} LR(e, f, e + f)$ contains an unbounded interval.

The cone $\mathbb{Q}_{\geq 0}$ Kron(e+1, f+1, e+f+1) has dimension 2e+2f+1 and the face \mathcal{F}^M has dimension 2e+2f.

Proof. Assume that equality holds in the formula (35). Assume also that the coordinates of α , β , and γ are nonnegative integers. Then

$$g_{\alpha\beta\gamma} = c_{\bar{\alpha}\bar{\beta}}^{\bar{\gamma}}.$$
 (36)

Thus the face \mathcal{F}^M maps by π on $\mathbb{Q}_{\geq 0}$ LR(e, f, e+f). Conversely let $(\lambda, \mu, \nu) \in$ LR(e, f, e+f). Let a be an integer and set $b = a+|\lambda|-|\mu|$ and $c = a+|\lambda|-|\nu|$. If a is big enough then $a \geq \lambda_1$, $b \geq \mu_1$ and $c \geq \nu_1$. Therefore $\alpha := (a, \lambda)$, $\beta = (b, \mu)$ and $\gamma = (c, \nu)$ are three partitions of the same integer such that equality holds in the inequality (35). Thus the equality (36) holds and (α, β, γ) belongs to \mathcal{F}^M . In particular the fiber $\pi^{-1}(\lambda, \mu, \nu)$ contains an unbounded segment.

Since $\mathbb{Q}_{\geq 0}$ LR(e, f, e+f) has dimension 2e+2f-1 and the fibers of π have dimension at least one, the cone \mathcal{F}^M has dimension at least 2e+2f. We had already noticed that $\mathbb{Q}_{\geq 0}$ Kron(e+1, f+1, e+f+1) has dimension at most 2e+2f+1. These two inequalities (and the fact that \mathcal{F}^M is a strict face of the cone $\mathbb{Q}_{\geq 0}$ Kron(e+1, f+1, e+f+1)) imply the lemma. \square

5.2 Proof of Theorem 2

Let r, s, I, J, and K be like in Theorem 2. To such a triple (I, J, K), Theorem 7 associates a codimension one face of LR(e, f, e+f). Using Lemma 2, this face corresponds to a face \mathcal{F}_{IJK} of $\mathbb{Q}_{\geq 0} \operatorname{Kron}(e+1, f+1, e+f+1)$

of codimension two. Explicitly, \mathcal{F}_{IJK} is the set of $(\alpha, \beta, \gamma) \in \mathbb{Q}_{\geq 0} \operatorname{Kron}(e + 1, f + 1, e + f + 1)$ such that

$$\begin{cases}
|\bar{\gamma}| = |\bar{\alpha}| + |\bar{\beta}|, \\
|\bar{\gamma}_K| = |\bar{\alpha}_I| + |\bar{\beta}_J|.
\end{cases}$$
(37)

This face \mathcal{F}_{IJK} is contained in two codimension one faces, \mathcal{F}^M and another one \mathcal{F}^M_{IJK} that we want to determine.

Let φ_{τ} denote the linear form defined by

$$\varphi_{\tau}(\alpha, \beta, \gamma) = \tau(|\bar{\alpha}| + |\bar{\beta}| - |\bar{\gamma}|) + (|\bar{\alpha}_I| + |\bar{\beta}_J| - |\bar{\gamma}_K|),$$

where τ is any rational number. Set also

$$\varphi_{\infty}(\alpha, \beta, \gamma) = |\bar{\alpha}| + |\bar{\beta}| - |\bar{\gamma}|.$$

By the theory of convex polyhedral cones, there exists τ_0 such that for any $\tau > \tau_0$, φ_{τ} is nonnegative on the cone and the associated face is \mathcal{F}_{IJK} , and, φ_{τ_0} corresponds to \mathcal{F}_{IJK}^M .

Here, E and F are two linear spaces of dimension e+1 and f+1 and $G = GL(E) \times GL(F)$. Consider the variety

$$X = \mathcal{F}l(E) \times \mathcal{F}l(F) \times \mathcal{F}l(1, \dots, e+f+1; E \otimes F).$$

We identify $\operatorname{Pic}^G(X)$ with $\mathbb{Z}^{2e+2f+3}$ like in Section 2.2.4.

Geometric description of φ_{∞} . The inequality corresponding to \mathcal{F}^M is $\varphi_{\infty} \geq 0$. By Section 2.2.4, \mathcal{F}^M generates a face of $\mathbb{Q}_{\geq 0} \operatorname{LR}(G, X)$. Theorem 5 shows that there exists a well covering pair $(C_{\infty}, \lambda_{\infty})$ of X such that $\varphi_{\infty}(\alpha, \beta, \gamma) = -\mu^{\mathcal{L}^{\alpha} \otimes \mathcal{L}^{\beta} \otimes \mathcal{L}_{\gamma}}(C_{\infty}, \lambda_{\infty})$.

To describe such a pair $(C_{\infty}, \lambda_{\infty})$, fix decompositions $E = \bar{E} \oplus l$ and $F = \bar{F} \oplus m$, where \bar{E} and \bar{F} are hyperplanes and l and m are lines. Let λ_{∞} be the one-parameter subgroup of G acting with weight 1 on \bar{E} and \bar{F} , and with weight 0 on l and m. Let C_{∞} be the set of points in X such that

- the hyperplanes of the complete flags of E and F are respectively E and \bar{F} ,
- the line of the partial flag of $E \otimes F$ is $l \otimes m$,
- the (e+f+1)-dimensional subspace of the partial flag of $E \otimes F$ is $(l \otimes m) \oplus (\bar{E} \otimes m) \oplus (l \otimes \bar{F})$.

One can check that $(C_{\infty}, \lambda_{\infty})$ works (see [Res11c] for details).

Geometric description of φ_{τ} . Fix decompositions $\bar{E} = E_+ \oplus E_-$ and $\bar{F} = F_+ \oplus F_-$, where E_+ and F_+ have dimension r and s. Assume that $\tau > 1$ and write $\tau = \frac{p}{q}$ with two integers p and q satisfying $p \wedge q = 1$ and q > 0. Let λ_{τ} be the one parameter subgroup of G acting with weight q + p on E_+ and F_+ , with weight p on E_- and F_- and with weight 0 on l and m. The weight spaces of the action of λ_{τ} on $E \otimes F$ are

Space	$E_+ \otimes F_+$	$E_+ \otimes F \oplus E \otimes F_+$	$E \otimes F$	$E_+ \oplus F_+$	$E \oplus F$	$l\otimes m$
Weight	2p + 2q	2p+q	2p	p+q	p	0

where some " $\otimes m$ " and " $l \otimes$ " have been forgotten.

To $I^{\vee} = \{e+1-i : i \in I\}$ is associated an embedding $\iota_{I^{\vee}}$ of $\mathcal{F}l(E_{+}) \times \mathcal{F}l(E_{-})$ in $\mathcal{F}l(\bar{E})$. Explicitly

Similarly we consider $\iota_{J^{\vee}}$ and ι_{K} . Observe that C_{∞} is canonically isomorphic to $\mathcal{F}l(\bar{E}) \times \mathcal{F}l(\bar{F}) \times \mathcal{F}l(\bar{E} \oplus \bar{F})$. Consider the embedding $(\iota_{I^{\vee}}, \iota_{J^{\vee}}, \iota_{K})$ of

$$\mathcal{F}l(E_+) \times \mathcal{F}l(E_-) \times \mathcal{F}l(F_+) \times \mathcal{F}l(F_-) \times \mathcal{F}l(E_+ \oplus F_+) \times \mathcal{F}l(E_- \oplus F_-)$$

in C_{∞} . Denote by C_{τ} its image. Using for example [Res11b, Proposition 1 and Theorem 1], one can check that, for τ big enough, $(C_{\tau}, \lambda_{\tau})$ is a well covering pair. Moreover, $\varphi_{\tau}(\alpha, \beta, \gamma) = -q\mu^{\mathcal{L}^{\alpha} \otimes \mathcal{L}^{\beta} \otimes \mathcal{L}_{\gamma}}(C_{\tau}, \lambda_{\tau})$.

For any $\tau > 1$, C_{τ} is an irreducible component of λ_{τ} . Moreover, C_{τ}^{+} and $P(\lambda_{\tau})$ do not depend on $\tau > 1$. In Particular, $(C_{\tau}, \lambda_{\tau})$ is a well covering pair for any $\tau > 1$.

Theorem 5 shows that the face determined by the inequality φ_{τ} only depends on C_{τ} , and so does not depend on $\tau > 1$: it is \mathcal{F}_{IJK} . This implies that $\varphi_1 \geq 0$ on $\mathbb{Q}_{>0}$ Kron(e+1, f+1, e+f+1). Theorem 2 follows. \square

Remark. Let \mathcal{F}_1 denote the face associated to φ_1 . Up to now, we have not proved that \mathcal{F}_1 has codimension 1 or equivalently that $\mathcal{F}_1 = \mathcal{F}_{IJK}^M$. This is the aim of Section 7.

6 Proof of Theorem 3

Keeping the notation of Section 5.2, we give a geometric description of φ_1 . The weight spaces of the action of λ_1 on $E \otimes F$ are

$E_+ \otimes F_+$	$E_+ \otimes F \oplus E \otimes F_+$	$E \otimes F \oplus E_+ \oplus F_+$	$E \oplus F$	$l\otimes m$
4	3	2	1	0

The irreducible component C_1 of X^{λ_1} containing C_{τ} (for $\tau > 1$) is isomorphic to

$$\mathcal{F}l(E_+) \times \mathcal{F}l(E_-) \times \mathcal{F}l(F_+) \times \mathcal{F}l(F_-) \times \mathcal{F}l(1, \dots, r+s; E_- \otimes F_- \oplus E_+ \oplus F_+) \times \mathcal{F}l(E_- \oplus F_-).$$

Moreover, $C_1^+ = C_{\tau}^+$ and $P(\lambda_1) = P(\lambda_{\tau})$. In particular the pair (C_1, λ_1) is well covering.

Let G^{λ_1} denote the centralizer of λ_1 in G. Note that $G^{\lambda_1} = \operatorname{GL}(E_+) \times \operatorname{GL}(E_-) \times \mathbb{C}^* \times \operatorname{GL}(F_+) \times \operatorname{GL}(F_-) \times \mathbb{C}^*$. By [Res11c, Theorem 2], $g_{\alpha\beta\gamma}$ is the dimension of

$$\mathrm{H}^0(C_1,(\mathcal{L}^{\alpha}\otimes\mathcal{L}^{\beta}\otimes\mathcal{L}_{\gamma})_{|C_1})^{G^{\lambda_1}}.$$

We have to determine the restriction $(\mathcal{L}^{\alpha} \otimes \mathcal{L}^{\beta} \otimes \mathcal{L}_{\gamma})_{|C_1}$ via the identification of C_1 with a product of flag varieties. Fix a basis of \bar{E} starting with a basis of E_+ followed by a basis of E_- . For the group $GL(\bar{E})$ we consider standard maximal tori and Borel subgroups in this basis. Similarly, we choose subgroups of $GL(\bar{F})$.

The maximal torus of $\operatorname{GL}(E)$ acts on the fiber in \mathcal{L}^{α} over the base point of $\mathcal{F}l(E)$ with weight $(\alpha_{e+1},\ldots,\alpha_1)$. The maximal torus \bar{T} of $\operatorname{GL}(\bar{E})$ acts on the fiber in \mathcal{L}^{α} over the base point of $\mathcal{F}l(\bar{E})$ (embedded in $\mathcal{F}l(E)$ like C_{∞} is embedded in X) with weight $(\alpha_{e+1},\ldots,\alpha_2)$. Let $w_{I^{\vee}}$ in the symmetric group S_e associated to I^{\vee} ($w_{I^{\vee}}(k)$ is the k^{th} elements of I^{\vee} and $w_{I^{\vee}}(r+k)$ is the k^{th} elements of I^{\vee}). Then $\iota_{I^{\vee}}$ maps the base point of $\mathcal{F}l(E_+) \times \mathcal{F}l(E_-)$ to the image by $w_{I^{\vee}}^{-1}$ of the base point of $\mathcal{F}l(\bar{E})$. It follows that \bar{T} acts on the fiber in $\iota_{I^{\vee}}^*(\mathcal{L}_{|C_{\infty}}^{\alpha})$ by the weight $w_{I^{\vee}}^{-1}(\alpha_{e+1},\ldots,\alpha_2)$. After computation this gives

$$H^0(C_1, (\mathcal{L}^{\alpha} \otimes \mathcal{L}^0 \otimes \mathcal{L}_0)_{|C_1}) = S^{\bar{\alpha}_{I_+}} E_+ \otimes S^{\bar{\alpha}_{I_-}} E_-.$$

Similarly

$$H^0(C_1, (\mathcal{L}^0 \otimes \mathcal{L}^\beta \otimes \mathcal{L}_0)_{|C_1}) = S^{\bar{\beta}_{J_+}} F_+ \otimes S^{\bar{\beta}_{J_-}} F_-,$$

and

$$H^0(C_1, (\mathcal{L}^0 \otimes \mathcal{L}^0 \otimes \mathcal{L}_{\gamma})|_{C_1}) = S^{\bar{\gamma}_{K_+}}(E_- \otimes F_- \oplus E_+ \oplus F_+)^* \otimes S^{\bar{\gamma}_{K_-}}(E_- \oplus F_-)^*.$$

We deduce that $g_{\alpha\beta\gamma}$ is the multiplicity of the $GL(E_+)\times GL(E_-)\times GL(F_+)\times GL(F_-)$ -simple module

$$S^{\bar{\alpha}_{I_+}}E_+\otimes S^{\bar{\alpha}_{I_-}}E_-\otimes S^{\bar{\beta}_{J_+}}F_+\otimes S^{\bar{\beta}_{J_-}}F_-$$

in the module

$$S^{\bar{\gamma}_{K_+}}(E_- \otimes F_- \oplus E_+ \oplus F_+) \otimes S^{\bar{\gamma}_{K_-}}(E_- \oplus F_-). \tag{38}$$

Now the theorem is obtained by using repeatedly the formulas (2), (18) and (21) to decompose the module (38).

7 Proof of Theorem 4

Recall that the aim is to prove that \mathcal{F}_1 has codimension one. Since \mathcal{F}_{IJK} has codimension two and it is contained in \mathcal{F}_1 , it remains to prove that $\mathcal{F}_{IJK} \neq \mathcal{F}_1$.

Assume now that (α, β, γ) belongs \mathcal{F}_{IJK} . Since \mathcal{F}_{IJK} is contained in \mathcal{F}^M , $g_{\alpha\beta\gamma}=c_{\bar{\alpha}\bar{\beta}}^{\bar{\gamma}}$. Then (see eg [DW11, Theorem 7.4]) $g_{\alpha\beta\gamma}=c_{\bar{\alpha}_I\bar{\beta}_J}^{\bar{\gamma}_K}.c_{\bar{\alpha}_I\bar{\beta}_J}^{\bar{\gamma}_K}.c_{\bar{\alpha}_I\bar{\beta}_J}^{\bar{\gamma}_K}$. In particular, Lemma 1 shows that $g_{n\alpha\,n\beta\,n\gamma}$ is a polynomial function of n of degree at most

$$d_{max} = {r \choose 2} + {s \choose 2} + {r+s \choose 2} + {a \choose 2} + {b \choose 2} + {a+b \choose 2}$$

$$-r^2 - s^2 - a^2 - b^2 + 2,$$
(39)

where a = e - r and b = f - s.

Given an algebraic group Γ acting on an irreducible variety Y, we denote by $\operatorname{mod}(\Gamma, Y)$ the minimal codimension of the Γ -orbits. By [Res11a, Lemma 2], for any \mathcal{L} in the relative interior of $\mathbb{Q}_{\geq 0} \operatorname{LR}(G^{\lambda_1}, C_1)$, the dimension of $C_1^{\operatorname{ss}}(\mathcal{L})/\!\!/ G^{\lambda_1}$ is equal to $\operatorname{mod}(G^{\lambda_1}, C_1)$.

By [Res10, Theorem 4], there exists a line bundle \mathcal{M} on X such that $\mathcal{M}_{|C_1}$ belongs to the relative interior of $\mathbb{Q}_{\geq 0} \operatorname{LR}(G^{\lambda_1}, C_1)$. We may assume that $\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{L}^{\alpha} \otimes \mathcal{L}^{\beta} \otimes \mathcal{L}_{\gamma}$ for three partitions α , β and γ . But, by [Res10, Theorem 8], $X^{\operatorname{ss}}(\mathcal{M})/\!/G \simeq C_1^{\operatorname{ss}}(\mathcal{M}_{|C_1})/\!/G^{\lambda_1}$. It follows that \mathcal{M} is a point on \mathcal{F}_1 satisfying $\dim(X^{\operatorname{ss}}(\mathcal{M})/\!/G) = \operatorname{mod}(G^{\lambda_1}, C_1)$. In particular,

$$n \mapsto g_{n\alpha n\beta n\gamma}$$
 cannot be a polynomial function of degree less than $\operatorname{mod}(G^{\lambda_1}, C_1)$. (40)

Regarding the assertions (39) and (40), to prove that $\mathcal{F}_{IJK} \neq \mathcal{F}_1$ it is sufficient to prove the claim: $\text{mod}(G^{\lambda_1}, C_1) > d_{max}$. The center of G^{λ_1} contains a dimension 3 torus acting trivially on C_1 . Hence

$$mod(G^{\lambda_1}, C_1) \ge \dim(C_1) - \dim(G^{\lambda_1}) + 3.$$

After simplification, we get

$$\operatorname{mod}(G^{\lambda_1}, C_1) - d_{max} \ge ab(r+s) - 1.$$

Since a, b, r, and s are positive integers, the claim follows.

8 Proof of Theorem 1

We keep notation of Section 5.2, but now r = e and $I = \{1, ..., e\}$. In particular E_- is trivial and the weight spaces of the action of λ_τ of $E \otimes F$ are

Hence $C_{\tau} \simeq \mathcal{F}l(\bar{E}) \times \mathcal{F}l(F_{+}) \times \mathcal{F}l(\bar{E} \oplus F_{+})$ for τ big enough. Then, for any $\tau > 0$, $(C_{\tau}, \lambda_{\tau})$ is a well covering pair. We conclude like in Section 5.2 that φ_0 is nonnegative on the Kronecker cone. This proves the first assertion of the theorem.

Consider now the limit case $\tau = 0$. The weight spaces are

$\bar{E}\otimes F_{+}$	$\bar{E} \otimes (F \oplus m) \oplus F_+$	$l\otimes (F\oplus m)$
2	1	0

Hence $C_0 \simeq \mathcal{F}l(\bar{E}) \times \mathcal{F}l(F_+) \times \mathbb{P}(F_- \oplus m) \times \mathcal{F}l(1, \dots, e+f-1; \bar{E} \otimes (F_- \oplus m) \oplus F_+) \times \mathbb{P}(F_- \oplus m)$. Moreover $G^{\lambda_0} \simeq \mathrm{GL}(\bar{E}) \times \mathbb{C}^* \times \mathrm{GL}(F_+) \times \mathrm{GL}(F_- \oplus m)$. By [Res11c, Theorem 2]

$$g_{\alpha\beta\gamma} = \dim(\mathrm{H}^0(C_0, (\mathcal{L}^\alpha \otimes \mathcal{L}^\beta \otimes \mathcal{L}_\gamma)_{|C_0})^{G^{\lambda_0}}).$$

The computation of this dimension is made using the formulas (2), (18) and (21) like in Section 6.

9 A final inequality

All but two of the inequalities of Theorem 7 had been extended to the Kronecker coefficients by Theorems 1 and 2. The two exceptions are $\alpha_i \leq \gamma_i$ and $\beta_j \leq \gamma_j$. Consider the second one, up to permuting (α, e) and (β, f) . The extended inequality is

$$\alpha_1 + \beta_1 - \beta_i - n \le \gamma_1 - \gamma_i,$$

for any $f + 1 \ge j \ge 2$.

This inequality is satisfied if $g_{\alpha\beta\gamma} \neq 0$. The proof is obtained by considering $I = \emptyset$ and $J = K = \{j-1\}$ in Section 5.2.

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