

The Littlewood-Richardson triangles and highest weight vectors

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Let $V_{n,p,q} = M_{np}(\mathbb{C}) \oplus M_{nq}(\mathbb{C})$ and let $\mathcal{P}(V_{n,p,q})$ be the algebra of polynomial functions on $V_{n,p,q}$. Let $GL_n(\mathbb{C}) \times GL_p(\mathbb{C}) \times GL_q(\mathbb{C})$ act on $\mathcal{P}(V_{n,p,q})$ by

$$((g, h_1, h_2).f)(X, Y) = f(g^t X h_1, g^{-1} Y h_2)$$

and let \mathcal{R} be the algebra generated by all the $GL_n(\mathbb{C}) \times GL_p(\mathbb{C}) \times GL_q(\mathbb{C})$ highest weight vectors in $\mathcal{P}(V_{n,p,q})$. The algebra \mathcal{R} is graded, and the dimension of each of its homogeneous components is equal to the multiplicity of an irreducible representation of GL_n in the tensor product of two irreducible representations of GL_n . This multiplicity is equal to the number of triangular arrays of integers of the form

$$\begin{array}{cccccccc}
 & & & & a_{00} & & & \\
 & & & & a_{01} & & a_{11} & \\
 & & & a_{02} & & a_{12} & & a_{22} \\
 & & a_{03} & & a_{13} & & a_{23} & & a_{33} \\
 & \vdots & & \dots & & \dots & & \dots & \ddots \\
 a_{0n} & & a_{1n} & & \dots & & \dots & & \dots & & a_{nn}
 \end{array}$$

where the entries a_{ij} satisfies certain conditions. Such an array is called a *Littlewood-Richardson triangle*. We will construct a basis for \mathcal{R} for which the elements of the basis are indexed by a set of Littlewood-Richardson triangles. This is joint work with Roger Howe and Yi Wang.