

The Hilbert scheme of points in the plane and triply-graded homology

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This story was conjectured by Gorsky–Neguț–Rasmussen '16 and extended/refined/mostly proven by Oblomkov–Rozansky in a series of papers.

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Theorem (Fogarty '68): Hilbⁿ(C²) is a $2n$ -dim smooth irreducible variety.

Hilbⁿ(\mathbf{C}^2)

How is Hilbⁿ(\mathbf{C}^2) related to “ n points in \mathbf{C}^2 ”? Fix $[X, Y, \nu] \in \text{Hilb}^n(\mathbf{C}^2)$.

How is Hilbⁿ(C²) related to “*n* points in C²”? Fix $[X, Y, v] \in \text{Hilb}^n(\mathbf{C}^2)$.

- Commuting complex matrices may be simultaneously triangularized, so we may assume X and Y are upper triangular.

$$X = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 & * & * \\ & x_2 & * \\ & & x_3 \end{pmatrix} \quad Y = \begin{pmatrix} y_1 & * & * \\ & y_2 & * \\ & & y_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

The unordered collection of n points $(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_n, y_n)$ in C² is uniquely determined by the class $[X, Y, v]$.

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Hilbⁿ(C²) → (C²)ⁿ/S_n is a resolution of singularities. It is bijective on the set where the n points are distinct.

The zero fiber Z_n

Special subvariety $Z_n \subseteq \text{Hilb}^n(\mathbf{C}^2)$ called the *zero fiber* or the *punctual* Hilbert scheme of n points in \mathbf{C}^2 : the preimage of $n \cdot 0 \in \text{Sym}^n(\mathbf{C}^2)$.

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$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} Y^{n-1}v & & & & & & \\ \vdots & XY^{n-2}v & & & & & \\ Y^2v & \vdots & \ddots & & & & \\ Yv & XYv & \dots & X^{n-2}Yv & & & \\ v & Xv & X^2v & \dots & X^{n-1}v & & \end{array}$$

must span \mathbf{C}^n .

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Example: $n = 2$. Then $Z_2 = \{[X, Y, v]\}$ where $v \in \mathbf{C}^2$, $X, Y: \mathbf{C}^2 \rightarrow \mathbf{C}^2$ commuting and nilpotent, and

$$\begin{pmatrix} Yv \\ v \end{pmatrix} = Xv$$

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Let $w \in \mathbf{C}\langle Xv, Yv \rangle$ be nonzero, and express $Xv = \alpha w$ and $Yv = \beta w$ for $(\alpha, \beta) \in \mathbf{C}^2 \setminus 0$. The ratio $[\alpha : \beta] \in \mathbf{CP}^1$ does not depend on w .

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The map $[X, Y, v] \mapsto [\alpha : \beta]$ is an isomorphism $Z_2 \cong \mathbf{CP}^1$ with inverse

$$[\alpha : \beta] \mapsto \left[\begin{pmatrix} 0 & \alpha \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \beta \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right]$$

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Consider the product $\tilde{Z}_n \times \mathbf{C}^n = \left\{ (X, Y, v, w) \mid \begin{array}{l} [X, Y] = 0, \mathbf{C}[X, Y]v = \mathbf{C}^n \\ X, Y \text{ are nilpotent} \end{array} \right\}$
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What is a global section of T ?

The tautological bundle $T \rightarrow Z_n$

Consider the product $\tilde{Z}_n \times \mathbf{C}^n = \left\{ (X, Y, v, w) \mid \begin{array}{l} [X, Y] = 0, \mathbf{C}[X, Y]v = \mathbf{C}^n \\ X, Y \text{ are nilpotent} \end{array} \right\}$
and $\mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbf{C})$ action $g(X, Y, v, w) = (gXg^{-1}, gYg^{-1}, gv, gw)$. Let T be the quotient, a rank n vector bundle over Z_n called the *tautological vector bundle*.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} T & & [X, Y, v, w] \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ Z_n & & [X, Y, v] \end{array}$$

What is a global section of T ? An assignment $(X, Y, v) \mapsto w \in \mathbf{C}^n$ such that $(gXg^{-1}, gYg^{-1}, gv) \mapsto gw$.

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Here are $\binom{n+1}{2}$ global sections of T :

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \underline{Y^{n-1}v} & & & & & & \\ \vdots & & & & & & \\ \underline{Y^2v} & & & & & & \\ \underline{Yv} & & & & & & \\ \underline{v} & & & & & & \\ \underline{XY^{n-2}v} & & & & & & \\ \vdots & & & & & & \\ \underline{XYv} & & & & & & \\ \underline{Xv} & & & & & & \\ \dots & & & & & & \\ \underline{X^{n-2}Yv} & & & & & & \\ \dots & & & & & & \\ \underline{X^{n-1}v} & & & & & & \end{array}$$

$X^a Y^b v$ is a global section
 $X^a Y^b v$ is a vector in the fiber
 over $[X, Y, v] \in Z_n$

The tautological bundle $T \rightarrow Z_n$

Example: $n = 2$. Then $T \rightarrow Z_2$ is a rank 2 vector bundle with global sections

$$\begin{array}{c} \underline{Y}_V \\ \underline{v} \quad \underline{X}_V \end{array}$$

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Although X_v and Y_v are linearly dependent vectors for any fixed $[X, Y, v] \in Z_2$, the sections \underline{X}_v and \underline{Y}_v are not linearly dependent (the coefficients of $\beta X_v - \alpha Y_v = 0$ are functions of $[X, Y, v]$, not constants).

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The bundle T splits as a direct sum of line bundles $T = \mathbf{C}\langle v \rangle \oplus \mathbf{C}\langle Xv, Yv \rangle$.

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Viewing $Z_2 = \mathbf{CP}^1$, we see that $T = \mathcal{O} \oplus \mathcal{O}(1)$.

The reduced tautological bundle $T_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_n$

For any n , there is a direct sum splitting of the rank n vector bundle T as

$$T = \mathbf{C}\langle v \rangle \oplus T_0 \quad T_0 = \mathbf{C}\langle X^a Y^b v \mid 0 < a + b < n \rangle$$

where $\mathbf{C}\langle v \rangle$ is a trivial rank 1 bundle and T_0 is a rank $n - 1$ vector bundle called the *reduced* tautological bundle.

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Geometric model of $\overline{H}(T_{n,n+1})$: for $d = 0, \dots, n - 1$, the a^d -layer of $\overline{H}(T_{n,n+1})$ is the space of global sections of $\Lambda^{n-1-d} T_0 \rightarrow Z_n$.

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For $n = 2$, $(\underline{at})^{-2} \overline{\mathcal{P}}(T_{2,3})$ is

$$\begin{array}{|c|} \hline a^1 \\ \hline 1 \\ \hline \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{|c|} \hline a^0 \\ \hline 1 \\ \hline 1 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

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a^1	a^0
1	1

Bases for the global sections of $\Lambda^0 T_0 = \underline{\mathbf{C}}$ and $\Lambda^1 T_0 = T_0$ over Z_2 are

$\underline{\mathbf{C}}$	T_0
1	$\underline{Y_v}$ $\underline{X_v}$

Geometric model of $\overline{H}(T_{3,4})$

$(\underline{at})^{-6} \overline{\mathcal{P}}(T_{3,4})$ is

$$\begin{array}{|c|} \hline a^2 \\ \hline 1 \\ \hline \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{|c|} \hline a^1 \\ \hline 1 \quad 1 \\ \hline 1 \quad 1 \\ \hline \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{|c|} \hline a^0 \\ \hline 1 \quad 1 \\ \hline 1 \quad 1 \\ \hline 1 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

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The space of global sections of $\Lambda^2 T_0 = \det T_0$ is spanned by the $\binom{5}{2}$ wedge products

$$\begin{array}{cccc} \underline{Y^2 v \wedge XY v} & \underline{Y^2 \wedge X^2 v} & \underline{XY v \wedge X^2 v} & \\ \underline{Y v \wedge Y^2 v} & \underline{X v \wedge Y^2 v} & \underline{X v \wedge XY v} & \\ \underline{Y v \wedge XY v} & \underline{Y v \wedge X^2 v} & \underline{X v \wedge X^2 v} & \\ & \underline{X v \wedge Y v} & & \end{array}$$

Geometric model of $\overline{H}(T_{3,4})$

$$\begin{array}{cccc}
 \underline{Y^2 v \wedge XYv} & \underline{Y^2 \wedge X^2 v} & \underline{XYv \wedge X^2 v} & \\
 \underline{Yv \wedge Y^2 v} & \frac{\underline{Xv \wedge Y^2 v}}{\underline{Yv \wedge XYv}} & \frac{\underline{Xv \wedge XYv}}{\underline{Yv \wedge X^2 v}} & \underline{Xv \wedge X^2 v} \\
 & \underline{Xv \wedge Yv} & &
 \end{array}$$

Let's fix $[X, Y, v] \in Z_3$ and analyze the 5 vectors $Y^2 v, XYv, X^2 v, Xv, Yv$ in the 2-dim fiber of T_0

Geometric model of $\overline{H}(T_{3,4})$

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 \underline{Y^2 v \wedge XYv} & \underline{Y^2 \wedge X^2 v} & \underline{XYv \wedge X^2 v} & \\
 \underline{Yv \wedge Y^2 v} & \frac{Xv \wedge Y^2 v}{Yv \wedge XYv} & \frac{Xv \wedge XYv}{Yv \wedge X^2 v} & \underline{Xv \wedge X^2 v} \\
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- Claim: $\mathbf{C}\langle Y^2 v, XYv, X^2 v \rangle$ is at most 1-dim.

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Geometric model of $\overline{H}(T_{3,4})$

$$\begin{array}{cccc}
 \underline{Y_V \wedge Y^2_V} & \underline{X_V \wedge Y^2_V} & \underline{X_V \wedge XY_V} & \underline{X_V \wedge X^2_V} \\
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 \underline{Y_V \wedge Y^2_V} & \frac{X_V \wedge Y^2_V}{Y_V \wedge XY_V} & \frac{X_V \wedge XY_V}{Y_V \wedge X^2_V} & \underline{X_V \wedge X^2_V} \\
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- Claim: $X_v \wedge Y^2_v = Y_v \wedge XY_v$ (and similarly $X_v \wedge XY_v = Y_v \wedge X^2_v$)
 - If $Y^2_v \neq 0$, then Y_v, Y^2_v form a basis for this 2-dim fiber. Expressing $X_v = aY_v + bY^2_v$, we get $X_v \wedge Y^2_v = a(Y_v \wedge Y^2_v) = Y_v \wedge XY_v$.

Geometric model of $\overline{H}(T_{3,4})$

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 - If $Y^2_v = 0$, then $Y_v \wedge XY_v = 0$. Otherwise $X_v \in \mathbf{C}\langle Y_v, XY_v \rangle$, which implies $YX_v \in \mathbf{C}\langle Y^2_v, XY^2_v \rangle = 0$.

Geometric model of $\overline{H}(T_{3,4})$

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The remaining 5 wedge product sections are linearly independent.

Geometric model of $\overline{H}(T_{n,n+1})$

A basis for the global sections of $\Lambda^2 T_0 = \det T_0$ is

$$\begin{array}{l} Y_v \wedge Y^2_v \\ Y_v \wedge X Y_v \\ X_v \wedge Y_v \quad X_v \wedge X Y_v \\ X_v \wedge X^2_v \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} 1 \quad \quad a^0 \\ \quad 1 \\ \quad 1 \quad 1 \\ \quad \quad \quad 1 \end{array}$$

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The q, t -gradings are the X - and Y -degrees:

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 Xv \wedge X^2v
 \end{array}
 \qquad
 \begin{array}{l}
 1 \qquad a^0 \\
 \quad 1 \\
 \quad 1 \quad 1 \\
 \qquad \qquad 1
 \end{array}$$

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 \end{array}$$

The q, t -gradings are the X - and Y -degrees: there is a $(\mathbf{C}^\times)^2$ -action on Z_n given by $(q, t)[X, Y, v] = [qX, tY, v]$ which induces a $(\mathbf{C}^\times)^2$ -action/biggrading on $H^0(\Lambda^{n-1-d} T_0)$

Theorem (Haiman '02 and Haglund '03): The q, t -Hilbert polynomial of $H^0(\Lambda^{n-1-d} T_0)$ is the q, t -Schröder number. In particular, the q, t -Hilbert polynomial of $H^0(\det T_0)$ is the q, t -Catalan number.

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which induces an action of $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbf{C})$ on $H^0(\Lambda^* T_0)$. Basically $E = X \frac{\partial}{\partial Y}$ and $F = Y \frac{\partial}{\partial X}$.

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- $d_{N|M}$ differentials: the map $H^0(\Lambda^* T_0) \rightarrow H^0(\Lambda^{*+1} T_0)$ given by wedge product with $X^N Y^M v$.

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