Convergence criteria for FI_W -algebras and polynomial statistics on maximal tori in type B/C

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Abstract

A result of Lehrer describes a beautiful relationship between topological and combinatorial data on certain families of varieties with actions of finite reflection groups. His formula relates the cohomology of complex varieties to point counts on associated varieties over finite fields. Church, Ellenberg, and Farb use their *representation stability* results on the cohomology of flag manifolds, together with classical results on the cohomology rings, to prove asymptotic stability for "polynomial" statistics on associated varieties over finite fields. In this paper we investigate the underlying algebraic structure of these families' cohomology rings that makes the formulas convergent. We prove that asymptotic stability holds in general for subquotients of FI_W–algebras finitely generated in degree at most one, a result that is in a sense sharp. As a consequence, we obtain convergence results for polynomial statistics on the set of maximal tori in Sp_{2n}($\overline{\mathbb{F}_q}$) and SO_{2n+1}($\overline{\mathbb{F}_q}$) that are invariant under the Frobenius morphism. Our results also give a new proof of the stability theorem for invariant maximal tori in GL_n($\overline{\mathbb{F}_q}$) due to Church–Ellenberg–Farb.

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1 Introduction

In this paper we study the complete complex flag varieties associated to the linear groups $SO_{2n+1}(\mathbb{C})$ and $Sp_{2n}(\mathbb{C})$ of type B and C, respectively. These spaces and their cohomology algebras are described in Section 4.1; their cohomology admits actions of the signed permutation group B_n . A remarkable formula due to Lehrer [Leh92] relates the representation theory of these cohomology groups with point-counts on varieties over \mathbb{F}_q that parametrize maximal tori in $SO_{2n+1}(\overline{\mathbb{F}_q})$ and $Sp_{2n}(\overline{\mathbb{F}_q})$. One result of this paper is to exhibit a form of convergence for these formulas as the parameter *n* tends to infinity.

Church, Ellenberg, and Farb prove that the cohomology groups of the flag varieties associated to $GL_n(\mathbb{C})$ are *representation stable* with respect to the S_n -action [CEF15, Theorem 1.11]. Using this result and a description of the cohomology due to Chevalley, they establish asymptotic stability for "polynomial" statistics on the set of Frobenius-stable maximal tori in $GL_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$ [CEF14, Theorem 5.6]. In Theorem 4.3 we prove the corresponding result in type B and C, using a representation stability result of the second author [Wil14].

To establish our results, we give general combinatorial criteria on the cohomology algebras of the complex varieties that ensure convergence. This is one of few results in the FI-module literature that makes full use of the multiplicative structure on the FI_W -algebras. Church-Ellenberg-Farb prove convergence for statistics on maximal tori in type A using sophisticated results specific to these cohomology algebras. This paper shows that convergence in fact follows from much simpler features of the algebras.

$\label{eq:rescaled} \begin{array}{l} Fr_{\it q}\mbox{-stable maximal tori statistic} \\ for Sp_{2n}(\overline{\mathbb{F}_{q}}) \mbox{ and } SO_{2n+1}(\overline{\mathbb{F}_{q}}) \end{array}$	Hyperoctahedral character	Formula in terms of n	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Limit}\\ \text{as } \mathbf{n} \rightarrow \infty \end{array}$
Total number of Fr _q -stable maximal tori	1	q^{2n^2} (Steinberg)	
Expected number of 1-dimensional Fr_q -stable subtori	$X_1 + Y_1$	$1 + \frac{1}{q^2} + \frac{1}{q^4} + \dots + \frac{1}{q^{2n-2}}$	$\frac{q^2}{(q^2-1)}$
Expected number of split 1-dimensional Fr_q -stable subtori	X_1	$\frac{1}{2}\left(1+\frac{1}{q}+\frac{1}{q^2}+\cdots+\frac{1}{q^{2n-1}}\right)$	$\frac{q}{2(q-1)}$
Expected value of reducible minus irreducible Fr _q -stable 2-dimensional subtori	$\binom{X_1+Y_1}{2} - (X_2+Y_2)$	$\frac{\left(q^4 - \frac{1}{q^{2n}}\right)\left(1 - \frac{1}{q^{2(n-1)}}\right)}{(q^2 - 1)(q^4 - 1)}$	$\frac{q^4}{(q^2-1)(q^4-1)}$
Expected value of split minus non-split Fr _q -stable 2-dimensional irreducible subtori	$X_2 - Y_2$	$\frac{q^2 \left(1 - \frac{1}{q^{2n}}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{q^{2(n-1)}}\right)}{2 \left(q^4 - 1\right)}$	$\frac{q^2}{2\left(q^4-1\right)}$

Table 1: Some statistics for Frobenius-stable maximal tori of $\mathrm{Sp}_{2n}(\overline{\mathbb{F}_q})$) and $\mathrm{SO}_{2n+1}(ar{\mathbb{I}})$	$\overline{\mathbb{F}_q}$
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Examples of limiting statistics computed in Section 4.3 are presented in Table 1; the notation in this table is defined below. The first of these result is due to Steinberg [Ste68, Corollary 14.16], and the other results appear to be new.

A general convergence result: algebras generated in low degree

A primary goal of this paper is to describe the underlying algebraic structure on the cohomology algebras that drives these stability results. Throughout, we will use the notation W_n to denote either the family of symmetric groups S_n (the Weyl groups in type A) or the family of hyperoctahedral groups B_n (the Weyl groups in type B/C). We prove in Section 3.2 that convergence of the statistics on maximal tori in type A and B/C holds because the graded pieces of the associated coinvariant algebras are, as a sequence of graded W_n -representations, subquotients of what we call an FI_W -algebra finitely generated in degree at most 1. Terminology and basic theory of FI_W -modules is summarized in Section 2.2. Speaking informally, these FI_W -algebras are sequences of graded algebras with W_n -actions that are generated by representations of W_0 and W_1 . Concretely, they include the sequence of algebras $\Gamma^*_{W_n}$ which we now define.

Let k be a subfield of \mathbb{C} . Let $M(1)_n$ denote the k-vector space with basis x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n . The symmetric group S_n acts on the variables x_i by permuting the subscripts. Let $M(0)_n$ denote the k-vector space generated by the single element y with trivial S_n -action. Then for any integers $b, c \ge 0$ let $\Gamma_{S_n}^*$ be the graded algebra generated by

$$M(\mathbf{0})_n^{\oplus b} \oplus M(\mathbf{1})_n^{\oplus c}$$

with each copy of $M(\mathbf{0})_n$ and $M(\mathbf{1})_n$ assigned a positive grading. The algebra $\Gamma_{S_n}^*$ may be taken to be commutative, anticommutative, or graded-commutative. It inherits a diagonal action of S_n on its monomials.

Analogously, let $M_{BC}(1)_n$ be the k-vector space with basis $x_1, x_{\overline{1}}, x_2, x_{\overline{2}}, \ldots, x_n, x_{\overline{n}}$. The hyperoctahedral group B_n acts on the variables x_i by permuting and negating the subscripts. Again let $M_{BC}(0)_n$ be the k-vector space generated by a variable y with trivial B_n action. Let $\Gamma_{B_n}^*$ be the symmetric, exterior, or graded-commutative algebra generated by

$$M_{BC}(\mathbf{0})_n^{\oplus b} \oplus M_{BC}(\mathbf{1})_n^{\oplus c}$$

with each family of variables graded in positive degree.

Theorem 3.5 shows the algebras $\Gamma_{W_n}^*$ and their subquotients satisfy a convergence property with respect to certain family of 'polynomial' class functions, first defined on the symmetric groups by MacDonald [Mac79, I.7 Example 14] as follows. For any permutation σ and positive integer r, let X_r be the function that outputs the number $X_r(\sigma)$ of r-cycles in the cycle type of σ . Polynomials in the functions X_r , called *character polynomials*, play a major role in the theory of representation stability developed by Church–Ellenberg–Farb [CEF15]. In Section 2.1.2 we recall an analogous definition for the Weyl group B_n in type B and C. These *hyperoctahedral character polynomials* are polynomials

$$P \in \Bbbk[X_1, Y_1, X_2, Y_2, \ldots]$$

in the 'signed cycle counting functions' X_r and Y_r on B_n . See Section 2.1 for the prerequisite background on the representation theory of the groups B_n and a precise definition of these class functions.

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Theorem 3.5 is a stability result for the asymptotics of the inner products $\langle P_n, A_n^d \rangle_{W_n}$ of a character polynomial P with a subquotient A_n^d of $\Gamma_{W_n}^d$. This is precisely the stability result needed to prove convergence of the point-counts that appear in Lehrer's formulas.

Theorem 3.5 (Criteria for convergence). Let W_n denote one of the families S_n or B_n . Let $\Gamma_{W_n}^*$ be one of the commutative, exterior, or graded commutative algebras defined above, and let $\{A_n^d\}$ be any sequence of graded W_n -representations such that A_n^d is a subrepresentation of $\Gamma_{W_n}^d$. Then for any W_n character polynomial P and integer q > 1 the following series converges absolutely

$$\sum_{d=0}^{\infty} \frac{\lim_{n\to\infty} \langle P_n, A_n^d \rangle_{\mathcal{W}_n}}{q^d}$$

The proof (given in Section 3.2) uses an analysis of the combinatorics of coloured partitions. A closely related result in Type A is proved in [FW] using very different methods; see Remark 3.9.

A failure of convergence

In forthcoming work [JRW] the authors show that, in contrast to Theorem 3.5, convergence may fail for FI_W-algebras generated in degree 2 or greater. To give a concrete example, let A_n^* be the polynomial algebra $k[x_{1,2}, x_{1,3}, x_{2,3}, x_{1,4}, \dots, x_{n-1,n}]$ generated by commuting variables $x_{i,j} = x_{j,i}$, $i \neq j$, in graded degree 1, with an action of W_n by permuting the indices. Then the series

$$\sum_{d=0}^{\infty} \frac{\lim_{n \to \infty} \langle P_n, A_n^d \rangle_{\mathcal{W}_n}}{q^d}$$

does not converge for any positive integer q even for the constant character polynomial P = 1. This counterexample shows a fundamental difference in the asymptotic behaviour of FI_W -algebras generated by representations of W_0 or W_1 and those generated by representations of W_n in degree $n \ge 2$.

An application: polynomial statistics for coinvariant algebras and Fr_a-stable maximal tori

We apply Theorem 3.5 to the family $\{R_n^d\}$, where R_n^d denotes the d^{th} -graded piece of the complex coinvariant algebra R_n^* in type A or in type B/C. A description of these algebras appears in Section 4.1.3. We obtain a convergent formula in Proposition 4.4 for coinvariant algebras of type B/C and give a new proof of the result in type A (see [CEF14, Theorem 5.6] and Remark 4.5). Theorem 3.5 shows that the convergence of this formula follows because the complex coinvariant algebras are quotients of the polynomial rings $\mathbb{C}[x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n]$; convergence does not depend on any deeper structural features of these algebras.

For a general connected reductive group **G** defined over \mathbb{F}_q , let $\mathcal{T}^{\operatorname{Fr}_q}$ denote the set of maximal tori of $\mathbf{G}(\overline{\mathbb{F}_q})$ that are stable under the action of Fr_q , the Frobenius morphism. Fr_q -stable maximal tori of reductive groups **G** defined over \mathbb{F}_q are fundamental to the study of the representation theory of the finite group $\mathbf{G}^{\operatorname{Fr}_q}$ [DL76]. More background is given in Section 4.1. Lehrer [Leh92] obtained remarkable formulas that relate functions that are defined on the set $\mathcal{T}^{\operatorname{Fr}_q}$ with

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the character theory of the Weyl group of **G**. We recall one of Lehrer's formulas in Theorem 4.2 for the cases when **G** is the symplectic group Sp_{2n} or the special orthogonal group SO_{2n+1} ; the formula connects functions on $\mathcal{T}^{\text{Fr}_q}$ and the cohomology of the generalized flag varieties associated to $\mathbf{G}(\mathbb{C})$.

In Section 4.1.2 we describe how the hyperoctahedral character polynomials of Section 2.1.2 define functions on $\mathcal{T}^{\operatorname{Fr}_q}$. Specifically, for $T \in \mathcal{T}^{\operatorname{Fr}_q}$, $X_r(T)$ is the number of *r*-dimensional Fr_q -stable subtori of *T* irreducible over \mathbb{F}_q that split over \mathbb{F}_{q^r} , and $Y_r(T)$ is the number of *r*-dimensional Fr_q stable subtori of *T* irreducible over \mathbb{F}_q that do not split over \mathbb{F}_{q^r} . In Section 4, we combine Lehrer's formula with Proposition 4.4 to establish asymptotic results for these polynomial statistics on the set of Fr_q -stable maximal tori of $\operatorname{Sp}_{2n}(\overline{\mathbb{F}_q})$ and of $\operatorname{SO}_{2n+1}(\overline{\mathbb{F}_q})$. We obtain Theorem 4.3 below, the type B and C analogues to [CEF15, Theorem 5.6] for Fr_q -stable maximal tori for $\operatorname{GL}_n(\overline{\mathbb{F}_q})$.

Theorem 4.3. (Stability of maximal tori statistics). Let q be an integral power of a prime p. For $n \ge 1$, denote by $\mathcal{T}_n^{Fr_q}$ the set of Fr_q -stable maximal tori for either $Sp_{2n}(\overline{\mathbb{F}_p})$ or $SO_{2n+1}(\overline{\mathbb{F}_p})$. Let R_m^d denote the d^{th} -graded piece of the complex coinvariant algebra R_m^* in type B/C. If $P \in \mathbb{C}[X_1, Y_1, X_2, Y_2, \ldots]$ is any hyperoctahedral character polynomial, then the normalized statistic

$$q^{-2n^2} \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_n^{Fr_q}} P(T)$$

converges as $n \to \infty$ *. In fact,*

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} q^{-2n^2} \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_n^{\mathbb{F}r_q}} P(T) = \sum_{d=0}^{\infty} \frac{\lim_{m \to \infty} \langle P_m, R_m^d \rangle_{B_m}}{q^d}$$

and the series in the right hand converges.

At the end of Section 4, we use Theorem 4.3 and Stembridge's formula for decomposing the B_n -representation R_n^d (see Theorem 4.7) to compute the specific asymptotic counts in Table 1.

Related work

Fulman [Ful16, Section 3] uses generating functions to recover the specific counts obtained by Church–Ellenberg–Farb [CEF14] for Fr_q -stable maximal tori in $\operatorname{GL}_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$. Chen uses generating function techniques to obtain a linear recurrence on the stable twisted Betti numbers of the associated flag varieties[Che, Corollary 2 (II)]. These methods should also apply to study maximal tori of other classical groups, including the ones considered in this paper. They offer an alternate approach to performing the computations in Section 4.3, and may shed further light on the structure of the asymptotic formulas.

Farb and Wolfson [FW] extend the methods of Church–Ellenberg–Farb [CEF14] to establish new algebro-geometric results. In [FW, Theorem B] they prove that configuration spaces of *n* points in smooth varieties have *convergent cohomology* [FW, Definition 3.1] and obtain arithmetic statistics for configuration spaces over finite fields [FW, Theorem C].

The results of this paper and the work of Church–Ellenberg–Farb [CEF14] complement the existing literature on enumerative properties of matrix groups over finite fields; see, eg, [NP95,

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NP98, Ful99, Wal99, NP00, Bri02, FNP05, LNP09, NP10, NPP10, NPS13, BGPW13, NPP14]. These authors seek, for example, to determine the proportion of elements in certain finite matrix groups that are *cyclic*, *separable*, *semisimple*, or *regular*. Their methods are different from those in this paper, and include the calculus of generating functions, complex analysis, classical Lie theory, finite group theory, analytic number theory, and statistics. This probabilistic approach to the study of finite groups has applications to algorithm design in group theory, random matrix theory, and combinatorics.

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2 Preliminaries

In this section we summarize some necessary background material and terminology. Section 2.1 describes the representation theory of the hyperoctahedral groups in characteristic zero. In Section 2.2 we review the foundations of FI_W -modules developed by Church-Ellenberg-Farb [CEF15] in type A and by the second author [Wil14, Wil15] in type B/C. Section 2.3 defines the asymptotic notation that will be used in this paper.

Notation 2.1. (The inner product $\langle -, - \rangle_G$). Throughout the paper, given a finite group *G* we write $\langle -, - \rangle_G$ to denote the standard inner product on the space of class functions of *G*. By abuse of notation we may write a *G*-representation *V* in one or both arguments to indicate the character of *V*.

2.1 Representation theory of the hyperoctahedral group B_n

Let B_n denote the Weyl group in type B_n/C_n , the wreath product

$$B_n \cong \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \wr S_n = (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^n \rtimes S_n,$$

which we call the *hyperoctahedral group* or *signed permutation group*. By convention B_0 is the trivial group. We may view B_n as the subgroup of permutations $S_{\Omega} \cong S_{2n}$ on the set $\Omega = \{1, \overline{1}, 2, \overline{2}, \dots, n, \overline{n}\}$ defined by

$$B_n = \{ \sigma \in S_\Omega \mid \sigma(\overline{a}) = \sigma(a) \text{ for all } 1 \le a \le n \}$$

Here \overline{a} denotes negative *a*; in general the bar represents the operation of negation and satisfies $\overline{\overline{a}} = a$ for $a \in \Omega$.

2.1.1 Conjugacy classes of the hyperoctahedral groups

The conjugacy classes of B_n are classified by *signed cycle type*, defined as follows. A *positive r–cycle* is a signed permutation of the form $(s_1s_2\cdots s_r)(\overline{s_1}\,\overline{s_2}\cdots \overline{s_r}) \in S_{\Omega}$, $s_i \in \Omega$. This element reverses

the sign of an even number of letters. A *negative* r-cycle is a signed permutation of the form $(s_1s_2\cdots s_r\overline{s_1}\cdots \overline{s_r}) \in S_{\Omega}$, which reverses an odd number of signs. The r^{th} power of a positive r-cycle is the identity, whereas the r^{th} power of a negative r-cycle is the product of r transpositions $(s_i\overline{s_i})$. Positive and negative r-cycles project to r-cycles under the natural surjection $B_n \to S_n$. For example, $(1\overline{3}2)(\overline{1}3\overline{2})$ is a positive 3-cycle and $(1\overline{3}2\overline{1}3\overline{2})$ is a negative 3-cycle which both project to the 3-cycle $(132) \in S_n$.

In 1930 Young [You30] proved that signed permutations factor uniquely as a product of positive and negative cycles, and two signed permutations are conjugate if and only if they have the same signed cycle type. We represent the signed cycle type of a signed permutation by a double partition (λ, μ) , where λ is a partition with a part of length r for each positive r-cycle, and μ a partition encoding the negative r-cycles.

2.1.2 Character polynomials for *B_n*

Given a signed permutation σ , let $X_r(\sigma)$ denote the number of positive *r*-cycles in its signed cycle type, and let $Y_r(\sigma)$ be the number of negative *r*-cycles. Then X_r and Y_r define class functions on the disjoint union $\coprod_{n\geq 0} B_n$. A *character polynomial* with coefficients in a ring k is a polynomial $P \in \mathbb{K}[X_1, Y_1, X_2, Y_2, \ldots]$, in analogy to the character polynomials for the symmetric groups defined by MacDonald [Mac79, I.7 Example 14]. A character polynomial P restricts to a class function on B_n for every $n \geq 0$; we denote its restriction by P_n . We define the *degree* of a character polynomial by setting $\deg(X_r) = \deg(Y_r) = r$ for all $r \geq 1$.

Let μ and λ be partitions, and let n_r be the function on the set of partitions that takes a partition and outputs the number of parts of size r. The space of character polynomials is spanned by polynomials of the form

$$P_{\mu,\lambda} = \binom{X}{\mu} \binom{Y}{\lambda} := \prod_{r \ge 1} \binom{X_r}{n_r(\mu)} \binom{Y_r}{n_r(\lambda)}.$$

When $n = |\lambda| + |\mu|$ the restriction of $P_{\mu,\lambda}$ to B_n is the indicator function for signed permutations of signed cycle type (λ, μ) .

2.1.3 Classification of irreducible *B_n*-representations

The irreducible complex representations of B_n are in natural bijection with *double partitions* of n, that is, ordered pairs of partitions (λ, μ) such that $|\lambda| + |\mu| = n$. These irreducible representations are constructed from representations of the symmetric group S_n ; this construction is described (for example) in Geck–Pfeiffer [GP00].

From the canonical surjection $B_n \to S_n$ we can pull back representations of S_n to B_n . Let $V_{(\lambda,\varnothing)}$ denote the irreducible B_n -representation pulled back from the S_n -representation associated to the partition λ of n. Let $V_{(\varnothing,(n))}$ denote the 1-dimensional representation of B_n where a signed permutation acts by 1 or -1 depending on whether it reverses an even or odd number of signs. Then for any partition μ of n we denote $V_{(\varnothing,\mu)} := V_{(\mu,\varnothing)} \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} V_{(\varnothing,(n))}$. In general, for partitions λ of k and μ of m, we define the B_{k+m} -representation

$$V_{(\lambda,\mu)} := \operatorname{Ind}_{B_k \times B_m}^{B_{k+m}} V_{(\lambda,\emptyset)} \boxtimes V_{(\emptyset,\mu)}.$$

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For each double partition (λ, μ) the representation $V_{(\lambda,\mu)}$ is distinct and irreducible, and this construction gives a complete list of irreducible complex B_n -representations. As with the symmetric group, each complex irreducible representation is defined over the rational numbers, and each representation is self-dual [GP00, Corollary 3.2.14].

2.2 The theory of FI_{W} -modules

Church–Ellenberg–Farb [CEF15] introduced the theory of *FI–modules* to study sequences of representations of the symmetric groups S_n . FI denotes the category of finite sets and injective maps; an *FI–module* over a ring R is a functor from FI to the category of R–modules. Their results were generalized by the second author to sequences of representations of the classical Weyl groups in type B/C and D [Wil14, Wil15].

Definition 2.2. (The categories FI and FI_{BC}). Following Church–Ellenberg–Farb [CEF15], we let FI denote the category of finite sets and injective maps. We write **n** or [n] to denote the object $\{1, 2, ..., n\}$ and $\mathbf{0} := \emptyset$. Following work of the second author [Wil14, Wil15], we let FI_{BC} denote the type B/C analogue of FI; we may define FI_{BC} to be the category where the objects are finite sets $\mathbf{n} := \{1, \overline{1}, ..., n, \overline{n}\}$, and the morphisms are all injective maps $f : \mathbf{m} \to \mathbf{n}$ satisfying $f(\overline{a}) = \overline{f(a)}$ for all a in **m**. Notably the endomorphisms End(**n**) of FI are the symmetric groups S_n , and the endomorphisms End(**n**) of FI are the categories FI and FI_{BC} generically by W_n , and we denote the categories FI and FI_{BC} generically by FI_W.

The following definitions appear in Church–Ellenberg–Farb [CEF15] and Wilson [Wil14].

Definition 2.3. ((Graded) FI_W -modules and FI_W -algebras). Fix W_n to denote either S_n or B_n . Let k be a ring, assumed commutative and with unit. An FI_W -module V over k is a functor from FI_W to the category of k-modules; its image is sequence of W_n -representations $V_n := V(\mathbf{n})$ with actions of the FI_W morphisms. A graded FI_{BC} -module V^* over a ring k is a functor from FI_{BC} to the category of graded k-modules; a graded FI_W -algebra A^* over k is a functor from FI_W to the category of graded k-algebras. Each graded piece V^d or A^d inherits an FI_W -module structure. We will refer to d as the graded-degree and n as the FI_W -degree of the k-module V_n^d .

Definition 2.4. (Finite generation; degree of generation; finite type). Let W_n denoted either the family of symmetric groups or the family of signed permutation groups. An FI_W-module V is generated (as an FI_W-module) by elements $\{v_i\} \subseteq \coprod_n V_n$ if V is the smallest FI_W-submodule containing those elements. A graded FI_W-algebra A^* is generated (as an FI_W-algebra) by the set $\{v_i\} \subseteq \coprod_n A_n^*$ if A is the smallest FI_W-subalgebra containing $\{v_i\}$. An FI_W-module or FI_Walgebra V is finitely generated if it has a finite generating set, and V is generated in FI_W-degree $\leq m$ if it has a generating set $v_i \in V_{m_i}$ such that $m_i \leq m$ for all i. A graded FI_W-module or algebra V* has finite type if each graded piece V^d is a finitely generated FI_W-module.

Definition 2.5. (Weight; slope). Church–Ellenberg–Farb defined an FI–module *V* over a subfield k of \mathbb{C} to have *weight* $\leq m$ if for every *n*, every irreducible S_n –representation V_{λ} , $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \ldots, \lambda_r)$, occuring in V_n satisfies $(n - \lambda_1) \leq m$. Analogously an FI_{BC}–module *V* over a subfield of \mathbb{C} has *weight* $\leq m$ if for all *n* every irreducible B_n –representation $V_{(\lambda,\mu)}$, $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \ldots, \lambda_r)$, satisfies $(n - \lambda_1) \leq m$. A graded FI_W–module or algebra V^* has *finite slope M* if V^d has weight at most dM.

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FI– and FI_{BC}–modules over \Bbbk generated in degree at most *m* necessarily have weight at most *m* [CEF15, Proposition 2.3.5], [Wil14, Theorem 4.4].

Some of the early results on FI– and FI_{BC} –modules concern the implications of finite generation for the structure of an FI_W –module and its characters: over characteristic zero, a finitely generated FI_W –module is *uniformly representation stable* in the sense of Church–Farb [CF13, Definition 2.3], and its characters are *eventually polynomial*. The following result was proved by Church–Ellenberg– Farb [CEF15] in type A and the second author [Wil14, Wil15] in types B/C and D.

Theorem 2.6. (Constraints on finitely generated FI_W -modules). Let V be an FI_W -module over a subfield \Bbbk of \mathbb{C} which is finitely generated in degree $\leq m$.

- (Uniform representation stability)([CEF15, Theorem 1.13], [Wil14, Theorem 4.27]). The sequence V_n is uniformly representation stable with respect to the maps induced by the FI_W -morphisms the natural inclusions $I_n : \mathbf{n} \to (\mathbf{n} + \mathbf{1})$, stabilizing once $n \ge m + stabdeg(V)$. In particular, in the decomposition of V_n into irreducible W_n -representations, the multiplicities of the irreducible representations are eventually independent of n in the sense of representation stability [CF13, Definition 2.3].
- (Character polynomials)([CEF15, Proposition 3.3.3 and Theorem 3.3.4], [Wil15, Theorem 4.6]). Let χ_n denote the character of the W_n -representation V_n . Then there exists a unique character polynomial F_V of degree at most m such that $F_V(\sigma) = \chi_n(\sigma)$ for all $\sigma \in W_n$, for all n sufficiently large.

A major tool in the analysis of finitely generated FI– and FI_{BC} –modules is their relationship to represented functors and their subfunctors.

Definition 2.7. (The FI_W-modules $M(\mathbf{m})$). We denote the *represented* FI or FI_{BC}-module over \Bbbk by

$$M(\mathbf{m}) := \mathbb{k} \left| \operatorname{Hom}_{\operatorname{FI}}(\mathbf{m}, -) \right| \qquad \qquad M_{BC}(\mathbf{m}) := \mathbb{k} \left| \operatorname{Hom}_{\operatorname{FI}_{BC}}(\mathbf{m}, -) \right|$$

The FI–module $M(\mathbf{m})_n \cong \mathbb{k}[\operatorname{Hom}_{\operatorname{FI}}(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n})]$ has \mathbb{k} –basis

 $S_n/S_{n-m} \cong \{e_{i_1,i_2,\ldots,i_m} \mid (i_1,i_2,\ldots,i_m) \text{ is an ordered } m\text{-tuple of distinct positive elements of } \mathbf{n}\}$

where the *m*-tuple $(i_1, i_2, ..., i_m)$ encodes the image of the *m* elements (1, 2, ..., m) under an FImorphism $\mathbf{m} \to \mathbf{n}$. Similarly, the FI_{BC}-module $M_{BC}(\mathbf{m})_n \cong \mathbb{k}[\text{Hom}_{\text{FI}_{BC}}(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n})]$ has \mathbb{k} -basis

$$B_n/B_{n-m} \cong \begin{cases} e_{i_1,i_2,\dots,i_m} & (i_1,i_2,\dots,i_m) \text{ is an ordered } m\text{-tuple of elements of } n; \\ \text{at most one of } a \text{ or } \overline{a} \text{ appears at most once} \end{cases}$$

where the *m*-tuple $(i_1, i_2, ..., i_m)$ encodes the image of the *m* elements (1, 2, ..., m) under an FI_{*BC*}-morphism $\mathbf{m} \to \mathbf{n}$. By an orbit-stabilizer argument we have isomorphisms of \mathcal{W}_n -representations

$$M(\mathbf{m})_n \cong \mathbb{k}[S_n/S_{n-m}] \qquad \qquad M_{BC}(\mathbf{m})_n \cong \mathbb{k}[B_n/B_{n-m}].$$

We denote the functors $M(\mathbf{m})$ and $M_{BC}(\mathbf{m})$ generically by $M_{W}(\mathbf{m})$. An FI_W-module *V* over \Bbbk is finitely generated in degree $\leq p$ if and only if it is a quotient of a finite direct sum of represented functors $M_{W}(\mathbf{m})$ with $m \leq p$; see Church-Ellenberg–Farb [CEF15, Proposition 2.3.5] and Wilson [Wil14, Proposition 3.15].

2.3 Asymptotics and asymptotic notation

The following terminology features in the results of Section 3 on asymptotic stability.

Definition 2.8. (Asymptotic equivalence; asymptotic bounds; Big and little O notation). For functions f(d) and g(d), $d \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$, we say that f is *asymptotically equivalent* to g and write $f \sim g$ if

$$\lim_{d \to \infty} \frac{f(d)}{g(d)} = 1$$

We say f is order o(g) if

$$\lim_{d \to \infty} \frac{f(d)}{g(d)} = 0.$$

We say that f is order O(g) or that f is asymptotically bounded by g if

 $|f(d)| \le C|g(d)|$ for some constant *C* and all *d* sufficiently large.

Note that the set of functions in O(g) are closed under linear combinations (though not products).

Definition 2.9. (Subexponential growth). We say that a function f(d) is *subexponential* if f is order $2^{o(d)}$. Notably, if f is subexponential in d and $0 \le r < 1$ then the series $\sum_d f(d)r^d$ converges absolutely.

A classical example:

Proposition 2.10 (Hardy–Ramanujan [HR18], Uspensky [Usp20]). (Growth of partitions). The number $\mathcal{P}(n)$ of partitions of *n* satisfies

$$\mathcal{P}(n) \sim \frac{1}{4n\sqrt{3}} e^{\pi \sqrt{\frac{2n}{3}}}.$$

In particular $\mathcal{P}(n)$ is subexponential in n.

3 Asymptotic stability

The main goal of this section is to prove Theorem 3.5, a general convergence result for FI_W -algebras finitely generated in FI_W -degrees 0 and 1. Using the terminology and notation from the previous section, Theorem B can be restated as Theorem 3.5 below. We collect first some preliminary combinatorial results in Section 3.1 to study the asymptotic behavior of FI_W -modules and their character polynomials. We then use these results in Section 3.2 to obtain Theorem 3.5.

3.1 Asymptotics of character polynomials

Each of the results Propositions 3.1, Lemma 3.2, and Lemma 3.4 mirrors a result proven by Church– Ellenberg–Farb [CEF14] in Type A, and their methods can generally be modified to give arguments in Type B/C. For the sake of completeness we briefly describe these proofs in the case of the hyperoctahedral groups. **Proposition 3.1. (Stability for inner products of character polynomials).** Fix a family W_n to be S_n or B_n . Let \Bbbk be a subfield of \mathbb{C} . Let P, Q be two W_n character polynomials. Then the inner product $\langle Q_n, P_n \rangle_{W_n}$ is independent of n for $n \ge \deg(P) + \deg(Q)$.

Proof. This result was proved for S_n by Church–Ellenberg–Farb [CEF14, Proposition 3.9] and their proof adapts readily to type B/C; we briefly summarize this proof. Since $\langle Q_n, P_n \rangle_{B_n} = \langle 1, Q_n P_n \rangle_{B_n}$ it suffices to check in the case when Q = 1 and P is the element

$$P_{\mu,\lambda} = \binom{X}{\mu} \binom{Y}{\lambda} := \prod_{r \ge 1} \binom{X_r}{n_r(\mu)} \binom{Y_r}{n_r(\lambda)}$$

associated to two partitions μ and λ . Let $d = |\mu| + |\lambda|$, and notice that $\deg(P) = d$. Let $\delta_{\lambda,\mu}$ denote the indicator function for the conjugacy class (μ, λ) in B_d . Let $N_{\mu,\lambda}$ denote the size of the conjugacy class (μ, λ) in B_d . Then for $n \ge d$,

$$\left\langle \begin{pmatrix} X\\ \mu \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} Y\\ \lambda \end{pmatrix}, 1 \right\rangle_{B_n} = \frac{1}{|B_n|} \sum_{\sigma \in B_n} \sum_{S \subseteq [n], |S| = d} \delta_{\lambda, \mu}(\sigma|_{S \cup \overline{S}})$$

where $\delta_{\lambda,\mu}(\sigma|_{S\cup\overline{S}}) := 0$ if $S \cup \overline{S}$ is not stabilized by σ . So

$$\left\langle \begin{pmatrix} X\\ \mu \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} Y\\ \lambda \end{pmatrix}, 1 \right\rangle_{B_n} = \frac{1}{|B_n|} \begin{pmatrix} n\\ d \end{pmatrix} N_{\mu,\lambda} |B_{n-d}|$$
$$= \frac{N_{\mu,\lambda}}{2^d d!}$$

Hence for $n \ge d = \deg(P) + \deg(Q)$ this inner product is independent of *n*, as claimed.

Lemma 3.2. (A convergence result for FI_W -algebras of finite type and slope). Let W_n denote one of the families S_n or B_n . Let \Bbbk be a subfield of \mathbb{C} . Suppose that A^* is a FI_W -algebra over \Bbbk of finite type and slope M. Then for each d and any W_n character polynomial P, the following limit exists:

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \langle P_n, A_n^d \rangle_{\mathcal{W}_n}.$$

Proof. This result is proved in Type A by Church–Ellenberg–Farb; see the paragraph before [CEF14, Corollary 3.11]. Their argument carries over to Type B/C as follows. By assumption, for each fixed d the FI_{BC}–module A_n^d is finitely generated and has weight at most dM. The second author proved that therefore for some $D_d \in \mathbb{Z}$, the characters of the sequence $\{A_n^d\}_n$ are given by a character polynomial of degree at most dM for all $n \ge D_d$ [Wil15, Theorem 4.16]; see Theorem 2.6. By Proposition 3.1, then, the value $\langle P_n, A_n^d \rangle_{B_n}$ is independent of n once $n = \max\{D_d, dM + \deg(P)\}$. This stable value gives the limit

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \langle P_n, A_n^d \rangle_{B_n} = \langle P_N, A_N^d \rangle_{B_N}, \qquad N = \max\{D_d, dM + \deg(P)\}. \quad \Box$$

Lemma 3.3. (A convergence result for finitely generated FI_W -algebras). Let \Bbbk be a subfield of \mathbb{C} , and let W_n represent one of the families S_n or B_n . Suppose that A^* is an associative FI_W -algebra over \Bbbk that is generated as an FI_W -algebra by finitely many elements of positive graded-degree. Then for each d and any W_n character polynomial P, the following limit exists:

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \langle P_n, A_n^d \rangle_{\mathcal{W}_n}.$$

Proof. We first prove the result in type B/C. Let V be the graded FI_{BC} -module additively generated by the generating set for the graded FI_{BC} -algebra A^* . By assumption on the generators V will be supported in finitely many positive degrees. By construction V has finite type, and by Wilson [Wil14, Theorem 4.4], V has finite slope. It follows that A^* is a quotient of the free associative FI_{BC} -algebra on V,

$$k\langle V\rangle := \bigoplus_{j=0}^{\infty} V^{\otimes j};$$

see [Wil14, Definition 5.9]. By [Wil14, Proposition 5.2], tensor products respect finite generation, and degree of generation is additive. Hence if we let M be the largest FI_{BC} -degree of the generators of A^* , the FI_{BC} -module A^d is finitely generated in degree $\leq dM$. Thus A^* has finite type and finite slope M; see [Wil14, Proposition 5.10]. By Lemma 3.2, the limit $\lim_{n\to\infty} \langle P, A_n^k \rangle_{B_n}$ exists.

The proof for FI follows the same argument. The graded FI–algebra A^* has finite type and slope by Church–Ellenberg–Farb [CEF15, Proposition 3.2.5 and Theorem 4.2.3].

The following result will be used in the proof of Theorem 3.5.

Lemma 3.4. (On bounding growth of the graded pieces of FI_W -algebras). Let A^d be the d^{th} graded piece of a graded FI_W -module over a subfield \Bbbk of \mathbb{C} . Let g(d) be a function. The following are equivalent:

I. For each $a \ge 0$ there is a function $F_a(d)$ that independent of n and order O(g) such that

$$\dim_{\mathbb{K}}\left((A_n^d)^{\mathcal{W}_{n-a}}\right) \leq F_a(d) \quad \text{for all } d \text{ and } n.$$

II. For each W_n character polynomial P there is a function $F_P(d)$ that is independent of n and order O(g) such that

$$|\langle P_n, A_n^d \rangle_{B_n}| \leq F_P(d)$$
 for all d and n.

Proof. A special case of this result is the equivalence of the two conditions in [CEF14, Definition 3.12] for S_n ; although Church–Ellenberg–Farb only state the equivalence in Type A for the case that g is subexponential, their proof implies the result in Type A for general functions g. Their arguments may be adapted to the hyperoctahedral groups, and we summarize the proof in type B/C below.

Let k denote the trivial B_n -representation. Assume (II) holds. By Frobenius reciprocity,

$$\begin{split} \dim_{\mathbb{k}}((A_{n}^{d})^{B_{n-a}}) &= \langle \mathbb{k}, \operatorname{Res}_{B_{n-a}}^{B_{n}} A_{n}^{d} \rangle_{B_{n-a}} \\ &= \langle \operatorname{Ind}_{B_{n-a}}^{B_{n}} \mathbb{k}, A_{n}^{d} \rangle_{B_{n}} \\ &= \langle \mathbb{k}[B_{n}/B_{n-a}], A_{n}^{d} \rangle_{B_{n}} \\ &= \langle 2^{a}a! \binom{X_{1}}{a}, A_{n}^{d} \rangle_{B_{n}} \\ &\leq F_{2^{a}a!} \binom{x_{1}}{a} (d) \quad \text{ for all } d \text{ and } d \end{split}$$

So (II) implies (I). Now assume (I) holds and consider any double partition λ of *a* and the associated B_a -representation V_{λ} with character χ^{λ} . The character of the induced representation

n.

$$\operatorname{Ind}_{B_a \times B_{n-a}}^{B_n} V_{\lambda} \boxtimes \Bbbk$$

is equal (for any n) to the character polynomial

$$P^{\lambda} = \sum_{\substack{(\alpha,\beta)\\|\alpha|+|\beta|=a}} \chi^{\lambda}(\alpha,\beta) \prod_{r} \binom{X_{r}}{n_{r}(\alpha)} \prod_{r} \binom{Y_{r}}{n_{r}(\beta)} := \sum_{\substack{(\alpha,\beta)\\|\alpha|+|\beta|=a}} \chi^{\lambda}(\alpha,\beta) \binom{X}{\alpha} \binom{Y}{\beta}.$$

Here $\chi^{\lambda}(\alpha,\beta)$ denotes the value of the character χ^{λ} on a signed permutation of signed cycle type (α,β) . The character polynomials P^{λ} are an additive basis for the space of hyperoctahedral character polynomials, and so it suffices to bound $|\langle P_n^{\lambda}, A_n^d \rangle_{B_n}|$. Observe that

-a

$$\begin{split} \dim_{\mathbb{k}}((A_{n}^{d})^{B_{n-a}}) &\geq \langle V_{\lambda}, (A_{n}^{d})^{B_{n-a}} \rangle_{B_{a}} \\ &= \langle V_{\lambda} \boxtimes \mathbb{k} \ , \ \operatorname{Res}_{B_{a} \times B_{n-a}}^{B_{n}} A_{n}^{d} \rangle_{B_{a} \times B_{n}} \\ &= \langle \operatorname{Ind}_{B_{a} \times B_{n-a}}^{B_{n}} V_{\lambda} \boxtimes \mathbb{k} \ , \ A_{n}^{d} \rangle_{B_{n}} \\ &= \langle P_{n}^{\lambda} \ , \ A_{n}^{d} \rangle_{B_{n}} \end{split}$$

which gives the desired bound.

3.2 Convergence for subquotients of FI_{W} -algebras generated in low degree

The main result of this section is Theorem 3.5, which states that graded submodules of FI_W -algebras finitely generated in FI_W -degree at most 1 satisfy our desired convergence result.

Theorem 3.5. (Criteria for convergent FI_{W} -algebras). Let W_n denote one of the families S_n or B_n . For nonnegative integers b, c, define a graded FI_W -module $V \cong M_W(\mathbf{0})^{\oplus b} \oplus M_W(\mathbf{1})^{\oplus c}$ over a subfield k of \mathbb{C} with positive gradings. Let Γ^* denote the free symmetric, exterior, or graded-commutative FI_W -algebra generated by V. Let A^* be any FI_W -algebra subquotient of Γ^* . Then for any character polynomial P and q > 1 the following sum converges absolutely

$$\sum_{d=0}^{\infty} \frac{\lim_{n\to\infty} \langle P_n, A_n^d \rangle_{\mathcal{W}_n}}{q^d}$$

More generally, this sum will converge absolutely for any collection of W_n -representations $\{A_n^d \mid d, n \ge 0\}$ such that A_n^d is a W_n -equivariant subquotient of Γ_n^d .

We assume that the gradings on the algebra generators $M_{\mathcal{W}}(\mathbf{0})^{\oplus b} \oplus M_{\mathcal{W}}(\mathbf{1})^{\oplus c}$ are \mathcal{W}_n -invariant.

We will use Theorem 3.5 to show convergence for coinvariant algebras in Proposition 4.4, and to obtain Theorem 4.3 on stability for statistics on maximal tori.

The proof of Theorem 3.5 will use the following result on the asymptotics of enumerating coloured partitions. Proposition 3.6 generalizes the result that partitions of n grow subexponentitally in n (see Proposition 2.10).

Proposition 3.6. For integers N and C, let T(N, C) denote the number of ways that N balls may be first each coloured by one of C colours, and then partitioned into any number of multisets. Balls of the same colour are indistinguishable. For every fixed C the sequence T(N, C) grows subexponentially in N.

For example, T(3, 2) = 14, corresponding to the 14 coloured partitions

$$\{\bullet, \bullet, \bullet\}, \ \{\bullet, \bullet, \circ\}, \ \{\bullet, \circ, \circ\}, \ \{\circ, \circ, \circ\}, \ \{\bullet, \bullet\} \cup \{\bullet\}, \ \{\bullet, \bullet\} \cup \{\circ\}, \ \{\bullet, \circ\} \cup \{\bullet\}, \ \{\bullet, \circ\} \cup \{\circ\}, \ \{\bullet, \circ\} \cup \{\circ\}, \ \{\bullet, \circ\} \cup \{\circ\}, \ \{\bullet\} \cup \{\bullet\}, \ \{\bullet\} \cup \{\bullet\}, \ \{\bullet\} \cup \{\circ\}, \ \{\bullet\} \cup \{\circ\}, \ \{\circ\} \cup \{\circ\}, \ \{\circ\} \cup \{\circ\}, \ \{\bullet\} \cup \{\bullet\}, \ \{\bullet\}, \ \{\bullet\} \cup \{\bullet\}, \ \{\bullet\} \cup \{\bullet\}, \ \{\bullet\},$$

Proof. Suppose throughout that *C* is fixed. We will create a code with a codeword recording each partition of *N* balls coloured with *C* colours. To verify that T(N, C) is subexponential in *N*, it suffices to check that the maximal length of these codewords is sublinear in *N*.

Consider a partition $P = \{P_1, P_2, ..., P_\ell\}$ of N coloured balls. We will create a distinct coding scheme for (i) the "small" parts P_i containing at most $s := (\log N)^2$ balls, and (ii) the "large" parts with more than s balls.

(i) (Small parts). There are $\binom{s+C}{C}$ possible sets of at most *s* balls coloured by *C* colours (this is the equal to the number of monomials of *C* variables of degree at most *s*). Each of these sets appears as a part P_i in our coloured partition *P* at most *N* times. We can then encode these sets by an ordered $\binom{s+C}{C}$ -tuple of integers from 0 to *N*, each recording the number of times the corresponding set appears in *P*. The number of characters needed to encode this tuple is asymptotically bounded in *N* by the function

$$\binom{s+C}{C} (\log N) < (s+C)^C (\log N) = ((\log N)^2 + C)^C (\log N).$$

(ii) (Large parts). There are fewer than $\frac{N}{s}$ parts P_i in P with cardinality strictly greater than s. For each of these parts, we record an ordered C-tuple of integers from 0 to N encoding the number of balls of each given colour in that part. The total number of characters needed to do this is asymptotically bounded by

$$C\left(\frac{N}{s}\right)(\log N) = \frac{CN}{(\log N)}$$

Combining (i) and (ii) we find that the maximal length of a codeword is asymptotically bounded by

$$\left((\log N)^2 + C\right)^C (\log N) + \frac{CN}{\log N}.$$

We conclude that $\log(T(N, C))$ grows sublinearly in N, and so T(N, C) is subexponential in N as claimed.

Having established a bound on the growth of T(N, C), we now need one final result in order to prove Theorem 3.5.

Lemma 3.7. Let W_n denote one of the families S_n or B_n . For nonnegative integers b, c, define a graded FI_W -module $V \cong M_W(\mathbf{0})^{\oplus b} \oplus M_W(\mathbf{1})^{\oplus c}$ over a subfield \Bbbk of \mathbb{C} with positive gradings. Let Γ^* denote the free symmetric, exterior, or graded-commutative FI_W -algebra generated by V. Let A^* be any FI_W -algebra subquotient of Γ^* . Then for each $a \ge 0$ there is a function $F_a(d)$ that is independent of n and subexponential in d so that

$$\dim_{\mathbb{K}}((A_n^d)^{B_{n-a}}) \leq F_a(d)$$
 for all n and d .

It follows that, for any W_n character polynomial P, there exists a function $F_P(d)$ independent of n and subexponential in d such that

$$|\langle P_n, A_n^d \rangle_{\mathcal{W}_n}| \le F_P(d).$$

More generally, if $\{A_n^d \mid d, n \geq 0\}$ is any collection of \mathcal{W}_n -representations such that A_n^d is an \mathcal{W}_n -equivariant subquotient of Γ_n^d , then there exists a function $F_P(d)$ as above.

Proof. The proof in Types A and B/C are extremely similar; we describe the proof in detail for the hyperoctahedral groups and then briefly outline how to adapt the proof to the symmetric groups. By Lemma 3.4 it suffices to show the first statement: for each $a \ge 0$ there is a function $F_a(d)$ that is independent of n and subexponential in d so that

$$\dim_{\mathbb{K}} \left((A_n^d)^{B_{n-a}} \right) \le F_a(d) \qquad \text{for all } n \text{ and } d.$$

Fix $a \ge 0$. By assumption A_n^d is a \mathcal{W}_n -subquotient of the \mathcal{W}_n -representation Γ_n^d . Since taking B_{n-a} -invariants is exact in characteristic zero, the graded algebra $(A_n^*)^{B_{n-a}}$ is a subquotient of $(\Gamma_n^*)^{B_{n-a}}$. It suffices then to find a function $F_a(d)$ that is independent of n and subexponential in d so that

$$\dim_{\mathbb{K}}\left((\Gamma_n^d)^{B_{n-a}}\right) \leq F_a(d) \quad \text{for all } n \text{ and } d$$

The monomials of Γ_n^d are (graded- or anti-) commutative words in the (b + 2nc) variables

$$y^{(1)}, y^{(2)}, \dots, y^{(b)} \in M_{BC}(\mathbf{0})_n^{\oplus b} \quad \text{and}$$
$$x_1^{(1)}, x_{\overline{1}}^{(1)}, x_2^{(1)}, x_{\overline{2}}^{(1)}, \dots, x_n^{(1)}, x_{\overline{n}}^{(1)}, \dots, x_1^{(c)}, x_{\overline{1}}^{(c)}, \dots, x_n^{(c)} x_{\overline{n}}^{(c)} \in M_{BC}(\mathbf{1})_n^{\oplus}$$

By assumption each variable has positive graded-degree, so the degree-*d* monomials must have length at most *d*. The subgroup B_{n-a} acts on these monomials diagonally by signed permutations on the subscript indices

$$\{a+1,\overline{a+1},\ldots,n,\overline{n}\}.$$

Superscripts are fixed. To bound the number of B_{n-a} orbits of monomials, we will in fact bound the (larger) number of S_{n-a} orbits; S_{n-a} acts by permuting the set $\{a + 1, ..., n\}$ and simultaneously permuting the set $\{\overline{a+1}, ..., \overline{n}\}$. We can classify S_{n-a} -orbits of these monomials as follows: Each monomial contains a (possibly empty) subword in the (b + 2ac) variables

$$y^{(1)}, y^{(2)}, \dots, y^{(b)} \in M_{BC}(\mathbf{0})_n^{\oplus b} \quad \text{and}$$
$$x_1^{(1)}, x_{\overline{1}}^{(1)}, x_{\overline{2}}^{(1)}, \dots, x_a^{(1)}, x_{\overline{a}}^{(1)}, \dots, x_1^{(c)}, x_{\overline{1}}^{(c)}, \dots, x_a^{(c)} x_{\overline{a}}^{(c)} \quad \in M_{BC}(\mathbf{1})_n^{\oplus c}$$

There are $\binom{(b+2ac)+d}{(b+2ac)}$ monomials of length at most d in the first (b+2ac) variables. For fixed a, b, c this formula grows polynomially in d.

Now, consider each of the remaining variables $x_i^{(j)}$ to be 'coloured' by one of the (2c) symbols $x_+^{(j)}$ or $x_-^{(j)}$, where the sign represents whether *i* is positive or negative, for $j = 1, \ldots, c$. Next we partition these coloured variables into multisets with one set for each subscript *i*. The action of S_{n-a} preserves this decomposition.

Concretely, for example, if a = 2 then the S_{n-a} -orbit of the monomial

$$\left(y^{(2)}\right)^{3}y^{(4)}y^{(5)}\left(x_{\overline{1}}^{(1)}\right)^{2}x_{2}^{(3)}x_{\overline{2}}^{(4)}x_{3}^{(2)}\left(x_{3}^{(4)}\right)^{2}x_{\overline{3}}^{(3)}x_{\overline{3}}^{(4)}\left(x_{4}^{(1)}\right)^{3}x_{5}^{(5)}\left(x_{\overline{5}}^{(3)}\right)^{2}x_{\overline{6}}^{(2)}x_{8}^{(1)}x_{8}^{(3)}x_{\overline{5}}^{(3)}$$

would be represented by the monomial $(y^{(2)})^3 y^{(4)} y^{(5)} (x_{\overline{1}}^{(1)})^2 x_2^{(3)} x_{\overline{2}}^{(4)}$ and the coloured partition $\{x_+^{(2)}, x_+^{(4)}, x_-^{(3)}, x_-^{(4)}\} \cup \{x_+^{(1)}, x_+^{(1)}, x_+^{(1)}\} \cup \{x_+^{(5)}, x_-^{(3)}, x_-^{(3)}\} \cup \{x_-^{(2)}\} \cup \{x_+^{(1)}, x_+^{(3)}\}.$

Given monomials of N variables, the number of coloured partitions we may obtain in this fashion is, in the notation of Proposition 3.6, T(N, 2c), which we proved in Proposition 3.6 grows subexponentially in N for each fixed c.

To get an upper bound for the number of B_{n-a} -orbits for the monomials in Γ^* of degree d, we will bound the number of B_{n-a} -orbit of monomials in at most d variables. Some of these monomials will have degree less than d. If some variables anticommute, then some monomials will be zero in Γ^d and some monomials will vanish on passing to coinvariants, so we obtain a strict overcount.

of B_{n-a} -orbits of monomials in at most d variables

$$= \sum_{\substack{j,k\\j+k \le d}} \begin{pmatrix} \text{\# degree } j \text{ monomials}\\ \text{in } y^{(1)}, \dots, x^{(c)}_{\overline{a}} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \text{\# } B_{n-a} \text{-orbits of degree } k\\ \text{monomials in remaining variables} \end{pmatrix}$$
$$\leq \left[\sum_{\substack{j,k\\j+k \le d}} \begin{pmatrix} \text{\# degree } j \text{ monomials}\\ \text{in } y^{(1)}, \dots, x^{(c)}_{\overline{a}} \end{pmatrix} \right] \begin{pmatrix} \text{\# } B_{n-a} \text{-orbits of degree } d\\ \text{monomials in remaining variables} \end{pmatrix}$$
$$\leq \begin{pmatrix} (b+2ac)+d\\(b+2ac) \end{pmatrix} T(d, 2c)$$

We thus obtain a bound that (for constant a, b, c) is independent of n and subexponential in d.

The proof in the case of the symmetric group is similar and slightly simpler: our S_{n-a} orbits may be represented by a submonomial in the (b + ac) variables

$$y^{(1)}, y^{(2)}, \dots, y^{(b)} \in M(\mathbf{0})_n^{\oplus b}$$
 and
 $x_1^{(1)}, x_2^{(1)}, \dots, x_a^{(1)}, \dots, x_1^{(c)}, x_2^{(c)}, \dots, x_a^{(c)} \in M(\mathbf{1})_n^{\oplus c}$

and a partition that is coloured by the *c* colours $j = 1, 2, \ldots c$. We obtain an asymptotic bound

$$\binom{(b+ac)+d}{(b+ac)}T(d,c)$$

that is independent of n and subexponential in d.

Proof of Theorem 3.5. By Lemma 3.3, the limit in the numerator $\lim_{n\to\infty} \langle P_n, A_n^d \rangle_{W_n}$ exists for every d and moreover equals $\langle P_N, A_N^d \rangle_{W_N}$ for N sufficiently large. By Lemma 3.7, there exist a function $F_P(d)$ subexponential in d such that

$$\left|\lim_{n\to\infty} \langle P_n, A_n^d \rangle_{\mathcal{W}_n}\right| \le F_P(d).$$

It follows that the sum

$$\sum_{d=0} \frac{\lim_{n \to \infty} \langle P_n, A_n^d \rangle_{\mathcal{W}_n}}{q^d}$$

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converges absolutely.

Remark 3.8. (Convergence for graded $\operatorname{Fl}_{W}^{\operatorname{op}}$ -algebras generated in low degree). Recall the Fl_{W} -module $V \cong M_{W}(\mathbf{0})^{\oplus b} \oplus M_{W}(\mathbf{1})^{\oplus c}$ of Theorem 3.5. The module V has a natural $\operatorname{Fl}_{W}^{\operatorname{op}}$ -module structure defined (in the notation of Definition 2.7) by the maps

$$\begin{split} M_{\mathcal{W}}(\mathbf{1})_{n+1} &\longrightarrow M_{\mathcal{W}}(\mathbf{1})_n \\ e_i &\longmapsto \begin{cases} e_i, & |i| = 1, \dots, n \\ 0, & |i| = n+1. \end{cases} \end{split}$$

and the isomorphisms $M_{\mathcal{W}}(\mathbf{0})_{n+1} \cong M_{\mathcal{W}}(\mathbf{0})_n$. (See Church–Ellenberg–Farb [CEF15, Section 4.1] and Wilson [Wil15, Section 3] for details on the structure of simultaneous FI_W and FI^{op}_W–modules.) These maps endow Γ^* with the structure of an FI^{op}_W–algebra. Since \mathcal{W}_n –representations are selfdual, the representations Γ_n^* are isomorphic whether viewed as representations of End_{FI_W}(\mathbf{n}) \cong \mathcal{W}_n or End_{FI^{op}_W}(\mathbf{n}) \cong \mathcal{W}_n . If A is any FI^{op}_W–algebra subquotient of Γ^* , then in particular the bigraded piece A_n^d is a subquotient of Γ_n^d , and Theorem 3.5 applies: for any character polynomial P and q > 1the following sum converges absolutely

$$\sum_{d=0}^{\infty} \frac{\lim_{n\to\infty} \langle P_n, A_n^d \rangle_{\mathcal{W}_n}}{q^d}.$$

Remark 3.9. After circulating a preprint of this paper we discovered that in [FW, Theorem 3.2 and Corollary 3.3], Farb and Wolfson prove a result which is closely related to our Theorem 3.5.

Theorem 3.10 ([FW, Theorem 3.2 and Corollary 3.3]). Let X be a connected space such that $\dim H^*(X; \mathbb{Q}) < \infty$. Then there exist constants K, L > 0 so that for each $i \ge 0$, and for all $n \ge 1$, the Betti numbers of the *n*-fold symmetric product of X are bounded subexponentially:

$$dim H^i(\operatorname{Sym}^n(X); \mathbb{Q}) < Ke^{L\sqrt{i}}.$$

For each $0 \le a \le n$ exist constants K, L > 0 so that for each $i \ge 0$, and for all $n \ge 1$, the coinvariants of the cohomology of X^n are bounded subexponentially:

$$\dim\Big(H^i(X^n;\mathbb{Q})^{S_{n-a}}\Big) < Ke^{L\sqrt{i}}.$$

Farb–Wolfson use methods that are quite different from those of Theorem 3.5: their proof uses a result of Macdonald on the Poincaré polynomial of symmetric products [Mac62], and an analysis of this generating functions drawing on complex analysis.

It should be possible to deduce the subexponential growth of the Betti numbers and their coinvariants in Theorem 3.10 from Theorem 3.5 and its proof; it would take additional work to conclude their precise asymptotic formulas. Conversely, by applying Theorem 3.10 with appropriately chosen spaces *X* and using the Künneth Formula, it should be possible to deduce Theorem 3.5 in the case of graded-commutative algebras in type A. With some additional work it should be possible to leverage these results to give an alternate route to proving Theorem 3.5 in all cases.

4 Point counts for maximal tori in type B and C

In this section we obtain the type B and C analogues of [CEF15, Theorem 5.6], a convergence result for certain statistics on tori in $GL_n(\overline{\mathbb{F}_q})$. We combine a theorem of Lehrer with representation

stability results of the second author and our discussion in Section 3 to compute asymptotic counts for Fr_q -stable maximal tori for the symplectic and special orthogonal groups.

4.1 Maximal tori in types B and C

Let k be an algebraically closed field. We denote by G one of the following two semisimple connected linear algebraic groups defined over k: the symplectic group Sp_{2n} (type C) or the special orthogonal group SO_{2n+1} (type B). In the discussion below we identify the algebraic group G with its set of k-rational points G(k). Recall that the symplectic group is the algebraic group defined over k by

$$\operatorname{Sp}_{2n}(\Bbbk) = \{ A \in \operatorname{GL}_{2n}(\Bbbk) : A^T J A = J \},\$$

where $J = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & I_n \\ -I_n & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ is the matrix associated to the standard symplectic form

$$\omega(\vec{u}, \vec{v}) = u_1 v_{n+1} + \ldots + u_n v_{2n} - u_{n+1} v_1 - \ldots - u_{2n} v_n, \text{ for } \vec{u}, \vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^{2n}$$

The special orthogonal group is defined as

$$SO_{2n+1}(\mathbb{k}) = \{ A \in SL_{2n+1}(\mathbb{k}) : A^T Q A = Q \},\$$

where $Q = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & I_n \\ 0 & I_n & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ is the matrix associated to the quadratic form of Witt index n

$$q(u_0, u_1, \dots, u_{2n}) = u_0^2 + u_1 u_{n+1} + \dots + u_n u_{2n}, \text{ for } (u_0, u_1, \dots, u_{2n}) \in \mathbb{R}^{2n+1},$$

A subgroup of **G** is called a *torus* if it is k-isomorphic to a product of multiplicative groups $\mathbb{G}_m := \mathrm{GL}_1$. For instance, we define standard maximal tori T_0 to be the diagonal subgroups

$$T_0 := \left\{ \operatorname{diag}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n, \lambda_1^{-1}, \dots, \lambda_n^{-1}) : \lambda_i \in \mathbb{k}^{\times} \right\} \subseteq \operatorname{Sp}_{2n}(\mathbb{k})$$

and

$$T_0 := \left\{ \operatorname{diag}(1, \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n, \lambda_1^{-1}, \dots, \lambda_n^{-1}) : \lambda_i \in \mathbb{k}^{\times} \right\} \subseteq \operatorname{SO}_{2n+1}(\mathbb{k}).$$

In both cases, the maximal torus T_0 has dimension n.

Let \mathcal{T} denote the set of maximal tori of **G**. Since all maximal tori in **G** are conjugate ([Sri79, Proposition 1.1]), the action of **G** on \mathcal{T} by conjugation is transitive and $\mathcal{T} \cong \mathbf{G}/N(T_0)$, where $N(T_0)$ is the normalizer of the torus T_0 . In type B and C, the Weyl group $W(T_0) := N(T_0)/T_0$ is isomorphic to the hyperoctahedral group B_n . The group B_n acts on matrices in T_0 by conjugation by permuting the *n* eigenvalues $\lambda_1, \ldots, \lambda_n$ and transposing the inverse pairs λ_i and λ_i^{-1} .

4.1.1 The action of Frobenius

Let q be an integral power of a prime p and let $\mathbb{k} = \overline{\mathbb{F}_p}$. The standard Frobenius morphism Fr_q acts on a matrix $(x_{ij}) \in \mathbf{G} = \mathbf{G}(\overline{\mathbb{F}_q})$ by $\operatorname{Fr}_q : (x_{ij}) \mapsto (x_{ij}^q)$. The set of fixed points $\mathbf{G}^{\operatorname{Fr}_q} := \{g \in \mathbf{G} :$ $\operatorname{Fr}_q(g) = g\}$ corresponds to the \mathbb{F}_q -points $\mathbf{G}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ of \mathbf{G} : the finite groups $\operatorname{Sp}_{2n}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ and $\operatorname{SO}_{2n+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$. A maximal torus of $\mathbf{G}^{\operatorname{Fr}_q}$ is a subgroup of $\mathbf{G}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ of the form $T^{\operatorname{Fr}_q} = \{g \in T : \operatorname{Fr}_q(g) = g\}$ for some Fr_q -stable maximal torus T of \mathbf{G} . In particular, since T_0 is Fr_q -stable,

$$T_0^{\operatorname{Fr}_q} = \left\{\operatorname{diag}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n, \lambda_1^{-1}, \dots, \lambda_n^{-1}) : \lambda_i \in \mathbb{F}_q^{\times}\right\}$$
 is a maximal torus of $\operatorname{Sp}_{2n}(\mathbb{F}_q)$

and

$$T_0^{\mathrm{Fr}_q} = \left\{ \mathrm{diag}(1, \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n, \lambda_1^{-1}, \dots, \lambda_n^{-1}) : \lambda_i \in \mathbb{F}_q^{\times} \right\} \text{ is a maximal torus of } \mathrm{SO}_{2n+1}(\mathbb{F}_q).$$

Other examples of Fr_q -stable maximal tori in $Sp_2(\overline{\mathbb{F}_p})$ are given in Example 4.1 below.

An Fr_q -stable torus of \mathbf{G} is defined over \mathbb{F}_q . We say that such a torus T splits over \mathbb{F}_q if T is \mathbb{F}_q -isomorphic to a product of multiplicative groups \mathbb{G}_m . There is always a finite Galois extension of \mathbb{F}_q over which a given torus becomes diagonalizable, hence a split torus. The maximal torus T_0 above splits over \mathbb{F}_q (or any field) and the group \mathbf{G} is said to be a *split* algebraic group. We will investigate statistics on the set $\mathcal{T}^{\operatorname{Fr}_q}$ of Fr_q -stable maximal tori of \mathbf{G} . For an introduction to split reductive groups and maximal tori we refer the reader to [Mil12, Chapter I] and [Car93, Chapters 1 & 3]. See also Niemeyer–Praeger [NP10, Section 3] for a description of the maximal tori in finite classical groups $\mathbf{G}^{\operatorname{Fr}_q}$ of Lie type.

4.1.2 Fr_q-stable maximal tori and characters of the Weyl group

The $\mathbf{G}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ -conjugacy classes in $\mathcal{T}^{\operatorname{Fr}_q}$ correspond to conjugacy classes in the Weyl group B_n . Lehrer observed that this implies that, in principle, functions which are defined on Fr_q -stable maximal tori (for instance, functions which count rational tori) may be described in terms of the character theory of B_n . This correspondence between $\mathbf{G}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ -conjugacy classes in $\mathcal{T}^{\operatorname{Fr}_q}$ and conjugacy classes in B_n is defined as follows. Consider a torus $T \in \mathcal{T}^{\operatorname{Fr}_q}$, so $T = gT_0g^{-1}$ for some $g \in \mathbf{G}$. Since

$$gT_0g^{-1} = T = \operatorname{Fr}_q(T) = \operatorname{Fr}_q(g)\operatorname{Fr}_q(T_0)\operatorname{Fr}_q(g)^{-1} = \operatorname{Fr}_q(g)T_0\operatorname{Fr}_q(g)^{-1}$$

it follows that $(g^{-1} \cdot \operatorname{Fr}_q(g)) \in N(T_0)$. We denote by w_T the element in the Weyl group $W(T_0) \cong B_n$ that is given by the projection of $\tilde{w}_T = g^{-1} \cdot \operatorname{Fr}_q(g)$ onto the quotient $W(T_0) = N(T_0)/T_0$. Since **G** is split, it turns out that each Fr_q -stable maximal torus determines a conjugacy class in the Weyl group B_n ([Car93, Proposition 3.3.2]). Hence, given a class function χ on B_n , we can regard χ as a function on Fr_q -stable maximal tori of **G**, by defining

$$\chi(T) := \chi(w_T), \text{ for } T \in \mathcal{T}^{\mathbb{F}_q}.$$

This correspondence between conjugacy classes of tori and conjugacy classes in the Weyl group is illustrated in Example 4.1 for $\text{Sp}_2(\overline{\mathbb{F}_p})$.

Example 4.1. (Fr_q-stable maximal tori of Sp₂). For the algebraic group $\text{Sp}_2(\overline{\mathbb{F}_p}) = \text{SL}_2(\overline{\mathbb{F}_p})$, the Fr_q-stable maximal torus

$$T_0 = \left\{ \left[\begin{array}{cc} \lambda_1 & 0\\ 0 & \lambda_1^{-1} \end{array} \right] \middle| \lambda_1 \in \overline{\mathbb{F}_p}^{\times} \right\}$$

is a split torus corresponding to the identity coset $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} T_0$ in the Weyl group $W(T_0)$, that is, the identity element of the Weyl group B_1 . On the other hand, given an element $\epsilon \in \mathbb{F}_q^{\times}$ which is not a square in \mathbb{F}_q , consider the abelian subgroup of $SL_2(\overline{\mathbb{F}_p})$

$$T_{\epsilon} = \left\{ \left[\begin{array}{cc} x & y \\ \epsilon y & x \end{array} \right] \middle| x, y \in \overline{\mathbb{F}_p}, \ x^2 - \epsilon y^2 = 1 \right\}.$$

Choose a square root $\sqrt{\epsilon} \in \overline{\mathbb{F}_p}$ of ϵ . If we take $g = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\epsilon}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ \sqrt{\epsilon} & \sqrt{\epsilon} \end{bmatrix} \in \mathrm{SL}_2(\overline{\mathbb{F}_p})$, then

$$g^{-1} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} x & y \\ \epsilon y & x \end{bmatrix} \cdot g = \begin{bmatrix} x + y\sqrt{\epsilon} & 0 \\ 0 & x - y\sqrt{\epsilon} \end{bmatrix},$$

therefore $g^{-1}T_{\epsilon}g = T_0$ and T_{ϵ} is a Fr_q-stable maximal torus. The matrix

$$\tilde{w}_{T_{\epsilon}} = g^{-1} \cdot \operatorname{Fr}_{q}(g) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\epsilon}} \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{\epsilon} & 1\\ -\sqrt{\epsilon} & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1\\ -\sqrt{\epsilon} & -\sqrt{\epsilon} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1\\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

projects to the coset $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} T_0$ in the Weyl group $W(T_0)$. Hence $w_{T_{\epsilon}}$ is the negative 1-cycle $(1 \overline{1}) \in B_1$.

4.1.3 The coinvariant algebra and statistics on maximal tori

There is a beautiful connection between the conjugacy-invariant functions $\chi(T)$ on the maximal tori of **G** defined over \mathbb{F}_q , and the topological structure of certain complex varieties related to $\mathbf{G}(\mathbb{C})$. We now describe the complex cohomology algebra of these varieties, the generalized complete complex flag manifolds in type B and C.

Let $V \cong \mathbb{C}^n$ denote the canonical complex representation of the hyperoctahedral group B_n by signed permutation matrices. Then the symmetric powers Sym(V) are isomorphic to $\mathbb{C}[x_1, \ldots, x_n]$, and we denote by I_n the homogeneous ideal generated by the B_n -invariant polynomials with constant term zero. The *complex type B/C coinvariant algebra* is defined as

$$R_n \cong \mathbb{C}[x_1, \ldots, x_n]/I_n$$

Let R_n^d denote the d^{th} graded piece of R_n .

Borel [Bor53] proves that R_n^* is isomorphic as a graded $\mathbb{C}[B_n]$ -algebra to the cohomology of the *generalized complete complex flag manifolds* in type *B* and *C*. The cohomology groups are supported in even cohomological degree; this isomorphism multiplies the grading by 2. We recall the definition of these varieties: in type *B*, let \mathbf{B}_n^B be a Borel subgroup of $SO_{2n+1}(\mathbb{C})$. Then the associated generalized flag manifold is

$$SO_{2n+1}(\mathbb{C})/\mathbf{B}_n^B = \{0 \subseteq V_1 \subseteq \ldots \subseteq V_{2n+1} = \mathbb{C}^{2n+1} | \dim_{\mathbb{C}} V_m = m, q(V_i, V_{2n+1-i}) = 0 \}$$

the variety of complete flags equal to their orthogonal complements. In type *C*, take a Borel subgroup \mathbf{B}_n^C of $\operatorname{Sp}_{2n}(\mathbb{C})$. The associated generalized flag manifold is

$$\operatorname{Sp}_{2n}(\mathbb{C})/\mathbf{B}_n^C = \{ 0 \subseteq V_1 \subseteq \ldots \subseteq V_{2n} = \mathbb{C}^{2n} | \dim_{\mathbb{C}} V_m = m, \ \omega(V_i, V_{2n-i}) = 0 \},$$

the variety of complete flags equal to their symplectic complements.

A result of Lehrer [Leh92, Corollary 1.10'] relates the characters of R_n^d to the space of maximal tori. In the case of the split reductive groups Sp_{2n} and SO_{2n+1} defined over $\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p$ with $2n^2$ roots, Lehrer's result specializes to the following formula.

Theorem 4.2 (Corollary 1.10' [Leh92]). Let q be an integral power of a prime p and let \mathbf{G} be the linear algebraic group $Sp_{2n}(\overline{\mathbb{F}_p})$ or $SO_{2n+1}(\overline{\mathbb{F}_p})$. If χ is a class function on B_n , then

$$\sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}^{Fr_q}} \chi(T) = q^{2n^2} \sum_{d \ge 0} q^{-d} \langle \chi, R_n^d \rangle_{B_n},\tag{1}$$

where \mathcal{T}^{Fr_q} is the set of Fr_q -stable maximal tori of **G** and R_n^d is the d^{th} -graded piece of the complex coinvariant algebra R_n in type B/C.

We remark that, in this formula, R_n^d is generated in graded degree d = 1, and not (as with the cohomology algebra) supported only in even degrees.

Formula (1) in Theorem 4.2 describes a deep relationship between the maximal tori over finite fields and the cohomology of the topological spaces related to $G(\mathbb{C})$; with these results we will (in Sections 4.2 and 4.3) relate representation-theoretic stability results on the coinvariant algebras to stability results for point-counts on our varieties over finite fields.

4.1.4 Character polynomials and interpreting statistics

When χ is a character polynomial, the left-hand side of Formula (1) is, in a sense, quantifying the numbers and decompositions of maximal tori over \mathbb{F}_q . To make this precise, we first consider the statistics for Fr_q -stable maximal tori in $\operatorname{Sp}_{2n}(\overline{\mathbb{F}_q})$ and $\operatorname{SO}_{2n+1}(\overline{\mathbb{F}_q})$ that correspond to the class functions X_r and Y_r .

Let $T \in \mathcal{T}^{\operatorname{Fr}_q}$ as before with $T_0 = g^{-1}Tg$ for $g \in \mathbf{G}$. Consider the ordered set of eigenvectors $v_1, \ldots, v_n, \overline{v}_1, \ldots, \overline{v}_n$ of T given by the columns of g. Since T is defined over \mathbb{F}_q , the Frobenius morphism Fr_q takes eigenvectors to eigenvectors. Then Fr_q acts on the set of lines in $\overline{\mathbb{F}_q}^{2n}$

$$\mathbf{L}_T = \{L_1, \dots, L_n, \overline{L_1}, \dots, \overline{L_n}\}$$
 where $L_i := \operatorname{span}_{\overline{\mathbb{F}_n}}(v_i)$ and $\overline{L_i} := \operatorname{span}_{\overline{\mathbb{F}_n}}(\overline{v_i})$.

Moreover, since $\operatorname{Fr}_q(g) = g\tilde{w}_T$, the Frobenius morphism acts on \mathbf{L}_T by the element $w_T \in B_n$ that permutes the lines L_i and swaps pairs $L_i/\overline{L_i}$.

Let $T \in \mathcal{T}^{\mathbb{F}_q}$. For each positive or negative *r*-cycle of w_T , we can consider its corresponding support $\{L_{i_1}, \ldots, L_{i_r}, \overline{L}_{i_1}, \ldots, \overline{L}_{i_r}\}$ in \mathbf{L}_T and the subtorus of T_0

$$T_{0_r} := \left\{ \operatorname{diag}(1, \dots, \lambda_{i_1}, \dots, \lambda_{i_r}, \dots, 1, 1, \dots, \lambda_{i_1}^{-1}, \dots, \lambda_{i_r}^{-1}, \dots, 1) : \lambda_{i_j} \in \overline{\mathbb{F}_q}^{\times} \right\}.$$

Then $T_r := gT_{0_r}g^{-1}$ is an Fr_q -stable *r*-dimensional subtorus of *T* irreducible over \mathbb{F}_q . A torus defined over a field k is *irreducible* if it is not isomorphic over k to a product of tori. Furthermore:

- If the orbit {L_{i1},..., L_{ir}, *L_{i1}*,..., *L_{ir}*} corresponds to a positive *r*-cycle of *w_T*, then (Fr_q)^{*r*} = Fr_{q^r} fixes each L_{ij} and each *L_{ij}*. This means that there is a matrix g_r with entries in 𝔽_{q^r} such that g_r⁻¹T_rg_r = T_{0_r} and the subtorus T_r splits over 𝔽_{q^r}.
- If the orbit $\{L_{i_1}, \ldots, L_{i_r}, \overline{L_{i_1}}, \ldots, \overline{L_{i_r}}\}$ corresponds to a negative *r*-cycle of w_T , then $(\operatorname{Fr}_q)^r = \operatorname{Fr}_{q^r}$ swaps the lines L_{i_j} and \overline{L}_{i_j} . This implies that no matrix g_r with entries in \mathbb{F}_{q^r} diagonalizes the subtorus T_r and hence T_r does not split over \mathbb{F}_{q^r} .

Therefore, if $T \in \mathcal{T}^{\mathbb{F}_q}$, for $r \ge 1$ the polynomial characters $X_r(T)$ and $Y_r(T)$ count the following:

 $X_r(T)$ is the number of r-dimensional Fr_q -stable subtori of T irreducible over \mathbb{F}_q that split over \mathbb{F}_{q^r} ,

 $Y_r(T)$ is the number of *r*-dimensional Fr_q -stable subtori of *T* irreducible over \mathbb{F}_q that do not split over \mathbb{F}_{q^r} .

Example 4.1 continued (Statistics for maximal tori in Sp₂). Recall the maximual torus $T_{\epsilon} \in$ Sp₂($\overline{\mathbb{F}_p}$) from Example 4.1:

$$T_{\epsilon} = \left\{ \left[\begin{array}{cc} x & y \\ \epsilon y & x \end{array} \right] \middle| x, y \in \overline{\mathbb{F}_p}, \ x^2 - \epsilon y^2 = 1 \right\},$$

The torus T_{ϵ} is diagonalized by the matrix $\frac{1}{2\sqrt{\epsilon}}\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1\\ \sqrt{\epsilon} & \sqrt{\epsilon} \end{bmatrix}$ in $\operatorname{Sp}_2(\overline{\mathbb{F}_p})$, and is invariant under the action of Frobenius. It corresponds to the nontrivial conjugacy class $w_{T_{\epsilon}} = (1 \overline{1}) \in B_1$.

The Frobenius morphism Fr_q acts by transposing the eigenspaces

$$L_1 = \operatorname{span}_{\overline{\mathbb{F}_p}} \left(\begin{bmatrix} 1\\ \sqrt{\epsilon} \end{bmatrix} \right) \text{ and } \overline{L}_1 = \operatorname{span}_{\overline{\mathbb{F}_p}} \left(\begin{bmatrix} -1\\ \sqrt{\epsilon} \end{bmatrix} \right).$$

Correspondingly, no matrix that diagonalizes T_{ϵ} can have entries in \mathbb{F}_q . The one–dimensional torus T_{ϵ} is irreducible and does not split over \mathbb{F}_q . This is consistent with its statistics

$$X_1(T_{\epsilon}) = X_1((1\,\overline{1})) = 0$$
 and $Y_1(T_{\epsilon}) = Y_1((1\,\overline{1})) = 1.$

4.2 Asymptotic results

In this section we prove Theorem 4.3, a stability result for asymptotic polynomial statistics on Fr_q -stable maximal tori of the symplectic and special orthogonal groups.

Theorem 4.3 (Stability of maximal tori statistics). Let q be an integral power of a prime p. For $n \ge 1$, denote by $\mathcal{T}_n^{\operatorname{Fr}_q}$ the set of Fr_q -stable maximal tori for either $\operatorname{Sp}_{2n}(\overline{\mathbb{F}_p})$ or $\operatorname{SO}_{2n+1}(\overline{\mathbb{F}_p})$. Let R_m^d denote the d^{th} -graded piece of the complex coinvariant algebra R_m^* in type B/C. If $P \in \mathbb{C}[X_1, Y_1, X_2, Y_2, \ldots]$ is any hyperoctahedral character polynomial, then the normalized statistic $q^{-2n^2} \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_n^{\operatorname{Fr}_q}} P(T)$ converges as $n \to \infty$. In fact,

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} q^{-2n^2} \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_n^{\mathrm{Fr}_q}} P(T) = \sum_{d=0}^{\infty} \frac{\lim_{m \to \infty} \langle P_m, R_m^d \rangle_{B_m}}{q^d},$$

and the series in the right hand converges.

To prove this theorem we first establish a convergence result for characters of coinvariant algebras of type B/C.

Let C_n^* denote the complex polynomial algebra $\mathbb{C}[x_1, \ldots, x_n]$ on n variables, with generators x_i in graded degree d = 1. These polynomial rings form a complex Fl_{BC} -algebra under the natural inclusions $C_n^* \hookrightarrow C_{n+1}^*$, which is generated as an Fl_{BC} -algebra in Fl_{BC} -degree n = 1 by $C_1^1 = \langle x_1 \rangle$. Our sequence of algebras is then generated by the FI_{BC} -module of canonical signed permutation representations,

$$C^{1}_{\bullet} \cong M_{BC}(\emptyset, \Box)_{\bullet} := M_{BC}(1)_{\bullet} \otimes_{\mathbb{C}[B_{1}]} V_{(\emptyset, \Box)} \cong \langle x_{1}, \dots, x_{\bullet} \rangle.$$

The coinvariant algebra $R_n^* \cong C_n^*/I_n$ does not admit an FI_{BC}-module structure; the FI_{BC}-module structure on the polynomial rings C_n^* does not respect the ideals I_n . Instead, the coinvariant algebras are \mathbb{C} -algebras over FI_{BC}^{op}, induced by the maps

$$C_{n+1}^* \longrightarrow C_n^*$$
$$x_i \longmapsto \begin{cases} x_i, & i = 1, \dots, n\\ 0, & i = n+1. \end{cases}$$

The reader may verify that the duals $\widehat{R^d}$ of each graded piece do form finitely generated sub-FI_{BC}-modules of the dual modules $\widehat{C^d} \cong C^d_{\bullet}$; see work of the second author [Wil14, Definition 5.14, Proposition 5.15, and Section 6] for details. For the following result, however, we do not need this FI_{BC}-module structure; we only need the observation that for each n and d, the B_n -representation R^d_n is a subquotient of the homogeneous polynomial space C^d_n .

Proposition 4.4. Let R_n^d the d^{th} -graded piece of the complex type B/C coinvariant algebra R_n . Then for any hyperoctahedral character polynomial $P \in \mathbb{C}[X_1, Y_1, X_2, Y_2, ...]$ the following sum converges absolutely.

$$\sum_{d=0}^{\infty} \frac{\lim_{n \to \infty} \langle P_n, R_n^d \rangle_{B_n}}{q^d}$$

Proof. We have observed that R_n^* is an $\operatorname{Fl}_{BC}^{\operatorname{op}}$ -algebra quotient of the free graded-commutative algebra C^* on

$$M_{BC}(\emptyset,\Box)_{\bullet} := M_{BC}(1)_{\bullet} \otimes_{\mathbb{C}[B_1]} V_{(\emptyset,\Box)}$$

The FI_{BC}-module $M_{BC}(\emptyset, \Box)_{\bullet}$ is, in the notation of Definition 2.7, the submodule of $M_{BC}(1)$ on the generators $x_i := e_i - e_{\overline{i}}$. By Remark 3.8, the result follows from Theorem 3.5.

Remark 4.5. This result was proved by Church–Ellenberg–Farb in type A [CEF14, Theorem 5.6] using in part work of Chevalley [Che55] on the structure of the type A coinvariant algebra. Our Theorem 3.5 allows for a combinatorial proof of [CEF14, Theorem 5.6] using only the fact that the coinvariant algebras are quotient of the dual of the free commutative FI–algebra $\mathbb{C}[x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n]$ generated by $M(\mathbf{1})_n = \langle x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n \rangle$. This proof demonstrates that this convergence theorem does not depend on any deeper structural features of the coinvariant algebra.

Remark 4.6. Work of the second author [Wil14, Theorem 6.1 and Corollary 6.3] observes that, for each graded–degree d, the B_n –representations \widehat{R}_n^d dual to R_n^d assemble to form a finitely generated FI_{BC}–module \widehat{R}_{\bullet}^d , a submodule of the sequence of homogenous polynomials \widehat{C}_{\bullet}^d . The FI_{BC}– module \widehat{C}_{\bullet}^d , and hence \widehat{R}_{\bullet}^d , has weight at most d. Hence for each d there is some $D_d \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that the characters of \widehat{R}_{\bullet}^d are given by a character polynomial of degree $\leq d$ for all $n \geq D_d$ [Wil15, Theorem 4.16]. Since B_n –representations are self-dual, there is an isomorphism of representations $\widehat{R}_n^d \cong R_n^d$, and this character polynomial gives the characters of R_n^d for all $n \geq D_d$. It follows from Proposition 3.1 that

$$\lim_{m \to \infty} \langle P_m, R_m^d \rangle_{B_m} = \langle P_n, R_n^d \rangle_{B_n}, \quad \text{for any } n \ge \max\{D_d, d + \deg(P)\}.$$

Proof of Theorem 4.3. We adapt the arguments given by Church–Ellenberg–Farb [CEF14, Theorem 3.13]. From Lemma 3.7, there exist a function $F_P(d)$ independent of n and subexponential in d such that $|\langle P_n, R_n^d \rangle_{B_n}| \leq F_P(d)$ for all n. Then

$$\left|\lim_{m\to\infty} \langle P_m, R_m^d \rangle_{B_m}\right| \le F_P(d).$$

Let $\epsilon > 0$. The series $\sum_{d \ge 0} \frac{F_P(d)}{q^d}$ converges absolutely, so there exist some $I \in \mathbb{N}$ such that

$$\sum_{d \ge I+1} \frac{F_P(d)}{q^d} < \epsilon/2$$

Using the notation from Remark 4.6, we choose $N = \max\{D_1, D_2, \dots, D_I, I + \deg(P)\}$. Then

$$\lim_{m \to \infty} \langle P_m, R_m^d \rangle_{B_m} = \langle P_n, R_n^d \rangle_{B_n} \quad \text{for } d \le I \text{ and } n \ge N.$$

From Proposition 4.4, the series

$$\sum_{d=0}^{\infty} \frac{\lim_{m \to \infty} \langle P_m, R_m^d \rangle_{B_m}}{q^d}$$

converges to a limit $L < \infty$. On the other hand, by Theorem 4.2, we have that

$$q^{-2n^2} \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_n^{\operatorname{Fr}_q}} P(T) = \sum_{d \ge 0} \frac{\langle P_n, R_n^d \rangle_{B_n}}{q^d}$$

Therefore, if $n \ge N$

$$\left| L - q^{-2n^2} \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_n^{\operatorname{Fr}_q}} P(T) \right| = \left| \sum_{d \ge I+1} \frac{\lim_{m \to \infty} \langle P_m, R_m^d \rangle_{B_m} - \langle P_n, R_n^d \rangle_{B_n}}{q^d} \right|$$
$$\leq \sum_{d \ge I+1} \frac{F_P(d) + F_P(d)}{q^d}$$
$$< \epsilon$$

4.3 Some statistics for Fr_q -stable maximal tori in $Sp_{2n}(\overline{\mathbb{F}_q})$ and $SO_{2n+1}(\overline{\mathbb{F}_q})$

In this section we compute some examples of statistics of the form given in Theorem 4.3. We use a result on the decomposition of the coinvariant algebra R_n^* as a B_n -representation; see Stembridge [Ste89, Formula (2.2), Theorem 5.3], analogous to the approach taken by Church–Ellenberg–Farb [CEF14, Theorems 5.8, 5.9, and 5.10]. These computations could also be accomplished with generating functions, using the approach of Fulman [Ful16] in type A.

Decomposing the B_n -representation R_n^d . The decomposition of the graded pieces R_n^d into irreducible B_n -representations is described by Stembridge [Ste89] in terms of their relationships to data called the *fake degrees* of B_n . Given a double partition $\lambda = (\lambda^+, \lambda^-)$ of n, the multiplicity of irreducible representation V_λ in R_n^d is computed by the following formula. A *double standard tableau* of shape λ is a bijective labelling of the Young diagrams λ^+ and λ^- with the digits 1 through n, such that the numbers are strictly increasing in each row and column. Define the *flag descent set* D(T) of a double standard tableau T as follows: draw the tableau of shape λ^+ and λ^- in the plane, with the tableau of shape λ^- placed above and to the right of tableau of shape λ^+ . Then

 $D(T) = \{ j \mid (j+1) \text{ appears in a row below } j \}.$

and the *flag major index* of the double standard tableau T is the quantity

$$f(T) = 2\left(\sum_{j \in D(T)} j\right) + |\lambda^-|.$$

Then the multiplicity of the irreducible representation V_{λ} in the d^{th} -graded piece of the coinvariant algebra R_n^d is given by the number of standard double tableaux of shape λ and flag major index d.

Theorem 4.7 (See Stembridge [Ste89] Formula (2.2), Theorem 5.3).

$$\langle R_n^d, V_\lambda \rangle_{B_n} = \# \{ T \mid T \text{ standard double tableau of shape } \lambda \text{ with } f(T) = d \}$$

We can use Theorem 4.7 to compute some examples of the normalized statistics for maximal tori whose convergence is guaranteed by Theorem 4.3. A formula identifying stable sequences of irreducible B_n -representations V_{λ} with a character polynomial P is given in Wilson [Wil15, Theorem 4.11]. Some stable multiplicities that we compute below, using Theorem 4.7, are summarized in Table 3. Dots represent zero.

Our first computation is a classical result due to Steinberg (see [Ste68, Corollary 14.16]).

Theorem 4.8 (Number of Fr_q**-stable maximal tori).** *The number of* Fr_q *-stable maximal tori of* $Sp_{2n}(\overline{\mathbb{F}_q})$ *and of* $SO_{2n+1}(\overline{\mathbb{F}_q})$ *is* q^{2n^2} .

Proof. We can compute the number of Fr_q -stable maximal tori using Theorem 4.2 by taking χ to be the trivial class function on B_n . The sequence of trivial representations are given by the character

polynomial $\chi = 1$, and are encoded by the double partition $\lambda = \left(\overbrace{\Box \Box \Box \cdots \Box}^{n}, \varnothing \right)$. The single double standard tableau of shape λ is

which has descent set $D(T) = \emptyset$ and flag major index f(T) = 0. Thus by Theorem 4.7 the trivial representation appears with multiplicity one in degree 0 and does not occur in positive degree. \Box

Irreducible B_n representation	Hyperocthahedral character polynomial	d = 0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
$V((n), \varnothing)$	1	1															
V((n-1), (1))	$X_1 - Y_1$		1		1		1		1		1		1		1		1
$V((n-1,1), \varnothing)$	$X_1 + Y_1 - 1$			1		1		1		1	.	1		1		1	
V((n-2),(2))	$\binom{X_1}{2} + \binom{Y_1}{2} - X_1Y_1 + X_2 - Y_2$	•		1		1		2	-	2		3		3		4	
V((n-2),(1,1))	$\binom{X_1}{2} + \binom{Y_1}{2} - X_1Y_1 - X_2 + Y_2$					1		1	•	2		2		3		3	
$V((n-2,1,1),\varnothing)$	$\binom{X_1+Y_1}{2} - X_2 - Y_2 - X_1 - Y_1 + 1$	•						1		1		2		2		3	
V((n-2,1),(1))	$X_1^2 - Y_1^2 - 2X_1 + 2Y_1$.	1		2		3		4		5		6	.	7

Table 3: Some stable multiplicities of irreducible B_n -representations in the coinvariant algebra

Remark 4.9. Observe that the normalized formula

$$\frac{\sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_n^{\mathrm{Fr}_q}} P(T)}{q^{2n^2}} = \frac{\sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_n^{\mathrm{Fr}_q}} P(T)}{|\mathcal{T}_n^{\mathrm{Fr}_q}|}$$

corresponds to the average of the statistic P(T) over all maximal tori T. Using Theorem 4.3 we obtain asymptotics of these expected values.

Proposition 4.10 (Expected number of 1-dimensional Fr_q -stable subtori). The expected number of 1-dimensional Fr_q -stable subtori of a random Fr_q -stable maximal torus in $\operatorname{Sp}_{2n}(\overline{\mathbb{F}_q})$ or in $\operatorname{SO}_{2n+1}(\overline{\mathbb{F}_q})$ equals

$$1 + \frac{1}{q^2} + \frac{1}{q^4} + \dots + \frac{1}{q^{2n-2}} = \frac{\left(q^2 - \frac{1}{q^{2(n-1)}}\right)}{(q^2 - 1)} \quad \xrightarrow{n \to \infty} \quad \frac{q^2}{q^2 - 1}$$

Proof. To count the total number of 1-dimensional Fr_q -stable subtori for all maximal tori in $\mathcal{T}^{\operatorname{Fr}_q}$, we apply Formula (1) to the character polynomial $P = X_1 + Y_1$. The goal is to show that $\langle P, R_n^d \rangle_{B_n} = 1$ for $d = 0, 2, 4, \ldots, 2n - 2$ and 0 otherwise.

The pullback of the (n - 1)-dimensional standard S_n -representation to B_n has character polynomial $\chi = X_1 + Y_1 - 1$ and corresponds to the double partition

$$\lambda = \left(\overbrace{\square}^{n-1} , \varnothing \right).$$

There are (n-1) possible double standard tableaux of shape λ , each determined by the letter *i* in

the second row. Let

Note that we require i > 1 for T_i to form a valid standard tableau. Then $D(T_i) = \{i - 1\}$ for i = 2, ..., n. The flag major indices are $f(T_i) = 2i - 2$ for i = 2, ..., n, and there is one copy of $V_{(n-1,1),\emptyset}$ in each even degree 2, 4, ..., 2n - 2.

The character polynomial $(X_1 + Y_1)$ is the sum $(X_1 + Y_1) = (X_1 + Y_1 - 1) + 1$, so combining this result for multiplicities of the representation $V_{((n-1,1),\emptyset)}$ and the result for $V_{((n),\emptyset)}$ of Theorem 4.8 gives the desired formula.

Proposition 4.11 (Expected number of split 1-dimensional Fr_q -stable subtori). The expected number of split 1-dimensional Fr_q -stable subtori of of a random Fr_q -stable maximal torus in $\operatorname{Sp}_{2n}(\overline{\mathbb{F}_q})$ or in $\operatorname{SO}_{2n+1}(\overline{\mathbb{F}_q})$ equals

$$\frac{1}{2}\left(1+\frac{1}{q}+\frac{1}{q^2}+\frac{1}{q^3}+\dots+\frac{1}{q^{2n-1}}\right) = \frac{\left(q-\frac{1}{q^{2n-1}}\right)}{2(q-1)} \quad \xrightarrow{n \to \infty} \quad \frac{q}{2(q-1)}$$

Proof. We wish to evaluate the character polynomial $P = X_1 = \frac{1}{2}[(X_1 + Y_1) + (X_1 - Y_1)]$ in formula (1). The canonical *n*-dimensional representation of B_n by signed permutation matrices has character polynomial $\chi = X_1 - Y_1$ and corresponds to the double partition

$$\lambda = \left(\overbrace{\Box \Box \cdots \Box}^{n-1}, \Box \right).$$

There are *n* possible double standard tableaux of shape λ , each determined by the letter *i* in λ^- . Let

Then $D(T_n) = \emptyset$, and $D(T_i) = \{i\}$ for i = 1, ..., n - 1. The flag major indices are

$$f(T_i) = \begin{cases} 1, & i = n\\ 2i+1, & i = 1, 2, \dots, (n-1) \end{cases}$$

and then there is a single copy of $V_{((n-1),(1))}$ in each odd degree $1, 3, \ldots, 2n - 1$.

By combining this result with our computation for $X_1 + Y_1$ in Proposition 4.10 above, we conclude that $\langle 2X_1, R_n^d \rangle_{B_n} = 1$ for d = 0, 1, 2, 3, ..., 2n - 1 and $\langle 2X_1, R_n^d \rangle_{B_n} = 0$ otherwise.

Corollary 4.12 (Expected number of eigenvectors in \mathbb{F}_q^{2n}). The expected number of simultaneous eigenvectors in \mathbb{F}_q^{2n} of a random Fr_q -stable maximal torus in $Sp_{2n}(\overline{\mathbb{F}_q})$ equals

$$1 + \frac{1}{q} + \frac{1}{q^2} + \frac{1}{q^3} + \dots + \frac{1}{q^{2n-1}}$$

Proof. The fixed points of w_T correspond to eigenvectors v_i of T in \mathbb{F}_q^{2n} . Since the eigenvectors come in inverse pairs (v_i/\overline{v}_i) for Fr_q -stable maximal tori in $\operatorname{Sp}(\overline{\mathbb{F}_q})$, we apply Formula (1) to the character polynomial $P = 2X_1$. The result follows from the above computation.

Proposition 4.13 (Reducible v.s. Irreducible Fr_q-stable 2-dimensional subtori). Given a Fr_q -stable torus T in $Sp_{2n}(\overline{\mathbb{F}_q})$ or in $SO_{2n+1}(\overline{\mathbb{F}_q})$, let $\mathcal{R}_n(T)$ denote the number of reducible 2-dimensional Fr_q -stable subtori of T and $\mathcal{I}_n(T)$ denote the number of irreducible 2-dimensional Fr_q -stable subtori of T. Then the expected value of the function $\mathcal{R}_n - \mathcal{I}_n$ over all Fr_q -stable maximal tori of $Sp_{2n}(\overline{\mathbb{F}_q})$ or $SO_{2n+1}(\overline{\mathbb{F}_q})$ is given by

$$\frac{\left(q^4 - \frac{1}{q^{2n}}\right)\left(1 - \frac{1}{q^{2(n-1)}}\right)}{(q^2 - 1)(q^4 - 1)}$$

and converges to the sum

$$\frac{1}{q^2} + \frac{1}{q^4} + \frac{2}{q^6} + \frac{2}{q^8} + \frac{3}{q^{10}} + \frac{3}{q^{12}} + \dots + \frac{\lfloor \frac{2d-2}{4} \rfloor}{q^{2d-4}} + \dots = \frac{q^4}{(q^2 - 1)(q^4 - 1)}$$

as n tends to infinity.

Proof. To count the difference in the number of reducible and irreducible 2-dimensional Fr_q -stable subtori of $T \in \mathcal{T}_n^{Fr_q}$, we compute

$$P(T) = \binom{X_1(T) + Y_1(T)}{2} - \left(X_2(T) + Y_2(T)\right)$$

and employ Formula (1). The irreducible B_n -representation $\bigwedge^2 V_{(n-1,1),\varnothing}$ has character

$$\chi = \binom{X_1 + Y_1}{2} - (X_2 + Y_2) - (X_1 + Y_1) + 1$$

and associated double partition

$$\lambda = \left(\overbrace{\square}^{n-2}, \varnothing \right).$$

Define

We have $D(T_{i,j}) = \{i - 1, j - 1\}$ for all $2 \le i < j \le n$, and so $f(T_{i,j}) = 2(i + j) - 4$ for all $2 \le i < j \le n$. Stably, it follows that the multiplicity is zero in degree *d* if *d* is odd, and for $d \ge 6$

even, $f(T_{i,j}) = d$ for the $\lfloor \frac{d-2}{4} \rfloor$ pairs $(i,j) = (2, \frac{d}{2}), (3, \frac{d}{2} - 1), \dots, (\lfloor \frac{d+2}{4} \rfloor, \frac{d}{2} - \lfloor \frac{d+2}{4} \rfloor + 2)$. For a given $n \ge 2$, the expected value $q^{-2n^2} \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_n^{\operatorname{Fr}_q}} \chi(T)$ of $\chi(T)$ is given in terms of the *Gaussian binomial*

coefficient $\binom{n}{2}_{\frac{1}{q^2}}$ by the formula

$$\sum_{d\geq 0} \frac{\langle \chi, R_n^d \rangle_{B_n}}{q^d} = \frac{1}{q^6} \binom{n}{2}_{\frac{1}{q^2}} := \frac{1}{q^6} \left(\frac{\left(1 - \frac{1}{q^{2n}}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{q^{2(n-1)}}\right)}{\left(1 - \frac{1}{q^2}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{q^4}\right)} \right) = \frac{\left(1 - \frac{1}{q^{2n}}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{q^{2(n-1)}}\right)}{(q^2 - 1) (q^4 - 1)}$$

As *n* tends to infinity, the expected value converges to

$$\frac{1}{q^6} + \frac{1}{q^8} + \frac{2}{q^{10}} + \frac{2}{q^{12}} + \frac{3}{q^{14}} + \frac{3}{q^{16}} + \dots + \frac{\lfloor \frac{2d-2}{4} \rfloor}{q^{2d}} + \dots = \frac{1}{(q^2 - 1)(q^4 - 1)}$$

To obtain the result for the character polynomial

$$\binom{X_1+Y_1}{2} - (X_2+Y_2) = \left[\binom{X_1+Y_1}{2} - (X_2+Y_2) - (X_1+Y_1) + 1\right] + \left[(X_1+Y_1) - 1\right]$$

we combine this result with the result for irreducible representation $V_{(n-1,1),\emptyset}$ from Proposition 4.10. We find that the desired formula is

$$\frac{\left(1-\frac{1}{q^{2n}}\right)\left(1-\frac{1}{q^{2(n-1)}}\right)}{(q^2-1)\left(q^4-1\right)} + \frac{\left(q^2-\frac{1}{q^{2(n-1)}}\right)}{(q^2-1)} - 1$$

$$= \frac{\left(q^4-\frac{1}{q^{2n}}\right)\left(1-\frac{1}{q^{2(n-1)}}\right)}{(q^2-1)\left(q^4-1\right)}$$

$$\xrightarrow{n\to\infty} \frac{q^4}{(q^2-1)\left(q^4-1\right)} = \frac{1}{q^2} + \frac{1}{q^4} + \frac{2}{q^6} + \frac{2}{q^8} + \frac{3}{q^{10}} + \frac{3}{q^{12}} + \dots$$

Proposition 4.14 (Split v.s. non-split Fr_q-stable irreducible 2-dimensional subtori). The expected value of split minus non-split Fr_q -stable irreducible 2-dimensional subtori over all Fr_q -stable maximal tori of $Sp_{2n}(\overline{\mathbb{F}_q})$ or $SO_{2n+1}(\overline{\mathbb{F}_q})$ is given by

$$\frac{q^2\left(1-\frac{1}{q^{2n}}\right)\left(1-\frac{1}{q^{2(n-1)}}\right)}{2\left(q^4-1\right)} \qquad \xrightarrow{n \to \infty} \qquad \frac{q^2}{2\left(q^4-1\right)}$$

Proof. We need to consider the character polynomial $X_2 - Y_2$ in Formula (1).

The irreducible B_n -representation $\Lambda^2 V_{(n-1),(1)}$ has character polynomial $\chi = \begin{pmatrix} X_1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} Y_1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} - X_1Y_1 - X_2 + Y_2$ and corresponds to the double partition

$$\lambda = \left(\overbrace{\Box \Box }^{n-2}, \Box \right).$$

Then

$$D(T_{i,n}) = \{i\} \qquad f(T_{i,n}) = 2i + 2 \qquad \text{for} \quad i = 1, \dots, n-1$$

$$D(T_{i,j}) = \{i, j\} \qquad f(T_{i,j}) = 2i + 2j + 2 \qquad \text{for} \quad 1 \le i < j \le n-1$$

Hence for even d with $4 \le d \le 2n$, $f(T_{\frac{d-2}{2},n}) = d$, and for even d with $4 \le d \le 2n-2$, $f(T_{i,j}) = d$ for all i < j < n such that $i + j = \frac{d}{2} - 1$. Stably there are $\left\lfloor \frac{d}{4} \right\rfloor$ copies of $V_{(n-2),(1,1)}$ in each even degree $d \ge 4$ and zero copies in odd degree. For given $n \ge 2$, the expected value of the character polynomial statistic is

$$\sum_{d\geq 0} \frac{\langle \chi, R_n^d \rangle_{B_n}}{q^d} = \frac{1}{q^4} \binom{n}{2}_{\frac{1}{q^2}} := \frac{\frac{1}{q^4} \left(1 - \frac{1}{q^{2n}}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{q^{2(n-1)}}\right)}{\left(1 - \frac{1}{q^4}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{q^4}\right)}$$
$$\xrightarrow{n \to \infty} \frac{q^2}{(q^2 - 1) (q^4 - 1)}$$

The irreducible B_n -representation with character polynomial $\chi = \begin{pmatrix} X_1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} Y_1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} - X_1Y_1 + X_2 - Y_2$ and corresponds to the double partition

$$\lambda = \left(\overbrace{\Box \Box \cdots \Box}^{n-2}, \Box \Box \right).$$

There are $\binom{n}{2}$ possible double standard tableaux of shape λ . For i < j, with $i, j \in \{1, ..., n\}$, let

Then

$$\begin{array}{ll} D(T_{n-1,n}) = \varnothing & f(T_{n-1,n}) = 2 \\ D(T_{i,n}) = \{i\} & f(T_{i,n}) = 2i+2 & \text{for } i = 1, \dots, n-2 \\ D(T_{i-1,i}) = \{i\} & f(T_{i-1,i}) = 2i+2 & \text{for } i = 2, \dots, n-1 \\ D(T_{i,j+1}) = \{i, j+1\} & f(T_{i,j+1}) = 2i+2j+4 & \text{for } 1 \le i < j \le n-2 \end{array}$$

Stably, there this irreducible representation has multiplicity zero in odd degrees and multiplicity

 $\left\lceil \frac{d}{4} \right\rceil$ in each even degree $d \ge 2$. For $n \ge 2$, the expected value $q^{-2n^2} \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_n^{\operatorname{Fr}q}} \chi(T)$ is

$$\sum_{d\geq 0} \frac{\langle \chi, R_n^d \rangle_{B_n}}{q^d} = \frac{1}{q^2} \binom{n}{2}_{\frac{1}{q^2}} := \frac{\frac{1}{q^2} \left(1 - \frac{1}{q^{2n}}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{q^{2(n-1)}}\right)}{\left(1 - \frac{1}{q^2}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{q^4}\right)} = \frac{q^4 \left(1 - \frac{1}{q^{2n}}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{q^{2(n-1)}}\right)}{(q^2 - 1) (q^4 - 1)}$$
$$\xrightarrow{n \to \infty} \frac{q^4}{(q^2 - 1) (q^4 - 1)}$$

Then for the character polynomial

$$P = (X_2 - Y_2) = \frac{1}{2} \left[\left(\begin{pmatrix} X_1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} Y_1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} - X_1 Y_1 + X_2 - Y_2 \right) - \left(\begin{pmatrix} X_1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} Y_1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} - X_1 Y_1 - X_2 + Y_2 \right) \right]$$

the corresponding expected value $q^{-2n^2}\sum_{T\in \mathcal{T}_n^{\mathrm{Fr}_q}}P(T)$ for $n\geq 2$ is given by

$$\frac{1}{2} \left[\left(\frac{\frac{1}{q^2} \left(1 - \frac{1}{q^{2n}} \right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{q^{2(n-1)}} \right)}{\left(1 - \frac{1}{q^2} \right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{q^4} \right)} \right) - \left(\frac{\frac{1}{q^4} \left(1 - \frac{1}{q^{2n}} \right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{q^{2(n-1)}} \right)}{\left(1 - \frac{1}{q^2} \right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{q^4} \right)} \right) \right] \\ = \frac{q^2 \left(1 - \frac{1}{q^{2n}} \right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{q^{2(n-1)}} \right)}{2 \left(q^4 - 1 \right)}$$

In the limit as *n* tends to infinity, this converges to $\frac{q^2}{2(q^4-1)}$.

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