# IrReducible Specht modules FOR SYMMETRIC GROUPS AND BEYOND 

Louise Sutton

Women at the Intersection of Mathematics and Theoretical Physics Meet in Okinawa


## The symmetric group

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subject to the relations

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Fields of characteristic zero:
Fields of prime characteristic: e.g. $\mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{C}$. e.g. finite fields $\mathbb{Z} / p \mathbb{Z}, p$ a prime.

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## Open Problem

Can we explicitly describe the irreducible modules of $\mathfrak{S}_{n}$ ? What are their dimensions? What are their bases?

## Introducing combinatorics

A partition $\lambda$ of $n$ is a non-increasing sequence of non-negative integers
$\lambda=\left(\lambda_{1}, \lambda_{2}, \ldots\right)$ such that $\lambda_{i} \geqslant \lambda_{i+1}$ for all $i \geqslant 1$ and $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty}\left|\lambda_{i}\right|=n$.

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What are the dimensions and bases of irreducible $\mathfrak{S}_{n}$-modules?

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There is a cyclotomic Hecke algebra, $\mathscr{H}_{n}$, associated to each complex reflection group of type $G(\ell, 1, n)=(\mathbb{Z} / \ell \mathbb{Z}) \imath \mathfrak{S}_{n}$.

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## Aim

FIRST STEP: classify the irreducible Specht modules in positive characteristic.

## Hook lengths

Let $\lambda$ be a partition, and $[\lambda]$ be its Young diagram.
The hook length of a box $(a, b) \in[\lambda]$ is

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\begin{aligned}
h_{a b}^{\lambda} & : \\
= & \left(\lambda_{a}-b\right)+\left(\lambda_{b}^{\prime}-a\right)+1 \\
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Let $\lambda=(9,8,5,3)$ and box $(a, b)=(2,2)$.

$$
h_{\mathrm{ab}}^{\lambda}=\begin{array}{|l|l|l|l|l|l|l|l|l|}
\hline & & & & & & & & \\
\hline & & & & & & & \\
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$$
h_{a b}^{\lambda}=\begin{array}{|l|l|l|l|l|l|l|l|l|}
\hline & & & & & & & & \\
\hline & & & & & & & \\
\hline & & & & & \\
\hline & & &
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|  |  |  |  |  |  | 1 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 9 |  |  |  | 2 | 1 |  |
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|  |  |  |  |  |  | 4 | 3 | 1 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
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|  |  |  |  |  | 5 | 4 | 3 | 1 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 9 |  |  | 5 | 3 | 2 | 1 |  |
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| 12 | 11 | 10 | 8 | 7 | 5 | 4 |  | 1 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 10 | 9 | 8 | 6 | 5 | 3 | 2 |  |  |
| 6 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 1 |  |  |  |  |
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v_{e, p}\left(h_{a c}^{\lambda}\right)=v_{e, p}\left(h_{b c}^{\lambda}\right) \text { whenever }(a, c),(b, c) \in[\lambda] \text { and } c>\ell \text {; }
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(3) all other boxes in $[\lambda]$ :
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# Partitions indexing irreducible Specht modules 

Let $e=p=3$.

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$$
\left[\left(10,5,3,2^{3}, 1^{2}\right)\right]=\begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|}
\hline 17 & 14 & 10 & 8 & 7 & 5 & 4 & 3 & 2 & 1 \\
\hline 11 & 8 & 4 & 2 & 1 & & & & & \\
\hline 8 & 5 & 1 & & & & & & & \\
\hline 6 & 3 & & & & & & & & \\
\cline { 1 - 3 } 5 & 2 & & & & & & & & \\
\cline { 1 - 3 } & 4 & & & & & & & & \\
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\left\{v_{T} \mid T \text { is a "standard" }(\lambda, \mu) \text {-tableau }\right\} .
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Can we classify irreducible Specht modules $S(\lambda, \mu)$ ?

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Conjecture (Joint work with Matthew Fayers)
The "unrestrictable" Specht module $S(\lambda, \mu)$ is irreducible if and only if

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