

# Minimal degeneration singularities in the affine Grassmannian for $\mathrm{PGL}_2$ over $\mathbb{Z}$

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## Abstract

We compute minimal degeneration singularities in the affine Grassmannian for  $\mathrm{PGL}_2$  over  $\mathbb{Z}$ . This generalises results from [MOV05, Lemma 5.1] in characteristic 0, [Mül09], and [HLRed] in the case of quasi-minuscule Schubert varieties. In particular, in characteristic 2 these are not normal. We deduce these results from the  $\mathrm{GL}_2$  case.

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# 1. Introduction

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To begin, we fix some notation. We let  $\mathbf{Gr}_G$  denote the affine Grassmannian for a group  $G$ . Let  $\mu$  be a dominant cocharacter for the diagonal torus in  $G$ . Then we let

- $\Lambda_\mu$  denote the corresponding point in  $\mathbf{Gr}_G$ , and
- $\mathbf{Gr}_{G, \leq \mu}$  denote the corresponding Schubert variety in  $\mathbf{Gr}_G$ .

We compute minimal degeneration singularities in Schubert varieties inside  $\mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{PGL}_2}$  over  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

We identify the dominant cocharacters for  $\mathrm{PGL}_2$  with  $\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ . Then for  $r \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 2}$ , the pair  $(r-2, r)$  is a minimal degeneration of dominant cocharacters for  $\mathrm{PGL}_2$ . The corresponding minimal degeneration singularity is defined by

$$L^{--}\mathrm{PGL}_2 \cdot \Lambda_{r-2} \cap \mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{PGL}_2, \leq r}. \quad (1.1)$$

where

$$L^{--}\mathrm{PGL}_2 \cdot \Lambda_{r-2}$$

is a locally closed ind-subscheme of  $\mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{PGL}_2}$ .

Then (1.1) is an affine scheme, i.e. it is equal to  $\mathrm{Spec} B_r$  where  $B_r$  is some ring. Our main result describes these rings.

**Theorem 1.1.** (cf. Theorem 4.1) *In the situation above, the ring  $B_r$  is isomorphic to the subring of  $\mathbb{Z}[w, x, y]/(w^r + xy)$  generated by  $x, y, wx, wy, 2w, w^2$ .*

For the remainder of this section we denote  $A_r := \mathbb{Z}[w, x, y]/(w^r + xy)$ .

Note that over  $\mathbb{Z}[\frac{1}{2}]$  we have that  $B_r \otimes \mathbb{Z}[\frac{1}{2}] \cong A_r \otimes \mathbb{Z}[\frac{1}{2}]$ ; this also applies to any  $\mathbb{Z}[\frac{1}{2}]$ -algebra  $R$ . For  $R = k$  a field with  $\mathrm{char}(k) = 0$  this was first shown in [MOV05], and generalised to any field with  $\mathrm{char}(k) \neq 2$  in [Mül09]. The minimal degeneration singularity in the quasi-minuscule case  $r = 2$  was first discussed in [HLRed].

In order to arrive at our main result, we adapt the methodology of [Mül09, Theorem 9.2] to compute the minimal degeneration singularities in the affine Grassmannian for  $\mathrm{GL}_2$ .

**Theorem 1.2.** (cf. Theorem 3.6) *Let  $\mu = (m_1, m_2) \in \mathbb{Z}^2$  be a dominant cocharacter for  $\mathrm{GL}_2$ , i.e. such that  $m_1 \geq m_2$ , and let  $\lambda = (m_1 + 1, m_2 - 1)$ . Then the pair  $(\mu, \lambda)$  is a minimal degeneration of dominant cocharacters for  $\mathrm{GL}_2$ . For such a pair, we set  $r := m_1 - m_2 + 2$ . Then there is an isomorphism of schemes*

$$L^{--}\mathrm{GL}_2 \cdot \Lambda_\mu \cap \mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{GL}_2, \leq \lambda} \cong \mathrm{Spec} A_r.$$

To deduce the result in the  $\mathrm{PGL}_2$  case we make use of the fact that  $\mathrm{GL}_2 \twoheadrightarrow \mathrm{PGL}_2$  induces a scheme-theoretic surjection of reduced schemes

$$L^{--}\mathrm{GL}_2 \cdot \Lambda_\mu \cap \mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{GL}_2, \leq \lambda} \rightarrow L^{--}\mathrm{PGL}_2 \cdot \Lambda_{r-2} \cap \mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{PGL}_2, \leq r} \quad (1.2)$$

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on minimal degeneration singularities. To identify the subring  $B_r$  of  $A_r$  we use the adjoint representation  $\mathrm{GL}_2 \rightarrow \mathrm{Aut}(\mathfrak{gl}_2) = \mathrm{GL}_4$ , generalising the argument in [HLRed, Appendix B].

Finally, we discuss presentations of the reduced rings  $(B_r \otimes k)_{\mathrm{red}}$  where  $k$  is a field such that  $\mathrm{char}(k) = 2$ , computed using SAGEMATH (cf. Conjecture 4.5).

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## 2. Recollections on affine Grassmannians

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We begin by presenting some results on affine Grassmannians over  $\mathbb{Z}$ , following [Ric20, §2–3].

### 2.1 The affine Grassmannian for general groups

Let  $R$  be a ring. Recall that  $R((z))$  and  $R[[z]]$  are the rings of formal Laurent series and formal power series in the variable  $z$  respectively. We set  $\mathbb{D}_R := \text{Spec } R[[z]]$  and  $\mathbb{D}_R^* := \mathbb{D}_R \setminus \{z = 0\} = \text{Spec } R((z))$ .

Let  $G$  be a split reductive group over  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

Let  $\mathcal{E}$  be a (left) fppf  $G$ -torsor over  $\mathbb{D}_R$ , and  $\alpha \in \mathcal{E}(\mathbb{D}_R^*)$  a section. We say two pairs  $(\mathcal{E}, \alpha)$  and  $(\mathcal{E}', \alpha')$  are isomorphic if there exists a morphism  $\pi : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}'$  such that  $\pi \circ \alpha = \alpha'$ . In this case,  $\pi$  is necessarily an isomorphism of  $G$ -torsors.

**Definition 2.1.** The *affine Grassmannian for  $G$*  is the functor  $\text{Rings} \rightarrow \text{Sets}$  given by

$$\mathbf{Gr}_G(R) := \{[(\mathcal{E}, \alpha)] \mid \mathcal{E} \text{ is a (left) fppf } G\text{-torsor over } \mathbb{D}_R, \alpha \in \mathcal{E}(\mathbb{D}_R^*) \text{ a section}\}.$$

In particular, we consider the affine Grassmannians for  $G = \text{GL}_n, \text{SL}_n$  and  $\text{PGL}_n$ . These are all representable by ind-projective ind-schemes, as a special case of [Lev13, Theorem 3.3.11]. Then the maps

$$\text{SL}_n \hookrightarrow \text{GL}_n \twoheadrightarrow \text{PGL}_n$$

of  $\mathbb{Z}$ -group schemes induce maps

$$\mathbf{Gr}_{\text{SL}_n} \hookrightarrow \mathbf{Gr}_{\text{GL}_n} \twoheadrightarrow \mathbf{Gr}_{\text{PGL}_n}$$

of ind-schemes.

### 2.2 The affine Grassmannian for $\text{GL}_n$

The affine Grassmannian for  $\text{GL}_n$  admits a more explicit description.

**Definition 2.2.** Let  $R$  be a ring. An  $R[[z]]$ -lattice  $\Lambda$  in  $R((z))^n$  is a finite locally free  $R[[z]]$ -submodule of  $R((z))^n$  such that

$$\Lambda \otimes_{R[[z]]} R((z)) = R((z))^n.$$

The following is essentially [Ric20, Rmk 3.3].

**Lemma 2.3.** The functor  $\mathbf{Gr}_{\text{GL}_n}$  is isomorphic to the functor  $\text{Rings} \rightarrow \text{Sets}$  given by:

$$R \mapsto \{R[[z]]\text{-lattices in } R((z))^n\}.$$

*Proof.* In order to see this, first note a  $\mathrm{GL}_n$ -bundle on  $\mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathbb{D}_R$  is essentially the same as a rank  $n$  locally free  $R[[z]]$ -module  $E$ . In this setting,  $\alpha$  induces an isomorphism (as  $R[[z]]$ -modules)  $E[z^{-1}] \cong R((z))$ , under which we can take the image of  $E \subset E[z^{-1}]$ ; this gives us a lattice  $\Lambda = \Lambda_{(\mathcal{E}, \alpha)}$  which only depends on the class  $[(\mathcal{E}, \alpha)]$ . The map  $[(\mathcal{E}, \alpha)] \mapsto \Lambda_{(\mathcal{E}, \alpha)}$  is the required isomorphism.  $\square$

**Proposition 2.4.** *A lattice  $\Lambda \in \mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{GL}_n}(R)$  is special if its highest exterior power  $\wedge^n \Lambda = R[[z]]$  as a  $R[[z]]$ -submodule of  $R((z))$ . Then the isomorphism in Lemma 2.3 restricts to an isomorphism between  $\mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{SL}_n}$  and the subfunctor  $\mathbf{Rings} \rightarrow \mathbf{Sets}$  given by*

$$R \mapsto \{\Lambda \in \mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{GL}_n}(R) \mid \Lambda \text{ is special}\}.$$

*Proof.* See the proof of [HLRed, Lemma B.3].  $\square$

We set  $\Lambda_0 := \mathbb{Z}[[z]]^n$  the base lattice, and more generally for a ring  $R$ ,  $\Lambda_{0,R} := R[[z]]^n$ .

**Definition 2.5.** An ordered pair  $(a, b) \in \mathbb{Z}^2, a \leq b$  defines a subfunctor of  $\mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{GL}_n}$  given by

$$\mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{GL}_n}^{[a,b]}(R) := \{\Lambda \in \mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{GL}_n}(R) \mid z^b \Lambda_{0,R} \subset \Lambda \subset z^a \Lambda_{0,R}\}.$$

We collect some important facts here.

**Lemma 2.6.** 1. For any ordered pair  $(a, b) \in \mathbb{Z}^2, a \leq b$ ,  $\mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{GL}_n}^{[a,b]} \rightarrow \mathrm{Spec} \mathbb{Z}$  is representable by a proper scheme.  
2. The functor  $\mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{GL}_n}$  can be written as the filtered colimit

$$\mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{GL}_n} = \mathrm{colim}_{a \leq b} \mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{GL}_n}^{[a,b]}.$$

*Proof.* See [Ric20, Theorem 2.2 and preceding discussion].  $\square$

**Definition 2.7.** A cocharacter  $\mu$  for (the diagonal torus in)  $\mathrm{GL}_n$  is a map

$$\mu : z \mapsto \mathrm{diag}(z^{m_1}, \dots, z^{m_n})$$

where  $(m_1, \dots, m_n) \in \mathbb{Z}^n$ . We identify  $\mu$  with the tuple  $(m_1, \dots, m_n)$ . A cocharacter  $\mu$  is *dominant* if  $m_i \geq m_{i+1}$ . We denote the set of dominant cocharacters by  $\mathbb{Z}_+^n$ .  $\mu$  is a cocharacter for  $\mathrm{SL}_n$  if  $\sum_{i=1}^n m_i = 0$ .

**Definition 2.8.** For  $\mu \in \mathbb{Z}^n$  we define the *diagonal lattices* of  $\mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{GL}_n}$  given by

$$\Lambda_\mu := \bigoplus_{i=1}^n z^{m_i} \mathbb{Z}[[z]]$$

where the identification should be taken to mean that the matrix  $z^\mu := \mathrm{diag}(z^{m_1}, \dots, z^{m_n}) \in \mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{Z}((z)))$  represents the lattice  $\Lambda_\mu$  with respect to the standard basis  $(e_1, \dots, e_n)$ . We may also use the notation  $\mu(z)$  to indicate the same object.

We wish to describe cocharacters for the diagonal torus in  $\mathrm{PGL}_n$ .

**Definition 2.9.** Let  $\mu := (m_1, \dots, m_n)$  and  $\mu' := (m'_1, \dots, m'_n) \in \mathbb{Z}^n$  be cocharacters for  $\mathrm{GL}_n$ . We say  $\mu \sim \mu'$  if there exists some  $a \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$ ,  $m'_i = m_i + a$ . Then  $\sim$  is an equivalence relation, the classes of which are the *cocharacters for  $\mathrm{PGL}_n$* . Any cocharacter for  $\mathrm{PGL}_n$  has a unique representative given by

$$[(m_1, \dots, m_n)] \mapsto (m_1 - m_n, \dots, m_{n-1} - m_n, 0). \quad (2.1)$$

Hence we identify the cocharacters for  $\mathrm{PGL}_n$  with  $\mathbb{Z}^{n-1}$ . A cocharacter for  $\mathrm{PGL}_n$  is *dominant* if and only if it is the class of some  $\mu \in \mathbb{Z}_{+, \geq 0}^n$ , i.e. if and only if

$$m_1 - m_n \geq m_2 - m_n \geq \dots \geq 0.$$

We identify the dominant cocharacters for  $\mathrm{PGL}_n$  with

$$\mathbb{Z}_{+, \geq 0}^{n-1} := \{(m_1, \dots, m_{n-1}) \in \mathbb{Z}_+^{n-1} \text{ st. } \forall 1 \leq i \leq n-1, m_i \geq 0\}.$$

**Remark 2.10.** In general,  $\mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{PGL}_n}$  does not have a similar explicit description cf. Lemma 2.3 and Proposition 2.4. However, when the Picard group  $\mathrm{Pic}(R) \cong 0$ , then

$$\mathrm{PGL}_n(R) = \mathrm{GL}_n(R)/R^\times.$$

If we additionally have that  $\mathrm{Pic}(R((z))) = 0$  and that  $R$  is reduced and connected, the cocharacters for  $\mathrm{PGL}_n$  may be treated as isomorphism classes on (matrix representations of) lattices via the identification using the standard basis outlined above. More specifically, for  $\Lambda \in \mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{GL}_n}(R)$ , let

$$[\Lambda] := \{\Lambda' \mid \exists a \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ st. } \Lambda = z^a \Lambda'\}.$$

Then

$$\mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{PGL}_n}(R) = \{[\Lambda] \mid \Lambda \in \mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{GL}_n}(R)\}.$$

**Example 2.11.** Let  $n = 2$ , and let  $\mu = (3, -3)$  be a dominant cocharacter for  $\mathrm{SL}_2$  (and for  $\mathrm{GL}_2$ ). Under the map induced by (2.1), the matrix representative of  $\Lambda_\mu \in \mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{SL}_2}$  is sent to

$$\begin{pmatrix} z^3 & 0 \\ 0 & z^{-3} \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \left[ \begin{pmatrix} z^6 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right]$$

i.e.  $\Lambda_{(3,-3)} \mapsto \Lambda_6$ .

The following is from [\[Ric20, §2.3\]](#).

**Definition 2.12.** The determinant induces a morphism  $\mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{GL}_n} \rightarrow \mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{GL}_1}$  given on  $R$ -points by

$$\Lambda \mapsto \det_{R[[z]]}(\Lambda).$$

For  $d \in \mathbb{Z}$ , let

$$\Sigma_d(R) := \{\Lambda \in \mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{GL}_n}(R) \mid \det_{R[[z]]}(\Lambda) = d\}.$$

Then  $\Sigma_d$  is a connected component and  $\mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{GL}_n}$  can be decomposed into the disjoint union

$$\mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{GL}_n} = \coprod_{d \in \mathbb{Z}} \Sigma_d.$$



## 2.3 Loop groups

**Definition 2.13.** For a split reductive group  $G$  over  $\mathbb{Z}$  we define the following functors from Rings  $\rightarrow$  Groups:

1.  $LG(R) := G(R((z)))$ , the loop group of  $G$ ,
2.  $L^+G(R) := G(R[[z]])$ , the positive loop group of  $G$ ,
3.  $L^-G(R) := \ker \left( G(R[z^{-1}]) \xrightarrow{z^{-1} \mapsto 0} G(R) \right)$ , the strictly negative loop group of  $G$ .

In particular, we will consider these functors for  $G = \mathrm{GL}_n$ ,  $\mathrm{SL}_n$ , and  $\mathrm{PGL}_n$ .

**Lemma 2.14.** Let  $G$  be a split reductive group over  $\mathbb{Z}$ . Then

1.  $LG$  is representable by an ind-affine ind-scheme.
2.  $L^+G$  is representable by an affine scheme.
3.  $L^-G$  is representable by an ind-affine ind-scheme.

*Proof.* For (1) and (2) see [HR20, Lemma 3.2]. (3) follows from [HR20, Lemma 3.14] and the fact that  $L^-G$  is closed inside  $L^-G$ . □

**Proposition 2.15.** If  $G$  is a split reductive group over  $\mathbb{Z}$ , then the map  $LG \rightarrow \mathbf{Gr}_G, g \mapsto g \cdot e = [(\mathcal{E}_0, g)]$  induces an isomorphism of étale sheaves

$$(LG/L^+G)_{\text{ét}} \cong \mathbf{Gr}_G.$$

*Proof.* See [Ric20, Proposition 3.18]. □

## 2.4 Schubert varieties

**Definition 2.16.** Let  $\mu \in \mathbb{Z}_+^2$ . We define the Schubert variety  $\mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{GL}_2, \leq \mu} \subset \mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{GL}_2}$  to be the scheme-theoretic image of the map

$$\begin{aligned} L^+\mathrm{GL}_2 &\rightarrow \mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{GL}_2} \\ g &\mapsto g \cdot \Lambda_\mu. \end{aligned}$$

The Schubert varieties for  $\mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{SL}_2}$  are indexed by the cocharacters for  $\mathrm{SL}_2$  i.e.  $\mu = (m, -m)$  with  $m \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ .

For  $\mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{PGL}_2}$ , the dominant cocharacters are indexed by  $\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ . We define the Schubert variety  $\mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{PGL}_2, \leq r}$  in an analogous manner.

**Lemma 2.17.** Let  $\mu = (m_1, m_2) \in \mathbb{Z}_+^2$ . Then  $\mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{GL}_2, \leq \mu}$  is a closed subscheme of  $\mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{GL}_2}^{[m_2, m_1]}$ .

*Proof.* This follows from the definition, since  $\Lambda_\mu \in \mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{GL}_2}^{[m_2, m_1]}$  which is stable under the action of  $L^+G$ . In particular, the scheme-theoretic image of a map is the smallest closed subscheme through which the map factors. □

**Definition 2.18.** Let  $\mu = (m_1, m_2) \in \mathbb{Z}^2$ . Then  $\lambda = \lambda(\mu) := (m_1 + 1, m_2 - 1) \in \mathbb{Z}^2$  is the immediate neighbour of  $\mu$ . Note that  $\lambda$  is dominant if and only if  $\mu$  is. In this case, we call the pair  $(\mu, \lambda)$  a minimal degeneration of dominant cocharacters for  $\mathrm{GL}_2$ .

Note that for such a pair  $(\mu, \lambda)$ ,  $|\lambda| = |\mu|$ , so the corresponding Schubert varieties are contained in the same connected component  $\Sigma_{|\mu|}$ . In particular,  $\mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{GL}_2, \leq \mu} \subset \mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{GL}_2, \leq \lambda}$  and this inclusion is minimal, i.e. there is no  $\lambda'$  such that  $\mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{GL}_2, \leq \mu} \subsetneq \mathbf{Gr}_{\leq \lambda'} \subsetneq \mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{GL}_2, \leq \lambda}$ .

**Definition 2.19.** For  $\mu$  a cocharacter of  $\mathrm{GL}_2$ , let  $z^\mu := \mathrm{diag}(z^{m_1}, z^{m_2}) \in \mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}((z)))$ . For a ring  $R$ , we denote  $\Lambda_{\mu, R}^- := z^\mu \cdot (z^{-1}R[z^{-1}]^2)$ . Then we define

$$\mathcal{U}_\mu(R) := \{\Lambda \in \mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{GL}_2}(R) \mid \Lambda_{\mu, R}^- \oplus \Lambda \cong R((z))^2 \text{ as } R\text{-modules}\}.$$

In particular,  $\mathcal{U}_0$  contains  $\Lambda_0$ .

Note that for any  $\mu \in \mathbb{Z}^2$ ,  $\mathcal{U}_\mu$  is the  $z^\mu$ -translate of  $\mathcal{U}_0$  under the action of  $\mathrm{GL}_2(R((z)))$  on  $\mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{GL}_2}$ .

**Proposition 2.20.**

$$\mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{GL}_2} = \bigcup_{\mu \in \mathbb{Z}^2} \mathcal{U}_\mu \tag{2.2}$$

is an ind-affine open covering. In particular, any  $\mathcal{U}_\mu$  is an ind-affine ind-scheme, and the inclusion into  $\mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{GL}_2}$  is representable by a quasi-compact open immersion.

*Proof.* Follows from the discussion in §2.5 and §2.6 below (see [Ric20, Proposition 2.4]). □

**Proposition 2.21.** Under the natural transformation  $L^{--}\mathrm{GL}_n \rightarrow \mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{GL}_n}$ ,  $g \mapsto g \cdot \Lambda_0$  we have

$$L^{--}\mathrm{GL}_2 \cong \mathcal{U}_0.$$

*Proof.* See [Ric20, Lem 2.7]. □

Identifying  $L^{--}\mathrm{GL}_2$  with its image gives

$$L^{--}\mathrm{GL}_2 \cdot \Lambda_\mu \cong \mathcal{U}_\mu. \tag{2.3}$$

## 2.5 The classical Grassmannian

**Definition 2.22.** Let  $M$  be a finite locally free  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module. The classical Grassmannian of  $M$  is the functor  $\mathrm{Rings} \rightarrow \mathrm{Sets}$  given by

$$\mathrm{Grass}(M)(R) := \{N \subset M \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} R \mid (M \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} R)/N \text{ finite locally free } R\text{-module}\}.$$

**Lemma 2.23.**  $\mathrm{Grass}(M)$  is representable by a projective scheme.

*Proof.* See [GW10, Proposition 8.14] □

Let  $a \leq b \in \mathbb{Z}$ . We define  $M_{[a,b]} := z^a \Lambda_0 / z^b \Lambda_0 \cong \mathbb{Z}^{2(b-a)}$ . Then  $M_{[a,b]}$  has the natural ordered  $\mathbb{Z}$ -basis

$$B = (z^a e_1, \dots, z^{b-1} e_1, z^a e_2, \dots, z^{b-1} e_2).$$

**Definition 2.24.** The subfunctor of  $z$ -stable subspaces is given by

$$\text{Grass}^z(M_{[a,b]})(R) := \{N \in \text{Grass}(M_{[a,b]})(R) \mid z \cdot N \subset N\}.$$

This is a closed subscheme of  $\text{Grass}(M_{[a,b]})$  [Ric20, Proof of Theorem 2.2].

**Remark 2.25.** Here we consider  $z$  as a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -linear nilpotent operator, thus the characteristic polynomial of  $z$  as an endomorphism is traceless.

**Lemma 2.26.** Let  $a \leq b \in \mathbb{Z}$ . There is an isomorphism

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{Gr}_{\text{GL}_2, [a,b]} &\xrightarrow{\sim} \text{Grass}^z(M_{[a,b]}) \\ \Lambda &\longmapsto \Lambda/z^b\Lambda_0. \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* See the proof of Theorem 2.2 in [Ric20]. □

## 2.6 The standard open cover

**Definition 2.27.** Let  $J \subset B$ , then we denote by  $\langle J \rangle$  the free  $\mathbb{Z}$ -submodule generated by the basis vectors in  $J$ . Note that  $J$  inherits a natural order from  $B$ . Then the subfunctor

$$V_J := \{N \in \text{Grass}(M_{[a,b]}) \mid N \oplus \langle J \rangle = M_{[a,b]}\}$$

defines an affine open subscheme of a connected component of  $\text{Grass}(M_{[a,b]})$ .

**Lemma 2.28.** Let  $s := |B|$  and  $r := |J_c|$  where  $J_c := B \setminus J$ . Then

$$V_J \cong \mathbb{A}^{r(s-r)}.$$

*In particular, it is representable.*

*Proof.* See [GW10, Lemma 8.13(2)]. □

In particular, let  $\mu \in \mathbb{Z}^2$  such that  $a \leq m_1, m_2 \leq b$ , then we let

$$J(\mu) := (z^a e_1, \dots, z^{m_1-1} e_1, z^a e_2, \dots, z^{m_2-1} e_2).$$

Then the isomorphism in Lemma 2.26 restricts to

$$\mathcal{U}_\mu \cap \mathbf{Gr}_{\text{GL}_2}^{[a,b]} \xrightarrow{\sim} V_{J(\mu)} \cap \text{Grass}^z(M_{[a,b]}). \quad (2.4)$$

Consider a module  $N \in V_J(R)$  in the target of the above map. Locally this is prescribed by the vectors in  $J_c$ . As above, we let  $s := |B|$  and  $r := |J_c|$ . As  $B$  is an  $R$ -basis of  $\text{Grass}^z(M_{[a,b]})(R)$ ,  $N$  is represented by an  $R$ -matrix  $M_N$  of dimension  $(s \times r)$ , whose columns represent the basis vectors in  $J_c$ .

There is a natural order on  $J_c$ , inherited from the one on  $B$ . Let  $\rho_i$  be the index in  $B$  of the  $i$ th element of  $J_c$ , which is represented by the column  $\kappa_i$ . Via the ordering, we know that  $\rho_1 < \dots < \rho_r$ . Then the  $\rho_i$ th row of  $M_N$  is given by  $(0, \dots, 0, 1, 0, \dots, 0)$ , with the 1 in the  $i$ th place.

**Lemma 2.29.** Let  $(\mu, \lambda)$  be a minimal degeneration of dominant cocharacters for  $\mathrm{GL}_2$ , with  $\mu = (m_1, m_2)$ , and let  $r := m_1 - m_2 + 2$ . Then  $N \in V_{J(\mu)} \cap \mathrm{Grass}^z(M_{[m_2-1, m_1+1]})(R)$  corresponds to an  $R$ -matrix of the form

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{1,1} & a_{1,2} & a_{1,3} & \cdots & a_{1,r} \\ a_{2,1} & a_{2,2} & a_{2,3} & \cdots & a_{2,r} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{r-1,1} & a_{r-1,2} & a_{r-1,3} & \cdots & a_{r-1,r} \\ \hline 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ c_1 & c_2 & c_3 & \cdots & c_r \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 1 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (2.5)$$

*Proof.* Here we have

$$J(\mu) = (z^{m_2-1}e_1, \dots, z^{m_1-1}e_1, z^{m_2-1}e_2)$$

and  $J_c(\mu) = (z^{m_1}e_1, z^{m_2}e_2, \dots, z^{m_1}e_2)$ .

Since  $|J(\mu)| = |J_c(\mu)| = m_1 - m_2 + 2 := r$ , we have  $|B| = 2r$ . Following the above discussion, a module in the target of the restricted isomorphism corresponds to a  $(2r \times r)$  matrix of the form in the equation whose entries are in  $R$ .  $\square$

**Remark 2.30.** In (2.5), the horizontal line separates the  $(r \times r)$ -block corresponding to the basis vector  $e_1$  above, from the block corresponding to  $e_2$  below.

**Remark 2.31.** In particular,  $\Lambda_\mu$  is represented by the matrix of the form in (2.5) with  $a_{i,j} = c_j = 0$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq r-1, 1 \leq j \leq r$ .

## 3. Minimal degeneration singularities over $\mathrm{GL}_2$

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### 3.1 Loop rotation over $\mathbb{Z}$

Denote by  $\mathbb{G}_m$  the multiplicative group, which we consider as a group scheme over  $\mathbb{Z}$ . Note that  $\mathbb{G}_m \cong \mathbb{A}^1 \setminus \{0\}$ .

**Definition 3.1.** Let  $s \in \mathbb{G}_m(R)$ . We define the map

$$\begin{aligned} s^{-1} : R((z)) &\rightarrow R((z)) \\ z &\mapsto s^{-1}z. \end{aligned}$$

This map induces a  $\mathbb{G}_m$ -action on  $L\mathrm{GL}_2$ , which descends to a  $\mathbb{G}_m$ -action on  $\mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{GL}_2}$  via the quotient description in Proposition 2.15.

**Definition 3.2.** For a ring  $R$  and a point  $\Lambda \in \mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{GL}_2}(R)$ , the *orbit map* is given by

$$\begin{aligned} f_\Lambda : \mathbb{G}_m \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} R &\rightarrow \mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{GL}_2} \\ s &\mapsto s^{-1}\Lambda. \end{aligned}$$

We say  $\lim_{s \rightarrow 0} s^{-1}\Lambda$  exists if there exists a (necessarily unique) map  $\tilde{f}_\Lambda : \mathbb{A}_R^1 \rightarrow \mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{GL}_2}$  such that  $\tilde{f}_\Lambda|_{\mathbb{G}_m \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} R} = f_\Lambda$ .

Then we set

$$\lim_{s \rightarrow 0} s^{-1}\Lambda := \tilde{f}_\Lambda(0) \in \mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{GL}_2}(R).$$

We will apply this to  $\Lambda \in L^- \mathrm{GL}_2 \cdot \Lambda_\mu$ , where  $\mu$  is a cocharacter for  $\mathrm{GL}_2$ .

**Proposition 3.3.** Let  $R$  be a ring, and let  $\mu$  be a cocharacter for  $\mathrm{GL}_2$ . The orbit map is constant on  $\Lambda_\mu \in \mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{GL}_2}(R)$ .

*Proof.* Recall that  $\mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{GL}_2} \cong (L\mathrm{GL}_2/L^+\mathrm{GL}_2)_{\text{ét}}$ , and let  $s \in \mathbb{G}_m(R)$ . Now  $s^{-1}\Lambda_\mu$  is represented by  $\mu(zs^{-1}) \in L\mathrm{GL}_2(R)$ . But

$$\mu(zs^{-1}) = \mu(z)\mu(s^{-1})$$

and  $\mu(s^{-1}) \in L^+\mathrm{GL}_2(R)$ .

Hence the orbit map is constant on  $\Lambda_\mu$ , and so  $\lim_{s \rightarrow 0} s^{-1}\Lambda_\mu = \Lambda_\mu$ . □

**Proposition 3.4.** Let  $R$  be a ring and let  $\Lambda \in \mathcal{U}_0(R)$ . Then

$$\lim_{s \rightarrow 0} s^{-1}\Lambda = \Lambda_0.$$

*Proof.* Such a lattice  $\Lambda$  corresponds to a matrix  $g \in \mathrm{GL}_2(R[z^{-1}])$  given by

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ a_3 & a_4 \end{pmatrix}$$

where  $a_i = \sum_{j=0} a_{i,j} z^{-j} \in R[z^{-1}]$  such that under the reduction map  $z^{-1} \mapsto 0$ ,  $g \mapsto 1_{2 \times 2}$ . This corresponds to the conditions

$$a_{1,0} = a_{4,0} = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad a_{2,0} = a_{3,0} = 0.$$

Under the orbit map,  $s^{-1}\Lambda$  is thus represented by the matrix with entries  $a'_i = \sum_{j=0} a_{i,j} z^{-j} s^j$ . Since all powers of  $s$  are nonnegative, we may thus naively take the limit from which we recover  $1_{2 \times 2}$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 3.5.** *Let  $R$  be a ring and let  $\Lambda \in L^{--}\mathrm{GL}_2 \cdot \Lambda_\mu(R)$ . Then*

$$\lim_{s \rightarrow 0} s^{-1}\Lambda = \Lambda_\mu.$$

*Proof.* We have that  $\Lambda = g \cdot \Lambda_\mu$ , where  $g \in L^{--}\mathrm{GL}_2(R)$ . Then

$$\lim_{s \rightarrow 0} s^{-1}\Lambda = \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} s^{-1}g \cdot \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} s^{-1}\Lambda_\mu = 1_{2 \times 2} \cdot \Lambda_\mu = \Lambda_\mu$$

as required.  $\square$

### 3.2 Minimal degeneration singularities over $\mathrm{GL}_2$

We adapt the argument of [Mül09, Theorem 9.2] to compute minimal degeneration singularities in the affine Grassmannian for  $\mathrm{GL}_2$ .

**Theorem 3.6.** *Let  $(\mu, \lambda)$  be a minimal degeneration of dominant cocharacters for  $\mathrm{GL}_2$  with  $\mu = (m_1, m_2)$ , and let  $r := m_1 - m_2 + 2$ . Then*

$$L^{--}\mathrm{GL}_2 \cdot \Lambda_\mu \cap \mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{GL}_2, \leq \lambda} \cong \mathrm{Spec} \mathbb{Z}[w, x, y]/(w^r + xy).$$

*Proof.* Let  $\Lambda \in (L^{--}\mathrm{GL}_2 \cdot \Lambda_\mu \cap \mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{GL}_2, \leq \lambda})(R)$ . We identify  $\Lambda$  with its image in (2.5):

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{1,1} & a_{1,2} & a_{1,3} & \cdots & a_{1,r} \\ a_{2,1} & a_{2,2} & a_{2,3} & \cdots & a_{2,r} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{r-1,1} & a_{r-1,2} & a_{r-1,3} & \cdots & a_{r-1,r} \\ \hline c_1 & c_2 & c_3 & \cdots & c_r \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

We know from Lemma 3.5 that

$$\Lambda \in L^{--}\mathrm{GL}_2 \cdot \Lambda_\mu(R) \implies \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} s^{-1}\Lambda = \Lambda_\mu.$$

Now

$$\begin{aligned}
\lim_{s \rightarrow 0} s^{-1} \Lambda &= \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} \left( \begin{array}{ccccc} s^{1-m_2} a_{1,1} & s^{1-m_2} a_{1,2} & s^{1-m_2} a_{1,3} & \dots & s^{1-m_2} a_{1,r} \\ s^{-m_2} a_{2,1} & s^{-m_2} a_{2,2} & s^{-m_2} a_{2,3} & \dots & s^{-m_2} a_{2,r} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ s^{1-m_1} a_{r-1,1} & s^{1-m_1} a_{r-1,2} & s^{1-m_1} a_{r-1,3} & \dots & s^{1-m_1} a_{r-1,r} \\ s^{-m_1} & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \end{array} \right) \\
&\equiv \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} \left( \begin{array}{ccccc} s^{1-m_2} c_1 & s^{1-m_2} c_2 & s^{1-m_2} c_3 & \dots & s^{1-m_2} c_r \\ 0 & s^{-m_2} & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & s^{-m_2-1} & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & s^{-m_1} \end{array} \right) \\
&\quad \left( \begin{array}{ccccc} s^{r-1} a_{1,1} & s a_{1,2} & s^2 a_{1,3} & \dots & s^{r-1} a_{1,r} \\ s^{r-2} a_{2,1} & a_{2,2} & s a_{2,3} & \dots & s^{r-2} a_{2,r} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ s a_{r-1,1} & s^{3-r} a_{r-1,2} & \dots & a_{r-1,r-1} & s a_{r-1,r} \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \end{array} \right) \\
&\equiv \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} \left( \begin{array}{ccccc} s^{r-1} c_1 & s c_2 & s^2 c_3 & \dots & s^{r-1} c_r \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 \end{array} \right).
\end{aligned}$$

Since this must evaluate to  $\Lambda_\mu$  (cf. Remark 2.31), all entries with  $s^\alpha$  such that  $\alpha \leq 0$  must be 0. Thus  $\Lambda$  is of the form:

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccccc} a_{1,1} & a_{1,2} & a_{1,3} & \dots & a_{1,r} \\ a_{2,1} & 0 & a_{2,3} & \dots & a_{2,r} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{r-1,1} & 0 & \dots & 0 & a_{r-1,r} \\ 1 & 0 & \dots & \dots & 0 \end{array} \right) \\
\left( \begin{array}{ccccc} c_1 & c_2 & c_3 & \dots & c_r \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \dots & \dots & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right).$$

Under our identification in Lemma 2.26, this represents a  $z$ -stable subspace. This corresponds to the condition

$z \cdot \Lambda = \Lambda \cdot X \subset \Lambda$  where  $X \in \text{GL}_r(R)$ . More precisely:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & \dots & \dots & \dots & 0 \\ a_{1,1} & a_{1,2} & a_{1,3} & \dots & a_{1,r} \\ a_{2,1} & 0 & a_{2,3} & \dots & a_{2,r} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{r-1,1} & 0 & \dots & 0 & a_{r-1,r} \\ \hline 0 & \dots & \dots & \dots & 0 \\ c_1 & c_2 & c_3 & \dots & c_r \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a_{1,1} & a_{1,2} & a_{1,3} & \dots & a_{1,r} \\ a_{2,1} & 0 & a_{2,3} & \dots & a_{2,r} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{r-1,1} & 0 & \dots & 0 & a_{r-1,r} \\ \hline 1 & 0 & \dots & \dots & 0 \\ c_1 & c_2 & c_3 & \dots & c_r \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \dots & \dots & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot X \quad (3.1)$$

so we may use the rows in the submatrix given by deleting all rows containing entries labelled  $a_{i,j}$  or  $c_j$  to recover

$$X = \begin{pmatrix} a_{r-1,1} & 0 & \dots & 0 & a_{r-1,r} \\ c_1 & c_2 & c_3 & \dots & c_r \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Comparing rows on the left and right hand sides of (3.1), we have a recursive relation: for  $2 \leq i \leq r-1$

$$\begin{aligned} (a_{i-1,1}, \dots, a_{i-1,r}) &= (a_{i,1}, \dots, a_{i,r}) \cdot X \\ &= (a_{r-1,1}, \dots, a_{r-1,r}) \cdot X^{i-2}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus all  $a_{i,j}$  are entirely determined by  $a_{r-1,1}$  and  $a_{r-1,r}$ . We set  $w := a_{r-1,1}$  and  $x := a_{r-1,r}$ . Then the  $(r-1)$ -th row is  $(w, 0, \dots, 0, x)$ . At the same time, we have

$$(c_1, \dots, c_r) \cdot X = (0, \dots, 0),$$

i.e. for  $2 \leq i \leq r$

$$c_i = c_2(-c_2)^{i-2}.$$

We set  $y := c_1$  and  $t := c_2$ . Thus  $X$  becomes

$$\begin{pmatrix} w & 0 & \dots & 0 & x \\ y & t & -t^2 & \dots & t(-t)^{r-2} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Since  $X$  represents  $z$  as an endomorphism, its trace is zero, as noted in Remark 2.25, hence

$$t = -w.$$



Thus

$$\Lambda = \begin{pmatrix} w^{r-1} & x & wx & \dots & w^{r-2}x \\ w^{r-2} & 0 & x & \dots & w^{r-3}x \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ w & 0 & 0 & \dots & x \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \hline y & -w & -w^2 & \dots & -w^{r-1} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (3.2)$$

Finally, since

$$(w^{r-1}, x, wx, \dots, w^{r-2}x) \cdot X = (0, \dots, 0),$$

the only remaining relation is

$$w^r + xy = 0.$$

Thus, (3.2) gives a point in the intersection  $L^{--}\mathbf{GL}_2 \cdot \Lambda_\mu \cap \mathbf{Gr}_{\mathbf{GL}_2, \leq \lambda}$ , from which we see that

$$L^{--}\mathbf{GL}_2 \cdot \Lambda_\mu \cap \mathbf{Gr}_{\mathbf{GL}_2, \leq \lambda} = \mathbf{Spec} \mathbb{Z}[w, x, y]/(w^r + xy).$$

□

We consider the preimage of (3.2) under (2.4). Let  $\kappa_i$  be the  $i$ th column of (3.2). It is easy to see that, for  $i \geq 2$ ,

$$\kappa_{i+1} = (z + w)\kappa_i.$$

Then we only have two linearly independent columns,  $\kappa_1$  and  $\kappa_2$ , and we restrict our attention to these. This gives us our preimage in the following way: recall that the horizontal line separates the  $e_1$ -entries from the  $e_2$ -entries. Each entry of the  $2 \times 2$  matrix is given by summing all entries of a fixed basis vector inside a fixed column. In particular, the preimage of the above matrix is

$$M := z^{m_2-1} \begin{pmatrix} \sum_{k=0}^{r-1} w^{r-1-k} z^k & x \\ y & z - w \end{pmatrix} \quad (3.3)$$

## 4. Minimal degeneration singularities over $\mathrm{PGL}_2$

We recall that the stated goal of [Mül09, Theorem 9.2] was to investigate minimal degeneration singularities in the affine Grassmannian for  $\mathrm{PGL}_2$  over a field  $k$ .

To summarise, the proof makes use of the morphism  $\mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{SL}_2} \rightarrow \mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{PGL}_2}$  in order to take advantage of the concrete description of lattices in terms of the classical Grassmannian for  $\mathrm{SL}_2$ . The problem is that the morphism

$$\mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{SL}_2, \leq (m, -m)} \rightarrow \mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{PGL}_2, \leq 2m}$$

is not étale over characteristic 2.

In order to compute minimal degeneration singularities in the affine Grassmannian for  $\mathrm{PGL}_2$ , we instead consider the scheme-theoretic surjection

$$\mathrm{Spec} A_r := L^- \mathrm{GL}_2 \cdot \Lambda_\mu \cap \mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{GL}_2, \leq \lambda} \longrightarrow L^- \mathrm{PGL}_2 \cdot \Lambda_{r-2} \cap \mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{PGL}_2, \leq r} =: \mathrm{Spec} B_r \quad (4.1)$$

induced by  $\mathrm{GL}_2 \rightarrow \mathrm{PGL}_2$ , where  $(\mu, \lambda)$  and  $r$  are as in the setting of Theorem 3.6, and generalise the argument in [HLRed, Appendix B] to identify  $B_r$  as a subring of  $A_r$ .

### 4.1 The adjoint representation of $\mathrm{GL}_2$

As groups, we have

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathrm{GL}_2 & \xrightarrow{\mathrm{Ad}} & \mathrm{Aut}(\mathfrak{gl}_2) = \mathrm{GL}_4 \\ & \searrow & \nearrow \\ & \mathrm{PGL}_2 & \end{array}$$

Under the ordered basis  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  of  $\mathfrak{gl}_2$  the map  $\mathrm{Ad}$  is represented by the matrix

$$\mathrm{ad} : \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \frac{1}{ad - bc} \begin{pmatrix} ad - bc & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & ad + bc & -ac & bd \\ 0 & -2ab & a^2 & -b^2 \\ 0 & 2cd & -c^2 & d^2 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (4.2)$$

This induces a closed immersion  $\mathrm{PGL}_2 \hookrightarrow \mathrm{GL}_4$  which further induces a closed immersion  $\mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{PGL}_2} \hookrightarrow \mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{GL}_4}$  [Ric20, Proposition 3.6]. Via the categorical antiequivalence between rings and affine schemes [GW10, Theorem 2.35], we see that  $L^- \mathrm{PGL}_2 \cdot \Lambda_{r-2} \cap \mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{PGL}_2, \leq r}$  is the spectrum of some subalgebra of  $A_r$ . This leads to our main result.

**Theorem 4.1.** *Let  $(\mu, \lambda)$  and  $r$  be as in the statement of Theorem 3.6. Then the minimal degeneration singularity over  $\mathrm{PGL}_2$  is an affine scheme*

$$L^- \mathrm{PGL}_2 \cdot \Lambda_{r-2} \cap \mathbf{Gr}_{\mathrm{PGL}_2, \leq r} \cong \mathrm{Spec} B_r$$

where  $B_r$  is the subalgebra of  $A_r = \mathbb{Z}[w, x, y]/(w^r + xy)$  generated by  $x, y, wx, wy, w^2, 2w$ .

*Proof.* Let  $B_r$  be the subalgebra corresponding to  $L^- \text{PGL}_2 \cdot \Lambda_{r-2} \cap \mathbf{Gr}_{\text{PGL}_2, \leq r}$ . In order to describe  $B_r$  as a subring of  $A_r$ , we take the image of  $M$  in (3.3) under the map in (4.2), then investigate the entries as polynomials in  $z, z^{-1}$  with coefficients in  $\mathbb{Z}[w, x, y]$ . Having identified the minimal generating set  $\Gamma$  of these coefficients, we have that  $B_r = \mathbb{Z}[\Gamma]$  as a subalgebra of  $A_r$ .

Cancelling out the common factor of  $z^{2m-2}$ , the image of  $M$  under the adjoint map is

$$\frac{1}{z^r} \begin{pmatrix} z^r & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & z^r + 2xy & -y \left( \sum_{k=0}^j w^{j-k} z^k \right) & x(z-w) \\ 0 & -2x \left( \sum_{k=0}^j w^{j-k} z^k \right) & \sum_{k=0}^j w^{2(j-k)} z^{2k} + 2 \sum_{0 \leq k < l \leq j} w^{2j-k-l} z^{k+l} & -x^2 \\ 0 & 2y(z-w) & -y^2 & z^2 - 2zw + w^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

where we let  $j := r - 1$  for convenience. By inspection it is clear that  $B_r$  is generated by the elements  $x, y, wx, wy, w^2, 2w$ .  $\square$

**Remark 4.2.** In the case where  $r = 2$ , we have that  $w^2 = xy$ , and we recover [HLRed, Proposition B.1]; namely,  $B_2$  is the subalgebra of  $A_2 = \mathbb{Z}[w, x, y]/(w^2 + xy)$  generated by  $x, y, wx, wy, 2w$ .

We also generalise [HLRed, Corollary B.2].

**Corollary 4.3.** 1. The ring  $B_r \otimes \mathbb{F}_2$  is not reduced. Its reduction  $(B_r \otimes \mathbb{F}_2)_{\text{red}}$  is isomorphic to the subring of  $A_r \otimes \mathbb{F}_2 \cong \mathbb{F}_2[w, x, y]/(w^r + xy)$  generated by  $x, y, wx, wy$ , and  $w^2$ .  
2. The ring  $(B_r \otimes \mathbb{F}_2)_{\text{red}}$  is neither normal nor seminormal. Further,  $A_r \otimes \mathbb{F}_2$  is both its normalisation and its seminormalisation.

*Proof.* 1. We repeat the proof here, now for all  $r$ .

First, note that  $w \notin B_r$ , so  $2w \neq 0$  in  $B_r \otimes \mathbb{F}_2$ . On the other hand,  $w^2 \in B_r$  (via  $xy = w^2$  for the case  $r = 2$  or otherwise directly) so  $(2w)^2 = 4w^2 = 0$ . Hence  $B_r \otimes \mathbb{F}_2$  is not reduced.

The image of  $(B_r \otimes \mathbb{F}_2)_{\text{red}}$  in  $A_r \otimes \mathbb{F}_2 \cong \mathbb{F}_2[w, x, y]/(w^r + xy)$  is the subring generated by the elements listed above. The kernel of the map is nilpotent as the spectra of both rings are irreducible of Krull dimension 2. Hence  $(B_r \otimes \mathbb{F}_2)_{\text{red}}$  identifies with the stated subring.

2. That  $A_r \otimes \mathbb{F}_2$  is normal follows from [Mül09, §6.6–6.8]. In particular, the Schubert variety  $\mathbf{Gr}_{\text{GL}_2, \leq \lambda}$  is normal, hence so is  $L^- \text{GL}_2 \cdot \Lambda_\mu \cap \mathbf{Gr}_{\text{GL}_2, \leq \lambda}$ .

That  $(B_r \otimes \mathbb{F}_2)_{\text{red}}$  is not seminormal (hence not normal) follows from [LV81, Lemma 1.4(3)]. Let  $r \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 2}$ . Then  $w^r = xy$ ,  $w^{r+1} = (wx)y \in (B_r \otimes \mathbb{F}_2)_{\text{red}}$  but  $w \notin (B_r \otimes \mathbb{F}_2)_{\text{red}}$ .

The same argument shows that the seminormalisation  $C$  of  $(B_r \otimes \mathbb{F}_2)_{\text{red}}$  must contain  $w$  hence  $C \supset A_r \otimes \mathbb{F}_2$ , and since  $A_r \otimes \mathbb{F}_2$  is seminormal and normal,  $C = A_r \otimes \mathbb{F}_2$ . Hence  $A_r \otimes \mathbb{F}_2$  is both the normalisation and the seminormalisation of  $(B_r \otimes \mathbb{F}_2)_{\text{red}}$ .  $\square$

## 4.2 Presentations of the subrings $B_r$ over a field of characteristic 2

Here we fix a field  $k$  of characteristic 2. Following Corollary 4.3, we wish to compute a presentation of  $(B_r \otimes k)_{\text{red}}$ . The essential idea is to compute a minimal generating set of the kernel of the map  $k[x, y, a, b, c] \rightarrow A_r \otimes k$

given by:

$$\begin{aligned}x &\mapsto x \\y &\mapsto y \\a &\mapsto wx \\b &\mapsto wy \\c &\mapsto w^2\end{aligned}$$

Our starting point is the following lemma.

**Lemma 4.4.** *The  $k$ -algebra  $(B_2 \otimes \mathbb{F}_2)_{\text{red}}$  has the following presentation*

$$k[x, y, a, b]/(ya + xb, xy^3 + b^2, x^2y^2 + ab, x^3y + a^2).$$

*Proof.* See [HLRed, §1]. □

For general  $r > 2$ , we work with SAGEMATH using the interface to SINGULAR to compute a Gröbner basis of the kernel, from which we extract a minimal generating set (see Appendix A for the code). Testing numerous cases has led us to the following conjecture.

**Conjecture 4.5.** Let  $r > 2$ . The  $k$ -algebra  $(B_r \otimes \mathbb{F}_2)_{\text{red}}$  has the following presentation:

1. If  $r$  is even, then:

$$(B_r \otimes \mathbb{F}_2)_{\text{red}} \cong k[x, y, a, b, c]/(ya + xb, y^2c + b^2, xyc + ab, x^2c + a^2, c^{\frac{r}{2}} + xy).$$

2. If  $r$  is odd, then:

$$(B_r \otimes \mathbb{F}_2)_{\text{red}} \cong k[x, y, a, b, c]/(ya + xb, y^2c + b^2, xyc + ab, x^2c + a^2, c^{\frac{r+1}{2}} + xb, bc^{\frac{r-1}{2}} + xy^2, ac^{\frac{r-1}{2}} + x^2y).$$

## A.

---

```
F = GF(2)
var("m1", "m2", "r")
def Basis(m1, m2):
    r = m1 - m2 + 2
    if r < 2:
        return "Invalid input"
    #Special case: if r = 2, we only need 4 variables
    elif r == 2:
        ret = singular.eval('ring R = 2, (x,y,a,b), dp')
        ret = singular.eval('ring S = 2, (x,y,w), dp')
        ret = singular.eval('ideal I = w^('+str(r)+') + x*y')
        ret = singular.eval('qring Q = std(I);')
        ret = singular.eval('map phi = R, x,y,w*x,w*y;')
        ret = singular.eval('setring R;')
        B = singular.eval('mstd(kernel(Q, phi))[2];')
    else:
        ret = singular.eval('ring R = 2, (x,y,a,b,c), dp')
        ret = singular.eval('ring S = 2, (x,y,w), dp')
        ret = singular.eval('ideal I = w^('+str(r)+') + x*y')
        ret = singular.eval('qring Q = std(I);')
        ret = singular.eval('map phi = R, x,y,w*x,w*y,w^2;')
        ret = singular.eval('setring R;')
        B = singular.eval('mstd(kernel(Q, phi))[2];')
    print("r is "+str(r))
    print("The basis is")
    print(B)
```

This is also available as a SAGEMATH cell [here](#).

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