

## REPRESENTATIONS OF FINITE-DIMENSIONAL QUOTIENT ALGEBRAS OF THE 3-STRING BRAID GROUP

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**ABSTRACT.** We consider quotients of the group algebra of the 3-string braid group  $B_3$  by  $p$ -th order generic polynomial relations on the elementary braids. If  $p = 2, 3, 4, 5$ , these quotient algebras are finite dimensional. We give semisimplicity criteria for these algebras and present explicit formulas for all their irreducible representations.

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### INTRODUCTION

A classical theorem by H. S. M. Coxeter states that the quotient of the  $n$ -string braid group  $B_n$  by the  $p$ -th order relation  $\sigma^p = 1$  on its elementary braid generator  $\sigma$  is finite if and only if

$$1/n + 1/p > 1/2. \tag{0.1}$$

In case of  $B_3$  we obtain finite quotient groups of orders 6, 24, 96, and 600, for  $p = 2, 3, 4$ , and 5, respectively [9]. Generalizing this setting one can consider quotients of the group algebra  $\mathbb{C}[B_n]$  obtained by imposing a  $p$ -th order monic polynomial relation on the elementary braids. Under condition (0.1) the resulting quotient algebras are finite dimensional and, by Tits deformation theorem (see [10, Section 68] or [13, Section 5]) in the generic situation these algebras are isomorphic to the group algebras of the corresponding Coxeter's quotient groups so they are semisimple. As a next step it would be interesting to find semisimplicity conditions and to describe explicitly irreducible representations of these finite dimensional quotients.

A significant progress in this direction was made by I. Tuba and H. Wenzl. In the paper [23] they classified all the irreducible representations of  $B_3$  in dimensions  $d \leq 5$ . Their classification scheme in dimensions  $d \leq 4$  yields all the irreducible representations for the quotients in cases  $n = 3$ ,  $p = 2, 3, 4$ , and describes their

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semisimplicity conditions. However, for  $p = 5$  the above-mentioned quotients of  $\mathbb{C}[B_3]$  admit irreducible representations of dimensions up to 6 and the classification in [23] does not cover them. In this note we construct all the irreducible representations of these algebras of dimension  $d \leq 6$  and find criteria for their semisimplicity. In dimensions  $d \leq 5$  we reproduce the classification of irreducible representations of  $B_3$  from [23]. In dimension  $d = 6$  our list gives all the irreducible representations of  $B_3$  that factor through representations of the quotients of  $\mathbb{C}[B_3]$  that we denote  $Q_X$  (their definition is given in the next section, see (1.7)). The latter factorization means that the spectrum of the elementary braid in these representations contains 5 different eigenvalues, one of them with multiplicity 2. We are working in the diagonal basis for the first elementary braid generator  $g_1$ , and we restrict our considerations to the case where all  $p$  roots of its minimal polynomial are distinct. For the sake of completeness we present formulas for representations from I. Tuba and H. Wenzl list in this basis too.

Our paper is organized as follows. In the next section we fix notation and derive preliminary results on possible values of the central element of  $B_3$  in low dimensional irreducible representations ( $d \leq 6$ ). Section 2 contains our main results: criteria of semisimplicity of the  $p = 2, 3, 4, 5$  quotients of  $\mathbb{C}[B_3]$  (Theorem 4) and explicit formulae for all their irreducible representations (Proposition 2).

Let us describe briefly some related approaches and results. In [24] B. Westbury suggested an approach to representation theory of  $B_3$  that uses representations of a particular quiver. It was subsequently used by L. Le Bruyn to construct Zariski dense rational parameterizations of the irreducible representations of  $B_3$  of any dimension [15], [14]. This approach proved to be effective in treating a problem of braid reversion (see [15]). However it does not provide semisimplicity criteria for the representations constructed. A 5-dimensional variety of irreducible 6-dimensional representations of  $B_3$  constructed below is contained in an 8-dimensional family of  $B_3$ -representations of type 6b (see Fig. 1 in [15]).

For the more general case of  $B_n$ ,  $n > 3$ , series of irreducible representations related to Iwahori–Hecke algebras (the  $p = 2$  case) and Birman–Murakami–Wenzl algebras (the  $p = 3$  case, with additional restrictions) are well investigated (for a review, see [16]). Some other particular families of the  $B_n$ -representations were found in [12], [1].

In another line of research M. Broué, C. Malle and R. Rouquier [3], [4] generalized the notions of the braid group and of the Hecke algebra associated not only to Coxeter group, but to an arbitrary finite complex reflection group  $W$ . Their *generic Hecke algebra* is defined over certain polynomial ring  $R = \mathbb{Z}[\{u_i\}]$ . Broué, Malle and Rouquier conjectured that generic Hecke algebra is a free module of rank  $|W|$  over its ring of definition. This conjecture is now proved (see [18], [20], [21], [11] and the list of references to Theorem 3.5 in [2]). The algebras  $Q_X$  (1.7) we are dealing with in this work are specializations of generic Hecke algebras of the groups  $\mathfrak{S}_3$  and  $G_4, G_8, G_{16}$  (in Shephard and Todd’s notations) under homomorphism  $R \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  that assigns certain complex values to the variables  $u_i$ . The freeness conjecture in these cases is proved in [17], [5], [6], so the dimensions of the algebras  $Q_X$  coincide with the cardinalities of their corresponding Coxeter groups.

1. BRAID GROUP  $B_3$  AND ITS QUOTIENTS:  
SPECTRUM OF ELEMENTARY BRAIDS

The 3-string braid group  $B_3$  is generated by a pair of *elementary braids* —  $g_1$  and  $g_2$  — satisfying the braid relation

$$g_1g_2g_1 = g_2g_1g_2. \tag{1.1}$$

Alternatively it can be given in terms of generators

$$a = g_1g_2, \quad b = g_1g_2g_1, \tag{1.2}$$

and relations

$$a^3 = b^2 = c, \tag{1.3}$$

where  $c = (g_1g_2)^3 = (g_1g_2g_1)^2$  is a central element of  $B_3$  which generates the center  $\mathbb{Z}(B_3)$  [8]. Thus, the quotient group  $B_3/\mathbb{Z}(B_3) = \langle a, b \mid a^3 = b^2 = 1 \rangle$  is the free product  $\mathbb{Z}_3 * \mathbb{Z}_2$  of two cyclic groups, which is known to be isomorphic to  $\text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{Z})$ .

Let  $X$  be a finite set of pairwise different nonzero complex numbers:

$$X = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}, \quad x_i \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}, \quad x_i \neq x_j \quad \forall i \neq j. \tag{1.4}$$

We set

$$P_X(g) := \prod_{i=1}^{n=|X|} (g - x_i 1), \quad \text{where } g \in \{g_1, g_2\}. \tag{1.5}$$

In this paper we consider finite dimensional quotient algebras of the group algebra  $\mathbb{C}[B_3]$  obtained by imposing the following polynomial conditions on the elementary braids:<sup>1</sup>

$$P_X(g) = 0. \tag{1.6}$$

As was already mentioned in the introduction the quotient algebras

$$Q_X := \mathbb{C}[B_3]/\langle P_X(g) \rangle \tag{1.7}$$

are finite dimensional if and only if  $|X| = n < 6$ . With a particular choice of polynomials  $P_X(g) = g^n - 1$  they are the group algebras of the quotient groups  $B_3/\langle g^n \rangle$  and, by the Tits deformation argument,  $Q_X \simeq \mathbb{C}[B_3/\langle g^n \rangle]$  for  $n < 6$  and for generic choice of  $x_i \in X$  and, therefore, in a generic situation  $Q_X$  is semisimple.

In the next section we will construct irreducible representations of these algebras. We use the Artin–Wedderburn theorem to prove that for quotient algebras  $Q_X$  we obtained the complete classification of the irreducible representations. It turns out that their dimensions do not exceed 6. In the rest of this section we will show that in these irreducible representations the spectra of the central element  $c$  (1.1) and of generators  $a$  and  $b$  (1.2) are, up to a discrete factor, defined by the eigenvalues  $x_i$  of the elementary braids.

Let  $V$  be a finite dimensional linear space, with  $\dim V = d$  and let  $\rho_{X,V}: Q_X \rightarrow \text{End}(V)$  be an irreducible representation of  $Q_X$ . We will assume that the character of  $\rho_{X,V}$  is a continuous function of parameters  $x_i \in X$ .<sup>2</sup> We recall  $|X| = n$ .

<sup>1</sup>In the braid group elementary braids  $g_1$  and  $g_2$  are conjugate to each other and, hence, conditions on them are identical.

<sup>2</sup>All representations constructed in the next section satisfy the continuity condition.

Without loss of generality we can assume that the minimal polynomial of  $\rho_{X,V}(g)$ , where  $g \in \{g_1, g_2\}$  is  $P_X$ . Indeed, from equation (1.6) we obtain  $P_X(\rho_{X,V}(g)) = 0$ . Therefore, the minimal polynomial of  $\rho_{X,V}(g)$  divides  $P_X$  and, hence, the eigenvalues of  $\rho_{X,V}(g)$  belong to  $X$ . Let  $X' \subset X$  be the set of these eigenvalues. We can consider the irreducible representation of  $Q_{X'}$ , by removing from  $X$  all the elements which do not belong to  $X'$ .

By the assumption that the minimal polynomial of  $\rho_{X,V}(g)$  is  $P_X$ , the definition of  $P_X$  and the fact that the elements of  $X$  are distinct we also have that  $d \geq n$ . The characteristic polynomial of elementary braids  $g_1, g_2$  in representation  $\rho_{X,V}(g)$  then has the form

$$\Pi_\rho(g) := \prod_{i=1}^{n=|X|} (g - x_i)^{m_i}, \quad \text{where } m_i \in \mathbb{N}^+ \text{ such that } \sum_{i=1}^n m_i = d. \quad (1.8)$$

In particular,  $\det \rho_{X,V}(g) = \prod_{i=1}^n x_i^{m_i}$ .

We recall that  $a = g_1g_2, b = g_1g_2g_1$ , and  $c = (g_1g_2)^3$ . Since  $c$  is central, we apply Schur's lemma and we have that  $c$  acts in the irreducible representation  $\rho_{X,V}$  as a scalar operator. We denote

$$A := \rho_{X,V}(a), \quad B := \rho_{X,V}(b), \quad \rho_{X,V}(c) := C_\rho \text{Id}_V. \quad (1.9)$$

By the definition of  $c$  we have  $\det \rho_{X,V}(c) = (\det \rho_{X,V}(g_1))^3 (\det \rho_{X,V}(g_2))^3 = (\prod_{i=1}^n x_i^{m_i})^6$ . Hence, we obtain the following relation:

$$(\prod_{i=1}^n x_i^{m_i})^6 = (C_\rho)^d. \quad (1.10)$$

By (1.3) operators  $A$  and  $B$  satisfy equalities

$$A^3 = B^2 = C_\rho \text{Id}_V. \quad (1.11)$$

Notice that  $A$  and  $B$  cannot be scalar, otherwise the matrices  $\rho_{X,V}(g_1)$  and  $\rho_{X,V}(g_2)$  would have common eigenvectors, meaning that the representation  $\rho_{X,V}$  would be reducible. Thus,  $A$  and  $B$  should have at least two different eigenvalues, lying in the sets

$$\text{Spec } A \subset C_\rho^{1/3} \cdot \{1, \nu, \nu^{-1}\}, \quad \nu := e^{2\pi i/3}, \quad \text{Spec } B \subset C_\rho^{1/2} \cdot \{1, -1\}. \quad (1.12)$$

The following proposition describes explicitly the spectrum of operators  $A$  and  $B$  in low dimensional representations, where  $\lambda^{\#k}$  denotes the multiplicity  $k$  of the eigenvalue  $\lambda$ .

**Proposition 1.** *Let  $\rho_{X,V} : Q_X \rightarrow \text{End}(V)$  be a family of irreducible representations of algebras  $Q_X$  (1.7) such that*

- a) *their characters are continuous functions of parameters  $x_i \in X$ ;*
- b) *the characteristic and minimal polynomials of the matrices  $\rho_{X,V}(g_1)$  and  $\rho_{X,V}(g_2)$  are given by  $\Pi_\rho$  (1.8) and  $P_X$  (1.5), respectively.*

*Let  $A, B, C_\rho$  be as defined in (1.9). Denote  $\nu := e^{2\pi i/3}$ , and introduce notation  $e_k(X)$  for  $k$ -th elementary symmetric polynomial in the set of variables  $X = \{x_i\}_{i=1, \dots, n}$ .*

*Then for  $n = |X| \leq 5$  and  $d = \dim V \leq 6$  the coefficient  $C_\rho$  and eigenvalues of operators  $A$  and  $B$  can take the following values.*

If  $d = n = 2$ , then  $C_\rho = -e_2(X)^3$ ,

$$\text{Spec } A = -e_2(X) \cdot \{\nu, \nu^{-1}\}, \quad \text{Spec } B = i e_2(X)^{\frac{3}{2}} \cdot \{1, -1\}; \quad (1.13)$$

If  $d = n = 3$ , then  $C_\rho = e_3(X)^2$ ,

$$\text{Spec } A = e_3(X)^{\frac{2}{3}} \cdot \{1, \nu, \nu^{-1}\}, \quad \text{Spec } B = e_3(X) \cdot \{1, -1^{\#2}\}, \quad (1.14)$$

where the symbol  $m^{\#n}$  means that element  $m$  appears  $n$  times in the set;

If  $d = n = 4$ , then for any root  $h(X) := \sqrt[2]{e_4(X)}$ ,  $C_\rho = h(X)^3$ ,

$$\text{Spec } A = h(X) \cdot \{1^{\#2}, \nu, \nu^{-1}\}, \quad \text{Spec } B = h(X)^{\frac{3}{2}} \cdot \{1^{\#2}, -1^{\#2}\}; \quad (1.15)$$

If  $d = n = 5$ , then for any root  $f(X) := \sqrt[5]{e_5(X)}$ ,  $C_\rho = f(X)^6$ ,

$$\text{Spec } A = f(X)^2 \cdot \{1, \nu^{\#2}, (\nu^{-1})^{\#2}\}, \quad \text{Spec } B = f(X)^3 \cdot \{1^{\#3}, -1^{\#2}\}; \quad (1.16)$$

If  $d = 6$ ,  $n = 5$ ,  $m_i = 2$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq 5$ , then  $C_\rho = -x_i e_5(X)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Spec } A &= -\sqrt[3]{x_i e_5(X)} \cdot \{1^{\#2}, \nu^{\#2}, (\nu^{-1})^{\#2}\}, \\ \text{Spec } B &= i \sqrt[2]{x_i e_5(X)} \cdot \{1^{\#3}, -1^{\#3}\}. \end{aligned} \quad (1.17)$$

*Proof.* Denote  $\text{Tr}_V$  (respectively,  $\text{Tr}$ ) an operation of taking trace in representation  $\rho_{X,V}$  (respectively, taking traces of matrices  $A, B$  and of their powers). To prove assertions of the proposition we calculate functions  $\text{Tr}_V(g_1^k g_2)$ , for  $k = 2, \dots, 5$ , in two different ways. The first way is to apply cyclic property of the trace, the braid relation and to take into account scalarity of the central element  $\rho_{X,V}(c)$ . The second way is to use minimal and characteristic polynomials of elementary braids  $g_1$  and  $g_2$ . For illustration purposes the simplest case  $d = n = 2$  is considered in detail.

CASE  $d = n = 2$ . First of all, we apply cyclic property of the trace to notice that  $\text{Tr}_V(g_1^2 g_2) = \text{Tr } B$ . From the other side we have  $P_X(g_1) = 0$ . Therefore,  $g_1^2 = (x_1 + x_2)g_1 - x_1 x_2 1$ . Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Tr}_V(g_1^2 g_2) &= \text{Tr}_V((x_1 + x_2)g_1 g_2 - x_1 x_2 g_2) \\ &= (x_1 + x_2) \text{Tr } A - x_1 x_2 (x_1 + x_2) = e_1(X)(\text{Tr } A - e_2(X)). \end{aligned}$$

Noticing that spectral condition (1.12) for the non-scalar  $2 \times 2$  matrix  $B$  assumes  $\text{Tr } B = 0$  and taking into account  $e_1(X) \neq 0$  and the continuity of  $\text{Tr } A$  as a function of  $x_{1,2}$ , we conclude that  $\text{Tr } A = e_2(X)$ . From (1.10) we have  $C_\rho = \pm e_2(X)^3$ , which together with spectral condition on  $A$  (1.12) leaves us the only possibility to fulfill relations for the traces of  $A$  and  $B$ , namely the one presented in (1.13).

CASE  $d = n = 3$ . Acting similarly, we shall evaluate  $\text{Tr}_V(g_1^3 g_2)$  in two different ways. First, we use cyclic property of the trace and the braid relation (1.1):

$$\text{Tr}_V(g_1^3 g_2) = \text{Tr}_V(g_1^2 g_2 g_1) = \text{Tr}_V(g_1 g_2)^2 = \text{Tr } A^2. \quad (1.18)$$

Second, we apply minimal polynomial for  $g_1$  and characteristic polynomial for  $g_2$ :

$$\text{Tr}_V(g_1^3 g_2) = e_1(X) \text{Tr } B - e_2(X) \text{Tr } A + e_3(X) e_1(X).$$

Comparing the results of these calculations and taking into account that, by (1.12) and (1.10), traces of powers of  $A$  and  $B$  can be expressed in terms of (roots of)  $e_3(X)$  and, hence, are algebraically independent from  $e_1(X)$  and  $e_2(X)$  we find

that  $\text{Tr } A = \text{Tr } A^2 = 0$ ,  $\text{Tr } B = -e_3(X)$ . On the other hand from (1.10) one finds  $C_\rho = \sqrt[3]{1}e_3(X)^2$ , which, together with the spectral conditions (1.12), gives (1.14) as the only possibility to satisfy the above relations for traces.

CASE  $d = n = 4$ . Similarly to the case  $d = n = 3$  we calculate  $\text{Tr}_V(g_1^4 g_2)$  in two ways:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Tr}_V(g_1^4 g_2) &= \text{Tr}_V((g_1 g_2)^2 g_1) = C_\rho \text{Tr}_V((g_1 g_2)^{-1} g_1) = C_\rho e_3(X)/e_4(X), \\ \text{Tr}_V(g_1^4 g_2) &= e_1(X) \text{Tr } A^2 - e_2(X) \text{Tr } B + e_3(X) \text{Tr } A - e_4(X)e_1(X), \end{aligned} \tag{1.19}$$

where in the last line we take additionally into account Equation (1.18). Hence, using an algebraic independence of  $C_\rho$  and thus of  $\text{Tr } A$ ,  $\text{Tr } A^2$  and  $\text{Tr } B$  from the elementary symmetric polynomials  $e_i(X)$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3$ , one concludes:  $\text{Tr } A = C_\rho/e_4(X)$ ,  $\text{Tr } A^2 = e_4(X)$ ,  $\text{Tr } B = 0$ . The latter conditions are only compatible with equations (1.10) and (1.12) in two cases given in (1.15).

CASE  $d = n = 5$ . Here we calculate  $\text{Tr}_V(g_1^5 g_2)$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Tr}_V(g_1^5 g_2) C_\rho \text{Tr}_V((g_1 g_2)^{-1} g_1^2) &= C_\rho \text{Tr}_V(g_1^{-1} g_2) \\ &= \frac{C_\rho}{e_5(X)} \left( C_\rho \frac{e_4(X)}{e_5(X)} - e_1(X) \text{Tr } A^2 + e_2(X) \text{Tr } B - e_3(X) \text{Tr } A + e_4(X)e_1(X) \right), \end{aligned}$$

where passing to the second line we expressed  $g_1^{-1}$  in terms of positive powers of  $g_1$  using its minimal polynomial and then used  $d = 5$  analogue of formula (1.19).

Calculating  $\text{Tr}_V(g_1^5 g_2)$  in another way we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Tr}_V(g_1^5 g_2) &= e_1(X) \left( C_\rho \frac{e_4(X)}{e_5(X)} \right) - e_2(X) \text{Tr } A^2 + e_3(X) \text{Tr } B - e_4(X) \text{Tr } A \\ &\quad + e_5(X)e_1(X). \end{aligned}$$

Now collecting coefficients in the independent polynomials  $e_i(X)$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3, 4$ , and taking into account Equation (1.10) we find  $C_\rho = e_5(X)^{6/5}$ ,  $\text{Tr } A = -e_5(X)^{2/5}$ ,  $\text{Tr } A^2 = -e_5(X)^{4/5}$ ,  $\text{Tr } B = e_5(X)^{3/5}$ , which in combination with (1.12) finally leads to conditions (1.16).

CASE  $d = 6$ ,  $n = 5$ : We calculate  $\text{Tr}_V(g_1^5 g_2)$  in two ways similarly to the previous case, but using now different expressions  $\text{Tr}_V(g_1) = e_1(X) + x_i$ ,  $\text{Tr}_V(g_1^{-1}) = e_4(X)/e_5(X) + x_i^{-1}$ , following from the characteristic polynomial (1.8). Collecting then coefficients in independent polynomials we derive  $C_\rho = -x_i e_5(X)$ ,  $\text{Tr } A = \text{Tr } A^2 = \text{Tr } B = 0$ , which in combination with (1.12) proves (1.17).  $\square$

## 2. LOW DIMENSIONAL REPRESENTATIONS OF $q_x$ AND SEMISIMPLICITY

In this section we construct explicitly representations of algebras  $Q_X$  whose data coincide with those given in Proposition 1. Investigating reducibility conditions for these representations we obtain semisimplicity criteria for algebras  $Q_X$  and classify their irreducible representations. We derive formulas for the representations in the basis of eigenvectors of  $g_1$ .

**Proposition 2.** *The algebras  $Q_X$  in cases  $|X| \leq 5$  have the following representations of dimensions  $\dim V \leq 6$ .*

If  $|X| = \dim V = 1$ , there exists a unique representation,

$$\rho_X^{(1)}(g_1) = \rho_X^{(1)}(g_2) = x_1. \tag{2.1}$$

If  $|X| = \dim V = 2$ , there exists a unique representation,

$$\rho_X^{(2)}(g_1) = \text{diag}\{x_1, x_2\}, \quad \rho_X^{(2)}(g_2) = \frac{1}{x_1 - x_2} \begin{pmatrix} -x_2^2 & -x_1x_2 \\ x_1^2 - x_1x_2 + x_2^2 & x_1^2 \end{pmatrix}. \tag{2.2}$$

If  $|X| = \dim V = 3$ , there exists a unique representation,

$$\rho_X^{(3)}(g_1) = \text{diag}\{x_1, x_2, x_3\}, \quad \rho_X^{(3)}(g_2) = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{x_2x_3(x_2+x_3)}{\Delta_1(X)} & \frac{x_3(x_1^2+x_2x_3)}{\Delta_1(X)} & \frac{x_2(x_1^2+x_2x_3)}{\Delta_1(X)} \\ \frac{x_3(x_2^2+x_1x_3)}{\Delta_2(X)} & \frac{x_1x_3(x_1+x_3)}{\Delta_2(X)} & \frac{x_1(x_2^2+x_1x_3)}{\Delta_2(X)} \\ \frac{x_2(x_3^2+x_1x_2)}{\Delta_3(X)} & \frac{x_1(x_3^2+x_1x_2)}{\Delta_3(X)} & \frac{x_1x_2(x_1+x_2)}{\Delta_3(X)} \end{pmatrix}, \tag{2.3}$$

where

$$\Delta_i(X) := \prod_{j=1, j \neq i}^{|X|} (x_j - x_i). \tag{2.4}$$

If  $|X| = \dim V = 4$ , there exist two inequivalent representations depending on the choice of the square root  $h = \sqrt{e_4(X)}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_{h,X}^{(4)}(g_1) &= \text{diag}\{x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4\}, \\ \rho_{h,X}^{(4)}(g_2) &= \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\alpha_1}{\Delta_1(X)} & \frac{\beta_1\gamma_3\gamma_4}{\Delta_1(X)} & \frac{\beta_1\gamma_2\gamma_4}{\Delta_1(X)} & \frac{\beta_1\gamma_2\gamma_3}{\Delta_1(X)} \\ \frac{\beta_2}{\Delta_2(X)} & \frac{\alpha_2}{\Delta_2(X)} & \frac{\beta_2\gamma_2}{\Delta_2(X)} & \frac{\beta_2\gamma_2}{\Delta_2(X)} \\ \frac{\beta_3}{\Delta_3(X)} & \frac{\beta_3\gamma_3}{\Delta_3(X)} & \frac{\alpha_3}{\Delta_3(X)} & \frac{\beta_3\gamma_3}{\Delta_3(X)} \\ \frac{\beta_4}{\Delta_4(X)} & \frac{\beta_4\gamma_4}{\Delta_4(X)} & \frac{\beta_4\gamma_4}{\Delta_4(X)} & \frac{\alpha_4}{\Delta_4(X)} \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned} \tag{2.5}$$

Here

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_i(h, X) &:= e_3(X^{\setminus i})e_1(X^{\setminus i}) - he_2(X^{\setminus i}), \quad X^{\setminus i} := X \setminus \{x_i\}, \\ \beta_i(h, X) &:= e_4(X)/x_i^2 - h, \quad i = 1, 2, 3, 4, \\ \gamma_a(h, X) &:= x_1x_a + x_bx_c - h, \quad a, b, c \in \{x_2, x_3, x_4\} \text{ are pairwise distinct.} \end{aligned} \tag{2.6}$$

If  $|X| = \dim V = 5$ , there exist five inequivalent representations corresponding to different values of the root  $f(X) := \sqrt[5]{e_5(X)}$ :

$$\rho_{f,X}^{(5)}(g_1) = \text{diag}\{x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5\}, \quad \rho_{f,X}^{(5)}(g_2) = \|m_{ij}\|_{1 \leq i, j \leq 5}, \tag{2.7}$$

$$m_{ii}(f, X) := \frac{e_4(X^{\setminus i})e_1(X^{\setminus i}) + fx_ie_3(X^{\setminus i}) + f \prod_{k=1, k \neq i}^5 (f + x_k)}{\Delta_i(X)}, \tag{2.8}$$

$$m_{ij}(f, X) := \frac{(x_i^2 + fx_i + f^2) \prod_{k=1, k \neq i, j}^5 (f^2 + x_kx_k)}{fx_ix_j\Delta_i(X)}, \quad \forall i \neq j. \tag{2.9}$$

If  $|X| = 5$ ,  $\dim V = 6$ , there exist five inequivalent representations  $\rho_{i,X}^{(6)}$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, 5$ , corresponding to all admissible values  $C_\rho = -x_i e_5(X)$  of the central element  $c$ . Formulas for  $\rho_{5,X}^{(6)}$  are given in Table 1. Formulas for the other representations can be obtained by the transposition of the eigenvalues  $x_5$  and  $x_i$ , that is,  $\rho_{i,X}^{(6)} = \sigma_{i5} \circ \rho_{5,X}^{(6)}$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, 4$ .

TABLE 1. 6-dimensional representation of  $Q_X$ ,  $|X| = 5$

$\rho_{5,X}^{(6)}(g_1) = \text{diag}\{x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5, x_5\}, \quad \rho_{5,X}^{(6)}(g_2) = \ g_{ij}\ _{i \leq i, j \leq 6},$	
$G := \ g_{ij}\ _{1 \leq i, j \leq 4}$	$g_{ii} = \frac{e_4(X \setminus i) e_1(X \setminus i) - x_i x_5 e_3(X \setminus i)}{\Delta_i(X)}, \quad X \setminus i := X \setminus \{x_i\}, \quad i = 1, \dots, 4;$ $g_{1a} = \frac{p_a q_b q_c}{x_1^2 \Delta_a(X)}, \quad g_{a1} = \frac{p_1}{x_a^2 \Delta_1(X)}, \quad g_{ab} = \frac{q_a p_b}{x_a^2 \Delta_b(X)},$ where indices $a, b, c \in \{2, 3, 4\}$ are pairwise distinct, and $q_a(X) := x_1 x_a + x_b x_c, \quad p_i(X) := e_5(X) - x_i^3 x_5^2$
$G_{31} := \begin{pmatrix} g_{51} & g_{52} \\ g_{61} & g_{62} \end{pmatrix}$	$\text{diag}\left\{ \frac{1}{\Delta_1(X)}, \frac{1}{\Delta_2(X)} \right\}$
$G_{32} := \begin{pmatrix} g_{53} & g_{54} \\ g_{63} & g_{64} \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} q_4 r & q_3(\sigma_{34} \circ r) \\ (\sigma_{12} \circ r) & (\sigma_{12} \sigma_{34} \circ r) \end{pmatrix},$ where $r(X) := \frac{x_3}{x_1(x_2 - x_1) \Delta_3(X \setminus 2)},$ and $\sigma_{ij} \circ f(\dots x_i \dots x_j \dots) := f(\dots x_j \dots x_i \dots)$ for any $f(X)$
$G_{33} := \begin{pmatrix} g_{55} & g_{56} \\ g_{65} & g_{66} \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} u & q_3 q_4 v \\ (\sigma_{12} \circ v) & (\sigma_{12} \circ u) \end{pmatrix},$ where $v(X) := \frac{p_2(X)}{x_1 x_5 (x_2 - x_1) \Delta_5(X \setminus 2)},$ and $u(X) := \frac{x_1 x_2 (x_3 + x_4)(x_3 x_4 - x_1 x_5) + x_3 x_4 (x_2 - x_1)(x_1^2 + x_2 x_5)}{(x_2 - x_1) \Delta_5(X \setminus 2)}$
$G_{23} := \begin{pmatrix} g_{35} & g_{36} \\ g_{45} & g_{46} \end{pmatrix}$	$\frac{1}{x_5 \Delta_5(X)} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{w}{x_3^2} & \frac{q_3(\sigma_{12} \circ w)}{x_3^2} \\ \frac{(\sigma_{34} \circ w)}{x_4^2} & \frac{q_4(\sigma_{12} \sigma_{34} \circ w)}{x_4^2} \end{pmatrix},$ $w(X) := p_1(X) (x_1 x_2 x_3 x_4 \{x_1 x_3 + x_5(x_2 + x_4)\} - x_5^3 \{x_1 x_3(x_2 + x_4) + x_5 x_2 x_4\})$
$G_{13} := \begin{pmatrix} g_{15} & g_{16} \\ g_{25} & g_{26} \end{pmatrix}$	$\frac{1}{\Delta_5(X)} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{z}{x_1} & \frac{q_3 q_4 (\sigma_{12} \sigma_{23} \circ w)}{x_1^2 x_5} \\ \frac{(\sigma_{23} \circ w)}{x_2^2 x_5} & \frac{(\sigma_{12} \circ z)}{x_2} \end{pmatrix},$ $z(X) := (e_1 e_3 - x_1^2 e_2)(x_1 e_1 e_3 - e_2 x_5^3) x_1 x_5 + e_3 (x_1 - x_5) (x_1^2 (e_1 - x_1) \{e_3 (x_1 - x_5) - e_1 x_5^3\} + (x_1 e_2 - e_3) \{x_1 e_2 + (x_1 - x_5) x_5^2\} x_5),$ where $e_i$ are elementary symmetric polynomials in variables $x_2, x_3, x_4$ .

**Remark 1.** As it is noticed in Section 1 a representation of  $Q_X$  is also a representation of  $Q_{X'}$  if  $X \subset X'$ .



**Remark 2.** Irreducible representations of  $B_3$  of dimensions  $d \leq 5$  were classified by Imre Tuba and Hans Wenzl in [23]. We reproduce their table of representations in the basis where  $g_1$  takes a diagonal form. In their approach I. Tuba and H. Wenzl used a different basis, in which matrices of the braids  $g_1$  and  $g_2$  assume a special ‘ordered’ triangular form. This allows them analyzing also algebras whose minimal polynomials  $P_X$  have multiple roots and, hence, matrices of the braids  $g_{1,2}$  are not diagonalizable. These cases are missed in our approach. Instead, our method is suitable for construction of the 6-dimensional representations for algebras  $Q_X$ ,  $|X| = 5$  and, thus, allows us classifying irreducible representations for these algebras and studying their semisimplicity.

Note also that formulas for representations of dimensions  $d \leq 5$  have been reconstructed in [5] using different methods with the help of the CHEVIE package of GAP3 (see [18], [22]).

*Proof.* By our initial assumptions matrices of braids  $g_{1,2}$  in any representation are diagonalizable. We choose a basis where  $\rho_{X,V}(g_1) := D_g$  is diagonal. By (1.8) the diagonal components of  $D_g$  are  $x_i$  taken with multiplicities  $m_i$ .

Keeping in mind that in an irreducible representation matrices  $A$  and  $B$  of braids  $a$  and  $b$  are also diagonalizable (see Equation (1.11)) we use for them parameterization

$$A = U^{-1}D_aU, \quad B = VD_bV^{-1}. \tag{2.10}$$

Here  $D_a$  and  $D_b$  are diagonal matrices whose diagonal components are elements of  $\text{Spec } A$  and  $\text{Spec } B$ . For irreducible representations of dimensions  $\leq 6$  they were defined in Proposition 1. Due to relation  $g_1 = a^{-1}b$  matrices  $U$  and  $V$  have to satisfy condition

$$UD_gV = D_a^{-1}UVD_b. \tag{2.11}$$

We solve this matrix equality for  $U$  and  $V$  in cases where diagonal matrices  $D_g$ ,  $D_a$  and  $D_b$  are as described in Proposition 1. Formulae for representations given in Proposition 2 follow then, e.g., from relation  $g_2 = g_1^{-1}a$ :  $\rho_{X,V}(g_2) = D_g^{-1}A$ .

Solving (2.11) is straightforward but rather tedious computation. For an interested reader we give few details of it in cases  $d = 2, 3, 4$ .

Case  $d = 2$ . We choose

$$D_g = \text{diag}\{x_1, x_2\}, \quad D_a = -e_2(X) \text{diag}\{\nu, \nu^{-1}\}, \quad D_b = ie_2(X)^{\frac{3}{2}} \text{diag}\{1, -1\}.$$

Noticing that matrices  $U/V$  are defined up to left/right multiplication by a diagonal matrix we use for them the following ansatzes

$$U = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & * \\ * & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad V = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & * \\ * & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$

where stars stand for unknown components. With this settings Equation (2.11) defines  $U$  and  $V$  up to conjugation by a diagonal matrix. We choose a solution which gives a nice expression (2.2) for  $\rho_X^{(2)}(g_2)$ ,

$$U = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -\frac{x_1}{\nu^{-1}x_1 + \nu x_2} \\ -\frac{\nu x_1 + \nu^{-1}x_2}{x_1} & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad V = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -\frac{i\sqrt{e_2}}{x_1 - x_2 + i\sqrt{e_2}} \\ \frac{x_1 - x_2 - i\sqrt{e_2}}{i\sqrt{e_2}} & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Note that, unlike  $U$  and  $V$ , resulting expression for  $\rho_X^{(2)}(g_2)$  is defined with the only restriction  $x_1 \neq x_2$  and does not depend on a choice of root  $\sqrt{e_2}$ .

Case  $d = 3$ . We choose

$$D_g = \text{diag}\{x_1, x_2, x_3\}, \quad D_a = e_3(X)^{\frac{2}{3}} \text{diag}\{1, \nu^{-1}, \nu\},$$

$$D_b = e_3(X) \text{diag}\{1, -1, -1\},$$

and use ansatzes

$$U = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & * & * \\ * & 1 & * \\ * & * & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad V = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & * & * \\ * & 1 & 0 \\ * & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

The solution of Equation (2.11) which gives formula (2.3) for  $\rho_X^{(3)}(g_2)$  reads

$$U = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \frac{x_1+h}{x_2+h} & \frac{x_1+h}{x_3+h} \\ \frac{x_2+\nu h}{x_1+\nu h} & 1 & \frac{x_2+\nu h}{x_3+\nu h} \\ \frac{x_3+\nu^{-1}h}{x_1+\nu^{-1}h} & \frac{x_3+\nu^{-1}h}{x_2+\nu^{-1}h} & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad V = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & -1 \\ -\frac{(x_1-x_3)(x_2^2+x_1x_3)}{(x_2-x_3)(x_1^2+x_2x_3)} & 1 & 0 \\ -\frac{(x_1-x_2)(x_3^2+x_1x_2)}{(x_3-x_2)(x_1^2+x_2x_3)} & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Case  $d = 4$ . We choose  $D_g = \text{diag}\{x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4\}$ ,

$$D_a = h(X) \text{diag}\{1, 1, \nu, \nu^{-1}\}, \quad D_b = h(X)^{\frac{3}{2}} \text{diag}\{1, 1, -1, -1\},$$

and ansatzes for  $U, V$ :

$$U = \begin{pmatrix} I & \Psi^+ \\ \Psi^- & \Phi \end{pmatrix}, \quad V = \begin{pmatrix} I & \Lambda^+ \\ \Lambda^- & I \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $I$  is  $2 \times 2$  unit matrix,  $\Phi^\pm$  and  $\Lambda^\pm$  are arbitrary  $2 \times 2$  matrices, and  $2 \times 2$  matrix  $\Phi$  has unit diagonal components. A particular solution of Equation (2.11) which gives expression (2.5) for  $\rho_{h,X}^{(4)}(g_2)$  reads

$$\Psi^+ = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{x_1(x_3-x_2)\beta_1\gamma_4}{x_3(x_1-x_2)\beta_3} & \frac{x_1(x_4-x_2)\beta_1\gamma_3}{x_4(x_1-x_2)\beta_4} \\ \frac{x_2(x_3-x_1)\beta_2}{x_3(x_2-x_1)\beta_3} & \frac{x_2(x_4-x_1)\beta_2}{x_4(x_2-x_1)\beta_4} \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\Psi^- = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{x_1x_2}{(x_1x_2+\nu^{-1}h)(x_2x_3+\nu h)} & \frac{x_2x_4+\nu h}{x_3x_4+\nu h} \\ \frac{x_1x_2}{(x_1x_2+\nu h)(x_2x_4+\nu^{-1}h)} & \frac{x_2x_3+\nu^{-1}h}{x_3x_4+\nu^{-1}h} \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\Phi = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \frac{x_2x_4+\nu h}{x_2x_3+\nu h} \\ \frac{x_2x_3+\nu^{-1}h}{x_2x_4+\nu^{-1}h} & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\Lambda^+ = - \begin{pmatrix} \frac{x_3(x_3-x_2)(x_1-\sqrt{h})\gamma_4}{x_1(x_1-x_2)(x_3-\sqrt{h})} & \frac{x_4(x_4-x_2)(x_1-\sqrt{h})\gamma_3}{x_1(x_1-x_2)(x_4-\sqrt{h})} \\ \frac{x_3(x_3-x_1)(x_2-\sqrt{h})}{x_2(x_2-x_1)(x_3-\sqrt{h})} & \frac{x_4(x_4-x_1)(x_2-\sqrt{h})}{x_2(x_2-x_1)(x_4-\sqrt{h})} \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\Lambda^- = -\frac{1}{\gamma_2} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{x_1(x_4-x_1)(x_3+\sqrt{h})}{x_3(x_4-x_3)(x_1+\sqrt{h})} & \frac{x_2(x_4-x_2)(x_3+\sqrt{h})\gamma_3}{x_3(x_4-x_3)(x_2+\sqrt{h})} \\ \frac{x_1(x_3-x_1)(x_4+\sqrt{h})}{x_4(x_3-x_4)(x_1+\sqrt{h})} & \frac{x_2(x_3-x_2)(x_4+\sqrt{h})\gamma_4}{x_4(x_3-x_4)(x_2+\sqrt{h})} \end{pmatrix}.$$

To get it we exclude consecutively matrices  $\Lambda^\pm, \Psi^-, \Phi$  from Equations (2.11) expressing them finally in terms of  $\Psi^+$ . The only condition imposed by Equation (2.11) on the components of  $\Psi^+$  is

$$\frac{(\Psi^+)_{11}(\Psi^+)_{22}}{(\Psi^+)_{12}(\Psi^+)_{21}} = \frac{(x_3 - x_2)(x_4 - x_1)\gamma_4}{(x_4 - x_2)(x_3 - x_1)\gamma_3}.$$

The three remaining degrees of freedom are due to arbitrariness in conjugation of  $U$  and  $V$  by a diagonal matrix. We fix it to get the expression for  $\rho_X^{(4)}(g_2)$  in the most suitable form.

Solving Equation (2.11) in cases  $d = 5, \dim V = 5, 6$ , is more lengthy. We skip it presenting final results of the calculations in equations (2.7)–(2.9) and in Table 1. For them the braid relation (1.1) can be checked directly.  $\square$

**Proposition 3.** *For the algebras  $Q_X$  (1.7) defined by the set of data  $X$  (1.4), the representations  $\rho_{\dots}^{(d)}, d \leq 5$ , described in Proposition 2 are irreducible if and only if the following conditions on their parameters are satisfied.*

*If  $|X| = 2, \rho_X^{(2)}$  is irreducible if*

$$I_{ij}^{(2)} := x_i^2 - x_i x_j + x_j^2 \neq 0, \tag{2.12}$$

*where indices  $i, j \in \{1, 2\}$  are distinct.*

*If  $|X| = 3, \rho_X^{(3)}$  is irreducible if*

$$I_{ijk}^{(3)} := x_i^2 + x_j x_k \neq 0, \tag{2.13}$$

*where  $i, j, k \in \{1, 2, 3\}$  are pairwise distinct.*

*If  $|X| = 4, \rho_{h,X}^{(4)}$  is irreducible if*

$$I_{h,i}^{(4)} := x_i^2 - h \neq 0, \quad J_{h,ijkl}^{(4)} := x_i x_j + x_k x_l - h \neq 0, \tag{2.14}$$

*where  $i, j, k, l \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$  are pairwise distinct.*

*If  $|X| = 5, \rho_{f,X}^{(5)}$  is irreducible if*

$$I_{f,i}^{(5)} := x_i^2 + x_i f + f^2 \neq 0, \quad J_{f,ij}^{(5)} := x_i x_j + f^2 \neq 0, \tag{2.15}$$

*where  $i, j \in \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$  are pairwise distinct.*

*Otherwise, they are reducible but indecomposable.*

*For representations  $\rho_{s,X}^{(6)}, s = 1, \dots, 5$ , also given in Proposition 2, we present a less detailed statement, which describes conditions under which all of them are irreducible.*

*If  $|X| = 5, \rho_{s,X}^{(6)}, 1 \leq s \leq 5$ , are irreducible if*

$$I_i^{(6)} := e_5(X) + x_i^5 \neq 0, \quad J_{ij}^{(6)} := e_5(X) - x_i^3 x_j^2 \neq 0, \quad K_{i,jklm}^{(6)} := x_j x_k + x_l x_m \neq 0, \tag{2.16}$$

*where  $i, j, k, l, m \in \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$  are pairwise distinct.*

*Otherwise, among them there are reducible but indecomposable representations.*

*Proof.* We will search for invariant subspaces in representations  $\rho_{\dots}^{(d)}$  of Proposition 2. Note that for any  $y \in Q_X$  such that  $\text{Spec } \rho_{X,V}(y)$  is multiplicity free an

invariant subspace in  $V$  should be a linear span of some subset of a basis of eigenvectors of  $\rho_{X,V}(y)$ .

Consider representations  $\rho_{\dots}^{(d)}$  of dimension  $d = \dim V \leq 5$ . Here the spectrum of  $\rho_{\dots}^{(d)}(g_1)$  is simple. Choose a basis of eigenvectors of  $\rho_{\dots}^{(d)}(g_1)$ :  $\{v_k := \delta_{ki}, 1 \leq i \leq d\}_{k=1,\dots,d}$ . Denote

$$V_Y := \text{Span}\{v_k : k \in Y\}, \quad \text{where } Y \subset \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}. \tag{2.17}$$

Obviously, any invariant subspace in the representation space  $V$ , if exists, should be of the form  $V_Y$ . Furthermore, if the representation is decomposable then the decomposition is

$$V = V_Y \oplus V_{\bar{Y}}, \quad \text{where } \bar{Y} := \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\} \setminus Y. \tag{2.18}$$

Correspondingly, the matrix  $\rho_{\dots}^{(d)}(g_2)$  is block-triangular (respectively, block-diagonal) with blocks labelled by indices from subsets  $Y$  and  $\bar{Y}$  if and only if the representation is reducible (respectively, decomposable). Let us analyze the block structure of  $\rho_{\dots}^{(d)}(g_2)$  in cases  $d = 3, 4, 5$  (case  $d = 2$  is trivial).

Case  $d = 3$ . Representation  $\rho_X^{(3)}$  (2.3) has 2-dimensional invariant subspace  $V_{\{1,2\}}$  if and only if  $I_{312}^{(3)} = 0$ . Its complementary 1-dimensional subspace  $V_{\{3\}}$  exists under conditions  $I_{123}^{(3)} = I_{231}^{(3)} = 0$ . Altogether conditions  $I_{312}^{(3)} = I_{123}^{(3)} = I_{231}^{(3)} = 0$  lead to  $x_1 = x_2 = x_3 = 0$  and, hence, they are incompatible. Invariance conditions in two other cases —  $V_{\{2,3\}}$ ,  $V_{\{1\}}$ , and  $V_{\{1,3\}}$ ,  $V_{\{2\}}$  — differ from the above by a cyclic permutation of the subscript indices. It follows that  $\rho_X^{(3)}$  is irreducible if and only if inequalities (2.13) are fulfilled, and otherwise it is indecomposable.

Case  $d = 4$ . Conditions for existence of invariant subspaces in  $\rho_{h,X}^{(4)}$  are

$$V_{\{1,2,3\}} : I_{h,4}^{(4)} = 0; \quad V_{\{4\}} : I_{h,3}^{(4)} = J_{h,1234}^{(4)} = 0 \text{ or } I_{h,2}^{(4)} = J_{h,1324}^{(4)} = 0; \tag{2.19}$$

$$V_{\{1,2\}} : I_{h,3}^{(4)} = I_{h,4}^{(4)} = 0; \quad V_{\{3,4\}} : J_{h,1234}^{(4)} = 0 \text{ or } I_{h,1}^{(4)} = I_{h,2}^{(4)} = 0. \tag{2.20}$$

For the rest of invariant subspaces their existence conditions can be obtained by a cyclic permutations of subscripts 1, 2, 3, 4 in (2.19)<sup>3</sup>, or of subscripts 2, 3, 4 in (2.20). Altogether these conditions justify irreducibility criterium (2.14). Decomposability, e.g.,  $V = V_{\{1,2,3\}} \oplus V_{\{4\}}$  or  $V = V_{\{1,2\}} \oplus V_{\{3,4\}}$ , demands

$$I_{h,1}^{(4)} = I_{h,2}^{(4)} = I_{h,3}^{(4)} = I_{h,4}^{(4)} = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad I_{h,3}^{(4)} = I_{h,4}^{(4)} = J_{h,1234}^{(4)} = 0$$

or similar sets of relations with permuted subscripts 2, 3, 4. One can check that these conditions are incompatible with initial settings for  $X$  (1.4).

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<sup>3</sup>The only exception is subspace  $V_{\{1\}}$ , which cannot be invariant in this representation.

Case  $d = 5$ . Invariant subspaces in  $\rho_{f,X}^{(5)}$  exist under conditions:

$$\begin{aligned}
 &V_{\{1,2,3,4\}} : I_{f,5}^{(5)} = 0; \\
 &V_{\{5\}} : J_{f,12}^{(5)} = J_{f,34}^{(5)} = 0 \text{ (or any permutation of subscripts 2, 3, 4)} \quad (2.21) \\
 &\text{or } J_{f,12}^{(5)} = I_{f,3}^{(5)} = I_{f,4}^{(5)} = 0 \text{ (or any permutation of subscripts 1, 2, 3, 4);}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &V_{\{1,2,3\}} : J_{f,45}^{(5)} = 0 \text{ or } I_{f,4}^{(5)} = I_{f,5}^{(5)} = 0; \\
 &V_{\{4,5\}} : I_{f,3}^{(5)} = J_{f,12}^{(5)} = 0 \text{ (or any permutation of subscripts 1, 2, 3)}. \quad (2.22)
 \end{aligned}$$

For the rest of invariant subspaces the existence conditions can be obtained by permutation of indices in formulas above. Taken together these conditions prove irreducibility criterium (2.15). On the other hand, an attempt to find decomposition into invariant subspaces, like  $V = V_{\{1,2,3,4\}} \oplus V_{\{5\}}$  or  $V = V_{\{1,2,3\}} \oplus V_{\{4,5\}}$ , results in a set of conditions

$$\begin{aligned}
 &I_{f,1}^{(5)} = J_{f,23}^{(5)} = J_{f,45}^{(5)} = 0 \text{ or } I_{f,1}^{(5)} = I_{f,2}^{(5)} = I_{f,3}^{(5)} = J_{f,45}^{(5)} = 0 \\
 &\text{(or any permutation of subscripts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5),}
 \end{aligned}$$

which are incompatible with (1.4). Thus, representations  $\rho_{f,X}^{(5)}$  are always indecomposable.

Case  $d = 6$  is more sophisticated. We carry out considerations for representation  $\rho_{5,X}^{(6)}$  (see Table 1). For the other 6-dimensional representations results follow then by transpositions of arguments  $x_i$ .

Take a basis of eigenvectors of  $\rho_{5,X}^{(6)}(g_1)$ :  $\{v_k := \delta_{ki}, 1 \leq i \leq 6\}_{k=1,\dots,6}$ . Assume there exists an invariant subspace  $V_{\text{inv}} \subsetneq V$  and consider its subspace

$$W := V_{\text{inv}} \cup V_{\{1,2,3,4\}}.$$

Spectrum of  $\rho_{5,X}^{(6)}(g_1)$  in this subspace is simple, so  $W$  has a form  $W = V_Y$  (2.17) for some subset  $Y \subset \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ . We consider separately cases with different  $Y$ .

Case  $W = V_{\{1,2,3,4\}}$ . Consider action of matrix  $\rho_{5,X}^{(6)}(g_2)$  on  $W$ . Since components  $g_{51}$  and  $g_{62}$  of this matrix are always nonzero we conclude that vectors  $v_5$  and  $v_6$  belong to  $V_{\text{inv}}$  and hence,  $V_{\text{inv}} = V$ , which is a contradiction.

Case  $W = V_{\{1\}}$ . Considering action of  $\rho_{5,X}^{(6)}(g_2)$  on  $v_1 \in W \subset V_{\text{inv}}$  we obtain  $v_5 \in V_{\text{inv}}$ . Now let us assume that  $V_{\text{inv}} = V_{\{1,5\}}$ . Then the matrix  $\rho_{5,X}^{(6)}(g_2)$  should take block-diagonal form with vanishing components  $g_{21} = g_{31} = g_{41} = g_{61} = g_{25} = g_{35} = g_{45} = g_{65} = 0$ . This happens if and only if  $p_1(X) \equiv J_{15}^{(6)} = 0$ . Thus, we conclude that representation  $\rho_{5,X}^{(6)}$  under condition  $J_{15}^{(6)} = 0$  has the invariant subspace  $V_{\{1,5\}}$ . This subspace is not further reducible.

Case  $W = V_{\{2,3\}}$ . From the action of  $\rho_{5,X}^{(6)}(g_2)$  on  $v_2 \in V_{\text{inv}}$  we get  $v_6 \in V_{\text{inv}}$ , as  $g_{26} \neq 0$ . Assuming then  $V_{\text{inv}} = V_{\{2,3,6\}}$  and checking block-triangularity of  $\rho_{5,X}^{(6)}(g_2)$ :  $g_{12} = g_{13} = g_{16} = g_{42} = g_{43} = g_{46} = g_{52} = g_{53} = g_{56} = 0$ , we find

that this case is realized under condition  $q_4(X) \equiv K_{5,1423}^{(6)} = 0$ . Thus,  $V_{\{2,3,6\}}$  is a minimal invariant subspace containing  $W = V_{\{2,3\}}$ .

Two cases considered above illustrate appearance of conditions like  $J_{\dots}^{(6)} \neq 0$  and  $K_{\dots}^{(6)} \neq 0$  in formulation of the proposition. Permuting arguments  $x_i$ , that is, considering all representations  $\rho_{\dots}^{(6)}$  one can obtain all polynomials  $J_{\dots}^{(6)}$ ,  $K_{\dots}^{(6)}$  in the conditions of their reducibility. Consideration of the other cases with  $W \neq \emptyset$  is similar. It does not result in any other independent reducibility conditions. In particular, for representation  $\rho_{5,X}^{(6)}$  one obtains:

- in case  $W = V_{\{2,3,4\}}$  minimal possible invariant subspace  $V_{\text{inv}} = V_{\{2,3,4,5,6\}}$ ;
- in case  $W = V_{\{1,4\}}$  minimal possible invariant subspace  $V_{\text{inv}} = V_{\{1,4,5,6\}}$ .

In searching for a decomposition of  $\rho_{5,X}^{(6)}$  into a direct sum these invariant subspaces could be complements, respectively, for the subspaces  $V_{\text{inv}} = V_{\{1,2\}}$  (case  $W = V_{\{1\}}$ ) and  $V_{\text{inv}} = V_{\{2,3,6\}}$  (case  $W = V_{\{2,3\}}$ ). As we see, this does not happen. In all other reducible regimes with  $W \neq \emptyset$  representations  $\rho_{\dots}^{(6)}$  turn to be indecomposable.

It remains to consider the case  $W = \emptyset$ . Assuming that  $V_{\text{inv}}$  is 2-dimensional, i.e.,  $V_{\text{inv}} = V_{\{5,6\}}$ , we get a contradiction since block-triangularity conditions for  $\rho_{5,X}^{(6)}$ :  $G_{13} = G_{23} = 0$  do not have any solution.

Still, there is a possibility to find 1-dimensional space  $V_{\text{inv}}$ . This happens if  $2 \times 2$  matrices  $G_{13}$ ,  $G_{23}$  and  $G_{33}$  for certain values of parameters  $x_i$  have common eigenspace  $V_{\text{inv}}$ , which is a null space for  $G_{13}$  and  $G_{23}$ . Calculating determinants of  $G_{13}$  and  $G_{23}$ :

$$\det G_{13} \sim K_{5,1234}^{(6)} J_{35}^{(6)} J_{45}^{(6)} (e_5(X) + x_5^5), \quad \det G_{23} \sim J_{15}^{(6)} J_{25}^{(6)} (e_5(X) + x_5^5),$$

we see that the only new possible regime where one observes nontrivial invariant subspace is given by condition  $I_5^{(6)} = 0$ . Indeed, in this case one finds common eigenvector

$$\{(x_5^2 + x_2x_3)(x_5^2 - x_1x_3)(x_2^2 - x_2x_5 + x_5^2), x_1x_3(x_1^2 - x_1x_5 + x_5^2)\},$$

with eigenvalues 0, 0 and  $x_5$ , respectively, for  $G_{13}$ ,  $G_{23}$  and  $G_{33}$ . The invariant subspace generated by this vector does not have an invariant direct summand, as there is no invariant subspace containing  $V_{\{1,2,3,4\}}$ . □

Our main result follows as a direct consequence of Propositions 2 and 3:

**Theorem 4.** *For  $|X| \leq 5$  the algebra  $Q_X$  (1.7) defined by a set of data  $X$  (1.4) is semisimple if and only if one of the following conditions hold.*

$$|X| = 2, \quad I_{12}^{(2)} \neq 0; \tag{2.23}$$

$$|X| = 3, \quad \{I_{ij}^{(2)}, I_{ijk}^{(3)}\} \cap \{0\} = \emptyset \tag{2.24}$$

for all pairwise distinct indices  $i, j, k \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ ;

$$|X| = 4, \quad \{I_{ij}^{(2)}, I_{ijk}^{(3)}, I_{h,i}^{(4)}, J_{h,ijkl}^{(4)}\} \cap \{0\} = \emptyset \tag{2.25}$$

for any  $h$  such that  $h^2 = e_4(X)$  and for all pairwise distinct indices  $i, j, k, l \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ ;

$$|X| = 5, \{I_{ij}^{(2)}, I_{ijk}^{(3)}, I_{h,i}^{(4)}, J_{h,ijkl}^{(4)}, I_{f,i}^{(5)}, J_{f,ij}^{(5)}, I_i^{(6)}, J_{ij}^{(6)}, K_{i,jklm}^{(6)}\} \cap \{0\} = \emptyset \quad (2.26)$$

for any  $f$  such that  $f^5 = e_5(X)$ , for any  $h$  such that  $h^2 = e_4(X \setminus i)$ , and for all pairwise distinct indices  $i, j, k, l, m \in \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$ .

In the semisimple case all irreducible representations of these algebras are described in Proposition 2.

**Remark 3.** For the algebras  $Q_X$ ,  $|X| = 2, 3, 4$ , the statement of theorem was first proved in [23] (see Theorem 2.9 there). For the algebras  $Q_X$ ,  $|X| = 5$ , polynomial conditions of the form  $I_i^{(6)} = 0$ ,  $J_{ij}^{(6)} = 0$ ,  $K_{i,jklm}^{(6)} = 0$  have appeared recently in the investigations of the algebra decomposition matrices (see [7, Section 3.15]).

*Proof.* The existence of reducible but indecomposable representations serves as a criterion of nonsemisimplicity of an algebra. Proposition 3 provides such representations for all algebras  $Q_X$  which the theorem above declares to be nonsemisimple.

On the other hand, by the Artin–Wedderburn theorem an algebra over an algebraically closed field is semisimple if and only if sum of squares of dimensions of its inequivalent irreducible representations equals dimension of the algebra. Dimensions of the algebras  $Q_X$  for  $|X| = 2, 3, 4$ , and 5 are, respectively, 6, 24, 96, and 600 (see [19, Theorem 3.2(3)] and [5, Corollaries 3.4 and 4.11]). Then, Propositions 2 and 3 provide enough irreducible representations for algebras  $Q_X$  to guarantee their semisimplicity under conditions (2.23)–(2.26). For instance in case  $|X| = 5$  the algebra  $Q_X$  under conditions (2.26) has the following inequivalent irreducible representations (see Proposition 2 and Remark 1):  $\binom{5}{1} = 5$  times 1-dimensional,  $\binom{5}{2} = 10$  times 2-dimensional,  $\binom{5}{3} = 10$  times 3-dimensional,  $2 \times \binom{5}{4} = 10$  times 4-dimensional, 5 times 5-dimensional, and 5 times 6-dimensional. Altogether:  $5 * 1^2 + 10 * 2^2 + 10 * 3^2 + 10 * 4^2 + 5 * 5^2 + 5 * 6^2 = 600$ , which fits the dimension of the algebra and proves its semisimplicity.  $\square$

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