



Insights on the homogeneous 3-local representations of the twin groups

Mohamad N. Nasser^{a,*}

^aDepartment of Mathematics and Computer Science, Beirut Arab University, P.O. Box 11-5020, Beirut, Lebanon.

Abstract

We provide a complete classification of the homogeneous 3-local representations of the twin group T_n , the virtual twin group VT_n , and the welded twin group WT_n , for all $n \geq 4$. Beyond this classification, we examine the main characteristics of these representations, particularly their irreducibility and faithfulness. More deeply, we show that all such representations are reducible, and most of them are unfaithful. Also, we find necessary and sufficient conditions of the first two types of the classified representations of T_n to be irreducible in the case $n = 4$. The obtained results provide insights into the algebraic structure of these three groups.

Keywords: Twin Groups, Braid Groups, Irreducibility, Faithfulness.

2010 Mathematics Subject Classification: 20F36.

1. Introduction

A Coxeter group C with r generators c_1, c_2, \dots, c_r is a fundamental group in Algebra that can be presented as follows.

$$C = \langle c_1, c_2, \dots, c_r \mid c_i^2 = 1, (c_i c_j)^{m_{ij}} = 1, 1 \leq i, j \leq r \rangle,$$

where $m_{ij} = 1$ if $i = j$ and $m_{ij} \geq 2$ if $i \neq j$. One of the famous Coxeter groups is the twin group on n strands, often denoted by T_n , where $n \geq 2$. The twin group was introduced first by G. Shabat and V. Voevodsky [22] and it has appeared in history under different names, such as the flat braid group and the planar braid group; see, for instance, [9, 10, 14, 16, 21, 4]. The twin group T_n is a Coxeter group with $n - 1$ generators s_1, s_2, \dots, s_{n-1} under the following defining relations.

$$\begin{aligned} s_i^2 &= 1, & i &= 1, 2, \dots, n-1, \\ s_i s_j &= s_j s_i, & |i - j| &\geq 2. \end{aligned}$$

The twin group T_n has a geometrical interpretation similar to that for the known braid group, namely B_n [9, 10]. The twin group and the braid group both arise in the study of permutations of n strands.

*Mohamad N. Nasser

Email address: m.nasser@bau.edu.lb (Mohamad N. Nasser)

They are deeply related in concept but also distinct. For instance, the twin generators s_i of T_n represent a transposition-like move between strands i and $i + 1$, while the braid generators σ_i of B_n represent an overcrossing of strand i over $i + 1$. On the other hand, although both groups share the commutative relations $s_i s_j = s_j s_i$, $1 \leq i \leq n - 1$, the relations $s_i^2 = 1$, $1 \leq i \leq n - 1$, are not satisfied for the generators of B_n , while the relations $\sigma_i \sigma_{i+1} \sigma_i = \sigma_{i+1} \sigma_i \sigma_{i+1}$, $1 \leq i \leq n - 2$, are not satisfied for the generators of T_n .

On the far side, studying extensions of braid groups explores deeper algebraic and geometric properties of braids and their applications in other mathematical and physical branches. In [3], V. Bardakov, M. Singh, and A. Vesnin introduced the virtual twin group on n strands, namely VT_n , and the welded twin group on n strands, namely WT_n , in analogy with the known virtual and welded braid groups VB_n and WB_n . Both groups VT_n and WT_n are group extensions of T_n , and they are generated by two families of generators: the twin generators s_1, s_2, \dots, s_{n-1} and another family of generators denoted by $\rho_1, \rho_2, \dots, \rho_{n-1}$. We show the relations between the generators in Section 2.

Group representations and their characteristics allow us to study the group structure, both from algebraic and geometric points of view. In particular, the existence of a faithful representation of a group solves its word problem. A group representation is said to be faithful if it is injective. Till now, there is no discovered faithful representation of VT_n and WT_n unless in very special cases. Another important characteristic of a representation that helps to discover the group structure is its irreducibility. A representation is said to be irreducible if it has no nontrivial subrepresentation. Otherwise it is reducible.

One of the famous and important types of group representations in the field is called the k -local representation. A representation of a group G with a finite number of generators a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{n-1} to $\text{GL}_n(\mathbb{Z}[t^{\pm 1}])$, where t is indeterminate, is said to be k -local if the image of the generator a_i , $1 \leq i \leq n - 1$, has the form

$$\left(\begin{array}{c|c|c} I_{i-1} & 0 & 0 \\ \hline 0 & M_i & 0 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & I_{n-i-1} \end{array} \right),$$

where $M_i \in \text{GL}_k(\mathbb{Z}[t^{\pm 1}])$ with $k = m - n + 2$ and I_r is the $r \times r$ identity matrix. For example, Burau representation [5], Wada representations of types 1 and 2 [24], the standard representation [23], and the F -representation [2] are k -local representations of B_n with different degrees k , while Lawrence-Krammer-Bigelow representation [11] is a non-local representation of B_n . In history, many k -local representations of the braid group and its extensions has been classified and studied (see for instance [15, 6, 12, 18, 8]).

In [13], T. Mayassi and M. Nasser did a complete classification and examined the main characteristics of the homogeneous 2-local representations of the twin group T_n . The goal of this article is to generalize the work done by Mayassi and Nasser. More precisely, we aim to classify and examine the main characteristics of the homogeneous 3-local representations of the twin group T_n and its extensions VT_n and WT_n as well.

The paper is organized in the following way. Section 2 includes the main definitions and previous results we need in our work. In Section 3, we classify all homogeneous 3-local representations $\tau : T_n \rightarrow \text{GL}_{n+1}(\mathbb{C})$ for all $n \geq 4$ (Theorem 3.1) and we prove that all such representations are reducible to the degree n (Theorem 3.2). In addition, we make a complete study for the irreducibility of the two representations $\tau_1 : T_4 \rightarrow \text{GL}_5(\mathbb{C})$ and $\tau_2 : T_4 \rightarrow \text{GL}_5(\mathbb{C})$ (Theorems 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, and 3.7). Likewise, in Section 4, we classify all homogeneous 3-local representations $\delta : VT_n \rightarrow \text{GL}_{n+1}(\mathbb{C})$ and $\gamma : WT_n \rightarrow \text{GL}_{n+1}(\mathbb{C})$ for all $n \geq 4$ (Theorems 4.1 and 4.2). Also, we prove that all such representations are reducible to the degree n (Theorems 4.3 and 4.4), and we show that most of such representations are unfaithful (Theorems 4.5 and 4.6).

2. Preliminaries

We start this section by introducing the presentation of the braid group B_n introduced by E. Artin in 1926 [1].

Definition 2.1. [1] The braid group $B_n, n \geq 2$, is defined by its generators $\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \dots, \sigma_{n-1}$ that satisfy the following relations.

$$\sigma_i \sigma_{i+1} \sigma_i = \sigma_{i+1} \sigma_i \sigma_{i+1}, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n - 2, \tag{2.1}$$

$$\sigma_i \sigma_j = \sigma_j \sigma_i, \quad |i - j| \geq 2. \tag{2.2}$$

We then introduce the presentation of the twin group T_n introduced by G. Shabat and V. Voevodsky in 1990 [22]. The generators of T_n are called involutions according to the first type of relations given in the following definition.

Definition 2.2. [22] The twin group $T_n, n \geq 2$, is defined by its generators s_1, s_2, \dots, s_{n-1} that satisfy the following relations.

$$s_i^2 = 1, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n - 2, \tag{2.3}$$

$$s_i s_j = s_j s_i, \quad |i - j| \geq 2. \tag{2.4}$$

Note that we have the following particular cases.

- $T_2 = \langle s_1 \mid s_1^2 = 1 \rangle = \mathbb{Z}_2$ is the cyclic group of order 2.
- $T_3 = \langle s_1, s_2 \mid s_1^2 = s_2^2 = 1 \rangle = \mathbb{Z}_2 * \mathbb{Z}_2$ is the infinite dihedral group.

We now introduce the presentation of the virtual twin group VT_n introduced by V. Bardakov, M. Singh, and A. Vesnin in 2019 [3].

Definition 2.3. [3] The virtual twin group $VT_n, n \geq 2$, is an extension of T_n that is generated by the generators s_1, s_2, \dots, s_{n-1} of T_n besides the generators $\rho_1, \rho_2, \dots, \rho_{n-1}$. In addition to the relations (2.3) and (2.4) of T_n , the generators s_i and $\rho_i, 1 \leq i \leq n - 1$, of VT_n satisfy the following relations.

$$\rho_i \rho_{i+1} \rho_i = \rho_{i+1} \rho_i \rho_{i+1}, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n - 2, \tag{2.5}$$

$$\rho_i \rho_j = \rho_j \rho_i, \quad |i - j| \geq 2, \tag{2.6}$$

$$\rho_i^2 = 1, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n - 1, \tag{2.7}$$

$$s_i \rho_j = \rho_j s_i, \quad |i - j| \geq 2, \tag{2.8}$$

$$\rho_i \rho_{i+1} s_i = s_{i+1} \rho_i \rho_{i+1}, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n - 2. \tag{2.9}$$

We give now the definition of the welded twin group WT_n introduced also by V. Bardakov, M. Singh, and A. Vesnin in 2019 [3].

Definition 2.4. [3] The welded twin group $WT_n, n \geq 2$, is an extension of T_n that is defined as the quotient of VT_n by adding the following relations.

$$\rho_i s_{i+1} s_i = s_{i+1} s_i \rho_{i+1}, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n - 2. \tag{2.10}$$

In what follows, we give the concept of k -local representations of a group G with a finite number of generators introduced by M. Nasser in 2025 [19].

Definition 2.5. Let G be a group with generators a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{n-1} . A representation $\theta : G \rightarrow \text{GL}_m(\mathbb{Z}[t^{\pm 1}])$ is said to be k -local if it is of the form

$$\theta(a_i) = \left(\begin{array}{c|c|c} I_{i-1} & 0 & 0 \\ \hline 0 & M_i & 0 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & I_{n-i-1} \end{array} \right) \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq n - 1,$$

where $M_i \in \text{GL}_k(\mathbb{Z}[t^{\pm 1}])$ with $k = m - n + 2$ and I_r is the $r \times r$ identity matrix. The representation θ is said to be homogeneous if all the matrices M_i are equal.

Remark that if G' is a group with $2(n - 1)$ generators a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{n-1} and b_1, b_2, \dots, b_{n-1} , then the concept of k -local representations could be extended in the following way.

Definition 2.6. A k -local representation $\theta : G' \rightarrow \text{GL}_m(\mathbb{Z}[t^{\pm 1}])$ is a representation of the form

$$\theta(a_i) = \left(\begin{array}{c|c|c} I_{i-1} & 0 & 0 \\ \hline 0 & M_i & 0 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & I_{n-i-1} \end{array} \right) \text{ and } \theta(b_i) = \left(\begin{array}{c|c|c} I_{i-1} & 0 & 0 \\ \hline 0 & N_i & 0 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & I_{n-i-1} \end{array} \right)$$

for $1 \leq i \leq n - 1$, where $M_i, N_i \in \text{GL}_k(\mathbb{Z}[t^{\pm 1}])$ with $k = m - n + 2$ and I_r is the $r \times r$ identity matrix. In this case, θ is homogeneous if all the matrices M_i are equal and all the matrices N_i are equal.

The next two definitions are addressed here as examples of famous known k -local representations of the braid group B_n of different degrees k . The first representation was introduced by W. Burau in 1936 [5], and the second representation was introduced by V. Bardakov and P. Bellingeri in 2016 [2].

Definition 2.7. [5] The Burau representation $\rho_B : B_n \rightarrow \text{GL}_n(\mathbb{Z}[t^{\pm 1}])$, where t is indeterminate, is the representation defined by

$$\sigma_i \rightarrow \left(\begin{array}{c|c|c} I_{i-1} & 0 & 0 \\ \hline 0 & 1-t & t \\ & 1 & 0 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & I_{n-i-1} \end{array} \right) \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq n - 1.$$

Definition 2.8. [2] The F -representation $\rho_F : B_n \rightarrow \text{GL}_{n+1}(\mathbb{Z}[t^{\pm 1}])$, where t is indeterminate, is the representation defined by

$$\sigma_i \rightarrow \left(\begin{array}{c|c|c} I_{i-1} & 0 & 0 \\ \hline 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ & 0 & -t & 0 & 0 \\ & 0 & t & 1 & 0 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & 0 & I_{n-i-1} \end{array} \right) \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq n - 1.$$

From the shapes of the previous two representations, we see that Burau representation is a homogeneous 2-local, while the F -representation is a homogeneous 3-local. For more information on the characteristics of these two representations, see [7] and [17] respectively.

On the other side, regarding k -local representations of the twin group T_n , M. Nasser constructed two 2-local representations of the twin group T_n and studied their irreducibility and faithfulness in many cases [20]. In the following two definitions we introduce these two representations, and we call them N_1 and N_2 representations.

Definition 2.9. [20] The N_1 -representation $\eta_1 : T_n \rightarrow \text{GL}_n(\mathbb{Z}[t^{\pm 1}])$, where t is indeterminate, is the representation defined by

$$s_i \rightarrow \left(\begin{array}{c|c|c} I_{i-1} & 0 & 0 \\ \hline 0 & 1-t & t \\ & 2-t & t-1 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & I_{n-i-1} \end{array} \right) \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq n - 1.$$

Definition 2.10. [20] The N_2 -representation $\eta_2 : T_n \rightarrow \text{GL}_n(\mathbb{Z}[t^{\pm 1}])$, where t is indeterminate, is the representation defined by

$$s_i \rightarrow \left(\begin{array}{c|cc|c} I_{i-1} & 0 & 0 & \\ \hline 0 & 0 & f(t) & 0 \\ \hline 0 & f^{-1}(t) & 0 & \\ \hline & 0 & 0 & I_{n-i-1} \end{array} \right) \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq n-1,$$

where $f(t)$ is invertible in $\mathbb{Z}[t^{\pm 1}]$ and $f^{-1}(t) = \frac{1}{f(t)}$.

One of the natural questions that could be addressed regarding k -local representations of T_n is given in the following.

Question 2.11. Let $\tau : T_n \rightarrow \text{GL}_m(\mathbb{Z}[t^{\pm 1}])$ be a k -local representation of T_n . What are the possible forms of τ ? And what are their characteristics?

In [13], T. Mayassi and M. Nasser answered this question in the case $k = 2$. In the next section, we answer this question in the case $k = 3$.

3. On the 3-local representations of T_n

In this section, we classify all homogeneous 3-local representations of T_n for all $n \geq 4$. Moreover, we prove that they are all reducible to the degree n . In addition, we completely study the irreducibility of the first two types in the case $n = 4$.

3.1. Classification of the 3-local representations of T_n

We start by classifying all homogeneous 3-local representations of T_n for all $n \geq 4$.

Theorem 3.1. Consider $n \geq 4$ and let $\tau : T_n \rightarrow \text{GL}_{n+1}(\mathbb{C})$ be a homogeneous 3-local representation of T_n . Then, τ is equivalent to one of the following eleven representations τ_j , $1 \leq j \leq 11$, where

$$\tau_j(s_i) = \left(\begin{array}{c|cc|c} I_{i-1} & 0 & 0 & \\ \hline 0 & M_j & 0 & \\ \hline 0 & 0 & 0 & I_{n-i-1} \end{array} \right)$$

for all $1 \leq i \leq n-1$ and the matrices M_j 's are given below.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>(1) $M_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ d & -1 & f \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix},$</p> | <p>(2) $M_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -\sqrt{1-fh} & f \\ 0 & h & \sqrt{1-fh} \end{pmatrix},$</p> |
| <p>(3) $M_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \sqrt{1-fh} & f \\ 0 & h & -\sqrt{1-fh} \end{pmatrix},$</p> | <p>(4) $M_4 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & b & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & h & 1 \end{pmatrix},$</p> |
| <p>(5) $M_5 = \begin{pmatrix} -\sqrt{1-bd} & b & 0 \\ d & \sqrt{1-bd} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix},$</p> | <p>(6) $M_6 = \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{1-bd} & b & 0 \\ d & -\sqrt{1-bd} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix},$</p> |
| <p>(7) $M_7 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}.$</p> | <p>(8) $M_8 = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$</p> |

$$(9) M_9 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

$$(10) M_{10} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

$$(11) M_{11} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Here, $b, d, f, h, \in \mathbb{C}$.

Proof. Set

$$\tau(s_i) = \left(\begin{array}{c|c|c} I_{i-1} & 0 & 0 \\ \hline 0 & M & 0 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & I_{n-i-1} \end{array} \right)$$

for all $1 \leq i \leq n - 1$, where

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} a & b & c \\ d & e & f \\ g & h & i \end{pmatrix}$$

with $a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i \in \mathbb{C}$. Note that τ preserves the relations of T_n , that is

$$\begin{aligned} \tau(s_i)^2 &= 1, & i &= 1, 2, \dots, n - 1, \\ \tau(s_i)\tau(s_j) &= \tau(s_j)\tau(s_i), & |i - j| &\geq 2. \end{aligned}$$

Remark that the only relations we need are: $\tau(s_1)^2 = 1$ and $\tau(s_1)\tau(s_3) = \tau(s_3)\tau(s_1)$ and all other relations give similar results. Applying these two relations gives a system of twenty four equations with nine unknowns. Two of these equations imply directly that $c = g = 0$. The following is the new system of equations after substituting c and g by 0.

	$eh + hi = 0,$	(3.8)
$-1 + a^2 + bd = 0,$	(3.1)	
$ab + be = 0,$	(3.2)	$-1 + fh + i^2 = 0,$
$bf = 0,$	(3.3)	(3.9)
$ad + de = 0,$	(3.4)	$-f + af = 0,$
$-1 + bd + e^2 + fh = 0,$	(3.5)	(3.10)
$ef + fi = 0,$	(3.6)	$h - ah = 0,$
$dh = 0,$	(3.7)	(3.11)
		$-b + bi = 0,$
		(3.12)
		$d - di = 0.$
		(3.13)

Equation (3.3) implies that $b = 0$ or $f = 0$ which leads to the following cases.

(a) The case $b = 0$. In this case, we have from Equations (3.1), (3.5), and (3.9) that $a^2 = 1$ and $e^2 = i^2 = 1 - fh$. We then consider the following subcases.

(i) If $h = 0$ then we get $a^2 = e^2 = i^2 = 1$ and so we have the following.

- If $a = 1, e = 1,$ and $i = 1$ then we get from Equations (3.4) and (3.6) that $d = f = 0$ and so τ is equivalent to τ_9 .
- If $a = 1, e = -1,$ and $i = 1$ then τ is equivalent to τ_1 .
- If $a = 1, e = -1,$ and $i = -1$ then we get from Equations (3.6) and (3.13) that $d = f = 0$ and so τ is equivalent to τ_7 .

- If $a = 1, e = 1$, and $i = -1$ then we get from Equation (3.13) that $d = 0$ and so τ is equivalent to a special case of τ_3 .
 - If $a = -1, e = 1$, and $i = 1$ then we get from Equation (3.10) that $f = 0$ and so τ is equivalent to a special case of τ_5 .
 - If $a = -1, e = -1$, and $i = 1$ then we get from Equations (3.4) and (3.10) that $d = f = 0$ and so τ is equivalent to τ_8 .
 - If $a = -1, e = -1$, and $i = -1$ then we get from Equations (3.10) and (3.13) that $d = f = 0$ and so τ is equivalent to τ_{10} .
 - If $a = -1, e = 1$, and $i = -1$ then we get from Equations (3.10) and (3.13) that $d = f = 0$ and so τ is equivalent to τ_{11} .
- (ii) If $h \neq 0$ then we get from Equations (3.7), (3.8), and (3.11) that $d = 0$, $e = -i$, and $a = 1$ and so τ is equivalent to special cases of τ_2 or τ_3 .
- (b) The case $f = 0$. In this case, we have from Equations (3.1), (3.5), and (3.9) that $a^2 = e^2 = 1 - bd$ and $i^2 = 1$. We then consider the following subcases.
- (i) If $d = 0$ then we get $a^2 = e^2 = i^2 = 1$ and so we have the following.
- If $a = 1, e = 1$, and $i = 1$ then we get from Equations (3.2) and (3.8) that $b = h = 0$ and so τ is equivalent to τ_9 .
 - If $a = 1, e = -1$, and $i = 1$ then τ is equivalent to τ_4 .
 - If $a = 1, e = -1$, and $i = -1$ then we get from Equations (3.8) and (3.12) that $b = h = 0$ and so τ is equivalent to τ_7 .
 - If $a = 1, e = 1$, and $i = -1$ then we get from Equation (3.2) that $b = 0$ and so τ is equivalent to a special case of τ_3 .
 - If $a = -1, e = 1$, and $i = 1$ then we get from Equation (3.8) that $h = 0$ and so τ is equivalent to a special case of τ_5 .
 - If $a = -1, e = -1$, and $i = 1$ then we get from Equations (3.2) and (3.11) that $b = h = 0$ and so τ is equivalent to τ_8 .
 - If $a = -1, e = -1$, and $i = -1$ then we get from Equations (3.2) and (3.8) that $b = h = 0$ and so τ is equivalent to τ_{10} .
 - If $a = -1, e = 1$, and $i = -1$ then we get from Equations (3.11) and (3.12) that $b = h = 0$ and so τ is equivalent to τ_{11} .
- (ii) If $d \neq 0$ then we get from Equations (3.4), (3.7), and (3.13) that $h = 0$, $a = -e$, and $i = 1$ and so τ is equivalent to special cases of τ_5 or τ_6 .

□

3.2. On the irreducibility of the 3-local representations of T_n

In this subsection, we prove that every homogeneous 3-local representation of T_n is reducible for all $n \geq 4$.

Theorem 3.2. Consider $n \geq 4$ and let $\tau : T_n \rightarrow \text{GL}_{n+1}(\mathbb{C})$ be a homogeneous 3-local representation of T_n . Then, τ is reducible.

Proof. According to Theorem 3.1, we know that τ is equivalent to one of the representations $\tau_j, 1 \leq j \leq 11$, and so we consider the following cases.

(1) In the case τ is equivalent to τ_1 we have two subcases.

- If $f \neq 0$ then we see that the vector $(1, x, x^2, \dots, x^n)^T$, where $x = \frac{1 - \sqrt{1 - df}}{f}$ and T is the transpose, is invariant under $\tau_1(s_i)$ for all $1 \leq i \leq n - 1$. Thus, τ_1 is reducible and so τ is reducible.

- If $f = 0$ then we see that the vector $(0, \dots, 0, 1)^T$ is invariant under $\tau_1(s_i)$ for all $1 \leq i \leq n - 1$. Thus, τ_1 is reducible and so τ is reducible.

- (2) In the case τ is equivalent to $\tau_j, 2 \leq j \leq 4$, we see that the vector $(1, 0, \dots, 0)^T$ is invariant under $\tau_j(s_i)$ for all $1 \leq i \leq n - 1$. Thus, τ_j is reducible and so τ is reducible.
- (3) In the case τ is equivalent to $\tau_j, 5 \leq j \leq 6$, we see that the vector $(0, \dots, 0, 1)^T$ is invariant under $\tau_j(s_i)$ for all $1 \leq i \leq n - 1$. Thus, τ_j is reducible and so τ is reducible.
- (4) If τ is equivalent to $\tau_j, 7 \leq j \leq 11$, then clearly τ is reducible.

□

Notice that, from the shapes of the representations $\tau_j, 1 \leq j \leq 11$, we can see that many representations share similar shapes. So, in the next two subsections, we completely study the irreducibility of the first two representations τ_1 and τ_2 in the case $n = 4$, and the work would be similar for the remaining representations.

3.3. The irreducibility of τ_1 in the case $n = 4$

In this subsection, we answer the question of the irreducibility of the representation τ_1 given in Theorem 3.1 in the case $n = 4$. We take here $f \neq 0$ in τ_1 since the case $f = 0$ is straightforward. We start with the following theorem.

Theorem 3.3. Consider the representation $\tau_1 : T_4 \rightarrow \text{GL}_5(\mathbb{C})$ given in Theorem 3.1 with $f \neq 0$. Then, τ_1 has a composition factor, namely $\tau_1^{(1)} : T_4 \rightarrow \text{GL}_3(\mathbb{C})$, which is given by acting on the generators of $T_4, s_i, 1 \leq i \leq 3$, as follows.

$$\tau_1^{(1)}(s_1) = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & f & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \tau_1^{(1)}(s_2) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ d & -1 & f \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{and} \quad \tau_1^{(1)}(s_3) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & d & -1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Proof. By Theorems 3.1 and 3.2, we have seen that the vector $X = (1, x, x^2, x^3, x^4)^T$, where $x = \frac{1 - \sqrt{1 - df}}{f}$, is invariant under the matrices $\tau_1(s_i)$ for all $1 \leq i \leq 3$. Consider the new basis $\{X, e_2, e_3, e_4, e_5\}$ of \mathbb{C}^5 where e_i 's are the standard unit vectors of \mathbb{C}^5 . We can see that

$$\begin{array}{lll} \tau_1(s_1)(X) = X, & \tau_1(s_2)(X) = X, & \tau_1(s_3)(X) = X, \\ \tau_1(s_1)(e_2) = -e_2, & \tau_1(s_2)(e_2) = e_2 + (d)e_3, & \tau_1(s_3)(e_2) = e_2, \\ \tau_1(s_1)(e_3) = (f)e_2 + e_3, & \tau_1(s_2)(e_3) = -e_3, & \tau_1(s_3)(e_3) = e_3 + (d)e_4, \\ \tau_1(s_1)(e_4) = e_4, & \tau_1(s_2)(e_4) = (f)e_3 + e_4, & \tau_1(s_3)(e_4) = -e_4, \\ \tau_1(s_1)(e_5) = e_5, & \tau_1(s_2)(e_5) = e_5, & \tau_1(s_3)(e_5) = (f)e_4 + e_5. \end{array}$$

We write the representation τ_1 on the new basis $\{X, e_2, e_3, e_4, e_5\}$ and we get the following.

$$\tau_1(s_1) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & f & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \tau_1(s_2) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & d & -1 & f & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{and} \quad \tau_1(s_3) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & d & -1 & f \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

By removing the first row and first column, as well as the last row and last column, in each of the matrices above, we obtain the desired result. This reduction is justified by the fact that the subspace spanned by $\{X, e_2, e_3, e_4\}$ is invariant under the group action; indeed, in the new basis, the generators have fifth row $(0, 0, 0, 0, 1)$, which allows us to restrict to a 4-dimensional invariant subspace prior to quotienting out the invariant vector X . □

Now we study the irreducibility of the representation $\tau_1^{(1)} : T_4 \rightarrow \text{GL}_3(\mathbb{C})$.

Theorem 3.4. Consider the representation $\tau_1^{(1)} : T_4 \rightarrow \text{GL}_3(\mathbb{C})$ given in Theorem 3.3. We have the following two cases:

- (1) If $d = 0$, then $\tau_1^{(1)}$ is reducible.
- (2) If $d \neq 0$, then $\tau_1^{(1)}$ is irreducible if and only if $d \neq \frac{2}{f}$.

Proof. Recall that the representation $\tau_1^{(1)} : T_4 \rightarrow \text{GL}_3(\mathbb{C})$ is given by acting on the generators of T_4 , $s_i, 1 \leq i \leq 3$, as follows.

$$\tau_1^{(1)}(s_1) = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & f & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \tau_1^{(1)}(s_2) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ d & -1 & f \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{and } \tau_1^{(1)}(s_3) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & d & -1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

We consider each case separately in the following.

- (1) If $d = 0$ then we clearly see that $(1, 0, 0)^T$ is invariant under $\tau_1^{(1)}(s_i)$ for all $1 \leq i \leq 3$ and so $\tau_1^{(1)}$ is reducible.
- (2) Suppose that $d \neq 0$. For the necessary condition, if $d = \frac{2}{f}$, then direct computations implies that the vector $(\frac{f}{2}, 1, \frac{1}{f})^T$ is invariant under $\tau_1^{(1)}(s_i)$ for all $1 \leq i \leq 3$ and so we get that $\tau_1^{(1)}$ is reducible. Now, for the sufficient condition, suppose that $d \neq \frac{2}{f}$, and assume to get a contradiction that $\tau_1^{(1)}$ is reducible. Let U be a nontrivial invariant subspace of \mathbb{C}^3 and let $u = (u_1, u_2, u_3)^T \in U$ be a nonzero element. Then, we have the following.

$$\begin{aligned} v_1 &= \tau_1^{(1)}(s_1)(u) - u = (-2u_1 + fu_2)e_1 \in U, \\ v_2 &= \tau_1^{(1)}(s_2)(v_1) - v_1 = d(-2u_1 + fu_2)e_2 \in U, \\ v_3 &= \tau_1^{(1)}(s_3)(v_2) - v_2 = d^2(-2u_1 + fu_2)e_3 \in U. \end{aligned}$$

As $d \neq 0$, we obtain that $-2u_1 + fu_2 = 0$ since otherwise we get that $e_1, e_2, e_3 \in U$, which is a contradiction as U is nontrivial. So, $u_1 = \frac{f}{2}u_2$ and so $u = (\frac{f}{2}u_2, u_2, u_3)^T$. Similarly, we also have the following.

$$\begin{aligned} w_1 &= \tau_1^{(1)}(s_3)(u) - u = (du_2 - 2u_3)e_3 \in U, \\ w_2 &= \tau_1^{(1)}(s_2)(w_1) - w_1 = f(du_2 - 2u_3)e_2 \in U, \\ w_3 &= \tau_1^{(1)}(s_1)(w_2) - w_2 = f^2(du_2 - 2u_3)e_1 \in U. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, as $f \neq 0$ and U is nontrivial, we get that $du_2 - 2u_3 = 0$. So, $u_3 = \frac{d}{2}u_2$, which gives that $u = (\frac{f}{2}u_2, u_2, \frac{d}{2}u_2)^T$. Therefore, as u is a nonzero element in U , we conclude that

$$U = \langle z = \left(\frac{f}{2}, 1, \frac{d}{2} \right)^T \rangle.$$

Now, we have that $\tau_1^{(1)}(s_1)(z) - z = (-2 + df)e_2 \in U$ with $-2 + df \neq 0$ by our suggestion, which implies that $e_2 \in U$, and so we have e_2 is a multiples of z , a clear contradiction as $f \neq 0$ and $d \neq 0$. Hence, $\tau_1^{(1)}$ is irreducible in this case, as required.

□

3.4. The irreducibility of τ_2 in the case $n = 4$

In this subsection, we answer the question of the irreducibility of the representation τ_2 given in Theorem 3.1 in the case $n = 4$. We start with the following theorem.

Theorem 3.5. Consider the representation $\tau_2 : T_4 \rightarrow \text{GL}_5(\mathbb{C})$ given in Theorem 3.1. Then, τ_2 has a composition factor, namely $\tau_2^{(1)} : T_4 \rightarrow \text{GL}_4(\mathbb{C})$, which is given by acting on the generators of T_4 , $s_i, 1 \leq i \leq 3$, as follows.

$$\tau_2^{(1)}(s_i) = \left(\begin{array}{c|cc|c} I_{i-1} & & 0 & 0 \\ \hline 0 & -\sqrt{1-fh} & f & 0 \\ & h & \sqrt{1-fh} & \\ \hline 0 & & 0 & I_{3-i} \end{array} \right).$$

Proof. By Theorems 3.1 and 3.2, we have seen that the vector $(1, 0, \dots, 0)^T$ is invariant under the matrices $\tau_2(s_i)$ for all $1 \leq i \leq 3$. So, eliminating the first row and the first column of each of the matrices $\tau_2(s_i)$ gives the required result. \square

Theorem 3.6. The representation $\tau_2^{(1)} : T_4 \rightarrow \text{GL}_4(\mathbb{C})$ given in Theorem 3.5 is reducible. Moreover, we have the following.

- If $f = 0$, then the composition factor of $\tau_2^{(1)}$, namely $\tau_2^{(2)} : T_4 \rightarrow \text{GL}_3(\mathbb{C})$, is the mapping that takes every generator to a lower triangular matrix.
- If $f \neq 0$, then the composition factor of $\tau_2^{(1)}$ namely, $\tau_2^{(2)} : T_4 \rightarrow \text{GL}_3(\mathbb{C})$, is given by acting on the generators $s_i, 1 \leq i \leq 3$, as follows.

$$\tau_2^{(2)}(s_1) = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ -\frac{(\sqrt{1-fh}+1)^2}{f} & 1 & 0 \\ -\frac{(\sqrt{1-fh}+1)^3}{f^2} & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \tau_2^{(2)}(s_2) = \begin{pmatrix} -\sqrt{1-fh} & f & 0 \\ h & \sqrt{1-fh} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$

and

$$\tau_2^{(2)}(s_3) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -\sqrt{1-fh} & f \\ 0 & h & \sqrt{1-fh} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Proof. We consider two cases in the following.

- If $f = 0$, then clearly we can see that the vector $(1, 0, 0, 0)^T$ is invariant under $\tau_2^{(1)}(s_i)$ for all $1 \leq i \leq 3$. Thus, $\tau_2^{(1)}$ is reducible. Now, eliminating the first row and the first column implies that the composition factor of $\tau_2^{(1)}$, namely $\tau_2^{(2)} : T_4 \rightarrow \text{GL}_3(\mathbb{C})$, is the mapping that takes every generator to a lower triangular matrix.
- Suppose that $f \neq 0$. We can see that the vector $X = (1, x, x^2, x^3)^T$, where $x = \frac{1+\sqrt{1-fh}}{f}$, is invariant under $\tau_2^{(1)}(s_i)$ for all $1 \leq i \leq 3$. Thus, $\tau_2^{(1)}$ is reducible. Now, consider the new basis $\{X, e_2, e_3, e_4\}$ of \mathbb{C}^4 where e_i 's are the standard unit vectors of \mathbb{C}^4 . We can see that there is inconsistency in the shape of the action of tau's to the basis.

$$\begin{aligned} \tau_2^{(1)}(s_1)(X) &= X, \\ \tau_2^{(1)}(s_1)(e_2) &= (f)e_1 + (\sqrt{1-fh})e_2 \\ &= f(X - (x)e_2 - (x^2)e_3 - (x^3)e_4) + (\sqrt{1-fh})e_2 \\ &= (f)X + (\sqrt{1-fh} - fx)e_2 - (x^2f)e_3 - (x^3f)e_4 \\ &= (f)X - e_2 - \left(\frac{(\sqrt{1-fh}+1)^2}{f}\right)e_3 - \left(\frac{(\sqrt{1-fh}+1)^3}{f^2}\right)e_4, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \tau_2^{(1)}(s_1)(e_3) &= e_3, & \tau_2^{(1)}(s_2)(e_4) &= e_4, \tau_2^{(1)}(s_3)(X) = X, \\
 \tau_2^{(1)}(s_1)(e_4) &= e_4, \tau_2^{(1)}(s_2)(X) = X, & \tau_2^{(1)}(s_3)(e_2) &= e_2, \\
 \tau_2^{(1)}(s_2)(e_2) &= (-\sqrt{1-fh})e_2 + (h)e_3, & \tau_2^{(1)}(s_3)(e_3) &= -(\sqrt{1-fh})e_3 + (h)e_4, \\
 \tau_2^{(1)}(s_2)(e_3) &= (f)e_2 + (\sqrt{1-fh})e_3, & \tau_2^{(1)}(s_3)(e_4) &= (f)e_3 + (\sqrt{1-fh})e_4.
 \end{aligned}$$

Writing $\tau_2^{(1)}$ in the new basis $\{X, e_2, e_3, e_4\}$ of \mathbb{C}^4 and eliminating the first row and the first column gives our required result for $\tau_2^{(2)}$. □

Now we find necessary and sufficient conditions for the representation $\tau_2^{(2)} : T_4 \rightarrow \text{GL}_3(\mathbb{C})$, in the case $f \neq 0$, to be irreducible. The case $f = 0$ is straightforward.

Theorem 3.7. *Consider the representation $\tau_2^{(2)} : T_4 \rightarrow \text{GL}_3(\mathbb{C})$ given in Theorem 3.6 with $f \neq 0$. Then, $\tau_2^{(2)}$ is irreducible if and only if $h \neq 0$.*

Proof. For the necessary condition, if $h = 0$ then we can see that the vector $(1, \frac{2}{f}, \frac{4}{f^2})^T$ is invariant under $\tau_2^{(2)}(s_i)$ for all $1 \leq i \leq 3$, and so $\tau_2^{(2)}$ is reducible. Now, for the sufficient condition, we have $h \neq 0$. Assume to get a contradiction that $\tau_2^{(2)}$ is reducible and let U be a nontrivial subspace of \mathbb{C}^3 which is invariant under $\tau_2^{(2)}$. Then, the dimension of U is 1 or 2. We consider each case separately.

- (1) The case $\dim(U) = 1$. In this case, set $U = \langle u \rangle$ where $u = \alpha_1 e_1 + \alpha_2 e_2 + \alpha_3 e_3$, where e_i 's are the standard unit vectors of \mathbb{C}^3 . We have the following

$$\tau_2^{(2)}(s_2)(u) = \left(-(\sqrt{1-fh})\alpha_1 + f\alpha_2, h\alpha_1 + (\sqrt{1-fh})\alpha_2, \alpha_3 \right)^T \in U,$$

which implies that there exists a scalar β such that

$$\left(-(\sqrt{1-fh})\alpha_1 + f\alpha_2, h\alpha_1 + (\sqrt{1-fh})\alpha_2, \alpha_3 \right)^T = \beta u = \beta(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3).$$

This means that $\beta = 1$ and so we get the following two equations.

$$-(\sqrt{1-fh})\alpha_1 + f\alpha_2 = \alpha_1, \tag{3.14}$$

$$h\alpha_1 + (\sqrt{1-fh})\alpha_2 = \alpha_2. \tag{3.15}$$

Doing the same work for $\tau_2^{(2)}(s_3)$ instead of $\tau_2^{(2)}(s_2)$ gives the following two additional equations.

$$-(\sqrt{1-fh})\alpha_2 + f\alpha_3 = \alpha_2, \tag{3.16}$$

$$h\alpha_2 + (\sqrt{1-fh})\alpha_3 = \alpha_3. \tag{3.17}$$

This gives that

$$\alpha_2 = \frac{1 + \sqrt{1-fh}}{f} \alpha_1$$

and

$$\alpha_3 = \left(\frac{1 + \sqrt{1-fh}}{f} \right)^2 \alpha_1,$$

and so we have that

$$u = \left(1, \frac{1 + \sqrt{1-fh}}{f}, \left(\frac{1 + \sqrt{1-fh}}{f} \right)^2 \right).$$

Now, we have

$$\tau_2^{(2)}(s_1)(u) = - \left(1, \frac{1 - fh + \sqrt{1 - fh}}{f}, (\sqrt{1 - fh}) \frac{1 + \sqrt{1 - fh}}{f^2} \right)^T \in U,$$

which implies that there exists a scalar ξ such that

$$- \left(1, \frac{1 - fh + \sqrt{1 - fh}}{f}, (\sqrt{1 - fh}) \frac{1 + \sqrt{1 - fh}}{f^2} \right)^T = \xi u.$$

This implies that $\xi = -1$ and so we get that

$$\frac{1 + \sqrt{1 - fh}}{f} = \frac{1 - fh + \sqrt{1 - fh}}{f},$$

which gives that $fh = 0$, a contradiction since both f and h are nonzero.

(2) The case $\dim(U) = 2$. In this case, set $U = \langle u, v \rangle$ where $u = u_1e_1 + u_2e_2 + u_3e_3$ and $v = v_1e_1 + v_2e_2 + v_3e_3$. We consider here two subcases.

- If $u_1 = v_1 = 0$, then we have $\tau_2^{(2)}(s_2)(u) = (fu_2)e_1 + (\sqrt{1 - fh})(u_3)e_2 + u_3 \in U$. But $f \neq 0$, which implies that $u_2 = 0$. In a similar way we can see that that $v_2 = 0$. So we get that both vectors u and v are multiple of e_3 , and so they are linearly dependent, a contradiction.
- Suppose, without loss of generality, that $u_1 \neq 0$. Then, we have the following.

$$W_1 = \frac{1}{u_1} \left(\tau_2^{(2)}(s_1)(u) - u \right) = - \left(2, \frac{(\sqrt{1 - fh} + 1)^2}{f}, \frac{(\sqrt{1 - fh} + 1)^3}{f^2} \right)^T \in U$$

and so

$$W_2 = \frac{1}{fh} \left(\tau_2^{(2)}(s_2)(W_1) - W_1 \right) = \left(1, \frac{\sqrt{1 - fh} - 1}{f}, 0 \right)^T \in U$$

and then

$$W_3 = \frac{1}{h} \left(\tau_2^{(2)}(s_3)(W_2) - W_2 \right) = \left(0, 1, \frac{\sqrt{1 - fh} - 1}{f} \right)^T \in U.$$

Now, elementary linear algebra gives that W_1, W_2 , and W_3 are three linearly independent vectors in U which is of dimension 2, a contradiction.

Therefore, $\tau_2^{(2)}$ is irreducible in this case and the proof is completed. □

4. On the 3-local representations of VT_n and WT_n

In this section, we classify all homogeneous 3-local representations of VT_n and WT_n for all $n \geq 4$. Moreover, we study the irreducibility and faithfulness of these representations in most cases.

4.1. Classification of the 3 local representations of VT_n and WT_n

We start by classifying all homogeneous 3-local representations of VT_n for all $n \geq 4$.

Theorem 4.1. Consider $n \geq 4$ and let $\delta : VT_n \rightarrow \text{GL}_{n+1}(\mathbb{C})$ be a homogeneous 3-local representation of VT_n . Then, δ is equivalent to one of the following fourteen representations $\delta_j, 1 \leq j \leq 14$, where

$$\delta_j(s_i) = \left(\begin{array}{c|c|c} I_{i-1} & 0 & 0 \\ \hline 0 & M_j & 0 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & I_{n-i-1} \end{array} \right) \text{ and } \delta_j(\rho_i) = \left(\begin{array}{c|c|c} I_{i-1} & 0 & 0 \\ \hline 0 & N_j & 0 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & I_{n-i-1} \end{array} \right)$$

for all $1 \leq i \leq n - 1$, and the matrices M_j 's and N_j 's are given below.

$$(1) M_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & e & \frac{1-e^2}{h} \\ 0 & h & -e \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } N_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & p \\ 0 & \frac{1}{p} & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ where } e \in \mathbb{C}, h, p \in \mathbb{C}^*.$$

$$(2) M_2 = \begin{pmatrix} -e & \frac{1-e^2}{d} & 0 \\ d & e & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } N_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & k & 0 \\ \frac{1}{k} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ where } e \in \mathbb{C}, d, k \in \mathbb{C}^*.$$

$$(3) M_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ d & -1 & 2p - dp^2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } N_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{p} & -1 & p \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ where } d \in \mathbb{C}, p \in \mathbb{C}^*.$$

$$(4) M_4 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2k - hk^2 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & h & 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } N_4 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & k & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{k} & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ where } h \in \mathbb{C}, k \in \mathbb{C}^*.$$

$$(5) M_5 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & b & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } N_5 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & k & 0 \\ \frac{1}{k} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ where } b \in \mathbb{C}, k \in \mathbb{C}^*.$$

$$(6) M_6 = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & b & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } N_6 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & k & 0 \\ \frac{1}{k} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ where } b \in \mathbb{C}, k \in \mathbb{C}^*.$$

$$(7) M_7 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } N_7 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{p} & 0 & p \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ where } p \in \mathbb{C}^*.$$

$$(8) M_8 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } N_8 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & k & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{k} & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ where } k \in \mathbb{C}^*.$$

$$(9) M_9 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } N_9 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & p \\ 0 & \frac{1}{p} & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ where } p \in \mathbb{C}^*.$$

$$(10) M_{10} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } N_{10} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & p \\ 0 & \frac{1}{p} & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ where } p \in \mathbb{C}^*.$$

$$(11) M_{11} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } N_{11} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & p \\ 0 & \frac{1}{p} & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ where } p \in \mathbb{C}^*.$$

$$(12) M_{12} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } N_{12} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & k & 0 \\ \frac{1}{k} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ where } k \in \mathbb{C}^*.$$

$$(13) M_{13} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } N_{13} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & k & 0 \\ \frac{1}{k} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ where } k \in \mathbb{C}^*.$$

$$(14) M_{14} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } N_{14} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Proof. The proof is similar to the proof of Theorem 3.1. □

We now classify all homogeneous 3-local representations of WT_n for all $n \geq 4$.

Theorem 4.2. Consider $n \geq 4$ and let $\gamma : WT_n \rightarrow GL_{n+1}(\mathbb{C})$ be a homogeneous 3-local representation of WT_n . Then, γ is equivalent to one of the following five representations γ_j , $1 \leq j \leq 5$, where

$$\gamma_j(s_i) = \left(\begin{array}{c|c|c} I_{i-1} & 0 & 0 \\ \hline 0 & M_j & 0 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & I_{n-i-1} \end{array} \right) \text{ and } \gamma_j(\rho_i) = \left(\begin{array}{c|c|c} I_{i-1} & 0 & 0 \\ \hline 0 & N_j & 0 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & I_{n-i-1} \end{array} \right)$$

for all $1 \leq i \leq n - 1$, and the matrices M_j 's and N_j 's are given below.

$$(1) M_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{h} \\ 0 & h & 0 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } N_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & p \\ 0 & \frac{1}{p} & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ where } h, p \in \mathbb{C}^*.$$

$$(2) M_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \frac{1}{d} & 0 \\ d & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } N_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & k & 0 \\ \frac{1}{k} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ where } d, k \in \mathbb{C}^*.$$

$$(3) M_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{p} & -1 & p \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } N_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{p} & -1 & p \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ where } p \in \mathbb{C}^*.$$

$$(4) M_4 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & k & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{k} & 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } N_4 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & k & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{k} & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ where } k \in \mathbb{C}^*.$$

$$(5) M_5 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } N_5 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Proof. The proof is similar to the proof of Theorem 3.1. □

4.2. On the irreducibility of the 3-local representations of VT_n and WT_n

In this subsection, we prove that every homogeneous 3-local representation of VT_n or WT_n is reducible for all $n \geq 4$. We start by the following theorem regarding the group VT_n .

Theorem 4.3. Consider $n \geq 4$ and let $\delta : VT_n \rightarrow GL_{n+1}(\mathbb{C})$ be a homogeneous 3-local representation of VT_n . Then, δ is reducible.

Proof. According to Theorem 4.1, we know that δ is equivalent to one of the representations δ_j , $1 \leq j \leq 14$, and so we consider the following cases.

- (1) In the case δ is equivalent to δ_j , $j = 1, 4, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14$, we can see that the vector $(1, 0, \dots, 0)^T$ is invariant under $\delta_j(s_i)$ and $\delta_j(\rho_i)$ for all $1 \leq i \leq n - 1$. Thus, δ_j is reducible and so δ is reducible.
- (2) In the case δ is equivalent to δ_j , $j = 2, 5, 6, 13$, we can see that the vector $(0, \dots, 0, 1)^T$ is invariant under $\delta_j(s_i)$ and $\delta_j(\rho_i)$ for all $1 \leq i \leq n - 1$. Thus, δ_j is reducible and so δ is reducible.

- (3) In the case δ is equivalent to $\delta_j, j = 3, 7$, we can see that $(1, 0, \dots, 0) \cdot \delta_j(s_i) = (1, 0, \dots, 0)$ and $(1, 0, \dots, 0) \cdot \delta_j(\rho_i) = (1, 0, \dots, 0)$ for all $1 \leq i \leq n - 1$. Thus, δ_j is reducible and so δ is reducible.

□

Now, the next theorem is regarding the irreducibility of homogeneous 3-local representations of WT_n for all $n \geq 4$.

Theorem 4.4. Consider $n \geq 4$ and let $\gamma : WT_n \rightarrow GL_{n+1}(\mathbb{C})$ be a homogeneous 3-local representation of VT_n . Then, γ is reducible.

Proof. The proof is similar to that of Theorem 4.3.

□

4.3. On the faithfulness of the 3-local representations of VT_n and WT_n

In this subsection, we study the faithfulness of all homogeneous 3-local representations of VT_n and WT_n for all $n \geq 4$. We start by the following theorem regarding the group VT_n .

Theorem 4.5. Consider $n \geq 4$ and let $\delta : VT_n \rightarrow GL_{n+1}(\mathbb{C})$ be a homogeneous 3-local representation of VT_n . By Theorem 4.1, δ is equivalent to one of the representations $\delta_j, 1 \leq j \leq 14$. The following hold true.

- (1) If δ is equivalent to δ_1 , then δ is unfaithful if $e = 1$.
- (2) If δ is equivalent to δ_2 , then δ is unfaithful if $e = 1$.
- (3) If δ is equivalent to δ_3 , then δ is unfaithful if $d = \frac{1}{p}$.
- (4) If δ is equivalent to δ_4 , then δ is unfaithful if $h = \frac{1}{k}$.
- (5) If δ is equivalent to $\delta_j, 5 \leq j \leq 14$, then δ is unfaithful.

Proof. We consider each case separately.

- (1) In the case δ is equivalent to δ_1 and $e = 1$, we have $\delta_1((s_i \rho_{i+1})^4) = I_{n+1}$ for all $1 \leq i \leq n - 2$ with $(s_i \rho_{i+1})^4$ are nontrivial elements in VT_n . Hence, δ_1 is unfaithful and so δ is unfaithful.
- (2) In the case δ is equivalent to δ_2 and $e = 1$, we have $\delta_2((s_{i+1} \rho_i)^4) = I_{n+1}$ for all $1 \leq i \leq n - 2$ with $(s_{i+1} \rho_i)^4$ are nontrivial elements in VT_n . Hence, δ_2 is unfaithful and so δ is unfaithful.
- (3) In the case δ is equivalent to δ_3 and $d = \frac{1}{p}$, we have $\delta_3(s_i) = \delta_3(\rho_i)$ for all $1 \leq i \leq n - 1$ with $s_i \neq \rho_i$. Hence, δ_3 is unfaithful and so δ is unfaithful.
- (4) In the case δ is equivalent to δ_4 and $h = \frac{1}{k}$, we have $\delta_4(s_i) = \delta_4(\rho_i)$ for all $1 \leq i \leq n - 1$ with $s_i \neq \rho_i$. Hence, δ_4 is unfaithful and so δ is unfaithful.
- (5) In the case δ is equivalent to $\delta_j, 5 \leq j \leq 14$, we consider the following subcases.
 - If δ is equivalent to δ_5 then we have $\delta_5((s_i \rho_{i+1})^4) = I_{n+1}$ for all $1 \leq i \leq n - 2$ with $(s_i \rho_{i+1})^4$ are nontrivial elements in VT_n . Hence, δ_5 is unfaithful and so δ is unfaithful.
 - If δ is equivalent to δ_6 then we have $\delta_6((s_{i+1} \rho_i)^4) = I_{n+1}$ for all $1 \leq i \leq n - 2$ with $(s_{i+1} \rho_i)^4$ are nontrivial elements in VT_n . Hence, δ_6 is unfaithful and so δ is unfaithful.
 - If δ is equivalent to δ_7 then we have $\delta_7(s_i) = I_{n+1}$ for all $1 \leq i \leq n - 1$. Hence, δ_7 is unfaithful and so δ is unfaithful.
 - If δ is equivalent to δ_8 then we have $\delta_8(s_i) = I_{n+1}$ for all $1 \leq i \leq n - 1$. Hence, δ_8 is unfaithful and so δ is unfaithful.
 - If δ is equivalent to δ_9 then we have $\delta_9((s_i s_{i+1})^2) = I_{n+1}$ for all $1 \leq i \leq n - 2$ with $(s_i s_{i+1})^2$ are nontrivial elements in VT_n . Hence, δ_9 is unfaithful and so δ is unfaithful.
 - If δ is equivalent to δ_{10} then we have $\delta_{10}((s_i s_{i+1})^2) = I_{n+1}$ for all $1 \leq i \leq n - 2$ with $(s_i s_{i+1})^2$ are nontrivial elements in VT_n . Hence, δ_{10} is unfaithful and so δ is unfaithful.
 - If δ is equivalent to δ_{11} then we have $\delta_{11}(s_i) = I_{n+1}$ for all $1 \leq i \leq n - 1$. Hence, δ_{11} is unfaithful and so δ is unfaithful.

- If δ is equivalent to δ_{12} then we have $\delta_{12}((s_i s_{i+1})^2) = I_{n+1}$ for all $1 \leq i \leq n-2$ with $(s_i s_{i+1})^2$ are nontrivial elements in VT_n . Hence, δ_{12} is unfaithful and so δ is unfaithful.
- If δ is equivalent to δ_{13} then we have $\delta_{13}(s_i) = I_{n+1}$ for all $1 \leq i \leq n-1$. Hence, δ_{13} is unfaithful and so δ is unfaithful.
- If δ is equivalent to δ_{14} then we have $\delta_{14}(s_i) = I_{n+1}$ for all $1 \leq i \leq n-1$. Hence, δ_{14} is unfaithful and so δ is unfaithful.

Now, we study the faithfulness of all homogeneous 3-local representations of WT_n for all $n \geq 4$. □

Theorem 4.6. Consider $n \geq 4$ and let $\gamma : WT_n \rightarrow GL_{n+1}(\mathbb{C})$ be a homogeneous 3-local representation of WT_n . Then, γ is unfaithful.

Proof. By Theorem 4.2, γ is equivalent to one of the representations γ_j , $1 \leq j \leq 5$. We consider each case separately.

- (1) In the case γ is equivalent to γ_j , $j = 1, 2$, we have $\gamma_j(s_i s_{i+1} s_i) = I_{n+1}$ for all $1 \leq i \leq n-2$ with $s_i s_{i+1} s_i$ are nontrivial elements in WT_n . Hence, γ_j is unfaithful and so γ is unfaithful.
- (2) In the case γ is equivalent to γ_j , $3 \leq j \leq 5$, we have $\gamma_j(s_i) = \gamma_j(\rho_i)$ for all $1 \leq i \leq n-1$ with $s_i \neq \rho_i$. Hence, γ_j is unfaithful and so γ is unfaithful. □

References

- [1] E. Artin, *Theorie der zöpfe*, Abhandlungen Hamburg, 4, 47-72, (1926). 2, 2.1
- [2] V. Bardakov and P. Bellingeri, *On representation of braids as automorphisms of free groups and corresponding linear representations*, Knot Theory and Its Applications, Contemp. Math., Amer. Math. Soc., Providence, 670, (2016), 285-298. 1, 2, 2.8
- [3] V. Bardakov, M. Singh, and A. Vesnin, *Structural aspects of twin and pure twin groups*, Geometriae Dedicata, 203, (2019), 135-154. 1, 2, 2.3, 2, 2.4
- [4] P. Bellingeri, H. Chemin, and V. Lebed, *Cactus groups, twin groups, and right-angled Artin groups*, J. Algebr. Comb., 59, (2024), 153–178. 1
- [5] W. Burau, *Braids, uber zopfgruppen und gleichsinnig verdrehte verkettungen*, Abh. Math. Semin. Hamburg Univ, 11, (1936), 179-186. 1, 2, 2.7
- [6] M. Chreif and M. Dally, *On the irreducibility of local representations of the braid group B_n* , Arab. J. Math., 13, (2024), 263–273. 1
- [7] E. Formanek, *Braid group representations of low degree*, Proc. London Math Soc., 73 (3), (1996), 279-322. 2
- [8] V. Keshari, M. Nasser, and M. Prabhakar, *On representations of the multi-virtual braid group $M_k V B_n$ and the multi-welded braid group $M_k W B_n$* , (2025), arXiv:2508.04168. 1
- [9] M. Khovanov, *Real $K(\pi, 1)$ arrangements from finite root systems*, Math. Res. Lett., 3, (1996), 261-274. 1
- [10] M. Khovanov, *Doodle groups*, Trans. Amer. Math. Soc., 349, (1997), 2297-2315. 1
- [11] R. Lawrence, *Homological representations of the Hecke algebra*, Comm. Math. Phys., 135 (1), (1990), 141–191. 1
- [12] T. Mayassi and M. Nasser, *Classification of homogeneous local representations of the singular braid monoid*, Arab. J. of Math., (2025). 1
- [13] T. Mayassi and M. Nasser, *On the classification and irreducibility of 2-local representations of the twin group T_n* , (2025), arXiv:2508.14505. 1, 2
- [14] A. Merkov, *Vassiliev invariants classify flat braids*, Differential and symplectic topology of knots and curves, volume 190 of Amer. Math. Soc. Transl. Ser. 2, pages 83–102. Amer. Math. Soc., Providence, RI, 1999. 1
- [15] Y. Mikhalechishina, *Local representations of braid groups*, Sib. Math. J., 54 (4), (2013), 666–678. 1
- [16] J. Mostovoy and C. Roque-Márquez, *Planar pure braids on six strands*, J. Knot Theo. Rami., 29 (1), (2020), 1950097. 1
- [17] M. Nasser, *Necessary and sufficient conditions for the irreducibility of a linear representation of the braid group B_n* , Arab. J. Math., 13, (2024), 333-339. 2
- [18] M. Nasser, M. Chreif, and M. Dally, *Local representations of the flat virtual braid group*, (2025), arXiv:2503.06607. 1
- [19] M. Nasser, *Local extensions and Φ -type extensions of some local representations of the braid group B_n to the singular braid monoid SM_n* , Vietnam Journal of Mathematics, (2025) 1-12. 2
- [20] M. Nasser, *Twin groups representations*, (2025), arXiv:2507.15005. 2, 2.9, 2.10
- [21] T. Naik, N. Nanda, and M. Singh, *Some remarks on twin groups*, J. Knot Theo. Rami., 29 (10), (2020), 2042006. 1
- [22] G. Shabat and V. Voevodsky, *Drawing curves over number fields*, The Grothendieck Festschrift, Vol. III, 199-227, Progr. Math., 88, Birkhuser Boston, Boston, MA, 1990. 1, 2, 2.2
- [23] D. Tong, S. Yang and Z. Ma, *A new class of representations of braid groups*, Comm. Theoret. Phys., 26 (4), (1996), 483-486. 1
- [24] M. Wada, *Group invariants of links*, Topology, 31 (2), (1992), 399–406. 1