

## Codimension Growth of Solvable Lie Superalgebras

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**Abstract.** We study numerical invariants of identities of finite-dimensional solvable Lie superalgebras. We define new series of finite-dimensional solvable Lie superalgebras  $L$  with non-nilpotent derived subalgebra  $L'$  and discuss their codimension growth. For the first algebra of this series we prove the existence and integrality of  $\exp(L)$ .

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### 1. Introduction

Let  $A$  be an algebra over a field  $F$  of characteristic zero. One can define an infinite sequence  $\{c_n(A)\}$ ,  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ , of non-negative integers associated with  $A$  called *codimension sequence*. It measures the quantity of polynomial identities of  $A$ . For many classes of algebras the sequence  $\{c_n(A)\}$  is exponentially bounded. In particular, this holds for associative PI-algebras [14], [15], for finite-dimensional algebras [1], [11], for Kac-Moody Lie algebras [20], [21], and many others. In this case the sequence  $(c_n(A))^{1/n}$  has the lower and upper limits  $\underline{\exp}(A)$  and the  $\overline{\exp}(A)$  called the *lower* and *upper PI-exponents* of  $A$ , respectively. If  $\underline{\exp}(A) = \overline{\exp}(A)$  then there exists an ordinary limit called the *PI-exponent*  $\exp(A)$  of  $A$ . At the end of 1980's Amitsur conjectured that  $\exp(A)$  exists and is an integer for every associative PI-algebra  $A$ . Amitsur's conjecture was proved in [7], [8]. Later the existence and integrality of PI-exponent was proved for finite-dimensional Lie and Jordan algebras [4], [5], [6], [10], [11], [22]. On the other hand, there are infinite-dimensional solvable Lie algebras with fractional PI-exponents [2], [18], [24].

None of these results can be generalized to Lie superalgebras. There is an infinite series of finite-dimensional superalgebras  $P(t)$ ,  $t \geq 2$ , where all  $P(3), P(4), \dots$  are simple whereas  $P(2)$  is not. For  $L = P(2)$  it was proved in [12] that  $\exp(L)$  exists and is not an integer. Due to [12], there is a serious reason to expect that PI-exponent is fractional for any simple superalgebra  $P(t)$ ,  $t \geq 3$ .

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For infinite-dimensional Lie superalgebras only some partial results are known [16], [25]. In particular, in [25] it was shown that PI-exponent of a Lie superalgebra  $L$  exists and is an integer, provided that its commutator subalgebra  $L^2$  is nilpotent. Note that by the Lie Theorem, the subalgebra  $L^2$  is nilpotent for any finite-dimensional solvable Lie algebra  $L$ . Unfortunately, finite-dimensional Lie superalgebras in general do not satisfy this condition. Hence the result of [25] cannot be applied to finite-dimensional solvable Lie superalgebras. Although there are examples of finite-dimensional Lie superalgebras with the fractional PI-exponent, the following conjecture looks natural: Is it true that any finite-dimensional solvable Lie superalgebra has an integer exponent?

In this paper we construct new series of finite-dimensional solvable Lie superalgebras  $S(t)$ ,  $t = 2, 3, \dots$ , with non-nilpotent derived subalgebras. For  $S(2)$  we prove the existence and integrality of PI-exponent (Theorem 4.3). We also discuss the following related question concerning graded identities. Every Lie superalgebra  $L = L_0 \oplus L_1$  is endowed by the natural  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -grading. Hence one can also study asymptotic behavior of graded codimension sequence  $\{c_n^{\text{gr}}(L)\}$ . It was mentioned in [1] that  $c_n(A) \leq c_n^{\text{gr}}(A)$  for any algebra  $A = \bigoplus_{g \in G} A_g$  graded by a finite group  $G$ . Hence  $\exp(A) \leq \exp^{\text{gr}}(A)$ . In the associative case there are examples where this inequality is strong. For instance, if  $A = F[G]$  is the group algebra of a finite abelian group  $G$  then  $\exp(A) = 1$  whereas  $\exp^{\text{gr}}(A) = |G|$ . For Lie superalgebras similar examples are unknown. On the other hand, there are many examples of simple (associative and nonassociative) algebras with  $\exp^{\text{gr}}(A) = \exp(A)$ . In the present paper we give the first example in the class of solvable Lie superalgebras, namely, we prove that  $\exp^{\text{gr}}(S(2)) = \exp(S(2))$  (Theorem 5.3).

## 2. Generalities

Let  $A$  be an algebra over  $F$  and let  $F\{X\}$  be the absolutely free algebra over  $F$  with an infinite set of generators  $X$ . A non-associative polynomial  $f = f(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in F\{X\}$  is said to be an *identity* of  $A$  if  $f(a_1, \dots, a_n) = 0$  for any  $a_1, \dots, a_n \in A$ . All identities of  $A$  form an ideal  $\text{Id}(A)$  of  $F\{X\}$ .

Denote by  $P_n$  the subspace in  $F\{X\}$  of all multilinear polynomials on  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in X$ . Then  $P_n \cap \text{Id}(A)$  is the set of all multilinear identities of  $A$  of degree  $n$ . Since  $\text{char } F = 0$ , the sequence of subspaces

$$\{P_n \cap \text{Id}(A)\}, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots,$$

completely defines the ideal  $\text{Id}(A)$ . Denote

$$P_n(A) = \frac{P_n}{P_n \cap \text{Id}(A)} \quad \text{and} \quad c_n(A) = \dim P_n(A).$$

The sequence of integers  $\{c_n(A)\}$ ,  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ , called the *codimension sequence* of  $A$ , is an important numerical characteristic of  $\text{Id}(A)$ . The analysis of the asymptotic behavior of  $\{c_n(A)\}$  is one of the main approaches of the study of identities of algebras.

As it was mentioned in the introduction, there is a wide class of algebras  $A$  such that  $c_n(A) \leq a^n$  for some constant  $a$ . In this case one can define the *lower* and the *upper* PI-exponents of  $A$  as follows:

$$\underline{\text{exp}}(A) = \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{c_n(A)}, \quad \overline{\text{exp}}(A) = \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{c_n(A)},$$

respectively. If the ordinary limit exists we can define the (*ordinary*) PI-exponent

$$\text{exp}(A) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{c_n(A)}.$$

A powerful tool for computing codimensions is the representation theory of the symmetric group  $S_n$ . One can define an  $S_n$ -action on the subspace  $P_n$  of multilinear polynomials by setting

$$\sigma f(x_1, \dots, x_n) = f(x_{\sigma(1)}, \dots, x_{\sigma(n)})$$

for  $\sigma \in S_n$ . Then  $P_n$  becomes an  $FS_n$ -module. Since  $P_n \cap \text{Id}(A)$  is stable under  $S_n$ -action, then  $P_n(A)$  is also an  $FS_n$ -module and its  $S_n$ -character

$$\chi_n(A) = \chi(P_n(A))$$

is called the  $n$ -th *cocharacter* of  $A$ . By Maschke's Theorem,  $P_n(A)$  is completely reducible, so

$$\chi_n(A) = \sum_{\lambda \vdash n} m_\lambda \chi_\lambda \tag{1}$$

where  $\chi_\lambda$  is the irreducible  $S_n$ -character corresponding to the partition  $\lambda$  of  $n$ . All details concerning  $S_n$ -representations can be found in [13]. The total sum of multiplicities in (1) is called the  $n$ -th *colength* of  $A$ ,

$$l_n(A) = \sum_{\lambda \vdash n} m_\lambda.$$

Clearly,

$$c_n(A) = \sum_{\lambda \vdash n} m_\lambda d_\lambda \tag{2}$$

where  $d_\lambda = \deg \chi_\lambda$  is the dimension of the corresponding irreducible representation and the multiplicities  $m_\lambda$  are taken from (1). It is well-known that the colength sequence  $\{l_n(A)\}$  is polynomially bounded for any finite-dimensional algebra  $A$ .

**Proposition 2.1** ([3, Theorem 1]). *Let  $\dim A = d$ . Then, for all  $n \geq 1$ ,*

$$l_n(A) \leq d(n + 1)^{d^2+d}.$$

Throughout the paper we will omit brackets in left-normed products in non-associative algebras, i.e.,  $abc = (ab)c$ ,  $abcd = (abc)d$ , etc.

### 3. Lie superalgebras $S(t)$

In this section we introduce an infinite series of finite-dimensional solvable Lie superalgebras with non-nilpotent commutator subalgebra.

First, let  $R$  be an arbitrary associative algebra with involution  $*$ :  $R \rightarrow R$ . Consider an associative algebra  $Q$  consisting of  $(2 \times 2)$ -matrices over  $R$

$$Q = \left\{ \left( \begin{array}{cc} A & B \\ C & D \end{array} \right) \mid A, B, C, D \in R \right\}.$$

The algebra  $Q$  can be naturally endowed by  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -grading  $Q = Q_0 \oplus Q_1$ , where

$$Q_0 = \left\{ \left( \begin{array}{cc} A & 0 \\ 0 & D \end{array} \right) \right\}, \quad Q_1 = \left\{ \left( \begin{array}{cc} 0 & B \\ C & 0 \end{array} \right) \right\}.$$

It is well-known that if we define a (super) commutator brackets by setting

$$[x, y] = xy - (-1)^{|x||y|}yx$$

for homogeneous  $x, y \in Q_0 \cup Q_1$ , where  $|x| = 0$  if  $x \in Q_0$  and  $|x| = 1$  if  $x \in Q_1$ , then  $Q$  becomes a Lie superalgebra. For basic notions of super Lie theory we refer to [17]. Denote by

$$R^+ = \{x \in R \mid x^* = x\}, \quad R^- = \{y \in R \mid y^* = -y\},$$

the subspaces of symmetric and skew elements of  $R$ , respectively. Then the subspace

$$L = \left\{ \left( \begin{array}{cc} x & y \\ z & -x^* \end{array} \right) \mid x \in R, y \in R^+, z \in R^- \right\} = L_0 \oplus L_1 \quad (3)$$

of  $Q$  is a Lie superalgebra under the supercommutator product defined above, where even and odd components are

$$L_0 = \left\{ \left( \begin{array}{cc} x & 0 \\ 0 & -x^* \end{array} \right) \right\}, \quad L_1 = \left\{ \left( \begin{array}{cc} 0 & y \\ z & 0 \end{array} \right) \right\}.$$

Note that if  $R = M_t(F)$  is a  $(t \times t)$ -matrix algebra,  $t \geq 3$ , then its subalgebra  $\tilde{L} \subset L$  consisting of the matrix

$$\left\{ \left( \begin{array}{cc} x & y \\ z & -x^* \end{array} \right) \right\}$$

with traceless matrices  $x$  where  $x \rightarrow x^*$  is the transpose involution is a well-known simple Lie superalgebra  $P(t)$  (or  $b(t)$  in the notations of [17]).

Now we clarify the structure of  $R$  in our case. Let  $R = UT_t(F)$  be an algebra of  $(t \times t)$ -upper triangular matrices over  $F$ . It is well-known (see, for example, [19]) that the reflection across the secondary diagonal is the involution on  $R$ , hence  $L$  defined in (3) is a finite-dimensional Lie superalgebra. We denote this superalgebra by  $S(t)$ . Its even component  $S_0 \simeq UT_t(F)$  is solvable hence the entire  $L$  is also solvable (see, for example, [17]). It is not difficult to check that the derived subalgebra  $L^2$  is not nilpotent and we get the following conclusion.

**Proposition 3.1.** *Let  $R$  be the upper triangular  $(t \times t)$ -matrix algebra with the involution  $*$ :  $R \rightarrow R$ , the reflection across the secondary diagonal. Then  $S(t) = L = L_0 \oplus L_1$  well-defined in (3) is a finite-dimensional solvable Lie superalgebra,  $\dim L = t(t + 1)$ , with non-nilpotent commutator subalgebra.*

Now we will have to deal with the Lie superalgebra  $S(2)$ . First, we compute supercommutators in the associative superalgebra  $Q \simeq UT_2(F) \otimes M_2(F)$ . If  $A, B, C$  and  $D$  are  $2 \times 2$ -matrices then

$$\left[ \begin{pmatrix} A & 0 \\ 0 & -A^* \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & B \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right] = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & AB + BA^* \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \tag{4}$$

$$\left[ \begin{pmatrix} A & 0 \\ 0 & -A^* \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ C & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right] = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ -A^*C - CA & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \tag{5}$$

$$\left[ \begin{pmatrix} A & 0 \\ 0 & -A^* \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} B & 0 \\ 0 & -B^* \end{pmatrix} \right] = \begin{pmatrix} AB - BA & 0 \\ 0 & -(AB - BA)^* \end{pmatrix}, \tag{6}$$

$$\left[ \begin{pmatrix} 0 & B \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ C & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right] = \begin{pmatrix} BC & 0 \\ 0 & CB \end{pmatrix}. \tag{7}$$

From now on, we will not use associative multiplication and will omit square brackets in the product of elements of Lie superalgebra  $S(2)$ . That is,  $xy = [x, y]$ ,  $xyz = [[x, y], z]$  and so on for  $x, y, z \in S(2)$ . Let  $e_{11}, e_{12}$  and  $e_{22}$  be  $(2 \times 2)$ -matrix units. Then  $e_{11}^* = e_{22}$ ,  $e_{22}^* = e_{11}$ ,  $e_{12}^* = e_{12}$  in  $R$  and the matrices

$$a = \begin{pmatrix} e_{11} - e_{22} & 0 \\ 0 & e_{11} - e_{22} \end{pmatrix}, \quad b = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & e_{11} + e_{22} \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad c = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ e_{11} - e_{22} & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$d = \begin{pmatrix} e_{11} + e_{22} & 0 \\ 0 & -e_{11} - e_{22} \end{pmatrix}, \quad x = \begin{pmatrix} e_{12} & 0 \\ 0 & -e_{12} \end{pmatrix}, \quad y = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & e_{12} \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

form a basis of  $S(2)$ . By definition  $a, d$  and  $x$  are even whereas  $b, c$  and  $y$  are odd. Using (4), (5), (6), (7) we can compute all nonzero products of basis elements,

$$bc = cb = a, \quad bd = -db = -2b, \quad cd = -dc = 2c, \quad xa = -ax = -2x,$$

$$xb = -bx = 2y, \quad ya = -ay = -2y, \quad yc = cy = -x, \quad yd = -dy = -2y.$$

#### 4. PI-exponent of $S(2)$

Since we will have to deal with multialternating sets of arguments in multilinear and multihomogeneous expressions, it is convenient to use the following agreement. If  $f = f(x_1, \dots, x_n, y_1, \dots, y_k)$  is a non-associative polynomial, multilinear on  $x_1, \dots, x_n$ , then we denote the result of alternation of  $f$  on  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  by marking all  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  by one and the same symbol over  $x_i$ 's. For example,

$$\bar{x}_1 y \bar{x}_2 \bar{x}_3 = \sum_{\sigma \in S_3} (\text{sgn } \sigma) x_{\sigma(1)} y x_{\sigma(2)} x_{\sigma(3)}, \quad \text{or}$$

$$(y \bar{x}_1 \tilde{x}_1)(\bar{x}_2 \tilde{x}_2)(\bar{x}_3 \tilde{x}_3) =$$

$$= \sum_{\sigma \in S_3} \sum_{\tau \in S_3} (\text{sgn } \sigma)(\text{sgn } \tau) (y x_{\sigma(1)} x_{\tau(1)})(x_{\sigma(2)} x_{\tau(2)})(x_{\sigma(3)} x_{\tau(3)}).$$

Our next goal is to prove the relation

$$y(\tilde{b}\bar{c})(\tilde{c}\bar{d})(\tilde{d}\bar{b})\tilde{a}\bar{a} = 384y. \tag{8}$$

Since  $aa = ab = ba = ac = ca = ad = da = 0$ , the left hand side of (8) is equal to  $y(\tilde{b}\bar{c})(\tilde{c}\bar{d})(\tilde{d}\bar{b})aa$ . Hence it suffices to show that

$$y(\tilde{b}\bar{c})(\tilde{c}\bar{d})(\tilde{d}\bar{b}) = 96y. \tag{9}$$

The left hand side of (9) can be written as the sum

$$y(\tilde{b}\bar{c})(\tilde{c}\bar{d})(\tilde{d}\bar{b}) + y(\tilde{c}\bar{c})(\tilde{d}\bar{d})(\tilde{b}\bar{b}) + y(\tilde{d}\bar{c})(\tilde{b}\bar{d})(\tilde{c}\bar{b}) - \\ - y(\tilde{c}\bar{c})(\tilde{b}\bar{d})(\tilde{d}\bar{b}) - y(\tilde{d}\bar{c})(\tilde{c}\bar{d})(\tilde{b}\bar{b}) - y(\tilde{b}\bar{c})(\tilde{d}\bar{d})(\tilde{c}\bar{b}).$$

Direct computations show that

$$y(\tilde{b}\bar{c})(\tilde{c}\bar{d})(\tilde{d}\bar{b}) = y(bc)(cd)(db) + y(bd)(cb)(dc) = 4yacb + 4ybac, \\ y(\tilde{c}\bar{c})(\tilde{d}\bar{d})(\tilde{b}\bar{b}) = y(cb)(dc)(bd) + y(cd)(db)(bc) = 4yacb + 4ycba, \\ y(\tilde{d}\bar{c})(\tilde{b}\bar{d})(\tilde{c}\bar{b}) = y(dc)(bd)(cb) + y(db)(bc)(cd) = 4ycba + 4ybac, \\ -y(\tilde{c}\bar{c})(\tilde{b}\bar{d})(\tilde{d}\bar{b}) = y(cd)(bc)(db) + y(cb)(bd)(dc) = 4ycab + 4yabc, \\ -y(\tilde{d}\bar{c})(\tilde{c}\bar{d})(\tilde{b}\bar{b}) = y(db)(cd)(bc) + y(dc)(cb)(bd) = 4ybca + 4ycab, \\ -y(\tilde{b}\bar{c})(\tilde{d}\bar{d})(\tilde{c}\bar{b}) = y(bd)(dc)(cb) + y(bc)(db)(cd) = 4ybca + 4yabc.$$

Since  $yb = 0$  and  $yab = -2yb = 0$ , we obtain

$$y(\tilde{b}\bar{c})(\tilde{c}\bar{d})(\tilde{d}\bar{b}) = 8yacb + 8ycab + 8ycba = -16ycb - 8xab - 8xba \\ = 16xb + 16xb - 16ya = 96y$$

and therefore (9), (8) hold. Equality (8) implies the relation

$$y \underbrace{(\tilde{b}\bar{c})(\tilde{c}\bar{d})(\tilde{d}\bar{b})\tilde{a}\bar{a} \cdots (\tilde{b}\bar{c})(\tilde{c}\bar{d})(\tilde{d}\bar{b})\tilde{a}\bar{a}}_m \neq 0 \tag{10}$$

for any  $m \geq 1$ . Consider the multilinear polynomial

$$f_m = w(\tilde{x}_1^{(1)} \bar{z}_1^{(1)})(\tilde{x}_2^{(1)} \bar{z}_2^{(1)})(\tilde{x}_3^{(1)} \bar{z}_3^{(1)})\tilde{x}_4^{(1)} \bar{z}_4^{(1)} \cdots \\ \cdots (\tilde{x}_1^{(m)} \bar{z}_1^{(m)})(\tilde{x}_2^{(m)} \bar{z}_2^{(m)})(\tilde{x}_3^{(m)} \bar{z}_3^{(m)})\tilde{x}_4^{(m)} \bar{z}_4^{(m)}$$

of degree  $4m + 1$ . The polynomial  $f_m$  depends on  $2m$  alternating sets of variables, each of order four. Moreover,  $f_m$  assumes a non-zero value under an evaluation  $\varphi: X \rightarrow S(2)$  such that

$$\varphi(w) = y, \quad \varphi(x_1^{(i)}) = b, \quad \varphi(x_2^{(i)}) = c, \quad \varphi(x_3^{(i)}) = d, \quad \varphi(x_4^{(i)}) = a, \\ \varphi(z_1^{(i)}) = c, \quad \varphi(z_2^{(i)}) = d, \quad \varphi(z_3^{(i)}) = b, \quad \varphi(z_4^{(i)}) = a, \quad i = 1, \dots, m.$$

Denote  $n = 8m$  and consider the  $S_n$ -action on variables

$$\{x_j^{(i)}, z_j^{(i)} \mid 1 \leq j \leq 4, 1 \leq i \leq m\}.$$

Under this action the subspace

$$P_{n+1} = P_{n+1}(w, x_j^{(i)}, z_j^{(i)}, 1 \leq j \leq 4, 1 \leq i \leq m)$$

becomes an  $FS_n$ -module. The structure of the polynomial  $f_m$  and the relation  $\varphi(f_m) \neq 0$  show that  $e_{T_\lambda} f_m$  is not an identity of  $S(2)$ , where  $e_{T_\lambda}$  is the essential idempotent corresponding to some Young tableau  $T_\lambda$  with the Young diagram  $D_\lambda$  and  $\lambda = (2m, 2m, 2m, 2m) \vdash n$ . In particular,

$$c_{n+1}(S(2)) \geq \deg \chi_\lambda. \tag{11}$$

From the hook formula for  $\deg \chi_\lambda$  and the Stirling formula for factorials we get

$$\deg \chi_\lambda \geq n^{-5} 4^n, \tag{12}$$

provided that  $n = 8m$  and  $\lambda = (2m)^{(4)}$ .

The inequalities (11), (12) give us the lower bound for codimensions  $c_n(S(2))$ .

**Lemma 4.1.** *The lower PI-exponent of  $S(2)$  satisfies the inequality  $\underline{\exp}(S(2)) \geq 4$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $n \equiv j \pmod{8}$  where  $0 \leq j \leq 7$ . If  $j = 1$  then  $n = 8m + 1$  and

$$c_n(S(2)) \geq \frac{4^{n-1}}{(n-1)^5} \geq \frac{1}{5n^5} 4^n$$

by (11), (12). If  $j \neq 1$  then there exist  $m$  and  $1 \leq i \leq 8$  such that  $n = 8m + 1 + i$ . In this case the polynomial  $g = (e_{T_\lambda} f_m) u_1 \cdots u_i$  of degree  $8m + 1 + i = n$  is not an identity of  $S(2)$  since  $\varphi(f_m) = (384)^m y$  for the above mentioned evaluation  $\varphi$  and  $ya = -2y$ . Hence

$$c_n(S(2)) \geq 4^{-8} n^{-5} 4^n.$$

Therefore  $\underline{\exp}(S(2)) \geq 4$  and the proof is complete. ■

We need another lemma to prove the main result of the paper.

**Lemma 4.2.** *Let  $m_\lambda \neq 0$  in (2) for  $A = S(2)$ ,  $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_k)$ . Then either  $k \leq 4$  or  $k = 5$  and  $\lambda_5 = 1$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $m_\lambda \neq 0$  and  $k > 4$ . Then there exists a Young tableau  $T_\lambda$  such that  $e_{T_\lambda} f \notin \text{Id}(A)$  for some multilinear polynomial  $f = f(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ . Recall that

$$e_{T_\lambda} = \left( \sum_{\sigma \in R_{T_\lambda}} \sigma \right) \left( \sum_{\tau \in C_{T_\lambda}} (\text{sgn } \tau) \tau \right)$$

where  $R_{T_\lambda}$  and  $C_{T_\lambda}$  are the row stabilizer and the column stabilizer of  $T_\lambda$  in  $S_n$ , respectively. Note that the polynomial

$$g = g(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \left( \sum_{\tau \in C_{T_\lambda}} (\text{sgn } \tau) \tau \right) e_{T_\lambda} f$$

is also non-identity of  $A$ . If  $k > 5$  then  $g$  contains an alternating set of variables  $\{x_{i_1}, \dots, x_{i_t}\}$  of order  $t \geq 6$ . Consider an evaluation  $\varphi: X \rightarrow B = \{a, b, c, d, x, y\}$ . The linear subspace  $J = \langle x, y \rangle \subset A$  is a nilpotent ideal of  $A$ ,  $J^2 = 0$ . If at least two of  $x_{i_\alpha}$ ,  $1 \leq \alpha \leq 6$ , lie in  $J$  then  $\varphi(g) = 0$ . But if  $\varphi(x_{i_1}), \dots, \varphi(x_{i_t})$  take not more than five distinct values in  $B$  then also  $\varphi(g) = 0$ , due to the skew symmetry of  $g$ . This contradiction shows that  $k \leq 5$ . Similar arguments imply the restriction  $\lambda_5 \leq 1$  and hence the proof is complete. ■

**Theorem 4.3.** *The PI-exponent of the Lie superalgebra  $S(2)$  exists and*

$$\text{exp}(S(2)) = 4.$$

**Proof.** Because of Lemma 4.1 it suffices to prove the inequality

$$\overline{\text{exp}}(S(2)) \leq 4. \tag{13}$$

In light of Lemma 4.2, by Lemma 6.2.4 and Lemma 6.2.5 from [9], we have

$$\text{deg } \chi_\lambda < Cn^r 4^n$$

for some constants  $C, r$  if  $m_\lambda \neq 0$  in (2). Finally, applying Proposition 2.1, we get the inequality (13) and the proof is complete. ■

### 5. Graded PI-exponent of $S(2)$

Recall the definition of the *graded codimension* of a  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -graded algebra. Let  $A = A_0 \oplus A_1$  be an  $F$ -algebra with  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -grading. Denote by  $F\{X, Y\}$  the free algebra on two infinite sets of generators  $X$  and  $Y$ . Let all  $x \in X$  be even and all  $y \in Y$  odd. Then this parity on  $X \cup Y$  induces  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -grading on  $F\{X, Y\}$ . A polynomial  $f = f(x_1, \dots, x_m, y_1, \dots, y_n)$  with  $x_1, \dots, x_m \in X$ ,  $y_1, \dots, y_n \in Y$  is said to be a *graded identity* of  $A$  if  $f = f(a_1, \dots, a_m, b_1, \dots, b_n) = 0$  for all  $a_1, \dots, a_m \in A_0$ ,  $b_1, \dots, b_n \in A_1$ .

Given  $0 \leq k \leq n$ , denote by  $P_{k,n-k}$  the subspace of all multilinear polynomials on  $x_1, \dots, x_k \in X, y_1, \dots, y_{n-k} \in Y$  and define the integer

$$c_{k,n-k}(A) = \dim \frac{P_{k,n-k}}{P_{k,n-k} \cap \text{Id}^{\text{gr}}(A)}$$

where  $\text{Id}^{\text{gr}}(A)$  is the ideal of graded identities of  $A$ . Then the value

$$c_n^{\text{gr}}(A) = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} c_{k,n-k}(A)$$



is called the *graded  $n$ -th codimension* of  $A$ . As in the non-graded case, the limits

$$\underline{\text{exp}}^{\text{gr}}(A) = \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{c_n^{\text{gr}}(A)}, \quad \overline{\text{exp}}^{\text{gr}}(A) = \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{c_n^{\text{gr}}(A)},$$

$$\text{exp}^{\text{gr}}(A) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{c_n^{\text{gr}}(A)}$$

are called the *lower*, the *upper* and the *ordinary graded PI-exponent* of  $A$ .

The space  $P_{k,n-k}$  has a natural  $F[S_k \times S_{n-k}]$ -module structure where the symmetric groups  $S_k$  and  $S_{n-k}$  act on  $\{x_1, \dots, x_k\}$  and on  $\{y_1, \dots, y_{n-k}\}$ , respectively. Since  $P_{k,n-k} \cap \text{Id}^{\text{gr}}(A)$  is stable under the  $(S_k \times S_{n-k})$ -action, then the quotient space

$$P_{k,n-k}(A) = \frac{P_{k,n-k}}{P_{k,n-k} \cap \text{Id}^{\text{gr}}(A)}$$

is also an  $F[S_k \times S_{n-k}]$ -module and its  $(S_k \times S_{n-k})$ -character has the form

$$\chi_{k,n-k}(A) = \chi(P_{k,n-k}(A)) = \sum_{\substack{\lambda \vdash k \\ \mu \vdash n-k}} m_{\lambda,\mu} \chi_{\lambda,\mu}. \tag{14}$$

In particular, 
$$c_{k,n-k}(A) = \sum_{\substack{\lambda \vdash k \\ \mu \vdash n-k}} m_{\lambda,\mu} \deg \chi_{\lambda} \deg \chi_{\mu}. \tag{15}$$

The sum of multiplicities

$$l_n^{\text{gr}}(A) = \sum_{k=0}^n \sum_{\substack{\lambda \vdash k \\ \mu \vdash n-k}} m_{\lambda,\mu}$$

is called  $n$ -th *graded colength* of  $A$  and is polynomially bounded if  $\dim A < \infty$  (see [23]) that is, there are constants  $C, r$  such that

$$l_n^{\text{gr}}(A) \leq Cn^r. \tag{16}$$

Recall that  $A_0 = \langle a, d, x \rangle$ ,  $A_1 = \langle b, d, y \rangle$  for our superalgebra  $A = S(2)$  and  $x, y$  belong to nilpotent ideal  $J$ ,  $J^2 = 0$ .

The same argument as in the proof of Lemma 4.2 gives us the following result.

**Lemma 5.1.** *Let  $A = S(2)$  and let  $m_{\lambda,\mu} \neq 0$  in (14). Then  $\lambda = (\lambda_1)$  or  $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \lambda_2)$  or  $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, 1)$  and  $\mu = (\mu_1)$  or  $\mu = (\mu_1, \mu_2)$  or  $\mu = (\mu_1, \mu_2, 1)$ .*

As a consequence of Lemma 5.1 and Lemmas 6.2.4, 6.2.5 from [9] we get the following statement.

**Lemma 5.2.** *There are constants  $c, r_0, c_1, r_1$  not depending on  $k$  such that*

$$\deg \chi_{\lambda} \leq c_0 n^{r_0} 2^k, \quad \deg \chi_{\mu} \leq c_1 n^{r_1} 2^k$$

for all  $\lambda \vdash k$ ,  $\mu \vdash (n - k)$  if  $m_{\lambda,\mu} \neq 0$  in (14).

Our final result says that  $\exp(S(2))$  and  $\exp^{\text{gr}}(S(2))$  coincide.

**Theorem 5.3.**  $\exp(S(2)) = \exp^{\text{gr}}(S(2)) = 4.$

**Proof.** It is well-known (see [1]) that  $c_n(A) \leq c_n^{\text{gr}}(A)$  for any group graded algebra  $A$ . Hence, by Theorem 4.3,

$$\underline{\exp}^{\text{gr}}(S(2)) \geq 4. \quad (17)$$

Let us prove that  $\overline{\exp}^{\text{gr}}(S(2)) \leq 4. \quad (18)$

By (16), Lemma 5.1 and Lemma 5.2, we have

$$c_{k,n-k}(S(2)) \leq c_3 n^{r_3} 2^k 2^{n-k} = c_3 n^{r_3} 2^n$$

for some constants  $c_3, r_3$ . Then by definition of graded codimensions,

$$c_n^{\text{gr}}(S(2)) \leq c_3 n^{r_3} 2^n \sum_k \binom{n}{k} = c_3 n^{r_3} 4^n.$$

The latter relation proves (18), and the proof is complete.  $\blacksquare$

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