

# On the Irreducibility of Artin's Group of Graphs

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## Abstract

We consider the graph  $E_{3,1}$  with three generators  $\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \delta$ , where  $\sigma_1$  has an edge with each of  $\sigma_2$  and  $\delta$ . We then define the Artin group of the graph  $E_{3,1}$  and consider its reduced Perron representation of degree three. After we specialize the indeterminates used in defining the representation to non-zero complex numbers, we obtain a necessary and sufficient condition that guarantees the irreducibility of the representation.

**Keywords:** Artin representation, braid group, Burau representation, graph, irreducibility

## 1. Introduction

To any undirected simple graph  $T$ , we introduce the Artin group,  $A$ , which is defined as an abstract group with vertices of  $\Gamma$  as its generators and two relations:  $xy = yx$  for vertices  $x$  and  $y$  that have no edge in common and  $xyx = yxy$  if the vertices  $x$  and  $y$  have a common edge.

Let  $A_n$  be the graph having  $n$  vertices  $\sigma_i$ 's ( $1 \leq i \leq n$ ) in which  $\sigma_i$  and  $\sigma_{i+1}$  share a common edge, where  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n-1$ . We notice that the Artin group of  $A_n$  is the braid group on  $n+1$  strands. That is,  $A(A_n) = B_{n+1}$  (J.S. Birman, 1975).

Having defined  $A_n$ , we consider  $E_{n+1,p}$ , which is the graph obtained from  $A_n$  by adding a vertex  $\delta$  and an edge connecting  $\sigma_p$  and  $\delta$ . Here  $1 \leq p \leq n$ . It is easy to see that the graph  $A_n$  embeds in the graph  $E_{n+1,p}$ . That is,  $A(A_n) \subset A(E_{n+1,p})$ . This induces an injection on  $B_{n+1}$  to  $A(E_{n+1,p})$ . In other words, a representation of  $A(E_{n+1,p})$  yields a representation of  $B_{n+1}$ .

Knowing the reduced Burau representation of  $B_{n+1}$  of degree  $n$ , Perron extends such a representation to a representation of  $B_{n+1}$  of degree  $2n$ . The representation obtained is referred to as Burau bis representation. Next, Perron constructs for each  $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n)$  a representation  $\psi_\lambda : A(E_{n+1,p}) \rightarrow GL_{2n}(Q(t, d_1, \dots, d_n))$ , where  $t, d_1, \dots, d_n, \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$  are indeterminates. We specialize  $t, d_1, \dots, d_n$  to non-zero complex numbers, and we study this representation explicitly in the case  $n = 2$  and  $p = 1$ . We then reduce the complex specialization of the representation  $\psi_\lambda$  to a representation of degree 3, namely  $A(E_{3,1}) \rightarrow GL_3(\mathbb{C})$ . A necessary and sufficient condition which guarantees its irreducibility is obtained in that case.

## 2. Burau bis Representation

Perron's strategy is to begin with the Burau representation of the braid group and extend it to a representation of  $A(E_{n+1,p})$ . He begins with the reduced Burau representation:  $B_{n+1} \rightarrow GL_n(\mathbb{Z}[t, t^{-1}])$  defined as follows:

$$\sigma_i \rightarrow J_i = \left( \begin{array}{c|cc|c} I_{i-2} & & 0 & 0 \\ & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & t & -t & 1 \\ & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ \hline 0 & & 0 & I_{n-i-1} \end{array} \right),$$

where  $I_k$  stands for the  $k \times k$  identity matrix. Here,  $i = 2, \dots, n-1$ .

$$\sigma_1 \rightarrow J_1 = \left( \begin{array}{cc|c} -t & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & \\ \hline 0 & & I_{n-2} \end{array} \right)$$

$$\sigma_n \rightarrow J_n = \left( \begin{array}{c|cc} I_{n-2} & & 0 \\ \hline 0 & 1 & 0 \\ & t & -t \end{array} \right)$$

Knowing that this representation is of degree  $n$ , Perron extends it to a representation of  $B_{n+1}$  of degree  $2n$ . Let  $R_i$  denote an  $n \times n$  block of zeros with a  $t$  placed in the  $(i, i)$   $th$  position, and let  $I_n$  denote the  $n \times n$  identity matrix. The obtained representation is referred to as the Burau bis representation. It is defined as follows:

$$\psi : B_{n+1} \rightarrow Gl_{2n}(\mathbb{Z}[t, t^{-1}])$$

$$\psi(\sigma_i) = \begin{pmatrix} I_n & 0 \\ R_i & J_i \end{pmatrix}, \quad 1 \leq i \leq n$$

For more details, see (T.E.Brendle, 2002, B.Perron, 1999).

### 3. Perron Representation

The Burau bis representation extends to  $A(E_{n+1,p})$  for all possible values of  $n$  and  $p$  in the following way.

Let  $b = \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ \vdots \\ b_n \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $d = \begin{pmatrix} d_1 \\ \vdots \\ d_n \end{pmatrix}$ , and  $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n)$ .

We define the following  $n \times n$  matrices:

$$A = (\lambda_1 b, \lambda_2 b, \dots, \lambda_n b)$$

$$B = (0, \dots, 0, b, 0, \dots, 0)$$

$$C = (\lambda_1 d, \lambda_2 d, \dots, \lambda_n d)$$

$$D = (0, \dots, 0, d, 0, \dots, 0),$$

where 0 denotes a column of  $n$  zeros.

For each  $i = 1, \dots, n$ , we have that  $b_i$  satisfies the following conditions

$$tb_i = -td_{i-1} + (1+t)d_i - d_{i+1}, \quad i \neq p,$$

$$tb_p = -td_{p-1} + (1+t)d_p - d_{p+1} + t,$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i b_i = -(1 + d_p + t),$$

setting any undefined  $d_j$  equal zero.

For any choice  $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n)$ , we get a linear representation

$$\psi_\lambda : A(E_{n+1,p}) \rightarrow Gl_{2n}(R),$$

where  $R$  is the field of rational fractions in  $n+1$  indeterminates  $\mathbb{Q}(t, d_1, \dots, d_n)$ .

$$\psi_\lambda(\sigma_i) \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} I_n & 0 \\ R_i & J_i \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\psi_\lambda(\delta) \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} I_n + A & B \\ C & I_n + D \end{pmatrix}.$$

For more details, see (T.E.Brendle, 2002).

**4. Reducibility of  $\psi_\lambda : A(E_{3,1}) \rightarrow GL_4(\mathbb{C})$**

Having defined Perron’s representation, we set  $n = 2$  and  $p = 1$  to get the following vectors.  $b = \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $d = \begin{pmatrix} d_1 \\ d_2 \end{pmatrix}$ , and  $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \lambda_2)$ .

We get the following  $2 \times 2$  matrices  $A = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 b_1 & \lambda_2 b_1 \\ \lambda_1 b_2 & \lambda_2 b_2 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $B = \begin{pmatrix} b_1 & 0 \\ b_2 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $C = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 d_1 & \lambda_2 d_1 \\ \lambda_1 d_2 & \lambda_2 d_2 \end{pmatrix}$ , and  $D = \begin{pmatrix} d_1 & 0 \\ d_2 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ .

Simple computations show that the parameters satisfy the following equations:

- $tb_2 = -td_1 + (1 + t)d_2$
- $tb_1 = (1 + t)d_1 - d_2 + t$
- $\lambda_1 b_1 + \lambda_2 b_2 = -(1 + t + d_1)$

Having defined the  $2 \times 2$  matrices  $A, B, C$  and  $D$ , we obtain the multiparameter representation  $A(E_{3,1})$ . This representation is of degree 4. We specialize the parameters  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, b_1, b_2, d_1, d_2, t$  to values in  $\mathbb{C} - \{0\}$ . **We further assume that  $t \neq -1$  and  $d_2 = -t$ .** The representation  $\psi_\lambda : A(E_{3,1}) \rightarrow GL_4(\mathbb{C})$  is defined as follows:

$$\psi_\lambda(\sigma_1) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ t & 0 & -t & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\psi_\lambda(\sigma_2) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & t & t & -t \end{pmatrix},$$

and

$$\psi_\lambda(\delta) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 + \lambda_1 b_1 & \lambda_2 b_1 & b_1 & 0 \\ \lambda_1 b_2 & \lambda_2 b_2 + 1 & b_2 & 0 \\ \lambda_1 d_1 & \lambda_2 d_1 & 1 + d_1 & 0 \\ -t\lambda_1 & -t\lambda_2 & -t & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

The graph  $E_{3,1}$  has 3 vertices  $\sigma_1, \sigma_2$  and  $\delta$ . Since  $p = 1$ , it follows that the vertex  $\delta$  has a common edge with  $\sigma_p = \sigma_1$ . Therefore, the following relations are satisfied.

$$\sigma_1 \sigma_2 \sigma_1 = \sigma_2 \sigma_1 \sigma_2 \quad (1)$$

$$\sigma_2 \delta = \delta \sigma_2 \quad (2)$$

$$\sigma_1 \delta \sigma_1 = \delta \sigma_1 \delta \quad (3)$$

We note that relation (1) is actually Artin’s braid relation of the classical braid group,  $B_3$  having  $\sigma_1$  and  $\sigma_2$  as standard generators. This assures that a representation of  $A(E_{3,1})$  yields a representation of  $B_3$ .

**Lemma 1** *The representation  $\psi_\lambda : A(E_{3,1}) \rightarrow GL_4(\mathbb{C})$  is reducible.*

*Proof.* For simplicity, we write  $\sigma_i$  instead of  $\psi_\lambda(k)$ , where  $k$  is a generator of  $A(E_{3,1})$ . The subspace  $S = \langle e_1 + \frac{b_2}{b_1}e_2, e_3, e_4 \rangle$  is an invariant subspace of dimension 3. To see this:

1.  $\sigma_1(e_1 + \frac{b_2}{b_1}e_2) = e_1 + \frac{b_2}{b_1}e_2 + te_3 \in S$
2.  $\sigma_2(e_1 + \frac{b_2}{b_1}e_2) = e_1 + \frac{b_2}{b_1}e_2 + t\frac{b_2}{b_1}e_3 \in S$
3.  $\delta(e_1 + \frac{b_2}{b_1}e_2) = (1 + \lambda_1b_1 + \lambda_2b_2)e_1 + (\lambda_1b_2 + \frac{b_2}{b_1}(\lambda_2b_2 + 1))e_2 +$   
 $(\lambda_1d_1 + \frac{b_2}{b_1}\lambda_2d_1)e_3 + (-t\lambda_1 + \frac{-tb_2}{b_1}\lambda_2)e_4$   
 $= (1 + \lambda_1b_1 + \lambda_2b_2)(e_1 + \frac{b_2}{b_1}e_2) + (\lambda_1d_1 + \frac{b_2}{b_1}\lambda_2d_1)e_3 +$   
 $(-t\lambda_1 + \frac{-tb_2}{b_1}\lambda_2)e_4 \in S$
4.  $\sigma_1e_3 = -te_3 \in S$
5.  $\sigma_2e_3 = e_3 + te_4 \in S$
6.  $\delta e_3 = b_1(e_1 + \frac{b_2}{b_1}e_2) + (1 + d_1)e_3 - te_4 \in S$
7.  $\sigma_1e_4 = e_3 + e_4 \in S$
8.  $\sigma_2e_4 = -te_4 \in S$
9.  $\delta e_4 = e_4 \in S$

**5. On the Irreducibility of  $\psi'_\lambda : A(E_{3,1}) \rightarrow GL_3(\mathbb{C})$**

We consider the representation  $\psi_\lambda : A(E_{3,1}) \rightarrow GL_4(\mathbb{C})$  restricted to the basis  $e_1, e_1 + \frac{b_2}{b_1}e_2, e_3,$  and  $e_4$ . The matrix of  $\sigma_1$  becomes

$$\psi_\lambda(\sigma_1) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & t & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & t & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -t & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Similarly, we determine the matrices of  $\sigma_2$  and  $\delta$ . It is easy to see that the first column of the matrices of all generators is  $(1, 0, 0, 0)^T$ , where  $T$  is the transpose. We thus reduce our representation to a 3-dimensional one by deleting the first row and the first column to get  $\psi'_\lambda : A(E_{3,1}) \rightarrow GL_3(\mathbb{C})$ . The representation is defined as follows:

$$\psi'_\lambda(\sigma_1) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & t & 0 \\ 0 & -t & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\psi'_\lambda(\sigma_2) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & \frac{tb_2}{b_1} \\ 0 & 1 & t \\ 0 & 0 & -t \end{pmatrix},$$

and

$$\psi'_\lambda(\delta) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 + \lambda_1b_1 + \lambda_2b_2 & \lambda_1d_1 + \frac{b_2}{b_1}\lambda_2d_1 & -t\lambda_1 + \frac{-tb_2}{b_1}\lambda_2 \\ b_1 & 1 + d_1 & -t \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

We then diagonalize the matrix corresponding to  $\psi'_\lambda(\sigma_1)$  by an invertible matrix, say  $T$ , and conjugate the matrices of  $\psi'_\lambda(\sigma_2)$  and  $\psi'_\lambda(\delta)$  by the same matrix  $T$ . The invertible matrix  $T$  is given by

$$T = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & t \\ 0 & 0 & -1-t \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

In fact, a computation shows that

$$T^{-1}\psi'_\lambda(\sigma_1)T = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -t \end{pmatrix}.$$

After conjugation, we get

$$T^{-1}\psi'_\lambda(\sigma_2)T = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{-t^2}{1+t} & 0 & \frac{-(1+t+t^2)}{1+t} \\ \frac{t(b_2+b_1t+b_2t)}{b_1(1+t)} & 1 & \frac{t(b_2+b_1t+b_2t)}{b_1(1+t)} \\ \frac{-t}{1+t} & 0 & \frac{1}{1+t} \end{pmatrix},$$

$$T^{-1}\psi'_\lambda(\delta)T =$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{1+t} & \frac{b_1}{1+t} & \frac{t}{1+t} \\ -t(\lambda_1 + \frac{b_2\lambda_2}{b_1} + \frac{t}{1+t}) & 1 + \lambda_2 b_2 + b_1(\lambda_1 + \frac{t}{1+t}) & \frac{(-t+b_1t-d_1(1+t))[b_2\lambda_2(1+t)+b_1(\lambda_1+t+\lambda_1t)]}{b_1(1+t)} \\ \frac{t}{1+t} & \frac{b_1}{1+t} & \frac{1}{1+t} \end{pmatrix}.$$

The entries of the matrices  $T^{-1}\psi'_\lambda(\sigma_2)T$  and  $T^{-1}\psi'_\lambda(\delta)T$  are well-defined since we assume in our work that  $t \neq -1$ . For simplicity, we denote  $T^{-1}\psi'_\lambda(\sigma_1)T$  by  $\psi'_\lambda(\sigma_1)$ ,  $T^{-1}\psi'_\lambda(\sigma_2)T$  by  $\psi'_\lambda(\sigma_2)$ , and  $T^{-1}\psi'_\lambda(\delta)T$  by  $\psi'_\lambda(\delta)$ .

We now prove some propositions to determine a sufficient condition for irreducibility of  $\psi'_\lambda : A(E_{3,1}) \rightarrow GL_3(\mathbb{C})$ .

**Proposition 2**  $t(b_2 + b_1t + b_2t) + (1 + t + t^2)(\lambda_2 b_2(1 + t) + b_1(\lambda_1 + t + \lambda_1t)) = -(t + 1)^2(t^2 + 1)$

*Proof.* The proof easily follows by considering the following relations:

- $tb_2 = -td_1 - t(1 + t)$
- $tb_1 = (1 + t)d_1 + 2t$
- $\lambda_1 b_1 + \lambda_2 b_2 = -(1 + t + d_1)$

**Proposition 3** *The two expressions  $1 + t + t^2$  and  $b_1t + b_2t + b_2$  cannot be both equal to zeros.*

*Proof.* We assume, for contradiction, that both are equal to zeros.

By substituting  $tb_2 = -td_1 - t(1 + t)$  and  $tb_1 = (1 + t)d_1 + 2t$  in  $b_1t + b_2t + b_2 = 0$ , we get  $-t(1 + t + t^2) = -t^2$ . By assuming that  $1 + t + t^2 = 0$ , we get that  $t = 0$ , a contradiction.

**Proposition 4**  $-t + b_1t - d_1(1 + t) \neq 0$ .

*Proof.* Assume, for contradiction, that  $-t + b_1t - d_1(1 + t) = 0$ . Having that  $b_1t = (1 + t)d_1 + 2t$ , we get  $-t + b_1t - d_1(1 + t) = -t + (1 + t)d_1 + t + t - d_1(1 + t) = t$ . This implies that  $t = 0$ , a contradiction.

We use Proposition 2, Proposition 3 and Proposition 4 to prove the following Lemma. We recall that all the indeterminates used in defining the representations are specialized to non zero complex numbers and, in addition, the complex number associated with  $t$  is not equal to  $-1$ .

**Lemma 5** *If  $t \neq \pm i$ , then any non zero subspace  $S$ , which is invariant under the action of the representation  $\psi'_\lambda : A(E_{3,1}) \rightarrow GL_3(\mathbb{C})$  containing the standard unit vector  $e_3$ , must be the whole space  $\mathbb{C}^3$ .*

*Proof.* We have that  $\psi'_\lambda(\sigma_2)(e_3) = \frac{-(1+t+t^2)}{1+t}e_1 + \frac{t(b_2+b_1t+b_2t)}{b_1(1+t)}e_2 + \frac{1}{1+t}e_3 \in S$ .

Since  $e_3 \in S$ , it follows that  $\frac{-(1+t+t^2)}{1+t}e_1 + \frac{t(b_2+b_1t+b_2t)}{b_1(1+t)}e_2 \in S$ . (1)

Moreover,

$$\psi'_\lambda(\delta)(e_3) = \frac{-t+b_1t-d_1(1+t)}{1+t}e_1 + \frac{(-t+b_1t-d_1(1+t))[\lambda_2b_2(1+t)+b_1(\lambda_1+t+\lambda_1t)]}{b_1(1+t)}e_2 + \frac{1+t+d_1(1+t)-b_1t}{1+t}e_3 \in S.$$

This also implies that

$$\frac{-t+b_1t-d_1(1+t)}{1+t}e_1 + \frac{(-t+b_1t-d_1(1+t))[\lambda_2b_2(1+t)+b_1(\lambda_1+t+\lambda_1t)]}{b_1(1+t)}e_2 \in S. \quad (2)$$

Having proved that  $1+t+t^2$  and  $b_1t+b_2t+b_2$  can't both be zeros, we consider the following cases:

**Case 1.**  $1+t+t^2 = 0$

By Proposition 3 and (1), we get that  $e_2 \in S$ . By Proposition 4 and (2), we get that  $e_1 \in S$ . Thus, S is the whole space.

**Case 2.**  $1+t+t^2 \neq 0$

Let us multiply (1) by  $-t+b_1t-d_1(1+t)$  which is proved not to be zero in Proposition 4. We also multiply (2) by  $1+t+t^2 \neq 0$ . If we add the obtained equations, we get

$$\frac{-t+b_1t-d_1(1+t)}{b_1(1+t)}[t(b_2+b_1t+b_2t)+(1+t+t^2)(\lambda_2b_2(1+t)+b_1(\lambda_1+t+\lambda_1t))]e_2 \in S. \quad (3)$$

By Proposition 2, we have that  $t(b_2+b_1t+b_2t)+(1+t+t^2)(\lambda_2b_2(1+t)+b_1(\lambda_1+t+\lambda_1t)) = -(t+1)^2(t^2+1)$ . Assuming that  $t \neq -1$  and  $t \neq \pm i$ , we get  $[t(b_2+b_1t+b_2t)+(1+t+t^2)(\lambda_2b_2(1+t)+b_1(\lambda_1+t+\lambda_1t))] \neq 0$ .

By Proposition 4 and by (3), we get

$$e_2 \in S.$$

From (1) we conclude that

$$e_1 \in S.$$

Thus, S is the whole space  $\mathbb{C}^3$ .

Next, we present the following theorem which gives a sufficient condition for irreducibility of  $\psi'_\lambda : A(E_{3,1}) \rightarrow GL_3(\mathbb{C})$ .

**Theorem 6** *If  $t \neq \pm i$ , then the representation  $\psi'_\lambda : A(E_{3,1}) \rightarrow GL_3(\mathbb{C})$  is irreducible.*

*Proof.* Let S be a non zero proper subspace of  $\mathbb{C}^3$ , which is invariant under the action of  $\psi'_\lambda$ . By Lemma 5, we have that  $e_3 \notin S$ .

Then S is one of the following subspaces:

- $S = \langle e_1 \rangle$
- $S = \langle e_2 \rangle$
- $S = \langle e_1 + ue_2 \rangle$ , where  $u \in \mathbb{C}^*$
- $S = \langle e_1, e_2 \rangle$

**Case 1.**  $S = \langle e_1 \rangle$ . We have that  $\psi'_\lambda(\sigma_2)(e_1) \in S$ . This implies that  $\begin{pmatrix} \frac{-t^2}{1+t} \\ \frac{t(b_2+b_1t+b_2t)}{b_1(1+t)} \\ \frac{-t}{1+t} \end{pmatrix} \in S$ . This gives a contradiction

because  $t \neq 0$ .

**Case 2.**  $S = \langle e_2 \rangle$ . We have that  $\psi'_\lambda(\delta)(e_2) \in S$ . This implies that  $\begin{pmatrix} \frac{b_1}{1+t} \\ 1 + \lambda_2 b_2 + b_1(\lambda_1 + \frac{t}{1+t}) \\ \frac{b_1}{1+t} \end{pmatrix} \in S$ . This gives a contradiction since  $b_1 \neq 0$ .

**Case 3.**  $S = \langle e_1 + ue_2 \rangle$ ,  $u \in \mathbb{C}^*$ . We have that  $\psi'_\lambda(\sigma_2)(e_1 + ue_2) \in S$ . This implies that  $\begin{pmatrix} \frac{-t^2}{1+t} \\ \frac{t(b_2+b_1t+b_2t)}{b_1(1+t)} + u \\ \frac{-t}{1+t} \end{pmatrix} \in S$ . This gives a contradiction since  $t \neq 0$ .

**Case 4.**  $S = \langle e_1, e_2 \rangle$ .

We have that  $\psi'_\lambda(\sigma_2)(e_1) \in S$ . This implies that  $\begin{pmatrix} \frac{-t^2}{1+t} \\ \frac{t(b_2+b_1t+b_2t)}{b_1(1+t)} \\ \frac{-t}{1+t} \end{pmatrix} \in S$ . This gives a contradiction since  $t \neq 0$ .

Therefore, we conclude that the representation is irreducible because there is no proper non zero invariant subspace under the action of  $\psi'_\lambda$ .

We now give a necessary condition for irreducibility.

**Theorem 7** *If  $t = \pm i$ , then the subspace  $\langle e_1, e_3 \rangle$  is a proper invariant subspace.*

*Proof.*

1.  $\psi'_\lambda(\sigma_1)(e_1) = e_1 \in S$ .

2.  $\psi'_\lambda(\sigma_2)(e_1) = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{-t^2}{1+t} \\ \frac{t(b_2+b_1t+b_2t)}{b_1(1+t)} \\ \frac{-t}{1+t} \end{pmatrix} = ae_1 + be_3$ , where  $a$  and  $b \in \mathbb{C} - \{0\}$ .

Here, we have  $a = \frac{-t^2}{1+t}$ ,  $b = \frac{-t}{1+t}$ , and  $\frac{t(b_2+b_1t+b_2t)}{b_1(1+t)} = 0$ . This is true since  $t^2 = -1$ .

3.  $\psi'_\lambda(\delta)(e_1) = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{1+t} \\ -t(\lambda_1 + \frac{b_2\lambda_2}{b_1} + \frac{t}{1+t}) \\ \frac{t}{1+t} \end{pmatrix} = ae_1 + be_3$ ,

where  $a$  and  $b$  are given by  $a = \frac{1}{1+t}$  and  $b = \frac{t}{1+t}$ .

4.  $\psi'_\lambda(\sigma_1)(e_3) = -te_3 \in S$ .

5.  $\psi'_\lambda(\sigma_2)(e_3) = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{-(1+t+t^2)}{1+t} \\ \frac{t(b_2+b_1t+b_2t)}{b_1(1+t)} \\ \frac{1}{1+t} \end{pmatrix} = ae_1 + be_3$ ,

where  $a = \frac{-(1+t+t^2)}{1+t}$  and  $b = \frac{1}{1+t}$ .

$$6. \psi'_\lambda(\delta)e_3 = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{t}{1+t} \\ \frac{(-t+b_1t-d_1(1+t))(b_2\lambda_2(1+t)+b_1(\lambda_1+t+\lambda_1t))}{b_1(1+t)} \\ \frac{1}{1+t} \end{pmatrix} = ae_1 + be_3,$$

where  $a$  and  $b$  are given by  $a = \frac{t}{1+t}$  and  $b = \frac{1}{1+t}$ .

By Proposition 2, we have  $\frac{(-t+b_1t-d_1(1+t))(b_2\lambda_2(1+t)+b_1(\lambda_1+t+\lambda_1t))}{b_1(1+t)} = 0$ .

Thus, we have determined a necessary and sufficient condition for irreducibility.

**Theorem 8** Let  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, b_1, b_2, d_1, t \in \mathbb{C} - \{0\}$  and  $t \neq -1$ . The representation  $\psi'_\lambda : A(E_{3,1}) \rightarrow GL_3(\mathbb{C})$  is irreducible if and only if  $t \neq \pm i$ .

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