

# Kirillov-Reshetikhin modules and quantum affine algebras

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Paths, Maya Diagrams and representations of  $\widehat{\mathfrak{sl}}(r, \mathbb{C})$

Etsuro Date, Michio Jimbo, Atsuo Kuniba,  
Tetsuji Miwa and Masato Okado

Dedicated to Professor Tosihusa Kimura on his 60th birthday

## §1. Introduction

Let  $\mathfrak{g}$  be the affine Lie algebra  $\widehat{\mathfrak{sl}}(r, \mathbb{C})$ , let  $\Lambda$  be a dominant integral weight, and let  $L(\Lambda)$  be the irreducible  $\mathfrak{g}$ -module with highest weight  $\Lambda$ . In this article we construct an explicit basis of each weight space  $L(\Lambda)_\mu$ . As a corollary we prove a new combinatorial formula for the dimensionality of  $L(\Lambda)_\mu$ , which was conjectured in [1] through the study of corner transfer matrices of solvable lattice models (see Theorem 1.2 below).

The problem of constructing explicit bases goes back to the work of Gelfand and Tsetlin [2] who gave a canonical basis of  $L(\Lambda)$  for the classical Lie algebras  $\mathfrak{g} = \widehat{\mathfrak{gl}}(r, \mathbb{C})$ ,  $\widehat{\mathfrak{o}}(r, \mathbb{C})$ . Analogous results are available in the setting of affine Lie algebras. When  $\Lambda$  is of level 1,  $L(\Lambda)$  can be identified with a space of polynomials in infinitely many variables [3,4] or a simple modification thereof [5]. For higher levels, the  $\mathbb{Z}$ -algebra approach initiated by Lepowsky and Wilson [6] provides a basis in various cases ( $\mathfrak{g} = \widehat{\mathfrak{sl}}(2, \mathbb{C})$ , arbitrary levels [3],[7], or  $\mathfrak{g} = \widehat{\mathfrak{gl}}(r, \mathbb{C})$ ,  $\widehat{\mathfrak{sp}}(r, \mathbb{C})$ , level 2 [8]). Lakshmibai and Seshadri [9] gave a 'standard monomial basis' for  $\widehat{\mathfrak{sl}}(2, \mathbb{C})$  using geometric ideas.

A new feature of our approach is the use of an object—path, which we now explain. Let  $\epsilon_\mu = (0, \dots, 1, \dots, 0)$  ( $0 \leq \mu < r$ ) denote the standard base vectors of  $\mathbb{Z}^r$ . We extend the suffixes to  $\mathbb{Z}$  by  $\epsilon_{\mu+r} = \epsilon_\mu$ . Fix a positive integer  $l$ .

**Definition 1.1.** A path is a sequence  $\eta = (\eta(k))_{k \geq 0}$  consisting of elements  $\eta(k) \in \mathbb{Z}^r$  of the form  $\epsilon_{\mu_1(k)} + \dots + \epsilon_{\mu_l(k)}$  ( $\mu_1(k), \dots, \mu_l(k) \in \mathbb{Z}$ ).

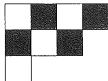


Fig. 2.2 Coloring of nodes.

where  $\alpha_0, \alpha_1$  are the simple roots of  $\hat{\mathfrak{sl}}(2, \mathbb{C})$ . Next we define the action of the Chevalley generators  $e_i, f_i$ . Put  $e_0 Y$  (resp.  $f_0 Y$ ) =  $\sum Y'$ , where  $Y'$  runs over the Young diagrams obtained by removing (resp. adjoining) one white node from  $Y$ . For instance,

$$e_0 \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array} = \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array} + \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$f_0 \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array} = \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array} + \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array} + \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array}$$

Likewise define  $e_1, f_1$  replacing 'white' by 'black'. We have then

$$(2.4) \quad (f_i Y, Y') = (Y, e_i Y')$$

With these definitions the irreducible  $\hat{\mathfrak{sl}}(2, \mathbb{C})$ -module  $L(\Lambda_0)$  is realized as a subspace of  $\mathcal{F}[0]$  spanned by vectors of the form  $f_{i_1} \cdots f_{i_r} \phi$ ,  $\phi$  being the empty Young diagram.

There is a natural map  $p_{\Lambda_0} : Y \mapsto \eta$  sending the set of Young diagrams onto that of  $\Lambda_0$ -paths. Let  $Y$  be a Young diagram, and let  $g_j$  denote the length of its  $(j+1)$ -th column ( $j = 0, 1, \dots, g_j = 0$  for  $j \gg 0$ ). Then  $\eta = p_{\Lambda_0}(Y)$  is defined by

$$\eta(j) \in \{0, 1\}, \quad \eta(j) = j - g_j \pmod{2} \quad (j \geq 0).$$

For instance,

$$Y = \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array} \quad \text{gives} \quad \eta = 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 1, \dots$$

Conversely, for each  $\eta$  there exists a unique Young diagram  $Y = Y_\eta$

which satisfies the conditions

$$(2.5a) \quad p_{\Lambda_0}(Y) = \eta,$$

$$(2.5b) \quad Y \text{ has the signature } [y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n] \text{ with } y_1 > y_2 > \dots > y_n.$$

Thus by (2.5b)

$$\phi, \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array}, \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array}, \dots \text{ are allowed}$$

but

$$\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \square \\ \hline \end{array}, \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array}, \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array}, \dots \text{ are not.}$$

The Young diagram  $Y_\eta$  is called the highest lift of  $\eta$ . It has the property that, for any  $Y'$  such that  $p_{\Lambda_0}(Y') = \eta$ , one has  $Y_\eta \subset Y'$ .

Our base vectors  $\xi_\eta \in L(\Lambda_0)^*$  are defined to be

$$\xi_\eta(v) = (Y_\eta, v), \quad v \in L(\Lambda_0).$$

Each  $\xi_\eta$  is a weight vector. In the Young diagram picture  $Y_\eta$ , its weight  $\lambda_\eta$  is simply given by counting the numbers of white and black nodes (2.3). In the path picture  $\eta$  we have

$$(2.6) \quad \lambda_\eta = \mu(0) - \sum_{k \geq 1} k \left( H(\eta(k-1), \eta(k)) - H(\eta_\Lambda(k-1), \eta_\Lambda(k)) \right) \delta,$$

where  $\mu(0)$  is the 'initial point' of the sequence  $\mu$  (2.2) corresponding to  $\eta$ ,  $\delta = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1$ , and

$$(2.7) \quad H(\eta, \eta') = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } \eta = 0, \eta' = 1, \\ 1 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

For example,  $\eta = \eta^{(3)}$  in (2.1) has the weight  $\lambda_\eta = -\Lambda_0 + 2\Lambda_1 - 3\delta$ .

One can also construct a basis  $\{v_\eta\}$  of  $L(\Lambda_0)$  as follows. Consider the process of removing the nodes from  $Y_\eta$  one by one. At each step we require:

- (i) removal of the node produces a Young diagram satisfying (2.5b),
- (ii) among the nodes satisfying (i) the rightmost one is removed.

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- For  $\lambda \in P_+$ ,  $\chi(L(\lambda))$  is given by Weyl's character formula.

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- $[M] = [N]$  in  $K_0(\mathcal{C}) \iff \chi_q(M) = \chi_q(N)$ .

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  - Frenkel-Mukhin's algorithm for minuscule representations.

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- There is **no** Weyl type character formula for  $\chi_q(L(\widehat{\lambda}))$ . But
  - Frenkel-Mukhin's algorithm for minuscule representations.
  - Nakajima's **geometric** description for  $\mathfrak{g}$  of type  $A, D, E$ .

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In type  $A, D, E$ :

$$[W_{k,z}^{(i)}] [W_{k,zq^2}^{(i)}] = [W_{k+1,z}^{(i)}] [W_{k-1,zq^2}^{(i)}] + \prod_{j \neq i} [W_{k,zq}^{(j)}]^{-c_{ij}}$$

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- $Q$ , one of the two connected components of  $\tilde{Q}$

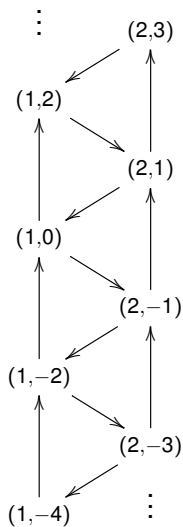
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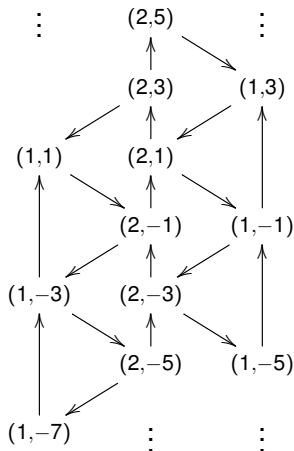


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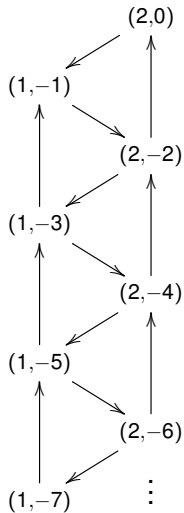
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- semi-infinite quiver  $\Gamma^-$ , fullsubquiver of  $\Gamma$  with vertex set  $W^- = \{(i, s) \in W \mid s \leq 0\}$ .

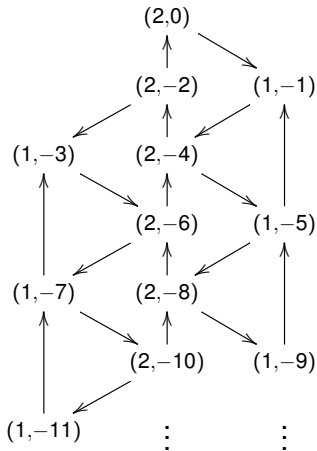
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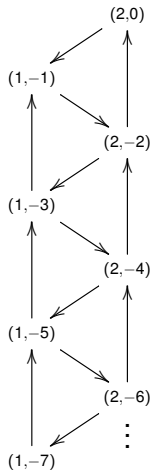
$\rightsquigarrow$  algorithm to calculate  $q$ -characters of KR-modules by “successive approximations”.



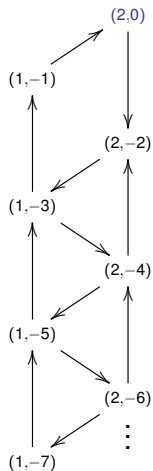
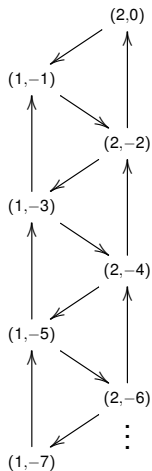
*The rules are tricky, but they are a much more efficient way of getting the answer than by counting beans.*

Richard Feynman, *QED the strange theory of light and matter*, 1985.

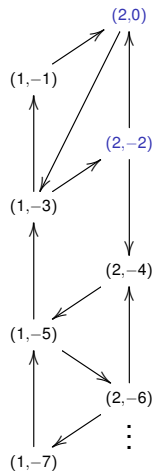
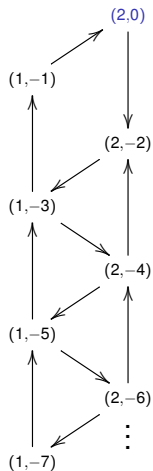
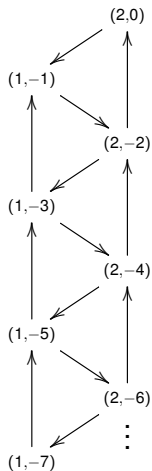
# The sequence $\mathcal{S}$ : type $A_2$



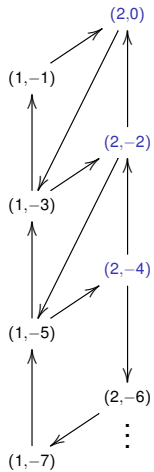
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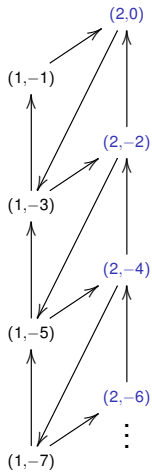
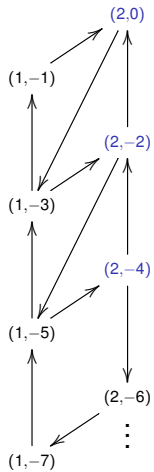
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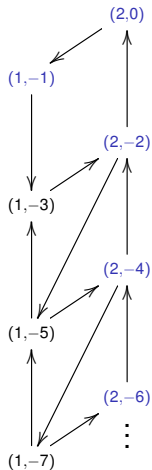
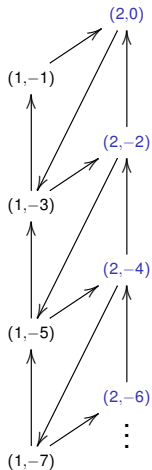
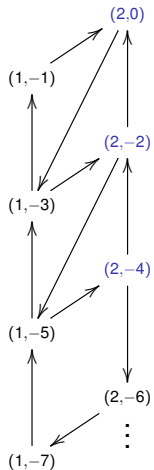
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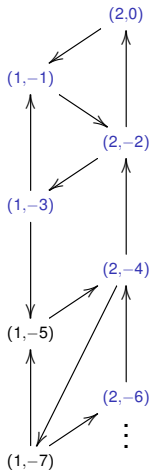
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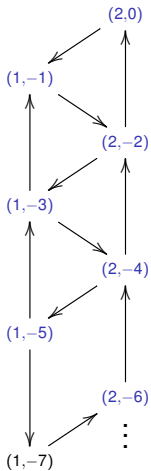
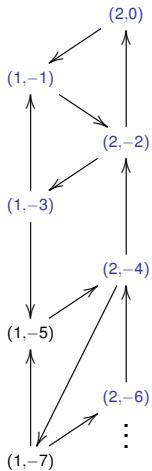


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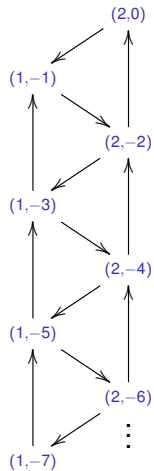
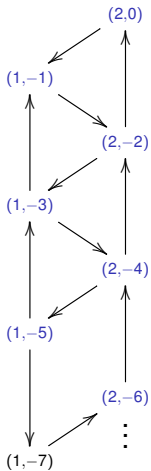
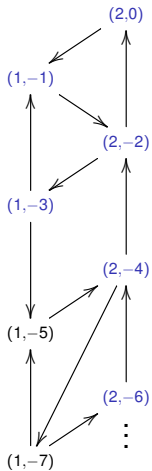




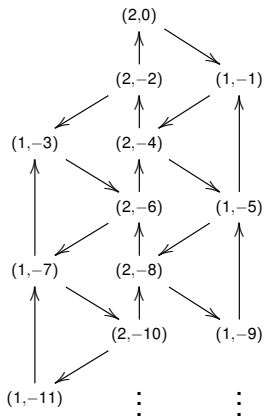
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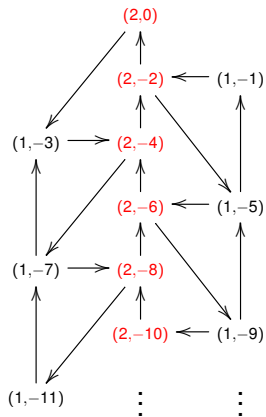
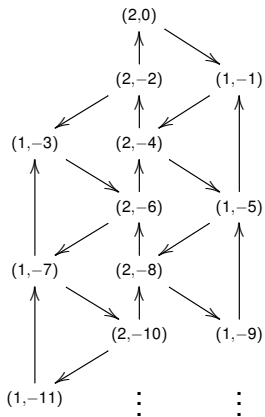
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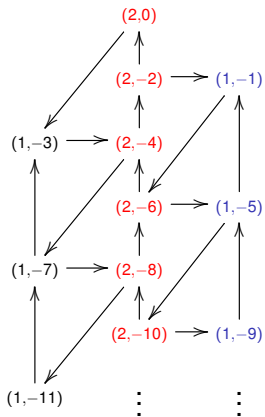
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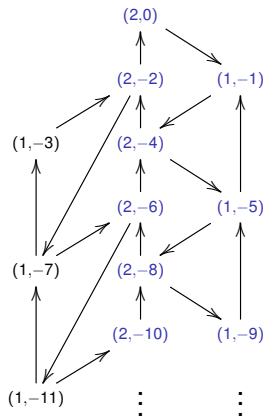
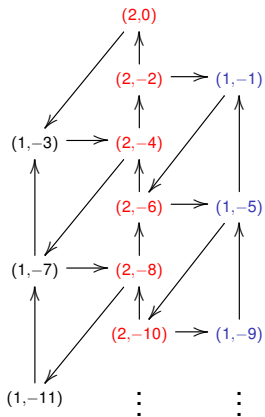
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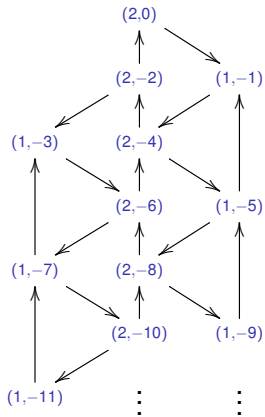
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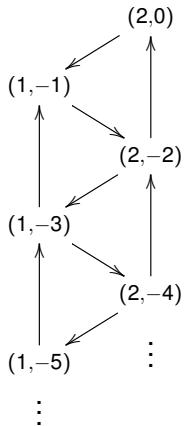
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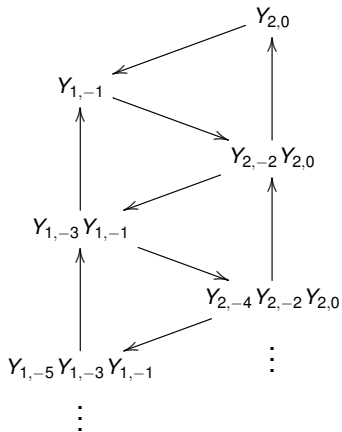


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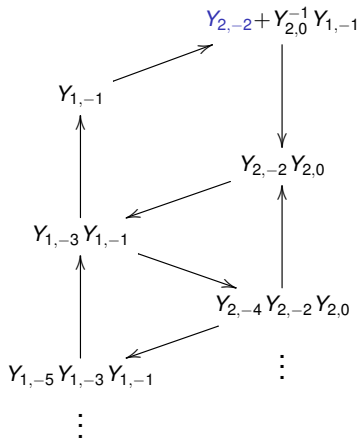




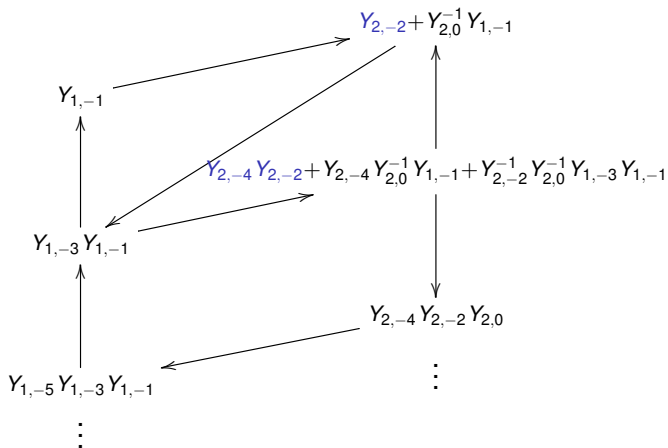
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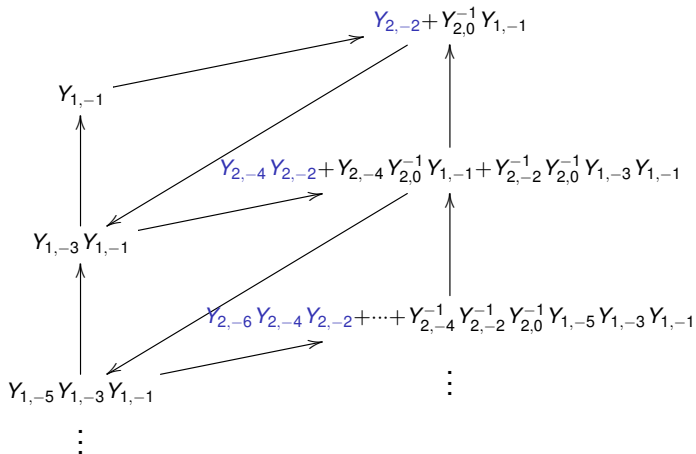
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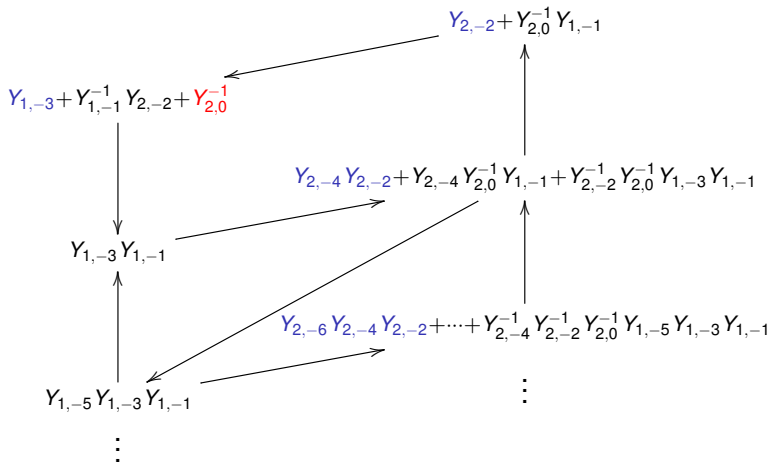
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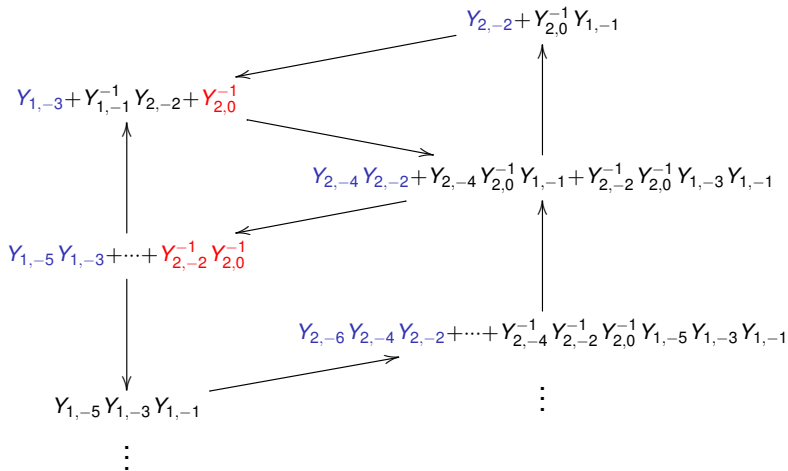
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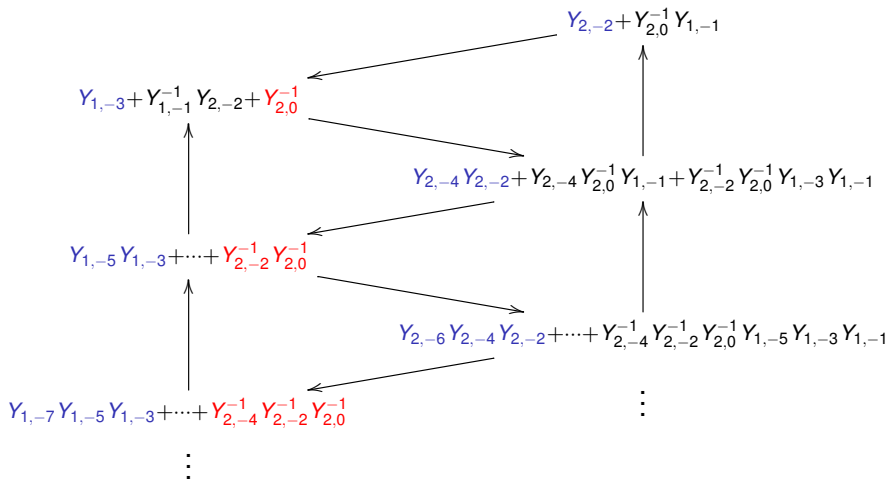
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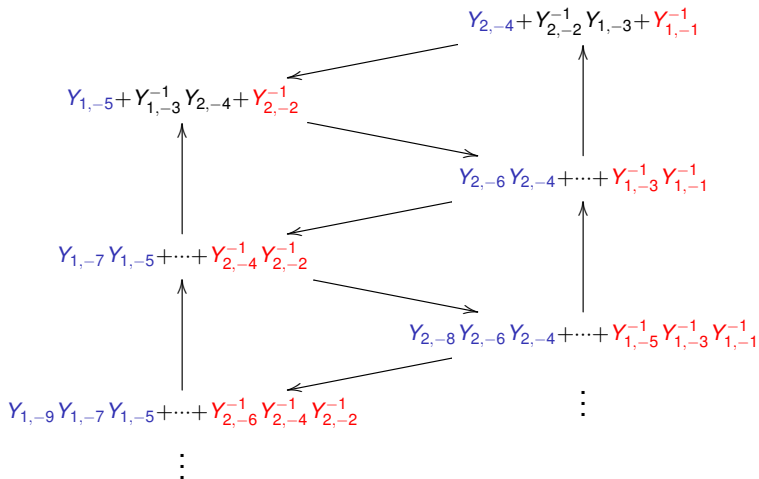
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## Theorem (Hernandez-L)

Geometric character formulas for  $q$ -characters of KR-modules



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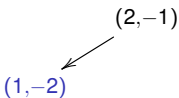
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$$A_{1,r} = Y_{1,r-1} Y_{1,r+1} Y_{2,r}^{-1}, \quad A_{2,r} = Y_{2,r-1} Y_{2,r+1} Y_{1,r}^{-1}.$$

## Type $A_2$

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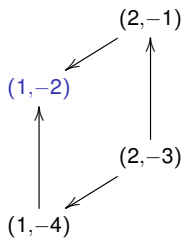
$$K_{1,-2}^{(1)} :$$


$(2,-1)$

$(1,-2)$

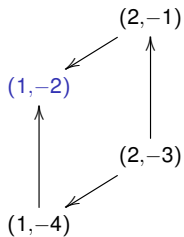
# Type $A_2$

$K_{2,-2}^{(1)}$  :

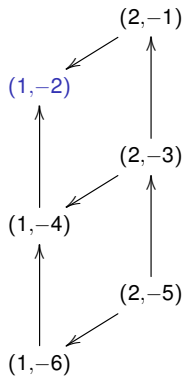


# Type $A_2$

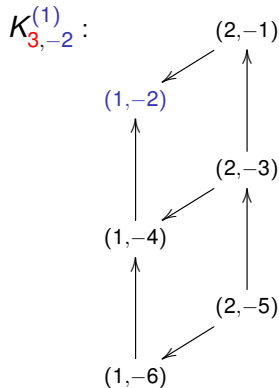
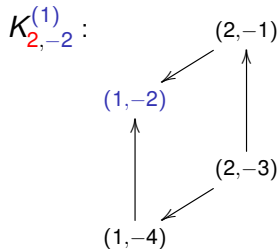
$K_{2,-2}^{(1)}$ :



$K_{3,-2}^{(1)}$ :

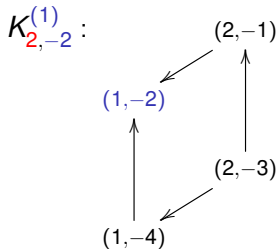


# Type $A_2$

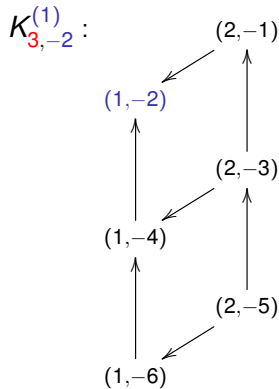


$$\rightsquigarrow \chi_q \left( W_{2,-5}^{(1)} \right)$$

# Type $A_2$



$$\rightsquigarrow \chi_q \left( W_{2,-5}^{(1)} \right)$$

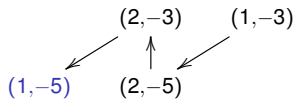


$$\rightsquigarrow \chi_q \left( W_{3,-7}^{(1)} \right)$$



## Type $B_2$

$K_{1,-5}^{(1)}$  :

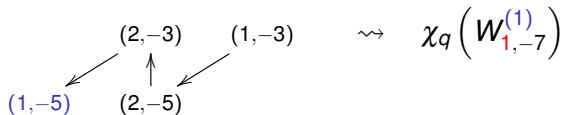


## Type $B_2$

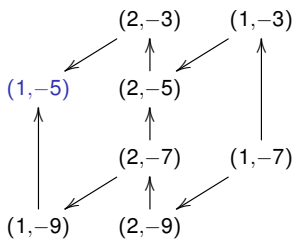
$$K_{1,-5}^{(1)} : \begin{array}{ccc} & (2,-3) & (1,-3) \\ & \swarrow \quad \searrow & \\ (1,-5) & (2,-5) & \end{array} \rightsquigarrow \chi_q \left( W_{1,-7}^{(1)} \right)$$

# Type $B_2$

$K_{1,-5}^{(1)}$  :



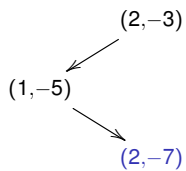
$K_{2,-5}^{(1)}$  :





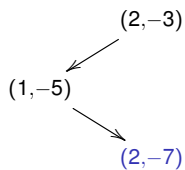
## Type $B_2$

$K_{1,-7}^{(2)}$  :



## Type $B_2$

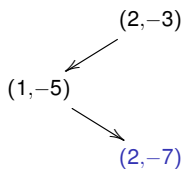
$K_{1,-7}^{(2)}$  :



$\rightsquigarrow \chi_q \left( W_{1,-8}^{(2)} \right)$

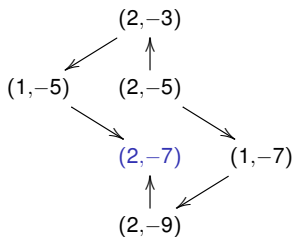
## Type $B_2$

$K_{1,-7}^{(2)}$ :



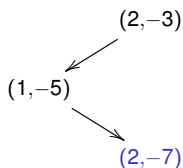
$\rightsquigarrow \chi_q(W_{1,-8}^{(2)})$

$K_{2,-7}^{(2)}$ :



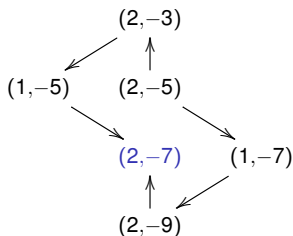
## Type $B_2$

$K_{1,-7}^{(2)}$ :



$\rightsquigarrow \chi_q(W_{1,-8}^{(2)})$

$K_{2,-7}^{(2)}$ :

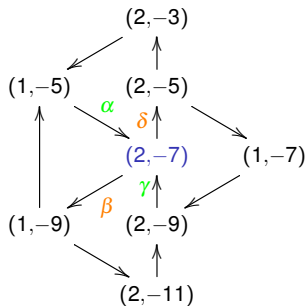


$\rightsquigarrow \chi_q(W_{2,-10}^{(2)})$



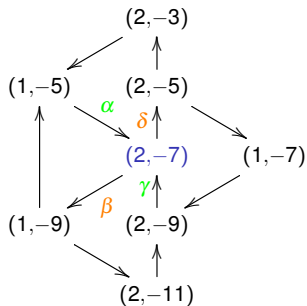
# Type $B_2$

$K_{3,-7}^{(2)}$  :



# Type $B_2$

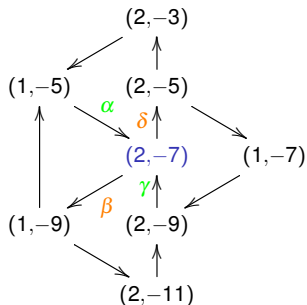
$K_{3,-7}^{(2)}$  :



$$\alpha = \gamma = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \beta = \delta = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

## Type $B_2$

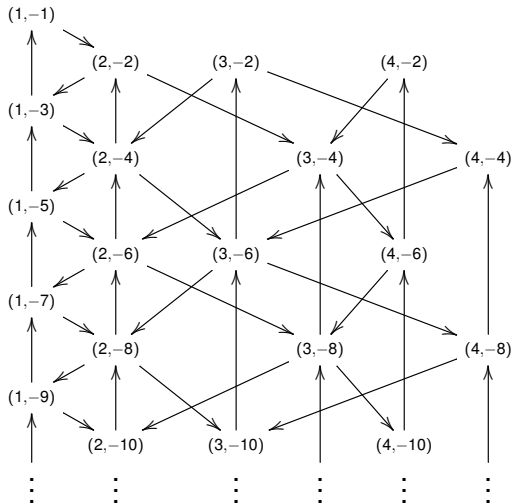
$K_{3,-7}^{(2)}$ :



$$\alpha = \gamma = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \beta = \delta = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

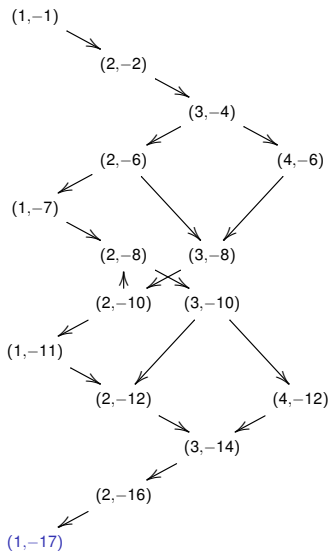
$$\rightsquigarrow \chi_q \left( W_{3,-12}^{(2)} \right)$$

# Type $F_4$ : the quiver $Q^-$



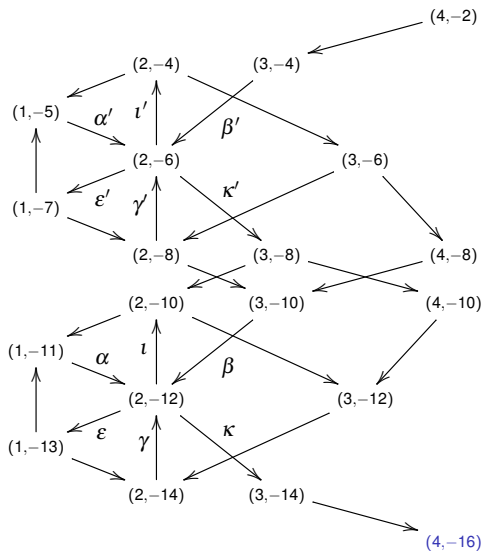
# Type $F_4$

$K_{1,-17}^{(1)}$  :



# Type $F_4$

$K_{1,-16}^{(4)}$  :



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- In type B,C,F,G, these varieties of submodules might be interesting replacements for the missing Nakajima varieties.

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### Conjecture

Real simple modules correspond to cluster monomials.

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$\rightsquigarrow$  Would give geometric  $q$ -character formulas for all **real simples**.