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# The Hall Algebra Approach to Quantum Groups

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## Introduction

Given any Dynkin diagram  $\Delta$  of type  $\mathbb{A}_n, \mathbb{D}_n, \mathbb{E}_6, \mathbb{E}_7, \mathbb{E}_8$ , we may endow its edges with an orientation; we obtain in this way a *quiver* (an oriented graph)  $\vec{\Delta}$ , and the corresponding path algebra  $k\vec{\Delta}$ , where  $k$  is a field. We may consider the representations of  $\vec{\Delta}$  over  $k$ , or, equivalently, the  $k\vec{\Delta}$ -modules. In case  $k$  is a finite field, one may define a multiplication on the free abelian group with basis the isomorphism classes of  $k\vec{\Delta}$ -modules by counting filtrations of modules; the ring obtained in this way is called the Hall algebra  $\mathcal{H}(k\vec{\Delta})$ .

We denote by  $\mathbb{Z}[v]$  the polynomial ring in one variable  $v$ , and we set  $q = v^2$ . Also, let  $A = \mathbb{Z}[v, v^{-1}]$ .

The free  $\mathbb{Z}[q]$ -module  $\mathcal{H}(\vec{\Delta})$  with basis the isomorphism classes of  $k\vec{\Delta}$ -modules can be endowed with a multiplication so that  $\mathcal{H}(\vec{\Delta})/(q - |k|) \simeq \mathcal{H}(k\vec{\Delta})$ , for any finite field  $k$  of cardinality  $|k|$ , thus  $\mathcal{H}(\vec{\Delta})$  may be called the *generic* Hall algebra. The generic Hall algebra satisfies relations which are very similar to the ones used by Jimbo and Drinfeld in order to define a  $q$ -deformation  $U_q(\mathfrak{n}_+(\Delta))$  of the Kostant  $\mathbb{Z}$ -form  $U(\mathfrak{n}_+(\Delta))$ . Here,  $\mathfrak{g}(\Delta) = \mathfrak{n}_-(\Delta) \oplus \mathfrak{h}(\Delta) \oplus \mathfrak{n}_+(\Delta)$  is a triangular decomposition of the complex simple Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}(\Delta)$  of type  $\Delta$ . Note that  $U_q(\mathfrak{n}_+(\Delta))$  is an  $A$ -algebra, and we can modify the multiplication of  $\mathcal{H}(\Delta) \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}[q]} A$  using the Euler characteristic on the Grothendieck group  $K_0(k\vec{\Delta})$  in order to obtain the *twisted* Hall algebra  $\mathcal{H}_*(\vec{\Delta})$  with

$$U_q(\mathfrak{n}_+(\Delta)) \simeq \mathcal{H}_*(\vec{\Delta})$$

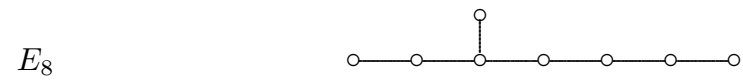
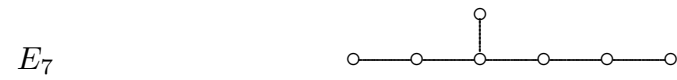
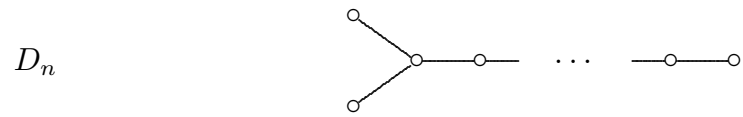
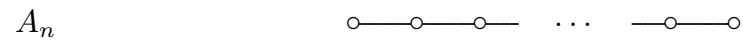
What is the advantage of the Hall algebra approach? Assume we have identified  $U_q(\mathfrak{n}_+(\Delta))$  with  $\mathcal{H}_*(\vec{\Delta})$ . Note that the ring  $U_q(\mathfrak{n}_+(\Delta))$  is defined by generators and relations, whereas  $\mathcal{H}_*(\vec{\Delta})$  is a free  $A$ -module with a prescribed basis.

The presentation of  $U_q(\mathfrak{n}_+(\Delta))$  gives us a presentation for the (twisted) Hall algebra, and this may be interpreted as follows: the Jimbo-Drinfeld relations are the universal relations for comparing the numbers of composition series of modules over algebras with a prescribed quiver.

On the other hand, in  $\mathcal{H}_*(\vec{\Delta})$ , there is the prescribed basis given by the  $k\vec{\Delta}$ -modules, and we obtain in this way a basis for  $U_q(\mathfrak{n}_+(\Delta))$ , thus normal forms for its elements, and this makes calculations in  $U_q(\mathfrak{n}_+(\Delta))$  easier. Also, the basis elements themselves gain more importance, more flavour. Since they may be interpreted as modules, one can discuss about their module theoretical, homological or geometrical properties: whether they are indecomposable, or multiplicityfree and so on.

The basis of  $U_q(\mathfrak{n}_+(\Delta))$  obtained in this way depends on the chosen orientation of  $\Delta$ , and Lusztig has proposed a base change which leads to a basis which is independent of such a choice and which he calls the *canonical* basis. This basis also was constructed by Kashiwara and called the *crystal* basis of  $U_q(\mathfrak{n}_+(\Delta))$ .

Here is the list of the Dynkin diagrams  $A_n, D_n, E_6, E_7, E_8$ :



## 0. Preliminaries

Consider the following polynomials in a variable  $T$ , where  $n, m \in \mathbb{N}_0$  and  $m \leq n$

$$F^n(T) := \frac{(T^n - 1)(T^{n-1} - 1) \cdots (T - 1)}{(T - 1)^n},$$

$$G_m^n(T) := \frac{(T^n - 1)(T^{n-1} - 1) \cdots (T^{n-m+1} - 1)}{(T^m - 1)(T^{m-1} - 1) \cdots (T - 1)}.$$

Note that the degree of the polynomial  $F^n(T)$  is  $\binom{n}{2}$ , the degree of  $G_m^n(T)$  is  $m(n - m)$ .

Let  $k$  be a finite field, denote its cardinality by  $q_k = |k|$ . The cardinality of the set of complete flags in  $k^n$  is just  $F^n(q_k)$ , and for  $0 \leq m \leq n$ , the number of  $m$ -dimensional subspaces of  $k^n$  is  $G_m^n(q_k)$ .

Let  $A' = \mathbb{Q}(v)$  be the rational function field over  $\mathbb{Q}$  in one variable  $v$ , and let us consider its subring  $A = \mathbb{Z}[v, v^{-1}]$ . We denote by  $\bar{\phantom{x}}: A' \rightarrow A'$  the field automorphism with  $\bar{v} = v^{-1}$ ; it has order 2, and it sends  $A$  onto itself.

We set  $q = v^2$ ; we will have to deal with  $F^n(q)$  and  $G_m^n(q)$ . We define

$$[n] := \frac{v^n - v^{-n}}{v - v^{-1}} = v^{n-1} + v^{n-3} + \cdots + v^{-n+1},$$

thus  $[0] = 0$ ,  $[1] = 1$ ,  $[2] = v + v^{-1}$ ,  $[3] = v^2 + 1 + v^{-2}$ , and so on. Let

$$[n]! := \prod_{m=1}^n [m],$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} n \\ m \end{bmatrix} := \frac{[n]!}{[m]![n-m]!} \quad \text{where } 0 \leq m \leq n.$$

There are the following identities:

$$[n] = v^{-n+1} \frac{q^n - 1}{q - 1}$$

$$[n]! = v^{-\binom{n}{2}} F^n(q)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} n \\ m \end{bmatrix} = v^{-m(n-m)} G_m^n(q).$$

## 1. The definition of $U_q(\mathfrak{n}_+(\Delta))$

Let  $\Delta = (a_{ij})_{ij}$  be a symmetric  $(n \times n)$ -matrix with diagonal entries  $a_{ii} = 2$ , and with off-diagonal entries 0 and  $-1$ . (Such a matrix is called a *simply-laced generalized Cartan matrix*.)

Note that  $\Delta$  defines a graph with  $n$  vertices labelled  $1, 2, \dots, n$  with edges  $\{i, j\}$  provided  $a_{ij} = -1$ . Often we will not need the labels of the vertices, then we will present the vertices by small dots  $\circ$ . Of particular interest will be the Dynkin diagrams  $\mathbb{A}_n, \mathbb{D}_n, \mathbb{E}_6, \mathbb{E}_7, \mathbb{E}_8$ .

Given  $\Delta$ , we define  $U'_q(\mathfrak{n}_+(\Delta))$  as the  $A'$ -algebra with generators  $E_1, \dots, E_n$  and relations

$$\begin{aligned} E_i E_j - E_j E_i &= 0 & \text{if } a_{ij} &= 0, \\ E_i^2 E_j - (v + v^{-1}) E_i E_j E_i + E_j E_i^2 &= 0 & \text{if } a_{ij} &= -1. \end{aligned}$$

We denote

$$E_i^{(m)} := \frac{1}{[m]!} E_i^m.$$

Let  $U_q(\mathfrak{n}_+(\Delta))$  be the  $A$ -subalgebra of  $U'_q(\mathfrak{n}_+(\Delta))$  generated by the elements  $E_i^{(m)}$  with  $1 \leq i \leq n$  and  $m \geq 0$ .

We denote by  $\bar{\cdot}: U'_q(\mathfrak{n}_+(\Delta)) \rightarrow U'_q(\mathfrak{n}_+(\Delta))$  the automorphism with  $\bar{v} = v^{-1}$  and  $\overline{E_i} = E_i$  for all  $i$ .

We denote by  $\mathbb{Z}^n$  the free abelian group of rank  $n$  with basis  $\mathbf{e}_1, \dots, \mathbf{e}_n$ . Given an element  $\mathbf{d} \in \mathbb{Z}^n$ , say  $\mathbf{d} = \sum d_i \mathbf{e}_i$ , let  $|\mathbf{d}| = \sum d_i$ .

Note that the rings  $U_q(\mathfrak{n}_+(\Delta))$  and  $U'_q(\mathfrak{n}_+(\Delta))$  are  $\mathbb{Z}^n$ -graded, where we assign to  $E_i$  the degree  $\mathbf{e}_i$ . Given  $\mathbf{d} \in \mathbb{Z}^n$ , we denote by  $U_q(\mathfrak{n}_+(\Delta))_{\mathbf{d}}$  the set of homogeneous elements of degree  $\mathbf{d}$ , thus

$$U_q(\mathfrak{n}_+(\Delta)) = \bigoplus_{\mathbf{d}} U_q(\mathfrak{n}_+(\Delta))_{\mathbf{d}}.$$

Let  $\Delta$  be of the form  $\mathbb{A}_n, \mathbb{D}_n, \mathbb{E}_6, \mathbb{E}_7$ , or  $\mathbb{E}_8$ . We denote by  $\Phi = \Phi(\Delta)$  the corresponding root system. We choose a basis  $\mathbf{e}_1, \dots, \mathbf{e}_n$  of the root system, and denote by  $\Phi^+$  the set of positive roots (with respect to this choice). The choice of the basis yields a fixed embedding of  $\Phi$  into  $\mathbb{Z}^n$ .

We will have to deal with maps  $\alpha: \Phi^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_0$ . Given such a map  $\alpha$ , we set

$$\mathbf{dim} \alpha := \sum_{\mathbf{a}} \alpha(\mathbf{a}) \mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{Z}^n$$

and call it its *dimension vector*. We denote by  $u(\mathbf{d})$  for  $\mathbf{d} \in \mathbb{Z}^n$  the number of maps  $\alpha: \Phi^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_0$  with  $\mathbf{dim} \alpha = \mathbf{d}$ .

Consider the  $\mathbb{Q}$ -Lie-algebra  $\mathfrak{n}_+(\Delta)$  generated by  $E_1, \dots, E_n$  with relations

$$\begin{aligned} [E_i, E_j] &= 0 & \text{if } a_{ij} &= 0, \\ [E_i, [E_i, E_j]] &= 0 & \text{if } a_{ij} &= -1. \end{aligned}$$

(Usually, one deals with the corresponding  $\mathbb{C}$ -algebra  $\mathfrak{n}_+(\Delta) \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{C}$ ; here, it will be more convenient to consider the mentioned  $\mathbb{Q}$ -form.)

The universal enveloping algebra  $U(\mathfrak{n}_+(\Delta))$  is the  $\mathbb{Q}$ -algebra generated by the elements  $E_1, \dots, E_n$  with relations

$$\begin{aligned} [E_i, E_j] &= 0 & \text{if } a_{ij} &= 0, \\ [E_i, [E_i, E_j]] &= 0 & \text{if } a_{ij} &= -1, \end{aligned}$$

thus we see:

**Proposition.** *We have*

$$U(\mathfrak{n}_+(\Delta)) = U_q(\mathfrak{n}_+(\Delta)) \otimes_A \mathbb{Q}[v, v^{-1}]/(v-1).$$

Of course,  $\mathfrak{n}_+(\Delta)$  and  $U(\mathfrak{n}_+(\Delta))$  both are  $\mathbb{Z}^n$ -graded, where again we assign to  $E_i$  the degree  $\mathbf{e}_i$ . For any non-zero homogeneous element  $L$  of  $\mathfrak{n}_+(\Delta)$ , we denote by  $\mathbf{dim} L$  its degree. It is well-known that  $\mathfrak{n}_+(\Delta)$  has a basis  $E_{\mathbf{a}}$  indexed by the positive roots, such that  $\mathbf{dim} E_{\mathbf{a}} = \mathbf{a}$ . As a consequence, we obtain the following consequence:

**Proposition.** *The  $\mathbb{Q}$ -dimension of  $U(\mathfrak{n}_+(\Delta))_{\mathbf{d}}$  is  $u(\mathbf{d})$ .*

Proof: Use the theorem of Poincaré-Birkhoff-Witt.

## 2. Rings and modules, path algebras of quivers

### Rings and modules.

Given a ring  $R$ , the  $R$ -modules which we will consider will be finitely generated right  $R$ -modules. The category of finitely generated right  $R$ -modules will be denoted by  $\text{mod } R$ .

Let  $R$  be a ring. The direct sum of two  $R$ -modules  $M_1, M_2$  will be denoted by  $M_1 \oplus M_2$ , the direct sum of  $t$  copies of  $M$  will be denoted by  $tM$ . The zero module will be denoted by  $0_R$  or just by  $0$ .

We write  $M \simeq M'$ , in case the modules  $M, M'$  are isomorphic, the isomorphism class of  $M$  will be denoted by  $[M]$ . For any module  $M$ , we denote by  $s(M)$  the number of isomorphism classes of indecomposable direct summands of  $M$ .

Let  $R$  be a finite dimensional algebra over some field  $k$ . Let  $n = s(R_R)$ , thus  $n$  is the rank of the Grothendieck group  $K_0(R)$  of all finite length modules modulo split exact sequences. Given such a module  $M$ , we denote its equivalence class in  $K_0(R)$  by  $\mathbf{dim} M$ . There are precisely  $n$  isomorphism classes of simple  $R$ -modules  $S_1, \dots, S_n$ , and the elements  $\mathbf{e}_i = \mathbf{dim} S_i$  form a basis of  $K_0(R)$ . If we denote the Jordan-Hölder multiplicity of  $S_i$  in  $M$  by  $[M : S_i]$ , then  $\mathbf{dim} M = \sum_i [M : S_i] \mathbf{e}_i$ .

We denote by  $\text{supp } M$  the support of  $M$ , it is the set of simple modules  $S$  with  $[M : S] \neq 0$ . (In case the simple modules are indexed by the vertices of a quiver, we also will consider  $\text{supp } M$  as a subset of the set of vertices of this quiver).

### Path algebras of quivers

A *quiver*  $\vec{\Delta} = (\vec{\Delta}_0, \vec{\Delta}_1, s, t)$  is given by two sets  $\vec{\Delta}_0, \vec{\Delta}_1$ , and two maps  $s, t: \vec{\Delta}_1 \rightarrow \vec{\Delta}_0$ . The elements of  $\vec{\Delta}_0$  are called *vertices*, the elements of  $\vec{\Delta}_1$  are called *arrows*; given  $f \in \vec{\Delta}_1$ , then we say that  $f$  starts in  $s(f)$  and ends in  $t(f)$ , and we write  $f: s(f) \rightarrow t(f)$ . An arrow  $f$  with  $s(f) = t(f)$  is called a *loop*, we always will assume that  $\vec{\Delta}$  has no loops.

We denote by  $k\vec{\Delta}$  the path algebra of the quiver  $\vec{\Delta}$  over the field  $k$ . We will not distinguish between representations of  $\vec{\Delta}$  over  $k$  and (right)  $k\vec{\Delta}$ -modules. Recall that a representation  $M$  of  $\vec{\Delta}$  over  $k$  attaches to each vertex  $x$  of  $\vec{\Delta}$  a vector space  $M_x$  over  $k$ , and to each arrow  $f: s(f) \rightarrow t(f)$  a  $k$ -linear map  $M_{s(f)} \rightarrow M_{t(f)}$ . For any vertex  $x$  of  $\vec{\Delta}$ , we can define a simple  $k\vec{\Delta}$ -module  $S(x)$  by attaching the one-dimensional  $k$ -space  $k$  to the vertex  $x$ , the zero space to the remaining vertices, and the zero map to all arrows. We stress that the number of arrows  $x \rightarrow y$  is equal to  $\dim_k \text{Ext}^1(S(x), S(y))$ . In case there is precisely one arrow starting in  $x$  and ending in  $y$ , there exists up to isomorphism a unique indecomposable representation of length 2 with top  $S(x)$  and socle  $S(y)$ , we denote it by

$$\begin{array}{c} S(x) \\ S(y) \end{array}.$$

In case  $\vec{\Delta}$  has as vertex set the set  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ , we define a corresponding  $(n \times n)$ -matrix  $\Delta = (a_{ij})_{ij}$  as follows: let  $a_{ii} = 2$ , for all  $i$ , and let  $a_{ij}$  be the number of arrows between  $i$  and  $j$  (take the arrows  $i \rightarrow j$  as well as the arrows  $j \rightarrow i$ ). In case there is at most one arrow between  $i$  and  $j$  we obtain a matrix as considered in section 1, and then we will call  $\Delta$  the underlying graph of  $\vec{\Delta}$ .

Let us assume that  $\vec{\Delta}$  is a finite quiver with  $n$  vertices, and let  $\Lambda = k\vec{\Delta}$ . We assume in addition that  $\vec{\Delta}$  has no cyclic paths (a cyclic path is a path of length at least 1 starting and ending in the same vertex). As a consequence,  $\vec{\Delta}$  is finite-dimensional, and there are precisely  $n$  simple  $\Lambda$ -modules, namely the modules  $S(x)$ , with  $x$  a vertex. Of course, if  $M$  is a representation of  $\vec{\Delta}$ , then  $\mathbf{dim} M = \sum_x (\dim_k M_x) \mathbf{dim} S(x)$  in the Grothendieck group  $K_0(\Lambda)$ .

It is easy to see that  $\Lambda$  is hereditary, thus we can define on  $K_0(\Lambda)$  a bilinear form via

$$\langle \mathbf{dim} X, \mathbf{dim} Y \rangle = \dim_k \mathrm{Hom}(X, Y) - \dim_k \mathrm{Ext}^1(X, Y)$$

where  $X, Y$  are  $\Lambda$ -modules of finite length. The corresponding quadratic form will be denoted by  $\chi$ ; thus for  $\mathbf{d} \in K_0(\Lambda)$ , we have  $\chi(\mathbf{d}) = \langle \mathbf{d}, \mathbf{d} \rangle$ . Of course, we have the following formula for all  $i, j$

$$a_{ij} = \langle \mathbf{dim} S_i, \mathbf{dim} S_j \rangle + \langle \mathbf{dim} S_j, \mathbf{dim} S_i \rangle$$

### Dynkin quivers

A quiver  $\vec{\Delta}$  whose underlying graph is of the form  $\mathbb{A}_n, \mathbb{D}_n, \mathbb{E}_6, \mathbb{E}_7, \mathbb{E}_8$  will be called a *Dynkin quiver*. We recall some well-known results:

**Gabriel's Theorem.** *Let  $\vec{\Delta}$  be a Dynkin quiver. The map  $\mathbf{dim}$  yields a bijection between the isomorphism classes of the indecomposable  $k\vec{\Delta}$ -modules and the positive roots for  $\Delta$ .*

Let  $\vec{\Delta}$  be a Dynkin quiver, and let  $\Lambda = k\vec{\Delta}$ . Given a positive root  $\mathbf{a}$  for  $\Delta$ , we denote by  $M(\mathbf{a})$  or  $M_\Lambda(\mathbf{a})$  the corresponding  $\Lambda$ -module; thus  $M(\mathbf{a}) = M_\Lambda(\mathbf{a})$  is an indecomposable  $\Lambda$ -module with  $\mathbf{dim} M(\mathbf{a}) = \mathbf{a}$ . Similarly, given a map  $\alpha: \Phi^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_0$ , we denote by  $M(\alpha)$  we denote the  $\Lambda$ -module

$$M(\alpha) = M_\Lambda(\alpha) = \bigoplus_{\mathbf{a}} \alpha(\mathbf{a}) M(\mathbf{a}).$$

We obtain in this way a bijection between the maps  $\Phi^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_0$  and the isomorphism classes of  $\Lambda$ -modules of finite length (according to the Krull-Schmidt theorem).

A finite dimensional  $k$ -algebra  $R$  is called *representation directed* provided there is only a finite number of (isomorphism classes of) indecomposable  $R$ -modules, say  $M_1, \dots, M_m$ , and they can be indexed in such a way that  $\mathrm{Hom}(M_i, M_j) = 0$  for  $i > j$ .



**Proposition.** *Let  $\vec{\Delta}$  be a Dynkin quiver. Then  $k\vec{\Delta}$  is representation directed.*

Let  $\Phi^+ = \{\mathbf{a}_1, \dots, \mathbf{a}_m\}$ , we will assume that the ordering is chosen so that

$$\mathrm{Hom}(M_\Lambda(\mathbf{a}_i), M_\Lambda(\mathbf{a}_j)) \neq 0 \quad \text{implies} \quad i \leq j.$$

The subcategories  $\mathcal{C}$ ,  $\mathcal{D}$  of  $\mathrm{mod} \Lambda$  are said to be *linearly separated* provided for modules  $C$  in  $\mathrm{add} \mathcal{C}$ , and  $D$  in  $\mathrm{add} \mathcal{D}$  with  $\mathbf{dim} C = \mathbf{dim} D$ , we have  $C = 0 = D$ .

**Lemma.** *The subcategories  $\mathrm{add}\{M(\mathbf{a}_1), \dots, M(\mathbf{a}_{s-1})\}$  and  $\mathrm{add}\{M(\mathbf{a}_s), \dots, M(\mathbf{a}_m)\}$  are linearly separated.*

### 3. The Hall algebra of a finitary ring.

Given a ring  $R$ , we will be interested in the finite  $R$ -modules; here a module  $M$  will be said to be *finite* provided the cardinality of its underlying set is finite (not just that  $M$  is of finite length). Of course, for many rings the only finite  $R$ -module will be the zero-module, but for finite rings, in particular for finite-dimensional algebras over finite fields, all finite length modules are finite modules. A ring  $R$  will be said to be *finitary* provided the group  $\mathrm{Ext}^1(S_1, S_2)$  is finite, for all finite simple  $R$ -modules  $S_1, S_2$ . (For a discussion of finitary rings, see [R1]).

*We assume that  $R$  is a finitary ring.* We mainly will consider path algebras of finite quivers over finite fields; of course, such a ring is finitary.

Given finite  $R$ -modules  $N_1, N_2, \dots, N_t$  and  $M$ , let  $\mathcal{F}_{N_1, \dots, N_t}^M$  be the set of filtrations

$$M = M_0 \supseteq M_1 \supseteq \dots \supseteq M_t = 0$$

such that  $M_{i-1}/M_i$  is isomorphic to  $N_i$ , for all  $1 \leq i \leq t$ . The cardinality of  $\mathcal{F}_{N_1, \dots, N_t}^M$  will be denoted by  $F_{N_1, \dots, N_t}^M$  or also by  $\langle N_1 N_2 \dots N_t \diamond M \rangle$ . (These cardinalities are finite, since we assume that  $R$  is finitary.)

Let  $\mathcal{H}(R)$  be the free abelian group with basis the set of isomorphism classes  $[X]$  of finite  $R$ -modules, with a multiplication which we denote by the diamond sign  $\diamond$

$$[N_1] \diamond [N_2] := \sum_{[M]} F_{N_1 N_2}^M [M] = \sum_{[M]} \langle N_1 N_2 \diamond M \rangle [M].$$

Given an element  $x \in \mathcal{H}(R)$ , we denote its  $t^{\mathrm{th}}$  power with respect to the diamond product by  $x^{\diamond t}$ .

**Proposition.**  *$\mathcal{H}(R)$  is an associative ring with 1.*

Proof: The associativity follows from the fact that

$$([N_1] \diamond [N_2]) \diamond [N_3] = \sum_{[M]} F_{N_1 N_2 N_3}^M [M] = [N_1] \diamond ([N_2] \diamond [N_3]),$$

The unit element is just  $[0_R]$ , with  $0_R$  the zero module.

In case  $R$  is a finite-dimensional algebra over some finite field, we assign to the isomorphism class  $[M]$  the degree  $\mathbf{dim} M \in \mathbb{Z}^n$ . Let  $\mathcal{H}(R)_{\mathbf{d}}$  be the free abelian group with basis the set of isomorphism classes  $[M]$  of finite  $R$ -modules with  $\mathbf{dim} M = \mathbf{d}$ .

**Proposition.**  $\mathcal{H}(R) = \bigoplus_{\mathbf{d}} \mathcal{H}(R)_{\mathbf{d}}$  is a  $\mathbb{Z}^n$ -graded ring.

Proof: We only have to observe that for  $F_{N_1 N_2}^M \neq 0$ , we have  $\mathbf{dim} M = \mathbf{dim} N_1 + \mathbf{dim} N_2$ .

From now on, let  $\vec{\Delta}$  be a Dynkin quiver, let  $k$  be a field. We consider  $\Lambda = k\vec{\Delta}$ . Let  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  be the vertices of  $\vec{\Delta}$ , ordered in such a way that

$$\mathrm{Ext}^1(S_i, S_j) \neq 0 \quad \text{implies} \quad i < j.$$

Let  $\Phi^+ = \{\mathbf{a}_1, \dots, \mathbf{a}_m\}$ , and we will assume that the ordering is chosen so that

$$\mathrm{Hom}(M_{\Lambda}(\mathbf{a}_i), M_{\Lambda}(\mathbf{a}_j)) \neq 0 \quad \text{implies} \quad i \leq j.$$

## Hall polynomials

**Proposition.** Let  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma: \Phi^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_0$ . There exists a polynomial  $\phi_{\alpha, \gamma}^{\beta}(q) \in \mathbb{Z}[q]$  such that for any finite field  $k$  of cardinality  $q_k$

$$F_{M_{\Lambda}(\alpha) M_{\Lambda}(\gamma)}^{M_{\Lambda}(\beta)} = \phi_{\alpha, \gamma}^{\beta}(q_k).$$

For a proof, see [R1], Theorem 1, p.439.

The polynomials which arise in this way are called *Hall polynomials*.

Let  $\vec{\Delta}$  be a Dynkin quiver. Let  $\mathcal{H}(\vec{\Delta})$  be the free  $\mathbb{Z}[q]$ -module with basis the set of maps  $\Phi^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_0$ . On  $\mathcal{H}(\vec{\Delta})$ , we define a multiplication by

$$\alpha_1 \diamond \alpha_2 := \sum_{\beta} \phi_{\alpha_1 \alpha_2}^{\beta}(q) \cdot \beta$$

**Proposition.**  $\mathcal{H}(\vec{\Delta})$  is an associative ring with 1, it is  $\mathbb{Z}^n$ -graded (the degree of  $\alpha: \Phi^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_0$  being  $\mathbf{dim} \alpha$ ), and for any finite field  $k$  of cardinality  $q_k$ , the map  $\alpha \mapsto [M_{k\vec{\Delta}}(\alpha)]$  yields an isomorphism

$$\mathcal{H}(\vec{\Delta})/(q - q_k) \simeq \mathcal{H}(k\vec{\Delta}).$$

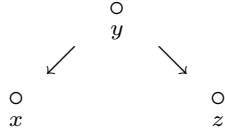
#### 4. Loewy series.

For  $\mathbf{d} = (d_1, \dots, d_n) \in \mathbb{N}_0^n$ , let

$$w_\diamond(\mathbf{d}) := [d_1 S_1] \diamond \cdots \diamond [d_n S_n].$$

Note that the element  $w_\diamond(\mathbf{d})$  only depends on the semisimple module  $\bigoplus d_i S_i$  and not on the particular chosen ordering of the vertices of  $\vec{\Delta}$ , since  $[d_i S_i] \diamond [d_j S_j] = [d_j S_j] \diamond [d_i S_i]$  in case  $\text{Ext}^1(S_i, S_j) = 0 = \text{Ext}^1(S_j, S_i)$ .

Remark: Recall that the vertices  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  of  $\vec{\Delta}$  are ordered in such a way that  $\text{Ext}^1(S_i, S_j) \neq 0$  implies that  $i < j$ . Usually, there will be several possible orderings, for example in the case of  $\mathbb{A}_3$  with orientation



we have to take  $1 = y$  but we may take  $2 = x$ ,  $3 = z$  or else  $2 = z$ ,  $3 = x$ . All possible orderings are obtained from each other by a finite sequence of transpositions  $(i, i+1)$  in case  $\text{Ext}^1(S_i, S_{i+1}) = 0 = \text{Ext}^1(S_{i+1}, S_i)$ .

**Lemma.** *We have  $\langle w_\diamond(\mathbf{d}) \diamond M \rangle \neq 0$  if and only if  $\dim M = \mathbf{d}$ ; and, in this case,  $\langle w_\diamond(\mathbf{d}) \diamond M \rangle = 1$ .*

The proof is obvious.

Given a map  $\alpha: \Phi^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_0$ , let

$$w_\diamond(\alpha) := w_\diamond(\alpha(\mathbf{a}_1)\mathbf{a}_1) \diamond \cdots \diamond w_\diamond(\alpha(\mathbf{a}_m)\mathbf{a}_m).$$

The element  $w_\diamond(\alpha)$  does not depend on the chosen ordering of the positive roots.

**Example.** Consider the case  $\mathbb{A}_2$ . Thus, there is given a hereditary  $k$ -algebra  $\Lambda$  with two simple modules  $S_1, S_2$  such that  $\text{Ext}^1(S_1, S_2) = k$ . There is a unique indecomposable module of length 2, and we denote it by  $I$ . There are three positive roots  $\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \mathbf{a}_3$ , where  $\mathbf{a}_2 = \mathbf{a}_1 + \mathbf{a}_3$ . If we assume that  $S_2 = M_\Lambda(\mathbf{a}_1)$  and  $S_1 = M_\Lambda(\mathbf{a}_3)$ , then the ordering is as desired. For  $\alpha: \Phi^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_0$ , we obtain the following element

$$\begin{aligned} w_\diamond(\alpha) &= w_\diamond(\alpha(\mathbf{a}_1)\mathbf{a}_1) \diamond w_\diamond(\alpha(\mathbf{a}_2)\mathbf{a}_2) \diamond w_\diamond(\alpha(\mathbf{a}_3)\mathbf{a}_3) \\ &= [\alpha(\mathbf{a}_1)S_2] \diamond [\alpha(\mathbf{a}_2)S_1] \diamond [\alpha(\mathbf{a}_2)S_2] \diamond [\alpha(\mathbf{a}_3)S_1], \end{aligned}$$

the corresponding  $\Lambda$ -module is  $M_\Lambda(\alpha) = \alpha(\mathbf{a}_1)S_2 \oplus \alpha(\mathbf{a}_2)I \oplus \alpha(\mathbf{a}_3)S_1$ .

**Lemma.** We have  $\langle w_\diamond(\alpha) \frown M \rangle \neq 0$  if and only if there exists a filtration

$$M = M_0 \supseteq M_1 \supseteq \cdots \supseteq M_m = 0$$

such that  $\mathbf{dim} M_{i-1}/M_i = \alpha(\mathbf{a}_i)\mathbf{a}_i$ .

The proof is obvious.

The set of maps  $\Phi^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_0$  will be ordered using the opposite of the lexicographical ordering: Given  $\alpha, \beta: \Phi^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_0$ , we have  $\beta < \alpha$  if and only if there exists some  $1 \leq j \leq m$  such that  $\beta(\mathbf{a}_i) = \alpha(\mathbf{a}_i)$  for all  $i < j$ , whereas  $\beta(\mathbf{a}_j) > \alpha(\mathbf{a}_j)$ .

**Theorem 1.** Let  $\alpha: \Phi^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_0$ . Then  $\langle w_\diamond(\alpha) \frown M(\alpha) \rangle = 1$ . On the other hand, given a module  $M$  with  $\langle w_\diamond(\alpha) \frown M \rangle \neq 0$ , then  $M \simeq M(\beta)$  for some  $\beta \leq \alpha$ .

Before we present the proof, we need some preliminary considerations. Given  $\alpha: \Phi^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_0$ , let us define for  $0 \leq t \leq m$ , the submodule  $M_t(\alpha) = \bigoplus_{i>t} \alpha(\mathbf{a}_i)M_\Lambda(\mathbf{a}_i)$  of  $M(\alpha)$ . Thus we obtain a sequence of submodules

$$M(\alpha) = M_0(\alpha) \supseteq M_1(\alpha) \supseteq \cdots \supseteq M_m(\alpha) = 0.$$

**Lemma.** Let  $U$  be a submodule of  $M' = M_{t-1}(\beta)$  such that  $\mathbf{dim} M'/U = u \cdot \mathbf{a}_j$  for some  $j$ . Then we have  $j \geq t$ . If  $j = t$ , then  $U \supseteq M_t$  (and therefore  $u \leq \beta(\mathbf{a}_t)$ ), there is an isomorphism  $M'/U \simeq uM(\mathbf{a}_j)$ , and  $U = M_t(\beta) \oplus U'$ , with  $U' \simeq (\beta(\mathbf{a}_t) - u)M(\mathbf{a}_t)$ .

Proof. We can assume  $u > 0$ .

Let us first assume that  $M'/U \simeq u \cdot M(\mathbf{a}_j)$ . First of all, we show that  $j \geq t$ . For  $j < t$ , we have  $\text{Hom}(M(\mathbf{a}_i), M(\mathbf{a}_j)) = 0$  for all  $i \geq t$ , thus  $\text{Hom}(M', M(\mathbf{a}_j)) = 0$ , whereas there is given a non-zero map  $M' \rightarrow M'/U \simeq u \cdot M(\mathbf{a}_j)$ . Now assume  $j = t$ . Using the same argument, we see that the composition of the inclusion map  $M_t(\beta) \rightarrow M'$  and the projection map  $M' \rightarrow M'/U$  has to be zero, since  $\text{Hom}(M(\mathbf{a}_i), M(\mathbf{a}_t)) = 0$  for  $i > t$ . This shows that  $U \supseteq M_t$ , and consequently  $u \leq \beta(\mathbf{a}_t)$ . The canonical projection  $\beta(\mathbf{a}_t)M(\mathbf{a}_t) \simeq M'/M_t(\beta) \rightarrow M'/U$  splits, thus  $U/M_t(\beta) \simeq (\beta(\mathbf{a}_t) - u)M(\mathbf{a}_t)$ . But then also the projection  $U \rightarrow U/M_t(\beta)$  splits (since  $\text{Ext}^1(M(\mathbf{a}_t), M(\mathbf{a}_i)) = 0$  for all  $i > t$ ). This shows the existence of a direct complement  $U'$  in  $U$  to  $M_t(\beta)$ , and we have  $U' \simeq U/M_t(\beta) \simeq (\beta(\mathbf{a}_t) - u)M(\mathbf{a}_t)$ .

In general, we can write  $M'/U = M(\gamma)$  for some  $\gamma: \Phi^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_0$ . Choose  $s$  minimal with  $\gamma(\mathbf{a}_s) > 0$ . Let  $U \subseteq V \subset M_{t-1}(\beta)$  such that  $M_{t-1}(\beta)/V = M_s(\gamma)$ . Then  $M_{t-1}(\beta)/V \simeq M(\gamma)/M_s(\gamma) \simeq \gamma(\mathbf{a}_s)M(\mathbf{a}_s)$ , and we can apply the previous considerations. We see that  $s \geq t$ , and if  $s = t$ , then  $\gamma(\mathbf{a}_t) \leq \beta(\mathbf{a}_t)$ . By assumption,  $u \cdot \mathbf{a}_j = \mathbf{dim} M'/U = \sum_i \gamma(\mathbf{a}_i)\mathbf{a}_i = \sum_{i \geq s} \gamma(\mathbf{a}_i)\mathbf{a}_i$ , with non-negative coefficients  $u$  and  $\gamma(\mathbf{a}_i)$ . We cannot have  $j < s$ , since  $\{M(\mathbf{a}_1), \dots, M(\mathbf{a}_{s-1})\}$  and  $\{M(\mathbf{a}_s), \dots, M(\mathbf{a}_m)\}$  are linearly separated. This shows that  $j \geq s \geq t$ . Now assume  $j = t$ , thus we have  $j = s = t$ . We must have  $\gamma(\mathbf{a}_t) \leq u$ , and thus we can write  $(u - \gamma(\mathbf{a}_t)) \cdot \mathbf{a}_t = \sum_{i>t} \gamma(\mathbf{a}_i)\mathbf{a}_i$  with non-negative coefficients  $(u - \gamma(\mathbf{a}_t))$  and  $\gamma(\mathbf{a}_i)$ . Now, we use that  $\{M(\mathbf{a}_1), \dots, M(\mathbf{a}_t)\}$  and  $\{M(\mathbf{a}_{t+1}), \dots, M(\mathbf{a}_m)\}$  are linearly

separated in order to conclude that  $u - \gamma(\mathbf{a}_t) = 0$  and  $\gamma(\mathbf{a}_i) = 0$  for all  $i > t$ . This shows that  $M'/U \simeq \gamma(\mathbf{a}_t)M(\mathbf{a}_t)$  and therefore our first considerations do apply.

Proof of Theorem 1: First of all, the sequence

$$M(\alpha) = M_0(\alpha) \supseteq M_1(\alpha) \supseteq \cdots \supseteq M_m(\alpha) = 0$$

shows that  $\langle w_\diamond(\alpha) \diamond M(\alpha) \rangle \neq 0$ .

Let us assume that  $\langle w_\diamond(\alpha) \diamond M(\beta) \rangle \neq 0$  for some  $\alpha, \beta: \Phi^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_0$ . Thus, we know that there exists a sequence

$$M(\beta) = M_0 \supseteq M_1 \supseteq \cdots \supseteq M_m = 0$$

such that  $\mathbf{dim} M_{i-1}/M_i = \alpha(\mathbf{a}_i)\mathbf{a}_i$ . Let  $\beta(\mathbf{a}_i) = \alpha(\mathbf{a}_i)$  for all  $i < j$ . By induction, we claim that  $M_i = M_i(\beta)$  for  $i < j$ . Assume, we know that  $M_{i-1} = M_{i-1}(\beta)$ . According to Lemma, the only submodule  $M_i (= U)$  of  $M_{i-1}(\beta)$  with  $\mathbf{dim} M_{i-1}(\beta)/M_i = \beta(\mathbf{a}_i)$  is  $M_i = M_i(\beta)$ . In particular, we have  $M_{j-1} = M_{j-1}(\beta)$ . Again, using Lemma, we see that we must have  $\alpha(\mathbf{a}_j) \leq \beta(\mathbf{a}_j)$ , this shows that  $\alpha \geq \beta$ . Also, we see that for  $\alpha = \beta$ , we have  $M_i = M_i(\beta)$  for all  $i$ , thus  $\langle w_\diamond(\alpha) \diamond M(\alpha) \rangle = 1$ . This completes the proof.

## 5. The fundamental relations

**Lemma.** *Let  $S_i, S_j$  be simple  $R$ -modules with*

$$\text{Ext}^1(S_i, S_j) = 0, \quad \text{Ext}^1(S_j, S_i) = 0.$$

*Then we have*

$$[S_i] \diamond [S_j] = [S_j] \diamond [S_i].$$

The proof is obvious.

**Lemma.** *Let  $k$  be a finite field of cardinality  $q_k$ . Let  $R$  be a  $k$ -algebra. Let  $S_i, S_j$  be simple  $R$ -modules such that*

$$\text{Ext}^1(S_i, S_i) = 0, \quad \text{Ext}^1(S_j, S_j) = 0, \quad \text{Ext}^1(S_i, S_j) = k, \quad \text{Ext}^1(S_j, S_i) = 0.$$

*Then*

$$\begin{aligned} [S_i]^{\diamond 2} \diamond [S_j] - (q_k + 1)[S_i] \diamond [S_j] \diamond [S_i] + q_k[S_j] \diamond [S_i]^{\diamond 2} &= 0, \\ [S_i] \diamond [S_j]^{\diamond 2} - (q_k + 1)[S_i] \diamond [S_j] \diamond [S_i] + q_k[S_j]^{\diamond 2} \diamond [S_i] &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

Proof: Since  $\text{Ext}^1(S_i, S_j) = k$ , there exists an indecomposable module  $M$  of length 2 with top  $S_i$  and socle  $S_j$ . Taking into account the assumptions  $\text{Ext}^1(S_i, S_i) = 0 = \text{Ext}^1(S_j, S_i)$ , we see that there are just two isomorphism classes of modules of length three with 2 composition factors of the form  $S_i$  and one of the form  $S_j$ , namely  $X = M \oplus S_i$  and  $Y = 2S_i \oplus S_j$ . It is easy to check that

$$\begin{aligned} [S_i]^{\diamond 2} \diamond [S_j] &= (q_k + 1)[X] + (q_k + 1)[Y], \\ [S_i] \diamond [S_j] \diamond [S_i] &= [X] + (q_k + 1)[Y], \\ [S_j] \diamond [S_i]^{\diamond 2} &= (q_k + 1)[Y]. \end{aligned}$$

This yields the first equality. Similarly, there are the two isomorphism classes of modules with 2 composition factors of the form  $S_j$  and one of the form  $S_i$ , namely  $X' = M \oplus S_j$  and  $Y' = S_i \oplus 2S_j$ . It is easy to check that

$$\begin{aligned} [S_i] \diamond [S_j]^{\diamond 2} &= (q_k + 1)[X'] + (q_k + 1)[Y'], \\ [S_i] \diamond [S_j] \diamond [S_i] &= [X'] + (q_k + 1)[Y'], \\ [S_j]^{\diamond 2} \diamond [S_i] &= (q_k + 1)[Y']. \end{aligned}$$

This yields the second equality.

As an immediate consequence we obtain:

**Proposition.** *The elements  $[S_i]$  of  $\mathcal{H}(\vec{\Delta})$  satisfy the following relations: Let  $i < j$ . If there is no arrow from  $i$  to  $j$ , then*

$$[S_i] \diamond [S_j] - [S_j] \diamond [S_i] = 0,$$

*if there is an arrow  $i \rightarrow j$ , then*

$$\begin{aligned} [S_i]^{\diamond 2} \diamond [S_j] - (q + 1)[S_i] \diamond [S_j] \diamond [S_i] + q[S_j] \diamond [S_i]^{\diamond 2} &= 0, \\ [S_i] \diamond [S_j]^{\diamond 2} - (q + 1)[S_i] \diamond [S_j] \diamond [S_i] + q[S_j]^{\diamond 2} \diamond [S_i] &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

More general, if we start with simple modules  $S_i, S_j$  satisfying

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Ext}^1(S_i, S_i) &= 0, & \text{Ext}^1(S_j, S_j) &= 0, \\ \text{Ext}^1(S_i, S_j) &= k^t, & \text{Ext}^1(S_j, S_i) &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

for some  $t$ , then we obtain relations which are similar to the Jimbo-Drinfeld relations which are used to define quantum groups for arbitrary symmetrizable generalized Cartan matrices. See [R3].

## 6. The twisted Hall algebra

In the ring  $A = \mathbb{Z}[v, v^{-1}]$ , we denote the element  $v^2$  by  $q$ . In this way, we have fixed an embedding of  $\mathbb{Z}[q]$  into  $A$ . Consider the  $A$ -module

$$\mathcal{H}_*(\vec{\Delta}) = \mathcal{H}(\vec{\Delta}) \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}[q]} A.$$

In  $\mathcal{H}_*(\vec{\Delta})$ , we introduce a new multiplication  $*$  by

$$\begin{aligned} [N_1] * [N_2] &:= v^{\dim_k \text{Hom}(N_1, N_2) - \dim_k \text{Ext}^1(N_1, N_2)} [N_1] \diamond [N_2] \\ &= v^{\langle \mathbf{dim} N_1, \mathbf{dim} N_2 \rangle} [N_1] \diamond [N_2] \end{aligned}$$

where  $N_1, N_2$  are  $\Lambda$ -modules.

The following assertion is rather obvious:

**Proposition.** *The free  $A$ -module  $\mathcal{H}_*(\vec{\Delta})$  with the multiplication  $*$  is an associative algebra with 1, and  $\mathbb{Z}^n$ -graded.*

We call  $\mathcal{H}_*(\vec{\Delta})$  (with this multiplication) the *twisted Hall algebra* of  $\vec{\Delta}$ . For any element  $x$ , we denote its  $t^{\text{th}}$  power with respect to the  $*$  multiplication by  $x^{*(t)}$ .

Using induction, one shows that

$$[N_1] * [N_2] * \cdots * [N_m] = v^{\sum_{i < j} \langle \mathbf{dim} N_i, \mathbf{dim} N_j \rangle} [N_1] \diamond [N_2] \diamond \cdots \diamond [N_m].$$

**Example.** Assume there is an arrow  $i \rightarrow j$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} [S_i] * [S_j] &= v^{-1} [S_i] \diamond [S_j] = v^{-1} \left( \begin{bmatrix} S_i \\ S_j \end{bmatrix} + [S_i \oplus S_j] \right), \\ [S_j] * [S_i] &= [S_i \oplus S_j], \end{aligned}$$

thus

$$\begin{bmatrix} S_i \\ S_j \end{bmatrix} = v [S_i] * [S_j] - [S_i \oplus S_j] = v [S_i] * [S_j] - [S_j] * [S_i].$$

**Proposition.** *The elements  $[S_i]$  of  $\mathcal{H}_*(\vec{\Delta})$  satisfy the following relations:*

$$\begin{aligned} [S_i] * [S_j] - [S_j] * [S_i] &= 0 && \text{if } a_{ij} = 0, \\ [S_i]^{*(2)} * [S_j] - (v + v^{-1}) [S_i] * [S_j] * [S_i] + [S_j] * [S_i]^{*(2)} &= 0 && \text{if } a_{ij} = -1. \end{aligned}$$

Proof: In case  $a_{ij} = 0$ , we must have  $\text{Ext}^1(S_i, S_j) = 0 = \text{Ext}^1(S_j, S_i)$ , and therefore we have  $\langle \mathbf{dim} S_i, \mathbf{dim} S_j \rangle = 0 = \langle \mathbf{dim} S_j, \mathbf{dim} S_i \rangle$ .

Now assume  $a_{ij} = -1$ . First, consider the case when  $i < j$ , thus  $\dim_k \text{Ext}^1(S_i, S_j) = 1$ , and  $\text{Ext}^1(S_j, S_i) = 0$ . In this case, we have

$$\langle \mathbf{dim} S_i, \mathbf{dim} S_j \rangle = -1, \quad \text{and} \quad \langle \mathbf{dim} S_j, \mathbf{dim} S_i \rangle = 0.$$

Also,  $\langle \mathbf{dim} S_i, \mathbf{dim} S_i \rangle = 1$ , thus

$$\begin{aligned} [S_i]^{*(2)} * [S_j] &= v^{-1}[S_i]^{\diamond 2} \diamond [S_j], \\ [S_i] * [S_j] * [S_i] &= [S_i] \diamond [S_j] \diamond [S_i], \\ [S_j] * [S_i]^{*(2)} &= v[S_j] \diamond [S_i]^{\diamond 2}, \end{aligned}$$

thus

$$\begin{aligned} [S_i]^{*(2)} * [S_j] - (v+v^{-1})[S_i] * [S_j] * [S_i] + [S_j] * [S_i]^{*(2)} \\ = v^{-1}[S_i]^{\diamond 2} \diamond [S_j] - (v+v^{-1})[S_i] \diamond [S_j] \diamond [S_i] + v[S_j] \diamond [S_i]^{\diamond 2} \\ = v^{-1} \left( [S_i]^{\diamond 2} \diamond [S_j] - (q+1)[S_i] \diamond [S_j] \diamond [S_i] + q[S_j] \diamond [S_i]^{\diamond 2} \right) \\ = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, if  $j < i$ , so that  $\dim_k \text{Ext}^1(S_j, S_i) = 1$ , and  $\text{Ext}^1(S_i, S_j) = 0$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} [S_i]^{*(2)} * [S_j] - (v+v^{-1})[S_i] * [S_j] * [S_i] + [S_j] * [S_i]^{*(2)} \\ = v[S_i]^{\diamond 2} \diamond [S_j] - (v+v^{-1})[S_i] \diamond [S_j] \diamond [S_i] + v^{-1}[S_j] \diamond [S_i]^{\diamond 2} \\ = v^{-1} \left( q[S_i]^{\diamond 2} \diamond [S_j] - (q+1)[S_i] \diamond [S_j] \diamond [S_i] + [S_j] \diamond [S_i]^{\diamond 2} \right) \\ = 0. \end{aligned}$$

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Also in general, the fundamental relations in  $\mathcal{H}(\vec{\Delta})$  give rise to the Jimbo-Drinfeld relations in  $\mathcal{H}_*(\vec{\Delta})$ , see [R6].

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**Divided powers.** Given an indecomposable module  $X$ , let

$$[X]^{*(t)} := \frac{1}{[t]!} [X]^{*(t)},$$

we claim that this is an element of  $\mathcal{H}_*(\Lambda)$ . Namely:

$$\begin{aligned} [X]^{*(t)} &= v^{\binom{t}{2}} [X]^{\diamond(t)} \\ &= v^{\binom{t}{2}} F^t(q)[tX] \\ &= v^{t(t-1)} [t]! [tX], \end{aligned}$$



(since  $F^t(q) = v^{\binom{t}{2}}[t]!$ ). Thus

$$[X]^{(*t)} = \frac{1}{[t]!} [X]^{*(t)} = v^{t(t-1)} [tX]$$

Using divided powers, we can rewrite the fundamental relations

$$[S_i]^{*(2)} * [S_j] - (v + v^{-1})[S_i] * [S_j] * [S_i] + [S_j] * [S_i]^{*(2)} = 0$$

as follows:

$$[S_i]^{(*2)} * [S_j] - [S_i] * [S_j] * [S_i] + [S_j] * [S_i]^{(*2)} = 0$$

Recall that the vertices  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  of  $\Lambda$  are ordered in such a way that

$$\text{Ext}^1(S_i, S_j) \neq 0 \quad \text{implies} \quad i < j.$$

In case  $M$  is semisimple, say  $M = \bigoplus d_i S(i)$ , we have

$$[M] = [d_n S_n] \diamond \dots \diamond [d_1 S_1] = [d_n S_n] * \dots * [d_1 S_1],$$

since for  $i > j$  we have  $\text{Hom}(d_i S_i, d_j S_j) = 0 = \text{Ext}^1(d_i S_i, d_j S_j)$ . Also, recall that

$$[tS_i] = v^{-t(t-1)} [S_i]^{(*t)},$$

thus

$$[M] = [d_n S_n] * \dots * [d_1 S_1] = v^{-\sum d_i(d_i-1)} [S_n]^{(*d_n)} * \dots * [S_1]^{(*d_1)}.$$

**The words**  $w_*(\mathbf{d})$ ,  $w_*(\alpha)$ .

Recall that  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  is the set of vertices vertices of  $\Lambda$ , ordered in such a way that

$$\text{Ext}^1(S_i, S_j) \neq 0 \quad \text{implies} \quad i < j.$$

Also, recall that  $\Phi^+ = \{\mathbf{a}_1, \dots, \mathbf{a}_m\}$  is the set of positive roots and we assume that the ordering is chosen so that

$$\text{Hom}(M_\Lambda(\mathbf{a}_i), M_\Lambda(\mathbf{a}_j)) \neq 0 \quad \text{implies} \quad i \leq j.$$

Using the multiplication  $*$ , we define for  $\mathbf{d} \in \mathbb{N}_0^n$  and  $\alpha: \Phi^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_0$

$$\begin{aligned} w_*(\mathbf{d}) &:= [S_1]^{*(d_1)} * \cdots * [S_n]^{*(d_n)}, \\ w_*(\alpha) &:= w_*(\alpha(\mathbf{a}_1)\mathbf{a}_1) * \cdots * w_*(\alpha(\mathbf{a}_m)\mathbf{a}_m). \end{aligned}$$

**Lemma.** *We have*

$$w_*(\alpha) = v^{r(\alpha)} w_\diamond(\alpha), \quad \text{with } r(\alpha) := -\dim_k M_\Lambda(\alpha) + \dim_k \text{End}(M_\Lambda(\alpha))$$

Proof: We have for  $\mathbf{d} = \sum d_i \mathbf{e}_i$

$$\begin{aligned} w_*(\mathbf{d}) &= [S_1]^{*(d_1)} * \cdots * [S_n]^{*(d_n)} \\ &= v \sum d_i^2 - \sum d_i [d_1 S_1] * \cdots * [d_n S_n] \\ &= v \sum d_i^2 - \sum d_i - \sum_{i \rightarrow j} d_i d_j [d_1 S_1] \diamond \cdots \diamond [d_n S_n] \\ &= v^{\chi(\mathbf{d}) - |\mathbf{d}|} [d_1 S_1] \diamond \cdots \diamond [d_n S_n], \\ &= v^{\chi(\mathbf{d}) - |\mathbf{d}|} w_\diamond(\mathbf{d}) \end{aligned}$$

where we have used that  $\text{Hom}(d_i S_i, d_j S_j) = 0$  for  $i > j$  and  $\dim_k \text{Ext}^1(d_i S_i, d_j S_j) = d_i d_j$  for  $i \rightarrow j$ . We apply this for  $\mathbf{d} = \alpha(\mathbf{a}_i)\mathbf{a}_i$ . We note that

$$\chi(\alpha(\mathbf{a}_i)\mathbf{a}_i) = \dim_k \text{End}(M_\Lambda(\alpha(\mathbf{a}_i)\mathbf{a}_i)),$$

and

$$|\alpha(\mathbf{a}_i)\mathbf{a}_i| = \dim_k M_\Lambda(\alpha(\mathbf{a}_i)\mathbf{a}_i),$$

therefore

$$w_*(\alpha(\mathbf{a}_i)\mathbf{a}_i) = v^{\dim_k \text{End}(M_\Lambda(\alpha(\mathbf{a}_i)\mathbf{a}_i)) - \dim_k M_\Lambda(\alpha(\mathbf{a}_i)\mathbf{a}_i)} w_\diamond(\alpha(\mathbf{a}_i)\mathbf{a}_i).$$

On the other hand,

$$\begin{aligned} w_*(\alpha) &= w_*(\alpha(\mathbf{a}_1)\mathbf{a}_1) * \cdots * w_*(\alpha(\mathbf{a}_m)\mathbf{a}_m) \\ &= v^{r'} w_*(\alpha(\mathbf{a}_1)\mathbf{a}_1) \diamond \cdots \diamond w_*(\alpha(\mathbf{a}_m)\mathbf{a}_m) \end{aligned}$$

with

$$\begin{aligned} r' &= \sum_{i < j} \langle \alpha(\mathbf{a}_i)\mathbf{a}_i, \alpha(\mathbf{a}_j)\mathbf{a}_j \rangle \\ &= \sum_{i < j} \dim_k \text{Hom}(\alpha(\mathbf{a}_i)M_\Lambda(\mathbf{a}_i), \alpha(\mathbf{a}_j)M_\Lambda(\mathbf{a}_j)) \\ &= \dim_k \text{rad End}(M_\Lambda(\alpha)), \end{aligned}$$

here we use that for  $i < j$ , we have  $\text{Ext}^1(\alpha(\mathbf{a}_i)M_\Lambda(\mathbf{a}_i), \alpha(\mathbf{a}_j)M_\Lambda(\mathbf{a}_j)) = 0$ , and that for  $i > j$ , we have  $\text{Hom}(\alpha(\mathbf{a}_i)M_\Lambda(\mathbf{a}_i), \alpha(\mathbf{a}_j)M_\Lambda(\mathbf{a}_j)) = 0$ . Altogether, we see that

$$w_*(\alpha) = v^{\dim_k \text{rad End}(M_\Lambda(\alpha))} w_*(\alpha(\mathbf{a}_1)\mathbf{a}_1) \diamond \cdots \diamond w_*(\alpha(\mathbf{a}_m)\mathbf{a}_m) = v^r w_\diamond(\alpha),$$

with

$$\begin{aligned} r &= r' + \sum_i \dim_k \text{End}(M_\Lambda(\alpha(\mathbf{a}_i)\mathbf{a}_i)) - \sum_i \dim_k M_\Lambda(\alpha(\mathbf{a}_i)\mathbf{a}_i) \\ &= \dim_k \text{End}(M_\Lambda(\alpha)) - \dim_k M_\Lambda(\alpha). \end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof.

By definition,  $\mathcal{H}_*(\Lambda)$  is the free  $A$ -module with basis elements the isomorphism classes  $[M]$  of the finite  $\Lambda$ -modules. It seems to be worthwhile to consider besides these elements  $[M]$  also their multiples

$$\langle M \rangle := v^{-\dim_k M + \dim_k \text{End}(M)} [M].$$

**Example.**

$$\left\langle \begin{array}{c} S_i \\ S_j \end{array} \right\rangle = v^{-2+1} \left[ \begin{array}{c} S_i \\ S_j \end{array} \right] = v^{-1} (v[S_i] * [S_j] - [S_j] * [S_i]) = [S_i] * [S_j] - v^{-1}[S_j] * [S_i].$$

**Theorem 1'.**

$$w_*(\alpha) = \langle M_\Lambda(\alpha) \rangle + \sum_{\beta < \alpha} g_{\alpha\beta} \langle M_\Lambda(\beta) \rangle \quad \text{with } g_{\alpha\beta} \in A$$

Proof: This is a direct consequence of Theorem 1.

**Lemma.**

$$\langle M_\Lambda(\alpha) \rangle = \langle \alpha(\mathbf{a}_1)M_\Lambda(\mathbf{a}_1) \rangle * \cdots * \langle \alpha(\mathbf{a}_m)M_\Lambda(\mathbf{a}_m) \rangle$$

Proof:

$$\begin{aligned} &\langle \alpha(\mathbf{a}_1)M_\Lambda(\mathbf{a}_1) \rangle * \cdots * \langle \alpha(\mathbf{a}_m)M_\Lambda(\mathbf{a}_m) \rangle \\ &= v^{-\sum |\alpha(\mathbf{a}_i)\mathbf{a}_i| + \sum \alpha(\mathbf{a}_i)^2} [\alpha(\mathbf{a}_1)M_\Lambda(\mathbf{a}_1)] * \cdots * [\alpha(\mathbf{a}_m)M_\Lambda(\mathbf{a}_m)] \\ &= v^{-\sum |\alpha(\mathbf{a}_i)\mathbf{a}_i| + \sum \alpha(\mathbf{a}_i)^2 v^{\dim_k \text{rad End}(M(\alpha))}} [\alpha(\mathbf{a}_1)M_\Lambda(\mathbf{a}_1)] \diamond \cdots \diamond [\alpha(\mathbf{a}_m)M_\Lambda(\mathbf{a}_m)] \\ &= v^{-\dim_k M(\alpha) + \dim_k \text{End}(M(\alpha))} [M_\Lambda(\alpha)] \\ &= \langle M_\Lambda(\alpha) \rangle \end{aligned}$$

**Example.** Let us consider the explicit expression for  $w_*(\mathbf{d})$ , where  $\mathbf{d} \in \mathbb{N}_0^n$ .

$$w_*(\mathbf{d}) = \sum_{\mathbf{dim} \beta = \mathbf{d}} v^{-\delta(\beta)} \langle M_\Lambda(\beta) \rangle \quad \text{with} \quad \delta(\beta) := \dim_k \text{Ext}^1(M_\Lambda(\beta), M_\Lambda(\beta)).$$

Proof: We have

$$w_*(\mathbf{d}) = v^{\chi(\mathbf{d}) - |\mathbf{d}|} w_\diamond(\mathbf{d}) = v^{\chi(\mathbf{d}) - |\mathbf{d}|} \sum_{\mathbf{dim} \beta = \mathbf{d}} [M_\Lambda(\beta)],$$

since any module  $M_\Lambda(\beta)$  with  $\mathbf{dim} \beta = \mathbf{d}$  has a unique filtration of type  $w_\diamond(\mathbf{d})$ . But

$$\begin{aligned} \chi(\mathbf{d}) - |\mathbf{d}| &= \dim_k \text{End}(M_\Lambda(\beta)) - \dim_k \text{Ext}^1(M_\Lambda(\beta), M_\Lambda(\beta)) - |\mathbf{d}| \\ &= -\delta(\beta) + r(\beta). \end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} w_*(\mathbf{d}) &= v^{\chi(\mathbf{d}) - |\mathbf{d}|} \sum_{\mathbf{dim} \beta = \mathbf{d}} [M_\Lambda(\beta)] \\ &= \sum_{\mathbf{dim} \beta = \mathbf{d}} v^{-\delta(\beta)} v^{r(\beta)} [M_\Lambda(\beta)] \\ &= \sum_{\mathbf{dim} \beta = \mathbf{d}} v^{-\delta(\beta)} \langle M_\Lambda(\beta) \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

More generally, given  $\alpha, \beta: \Phi^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_0$ , we have to consider

$$\begin{aligned} \delta(\beta; \alpha) &= \dim_k \text{Ext}^1(M(\beta), M(\beta)) - \dim_k \text{Ext}^1(M(\alpha), M(\alpha)) \\ &= \dim_k \text{End}(M(\alpha)) - \dim_k \text{End}(M(\beta)), \end{aligned}$$

of course, we have  $\delta(\beta) = \delta(\beta; 0)$ .

## 7. The isomorphism between $U_q(\mathfrak{n}_+(\Delta))$ and $\mathcal{H}_*(k\vec{\Delta})$ for $\vec{\Delta}$ a Dynkin quiver

**Proposition.** *The elements  $[S_i]^{*(t)}$  with  $1 \leq i \leq n$  and  $t \geq 1$  generate  $\mathcal{H}_*(\vec{\Delta})$  as a  $A$ -algebra.*

Proof: Let  $\mathcal{H}'$  be the  $A$ -algebra generated by the elements  $[S_i]^{*(t)}$  with  $1 \leq i \leq n$  and  $t \geq 1$ . By induction on  $\mathbf{dim} \alpha$ , we show that  $\langle M_\Lambda(\alpha) \rangle$  belongs to  $\mathcal{H}'$ .

If the support of  $\alpha$  contains more than one element, then we use the formula

$$\langle M_\Lambda(\alpha) \rangle = \langle \alpha(\mathbf{a}_1)M_\Lambda(\mathbf{a}_1) \rangle * \cdots * \langle \alpha(\mathbf{a}_m)M_\Lambda(\mathbf{a}_m) \rangle.$$

By induction, all the elements  $\langle \alpha(\mathbf{a}_i)M_\Lambda(\mathbf{a}_i) \rangle$  belong to  $\mathcal{H}'$ , thus also  $\langle M_\Lambda(\alpha) \rangle$ , and therefore  $[M_\Lambda(\alpha)]$  belong to  $\mathcal{H}'$ .

In case the support of  $\alpha$  consists of the unique element  $\mathbf{a}_i$ , let  $\mathbf{d} = \alpha(\mathbf{a}_i)\mathbf{a}_i$ , thus  $M_\Lambda(\alpha) = M_\Lambda(\mathbf{d})$ , and we know that

$$w_*(\mathbf{d}) = \langle M_\Lambda(\alpha) \rangle + \sum_{\substack{\mathbf{dim} \beta = \mathbf{d} \\ \beta \neq \alpha}} v^{-\delta(\beta)} \langle M_\Lambda(\beta) \rangle.$$

The support of any  $\beta$  with  $\mathbf{dim} \beta = \mathbf{d}$  and  $\beta \neq \alpha$  contains more than one element; as we have seen, this implies that the corresponding elements  $\langle M_\Lambda(\beta) \rangle$  belong to  $\mathcal{H}'$ . Since also  $w_*(\mathbf{d})$  is in  $\mathcal{H}'$ , we conclude that  $\langle M_\Lambda(\alpha) \rangle$  belongs to  $\mathcal{H}'$ .

Of course, with  $\langle M_\Lambda(\alpha) \rangle$  also  $[M_\Lambda(\alpha)]$  belongs to  $\mathcal{H}'$ . This completes the proof.

The fundamental relations show that we may define a ring homomorphism

$$\eta: U_q(\mathfrak{n}_+(\Delta)) \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_*(\vec{\Delta})$$

by  $\eta(E_i) = [S_i]$ . The Lemma above shows that this map is surjective.

**Theorem.** *The map  $\eta: U_q(\mathfrak{n}_+(\Delta)) \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_*(\vec{\Delta})$  is an isomorphism.*

We have to show that  $\eta$  is also injective. Let  $A'' = \mathbb{Q}[v, v^{-1}]$ , and  $U'' = U_q''(\mathfrak{n}_+(\Delta))$  the  $A''$ -subalgebra of  $U_q'(\mathfrak{n}_+(\Delta))$  generated by the elements  $E_i^{(t)}$  with  $1 \leq i \leq n$  and  $t \geq 0$ .

Also, let  $\mathcal{H}_*''(\vec{\Delta}) = \mathcal{H}_*(\vec{\Delta}) \otimes_{A'} A''$ . Of course, the map  $\eta$  extends in a unique way to a map  $\eta'': U'' \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_*''(\vec{\Delta})$  (thus  $\eta''|_{U_q(\mathfrak{n}_+(\Delta))} = \eta$ ). It remains to be seen that  $\eta''$  is injective. Both  $U''$  and  $\mathcal{H}_*''(\vec{\Delta})$  are  $\mathbb{Z}^n$ -graded, and  $\eta''$  respects this graduation, thus, for  $\mathbf{d} \in \mathbb{Z}^n$ , there is the corresponding map  $\eta''_{\mathbf{d}}: U''_{\mathbf{d}} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_*''(\vec{\Delta})_{\mathbf{d}}$ , and we show that all these maps  $\eta''_{\mathbf{d}}$  are injective.

The  $A''$ -module  $U''_{\mathbf{d}}$  is torsionfree (since it is a submodule of  $U_q'(\mathfrak{n}_+(\Delta))$ ) and finitely generated. Since  $A''$  is a principal ideal domain, we see that  $U''_{\mathbf{d}}$  is a free  $A''$ -module. In order to calculate its rank, we consider the factor module  $U''_{\mathbf{d}}/(v-1)$ . As we have seen in section 1, we can identify  $U''_{\mathbf{d}}/(v-1)$  with  $U(\mathfrak{n}_+(\Delta))_{\mathbf{d}}$ , thus it has  $\mathbb{Q}$ -dimension  $u(\mathbf{d})$ . It

follows that  $U_{\mathbf{d}}''$  is a free  $A''$ -module of rank  $u(\mathbf{d})$ . On the other hand,  $\mathcal{H}_*(\vec{\Delta})_{\mathbf{d}}$  is the free  $A''$ -module with basis the set of maps  $\alpha: \Phi^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_0$  satisfying  $\mathbf{dim} \alpha = \mathbf{d}$ , thus it also is a free  $A''$ -module of rank  $u(\mathbf{d})$ . But any surjective map between free  $A''$ -modules of equal rank has to be an isomorphism. This completes the proof.

*In our further considerations, it sometimes will be useful to identify  $U_q(\mathbf{n}_+(\Delta))$  and  $\mathcal{H}_*(\vec{\Delta})$  via the map  $\eta$ . Under this identification, the generator  $E_i$  corresponds to the isomorphism class  $[S_i]$ .*

## 8. The canonical basis

For any pair  $\beta < \alpha$  of maps  $\Phi^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_0$ , Theorem 1' gives an element  $g_{\alpha\beta} \in A$ . Let  $g_{\alpha\alpha} = 1$ , and  $g_{\alpha\beta} = 0$  in the remaining cases. We may consider  $g = (g_{\alpha\beta})_{\alpha\beta}$  as a matrix using some total ordering of the indices; it is the base change matrix between the basis given by the elements  $\langle M_\Lambda(\alpha) \rangle$  and the basis given by the elements  $w_*(\alpha)$ . Note that we may assume that  $g$  is a unipotent lower triangular matrix. Let  $\bar{g}$  be obtained from  $g$  by applying the automorphism  $\bar{\phantom{x}}$ , and  $g'$  the inverse of  $\bar{g}$ . Since  $\overline{w_*(\alpha)} = w_*(\alpha)$ , we see that

$$w_*(\alpha) = \overline{w_*(\alpha)} = \sum_{\beta} \overline{g_{\alpha\beta}} \overline{\langle M_\Lambda(\beta) \rangle},$$

thus

$$\overline{\langle M_\Lambda(\alpha) \rangle} = \sum_{\beta} g'_{\alpha\beta} w_*(\beta) = \sum_{\beta} \sum_{\gamma} g'_{\alpha\beta} g_{\beta\gamma} \langle M_\Lambda(\gamma) \rangle.$$

Let us denote by  $h = g'g$  the matrix product, then  $h$  is again a unipotent lower triangular matrix, and  $\bar{h} = h^{-1}$ .

There exists a unique unipotent lower triangular matrix  $u = (u_{\alpha\beta})_{\alpha,\beta}$  with off-diagonal entries in  $\mathbb{Z}[v^{-1}]$  without constant term, such that  $u = \bar{u}h$  (see [L6], 7.10, or also [D], 1.2).

The desired basis is

$$C(\alpha) := \langle M_\Lambda(\alpha) \rangle + \sum_{\beta \prec \alpha} u_{\alpha\beta} \langle M_\Lambda(\beta) \rangle \quad \text{with} \quad u_{\alpha\beta} \in v^{-1}\mathbb{Z}[v^{-1}]$$

this is called the *canonical basis* of  $\mathcal{H}_*(\vec{\Delta})$  or also of  $U_q(\mathfrak{n}_+(\Delta))$ .

Note that by construction the elements of the canonical basis are invariant under the automorphism  $\bar{\phantom{x}}$ , since

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{C(\alpha)} &= \sum_{\beta} \overline{u_{\alpha\beta}} \overline{\langle M_\Lambda(\beta) \rangle} \\ &= \sum_{\beta,\gamma} \overline{u_{\alpha\beta}} h_{\beta\gamma} \langle M_\Lambda(\gamma) \rangle \\ &= \sum_{\beta} u_{\alpha\beta} \langle M_\Lambda(\beta) \rangle = C(\alpha). \end{aligned}$$

In fact, the element  $C(\alpha)$  is characterized by the two properties

$$C(\alpha) := \langle M_\Lambda(\alpha) \rangle + \sum_{\beta \prec \alpha} u_{\alpha\beta} \langle M_\Lambda(\beta) \rangle \quad \text{with} \quad u_{\alpha\beta} \in v^{-1}\mathbb{Z}[v^{-1}],$$

and

$$\overline{C(\alpha)} = C(\alpha)$$

In particular, any monomial will satisfy the second property, thus in order to show that a monomial belongs to the canonical basis, we only have to verify the first property.

### 9. The case $\mathbb{A}_2$

We consider the quiver

$$1 \longrightarrow 2.$$

There are three positive roots  $\mathbf{a}_1 = (1, 0)$ ,  $\mathbf{a}_2 = (1, 1)$ ,  $\mathbf{a}_3 = (0, 1)$ , with corresponding indecomposable modules  $S_1 = M(1, 0)$ ,  $M(1, 1)$ ,  $S_2 = M(0, 1)$ . (For simplicity, we sometimes will denote the isomorphism class  $[S_1]$  by 1, the isomorphism class  $[S_2]$  by 2.)

The Auslander-Reiten quiver is of the form

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & M(1, 1) & & \\ & \nearrow & & \searrow & \\ M(0, 1) & & \cdots & & M(1, 0) \end{array}$$

Let

$$M(c, r, s) = cM(0, 1) \oplus rM(1, 1) \oplus sM(1, 0),$$

note that  $M(c, r, s)$  has dimension vector  $(c + r, r + s)$ , it is given by a linear map

$$M(c, r, s)_1 = k^{s+r} \longrightarrow k^{r+c} = M(c, r, s)_2$$

of rank  $r$  (thus,  $s$  is the dimension of its kernel,  $c$  the dimension of its cokernel). We may visualize  $M(c, r, s)$  as follows:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} 1 & \circ \cdots \circ & \circ \cdots \circ \\ & \downarrow \cdots \downarrow & \\ 2 & \circ \cdots \circ & \circ \cdots \circ \\ & \underbrace{\hspace{1cm}}_c & \underbrace{\hspace{1cm}}_r \quad \underbrace{\hspace{1cm}}_s \end{array}$$



Let  $\epsilon(c, r, s) = \dim_k \text{End } M(c, r, s)$ , thus

$$\epsilon(c, r, s) = c^2 + r^2 + s^2 + cr + rs,$$

and for  $0 \leq i \leq r$ ,

$$\epsilon(c + i, r - i, s + i) - \epsilon(c, r, s) = i(i + c + s).$$

Claim:

$$\langle [cS_2] \diamond [(r + s)S_1] \diamond [rS_2] \phi M(c + i, r - i, s + i) \rangle = G_i^{c+i}.$$

Proof: We take an  $r$ -dimensional subspace  $U$  of the  $(c + r)$ -dimensional space  $M(c, r, s)_2$  such that  $U$  contains a fixed  $(r - i)$ -dimensional subspace  $V$  (the image of the given map  $M(c + i, r - i, s + i)_1 \rightarrow M(c + i, r - i, s + i)_2$ ), thus in the  $(c + i)$ -dimensional space  $M(c + i, r - i, s + i)_2/V$ , we choose an arbitrary  $i$ -dimensional subspace.

Similarly:

$$\langle [rS_1] \diamond [(c + r)S_2] \diamond [sS_1] \phi M(c + i, r - i, s + i) \rangle = G_s^{s+i}.$$

Proof: Here, we take an  $s$ -dimensional subspace in the  $(s + i)$ -dimensional kernel of the map  $M(c + i, r - i, s + i)_1 \rightarrow M(c + i, r - i, s + i)_2$ , and the number of such subspaces is  $G_s^{s+i}$ .

It follows that

$$2^{(*c)} * 1^{*(r+s)} * 2^{(*r)} = \sum_{i=0}^r v^{-i(i+c+s)} G_i^{c+i} \langle M(c + i, r - i, s + i) \rangle$$

and

$$1^{(*r)} * 2^{*(c+r)} * 1^{(*s)} = \sum_{i=0}^r v^{-i(i+c+s)} G_s^{s+i} \langle M(c + i, r - i, s + i) \rangle$$

Note that in both expressions, the coefficient of  $\langle M(c, r, s) \rangle$  itself is 1. Consider the coefficients of the summands with index  $i > 0$ . Since  $G_i^{c+i}$  has degree  $ic$ , we see that for  $c \leq s$ , the coefficient  $v^{-i(i+c+s)} G_i^{c+i}$  belongs to  $v^{-1}\mathbb{Z}[v^{-1}]$ , similarly, for  $c \geq s$ , the coefficient  $v^{-i(i+c+s)} G_s^{s+i}$  belongs to  $v^{-1}\mathbb{Z}[v^{-1}]$ .

Let us consider the formulae in case  $c = s$ . In this case, the right hand sides coincide, since  $G_i^{s+i} = G_s^{s+i}$ . Thus, we see:

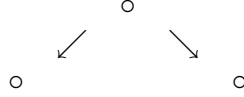
$$2^{(*s)} * 1^{*(r+s)} * 2^{(*r)} = 1^{(*r)} * 2^{*(s+r)} * 1^{(*s)}$$

This shows the following:

**Proposition.** *The canonical basis of  $U_q(\mathfrak{n}_+(\mathbb{A}_2))$  consists of the following elements: take the monomials  $2^{(*c)} * 1^{*(r+s)} * 2^{(*r)}$  with  $c \leq s$  and the monomials  $1^{(*r)} * 2^{*(c+r)} * 1^{(*s)}$  with  $c > s$ .*

### 10. The case $\mathbb{A}_3$ .

Consider the following quiver

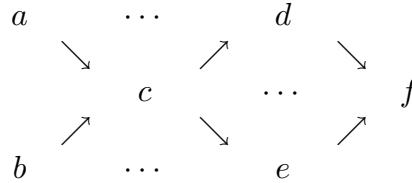


denote the source by 2, the sinks by 1 and 3, respectively.

The indecomposable representations have the following dimension vectors

$$\begin{aligned}
 a &= (100), \\
 b &= (001), \\
 c &= (111), \\
 d &= (011), \\
 e &= (110), \\
 f &= (010).
 \end{aligned}$$

The Auslander-Reiten quiver is of the form



Consider the dimension vector  $(xyz)$ , with positive integers  $x, y, z$ . Let  $\alpha: \Phi \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_0$  with

$$M(\alpha) = M(c) \oplus (x-1)M(a) \oplus (y-1)M(f) \oplus (z-1)M(b).$$

We want to determine  $C(\alpha)$ .

Let  $\beta, \beta', \gamma: \Phi \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_0$  with

$$\begin{aligned}
 M(\beta) &= M(d) \oplus xM(a) \oplus (y-1)M(f) \oplus (z-1)M(b), \\
 M(\beta') &= M(e) \oplus (x-1)M(a) \oplus (y-1)M(f) \oplus zM(b), \\
 M(\gamma) &= xM(a) \oplus yM(f) \oplus zM(b).
 \end{aligned}$$

We have

$$\begin{aligned}\epsilon(\alpha) &= x^2 - x + y^2 - y + z^2 - z + 1, \\ \epsilon(\beta) &= x^2 + y^2 - y + z^2 - z + 1, \\ \epsilon(\beta') &= x^2 - x + y^2 - y + z^2 + 1, \\ \epsilon(\gamma) &= x^2 + y^2 + z^2.\end{aligned}$$

Thus, we see that

$$\begin{aligned}\epsilon(\beta) - \epsilon(\alpha) &= x, \\ \epsilon(\beta') - \epsilon(\alpha) &= z, \\ \epsilon(\gamma) - \epsilon(\alpha) &= x + y + z - 1.\end{aligned}$$

On the other hand,

$$\begin{aligned}\langle [S_2] \diamond [xS_1] \diamond [zS_3] \diamond [(y-1)S_2] \phi \langle M(\beta) \rangle \rangle &= 1 \\ \langle [S_2] \diamond [xS_1] \diamond [zS_3] \diamond [(y-1)S_2] \phi \langle M(\beta') \rangle \rangle &= 1 \\ \langle [S_2] \diamond [xS_1] \diamond [zS_3] \diamond [(y-1)S_2] \phi \langle M(\gamma) \rangle \rangle &= G_{y-1}^y.\end{aligned}$$

It follows that

$$2 * 1^{(*x)} * 3^{(*z)} * 2^{*(y-1)} = \langle M(\alpha) \rangle + v^{-x} \langle M(\beta) \rangle + v^{-z} \langle M(\beta') \rangle + v^{-(x+z)} [y] \langle M(\gamma) \rangle.$$

The two coefficients  $v^{-x}, v^{-z}$  belong to  $v^{-1}\mathbb{Z}[v^{-1}]$ . In case  $x+z \geq y$ , also the last coefficient  $v^{-(x+z)} [y]$  belongs to  $v^{-1}\mathbb{Z}[v^{-1}]$ . Thus we see:

$$\text{If } x + z \geq y, \text{ then } C(\alpha) = 2 * 1^{(*x)} * 3^{(*z)} * 2^{*(y-1)}$$

In case  $x + z < y$ , we use the following equality

$$v^{-(x+z)} [y] = [y - x - z] + v^{-y} [x + z],$$

in order to see that

$$\begin{aligned}2 * 1^{(*x)} * 3^{(*z)} * 2^{*(y-1)} - [y - x - z] 1^{(*x)} * 3^{(*z)} * 2^{(*y)} \\ = \langle M(\alpha) \rangle + v^{-x} \langle M(\beta) \rangle + v^{-z} \langle M(\beta') \rangle + v^{-y} [x + z] \langle M(\gamma) \rangle.\end{aligned}$$

Note that the last coefficient  $v^{-y} [x + z]$  belongs to  $v^{-1}\mathbb{Z}[v^{-1}]$ .

$$\text{For } x + z < y, \quad C(\alpha) = 2 * 1^{(*x)} * 3^{(*z)} * 2^{*(y-1)} - [y - x - z] 1^{(*x)} * 3^{(*z)} * 2^{(*y)}$$

**Lemma.** *If  $c \geq a + d$ ,  $c \geq b + e$ , then  $1^{*(a)} * 3^{*(b)} * 2^{*(c)} * 1^{*(d)} * 3^{*(e)}$  belongs to the canonical basis.*

Proof: Let  $w_* = 1^{*(a)} * 3^{*(b)} * 2^{*(c)} * 1^{*(d)} * 3^{*(e)}$ , and  $w_\diamond = 1^{\diamond(a)} \diamond 3^{\diamond(b)} \diamond 2^{\diamond(c)} \diamond 1^{\diamond(d)} \diamond 3^{\diamond(e)}$ . Let  $M = M(d, c, e)$  be the generic module with dimension vector  $(d, c, e)$ , let  $S = aS_1 \oplus bS_3$ . Since  $d \leq a + d \leq c$ , we see that  $\text{Hom}(M, S_1) = 0$ . Similarly, Since  $e \leq b + e \leq c$ , we see that  $\text{Hom}(M, S_2) = 0$ . Thus  $\text{Hom}(M, S) = 0$ . Let  $N = S \oplus M$ . It follows that  $\langle w_\diamond \diamond N \rangle = 1$ .

Now, consider any module  $N'$  with  $\langle w \diamond N' \rangle \neq 0$ . It follows that  $N'$  maps surjectively to  $S$ , and, since  $S$  is projective,  $S$  is a direct summand of  $N'$ . Let  $i, j$  be maximal so that  $S' = (a + i)S_1 \oplus (b + j)S_3$  is a direct summand of  $N'$ , say  $N' = S' \oplus M'$ . Note that we have  $\text{Hom}(M', S') = 0$ . Let  $M''$  be the generic module with dimension vector equal to the dimension vector of  $M'$ . Let  $\epsilon, \epsilon', \epsilon''$  be the dimension of the endomorphism rings of  $N, N'$ , and  $N'' = S' \oplus M''$  respectively. Then  $\epsilon' \geq \epsilon''$ .

Note that

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon'' &= \dim_k \text{End}(S') + \dim_k \text{End}(M'') + \dim_k \text{Hom}(S', M'') \\ &= q(S') + q(M'') + \langle S', M'' \rangle \\ &= q(S' \oplus M'') - \langle M'', S' \rangle \\ &= q(a + d, c, b + e) + \dim \text{Ext}^1(M'', S') \end{aligned}$$

where we first have used that  $\text{Hom}(M'', S') = 0$ , then that  $\text{Ext}^1(S', M'') = 0$ , and finally again that  $\text{Hom}(M'', S') = 0$ .

Let us show that  $\dim_k \text{Ext}^1(M'', S') = (a + i)(c - d + i) + (b + j)(c - e + j)$ . Note that  $M''$  has no direct summand of the form  $S_1$  or  $S_3$ , thus the number of indecomposable direct summands in any direct decomposition is just  $\dim_k M_2 = c$ , whereas the number of indecomposable direct summands with dimension vector  $(111)$  or  $(110)$  is  $\dim_k M_1 = d - i$ . Thus, the number of indecomposable direct summands with dimension vector  $(011)$  or  $(010)$  is  $c - d + i$ . It follows that  $\dim_k \text{Ext}^1(M'', S_1) = c - d + i$ . Similarly,  $\dim_k \text{Ext}^1(M'', S_2) = c - e + i$ .

As a consequence,

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon'' &= q(a + d, c, b + e) + \dim_k \text{Ext}^1(M'', S') \\ &= q(a + d, c, b + e) + (a + i)(c - d + i) + (b + j)(c - e + j). \end{aligned}$$

In particular, we also see that

$$\epsilon = q(a + d, c, b + e) + a(c - d) + b(c - e).$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon' - \epsilon &\geq \epsilon'' - \epsilon = (a + i)(c - d + i) + (b + j)(c - e + j) - a(c - d) - b(c - e) \\ &= i(a + c - d + i) + j(b + c - d + i) \geq i(2a + i) + j(2b + j), \end{aligned}$$

since we assume that  $c \geq a + d$ , and  $c \geq b + d$ . In particular, in case  $(i, j) \neq (0, 0)$ , we see that

$$\epsilon' - \epsilon > 2(ai + bj).$$

On the other hand, we clearly have

$$\langle w \phi N' \rangle = G_a^{a+i} G_b^{b+j},$$

and this is a polynomial of degree  $2(ai + bj)$ . The coefficient of  $w_* = 1^{*(a)} * 3^{*(b)} * 2^{*(c)} * 1^{*(d)} * 3^{*(e)}$  at  $\langle N' \rangle$  is  $v^{-\epsilon' + \epsilon} G_a^{a+i} G_b^{b+j}$ , thus it belongs to  $v^{-1} \mathbb{Z}[v^{-1}]$ . This completes the proof.

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