

# Cluster structure on $K$ -theoretic Coulomb branches

Alexander Shapiro

University of Notre Dame

Based on joint works with  
Gus Schrader.

String-Math Seminar at Berkeley  
August 31, 2020

## Warm-up: Springer theory

$G$  — Lie group,  $\mathfrak{g} = \text{Lie}(G)$ ,  $B \subset G$  — Borel subgroup,  
 $\mathcal{B} \simeq G/B$  — flag variety,  $\mathcal{N} \subset \mathfrak{g}$  — nilpotent cone.

$$T^*\mathcal{B} \simeq \tilde{\mathcal{N}} := \{(x, \mathfrak{b}) \mid x \in \mathcal{N}, \mathfrak{b} \ni x\}$$

Steinberg variety:

$$Z := \tilde{\mathcal{N}} \times_{\mathcal{N}} \tilde{\mathcal{N}} = \{(x, \mathfrak{b}, \mathfrak{b}') \mid x \in \mathfrak{b} \cap \mathfrak{b}'\} \subset T^*\mathcal{B} \times T^*\mathcal{B}$$

It carries a diagonal action of  $G \times \mathbb{C}^\times$ , where  $\mathbb{C}^\times$  acts by dilation along the fibers.

Let  $K_{\bullet}^{G \times \mathbb{C}^\times}(Z)$  be the equivariant  $K$ -theory of the Steinberg variety. The convolution product endows it with an algebra structure, and

$$K_{\bullet}^{G \times \mathbb{C}^\times}(Z) \simeq \mathcal{H}_{\text{aff}},$$

where  $\mathcal{H}_{\text{aff}}$  is the affine Hecke algebra.

# Variety of triples

Braverman, Finkelberg, and Nakajima define  $K$ -theoretic Coulomb branches (of  $4d \mathcal{N} = 2$  SUSY gauge theories compactified on a circle) in the spirit of “generalized affine Springer theory”.

$G$  — complex reductive group,  $N$  — its complex representation

Set  $\mathcal{K} = \mathbb{C}((z))$ ,  $\mathcal{O} = \mathbb{C}[[z]]$

$\mathrm{Gr}_G = G(\mathcal{K})/G(\mathcal{O})$  — affine Grassmannian.

**Variety of triples:**

$$\mathcal{R}_{G,N} = \{([g], s) \mid [g] \in \mathrm{Gr}_G, s \in N[[z]] \cap gN[[z]]\}$$

Similarly to the Steinberg variety,  $\mathcal{R}_{G,N}$  has a convolution, and admits a  $G(\mathcal{O}) \rtimes \mathbb{C}^\times$ -action, where  $\mathbb{C}^\times$  acts via loop rotation.

Theorem (Braverman – Finkelberg – Nakajima)

$$\mathcal{A}_{G,N}^q := K_{\bullet}^{G(\mathcal{O}) \rtimes \mathbb{C}^{\times}}(\mathcal{R}_{G,N})$$

is an associative algebra, commutative at  $q = 1$ .

Definition

The  $K$ -theoretic Coulomb branch  $\mathcal{M}_{G,N} = \text{Spec}(\mathcal{A}_{G,N}^{q=1})$ .

One can use the equivariant localization to obtain an embedding

$$\mathcal{A}_{G,N}^q \hookrightarrow (\mathcal{A}_{T,0}^q)^{loc},$$

where  $T \subset G$  is the maximal torus, and  $(\mathcal{A}_{T,0}^q)^{loc}$  is isomorphic to an algebra of  $q$ -difference operators in variables  $\Lambda_i$ , localized at root hyperplanes  $\Lambda_i - \Lambda_j$ .

# Minuscule monopole operators

How does one describe  $\mathcal{A}_{G,N}^q$  explicitly?

First, there is a commutative subalgebra

$$K_{\bullet}^{G(\mathcal{O}) \rtimes \mathbb{C}^\times}(pt) \subset \mathcal{A}_{G,N}^q$$

generated by symmetric functions in  $\Lambda_j$ .

Second, affine Grassmannian admits stratification

$$\mathrm{Gr}_G = \bigsqcup_{\lambda} \mathrm{Gr}_G^{\lambda}, \quad \mathrm{Gr}_G^{\lambda} = G(\mathcal{O})[z^{\lambda}], \quad \overline{\mathrm{Gr}_G^{\lambda}} = \bigsqcup_{\mu \leq \lambda} \mathrm{Gr}_G^{\mu},$$

where

$$\overline{\mathrm{Gr}_G^{\lambda}} \text{ is smooth} \iff \overline{\mathrm{Gr}_G^{\lambda}} = \mathrm{Gr}_G^{\lambda} \iff \lambda \text{ is minuscule.}$$

Using the natural projection

$$\pi: \mathcal{R}_{G,N} \longrightarrow \mathcal{R}_{G,0} = \mathrm{Gr}_G,$$

for  $\lambda$  minuscule one defines the **minuscule monopole operator**

$$[\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{R}^{\lambda}}] \in \mathcal{A}_{G,N}^q \quad \text{where} \quad \mathcal{R}^{\lambda} = \pi^{-1}(\overline{\mathrm{Gr}_G^{\lambda}}).$$

# Quiver gauge theories

Let  $\Gamma = (\Gamma_0, \Gamma_1)$  be a quiver with the set of vertices  $\Gamma_0$ , and the set of arrows  $\Gamma_1$ , and  $V$  be a  $\Gamma_0$ -graded vector space. (For simplicity, until the very end of the talk we will consider quivers without framing.)

Let us set

$$G = \prod_{i \in \Gamma_0} GL(V_i), \quad N = \prod_{i \rightarrow j} \text{Hom}(V_i, V_j).$$

Let  $\dim(V_i) = d_i$  for each node  $i \in \Gamma_0$ . We denote the  $n$ -th fundamental coweight of  $GL(V_i)$  by  $\varpi_{i,n}$ , and define

$$\varpi_{i,n}^* = \varpi_{i,n} - \varpi_{i,d_i}.$$

Let  $\lambda$  be a general minuscule  $G$ -coweight, then its restriction to  $GL(V_i)$  is either  $\varpi_{i,n}$  or  $\varpi_{i,n}^*$  for some  $1 \leq n \leq d_i$ .

# Generators in quiver gauge theories

Consider the minuscule monopole operators

$$E_{i,n} = [\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{R}^{\varpi_{i,n}}}] \quad \text{and} \quad F_{i,n} = [\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{R}^{\varpi_{i,n}^*}}].$$

## Theorem (Weekes'19)

Quantized Coulomb branch  $\mathcal{A}_\Gamma^q = \mathcal{A}_{G,N}^q$  of a quiver gauge theory is generated by

- all (dressed) minuscule monopole operators over  $K_\bullet^{G(\mathcal{O}) \times \mathbb{C}^\times}(pt)$ ;
- (dressed) monopole operators  $E_{i,1}, F_{i,1}$ , where  $i \in \Gamma_0$ , over  $K_\bullet^{G(\mathcal{O}) \times \mathbb{C}^\times}(pt) \otimes_{\mathbb{C}[q, q^{-1}]} \mathbb{C}(q)$ .

"Dressed" here means that the bundles  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{R}^\lambda}$  are twisted by a wedge power of a tautological bundle.

# Monopole operators in quiver gauge theories

Under localization, the operator  $E_{i,n}$  reads

$$E_{i,n} \mapsto \sum_{\substack{J \subset \{1, \dots, d_i\} \\ |J|=n}} \prod_{j \leftarrow i} \left( \prod_{r \in J} \prod_{s=1}^{d_j} (1 + q \Lambda_{i,r} \Lambda_{j,s}^{-1}) \right) \cdot \mathfrak{D}_{i,J}$$

where

$$\mathfrak{D}_{i,J} = \prod_{r \in J} \prod_{s \notin J} (1 - \Lambda_{i,s} \Lambda_{i,r}^{-1})^{-1} D_{i,r}.$$

Note that  $E_{i,n}$  takes especially simple form if  $i \in \Gamma_0$  is a sink:

$$E_{i,n} \mapsto \sum_{\substack{J \subset \{1, \dots, d_i\} \\ |J|=n}} \mathfrak{D}_{i,J}, \quad E_{i,1} \mapsto \sum_{r=1}^n \prod_{s \neq r} (1 - \Lambda_{i,s} / \Lambda_{i,r})^{-1} D_{i,r}.$$

Same goes for  $F_{i,n}$ , but it is the simplest when  $i \in \Gamma_0$  is a source.



# Example: sDAHA

Let  $\Gamma$  be a quiver with one vertex and one loop,  $V = \mathbb{C}^d$ . Then  $G = GL(d)$  and  $N = \text{End}(\mathbb{C}^d)$  is the adjoint representation.

$$\mathcal{A}_{T,0}^q \simeq \frac{\mathbb{C}[q^{\pm 1}] \langle \Lambda_i, D_i \rangle_{i=1}^d}{D_i \Lambda_j = q^{\delta_{ij}} \Lambda_j D_i}$$

$$K_{\bullet}^T(pt) \simeq \mathbb{C} \langle \Lambda_i \rangle_{i=1}^d \quad \text{and} \quad K_{\bullet}^G(pt) \simeq \left( K_{\bullet}^T(pt) \right)^{S_d}$$

$$[\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{R}\omega_n}] = \sum_{\substack{J \subseteq \{1, \dots, d\} \\ |J|=n}} \prod_{r \in J} \prod_{s \notin J} \frac{t \Lambda_r - \Lambda_s}{\Lambda_r - \Lambda_s} D_r$$

Note that

$$\mathcal{A}_{\Gamma}^q \simeq s\text{DAHA}(GL_n).$$

## Conjecture (Gaiotto)

*K-theoretic Coulomb branches are cluster varieties.*

In physics, the Coulomb branch  $\mathcal{M}_C = \text{Spec}(\mathcal{A}_{G,N})$  is the Coulomb branch of moduli of vacua in a 4d  $\mathcal{N} = 2$   $G$ -gauge theory on  $\mathbb{R}^3 \times S^1$ .

BPS quiver of the theory  $\longleftrightarrow$  quiver of the cluster variety.

## Theorem (Schrader-S. 'in progress)

*For each quiver  $\Gamma$ , there is a quantum cluster variety  $\mathbb{L}_{\mathbb{Q}\Gamma}^q$  and an embedding*

$$\iota: \mathcal{A}_{\Gamma}^q \hookrightarrow \mathbb{L}_{\mathbb{Q}\Gamma}^q.$$

*Under  $\iota$ , operators  $E_{i,n}$  and  $F_{i,n}$  become cluster monomials, provided that  $i \in \Gamma_0$  has no adjacent loops in  $\Gamma_1$ .*

A **cluster variety** is an affine Poisson variety with an (in general infinite) collection of charts such that

- each chart is a torus  $(\mathbb{C}^\times)^d$
- the Poisson brackets between toric coordinates are log-canonical:

$$\{y_i, y_j\} = \varepsilon_{ij} y_i y_j$$

- gluing data is given by subtraction-free rational expressions, the **cluster mutations**. A cluster mutation **in direction  $\mathbf{k}$**  only affects  $y_k$  itself, and coordinates that have nontrivial Poisson brackets with  $y_k$ .

It is convenient to encode cluster charts by quivers with vertices corresponding to coordinates  $y_j$ , and  $\varepsilon$  being the adjacency matrix.

# Quantum cluster charts

Let  $\Lambda \simeq \mathbb{Z}^d$  be a lattice with a skew form  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ . Define a quantum torus

$$\mathcal{T}^q = \mathbb{Z}[q^{\pm 1}] \langle Y_\lambda \rangle_{\lambda \in \Lambda}, \quad q^{\langle \lambda, \mu \rangle} Y_\lambda Y_\mu = Y_{\lambda + \mu}.$$

A choice of basis  $\{e_j\} \in \Lambda$  defines a quiver

$$\mathcal{Q} = (\mathcal{Q}_0, \mathcal{Q}_1), \quad \mathcal{Q}_0 = \{1, \dots, d\}, \quad \#(i \rightarrow j) = \langle e_i, e_j \rangle$$

and the corresponding **quantum cluster chart**

$$\mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{Q}}^q = \mathbb{Z}[q^{\pm 1}] \langle Y_{e_i} \rangle_{i=1}^d, \quad q^{\langle e_i, e_j \rangle} Y_{e_i} Y_{e_j} = Y_{e_i + e_j} = q^{\langle e_j, e_i \rangle} Y_{e_j} Y_{e_i}.$$

A **mutation**  $\mu'_k$  in direction  $k \in \mathcal{Q}_0$  is the change of basis

$$e'_i = \begin{cases} -e_k, & i = k \\ e_i + [\varepsilon_{ik}]_+ e_k, & i \neq k, \end{cases}$$

where  $[a]_+ = \max(a, 0)$ .

# Quantum cluster varieties

To each mutation one associates a birational automorphism

$\mu_k^\sharp = \text{Ad}_{\Psi^q(Y_k)}$  of  $\mathcal{T}^q$ , where

$$\Psi^q(z) = \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 + q^{2n+1}z)^{-1}, \quad \Psi^q(q^2z) = (1 + qz)\Psi^q(z)$$

The **quantum cluster mutations**  $\mu_k$  is the change of basis  $\mu_k'$  followed by  $\mu_k^\sharp$ .

**Example:** for a quiver  $\mathcal{Q} = \{1 \rightarrow 2\}$ , we have  $Y_2 Y_1 = q^2 Y_1 Y_2$ ,  $\mu_2(Y_2) = Y_2^{-1}$ , and

$$\mu_2(Y_1) = \Psi^q(Y_2) Y_1 \Psi^q(Y_2)^{-1} = Y_1 (1 + qY_2).$$

## Definition

The **quantum cluster variety**  $\mathbb{L}^q = \mathbb{L}_{\mathcal{Q}}^q$  is a subalgebra of  $\mathcal{T}^q$ , consisting of elements  $a \in \mathcal{T}^q$ , which stay in  $\mathcal{T}^q$  under any finite sequence of cluster mutations.

# Positive representations

Under parametrization

$$q = e^{\pi i b^2}, \quad b^2 \in \mathbb{R}_{>0} \setminus \mathbb{Q}$$

there is a homomorphism

$$\mathcal{T}_{\mathbb{Q}}^q \rightarrow \mathcal{H} \quad Y_j \mapsto e^{2\pi b \hat{y}_j}.$$

where  $\mathcal{H} = \mathbb{C} \langle \hat{y}_1, \dots, \hat{y}_d \rangle$  is the Heisenberg algebra with relations

$$[\hat{y}_j, \hat{y}_k] = (2\pi i)^{-1} \varepsilon_{jk}.$$

The Heisenberg algebra  $\mathcal{H}$  has irreducible Hilbert space representation in which the generators  $Y_j$  act by (unbounded) positive self-adjoint operators. Half of them act by multiplication operators, another half as shifts.

**Fock–Goncharov:** if  $|q| = 1$ , pull-backs of these representations to  $\mathbb{L}^q$  are unitary equivalent. This defines a canonical **positive** representation of  $\mathbb{L}^q$ .

# Non-compact quantum dilogarithm

**Problem:**  $\Psi^q(z)$  diverges at  $|q| = 1$ .

Replace  $\Psi^q(z)$  by the **non-compact quantum dilogarithm**  $\varphi(z)$ .  
It is the unique solution to the **pair** of difference equations

$$\varphi(z - ib^{\pm 1}/2) = (1 + e^{2\pi b^{\pm 1}z})\varphi(z + ib^{\pm 1}/2).$$

Each  $\hat{y}_k$  acts by a self-adjoint operator and

$$z \in \mathbb{R} \implies |\varphi(z)| = 1,$$

hence mutation in direction  $k$  gives rise to a **unitary** operator:

$$\text{quantum mutation in direction } k \longrightarrow \varphi(-\hat{y}_k)^{-1}$$

**Note:** Quantum dilogarithm satisfies the **pentagon identity**:

$$[\hat{p}, \hat{x}] = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \implies \varphi(\hat{p})\varphi(\hat{x}) = \varphi(\hat{x})\varphi(\hat{p} + \hat{x})\varphi(\hat{p})$$

Back to Coulomb branches: how does one construct  $\mathcal{Q}_\Gamma$  out of  $\Gamma$ ?

Let us consider the simplest example:  $G = GL_n$ ,  $N = 0$ .

**Theorem (Bezrukavnikov – Finkelberg – Mirković, '05)**

*Algebra  $\mathcal{A}_{GL_n,0}^q$  is isomorphic to the quantized phase space of the  $GL_n$  Coxeter–Toda integrable system (a.k.a. quantum open relativistic Toda).*

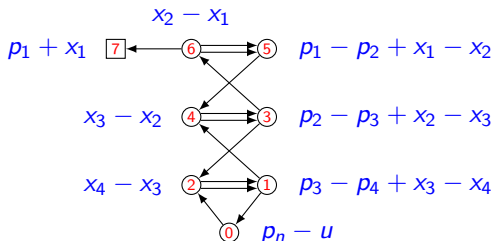
**Theorem (Berenstein – Zelevinsky, '03)**

*The quantized phase space of the  $GL_n$  Coxeter–Toda integrable system is isomorphic to the quantum cluster algebra  $\mathbb{L}_Q^q$  with the quiver shown on the next slide.*



# Representation of the Coxeter – Toda quiver

The Coxeter–Toda quiver:



Heisenberg algebra:  $\mathcal{H}_n = \mathbb{C}[q^{\pm 1}] \langle x_j, p_j \rangle_{j=1}^n$ ,  $[p_j, x_k] = (2\pi i)^{-1} \delta_{jk}$ ,  
 $p_j$  acts on  $L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$  via

$$p_j \mapsto \frac{1}{2\pi i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j}.$$

For example,

$$Y_6 \mapsto e^{2\pi b(x_2 - x_1)} \quad \text{and} \quad Y_7 \mapsto e^{2\pi b(p_1 + x_1)}$$

## Theorem (Schrader–S.)

Consider the **Baxter operator**

$$Q_n(u) = \varphi(u - p_n)\varphi(u - p_{n-1} + x_n - x_{n-1})\varphi(u - p_{n-1}) \dots \varphi(u - p_1)$$

obtained by mutating consecutively at  $0, 1, 2, \dots, 2n - 2$ . Then

- 1 Unitary operators  $Q_n(u)$  satisfy

$$[Q_n(u), Q_n(v)] = 0,$$

- 2 If  $A_n(u) = Q_n(u - ib/2)Q_n(u + ib/2)^{-1}$ , then one can expand

$$A_n(u) = \sum_{k=0}^n H_k U^k, \quad U := e^{2\pi bu}$$

and the commuting operators  $H_1, \dots, H_n$  quantize the  $GL_n$  Coxeter–Toda Hamiltonians.

Additionally, there is a **Dehn twist operator** realized as mutations at all even nodes postcomposed with  $e^{\pi i(p_1^2 + \dots + p_n^2)}$ :

$$\tau_n = e^{\pi i(p_1^2 + \dots + p_n^2)} \varphi(x_2 - x_1) \dots \varphi(x_n - x_{n-1})$$

which commutes with the Baxter operator

$$[\tau_n, Q_n(u)] = 0$$

**Problem:** Construct complete set of joint eigenfunctions (a.k.a. the  $b$ -Whittaker functions) for operators  $Q_n(u), \tau_n$ .

# $b$ -Whittaker transform

Set  $\mathcal{R}_n(u)$  to be the same as the Baxter operator  $Q_n(u)$  but without the last mutation. We then define

$$\Psi_{\lambda}(\mathbf{x}) := \mathcal{R}_n(c_b - \lambda_n) \dots \mathcal{R}_2(c_b - \lambda_2) \cdot e^{2\pi b(\lambda \cdot \mathbf{x})},$$

where

$$\lambda = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n), \quad \mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_n),$$

and  $c_b = i(b + b^{-1})/2$ .

Define the  $b$ -Whittaker transform as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{W}: L^2(\mathbb{R}^n) &\longrightarrow L^2_{sym}(\mathbb{R}^n, m(\lambda) d\lambda), \\ (\mathcal{W}[f])(\lambda) &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \overline{\Psi_{\lambda}^{(n)}(\mathbf{x})} f(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} \end{aligned}$$

## Theorem (Schrader–S.)

*The  $b$ -Whittaker transform is a unitary equivalence. Moreover*

$$\mathcal{W} \circ \tau = e^{\pi i(\lambda_1^2 + \dots + \lambda_n^2)} \circ \mathcal{W},$$

$$\mathcal{W} \circ Q_n(u) = \prod_{j=1}^n \varphi(u - \lambda_j) \circ \mathcal{W},$$

$$\mathcal{W} \circ H_k^{(n)} = e_k(\Lambda^{-1}) \circ \mathcal{W},$$

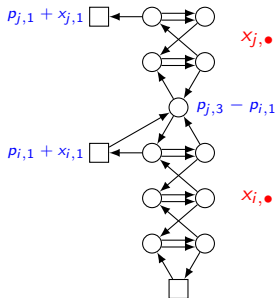
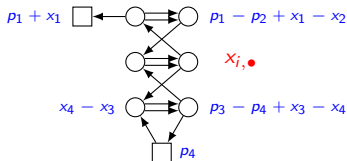
$$\mathcal{W} \circ Y_{2n-1} = \sum_{j=1}^n \prod_{k \neq j} \frac{1}{1 - \Lambda_k / \Lambda_j} D_j \circ \mathcal{W},$$

*where  $e_k$  is the elementary symmetric function and  $\Lambda = e^{2\pi b\lambda}$ .*

# Converting quivers $\Gamma \rightsquigarrow Q_\Gamma$

Let  $\Gamma$  be a gauge theory quiver. We associate to it a cluster quiver  $Q_\Gamma$  by the following rule.

- To each node  $i \in \Gamma$  with label  $n_i$ , we associate a  $GL_{n_i}$  Coxeter–Toda quiver  $Q_i$ ;
- For each directed edge  $e: i \rightarrow j$  in  $\Gamma_1$ , we **glue** the top of  $Q_i$  to the bottom of  $Q_j$  as shown.



# From Coulomb branches to clusters

- Localization embeds  $\mathcal{A}_\Gamma^q$  into rational  $q$ -difference operators in  $\Lambda_{i,j}$ , with  $i \in \Gamma_0$  and  $1 \leq j \leq d_i$ ;
- Applying inverse  $b$ -Whittaker transform  $\mathcal{W}^{-1}$  at each node we embed  $\mathcal{A}_\Gamma^q$  into polynomial  $q$ -difference operators;
- Need to construct a map  $\mathcal{A}_\Gamma^q \rightarrow \mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{Q}_\Gamma}^q$  which makes the diagram commutative with respect to positive representation of  $\mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{Q}_\Gamma}^q$ ;
- Need to show that images of minuscule monopole operators land in the universally Laurent algebra  $\mathbb{L}_{\mathcal{Q}_\Gamma}^q$ .

Then at each node we send

- $e_k(\Lambda^{-1}) \mapsto H_k^{(d_i)}$  (in cluster terms,  $H_1^{(n)} = \sum_{j=0}^{2n-2} Y_{e_0+\dots+e_j}$ );
- $E_{i,1}$  to  $Y_{2n-1}$  if  $i \in \Gamma_0$  is a sink (and similar formula for  $F_{i,1}$ );
- "dressing" is achieved by applying Dehn twists  $\tau_{d_i}$ .

It is easy to express  $H_k^{(d_i)}$  and  $Y_{2n-1}$  in the so-called cluster  $\mathcal{A}$ -variables, certain elements in  $\mathbb{L}_{\mathcal{Q}_\Gamma}^q$ .

# Orientation of quivers

**Note:** at this point we'd be (almost) done if we knew how to swap orientation of arrows in  $\Gamma$ .

On the Coulomb side, changing the arrow  $i \rightarrow j$  to  $j \rightarrow i$  corresponds to conjugating monopole operators by

$$\prod_{r=1}^{n_i} \prod_{s=1}^{n_j} \varphi(\lambda_{j,s} - \lambda_{i,r}). \quad (*)$$

Need to find a sequence of mutations that acts on the product

$$\overline{\Psi}_{\lambda_{i,\bullet}}^{(n_i)}(\mathbf{x}_{i,\bullet}) \overline{\Psi}_{\lambda_{j,\bullet}}^{(n_j)}(\mathbf{x}_{j,\bullet})$$

with the eigenvalue  $(*)$ .



# Baxter operators revisited

Recall, that for  $d_j = 1$  we have already seen such a sequence, namely **the Baxter operator**

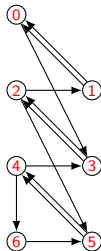
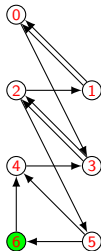
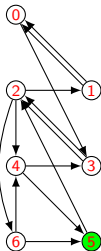
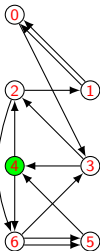
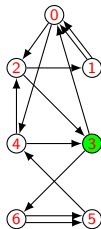
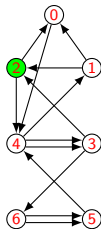
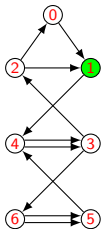
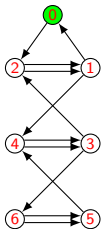
$$Q_n(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_x; \mu) \Psi_\lambda^{(n)}(\mathbf{x}) = \prod_{j=1}^n \varphi(\mu - \lambda_j) \Psi_\lambda^{(n)}(\mathbf{x}).$$

Since  $\Psi_\lambda^{(1)}(x) = e^{2\pi i \lambda x}$ , we can also write

$$Q_n(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_x; p_y) \Psi_\lambda^{(n)}(\mathbf{x}) \Psi_\mu^{(1)}(y) = \prod_{j=1}^n \varphi(\mu - \lambda_j) \Psi_\lambda^{(n)}(\mathbf{x}) \Psi_\mu^{(1)}(y).$$

Moreover, Baxter operator is a sequence of mutations.

# Example: $G = PGL_4$



# Bi-fundamental Baxter operator

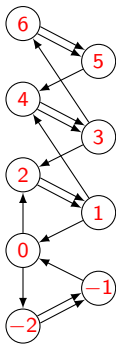


Figure:  $\mathfrak{gl}_4 \times \mathfrak{gl}_2$  Toda

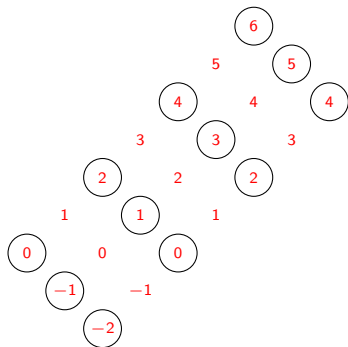


Figure: Exchange sequence.

Mutate column-by-column, reading left to right. In each column mutate at circled vertices first bottom to top, and then in the rest top to bottom.

# Bi-fundamental Baxter operator

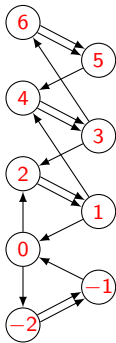


Figure:  $\mathfrak{gl}_4 \times \mathfrak{gl}_2$  Toda

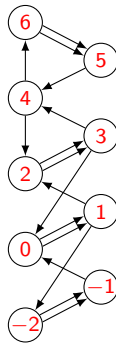


Figure:  $\mathfrak{gl}_2 \times \mathfrak{gl}_4$  Toda

Result of applying the bi-fundamental Baxter operator.

- Given a gauge quiver  $\Gamma$  together with an orientation  $\sigma$ , we have a recipe to construct the corresponding cluster quiver  $\mathcal{Q}_\Gamma$ .
- We have an injective homomorphism  $\iota_\sigma: \mathcal{A}_\Gamma^q \longrightarrow \text{Frac} \left( \mathbb{L}_{\mathcal{Q}_\Gamma}^q \right)$ .
- $\iota_\sigma$  and  $\iota_{\sigma'}$  are related by applying sequences of bi-fundamental Baxter operators.
- If  $\Gamma$  does not have loops, we show that  $\iota_\sigma$  lands in  $\mathbb{L}_{\mathcal{Q}_\Gamma}^q$  by replacing it with different  $\iota_{\sigma'}$  for different generators of  $\mathcal{A}_\Gamma^q$ .

## Work in progress, joint with Di Francesco, Kedem, Schrader:

One has  $\mathcal{A}_\Gamma^q \longrightarrow \mathbb{L}_{\mathcal{Q}_\Gamma}^q$ , when  $\Gamma$  consists of one node and one loop. Moreover, the natural  $GL_2(\mathbb{Z})$ -action on  $\mathcal{A}_\Gamma^q$  is realized via cluster transformations. In particular, Toda Hamiltonians and monopole operators are mutation equivalent, which settles the case of  $\Gamma$  having loops.

Each cluster variety has an associated 3-CY category given by the quiver  $Q$  with generic potential. Its DT-invariants can be collected into a generating function  $\mathbb{E}_Q$ . If there exists a sequence of cluster mutations  $\mu^q$ , which at the end changes all logarithmic labels of cluster variables to their negatives, one has  $\mu_q = \text{Ad}_{\mathbb{E}_Q}$ .

For quivers  $Q_\Gamma$  constructed from gauge quivers  $\Gamma$  without loops, such a sequence can be obtained by

- 1 changing orientation of every arrow in  $\Gamma$ ;
- 2 applying certain amount of Dehn twists at every node.

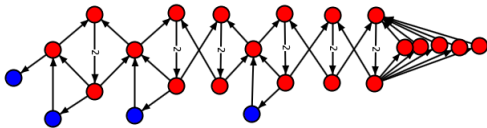
Presumably,  $\mathbb{E}_Q$  counts the BPS states of the corresponding quiver gauge theory.

# Quantum groups as Coulomb branches

Another example of a quantum  $K$ -theoretic Coulomb branch is the quantum group  $U_q(\mathfrak{sl}_n)$ . The corresponding gauge quiver is as follows (node with  $\mathbb{C}^5$  is the framing node:  $G$  does not involve  $GL_5$ , but additional equivariance is taken with respect to the maximal torus  $T \in GL(5)$ ).



The corresponding cluster quiver  $\mathcal{Q}_\Gamma$  is



# Gelfand–Tsetlin subalgebra

The chain of embeddings

$$\mathfrak{gl}_1 \subset \mathfrak{gl}_2 \subset \cdots \subset \mathfrak{gl}_{n-1} \subset \mathfrak{gl}_n,$$

where  $\mathfrak{gl}_k$  sits in the top-left corner, induces embeddings

$$U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_1) \subset U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_2) \subset \cdots \subset U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_n).$$

Therefore, if  $Z_k$  is the center of  $U(\mathfrak{gl}_k)$ , then

$$[Z_j, Z_k] = 0 \quad \text{for all} \quad 1 \leq j, k \leq n.$$

The **Gelfand–Tsetlin subalgebra**  $GZ_n \subset U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_n)$  is a commutative subalgebra generated by  $Z_1, \dots, Z_n$ .

Any finite dimensional irreducible representation of  $U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_n)$  breaks up into 1-dimensional weight spaces for  $GZ_n$ , where each weight space has multiplicity  $\leq 1$ .



# Positive representations of quantum groups

## Theorem (Schrader–S.)

- Representations of  $U_q(\mathfrak{sl}_n)$  coming from its cluster structure coincide with its positive representations studied by Frenkel–Ip and Ponsot–Teschner.
- Positive representations of  $U_q(\mathfrak{sl}_n)$  are equivalent to its **Gelfand–Tsetlin representations** studied by Gerasimov–Kharchev–Lebedev–Oblezin via applying Whittaker transform at every node.
- Toda Hamiltonians at the  $k$ -th node generate the subalgebra  $Z_k \subset U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_k)$ , and embedding  $U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_k) \hookrightarrow U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_n)$  is realized via applying  $\mathcal{W}$  to  $Z_k$ .

## Corollary

Positive representations of  $U_q(\mathfrak{sl}_n)$  decompose with multiplicity one with respect to its Gelfand–Tsetlin subalgebra.

Thank you!