

Hall algebras and quantum groups

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Dedicated to Jacques Tits on his sixtieth birthday

Let R be a finite-dimensional representation-finite hereditary algebra over some field. Let \mathcal{A} be its type, this is a disjoint union of Dynkin diagrams [DR]. Let Φ^+ be the set of positive roots for \mathcal{A} . Given $\alpha \in \Phi^+$, there is (up to isomorphism) a unique indecomposable R -module $M(\alpha)$ with dimension vector α . Given a function $a: \Phi^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_0$, let $M(a)$ denote the direct sum of $a(\alpha)$ copies of the various $M(\alpha)$ with $\alpha \in \Phi^+$; in this way, the isomorphism classes of R -modules of finite length correspond bijectively to the functions $a: \Phi^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_0$. Given $a, b, c: \Phi^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_0$, we denote by $\varphi_{M(a), M(c)}^{M(b)} = \varphi_{ac}^b$ the corresponding Hall polynomial [R1], it is a polynomial with integer coefficients which counts (for finite R) the number of filtrations of $M(b)$ with factors $M(a)$ and $M(c)$. If \mathcal{A} is an arbitrary commutative ring, and $q \in \mathcal{A}$, we define the Hall algebra $\mathcal{H}(R, \mathcal{A}, q)$ as the free \mathcal{A} -module with basis $(u_{[M]})_{[M]}$ indexed by the isomorphism classes of R -modules of finite length, with multiplication

$$u_{[N]} u_{[N']} = \sum_{[M]} \varphi_{NN'}^M(q) u_{[M]},$$

in this way, we obtain a (usually non-commutative) associative ring with 1. In [R2], we have shown that we may identify $\mathcal{H}(R, \mathbb{C}, 1)$ with the universal enveloping algebra $U(\mathfrak{n}_+)$ of \mathfrak{n}_+ , where $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{n}_- \oplus \mathfrak{h} \oplus \mathfrak{n}_+$ is a triangular decomposition of the semisimple complex Lie algebra of type \mathcal{A} .

It would be of interest to find a natural enlargement of $\mathcal{H}(R, \mathbb{C}, 1)$ in order to obtain $U(\mathfrak{g})$ itself. As we will show in Sect. 3, there is a canonical way for obtaining at least $U(\mathfrak{b}_+)$, where $\mathfrak{b}_+ = \mathfrak{h} \oplus \mathfrak{n}_+$ is the Borel algebra. Let S_1, \dots, S_s be a complete set of simple R -modules. If M is an R -module of finite length, let $(\dim M)_i$ be the Jordan-Hoelder multiplicity of S_i in M . Then the map δ_i of $\mathcal{H}(R, \mathcal{A}, q)$ into itself defined by $\delta_i(u_{[M]}) = (\dim M)_i u_{[M]}$ is a derivation, so we may define the skew polynomial ring

$$\mathcal{H}'(R, \mathcal{A}, q) = \mathcal{H}(R, \mathcal{A}, q) [T_i, \delta_i]_i$$

in s variables T_1, \dots, T_s . Since $\mathcal{H}(R, \mathbb{C}, 1)$ is isomorphic to $U(\mathfrak{n}_+)$, it follows that $\mathcal{H}'(R, \mathbb{C}, 1)$ is isomorphic to $U(\mathfrak{b}_+)$.

Instead of dealing with the degenerate Hall algebra $\mathcal{H}'(R, \mathbb{C}, 1)$, we are going to consider the generic Hall algebra $\mathcal{H}'(R, \mathbb{C}[q], q)$, where $\mathbb{C}[q]$ is the polynomial ring in the indeterminate q , or its completion

$$\widehat{\mathcal{H}'}(R) = \varprojlim_m \mathcal{H}'(R, \mathbb{C}[q]/(q-1)^m, q),$$

this is an algebra over the power series ring $\mathbb{C}[[q-1]]$. Our aim is to give a complete description of $\widehat{\mathcal{H}'}(R)$ by generators and relations.

In $\mathbb{C}[[q-1]]$, the element $\ln q = \sum_{m \geq 1} (-1)^{m+1} \frac{1}{m} (q-1)^m$ is a multiple of $q-1$, thus, for $c \in \mathbb{C}$, the element $\exp(c \ln q) = \sum_{m \geq 0} \frac{1}{m!} c^m (\ln q)^m$ is defined. We also will write q^c instead of $\exp(c \ln q)$, in particular, both $q^{\frac{1}{2}}$ and $q^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ are defined. We denote by $\begin{bmatrix} n \\ t \end{bmatrix}_q = \frac{\varphi_n}{\varphi_t \varphi_{n-t}}$ the Gauss polynomials, where $\varphi_n = (1-q) \dots (1-q^n)$.

Let $(a_{ij})_{ij}$ be the Cartan matrix of type A , and $(f_i)_{i \in I}$ the (minimal) symmetrization of A (so that $f_i a_{ij} = f_j a_{ji}$). Let $q_i = q^{f_i}$. We will show that $\widehat{\mathcal{H}'}(R)$ is, as a complete $\mathbb{C}[[q-1]]$ -algebra, generated by elements $H_1, \dots, H_s, X_1, \dots, X_s$ subject to the relations

$$\begin{aligned} [H_i, H_j] &= 0, \\ [H_i, X_j] &= a_{ij} X_j, \\ \sum_{t=0}^n (-1)^t \begin{bmatrix} n \\ t \end{bmatrix}_{q_i} q_i^{-\frac{t(n-t)}{2}} X_i^t X_j X_i^{n-t} &= 0, \quad \text{with } n=1-a_{ij}, \quad \text{and } i \neq j. \end{aligned}$$

This description shows that $\widehat{\mathcal{H}'}(R)$ is precisely the quantization $U_h(\mathfrak{b}_+)$ of $U(\mathfrak{b}_+)$ as described by Drinfeld in his Berkeley lecture [D] (with $h = \ln q$). In particular, it follows that $\widehat{\mathcal{H}'}(R)$ is a Hopf algebra.

The Hall algebra approach yields a rather natural interpretation of the awkward relations above. Consider besides

$$\rho_n(q, X, Y) = \sum_{t=0}^n (-1)^t \begin{bmatrix} n \\ t \end{bmatrix}_q q^{-\frac{t(n-t)}{2}} X^t Y X^{n-t}$$

also the polynomials

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_n^+(q, X, Y) &= \sum_{t=0}^n (-1)^t \begin{bmatrix} n \\ t \end{bmatrix}_q q^{\binom{t}{2}} X^t Y X^{n-t}, \\ {}^+ \rho_n(q, X, Y) &= \sum_{t=0}^n (-1)^t \begin{bmatrix} n \\ t \end{bmatrix}_q q^{\binom{t}{2}} X^{n-t} Y X^t. \end{aligned}$$

Observe that $\mathcal{H}(R, \mathbb{C}[[q-1]], q)$ is a subring of $\widehat{\mathcal{H}'}(R)$. The elements X_1, \dots, X_s of $\widehat{\mathcal{H}'}(R)$ are suitable multiples of the canonical generators $u_1 = u_{[S_1]}, \dots, u_s = u_{[S_s]}$ of $\mathcal{H}(R, \mathbb{C}[[q-1]], q)$. The relations which are satisfied by

u_1, \dots, u_s , and which give rise to the relations above, depend on the orientation of Δ defined by R . So assume $\text{Ext}^1(S_i, S_j) = 0$ for some pair $i \neq j$. We will show that

$$\rho_{1-a_{ij}}^+(q_i, u_i, u_j) = 0, \quad \text{and} \quad {}^+\rho_{1-a_{ji}}(q_j, u_j, u_i) = 0,$$

and a simple substitution transforms these relations into the symmetric ones involving ρ instead of ρ^+ and ${}^+\rho$. The relations involving ρ^+ and ${}^+\rho$ will be shown in a quite general setting in Sect. 2. In order to do so, we will introduce in Sect. 1 the composition algebra $\mathcal{C}(R)$ for an arbitrary ring R .

The reader should be aware that q (and $q_i = q^{f_i}$) may denote an integer, or a variable, in different parts of the paper.

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1. Composition algebras

Let R be any ring, let \mathcal{S} be the set of isomorphism classes of finite simple R -modules (where ‘finite’ means: having only a finite number of elements). Let $\mathcal{W}(R)$ be the free semigroup with basis \mathcal{S} , thus the elements of $\mathcal{W}(R)$ are words of the form $w = [S_1][S_2] \dots [S_t]$, where S_1, \dots, S_t are finite simple R -modules, and $[S_i]$ denotes the isomorphism class of S_i ; here, t is the length of the word w , and there is a unique word of length zero (denoted by 1). We denote by $\mathcal{A}(R)$ the free (associative) algebra with basis \mathcal{S} . Clearly, the additive group of $\mathcal{A}(R)$ is the free abelian group with basis $\mathcal{W}(R)$. Given an element $w \in \mathcal{W}(R)$, say $w = [S_1] \dots [S_t]$, and an R -module M , let $\langle w|M \rangle$ denote the number of filtrations

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

such that $M_{i-1}/M_i \cong S_i$. (The number of such filtrations always is finite: if M has at least one such filtration, then M is a finite module, and so has only finitely many submodules.) In general, given $\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i w_i \in \mathcal{A}(R)$, with $\lambda_i \in \mathbb{Z}$, $w_i \in \mathcal{W}(R)$, and an R -module M , we define

$$\left\langle \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i w_i \middle| M \right\rangle = \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i \langle w_i | M \rangle.$$

Let $\mathcal{I}(R)$ be the set of all $a \in \mathcal{A}(R)$, with $\langle a|M \rangle = 0$ for all R -modules M . This is an ideal of $\mathcal{A}(R)$. (For $a \in \mathcal{A}(R)$ and S a finite simple R -module, $\langle [S] a | M \rangle = \sum_U \langle a | U \rangle$, where the summation ranges over all submodules U of M such

that $M/U \cong S$; similarly, $\langle a[S] | M \rangle = \sum_V \langle a | M/V \rangle$, where the summation ranges over all submodules V of M with M/V isomorphic to S .) Define

$$\mathcal{C}(R) = \mathcal{A}(R) / \mathcal{I}(R),$$

the composition algebra of R . Note that $\langle - | - \rangle$ yields a bilinear form

$$\mathcal{C}(R) \times K(R\text{-fin}) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}.$$

Assume that the ring R is finitary, so that the Hall algebra $\mathcal{H}(R)$ is defined. Consider the ring homomorphism $\eta: \mathcal{A}(R) \rightarrow \mathcal{H}(R)$ sending $[S]$ to $u_{[S]}$. Then $\mathcal{I}(R) = \ker \eta$. (For, $\eta([S_1] \dots [S_t]) = \sum_{[M]} F_{S_1^M, \dots, S_t}^M u_{[M]}$ and $F_{S_1^M, \dots, S_t}^M = \langle [S_1] \dots [S_t] | M \rangle$; therefore, given $a \in \mathcal{A}(R)$, we have $\eta(a) = \sum_{[M]} \langle a | M \rangle u_{[M]}$.) As a consequence, we can identify $\mathcal{C}(R)$ with the subring of $\mathcal{H}(R)$ generated by the elements of the form $u_{[S]}$ with $[S] \in \mathcal{S}$.

2. The fundamental relations

Let R be a finitary ring. Let $S_i (i \in I)$ be a complete set of finite simple R -modules (thus, they are pairwise non-isomorphic, and any finite simple R -module is isomorphic to one of them). We assume that $\text{Ext}^1(S_i, S_j) = 0$ for all i . Let $q_i = |\text{End}(S_i)|$. Let $i \neq j$ with $\text{Ext}^1(S_i, S_j) = 0$, and

$$\begin{aligned} a_{ij} &= -\dim \text{Ext}^1(S_j, S_i)_{\text{End}(S_i)}, \\ a'_{ij} &= -\dim_{\text{End}(S_j)} \text{Ext}^1(S_j, S_i), \end{aligned}$$

thus $q_i^{a'_{ij}} = q_j^{a_{ij}}$.

Proposition. Both elements $\rho_{1-a_{ij}}^+(q_i, [S_i], [S_j])$ and ${}^+ \rho_{1-a'_{ij}}(q_j, [S_j], [S_i])$ belong to $\mathcal{I}(R)$.

Proof. We first consider ρ^+ . We are going to calculate

$$a_t(M) := \langle [S_i]^t [S_j] [S_i]^{n-t} | M \rangle$$

for an arbitrary module M . We may assume that M is of length $n+1$, with one composition factor S_j , the remaining ones of the form S_i . Since $\text{Ext}^1(S_i, S_i) = 0 = \text{Ext}^1(S_i, S_j)$, we can decompose $M = N \oplus dS_i$, with N indecomposable and some $0 \leq d \leq n$. The radical N' of N is isomorphic to $(n-d)S_i$, and $N/N' \cong S_j$. Since $\dim \text{Ext}^1(S_j, S_i)_{\text{End}(S_i)} = n-1$, it follows that $d \geq 1$. Note that M does not have a factor module isomorphic to $(d+1)S$, thus $a_t(M) = 0$ for $t > d$. Therefore, we may assume $t \leq d$. The composition series of M we are interested in are of the form

$$M = M_0 \supset M_1 \supset \dots \supset M_{n+1} = 0$$

with $M_t/M_{t+1} \cong S_j$. In particular, $N \subseteq M_t$, since $M/N \cong dS_i$. There are $\frac{v_d}{v_{d-t}}(q_i)$ possibilities for choosing chains

$$M = M_0 \supset M_1 \supset \dots \supset M_t \supseteq N$$

with M_i maximal in M_{i+1} , for $1 \leq i \leq t$, where $v_n = v_n(T) = \frac{\varphi_n(T)}{(1-T)^n}$. Always, M_t has a unique submodule M_{t+1} with $M_t/M_{t+1} \cong S_j$, and since $M_{t+1} \cong (n-t)S_i$, there are $v_{n-t}(q_i)$ composition series

$$M_{t+1} \supset M_{t+2} \supset \dots \supset M_n \supset M_{n+1} = 0.$$

Thus

$$a_t(M) = \frac{v_d v_{n-t}}{v_{d-t}}(q_i), \quad \text{for all } t \leq d.$$

We claim that for $1 \leq d \leq n$, we have

$$\sum_{t=0}^d (-1)^t \begin{bmatrix} n \\ t \end{bmatrix} T^{\binom{t}{2}} \frac{v_d v_{n-t}}{v_{d-t}} = 0. \tag{*}$$

But the evaluation of this polynomial at q_i is just $\rho_{i^+ - a_j}(q_i, [S_i], [S_j])$, so this will finish the first part of the proof. We use

$$\begin{bmatrix} n \\ t \end{bmatrix} \frac{v_d v_{n-t}}{v_{d-t}} = \frac{\varphi_n}{\varphi_t \varphi_{n-t}} \cdot \frac{\varphi_d \varphi_{n-t}}{\varphi_{d-t}} \cdot \frac{1}{(1-T)^n} = v_n \begin{bmatrix} d \\ t \end{bmatrix},$$

in order to rewrite the left hand side (*). We recall from [M] (I.2.Ex.3) that

$$E_d(T, X) := \sum_{t=0}^d \begin{bmatrix} n \\ t \end{bmatrix} T^{\binom{t}{2}} X^t = \prod_{i=0}^{d-1} (1 + T^i X).$$

Since $d \geq 1$, the right hand side shows that $E_d(T, -1) = 0$, therefore

$$\sum_{t=0}^d (-1)^t \begin{bmatrix} n \\ t \end{bmatrix} T^{\binom{t}{2}} \frac{v_d v_{n-t}}{v_{d-t}} = v_n \sum_{t=0}^d (-1)^t \begin{bmatrix} d \\ t \end{bmatrix} T^{\binom{t}{2}} = v_n E_d(T, -1) = 0.$$

In order to deal with ${}^+ \rho$, we may use a corresponding calculation. Alternatively, we may argue as follows: Without loss of generality, we may assume that S_i, S_j are the only simple R -modules, thus R is a finite ring, and, in fact a k -algebra for some finite field k . We apply the previous considerations to

the dual modules S_j^*, S_i^* , which we consider as R^{op} -modules. This is possible, since $\text{Ext}_{R^{\text{op}}}^1(S_j^*, S_i^*) = 0$. Given an R -module M , we have

$$\langle [S_j^*]^t [S_i^*] [S_j^*]^{n-t} | M^* \rangle = \langle [S_j]^{n-t} [S_i] [S_j]^t | M \rangle,$$

this finishes the proof.

As a consequence, we see that $\mathcal{C}(R)$ always may be considered as a factor algebra of $\mathcal{A}(R)/\mathcal{I}(R)$.

3. Adjunction of $\text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}}(\mathbf{K}(R), \mathbb{Z})$

Let R be a finitary ring. The class of all finite R -modules will be denoted by $R\text{-fin}_0$. Recall that a function $d: R\text{-fin}_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ is said to be additive on exact sequences provided $d(X) - d(Y) + d(Z) = 0$ for any exact sequence $0 \rightarrow X \rightarrow Y \rightarrow Z \rightarrow 0$ in $R\text{-fin}_0$.

Lemma. *Let $d: R\text{-fin}_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ be additive on exact sequences. Define an additive function $\delta_d: \mathcal{H}(R) \rightarrow \mathcal{H}(R)$ by $\delta_d(u_{[M]}) = d(M) u_{[M]}$, for any finite R -module M . Then δ_d is a derivation.*

Proof. Let N, N' be finite R -modules. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_d(u_{[N]} u_{[N']}) &= \delta\left(\sum_{[M]} F_{N,N'}^M u_{[M]}\right) = \sum_{[M]} F_{N,N'}^M d(M) u_{[M]} \\ &= \sum_{[M]} F_{N,N'}^M (d(N) + d(N')) u_{[M]} \\ &= d(N) u_{[N]} u_{[N']} + u_{[N]} d(N') u_{[N']} \\ &= \delta_d(u_{[N]}) u_{[N']} + u_{[N]} \delta_d(u_{[N']}). \end{aligned}$$

As in the previous section, let $S_i, i \in I$ be a complete set of finite simple R -modules. For $i \in I$, and $M \in R\text{-fin}_0$, let $d_i(M) = (\dim M)_i$ be the Jordan-Hoelder multiplicity of S_i in M . Then d_i is additive on exact sequences (and $(d_i)_i$ is a basis of the free abelian group of all functions $R\text{-fin}_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ which are additive on exact sequences). So we obtain a set of derivations $\delta_i = \delta_{d_i}$ of $\mathcal{H}(R)$.

Let $\mathcal{H}'(R)$ be obtained from $\mathcal{H}(R)$ by forming the skew polynomial ring

$$\mathcal{H}'(R) = \mathcal{H}(R) [T_i, \delta_i]_i$$

defined by the commutation rules

$$\begin{aligned} [T_i, T_j] &= 0, \\ [T_i, u_{[M]}] &= \delta_i(u_{[M]}) = (\dim M)_i u_{[M]} \end{aligned}$$

for all $i, j \in I$, and all $M \in R\text{-fin}_0$.

Assume now that R is representation-directed, let A be an arbitrary commutative ring, and $q \in A$. Given a function $d: R\text{-fin}_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ which is additive on exact sequences, we define $\delta_d: \mathcal{H}(R, A, q) \rightarrow \mathcal{H}(R, A, q)$ by $\delta_d(u_{[M]}) = d(M) u_{[M]}$, and

again we see that δ_d is a derivation. In particular, we obtain the derivations δ_i with $\delta_i(u_{[M]}) = (\dim M)_i u_{[M]}$, and we define

$$\mathcal{H}'(R, A, q) = \mathcal{H}(R, A, q) [T_i, \delta_i];$$

with the same commutation rules as above.

4. Completion

Let k be a finite field, let R be a finite-dimensional k -algebra with centre k which is representation-finite and hereditary. Let A be its type, it is a Dynkin diagram (since R is supposed to be connected). Let S_1, \dots, S_s be the simple R -modules, we assume that they are indexed in such a way that $\text{Ext}^1(S_i, S_j) = 0$ for $j < i$. We define $a_{ii} = 2$, and, for $j < i$

$$\begin{aligned} a_{ij} &= -\dim \text{Ext}^1(S_j, S_i)_{\text{End}(S_i)}, \\ a_{ji} &= a'_{ij} = -\dim_{\text{End}(S_j)} \text{Ext}^1(S_j, S_i). \end{aligned}$$

Thus, $A = (a_{ij})_{ij}$ is the Cartan matrix of type A . Let $f_i = \dim_k \text{End}(S_i)$, thus (f_i) is the minimal symmetrization of A .

Let $\mathbb{C}[q]$ be the polynomial ring in the indeterminate q . We consider

$$\widehat{\mathcal{H}}(R) = \varprojlim_m \mathcal{H}(R, \mathbb{C}[q]/(q-1)^m, q),$$

and the corresponding ring $\widehat{\mathcal{H}}(R)$, both are algebras over the power series ring $\mathbb{C}[[q-1]]$. We are going to describe both algebras $\widehat{\mathcal{H}}(R)$ and $\widehat{\mathcal{H}}(R)$ by generators and relations. Let $u_i = u_{[S_i]}$ and $q_i = q^{f_i}$, for $1 \leq i \leq s$.

Theorem. *As a complete $\mathbb{C}[[q-1]]$ -algebra, $\widehat{\mathcal{H}}(R)$ is generated by u_1, \dots, u_s , with relations $\rho_{1-a_{ij}}^+(q_i, u_i, u_j) = 0 = {}^+ \rho_{1-a_{ji}}(q_j, u_j, u_i)$ for all $j < i$.*

Proof. Let $\mathcal{A}(R, \mathbb{C}[q]) = \mathcal{A}(R) \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{C}[q]$, the free $\mathbb{C}[q]$ -algebra with generators $[S_1], \dots, [S_s]$, and consider the algebra homomorphism

$$\eta: \mathcal{A}(R, \mathbb{C}[q]) \rightarrow \mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}(R, \mathbb{C}[q], q)$$

defined by $\eta([S_i]) = u_i$. Let \mathcal{I} be the ideal of $\mathcal{A}(R, \mathbb{C}[q])$ generated by the elements $\rho_{1-a_{ij}}^+(q_i, [S_i], [S_j])$, and ${}^+ \rho_{1-a_{ji}}(q_j, [S_j], [S_i])$ for all $j < i$. According to Sect. 1, we see that \mathcal{I} belongs to the kernel of η , thus we obtain an algebra homomorphism

$$\bar{\eta}: \bar{\mathcal{A}} = \mathcal{A}(R, \mathbb{C}[q]) / \mathcal{I} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}.$$

We denote by

$$\bar{\eta}_m: \bar{\mathcal{A}} / (q-1)^m \bar{\mathcal{A}} \rightarrow \mathcal{H} / (q-1)^m \mathcal{H}$$

the induced map modulo $(q-1)^m$. According to [R2], the map $\bar{\eta}_1$ is bijective. We consider $\bar{\eta}_m$ as a map of A_m -modules, where $A_m = \mathbb{C}[q]/(q-1)^m$. Now,

$\mathcal{H}/(q-1)^m \mathcal{H}$ is a free A_m -module, thus with $\bar{\eta}_1$ also $\bar{\eta}_m$ is bijective. It follows that $\bar{\eta}$ induces an isomorphism

$$\varinjlim_m \bar{\mathcal{A}}/(p-1)^m \bar{\mathcal{A}} \rightarrow \varinjlim_m \mathcal{H}/(q-1)^m \mathcal{H} = \widehat{\mathcal{H}}(R).$$

Corollary. *As a complete $\mathbb{C}[[q-1]]$ -algebra, $\widehat{\mathcal{H}}(R)$ is generated by the elements $T_1, \dots, T_s, u_1, \dots, u_s$ subject to the relations*

$$[T_i, T_j]=0, \quad [T_i, u_j]=\delta_{ij} u_j, \quad \text{for all } i, j,$$

and

$$\rho_{1-a_j}^+(q_i, u_i, u_j)=0 = {}^+ \rho_{1-a_j}(q_j, u_j, u_i), \quad \text{for all } j < i.$$

Here, δ_{ij} is the Kronecker delta: $\delta_{ii}=1, \delta_{ij}=0$, for $i \neq j$.

5. Revision of the relations

We keep the assumptions of the last section. We want to change the generators of $\widehat{\mathcal{H}}(R)$ in order to obtain more familiar relations. First of all, let

$$H_i := \sum_{j=1}^s a_{ij} T_j.$$

Since the Cartan matrix $A=(a_{ij})_{i,j}$ is invertible, the \mathbb{C} -space of $\widehat{\mathcal{H}}(R)$ generated by H_1, \dots, H_s is the same as that generated by T_1, \dots, T_s . Also, $[T_i, T_j]=0$ for all i, j is equivalent to requiring $[H_i, H_j]=0$ for all i, j . Similarly, $[T_i, u_j]=\delta_{ij} u_j$ for all i, j is equivalent to requiring $[H_i, u_j]=a_{ij} u_j$ for all i, j .

In order to rewrite the relations ρ^+ and ${}^+ \rho$, we will replace the elements u_i by suitable multiples $c_i u_i$, with c_i invertible in $\widehat{\mathcal{H}}(R)$. Given an element $b \in \widehat{\mathcal{H}}(R)$, the element $\exp(b \ln q) = \sum_{m \geq 0} (-1)^m \frac{1}{m!} b^m (\ln q)^m \in \widehat{\mathcal{H}}(R)$ is defined, since $\ln q$ is a multiple of $q-1$. If $b_1, b_2 \in \widehat{\mathcal{H}}(R)$ commute, then $\exp((b_1 + b_2) \ln q) = \exp(b_1 \ln q) \exp(b_2 \ln q)$; in particular, any $\exp(b \ln q)$ is invertible in $\widehat{\mathcal{H}}(R)$, with inverse $\exp(-b \ln q)$.

For $1 \leq i \leq s$, let

$$X_i := \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} f_j a_{ij} T_j \ln q\right) u_i.$$

Theorem. *As a complete $\mathbb{C}[[q-1]]$ -algebra, $\widehat{\mathcal{H}}(R)$ is generated by the elements $H_1, \dots, H_s, X_1, \dots, X_s$, subject to the relations*

$$\begin{aligned} [H_i, H_j] &= 0, \\ [H_i, X_j] &= a_{ij} X_j, \\ \rho_{1-a_j}(q_i, X_i, X_j) &= 0, \quad \text{for } i \neq j. \end{aligned}$$

Proof. For $1 \leq j < i \leq s$, let $c_{ij} = \exp(-\frac{1}{2} f_i a_{ij} T_j \ln q)$, and $c_i = c_{i1} \dots c_{i,j-1}$ (with $c_{i1} = 1$), thus $X_i = c_i u_i$. For $j \neq s$, we have $c_{ij} u_s = u_s c_{ij}$, since $[T_j, u_s] = 0$. On the other hand, $T_i u_i = u_i T_i + u_i = u_i(T_i + 1)$ implies by induction that $T_i^m u_i = u_i(T_i + 1)^m$ for all $m \geq 1$. Therefore, for $c \in \mathbb{C}$

$$\begin{aligned} \exp(c T_i \ln q) u_i &= \sum_{m \geq 0} \frac{1}{m!} (c T_i \ln q)^m u_i = \sum_{m \geq 0} \frac{1}{m!} c^m (\ln q)^m u_i (T_i + 1)^m \\ &= u_i \exp(c (T_i + 1) \ln q) = u_i \exp(c T_i \ln q) \exp(c \ln q) \\ &= q^c \cdot u_i \exp(c T_i \ln q), \end{aligned}$$

thus we see that

$$c_{ij} u_j = q_i^{-\frac{1}{2} a_{ij}} u_j c_{ij}.$$

For $j < i$, it follows that

$$c_i u_i = u_i c_i, \quad c_i u_j = q_i^{-\frac{1}{2} a_{ij}} u_j c_i, \quad c_j u_i = u_i c_j, \quad c_j u_j = u_j c_j,$$

and therefore, for all $0 \leq t \leq n$,

$$\begin{aligned} q_i^{\frac{1}{2} a_{ij} t} X_i^t X_j X_i^{n-t} &= u_i^t u_j u_i^{n-t} c_j c_i^n, \\ q_j^{\frac{1}{2} a_{ij} t} X_j^{n-t} X_i X_j^t &= u_j^{n-t} u_i u_j^t c_j^n c_i, \end{aligned}$$

where we have used that $f_i a_{ij} = f_j a_{ji}$, thus $q_i^{a_{ij}} = q_j^{a_{ji}}$. We assume now that $n = 1 - a_{ij}$. Then $\binom{t}{2} + \frac{a_{ij} t}{2} = \frac{t(t-1)}{2} + \frac{(1-n)t}{2} = -\frac{t(n-t)}{2}$, and therefore

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_{1-a_{ij}}(q_i, X_i, X_j) &= \rho_{1-a_{ij}}^+(q_i, u_i, u_j) c_j c_i^n, \\ \rho_{1-a_{ij}}(q_j, X_j, X_i) &= {}^+ \rho_{1-a_{ij}}(q_j, u_j, u_i) c_j^n c_i. \end{aligned}$$

This finishes the proof.

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