

Irreducible characters of general linear superalgebra and super duality

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With respect to the above ordered basis, the standard **Borel subalgebra** \mathfrak{b} is the subalgebra of upper triangular matrices and the standard **Cartan subalgebra** \mathfrak{h} is the space of diagonal matrices E_{ii} , with dual basis ϵ_i , $i = -m, -m+1, \dots, -1, 1, 2, \dots, n$.

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and for an indeterminate e we denote the character of M by

$$\text{ch}M = \sum_{\mu} \dim M_{\mu} e^{\mu}.$$

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Now $\{[V(\lambda)]\}$ and $\{[L(\lambda)]\}$ are two sets of basis for the Grothendieck group of \mathcal{O} , and hence we can write

$$[L(\lambda)] = \sum_{\mu} a_{\mu\lambda} [V(\lambda)], \quad a_{\mu\lambda} \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

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Since $\text{ch}V(\lambda)$ is easy, once one knows $Q_{\mu\lambda}(q)$, one has solved the character problem.

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$$[L(\lambda)] = \sum_{\mu} P_{\mu\lambda}(1)[K(\lambda)], \quad a_{\mu\lambda} \in \mathbb{Z},$$

where $P_{\mu\lambda}(q)$ are parabolic Kazhdan-Lusztig polynomials, which can be expressed in terms of the usual KL-polynomials.

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- One of the main problems is the irreducible character problem of $\mathfrak{gl}(m|n)$ in $\bar{\mathcal{O}}$.

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- 2003: Brundan gave a new and more conceptual solution of the finite-dimensional irreducible character problem by relating these $\overline{P}_{\mu\lambda}(q)$ in the **finite-dimensional case** to Lusztig's **canonical and dual canonical basis** on a certain Fock space.

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This is to say that

$$\overline{P}_{\mu\lambda}(q) = P_{\mu\mathfrak{h}\lambda\mathfrak{h}}(q),$$

for some bijection \mathfrak{h} from the sets of finite-dimensional integral highest weights of $\mathfrak{gl}(m|n)$ to the set of weights in the maximal parabolic subcategory of $\mathfrak{gl}(m+n)$ -modules (in a suitable limit $n \rightarrow \infty$.)

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Conjecture 1. (Super Duality Conjecture) [CWZ] Let $\mathfrak{l} = \mathfrak{gl}(m) \oplus \mathfrak{gl}(n)$. Then in the limit $n \rightarrow \infty$ the categories $\mathcal{O}^{\mathfrak{l}}$ and $\overline{\mathcal{O}}^{\mathfrak{l}}$ are equivalent.

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We note that $\mathfrak{l} = \bar{\mathfrak{l}}$ is also a Levi subalgebra of the Lie superalgebra $\mathfrak{gl}(m|n)$ and hence gives rise to a corresponding parabolic subcategory of $\overline{\mathcal{O}}^{\mathfrak{l}}$ with corresponding parabolic subalgebra $\bar{\mathfrak{p}}$, nilradical $\bar{\mathfrak{u}}$, and opposite nilradical $\bar{\mathfrak{u}}_-$.

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Then $\overline{\mathcal{O}}^{\mathfrak{h} \oplus \mathfrak{gl}(n)}$ consists of $\mathfrak{gl}(m|n)$ -modules that have (finite) composition series with composition factors being highest weight irreducible $\mathfrak{gl}(m|n)$ -modules with highest weights of the form

$$\lambda := \sum_{i=-m}^{-1} \lambda_i \epsilon_i + \sum_{j>0} \lambda_j \epsilon_{j-\frac{1}{2}},$$

where $\lambda_i, \lambda_j \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots)$ is a partition.

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Note: For the case $\mathfrak{l} = \mathfrak{gl}(m) \oplus \mathfrak{gl}(n)$ Conjecture 2 is true and is the main result in [CWZ]. Also Conjecture 2 can be shown to be equivalent to a parabolic version of Brundan's conjecture on $\overline{\mathcal{O}}$.

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- In the remainder of the talk we will give the main ideas of a proof of Theorems 1 and 2. Also in the sequel we will always assume that $n = \infty$.

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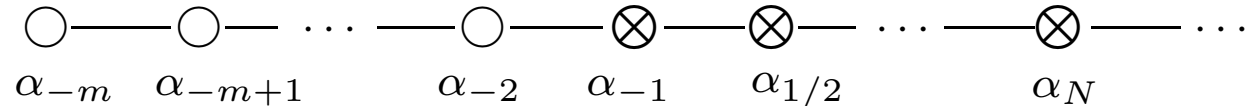
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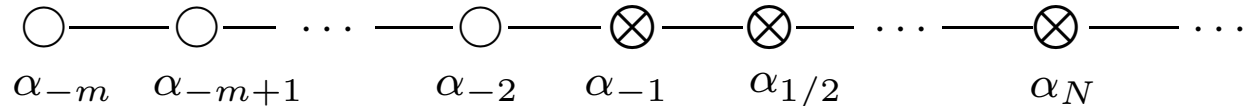
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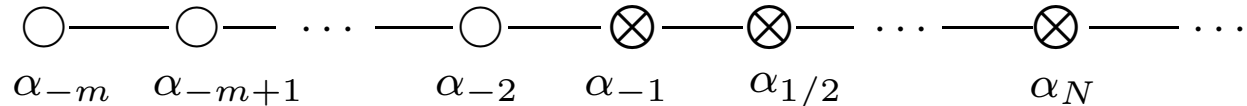
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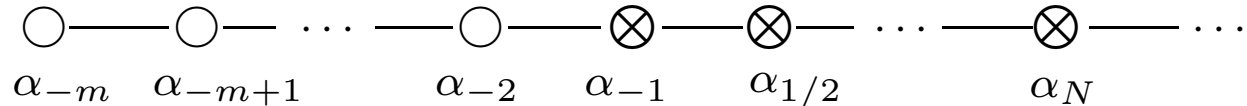


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The corresponding Levi subalgebra of $\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}$ is the direct sum of $\mathfrak{l}^{<0}$ and the general linear Lie superalgebra generated by α_r , $r > 0$, denoted by $\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}^{>0}$. We denote this Levi subalgebra by $\tilde{\mathfrak{l}}$ with parabolic subalgebra $\tilde{\mathfrak{p}}$, nilradical $\tilde{\mathfrak{u}}$, and opposite radical $\tilde{\mathfrak{u}}_-$.

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$$\lambda^\theta := \sum_{i=-m}^{-1} \lambda_i \epsilon_i + \sum_{j>0} \theta(\lambda'_+) \epsilon_j,$$

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Here $\langle k \rangle := k$, of $k \in \mathbb{N}$, and it is defined to be 0 otherwise.

- Let $T : \tilde{\mathcal{O}}^l \rightarrow \mathcal{O}^l$ and $\bar{T} : \tilde{\mathcal{O}}^l \rightarrow \bar{\mathcal{O}}^l$ be the functors defined by projecting onto the weight spaces corresponding to the weights $\sum_{i=-m}^{-1} \mathbb{Z}\epsilon_i + \sum_{j \in \mathbb{N}} \mathbb{Z}\epsilon_j$ and $\sum_{i=-m}^{-1} \mathbb{Z}\epsilon_i + \sum_{r \in \frac{1}{2} + \mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Z}\epsilon_r$, respectively.

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From the above theorem it follows that the character of an irreducible $\mathfrak{gl}(m|n)$ -module $\bar{L}(\lambda)$ in $\bar{\mathcal{O}}^l$ is determined by the character of the $\mathfrak{gl}(m+n)$ -module $L(\lambda^\natural)$.

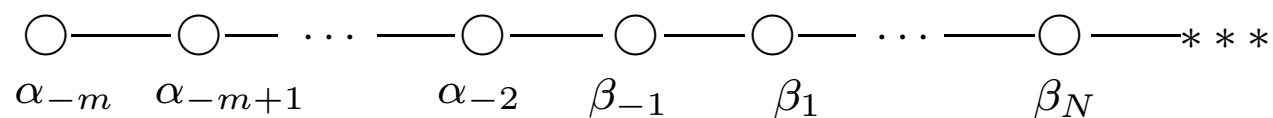
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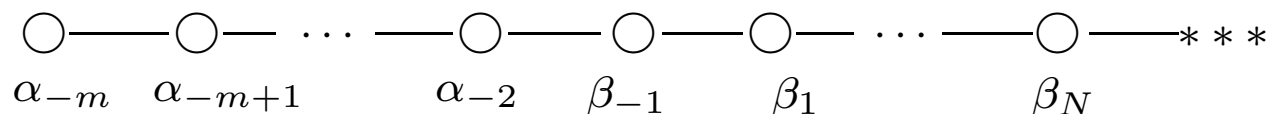
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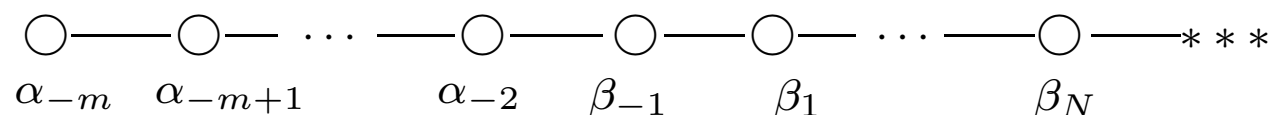
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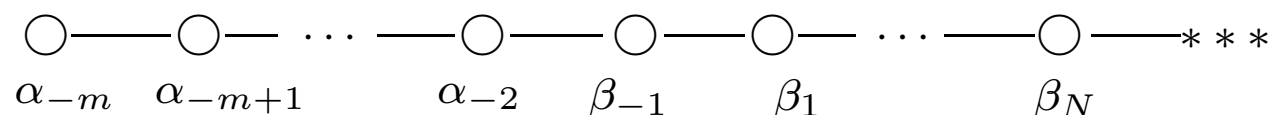


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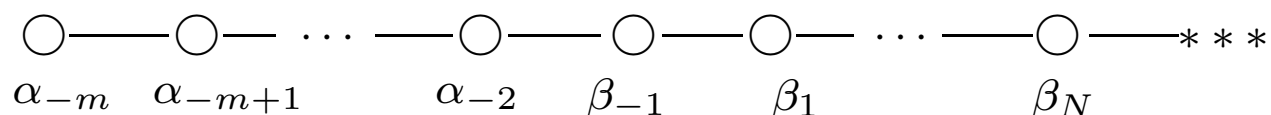
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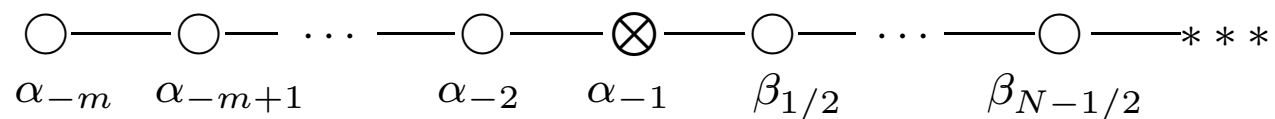
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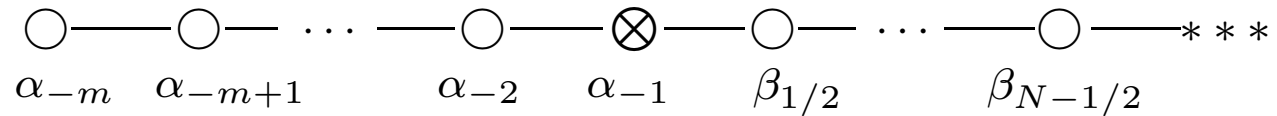
Using this Borel it then can be shown that T sends irreducibles to irreducibles and parabolic Verma to parabolic Verma.

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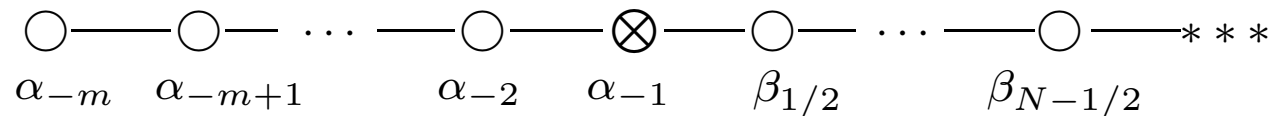


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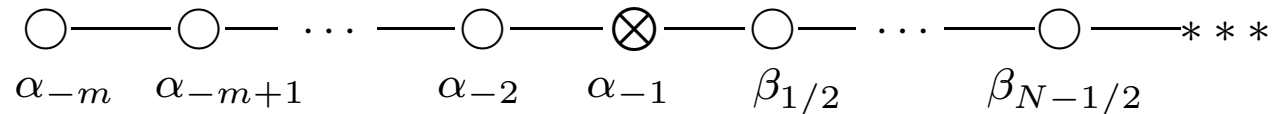
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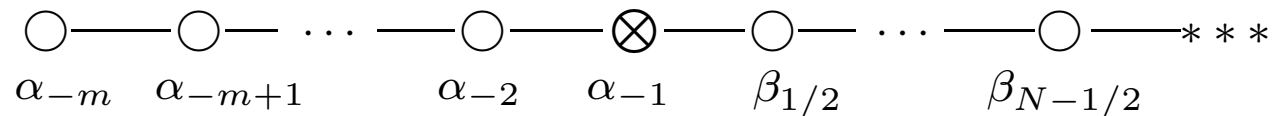


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- We want to point out that the arguments are very elementary and do NOT use Serganova's or Brundan's results at all.

The upshot is that if we specialize \mathfrak{l} to $\mathfrak{gl}(m) \oplus \mathfrak{gl}(n)$ we obtain in a very elementary fashion a new and independent solution of the finite-dimensional irreducible character problem for $\mathfrak{gl}(m|n)$ as well.

- Let $\widetilde{M} \in \widetilde{\mathcal{O}}$ and let $M = T(\widetilde{M})$ and $\overline{M} = \overline{T}(\widetilde{M})$.

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Proposition 4. We have $T\widetilde{d} = dT$ and $\overline{T}\widetilde{d} = \overline{d}\overline{T}$, and hence T and \overline{T} induce \mathfrak{l} -module homomorphisms on the respective homology groups.

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Theorem 5. (Lam-C.) For μ an appropriate weight let $L(\mathfrak{l}, \mu)$ denote the irreducible highest weight \mathfrak{l} -module. For $\widetilde{M} \in \widetilde{\mathcal{O}}^{\mathfrak{l}}$ we have

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Using analogues of Vogan's cohomological interpretation of Kazhdan-Lusztig polynomials and choosing $\widetilde{M} = \widetilde{L}(\lambda^{\theta})$ Theorem 5 implies that the respective KL-polynomials $P_{\mu\lambda}(q)$ and $\overline{P}_{\mu^{\natural}\lambda^{\natural}}(q)$ coincide, thus proving Conjecture 2.

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- Our method is independent of the works of Serganova and Brundan as well, and so it gives a new and independent solution to the finite-dimensional irreducible character problem for $\mathfrak{gl}(m|n)$.
- Furthermore it quite general and works also for other types of Lie algebras/Lie superalgebras.

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- As another example, the super duality principle makes connections between the representation theories of **affine Lie superalgebras** with Kac-Moody Lie algebras of indefinite type. (Also joint work with N. Lam and W. Wang.)

Thank you for your attention!