

Some new decomposition numbers of finite classical groups

Emily Norton

December 12, 2020

An old story: Lie algebras acting on categories

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The idea: the generators e and f of \mathfrak{sl}_2 act on a module category \mathcal{C} by a biadjoint pair of exact endofunctors E and F in such a way that the images of the functors in the Grothendieck group of \mathcal{C} satisfy the \mathfrak{sl}_2 -relations.

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Definition of \mathfrak{g} -categorification

\mathfrak{g} a Lie algebra (finite or affine Dynkin type).

Example relevant for this talk: $\mathfrak{g} = \widehat{\mathfrak{sl}}_d$, $d \geq 2$. Dynkin diagram: d -gon (affine type A).

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A \mathfrak{g} -categorification on \mathcal{C} is a collection of exact endofunctors $\{E_i, F_i\}$ of \mathcal{C} , where i ranges over the nodes of the Dynkin diagram of \mathfrak{g} , satisfying:

- For each i , E_i and F_i are a biadjoint pair of functors;
- The functors E_i and F_i for all i induce an action of \mathfrak{g} on the (complexified) Grothendieck group $[\mathcal{C}]$ via $[E_i] = e_i$, $[F_i] = f_i$ where e_i, f_i are the Chevalley generators of \mathfrak{g} ;
- The classes $[S]$ in $[\mathcal{C}]$ of the simple objects $S \in \mathcal{C}$ are \mathfrak{g} -weight vectors;
- **Strong:** Set $E = \bigoplus_i E_i$, $F = \bigoplus_i F_i$. There are natural transformations $X \in \text{End}(F)$ and $T \in \text{End}(F^2)$ such that in $\text{End}(F^n)$, $X_j := 1^{j-1} X 1^{n-j}$ and $T_k := 1^{k-1} T 1^{n-k-1}$ satisfy defining relations of an affine Hecke algebra.

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\rightsquigarrow get a simply directed graph on the set of simple objects $\{S\}$ of \mathcal{C} .

Example: the symmetric groups (Chuang-Rouquier, LLT, Kleshchev)

$\text{char } \mathbb{k} = p > 0, \mathcal{C} = \bigoplus_{n \geq 0} \mathbb{k}\mathfrak{S}_n\text{-mod.}$

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Theorem (Chuang-Rouquier, Lascoux-Leclerc-Thibon)

There is a $\widehat{\mathfrak{sl}}_p$ -categorification on \mathcal{C} with

$$\text{Res} = E = \bigoplus_{i \in \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}} E_i, \quad \text{Ind} = F = \bigoplus_{i \in \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}} F_i$$

If Δ_λ , $\lambda \vdash n$, is a Specht module, then

$$[E_i(\Delta_\lambda)] = \sum_{\substack{\lambda \setminus b \\ \text{ct}(b) \cong i \pmod p}} [\Delta_{\lambda \setminus b}], \quad [F_i(\Delta_\lambda)] = \sum_{\substack{\lambda \cup b \\ \text{ct}(b) \cong i \pmod p}} [\Delta_{\lambda \cup b}]$$

Illustration: $p = 3$, $\lambda =$

0	1	2	3
-1	0	1	

Then

$$[E_1(\Delta_{\begin{smallmatrix} 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \end{smallmatrix}})] = [\Delta_{\begin{smallmatrix} 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ -1 & 0 \end{smallmatrix}}],$$

$$[F_1(\Delta_{\begin{smallmatrix} 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \end{smallmatrix}})] = [\Delta_{\begin{smallmatrix} 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \end{smallmatrix}}] + [\Delta_{\begin{smallmatrix} 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \\ -2 \end{smallmatrix}}]$$

The symmetric groups, continued

$\lambda \vdash n$ a p -regular partition, S_λ a simple $\mathbb{k}\mathfrak{S}_n$ -module. The head of $F_i(S_\lambda)$ is simple if $F_i(S_\lambda) \neq 0$, set it equal to $S_{\tilde{f}_i(\lambda)}$.

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There is a combinatorial rule for finding $\tilde{f}_i(\lambda)$: for $i \in \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$,

$$\tilde{f}_i(\lambda) = \lambda \cup \{\text{"good addable } i\text{-box"}\}$$

if a "good addable i -box" exists, otherwise $\tilde{f}_i(\lambda) = 0$.

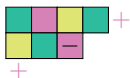
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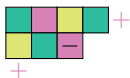
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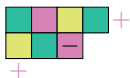
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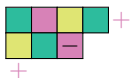
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$$\tilde{f}_1 \left(\begin{array}{cccc} \text{teal} & \text{pink} & \text{yellow} & \text{teal} \\ \text{yellow} & \text{teal} & \text{pink} & \end{array} \right) = \begin{array}{cccc} \text{teal} & \text{pink} & \text{yellow} & \text{teal} \\ \text{yellow} & \text{teal} & \text{pink} & \\ \text{pink} & & & \end{array}$$

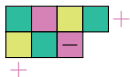
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The graph with

Vertices: $\{p\text{-regular partitions } \lambda\}$

Edges: $\{\lambda \rightarrow \mu \mid \mu = \tilde{f}_i(\lambda) \text{ for some } i \in \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}\}$

is called the $\widehat{\mathfrak{sl}}_p$ -crystal on the set of p -regular partitions.

$\widehat{\mathfrak{sl}}_d$ -action on module categories of finite classical groups (DVV, GHJ)

$B_n(q)$, $C_n(q)$ finite reductive groups, Weyl group $W = B_n$
char $\mathbb{k} = \ell > 0$, $|q| = d \pmod{\ell}$, $d \geq 2$ even.

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Set $\mathcal{C}_n = \mathbb{k}B_n(q)\text{-mod}^{\text{unip}}$ or $\mathbb{k}C_n(q)\text{-mod}^{\text{unip}}$, then take

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$\widehat{\mathfrak{sl}}_d$ -action on module categories of finite classical groups (DVV, GHJ)

$B_n(q)$, $C_n(q)$ finite reductive groups, Weyl group $W = B_n$

$\text{char } \mathbb{k} = \ell > 0$, $|q| = d \pmod{\ell}$, $d \geq 2$ even.

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That means:

$$\text{Res} \cong \bigoplus_{i \in \mathbb{Z}/d\mathbb{Z}} E_i, \quad \text{Ind} \cong \bigoplus_{i \in \mathbb{Z}/d\mathbb{Z}} F_i$$

and on $[\mathcal{C}]$ there is a $\widehat{\mathfrak{sl}}_d$ -crystal graph with **vertices** $\{[S] \mid S \text{ simple}\}$ and **arrows** $[S] \rightarrow [T]$ if T is the head of $F_i(S)$ for some $i \in \mathbb{Z}/d\mathbb{Z}$.

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The Harish-Chandra branching rule for \mathcal{C} is given explicitly by the $\widehat{\mathfrak{sl}}_d$ -crystal on a countably infinite sum \mathcal{F} of level 2 Fock spaces:

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The charge \mathbf{s}_t is determined from t by an explicit formula. Combinatorics similar to the symmetric group case, but more complicated because using bipartitions $\lambda^1.\lambda^2$ instead of just one partition λ .

Dec matrix of $B_{2n}(q)$, $C_{2n}(q)$ when $\ell \mid \Phi_{2n}(q)$

$(\mathbb{K}, \mathbb{O}, \mathbb{k})$ an ℓ -modular system large enough for the group, $d = |q| \pmod{\ell}$ even

$\Delta_{B_{t^2+t}:\lambda}$: the ℓ -modular reduction of an \mathbb{O} -lattice of the irreducible ordinary unipotent representation $\rho_{B_{t^2+t}} : \lambda$,

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Labels of simple modules in the principal block:

- bipartitions of $2n$ (principal series),
- bipartitions of $2n - 2$ (B_2 series),
- bipartitions of $2n - 6$ (B_6 series),

which have empty n -co-core.

Dec matrix of $B_6(q)$ and $C_6(q)$, $\ell \mid \Phi_6(q)$

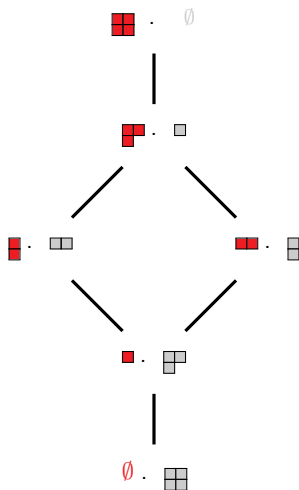
First found by Dudas-Malle [DM '20]. It is also given by our theorem.

Any patterns in this matrix?

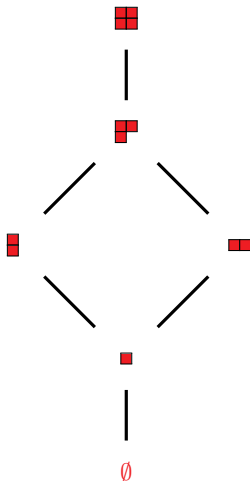
1. Consider submatrix labeled $B_2 : \lambda^1 . \lambda^2$:

$$\begin{array}{l|cccccc} B_2 : 2^2. & 1 & & & & & \\ B_2 : 21.1 & 1 & 1 & & & & \\ B_2 : 1^2.2 & & 1 & 1 & & & \\ B_2 : 2.1^2 & & 1 & & 1 & & \\ B_2 : 1.21 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & \\ B_2 : .2^2 & 1 & & & & 1 & 1 \end{array}$$

2. Draw poset determined by nonzero dec numbers:



Project $\lambda^1 \cdot \lambda^2$ onto λ^1 :



Question: where have we seen this poset before?

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Some history: Category \mathcal{O}^p of type $A_{k-1} \times A_{n-k-1} \subset A_{n-1}$ is equivalent to the category of perverse sheaves on $\text{Gr}(k, n)$ (Braden, Stroppel). *Poset:* Young diagrams fitting in $k \times (n - k)$ box, under inclusion of diagrams. In our example, $k = 2$ and $n = 4$.

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When $d > |\lambda|$ we can expect similar behavior to $d = \infty$.

Generic submatrices of the decomposition matrix of $\mathbb{k}B_n(q)$ and $\mathbb{k}C_n(q)$

By the B_{t^2+t} -submatrix we mean the submatrix of the unipotent decomposition matrix of $\mathbb{k}B_n(q)$ or $\mathbb{k}C_n(q)$ whose rows and columns are labeled by $B_{t^2+t} : \lambda^1, \lambda^2$.

Theorem

(Dudas-N., '20, work in progress) Let $d > n - t^2 - t$ be even and let $\ell = \text{char } \mathbb{k}$ be any prime such that $|q| = d \pmod{\ell}$. Then the decomposition numbers in the B_{t^2+t} -submatrix of the unipotent dec matrix of $\mathbb{k}B_n(q)$ and $\mathbb{k}C_n(q)$ are given by Brundan-Stroppel's algorithm.

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Idea of proof: show that when $d > n - t^2 - t$, the dec numbers are controlled by combinatorics of $\widehat{\mathfrak{sl}}_d$ -crystal. Proof by induction, not too difficult.

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Consequences:

- Explicit, closed formulas for the entries of the B_{t^2+t} -submatrix.

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By the B_{t^2+t} -submatrix we mean the submatrix of the unipotent decomposition matrix of $\mathbb{k}B_n(q)$ or $\mathbb{k}C_n(q)$ whose rows and columns are labeled by $B_{t^2+t} : \lambda^1, \lambda^2$.

Theorem

(Dudas-N., '20, work in progress) Let $d > n - t^2 - t$ be even and let $\ell = \text{char } \mathbb{k}$ be any prime such that $|q| = d \pmod{\ell}$. Then the decomposition numbers in the B_{t^2+t} -submatrix of the unipotent dec matrix of $\mathbb{k}B_n(q)$ and $\mathbb{k}C_n(q)$ are given by Brundan-Stroppel's algorithm.

Idea of proof: show that when $d > n - t^2 - t$, the dec numbers are controlled by combinatorics of $\widehat{\mathfrak{sl}}_d$ -crystal. Proof by induction, not too difficult. **Tiefhängende Früchte.**

Consequences:

- Explicit, closed formulas for the entries of the B_{t^2+t} -submatrix.
- The B_{t^2+t} -submatrix depends only on the order of $q \pmod{\ell}$, not on ℓ .

Generic submatrices of the decomposition matrix of $\mathbb{k}B_n(q)$ and $\mathbb{k}C_n(q)$

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- Explicit, closed formulas for the entries of the B_{t^2+t} -submatrix.
- The B_{t^2+t} -submatrix depends only on the order of $q \pmod{\ell}$, not on ℓ .
- The B_{t^2+t} -submatrix is the same as the decomposition matrix of Category \mathcal{O} of the rational Cherednik algebra $H_{d,s_t}(n - t^2 - t)$.

Generic submatrices of the decomposition matrix of $\mathbb{k}B_n(q)$ and $\mathbb{k}C_n(q)$

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- All dec numbers in the B_{t^2+t} -submatrix are 0 or 1.

Generic submatrices of the decomposition matrix of $\mathbb{k}B_n(q)$ and $\mathbb{k}C_n(q)$

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- Explicit, closed formulas for the entries of the B_{t^2+t} -submatrix.
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- All dec numbers in the B_{t^2+t} -submatrix are 0 or 1.
- This is the first result identifying large submatrices of the unip dec matrix in blocks of arbitrary complexity since the 1990s.

THANK YOU