

# **Solving the Bethe Ansatz Equations: Quantum Schubert Calculus**

Christian.Korff@glasgow.ac.uk

School of Mathematics & Statistics University of Glasgow

**Joint work with Vassily Gorbounov (Aberdeen)**  
**Arxiv:1402.2907 and 1408.4718**

## Ginzburg-Kapranov-Vasserot:

Schubert calculus	formal group law	QG/YBE
cohomology	additive	Yangian/rational
K-theory	multiplicative	$U_q(\mathfrak{g})$ /trigonometric
elliptic cohomology	elliptic curves	/elliptic

Gepner, Vafa, Witten: fusion rings in CFT  $\rightsquigarrow$  quantum cohomology

Givental, Kim, Lee: quantum Toda + WDVV  $\rightsquigarrow$  quantum cohomology &

Nekrasov-Shatashvili, Braverman-Maulik-Okounkov: quantum K-theory  
Yangian structure for Nakajima varieties

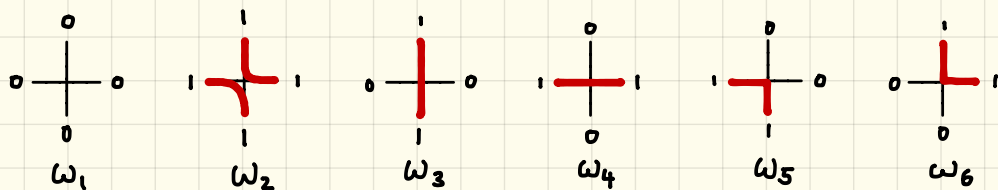
Gorbounov-Rimanyi-Tarasov-Varchenko: cotangent bundle of flag varieties

CK-Stroppel, Gorbounov-CK: quantum Schubert calculus of  $Gr_n(\mathbb{C}^N)$

# Outline

- ① Vicious & Osculating Walkers
- ② DWBC & Factorial Grothendieck Polynomials
- ③ Algebraic Bethe Ansatz
- ④ Coordinate ring description
- ⑤ GKM Theory: localised Schubert classes

Recall the integrability conditions for the asymmetric six-vertex model :



Two quadrics :  $\Delta = \frac{\omega_1\omega_2 + \omega_3\omega_4 - \omega_5\omega_6}{2\omega_1\omega_3}$  ,  $\Gamma = \frac{\omega_2\omega_4}{\omega_1\omega_3}$

[Baxter] The equation  $R_{12}(\omega)R_{13}(\omega')R_{23}(\omega'') = R_{23}(\omega'')R_{13}(\omega')R_{12}(\omega)$  has a solution if  $\omega, \omega', \omega''$  all share the same  $\Delta, \Gamma$ .

There are two values of  $\Delta$  which are special :

$\Delta = 0$  - free fermion point [Lieb-Schultz-Mattis, Fan-Wu, ...]

$\Delta = 1/2$  - cubic root of unity [Razumov-Stroganov, ...]



Input from algebraic topology: consider the multiplicative formal group law

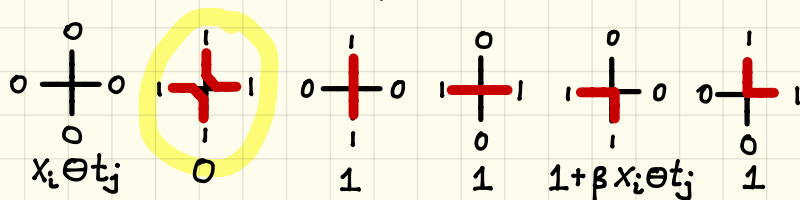
$$x \oplus y := x + y + \beta xy$$

and its inverse

$$x \ominus y := \frac{x - y}{1 + \beta y}$$

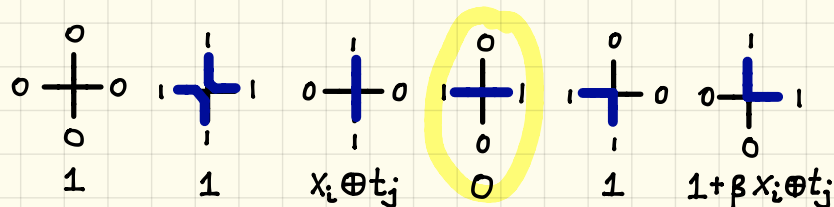
where we want to treat  $\beta$  as a formal variable ("deformation parameter").

Consider the following 5-vertex degenerations of the asymmetric 6-vertex model:



Vicious Walkers

$$\Delta = -\beta/2 \quad T = 0$$



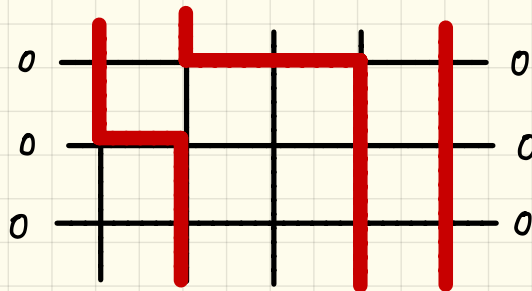
Osculating Walkers

$$\Delta = -\beta/2 \quad T = 0$$

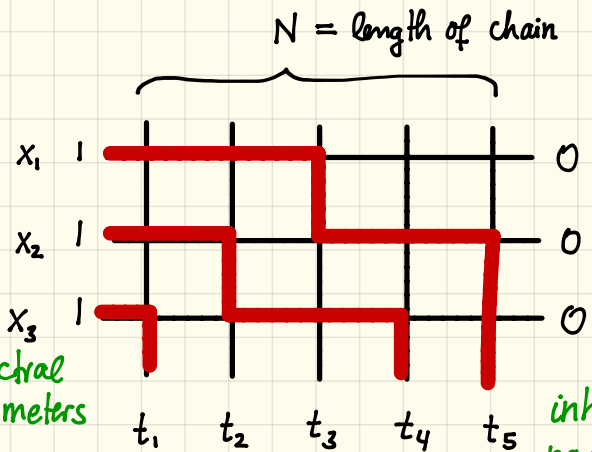
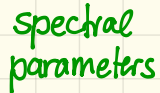
Special value  $\beta = 0$ : quantum equivariant cohomology  $QH^T(Gr(n, \mathbb{C}^N))$

$\beta = -1$ : quantum (?) equivariant K-theory  $QK_T(Gr(n, \mathbb{C}^N))$

## Vicious Walker Configurations

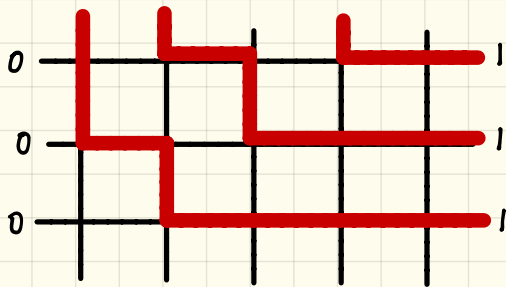


## A - operator

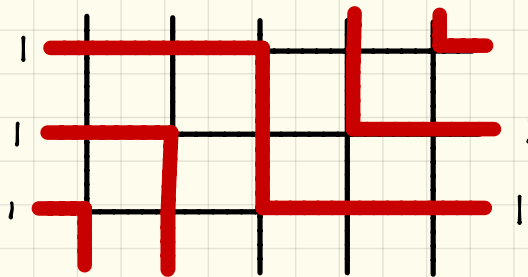


## B-operator

inhomogeneity  
parameters

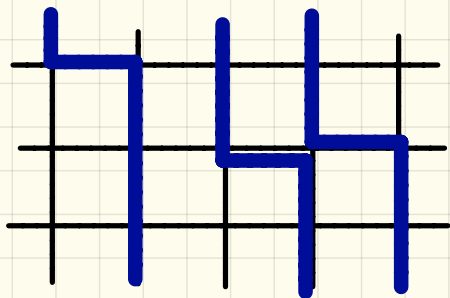


## C-operator

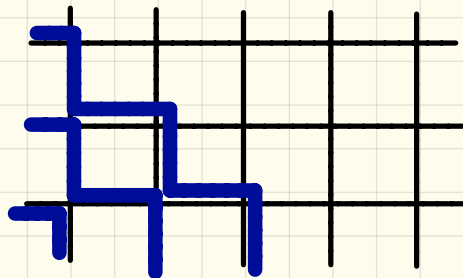


## D-operator

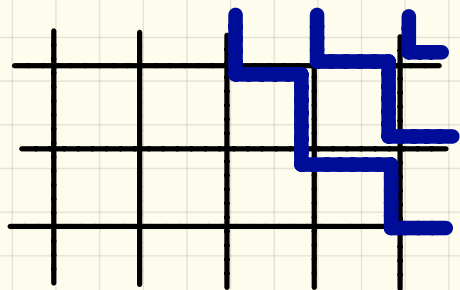
# Osculating Walker Configurations



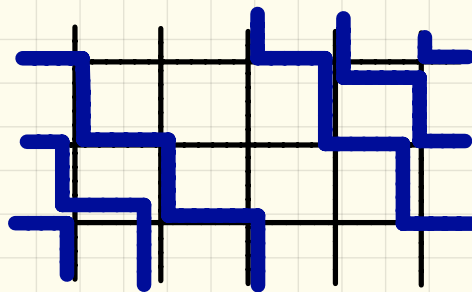
A'-operator



B'-operator



C'-operator



D'-operator

# Factorial Grothendieck polynomials ( $\rightarrow$ Bethe wave function)

Let  $\lambda$  be a partition with at most  $n$  parts and  $\mathcal{P}_n$  the power set of  $[n] := \{1, \dots, n\}$ .

DEF [Buch] A set-valued tableau of shape  $\lambda$  is a map  $T: \lambda \rightarrow \mathcal{P}_n$  such that

$$\max T(i, j) \leq \min T(i, j+1)$$

(weakly increasing in rows)

and

$$\max T(i, j) < \min T(i+1, j)$$

(strictly increasing in columns)

EXAMPLE

1, 2	2, 5
3	

$$\lambda = (2, 1, 0, 0, 0)$$
$$n = 5$$

$$\beta^{2+2+1-3} (x_1 \oplus t_1)(x_2 \oplus t_2)(x_2 \oplus t_3)(x_5 \oplus t_6)(x_3 \oplus t_2)$$

DEF [Buch][McNamara] The factorial Grothendieck polynomial is the weighted sum

$$\mathcal{G}_\lambda(x|t) = \sum_T \beta^{|\mathcal{T}| - |\lambda|} \prod_{\substack{(i,j) \in \lambda \\ r \in T(i,j)}} x_r \oplus t_{r+j-i}$$

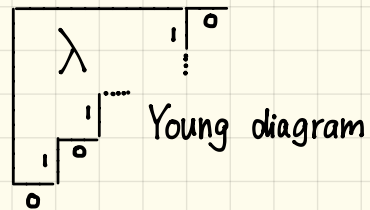
N.B. there exist also determinant formulae [Ikeda, Naruse],  $t_j = 0$  [Motegi, Sakai]

Define the monodromy matrix  $M = L_N \cdots L_1 = \begin{array}{c} 1 \quad 2 \quad N \\ | \quad | \quad | \end{array} = \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix}$

and (row) Yang-Baxter algebra for both models in the usual manner.

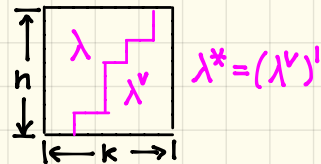
Let  $\mathcal{R}$  be the ring of rational functions in  $\beta$  with integer coefficients and regular at  $\beta=0, -1$ . Set  $\mathcal{V} = \mathcal{R}(t_1, \dots, t_N) \otimes V^{\otimes N}$  with  $V = \mathbb{Z}v_0 \oplus \mathbb{Z}v_1$  and define the standard basis

$$v_\lambda = v_0 \otimes v_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes v_1 \otimes v_0$$



THEOREM (i)  $C(x_1) \cdots C(x_n) v_\lambda = \mathcal{G}_\lambda(x|\theta) v_0 \otimes v_0 \otimes \cdots \otimes v_0$

$B(x_1) \cdots B(x_k) v_\lambda = \mathcal{G}_{\lambda'}(x|t') v_1 \otimes v_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes v_1$  for each



(ii)  $B(x_1) \cdots B(x_n) |0\rangle = \sum_{\lambda \in (k^n)} \mathcal{G}_{\lambda'}(x|\theta t') \frac{\pi(x)}{\pi(t_\lambda)} v_\lambda$

$C(x_1) \cdots C(x_k) |N\rangle = \sum_{\lambda \in (k^n)} \mathcal{G}_{\lambda^*}(x|t) \pi(x) \pi(t_{\lambda^*}) v_\lambda$

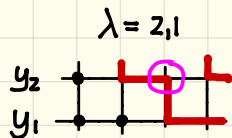
$\pi(x) = \prod_{i=1}^n (1 + \beta x_i)$  etc.

$t'_i = t_{N+1-i}$

# EXAMPLES

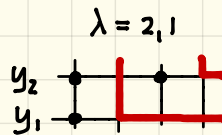
(i)

$$N = 4, n = 2$$



$$(y_2 \ominus t_1)(y_1 \ominus t_1)(y_1 \ominus t_2)(\underline{1 + \beta y_2 \ominus t_3})$$

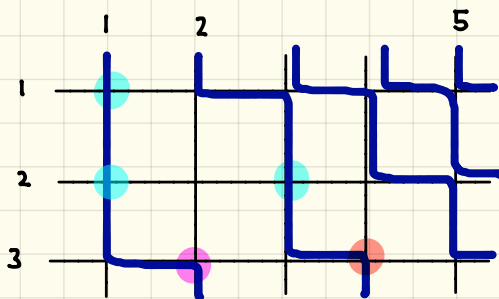
1	1, 2
2	



$$(y_2 \ominus t_1)(y_2 \ominus t_3)(y_1 \ominus t_1)$$

1	2
2	

(ii)  $N = 5, k = 3$



$$\lambda^* = 2, 1$$

1	2, 3
2, 3	

$$(x_1 \oplus t_1)(x_2 \oplus t_1)(x_2 \oplus t_3)(1 + \beta x_3 \oplus t_2)(1 + \beta x_3 \oplus t_4)$$

# The Bethe Ansatz

Define  $H = A + q D$  and  $E = A' + q D'$

THEOREM (i) Let  $|y\rangle = B(y_1) \dots B(y_n) |0\rangle$  then

(osculating walkers)

$$H(x)|y\rangle = \frac{\prod_{j=1}^N (x \ominus t_j) + (-1)^n q \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{1+\beta x}{1+\beta y_i}}{(x \ominus y_1)(x \ominus y_2) \dots (x \ominus y_n)} |y\rangle \quad \text{and} \quad E(x)|y\rangle = \prod_{i=1}^n (x \ominus y_i) |y\rangle$$

provided that

$$\prod_{j=1}^n (y_i \ominus t_j) + q (-1)^n \prod_{j=1}^n \frac{1+\beta y_i}{1+\beta y_j} = 0 \quad \forall i=1, 2, \dots, n$$

(ii) The Bethe ansatz is complete and the solutions have the expansion

$$y_i = t_i + q (-1)^n \frac{(1+\beta t_i)^{n+1}}{\prod (t_\lambda)} \prod_{j \neq i} \frac{1}{t_i \ominus t_j} + \mathcal{O}(q^2)$$

In particular,  $y_i \in \mathbb{Z}[[q]] \otimes \mathbb{R}(t_1, \dots, t_N)$ .

# Functional relation

"Hamiltonian"

PROP  $H(x)E(\theta x) = \left( \prod_{i=1}^n t_i \theta x \right) \left( \prod_{i=n+1}^N x \theta t_i \right) (1 + \beta H_1) + q \cdot 1$

$$(1 + \beta H_1) v_\lambda = \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{1 + \beta t_{n+\lambda_i - i}}{1 + \beta t_i} \sum_{\lambda \rightarrow \mu} \beta^{|\mu - \lambda|} q^d v_\mu$$

not allowed

$0 \cdots 0 \overset{\curvearrowright}{1} 0 \cdots 0 \overset{\curvearrowright}{1} 0 \cdots$   
 $\lambda$

add at most one box  
in each row & column

Define "higher Hamiltonians" by setting (in each fixed spin sector)

$$H(x) = \sum_{r=0}^k (H_r + \beta H_{r+1}) \prod_{i=1}^{k-r} x \theta t_{N+r-i}, \quad E(x) = \sum_{r=0}^n (E_r + \beta E_{r+1}) \prod_{i=1}^n x \theta t_i$$

where  $E_0 = H_0 = 1$  and  $H_r = 0$  for  $r > k$ ,  $E_r = 0$  for  $r > n$ .

OBSERVATION The functional relation implies polynomial eqns in  $\{E_r\}, \{H_r\}$  !



## Solving the Bethe ansatz equations

Consider the (abstract) polynomial algebra generated by  $\{e_r\}_{r=1}^n \cup \{h_r\}_{r=1}^k$  over  $\mathcal{R}(t, q)$  modulo the relations implied by the functional relation

$$qh_n^* = \mathcal{R}(t, q)[e_1, \dots, e_n, h_1, \dots, h_k] / \sim \text{functional relation}$$

THM The map defined by  $e_r \mapsto E_r$  and  $h_r \mapsto H_r$  is a ring isomorphism  $qh_n^* \cong \mathcal{A}_n \subset \text{End}(\mathcal{V}_n)$  where  $\mathcal{A}_n$  is the subalgebra generated by  $\{E_r\}, \{H_r\}$  ("Bethe algebra")

What have we gained? How does this constitute a "solution"?

- ① Note that  $e_r, h_r$  act by multiplication in  $qh_n^*$  ("eigenvalues" of  $E_r, H_r$ )
- ② Need to find a basis  $\{g_\lambda\}_{\lambda \in \mathcal{K}^n}$  in  $qh_n^*$  and its structure constants

$$g_\lambda \cdot g_\mu = \sum_\nu C_{\lambda\mu}^\nu(t, q) g_\nu$$

$\rightsquigarrow$  K-theoretic Gromov-Witten invariants

# Reformulation of the Bethe ansatz equations (to find a basis for $q\mathfrak{h}_n^*$ )

PROP [Ikeda-Naruse]  $G_\lambda(x|t) = \frac{\det[(x_j|t)^{n+\lambda_i-i} (1+\beta x)^{i-1}]_{1 \leq i,j \leq n}}{\det(x_j^{n-i})_{1 \leq i,j \leq n}}$

with  $(x|t)^m = \prod_{i=1}^m x \oplus t_i$

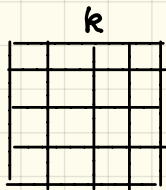
COR (straightening rule)

$$G_{\dots, \lambda_i, \lambda_{i+1}, \dots} = -\beta G_{\dots, \lambda_{i+1}, \lambda_{i+1}, \dots} - \frac{1+\beta t_{n+\lambda_i-i+1}}{1+\beta t_{n+\lambda_{i+1}-i}} (G_{\dots, \lambda_{i+1}-1, \lambda_{i+1}, \dots} + \beta G_{\dots, \lambda_{i+1}, \lambda_{i+1}+1, \dots})$$

PROP Let  $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n)$ ,  $\lambda_i > 1$  and  $y = (y_1, \dots, y_n)$  be a soln of the BAE.

$$G_\lambda(y|t) = q \sum_{r=0}^{\lambda_1-1-k} h_{\lambda_1-k-1-r}(t_1, \dots, t_{r+1}) G_{\lambda_2-1, \dots, \lambda_n-1, r}(y|t)$$

The Bethe ansatz equations imply that we can restrict to  $\lambda \subset n$



PROP Set  $e(x) = \sum_{r=0}^n (e_r + \beta e_{r+1})(x|t)^{n-r} = \prod_{i=1}^n x \oplus y_i$

then  $\{g_\lambda = G_\lambda(y|t)\}$  with  $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n)$  and  $\lambda_i \leq k$   
 form a basis of  $q h_n^*$  and  $e_r = g_{1^r}$ ,  $h_r = g_r$ .

### Generalised rim-hook algorithm

In the homogeneous limit  $t_j \rightarrow 0$  the ( $k$ -theoretic) Littlewood-Richardson


rule  $G_\lambda(x) G_\mu(x) = \sum_{\nu} c_{\lambda\mu}^\nu G_\nu(x)$  is known. [Buch]

not restricted to  
bounding box

① Compute (non-restricted) product:  $G_\lambda \cdot G_\mu = \sum_{\nu \subset k^n} c_{\lambda\mu}^\nu G_\nu + \sum_{\nu \not\subset k^n} c_{\lambda\mu}^\nu G_\nu$

② Reduce terms in the second sum using BAE + straightening rule to find

$$g_\lambda g_\mu = \sum_{\nu \subset k^n} c_{\lambda\mu}^\nu(q) g_\nu \text{ with } g_\lambda = G_\lambda \text{ for } \underline{\lambda \subset k^n}$$

Example  $N=3, n=2, k=1$    $\triangleright \lambda = \emptyset, (1,0), (1,1)$

$$G_1 \cdot G_1 = G_{1,1} + G_{2,0} + \beta G_{2,1}$$



$$G_{2,0} = q G_{-1,0} = -q \beta G_{0,0} = -q \beta$$

$$G_{2,1} = q G_{0,0}$$

$$y_1^3 = -q \frac{1+\beta y_1}{1+\beta y_2}$$

$$y_2^3 = -q \frac{1+\beta y_2}{1+\beta y_1}$$

$$\begin{aligned} G_{2,1} &= \frac{\begin{vmatrix} y_1^3 & y_2^3 \\ y_1(1+\beta y_1) & y_2(1+\beta y_2) \end{vmatrix}}{y_1 - y_2} = q \frac{\begin{vmatrix} y_1(1+\beta y_1) & y_2(1+\beta y_2) \\ \frac{1+\beta y_1}{1+\beta y_2} & \frac{1+\beta y_2}{1+\beta y_1} \end{vmatrix}}{y_1 - y_2} \\ &= q \frac{y_1(1+\beta y_2) - y_2(1+\beta y_1)}{y_1 - y_2} \\ &= q \cdot 1 = q \cdot G_{0,0} \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow G_1 \cdot G_1 \stackrel{\text{BAE}}{=} G_{1,1} + q(\beta - \beta) G_{0,0} = G_{1,1}$$

## "Fusion matrices"

Q: How do we compute matrix elements of operators using  $qh_n^*$ ?

Define an operator  $G_\lambda: \mathcal{V}_n^q \rightarrow \mathcal{V}_n^q$  via  $G_\lambda = \sum_\alpha \beta^{|\alpha|} \phi_\alpha(\lambda) \det(H_{\lambda_i - i + j})$

① The  $G_\lambda$  is diagonal in the Bethe vectors,  $G_\lambda Y_\mu = g_\lambda(y_\mu) Y_\mu$

$$G_1 = H_1 \stackrel{t_j=0}{=} \sum_j \sigma_j^- \sigma_{j+1}^+ + \beta \sum_{j_1 < j_2} \sigma_{j_1}^- \sigma_{j_1+1}^+ \sigma_{j_2}^- \sigma_{j_2+1}^+ + \beta^2 \sum_{j_1 < j_2 < j_3} \sigma_{j_1}^- \sigma_{j_1+1}^+ \sigma_{j_2}^- \sigma_{j_2+1}^+ \sigma_{j_3}^- \sigma_{j_3+1}^+ + \dots$$

② The  $G_\lambda$ 's give a faithful representation of  $qh_n^*$ , i.e.

$$G_\lambda \cdot G_\mu = \sum_{\nu \in k^n} C_{\lambda\mu}^\nu(t, q) G_\nu \quad G_r = H_r, \quad G_{1r} = E_r$$

with  $C_{\lambda\mu}^\nu(t, q) = \langle \nu | G_\lambda | \mu \rangle = \sum_\alpha \frac{g_\lambda(y_\alpha) g_\mu(y_\alpha) g_{\nu^*}(\ominus y_{\alpha^*})}{\langle Y_\alpha, Y_\alpha \rangle}$

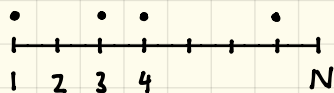
# Geometric Interpretation : Goresky-Kottwitz-MacPherson Theory

Let  $\text{Gr}(n, \mathbb{C}^N)$  be the variety of all  $n$ -dimensional subspaces in  $\mathbb{C}^N$ .

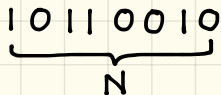
There is a natural action of  $GL_N(\mathbb{C})$  on  $\text{Gr}(n, \mathbb{C}^N)$ . Fix a torus  $T \subset GL_N(\mathbb{C})$ .

The fixed pts under the torus action are described in terms of binary strings and

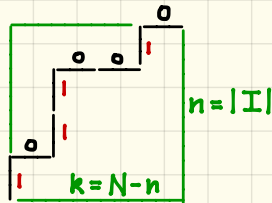
there is a natural Weyl group action ( $W = S_N$ ) on them.



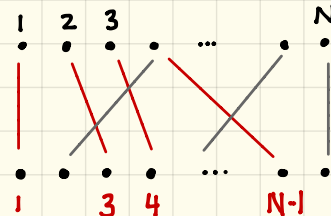
set of integers  $I \subset [N]$



binary string  $b = b_1 \dots b_N$



partition  $\lambda$



minimal length rep  $w$

cosets  $[W] \in S_N / S_n \times S_k \rightsquigarrow$  natural  $S_N$ -action:  $(s_j, [w]) \mapsto [s_j w]$

A localised Schubert class  $\mathcal{O}_\lambda$  is a sequence  $\mathcal{O}_\lambda = (\mathcal{O}_\lambda|_{w_1}, \dots, \mathcal{O}_\lambda|_{w_r})$  with the  $w_i$ 's being the fixed pts,  $\mathcal{O}_\lambda \in \mathcal{R}(t_1, \dots, t_N)$  and  $\ast$  = pointwise multiplication

Identification: localised Schubert class  $\mathcal{O}_\lambda|_\mu \longleftrightarrow$  eigenvalue  $g_\lambda(y_\mu)$   
fixed point under torus action  $\longleftrightarrow$  Bethe roots  $y_\mu$

THEOREM [Gorbounov, C.K.]

- i) Set  $\beta=0$  (free fermion pt) then  $qh_n^* \cong QH^T(Gr_{n,N})$  equivariant quantum cohomology
- ii) Set  $t_j=0, \beta=-1$ , then  $qh_n^* \cong QK(Gr_{n,N})$  quantum K-theory
- iii) Set  $q=0, \beta=-1$ , then  $qh_n^* \cong K_T(Gr_{n,N})$  equivariant K-theory

CONJECTURE  $qh_n^*$  for  $\beta=-1, q, t_j \neq 0$  describes quantum equivariant K-theory.

Exactly solvable lattice model  $\rightsquigarrow$  algebraic geometry / topology

Theorem The partition function  $Z_\mu^\lambda = \langle v_\lambda, H(x_1) \dots H(x_n) v_\mu \rangle$  is the weighted sum over all cylindric (set-valued) tableaux and

$$i) \beta = 0: \quad Z_\mu^\lambda(\underline{x}) = \sum_{\nu} q^d C_{\mu\nu}^\lambda(\underline{t}) s_{\nu'}(\underline{x} | \underline{t}')$$

Gromov-Witten invariants  $\uparrow$  factorial Schur function  $\uparrow$

$$ii) \beta = -1 \ (q=0): \quad Z_\mu^\lambda(\underline{x}) = \sum_{\nu} c_{\mu\nu}^\lambda(\underline{t}) \mathcal{G}_{\nu'}(\underline{x} | \underline{t}')$$

$\uparrow$  K-theoretic Littlewood-Richardson coefficients

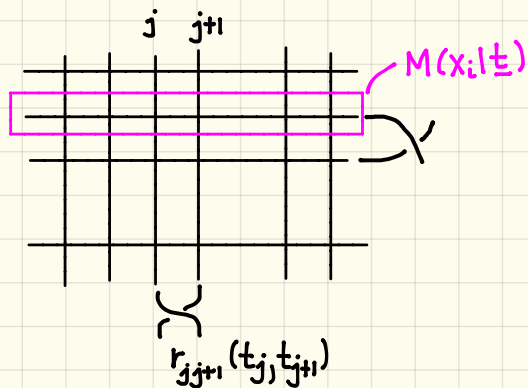
$\rightsquigarrow$  Richardson variety:  $[X_\mu^\lambda] = \sum_{\nu} c_{\mu\nu}^\lambda(\underline{t}) [X^\nu]$

$\rightsquigarrow$  determinant formula for  $C_{\lambda\mu}^\nu$  in terms of  $Z_\mu^\lambda$ !



## Description via Iwahori-Hecke algebras

Recall the definition of the monodromy matrix  $M(x|\pm) = L_N(x, t_N) \cdots L_1(x, t_1)$



column braiding:  $\hat{r}_{j+1} M(x|\pm) = M(x|s_j \pm) \hat{r}_{j+1}$

Let  $\underline{s}_j = (s_j \otimes 1) \hat{r}_{j+1}$  with  $s_j$  acting on

$\mathcal{V} = \mathcal{R}(t_1, \dots, t_N) \otimes V^N$  by swapping  $t_j \leftrightarrow t_{j+1}$ .

Prop (Schur-Weyl duality) The  $\underline{s}_j$ 's define an  $S_N$ -action on each  $\mathcal{V}_n$  and

1) this action commutes with the action of the Yang-Baxter algebra

$$A, D: \mathcal{V}_n \rightarrow \mathcal{V}_n \quad \text{and} \quad B, C: \mathcal{V}_n \rightarrow \mathcal{V}_{n \pm 1}$$

2) it is the natural action on the idempotents (Bethe vectors)

$$\underline{s}_j Y_\lambda = Y_{s_j \lambda}$$

Define the following generalised divided difference operator on each  $\mathcal{V}_n$

$$\delta_j = (1 + \beta t_j) \frac{1 - \hat{r}_j}{t_j - t_{j+1}}$$

$$\partial_j = (1 + \beta t_j) \frac{1 - s_j}{t_j - t_{j+1}} \hookrightarrow \mathcal{R}(t_1, \dots, t_N)$$

[Lascoux, Schützenberger]

PROP The  $\delta_j$ 's define a representation of the Iwahori-Hecke algebra  $H_N(\beta)$ , i.e.

$$\delta_j^2 = \beta \delta_j \quad \text{and} \quad \delta_j \delta_{j+1} \delta_j = \delta_{j+1} \delta_j \delta_{j+1}$$

N.B.  $H_N(0)$  is the nil-Coxeter and  $H_N(-1)$  the nil-Hecke algebra.

COROLLARY The factorial Grothendieck polynomials evaluated at the Bethe roots,  $g_\lambda(y_\mu)$ , are localised Schubert classes. They obey the GKM condition

$$s_j g_\lambda - g_\lambda = (t_j \ominus t_{j+1}) \delta_j g_\lambda$$

Remark The last result implies that the localized Schubert classes or eigenvalues  $g_\lambda(y_\mu)$  can be successively generated from the "top class"

$$g_{k^n}(y_\mu) = \prod_{j=1}^k \prod_{i \in I_\mu} y_i \Theta t_j = \prod_{j=1}^k e(t_j)$$

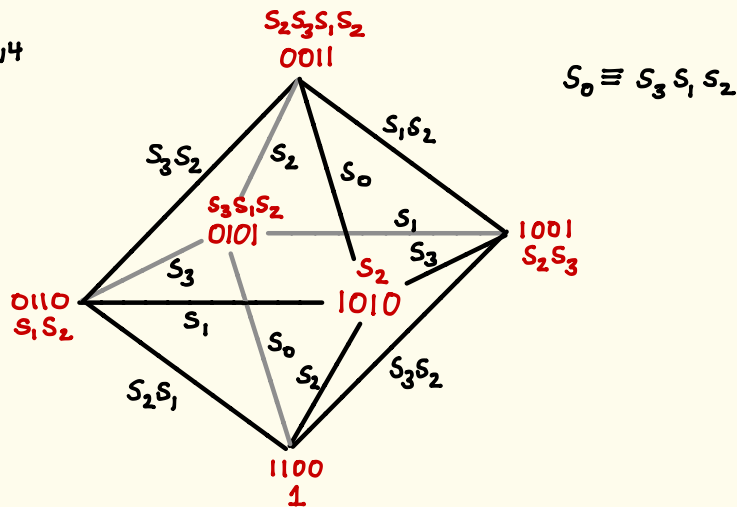
$\uparrow$   
 transfer matrix  
 eigenvalues at  $x = t_j$

Each  $\lambda$  is a 01-string which can be "generated" from  $\underbrace{0 \cdots 0}_k \underbrace{1 \cdots 1}_n = k^n$  by moving 1-letters to the left using the GKM condition.

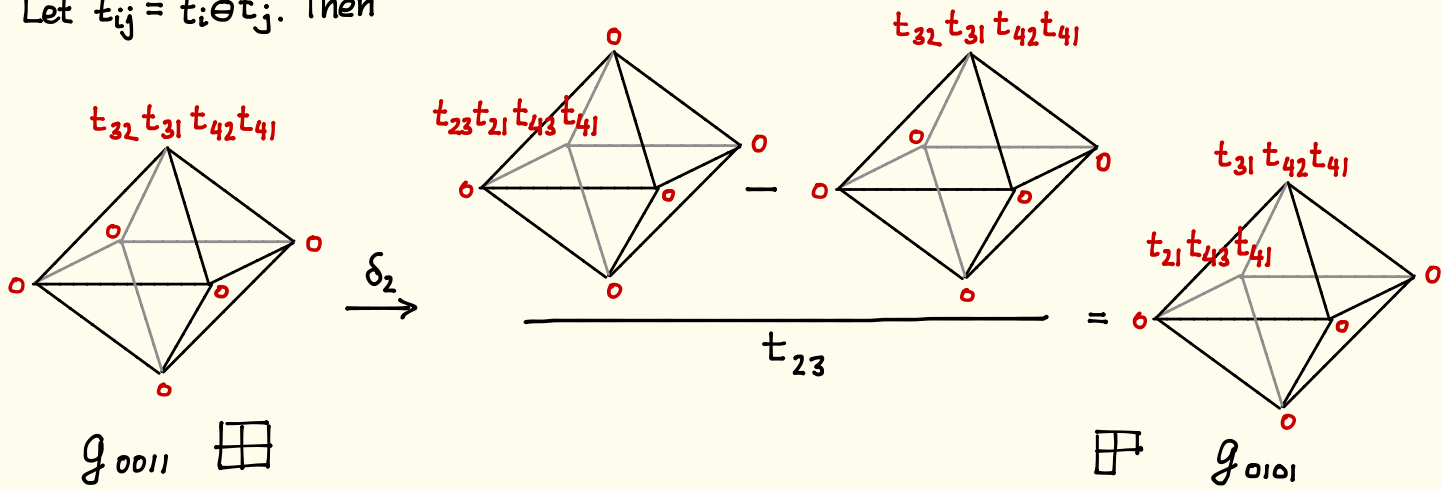
Let  $w = s_{i_1} s_{i_2} \cdots s_{i_r}$  be such that  $\lambda = w k^n$  then

$$\delta_w g_{k^n} = g_\lambda + \cdots \quad \text{where} \quad \delta_w = \delta_{i_1} \delta_{i_2} \cdots \delta_{i_r}$$

Example  $Gr_{2,4}$



Let  $t_{ij} = t_i \ominus t_j$ . Then



# Outlook

Why is this formulation important?

MATHS:

↪ geometric action of the YB algebra

geometry of flag varieties

↔  
integrability

Lie theory

PHYSICS: exact computation of form factors  
using Schubert calculus?

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!