

Arithmetic Hall algebras

Maxim Kontsevich

I.H.E.S.

7 September 2019

Hall algebras and dilogarithm identities

$q = p^r$: power of a prime, \mathbb{F}_q : finite field, Q : finite quiver

Gives an abelian category \mathcal{A} with *finite* sets of morphisms and extensions.

Definition: *Hall algebra* of \mathcal{A} is a free \mathbb{Z} -module spanned by isomorphism classes of objects in \mathcal{A} , with associative product given by

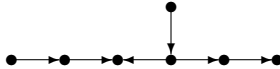
$$[\mathcal{E}_1] \cdot [\mathcal{E}_2] = \sum_{\mathcal{E}} c_{\mathcal{E}_1, \mathcal{E}_2}^{\mathcal{E}} [\mathcal{E}]$$

$c_{\mathcal{E}_1, \mathcal{E}_2}^{\mathcal{E}} :=$ number of subobjects $\mathcal{F} \subset \mathcal{E}$ such that $[\mathcal{F}] = [\mathcal{E}_1]$, $[\mathcal{E}/\mathcal{F}] = [\mathcal{E}_2]$

Example $Q = \bullet$, $\mathcal{A} =$ category of vector spaces. Set of isomorphism classes $= \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0} = \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$. Structure constants are q -binomial coefficients

$$c_{n_1, n_2}^{n_1+n_2} = \#Gr(n_1, n_1 + n_2)(\mathbb{F}_q) = \frac{[n_1 + n_2]_q!}{[n_1]_q! [n_2]_q!}, \quad [n]_q! := \prod_{k=1}^n (1 + q + \dots + q^{k-1})$$

Why people like Hall algebras?

Theorem (C.Ringel) If Q is Dynkin diagram  then

$$\text{Hall algebra} = U_q \mathfrak{n}_Q^+$$

i.e. quantum deformation of universal enveloping algebra of the upper-triangular part \mathfrak{n}_Q^+ of the corresponding semi-simple Lie algebra \mathfrak{g}_Q .

Generalization (J.A.Green) For general acyclic quiver, certain *subalgebra* of its Hall algebra is isomorphic to $U_q \mathfrak{n}^+$ for the corresponding Kac-Moody algebra.

\implies HUGE industry in representation theory.

Non-Dynkin quivers: ∞ many indecomposable representations, Hall algebra is too big.

More recent development: interaction with *Bridgeland stability*, giving multiplicative identities in completed Hall algebras, and then in quantum tori (as certain *quotient algebras* of Hall algebras)

Definition *Central charge* for quiver Q is a collection of complex numbers

$$z_v \in \text{Upper half-plane} := \{z \in \mathbb{C} \mid \Im z > 0\}, \quad \forall v \in \text{Vertices}(Q)$$

For a representation $\mathcal{E} \neq 0$ its *argument* $\arg \mathcal{E} \in (0^\circ, 180^\circ)$ (or better $(0, \pi)$) is the argument of non-zero complex number

$$Z(\mathcal{E}) := Z(\overrightarrow{\dim}(\mathcal{E})) = \sum_{v \in \text{Vertices}(\mathcal{E})} z_v \cdot \dim \mathcal{E}_v$$

Representation $\mathcal{E} \neq 0$ is *θ -semistable* if

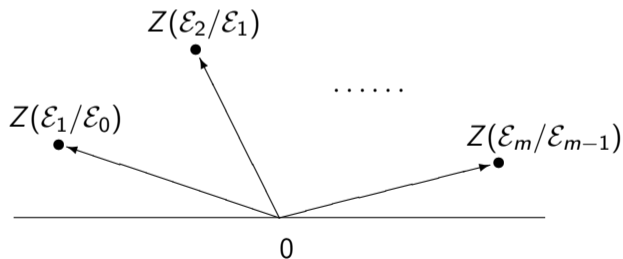
$$\arg \mathcal{E} = \theta \text{ and } \arg \mathcal{F} \leq \theta \quad \forall \mathcal{F} \subsetneq \mathcal{E}, \mathcal{F} \neq 0$$

Every representation \mathcal{E} has canonical *Harder-Narasimhan filtration*

$$0 = \mathcal{E}_0 \subsetneq \mathcal{E}_1 \subsetneq \cdots \subsetneq \mathcal{E}_m = \mathcal{E}, \quad m \geq 0$$

$$\arg \mathcal{E}_1/\mathcal{E}_0 > \arg \mathcal{E}_2/\mathcal{E}_1 > \cdots > \arg \mathcal{E}_m/\mathcal{E}_{m-1}$$

$\mathcal{E}_1/\mathcal{E}_0, \mathcal{E}_2/\mathcal{E}_1, \dots$ are all semistable



Existence and uniqueness of Harder-Narasimhan filtration \iff **Product formula:**

$$A_Q^{Hall} = \overset{\curvearrowright}{\prod}_{\theta} A_{Q,Z,\theta}^{Hall}$$

where

- ▶ $A^{Hall} := 1 + \dots = \sum_{[\mathcal{E}]} [\mathcal{E}]$, the formal sum of all objects,
- ▶ $A_{Q,Z,\theta}^{Hall} = 1 + \sum_{\theta\text{-semistable } [\mathcal{E}]} [\mathcal{E}]$
- ▶ the product is in the clockwise order, the l.h.s. does not depend on the choice of central charge. The product formula defines *uniquely* the r.h.s. from A_Q^{Hall} and Z .

All this is quite abstract, we need to map Hall algebra to something more manageable.

Euler form : $\chi : \mathbb{Z}^l \otimes \mathbb{Z}^l \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}, \quad \chi(d', d'') := \sum_{\text{vertices } v} d'_v d''_v - \sum_{\text{arrows } v \rightarrow u} d'_v d''_u$

Meaning: if d', d'' are dimension vectors of $\mathcal{E}', \mathcal{E}''$ then

$$\chi(d', d'') = \dim \text{Hom}(\mathcal{E}', \mathcal{E}'') - \dim \text{Ext}(\mathcal{E}', \mathcal{E}'')$$

Define *quantum torus* (associated with quiver Q) as associative algebra over \mathbb{Q} with linear basis $\{e_d\}$ where $d \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^l$ (the set of all possible dimension vectors), with multiplication given by

$$e_{d'} \cdot e_{d''} = q^{-\chi(d'', d')} e_{d'+d''}, \quad e_0 = 1$$

Now we have a **Homomorphism**:

$$\text{Hall algebra} \rightarrow \text{Quantum Torus} : \quad [\mathcal{E}] \mapsto \frac{e_{\dim \mathcal{E}}}{\# \text{Aut}(\mathcal{E})}$$

Apply this homomorphism the product formula:

$$\begin{aligned}
 A_Q &:= \text{Image of } \sum_{[\mathcal{E}]} [\mathcal{E}] = \sum_{d \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^I} \left(\sum_{\overrightarrow{[\mathcal{E}]: \dim \mathcal{E} = d}} \frac{1}{\# \text{Aut}(\mathcal{E})} \right) \cdot \mathbf{e}_d = \\
 &= \sum_{d \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^I} \frac{q^{\sum_{v \rightarrow u} d_v d_u}}{\prod_v \# \text{GL}(d_v, \mathbb{F}_q)} \mathbf{e}_d = \sum_{d \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^I} \frac{q^{\sum_{v \rightarrow u} d_v d_u}}{\prod_v q^{\frac{d_v(d_v-1)}{2}} (q-1)^{d_v} [d_v]_q!} \mathbf{e}_d
 \end{aligned}$$

Define for any angle $\theta \in (0, \pi)$ generating series for θ -semistable representations (plus trivial one):

$$A_{Q,Z,\theta} := \text{Image of } A_Q^{\text{Hall}} = 1 + \sum_{[E]: \theta\text{-semistable}} \frac{1}{\# \text{Aut}(E)} \cdot \mathbf{e}_{\overrightarrow{\dim E}}$$

Product Formula in quantum torus:

$$A_Q = \overset{\curvearrowright}{\prod}_{\theta} A_{Q,Z,\theta}$$

The product is in the clockwise order, the l.h.s. does not depend on the choice of central charge. This decomposition defines *uniquely* the r.h.s. from A_Q and Z .

Example Dynkin quiver for sl_2 : \bullet

The generating series is the quantum exponent:

$$\sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{q^{\frac{n(n-1)}{2}}}{\#GL(n, \mathbb{F}_q)} \mathbf{e}_1^n = \sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{(\mathbf{e}_1 / (q-1))^n}{[n]_q!} =: \mathbb{E}_q(\mathbf{e}_1)$$

Example: Dynkin quiver for $s/3$: $\overset{1}{\bullet} \longrightarrow \overset{2}{\bullet}$

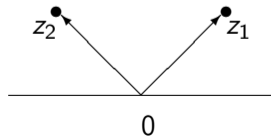
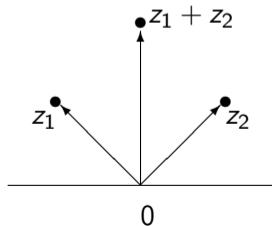
Indecomposable representations $\mathcal{R}_{01}, \mathcal{R}_{11}, \mathcal{R}_{10}$:

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathbb{F}_q \quad \mathbb{F}_q \xrightarrow{id} \mathbb{F}_q \quad \mathbb{F}_q \longrightarrow 0$$

Short exact sequence: $0 \rightarrow \mathcal{R}_{01} \rightarrow \mathcal{R}_{11} \rightarrow \mathcal{R}_{10} \rightarrow 0$.

Case 1 : $\arg z_1 \geq \arg z_2$: all three $\mathcal{R}_{01}, \mathcal{R}_{11}, \mathcal{R}_{10}$ are semistable,

Case 2 : $\arg z_1 < \arg z_2$: only \mathcal{R}_{01} and \mathcal{R}_{10} are semistable.



Example: Dynkin quiver for $s/3$: $\overset{1}{\bullet} \longrightarrow \overset{2}{\bullet}$ (continuation)

We get two product decompositions for A_Q , hence an identity

$$\mathbb{E}_q(\mathbf{e}_1) \cdot \mathbb{E}_q(\mathbf{e}_1 \mathbf{e}_2) \cdot \mathbb{E}_q(\mathbf{e}_2) = \mathbb{E}_q(\mathbf{e}_2) \cdot \mathbb{E}_q(\mathbf{e}_1), \quad \mathbf{e}_2 \cdot \mathbf{e}_1 = q \mathbf{e}_1 \cdot \mathbf{e}_2$$

This is called **quantum dilogarithm identity**, as in the formal limit $q \rightarrow 1$ it converges to the classical 5-term identity for the dilogarithm

$$Li_2(x) := \sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{x^n}{n^2}$$

From quivers to curves

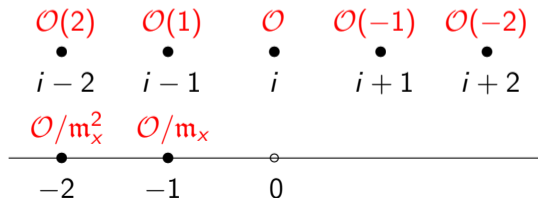
Representations of quivers over a finite field form an abelian category of *cohomological dimension 1*, similar to the category of coherent sheaves on a smooth compact algebraic curve \mathcal{C} over \mathbb{F}_q .

The central charge in this case is a homomorphism of abelian groups

$$Z : K_0(\text{Coh } \mathcal{C}) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}, \quad Z([\mathcal{E}]) := -\deg \mathcal{E} + \sqrt{-1} \cdot \text{rk } \mathcal{E}$$

Semistable objects are 1) torsion sheaves, 2) usual semistable vector bundles.

Example: charges of some semistable objects for $\mathcal{C} = \mathbb{P}^1$:



M.Kapranov, O.Schiffmann and E.Vasserot studied Hall algebras for $\text{Coh}(\mathcal{C})$, the structure is controlled by cuspidal automorphic forms.

From curves over finite field to number fields

Category $Coh(\mathcal{C})$ is similar to proto-abelian category of **Arakelov coherent sheaves** for a number field case. In the case of $\widehat{Spec} \mathbb{Z}$ we get pairs

$$(\Gamma, h)$$

where Γ is a finitely generated abelian group (=usual coherent sheaf on $Spec \mathbb{Z}$) and h is a positive quadratic form on real vector space $\Gamma_{\mathbb{R}} := \Gamma \otimes \mathbb{R}$ (=extension to the archimedean infinity).

Γ is without torsion \iff an Euclidean lattice. Central charge is given by

$$Z(\Gamma, h) := -\log \#\Gamma_{tors} + \log(\text{vol}(\Gamma_{\mathbb{R}}/\Gamma)) + \sqrt{-1} \cdot \text{rk } \Gamma$$

Possible values of central charge of semistable objects are

$$\{-\log 2, -\log 3, \dots\} \sqcup \{x + \sqrt{-1} \cdot y \in \mathbb{C} \mid x \in \mathbb{R}, y \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}\}$$

(Oriented) semistable euclidean lattices of covolume = 1 and of rank $n \geq 1$ are those for which covolume if any sublattice is ≥ 1 , they form a closed real-algebraic subset of $SL(n, \mathbb{Z}) \backslash SL(n, \mathbb{R}) / SO(n, \mathbb{R})$. The case of covolume $\neq 1$ reduces to the case of covolume 1 by the action of 1-parameter group of automorphisms of the category of Arakelov coherent sheaves:

$$(\Gamma, h) \mapsto (\Gamma, e^t \cdot h), \quad t \in \mathbb{R} \simeq \widehat{Pic}(\widehat{Spec} \mathbb{Z})$$

Analog of countings of representations and of semistable representations: calculations of volumes of $SL(n, \mathbb{Z}) \backslash SL(n, \mathbb{R}) / SO(n, \mathbb{R})$ and its semistable part:

$$V(n) = \frac{\text{vol}(SL(n, \mathbb{Z}) \backslash SL(n, \mathbb{R}))}{2 \text{vol}(SO(n, \mathbb{R}))} = \frac{\zeta(2)\zeta(3) \dots \zeta(n)}{\text{vol}(S^0) \dots \text{vol}(S^{n-1})} \geq V^{ss}(n) > 0$$

Relation between $(V(n))_{n \geq 1}$ and $(V^{ss}(n))_{n \geq 1}$

One can write a recursive formula which in principle allows to write numbers $(V^{ss}(n))_{n \geq 1}$ as complicated polynomial expressions in explicitly known volumes $(V(n))_{n \geq 1}$ (L.Weng).

Alternatively, one can use quantum torus with continuous grading by $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{R}$, and after some manipulations obtain a *functional* relation. Introduce generating series:

$$F(t) := \sum_{n \geq 1} V(n)t^n \in t \mathbb{R}_{>0}[[t]], \quad F^{ss}(t) := \sum_{n \geq 1} V^{ss}(n)t^n \in t \mathbb{R}_{>0}[[t]]$$

Theorem $\exists!$ series $\Phi(x, y) \in y \mathbb{R}[[x, y]]$ such that

- ▶ $\frac{x\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{x\partial}{\partial x} + \frac{y\partial}{\partial y} \right) \Phi + \frac{x\partial}{\partial x} (F^{ss}(x)\Phi) = 0$
- ▶ $\Phi(t, t) = F^{ss}(t)$
- ▶ $\Phi(0, t) = F(t)$

From functions to constructible sheaves

Q : finite quiver, \mathbf{k} : any field (not necessarily finite).

For any dimension vector $d \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^I$ (I =set of vertices) the stack of representations of dimension d is a smooth Artin stack \mathcal{M}_d over \mathbf{k} , of virtual dimension $= -\chi(d, d)$.

For any d', d'' consider stack $\mathcal{M}_{d', d''}$ parametrizing short exact sequences

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{E}' \rightarrow \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}'' \rightarrow 0, \quad \overrightarrow{\dim} \mathcal{E}' = d, \overrightarrow{\dim} \mathcal{E}'' = d''$$

We have **universal diagram**

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \mathcal{M}_{d', d''} & \\ \pi_1 \swarrow & & \searrow \pi_2 \\ \mathcal{M}_{d'} \times \mathcal{M}_{d''} & & \mathcal{M}_{d'+d''} \end{array}$$

If \mathbf{k} is finite field, Hall algebra product is $(\pi_2)_* \circ \pi_1^*$ for functions on \mathbf{k} -points.

For general fields: functor $(\pi_2)! \circ \pi_1^* = (\pi_2)_* \circ \pi_1^*$ on l -adic constructible sheaves.

Cohomological Hall algebra

Trivial observation (MK+Y.Soibelman, 2012): in the universal diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \mathcal{M}_{d',d''} & \\ \pi_1 \swarrow & & \searrow \pi_2 \\ \mathcal{M}_{d'} \times \mathcal{M}_{d''} & & \mathcal{M}_{d'+d''} \end{array}$$

map π_1 is **smooth** and π_2 is **proper** \implies a map $(\pi_2)_* \circ \pi_1^*$ on **Borel-Moore homology**.

Definition (M.K.+ Y.Soibelman, ~ 2012) *Cohomological Hall algebra* $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}_Q$ for Q is $\mathbb{Z}^I \geq 0$ -graded associative algebra whose graded component in degree d is given by

$$\mathcal{H}_d := H_{\bullet}^{BM}(\mathcal{M}_d) \stackrel{\text{Poincaré}}{=} H^{\bullet}(\mathcal{M}_d)$$

with the product given by $(\pi_2)^* \circ \pi_1^*$ as above.

Cohomological grading is not preserved by the product.

Cohomological Hall algebra categorifies the universal generating series A_Q in quantum torus. The relation to the *usual* Hall algebra is quite unclear!

Example: $Q = \bullet$, base field = \mathbb{C} , cohomology theory=Betti cohomology. As a vector space \mathcal{H} is $\bigoplus_{n \geq 0} H^\bullet(BU(n), \mathbb{Q}) = \bigoplus_{n \geq 0} \mathbb{Q}[c_1, \dots, c_n]$. As an abstract algebra COHA is isomorphic to the exterior algebra $\wedge^\bullet(\mathbb{Q}^\infty)$ with infinitely many generators.

Example: $Q = \bullet \longrightarrow \bullet$: COHA is not a familiar object. Quantum dilogarithm identity

$$\mathbb{E}_q(\mathbf{e}_1) \cdot \mathbb{E}_q(\mathbf{e}_1 \mathbf{e}_2) \cdot \mathbb{E}_q(\mathbf{e}_2) = \mathbb{E}_q(\mathbf{e}_2) \cdot \mathbb{E}_q(\mathbf{e}_1), \quad \mathbf{e}_2 \cdot \mathbf{e}_1 = q \mathbf{e}_1 \cdot \mathbf{e}_2$$

translates to a bizarre property of \mathcal{H} : it contains 3 subalgebras $\mathcal{H}_{(1)}, \mathcal{H}_{(2)}, \mathcal{H}_{(12)}$ (each is isomorphic to $\wedge^\bullet(\mathbb{Q}^\infty)$) such that both multiplication maps

$$\mathcal{H}_{(1)} \otimes \mathcal{H}_{(12)} \otimes \mathcal{H}_{(2)} \rightarrow \mathcal{H} \quad \mathcal{H}_{(2)} \otimes \mathcal{H}_{(1)} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$$

are isomorphisms.

Generalization to quivers with potentials (categorified Donaldson-Thomas invariants), relations to Yangians for symmetric quivers, ...

Arithmetic analog of COHA

Replace stacks \mathcal{M}_d by moduli stacks of Arakelov bundles, i.e. by orbifolds

$$\mathbb{X}_n := GL(n, \mathbb{Z}) \backslash GL(n, \mathbb{R}) / O(n, \mathbb{R}), \quad n \geq 0$$

In the universal diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \mathbb{X}_{d', d''} & \\ \pi_1 \swarrow & & \searrow \pi_2 \\ \mathbb{X}_{d'} \times \mathbb{X}_{d''} & & \mathbb{X}_{d'+d''} \end{array}$$

now π_1 is **proper** and π_2 is **smooth** (opposite to what we have for quiver representations!) \rightsquigarrow we get a *coproduct* $(\pi_1)_* \circ \pi_2^*$ on

$$\bigoplus_{n \geq 0} H_{\bullet}^{BM}(\mathbb{X}_n, \mathbb{Q}) \simeq \bigoplus_{n \geq 0} H^{\bullet}(GL(n, \mathbb{Z}), \text{orientation})$$

Symbols (with Y.Tschinkel and V.Pestun): $\bigoplus_{n \geq 0} H_n^{BM}(\mathbb{X}_n, \text{certain local systems})$.

Conjecture: this sector of (a version of) Arithmetic Hall coalgebra is freely cogenerated by cuspidal cohomological automorphic forms for **$GL(1)$, $GL(2)$, $GL(3)$** only.