

Characterization of queer supercrystals

Wencin Poh

Department of Mathematics, UC Davis

based on joint work with [Maria Gillespie](#), [Graham Hawkes](#), [Anne Schilling](#)

preprint [arXiv:1809.04647](#)

June 22, 2019

Crystals of type A_n

Abstract crystal of type A_n : **Nonempty set** B with maps

$$e_i, f_i : B \rightarrow B \sqcup \{0\} \quad (1 \leq i \leq n)$$

$$\text{wt} : B \rightarrow \Lambda$$

Index set: $I = \{1, \dots, n\}$.

Weight lattice: $\Lambda = \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^{n+1}$.

Simple roots: $\alpha_i = \epsilon_i - \epsilon_{i+1}$, ϵ_i i -th standard basis vector of \mathbb{Z}^{n+1} .

String lengths:

$$\varphi_i(x) = \max\{k \geq 0 \mid f_i^k x \neq 0\}, \quad \varepsilon_i(x) = \max\{k \geq 0 \mid e_i^k x \neq 0\}$$

We require:

A1. $f_i x = x'$ if and only if $x = e_i x'$

$$\text{wt}(x) = \text{wt}(x') + \alpha_i$$

Crystals: Tensor product

Definition

Given crystals B and C of type A_n , the **tensor product** $B \otimes C$ has the following data.

- ▶ Elements: $x \otimes y := (x, y) \in B \times C$
- ▶ Weight: $\text{wt}(x \otimes y) = \text{wt}(x) + \text{wt}(y)$
- ▶ Crystal operators:

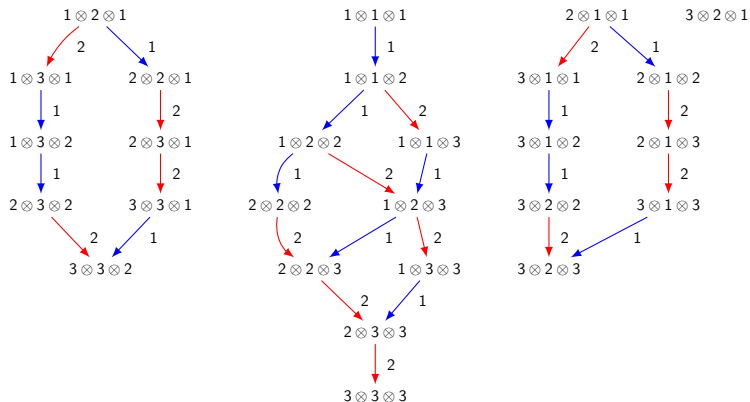
$$f_i(x \otimes y) = \begin{cases} f_i(x) \otimes y, & \text{if } \varphi_i(y) \leq \varepsilon_i(x), \\ x \otimes f_i(y), & \text{if } \varphi_i(y) > \varepsilon_i(x), \end{cases}$$
$$e_i(x \otimes y) = \begin{cases} e_i(x) \otimes y, & \text{if } \varphi_i(y) < \varepsilon_i(x), \\ x \otimes e_i(y), & \text{if } \varphi_i(y) \geq \varepsilon_i(x). \end{cases}$$

Crystals: Examples

Standard crystal \mathcal{B} of type A_n



Components of crystal of words $\mathcal{B}^{\otimes 3} = \mathcal{B} \otimes \mathcal{B} \otimes \mathcal{B}$ of type A_2 :



Lie superalgebras

- ▶ **Superalgebra:** \mathbb{Z}_2 -graded algebra $A_0 \oplus A_1$, $A_i A_j \subseteq A_{i+j}$ for $i, j \in \mathbb{Z}_2$.
- ▶ **Parity** of $a \in A_i$ is $|a| = i$.
- ▶ **Lie superalgebra:** \mathbb{Z}_2 -graded algebra $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g}_0 \oplus \mathfrak{g}_1$ with
 - ▶ (Skew-supersymmetry) $[a, b] = -(-1)^{|a||b|}[b, a]$.
 - ▶ (Super Jacobi identity)
 $[a, [b, c]] = [[a, b], c] + (-1)^{|a||b|}[b, [a, c]]$.for all $a \in \mathfrak{g}_i$, $b \in \mathfrak{g}_j$, $c \in \mathfrak{g}_k$.
- ▶ **Queer Lie superalgebra**, $\mathfrak{q}(n)$ is a super analogue of Lie algebra $\mathfrak{gl}(n)$.

$$\mathfrak{q}(n) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} A & B \\ B & A \end{bmatrix} \mid \text{tr}(B) = 0 \right\} / \mathbb{C}I_{2n}.$$

Queer supercrystals

- ▶ [Grantcharov, Jung, Kang, Kashiwara, Kim '10, '14]:
Crystal bases of tensor representations of $\mathfrak{q}(n)$ using $U_q(\mathfrak{q}(n))$.
- ▶ Introduced queer supercrystals on words with tensor product rule.
- ▶ Explicit combinatorial realization of queer supercrystals using semistandard decomposition tableaux.
- ▶ Existence of fake highest (and lowest) weights on queer supercrystals.

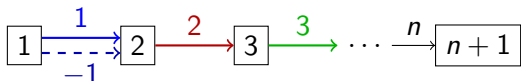
Why crystals?

Type A_n crystals	Type $\mathfrak{q}(n)$ crystals
Tensor representations of $\mathfrak{gl}(n)$ Irreps indexed by partitions λ	Tensor representations of $\mathfrak{q}(n)$ Irreps indexed by strict partitions λ
Crystals: $B(\lambda)$ $B(\lambda) \otimes B(\mu) \cong \bigoplus_{\nu} c_{\lambda\mu}^{\nu} B(\nu)$	Crystals: $\mathcal{B}(\lambda)$ $\mathcal{B}(\lambda) \otimes \mathcal{B}(\mu) \cong \bigoplus_{\nu} g_{\lambda\mu}^{\nu} \mathcal{B}(\nu)$
Characters: Schur function, s_{λ} $s_{\lambda} s_{\mu} = \sum_{\nu} c_{\lambda\mu}^{\nu} s_{\nu}$	Characters: Schur- P function, P_{λ} $P_{\lambda} P_{\mu} = \sum_{\nu} g_{\lambda\mu}^{\nu} P_{\nu}$

- ▶ $c_{\lambda\mu}^{\nu}$ counts highest weight elements in $B(\lambda) \otimes B(\mu)$.
- ▶ $g_{\lambda\mu}^{\nu}$ counts highest weight elements in $\mathcal{B}(\lambda) \otimes \mathcal{B}(\mu)$.

Standard $q(n+1)$ crystal and tensor product

Standard crystal \mathcal{B} of type $q(n+1)$:

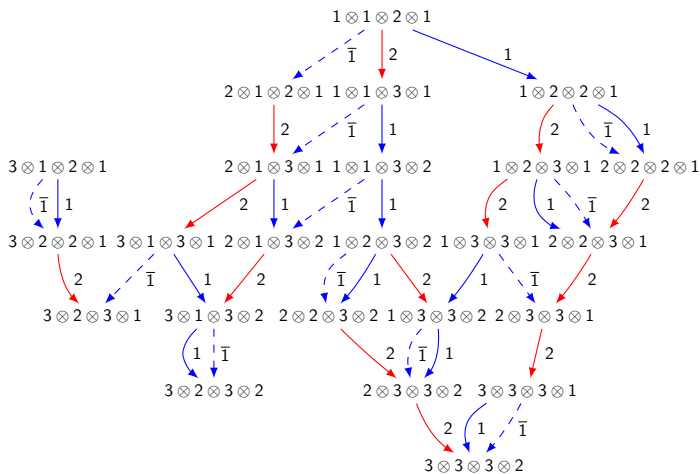


$$f_{-1}(x \otimes y) = \begin{cases} x \otimes f_{-1}(y), & \text{if } \text{wt}(x)_1 = \text{wt}(x)_2 = 0 \\ f_{-1}(x) \otimes y, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

$$e_{-1}(x \otimes y) = \begin{cases} x \otimes e_{-1}(y), & \text{if } \text{wt}(x)_1 = \text{wt}(x)_2 = 0 \\ e_{-1}(x) \otimes y, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

$q(n+1)$ crystal on Words

One connected component of $\mathcal{B}^{\otimes 4}$ for $q(3)$:



Queer supercrystals

How does one detect highest weight elements in queer supercrystals?

Definition

$$f_{-i} := s_{w_i}^{-1} f_{-1} s_{w_i}, \quad e_{-i} := s_{w_i}^{-1} e_{-1} s_{w_i},$$

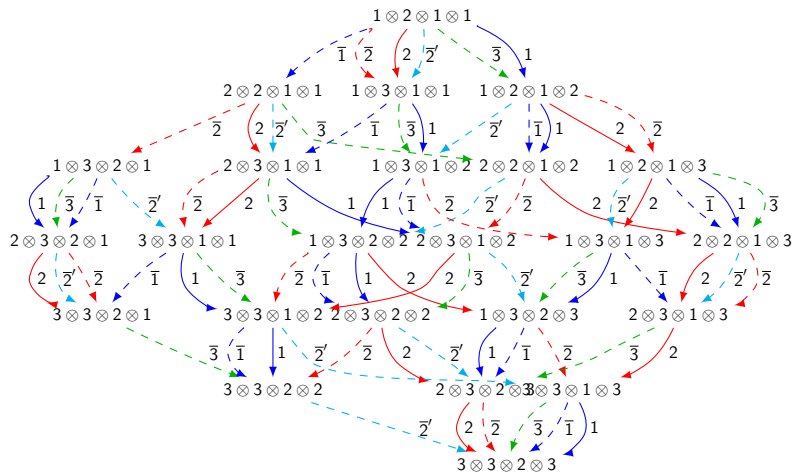
where $s_{w_i} = s_2 s_3 \dots s_i s_1 s_2 \dots s_{i-1}$ and s_i is the reflection along the i -th string.

Theorem (Grantcharov et al. '14)

Every connected component in $\mathcal{B}^{\otimes l}$ has a *unique highest weight element* u with $e_i u = 0$, $e_{-i} u = 0$ for all $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$.

Queer crystal: Example revisited

Same connected component of $\mathcal{B}^{\otimes 4}$:



Stembridge axioms

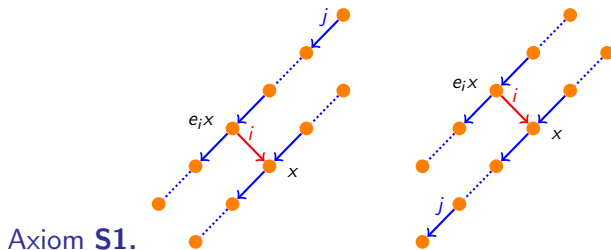
Question

Is there a *local characterization* for a crystal graph?

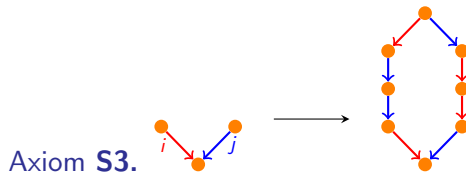
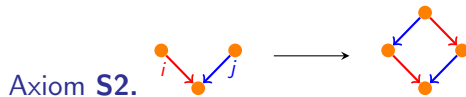
- ▶ [Stembridge '03] Yes, for crystals of simply-laced root systems (type A_n for example)
- ▶ Local rules characterizes Stembridge crystals, allows pure combinatorial analysis of crystals.

Stembridge axioms

B is a crystal for a simply-laced root system with index set $I = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$.



Stembridge axioms



Dual axioms **S2'** and **S3'** similarly hold.

Stembridge crystals: characterization

Why are Stembridge crystals important?

Theorem (Stembridge, '03)

- ▶ *Crystals B, C are Stembridge $\Rightarrow B \otimes C$ is Stembridge.*
- ▶ *Every connected component of a Stembridge crystal B has a unique highest weight element.*
- ▶ *B, B' are connected Stembridge crystals with $u \in B, u' \in B'$ as highest weight elements. If $\text{wt}(u) = \text{wt}(u')$, then $B \cong B'$.*

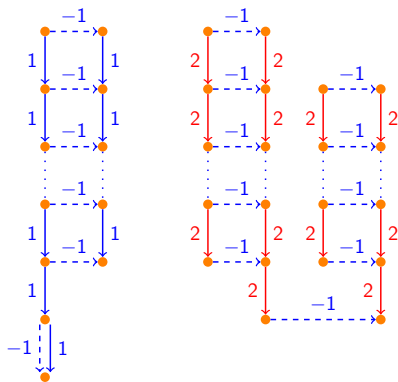
Question

Does there exist a similar characterization for queer supercrystals?

Local queer axioms

Conjecture (Assaf, Oguz 2018)

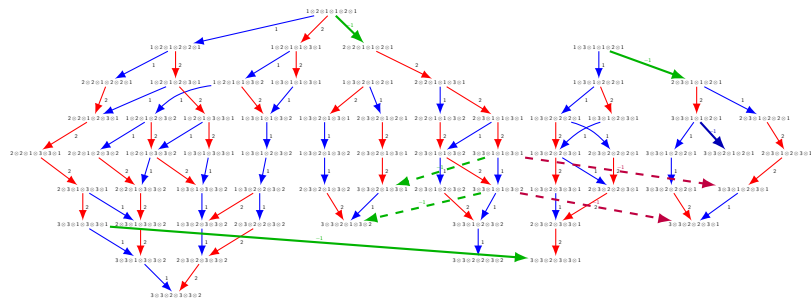
In addition to the Stembridge axioms, the following relations characterize type $q(n+1)$ crystals.



Counterexample

Example (Gillespie, Hawkes, P., Schilling 2018)

Consider $u = 1 \otimes 2 \otimes 1 \otimes 1 \otimes 2 \otimes 1 \in \mathcal{B}^{\otimes 6}$, $\text{wt}(u) = (4, 2, 0)$:



Graph on type A_n components

Set $I_0 = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$.

Let \mathcal{C} be crystal with index set $I = I_0 \cup \{-1\}$ that is type A_n Stembridge when restricted to I_0 .

Definition

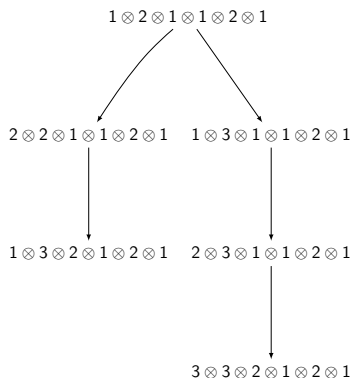
The **component graph** $G(\mathcal{C})$ has

Vertices: Type A_n components of \mathcal{C} , labeled by highest weight elements.

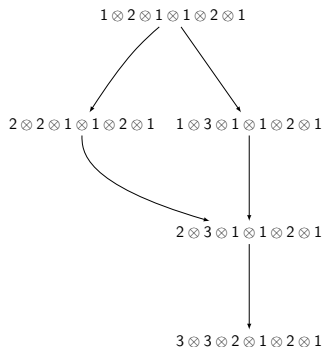
Edges: Component C_1 to C_2 has an edge if there are $x \in C_1$, $y \in C_2$ with $f_{-1}x = y$.

Graph on type A_n components: Counterexample

correct graph

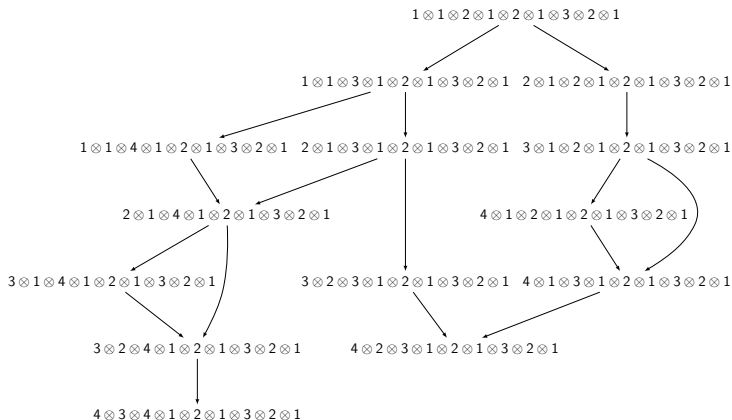


counterexample



Another example

- ▶ Consider $u = 1 \otimes 1 \otimes 2 \otimes 1 \otimes 2 \otimes 1 \otimes 3 \otimes 2 \otimes 1 \in \mathcal{B}^{\otimes 9}$,
 $\text{wt}(u) = (5, 3, 1, 0)$
- ▶ $P_{531} = s_{531} + s_{522} + s_{441} + s_{333} + 2s_{432} + s_{5211} + 2s_{4311} + 2s_{4221} + 2s_{3321} + s_{3222}$.



Connectivity Axioms

- ▶ Let C_1 be a type A_n component of queer crystal \mathcal{C} and $x \in C_1$. Exactly one of the following three occurs:
 1. $f_{-1}(x) = 0$.
 2. $f_{-1}(x) \in C_1$.
 3. $f_{-1}(x) \in C_2$ for some type A_n component $C_2 \neq C_1$.
- ▶ If $f_{-1}(x) \neq 0$, then $f_{-1}(x)$ is expressible using type A_n operators on lowest weight elements of C_1 (resp. C_2).

Main theorem

Theorem (GHPS 2018)

Suppose that \mathcal{C} is a connected abstract $q(n+1)$ crystals satisfying:

1. \mathcal{C} satisfies local queer axioms.
2. \mathcal{C} satisfies the connectivity axioms **C1.** - **C3.**
3. $G(\mathcal{C}) \cong G(\mathcal{D})$, where \mathcal{D} is a connected component of $\mathcal{B}^{\otimes l}$.

Then as queer supercrystals, $\mathcal{C} \cong \mathcal{D}$.

Thank you!