

(Emily )

HARISH-CHANDRA SERIES  
OF FINITE UNITARY GROUPS

Goal: describe the simple modules of a finite gp of Lie type  
 $GL_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$ ,  $GU_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$ ,  $Sp_{2n}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ , ...

- find a natural labelling set
- how are modules constructed via induction?
- over what field?
  - over  $\mathbb{C}$ , these problems were solved mid-20th cent.  
e.g. Green found the char. table of  $GL_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$  over  $\mathbb{C}$
- nice answer for specific type of rep? "unipotent rep."

↑  
the ones which appear in  
the cohomology of Deligne-Lusztig  
varieties

In this talk: give a combinatorial description of  
the Harish-Chandra series of simple modules  
in unipotent blocks of finite unitary groups  $GU_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$   
in positive characteristic  $l > 0$

↑ in fact  $l > \frac{n}{e}$  where  
 $e = \text{order of } -q \pmod{l}$   
and  $e \geq 3$  odd

Additional motivation : knowing HC-series may help to compute decomposition numbers.

Background :  $\mathrm{GL}_n(q)$  over  $k$  of char. 0 "big enough"

$$\begin{aligned} \mathrm{Fr} : \mathrm{GL}_n(\bar{\mathbb{F}}_q) &\longrightarrow \mathrm{GL}_n(\bar{\mathbb{F}}_q) \\ (\alpha_{ij}) &\longmapsto (\alpha_{ij}^q) \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{F}_q) = \mathrm{GL}_n(\bar{\mathbb{F}}_q)^{\mathrm{Fr}}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Unipotent rep.} \\ \text{of } k\mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{F}_q) \end{array} \right\} \xleftrightarrow{1:1} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \lambda + n \\ \lambda = (\lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_s > 0) \\ \lambda_1 + \lambda_2 + \dots + \lambda_s = n \end{array} \right\}$$

HC series of  $\mathrm{GL}_n(q)$  over  $k$

Consider conjugacy classes of Levi subgroups

$$L = GL_\nu = GL_{\nu_1} \times GL_{\nu_2} \times \dots \times GL_{\nu_s} = \left( \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline & \diagup & \diagdown \\ \hline \end{array} \right)$$

where  $\nu \vdash n$

HC induction  $R_L^G$  exact functor  $KL\text{-mod} \rightarrow KG\text{-mod}$

When does  $\rho_\lambda$ , a unipotent rep. of  $G$  occur as a summand of  $R_L^G(\rho)$  where  $\rho$  is some unip. rep. of  $L$

HC restriction:  ${}^*R_L^G : \text{KG-mod} \rightarrow \text{KL-mod}$   
 $(R_L^G, {}^*R_L^G)$  a biadjoint pair

def:  $M \in \text{KG-mod}$  is cuspidal if  ${}^*R_L^G(M) = 0$   
 for any  $L \neq G$  of the form described above

Cuspidals are building blocks

Unipotent cuspidals of  $\text{KGL}_n(q)\text{-mod}$ : only when  $n=1$   $\lambda=(1)$

Finite general unitary groups

$$F: \text{GL}_n(\bar{\mathbb{F}}_q) \rightarrow \text{GL}_n(\bar{\mathbb{F}}_q) \\ (\alpha_{ij}) \mapsto \text{Fr}((\alpha_{ji})^{-1})$$

$$\text{GU}_n(q) := \text{GL}_n(\bar{\mathbb{F}}_q)^F \subseteq \text{GL}_n(q^2)$$

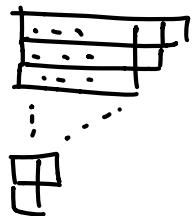
Over  $K$ : [Lusztig-Srinivasan]

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{unipotent rep.} \\ \text{of } \text{KGU}_n(q) \end{array} \right\} \xleftrightarrow{1:1} \left\{ \lambda + n \right\}$$

but HC-series are more complicated.  
 weird mix of type A & B combinatorics

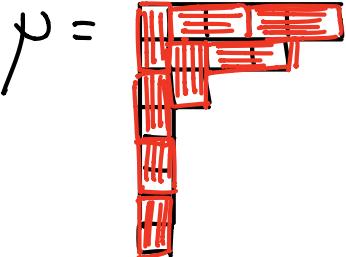
# Classification of cuspidals

$\rho_\lambda$  is cuspidal  $\iff \lambda$  is a "staircase partition"  
 $(t, t-1, t-2, \dots, 2, 1)$



$\iff \lambda$  is a 2-core

## 2-cores



remove all dominoes

what remains is a staircase

partition  $\Delta_t = (t, \dots, 1)$  for some  $t \geq 0$

$$\nu \mapsto (\Delta_t, (\nu^1, \nu^2))$$

2-core of  $\nu$

2 quotient of  $\nu$  (a bipartition)  
 with  $|\nu^1| + |\nu^2| = \# \text{ dominoes removed}$   
 from  $\nu$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Partitions of } n & \longleftrightarrow & \text{Irr}_{\mathbb{C}} \mathfrak{S}_n \\ \text{Bipartitions of } n & \longleftrightarrow & \text{Irr}_{\mathbb{C}} W(B_n) \quad \text{Weyl gp of type } B_n \end{array}$$

$$GU_n(q) \cong L = GU_m(q) \times GL_{\nu_1}(q^2) \times \dots \times GL_{\nu_s}(q^2)$$

with  $n = m + 2 |\nu|$

these are the Levi's used for HC-theory

$$R_L^G(\rho_\lambda) \longleftrightarrow \rho_\lambda \otimes \rho_{\chi_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes \rho_{\chi_s}$$

↑    ↓

$$\text{Ind}_{W'}^W(\dots) \longleftrightarrow (\lambda', \lambda'') \otimes \chi_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes \chi_s$$

Special case :  $L = \text{GU}_n(q) \times \text{GL}_1(q^2) \leq \text{GU}_{n+2}(q)$

$X = \rho_\lambda \otimes \text{triv}$ ,  $R_L^G(X)$  computed as :

- take  $\lambda', \lambda''$  2-quotient, then sum over adding boxes in all possible ways  
e.g.  $\boxed{\phantom{0}}, \boxed{\phantom{0}}$
- then  $R_L^G(X) = \bigoplus_{\nu} X_{\nu}$  where  $2\text{-core}(\nu) = 2\text{-core}(\lambda)$   
 $2\text{-quotient}(\nu)$  is one of the bipart. obtained in the previous step

Positive characteristic  $l \neq q$  same questions - different answers

simple modules in unipotent blocks have same labelling as in char. 0 i.e. by partitions of  $n$

$\text{GL}_n(q)$  :  $e = \text{order of } q \pmod{l}$   
 $e \geq 2$  and  $l > n$

$X_\lambda$  simple unipotent rep. corresponding to  $\lambda$   
 $X_\lambda$  is cuspidal  $\iff n=e$  and  $\lambda = (1^e)$   
or  $n=1$  and  $\lambda = (1)$

HC series  $\lambda^t = \text{transpose partition of } \lambda$

Write  $\lambda^t = e\sigma + \nu$  "dividing  $\lambda$  by  $e$  with remainder"

$$e=3 : \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline & & \\ \hline \end{array} = 3 \begin{array}{|c|} \hline & \\ \hline & \\ \hline & \\ \hline \end{array} + \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline & \\ \hline & \\ \hline \end{array}$$

cuspidal support of  $X_\lambda = \text{GL}_e(q)^{|\sigma|} \times \text{GL}_1(q)^{|\nu|}$   
(smallest Levi  $L$  such that  $R_L^G(Y) \rightarrow X_\lambda$  for some  $Y$ )

HC series of  $\text{GU}_n(q)$  in char.  $l$

$e := \text{order of } -q \pmod l \quad l > n$

- $e=1$ , then  $X_\lambda$  is cuspidal  $\iff \lambda$  is 2-regular  
[Geck-Hiss-Malle]
- $e$  even [Geck-Hiss-Malle]  
the answer is given in terms of  $\text{GL}_n(q)$  combinatorics
- $e \geq 3$  odd [Gerber-Hiss-Jacon] noticed that there  
is a crystal graph on level 2 Fock space

(has to do with bipartitions / type B Weyl group)  
 that appears to describe HC-induction for  $\text{GU}_n(q)$

$$R_{\text{GU}_n(q) \times \text{GL}_1(q^2)}^{\text{GU}_{n+2}(q)} (X_\lambda \boxtimes X_1) \longrightarrow \bigoplus_{\mu} X_\mu$$

where  $\mu^1, \mu^2$  is obtained from  $\lambda^1, \lambda^2$  by adding  
 a "good node" acc. to the crystal graph rule  
 proved by [DVV], and identified the cuspidals  
 combinatorially

Thm [N] There is a combinatorial formula  
 in terms of the  $\text{sl}_e$ -crystal and a second crystal  
 structure ( $\text{sl}_n$ -crystal) that describes the  
 HC series of any unipotent rep.  $X_\lambda$  of  $\text{GU}_n(q)$

→ adds vertical strip  
 of e boxes at a time