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# Characters, Schemes and q-series

#### Antun Milas, SUNY-Albany

#### 100 Years of Mock Theta Functions (Vanderbilt) May 2022

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# This talk

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#### This talk

#### Part I: q-series (identities) from graphs and commutative algebras.

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Part I: q-series (identities) from graphs and commutative algebras.

Part II: *q*-series from Schur's indices of 4d  $\mathcal{N} = 2$  SCFTs.

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Part I: q-series (identities) from graphs and commutative algebras.

Part II: *q*-series from Schur's indices of 4d  $\mathcal{N} = 2$  SCFTs.

Part III: (Time permitting) Generalized multiple q-zeta values

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Double pole series

Multiple *q*-zeta values 000000

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Part II: *q*-series from Schur's indices of 4d  $\mathcal{N} = 2$  SCFTs.

Part III: (Time permitting) Generalized multiple q-zeta values

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#### References

Main references:

A.M. arXiv 2203.15642

and joint papers:

Jennings-Shaffer- A.M. 2019,2020 Bringmann-Jennings-Shaffer-A.M. 2021 Li-A.M. 2020 Kanade A. M. Russell, 2021

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# Part I

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# **Graph Series**

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Double pole series

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# **Graph Series**

#### Definition (Graph series)

Given an undirected simple graph  $\Gamma$  with r nodes. Let  $E(\Gamma)$  denotes the set of edges of  $\Gamma$ . The q-series

$$H_{\Gamma}(q) = \sum_{n_1,\ldots,n_r \geq 0} \frac{q^{n_1+\cdots+n_r+\frac{1}{2}\mathsf{n}\mathsf{C}\mathsf{n}^T}}{(q)_{n_1}\cdots(q)_{n_r}},$$

where C is the adjacency matrix of  $\Gamma$ , is called graph *q*-series of  $\Gamma$ . If  $(i, j) \in E(\Gamma)$  then  $\frac{1}{2}nCn^{T}$  contributes with  $n_in_j$  in the exponent.

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# Examples

(i)  $\bullet$  (single node and no edges):

$$H_{\Gamma}(q) = \sum_{n \geq 0} rac{q^n}{(q)_n} \stackrel{Euler}{=} rac{1}{(q)_{\infty}}.$$

(ii) • - •  
$$H_{\Gamma}(q) = \sum_{n_1, n_2 \ge 0} \frac{q^{n_1 + n_2 + n_1 n_2}}{(q)_{n_1}(q)_{n_2}}$$

(iii) 3-cycle

$$H_{\Gamma}(q) = \sum_{n_1, n_2, n_3 \ge 0} \frac{q^{n_1 + n_2 + n_3 + n_1 n_2 + n_2 n_3 + n_3 n_1}}{(q)_{n_1}(q)_{n_2}(q)_{n_3}}$$

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Double pole series

Multiple *q*-zeta values 000000

### Convergence

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### Convergence

Observe that for many graphs (e.g. simple graphs)

$$\sum_{n_1,\ldots,n_r\geq 0}\frac{q^{\frac{1}{2}\mathsf{n}\mathsf{C}\mathsf{n}^{\mathsf{T}}}}{(q)_{n_1}\cdots(q)_{n_r}},$$

doesn't converge inside |q| < 1. So it is important to shift

$$H_{\Gamma}(q) = \sum_{n_1,\ldots,n_r \geq 0} \frac{q^{\frac{1}{2}\mathsf{n}\mathsf{C}\mathsf{n}^{\mathsf{T}}} + n_1 + \cdots + n_r}{(q)_{n_1} \cdots (q)_{n_r}},$$

now convergent for all  $\Gamma$ . Instead, we can consider

$$H_{\Gamma}(q,x) = \sum_{n_1,\ldots,n_r \geq 0} \frac{q^{\frac{1}{2}\mathsf{n}\mathsf{C}\mathsf{n}^T} x^n}{(q)_{n_1}\cdots(q)_{n_r}}.$$

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*q*-series from graphs 000●

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# Graphs series vs. Nahm's sums

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#### Graphs series vs. Nahm's sums Given positive definite $r \times r$ integral matrix A, and $B \in \mathbb{Z}^r$ (Nahm sum):

$$f_{A,B}(q) = \sum_{n_1,\ldots,n_r \ge 0} \frac{q^{\frac{1}{2}nAn^T + B \cdot n}}{(q)_{n_1} \cdots (q)_{n_r}}$$

These series are often associated to ADE type Dynkin diagrams  $\rightsquigarrow$  famous ADE *q*-series identities entering various combinatorial identities (e.g. Rogers-Ramanujan identities). But the quadratic form does not come from the incidence matrix but instead from (Euler/Tits quadratic form):

$$A:=2I_r-C$$

**Example.** Nahm sum associated to  $A_2$  Dynkin diagram • – • is

$$\sum_{n_1, n_2 \ge 0} \frac{q^{n_1^2 + n_2^2 - n_1 n_2}}{(q)_{n_1}(q)_{n_2}}$$

8/45

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### Graph series from geometry

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#### Graph series from geometry

Consider

$$R = \frac{\mathbb{C}[x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n]}{(f_1, f_2, \dots, f_k)}$$

where  $f_i$  are homogeneous. Then R is also graded,  $R = \bigoplus_{n \ge 0} R(n)$ . We can define its **Hilbert series**  $H_R(t) = \sum_{n \ge 0} dim(R(n))t^n$ .

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$$H_R(t) = rac{p(t)}{(1-t)^n} = rac{h(t)}{(1-t)^k}$$

k, dimension of R and h(t),  $h(1) \neq 0$  is so called h-polynomial.

#### Example

R = k[x, y]/(xy).

$$H_R(t) = rac{1-t^2}{(1-t)^2} = rac{1+t}{1-t}$$

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 $0 \to k[x,y] \xrightarrow{\cdot xy} k[x,y] \to k[x,y]/(xy) \to 0$ 

9 / 45

-series from graphs

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Multiple q-zeta values

# *m*-Jet algebras/schemes and arc algebras

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#### *m*-Jet algebras/schemes and arc algebras

Let  $f_i$  be polynomials. Consider

$$R=\frac{\mathbb{C}[x_1,x_2,\ldots,x_n]}{(f_1,f_2,\ldots,f_k)}.$$

$$J_m(R) := \frac{\mathbb{C}[x_{j,(i)} \mid 0 \le i \le m, \ 1 \le j \le n]}{(D^j f_i \mid i = 1, \dots k, \ j \in \mathbb{N})},$$
$$D(x_{j,(i)}) := \begin{cases} x_{j,(i+1)} & \text{for } 0 \le i \le m-1\\ 0 & \text{for } i = m. \end{cases}$$

called the **algebra of** *m*-jets of *R*. Let  $X_m = \text{Spec}(R_m)$ .  $X_{\infty} = \lim_{\stackrel{\leftarrow}{m}} X_m$  is called the arc space of X = Spec(R).  $J_{\infty}(R) := R_{\infty}$ , the **arc algebra** of *R*.

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#### Hilbert series

Assuming  $(f_1, ..., f_k)$  is homogeneous, letting

 $deg(x_{i,(j)}) = j + 1$ 

then  $J_m(R)$  and  $J_{\infty}(R)$  are also graded and we can define Hilbert-Poincaré series

$$H_q(J_\infty(R)) = \sum_{j\geq 0} \dim(J_\infty(R))_j q^j$$

Example

 $R = k[x_1, \dots, x_n].$ 

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Example

 $R = k[x_1, ..., x_n].$  Then  $J_{\infty}(R) = k[x_{1,(0)}, x_{1,(1)}, ..., x_{2,(0)}, x_{2,(1)}, ..., x_{n,(0)}, x_{n,(1)}, ...].$ 

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Example

 $R = k[x_1, ..., x_n].$  Then  $J_{\infty}(R) = k[x_{1,(0)}, x_{1,(1)}, ..., x_{2,(0)}, x_{2,(1)}, ..., x_{n,(0)}, x_{n,(1)}, ...].$ 

$$H_q(J_\infty(R)) = \frac{1}{(q)_\infty^n}$$

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$$h_{\Gamma}$$
-series

Again, it is convenient to consider two representations

$$H_q(J_\infty(R)) = rac{P_\Gamma(q)}{(q)_\infty^n} = rac{h_\Gamma(q)}{(q)_\infty^k}$$

where k is the dimension of R.

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# Graph series and arc algebras

Let  $\Gamma = (V, E)$  be a graph with no double edges and loops  $\rightsquigarrow$  edge ideal:

$$R_{\Gamma} = \mathbb{C}[x_1, ..., x_n] / \langle x_i x_j : (i, j) \in E(\Gamma) \rangle.$$

#### Example

Node:  $R = \mathbb{C}[x, y]/(xy)$ . Then

 $J_{\infty}(R) = \mathbb{C}[x_0, x_1, ..., y_0, y_1, ...] / (x_0y_0, x_1y_0 + x_0y_1, x_2y_0 + 2x_1y_1 + x_0y_2, ....)$ 

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# Graph series and arc algebras

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$$H_q(J_{\infty}(R_{\Gamma})) = \sum_{n_1, n_2 \ge 0} \frac{q^{n_1 + n_2 + n_1 n_2}}{(q)_{n_1}(q)_{n_2}} = \frac{\frac{1}{(1-q)}}{(q)_{\infty}}$$

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### An old result

A reformulation of our old result with M. Penn (2011,2012): Theorem

For any graph  $\Gamma$  without multiple edges

$$H_{\Gamma}(q) = H_q(J_{\infty}(R_{\Gamma})).$$

Moreover, this agrees with the character of a certain "principal" vertex algebra.

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# q-series identities from graph series

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# *q*-series identities from graph series

Many interesting identities. For instance, for path graphs  $A_n$ ,  $1 \le n \le 9$  we are able to simplify  $H_{\Gamma_{A_n}}(q)$  up to a single summation.

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#### Proposition

$$H_{A_{7}}(q) = \frac{\sum_{m \ge 1} (-3m+1)(-1)^{m} q^{\frac{3m^{2}+m}{2}} + \sum_{m \le -1} (3m+2)(-1)^{m} q^{\frac{3m^{2}+m}{2}}}{(1-q)(q)_{\infty}^{4}}$$

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#### 5th order mock theta functions

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#### 5th order mock theta functions



There is also formula for  $\chi_0(q)$ .

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Multiple *q*-zeta values 000000

#### 5th order mock theta functions



There is also formula for  $\chi_0(q)$ . By Zwegers (2009)

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#### 5th order mock theta functions



There is also formula for  $\chi_0(q)$ . By Zwegers (2009)

$$\begin{split} &\frac{1}{(q)_{\infty}} \sum_{n \ge 0} \frac{q^n}{(q^{n+1})_{n+1}} \\ &= \frac{1}{(q)_{\infty}^3} \left( \sum_{k,\ell,m \ge 0} -\sum_{k,\ell,m < 0} \right) (-1)^{k+\ell+m} q^{\frac{1}{2}k^2 + \frac{1}{2}\ell^2 + \frac{1}{2}m^2 + 2k\ell + 2\ell m + 2km + \frac{3}{2}(k+\ell+m)} \end{split}$$
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#### 5th order mock theta functions



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With a PhD student we were able to interpret the RHS using algebra.

16 / 45

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#### More complicated graphs



$$H_{C_5}(q) = rac{q^{-1}}{(q)_{\infty}^2} \sum_{n \ge 1} rac{nq^n}{1-q^n}$$

This is the first example in an infinite family of graphs with 3k + 2 vertices,  $k \ge 1$  for which we can express  $h_{\Gamma}$  as the generating series of certain sums of power of divisors.

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#### Further *q*-series identities: *D* series

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#### Further *q*-series identities: *D* series

## Theorem (Bringmann-Jennings-Shaffer-A.M.) *We have*

$$H_{D_4}(q) = \frac{\sum_{n,m \ge 0} (-1)^{m+n} (2n+1) q^{\frac{3}{2}m^2 + \frac{5}{2}m + \frac{1}{2}n^2 + \frac{3}{2}n + 2mn}}{(q)_{\infty}^4}$$
$$H_{D_5}(q) = \frac{\left(\sum_{n,m \ge 0} - \sum_{n,m < 0}\right) (-1)^n (n+1)^2 q^{\frac{n^2 + 3n}{2} + 3mn + 3m^2 + 4m}}{(q)_{\infty}^5}$$

Both numerators are indefinite theta series of signature (1, 1). They are both mixed mock modular forms.

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#### Multiple edges

 $B_2$  graph:

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$$H_{B_2}(q) = \sum_{n_1, n_2 \ge 0} \frac{q^{n_1 + n_2 + 2n_1 n_2}}{(q)_{n_1}(q)_{n_2}}$$

#### Proposition

$$H_{B_2}(q) = \frac{1}{(q)_{\infty}} \sum_{n \ge 1} \chi(n) q^{\frac{n^2 - 45}{120}}$$

where  $\chi(n) = (-1)^{\left[\frac{n}{30}\right]}$  if  $n^2 \equiv 49 \mod 120$  and zero otherwise. This is a famous *q*-series appearing in Lawrence-Zagier's work on WRT invariants of  $\Sigma(2, 3, 5)$ . Graph series and jet algebras

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#### Modular properties of graph series

What kind of *q*-series can we get out of  $q^a H_{\Gamma}(q)$ ?

- (mixed) quantum modular forms
- inside  $\mathcal{QM}:=\mathbb{Q}[\textit{E}_2,\textit{E}_4,\textit{E}_6]$
- (mixed) mock theta functions
- modular? asymptotic behavior?

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Double pole series

Multiple *q*-zeta values

#### Modular properties of graph series

What kind of *q*-series can we get out of  $q^a H_{\Gamma}(q)$ ?

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- (mixed) mock theta functions
- modular? asymptotic behavior?

#### Example

Some graph series (modulo Euler products) whose modularity properties are unknown:

$$\sum_{n \ge 1} q^n (q)_n^3 \ \sum_{n,m \ge 1} q^{mn+m+n} (q)_m (q)_n \ \sum_{n,m \ge 1} rac{q^{mn}}{(q)_{m+n+1}}$$

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20 / 45

q-series from graphs

Double pole series

Multiple *q*-zeta values 000000

#### Generalizations

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-series from graphs

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Double pole series

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#### Generalizations

#### Graphs with loops:

Single node with loops  $\rightsquigarrow$  "fat" point  $R = \mathbb{C}[x]/(x^n) \rightsquigarrow J_{\infty}(R) \rightsquigarrow$ Andrews-Gordon series:

Feigin-Stoyanovsky, Feigin-Frenkel 1993

Capparelli-Lepowsky-A.M. 2005., Bruschek-Mourtada-Schepers 2011

### More complicated ideals (not coming from graphs): Very few examples are known

Heluani-van Ekeren 2018, Andrews-Heluani-van Ekeren 2021 Li 2020 Li. A.M 2020

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Multiple *q*-zeta values

### 4d/2d dualities and Schur's index

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series from graphs

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### 4d/2d dualities and Schur's index

**Physics:** 

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## 4d/2d dualities and Schur's index

4d  $\mathcal{N}=2$  QFT is connected with many important developments in mathematics. If QFT is SCFT  $\rightsquigarrow$  superconformal index.

Physics:

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# 4d/2d dualities and Schur's index

4d  $\mathcal{N} = 2$  QFT is connected with many important developments in mathematics. If QFT is SCFT  $\rightsquigarrow$  superconformal index.

#### Connection with *q*-series and vertex algebras:

4d  $\mathcal{N} = 2$  SCFT  $\rightsquigarrow$  superconformal index  $\rightsquigarrow$  Schur's index  $\mathcal{I}(q)$ <sup>4d/2d</sup> character (Hilbert series) of a vertex algebra.

Beem-Lemost-Liendo-Peelaers-Rastelli-van Rees 2013

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# 4d/2d dualities and Schur's index

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Graph series and jet algebras

Double pole series

Multiple q-zeta values

#### Quantum dilogarithm

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*q*-series from graphs

Graph series and jet algebras

Double pole series

Multiple *q*-zeta values

#### Quantum dilogarithm

Physicists proposed computation of  $\mathcal{I}(q)$  using *wall-crossing technology* (after Kontsevich and Soibelman 2010, and Ceccotti-Neitzke-Vafa 2009). This computation is based on **quantum dilogarithm**:

$$E_q(X_i) = \prod_{i \ge 1} (1 + q^{i-1/2} X_i)^{-1}$$

(here  $X_i$  are non-commutative variables!)

**Conjecture:** Very roughly speaking: Quiver (oriented graph)  $\Gamma \rightsquigarrow$  product of quantum dilogarithms  $\rightsquigarrow$  constant term  $\rightsquigarrow q$ -series representation for  $\mathcal{I}(q)$ 

Cordova, Shao, Gaiotto 2016,2018



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• (single node and no edges). There is only one variable X so everything is commutative.



• (single node and no edges). There is only one variable X so everything is commutative. We have (after Ramanujan, Rogers,...)

$$\begin{split} \mathcal{I}_{\Gamma}(q) &:= \mathrm{CT}_{X} E_{q}(X) E_{q}(X^{-1}) = \mathrm{CT}_{X} \frac{1}{\prod_{n \ge 1} (1 + Xq^{n-1/2})(1 + X^{-1}q^{n-1/2})} \\ &= \sum_{n \ge 0} \frac{q^{n}}{(q)_{n}^{2}} = \frac{\sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \operatorname{sgn}(n)q^{2n^{2}+n}}{(q)_{\infty}^{2}} \end{split}$$

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Double pole series

Multiple *q*-zeta values

#### Double graph series

For certain quivers same type of computation (with non-commutative variables!) gives

Definition (Graph series with "double poles") Everything as before but with double poles

$$\sum_{n_1,...,n_r\geq 0} \frac{q^{n_1+\cdots+n_r+\frac{1}{2}nCn^T}}{(q)_{n_1}^2\cdots(q)_{n_r}^2},$$

where C is the adjacency matrix of the *underlying graph*. Up to Euler's factors this is supposed to agree with the Schur's index (or character)  $\mathcal{I}(q)$ .

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Basic identity
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#### Pentagon identity :

With  $X_1X_2 = qX_2X_1$ , we have

$$E_q(X_1)E_q(X_2) = E_q(X_2)E_q(X_1X_2)E_q(X_1)$$

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Double pole series

Multiple q-zeta values

#### Quiver theories

ADE quiver diagram with orientation:  $\leftarrow$  and  $\rightarrow$  (sink and sources).

"Non-commutative Jacobi form":

$$\prod_{J'\in Sou} E_q(X_{-\gamma_{J'}}) \prod_{I'\in Sink} E_q(X_{-\gamma_J}) \prod_{J\in Sou} E_q(X_{\gamma_J}) \prod_{I\in Sink} E_q(X_{\gamma_I})$$

-series from graphs

Graph series and jet algebras

Double pole series

Multiple q-zeta values

#### Quiver theories

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Double pole series

Multiple q-zeta values 000000

#### Quivers of type $A_{2k}$



It is known that the index  $\mathcal{I}_{A_{2k}}(q)$  is given by

$$\prod_{i \ge 1 \atop i \not\equiv 0, \pm 1 \ (2k+3)} \frac{1}{(1-q^i)}$$

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-series from graphs 000 Graph series and jet algebras

Double pole series

Multiple q-zeta values

#### Quivers of type $A_{2k}$



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Famous product side in (one of) the Andrews-Gordon identities. In particular for k = 1,

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Multiple q-zeta values

#### Quiver of type $A_2$ : Rogers-Ramanujan series



#### Example

$$\begin{split} \mathcal{I}(q) \stackrel{?}{=} (q)^4_\infty \mathrm{CT}[E_q(X_{-\gamma_1})E_q(X_{-\gamma_2})E_q(X_{\gamma_1})E_q(X_{\gamma_2})] \\ = (q)^4_\infty \sum_{n_1,n_2 \geq 0} \frac{q^{n_1+n_2+n_1n_2}}{(q)^2_{n_1}(q)^2_{n_2}} \end{split}$$

It is not hard to see that the RHS is  $\frac{1}{\prod_{n\geq 1}(1-q^{5n+2})(1-q^{5n+3})}.$ 

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Graph series and jet algebras

Double pole series

Multiple q-zeta values

#### Quivers of type $A_{2k}$



Similar computation gives

$$\mathcal{I}_{A_{2k}}(q) \stackrel{?}{=} (q)_{\infty}^{2k} \sum_{n_1, n_2, ..., n_{2k} \ge 0} rac{q^{\sum_{i=1}^{2k-1} n_i n_{i+1} + \sum_{i=1}^{2k} n_i}}{(q)_{n_1}^2 (q)_{n_2}^2 \cdots (q)_{n_{2k}}^2}$$

Cordova-Shao 2016



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#### General case

Of course, physicists are always right.

Theorem For  $k \ge 1$ ,

$$\prod_{\substack{i \geq 1 \\ i \neq 0, \pm 1}} \frac{1}{(1-q^i)} = (q)_{\infty}^{2k} \sum_{\substack{n_1, n_2, \dots, n_{2k} \geq 0}} \frac{q^{\sum_{i=1}^{2k-1} n_i n_{i+1} + \sum_{i=1}^{2k} n_i}}{(q)_{n_1}^2 (q)_{n_2}^2 \cdots (q)_{n_{2k}}^2}$$

This is very different compared to Andrews-Gordon identities.

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Graph series and jet algebras

Double pole series

Multiple q-zeta values

#### Quivers of $A_{2k+1}$ type

Theorem (Jennings-Shaffer-A.M.) For  $k \ge 1$ ,

$$\frac{\sum_{n\in\mathbb{Z}}\operatorname{sgn}(n)q^{(k+1)n^2+kn}}{(q)_{\infty}} = (q)_{\infty}^{2k-1}\sum_{\substack{n_1,n_2,\dots,n_{2k-1}\geq 0}} \frac{q^{\sum_{i=1}^{2k-2}n_in_{i+1}+\sum_{i=1}^{2k-1}n_i}}{(q)_{n_1}^2(q)_{n_2}^2\cdots(q)_{n_{2k-1}}^2}$$

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Graph series and jet algebras

Double pole series

Multiple q-zeta values

#### Quivers of $A_{2k+1}$ type

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For k = 1 this gives Ramanujan's formula discussed earlier.

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Double pole series

Multiple q-zeta values

#### Quivers of D type



The relevant double pole *q*-series is:

$$\sum_{n_1,n_2,\ldots,n_{k+1}\geq 0}\frac{q^{\sum_{i=1}^{k-1}n_in_{i+1}+n_{k-1}n_{k+1}+\sum_{i=1}^{k+1}n_i}}{(q)_{n_1}^2(q)_{n_2}^2\cdots(q)_{n_{k+1}}^2}.$$

This again alternates between modular and rank two false theta series (with some extra Euler factors).

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Double pole series

Multiple *q*-zeta values

#### Multiple edges

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-series from graphs

Graph series and jet algebras

Double pole series

Multiple q-zeta values

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Multiple edges
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Quivers with multiple edges, e.g



$$\sum_{n_1,n_2\geq 0} \frac{q^{n_1+n_2+2n_1n_2}}{(q)_{n_1}^2(q)_{n_2}^2} = \frac{\sum_{n\geq 0} q^{n^2+n_2}}{(q)_{\infty}^2}$$

-series from graph

Graph series and jet algebras

Double pole series

Multiple q-zeta values

#### Half-characteristic theta *q*-series

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Double pole series

Multiple *q*-zeta values

#### Half-characteristic theta q-series

New examples:

Theorem (Jennings-Shaffer-A.M.) For  $k \ge 2$ ,

$$(q)_{\infty}^{k} \sum_{\substack{n_{1},n_{2},...,n_{k} \ge 0}} \frac{q^{n_{1}n_{2}+n_{2}n_{3}+\cdots+n_{k-1}n_{k}+n_{1}+n_{2}+\cdots+n_{k}}(-q^{\frac{1}{2}})_{n_{1}}}{(q)_{n_{1}}^{2}(q)_{n_{2}}^{2}\cdots(q)_{n_{k}}^{2}} \\ = \frac{(-q^{\frac{1}{2}})_{\infty}}{(q)_{\infty}} \left(\sum_{\substack{n \ge 0}} +(-1)^{k}\sum_{\substack{n < 0}}\right) (-1)^{(k+1)n}q^{\frac{(k+2)n^{2}+(k+1)n}{2}}$$

This again alternates between false and modular identities (essentially Andrews-Bressoud series).

-series from graphs

Graph series and jet algebras

Double pole series

Multiple *q*-zeta values

#### What about other ABG-type series?
Graph series and jet algebras

Double pole series

Multiple *q*-zeta values

## What about other ABG-type series?

There are double pole identities for *all* AB and AG series and *all* related false theta series, but formulas are more complicated. For instance, for AG series

Graph series and jet algebras

Double pole series

Multiple *q*-zeta values

# What about other ABG-type series?

There are double pole identities for *all* AB and AG series and *all* related false theta series, but formulas are more complicated. For instance, for AG series

Theorem (Kanade, A.M., Russell)

For  $k \ge 1$ , and  $1 \le i \le k$ 

$$\prod_{\substack{n\geq 1\\n\neq 0,\pm i}}\frac{1}{(1-q^i)} = (q)_{\infty}^{2k} \sum_{\substack{n_1,n_2,\dots,n_{2k}\geq 0}}\frac{a_i(q)q^{\sum_{i=1}^{2k-1}n_in_{i+1}+\sum_{i=1}^{2k}n_i}}{(q)_{n_1}^2(q)_{n_2}^2\cdots(q)_{n_{2k}}^2}$$

where

$$a_1 = 1, a_2 = 2 - q^{n_1}, a_3 = 2 - 2q^{n_1} + q^{n_2}, \dots$$

In the simplest case this was conjectured by Cordova, Gaiotto and Shao.

-series from graph

Graph series and jet algebras

Double pole series

Multiple *q*-zeta values

## Circles, Triangles and Squares...

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-series from graphs

Graph series and jet algebras

Double pole series

Multiple q-zeta values

# Circles, Triangles and Squares...

#### *k*-cycle quiver ( $k \ge 3$ ):



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-series from graphs

Graph series and jet algebras

Double pole series

Multiple *q*-zeta values

# Circles, Triangles and Squares...

#### *k*-cycle quiver ( $k \ge 3$ ):



#### Conjecture

For  $k \geq 3$ ,

$$\frac{\sum_{n\geq 0}(-1)^{nk}q^{\frac{k}{2}n(n+1)}}{(q)_{\infty}^{k}} = \sum_{n_{1},n_{2},\dots,n_{k}\geq 0}\frac{q^{\sum_{i=1}^{k-1}n_{i}n_{i+1}+n_{k}n_{1}+\sum_{i=1}^{k}n_{i}}}{(q)_{n_{1}}^{2}(q)_{n_{2}}^{2}\cdots(q)_{n_{k}}^{2}},$$

q-series from graphs 0000 Graph series and jet algebras

Double pole series

Multiple *q*-zeta values 000000

# Part III

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*q*-series from graphs

Graph series and jet algebras

Double pole series

Multiple *q*-zeta values





*q*-series from graphs

Graph series and jet algebras

Double pole series

Multiple *q*-zeta values

q-MZVs

In its "standard" form, the q-MZV is usually defined as

$$\zeta_q(a_1,...,a_k) := \sum_{n_1 > n_2 > \cdots > n_k \ge 1} \frac{q^{(a_1-1)n_1 + \cdots + (a_k-1)n_k}}{(1-q^{n_1})^{a_1} \cdots (1-q^{n_k})^{a_k}},$$

where  $a_i \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $a_1 \geq 2$ .



*q*-series from graphs

Graph series and jet algebras

Double pole series

Multiple *q*-zeta values

q-MZVs

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where  $a_i \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $a_1 \geq 2$ .

$$\zeta_q^*(a_1,...,a_k) := \sum_{n_1 \ge n_2 \ge \cdots \ge n_k \ge 1} rac{q^{(a_1-1)n_1 + \cdots + (a_k-1)n_k}}{(1-q^{n_1})^{a_1} \cdots (1-q^{n_k})^{a_k}},$$

The star symbol indicates that the summation is over non-strict summation variables.

*y*-series from graphs

Graph series and jet algebras

Double pole series

Multiple *q*-zeta values

## Another model of q-MZVs

$$\mathfrak{z}_q(a_1,...,a_k):=\sum_{n_1>n_2>\dots>n_k\geq 1}rac{q^{n_1}}{(1-q^{n_1})^{a_1}\cdots(1-q^{n_k})^{a_k}}.$$
 $\mathfrak{z}_q^*(a_1,...,a_k):=\sum_{n_1\geq n_2\geq \cdots\geq n_k\geq 1}rac{q^{n_1}}{(1-q^{n_1})^{a_1}\cdots(1-q^{n_k})^{a_k}}.$ 

Very active area of research.

Bradley, Hoffman, Zhao, Schlesinger, Okounkov, Zudilin, Ohno,...

*y*-series from graphs

Graph series and jet algebras

Double pole series

Multiple *q*-zeta values

## Another model of q-MZVs

$$\mathfrak{z}_q(\mathfrak{a}_1,...,\mathfrak{a}_k) := \sum_{n_1 > n_2 > \cdots > n_k \geq 1} rac{q^{n_1}}{(1-q^{n_1})^{\mathfrak{a}_1}\cdots(1-q^{n_k})^{\mathfrak{a}_k}}.$$
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Very active area of research.

Bradley, Hoffman, Zhao, Schlesinger, Okounkov, Zudilin, Ohno,...

$$\lim_{q \to 1^-}$$
 "recovers"  $\zeta(a_1, ..., a_k)$ 

-series from graphs

Graph series and jet algebras

Double pole series

Multiple *q*-zeta values

## Graphs series and *q*-MZVs

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Double pole series

Multiple *q*-zeta values

# Graphs series and q-MZVs

# Theorem (A.M.)

For every choice of positive integers  $a_1, ..., a_k$  there is a simple graph  $Z_{a_1,...,a_k}$  such that

$$H_{Z_{a_1,...,a_k}}(q) = rac{q^{-1}\mathfrak{z}_q^*(a_1,...,a_k)}{(q)_\infty^{k+a_1+\dots+a_k}}.$$

One can also engineer graph series involving certain generalized q-MZV type sums called *brackets*.

Bachmann-Kühn

-series from graphs

Graph series and jet algebras

Double pole series

Multiple *q*-zeta values

# q-MZVs associated to simple Lie algebras

**q-series from graphs** 0000 Graph series and jet algebras

Double pole series

Multiple *q*-zeta values

# q-MZVs associated to simple Lie algebras

Denote by  $\Delta$  a root system of ADE type (for simplicity),  $\Delta_+$  the set of positive roots and  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  denotes inner product normalized such that  $\langle \alpha, \alpha \rangle = 2$  for every root  $\alpha$ . Then we let for  $k_{\alpha} \geq 1$ ,

$$\zeta_{\mathfrak{g},q}(k_1,..,k_{|\Delta_+|}) := \sum_{\lambda \in P_+} rac{q^{rac{1}{2}\sum_{lpha \in \Delta_+}k_lpha \langle \lambda + 
ho, lpha 
angle}}{\prod_{lpha \in \Delta_+}(1-q^{\langle \lambda, lpha + 
ho 
angle})^{k_lpha}},$$

where the summation is over the cone of positive dominant integral weights.

#### Example

For  $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{sl}_2$  and  $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{sl}_3$ , and  $k \geq 2$ ,

$$\sum_{n\geq 1}rac{q^{rac{k}{2}n}}{(1-q^n)^k}$$

$$\sum_{\substack{n_1,n_2 \ge 1}} \frac{q^{\frac{k_1}{2}n_1 + \frac{k_2}{2}n_2 + \frac{k_3}{2}(n_1 + n_2)}}{(1 - q^{n_1})^{k_1}(1 - q^{n_2})^{k_2}(1 - q^{n_1 + n_2})^{k_3}}$$

-series from graphs

Graph series and jet algebras

Double pole series

Multiple *q*-zeta values

# q-MZVs and quasi-modularity

#### In parallel with standard q-MZVs, we expect

Conjecture

$$\zeta_{\mathfrak{g},q}(2k) := \zeta_{\mathfrak{g},q}(2k,2k,...,2k) \in \mathbb{Q}[E_2,E_4,E_6].$$

-series from graphs

Graph series and jet algebras

Double pole series

Multiple *q*-zeta values

# q-MZVs and quasi-modularity

In parallel with standard q-MZVs, we expect

Conjecture

$$\zeta_{\mathfrak{g},q}(2k) := \zeta_{\mathfrak{g},q}(2k,2k,...,2k) \in \mathbb{Q}[E_2,E_4,E_6].$$

A closely related *q*-series appeared recently in connection to Schur's indices:

$$\mathcal{I}_{\mathfrak{g},k}(q) := \sum_{\lambda \in \mathcal{P}_+} \mathcal{P}_k(\lambda) rac{q^{rac{1}{2}\sum_{lpha \in \Delta_+} k \langle \lambda + 
ho, lpha 
angle}}{\prod_{lpha \in \Delta_+} (1 - q^{\langle \lambda, lpha + 
ho 
angle})^k},$$

It is expected that for k even  $\mathcal{I}_{\mathfrak{g},k}(q)\in\mathcal{QM}.$ 

Beem-Rastelli 2018, Arakawa 2018, A.M. 2022

This is known in many special cases.

*q*-series from graphs 0000 Graph series and jet algebras

Double pole series

Multiple *q*-zeta values

# Thank You!

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