# Characters, Schemes and $q$-series 

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100 Years of Mock Theta Functions (Vanderbilt) May 2022

## This talk

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

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

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

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

## References

Main references:

$$
\text { A.M. arXiv } 2203.15642
$$

and joint papers:
Jennings-Shaffer- A.M. 2019,2020
Bringmann-Jennings-Shaffer-A.M. 2021
Li-A.M. 2020
Kanade A. M. Russell, 2021

## Graph Series

## 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

$$
H_{\Gamma}(q)=\sum_{n_{1}, \ldots, n_{r} \geq 0} \frac{q^{n_{1}+\cdots+n_{r}+\frac{1}{2} \mathrm{n} C_{\mathrm{n}}{ }^{\top}}}{(q)_{n_{1}} \cdots(q)_{n_{r}}}
$$

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

## Examples

(i) • (single node and no edges):

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

(ii)

$$
H_{\Gamma}(q)=\sum_{n_{1}, n_{2} \geq 0} \frac{q^{n_{1}+n_{2}+n_{1} n_{2}}}{(q)_{n_{1}}(q)_{n_{2}}}
$$

(iii) 3-cycle

$$
H_{\Gamma}(q)=\sum_{n_{1}, n_{2}, n_{3} \geq 0} \frac{q^{n_{1}+n_{2}+n_{3}+n_{1} n_{2}+n_{2} n_{3}+n_{3} n_{1}}}{(q)_{n_{1}}(q)_{n_{2}}(q)_{n_{3}}}
$$

## Convergence

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

$$
\sum_{n_{1}, \ldots, n_{r} \geq 0} \frac{q^{\frac{1}{2} \mathrm{n} C_{n}^{T}}}{(q)_{n_{1}} \cdots(q)_{n_{r}}}
$$

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

$$
H_{\Gamma}(q)=\sum_{n_{1}, \ldots, n_{r} \geq 0} \frac{q^{\frac{1}{2} \mathrm{n} C n^{\top}+n_{1}+\cdots+n_{r}}}{(q)_{n_{1}} \cdots(q)_{n_{r}}}
$$

now convergent for all Г. Instead, we can consider

$$
H_{\Gamma}(q, x)=\sum_{n_{1}, \ldots, n_{r} \geq 0} \frac{q^{\frac{1}{2} \mathrm{n} C n^{\top}} x^{n}}{(q)_{n_{1}} \cdots(q)_{n_{r}}}
$$

## Graphs series vs. Nahm's sums

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Given positive definite $r \times r$ integral matrix $A$, and $B \in \mathbb{Z}^{r}$ (Nahm sum):

$$
f_{A, B}(q)=\sum_{n_{1}, \ldots, n_{r} \geq 0} \frac{q^{\frac{1}{2} n A n^{T}+B \cdot n}}{(q)_{n_{1}} \cdots(q)_{n_{r}}}
$$

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):

$$
A:=2 I_{r}-C
$$

Example. Nahm sum associated to $A_{2}$ Dynkin diagram $\bullet$ - $\bullet$ is

$$
\sum_{n_{1}, n_{2} \geq 0} \frac{q^{n_{1}^{2}+n_{2}^{2}-n_{1} n_{2}}}{(q)_{n_{1}}(q)_{n_{2}}}
$$

## Graph series from geometry

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Consider

$$
R=\frac{\mathbb{C}\left[x_{1}, x_{2}, \ldots, x_{n}\right]}{\left(f_{1}, f_{2}, \ldots, f_{k}\right)}
$$

where $f_{i}$ are homogeneous. Then $R$ is also graded, $R=\oplus_{n \geq 0} R(n)$. We can define its Hilbert series $H_{R}(t)=\sum_{n \geq 0} \operatorname{dim}(R(n)) t^{n}$.

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With standard grading $\operatorname{deg}\left(x_{i}\right)=1$, we have

$$
H_{R}(t)=\frac{p(t)}{(1-t)^{n}}=\frac{h(t)}{(1-t)^{k}}
$$

$k$, dimension of $R$ and $h(t), h(1) \neq 0$ is so called $h$-polynomial .
Example
$R=k[x, y] /(x y)$.

$$
H_{R}(t)=\frac{1-t^{2}}{(1-t)^{2}}=\frac{1+t}{1-t}
$$

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$$
\begin{gathered}
H_{R}(t)=\frac{1-t^{2}}{(1-t)^{2}}=\frac{1+t}{1-t} \\
0 \rightarrow k[x, y] \xrightarrow{\cdot x y} k[x, y] \rightarrow k[x, y] /(x y) \rightarrow 0
\end{gathered}
$$

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

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Let $f_{i}$ be polynomials. Consider

$$
\begin{gathered}
R=\frac{\mathbb{C}\left[x_{1}, x_{2}, \ldots, x_{n}\right]}{\left(f_{1}, f_{2}, \ldots, f_{k}\right)} . \\
J_{m}(R):=\frac{\mathbb{C}\left[x_{j,(i)} \mid 0 \leq i \leq m, 1 \leq j \leq n\right]}{\left(D^{j} f_{i} \mid i=1, \ldots k, j \in \mathbb{N}\right)}, \\
D\left(x_{j,(i)}\right):= \begin{cases}x_{j,(i+1)} & \text { for } 0 \leq i \leq m-1 \\
0 & \text { for } i=m .\end{cases}
\end{gathered}
$$

called the algebra of $m$-jets of $R$. Let $X_{m}=\operatorname{Spec}\left(R_{m}\right)$. $X_{\infty}=\lim _{\overleftarrow{m}} X_{m}$ is called the arc space of $X=\operatorname{Spec}(R)$. $J_{\infty}(R):=R_{\infty}$, the arc algebra of $R$.

## Hilbert series

Assuming $\left(f_{1}, \ldots, f_{k}\right)$ is homogeneous, letting

$$
\operatorname{deg}\left(x_{i,(j)}\right)=j+1
$$

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

$$
H_{q}\left(J_{\infty}(R)\right)=\sum_{j \geq 0} \operatorname{dim}\left(J_{\infty}(R)\right)_{j} q^{j}
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Example
$R=k\left[x_{1}, \ldots, x_{n}\right]$. Then
$J_{\infty}(R)=k\left[x_{1,(0)}, x_{1,(1)}, \ldots, x_{2,(0)}, x_{2,(1)}, \ldots, x_{n,(0)}, x_{n,(1)}, \ldots\right]$.

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

## $h_{\Gamma}$-series

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Again, it is convenient to consider two representations

$$
H_{q}\left(J_{\infty}(R)\right)=\frac{P_{\Gamma}(q)}{(q)_{\infty}^{n}}=\frac{h_{\Gamma}(q)}{(q)_{\infty}^{k}}
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where $k$ is the dimension of $R$.

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where $k$ is the dimension of $R$.

## Graph series and arc algebras

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

$$
R_{\Gamma}=\mathbb{C}\left[x_{1}, \ldots, x_{n}\right] /\left\langle x_{i} x_{j}:(i, j) \in E(\Gamma)\right\rangle
$$

Example
Node: $R=\mathbb{C}[x, y] /(x y)$. Then
$J_{\infty}(R)=\mathbb{C}\left[x_{0}, x_{1}, \ldots, y_{0}, y_{1}, \ldots\right] /\left(x_{0} y_{0}, x_{1} y_{0}+x_{0} y_{1}, x_{2} y_{0}+2 x_{1} y_{1}+x_{0} y_{2}, \ldots.\right)$

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$$
H_{q}\left(J_{\infty}\left(R_{\Gamma}\right)\right)=\sum_{n_{1}, n_{2} \geq 0} \frac{q^{n_{1}+n_{2}+n_{1} n_{2}}}{(q)_{n_{1}}(q)_{n_{2}}}=\frac{\frac{1}{(1-q)}}{(q)_{\infty}}
$$

## An old result

A reformulation of our old result with M. Penn (2011,2012):
Theorem
For any graph 「 without multiple edges

$$
H_{\Gamma}(q)=H_{q}\left(J_{\infty}\left(R_{\Gamma}\right)\right)
$$

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

## $q$-series identities from graph series

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

Proposition

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

## 5th order mock theta functions

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There is also formula for $\chi_{0}(q)$.

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$$
\frac{1}{(q)_{\infty}} \sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{q^{n}}{\left(q^{n+1}\right)_{n+1}}
$$

$=\frac{1}{(q)_{\infty}^{3}}\left(\sum_{k, \ell, m \geq 0}-\sum_{k, \ell, m<0}\right)(-1)^{k+\ell+m} q^{\frac{1}{2} k^{2}+\frac{1}{2} \ell^{2}+\frac{1}{2} m^{2}+2 k \ell+2 \ell m+2 k m+\frac{3}{2}(k+\ell+m)}$

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

## More complicated graphs



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

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

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

$$
\begin{aligned}
& H_{D_{4}}(q)=\frac{\sum_{n, m \geq 0}(-1)^{m+n}(2 n+1) q^{\frac{3}{2} m^{2}+\frac{5}{2} m+\frac{1}{2} n^{2}+\frac{3}{2} n+2 m n}}{(q)_{\infty}^{4}} \\
& H_{D_{5}}(q)=\frac{\left(\sum_{n, m \geq 0}-\sum_{n, m<0}\right)(-1)^{n}(n+1)^{2} q^{\frac{n^{2}+3 n}{2}+3 m n+3 m^{2}+4 m}}{(q)_{\infty}^{5}}
\end{aligned}
$$

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

## Multiple edges

$B_{2}$ graph:

$$
H_{B_{2}}(q)=\sum_{n_{1}, n_{2} \geq 0} \frac{q^{n_{1}+n_{2}+2 n_{1} n_{2}}}{(q)_{n_{1}}(q)_{n_{2}}}
$$

Proposition

$$
H_{B_{2}}(q)=\frac{1}{(q)_{\infty}} \sum_{n \geq 1} \chi(n) q^{\frac{n^{2}-49}{120}}
$$

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

## 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 $\mathcal{Q M}:=\mathbb{Q}\left[E_{2}, E_{4}, E_{6}\right]$
- (mixed) mock theta functions
- modular? asymptotic behavior?


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

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

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \sum_{n \geq 1} q^{n}(q)_{n}^{3} \\
& \sum_{n, m \geq 1} q^{m n+m+n}(q)_{m}(q)_{n} \\
& \sum_{n, m \geq 1} \frac{q^{m n}}{(q)_{m+n+1}}
\end{aligned}
$$

## Generalizations

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## Graphs with loops:

Single node with loops $\rightsquigarrow$ "fat" point $R=\mathbb{C}[x] /\left(x^{n}\right) \rightsquigarrow J_{\infty}(R) \rightsquigarrow$ 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

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

Physics:

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Connection with $q$-series and vertex algebras:

4d $\mathcal{N}=2$ SCFT $\rightsquigarrow$ superconformal index $\rightsquigarrow$ Schur's index $\mathcal{I}(q)$
4d/2d
$\xrightarrow{\mu d}$ character (Hilbert series) of a vertex algebra.
Beem-Lemost-Liendo-Peelaers-Rastelli-van Rees 2013

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

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

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


## Quantum dilogarithm

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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:

$$
E_{q}\left(X_{i}\right)=\prod_{i \geq 1}\left(1+q^{i-1 / 2} X_{i}\right)^{-1}
$$

(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

## Toy case

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


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

$$
\begin{gathered}
\mathcal{I}_{\Gamma}(q):=\operatorname{CT}_{X} E_{q}(X) E_{q}\left(X^{-1}\right)=\operatorname{CT}_{X} \frac{1}{\prod_{n \geq 1}\left(1+X q^{n-1 / 2}\right)\left(1+X^{-1} q^{n-1 / 2}\right)} \\
=\sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{q^{n}}{(q)_{n}^{2}}=\frac{\sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \operatorname{sgn}(n) q^{2 n^{2}+n}}{(q)_{\infty}^{2}}
\end{gathered}
$$

## 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

$$
\sum_{n_{1}, \ldots, n_{r} \geq 0} \frac{q^{n_{1}+\cdots+n_{r}+\frac{1}{2} \mathrm{n} C \mathrm{n}^{T}}}{(q)_{n_{1}}^{2} \cdots(q)_{n_{r}}^{2}}
$$

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) $\mathcal{I}(q)$.

## Basic identity

Pentagon identity:
With $X_{1} X_{2}=q X_{2} X_{1}$, we have

$$
E_{q}\left(X_{1}\right) E_{q}\left(X_{2}\right)=E_{q}\left(X_{2}\right) E_{q}\left(X_{1} X_{2}\right) E_{q}\left(X_{1}\right)
$$

## Quiver theories

ADE quiver diagram with orientation: $\leftarrow$ and $\rightarrow$ (sink and sources).
"Non-commutative Jacobi form":

$$
\prod_{J^{\prime} \in S o u} E_{q}\left(X_{-\gamma_{J^{\prime}}}\right) \prod_{I^{\prime} \in S i n k} E_{q}\left(X_{-\gamma_{J}}\right) \prod_{J \in \text { Sou }} E_{q}\left(X_{\gamma_{J}}\right) \prod_{I \in \text { Sink }} E_{q}\left(X_{\gamma_{l}}\right)
$$

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$$

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



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

$$
\prod_{\substack{i \geq 1 \\ i \neq 0, \pm 1(2 k+3)}} \frac{1}{\left(1-q^{i}\right)}
$$

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$$

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

## Quiver of type $A_{2}$ : Rogers-Ramanujan series



Example

$$
\begin{array}{rl}
\mathcal{I}(q) \stackrel{?}{=}(q)_{\infty}^{4} & \mathrm{CT}\left[E_{q}\left(X_{-\gamma_{1}}\right) E_{q}\left(X_{-\gamma_{2}}\right) E_{q}\left(X_{\gamma_{1}}\right) E_{q}\left(X_{\gamma_{2}}\right)\right] \\
& =(q)_{\infty}^{4} \sum_{n_{1}, n_{2} \geq 0} \frac{q^{n_{1}+n_{2}+n_{1} n_{2}}}{(q)_{n_{1}}^{2}(q)_{n_{2}}^{2}}
\end{array}
$$

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

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



Similar computation gives

$$
\mathcal{I}_{A_{2 k}}(q) \stackrel{?}{=}(q)_{\infty}^{2 k} \sum_{n_{1}, n_{2}, \ldots, n_{2 k} \geq 0} \frac{q^{\sum_{i=1}^{2 k-1} n_{i} n_{i+1}+\sum_{i=1}^{2 k} n_{i}}}{(q)_{n_{1}}^{2}(q)_{n_{2}}^{2} \cdots(q)_{n_{2 k}}^{2}}
$$

Cordova-Shao 2016


## General case

Of course, physicists are always right.
Theorem
For $k \geq 1$,

$$
\prod_{\substack{i \geq 1 \\ 0, \pm 1 \\ 0,12 k+1)}} \frac{1}{\left(1-q^{i}\right)}=(q)_{\infty}^{2 k} \sum_{n_{1}, n_{2}, \ldots, n_{2 k} \geq 0} \frac{q^{\sum_{i=1}^{2 k-1} n_{i} n_{i+1}+\sum_{i=1}^{2 k} n_{i}}}{(q)_{n_{1}}^{2}(q)_{n_{2}}^{2} \cdots(q)_{n_{2 k}}^{2}}
$$

This is very different compared to Andrews-Gordon identities.

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

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

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \frac{\sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \operatorname{sgn}(n) q^{(k+1) n^{2}+k n}}{(q)_{\infty}} \\
& =(q)_{\infty}^{2 k-1} \sum_{n_{1}, n_{2}, \ldots, n_{2 k-1} \geq 0} \frac{q^{\sum_{i=1}^{2 k-2} n_{i} n_{i+1}+\sum_{i=1}^{2 k-1} n_{i}}}{(q)_{n_{1}}^{2}(q)_{n_{2}}^{2} \cdots(q)_{n_{2 k-1}}^{2}}
\end{aligned}
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\end{aligned}
$$

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

## Quivers of $D$ type



The relevant double pole $q$-series is:

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

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

## Multiple edges

## Multiple edges

Quivers with multiple edges, e.g


$$
\sum_{n_{1}, n_{2} \geq 0} \frac{q^{n_{1}+n_{2}+2 n_{1} n_{2}}}{(q)_{n_{1}}^{2}(q)_{n_{2}}^{2}}=\frac{\sum_{n \geq 0} q^{n^{2}+n}}{(q)_{\infty}^{2}}
$$

## Half-characteristic theta $q$-series

## Half-characteristic theta $q$-series

New examples:
Theorem (Jennings-Shaffer-A.M.)
For $k \geq 2$,

$$
\begin{aligned}
& (q)_{\infty}^{k} \sum_{n_{1}, n_{2}, \ldots, n_{k} \geq 0} \frac{q^{n_{1} n_{2}+n_{2} n_{3}+\cdots+n_{k-1} n_{k}+n_{1}+n_{2}+\cdots+n_{k}}\left(-q^{\frac{1}{2}}\right)_{n_{1}}}{(q)_{n_{1}}^{2}(q)_{n_{2}}^{2} \cdots(q)_{n_{k}}^{2}} \\
& \quad=\frac{\left(-q^{\frac{1}{2}}\right)_{\infty}}{(q)_{\infty}}\left(\sum_{n \geq 0}+(-1)^{k} \sum_{n<0}\right)(-1)^{(k+1) n} q^{\frac{(k+2) n^{2}+(k+1) n}{2}} .
\end{aligned}
$$

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

## What about other ABG-type series?

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There are double pole identities for all $A B$ and $A G$ series and all related false theta series, but formulas are more complicated. For instance, for AG series

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Theorem (Kanade, A.M., Russell)
For $k \geq 1$, and $1 \leq i \leq k$

$$
\prod_{\substack{n \geq 1 \\ n \neq 0, \pm i(2 k+1)}} \frac{1}{\left(1-q^{i}\right)}=(q)_{\infty}^{2 k} \sum_{n_{1}, n_{2}, \ldots, n_{2 k} \geq 0} \frac{a_{i}(q) q^{\sum_{i=1}^{2 k-1} n_{i} n_{i+1}+\sum_{i=1}^{2 k} n_{i}}}{(q)_{n_{1}}^{2}(q)_{n_{2}}^{2} \cdots(q)_{n_{2 k}}^{2}}
$$

where

$$
a_{1}=1, a_{2}=2-q^{n_{1}}, a_{3}=2-2 q^{n_{1}}+q^{n_{2}}, \ldots
$$

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

## Circles, Triangles and Squares...

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$k$-cycle quiver $(k \geq 3)$ :


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## Conjecture

For $k \geq 3$,

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

## $q-M Z V s$

## q-MZVs

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

$$
\zeta_{q}\left(a_{1}, \ldots, a_{k}\right):=\sum_{n_{1}>n_{2}>\cdots>n_{k} \geq 1} \frac{q^{\left(a_{1}-1\right) n_{1}+\cdots+\left(a_{k}-1\right) n_{k}}}{\left(1-q^{n_{1}}\right)^{a_{1} \cdots\left(1-q^{n_{k}}\right)^{a_{k}}}},
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where $a_{i} \in \mathbb{N}$ and $a_{1} \geq 2$.

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$$
\zeta_{q}^{*}\left(a_{1}, \ldots, a_{k}\right):=\sum_{n_{1} \geq n_{2} \geq \cdots \geq n_{k} \geq 1} \frac{q^{\left(a_{1}-1\right) n_{1}+\cdots+\left(a_{k}-1\right) n_{k}}}{\left(1-q^{n_{1}}\right)^{a_{1} \cdots\left(1-q^{n_{k}}\right)^{a_{k}}},}
$$

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

## Another model of q-MZVs

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathfrak{z}_{q}\left(a_{1}, \ldots, a_{k}\right):=\sum_{n_{1}>n_{2}>\cdots>n_{k} \geq 1} \frac{q^{n_{1}}}{\left(1-q^{n_{1}}\right)^{a_{1} \cdots\left(1-q^{n_{k}}\right)^{a_{k}}} .} \\
& \mathfrak{z}_{q}^{*}\left(a_{1}, \ldots, a_{k}\right):=\sum_{n_{1} \geq n_{2} \geq \cdots \geq n_{k} \geq 1} \frac{q^{n_{1}}}{\left(1-q^{n_{1}}\right)^{a_{1} \cdots\left(1-q^{n_{k}}\right)^{a_{k}}} .} .
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Very active area of research.
Bradley, Hoffman, Zhao, Schlesinger, Okounkov, Zudilin, Ohno,...

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$$
\lim _{q \rightarrow 1-} \text { "recovers" } \zeta\left(a_{1}, \ldots, a_{k}\right)
$$

## Graphs series and $q-M Z V s$

## Graphs series and $q$-MZVs

Theorem (A.M.)
For every choice of positive integers $a_{1}, \ldots, a_{k}$ there is a simple graph $Z_{a_{1}, \ldots, a_{k}}$ such that

$$
H_{z_{a_{1}, \ldots, a_{k}}}(q)=\frac{q^{-1} \mathfrak{z}_{q}^{*}\left(a_{1}, \ldots, a_{k}\right)}{(q)_{\infty}^{k+a_{1}+\cdots+a_{k}}} .
$$

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

## $\mathrm{q}-\mathrm{MZVs}$ associated to simple Lie algebras

## 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 $k_{\alpha} \geq 1$,

$$
\zeta_{\mathfrak{g}, q}\left(k_{1}, . ., k_{\left|\Delta_{+}\right|}\right):=\sum_{\lambda \in P_{+}} \frac{q^{\frac{1}{2} \sum_{\alpha \in \Delta_{+}} k_{\alpha}\langle\lambda+\rho, \alpha\rangle}}{\prod_{\alpha \in \Delta_{+}}\left(1-q^{\{\lambda, \alpha+\rho\rangle}\right)^{k_{\alpha}}},
$$

where the summation is over the cone of positive dominant integral weights.
Example
For $\mathfrak{g}=\mathfrak{s l}_{2}$ and $\mathfrak{g}=\mathfrak{s l}_{3}$, and $k \geq 2$,

$$
\begin{gathered}
\sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{q^{\frac{k}{2} n}}{\left(1-q^{n}\right)^{k}} \\
\sum_{n_{1}, n_{2} \geq 1} \frac{q^{\frac{k_{1}}{2}} n_{1}+\frac{k_{2}}{2} n_{2}+\frac{k_{3}}{2}\left(n_{1}+n_{2}\right)}{\left(1-q^{n_{1}}\right)^{k_{1}}\left(1-q^{n_{2}}\right)^{k_{2}}\left(1-q^{n_{1}+n_{2}}\right)^{k_{3}}}
\end{gathered}
$$

## $\mathrm{q}-\mathrm{MZVs}$ and quasi-modularity

In parallel with standard $\mathrm{q}-\mathrm{MZV}$ s, we expect
Conjecture

$$
\zeta_{\mathfrak{g}, q}(2 k):=\zeta_{\mathfrak{g}, q}(2 k, 2 k, \ldots, 2 k) \in \mathbb{Q}\left[E_{2}, E_{4}, E_{6}\right] .
$$

## $\mathrm{q}-\mathrm{MZVs}$ and quasi-modularity

In parallel with standard $q-M Z V$ s, we expect
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$$

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

$$
\mathcal{I}_{\mathfrak{g}, k}(q):=\sum_{\lambda \in P_{+}} P_{k}(\lambda) \frac{q^{\frac{1}{2} \sum_{\alpha \in \Delta_{+}} k\langle\lambda+\rho, \alpha\rangle}}{\prod_{\alpha \in \Delta_{+}}\left(1-q^{(\lambda, \alpha+\rho\rangle}\right)^{k}},
$$

It is expected that for $k$ even $\mathcal{I}_{\mathfrak{g}, k}(q) \in \mathcal{Q} \mathcal{M}$.
Beem-Rastelli 2018, Arakawa 2018, A.M. 2022
This is known in many special cases.

