

Modularity of Nahm sums and periodicity phenomena in cluster algebras  
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# Outline

- 1 Nahm sums
- 2 Bloch groups
- 3 Cluster algebras

## Rogers-Ramanujan identities

- The Rogers-Ramanujan identities:

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{q^{n^2}}{(q; q)_n} = \frac{1}{(q, q^4; q^5)_{\infty}}, \quad \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{q^{n^2+n}}{(q; q)_n} = \frac{1}{(q^2, q^3; q^5)_{\infty}},$$

where  $(x; q)_n := (1-x)(1-qx) \cdots (1-q^{n-1}x)$ ,  $(x; q)_{\infty} := \prod_{i=0}^{\infty} (1-q^i x)$ , and  $(x_1, \dots, x_n; q)_{\infty} := (x_1; q)_{\infty} \cdots (x_n; q)_{\infty}$ .

- We have the vector-valued function on the upper-half plane

$$g(\tau) = \left( q^{-1/60} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{q^{n^2}}{(q; q)_n}, \quad q^{11/60} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{q^{n^2+n}}{(q; q)_n} \right)^{\top}$$

with  $q = e^{2\pi i \tau}$

- Modular transformations:

$$g(\tau + 1) = \begin{pmatrix} \zeta_{60}^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & \zeta_{60}^{11} \end{pmatrix} g(\tau), \quad g\left(-\frac{1}{\tau}\right) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{5}} \begin{pmatrix} \sin \frac{2\pi}{5} & \sin \frac{\pi}{5} \\ \sin \frac{\pi}{5} & -\sin \frac{2\pi}{5} \end{pmatrix} g(z).$$

where  $\zeta_N = e^{2\pi i/N}$ .

## In representation theory

- The  $q$ -series  $\sum_n \frac{q^{n^2}}{(q; q)_n}$  and  $\sum_n \frac{q^{n^2+n}}{(q; q)_n}$  are characters of the irreducible modules for the minimal model  $M(5, 2)$ .
- The Grothendieck ring of the module category is described by the Verlinde formula:

$$x_i x_j = \sum_k N_{ij}^k x_k, \quad N_{ij}^k = \sum_m \frac{S_{im} S_{jm} \bar{S}_{mk}}{S_{0m}}$$

- For  $S = \frac{2}{\sqrt{5}} \begin{pmatrix} \sin \frac{2\pi}{5} & \sin \frac{\pi}{5} \\ \sin \frac{\pi}{5} & -\sin \frac{2\pi}{5} \end{pmatrix}$ , we have

$$x^2 = 1 + x$$

where  $1 = x_2$  and  $x = x_1$  with  $x_0 = x_2$ .

## Nahm sum

- $N$ : natural number
- $A \in \mathbb{Q}^{N \times N}$ ,  $b \in \mathbb{Q}^N$ , and  $c \in \mathbb{Q}$ .
- Suppose that  $A$  is symmetric positive definite.
- $Q(n) := \frac{1}{2}n^\top A n + n^\top b + c$

## Nahm sum

$$f_{A,b,c}(q) := \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}^N} \frac{q^{Q(n)}}{(q; q)_{n_1} \cdots (q; q)_{n_N}}$$

- Nahm sums appear in conformal field theories, quantum invariants of knots, partition identities, cluster algebras, etc.
- They are  $q$ -hypergeometric series.
- For very special  $(A, b, c)$ , they can also be modular functions.

Example:

- $(A, b, c) = (2, 0, -\frac{1}{60})$  and  $(2, 1, \frac{11}{60})$  (sum sides of Rogers-Ramanujan identities)

## Nahm sum for symmetrizable matrices

- $N$ : natural number
- $A \in \mathbb{Q}^{N \times N}$ ,  $b \in \mathbb{Q}^N$ ,  $c \in \mathbb{Q}$ , and  $d \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}^N$ .
- Suppose that  $AD$  is symmetric positive definite, where  $D = \text{diag}(d)$ .
- $Q(n) := \frac{1}{2}n^\top ADn + n^\top b + c$
- Nahm sum:

### Nahm sum

$$f_{A,b,c,d}(q) := \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}^N} \frac{q^{Q(n)}}{(q^{d_1}; q^{d_1})_{n_1} \cdots (q^{d_N}; q^{d_N})_{n_N}}$$

## Mod 9 Rogers-Ramanujan type identities

- Kanade-Russell conjecture [2015] (in the form given by Kurşungöz [2019]):

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{n_1, n_2 \geq 0} \frac{q^{n_1^2 + 3n_1 n_2 + 3n_2^2}}{(q; q)_{n_1} (q^3; q^3)_{n_2}} &\stackrel{?}{=} \frac{1}{(q, q^3, q^6, q^8; q^9)_\infty}, \\ \sum_{n_1, n_2 \geq 0} \frac{q^{n_1^2 + 3n_1 n_2 + 3n_2^2 + n_1 + 3n_2}}{(q; q)_{n_1} (q^3; q^3)_{n_2}} &\stackrel{?}{=} \frac{1}{(q^2, q^3, q^6, q^7; q^9)_\infty}, \\ \sum_{n_1, n_2 \geq 0} \frac{q^{n_1^2 + 3n_1 n_2 + 3n_2^2 + 2n_1 + 3n_2}}{(q; q)_{n_1} (q^3; q^3)_{n_2}} &\stackrel{?}{=} \frac{1}{(q^3, q^4, q^5, q^6; q^9)_\infty}.\end{aligned}$$

- The LHS are the Nahm sums for  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 3 & 2 \end{pmatrix} = (\text{Cartan matrix of type } G_2)^{-1}$  with the symmetrizer  $d = (1, 3)$ .
- The linear terms are given by  $b = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$ .

## Mod 9 Rogers-Ramanujan type identities

- Define

$$g(\tau) := \begin{pmatrix} f_{A,(\frac{0}{0}),-1/18,d} & (q) \\ f_{A,(\frac{1}{3}),5/18,d} & (q) \\ f_{A,(\frac{2}{3}),11/18,d} & (q) \end{pmatrix}$$

- Assuming Kanade-Russell conjecture,  $g(\tau)$  satisfies the following modular transformation formula:

$$g(\tau + 1) = \begin{pmatrix} \zeta_{18}^{-1} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \zeta_{18}^5 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \zeta_{18}^{11} \end{pmatrix} g(\tau), \quad g\left(-\frac{1}{\tau}\right) = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 & \alpha_2 & \alpha_4 \\ \alpha_2 & -\alpha_4 & -\alpha_1 \\ \alpha_4 & -\alpha_1 & \alpha_2 \end{pmatrix} g\left(\frac{\tau}{3}\right)$$

where  $\alpha_k = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{3} \sin \frac{k\pi}{9}}$ .



## Numerical computations

- The following procedure detects, for a given  $q$ -series  $f(q)$ , whether  $q^c f(q)$  is likely modular for some  $c$ .
  1. Compute  $\phi(N) = N \log f(e^{-1/N})$  for four successive values (say  $N = 20, 21, 22, 23$ ).
  2. Take the third difference of the values computed in (1). If this value is extremely small, then the Nahm sum  $f(q)$  is likely modular.

- This is justified by the following asymptotic formula for a modular function:

$$q^c f(q) \sim \beta e^{-\alpha/\tau} + O(\varepsilon^N) \quad \text{for any } N > 0.$$

- We can search for candidates for modular Nahm sums.
- This procedure is efficient and works fine with `float64`.
- In addition, higher precision calculations can predict modular transformation formulas.
  - What is 0.84402962874598535680159510037027?
  - Integer relation algorithm: This may be  $\frac{1}{2\sqrt{3} \sin \frac{\pi}{9}}$ .

## Bloch groups

- $F$ : field
- $Z(F) :=$  the (additive) free abelian group on  $F$ .
- We denote by  $[X] \in Z(F)$  the element corresponding to  $X \in F$ .
- $A(F) := \ker d$ , where

$$d : Z(F) \rightarrow \wedge^2 F^\times, \quad [X] \mapsto X \wedge (1 - X)$$

- The **Bloch group** of  $F$  is the quotient

$$B(F) = A(F)/C(F)$$

where  $C(F) \subseteq A(F)$  is the subgroup generated by the **pentagon relation**:

$$\sum_{i \in \mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z}} [x_i] \text{ satisfying } 1 - x_i = x_{i-1}x_{i+1}.$$

If a sequence  $(x_i)_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$  satisfies  $1 - x_i = x_{i-1}x_{i+1}$  for any  $i$ , then we have  $x_i = x_{i+5}$  for any  $i$ .

- $B(F)$  is isomorphic to a certain quotient of the  $K$ -group  $K_3(F)$  [Suslin].

## Bloch groups

Example:

- The fixed point of  $1 - x_i = x_{i-1}x_{i+1}$  is obtained by solving the equation  $1 - x = x^2$ .
- Its solution is  $\xi = \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{5}}{2} \in F$ , where  $F = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5})$ .
- $[\xi] \in B(F)$  since  $d[\xi] = \xi \wedge (1 - \xi) = \xi \wedge \xi^2 = 2 \cdot \xi \wedge \xi = 0$ .
- $5[\xi] = 0$  in  $B(F)$  by the pentagon relation.

More generally,

- Let  $A \in \mathbb{Q}^{N \times N}$  be a symmetrizable matrix with symmetrizer  $d$ .
- Nahm's equation:

$$1 - x_i = \prod_j x_j^{A_{ij}}$$

- $\xi = \sum_i d_i^{-1} [x_i] \in B(F) \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Q}$  since

$$d[\xi] = \sum_i d_i^{-1} x_i \wedge (1 - x_i) = \sum_i d_i^{-1} x_i \wedge \prod_j x_j^{A_{ij}} = \sum_{i,j} d_i^{-1} A_{ij} \cdot x_i \wedge x_j = 0$$

## Nahm sums and Bloch groups

- Given  $(A, b, c, d)$ , we have
  - the Nahm sum  $f_{A,b,c,d}(q)$ ,
  - $\xi_{A,d}$  in the Bloch group for each solution of Nahm's equation.

### Nahm's conjecture

Given  $(A, d)$ , the Nahm sum  $f_{A,b,c,d}(q)$  is modular for some  $b, c$  iff  $\xi_{A,d}$  is a torsion element in the Bloch group.

- This conjecture itself is known to be false [Zagier, Vlasenko-Zwegers].

### Theorem [Calegari-Garoufalidis-Zagier 2023]

If the Nahm sum  $f_{A,b,c,d}(q)$  is modular for some  $b, c$ , then  $\xi_{A,d}$  for **distinguished solution** of Nahm's equation is a torsion element in the Bloch group.

- The Nahm's equation  $1 - x_i = \prod_j x_j^{A_{ij}}$  has a unique solution such that  $0 < x_i < 1$  for any  $i$ .
- Remark: Symmetrizable case are treated in [M. 2305.02267].

## Ingredient of the proof in CGZ

1. Asymptotic expansion of Nahm sums at roots of unity
  - Nahm's equations appear in the saddle point method.
  - The constant term is described by the **quantum cyclic dilogarithm function**.
2. Concrete construction of a Chern class map on  $K_3(F)$ 
  - $F$ : number field,
  - For any integer  $m$ , set  $F_m := F(\zeta)$  where  $\zeta$  is a primitive  $m$ th root of unity.
  - They defined an injective map

$$R_\zeta : B(F)/mB(F) \rightarrow F_m^\times / F_m^{\times m}$$

for sufficiently many  $m$ .

- Roughly,

$$R_\zeta([x]) := D_\zeta(x^{1/m})$$

where  $D(\theta)$  is the **quantum cyclic dilogarithm function**:

$$D_\zeta(\theta) := \prod_{k=1}^{m-1} (1 - \zeta^k \theta)^k.$$

## Y-systems

- Y-system associated with a pair  $(r, n)$ :

$$Y_i(u)Y_i(u - r_i) = \prod_{j=1}^N \prod_{p \in \mathbb{N}} Y_j(u - p)^{[n_{ij;p}]_+} (1 + Y_j(u - p))^{-n_{ij;p}}$$

where  $[x]_+ := \max(0, x)$ .

- $r = (r_i)_{1 \leq i \leq N}$  and  $n = (n_{ij;p})_{1 \leq i, j \leq N, p \in \mathbb{N}}$  are families of integers satisfying
  - $r_i \geq 1$
  - $n_{ij;p} = 0$  unless  $0 < p < r_i$
- The pair  $(r, n)$  can be expressed as the matrix form:

$$N_0(z) := \text{diag}(1 + z^{r_i})_i, \quad N_{\pm}(z) := \left( \sum_{p \in \mathbb{N}} [\pm n_{ij;p}]_+ z^p \right)_{i,j} \in \mathbb{N}[z]^{N \times N}$$

- Setting  $A_{\pm}(z) = \left( \sum_p a_{ij;p} z^p \right)_{i,j} := N_0(z) - N_{\pm}(z)$  and  $x_i(u) := \frac{1}{1 + Y_i(u)}$ , the Y-system is rewritten as

$$\prod_{j,p} (1 - x_j(u - p))^{a_{ij;p}^+} = \prod_{j,p} x_j(u - p)^{a_{ij;p}^-}$$

which can be regarded as an “affinization” of the Nahm’s equation.

Example:

- $A_+(z) = 1 - z + z^2$ ,  $A_-(z) = 1 + z^2$
- Y-system:

$$Y(u)Y(u-2) = \frac{1}{1 + Y(u-1)^{-1}}$$

or

$$\frac{(1 - x(u))(1 - x(u-2))}{1 - x(u-2)} = x(u)x(u-2)$$

- Periodicity:

$$Y(u) = Y(u+5), \quad x(u) = x(u+5) \quad \text{for any } u.$$

- The pair  $A_{\pm}(z)$  satisfies the **symplectic property** (with a symmetrizer  $d$ ) if

$$A_+(z)DA_-(z^{-1})^{\top} = A_-(z)DA_+(z^{-1})^{\top}.$$

(Recall: a symplectic matrix  $\begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix}$  satisfies  $AB^{\top} = BA^{\top}$ .)

## Theorem (M. 2021)

$A_{\pm}(z)$  satisfies the symplectic property iff the Y-system can be realized as the exchange relations of coefficients in a cluster algebra.

Example:

- $A_+(z) = 1 - z + z^2$ ,  $A_-(z) = 1 + z^2$
- $A_2$  quiver:

$$0 \longrightarrow 1$$

which is preserved by  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \circ \mu_0$ .



## From Y-systems to Nahm sums

- Suppose that  $A_{\pm}(z)$  satisfies the symplectic property with a symmetrizer  $d$ .
- Define matrix  $A := A_+(1)^{-1}A_-(1)$ .
- Then  $AD$  is symmetric by the symplectic property.
- If the Y-system associated with  $A_{\pm}(z)$  is periodic, then  $AD$  is positive definite [M. 2021].

### Conjecture

The Nahm sum  $f_{A,0,c,d}(q)$  is modular for some  $c$ .

Example:

- $A_+(z) = 1 - z + z^2$ ,  $A_-(z) = 1 + z^2$
- $A = 2$
- $f_{2,0,-\frac{1}{60}}(q)$  is modular.

## Dilogarithm identities

- Periodic  $Y$ -systems give dilogarithm identities in the general setting of cluster algebras [Nakanishi 2011].
- Dilogarithm values are related counting signs of tropical mutations (**sign-coherence**).

Example from Kanade-Russell conjecture:

- Recall: Assuming Kanade-Russell conjecture, the vector-valued function

$$g(\tau) := \begin{pmatrix} f_{A, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, -1/18, d} & (q) \\ f_{A, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}, 5/18, d} & (q) \\ f_{A, \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}, 11/18, d} & (q) \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{where } A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 3 & 2 \end{pmatrix},$$

$g(\tau)$  satisfies the following modular transformation formula:

$$g\left(-\frac{1}{\tau}\right) = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 & \alpha_2 & \alpha_4 \\ \alpha_2 & -\alpha_4 & -\alpha_1 \\ \alpha_4 & -\alpha_1 & \alpha_2 \end{pmatrix} g\left(\frac{\tau}{3}\right)$$

where  $\alpha_k = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{3} \sin \frac{k\pi}{9}}$ .

- Now focus on the first row (next page).

## Dilogarithm identities

$$\begin{aligned} f_{A, \left(\begin{smallmatrix} 0 & \\ 0 & \end{smallmatrix}\right), -1/18, d}(\tilde{q}) &= \frac{1}{2\sqrt{3} \sin \frac{\pi}{9}} f_{A, \left(\begin{smallmatrix} 0 & \\ 0 & \end{smallmatrix}\right), -1/18, d}(q^{1/3}) \\ &+ \frac{1}{2\sqrt{3} \sin \frac{2\pi}{9}} f_{A, \left(\begin{smallmatrix} 1 & \\ 3 & \end{smallmatrix}\right), 5/18, d}(q^{1/3}) \\ &+ \frac{1}{2\sqrt{3} \sin \frac{4\pi}{9}} f_{A, \left(\begin{smallmatrix} 2 & \\ 3 & \end{smallmatrix}\right), 11/18, d}(q^{1/3}) \end{aligned}$$

with  $q = e^{2\pi i \tau}$  and  $\tilde{q} = e^{-2\pi i/\tau}$ .

- As  $\tau$  tends to  $i\infty$ ,

$$\text{LHS} \sim \text{constant} \cdot e^{-\frac{i\tau}{2\pi}\Lambda}, \quad \text{RHS} \sim \frac{1}{2\sqrt{3} \sin \frac{\pi}{9}} e^{-\frac{2\pi i \tau}{54}}, \quad \text{where}$$

$$\Lambda = L(1 - X_1) + \frac{1}{3}L(1 - X_2), \quad (L(X) : \text{Rogers dilogarithm function})$$

and  $0 < X_1, X_2 < 1$  is a solution of the Nahm's equation.

- Thus we have

$$L(1 - X_1) + \frac{1}{3}L(1 - X_2) = \frac{2\pi^2}{27}$$

# Classification

## Problem

Classify periodic Y-systems.

Recall:  $N$  is the “number of variables” and  $r$  is the “order” of the Y-system.

- Fomin-Zelevinsky [2007]:  $r_i = 2$ ,  $n_{ij;p} \leq 0$ , and  $n_{ii;p} = 0$  for any  $i, j, p$ .  $N$ : general.
  - Cartan-Killing classification ( $A_-(1)$  is a Cartan matrix)
- Galashin-Pylyavskyy [2019]:  $r_i = 2$  and  $n_{ii;p} = 0$  for any  $i, p$ .  $N$ : general.  $d$ : trivial
  - ADE bigraphs of Stembridge [2010] ( $A_+(1)$  and  $A_-(1)$  are commuting Cartan matrices)
- Fordy-Marsh [2011], M. [2021]:  $N = 1$ .  $r$ : general.
  - $A_{\pm}(z) = (1 + z^2, 1 + z^2)$ ,  $(1 - z + z^2, 1 + z^2)$ , or  $(1 + z^2, 1 - z + z^2)$ , essentially.
- M. [2301.13239]:  $N = 2$ .  $r$ : general.  $d$ : trivial
  - Next page.

## Classification of periodic Y-systems of rank 2

$A_+(z)$	$A_-(z)$	$h_+$	$h_-$	
$\begin{pmatrix} 1+z^2 & -z \\ -z & 1+z^2 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} 1+z^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1+z^2 \end{pmatrix}$	3	2	(1)
$\begin{pmatrix} 1+z^2 & -z \\ -z-z^5 & 1+z^6 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} 1+z^2 & 0 \\ -z^3 & 1+z^6 \end{pmatrix}$	8	6	(2)
$\begin{pmatrix} 1+z^2 & -z \\ -z-z^5-z^9 & 1+z^{10} \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} 1+z^2 & 0 \\ -z^3-z^7 & 1+z^{10} \end{pmatrix}$	18	10	(3)
$\begin{pmatrix} 1+z^2 & -z \\ -z & 1+z^2 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} 1+z^2-z & 0 \\ 0 & 1+z^2-z \end{pmatrix}$	3	3	(4)
$\begin{pmatrix} 1+z^2 & -z \\ -z-z^2 & 1+z^3 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} 1+z^2-z & 0 \\ 0 & 1+z^3 \end{pmatrix}$	5	3	(5)
$\begin{pmatrix} 1+z^2 & -z \\ -z & 1+z^2-z \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} 1+z^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1+z^2 \end{pmatrix}$	5	2	(6)

- $h_{\pm}$  are “reddening lengths”. The period is some multiple of  $h_+ + h_-$ .

## Quivers for periodic Y-systems of rank 2 (page 1)

$(1, 0) \longrightarrow (2, 1)$	$(1, 1) \longleftarrow (2, 0)$	(1)
$(2, 3)$ $\swarrow \quad \nwarrow$ $(1, 0) \longrightarrow (2, 1)$ $\swarrow$ $(2, 5)$	$(2, 2)$ $\downarrow \quad \nwarrow$ $(1, 1) \longleftarrow (2, 0)$ $\swarrow$ $(2, 4)$	(2)
$(2, 5)$ $(2, 3)$ $\downarrow \quad \swarrow \quad \nwarrow$ $(2, 7)$ $(1, 0) \longrightarrow (2, 1)$ $\swarrow \quad \nwarrow$ $(2, 9)$	$(2, 4)$ $(2, 2)$ $\swarrow \quad \nwarrow \quad \downarrow$ $(1, 1) \longleftarrow (2, 0)$ $\swarrow \quad \nwarrow$ $(2, 6)$ $(2, 8)$	(3)

## Quivers for periodic Y-systems of rank 2 (page 2)

$  \begin{array}{ccc}  (1, 1) & \leftarrow & (2, 0) \\  \downarrow & & \downarrow \\  (1, 0) & \longrightarrow & (2, 1)  \end{array}  $	(4)
$  \begin{array}{ccccccc}  & & (2, 1) & & & & \\  & \swarrow & & \nwarrow & & & \\  (2, 0) & \longrightarrow & (1, 1) & \longrightarrow & (1, 0) & \longrightarrow & (2, 2)  \end{array}  $	(5)
$  (1, 0) \longrightarrow (2, 1) \longleftarrow (2, 0) \longrightarrow (1, 1)  $	(6)

## Future directions

Representation theoretic meaning? Some clues...

- vertex algebra
  - $S$ -matrices and Verlinde formula
  - interpretation of Nahm sums by principal subspaces
- quantum affine algebra
  - level restricted T-systems [Kuniba-Nakanishi-Suzuki,...]
  - categorification of cluster algebras [Hernandez-Leclerc,...]