

On principal affine \mathcal{W} -superalgebras for $\mathfrak{sl}_{n|1}$

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- 1 Quantum Symmetry from Vertex Algebras
- 2 Duality in Principal \mathcal{W} -algebras
- 3 Beyond Principal \mathcal{W} -algebras
- 4 Main Results
- 5 Examples: C_2 -cofinite/non- C_2 -cofinite Cases

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Origin of Vertex Algebras

The notion of a **vertex algebra** encodes an algebraic structure of “**quantum observables**” acting on a space of “**quantum states**” with respect to the **operator product expansion**¹.

In the early days, such a structure appeared in the representation theory of **affine Lie algebras** [Lepowsky–Wilson '79, Frenkel–Kac '80, ...].

After that, it has turned out that vertex algebras are ubiquitous in

- *2d conformal field theory* [Belavin–Polyakov–Zamolodchikov '84, ...],
- *3d topological quantum field theory* [Witten '89, ...],
- *4d superconformal field theory* [Alday–Gaiotto–Tachikawa '10, ...],

and so on.

¹The notion of OPE firstly appeared in the work of K. G. Wilson ('69).

Axioms of Vertex Algebras

Roughly speaking, a **vertex algebra** consists of

- a vector space V over \mathbb{C} ,
- a bilinear mapping $(?) \times (?)_z: V \times V \rightarrow V((z))$,
- a non-zero element $\mathbf{1}$ in V

satisfying the following conditions: for $A, B, C \in V$,

- 1 $\mathbf{1} \times_z A = A$ and $A \times_z \mathbf{1} \equiv A \pmod{V[[z]]z}$ (**unitality**);
- 2 $(A \times_{z_1-z_2} B) \times_{z_2} C \approx A \times_{z_1} (B \times_{z_2} C)$ (**associativity**);
- 3 $A \times_{z_1} (B \times_{z_2} C) \approx B \times_{z_2} (A \times_{z_1} C)$ (**locality**).

Note that we refer to $A(z) := A \times_z (?)$ as a quantum observable.

Analogy to Commutative Algebras

More precisely, the locality axiom² is given by

$$(z_1 - z_2)^n [A(z_1), B(z_2)] = 0 \quad \text{for sufficiently large } n.$$

Standard categorical notions for vertex algebras (e.g., morphisms, subquotients, simplicity, modules, ...) can be defined in a similar way to those for **unital associative commutative algebras**.

For example, we have the following lemma:

Lemma 1.1 (Tensor Products)

The tensor product of finitely many vertex algebras over \mathbb{C} carries a natural vertex algebra structure.

²See, e.g., Kac's textbook ('98, AMS) for detail.

Well-studied Building Blocks

The following two examples are building blocks in our discussion:

- **affine vertex algebras** $V^\ell(\mathfrak{g})$ (\leftrightarrow affine Lie algebras $\widehat{\mathfrak{g}}$);
- **lattice vertex algebras** V_L (\leftrightarrow integral lattices L).

Loosely speaking, an appropriate representation category of $V^\ell(\mathfrak{g})$ (resp. V_L) has an explicit description in terms of the corresponding quantum enveloping algebra³ $U_q(\mathfrak{g})$ (resp. the corresponding finite abelian group $\text{Hom}(L, \mathbb{Z})/L$ with some \mathbb{C}^\times -valued 3-cocycle⁴).

³See, e.g., [Kazhdan–Lusztig '93, '94, Finkelberg '96].

⁴See, e.g., Etingof–Gelaki–Nikshych–Ostrik's textbook ('15, AMS).

Constructions of New Vertex Algebras

More examples are obtained by the following constructions:

Definition 1.2 (Extensions and Cosets)

Let $U \hookrightarrow V$ be an embedding of vertex algebras. Then

- V is called a **vertex algebra extension** of U ,
- the commutant vertex subalgebra

$$\text{Com}(U, V) := \left\{ A \in V \mid [A(z_1), B(z_2)] = 0 \text{ for any } B \in U \right\}$$

is called the **coset vertex algebra** of U in V .

As a special case, we call $\mathcal{Z}(V) := \text{Com}(V, V)$ the **center** of V .

2d Chiral Conformal Symmetry

The **Virasoro algebra** is the universal central extension of the Lie algebra of vector fields on $S^1 = \{z = e^{2\pi\sqrt{-1}\theta}\}$, which appears as the chiral symmetry of **2d conformal field theory (CFT)**.

A vertex algebra V with a **conformal vector** ω , whose “modes”

$$L_n := \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{-1}} \oint \omega(z) z^{n+1} dz \in \text{End}(V)$$

generate the Virasoro algebra of some central charge, is referred to as a **vertex operator algebra (VOA)**.

It is well-known that the **Sugawara construction** provides affine⁵ and lattice vertex algebras with their standard conformal vectors.

⁵We need to assume that the level ℓ is not equal to the **critical level** $-h^\vee$.

Axioms of Modules

A **module** of a VOA (V, ω) consists of

- a vector space M over \mathbb{C} ,
- a bilinear mapping $(?) \circ_z (?): V \times M \rightarrow M((z))$

satisfying the following conditions: for $A, B \in V$ and $m \in M$,

- 1 $\mathbf{1} \circ_z m = m$ (**unitality**);
- 2 $(A \times_{z_1-z_2} B) \circ_{z_2} m \approx A \circ_{z_1} (B \circ_{z_2} m)$ (**associativity**);
- 3 $A \circ_{z_1} (B \circ_{z_2} m) \approx B \circ_{z_2} (A \circ_{z_1} m)$ (**locality**);
- 4 $(L_{-1}A) \circ_z m = \frac{\partial}{\partial z} (A \circ_z m)$ (**flatness condition**);
- 5 L_0 is locally finite with lower bounded eigenvalues on M .

Fundamental Problem

Let (V, ω) be a VOA and $V\text{-mod}$ the \mathbb{C} -linear abelian category of V -modules of **finite length**, i.e., having finite composition series.

When V is **C_2 -cofinite**, the number of inequivalent simple objects in $V\text{-mod}$ turns out to be **finite** [Zhu '96, Gaberdiel–Neitzke '03].

Adding mild conditions⁶, Y.-Z. Huang proved that $V\text{-mod}$ carries a **braided monoidal category** structure with respect to the **fusion product** $(?) \boxtimes (?) : V\text{-mod} \times V\text{-mod} \rightarrow V\text{-mod}$ [Huang '09, ...].

Problem 1.3 (Kazhdan–Lusztig Correspondence)

Confirm such (non-symmetric) braided monoidal categories to be rigid and various conjectural connections to quantum supergroups.

⁶We further assume that V is \mathbb{N} -graded by L_0 and $\ker(L_0 : V \rightarrow V) = \mathbb{C}1$.

Origin of Non-Symmetric Braiding

For distinct n -points $\mathbf{p} = (p_1, \dots, p_n)$ on the projective line $\mathbf{P}^1(\mathbb{C})$ and an n -tuple $\mathbf{M} = (M_1, \dots, M_n)$ of V -modules, one can define the vector space of (genus-zero) **n -point conformal blocks**⁷ by

$$\text{CB}(\mathbf{P}^1(\mathbb{C}), \mathbf{p}, \mathbf{M}) := \left(\bigotimes_{i=1}^n M_i / (\text{conformal constraints}) \right)^*.$$

Then the following functor

$$V\text{-mod} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}\text{-mod}; M \mapsto \text{CB}(\mathbf{P}^1(\mathbb{C}), (0, 1, \infty), (M_2, M_1, M^*))$$

is represented by the fusion product $M_1 \boxtimes M_2$ if it exists, and the square σ^2 is the **monodromy** of four-point conformal blocks.

⁷They glue to form a \mathcal{D} -module on the n -point configuration space of $\mathbf{P}^1(\mathbb{C})$.

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\mathcal{W} -algebras as Extensions

The smallest example of **\mathcal{W} -algebra** is the Virasoro VOA $\mathcal{W}^\ell(\mathfrak{sl}_2)$.

The second smallest \mathcal{W} -algebra $\mathcal{W}^\ell(\mathfrak{sl}_3)$ is originally introduced by A. Zamolodchikov ('85) as a higher-spin extension of the Virasoro VOA, which is no longer generated by an “elementary” Lie algebra.

General \mathcal{W} -algebras are obtained as extensions of $\mathcal{W}^\ell(\mathfrak{sl}_2)$ and play a fundamental role in the (conjectural) **2d chiral CFT/4d $\mathcal{N} = 2$ SCFT correspondence** [Beem et. al. '15,...].

We first review the most standard class, called the **principal** case.

Center of Enveloping Algebra

Let $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{n}_- \oplus \mathfrak{h} \oplus \mathfrak{n}_+$ be a triangular decomposition of a simple Lie algebra and κ the normalized symmetric invariant form on \mathfrak{g} .

The **center** $Z(\mathfrak{g})$ of the enveloping algebra $U(\mathfrak{g})$ is isomorphic to

- ① the commutant subalgebra $\text{Com}(\mathfrak{g}, U(\mathfrak{g}))$ by definition;
- ② the Weyl group-invariant subalgebra $U(\mathfrak{h})^W$ of $U(\mathfrak{h})$ through the Harish-Chandra homomorphism [Harish-Chandra '51];
- ③ the opposite algebra of \mathfrak{g} -endomorphisms⁸ on the Whittaker module $\text{Ind}_{\mathfrak{n}_+}^{\mathfrak{g}}(\chi)$, where $\chi(?) = \kappa(f, ?): \mathfrak{n}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is defined by a **principal** nilpotent element $f = f_{\text{prin}} \in \mathfrak{n}_-$ [Kostant '78].

⁸By the Frobenius reciprocity, they correspond to Whittaker vectors.

Principal Affine \mathcal{W} -algebras

Roughly speaking, the **universal principal affine \mathcal{W} -algebra** is an “affinization” of the center $Z(\mathfrak{g})$ at level $\ell \in \mathbb{C}$, denoted by $\mathcal{W}^\ell(\mathfrak{g})$.

\mathcal{W} -algebras are **NOT** generated by affine Lie algebras in general!!

Modules of the principal \mathcal{W} -algebra $\mathcal{W}^\ell(\mathfrak{g})$ are obtained by

- ① *coset construction* [Goddard–Kent–Olive '85, ...];
- ② *free field realization* [Fateev–Lukyanov '88, Feigin–Frenkel '92, ...];
- ③ *semi-infinite cohomology*⁹ [Feigin–Frenkel '90, ...].

⁹This case is also known as Becchi–Rouet–Stora–Tyutin (BRST) cohomology.

Free Field Realization

The **free field realization** of the principal affine \mathcal{W} -algebra $\mathcal{W}^\ell(\mathfrak{g})$ is a vertex algebraic analog of the Harish-Chandra Homomorphism

$$\bar{\Upsilon}: Z(\mathfrak{g}) \hookrightarrow U(\mathfrak{h}),$$

which is known as the **Miura map**

$$\Upsilon: \mathcal{W}^\ell(\mathfrak{g}) \hookrightarrow V^{\tau_\ell}(\mathfrak{h}).$$

Here τ_ℓ stands for a certain symmetric invariant form on \mathfrak{h} .

The image of the Miura map coincides with the union of kernels of rank(\mathfrak{g}) **screening operators**¹⁰.

¹⁰These operators are a vertex algebraic analog of simple reflections.

Generators of Principal \mathcal{W} -algebra

Let $D = \{d_i \mid i = 1, \dots, \text{rank}(\mathfrak{g})\}$ denote the multi-set of degrees of homogeneous polynomial generators for $U(\mathfrak{h})^W = \mathbb{C}[\mathfrak{h}^*]^W$.

It is known that the set D always contains 2 which corresponds to the **quadratic Casimir element** Ω in $Z(\mathfrak{g})$.

The counterpart to Ω gives a conformal vector ω in $\mathcal{W}^\ell(\mathfrak{g})$.

Theorem 2.1 (e.g., Feigin–Frenkel '90)

The Virasoro L_0 -operator induced by ω defines an \mathbb{N} -gradation

$$\mathcal{W}^\ell(\mathfrak{g}) = \bigoplus_{d=0}^{\infty} \mathcal{W}^\ell(\mathfrak{g})_d$$

and there exists a finite set of generators $\{J^{d_i} \in \mathcal{W}^\ell(\mathfrak{g})_{d_i}\}$ which contains the conformal vector $\omega = J^2$ of $\mathcal{W}^\ell(\mathfrak{g})$.

Langlands Dual Groups

Recall that connected complex reductive groups are determined by their **root data** up to isomorphism¹¹.

Two connected complex reductive groups are said to be **Langlands dual** to each other when their root data are dual to each other.

Let G be the **simply-connected** simple group associated to \mathfrak{g} and \check{G} denote its Langlands dual group associated to $\check{\mathfrak{g}} = \text{Lie}(\check{G})$.

We note that \check{G} is the **adjoint** group of the simple Lie algebra $\check{\mathfrak{g}}$.

Example 2.2 (Duality Between Classical Groups)

We have $\check{\text{SL}}_n = \text{PSL}_n$, $\check{\text{Spin}}_{2n} = \text{SO}_{2n}/\mathbb{Z}_2$, $\check{\text{Spin}}_{2n+1} = \text{Sp}_{2n}/\mathbb{Z}_2$.

¹¹See, e.g., Springer's textbook ('98, Birkhäuser) for detail.

Feigin–Frenkel Duality

The next theorem is known as the **Feigin–Frenkel duality**:

Theorem 2.3 (Feigin–Frenkel '92, Aganagic–Frenkel–Okounkov '18)

For arbitrary $(\ell, \check{\ell})$ satisfying $r^\vee(\ell + h^\vee)(\check{\ell} + \check{h}^\vee) = 1$, where r^\vee is the lacing number of \mathfrak{g} , there exists a vertex algebra isomorphism $V^{\tau_\ell}(\mathfrak{h}) \simeq V^{\check{\tau}_{\check{\ell}}}(\check{\mathfrak{h}})$ which restricts to $\mathcal{W}^\ell(\mathfrak{g}) \simeq \mathcal{W}^{\check{\ell}}(\check{\mathfrak{g}})$.

Remark 2.4 (Local Geometric Langlands Correspondence)

By taking a suitable limit, we obtain natural isomorphism(s)

$$\left(\mathcal{Z}(V^{-h^\vee}(\mathfrak{g})) \simeq \right) \mathcal{W}^{-h^\vee}(\mathfrak{g}) \simeq \mathcal{W}^\infty(\check{\mathfrak{g}})$$

of Poisson vertex algebras and the enveloping algebra of the last is naturally dual to the moduli space of \check{G} -opers on $\text{Spec}(\mathbb{C}((z)))$.

Beyond Principal Non-Super \mathcal{W} -algebras

Naïve Question (cf. Gaiotto–Rapčák '19)

Can we generalize the Feigin–Frenkel duality to outside of principal non-super \mathcal{W} -algebras? Are there any relationships among

- principal \mathcal{W} -**super**algebras,
- **non-principal** \mathcal{W} -algebras,

and relevant (super)geometric objects^a?

^aSee, e.g., [Zeitlin '15] for the $\mathfrak{osp}_{1|2}$ -Gaudin model and SPL_{2} -superopers.

Today's Main Topic: Feigin–Semikhatov Duality

In 2004, B. Feigin and A. Semikhatov found a mysterious clue of a possible **super/non-principal** duality which is recently proved by Creutzig–Linshaw and Creutzig–Genra–Nakatsuka, independently.

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Generalization to Non-Principal Case

Let f be a general nilpotent element in \mathfrak{g} and $\chi(?) = \kappa(f, ?)$.

The **finite \mathcal{W} -algebra**¹² $U(\mathfrak{g}, f)$ is the deformation quantization of the **Slodowy slice**, which is a Poisson transversal at χ in \mathfrak{g}^* .

Informally speaking, the **universal affine \mathcal{W} -algebra** $\mathcal{W}^\ell(\mathfrak{g}, f)$ is an “affinization” of the finite \mathcal{W} -algebra $U(\mathfrak{g}, f)$ at level ℓ .

Now let’s go into a bit more detail of its definition for later use.

¹²Originally introduced by A. Premet ('02) and generalized by Gan–Ginzburg ('02).

Good Gradings for Lie Superalgebras

Let $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g}_0 \oplus \mathfrak{g}_1$ be a complex simple Lie **superalgebra** equipped with a suitably normalized **supersymmetric** invariant form κ .

Definition 3.1 (Kac–Roan–Wakimoto '03)

A $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ -homogeneous $\frac{1}{2}\mathbb{Z}$ -gradation $\Gamma: \mathfrak{g} = \bigoplus_{j \in \frac{1}{2}\mathbb{Z}} \mathfrak{g}_j$ is said to be a **good grading** adapted to a nilpotent element $f \in \mathfrak{g}_0$ if

- 1 the nilpotent element f lies in \mathfrak{g}_{-1} ,
- 2 $\text{ad}(f)$ is injective for $j \geq 1/2$; surjective for $j \leq 1/2$.

A good grading is said to be **even** if it is a \mathbb{Z} -gradation.

Example 3.2 (Principal Non-Super Case)

The principal \mathbb{Z} -gradation Γ_{prin} of a simple Lie algebra gives an even good grading adapted to a principal nilpotent element f_{prin} .

Definition of Universal \mathcal{W} -superalgebras

Let $\Gamma: \mathfrak{g} = \bigoplus_{j \in \mathbb{Z}} \mathfrak{g}_j$ be an even good grading adapted to f and regard $X := \Pi \mathfrak{g}_{>0} \oplus \Pi \mathfrak{g}_{>0}^*$ as a symplectic vector superspace¹³.

The **quantum BRST cohomology complex** (e.g., [de Boer–Tjin '93])

$$\left(U(\mathfrak{g}) \otimes \overline{\mathcal{C}\ell}(X) \stackrel{\text{gr}}{\cong} \mathbb{C}[\mathfrak{g}^*] \otimes \mathbb{C}[X], \bar{d} = \bar{d}_{\text{CE}} + \bar{d}_f \right)$$

admits a vertex superalgebra analog (e.g., [Kac–Roan–Wakimoto '03])

$$\left(\mathcal{C}^\ell(\mathfrak{g}, f; \Gamma) := V^\ell(\mathfrak{g}) \otimes \mathcal{C}\ell(X), d = d_{\text{CE}} + d_f \right).$$

Then the corresponding cohomology $H^*(\mathcal{C}^\ell(\mathfrak{g}, f; \Gamma), d^{\text{ch}})$ turns out to be independent¹⁴ of the choice of Γ and is denoted by $\mathcal{W}^\ell(\mathfrak{g}, f)$.

¹³Here $\Pi(?)$ stands for the $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ -parity reversing functor.

¹⁴Different choices of Γ may give different conformal vectors on $\mathcal{W}^\ell(\mathfrak{g}, f)$.

Trivial & Principal Non-Super Cases

- ① Since $\Gamma_{\text{triv}}: \mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g}_0$ is adapted to $f = 0$, we have

$$\left(\mathcal{C}^\ell(\mathfrak{g}, 0; \Gamma_{\text{triv}}) = V^\ell(\mathfrak{g}), d = 0 \right)$$

and the corresponding cohomology $\mathcal{W}^\ell(\mathfrak{g}, 0)$ coincides with the **universal affine vertex superalgebra** $V^\ell(\mathfrak{g})$.

- ② When \mathfrak{g} is a Lie algebra, we have

$$\left(\mathcal{C}^\ell(\mathfrak{g}, f_{\text{prin}}; \Gamma_{\text{prin}}) = V^\ell(\mathfrak{g}) \otimes V_{\mathbb{Z}}^{\otimes \dim(\mathfrak{n}_+)}, d \right).$$

Then $\mathcal{W}^\ell(\mathfrak{g}, f_{\text{prin}})$ provides a cohomological definition of the universal principal non-super \mathcal{W} -algebra $\mathcal{W}^\ell(\mathfrak{g})$.

Miura Map for \mathcal{W} -superalgebras

Let $\Gamma: \mathfrak{g} = \bigoplus_{j \in \mathbb{Z}} \mathfrak{g}_j$ be an even good grading adapted to f .

Theorem 3.3 (Arakawa '17, Genra '17, Nakatsuka '21)

For arbitrary ℓ , there exist a supersymmetric invariant form τ_ℓ on \mathfrak{g}_0 and an injective vertex superalgebra homomorphism

$$\Upsilon_\Gamma: \mathcal{W}^\ell(\mathfrak{g}, f) \hookrightarrow V^{\tau_\ell}(\mathfrak{g}_0),$$

whose image is the union of kernels of certain screening operators.

Note that De Sole–Kac–Valeri ('16) proved its Poisson analog.

Example 3.4 (Principal Non-Super Case)

When $(\mathfrak{g}, f, \Gamma) = (\mathfrak{g}_0, f_{\text{prin}}, \Gamma_{\text{prin}})$, we get $(\mathfrak{g}_0, \tau_\ell) = (\mathfrak{h}, (\ell + h^\vee)\kappa)$.

Generators of \mathcal{W} -superalgebras

Let $\Gamma: \mathfrak{g} = \bigoplus_{j \in \mathbb{Z}} \mathfrak{g}_j$ be an even good grading adapted to f and set \mathfrak{g}^f to be the centralizer of f in \mathfrak{g} .

Theorem 3.5 (Kac–Wakimoto '04)

For a $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}$ -homogeneous basis $\{x_i \in \mathfrak{g}^f \cap \mathfrak{g}_{-j_i}\}$ of \mathfrak{g}^f , one can construct a set of generators

$$\left\{ J^{\{x_i\}} \in \mathcal{W}^\ell(\mathfrak{g}, f)_{j_i+1} \mid i = 1, \dots, \dim \mathfrak{g}^f \right\}$$

containing the conformal vector $\omega_\Gamma = J^{\{f\}}$ for $\mathcal{W}^\ell(\mathfrak{g}, f)$.

Example 3.6 (Principal Non-Super Case)

When $(\mathfrak{g}, f, \Gamma) = (\mathfrak{g}_0, f_{\text{prin}}, \Gamma_{\text{prin}})$, we have $\mathfrak{g}^f = \bigoplus_i (\mathfrak{g}^f \cap \mathfrak{g}_{-d_{i+1}})$.

Subregular \mathcal{W} -algebras of type A

Let $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{sl}_n$ and $f = f_{\text{sub}}$, a **subregular**¹⁵ nilpotent element of \mathfrak{g} .

Then there exists an even good grading Γ adapted to f such that we have $\mathfrak{g}_0 \simeq \mathfrak{sl}_2 \oplus \mathbb{C}^{n-1}$ and $\mathfrak{g}^f \cap \mathfrak{g}_0 = \mathbb{C}x_0$.

As a corollary, the element $H_{\text{sub}} := J^{\{x_0\}}$ generates a Heisenberg subalgebra π_{sub} of $\mathcal{W}^\ell(\mathfrak{g}, f)$ iff $\ell \neq -n + \frac{n}{n-1}$.

Lemma 3.7 (Creutzig–Genra–Nakatsuka '21)

The Heisenberg coset $\pi^\perp := \text{Com}(\Upsilon_\Gamma(\pi_{\text{sub}}), V^{\tau_\ell}(\mathfrak{g}_0))$ is a rank n Heisenberg vertex algebra and we have a free field realization

$$\Upsilon_\Gamma|: \text{Com}(\pi_{\text{sub}}, \mathcal{W}^\ell(\mathfrak{g}, f)) \hookrightarrow \pi^\perp.$$

¹⁵The corresponding partition (the shape of Jordan cells) is $n = (n-1) + 1$.

Principal \mathcal{W} -superalgebras of type A

Let $\check{\mathfrak{g}} = \mathfrak{sl}_{1|n}$ ($= \mathfrak{sl}_{n|1}$) and $\check{f} = f_{\text{prin}}$ in the even part $\check{\mathfrak{g}}_0 = \mathfrak{gl}_n$.

Then there exists an even good grading $\check{\Gamma}$ adapted to \check{f} such that we have $\check{\mathfrak{g}}_0 \simeq \mathfrak{gl}_{1|1} \oplus \mathbb{C}^{n-1}$ and $\check{\mathfrak{g}}^{\check{f}} \cap \check{\mathfrak{g}}_0 = \mathbb{C}\check{x}_0$.

As a corollary, the element $H_{\text{prin}} := J^{\{\check{x}_0\}}$ generates a Heisenberg subalgebra π_{prin} of $\mathcal{W}^\ell(\check{\mathfrak{g}}) := \mathcal{W}^\ell(\check{\mathfrak{g}}, \check{f})$ iff $\ell \neq -(n-1) + \frac{n-1}{n}$.

Lemma 3.8 (Creutzig–Genra–Nakatsuka '21)

The Heisenberg coset $\check{\pi}^\perp := \text{Com}(\Upsilon_{\check{\Gamma}}(\pi_{\text{prin}}), V^{\check{\tau}_\ell}(\check{\mathfrak{g}}_0))$ is a rank n Heisenberg vertex algebra and we have a free field realization

$$\Upsilon_{\check{\Gamma}}|: \text{Com}(\pi_{\text{prin}}, \mathcal{W}^\ell(\check{\mathfrak{g}})) \hookrightarrow \check{\pi}^\perp.$$

Feigin–Semikhatov Duality

The next theorem was conjectured by Feigin–Semikhatov ('04).

Theorem 3.9 (Creutzig–Genra–Nakatsuka '21, cf. Creutzig–Linshaw '20⁺)

Set $(\ell_0, h^\vee; \check{\ell}_0, \check{h}^\vee)$ to be $(-n + \frac{n}{n-1}, n; -(n-1) + \frac{n-1}{n}, n-1)$. Then, for arbitrary $(\ell, \check{\ell}) \neq (\ell_0, \check{\ell}_0)$ satisfying $(\ell + h^\vee)(\check{\ell} + \check{h}^\vee) = 1$, there is a vertex algebra isomorphism $\pi^\perp \simeq \check{\pi}^\perp$ which restricts to

$$\mathbf{FS}: \text{Com}(\pi_{\text{sub}}, \mathcal{W}^\ell(\mathfrak{sl}_n, f_{\text{sub}})) \simeq \text{Com}(\pi_{\text{prin}}, \mathcal{W}^{\check{\ell}}(\mathfrak{sl}_{1|n}))$$

through their Miura maps.

Note that a similar duality between subregular \mathcal{W} -algebras of **type B** and principal \mathcal{W} -superalgebras of **type C** is obtained in loc. cit.

Kazama–Suzuki Duality

The following theorem is a generalization of the **Kazama–Suzuki** and **Feigin–Semikhatov–Tipunin** coset construction for $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{sl}_2$.

Theorem 3.10 (Creutzig–Genra–Nakatsuka '21)

There exist two diagonal Heisenberg vertex subalgebras of rank one

$$\Delta(\pi_{\text{sub}}) \subset \mathcal{W}^\ell(\mathfrak{g}, f) \otimes V_{\mathbb{Z}}, \quad \Delta(\pi_{\text{prin}}) \subset \mathcal{W}^{\check{\ell}}(\check{\mathfrak{g}}) \otimes V_{\sqrt{-1}\mathbb{Z}}$$

such that we have natural isomorphisms

$$\mathbf{KS}: \mathcal{W}^{\check{\ell}}(\check{\mathfrak{g}}) \xrightarrow{\simeq} \text{Com}(\Delta(\pi_{\text{sub}}), \mathcal{W}^\ell(\mathfrak{g}, f) \otimes V_{\mathbb{Z}}),$$

$$\mathbf{FST}: \mathcal{W}^\ell(\mathfrak{g}, f) \xrightarrow{\simeq} \text{Com}(\Delta(\pi_{\text{prin}}), \mathcal{W}^{\check{\ell}}(\check{\mathfrak{g}}) \otimes V_{\sqrt{-1}\mathbb{Z}}),$$

which are compatible with their Miura maps.

How About Representations?

So far, we obtain the following three constructions

$$\mathbf{FS}: \operatorname{Com}(\pi_{\text{sub}}, \mathcal{W}^\ell(\mathfrak{g}, f)) \simeq \operatorname{Com}(\pi_{\text{prin}}, \mathcal{W}^\ell(\check{\mathfrak{g}})),$$

$$\mathbf{KS}: \mathcal{W}^\ell(\check{\mathfrak{g}}) \xrightarrow{\cong} \operatorname{Com}(\Delta(\pi_{\text{sub}}), \mathcal{W}^\ell(\mathfrak{g}, f) \otimes V_{\mathbb{Z}}),$$

$$\mathbf{FST}: \mathcal{W}^\ell(\mathfrak{g}, f) \xrightarrow{\cong} \operatorname{Com}(\Delta(\pi_{\text{prin}}), \mathcal{W}^\ell(\check{\mathfrak{g}}) \otimes V_{\sqrt{-1}\mathbb{Z}}).$$

The representation theory of a **\mathcal{W} -superalgebra** can be described in terms of that of the corresponding **affine vertex superalgebra**, **but** the latter has been well-studied **only in the non-super case**.

Our Problem: From Algebras to Representations

*To describe the representation theory of $\mathcal{W}^\ell(\check{\mathfrak{g}}) = \mathcal{W}^\ell(\mathfrak{sl}_{1|n}, f_{\text{prin}})$ by using the dualities and **relative semi-infinite cohomology**.*

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Category of Weight Modules

Let (V, ω) be a conformal vertex superalgebra and π its Heisenberg vertex subalgebra generated by an abelian Lie algebra \mathfrak{a} .

A V -module M is π -**weight** if it decomposes into a direct sum

$$M = \bigoplus_{\lambda \in \mathfrak{a}^*} \Omega_\lambda(M) \otimes \pi_\lambda$$

of π -modules, where π_λ stands for the Heisenberg Fock π -module, such that the coefficient $\text{Com}(\pi, V)$ -module $\Omega_\lambda(M)$ decomposes into **finite-dimensional** generalized L_0 -eigenspaces.

We write \mathcal{C}_{sub} for the category of π_{sub} -weight $\mathcal{W}^\ell(\mathfrak{g}, f)$ -modules and $\mathcal{C}_{\text{prin}}$ for that of π_{prin} -weight $\mathcal{W}^\ell(\check{\mathfrak{g}})$ -modules.

Diagonal Coset Functor

Recall that we have

$$\mathbf{KS}: \mathcal{W}^\ell(\mathfrak{sl}_{1|n}) \xrightarrow{\cong} \text{Com}(\Delta(\pi_{\text{sub}}), \mathcal{W}^\ell(\mathfrak{sl}_n, f_{\text{sub}}) \otimes V_{\mathbb{Z}}),$$

$$\mathbf{FST}: \mathcal{W}^\ell(\mathfrak{sl}_n, f_{\text{sub}}) \xrightarrow{\cong} \text{Com}(\Delta(\pi_{\text{prin}}), \mathcal{W}^\ell(\mathfrak{sl}_{1|n}) \otimes V_{\sqrt{-1}\mathbb{Z}}).$$

Let $\mathfrak{a} = \mathbb{C}H_{\text{sub}}$ and $\check{\mathfrak{a}} = \mathbb{C}H_{\text{prin}}$ be the subspaces generating π_{sub} and π_{prin} , respectively. The next proposition is our starting point.

Proposition (Creutzig–Genra–Nakatsuka–S. '21⁺)

For $\lambda \in \mathfrak{a}^*$, there exists $\check{\lambda} \in \check{\mathfrak{a}}^*$ such that the following functors

$$\Omega_\lambda^+(?) := \Omega_\lambda((?) \otimes V_{\mathbb{Z}}): \mathcal{C}_{\text{sub}} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_{\text{prin}},$$

$$\Omega_{\check{\lambda}}^-(?) := \Omega_{\check{\lambda}}((?) \otimes V_{\sqrt{-1}\mathbb{Z}}): \mathcal{C}_{\text{prin}} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_{\text{sub}}$$

are mutually quasi-inverse on appropriate full subcategories.

Cohomological Interpretation

Recall that **relative Lie algebra cohomology** plays an important role in connecting representation theory to geometric objects.

Its **semi-infinite** geometric analog is introduced by B. Feigin ('84) and Frenkel–Garland–Zuckerman ('86) for “string field theories”¹⁶.

More recently, T. Creutzig and A. Linshaw ('20⁺, '21⁺) conjectured various \mathcal{W} -superalgebras are related via the **geometric Langlands kernels** and the **relative semi-infinite cohomology**.

In this work we prove their conjecture in the simplest case!!

¹⁶For a mathematical exposition, we refer the reader to [Voronov '93].

Geometric Langlands Kernel

For $\psi^{-1} + \psi_1^{-1} = 1$, the **geometric Langlands kernel**¹⁷ is

$$A[\mathfrak{gl}_N, \psi] := \bigoplus_{\lambda \in P^+} V^{\psi^{-N}}(\lambda) \otimes V^{\psi_1^{-N}}(\lambda) \otimes V_{\sqrt{N}\mathbb{Z} + \frac{s(\lambda)}{\sqrt{N}}} \otimes \pi,$$

where P^+ is the set of dominant integral weights for \mathfrak{sl}_N , $V^k(\lambda)$ is the corresponding Weyl module, π is the Heisenberg vertex algebra generated by \mathfrak{gl}_1 , and $s: P^+ \rightarrow P/Q \simeq \mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z}$.

When $N = 1$, this is just the free field vertex superalgebra

$$\mathcal{K}_0 := A[\mathfrak{gl}_1, \psi] = V_{\mathbb{Z}} \otimes \pi,$$

which is independent of ψ .

¹⁷See [Creutzig–Gaiotto '20, Creutzig–Linshaw '20⁺] for detail.

Relative Semi-infinite Cohomology

For $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$, we have the following decomposition

$$\mathcal{K}_\lambda := V_{\mathbb{Z}} \otimes \pi_\lambda = \bigoplus_{\mu} \pi_{\text{sub}, \lambda + \mu}^\dagger \otimes \pi_{\text{prin}, \check{\lambda} + \check{\mu}},$$

where π_{sub}^\dagger has the negative level opposite to π_{sub} .

Therefore the relative semi-infinite complex¹⁸

$$C_\lambda(\widehat{\mathfrak{a}}, \mathfrak{a}, ?) := ((?) \otimes \mathcal{K}_\lambda \otimes \Lambda_{\text{rel}}^{\infty})^{\mathfrak{a}}$$

carries a level-zero $\widehat{\mathfrak{a}}$ -action and one can construct the **relative semi-infinite cohomology functor** [Frenkel–Garland–Zuckerman '86]

$$H_\lambda^+(?) := H^0(C_\lambda(\widehat{\mathfrak{a}}, \mathfrak{a}, ?), d_{\text{rel}}) : \mathcal{C}_{\text{sub}} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_{\text{prin}}.$$

¹⁸ $\Lambda_{\text{rel}}^{\infty}$ is isomorphic to the symplectic fermion vertex superalgebra of rank one.

Coset = Cohomology [1/2]

Our first main result is as follows:

Main Result A (Creutzig–Genra–Nakatsuka–S. '21⁺)

For any $\lambda \in \mathfrak{a}^*$, we have a natural isomorphism

$$\Omega_\lambda^+(?) \simeq H_\lambda^+(?) : \mathcal{C}_{\text{sub}} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_{\text{prin}}$$

of linear functors and a similar result for $\Omega_\lambda^-(?)$ as well.

For example, if we pick an object M of \mathcal{C} such that

$$M = \bigoplus_{\mu} \Omega_{\lambda + \mu}(M) \otimes \pi_{\text{sub}, \lambda + \mu},$$

then the relative semi-infinite complex $C_\lambda(\widehat{\mathfrak{a}}, \mathfrak{a}, M)$ is given by

$$\bigoplus_{\mu} \Omega_{\lambda + \mu}(M) \otimes \pi_{\text{sub}, \lambda + \mu} \otimes \pi_{\text{sub}, \lambda + \mu}^\dagger \otimes \pi_{\text{prin}, \check{\lambda} + \check{\mu}} \otimes \Lambda_{\text{rel}}^{\infty}.$$

Coset = Cohomology [2/2]

Our first main result is as follows:

Main Result A (Creutzig–Genra–Nakatsuka–S. '21⁺)

For any $\lambda \in \mathfrak{a}^*$, we have a natural isomorphism

$$\Omega_{\lambda}^{+}(?) \simeq H_{\lambda}^{+}(?): \mathcal{C}_{\text{sub}} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_{\text{prin}}$$

of linear functors and a similar result for $\Omega_{\lambda}^{-}(?)$ as well.

By using the following isomorphism [Frenkel–Garland–Zuckerman '86]

$$H^i(\pi_{\text{sub}, \lambda+\mu} \otimes \pi_{\text{sub}, \lambda+\mu}^{\dagger} \otimes \Lambda_{\text{rel}}^{\infty}, d_{\text{rel}}) \simeq \delta_{i,0} \mathbb{C},$$

we obtain the corresponding relative semi-infinite cohomology

$$H_{\lambda}^{+}(M) \simeq \bigoplus_{\nu} \Omega_{\lambda+\mu}(M) \otimes \pi_{\text{prin}, \tilde{\lambda}+\tilde{\mu}}^{\text{FS}} \simeq \Omega_{\lambda}^{+}(M).$$

Compatibility with Fusion Product

Let Q denote the \mathfrak{a} -weight set of $\mathcal{W}^{\ell}(\mathfrak{sl}_n, f_{\text{sub}})$ and

$$M_i = \bigoplus_{\mu \in Q} \Omega_{\lambda_i+\mu}(M_i) \otimes \pi_{\text{sub}, \lambda_i+\mu} \in \text{Ob}(\mathcal{C}_{\text{sub}}) \quad (\lambda_i \in \mathfrak{a}^*)$$

for $i \in \{1, 2\}$. Then our second main result is as follows:

Main Result B (Creutzig–Genra–Nakatsuka–S. '21⁺)

The fusion product $M_1 \boxtimes M_2$ exists in a certain full subcategory of \mathcal{C}_{sub} if and only if $H_{\lambda_1}^{+}(M_1) \boxtimes H_{\lambda_2}^{+}(M_2)$ exists in the corresponding full subcategory of $\mathcal{C}_{\text{prin}}$. Moreover, we have a natural isomorphism

$$H_{\lambda_1}^{+}(M_1) \boxtimes H_{\lambda_2}^{+}(M_2) \simeq H_{\lambda_1+\lambda_2}^{+}(M_1 \boxtimes M_2).$$

Lastly, we apply this result to two interesting cases!!

- 1 Quantum Symmetry from Vertex Algebras
- 2 Duality in Principal \mathcal{W} -algebras
- 3 Beyond Principal \mathcal{W} -algebras
- 4 Main Results
- 5 Examples: C_2 -cofinite/non- C_2 -cofinite Cases

C_2 -cofinite Case

Let $\mathcal{W}_\ell(\mathfrak{g}, f)$ denote the **simple quotient** of $\mathcal{W}^\ell(\mathfrak{g}, f)$ and so on.

Theorem 5.1 (cf. Creutzig–Linshaw '20⁺ for $r \geq 3$)

When $\ell = -n + \frac{n+r}{n-1}$ and $(n+r, n-1) = 1$, we have

$$\mathrm{Com}(\pi_{\mathrm{sub}}, \mathcal{W}_\ell(\mathfrak{g}, f)) \simeq \mathrm{Com}(\pi_{\mathrm{prin}}, \mathcal{W}_{\check{\ell}}(\check{\mathfrak{g}})) \simeq \mathcal{W}_{\ell_!}(\mathfrak{g}_!),$$

where $\mathfrak{g}_! = \mathfrak{sl}_r$ and $(\ell + h^\vee)^{-1} + (\ell_! + h_1^\vee)^{-1} = 1$.

Theorem 5.2 (Creutzig–Genra–Nakatsuka '21)

For ℓ as above, there is a chain of **simple current**^a extensions

$$(\mathcal{W}_{\ell_!}(\mathfrak{g}_!) \otimes V_{\sqrt{(n+r)r\mathbb{Z}}}) \otimes V_{\sqrt{n(n+r)\mathbb{Z}}} \subseteq \mathcal{W}_{\check{\ell}}(\check{\mathfrak{g}}) \otimes V_{\sqrt{n(n+r)\mathbb{Z}}} \subsetneq \mathcal{W}_\ell(\mathfrak{g}, f) \otimes V_{\mathbb{Z}}.$$

In particular, $\mathcal{W}_{\check{\ell}}(\check{\mathfrak{g}})$ is C_2 -cofinite and rational.

^aSimple invertible objects in V -mod are referred to as **simple currents** of V .

Fusion Product of $\mathcal{W}_{\ell}(\check{\mathfrak{g}})$ -modules

Finally, our last main result is as follows:

Main Result C (Creutzig–Genra–Nakatsuka–S. '21⁺)

For $(n, r) \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 2} \times \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 1}$ with $(n + r, n - 1) = 1$, the semisimple monoidal structure of

$$\mathcal{W}_{\ell}(\check{\mathfrak{g}})\text{-mod} = \mathcal{W}_{-(n-1) + \frac{n-1}{n+r}}(\mathfrak{sl}_{1|n})\text{-mod} = \mathcal{C}_{\text{prin}}$$

can be explicitly described in terms of that of

$$\mathcal{W}_{\ell}(\mathfrak{g}_!) \text{-mod} = \mathcal{W}_{-r + \frac{r+n}{r+1}}(\mathfrak{sl}_r) \text{-mod}, \quad (1)$$

$$\mathcal{W}_{\ell}(\mathfrak{g}, f) \text{-mod} = \mathcal{W}_{-n + \frac{n+r}{n-1}}(\mathfrak{sl}_n, f_{\text{sub}}) \text{-mod} = \mathcal{C}_{\text{sub}}. \quad (2)$$

Note that the structure of (1) is determined by Frenkel–Kac–Wakimoto ('92) and that of (2) for even n is by Arakawa–van Ekeren ('19⁺). We extend the latter result to all n by using the previous simple current extensions.

Non- C_2 -cofinite Case (Work in Progress)

Even if the C_2 -cofiniteness fails, we expect that a braided monoidal structure may exist on a category of appropriate modules.

In fact, at least when $\ell = -n + \frac{n}{n+1}$, $-n + \frac{n+1}{n}$, or generic,

$$\text{Com}(\pi_{\text{sub}}, \mathcal{W}_{\ell}(\mathfrak{sl}_n, f_{\text{sub}})) \simeq \text{Com}(\pi_{\text{prin}}, \mathcal{W}_{\ell}(\mathfrak{sl}_{1|n}))$$

contains a simple Virasoro VOA \mathcal{V} and we expect the following:

Strategy by Induction Method (cf. Creutzig–McRae–Yang '21)

Let (\mathcal{W}, π) denote $(\mathcal{W}_{\ell}(\mathfrak{sl}_n, f_{\text{sub}}), \pi_{\text{sub}})$ or $(\mathcal{W}_{\ell}(\mathfrak{sl}_{1|n}), \pi_{\text{prin}})$. Then the fusion product $M_1 \boxtimes M_2$ of \mathcal{W} -modules **may exist** when M_i for $i \in \{1, 2\}$ is an appropriate sum of C_1 -cofinite $\mathcal{V} \otimes \pi$ -submodules.

Future Directions [1/2]

Since there is a conjectural relationship¹⁹ between

$$\mathcal{W}_k(\mathfrak{gl}_{m|n}) \overset{?}{\longleftrightarrow} U_{q_1}(\mathfrak{gl}_{m|n}) \otimes U_{q_2}(\mathfrak{gl}_m) \otimes U_{q_3}(\mathfrak{gl}_n)$$

for appropriate $(k; q_1, q_2, q_3)$, it seems natural to expect that

$$\mathcal{E}_{\text{prin}} = \mathcal{W}_{-(n-1) + \frac{n-1}{n+r}}(\mathfrak{sl}_{1|n})\text{-mod}$$

is related with the **semisimplified** category of finite-dimensional modules for a **relevant quantum supergroup at root of unity**.

¹⁹When $m = 0$, the right-hand side corresponds to the **modular double** of $U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_n)$. See [Bershtein–Feigin–Merzon '18] for detail (cf. [Cheng–Kwon–Lam '08]).

Future Directions [2/2]

For example, the non- C_2 -cofinite subregular \mathcal{W} -algebra

$$\mathcal{B}_{n+1} := \mathcal{W}_{-n + \frac{n}{n+1}}(\mathfrak{sl}_n, f_{\text{sub}})$$

corresponds to the (A_1, A_{2n-1}) **Argyres–Douglas theory**²⁰ via the 2d/4d correspondence [Adamović–Creutzig–Genra–Yang '21].

In this context, the Feigin–Semikhatov duality can be regarded as a special case²¹ of the **\mathfrak{S}_3 -triviality** in Y -algebras [Gaiotto–Rapčák '19].

We expect that the cohomological approach is efficient as well in extending our result to more general cases (work in progress).

²⁰From this viewpoint, we may regard \mathcal{B}_2 as the free bosonic $\beta\gamma$ -system.

²¹Our case is related to $Y_{n,1,0}[\Psi]$ presented in [Gaiotto–Rapčák '19].