

An infinite-dimensional  $\square_q$ -module obtained  
from the  $q$ -shuffle algebra for affine  $\mathfrak{sl}_2$

Sarah Post   Paul Terwilliger

We will first recall the notion of a **tridiagonal pair**.

We will give three examples of a tridiagonal pair, using representations of the **Onsager algebra**, the **positive part of**  $U_q(\widehat{\mathfrak{sl}}_2)$ , and the  **$q$ -Onsager algebra**.

Motivated by these algebras we will bring in an algebra  $\square_q$ .

We will introduce an infinite-dimensional  $\square_q$ -module, said to be **NIL**.

We will describe the NIL  $\square_q$ -module from sixteen points of view.

In this description we will use the **free algebra**  $\mathbb{V}$  on two generators, as well as a  **$q$ -shuffle algebra** structure on  $\mathbb{V}$ .

# Tridiagonal pairs

The concept of a **tridiagonal pair** was introduced in 1999 by Tatsuro Ito, Kenichiro Tanabe, and Paul Terwilliger.

This concept is defined as follows.

Let  $\mathbb{F}$  denote a field.

Let  $V$  denote a vector space over  $\mathbb{F}$  with finite positive dimension.

Consider two  $\mathbb{F}$ -linear maps  $A : V \rightarrow V$  and  $A^* : V \rightarrow V$ .

# The definition of a tridiagonal pair

The above pair  $A, A^*$  is called a **tridiagonal pair** whenever:

- (i) each of  $A, A^*$  is diagonalizable;
- (ii) there exists an ordering  $\{V_i\}_{i=0}^d$  of the eigenspaces of  $A$  such that

$$A^*V_i \subseteq V_{i-1} + V_i + V_{i+1} \quad (0 \leq i \leq d),$$

where  $V_{-1} = 0$  and  $V_{d+1} = 0$ ;

- (iii) there exists an ordering  $\{V_i^*\}_{i=0}^\delta$  of the eigenspaces of  $A^*$  such that

$$AV_i^* \subseteq V_{i-1}^* + V_i^* + V_{i+1}^* \quad (0 \leq i \leq \delta),$$

where  $V_{-1}^* = 0$  and  $V_{\delta+1}^* = 0$ ;

- (iv) there does not exist a subspace  $W \subseteq V$  such that  $AW \subseteq W$ ,  $A^*W \subseteq W$ ,  $W \neq 0$ ,  $W \neq V$ .

## Definition of a tridiagonal pair, cont.

Referring to the above definition, it turns out that  $d=\delta$ .

This common value is called the **diameter** of the pair.

# The eigenvalues of a tridiagonal pair

Refer to the above tridiagonal pair  $A, A^*$ .

For  $0 \leq i \leq d$ , let  $\theta_i$  (resp.  $\theta_i^*$ ) denote the eigenvalue of  $A$  (resp.  $A^*$ ) for the eigenspace  $V_i$  (resp.  $V_i^*$ ).

The sequence  $\{\theta_i\}_{i=0}^d$  (resp.  $\{\theta_i^*\}_{i=0}^d$ ) is an ordering of the eigenvalues of  $A$  (resp.  $A^*$ ).

This ordering is called **standard**.

# Three examples of a tridiagonal pair

We now give some examples of a tridiagonal pair.

Our examples come from representation theory.

We will consider some representations of the following three algebras:

- The Onsager algebra  $\mathcal{O}$ ;
- The positive part  $U_q^+$  of  $U_q(\widehat{\mathfrak{sl}}_2)$ ;
- The  $q$ -Onsager algebra  $\mathcal{O}_q$ .

# The Onsager algebra $\mathcal{O}$

The **Onsager algebra**  $\mathcal{O}$  is the Lie algebra over  $\mathbb{C}$  defined by generators  $A, A^*$  and relations

$$\begin{aligned}[A, [A, [A, A^*]]] &= 4[A, A^*], \\ [A^*, [A^*, [A^*, A]]] &= 4[A^*, A].\end{aligned}$$

The above equations are called the **Dolan/Grady relations**.



# The Onsager algebra $\mathcal{O}$ , cont.

Let  $V$  denote a finite-dimensional irreducible  $\mathcal{O}$ -module.

Then the  $\mathcal{O}$ -generators  $A, A^*$  act on  $V$  as a tridiagonal pair.

For this tridiagonal pair the eigenvalues of  $A$  and  $A^*$  look as follows in standard order:

$$d - 2i \quad (0 \leq i \leq d).$$

# The positive part $U_q^+$

From now on, fix a nonzero  $q \in \mathbb{F}$  that is not a root of unity.

Define

$$[n]_q = \frac{q^n - q^{-n}}{q - q^{-1}} \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

# The positive part $U_q^+$

Let  $U_q^+$  denote the associative  $\mathbb{F}$ -algebra defined by generators  $A, A^*$  and relations

$$A^3 A^* - [3]_q A^2 A^* A + [3]_q A A^* A^2 - A^* A^3 = 0,$$

$$A^* A^3 - [3]_q A^* A^2 A A^* + [3]_q A^* A A^* A^2 - A^* A^3 = 0.$$

The above equations are called the  $q$ -**Serre relations**.

We call  $U_q^+$  the **positive part of**  $U_q(\widehat{\mathfrak{sl}}_2)$ .

## The positive part $U_q^+$ , cont.

Let  $V$  denote a finite-dimensional irreducible  $U_q^+$ -module on which the  $U_q^+$ -generators  $A, A^*$  are not nilpotent.

Then  $A, A^*$  act on  $V$  as a tridiagonal pair.

For this tridiagonal pair the eigenvalues of  $A$  and  $A^*$  look as follows in standard order:

$$\begin{aligned} A : & \quad aq^{d-2i} & (0 \leq i \leq d), \\ A^* : & \quad bq^{d-2i} & (0 \leq i \leq d). \end{aligned}$$

The scalars  $a, b$  depend on the  $U_q^+$ -module  $V$ .

# The $q$ -Onsager algebra $\mathcal{O}_q$

Let  $\mathcal{O}_q$  denote the associative  $\mathbb{F}$ -algebra defined by generators  $A$ ,  $A^*$  and relations

$$\begin{aligned} A^3 A^* - [3]_q A^2 A^* A + [3]_q A A^* A^2 - A^* A^3 \\ = (q^2 - q^{-2})^2 (A^* A - A A^*), \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} A^* A^3 - [3]_q A^* A^2 A A^* + [3]_q A^* A A^* A^2 - A A^* A^3 \\ = (q^2 - q^{-2})^2 (A A^* - A^* A). \end{aligned}$$

The above equations are called the  $q$ -**Dolan/Grady relations**.

We call  $\mathcal{O}_q$  the  $q$ -**Onsager algebra**.

The  $q$ -Dolan/Grady relations first appeared in Algebraic Combinatorics, in the study of  $Q$ -polynomial distance-regular graphs (Terwilliger 1993).

The  $q$ -Onsager algebra was formally introduced by Terwilliger in 2003.

Starting around 2005, Pascal Baseilhac applied the  $q$ -Onsager algebra to Integrable Systems.

# The $q$ -Onsager algebra $\mathcal{O}_q$ , cont.

Let  $V$  denote a finite-dimensional irreducible  $\mathcal{O}_q$ -module on which the  $\mathcal{O}_q$ -generators  $A, A^*$  are diagonalizable.

Then  $A, A^*$  act on  $V$  as a tridiagonal pair. For this pair the eigenvalues of  $A$  and  $A^*$  look as follows in standard order:

$$\begin{aligned} A : \quad & aq^{d-2i} + a^{-1}q^{2i-d} & (0 \leq i \leq d), \\ A^* : \quad & bq^{d-2i} + b^{-1}q^{2i-d} & (0 \leq i \leq d). \end{aligned}$$

The scalars  $a, b$  depend on the  $\mathcal{O}_q$ -module  $V$ .

# Comparing $U_q^+$ and $\mathcal{O}_q$

Consider how the algebras  $U_q^+$  and  $\mathcal{O}_q$  are related.

These algebras have at least a superficial resemblance, since for the  $q$ -Serre relations and  $q$ -Dolan/Grady relations their left-hand sides match.

We now consider how  $U_q^+$  and  $\mathcal{O}_q$  are related at an algebraic level.

To do this, we bring in another algebra  $\square_q$ .

Let  $\mathbb{Z}_4 = \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}$  denote the cyclic group of order 4.



## Definition

Let  $\square_q$  denote the associative  $\mathbb{F}$ -algebra with generators  $\{x_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{Z}_4}$  and relations

$$\frac{qx_i x_{i+1} - q^{-1} x_{i+1} x_i}{q - q^{-1}} = 1,$$
$$x_i^3 x_{i+2} - [3]_q x_i^2 x_{i+2} x_i + [3]_q x_i x_{i+2} x_i^2 - x_{i+2} x_i^3 = 0.$$

# The algebra $\square_q$ has $\mathbb{Z}_4$ symmetry

The algebra  $\square_q$  has the following  $\mathbb{Z}_4$  symmetry.

There exists an automorphism  $\rho$  of  $\square_q$  that sends  $x_i \mapsto x_{i+1}$  for  $i \in \mathbb{Z}_4$ . Moreover  $\rho^4 = 1$ .

The algebra  $\square_q$  is related to  $U_q^+$  in the following way.

## Definition

Define the subalgebras  $\square_q^{\text{even}}$ ,  $\square_q^{\text{odd}}$  of  $\square_q$  such that

- (i)  $\square_q^{\text{even}}$  is generated by  $x_0, x_2$ ;
- (ii)  $\square_q^{\text{odd}}$  is generated by  $x_1, x_3$ .

# The algebras $\square_q$ and $U_q^+$ , cont.

## Theorem

The following (i)–(iii) hold:

- (i) there exists an  $\mathbb{F}$ -algebra isomorphism  $U_q^+ \rightarrow \square_q^{\text{even}}$  that sends  $A \mapsto x_0$  and  $A^* \mapsto x_2$ ;
- (ii) there exists an  $\mathbb{F}$ -algebra isomorphism  $U_q^+ \rightarrow \square_q^{\text{odd}}$  that sends  $A \mapsto x_1$  and  $A^* \mapsto x_3$ ;
- (iii) the following is an isomorphism of  $\mathbb{F}$ -vector spaces:

$$\begin{aligned} \square_q^{\text{even}} \otimes \square_q^{\text{odd}} &\rightarrow \square_q \\ u \otimes v &\mapsto uv \end{aligned}$$

We just showed how the vector space  $\square_q$  is isomorphic to  $U_q^+ \otimes U_q^+$ .

We now describe how  $\square_q$  is related to the  $q$ -Onsager algebra  $\mathcal{O}_q$ .

## Theorem

Pick nonzero  $a, b \in \mathbb{F}$ . Then there exists a unique  $\mathbb{F}$ -algebra homomorphism  $\natural : \mathcal{O}_q \rightarrow \square_q$  that sends

$$A \mapsto ax_0 + a^{-1}x_1, \quad B \mapsto bx_2 + b^{-1}x_3.$$

The homomorphism  $\natural$  is injective.

# The algebra $\square_q$

Motivated by the previous theorem, we wish to better understand the algebra  $\square_q$ .

So we consider the  $\square_q$ -modules.

The finite-dimensional irreducible  $\square_q$ -modules were classified up to isomorphism by Yang Yang 2017.

Our topic here is a certain infinite-dimensional  $\square_q$ -module, said to be NIL.

## Definition

Let  $V$  denote a  $\square_q$ -module. A vector  $\xi \in V$  is called NIL whenever  $x_1\xi = 0$  and  $x_3\xi = 0$  and  $\xi \neq 0$ .

## Definition

A  $\square_q$ -module  $V$  is called NIL whenever  $V$  is generated by a NIL vector.



## Theorem

*Up to isomorphism, there exists a unique NIL  $\square_q$ -module, which we denote by  $\mathbf{U}$ .*

*The  $\square_q$ -module  $\mathbf{U}$  is irreducible and infinite-dimensional.*

# The NIL $\square_q$ -module $\mathbf{U}$

Recall the natural numbers  $\mathbb{N} = \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ .

## Theorem

*The  $\square_q$ -module  $\mathbf{U}$  has a unique sequence of subspaces  $\{\mathbf{U}_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  such that*

- (i)  $\mathbf{U}_0 \neq 0$ ;
- (ii) *the sum  $\mathbf{U} = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \mathbf{U}_n$  is direct;*
- (iii) *for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,*

$$x_0 \mathbf{U}_n \subseteq \mathbf{U}_{n+1}, \quad x_1 \mathbf{U}_n \subseteq \mathbf{U}_{n-1},$$

$$x_2 \mathbf{U}_n \subseteq \mathbf{U}_{n+1}, \quad x_3 \mathbf{U}_n \subseteq \mathbf{U}_{n-1},$$

where  $\mathbf{U}_{-1} = 0$ .

## Theorem

The sequence  $\{\mathbf{U}_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is described as follows.

The subspace  $\mathbf{U}_0$  has dimension 1.

The nonzero vectors in  $\mathbf{U}_0$  are precisely the NIL vectors in  $\mathbf{U}$ , and each of these vectors generates  $\mathbf{U}$ .

Let  $\xi$  denote a NIL vector in  $\mathbf{U}$ . Then for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , the subspace  $\mathbf{U}_n$  is spanned by the vectors

$$u_1 u_2 \cdots u_n \xi, \quad u_i \in \{x_0, x_2\}, \quad 1 \leq i \leq n.$$

# The NIL $\square_q$ -module $\mathbf{U}$ , cont.

Shortly we will describe the  $\square_q$ -module  $\mathbf{U}$  in more detail.

To prepare, we comment on free algebras and  $q$ -shuffle algebras.

# The free algebra $\mathbb{V}$

From now on,  $\mathbb{V}$  denotes the free associative  $\mathbb{F}$ -algebra on two generators  $A, B$ .

For  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , a **word of length**  $n$  in  $\mathbb{V}$  is a product  $v_1 v_2 \cdots v_n$  such that  $v_i \in \{A, B\}$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$ .

The **standard basis** for  $\mathbb{V}$  consists of the words.

## A bilinear form on $\mathbb{V}$

There exists a symmetric bilinear form  $(\cdot, \cdot) : \mathbb{V} \times \mathbb{V} \rightarrow \mathbb{F}$  with respect to which the standard basis is orthonormal.

Recall that the algebra  $\text{End}(\mathbb{V})$  consists of the  $\mathbb{F}$ -linear maps from  $\mathbb{V}$  to  $\mathbb{V}$ .

For  $X \in \text{End}(\mathbb{V})$  there exists a unique  $X^* \in \text{End}(\mathbb{V})$  such that  $(Xu, v) = (u, X^*v)$  for all  $u, v \in \mathbb{V}$ .

The element  $X^*$  is called the **adjoint of  $X$**  with respect to  $(\cdot, \cdot)$ .

# The automorphism $K$ of $\mathbb{V}$

We define an invertible  $K \in \text{End}(\mathbb{V})$  as follows.

## Definition

The map  $K$  is the automorphism of the free algebra  $\mathbb{V}$  that sends  $A \mapsto q^2 A$  and  $B \mapsto q^{-2} B$ .

We have  $K^* = K$ .

# The automorphism $K$ of $\mathbb{V}$ , cont.

The map  $K$  acts on the standard basis for  $\mathbb{V}$  in the following way.

For a word  $v = v_1 v_2 \cdots v_n$  in  $\mathbb{V}$ ,

$$K(v) = vq^{\langle v_1, A \rangle + \langle v_2, A \rangle + \cdots + \langle v_n, A \rangle},$$

$$K^{-1}(v) = vq^{\langle v_1, B \rangle + \langle v_2, B \rangle + \cdots + \langle v_n, B \rangle}$$

where

$\langle , \rangle$	$A$	$B$
$A$	2	-2
$B$	-2	2



# Left and right multiplication in $\mathbb{V}$

## Definition

We define four maps in  $\text{End}(\mathbb{V})$ , denoted

$$A_L, \quad B_L, \quad A_R, \quad B_R.$$

For  $v \in \mathbb{V}$ ,

$$A_L(v) = Av, \quad B_L(v) = Bv, \quad A_R(v) = vA, \quad B_R(v) = vB.$$

# Some adjoints

We now consider

$$A_L^*, \quad B_L^*, \quad A_R^*, \quad B_R^*.$$

## Lemma

For a word  $v = v_1 v_2 \cdots v_n$  in  $\mathbb{V}$ ,

$$A_L^*(v) = v_2 \cdots v_n \delta_{v_1, A},$$

$$B_L^*(v) = v_2 \cdots v_n \delta_{v_1, B},$$

$$A_R^*(v) = v_1 \cdots v_{n-1} \delta_{v_n, A},$$

$$B_R^*(v) = v_1 \cdots v_{n-1} \delta_{v_n, B}.$$

# The $q$ -shuffle algebra $\mathbb{V}$

We have been discussing the free algebra  $\mathbb{V}$ .

There is another algebra structure on  $\mathbb{V}$ , called the  **$q$ -shuffle algebra**. This is due to M. Rosso 1995.

The  $q$ -shuffle product will be denoted by  $\star$ .

For  $X \in \{A, B\}$  and a word  $v = v_1 v_2 \cdots v_n$  in  $\mathbb{V}$ ,

$$X \star v = \sum_{i=0}^n v_1 \cdots v_i X v_{i+1} \cdots v_n q^{\langle v_1, X \rangle + \langle v_2, X \rangle + \cdots + \langle v_i, X \rangle},$$

$$v \star X = \sum_{i=0}^n v_1 \cdots v_i X v_{i+1} \cdots v_n q^{\langle v_n, X \rangle + \langle v_{n-1}, X \rangle + \cdots + \langle v_{i+1}, X \rangle}.$$

The map  $K$  is an automorphism of the  $q$ -shuffle algebra  $\mathbb{V}$ .

## Definition

We define four maps in  $\text{End}(\mathbb{V})$ , denoted

$$A_\ell, \quad B_\ell, \quad A_r, \quad B_r.$$

For  $v \in \mathbb{V}$ ,

$$A_\ell(v) = A \star v, \quad B_\ell(v) = B \star v, \quad A_r(v) = v \star A, \quad B_r(v) = v \star B.$$

# Some more adjoints

We now consider

$$A_\ell^*, \quad B_\ell^*, \quad A_r^*, \quad B_r^*.$$

## Lemma

For a word  $v = v_1 v_2 \cdots v_n$  in  $\mathbb{V}$ ,

$$A_\ell^*(v) = \sum_{i=0}^n v_1 \cdots v_{i-1} v_{i+1} \cdots v_n \delta_{v_i, A} q^{\langle v_1, A \rangle + \langle v_2, A \rangle + \cdots + \langle v_{i-1}, A \rangle},$$

$$B_\ell^*(v) = \sum_{i=0}^n v_1 \cdots v_{i-1} v_{i+1} \cdots v_n \delta_{v_i, B} q^{\langle v_1, B \rangle + \langle v_2, B \rangle + \cdots + \langle v_{i-1}, B \rangle},$$

$$A_r^*(v) = \sum_{i=0}^n v_1 \cdots v_{i-1} v_{i+1} \cdots v_n \delta_{v_i, A} q^{\langle v_n, A \rangle + \langle v_{n-1}, A \rangle + \cdots + \langle v_{i+1}, A \rangle},$$

$$B_r^*(v) = \sum_{i=0}^n v_1 \cdots v_{i-1} v_{i+1} \cdots v_n \delta_{v_i, B} q^{\langle v_n, B \rangle + \langle v_{n-1}, B \rangle + \cdots + \langle v_{i+1}, B \rangle}.$$

# Comparing the free algebra and the $q$ -shuffle algebra

We now compare the free algebra  $\mathbb{V}$  with the  $q$ -shuffle algebra  $\mathbb{V}$ .

To do this, we recall the concept of a derivation.

Let  $\mathcal{A}$  denote an associative  $\mathbb{F}$ -algebra, and let  $\varphi, \phi$  denote automorphisms of  $\mathcal{A}$ .

By a  $(\varphi, \phi)$ -**derivation** of  $\mathcal{A}$  we mean an  $\mathbb{F}$ -linear map  $\delta : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  such that for all  $u, v \in \mathcal{A}$ ,

$$\delta(uv) = \varphi(u)\delta(v) + \delta(u)\phi(v).$$

# Comparing the free algebra and the $q$ -shuffle algebra

The following two lemmas are due to M. Rosso and J. Green 1995.

## Lemma

For the free algebra  $\mathbb{V}$ ,

- (i)  $A_\ell^*$  is a  $(K, I)$ -derivation;
- (ii)  $B_\ell^*$  is a  $(K^{-1}, I)$ -derivation;
- (iii)  $A_r^*$  is a  $(I, K)$ -derivation;
- (iv)  $B_r^*$  is a  $(I, K^{-1})$ -derivation.

## Lemma

For the  $q$ -shuffle algebra  $\mathbb{V}$ ,

- (i)  $A_L^*$  is a  $(K, I)$ -derivation;
- (ii)  $B_L^*$  is a  $(K^{-1}, I)$ -derivation;
- (iii)  $A_R^*$  is a  $(I, K)$ -derivation;
- (iv)  $B_R^*$  is a  $(I, K^{-1})$ -derivation.



# Some relations

We will need some relations satisfied by  $K$ ,  $K^{-1}$  and

$$A_L^*, B_L^*, A_R^*, B_R^*, A_\ell, B_\ell, A_r, B_r.$$

We acknowledge that these relations are already known to the experts, such as Kashiwara 1991, Rosso 1995, Green 1995.

# Some relations

## Theorem

We have

$$KA_L^* = q^{-2}A_L^*K,$$

$$KA_R^* = q^{-2}A_R^*K,$$

$$KB_L^* = q^2B_L^*K,$$

$$KB_R^* = q^2B_R^*K,$$

$$KA_\ell = q^2A_\ell K,$$

$$KA_r = q^2A_r K,$$

$$KB_\ell = q^{-2}B_\ell K,$$

$$KB_r = q^{-2}B_r K,$$

$$A_L^*A_R^* = A_R^*A_L^*,$$

$$A_L^*B_R^* = B_R^*A_L^*,$$

$$B_L^*B_R^* = B_R^*B_L^*,$$

$$B_L^*A_R^* = A_R^*B_L^*,$$

$$A_\ell A_r = A_r A_\ell,$$

$$A_\ell B_r = B_r A_\ell,$$

$$B_\ell B_r = B_r B_\ell,$$

$$B_\ell A_r = A_r B_\ell,$$

# Some relations, cont.

## Theorem

We have

$$A_L^* B_r = B_r A_L^*,$$

$$B_L^* A_r = A_r B_L^*,$$

$$A_R^* B_\ell = B_\ell A_R^*,$$

$$B_R^* A_\ell = A_\ell B_R^*,$$

$$A_L^* B_\ell = q^{-2} B_\ell A_L^*,$$

$$B_L^* A_\ell = q^{-2} A_\ell B_L^*,$$

$$A_R^* B_r = q^{-2} B_r A_R^*,$$

$$B_R^* A_r = q^{-2} A_r B_R^*,$$

$$A_L^* A_\ell - q^2 A_\ell A_L^* = I,$$

$$A_R^* A_r - q^2 A_r A_R^* = I,$$

$$B_L^* B_\ell - q^2 B_\ell B_L^* = I,$$

$$B_R^* B_r - q^2 B_r B_R^* = I,$$

$$A_L^* A_r - A_r A_L^* = K,$$

$$B_L^* B_r - B_r B_L^* = K^{-1},$$

$$A_D^* A_\ell - A_\ell A_D^* = K.$$

$$B_D^* B_\ell - B_\ell B_D^* = K^{-1}.$$

## Theorem

We have

$$A_\ell^3 B_\ell - [3]_q A_\ell^2 B_\ell A_\ell + [3]_q A_\ell B_\ell A_\ell^2 - B_\ell A_\ell^3 = 0,$$

$$B_\ell^3 A_\ell - [3]_q B_\ell^2 A_\ell B_\ell + [3]_q B_\ell A_\ell B_\ell^2 - A_\ell B_\ell^3 = 0,$$

$$A_r^3 B_r - [3]_q A_r^2 B_r A_r + [3]_q A_r B_r A_r^2 - B_r A_r^3 = 0,$$

$$B_r^3 A_r - [3]_q B_r^2 A_r B_r + [3]_q B_r A_r B_r^2 - A_r B_r^3 = 0.$$

## Some more relations

Applying the adjoint map to the above relations, we obtain the following relations satisfied by  $K$ ,  $K^{-1}$  and

$$A_L, B_L, A_R, B_R, A_\ell^*, B_\ell^*, A_r^*, B_r^*.$$

# Some more relations

## Theorem

We have

$$KA_L = q^2 A_L K,$$

$$KA_R = q^2 A_R K,$$

$$KA_\ell^* = q^{-2} A_\ell^* K,$$

$$KA_r^* = q^{-2} A_r^* K,$$

$$A_L A_R = A_R A_L,$$

$$A_L B_R = B_R A_L,$$

$$A_\ell^* A_r^* = A_r^* A_\ell^*,$$

$$A_\ell^* B_r^* = B_r^* A_\ell^*,$$

$$KB_L = q^{-2} B_L K,$$

$$KB_R = q^{-2} B_R K,$$

$$KB_\ell^* = q^2 B_\ell^* K,$$

$$KB_r^* = q^2 B_r^* K,$$

$$B_L B_R = B_R B_L,$$

$$B_L A_R = A_R B_L,$$

$$B_\ell^* B_r^* = B_r^* B_\ell^*,$$

$$B_\ell^* A_r^* = A_r^* B_\ell^*,$$

# Some more relations, cont.

## Theorem

We have

$$A_L B_r^* = B_r^* A_L,$$

$$B_L A_r^* = A_r^* B_L,$$

$$A_R B_\ell^* = B_\ell^* A_R,$$

$$B_R A_\ell^* = A_\ell^* B_R,$$

$$A_L B_\ell^* = q^2 B_\ell^* A_L,$$

$$B_L A_\ell^* = q^2 A_\ell^* B_L,$$

$$A_R B_r^* = q^2 B_r^* A_R,$$

$$B_R A_r^* = q^2 A_r^* B_R,$$

$$A_\ell^* A_L - q^2 A_L A_\ell^* = I,$$

$$A_r^* A_R - q^2 A_R A_r^* = I,$$

$$B_\ell^* B_L - q^2 B_L B_\ell^* = I,$$

$$B_r^* B_R - q^2 B_R B_r^* = I,$$

$$A_r^* A_L - A_L A_r^* = K,$$

$$B_r^* B_L - B_L B_r^* = K^{-1},$$

$$A_\ell^* A_R - A_R A_\ell^* = K,$$

$$B_\ell^* B_R - B_R B_\ell^* = K^{-1}.$$

## Theorem

We have

$$(A_\ell^*)^3 B_\ell^* - [3]_q (A_\ell^*)^2 B_\ell^* A_\ell^* + [3]_q A_\ell^* B_\ell^* (A_\ell^*)^2 - B_\ell^* (A_\ell^*)^3 = 0,$$

$$(B_\ell^*)^3 A_\ell^* - [3]_q (B_\ell^*)^2 A_\ell^* B_\ell^* + [3]_q B_\ell^* A_\ell^* (B_\ell^*)^2 - A_\ell^* (B_\ell^*)^3 = 0,$$

$$(A_r^*)^3 B_r^* - [3]_q (A_r^*)^2 B_r^* A_r^* + [3]_q A_r^* B_r^* (A_r^*)^2 - B_r^* (A_r^*)^3 = 0,$$

$$(B_r^*)^3 A_r^* - [3]_q (B_r^*)^2 A_r^* B_r^* + [3]_q B_r^* A_r^* (B_r^*)^2 - A_r^* (B_r^*)^3 = 0.$$



# The 2-sided ideal $J$ of the free algebra $\mathbb{V}$

Let  $J$  denote the 2-sided ideal of the free algebra  $\mathbb{V}$  generated by

$$\begin{aligned} J^+ &= A^3B - [3]_q A^2BA + [3]_q ABA^2 - BA^3, \\ J^- &= B^3A - [3]_q B^2AB + [3]_q BAB^2 - AB^3. \end{aligned}$$

The quotient algebra  $\mathbb{V}/J$  is isomorphic to  $U_q^+$ .

# The 2-sided ideal $J$ of the free algebra $\mathbb{V}$ , cont.

## Lemma

The subspace  $J$  is invariant under  $K^{\pm 1}$  and

$$A_L, B_L, A_R, B_R, A_\ell^*, B_\ell^*, A_r^*, B_r^*.$$

On the quotient  $\mathbb{V}/J$ ,

$$A_L^3 B_L - [3]_q A_L^2 B_L A_L + [3]_q A_L B_L A_L^2 - B_L A_L^3 = 0,$$

$$B_L^3 A_L - [3]_q B_L^2 A_L B_L + [3]_q B_L A_L B_L^2 - A_L B_L^3 = 0,$$

$$A_R^3 B_R - [3]_q A_R^2 B_R A_R + [3]_q A_R B_R A_R^2 - B_R A_R^3 = 0,$$

$$B_R^3 A_R - [3]_q B_R^2 A_R B_R + [3]_q B_R A_R B_R^2 - A_R B_R^3 = 0.$$

# The subalgebra $U$ of the $q$ -shuffle algebra $\mathbb{V}$

Let  $U$  denote the subalgebra of the  $q$ -shuffle algebra  $\mathbb{V}$  generated by  $A, B$ .

The algebra  $U$  is isomorphic to  $U_q^+$  (Rosso 1995).

# The subalgebra $U$ of the $q$ -shuffle algebra $V$ , cont.

## Lemma

The subspace  $U$  is invariant under  $K^{\pm 1}$  and

$$A_L^*, B_L^*, A_R^*, B_R^*, A_\ell, B_\ell, A_r, B_r.$$

On  $U$ ,

$$(A_L^*)^3 B_L^* - [3]_q (A_L^*)^2 B_L^* A_L^* + [3]_q A_L^* B_L^* (A_L^*)^2 - B_L^* (A_L^*)^3 = 0,$$

$$(B_L^*)^3 A_L^* - [3]_q (B_L^*)^2 A_L^* B_L^* + [3]_q B_L^* A_L^* (B_L^*)^2 - A_L^* (B_L^*)^3 = 0,$$

$$(A_R^*)^3 B_R^* - [3]_q (A_R^*)^2 B_R^* A_R^* + [3]_q A_R^* B_R^* (A_R^*)^2 - B_R^* (A_R^*)^3 = 0,$$

$$(B_R^*)^3 A_R^* - [3]_q (B_R^*)^2 A_R^* B_R^* + [3]_q B_R^* A_R^* (B_R^*)^2 - A_R^* (B_R^*)^3 = 0.$$

# The main results

We are now ready to state our main results, which are about the  $\square_q$ -module  $\mathbf{U}$ .

For notational convenience define  $Q = 1 - q^2$ .

# The main results

## Theorem

For each row in the tables below, the vector space  $\mathbb{V}/J$  becomes a  $\square_q$ -module on which the generators  $\{x_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{Z}_4}$  act as indicated.

module label	$x_0$	$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$
I	$A_L$	$Q(A_\ell^* - B_r^* K)$	$B_L$	$Q(B_\ell^* - A_r^* K^{-1})$
IS	$A_R$	$Q(A_r^* - B_\ell^* K)$	$B_R$	$Q(B_r^* - A_\ell^* K^{-1})$
IT	$B_L$	$Q(B_\ell^* - A_r^* K^{-1})$	$A_L$	$Q(A_\ell^* - B_r^* K)$
IST	$B_R$	$Q(B_r^* - A_\ell^* K^{-1})$	$A_R$	$Q(A_r^* - B_\ell^* K)$

module label	$x_0$	$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$
II	$Q(A_L - KB_R)$	$A_\ell^*$	$Q(B_L - K^{-1}A_R)$	$B_\ell^*$
IIS	$Q(A_R - KB_L)$	$A_r^*$	$Q(B_R - K^{-1}A_L)$	$B_r^*$
IIT	$Q(B_L - K^{-1}A_R)$	$B_\ell^*$	$Q(A_L - KB_R)$	$A_\ell^*$
IIST	$Q(B_R - K^{-1}A_L)$	$B_r^*$	$Q(A_R - KB_L)$	$A_r^*$

Each  $\square_q$ -module in the tables is isomorphic to  $\mathbf{U}$ .

# The main results, cont.

## Theorem

For each row in the tables below, the vector space  $U$  becomes a  $\square_q$ -module on which the generators  $\{x_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{Z}_4}$  act as indicated.

module label	$x_0$	$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$
III	$A_\ell$	$Q(A_L^* - B_R^* K)$	$B_\ell$	$Q(B_L^* - A_R^* K^{-1})$
IIIS	$A_r$	$Q(A_R^* - B_L^* K)$	$B_r$	$Q(B_R^* - A_L^* K^{-1})$
IIIT	$B_\ell$	$Q(B_L^* - A_R^* K^{-1})$	$A_\ell$	$Q(A_L^* - B_R^* K)$
IIIST	$B_r$	$Q(B_R^* - A_L^* K^{-1})$	$A_r$	$Q(A_R^* - B_L^* K)$

module label	$x_0$	$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$
IV	$Q(A_\ell - KB_r)$	$A_L^*$	$Q(B_\ell - K^{-1}A_r)$	$B_L^*$
IVS	$Q(A_r - KB_\ell)$	$A_R^*$	$Q(B_r - K^{-1}A_\ell)$	$B_R^*$
IVT	$Q(B_\ell - K^{-1}A_r)$	$B_L^*$	$Q(A_\ell - KB_r)$	$A_L^*$
IVST	$Q(B_r - K^{-1}A_\ell)$	$B_R^*$	$Q(A_r - KB_\ell)$	$A_R^*$

Each  $\square_q$ -module in the tables is isomorphic to  $\mathbf{U}$ .

# The main results, cont.

## Theorem

For the above  $\square_q$ -modules on  $\mathbb{V}/J$ , the elements  $x_1$  and  $x_3$  act on the algebra  $\mathbb{V}/J$  as a derivation of the following sort:

module label	$x_1$	$x_3$
I, II	$(K, I)$ -derivation	$(K^{-1}, I)$ -derivation
IS, IIS	$(I, K)$ -derivation	$(I, K^{-1})$ -derivation
IT, IIT	$(K^{-1}, I)$ -derivation	$(K, I)$ -derivation
IST, IIST	$(I, K^{-1})$ -derivation	$(I, K)$ -derivation



## Theorem

For the above  $\square_q$ -modules on  $U$ , the elements  $x_1$  and  $x_3$  act on the algebra  $U$  as a derivation of the following sort:

module label	$x_1$	$x_3$
III, IV	$(K, I)$ -derivation	$(K^{-1}, I)$ -derivation
IIIS, IVS	$(I, K)$ -derivation	$(I, K^{-1})$ -derivation
IIIT, IVT	$(K^{-1}, I)$ -derivation	$(K, I)$ -derivation
IIIST, IVST	$(I, K^{-1})$ -derivation	$(I, K)$ -derivation

# Summary

In this talk, we recalled the notion of a tridiagonal pair, and used it to motivate the algebra  $\square_q$ .

We introduced an infinite-dimensional  $\square_q$ -module, said to be NIL.

We described the NIL  $\square_q$ -module from sixteen points of view.

In this description we made use of the free algebra  $\mathbb{V}$  on two generators  $A, B$  as well as a  $q$ -shuffle algebra structure on  $\mathbb{V}$ .

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!**