A COUNTERPART OF THE VERLINDE ALGEBRA FOR THE SMALL QUANTUM GROUP

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Abstract. Let \( \overline{P} \) denote the ideal spanned by the characters of projective modules in the Grothendieck ring of the category \( \overline{C} \) of finite dimensional modules over the small quantum group \( U_q^{\text{fin}}(\mathfrak{g}) \). We show that \( \overline{P} \) admits a description completely parallel to that of the Verlinde algebra of the fusion category \( \mathcal{A} \), with the character of the Steinberg module playing the role of the identity.

1. Introduction and Notations

For a semisimple complex Lie algebra \( \mathfrak{g} \) with the root system \( R \) and the weight lattice \( P \), consider the category \( \mathcal{O} \) introduced in [BGG]. For any \( \nu \in P \) let \( L(\nu) \) and \( M(\nu) \) denote respectively the simple and the Verma module of highest weight \( \nu - \rho \), where \( \rho \) is half the sum of all positive roots, and let \( P(\nu) \) be the projective cover of \( L(\nu) \) in \( \mathcal{O} \). It is well known (e.g. [Hum1]) that for a dominant integral \( \lambda \in P_+ \) and the longest element \( w_0 \) of the Weyl group \( W \), the projective module \( P(w_0(\lambda)) \) has a particularly nice structure. It is usually called the big projective module and has a Verma flag with the multiplicity of each \( M(w(\lambda)), w \in W \), equal to one. In terms of characters, if we write
\[
chM = \sum_{\eta \in P} (\text{dim} M_\eta) e^{\eta} \in \mathbb{C}[P]
\]
for the formal character of \( M \in \mathcal{O} \), then for a big projective module we have
\[
chP(w_0(\lambda)) = \sum_{w \in W/W_\lambda} chM(w(\lambda)) = chM(0) \frac{1}{|W_\lambda|} \sum_{w \in W} e^{w(\lambda)},
\]
where \( W_\lambda \subset W \) is the stabilizer subgroup of the weight \( \lambda \). The elements
\[
f(\lambda) = \frac{1}{|W_\lambda|} \sum_{w \in W} e^{w(\lambda)}, \quad \lambda \in P_+,
\]
can be viewed as a natural basis in the space \( \mathbb{C}[P]^W \) of exponential \( W \)-invariants on the weight lattice \( P \). The relation between this basis and the basis of Weyl characters
\[
\chi(\lambda) = \frac{\sum_{w \in W} \varepsilon(w) e^{w(\lambda + \rho)}}{\sum_{w \in W} \varepsilon(w) e^{w(\rho)}} = chM(0) \sum_{w \in W} \varepsilon(w) e^{w(\lambda + \rho)}, \quad \lambda \in P_+,
\]
reflects a reciprocity between finite dimensional simple and big projective modules in the category \( \mathcal{O} \).

We will investigate a similar reciprocity in the framework of the representation theory of quantum groups at roots of unity. More precisely, we will describe a certain finite set of projective modules over the small quantum group corresponding
to $\mathfrak{g}$, whose characters are given by the same formula as above with the character of the Steinberg module replacing $\text{ch} M(0)$ (cf. [Hum2], §9). The tensor product induces a multiplication in the set of characters of these projective modules, which leads to a structure similar to the well known Verlinde algebra of characters of a certain set of simple modules over the quantum group at a root of unity. The comparative study of these two algebraic objects is the main goal of the present paper. We briefly outline the results below; the precise definitions can be found at the end of this section.

Let $Q = \mathbb{Z} R$ denote the root lattice of $\mathfrak{g}$. We will assume $R$ to be irreducible and simply laced, although the latter restriction is not essential. Fix an integer $l \geq h$, where $h$ is the Coxeter number of $R$ (later we will require $l$ to be odd and coprime to the determinant of the Cartan matrix of $R$, [B2]), and consider the shifted action of the affine Weyl group $\hat{W}_{l,Q} \cong W \ltimes lQ$ on $P$. Define the elements $\chi(\lambda)$ for nondominant weights by setting $\chi(\lambda) = \varepsilon(w)\chi(w \cdot \lambda)$ for any $\lambda \in P$, $w \in W$. Then the quotient

$$(V_r)^- \cong \mathbb{C}[P]^W / \langle (\chi(\lambda) + \chi(s \cdot \lambda))_{\lambda \in P, s - a reflection in \hat{W}_{l,Q}} \rangle$$

is isomorphic to the well known Verlinde algebra $V_r$ (Corollary 2.2). On the other hand, one can consider the natural action of the extended affine group $\hat{W}_{l,P} \cong W \ltimes lP$, where the translations are generated by the $l$-multiple weight lattice. Set $f(w(\lambda)) = f(\lambda)$ for any $\lambda \in P$, $w \in W$, and consider the quotient

$$(V_r)^+ \cong \mathbb{C}[P]^W / \langle (f(\lambda) - f(s(\lambda)))_{\lambda \in P, s - a reflection in \hat{W}_{l,P}} \rangle$$

with respect to the natural action. The algebra $(V_r)^-$ has a basis of Weyl characters with highest weights parametrized by $X$, the regular elements of the fundamental domain of $\hat{W}_{l,Q}$ action, while a basis in $(V_r)^+$ is given by $f(\lambda)$ with $\lambda \in \check{X}$, the fundamental domain of the natural action of $\hat{W}_{l,P}$. The analogy between the algebraic structures and the roles played by the two bases are self-evident. We explain below their representation-theoretical meaning.

Originally $V_r$ was introduced in [Ve] as the fusion ring with a finite number of simple objects, associated to a semisimple Lie algebra $\mathfrak{g}$ and a number $l \geq h$. The fusion category can be realized in many ways, in particular for our purposes we will view it as a subquotient of the category of finite dimensional modules over the restricted specialization of a quantum group at the $l$-th root of unity $\mathbb{A}_{\mathfrak{g}, l}$. It turns out that $(V_r)^+$ is not only a close analog of $(V_r)^-$ from the purely algebraic point of view, but it also shares many important properties of the Verlinde algebra and has a clear representation-theoretical meaning. Namely, let $St$ denote the Steinberg module, which is a simple, projective and injective object in the category of finite dimensional modules over the big quantum group $U_q^{\text{res}}(\mathfrak{g})$. Its character $\text{ch} St$ is given by the Weyl formula of the highest weight $(l - 1)\rho$. We show (Corollary 4.2) that the structure of $(V_r)^+$ defines multiplication in the ideal $Pr$ of elements corresponding to projective modules in the Grothendieck ring $\mathcal{R}$ of finite dimensional representations over the small quantum group $U_q^{\text{fin}}(\mathfrak{g})$ in the following sense:

$$[P(\lambda)][P(\mu)] = [St] \sum_{\nu} n_{\lambda,\mu}^{\nu} [P(\nu)].$$

Here elements $\{[P(\lambda)]\}_{\lambda \in \mathcal{R}} \in \mathcal{R}$ correspond to indecomposable projective modules, and the numbers $n_{\lambda,\mu}^{\nu}$ are the structure constants of the algebra $(V_r)^+$ in the
basis of \( W \)-symmetric functions \( \{ f(\lambda) \}_{\lambda \in \mathcal{X}} \). We will also see that for odd \( l > h \), coprime to the determinant of the Cartan matrix, the ideal \( \overline{Pr} \) carries a projective representation of the modular group (Proposition 4.5), whereas the algebra \( \overline{Vr} \) has this property for even \( l \).

While the Verlinde algebra has been extensively studied in the literature, the existence of its analog \( \overline{Pr} \) seems to be new. Based on the analogy between \( Vr \) and \( Pr \), we expect that the latter will have important applications in various fields where the Verlinde algebra is involved. In particular, the next natural step would be to investigate the possibility of constructing a tensor category with primary objects in one-to-one correspondence with the basis in \( \overline{Pr} \). Another open question is to identify a tensor category over the affine Lie algebra \( \hat{g} \) which corresponds to the multiplicative structure of \( \overline{Pr} \), similarly to the equivalence of the fusion categories stated in [Fin]. The contravariant equivalence between the category with finite Weyl filtrations over \( U^{res}_q(g) \) and an analogous category over \( \hat{g} \) at a fixed positive level [Soe1], provides a tool to identify the counterparts of the projective modules among the positive level representations of \( \hat{g} \), though it does not supply the tensor structure.

The paper is organized as follows: §1 contains the description of the Verlinde algebra [Al], and its restriction \( Vr \) over the small quantum group (Theorem 2.8). In §2 we study the algebraic structures behind the category of projective modules over \( U^{res}_q(g) \) (Theorem 3.4) and \( U^{fin}_q(g) \) (Theorem 3.7), and consider the obtained results in the framework of the classification of tensor ideals in the category of tilting modules \( T \) over \( U^{res}_q(g) \) [Dol]. Finally, in §4 we list the similarities of \( Vr \) and \( \overline{Fr} \).

**Definitions and notations.** We will assume that \( l \) is odd everywhere except in the description of the modular group action on the Verlinde algebra at the end of §4. Let \( g \) be a simply laced simple complex algebra with the root system \( R \) and the Weyl group \( W \). The action of \( W \) on \( P \) is given by \( s_\alpha(\mu) = \mu - \langle \mu, \alpha \rangle \alpha \) for any \( \alpha \in R, \mu \in P \), where the inner product \( \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle \) is normalized so that \( \langle \alpha, \alpha \rangle = 2 \) for all \( \alpha \in R \). We will also use the shifted action \( w \cdot \mu = w(\mu + \rho) - \rho \) for any \( w \in W, \mu \in P \), where \( \rho = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\alpha \in R_+} \alpha \). Let \( \tilde{W}_{l,Q} \) denote the affine Weyl group generated by the reflections \( \{ s_{\alpha,k} \} \) for any \( \alpha \in R_+, k \in \mathbb{Z} \). The natural and shifted actions of \( \tilde{W}_{l,Q} \) are defined by \( s_{\alpha,k}(\mu) = s_\alpha(\mu) + k\alpha \) and \( s_{\alpha,k} \cdot \mu = s_\alpha \cdot \mu + k\alpha \) for any \( \mu \in P \). The sets \( \tilde{X} = \{ \lambda \in P_+ : \langle \lambda, \alpha \rangle \leq l \} \) for all \( \alpha \in R_+ \} \) and \( \tilde{X}^{-} = \{ \lambda \in P_+ : 0 \leq \langle \lambda, \rho \rangle, \alpha \leq l \} \) for all \( \alpha \in R_+ \} \) are the fundamental domains for the non-shifted and shifted affine Weyl group actions respectively. Since the group of translations by \( lP \) is also normalized by \( W \), one can consider the semidirect product \( \tilde{W}_{l,P} \simeq W \ltimes lP \), which also naturally acts on \( P \). We define the shifted action of \( \tilde{W}_{l,P} \) on \( P \) by \( w \cdot \lambda = w(\lambda + \rho) - \rho \) for any \( w \in \tilde{W}_{l,P}, \lambda \in P \).

Let \( \Pi \subset R_+ \) denote the simple roots, and set \( r = |\Pi| \), the rank of \( g \). The affine Weyl group \( \tilde{W}_{l,Q} \) can be viewed as a Coxeter system \( (\tilde{W}_{l,Q}, S) \), where \( S = \{ s_0, s_1, \ldots, s_r \} \) is the set of reflections with respect to the walls of \( \tilde{X} \). Here \( \{ s_1, \ldots, s_r \} \) are the reflections in \( W \) corresponding to the simple roots, and \( s_0 \) is the reflection about the upper wall of \( \tilde{X} \). The length \( l(w) \) of an element in \( \tilde{W}_{l,Q} \) is defined as the smallest number \( n \), such that \( w \) is a product of \( n \) elements of \( S \).

Let \( U_q(g) \) be the Drinfeld-Jimbo quantum enveloping algebra associated to a semisimple simply-laced Lie algebra \( g \) over \( \mathbb{Q}(v) \), where \( v \) is a formal variable. It is
generated by the elements \( \{E_i, F_i, K_i^{\pm 1}\}_{i=1} \), with the standard set of relations (see e.g. [Lus]). Denote by \( U_q(\mathfrak{g})_{\mathbb{Z}} \) the \( \mathbb{Z}[v, v^{-1}] \) subalgebra of \( U_q(\mathfrak{g}) \) generated by the divided powers \( E_i^{(k)} = \frac{e_i^k}{[k]!} \) and \( F_i^{(k)} = \frac{f_i^k}{[k]!} \) and \( K_i, K_i^{-1} \) for \( i = 1 \ldots r, k \in \mathbb{N}, k \geq 1 \), where \( [k]! = \prod_{i=1}^k \frac{v^i - v^{-i}}{v - v^{-1}} \). Then the restricted quantum group \( U_q^{res}(\mathfrak{g}) \) is defined by \( U_q^{res}(\mathfrak{g}) = U_q(\mathfrak{g})_{\mathbb{Z}} \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}[v, v^{-1}]} \mathbb{Q}(q) \), where \( v \) maps to \( q \in \mathbb{C} \), which is set to be a primitive \( l \)-th root of unity. By [Lus1], we have for \( 1 \leq i \leq r \): \( E_i^l = 0, F_i^l = 0, K_i^{2l} = 1 \), and \( K_i^l \) is central in \( U_q^{res}(\mathfrak{g}) \).

Let \( U_q^{fin}(\mathfrak{g}) \) be the finite dimensional subquotient of \( U_q^{res}(\mathfrak{g}) \), generated by \( \{E_i, F_i, K_i^{\pm 1}\}_{i=1} \) over \( \mathbb{Q}(q) \), factorized over the two-sided ideal \( \langle \{K_i^l - 1\}_{i=1} \rangle \).

Then \( U_q^{fin}(\mathfrak{g}) \) is a Hopf algebra of dimension \( \dim \mathfrak{g} \) over \( \mathbb{Q}(q) \). We will use the same notations for the \( \mathbb{C} \)-algebras \( U_q^{res}(\mathfrak{g}) \) and \( U_q^{fin}(\mathfrak{g}) \), where the field \( \mathbb{Q}(q) \) is extended to \( \mathbb{C}(q) \).

Let \( \mathcal{C}_f \) denote the category of finite dimensional modules of type 1 over \( U_q^{res}(\mathfrak{g}) \), i.e. such that the central elements \( \{K_i^l\}_{i=1} \) act by 1 in any object of \( \mathcal{C}_f \). Let \( \mathcal{C}_f \) be the category of finite dimensional modules over \( U_q^{fin}(\mathfrak{g}) \). For a module \( M \) in \( \mathcal{C}_f \) (resp. \( \mathcal{C}_f \)) we will denote by \([M] \) its image in the Grothendieck ring \( \mathbb{Q}[\mathcal{C}_f] \) (resp. \( \mathbb{Q}[\mathcal{C}_f] \)). We denote by \( \mathcal{R} \) (resp. \( \mathcal{R} \)) the complexification of the ring \( \mathbb{Q}[\mathcal{C}_f] \) (resp. \( \mathbb{Q}[\mathcal{C}_f] \)). We will use the symbol \( chM \) for the formal character \( \chi(M) = \sum_{\eta \in P} \chi(\eta) \mathbb{Q}[\mathcal{R}] \), where we write \( \epsilon^\eta \) for the basis element in \( \mathbb{C}[\mathcal{P}] \) corresponding to \( \eta \in \mathcal{P} \). Then \( \mathbb{C}[\mathcal{P}] \) can be considered as a space of functionals on the subalgebra \( (U_q^{res}(\mathfrak{g}))^0 \subset U_q^{res}(\mathfrak{g}) \), which is generated by \( K_i^{\pm 1} \) and the products \( \prod_{i=1}^r \frac{K_i q^{l_i} - K_i^{-1} q^{-l_i}}{q^i - q^{-i}} \) for all \( i = 1, \ldots, r \); in particular \( e^\eta(K_\beta) = q^{<\eta,\beta>} \) for any \( \eta \in \mathcal{P}, \beta \in \mathcal{Q} \). Throughout the paper we will denote by \( f(\lambda) \) the normalized \( W \)-symmetric function \( \sum_{\mathcal{W} \lambda} \epsilon^{w(\lambda)} \mathbb{C}[\mathcal{P}]^W \), where \( \mathcal{W}_\lambda \) is the stabilizer subgroup of \( \lambda \). The Weyl character will be denoted by \( \chi(\lambda) \) with \( \chi(w \cdot \lambda) \equiv \epsilon(w) \chi(\lambda) \), \( \lambda \in \mathcal{P} \). We will use the symbol \( [f(\lambda)] \) for the element of \( \mathcal{R} \) or \( \mathcal{R} \), mapped to \( f(\lambda) \) under the isomorphism \([M] \to chM \).

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2. The fusion category

Inequivalent simple finite dimensional modules in \( \mathcal{C}_f \) are in one-to-one correspondence with the dominant weights \( P_+ \) [Lus]. The Weyl modules, also parametrized by \( P_+ \), can be defined as the quantum deformations of simple finite dimensional modules for the classical universal enveloping algebra \( U(\mathfrak{g}) \) [Lus]. They play the role of the universal highest weight modules in \( \mathcal{C}_f \). Both the Weyl modules and their duals have their characters given by the Weyl formula, though in general they are not simple over \( U_q^{res}(\mathfrak{g}) \). It follows that the Grothendieck ring of the non-semisimple category \( \mathcal{C}_f \) is isomorphic to \( \mathbb{Z}[\mathcal{P}]^W \), the isomorphism given by \([M] \to chM \). The category \( \mathcal{C}_f \) can be decomposed into a direct sum of subcategories according to the linkage principle [APW]. If simple modules \( L(\mu_1) \) and \( L(\mu_2) \) both are composition
factors of an indecomposable module $M \in C_f$, then $\mu_1 \in \hat{W}_{l,Q} \cdot \mu_2$. A tilting module is defined as an element $T$ of $C_f$ such that both $T$ and its dual $T^*$ have filtrations with factors isomorphic to Weyl modules [And], [APW1]. The indecomposable tilting modules are also parametrized by $P_+$. One of the most important properties of the non-abelian category of tilting modules $T$ is that it is closed with respect to tensor products [And], [Par]. In the present work we will need the description of a semisimple quotient of $T$, the fusion category, which we briefly outline below, following [AP].

The fusion category $\mathcal{F}_{\text{us over } U^{res}(g)}$. Let $\mathcal{R} \simeq \mathbb{C}[P]^W$ denote the algebra of characters of the category $C_f$, which is the complexification of the Grothendieck ring $[C_f]$. Then $\mathcal{R}$ has a natural basis of simple characters $\{[L(\lambda)]\}_{\lambda \in P_+}$, as well as a basis of Weyl characters $\{[W(\lambda)]\}_{\lambda \in P_+}$, and of indecomposable tilting characters $\{[T(\lambda)]\}_{\lambda \in P_+}$.

Define the first dominant alcove

$$X = \{\lambda \in P_+: (\lambda + \rho, \alpha) < 1 \text{ for all } \alpha \in R_+\}.$$ 

Theorem 2.1. [AP] Decompose the algebra of characters of the category $C_f$ into a sum

$$\mathcal{R} = Vr \oplus J,$$

where

$$Vr = \text{span}_C\{[T(\lambda)], \lambda \in X\},$$

$$J = \text{span}_C\{[T(\lambda)], \lambda \in P_+ \setminus X\}.$$ 

Then

$$J = \text{span}_C\{[W(\lambda)] + [W(s \cdot \lambda)]\}_{\lambda,s,\lambda \in P_+ \text{ are in adjacent alcoves}, s-a \text{ refl. in } \hat{W}_{l,Q}}.$$ 

We will need the following consequence of this result. Define the elements $[W(\lambda)]$ for non-dominant weights by setting $[W(w \cdot \lambda)] = \varepsilon(w)[W(\lambda)]$ for any $\lambda \in P_+$, $w \in W$.

Corollary 2.2. In the notation of Theorem 2.1, 

$$J = \text{span}_C\{[W(\lambda)] + [W(s \cdot \lambda)]\}_{\lambda \in P_+ \text{ a reflection in } \hat{W}_{l,Q}}.$$ 

Proof. Suppose that $s_H \in \hat{W}_{l,Q}$ is a reflection about a hyperplane $H \subset P$, $\lambda' = s_H \cdot \lambda$ and $\lambda'$, $\lambda$ are not in the adjacent alcoves. Then $s_H$ can be written as a composition of reflections $s_H = s_1 \ldots s_k$ such that $s_1 \cdot (\lambda_0 = \lambda) = \lambda_1$, ..., $s_k \cdot \lambda_{k-1} = \lambda_k = \lambda'$ and each two weights $\lambda_i, \lambda_{i+1}$ lie in adjacent alcoves. The number of reflections $k$ is odd, and therefore any $[W(\lambda)] + [W(s_H \cdot \lambda)] = \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} (-1)^i ([W(\lambda_i)] + [W(s_{i+1} \cdot \lambda_i)])$ belongs to $J$. By the definition of $[W(\lambda)] \in \mathcal{R}$ for $\lambda \notin P_+$, we have $[W(\lambda)] + [W(s_i \cdot \lambda)] = 0$ if $s_i$ is a reflection about one of the hyperplanes through $-\rho$, then the condition that $\lambda, s \cdot \lambda \in P_+$ can be dropped, and we get the statement of the Corollary.

The subspace $J$ is a multiplicative ideal in $\mathcal{R}$ ([AP], 3.19) and therefore the quotient $Vr \simeq \mathcal{R}/J$ is a commutative associative algebra with a unit (the Verlinde algebra). Multiplication rules in $Vr$ can be written in the basis of tilting characters:

$$[T(\lambda)] [T(\mu)] = \sum_{\nu \in X} a^\nu_{\lambda, \mu} [T(\nu)] \text{ (mod } J).$$
where \( a_{\lambda,\mu}^\nu, \lambda, \mu \in X, \nu \in P_+ \) are the coefficients of decomposition of the tensor product of two tilting modules into indecomposables. For \( \lambda \in X \), each tilting module is a Weyl module and its character is given by a unique element \([W(\lambda)] \in \mathcal{R}\).

Let \( \mathcal{T}' \) be the subcategory of \( \mathcal{T} \) whose objects are tilting modules with no indecomposable component of highest weight in \( X \). Then by the above, the subcategory \( \mathcal{T}' \) of modules with characters in \( J \) is a tensor ideal in \( \mathcal{T} \). This gives rise to a reduced tensor product structure of the category \( \mathcal{F}us \simeq \mathcal{T}/\mathcal{T}' \) with the fusion ring defined above.

The ideal \( \mathcal{T}' \subset \mathcal{T} \) admits an equivalent characterization in terms of the quantum traces. For \( \mu = \sum_{i=1}^r n_i \alpha_i \in Q, \alpha_i \in \Pi \), define \( K_\mu \equiv \prod_{i=1}^r K_i^{n_i} \), where \( n_i \in \mathbb{Z} \).

For any \( M \in \mathcal{C}_f \) and any \( U_q^{res}(\mathfrak{g}) \)-endomorphism \( \phi \) of \( M \), define the quantum trace \( tr_q(\phi) \) by setting \( tr_q(\phi) = tr(K_\mu \phi) \), where \( K_\mu = \prod_{\alpha \in R_+} K_\alpha \) and \( tr \) is the usual trace on \( M \). The quantum dimension of a module is defined to be the quantum trace of the identity morphism.

**Proposition 2.3.** Let \( M \in \mathcal{T}' \). Then for any \( U_q^{res}(\mathfrak{g}) \)-endomorphism \( \phi \) of \( M \), \( tr_q(\phi) = 0 \). In particular, \( dim_q(M) = 0 \).

Now we will consider the corresponding categorical and algebraic constructions over the small quantum group \( U_q^{fin}(\mathfrak{g}) \).

**Restriction of \( \mathcal{C}_f \) to \( U_q^{fin}(\mathfrak{g}) \).** The category \( \mathcal{C}_f \) of finite dimensional modules over \( U_q^{fin}(\mathfrak{g}) \) inherits many of its properties from the category \( \mathcal{C}_f \). Simple modules in \( \mathcal{C}_f \) are parametrized by their highest weights, and inequivalent simple modules are the restrictions of those over \( U_q^{res}(\mathfrak{g}) \) with the restricted highest weights \( P_l \equiv \{ \lambda \in P_+ : \langle \lambda, \alpha_i \rangle \leq l - 1 \) for all \( \alpha_i \in \Pi \} \). Define the character of a simple module \( L(\lambda), \lambda \in P_l \) over \( U_q^{fin}(\mathfrak{g}) \) to be the corresponding element \([L(\eta)]\) of the Grothendieck ring \( \mathcal{C}_f \) of the category \( \mathcal{C}_f \). Then for any finite dimensional \( U_q^{fin}(\mathfrak{g}) \)-module \( M \) with composition factors \( L(\eta) \) of multiplicities \( n_\eta \), define the character of \( M \) by the formula

\[
[M] = \sum_{\eta \in P_l} n_\eta [L(\eta)] \in [\mathcal{C}_f].
\]

The characters of simple modules \( \{[L(\eta)]\}_{\eta \in P_l} \) form a basis in \( \mathcal{R} \), the complexification of the Grothendieck ring \( \mathcal{C}_f \). The multiplicative structure of the algebra \( \mathcal{R} \) can be obtained from that of \( \mathcal{R} \simeq \mathbb{C}[P]^W \) using the tensor product decomposition for simple modules \( \{L(\mu)\}_{\mu \in P_+} \) over \( U_q^{res}(\mathfrak{g}) \):

**Theorem 2.4.** Let \( \mu = \mu_0 + l \mu_1 \in P_+ \) be a dominant weight such that \( 0 \leq \langle \mu_0, \alpha_i \rangle \leq l - 1 \) for all \( \alpha_i \in \Pi \). Then

\[
L(\mu_0 + l \mu_1) \simeq L(\mu_0) \otimes L(l \mu_1)
\]

as \( U_q^{res}(\mathfrak{g}) \)-modules. The restriction of \( L(\mu_0) \) to \( U_q^{fin}(\mathfrak{g}) \) is a simple \( U_q^{fin}(\mathfrak{g}) \)-module.

The subquotient \( U_q^{fin}(\mathfrak{g}) \) of \( U_q^{res}(\mathfrak{g}) \) acts trivially on the simple module \( L(l \mu_1), \) whose weights are all in \( LP \). By restriction, simple \( U_q^{res}(\mathfrak{g}) \)-modules of type 1 are modules over \( U_q^{fin}(\mathfrak{g}) \). Therefore, the algebra of characters \( \mathcal{R} \) of \( U_q^{fin}(\mathfrak{g}) \)-modules can be obtained from that of \( U_q^{res}(\mathfrak{g}) \) by setting the characters of simple modules with \( l \)-multiple highest weights equal to their dimensions, and we get
Corollary 2.5. The following diagram commutes:

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
\mathcal{R} & \longrightarrow & \bar{\mathcal{R}} \\
\mathcal{C}[P]^W & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{C}[P]^W \otimes_{\mathcal{C}[P]^W} \mathbb{C},
\end{array}
\]

where $\mathbb{C}[P]^W \longrightarrow \mathbb{C}$ maps each element to its value at 1.

The isomorphisms $\mathcal{R} \simeq \mathbb{C}[P]^W$ and $\bar{\mathcal{R}} \simeq (\mathbb{C}[P]^W \otimes_{\mathcal{C}[P]^W} \mathbb{C})$ of Corollary 2.4 will be denoted by $\psi$ and $\bar{\psi}$, respectively. For an element $g \in \mathcal{R}$, we will write $\bar{g}$ for its image in $\bar{\mathcal{R}}$ under the homomorphism $\mathcal{R} \rightarrow \bar{\mathcal{R}}$ induced by the restriction of $U_q^{\text{res}}(\mathfrak{g})$-modules to $U_q^{\text{fin}}(\mathfrak{g})$.

We are interested in the multiplicative structures associated to the category $\bar{\mathcal{C}}_f$. Since it is not semisimple (which is inherited from non-semisimplicity of $\mathcal{C}_f$), the algebra of characters described in Corollary 2.5 gives only partial information, namely the multiplicities of simple modules in the filtration of a tensor product. As the algebra of characters described in Corollary 2.5 gives only partial information, this suggests to consider the restriction of tilting modules over $U_q^{\text{fin}}(\mathfrak{g})$.

Proposition 2.6. The characters $\{[T(\lambda)]\}_{\lambda \in P_1}$ form a basis in $\bar{\mathcal{R}}$.

Proof. Define a partial ordering in $P_1$ by $\lambda \geq' \mu$ if there exists a weight $\mu_1 \in P_+ \setminus P_i$ such that $\lambda = \mu + l\mu_1$ in the usual ordering in $P$. Then the basis of tilting characters is connected to $\{(L(\eta))\}_{\eta \in P_1} \in \bar{\mathcal{R}}$ by a triangular transformation with respect to the ordering $\geq'$. \hfill $\Box$

It should be mentioned that the restrictions of tilting modules are not tilting over $U_q^{\text{fin}}(\mathfrak{g})$ in the sense of the abstract definition. Still, since $U_q^{\text{fin}}(\mathfrak{g})$ inherits the coalgebra structure from $U_q^{\text{res}}(\mathfrak{g})$, the set of restrictions of tilting modules to $U_q^{\text{fin}}(\mathfrak{g})$ is closed under the tensor product.

The fusion category considered over $U_q^{\text{fin}}(\mathfrak{g})$. The fusion category was constructed over $U_q^{\text{res}}(\mathfrak{g})$ as a quotient of the category of tilting modules. The same structure can be considered over the finite dimensional algebra $U_q^{\text{fin}}(\mathfrak{g})$. Let $\mathcal{T}$ be the subcategory of $\bar{\mathcal{C}}_f$ whose objects are the restrictions of $U_q^{\text{res}}(\mathfrak{g})$-tilting modules to $U_q^{\text{fin}}(\mathfrak{g})$. Then it is closed under the tensor products. The ideal $\mathcal{T}' \subset \mathcal{T}$ restricts to the set of the restrictions of tilting modules with indecomposable components (over $U_q^{\text{res}}(\mathfrak{g})$) of highest weights in $P_+ \setminus X$. The subcategory $\mathcal{T}'$ of $\mathcal{T}$ whose objects are the restrictions of tilting modules in $\mathcal{T}'$, is closed under tensor products.

Let $\mathcal{V} \mathcal{T}$ denote the quotient $\mathcal{R}/\mathcal{J}$, where $\mathcal{J}$ is the image of the ideal $\mathcal{J}$ under the homomorphism $\mathcal{R} \rightarrow \mathcal{R}$, sending the character of a $U_q^{\text{res}}(\mathfrak{g})$-module to the character of its restriction over $U_q^{\text{fin}}(\mathfrak{g})$. Then the algebra structure in $\mathcal{V} \mathcal{T}$ corresponds to the truncated tensor product of the restrictions of tilting modules with no indecomposable components of highest weight in $P_+ \setminus X$.

To describe the ideal $\mathcal{J}$ of $\mathcal{R}$, we have to introduce the action of the affine Weyl group in $P_1$.

Note that the natural (non-shifted) action of the affine Weyl group $\tilde{W}_{l,Q}$ on $P$ preserves the $lP$-lattice in $P$:

$$s_{\alpha,k}(l\mu) = l\mu - l(\alpha,\mu)\alpha + kl\alpha \in lP.$$
Similarly, the shifted action of $\hat{W}_{l,Q}$ on $P$ preserves the shifted lattice $lP - \rho$. Therefore, the following actions of $\hat{W}_{l,Q}$ on $P_l$ can be defined:

1. the natural (non-shifted) action

$$w \circ \lambda = w(\lambda) \mod(lP)$$

for any $\lambda \in (P/lP)_+$, $w \in \hat{W}_{l,Q}$, and

2. the shifted action

$$w \bullet \lambda = (w \cdot \lambda) \mod(lP)$$

for any $\lambda \in P_l$, $w \in \hat{W}_{l,Q}$

By definition, the results of both actions belong again to $P_l$.

Since $lQ \subset lP$, it is enough to consider the $\circ$- and $\bullet$-actions of elements $w \in W$ of the finite Weyl group.

Recall that the affine Weyl group $\hat{W}_{l,Q}$ is isomorphic to $W \ltimes lQ$, where $lQ$ generate the translations by $l$-multiple roots, and consider the affine group $\hat{W}_{l,P} = W \ltimes lP$, where the translations are generated by the $lP$ lattice. Let $\Omega$ be the subgroup of $\hat{W}_{l,P}$ stabilizing the alcove $\hat{X}$ (resp. $\hat{X}$) with respect to the shifted (resp. non-shifted) action. Suppose that $lP \cap Q = lQ$. This condition is always satisfied if the number $l$ is such that $\gcd(l, \det a_{ij}) = 1$ for the Cartan matrix $a_{ij}$ of $\mathfrak{g}$. To simplify the subsequent considerations, we will assume that this condition holds, and also that $l \geq h$ for the root system $R$ of $\mathfrak{g}$.

Then by [Hum3] $\hat{W}_{l,Q} \cap \Omega = 1$, so in fact $\hat{W}_{l,P}$ is the semidirect product of $\hat{W}_{l,Q}$ and $\Omega$, and $\Omega \simeq \hat{W}_{l,P}/\hat{W}_{l,Q}$. The order of $\Omega$ is equal to $|\hat{W}_{l,P}/\hat{W}_{l,Q}| = |P/Q|$, the index of connection.

Denote by $\hat{X}$ the set of representatives for the orbits of the non-shifted action of $\Omega$ in the alcove $\hat{X}$. Similarly, let $\hat{X}' = \hat{X}/\Omega$ be the set of representatives for the orbits of $\Omega$ with respect to the shifted action. Then $\hat{X}$ and $\hat{X}'$ are the fundamental domains for the $W \circ$ and $W \bullet$-actions respectively, and $|\hat{X}| = |\hat{X}'|$. Let $\hat{X} \subset \hat{X}'$ denote the subset of regular weights in $\hat{X}$, such that their stabilizer in $W$ with respect to the $\bullet$-action is trivial.

The $W \bullet$-action is designed to formulate the linkage principle for $U_q^{fin}(\mathfrak{g})$:

**Proposition 2.7.** If two simple modules $L(\mu)$ and $L(\lambda)$ both are composition factors in a filtration of an indecomposable $U_q^{fin}(\mathfrak{g})$-module, then $\mu \in W \bullet \lambda$.

**Proof.** Consider the graded version $U_q^{fin}(\mathfrak{g})$ of $U_q^{fin}(\mathfrak{g})$ with $(U_q^{fin}(\mathfrak{g}))^0 \simeq (U_q^{res}(\mathfrak{g}))^0$, as defined in e.g. [AJS], §1.3, in which the toric part coincides with that of $U_q^{res}(\mathfrak{g})$.

Then two simple modules $\mathcal{L}(\lambda)$ and $\mathcal{L}(\mu)$ both are composition factors in an indecomposable $U_q^{fin}(\mathfrak{g})$-module if and only if $\lambda \in \hat{W}_{l,Q} \cdot \mu$ [AJS], §6.7. In the non-graded setting this means that any two simple composition factors of an indecomposable module have their highest weights in a $\hat{W}_{l,Q}$-orbit restricted modulo $lP$, which coincides with the definition of an orbit of $W \bullet$-action. In particular, this means that the set $\hat{X}$ enumerates the blocks of the category $\mathcal{C}_f$. \hfill $\square$

**Theorem 2.8.** Let $\bar{J} \subset \bar{R}$ be the image of $J \subset R$ under the homomorphism $R \to \bar{R}$. Then

$$\bar{J} = \text{span}_C \{ [W(\lambda)] + [W(s \bullet \lambda)] \}_{\lambda \in P_l, s - a \text{ reflection in } W}.$$
Therefore, no linear combination of characters of the restriction $s$ of $t$ exists. Hence, no linear combination $\bar{g}$ and the theorem follows.

Decomposing the Weyl characters in terms of simple composition factors over $U_q^{fin}(g)$, we can write $\bar{g}_\lambda = \sum_{w \in W} a_w [L(w \cdot \lambda)]$ for some coefficients $a_w \in \mathbb{C}$. For each $w \in W$ the preimage of $[L(w \cdot \lambda)]$ under the homomorphism $\mathcal{R} \to \mathcal{R}$ contains a scalar multiple of an element of the form $[L(z \cdot \lambda)]$ for some $z \in \hat{W}_{l,Q}$. Then $g_\lambda$ can be written as $g_\lambda = \sum_{z \in \hat{W}_{l,Q}} b_z [L(z \cdot \lambda)]$, or in the basis of tilting characters, $g_\lambda = \sum_{z \in \hat{W}_{l,Q}} c_z [T(z \cdot \lambda)]$ for some coefficients $b_z, c_z \in \mathbb{C}$. We have

$$\bar{\psi}(g_\lambda)(K_{2\rho}) = (\chi(\lambda) + \chi(s \cdot \lambda))(K_{2\rho}) = \frac{\Delta}{\lambda(\lambda - \rho)} \sum_{w \in W} (\varepsilon(w) + \varepsilon(ws^{-1})) q^{(w(\lambda + \rho), 2\rho)} = 0,$$

where $\Delta$ denotes the Weyl denominator.

For any $g \in \mathcal{R}$ and $\mu \in P_l$, we have

$$\psi(g)(K_{\mu}) = \bar{\psi}(g)(K_{\mu}),$$

and therefore

$$\psi(g_\lambda)(K_{2\rho}) = \sum_{z \in \hat{W}_{l,Q}} c_z \text{ch} T(z \cdot \lambda)(K_{2\rho}) = 0.$$

If $\lambda$ is singular with respect to the $\hat{W}_{l,Q}$ action, then the identity always holds. If $\lambda$ is regular, then it requires $c_1 = 0$. In both cases $g_\lambda \in \mathcal{J}$, and therefore $\bar{g}_\lambda \in \mathcal{J}$.

Now we will show that $\mathcal{J}$ cannot be bigger than required in the Theorem. Choose representatives for regular $W$-orbits in $P_l$ so that $\mathcal{X} \subset X$, and consider the characters $[T(\lambda)] = [L(\lambda)]$ for $\lambda \in \mathcal{X}$. Suppose that for some coefficients $d_\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ there exists a linear combination $t \equiv \sum_{\lambda \in \mathcal{X}} d_\lambda [T(\lambda)] \in \mathcal{R}$ of characters of restrictions of tilting modules, which belongs to $\mathcal{J}$. Then its pre-image under the homomorphism $\mathcal{R} \to \mathcal{R}$ lies in $\mathcal{J}$. Since $[T(\lambda)] |_{\lambda \in \mathcal{X}}$ correspond to pairwise distinct $W$-orbits in $P_l$, each of their pre-images $t_\lambda$ lies in $\mathcal{J}$. Then $d_\lambda \psi(t_\lambda)(K_{2\rho}) = 0$ for each $\lambda \in \mathcal{X}$, and hence $d_\lambda \text{ch} T_\lambda(K_{2\rho}) = 0$, which by construction of $[[T(\lambda)]] |_{\lambda \in \mathcal{X}}$ requires each $d_\lambda = 0$. Therefore, no linear combination of characters of the restrictions of $\{T(\lambda)\} |_{\lambda \in \mathcal{X}}$ lies in $\mathcal{J}$, and $\dim \mathcal{R}/\mathcal{J} \geq |\mathcal{X}|$. On the other hand,

$$\dim \mathcal{R}/[[W(\lambda)] + [W(s \cdot \lambda)]\} |_{\lambda \in P_l, s = \text{a reflection in } W = |\mathcal{X}|],$$

and the theorem follows.

The dimension of $\bar{V}_r$ coincides with the number of $W$-regular weights $\lambda \in \mathcal{X}$ in $\hat{X}$, and the elements $\{[W(\lambda)] = [L(\lambda)]\} |_{\lambda \in \mathcal{X}}$ form a basis in $\bar{V}_r$.

With the assumption on the number $l$ introduced above, the order $|X|$ is divisible by $|P/Q|$. Then we get

**Corollary 2.9.**

$$\dim \bar{V}_r = \dim V_r/|P/Q|.$$  

**Corollary 2.10.** $\bar{V}_r$ is isomorphic to the algebra

$$(\bar{V}_r) \simeq \mathbb{C}[P]^{U_q^W}/((\chi(\lambda) + \chi(s \cdot \lambda)) |_{\lambda \in \mathcal{X}}).$$

**Proof.** Clearly, $\hat{X}$ is the fundamental domain for the shifted action of $\hat{W}_{l,P}$ on $P$, and $\mathcal{X} \subset \hat{X}$ is the set of the regular weights with respect to this action. The ideal $\mathcal{J}$ of $\mathcal{R}$ is the image of $\mathcal{J} \subset \mathcal{R}$ under the homomorphism $\mathcal{R} \to \mathcal{R}$. The ideal of $\mathcal{R}$ spanned by $\{[W(\lambda)] + [W(s \cdot \lambda)]\} |_{\lambda \in \mathcal{X}}$ contains $\mathcal{J}$, and therefore its image in $\mathcal{R}$ contains $\mathcal{J}$. Compare the dimensions: the elements $\{\chi(\lambda)\} |_{\lambda \in \mathcal{X}}$ form a basis in
Proposition 3.2. The character formula.

\[ T \text{ in product of a projective module with any module in } C \]

\[ \text{ules in } C \]

\[ \text{Any } \]

Proof. W

\[ \text{respect to the shifted action, and is isomorphic to } C \]

\[ \text{simple modules in } C \]

\[ \text{Any indecomposable projective module in } C \]

\[ \text{is a Weyl module, its character } \]

\[ \text{Weyl module, } \]

\[ \text{isomorphic to } \]

\[ \text{is isomorphic to } \]

\[ \text{for some } E \in C. \]

Therefore, the set \( \mathcal{P}_r \subset C_f \) is in fact a subcategory in \( \mathcal{T} \). It is also a tensor ideal in \( \mathcal{T} \), since a direct summand of a projective module is projective, and a tensor product of a projective module with any module in \( C_f \) is again projective. Since \( St \) is a Weyl module, its character \( \chi^{St} \) is given by the Weyl character formula.

Proposition 3.2. The linear span of the characters of projective (injective) modules in \( \mathbb{C}[P]^W \) coincides with \( \chi^{St} \cdot \mathbb{C}[P]^W \).

Proof. Any \( p \in \mathbb{C}[P]^W \) can be written as a linear combination of characters of simple modules in \( \mathcal{C}_f \). Since \( St \) is projective, any element of the form \( \chi^{St} \cdot p \in \mathbb{C}[P]^W \) is a linear combination of characters of projective modules. Then we have

\[ \{ \chi^{St} \cdot f(\lambda) \}_{\lambda \in P_+} \subset \text{span}_{\mathbb{C}}\{ \chi P(\mu) \}_{\mu \in (l-1)\rho + P_+}, \]

where \( f(\lambda) \) is the \( W \)-symmetric function (§1), and \( \chi P(\mu) \) denotes the image in \( \mathbb{C}[P]^W \) of the character of the projective module \( P(\mu) = T(\mu) \) with highest weight \( \mu \). Note that in the decomposition of \( \chi^{St} \cdot f(\lambda) \) into a linear combination of projective characters, only the highest weights \( \mu : (l-1)\rho \leq \mu \leq (l-1)\rho + \lambda \) can occur. Therefore, the two sets are related by a lower triangular transformation of bases, which provides a bijection between the span of indecomposable projective characters and \( \chi^{St} \cdot \mathbb{C}[P]^W \).

The next proposition provides the factorization of projective (injective) modules over \( U^q_{res}(g) \) similar to the statement of Theorem 2.4.

Proposition 3.3. \[ \text{For } \lambda = l_0 + l_1 \in P_+, \text{ where } 0 \leq \langle \lambda_0, \alpha_i \rangle \leq l - 1, \] \[ \text{and } \lambda_i \text{ denote the weight } \lambda = 2(l-1)\rho + w_0(\lambda) + l\lambda_1 \in P_+. \] Then

1. The indecomposable tilting module \( T(\lambda) \) is both projective and injective in \( \mathcal{C}_f \);
2. \( T(\lambda) \approx T(\lambda_0) \otimes L(l\lambda_1) \).

Now we can describe the ideal \( \mathcal{P}_r \in \mathcal{R} \). For any \( \mu \in P_+ \), let \( \tilde{W}_\mu \) denote the subgroup of \( \tilde{W}_{1,Q} \) generated by \( \{ s_{\alpha, (\mu, \alpha)} \} \). Then \( \tilde{W}_\mu \) stabilizes \( l\mu - \rho \) with respect to the shifted action, and is isomorphic to \( W \subset \tilde{W}_{1,Q} \).
Theorem 3.4. The characters of projective modules over $U_q^{res}(\mathfrak{g})$ span the ideal of $\mathcal{R}$ of the form

$$Pr = \text{span}_{\mathbb{C}}\{ \sum_{w \in W_{\mu}} [W(w \cdot \lambda)] \lambda \in P, \mu \in P \}.$$ 

Proof. We will use the isomorphism $\psi : \mathcal{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}[P]^W$ and prove the corresponding statement for $\psi(Pr) \subset \mathbb{C}[P]^W$. The ideal of projective characters coincides with the linear span of $\{ \text{chSt} \cdot f(\lambda) \} \lambda \in P_+$, thus all projective characters are in $\psi(Pr)$. On the other hand, for any $\lambda, \mu \in P$, the element

$$\sum_{w \in W_{\mu}} \chi(w \cdot \lambda)$$

is either zero, if $\langle \mu, \beta \rangle = 0$ for some $\beta \in R$, or is equal to

$$\chi((l-1)\rho + l(\mu - \rho)) \cdot f(\lambda - l\mu).$$

If $(\mu - \rho) \in P_+$,

$$W((l-1)\rho + l(\mu - \rho)) \simeq St \otimes L(l(\mu - \rho))$$

is a projective and simple module [APW1], and therefore $\chi((l-1)\rho + l(\mu - \rho)) \cdot f(\eta)$ lies in the linear span of projective characters in $\mathbb{C}[P]^W$ for any $\eta \in P$. For nondominant weights, $\chi((l-1)\rho + l(\mu - \rho))$ is either zero or equals $\pm \chi((l-1)\rho + lv)$ for some $v \in P_+$, and the Proposition follows.

Thus, both $J$ and $Pr$ admit characterizations in terms of the symmetries with respect to the shifted action of the affine Weyl group (cf. Corollary 2.2), and $Pr \subset J$.

Projective modules over $U_q^{fin}(\mathfrak{g})$. Next we are interested in the restrictions of projective modules to $U_q^{fin}(\mathfrak{g})$. Below we formulate the known facts on projective modules in $\mathcal{C}_f$.

Theorem 3.5. [APW2]

1. $St$ is both projective and injective in $\mathcal{C}_f$.
2. All injective modules in $\mathcal{C}_f$ are projective, and vice versa.
3. Keep the notations of Proposition 3.3. For each $\lambda \in P_+$, the restriction of $T(\lambda)$ to $U_q^{fin}(\mathfrak{g})$ is injective and projective in $\mathcal{C}_f$.
4. For each $\lambda_0 \in P_t$, the restriction of $T(\lambda_0)$ to $U_q^{fin}(\mathfrak{g})$ is isomorphic to the injective hull of $L(\lambda_0)$ in $\mathcal{C}_f$. In particular, any injective $U_q^{fin}(\mathfrak{g})$-module is the restriction of an injective $U_q^{res}(\mathfrak{g})$-module.
5. For each $\lambda \in P_+$, the restriction of $T(\lambda)$ to $U_q^{fin}(\mathfrak{g})$ is isomorphic to the direct sum of $\dim(L(l\lambda))$ copies of $T(\lambda_0)$.

Projective modules form a tensor ideal $\mathcal{P}r$ in the category of the restrictions of tilting modules to $U_q^{fin}(\mathfrak{g})$, and the linear span of their characters is a multiplicative ideal in $\mathcal{R}$.

Proposition 3.6. Linear span of the characters of projective (injective) modules over $U_q^{fin}(\mathfrak{g})$ coincides with

$$\text{chSt} \cdot \mathbb{C}[P]^W \otimes_{\mathbb{C}[UP]^W} \mathbb{C}.$$
Proof. This follows from Proposition 3.2 and the factorization of $\mathbb{C}[P]^W$ to the restricted weights (Corollary 2.5).

The next theorem determines the dimension of $\bar{Pr} \subset \bar{R}$:

**Theorem 3.7.** The characters of projective modules over $U_q^{fin}(\mathfrak{g})$ span the ideal of $\bar{R}$ of the form

$$\bar{Pr} = \text{span}_\mathbb{C}\{[St] \cdot [f(\lambda)]\}_{\lambda \in \hat{X}},$$

where $[f(\lambda)]$ denotes the element mapped to $f(\lambda)$ under the isomorphism of Corollary 2.5 and $\hat{X}$ is the fundamental domain for the $W$-action in $P_l$.

**Proof. Lemma 3.8.** For any $\lambda \in P_l$, the characters of any two projective $U_q^{fin}(\mathfrak{g})$-modules with no composition factors of highest weight outside the orbit $\{W \cdot \lambda\}$, are proportional in $\bar{R}$.

**Proof.** The radical of the algebra $\mathbb{C}[P]^W \otimes \mathbb{C}[P]^W$ is spanned by the elements which annihilate $K_\mu$ for any $\mu \in P_l$. It coincides with the linear span of the differences

$$f(\lambda) - f(z \circ \lambda),$$

where $z \in W$, $\lambda \in P_l$ and we used the non-shifted $\circ$-action of $W$ on the restricted weights. By [La], Lemma 5.3, the character of the Steinberg module $[St]$ annihilates the radical of $\bar{R}$, and we have

$$chSt \cdot f(\lambda) - chSt \cdot f(z \circ \lambda) = 0$$

for any $z \in W$, $\lambda \in P_l$.

By Proposition 3.6, any projective character with composition factors of highest weights in one orbit $W \cdot \lambda$ can be written as a linear combination

$$\sum_{z \in W} a_z chSt \cdot f(z \circ \lambda),$$

for some coefficients $a_z \in \mathbb{C}$, which by the above equals to

$$(\sum_{z \in W} a_z) chSt \cdot f(\lambda).$$

This shows that any two projective modules in the same block of the category $\tilde{C}_f$ have equal characters up to a scalar multiple.

By Theorem 3.3, there exists at least one projective module in $\tilde{C}_f$ with composition factors of highest weights in each $W$-orbit in $P_l$. Characters of modules in different blocks of category $\tilde{C}_f$ are linearly independent in $\bar{R}$, and we get the statement of the Theorem.

Note that by Lemma 3.8, the ideal of characters of projective modules over $U_q^{fin}(\mathfrak{g})$ is $|\hat{X}|$-dimensional, where $\hat{X}$ is the fundamental domain for the $W$-action on $P_l$ (we have $|\hat{X}| = |\bar{X}|$). Thus $\bar{Pr}$ and $\bar{Vr}$ have bases parametrized respectively by the weights in $\bar{X}$ and $X$, the closed and open alcove of the $W$-action in $P_l$. 
Classification of tensor ideals in $\mathcal{T}$. According to the main theorem in [Ost], the partially ordered (by inclusion) set of tensor ideals in $\mathcal{T}$ is isomorphic to the partially ordered set of two-sided cells in the affine Weyl group $\hat{W}_{l,Q}$. The partition of a Coxeter group $G$ into a partially ordered set of two-sided cells was defined in [Kir] to study the ideals in the group algebra of $G$, consistent with a special (Kazhdan-Lusztig) basis in $G$. In particular, for the affine Weyl group $\hat{W}_{l,Q}$, the unit element $\{1\}$ is the highest, and the set $W_{(\nu)} \subset \hat{W}_{l,Q}$ - the lowest cell with respect to this order [Lus, Bed, Shi]. The cell $W_{(\nu)}$ has the following description [Shi]:

$$W_{(\nu)} = \{ w \in \hat{W}_{l,Q} : w = x \cdot w_I \cdot y, \text{ for some } x,y \in \hat{W}_{l,Q}, \ l(w) = l(x) + l(w_I) + l(y) \},$$

where $w_I$ is the longest element of a standard parabolic subgroup $W^I \subset \hat{W}_{l,Q}$, isomorphic to $W$.

The correspondence in [Ost] can be described as follows. Let $W^f$ be the set of minimal length representatives of the cosets $W \backslash \hat{W}_{l,Q}$. Then by [Lus] for any two-sided cell $\underline{c} \subset \hat{W}_{l,Q}$, the intersection $\underline{c} \cap W^f$ is nonempty. Let $\underline{b} = \bigcup_{\underline{c} \subset \hat{W}_{l,Q}} \underline{c}$ denote the union of all two-sided cells with the condition that $c_i \leq \underline{c}$ for each $i$ with respect to the partial order defined in [Kir]. Then the full subcategory of $\mathcal{T}$ formed by the direct sums of tilting modules $T(\lambda)$ with $\lambda \in (\underline{b} \cap W^f) \cdot \underline{X}$ is a tensor ideal in $\mathcal{T}$ corresponding to the cell $\underline{c}$.

**Proposition 3.9.**

1. The ideal $\mathcal{T}' \subset \mathcal{T}$ corresponds to the complement of the highest cell $(\hat{W}_{l,Q} \setminus \{1\}) \subset \hat{W}_{l,Q}$.
2. The ideal $\mathcal{Pr} \subset \mathcal{T}$ corresponds to the lowest cell $W_{(\nu)} \subset \hat{W}_{l,Q}$.

**Proof.** (1) was observed in [Ost]: for $\lambda \in P_+$ we have $\lambda \in (W^f \setminus \{1\}) \cdot \underline{X}$ if and only if $\lambda \in P_+ \setminus \underline{X}$, which coincides with the set of highest weights of tilting modules in $\mathcal{T}'$.

For (2), we can use the description of $W_{(\nu)}$ in [Bed]. For each pair of nearest parallel hyperplanes of affine reflections in $P$, define the strip $U$ to be the set of weights between these hyperplanes, and let $\mathcal{U}$ denote the set of all strips in $P$. Then by [Bed],

$$W_{(\nu)} \cdot \underline{X} = P \setminus (\cup_{U \in \mathcal{U}, X \subset U} U).$$

Therefore, $((W_{(\nu)} \cap W^f) \cdot \underline{X}) \cap P_+ = P_+ \cap (P \setminus (\cup_{U \in \mathcal{U}, X \subset U} U))$, which coincides with the set $(l-1)\rho + P_+$. This is exactly the set of highest weights of the projective modules in $\mathcal{T}$.

This means that $\mathcal{F}us$ and $\mathcal{Pr}$ can be thought of as the "top" and the "bottom" of the tensor category $\mathcal{T}$. This relation also holds for their restrictions over $U_q^{fin}(\mathfrak{g})$: 

**Corollary 3.10.** In the partially ordered (by inclusion) set of ideals in $\mathcal{R}$, corresponding to the restrictions of tensor ideals in $\mathcal{T}$, $\mathcal{J}$ and $\mathcal{Pr}$ are respectively the highest and the lowest nontrivial elements.

Unlike in case of the big quantum group $U_q^{res}(\mathfrak{g})$, here the ideal $\mathcal{Pr}$ is finite dimensional. The above argument then suggests that the ideal $\mathcal{Pr}$ should be viewed in the same framework with the algebra $\hat{V}_r$, and, just as the Verlinde algebra, it should play a special role in the representation theory of $U_q^{fin}(\mathfrak{g})$. Further evidence of this similarity is presented in the next section.
4. $\hat{P}r$ as an Analog of the Verlinde Algebra.

In this section we will consider the properties of $\hat{P}r$ in parallel to those of $Vr$ and its restriction to the small quantum group $\hat{V}r$.

Write $\hat{R} = \oplus_{\mu \in \hat{X}} \hat{R}_\mu$ for the decomposition of the algebra $\hat{R}$ into a direct sum of two-sided multiplicative ideals corresponding to the block decomposition of the category $\mathcal{C}_f$ (Proposition 2.7). The structure of the block $\hat{R}_\mu$ was described in [BG], following the result of $\mathcal{C}_f$.

The following statements can be derived from Theorem 3.7 and Lemma 3.8.

Following the result of [BG]:

Corollary 4.1.

$\hat{P}r \simeq \text{Ann}(\text{Rad } \hat{R})$.

Proof. The character of the Steinberg module annihilates the radical of $\hat{R}$ and is therefore an element of $\text{Ann}(\text{Rad } \hat{R})$. Since $\text{St}$ generates the algebra $\hat{P}r$ over $\hat{R}$, any element of $\hat{P}r$ belongs to $\text{Ann}(\text{Rad } \hat{R})$. Now compare the dimensions:

$|\hat{X}| = \dim(\hat{P}r) \leq \dim\text{Ann}(\text{Rad } \hat{R}) = |\hat{X}|$,

where the first equality holds by Theorem 3.7, and the last follows from the block structure of $\hat{R}$. Therefore, $\hat{P}r \simeq \text{Ann}(\text{Rad } \hat{R})$.

Corollary 4.2. The ideal $\hat{P}r$ is isomorphic to $[\text{St}]([\hat{R}] / \text{Rad}(\hat{R}))$, where the algebra $\hat{R} / \text{Rad}(\hat{R})$ is isomorphic to $(Vr)^+$ as defined in §I:

$$(Vr)^+ \simeq \mathbb{C}[P]^W / \langle (f(\lambda) - f(s(\lambda)))_{\lambda \in P, s \text{ a reflection in } \hat{W}_{l,p}} \rangle.$$

Proof. Follows from the definition of $W_\circ$ action on $P_1$. Note that here in the definition of the ideal, a reflection $s \in \hat{W}_{l,p}$ can be replaced by any element $w \in \hat{W}_{l,p}$.

Choose the set of representatives $\hat{X}$ for the orbits of $W_\circ$ in $P_1$ so that $\hat{X} \subset X$, by taking the smallest weight in each orbit.

Proposition 4.3. For any $\lambda \in \hat{X} \subset X$, the character of the projective module $P((l-1)\rho + \lambda)$ equals to $\text{chSt} \cdot f(\lambda)$ in $\mathbb{C}[P]^W$.

Proof. By Proposition 3.2, the character of $P((l-1)\rho + \lambda)$ in $\mathbb{C}[P]^W$ can be written as

$$chP((l-1)\rho + \lambda) = a_{\lambda} \text{chSt} \cdot f(\lambda) + \sum_{\mu < \lambda} a_{\mu} \lambda,$$

for some coefficients $a_{\mu} \in \mathbb{C}$. As a character of an indecomposable projective module over $U_q^{res}(g)$, it contains only Weyl characters with highest weights in $\hat{W}_{l,q} \cdot \lambda$. This requires $\mu \in W \circ \lambda$, which cannot be satisfied for $\mu < \lambda, \lambda \in \hat{X}$. Therefore, we have that $chP((l-1)\rho + \lambda)$ is proportional to $\text{chSt} \cdot f(\lambda)$, and the normalization can be checked by evaluating the corresponding characters at 1.

For any $\lambda \in \hat{X}$ chosen as above, let $[P(\lambda)]$ denote the character of the restriction of the projective $U_q^{res}(g)$-module $P((l-1)\rho + \lambda)$ to $U_q^{fin}(g)$. Then $\{[P(\lambda)]\}_{\lambda \in \hat{X}}$ form a basis in $\hat{P}r$. 
Corollary 4.4. For any \( \lambda, \mu \in \hat{X} \), we have in \( \hat{R} \)
\[
[P(\lambda)] \cdot [P(\mu)] = [St] \cdot \sum_{\nu \in \hat{X}} n_{\lambda,\mu}^\nu [P(\nu)],
\]
where \( n_{\lambda,\mu}^\nu \) are the structure constants of the algebra \((Vr)^+\) in the basis of elementary \( W \)-symmetric functions
\[
f(\lambda) \cdot f(\mu) = \sum_{\nu \in \hat{X}} n_{\lambda,\mu}^\nu f(\nu).
\]

Proof. Proposition \[\text{(3)}\] implies that we have \( \tilde{\psi}([P(\lambda)]) = \tilde{\psi}([St]) \cdot f(\lambda) \) in \((\mathbb{C}[P]^W \otimes_{\mathbb{C} [P]} \mathbb{C})\) for all \( \lambda \in \hat{X} \), and we know that \( \tilde{\psi}([St]) = chSt \) is given by the Weyl character formula. Multiplication gives
\[
chSt \cdot f(\lambda) = chSt \cdot \sum_{\nu \in \hat{X}} n_{\lambda,\mu}^\nu f(\nu).
\]
All characters of projective \( U_q^{\text{fin}}(g) \)-modules in one \( W \)-orbit are proportional, and \( \hat{X} \) is the fundamental domain for \( W \)-action which corresponds to the \( W \)-action after multiplication by \( chSt \). Therefore, for each \( \nu \in \hat{X} \) there exists a unique projective character \( [P(\nu)] \in \hat{R} \) such that \( \tilde{\psi}([P(\nu)]) = chSt \cdot f(\nu) \), and using the algebra isomorphism \( \psi \), we obtain the Corollary.

To summarize, we note that "modulo \( [St] \)" the ideal \( \hat{P}_r \) has the structure of a semisimple commutative algebra of dimension \( |\hat{X}| \), which is isomorphic to the algebra \( \hat{R}/\text{Rad}(\hat{R}) \cong \text{Head}(\hat{R}) \) \( \hat{R} \) is a Frobenius algebra), and admits a natural basis of \( W \)-symmetric functions \( f(\lambda), \lambda \in \hat{X} \), with each \( f(\lambda) \) corresponding to an individual character of an indecomposable projective module.

To compare, we have for \( Vr \):
\[
[W(\lambda)][W(\mu)] = \sum a_{\lambda,\mu}^\nu [W(\nu)],
\]
where \( [W(\lambda)], [W(\mu)] \in \hat{R} \) are characters of Weyl modules of highest weights \( \lambda, \mu \in X \), and \( a_{\lambda,\mu}^\nu \) are the structure constants of the algebra \((Vr)^-\) as defined in \[1\].

Now suppose that \( l > h \) is even. Then following \[\text{AP}, \text{AF}\], it is possible to define just as before the big quantum group \( U_q^{\text{res}}(g)_{\text{ev}} \), the category of tilting modules, the fusion category and the Verlinde algebra \( V_{\text{res}} \). An important property of the \( V_{\text{res}} \) is the existence on it of a representation of the modular group. Define \( ch_q W(\lambda) \) to be a functional on \( U_q^{\text{res}}(g)_{\text{ev}} \), equal on an element \( x \in U_q^{\text{res}}(g) \) to the trace of \( K_{2p} x \) over the Weyl module \( W(\lambda) \). Then the linear span of \( \{ch_q W(\lambda)\}_{\lambda \in X} \) carries a projective representation of the modular group (see e.g. \[\text{Lyu2}, \text{BK}\]). The action is given by the bijective mappings \( (F_{ss}, T_{ss}) \) on \( \{ch_q W(\lambda)\}_{\lambda \in X} \) which are defined as follows. Let
\[
\mu_{ss} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\sum_{\lambda \in X} \dim_q W(\lambda)}} \sum_{\lambda \in X} \dim_q W(\lambda) ch_q W(\lambda),
\]
where \( \dim_q W(\lambda) = ch_q W(\lambda)(1) \). Let \( R_{12} \) be the canonical element of the quasitriangular algebra \( U_q^{\text{res}}(g)_{\text{ev}} \) (see e.g. \[\text{lusB}\]). For any functional \( p \) over \( U_q^{\text{res}}(g) \) define
\[
F_{ss}(p) = \sum_{(\mu_{ss})} (\mu_{ss})_1 ((\text{id} \otimes p)(R_{21} R_{12})) (\mu_{ss})_2,
\]
where $\Delta \mu_{ss} = \sum (\mu_{ss})_1 \otimes (\mu_{ss})_2$ is the comultiplication in the Hopf dual of $U^\text{res}_q(g)_{\text{ev}}$. Then $F_{ss}$ has the properties of a Fourier transform, its square is proportional to the antipode on the Hopf dual of $U^\text{res}_q(g)_{\text{ev}}$. Let $v$ denote the invertible central element in $U^\text{res}_q(g)_{\text{ev}}$ such that $v^2 = u\gamma(u)$, where $u = (\gamma \otimes \text{id})(R_{21})$ and $\gamma$ is the antipode of $U^\text{res}_q(g)_{\text{ev}}$. Denote by $T_{ss} : \{ch_qW(\lambda)\}_{\lambda \in X} \rightarrow \{ch_qW(\lambda)\}_{\lambda \in X}$ the mapping which sends $p(\cdot)$ to $p(v \cdot)$. Then by [BK], $F_{ss}$ and $T_{ss}$ satisfy the modular identity: $(F_{ss}T_{ss})^3 = c F_{ss}^2$, where $c \in \mathbb{C}$ is a constant.

By [Dr], the algebra of $q$-characters of finite dimensional modules over $U^\text{res}_q(g)_{\text{ev}}$ is isomorphic to the complexified Grothendieck ring of the category of finite dimensional modules, with the isomorphism $\vartheta : p(\cdot) \rightarrow p((K_{-2p})^{-1})$ sending $ch_qW(\lambda)$ to $\chi(\lambda)$. Then the maps $F_{ss} = \vartheta \circ F_{ss} \circ \vartheta^{-1}$, $T_{ss} = T_{ss}$ define a modular group action on $V_{\text{res}}$.

Back to the situation when $l > h$ is odd and coprime to the determinant of the Cartan matrix of $\mathfrak{g}$, we observe that the ideal $\tilde{Pr}$ is invariant under the quantum Fourier transform $F_q$, which is a slight modification of the one introduced in [LA].

This easily extends to a projective representation of the modular group.

Define the algebra $\mathcal{R}_r$ of $q^{-1}$-characters as a subalgebra of $U^{\text{fin}}_q(g)^*$ generated by $\{ch_{q^{-1}}W(\lambda)\}_{\lambda \in P_r}$, where $ch_{q^{-1}}W(\lambda)$ is a functional on $U^{\text{fin}}_q(g)$, equal on an element $x \in U^{\text{fin}}_q(g)$ to the trace of $K_{-2p}x$ over the module $W(\lambda)$. Then the map $\vartheta : p(\cdot) \rightarrow p((K_{-2p})^{-1})$ provides an isomorphism of commutative algebras $\vartheta : \mathcal{R}_r \rightarrow \mathcal{R}_r$. For $p \in \mathcal{R}_r$, the element $(p \otimes \text{id})(R_{21}R_{12})$ is central in $U^{\text{fin}}_q(g)$ [Dr]. Let $\lambda_r$ denote the right integral of $U^{\text{fin}}_q(g)^*$, which is unique up to a scalar multiple. Then we have

**Proposition 4.5.** Let $F_q$ denote the map

$$F_q(p) = \sum_{(\lambda_r)} (\lambda_r)_1 ((\gamma)(p \otimes \text{id})(R_{21}R_{12}))(\lambda_r)_2,$$

where $\gamma$ is the antipode in $U^{\text{fin}}_q(g)$. Then $F_q$ maps $\text{Ann}(\text{Rad } \mathcal{R}_r)$ bijectively to itself.

This is equivalent to Theorem 5.2 in [LA]. By [Lyu], $U^{\text{fin}}_q(g)$ contains the ribbon element $\bar{v}$, which belongs to the center $3 \subset U^{\text{fin}}_q(g)$. Define the mapping $T_q : \mathcal{R}_r \rightarrow \mathcal{R}_r$ by the action of the ribbon element $\bar{v} \in U^{\text{fin}}_q(g)$, $p(\cdot) \rightarrow p(\bar{v}\cdot)$. By [Dr], there exists a homomorphism $\phi : 3 \rightarrow \mathcal{R}_r$ of $3$-modules such that $\phi^{-1}(\text{Ann}(\text{Rad } \mathcal{R}_r)) \subset \text{Ann}(\text{Rad } 3)$. Therefore, any central element acts in $\text{Ann}(\text{Rad } \mathcal{R}_r)$ as multiplication by a scalar. Then $T_q$ preserves $\text{Ann}(\text{Rad } \mathcal{R}_r)$, and is nondegenerate since it is nondegenerate on $\mathcal{R}_r$. Then by [Lyu], the mappings $F_q, T_q$ satisfy the modular identities, and therefore $F_q \equiv \vartheta^{-1} \circ F_q \circ \vartheta$ together with $T_q \equiv T_q$ defines a modular group action on $\tilde{Pr}$.

**Remark.** We used the algebra of $q^{-1}$-characters here to make it consistent with [LA]; starting with the quantum Fourier transform defined on the span of $q$-characters would lead to the same mapping $F_q$ on $\tilde{Pr}$.

Below we list the properties of $Vr$ and $\tilde{Pr}$.
\[
V_r \simeq (V_r)^- \simeq \mathbb{C}[P]^W / J, \quad \text{where} \\
J = \langle (\chi(\lambda) + \chi(s^i\lambda))_{\lambda \in \mathcal{P}_{\text{refl}}} s \in \mathcal{W} \rangle.
\]
\[
\tilde{P}_r \simeq (\text{chSt})(V_r)^+ \simeq (\text{chSt})\mathbb{C}[P]^W / I,
\]
where
\[
I = \langle (f(\lambda) - f(s(\lambda)))_{\lambda \in \mathcal{P}, s \in \mathcal{W}} \rangle.
\]
\[\dim(V_r) = |X|, \quad \text{the number of regular blocks in } \mathcal{R}\]
\[\dim(\tilde{P}_r) = |\hat{X}|, \quad \text{the number of all blocks in } \hat{\mathcal{R}}\]
\[V_r \text{ is the algebra of characters of the fusion category } \mathcal{F}_{us} \text{ over } U_q^{\text{res}}(g).
\]
\[\tilde{P}_r \text{ is the ideal of characters of projective modules over } U_q^{\text{fin}}(g).
\]

For even \(l\), \(V_{r_{ev}}\) carries a representation of the modular group given by \((\mathcal{F}_{ss}, T_{ss})\)

For odd \(l\), \(\tilde{P}_r\) carries a representation of the modular group given by \((\mathcal{F}_q, T_q)\)

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