

Algebraic Bethe ansatz for the open XXZ spin  
chain with non-diagonal boundary terms via  
 $U_q\mathfrak{sl}_2$  symmetry

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Based on arXiv:2207.12772 with A.M. Gainutdinov and H. Saleur  
and arXiv:2212.09696 with A.M. Gainutdinov, J.L. Jacobsen and H.  
Saleur

Les Diablerets, February 8, 2023

The Hamiltonian of the open XXZ spin chain  $(\mathbb{C}^2)^{\otimes N}$  of length  $N$  with arbitrary boundary fields is given by

$$H_{\text{n.d.}} := \vec{h}_l \cdot \vec{\sigma}_1 + \vec{h}_r \cdot \vec{\sigma}_N + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{N-1} \left( \sigma_i^x \sigma_{i+1}^x + \sigma_i^y \sigma_{i+1}^y + \frac{q + q^{-1}}{2} \sigma_i^z \sigma_{i+1}^z \right)$$

with  $q$  and  $\vec{h}_{l/r}$  7 parameters and Pauli matrices

$$\sigma^x = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \sigma^y = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \sigma^z = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Appears in the 6-vertex model, boundary loop models, ASEP...

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# Motivation

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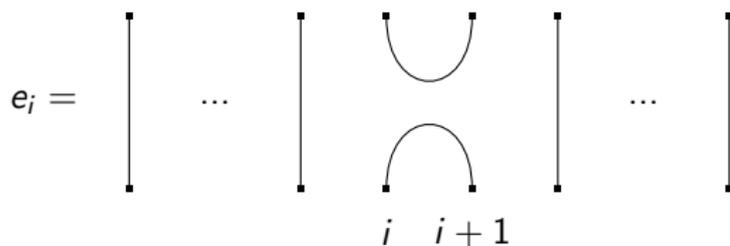
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**Main message : Non-compact spin chains contain a lot of interesting (and unexplored) physics.**

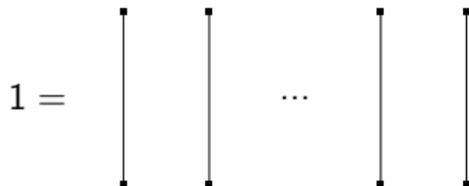
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Let  $N$  be an integer. For all  $1 \leq i \leq N - 1$  consider the diagrams



and



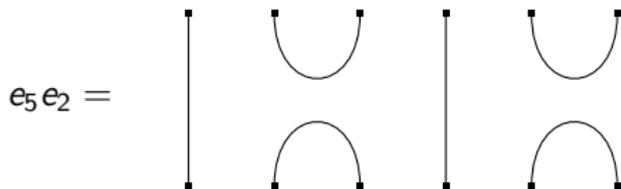
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For example, a configuration on  $N = 6$  sites :

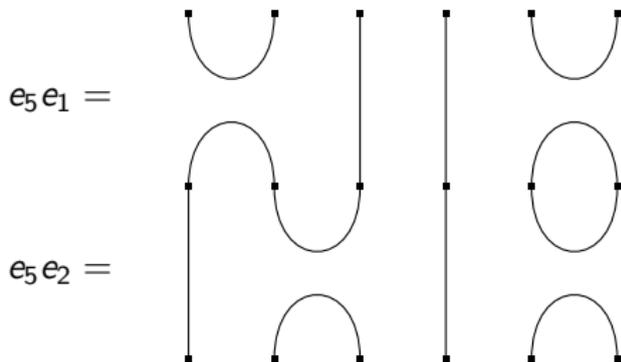
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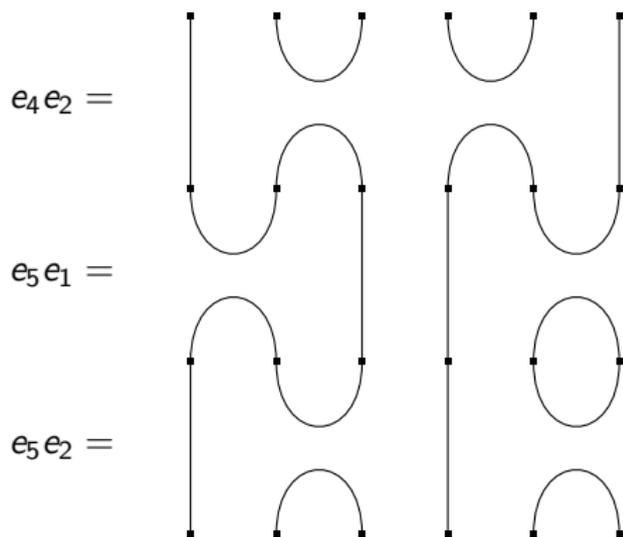
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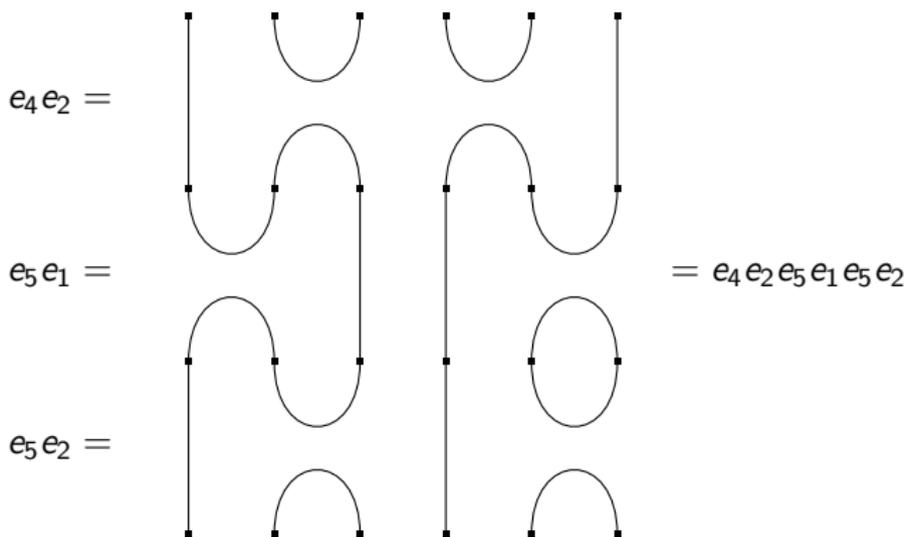
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Graphical rules :

$$e_i^2 = \dots \begin{array}{c} | \\ \dots \\ | \\ \dots \\ | \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \cup \\ \circ \\ \cup \end{array} \begin{array}{c} | \\ \dots \\ | \\ \dots \\ | \end{array} \dots = \delta \dots \begin{array}{c} | \\ \dots \\ | \\ \dots \\ | \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \cup \\ \cap \\ \cup \end{array} \begin{array}{c} | \\ \dots \\ | \\ \dots \\ | \end{array} \dots = \delta e_i$$

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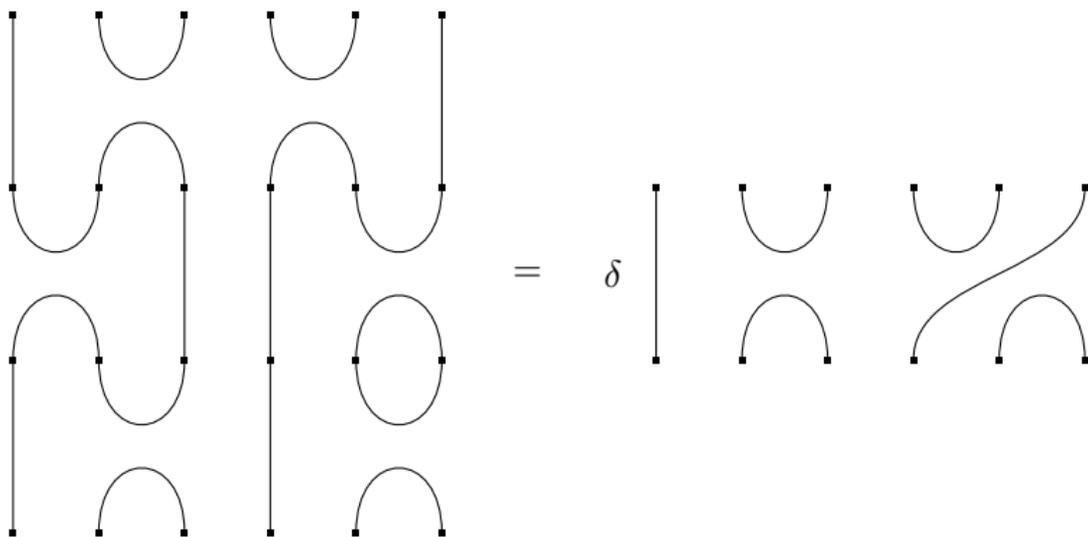
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$$e_i e_{i+1} e_i = \dots \begin{array}{c} | \\ | \\ | \\ | \\ | \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \cup \\ \cup \\ \cup \\ \cup \\ \cup \end{array} \begin{array}{c} | \\ | \\ | \\ | \\ | \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \cup \\ \cup \\ \cup \\ \cup \\ \cup \end{array} \begin{array}{c} | \\ | \\ | \\ | \\ | \end{array} \dots = \dots \begin{array}{c} | \\ | \\ | \\ | \\ | \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \cup \\ \cup \\ \cup \\ \cup \\ \cup \end{array} \begin{array}{c} | \\ | \\ | \\ | \\ | \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \cup \\ \cup \\ \cup \\ \cup \\ \cup \end{array} \begin{array}{c} | \\ | \\ | \\ | \\ | \end{array} \dots = e_i$$



Example :



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For example, for  $N = 4$

$$\mathcal{W}_0 = \mathbb{C} \langle \cup \cup, \cup \cup \rangle$$

$$\mathcal{W}_1 = \mathbb{C} \langle \cup \downarrow \downarrow, \downarrow \downarrow \cup \downarrow \downarrow \cup \rangle$$

$$\mathcal{W}_2 = \mathbb{C} \langle \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \rangle$$

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The diagram shows the action of the operator  $TL_{\delta, N}$  on a basis element  $e_2$ . On the left,  $e_2$  is represented by a diagram with three horizontal lines and two arcs connecting the top and bottom lines. The middle line is empty. This is equal to a diagram where the top and bottom lines are connected by two vertical lines, forming a U-shaped frame. Inside this frame, there are two arcs: one connecting the top lines and one connecting the bottom lines. This diagram is equal to  $\delta$  times the original diagram for  $e_2$ .

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$$e_1 \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{array}$$

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Introduce an additional generator  $b_l$  satisfying

$$b_l^2 = b_l, \quad e_1 b_l e_1 = y_l e_1, \quad [b_l, e_i] = 0 \quad \text{for } 2 \leq i \leq N-1$$

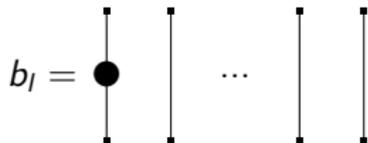
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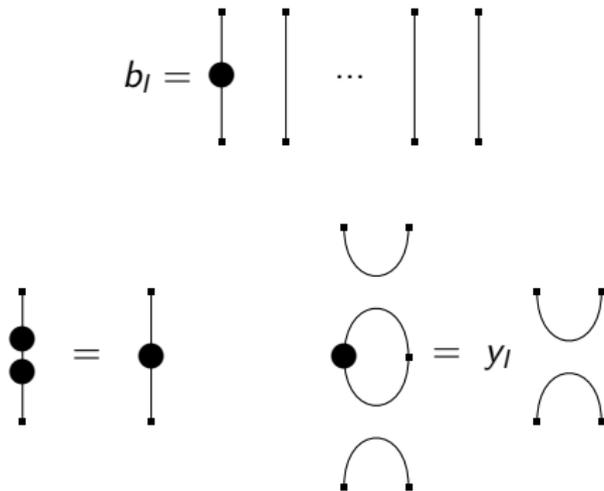


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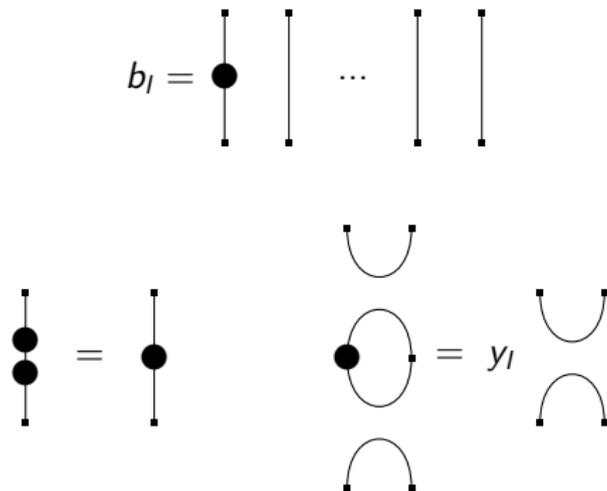


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This defines the **Blob algebra**  $B_{\delta, y_I, N}$ .

We can further extend  $B_{\delta, y_l, N}$  by adding a right generator  $b_r$

$$b_r = \begin{array}{ccccccc} & \bullet & & \bullet & & \bullet & & \bullet \\ & | & & | & & | & & | \\ b_r = & | & & | & & | & & | \\ & | & & | & & | & & | \\ & \bullet & & \bullet & & \bullet & & \bullet \end{array} \quad \dots \quad \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ | \\ \bullet \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ | \\ \bullet \end{array}$$

We can further extend  $B_{\delta, y_l, N}$  by adding a right generator  $b_r$

$$b_r = \begin{array}{cccc} | & | & \dots & | & | \\ | & | & & | & \blacksquare \\ | & | & & | & | \end{array}$$

satisfying

$$\begin{array}{c} \blacksquare \\ | \\ \blacksquare \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} | \\ \blacksquare \\ | \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \cup \\ | \\ \cup \\ \blacksquare \\ | \\ \cup \\ \cup \end{array} = y_r \begin{array}{c} \cup \\ \cup \end{array}$$

with some weight  $y_r \in \mathbb{C}$ , that is

$$b_r^2 = b_r, \quad e_{N-1} b_r e_{N-1} = y_r e_{N-1}, \quad [b_r, e_i] = 0 \quad \text{for } 1 \leq i \leq N-2.$$

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The diagram shows an equation between two sets of diagrams. On the left side, there are three diagrams: a top arc, a central loop with a black dot on the left and a black square on the right, and a bottom arc. On the right side, there are two diagrams: a top arc and a bottom arc. An equals sign and the letter  $Y$  are placed between the two sides, indicating that the left side is equal to  $Y$  times the right side.

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This defines the **two-boundary Temperley-Lieb algebra**  $2B_{\delta, y_l/r, Y, N}$ .

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For example, for  $N = 2$

$$\mathcal{W} = \mathbb{C} \langle \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \uparrow \quad \uparrow \text{---} \\ \bullet \quad \blacksquare \\ \text{---} \downarrow \quad \downarrow \text{---} \end{array}, \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \uparrow \quad \uparrow \text{---} \\ \circ \quad \blacksquare \\ \text{---} \downarrow \quad \downarrow \text{---} \end{array}, \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \uparrow \quad \uparrow \text{---} \\ \bullet \quad \square \\ \text{---} \downarrow \quad \downarrow \text{---} \end{array}, \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \uparrow \quad \uparrow \text{---} \\ \circ \quad \square \\ \text{---} \downarrow \quad \downarrow \text{---} \end{array} \rangle$$

Introduce

$$\mathbf{H} := -\mu_l b_l - \mu_r b_r - \sum_{i=1}^{N-1} e_i \in 2B_{\delta, y_l/r, Y, N}$$

for some  $\mu_{l/r} \in \mathbb{C}$ .

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**Theorem (J. de Gier, A. Nichols '09)**

*For some explicit mapping of parameters  $(q, \vec{h}_{l/r}) \leftrightarrow (\delta, y_{l/r}, Y, \mu_{l/r})$*

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Idea : Find a different realisation of  $\mathcal{W}$  to diagonalise  $H_{\text{n.d.}}$  !

- 1 Loop models and lattice algebras
- 2  $U_q \mathfrak{sl}_2$ -invariant realisation
- 3 Bethe ansatz

## Definition

$U_q \mathfrak{sl}_2$  is generated by  $E$ ,  $F$ ,  $K$  and  $K^{-1}$  with relations

$$KEK^{-1} = q^2E, \quad KFK^{-1} = q^{-2}F, \quad [E, F] = \frac{K - K^{-1}}{q - q^{-1}}.$$

It is a  $q$ -deformation of the Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{sl}_2$  : in the limit  $q \rightarrow 1$  we recover the commutation relations of the  $\mathfrak{sl}_2$  triple  $(E, F, H)$  with  $K^{\pm 1} = q^{\pm H}$ .

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## Representations

Very similar to  $\mathfrak{sl}_2$ . For example, the spin- $\frac{1}{2}$  representation in the basis  $\{|\uparrow\rangle, |\downarrow\rangle\}$  is given by

$$E_{\mathbb{C}^2} = \sigma^+ := \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad F_{\mathbb{C}^2} = \sigma^- := \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$K_{\mathbb{C}^2}^{\pm 1} = q^{\pm \sigma^z} = \begin{pmatrix} q^{\pm 1} & 0 \\ 0 & q^{\mp 1} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Using the coproduct of  $U_q \mathfrak{sl}_2$  it can be extended to an action on  $(\mathbb{C}^2)^{\otimes N}$ .

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- For special boundary conditions

$$H_{\text{sym.}} := \frac{q - q^{-1}}{4} (\sigma_N^z - \sigma_1^z) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{N-1} \left( \sigma_i^x \sigma_{i+1}^x + \sigma_i^y \sigma_{i+1}^y + \frac{q + q^{-1}}{2} \sigma_i^z \sigma_{i+1}^z \right)$$

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- More generally, the hamiltonian densities

$$e_i = -\frac{1}{2} \left( \sigma_i^x \sigma_{i+1}^x + \sigma_i^y \sigma_{i+1}^y + \frac{q + q^{-1}}{2} (\sigma_i^z \sigma_{i+1}^z - 1) \right) - \frac{q - q^{-1}}{4} (\sigma_{i+1}^z - \sigma_i^z)$$

such that

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also commute with  $U_q \mathfrak{sl}_2$ ...

- ... and generate a representation of  $TL_{\delta, N}$  with  $\delta = q + q^{-1}$  !

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### Definition

Take  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$  and set  $\mathcal{V}_\alpha := \bigoplus_{0 \leq n} \mathbb{C} |n\rangle$ . Then  $U_q \mathfrak{sl}_2$  acts on  $\mathcal{V}_\alpha$  as

$$E_{\mathcal{V}_\alpha} |n\rangle = [n]_q [\alpha - n]_q |n-1\rangle ,$$

$$F_{\mathcal{V}_\alpha} |n\rangle = |n+1\rangle ,$$

$$[x]_q := \frac{q^x - q^{-x}}{q - q^{-1}}$$

$$K_{\mathcal{V}_\alpha}^{\pm 1} |n\rangle = q^{\pm(\alpha - 1 - 2n)} |n\rangle .$$

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Then

$$b_l^2 = b_l, \quad e_1 b_l e_1 = y_l e_1, \quad [b_l, e_i] = 0 \quad \text{for } 2 \leq i \leq N-1$$

$$b_r^2 = b_r, \quad e_{N-1} b_r e_{N-1} = y_r e_{N-1}, \quad [b_r, e_i] = 0 \quad \text{for } 1 \leq i \leq N-2$$

with

$$y_{l/r} = \frac{[\alpha_{l/r} + 1]_q}{[\alpha_{l/r}]_q}.$$

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- With

$$Y = \frac{q^{\alpha_l + \alpha_r + 1} + q^{-\alpha_l - \alpha_r - 1} - C}{(q^{\alpha_l} - q^{-\alpha_l})(q^{\alpha_r} - q^{-\alpha_r})}$$

$e_i$ ,  $b_l$  and  $b_r$  define a representation of the (universal) two-boundary Temperley-Lieb algebra.

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Using the fusion rules

$$\mathcal{V}_{\alpha} \otimes \mathcal{V}_{\beta} = \bigoplus_{n \geq 0} \mathcal{V}_{\alpha + \beta - 1 - 2n} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{V}_{\alpha} \otimes \mathbb{C}^2 = \mathcal{V}_{\alpha+1} \oplus \mathcal{V}_{\alpha-1}$$

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we obtain

$$\mathcal{V}_{\alpha_l} \otimes (\mathbb{C}^2)^{\otimes N} \otimes \mathcal{V}_{\alpha_r} = \bigoplus_{M \geq 0} \mathcal{V}_{\alpha_l + \alpha_r - 1 + N - 2M} \otimes \mathcal{Z}_M$$

where the  $\mathcal{Z}_M$  are some multiplicity spaces of dimension

$$d_M := \dim \mathcal{Z}_M = \begin{cases} \sum_{k=0}^M \binom{N}{k} & \text{for } 0 \leq M \leq N \\ 2^N & \text{for } M \geq N \end{cases}$$

Since  $C_{\mathcal{V}_\alpha} = q^\alpha + q^{-\alpha}$ ,

$$Y_{Z_M} = \frac{\left[ M + 1 - \frac{N}{2} \right]_q \left[ \alpha_l + \alpha_r - M + \frac{N}{2} \right]_q}{[\alpha_l]_q [\alpha_r]_q} := Y_M.$$

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Theorem (D.C., J.L. Jacobsen, A.M. Gainutdinov, H. Saleur '22)

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- ii) For  $M \geq N$ ,  $\mathcal{Z}_M \cong \mathcal{W}_M$  and is irreducible.

## Corollary

Define

$$H_{2b} := -\mu_l b_l - \mu_r b_r - \sum_{i=1}^{N-1} e_i$$

acting on  $\mathcal{V}_{\alpha_l} \otimes (\mathbb{C}^2)^{\otimes N} \otimes \mathcal{V}_{\alpha_r}$  and denote  $H_{\text{n.d.}}^{(M)} := H_{\text{n.d.}}(Y = Y_M)$ .

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- 1 Loop models and lattice algebras
- 2  $U_q \mathfrak{sl}_2$ -invariant realisation
- 3 **Bethe ansatz**

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- No need for a  $K$ -matrix: just use the affine  $R$ -matrix in Verma representation !
- The reference state is just the highest-weight vector  
 $|\uparrow\rangle := |0\rangle \otimes |\uparrow\rangle^{\otimes N} \otimes |0\rangle$ .

$U_q \mathfrak{sl}_2$  admits a universal  $R$ -matrix

$$R = q^{\frac{H \otimes H}{2}} \sum_{k \geq 0} \frac{(q - q^{-1})^{2k}}{\prod_{n=1}^k (q^n - q^{-n})} q^{k(k-1)/2} E^k \otimes F^k.$$

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For two representations  $\mathcal{X}$  and  $\mathcal{Y}$ , the operators

$$P_{\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y}} \circ R_{\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y}} : \mathcal{X} \otimes \mathcal{Y} \rightarrow \mathcal{Y} \otimes \mathcal{X},$$

$$R_{\mathcal{Y}, \mathcal{X}}^{-1} \circ P_{\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y}} : \mathcal{X} \otimes \mathcal{Y} \rightarrow \mathcal{Y} \otimes \mathcal{X}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} P_{\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y}} : \mathcal{X} \otimes \mathcal{Y} &\rightarrow \mathcal{Y} \otimes \mathcal{X} \\ x \otimes y &\mapsto y \otimes x \end{aligned}$$

are  $U_q \mathfrak{sl}_2$ -intertwiners.

Introduce, for any representation  $\mathcal{X}$  of  $U_q \mathfrak{sl}_2$ ,

$$R_{\mathcal{X}, \mathbb{C}^2}(u) := e^u R_{\mathcal{X}, \mathbb{C}^2} - e^{-u} P_{\mathbb{C}^2, \mathcal{X}} \circ R_{\mathbb{C}^2, \mathcal{X}}^{-1} \circ P_{\mathcal{X}, \mathbb{C}^2},$$

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Then for any three representations  $\mathcal{X}_{1,2,3}$  of  $U_q \mathfrak{sl}_2$  with at least two of them isomorphic to  $\mathbb{C}^2$  the Yang-Baxter equation

$$R_{\mathcal{X}_1, \mathcal{X}_2}(u-v) R_{\mathcal{X}_1, \mathcal{X}_3}(u) R_{\mathcal{X}_2, \mathcal{X}_3}(v) = R_{\mathcal{X}_2, \mathcal{X}_3}(v) R_{\mathcal{X}_1, \mathcal{X}_3}(u) R_{\mathcal{X}_1, \mathcal{X}_2}(u-v)$$

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is satisfied.

This sufficient to build the monodromy and transfer matrix !

Define the monodromy

$$\mathcal{T}(u) := T(u) \hat{T}(u) = \begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{A}(u) & \mathcal{B}(u) \\ \mathcal{C}(u) & \mathcal{D}(u) \end{pmatrix},$$

$$T(u) := R_{0, \nu_{\alpha_r}}(u - \zeta_r) R_{0, N}(u) \dots R_{0, 1}(u) R_{0, \nu_{\alpha_l}}(u - \zeta_l),$$

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By construction  $t(u)$  is  $U_q \mathfrak{sl}_2$ -invariant and

$$H_{2b} = c_1 + c_2 \frac{d}{du} \Big|_{u=\hbar/2} t(u)$$

with  $q = e^{\hbar}$ ,  $c_1, c_2$  some explicit constants and  $\mu_{l/r}$  related to  $\zeta_{l/r}$ .

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iff the rapidities  $\{v_m\}_{1 \leq m \leq M}$  satisfy the **Bethe ansatz equations (BAE)**

$$\frac{\Delta_l(v_m) \Delta_r(v_m)}{\Delta_l(-v_m) \Delta_r(-v_m)} \left( \frac{\sinh(v_m + \hbar/2)}{\sinh(v_m - \hbar/2)} \right)^{2N} = \prod_{\substack{k=1 \\ k \neq m}}^M \frac{\sinh(v_m - v_k + \hbar) \sinh(v_m + v_k + \hbar)}{\sinh(v_m - v_k - \hbar) \sinh(v_m + v_k - \hbar)}$$

$$\Delta_{l/r}(u) := 1 - \mu_{l/r} \frac{\sinh(u - \hbar/2) \sinh(u + \hbar(\alpha_{l/r} - 1/2))}{\sinh(\hbar) \sinh(\hbar \alpha_{l/r})}$$

$$\propto \sinh\left(u + \hbar \frac{\alpha_{l/r} - 1}{2} - \zeta_{l/r}\right) \sinh\left(u + \hbar \frac{\alpha_{l/r} - 1}{2} + \zeta_{l/r}\right).$$

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- One needs to transform  $\alpha_{l/r}, \mu_{l/r} \rightarrow -\alpha_{l/r}, -\mu_{l/r}$  and  $M \rightarrow N - M - 1$  in the BAE.
- We can even reach "negative" values of  $M$ .

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Denote  $E_j$  the ground state of  $H_b|_{\mathcal{H}_{N/2-j}}$ . Then

$$E_j = Ne_b + E_s + \frac{\pi v_F}{N} \left( -\frac{c}{24} + h_{\alpha, \alpha+2j} \right) + o(1/N^2),$$

where

- $e_b$  is the bulk energy per site,
- $E_s$  is the surface energy,
- $v_F = p \sin \frac{\pi}{p}$  is the Fermi velocity,
- $c = 1 - \frac{6}{p(p-1)}$  is the central charge,
- $h_{r,s} = \frac{(pr - (p-1)s)^2 - 1}{4p(p-1)}$  are conformal weights.

By the Cardy formula these corrections provide the CFT spectrum in the continuum

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \text{tr}_{\mathcal{H}_{N/2-j}} q^{\frac{N}{\pi v_F} (H_b - N e_b - E_s)} = \frac{q^{-\frac{c}{24} + h_{\alpha, \alpha+2j}}}{\prod_{n=1}^{+\infty} (1 - q^n)}.$$

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Loop model partition function on a cylinder of parameter  $\tau = M/N$  :

$$Z_\tau(\delta, y) = \sum_{j \in \mathbb{Z}} \frac{\sin \frac{\pi(\alpha+1)}{p}}{\sin \frac{\pi\alpha}{p}} \frac{q^{-\frac{c}{24} + h_{\alpha, \alpha+2j}}}{\prod_{n=1}^{+\infty} (1 - q^n)}$$

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- Related to spanning forests and  $(\eta, \xi)$  ghost CFT for  $p = 2$ .

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Coulomb gas/loop model prediction:

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- Additional symmetry in the continuum ?

## Summary

- We started with the XXZ Hamiltonian  $H_{\text{n.d.}}$  with arbitrary boundary fields  $\vec{h}_{l/r}$ .

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- CFT scaling limit at criticality and relation to Virasoro fusion.

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- We constructed a  $U_q\mathfrak{sl}_2$ -invariant Hamiltonian  $H_{2b}$  whose sectors  $\mathcal{Z}_M$  are the vacuum modules  $\mathcal{W}_M$  of  $2\mathcal{B}_{\delta, y_{l/r}, Y_M, N}$ .
- We diagonalised  $H_{2b}|_{\mathcal{Z}_M}$  and thus  $H_{\text{n.d.}}$  by algebraic Bethe ansatz for arbitrary values of the parameters  $\delta$ ,  $y_{l/r}$ ,  $\mu_{l/r}$  and  $Y = Y_M$ .
- We saw that the Nepomechie condition  $Y \in \{Y_M, M \geq 0\}$  originates from  $U_q\mathfrak{sl}_2$  fusion rules.

## Open questions

- A spin chain covering all values of  $Y$ .
- CFT scaling limit at criticality and relation to Virasoro fusion.
- QFT interpretation ?

# Conclusion

## Summary

- We started with the XXZ Hamiltonian  $H_{\text{n.d.}}$  with arbitrary boundary fields  $\vec{h}_{l/r}$ .
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## Open questions

- A spin chain covering all values of  $Y$ .
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- QFT interpretation ?
- Relation to loop models, 2D random geometry, ASEP...

# Backstage : "Dual" BAE

$$\frac{\bar{\Delta}_l(v_m)\bar{\Delta}_r(v_m)}{\bar{\Delta}_l(-v_m)\bar{\Delta}_r(-v_m)} \left( \frac{\sinh(v_m + \hbar/2)}{\sinh(v_m - \hbar/2)} \right)^{2N} = \prod_{\substack{k=1 \\ k \neq m}}^{\bar{M}} \frac{\sinh(v_m - v_k + \hbar) \sinh(v_m + v_k)}{\sinh(v_m - v_k - \hbar) \sinh(v_m + v_k)}$$

with  $\bar{M} = N - M - 1$  and

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\Delta}_{l/r}(u) &:= 1 - \mu_{l/r} \frac{\sinh(u - \hbar/2) \sinh(u - \hbar(\alpha_{l/r} + 1/2))}{\sinh(\hbar) \sinh(\hbar\alpha_{l/r})} \\ &= \frac{\sinh\left(u - \hbar\frac{\alpha_{l/r} + 1}{2} - \zeta_{l/r}\right) \sinh\left(u - \hbar\frac{\alpha_{l/r} + 1}{2} + \zeta_{l/r}\right)}{\sinh\left(\frac{\hbar\alpha_{l/r}}{2} - \zeta_{l/r}\right) \sinh\left(\frac{\hbar\alpha_{l/r}}{2} + \zeta_{l/r}\right)}. \end{aligned}$$

They come from the isomorphism

$$2B_{\delta, y_{l/r}, Y_M, N} \cong 2B_{\delta, \delta - y_{l/r}, \delta - y_l - y_r + Y_{\bar{M}}, N}, \quad b_{l/r} \rightarrow 1 - b_{l/r}.$$

## Backstage : Explicit expressions of $b_{l/r}$

We have

$$b_l = \frac{1}{[\alpha_l]_q} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{q^{\alpha_l} - q^{-1}K^{-1}}{q - q^{-1}} & F \\ qK^{-1}E & \frac{qK^{-1} - q^{-\alpha_l}}{q - q^{-1}} \end{pmatrix}, \quad b_r = \frac{1}{[\alpha_r]_q} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{qK - q^{-\alpha_r}}{q - q^{-1}} & qKF \\ E & \frac{q^{\alpha_r} - q^{-1}K}{q - q^{-1}} \end{pmatrix}$$

written as  $2 \times 2$  matrices with elements in  $\text{End}(\mathcal{V}_{\alpha_{l/r}})$ .

$b_{l/r}$  is the projector on the  $\mathcal{V}_{\alpha_{l/r}+1}$  factor of  $\mathcal{V}_{\alpha_l} \otimes \mathbb{C}^2$  or  $\mathbb{C}^2 \otimes \mathcal{V}_{\alpha_r}$ .