

**Theorem 3.1.** (Aschbacher–Scott, 1985 [4]) The determination (up to conjugacy) of all pairs  $(G, M)$ ,  $G$  a finite group and  $M \leq G$  a maximal subgroup, reduces modulo “smaller or easier” problems to the following:

1.  $G$  is almost simple (and  $M$  is maximal in  $G$ )
2.  $G = H.V$  a semidirect product of a quasisimple finite group  $H$  and one of its irreducible modules  $V$  over  $\mathbb{F}_p$ , and  $M$  is a complement to  $V$ . In this case, the conjugacy classes in  $G$  of such maximal subgroups  $M$  correspond bijectively to elements of the cohomology group  $H^1(H, V)$ .

**Theorem 3.2** (Aschbacher, 1984 [3]). Let  $G$  be a finite classical group associated to a vector space  $V$ , and  $M \leq G$  a maximal subgroup. Then one of the following holds:

1.  $M$  belongs to a natural list subgroups of  $G$  (suspected maximal subgroups, constructed in relatively obvious ways), or to a small list of non-natural cases.
2.  $M$  is the normalizer in  $G$  of a quasisimple subgroup  $H \leq GL(V)$  acting irreducibly on the vector space  $V$ .

Returning to  $\overline{G} = \mathrm{SL}(6, \overline{F}_q)$ , we will let  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3, \lambda_4, \lambda_5$  denote the fundamental weights associated to the underlying root system.

**Proposition 3** (*McDowell*) *Write Kazhdan-Lusztig polynomials as above, using representative weights in  $p$ -alcoves for  $p = 7$ . (Thus  $P_{y,w}$  is written  $P_{\mu,\lambda}$  for  $\mu = y \cdot -2\rho, \lambda = w \cdot -2\rho$ .) Then there is an affine Weyl group element  $w$  with  $w \cdot -2\rho = \lambda = 4\lambda_1 + 5\lambda_2 + 4\lambda_3 + 5\lambda_4 + 4\lambda_5$ . If  $\mu = 0$  ( $= w_0 \cdot -2\rho$ ), we have*

$$P_{\mu,\lambda}(t^2) = 1 + 8t^2 + 25t^4 + 51t^6 + 80t^8 + 87t^{10} + 70t^{12} + 38t^{14} + 14t^{16} + 3t^{18},$$

where  $t^2$  is indeterminate (the usual “ $q$ ”). The length  $\ell(\lambda) = \ell(w) - \ell(w_0)$  defined above is 19.

**Corollary 4** *Assume  $p$  is large enough for the Lusztig conjecture to hold for  $\overline{G} = \mathrm{SL}(6, \overline{F}_q)$ . Put  $V = L(w \cdot -2\rho)$  with  $w$  as above. For all sufficiently large powers  $q$  of  $p$ , we have*

$$\dim H^1(\overline{G}(q), V) \geq 3,$$

Moreover, the center  $Z(q)$  of  $\overline{G}(q)$  acts trivially on  $V$ , and the dimension of  $H^1(\overline{G}(q)/Z(q), V)$  is the same as that of  $H^1(\overline{G}(q), V)$ . The module  $V$  is a faithful irreducible module for the group  $G = \overline{G}(q)/Z(q)$ .

The following proposition is the  $r = 1$  case of a result of Lin [28, Thm. 2.7]. It shows that the  $\Delta^{\text{red}}$ - and  $\nabla_{\text{red}}$ -construction behaves well with respect to tensor products. (The proof we give would also work for  $r > 1$ , and seems similar to Lin's proof which does not explicitly use Lemma 1.5, or its  $r > 1$  analogue.) Let  $\mathfrak{g}_{\mathbb{C}}$  be the complex semisimple Lie algebra of the same type as  $G$ . There is a surjective “Frobenius morphism”  $\text{Fr} : U_{\zeta} \twoheadrightarrow U(\mathfrak{g}_{\mathbb{C}})$ , where  $U(\mathfrak{g}_{\mathbb{C}})$  is the universal enveloping algebra of  $\mathfrak{g}_{\mathbb{C}}$ . Given any  $\mathfrak{g}_{\mathbb{C}}$ -module  $M$ ,  $\text{Fr}^*M$  denotes the pull-back of  $M$  to  $U_{\zeta}$ . For  $\lambda \in X^+$ ,  $\text{Fr}^*L_{\mathbb{C}}(\lambda) \cong L_{\zeta}(p\lambda)$ , if  $L_{\mathbb{C}}(\lambda)$  is the irreducible  $\mathfrak{g}_{\mathbb{C}}$ -module of high weight  $\lambda$ .

**Proposition 1.6.** *Suppose  $\lambda = \lambda_0 + p\lambda_1$  where  $\lambda_0 \in X_1^+$  and  $\lambda_1 \in X^+$ . Then  $\Delta^{\text{red}}(\lambda) = \Delta^{\text{red}}(\lambda_0) \otimes \Delta(\lambda_1)^{(1)}$  and  $\nabla_{\text{red}}(\lambda) = \nabla_{\text{red}}(\lambda_0) \otimes \nabla(\lambda_1)^{(1)}$ .*

**1.4. Character formulas.** Let  $\lambda \in X^+$  and write  $\lambda = w \cdot \lambda^-$ , where  $\lambda^- \in \overline{C_{\mathbb{Z}}^-}$  and  $w$  has minimal length among all elements  $w' \in W_p$  which satisfy  $w' \cdot \lambda^- = \lambda$ . Because the isotropy subgroup of  $\lambda^-$  in  $W_p$  has the form  $W_J$  for some  $J \subset S_p$ ,  $w$  is uniquely determined as a distinguished left coset representative of  $W_J$  in  $W$ . For  $y, w \in W_p$ , let  $P_{y,w} \in \mathbb{Z}[t]$  be the associated Kazhdan-Lusztig polynomial.<sup>1</sup> Define<sup>2</sup>

$$(1.2.1) \quad \chi_{\text{KL}}(\lambda) = \sum_{y \in W_p, y \cdot \lambda^- \in X^+} (-1)^{l(w) - l(y)} P_{y,w}(-1) \chi(y \cdot \lambda^-).$$

The following result is proved by Kato for  $p \geq h$ , but the argument works for all  $p$ . (In Kato's argument, replace the weight  $\lambda$  in the interior of an alcove by a weight in its closure.)

**Lemma 1.3.** (*Kato [25]*) *Let  $\lambda \in X^+$  have expansion  $\lambda = \lambda_0 + p\lambda_1$  where  $\lambda_0 \in X_1^+$  and  $\lambda_1 \in X^+$ . Then*

$$\chi_{\text{KL}}(\lambda) = \chi_{\text{KL}}(\lambda_0) \chi(\lambda_1)^{(1)}.$$

Following [32], we say that  $\lambda \in X^+$  satisfies the Lusztig character formula (LCF) provided that  $\text{ch } L(\lambda) = \chi_{\text{KL}}(\lambda)$ . Also, we say that  $\lambda = w \cdot \lambda^-$  satisfies the homological LCF (hLCF) provided that

$$(1.3.1) \quad t^{l(w) - l(y)} \overline{P}_{y,w} = p_{y \cdot \lambda^-, L(w \cdot \lambda^-)} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \dim \text{Ext}_G^n(L(w \cdot \lambda^-), \nabla(y \cdot \lambda^-)) t^n,$$

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<sup>1</sup>Recall that  $P_{y,w}$  is a polynomial in  $q := t^2$ . We prefer to regard  $P_{y,w}$  as a polynomial in  $t$ , albeit one which is a polynomial also in  $t^2$ . Unless  $y \leq w$ ,  $P_{y,w} = 0$ . If  $y = w$ , then  $P_{y,w} = 1$ . If  $y < w$ ,  $P_{y,w}$  has degree (in  $t$ )  $\leq \ell(w) - \ell(y) - 1$ . If  $y < w$ , let  $\mu(y, w)$  be the coefficient of  $t^{\ell(w) - \ell(y) - 1}$ ; otherwise, put  $\mu(y, w) = 0$ .

<sup>2</sup>Let  $F$  be the unique facet containing  $\lambda$ . Then, using [23, 6.11],  $F$  lies in the upper closure of a unique alcove  $C$ . If  $C'$  is a second alcove satisfying  $F \subseteq \overline{C'}$ , then  $C \uparrow C'$ . If  $w \in W_p$  satisfies  $w \cdot C^- = C$ , then  $w$  is the shortest element in  $W_p$  satisfying  $w \cdot \lambda^- = \lambda$ . In the expression below, given  $\mu \in X^+$ , there may well exist several  $y \leq w$  such that  $y \cdot \lambda^- = \mu$ .

The following result should hold for  $p = h$ . The third author and a University of Virginia undergraduate, Mark Rawls, have checked this result empirically for the case  $p = h = 7$ . The verification was obtained in the course of a general program to implement the proposition and the proof of Theorem 6.7 as a new algorithm for calculating the Kazhdan-Lusztig polynomials (for affine Weyl groups) appearing in the LCF.

**Proposition 4.2.** *Assume that  $p > h$  and that  $\lambda, \mu \in X^+$ . Then  $p_{\mu, \Delta(\lambda)(1)} = 0$  unless  $\mu = w \cdot 0 + p\xi$ ,  $w \in W$ ,  $\xi \in X$ . In this case,  $p_{\mu, \Delta(\lambda)(1)} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{x \in W} (-1)^{l(x)} \mathbf{p}_{\frac{n-l(w)}{2}}(x \cdot \lambda - \xi) t^n$  where the sum is restricted to those integers  $n$  such that  $n \equiv l(w) \pmod{2}$ .*

**Corollary 5.2.** *Assume that  $p > h$ . For  $\lambda \in X^+$ , write  $p\lambda = x \cdot \tau^-$ ,  $x \in W_p$  and  $\tau^- \in C_{\mathbb{Z}}^-$ . Then  $\Delta(\lambda)^{(1)}$  satisfies the hLCF condition, in the sense that*

$$(5.2.1) \quad t^{l(x)-l(y)} \overline{P}_{y,x} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \dim \operatorname{Ext}_G^n(\Delta(\lambda)^{(1)}, \nabla(y \cdot \tau^-)) t^n$$

for any  $y \in W_p$  such that  $y \cdot \tau^- \in X^+$ . In addition, we have

$$(5.2.2) \quad \mu(y, x) = \dim \operatorname{Ext}_G^1(\Delta(\lambda)^{(1)}, \nabla(y \cdot \tau^-)) \leq 1,$$

where  $\mu(y, x)$  is the coefficient of  $t^{l(x)-l(y)}$  in  $P_{y,x}$  (cf. footnote 1).



**Theorem 5.4.** *Assume that  $p > h$  and the LCF holds for all regular restricted weights. Suppose  $\lambda, \mu$  are regular dominant weights. Then*

$$\begin{aligned} \dim \operatorname{Ext}_G^n(\Delta^{\text{red}}(\lambda), \nabla_{\text{red}}(\mu)) \\ = \sum_{m=0}^n \sum_{\nu} \dim \operatorname{Ext}_G^m(\Delta^{\text{red}}(\lambda), \nabla(\nu)) \cdot \dim \operatorname{Ext}_G^{n-m}(\Delta(\nu), \nabla_{\text{red}}(\mu)). \end{aligned}$$

Furthermore, if  $\lambda = x \cdot \lambda^-$ , where  $\lambda^- \in C_{\mathbb{Z}}^-$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} t^{l(x)-l(y)} \overline{P}_{y,x} &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \dim \operatorname{Ext}_G^n(\Delta^{\text{red}}(\lambda), \nabla(y \cdot \lambda^-)) t^n \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \dim \operatorname{Ext}_G^n(\Delta(y \cdot \lambda^-), \nabla_{\text{red}}(\lambda)) t^n. \end{aligned}$$

In particular,

$$\dim \operatorname{Ext}^n(\Delta^{\text{red}}(\lambda), \nabla_{\text{red}}(\mu)) = \dim \operatorname{Ext}_{\mathcal{C}_{\zeta}}^n(L_{\zeta}(\lambda), L_{\zeta}(\mu)),$$

$$(7.2.1) \quad E(\Phi) = \max \mu(y, w),$$

where the max ranges over all  $y, w \in W_p$  with  $l(y) = l(w_0) + l(w_0y), l(w) = l(w_0) + l(w_0w)$ . (See (1.4.3.) It does not seem obvious from a Coxeter group viewpoint that  $E(\Phi)$  is finite, though Lemma 7.6 shows this is the case. The precise value of  $E(\Phi)$  is unknown, as is the value of a related constant  $E_0(\Phi)$ , which we define as

$$(7.2.2) \quad E_0(\Phi) = \max \mu(w_0, w),$$

where max ranges over all  $w \in W_p$  with  $l(w) = l(w_0) + l(w_0w)$ . That is,  $E_0(\Phi)$  is defined like  $E(\Phi)$ , except with  $y$  fixed, as  $y = w_0$ . Thus,  $y \cdot (-2\rho) = 0$ , and  $E_0(\Phi)$  is a bound, for  $p > h$ , on  $\dim \text{Ext}_{\mathcal{C}_\zeta}^1(L_\zeta(\lambda), L_\zeta(\mu))$  when  $\lambda = 0$ , the 1-cohomology case.

**Theorem 7.3.** *There is a constant  $C = C(\Phi)$ , depending only on  $\Phi$ , such that if  $G$  is a semisimple, simply connected algebraic group over an algebraically closed field  $k$  with root system  $\Phi$ , then  $\dim H^1(G, L(\mu)) \leq C, \forall \mu \in X^+$ . Also, if we consider only characteristics  $p > h$  for which the LCF holds for all regular weights in  $X_1^+$ ) then  $\dim H^1(G, L(\mu)) \leq E_0(\Phi), \forall \mu \in X^+$ .*

**Theorem 7.4.** *The number  $\dim H_{\text{gen}}^1(G, L)$  is, for all irreducible rational  $G$ -modules  $L$ , bounded by a constant depending only on  $\Phi$ , and not on  $p$  and  $L$ .*

these groups to quantum analogues. Given  $\lambda \in X^+$ , write  $\lambda = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} p^i \lambda_i$ , where  $\lambda_i \in X_1^+$ . We make no assumption on  $p$ , except those explicitly noted below. Put

$$\lambda^{(i)} = \sum_{j=i}^{\infty} p^{j-i} \lambda_j.$$

**Theorem 7.2.** *Assume that  $p > h$  and that the LCF holds for all regular weights in  $X_1^+$ . Let  $\lambda, \mu \in X^+$  be distinct weights with  $\lambda > \mu$  and let  $j$  be minimal so that  $\lambda_j \neq \mu_j$ . Suppose that  $\lambda^{(j)} \in X_{\text{reg}}^+$ . Then<sup>7</sup>  $\dim \operatorname{Ext}_G^1(L(\lambda), L(\mu)) = \dim \operatorname{Ext}_G^1(L(\lambda^{(j)}), L(\mu^{(j)})) \leq \dim \operatorname{Ext}_{C_\zeta}^1(L_\zeta(\lambda^{(j)}), L_\zeta(\mu^{(j)}))$ .*

**Theorem 7.7.** *There is a constant  $\hat{C} = \hat{C}(\Phi)$  such that depending only on the root system  $\Phi$  with the following property: Let  $G$  is a semisimple, simply connected algebraic group over an algebraically closed field  $k$  of characteristic  $p > 0$ . If  $\lambda \in X^+$  with  $\lambda_j$  regular for each index  $j \geq 0$ , then  $\dim \operatorname{Ext}_G^1(L(\lambda), L(\mu)) \leq \hat{C} \ \forall \mu \in X^+$ . If  $p > h$  is such that LCF holds for all regular weights in  $X_1^+$ , we may take  $\hat{C} = E(\Phi)$  (defined in terms of Kazhdan-Lusztig polynomials in (7.2.1)).*

**Theorem 7.9.** *There is a constant  $\widehat{C} = \widehat{C}(\Phi)$ , depending only on  $\Phi$ , such that, for any  $G$  over an algebraically closed field  $k$  of characteristic  $p > h$  having root system  $\Phi$ , we have  $\dim \operatorname{Ext}_{G, \text{gen}}^1(L(\lambda), L(\mu)) := H_{\text{gen}}^1(G, \operatorname{Hom}_k(L(\lambda), L(\mu))) \leq \widehat{C}$  for  $\lambda, \mu \in X^+$  such that  $\lambda_j$  is*

regular for each  $j$ . If  $p > h$  is such that the LCF holds for all regular weights in  $X_1^+$ , we may take  $\hat{C} = E(\Phi)$ .

We conclude this paper with the following result and a remark.

**Theorem 7.10.** *Assume that  $p > h$ . Let  $\lambda = \tau + p\nu \in X^+$ , with  $0 \neq \tau \in X_1^+$  and  $\nu \in X^+$ . Suppose that  $\dim H^1(G, L(\lambda)) > 1$ . Then  $\tau > p\nu^*$ , where  $\nu^* = -w_0(\nu) \in X^+$  (the image of  $\nu$  under the opposition involution).*