# Oppositeness in buildings and representations of finite groups of Lie type 

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## Outline

Introduction

Notation and terminology

Oppositeness

## Permutation modules

## Carter-Lusztig Theorem

Relation to representations of algebraic groups
An $E_{6}$ Example

## Introduction

The oppositeness graph of the Tits building of a finite group $G=G(q)$ of Lie type is a $q$-analog of the classical Kneser graph.
In this talk we consider oppositeness from the point of view of representation theory of $G$.

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## An $E_{6}$ Example

## Groups with BN-pairs

- $G=G(q)$ group with a split BN-pair ( $B=U H, N$ ), characteristic $p$, rank $\ell$
- $I=\{1, \ldots, \ell\}$
- W, Weyl group euclidean reflection group in a real vector space $V$,
root system $R$, positive roots $R^{+}$, simple roots $S=\left\{\alpha_{i} \mid i \in I\right\}$
- $w_{i}$ reflection in hyperplane perpendicular to $\alpha_{i}$.
- $W=\left\langle w_{i} \mid i \in I\right\rangle$ Coxeter group.
- $\ell(w)$, is the length of the shortest expression for $w$ as a word in the generators $w_{i}$.
$\boldsymbol{\ell}(w)=$ the number of positive roots which $w$ transforms to negative roots.
- $w_{0}$ unique longest element of $W$, sends all positive roots to negative roots.


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## Parabolic subgroups

- $J \subseteq 1$
- $W_{J}:=\left\langle W_{i} \mid i \in J\right\rangle$ standard parabolic subgroup of $W$
- $P_{J}=B W_{J} B$ is a standard parabolic subgroup of $G$.


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## Types and objects of the building

- A type and its cotype are simply a subset of $I$ and its complement.
- An object of cotype $J$ is a right coset of $P_{J}$ in $G$.


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## Opposite types

## Definition

Two types $J$ and $K$ are opposite if

$$
\left\{-w_{0}\left(\alpha_{i}\right) \mid i \in J\right\}=\left\{\alpha_{j} \mid j \in K\right\},
$$

or, equivalently, if

$$
\left\{w_{0} w_{i} w_{0} \mid i \in J\right\}=\left\{w_{i} \mid i \in K\right\} .
$$



## $A_{3}$, skew lines in $P G(3, q)$



## $D_{5}$, flags in oriflamme geometry



## $E_{6}$



## Opposite objects

Let $J$ and $K$ be fixed opposite types.

## Definition

An object $P_{J} g$ of cotype $J$ is opposite an object $P_{K} h$ of cotype $K$ iff

$$
\begin{aligned}
& P_{K} h g^{-1} P_{J}=P_{K} w_{0} P_{J} \\
& \left(\Longleftrightarrow P_{K} h \subseteq P_{K} w_{0} P_{J} g\right. \\
& \left.\Longleftrightarrow P_{J} g \subseteq P_{J} w_{0} P_{K} h\right) .
\end{aligned}
$$

## The oppositeness matrix

- Let $A=A(J, K)$ be the oppositeness matrix for objects of cotype $J$ and $K$.

> Theorem
> (Brouwer, 2009) The square of every eigenvalue $\lambda$ of $A$ is a power of $q$.
> - We will show that the p-rank of $A$ is the degree of an irreducible representation of $G$.

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## Permutation modules on flags

- Let $k$ be a field of characteristic $p$. Let $\mathcal{F}_{J}$ denote the space of functions from the set $P_{J} \backslash G$ of objects of cotype $J$ to $k$. Then $\mathcal{F}_{J}$ is a left $k G$-module by the rule

$$
(x f)\left(P_{J} g\right)=f\left(P_{J} g x\right), \quad f \in \mathcal{F}_{J}, \quad g, x \in G
$$

Let $\delta_{P_{J g}}$ denote the characteristic function of the object $P_{J} g \in P_{J} \backslash G$. Then $\mathcal{F}_{J}$ is generated as a $k G$-module by $\delta_{P_{j} g}$

## The oppositeness homomorphism

- The relation of oppositeness defines a $k G$-homomorphism $\eta: \mathcal{F}_{J} \rightarrow \mathcal{F}_{K}$ given by

$$
\eta(f)\left(P_{K} h\right)=\sum_{P_{J} g \subseteq P_{J} w_{0} P_{K} h} f\left(P_{J} g\right) .
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- We have

so the characteristic function of an object of cotype $J$ is sent to the sum of the characteristic functions of all objects opposite to it.


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$$
\eta\left(\delta_{P_{J} g}\right)=\sum_{P_{K} h \subseteq P_{K} w_{0} P J g} \delta_{P_{K} h} .
$$

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## Simplicity of oppositeness modules

Theorem
The image of $\eta$ is a simple module, uniquely characterized by the property that its one-dimensional $\cup$-invariant subspace has full stablizer equal to $P_{J}$, which acts trivially on it.
This result is essentially a corollary of a more general result of Carter and Lusztig (1976) on the Iwahori-Hecke Algebra $\operatorname{End}_{k G}\left(\mathcal{F}_{\emptyset}\right)$. We next describe their result.

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## The Iwahori-Hecke Algebra

- $\mathcal{F}=\mathcal{F}_{\emptyset}$.
- For $w \in W$ define $T_{w} \in \operatorname{End}_{k}(\mathcal{F})$ by

- Then

$$
T_{w} \in \operatorname{End}_{k G}(\mathcal{F}), \quad \text { for all } w \in W
$$

- One can show that

$$
T_{w w^{\prime}}=T_{w} T_{w^{\prime}} \quad \text { if } \ell\left(w w^{\prime}\right)=\ell(w)+\ell\left(w^{\prime}\right) .
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- Let $w \in W$ have reduced expression

$$
w_{j_{n}} \cdots w_{j_{1}}
$$

$\Rightarrow$ We consider the partial products $w_{j_{1}}, w_{j_{2}} w_{j_{1}}, \ldots w_{j_{n}} \cdots w_{j_{1}}$.

- Each partial product sends exactly one more positive root to a negative root than its predecessors, namely
$w_{j_{i}} \cdots w_{j_{i-1}}\left(r_{j i}\right)$.
- Let $J$ be a subset of $I$.
- $V_{J}:=$ subspace of $V$ spanned by $S_{j}=\left\{\alpha_{i} \mid i \in J\right\}$.
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- For any reduced expression

$$
w_{0}=w_{j_{k}} \cdots w_{j_{1}}
$$

define

$$
\Theta_{j_{i}}=\left\{\begin{array}{l}
T_{w_{j i}} \quad \text { if } w_{j_{1}} \cdots w_{j_{i-1}}\left(r_{j_{j}}\right) \notin V_{J} \\
I+T_{w_{j_{i}}} \quad \text { if } w_{j_{1}} \cdots w_{j_{i-1}}\left(r_{j_{i}}\right) \in V_{J}
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and set

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\Theta_{w_{0}}^{J}=\Theta_{j_{k}} \Theta_{j_{k-1}} \cdots \Theta_{j_{k}} .
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## Theorem

(Carter,Lusztig) The image $\Theta_{w_{0}}^{J}(\mathcal{F})$ is a simple kG-module. The full stablizer of the one-dimensional subspace of $U$-fixed points in this module is $P_{J}$ and the action of $P_{J}$ on this one-dimensional subspace is trivial.

## Application of Carter-Lusztig to oppositeness

- We choose a particular expression for $w_{0}$ to define $\Theta_{w_{0}}^{J}(\mathcal{F})$.
$\Rightarrow R_{J}=R \cap V_{J}$ is a root system in $V_{J}$ with simple system $S_{J}$ and Weyl group $W_{J}$.
- $w_{J}$ be the longest element in $W_{J}$.
- Let

$$
w_{J}=w_{i_{m}} \cdots w_{i_{2}} w_{i_{1}}
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be a reduced expression for $w_{J}$. The above expression can be extended to a reduced expresion

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w_{0}=w_{i_{k}} \cdots w_{i_{m+1}} w_{i_{m}} \cdots w_{i_{1}}
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$$
\begin{aligned}
& w^{*}=w_{i_{k}} \cdot \\
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- Write $\Theta_{w_{0}}^{J}$ using the above expression for $w_{0}$.


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- Write $\Theta_{w_{0}}^{J}$ using the above expression for $w_{0}$.
- The expression $w_{0}=w^{*} w_{J}$ is chosen so that for the first $m$ partial products the new positive root sent to a negative root belongs to $V_{J}$, and the new positive roots for the remaining partial products do not belong to $V_{J}$.

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\Theta_{w_{0}}^{J}=T_{w^{*}}\left(1+T_{w_{i_{m}}}\right) \cdots\left(1+T_{w_{i_{1}}}\right),
$$

- Since $\ell\left(w^{*} w\right)=\ell\left(w^{*}\right)+\ell(w)$ for all $w \in W_{J}$, we see that $\Theta_{w_{0}}^{J}$ is a sum of endomorphisms of the form $T_{w^{*} w}$, for certain elements $w \in W_{J}$, with exactly one term of this sum equal to $T_{w^{*}}$.


## The projections $\pi_{J}$ and $\pi_{K}$

- Let $\pi_{J}: \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathcal{F}_{J}$ be defined by

$$
\left(\pi_{J}(f)\right)\left(P_{J} g\right)=\sum_{B h \subseteq P_{J} g} f(B h)
$$

$\Rightarrow \pi_{J}\left(\delta_{B}\right)=\delta_{P_{j}}, \pi_{J}$ is a surjective $k G$-module homomorphisms

- $\pi_{k}$ defined similarly.


## The projections $\pi_{J}$ and $\pi_{K}$

- Let $\pi_{J}: \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathcal{F}_{J}$ be defined by

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## A computation

Compare $\eta \pi_{\jmath}$ with $\pi_{K} T_{w^{*} w}$ for $w \in W_{J}$. For $f \in \mathcal{F}$,

$$
\begin{aligned}
{\left[\eta\left(\pi_{J}(f)\right)\right]\left(P_{K} g\right) } & =\sum_{P_{J} \pitchfork P_{J} w^{*-1} P_{K} g} \sum_{B x \subseteq P_{J h}} f(B x) \\
& =\sum_{B x \subseteq P_{J} w^{*-1} P_{K} g} f(B x) .
\end{aligned}
$$

and

$$
\begin{aligned}
{\left[\pi_{K}\left(T_{w^{*} w}(f)\right)\right]\left(P_{K} h\right) } & =\sum_{B g \subseteq P_{K} h}\left(T_{w^{*} w^{*}} f\right)(B g) \\
& =\sum_{B g \subseteq P_{k} h} \sum_{B x \subseteq B\left(w^{*} w\right)^{-1} B g} f(B x) \\
& =\sum_{B g \subseteq P^{\prime} h} \sum_{B g \subseteq B\left(w^{*} w\right) B x} f(B x) \\
& =q^{\ell(w)} \sum_{B x \subseteq P_{J w^{*-1}} P_{K} g} f(B x) .
\end{aligned}
$$

- Thus, we have for each $w \in W_{J}$ a commutative diagram

- If $w \neq 1$ we have $\pi_{K} T_{w w^{*}}=0$.
- Hence $\pi_{K} \Theta_{w_{0}}^{J}=\pi_{K} T_{w^{*}}=\eta \pi_{J}$.
- Finally, $\Theta_{w_{0}}^{J}(\mathcal{F})$ is simple and $\eta \pi J(\mathcal{F}) \neq 0$, so $\eta\left(\mathcal{F}_{J}\right)=\eta \pi_{J}(\mathcal{F}) \cong \Theta_{w_{0}}^{J}(\mathcal{F})$.
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## Outline

## Introduction <br> Notation and terminology <br> Oppositeness <br> Permutation modules <br> Carter-Lusztig Theorem

Relation to representations of algebraic groups

## An $E_{6}$ Example

## Highest weights of oppositeness modules

- $G=G(q)$ is a Chevalley group of universal type or a twisted subgroup.
- Simple modules are restrictions of certain simple rational modules $L(\lambda)$ of the ambient algebraic group, so we want to identify the highest weight $\lambda$ of the oppositeness modules.
- If $G$ is an untwisted group, then the fundamental weights $\omega_{i}$ for the ambient algebraic group are indexed by $I$, and the highest weight of the simple module in the theorem is $\sum_{i \in \backslash J}(q-1) \omega_{i}$.


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$\sum_{i \in \backslash \nu}(q-1) \omega_{i}$.
- If $G$ is a twisted group, inside untwisted $G^{*}$. There are two cases.
- Suppose that all roots of $G^{*}$ have the same length $\left({ }^{2} A_{\ell}\right.$, ${ }^{2} D_{\ell},{ }^{3} D_{4},{ }^{2} E_{6}$ ). Let $I^{*}=\left\{1, \ldots, \ell^{*}\right\}$ index the fundamental roots. Then $G$ arises from a symmetry $\rho$ of the Dynkin diagram of $G^{*}$ and the index set I for $G$ labels the $\rho$-orbits on $I^{*}$. Let $\omega_{i}, i \in I^{*}$ be the fundamental weights of the ambient algebraic group. For $J \subseteq I$, let $J^{*} \subset l^{*}$ be the union of the orbits in $J$. Then the highest weight of the $k G^{*}$-module in the theorem is $\sum_{i \in l^{*} \backslash J^{*}}(q-1) \omega_{j}$.
- Suppose that there are roots of different lengths for $G^{*}$ (Suzuki and Ree groups). Then the set / for $G$ indexes the subset of fundamental weights of the ambient algebraic group which are orthogonal to the long simple roots. and for $J \subset I$, the simple module of the theorem has highest weight $\sum_{i \in \backslash J}(q-1) \omega_{i}$.
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## Example

- $G=E_{6}(q)$, group of isometries of a certain 3-form on a 27-dimensional vector space $V$. Consider singular points and singular hyperplanes.



## Point-hyperplane incidence for $E_{6}(q)$

- $\left.\left.\operatorname{rank}_{p} A=\operatorname{dim} L\left((q-1) \omega_{1}\right)\right)=\operatorname{dim} L\left((p-1) \omega_{1}\right)\right)^{t}$, where $q=p^{t}$. (Steinberg's tensor product theorem)
- In this case we can work out $\left.\operatorname{dim} L\left((p-1) \omega_{1}\right)\right)$ using representation theory. (Weyl modules, Weyl Character formula, Jantzen sum formula).


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## Jantzen Sum Formula

The Weyl module $V(\lambda)$ has a descending filtration, of submodules $V(\lambda)^{i}, i>0$, such that

$$
V(\lambda)^{1}=\operatorname{rad} V(\lambda), \quad \text { so } \quad V(\lambda) / V(\lambda)^{1} \cong L(\lambda) .
$$

and

$$
\sum_{i>0} \operatorname{Ch}\left(V(\lambda)^{i}\right)=-\sum_{\alpha>0} \sum_{\left\{m: 0<m p<\left\langle\lambda+\rho, \alpha^{\vee}\right\rangle\right\}} v_{p}(m p) \chi(\lambda-m p \alpha)
$$

Using the sum formula, one can show that there is an exact sequence

$$
\begin{aligned}
& 0 \rightarrow V\left((p-11) \omega_{1}+2 \omega_{2}\right) \rightarrow V\left((p-10) \omega_{1}+\omega_{2}+\omega_{5}\right) \\
& \rightarrow V\left((p-9) \omega_{1}+\omega_{3}+\omega_{6}\right) \rightarrow V\left((p-8) \omega_{1}+\omega_{4}+2 \omega_{6}\right) \\
& \rightarrow V\left((p-7) \omega_{1}+3 \omega_{6}\right) \rightarrow V\left((p-1) \omega_{1}\right) \rightarrow L\left((p-1) \omega_{1}\right) \rightarrow 0
\end{aligned}
$$

The dimensions of the $V(\mu)$ are given by Weyl's formula. Hence

$$
\begin{aligned}
\operatorname{dim} L\left((p-1) \omega_{1}\right) & =\frac{1}{2^{7} .3 .5 .11} p(p+1)(p+3) \\
\times & \times\left(3 p^{8}-12 p^{7}+39 p^{6}+320 p^{5}\right. \\
- & \left.550 p^{4}+1240 p^{3}+2080 p^{2}-1920 p+1440\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

| 2, | 27 |
| :---: | :---: |
| 3, | 351 |
| 5, | 19305 |
| 7, | 439439 |
| 11, | 45822672 |
| 13, | 274187550 |
| 17, | 5030354043 |
| 19, | 16937278357 |
| 23, | 137112098409 |
| 29, | 1744146121068 |
| 31, | 3628038332724 |
| 37, | 25349391871621 |
| 41, | 78345931447980 |
| 43, | 132256396016732 |
| 47, | 351675426454470 |
| 53, | 1317968719988571 |
| 59, | 4286665842359706 |
| 61, | 6185074367788952 |
| 67, | 17356733399472663 |
| 71, | 32843689463427543 |
| 73, | 44580694495895104 |
| 79, | 106281498207828698 |
| 83, | 182978611275724173 |
| 89, | 394284508288312914 |
| 97, | 1016219651834875565 |

- Thank you for your attention!

