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# A denominator identity for affine Lie superalgebras with zero dual Coxeter number

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We prove a denominator identity for nontwisted affine Lie superalgebras with zero dual Coxeter number.

## Introduction

**0.1.** Let  $\mathfrak{g}$  be a complex finite-dimensional contragredient Lie superalgebra. These algebras were classified by V. Kac [1977] and the list (excluding Lie algebras) consists of four series:  $A(m|n)$ ,  $B(m|n)$ ,  $C(m)$ ,  $D(m|n)$  and the exceptional algebras  $D(2, 1, a)$ ,  $F(4)$ ,  $G(3)$ . The finite-dimensional contragredient Lie superalgebras with zero Killing form (or, equivalently, with dual Coxeter number equal to zero) are  $A(n|n)$ ,  $D(n|n+1)$  and  $D(2, 1, a)$ .

Denote by  $\Delta_{+0}$  (resp.,  $\Delta_{+1}$ ) the set of positive even (resp., odd) roots of  $\mathfrak{g}$ . The Weyl denominator  $R$  and the affine Weyl denominator  $\hat{R}$  are given by the formulas

$$R = \frac{R_0}{R_1}, \quad \hat{R} = \frac{\hat{R}_0}{\hat{R}_1},$$

where

$$R_0 := \prod_{\alpha \in \Delta_{+0}} (1 - e^{-\alpha}), \quad \hat{R}_0 := R_0 \cdot \prod_{k=1}^{\infty} (1 - q^k)^{\text{rank } \mathfrak{g}} \prod_{\alpha \in \Delta_0} (1 - q^k e^{-\alpha}),$$

$$R_1 := \prod_{\alpha \in \Delta_{+1}} (1 + e^{-\alpha}), \quad \hat{R}_1 := R_1 \cdot \prod_{k=1}^{\infty} \prod_{\alpha \in \Delta_1} (1 + q^k e^{-\alpha}).$$

Let  $\hat{\mathfrak{g}}$  be the nontwisted affinization of  $\mathfrak{g}$ ,  $\hat{\mathfrak{h}}$  be the Cartan subalgebra of  $\hat{\mathfrak{g}}$  and  $\hat{\Delta}_+$  be the set of positive roots of  $\hat{\mathfrak{g}}$ . The affine Weyl denominator is the Weyl denominator of  $\hat{\mathfrak{g}}$ . Let  $\hat{\rho} \in \hat{\mathfrak{h}}$  be such that  $2(\hat{\rho}, \alpha) = (\alpha, \alpha)$  for each simple root  $\alpha \in \hat{\Delta}_+$ .

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If  $\mathfrak{g}$  has a nonzero Killing form, the affine denominator identity, stated in [Kac and Wakimoto 1994] and proven there and in [Gorelik 2011], takes the form

$$\hat{R}e^{\hat{\rho}} = \sum_{w \in T'} w(Re^{\hat{\rho}}), \tag{1}$$

where  $T'$  is the affine translation group corresponding to the “largest” root subsystem of  $\Delta_0$ . The affine denominator identity for strange Lie superalgebras  $Q(n)$ , which are not contragredient, was stated in [Kac and Wakimoto 1994] and proven in [Zagier 2000].

For a parameter  $q$  and a formal variable  $x$  we introduce, after [De Sole and Kac 2005], the infinite products

$$(1+x)_q^\infty := \prod_{k=0}^\infty (1+q^k x) \quad \text{and} \quad (1-x)_q^\infty := \prod_{k=0}^\infty (1-q^k x).$$

These infinite products converge for any  $x \in \mathbb{C}$  if the parameter  $q$  is a real number  $0 < q < 1$ . In particular, they are well defined for  $0 < x = q < 1$  and  $(1 \pm q)_q^\infty := \prod_{n=1}^\infty (1 \pm q^n)$ .

For  $A(n-1|n-1) = \mathfrak{gl}(n|n)$  denote by  $\text{str}$  the restriction of the supertrace to the Cartan subalgebra  $\mathfrak{h} \subset \mathfrak{g}$  (thus  $\text{str} \in \mathfrak{h}^*$ ).

In this paper we will prove the following theorem.

**0.2. Theorem.** *Let  $\mathfrak{g}$  be a complex finite-dimensional contragredient Lie superalgebra with zero Killing form. One has*

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{R}e^{\hat{\rho}} \cdot f(q, e^{\text{str}}) &= \sum_{w \in T'} w(Re^{\hat{\rho}}) \quad \text{for } A(n|n), \\ \hat{R}e^{\hat{\rho}} \cdot f(q) &= \sum_{w \in T'} w(Re^{\hat{\rho}}) \quad \text{for } D(n+1|n), D(2, 1, a), \end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

where  $T'$  is the affine translation group corresponding to the “smallest” root subsystem of  $\Delta_0$  (see 0.4 below) and  $f(q, e^{\text{str}})$ ,  $f(q)$  are given by the following formulas

$$\begin{aligned} f(q, e^{\text{str}}) &= \frac{(1-q(-1)^n e^{\text{str}})_q^\infty \cdot (1-q(-1)^n e^{-\text{str}})_q^\infty}{((1-q)_q^\infty)^2} \quad \text{for } \mathfrak{gl}(n|n), \\ f(q) &= ((1-q)_q^\infty)^{-1} \quad \text{for } D(n+1|n). \end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

**0.3.** The affine denominator identity for  $\mathfrak{gl}(2|2)$  was stated by V. Kac and M. Wakimoto [1994] and proven in [Gorelik 2010] (with a proof different from the one presented below).

As pointed by P. Etingof, the terms  $f(q, e^{\text{str}})$ ,  $f(q)$  can be interpreted using “degenerate” cases  $n = 1$ ; for example, for  $\mathfrak{gl}(1|1)$  we obtain the formula

$$\hat{R}e^{\hat{\rho}} = \frac{((1-q)_q^\infty)^2}{(1+qe^{\text{str}})_q^\infty \cdot (1+qe^{-\text{str}})_q^\infty} Re^{\hat{\rho}},$$

which is trivial since  $\mathfrak{gl}(1|1)$  has the only positive root  $\beta = \mathfrak{str}$ , which is odd.

Since  $\mathfrak{sl}(n|n) = \{a \in \mathfrak{gl}(n|n) : \mathfrak{str}(a) = 0\}$  and

$$\text{rank } \mathfrak{sl}(n|n) = 2n - 1 = \text{rank } \mathfrak{gl}(n|n) - 1,$$

one has

$$f(q) = \begin{cases} (1 - q)_q^\infty & \text{for } \mathfrak{sl}(2n|2n), \\ \frac{((1 + q)_q^\infty)^2}{(1 - q)_q^\infty} & \text{for } \mathfrak{sl}(2n + 1|2n + 1). \end{cases}$$

The root datum of  $D(2, 1, a)$  is the same as the root datum of  $D(2|1)$  so the affine denominator identity for  $D(2, 1, a)$  is the same as the affine denominator identity for  $D(2|1)$ .

As it is shown in [Kac and Wakimoto 1994], the evaluation of the affine denominator identity (2) for  $A(1|1)$  gives the following Jacobi identity [1829]:

$$\square(q)^8 = 1 + 16 \sum_{j,k=1}^\infty (-1)^{(j+1)k} k^3 q^{jk}, \tag{4}$$

where  $\square(q) = \sum_{j \in \mathbb{Z}} q^{j^2}$  and thus the coefficient of  $q^m$  in the power series expansion of  $\square(q)^8$  is the number of representation of a given integer as a sum of 8 squares (taking into the account the order of summands).

**0.4.** In order to define  $T'$  for  $A(n|n)$ ,  $D(n+1|n)$  we present the set of even roots in the form  $\Delta_0 = \Delta' \amalg \Delta''$ , where

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta' \cong \Delta'' &= A_{n-1} && \text{for } A(n-1|n-1) = \mathfrak{gl}(n|n), \\ \Delta' = C_n, \Delta'' &= D_{n+1} && \text{for } D(n+1|n). \end{aligned}$$

Let  $W'$  be the Weyl group of  $\Delta'$  and  $\hat{W}'$  be the corresponding affine Weyl group. Then  $\hat{W}' = W' \ltimes T'$ , where  $T'$  is a translation group, see [Kac 1990, Chapter VI]. By contrast to Lie superalgebras with nonzero Killing form, for  $D(n+1|n)$  the rank of root system  $\Delta'$  is smaller than the rank of  $\Delta''$ . It is not possible to change  $T'$  to  $T''$  in (1) and in (2) for  $D(n+1|n)$ , since the sum  $\sum_{w \in T''} w(Re^{\hat{\rho}})$  is not well defined if  $\Delta' \not\cong \Delta''$  (see Remark 2.1.4).

The key point of our proof of Theorem 0.2 is Proposition 2.3.2, where it is shown that the expansion of  $Y := \hat{R}^{-1} e^{-\hat{\rho}} \sum_{w \in T'} w(Re^{\hat{\rho}})$  contains only  $\hat{W}$ -invariant elements. This implies that  $Y = f(q)$  for  $\mathfrak{g} = D(n+1|n)$  and  $Y = f(q, e^{-\mathfrak{str}})$  for  $\mathfrak{gl}(n|n)$ . We determine  $f(q)$  and  $f(q, e^{\mathfrak{str}})$  using suitable evaluations.

### 1. Preliminaries

One readily sees (for instance, [Gorelik 2011, 1.5]) that  $Re^{\hat{\rho}}$  and  $\hat{R}e^{\hat{\rho}}$  do not depend on the choice of set of positive roots  $\Delta_+$ . As a result, in order to prove Theorem 0.2,

it is enough to establish the identity (2) for one choice of  $\Delta_+$ . Similarly, it is enough to establish the identity for one choice of  $A_{n-1}$  for  $\mathfrak{gl}(n|n)$ . In Section 1.1 we describe our choice of the set of positive roots for  $\mathfrak{gl}(n|n)$ ,  $D(n+1|n)$ . In Section 1.2 we introduce notation for affine Lie superalgebra  $\hat{\mathfrak{g}}$ . In Section 1.3 we introduce the algebra  $\mathcal{R}$  of formal power series in which we expand  $R$  and  $\hat{K}$ .

Note that if the dual Coxeter number of  $\mathfrak{g}$  is zero, then

$$\hat{\rho} = \rho = \frac{1}{2} \left( \sum_{\alpha \in \Delta_{+0}} \alpha - \sum_{\alpha \in \Delta_{+1}} \alpha \right).$$

**1.1. Root systems.** Let  $\mathfrak{g}$  be  $\mathfrak{gl}(n|n)$  or  $D(n|n+1)$  and let  $\mathfrak{h}$  be its Cartan subalgebra. We fix the following sets of simple roots:

$$\Pi = \begin{cases} \{\varepsilon_1 - \delta_1, \delta_1 - \varepsilon_2, \varepsilon_2 - \delta_2, \dots, \varepsilon_n - \delta_n\} & \text{for } \mathfrak{gl}(n|n), \\ \{\varepsilon_1 - \delta_1, \delta_1 - \varepsilon_2, \varepsilon_2 - \delta_2, \dots, \varepsilon_n - \delta_n, \delta_n \pm \varepsilon_{n+1}\} & \text{for } D(n+1|n). \end{cases}$$

We fix a nondegenerate symmetric invariant bilinear form on  $\mathfrak{g}$  and denote by  $(-, -)$  the induced nondegenerate symmetric bilinear form on  $\mathfrak{h}^*$ ; we normalize the form in such a way that  $-(\varepsilon_i, \varepsilon_j) = (\delta_i, \delta_j) = \delta_{ij}$ ; notice that  $\{\varepsilon_i, \delta_i : 1 \leq i \leq n\}$  (resp.,  $\{\varepsilon_j, \delta_j : 1 \leq i \leq n, 1 \leq j \leq n+1\}$ ) is an orthogonal basis of  $\mathfrak{h}^*$  for  $\mathfrak{gl}(n|n)$  (resp., for  $D(n+1|n)$ ).

For this choice one has

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_{0+} &= \begin{cases} \{\varepsilon_i - \varepsilon_j\}_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} \amalg \{\delta_i - \delta_j\}_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} & \text{for } \mathfrak{gl}(n|n), \\ \Delta_{0+} = \{\varepsilon_i \pm \varepsilon_j\}_{1 \leq i < j \leq n+1} \amalg \{\delta_s \pm \delta_t\}_{1 \leq s < t \leq n} \cup \{2\delta_s\}_{1 \leq s \leq n} & \text{for } D(n+1|n), \end{cases} \\ \Delta_{1+} &= \begin{cases} \{\varepsilon_i - \delta_j\}_{1 \leq i \leq j \leq n} \cup \{\delta_i - \varepsilon_j\}_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} & \text{for } \mathfrak{gl}(n|n), \\ \Delta_{1+} = \{\varepsilon_i - \delta_s\}_{1 \leq i \leq s \leq n} \cup \{\delta_s - \varepsilon_j\}_{1 \leq s < j \leq n+1} \cup \{\delta_i + \varepsilon_j\}_{1 \leq i \leq n; 1 \leq j \leq n+1} & \text{for } D(n+1|n). \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

For  $D(n+1|n)$  one has  $\rho = 0$ . For  $\mathfrak{gl}(n|n)$  one has  $\mathfrak{str} = \sum_{i=1}^n (\varepsilon_i - \delta_i)$  and  $\rho = -\frac{1}{2}\mathfrak{str}$ .

Recall that  $\mathfrak{sl}(n|n) = \{a \in \mathfrak{gl}(n|n) : \mathfrak{str}(a) = 0\}$  and so  $\mathfrak{h}^*$  for  $\mathfrak{sl}(n|n)$  is the quotient of  $\mathfrak{h}^*$  for  $\mathfrak{gl}(n|n)$  by  $\mathbb{C}\mathfrak{str}$ .

By the above,  $\Delta_0$  is the union of two irreducible root systems, and we write  $\Delta_0 = \Delta'' \amalg \Delta'$ , where  $\Delta''$  lies in the span of the  $\varepsilon_i$  and  $\Delta'$  lies in the span of the  $\delta_i$  (this notation is compatible with the notation in Section 0.4).

**1.2. Nontwisted affinization.** Let  $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{n}_- \oplus \mathfrak{h} \oplus \mathfrak{n}_+$  be any complex finite-dimensional contragredient Lie superalgebra with a fixed triangular decomposition, and let  $\Delta_+$  be its set of positive roots. Let  $\hat{\mathfrak{g}}$  be the affinization of  $\mathfrak{g}$  and let  $\hat{\mathfrak{h}}$  be its Cartan subalgebra, see [Kac 1990, Chapter VI]. Let  $\hat{\Delta} = \hat{\Delta}_0 \amalg \hat{\Delta}_1$  be the set of roots of  $\hat{\mathfrak{g}}$ .

We set

$$\hat{\Delta}^+ = \Delta_+ \cup \left( \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} \{\alpha + k\delta \mid \alpha \in \Delta\} \right) \cup \left( \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} \{k\delta\} \right),$$

where  $\delta$  is the minimal imaginary root. Let  $W$  and  $\hat{W}$  be the Weyl groups of  $\Delta_0$  and  $\hat{\Delta}_0$ . One has  $(\hat{\mathfrak{h}}^*)^{\hat{W}} = \mathbb{C}\delta$  for  $\mathfrak{g} \neq \mathfrak{gl}(n|n)$  and  $(\hat{\mathfrak{h}}^*)^{\hat{W}} = \mathbb{C}\delta \oplus \mathbb{C}\text{st}$  for  $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{gl}(n|n)$ .

We extend the nondegenerate symmetric invariant bilinear form from  $\mathfrak{g}$  to  $\hat{\mathfrak{g}}$  and denote by  $(-, -)$  the induced nondegenerate symmetric bilinear form on  $\hat{\mathfrak{h}}^*$  (the above-mentioned form on  $\mathfrak{h}^*$  is induced by this form on  $\hat{\mathfrak{h}}^*$ ). For  $A \subset \hat{\mathfrak{h}}^*$  we set  $A^\perp = \{\mu \in \hat{\mathfrak{h}}^* : \forall \nu \in A, (\mu, \nu) = 0\}$ .

**1.2.1.** In [Section 1.1](#) we introduced the root systems  $\Delta', \Delta''$  for  $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{gl}(n|n)$  and  $\mathfrak{g} = D(n+1|n)$ . Let  $W'$  and  $W''$  be the Weyl groups of  $\Delta'$  and  $\Delta''$ , respectively. One has  $W = W' \times W''$ . We denote by  $\hat{W}'$  the Weyl group of the affine root system  $\hat{\Delta}'$ . Recall that  $\hat{W}' = W' \ltimes T'$ , where  $T'$  is a translation group; see [\[Kac 1990, Chapter VI\]](#).

**1.2.2.** For  $N \subset \hat{\mathfrak{h}}^*$  we use the notation  $\mathbb{Z}N$  for the set  $\sum_{\mu \in N} \mathbb{Z}\mu$ . Set

$$Q^+ := \sum_{\mu \in \Delta_+} \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}\mu, \quad Q := \mathbb{Z}\Delta_+, \quad \hat{Q}^\pm := \pm \sum_{\mu \in \hat{\Delta}_+} \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}\mu, \quad \hat{Q} := \mathbb{Z}\hat{\Delta}_+.$$

We introduce the standard partial order on  $\hat{\mathfrak{h}}^*$ :  $\mu \leq \nu$  if  $(\nu - \mu) \in \hat{Q}^+$ .

**1.3. The algebra  $\mathcal{R}$ .** We are going to use the notation of [\[Gorelik 2011, 1.4\]](#), which we recall below. We retain the notation of [Section 1.2](#).

**1.3.1.** Call a  $\hat{Q}^+$ -cone a set of the form  $(\lambda - \hat{Q}^+)$ , where  $\lambda \in \hat{\mathfrak{h}}^*$ .

For a formal sum of the form  $Y := \sum_{\nu \in \hat{\mathfrak{h}}^*} b_\nu e^\nu$ ,  $b_\nu \in \mathbb{Q}$  define the *support* of  $Y$  by  $\text{supp}(Y) := \{\nu \in \hat{\mathfrak{h}}^* : b_\nu \neq 0\}$ . Let  $\mathcal{R}$  be a vector space over  $\mathbb{Q}$ , spanned by the sums of the form  $\sum_{\nu \in \hat{Q}^+} b_\nu e^{\lambda - \nu}$ , where  $\lambda \in \hat{\mathfrak{h}}^*$ ,  $b_\nu \in \mathbb{Q}$ . In other words,  $\mathcal{R}$  consists of the formal sums  $Y = \sum_{\nu \in \hat{\mathfrak{h}}^*} b_\nu e^\nu$  with the support lying in a finite union of  $\hat{Q}^+$ -cones.

Clearly,  $\mathcal{R}$  has a structure of commutative algebra over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . If  $Y \in \mathcal{R}$  is such that  $YY' = 1$  for some  $Y' \in \mathcal{R}$ , we write  $Y^{-1} := Y'$ .

**1.3.2. Action of the Weyl group.** For  $w \in \hat{W}$  set  $w(\sum_{\nu \in \hat{\mathfrak{h}}^*} b_\nu e^\nu) := \sum_{\nu \in \hat{\mathfrak{h}}^*} b_\nu e^{w\nu}$ . By the above,  $wY \in \mathcal{R}$  if and only if  $w(\text{supp } Y)$  is a subset of a finite union of  $\hat{Q}^+$ -cones. For each subgroup  $\tilde{W}$  of  $\hat{W}$  we set  $\mathcal{R}_{\tilde{W}} := \{Y \in \mathcal{R} : wY \in \mathcal{R} \text{ for each } w \in \tilde{W}\}$ ; notice that  $\mathcal{R}_{\tilde{W}}$  is a subalgebra of  $\mathcal{R}$ .

**1.3.3. Infinite products.** An infinite product of the form  $Y = \prod_{\nu \in X} (1 + a_\nu e^{-\nu})^{r(\nu)}$ , where  $a_\nu \in \mathbb{Q}$ ,  $r(\nu) \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$  and  $X \subset \hat{\Delta}$  is such that the set  $X \setminus \hat{\Delta}_+$  is finite, can be naturally viewed as an element of  $\mathcal{R}$ ; clearly, this element does not depend on the order of factors. Let  $\mathcal{Y}$  be the set of such infinite products. For any  $w \in \hat{W}$  the infinite product

$$wY := \prod_{\nu \in X} (1 + a_\nu e^{-w\nu})^{r(\nu)},$$

is again an infinite product of the above form, since the set  $w\hat{\Delta}_+ \setminus \hat{\Delta}_+$  is finite (see for example [Gorelik 2011, Lemma 1.2.8]). Hence  $\mathcal{Y}$  is a  $\hat{W}$ -invariant multiplicative subset of  $\mathcal{R}_{\hat{W}}$ .

The elements of  $\mathcal{Y}$  are invertible in  $\mathcal{R}$ : using the geometric series we can expand  $Y^{-1}$ . For example,  $(1 - e^\alpha)^{-1} = -e^{-\alpha}(1 - e^{-\alpha})^{-1} = -\sum_{i=1}^\infty e^{-i\alpha}$ .

1.3.4. The subalgebra  $\mathcal{R}'$ . Denote by  $\mathcal{R}'$  the localization of  $\mathcal{R}_{\hat{W}}$  by  $\mathcal{Y}$ . By the above,  $\mathcal{R}'$  is a subalgebra of  $\mathcal{R}$ . Observe that  $\mathcal{R}' \not\subset \mathcal{R}_{\hat{W}}$ : for example,  $(1 - e^{-\alpha})^{-1} \in \mathcal{R}'$ , but  $(1 - e^{-\alpha})^{-1} = \sum_{j=0}^\infty e^{-j\alpha} \notin \mathcal{R}_{\hat{W}}$ . We extend the action of  $\hat{W}$  from  $\mathcal{R}_{\hat{W}}$  to  $\mathcal{R}'$  by setting  $w(Y^{-1}Y') := (wY)^{-1}(wY')$  for  $Y \in \mathcal{Y}$ ,  $Y' \in \mathcal{R}_{\hat{W}}$ .

Notice that an infinite product of the form  $Y = \prod_{\nu \in X} (1 + a_\nu e^{-\nu})^{r(\nu)}$ , where  $a_\nu, X$  are as above and  $r(\nu) \in \mathbb{Z}$ , lies in  $\mathcal{R}'$  and  $wY = \prod_{\nu \in X} (1 + a_\nu e^{-w\nu})^{r(\nu)}$ . The support  $\text{supp}(Y)$  has a unique maximal element (with respect to the standard partial order) and this element is given by the formula

$$\max \text{supp}(Y) = - \sum_{\nu \in X \setminus \hat{\Delta}_+ : a_\nu \neq 0} r_\nu \nu.$$

1.3.5. Let  $\tilde{W}$  be a subgroup of  $\hat{W}$ . For  $Y \in \mathcal{R}'$  we say that  $Y$  is  $\tilde{W}$ -invariant (resp.,  $\tilde{W}$ -anti-invariant) if  $wY = Y$  (resp.,  $wY = \text{sgn}(w)Y$ ) for each  $w \in \tilde{W}$ .

Let  $Y = \sum a_\mu e^\mu \in \mathcal{R}_{\hat{W}}$  be  $\tilde{W}$ -anti-invariant. Then  $a_{w\mu} = (-1)^{\text{sgn}(w)} a_\mu$  for each  $\mu$  and  $w \in \tilde{W}$ . In particular,  $\tilde{W} \text{supp}(Y) = \text{supp}(Y)$ , and, moreover, for each  $\mu \in \text{supp}(Y)$  one has  $\text{Stab}_{\tilde{W}} \mu \subset \{w \in \tilde{W} : \text{sgn}(w) = 1\}$ . The condition  $Y \in \mathcal{R}_{\hat{W}}$  is essential: for example, for  $\tilde{W} = \{\text{id}, s_\alpha\}$ , the expressions  $Y := e^\alpha - e^{-\alpha}$ ,  $Y^{-1} = e^{-\alpha}(1 - e^{-2\alpha})^{-1}$  are  $\tilde{W}$ -anti-invariant,  $\text{supp}(Y) = \{\pm\alpha\}$  is  $s_\alpha$ -invariant, but  $\text{supp}(Y^{-1}) = \{-\alpha, -3\alpha, \dots\}$  is not  $s_\alpha$ -invariant.

For  $Y \in \mathcal{R}_{\hat{W}}$  such that each  $\tilde{W}$ -orbit in  $\hat{\mathfrak{h}}^*$  has a finite intersection with  $\text{supp}(Y)$ , introduce the sum

$$\mathcal{F}_{\tilde{W}}(Y) := \sum_{w \in \tilde{W}} \text{sgn}(w)wY.$$

This sum is well defined, but does not always belong to  $\mathcal{R}$ . For  $Y = \sum a_\mu e^\mu$  one has  $\mathcal{F}_{\tilde{W}}(Y) = \sum b_\mu e^\mu$ , where  $b_\mu = \sum_{w \in \tilde{W}} \text{sgn}(w)a_{w\mu}$ ; in particular,  $b_\mu = \text{sgn}(w)b_{w\mu}$  for each  $w \in \tilde{W}$ . One has

$$Y \in \mathcal{R}_{\hat{W}} \text{ and } \mathcal{F}_{\tilde{W}}(Y) \in \mathcal{R} \implies \begin{cases} \mathcal{F}_{\tilde{W}}(Y) \in \mathcal{R}_{\tilde{W}}, \\ \text{supp}(\mathcal{F}_{\tilde{W}}(Y)) \text{ is } \tilde{W}\text{-stable,} \\ \mathcal{F}_{\tilde{W}}(Y) \text{ is } \tilde{W}\text{-anti-invariant.} \end{cases}$$

We call a vector  $\lambda \in \hat{\mathfrak{h}}^*$   $\tilde{W}$ -regular if  $\text{Stab}_{\tilde{W}} \lambda = \{\text{id}\}$ , and we say that the orbit  $\tilde{W}\lambda$  is  $\tilde{W}$ -regular if  $\lambda$  is  $\tilde{W}$ -regular (so the orbit consists of  $\tilde{W}$ -regular points). If  $\tilde{W}$  is an affine Weyl group, then for any  $\lambda \in \hat{\mathfrak{h}}^*$  the stabilizer  $\text{Stab}_{\tilde{W}} \lambda$  is either trivial

or contains a reflection. Thus for  $\tilde{W} = \hat{W}'$ ,  $\hat{W}''$  one has

$$Y \in \mathcal{R}_{\tilde{W}} \text{ and } \mathcal{F}_{\tilde{W}}(Y) \in \mathcal{R} \implies \text{supp}(\mathcal{F}_{\tilde{W}}(Y)) \text{ is a union of } \tilde{W}\text{-regular orbits.}$$

## 2. Proof

Unless stated otherwise,  $\mathfrak{g}$  is assumed to be one of the algebras  $\mathfrak{gl}(n|n)$ ,  $D(n+1|n)$ .

As it is pointed out in Section 1, it is enough to establish the denominator identity for a particular choice of  $\Delta_+$  and we do this for the choice described in Section 1.1. Recall that the group  $T'$  was introduced in Section 1.2.1. The steps of the proof are the following.

- In Section 2.1 we check that the sum  $\mathcal{F}_{T'}(Re^{\hat{\rho}})$  is well-defined and belongs to  $\mathcal{R}$ .
- In Section 2.2 we prove the inclusions

$$\text{supp}(\mathcal{F}_{T'}(Re^{\hat{\rho}})), \text{supp}(\hat{R}e^{\hat{\rho}}) \subset U, \tag{5}$$

where

$$U := \{\mu \in \hat{\rho} - \hat{Q}^+ : (\mu, \mu) = (\hat{\rho}, \hat{\rho})\}. \tag{6}$$

We remark that (5) holds for simple contragredient Lie superalgebras with nonzero Killing form; see [Gorelik 2011, 2.4].

- In Section 2.3 we show that if the dual Coxeter number of  $\mathfrak{g}$  is zero, then the inclusions (5) imply that  $\text{supp}(\hat{R}^{-1}e^{-\hat{\rho}}\mathcal{F}_{T'}(Re^{\hat{\rho}})) \subset \hat{Q}^{\hat{W}}$ . As a result,  $\hat{R}^{-1}e^{-\hat{\rho}}\mathcal{F}_{T'}(Re^{\hat{\rho}})$  takes the form  $f(q)$  for  $\mathfrak{g} \neq \mathfrak{gl}(n|n)$  and  $f(q, e^{\text{str}})$  for  $\mathfrak{gl}(n|n)$ .
- In Section 2.4 we compute  $f(q)$  for  $D(n+1|n)$  and  $f(q, e^{\text{str}})$  for  $\mathfrak{gl}(n|n)$ . This completes the proof of the identities (2).

**2.1.** In this subsection we show that for  $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{gl}(n|n)$ ,  $D(n+1|n)$ , the sum  $\mathcal{F}_{T'}(Re^{\hat{\rho}})$  is a well-defined element of  $\mathcal{R}$ . Since  $\hat{\rho} = \rho$  is  $\hat{W}$ -invariant, it is enough to verify that  $\mathcal{F}_{T'}(R)$  is a well-defined element of  $\mathcal{R}$ .

Recall that  $T' = \mathbb{Z}\{t_{\delta_i - \delta_{i+1}}\}_{i=1}^{n-1}$  for  $\mathfrak{gl}(n|n)$  and  $T' = \mathbb{Z}\{t_{\delta_i}\}_{i=1}^n$  for  $D(n+1|n)$ , where

$$t_{\mu}(\alpha) = \alpha - (\alpha, \mu)\delta \text{ for any } \alpha \in \hat{Q}. \tag{7}$$

2.1.1. By Section 1.3.4 one has

$$\max \text{supp}(w(R)) = - \sum_{\substack{\alpha \in \Delta_{0+}: \\ w\alpha < 0}} w\alpha + \sum_{\substack{\beta \in \Delta_{1+}: \\ w\beta < 0}} w\beta.$$

For  $w \in T'$  write  $w = t_{\mu}$ , where  $\mu \in \mathbb{Z}\{\delta_i - \delta_{i+1}\}_{1 \leq i < n}$  for  $\mathfrak{gl}(n|n)$  and  $\mu \in \mathbb{Z}\{\delta_i\}_{i=1}^n$  for  $D(n+1|n)$ . From (7) we get

$$\{\beta \in \Delta_{i+} | w\beta < 0\} = \{\beta \in \Delta_{i+} | (\beta, \mu) > 0\} \text{ for } i = 0, 1.$$



We obtain  $\max \text{supp}(t_\mu(R)) = -v(\mu) + (v(\mu), \mu)\delta$ , where

$$v(\mu) := \sum_{\substack{\beta \in \Delta_{0+}: \\ (\beta, \mu) > 0}} \beta - \sum_{\substack{\beta \in \Delta_{1+}: \\ (\beta, \mu) > 0}} \beta.$$

In order to prove that  $\mathcal{F}_{T'}(R)$  is a well-defined element of  $\mathcal{R}$  we verify that

- (i)  $(v(\mu), \mu) \leq 0$  for all  $\mu$ ;
  - (ii)  $\{\mu : (v(\mu), \mu) \geq -N\}$  is finite for all  $N > 0$ .
- (8)

Condition (ii) ensures that the sum  $\mathcal{F}_{T'}(R) = \sum_\mu t_\mu(R)$  is well-defined and condition (i) means that for each  $\mu$  one has

$$\max \text{supp}(t_\mu(R)) = -v(\mu) \leq \sum_{\beta \in \Delta_{1+}} \beta$$

so  $\text{supp}(\mathcal{F}_{T'}(R)) \subset \sum_{\beta \in \Delta_{1+}} \beta - \hat{Q}^+$  and thus  $\mathcal{F}_{T'}(R) \in \mathcal{R}$ .

2.1.2. Case  $\mathfrak{gl}(n|n)$ . Recall that  $w \in T'$  has the form  $w = t_\mu$ ,  $\mu = \sum_{i=1}^n k_i \delta_i$ , where the  $k_i$ s are integers and  $\sum_{i=1}^n k_i = 0$ . One has

$$\{\alpha \in \Delta_{+0} : (\alpha, \mu) > 0\} = \{\delta_i - \delta_j : i < j, k_i > k_j\},$$

$$\{\alpha \in \Delta_{+1} : (\alpha, \mu) > 0\} = \{\varepsilon_i - \delta_j : k_j < 0, i \leq j\} \cup \{\delta_i - \varepsilon_j : k_i > 0, i < j\},$$

where  $1 \leq i, j \leq n$ .

Write  $v(\mu) = v' + v''$ , where  $v' = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \delta_i$  and  $v''$  lies in the span of the  $\varepsilon_i$ . By the above, for  $k_i > 0$  one has  $a_i \leq (n - i) - (n - i) = 0$  and for  $k_j < 0$  one has  $a_j \geq -(j - 1) + j = 1$ . Therefore

$$(v(\mu), \mu) = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i k_i \leq \sum_{k_i < 0} k_i \leq 0$$

and the set  $\{\mu : (v(\mu), \mu) \geq -N\}$  is a subset of the set  $\{\mu : \sum_{k_i < 0} k_i \geq -N\}$ , which is finite for any  $N$ , because the  $k_i$  are integers and  $\sum_{i=1}^n k_i = 0$ . This establishes conditions (8).

2.1.3. Case  $D(n+1|n)$ . Recall that  $w \in T'$  has the form  $w = t_\mu$ ,  $\mu = \sum k_i \delta_i$ , where the  $k_i$ s are integers. One has

$$\{\alpha \in \Delta_{+0} : (\alpha, \mu) > 0\} =$$

$$\{\delta_i - \delta_j : i < j, k_i > k_j\} \cup \{\delta_i + \delta_j : i \neq j, k_i + k_j > 0\} \cup \{2\delta_i : k_i > 0\},$$

$$\{\alpha \in \Delta_{+1} : (\alpha, \mu) > 0\} =$$

$$\{\varepsilon_s - \delta_j : k_j < 0, s \leq j\} \cup \{\delta_i - \varepsilon_s : k_i > 0, i < s\} \cup \{\delta_i + \varepsilon_s : k_i > 0\},$$

where  $1 \leq i, j \leq n$  and  $1 \leq s \leq n + 1$ .

Write  $v(\mu) = v' + v''$ , where  $v' = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \delta_i$  and  $v''$  lies in the span of the  $\varepsilon_i$ . By the above, for  $k_i > 0$  one has  $a_i \leq (2n + 1 - i) - (2n + 2 - i) = -1$  and for  $k_j < 0$  one has  $a_j \geq -(j - 1) + j = 1$ . Therefore

$$(v(\mu), \mu) = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i k_i \leq - \sum_{k_i > 0} k_i + \sum_{k_j < 0} k_j = - \sum_{i=1}^n |k_i| \leq 0,$$

so the set  $\{\mu : (v(\mu), \mu) \geq -N\}$  is a subset of  $\{\mu : \sum_{i=1}^n |k_i| \leq N\}$ , which is finite for any  $N$ . This establishes the conditions (8).

**2.1.4. Remark.** For  $\mathfrak{gl}(n|n)$  one can interchange  $\Delta'$  and  $\Delta''$  so the sum  $\mathcal{F}_{T''}(R)$  is well-defined. One readily sees that  $\mathcal{F}_{T''}(R)$  is not well-defined for  $D(n+1|n)$ . For instance, for  $n > 1$ , for each  $k > 0$  one has  $v(-2k\varepsilon_1) = 0$  so  $\max \text{supp}(t_{-2k\varepsilon_1}(R)) = 0$  and the sum  $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} t_{-2k\varepsilon_1}(R)$  is not well-defined; hence  $\mathcal{F}_{T''}(R)$  is not well-defined as well.

**2.2.** By Section 1.3.3,  $\hat{R}$  is an invertible element of  $\mathcal{R}'$ . From representation theory we know that since  $\hat{\mathfrak{g}}$  admits a Casimir element [Kac 1990, Chapter II], the character of the trivial  $\hat{\mathfrak{g}}$ -module is a linear combination of the characters of Verma  $\hat{\mathfrak{g}}$ -modules  $M(\lambda)$ , where  $\lambda \in -\hat{Q}$  are such that  $(\lambda + \hat{\rho}, \lambda + \hat{\rho}) = (\hat{\rho}, \hat{\rho})$ . Since the character of  $M(\lambda)$  is equal to  $\hat{R}^{-1}e^\lambda$ , we obtain

$$1 = \sum_{\substack{\lambda \in \hat{Q}^- \\ (\lambda + \hat{\rho}, \lambda + \hat{\rho}) = (\hat{\rho}, \hat{\rho})}} a_\lambda \hat{R}^{-1} e^\lambda,$$

where  $a_\lambda \in \mathbb{Z}$ . This can be rewritten as

$$\hat{R}e^{\hat{\rho}} = \sum_{\substack{\lambda \in \hat{\rho} - \hat{Q}^+ \\ (\lambda, \lambda) = (\hat{\rho}, \hat{\rho})}} a_\lambda e^\lambda,$$

that is  $\text{supp}(\hat{R}) \subset U$ , see (6) for notation.

It remains to verify the inclusion  $\text{supp}(\mathcal{F}_{T'}(Re^{\hat{\rho}})) \subset U$ . The denominator identity for  $\mathfrak{g}$  (see [Kac and Wakimoto 1994; Gorelik 2012]) takes the form

$$Re^\rho = \mathcal{F}_{W''} \left( \frac{e^\rho}{\prod_{\beta \in S} (1 + e^{-\beta})} \right),$$

where  $S := \{\varepsilon_i - \delta_i\}_{i=1}^n$  (the identity for  $\mathfrak{gl}(n|n)$  immediately follows from the identity for  $\mathfrak{sl}(n|n)$ ). Since  $\rho = \hat{\rho}$  is  $\hat{W}$ -invariant, this implies

$$t_\mu(Re^{\hat{\rho}}) = e^{\hat{\rho}} \sum_{w \in W''} \text{sgn}(w) \prod_{\beta \in S} (1 + e^{-t_\mu w \beta})^{-1}.$$

For each  $t_\mu \in T'$  and  $w \in W''$  one has

$$\text{supp}\left(\prod_{\beta \in S} (1 + e^{-t_\mu w \beta})^{-1}\right) \subset V, \text{ where } V := \mathbb{Z}\{t_\mu w \beta : \beta \in S\} \cap \hat{Q}^-.$$

Since  $(t_\mu w \beta, t_\mu w \beta') = (\beta, \beta') = (t_\mu w \beta, \hat{\rho}) = (\hat{\rho}, \beta) = 0$  for any  $\beta, \beta' \in S$ , one has  $(V, V) = (V, \hat{\rho}) = 0$ . Therefore  $V + \hat{\rho} \subset U$  so  $\text{supp}(t_\mu(Re^{\hat{\rho}})) \subset U$  for each  $\mu$ . This establishes the required inclusion  $\text{supp}(\mathcal{F}_{T'}(Re^{\hat{\rho}})) \subset U$  and completes the proof of (5).

**2.3.** Let us deduce from (5) that the support of  $\hat{R}^{-1}e^{\hat{\rho}} \cdot \mathcal{F}_{T'}(Re^{\hat{\rho}})$  consists of  $\hat{W}$ -invariant elements of  $\hat{Q}^-$ . We do this in two steps: first, proving Lemma 2.3.1, which is valid for any simple contragredient Lie superalgebra and for  $\mathfrak{gl}(n|n)$ , and then, proving Proposition 2.3.2, which uses the fact that  $\hat{\rho} = \rho$  for  $\mathfrak{g}$  (this is equivalent to the fact that the dual Coxeter number is zero).

The affine root system  $\hat{\Delta}'$  is a subsystem of  $\hat{\Delta}_0$ . Set  $\hat{\Delta}'_+ = \hat{\Delta}' \cap \hat{\Delta}_+$  and let  $\hat{\Pi}'$  be the corresponding set of simple roots. Fix  $\hat{\rho}' \in \hat{\mathfrak{h}}^*$  such that  $2(\hat{\rho}', \alpha) = (\alpha, \alpha)$  for each  $\alpha \in \hat{\Pi}'$ .

**2.3.1. Lemma.** *The term  $\hat{R}_1 e^{\hat{\rho}' - \hat{\rho}} \cdot \mathcal{F}_{T'}(Re^{\hat{\rho}})$  is a  $\hat{W}'$ -anti-invariant element of  $\mathcal{R}_{\hat{W}'}$ .*

*Proof.* By Section 2.1.1,  $\mathcal{F}_{T'}(Re^{\hat{\rho}}) \in \mathcal{R}$  and thus  $\hat{R}_1 e^{\hat{\rho}' - \hat{\rho}} \cdot \mathcal{F}_{T'}(Re^{\hat{\rho}}) \in \mathcal{R}$ .

Let  $R'_0, R''_0$  be the Weyl denominators for  $\Delta', \Delta''$  (i.e.,  $R'_0 = \prod_{\alpha \in \Delta'_+} (1 - e^{-\alpha})$ ). Notice that  $R''_0 e^{\hat{\rho}} / R_1 \in \mathcal{R}'$  so  $w(R''_0 e^{\hat{\rho}} / R_1)$  is well-defined. Below we will show that the sum  $\mathcal{F}_{\hat{W}'}(R''_0 e^{\hat{\rho}} / R_1)$  is a well-defined element of  $\mathcal{R}$  and will establish the following formula

$$\mathcal{F}_{T'}(Re^{\hat{\rho}}) = \mathcal{F}_{\hat{W}'}\left(\frac{R''_0 e^{\hat{\rho}}}{R_1}\right). \tag{9}$$

It is easy to see that  $\hat{R}_0 e^{\hat{\rho}'}, \hat{R}e^{\hat{\rho}}$  are  $\hat{W}'$ -anti-invariant elements of  $\mathcal{R}'$  (see, for instance, [Gorelik 2011, 1.5.1]). Since  $\hat{R}_1 e^{\hat{\rho}' - \hat{\rho}} \in \mathcal{R}'$  and  $\hat{R}_1 e^{\hat{\rho}' - \hat{\rho}} \cdot \hat{R}e^{\hat{\rho}} = \hat{R}_0 e^{\hat{\rho}'}$ , we conclude that  $\hat{R}_1 e^{\hat{\rho}' - \hat{\rho}}$  is a  $\hat{W}'$ -invariant element of  $\mathcal{R}'$ . However, by Section 1.3.3,  $\hat{R}_1 \in \mathcal{R}_{\hat{W}'}$ , and thus  $\hat{R}_1 e^{\hat{\rho}' - \hat{\rho}}$  is a  $\hat{W}'$ -invariant element of  $\mathcal{R}_{\hat{W}'}$ . Multiplying both sides of formula (9) by  $\hat{R}_1 e^{\hat{\rho}' - \hat{\rho}}$  we obtain

$$\hat{R}_1 e^{\hat{\rho}' - \hat{\rho}} \cdot \mathcal{F}_{T'}(Re^{\hat{\rho}}) = \mathcal{F}_{\hat{W}'}\left(\frac{\hat{R}_1}{R_1} \cdot R''_0 e^{\hat{\rho}'}\right). \tag{10}$$

By Section 1.3.3,  $\hat{R}_1 / R_1$  and  $R''_0$  lie in  $\mathcal{R}_{\hat{W}'}$ . In the light of Section 1.3.5, the formula (10) implies the assertion of the lemma.

Let us show that the right-hand side of (9) is well-defined. Since  $R''_0$  and  $\hat{\rho}$  are  $\hat{W}'$ -invariant, it is enough to check that  $\mathcal{F}_{\hat{W}'}(R_1^{-1})$  is a well-defined element of  $\mathcal{R}$ .

By Section 1.3.4, for each  $w \in \hat{W}'$  one has

$$\max \text{supp}(w(R_1^{-1})) = \sum_{\substack{\beta \in \Delta_{1+}: \\ w\beta < 0}} w\beta.$$

In particular,  $\text{supp}(w(R_1^{-1})) \subset \hat{Q}^-$ , so, if the term  $\mathcal{F}_{\hat{W}'}(R_1^{-1})$  is well-defined, it lies in  $\mathcal{R}$ . In order to see that  $\mathcal{F}_{\hat{W}'}(R_1^{-1})$  is well-defined let us check that for each  $\nu \in \hat{Q}^-$  the set

$$X(\nu) := \left\{ w \in \hat{W}' : \sum_{\substack{\beta \in \Delta_{1+}: \\ w\beta < 0}} w\beta \geq \nu \right\}$$

is finite. One has

$$X(\nu) \subset \{w \in \hat{W}' : w\beta \geq \nu \text{ for all } \beta \in \Delta_{1+}\}.$$

Write  $\nu = -k\delta + \nu'$ , where  $k \geq 0$ ,  $\nu' \in Q$ , and write  $w \in X(\nu)$  in the form  $w = t_\mu y$ , where  $t_\mu \in T'$ ,  $y \in W'$ . Since  $w\beta = y\beta - (y\beta, \mu)\delta$  for  $\beta \in \Delta_{1+}$ , one has  $(y\beta, \mu) \geq -k$  for each  $\beta \in \Delta_{1+}$ . Since  $\{\varepsilon_i - \delta_i, \delta_i - \varepsilon_{i+1}\} \subset \Delta_{1+}$ , this gives  $|(y\delta_i, \mu)| \leq k$  for  $i = 1, \dots, n$ . Combining the facts that  $W'$  is a subgroup of signed permutation of  $\{\delta_j\}_{j=1}^n$  and that  $(\mu, \delta_i)$  is integral for each  $i$ , we conclude that  $X(\nu)$  is finite. Thus  $\mathcal{F}_{\hat{W}'}(R_0''e^{\hat{\rho}}/R_1)$  is a well-defined element of  $\mathcal{R}$ .

Now let us prove the formula (9). Recall that  $\rho = \rho'_0 + \rho''_0 - \rho_1$ , where

$$\rho'_0 := \sum_{\alpha \in \Delta'_{0+}} \alpha/2, \quad \rho''_0 := \sum_{\alpha \in \Delta''_{0+}} \alpha/2, \quad \rho_1 := \sum_{\beta \in \Delta_{1+}} \beta/2.$$

The Weyl denominator identity for  $\Delta'_0$  takes the form

$$R'_0 e^{\rho'_0} = \mathcal{F}_{W'}(e^{\rho'_0}).$$

Since  $R_1 e^{\rho_1} = \prod_{\beta \in \Delta_{1+}} (e^{\beta/2} + e^{-\beta/2})$  is  $W$ -invariant and  $R''_0 e^{\rho''_0}$  is  $W'$ -invariant, we get

$$R e^{\rho} = \frac{R''_0 e^{\rho''_0}}{R_1 e^{\rho_1}} \cdot \mathcal{F}_{W'}(e^{\rho'_0}) = \mathcal{F}_{W'}\left(\frac{e^{\rho'_0} R''_0 e^{\rho''_0}}{R_1 e^{\rho_1}}\right) = \mathcal{F}_{W'}\left(\frac{R''_0 e^{\rho}}{R_1}\right).$$

Using the  $W$ -invariance of  $\hat{\rho} - \rho$ , we obtain

$$\mathcal{F}_{T'}(R e^{\hat{\rho}}) = \mathcal{F}_{T'}\left(\mathcal{F}_{W'}\left(\frac{R''_0 e^{\hat{\rho}}}{R_1}\right)\right) = \mathcal{F}_{\hat{W}'}\left(\frac{R''_0 e^{\hat{\rho}}}{R_1}\right)$$

as required. This completes the proof. □

**2.3.2. Proposition.** *One has*

$$\text{supp}(\hat{R}^{-1}e^{-\hat{\rho}} \cdot \mathfrak{F}_{T'}(Re^{\hat{\rho}})) \subset (\hat{Q}^-)^{\hat{W}} = \hat{Q}^- \cap \hat{Q}^\perp.$$

*Proof.* Set

$$Y := \hat{R}^{-1}e^{-\hat{\rho}} \cdot \mathfrak{F}_{T'}(Re^{\hat{\rho}}).$$

By Sections 2.1.1 and 1.3.3,  $\mathfrak{F}_{T'}(Re^{\hat{\rho}})$ ,  $\hat{R}^{-1} \in \mathcal{R}$ . Thus  $Y \in \mathcal{R}$ . One has

$$\hat{R}_0 e^{\hat{\rho}'} Y = \hat{R}_1 e^{\hat{\rho}' - \hat{\rho}} \cdot \mathfrak{F}_{T'}(Re^{\hat{\rho}}).$$

In the light of Lemma 2.3.1, we obtain

$$\hat{R}_0 e^{\hat{\rho}'} Y \text{ is a } \hat{W}'\text{-anti-invariant element of } \mathcal{R}_{\hat{W}'}. \quad (11)$$

Write  $Y = Y_1 + Y_2$ , where  $\text{supp}(Y_1) = \text{supp}(Y) \cap \hat{Q}^\perp$  and  $\text{supp}(Y_2) = \text{supp}(Y) \setminus \hat{Q}^\perp$ . Note that  $Y_1, Y_2 \in \mathcal{R}$ . Assume that  $Y_2 \neq 0$ . Let  $\mu$  be a maximal element in  $\text{supp}(Y_2)$ . One has  $\text{supp}(\hat{R}^{-1}) \subset \hat{Q}^-$  and  $\text{supp}(\mathfrak{F}_{T'}(R)e^{\hat{\rho}}) \subset \hat{\rho} - \hat{Q}^+$ , by Section 1.3.4 and (5) respectively. Thus  $\text{supp}(Y) \subset \hat{Q}^-$  and so  $\mu \in \hat{Q}^-$ .

Since  $\text{supp}(Y_1) \subset \hat{Q}^\perp$ ,  $Y_1$  is a  $\hat{W}$ -invariant element of  $\mathcal{R}_{\hat{W}}$ . Recall that  $\hat{R}_0 e^{\hat{\rho}'}$  is a  $\hat{W}'$ -anti-invariant element of  $\mathcal{R}_{\hat{W}'}$ . Thus  $\hat{R}_0 e^{\hat{\rho}'} Y_1$  is a  $\hat{W}'$ -anti-invariant element of  $\mathcal{R}_{\hat{W}'}$ . In the light of (11), the product  $\hat{R}_0 e^{\hat{\rho}'} Y_2$  is also a  $\hat{W}'$ -anti-invariant element of  $\mathcal{R}_{\hat{W}'}$ . Clearly,  $\hat{\rho}' + \mu$  is a maximal element in the support of  $\hat{R}_0 e^{\hat{\rho}'} Y_2$ . By Section 1.3.5, this support is a union of  $\hat{W}'$ -regular orbits (recall that regularity means that each element has the trivial stabilizer in  $\hat{W}'$ ), so  $\hat{\rho}' + \mu$  is a maximal element in a regular  $\hat{W}'$ -orbit and thus  $2(\hat{\rho}' + \mu, \alpha)/(\alpha, \alpha) \notin \mathbb{Z}_{\leq 0}$  for each  $\alpha \in \hat{\Pi}'$ . Since  $\mu \in \hat{Q}^-$  one has  $2(\mu, \alpha)/(\alpha, \alpha) \in \mathbb{Z}$  for each  $\alpha \in \hat{\Pi}'$ . Taking into account that  $2(\hat{\rho}', \alpha)/(\alpha, \alpha) = 1$  for each  $\alpha \in \hat{\Pi}'$ , we obtain

$$\frac{2(\mu, \alpha)}{(\alpha, \alpha)} \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0} \quad \text{for all } \alpha \in \hat{\Pi}'. \quad (12)$$

Recall that  $\delta = \sum_{\alpha \in \hat{\Pi}'} k_\alpha \alpha$  for some  $k_\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$  (see [Kac 1990, Chapter VI]). Since  $\mu \in \hat{Q}^-$  one has  $(\mu, \delta) = 0$ . Combining with (12), we get  $(\mu, \alpha) = 0$  for each  $\alpha \in \hat{\Pi}'$  so  $\mu \in (\hat{\Delta}')^\perp$ .

Let us show that  $(\mu, \mu) = 0$ . Since  $(\hat{\rho}, \hat{Q}) = 0$ , it is equivalent to the equality  $(\mu + \hat{\rho}, \mu + \hat{\rho}) = (\hat{\rho}, \hat{\rho})$ . Notice that  $\mu + \hat{\rho}$  is a maximal element in the support of  $\hat{R}e^{\hat{\rho}} Y_2$ . Let us check that

$$\text{supp}(\hat{R}e^{\hat{\rho}} Y_2) \subset U = \{\xi \in \hat{\rho} - \hat{Q}^+ : (\xi, \xi) = (\hat{\rho}, \hat{\rho})\}. \quad (13)$$

Indeed,

$$\hat{R}e^{\hat{\rho}} Y_2 = \mathfrak{F}_{T'}(Re^{\hat{\rho}}) - \hat{R}e^{\hat{\rho}} Y_1$$

and, by (5),

$$\text{supp}(\mathfrak{F}_{T'}(Re^{\hat{\rho}})) \subset U \quad \text{and} \quad \text{supp}(\hat{R}e^{\hat{\rho}}) \subset U.$$

By construction,  $\text{supp}(Y_1) \subset \hat{Q}^\perp \cap \hat{Q}^-$ . Recall that  $\hat{\rho} = \rho \in \mathbb{Q}\Delta$ , so  $U \subset \mathbb{Q} \cdot \hat{Q}$ . In particular, we have  $(U, \text{supp}(Y_1)) = 0$ . Since  $(\text{supp}(Y_1), \text{supp}(Y_1)) = 0$ , we obtain  $(\text{supp}(Y_1) + U) \subset U$  and this establishes the inclusion (13). Hence  $(\mu, \mu) = 0$ .

Recall that  $\mu \in (\hat{\Delta}')^\perp \cap \hat{Q}^-$ . One has

$$(\hat{\Delta}')^\perp \cap \hat{Q} = (\hat{Q}^\perp \cap \hat{Q}) \oplus \mathbb{Z}\Delta''.$$

For every  $\beta \in \hat{Q}^\perp \cap \hat{Q}$ ,  $\gamma \in \Delta''$  one has  $(\beta, \beta) = (\beta, \gamma) = 0$  and  $(\gamma, \gamma) \neq 0$  if  $\gamma \neq 0$ . Using the equality  $(\mu, \mu) = 0$ , we get  $\mu \in \hat{Q}^\perp \cap \hat{Q}$ , which contradicts to the construction of  $Y_2$ . Hence  $Y_2 = 0$  as required.  $\square$

**2.3.3. Corollary.** For  $\mathfrak{g} = D(n+1|n)$  one has  $f(q) \cdot \hat{R}e^{\hat{\rho}} = \mathcal{F}_{T'}(Re^{\hat{\rho}})$  for some  $f(q) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k q^k$  ( $a_k \in \mathbb{Z}$ ). For  $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{gl}(n|n)$  one has  $f(q, e^{\text{str}}) \cdot \hat{R}e^{\hat{\rho}} = \mathcal{F}_{T'}(Re^{\hat{\rho}})$  for some  $f(q, e^{\text{str}}) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} a_{k,m} q^k e^{m \cdot \text{str}}$  ( $a_{k,m} \in \mathbb{Z}$ ).

*Proof.* One has  $(\hat{Q})^\perp \cap \hat{Q} = \mathbb{Z}\delta + \mathbb{Z}\text{str}$  for  $\mathfrak{gl}(n|n)$  and  $(\hat{Q})^\perp \cap \hat{Q} = \mathbb{Z}\delta$  for  $D(n+1|n)$ .  $\square$

**2.4.** In this subsection we complete the proof of the denominator identities (2) by proving the formulas (3). We prove them by taking a suitable evaluation of the term  $\hat{R}^{-1}e^{-\hat{\rho}}\mathcal{F}_{T'}(Re^{\hat{\rho}})$ . Since  $\hat{\rho}$  is  $\hat{W}$ -invariant, this term is equal to  $\hat{R}^{-1}\mathcal{F}_{T'}(R)$ , and, by Corollary 2.3.3, it is equal to  $f(q)$  for  $D(n+1|n)$  and to  $f(q, e^{\text{str}})$  for  $\mathfrak{gl}(n|n)$ . Now we consider  $q$  as a real parameter between 0 and 1. We choose the evaluation in such a way that the evaluation of  $\hat{R}^{-1}\mathcal{F}_{T'}(R) = \hat{R}^{-1} \sum_{t \in T'} t(R)$  is equal to the evaluation of  $\hat{R}^{-1}R$ . As a result,  $f(q)$  (resp.,  $f(q, e^{\text{str}})$ ) is equal to the evaluation of  $\hat{R}^{-1}R$ , which can be easily computed.

**2.4.1. Case  $D(n+1|n)$ .** Take a complex parameter  $x$  and consider the evaluation  $e^{-\varepsilon_i} := x^{a_i}$ ,  $e^{-\delta_j} := -x^{b_j}$ , where  $a_i$  ( $i = 1, \dots, n+1$ ) and  $b_j$  ( $j = 1, \dots, n$ ) are integers such that  $a_i \pm b_j \neq 0$ ,  $a_i \pm a_j \neq 0$ ,  $b_i \pm b_j \neq 0$ ,  $b_i \neq 0$  for all indexes  $i, j$ . We denote by  $\hat{R}$  and  $\hat{R}(x)$  the evaluation of  $R$  and  $R(x)$ . The functions  $R(x)$  and  $\hat{R}(x)$  are meromorphic. One has

$$R(x) = \frac{\prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq n+1} (1 - x^{a_i \pm a_j}) \cdot \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} (1 - x^{b_i \pm b_j}) \cdot \prod_{1 \leq i \leq n} (1 - x^{2b_i})}{\prod_{1 \leq i \leq j \leq n} (1 - x^{a_i \pm b_j}) \prod_{1 \leq j < i \leq n+1} (1 - x^{b_j \pm a_i})}.$$

One readily sees that  $R(x)$  has a pole at  $x = 1$  of order  $|\Delta_{1+}| - |\Delta_{0+}| = n$ .

One has

$$\left. \frac{\hat{R}(x)}{R(x)} \right|_{x=1} = \frac{((1-q)_q^\infty)^{\dim \mathfrak{g}_0}}{((1-q)_q^\infty)^{\dim \mathfrak{g}_1}} = ((1-q)_q^\infty)^{\dim \mathfrak{g}_0 - \dim \mathfrak{g}_1} = (1-q)_q^\infty.$$

In particular,  $\hat{R}(x)$  also has a pole of order  $n$  at  $x = 1$ .

The evaluation of  $(t_{\sum k_i \delta_i}(R))(x)$  is

$$\frac{\prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq n+1} (1 - x^{a_i \pm a_j}) \cdot \prod_{1 \leq i \leq n} (1 - q^{-2k_i} x^{2b_i}) \cdot \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} (1 - q^{-k_i \mp k_j} x^{b_i \pm b_j})}{\prod_{1 \leq i \leq j \leq n} (1 - q^{\mp k_j} x^{a_i \pm b_j}) \prod_{1 \leq j < i \leq n+1} (1 - q^{-k_j} x^{b_j \pm a_i})}$$

which is a meromorphic function. Let  $s$  be the number of zeros among  $k_1, \dots, k_n$ . Then at  $x = 1$  the order of zero of the numerator is at least  $n(n + 1) + s^2$ , and the order of zero of the denominator is  $2(n + 1)s$ . Therefore at  $x = 1$  the function  $(t_{\sum k_i \delta_i}(R))(x)$  has the pole of order at most  $2(n + 1)s - n(n + 1) - s^2 = n + 1 - (n + 1 - s)^2$ ; in particular,  $(t_{\sum k_i \delta_i}(R))(x)$  has the pole of order at most  $n$  and it is equal to  $n$  if and only if  $n = s$  that is  $\sum k_i \delta_i = 0$  and  $(t_{\sum k_i \delta_i}(R))(x) = R(x)$ .

We conclude that

$$(\hat{R}(x))^{-1} \cdot \sum_{t \in T': t \neq \text{id}} (t(R))(x)$$

is holomorphic at  $x = 1$  and its value is zero, and that

$$(\hat{R}(x))^{-1} \cdot \sum_{t \in T'} (t(R))(x)$$

is holomorphic at  $x = 1$  and its value is  $\left. \frac{R(x)}{\hat{R}(x)} \right|_{x=1}$ . In the light of Corollary 2.3.3 we obtain

$$f(q) = \left. \frac{R(x)}{\hat{R}(x)} \right|_{x=1} = ((1 - q)_q^\infty)^{-1}.$$

2.4.2. Case  $\mathfrak{gl}(n|n)$ . Fix  $y > 1$ . Take a complex parameter  $x$  and consider the following evaluation

$$e^{-\varepsilon_1} := y, \quad e^{-\varepsilon_i} := x^i, \quad \text{for } i = 2, \dots, n; \quad e^{-\delta_i} := -x^{-i} \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, n.$$

The functions  $R(x), \hat{R}(x)$  are meromorphic. One has

$$R(x) = \frac{\prod_{1 < i \leq n} (1 - yx^{-i}) \cdot \prod_{1 < i < j \leq n} (1 - x^{i-j}) \cdot \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} (1 - x^{j-i})}{\prod_{1 \leq i \leq n} (1 - yx^i) \cdot \prod_{1 < i \leq j \leq n} (1 - x^{i+j}) \cdot \prod_{1 \leq j < i \leq n} (1 - x^{-i-j})}.$$

Therefore the function  $R(x)$  has a pole of order  $n - 1$  at  $x = 1$ .

One has

$$\left. \frac{\hat{R}(x)}{R(x)} \right|_{x=1} = \frac{((1 - q)_q^\infty)^{\dim \mathfrak{g}_0 - 2(n-1)} \cdot ((1 - qy)_q^\infty)^{n-1} \cdot ((1 - qy^{-1})_q^\infty)^{n-1}}{((1 - q)_q^\infty)^{\dim \mathfrak{g}_1 - 2n} \cdot ((1 - qy)_q^\infty)^n \cdot ((1 - qy^{-1})_q^\infty)^n}.$$

Thus  $\hat{R}(x)$  also has a pole of order  $n - 1$  at  $x = 1$ . Since  $\dim \mathfrak{g}_0 = \dim \mathfrak{g}_1$  and  $e^{\text{stt}} = (-1)^n y^{-1}$  for  $x = 1$  we obtain

$$\left. \frac{\hat{R}(x)}{R(x)} \right|_{x=1} = \frac{((1 - q)_q^\infty)^2}{(1 - q(-1)^n e^{\text{stt}})_q^\infty \cdot (1 - q(-1)^n e^{-\text{stt}})_q^\infty}.$$

One has

$$(t_{\sum k_i \delta_i}(R))(x, y) = \frac{\prod_{1 < i \leq n} (1 - yx^{-i}) \cdot \prod_{1 < i < j \leq n} (1 - x^{i-j}) \cdot \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} (1 - q^{k_j - k_i} x^{j-i})}{\prod_{1 \leq i \leq n} (1 - q^{k_i} yx^i) \cdot \prod_{1 < i \leq j \leq n} (1 - q^{k_j} x^{i+j}) \cdot \prod_{1 \leq j < i \leq n} (1 - q^{-k_j} x^{-i-j})},$$

which is a meromorphic function.

Let  $s$  be the number of zeros among  $k_1, \dots, k_n$ . Then at  $x = 1$  the order of zero of the numerator is at least

$$\frac{(n - 1)(n - 2) + s(s - 1)}{2},$$

and the order of zero of the denominator is  $(n - 1)s$ . Therefore at  $x = 1$  the function  $(t_{\sum k_i \delta_i}(R))(x, y)$  has a pole of order at most

$$(n - 1)s - \frac{(n - 1)(n - 2) + s(s - 1)}{2} = \frac{3n - s - 2 - (n - s)^2}{2},$$

so the order is at most  $n - 1$  and it is equal to  $n - 1$  if and only if  $s = n - 1$ ,  $n$ . Notice that  $s \neq n - 1$ , since  $\sum k_i = 0$ . Therefore the pole has order  $n - 1$  if and only if  $\sum k_i \delta_i = 0$ .

We conclude that the function  $(\hat{R}(x))^{-1}(\mathcal{F}_{T'}(R))(x)$  is holomorphic at  $x = 1$  and its value is  $(R(x)/\hat{R}(x))|_{x=1}$ . Using Corollary 2.3.3 we obtain

$$f(q, e^{\text{str}}) = \frac{R(x)}{\hat{R}(x)} \Big|_{x=1} = \frac{(1 - q(-1)^n e^{\text{str}})_q^\infty \cdot (1 - q(-1)^n e^{-\text{str}})_q^\infty}{((1 - q)_q^\infty)^2}.$$

### 3. Other forms of denominator identity

Recall that the denominator identity for a basic Lie superalgebra can be written in the form

$$Re^\rho = \mathcal{F}_{W^\sharp} \left( \frac{e^\rho}{\prod_{\beta \in S} (1 + e^{-\beta})} \right), \tag{14}$$

where  $S \subset \Pi$  is the maximal isotropic system, and  $W^\sharp$  is the Weyl group of the “largest” root subsystem of  $\Delta_0$  ( $\Delta_0 = \Delta' \amalg \Delta''$ ), see [Kac and Wakimoto 1994; Gorelik 2012]; in particular,  $W^\sharp := W''$  for  $\mathfrak{g} = D(n+1|n)$ , and  $W^\sharp := W'$  or  $W^\sharp := W''$  for  $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{gl}(n|n)$ .

If the dual Coxeter number of  $\mathfrak{g}$  is nonzero the affine denominator identity for  $\mathfrak{g}$  can be written in the form

$$\hat{R}e^{\hat{\rho}} = \mathcal{F}_{\hat{W}^\sharp} \left( \frac{e^{\hat{\rho}}}{\prod_{\beta \in S} (1 + e^{-\beta})} \right),$$



see [Gorelik 2012, 2.1]. In this section we will show that for  $\mathfrak{gl}(n|n)$  the denominator identity can be written in a similar form:

$$\hat{R}e^\rho = f(q, e^{\text{stt}}) \cdot \mathcal{F}_{\hat{W}'} \left( \frac{e^\rho}{\prod_{\beta \in S} (1 + e^{-\beta})} \right), \tag{15}$$

and that the denominator identities for  $D(n+1|n)$  can not be written in a similar form, since the expressions

$$\mathcal{F}_{\hat{W}''} \left( \frac{e^\rho}{\prod_{\beta \in S} (1 + e^{-\beta})} \right) \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{F}_{\hat{W}'} \left( \frac{e^\rho}{\prod_{\beta \in S} (1 + e^{-\beta})} \right) \tag{16}$$

are not well-defined.

**3.1. Case  $D(n+1|n)$ .** Let us show that the expressions in (16) are not well-defined for  $D(n+1|n)$ . Fix  $\Pi$  as in Section 1.1 and recall that  $\rho = 0$ .

We repeat the reasoning of Section 2.1.1. One has

$$\sum_{\beta \in V_S(w)} w\beta \in \text{supp} \left( \frac{1}{\prod_{\beta \in S} (1 + e^{-w\beta})} \right) \subset \sum_{\beta \in V_S(w)} w\beta - \hat{Q}^+ \subset \hat{Q}^-,$$

where

$$V_S(w) = \{\beta \in S : w\beta < 0\}.$$

Therefore  $1 \in \text{supp}(1/\prod_{\beta \in S} (1 + e^{-w\beta}))$  if and only if  $wS \subset \Delta_+$ .

Take  $S = \{\varepsilon_i - \delta_i\}$ ; then  $t_\mu S \subset \Delta_+$  if  $(\varepsilon_i - \delta_i, \mu) < 0$  for all  $i$  which holds for all  $\mu \in \sum \mathbb{Z}_{<0} \varepsilon_i$  and all  $\mu \in \sum \mathbb{Z}_{>0} \delta_i$ . Hence the sums in (16) contain infinitely many summands equal to 1 and thus they are not well-defined.

**3.2. Case  $\mathfrak{gl}(n|n)$ .** Fix  $\Pi$  as in Section 1.1; then  $S = \{\varepsilon_i - \delta_i\}$ .

In order to deduce the formula (15) from (14) and (2) it is enough to verify that the expression

$$\mathcal{F}_{\hat{W}'} \left( \frac{e^\rho}{\prod_{\beta \in S} (1 + e^{-\beta})} \right) = e^\rho \mathcal{F}_{\hat{W}'} \left( \frac{1}{\prod_{\beta \in S} (1 + e^{-\beta})} \right)$$

is well-defined (since  $\rho$  is  $\hat{W}$ -invariant). As in Section 2.1.1, this amounts to showing that

$$X_S(\nu) := \left\{ w \in \hat{W}' : \sum_{\beta \in V_S(w)} w\beta \geq -\nu \right\}$$

is finite for any  $\nu \in \hat{Q}^+$  (where  $V_S(w)$  is defined as in Section 3.1). As in Section 2.1.1, writing  $\nu = k\delta + \nu_+$ , where  $\nu_+ \in \mathbb{Z}\Delta$ , we get

$$X_S(\nu) \subset \{t_\mu y : \mu \in T', y \in W' \text{ s.t. } (y\beta, \mu) \geq -k \text{ for all } \beta \in S\}.$$

Since  $y$  permutes  $\delta_i$ ,  $t_\mu y \in X_S(\nu)$  forces  $(\delta_i, \mu) \geq -k$  for all  $i$ . Taking into account that  $\mu$  lies in the  $\mathbb{Z}$ -span of  $\delta_i$  and  $(\mu, \sum_{i=1}^n \delta_i) = 0$ , we conclude that  $X_S(\nu)$  is finite. This establishes (15).

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