

# The correlation functions of vertex operators and Macdonald polynomials

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**Abstract** The  $n$ -point correlation functions introduced by Bloch and Okounkov have already found several geometric connections and algebraic generalizations. In this note we formulate a  $q, t$ -deformation of this  $n$ -point function. The key operator used in our formulation arises from the theory of Macdonald polynomials and affords a vertex operator interpretation. We obtain closed formulas for the  $n$ -point functions when  $n = 1, 2$  in terms of the basic hypergeometric functions. We further generalize the  $q, t$ -deformed  $n$ -point function to more general vertex operators.

**Keywords** Correlation functions · Macdonald polynomials · Vertex operators · Hypergeometric series

## 1. Introduction

In [1] Bloch and Okounkov formulated an  $n$ -point correlation function on a Fock space and established a remarkable closed formula in terms of theta functions (also cf. [10]). Recently, this  $n$ -point function has found geometric connections in terms of Gromov-Witten theory [11] and Hilbert schemes of points [7], and it also affords several other algebraic generalizations (cf. [2, 9, 12]). The formulation in [1, 10] boils down to a remarkable operator  $T(t)$  on the ring of symmetric functions which diagonalizes the Schur functions with explicit eigenvalues.

In this note we formulate a deformed version of the  $n$ -point functions of Bloch-Okounkov, denoted by  $\widehat{F}(q_1, t_1; \dots; q_n, t_n)$ , which also depends on an additional

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indeterminate  $v$  associated to the energy operator. The role of  $T(t)$  is replaced by an operator  $\mathfrak{B}_{q,t}$  (cf. Garsia-Haiman [4]; see Section 2) which diagonalizes the modified Macdonald polynomials  $\tilde{H}_\lambda(q, t)$  and affords a vertex operator interpretation. In Section 3 we compute the 1-point function as

$$\widehat{F}(q, t) = \frac{(vqt)_\infty}{(t)_\infty(q)_\infty}$$

where  $(a)_\infty := \prod_{i=0}^\infty (1 - av^i)$ . We further found closed formulas for the 2-point functions in terms of basic hypergeometric series (Theorem 9).

From the viewpoint of vertex operators, it is also possible to further generalize the notion of the  $n$ -point function above, and we compute explicitly some cases in Section 4 (Theorems 13 and 16). We end this note in Section 5 with a discussion of open problems and possible connections.

## 2. Formulation of the $n$ -point functions

### 2.1. The operators $\mathfrak{B}_{q,t}$ and $\widehat{\mathfrak{B}}_{q,t}$

Let  $t, q$  be two indeterminates. Given a partition  $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots)$  of  $n$ , we denote by  $a'(\square)$  and  $l'(\square)$  the *coarm* and *coleg* of a given cell  $\square$  [4, 8], and denote

$$B_\lambda(q, t) := \sum_{\square \in \lambda} q^{a'(\square)} t^{l'(\square)}.$$

We set

$$\widehat{B}_\lambda(q, t) := \frac{1}{1 - q} \sum_{i \geq 1} t^{i-1} q^{\lambda_i}.$$

**Lemma 1.** *We have*

$$B_\lambda(q, t) = \widehat{B}_\emptyset(q, t) - \widehat{B}_\lambda(q, t)$$

$$\widehat{B}_{\lambda(q,t)} \quad \text{where} \quad \widehat{B}_\emptyset(q, t) = \frac{1}{(1 - q)(1 - t)}.$$

**Proof:** We calculate that

$$\begin{aligned} B_\lambda(q, t) &= \sum_{i \geq 1} \frac{t^{i-1}(1 - q^{\lambda_i})}{1 - q} \\ &= \frac{1}{(1 - q)(1 - t)} - \sum_{i \geq 1} \frac{t^{i-1} q^{\lambda_i}}{1 - q} \\ &= \widehat{B}_\emptyset(q, t) - \widehat{B}_\lambda(q, t). \end{aligned}$$

□

Note that

$$B_\lambda(q, t) = B_{\lambda'}(t, q), \quad \widehat{B}_\lambda(q, t) = \widehat{B}_{\lambda'}(t, q). \tag{1}$$

Denote by  $\Lambda_{q,t}$  the ring of symmetric functions with coefficients in  $\mathbb{Q}(q, t)$ . Recall the Macdonald symmetric functions  $P_\lambda(x; q, t)$ ,  $Q_\lambda(x; q, t)$  from [8] and its normalized form  $J_\lambda(x; q, t)$ ,  $H_\lambda(x; q, t)$ , and  $\widetilde{H}_\lambda(x; q, t)$  as in [4, (8)–(11)]. We define the linear operators  $\mathfrak{B}_{q,t}$  and  $\widehat{\mathfrak{B}}_{q,t}$  on  $\Lambda_{q,t}$  (cf. [4, (73), (74)]) by letting

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{B}_{q,t} \widetilde{H}_\lambda(x; q, t) &= B_\lambda(q, t) \widetilde{H}_\lambda(x; q, t), \\ \widehat{\mathfrak{B}}_{q,t} \widetilde{H}_\lambda(x; q, t) &= \widehat{B}_\lambda(q, t) \widetilde{H}_\lambda(x; q, t), \quad \text{for all } \lambda. \end{aligned}$$

### 2.2. The definition of $n$ -point correlation functions

Let  $v$  be an indeterminate. For our purposes we can also think of  $v$  as a complex number with  $|v| < 1$ . For  $r \geq 1$  we set

$$(a)_0 := 1; \quad (a)_r := \prod_{i=0}^{r-1} (1 - av^i); \quad (a)_\infty := \prod_{i=0}^{\infty} (1 - av^i).$$

The *energy operator*  $L_0$  on  $\Lambda_{q,t}$  is the linear operator such that  $L_0 g = ng$  for every  $n$  and every symmetric function  $g$  of degree  $n$ . Given  $f \in \text{End}(\Lambda_{q,t})$ , we consider the trace function

$$\text{Tr}_v f := \text{Tr}(v^{L_0} f).$$

In particular for the identity map  $I$  we have

$$\text{Tr}_v I = (v)_\infty^{-1}.$$

The  $n$ -point (*correlation*) functions are defined to be

$$\begin{aligned} F(q_1, t_1; \dots; q_n, t_n) &:= \text{Tr}_v(\mathfrak{B}_{q_1, t_1} \cdots \mathfrak{B}_{q_n, t_n}), \\ \widehat{F}(q_1, t_1; \dots; q_n, t_n) &:= \text{Tr}_v(\widehat{\mathfrak{B}}_{q_1, t_1} \cdots \widehat{\mathfrak{B}}_{q_n, t_n}). \end{aligned}$$

We can easily convert between  $F$  and  $\widehat{F}$  by Lemma 1.

There is yet another viewpoint. Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be the set of all partitions, and let  $f(\lambda)$  be a function on  $\mathcal{P}$ . We define the  $v$ -expectation value of  $f$  to be

$$\langle f \rangle_v := (v)_\infty \sum_{\lambda \in \mathcal{P}} f(\lambda) v^{|\lambda|},$$

assuming its convergence.

**Lemma 2.** *We have*

$$F(q_1, t_1; \dots, q_n, t_n) = (v)_\infty^{-1} \left\langle \prod_{k=1}^n B_\lambda(q_k, t_k) \right\rangle_v$$

The same relation holds with  $F$  and  $B$  replaced by  $\widehat{F}$  and  $\widehat{B}$ .

**Proof:** Note that the operators  $\mathfrak{B}_{q_k, t_k}$  for different  $k$  do not commute. Let  $\{s_\lambda\}$  be the Schur functions, cf. [8], and write  $s_\mu = \sum_\lambda a_{\lambda, \mu}^{(i)} \widetilde{H}_\lambda(x; q_i, t_i)$  with  $[a_{\lambda, \mu}^{(i)}]$  being a triangular matrix with respect to the dominance order. Then

$$\mathfrak{B}_{q_i, t_i} s_\lambda = B_\lambda(q_i, t_i) s_\lambda + \text{lower terms,}$$

and thus

$$\mathfrak{B}_{q_1, t_1} \cdots \mathfrak{B}_{q_n, t_n} s_\lambda = B_\lambda(q_1, t_1) \cdots B_\lambda(q_n, t_n) s_\lambda + \text{lower terms.}$$

Therefore,

$$\text{Tr}_v(\mathfrak{B}_{q_1, t_1} \cdots \mathfrak{B}_{q_n, t_n}) = \sum_\lambda B_\lambda(q_1, t_1) \cdots B_\lambda(q_n, t_n) v^{|\lambda|}.$$

□

Thanks to (1) and Lemma 2, we see that  $F$  and  $\widehat{F}$  are symmetric with respect to the hyperoctahedral group  $\mathbb{Z}_2^n \rtimes S_n$ , where the symmetric group  $S_n$  permutes the indices  $i$  in the pairs  $(q_i, t_i)$  and the  $i$ -th copy of  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  permutes  $q_i$  and  $t_i$ .

*Remark 3.* When  $t = q^{-1}$ ,  $\widehat{F}$  reduces to (up to a normalization) the  $n$ -point functions introduced by Bloch and Okounkov [1], where the interpretation as a  $v$ -expectation value was also made.

### 3. The formulas for $n$ -point functions

#### 3.1. The 1-point function

**Lemma 4** ([1, Lemma 6.6]). *For a given  $i \geq 1$ , we have*

$$\langle q^{\lambda_i} \rangle_v = \frac{(v^i)_\infty}{(v^i q)_\infty}.$$

**Proof:** By conjugation symmetry of partitions and  $\lambda'_i = \#\{k | \lambda_k \geq i\}$ , we have

$$\langle q^{\lambda_i} \rangle_v = \langle q^{\lambda'_i} \rangle_v = \frac{(v)_\infty}{(v)_{i-1} (v^i q)_\infty} = \frac{(v^i)_\infty}{(v^i q)_\infty}.$$

□

We will use for several times the so-called  $q$ -binomial theorem (cf. [5, Appendix II.3]):

$$\sum_{r=0}^{\infty} t^r \frac{(a)_r}{(v)_r} = \frac{(at)_{\infty}}{(t)_{\infty}}, \quad |t| < 1.$$

**Theorem 5.** *The 1-point function is given by:*

$$\widehat{F}(q, t) = \frac{(vqt)_{\infty}}{(q)_{\infty}(t)_{\infty}}.$$

**Proof:** We calculate by Lemma 4 and the  $q$ -binomial theorem that

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \widehat{B}_{\lambda}(q, t) \rangle_v &= (1 - q)^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} t^{i-1} \frac{(v^i)_{\infty}}{(v^i q)_{\infty}} \\ &= \frac{(v)_{\infty}}{(q)_{\infty}} \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} t^r \frac{(vq)_r}{(v)_r} = \frac{(v)_{\infty}(vqt)_{\infty}}{(q)_{\infty}(t)_{\infty}}. \end{aligned}$$

By Lemma 2, this gives rise to the 1-point function  $\widehat{F}(q, t)$ . □

*Remark 6.* When  $t = q^{-1}$ , Theorem 5 specializes to [1, Theorem 6.5].

### 3.2. The 2-point function

We begin with some preparation.

**Lemma 7.** *For fixed  $1 \leq i < j$ , we have*

$$\langle q_1^{\lambda_i} q_2^{\lambda_j} \rangle_v = \frac{(v)_{\infty}}{(v)_{i-1}(v^i q_1)_{j-i}(v^j q_1 q_2)_{\infty}} = \frac{(v)_{\infty}}{(v q_1 q_2)_{\infty}} \frac{(v q_1)_{i-1}(v q_1 q_2)_{j-1}}{(v)_{i-1}(v q_1)_{j-1}}.$$

**Proof:** This is a variant of a special case of [1, (7.1)]. Similar to Lemma 4, it follows directly from  $\langle q_1^{\lambda_i} q_2^{\lambda_j} \rangle_v = \langle q_1^{\lambda'_i} q_2^{\lambda'_j} \rangle_v$ . □

Set

$$\begin{aligned} T_1 &:= \frac{(v)_{\infty}}{(v q_1 q_2)_{\infty}} \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} t_1^i \frac{(v q_1)_i}{(v)_i} \sum_{j=i+1}^{\infty} t_2^j \frac{(v q_1 q_2)_j}{(v q_1)_j} \\ T_2 &:= \frac{(v)_{\infty}}{(v q_1 q_2)_{\infty}} \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} t_2^i \frac{(v q_2)_i}{(v)_i} \sum_{j=i+1}^{\infty} t_1^j \frac{(v q_1 q_2)_j}{(v q_2)_j} \\ T_3 &:= \frac{(v)_{\infty}}{(v q_1 q_2)_{\infty}} \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} (t_1 t_2)^i \frac{(v q_1 q_2)_i}{(v)_i}. \end{aligned}$$

**Lemma 8.** *We have*

$$\langle \widehat{B}_\lambda(q_1, t_1) \widehat{B}_\lambda(q_2, t_2) \rangle_v = (1 - q_1)^{-1} (1 - q_2)^{-1} (T_1 + T_2 + T_3).$$

**Proof:** By definition, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle \widehat{B}_\lambda(q_1, t_1) \widehat{B}_\lambda(q_2, t_2) \rangle_v \\ &= (1 - q_1)^{-1} (1 - q_2)^{-1} \left\langle \sum_{i,j=1}^{\infty} t_1^{i-1} q_1^{\lambda_i} t_2^{j-1} q_2^{\lambda_j} \right\rangle_v \\ &= (1 - q_1)^{-1} (1 - q_2)^{-1} \sum_{i,j=1}^{\infty} t_1^{i-1} t_2^{j-1} \langle q_1^{\lambda_i} q_2^{\lambda_j} \rangle_v \\ &= (1 - q_1)^{-1} (1 - q_2)^{-1} \left( \sum_{i < j} + \sum_{i > j} + \sum_{i=j} \right) t_1^{i-1} t_2^{j-1} \langle q_1^{\lambda_i} q_2^{\lambda_j} \rangle_v \end{aligned}$$

where the last three summands can be further identified with  $T_1$ ,  $T_2$  and  $T_3$ , respectively, using Lemmas 4 and 7.  $\square$

For  $r \geq 0$ ,  $a_1, \dots, a_{r+1} \in \mathbb{C}$  and  $b_1, \dots, b_r \in \mathbb{C}$  the  $(r + 1, r)$ -basic hypergeometric series is the series:

$${}_{r+1}\Phi_r \left( \begin{matrix} a_1, \dots, a_{r+1} \\ b_1, \dots, b_r \end{matrix} ; v; z \right) := \sum_{m \geq 0} \frac{(a_1)_m (a_2)_m \cdots (a_{r+1})_m}{(v)_m (b_1)_m \cdots (b_r)_m} z^m.$$

It is assumed that the denominator is never zero, in which case it is known to converge absolutely for  $|z| < 1$  (cf. [5]).

**Theorem 9.** *The 2-point function  $\widehat{F}(q_1, t_1; q_2, t_2)$  is equal to*

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{(1 - q_1)(1 - q_2)(1 - t_1 t_2)} \cdot \frac{(v q_1 q_2 t_1 t_2)_\infty}{(v t_1 t_2)_\infty (v q_1 q_2)_\infty} \\ & \cdot \left[ \frac{q_1 q_2 t_1 t_2 - 1}{(1 - q_1 t_1)(1 - q_2 t_2)} + \frac{1}{1 - q_1 t_1} {}_3\Phi_2 \left( \begin{matrix} v, q_1 t_1, v q_1 q_2 \\ v q_1, v q_1 q_2 t_1 t_2 \end{matrix} ; v; t_2 \right) \right. \\ & \left. + \frac{1}{1 - q_2 t_2} {}_3\Phi_2 \left( \begin{matrix} v, q_2 t_2, v q_1 q_2 \\ v q_2, v q_1 q_2 t_1 t_2 \end{matrix} ; v; t_1 \right) \right]. \end{aligned}$$

**Theorem 10.** *If  $q_1q_2t_1t_2 = 1$ , then the 2-point function  $\widehat{F}(q_1, t_1; q_2, t_2)$  is equal to*

$$\frac{1}{(1 - q_1)(1 - q_2)(1 - t_1t_2)} \cdot \frac{(v)_\infty}{(vt_1t_2)_\infty(vq_1q_2)_\infty} \cdot \left[ \frac{1}{1 - q_1t_1} \frac{(vt_1^{-1})_\infty(q_2^{-1})_\infty}{(vq_1)_\infty(t_2)_\infty} + \frac{1}{1 - q_2t_2} \frac{(vt_2^{-1})_\infty(q_1^{-1})_\infty}{(vq_2)_\infty(t_1)_\infty} \right]$$

**Proof of Theorems 9 and 10:** To compute the 2-point function it suffices to compute the  $T_i$  by Lemma 8. First of all,

$$\begin{aligned} T_1 &= \frac{(v)_\infty}{(vq_1)_\infty} \sum_{i=0}^\infty t_1^i \frac{(vq_1)_i}{(v)_i} \sum_{j=i+1}^\infty t_2^j \frac{(v^{j+1}q_1)_\infty}{(v^{j+1}q_1q_2)_\infty} \\ &= \frac{(v)_\infty}{(vq_1)_\infty} \sum_{i=0}^\infty t_1^i \frac{(vq_1)_i}{(v)_i} \sum_{j=i+1}^\infty t_2^j \sum_{m=0}^\infty \frac{(q_2^{-1})_m}{(v)_m} (v^{j+1}q_1q_2)^m \\ &= \frac{(v)_\infty}{(vq_1)_\infty} \sum_{i=0}^\infty t_1^i \frac{(vq_1)_i}{(v)_i} \sum_{m=0}^\infty \frac{(q_2^{-1})_m}{(v)_m} (vq_1q_2)^m \sum_{j=i+1}^\infty t_2^j v^{jm} \\ &= \frac{(v)_\infty}{(vq_1)_\infty} \sum_{i=0}^\infty t_1^i \frac{(vq_1)_i}{(v)_i} \sum_{m=0}^\infty \frac{(q_2^{-1})_m}{(v)_m} (vq_1q_2)^m \frac{(t_2v^m)^{i+1}}{1 - t_2v^m} \\ &= \frac{(v)_\infty}{(vq_1)_\infty} \sum_{m=0}^\infty \frac{(q_2^{-1})_m}{(v)_m} (vq_1q_2)^m \frac{t_2v^m}{1 - t_2v^m} \sum_{i=0}^\infty (t_1t_2v^m)^i \frac{(vq_1)_i}{(v)_i} \\ &= \frac{(v)_\infty}{(vq_1)_\infty} \sum_{m=0}^\infty \frac{(q_2^{-1})_m}{(v)_m} (vq_1q_2)^m \frac{t_2v^m}{1 - t_2v^m} \frac{(v^{m+1}q_1t_1t_2)_\infty}{(v^m t_1t_2)_\infty} \\ &= \frac{(v)_\infty(vq_1t_1t_2)_\infty}{(vq_1)_\infty(t_1t_2)_\infty} \sum_{m=0}^\infty \frac{(q_2^{-1})_m(t_1t_2)_m}{(v)_m(vq_1t_1t_2)_m} (v^2q_1q_2)^m \frac{t_2}{1 - t_2v^m} \\ &= \frac{t_2}{1 - t_2} \frac{(v)_\infty(vq_1t_1t_2)_\infty}{(vq_1)_\infty(t_1t_2)_\infty} \sum_{m=0}^\infty \frac{(q_2^{-1})_m(t_1t_2)_m(t_2)_m}{(v)_m(vq_1t_1t_2)_m(vt_2)_m} (v^2q_1q_2)^m. \end{aligned}$$

Thus we obtain that

$$T_1 = \frac{t_2}{1 - t_2} \frac{(v)_\infty(vq_1t_1t_2)_\infty}{(vq_1)_\infty(t_1t_2)_\infty} \cdot {}_3\Phi_2 \left( \begin{matrix} t_1t_2, t_2, q_2^{-1} \\ vt_2, vq_1t_1t_2 \end{matrix} ; v; v^2q_1q_2 \right). \tag{2}$$

Here  ${}_3\Phi_2 \left( \begin{matrix} t_1t_2, t_2, q_2^{-1} \\ vt_2, vq_1t_1t_2 \end{matrix} ; v; v^2q_1q_2 \right)$  is a (3, 2)-hypergeometric series of type II, since

$$\frac{(vt_2)(vq_1t_1t_2)}{(t_1t_2)(t_2)(q_2^{-1})} = v^2q_1q_2.$$

Recall Hall’s transformation formula ([5], Appendix III.10):

$${}_3\Phi_2 \left( \begin{matrix} a, b, c \\ d, e \end{matrix} ; v; \frac{de}{abc} \right) = \frac{(b)_\infty (de/ab)_\infty (de/bc)_\infty}{(d)_\infty (e)_\infty (de/abc)_\infty} {}_3\Phi_2 \left( \begin{matrix} d/b, e/b, de/abc \\ de/ab, de/bc \end{matrix} ; v; b \right).$$

The above two-term transformation formula holds for  $|b| < 1$  and  $|de/abc| < 1$ . Applying this transformation formula to (2) and cancelling terms with  $(t_2)_\infty = (1 - t_2)(vt_2)_\infty$ , we rewrite (2) as

$$\begin{aligned} T_1 &= t_2 \frac{(v)_\infty (v^2q_1)_\infty (v^2q_1q_2t_1t_2)_\infty}{(vq_1)_\infty (t_1t_2)_\infty (v^2q_1q_2)_\infty} {}_3\Phi_2 \left( \begin{matrix} v, vq_1t_1, v^2q_1q_2 \\ v^2q_1, v^2q_1q_2t_1t_2 \end{matrix} ; v; t_2 \right) \\ &= \frac{t_2}{1 - vq_1} \frac{(v)_\infty (v^2q_1q_2t_1t_2)_\infty}{(t_1t_2)_\infty (v^2q_1q_2)_\infty} \cdot {}_3\Phi_2 \left( \begin{matrix} v, vq_1t_1, v^2q_1q_2 \\ v^2q_1, v^2q_1q_2t_1t_2 \end{matrix} ; v; t_2 \right) \\ &= \frac{t_2}{1 - vq_1} \frac{1 - vq_1q_2}{1 - vq_1q_2t_1t_2} \frac{(v)_\infty (vq_1q_2t_1t_2)_\infty}{(t_1t_2)_\infty (vq_1q_2)_\infty} \cdot {}_3\Phi_2 \left( \begin{matrix} v, vq_1t_1, v^2q_1q_2 \\ v^2q_1, v^2q_1q_2t_1t_2 \end{matrix} ; v; t_2 \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{1 - q_1t_1} \frac{(v)_\infty (vq_1q_2t_1t_2)_\infty}{(t_1t_2)_\infty (vq_1q_2)_\infty} \cdot \sum_{m=0}^\infty \frac{(v)_{m+1} (q_1t_1)_{m+1} (vq_1q_2)_{m+1}}{(v)_{m+1} (vq_1)_{m+1} (vq_1q_2t_1t_2)_{m+1}} t_2^{m+1} \\ &= \frac{1}{1 - q_1t_1} \frac{(v)_\infty (vq_1q_2t_1t_2)_\infty}{(t_1t_2)_\infty (vq_1q_2)_\infty} \cdot \left[ {}_3\Phi_2 \left( \begin{matrix} v, q_1t_1, vq_1q_2 \\ vq_1, vq_1q_2t_1t_2 \end{matrix} ; v; t_2 \right) - 1 \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{1 - t_1t_2} \frac{(v)_\infty (vq_1q_2t_1t_2)_\infty}{(vt_1t_2)_\infty (vq_1q_2)_\infty} \cdot \left[ \frac{1}{1 - q_1t_1} {}_3\Phi_2 \left( \begin{matrix} v, q_1t_1, vq_1q_2 \\ vq_1, vq_1q_2t_1t_2 \end{matrix} ; v; t_2 \right) - \frac{1}{1 - q_1t_1} \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $T_2$  is the same as  $T_1$  after switching of variables  $t_1 \leftrightarrow t_2, q_1 \leftrightarrow q_2$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} T_2 &= \frac{1}{1 - t_1t_2} \cdot \frac{(v)_\infty (vq_1q_2t_1t_2)_\infty}{(vt_1t_2)_\infty (vq_1q_2)_\infty} \\ &\quad \cdot \left[ \frac{1}{1 - q_2t_2} {}_3\Phi_2 \left( \begin{matrix} v, q_2t_2, vq_1q_2 \\ vq_2, vq_1q_2t_1t_2 \end{matrix} ; v; t_1 \right) - \frac{1}{1 - q_2t_2} \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Note in addition by the  $q$ -binomial theorem that

$$T_3 = \frac{1}{1 - t_1t_2} \cdot \frac{(v)_\infty (vq_1q_2t_1t_2)_\infty}{(vt_1t_2)_\infty (vq_1q_2)_\infty}.$$



Therefore,

$$T_1 + T_2 + T_3 = \frac{1}{1 - t_1 t_2} \cdot \frac{(v)_\infty (v q_1 q_2 t_1 t_2)_\infty}{(v t_1 t_2)_\infty (v q_1 q_2)_\infty} \cdot \left[ \frac{q_1 q_2 t_1 t_2 - 1}{(1 - q_1 t_1)(1 - q_2 t_2)} + \frac{1}{1 - q_1 t_1} {}_3\Phi_2 \left( \begin{matrix} v, q_1 t_1, v q_1 q_2 \\ v q_1, v q_1 q_2 t_1 t_2 \end{matrix} ; v; t_2 \right) + \frac{1}{1 - q_2 t_2} {}_3\Phi_2 \left( \begin{matrix} v, q_2 t_2, v q_1 q_2 \\ v q_2, v q_1 q_2 t_1 t_2 \end{matrix} ; v; t_1 \right) \right].$$

Recall by Lemma 2 that  $\widehat{F}(q_1, t_1; q_2, t_2) = (v)_\infty^{-1} \cdot \langle \widehat{B}_\lambda(q_1, t_1) \widehat{B}_\lambda(q_2, t_2) \rangle_v$ . This together with Lemma 8 proves Theorem 9.

In the case when  $q_1 q_2 t_1 t_2 = 1$ , the above expression for  $T_1 + T_2 + T_3$  can be further simplified to be

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{1 - t_1 t_2} \cdot \frac{(v)_\infty^2}{(v t_1 t_2)_\infty (v q_1 q_2)_\infty} \cdot \left[ \frac{1}{1 - q_1 t_1} {}_3\Phi_2 \left( \begin{matrix} v, q_1 t_1, v q_1 q_2 \\ v q_1, v \end{matrix} ; v; t_2 \right) \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \frac{1}{1 - q_2 t_2} {}_3\Phi_2 \left( \begin{matrix} v, q_2 t_2, v q_1 q_2 \\ v q_2, v \end{matrix} ; v; t_1 \right) \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{1 - t_1 t_2} \cdot \frac{(v)_\infty^2}{(v t_1 t_2)_\infty (v q_1 q_2)_\infty} \cdot \left[ \frac{1}{1 - q_1 t_1} {}_2\Phi_1 \left( \begin{matrix} q_1 t_1, v q_1 q_2 \\ v q_1 \end{matrix} ; v; t_2 \right) \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \frac{1}{1 - q_2 t_2} {}_2\Phi_1 \left( \begin{matrix} q_2 t_2, v q_1 q_2 \\ v q_2 \end{matrix} ; v; t_1 \right) \right]. \tag{3} \end{aligned}$$

Thanks to  $q_1 q_2 t_1 t_2 = 1$ , the two (2, 1)-basic hypergeometric series are of the form  ${}_2\Phi_1 \left( \begin{matrix} a, b \\ c \end{matrix} ; v; c/ab \right)$ . Now by Heine’s formula (cf. [5, Appendix II.8])

$${}_2\Phi_1 \left( \begin{matrix} a, b \\ c \end{matrix} ; v; c/ab \right) = \frac{(c/a)_\infty (c/b)_\infty}{(c)_\infty (c/ab)_\infty}, \quad |b| < 1, \left| \frac{c}{ab} \right| < 1,$$

the expression (3) for  $T_1 + T_2 + T_3$  becomes

$$\frac{1}{1 - t_1 t_2} \cdot \frac{(v)_\infty^2}{(v t_1 t_2)_\infty (v q_1 q_2)_\infty} \cdot \left[ \frac{1}{1 - q_1 t_1} \frac{(v t_1^{-1})_\infty (q_2^{-1})_\infty}{(v q_1)_\infty (t_2)_\infty} + \frac{1}{1 - q_2 t_2} \frac{(v t_2^{-1})_\infty (q_1^{-1})_\infty}{(v q_2)_\infty (t_1)_\infty} \right].$$

This together with Lemmas 2 and 8 completes the proof of Theorem 10. □

*Remark 11.* It follows from the proof above that the convergence of the 2-point function is guaranteed by assuming that  $|t_1| < 1$ ,  $|t_2| < 1$ ,  $|v q_1 q_2| < 1$ ,  $|v| < 1$ , and by excluding the values for  $t_i, q_i$  which make the denominators of the (3, 2)-basic hypergeometric series and other denominators in the above theorems vanish.

## 4. A generalization via vertex operators

### 4.1. 1-point function of the zero-mode of a vertex operator

Consider the Heisenberg algebra generated by  $I$  and  $\mathfrak{a}_n$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , with the commutation relations (where  $\kappa$  is a constant):

$$[\mathfrak{a}_m, \mathfrak{a}_n] = \kappa m \delta_{m,-n} I.$$

The Fock space  $B$  is the irreducible representation of the Heisenberg algebra generated by a (highest weight) vector  $|0\rangle$  such that  $I|0\rangle = |0\rangle$  and  $\mathfrak{a}_n|0\rangle = 0$  for  $n \geq 0$ . The Fock space  $B$  has a linear basis  $\mathfrak{a}_{-\lambda} := \mathfrak{a}_{-\lambda_1} \mathfrak{a}_{-\lambda_2} \cdots |0\rangle$ , where  $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots)$  runs over all partitions. Below we identify  $B$  with the ring of symmetric function  $\Lambda$  by identifying  $\mathfrak{a}_{-\lambda}$  with the power-sum symmetric functions  $p_\lambda$ .

Introduce the following deformed vertex operator

$$V(z; q_1, t_1, q_2, t_2) = \exp\left(\sum_{k \geq 1} (q_1^k - q_2^k) \mathfrak{a}_{-k} \frac{z^k}{k}\right) \exp\left(\sum_{k \geq 1} (t_2^k - t_1^k) \mathfrak{a}_k \frac{z^{-k}}{k}\right).$$

Write

$$V(z; q_1, t_1, q_2, t_2) = \sum_{m \in \mathbb{Z}} V_m(q_1, q_2, t_1, t_2) z^m.$$

*Remark 12.* When  $\kappa = 1$ ,  $q_2 = t_2 = 1$ , and write  $q = q_1$  and  $t = t_1$ , the operator  $V_0$  provides a vertex operator realization for  $\widehat{\mathfrak{B}}_{q,t}$ :

$$\widehat{\mathfrak{B}}_{q,t} = \frac{1}{(1-q)(1-t)} \cdot V_0(q, 1, t, 1). \quad (4)$$

This formula in a  $\lambda$ -ring form (in different notations) appears in the study of Macdonald polynomials by Garsia and Haiman [4, (73)]. In this sense, Theorem 13 below is a generalization of Theorem 5 (with different proofs). The formula (4) for  $t = q^{-1}$  is equivalent to a formula of Lascoux and Thibon [6, Prop. 3.3].

**Theorem 13.** *We have*

$$\langle V_0(q_1, q_2, t_1, t_2) \rangle_v = \left[ \frac{(q_1 t_1 v)_\infty (q_2 t_2 v)_\infty}{(q_1 t_2 v)_\infty (q_2 t_1 v)_\infty} \right]^\kappa.$$

**Proof:** Let us denote  $\Delta := V_0(q_1, q_2, t_1, t_2)$ . For a partition  $\lambda = (r^{m_r})_{r \geq 1}$  with  $m_r$  parts equal to  $r$ ,  $p_\lambda = \prod_{r \geq 1} \mathfrak{a}_{-r}^{m_r} |0\rangle$ . To compute the trace  $\text{Tr}_B v^{L_0} \Delta$ , we will compute the projection of  $\Delta p_\lambda$  to the one-dimensional subspace  $\mathbb{C} p_\lambda$  (with respect to the basis

$p_\mu$ 's). A similar method has been also used in [3].

$$\begin{aligned} \text{projection of } \Delta p_\lambda &= \sum_{\substack{(n_r) \\ n_r \leq m_r \text{ for all } r}} \left( \prod_{r \geq 1} \frac{(q_1^r - q_2^r)^{n_r} \alpha_{-r}^{n_r}}{r^{n_r} n_r!} \right) \left( \prod_{r \geq 1} \frac{(t_2^r - t_1^r)^{n_r} \alpha_r^{n_r}}{r^{n_r} n_r!} \right) \cdot \prod_{r \geq 1} \alpha_{-r}^{m_r} |0\rangle \\ &= \sum_{\substack{(n_r) \\ n_r \leq m_r \text{ for all } r}} \prod_{r \geq 1} \frac{\binom{m_r}{n_r} r^{n_r} n_r! \kappa^{n_r} (q_1^r - q_2^r)^{n_r} (t_2^r - t_1^r)^{n_r}}{(r^{n_r} n_r!)^2} \cdot \prod_{r \geq 1} \alpha_{-r}^{m_r} |0\rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Tr}_B(v^{L_0} \Delta) &= \sum_{\substack{(m_r), (n_r) \\ n_r \leq m_r \text{ for all } r}} \prod_{r \geq 1} \frac{\binom{m_r}{n_r} r^{n_r} n_r! \kappa^{n_r} (q_1^r - q_2^r)^{n_r} (t_2^r - t_1^r)^{n_r} v^{r m_r}}{(r^{n_r} n_r!)^2} \\ &= \prod_{r \geq 1} \sum_{(n_r)} \frac{(\kappa (q_1^r - q_2^r) (t_2^r - t_1^r))^{n_r}}{r^{n_r} n_r!} \sum_{\substack{(m_r) \\ m_r \geq n_r \text{ for all } r}} \binom{m_r}{n_r} v^{r m_r}. \end{aligned}$$

Using the simple binomial identity for  $n \geq 0$ ,

$$\sum_{m \geq n} \binom{m}{n} x^m = \frac{x^n}{(1-x)^{1+n}},$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Tr}_B(v^{L_0} \Delta) &= \prod_{r \geq 1} \sum_{(n_r)} \frac{(\kappa (q_1^r - q_2^r) (t_2^r - t_1^r))^{n_r}}{r^{n_r} n_r!} \frac{(v^r)^{n_r}}{(1-v^r)^{1+n_r}} \\ &= (v)_\infty^{-1} \cdot \exp \left( \sum_{r \geq 1} \frac{\kappa v^r (q_1^r - q_2^r) (t_2^r - t_1^r)}{r(1-v^r)} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \Delta \rangle_v &= (v)_\infty \text{Tr}_B(v^{L_0} \Delta) \\ &= \exp \left( \sum_{r \geq 1} \sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{\kappa}{r} [(q_1 t_1 v^n)^r + (q_2 t_1 v^n)^r - (q_1 t_1 v^n)^r - (q_2 t_2 v^n)^r] \right) \\ &= \exp \left( \kappa \sum_{n \geq 1} (\ln(1 - q_1 t_1 v^n)(1 - q_2 t_2 v^n) - \ln(1 - q_1 t_2 v^n)(1 - q_2 t_1 v^n)) \right) \\ &= \left[ \frac{(q_1 t_1 v)_\infty (q_2 t_2 v)_\infty}{(q_1 t_2 v)_\infty (q_2 t_1 v)_\infty} \right]^\kappa. \end{aligned}$$

□

4.2. The  $n$ -point function of a vertex operator

It turns out that it is fairly easy to compute the  $n$ -point function of the full vertex operator  $V(z; s, t, u, w)$  in contrast to the  $n$ -point function of its zero-mode (for  $n \geq 2$ ). We first recall a standard lemma.

**Lemma 14.** *We have*

$$\begin{aligned} & \exp\left(\frac{(t_i^k - s_i^k)z_i^{-k} \mathbf{a}_k}{k}\right) \exp\left(\frac{(u_j^k - w_j^k)z_j^k \mathbf{a}_{-k}}{k}\right) \\ &= \exp\left(\frac{\kappa(t_i^k - s_i^k)(u_j^k - w_j^k)z_j^k z_i^{-k}}{k}\right) \exp\left(\frac{(u_j^k - w_j^k)z_j^k \mathbf{a}_{-k}}{k}\right) \exp\left(\frac{(t_i^k - s_i^k)z_i^{-k} \mathbf{a}_k}{k}\right). \end{aligned}$$

**Lemma 15.** *We have*

$$\begin{aligned} & \prod_{i=1}^n V(z_i; s_i, t_i, u_i, w_i) \\ &= \exp\left(\kappa \sum_{k \geq 1} \frac{\sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} (t_i^k - s_i^k)(u_j^k - w_j^k)z_j^k z_i^{-k}}{k}\right) \exp\left(\sum_{k \geq 1} \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (u_i^k - w_i^k)z_i^k \mathbf{a}_{-k}}{k}\right) \\ & \quad \times \exp\left(\sum_{k \geq 1} \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (t_i^k - s_i^k)z_i^{-k} \mathbf{a}_k}{k}\right). \end{aligned}$$

**Proof:** Follows from applying Lemma 14 repeatedly. □

**Theorem 16.** *We have*

$$\begin{aligned} \left\langle \prod_{i=1}^n V(z_i; s_i, t_i, u_i, w_i) \right\rangle_v &= \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} \left[ \frac{(1 - t_i w_j z_i^{-1} z_j)(1 - s_i u_j z_i^{-1} z_j)}{(1 - t_i u_j z_i^{-1} z_j)(1 - s_i w_j z_i^{-1} z_j)} \right]^\kappa \quad (5) \\ & \quad \times \prod_{i,j=1}^n \left[ \frac{(t_i w_j z_i^{-1} z_j)_\infty (s_i u_j z_i^{-1} z_j)_\infty}{(t_i u_j z_i^{-1} z_j)_\infty (s_i w_j z_i^{-1} z_j)_\infty} \right]^\kappa. \quad (6) \end{aligned}$$

**Proof:** Using Lemma 15 and the projection technique as used in the proof of Theorem 13, the trace  $\text{Tr}(v^{L_0} \prod_{i=1}^n V(z_i; s_i, t_i, u_i, w_i))$  can be shown to be

$$(v)_\infty^{-1} \cdot \exp \left( \kappa \sum_{k \geq 1} \frac{\sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} (t_i^k - s_i^k)(u_j^k - w_j^k) z_j^k z_i^{-k}}{k} \right) \times \exp \left( \kappa \sum_{k \geq 1} \frac{v^k \sum_{j=1}^n (u_j^k - w_j^k) z_j^k \cdot \sum_{i=1}^n (t_i^k - s_i^k) z_i^{-k}}{k(1 - v^k)} \right). \tag{7}$$

It is a simple algebraic manipulation to rewrite the first exponential in (7) as the product (5) and the second exponential in (7) as the product (6).  $\square$

*Remark 17.* Theorem 16 can be regarded as a generalization of [9, Theorem 3.1]. It specializes when  $n = 1$  to Theorem 13. For  $n \geq 2$ , the  $n$ -point correlation function for a vertex operator differs from that for the zero-mode of a vertex operator. While the correlation functions for the zero-mode of a vertex operator has more direct connections with other fields, it is much more difficult to calculate.

### 5. Discussions

In this Note, we have formulated the  $n$ -point correlation functions which are generalizations of [1], and found closed formulas when  $n = 1, 2$ . We then formulated and computed some related  $n$ -point functions of vertex operators. In a way, this Note raises more questions than we could answer. Let us list some open problems and connections below:

1. The symmetric functions which are the eigenvectors for  $V_0(q_1, q_2, t_1, t_2)$  are common generalizations of the Macdonald polynomials and Jack polynomials (with Jack parameter  $\kappa$ ). It is interesting to study them in detail and in particular to see if they have Schur-positivity etc.
2. Calculate the  $n$ -point correlation functions for general  $n$ . The simple closed formulas obtained in this Note for  $n = 1, 2$  suggests a nice general solution, which will be a generalization of the remarkable formula found in [1].
3. The  $n$ -point functions of [1] afford geometric interpretations in terms of Gromov-Witten theory of an elliptic curve and Hilbert schemes of points on the affine plane. We speculate that our  $n$ -point functions have similar interpretations using equivariant  $K$ -theory formulations.
4. The function  $B_\lambda(q, t)$  (after normalization) can be regarded as a probability measure on the set of partitions, which generalizes those studied actively in literature (cf. [10] and the references therein).

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