

# James' Conjecture for Hecke Algebras of Exceptional Type

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“Everybody” knows that the irreducible representations of the symmetric group  $\mathfrak{S}_n$  are parametrised by the partitions of  $n$

(... if we are working over a field of characteristic 0).

- JAMES 1970's: “characteristic-free” approach  
(Specht modules  $S^\lambda$ , simple modules  $D^\lambda = S^\lambda / \text{rad}(S^\lambda)$ , ...)
- DIPPER AND JAMES 1980's:  $q$ -version for Hecke algebra of  $\mathfrak{S}_n$   
(Specht modules  $S_q^\lambda$ , simple modules  $D_q^\lambda = S_q^\lambda / \text{rad}(S_q^\lambda)$ , ...)

$$\dim D_q^\lambda = ?$$

- JAMES' CONJECTURE 1990: reduction to characteristic 0 and an explicitly given finite number of “small” characteristic cases

**Aim of this talk:**  $\mathfrak{S}_n \cong W(A_{n-1}) \rightsquigarrow$  any type of  $W$

$W$  finite Weyl group with generating set  $S$ ,  $R \subseteq \mathbb{C}$  any subring,  
 $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}_A(W)$  generic Iwahori–Hecke algebra over  $A = R[u^{1/2}, u^{-1/2}]$ .

- free  $A$ -module, basis  $\{T_w \mid w \in W\}$ ;
- associative multiplication

$$T_w = T_{s_1} \cdots T_{s_l} \quad \text{if } w = s_1 \cdots s_l \text{ (} s_i \in S \text{) minimal expression;}$$

$$T_s^2 = uT_1 + (u - 1)T_s \quad \text{for } s \in S.$$

**Specialisation:** ring homomorphism  $A \rightarrow k$  ( $k$  field),  $u \mapsto \xi \in k$ .

$\mathcal{H}_{k,\xi} = k \otimes_A \mathcal{H}$  associative algebra over  $k$ ; basis  $\{T_w \mid w \in W\}$ .

$$T_s^2 = \xi T_1 + (\xi - 1)T_s \text{ for } s \in S.$$

$\xi = 1 \rightsquigarrow T_s^2 = T_1$  for all  $s \in S$  and so  $\mathcal{H}_{k,1} = k[W]$  (group algebra).

**Problem:** Determine  $\text{Irr}(\mathcal{H}_{k,\xi})$  for various  $k, \xi$ .

A general approach is given by the theory of “cellular algebras”.  
Let  $H$  be any associative algebra over a commutative ring  $A$ .

**Definition.** GRAHAM AND LEHRER (1996)

A “cell datum”  $(\Lambda, M, C, *)$  for  $H$  has to satisfy:

- $\Lambda$  is a partially ordered set (with partial order denoted by  $\trianglelefteq$ ),  
 $\{M(\lambda) \mid \lambda \in \Lambda\}$  are finite sets and

$$\{C_{\mathfrak{s}, \mathfrak{t}}^\lambda \mid \lambda \in \Lambda \text{ and } \mathfrak{s}, \mathfrak{t} \in M(\lambda)\} \quad \text{is an } A\text{-basis of } H.$$

- $*$ :  $H \rightarrow H$  is an  $A$ -linear anti-involution such that

$$(C_{\mathfrak{s}, \mathfrak{t}}^\lambda)^* = C_{\mathfrak{t}, \mathfrak{s}}^\lambda \text{ for all } \lambda \in \Lambda \text{ and } \mathfrak{s}, \mathfrak{t} \in M(\lambda).$$

- For  $h \in H$ :  $hC_{\mathfrak{s}, \mathfrak{t}}^\lambda = \sum_{\mathfrak{s}' \in M(\lambda)} r_h(\mathfrak{s}', \mathfrak{s}) C_{\mathfrak{s}', \mathfrak{t}}^\lambda + \text{“lower terms”}$ ,
  - ▶ where “lower terms” means: combination of  $C_{\mathfrak{s}'', \mathfrak{t}''}^\mu$  where  $\mu \triangleleft \lambda$ ,
  - ▶ and  $r_h(\mathfrak{s}', \mathfrak{s}) \in A$  is independent of  $\mathfrak{t}$ .

Fix  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ . Let  $\Delta^\lambda$  be a free  $A$ -module with basis  $\{e_s \mid s \in M(\lambda)\}$ .

$$\text{Left action of } H: \quad h.e_s = \sum_{s' \in M(\lambda)} r_h(s', s) e_{s'}.$$

$H$ -equivariant bilinear form  $\phi^\lambda : \Delta^\lambda \times \Delta^\lambda \rightarrow A$ , defined by:

$$C_{s', s}^\lambda C_{t, t'}^\lambda = \phi^\lambda(e_s, e_t) C_{s', t'}^\lambda + \text{“lower terms”}.$$

Specialisation  $A \rightarrow k$  ( $k$  field)  $\rightsquigarrow$   $k$ -algebra  $H_k = k \otimes_A H$  and cell modules  $\Delta_k^\lambda = k \otimes_A \Delta^\lambda$ , with induced bilinear forms  $\phi_k^\lambda$ .

### Theorem. GRAHAM–LEHRER (1996)

Assume  $\dim H_k < \infty$ . Set  $L_k^\lambda = \Delta_k^\lambda / \text{rad}(\phi_k^\lambda)$  for  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ . Then

$$\text{Irr}(H_k) = \{L_k^\lambda \mid \lambda \in \Lambda_k^\circ\} \quad \text{where} \quad \Lambda_k^\circ = \{\lambda \in \Lambda \mid \phi_k^\lambda \neq 0\}.$$

$H_k$  is semisimple if and only if  $\phi_k^\lambda \neq 0$  and  $L_k^\lambda = \Delta_k^\lambda$  for all  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ .

**Example.** Let  $H = \mathcal{H}_A(W)$  where  $W = W(A_{n-1}) \cong \mathfrak{S}_n$ .

- Cellular basis constructed by MURPHY (1992) by a purely combinatorial argument (before “cell data” were introduced).
  - ▶  $\Lambda$  = set of all partitions of  $n$ ,
  - ▶  $\trianglelefteq$  = dominance order,
  - ▶  $M(\lambda)$  = set of standard  $\lambda$ -tableaux,
  - ▶ anti-involution  $T_w^* = T_{w^{-1}}$  ( $w \in W$ ),
  - ▶  $C_{s,t}^\lambda$  = explicit formula in terms of basis elements  $T_w$ .
- The modules  $\Delta^\lambda$  are the DIPPER–JAMES Specht modules  $S^\lambda$ .

DIPPER–JAMES–MURPHY (1995): Generalisation to type  $B_n$  where  $\Lambda$  = set of pairs of partitions of total size  $n$ , ...

How to define a “cell datum”, for example, in type  $E_8$  ?

**Aim:** General construction of a “cell datum” for  $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}_A(W)$ , where  $W$  is any finite Weyl group. Start with:

KAZHDAN–LUSZTIG basis  $\{\mathbf{C}_w \mid w \in W\}$  of  $\mathcal{H}$ .

This gives rise to partitions

$W = \coprod \{\text{left cells}\} = \coprod \{\text{right cells}\} = \coprod \{\text{two-sided cells}\}$   
 and partial orderings  $\leq_{\mathcal{L}}$ ,  $\leq_{\mathcal{R}}$ ,  $\leq_{\mathcal{LR}}$  on left, right, two-sided cells.

Furthermore, there is a natural map

$$\text{Irr}(W) = \{E^\lambda \mid \lambda \in \Lambda\} \rightarrow \{\text{two-sided cells}\}, \quad E^\lambda \mapsto \mathfrak{C}_\lambda.$$

(Indeed, each left cell gives rise to a left module of  $\mathcal{H}$ , and of  $\mathbb{Q}[W]$ .)

Given  $\lambda$ , let  $\Gamma$  be a left cell such that  $E^\lambda$  appears in the left  $\mathbb{Q}[W]$ -module carried by  $\Gamma$ . All such  $\Gamma$  lie in the same two-sided cell; this defines  $\mathfrak{C}_\lambda$ .)

Using the map  $E^\lambda \mapsto \mathfrak{C}_\lambda$ , we define a partial order on  $\Lambda$ :

$$\lambda \trianglelefteq \mu \quad \stackrel{\text{def}}{\Leftrightarrow} \quad \lambda = \mu \quad \text{or} \quad \mathfrak{C}_\lambda \underset{\neq \mathcal{LR}}{\leq} \mathfrak{C}_\mu.$$

Ingredients for a cell datum of  $\mathcal{H}$ :

- $(\Lambda, \trianglelefteq)$  as above,  $\text{Irr}(W) = \{E^\lambda \mid \lambda \in \Lambda\}$ ;  $M(\lambda) =$  basis of  $E^\lambda$ ;
- anti-involution  $T_w^* = T_{w^{-1}}$  ( $w \in W$ ); also have  $\mathbf{C}_w^* = \mathbf{C}_{w^{-1}}$ .

### Theorem. G. (2006)

Assume that  $R \subseteq \mathbb{C}$  is a subring such that “bad primes” for  $W$  are invertible in  $R$ . Then  $\mathcal{H}$  admits a “cell datum” such that

$C_{s,t}^\lambda$  is an integral linear combination of  $\mathbf{C}_w$ 's where  $w \in \mathfrak{C}_\lambda$ .

$A_n$ : no bad  $p$ ;  $G_2, F_4, E_6, E_7$ :  $p \neq 2, 3$ ;

$B_n, C_n, D_n$ :  $p \neq 2$ ;  $E_8$ :  $p \neq 2, 3, 5$ .

(Proof uses Lusztig's homomorphism  $\Phi: \mathcal{H} \rightarrow A \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbf{J}$  where  $\mathbf{J}$  “asymptotic ring”.)



**Example.** Let  $W = W(A_{n-1}) \cong \mathfrak{S}_n$ . KAZHDAN–LUSZTIG (1979):

The  $\mathbb{Q}[W]$ -modules carried by the left cells are all irreducible.

Expression for  $C_{s,t}^\lambda$  reduces to one term. Hence

$\{\mathbf{C}_w \mid w \in W\}$  is a cellular basis;

$\underline{\leq}$  (induced by  $\leq_{\mathcal{LR}}$ )  $\leftrightarrow$  dominance order on partitions.

This example already appeared in the article of Graham and Lehrer.

- MCDONOUGH AND PALLIKAROS (2005):

Cell modules  $\Delta^\lambda$  (=Kazhdan–Lusztig cell modules in this case) are canonically isomorphic to Dipper–James Specht modules.

- G. (2006): Describes base change between the Kazhdan–Lusztig basis and the Murphy basis of  $\mathcal{H}$ .

Let  $W = W(B_2)$ , with generators  $S = \{s_1, s_2\}$  such that  $(s_1 s_2)^4 = 1$ .

$$\text{Irr}_{\mathbb{Q}}(W) = \{\mathbf{1}, \varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2, \varepsilon, r\}$$

where  $\mathbf{1}$  = unit,  $\varepsilon$  = sign,  $\dim \varepsilon_1 = \dim \varepsilon_2 = 1$ ,  $\dim r = 2$ . Bad: 2.

$M(r) = \{1, 2\}$ ; otherwise  $M(\lambda) = \{1\}$ ;  $\{\mathbf{1}\} \triangleleft \{\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2, r\} \triangleleft \{\varepsilon\}$ .

$$\begin{array}{ll} C_{1,1}^{\mathbf{1}} &= \mathbf{C}_1, & C_{1,1}^r &= \mathbf{C}_{s_1} + \mathbf{C}_{s_1 s_2 s_1}, \\ C_{1,1}^{\varepsilon} &= \mathbf{C}_{s_1 s_2 s_1 s_2}, & C_{1,2}^r &= -2\mathbf{C}_{s_1 s_2}, \\ C_{1,1}^{\varepsilon_1} &= \mathbf{C}_{s_2} - \mathbf{C}_{s_2 s_1 s_2}, & C_{2,1}^r &= -2\mathbf{C}_{s_2 s_1}, \\ C_{1,1}^{\varepsilon_2} &= \mathbf{C}_{s_1} - \mathbf{C}_{s_1 s_2 s_1}, & C_{2,2}^r &= 2\mathbf{C}_{s_2} + 2\mathbf{C}_{s_2 s_1 s_2}. \end{array}$$

**Remark:** The Theorem also works if  $\mathcal{H}$  is a 2-parameter algebra of type  $G_2$  or  $F_4$  (any choice of parameters, G. 2007) and in the “asymptotic case” of type  $B_n$  (BONNAFÉ–G.–IANCU 2003–2006). One needs to verify conjectures **P1–P15** in LUSZTIG’s book (2003).

Assume from now on that all bad primes are invertible in  $R \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ .

Consider a specialisation  $A \rightarrow k$  ( $k$  field),  $u \mapsto \xi$ . Write

$$\mathcal{H}_\xi = k \otimes_A \mathcal{H} \quad \text{and} \quad \Delta_\xi^\lambda = k \otimes_A \Delta^\lambda, \quad \text{with induced form } \phi_\xi^\lambda.$$

Set  $L_\xi^\lambda = \Delta_\xi^\lambda / \text{rad}(\phi_\xi^\lambda)$ . Then

$$\text{Irr}(\mathcal{H}_\xi) = \{L_\xi^\lambda \mid \lambda \in \Lambda_\xi^\circ\} \quad \text{where} \quad \Lambda_\xi^\circ = \{\lambda \in \Lambda \mid \phi_\xi^\lambda \neq 0\}.$$

$\mathcal{H}_\xi$  is semisimple if and only if  $\Lambda_\xi^\circ = \Lambda$  and  $L_\xi^\lambda = \Delta_\xi^\lambda$  for all  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ .

### Major open problem:

Find explicit formulas for  $\dim L_\xi^\lambda$  or, equivalently, for  $\dim \text{rad}(\phi_\xi^\lambda)$ .

In particular, determine the subset  $\Lambda_\xi^\circ \subseteq \Lambda$ .

Furthermore, determine the decomposition matrix

$$D_\xi = \left( [\Delta_\xi^\lambda : L_\xi^\mu] \right)_{\lambda \in \Lambda, \mu \in \Lambda_\xi^\circ}$$

Let  $k = \overline{\mathbb{F}}_\ell$ . Then  $\xi \in k^\times$  has finite order. Let

$$e = \min\{i \geq 2 \mid 1 + \xi + \xi^2 + \cdots + \xi^{i-1} = 0\}$$

and consider the  $\mathbb{C}$ -algebra  $\mathcal{H}_{\zeta_e}$  where  $\zeta_e = \sqrt[e]{1} \in \mathbb{C}$ .

$$\text{Irr}(\mathcal{H}_{\zeta_e}) = \{L_{\zeta_e}^\lambda \mid \lambda \in \Lambda_{\zeta_e}^\circ\} \quad \text{where} \quad \Lambda_{\zeta_e}^\circ = \{\lambda \in \Lambda \mid \phi_{\zeta_e}^\lambda \neq 0\}.$$

**Proposition.** (G. 1990) Assume that  $\ell \gg 0$ .

- $\Lambda_\xi^\circ = \Lambda_{\zeta_e}^\circ$  and  $\dim L_\xi^\mu = \dim L_{\zeta_e}^\mu \quad \forall \mu \in \Lambda_{\zeta_e}^\circ$ .
- $[\Delta_\xi^\lambda : L_\xi^\mu] = [\Delta_{\zeta_e}^\lambda : L_{\zeta_e}^\mu] \quad \forall \lambda \in \Lambda$  and  $\forall \mu \in \Lambda_{\zeta_e}^\circ$ .

Indeed, let  $P^\lambda$  be the Gram matrix of  $\phi_{\zeta_e}^\lambda$ . The entries of  $P^\lambda$  are cyclotomic integers. If we reduce further mod  $\ell$ , then  $\text{rank}(P^\lambda) = \text{rank}_\ell(P^\lambda)$  if  $\ell \gg 0$ .

Once this is shown, the equality of decomposition numbers follows from a general factorisation result due to G.-ROUQUIER (1997).

## James' Conjecture (1990)

If  $W = W(A_{n-1}) \cong \mathfrak{S}_n$ , then it's enough to assume that  $e\ell > n$ .

Poincaré polynomial  $P_W = \sum_{w \in W} u^{l(w)} = \prod_{1 \leq i \leq |S|} \frac{u^{d_i} - 1}{u - 1}$

where  $d_1, \dots, d_{|S|}$  are the "degrees" of  $W$ ; we have  $|W| = d_1 \cdots d_{|S|}$ .

In particular,  $P_W$  is a product of cyclotomic polynomials  $\Phi_d \in \mathbb{Z}[u]$ .

Now note: If  $\Phi_d(\xi) = 0$  for some  $d \geq 2$ , then  $d = e\ell^i$  ( $i \geq 0$ ).

If  $W \cong \mathfrak{S}_n$ , then  $\{d_i\} = \{2, \dots, n\}$  and so " $e\ell > n$ " translates to:

If  $\Phi_d$  divides  $P_W$  and  $\Phi_d(\xi) = 0$ , then  $d = e$ .

### General version of James' Conjecture. $W$ any finite Weyl group.

Assume that  $e\ell$  does not divide any degree of  $W$ . Then

$$\dim L_{\xi}^{\lambda} = \dim L_{\xi^e}^{\lambda} \quad \forall \lambda \in \Lambda.$$

**Theorem. G. AND ROUQUIER (1997)**

Assume that  $e\ell$  does not divide any degree of  $W$ . Then

$$|\text{Irr}(\mathcal{H}_\xi)| = |\text{Irr}(\mathcal{H}_{\zeta_e})|.$$

**Corollary. JACON (2004)**

Under the above assumptions, we have  $\Lambda_\xi^\circ = \Lambda_{\zeta_e}^\circ$ .

**Theorem.** The set  $\Lambda_{\zeta_e}^\circ \subseteq \Lambda$  is explicitly known in all cases.

$A_{n-1}$       DIPPER AND JAMES (1986)

$\Lambda = \{\lambda \vdash n\}$  and  $\Lambda_{\zeta_e}^\circ = \{\lambda \vdash n \mid \lambda \text{ is } e\text{-regular}\}$

$B_n, D_n$       JACON (2003); see below

$G_2, F_4, E_6, E_7, E_8$       LUX, G., MÜLLER (1991–2007); explicit tables

Idea of the proof: Use known information about decomposition numbers. The general theory of cellular algebras implies:

### Lemma.

Suppose  $M \in \text{Irr}(\mathcal{H}_{\zeta_e})$ . Let

$$\mathcal{S}(M) := \{\lambda \in \Lambda \mid [\Delta_{\zeta_e}^\lambda : M] \neq 0\}.$$

Then  $\mathcal{S}(M)$  has a unique maximal element,  $\mu$  say, with respect to  $\trianglelefteq$ .

We have  $\mu \in \Lambda_{\zeta_e}^\circ$  and  $M = L_{\zeta_e}^\mu$ .

Types  $B_n$  and  $D_n$  are the most interesting. Jacon's argument uses:

- ARIKI's proof (1996) of the LASCoux–LECLERC–THIBON conjecture;
- combinatorics of crystal bases for the affine Lie algebra  $A_{e-1}^{(1)}$ , FODA, LECLERC, OKADO, THIBON AND WELSH (1999).

Suppose we want to verify James' conjecture for  $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}_A(W)$ .

This essentially amounts to the computation of

- the Gram matrix of the form  $\phi^\lambda$  on  $\Delta^\lambda$ ;
- the rank of that matrix under specialisation.

Recall that  $\Delta^\lambda$  has basis  $\{e_{\mathfrak{s}} \mid \mathfrak{s} \in M(\lambda)\}$  and  $\phi^\lambda$  is determined by

$$C_{\mathfrak{s}', \mathfrak{s}}^\lambda C_{\mathfrak{t}, \mathfrak{t}'}^\lambda = \phi^\lambda(e_{\mathfrak{s}}, e_{\mathfrak{t}}) C_{\mathfrak{s}', \mathfrak{t}}^\lambda + \text{“lower terms”}.$$

Thus, the coefficients of the Gram matrix of  $\phi^\lambda$  are structure constants for  $\mathcal{H}$  and, hence, can be computed in principle. Recall:

$$C_{\mathfrak{s}, \mathfrak{t}}^\lambda = \text{certain linear combination of } \mathbf{C}_w \text{'s.}$$

So, first of all, we need to be able to work out structure constants for the Kazhdan–Lusztig basis. Also possible in principle, but in  $E_8$  ?

**From now on:** Joint work with Jürgen Müller.



Let  $K = \mathbb{Q}(u^{1/2})$  and  $\mathcal{H}_K = K \otimes_A \mathcal{H}$ , a split semisimple algebra.

By the theory of cellular algebras:

$$\text{Irr}(\mathcal{H}_K) = \{\Delta_K^\lambda \mid \lambda \in \Lambda\}.$$

GYOJA (1984): Every irreducible representation of  $\mathcal{H}_K$  can be described by a “ $W$ -graph”, in the sense of LUSZTIG–KAZHDAN (1979).

NARUSE (1998) explicitly determined  $W$ -graphs for types  $F_4, E_6$ ; HOWLETT–YIN, HOWLETT (2003) did  $E_7, E_8$ .

MICHEL (2004) implemented these  $W$ -graphs in GAP.

**Conclusion.** Assume that  $W$  is of exceptional type.

Then, for each  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ , we have a collection of matrices  $\rho^\lambda(T_s)$  ( $s \in S$ ) which afford  $\Delta_K^\lambda$ ; the coefficients of  $\rho^\lambda(T_s)$  are in  $A$ .

Another try to find the Gram matrix of  $\phi^\lambda$ .

Consider matrix representation (coming from  $W$ -graph):

$$\rho^\lambda : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow M_{d_\lambda}(A), \quad \text{where} \quad d_\lambda = |M(\lambda)|.$$

Let  $P^\lambda$  be the Gram matrix of  $\phi^\lambda$ . Then the  $\mathcal{H}$ -invariance of  $\phi^\lambda$  is equivalent to:

$$(*) \quad P^\lambda \cdot \rho^\lambda(T_s) = \rho^\lambda(T_s)^{\text{tr}} \cdot P^\lambda \quad \forall s \in S.$$

Since  $\rho^\lambda$  defines an irreducible representation of  $\mathcal{H}_K$ , condition  $(*)$  uniquely determines  $P^\lambda$  up to scalar multiples (Schur's Lemma).

$(*)$  is a system of  $|S|d_\lambda^2$  linear equations for the  $d_\lambda^2$  coefficients of  $P^\lambda$ .

This seems feasible for  $W$  of type  $G_2, F_4, E_6$  (where  $d_\lambda \leq 90$ ) but, again, it is totally unrealistic in type  $E_8$  (where  $\exists d_\lambda = 7168$ ).

Now note: Given  $\rho^\lambda: \mathcal{H} \rightarrow M_{d_\lambda}(A)$ , the map

$$\hat{\rho}^\lambda: \mathcal{H} \rightarrow M_{d_\lambda}(A), \quad T_w \mapsto \rho^\lambda(T_{w^{-1}})^{\text{tr}}$$

also is a representation. Thus, (\*) means that  $P^\lambda$  is the matrix of an  $\mathcal{H}$ -module homomorphism between  $\rho^\lambda$  and  $\hat{\rho}^\lambda$ .

### Theorem. BENSON AND CURTIS (1972)

Every  $\rho^\lambda$  is of “parabolic type”, that is,  $\exists J \subseteq S$  such that

$$\dim_K \left( \bigcap_{s \in J} \ker(\rho^\lambda(T_s) - u \text{Id}_{d_\lambda}) \right) = 1.$$

Let  $v_1 \neq 0$  be a vector in the above intersection.

Let  $\hat{v}_1 \neq 0$  be in the analogous intersection with respect to  $\hat{\rho}^\lambda$ .

By the above theorem,  $v_1, \hat{v}_1$  are unique up to scalar.

So condition (\*) implies that  $\hat{v}_1 = \alpha P^\lambda v_1$  for some scalar  $\alpha \neq 0$ .

Since  $\rho^\lambda$  irreducible (over  $K$ ), we have  $K^{d_\lambda} = \langle \rho^\lambda(T_w)v_1 \mid w \in W \rangle_K$ .

Applying repeatedly  $T_s$  ( $s \in S$ ), find  $w_2, \dots, w_{d_\lambda} \in W$  such that

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} v_1 \\ v_2 = \rho^\lambda(T_{w_2})v_1 \\ \vdots \\ v_{d_\lambda} = \rho^\lambda(T_{w_{d_\lambda}})v_1 \end{array} \right\} \text{form a basis of } K^{d_\lambda}.$$

Then

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \hat{v}_1 \\ \hat{v}_2 = \hat{\rho}^\lambda(T_{w_2})\hat{v}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \hat{v}_{d_\lambda} = \hat{\rho}^\lambda(T_{w_{d_\lambda}})\hat{v}_1 \end{array} \right\} \text{also form a basis of } K^{d_\lambda},$$

and we have  $\hat{v}_i = \alpha P^\lambda v_i$  for all  $i$ . Thus, can compute  $P^\lambda$ .

This is a version of the “**standard base algorithm**” in PARKER’s **MeatAxe** programs (developped in the 1980’s with the aim of constructing matrix representations of sporadic simple groups).

Actually, we cannot do this over  $K = \mathbb{Q}(u^{1/2})$ . Instead, specialize  $u^{1/2}$  to various natural numbers, then reduce modulo various primes. Using Chinese remainder + interpolation, recover  $P^\lambda$ .

Computations took a wee while: more than 1 year ! But note: once a matrix  $P^\lambda$  is determined, it is to check if  $(*)$  holds.

**Theorem.** G. AND MÜLLER (2007/08).  $W$  of type  $G_2, F_4, E_6, E_7, E_8$

The general version of James’ conjecture is true for  $W$ .

The dimensions  $\dim L_{\zeta_e}^\mu$  and the decomposition numbers  $[\Delta_{\zeta_e}^\lambda : L_{\zeta_e}^\mu]$  are explicitly known in the form of tables.