

# Fermionic formulas for graded tensor product multiplicities from quantum cluster algebras

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Quantum cluster algebras were introduced by Berenstein and Zelevinsky [BZ] as the natural deformation of the compatible Poisson structure on cluster algebras [FZ]. The functional equations (“Q-systems”) satisfied [KR, KNS, N] by the characters of Kirillov-Reshetikhin modules of (quantum-) affine algebras can be understood combinatorially in the framework of cluster algebras [K08]. The quantum cluster algebra associated with this construction was given in [DFK10] and may be interpreted as a “twisted” tensor product of representations.

The Q-systems are intimately related to the fermionic formulas for the decomposition coefficients in the tensor product of KR-modules, originally conjectured from the Bethe ansatz solution of the generalized Heisenberg spin chain [KR]. These coefficients have a graded version, which has a natural physical interpretation (in terms of the energy of Bethe ansatz states), as well as several representation-theoretical ones (in terms of Crystal theory [OSS], fusion products in conformal field theory [FL], or Betti numbers [L]).

Using the formulation as cluster variables, this grading can now be understood [DFK11] combinatorially in terms of the quantum cluster algebra of the Q-system.

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