

GEOMETRIC CONSTRUCTION OF CRYSTAL BASES

MASAKI KASHIWARA AND YOSHIHISA SAITO

1. Introduction

1.1. G. Lusztig [L3] gave a realization of the quantized universal enveloping algebras as the Grothendieck group of a category of perverse sheaves of the quiver variety. Let (I, Ω) be a finite oriented graph (= quiver), where I is the set of vertices and Ω is the set of arrows. Let us associate a complex vector space V_i to each vertex $i \in I$. We set

$$E_{V, \Omega} = \bigoplus_{\tau \in \Omega} \text{Hom}(V_{\text{out}(\tau)}, V_{\text{in}(\tau)})$$

and

$$X_V = E_{V, \Omega} \oplus E_{V, \Omega}^*.$$

They are finite-dimensional vector spaces with the action of the algebraic group $G_V = \prod_{i \in I} GL(V_i)$. We regard X_V as the cotangent bundle of $E_{V, \Omega}$. Lusztig [L3] realized a half of the quantized universal enveloping algebra $U_q^-(\mathfrak{g})$ as the Grothendieck group of $\mathcal{D}_{V, \Omega}$. Here $\mathcal{D}_{V, \Omega}$ is a subcategory of the derived category $D_c^b(E_{V, \Omega})$ of the bounded complexes of constructible sheaves on $E_{V, \Omega}$. The irreducible perverse sheaves in $\mathcal{D}_{V, \Omega}$ form a base of $U_q^-(\mathfrak{g})$, which is called canonical basis.

In [L5] he stated the following problem.

Problem 1. If the underlying graph is of type A , D , or E , then the singular support of any canonical base is irreducible.

One of the purposes of this paper is to construct a counterexample of this problem for type A .

1.2. Let G be a connected complex semisimple algebraic group, B a Borel subgroup of G , and $X = G/B$ the flag variety. Let D_X denote the sheaf of differential operators on X . We denote the half sum of positive roots by ρ and the Weyl group by W . For $w \in W$, let M_w be the Verma module with highest weight $-w(\rho) - \rho$ and L_w its simple quotient. By the Beilinson-Bernstein correspondence, M_w and L_w correspond to regular holonomic D_X -modules \mathfrak{M}_w and \mathfrak{L}_w on X , respectively. The characteristic varieties $\text{Ch}(\mathfrak{M}_w)$ and $\text{Ch}(\mathfrak{L}_w)$ are Lagrangian

Received 18 June 1996. Revision received 9 August 1996.

The second author is supported by a Japan Society for the Promotion of Science Research Fellowship for Young Scientists.