

# HOWE DUALITY OVER FINITE FIELDS II: EXPLICIT STABLE COMPUTATION

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ABSTRACT. In this second paper of a series dedicated to type I Howe duality for finite fields, we explicitly describe the eta and zeta correspondences constructed in the first paper in terms of G. Lusztig's classification of irreducible representations of finite groups of Lie type in the two so-called stable ranges. This identifies the stable eta and zeta correspondences among the pairs of irreducible representations whose occurrence with non-zero multiplicity in the type I Howe duality correspondence was proved by S.-Y. Pan.

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The author was supported by a 2023 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship, no. 2023350430.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

This is the second paper of a series dedicated to Howe duality for finite fields. This refers to the question of an oscillator representation, which over a finite field, forms a representation of a finite symplectic group, decomposes when restricted to a reductive dual pair, which consists of a two subgroups in the symplectic group which are each other centralizers. We shall continue to specifically study the restriction of an oscillator representation to a type I reductive dual pair, consisting of a symplectic and orthogonal subgroup. As in the first paper of this series [12], we shall continue to focus on the so called *stable ranges*.

The finite field context for the oscillator representation was introduced in [8] by R. Howe. The first development towards determining the decomposition of its restriction to a reductive dual pair was made by J. Adams and A. Moy [1], who proved that a unipotent cuspidal representation is always tensored with another unipotent cuspidal representation when it first occurs in some restricted oscillator representation. This result was used by A.-M. Aubert, J. Michel, and R. Rouquier to form a conjecture on the behavior of the *unipotent* part of the restriction of an oscillator representation to a type I dual pair (consisting of a symplectic group and an orthogonal group), based on a decomposition they proved for the type II dual pairs (consisting of a pair of general linear or unitary groups).

Further progress was made by S. Gurevich and R. Howe [6, 7] in a different direction, considering the full oscillator representation rather than the unipotent part. In a certain *stable range* of dual pairs, they constructed a one-to-one correspondence pairing the irreducible representations of an orthogonal group with a newly occurring irreducible representation of each symplectic group in the stable range. They called this the *eta correspondence* and constructed it using a concept of *rank* which plays a role in certain dynamical questions about the representation theory of finite groups of Lie type.

Finally, in [16], S.-Y. Pan proved the type I conjecture of Aubert, Michel, and Rouquier by passing through a process of *uniform projection* to linear combinations of Deligne-Lusztig virtual characters. Later, by proving a compatibility of with Lusztig's classification of irreducible representations, Pan [17] used to classify which tensor products of irreducible representations appear with non-zero multiplicity in the restricted oscillator representation.

Now in [12], we constructed explicit correspondences (called the eta and zeta correspondences, where the eta correspondence was previously

defined by S. Gurevich and R. Howe [6, 7]) between the sets of representations on the symplectic and orthogonal side in the two stable ranges. In this paper, we shall describe these correspondences explicitly in terms of G. Lusztig's classification of representations of finite groups of Lie type (see, for example, [15]). This also tells us how the eta and zeta correspondences fit into the list of tensor products of pairs of representations occurring with non-zero multiplicity as identified by S.-Y. Pan [17], although Pan uses a modified notation, with which the precise dictionary will be given in the third paper of this series (where we will also be able to discuss cases outside of the stable range).

Consider an oscillator representation  $\omega[V \otimes W]$  of a symplectic group  $\mathrm{Sp}(V \otimes W)$  restricted to such a reductive dual pair, consisting of a symplectic group  $\mathrm{Sp}(V)$  and an orthogonal group  $\mathrm{O}(W, B)$ . In the first part of this series [12], we proved the existence of a *symplectic* and an *orthogonal stable range*, where the restriction of the oscillator representation to the product  $\mathrm{Sp}(V) \times \mathrm{O}(W, B)$  decomposes in terms of (twisted) parabolic inductions and a system of injections with mutually disjoint images

$$(1) \quad \eta_{W,B}^V : \widehat{\mathrm{O}(W, B)} \hookrightarrow \widehat{\mathrm{Sp}(V)}$$

(where  $\widehat{G}$  denotes the set of isomorphism classes of irreducible complex representations of a group  $G$ ) for  $(\mathrm{Sp}(V), \mathrm{O}(W, B))$  a symplectic stable reductive dual pair (where symplectic stability means that  $\dim(W) \leq \dim(V)/2$ ), and

$$(2) \quad \zeta_V^{W,B} : \widehat{\mathrm{Sp}(V)} \hookrightarrow \widehat{\mathrm{O}(W, B)}$$

for  $(\mathrm{Sp}(V), \mathrm{O}(W, B))$  an orthogonal stable reductive dual pair (where  $\dim(V)$  is less than or equal to the dimension of the maximal isotropic subspace of  $W$ ). We omit subscripts from the notation of (1), (2) when the source is already established.

The main result of [12] is

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $V$  be a  $2N$ -dimensional symplectic space and let  $W$  be an  $n$ -dimensional space with symmetric bilinear form  $B$ . Write  $h_W$  for the maximal dimension of an isotropic subspace of  $W$ .*

- (1) *If  $(\mathrm{Sp}(V), \mathrm{O}(W, B))$  is a reductive dual pair in  $\mathrm{Sp}(V \otimes W)$  in the symplectic stable range, then for a system of mutually disjoint injections  $\eta_{W,B}^V$  as in (1), the restriction of  $\omega[V \otimes W]$  to  $\mathrm{Sp}(V) \times \mathrm{O}(W, B)$  decomposes as*

$$(3) \quad \bigoplus_{k=0}^{h_W} \bigoplus_{\rho \in \widehat{\mathrm{O}(W[-k], B[-k])}} \eta^V(\rho) \otimes \mathrm{Ind}^{P^B}(\rho \otimes \epsilon(\det))$$

where  $Ind_k^{PB}$  denotes parabolic induction from the maximal parabolic  $P_k^B$  in  $O(W, B)$  whose Levi factor is  $O(W[-k], B[-k]) \times GL_k(\mathbb{F}_q)$ , which we consider  $\rho \otimes \epsilon(det)$  a representation of by considering  $\epsilon(det)$  as a representation of  $GL_k(\mathbb{F}_q)$ .

- (2) If  $(Sp(V), O(W, B))$  is a reductive dual pair in  $Sp(V \otimes W)$  in the orthogonal stable range, then for a system of mutually disjoint injections  $\zeta_V^{W, B}$  as in (2), the restriction of  $\omega[V \otimes W]$  to  $Sp(V) \times O(W, B)$  decomposes as

$$(4) \quad \bigoplus_{k=0}^{h_W} \bigoplus_{\rho \in \widehat{Sp(V[-k])}} Ind_k^{PV}(\rho \otimes \epsilon(det)) \otimes \zeta^{W, B}(\rho)$$

where  $Ind_k^{PV}$  denotes parabolic induction from the maximal parabolic  $P_k^V$  in  $Sp(V)$  with Levi factor  $Sp(V[-k]) \times GL_k(\mathbb{F}_q)$ , which we consider  $\rho \otimes \epsilon(det)$  a representation of by considering  $\epsilon(det)$  as a representation of  $GL_k(\mathbb{F}_q)$ .

Now to state the main result of this paper, we must briefly recall Lusztig's classification of irreducible representations of finite groups of Lie type  $G$ . Most generally, we consider the data of

- The conjugacy class of a semisimple element  $s$  in the dual group  $G^D$ .
- A unipotent representation  $u$  of the dual  $(Z_{G^D}(s))^D$  of the centralizer of  $s$  in  $G^D$ .

We associate to the data  $[(s), u]$  a representation of  $G$  we denote by  $r^G[(s), u]$  of dimension equal to the dimension of  $u$  multiplied by the prime to  $q$  part of the quotient order  $|G^D/Z_{G^D}(s)|$ . Intuitively,  $r^G[(s), u]$  can be thought of as a “faked parabolic induction” of  $u$ , with the realization that over a finite field, there are many cases of  $s$  (specifically, when it only can live in a torus with a non-split factor  $SO_2^+$ ) where there is no actual maximal parabolic with Levi factor  $Z_{G^D}(s)$ . However,  $r^G[(s), u]$  will sit in the the induction from the torus character corresponding to  $s$  to  $G$ .

In all cases of  $G$ , for every irreducible representation  $\rho \in \widehat{G}$ , there exists a unique choice of data  $[(s), u]$  as described above, such that  $\rho \subseteq r^G[(s), u]$ . On the one hand, if  $G$  has a connected center, for example, in the case of the odd special orthogonal groups  $G = SO_{2m+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ , the representations  $r^G[(s), u]$  are irreducible, and therefore they precisely describe irreducible representations of  $G$ . In this case, we call the data

$[(s), u]$  the *Lusztig classification data* corresponding to an irreducible representation  $\rho = r^G[(s), u]$ .

On the other hand, if  $G$  has a disconnected center,  $r^G[(s), u]$  may split further. For example, in the case of symplectic groups  $G = \mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)$  which have center  $\mathbb{Z}/2$ , a representation  $r^{\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)}[(s), u]$  splits if and only if  $s$  has  $-1$  eigenvalues. If  $s$  has  $-1$  eigenvalues, then  $r^{\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)}[(s), u]$  splits into two irreducible non-isomorphic pieces

$$r^{\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)}[(s), u] = r^{\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)}[(s), u, +1] \oplus r^{\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)}[(s), u, -1],$$

both of dimension equal to exactly half of the dimension of  $r^{\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)}[(s), u]$ . In this case, we call the data  $[(s), u, \pm 1]$  the *Lusztig classification data* corresponding to an irreducible representation  $\rho = r^{\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)}[(s), u, \pm 1]$  and call the sign  $\pm 1$  its *central sign*. If  $s$  has no  $-1$  eigenvalues, then as before, we call  $[(s), u]$  the *Lusztig classification data* corresponding to the irreducible representation  $\rho = r^{\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)}[(s), u]$ . A similar but more complicated effect occurs for even orthogonal groups  $G = \mathrm{O}_{2m}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)$ , with  $r^{\mathrm{O}_{2m}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)}[(s), u]$  consisting of one, two, or four distinct irreducible summands, depending on the eigenvalues of  $s$ . This effect can also be interpreted according to certain “sign data”, and we use similar terminology, calling the collection of data of  $(s), u$  and this extra sign data (when needed) the extended Lusztig classification data associated to an irreducible representation. We discuss this in Section 2.

Using this description, we describe injections

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_{W,B}^V &: \widehat{\mathrm{O}(W, B)} \hookrightarrow \widehat{\mathrm{Sp}(V)} \\ \psi_V^{W,B} &: \widehat{\mathrm{Sp}(V)} \hookrightarrow \widehat{\mathrm{O}(W, B)} \end{aligned}$$

roughly defined by altering the semisimple part of the input representation’s Lusztig classification data by adding  $-1$  eigenvalues if  $W$  is odd dimensional and adding  $1$  eigenvalues if  $W$  is even dimensional, and by changing the unipotent part by adding a coordinate to the symbol of the factor of  $u$  corresponding to the altered eigenvalues to achieve the needed new rank and defect (the choice of how to add eigenvalues and where to, if there is one, is determined by the central action of the input irreducible representation). This construction is described in more detail in Section 3 below.

**Theorem 2.** *Assume the notation of Theorem 1.*

- (1) *Suppose we have a reductive dual pair  $(\mathrm{Sp}(V), \mathrm{O}(W, B))$  in  $\mathrm{Sp}(V \otimes W)$  in the symplectic stable range. Then*

$$\eta_{W,B}^V = \phi_{W,B}^V.$$

- (2) *Suppose we have a reductive dual pair  $(Sp(V), O(W, B))$  in  $Sp(V \otimes W)$  in the orthogonal stable range. Then*

$$\zeta_V^{W,B} = \psi_V^{W,B}.$$

**Remark:** In the case of symplectic or orthogonal stable  $(V, (W, B))$ , the decomposition we have now computed can be used to recover S.-Y. Pan's results [16, 17] classifying the pairs of irreducible representations of symplectic and orthogonal groups whose tensor product appears with non-zero multiplicity in the restricted oscillator representation  $\text{Res}_{Sp(V) \times O(W, B)}(\omega[V \otimes W])$ . We will in fact be explicitly calculating in our proof of Theorem 2 that each of Pan's predicted pairs appears with multiplicity exactly one, and the resulting dimension sum adds up to  $q^{\dim(V) \cdot \dim(W)/2} = \dim(\omega[V \otimes W])$ .

In comparison with Pan's description of the appearing pairs of irreducible representations, our organization of the summands in terms of systems of one-to-one functions between sets of irreducible representations of symplectic and orthogonal groups fulfills the program of a finite field Howe duality (as originally proposed by Howe in [8, 10, 6, 7]). We shall explicitly compare our decomposition with Pan's result in the upcoming paper [13], where we treat the restricted oscillator representation's decomposition for general  $(V, (W, B))$ .

The main tool used to prove Theorems 2 is actually dimension. We state here a key result, which, combined with some combinatorics, will prove that the dimensions of the  $Sp(V)$ -representations  $\eta_{W, B}^V(\rho)$  and  $\phi_{W, B}^V(\rho)$  (resp. the  $O(W, B)$ -representations  $\zeta_V^{W, B}(\rho)$  and  $\psi_V^{W, B}(\rho)$ ) always match for  $\rho \in \widehat{O(W, B)}$  (resp.  $\rho \in \widehat{Sp(V)}$ ) for  $N \gg n$  (resp.  $n \gg N$ ). We can derive then that they must always match, since for a fixed  $\rho$ , the dimensions of  $\eta_{W, B}^V(\rho)$  and  $\phi_{W, B}^V(\rho)$  both form polynomials of  $q^N$  (resp. the dimensions of  $\zeta_V^{W, B}(\rho)$  and  $\psi_V^{W, B}(\rho)$  both form polynomials of  $q^n$ ). Since the semisimple part and the sign data of  $\eta_{W, B}^V(\rho)$  or  $\zeta_V^{W, B}(\rho)$  are already determined by considering the restriction of the oscillator representation to the general linear group, this suffices to prove the representations themselves match.

We define, for  $\rho$  an irreducible representation of  $Sp_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ , its  $N$ -rank to be

$$rk_N(\rho) = \lceil \frac{\deg_q(\dim(\rho))}{N} \rceil.$$

Similarly, for  $\rho$  an irreducible representation of  $O(W, B)$  with  $\dim(W) = n$ , define its  $n$ -rank to be

$$rk_n(\rho) = \lceil \frac{\deg_q(\dim(\rho))}{n} \rceil.$$

**Proposition 3.** *Assume the notation of Theorem 1.*

- (1) *Consider  $N \gg n$ . Then the disjoint union of the images of the eta correspondences*

$$\eta_{W,B}^V : \widehat{O(W, B)} \hookrightarrow \widehat{Sp(V)}$$

*for the symplectic space  $V$  of dimension  $2N$  and the two choices of orthogonal space  $(W, B)$  of dimension  $n$  is precisely the set of irreducible representations of  $Sp(V)$  of  $N$ -rank  $n$ .*

- (2) *Consider  $n \gg N$ . Then the disjoint union of the images of the zeta correspondences*

$$\zeta_{W,B}^V : \widehat{O(W, B)} \hookrightarrow \widehat{Sp(V)}$$

*for the symplectic space  $V$  of dimension  $2N$  and the two choices of orthogonal space  $(W, B)$  of dimension  $n$  is precisely the set of irreducible representations of  $Sp(V)$  of  $N$ -rank  $n$ .*

The present paper is organized as follows: In Section 2, we describe Lusztig's classification of irreducible representations. In Section 3, we describe our proposed constructions of the eta and zeta correspondences in more detail. In Section 4, we prove combinatorial identities proving our claimed constructions can be plugged into the decompositions in Theorem 1 and add up to the correct dimension. In Section 5, we use an inductive argument to prove Proposition 3 and conclude Theorem 2. In Section 6, we write down the zeta correspondence in the example where  $\dim(V) = 2$ .

**Acknowledgement:** The author is thankful to the GAP package CHEVIE which was used to verify the results of this paper in cases of small rank.

## 2. LUSZTIG'S CLASSIFICATION OF IRREDUCIBLE REPRESENTATIONS

The purpose of this section is to give more details about Lusztig's classification of irreducible representations in the case of the symplectic and orthogonal groups.

As we described briefly in the introduction, for a finite group of Lie type  $G$ , its irreducible representations are classified by certain data we refer to as  $G$ -Lusztig classification data, consisting of

- (the “semisimple data”): a conjugacy class  $(s)$  of a semisimple element  $s$  of the dual group  $G^D$
- (the “unipotent data”): a unipotent representation  $u$  of the dual of  $s$ ’s centralizer  $Z_{G^D}(s)$ .
- (possible “central data” or “extension data”): a specification of which irreducible summand of the representation obtained from  $(s)$  and  $u$  to take, in the case when it splits.

More specifically, for every choice of semisimple and unipotent parts  $(s)$  and  $u$ , there is an associated  $G$ -representation we denote by  $r^G[(s), u]$ . Its dimension is

$$(5) \quad \dim(r^G[(s), u]) = \frac{|G|_{q'}}{|Z_{G^D}(s)|_{q'}} \dim(u),$$

where  $|?|_{q'}$  denotes the prime to  $q$  part of the group order (recalling that the a group and its dual have the same order). From the point of view of dimension, the representation  $r^G[(s), u]$  can be thought of as a “faked parabolic induction” of the unipotent representation  $u$  where the centralizer of  $s$  plays the role of the Levi factor (this does not literally make sense, since there may not be such a parabolic subgroup of  $G$  over a finite field). Every irreducible representation is a summand of  $r^G[(s), u]$  for some choice of  $(s)$  and  $u$ .

On the one hand, if  $G$  and its center  $Z(G)$  are connected e.g., for odd special orthogonal groups  $G = \mathrm{SO}_{2r+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ , each of these representation  $r^G[(s), u]$  is itself irreducible. Therefore, in this case, the irreducible of  $G$  are precisely classified by compatible pairs of semisimple and unipotent data  $[(s), u]$ .

On the other hand, say  $G$  is connected but  $Z(G)$  is not connected e.g., for symplectic groups  $G = \mathrm{Sp}_{2r}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ , where  $Z(G) = \mathbb{Z}/2$ . In these cases, there may be choices of  $(s)$  and  $u$  for which  $r^G[(s), u]$  splits further. We then also need to specify the action of  $Z(G)$  on an irreducible representation, to describe which piece of  $r^G[(s), u]$  we are referring to. This is the role of the central sign data in the Lusztig classification data, and denoting it by  $\alpha$ , we write

$$(6) \quad r^G[(s), u, \alpha]$$

for the corresponding irreducible  $G$ -representation. We write  $[(s), u, \alpha]$  for the  $G$ -Lusztig classification data corresponding to (6).

Finally, for our purposes, we will also need to consider cases of disconnected  $G$ , i.e. the full orthogonal groups  $G = \mathrm{O}_{2m+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$  and

$G = \mathrm{O}_{2m}^{\pm}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ . Each of these  $G$ 's is an extension of its identity component  $G_0$  (i.e. the corresponding special orthogonal group) by  $\mathbb{Z}/2$ . We treat this extension a separate step, classifying the irreducible representations of  $G$  in these cases as summands of inductions of irreducible representations of  $G_0$ . We call the extra data specifying which irreducible summand of an induction to choose when such an induction splits the *extension data*, and describe it explicitly in each orthogonal group case.

The purpose of this section is to give more detail about each part of the Lusztig classification data in each case of  $G$  we consider in this paper. In Subsection 2.1, we discuss the maximal tori in symplectic and orthogonal groups and the form of the semisimple elements, up to conjugation. In Subsection 2.3, we discuss the irreducible representations of  $\mathrm{O}_{2m+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ . In Subsection 2.4, we discuss the irreducible representations of  $\mathrm{O}_{2m}^{\pm}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ . In Subsection 2.2, we discuss the irreducible representations of  $\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ .

**2.1. Tori and the case of rank 1.** In this subsection, let us first take  $G$  to be a finite group of Lie type of rank  $r$  of the form  $\mathrm{Sp}_{2r}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ ,  $\mathrm{SO}_{2r+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ , or  $\mathrm{SO}_{2r}^{\pm}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ . The maximal tori in  $G$  are all conjugate to a product of  $\mathrm{SO}_2^{\pm}(\mathbb{F}_{q^{n_i}})$  factors

$$(7) \quad \mathrm{SO}_2^{\pm}(\mathbb{F}_{q^{n_1}}) \times \cdots \times \mathrm{SO}_2^{\pm}(\mathbb{F}_{q^{n_k}})$$

of maximal rank, so that  $r = n_1 + \cdots + n_k$ , and where, in the case of  $G$  an even special orthogonal group  $\mathrm{SO}_{2r}^{\pm}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ , the sign in the superscript is equal to the product of the signs appearing in (7). Recall that

$$(8) \quad \mathrm{SO}_2^+(\mathbb{F}_q) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} x & 0 \\ 0 & x^{-1} \end{pmatrix} \mid x \in \mathbb{F}_q^{\times} \right\} \cong \mu_{q-1}$$

$$(9) \quad \mathrm{SO}_2^-(\mathbb{F}_q) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} y & z \\ \varepsilon z & y \end{pmatrix} \mid y, z \in \mathbb{F}_q, y^2 - \varepsilon z^2 = 1 \right\} \cong \mathbb{F}_{q^2}^{\times} / \mathbb{F}_q^{\times} \cong \mu_{q+1},$$

where in (9),  $\varepsilon \in \mathbb{F}_q^{\times}$  is an element which is not a square, and the isomorphism follows by considering  $\mathbb{F}_{q^2} = \mathbb{F}_q[\sqrt{\varepsilon}]$ , whose norm 1 elements are isomorphic to  $\mu_{q+1}$ . Note that the eigenvalues of an element

$\begin{pmatrix} y & z \\ \varepsilon z & y \end{pmatrix}$  of (9) are precisely the conjugate norm 1 elements  $y \pm \sqrt{\varepsilon}z$ .

We know every maximal torus in the group  $G$  is isomorphic to a torus of the form (7). In fact, we recall that these isomorphisms can be taken to be internal (i.e. by  $G$ -conjugation). In particular, every semisimple element  $(s) \in G$  is in the  $G$ -conjugacy class of an element of (7), which is classified by the orbit of the list of its eigenvalues, which

can lie in  $\mu_{q-1} \cong \mathbb{F}_q^\times$  or the norm 1 elements  $\mu_{q+1}$  of  $\mathbb{F}_{q^2}^\times$ , under the action of the Weyl group of  $G$ .

By changing the coordinates of the underlying orthogonal or symplectic form corresponding to  $G$ , we can in fact consider the tori (7) as embedded in  $G$  directly by taking a direct sum of matrices. We note that in the case of  $G$  an odd special orthogonal group  $\mathrm{SO}_{2r+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ , to embed a torus of the form (7) into  $G$ , we need to insert a “forced” diagonal entry 1 to obtain a matrix of size  $2r + 1$ . In other words, every semisimple element of  $\mathrm{SO}_{2r+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$  has a single extra 1 eigenvalue in addition to the eigenvalues detected by its conjugacy class in (7), so that the total number of 1 eigenvalues can be odd. The placement of this entry is according to whether the product (7) is a subgroup of  $\mathrm{SO}_{2r}^+(\mathbb{F}_q)$  or  $\mathrm{SO}_{2r}^-(\mathbb{F}_q)$ .

Therefore, we can see that the data of a list of elements

$$(10) \quad (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_t) \in \prod_{i=1}^t \mu_{q^{r_i \pm 1}}$$

for  $\lambda_i \in \mu_{q^{r_i \pm 1}}$  determines a semisimple element of  $\mathrm{SO}_{2r}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)$  obtained by taking a direct sum of matrices in  $\mathrm{SO}_{2r_i}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)$  corresponding to each  $\lambda_i$ , so that in  $\mathrm{SO}_{2r_i}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_{q^{r_i}})$ , each is conjugate

$$(11) \quad \bigoplus_{j=0}^{r_i-1} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_i^{q^j} & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_i^{-q^j} \end{pmatrix}.$$

To make this form easier to discuss, let us introduce a notation for these blocks: Write  $A_{\lambda_i}$  for the element of  $\mathrm{SO}_{2r}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)$  conjugate to (11).

This is enough information about semisimple elements for our purposes in the cases of even special orthogonal groups and symplectic groups. We note that in the case of symplectic groups, we may embed each factor  $\mathrm{SO}_2^\pm(\mathbb{F}_{q^{r_i}})$  of the torus into  $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{F}_{q^{r_i}})$ , which, so the conjugacy class corresponding to (10) only depends on the equivalence class

$$(12) \quad (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_t) \in \prod_{i=1}^t \mu_{q^{r_i \pm 1}} / (\lambda \sim \lambda^{-1}).$$

In the case of odd special orthogonal groups  $\mathrm{SO}_{2r+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ , there is one more subtlety. As we mentioned, the semisimple elements of  $\mathrm{SO}_{2r+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$  correspond to semisimple elements of  $\mathrm{SO}_{2r}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)$ , embedded into  $\mathrm{SO}_{2r}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)$  by adding a single diagonal 1 entry where it is “forced to be.” For  $2r$  by  $2r$  matrices which can be considered in groups (7) for more than one choice of signs (meaning some factors are equal to the identity matrix

$I$  or  $-I$ ), then we must consider whether these two choices of where to insert the final “forced” diagonal entry 1 give different conjugacy classes, or not. The only cases of eigenvalues which can correspond to elements of either choice of torus splitness are 1 and  $-1$  eigenvalues. If only 1 eigenvalues are present, it is indistinguishable where we add the extra 1 diagonal entry. So we find that these two choices give different conjugacy classes if and only if the  $2r$  by  $2r$  element considered in (7) has any  $-1$  eigenvalues, in which case the resulting two choices of elements will turn out to have different centralizers and cannot be conjugate. We also note that odd special orthogonal groups, like symplectic groups, do have a large enough Weyl group to consider eigenvalue data only up equivalence class as in (12).

To summarize, we may consider any semisimple element of a group  $G$  as conjugate to a sum of blocks

$$(13) \quad s \sim A_{\lambda_1} \oplus \cdots \oplus A_{\lambda_t},$$

with an additional 1 inserted in the case of  $G = \mathrm{SO}_{2r+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ , considering the extra data of a choice of where precisely if one of the  $\lambda_i$  is equal to  $-1$ . Further, if we must refer to a maximal torus containing  $s$ , let us also always choose to minimize the field extensions  $\mathbb{F}_{q^{r_i}}$  needed in (7) to contain the eigenvalues of  $s$ , so that there are no  $r'_i < r_i$  such that  $\lambda_i \in \mathbb{F}_{q^{r'_i}} \subset \mathbb{F}_{q^{r_i}}$ .

**Definition 4.** *For  $G$  a symplectic or (special) orthogonal group, we say a semisimple element  $s$  is in a generic conjugacy class if it has no  $\pm 1$  eigenvalues (not counting the forced 1 eigenvalue for  $G$  odd (special) orthogonal). Otherwise, say  $s$ 's conjugacy class is singular of type  $(p, \ell)$  if it corresponds to a sum of blocks of the form*

$$(A_1)^{\oplus p} \oplus (A_{-1})^{\oplus \ell} \oplus \bigoplus_{i=1}^s A_{\lambda_i}$$

as in (13), for  $\lambda_i \neq \pm 1$  (again disregarding the forced 1 eigenvalue for  $G$  odd (special) orthogonal).

To see how our description of semisimple elements works in practice, let us discuss the examples of rank 1 groups  $G$ . The even cases of  $\mathrm{SO}_2^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q) = \mu_{q\mp 1}$  are not large enough to show any interesting effects, and are abelian.

**Example:  $\mathbf{G} = \mathbf{SL}_2(\mathbb{F}_q)$  and  $\mathbf{SO}_3(\mathbb{F}_q)$**  *For either case of  $G = \mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{F}_q)$  or  $\mathrm{SO}_3(\mathbb{F}_q)$ , the only maximal tori are isomorphic to the special orthogonal groups  $\mathrm{SO}_2^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q) \sim \mu_{q\mp 1}$ .*

*On the one hand, in the case of  $G = \mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{F}_q)$ , there are*

(1) *two central elements*

$$A_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad A_{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix},$$

*of types (1, 0) and (0, 1) respectively, which can be considered in both  $SO_2^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)$ .*

(2)  *$(q-3)/2$  generic semisimple conjugacy classes with representatives*

$$A_\lambda = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda^{-1} \end{pmatrix} \sim \begin{pmatrix} \lambda^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda \end{pmatrix}$$

*for  $\lambda \in \mathbb{F}_q^\times \setminus \{\pm 1\}$*

(3)  *$(q-1)/2$  generic semisimple conjugacy classes with representatives  $A_\mu \in SO_2^-(\mathbb{F}_q)$  which are conjugate to*

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mu & 0 \\ 0 & \mu^{-1} \end{pmatrix} \sim \begin{pmatrix} \mu^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & \mu \end{pmatrix}$$

*in  $SO_2^-(\mathbb{F}_{q^2})$ , for  $\mu \in \mu_{q+1} \setminus \{\pm 1\}$*

*In total, there are  $q$  semisimple conjugacy classes in  $SL_2(\mathbb{F}_q)$ .*

*On the other hand, in  $G = SO_3(\mathbb{F}_q)$ , we must consider more carefully how the blocks  $A_\lambda, A_\mu$  can be embedded as  $3 \times 3$  matrices in  $G$ . For this, let us suppose the symmetric bilinear form  $B$  defining  $G = SO(\mathbb{F}_q^3, B)$  is of the form*

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a \end{pmatrix}$$

*with discriminant  $-1$  (the case of discriminant 1 is entirely similar, with a reversed choice of where the forced 1's are placed). For a choice of  $\lambda \in \mathbb{F}_q^\times$ , corresponding to a block  $A_\lambda \in SO_2^+(\mathbb{F}_q)$ , we can embed it as the element*

$$A_\lambda^+ := \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

*(due to the ambiguity in the case when  $\lambda = -1$ , it is meaningful in this case to keep track of which sign is in the superscript of the choice of  $SO_2^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)$  we start with). To see why  $A_\lambda^+$  and  $A_{\lambda^{-1}}^+$  are conjugate, we have*

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda^{-1} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Similarly, for choices of  $\mu = y + \sqrt{\varepsilon}z$  of norm 1 in  $\mathbb{F}_{q^2}$ , we can embed  $A_\mu \in SO_2^-(\mathbb{F}_q)$  as a  $3 \times 3$  matrix in  $SO_3(\mathbb{F}_q)$  as

$$A_\mu^- := \begin{pmatrix} y & 0 & z \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ \varepsilon z & 0 & y \end{pmatrix}$$

A similar argument gives that  $A_\mu^-$  and  $A_{\mu^{-1}}^-$  are conjugate in  $SO_3(\mathbb{F}_q)$ . For  $\lambda \in \mathbb{F}_q^\times \setminus \{\pm 1\}$  and  $\mu \in \mu_{q+1} \setminus \{\pm 1\}$ , we obtain  $(q-3)/2$  and  $(q-1)/2$  generic semisimple conjugacy classes, respectively.

Now consider the elements  $A_{-1}^+$  and  $A_{-1}^-$ . There are two singular conjugacy classes of type  $(0, 1)$ : the conjugacy classes of

$$\sigma_1^+ := \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \sigma_1^- := \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix},$$

which have centralizers  $SO_2^+(\mathbb{F}_q)$ ,  $SO_2^-(\mathbb{F}_q)$  in  $SO_3(\mathbb{F}_q)$ , respectively (since here the centralizer is the special orthogonal group on the two coordinates corresponding to the two  $-1$  entries in  $\sigma_1^\pm$ ). We therefore find that there are a total of  $q+1$  semisimple conjugacy classes in  $SO_3(\mathbb{F}_q)$ .

In  $SO_{2r+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ , elements  $\sigma_r^\pm$  which play a role generalizing  $\sigma_1^\pm$  exist and play a very important role in considering oscillator representations. We define them now:

**Definition 5.** Let us consider an odd special orthogonal group  $SO_{2r+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ . Consider the maximal tori obtained by embedding

$$\begin{aligned} (SO_2^+(\mathbb{F}_q))^r &\subseteq SO_{2r}^+(\mathbb{F}_q) \\ (SO_2^+(\mathbb{F}_q))^{r-1} \times SO_2^-(\mathbb{F}_q) &\subseteq SO_{2r}^-(\mathbb{F}_q) \end{aligned}$$

into  $SO_{2r+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ . Consider the element consisting of a sum of  $r$  copies of  $A_{-1}$  lying in either choice of torus in  $SO_{2r}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)$ . We write

$$\sigma_r^+ := (A_{-1}^{\oplus r})^+, \quad \sigma_r^- := (A_{-1}^{\oplus r})^-$$

for the  $(2r+1) \times (2r+1)$  matrices in  $SO_{2r+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$  obtained by adding the 1 forced by considering the sum of  $A_{-1}$ 's as an element of the split and non-split special orthogonal group, respectively (as in the above example, the only role of the superscript  $\pm$  is to record the sign of  $SO_{2r}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)$  we consider  $A_{-1}^{\oplus r}$  in).

We find that the centralizers of these semisimple elements are

$$Z_{SO_{2r+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)}(\sigma_r^\pm) \cong SO_{2r}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)$$

In particular  $\sigma_r^+$  and  $\sigma_r^-$  cannot be conjugate in  $SO_{2r+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ .

**2.2. The representation theory of the symplectic group.** We now describe the Lusztig classification data for the irreducible representations of  $\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ . The choices of semisimple data consist of semisimple conjugacy classes in the dual group

$$(\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q))^D = \mathrm{SO}_{2N+1}(\mathbb{F}_q).$$

Fix a semisimple conjugacy class  $(s) \in \mathrm{SO}_{2N+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$  and say it is conjugate to a sum of blocks

$$(14) \quad s \sim A_1^{\oplus p} \oplus (A_{-1}^{\oplus \ell})^\alpha \oplus \bigoplus_{i=1}^r A_{\lambda_i}^{\oplus j_i} \oplus \bigoplus_{i=1}^t A_{\mu_i}^{\oplus k_i}$$

for distinct choices of eigenvalues

$$(15) \quad \begin{aligned} \lambda_i &\in \mathbb{F}_{q^{n'_i}}^\times \setminus \{\pm 1\} \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, r \\ \mu_i &\in \mu_{q^{n''_i+1}} \setminus \{\pm 1\} \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, t \end{aligned}$$

and where  $\alpha$  denotes the sign for which we consider  $A_{-1}^{\oplus \ell} \in \mathrm{SO}_{2\ell}^\alpha(\mathbb{F}_q)$ . There is no condition on this sign. The size of the matrix requires  $N$

$$(16) \quad p + \ell + \sum_{i=1}^r j_i n'_i + \sum_{i=1}^t k_i n''_i.$$

Note that  $s$  is then of type  $(p, \ell)$  and generic when  $p = \ell = 0$ . Then the centralizer of  $s$  in  $\mathrm{SO}_{2N+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$  is isomorphic to the product

$$(17) \quad \prod_{i=1}^r U_{j_i}^+(\mathbb{F}_{q^{n'_i}}) \times \prod_{i=1}^t U_{k_i}^-(\mathbb{F}_{q^{n''_i}}) \times \mathrm{SO}_{2\ell}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q) \times \mathrm{SO}_{2p+1}(\mathbb{F}_q).$$

(We use the notation that  $U_j^+(\mathbb{F}_q) = \mathrm{GL}_j(\mathbb{F}_q)$ .)

Given such semisimple data  $(s) \in \mathrm{SO}_{2N+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ , we next pick unipotent data, i.e. a unipotent irreducible representation  $u$  of the dual group of  $s$ 's centralizer (17) (taking the dual replaces the odd special orthogonal group factor by the corresponding symplectic group of the same rank and leaves all other factors the same). Then  $u$  consists of a tensor product

$$(18) \quad \bigotimes_{i=1}^r u_{U_{j_i}^+} \otimes \bigotimes_{i=1}^t u_{U_{k_i}^-} \otimes u_{\mathrm{SO}_{2\ell}^\pm} \otimes u_{\mathrm{Sp}_{2p}}$$

where  $u_{U_{j_i}^+}$ ,  $u_{U_{k_i}^-}$ ,  $u_{\mathrm{SO}_{2\ell}^\pm}$ , and  $u_{\mathrm{Sp}_{2p}}$  are unipotent irreducible representations of  $U_{j_i}^+(\mathbb{F}_{q^{n'_i}})$ ,  $U_{k_i}^-(\mathbb{F}_{q^{n''_i}})$ ,  $\mathrm{SO}_{2\ell}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)$ , and  $\mathrm{Sp}_{2p}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ .

The irreducible unipotent representations of these factors can be further described using the theory of *symbols* [14]. We do not discuss the case of the unipotent representations of a finite group of lie type  $A$

or  ${}^2A$  here. For now, we consider the symbols of type  $B$ ,  $C$ , and  $D$  of rank  $r$ .

**Definition 6.** Consider the data of an equivalence classes of two rows of strictly increasing sequences

$$(19) \quad \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 < \lambda_2 < \cdots < \lambda_a \\ \mu_1 < \mu_2 < \cdots < \mu_b \end{pmatrix}$$

under switching rows, for  $\lambda_i, \mu_i \in \mathbb{N}_0$  non-negative integers such that  $(\lambda_1, \mu_1) \neq (0, 0)$ .

(1) The data (19) is called a symbol of rank  $r$  of type  $C$  or  $B$  if

$$(20) \quad \sum_{i=1}^a \lambda_i + \sum_{i=1}^b \mu_i = r + \frac{(a+b-1)^2}{4},$$

and the defect  $a-b$  is odd.

(2) The data (19) is called a symbol of rank  $r$  of type  $D$  (resp. of type  ${}^2D$ ) if

$$(21) \quad \sum_{i=1}^a \lambda_i + \sum_{i=1}^b \mu_i = r + \frac{(a+b)(a+b-2)}{4}$$

and the defect  $a-b$  is  $0 \pmod{4}$  (resp.  $2 \pmod{4}$ ). We call a symbol of type  $D$  degenerate if the two rows match, i.e.  $a=b$  and  $\lambda_i = \mu_i$ .

The symbols of type  $B$  or  $C$  of rank  $r$  classify the irreducible unipotent representations of the group  $\mathrm{SO}_{2r+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$  or  $\mathrm{Sp}_{2r}(\mathbb{F}_q)$  (since these groups have the same Weyl group, their irreducible unipotent representations have the same classification). The symbols of type  $D$ , resp.  ${}^2D$ , of rank  $r$  classify the irreducible unipotent representations of the group  $\mathrm{SO}_{2r}^+(\mathbb{F}_q)$ , resp.  $\mathrm{SO}_{2r}^-(\mathbb{F}_q)$ .

The dimension of the unipotent representation of  $G$  corresponding to a non-degenerate symbol (19) is the factor

$$(22) \quad \frac{\prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq a} (q^{\lambda_j} - q^{\lambda_i}) \cdot \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq b} (q^{\mu_j} - q^{\mu_i}) \cdot \prod_{\substack{1 \leq i \leq a \\ 1 \leq j \leq b}} (q^{\lambda_i} + q^{\mu_j})}{\prod_{i=1}^a \prod_{j=1}^{\lambda_i} (q^{2j} - 1) \cdot \prod_{i=1}^b \prod_{j=1}^{\mu_i} (q^{2j} - 1) \cdot q^{c[a,b]}}$$

multiplied by  $|G|_{q'}/2^{\lfloor (a+b-1)/2 \rfloor}$ , where, for the final power of  $q$  in the denominator of (22), we write

$$c[a, b] = \sum_{i=1}^{\lfloor (a+b)/2 \rfloor} \binom{a+b-2i}{2}.$$

Each degenerate symbol of  $\mathrm{SO}_{2r}^+(\mathbb{F}_q)$  corresponds to a pair of distinct non-isomorphic irreducible unipotent representations of  $\mathrm{SO}_{2r}^+(\mathbb{F}_q)$ , of dimension equal to (22) multiplied by  $|\mathrm{SO}_{2r}^+(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}/2^{a+b}$  (i.e. by an additional half compared to the factor for non-degenerate symbols).

For choices of semisimple and unipotent data  $s$  and  $u$ , we can form  $\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ -representations  $r^{\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)}[(s), u]$  of dimension equal to the dimension of  $u$  multiplied by the factor

$$(23) \quad \frac{|\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}}{|\prod_{i=1}^r U_{j_i}^+(\mathbb{F}_{q^{r'_i}}) \times \prod_{i=1}^t U_{k_i}^-(\mathbb{F}_{q^{r''_i}}) \times \mathrm{SO}_{2\ell}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q) \times \mathrm{Sp}_{2p}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}}.$$

These representations may be irreducible, or may split into two non-isomorphic irreducible representations

$$r^{\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)}[(s), u] = r^{\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)}[(s), u, +1] \oplus r^{\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)}[(s), u, -1]$$

of dimensions  $\dim(r^{\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)}[(s), u, \pm 1]) = \dim(r^{\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)}[(s), u])/2$ .

This halving occurs if and only if  $s$  has  $-1$  as an eigenvalue (i.e.  $\ell \neq 0$ ) and  $u_{\mathrm{SO}_{2\ell}^\pm}$  corresponds to a non-degenerate symbol, in which case we write a central sign  $\alpha = \pm 1$  to indicate which half we are want in the Lusztig classification data, according to the action of  $Z(\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)) = \mathbb{Z}/2$ . In the case where  $s$  has  $-1$  as an eigenvalue (i.e.  $\ell \neq 0$ ) and  $u_{\mathrm{SO}_{2\ell}^\pm}$  corresponds to a degenerate symbol, only a single irreducible representation  $r^{\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)}[(s), u]$  of  $\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)$  is produced (i.e the same irreducible  $\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ -representation is produced by using the other irreducible unipotent of  $\mathrm{SO}_{2\ell}^\pm$  corresponding to the same symbol, ‘‘merging’’ the two degenerate pieces). Then  $r^{\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)}[(s), u]$  is of dimension equal to 2 times  $\dim(u)$  times (23). In all other cases,  $r^{\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)}[(s), u]$  is irreducible.

**Example:** The oscillator representations

$$(24) \quad \omega_a = \omega_a^+ \oplus \omega_a^-, \quad \omega_b = \omega_b^+ \oplus \omega_b^-$$

of  $\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)$  can be recovered using this classification. Take  $\sigma_N^\pm \in \mathrm{SO}_{2N+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$  as the semisimple data. The centralizer of  $\sigma_N^\pm$  in  $\mathrm{SO}_{2N+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$  is

$$(25) \quad Z_{\sigma_N^\pm}(\mathrm{SO}_{2N+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)) = \mathrm{SO}_{2N}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q),$$

which is self dual. The factor (23) is then

$$(26) \quad \frac{|\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}}{|\mathrm{SO}_{2N}^{\pm}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}} = \frac{\prod_{i=1}^N (q^{2i} - 1)}{(q^N \mp 1) \prod_{i=1}^{N-1} (q^{2i} - 1)} = q^N \pm 1$$

In both cases, take  $u$  to be the trivial representation 1.

The representations  $r^{\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)}[(\sigma_N^{\pm}), 1]$  obtained from  $(\sigma_N^{\pm})$  and  $u = 1$  are then of dimension equal to (26). They then decompose into equidimensional halves, with

$$r^{\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)}[(\sigma_N^+), 1] = \omega_a^+ \oplus \omega_b^+, \quad r^{\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)}[(\sigma_N^-), 1] = \omega_a^- \oplus \omega_b^-$$

recovering the pieces of the oscillator representations (24). In our notation, we have

$$\omega_a^{\pm} = r^{\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)}[(\sigma_N^+), 1, \epsilon(a)],$$

where  $\epsilon$  denotes the quadratic character

$$(27) \quad \epsilon : \mathbb{F}_q^{\times} \rightarrow \{\pm 1\}.$$

### 2.3. The representation theory of the odd orthogonal groups.

Next, we describe the Lusztig classification data for the irreducible representations of the odd orthogonal groups  $\mathrm{O}_{2m+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ . In this case, we can split the center off

$$\mathrm{O}_{2m+1}(\mathbb{F}_q) = \mathbb{Z}/2 \times \mathrm{SO}_{2m+1}(\mathbb{F}_q),$$

and therefore each irreducible representation can be considered as the tensor product of a sign with its irreducible restriction to the special orthogonal group  $\mathrm{SO}_{2m+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ . Now since  $\mathrm{SO}_{2m+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$  has no center, the irreducible representations are precisely the representations  $r^{\mathrm{SO}_{2m+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)}[(s), u]$ , corresponding to choices of  $\mathrm{SO}_{2m+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ -Lusztig classification data consisting of a conjugacy class  $(s)$  of a semisimple element

$$s \in \mathrm{Sp}_{2m}(\mathbb{F}_q) = (\mathrm{SO}_{2m+1}(\mathbb{F}_q))^D,$$

(recall that the symplectic groups and odd special orthogonal groups are dual) and  $u$  an irreducible unipotent representation of the dual of the centralizer of  $s$  in  $\mathrm{Sp}_{2m}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ . We call the sign defining the action of the center  $\mathbb{Z}/2 = Z(\mathrm{O}_{2m+1}(\mathbb{F}_q))$  the  $\mathrm{O}_{2m+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ -extension data corresponding to a certain irreducible representation and write

$$(28) \quad r^{\mathrm{O}_{2m+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)}[(s), u]^{\pm 1} := (\pm 1) \otimes r^{\mathrm{SO}_{2m+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)}[(s), u].$$

It suffices to describe the Lusztig classification data  $[(s), u]$  describing the irreducible  $\mathrm{SO}_{2m+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ -representations.

The choices of semisimple data for  $\mathrm{SO}_{2m+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$  consist of semisimple conjugacy classes in the dual group

$$(\mathrm{SO}_{2m+1}(\mathbb{F}_q))^D = \mathrm{Sp}_{2m}(\mathbb{F}_q).$$

Fix such an  $(s) \in \mathrm{Sp}_{2m}(\mathbb{F}_q)$  and, similarly as in the previous subsection, say it is conjugate to a sum of blocks

$$(29) \quad s \sim A_1^{\oplus p} \oplus A_{-1}^{\oplus \ell} \oplus \bigoplus_{i=1}^r A_{\lambda_i}^{\oplus j_i} \oplus \bigoplus_{i=1}^t A_{\mu_i}^{\oplus k_i}$$

for distinct eigenvalues  $\lambda_i, \mu_i$  as in (15). Again the matrix size gives an expression of  $m$  as the sum of products of field extension degrees and multiplicities (16). The centralizer of  $s$  in  $\mathrm{Sp}_{2m}(\mathbb{F}_q)$  is

$$(30) \quad \prod_{i=1}^r U_{j_i}^+(\mathbb{F}_{q^{n'_i}}) \times \prod_{i=1}^t U_{k_i}^-(\mathbb{F}_{q^{n''_i}}) \times \mathrm{Sp}_{2\ell}(\mathbb{F}_q) \times \mathrm{Sp}_{2p}(\mathbb{F}_q)$$

Given such semisimple data  $(s) \in \mathrm{Sp}_{2m}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ , the next component of  $\mathrm{SO}_{2m+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ -Lusztig classification data consists of an irreducible unipotent representation  $u$  of the dual of  $s$ 's centralizer (30) (taking the dual replaces each symplectic group by the corresponding odd special orthogonal group of the same rank and leaves all other factors the same). Then  $u$  may be expressed as a tensor product of unipotent representations of each factor of (30)

$$(31) \quad \bigotimes_{i=1}^r u_{U_{j_i}^+} \otimes \bigotimes_{i=1}^t u_{U_{k_i}^-} \otimes u_{\mathrm{SO}_{2\ell+1}}^{-1} \otimes u_{\mathrm{SO}_{2p+1}}^{+1},$$

where as the notation suggests,  $u_{U_{j_i}^+}$ ,  $u_{U_{k_i}^-}$ ,  $u_{\mathrm{SO}_{2\ell+1}}^{-1}$ , and  $u_{\mathrm{SO}_{2p+1}}^{+1}$  are unipotent irreducible representations of  $U_{j_i}^+(\mathbb{F}_{q^{n'_i}})$ ,  $U_{k_i}^-(\mathbb{F}_{q^{n''_i}})$ ,  $\mathrm{SO}_{2\ell+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ , and  $\mathrm{SO}_{2p+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ , respectively (the superscript for the  $C$ -type factors indicates the sign of the eigenvalue  $\pm 1$  of the blocks in  $s$  which the factor corresponds to). Both  $u_{\mathrm{SO}_{2\ell+1}}^{-1}$  and  $u_{\mathrm{SO}_{2p+1}}^{+1}$  correspond to symbols of type  $B$  of rank  $\ell$  and  $p$  respectively, as defined in Definition 6, part (1).

The irreducible  $\mathrm{SO}_{2m+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$  representation  $r^{\mathrm{SO}_{2m+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)}[(s), u]$  corresponding to such a choice of  $(s), u$  has dimension equal to the dimension of  $u$  multiplied by the prime to  $q$  part of the quotient of orders

$$(32) \quad \frac{|\mathrm{SO}_{2m+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}}{|\prod_{i=1}^r U_{j_i}^+(\mathbb{F}_{q^{n'_i}}) \times \prod_{i=1}^t U_{k_i}^-(\mathbb{F}_{q^{n''_i}}) \times \mathrm{SO}_{2\ell+1}(\mathbb{F}_q) \times \mathrm{SO}_{2p+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}}.$$

According to (28), for both choices of extension sign data  $\pm 1$ ,

$$\dim(r^{\mathrm{O}_{2m+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)}[(s), u]^{\pm 1}) = \dim(r^{\mathrm{SO}_{2m+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)}[(s), u]).$$

Call the collection of data  $[(s), u]$  together with an extension sign  $\pm 1$   $\mathrm{O}_{2m+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ -extended Lusztig classification data.

#### 2.4. The representation theory of the even orthogonal groups.

Finally, we consider the special orthogonal group on a  $2m$ -dimensional  $\mathbb{F}_q$ -vector space  $W$  with respect to a symmetric bilinear form  $B$ . Write

$$O(W, B) = O_{2m}^\alpha(\mathbb{F}_q),$$

with sign  $\alpha = +$  if  $B$  is totally split (i.e. there is an  $m$ -dimensional isotropic subspace of  $W$ ), and with sign  $\alpha = -$  otherwise. We call this sign  $\alpha$  the *total sign* of the symmetric bilinear form  $B$ .

To classify an irreducible representation  $\rho \in \widehat{O_{2m}^\alpha(\mathbb{F}_q)}$ , we look at the pair of semisimple and unipotent parts  $(s)$  and  $u$  of  $SO_{2m}^\alpha(\mathbb{F}_q)$ -Lusztig data such that  $\rho$  is a summand of the corresponding  $SO_{2m}^\alpha(\mathbb{F}_q)$ -representation's induction to  $O_{2m}^\alpha(\mathbb{F}_q)$

$$(33) \quad \rho \subseteq \text{Ind}_{O_{2m}^\alpha(\mathbb{F}_q)}^{\text{SO}_{2m}^\alpha(\mathbb{F}_q)}(r^{\text{SO}_{2m}^\alpha(\mathbb{F}_q)}[(s), u]).$$

The induction on the right hand side of (33) may decompose into 1, 2, or 4 irreducible representations, which we enumerate according to  $O_{2m}^\alpha(\mathbb{F}_q)$ -*extension data*. We note that unlike in the odd orthogonal choice there is not an obvious natural choice of how to do this.

Therefore the  $O_{2m}^\alpha(\mathbb{F}_q)$ -Lusztig classification data can be thought of as to consist of semisimple part the conjugacy class of  $s$  as an element of  $O_{2m}^\alpha(\mathbb{F}_q)$ , unipotent part  $u$ , and this central sign data. (Note that the unipotent representations of a group are the same after removing the center, and for simplicity to compare with the odd case, we may consider unipotent parts of Lusztig classification data as irreducible unipotent representations of  $SO_{2m}^\alpha(\mathbb{F}_q)$ .)

Let us begin by describing the special orthogonal group's Lusztig classification data. The group  $SO_{2m}^\alpha(\mathbb{F}_q)$  is its own dual, so the semisimple component of its Lusztig classification data only consists of a semisimple conjugacy class  $(s) \in SO_{2m}^\alpha(\mathbb{F}_q)$ . Say  $(s)$  is conjugate to a sum of blocks

$$(34) \quad s \sim A_1^{\oplus p} \oplus A_{-1}^{\oplus \ell} \oplus \bigoplus_{i=1}^r A_{\lambda_i}^{\oplus j_i} \oplus \bigoplus_{i=1}^t A_{\mu_i}^{\oplus k_i}$$

for eigenvalues as in (15), ranks such that  $m$  equals (16) and  $(-1)^t = \alpha$ . Then the centralizer of  $s$  is

$$(35) \quad \prod_{i=1}^r U_{j_i}^+(\mathbb{F}_{q^{n'_i}}) \times \prod_{i=1}^t U_{k_i}^-(\mathbb{F}_{q^{n''_i}}) \times \text{SO}_{2\ell}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q) \times \text{SO}_{2p}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)$$

(where, again, the total product of signs appearing in (35) is the total sign of  $B$ ).

Given such semisimple data  $(s) \in \mathrm{SO}_{2m}^\alpha(\mathbb{F}_q)$ , the unipotent part of the  $\mathrm{SO}_{2m}^\alpha(\mathbb{F}_q)$ -Lusztig classification data consists of a unipotent irreducible representation  $u$  of  $s$ 's centralizer (35), which can be factored as

$$(36) \quad \bigotimes_{i=1}^r u_{U_{j_i}^+} \otimes \bigotimes_{i=1}^t u_{U_{k_i}^-} \otimes u_{\mathrm{SO}_{2\ell}^\pm}^{-1} \otimes u_{\mathrm{SO}_{2p}^\pm}^{+1},$$

with the same notational convention as in the case of the odd special orthogonal groups.

Again, the  $\mathrm{SO}_{2m}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)$ -representation  $r^{\mathrm{SO}_{2m}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)}[(s), u]$  corresponding to such a choice of  $(s), u$  is of dimension  $\dim(u)$  multiplied by

$$(37) \quad \frac{|\mathrm{SO}_{2m}^\alpha(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'} / |Z_{\mathrm{SO}_{2m}^\alpha(\mathbb{F}_q)}(s)|_{q'} = |\mathrm{SO}_{2m}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}}{|\prod_{i=1}^r U_{j_i}^+(\mathbb{F}_{q^{n'_i}}) \times \prod_{i=1}^t U_{k_i}^-(\mathbb{F}_{q^{n''_i}}) \times \mathrm{SO}_{2\ell}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q) \times \mathrm{SO}_{2p}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}}.$$

The unipotent representations  $u_{\mathrm{SO}_{2\ell}^\pm}^{-1}, u_{\mathrm{SO}_{2\ell}^\pm}^{+1}$  correspond to the symbols of type  $D$  or  ${}^2D$  of ranks  $\ell$  and  $p$ .

It remains to describe the decomposition of the induction

$$(38) \quad \mathrm{Ind}_{\mathrm{O}_{2m}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)}^{\mathrm{SO}_{2m}^\alpha(\mathbb{F}_q)}(r^{\mathrm{SO}_{2m}^\alpha(\mathbb{F}_q)}[(s), u])$$

First, we notice that as long as  $(s)$  has some eigenvalues not equal to  $\pm 1$ , there are choices of semisimple data  $(s')$  for  $\mathrm{SO}_{2m}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)$  such that  $s$  and  $s'$  are not conjugate in the special orthogonal group, but they are conjugate in  $\mathrm{O}_{2m}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)$  (precisely since replacing  $A_\lambda$  by  $A_{\lambda^{-1}}$ ). For such cases, we find

$$\mathrm{Ind}_{\mathrm{O}_{2m}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)}^{\mathrm{SO}_{2m}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)}(r^{\mathrm{SO}_{2m}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)}[(s), u]) \cong \mathrm{Ind}_{\mathrm{O}_{2m}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)}^{\mathrm{SO}_{2m}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)}(r^{\mathrm{SO}_{2m}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)}[(s'), u]).$$

We also see another effect. Inducing an irreducible unipotent representation splits into two non-isomorphic equidimensional irreducible unipotent representations

$$\mathrm{Ind}_{\mathrm{O}_{2m}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)}^{\mathrm{SO}_{2m}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)}\left(\left(\begin{array}{c} \lambda_1 < \cdots < \lambda_a \\ \mu_1 < \cdots < \mu_b \end{array}\right)\right) = \left(\begin{array}{c} \lambda_1 < \cdots < \lambda_a \\ \mu_1 < \cdots < \mu_b \end{array}\right)^+ \oplus \left(\begin{array}{c} \lambda_1 < \cdots < \lambda_a \\ \mu_1 < \cdots < \mu_b \end{array}\right)^-.$$

We note that, in the split case, for both irreducible  $\mathrm{SO}_{2m}^+(\mathbb{F}_q)$ -summands of the unipotent representation corresponding to the degenerate symbol  $\left(\begin{array}{c} \lambda_1 < \cdots < \lambda_a \\ \lambda_1 < \cdots < \lambda_a \end{array}\right)$ , their inductions to an  $\mathrm{O}_{2m}^+(\mathbb{F}_q)$  are irreducible and isomorphic. Ultimately, we find that (38) splits into  $2^{a(s)+b(s)}$  irreducible

equidimensional  $O_{2m}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)$ -representations, where we put

$$a(s) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } 1 \text{ is an eigenvalue of } s \\ 0, & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

$$b(s) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } -1 \text{ is an eigenvalue of } s \\ 0, & \text{else.} \end{cases}$$

To summarize, we may enumerate the irreducible representations of  $O_{2m}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)$  according to the  $O_{2m}^\alpha(\mathbb{F}_q)$ -*extended Lusztig classification data* consisting of

- (1) The *semisimple data* of the conjugacy class of a semisimple element  $s \in \mathrm{SO}_{2m}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)$ , under conjugacy by elements in the full orthogonal group  $O_{2m}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)$ .
- (2) The *unipotent data* of a unipotent representation of the dual of  $s$ 's centralizer  $(Z_{\mathrm{SO}_{2m}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)}(s))^D$ , consisting of a tensor product of symbols, allowing the possible degenerate symbols (which we do not decompose in order to avoid over-counting).
- (3) The *extension sign data*  $\gamma$ , consisting of  $a(s)+b(s)$  independent choices of sign. If  $s$  has both  $+1$  and  $-1$  eigenvalues, we write  $\gamma = (\pm 1, \pm 1)$ , listing the sign associated to the presence of 1 eigenvalues first. When only one of  $a(s)$  and  $b(s)$  is non-zero, we write  $\gamma$  as the single choice of sign itself. When both  $a(s)$  and  $b(s)$  are 0.

We denote the corresponding irreducible  $O_{2m}^\alpha(\mathbb{F}_q)$ -representation by  $r^{O_{2m}^\alpha(\mathbb{F}_q)}[(s), u]^\gamma$ .

### 3. THE CLAIMED CONSTRUCTION

The purpose of this section is to describe in more detail the claimed construction that we are proposing gives the eta and zeta correspondences. This will identify the ‘‘top’’ partner of an input representation appearing in the Howe correspondence of S.-Y. Pan [16, 17] (we discuss this in [13] in more detail). We define the proposed constructions

$$\phi_{W,B}^V : \widehat{O(W, B)} \leftrightarrow \widehat{\mathrm{Sp}(V)}$$

in the symplectic stable range, and

$$\psi_V^{W,B} : \widehat{\mathrm{Sp}(V)} \leftrightarrow \widehat{O(W, B)}$$

in the orthogonal stable range.

We recall now that the unipotent irreducible representations of a group  $G$  are the same as the unipotent irreducible representations of its dual  $G^D$ . For an irreducible unipotent representation  $u$  of  $G$ , we

denote by  $\tilde{u}$  the corresponding irreducible unipotent representation of  $G^D$ .

In Subsection 3.1, we treat the case of  $(\mathrm{Sp}(V), \mathrm{O}(W, B))$  in the symplectic stable range where the dimension of  $W$  is odd. In Subsection 3.2, we treat the case of the symplectic stable range where the dimension of  $W$  is even. In Subsection 3.3, we treat the case of a reductive dual pair  $(\mathrm{Sp}(V), \mathrm{O}(W, B))$  in the orthogonal stable range where the dimension of  $W$  is odd. In Subsection 3.4, we treat the case of the orthogonal stable range where the dimension of  $W$  is even.

**3.1. The odd symplectic stable case.** Consider a choice of type I reductive dual pair  $(\mathrm{Sp}(V), \mathrm{O}(W, B))$  in the symplectic stable range for odd-dimensional  $W$ . Write  $\dim(V) = 2N$ ,  $\dim(W) = 2m + 1$ . The range condition requires that  $N \geq 2m + 1$ .

In this case, the center splits off of the orthogonal group, and we may consider  $\mathrm{O}(W, B) = \mathbb{Z}/2 \times \mathrm{SO}_{2m+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ . Our goal is to define a construction whose input is an irreducible representation of  $\pi = r^{\mathrm{O}_{2m+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)}[(s), u]^{\pm 1}$  of  $\mathrm{O}(W, B)$  for  $\mathrm{O}_{2m+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ -extended Lusztig classification data consisting of a semisimple conjugacy class

$$(s) \in (\mathrm{SO}_{2m+1}(\mathbb{F}_q))^D = \mathrm{Sp}_{2m}(\mathbb{F}_q),$$

an irreducible unipotent representation  $u$  of  $(Z_{\mathrm{Sp}_{2m}(\mathbb{F}_q)}(s))^D$ , and a sign  $\pm 1$ , and whose output is a unique irreducible representation  $\phi_{W,B}^V(\pi)$  of  $\mathrm{Sp}(V) = \mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ . In other words, we must produce from  $(s)$ ,  $u$  and the sign  $\pm 1$ , a choice of new  $\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ -Lusztig classification data:

$$(39) \quad [(\phi^\pm(s)), \phi^\pm(u), \mathrm{disc}(B) \cdot \varepsilon(s)]$$

(consisting of semisimple  $(\phi^\pm(s)) \in (\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q))^D = \mathrm{SO}_{2N+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$  and an irreducible unipotent representation  $\phi^\pm(u)$  of its centralizer). Broadly, we construct  $\phi^\pm(s)$  by adding  $-1$  eigenvalues to  $s$ , and we alter the symbol in the affected factor of the unipotent part by adding a single coordinate to one of the rows (to get the needed new rank and defect).

We begin with describing the semisimple part  $(\phi^\pm(s))$ . Considering  $s$  as an element of a maximal torus of the form (7), and it is determined by the data of the orbit of its eigenvalues. Recalling Definition 5, we then define  $\phi^\pm(s)$  to be the semisimple element

$$\begin{aligned} \phi^\pm(s) &:= s \oplus \sigma_{N-m}^\pm \in \prod_{i=1}^k \mathrm{SO}_2^\pm(\mathbb{F}_{q^{n_i}}) \times \mathrm{SO}_{2(N-m)+1}(\mathbb{F}_q) \\ &\subseteq \mathrm{SO}_{2N+1}(\mathbb{F}_q) = (\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q))^D. \end{aligned}$$

On the level of eigenvalues,  $\phi^\pm(s)$  are obtained precisely by adding  $2(N-m)$  eigenvalues  $-1$  and a single  $1$  eigenvalue to  $s$ 's original eigenvalues, in a position where projecting away from the coordinate of the  $1$  eigenvalue gives a subspace of  $W$  where  $B$  is completely split if the sign is  $+$  and non-split if the sign is  $-$ . Suppose  $s$  is of type  $(p, \ell)$ , i.e.  $s$  has eigenvalue  $-1$  of multiplicity  $2\ell$ , and  $1$  of multiplicity  $2p$ , and its centralizer is of the form (30). For simplicity, let us separate the factors corresponding to the eigenvalues of  $s$  not equal to  $-1$

$$H = \prod_{i=1}^r U_{j_i}^+(\mathbb{F}_{q^{n'_i}}) \times \prod_{i=1}^t U_{k_i}^-(\mathbb{F}_{q^{n''_i}}) \times \mathrm{Sp}_{2p}(\mathbb{F}_q),$$

so that

$$(40) \quad Z_{\mathrm{Sp}_{2m}(\mathbb{F}_q)}(s) = H \times \mathrm{Sp}_{2\ell}(\mathbb{F}_q).$$

Then we find that the centralizer of our new elements  $\phi^\pm(s)$  in  $\mathrm{SO}_{2N+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$  is precisely

$$Z_{\mathrm{SO}_{2N+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)}(\phi^\pm(s)) = H^D \times \mathrm{SO}_{2(N-m+\ell)}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q).$$

Now let us describe the unipotent part  $\phi^\pm(u)$  of (39). Let us factor  $u$  as in (31), and let us consider the symbol

$$u_{\mathrm{SO}_{2\ell+1}}^{-1} = \left( \begin{array}{c} \lambda_1 < \cdots < \lambda_a \\ \mu_1 < \cdots < \mu_b \end{array} \right)$$

and write  $u_H$  for the unipotent  $H$ -representation consisting of a product of the other factors  $\bigotimes_{i=1}^r u_{U_{j_i}^+} \otimes \bigotimes_{i=1}^t u_{U_{k_i}^-} \otimes u_{\mathrm{SO}_{2\ell+1}}^{-1} \otimes u_{\mathrm{SO}_{2p+1}}^+$ , so that we can write  $u = u_H \otimes \left( \begin{array}{c} \lambda_1 < \cdots < \lambda_a \\ \mu_1 < \cdots < \mu_b \end{array} \right)$ . The defect  $a - b$  of the symbol is odd, so we may switch rows to assume without loss of generality that  $a - b$  is  $1 \pmod{4}$ . We define a certain natural number associated to  $\pi = r^{\mathrm{O}_{2m+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)}[(s), u]^{\pm 1}$

$$N'_\pi = N - m + \frac{a + b - 1}{2}$$

(note that by the symplectic stable range condition, we automatically have  $N'_\pi \geq N - m \geq m + 1$ ). Then we may concatenate  $N'_\pi$  onto the end of either row of the symbol  $\left( \begin{array}{c} \lambda_1 < \cdots < \lambda_a \\ \mu_1 < \cdots < \mu_b \end{array} \right)$ , obtaining new symbols

$$\phi^+ \left( \left( \begin{array}{c} \lambda_1 < \cdots < \lambda_a \\ \mu_1 < \cdots < \mu_b \end{array} \right) \right) = \left( \begin{array}{c} \lambda_1 < \cdots < \lambda_a \\ \mu_1 < \cdots < \mu_b < N'_\pi \end{array} \right),$$

describing a unipotent representation of  $\mathrm{SO}_{2(N-m+\ell)}^+(\mathbb{F}_q)$  and

$$\phi^- \left( \left( \begin{array}{c} \lambda_1 < \cdots < \lambda_a \\ \mu_1 < \cdots < \mu_b \end{array} \right) \right) = \left( \begin{array}{c} \lambda_1 < \cdots < \lambda_a < N'_\pi \\ \mu_1 < \cdots < \mu_b \end{array} \right),$$

describing a unipotent representation of  $\mathrm{SO}_{2(N-m+\ell)}^-(\mathbb{F}_q)$ . We then put

$$\phi^\pm(u) := \widetilde{u}_H \otimes \phi^\pm\left(\begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 < \cdots < \lambda_a \\ \mu_1 < \cdots < \mu_b \end{pmatrix}\right),$$

giving a unipotent representation of the group  $H^D \times \mathrm{SO}_{2(N-m+\ell)}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q) = Z_{\mathrm{SO}_{2N+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)}(\phi^\pm(s))$ .

Finally, we need a central sign to complete the Lusztig classification data (39) since by definition  $\phi^\pm(s)$  has  $-1$  eigenvalues. Consider again  $s$  as an element of the torus (7). Further, consider each factor  $\mathrm{SO}_2^\pm(\mathbb{F}_{q^{r_i}}) \cong \mu_{q^{r_i} \mp 1}$ . Then define  $\epsilon(s)$  to be the product of applying the quadratic character on each  $\mathbb{Z}/(q^{r_i} \mp 1)$  to each coordinate, giving a total sign. Multiplying with the discriminant  $\mathrm{disc}(B)$  gives the central sign of (39).

**Definition 7.** *Given the above notation we define  $\phi_{W,B}^V(\pi)$  to be the irreducible  $\mathrm{Sp}(V)$ -representation with the new Lusztig classification data we constructed:*

$$\phi_{W,B}^V(r^{O(W,B)}[(s), u]^{\pm 1}) = r^{\mathrm{Sp}(V)}[(\phi^\pm(s)), \phi^\pm(u), \mathrm{disc}(B) \cdot \epsilon(s)].$$

**3.2. The even symplectic stable case.** Now suppose the reductive dual pair  $(\mathrm{Sp}(V), \mathrm{O}(W, B))$  is in the symplectic stable case and  $W$  is even dimensional. Write  $\dim(V) = 2N$  and  $\dim(W) = 2m$ . Write  $\alpha$  for the sign so that  $\mathrm{O}(W, B) = \mathrm{O}_{2m}^\alpha(\mathbb{F}_q)$ . In both cases, the orthogonal stable range condition requires that  $N \geq 2m$ .

Fix an input irreducible  $\mathrm{O}_{2m}^\alpha(\mathbb{F}_q)$ -representation  $\pi = r^{\mathrm{O}_{2m}^\alpha(\mathbb{F}_q)}[(s), u]^\gamma$ , for  $(s)$  the  $\mathrm{O}_{2m}^\alpha(\mathbb{F}_q)$ -conjugacy class of a semisimple element  $s \in \mathrm{SO}_{2m}^\alpha(\mathbb{F}_q)$ , a compatible unipotent representation  $u$  of the dual of  $s$ 's centralizer  $(Z_{\mathrm{SO}_{2m}^\alpha(\mathbb{F}_q)}(s))^D$ , and possible central sign data  $\gamma$  consisting of  $a(s)+b(s)$  signs. Write  $\gamma = (\alpha, \beta)$ , writing  $\alpha$  for the sign corresponding to if  $s$  has 1 eigenvalues and  $\beta$  for the sign corresponding to if  $s$  has  $-1$  eigenvalues. Broadly, we obtain new  $\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ -Lusztig classification data

$$[(\phi(s)), \phi^\alpha(u), \beta]$$

by adding 1 eigenvalues to  $s$ , then altering the affect factor of the unipotent part by adding a single coordinate to one row of the symbol (according to  $\alpha$  if it occurs which is precisely when there is a choice), and keeping the original  $-1$  part  $\beta$  of the sign data if it occurs.

Consider, again,  $s$  as an element of a torus (7). One may take a direct sum with the identity matrix  $I_{2(N-m)+1}$  to obtain a semisimple

element

$$\begin{aligned}\phi(s) &= s \oplus I_{2(N-m)+1} \in \prod_{i=1}^k \mathrm{SO}_2^\pm(\mathbb{F}_{q^{n_i}}) \times \mathrm{SO}_{2(N-m)+1}(\mathbb{F}_q) \\ &\subseteq \mathrm{SO}_{2N+1}(\mathbb{F}_q) = (\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q))^D.\end{aligned}$$

(Note that each different class ( $s$ ) considered as a conjugacy class in  $\mathrm{O}(W, B)$  corresponds to a different  $\phi(s)$ , whereas if we only considered ( $s$ ) as a conjugacy class in  $\mathrm{SO}(W, B)$ , in cases with eigenvalues not equal to  $\pm 1$ , there would be another  $\mathrm{SO}(W, B)$ -conjugacy class ( $s'$ ) with  $(\phi(s)) = (\phi(s'))$  in  $\mathrm{SO}_{2N+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ .)

Suppose  $s$  is of type  $(p, \ell)$ , i.e.  $s$  has 1 as an eigenvalue of multiplicity  $2p$  and  $-1$  as an eigenvalue of multiplicity  $2\ell$ , and suppose its centralizer is of the form (35). We separate out the factors corresponding to eigenvalues not equal to 1 by writing

$$H = \prod_{i=1}^r U_{j_i}^+(\mathbb{F}_{q^{n'_i}}) \times \prod_{i=1}^t U_{k_i}^-(\mathbb{F}_{q^{n''_i}}) \times \mathrm{SO}_{2\ell}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)$$

so that we have

$$Z_{\mathrm{SO}_{2m}^\alpha(\mathbb{F}_q)}(s) = H \times \mathrm{SO}_{2p}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q),$$

and then

$$Z_{\mathrm{SO}_{2N+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)}(\phi(s)) = H^D \times \mathrm{SO}_{2(N-m+p)+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$$

(note that in this case  $H = H^D$ ). Factoring  $u$  as in (36), let us consider the symbol of the factor corresponding to the 1 eigenvalue

$$u_{\mathrm{SO}_{2p}^\pm}^{+1} = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 < \cdots < \lambda_a \\ \mu_1 < \cdots < \mu_b \end{pmatrix}$$

(considering the trivial representation in the case of  $p = 0$  as  $\begin{pmatrix} \emptyset \\ \emptyset \end{pmatrix}$ ) and write  $u^{H^D}$  for the representation of  $H = H^D$  consisting of the other factors  $\bigotimes_{i=1}^r u_{U_{j_i}^+} \otimes \bigotimes_{i=1}^t u_{U_{k_i}^-} \otimes u_{\mathrm{SO}_{2\ell}^\pm}^{-1}$ . Suppose first that  $\begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 < \cdots < \lambda_a \\ \mu_1 < \cdots < \mu_b \end{pmatrix}$  is non-degenerate. In the case where the 1 eigenvalues correspond to a non-split factor  $\mathrm{SO}_{2p}^-(\mathbb{F}_q)$  of  $s$ 's centralizer, then switch rows so that  $a - b + 1$  is 1 mod 4. In the case where the 1 eigenvalues correspond to a split factor  $\mathrm{SO}_{2p}^+(\mathbb{F}_q)$  of  $s$ 's centralizer, then switch rows so that either  $a > b$  or, if  $a = b$ , for the maximal  $i$  such that  $\lambda_i \neq \mu_i$ , we have  $\lambda_i > \mu_i$ . Write

$$N'_\pi = N - m + \frac{a+b}{2}.$$

Then

$$\left( \begin{array}{c} \lambda_1 < \cdots < \lambda_a < N'_\rho \\ \mu_1 < \cdots < \mu_b \end{array} \right), \quad \left( \begin{array}{c} \lambda_1 < \cdots < \lambda_a \\ \mu_1 < \cdots < \mu_b < N'_\rho \end{array} \right)$$

define unipotent  $(\mathrm{SO}_{2(N-m+p)+1}(\mathbb{F}_q))^D = \mathrm{Sp}_{2(N-m+p)}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ . Therefore,

$$\phi^-(u) = \widetilde{u_{H^D}} \otimes \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 < \cdots < \lambda_a < N'_\pi \\ \mu_1 < \cdots < \mu_b \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\phi^+(u) = \widetilde{u_{H^D}} \otimes \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 < \cdots < \lambda_a \\ \mu_1 < \cdots < \mu_b < N'_\pi \end{pmatrix}$$

respectively define irreducible unipotent representations of the dual group  $(Z_{\mathrm{SO}_{2N+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)}(\phi(s)))^D = H \times \mathrm{Sp}_{2(N-m+p)}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ . We use  $\phi^\alpha(u)$  for the new unipotent data, again writing  $\alpha$  for the component of the  $O_{2m}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)$ -extension sign data corresponding to the 1 eigenvalues of  $s$ .

Now suppose  $u_{\mathrm{SO}_{2p}^\pm}^{+1} = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 < \cdots < \lambda_a \\ \lambda_1 < \cdots < \lambda_a \end{pmatrix}$  is degenerate (counting the case of  $\begin{pmatrix} \emptyset \\ \emptyset \end{pmatrix}$  for  $p = 0$ ). These are precisely the cases where there is no sign corresponding to 1 eigenvalues in the  $O_{2m}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)$ -extension sign data. In this case, we put

$$\phi(u) = \widetilde{u_H} \otimes \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 < \cdots < \lambda_a < N'_\pi \\ \lambda_1 < \cdots < \lambda_a \end{pmatrix}$$

Finally, to define an output irreducible  $\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ -representation, we need to also choose output central sign data precisely when  $\phi(s)$  has  $-1$  eigenvalues. By definition,  $\phi(s)$  has the same number of  $-1$  eigenvalues as  $s$ . Therefore, in this case, the original  $s$  has  $-1$  eigenvalues also, so the  $\mathrm{O}(W, B)$ -Lusztig classification data supplies us with the data of one more central sign  $\beta$ , which we use as the output central sign data.

**Definition 8.** *Given the above notation, we define  $\phi_{W,B}^V(\pi)$  to be the irreducible  $\mathrm{Sp}(V)$ -representation with the new Lusztig classification data we constructed*

$$(41) \quad \phi_{W,B}^V(r^{O(W,B)}[(s), u]^\gamma) = r^{\mathrm{Sp}(V)}[(\phi(s)), \phi^\alpha(u), \beta]$$

writing  $\gamma = (\alpha, \beta)$  for the extension sign data (listing the sign associated to 1 eigenvalues before the  $-1$  eigenvalues, and omitting either sign if the corresponding eigenvalue is not present for  $s$ ).

**3.3. The odd orthogonal stable case.** Suppose  $(\mathrm{Sp}(V), \mathrm{O}(W, B))$  is in the orthogonal stable case and  $W$  is odd dimensional. Write  $\dim(V) = 2N$  and  $\dim(W) = 2m + 1$ . In this case, the range condition gives that  $m \geq 2N$ .

Consider an irreducible representation  $\rho = r^{\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)}[(s), u, \pm 1]$  of  $\mathrm{Sp}(V) = \mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)$  corresponding to the Lusztig classification data consisting of a semisimple conjugacy class  $(s) \in (\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q))^D = \mathrm{SO}_{2N+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ , a unipotent representation  $u$  of  $Z_{\mathrm{SO}_{2N+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)}(s)$ , and central sign data  $\pm 1$  (which we omit if  $-1$  is not an eigenvalue of  $s$ ). Now our goal

is to specify an irreducible representation  $\psi_V^{W,B}(\rho)$  of  $O_{2m+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ , by describing  $O_{2m+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ -extended Lusztig classification data consisting of a semisimple conjugacy class  $(\psi(s)) \in (SO_{2m+1}(\mathbb{F}_q))^D = Sp_{2m}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ , a unipotent irreducible representation  $\psi^\pm(u)$  of  $(Z_{Sp_{2m}(\mathbb{F}_q)}(\psi(s)))^D$  (with the superscript  $\pm$  specified by the central sign data of the input Lusztig classification data and omitting if no such data is given), and taking  $O_{2m+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ -extension data corresponding to the sign

$$(\epsilon(s) \cdot \text{disc}(B)).$$

Broadly, in this case, we construct  $\psi(s)$  by adding  $-1$  eigenvalues to  $s$  and adding a single new coordinate to the symbol corresponding to the affected factor of the unipotent part (to achieve the new needed rank and defect), according the central sign data of  $\rho$  if it occurs.

To be more specific, recall again that we can consider  $s$  as an element of a torus of the form (7), by removing the single “forced” eigenvalue 1 from  $s$ . Write  $\tilde{s}$  for the  $2N$  by  $2N$  matrix obtained in this way. Taking a direct sum with  $-I_{2(m-N)}$ ,

$$\psi(s) := \tilde{s} \oplus (-I)_{2(m-N)}$$

specifies a semisimple element of  $Sp_{2m}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ , which has  $-1$  as an eigenvalue of multiplicity  $2(m - N + \ell)$ .

Say that  $s$  has  $-1$  as an eigenvalue of multiplicity  $2\ell$  with centralizer of the form (17). Again, let us separate the factors corresponding to eigenvalues not equal to  $-1$  and write

$$H = \prod_{i=1}^r U_{j_i}^+(\mathbb{F}_{q^{n'_i}}) \times \prod_{i=1}^t U_{k_i}^-(\mathbb{F}_{q^{n''_i}}) \times SO_{2p+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$$

so that

$$Z_{SO_{2N+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)}(s) = H \times SO_{2\ell}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)$$

and

$$Z_{Sp_{2m}(\mathbb{F}_q)}(\psi(s)) = H^D \times Sp_{2(m-N+\ell)}(\mathbb{F}_q).$$

For the unipotent part of the Lusztig classification data of  $\rho$ , write its factorization as in (18). Specially consider the symbol corresponding to the factor

$$u_{SO_{2\ell}^\pm} = \left( \begin{array}{c} \lambda_1 < \cdots < \lambda_a \\ \mu_1 < \cdots < \mu_b \end{array} \right)$$

and write  $u^{H^D}$  for the unipotent  $H^D$ -representation corresponding to the rest of the factors  $\bigotimes_{i=1}^r u_{U_{j_i}^+} \otimes \bigotimes_{i=1}^t u_{U_{k_i}^-} \otimes u_{Sp_{2p}}$ . Again, first suppose the symbol  $\left( \begin{array}{c} \lambda_1 < \cdots < \lambda_a \\ \mu_1 < \cdots < \mu_b \end{array} \right)$  is non-degenerate. In the case where the 1 eigenvalues correspond to a non-split factor  $SO_{2\ell}^-(\mathbb{F}_q)$  of  $s$ 's centralizer,

then switch rows so that  $a - b + 1$  is 1 mod 4. In the case where the 1 eigenvalues correspond to a split factor  $SO_{2\ell}^+(\mathbb{F}_q)$  of  $s$ 's centralizer, then switch rows so that either  $a > b$  or, if  $a = b$ , for the maximal  $i$  such that  $\lambda_i \neq \mu_i$ , we have  $\lambda_i > \mu_i$ . Let us write

$$m'_\rho = m - N + \frac{a + b}{2}.$$

By the orthogonal stable range condition, we must have  $\lambda_a < m'_\rho$  and  $\mu_b < m'_\rho$ . Concatenating  $m'_\rho$  to the end of one of the rows, we obtain symbols

$$(42) \quad \left( \begin{array}{c} \lambda_1 < \cdots < \lambda_a < m'_\rho \\ \mu_1 < \cdots < \mu_b \end{array} \right), \left( \begin{array}{c} \lambda_1 < \cdots < \lambda_a \\ \mu_1 < \cdots < \mu_b < m'_\rho \end{array} \right)$$

which have odd defect and rank precisely equal to  $m - N + \ell$ , and therefore specify irreducible unipotent representations of  $SO_{2(m-N+\ell)+1}(\mathbb{F}_q) = (\mathrm{Sp}_{2(m-N+\ell)}(\mathbb{F}_q))^D$ . Put

$$\begin{aligned} \psi^-(u) &= \widetilde{u_{HD}} \otimes \left( \begin{array}{c} \lambda_1 < \cdots < \lambda_a < m'_\rho \\ \mu_1 < \cdots < \mu_b \end{array} \right) \\ \psi^+(u) &= \widetilde{u_{HD}} \otimes \left( \begin{array}{c} \lambda_1 < \cdots < \lambda_a \\ \mu_1 < \cdots < \mu_b < m'_\rho \end{array} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Suppose now that  $u_{\mathrm{SO}_{2\ell}^\pm} = \left( \begin{array}{c} \lambda_1 < \cdots < \lambda_a \\ \lambda_1 < \cdots < \lambda_a \end{array} \right)$  is degenerate (including the case of the trivial representation  $\left( \begin{array}{c} \emptyset \\ \emptyset \end{array} \right)$  for  $\ell = 0$ ). This is precisely the case where no central sign data is provided in  $\rho$ 's original  $\mathrm{Sp}(V)$ -Lusztig classification data. In this case put

$$\psi(u) = \widetilde{u_{HD}} \otimes \left( \begin{array}{c} \lambda_1 < \cdots < \lambda_a < m'_\rho \\ \lambda_1 < \cdots < \lambda_a \end{array} \right).$$

**Definition 9.** *Suppose we are given the above notation. We put*

$$(43) \quad \psi_V^{W,B}(r^{\mathrm{Sp}(V)}[(s), u]) = r^{O(W,B)}[(\psi(s)), \psi(u)]^{\epsilon(s) \cdot \mathrm{disc}(B)}$$

or

$$(44) \quad \psi_V^{W,B}(r^{\mathrm{Sp}(V)}[(s), u, \pm 1]) = r^{O(W,B)}[(\psi(s)), \psi^\pm(u)]^{\epsilon(s) \cdot \mathrm{disc}(B)}.$$

**3.4. The even orthogonal stable case.** Suppose  $(\mathrm{Sp}(V), \mathrm{O}(W, B))$  is in the orthogonal stable range and  $W$  is of even dimension  $2m$ . Write  $\dim(V) = 2N$  and fix the sign  $\pm$  so that  $\mathrm{O}(W, B) = \mathrm{O}_{2m}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)$ . Then the range condition gives  $m \geq 2N$  in the split case  $\mathrm{O}(W, B) = \mathrm{O}_{2m}^+(\mathbb{F}_q)$  and  $m - 1 \geq 2N$  in the non-split case  $\mathrm{O}(W, B) = \mathrm{O}_{2m}^-(\mathbb{F}_q)$ .

Again, our goal is to produce a construction with input an irreducible representation  $\rho = r^{\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)}[(s), u, \pm 1]$  of  $\mathrm{Sp}(V) = \mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)$

corresponding to the Lusztig classification data consisting of a semisimple conjugacy class  $s \in (\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q))^D = \mathrm{SO}_{2N+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ , a unipotent representation  $u$  of  $Z_{\mathrm{SO}_{2N+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)}(s)$ , and central sign data  $\pm 1$  (which we omit if  $-1$  is not an eigenvalue of  $s$ ). We want to produce an irreducible  $\mathrm{O}_{2m}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)$ -representation  $\psi_V^{W,B}(\rho)$  which is defined by extended Lusztig classification data consisting of a semisimple  $\mathrm{O}_{2m}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)$ -conjugacy class  $(\psi(s)) \in \mathrm{SO}_{2m}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)$ , a unipotent representation  $\psi(u)$  of the centralizer of  $\psi(s)$  in  $\mathrm{SO}_{2m}^\alpha(\mathbb{F}_q)$ , and extension sign data depending on whether  $\psi(s)$  has  $\pm 1$  eigenvalues. Broadly, we will construct the new semisimple and unipotent parts of the  $\mathrm{O}_{2m}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)$ -Lusztig classification data

$$(\psi(s)), \psi(u)$$

by adding 1 eigenvalues to  $s$  and altering the symbol of the affect factor of the unipotent part by adding a single new coordinate to one of the rows to achieve the new needed rank and defect.

To be more specific, as in the odd stable orthogonal case, we may remove a single “forced” 1 eigenvalue from  $s$  to view it as a  $2N$  by  $2N$  element  $\tilde{s}$  of a maximal torus (7). Then consider the direct sum with the unique appropriate choice of  $2(m-N)$  by  $2(m-N)$  identity matrix

$$\psi(s) = \tilde{s} \oplus I_{2(m-N)},$$

configured to give a  $2m$  by  $2m$  matrix that can be considered as an element of  $\mathrm{SO}(W, B) \subseteq \mathrm{O}(W, B)$ . As in Subsection 3.2, each distinct  $\mathrm{SO}_{2N+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ -conjugacy class ( $s$ ) gives a distinct  $\mathrm{O}_{2m}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)$ -conjugacy class  $\psi(s)$ . Writing the centralizer of  $s$  as (17), we again separate out the factors corresponding to the eigenvalues not equal to 1, writing

$$H = \prod_{i=1}^r U_{j_i}^+(\mathbb{F}_{q^{n'_i}}) \times \prod_{i=1}^t U_{k_i}^-(\mathbb{F}_{q^{n''_i}}) \times \mathrm{SO}_{2\ell}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)$$

so that

$$Z_{\mathrm{SO}_{2N+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)}(s) = H \times \mathrm{SO}_{2p+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$$

and

$$Z_{\mathrm{SO}_{2m}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)}(\psi(s)) = H^D \times \mathrm{SO}_{2(N-m+p)}^\beta(\mathbb{F}_q),$$

for a single determined choice of sign  $\beta$  (so that its product with the other signs appearing in  $H$  agrees with  $\alpha$ ). Note that  $H = H^D$  in this case.

To construct the unipotent part of the  $\mathrm{O}_{2m}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)$ -Lusztig classification data  $\psi(u)$ , specially consider the symbol

$$u_{\mathrm{SO}_{2p+1}} = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 < \cdots < \lambda_a \\ \mu_1 < \cdots < \mu_b \end{pmatrix}$$

and write  $u^{HD}$  for the product of the remaining factors  $\bigotimes_{i=1}^r u_{U_{j_i}^+} \otimes \bigotimes_{i=1}^t u_{U_{k_i}^-} \otimes u_{\text{SO}_{2\ell}^\pm}$ . Switch the symbol rows so that the defect  $a - b$  is  $1 \pmod 4$  (which is possible since this symbol has odd defect). Let us write

$$m'_\rho = m - N + \frac{a + b - 1}{2}.$$

Then, if  $\beta = +$ , if  $\mu_b < m'_\rho$ , putting

$$\psi(u) = \widetilde{u_{HD}} \otimes \left( \begin{array}{c} \lambda_1 < \cdots < \lambda_a \\ \mu_1 < \cdots < \mu_b < m'_\rho \end{array} \right)$$

gives a unipotent representation of the group  $H \times \text{SO}_{2(N-m+p)}^+(\mathbb{F}_q) = (Z_{\text{SO}_{2m}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)}(\psi(s)))^D$ . Similarly, if  $\beta = -$ , if  $\lambda_a < m'_\rho$ , putting

$$\psi(u) = \widetilde{u_{HD}} \otimes \left( \begin{array}{c} \lambda_1 < \cdots < \lambda_a < m'_\rho \\ \mu_1 < \cdots < \mu_b \end{array} \right)$$

gives a unipotent representation of the group  $H \times \text{SO}_{2(N-m+p)}^-(\mathbb{F}_q) = (Z_{\text{SO}_{2m}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)}(\psi(s)))^D$ .

Now for the extension data, in the stable range  $\psi(s)$  always has 1 eigenvalues and has the same multiplicity of  $-1$  eigenvalues as the input semisimple element  $s$ . First, we put the sign corresponding to the 1 eigenvalues always to be  $+1$  (when  $(\text{Sp}(V), \text{O}(W, B))$  lies in the stable range). When  $\psi(s)$  has  $-1$  eigenvalues, we take the sign data to match the central sign data of the input  $\text{Sp}(V)$ -Lusztig classification data.

**Definition 10.** *Suppose we are given the above notation. We put*

$$(45) \quad \psi_V^{W,B}(r^{\text{Sp}(V)}[(s), u]) := r^{O(W,B)}[(\psi(s)), \psi(u)]^{(+1)}$$

(where the single piece of extension sign data corresponds to 1 eigenvalues of  $\psi(s)$ ) and

$$(46) \quad \psi_V^{W,B}(r^{\text{Sp}(V)}[(s), u, \pm 1]) := r^{O(W,B)}[(\psi(s)), \psi(u)]^{(+1, \pm 1)}.$$

#### 4. A COMBINATORIAL IDENTITY

Now recalling [12], a key step in decomposition the restriction of an oscillator representation  $\omega[V \otimes W]$  to  $\text{Sp}(V) \times \text{O}(W, B)$  is to separate off its “top part,” which specifically singles out summands arising from the eta or zeta correspondence with source corresponding to the appropriate full-rank orthogonal or symplectic group, respectively. In the symplectic stable range, we write

$$\omega[V \otimes W]^{\text{top}} := \bigoplus_{\rho \in \text{O}(W,B)} \eta_{W,B}^V(\rho) \otimes \rho,$$

and call it the *top part* of  $\omega[V \otimes W]$ . Similarly, in the orthogonal stable range, we write

$$\omega[V \otimes W]^{\text{top}'} := \bigoplus_{\rho \in \widehat{O(W, B)}} \rho \otimes \zeta_V^{W, B}(\rho),$$

and call it the *top part* of  $\omega[V \otimes W]$ .

From here, the proof of Theorem 2 separates into two key steps: A combinatorial verification that the dimension of the direct sum of matches the dimension of the top part of  $\omega[V \otimes W]$ , and an inductive argument showing that the claimed correspondence in Theorem 2 is the only possible one. The first step is the goal of this section.

**Theorem 11.** *If  $(Sp(V), O(W, B))$  is in the symplectic stable range, the dimension of the top part of the restriction of  $\omega[V \otimes W]$  matches the sum of products of the dimensions of irreducible representations of  $O(W, B)$  and their  $\psi_{W, B}^V$  correspondences:*

$$(47) \quad \dim(\omega[V \otimes W]^{\text{top}}) = \sum_{\rho \in \widehat{O(W, B)}} \dim(\rho) \cdot \dim(\phi_{W, B}^V(\rho)).$$

*Similarly, if  $(Sp(V), O(W, B))$  is in the orthogonal stable range, the dimension of the top part of the restriction of  $\omega[V \otimes W]$  matches the sum of products of the dimensions of irreducible representations of  $Sp(V)$  and their  $\phi_V^{W, B}$  correspondences:*

$$(48) \quad \dim(\omega[V \otimes W]^{\text{top}'}) = \sum_{\rho \in \widehat{Sp(V)}} \dim(\rho) \cdot \dim(\psi_V^{W, B}(\rho)).$$

**4.1. The dimension of the top part of the oscillator representation.** First, we need a more explicit formula for the left hand side of (47):

**Proposition 12.** *Consider symplectic and orthogonal spaces  $V$  and  $(W, B)$  whose dimensions are in the symplectic stable range. Writing  $\dim(V) = 2N$  and  $\dim(W) = 2m + 1$ , the dimension of the top part of the restriction of  $\omega[V \otimes W]$  is*

$$(49) \quad \sum_{i=0}^m (-1)^{m-i} q^{\binom{m-i}{2}} \binom{m}{i}_q \prod_{k=i+1}^m (q^k + 1) q^{(2i+1)N}$$

*Proof.* Write, for  $j < i$

$$(50) \quad C_{i,j} := -\binom{i}{j}_q \prod_{k=j+1}^i (q^k + 1) = \frac{(q^{2i} - 1)(q^{2(i-1)} - 1) \dots (q^{2(j+1)} - 1)}{(q^{i-j} - 1)(q^{i-j-1} - 1) \dots (q - 1)}$$

Let  $X_m$  denote the dimension of the top part  $\omega[V \otimes W]^{\text{top}}$ , where  $W$  is a  $2m + 1$ -dimensional  $\mathbb{F}_q$ -space. Taking the dimension of (3) then gives the recursive equation

$$(51) \quad X_m = q^{(2m+1)N} + \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} C_{m,i} X_i.$$

Our goal to prove (49) is to re-express the right-hand side of (51) in terms of a sum of  $q^{(2i+1)N}$  for  $0 \leq i \leq m$  some lower coefficient. Now, iteratively applying (51), we find that

$$X_m = \sum_{i=0}^m \left( \sum_{i=\ell_1 < \dots < \ell_j = m} \prod_{k=1}^{j-1} C_{\ell_{k+1}, \ell_k} \right) q^{(2i+1)N}.$$

It suffices to prove

$$(52) \quad \sum_{i=\ell_1 < \dots < \ell_j = m} \prod_{k=1}^{j-1} C_{\ell_{k+1}, \ell_k} = C_{m,i} q^{\binom{i}{2}}.$$

Using (50), each term  $\prod_{k=1}^{j-1} C_{\ell_{k+1}, \ell_k}$  where  $i = \ell_1 < \dots < \ell_j = m$ , factors as

$$\frac{(q^{2m} - 1)(q^{2(m-1)} - 1) \dots (q^{2(m-i+1)} - 1)}{\prod_{k=1}^{j-1} \prod_{r=1}^{\ell_{k+1} - \ell_k} (q^r - 1)},$$

which can be simplified as

$$C_{m,i} \frac{(q^{m-i} - 1)(q^{m-i-1} - 1) \dots (q - 1)}{\prod_{k=1}^{j-1} \prod_{r=1}^{\ell_{k+1} - \ell_k} (q^r - 1)},$$

reducing the claim to

$$(53) \quad q^{\binom{m-i}{2}} = \sum_{i=\ell_1 < \dots < \ell_j = m} \frac{(q^{m-i} - 1)(q^{m-i-1} - 1) \dots (q - 1)}{\prod_{k=1}^{j-1} \prod_{r=1}^{\ell_{k+1} - \ell_k} (q^r - 1)}.$$

The right-hand side of (53) can also be written as

$$\sum_{0=\ell'_1 < \dots < \ell'_j = m-i} \binom{\ell'_j}{\ell'_{j-1}}_q \binom{\ell'_{j-1}}{\ell'_{j-2}}_q \cdots \binom{\ell'_2}{\ell'_1}_q,$$

by substituting  $\ell'_j = \ell_j - i$ , so (53) follows from a  $q$ -version of the multinomial theorem.  $\square$

We re-write (49) again as follows, to separate it into terms which correspond to levels of singularity of semisimple elements (more specifically, the multiplicity of eigenvalue  $-1$ ) in the classification of irreducible representations of  $\mathrm{SO}_{2m+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ :

**Proposition 13.** *The top dimension of  $\omega[V \otimes W]^{top}$  is*

$$(54) \quad \sum_{\ell=0}^m (-1)^\ell q^{N+(m-\ell)(m-\ell-1)+\ell^2} \binom{m}{\ell}_{q^2} \prod_{j=0}^{m-\ell-1} (q^{2(N-i)} - 1).$$

*Proof.* Substituting  $i = m - \ell$ , (49) can be re-written as

$$(55) \quad \sum_{\ell=0}^m (-1)^\ell q^{\binom{\ell}{2}} \binom{m}{\ell}_{q^2} \left( \prod_{j=1}^{\ell} (q^j + 1) \right) q^{(2(m-\ell)+1)+N}.$$

Now in (54), using

$$(m - \ell - 1)(m - \ell) = \sum_{j=0}^{m-\ell-1} 2k,$$

we have

$$q^{(m-\ell-1)(m-\ell)} \prod_{j=0}^{m-\ell-1} (q^{2(N-i)} - 1) = \prod_{j=0}^{m-\ell-1} (q^{2N} - q^{2i}).$$

Hence, (54) reduces to

$$\sum_{\ell=0}^m (-1)^\ell q^{N+\ell^2} \binom{m}{\ell}_{q^2} \prod_{i=0}^{m-\ell-1} (q^{2N} - q^{2i}).$$

Finally, at each  $\ell$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \prod_{i=0}^{m-\ell-1} (q^{2N} - q^{2i}) &= \sum_{j=0}^{m-\ell} q^{2Nj} \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_{m-\ell-j} \leq m-\ell-1} q^{2(i_1 + \dots + i_{m-\ell-j})} = \\ &= \sum_{j=0}^{m-\ell} q^{2Nj} \binom{m-\ell}{j}_{q^2}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the coefficient of  $q^{(2(m-\ell)+1)N}$  in (55) for each  $\ell$  is

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\ell} (-1)^k q^{k^2} \binom{m}{m-k}_{q^2} \binom{m-k}{m-\ell}_{q^2}$$

(identifying  $\binom{m}{k}_{q^2}$  with  $\binom{m}{m-k}_{q^2}$ ). Hence, the claim reduces to verifying that

$$(56) \quad \sum_{k=0}^{\ell} (-1)^k q^{k^2} \binom{m}{m-k}_{q^2} \binom{m-k}{m-\ell}_{q^2} =$$

$$q^{\binom{\ell}{2}} \binom{m}{m-\ell}_{q^2} \prod_{j=1}^{\ell} (q^j + 1)$$

Further, we have

$$\binom{m}{m-k}_{q^2} \binom{m-k}{m-\ell}_{q^2} = \binom{m}{m-\ell}_{q^2} \binom{\ell}{\ell-k}_{q^2} = \binom{m}{m-\ell}_{q^2} \binom{\ell}{k}_{q^2},$$

reducing (56) again to a  $q$ -multinomial theorem.  $\square$

The purpose of re-writing the dimension of the top part of  $\omega[V \otimes W]$  as (54) is because, for each  $\ell$ , the prime to  $q$  part of the  $\ell$ th term of (54) is

$$(57) \quad \binom{m}{\ell}_{q^2} \prod_{i=0}^{m-\ell-1} (q^{2(N-i)} - 1) =$$

$$\frac{|\mathrm{Sp}_{2m}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'} \cdot |\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}}{|\mathrm{Sp}_{2(m-\ell)}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'} \cdot |\mathrm{Sp}_{2\ell}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'} \cdot |\mathrm{Sp}_{2(N-m-\ell)}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}}.$$

We use Proposition 13 to conclude (47) by approximating the right hand recursively by considering terms  $\dim(\pi)\dim(\phi_{W,B}(\pi))$  separately for  $\pi \in \widehat{O(W, B)}$  arising from a conjugacy class of a semisimple element of the dual group  $\mathrm{Sp}_{2m}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ , which is singular of type  $(m-\ell, \ell)$  (i.e. has  $-1$  as an eigenvalue with multiplicity  $2\ell$ ), using the elementary fact that the sum of the squares of the dimensions of all irreducible representations of a group  $G$  recover its group order. This gives that the “level  $\ell$ ” approximation of the right hand side of (47) (which counts correctly the terms from  $\pi$  arising from conjugacy classes of semisimple elements  $\mathrm{Sp}_{2m}(\mathbb{F}_q)$  with eigenvalue  $-1$  of multiplicity less than or equal to  $2\ell$ , and miss-counts the terms from  $\pi$  arising from conjugacy classes with eigenvalue  $-1$  of multiplicity more than  $2\ell$ ) is the sum of the first  $\ell$  terms of (54).

More formally:

*Proof of Theorem 11.* Suppose  $W$  is an  $\mathbb{F}_q$ -vector space of dimension  $2m+1$  with symmetric bilinear form  $B$ . First, consider irreducible representations  $\pi \in \widehat{O(W, B)}$  whose restrictions  $\text{Res}_{\text{SO}(W, B)}(\pi)$  to  $\text{SO}(W, B)$  correspond to a conjugacy class of a semisimple element  $s \in \text{Sp}_{2m}(\mathbb{F}_q)$  where  $-1$  is not an eigenvalue. Call such irreducible representations of  $\widehat{\text{SO}(W, B)}$  the “level 0” representations of  $\widehat{\text{SO}(W, B)}$ . For each such  $\pi' \in \widehat{\text{SO}(W, B)}$ , say with Lusztig classification given by the Jordan decomposition  $((s), u)$ , the centralizer of  $s$  first must be of the form

$$Z_{\text{Sp}_{2m}(\mathbb{F}_q)}(s) = \prod_{i=1}^r U_{j_i}^+(\mathbb{F}_q) \times \prod_{i=1}^t U_{k_i}^-(\mathbb{F}_q) \times \text{Sp}_{2p}(\mathbb{F}_q)$$

for  $\sum_{i=1}^r j_i + \sum_{i=1}^t k_i + p = m$  (where  $s$  has 1 as an eigenvalue with multiplicity  $2p$ ), with the unipotent representation  $u$  then consisting of the data of unipotent representations of  $U_{j_i}^+(\mathbb{F}_q)$ ,  $U_{k_i}^-(\mathbb{F}_q)$ , and a symbol of rank  $p$  and type  $C$ . Then,

$$\begin{aligned} & Z_{\text{SO}_{2N+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)}(s \oplus \sigma_{N-m}^\pm) = \\ & \prod_{i=1}^r U_{j_i}^+(\mathbb{F}_q) \times \prod_{i=1}^t U_{k_i}^-(\mathbb{F}_q) \times \text{SO}_{2p+1}(\mathbb{F}_q) \times \text{SO}_{2(N-m)}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q) \end{aligned}$$

wich has order

$$|Z_{\text{SO}_{2N+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)}(s \oplus \sigma_{N-m}^\pm)| = |Z_{\text{Sp}_{2m}(\mathbb{F}_q)}(s)| \cdot |\text{SO}_{2(N-m)}^{\pm \text{disc}(B)}(\mathbb{F}_q)|.$$

For both choices, the dimension of  $\widehat{\phi_{W, B}}(u)$  is equal to the dimension of  $u$ . Hence, for every  $\pi' \in \widehat{\text{SO}(W, B)}$ , the sum of dimensions  $\dim(\phi_{W, B}(\pi \otimes 1)) + \dim(\phi_{W, B}(\pi \otimes -1))$  is equal to the dimension of  $\pi$ , multiplied by

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{|\text{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}}{2|\text{SO}_{2(N-m)}^+(\mathbb{F}_q) \times \text{Sp}_{2m}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}} + \frac{|\text{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}}{2|\text{SO}_{2(N-m)}^-(\mathbb{F}_q) \times \text{Sp}_{2m}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}} = \\ & \frac{1}{|\text{Sp}_{2m}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}} q^{N-m} \prod_{i=0}^{m-1} (q^{2(N-i)} - 1) \end{aligned}$$

Hence, since the dimensions of the  $O(W, B)$  representations  $\pi \otimes 1$  and  $\pi \otimes -1$  are equal to  $\dim(\pi)$ , the sum of the two terms

$$(58) \quad \dim(\pi' \otimes 1) \dim(\phi_{W,B}(\pi' \otimes 1)) + \dim(\pi' \otimes -1) \dim(\phi_{W,B}(\pi' \otimes -1)) =$$

$$\frac{\dim(\pi')^2}{|\mathrm{Sp}_{2m}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}} q^{N-m} \prod_{i=0}^{m-1} (q^{2(N-i)} - 1)$$

If all representations  $\pi' \in \widehat{\mathrm{SO}(W, B)}$  satisfied (58), then the right hand side of (47) would equal

$$(59) \quad \frac{|\mathrm{SO}(W, B)|}{|\mathrm{Sp}_{2m}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}} q^{N-m} \prod_{i=0}^{m-1} (q^{2(N-i)} - 1) =$$

$$q^{N-m(m-1)} \prod_{i=0}^{m-1} (q^{2(N-i)} - 1)$$

(recalling that  $|\mathrm{SO}(W, B)| = |\mathrm{Sp}_{2m}(\mathbb{F}_q)|$ , with  $q$ -part equal to  $q^{m^2}$ ).

We call (59) the *level 0 approximation* of (47). Note that it is precisely equal to the 0th term of (47). The remainder of the argument consists of considering the ranges of irreducible representations arising from semisimple elements one  $\ell$  at a time (from  $\ell = 1$  to  $\ell = m$ ). We must compute that adding the  $\ell$ th term of (54) cancels the “level  $\ell$ -error,” arising from miscounting the terms (47) for  $\pi'$  arising from  $(s)$  with exactly  $2\ell$  in the level  $(\ell - 1)$ -approximation of (47) (though it may create more error at higher levels), so that we can take the sum

$$\sum_{i=0}^{\ell} (-1)^i q^{N+(m-i)(m-i-1)+i^2} \binom{m}{\ell}_{q^2} \prod_{j=0}^{m-i-1} (q^{2(N-j)} - 1)$$

to be the *level  $\ell$  approximation* of (47).

We may therefore prove Theorem 11 inductively by verifying that for every  $\ell$ , the level  $\ell$ -approximation is equal to the sum of the 0th to  $\ell$ th terms of (54), up to an error of terms with  $N$ -degree less than or equal to  $2(m - \ell) + 1$ .

**Lemma 14.** *Fix a symbol  $(\lambda_1 < \dots < \lambda_a)$  of rank  $\ell$ , type  $C$ , and write  $c = (a + b - 1)/2$ . Choosing the sign of  $\mathrm{SO}_{2N}^{\pm}(\mathbb{F}_q)$  in the denominator according to matching the defect of the written symbols with the*

appropriate groups (depending on  $a - b \pmod{4}$ ), then the sum

$$(60) \quad \frac{|Sp_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}}{|SO_{2N}^{\pm}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}} \dim\left(\begin{array}{c} \lambda_1 < \cdots < \lambda_a \\ \mu_1 < \cdots < \mu_b < N - \ell + c \end{array}\right) +$$

$$\frac{|Sp_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}}{|SO_{2N}^{\mp}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}} \dim\left(\begin{array}{c} \lambda_1 < \cdots < \lambda_a < N - \ell + c \\ \mu_1 < \cdots < \mu_b \end{array}\right)$$

is the product

$$(61) \quad \left( \frac{|Sp_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}}{|SO_{2\ell+1}(\mathbb{F}_q) \times SO_{2(N-\ell)}^+(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}} + \frac{|Sp_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}}{|SO_{2\ell+1}(\mathbb{F}_q) \times SO_{2(N-\ell)}^-(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}} \right) \cdot$$

$$\dim\left(\begin{array}{c} \lambda_1 < \cdots < \lambda_a \\ \mu_1 < \cdots < \mu_b \end{array}\right),$$

up to an error term equal to (61), multiplied again by  $\dim\left(\begin{array}{c} \lambda_1 < \cdots < \lambda_a \\ \mu_1 < \cdots < \mu_b \end{array}\right)$  and the factor

$$q^{N-(m-\ell)(m-\ell-1)} \frac{|Sp_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}}{|Sp_{2(N-m+\ell)}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}} \frac{|SO_{2m+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}}{|SO_{2\ell+1}(\mathbb{F}_q) \times SO_{2(m-\ell)+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}}$$

*Proof.* Suppose, without loss of generality,  $a - b$  is 1 mod 4. Recalling how to compute the dimensions of symbols, we have that

$$\frac{\dim\left(\begin{array}{c} \lambda_1 < \cdots < \lambda_a \\ \mu_1 < \cdots < \mu_b < N - \ell + c \end{array}\right)}{q^{\binom{a+b-1}{2} + \binom{a+b-3}{2} + \binom{a+b-5}{2} + \cdots} \cdot |SO_{2N}^+(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}} =$$

$$\frac{\dim\left(\begin{array}{c} \lambda_1 < \cdots < \lambda_a \\ \mu_1 < \cdots < \mu_b \end{array}\right) \prod_{i=1}^a (q^{N-\ell+c} + q^{\lambda_i}) \prod_{i=1}^b (q^{N-\ell+c} - q^{\mu_i})}{q^{\binom{a+b-2}{2} + \binom{a+b-4}{2} + \binom{a+b-6}{2} + \cdots} \cdot |SO_{2\ell+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'} \prod_{i=1}^{N-\ell+c} (q^{2i} - 1)}$$

and, similarly,

$$\frac{\dim\left(\begin{array}{c} \lambda_1 < \cdots < \lambda_a < N - \ell + c \\ \mu_1 < \cdots < \mu_b \end{array}\right)}{q^{\binom{a+b-1}{2} + \binom{a+b-3}{2} + \binom{a+b-5}{2} + \cdots} \cdot |\mathrm{SO}_{2N}^-(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}} =$$

$$\frac{\dim\left(\begin{array}{c} \lambda_1 < \cdots < \lambda_a \\ \mu_1 < \cdots < \mu_b \end{array}\right) \prod_{i=1}^a (q^{N-\ell+c} - q^{\lambda_i}) \prod_{i=1}^b (q^{N-\ell+c} + q^{\mu_i})}{q^{\binom{a+b-2}{2} + \binom{a+b-4}{2} + \binom{a+b-6}{2} + \cdots} \cdot |\mathrm{SO}_{2\ell+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'} \prod_{i=1}^{N-\ell+c} (q^{2i} - 1)}.$$

Summing the terms (60) then gives a product of the coefficient

$$\frac{|\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}}{|\mathrm{SO}_{2\ell+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'} \prod_{i=1}^{N-\ell+c} (q^{2i} - 1)} \dim\left(\begin{array}{c} \lambda_1 < \cdots < \lambda_a \\ \mu_1 < \cdots < \mu_b \end{array}\right),$$

with the factor

$$\frac{q^{\binom{a+b-2}{2} + \binom{a+b-4}{2} + \binom{a+b-6}{2} + \cdots}}{q^{\binom{a+b-1}{2} + \binom{a+b-3}{2} + \binom{a+b-5}{2} + \cdots}} = \frac{1}{q^{\sum_{i=0}^{c-1} (2(c-i)-1)}} = \frac{1}{q^{c^2}},$$

with the sum

$$(62) \quad \prod_{i=1}^a (q^{N-\ell+c} - q^{\lambda_i}) \prod_{i=1}^b (q^{N-\ell+c} + q^{\mu_i}) +$$

$$\prod_{i=1}^a (q^{N-\ell+c} + q^{\lambda_i}) \prod_{i=1}^b (q^{N-\ell+c} - q^{\mu_i}).$$

Since the defect  $a - b$  is odd, when multiplying out the factors (62) as a sum of powers of  $q^{N-\ell+c}$  (with lesser coefficients, not involving  $N$ ), we find that only odd powers  $q^{(2k+1)(N-\ell+c)}$  have non-zero coefficient (for  $k = 0, \dots, c$ ). Explicitly, it is

$$2q^{N-\ell+c} \left( \sum_{k=0}^c q^{2k(N-\ell+c)} \cdot \sum (-1)^r q^{\sum_{s=1}^r \lambda_{i_s} + \sum_{s=1}^{2(c-k)-r} \mu_{j_s}} \right)$$

where the second sum runs over all choices of  $r$  and  $1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_r \leq a$ ,  $1 \leq j_1 < \dots < j_{2(c-k)-r} \leq b$ . Consider

$$2q^{N-\ell+c} = q^c((q^{N-\ell} - 1) + (q^{N-\ell} + 1)) =$$

$$q^c \left( \frac{|\mathrm{Sp}_{2(N-\ell)}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}}{|\mathrm{SO}_{2(N-\ell)}^+(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}} + \frac{|\mathrm{Sp}_{2(N-\ell)}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}}{|\mathrm{SO}_{2(N-\ell)}^-(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}} \right).$$

Redistributing terms, this can be re-expressed as the product of

$$\left( \frac{|\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}}{|\mathrm{SO}_{2\ell+1}(\mathbb{F}_q) \times \mathrm{SO}_{2(N-\ell)}^+(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}} + \frac{|\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}}{|\mathrm{SO}_{2\ell+1}(\mathbb{F}_q) \times \mathrm{SO}_{2(N-\ell)}^-(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}} \right).$$

$$\dim \left( \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 < \dots < \lambda_a \\ \mu_1 < \dots < \mu_b \end{pmatrix} \right)$$

with the fraction

$$(63) \quad \frac{q^c \cdot \sum_{k=0}^c q^{2k(N-\ell+c)} \cdot \sum (-1)^r q^{\sum_{s=1}^r \lambda_{i_s} + \sum_{s=1}^{2(c-k)-r} \mu_{j_s}}}{q^{c^2} \cdot \prod_{i=1}^c (q^{2(N-\ell+i)} - 1)} =$$

$$\frac{\sum_{k=0}^c q^{2k(N-\ell+c)} \cdot \sum (-1)^r q^{\sum_{s=1}^r \lambda_{i_s} + \sum_{s=1}^{2(c-k)-r} \mu_{j_s}}}{\prod_{i=0}^{c-1} (q^{2(N-\ell+c)} - q^{2i})}.$$

In particular, the top degree of  $q$  in both the numerator and denominator of (63) is  $2c(N-\ell+c)$ . Finally, therefore (63) reduces as 1 (contributing the claimed main term), summed with

$$\frac{\sum_{k=0}^{c-1} q^{2k(N-\ell+c)} \cdot \left( \sum (-1)^r q^{\sum_{s=1}^r \lambda_{i_s} + \sum_{s=1}^{2(c-k)-r} \mu_{j_s}} - \binom{c}{k}_{q^2} \right)}{\prod_{i=0}^{c-1} (q^{2(N-\ell+c)} - q^{2i})},$$

recalling

$$\sum_{0 \leq \ell_1 < \dots < \ell_{c-k} \leq c-1} q^{2(\ell_1 + \dots + \ell_{c-k})} = \binom{c}{k}_{q^2}.$$

□

The previous terms arise from spillover from previous levels  $\ell'$  corresponding to representations arising from semisimple elements at stage  $\ell'$  with  $-1$  an eigenvalue of multiplicity  $2(\ell - \ell')$ . Again, summing obtains a full sum of squares of representations of  $\mathrm{Sp}_{2(N-(m-\ell))}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ .

Summing these error terms then gives

$$\begin{aligned} & (-1)^\ell \frac{|\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}}{|\mathrm{Sp}_{2(N-m+\ell)}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}} \frac{|\mathrm{Sp}_{2m}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}}{|\mathrm{Sp}_{2\ell}(\mathbb{F}_q) \times \mathrm{Sp}_{2(m-\ell)}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}} \\ & \frac{|\mathrm{Sp}_{2(m-\ell)}(\mathbb{F}_q)|}{|\mathrm{Sp}_{2(m-\ell)}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}} q^{N-(m-\ell)} \frac{|\mathrm{Sp}_{2\ell}(\mathbb{F}_q)|}{|\mathrm{Sp}_{2\ell}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}} \end{aligned}$$

which equals the  $\ell$ th term of (54).  $\square$

**4.2. Modifications for even-dimensional orthogonal spaces.** In the two cases of  $W$  with even dimension  $\dim(W) = 2m$ , similar arguments for Theorem 11 apply, with the following modifications:

**Case 1:  $B$  is totally split** In this case, the orders of the parabolic quotients of  $\mathrm{O}(W, B) = \mathrm{O}_{2m}^+(\mathbb{F}_q)$  are

$$|\mathrm{O}_{2m}^+(\mathbb{F}_q)/P_{B,k}| = \binom{m}{k}_q \cdot \prod_{j=m-k}^{m-1} (q^j + 1)$$

for  $k = 0, \dots, m$ , again writing  $P_{B,k}$  for the parabolic subgroup of  $\mathrm{O}(W, B)$  with Levi subgroup  $\mathrm{O}_{2(m-k)}^+(\mathbb{F}_q) \times \mathrm{GL}_k(\mathbb{F}_q)$ . Again, the dimension can be directly computed by taking the dimension of (3) and recursively computing. The analogue of (49) then is

$$\begin{aligned} & \dim(\omega[V \otimes W]^{\mathrm{top}}) = \\ & \sum_{i=0}^m (-1)^{m-i} q^{\binom{m-i}{2}} \binom{m}{i}_q \cdot \prod_{j=i}^{m-1} (q^j + 1) \cdot q^{2iN} \end{aligned}$$

The second step of processing the dimension of the top part of the oscillator representation, analogous to Proposition 13, is

(64)

$$\begin{aligned} & \dim(\omega[V \otimes W]^{\mathrm{top}}) = \\ & \sum_{\ell=0}^m (-1)^\ell q^{\ell(\ell-1) + (m-\ell)(m-\ell-1)} \binom{m}{\ell}_q \frac{(q^{m-\ell} + q^\ell)}{q^2 (q^m + 1)} \prod_{j=0}^{m-\ell-1} (q^{2(N-j)} - 1). \end{aligned}$$

The significance of the coefficients in (64) (similar to (57)) is that for each  $\ell$ ,

$$\binom{m}{\ell}_{q^2} \frac{(q^{m-\ell} + q^\ell)}{(q^m + 1)} \prod_{i=0}^{m-\ell-1} (q^{2(N-j)} - 1) =$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{|\mathrm{SO}_{2m}^+(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'} \cdot |\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}}{|\mathrm{SO}_{2\ell}^+(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'} \cdot |\mathrm{SO}_{2(m-\ell)}^+(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'} \cdot |\mathrm{Sp}_{2(N-m+\ell)}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}} - \right.$$

$$\left. \frac{|\mathrm{SO}_{2m}^+(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'} \cdot |\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}}{|\mathrm{SO}_{2\ell}^-(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'} \cdot |\mathrm{SO}_{2(m-\ell)}^-(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'} \cdot |\mathrm{Sp}_{2(N-m+\ell)}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}} \right).$$

**Case 2:  $B$  is not totally split.** In this case, the order of the parabolic quotients of  $\mathrm{O}(W, B) = \mathrm{O}_{2m}^-(\mathbb{F}_q)$  are

$$|\mathrm{O}_{2m}^-(\mathbb{F}_q)/P_{B,k}| = \binom{m-1}{k}_q \cdot \prod_{j=m-k+1}^m (q^j + 1),$$

for  $k = 0, \dots, m-1$ , again writing  $P_{B,k}$  for the parabolic subgroup of  $\mathrm{O}(W, B)$  with Levi subgroup  $\mathrm{O}_{2(m-k)}^-(\mathbb{F}_q) \times \mathrm{GL}_k(\mathbb{F}_q)$ . The analogue of (49) then is

$$\dim(\omega[V \otimes W]^{top}) =$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^m (-1)^{m-i} q^{\binom{m-i}{2}} \binom{m-1}{i}_q \cdot \prod_{j=i+1}^m (q^j + 1) \cdot q^{2iN}$$

Then the second step re-expresses (54) as (65)

$$\dim(\omega[V \otimes W]^{top}) =$$

$$\sum_{\ell=0}^{m-1} (-1)^\ell q^{\ell(\ell-1) + (m-\ell)(m-\ell-1)} \binom{m}{\ell}_{q^2} \frac{(q^{m-\ell} - q^\ell)}{(q^m - 1)} \prod_{j=0}^{m-\ell-1} (q^{2(N-j)} - 1)$$

Similarly as in the non-split case, the  $\ell$ th factor of (65) can be interpreted by

$$\binom{m}{\ell}_{q^2} \frac{(q^{m-\ell} - q^\ell)}{(q^m - 1)} \prod_{i=0}^{m-\ell-1} (q^{2(N-j)} - 1) =$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{|\mathrm{SO}_{2m}^-(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'} \cdot |\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}}{|\mathrm{SO}_{2(m-\ell)}^-(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'} \cdot |\mathrm{SO}_{2\ell}^+(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'} \cdot |\mathrm{Sp}_{2(N-m+\ell)}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}} - \right.$$

$$\left. \frac{|\mathrm{SO}_{2m}^-(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'} \cdot |\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}}{|\mathrm{SO}_{2(m-\ell)}^+(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'} \cdot |\mathrm{SO}_{2\ell}^-(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'} \cdot |\mathrm{Sp}_{2(N-m+\ell)}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}} \right).$$

**4.3. The case of the odd orthogonal stable range.** The same argument as in the previous subsections also work for a choice of reductive dual pair  $(\mathrm{Sp}(V), \mathrm{O}(W, B))$  in the orthogonal stable range. The same calculation as in Proposition 12 also holds in this case.

**Proposition 15.** *Consider symplectic and orthogonal spaces  $V$  and  $(W, B)$  whose dimensions are in the orthogonal stable range. The dimension of the top part of  $\omega[V \otimes W]$  is*

$$\dim(\omega[V \otimes W]^{top}) =$$

$$\sum_{i=0}^N (-1)^{N-i} \cdot q^{\binom{N-i}{2}} \cdot \binom{N}{i}_q \cdot \prod_{j=i+1}^N (q^j + 1) \cdot q^{i \cdot \dim(W)}.$$

(Note again that nothing in the statement or proof of Proposition 15 uses the parity of the dimension of  $W$ .)

Again, we process this further:

**Proposition 16.** *Consider symplectic and orthogonal spaces  $V$  and  $(W, B)$  The dimension of the top part of the oscillator representation  $\omega[V \otimes W]^{top}$  is*

$$\dim(\omega[V \otimes W]^{top}) =$$

$$(66) \quad \sum_{\ell=0}^N (-1)^\ell \cdot q^{(N-\ell)^2 + \ell(\ell-1)} \cdot \binom{N}{\ell}_{q^2} \cdot \prod_{i=0}^{N-\ell-1} (q^{2(m-i)} - 1).$$

Denote the  $\ell$ th term of (66) by

$$(67) \quad X_\ell(N, m) := (-1)^\ell \cdot q^{(N-\ell)^2 + \ell(\ell-1)} \cdot \binom{N}{\ell}_{q^2} \cdot \prod_{i=0}^{N-\ell-1} (q^{2(m-i)} - 1).$$

In particular, note that

$$(68) \quad X_\ell(\ell, m) = (-1)^\ell \cdot q^{\ell(\ell-1)}$$

does not depend on  $m$ . Recalling that, for any rank  $r$ , the order of the symplectic and odd special orthogonal group is

$$|\mathrm{Sp}_{2r}(\mathbb{F}_q)| = |\mathrm{SO}_{2r+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)| = q^{r^2} \prod_{i=1}^r (q^{2i} - 1),$$

we in fact find that

$$(69) \quad q^{(N-\ell)^2} \cdot \binom{N}{\ell}_{q^2} \cdot \prod_{i=0}^{N-\ell-1} (q^{2(m-i)} - 1) = |\mathrm{Sp}_{2(N-\ell)}(\mathbb{F}_q)| \cdot$$

$$\frac{|\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}}{|\mathrm{Sp}_{2(N-\ell)}(\mathbb{F}_q) \times \mathrm{Sp}_{2\ell}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}} \cdot \frac{|\mathrm{SO}_{2m+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}}{|\mathrm{SO}_{2(m-N+\ell)+1}(\mathbb{F}_q) \times \mathrm{SO}_{2(N-\ell)+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}}.$$

In particular, using (68), we find that

$$(70) \quad X_\ell(N, m) = X_\ell(\ell, m - N + \ell) \cdot |\mathrm{Sp}_{2(N-\ell)}(\mathbb{F}_q)| \cdot$$

$$\frac{|\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}}{|\mathrm{Sp}_{2(N-\ell)}(\mathbb{F}_q) \times \mathrm{Sp}_{2\ell}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}} \cdot \frac{|\mathrm{SO}_{2m+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}}{|\mathrm{SO}_{2(m-N+\ell)+1}(\mathbb{F}_q) \times \mathrm{SO}_{2(N-\ell)+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}}.$$

It remains to produce the terms  $X_\ell(N, m)$  from the summands on the right hand side of (48).

We will recursively compute

$$(71) \quad \sum_{\rho \in \widehat{\mathrm{Sp}(V)}} \dim(\rho) \cdot \dim(\psi_V^{W,B}(\rho))$$

using a series of  $N$  increasingly accurate approximations. For  $\ell = 0, \dots, N$ , the “level  $\ell$ ” approximation will be equal to

$$X_0(N, m) + X_1(N, m) + \dots + X_\ell(N, m),$$

and will correctly count the terms

$$(72) \quad \dim(\rho) \cdot \dim(\psi_V^{W,B}(\rho))$$

for  $\rho$  with Lusztig data consisting of a conjugacy class of a semisimple element  $s \in \mathrm{SO}_{2N+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$  with eigenvalue  $-1$  occurring with multiplicity less than or equal to  $2\ell$ .

**Definition 17.** *Say a representation  $\rho$  of a finite group of Lie type occurs at level  $\ell$  if the conjugacy class  $(s)$  of a semisimple element in its Lusztig data has eigenvalue  $-1$  with multiplicity  $2\ell$ .*

The level  $\ell$  approximation of (71) will also generate some error terms that must be accounted for in approximations at later levels. At level  $\ell = N$ , we will have used all previous levels' errors, and correctly counted the contribution of every  $\rho \in \widehat{\mathrm{Sp}}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ .

First, we describe the level 0 approximation of (71). Consider irreducible representations  $r^{\mathrm{Sp}(V)}[(s), u]$  where  $s$  is a conjugacy class of a semisimple element with no  $-1$  eigenvalues. We then have

$$(73) \quad Z_{\mathrm{SO}_{2m+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)}(\psi(s)) = (Z_{\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)}(s))^D \times \mathrm{Sp}_{2(m-N)}(\mathbb{F}_q),$$

$\psi(u) = \tilde{u} \otimes 1$  (where  $1$  denotes the trivial representation of  $\mathrm{Sp}_{2(m-N)}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ ). Therefore,

$$(74) \quad \dim(\psi_V^{W,B}(\rho)) = \frac{|\mathrm{Sp}_{2m}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}}{|\mathrm{Sp}_{2(m-N)}(\mathbb{F}_q) \times \mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}} \dim(\rho).$$

We define the level 0 approximation of (71), by imagining that (74) holds for every  $\rho \in \widehat{\mathrm{Sp}}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ , giving

$$\sum_{\rho \in \widehat{\mathrm{Sp}}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)} \frac{|\mathrm{Sp}_{2m}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}}{|\mathrm{Sp}_{2(m-N)}(\mathbb{F}_q) \times \mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}} \dim(\rho)^2.$$

We can see that this is

$$\frac{|\mathrm{Sp}_{2m}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}}{|\mathrm{Sp}_{2(m-N)}(\mathbb{F}_q) \times \mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}} |\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)| = X_N(0, N).$$

The error of the level 0 approximation consists of two kinds of contributions for  $\rho$  occurring at level  $1 \leq \ell \leq N$ : the “true terms” (72), and the negative of the “faked terms added at level 0,” which are precisely

$$(75) \quad - \frac{|\mathrm{Sp}_{2m}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}}{|\mathrm{Sp}_{2(m-N)}(\mathbb{F}_q) \times \mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}} \dim(\rho)^2.$$

Now let us consider the level  $\ell$  approximation for  $1 \leq \ell \leq N$ . For a representation  $r^{\mathrm{Sp}(V)}[s, u, \pm 1]$  occurring at level  $\ell$ , we have

$$Z_{\mathrm{SO}_{2N+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)}(s) = H \times \mathrm{SO}_{2\ell}^{\pm}(\mathbb{F}_q),$$

where we may consider  $H$  as the centralizer of a semisimple element  $s'$ , which is conjugate to the diagonalization of  $s$  restricted away from the  $2\ell$  coordinates with eigenvalues  $-1$ , in  $\mathrm{SO}_{2(N-\ell)+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ :

$$(76) \quad H = Z_{\mathrm{SO}_{2(N-\ell)+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)}(s').$$

The centralizers of semisimple elements of  $\mathrm{SO}_{2(N-\ell)+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$  which appear as (76) are precisely those with no factors of type  $D$  or  ${}^2D$  (since  $s'$  by definition has no  $-1$  eigenvalues). Write a unipotent representation  $u$  of  $H \times \mathrm{SO}_{2\ell}^{\pm}(\mathbb{F}_q)$  as

$$u = u_H \otimes u_{\mathrm{SO}_{2\ell}^{\pm}(\mathbb{F}_q)},$$

for  $u_H \in \widehat{H}_u$ ,  $u_{\mathrm{SO}_{2\ell}^{\pm}(\mathbb{F}_q)} \in \widehat{\mathrm{SO}_{2\ell}^{\pm}(\mathbb{F}_q)}_u$ . Then the sum of the true terms contributed by  $r^{\mathrm{Sp}(V)}[(s), u, +1]$  and  $r^{\mathrm{Sp}(V)}[(s), u, -1]$  is the product of the ‘‘induction factor’’

$$(77) \quad \frac{|\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'} \cdot |\mathrm{Sp}_{2m}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}}{|H \times \mathrm{SO}_{2\ell}^{\pm}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'} \cdot |H \times \mathrm{SO}_{2(m-n+\ell)+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}} \dim(u_H)^2$$

with

$$\frac{\dim(u_{\mathrm{SO}_{2\ell}^{\pm}(\mathbb{F}_q)})}{2} \cdot (\dim(\psi^{+1}(u_{\mathrm{SO}_{2\ell}^{\pm}(\mathbb{F}_q)}) + \psi^{-1}(u_{\mathrm{SO}_{2\ell}^{\pm}(\mathbb{F}_q)})).$$

Now (77) can be re-written as

$$(78) \quad \frac{|\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'} |\mathrm{Sp}_{2m}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}}{|\mathrm{SO}_{2(N-\ell)+1}(\mathbb{F}_q) \times \mathrm{SO}_{2\ell}^{\pm}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'} |\mathrm{SO}_{2(N-\ell)+1}(\mathbb{F}_q) \times \mathrm{SO}_{2(m-N+\ell)+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}} \dim(r^{\mathrm{SO}_{2(N-\ell)+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)}[(s'), u_H])^2,$$

where  $r^{\mathrm{SO}_{2(N-\ell)+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)}[(s'), u_H]$  denotes the irreducible representation of  $\mathrm{SO}_{2(N-\ell)+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$  associated to the  $\mathrm{SO}_{2(N-\ell)+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ -Lusztig classification data of  $[(s'), u_H]$ . We introduce ‘‘faked terms occurring at level  $\ell$ ’’ which consist of a product of (78) with  $X_{\ell}(\ell, N)$ .

Hence, by induction on  $N$ , this reduces (48) to checking the ‘‘highest level’’ of singularity, i.e. find terms matching the  $N$ th term. The ‘‘true’’ new representations obtained at level  $N$  arise from Lusztig data

$$[\sigma_m^{\pm}, \left( \begin{array}{c} \lambda_1 < \cdots < \lambda_a \\ \mu_1 < \cdots < \mu_b \end{array} \right), \pm 1],$$

recalling Definition (5), where  $\left( \begin{array}{c} \lambda_1 < \cdots < \lambda_a \\ \mu_1 < \cdots < \mu_b \end{array} \right)$  denotes a symbol specifying a unipotent representation of  $\mathrm{SO}_{2N}^{\pm}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ .

**Proposition 18.** *The sum of the ‘‘true’’ level  $N$  terms*

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{u \in \widehat{\mathrm{SO}_{2N}^+(\mathbb{F}_q)}_u} \dim(r^{\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)}[\sigma_N^+, u, \pm 1]) \cdot \dim(\psi_V^{W,B}(r^{\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)}[\sigma_N^+, u, \pm 1])) + \\ & \sum_{u \in \widehat{\mathrm{SO}_{2N}^-(\mathbb{F}_q)}_u} \dim(r^{\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)}[\sigma_N^-, u, \pm 1]) \cdot \dim(\psi_V^{W,B}(r^{\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)}[\sigma_N^-, u, \pm 1])) \end{aligned}$$

(where we sum over both central signs where left ambiguous) and every level  $\ell$  error contribution for  $1 \leq \ell \leq N - 1$  to the  $N$ th level

$$(-1)^{\ell+1} \cdot \left( \sum_{u \in \widehat{SO_{2(N-\ell)}^+(\mathbb{F}_q)}_u} \dim(u)^2 + \sum_{u \in \widehat{SO_{2(N-\ell)}^-(\mathbb{F}_q)}_u} \dim(u)^2 \right) \cdot X_N(\ell, m)$$

is equal to

$$X_N(N, m) = q^{N(N-1)}.$$

*Proof.* First, suppose  $(\begin{smallmatrix} \lambda_1 < \dots < \lambda_a \\ \mu_1 < \dots < \mu_b \end{smallmatrix})$  is a non-degenerate symbol of  $SO_{2N}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)$ . Let us write

$$x := N - m + \frac{a+b}{2}$$

Then the sum of dimensions

$$\begin{aligned} & \dim_{SO_{2N+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)} \left( \left( \begin{smallmatrix} \lambda_1 < \dots < \lambda_a < x \\ \mu_1 < \dots < \mu_b \end{smallmatrix} \right) \right) + \\ & \dim_{SO_{2N+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)} \left( \left( \begin{smallmatrix} \lambda_1 < \dots < \lambda_a \\ \mu_1 < \dots < \mu_b < x \end{smallmatrix} \right) \right) \end{aligned}$$

is equal to the product of

$$(79) \quad (q^N \pm 1) \cdot \dim_{SO_{2N}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)} \left( \left( \begin{smallmatrix} \lambda_1 < \dots < \lambda_a \\ \mu_1 < \dots < \mu_b \end{smallmatrix} \right) \right)$$

with the factor

$$(80) \quad \frac{\prod_{i=1}^a (q^x - q^{\lambda_i}) \prod_{j=1}^b (q^x + q^{\mu_j}) + \prod_{i=1}^a (q^x + q^{\lambda_i}) \prod_{j=1}^b (q^x - q^{\mu_j})}{\prod_{i=1}^{(a+b)/2} (q^x - q^i)(q^x + q^i)}.$$

The top  $q$ -degrees of the numerator and denominator of (80) clearly match, and are equal to  $x(a+b)$ , suggesting a cancellation with the corresponding ‘‘level 0’’ error term. Our goal is to re-express the numerator of (80) in terms of the previous levels’ error terms. To do this, we proceed inductively, replacing each error term’s  $X_N(\ell, m)$  factor with the induction hypothesis for  $X_\ell(\ell, m)$ , multiplied by (69). This will give

$$\frac{(-1)^N}{2} \cdot \left( \frac{\sum_{\rho \in \widehat{SO_{2N}^+(\mathbb{F}_q)}} \dim(\rho)^2}{|\widehat{SO_{2N}^+(\mathbb{F}_q)}|_{q'}} + \frac{\sum_{\rho \in \widehat{SO_{2N}^-(\mathbb{F}_q)}} \dim(\rho)^2}{|\widehat{SO_{2N}^-(\mathbb{F}_q)}|_{q'}} \right),$$

which is  $(-1)^N q^{N(N-1)}$  since the  $q$  part of the order of  $|\widehat{SO_{2N}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)}|$  is  $q^{N(N-1)}$ .

□

**4.4. Modifications for even orthogonal groups.** Now consider orthogonal spaces  $W$  of even dimension  $\dim(W) = 2m$ . First, note that there is no distinction in the dimension of the top part depending on whether the symmetric bilinear form on  $W$  is completely split or not. Our replacement for the calculation of the dimension of the top part is

**Proposition 19.** *Suppose  $\dim(W) = 2m$ ,  $\dim(V) = 2N$ . Then*

$$(81) \quad \omega[V \otimes W]^{top} = \sum_{\ell=0}^N q^{\ell^2 + (N-\ell)(N-\ell-1)} \binom{N}{\ell}_{q^2} \cdot \prod_{i=1}^{N-\ell} (q^{2(m-N+\ell+i)} - 1)$$

Write  $Y_\ell(N, m)$  for the  $\ell$ th term of (81), replacing (66).

Let us suppose that the symmetric bilinear form on  $W$  is completely split, i.e.  $O(W, B) = O_{2m}^+(\mathbb{F}_q)$ . (Again the non-split even case follows similarly.) Consider a semisimple element  $s$  of  $SO_{2N+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$  with 1 as an eigenvalue of total multiplicity  $2\ell + 1$ . Then its centralizer is of the form

$$(82) \quad Z_{SO_{2N+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)}(s) = H \times SO_{2\ell+1}(\mathbb{F}_q),$$

for  $H$  now denoting a centralizer of a semisimple element with no 1 eigenvalues in an even special orthogonal group (of either parity)  $SO_{2(N-\ell)}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)$ . Let us write  $H \subseteq SO_{2(N-\ell)}^\epsilon(\mathbb{F}_q)$ . Then

$$(83) \quad Z_{SO_{2m}^+(\mathbb{F}_q)}(\psi(s)) = H^D \times SO_{2(m-N+\ell)}^\epsilon(\mathbb{F}_q).$$

Hence, inductively, the level  $\ell$  approximation in this case has terms equal to  $Y_\ell(\ell, m)$ , multiplied by “inductive factor” equal to half of the sum of

$$(84) \quad \frac{|\mathrm{SO}_{2N+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}}{|\mathrm{SO}_{2(N-\ell)}^\epsilon(\mathbb{F}_q) \times \mathrm{SO}_{2\ell+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}} \cdot \frac{|\mathrm{SO}_{2m}^+(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}}{|\mathrm{SO}_{2(N-\ell)}^\epsilon(\mathbb{F}_q) \times \mathrm{SO}_{2(m-N+\ell)}^\epsilon(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}}$$

over the two choices of  $\epsilon = \pm$ . Now (84) can be simplified as

$$(85) \quad q^{(N-\ell)(N-\ell-1)} \cdot \binom{N}{\ell}_{q^2} \cdot (q^m - 1) \cdot \prod_{i=1}^{N-\ell-1} (q^{2(m-N+\ell+i)} - 1) \cdot (q^{N-\ell} + \epsilon 1) \cdot (q^{m-N+\ell} + \epsilon 1),$$

and we further have

$$\frac{1}{2}((q^{N-\ell} + 1) \cdot (q^{m-N+\ell} + 1) + (q^{N-\ell} - 1) \cdot (q^{m-N+\ell} - 1)) = q^m + 1.$$

Therefore, the average of (85) over the two choices of parity  $\epsilon = \pm$  is

$$(86) \quad q^{(N-\ell)(N-\ell-1)} \cdot \binom{N}{\ell}_{q^2} \prod_{i=1}^{N-\ell} (q^{2(m-N+\ell+i)} - 1).$$

Hence, considering (81), it remains to find

$$(87) \quad Y_\ell(\ell, m) = q^{\ell^2}.$$

Finding these terms proceeds exactly similarly to in the case of odd-dimensional  $W$ , since it is the  $q$ -part of the order of  $\mathrm{SO}_{2\ell+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ .

In the case when the symmetric bilinear form on  $W$  is not completely split, i.e.  $\mathrm{O}(W, B) = \mathrm{O}_{2m}^-(\mathbb{F}_q)$ , if we have (82), then instead of (83), we have

$$Z_{\mathrm{SO}_{2m}^-(\mathbb{F}_q)}(\psi(s)) = H^D \times \mathrm{SO}_{2(m-N+\ell)}^{-\epsilon}(\mathbb{F}_q)$$

and therefore the inductive factor (84) is replaced by

$$(88) \quad \frac{|\mathrm{SO}_{2(N-\ell)}^\epsilon(\mathbb{F}_q)| \frac{|\mathrm{SO}_{2N+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}}{|\mathrm{SO}_{2(N-\ell)}^\epsilon(\mathbb{F}_q) \times \mathrm{SO}_{2\ell+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}}}{\frac{|\mathrm{SO}_{2m}^-(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}}{|\mathrm{SO}_{2(N-\ell)}^\epsilon(\mathbb{F}_q) \times \mathrm{SO}_{2(m-N+\ell)}^{-\epsilon}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}}},$$

which is simplified as

$$q^{(N-\ell)(N-\ell-1)} \cdot \binom{N}{\ell}_{q^2} \cdot (q^m + 1) \cdot \prod_{i=1}^{N-\ell-1} (q^{2(m-N+\ell+i)} - 1) \cdot (q^{N-\ell} + \epsilon 1) \cdot (q^{m-N+\ell} - \epsilon 1).$$

Now we have

$$\frac{1}{2}((q^{N-\ell} + 1) \cdot (q^{m-N+\ell} - 1) + (q^{N-\ell} - 1) \cdot (q^{m-N+\ell} + 1)) = q^m - 1,$$

again simplifying the average of terms for different parities  $\epsilon = \pm$  into (86), meaning that it remains to find the same terms (87).

## 5. AN INDUCTIVE ARGUMENT

In this section, we conclude the statement of Theorem 2. First, we note that the toral characters of the eta and zeta correspondence are determined inductively, by examining the restriction of the oscillator representations to finite general linear groups. This confirms that the semisimple and central sign data of  $\eta_{W,B}^V(\rho)$  (resp.  $\zeta_V^{W,B}(\rho)$ ) matches that of  $\phi_{W,B}^V(\rho)$  (resp.  $\psi_V^{W,B}(\rho)$ ). This is treated in Subsection 5.1.

It then remains in all cases to confirm the unipotent part of  $\eta_{W,B}^V(\rho)$  (resp.  $\zeta_V^{W,B}(\rho)$ ) matches that of  $\phi_{W,B}^V(\rho)$  (resp.  $\psi_V^{W,B}(\rho)$ ). First, we prove Proposition 3, and conclude that for  $N \gg n$ , we have

$$(89) \quad \dim(\eta_{W,B}^V(\rho)) = \dim(\phi_{W,B}^V(\rho))$$

(and similarly, for  $n \gg N$ , we have

$$(90) \quad \dim(\zeta_{W,B}^V(\rho)) = \dim(\psi_{W,B}^V(\rho)).$$

We may view these dimensions as polynomials of  $q^N$  (resp.  $q^n$ ). The results of [12] can be used to see that in either stable range, the idempotent in the endomorphism algebra picking out any summand of the eta (resp. zeta) correspondence does not depend on  $N$  (resp.  $n$ ). Therefore, we can apply the description from [12] to see that (98) and (90) both hold for any choice of  $N, n$  in the symplectic and orthogonal stable ranges. Therefore, since each unipotent representation corresponding to a different symbol has a different dimension, we find that our claimed construction is the only possible choice. Hence, we conclude Theorem 2.

For the remainder of this section, we restrict attention to the case of the eta correspondence and  $\phi_{W,B}^V$ , since the case of the zeta correspondence and  $\psi_V^{W,B}$  can be done completely similarly.

**5.1. Determining the semisimple and sign data.** The purpose of this subsection is to prove that the semisimple part (and sign data) of the  $\mathrm{Sp}(V)$ -Lusztig classification data of the representation obtained by applying an eta correspondence  $\eta_{W,B}^V(\rho)$  matches the semisimple part (and sign data) of our constructed representation  $\phi_{W,B}^V(\rho)$  (and the similar statement for  $\zeta_V^{W,B}$  and  $\psi_V^{W,B}$ ).

Broadly, this can be concluded since, considering  $\mathrm{GL}_N(\mathbb{F}_q) \subseteq \mathrm{Sp}(V)$ , the restriction of the oscillator representation is

$$\mathrm{Res}_{\mathrm{GL}_N(\mathbb{F}_q)}(\omega[V]) \cong \epsilon(\det) \otimes \mathbb{C}\mathbb{F}_q^N.$$

Now we also have the restriction

$$\mathrm{Res}_{\mathrm{GL}(V)}(\omega[V \otimes W]) \cong (\mathrm{Res}_{\mathrm{GL}(V)}(\omega[V]))^{\otimes W}$$

where  $\otimes W$  denotes a degree  $\dim(W)$  tensor product of oscillator representations  $\omega[V]$ . Since characters are matched exactly in the premutation representation factors, for example in the case of odd-dimensional  $W$ , we know the underlying toral character and the sign data. We now restrict attention to the case of comparing  $\eta_{W,B}^V$  and  $\phi_{W,B}^V$ , for  $(\mathrm{Sp}(V), \mathrm{O}(W, B))$  in the symplectic stable range. The case of comparing  $\zeta_V^{W,B}$  and  $\psi_V^{W,B}$  for the orthogonal stable range is similar.

**Proposition 20.** *Suppose  $(\mathrm{Sp}(V), \mathrm{O}(W, B))$  is in the symplectic stable range. If  $\dim(W) = 2m + 1$  is odd, for  $\rho$  an irreducible representation of  $\mathrm{SO}_{2m+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$  arising from the conjugacy class of a semisimple element  $s \in \mathrm{SO}_{2m+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$  and a unipotent representation  $u$  of its centralizer, then in the Lusztig classification data of  $\eta_{W,B}^V((\pm 1) \otimes \rho)$ , its semisimple part is*

$$(\phi^\pm(s)) = (s \oplus \sigma_{N-m}^\pm).$$

*If  $\dim(W) = 2m$  is even, for  $\rho$  an irreducible representation of  $\mathrm{O}_{2m}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)$  arising from an  $\mathrm{SO}_{2m}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)$ -representation corresponding to the conjugacy class of a semisimple element  $s \in \mathrm{SO}_{2m}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)$  and a unipotent representation  $u$  of its centralizer, then in the Jordan decomposition of  $\eta_{W,B}^V(\rho)$ , its semisimple part is*

$$(\phi(s)) = (s \oplus I_{2(N-m)+1}).$$

*Proof.* Suppose  $\dim(W) = 2m + 1$ . Let us begin by considering

$$(91) \quad \underbrace{\mathrm{SO}_2^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q) \times \cdots \times \mathrm{SO}_2^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)}_m$$

as a torus of  $\mathrm{SO}(W, B)$ . Fix a character

$$\chi_{a_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes \chi_{a_m},$$

corresponding to  $a_1, \dots, a_m \in \mu_{q \mp 1} \cong \mathrm{SO}_2^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)$ . Consider the maximal parabolic subgroup with Levi (91) (i.e. the Borel subgroup)  $B(W, B) \subseteq \mathrm{SO}(W, B)$ . Then, for an irreducible representation  $\rho$  with this character, i.e.

$$\rho \subseteq \mathrm{Ind}_{\mathrm{O}(W, B)}(\chi_{a_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes \chi_{a_m}),$$

we need to prove that  $\eta_{W, B}(\rho)$  corresponds to a toral character

$$(92) \quad \chi_{a_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes \chi_{a_m} \otimes (\epsilon)^{\otimes N-m}$$

in  $\underbrace{\mathrm{SO}_2^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q) \times \cdots \times \mathrm{SO}_2^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)}_N \subseteq \mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)$  (considering  $\epsilon$  as the quadratic character of  $\mu_{q \mp 1} = \mathrm{SO}_2^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)$ ).

Consider the inclusion of the product of this torus with  $\mathrm{Sp}(V)$

$$(93) \quad \underbrace{\mathrm{SO}_2^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q) \times \cdots \times \mathrm{SO}_2^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)}_m \times \mathrm{Sp}(V) \subseteq \mathrm{SO}(W, B) \times \mathrm{Sp}(V) \\ \subseteq \mathrm{Sp}(V \otimes W).$$

Pick the  $i$ th factor  $\mathrm{SO}_2^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)$  in (93), taking the inclusion

$$(94) \quad \mathrm{SO}_2^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q) \times \mathrm{Sp}(V) \subseteq \mathrm{Sp}(V \otimes W)$$

Restricting  $\omega[V \otimes W]$  along (94) gives a restriction

$$(95) \quad \mathrm{Res}_{\mathrm{SO}_2^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q) \times \mathrm{Sp}(V)}(\omega[V \otimes \mathbb{F}_q^2]) \otimes \mathbb{C}^{q^{(2m-1)N}}$$

considering  $\mathbb{F}_q^2$  with the split and non-split symmetric bilinear form, respectively, (and taking the trivial action on  $\mathbb{C}^{q^{(2m-1)N}}$ ). Recalling the results of [12], in each factor (95), it decomposes as a  $\mathrm{SO}_2^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q) \times \mathrm{Sp}(V)$ -representation pairing every  $\chi_{a_i}$ -type  $\mathrm{SO}_2^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)$ -representation with a representation  $\mathrm{Sp}(V)$  in the induction

$$\mathrm{Ind}^{\mathrm{SO}_2^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)}(\chi_{a_i}),$$

considering  $\mathrm{SO}_2^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)$  as a factor of a torus in  $\mathrm{Sp}(V)$ . Since this holds for every  $i$ , it also holds in the restriction of  $\omega[V \otimes W]$  along (93): in

$$\mathrm{Res}_{\mathrm{SO}_2^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q) \times \cdots \times \mathrm{SO}_2^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q) \times \mathrm{Sp}(V)}(\omega[V \otimes W]),$$

the character  $\chi_{a_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes \chi_{a_m}$  as a representation of  $\mathrm{SO}_2^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q) \times \cdots \times \mathrm{SO}_2^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)$  is paired with a representation of  $\mathrm{Sp}(V)$  in that character's induction, viewing the copies of  $\mathrm{SO}_2^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)$ 's as blocks in a torus of  $\mathrm{Sp}(V)$ .

The remaining factors of  $\epsilon$  in (92) corresponding to the remaining  $N - m$  factors in a torus of  $\mathrm{Sp}(V)$  arise since the restriction of  $\mathrm{Sp}(V)$  to a representation of

$$\mathrm{GL}_{N-m}(\mathbb{F}_q) \subseteq \mathrm{GL}(\Lambda) \subseteq \mathrm{Sp}(V)$$

is  $\epsilon(\det)$  tensored with a permutation representation.

A similar argument applies to both even-dimensional cases.  $\square$

**5.2. The proof of Propostion 3.** The purpose of this subsection is to prove Propostion 3 by induction. Again, we restrict attention to the case of  $N \gg n$ , since the case of  $n \gg N$  is completely similar.

First, we begin by observing the following

**Lemma 21.** *Fix  $n$ , and consider  $N \gg n$ . Every irreducible representation of  $Sp_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)$  with  $N$ -rank  $n$  is constructed by applying  $\phi_{W,B}^V$  to an irreducible representation of  $O(W, B)$  for  $n$ -dimensional orthogonal space  $(W, B)$ .*

*Proof.* First suppose  $\dim(W) = n = 2m + 1$ . Writing out the definition of  $\phi_{W,B}$ , we find that the statement is equivalent to the claim that every irreducible representation of  $Sp_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)$  of  $N$ -rank  $2m + 1$  arises from a conjugacy class ( $s$ ) of a semisimple element of  $SO_{2N+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$  with centralizer

$$(96) \quad \prod_{i=1}^r U_{j_i}^+(\mathbb{F}_q) \times \prod_{i=1}^t U_{k_i}^-(\mathbb{F}_q) \times SO_{2\ell+1}(\mathbb{F}_q) \times SO_{2(N-m+p)}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)$$

and a unipotent representation  $u$ , whose  $SO_{2(N-m+p)}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)$ -representation tensor factor  $u_{SO_{2(N-m+p)}^\pm}$  corresponds to a symbol

$$\begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 < \cdots < \alpha_a \\ \beta_1 < \cdots < \beta_b \end{pmatrix}$$

such that either  $\alpha_a = N - m + p + \frac{a+b-1}{2}$  or  $\beta_b = N - m + p + \frac{a+b-1}{2}$ .

First note the prime to  $q$  part of the group orders

$$|SO_{2N+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'} = \prod_{i=1}^N (q^{2i} - 1), \quad |SO_{2\ell+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'} = \prod_{i=1}^{\ell} (q^{2i} - 1),$$

for the groups of type  $B$

$$|SO_{2(N-m+p)}^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'} = (q^{N-m+p} \mp 1) \prod_{i=1}^{N-m+p-1} (q^{2i} - 1),$$

for the froup of type  $D$ , and

$$|U_{j_i}^+(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'} = \prod_{u=1}^{j_i} (q^u - 1) \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, r$$

$$|U_{k_i}^-(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'} = \prod_{u=1}^{k_i} (q^u - (-1)^u) \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, t.$$

Therefore, the total top degree of  $q$  in the quotient of prime to  $q$  parts of group orders (23) is

$$\sum_{i=1}^N 2i - \left( \sum_{i=1}^{\ell} 2i + (N - m + p) \right) + \sum_{i=1}^{N-m+p-1} 2i + \sum_{i=1}^r \sum_{u=1}^{j_i} u + \sum_{i=1}^t \sum_{u=1}^{k_i} u,$$

which can be simplified as

$$(97) \quad N(N+1) - (\ell(\ell+1) + (N-m+p)^2) + \sum_{i=1}^r \frac{j_i(j_i+1)}{2} + \sum_{i=1}^t \frac{k_i(k_i+1)}{2}.$$

The terms not involving  $N$  (arising from  $\mathrm{SO}_{2\ell+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$  and the unitary groups) do not affect the  $N$ -rank of the final  $\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ -representation, since

$$\ell + \sum_{i=1}^r j_i + \sum_{i=1}^t k_i \leq m < \frac{N}{2}.$$

The remaining terms of (97) are

$$N \cdot (1 - 2(m - p)) + (m - p)^2.$$

Therefore, no smaller factor of type  $D$  can occur than those allowed by (96).

The condition on the symbol arises since otherwise the factor (??) contributes additional copies of  $N$ , unless it is cancelled by the denominator of (22), which can only occur if the rank  $N - m + p + (a + b - 1)/2$  occurs as an entry in the symbol itself.

A similar argument applies to even cases of  $n = \dim(W)$ . □

The case of Proposition 3 for  $N \gg n$  then follows by induction.

*Proof of Proposition 3, part (1).* First we consider the case of  $W$  with odd dimensions, and proceed by induction. Suppose for every  $m' < m$ , we know that the disjoint union of the images of the two eta correspondences  $\eta_{W,B}^V$  such that  $\dim(W) = 2m' + 1$  is exactly the set of all irreducible representations of  $\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)$  with  $N$ -rank  $2m' + 1$ , for  $N \gg m$ .

Suppose  $(W, B)$  forms an orthogonal space of dimension  $2m + 1$ . By the definition of  $\eta_{W,B}^V$ , the sum

$$\bigoplus_{\rho \in \widehat{\mathrm{O}(W,B)}} \rho \otimes \eta_{W,B}^V(\rho)$$

is the top summand of  $\omega[V \otimes W]$ . In particular, its dimension less than or equal to

$$\dim(\omega) = q^{(2m+1)N},$$

so all  $\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ -representations of higher  $N$ -rank cannot occur in the image of  $\eta_{W,B}^V$ . Additionally, the images of the different  $\eta$ -correspondences are all disjoint. Therefore, by the induction hypothesis, no irreducible representations of lesser odd  $N$ -rank may occur in the image of  $\eta_{W,B}$ .

To conclude Theorem 2, note that the pairing  $\phi_{W,B}$  obtains the maximal possible dimension

$$\dim\left(\bigoplus_{\rho \in \mathrm{O}(W,B)} \rho \otimes \phi_{W,B}(\rho)\right).$$

If a representation of  $\mathrm{O}(W, B)$  were paired by  $\eta_{W,B}$  with a  $\mathrm{Sp}_{2N}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ -representation of lesser  $N$ -rank, it would waste dimensions in

$$\dim\left(\bigoplus_{\rho \in \widehat{\mathrm{O}(W,B)}} \rho \otimes \eta_{W,B}(\rho)\right),$$

which would be impossible to get back, by Theorem 11, since no other representations of  $N$ -rank  $2m + 1$  exist by Proposition 21.  $\square$

**5.3. Concluding Theorem 2.** In this subsection, we first conclude that for every  $\rho \in \widehat{\mathrm{O}(W, B)}$ ,

$$(98) \quad \dim(\eta_{W,B}^V(\rho)) = \dim(\phi_{W,B}^V(\rho)).$$

for  $V$  of dimension  $2N$  and  $W$  of dimension  $n$ , with  $N \gg n$ . In our construction, for a fixed choice of  $(W, B)$  and  $\rho$ , for every  $N \geq n$ , the dimension of our constructed representation  $\phi_{W,B}^V(\rho)$  for  $\dim(V) = 2N$  can be expressed as a polynomial of  $q^N$  (see (99) below). On the other hand, we recall the results of [12], which allow us to consider the eta correspondence on the level of idempotents. By the stable description of the endomorphism algebra of an oscillator representation given in [12], we also know the dimensions of  $\eta_{W,B}^V(\rho)$  for a fixed  $\rho$  and  $(W, B)$  must be polynomial in  $q^N$ . Therefore, 98 must in fact hold for every  $N \geq n$ . Combining this with the results of the previous subsection, we conclude that

$$\eta_{W,B}^V(\rho) = \phi_{W,B}^V(\rho),$$

since all symbols have different dimensions.

First, combining Proposition 20, Proposition 3, and Theorem 11 allows us to conclude (98) for  $N \gg n$ : Our construction  $\phi_{W,B}^V$  satisfies the condition that, for representations  $\rho, \pi \in \widehat{\mathrm{O}(W, B)}$  such that

$\dim(\rho) < \dim(\pi)$ , we have

$$\dim(\phi_{W,B}^V(\rho)) < \dim(\phi_{W,B}^V(\pi)).$$

Therefore,  $\phi_{W,B}^V$  is an injective correspondence from which maximizes the dimension sum

$$\sum_{\rho \in \widehat{O(W,B)}} \dim(\rho) \cdot \dim(\phi_{W,B}(\rho)),$$

which we know numerically matches with

$$\sum_{\rho \in \widehat{O(W,B)}} \dim(\rho) \cdot \dim(\eta_{W,B}(\rho))$$

by Theorem 11. Therefore, for  $N \gg n$ , we must have that the dimensions of  $\eta_{W,B}^V(\rho)$  match the dimensions of  $\phi_{W,B}^V(\rho)$ . It remains to prove that this holds for every  $N \geq n$ , from which we can conclude that the unipotent parts of their Lusztig classification data agree in general. We do this now, concluding Theorem 2, art (1). The proof of Part (2) is similar, using the analogue of Proposition 20 for the zeta correspondence, and the orthogonal stable cases of Proposition 3, and Theorem 11.

*Proof of Theorem 2, part (1).* We restrict attention to the case of  $W$  odd dimensional. The even dimensional case proceeds similarly. Fix an orthogonal space  $(W, B)$  of dimension  $n = 2m + 1$ , and fix an irreducible representation  $\rho$  of  $O(W, B)$ . Considering  $O(W, B) = \mathbb{Z}/2 \times \mathrm{SO}_{2m+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ , write  $\rho$  as a tensor product

$$\rho = r^{O(W,B)}[(s), u]^\alpha$$

for  $\alpha$  denoting a sign specifying a  $\mathbb{Z}/2$ -action, and  $[(s), u]$  denoting the  $\mathrm{SO}_{2m+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ -Lusztig classification data corresponding to the restriction of  $\rho$  to  $\mathrm{SO}_{2m+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ . Let us consider the symbol  $\binom{\lambda_1 < \dots < \lambda_a}{\mu_1 < \dots < \mu_b}$  associated to the factor of  $u$  corresponding to the  $-1$  eigenvalues of  $s$ , as in the construction of  $\phi_{W,B}^V(\rho)$ . Recall the notation  $N'_\rho = N - m + \frac{a+b-1}{2}$ . For every  $V$  of dimension  $2N$  with  $N \geq 2m + 1$ , the dimension of  $\phi_{W,B}^V(\rho)$  is then equal to

$$(99) \quad \frac{\dim(\rho) \cdot \prod_{i=N'_\rho+1}^N (q^{2i} - 1) \cdot \prod_{i=1}^a (q^{N'_\rho} + \alpha \cdot q^{\lambda_i}) \cdot \prod_{i=1}^b (q^{N'_\rho} - \alpha \cdot q^{\mu_i})}{2 \cdot q^{(a+b-1)(a+b+1)/4} \cdot |\mathrm{SO}_{2m+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}},$$

which is a polynomial expression applied to  $q^N$ .

On the other hand, let us consider the values of  $\dim(\eta_{W,B}^V(\rho))$  for  $V$  of dimension  $2N$  as a function of  $N$ . We recall the description of

endomorphism algebra of  $\omega[V \otimes W]$  over  $\mathrm{Sp}(V)$  given in Section 2 of [12]: Considering the Schrödinger model of the oscillator representation, there is an isomorphism between the endomorphism algebra and the space of  $\mathrm{Sp}(V)$ -fixed points in  $\mathbb{C}(V \otimes W)$

$$(100) \quad (\mathrm{End}_{\mathrm{Sp}(V)}(\omega[V \otimes W]), \circ) \cong (\mathbb{C}(V \otimes W)^{\mathrm{Sp}(V)}, \star),$$

where  $\star$  is defined by

$$(v_1 \otimes w_1) \star (v_2 \otimes w_2) = \psi\left(\frac{S(v_1, v_2) \cdot B(w_1, w_2)}{2}\right) \cdot (v_1 \otimes w_1 + v_2 \otimes w_2)$$

(here  $\psi$  denotes the non-trivial additive character corresponding to  $1 \in \mathbb{F}_q^\times$ , under our identification of  $\mathbb{F}_q$  with its Pontrjagin dual). To consider the eta correspondence  $\eta_{W,B}^V$ , in [12] we consider  $\omega[V \otimes W]$  as a degree  $\dim(W)$  tensor product of oscillator representations  $\omega_{a_1}[V] \otimes \cdots \otimes \omega_{a_n}[V]$  (considering  $B$  to be equivalent to the symmetric bilinear form corresponding to a diagonal matrix with entries  $a_1, \dots, a_n$ ). This essential corresponds to writing out  $V \otimes W$  as a direct sum of  $n$  copies of  $V$ . Therefore we also view (100) as describing

$$(101) \quad \mathrm{End}_{\mathrm{Sp}(V)}(\omega_{a_1}[V] \otimes \cdots \otimes \omega_{a_n}[V]).$$

We note that as long as  $N \geq n$ , the right hand side of (100), as an algebra, is stable and does not depend on  $N$ . Therefore the same linear combination of  $n$ -tuples of  $V$  vectors in the right hand side of (100) describes the idempotent with image  $\eta_{W,B}^V(\rho)$  for any choice of  $N \geq n$ . In particular, the dimension of  $\eta_{W,B}^V(\rho)$  (expressible as the trace of this idempotent in (101) for  $V$  of dimension  $2N$ , is also polynomial in  $q^N$ , since, considering one tensor factor at a time, trace of a linear combination of  $V$ -vectors ( $v$ ) as an endomorphism of  $\omega_{a_i}[V]$  is computed according to

$$\mathrm{tr}((v)) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } v \neq 0 \\ q^N & \text{if } v = 0 \end{cases}.$$

Hence, since this polynomial agrees with the polynomial (99) for infinitely many values i.e., when applied to  $q^N$  for  $N$  large enough, they must in fact always agree. Therefore, we obtain (98) for every  $N \geq n$ .

Combining this with the results of the previous subsection which confirm that the semisimple and sign parts of the Lusztig classification data for  $\eta_{W,B}^V(\rho)$  and  $\phi_{W,B}^V(\rho)$  always match, we obtain that the unipotent parts must match also (since every symbol has a different dimension). Therefore, we obtain that

$$\eta_{W,B}^V(\rho) = \phi_{W,B}^V(\rho),$$

by Lusztig's classification of irreducible representations, as claimed.  $\square$

## 6. AN EXPLICIT EXAMPLE: THE CASE OF $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{F}_q)$

Consider, for example, the case of  $N = 1$  (i.e.  $\mathrm{Sp}_2(\mathbb{F}_q) = \mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{F}_q)$ ), for  $n = 2m + 1$ . The oscillator representation  $\omega[\mathbb{F}_q^2]$  is  $q$ -dimensional, and decomposes along the central  $\mathbb{Z}/2$ -action into pieces

$$\omega[\mathbb{F}_q^2] = \omega^+[\mathbb{F}_q^2] \oplus \omega^-[\mathbb{F}_q^2]$$

of dimension  $(q + 1)/2$ ,  $(q - 1)/2$ , respectively. Applying Lemma 15 and Proposition 16 above gives that the top part of  $\omega[\mathbb{F}_q^2 \otimes W]$  has dimension

$$q^{2m+1} - (q + 1) = q \cdot (q^{2m} - 1) - 1.$$

Consider representations  $\rho$  of  $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{F}_q)$ . The Lusztig classification consists of the data of a conjugacy class of a semisimple element

$$s \in \mathrm{SO}_3(\mathbb{F}_q) = \mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{F}_q)^D,$$

a unipotent representation  $u$  of  $Z_{\mathrm{SO}_3(\mathbb{F}_q)}(u)$ , and an additional choice of sign when  $s$  has  $-1$  eigenvalues. There are  $(q - 3)/2$ , resp.  $(q - 1)/2$ , conjugacy classes ( $s$ ) (corresponding to having eigenvalues  $\{\lambda, \lambda^{-1}\} \subseteq \mu_{q-1} \setminus \{\pm 1\}$ , resp.  $\mu_{q+1} \setminus \{\pm 1\}$ ) with

$$Z_{\mathrm{SO}_3(\mathbb{F}_q)}(s) = U_1^+(\mathbb{F}_q), \text{ resp. } U_1^-(\mathbb{F}_q),$$

whose only unipotent representation is trivial, and whose corresponding  $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{F}_q)$ -representation then has dimension

$$\dim(\rho^{\mathrm{Sp}_2(\mathbb{F}_q)}[s, 1]) = q + 1, \text{ resp. } q - 1.$$

There is a single choice of semisimple conjugacy class ( $\sigma_1^\pm$ ) each with centralizer  $Z_{\mathrm{SO}_3(\mathbb{F}_q)}(s) = \mathrm{SO}_2^\pm(\mathbb{F}_q)$  (corresponding to having eigenvalue  $-1$  with multiplicity two, with sign determined by the placement of the last eigenvalue  $1$ , depending on the presentation of the form defining  $\mathrm{SO}_3(\mathbb{F}_q)$ ), which again has only the trivial unipotent representation, giving representations of dimension

$$\dim(r^{\mathrm{Sp}_2(\mathbb{F}_q)}[\sigma_1^\pm, 1, +1]) = \dim(r^{\mathrm{Sp}_2(\mathbb{F}_q)}[\sigma_1^\pm, 1, -1]) = (q \pm 1)/2.$$

Finally, only ( $s$ ) = ( $I$ ) has centralizer the full  $\mathrm{SO}_3(\mathbb{F}_q)$ , which has two non-trivial unipotent representations corresponding to symbols  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \theta \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 < 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ , of dimensions  $1$  and  $q$ , respectively.

We call the  $s$  with no  $-1$  eigenvalues the “level 0” choices. Call the other choices of  $s$  the “level 1” choices. For the level 0 choices of  $s$ , we have that

$$Z_{\mathrm{Sp}_{2m}(\mathbb{F}_q)}(\psi(s)) = Z_{\mathrm{SO}_3(\mathbb{F}_q)}^D \times \mathrm{Sp}_{2(m-1)}(\mathbb{F}_q),$$

with  $\psi(u)$  defined as the representation corresponding to  $u$  of the first factor, tensored with the trivial representation of  $\mathrm{Sp}_{2(m-1)}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ . We assign the central sign describing the action of  $\zeta$  according to the discriminant of the form on  $W$  and the quadratic character. This fully describes  $\zeta(r^{\mathrm{Sp}_2(\mathbb{F}_q)}[(s), 1])$  for the level 0  $s$ , and we find

$$\begin{aligned} \dim(\zeta(r^{\mathrm{Sp}_2(\mathbb{F}_q)}[(s), 1])) &= \\ \dim(r^{\mathrm{Sp}_2(\mathbb{F}_q)}[(s), 1]) \frac{|\mathrm{SO}_{2m+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}}{|\mathrm{Sp}_{2(m-1)}(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'} \cdot |\mathrm{SO}_3(\mathbb{F}_q)|_{q'}} &= \\ \dim(r^{\mathrm{Sp}_2(\mathbb{F}_q)}[(s), 1]) \frac{q^{2m} - 1}{q^2 - 1} \end{aligned}$$

For both level 1 choices of  $s$  (in this case, precisely  $(s) = (\sigma_1^\pm)$ ), we have

$$Z_{\mathrm{Sp}_{2m}(\mathbb{F}_q)}(\psi(s)) = \mathrm{Sp}_{2m}(\mathbb{F}_q),$$

and we need to assign two choices of unipotent representations in both cases of the sign. We alter the trivial representation of  $\mathrm{SO}_2^+(\mathbb{F}_q)$  (corresponding to the symbol  $\binom{1}{0}$  of rank 1, type  $D$ ) by adjoining the coordinate  $m$  to obtain the two choices of symbols

$$\binom{1 < m}{0}, \quad \binom{1}{0 < m},$$

describing unipotent representations of  $\mathrm{SO}_{2m+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ . Similarly, we alter the trivial representation of  $\mathrm{SO}_2^-(\mathbb{F}_q)$  (corresponding to the symbol  $\binom{0 < 1}{\emptyset}$  of rank 1, type  ${}^2D$ ) by adjoining the coordinate  $m$  to obtain the two choices of symbols

$$\binom{0 < 1 < m}{\emptyset}, \quad \binom{0 < 1}{m}.$$

Therefore, for level 1 representations of  $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{F}_q)$ , we have

$$\dim(\zeta(r^{\mathrm{Sp}_2(\mathbb{F}_q)}[\sigma_1^+, 1, \pm 1])) = \frac{(q^m \pm 1)(q^m \mp q)}{2(q-1)}$$

$$\dim(\zeta(r^{\mathrm{Sp}_2(\mathbb{F}_q)}[\sigma_1^-, 1, \pm 1])) = \frac{(q^m \pm 1)(q^m \pm q)}{2(q+1)}.$$

We may now apply our general combinatorial argument, but this case is small enough to verify directly. Indeed, we can explicitly write

out

$$\sum_{\rho \in \widehat{\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{F}_q)}} \dim(\rho) \cdot \dim(\zeta(\rho)) =$$

$$\frac{q-3}{2} \cdot \frac{(q+1)^2(q^{2m}-1)}{q^2-1} + \frac{q-1}{2} \cdot \frac{(q-1)^2(q^{2m}-1)}{q^2-1} + \frac{(1+q^2)(q^{2m}-1)}{q^2-1}$$

$$+ \frac{(q+1)(q^m+1)(q^m-q)}{4(q-1)} + \frac{(q+1)(q^m-1)(q^m+q)}{4(q-1)}$$

$$+ \frac{(q-1)(q^m+1)(q^m+q)}{4(q+1)} + \frac{(q-1)(q^m+1)(q^m+q)}{4(q+1)}$$

(the first row corresponds to the level 0  $\rho$ , the second row corresponds to  $\rho$  from  $(s) = (\sigma_1^+)$ , and the third row corresponds to  $\rho$  from  $(s) = (\sigma_1^-)$ ), and verify that it equals  $q(q^{2m}-1) - 1$ .

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