

# A Diagram Calculus for a few Type-A Lusztig–Vogan Categories

Victor L. Zhang

UNSW Sydney

AustMS 2025

# Outline

1. Motivation: KL conjecture
2. Diagrammatic LV categories for  $SU(n, 1)$
3. Comparison with what came before

# Context and Motivation

Complex (simply-connected) Lie groups

# Context and Motivation

Complex (simply-connected) Lie groups

BGG

Category  $\mathcal{O}$

Vermas, Simple

# Context and Motivation

Complex (simply-connected) Lie groups

BGG  
Category  $\mathcal{O}$   $\rightsquigarrow$  Hecke  
algebra  $\mathcal{H}$

Vermas, Simplex

$\{\delta_s\}, \{b_s\}$

# Context and Motivation

Complex (simply-connected) Lie groups

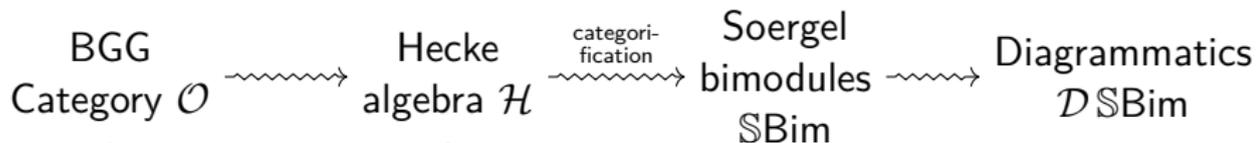
BGG  
Category  $\mathcal{O}$   $\rightsquigarrow$  Hecke  
algebra  $\mathcal{H}$   $\xrightarrow{\text{categori-  
fication}}$  Soergel  
bimodules  
 $\mathbb{S}\text{Bim}$

Vermas, Simplex

$\{\delta_s\}, \{b_s\}$

# Context and Motivation

Complex (simply-connected) Lie groups

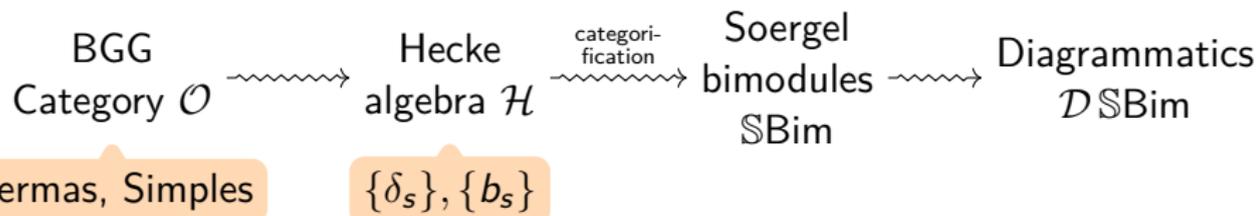


Vermas, Simple

$\{\delta_s\}, \{b_s\}$

# Context and Motivation

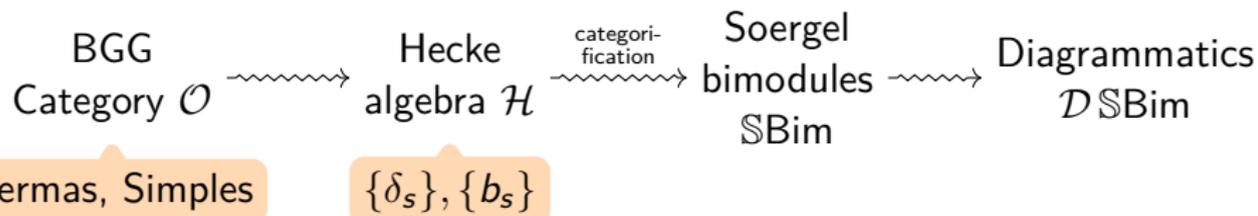
Complex (simply-connected) Lie groups



Real (reductive) Lie groups

# Context and Motivation

Complex (simply-connected) Lie groups



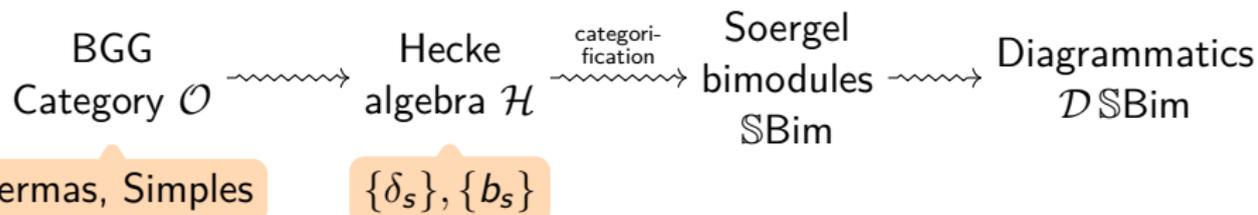
Real (reductive) Lie groups

Category of admissible reps.

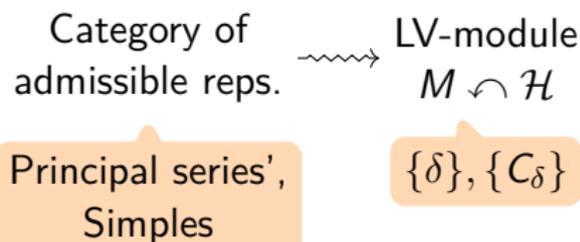
Principal series',  
Simples

# Context and Motivation

Complex (simply-connected) Lie groups

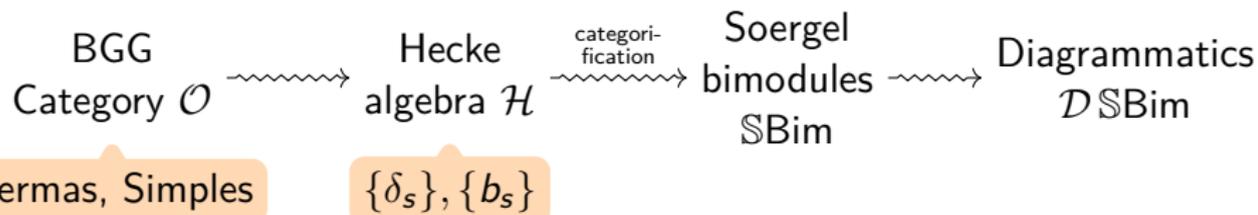


Real (reductive) Lie groups

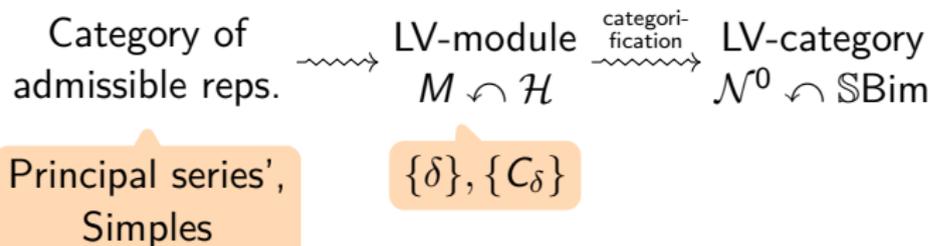


# Context and Motivation

Complex (simply-connected) Lie groups

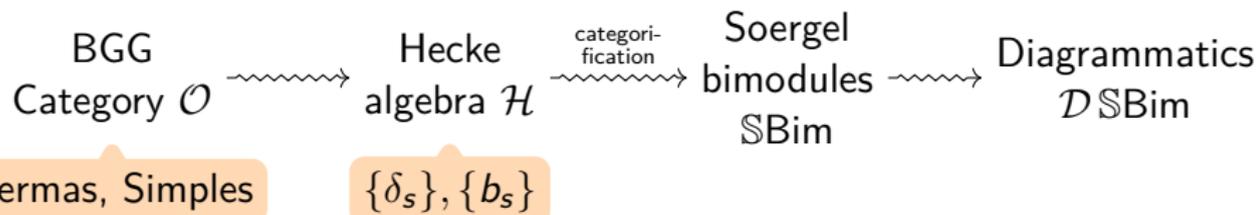


Real (reductive) Lie groups

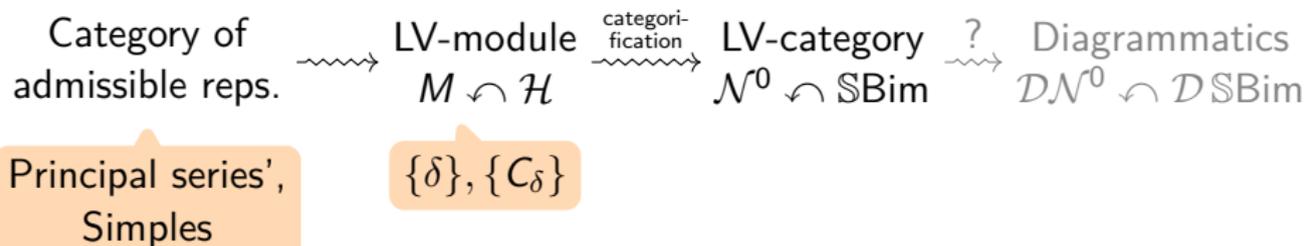


# Context and Motivation

Complex (simply-connected) Lie groups



Real (reductive) Lie groups



## A reminder of $\mathcal{DBSBim}(\mathfrak{sl}_3)$

## A reminder of $\mathcal{DBSBim}(\mathfrak{sl}_3)$

$\mathcal{DBSBim}(\mathfrak{sl}_3)$  is an  $\mathbb{R}$ -linear monoidal category with

$$W = \langle s, t \mid s^2 = t^2 = 1, sts = tst \rangle.$$

## A reminder of $\mathcal{D}\text{BSBim}(\mathfrak{sl}_3)$

$\mathcal{D}\text{BSBim}(\mathfrak{sl}_3)$  is an  $\mathbb{R}$ -linear monoidal category with

$$W = \langle s, t \mid s^2 = t^2 = 1, sts = tst \rangle.$$

- Generating objects  $\bullet$  and  $\circ$

## A reminder of $\mathcal{D}\text{BSBim}(\mathfrak{sl}_3)$

$\mathcal{D}\text{BSBim}(\mathfrak{sl}_3)$  is an  $\mathbb{R}$ -linear monoidal category with

$$W = \langle s, t \mid s^2 = t^2 = 1, sts = tst \rangle.$$

- Generating objects  $\bullet$  and  $\bullet$
- Generating morphisms



## A reminder of $\mathcal{DBSBim}(\mathfrak{sl}_3)$

$\mathcal{DBSBim}(\mathfrak{sl}_3)$  is an  $\mathbb{R}$ -linear monoidal category with

$$W = \langle s, t \mid s^2 = t^2 = 1, sts = tst \rangle.$$

- Generating objects  $\bullet$  and  $\bullet$
- Generating morphisms



- Local relations up to isotopy

$$\begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \bullet \end{array} \Big| = 2 \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \bullet \end{array} - \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \bullet \end{array}, \quad \begin{array}{c} \diagup \\ \diagdown \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \diagup \\ \diagdown \end{array}, \quad \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ | \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} | \end{array}, \quad \bigcirc = 0,$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \diagdown \\ \diagup \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \diagdown \\ \diagup \end{array}, \quad \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \diagdown \\ \bullet \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \diagup \\ \bullet \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} | \\ | \end{array}, \quad \bigcirc = \begin{array}{c} | \\ | \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \diagdown \\ \bullet \end{array}, \text{ etc.}$$

# A reminder of $\mathcal{DBSBim}(\mathfrak{sl}_3)$

$\mathcal{DBSBim}(\mathfrak{sl}_3)$  is an  $\mathbb{R}$ -linear monoidal category with

$$W = \langle s, t \mid s^2 = t^2 = 1, sts = tst \rangle.$$

- Generating objects  $\bullet$  and  $\bullet$
- Generating morphisms



- Local relations up to isotopy

$$\begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \bullet \end{array} \Big| = 2 \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \bullet \end{array} - \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \bullet \end{array} \Big|, \quad \begin{array}{c} \diagup \\ \diagdown \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \diagup \\ \diagdown \end{array}, \quad \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \bullet \end{array} \Big| = \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \bullet \end{array} \Big|, \quad \bigcirc = 0,$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \diagdown \\ \diagup \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \diagdown \\ \diagup \end{array}, \quad \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \bullet \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \diagup \\ \diagdown \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \bullet \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \diagup \\ \diagdown \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \bullet \end{array} \Big| \Big|, \quad \bigcirc = \Big| \Big| + \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \bullet \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \diagdown \\ \diagup \end{array}, \text{ etc.}$$

Theorem (Elias–Khovanov 2009)

$\mathcal{DBSBim}(\mathfrak{sl}_3) \simeq \mathcal{BSBim}(\mathfrak{sl}_3)$  as  $\mathbb{R}$ -linear monoidal categories.

## Diagrammatic Lusztig–Vogan category for $SU(2, 1)$

$$SU(2, 1) = \left\{ M \in SL_3(\mathbb{C}) : M^* \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} M = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

# Diagrammatic Lusztig–Vogan category for $SU(2, 1)$

$$SU(2, 1) = \left\{ M \in SL_3(\mathbb{C}) : M^* \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} M = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

$$W = S_3 = \langle s, t \mid s^2 = t^2 = 1, sts = tst \rangle$$

$$W_K = \langle s \mid s^2 = 1 \rangle \leq S_3$$

# Diagrammatic Lusztig–Vogan category for $SU(2, 1)$

$$SU(2, 1) = \left\{ M \in SL_3(\mathbb{C}) : M^* \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} M = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

$$W = S_3 = \langle s, t \mid s^2 = t^2 = 1, sts = tst \rangle$$

$$W_K = \langle s \mid s^2 = 1 \rangle \leq S_3$$

$$W_K \setminus W = \{1, t, ts\}$$

# Diagrammatic Lusztig–Vogan category for $SU(2, 1)$

$\mathcal{DN}^0(SU(2, 1))$  is an  $\mathbb{R}$ -linear (right) module category over  $\mathcal{DBSBim}(\mathfrak{sl}_3)$

# Diagrammatic Lusztig–Vogan category for $SU(2, 1)$

$\mathcal{DN}^0(SU(2, 1))$  is an  $\mathbb{R}$ -linear (right) module category over  $\mathcal{DBSBim}(\mathfrak{sl}_3)$

- Generating objects  $\circ$  and  $\circ\circ$

$\curvearrowright \mathbb{1}, \bullet, \bullet, \bullet\bullet, \dots$

# Diagrammatic Lusztig–Vogan category for $SU(2, 1)$

$\mathcal{DN}^0(SU(2, 1))$  is an  $\mathbb{R}$ -linear (right) module category over  $\mathcal{DBSBim}(\mathfrak{sl}_3)$

- Generating objects  $\circ$  and  $\circ\circ$

$\curvearrowright \mathbb{1}, \bullet, \bullet, \bullet\bullet, \dots$

- Generating morphisms (with a left wall)



$\curvearrowright \text{Y-shape}, \bullet, \text{Y-shape}, \bullet, \text{X-shape}, \dots$

# Diagrammatic Lusztig–Vogan category for $SU(2, 1)$

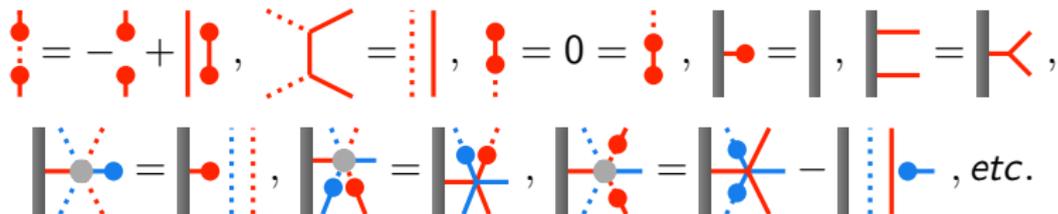
$\mathcal{DN}^0(SU(2, 1))$  is an  $\mathbb{R}$ -linear (right) module category over  $\mathcal{DBSBim}(\mathfrak{sl}_3)$

- Generating objects  $\circ$  and  $\circ\circ$   $\curvearrowright \mathbb{1}, \bullet, \bullet, \bullet\bullet, \dots$

- Generating morphisms (with a left wall)



- Local relations up to (limited) isotopy



# Diagrammatic Lusztig–Vogan category for $SU(2, 1)$

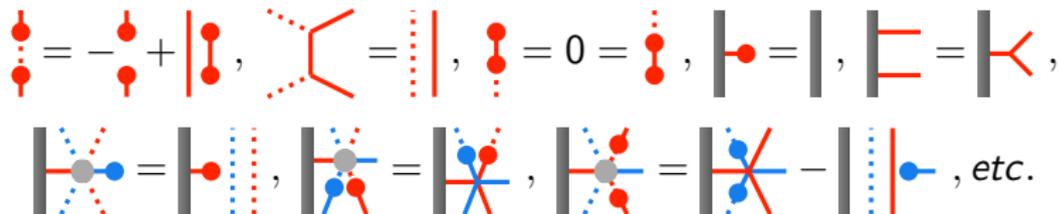
$\mathcal{DN}^0(SU(2, 1))$  is an  $\mathbb{R}$ -linear (right) module category over  $\mathcal{DBSBim}(\mathfrak{sl}_3)$

- Generating objects  $\circ$  and  $\circ\circ$   $\curvearrowright \mathbb{1}, \bullet, \bullet, \bullet\bullet, \dots$

- Generating morphisms (with a left wall)



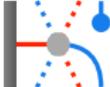
- Local relations up to (limited) isotopy



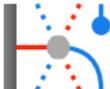
Theorem (Z.)

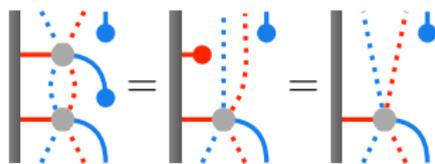
$\mathcal{DN}^0(SU(2, 1)) \simeq \tilde{\mathcal{N}}^0(SU(2, 1))$  as  $\mathbb{R}$ -linear module categories.

# Diagrammatics in action

E.g.  is an idempotent

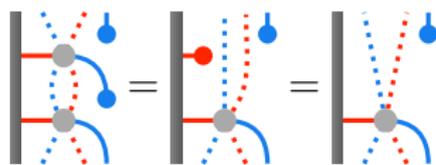
# Diagrammatics in action

E.g.  is an idempotent



# Diagrammatics in action

E.g.  is an idempotent



This tells us of the splitting

$$\circ \circ \bullet = \circ \circ (-1) \oplus \circ \circ (1).$$

# Diagrammatic Lusztig–Vogan category for $SU(n, 1)$

How do we generalise this to  $SU(n, 1)$ ?

E.g.  $\mathcal{DN}(SU(3, 1))$  with input

$$W = S_4 = \langle s, t, u \mid \dots \rangle, W_K = \langle s, t \mid \dots \rangle \leq W$$

$$W_K \setminus W = \{1, u, ut, uts\}$$

# Diagrammatic Lusztig–Vogan category for $SU(n, 1)$

How do we generalise this to  $SU(n, 1)$ ?

E.g.  $\mathcal{DN}(SU(3, 1))$  with input

$$W = S_4 = \langle s, t, u \mid \dots \rangle, W_K = \langle s, t \mid \dots \rangle \leq W$$

$$W_K \setminus W = \{1, u, ut, uts\}$$

- *Objects:* generated by  $\circ, \circ\circ, \circ\circ\circ$

# Diagrammatic Lusztig–Vogan category for $SU(n, 1)$

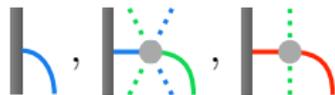
How do we generalise this to  $SU(n, 1)$ ?

E.g.  $\mathcal{DN}(SU(3, 1))$  with input

$$W = S_4 = \langle s, t, u \mid \dots \rangle, W_K = \langle s, t \mid \dots \rangle \leq W$$

$$W_K \setminus W = \{1, u, ut, uts\}$$

- *Objects:* generated by  $\circ, \circ\circ, \circ\circ\circ$
- *New Morphisms:*



# Diagrammatic Lusztig–Vogan category for $SU(n, 1)$

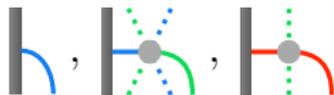
How do we generalise this to  $SU(n, 1)$ ?

E.g.  $\mathcal{DN}(SU(3, 1))$  with input

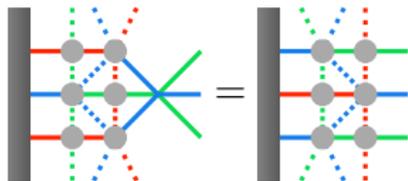
$$W = S_4 = \langle s, t, u \mid \dots \rangle, W_K = \langle s, t \mid \dots \rangle \leq W$$

$$W_K \setminus W = \{1, u, ut, uts\}$$

- *Objects:* generated by  $\circ, \circ\circ, \circ\circ\circ$
- *New Morphisms:*



- *New Relation:* with 3-colors



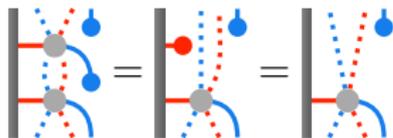
## Comparison with what came before

**Q:** How much of what we saw can be deduced from existing diagrammatics?

## Comparison with what came before

**Q:** How much of what we saw can be deduced from existing diagrammatics?

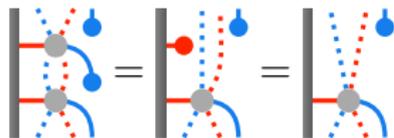
- $\mathcal{DN}^0(\mathrm{SU}(n, 1))$  has a mix of standard bimodule (dotted line) and singular Soergel bimodule (solid line and wall) diagrams.
  - The wall is governed by the parabolic subgroup  $W_K \leq W$ .
  - The subcategory generated by  $\mathbb{1}$  (i.e. solid strands) is the corresponding diagrammatic spherical category.
  - New behaviour occurs where wall and dotted meet, and where solid and dotted meet.



## Comparison with what came before

**Q:** How much of what we saw can be deduced from existing diagrammatics?

- $\mathcal{DN}^0(\mathrm{SU}(n, 1))$  has a mix of standard bimodule (dotted line) and singular Soergel bimodule (solid line and wall) diagrams.
  - The wall is governed by the parabolic subgroup  $W_K \leq W$ .
  - The subcategory generated by  $\mathbb{1}$  (i.e. solid strands) is the corresponding diagrammatic spherical category.
  - New behaviour occurs where wall and dotted meet, and where solid and dotted meet.

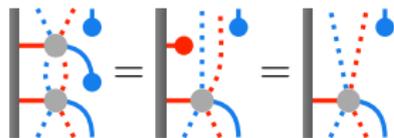


- For  $\mathrm{Sp}(p, q)$  (type C),  $W_K \leq W$  is a reflection subgroup, but not parabolic in general. We expect the new behaviour to deviate further from Soergel bimodule combinatorics.

## Comparison with what came before

**Q:** How much of what we saw can be deduced from existing diagrammatics?

- $\mathcal{DN}^0(\mathrm{SU}(n, 1))$  has a mix of standard bimodule (dotted line) and singular Soergel bimodule (solid line and wall) diagrams.
  - The wall is governed by the parabolic subgroup  $W_K \leq W$ .
  - The subcategory generated by  $\mathbb{1}$  (i.e. solid strands) is the corresponding diagrammatic spherical category.
  - New behaviour occurs where wall and dotted meet, and where solid and dotted meet.



- For  $\mathrm{Sp}(p, q)$  (type C),  $W_K \leq W$  is a reflection subgroup, but not parabolic in general. We expect the new behaviour to deviate further from Soergel bimodule combinatorics.
- For more exotic real groups,  $W_K \leq W$  may not even be a reflection subgroup!

Thanks for your attention