

Diagrammatic Lusztig–Vogan Categories

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Supervised by
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UNSW Sydney

UNSW Postgraduate
Math Conference, 2026

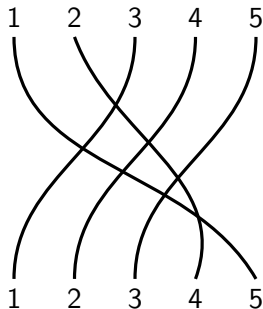
Outline

1. String diagrams in mathematics
2. Representation theory motivation
3. Diagrammatic Lusztig–Vogan categories for $SU(n, 1)$

String diagrams in mathematics

1. Permutations

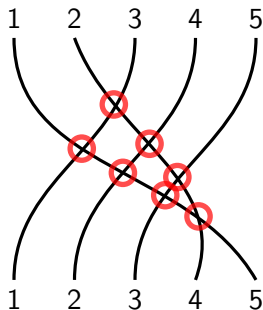
$$S_5 \ni \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 \\ 3 & 4 & 5 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = (135)(24)$$



String diagrams in mathematics

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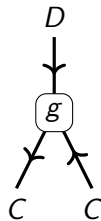
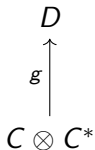
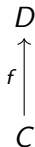
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$$\text{sign}((135)(24)) = (-1)^7 = -1$$

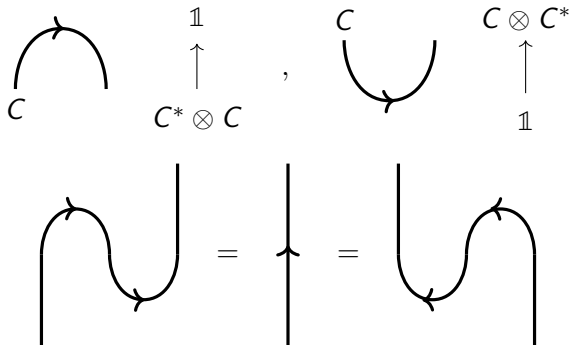
String diagrams in mathematics

2. Monoidal categories (rigid, pivotal)



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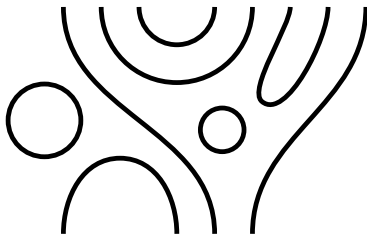
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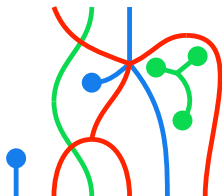
e.g. the Temperley–Lieb–Jones category



- Links to $\text{Rep}(\mathcal{U}_q(\mathfrak{sl}_2))$ and produces a knot invariant.

String diagrams in mathematics

3. Soergel bimodules (an additive monoidal category)



- Algebraic proof that generalises the Kazhdan–Lusztig conjecture (Elias–Williamson)
- Counterexample to Lusztig's conjecture (Williamson)

Representation theory motivation

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Diagrammatic Soergel
bimodules $\mathcal{DH}$



Reps of complex
semisimple Lie algebras

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Reps of complex
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Admissible reps of real
reductive Lie groups

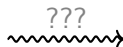
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Reps of complex
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Diagrammatic Lusztig–Vogan
categories $\mathcal{DN}^0$



Admissible reps of real
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Two colour diagrammatic Soergel bimodules

First, we need the diagrammatic Soergel bimodules $\mathcal{DH}$ for

$$S_3 = \langle \bullet, \bullet \mid \bullet^2 = \bullet^2 = 1, \bullet\bullet = \bullet\bullet \rangle.$$

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$\mathcal{DH}$ is a categorical version: ($\mathbb{C}$ -linear monoidal)

- *Objects:* $\mathbb{1}, \bullet, \bullet, \bullet\bullet, \bullet\bullet, \bullet\bullet, \bullet\bullet, \bullet\bullet, \bullet\bullet, \dots$

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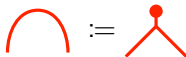
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These combine into



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- *Objects:* $\mathbb{1}, \bullet, \bullet, \bullet\bullet, \bullet\bullet, \bullet\bullet, \bullet\bullet, \bullet\bullet, \dots$
- *Morphisms:* generated by



- *Relations:* Planar isotopy,

$$\begin{array}{l}
 \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ | \\ \bullet \end{array} = 2 \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ | \\ \bullet \end{array} - \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ | \\ \bullet \end{array}, \quad \text{Y-junction relation} \quad \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ | \\ \bullet \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ | \\ \bullet \end{array}, \quad \text{Dot on line relation} \quad \bigcirc = 0, \quad \text{Cap relation} \\
 \text{Crossing relation} \quad \text{Dot on crossing relation} \quad \text{Dot on crossing relation}, \text{ etc.}
 \end{array}$$

Two colour diagrammatic Lusztig–Vogan category

We take the subgroup

$$\langle \bullet \rangle < \langle \bullet, \bullet \mid \bullet^2 = \bullet^2 = 1, \bullet\bullet\bullet = \bullet\bullet\bullet \rangle = S_3.$$

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- *Objects*: generated by minimal coset representatives

$$1, \circ, \circ\circ \quad \curvearrowright 1, \bullet, \bullet, \bullet\bullet, \dots$$

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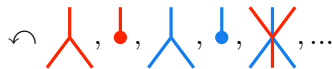
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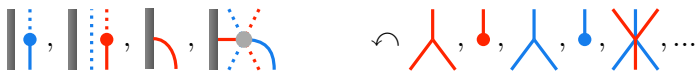
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The wall corresponds to the quotient:

$$\bullet = 1$$

$$\bullet\bullet\bullet = \bullet\bullet\bullet = \bullet\bullet$$

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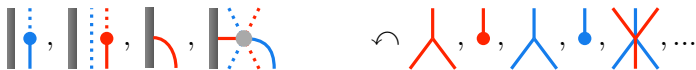
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- *Morphisms*: generated by



- *Relations*: Limited planar isotopy,

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \vdots \\ \bullet \end{array} &= - \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \vdots \\ \bullet \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \vdots \\ \bullet \end{array}, & \begin{array}{c} \text{red Y-junction} \end{array} &= \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \vdots \\ \bullet \end{array}, & \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \vdots \\ \bullet \end{array} &= 0 = \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \vdots \\ \bullet \end{array}, & \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \vdots \\ \bullet \end{array} &= \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \vdots \\ \bullet \end{array}, & \begin{array}{c} \text{red Y-junction} \end{array} &= \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \vdots \\ \bullet \end{array}, \\ \begin{array}{c} \text{grey dot with blue arc} \end{array} &= \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \vdots \\ \bullet \end{array}, & \begin{array}{c} \text{grey dot with blue arc} \end{array} &= \begin{array}{c} \text{crossed Y-junction} \end{array}, & \begin{array}{c} \text{grey dot with blue arc} \end{array} &= \begin{array}{c} \text{crossed Y-junction} \end{array} - \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \vdots \\ \bullet \end{array}, & \begin{array}{c} \text{grey dot with blue arc} \end{array} &= \begin{array}{c} \text{crossed Y-junction} \end{array}. \end{aligned}$$

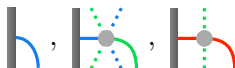
n -colour diagrammatic Lusztig–Vogan categories

We can generalise to

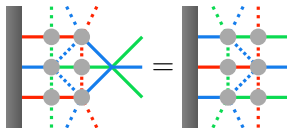
$$\langle s_1, \dots, s_{n-1} \rangle < \langle s_1, \dots, s_n \mid s_i^2 = 1, s_i s_{i+1} s_i = s_{i+1} s_i s_{i+1}, s_i s_j = s_j s_i \rangle \\ = S_{n+1}.$$

e.g. if $n = 3$, $\langle \bullet, \bullet \mid \dots \rangle < \langle \bullet, \bullet, \bullet \mid \dots \rangle = S_4$

- *Objects*: generated by $\mathbb{1}, \circ, \circ\circ, \circ\circ\circ$
- *New Morphisms*:



- *New Relation*: with 3-colors



Back to representation theory

Theorem (Z.)

There is an equivalence of $\mathbb{C}$ -linear module categories $\mathcal{DN}^0 \simeq \tilde{\mathcal{N}}^0$ for the real groups $SU(n, 1)$ and $n \geq 1$.

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Thank you for your attention.