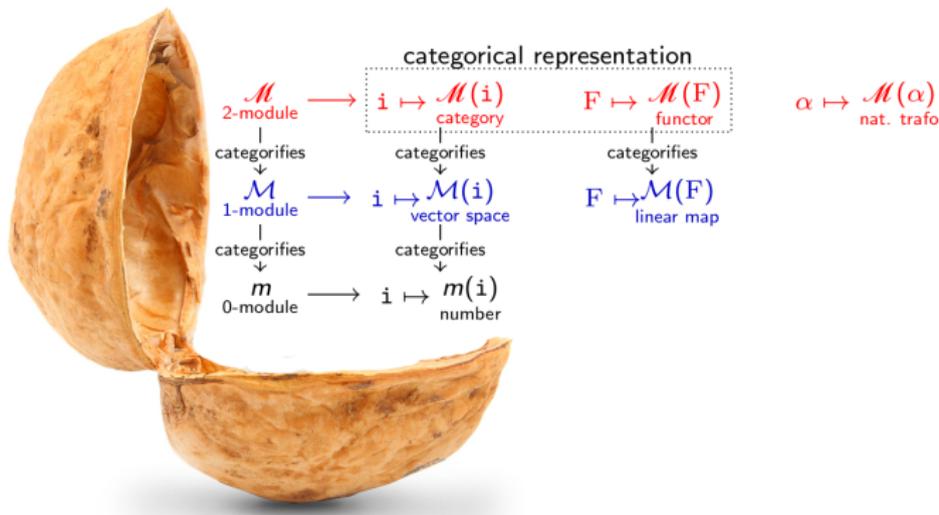


# 2-representation theory in a nutshell

Or:  $\mathbb{N}_0$ -matrices, my love



Joint with Marco Mackaay, Volodymyr Mazorchuk, Vanessa Miemietz and Xiaoting Zhang

October 2018

## 1 Philosophy: “Categorifying” classical representation theory

- Some classical results
- Some categorical results

## 2 Some details

- A brief primer on  $\mathbb{N}_0$ -representation theory
- A brief primer on 2-representation theory

# Pioneers of representation theory

Let  $G$  be a finite group.

**Frobenius**  $\sim 1895++$ , **Burnside**  $\sim 1900++$ . Representation theory is the study of linear group actions ▶ useful?

$$\mathcal{M}: G \rightarrow \mathcal{A}ut(V), \quad \boxed{\text{"}\mathcal{M}(g) = \text{a matrix in } \mathcal{A}ut(V)\text{"}}$$

with  $V$  being some vector space. (Called modules or representations.)

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The “atoms” of such an action are called simple.

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We want to have a  
categorical version of this!

# Pioneers of representation theory

Let  $A$  be a finite-dimensional algebra.

**Noether**  $\sim$ 1928++. Representation theory is the useful? study of algebra actions

$$\mathcal{M}: A \longrightarrow \mathcal{E}\text{nd}(V), \quad \boxed{\text{"}\mathcal{M}(a) = a \text{ matrix in } \mathcal{E}\text{nd}(V)\text{"}}$$

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We want to have a  
categorical version of this.

I am going to explain what we can do at present.

# The strategy

“Groups, as men, will be known by their actions.” – Guillermo Moreno

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The study of group actions is of fundamental importance in mathematics and related field. Sadly, it is also very hard.

**Representation theory approach.** The analogous linear problem of classifying  $G$ -modules has a satisfactory answer for many groups.

Problem involving  
a group action  
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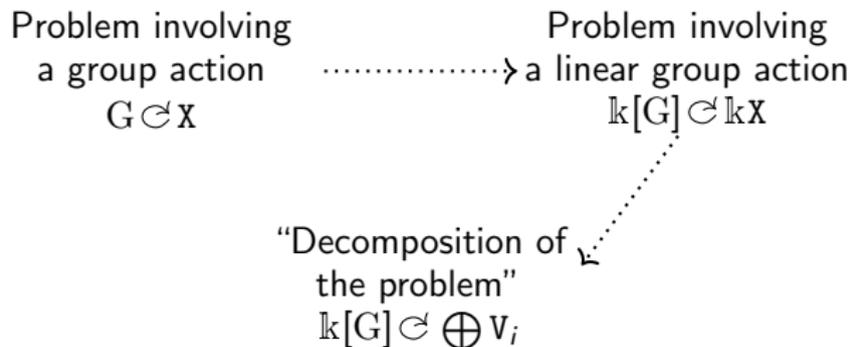
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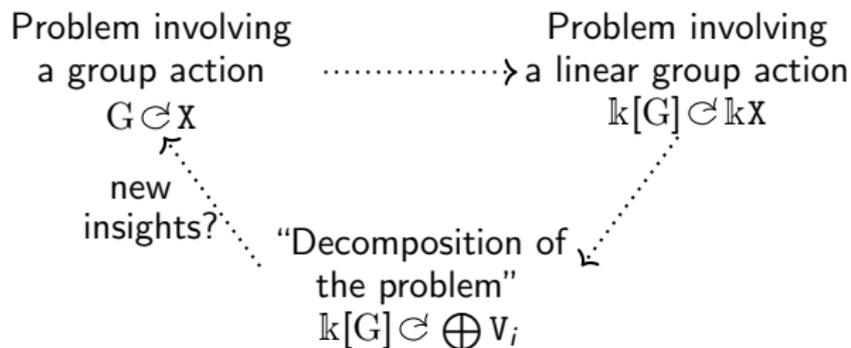
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**Philosophy.** Turn problems into linear algebra.

# Some theorems in classical representation theory

- ▷ All  $G$ -modules are built out of simples.
- ▷ The character of a simple  $G$ -module is an invariant.
- ▷ There is an injection

$$\begin{array}{c} \{\text{simple } G\text{-modules}\}/\text{iso} \\ \hookrightarrow \\ \{\text{conjugacy classes in } G\}, \end{array}$$

which is  $1 : 1$  in the semisimple case.

- ▷ All simples can be constructed intrinsically using the regular  $G$ -module.

# Some theorems in classical representation theory

- ▷ All  $G$ -modules are built out of simples.
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The character only remembers the traces of the acting matrices.

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“Regular  $G$ -module  
=  $G$  acting on itself.”

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# Some theorems in classical representation theory

Find categorical versions of these facts.

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# Pioneers of 2-representation theory

Let  $G$  be a finite group.

Plus some coherence conditions which I will not explain.

**Chuang–Rouquier & many others ~2004++**. Higher representation theory is the useful? study of (certain) categorical actions, e.g.

$$\mathcal{M} : G \longrightarrow \mathcal{A}ut(\mathcal{V}), \quad \boxed{\mathcal{M}(g) = \text{a functor in } \mathcal{A}ut(\mathcal{V})}$$

with  $\mathcal{V}$  being some  $\mathbb{C}$ -linear category. (Called 2-modules or 2-representations.)

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The “atoms” of such an action are called 2-simple.

**Mazorchuk–Miemietz ~2014**. All (suitable) 2-modules are built out of 2-simples (“weak 2-Jordan–Hölder filtration”).

# Pioneers of 2-representation theory

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a finitary 2-category.

**Chuang–Rouquier & many others ~2004++**. Higher representation theory is the ▶ useful? study of actions of 2-categories:

$$\mathcal{M}: \mathcal{C} \longrightarrow \mathcal{E}\text{nd}(\mathcal{V}),$$

with  $\mathcal{V}$  being some  $\mathbb{C}$ -linear category. (Called 2-modules or 2-representations.)

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## The three goals of 2-representation theory.

Improve the theory itself.

Discuss examples.

Find applications.

# The strategy – part two

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**2-Representation theory approach.** The higher structure might give new insights into known group actions.

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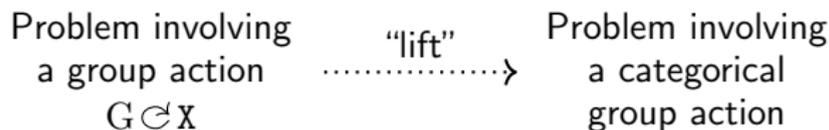
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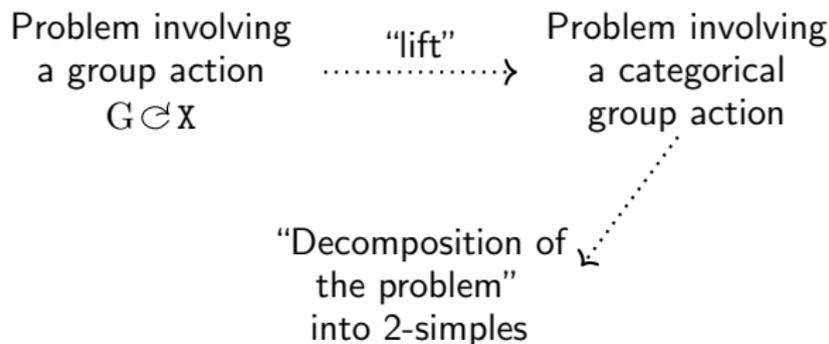
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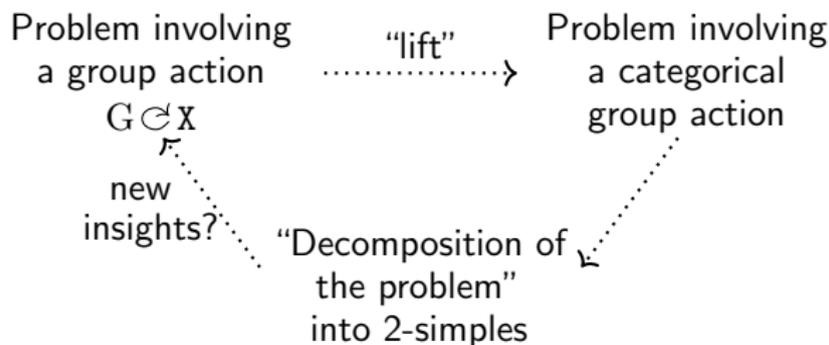
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**Example (Khovanov–Seidel & others ~2000++).**

There is a whole zoo of categorical actions of braid groups which are “easily” shown to be faithful.

This is a big open problem for most braid groups and their modules.

insights?

“Decomposition of the problem”  
into 2-simples

# “Lifting” classical representation theory

- ▷ All  $G$ -modules are built out of simples.
- ▷ The character of a simple  $G$ -module is an invariant.
- ▷ There is an injection

$$\begin{array}{c} \{\text{simple } G\text{-modules}\}/\text{iso} \\ \hookrightarrow \\ \{\text{conjugacy classes in } G\}, \end{array}$$

which is  $1 : 1$  in the semisimple case.

- ▷ All simples can be constructed intrinsically using the regular  $G$ -module.

# “Lifting” classical representation theory

Note that we have a very particular notion what a “suitable” 2-module is.

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# “Lifting” classical representation theory

What characters were for Frobenius are these matrices for us.

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- ▷ The decategorified actions (a.k.a. matrices) of the  $M(\mathbb{F})$ 's are invariants.
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{2-simples of  $\mathcal{C}$ }/equi.

$\hookrightarrow$

There are some technicalities.

{certain (co)algebra 1-morphisms}/“2-Morita equi.”,

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- ▷ There exists principal 2-modules lifting the regular module.  
Even in well-behaved cases there are 2-simples which do not arise in this way.

These turned out to be very interesting,  
since their importance is only visible via categorification.

# $\mathbb{N}_0$ -algebras and their modules

An algebra  $P$  with a basis  $B^P$  with  $1 \in B^P$  is called a  $\mathbb{N}_0$ -algebra if

$$xy \in \mathbb{N}_0 B^P \quad (x, y \in B^P).$$

---

A  $P$ -module  $M$  with a basis  $B^M$  is called a  $\mathbb{N}_0$ -module if

$$xm \in \mathbb{N}_0 B^M \quad (x \in B^P, m \in B^M).$$

These are  $\mathbb{N}_0$ -equivalent if there is a  $\mathbb{N}_0$ -valued change of basis matrix.

---

**Example.**  $\mathbb{N}_0$ -algebras and  $\mathbb{N}_0$ -modules arise naturally as the decategorification of 2-categories and 2-modules, and  $\mathbb{N}_0$ -equivalence comes from 2-equivalence.

**Example.**

Group algebras of finite groups with basis given by group elements are  $\mathbb{N}_0$ -algebras.

The regular module is a  $\mathbb{N}_0$ -module.

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The regular module of a group algebra decomposes over  $\mathbb{C}$  into simples.

However, this decomposition is almost never an  $\mathbb{N}_0$ -equivalence.

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### Example.

Hecke algebras of (finite) Coxeter groups with their Kazhdan–Lusztig (KL) basis are  $\mathbb{N}_0$ -algebras.

For the symmetric group a ▶ miracle happens: all simples are  $\mathbb{N}_0$ -modules.

# Cells of $\mathbb{N}_0$ -algebras and $\mathbb{N}_0$ -modules

**Clifford, Munn, Ponizovskii**  $\sim 1942++$ , **Kazhdan–Lusztig**  $\sim 1979$ .  $x \leq_L y$  if  $x$  appears in  $zy$  with non-zero coefficient for  $z \in B^P$ .  $x \sim_L y$  if  $x \leq_L y$  and  $y \leq_L x$ .  $\sim_L$  partitions  $P$  into left cells  $L$ . Similarly for right  $R$ , two-sided cells  $J$  or  $\mathbb{N}_0$ -modules.

---

A  $\mathbb{N}_0$ -module  $M$  is transitive if all basis elements belong to the same  $\sim_L$  equivalence class. An apex of  $M$  is a maximal two-sided cell not killing it.

**Fact.** Each transitive  $\mathbb{N}_0$ -module has a unique apex.

Hence, one can study them cell-wise.

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**Example.** Transitive  $\mathbb{N}_0$ -modules arise naturally as the decategorification of simple 2-modules.

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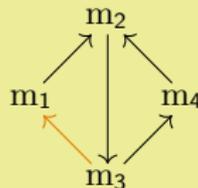
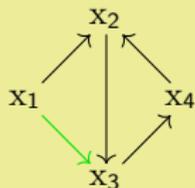
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**Example.** Tran  
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## Philosophy.

Imagine a graph whose vertices are the  $x$ 's or the  $m$ 's.  
 $v_1 \rightarrow v_2$  if  $v_1$  appears in  $zv_2$ .



cells = connected components  
transitive = one connected component

"The simples or atoms of  $\mathbb{N}_0$ -representation theory".

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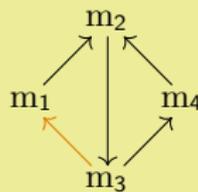
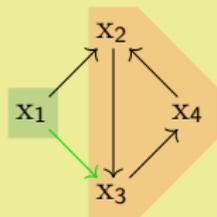
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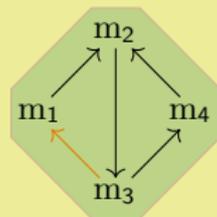
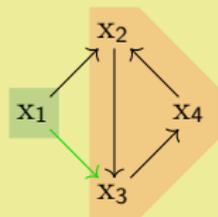
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**Example.**

Group algebras with the group element basis have only one cell,  $G$  itself.

Clifford

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**Example.** Transitive  $\mathbb{N}_0$ -modules arise naturally as the decategorification of simple 2-modules.

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Group algebras with the group element basis have only one cell,  $G$  itself.

**Clifford** Transitive  $\mathbb{N}_0$ -modules are  $\mathbb{C}[G/H]$  for  $H$  being a subgroup. The apex is  $G$ .

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Hecke algebras for the symmetric group with KL basis have [▶ cells](#) coming from the Robinson–Schensted correspondence.

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### Example.

Take  $G = \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z}$ . Then  $G$  has three conjugacy classes and three associated simples. These are given by specifying a third root of unity.

$G$  has only one non-trivial subgroup;  $G$  itself.  
The associated  $\mathbb{N}_0$ -module is the regular  $G$ -module.

**Moral.**  $\mathbb{N}_0$ -representation theory studies modules which make [▶ sense](#) in any characteristic.

# Cell-modules

Natural, and computable, examples of transitive  $\mathbb{N}_0$ -modules are the so-called cell modules which, in some sense, play the role of regular modules.

---

Fix a left cell  $L$ . Let  $M(\geq_L)$ , respectively  $M(>_L)$ , be the  $\mathbb{N}_0$ -modules spanned by all  $x \in B^P$  in the union  $L' \geq_L L$ , respectively  $L' >_L L$ .

We call  $C_L = M(\geq_L)/M(>_L)$  the (left) cell module for  $L$ .

**Fact.** “Cell  $\Rightarrow$  transitive  $\mathbb{N}_0$ -module”.

**Empirical fact.** In well-behaved cases “Cell  $\Leftrightarrow$  transitive  $\mathbb{N}_0$ -module”, and classification of transitive  $\mathbb{N}_0$ -modules is fairly easy.

**Question.** Are there natural examples where “Cell  $\not\Leftarrow$  transitive  $\mathbb{N}_0$ -module”?

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**Example.** Decategorifications of cell 2-modules are key examples of cell modules.

### Example.

$\mathbb{C}[G]$  with the group element basis has only one cell module, the regular module.

However, the transitive  $\mathbb{N}_0$ -modules  $\mathbb{C}[G/H]$  are cell modules for  $G/H$ .

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### Example (Kazhdan–Lusztig $\sim$ 1979, Lusztig $\sim$ 1983++).

For Hecke algebras of the symmetric group with KL basis

"Cell  $\Leftrightarrow$  transitive  $\mathbb{N}_0$ -module". [▶ Example](#).

In general, for Hecke algebras the cell modules are Lusztig's cell modules studied in connection with reductive groups in characteristic  $p$ .

**Question.** Are there natural examples where "Cell  $\not\Leftarrow$  transitive  $\mathbb{N}_0$ -module"?

**Example.** Decategorifications of cell 2-modules are key examples of cell modules.

### Example.

$\mathbb{C}[G]$  with the group element basis has only one cell module, the regular module.

However, the transitive  $\mathbb{N}_0$ -modules  $\mathbb{C}[G/H]$  are cell modules for  $G/H$ .

So morally, "Cell  $\Leftrightarrow$  transitive  $\mathbb{N}_0$ -module".

### Example (Kazhdan–Lusztig $\sim$ 1979, Lusztig $\sim$ 1983++).

For Hecke algebras of the symmetric group with KL basis

"Cell  $\Leftrightarrow$  transitive  $\mathbb{N}_0$ -module". [▶ Example](#).

In general, for Hecke algebras the cell modules are Lusztig's cell modules studied in connection with reductive groups in characteristic  $p$ .

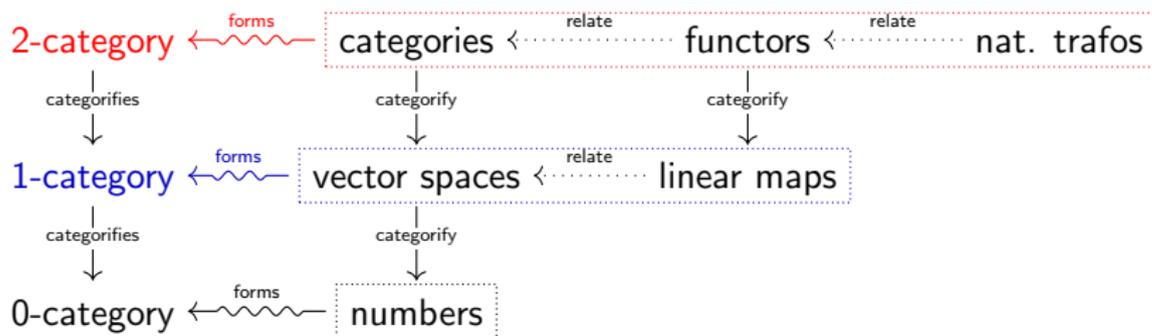
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Morally speaking, the more complicated the cell structure, the more likely that "Cell  $\not\Leftarrow$  transitive  $\mathbb{N}_0$ -module".

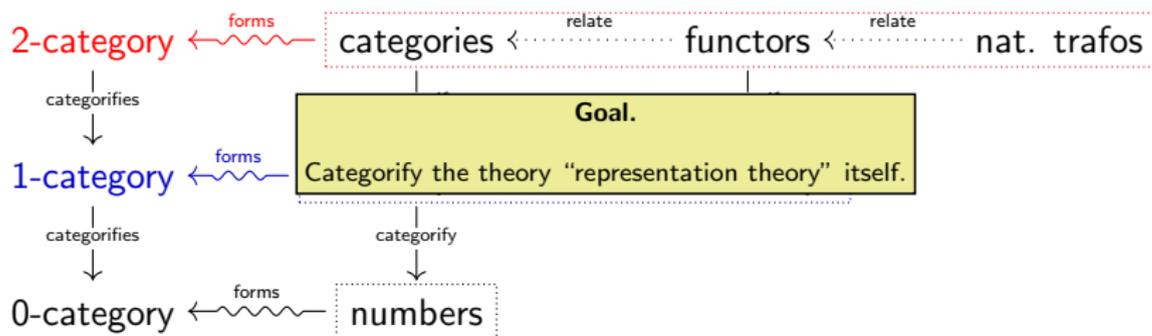
[▶ Example](#)

# 2-representation theory in a nutshell

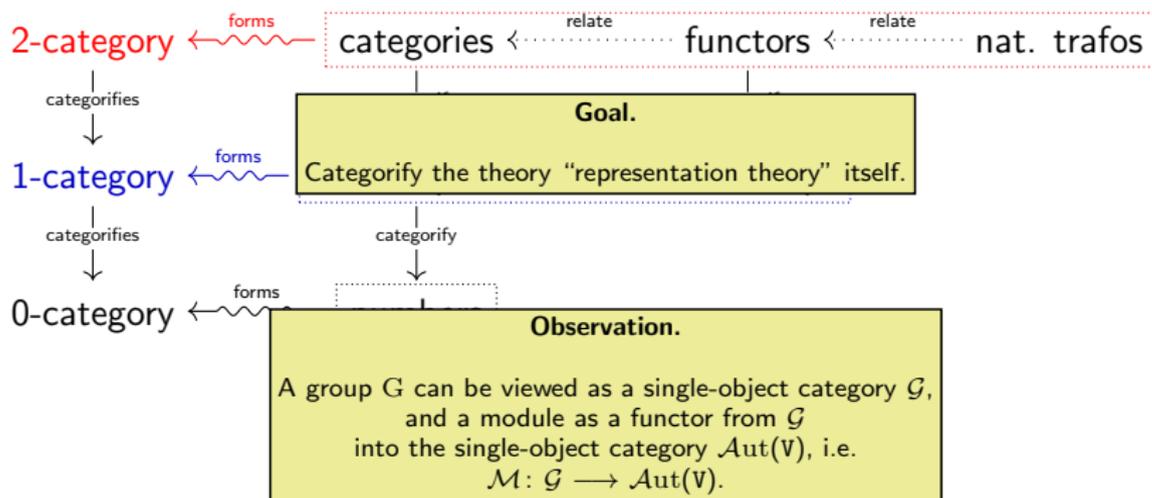


The ladder of categorification: in each step there is a new layer of structure which is invisible on the ladder rung below.

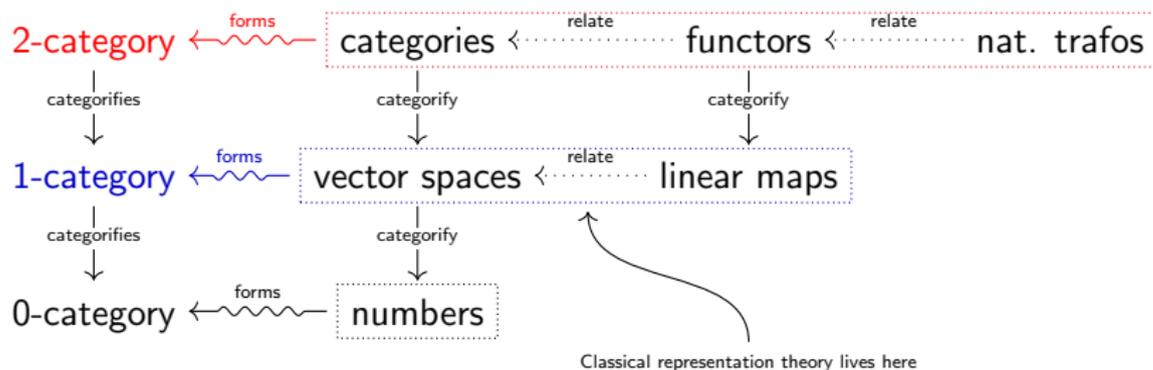
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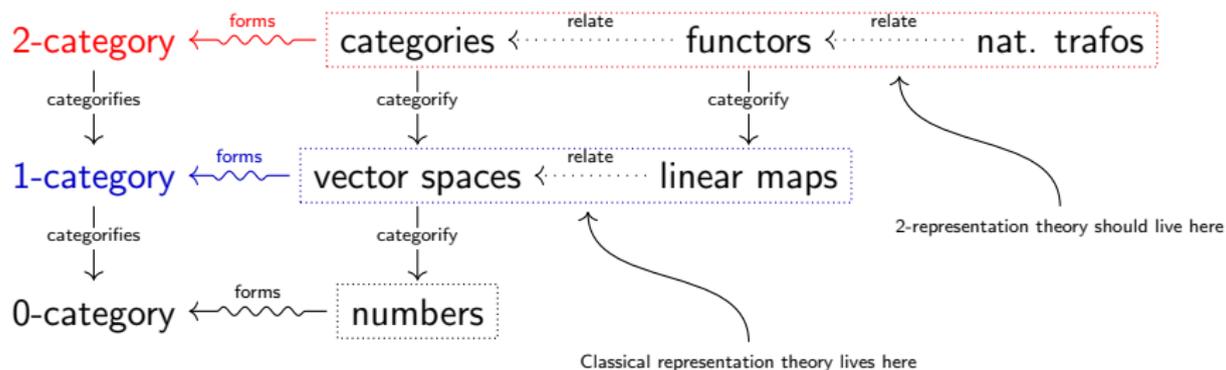
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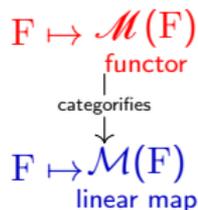
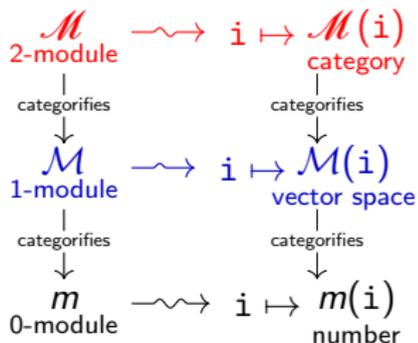
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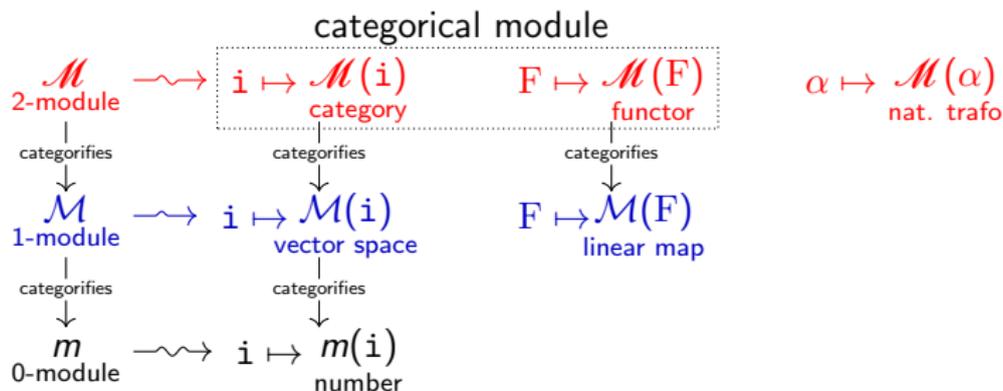


# 2-representation theory in a nutshell



$$\alpha \mapsto \mathcal{M}(\alpha) \\
 \text{nat. trafo}$$

# 2-representation theory in a nutshell



# “Lifting” $\mathbb{N}_0$ -representation theory

An additive,  $\mathbb{k}$ -linear, idempotent complete, Krull–Schmidt 2-category  $\mathcal{C}$  is called finitary if some finiteness conditions hold.

---

A simple transitive 2-module (2-simple) of  $\mathcal{C}$  is an additive,  $\mathbb{k}$ -linear 2-functor

$$\mathcal{M} : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}^f (= \text{2-cat of finitary cats}),$$

such that there are no non-zero proper  $\mathcal{C}$ -stable ideals.

There is also the notion of 2-equivalence.

---

**Example.**  $\mathbb{N}_0$ -algebras and  $\mathbb{N}_0$ -modules arise naturally as the decategorification of 2-categories and 2-modules, and  $\mathbb{N}_0$ -equivalence comes from 2-equivalence.

2-Simples  $\iff$  simples (e.g. weak 2-Jordan–Hölder filtration),

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Define cell theory similarly as for  $\mathbb{N}_0$ -algebras and -modules.

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### Chan–Mazorchuk ~2016.

Every 2-simple has an associated apex not killing it.

Thus, we can again study them separately for different cells.

**Example.**

An additive  $B\text{-Mod}$  (+fc=some finiteness condition) is a prototypical object of  $\mathcal{A}^f$ , called finitary

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**Example (Mazorchuk–Miemietz & Chuang–Rouquier & Khovanov–Lauda & ...).**

2-Kac–Moody algebras (+fc) are finitary 2-categories.

Their 2-simples are categorifications of the simples.

# “Lifting” $\mathbb{N}_0$ -representation theory

**Example (Mazorchuk–Miemietz & Soergel & Khovanov–Mazorchuk–Stroppel & ...).**

Soergel bimodules for finite Coxeter groups are finitary 2-categories.  
(Coxeter=Weyl: “Indecomposable projective functors on  $\mathcal{O}_0$ .”)

Symmetric group: the 2-simples are categorifications of the simples.

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Quotients of Soergel bimodules (+fc), e.g. small quotients, are finitary 2-categories.

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**Example.**

Fusion or modular categories are semisimple examples of finitary 2-categories. (Think:  $\mathcal{R}ep(G)$  or module categories of quantum groups.)  
Their 2-modules play a prominent role in quantum algebra and topology.

# “Lifting” $\mathbb{N}_0$ -representation theory

An additive,  $\mathbb{k}$ -linear, idempotent complete, Krull–Schmidt 2-category  $\mathcal{C}$  is called finitary if some finiteness conditions hold.

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**Question (“2-representation theory”).**

such that there a **Classify all 2-simples of a fixed finitary 2-category.**

There is also the notion of 2-equivalence.  
This is the categorification of

**Example.**  $\mathbb{N}$  ‘Classify all simples a fixed finite-dimensional algebra’, categorification of  
2-categories  $\mathbb{N}$  2-categories  $\mathbb{N}$  equivalence.

but much harder, e.g. it is unknown whether  
there are always only finitely many 2-simples (probably not).

## 2-modules of dihedral groups

The dihedral group  $D_{2n}$  of the regular  $n$ -gon has two reflection generators  $s, t$ .

$$\text{Consider: } \theta_s = s + 1, \quad \theta_t = t + 1.$$

(Motivation. The KL basis has some neat integral properties.)

---

These elements generate  $\mathbb{C}[D_{2n}]$  and their relations are fully understood:

$$\theta_s \theta_s = 2\theta_s, \quad \theta_t \theta_t = 2\theta_t, \quad \text{a relation for } \underbrace{\dots sts}_n = \underbrace{\dots tst}_n.$$

---

We want a categorical action. So we need:

- ▷ A category  $\mathcal{V}$  to act on.
- ▷ Endofunctors  $\Theta_s$  and  $\Theta_t$  acting on  $\mathcal{V}$ .
- ▷ The relations of  $\theta_s$  and  $\theta_t$  have to be satisfied by the functors.
- ▷ A coherent choice of natural transformations. (Skipped today.)

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## Theorem ~2016.

There is a one-to-one correspondence

$\{(\text{non-trivial}) \text{ 2-simple } D_{2n}\text{-modules}\} / \text{2-iso}$

$\xleftrightarrow{1:1}$

$\{\text{bicolored ADE Dynkin diagrams with Coxeter number } n\}$ .

mod:

$tst$ .

$n$

Thus, it's easy to write down a [list](#).

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## Pioneers of representation theory

Let  $G$  be a finite group.

**Frobenius** ~1850-19, **Burnside** ~1900-+. Representation theory is the study of linear group actions.

$$M: G \rightarrow \text{Aut}(V),$$

with  $V$  being some vector space. (Called modules or representations.)

The "atoms" of such an action are called simple.

**Maschke** ~1899. All modules are built out of simples ("Jordan-Hölder filtration").

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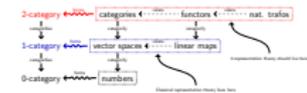
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**Mazorchuk-Miemietz** ~2014. All 2-modules are built out of 2-simples ("2-Jordan-Hölder filtration").

The three goals of 2-representation theory improve the theory itself. Discuss examples. Find applications.

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## 2-representation theory in a nutshell



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## Some theorems in classical representation theory

- All  $\mathbb{C}G$ -modules are built out of simples.
- The character of a simple  $G$ -module is an invariant.
- There is an injection

$$(\text{simple } G\text{-modules})/\text{iso}$$

$\hookrightarrow$

$$(\text{conjugacy classes in } G),$$

which is 1 : 1 in the semi-simple case.

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## "Lifting" classical representation theory

- All (certain) 2-modules are built out of 2-simples.
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$$\{\text{certain (co)algebra 1-morphisms}\}/\cong \text{Morita equiv.},$$

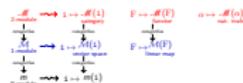
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These turned out to be very interesting, hence their importance is only visible via categorification.

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## 2-representation theory in a nutshell



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Figure: "Über Gruppencharaktere (i.e. characters of groups)" by Frobenius (1896). Bottom: first published character table.

Note the root of unity  $\mu_3$

**Example (SAGE).** The Weyl group of type  $B_4$ . Number of elements: 40320. Number of cells: 26, named 0 (trivial) to 25 (top).

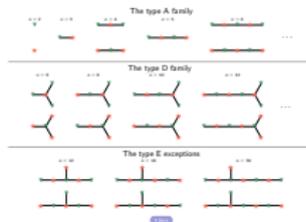
Cell order:



Size of the cells and whether the cells are strongly regular (sr):

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

In general there will be plenty of non-cell modules which are transitive  $\mathbb{C}G$ -modules.



There is still much to do...

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Speaker: Tubbenhauer | Topic: Representation theory in a nutshell | Semester: 2018 | Page: 1 / 21

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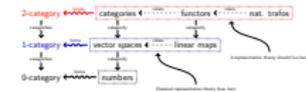
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Speaker: Tubbenhauer | Topic: Representation theory in a nutshell | Semester: 2018 | Page: 2 / 21

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Speaker: Tubbenhauer | Topic: Representation theory in a nutshell | Semester: 2018 | Page: 3 / 21

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Speaker: Tubbenhauer | Topic: Representation theory in a nutshell | Semester: 2018 | Page: 4 / 21

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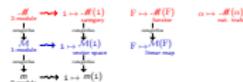
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## 2-representation theory in a nutshell



Speaker: Tubbenhauer | Topic: Representation theory in a nutshell | Semester: 2018 | Page: 6 / 21



Figure: "Über Gruppencharaktere (i.e. characters of groups)" by Frobenius (1896).  
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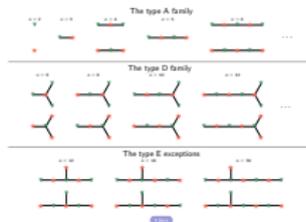
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In general there will be plenty of non-cell modules which are torsion  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -modules.



Thanks for your attention!

It may then be asked why, in a book which professes to leave all applications on one side, a considerable space is devoted to substitution groups; while other particular modes of representation, such as groups of linear transformations, are not even referred to. My answer to this question is that while, in the present state of our knowledge, many results in the pure theory are arrived at most readily by dealing with properties of substitution groups, it would be difficult to find a result that could be most directly obtained by the consideration of groups of linear transformations.

VERY considerable advances in the theory of groups of finite order have been made since the appearance of the first edition of this book. In particular the theory of groups of linear substitutions has been the subject of numerous and important investigations by several writers; and the reason given in the original preface for omitting any account of it no longer holds good.

In fact it is now more true to say that for further advances in the abstract theory one must look largely to the representation of a group as a group of linear substitutions. There is

**Figure:** Quotes from “Theory of Groups of Finite Order” by Burnside. Top: first edition (1897); bottom: second edition (1911).

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samen Factor  $f$  abgesehen) einen relativen Charakter von  $\mathfrak{S}$ , und umgekehrt lässt sich jeder relative Charakter von  $\mathfrak{S}$ ,  $\chi_0, \dots, \chi_{k-1}$ , auf eine oder mehrere Arten durch Hinzufügung passender Werthe  $\chi_k, \dots, \chi_{k-1}$  zu einem Charakter von  $\mathfrak{S}'$  ergänzen.

## § 8.

Ich will nun die Theorie der Gruppencharaktere an einigen Beispielen erläutern. Die geraden Permutationen von 4 Symbolen bilden eine Gruppe  $\mathfrak{S}$  der Ordnung  $h=12$ . Ihre Elemente zerfallen in 4 Classen, die Elemente der Ordnung 2 bilden eine zweiseitige Classe (1), die der Ordnung 3 zwei inverse Classen (2) und (3) = (2'). Sei  $\rho$  eine primitive cubische Wurzel der Einheit.

Tetraeder.  $h=12$ .

	$\chi^{(0)}$	$\chi^{(1)}$	$\chi^{(2)}$	$\chi^{(3)}$	$h_a$
$\chi_0$	1	3	1	1	1
$\chi_1$	1	-1	1	1	3
$\chi_2$	1	0	$\rho$	$\rho^2$	4
$\chi_3$	1	0	$\rho^2$	$\rho$	4

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**Khovanov & others**  $\sim 1999++$ . Knot homologies are instances of 2-representation theory. [Low-dim. topology & Math. Physics](#)

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**Khovanov–Seidel & others**  $\sim 2000++$ . Faithful 2-modules of braid groups. [Low-dim. topology & Symplectic geometry](#)

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**Chuang–Rouquier**  $\sim 2004$ . Proof of the Broué conjecture using 2-representation theory.  [\$p\$ -RT of finite groups & Geometry & Combinatorics](#)

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**Elias–Williamson**  $\sim 2012$ . Proof of the Kazhdan–Lusztig conjecture using ideas from 2-representation theory. [Combinatorics & RT & Geometry](#)

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**Riche–Williamson**  $\sim 2015$ . Tilting characters using 2-representation theory.  [\$p\$ -RT of reductive groups & Geometry](#)

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**Many more...**

**Khovanov & others** ~1999++. Knot homologies are instances of 2-representation theory. **Low-dim. topology & Math. Physics**

**Khovanov–Seidel & others** ~2000++. Faithful 2-modules of braid groups. **Low-dim. topology & Symplectic geometry**

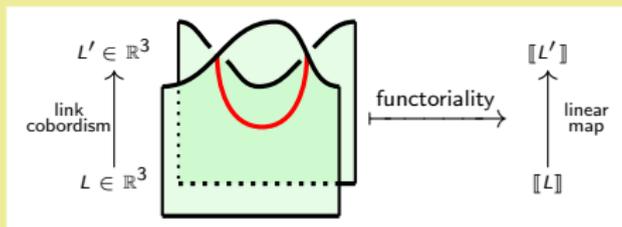
**Chuang–Rouquier**  
theory.  **$p$ -RT**

**Elias–Williamson**  
from 2-representation

**Riche–Williamson**  
 **$p$ -RT of reduced**

Many more...

Functoriality of Khovanov–Rozansky's invariants ~2017.



(This was conjectured for about 10 years, but seemed infeasible to prove, and has some impact on 4-dim. topology.)

The main ingredient?  
2-representation theory.

The KL basis elements for  $S_3$  with  $s = (1, 2)$ ,  $t = (2, 3)$  and  $sts = w_0 = tst$  are:

$$\theta_1 = 1, \quad \theta_s = s + 1, \quad \theta_t = t + 1, \quad \theta_{ts} = ts + s + t + 1,$$

$$\theta_{st} = st + s + t + 1, \quad \theta_{w_0} = w_0 + ts + st + s + t + 1.$$

	1	s	t	ts	st	w <sub>0</sub>
	1	1	1	1	1	1
	2	0	0	-1	-1	0
	1	-1	-1	1	1	-1

**Figure:** The character table of  $S_3$ .

The KL basis elements for  $S_3$  with  $\mathbf{s} = (1, 2)$ ,  $\mathbf{t} = (2, 3)$  and  $\mathbf{sts} = w_0 = \mathbf{tst}$  are:

$$\theta_1 = 1, \quad \theta_{\mathbf{s}} = \mathbf{s} + 1, \quad \theta_{\mathbf{t}} = \mathbf{t} + 1, \quad \theta_{\mathbf{ts}} = \mathbf{ts} + \mathbf{s} + \mathbf{t} + 1,$$

$$\theta_{\mathbf{st}} = \mathbf{st} + \mathbf{s} + \mathbf{t} + 1, \quad \theta_{w_0} = w_0 + \mathbf{ts} + \mathbf{st} + \mathbf{s} + \mathbf{t} + 1.$$

	$\theta_1$	$\theta_{\mathbf{s}}$	$\theta_{\mathbf{t}}$	$\theta_{\mathbf{ts}}$	$\theta_{\mathbf{st}}$	$\theta_{w_0}$
	1	2	2	4	4	6
	2	2	2	1	1	0
	1	0	0	0	0	0

**Figure:** The character table of  $S_3$ .

The KL basis elements for  $S_3$  with  $\mathbf{s} = (1, 2)$ ,  $\mathbf{t} = (2, 3)$  and  $\mathbf{sts} = w_0 = \mathbf{tst}$  are:

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	$\theta_1$	$\theta_{\mathbf{s}}$	$\theta_{\mathbf{t}}$	$\theta_{\mathbf{ts}}$	$\theta_{\mathbf{st}}$	$\theta_{w_0}$
						6
						0
	1	0	0	0	0	0

**Remark.**

This non-negativity of the KL basis is true for all symmetric groups, but not for most other groups (as we will see).

**Figure:** The character table of  $S_3$ .

(Robinson  $\sim 1938$  & ) Schensted  $\sim 1961$  & Kazhdan–Lusztig  $\sim 1979$ .

Elements of  $S_n \xrightarrow{1:1} (P, Q)$  standard Young tableaux of the same shape. Left, right and two-sided cells of  $S_n$ :

- ▶  $s \sim_L t$  if and only if  $Q(s) = Q(t)$ .
- ▶  $s \sim_R t$  if and only if  $P(s) = P(t)$ .
- ▶  $s \sim_J t$  if and only if  $P(s)$  and  $P(t)$  have the same shape.

---

**Example ( $n = 3$ ).**

$$\begin{array}{llll} 1 \longleftrightarrow \boxed{1|2|3}, \boxed{1|2|3} & s \longleftrightarrow \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 3 \\ \hline 2 & 2 \\ \hline \end{array}, \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 3 \\ \hline 2 & 2 \\ \hline \end{array} & ts \longleftrightarrow \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 \\ \hline 3 & 2 \\ \hline \end{array}, \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 3 \\ \hline 2 & 2 \\ \hline \end{array} & w_0 \longleftrightarrow \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 1 \\ \hline 2 & 2 \\ \hline 3 & 3 \\ \hline \end{array}, \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 1 \\ \hline 2 & 2 \\ \hline 3 & 3 \\ \hline \end{array} \\ t \longleftrightarrow \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 \\ \hline 3 & 3 \\ \hline \end{array}, \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 \\ \hline 3 & 3 \\ \hline \end{array} & st \longleftrightarrow \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 3 \\ \hline 2 & 3 \\ \hline \end{array}, \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 \\ \hline 3 & 3 \\ \hline \end{array} & & \end{array}$$

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Example ( $n = 3$ ).

Left cells

$$\begin{array}{l}
 1 \leftrightarrow \boxed{1|2|3}, \boxed{1|2|3} \\
 s \leftrightarrow \boxed{1|3}, \boxed{1|3} \\
 t \leftrightarrow \boxed{1|2}, \boxed{1|2} \\
 ts \leftrightarrow \boxed{1|2}, \boxed{1|3} \\
 st \leftrightarrow \boxed{1|3}, \boxed{1|2} \\
 w_0 \leftrightarrow \boxed{1}, \boxed{1} \\
 \quad \quad \quad \boxed{2}, \boxed{2} \\
 \quad \quad \quad \boxed{3}, \boxed{3}
 \end{array}$$

(Robinson  $\sim 1938$  & ) Schensted  $\sim 1961$  & Kazhdan–Lusztig  $\sim 1979$ .

Elements of  $S_n \xleftrightarrow{1:1} (P, Q)$  standard Young tableaux of the same shape. Left, right and two-sided cells of  $S_n$ :

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- ▶  $s \sim_J t$  if and only if  $P(s)$  and  $P(t)$  have the same shape.

Example ( $n = 3$ ).

Right cells

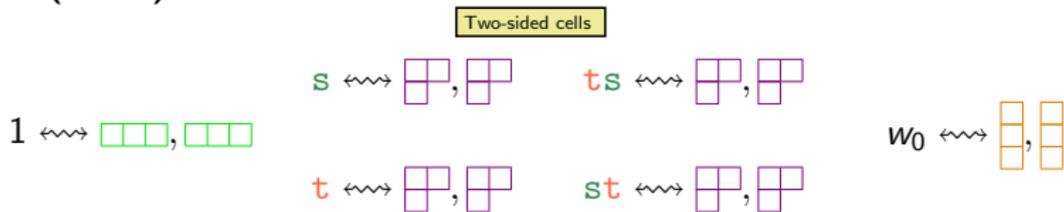
$$\begin{array}{l}
 1 \leftrightarrow \boxed{123}, \boxed{123} \\
 s \leftrightarrow \boxed{13}, \boxed{2} \quad ts \leftrightarrow \boxed{12}, \boxed{3} \\
 t \leftrightarrow \boxed{12}, \boxed{3} \quad st \leftrightarrow \boxed{13}, \boxed{2} \\
 w_0 \leftrightarrow \boxed{1}, \boxed{2}, \boxed{3}
 \end{array}$$

(Robinson  $\sim 1938$  & ) Schensted  $\sim 1961$  & Kazhdan–Lusztig  $\sim 1979$ .

Elements of  $S_n \xleftrightarrow{1:1} (P, Q)$  standard Young tableaux of the same shape. Left, right and two-sided cells of  $S_n$ :

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Elements of  $S_n \xrightarrow{1:1} (P, Q)$  standard Young tableaux of the same shape. Left, right and

- ▶  $s \sim$
- ▶  $s \sim$
- ▶  $s \sim$

Apexes:

	$\theta_1$	$\theta_s$	$\theta_t$	$\theta_{ts}$	$\theta_{st}$	$\theta_{w_0}$
	1	2	2	4	4	6
	2	2	2	1	1	0
	1	0	0	0	0	0

The  $\mathbb{N}_0$ -modules are the simples.

Examp

The regular  $\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z}$ -module is

$$0 \leftrightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \& \quad 1 \leftrightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \& \quad 2 \leftrightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Jordan decomposition over  $\mathbb{C}$  with  $\zeta^3 = 1$  gives

$$0 \leftrightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \& \quad 1 \leftrightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \zeta & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \zeta^{-1} \end{pmatrix} \quad \& \quad 2 \leftrightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \zeta^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \zeta \end{pmatrix}$$

However, Jordan decomposition over  $\mathbb{f}_3$  gives

$$0 \leftrightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \& \quad 1 \leftrightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \& \quad 2 \leftrightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

and the regular module does not decompose.

**Example (SAGE).** The symmetric group on 4 strands. Number of elements: 24.  
 Number of cells: 5, named 0 (trivial) to 4 (top).

Cell order:

0 — 1 — 2 — 3 — 4

Size of the cells:

cell	0	1	2	3	4
size	1	9	4	9	1

Left cells are rows,  
 right cells are columns.

Cell 1 is e.g.:

$s_1$	$s_2 s_1$	$s_3 s_2 s_1$	number of elements →	1	1	1
$s_1 s_2$	$s_2$	$s_3 s_2$		1	1	1
$s_1 s_2 s_3$	$s_2 s_3$	$s_3$		1	1	1

Such cells of square size are called strongly regular.

**Example (SAGE).** The symmetric group on 4 strands. Number of elements: 24.  
 Number of cells: 5,

**Fact.**

"Cell  $\Leftrightarrow$  transitive  $\mathbb{N}_0$ -module" holds  
 $\mathbb{N}_0$ -algebras with only strongly regular cells.

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cell	0	1	2	3	4
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$s_1$	$s_2 s_1$	$s_3 s_2 s_1$	$\xrightarrow{\text{number of elements}}$	1	1	1
$s_1 s_2$	$s_2$	$s_3 s_2$		1	1	1
$s_1 s_2 s_3$	$s_2 s_3$	$s_3$		1	1	1

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Cell order:

Size of the cells:

cell	0	1	2	3	4
------	---	---	---	---	---

**Fact.**

For the symmetric group all cells are strongly regular.

Cell 1 is e.g.:

$s_1$	$s_2 s_1$	$s_3 s_2 s_1$	number of elements $\longrightarrow$	1	1	1
$s_1 s_2$	$s_2$	$s_3 s_2$		1	1	1
$s_1 s_2 s_3$	$s_2 s_3$	$s_3$		1	1	1

Such cells of square size are called strongly regular.

**Example (SAGE).** The symmetric group on 4 strands. Number of elements: 24.  
 Number of cells: 5, named 0 (trivial) to 4 (top).

Cell order:

$$0 \text{ --- } 1 \text{ --- } 2 \text{ --- } 3 \text{ --- } 4$$

Size of t

**Example.** There are three rows with three elements,  
 so three cells modules of dimension three.

Cell 1 is

All of them are isomorphic and here is one of them:

$$s_1 \rightsquigarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } s_2 \rightsquigarrow \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } s_3 \rightsquigarrow \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$s_1 s_2 s_3$

$s_2 s_3$

$s_3$

1

1

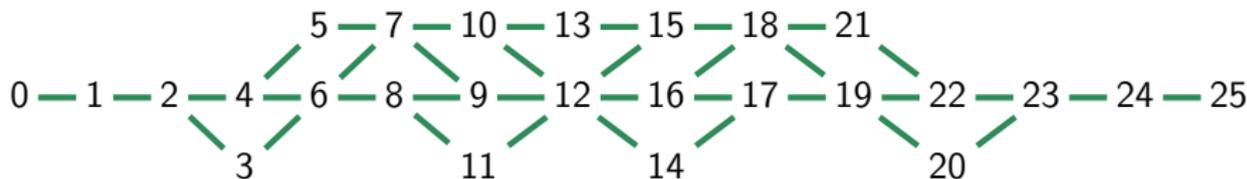
1

Such cells of square size are called strongly regular.

◀ Back

**Example (SAGE).** The Weyl group of type  $B_6$ . Number of elements: 46080.  
 Number of cells: 26, named 0 (trivial) to 25 (top).

Cell order:



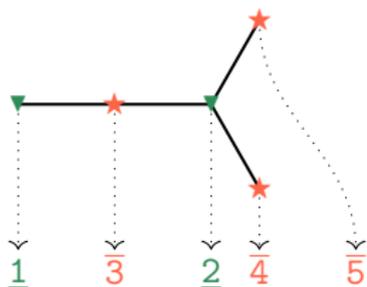
Size of the cells and whether the cells are strongly regular (sr):

cell	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
size	1	62	342	576	650	3150	350	1600	2432	3402	900	2025	14500	600	2025	900	3402	2432	1600	350	576	3150	650	342	62	1
sr	yes	no	no	yes	no	no	no	yes	no	no	yes	yes	no	no	yes	yes	no	no	yes	no	yes	no	no	no	no	yes

In general there will be plenty of non-cell modules which are transitive  $\mathbb{N}_0$ -modules.

Construct a  $D_\infty$ -module  $V$  associated to a bipartite graph  $G$ :

$$V = \langle \underline{1}, \underline{2}, \overline{3}, \overline{4}, \overline{5} \rangle_{\mathbb{C}}$$

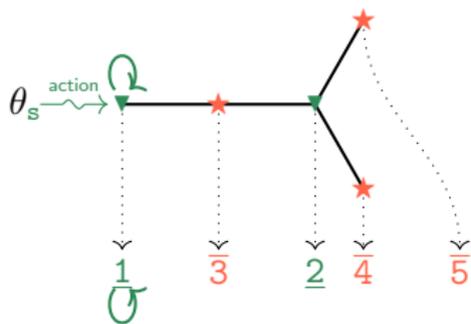


$$\theta_s \rightsquigarrow M_s = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \theta_t \rightsquigarrow M_t = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

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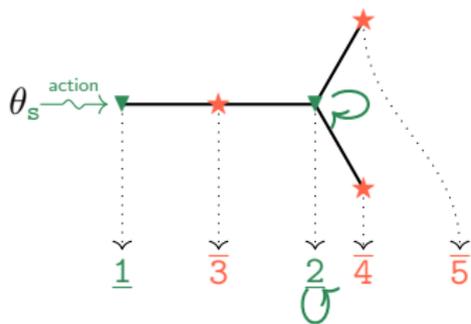


$$\theta_s \rightsquigarrow M_s = \begin{pmatrix} \boxed{2} & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \theta_t \rightsquigarrow M_t = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

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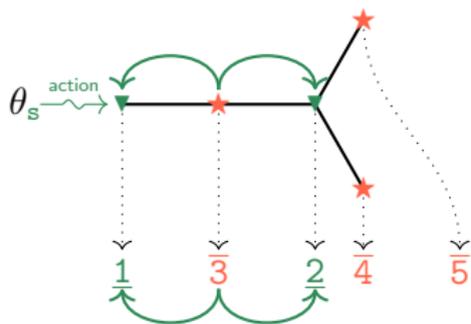


$$\theta_s \rightsquigarrow M_s = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \theta_t \rightsquigarrow M_t = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

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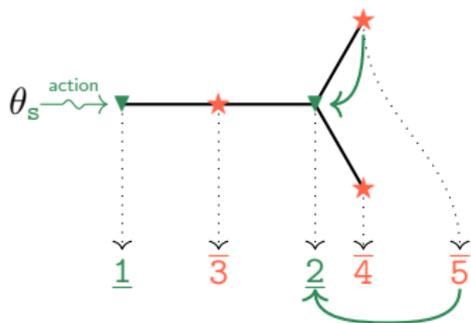


$$\theta_s \rightsquigarrow M_s = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & \boxed{1} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \theta_t \rightsquigarrow M_t = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

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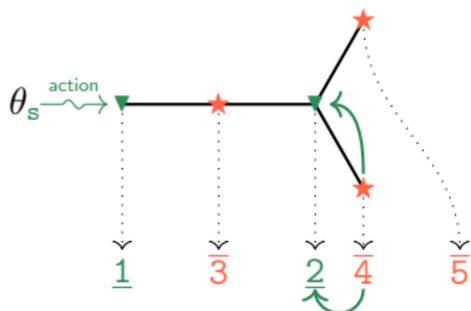


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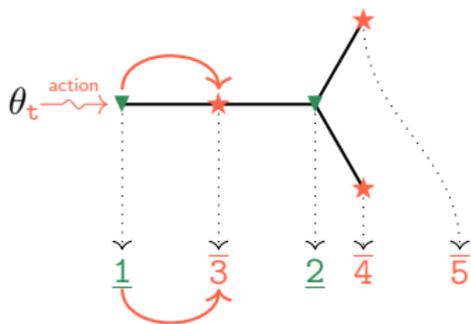


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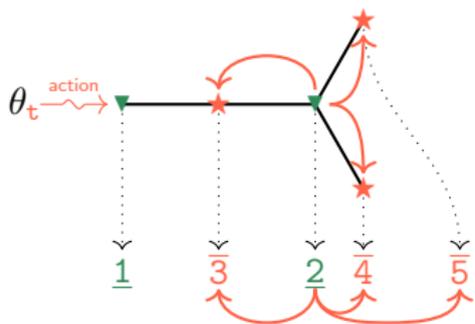


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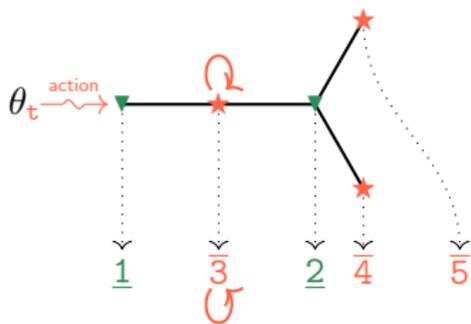


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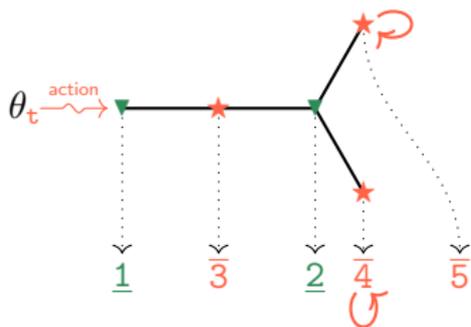


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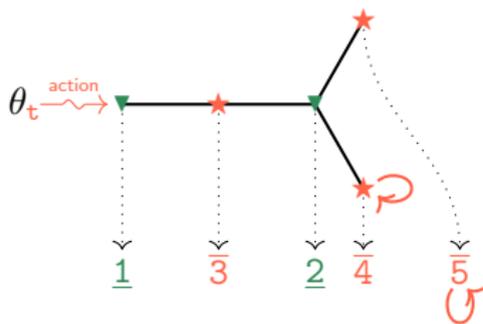


$$\theta_s \rightsquigarrow M_s = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \theta_t \rightsquigarrow M_t = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

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Construct a  $D_\infty$ -module  $V$  associated to a bipartite graph  $G$ :

$$V = \langle \underline{1}, \underline{2}, \overline{3}, \overline{4}, \overline{5} \rangle_{\mathbb{C}}$$



$$\theta_s \rightsquigarrow M_s = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \theta_t \rightsquigarrow M_t = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

◀ Back

Construct a  $D_\infty$ -module  $V$  associated to a bipartite graph  $G$ :

$$V = \langle \underline{1}, \underline{2}, \overline{3}, \overline{4}, \overline{5} \rangle_{\mathbb{C}}$$

**Lemma.** For certain values of  $n$  these are  $\mathbb{N}_0$ -valued  $\mathbb{C}[D_{2n}]$ -modules.

**Lemma.** All  $\mathbb{N}_0$ -valued  $\mathbb{C}[D_{2n}]$ -module arise in this way.

**Lemma.** All 2-modules decategorify to such  $\mathbb{N}_0$ -valued  $\mathbb{C}[D_{2n}]$ -module.

$$\theta_s \rightsquigarrow M_s = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \theta_t \rightsquigarrow M_t = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Construct a  $D_\infty$ -module  $V$  associated to a bipartite graph  $G$ :

$$V = \langle \underline{1}, \underline{2}, \overline{3}, \overline{4}, \overline{5} \rangle_{\mathbb{C}}$$

**Categorification.**

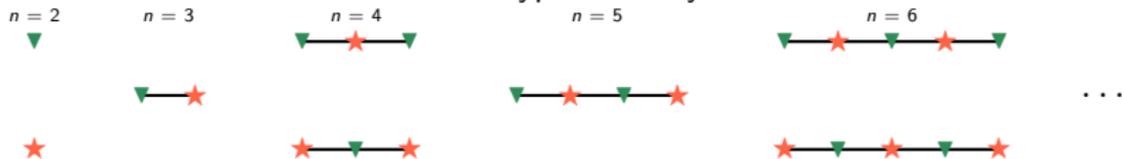
Category  $\rightsquigarrow \mathcal{V} = Z\text{-Mod}$ ,  
 $Z$  quiver algebra with underlying graph  $G$ .

Endofunctors  $\rightsquigarrow$  tensoring with  $Z$ -bimodules.

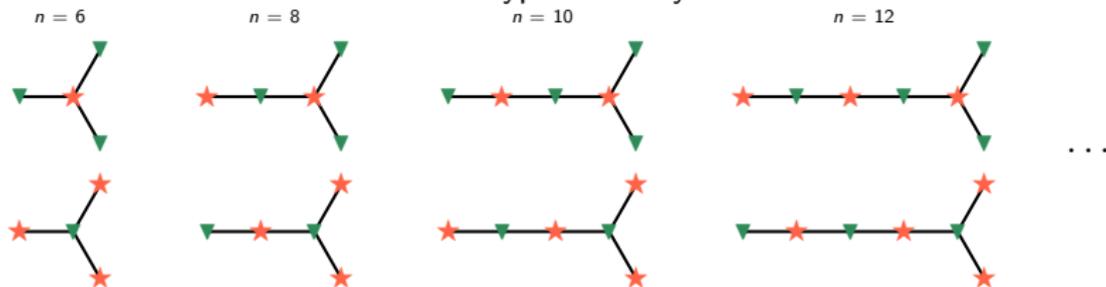
**Lemma.** These satisfy the relations of  $\mathbb{C}[D_{2n}]$ .

$$\theta_s \rightsquigarrow M_s = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \theta_t \rightsquigarrow M_t = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

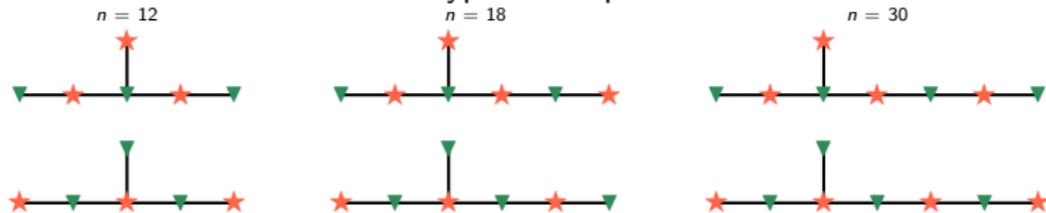
## The type A family



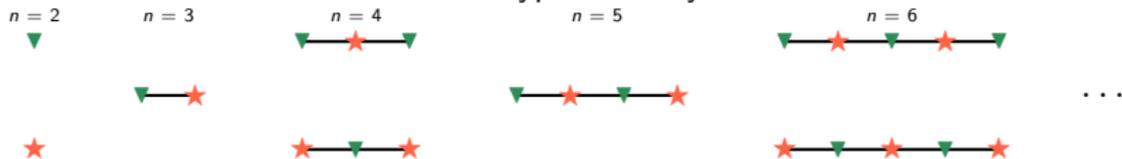
## The type D family



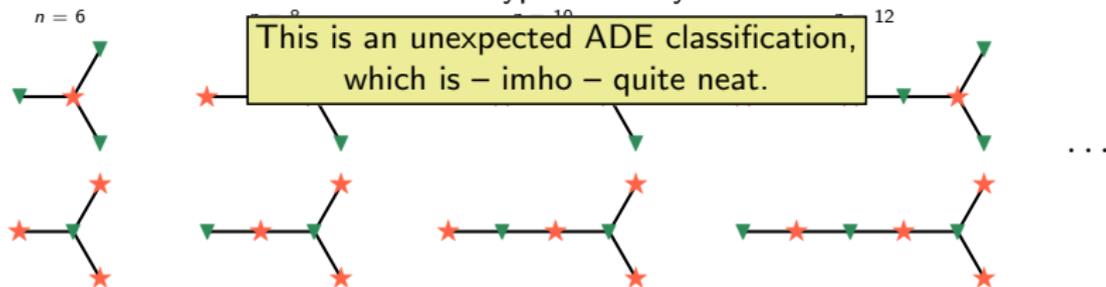
## The type E exceptions



## The type A family



## The type D family



## The type E exceptions

