Subfactors in a nutshell

Or: ADE and all that

Daniel Tubbenhauer



May 2022

Throughout

Please convince yourself that I haven't messed up while picking my pictures and text from my stolen material

Jones' revolution

The history of subfactors can roughly be divided into three parts:

- \blacktriangleright Subfactors in operator theory Before Jones ${\sim}1983{--}$
- ▶ Invariants of subfactors Jones' revolution ~1983-1985
- ► Subfactors without subfactors!? After Jones ~1985++

ANNALS OF MATHEMATICS Vol. 37, No. 1, January, 1936 Invent. math. 72, 1-25 (1983)

ON RINGS OF OPERATORS Index for Subfactors

By F. J. MURRAY* AND J. V. NEUMANN

(Received April 3, 1935) V.F.R. Jones





Jones' revolution

Jones was awarded the Fields Medal at Kyoto in 1990 for these breakthroughs.



By

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Jones' revolution

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▶ Subfactors in operator theory Before Jones ~1983--





Antediluvian ~1983--



Why was everyone related to this part of math in Los Alamos?

- ▶ Factor = von Neumann algebra with trivial center
- ▶ Murray–von Neumann \sim 1930++ classified factors by types: I, II₁, II_∞ and III
- ► II₁ are the "most exciting" ones They have a unique trace! We will stick with these momentarily (I drop the "of type II₁")
- ▶ A subfactor is an inclusion of factors $N \subset M$

Antediluvian \sim 1983--

ОПЫТЪ СИСТЕМЫ ЭЛЕМЕНТОВЪ,

основанной на ихъ атомномъ въсъ и химическомъ сходствъ.

			Ti=50	Zr = 90	?=180.
			V=51	Nb= 94	Ta=182.
			Cr=52	Mo= 96	W=186.
			Mn=55	Rh=104,4	Pt=197,1.
			Fe=56	Ru=104,4	Ir=198.
		Ni	Co=59	Pd=106,6	Os=199.
H=1			Cu=63,4	Ag=108	Hg=200.
	Be= 9,4	Mg=24	Zn=65,2	Cd=112	
	B=11	Al=27,3	?=68	Ur=116	Au=197?
	C=12	Si=28	?=70	Sn=118	
	N=14	P=31	As=75	Sb=122	Bi=210?
	O=16	S=32	Se=79,4	Te=128?	
	F=19	Cl=35,5	Br=80	I=127	
Li=7	Na=23	K=39	Rb=85,4	Cs=133	T1=204.
		Ca=40	Sr=87,6	Ba=137	Pb=207.
		?=45	Ce=92		
		?Er=56	La=94		
		?Yt=60	Di=95		
		?In=75,6	Th=118?		

Д. Менделѣевъ

Chemistry	Group theory	Operator theory
Matter	Groups	von Neumann algebras
Elements	Simple groups	Factors
Simpler substances	Jordan–Hölder theorem	The theorem below
Periodic table	Classification of simple groups	Classification of factors

Theorem (von Neumann \sim 1949)

Antediluvian $\sim 1983_{--}$ Example (factor) Bounded operators B(H) on a Hilbert space H If dim $H < \infty$, then these are just matrices Fe=56 Ru=104.4 Ir=198. Ni=Co=59 Pd=106,6 Os=199. H=1Cu=63,4 Ag=108 Hg=200. Be= 9,4 Mg=24 Zn=65,2 Cd=112 B=11 Al=27 a 2=68 Ur=116 Au=197? C=12 Si=28 ?=70 Sn=118 N=14 P=31 As=75 Sb=122 Bi=210? O=16 S=32 Se=79,4 Te=128? F=19 Cl=35.4 Br=80 I=127 Li=7 Na=23 K=39 Rb=85.4 Cs=133 Tl=204. Ca=40 Sr=87.6 Ba=137 Pb=207.

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Antediluvian ~1983--



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Type II = no minimal projections but there are nonzero finite projections

Type $II_1 = id$ operator is finite; Type $II_{\infty} = rest$ of type II

Example (type II factor)

Discrete group G with infinite nonidentity conjugacy classes, e.g. F_2 von Neumann group algebra L(G) is a type II₁ factor $(L(G) = \text{the commutant of the left regular representation on <math>\ell^2(G)$)

	?=45 Ce=92 ?Er=56 La=94				
Reminder					
$ \begin{split} \ell^2(G) &= \text{formal sequences } \sum_{g \in G} \lambda_g g \text{ with } \sum_{g \in G} \lambda_g ^2 < \infty \\ &\text{If } G < \infty, \text{ then } L(G) = \mathbb{C}[G] \end{split} $					
Elements	Simple groups	Factors			
Simpler substances	Jordan–Hölder theorem	The theorem below			
Periodic table	Classification of simple gro	oups Classification of factors			

Theorem (von Neumann \sim 1949)

Every von Neumann algebra on a separable Hilbert space has an essentially unique decomposition into direct integrals of factors

Subfactors in a nutshell

ADE and all that

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I did not find a picture of Murray



Murray, Francis Joseph

MR Author ID:	128490
Earliest Indexed Publication:	1935
Total Publications:	34
Total Related Publications:	2
Total Citations:	592

Published as: Murray, F. J. (25)

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Jones' construction \sim 1983-1985

$$[M:N] \longleftrightarrow e_M \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$$

▶ Subfactor $N \subset M$, M is a N-module by left multiplication

► Assume that *M* is finitely generated projective *N*-module The index [*M* : *N*] ∈ ℝ_{≥0} ∪ {∞} is the trace of the idempotent *e_M* for *M*

▶ Jones' index theorem \sim 1983 The index is an invariant of $N \subset M$ and

$$[M:N] \in \{4\cos^2(\frac{\pi}{k+2}) | k \in \mathbb{N}\} \cup [4,\infty]$$

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Note the "quantization" below 4:

This was a weird/exciting result!

Jones: The most challenging part is constructing these subfactors



▶ $M_k = M \otimes_N M \otimes_N \dots$ (k copies of M), M_k is a N-N, N-M, M-N and M-M bimodule

Enter, the principal graph(s) Γ!

Definition 2.3. The principal graph of $N \subset M$ is the pointed bipartite graph whose vertices are the (isomorphism classes of) irreducible N - N and N - Mbimodules contained in all the M_k , with dim(Hom_{N-N}(V, W)) edges between an N - M bimodule V and an N - N bimodule W. The distinguished vertex of Γ is the N - N bimodule N itself, and we will use a \star to denote it on the graph.

The distance from \star to a vertex is called its depth. Note that the vertices at even depths are N-N bimodules while the vertices at odd depths are N-M bimodules.

Similarly, the "dual principal graph" is obtained by restricting irreducible M-M bimodules to M-N bimodules.



We typically indicate slightly more information when giving a pair of principal graphs. Namely, any bimodule has a dual, or contragredient, bimodule. The dual of an A - B bimodule (where A and B are each one of M and N) is a B - A bimodule, so duals of even vertices are even vertices on the same graph, while duals of odd vertices are odd vertices on the other graph. We record this duality data by using red tags to indicate duality on even vertices and by having odd vertices at each depth of each graph at the same relative height as its dual on the other graph.

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Example				
Principal graph for $N \subset N \rtimes G$:				
as an N-N bimodule $N \rtimes G$ is the direct sum, over G, of g-twisted trivial bimodules				
Even vertices 👐 the group elements				
whose vertices are the fisomorphism classes of inteducible av	-N and $N - M$			
bimodules co Example	edges between an			
N-M bime	shed vertex of Γ is			
the $N - N$ l Dual principal graph for $N \subset N \rtimes G$:	on the graph.			
The dista Even vertices $\leftrightarrow \rightarrow$ the simple group reps	hat the vertices at			
even depths with as many edges as dimension of the reps	lepths are $N - M$			
bimodules.	1			
Similarly, the "dual principal graph" is obtained by restricting irreducible $M-M$				
bimodules to $M - N$ bimodules.				

Subfactors in a nutshell

Jones' construction \sim 1983-1985



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§4. Possible Values of the Index

§4.1. Certain Algebras Generated by Projections

Jones' projectors satisfy the scaled TL relations for $\delta = [M : N] = 4 \cos^2(\frac{\pi}{k+2})$

$$e_k \iff \frac{1}{[M:N]} \underset{k}{\swarrow}$$

$$\bullet e_k e_k = e_k \iff \widecheck{\mathsf{Q}} = \widecheck{\mathsf{X}}$$

$$\bullet e_k e_{k\pm 1} e_k = \frac{1}{[M:N]} e_k \iff \widecheck{\mathsf{Q}} = \frac{1}{[M:N]} \operatornamewithlimits{\bigstar} \mathsf{I}$$

$$\bullet e_k e_l = e_l e_k \text{ for } |k-l| > 1 \iff \text{far commutativity}$$

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$$NBim \xleftarrow[M_M]{NM_M} MBim$$

- ▶ We have collections of bimodules of the four flavors
- ► One flavor of bimodule forms a tensor category
- ► C*-2-category with two objects (corresponding to M and N) together with a choice of generating 1-morphism (corresponding to _NM_M)+axioms =

Standard invariant

► The *N*-*N* bimodules and the *M*-*M* bimodules are the even parts of the standard invariant, and the others the odd part



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The N-N bimodules and the M-M bimodules are the even parts of the standard invariant, and the others the odd part Postdeluvian \sim 1985++

$$Type \ A: \ 1 \rightleftharpoons L_1 \rightleftharpoons L_2 \rightleftharpoons \dots \rightleftharpoons L_k$$
$$Type \ D: \ 1 \longleftrightarrow L_1 \rightleftarrows L_2 \rightleftarrows \dots \rightleftarrows L_k$$
$$Type \ D: \ 1 \longleftrightarrow L_1 \longleftrightarrow L_2 \longleftrightarrow \dots \longleftrightarrow L_k$$
$$L_k \lor L_k \lor L_k$$

A reformulation of Jones' result is:

- Let L_1 be a generator of a fusion category with $pf(L_1) < 2$
- ▶ Then $pf(L_1) = 2\cos(\frac{\pi}{k+2})$ and the fusion graph of L_1 is of ADE type

▶ In type A the fusion category is $Rep(U_q(sl_2))^{ss}$ for $q = exp(\frac{2\pi i}{k+2})$



Postdeluvian \sim 1985++







There is still much to do ...



Thanks for your attention!