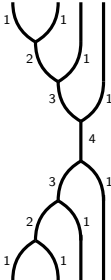


# $U_q(\mathfrak{sl}_n)$ diagram categories via $q$ -Howe duality

Or: “Howe” to make diagrammatic categories work!

Daniel Tubbenhauer

$$\mathcal{JW}_4 = \frac{1}{[4]!}$$


Joint work with David Rose

February 2015

- 1  $\mathfrak{sl}_2$ -spider and representation theory
  - Graphical calculus via Temperley-Lieb diagrams
  - The  $\mathfrak{sl}_2$ -spider is representation theory
- 2 Its cousins: The  $\mathfrak{sl}_n$ -spiders
  - The  $\mathfrak{sl}_n$ -spiders and representation theory
  - Proof? Quantum skew Howe duality!
- 3 More cousins: The symmetric  $\mathfrak{sl}_2$ -spider
  - The symmetric  $\mathfrak{sl}_2$ -spider and representation theory
  - Proof? Quantum symmetric Howe duality!

# The $\mathfrak{sl}_2$ -web space

## Definition (Rumer-Teller-Weyl 1932)

The  $\mathfrak{sl}_2$ -web space  $W_2(b, t)$  is the free  $\mathbb{C}(q) = \mathbb{C}_q$ -vector space generated by non-intersecting arc diagrams with  $b$  bottom and  $t$  top boundary points modulo:

- The **circle removal**

$$\bigcirc = -q - q^{-1} = -[2]$$

- The **isotopy relations**

$$\begin{array}{c} 1 \\ \text{arc} \\ 1 \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ | \\ 1 \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ \text{arc} \\ 1 \end{array}$$

Note that  $W_2(b, t)$  is a **finite** dimensional  $\mathbb{C}_q$ -vector space!

# The $\mathfrak{sl}_2$ -spider

## Definition (Kuperberg 1995)

The  $\mathfrak{sl}_2$ -spider  $\mathbf{Sp}(\mathfrak{sl}_2)$  is the monoidal  $\mathbb{C}_q$ -linear category with:

- Objects are natural numbers and morphisms are  $\text{Hom}_{\mathbf{Sp}(\mathfrak{sl}_2)}(k, l) = W_2(k, l)$ .
- **Composition**  $\circ$ :

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{cap} \\ \text{cup} \end{array} \circ \begin{array}{c} \text{cup} \\ \text{cap} \end{array} = \text{circle} \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{cup} \\ \text{cap} \end{array} \circ \begin{array}{c} \text{cap} \\ \text{cup} \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \text{cup} \\ \text{cap} \end{array}$$

- **Tensoring**  $\otimes$ :

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{cup} \\ \text{cap} \end{array} \otimes \begin{array}{c} | \\ | \\ | \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \text{cup} \\ \text{cap} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} | \\ | \\ | \end{array}$$

# Connection to representation theory

Recall that  $\mathbf{U}_q(\mathfrak{sl}_2)$  is generated by  $E, F, K$ .

Let  $V = \mathbb{C}_q^2$  the vector representation of  $\mathbf{U}_q(\mathfrak{sl}_2)$ . Morally:

$$K = \begin{pmatrix} q^{+1} & 0 \\ 0 & q^{-1} \end{pmatrix} \quad (0, 1) \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{E} \\ \xleftarrow{F} \end{array} (1, 0) \quad \begin{array}{l} E = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ F = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \end{array}$$

**Fact:** All irreducible  $\mathbf{U}_q(\mathfrak{sl}_2)$ -modules are summands of  $V^{\otimes k}$  for some  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Let  $\mathfrak{sl}_2\text{-Mod}_\wedge$  be the monoidal,  $\mathbb{C}_q$ -linear category consisting of:

- Objects are tensor products  $V^{\otimes k} = V \otimes \cdots \otimes V$  of finite length and morphisms are  $\mathbf{U}_q(\mathfrak{sl}_2)$ -intertwiners between these.
- **Composition**  $\circ$  is composition of  $\mathbf{U}_q(\mathfrak{sl}_2)$ -intertwiners.
- **Tensoring**  $\otimes$  is tensoring of  $\mathbf{U}_q(\mathfrak{sl}_2)$ -intertwiners.

# Diagrams for intertwiners

Observe that there are (up to scalars) **unique**  $\mathbf{U}_q(\mathfrak{sl}_2)$ -intertwiners

$$\text{cap}: V \otimes V \rightarrow \mathbb{C}_q \quad \text{and} \quad \text{cup}: \mathbb{C}_q \rightarrow V \otimes V,$$

projecting  $V \otimes V$  onto  $\mathbb{C}_q$  respectively embedding  $\mathbb{C}_q$  into  $V \otimes V$ .

Define a functor  $\Gamma_{\wedge}^2: \mathbf{Sp}(\mathfrak{sl}_2) \rightarrow \mathfrak{sl}_2\text{-Mod}_{\wedge}$ :

- On objects:  $k$  is sent to  $V^{\otimes k} = V \otimes \cdots \otimes V$ .
- On morphisms:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{cap} & & \text{cup} \\ \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ \cap \\ \text{---} \\ 1 \quad 1 \end{array} \mapsto & & \begin{array}{c} 1 \quad 1 \\ \cup \\ \text{---} \end{array} \mapsto \end{array}$$

## Theorem(Folklore)

The functor  $\Gamma_{\wedge}^2: \mathbf{Sp}(\mathfrak{sl}_2) \rightarrow \mathfrak{sl}_2\text{-Mod}_{\wedge}$  is an equivalence of monoidal categories.

## Kuperberg (1995): Let us try the same for other $\mathfrak{g}$ 's!

In 1995 Kuperberg rigorously defined “spiders” and introduced spiders for  $\mathfrak{sl}_3$ ,  $B_2$  and  $G_2$ . These spiders are diagrammatic categories for  $\mathbf{U}_q(\mathfrak{g})$ -module categories. His work was very influential: Spiders **naturally** appear in representation theory, combinatorics, low dimensional topology and algebraic geometry.

- Khovanov and Kuperberg gave a connection to **dual canonical bases** of  $\mathbf{U}_q(\mathfrak{g})$ .
- Fontaine, Kamnitzer and Kuperberg identified relations to the **geometry of affine Grassmannians** via the geometric Satake correspondence.
- Via this, there are relations to **affine buildings** over these Grassmannians.
- The **Reshetikhin-Turaev's invariant of links** “live” in spiders.
- Similarly from the **Witten-Reshetikhin-Turaev invariants of 3-manifolds**.
- $1 + 1$  or  $2 + 1$ -TQFT's and cobordism theories **very often** bound spiders.
- Via this connections to **link homologies** and related topics.
- More...

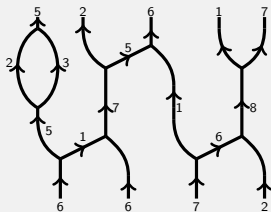
# The main step beyond $\mathfrak{sl}_2$ : Trivalent vertices

A  $\mathfrak{sl}_n$ -web is an oriented, labeled trivalent graph locally made of

$$m_{k,l}^{k+l} = \begin{array}{c} k+l \\ \uparrow \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ k \quad l \end{array} \quad s_{k+l}^{k,l} = \begin{array}{c} k \quad l \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ \uparrow \\ k+l \end{array} \quad k, l, k+l \in \{0, \dots, n\}$$

Plus mirrors and sign issues that we skip today. Ask an expert, aka not me.

## Example ( $n > 7$ )





# Let us try the same for $\mathfrak{sl}_n$ : the $\mathfrak{sl}_n$ -web space

## Definition (Cautis-Kamnitzer-Morrison 2012)

The  $\mathfrak{sl}_n$ -web space  $W_n(\vec{k}, \vec{l})$  is the free  $\mathbb{C}_q$ -vector space generated by  $\mathfrak{sl}_n$ -webs with  $\vec{k}$  and  $\vec{l}$  at the bottom and top modulo:

- Isotopy and associativity relations

- Others. Most notably the scary square switches:

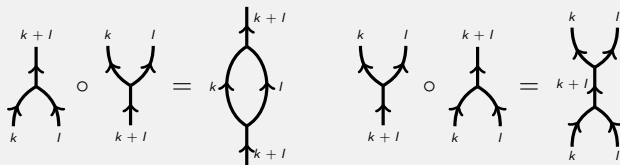
$$= \sum_{j'} \begin{bmatrix} k - j_1 - l + j_2 \\ j' \end{bmatrix}$$

# The $\mathfrak{sl}_n$ -spider

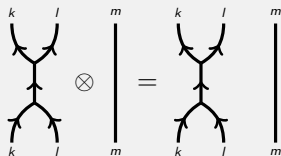
## Definition (Cautis-Kamnitzer-Morrison 2012)

The  $\mathfrak{sl}_n$ -spider  $\mathbf{Sp}(\mathfrak{sl}_n)$  is the monoidal  $\mathbb{C}_q$ -linear category with:

- Objects are  $\vec{k} \in \mathbb{Z}_{\{0, \dots, n\}}^m$  and morphisms are  $\text{Hom}_{\mathbf{Sp}(\mathfrak{sl}_n)}(\vec{k}, \vec{l}) = W_n(\vec{k}, \vec{l})$ .
- **Composition**  $\circ$ :



- **Tensoring**  $\otimes$ :



# Connection to representation theory - yet again

Let  $V = \mathbb{C}_q^n$  the vector representation of  $\mathbf{U}_q(\mathfrak{sl}_n)$ . For  $k \in \{0, \dots, n\}$  let  $\Lambda_q^k \mathbb{C}_q^n$  denote the  **$k$ -th fundamental  $\mathbf{U}_q(\mathfrak{sl}_n)$ -representation**.

**Fact:** All irreducible  $\mathbf{U}_q(\mathfrak{sl}_n)$ -modules are summands of

$$\Lambda_q^{\vec{k}} \mathbb{C}_q^n = \Lambda_q^{k_1} \mathbb{C}_q^n \otimes \cdots \otimes \Lambda_q^{k_m} \mathbb{C}_q^n$$

for some suitable vector  $\vec{k} = (k_1, \dots, k_m) \in \mathbb{Z}_{\{0, \dots, n\}}^m$ .

Let  $\mathfrak{sl}_n\text{-Mod}_\wedge$  be the monoidal,  $\mathbb{C}_q$ -linear category consisting of:

- Objects are tensor products  $\Lambda_q^{k_1} \mathbb{C}_q^n \otimes \cdots \otimes \Lambda_q^{k_m} \mathbb{C}_q^n$  of finite length and morphisms are  $\mathbf{U}_q(\mathfrak{sl}_n)$ -intertwiners between these.
- **Composition**  $\circ$  is composition of  $\mathbf{U}_q(\mathfrak{sl}_n)$ -intertwiners.
- **Tensoring**  $\otimes$  is tensoring of  $\mathbf{U}_q(\mathfrak{sl}_n)$ -intertwiners.

# Diagrams for intertwiners - next try

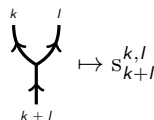
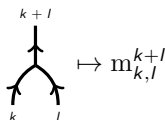
Observe that there are (up to scalars) **unique**  $\mathbf{U}_q(\mathfrak{sl}_n)$ -intertwiners

$$m_{k,l}^{k+l}: \Lambda_q^k \mathbb{C}_q^n \otimes \Lambda_q^l \mathbb{C}_q^n \rightarrow \Lambda_q^{k+l} \mathbb{C}_q^n \quad \text{and} \quad s_{k+l}^{k,l}: \Lambda_q^{k+l} \mathbb{C}_q^n \rightarrow \Lambda_q^k \mathbb{C}_q^n \otimes \Lambda_q^l \mathbb{C}_q^n$$

given by projection and inclusion again.

Define a functor  $\Gamma_{\wedge}^n: \mathbf{Sp}(\mathfrak{sl}_n) \rightarrow \mathfrak{sl}_n\text{-Mod}_{\wedge}$ :

- On objects:  $\vec{k}$  is sent to  $\Lambda_q^{k_1} \mathbb{C}_q^n \otimes \cdots \otimes \Lambda_q^{k_m} \mathbb{C}_q^n$ .
- On morphisms:



**Theorem (Cautis-Kamnitzer-Morrison 2012)**

The functor  $\Gamma_{\wedge}^n: \mathbf{Sp}(\mathfrak{sl}_n) \rightarrow \mathfrak{sl}_n\text{-Mod}_{\wedge}$  is an equivalence of monoidal categories.

# The quantum algebra $\dot{\mathbf{U}}_q(\mathfrak{gl}_m)$

For each  $\mathfrak{gl}_m$ -weight  $\vec{k} \in \mathbb{Z}^{m-1}$  adjoin an **idempotent**  $1_{\vec{k}}$  (**Think**: projection to the  $\vec{k}$ -weight space!) to  $\mathbf{U}_q(\mathfrak{gl}_m)$ .

## Definition (Beilinson-Lusztig-MacPherson 1990)

The **idempotent quantum general linear algebra** is defined by

$$\dot{\mathbf{U}}_q(\mathfrak{gl}_m) = \bigoplus_{\vec{k}, \vec{k}' \in \mathbb{Z}^{m-1}} 1_{\vec{k}'} \mathbf{U}_q(\mathfrak{gl}_m) 1_{\vec{k}}.$$

It is generated by  $F_i, E_i$  for  $i = 1, \dots, m-1$  subject to some relations. These relations are **just** “cleaned-up” versions of the ones from  $\mathfrak{gl}_m$ .

We want to consider  $\dot{\mathbf{U}}_q(\mathfrak{gl}_m)$  as a category with objects  $\vec{k}, \vec{k}' \in \mathbb{Z}^{m-1}$  and morphisms spaces  $1_{\vec{k}'} \mathbf{U}_q(\mathfrak{gl}_m) 1_{\vec{k}}$ .

# “Howe” to prove this?

Howe: the commuting actions of  $\mathbf{U}_q(\mathfrak{gl}_m)$  and  $\mathbf{U}_q(\mathfrak{sl}_n)$  on

$$\begin{aligned}\Lambda_q^N(\mathbb{C}_q^m \otimes \mathbb{C}_q^n) &\cong \bigoplus_{k_1+\dots+k_m=N} (\Lambda_q^{k_1} \mathbb{C}_q^n \otimes \dots \otimes \Lambda_q^{k_m} \mathbb{C}_q^n) \\ &\cong \bigoplus_{l_1+\dots+l_n=N} (\Lambda_q^{l_1} \mathbb{C}_q^m \otimes \dots \otimes \Lambda_q^{l_n} \mathbb{C}_q^m)\end{aligned}$$

introduce an  $\mathbf{U}_q(\mathfrak{gl}_m)$ -action  $f$  on the first term and an  $\mathbf{U}_q(\mathfrak{sl}_n)$ -action on the second. Howe: our  $\Lambda_q^{\vec{k}} \mathbb{C}_q^n$  is the  $\vec{k}$ -weight space of this.

In particular, there is a **functorial action**

$$\Phi_m^n: \mathbf{U}_q(\mathfrak{gl}_m) \rightarrow \mathfrak{sl}_n\text{-Mod}_\wedge$$

$$\vec{k} \mapsto \Lambda_q^{\vec{k}} \mathbb{C}_q^n, \quad X \in 1_{\vec{l}} \mathbf{U}_q(\mathfrak{gl}_m) 1_{\vec{k}} \mapsto f(X) \in \text{Hom}_{\mathfrak{sl}_n\text{-Mod}_\wedge}(\Lambda_q^{\vec{k}} \mathbb{C}_q^n, \Lambda_q^{\vec{l}} \mathbb{C}_q^n)$$

Howe:  $\Phi_m^n$  is full. Or in words: **all** relations in  $\mathfrak{sl}_n\text{-Mod}_\wedge$  follow from the (natural) ones in  $\mathbf{U}_q(\mathfrak{gl}_m)$  and the ones in the kernel of  $\Phi_m^n$ .

# So how? “Howe”!

## Theorem (Cautis-Kamnitzer-Morrison 2012)

There is a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \dot{\mathbf{U}}_q(\mathfrak{gl}_m) & \xrightarrow{\Phi_m^n} & \mathfrak{sl}_n\text{-Mod}_\wedge \\
 \searrow \Upsilon_m & & \nearrow \Gamma_\wedge^n \\
 & \mathbf{Sp}(\mathfrak{sl}_n) &
 \end{array}$$

with

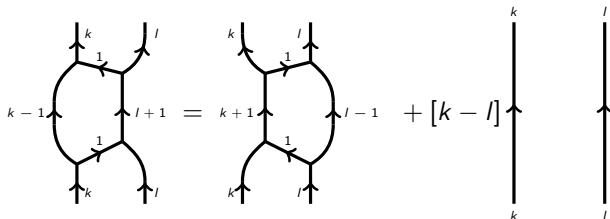
$$\Upsilon_m(F_i 1_{\vec{k}}) \mapsto \begin{array}{c} k_i - 1 \quad k_{i+1} + 1 \\ \nearrow \quad \nearrow \\ \text{---} 1 \text{---} \\ \searrow \quad \searrow \\ k_i \quad k_{i+1} \end{array} \quad \Upsilon_m(E_i 1_{\vec{k}}) \mapsto \begin{array}{c} k_i + 1 \quad k_{i+1} - 1 \\ \nearrow \quad \nearrow \\ \text{---} 1 \text{---} \\ \searrow \quad \searrow \\ k_i \quad k_{i+1} \end{array}$$

$\ker \Phi_m^n$  consists exactly of the  $\mathfrak{gl}_m$ -weights  $\vec{k}$  with entries outside of  $\{0, \dots, n\}$ .

In words: **all** the relations in  $\mathbf{Sp}(\mathfrak{sl}_n)$  follow from the ones in  $\dot{\mathbf{U}}_q(\mathfrak{gl}_m)$ .

# Exempli gratia

The mysterious square switch



is just

$$\begin{aligned}
 EF1_{(k,l)} - FE1_{(k,l)} &= [k-l]1_{(k,l)} \\
 &\approx \\
 EF - FE &= \frac{K-K^{-1}}{q-q^{-1}}
 \end{aligned}$$



# This needs to be on one slide...

Some additional remarks.

- One can do **slightly** better: the  $\mathfrak{sl}_n$ -webs form a  $\dot{\mathbf{U}}_q(\mathfrak{gl}_m)$ -module of a certain highest weight. Thus, playing with  $\mathfrak{sl}_n$ -webs is doing highest weight representation theory of  $\dot{\mathbf{U}}_q(\mathfrak{gl}_m)$ .
- Cautis, Kamnitzer and Morrison show that the  $R$ -matrix braiding on  $\mathfrak{sl}_n\text{-Mod}_\wedge$  and Lusztig's Weyl group braiding on  $\dot{\mathbf{U}}_q(\mathfrak{gl}_m)$  **coincide**.
- As a consequence, the Reshetikhin-Turaev polynomials of links obtained from  $\mathfrak{sl}_n\text{-Mod}_\wedge$  come (for **all**  $n$ ) from highest weight representation theory of  $\dot{\mathbf{U}}_q(\mathfrak{gl}_m)$  (for a suitable **fixed**  $m$  depending on the link  $L$ ).
- Another consequence of this: for a fixed link  $L$  the **whole family** of all Reshetikhin-Turaev polynomials (for all possible  $n$  and colors) contains only a **finite** amount of information about  $L$ .
- Up to here: we can **categorify** everything in sight!

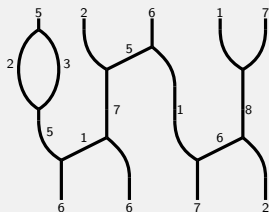
# Our story is easier in some sense...

A **symmetric  $\mathfrak{sl}_2$ -web** is a labeled trivalent graph locally made of

$$\text{cap}_k = \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ \cap \\ \text{---} \\ k \quad k \end{array} \quad \text{cup}_k = \begin{array}{c} k \quad k \\ \cup \\ \text{---} \end{array} \quad \text{m}_{k,l}^{k+l} = \begin{array}{c} k+l \\ | \\ \text{---} \\ / \quad \backslash \\ k \quad l \end{array} \quad \text{S}_{k+l}^{k,l} = \begin{array}{c} k \quad l \\ \backslash \quad / \\ \text{---} \\ k+l \end{array}$$

No mirrors and sign issues, but  $k, l, k+l \in \{0, 1, \dots\}$ .

## Example



# Never change a winning team: let us do the same again!

## Definition

Given  $\vec{k} \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^k$  and  $\vec{l} \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^l$ . The **symmetric  $\mathfrak{sl}_2$ -web space**  $W_2^s(\vec{k}, \vec{l})$  is the free  $\mathbb{C}_q$ -vector space generated by symmetric  $\mathfrak{sl}_2$ -webs between  $\vec{k}$  and  $\vec{l}$  modulo:

- Isotopy, associativity and “classical” relations, e.g. the **scary square switches**:

$$\begin{array}{c}
 k - j_1 + j_2 \\
 \text{---} \\
 \text{---} \\
 k - j_1 \\
 \text{---} \\
 \text{---} \\
 k
 \end{array}
 \begin{array}{c}
 l + j_1 - j_2 \\
 \text{---} \\
 \text{---} \\
 l + j_1 \\
 \text{---} \\
 \text{---} \\
 l
 \end{array}
 = \sum_{j'} \begin{bmatrix} k - j_1 - l + j_2 \\ j' \end{bmatrix}
 \begin{array}{c}
 k - j_1 + j_2 \\
 \text{---} \\
 \text{---} \\
 k + j_2 - j' \\
 \text{---} \\
 \text{---} \\
 k
 \end{array}
 \begin{array}{c}
 l + j_1 - j_2 \\
 \text{---} \\
 \text{---} \\
 l - j_2 + j' \\
 \text{---} \\
 \text{---} \\
 l
 \end{array}$$

- **New**, symmetric relations. For example dumbbells:

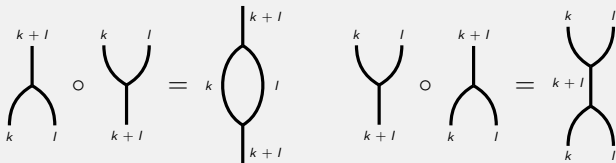
$$\begin{array}{c}
 1 \\
 \text{---} \\
 \text{---} \\
 2 \\
 \text{---} \\
 \text{---} \\
 1
 \end{array}
 = [2]
 \begin{array}{c}
 1 \\
 \text{---} \\
 \text{---} \\
 1
 \end{array}
 +
 \begin{array}{c}
 1 \\
 \text{---} \\
 \text{---} \\
 1
 \end{array}$$

# The symmetric $\mathfrak{sl}_2$ -spider

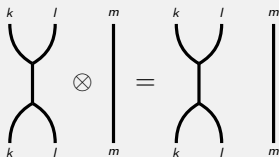
## Definition

The **symmetric  $\mathfrak{sl}_2$ -spider  $\mathbf{SymSp}(\mathfrak{sl}_2)$**  is the monoidal  $\mathbb{C}_q$ -linear category with:

- Objects are  $\vec{k} \in \mathbb{Z}_{\{0,1,\dots\}}^m$  and morphisms are  $\text{Hom}_{\mathbf{Sp}(\mathfrak{sl}_n)}(\vec{k}, \vec{l}) = W_2^s(\vec{k}, \vec{l})$ .
- **Composition  $\circ$ :**



- **Tensoring  $\otimes$ :**



# Connection to representation theory - yet again

Let  $V = \mathbb{C}_q^2$  the vector representation of  $\mathbf{U}_q(\mathfrak{sl}_2)$ . For  $k \in \{0, 1, \dots\}$  let  $\text{Sym}_q^k \mathbb{C}_q^2$  denote the  **$k$ -th symmetric  $\mathbf{U}_q(\mathfrak{sl}_2)$ -representation**.

Let  $\mathfrak{sl}_2\text{-fdMod}$  be the monoidal,  $\mathbb{C}_q$ -linear category consisting of:

- Objects are tensor products  $\text{Sym}_q^{k_1} \mathbb{C}_q^2 \otimes \dots \otimes \text{Sym}_q^{k_m} \mathbb{C}_q^2$  of finite length and morphisms are  $\mathbf{U}_q(\mathfrak{sl}_2)$ -intertwiners between these.
- **Composition**  $\circ$  is composition of  $\mathbf{U}_q(\mathfrak{sl}_2)$ -intertwiners.
- **Tensoring**  $\otimes$  is tensoring of  $\mathbf{U}_q(\mathfrak{sl}_2)$ -intertwiners.

Note that  $\mathfrak{sl}_2\text{-Mod}_\wedge \subsetneq \mathfrak{sl}_2\text{-fdMod}$ .

**Fact:** All irreducible  $\mathbf{U}_q(\mathfrak{sl}_2)$ -modules are of the form  $\text{Sym}_q^k \mathbb{C}_q^2$  for some  $k$ . Thus,  $\mathfrak{sl}_2\text{-fdMod}$  contains all finite dimensional representations, aka: **no** splitting of tensor products is necessary.

# Diagrams for intertwiners - I am not bored yet

Observe that there are (up to scalars) **unique**  $\mathbf{U}_q(\mathfrak{sl}_2)$ -intertwiners

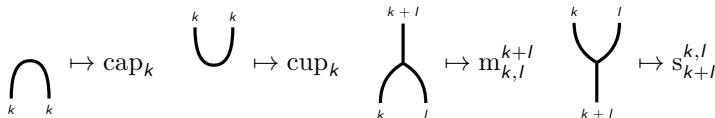
$$\text{cap}_k: \text{Sym}_q^k \mathbb{C}_q^2 \otimes \text{Sym}_q^l \mathbb{C}_q^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}_q \quad m_{k,l}^{k+l}: \text{Sym}_q^k \mathbb{C}_q^2 \otimes \text{Sym}_q^l \mathbb{C}_q^2 \rightarrow \text{Sym}_q^{k+l} \mathbb{C}_q^2$$

$$\text{cup}_k: \mathbb{C}_q \rightarrow \text{Sym}_q^k \mathbb{C}_q^2 \otimes \text{Sym}_q^l \mathbb{C}_q^2 \quad s_{k,l}^{k+l}: \text{Sym}_q^{k+l} \mathbb{C}_q^2 \rightarrow \text{Sym}_q^k \mathbb{C}_q^2 \otimes \text{Sym}_q^l \mathbb{C}_q^2$$

(guess where they come from...)

Define a functor  $\Gamma_{\text{sym}}: \mathbf{SymSp}(\mathfrak{sl}_2) \rightarrow \mathfrak{sl}_2\text{-fdMod}$ :

- On objects:  $\vec{k}$  is sent to  $\text{Sym}_q^{k_1} \mathbb{C}_q^2 \otimes \cdots \otimes \text{Sym}_q^{k_m} \mathbb{C}_q^2$ .
- On morphisms:



## Theorem

Our  $\Gamma_{\text{sym}}: \mathbf{SymSp}(\mathfrak{sl}_2) \rightarrow \mathfrak{sl}_2\text{-fdMod}$  is an equivalence of monoidal categories.

# “Howe” to prove this? You know “Howe”, right?

Howe: the commuting actions of  $\mathbf{U}_q(\mathfrak{gl}_m)$  and  $\mathbf{U}_q(\mathfrak{sl}_n)$  on

$$\begin{aligned}\mathrm{Sym}_q^N(\mathbb{C}_q^m \otimes \mathbb{C}_q^n) &\cong \bigoplus_{k_1+\dots+k_m=N} (\mathrm{Sym}_q^{k_1}\mathbb{C}_q^n \otimes \dots \otimes \mathrm{Sym}_q^{k_m}\mathbb{C}_q^n) \\ &\cong \bigoplus_{l_1+\dots+l_m=N} (\mathrm{Sym}_q^{l_1}\mathbb{C}_q^m \otimes \dots \otimes \mathrm{Sym}_q^{l_m}\mathbb{C}_q^m)\end{aligned}$$

introduce an  $\mathbf{U}_q(\mathfrak{gl}_m)$ -action  $f$  on the first term and an  $\mathbf{U}_q(\mathfrak{sl}_n)$ -action on the second. Howe: our  $\mathrm{Sym}_q^{\vec{k}}\mathbb{C}_q^n$  is the  $\vec{k}$ -weight space of this.

In particular, there is a functorial action

$$\Phi_m^\infty : \mathbf{U}_q(\mathfrak{gl}_m) \rightarrow \mathfrak{sl}_2\text{-fdMod}$$

$$\vec{k} \mapsto \mathrm{Sym}_q^{\vec{k}}\mathbb{C}_q^2, \quad X \in 1_{\vec{l}}\mathbf{U}_q(\mathfrak{gl}_m)1_{\vec{k}} \mapsto f(X) \in \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathfrak{sl}_2\text{-fdMod}}(\mathrm{Sym}_q^{\vec{k}}\mathbb{C}_q^2, \mathrm{Sym}_q^{\vec{l}}\mathbb{C}_q^2)$$

Howe:  $\Phi_m^\infty$  is full. Or in words: all relations in  $\mathfrak{sl}_2\text{-fdMod}$  follow from the (natural) ones in  $\mathbf{U}_q(\mathfrak{gl}_m)$  and the ones in the kernel of  $\Phi_m^\infty$ .

# Let us copy-paste!

## Theorem

There is a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \dot{U}_q(\mathfrak{gl}_m) & \xrightarrow{\Phi_m^\infty} & \mathfrak{sl}_2\text{-fdMod} \\ & \searrow \Upsilon_m & \nearrow \Gamma_{\text{sym}} \\ & \text{SymSp}(\mathfrak{sl}_2) & \end{array}$$

with

$$\Upsilon_m(F_i 1_{\vec{k}}) \mapsto \begin{array}{c} k-1 \quad l+1 \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ 1 \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ k \quad l \end{array} \quad \Upsilon_m(E_i 1_{\vec{k}}) \mapsto \begin{array}{c} k+1 \quad l-1 \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ 1 \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ k \quad l \end{array}$$

$\ker \Phi_m^\infty$  consists of “throwing certain tableaux away”.



# Ok, where is the catch?

So what is the difference between  $q$ -skew and  $q$ -symmetric Howe? This:

$$\bigwedge_q^N(\mathbb{C}_q^m \otimes \mathbb{C}_q^n) \cong \bigoplus_{\lambda} V_m(\lambda) \otimes V_n(\lambda^T)$$

and the sum runs over all tableaux  $\lambda$  that fit into an  $m \times n$ -square (**finitely** many).

$$\text{Sym}_q^N(\mathbb{C}_q^m \otimes \mathbb{C}_q^n) \cong \bigoplus_{\lambda} V_m(\lambda) \otimes V_n(\lambda)$$

and the sum runs over all tableaux  $\lambda$  that fit into an  $\min(m, n) \times \text{anything}$ -square (**infinitely** many).

Thus, because of “anything”, we have to allow **all** possible labels  $k \in \{0, 1, \dots\}$ . And because of  $\min(m, n)$  we have to **kill** certain  $\text{End}_{\mathbb{C}_q}(V_m(\lambda))$ 's for  $\lambda$  with too many rows. Latter gives the **new**, symmetric relations!

# I do not have tenure. So I have to bore you a bit more.

Some additional remarks.

- The  $R$ -matrix braiding on  $\mathfrak{sl}_2\text{-fdMod}$  and Lusztig's Weyl group braiding on  $\dot{U}_q(\mathfrak{gl}_m)$  coincide again.
- As a consequence, one can obtain colored Jones polynomial without Jones-Wenzl projectors or infinite twists by a “MOY-like calculus”.
- As another consequence, the Reshetikhin-Turaev polynomials obtained from  $\mathfrak{sl}_n\text{-Mod}_\wedge$  and the colored Jones polynomials are (almost) “dual” to each other. The only difference is the  $\text{End}_{\mathbb{C}_q}(V_m(\lambda))$  one has to kill.
- This gives a hint: categorify the colored Jones polynomial as Khovanov-Rozansky  $\mathfrak{sl}_n$ -homologies - without infinite twists or categorified Jones-Wenzl projectors.
- As a possible upshot: duality between Khovanov-Rozansky  $\mathfrak{sl}_n$ -homologies and colored Jones homologies (as predicted via HOMFLY-PT homology).

There is still **much** to do...

Thanks for your attention!