

# Evaluation of $\mathfrak{sl}_N$ -foams

Louis-Hadrien Robert

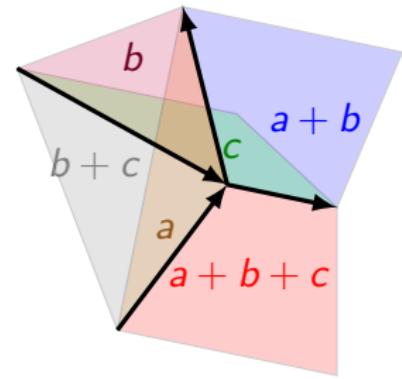
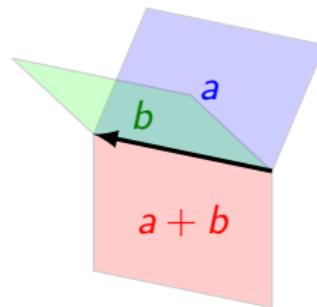


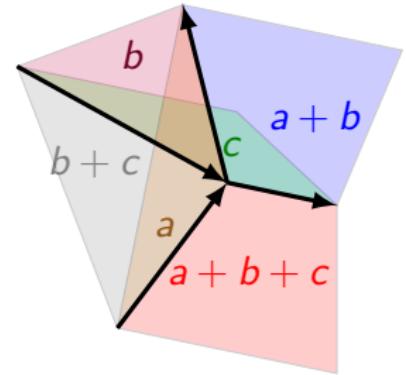
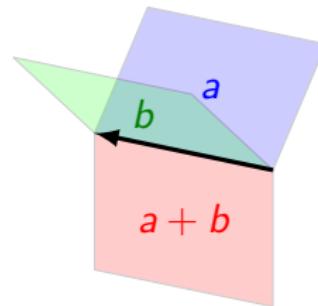
Universität Hamburg  
DER FORSCHUNG | DER LEHRE | DER BILDUNG

Emmanuel Wagner



Workshop on Quantum Topology – Lille





## Definition (R.-Wagner, '17)

$$\langle F \rangle_N = \sum_c \frac{(-1)^{\sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq N} \theta_{ij}^+(F, c)} \prod_f P_f(c(f))}{(-1)^{\sum_{i=1}^N i \chi(F_i(c))/2} \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq N} (X_i - X_j)^{\frac{\chi(F_{ij}(c))}{2}}}$$

## Definition (Kauffman Bracket, Jones polynomial)

$$\langle \emptyset \rangle_K = 1 \quad \langle \bigcirc \sqcup L \rangle_K = [2]_q \langle L \rangle$$

$$\langle \diagup \diagdown \rangle_K = \langle \text{brace} \rangle_K - q \langle \rangle_K$$

$$J(L) = (-1)^{n_-} q^{n_+ - 2n_-} \langle D \rangle_K$$

## Definition (Kauffman Bracket, Jones polynomial)

$$\langle \emptyset \rangle_K = 1 \quad \langle \bigcirc \sqcup L \rangle_K = [2]_q \langle L \rangle$$

$$\langle \times \times \rangle_K = \langle \text{brace} \rangle_K - q \langle \rangle_K \langle \rangle_K$$

$$J(L) = (-1)^{n_-} q^{n_+ - 2n_-} \langle D \rangle_K$$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \text{double loop} \rangle_K &= \langle \text{double cap} \rangle_K - q \langle \text{cap} \text{ cap} \rangle_K \\ &\quad - q \langle \text{cap} \text{ double cap} \rangle_K + q^2 \langle \text{double cap} \text{ cap} \rangle_K \end{aligned}$$

## Definition (Kauffman Bracket, Jones polynomial)

$$\langle \emptyset \rangle_K = 1 \quad \langle \bigcirc \sqcup L \rangle_K = [2]_q \langle L \rangle$$

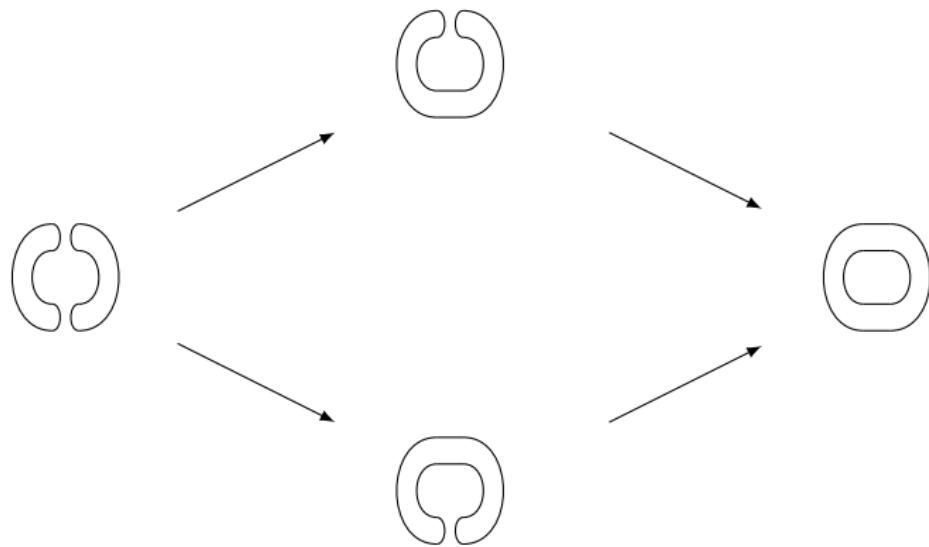
$$\langle \times \times \rangle_K = \langle \{\} \rangle_K - q \langle \rangle \langle \rangle_K$$

$$J(L) = (-1)^{n_-} q^{n_+ - 2n_-} \langle D \rangle_K$$

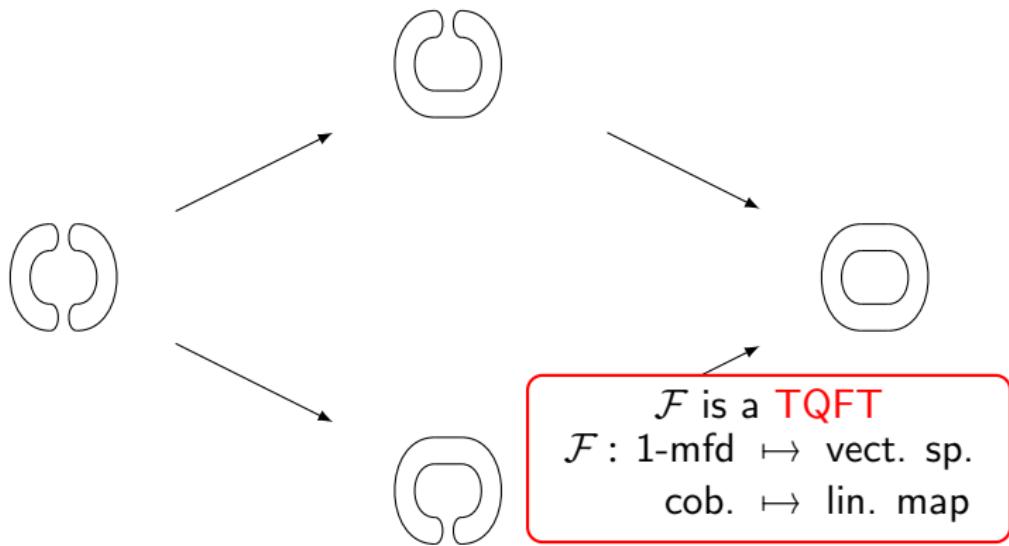
$$\begin{aligned} \langle \text{double loop} \rangle_K &= \langle \text{double circle} \rangle_K - q \langle \text{single loop} \rangle_K \\ &\quad - q \langle \text{left loop} \rangle_K + q^2 \langle \text{right loop} \rangle_K \end{aligned}$$

$$J\left(\text{double loop}\right) = q^6 + q^4 + q^2 + 1$$

# Khovanov homology



# Khovanov homology



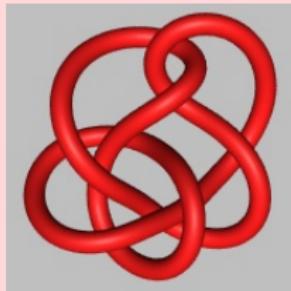
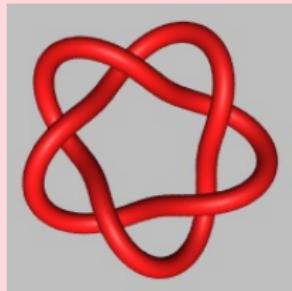
# Khovanov homology

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \mathcal{F}\left(\text{---}\right)\{+1\} & \\ \mathcal{F}(\text{saddle}) \searrow & & \swarrow \mathcal{F}(\text{saddle}) \\ \mathcal{F}\left(\text{---}\right) & \oplus & \mathcal{F}\left(\text{---}\right)\{+2\} \\ \mathcal{F}(\text{saddle}) \searrow & & \swarrow \mathcal{F}(\text{saddle}) \\ & \mathcal{F}\left(\text{---}\right)\{+1\} & \end{array}$$

Shift the homological degree by  $-n_-$ , the  $q$ -degree by  $n_+ - 2n_-$ .  
Take the homology.

## Proposition (Bar-Natan, '02)

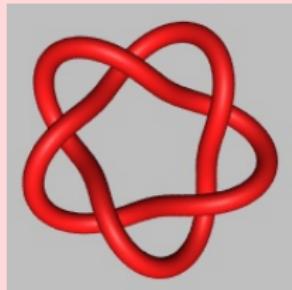
*Khovanov homology is strictly stronger than the Jones polynomial.*



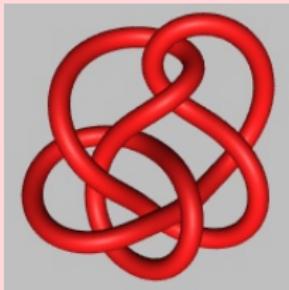
(source [www.colab.sfu.ca/KnotPlot/KnotServer/](http://www.colab.sfu.ca/KnotPlot/KnotServer/))

## Proposition (Bar-Natan, '02)

*Khovanov homology is strictly stronger than the Jones polynomial.*



$5_1$



$10_{132}$

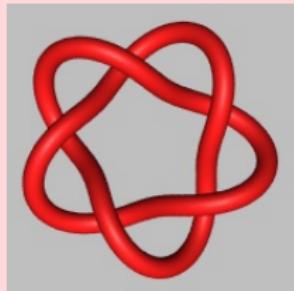
(source [www.colab.sfu.ca/KnotPlot/KnotServer/](http://www.colab.sfu.ca/KnotPlot/KnotServer/))

## Theorem (Kronheimer–Mrowka, '10)

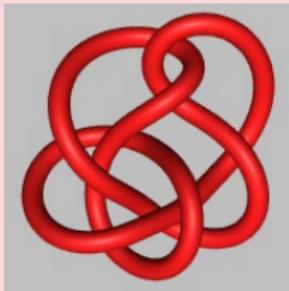
*Khovanov homology detects the unknot.*

## Proposition (Bar-Natan, '02)

*Khovanov homology is strictly stronger than the Jones polynomial.*



5<sub>1</sub>



10<sub>132</sub>

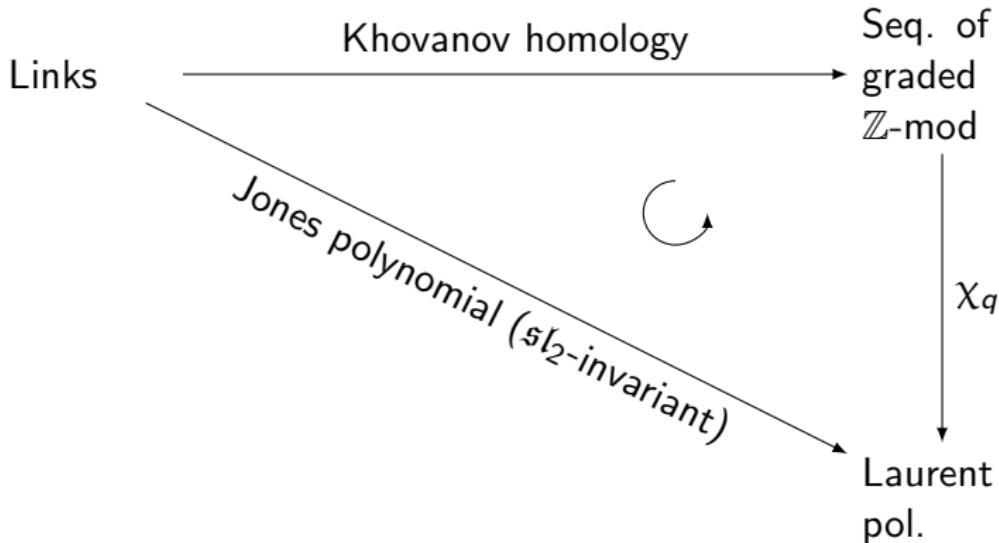
(source [www.colab.sfu.ca/KnotPlot/KnotServer/](http://www.colab.sfu.ca/KnotPlot/KnotServer/))

## Theorem (Kronheimer–Mrowka, '10)

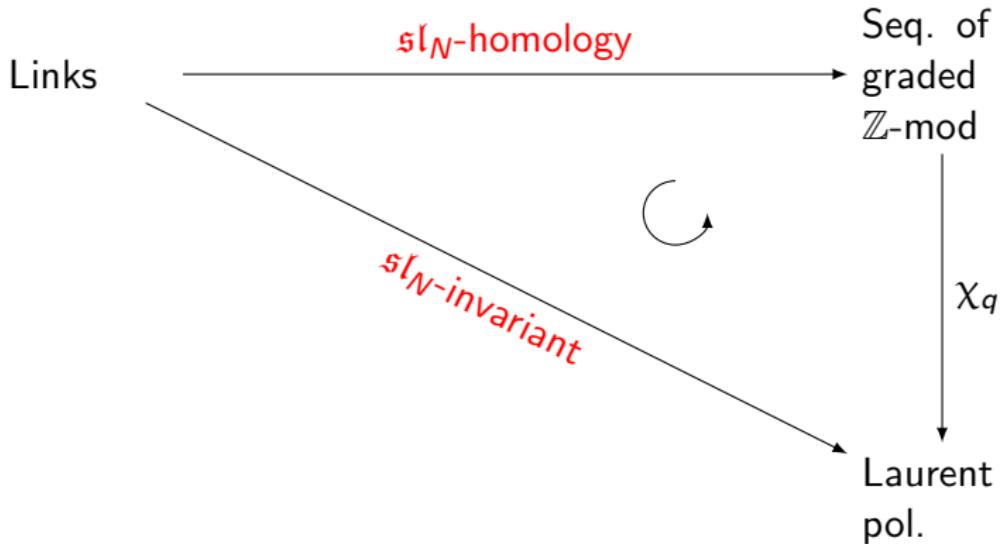
*Khovanov homology detects the unknot.*

## Milnor conjecture (Kronheimer–Mrowka, '93, Rasmussen '04)

The slice genus of the  $(p, q)$ -torus knot is equal to  $\frac{(p-1)(q-1)}{2}$ .



- ▶ A recipe to deal with crossings
- ▶ An ad-hoc TQFT



- ▶ A recipe to deal with crossings ↪ Rickard complexes
- ▶ An ad-hoc TQFT ↪ evaluation of foams

# The $\mathfrak{sl}_N$ -link invariant

## Proposition (Drinfel'd)

One can deform  $U(\mathfrak{sl}_N)$  into  $H := U_q(\mathfrak{sl}_N)$  such that it becomes a quasi-triangular Hopf  $\mathbb{C}(q)$ -algebra with **non-trivial** braiding.

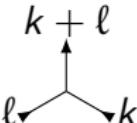
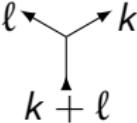
$k \uparrow$	$\ell \downarrow$	$\text{id}_{\wedge_q^k V}, \text{id}_{(\wedge_q^\ell V)^*}$
$D_1$	$D_2$	$f_1 \circ f_2$
$D_1$	$D_2$	$f_1 \otimes f_2$
$k \nearrow \ell$	$k \nearrow \ell$	braiding

# The $\mathfrak{sl}_N$ -link invariant

## Proposition (Drinfel'd)

One can deform  $U(\mathfrak{sl}_N)$  into  $H := U_q(\mathfrak{sl}_N)$  such that it becomes a quasi-triangular Hopf  $\mathbb{C}(q)$ -algebra with **non-trivial** braiding.

$k \uparrow$	$\ell \downarrow$	$\text{id}_{\wedge_q^k V}, \text{id}_{(\wedge_q^\ell V)^*}$
$D_1$	$D_2$	$f_1 \circ f_2$
$D_1$	$D_2$	$f_1 \otimes f_2$
$k \leftarrow \ell \times$	$k \leftarrow \ell \times$	braiding

$k \curvearrowright k$	evaluation
$k \curvearrowleft k$	coevaluation
$k + \ell$ 	$\wedge_q^k V \otimes \wedge_q^\ell V \longrightarrow \wedge_q^{k+\ell} V$
$k + \ell$ 	$\wedge_q^{k+\ell} V \longrightarrow \wedge_q^k V \otimes \wedge_q^\ell V$

# MOY calculus (Murakami–Ohtsuki–Yamada)

Lusztig ('94):

$$\left\langle \begin{array}{c} m \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ n \end{array} \right\rangle = \sum_{k=\max(0,m-n)}^m (-1)^{m-k} q^{k-m} \left\langle \begin{array}{c} m & & n \\ & \nearrow & \searrow \\ n+k & & m-k \\ & \searrow & \nearrow \\ n & & m \end{array} \right\rangle$$

$$\left\langle \begin{array}{c} m \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ n \end{array} \right\rangle = \sum_{k=\max(0,m-n)}^m (-1)^{m-k} q^{m-k} \left\langle \begin{array}{c} m & & n \\ & \nearrow & \searrow \\ n+k & & m-k \\ & \searrow & \nearrow \\ n & & m \end{array} \right\rangle$$

$$\left\langle \begin{array}{c} \text{circle} \\ \nearrow k \end{array} \right\rangle = \begin{bmatrix} N \\ k \end{bmatrix}_q$$

$$\left\langle \begin{array}{c} m \\ m+n \\ \nearrow n \\ m \end{array} \right\rangle = \begin{bmatrix} N-m \\ n \end{bmatrix}_q \left\langle \begin{array}{c} m \\ m \end{array} \right\rangle$$

$$\left\langle \begin{array}{c} i & j & k \\ \swarrow & \nearrow & \nearrow \\ j+k & & \\ \downarrow & & \\ i+j+k & & \end{array} \right\rangle = \left\langle \begin{array}{c} i & j & k \\ \swarrow & \nearrow & \nearrow \\ i+j & j+k & \\ \downarrow & & \\ i+j+k & & \end{array} \right\rangle$$

$$\left\langle \begin{array}{c} m+n \\ m \\ \nearrow n \\ m+n \end{array} \right\rangle = \begin{bmatrix} m+n \\ m \end{bmatrix}_q \left\langle \begin{array}{c} m+n \\ m+n \end{array} \right\rangle$$

$$\left\langle \begin{array}{ccccc} 1 & & m \\ \uparrow & \xrightarrow{m+1} & \downarrow \\ m & & 1 \\ \uparrow & \xrightarrow{m+1} & \downarrow \\ 1 & & m \end{array} \right\rangle = \left\langle \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ \uparrow \\ m \end{array} \right\rangle + [N-m-1]_q \left\langle \begin{array}{c} 1 & m \\ \swarrow & \searrow \\ m-1 & \\ \downarrow & \\ 1 & m \end{array} \right\rangle$$

$$\left\langle \begin{array}{ccccc} m & & n+l \\ \uparrow & \xrightarrow{n+k-m} & \uparrow \\ n+k & & m+l-k \\ \uparrow & \xrightarrow{k} & \uparrow \\ n & & m+l \end{array} \right\rangle = \sum_{j=\max(0,m-n)}^m \begin{bmatrix} l \\ k-j \end{bmatrix}_q \left\langle \begin{array}{ccccc} m & & n+l \\ \uparrow & \xleftarrow{j} & \uparrow \\ m-j & & n+l+j \\ \uparrow & \xleftarrow{n+j-m} & \uparrow \\ n & & m+l \end{array} \right\rangle$$

$$\begin{array}{lll} \mathcal{F}: & \text{Foam}_N & \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}[X_1, \dots, X_N] - \text{mod}_{\text{gr}} \\ \text{Wish:} & \text{MOY-graph} & \longmapsto \text{graded module} \\ & \text{foam} & \longmapsto \text{graded module map} \end{array}$$

$\mathcal{F} :$

$\text{Foam}_N$	$\longrightarrow$	$\mathbb{Z}[X_1, \dots, X_N] - \text{mod}_{\text{gr}}$
Wish:		
MOY-graph	$\longmapsto$	graded module
foam	$\longmapsto$	graded module map

Universal Construction  
An evaluation  $\rightsquigarrow$  (Maybe) a TQFT

$$\begin{array}{lll} \mathcal{F} : & \text{Foam}_N & \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}[X_1, \dots, X_N] - \text{mod}_{\text{gr}} \\ \text{Wish:} & \text{MOY-graph} & \longmapsto \text{graded module} \\ & \text{foam} & \longmapsto \text{graded module map} \end{array}$$

**Universal Construction**  
An evaluation  $\rightsquigarrow$  (Maybe) a TQFT

Theorem (R.-Wagner, '17)

*The evaluation defined on the first slide together with the  
Universal Construction yields an ad-hoc TQFT.*

# Universal Construction

(Blanchet, Habegger, Masbaum, Vogel)

Given: {closed cobordisms}  $\longrightarrow R$

$$\Gamma \longmapsto \mathcal{F}(\Gamma) := \bigoplus_{\emptyset F_\Gamma} R_F$$

$$\Gamma_1 G_{\Gamma_2} \longmapsto \mathcal{F}(G): \begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{F}(\Gamma_1) & \rightarrow & \mathcal{F}(\Gamma_2) \\ \emptyset F_{\Gamma_1} & \mapsto & \emptyset FG_{\Gamma_2} \end{pmatrix}$$

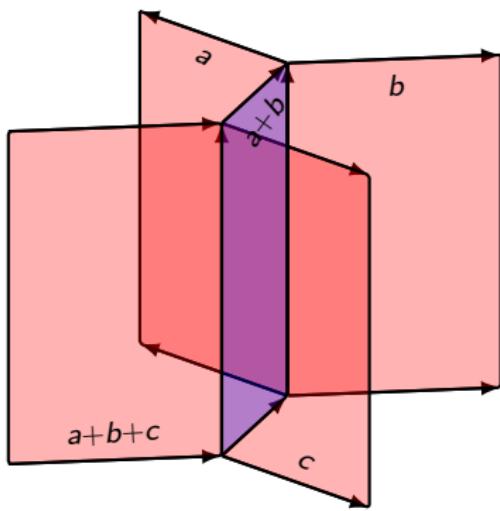
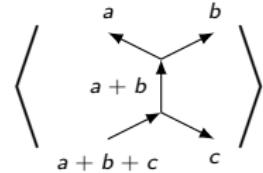
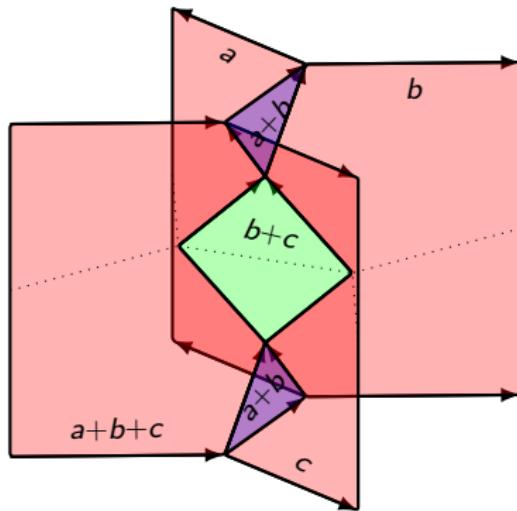
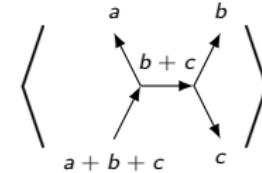
# Universal Construction

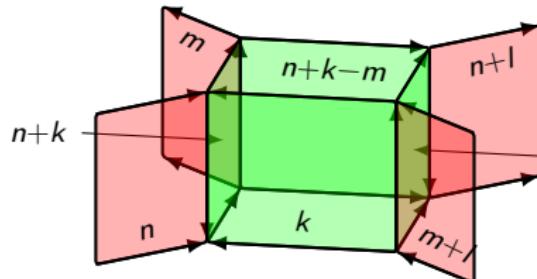
(Blanchet, Habegger, Masbaum, Vogel)

Given:  $\{\text{closed cobordisms}\} \longrightarrow R$

$$\Gamma \longmapsto \mathcal{F}(\Gamma) := \bigoplus_{\emptyset F_\Gamma} R_F \quad \left/ \begin{array}{l} \sum_i \lambda_i F_i = 0 \text{ if} \\ \sum_i \lambda_i \tau(F_i G) = 0 \text{ for all } {}_\Gamma G_\emptyset \end{array} \right.$$

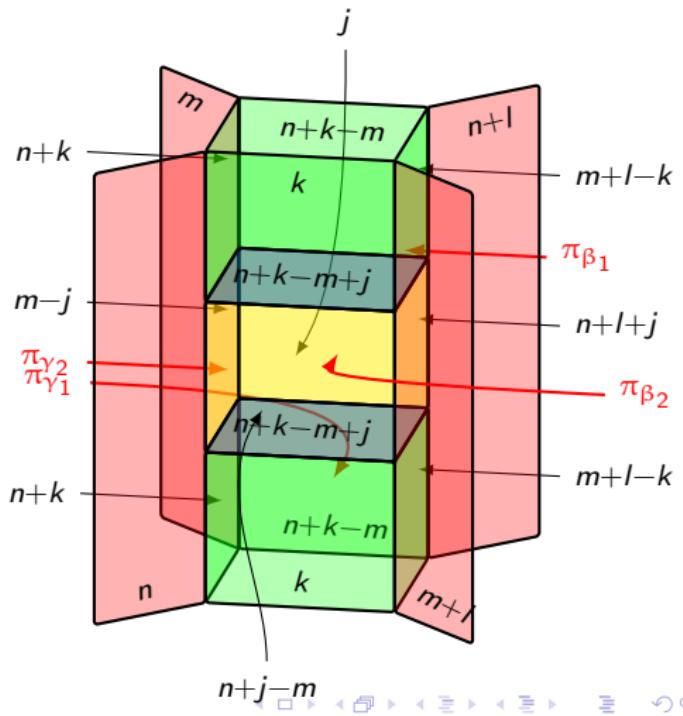
$$[{}_\Gamma G_\Gamma] \longmapsto \mathcal{F}(G): \begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{F}(\Gamma_1) & \rightarrow & \mathcal{F}(\Gamma_2) \\ [{}_\emptyset F_{\Gamma_1}] & \mapsto & [{}_\emptyset FG_{\Gamma_2}] \end{pmatrix}$$


 $=$ 

 $=$ 




$$m+l-k = \sum_{j=\max(0, m-n)}^m \sum_{\alpha \in T(k-j, l-k+j)}$$

$$(-1)^{|\alpha| + (l-k+j)(m-j)} \sum_{\substack{\beta_1, \beta_2 \\ \gamma_1, \gamma_2}} c_{\beta_1 \beta_2}^\alpha c_{\gamma_1 \gamma_2}^{\hat{\alpha}}$$



$A_1$	$A_1 \cap A_2$	$A_2 \cap A_3$	$A_3 \cap A_4$	$B_1$	$B_2$	$C'$	$L$	$R$	$X$	$A_1$	$A_2$	$A_3$	$A_4 \cap A_5$	$A_5 \cap A_6$	$A_6 \cap A_7$	$A_7 \cap A_8$	$C'$	$L$	$R$	$X$
$A_1 \cap A_2$																				
$A_2 \cap A_3$																				
$A_3 \cap A_4$																				
$B_1$																				
$B_2$																				
$C$																				
$L$																				
$R$																				
$X$																				

## Proposition

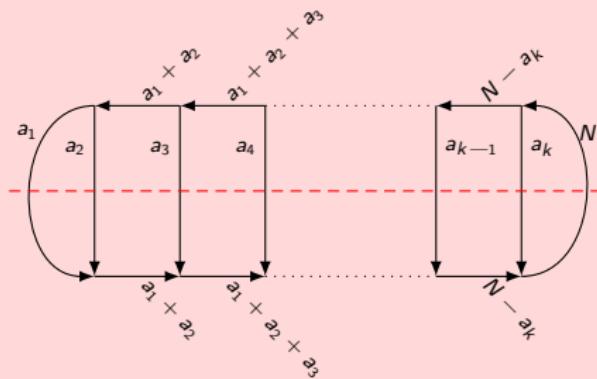
*The module associated with a MOY-graph with a symmetry axis is a Frobenius algebra.*

# Proposition

The module associated with a MOY-graph with a symmetry axis is a Frobenius algebra.

## Proposition (R.-Wagner, '17)

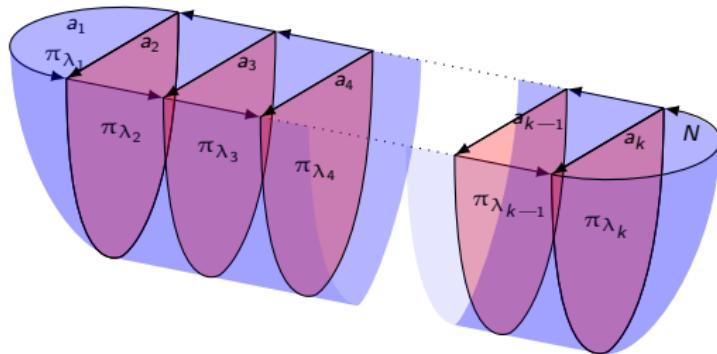
The Frobenius algebra associated with



is isomorphic to the  $T$ -equivariant cohomology ring of

$$\text{Flag}(\mathbb{C}^{a_1} \subset \mathbb{C}^{a_1+a_2} \subset \cdots \subset \mathbb{C}^{a_1+\cdots+a_{k-1}} \subset \mathbb{C}^N).$$

$$\prod_{i=1}^k \pi_{\lambda_i}(X_{a_i+1}, \dots, X_{a_{i+1}}) \mapsto$$



## Corollary (R.-Wagner, '17)

The Littlewood–Richardson coefficients are given by:

$$c_{\alpha\beta}^{\lambda} = (-1)^{|\widehat{\lambda}| + N(N+1)/2} \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram of a circle divided into three regions: green top-left, grey middle, red bottom-right. The red region has a central point labeled } N. \\ \text{The green region contains points } a \text{ and } b. \\ \text{A red arrow labeled } \pi_{\widehat{\lambda}} \text{ points from the center to the green region.} \\ \text{A red arrow labeled } \pi_{\alpha}\pi_{\beta} \text{ points from the center to the red region.} \end{array} \right\rangle_N$$
$$= (-1)^{N(N+1)/2 + |\widehat{\lambda}|} \sum_{\substack{A \sqcup B = \{X_1, \dots, X_N\} \\ |A|=a, |B|=b}} (-1)^{|B| - |A|} \frac{a_{\alpha}(A) a_{\beta}(A) a_{\widehat{\lambda}}(B)}{\Delta(X_1, \dots, X_N)}.$$

# Thank you!