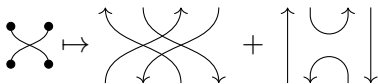


# Embedding Deligne's category $\text{Rep}(S_t)$ in the Heisenberg category



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Slides available online: [alistairsavage.ca/talks](http://alistairsavage.ca/talks)

Preprint: [1905.05620](https://arxiv.org/abs/1905.05620) (with S. Nyobe Likeng and C. Ryba)

# Outline

**Goal:** Define an embedding from the partition category and Deligne's category  $\text{Rep}(S_t)$  into the Heisenberg category.

## Overview:

- 1 Strict monoidal categories & string diagrams
- 2 The partition category & Deligne's category  $\text{Rep}(S_t)$
- 3 The Heisenberg category
- 4 The embedding
- 5 Future directions

# Strict monoidal categories

A **strict monoidal category** is a category  $\mathcal{C}$  equipped with

- a bifunctor (the **tensor product**)  $\otimes: \mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ , and
- a **unit object**  $\mathbb{1}$ ,

such that, for objects  $A, B, C$  and morphisms  $f, g, h$ ,

- $(A \otimes B) \otimes C = A \otimes (B \otimes C)$ ,
- $\mathbb{1} \otimes A = A = A \otimes \mathbb{1}$ ,
- $(f \otimes g) \otimes h = f \otimes (g \otimes h)$ ,
- $1_{\mathbb{1}} \otimes f = f = f \otimes 1_{\mathbb{1}}$ .

## Remark: Non-strict monoidal categories

In a (not necessarily strict) **monoidal category**, the equalities above are replaced by isomorphism, and we impose some **coherence conditions**.

Every monoidal category is monoidally equivalent to a strict one.

## $\mathbb{k}$ -linear monoidal categories

Fix a commutative ground ring  $\mathbb{k}$ .

A **strict  $\mathbb{k}$ -linear monoidal category** is a strict monoidal category such that

- each morphism space is a  $\mathbb{k}$ -module,
- composition of morphisms is  $\mathbb{k}$ -bilinear,
- tensor product of morphisms is  $\mathbb{k}$ -bilinear.

### The interchange law

The axioms of a strict monoidal category imply the **interchange law**: For  $A_1 \xrightarrow{f} A_2$  and  $B_1 \xrightarrow{g} B_2$ , the following diagram commutes:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A_1 \otimes B_1 & \xrightarrow{1 \otimes g} & A_1 \otimes B_2 \\ f \otimes 1 \downarrow & \searrow f \otimes g & \downarrow f \otimes 1 \\ A_2 \otimes B_1 & \xrightarrow{1 \otimes g} & A_2 \otimes B_2 \end{array}$$

# Strict monoidal categories

## Example (Monoids)

A (strict) monoidal category with one object is simply a commutative monoid. More precisely, the endomorphisms of  $\mathbb{1}$  form a commutative monoid.

Conversely, every commutative monoid gives rise to a one-object monoidal category.

## Example (Associative algebras)

A (strict)  $\mathbb{k}$ -linear monoidal category with one object is simply a commutative associative unital  $\mathbb{k}$ -algebra.

# String diagrams

Let's draw pictures! Fix a strict monoidal category  $\mathcal{C}$ .

We will denote a morphism  $f: A \rightarrow B$  by:



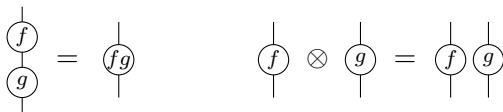
The **identity map**  $1_A: A \rightarrow A$  is a string with no label:



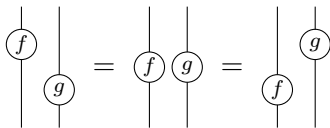
We sometimes omit the object labels when they are clear or unimportant.

# String diagrams

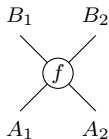
Composition is **vertical stacking** and tensor product is **horizontal juxtaposition**:



The **interchange law** then becomes:



A morphism  $f: A_1 \otimes A_2 \rightarrow B_1 \otimes B_2$  can be depicted:



# Partition algebras: Motivation

Let  $V = \mathbb{C}^n$  be the permutation representation of the symmetric group  $S_n$ .

We have a Schur–Weyl type duality

$$\mathbb{C}S_n \rightarrow \text{End}_{\mathbb{C}}(V^{\otimes k}) \xleftarrow{g} P_k(n),$$

where  $P_k(n)$  is the partition algebra.

In particular:

- the image of  $g$  is  $\text{End}_{\mathbb{C}S_n}(V^{\otimes k})$ ,
- $g$  is injective if and only if  $2k \leq n$ .

We can describe  $P_k(n)$  in terms of partition diagrams.



## Partition diagrams

For  $k, \ell \in \mathbb{N}$ , a **partition** of type  $\binom{\ell}{k}$  is a partition of the set

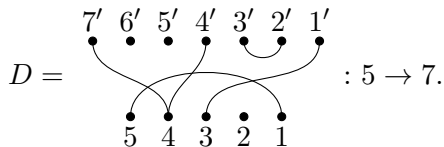
$$\{1, \dots, k, 1', \dots, \ell'\}.$$

Consider the associated **partition diagram**.

The partition diagram of

$$\{\{1, 5\}, \{2\}, \{3, 1'\}, \{4, 4', 7'\}, \{2', 3'\}, \{5'\}, \{6'\}\} \text{ of type } \binom{7}{5}$$

is



We often omit the labels of the vertices.

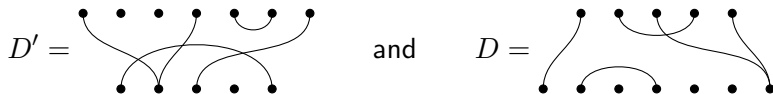
# Partition diagrams

We have unique partition diagrams of types  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ :

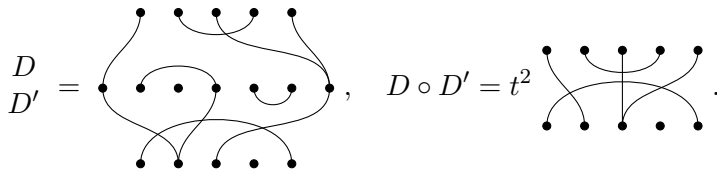
$$\uparrow : 0 \rightarrow 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \downarrow : 1 \rightarrow 0.$$

Fix a commutative ring  $\mathbb{k}$  and  $t \in \mathbb{k}$ .

**Composition:** We compose partition diagrams by vertical stacking. If



then



The exponent of  $t$  is the number of connected components in the “center”.

# The partition category

The **partition category** is the strict  $\mathbb{k}$ -linear monoidal category  $\mathcal{P}ar(t)$  with:

- **Objects:**  $k \in \mathbb{N}$
- **Morphisms:**  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{P}ar(t)}(k, \ell) = \text{Span}_{\mathbb{k}} \left\{ \text{partition diag. of type } \binom{\ell}{k} \right\}$
- **Composition:**  $\circ$  (vertical stacking)
- **Tensor product:** horizontal juxtaposition

Then

$$P_k(t) = \text{End}_{\mathcal{P}ar(t)}(k)$$

is the **partition algebra**.

**Note:** We do not require  $t \in \mathbb{N}$ .

# Presentations of strict monoidal categories

One can give **presentations** of some strict  $\mathbb{k}$ -linear monoidal categories, just as for monoids, groups, algebras, etc.

**Objects:** If the objects are generated by some collection  $A_i, i \in I$ , then we have all possible tensor products of these objects:

$$\mathbb{1}, \quad A_i, \quad A_i \otimes A_j \otimes A_k \otimes A_\ell, \quad \text{etc.}$$

**Morphisms:** If the morphisms are generated by some collection  $f_j, j \in J$ , then we have all possible compositions and tensor products of these morphisms (whenever these make sense):

$$1_{A_i}, \quad f_j \otimes (f_i \circ f_k) \otimes (f_\ell), \quad \text{etc.}$$

We then often impose some **relations** on these morphism spaces.

**String diagrams:** We can build complex diagrams out of our simple generating diagrams.

# Presentation of the partition category

$\mathcal{P}ar(t)$  is generated by the object 1 and the morphisms

$$\mu = \begin{array}{c} \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \end{array}, \quad \delta = \begin{array}{c} \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \end{array}, \quad s = \begin{array}{c} \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \end{array}, \quad \eta = \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \uparrow \end{array}, \quad \varepsilon = \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \downarrow \end{array},$$

subject to the relations:

$$\begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{c} \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \end{array} \uparrow = \uparrow \bullet = \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \uparrow \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \end{array}, \quad \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \downarrow \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \end{array} = \downarrow \bullet = \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \downarrow \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \end{array}, \quad \begin{array}{c} \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \bullet \quad \bullet \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \end{array}, \\ \begin{array}{c} \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \bullet \quad \bullet \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \end{array}, \quad \begin{array}{c} \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \end{array}, \\ \begin{array}{c} \bullet \quad \bullet \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \end{array} \uparrow = \uparrow \bullet, \quad \begin{array}{c} \bullet \quad \bullet \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \bullet \quad \bullet \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \end{array}, \quad \begin{array}{c} \bullet \quad \bullet \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \end{array} \downarrow = \downarrow \bullet, \quad \begin{array}{c} \bullet \quad \bullet \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \bullet \quad \bullet \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \end{array}, \\ \begin{array}{c} \bullet \quad \bullet \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \end{array}, \quad \begin{array}{c} \bullet \quad \bullet \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \bullet \quad \bullet \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \end{array}, \quad \uparrow = t1_0. \end{array}$$

**Consequence:**  $\mathcal{P}ar(t)$  is the free  $\mathbb{k}$ -linear symmetric monoidal category generated by a  $t$ -dimensional special commutative Frobenius object.

## Action of the partition category

Suppose  $\mathbb{k}$  is a field. Let

- $V = \mathbb{k}^n$  be the permutation representation of  $S_n$ ,
- $\mathbf{1}_n$  be the one-dimensional trivial  $S_n$ -module.

There is a strong monoidal functor

$$\Phi_n: \mathcal{P}ar(n) \rightarrow S_n\text{-mod}$$

given by  $\Phi_n(1) = V$  and

$$\Phi_n(\mu): V \otimes V \rightarrow V,$$

$$v_i \otimes v_j \mapsto \delta_{i,j} v_i,$$

$$\Phi_n(\eta): \mathbf{1}_n \rightarrow V,$$

$$1 \mapsto \sum_{i=1}^n v_i,$$

$$\Phi_n(\delta): V \rightarrow V \otimes V,$$

$$v_i \mapsto v_i \otimes v_i,$$

$$\Phi_n(\varepsilon): V \rightarrow \mathbf{1}_n,$$

$$v_i \mapsto 1,$$

$$\Phi_n(s): V \otimes V \rightarrow V \otimes V,$$

$$v_i \otimes v_j \mapsto v_j \otimes v_i$$

where  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  is the standard basis of  $V = \mathbb{k}^n$ .

# Action of the partition category

## Proposition (Comes 2016)

- 1  $\Phi_n: \mathcal{P}ar(n) \rightarrow S_n\text{-mod}$  is full.
- 2 The induced map

$$\mathrm{Hom}_{\mathcal{P}ar(n)}(k, \ell) \rightarrow \mathrm{Hom}_{S_n}(V^{\otimes k}, V^{\otimes \ell})$$

is an isomorphism if and only if  $k + \ell \leq n$ .

This is a generalization of the Schur–Weyl duality property of the partition algebra mentioned earlier.

# Additive envelope

Suppose  $\mathcal{C}$  is some  $\mathbb{k}$ -linear monoidal category.

Its **additive envelope** is the category whose:

- **objects** are formal finite direct sums  $\bigoplus_i X_i$  of objects  $X_i$  in  $\mathcal{C}$ ,
- **morphisms**

$$f: \bigoplus_{i=1}^n X_i \rightarrow \bigoplus_{j=1}^m Y_j$$

are  $m \times n$  matrices, where the  $(j, i)$ -entry is a morphism

$$f_{i,j}: X_i \rightarrow Y_j.$$

Composition is given by matrix multiplication.



# Idempotent completion

## Definition: idempotent completion (Karoubi envelope)

The **idempotent completion** of a category  $\mathcal{C}$  is the category whose

- objects are pairs  $(A, e)$  where  $A \in \text{Ob } \mathcal{C}$  and  $e \in \text{Mor}_{\mathcal{C}}(A, A)$  is an idempotent ( $e^2 = e$ ), and
- morphisms from  $(A, e)$  to  $(B, f)$  are elements of  $f \text{Mor}_{\mathcal{C}}(A, B)e$ .

**Intuition:** One thinks of passing to the idempotent completion as adding in objects such that the idempotents correspond to projections onto direct summands.

$$\begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{\quad e \quad} \\ A \cong X \oplus Y \longrightarrow \twoheadrightarrow X^{\mathcal{C}} \longrightarrow X \oplus Y \cong A \end{array}$$

We let  $\text{Kar}(\mathcal{C})$  denote the Karoubi envelope of the additive envelope of  $\mathcal{C}$ .

# Deligne's category $\text{Rep}(S_t)$

We define

$$\text{Rep}(S_t) := \text{Kar}(\mathcal{P}ar(t)).$$

## Notes

- $\text{Rep}(S_t)$  is semisimple when  $t \notin \mathbb{N}$ .
- When  $t = n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $S_n\text{-mod}$  is the quotient of  $\text{Rep}(S_t)$  by the negligible morphisms.
- $\text{Rep}(S_t)$  “interpolates” between the categories  $\text{Rep}(S_n)$ .

**Intuition:**  $\text{Rep}(S_t)$  describes the representation of the  $S_n$  in a uniform way, but *with  $n$  fixed*.

# The Heisenberg category: Motivation

Geissinger (1970s) constructed an isomorphism of bialgebras

$$\bigoplus_{n=0}^{\infty} K_0(S_n\text{-mod}) \cong \text{Sym}.$$

Multiplication given by

$$[\text{Ind}]: K_0(S_n\text{-mod}) \otimes K_0(S_m\text{-mod}) \rightarrow K_0(S_{n+m}\text{-mod}).$$

Comultiplication given by restriction.

Operators of mult. by  $[K] \in K_0(S_n\text{-mod})$ , together with their adjoints, defines an action of the **infinite rank Heisenberg algebra**, and

$\bigoplus_{n=0}^{\infty} K_0(S_n\text{-mod})$  is the **Fock space module**.

Further study of these ideas leads to the **Heisenberg category**.

# The Heisenberg category

The *Heisenberg category*  $\mathcal{Heis}$  (Khovanov 2014) is the strict  $\mathbb{k}$ -linear monoidal category generated by two objects  $\uparrow, \downarrow$ , morphisms

$$\begin{aligned} \bowtie: \uparrow\uparrow &\rightarrow \uparrow\uparrow, & \cup: \mathbb{1} &\rightarrow \downarrow\uparrow, & \cap: \uparrow\downarrow &\rightarrow \mathbb{1}, \\ \cup: \mathbb{1} &\rightarrow \uparrow\downarrow, & \cap: \downarrow\uparrow &\rightarrow \mathbb{1}, \end{aligned}$$

and relations

$$\begin{aligned} \text{crossing} &= \uparrow\uparrow, & \text{triple crossing} &= \text{triple crossing}, \\ \text{cup} &= \uparrow, & \text{cap} &= \downarrow, \\ \text{crossing} &= \uparrow\downarrow, & \text{crossing} &= \downarrow\uparrow - \text{cup}, & \text{cup} &= 0, & \text{cap} &= 1_{\mathbb{1}}. \quad (\star) \end{aligned}$$

Here the other crossings are defined by

$$\text{crossing} := \text{cup}, \quad \text{crossing} := \text{cap}.$$

The relations  $(\star)$  imply that  $\downarrow\uparrow \cong \uparrow\downarrow \oplus \mathbb{1}$ .

# The Heisenberg category

One can prove that we have the following **bubble slide** relations:

$$\begin{array}{c} \circlearrowleft \\ \uparrow \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \\ \circlearrowleft \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \end{array} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{array}{c} \circlearrowleft \\ \downarrow \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \downarrow \\ \circlearrowleft \end{array} - \begin{array}{c} \downarrow \end{array}.$$

Therefore

$$\begin{array}{c} \circlearrowleft \\ \uparrow \downarrow \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \downarrow \\ \circlearrowleft \end{array}.$$

Let  $\mathcal{H}eis_{\uparrow\downarrow}$  be the full  $\mathbb{k}$ -linear monoidal subcategory of  $\mathcal{H}eis$  generated by  $\uparrow\downarrow$ .

Since the clockwise bubble is strictly central in  $\mathcal{H}eis_{\uparrow\downarrow}$ , we can define  $\mathcal{H}eis_{\uparrow\downarrow}(t)$  to be the quotient of  $\mathcal{H}eis_{\uparrow\downarrow}$  by the additional relation

$$\begin{array}{c} \circlearrowleft \end{array} = t1_{\mathbb{1}}.$$

# Action of the Heisenberg category

There is a  $\mathbb{k}$ -linear monoidal functor

$$\Theta: \mathcal{H}eis \rightarrow \prod_{m \in \mathbb{N}} \left( \bigoplus_{n \in \mathbb{N}} (S_n, S_m)\text{-bimod} \right).$$

For  $0 \leq m \leq n$ , we have a natural embedding  $S_m \subseteq S_n$ . Let

$$(n)_m = \mathbb{k}S_n, \text{ as a } (S_n, S_m)\text{-bimodule,}$$

$$m(n) = \mathbb{k}S_n, \text{ as a } (S_m, S_n)\text{-bimodule.}$$

On objects,

$$\Theta(\uparrow) = \bigoplus_{n \geq 1} (n)_{n-1}, \quad \Theta(\downarrow) = \bigoplus_{n \geq 1} n_{-1}(n).$$

On morphisms

$$\Theta \left( \begin{array}{c} \nearrow \quad \searrow \\ \nwarrow \quad \nearrow \end{array} \right) = \left( (n)_{n-2} \rightarrow (n)_{n-2}, g \mapsto g s_{n-1} \right)_{n \geq 2},$$

and  $\Theta$  sends cups/caps to the bimodule homomorphisms making  $\Theta(\uparrow)$  and  $\Theta(\downarrow)$  into a biadjoint pair (Frobenius reciprocity).

# Action of the Heisenberg category

Restricting to  $\mathcal{H}eis_{\uparrow\downarrow}$  gives a functor

$$\Theta: \mathcal{H}eis_{\uparrow\downarrow} \rightarrow \bigoplus_{m \in \mathbb{N}} (S_m, S_m)\text{-bimod.}$$

Recall

$$\mathbf{1}_n = \text{trivial } S_n\text{-module.}$$

Consider the composition

$$\mathcal{H}eis_{\uparrow\downarrow} \xrightarrow{\Theta} \bigoplus_{m \in \mathbb{N}} (S_m, S_m)\text{-bimod} \xrightarrow{- \otimes_{S_n} \mathbf{1}_n} S_n\text{-mod.}$$

This factors through  $\mathcal{H}eis_{\uparrow\downarrow}(n)$  to give an action functor

$$\Omega_n: \mathcal{H}eis_{\uparrow\downarrow}(n) \rightarrow S_n\text{-mod.}$$

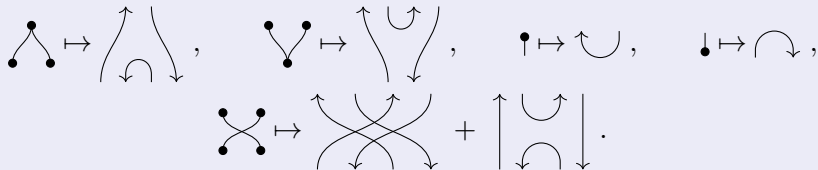
# The embedding functor

## Theorem (Nyobe Likeng–Ryba–S. 2019)

There is a faithful strict linear monoidal functor  $\Psi_t: \mathcal{P}ar(t) \hookrightarrow \mathcal{H}eis_{\uparrow\downarrow}(t)$  defined on objects by

$$k \mapsto (\uparrow\downarrow)^k$$

and on generating morphisms by





# The embedding functor

Recall that

$$\mathrm{Rep}(S_t) = \mathrm{Kar}(\mathcal{P}ar(t)).$$

## Corollary

There is a faithful strict linear monoidal functor

$$\mathrm{Rep}(S_t) \hookrightarrow \mathrm{Kar}(\mathcal{H}eis_{\uparrow\downarrow}(t)).$$

When  $t$  is generic (i.e. we work over  $\mathbb{k}[t]$ ), we can extend our embedding to

$$\Psi_t: \mathrm{Rep}(S_t) \hookrightarrow \mathrm{Kar}(\mathcal{H}eis).$$

# Compatibility of the actions

Recall that

$V = \mathbb{k}^n$  is the permutation representation of  $S_n$ ,  
 $\mathbf{1}_n = \mathbb{k}$  is the trivial representation of  $S_n$ .

Let  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  be the standard basis of  $V$ .

The elements

$$g_i := s_i s_{i+1} \cdots s_{n-1}, \quad i = 1, \dots, n,$$

form a complete set of  $S_n/S_{n-1}$ -coset representatives.

We have an isomorphism of  $S_n$ -modules

$$\mathbb{k}S_n \otimes_{S_{n-1}} \mathbf{1}_n \xrightarrow{\cong} V, \quad g_i \otimes 1 \mapsto v_i = g_i v_n.$$

In other words,  $\text{Ind}_{n-1}^n \text{Res}_{n-1}^n \mathbf{1}_n = \text{Ind}_{n-1}^n \mathbf{1}_{n-1} \cong V$ .

# Compatibility of the actions

More generally, we have an isomorphism of  $S_n$ -modules

$$V^{\otimes k} \xrightarrow{\cong} \underbrace{\mathbb{k}S_n \otimes_{S_{n-1}} \cdots \otimes_{S_{n-1}} \mathbb{k}S_n \otimes_{S_{n-1}} \mathbf{1}_n}_{k \text{ factors}}, \quad (\boxtimes)$$

## Theorem (Nyobe Likeng–S. 2019)

Fix  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , and consider the following functors:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{P}ar(n) & \xrightarrow{\Psi_n} & \mathcal{H}eis_{\uparrow\downarrow}(n) \\ & \searrow \Phi_n & \downarrow \Omega_n \\ & & S_n\text{-mod} \end{array}$$

The morphisms  $(\boxtimes)$  give a natural isomorphism of functors  $\Omega_n \circ \Psi_n \cong \Phi_n$ .

# Grothendieck rings

If  $\mathcal{C}$  is an additive linear monoidal category, let

$$\begin{aligned} K_0(\mathcal{C}) &= \text{split Grothendieck ring of } \mathcal{C} \\ &= \text{Span}_{\mathbb{Z}}(\text{isom classes of objects in } \mathcal{C}) / ([X \oplus Y] - [X] - [Y]). \end{aligned}$$

Multiplication in  $K_0(\mathcal{C})$  is given by

$$[X][Y] = [X \otimes Y].$$

Our embedding

$$\Psi_t: \text{Rep}(S_t) \rightarrow \text{Kar}(\mathcal{H}eis)$$

induces a ring homomorphism

$$[\Psi_t]: K_0(\text{Rep}(S_t)) \rightarrow K_0(\text{Kar}(\mathcal{H}eis)).$$

**Goal:** Describe this ring homomorphism algebraically.

# The Heisenberg algebra

Let

$\text{Sym} =$  ring of symmetric functions with coefficients in  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

The **infinite-dimensional Heisenberg Lie algebra**  $\mathfrak{h}$  is the Lie algebra over  $\mathbb{Q}$  with

- generators  $c, p_n^\pm, n \geq 1,$
- relations

$$[p_m^-, p_n^-] = [p_m^+, p_n^+] = [c, p_n^\pm] = 0, \quad [p_m^+, p_n^-] = \delta_{m,n} n c.$$

Then **central reduction**  $U(\mathfrak{h})/(c+1)$  is the **Heisenberg double**  $\text{Sym}_{\mathbb{Q}} \#_{\mathbb{Q}} \text{Sym}_{\mathbb{Q}}$  with respect to the pairing

$$\langle -, - \rangle: \text{Sym}_{\mathbb{Q}} \times \text{Sym}_{\mathbb{Q}}, \quad \langle p_m, p_n \rangle = \delta_{m,n} n.$$

We have

$$\text{Sym}_{\mathbb{Q}} \#_{\mathbb{Q}} \text{Sym}_{\mathbb{Q}} \cong \text{Sym}_{\mathbb{Q}} \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \text{Sym}_{\mathbb{Q}} \quad \text{as } \mathbb{Q}\text{-modules.}$$

# The Heisenberg algebra

We can restrict to obtain a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -form

$$\text{Heis} := \text{Sym} \#_{\mathbb{Z}} \text{Sym} \cong \text{Sym} \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \text{Sym} \quad (\text{as } \mathbb{Z}\text{-modules}).$$

For  $f \in \text{Sym}$ , let

$$f^- := f \otimes 1 \quad f^+ := 1 \otimes f.$$

Then

$$s_{\lambda}^+ s_{\mu}^-, \quad \lambda, \mu \in \mathcal{P},$$

is a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -basis for  $\text{Heis}$ , where

- $\mathcal{P}$  is the set of partitions,
- $s_{\lambda}$  is the Schur function corresponding to  $\lambda \in \mathcal{P}$ .

Theorem (Brundan–S.–Webster 2018, Conjecture by Khovanov 2014)

There is an explicit isomorphism of rings

$$\text{Heis} \cong K_0(\text{Kar}(\mathcal{H}eis)).$$

# Kronecker coproduct

The Kronecker coproduct is

$$\Delta_{\text{Kr}}: \text{Sym}_{\mathbb{Q}} \rightarrow \text{Sym}_{\mathbb{Q}} \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \text{Sym}_{\mathbb{Q}}, \quad \Delta_{\text{Kr}}(p_{\lambda}) = p_{\lambda} \otimes p_{\lambda}, \quad \lambda \in \mathcal{P},$$

where

$$p_{\lambda} = p_{\lambda_1} \cdots p_{\lambda_{\ell}},$$

and  $p_n$  is the  $n$ -th power sum.

Restriction gives a coproduct

$$\Delta_{\text{Kr}}: \text{Sym} \rightarrow \text{Sym} \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \text{Sym}.$$

# Kronecker coproduct

Assume  $\text{char } \mathbb{k} = 0$ . There is an isomorphism of Hopf algebras

$$\bigoplus_{n=0}^{\infty} K_0(S_n\text{-mod}) \cong \text{Sym}, \quad [S_\lambda] \mapsto s_\lambda, \quad (\clubsuit)$$

where  $S_\lambda$  is the Specht module.

Consider the diagonal embedding

$$\mathbb{k}S_n \rightarrow \mathbb{k}S_n \otimes_{\mathbb{k}} \mathbb{k}S_n.$$

Under  $(\clubsuit)$ , the functor

$$S_n\text{-mod} \rightarrow (S_n \times S_n)\text{-mod}, \quad M \mapsto \text{Ind}_{S_n}^{S_n \times S_n}(M),$$

corresponds precisely to  $\Delta_{\text{Kr}}$  after passing to Grothendieck groups.



# Grothendieck rings

Recall our embedding functor

$$\Psi_t: \text{Rep}(S_t) \hookrightarrow \text{Kar}(\mathcal{H}eis).$$

This induces a ring homomorphism

$$[\Psi_t]: K_0(\text{Rep}(S_t)) \rightarrow K_0(\text{Kar}(\mathcal{H}eis)) \cong \text{Heis}.$$

As  $\mathbb{Z}$ -modules,

$$\text{Heis} \cong \text{Sym} \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \text{Sym}.$$

Theorem (Nyobe Likeng–S. 2019)

The map  $[\Psi_t]$  is injective and

$$[\Psi_t](K_0(\text{Rep}(S_t))) = \Delta_{\text{Kr}}(\text{Sym}) \subseteq \text{Heis}.$$

## Future directions: Frobenius generalization

To any Frobenius (super)algebra  $A$ , one can define a **Frobenius Heisenberg category** (Rosso–S. 2017)

$$\mathcal{H}eis_A.$$

This corresponds to

symmetric groups  $S_n \rightsquigarrow$  **wreath algebras**  $A^{\otimes n} \rtimes S_n$ .

Then

$$K_0(\mathcal{H}eis_A) \cong \text{lattice Heisenberg algebra corr. to } K_0(A).$$

Generalizing above work should relate these to **colored partition algebras** and **wreath Deligne categories**.

Work in progress (S. Nyobe–Likeng).

# Connections to Hilbert schemes and quiver varieties

**McKay correspondence:** finite subgroups  $\Gamma \subseteq SL_2(\mathbb{C})$  parametrized by simply-laced affine Dynkin diagrams (affine type  $ADE$ ).

To  $\Gamma$ , one can associate a **zigzag algebra**  $A$ .

**Cautis–Licata 2012:**  $\mathcal{H}eis_A$  acts on derived category of coherent sheaves on Hilbert schemes of points on the resolution  $\widehat{\mathbb{C}^2/\Gamma}$  of the quotient  $\mathbb{C}^2/\Gamma$ .

**Work in progress** (Reeks–S.): Compute traces of  $\mathcal{H}eis_A$ . Should be related to AGT correspondence.

## Future directions: Quantum version

There is a **quantum Heisenberg category** (Licata–S. 2013, Brundan–S.–Webster 2018)

$$\mathcal{H}eis(z, t).$$

This corresponds to

symmetric groups  $S_n \rightsquigarrow$  **Iwahori–Hecke algebras of type  $A$** .

Still have (conjecturally)

$$K_0(\mathcal{H}eis(z, t)) \cong \text{Heis}.$$

Should be related to  $q$ -partition algebras and a quantum analogue of Deligne's category.

Work in progress (Y. Moussaid).

## Future directions: General central charge

The Heisenberg categories above are **central charge**  $-1$ .

In general, for a **central charge**  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ , we have Heisenberg categories

$$\mathcal{H}eis_k, \quad \mathcal{H}eis_{A,k}, \quad \mathcal{H}eis_{A,k}(z, t).$$

Corresponds to replacing symmetric groups by

- degenerate cyclotomic Hecke algebras,
- cyclotomic wreath algebras,
- cyclotomic quantum wreath algebras.

It would be interesting to generalize above picture to arbitrary level.