

From Link Homology To

Representations of The Symmetric Groups

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OIST Internal Seminar

April 2021

# FULL DISCLAIMER

I'm a PURE Mathematician,

Intellectual pursuits  
unsolved conjectures

physics  
industrial

Applications

e.g.

Theory

Group Theory, Elliptic Curve

Riemannian Geometry

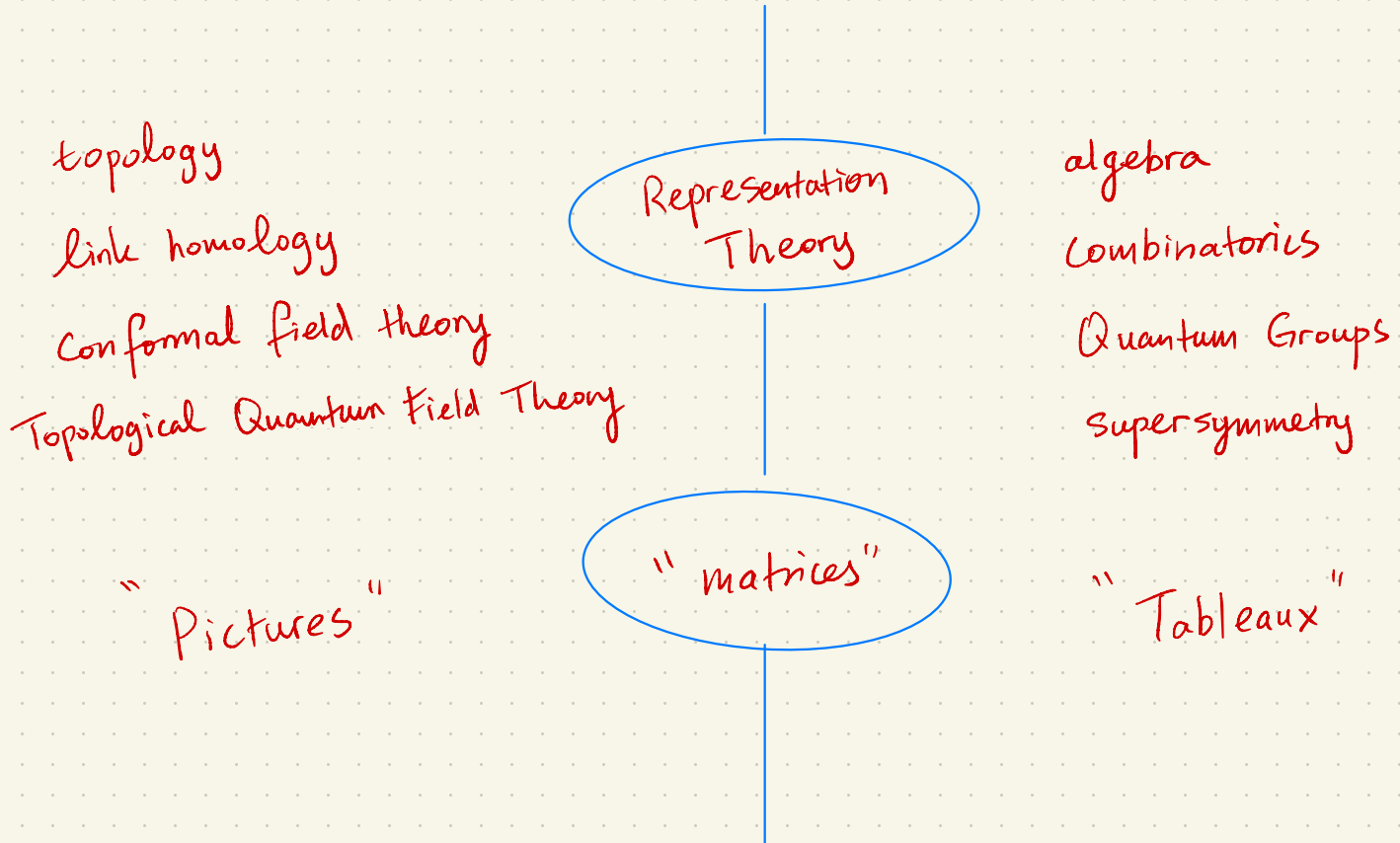
A  
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Applications

Cryptography

Einstein's Theory of Relativity

# A bridge between two worlds

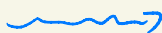


# A Crash Course on Knot Theory

Q

Compare the knots

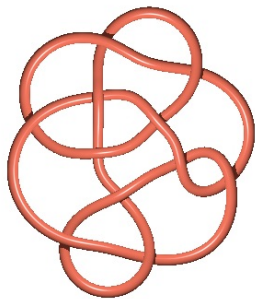
1.



Yes!

The Trefoil Knot

2.

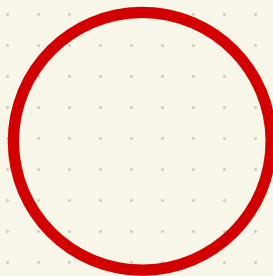


Conway Knot



Not in  $\mathbb{R}^3$

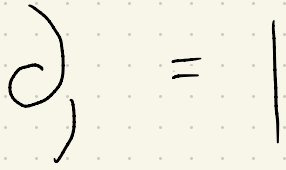
but in  $B^4$ ?



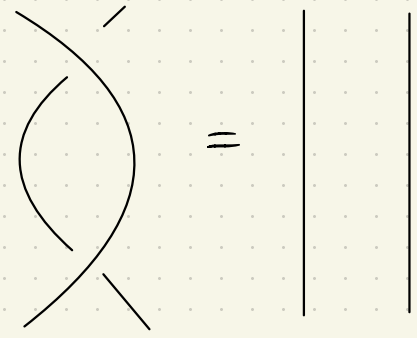
Unknot

# Reidemeister Moves

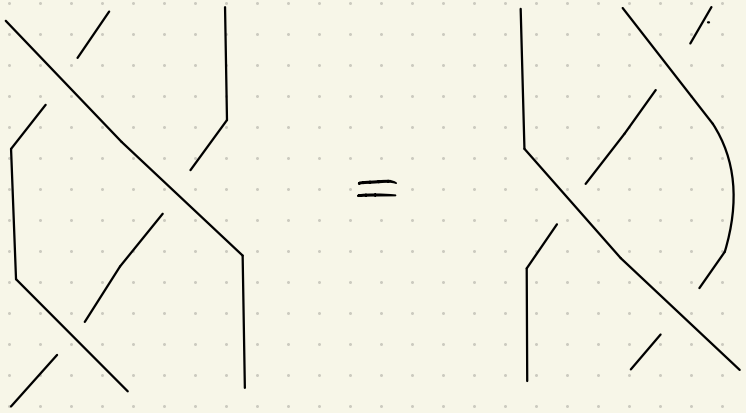
R1.



R2



R3



← (Yang-Baxter Relations)

Takeaway:  
Knots are built from

**CROSSINGS!**

## Full characterization of equivalent knots

R-Moves  $\implies$  SAME KNOTS !



Theorem (Reidemeister)

SAME KNOTS  $\implies$  existence of R-moves

i.e. No more complicated moves to relate two equivalent knots.

"divide & conquer"

KNOT A  $\Leftrightarrow$  KNOT 1  $\Leftrightarrow$  KNOT 2  $\Leftrightarrow$  .....  $\Leftrightarrow$  KNOT n  $\Leftrightarrow$  KNOT B

 have the same property 

# Knot Invariants

Jones Polynomials

: link  $\rightsquigarrow$  polynomial ( Vaughan Jones )

Algorithm:

$$\begin{array}{c} \diagup \diagdown \\ \diagdown \diagup \end{array} = q \begin{array}{|c|} \hline | \\ \hline \end{array} + q^{-1} \begin{array}{c} \smile \\ \frown \end{array}$$

Skein Relation

$$\bigcirc = -(q + q^{-1}) \quad (\& + \text{normalization})$$

e.g.

$$\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{Figure-eight knot} \\ \hline \end{array} = q \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{Vertical oval} \\ \hline \end{array} + q^{-1} \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{Two circles} \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$= -q(q + q^{-1}) + q^{-1}(q + q^{-1})^2 \rightsquigarrow \text{simplify!}$$

## Well-definedness

$$\text{Figure 8} = \text{Circle} = -(q + q^{-1})$$

"divide & conquer"

$$\text{KNOT A} \Leftrightarrow \text{KNOT 1} \Leftrightarrow \text{KNOT 2} \Leftrightarrow \dots \Leftrightarrow \text{KNOT n} \Leftrightarrow \text{KNOT B}$$

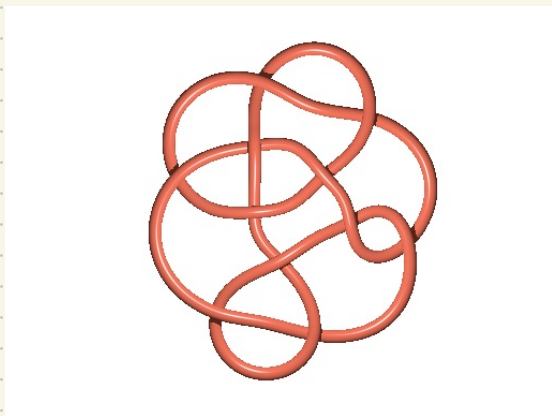
have the same Jones polynomial

Remark:

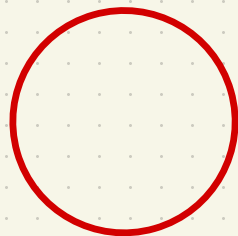
$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{KNOT A} & \neq & \text{KNOT B} \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ q + q^{-1} & & q^2 + 1 + q^{-2} \end{array}$$



# The Conway Slice Problem



$\neq$   
in  $B^4$



using Link invariants by Lisa Piccirillo


# Representation Theory

The Symmetric Group : all permutations on  $1, 2, \dots, n$

e.g.  $n=4$ .  ,  ,  $1\ 2\ 3\ 4$  , ...

24 permutations!

A Representation : to represent them as matrices,

e.g.   $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

A matrix  $\Leftrightarrow$  A linear transformation on a vector space  $V$

$$V = \mathbb{C}^4 = \mathbb{C}\text{-span} \langle \vec{e}_1, \vec{e}_2, \vec{e}_3, \vec{e}_4 \rangle$$

$$\vec{e}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\vec{e}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\vec{e}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\vec{e}_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

as a linear  
trans.

$$f(\vec{e}_i) = \vec{e}_4$$



$$\vec{e}_1 \rightsquigarrow \vec{e}_4$$

$$\vec{e}_2 \rightsquigarrow \vec{e}_3$$

$$\vec{e}_3 \rightsquigarrow \vec{e}_2$$

$$\vec{e}_4 \rightsquigarrow \vec{e}_1$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$



$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

1 2 3 4

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & \\ & 1 & & \\ & & 1 & \\ & & & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



ONE representation.

⋮

A list of 24  
matrices for  $n=4$

# Two Famous Bases ( $n=b$ )

## Tableaux Basis

indexing set:

~~1 2 3 4  
A B C D~~

1	3	5
2	4	6

1	2	5
3	4	6

1	3	4
2	5	6

1	2	4
3	5	6

1	2	3
4	5	6

e.g. Permutation  $\curvearrowright$  1 2 3 4 5 6

out of  $6! = 720$  permutations

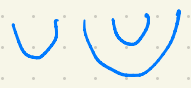
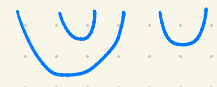
$$S = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & -1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

as a linear trans.  $\rightsquigarrow$

$$f\left(\begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 & 4 \\ \hline 3 & 5 & 6 \\ \hline \end{array}\right) = (-1) \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 3 & 4 \\ \hline 2 & 5 & 6 \\ \hline \end{array} + 1 \cdot \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 & 4 \\ \hline 3 & 5 & 6 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

# Web Basis

(Temperley-Lieb)  
diagrams



e.g.

Permutation  $\begin{matrix} \curvearrowright \\ 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 \end{matrix}$

$$S' = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Different Representations ?

Permutation  $\begin{matrix} \curvearrowright \\ 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 \end{matrix}$

under tableaux basis

$$S = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & -1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

under web basis

$$S' = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Conjugation by  $M$

$$S' = MS^{-1}M^{-1}$$

base change

## Main Questions

Goal: Study  $M$

e.g. Kazhdan-Lusztig conjecture (Base change for Hecke algebras)

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} | & | & | & | & | \\ 0 & | & 0 & | & | \\ 0 & 0 & | & | & | \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & | & | \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & | \end{bmatrix}$$

Properties:

① Upper triangular (Russell - Tymoczko 2018)



$$M = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

② 1's on the diagonal (Russell - Tymoczko 2018)

Proven Conjectures:

③ Non-negative entries (Rhoades 2019)

④ Positive entries above diagonal (Im - Z. 2019)

## Caveat: Partial Order

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} | & | & | & | & | \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

labeling row:

1	2	5
3	4	6

(2<sup>nd</sup>)

labeling column:

1	3	4
2	5	6

(3<sup>rd</sup>)

$2 < 3$ , but

1	2	5
3	4	6

and

1	3	4
2	5	6

are NOT comparable!

Zero is NOT an uppertriangular entry

# Key Idea

Algorithm of computing  $M$

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Skein Relation

$$\begin{array}{c} \diagdown \\ \diagup \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} | \\ | \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \cup \\ \cap \end{array}$$



Quantum variable  
 $q \rightsquigarrow 1$

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{array}{c} 1 \quad 2 \quad 3 \quad 4 \quad 5 \quad 6 \\ \cup \quad \cup \quad \cup \quad \cup \quad \cup \quad \cup \\ \cap \quad \cap \quad \cap \quad \cap \quad \cap \quad \cap \end{array} &= \begin{array}{c} \cup \quad \cup \quad \cup \quad \cup \quad \cup \quad \cup \\ \cap \quad \cap \quad \cap \quad \cap \quad \cap \quad \cap \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \cup \quad \cup \quad \cup \quad \cup \quad \cup \quad \cup \\ \cap \quad \cap \quad \cap \quad \cap \quad \cap \quad \cap \end{array} \\ &= \begin{array}{c} \cup \quad \cup \quad \cup \\ \cup \quad \cup \quad \cup \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \cup \quad \cup \\ \cup \quad \cup \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \cup \quad \cup \\ \cup \quad \cup \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \cup \quad \cup \\ \cup \quad \cup \end{array} \end{aligned}$$

## Key Breakthroughs

Coefficient (want to compute)

"  
# of ways (counting problem) nonnegative by default.

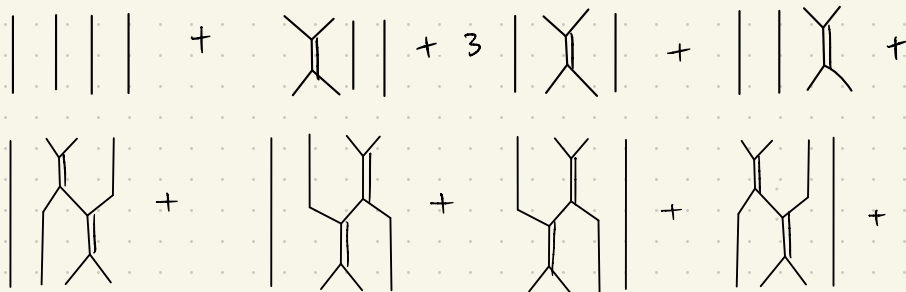
from  to 

e.g.  $n = \#$  of particles in the universe

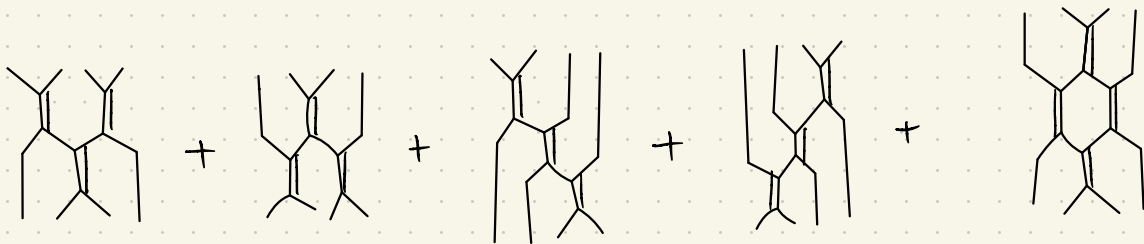
existence of one way = positive count



=



Future  
Work



THANK YOU !

