# Categorifying Jacobi-Trudi

### Fan Zhou

Columbia University

April 2025

# Table of Contents

- 1 Introduction
- 2 KLR
- 3 The JT algebra
- 4 Main result #1
- 5 Soergel
- 6 Main result #2
- Proof strategy
- 8 Details
- 9 Further questions
- 10 Future work

### Link

### These slides can be found on my webpage:

math.columbia.edu/~fanzhou/files/beamer-AMS2025-JT.pdf

Introduction KLR The JT algebra Main result #1 Soergel Main result #2 Proof strategy Details Further question

## A Tale of Two Cities

#### symmetric functions $\longleftrightarrow$ symmetric group representations

### The classical story – symmetric functions

We can consider two families of symmetric functions:

- Let Schur functions be  $s_{\lambda}$
- and let complete homogeneous functions be  $h_{\alpha} = h_{\alpha_1} \cdots h_{\alpha_k}$ , where  $h_i$  is the sum of all monomials of degree *i*.

#### Jacobi-Trudi

The Jacobi-Trudi determinant identity:

$$s_{\lambda} = \det(h_{\lambda_{i}-i+j})_{i,j} = \det\begin{pmatrix} h_{\lambda_{1}} & h_{\lambda_{1}+1} & \cdots & h_{\lambda_{1}+\ell-1} \\ h_{\lambda_{2}-1} & h_{\lambda_{2}} & \cdots & \vdots \\ & & \ddots & \\ h_{\lambda_{\ell}-\ell+1} & \cdots & h_{\lambda_{\ell}-1} & h_{\lambda_{\ell}} \end{pmatrix},$$

This is an alternating sum.

### The classical story – symmetric groups

- Two families of modules over  $S_n$ :
- (Over  $\mathbb{C}$ ,) "Specht modules"  $\Sigma_{\lambda}$  exhaust irreducibles of  $S_n$ .
- Given a composition  $\alpha$  and  $S_{\alpha} = S_{\alpha_1} \times \cdots \times S_{\alpha_k}$ , the "permutation module"  $E_{\alpha}$  is

$$E_{\alpha} \coloneqq \operatorname{Ind}_{S_{\alpha}}^{S_n} \operatorname{triv}.$$

This has dimension dim  $E_{\alpha} = \binom{n}{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k}$ .

• This decomposes as

$$E_{\lambda} = \Sigma_{\lambda} \oplus \bigoplus_{\mu \rhd \lambda} \Sigma_{\mu}^{\oplus m_{\mu}}.$$

#### Category $\mathcal{O}$

Compare to the JH filtration of Vermas  $\Delta_{w \circ 0}$  in which  $L_{w \circ 0}$  appears as the top layer quotient, and

$$[\Delta_w] = [L_w] + \sum_{u > w} m_u[L_u].$$

### The classical story – functions versus groups

- Over  $\mathbb{C}$ , Rep  $S_n$  is equivalent to symmetric functions via the Frobenius character.
- Letting  $z_{\lambda} = \prod_{i \in \mathbb{Z}_+} i^{m_i} m_i!$  where  $m_i = \#\{j : \lambda_j = i\},$  $p_{\lambda} = p_{\lambda_1} \cdots p_{\lambda_k},$

$$\chi(M) = \sum_{\lambda \vdash n} \operatorname{tra}(\lambda|_M) \frac{p_{\lambda}}{z_{\lambda}} = \frac{1}{n!} \sum_{w \in S_n} \operatorname{tra}(w|_M) p_{\lambda(w)}.$$

• This sends

$$\chi \colon \bigoplus_n K_0(\operatorname{\mathsf{Rep}} S_n) \xrightarrow{\sim} \Lambda$$

$$\begin{split} \Sigma_{\lambda} &\longmapsto s_{\lambda} \\ E_{\lambda} &\longmapsto h_{\lambda} \end{split}$$

# Question

Is there some highest-weight explanation/elucidation for this? More precisely:

#### Question

Find a quasi-hereditary A with a map  $\mathbb{C}S_n \longrightarrow A$  such that

standard module 
$$\stackrel{\text{Res}}{\longmapsto}$$
 permutation module  
simple module  $\stackrel{\text{Res}}{\longmapsto}$  Specht module

Moreover find a BGG resolution over A of simples by standards such that restriction gives a resolution of Spechts by permutations , categorifying

$$s_{\lambda} = \det(h_{\lambda_i+j-i})_{i,j}.$$

# Spoilers

- This is done by considering a quotient of (cyclotomic) KLR.
- $\lambda \longrightarrow \alpha, \omega \longrightarrow \mathcal{R}^{\omega}_{\alpha}$
- Define a quotient  $\mathring{\mathcal{R}}_{\lambda}$  by  $\mathcal{R}_{\alpha}^{\omega} \longrightarrow \mathring{\mathcal{R}}_{\lambda}$
- $\mathring{\mathcal{R}}_{\lambda}$  is quasi-hereditary with weight poset an ideal in  $S_{\ell(\lambda)}$ .
- The "dominant" simple  $L_1$  will have a BGG resolution by Vermas  $\Delta_w$ .
- Under  $\mathbb{C}S_n \longrightarrow \widehat{\mathcal{H}}_n \longrightarrow \widehat{\mathcal{H}}_{\alpha}^{\omega} \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathcal{R}_{\alpha}^{\omega} \longrightarrow \mathring{\mathcal{R}}_{\lambda}$  (Brundan-Kleshchev [BK09]), this becomes a resolution of the Specht module  $\Sigma_{\lambda}$  by permutation modules.
- Homological computations are made diagrammatically via Soergel.

# Previously

- This topic has been explored before in e.g. works of Zelevinsky, Arakawa-Suzuki, Orellana-Ram.
- Their works port the BGG resolution from category  $\mathcal{O}$  to some variant of  $S_n$  by using an exact ("Arakawa-Suzuki") functor.
- Those works inspired this project.
- We would like to elucidate the highest-weight structure 'natively'.

### The KLR algebra – generators



### The KLR algebra – relations



### The KLR algebra – relations



i

## The KLR algebra – cyclotomic relation

Given 
$$\omega \in \Lambda_+$$
,  
 $\mathcal{R}^{\omega}_{\alpha} := \mathcal{R}_{\alpha} / \langle y_1^{\alpha^*_{c_1}(\omega)} e_c = 0 \rangle$ .  
Diagrammatically:  
 $\alpha^*_i(\omega) | \dots | = 0.$ 



Let  $\varpi_i$  be fundamental weights, cont  $\lambda$  be the (multi)set of contents of  $\lambda$  where the top-left box has content  $\delta$ . We will let  $\mathcal{R}_{\lambda} = \mathcal{R}^{\omega}_{\alpha}$ , where

$$\alpha = \sum_{i \in \operatorname{cont} \lambda} \alpha_i$$

and

$$\omega = \varpi_{\delta} + \varpi_{\delta-1} + \dots + \varpi_{\delta-\ell(\lambda)+1}.$$

This is requiring

$$\left| \oint_{(\delta - k + 1)} \cdots \right| = 0$$

for  $1 \leq k \leq \ell(\lambda)$ .

### Dominance order

For partitions:  $\lambda \succeq \mu$  if

$$\sum_{i=1}^k \lambda_i \ge \sum_{i=1}^k \mu_i \quad \forall \ k.$$

For multi-partitions:  $\lambda \trianglerighteq \mu$  if

$$\sum_{j=1}^{m-1} |\lambda^{(j)}| + \sum_{i=1}^{k} \lambda_i^{(m)} \ge \sum_{j=1}^{m-1} |\mu^{(j)}| + \sum_{i=1}^{k} \mu_i^{(m)} \quad \forall \ m, k.$$

### Cellular structure

 $\mathcal{R}^{\omega}_{\alpha}$  is cellular under the dominance order due to Hu-Mathas [HM10]. Details are too involved.

As an example: let  $n = \delta = 2$ ,  $\lambda = \Box$ , so  $\alpha = \alpha_1 + \alpha_2$ ,  $\omega = \varpi_2 + \varpi_1$ ; let 1 be black and 2 be red.



## Cellular structure

 $\mathcal{R}^{\omega}_{\alpha}$  is cellular under the dominance order due to Hu-Mathas [HM10]. Details are too involved.

As an example: let  $n = \delta = 2$ ,  $\lambda = \Box$ , so  $\alpha = \alpha_1 + \alpha_2$ ,  $\omega = \varpi_2 + \varpi_1$ ; let 1 be black and 2 be red.



In fact,

$$\mathbf{s} = \mathbf{X} = 0.$$

We want a quasi-hereditary A, so we want to kill this nilpotent cell.

## Quotienting the cyclotomic KLR

- There is an alternative ordering, the coarsened order of Uglov, on multi-partitions.
- A result of Bowman [Bow17] says the cellular structure of  $\mathcal{R}_{\lambda}$  respects this.
- This justifies the construction

$$\mathring{\mathcal{R}}_{\lambda} \coloneqq \mathring{\mathcal{R}} \coloneqq \mathcal{R}_{\lambda} / \langle \nu \rangle_{\nu \text{ multi-row}}$$

- This algebra is very easy to write down explicitly, simply keep the cells labeled by one-row multi-partitions.
- This algebra is quasi-hereditary with poset  $W_{\lambda} = \{w : w \leq w_{\lambda}\}.$
- It is also equivalent to a quotient of (a principal central block of) category O for sl<sub>ℓ(λ)</sub>.

Introduction KLR The JT algebra Main result #1 Soergel Main result #2 Proof strategy Details Further question

# Example: $\mathcal{R}_{\lambda}$ for $\lambda = \square$ , $n = 3, \delta = 2$



# The BGG resolution

#### Theorem (Z.)

There is a (finite) BGG resolution in  $\operatorname{\mathsf{Mod}} \overset{\circ}{\mathcal{R}}_{\lambda}$ , namely a resolution of the simple module  $L_1$  by Vermas,

$$0 \longrightarrow \Delta_{w_{\lambda}} \longrightarrow \cdots \longrightarrow \bigoplus_{\ell(w)=k} \Delta_{w} \longrightarrow \cdots \longrightarrow \Delta_{1} \longrightarrow L_{1} \longrightarrow 0.$$

When restricted to the action of  $S_n$  via the map  $\mathbb{C}S_n \longrightarrow \widehat{\mathcal{H}}_n \longrightarrow \widehat{\mathcal{H}}_{\alpha}^{\omega} \longrightarrow \mathcal{R}_{\alpha}^{\omega} \longrightarrow \mathscr{R}_{\lambda}^{\lambda}$ , this resolution becomes

$$\cdots \longrightarrow \bigoplus_{\ell(w)=k} E_{w \circ \lambda} \longrightarrow \cdots \longrightarrow E_{\lambda} \longrightarrow \Sigma_{\lambda} \longrightarrow 0.$$

Decategorifying this resolution via alternating sum of Frobenius character/cycle index series recovers Jacobi-Trudi:

$$s_{\lambda} = \det(h_{\lambda_i - i + j})_{i,j}.$$

The homological information we need to prove this is

 $\operatorname{Ext}_{\mathring{\mathcal{R}}_{\lambda}}^{\bullet}(\Delta_w, L_1).$ 

We will compute this by using Morita equivalence to a Soergel calculus.

### Soergel calculus – generators

Monoidally generated by:



as well as their upside-down flips.

# Soergel calculus – relations



## Soergel calculus – relations

2-color (adjacent):



Distant colors pull apart.

# Soergel calculus – cyclotomic relation

The "cyclotomic condition" for Soergel calculus is setting barbells at the far left to zero:

### Our choice for Soergel

Let

 $S_{\lambda} = \{\underline{w} : \ell(\underline{w}) \leq \ell(w_{\lambda}), \underline{w} \text{ is a subword of some reduced word for } w_{\lambda}\}.$ We will consider

$$\mathcal{S}_{\lambda} \coloneqq \mathbb{C} \otimes_R \operatorname{End}\left(\bigoplus_{\underline{w} \in S_{\lambda}} \operatorname{BS}_{\underline{w}}\right).$$

In other words we take cyclotomic Soergel calculus with endpoints  $\underline{w} \in S_{\lambda}$ .

This is a cellular algebra via the light leaves basis of Elias-Williamson [EW16].

It is Morita-equivalent to  $\mathring{\mathcal{R}}_{\lambda}$ :

$$\operatorname{\mathsf{Mod}} \overset{\,\,{}_\circ}{\mathcal{R}}_\lambda \cong \operatorname{\mathsf{Mod}} \mathcal{S}_\lambda,$$

so that

$$\operatorname{Ext}_{\mathcal{S}_{\lambda}}^{\bullet}(\Delta_{w}, L_{1}) = \operatorname{Ext}_{\mathcal{R}_{\lambda}}^{\bullet}(\Delta_{w}, L_{1}).$$

# Example: $\mathfrak{sl}_2$

When we set  $\lambda = \square$ , we get the classical description of category  $\mathcal{O}$  for  $\mathfrak{sl}_2$ :



### Cellular structure

Compare this to: let  $n = \delta = 2$ ,  $\lambda = \Box$ , so  $\alpha = \alpha_1 + \alpha_2$ ,  $\omega = \varpi_2 + \varpi_1$ ; let 1 be black and 2 be red.



# Koszulity

A graded algebra is "quadratic" if it is generated in degree 1 and relations are generated in degree 2.

### Definition

A quadratic graded algebra A ( $A_0 = \mathbb{k}$ ) is "Koszul" if  $\text{Ext}_A(\mathbb{k}, \mathbb{k})$  is nonzero only when the homological degree agrees with the Koszul degree.

This is the "homological concentration" we want.

# Cyclotomic Soergel is nil-Koszul

### Theorem (Z.)

There is a "lower-half subalgebra"  $\mathcal{S}_{\lambda}^{\dagger}$  of  $\mathcal{S}_{\lambda}$  generated by lollipops which is essentially a polynomial ring.



# Cyclotomic Soergel is nil-Koszul

### Theorem (Z.)

There is a "lower-half subalgebra"  $\mathcal{S}_{\lambda}^{\dagger}$  of  $\mathcal{S}_{\lambda}$  generated by lollipops which is essentially a polynomial ring.

 $\mathcal{S}^{\mathsf{I}}_{\lambda}$  is Koszul under the Soergel grading. Moreover

$$\mathcal{S}_{\lambda} \overset{\mathsf{L}}{\otimes}_{\mathcal{S}_{\lambda}^{\dagger}} \Bbbk e^{w} = \Delta_{w},$$

so that

$$\mathsf{RHom}_{\mathcal{S}_{\lambda}}(\Delta_{w},\Box) = \mathsf{RHom}_{\mathcal{S}_{\lambda}^{\dagger}}(\Bbbk e^{w},\Box).$$

In particular

$$\operatorname{Ext}_{\mathcal{S}_{\lambda}}^{\bullet}(\Delta_{w}, L_{1}) = \operatorname{Ext}_{\mathcal{S}_{\lambda}}^{\bullet}(\Bbbk e^{w}, \Bbbk e^{1}) = e^{w} \mathcal{S}_{\lambda}^{\dagger,!} e^{1} = \Bbbk[-\ell(w)].$$

This is the homological information needed to prove the BGG resolution.

The space  $e^w \mathcal{S}^{\dagger,!}_{\lambda} e^1 = \mathbb{k}[-\ell(w)]$  is spanned by



# Projective resolutions of Vermas

Incidentally the statement that  $S_{\lambda} \bigotimes_{S_{\lambda}^{\dagger}}^{\mathsf{L}} \Bbbk e^{w} = \Delta_{w}$  gives us a projective resolution of Vermas , using that  $S^{\dagger}$  is essentially a polynomial ring.

• There is an explicit Koszul resolution

$$\mathcal{S}^{\dagger} \otimes_{\mathbb{K}} \mathcal{S}^{\dagger, !, \vee, \bullet} \simeq \Bbbk e^{w}.$$

• This is a free  $S^{\dagger}$ -resolution, so use it to compute the derived tensor.

## Projective resolutions of Vermas

#### Corollary

We have a resolution

$$\mathcal{S} \otimes_{\mathbb{K}} \mathcal{S}^{\dagger, !, \vee, \bullet} e^w \simeq \Delta_w;$$

the maps are

$$d: \mathcal{S} \otimes_{\mathbb{K}} \mathcal{S}_{k}^{\dagger, !, \vee} e^{w} \longrightarrow \mathcal{S} \otimes_{\mathbb{K}} \mathcal{S}_{k-1}^{\dagger, !, \vee} e^{w}$$
$$x \otimes P(\mathfrak{f}_{1} e^{w}, \cdots, \mathfrak{f}_{n} e^{w}) \longmapsto \sum_{\text{ways to write } P = \mathfrak{f}_{i} \cdot P'} x \cdot \mathfrak{f}_{i} \otimes P',$$

where  $P \in \mathcal{S}_k^{\dagger, !, \vee}$  is a degree k anti-commutative polynomial in the lollipops.

# Proof strategy

- First key idea: "weight theory" → stratification of the module category → "filtration" of the identity functor → spectral sequence converging to any object.
  - In particular, we can apply this to simple objects.
  - Terms of this spectral sequence involve homological information, in the form of certain Ext groups.
  - Concentration of these Ext groups (cf. "Kostant modules") imply a "BGG resolution".
  - This idea is due to Gaitsgory, Ayala-Mazel-Gee-Rozenblyum [AMGR22], and Dhillon [Dhi19].
- Second key idea: This homological information can be computed using Koszul methods.

### Slogan

Koszulity of half of A is intimately connected to BGG resolutions.

- Then we can use a naive resolution to compute these Ext groups.
- The spectral sequence is a resolution for modules which are Koszul over half of A.

# Thank you!

Thank you for coming to my talk! Questions

# Algebraic recollement

- The stratification will have recollements on each level. Details unimportant.
- By the D Mod A/AeA → D Mod A → D Mod eAe setup of [CPS88], set A = A<sup>≥θ</sup> and e = e<sup>θ</sup> to get:



### Stratification and spectral sequences

- Let  $\Theta$  be sufficiently nice.
- There is a spectral sequence (functorial in the input  $\Box$ )

$$E_1^{p,q} = \bigoplus_{\ell(\theta) = -p} \Delta(\theta) \otimes_{A^{\theta}} \operatorname{Ext}_A^{-(p+q)} (\Delta(\theta), \Box^{\dagger})^* \implies E_{\infty}^{p,q} = \operatorname{gr}^{-p} H^{p+q}(\Box),$$



### Remark: Cf. Koszul duality.

- To obtain a resolution, we need the Ext groups to be concentrated in certain degrees.
- Idea: Koszul objects have good Ext concentration properties.

#### Definition

A quadratic graded algebra A ( $A_0 = \mathbb{k}$ ) is "Koszul" if  $\text{Ext}_A(\mathbb{k}, \mathbb{k})$  in nonzero only when the homological degree agrees with the Koszul degree.

### Example: category $\mathcal{O}$ for $\mathfrak{sl}_2$

• It is classical that  $L_0$  has concentrated Ext groups:

$$\operatorname{Ext}^{0}(\Delta_{0}, L_{0}) = \mathbb{C}, \qquad \operatorname{Ext}^{0}(\Delta_{-2}, L_{0}) = 0$$
$$\operatorname{Ext}^{1}(\Delta_{0}, L_{0}) = 0, \qquad \operatorname{Ext}^{1}(\Delta_{-2}, L_{0}) = \mathbb{C}.$$

- Then the spectral sequence above exactly recovers the BGG resolution.
- Remark: It can also recover the standard filtration of projectives.

# The algebra controlling this

• The subalgebra  $A^-_{\mathfrak{sl}_2}$  of this spanned by

is Koszul.

### Fact #1

The proof of Koszulness of  $\operatorname{End}(\bigoplus_w \Delta_w)$  boils down to

#### Theorem (Jantzen?)

In the Bruhat graph of  $S_n$ , the only intervals of length 3 which can appear are either 2-crowns, 3-crowns, or 4-crowns:



(In fact this is true for any Weyl group.)

### Key Fact #2

Compare the fact that the constant term of every  $P_{u,w}$  is 1 to

#### Theorem (Phillip Hall)

In a poset, if  $\mu(u, w)$  is the Mobius function, then

$$\mu(u,w) = \sum_{i \ge 0} (-1)^i (\text{number of chains of length } i \text{ between } u,w),$$

where 1 < s is a chain of length 1.

#### Theorem

The Mobius function of the symmetric group is  $\mu(u, w) = (-1)^{\ell(w) - \ell(u)}$ .

# Thank you!

Thank you for coming to my talk! Questions

# Non-split decomposition

- Lauda's  $\mathcal{U}_q(\mathfrak{sl}_2)$  is triangular-based.
- However, it does not have a subalgebra like  $\mathcal{U}_q(\mathfrak{sl}_2)^-$ .
- Instead, one needs to work with a bigger object  $\mathcal{U}_q(\mathfrak{sl}_2)^{\flat}$ , which actually is a subalgebra.
- Categorification: projectives categorify Lusztig's canonical basis.

#### Question

What do the standard modules correspond to?

## Stratifications within stratifications

- The affine oriented Brauer category is triangular-based.
- However, this structure alone does not utilize the obvious ordering on the simples of each Cartan.
- By using the stratification of  $\widehat{\mathcal{H}}_n$  above, we should obtain finer stratifications.

### References



David Ayala, Aaron Mazel-Gee, and Nick Rozenblyum. Stratified noncommutative geometry, 2022. arXiv:1910.14602.



Alexander Beilinson, Victor Ginzburg, and Wolfgang Soergel.

Koszul duality patterns in representation theory. Journal of the American Mathematical Society, 9(2):473–527, 1996.



Jonathan Brundan and Alexander Kleshchev.

Blocks of cyclotomic hecke algebras and khovanov-lauda algebras. Inventiones mathematicae, 178(3):451–484, 2009.



#### Christopher Bowman.

The many graded cellular bases of hecke algebras. arXiv preprint arXiv:1702.06579, 2017.



#### E. Cline, B. Parshall, and L. Scott.

Finite dimensional algebras and highest weight categories. Journal für die reine und angewandte Mathematik, 391:85-99, 1988.



#### Gurbir Dhillon.

Bernstein-Gelfand-Gelfand resolutions and the constructible *t*-structure, 2019. arXiv:1910.07066.



#### Ben Elias and Geordie Williamson.

#### Soergel calculus.

Representation Theory of the American Mathematical Society, 20(12):295-374, 2016.



#### Jun Hu and Andrew Mathas.

Graded cellular bases for the cyclotomic khovanov-lauda-rouquier algebras of type a. Advances in Mathematics, 225(2):598-642, 2010.

## Koszul duality

We are using the *inverse* Koszul duality of [BGS96], and we flip the axes and swap the roles of A and  $A^!$ .

$$\mathcal{K}_{A^+} \colon \mathsf{D}^{\overline{\setminus}} \operatorname{\mathsf{Mod}} A^+ \longrightarrow \mathsf{D}^{\overline{\setminus}} \operatorname{\mathsf{Mod}} A^{+,!},$$

where

$$\mathcal{K}_{A^+} = \operatorname{sh}(\mathbb{K} \overset{\mathsf{L}}{\otimes}_{A^+} \operatorname{refl} \Box) = \operatorname{sh} \mathsf{R}\operatorname{Hom}_{A^-}(\mathbb{K}, \operatorname{refl} \Box^{\dagger})^*.$$

Here sh M = M[n] if M is concentrated in Koszul degree n, and refl $(M)_j = M_{-j}$ . Then the spectral sequence looks like

$$\Delta \otimes_{A^{\circ}} \mathcal{K}_{A^+}(\Box).$$