



*from **H** to  $\mathcal{U}$*

---

Minh-Tâm Quang Trinh

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

$G$  split semisimple group

$W$  Weyl group

$Br_W$  braid group

$V$  reflection representation of  $W$

Motivations for this talk:

- Invariants of braids and knots/links
- Topology of varieties related to  $G$
- Representations of algebras related to  $W \curvearrowright V$

$$\mathbf{A}_W = \mathbf{C}[W] \ltimes \text{Sym}(V)$$

We'll study a monoidal trace

$$\mathbf{AH} : \mathbf{H}_W^{op} \rightarrow \mathbf{Mod}_2(\mathbf{A}_W)$$

and its decategorification

$$[-]_q = \varepsilon \cdot \sum_{i,j} (-1)^i q^{i+j} (\mathbf{AH}^{i,j})^\vee : H_W \rightarrow R_W[[q]],$$

where:

- $\mathbf{H}_W$  is the Hecke category of  $W$
- $\mathbf{Mod}_2(\mathbf{A}_W)$  is a category of bigraded  $\mathbf{A}_W$ -modules
- $H_W$  is the Hecke algebra of  $W$
- $R_W$  is the representation ring of  $W$

**Thm 1** Khovanov–Rozansky’s HHH factors as

$$\mathbf{H}_W \xrightarrow{\text{AH}^\vee} \mathbf{Mod}_2(\mathbf{A}_W) \xrightarrow{\text{Hom}_W(\Lambda^*(V), -)} \mathbf{Vect}_3.$$

Thus, AH is related to link invariants when  $W = S_n$ .

$\tilde{\mathcal{U}} \rightarrow \mathcal{U}$  the Springer resolution

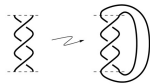
**Thm 2** For a positive braid  $\beta \in Br_W^+$ ,

$$\text{AH}^{i,j}(\mathcal{R}(\beta)) = \text{gr}_j^{\mathbf{W}} \text{H}_i^{!,G}(\mathcal{Z}(\beta)),$$

where:

- $\mathcal{R}(\beta) \in \mathbf{H}_W$  is the Rouquier complex of  $\beta$
- $\mathcal{Z}(\beta) = \tilde{\mathcal{U}} \times_{\mathcal{U}} \mathcal{U}(\beta)$  is a generalized Steinberg variety

**Example** A topological braid  $\beta$  has a *link closure*  $\hat{\beta}$ :



A link has a *superpolynomial*  $\mathbf{P} \in \mathbf{Z}(q^{\pm 1/2})[a^{\pm 1}, t^{\pm 1}]$ .

If  $\beta = (\sigma_1 \sigma_2 \sigma_3)^3 \in Br_4$ , then  $\hat{\beta}$  is the (3, 4) torus knot and

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{P}(\hat{\beta}) = & a^6 q^{-3} (1 + q^2 t^2 + q^3 t^4 + q^4 t^4 + q^6 t^6) \\ & + a^8 q^{-2} (t^3 + q t^5 + q^2 t^5 + q^3 t^7 + q^4 t^8) \\ & + a^{10} t^8. \end{aligned}$$

**Thms 1, 2** imply that up to a shift, the **red** term is

$$\sum_{i,j} q^j t^i \text{gr}_j^{\mathbf{W}} \text{H}_i^{!,G}(\mathcal{U}(\beta)).$$

**Thm 3** For positive  $\beta$ ,

$$[\beta]_q = \pm \frac{1}{|G(\mathbf{F}_q)|} \sum_{u \in \mathcal{U}(\mathbf{F}_q)} |\mathcal{U}(\beta)_u(\mathbf{F}_q)| [\mathcal{B}_u]_q,$$

where  $\mathcal{B}_u$  is the Springer fiber over  $u$  and

$$[\mathcal{B}_u]_q = \sum_i q^i \mathbb{H}^{2i}(\mathcal{B}_u),$$

an element of  $R_W[q]$ .

$\mathbf{D}_\nu^{\text{rat}} \supseteq \mathbf{A}_W$  rational DAHA of slope  $\nu \in \mathbf{Q}$

**Thm 4** For *periodic*  $\beta$  of “good” slope  $\nu > 0$ ,

$[\beta]_q$  is the  $q$ -character of an explicit  $\mathbf{D}_\nu^{\text{rat}}$ -module.

**Example** Write  $\text{Irr}(S_4) = \{1, \phi, \psi, \varepsilon\phi, \varepsilon\}$  with  $\phi = \text{tr}(- | V)$ .

If  $\beta = (\sigma_1\sigma_2\sigma_3)^3 \in Br_4$ , as before, then

$$\begin{aligned} [\beta]_q &= (1 + q^2 + q^3 + q^4 + q^6) \cdot 1 \\ &\quad + (q + q^2 + q^3 + q^4 + q^5) \cdot \phi \\ &\quad + (q^2 + q^4) \cdot \psi \\ &\quad + q^3 \cdot \varepsilon\psi. \end{aligned}$$

**Thm 3** claims this is a sum of  $[\mathcal{B}_u]_q$ . Indeed:

$$\begin{aligned} [\beta]_q &= q^6 \cdot [\mathcal{B}_4]_q + (q^3 + q^4) \cdot [\mathcal{B}_{3,1}]_q + q^2 \cdot [\mathcal{B}_{2,2}]_q \\ &\quad + 1 \cdot [\mathcal{B}_{2,1,1}]_q + 0 \cdot [\mathcal{B}_{1,1,1,1}]_q. \end{aligned}$$

**Thm 4** claims this is also the  $q$ -character of a certain  $\mathbf{D}_{3/4}^{\text{rat}}$ -module. It’s the simple quotient of  $\text{Sym}(V)$ .

**Thm 1** was inspired by Webster–Williamson’s geometric model for Khovanov–Rozansky homology.

We expect AH to match the (underived) horizontal trace on  $\mathbf{H}_W$  studied by Gorsky–Hogancamp–Wedrich and others.

**Thms 2, 3** came from asking how Springer theory interacts with nonabelian Hodge phenomena, which certain stacks  $\mathcal{U}(\beta)/G$  and  $\mathcal{Z}(\beta)/G$  should exhibit.

Inspired by Yun, Oblomkov–Rasmussen–Shende, Shende–Treumann–Zaslow. . .

**Thm 4** came from Gorsky–Oblomkov–Rasmussen–Shende’s conjectures relating  $\mathbf{D}_\nu^{\text{rat}}$ -modules and KR of torus knots.

To describe AH, we interpret the Hecke category geometrically. Henceforth, subscript 0 means “over  $\mathbf{F}_q$ .” No subscript means “over  $\bar{\mathbf{F}}_q$ .”

$\mathcal{B}_0$  flag variety of (the split form)  $G_0$

By a theorem of Iwahori, the Hecke algebra is

$$\begin{aligned} H_W \otimes \mathbf{C}(q^{1/2}) &\simeq \text{End}_{G(\mathbf{F}_q)}(\mathbf{C}[\mathcal{B}(\mathbf{F}_q)]) \\ &\simeq \mathbf{C}[\mathcal{B}(\mathbf{F}_q) \times \mathcal{B}(\mathbf{F}_q)]^{G(\mathbf{F}_q)}. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, the Hecke category is built from

$$\mathbf{D}_{G,m}^b(\mathcal{B}_0 \times \mathcal{B}_0),$$

the bounded derived category of  $G_0$ -equivariant mixed complexes of sheaves over  $\mathcal{B}_0 \times \mathcal{B}_0$  with constructible cohomology.

The  $G$ -orbits of  $\mathcal{B} \times \mathcal{B}$  are indexed by  $W$ :

$$\mathcal{B}_0 \times \mathcal{B}_0 = \coprod_{w \in W} O_{w,0}.$$

Each  $O_{w,0}$  defines an intersection complex  $IC_{w,0}$ .

The Hecke category is  $\mathbf{H}_W = \mathbf{K}^b(C(\mathcal{B}_0 \times \mathcal{B}_0))$ , where

$$C(\mathcal{B}_0 \times \mathcal{B}_0) = \left\langle IC_{w,0}\langle n \rangle : \begin{array}{l} w \in W, \\ n \in \mathbf{Z} \end{array} \right\rangle_{\oplus} \\ \subseteq D_{G,m}^b(\mathcal{B}_0 \times \mathcal{B}_0).$$

There is a geometric convolution on  $C(\mathcal{B}_0 \times \mathcal{B}_0)$ .

The  $IC_{w,0}$  decategorify to the Kazhdan–Lusztig basis.

The *shift-twist*  $\langle 1 \rangle = [1](\frac{1}{2})$  decategorifies to  $q^{-1/2}$ .

Lusztig introduced the diagram below to study unipotent representations of  $G$ :

$$\mathcal{B}_0 \times \mathcal{B}_0 \xleftarrow{act} G_0 \times \mathcal{B}_0 \xrightarrow{pr} G_0$$

The functor

$$\mathbf{CH} = \bigoplus_i {}^p\mathcal{H}^i[-i] \circ pr_! \circ act^* : D_{G,m}^b(\mathcal{B}_0^2) \rightarrow D_{G,m}^b(G_0)$$

descends to a monoidal trace on  $\mathbf{H}_W$ .

Webster–Williamson showed that

$$\mathrm{gr}_{i+j}^{\mathbf{W}} \mathbf{H}_G^i(G, \mathbf{CH}(IC_w)) \simeq \mathbf{HH}^j(\mathbf{H}_G^{i+j}(\mathcal{B} \times \mathcal{B}, IC_w)).$$

$\mathbf{HH}^*$  is Hochschild homology over  $\mathbf{H}_G^*(\mathcal{B}) \simeq \mathrm{Sym}(V)$ .

So, Khovanov–Rozansky’s HHH factors as

$$\mathbf{H}_W = \mathbf{K}^b(\mathbf{C}(\mathcal{B}_0 \times \mathcal{B}_0)) \xrightarrow{\text{CH}} \mathbf{K}^b(\mathbf{C}(G_0)) \xrightarrow{\text{gr}^{\mathbf{W}} \mathbf{H}_G^*} \mathbf{Vect}_3$$

where

$$\mathbf{C}(G_0) = \left\langle E_0 : \begin{array}{l} E_0 \text{ is a subquotient} \\ \text{of } \text{CH}(IC_{w,0})\langle n \rangle \\ \text{for some } w, n \end{array} \right\rangle_{\oplus} \subseteq D_{G,m}^b(G_0).$$

But the objects of the  $\mathbf{K}^b(\mathbf{C}(-))$  are not directly related to the topology of actual varieties, in general.

We need a *realization functor*

$$\rho : \mathbf{K}^b(\mathbf{C}(-)) \rightarrow D_{G,m}^b(-)$$

to relate them to actual geometric objects.

A sufficient condition for  $\rho$  to exist is:

$$i \text{ nonzero} \implies \text{gr}_0^{\mathbf{W}} \text{Ext}^i(K, L) = 0$$

for all  $K_0, L_0 \in \mathbf{C}(-)$ .

This fails for  $\mathbf{C}(G_0)$ . But by work of Lusztig and Rider–Russell, it holds for

$$\mathbf{C}(\mathcal{U}_0) = \langle \iota^* E_0 : E_0 \in \mathbf{C}(G_0) \rangle_{\oplus} \subseteq D_{G,m}^b(\mathcal{U}_0),$$

where  $\iota : \mathcal{U}_0 \rightarrow G_0$  is the inclusion. Thus a diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \mathbf{K}^b(\mathbf{C}(\mathcal{B}_0^2)) & \xrightarrow{\text{CH}} & \mathbf{K}^b(\mathbf{C}(G_0)) & \xrightarrow{\iota^*} & \mathbf{K}^b(\mathbf{C}(\mathcal{U}_0)) \\ \rho \downarrow & & & & \downarrow \rho \\ D_{G,m}^b(\mathcal{B}_0^2) & \xrightarrow{\text{CH}} & D_{G,m}^b(G_0) & \xrightarrow{\iota^*} & D_{G,m}^b(\mathcal{U}_0) \end{array}$$

There are special objects in  $C(G_0)$  and  $C(\mathcal{U}_0)$ :

- $\mathcal{G}_0 \in C(G_0)$ , the Grothendieck–Springer sheaf
- $\mathcal{S}_0 \in C(\mathcal{U}_0)$ , the Springer sheaf

By a theorem of Lusztig,  $\mathbf{A}_W \simeq \text{Ext}^*(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{S})$ .

Our functor  $\mathbf{AH}$  is the composition

$$\mathbf{H}_W^{op} = K^b(C(\mathcal{B}_0^2))^{op} \rightarrow D_{G,m}^b(\mathcal{U}_0)^{op} \xrightarrow{\text{gr}_*^{\mathbf{W}} \text{Ext}^*(-, \mathcal{S})} \mathbf{Mod}_2(\mathbf{A}_W).$$

Use the top half of the diagram to show **Thm 1**:

$$\text{Hom}_W(\Lambda^*(V), \mathbf{AH}^\vee) \simeq \mathbf{HHH}.$$

Key step is  $\bigoplus_i \text{gr}_i^{\mathbf{W}} \text{Ext}^i(\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{G}) \simeq \text{Ext}^*(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{S})$ .

**Thm 2:** For positive  $\beta$ ,

$$\mathbf{AH}(\mathcal{R}(\beta)) \simeq \text{gr}_*^{\mathbf{W}} \mathbf{H}_*^{!,G}(\mathcal{Z}(\beta)).$$

We need to define  $\mathcal{R}(\beta)$  and  $\mathcal{Z}(\beta)$ .

Broué–Michel and Deligne introduced a map

$$O : Br_W^+ \rightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} G_0\text{-varieties over } \mathcal{B}_0 \times \mathcal{B}_0 \\ \text{up to strict isomorphism} \end{array} \right\}$$

such that  $O(\alpha\beta)_0 \simeq O(\alpha)_0 \times_{\mathcal{B}_0} O(\beta)_0$ .

The complex  $\mathcal{R}(\beta) \in \mathbf{H}_W$  is characterized by

$$\rho(\mathcal{R}(\beta)) = (O(\beta)_0 \rightarrow \mathcal{B}_0 \times \mathcal{B}_0)! \mathbf{C}.$$

The variety  $\mathcal{Z}(\beta)_0$  is a certain pullback of  $O(\beta)_0$ .



We define  $\mathcal{U}(\beta)_0$  and  $\mathcal{Z}(\beta)_0$  by cartesian squares:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 O(\beta)_0 & \longleftarrow & \mathcal{U}(\beta)_0 & \longleftarrow & \mathcal{Z}(\beta)_0 \\
 j_\beta \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 \mathcal{B}_0 \times \mathcal{B}_0 & \xleftarrow{act} & \mathcal{U}_0 \times \mathcal{B}_0 & \xleftarrow{} & \tilde{\mathcal{U}}_0 \times \mathcal{B}_0
 \end{array}$$

In particular,  $\tilde{\mathcal{U}}_0 = \mathcal{U}(\mathbf{1})_0$  for the identity braid  $\mathbf{1}$ .

$\mathbf{A}_W \curvearrowright \text{AH}(\mathcal{R}(\beta))$  from  $H_*^{!,G}(\mathcal{Z}(\mathbf{1})) \curvearrowright H_*^{!,G}(\mathcal{Z}(\beta))$ .

**Cor** Up to (pure) shifts,

- The bottom  $a$ -degree of HHH matches  $\text{gr}_*^{\mathbf{W}} H_*^{!,G}(\mathcal{U}(\beta))$ .
- The top  $a$ -degree of HHH matches  $\text{gr}_*^{\mathbf{W}} H_*^{!,G}(\mathcal{X}(\beta))$ , where

$$\mathcal{X}(\beta)_0 = \mathcal{U}(\beta)_0 \times_{\mathcal{U}_0} \{1\}.$$

The *full twist* is a central element  $\pi = \sigma_{w_0}^2 \in Br_W^+$ :



Gorsky–Hogancamp–Mellit–Nakagane proved

bottom  $a$ -degree of  $\text{HHH}(\beta) \simeq$  top  $a$ -degree of  $\text{HHH}(\beta\pi)$ ,

refining a theorem of Kálmán.

**Cor** For positive  $\beta$ ,

$$\text{gr}_*^{\mathbf{W}} H_*^{!,G}(\mathcal{U}(\beta)) \simeq \text{gr}_*^{\mathbf{W}} H_*^{!,G}(\mathcal{X}(\beta\pi)).$$

What is a geometric explanation for this isomorphism?

It's *not* induced by a homomorphism of stacks, in general.

**Thm 3** is a decategorified analogue of **Thm 2**:

$$[\beta]_q = \pm \frac{1}{|G(\mathbf{F}_q)|} \sum_{u \in \mathcal{U}(\mathbf{F}_q)} |\mathcal{U}(\beta)_u(\mathbf{F}_q)| [\mathcal{B}_u]_q,$$

where  $[\mathcal{B}_u]_q = \sum_i q^i H^{2i}(\mathcal{B}_u)$ . However, it is *not* just a corollary.

The virtual weight series of  $[X/G]$  need *not* be the quotient of the virtual weight polynomial of  $X$  by that of  $G$ .

Instead, the proof uses a strange formula

$$[\beta]_q = q^{|\beta|/2} \varepsilon \cdot \sum_i q^i \text{Sym}^i(V) \cdot \sum_{\phi, \psi \in \text{Irr}(W)} \{\phi, \psi\} \phi_q(\beta) \psi,$$

where  $\{-, -\} : \text{Irr}(W)^2 \rightarrow \mathbf{Q}$  is Lusztig's “exotic Fourier transform.”

**Cor** For parabolic  $W' \subseteq W$ , we have a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} H_{W'} & \xrightarrow{[-]_q} & R_{W'}[[q]] \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow (1-q)^{-d} \text{Ind}_{W'}^W \\ H_W & \xrightarrow{[-]_q} & R_W[[q]] \end{array}$$

where  $d = \text{rk}(W) - \text{rk}(W')$ .

This is a kind of Markov property for  $[-]_q$ . The proof uses an induction formula for the  $[\mathcal{B}_u]_q$ .

**Cor** If  $\beta \mapsto w$  under  $Br_W^+ \rightarrow W$ , then

$$[\beta]_q \in \frac{1}{(1-q)^{\dim(V^w)}} R_W[q].$$

The proof uses a result of Lusztig on the sizes of  $G$ -stabilizers.

**Example** Writing  $r = \text{rk}(W)$ , we compute

$$[\mathbf{1}]_q = \frac{1}{(1-q)^r} \text{Ind}_{\{1\}}^W([\mathbf{1}]_q) = \frac{1}{(1-q)^r} \mathbf{C}[W].$$

For  $W = S_n$ , recovers:

$$\mathbf{P}(n\text{-unlink})_{t=-1} = \left( \frac{a - a^{-1}}{q^{1/2} - q^{-1/2}} \right)^{n-1}.$$

**Example** Let

$$W = S_3 = \langle s, t : s^2 = t^2 = (sts)^2 = 1 \rangle.$$

Writing  $\text{Irr}(S_3) = \{1, \phi, \varepsilon\}$ , we compute

$$[\sigma_w]_q = \begin{cases} (1-q)^{-2}(1+2\phi+\varepsilon) & w = 1 \\ (1-q)^{-1}(1+\phi) & w \in \{s, t\} \\ 1 & w \in \{st, ts\} \\ (1-q)^{-1}(1-q+q^2+q\phi) & w = sts \end{cases}$$

A braid  $\beta$  is *periodic of slope*  $\frac{m}{n} \in \mathbf{Q}$  iff:  $\beta^n = \pi^m$ .

Using the “exotic” formula, we can show:

**Lem** If  $\beta$  is periodic of slope  $\nu \in \mathbf{Q}$ , then

$$[\beta]_q = \sum_{\phi \in \text{Irr}(W)} q^{\nu \mathbf{c}(\phi)} \text{Deg}_{\phi}(e^{2\pi i \nu}) \phi \cdot \sum_i q^i \text{Sym}^i(V),$$

where:

- $\text{Deg}_{\phi}(q) \in \mathbf{Q}[q]$  is the degree of the *unipotent principal series* of  $G(\mathbf{F}_q)$  attached to  $\phi$ .
- $\mathbf{c}(\phi)$  is the *content* of  $\phi$ . For  $W = S_n$ , it's the content of the corresponding partition.

The key is that the traces  $\phi_q(\beta)$  are computable.

This goes back to Jones's formula for HOMFLY of torus knots.

The *rational DAHA* is a deformation of  $\mathbf{C}[W] \ltimes \mathcal{D}(V)$ , where  $\mathcal{D}(V)$  is the Weyl algebra of  $V$ :

$$\mathbf{D}_\nu^{\text{rat}} = \frac{\mathbf{C}[W] \ltimes (\mathbf{C}[V] \otimes \mathbf{C}[V^\vee])}{[x, y] - \langle x, y \rangle - \nu \sum_{\alpha \in \Phi^+} \langle x, \alpha^\vee \rangle \langle \alpha, y \rangle s_\alpha}.$$

It enjoys a well-behaved “category  $\mathbf{O}$ ” of modules where:

- Simple modules  $L_\nu(\phi)$  are indexed by  $\phi \in \text{Irr}(W)$ .
- Each module  $M$  admits a  $W$ -stable grading, giving us  $[M]_q \in R_W(q^{1/2})$ .

There is a *Knizhnik–Zamolodchikov functor*

$$\mathbf{Mod}(\mathbf{D}_\nu^{\text{rat}}) \rightarrow \mathbf{Mod}(H_W|_{q^{1/2}=e^{\pi i \nu}}),$$

hinting that the lemma is related to  $\mathbf{D}_\nu^{\text{rat}}$ .

Each simple  $L_\nu(\phi)$  is the quotient of a Verma  $\Delta_\nu(\phi)$ .

If  $\beta$  is periodic of slope  $\nu$ , then

$$[\beta]_q = (q^{1/2})^{\nu|\Phi|-r} \cdot \sum_{\phi \in \text{Irr}(W)} \text{Deg}(e^{2\pi i \nu})[\Delta_\nu(\phi)]_q.$$

Let  $n$  be the denominator of  $\nu \in \mathbf{Q}$  in lowest terms.

- If  $n$  is *elliptic*, then  $[\beta]_q \in R_W[q]$  by our earlier result. This implies Varagnolo–Vasserot’s result

$$n \text{ elliptic} \implies \dim L_\nu(1) < \infty.$$

- **Thm 4.** For  $W$  irreducible and  $n$  *cuspidal*,

$$[\beta]_q = \begin{cases} [L_\nu(1)] + [L_\nu(V)] & (W, n) = (E_8, 15), (H_4, 15) \\ [L_\nu(1)] & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

The proof uses the KZ functor and the block theory of  $H_W$ .

Does this character come from  $\mathbf{D}_\nu^{\text{rat}} \curvearrowright \mathbf{H}_*^{1,G}(\mathcal{Z}(\beta))$ ?

More complicated:

- $\mathbf{A}_W = \mathbf{A}_{W,0}$ , where  $\mathbf{A}_{W,\varpi} = \mathbf{H}_*^{1,G \times \mathbf{G}_m}(\mathcal{Z}(\mathbf{1}))$ .
- $\mathbf{D}_\nu^{\text{rat}} = \mathbf{D}_{\nu,1}^{\text{rat}}$  for some  $\mathbf{D}_{\nu,\varpi}^{\text{rat}}$ .

**Conj** There is a flat  $\mathbf{C}[\varpi]$ -deformation

[arXiv:2106.07444](https://arxiv.org/abs/2106.07444)

$$\text{AH}_{\varpi}(\mathcal{R}(\beta)) \rightsquigarrow \text{AH}(\mathcal{R}(\beta))$$

$$\mathbf{A}_{W,\varpi} \curvearrowright \text{AH}_{\varpi}(\mathcal{R}(\beta)) \rightsquigarrow \mathbf{A}_W \curvearrowright \text{AH}_0(\beta)$$

*Thank you for listening.*

such that:

- The  $\mathbf{A}_{W,\varpi}$ -action is weight-filtered and degenerates to a weight-graded  $\mathbf{A}_W$ -action on  $\text{AH}_{\varpi}(\mathcal{R}(\beta))$ .
- In the regular elliptic case, the latter extends to a  $\mathbf{D}_{\nu,\varpi}^{\text{rat}}$ -action.