# A colored $\mathfrak{sl}(N)$ -homology for links in $S^3$

Hao Wu

The George Washington University

#### Overview

#### Algebraic Background

Symmetric Polynomials Matrix Factorizations

### MOY Graphs and Their Matrix Factorizations

Definition
Decompositions

#### Colored Link Homology

Definition Invariance Open Problems and More

- ▶ I will introduce an si(N)-homology associated to links colored by integers, which generalizes the Khovanov-Rozansky si(N)-homology.
- ▶ The construction of this colored  $\mathfrak{sl}(N)$ -homology uses matrix factorizations over rings of symmetric polynomials.
- ▶ I conjecture that this colored  $\mathfrak{sl}(N)$ -homology decategorifies to the quantum  $\mathfrak{sl}(N)$ -polynomial of links colored by exterior powers of the defining representation.

## Rings of Symmetric and Partially Symmetric Polynomials

▶ An alphabet is a set  $\mathbb{X} = \{x_1, \dots, x_m\}$  of finitely many indeterminants. Denote by  $\mathrm{Sym}(\mathbb{X})$  the ring of symmetric polynomials in  $\mathbb{X}$  with complex coefficients. The grading on  $\mathrm{Sym}(\mathbb{X})$  is given by  $\deg x_i = 2$ .

## Rings of Symmetric and Partially Symmetric Polynomials

- ▶ An alphabet is a set  $\mathbb{X} = \{x_1, \dots, x_m\}$  of finitely many indeterminants. Denote by  $\mathrm{Sym}(\mathbb{X})$  the ring of symmetric polynomials in  $\mathbb{X}$  with complex coefficients. The grading on  $\mathrm{Sym}(\mathbb{X})$  is given by  $\deg x_j = 2$ .
- Let  $\mathbb{X}_1, \ldots, \mathbb{X}_l$  be a collection of pairwise disjoint alphabets. Denote by  $\mathrm{Sym}(\mathbb{X}_1|\cdots|\mathbb{X}_l)$  the ring of polynomials in  $\mathbb{X}_1 \cup \cdots \cup \mathbb{X}_l$  over  $\mathbb{C}$  that are symmetric in each  $\mathbb{X}_i$ , which is naturally a  $\mathrm{Sym}(\mathbb{X}_1 \cup \cdots \cup \mathbb{X}_l)$ -module. This is a free module whose structure is known.

## Simple Symmetric Polynomials

For an alphabet 
$$\mathbb{X} = \{x_1, \dots, x_m\}$$
,

elementary: 
$$X_k := \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_k \leq m} x_{i_1} x_{i_1} \cdots x_{i_k},$$

complete: 
$$h_k(\mathbb{X}) := \sum_{1 \leq i_1 \leq i_2 \leq \dots \leq i_k \leq m} x_{i_1} x_{i_1} \cdots x_{i_k},$$

power sum: 
$$p_k(\mathbb{X}) := \sum_{i=1}^m x_i^k$$
.

## Simple Symmetric Polynomials

For an alphabet  $\mathbb{X} = \{x_1, \dots, x_m\}$ ,

elementary: 
$$X_k := \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_k \leq m} x_{i_1} x_{i_1} \cdots x_{i_k},$$

complete: 
$$h_k(\mathbb{X}) := \sum_{1 \leq i_1 \leq i_2 \leq \cdots \leq i_k \leq m} x_{i_1} x_{i_1} \cdots x_{i_k},$$

power sum: 
$$p_k(\mathbb{X}) := \sum_{i=1}^m x_i^k$$
.

$$\operatorname{Sym}(\mathbb{X}) = \mathbb{C}[X_1, \dots, X_m] = \mathbb{C}[h_1(\mathbb{X}), \dots, h_m(\mathbb{X})]$$
$$= \mathbb{C}[p_1(\mathbb{X}), \dots, p_m(\mathbb{X})]$$



## Cohomology of Complex Grassmannian

Denote by  $G_{m,N}$  the complex (m,N) Grassmannian. Let  $\mathbb{X}$  and  $\mathbb{Y}$  be alphabets of m and N-m indeterminants.

Usual cohomology:

$$H^*(G_{m,N};\mathbb{C})\cong \mathrm{Sym}(\mathbb{X})/(h_{N+1-m}(\mathbb{X}),h_{N+2-m}(\mathbb{X}),\ldots,h_N(\mathbb{X}))$$

as graded  $\mathbb{C}$ -algebras.

## Cohomology of Complex Grassmannian

Denote by  $G_{m,N}$  the complex (m,N) Grassmannian. Let  $\mathbb{X}$  and  $\mathbb{Y}$  be alphabets of m and N-m indeterminants.

Usual cohomology:

$$H^*(\textit{G}_{m,N};\mathbb{C})\cong \operatorname{Sym}(\mathbb{X})/(\textit{h}_{N+1-m}(\mathbb{X}),\textit{h}_{N+2-m}(\mathbb{X}),\ldots,\textit{h}_{N}(\mathbb{X}))$$

as graded  $\mathbb{C}$ -algebras.

▶  $GL(N; \mathbb{C})$ -equivariant cohomology:

$$H^*_{GL(N;\mathbb{C})}(G_{m,N};\mathbb{C})\cong \mathrm{Sym}(\mathbb{X}|\mathbb{Y})$$

as graded  $Sym(X \cup Y)$ -algebras.



## **Grading Shifts**

Let M be a graded vector space. For  $j \in \mathbb{Z}$ , define  $M\{q^j\}$  to be M with grading shifted by j, i.e.  $M\{q^j\}=M$  as ungraded R-modules and, for every homogeneous element  $m \in M$ ,  $\deg_{M\{q^j\}} m = j + \deg_M m$ . More generally, let  $f(q) = \sum_{j=k}^l a_j q^j$  be a Laurent polynomial whose coefficients are non-negative integers. Define

$$M\{f(q)\} = \bigoplus_{j=k}^{l} (\underbrace{M\{q^{j}\} \oplus \cdots \oplus M\{q^{j}\}}_{a_{j}-\mathsf{fold}}).$$

## Quantum Integers

Quantum integers are a particular class of such Laurent polynomials. We use the following definitions:

$$[j] := \frac{q^{j} - q^{-j}}{q - q^{-1}},$$

$$[j]! := [1] \cdot [2] \cdots [j],$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} j \\ k \end{bmatrix} := \frac{[j]!}{[k]! \cdot [j - k]!}.$$

It is well known that

$$\begin{bmatrix} m+n \\ n \end{bmatrix} = q^{-mn} \sum_{\lambda = (\lambda_1 \geq \cdots \geq \lambda_m): \ I(\lambda) \leq m, \ \lambda_1 \leq n} q^{2|\lambda|}.$$

### **Graded Matrix Factorizations**

Fix an integer N > 0. Let R be a graded commutative unital  $\mathbb{C}$ -algebra, and w a homogeneous element of R with deg w = 2N + 2.

A graded matrix factorization M over R with potential w is a collection of two graded free R-modules  $M_0$ ,  $M_1$  and two homogeneous R-module homomorphisms  $d_0: M_0 \to M_1$ ,  $d_1: M_1 \to M_0$  of degree N+1, called differential maps, s.t.

$$d_1 \circ d_0 = w \cdot \mathrm{id}_{M_0}, \qquad d_0 \circ d_1 = w \cdot \mathrm{id}_{M_1}.$$

We usually write M as

$$M_0 \xrightarrow{d_0} M_1 \xrightarrow{d_1} M_0.$$



### Koszul Matrix Factorizations

If  $a_0, a_1 \in R$  are homogeneous s.t.  $\deg a_0 + \deg a_1 = 2N + 2$ , then denote by  $(a_0, a_1)_R$  the graded matrix factorization

$$R \xrightarrow{a_0} R\{q^{N+1-\deg a_0}\} \xrightarrow{a_1} R,$$

which has potential  $a_0a_1$ .

# Koszul Matrix Factorizations (cont'd)

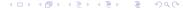
More generally, if  $a_{1,0}, a_{1,1}, \dots, a_{k,0}, a_{k,1} \in R$  are homogeneous with deg  $a_{j,0} + \deg a_{j,1} = 2N + 2$ , then define

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{1,0}, & a_{1,1} \\ a_{2,0}, & a_{2,1} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ a_{k,0}, & a_{k,1} \end{pmatrix}_{R}$$

to be the tenser product

$$(a_{1,0},a_{1,1})_R \otimes_R (a_{2,0},a_{2,1})_R \otimes_R \cdots \otimes_R (a_{k,0},a_{k,1})_R,$$

which is a graded matrix factorization with potential  $\sum_{i=1}^{k} a_{i,0} \cdot a_{i,1}$ .



## The Categories $HMF_{R,w}$ and $hmf_{R,w}$

If M, M' are both graded matrix factorizations over R with potential w, then  $\operatorname{Hom}_R(M, M')$  is a graded  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -chain complex of R-modules. Its homology,  $\operatorname{Hom}_{\operatorname{HMF}}(M, M')$ , is the R-module of homotopy classes of morphisms of matrix factorizations from M to M'. Denote by  $\operatorname{Hom}_{\operatorname{hmf}}$  the  $\mathbb{C}$ -subspace of  $\operatorname{Hom}_{\operatorname{HMF}}(M, M')$  of homogenous elements of bi-degree (0,0).

Category	Objects	Morphisms
$\mathrm{HMF}_{R,w}$	all homotopically finite graded matrix	$\operatorname{Hom}_{\operatorname{HMF}}$
	factorizations over $R$ of potential $w$	
	with quantum gradings bounded below	
$\mathrm{hmf}_{R,w}$	same as above	$\operatorname{Hom}_{\operatorname{hmf}}$

## The Krull-Schmidt Property

An additive category  ${\mathcal C}$  is called Krull-Schmidt if

- every object of C is isomorphic to a finite direct sum  $A_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus A_n$  of indecomposible objects of C;
- ▶ and, if  $A_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus A_n \cong A'_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus A'_l$ , where  $A_1, \ldots, A_n, A'_1, \ldots, A'_l$  are indecomposible objects of C, then n = l and there is a permutation  $\sigma$  of  $\{1, \ldots, n\}$  such that  $A_i \cong A'_{\sigma(i)}$  for  $i = 1, \ldots, n$ .

### Theorem (Khovanov-Rozansky)

If R is a polynomial ring with homogeneous indeterminants of positive gradings and w is a homogeneous element of R with  $\deg w = 2N + 2$ , then  $\operatorname{hmf}_{R,w}$  and  $\operatorname{hCh}^b(\operatorname{hmf}_{R,w})$  are both Krull-Schmidt, where  $\operatorname{hCh}^b(\operatorname{hmf}_{R,w})$  is the homotopy category of bounded chain complexes over  $\operatorname{hmf}_{R,w}$ .

## MOY Graphs

An (embedded) MOY graph is an oriented plane graph with each edge colored by a non-negative integer such that

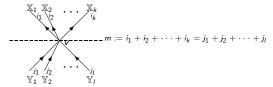
- for every vertex v with valence at least 2, the sum of integers coloring the edges entering v is equal to the sum of integers coloring the edges leaving v,
- ▶ through each such vertex v of  $\Gamma$ , there is a straight line  $L_v$  so that all the edges entering v enter through one side of  $L_v$  and all edges leaving v leave through the other side of  $L_v$ .

## Markings

A marking of an MOY graph  $\Gamma$  consists the following:

- 1. A finite collection of marked points on  $\Gamma$  such that
  - every edge of Γ has at least one marked point;
  - all the end points (vertices of valence 1) are marked;
  - none of the interior vertices (vertices of valence at least 2) is marked.
- 2. An assignment of pairwise disjoint alphabets to the marked points such that the alphabet associated to a marked point on an edge of color *m* has *m* indeterminants.

### The Matrix Factorization Associated to a Vertex



Let  $\mathbb{X} = \mathbb{X}_1 \cup \cdots \cup \mathbb{X}_k$  and  $\mathbb{Y} = \mathbb{Y}_1 \cup \cdots \cup \mathbb{Y}_l$ . Denote by  $X_j$  and  $Y_j$  the j-th elementary symmetric polynomials in  $\mathbb{X}$  and  $\mathbb{Y}$ .

$$C(v) := \begin{pmatrix} U_1 & X_1 - Y_1 \\ U_2 & X_2 - Y_2 \\ \dots & \dots \\ U_m & X_m - Y_m \end{pmatrix}_{\operatorname{Sym}(\mathbb{X}_1|\dots|\mathbb{X}_k|\mathbb{Y}_1|\dots|\mathbb{Y}_l)} \{q^{-\sum_{1 \leq s < t \leq k} i_s i_t}\},$$

where  $U_j$  is homogeneous of degree 2N+2-2j and  $\sum_{i=1}^{m}(X_i-Y_i)U_i=p_{N+1}(\mathbb{X})-p_{N+1}(\mathbb{Y}).$ 

# Decompositions (I & II)

$$(1) C(_{m+n}\bigcap_{m}^{m}) \simeq C(\bigcap_{n}^{m})\{[N-m]\}\langle n\rangle.$$

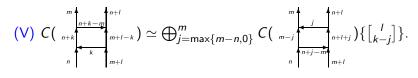
(II) 
$$C(\prod_{m=1}^{n}) \simeq C(\prod_{m=1}^{m+n}) \{ \begin{bmatrix} m+n \\ n \end{bmatrix} \}.$$

# Decompositions (III & IV)

$$(III) C(\underbrace{\scriptstyle \stackrel{m+1}{\stackrel{m}{\longrightarrow}} \stackrel{m}{\stackrel{m}{\longrightarrow}} }_{m}) \simeq C(\underbrace{\scriptstyle \stackrel{m}{\longrightarrow}} ) \oplus C(\underbrace{\scriptstyle \stackrel{m}{\longrightarrow}} \stackrel{m}{\longrightarrow} ) \{[N-m-1]\} \langle 1 \rangle.$$

(IV) 
$$C(I_{l+n}) = I_{m-l-1} = I_{m-l-1}$$

# Decompositions (V)



$$I = 0 \Rightarrow C( \underset{n+k}{\xrightarrow{n+k-m}} ) \simeq C( \underset{n}{\xrightarrow{m}} \underset{n+k-m}{\xrightarrow{n}} \underset{n+k}{\xrightarrow{n}} ).$$

$$I = 1 \Rightarrow C( \bigcap_{n+k}^{m} \bigcap_{m+k-m}^{n+1} \bigcap_{m+1-k}^{n+1}) \simeq C( \bigcap_{m-k}^{m} \bigcap_{n+k-m}^{n+1} \bigcap_{m+1}^{n+1} \bigcap_{n+k-1-m}^{m} \bigcap_{m+k-1-m}^{n+1} \bigcap_{m+1}^{n+1} \bigcap_{n+k-1-m}^{n+1} \bigcap_{m+1}^{n+1} \bigcap_{n+k-1-m}^{n+1} \bigcap_{m+1}^{n+1} \bigcap_{m+1}^{n+1} \bigcap_{n+k-1-m}^{n+1} \bigcap_{m+1}^{n+1} \bigcap_{m+$$

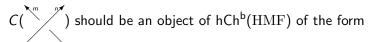
## Marking of Colored Link Diagrams

Recall that N is a fixed positive integer. (It is the "N" in " $\mathfrak{sl}(N)$ ".) Given a diagram D of a link whose components are colored by integers  $\{1, \ldots, N\}$ . A marking of D consists the following:

- 1. A finite collection of marked points on D such that
  - every arc between two crossings has at least one marked point;
  - none of the crossings is marked.
- 2. An assignment of pairwise disjoint alphabets to the marked points such that the alphabet associated to a marked point on an arc of color *m* has *m* indeterminants.

## The Chain Complex of a Colored Crossing

Assume  $n \ge m$  and temporarily forget the quantum grading shifts.



$$0 \to C( \xrightarrow[n+1]{m} \xrightarrow[n]{d_{m}^{+}} \cdots \xrightarrow[n+k]{d_{k+1}^{+}} C( \xrightarrow[n+k]{m} \xrightarrow[n]{d_{k}^{+}} C( \xrightarrow[n+k-1]{m} \xrightarrow[n]{d_{k+1}^{+}} \cdots \xrightarrow[n]{d_{k+1}^{+}} \cdots \xrightarrow[n-m]{d_{k+1}^{+}} \cdots \cdots \xrightarrow[n-m]{d_{k$$

where  $d_k^+$  is homogeneous of quantum degree 1. If we assume  $d_k^+$  is not homotopic to 0, then there is a unique chain complex of this form. (If m=n=1, then this chain complex is isomorphic to that defined by Khovanov and Rozansky.)

## The Chain Complex of a Colored Crossing (cont'd)

▶ The lowest quantum grading of

$$\operatorname{Hom}_{\operatorname{HMF}}(C(\operatorname{\mathsf{C}}_{n+k},\operatorname{\mathsf{C}}_{n-k}),C(\operatorname{\mathsf{C}}_{n+k-1},\operatorname{\mathsf{C}}_{n-k+1}))$$

is 1 and the space of homogeneous elements of quantum degree 1 is 1-dimensional.

## The Chain Complex of a Colored Crossing (cont'd)

▶ The lowest quantum grading of

$$\operatorname{Hom}_{\operatorname{HMF}}(C(\operatorname{\operatorname{\mathsf{C}}}_{n+k},\operatorname{\operatorname{\mathsf{C}}}(\operatorname{\operatorname{\mathsf{C}}}_{n+k-1},\operatorname{\operatorname{\mathsf{C}}}(\operatorname{\operatorname{\mathsf{C}}}(\operatorname{\operatorname{\mathsf{C}}}(n+k-1),\operatorname{\operatorname{\mathsf{C}}}(n+k-1)))$$

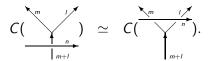
is 1 and the space of homogeneous elements of quantum degree 1 is 1-dimensional.

▶ The lowest quantum grading of

Hom<sub>HMF</sub>(
$$C(\binom{m}{n+k}\binom{n}{m-k}, C(\binom{m}{n+k-2}\binom{m}{m-k+2})$$
) is 4.

## Fork Sliding

#### Lemma

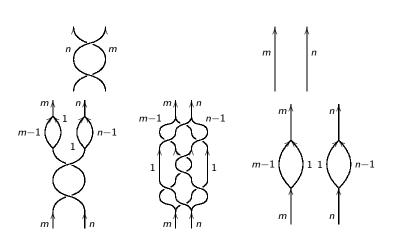


### Reidemeister Moves - Main Theorem

#### **Theorem**

The  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}$ -graded colored  $\mathfrak{sl}(N)$ -homology is invariant under Reidemeister moves.

## Proof



## Open Problems

▶ Is the  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -grading concentrated?

## Open Problems

- ▶ Is the  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -grading concentrated?
- Is the Euler characteristic equal to the corresponding colored sl(N)-polynomial? (MOY equations do not completely determine the colored graphic sl(N)-polynomial.)

## Open Problems

- ▶ Is the  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -grading concentrated?
- ▶ Is the Euler characteristic equal to the corresponding colored 
  \$\mathbb{s}(N)\$-polynomial? (MOY equations do not completely determine the colored graphic \$\mathbb{s}(N)\$-polynomial.)
- Functorality? (Khovanov and Rozansky's proof should carry over. But the algebra looks much harder.)

### Generalizations

 Lee-Gornik deformation. (Definition and invariance look easy. The Lee-Gornik basis is hard to construct. We can probably still get colored si(N)-Rasmussen invariants and genus bounds.)

### Generalizations

- ▶ Lee-Gornik deformation. (Definition and invariance look easy. The Lee-Gornik basis is hard to construct. We can probably still get colored sl(N)-Rasmussen invariants and genus bounds.)
- ▶ Categorification of the colored  $\mathfrak{sl}(N)$ -polynomial of links colored by general representations of  $\mathfrak{sl}(N)$ . (Probably do not carry any more topological information.)

### Generalizations

- ▶ Lee-Gornik deformation. (Definition and invariance look easy. The Lee-Gornik basis is hard to construct. We can probably still get colored st(N)-Rasmussen invariants and genus bounds.)
- ▶ Categorification of the colored  $\mathfrak{sl}(N)$ -polynomial of links colored by general representations of  $\mathfrak{sl}(N)$ . (Probably do not carry any more topological information.)
- ► Categorification of the sl(N)-invariant for 3-manifolds. (Holy Grail?)

Yonezawa used simpler algebra to construct a weaker invariant. (Poincaré polynomial of the colored si(N)-homology.)

- Yonezawa used simpler algebra to construct a weaker invariant. (Poincaré polynomial of the colored sI(N)-homology.)
- Cautis and Kamnitzer's work based on derived category of coherent sheaves on certain flag-like varieties. (Should generalize to colored situation and give an isomorphic homology?)

- ➤ Yonezawa used simpler algebra to construct a weaker invariant. (Poincaré polynomial of the colored sl(N)-homology.)
- ➤ Cautis and Kamnitzer's work based on derived category of coherent sheaves on certain flag-like varieties. (Should generalize to colored situation and give an isomorphic homology?)
- ▶ Webster and Williamson's colored HOMFLY-PT homology via the equivariant cohomology of general linear groups and related spaces. (Connected by a generalized Rasmussen spectral sequence?)

- ➤ Yonezawa used simpler algebra to construct a weaker invariant. (Poincaré polynomial of the colored sl(N)-homology.)
- ➤ Cautis and Kamnitzer's work based on derived category of coherent sheaves on certain flag-like varieties. (Should generalize to colored situation and give an isomorphic homology?)
- ▶ Webster and Williamson's colored HOMFLY-PT homology via the equivariant cohomology of general linear groups and related spaces. (Connected by a generalized Rasmussen spectral sequence?)
- ► Kronheimer and Mrowka's SU(n)-homology based on instanton gauge theory. (Has a colored version. Connected by a spectral sequence?)

- ➤ Yonezawa used simpler algebra to construct a weaker invariant. (Poincaré polynomial of the colored sl(N)-homology.)
- ➤ Cautis and Kamnitzer's work based on derived category of coherent sheaves on certain flag-like varieties. (Should generalize to colored situation and give an isomorphic homology?)
- ▶ Webster and Williamson's colored HOMFLY-PT homology via the equivariant cohomology of general linear groups and related spaces. (Connected by a generalized Rasmussen spectral sequence?)
- ► Kronheimer and Mrowka's SU(n)-homology based on instanton gauge theory. (Has a colored version. Connected by a spectral sequence?)
- Webster's categorify'em all approach.

