# Combinatorial Hopf Algebras.

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[with J.Y. Thibon ... ... and many more]





### Outline

- What would be a good gift for a mathematician?
- What is a Combinatorial Hopf Algebra?
- Sym is a strong, realizable CHA with character.
- On strong CHA (categorification)
- On realizable CHA (word combinatorics and quotients).

#### **Combinatorial Hopf Algebra**

- $H = \bigoplus_{n \ge 0} H_n$  a graded connected Hopf algebra is CHA if
- (weak) There is a distinguished (combinatorial) basis with positive integral structure coefficients (from Hopf monoid).
- (strong) The structure is obtained from representation operation (from categorification).
  - (real.) It can be realized in a space of series in variables. (it is realizable)
  - (char.) It has a distinguished character. (with character)



#### Sym is the model CHA

Sym is the space of symmetric functions  $\mathbb{Z}[h_1, h_2, \ldots]$ , with  $\deg(h_k) = k$  and

$$\Delta(h_k) = \sum_{i=0}^k h_i \otimes h_{k-i}.$$



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It is the functorial image of a Hopf Monoid  $\Pi$ :

For any finite set J let  $\Pi[J] = \{A : A \vdash J\}$  the set partitions of J. Product and Coproduct:

combinatorial constructions on set partitions

It correspond to flats of the hyperplane arrangement of type A.



## Hopf structure on $\bigoplus_{n>0} K_0(S_n)$

 $K_0(S) = \bigoplus_{n \ge 0} K_0(S_n)$  is the space of  $S_n$ -modules up to isomorphism

- Basis: Irreducible modules  $S^{\lambda}$
- Structure:

$$M * N = \operatorname{Ind}_{S_n \times S_m}^{S_{n+m}} M \otimes N$$
$$\Delta M = \bigoplus_{n \in S_k \times S_{n-k}}^{n} \operatorname{Res}_{S_k \times S_{n-k}}^{S_n} M$$

•  $\mathcal{F}: K_0(S) \to Sym$  is an isomorphism of graded Hopf algebra where  $\mathcal{F}(S^{\lambda}) = s_{\lambda}$ 

k=0



#### $\label{eq:realization} \textbf{Realization of } Sym$

 $Sym \hookrightarrow \lim_{n \to \infty} \mathbb{Q}[x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n]$ 

Allows us to understand coproducts, internal coproduct, plethysm, Cauchy kernel, ...



#### Sym with a Hopf Character

$$\begin{aligned} \zeta_0 \colon & Sym & \to & \mathbb{Q} \\ & & f(x_1, x_2, \ldots) & \mapsto & f(1, 0, \ldots) \end{aligned}$$

 $(Sym, \zeta_0)$  is a terminal object for  $(H, \zeta)$  cocommutative:



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#### **Toward Categorification**

Consider a graded algebra  $A = \bigoplus_{n>0} A_n$ 

- Each  $A_n$  is an algebra.
- dim  $A_0=1$  and dim  $A_n < \infty$ .
- $\rho_{n,m}: A_n \otimes A_m \hookrightarrow A_{n+m}$ ; injective algebra homomorphism
- $A_{n+m}$  is projective bilateral submodule of  $A_m \otimes A_m$ .
- Right and left projective structure of  $A_{n+m}$  are compatible.
- There is a Mackey formula linking induction and restriction

A is a tower of algebra

#### **Toward Categorification**

Consider a tower of algebras  $A = \bigoplus_{n>0} A_n$ 

Let  $K_0(A) = \bigoplus_{n \ge 0} K_0(A_n)$  is the space of (projective)  $A_n$ -modules up to isomorphism and modulo short exact sequences

•  $K_0(A)$  is a graded Hopf algebra:

$$M * N = \operatorname{Ind}_{A_n \otimes A_m}^{A_{n+m}} M \otimes N$$

$$\Delta M = \bigoplus_{k=0}^{n} \operatorname{Res}_{A_k \otimes A_{n-k}}^{A_n} M$$

• H is a strong CHA if there is an isomorphism

$$\mathcal{F}\colon K_0(A)\to H$$



#### **Obstruction to Tower of algebras?**

Consider a tower of algebras  $A = \bigoplus_{n>0} A_n$ 

where  $K_0(A)$  and  $G_0(A)$  are graded dual Hopf algebra:

THEOREM[B-Lam-Li]

if A is a tower of algebras, then  $\dim(A_n) = r^n n!$ 

this is very restrictive...

#### Tower of Supercharacters [... B ... Novelli ... Thibon ...]

- Unipotent upper triangular matrices over finite Fields  $\mathbf{F}_q$ :  $U_n(q)$ .
- Superclasses in  $U_n(q)$ :  $A \cong B \quad \leftrightarrow \quad (A I) = M(B I)N$
- Supercharacters  $\chi$ : characters constant on superclasses:

$$\Delta(\chi) = \sum_{A+B=[n]} \operatorname{Res}_{U_{|A|}(q) \times U_{|B|}(q)}^{U_n(q)} \chi$$

$$\chi \cdot \psi = \operatorname{Inf}_{U_n(q) \times U_m(q)}^{U_{n+m}(q)} \chi \otimes \psi = (\chi \otimes \psi) \circ \pi$$

where  $\pi: U_{n+m}(q) \rightarrow U_n(q) \times U_m(q)$ .

• 
$$\mathcal{F}: K_0\left(\bigoplus_{n\geq 0} U_n(2)\right) \to NCSym$$
 is iso.

*NCSym* symmetric functions in non-commutative variables.

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10/20Combinatorial Hopf Algebra

#### Some open questions

(Q-1) Find other examples of Categorification (Can we do *NCQsym* (quasi-symmetric in non commutative variables)?

(Q-2) Tower of algebra A (axiomatization with superclasses/ supermodules and Harish-Chandra induction:

 $Ind \circ Inf$  and  $Def \circ Res$  ).

#### **About Realization**

Many CHA are realized: Sym, NSym , QSym, NCSym,  $\bullet \bullet \bullet$  Can we described all

$$H \hookrightarrow \mathbb{Q}\langle x_1, x_2, \ldots \rangle$$

with monomial basis (equivalence classes on words) [Giraldo]. [B-Hohlweg] Monomial basis embeddings

 $H \hookrightarrow SSym$ 

(Q-3) Realization Theory: Can we describe monomial embeddings

 $H \hookrightarrow \mathbb{Q}M$ 

for different monoid M













## **Diagonally TL-covariants**

[Aval Bergeron Bergeron]

$$D_n := Q[x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n; y_1, \dots, y_n] / < DQSym^+ >$$

Conjectured bigraded Hilbert series:

$$\dim_{qt} D_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \end{bmatrix} \qquad \dim_{qt} D_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



## **Diagonally TL-covariants**

[Aval Bergeron Bergeron]

$$D_n := Q[x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n; y_1, \dots, y_n] / < DQSym^+ >$$

Conjectured explicit monomial basis: for example to build for n=4 and bidegree (1,1)



#### About family of Realization

(Q-4) Prove previous question about Hilbert series

(Q-5) Realized Quotient in general



