

Categorical symmetries in loop soups

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loops



(NOT spaghettis - sorry Philippe)

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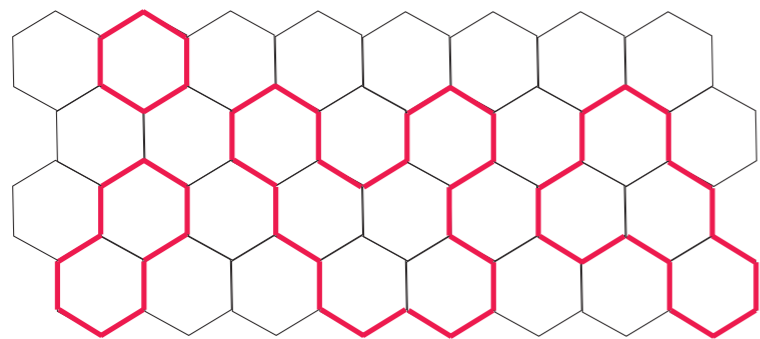
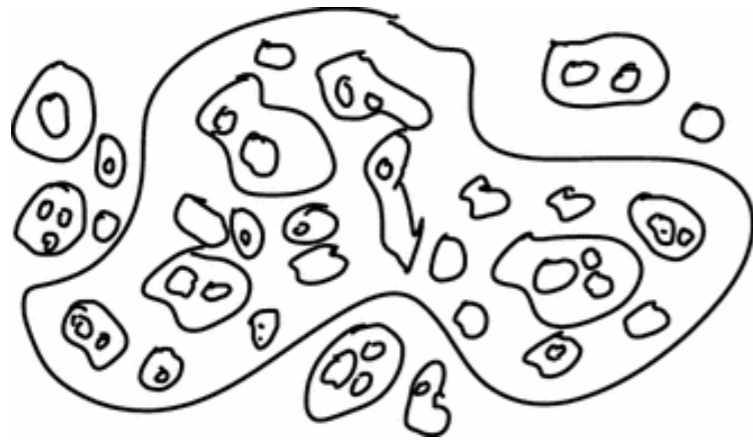


loops

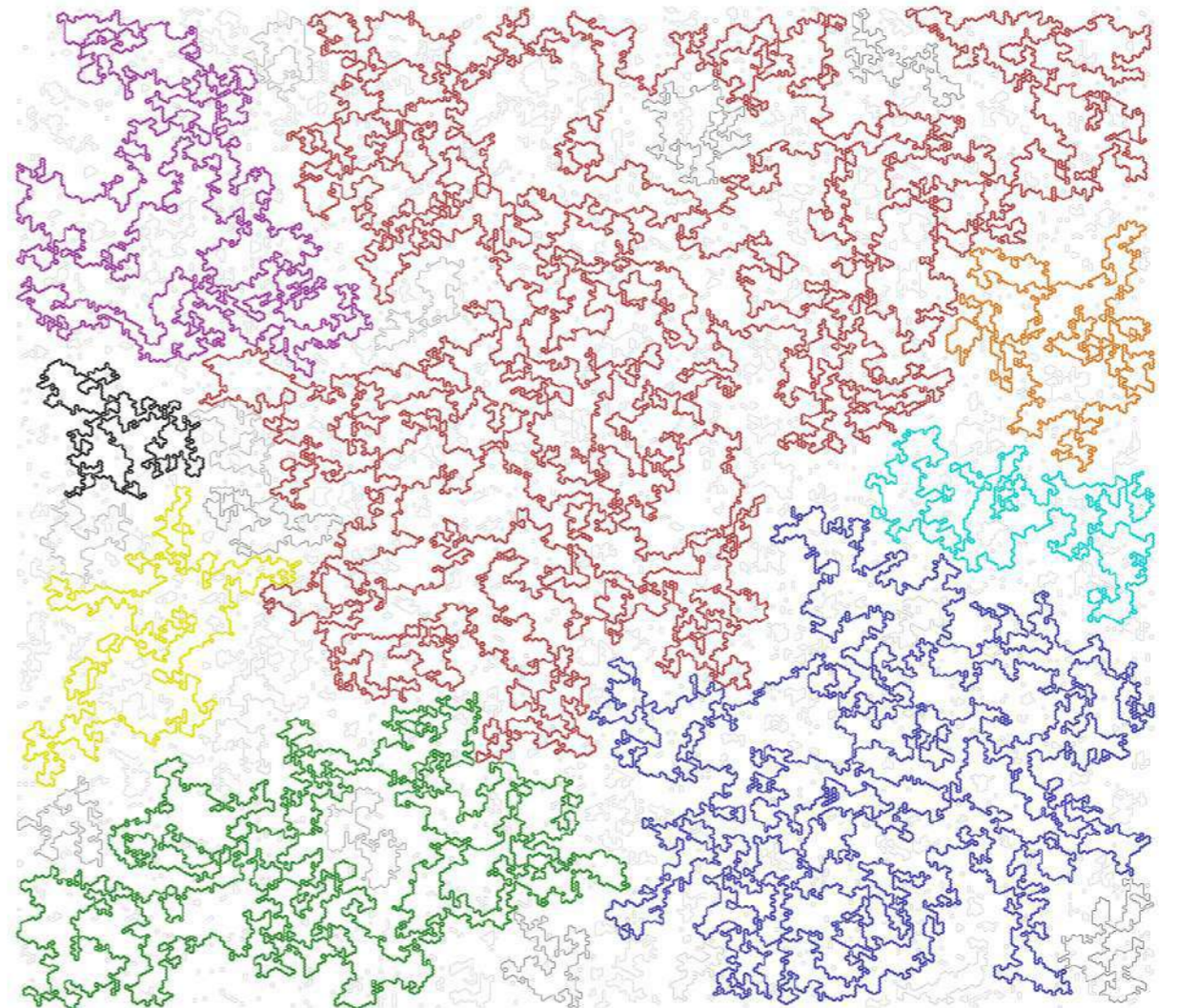


(NOT spaghettis - sorry Philippe)

Conformal loop ensembles or loop soups



(ensembles of self-avoiding mutually avoiding loops with fugacities per loop and bond)



- Are “generically” **critical** **CFT**

$$Z = \sum_{\text{dilute loop gas}} K_c^B n^L$$

- and arise in the study of $O(n)$ lattice spin models

n -component vectors \vec{S}_i with $O(n)$ symmetric
 $\vec{S}_i \cdot \vec{S}_j$ couplings

$$Z \propto \int \prod d\vec{S}_i \prod_{\langle ij \rangle} (1 + K \vec{S}_i \cdot \vec{S}_j)$$

- Properties like central charge and (some) critical exponents have been known for a long time

$$n \in [-2, 2]; \quad n = 2 \cos \frac{\pi}{x}, \quad x \in [1, \infty]$$

$$c = 1 - \frac{6}{x(x+1)}$$

$$\kappa = \frac{4x}{x+1}, \quad \kappa = \frac{4(x+1)}{x}$$

(Dotsenko Fateev 1984)

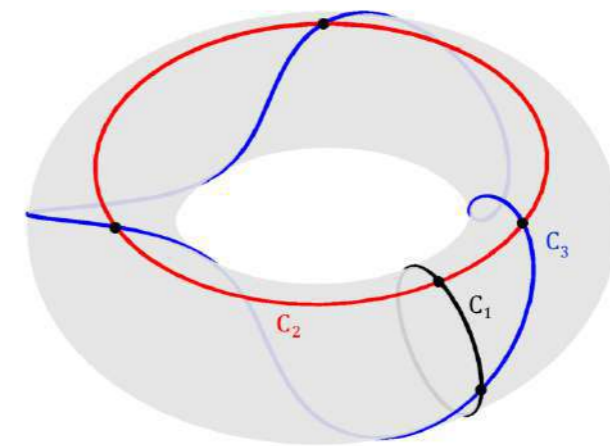
(Den Nijs, Nienhuis,
 Duplantier Saleur, late 80's)

- Our old work: torus partition function

Relations between the Coulomb Gas Picture and Conformal Invariance of Two-Dimensional Critical Models

P. di Francesco,¹ H. Saleur,¹ and J. B. Zuber¹

Received March 27, 1987



is a sort of bizarre elliptic function

$$\mathcal{Z}_n \rightarrow \hat{Z}[g, e_0] = \sum_{M', M \in \mathbb{Z}} Z_{M', M}(g/4) \cos(\pi e_0 M' \wedge M) \quad \wedge \equiv \text{gcd}$$

$$Z_{m', m}(g) = Z_1(g) \exp \left[-\pi g \frac{m'^2 + m^2(\tau_R^2 + \tau_I^2) - 2\tau_R m m'}{\tau_I} \right] \quad Z_1(g) = \frac{\sqrt{g}}{\tau_I^{1/2} \eta(q) \eta(\bar{q})}$$

$$\eta(q) = q^{1/24} \prod_{N=1}^{\infty} (1 - q^N), \quad g = \frac{x+1}{x}, \quad e_0 = \frac{1}{x}$$

$q = e^{2i\pi\tau}$, τ the torus modular parameter

nicely **modular invariant** but not very explicit

Why should we care?

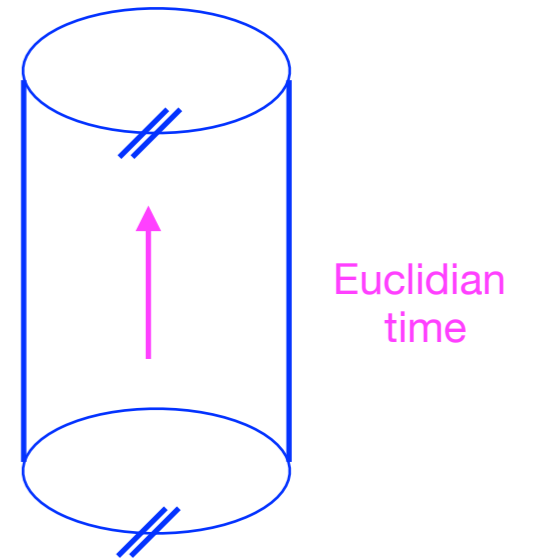
37 years ago!

- From CFT the result should have the form *(Cardy 1988)*

$$\left(Z = \text{Tr } q^{L_0 - c/24} \bar{q}^{\bar{L}_0 - c/24} \right) \quad Z = \sum_{h, \bar{h}} \text{degeneracy} \times q^{h - c/24} \bar{q}^{\bar{h} - c/24}$$

A good way to think of this is to observe that

$$Z = \text{Tr} (\text{transfer matrix})^{\text{power}} = \sum \text{degeneracies} \times \text{eigenvalues}^{\text{power}}$$



The degeneracies should be integer for n integer and in general correspond to (the dimensions of) the irreducible representations of the symmetry

E.g. the [order parameter](#) comes with [1] the vector representation

So the first technical challenge is to perform a Poisson resummation in order to write the partition function as a sum over powers of q, \bar{q}

- This was done in *(Read Saleur 2007)* Set $h_{rs} = \frac{[(x+1)r - xs]^2 - 1}{4x(x+1)}$ $n = 2 \cos \frac{\pi}{x}$

$$Z_{O(n)} = \sum_{s \in 2\mathbb{N}+1} \chi_{\langle 1, s \rangle}^D + \sum_{r \in \frac{1}{2}\mathbb{N}^*} \sum_{s \in \frac{1}{r}\mathbb{Z}} (E_{r,s} + \delta_{r,1} \delta_{s \in 2\mathbb{Z}+1}) \chi_{(r,s)}^N$$

this gives the spectrum of the theory, crucial to determine correlation functions using the bootstrap

(Grans-Samuelsson, He, Jacobsen, Nivesvivaat, Ribault, Saleur)

$\chi_{\langle r,s \rangle}^D$, $r, s \in \mathbb{N}^*$ characters of irreducible diagonal representations $K_{h_{rs}} \otimes \bar{K}_{h_{r,s}}$

$$\chi_{\langle r,s \rangle}^D = q^{h_{rs} - \frac{c}{24}} \frac{1 - q^{rs}}{P(q)} \times \text{h.c.}$$

$\chi_{(r,s)}^N$ characters of non-diagonal potentially reducible representations $V_{h_{rs}} \otimes \bar{V}_{h_{r,-s}}$

$$\chi_{(r,s)}^N = \frac{q^{h_{rs} - \frac{c}{24}}}{P(q)} \times \frac{\bar{q}^{h_{r,-s} - \frac{c}{24}}}{P(\bar{q})}$$

The degeneracies are given by the **mysterious** formula

$$E_{r,s} = \frac{1}{2r} \sum_{r'=0}^{2r-1} e^{i\pi r' s} x_{(2r) \wedge r'}(n), \quad E_{r,s} = E_{r,s \bmod 2\mathbb{Z}}$$

polynomials in n

$$n = q + q^{-1}$$

$$x_d(n) = q^d + q^{-d}$$

(r, s)	$E_{r,s}$
$(\frac{1}{2}, 0)$	n
$(1, 0)$	$\frac{1}{2}(n+2)(n-1)$
$(1, 1)$	$\frac{1}{2}n(n-1)$
$(\frac{3}{2}, 0)$	$\frac{1}{3}n(n^2-1)$
$(\frac{3}{2}, \frac{2}{3})$	$\frac{1}{3}n(n^2-4)$
$(2, 0)$	$\frac{1}{4}n(n^3-3n+2)$
$(2, \frac{1}{2})$	$\frac{1}{4}(n^4-5n^2+4)$
$(2, 1)$	$\frac{1}{4}(n-2)n(n+1)^2$
$(2, \frac{3}{2})$	$\frac{1}{4}(n^4-5n^2+4)$
$(3, 0)$	$\frac{1}{6}(n^6-6n^4+n^3+11n^2-n-6)$

$$Z_{O(n)} = \sum_{s \in 2\mathbb{N}+1} \chi_{\langle 1, s \rangle}^D + \sum_{r \in \frac{1}{2}\mathbb{N}^*} \sum_{s \in \frac{1}{r}\mathbb{Z}} \underbrace{(E_{r,s} + \delta_{r,1} \delta_{s \in 2\mathbb{Z}+1})}_{\Lambda_{r,s}} \chi_{(r,s)}^N$$

multiplicity spaces

- Note: while the formula for Z was derived in the context of CFT and for $n \in [-2, 2]$, it is in fact true for all n (integer or not), in finite size, and not necessarily at criticality

Therefore the question of interpreting the multiplicities in the language of $O(n)$ representation theory makes perfect sense

(for $n \notin \mathbb{N}$ it still makes sense in a (Deligne) categorical sense see below)

(Binder, Rychkov 2019)

The problem was solved in *(Jacobsen, Ribault, Saleur 2022)*

$$\Lambda_{(\frac{1}{2},0)} = [1]$$

$$\Lambda_{(1,0)} = [2]$$

$$\Lambda_{(1,1)} = [11]$$

$$\Lambda_{(\frac{3}{2},0)} = [3] + [111]$$

$$\Lambda_{(\frac{3}{2},\frac{2}{3})} = \Lambda_{(\frac{3}{2},\frac{4}{3})} = [21]$$

$$\Lambda_{(2,0)} = [4] + [22] + [211] + [2] + []$$

$$\Lambda_{(2,\frac{1}{2})} = \Lambda_{(2,\frac{3}{2})} = [31] + [211] + [11]$$

$$\Lambda_{(2,1)} = [31] + [22] + [1111] + [2]$$

$$\Lambda_{(\frac{5}{2},0)} = [5] + [32] + 2[311] + [221] + [11111] + [3] + 2[21] + [111] + [1]$$

$$\Lambda_{(\frac{5}{2},\frac{2}{5})} = [41] + [32] + [311] + [221] + [2111] + [3] + 2[21] + [111] + [1]$$

•
•
•

(The exact decomposition for the $\Lambda_{(r,s)}$ is known explicitly)

So the degeneracies correspond to [groupings](#) of $O(n)$ irreducible representations into blocks

The formula:

$$\Lambda_{(r,s)} = \delta_{r,1} \delta_{s \in 2\mathbb{Z}+1} \square + \frac{1}{2r} \sum_{r'=0}^{2r-1} e^{\pi i r' s} U_{\gcd(2r,r')} \left(\lambda_{\frac{2r}{\gcd(2r,r')}} \right)$$

$$U_0(z) = 2 \quad , \quad U_1(z) = z \quad , \quad zU_d(z) = U_{d-1}(z) + U_{d+1}(z)$$

$$\lambda_r = \delta_{r \in 2\mathbb{N}} \square + \sum_{k=0}^{r-1} (-1)^k [r-k, 1^k]$$

$$\lambda_1 = [1]$$

$$\lambda_2 = [2] - [11] + \square$$

$$\lambda_3 = [3] - [21] + [111]$$

$$\lambda_4 = [4] - [31] + [211] - [1111] + \square$$

$$\text{Tr}_{\lambda_r}(g) = \text{Tr}_{[1]}(g^r)$$

where $\lambda^2 \equiv \lambda \otimes \lambda$ in $O(n)$...

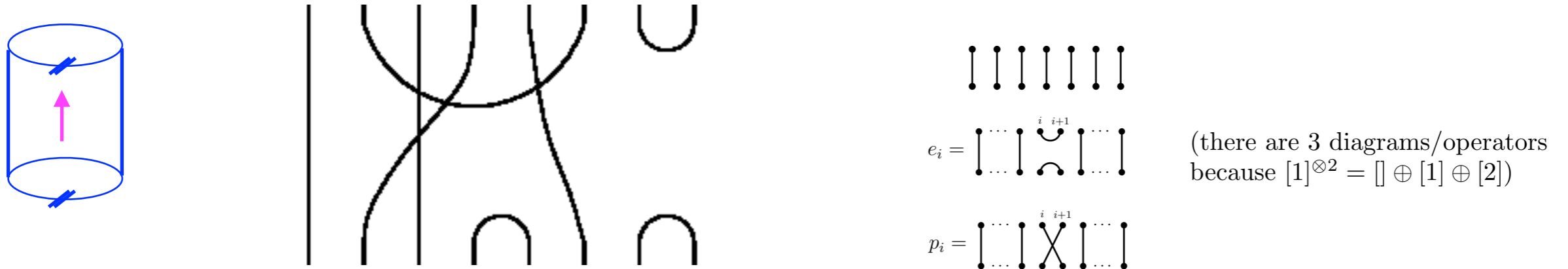
What explains these (very large) degeneracies?

- The idea of an extended symmetry (Hopf algebra) doesn't seem to work., The set of $\Lambda_{(r,s)}$ is not stable under the $O(n)$ tensor product. Periodic boundary conditions seem to play a crucial role (degeneracies would be different for open b.c.).
- On the other hand, with p.b.c. it is difficult indeed to give a meaning to tensor products of the $\Lambda_{(r,s)}$ (cut and ew?)
- It is useful to start to understand why there are such degeneracies

The culprit is the **non-crossing constraint**

*which is better understood using
a bit of algebra*

- The natural relationship between loops and $O(n)$ is of **Schur-Weyl** duality between $O(n)$ acting on the tensor product of fundamental (vector) representations $[1]^{\otimes L}$ and the **Brauer** algebra.



Strictly speaking, Brauer is relevant only for the case where every edge is occupied by a “monomer”, which corresponds to the limit $K \rightarrow \infty$ and the low-temperature (dense) phase. Algebraically however, the following makes sense for the dilute versions of the problem: $([] \oplus [1])^{\otimes L}$ and “dilute” Brauer. I will often not specify this.

- Schur-Weyl for a general $O(n)$ interaction would lead to

$$[1]^{\otimes L} \underset{\mathcal{B}_L(n) \times O(n)}{=} \bigoplus_{\substack{|\lambda| \leq L \\ |\lambda| \equiv L \pmod{2}}} B_{\lambda}^{(L)} \otimes \lambda$$

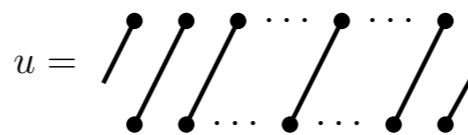
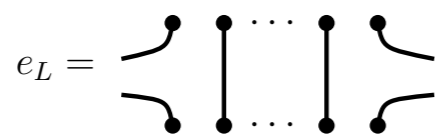
↑
↑
 sum over partitions Brauer modules

For example, $[1]^{\otimes 3} = [3] + 2[21] + [111] + 3[1]$ tells us that $\dim B_{[21]}^{(3)} = 2$.

So what happens to Schur-Weyl when we forbid crossings?

- Well the algebra becomes **smaller** - technically it is now the **unoriented Jones-Temperley-Lieb algebra** $u\mathcal{JTL}_L(n)$

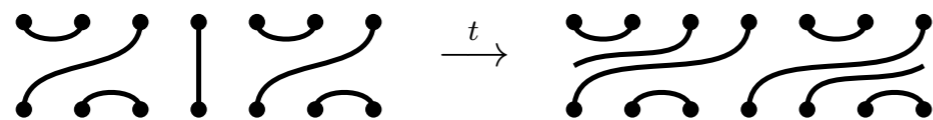
This is ordinary Temperley-Lieb plus an element contracting around (we want periodic boundary conditions to understand the **bulk critical theory**) and a translation



(V. Jones)

All non-contractible loops have weight n . Through lines winding fully around do not acquire any weight

Translation of through lines (pseudo-translation) t



$$t^{2r} = 1$$

$u\mathcal{JTL}_L(n)$

If $2r$ is the number of such lines


Irreducible modules $W_{(r,s)}^{(L)}$ with $2r \in \mathbb{N}$ and

$$(t - e^{\pi i s}) W_{(r,s)}^{(L)} = 0$$

(Martin Saleur...Graham Lehrer)

A smaller algebra means a bigger centralizer

- So what we would like are the **branching rules** $\mathcal{B}_L(n) \downarrow u\mathcal{JTL}_L(n)$

$$B_\lambda^{(L)} \underset{u\mathcal{JTL}_L(n)}{=} \bigoplus_{r=\frac{|\lambda|}{2}}^{\frac{L}{2}} \bigoplus_{\substack{s \in \frac{1}{r}\mathbb{Z} \\ -1 < s \leq 1}} c_{(r,s)}^\lambda W_{(r,s)}^{(L)}$$


This problem is well defined even if $n \in \mathbb{C}$

We have a combinatorial formula for these *(Jacobsen Ribault Saleur)*
 Note they don't depend on n nor L

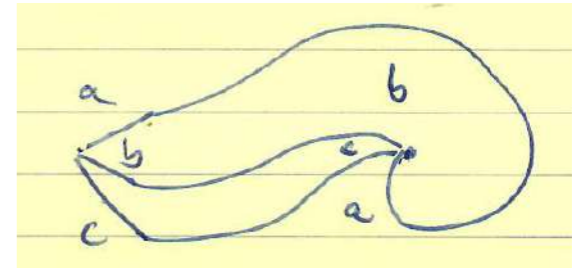
The problem was solved earlier in the case of ordinary Temperley-Lieb $\mathcal{TL}_L(n)$ *(Benkart Moon)*

For $\lambda = [L]$ this amounts to decomposing Specht modules of the permutation group $S_{|\lambda|}$ into representations of a cyclic subgroup *(Stembridge)*

- And from these branching rules the $\Lambda_{(r,s)}$ follow

all this means is that

In 2D not all tensors can be realized without crossings (of course)
e.g. $[111]$ and $[3]$ can't be distinguished



So what's the “symmetry”?

- Apart from the generators of $O(n)$ there are other operators commuting with the Hamiltonian.

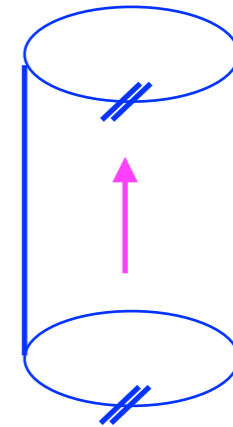
(Jacobsen Saleur)

- They are in fact **topological defect lines (TDLs) operators**, and commute with the full left and right Virasoro algebras

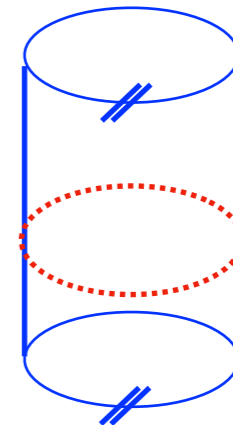
$$[\text{Vir}, \mathbf{D}] = [\overline{\text{Vir}}, \overline{\mathbf{D}}] = 0$$

- This happens because they commute with the full lattice algebra

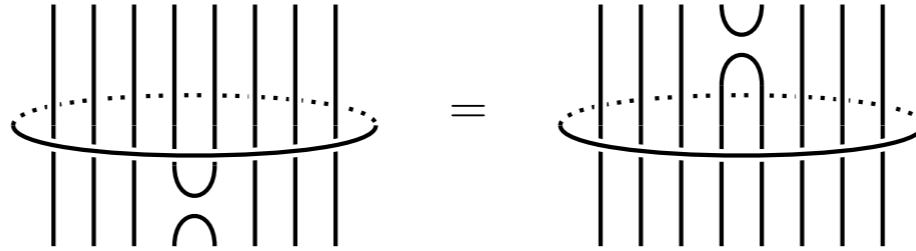
$$[u\mathcal{JTL}_L(n), \mathbf{D}] = [u\mathcal{JTL}_L(n), \overline{\mathbf{D}}] = 0$$



time evolution
under H



$$\begin{aligned}
D &= (-q)^{-L/2} u (1 - qe_{L-1}) \cdots (1 - qe_2)(1 - qe_1) + (-q)^{N/2} (1 - q^{-1}e_1) \cdots (1 - q^{-1}e_{L-1}) u^{-1} \\
\bar{D} &= (-q)^{L/2} \tau (1 - q^{-1}e_{L-1}) \cdots (1 - q^{-1}e_2)(1 - q^{-1}e_1) + (-q)^{-L/2} (1 - qe_1) \cdots (1 - qe_{L-1}) u^{-1}
\end{aligned}$$



- In theories with a global symmetry group G there exists **invertible** topological defects associated with an element g . They act as $D_g|\Phi\rangle = g|\phi\rangle$, if $|\phi\rangle$ is a state in the Hilbert space, and of course $D_g D_{g^{-1}} = 1$.

In the microscopic models, degrees of freedom are acted on by g when the defect line is crossed (e.g. $G = Z_2$ and spin flips)

Here the defect is TDL is not invertible
(technically it is a Verlinde line associated with operator $(h_{21}, 0)$)

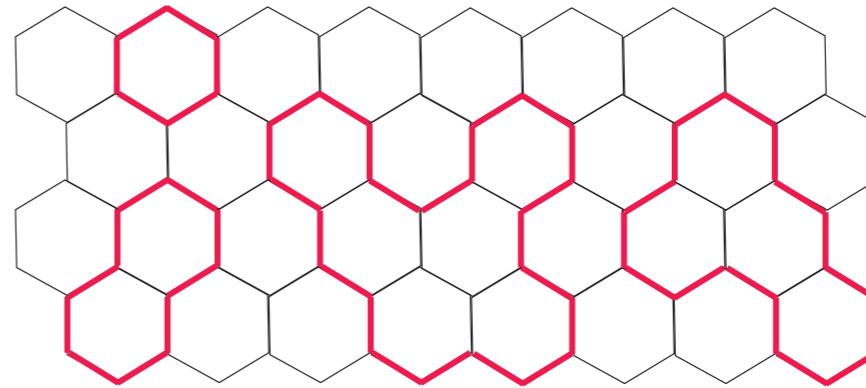
- The $\Lambda_{(r,s)}$ are eigenspaces of the TDL operator

$$Z_{O(n)} = \sum_{s \in 2\mathbb{N}+1} \chi_{\langle 1,s \rangle}^D + \sum_{r \in \frac{1}{2}\mathbb{N}^*} \sum_{s \in \frac{1}{r}\mathbb{Z}} \underbrace{(E_{r,s} + \delta_{r,1} \delta_{s \in 2\mathbb{Z}+1})}_{\Lambda_{r,s}} \chi_{(r,s)}^N$$

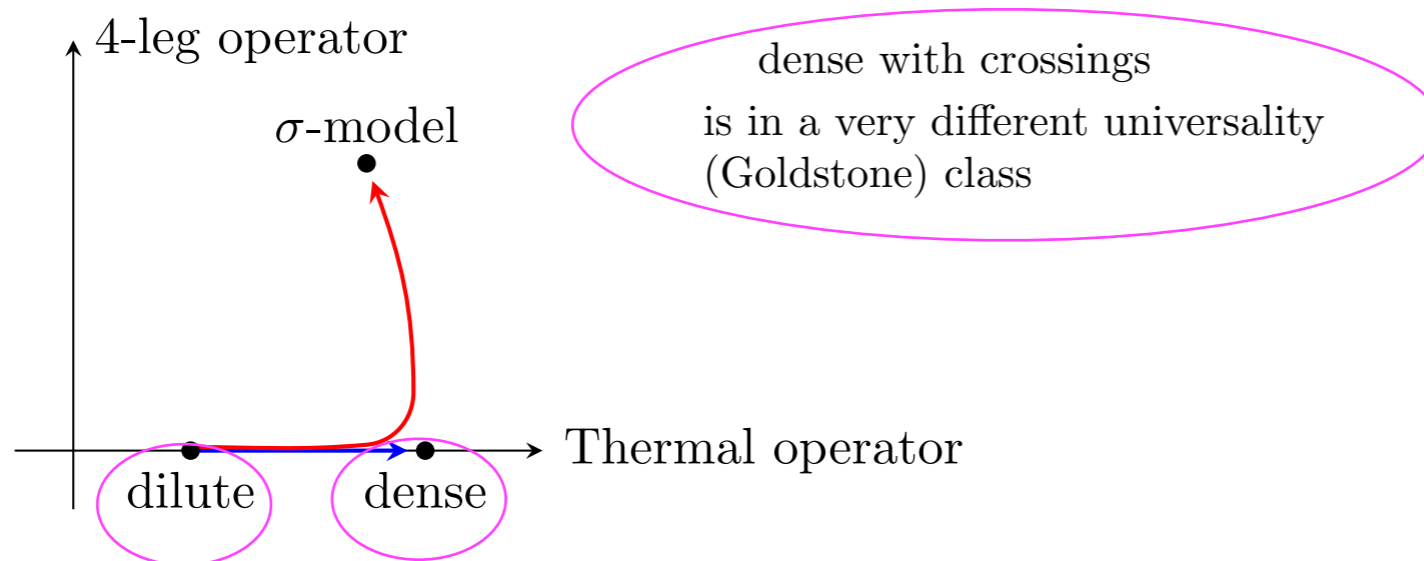
What is it good for?

- There's in fact the dilute and the dense critical points

$$Z = \sum_{\text{dilute loop gas}} K_c^B n^L$$



- The dilute universality class is very robust: crossings don't matter
- But things are different for the dense (critical) phase ($K > K_c$)



- Any amount of coupling to the 4-leg operator drives the system away from the dense fixed point (operator is **dangerously irrelevant**) and such coupling is not forbidden by $O(n)$ symmetry... so nothing prevents it a priori from appearing as a counter term (from being generated in the RG)

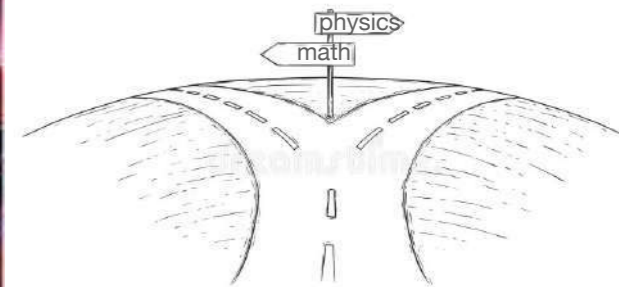
But it is prevented by topological symmetry (all terms/ counter-terms generated by the RG are in the topological sector of the identity, not of the 4-leg operator)

- In other words, $[D, \chi] \neq 0$: crossings **break** the topological symmetry and thus can't appear if the latter is conserved

At the crossroads of physics and mathematics



At the crossroads of physics and mathematics



"when you come to a fork in the road, take it!" (Yogi Berra)

Happy Birthday Philippe!