

From Enumerative Geometry to Representation Theory, and back via Cohomological Hall algebras

(Slides available on https://web.dm.unipi.it/sala/talks_trips/)

1. Overview

There are several instances of the interplay between

Algebraic Geometry

(moduli spaces, stacks,
enumerative invariants,...)

Representation Theory

(Quantum groups,
vertex algebras,...)

First part of the talk:

Alday-Gaiotto-Tachikawa conjectures
concerning 'geometric'
representations of vertex algebras
(Schiffmann-Vasserot, Maulik-Okounkov)

Geometry $\longleftrightarrow$ Repr. Theory

$r=1$ $M(n) = \text{Hilb}^n(\mathbb{C}^2)$ $\longleftrightarrow$ Heis
(Hilbert scheme) (Heisenberg algebra)

arbitrary r $M(r, n)$ $\longleftrightarrow$ $\mathcal{W}_k(\mathfrak{gl}(r))$
 (affine $\mathcal{W}$ -algebra)

Maulik-Okounkov affine Yangian $\mathcal{Y}_{1\text{-loop}}^{\text{MO}}$ of $\mathfrak{gl}(1)$

The second part focuses on :

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$$\mathbb{C}^2 \rightsquigarrow \mathbb{C}^2/\mathbb{Z}_2 \longleftarrow T^*\mathbb{P}^1$$

$$\mathbb{Z}_2 \hookrightarrow SL(2, \mathbb{C}), \quad e^{\pi i} \longmapsto \begin{pmatrix} e^{\pi i} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{-\pi i} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_2 \hookrightarrow SL(2, \mathbb{C}) \curvearrowright \mathbb{C}^2$$

$\mathbb{C}^2/\mathbb{Z}_2$ complex algebraic surface, singular at 0

$$\Rightarrow \mathbb{C}^2/\mathbb{Z}_2 \xleftarrow[\text{resolution}]{\pi} T^*\mathbb{P}^1 \supset \pi^{-1}(0) = \mathbb{P}^1$$

(= zero section)

Geometry $\longleftrightarrow$ Repr. Theory

$$r=1 \quad \text{Hilb}^n([\mathbb{C}^2/\mathbb{Z}_2]), \text{Hilb}^n(T^*\mathbb{P}^1) \longleftrightarrow \hat{\mathcal{S}}(2) \stackrel{\text{v.s.}}{=} \mathfrak{sl}(2)[t^{\pm 1}] \oplus \mathbb{C}c$$

(Hilbert scheme) (affine Lie algebra)

$$\text{arbitrary } r \quad \mathcal{M}_{\mathbb{C}^2/\mathbb{Z}_2}(r), \mathcal{M}_{T^*\mathbb{P}^1}(r) \xleftrightarrow[\text{Yangian ??}]{\text{??}} \text{??}$$



Families of Yangians over
Bridgeland's space of stability conditions

(Diaconescu-Porte-S-Schiffmann-Vasserot,
S-Schiffmann-Shimpi)

2. Alday-Gaiotto-Tachikawa conjecture for $r=1$

2.1. Algebraic Prelude: Heisenberg Lie algebra

Fix a field $F \supset \mathbb{C}$.

For any $R, N \in \mathbb{N}_{>0}, R > N$, consider

$$\begin{array}{ccc} F[z_1, z_2, \dots, z_N] & \hookrightarrow & F[z_1, z_2, \dots, z_N, z_{N+1}, \dots, z_R] \\ z_1, \dots, z_N & \longmapsto & z_1, \dots, z_N \end{array}$$

$$\implies \operatorname{colim} F[z_1, z_2, \dots, z_N] = \bigcup_{N \geq 1} F[z_1, z_2, \dots, z_N]$$

$=: F[z_1, z_2, \dots] = M =$ ring of polynomials in infinitely many variables

Fix $0 \neq \kappa \in F$. Define endomorphisms of M :

► $c := \kappa \operatorname{id}_M$

► For $n \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0\}$:

$$\begin{cases} b_n := n \frac{\partial}{\partial z_n} & \text{-- annihilation operators} \\ b_{-n} := \text{multiplication by } z_n & \text{-- creation operators} \end{cases}$$

Then, the operators $b_n, n \in \mathbb{Z} \setminus \{0\}$, and c satisfy

$$[b_n, c] = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad [b_n, b_m] = n \delta_{n+m, 0} c$$

Definition

The (infinite-dimensional) Heisenberg Lie algebra is the Lie algebra Heis generated by c and $b_n \forall n \neq 0$.

$M = F[z_1, z_2, \dots]$ is called the Fock space of Heis .

Note that w.r.t. $\text{Heis} \curvearrowright M = F[z_1, z_2, \dots]$, we get

- $b_n(1) = 0 \forall n \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0\}$, and
- $c(1) = 1$, and
- $\{b_{-n_1} \cdots b_{-n_t}(1) : t \geq 1, n_j \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0\}\}$ is a basis of M/F

i.e., M is a highest weight module with highest vector 1

We now introduce an "enumerative" quantity associated to $\text{Heis} \curvearrowright M$.

Define the "degree" operator: $L_0 := \sum_{\substack{m \in \mathbb{Z} \\ m \neq 0}} m z_m \frac{\partial}{\partial z_m}$

We obtain

$$[L_0, b_n] = -n b_n \quad \forall n \neq 0$$

For $K \in \mathbb{N}$, set $M_K := \{v \in M : L_0(v) = Kv\}$. Then

$$M = \bigoplus_K M_K$$

Therefore we get the character formula:

$$\text{Tr}_M(q^{L_0}) := \sum_{K \geq 0} q^K \dim_F M_K = \prod_{i \geq 1} \frac{1}{(1 - q^i)} = \frac{q^{-1/24}}{\eta(q)}$$

where $\eta(q)$ = Dedekind eta function.

The question I would like to address now is:

Is there a geometric interpretation of the "enumerative" quantity $\text{Tr}_H(q^{L^\circ})$?

Let's introduce the geometric framework that will allow us to answer this question.

2.2. Geometric Prelude: Hilbert schemes of points

Fix $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Define

$$M(n) := \left\{ (A, B, i) : \begin{array}{l} 1) [A, B] = 0 \\ 2) \mathbb{C}\langle A, B \rangle I_m(i) = \mathbb{C}^n \end{array} \right\} / GL_n(\mathbb{C})$$

linear maps $\xrightarrow{\quad} \begin{array}{c} A \curvearrowright \mathbb{C}^n \curvearrowright B \\ \uparrow i \\ \mathbb{C} \end{array}$

via conjugation
 $(gAg^{-1}, gBg^{-1}, g_i)$
 for $g \in GL_n(\mathbb{C})$

$\mathcal{M}(n)$ is a smooth algebraic variety/ $\mathbb{C}$ of $\dim. 2n$

For $(A, B, i) \in \mathcal{M}(n)$:

$$\mathbb{C}[x, y] \xrightarrow{\phi} \mathbb{C}^n$$

$$f(x, y) \longmapsto f(A, B) i(1)$$

$$\Rightarrow I = \ker(\phi) \subset \mathbb{C}[x, y] \text{ ideal}$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathcal{M}(n) \simeq \text{Hilbert scheme of } n \text{ pts on } \mathbb{C}^2$$

= moduli space of ideals $I \subset \mathbb{C}[x, y]$
such that $\dim_{\mathbb{C}} \mathbb{C}[x, y]/I = n$

= moduli space of 0-dimensional
subschemes $Z \subset \mathbb{C}^2$ such that
 $\dim_{\mathbb{C}} H^0(Z, \mathcal{O}_Z) = n$

Now, we are going to interpret

$T_{\mathcal{M}}(q^{\pm 0}) \longleftrightarrow$ equivariant cohomology of $\mathcal{M}(n)$

The action of the torus $T := (\mathbb{C}^*)^2$ on $\mathbb{C}^2$ lifts to an action on $\mathcal{M}(n)$:

$$(t_1, t_2) \cdot (A, B, i) = (t_1 A, t_2 B, i)$$

Recall: $H_T^*(pt) = \mathbb{C}[\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2] \implies \text{Set } F := \mathbb{C}(\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2)$

The F -vector space to consider on the geometric side:

$\mathbb{L}_{loc, n} :=$ localized T -equivariant cohomology

$$\text{of } \mathcal{M}(n) = H_T^*(\mathcal{M}(n)) \otimes_{\mathbb{C}[\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2]} \mathbb{C}(\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2)$$

$$\mathbb{L}_{loc} := \bigoplus_{n \geq 0} \mathbb{L}_{loc, n}$$

Göttsche-Soegel '93 proved that:

Generating function of the Betti numbers of the

$$M(n)'s := \sum_{n \geq 0} q^n \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{(grading w.r.t. coh. degree)}}}{\text{gr.dim}_F \mathbb{L}_{loc,n}} = \frac{q^{-1/24}}{\eta(q)} = \text{Tr}(q^{L_0})$$

The following theorem lifts these equalities from the level of enumerative invariants to that of vector spaces:

Theorem (Groznowski '96, Nakajima '97, '99)

Set $n := -\frac{\varepsilon_1}{\varepsilon_2}$. $\exists$ an action of Heis on $\mathbb{L}_{loc}$ such that

$$\mathbb{L}_{loc} \simeq M = F[z_1, z_2, \dots]$$

$$[M(0)]_T \longmapsto 1$$

$\uparrow$
(equivariant fundamental class)

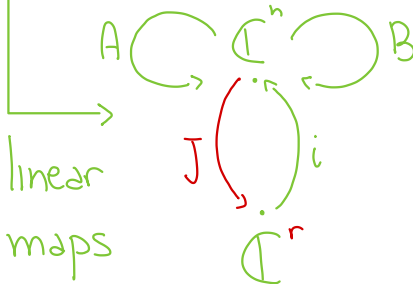
Attention $\triangle$:

$\{b_{-n_1} \cdots b_{-n_t} [M(0)]_T\}$ is a F -basis of $\mathbb{L}_{loc}$

2.3. Alday-Gaiotto-Tachikawa conjecture for arbitrary r
 Now, we introduce the generalization:

► $\mathcal{M}(n) \rightsquigarrow \mathcal{M}(r, n) = \text{ADHM moduli space:}$

$$\mathcal{M}(r, n) := \left\{ (A, B, i, J) : \begin{array}{l} 1) [A, B] + iJ = 0 \\ 2) \mathbb{C}\langle A, B \rangle \text{Im}(i) = \mathbb{C}^n \end{array} \right\} / GL_n(\mathbb{C})$$



via conjugation
 $(gAg^{-1}, gBg^{-1}, gi, Jg^{-1})$
 for $g \in GL_n(\mathbb{C})$

► $T := (\mathbb{C}^*)^2 \curvearrowright \mathcal{M}(n) \rightsquigarrow T_r := (\mathbb{C}^*)^2 \times (\mathbb{C}^*)^r \curvearrowright \mathcal{M}(r, n):$

$$(t_1, t_2, D) \cdot (A, B, i, J) = (t_1 A, t_2 B, iD^{-1}, t_1 t_2 D J)$$

(Here, D = diagonal matrix $\in GL_r(\mathbb{C})$.)

$$H_T^*(pt) = \mathbb{C}[\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2, a_1, \dots, a_r] \implies F = \mathbb{C}(\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2, a_1, \dots, a_r)$$

$$\blacktriangleright \mathbb{L}_{\text{loc}} \rightsquigarrow \mathbb{L}_{\text{loc}}^{(r)} := \bigoplus_{n \geq 0} H_{-r}^*(\mathcal{M}(r, n))_{\text{loc}}$$

Alday-Gaiotto-Tachikawa '09 conjectured that:

$$\blacktriangleright \text{Heis} \rightsquigarrow \mathcal{W}_k(\mathfrak{gl}(r)) := \text{Heis} \otimes \mathcal{W}_k(\mathfrak{sl}(r))$$

where $\mathcal{W}_k(\mathfrak{sl}(r))$ = principal affine W-algebra of $\mathfrak{sl}(r)$ at level $K := -\varepsilon_2/\varepsilon_1 - r$

$$\blacktriangleright M = F[z_1, z_2, \dots] \rightsquigarrow M_\beta = \text{Verma module, with } \beta \in F^{\oplus r}$$

Attention $\triangle$: for $r \geq 4$, $\mathcal{W}_k(\mathfrak{sl}(r))$ does not have an explicit presentation by gens and rels

$\implies$ Hard to construct representations

Theorem (Schiffmann-Vasserot '12; Maulik-Okounkov; '12)
 $\exists$ an action of $\mathcal{W}_k(\mathfrak{gl}(r))$ on $\mathbb{L}_{\text{loc}}^{(r)}$ such that

$$\mathbb{L}_{\text{loc}}^{(r)} \simeq M_\beta \quad \text{for a well-defined } \beta \in F^{\oplus r}$$

Attention $\triangle$: $\mathbb{L}_{loc}^{(r)}$ has a "combinatorial" description

$\Rightarrow \mathcal{W}_k(g(r))$ -action on $\mathbb{L}_{loc}^{(r)}$ deeply studied in combinatorics and theoretical physics

Attention $\triangle$: How have these Theorems been proved?

- $r=1$: Groznowski and Nakajima defined *geometrically* the b_n 's and checked the rels
- On the other hand, $\mathcal{W}_k(g(r))$ does *not* have an explicit presentation by gen.s and rel.s for $r \geq 4$.

SV and MO did *not* construct "directly" the $\mathcal{W}_k(g(r))$ -action, rather they proved:

Theorem (Schiffmann-Vasserot '12; Maulik-Okounkov; '12)
 $\exists$ a Hopf algebra
 (i.e., $(A, m: A \otimes A \rightarrow A, \text{unit}, \Delta: A \rightarrow A \otimes A, \text{counit}, S \text{ antipode})$)

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{Y}_{1\text{-loop}}^{\text{MO}} &= \text{MO's affine Yangian of } \mathfrak{gl}(1) \\ &= \text{SV's degenerate spherical DAHA of } GL_{\infty} \end{aligned}$$

such that

1. $\exists$ a faithful representation of $(\mathbb{Y}_{1\text{-loop}}^{\text{MO}})_{\text{loc}(\mathbf{r})}$ on $\mathbb{L}_{\text{loc}}^{(\mathbf{r})}$, generated by $[M(\mathbf{r}, 0)]_T$. certain loc.
2. $(\mathbb{Y}_{1\text{-loop}}^{\text{MO}})_{\text{loc}(\mathbf{r})} \curvearrowright \mathbb{L}_{\text{loc}}^{(\mathbf{r})}$ induces $\mathcal{W}_k(\mathfrak{gl}(\mathbf{r})) \curvearrowright \mathbb{L}_{\text{loc}}^{(\mathbf{r})}$.

This result is an instance of Brundan-Kleshev's paradigm:

Yangians are 'universal' algebraic structures to construct representations of $\mathcal{W}$ -algebras

Remark

$\mathbb{Y}_{1\text{-loop}}^{\text{MO}}$ is an example of Maulik-Okounkov Yangians:

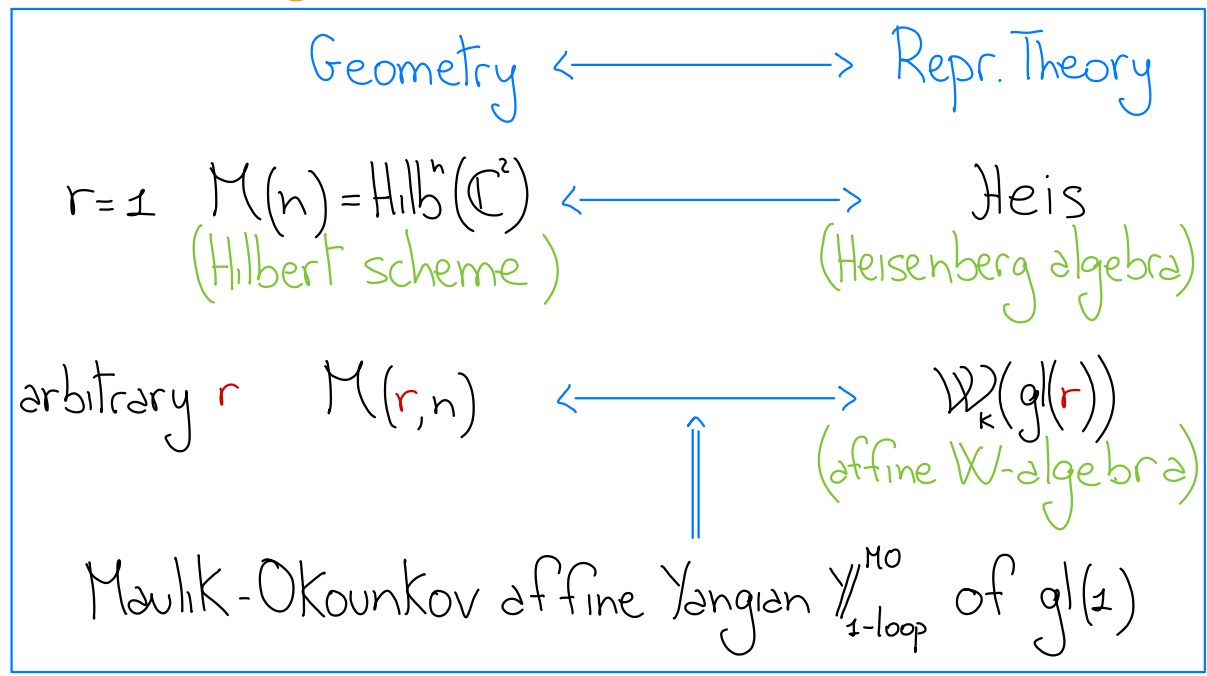
Q = quiver (i.e., oriented graph) $\leadsto$ there exist

- ▶ $\mathfrak{g}_Q^{\text{MO}}$ = Maulik-Okounkov Lie algebra
- ▶ $\mathbb{Y}_Q^{\text{MO}}$ = "deformation" of $\underbrace{U(\mathfrak{g}_Q^{\text{MO}} \otimes \mathbb{C}[u])}_{\text{current algebra}}$

More precisely, i.e.,

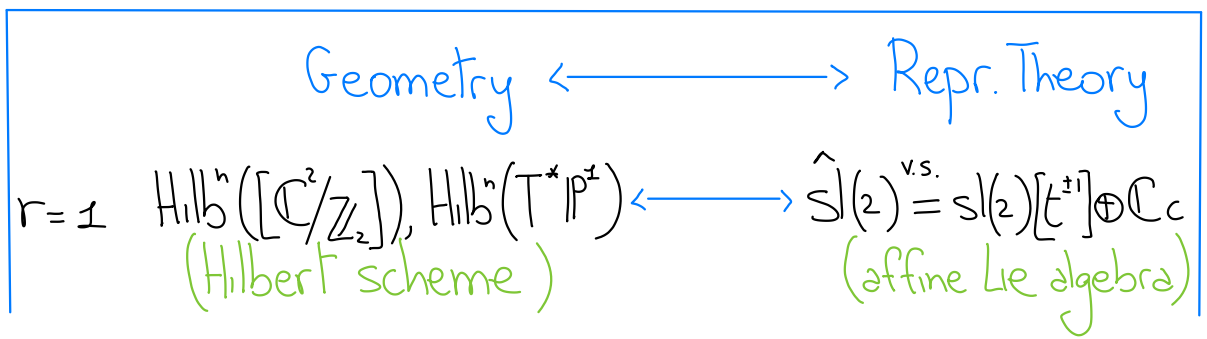
- ▶ $\mathbb{Y}_Q^{\text{MO}} = \text{Hopf algebra} / H_T^*(\text{pt})$ (T = torus associated to Q)
- ▶ $\mathbb{Y}_Q^{\text{MO}} = \text{Sym}(\mathfrak{g}_Q^{\text{MO}} \otimes \mathbb{C}[u] \otimes H_T^*(\text{pt}))$ as vector spaces

3. Summary



Now, we pass from $\mathbb{C}^2$ to:

$$\mathbb{C}^2 / \mathbb{Z}_2 \xleftarrow[\text{resolution}]{\pi} T^* \mathbb{P}^1 \supset \pi^{-1}(0) = \mathbb{P}^1$$



arbitrary r $M_{\mathbb{C}^2/\mathbb{Z}_2}(r), M_{T^*\mathbb{P}^1}(r) \xleftarrow{\begin{smallmatrix} ?? \\ \uparrow ? \end{smallmatrix}} \xrightarrow{??} ??$
 Yangian ??

The main questions to address now are:

- What are the 'right'

vertex algebras $\longleftrightarrow \mathbb{C}^2/\mathbb{Z}_2, T^*\mathbb{P}^1$?
 Yangians

- $\exists$ a framework that will allow us to address the previous question simultaneously for $\mathbb{C}^2/\mathbb{Z}_2$ and $T^*\mathbb{P}^1$?

Attention $\triangle$:

To the surfaces $\mathbb{C}^2/\mathbb{Z}_2$ and $T^*\mathbb{P}^1$ we can associate:

abelian categories: $\text{Coh}_0([\mathbb{C}^2/\mathbb{Z}_2])$ and $\text{Coh}_{\mathbb{P}^1}(T^*\mathbb{P}^1)$

derived categories: $\mathcal{D}\mathrm{Coh}_0([\mathbb{C}^2/\mathbb{Z}_2]) \xrightarrow[\Downarrow]{\text{McKay}} \mathcal{D}\mathrm{Coh}_{\mathbb{P}^1}(T^*\mathbb{P}^1)$

$$\mathrm{Coh}_0([\mathbb{C}^2/\mathbb{Z}_2]), \mathrm{Coh}_{\mathbb{P}^1}(T^*\mathbb{P}^1) \subset \mathcal{D}\mathrm{Coh}_0([\mathbb{C}^2/\mathbb{Z}_2])$$

$\Rightarrow$ We need to translate this property to the representation-theoretic side

4. How to: algebra $\longleftrightarrow$ A abelian category

Let $\mathcal{A}$ be a "nice" abelian category.

E.g.: $\mathcal{A} = \mathrm{Coh}_0([\mathbb{C}^2/\mathbb{Z}_2]), \mathrm{Coh}_{\mathbb{P}^1}(T^*\mathbb{P}^1)$

Theorem (Diaconescu-Porta-S.-Schiffmann-Vasserot '25)

Let $\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{A}}$ be the derived moduli stack of families of objects of $\mathcal{A}$.

Then, the Borel-Moore homology of $\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{A}}$,

$$\mathrm{COHA}_{\mathcal{A}} := H_*^{\mathrm{BM}}(\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{A}})$$

is endowed with the structure of an associative algebra, induced by the algebra structure of $\mathcal{M}_A$ (seen as an object of Gaiitsgory-Rozenblyum's category of correspondences).

$\Rightarrow \text{COHA}_A = \text{cohomological Hall algebra of } A$

Remark

$\exists$ an T -equivariant COHA w.r.t. the action of a torus T

Example

Dynkin: $\mathbb{Z}_2 \subset \text{SL}(2, \mathbb{C}) \longleftrightarrow A_1: \cdot \rightsquigarrow A_1^{(2)}: \cdot \curvearrowright$

SV: $\text{COHA}_{\mathbb{C}^2/\mathbb{Z}_2}^T := \text{COHA}^T \text{ of } \text{Coh}_0([\mathbb{C}^2/\mathbb{Z}_2])$

$\simeq \mathbb{Y}_{A_1^{(2)}}^{\text{MO}, -} = \text{'deformation' of } U(\bar{n})$

Here, $\bar{n}$ is the standard negative half of the elliptic Lie algebra

$$g_{\text{ell}} := \text{v.c.e.}(\hat{\mathfrak{sl}}(2) \otimes \mathbb{C}[t])$$

$\Rightarrow \cancel{Y}_{A_1^{(2)}}^{MO, -} = \text{negative part of MO Yangian of } A_1^{(2)}$

Attention $\triangle$:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{COHA}_{\mathbb{C}^2/\mathbb{Z}_2}^T & \longleftrightarrow & \text{Coh}_0([\mathbb{C}^2/\mathbb{Z}_2]) \\ \text{COHA}_{T^*\mathbb{P}^1}^T & \longleftrightarrow & \text{Coh}_{\mathbb{P}^1}(T^*\mathbb{P}^1) \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \searrow \\ \nearrow \end{array} \begin{array}{c} {}^b\text{Coh}_0([\mathbb{C}^2/\mathbb{Z}_2]) \\ {}^b\text{Coh}_{\mathbb{P}^1}(T^*\mathbb{P}^1) \end{array}$$

5. Family of Yangians over the Bridgeland's space

We would like to 'relate' $\text{COHA}_{\mathbb{C}^2/\mathbb{Z}_2}$ and $\text{COHA}_{T^*\mathbb{P}^1}$

$\Rightarrow$ We need to vary $A \in {}^b\text{Coh}_0([\mathbb{C}^2/\mathbb{Z}_2])$ over

$$\text{Stab} = \text{Stab}({}^b\text{Coh}_0([\mathbb{C}^2/\mathbb{Z}_2]))$$

$:=$ Bridgeland's space of stability conditions

$$= \left\{ (A, Z = \text{stability function on } A) \text{ satisfying } \right. \\ \left. \text{some technical conditions} \right\}$$

Theorem (S.-Schiffmann - Shimp)

$\forall$ abelian category $\mathcal{A}$ associated to a point of Stab
 $\exists$ a unital associative algebra

$\text{COHA}^T_{\mathcal{A}}$ $\xrightarrow{\text{(completion)}}$

which is a 'deformation' of $\widehat{U}(n_A)$, where n_A is a half of the elliptic Lie algebra $\mathfrak{g}_{\text{ell}}$.

Moreover, all halves of $\mathfrak{g}_{\text{ell}}$ arise in this way.

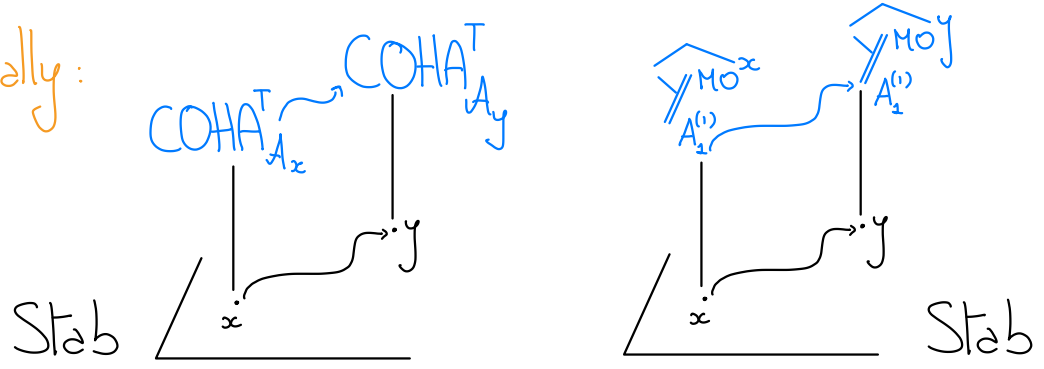
Conjecture

$\forall x \in \text{Stab}, \exists$ a completed MO Yangian $\widehat{\mathbb{Y}}^{\text{MO}^x}_{A_1^{(1)}}$ such that

$\widehat{\mathbb{Y}}^{\text{MO}^x, +}_{A_1^{(2)}} \simeq \text{COHA}^T_{\mathcal{A}_x}$

where $\mathcal{A}_x$ is the abelian category associated to x .

Pictorially:



Remark: These results generalize:

► $\mathbb{Z}_2 \leadsto G \subset SL(2, \mathbb{C})$ finite subgroup

► $\begin{cases} Q_{\text{fin}} = A_1 = \cdot \leadsto Q_{\text{fin}} = \text{finite ADE quiver} \\ \mathfrak{sl}(2) \leadsto \mathfrak{g}_{Q_{\text{fin}}} = \text{simple Lie algebra} \end{cases}$

► $\mathbb{C}^2/\mathbb{Z}_2 \hookleftarrow T^*\mathbb{P}^1 \leadsto \mathbb{C}^2/G \xleftarrow[\pi]{\tilde{\pi}} \tilde{X} \hookleftarrow X$
 (arc from $\mathbb{C}^2/G$ to X labeled π)

► $\mathbb{P}^1 \subset T^*\mathbb{P}^1 \leadsto \tilde{C} := \tilde{\pi}^{-1}(0) \subset \tilde{X}, C := \pi^{-1}(0) \subset X$

Returning back to the summary table:

Surface	$\mathbb{C}^2/\mathbb{Z}_2 \xleftarrow{\text{resolution}} X = T^*\mathbb{P}^1$	
Geometry $r=1$:	$\text{Hilb}^n(\mathbb{C}^2/\mathbb{Z}_2)$	$\text{Hilb}^n(T^*\mathbb{P}^1)$
$r \geq 2$:	$\mathcal{M}_{\mathbb{C}^2/\mathbb{Z}_2}(r)$	$\mathcal{M}_{T^*\mathbb{P}^1}(r)$
Repr. Th. $r=1$:	$\widehat{\text{Sl}}(2)$	$\widehat{\text{Sl}}(2)$
$r \geq 2$:	??	??
Yangians:	$\text{Y}^{\text{MO}}_{A_1^{(1)}}$	$\widehat{\text{Y}}^{\text{MO}}_{A_1^{(2)}}$

This provides a geometric framework to study recent research directions:

- "affinization procedure" in the theory of Yangians (cf. recent works by Feigin, Jimbo, Mukhin, Miura, ...)

- ▶ "gluing procedure" in the theory of vertex algebras
(cf. recent works by Feigin, Gukov, Creutzig, Linshaw,...)
- ▶ Alday-Gaiotto-Tachikawa conjectures for enumerative invariants of $T^*\mathbb{P}^2$