

# Tannakian duality, diagrams and easiness

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"Introduction to quantum groups", 4/6

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# Plan

(1) Tensor categories

(2) Tannakian duality

(3) Diagrams, easiness

(4) Free quantum groups

$\implies$  next lecture: quantum permutations

# Representations

(1) A corepresentation of a Woronowicz algebra  $A$  is a biunitary matrix  $v \in M_n(\mathcal{A})$  satisfying:

- $\Delta(v_{ij}) = \sum_k v_{ik} \otimes v_{kj}$
- $\varepsilon(v_{ij}) = \delta_{ij}$
- $S(v_{ij}) = v_{ji}^*$

(2) Basic example: the fundamental corepresentation  $u$ . In fact, the axioms state that  $u$  must be a faithful corepresentation.

(3) With  $A = C(G)$ , the corepresentations of  $A$  correspond to the FD unitary smooth representations of the quantum group  $G$ .

(4) We have a full Peter-Weyl theory for them, the main result stating that  $\mathcal{A}$  decomposes as an orthogonal direct sum.

# Categories 1/6

Definition. The Tannakian category of a Woronowicz algebra  $(A, u)$  is the collection  $C = (C(k, l))$  of vector spaces

$$C(k, l) = \text{Hom}(u^{\otimes k}, u^{\otimes l})$$

where the corepresentations  $u^{\otimes k}$  with  $k = \circ \bullet \bullet \circ \dots$  colored integer are defined by  $u^{\otimes \circ} = u$ ,  $u^{\otimes \bullet} = \bar{u}$  and multiplicativity.

Remark 1. We already know that  $C$  is a tensor  $*$ -category, the verification of all conditions being elementary.

Remark 2. In fact,  $C$  appears by definition as subcategory of the tensor  $*$ -category  $E(k, l) = \mathcal{L}(H^{\otimes k}, H^{\otimes l})$ , where  $H = \mathbb{C}^N$ .

## Categories 2/6

Our purpose will be that of reconstructing  $(A, u)$  in terms of  $C = (C(k, l))$ . Here is a useful preliminary result:

Theorem. Given a morphism  $\pi : (A, u) \rightarrow (B, v)$  we have

$$\text{Hom}(u^{\otimes k}, u^{\otimes l}) \subset \text{Hom}(v^{\otimes k}, v^{\otimes l})$$

and if these inclusions are all equalities,  $\pi$  is an isomorphism.

Proof. Follows from Peter-Weyl, by contradiction, because each irreducible corepresentation is contained in some  $u^{\otimes k}$ .

## Categories 3/6

In order to exploit the fact that  $u$  is biunitary, we can use:

Theorem. An matrix  $u \in M_N(A)$  is biunitary if and only if

$$R \in \text{Hom}(1, u \otimes \bar{u}) \quad , \quad R \in \text{Hom}(1, \bar{u} \otimes u)$$

$$R^* \in \text{Hom}(u \otimes \bar{u}, 1) \quad , \quad R^* \in \text{Hom}(\bar{u} \otimes u, 1)$$

where  $R : \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^N \otimes \mathbb{C}^N$  is given by  $R(1) = \sum_i e_i \otimes e_i$ .

Proof. This follows from some elementary computations.

## Categories 4/6

Definition. Let  $H$  be a finite dimensional Hilbert space. A tensor category over  $H$  is a collection  $C = (C(k, l))$  of subspaces

$$C(k, l) \subset \mathcal{L}(H^{\otimes k}, H^{\otimes l})$$

satisfying the following conditions:

- (1)  $S, T \in C$  implies  $S \otimes T \in C$ .
- (2) If  $S, T \in C$  are composable, then  $ST \in C$ .
- (3)  $T \in C$  implies  $T^* \in C$ .
- (4) Each  $C(k, k)$  contains the identity operator.
- (5)  $C(\emptyset, \bullet\bullet)$  and  $C(\emptyset, \bullet\circ)$  contain the map  $R : 1 \rightarrow \sum_i e_i \otimes e_i$ .

## Categories 5/6

Theorem. Let  $(A, u)$  be a Woronowicz algebra, with fundamental corepresentation  $u \in M_N(A)$ . The associated Tannakian category

$$C(k, l) = \text{Hom}(u^{\otimes k}, u^{\otimes l})$$

is then a tensor category over the Hilbert space  $H = \mathbb{C}^N$ .

Proof. We already know that axioms (1-4) hold indeed, this being elementary, and (5) is something that we just did, clear too.

## Categories 6/6

Theorem. Given a tensor category  $C = (C(k, l))$ , the following algebra is a Woronowicz algebra:

$$A_C = C(U_N^+) / \left\langle T \in \text{Hom}(u^{\otimes k}, u^{\otimes l}) \mid \forall k, l, \forall T \in C(k, l) \right\rangle$$

In the case where  $C$  comes from a Woronowicz algebra  $(A, \nu)$ , we have a quotient map  $A_C \rightarrow A$ .

Proof. We have indeed a Woronowicz algebra, because the relations  $T \in \text{Hom}(u^{\otimes k}, u^{\otimes l})$  are of "Hopf type", i.e.  $\Delta, \varepsilon, S$  factorize.

The fact that we have a quotient map  $A_C \rightarrow A$  is clear, because the relations defining  $A_C$  are satisfied inside  $A$ .

# Summary

We have so far:

(1) Axioms for  $A$ :  $N \times N$  Woronowicz algebra

(2) Axioms for  $C$ : tensor category over  $\mathbb{C}^N$

(3) Correspondence  $A \rightarrow C$ : set  $C_A = (\text{Hom}(u^{\otimes k}, u^{\otimes l}))_{kl}$

(4) Correspondence  $C \rightarrow A$ : set  $A_C = C(U_N^+) / \langle C \subset C_A \rangle$

$\implies$  we want to prove that we have a bijection  $A \leftrightarrow C$

## Step 1

Theorem. Consider the following conditions:

(1)  $C = C_{A_C}$ , for any Tannakian category  $C$ .

(2)  $A = A_{C_A}$ , for any Woronowicz algebra  $(A, u)$ .

We have then (1)  $\implies$  (2). Also,  $C \subset C_{A_C}$  is automatic.

Proof. We know that we have an arrow as follows:

$$A_{C_A} \rightarrow A$$

On the other hand, assuming (1), with  $C = C_A$  we get:

$$C_A = C_{A_{C_A}}$$

Thus, we can use our quotient map criterion from before, and we get  $A_{C_A} = A$ , as desired. Finally, the last assertion is clear.

## Step 2

Definition. Given a tensor category  $C$  over  $H$ , we set:

$$E_C = \bigoplus_{k,l} C(k,l) \subset \bigoplus_{k,l} B(H^{\otimes k}, H^{\otimes l}) \subset B\left(\bigoplus_k H^{\otimes k}\right)$$

Also, for any  $s \in \mathbb{N}$ , we consider the following truncation:

$$E_C^{(s)} = \bigoplus_{|k|,|l| \leq s} C(k,l) \subset \bigoplus_{|k|,|l| \leq s} B(H^{\otimes k}, H^{\otimes l}) = B\left(\bigoplus_{|k| \leq s} H^{\otimes k}\right)$$

Remark. We obtain in this way certain  $*$ -algebras.

## Step 3

Theorem. For any  $C^*$ -algebra  $B \subset M_n(\mathbb{C})$  we have

$$B = B''$$

where prime denotes the commutant, taken inside  $M_n(\mathbb{C})$ .

Proof. Let us decompose  $B$  as a direct sum of matrix algebras:

$$B = M_{r_1}(\mathbb{C}) \oplus \dots \oplus M_{r_k}(\mathbb{C})$$

The commutant of this algebra is then as follows:

$$B' = \mathbb{C} \oplus \dots \oplus \mathbb{C}$$

By taking once again the commutant we obtain  $B$  itself.

(This is a particular case of von Neumann's bicommutant theorem)

## Step 4

Theorem. Given a category  $C$ , the following are equivalent:

(1)  $C = C_{A_C}$ .

(2)  $E_C = E_{C_{A_C}}$ .

(3)  $E_C^{(s)} = E_{C_{A_C}}^{(s)}$ , for any  $s \in \mathbb{N}$ .

(4)  $E_C^{(s)'} = E_{C_{A_C}}^{(s)'}$ , for any  $s \in \mathbb{N}$ .

In addition,  $\subset, \subset, \subset, \supset$  respectively are automatically satisfied.

Proof. Here (1)  $\iff$  (2) is clear from definitions, (2)  $\iff$  (3) is clear from definitions as well, and (3)  $\iff$  (4) comes from the bicommutant theorem. As for the last assertion, we have indeed  $C \subset C_{A_C}$ , and the other inclusions follow from this.

## Step 5

Theorem. Given a Woronowicz algebra  $(A, u)$ , we have

$$E_{CA}^{(s)} = \text{End} \left( \bigoplus_{|k| \leq s} u^{\otimes k} \right)$$

as subalgebras of  $B(\bigoplus_{|k| \leq s} H^{\otimes k})$ .

Proof. The algebra  $E_{CA}^{(s)}$  appears by definition as follows:

$$E_{CA}^{(s)} = \bigoplus_{|k|, |l| \leq s} \text{Hom}(u^{\otimes k}, u^{\otimes l}) \subset B \left( \bigoplus_{|k| \leq s} H^{\otimes k} \right)$$

But this is precisely the algebra of intertwiners of  $\bigoplus_{|k| \leq s} u^{\otimes k}$ .

## Step 6

Theorem. For any corepresentation  $v \in M_n(A)$ , the map

$$\pi_v : A^* \rightarrow M_n(\mathbb{C}) \quad , \quad \varphi \rightarrow (\varphi(v_{ij}))_{ij}$$

is a representation, having as image  $Im(\pi_v) = End(v)'$ .

Proof. The first assertion is clear, coming from:

$$\begin{aligned} (\pi_v(\varphi * \psi))_{ij} &= (\varphi \otimes \psi)\Delta(v_{ij}) \\ &= \sum_k \varphi(v_{ik})\psi(v_{kj}) \\ &= \sum_k (\pi_v(\varphi))_{ik}(\pi_v(\psi))_{kj} \\ &= (\pi_v(\varphi)\pi_v(\psi))_{ij} \end{aligned}$$

As for the second assertion, this comes by double inclusion.

## Conclusion

$\implies$  We want to prove Tannakian duality,  $A \leftrightarrow C$ . Passed a few trivialities, this amounts in proving that:

$$C_{A_C} \subset C$$

$\implies$  By using the  $C \rightarrow E_C$  construction, truncated at  $s \in \mathbb{N}$ , and then a bicommutant trick, this is the same as proving that:

$$E_C^{(s)'} \subset E_{C_{A_C}}^{(s)'}$$

$\implies$  We know that for any  $A$  we have  $E_{C_A}^{(s)'} = \text{Im}(\pi_v)$ , where

$$v = \bigoplus_{|k| \leq s} u^{\otimes k}$$

and where  $\pi_v : A^* \rightarrow M_n(\mathbb{C})$  is given by  $\varphi \rightarrow (\varphi(v_{ij}))_{ij}$ .

# Modelling 1/4

In order to model  $A_C$ , and to fine-tune the results that we have, consider the following pair of dual vector spaces:

$$F = \bigoplus_k B(H^{\otimes k}) \quad , \quad F^* = \bigoplus_k B(H^{\otimes k})^*$$

Let  $f_{ij}, f_{ij}^* \in F^*$  be the standard generators of  $B(H)^*, B(\bar{H})^*$ .

- (1)  $F^*$  is a  $*$ -algebra, with multiplication  $\otimes$  and involution  $f_{ij} \leftrightarrow f_{ij}^*$ .
- (2)  $F^*$  is a  $*$ -bialgebra, with  $\Delta(f_{ij}) = \sum_k f_{ik} \otimes f_{kj}$  and  $\varepsilon(f_{ij}) = \delta_{ij}$ .
- (3) We have a  $*$ -bialgebra isomorphism  $\langle u_{ij} \rangle \simeq F^*$ ,  $u_{ij} \rightarrow f_{ij}$ .

## Modelling 2/4

Theorem. The smooth part of the algebra  $A_C$  is given by

$$\mathcal{A}_C \simeq F^*/J$$

where  $J \subset F^*$  is the ideal coming from the following relations,

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{p_1, \dots, p_k} T_{i_1 \dots i_l, p_1 \dots p_k} f_{p_1 j_1} \otimes \dots \otimes f_{p_k j_k} \\ &= \sum_{q_1, \dots, q_l} T_{q_1 \dots q_l, j_1 \dots j_k} f_{i_1 q_1} \otimes \dots \otimes f_{i_l q_l} \quad , \quad \forall i, j \end{aligned}$$

one for each pair of colored integers  $k, l$ , and each  $T \in C(k, l)$ .

Proof. This is indeed clear from definitions.

## Modelling 3/4

Theorem. The linear space  $\mathcal{A}_C^*$  is given by the formula

$$\mathcal{A}_C^* = \left\{ a \in F \mid Ta_k = a_l T, \forall T \in C(k, l) \right\}$$

and its representation constructed before, namely

$$\pi_v : \mathcal{A}_C^* \rightarrow B(\oplus_{|k| \leq s} H^{\otimes k})$$

appears diagonally, by truncating,  $\pi_v : a \rightarrow (a_k)_{kk}$ .

Proof. Once again, this an elementary computation.

## Modelling 4/4

In order to conclude, consider the following spaces:

$$F_s = \bigoplus_{|k| \leq s} B(H^{\otimes k}) \quad , \quad F_s^* = \bigoplus_{|k| \leq s} B(H^{\otimes k})^*$$

We denote by  $a \rightarrow a_s$  the truncation  $F \rightarrow F_s$ . We have:

(1)  $E_C^{(s)'} \subset F_s$ .

(2)  $E_C' \subset F$ .

(3)  $\mathcal{A}_C^* = E_C'$ .

(4)  $Im(\pi_v) = (E_C')_s$ .

Indeed, all this follows from the above interpretation of  $\mathcal{A}_C^*$ .

# Duality

Theorem. We have a Tannakian duality correspondence

$$A \leftrightarrow C$$

between Woronowicz algebras and tensor categories, given by

$$C_A = (\text{Hom}(u^{\otimes k}, u^{\otimes l}))_{kl}$$

in one sense, from algebras to categories, and by

$$A_C = C(U_N^+) / \langle C \subset C_A \rangle$$

in the other sense, from categories to algebras.

## Proof 1/2

We have to prove that, for any category  $C$ , and any  $s \in \mathbb{N}$ :

$$E_C^{(s)'} = (E'_C)_s$$

By taking duals, this is the same as proving that:

$$\left\{ f \in F_s^* \mid f|_{(E'_C)_s} = 0 \right\} = \left\{ f \in F_s^* \mid f|_{E_C^{(s)'}} = 0 \right\}$$

We use  $\mathcal{A}_C^* = E'_C$ . Since we have  $\mathcal{A}_C = F^*/J$ , we conclude that the ideal  $J \subset F^*$  previously constructed is given by:

$$J = \left\{ f \in F^* \mid f|_{E'_C} = 0 \right\}$$

## Proof 2/2

The point now is that we have, for any  $s \in \mathbb{N}$ :

$$J \cap F_s^* = \left\{ f \in F_s^* \mid f|_{E_C^{(s)'}} = 0 \right\}$$

On the other hand, we have as well:

$$\begin{aligned} J \cap F_s^* &= \left\{ f \in F^* \mid f|_{E_C'} = 0 \right\} \cap F_s^* \\ &= \left\{ f \in F_s^* \mid f|_{E_C'} = 0 \right\} \\ &= \left\{ f \in F_s^* \mid f|_{(E_C')_s} = 0 \right\} \end{aligned}$$

Thus, we are led to the equality that we wanted to prove.

# Applications

Many applications, and to begin with, we have as plan:

(1) The biggest quantum group, namely  $U_N^+$ , must correspond to the smallest tensor category, namely  $\langle R \rangle$ .

(2) It is well-known that  $R : 1 \rightarrow \sum_i e_i \otimes e_i$  can be pictured as a semicircle  $\cap$ , so we have to get into diagrams.

(3) We will reach in this way to a notion of "easy quantum group", covering  $O_N, O_N^+, U_N, U_N^+$ , and many other examples.

(4) As a main application, we will solve the problem of computing the law of the main character for  $O_N, O_N^+, U_N, U_N^+$ .

# Easiness 1/3

Let  $P(k, l)$  be the set of partitions between an upper colored integer  $k$ , and a lower colored integer  $l$ .

Definition. A collection of subsets  $D(k, l) \subset P(k, l)$  is called a category of partitions when it satisfies:

- (1) Stability under the horizontal concatenation,  $(\pi, \sigma) \rightarrow [\pi\sigma]$ .
- (2) Stability under vertical concatenation  $(\pi, \sigma) \rightarrow \left[ \begin{smallmatrix} \sigma \\ \pi \end{smallmatrix} \right]$  (matching).
- (3) Stability under the upside-down turning  $*$ , with  $\circ \leftrightarrow \bullet$ .
- (4) Each  $P(k, k)$  contains the identity partition  $|| \dots ||$ .
- (5) Both  $P(\emptyset, \circ\bullet)$  and  $P(\emptyset, \bullet\circ)$  contain the semicircle  $\cap$ .

## Easiness 2/3

Definition. A closed subgroup  $G \subset U_N^+$  is called easy when

$$\text{Hom}(u^{\otimes k}, u^{\otimes l}) = \text{span} \left( T_\pi \mid \pi \in D(k, l) \right)$$

for a certain category of partitions  $D \subset P$ , where

$$T_\pi(e_{i_1} \otimes \dots \otimes e_{i_k}) = \sum_{j_1 \dots j_l} \delta_\pi \begin{pmatrix} i_1 & \dots & i_k \\ j_1 & \dots & j_l \end{pmatrix} e_{j_1} \otimes \dots \otimes e_{j_l}$$

with  $\delta_\pi \in \{0, 1\}$  depending on whether the indices fit or not.

# Easiness 3/3

Theorem. The basic unitary quantum groups, namely

$$\begin{array}{ccc} U_N & \longrightarrow & U_N^+ \\ \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ O_N & \longrightarrow & O_N^+ \end{array}$$

are all easy, coming from the following categories of pairings:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{P}_2 & \longleftarrow & \mathcal{NC}_2 \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ P_2 & \longleftarrow & NC_2 \end{array}$$

Proof. This comes from Tannaka (classical case: Brauer).

# Applications 1/3

Theorem. We have the following free complexification formula,

$$\tilde{O}_N^+ = U_N^+$$

and for projective versions we have the following isomorphism,

$$PO_N^+ = PU_N^+$$

by identifying as usual the full and reduced versions.

Proof. We know that we have  $\tilde{O}_N^+ \subset U_N^+$ , and since the Tannakian categories coincide, this is an isomorphism.

## Applications 2/3

Theorem. The moments of the main characters for

$$\begin{array}{ccc} U_N & \longrightarrow & U_N^+ \\ \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ O_N & \longrightarrow & O_N^+ \end{array}$$

are, in the  $N \rightarrow \infty$  limit, as follows:

- (1) On the bottom, with  $k = 2l$ , we have  $(2l)!!$  and  $\frac{1}{l+1} \binom{2l}{l}$ .
- (2) On top we have similar numbers, with  $k$  being now colored.

Proof. This follows by counting the pairings, with  $N \rightarrow \infty$  being needed as for  $\{T_\pi\}$  to be linearly independent.

# Applications 3/3

Theorem. The asymptotic laws of the main characters for

$$\begin{array}{ccc} U_N & \longrightarrow & U_N^+ \\ \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ O_N & \longrightarrow & O_N^+ \end{array}$$

are the basic measures in probability and free probability:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \textit{Complex Gaussian} & \longrightarrow & \textit{Voiculescu circular} \\ \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ \textit{Real Gaussian} & \longrightarrow & \textit{Wigner semicircular} \end{array}$$

Proof. Calculus if we guess the answer, Stieltjes inversion otherwise.

# Conclusion

We have a theory of easy quantum groups, featuring:

- (1) Simple axioms: " $C$  must come from partitions".
- (2) The quantum groups  $O_N, O_N^+, U_N, U_N^+$  as main examples.
- (3) Many other potential examples, e.g. coming from  $P, NC$ .
- (4) Interesting connections with probability/free probability.

⇒ next lecture: quantum permutations