# Infinite Dynkin diagrams and monoidal actions in Lie-theoretic context

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XLII Workshop on Geometric Methods in Physics, Bialystok

# Dynkin diagrams



# Some classifications using Dynkin diagrams

### Classifications on the nose:

- ▶ irreducible finite root systems,
- simple complex finite dimensional Lie algebras,
- simple algebraic groups,
- simply connected complex Lie groups which are simple modulo centers,
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## Simply laced Dynkin diagrams



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- underlying graphs for quivers of finite representation type (Gabriel),
- simple surface singularities (Arnol'd),
- simple finite graphs for which the spectral radius of the adjacency matrix is < 2 (Godsil, McKay),</p>
- minimal conformal invariant theories (Cappelli, Itzykson, Zuber),
- simple transitive 2-representations of Soergel bimodules with middle apex in finite dihedral types (Mackaay, Tubbenhauer).

### **Closely related** classification:

▶ "Finite subgroups" of U<sub>q</sub>(sl(2)) (Kirillov-Ostrik) (the types D<sub>2n+1</sub> and E<sub>7</sub> are missing).

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**Note**: it is generated (in some weak sense) by the natural module  $V := \mathbb{C}^2$ , under the monoidal and additive structures.

Let G be a finite subgroup of  $SL(2, \mathbb{C})$ .

**Then**  $\mathscr{C}$  acts on *G*-mod naturally (using restriction from  $SL(2,\mathbb{C})$  to *G*).

**Also**, *G*-mod has finitely many indecomposables (=simples), say  $X_1, X_2, \ldots, X_k$ .

**Define** the action matrix:  $([V \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} X_i : X_j])_{i,j=1}^k$ .

This is just a bookkeeping tool that records the multiplicities.

**As it turns out, these matrices are** exactly the adjacency matrices for extended Dynkin diagrams of type *ADE*.

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# Extended simply laced Dynkin diagrams



**Note:** These are in bijection with the usual simply laced Dynkin diagrams.

# **Recall**: $\mathscr{C}$ be the monoidal category of finite dimensional $SL(2, \mathbb{C})$ -modules.

If G is a finite subgroup of  $SL(2, \mathbb{C})$ , then G-mod has the following properties:

- ▶ it is an *C*-module category;
- it is semi-simple (with finite dimensional morphism spaces);
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All  $\mathscr C$ -module categories with the above properties can be classified:

Theorem. (Etingof-Ostrik)

- ► a finite set *I*;
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**Remark.** This theorem implies that there are a lot of such  $\mathscr{C}$ -module categories.

**Example.** Take  $I = \{i\}$  to be a singleton and  $V_{ii}$  of dimension two.

Let our form have the matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$$
.

**Non-degeneracy** condition:  $ad - bc \neq 0$ .

**Trace equation**:  $\frac{1}{ad-bc}(2ad-b^2-c^2)=-2$ .

Equivalently:  $4ad = (b + c)^2$ .

**Put together**:  $4(ad - bc) = (b - c)^2 \neq 0$ .

**Remark.** This theorem implies that there are a lot of such  $\mathscr{C}$ -module categories.

**Example.** Take  $I = \{i\}$  to be a singleton and  $V_{ii}$  of dimension two.

Let our form have the matrix 
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#### Let $\mathscr{D}$ be the monoidal category of finite dimensional $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -modules.

**Note**:  $\mathscr{C}$  and  $\mathscr{D}$  are monoidally equivalent.

**Question**: What kind of  $\mathscr{D}$ -module categories appear naturally in (=can be constructed intrinsically using)  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -Mod?

**For example**: start with an  $\mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -module *N*.

**Consider**  $\mathscr{D} N := \{ V \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} N : V \in \mathscr{D} \}.$ 

**Take** its additive closure  $add(\mathcal{D}N)$ , i.e. add summands.

**Then**  $\mathscr{D}$  acts on  $\operatorname{add}(\mathscr{D} N)$  in the obvious way (by acting on the "V" part of the expression and using additivity).

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# Let $\mathscr{M}$ be a "nice" $\mathscr{D}$ -module category with indecomposables $\{M_i : i \in I\}.$

**Here** "nice" means additive, idempotent split with finite dimensional morphism spaces.

**Recall** that  $\mathscr{D}$  is generated, as a monoidal category, by the 2-dimensional natural  $\mathfrak{sl}_2$ -module  $\mathbb{C}^2$ .

**Define** the action matrix M as  $([\mathbb{C}^2(M_j) : M_i])_{i,j \in I}$ .

Note: this is an infinite matrix, in general.

This matrix captures the combinatorial shadow of the action.

As the entries are non-negative integers, we an visualize the matrix as an oriented graph, call it the action graph:

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# Example

#### **Example.** Take $N = \mathbb{C}$ to be the trivial $\mathfrak{sl}_2$ -module.

Then  $\mathcal{M} = \operatorname{add}(\mathcal{D} N) = \mathcal{D}$ .

**Indecomposables**:  $L_0, L_1, L_2, ...$  (simple fin.dim  $\mathfrak{sl}_2$ -modules), where  $L_i$  has dimension i + 1.

**Action:**  $\mathbb{C}^2 \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} L_0 = L_1$  and  $\mathbb{C}^2 \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} L_i = L_{i+1} \oplus L_{i-1}$ , for i > 0.



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Let N be (any) simple  $\mathfrak{sl}_2$ -module.

**Then** combinatorics of a simple  $\mathscr{D}$ -invariant subquotient of  $\operatorname{add}(\mathscr{D} \cdot N)$  is given by one of the following action graphs:



**Note:** These are four out of six infinite Dynkin diagrams.

The missing ones:

**Remark.** The  $D_{\infty}$  diagram is realizable in a similar way using  $\mathfrak{sl}_2 \ltimes L_4$ -modules.

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**Observation 2.** In type  $A_{\infty}$ , the simple  $\mathscr{D}$ -module category is unique, up to equivalence.

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# 3D-generalizations?

**A. Ocneanu, 2000**: Classification of subgroups of quantum SU(N). Contemp. Math., 294 American Mathematical Society, Providence, RI, 2002, 133–159.

The SU(3)-example from this paper:



# Another example

**J.-B. Zuber, 1998**: Generalized Dynkin diagrams and root systems and their folding. Progr. Math., 160 Birkhäuser Boston, Inc., Boston, MA, 1998, 453–493.

Ax example from this paper:



Fig. 6: The folding of ADE Dynkin diagrams. Classes  $T_i$  encompass vertices on the same vertical.

#### Let ${\mathscr B}$ be the monoidal category of finite dimensional $\mathfrak{sl}_3({\mathbb C})\text{-modules}.$

Let N be a simple  $\mathfrak{sl}_3(\mathbb{C})$ -module.

**Consider**  $\mathscr{B}$   $N := \{ V \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} N : V \in \mathscr{B} \}.$ 

**Take** its additive closure  $\operatorname{add}(\mathscr{B} N)$ .

**Then**  $add(\mathcal{B} N)$  is a  $\mathcal{B}$ -module category.

**The** category  $add(\mathscr{B} N)$  is additive, idempotent split, with finite dimensional morphism and countably many indecomposable objects.

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# Combinatorics

The category  $\mathscr{B}$  is generated, in a very weak sense, by the natural  $\mathfrak{sl}_3(\mathbb{C})$ -module  $\mathbb{C}^3$ .

**Very weak sense**: every object of  $\mathscr{B}$  is isomorphic to a summand of  $(\mathbb{C}^3)^{\otimes k}$ , for some k.

**However**, the class of  $\mathbb{C}^3$  does not generate the split Grothendieck ring of  $\mathscr{B}$ .

In fact, the latter is generated by the classes of  $\mathbb{C}^3$  and its dual  $(\mathbb{C}^3)^*$ .

**So**, combinatorics is completely determined by the combinatorics of the action of these two objects.

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#### Theorem. (M.-Zhu, 2025)

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## **Remark 1.** It is natural to view these graphs as 3*D*-analogues of infinite Dynkin diagrams.

**Remark 2.** The combinatorics of the action of  $(\mathbb{C}^3)^*$  is described by similar eight graphs.

**Remark 3.** The regular  $\mathscr{B}$ -module category  $\mathscr{B}\mathscr{B}$  is unique, up to isomorphism, for its combinatorics.

**Remark 4.** If the graph does not have double oriented arrows (this holds for four out of eight graphs), then the underlying category of the corresponding *B*-module category is semi-simple.

**Remark 5.** We expect that infinitely many pairwise non-equivalent simples  $\mathscr{B}$ -module categories appear, but we do not know how to prove that. In the case of  $\mathfrak{sl}_2$  the corresponding result was established using very particular theorem of Dixmier about pairwise non-isomorphism of certain primitive quotients of  $U(\mathfrak{sl}_2)$ .

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It is natural to expect that, for a fixed g, there are only finitely many corresponding combinatorial pictures. Not very clear how to prove this and, in particular, which discrete invariant(s) index(es) the answer.

**Speculation 2.** Similarly to the idea of the classical McKay correspondence, it would be interesting to understand the combinatorics of the action of g-fdmod on module categories arising from Lie subalgebras of g.

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**Paper 1.** V. M., Xiaoyu Zhu. Infinite rank module categories over finite dimensional *sl*<sub>2</sub>-modules in Lie-algebraic context. Preprint arXiv:2405.19894.

**Paper 2.** V. M., Xiaoyu Zhu. Combinatorics of infinite rank module categories over finite dimensional  $\mathfrak{sl}_3$ -modules in Lie-algebraic context. Preprint arXiv:2501.00291.

# THANK YOU!!!

**Check out:** Uppsala Algebra on YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPWnhR29VHTAk7rZUEDQdDQ