

JAN/2008/TUE

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① We continue with our discussion of Hall algebras of abelian categories, obtained via de-categorifying a tri-span — alternately, categorifying Hall algebras leads to tri-spans (among other things).

We'll focus on the example we started to look at last time — that of  $\text{Rep}(A_2)$ .  
...→.

② In some sense, Hall algebras arise out of treating the "twisted sum" / extension (of objects in an abelian category) as an "operation". But we're trying to make it an operation using the tool called a "span".  
(Spans aren't maps, but, "twisted" maps, to use the same analogy.)

③ From last time — we ended by listing the indecomposable reps of  $(A_2)$  over a fixed arbitrary field  $F$ . There are

$$0 \xrightarrow{\circ} F, \quad F \xrightarrow{1} F, \quad F \xrightarrow{0} 0$$

Call these  $\boxed{A}$   $\boxed{C}$   $\boxed{B}$ , say.

All fin. dim  $A_2$ -reps are finite direct sums of  $A, B, C$ .  
eg:  $[F \xrightarrow{0} F] = A \oplus B$

④ Then the abelian category  $\boxed{\text{F.D. Rep}(A_2)}$  is NOT semisimple, eg

$$0 \rightarrow A \rightarrow C \rightarrow B \rightarrow 0$$

Remark? Is it  $\leftarrow$  or  $0 \rightarrow B \rightarrow C \rightarrow A \rightarrow 0$ ?

Note that in the latter case, we need  $F \rightarrow 0 \rightarrow F \rightarrow F$  with  $\downarrow 0 \quad \downarrow 1$  and  $0 \rightarrow F$

But to be equal / commute,  $? = 0$ .

But then this is NOT injective, unlike the first term of a short exact sequence!

So, it's not  $0 \rightarrow B \rightarrow C \rightarrow A \rightarrow 0$ , and in fact,

$0 \rightarrow A \rightarrow C \rightarrow B \rightarrow 0$  does work.

(e) Note: Thus,  $C$  is not irreducible.

But,  $A$  &  $B$  are irreducible — in fact,  $A$  &  $B$  are the only (for dim.)  $A_2$ -irreps.

## 2) Hall algebra Calculations

Note that  $\text{Hall}(A) := H_0(\text{underlying groupoid of } A)$   
 $= H_0(A_0)$

(b) Now we focus on one specific example of  $\text{FD Rep}(A_2) = \tilde{A}$

But every object in  $\tilde{A}$  is of  $\cong$  to  $n_1 A \oplus n_2 B \oplus n_3 C$   
 and  $(n_1, n_2, n_3) \leftrightarrow$  1-1 corresp. with isoclasses.

So,  $H_0(\tilde{A}) \cong \mathbb{R}[X, Y, Z]$  as vector spaces.

Question What is the mult. in  $H_0(\tilde{A})$ ? Clearly, it can't be

Commutative because it's NOT  $0 \rightarrow B \rightarrow C \rightarrow A \rightarrow 0$

but it is  $0 \rightarrow A \rightarrow C \rightarrow B \rightarrow 0$  !

So, what is  $H_0(\tilde{A})$  as an algebra?

© Well  $A_2$  is also a Dynkin diagram (connected)  $\rightarrow$  hence it gives a simple ~~is~~ (split) Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{sl}_3$ .

It turns out that  $H_0(\tilde{A})$  is suspiciously similar to

$$U_q(\mathfrak{h}^+) \cong U_q(\mathfrak{sl}_3), \text{ where } \mathfrak{sl}_3 = \mathfrak{h}^+ \oplus \mathfrak{h} \oplus \mathfrak{h}^-.$$

d) Let's now do an explicit calculation. Let's compute  $A \cdot B$ .

$$(-1, 0, 0) \cdot (0, 1, 0)$$

Now there's the  $\text{Ext}^1$ -group  $\text{Ext}^1(B, A)$  which is an  $F$ -vector space. So we should be looking at a linear combination of all possible elements of  $\text{Ext}^1(B, A)$ .

However, these are all isomorphic to either  $A \oplus B$  or to  $C$ .

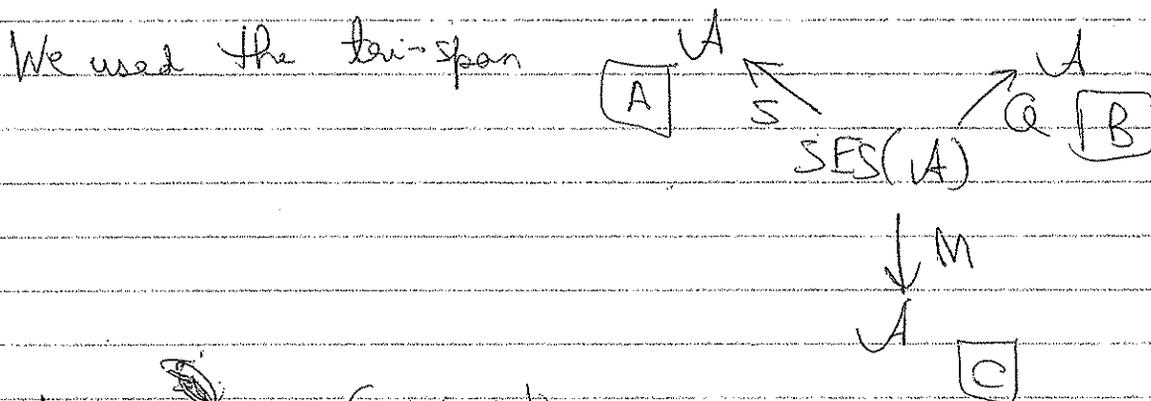
(But the maps are different.)

$$\text{So we have } (-1, 0, 0) \cdot (0, 1, 0) = ?(0, 0, 1) + ??(0, 1, 0)$$

But  $?$  would come from the contributions from every nontrivial/non-split extension.

So to make everything proper, we need to work only over a finite field  $\mathbb{F}_q$ .

② Recall our definition of multiplication in the Hall algebra.  
 (There are standard texts on this topic; of course, that we Ext<sup>1</sup> to give/define the product etc.)



We'll continue (and finish!) this computation next time.

③ Brief, informal remarks on why mult. in  $V = \text{Ho}(\mathcal{A}_0)$  is associative: we want

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 V \otimes V \otimes V & \xrightarrow{M \otimes 1} & V \otimes V \\
 1 \otimes M \downarrow & \circlearrowleft & \downarrow M \\
 V \otimes V & \xrightarrow{M} & V
 \end{array}$$

to commute. In our setting,  $M$  is a tri-span.