

D. Bar-Natan. On Khovanov's categorification of the Jones polynomial.

① Cube of resolutions

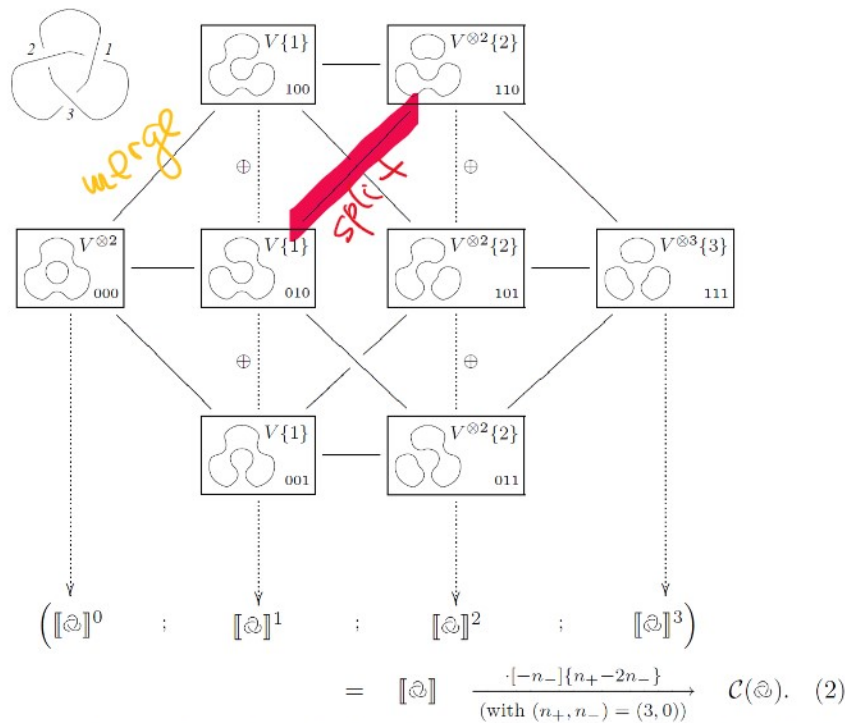
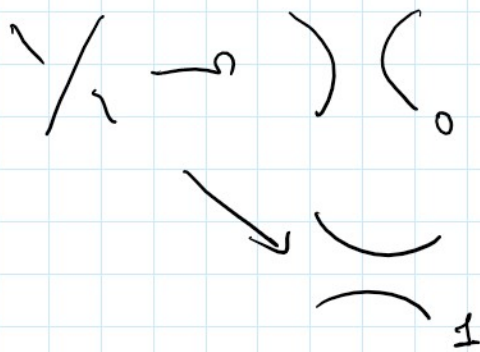


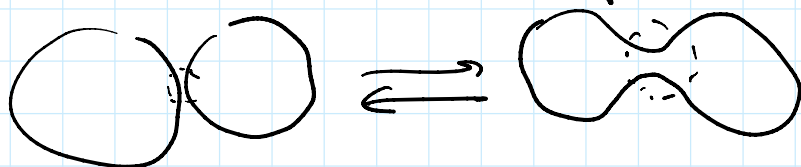
Diagram with r crossings $\Rightarrow 2^r$ resolutions
 = vertices of r -dimensional cube 2^r

0 = vertices of r -dimensional cube $\{0, 1\}^r$

Vertices of the cube of resolutions
 \Rightarrow collection of disjoint circles.

Edges: swap one 0 with 1
keep all other 0 's and 1 's unchanged.

That is, change the resolution of one crossing from 0 to 1 , keep the rest unchanged.



Either merge two circles into 1
or split a circle into 2.

② Algebra $A = \mathbb{Q}[x]/(x^2)$

A is a two dimensional algebra
with basis $1, x$ and multiplication

$$m: A \otimes A \longrightarrow A$$

basis in $A \otimes A$	}	$1 \otimes 1 \longrightarrow 1$
		$x \otimes 1 \longrightarrow x$
		$1 \otimes x \longrightarrow x$
		$x \otimes x \longrightarrow 0 (= x^2)$

$$"A^{\otimes m}" \quad \left(\begin{array}{l} \text{...} \\ x \otimes x \longrightarrow \tilde{0} (= x^2) \end{array} \right)$$

Comultiplication:

$$\Delta: A \longrightarrow A \otimes A$$

$$1 \longrightarrow 1 \otimes x + x \otimes 1$$

$$x \longrightarrow x \otimes x$$

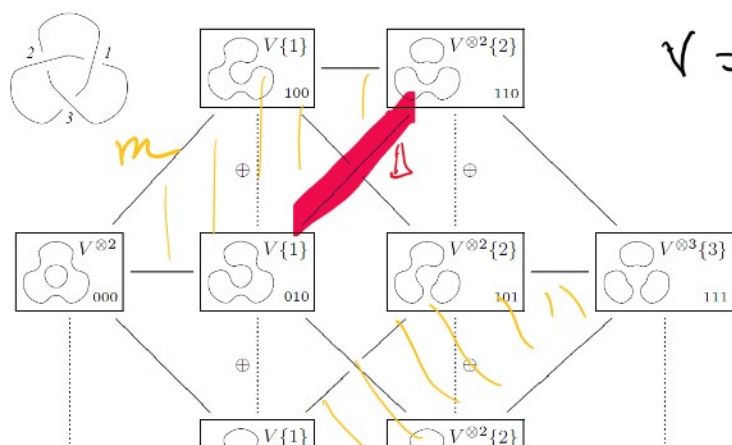
Rank A has a nondegenerate bilinear form, we can use it to identify $A \cong A^*$
 $m: A \otimes A \longrightarrow A$ $m^*: A^* \longrightarrow A^* \otimes A^*$ same as Δ .

$$(1, x) = (x, 1) = 1 \quad (1, 1) = (x, x) = 0$$

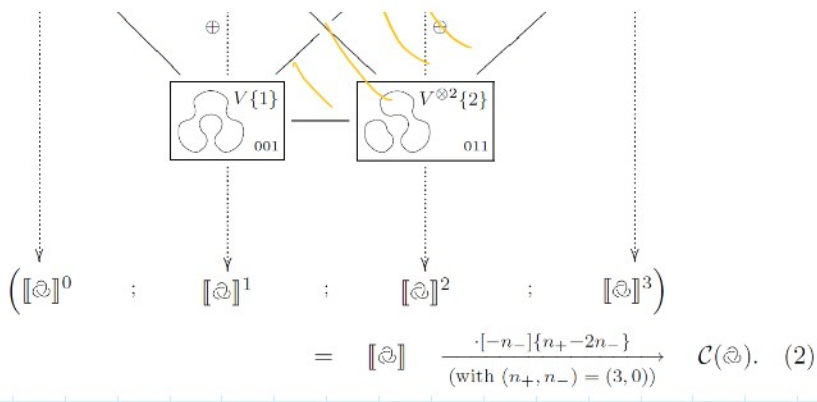
$$(a, b) = \text{coef. at } x \text{ of } a \cdot b.$$

(3) Key idea: associate $A^{\otimes m}$ to a resolution of our link with m circles.

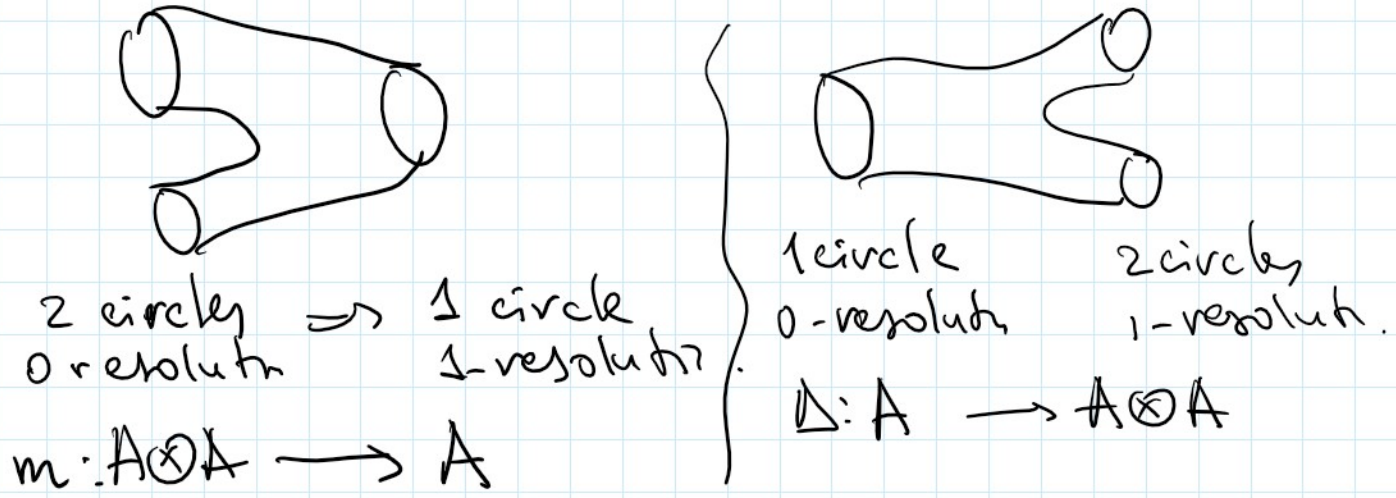
Vertices $\Rightarrow A^{\otimes m}$



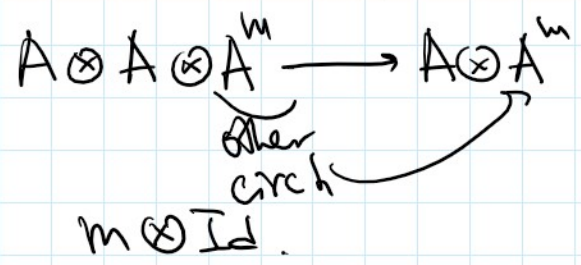
$V = \text{our } A$



Edges \Rightarrow merge / split 2 circles

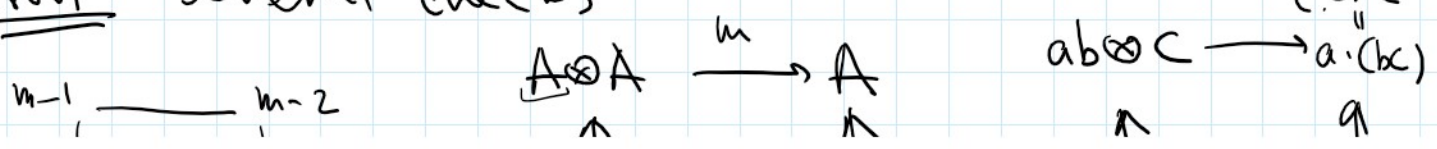


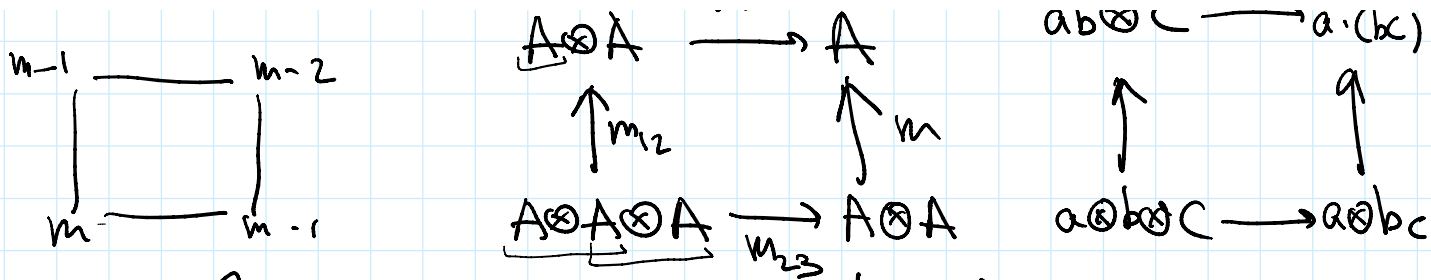
Edges \Rightarrow linear maps between spaces at vertices.



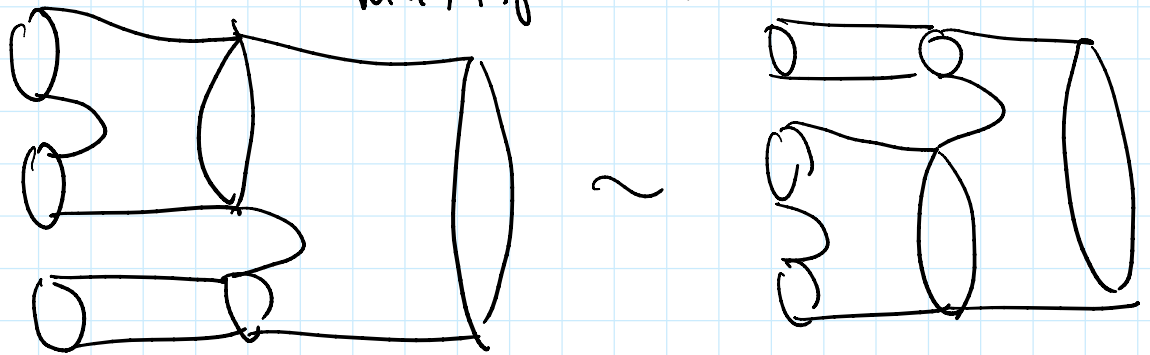
Lemma: All 2-dimensional faces commute.

Proof: Several checks

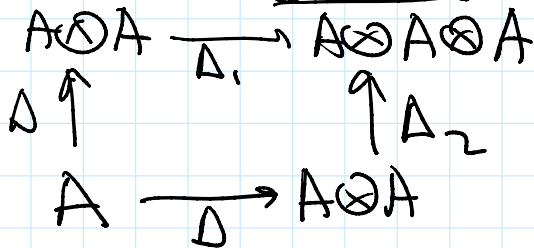
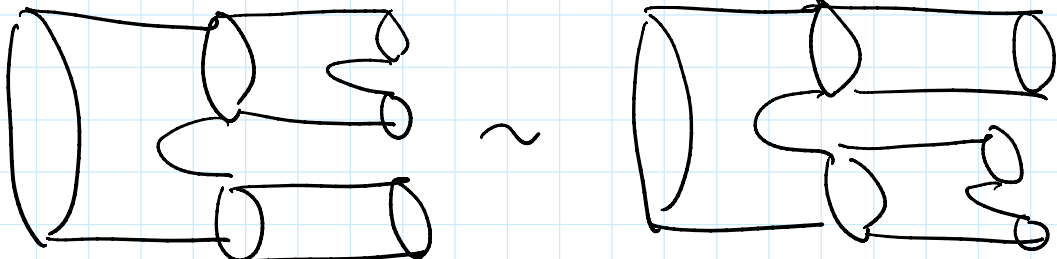




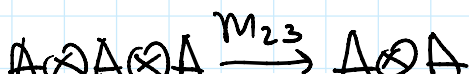
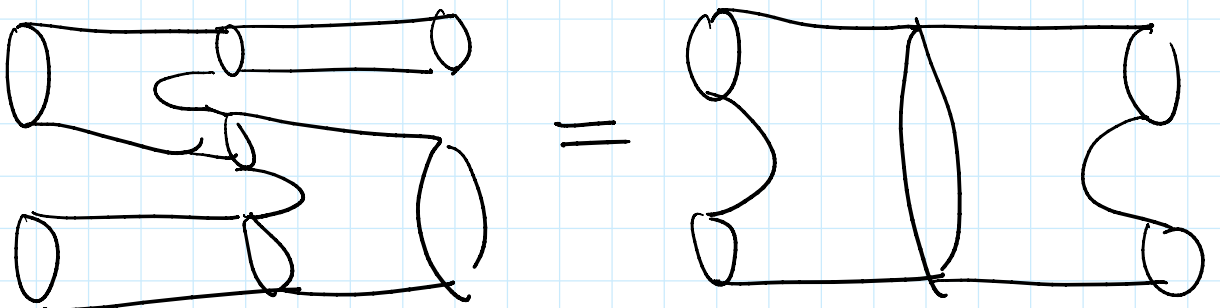
This is associativity of multiplication!



Coassociativity



Frobenius relation



$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 A \otimes A \otimes A & \xrightarrow{m_{23}} & A \otimes A \\
 \Delta \uparrow & & \uparrow \Delta \\
 A \otimes A & \xrightarrow{m} & A
 \end{array}$$

commutative diagram.

(this is a check)

Works for our choice of m, Δ . (Exercise).

Remark We can look at "1+1 dim TQFT"

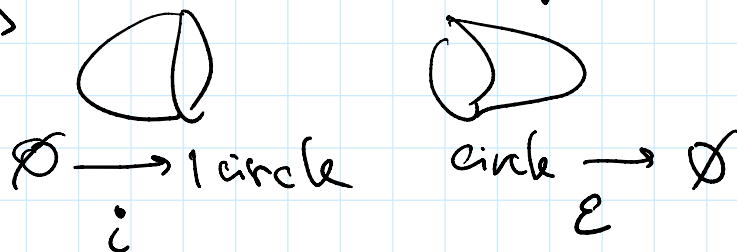
Objects = collections of circles

Maps = cobordisms between them / isotopy.

The above relations generate all isotopy.

Need two more maps

+ some relations for those.

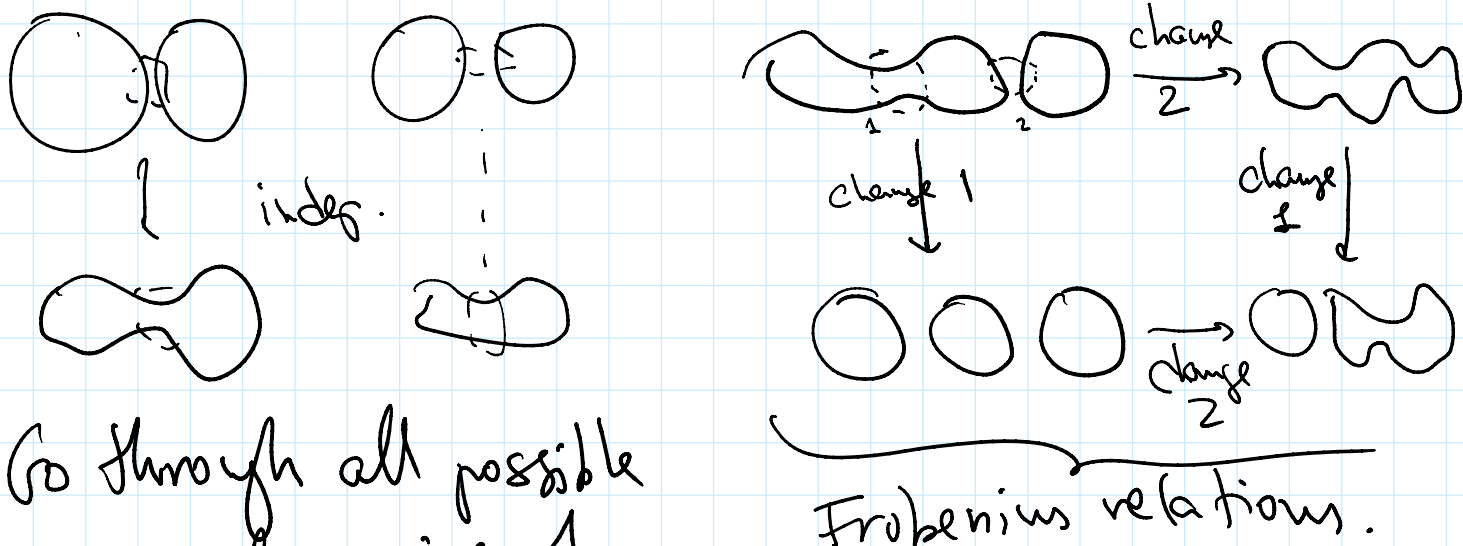


An algebra A with $m: A \otimes A \rightarrow A$, $\Delta: A \rightarrow A \otimes A$ is called a Frobenius algebra, if it is commutative, cocommutative, assoc., coassoc.

Frobenius relation, $i: \mathbb{Q} \rightarrow A$ unit $1 \rightarrow 1$
 $\epsilon: A \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$ counit $1 \rightarrow 0$
 $x \rightarrow 1$

Remark There are lots of Frobenius algebras.

2d faces of the cube = pairs of crossings.



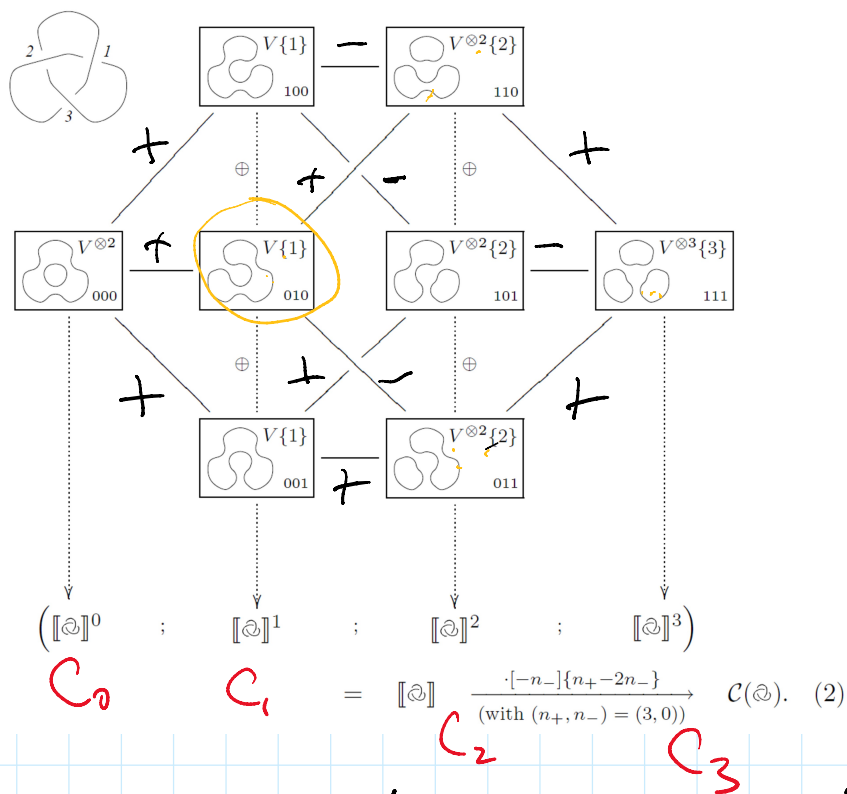
Go through all possible cases for pairs of resolutions \Rightarrow easy commutation, or assoc/coass. or Frobenius relation.

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(H) Chevaler complex:

$$\rightarrow C_i \xrightarrow{d} C_{i+1} \xrightarrow{d} C_{i+2} \rightarrow \dots$$

$C_i = \bigoplus$ (all vector spaces at vertices v with $|v| = i$)
 that is, v has i ones.
 $n-i$ zeroes.



$d =$ sum of edge maps with signs

edge changes some 0 to 1
 $\text{sign} = (-1)^{\#1 \text{ before this } 0}$

In each 2d square we have odd number of minuses.

$\Rightarrow d^2 = 0$

Def Khovanov homology of L
 $=$ homology of this chain complex

Thm (Khovanov) This is actually

Thm (Khovanov) This is actually a topological link invariant, does not depend on a diagram.

Proof Prove it does not change under Reidemeister moves.

Homology is actually bigraded:

- Homological grading = $|v|$ number of ones (up to overall shift).
- q -grading (or quantum):
use grading on A

$$\deg_q(1) = 0 \quad \deg_q(x) = 2$$

This defines grading on $A^{\otimes m}$

$$\deg_q(a \otimes b \otimes c) = \deg_q(a) + \deg_q(b) + \deg_q(c)$$

$$m: A \otimes A \rightarrow A$$

preserves the grading.

$$\Delta: A \rightarrow A \otimes A$$

changes this grading by 2

$$0 \quad 1 \rightarrow \cancel{1 \otimes x} + x \otimes 1 \quad 2$$

$$2 \quad x \rightarrow x \otimes x \quad "$$

$$2 \quad X \longrightarrow X \otimes X \quad 4$$

One can adjust this grading by $|v|$ and # circles such that the differential d preserves q -grading.

\Rightarrow all homologies are bigraded by homological & q -grading.

$H_{i,j}$ = homology in hom. degree i
quantum degree j

C_{ij} = chain groups \longrightarrow

Observe: $\sum (-1)^i \dim H_{ij} q^j =$

$$= \sum (-1)^i \dim C_{ij} q^j$$

can compute!

$$= \sum_{\text{vertices}} (-1)^{|v|} (\text{graded dimension of } A^{\otimes m}) \cdot q^{\dots}$$

$$= \sum_{\text{vertices}} (-1)^{|v|} (1 + q^2)^m \cdot q^{\dots}$$

= Jones polynomial of L .

— Jones $\neq 0$ — — —

Jones / Kauffman: take same cube
of resolutions, sum $(-1)^{|v|} \cdot (q + q^{-1})^m$ over vertices.

Result = Jones poly up to a factor.

Thm (Khovanov) $\sum (-1)^i \dim H_i \cdot q^j$ $\left[\begin{array}{l} \text{graded} \\ \text{Euler} \\ \text{character} \end{array} \right]$
Jones polynomial