**Definition** (Traced monoidal category). A symmetric monoidal category  $\langle \mathbf{C}, \otimes, \{\bullet\}, \sigma \rangle$  is said to be *traced* if equipped with a family of functions

$$\operatorname{Tr}_{A,B}^X : \mathbf{C}(A \otimes X, B \otimes X) \to \mathbf{C}(A,B),$$

satisfying the following axioms:

1. Vanishing: For all morphisms  $f: A \rightarrow B$  in  $\mathbb{C}$ ,

$$\operatorname{Tr}_{A,B}^{1}(f) = f.$$

Furthermore, for all morphisms  $f: A \otimes X \otimes Y \to B \otimes X \otimes Y$  in **C**:

$$\operatorname{Tr}_{A,B}^{X\otimes Y}(f) = \operatorname{Tr}_{A,B}^{X}\left(\operatorname{Tr}_{A\otimes X,B\otimes X}^{Y}(f)\right).$$

2. Superposing: For all morphisms  $f: A \otimes X \to B \otimes X$  in **C**:

$$\operatorname{Tr}_{C\otimes A,C\otimes B}^X(\operatorname{id}_C\otimes f)=\operatorname{id}_C\otimes\operatorname{Tr}_{A,B}^X(f).$$

3. Yanking:

$$\operatorname{Tr}_{X,X}^{X}\left(\sigma_{X,X}\right)=\operatorname{id}_{X}.$$