

TENSOR CATEGORIES AND TOPOLOGICAL ORDER



*TENSOR CATEGORIES,
TOPOLOGICAL FIELD THEORY
AND
TOPOLOGICAL ORDER*



- ☞ mathematical tools useful for studying topological orders / phases
- ☞ algebraic structures :
 - ⚡ categories and functors
 - ⚡ fusion categories
 - ⚡ modular tensor categories
 - ⚡ higher categories
 - ⚡ algebras in tensor categories
 - ⚡ module and bimodule categories
- ☞ geometric structures : cobordisms
- ☞ from geometry / topology to algebraic structures : topological field theory

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- ☞ geometric structures : cobordisms
- ☞ from geometry / topology to algebraic structures : topological field theory
- ☞ relevance to topological orders in thermodynamic limit
- ☞ in particular gapped boundaries and gapped interfaces

Part I / II

☞ categories

☞ . . .

☞ . . .

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☞ modular tensor categories

Part I / II

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☞ ...

☞ ...

☞ ...

☞ modular tensor categories

☞ algebras

☞ ...

☞ ...

☞ module and bimodule categories

Part I / II

☞ categories

☞ ...

☞ ...

☞ ...

☞ modular tensor categories

☞ algebras

☞ ...

☞ ...

☞ module and bimodule categories

in gory detail

Part III

☞ topological field theory for gapped boundaries and interfaces

Why categories ?

2-dimensional topological order

👉 gapped 2-d bulk

👉 **Question:** can one “put” the system on a disk without closing the gap ?

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☞ **Question:** assuming vanishing obstruction, how many independent “boundary conditions” on the disk such that system remains gapped ?

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-  **Question**: assuming vanishing obstruction , how many independent “boundary conditions” on the disk such that system remains gapped ?
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- **Answer**:
-

-
-  suitable language and tools needed
-

-  needed e.g. for telling precisely
-

- what a boundary condition is and
-

- when two boundary conditions independent
-

Miscellaneous general motivations :

- ⚡ see what is really going on :
 - recognize distinct situations as different realizations of the same structure
- ⚡ prove stuff only once
- ⚡ be able to tell precisely when two things are “the same” = “isomorphic”
- ⚡ and even to keep track of isomorphisms

Miscellaneous general motivations :

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- ⚡ and even to keep track of isomorphisms
- ⚡ generalized notions of symmetry
- ⚡ categories \rightsquigarrow functors \rightsquigarrow natural transformations
- ⚡ quantization
- ⚡ quantum field theories and the dimensional ladder
- ⚡

Categories

DESIRABLE

Quasi-particles

- quasi-particle excitations
- may interact / be manipulated

INFORMAL DEFINITION

Category

- collection of things
- notion of relating two things
- sensible properties of the latter

DEFINITION

Category \mathcal{C}

Data :

- class $\text{Obj}(\mathcal{C})$ members called **objects**
- set of **arrows** $x \xrightarrow{f} y$ for any two objects x and y
call x source and y target of \xrightarrow{f}
write $x = s(\xrightarrow{f}) \equiv s(f)$ and $y = t(\xrightarrow{f}) \equiv t(f)$
- distinguished arrow $\text{id}_x : x \rightarrow x$ for each object x
- composed arrow $g \circ f : s(f) \rightarrow t(g)$
for any two arrows f and g with $t(f) = s(g)$

Axioms :.....

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Axioms :

- **associativity** of composition :

$$h \circ (g \circ f) = (h \circ g) \circ f \quad \text{whenever either side defined}$$
- **unit** properties of id :

$$f \circ \text{id}_x = f \text{ for } s(f) = x \quad \text{and} \quad \text{id}_y \circ f = f \text{ for } t(f) = y$$

COMMENTS

- for x an object of \mathcal{C} write $x \in \text{Obj}(\mathcal{C})$ or just $x \in \mathcal{C}$ though $\text{Obj}(\mathcal{C})$ not necessarily a set
- call arrow $x \xrightarrow{f} y$ a **morphism** from x to y
- id_x called identity morphism
- call morphisms f and g composable iff $t(f) = s(g)$
- morphism with source = target called **endomorphism**

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- denote set of all morphisms $x \xrightarrow{f} y$ by $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(x, y)$
- write $\text{End}_{\mathcal{C}}(x) := \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(x, x)$

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- denote set of *all* morphisms $x \xrightarrow{f} y$ by $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(x, y)$
- write $\text{End}_{\mathcal{C}}(x) := \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(x, x)$
- alternative formulation :
 - ⚡ start from class of objects and class $\text{Hom}(\mathcal{C})$ of all morphisms
 - ⚡ formulate rest of structure and axioms in terms of maps

$$\text{id}: \text{Obj}(\mathcal{C}) \longrightarrow \text{Hom}(\mathcal{C}) \quad s, t: \text{Hom}(\mathcal{C}) \longrightarrow \text{Obj}(\mathcal{C})$$

$$\circ: \text{Hom}(\mathcal{C}) \times_{\text{Obj}(\mathcal{C})} \text{Hom}(\mathcal{C}) \longrightarrow \text{Hom}(\mathcal{C})$$

EXAMPLES



Set

- ⚡ objects = sets
- ⚡ morphisms = maps between sets
- ⚡ identity morphism = identity map
- ⚡ composition = composition of maps



Vect

- ⚡ objects = vector spaces over some field k
- ⚡ morphisms = linear maps



for us: $k = \mathbb{C}$

EXAMPLES



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Vect

- ⚡ objects = vector spaces over some field \mathbb{k}
- ⚡ morphisms = linear maps



vect

- ⚡ objects = finite-dimensional vector spaces over some field \mathbb{k}
- ⚡ morphisms = linear maps



for us: $\mathbb{k} = \mathbb{C}$

EXAMPLE

☞ $X\text{-mod}$ ($X = G$ group / $= R$ ring / $= A$ algebra)

⚡ objects = X -modules

⚡ morphisms = intertwiners

EXAMPLE

☞ $X\text{-mod}$ ($X = G$ group / $= R$ ring / $= A$ algebra)

⚡ objects $= X\text{-modules}$

⚡ morphisms $=$ intertwiners

☞ **module** $=$ vector space V together with X -action (representation)

$\rho: X \rightarrow \text{End}_{\text{Vect}}(V)$ compatible with the structure of X

☞ **intertwiner** $\varphi: (V, \rho_V) \rightarrow (W, \rho_W)$

$=$ linear map $V \rightarrow W$

such that

$$\begin{array}{ccc} V & \xrightarrow{\rho_V(x)} & V \\ \varphi \downarrow & & \downarrow \varphi \\ W & \xrightarrow{\rho_W(x)} & W \end{array} \quad \text{for all } x \in X$$

EXAMPLE

- a single object $*$ and only isomorphisms
- composition of morphisms gives associative product with inverse
- identity morphism gives unit element
- is nothing but group G with morphisms $=$ group elements
- notation $*//G$

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- ☞ **isomorphism** = morphism having an inverse

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EXAMPLES

- generalization: **groupoid** : only *isomorphisms*
- **path groupoid** of manifold M
 - ⚡ objects $=$ points of M
 - ⚡ morphisms $=$ paths
 - ⚡ composition $=$ concatenation of paths

EXAMPLE

- a single object $*$ and only isomorphisms
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EXAMPLES

- generalization: groupoid: only isomorphisms
- **fundamental groupoid** of manifold M
 - ⚡ objects $=$ points of M
 - ⚡ morphisms $=$ homotopy classes of paths
 - ⚡ composition inherited from concatenation

EXAMPLE

- a single object $*$ and only isomorphisms
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EXAMPLES

- generalization: groupoid: only isomorphisms
- action groupoid $X//G$ of set X endowed with G -action (G group)
 - ⚡ objects $=$ elements of X
 - ⚡ morphisms $=$ group elements $x \xrightarrow{g} g.x$
 - ⚡ composition inherited from group product

COMMENTS

- rarely sensible to require two objects x and y of a category to be *equal*
- sensible to require two objects to be **isomorphic** : $x \cong y$
i.e. existence of an isomorphism $f: x \xrightarrow{\cong} y$
- Example : any finite-dimensional vector space V
isomorphic to its dual vector space V^*
but no distinguished isomorphism
(need basis or non-degenerate bilinear form)
- Example : distinction between real and pseudoreal/quaternionic representations of a group (e.g. of $SU(2)$)

EXAMPLES



\mathcal{M}_d

⚡ objects = smooth manifolds

⚡ morphisms = smooth maps of manifolds

for us: manifold = smooth manifold

EXAMPLES



\mathcal{M}_d

⚡ objects = smooth manifolds

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$\text{Cobord}_{d,d-1}$

⚡ objects = oriented $d-1$ -manifolds

⚡ morphisms = oriented d -manifolds with boundary up to diffeom.

⚡ source/target = incoming / outgoing boundary

EXAMPLES



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Details :

⚡ **cobordism** $B: M \rightarrow N$ = oriented d -dimensional manifold B

plus orientation preserving diffeomorphism $\phi_B: \overline{M} \sqcup N \xrightarrow{\cong} \partial B$

(overline = orientation reversal)

⚡ morphism = equivalence class of cobordisms

EXAMPLES



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$\text{Cobord}_{d,d-1}$

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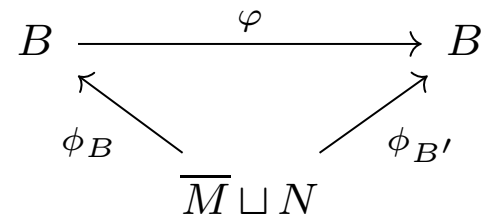
⚡ morphisms = oriented d -manifolds with boundary up to diffeom.

⚡ source/target = incoming / outgoing boundary

Details :

⚡ equivalence of cobordisms (B, ϕ_B) and $(B', \phi_{B'})$:

have orientation-preserving
diffeomorphism φ such that



EXAMPLES



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Details :

⚡ identity morphism id_M : represented by cylinder $M \times [0, 1]$

⚡ composition of morphisms

= **gluing** : identify $\partial_- B$ with $\partial_+ B'$ (using collars)

EXAMPLES

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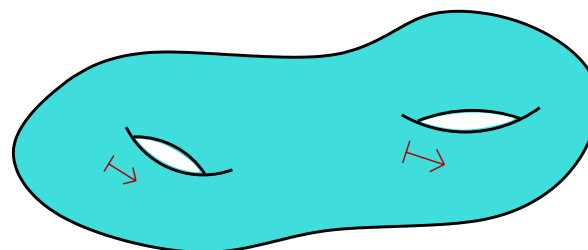
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Details :

illustration : $d=3$



EXAMPLES

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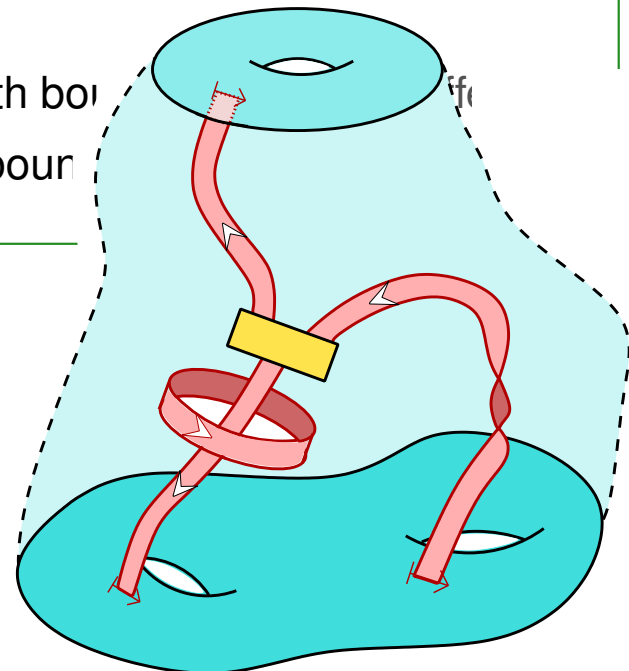
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Details :

illustration : $d=3$ (decorated version)



EXAMPLES



$Cobord_{d,d-1}$

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EXAMPLE



$Cobord_{1,0}$

- ⚡ objects = finite disjoint unions of oriented points (\bullet, \pm)
- ⚡ morphisms = finite disjoint unions of oriented intervals and circles

EXAMPLES

☞ $Cobord_{d,d-1}$

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EXAMPLE

☞ $Cobord_{2,1}$

- ⚡ objects = finite disjoint unions of oriented circles
- ⚡ morphisms generated via disjoint unions and gluings from 6 elementary morphisms

EXAMPLES

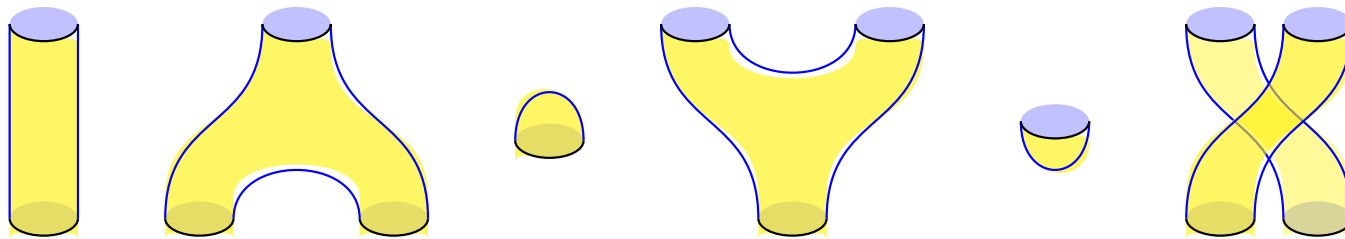
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EXAMPLES



$Cobord_{d,d-1}$

- ⚡ objects = **oriented** $d-1$ -manifolds
 - ⚡ morphisms = **oriented** d -manifolds with boundary up to diffeom.
 - ⚡ source / target = incoming / outgoing boundary
- ⚡ other versions also of interest
- ⚡ framed
 - ⚡ combed
 - ⚡ unoriented

Graphical calculus

- 👉 convenient to visualize morphisms graphically

- ☞ convenient to visualize morphisms graphically

first step :

GRAPHICAL CALCULUS

- ☞ general morphism

$$x \xrightarrow{f} y$$

- ⚡ box / coupon
- ⚡ lines connecting coupon to domain (input) and codomain (output)
- ⚡ vertical straight lines – up to ambient isotopy
- ⚡ *optimistic* convention : read from bottom to top

$$f = \begin{array}{c} y \\ | \\ \boxed{f} \\ | \\ x \end{array}$$

- convenient to visualize morphisms graphically

first step :

GRAPHICAL CALCULUS

- general morphism

$$x \xrightarrow{f} y$$

- coupon

- lines connecting coupon to domain (input) and codomain (output)

- vertical straight lines – up to ambient isotopy

- identity morphism

The diagram illustrates the identity morphism id_x . On the left, a vertical blue line passes through a rounded rectangular box labeled id_x . The top of the line is labeled x and the bottom is labeled x . This is followed by an equals sign $=$. On the right, there is a single vertical blue line, also labeled x at both the top and bottom. This represents the property that the identity morphism does not change the object x .

- convenient to visualize morphisms graphically

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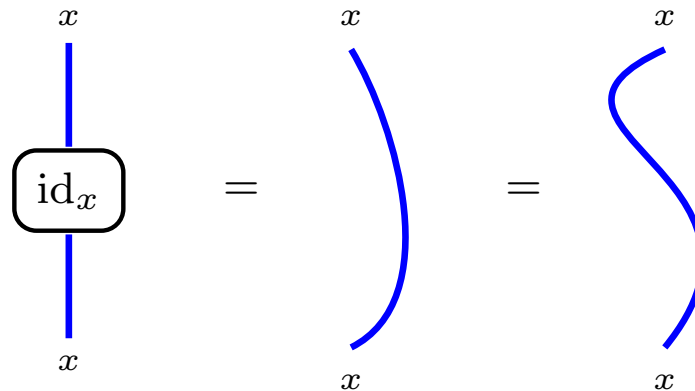
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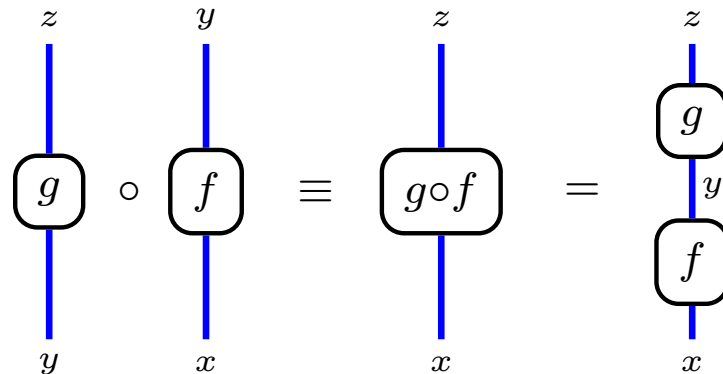
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- identity morphism

- composition = concatenation



Categories

DESIRABLE

State spaces

- state spaces
- linear operators

■ morphisms $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(x, y)$ just a **set** in general

DESIRABLE

State spaces

- ☞ state spaces
- ☞ linear operators

DEFINITION

Linear category

- ☞ Linear category
- ⚡ $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(x, y)$ structure of a vector space (over \mathbb{C} / over \mathbb{k})
- ⚡ composition of morphisms bilinear

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EXAMPLES

- ☞ $\mathcal{V}ect$, $\mathcal{v}ect$, $A\text{-mod}$
- ☞ linearization of a category \mathcal{C} : *functors* from \mathcal{C} to $\mathcal{V}ect$

DESIRABLE

“Symmetries”

- ☞ symmetries in physics realized via representations
- ☞ require other familiar aspects of categories of vector spaces / of modules

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INFORMAL DEFINITION

Abelian category

- ☞ **abelian category** = equivalent to $A\text{-mod}$ for some algebra A
- ⚡ can add morphisms
- ⚡ can add objects: biproduct / direct sum $x \oplus y$
- ⚡ kernels and cokernels
- ⚡ zero object
- ⚡ exact sequences $0 \rightarrow x \rightarrow z \rightarrow y \rightarrow 0$
- ⚡ projective and injective objects
- ⚡

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for us: use some of these concepts freely

DESIRABLE

“Finiteness”

- finite number of elementary quasi-particle excitations
- composite excitations separable into ‘sums’ of elementary excitations

INFORMAL DEFINITION

Finite category

- **finite category** \equiv finite abelian linear category :
 $:=$ equivalent to $A\text{-mod}$ for some finite-dimensional algebra A
 (\mathbb{k} algebraically closed field)

- in particular :
 - ⚡ finitely many isomorphism classes of simple objects
 - ⚡ every object has finite length
 - ⚡ every object has a projective cover

DESIRABLE

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DEFINITION

Semisimple category

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DEFINITION

Semisimple category

- ☞ **semisimple category** :
 - ⚡ each object is direct sum of finitely many simple objects
 - ⚡ all such direct sums exist
- ☞ **finitely semisimple category** :
 - ⚡ finite abelian
 - ⚡ semisimple

Functors

- 👉 recall: **linearization**
- 👉 can be regarded as an instance of “mappig one category to another one”
- 👉 should generalize the idea that
instead of group G can study G -representations on vector spaces

INFORMAL DEFINITION

Functor

☞ functor from \mathcal{C} to \mathcal{D} :

- ⚡ map any object of \mathcal{C} to an object of \mathcal{D}
- ⚡ map any morphism of \mathcal{C} to a morphism of \mathcal{D}
- ⚡ in a way compatible with their structure and properties

DEFINITION

Functor

✎ functor $F: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$

Data :

⚡ map $F: \text{Obj}(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow \text{Obj}(\mathcal{D})$

⚡ map $F \equiv F_{x,y}: \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(x, y) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{D}}(F(x), F(y))$

for each pair of objects x, y of \mathcal{C}

Axioms :

⚡ $F(\text{id}_x) = \text{id}_{F(x)}$

⚡ $F(g \circ f) = F(g) \circ F(f)$ (when defined)

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COMMENTS

✎ **linear** functor $F: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$ between linear categories :

linear on morphism spaces

✎ **composition** of functors $F: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}'$ and $F': \mathcal{C}' \rightarrow \mathcal{C}''$

to $F' \circ F: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}''$ via composition of maps

DEFINITION

Functor

✎ functor $F: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$

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EXAMPLES

✎ identity functor $\text{Id}_{\mathcal{C}}: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$: identity maps

✎ for any group G (and field \mathbb{k})

functor $*//G \rightarrow \mathcal{Vect}$ amounts to a linear representation of G

✎ associating to any vector space V its dual space $V^* = \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{Vect}}(V, \mathbb{k})$
provides functor $\mathcal{Vect} \rightarrow \mathcal{Vect}^{\text{op}}$

✎ associating to any vector space V its bidual space V^{**}
provides endofunctor $\mathcal{Vect} \rightarrow \mathcal{Vect}$

DEFINITION

Functor



functor $F: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$

⚡ map $F: \text{Obj}(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow \text{Obj}(\mathcal{D})$

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⚡ $F(g \circ f) = F(g) \circ F(f)$

DEFINITION

Opposite category



opposite category \mathcal{C}^{op}

⚡ objects $\text{Obj}(\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}) = \text{Obj}(\mathcal{C})$

⚡ morphisms $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}}(x, y) = \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(y, x)$

⚡ composition $g \circ^{\text{op}} f = f \circ g$



contravariant functor $\mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D} := \text{functor } \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}^{\text{op}}$

DEFINITION

Functor



functor $F: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$

⚡ map $F: \text{Obj}(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow \text{Obj}(\mathcal{D})$

⚡ maps $F \equiv F_{x,y}: \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(x, y) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{D}}(F(x), F(y))$

⚡ $F(\text{id}_x) = \text{id}_{F(x)}$

⚡ $F(g \circ f) = F(g) \circ F(f)$

EXAMPLE



d -dimensional topological field theory

= functor $\mathbf{tft}: \text{Cobord}_{d,d-1} \rightarrow \text{Vect}$

satisfying compatibility conditions (to be spelt out later)

Thus:

⚡ assignment $(d-1)$ -manifold $M \mapsto$ vector space $\mathbf{tft}(M)$

⚡ assignment d -dimensional cobordism $M \xrightarrow{B} N$
 \mapsto linear map $\mathbf{tft}(B): \mathbf{tft}(M) \rightarrow \mathbf{tft}(N)$

Functors

- ☞ linear representation of group $G = \text{"functor } *//G \rightarrow \mathcal{V}ect$
- ☞ thus category $G\text{-mod}$ of G -modules has functors as objects
- ☞ thus morphisms of $G\text{-mod}$ (intertwiners) have functors as their domain and codomain

- linear representation of group $G = \text{"functor } *//G \rightarrow \mathcal{Vect}$
- thus $\boxed{\text{category } G\text{-mod of } G\text{-modules}}$ has functors as objects
- thus morphisms of $G\text{-mod}$ (intertwiners)
have functors as their domain and codomain

INFORMAL DEFINITION

Natural transformation

- $\boxed{\text{natural transformation } F \rightarrow G}$
= collection of morphisms relating objects $F(x)$ and $G(x)$
for all objects x in a manner compatible with morphisms

DEFINITION

Natural transformation

natural transformation $\psi: F \rightarrow G$

between functors $F, G: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}'$

$:=$ family of morphisms $\psi_x: F(x) \rightarrow G(x)$ in \mathcal{C}' for $x \in \mathcal{C}$

such that

$$\begin{array}{ccc} F(x) & \xrightarrow{\psi_x} & G(x) \\ F(f) \downarrow & & \downarrow G(f) \\ F(y) & \xrightarrow{\psi_y} & G(y) \end{array} \quad \text{for all } x \xrightarrow{f} y \text{ in } \mathcal{C}$$

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 \end{array}
 \quad \text{for all } x \xrightarrow{f} y \text{ in } \mathcal{C}$$

DEFINITION

Natural isomorphism

natural isomorphism $\psi: F \rightarrow G$

$:=$ natural transformation such that each ψ_x is an isomorphism in \mathcal{C}'

INFORMAL DEFINITION

Equivalence of categories

- existence of mutually “inverse” functors $F: \mathcal{C} \rightleftarrows \mathcal{D}: G$
up to ...

DEFINITION

Equivalence of categories

☞ functor $F: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$ called equivalence of categories

$:=$ existence of functor $G: \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$




and natural isomorphisms $\text{Id}_{\mathcal{D}} \rightarrow F G$ and $G F \rightarrow \text{Id}_{\mathcal{C}}$

☞ \mathcal{C} and \mathcal{D} called equivalent $:=$ existence of equivalence functor

⚡ notation $F: \mathcal{C} \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathcal{D}$



DEFINITION



Equivalence of categories

-  functor $F: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$ called equivalence of categories
 $:=$ existence of functor $G: \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$
 and natural isomorphisms $\text{Id}_{\mathcal{D}} \rightarrow F G$ and $G F \rightarrow \text{Id}_{\mathcal{C}}$
-  \mathcal{C} and \mathcal{D} called equivalent $:=$ existence of equivalence functor
-  notation $F: \mathcal{C} \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathcal{D}$

DEFINITION




$[\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{D}]$

-  small category $:=$ category whose class of objects is a set
-  $[\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{D}]$ for small category $\mathcal{C} :=$ the category with





 -  objects $=$ all functors from \mathcal{C} to \mathcal{D}
 -  morphisms $=$ natural transformations

DEFINITION

Equivalence of categories

-  functor $F: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$ called equivalence of categories
 - $:=$ existence of functor $G: \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$
 - and natural isomorphisms $\text{Id}_{\mathcal{D}} \rightarrow F G$ and $G F \rightarrow \text{Id}_{\mathcal{C}}$
-  \mathcal{C} and \mathcal{D} called equivalent $:=$ existence of equivalence functor
 -  notation $F: \mathcal{C} \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathcal{D}$

EXAMPLES

-  indeed: $[*//G, \mathcal{V}ect] \simeq G\text{-mod}$
-  family of linear maps $\psi_V: V \rightarrow V^{**}$ for all $V \in \mathcal{V}ect$
 - with $\psi_V(v)(\varphi) := \varphi(v)$ for $v \in V, \varphi \in V^*$
 - furnishes natural transformation $\text{Id}_{\mathcal{V}ect} \rightarrow (-)^{**}$
-  restricting to \mathbf{vect} gives a natural isomorphism
 -  notation $\mathbf{vect} \xrightarrow{\sim} G\text{-mod}$

Criterion for recognizing an equivalence :

PROPOSITION — **Equivalence of categories**

$F: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$ equivalence

\iff

(1) essentially surjective

i.e. for any $y \in \mathcal{D}$ there exists $x \in \mathcal{C}$ with $y \cong F(x)$ in \mathcal{D}

(2) fully faithful

i.e. $F_{x,x'}: \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(x, x') \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{D}}(F(x), F(x'))$ bijective map
for any two $x, x' \in \mathcal{C}$

Monoidal categories

DESIRABLE

Several systems

- ☞ standard situation : system consisting of several isolated subsystems

DEFINITION

Cartesian product

- ☞ Cartesian product $\mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{D}$ of categories \mathcal{C} and \mathcal{D} :
category with
 - ⚡ objects = pairs (x, y) with $x \in \mathcal{C}$ and $y \in \mathcal{D}$
 - ⚡ morphisms = pairs of morphisms $(x \xrightarrow{f} x', y \xrightarrow{g} y')$

DESIRABLE

Several systems

- ☞ standard situation : system consisting of several isolated systems
- ☞ combine observables of subsystems

DEFINITION

Tensor product

☞ **tensor product** on a category \mathcal{C} : functor $\boxed{\otimes : \mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{C} \longrightarrow \mathcal{C}}$

mapping $(x, y) \longmapsto x \otimes y$

$$(x \xrightarrow{f} x', y \xrightarrow{g} y') \longmapsto x \otimes y \xrightarrow{f \otimes g} x' \otimes y'$$

Note : $\text{id}_x \otimes \text{id}_y = \text{id}_{x \otimes y}$

DEFINITION

Monoidal category

- ☞ monoidal category $\mathcal{C} = (\mathcal{C}, \otimes, \mathbf{1}, a, r, l)$
- $:=$ category \mathcal{C} endowed with
- ☞ tensor product functor \otimes
 - ☞ distinguished object $\mathbf{1} \in \mathcal{C}$
 - ☞ natural isomorphism $a: \otimes \circ (\otimes \times \text{Id}) \rightarrow \otimes \circ (\text{Id} \times \otimes)$
satisfying pentagon identity
 - ☞ natural isomorphisms $l: \mathbf{1} \otimes \text{Id} \rightarrow \text{Id}$ and $r: \text{Id} \otimes \mathbf{1} \rightarrow \text{Id}$
satisfying triangle identity

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satisfying triangle identity

☞ Triangle identity :

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 (x \otimes \mathbf{1}) \otimes y & \xrightarrow{a_{x, \mathbf{1}, y}} & x \otimes (\mathbf{1} \otimes y) \\
 \searrow r_x \otimes \text{id}_y & & \swarrow \text{id}_x \otimes l_y \\
 & x \otimes y &
 \end{array}$$

☞ Pentagon identity :

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & ((u \otimes v) \otimes x) \otimes y & \\
 a_{u,v,x} \otimes \text{id}_y \swarrow & & \searrow a_{u \otimes v, x, y} \\
 (u \otimes (v \otimes x)) \otimes y & & (u \otimes v) \otimes (x \otimes y) \\
 a_{u,v \otimes x, y} \downarrow & & \downarrow a_{u,v, x \otimes y} \\
 u \otimes ((v \otimes x) \otimes y) & \xrightarrow{\text{id}_u \otimes a_{v,x,y}} & u \otimes (v \otimes (x \otimes y))
 \end{array}$$

☞ Triangle identity :

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 (x \otimes \mathbf{1}) \otimes y & \xrightarrow{a_{x, \mathbf{1}, y}} & x \otimes (\mathbf{1} \otimes y) \\
 r_x \otimes \text{id}_y \searrow & & \swarrow \text{id}_x \otimes l_y \\
 & x \otimes y &
 \end{array}$$

COMMENTS

- terminology: 1 = tensor unit / monoidal unit / unit object
 a = associator / associativity constraint
 l / r = left/right unit constraint
- pentagon \implies any two possibilities of relating any two bracketings of multiple tensor product are equal (Mac Lane's coherence theorem)

COMMENTS

- terminology: 1 = tensor unit / monoidal unit / unit object
 a = associator / associativity constraint
 l / r = left/right unit constraint
- pentagon \implies any two possibilities of relating any two bracketings of multiple tensor product are equal (Mac Lane's coherence theorem)
- origin of terminology *monoidal*:
monoidal category = categorified version
of associative unital monoid (R, \cdot, e)
- but: structure (associator) instead of property (associativity):
given \mathcal{C} with given tensor product \otimes may admit inequivalent associators
- alternative terminology: tensor category (disfavored)

COMMENTS

- terminology: $\mathbf{1}$ = tensor unit / monoidal unit / unit object
 a = associator / associativity constraint
 l / r = left / right unit constraint
- pentagon \implies any two possibilities of relating any two bracketings of multiple tensor product are equal (Mac Lane's coherence theorem)
- explicit form of associativity constraint:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 (x \otimes y) \otimes z & \xrightarrow{a_{x,y,z}} & x \otimes (y \otimes z) \\
 \downarrow (f \otimes g) \otimes h & & \downarrow f \otimes (g \otimes h) \\
 (x' \otimes y') \otimes z' & \xrightarrow{a_{x',y',z'}} & x' \otimes (y' \otimes z')
 \end{array}
 \quad \text{for any triple } \begin{array}{l} x \xrightarrow{f} x' \\ y \xrightarrow{g} y' \\ z \xrightarrow{h} z' \end{array}$$

Graphical calculus

- presence of associator in tensor products of morphisms

- ↪ graphical calculus clumsy

- presence of associator in tensor products of morphisms

↪ graphical calculus clumsy

DEFINITION

Strict monoidal category

- **strict** monoidal category:

$:=$ monoidal category with a , l and r identities

- 👉 presence of associator in tensor products of morphisms
- 👉 \leadsto graphical calculus clumsy

DEFINITION

Strict monoidal category

- 👉 **strict** monoidal category:
 $:=$ monoidal category with a , l and r identities

THEOREM

Coherence

Every monoidal category is equivalent to a strict monoidal category

- presence of associator in tensor products of morphisms

↪ graphical calculus clumsy

DEFINITION

Strict monoidal category

- **strict** monoidal category:

$:=$ monoidal category with a , l and r identities

THEOREM

Coherence

Every monoidal category is equivalent to a strict monoidal category

\Rightarrow **strictification**: replace monoidal category by a strict one

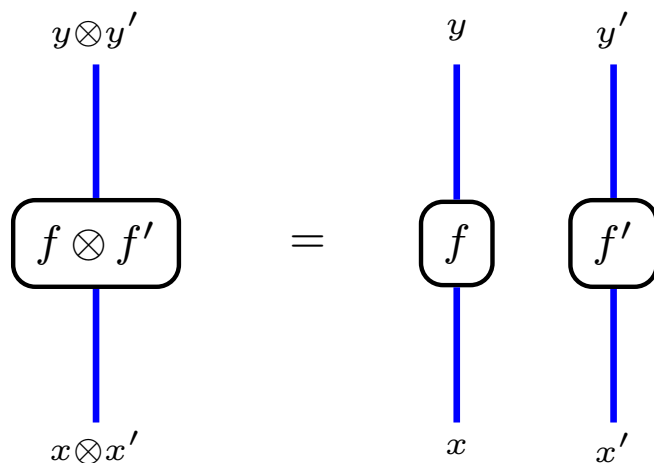
COMMENT

- no loss of generality – can still detect shadow of associator

GRAPHICAL CALCULUS

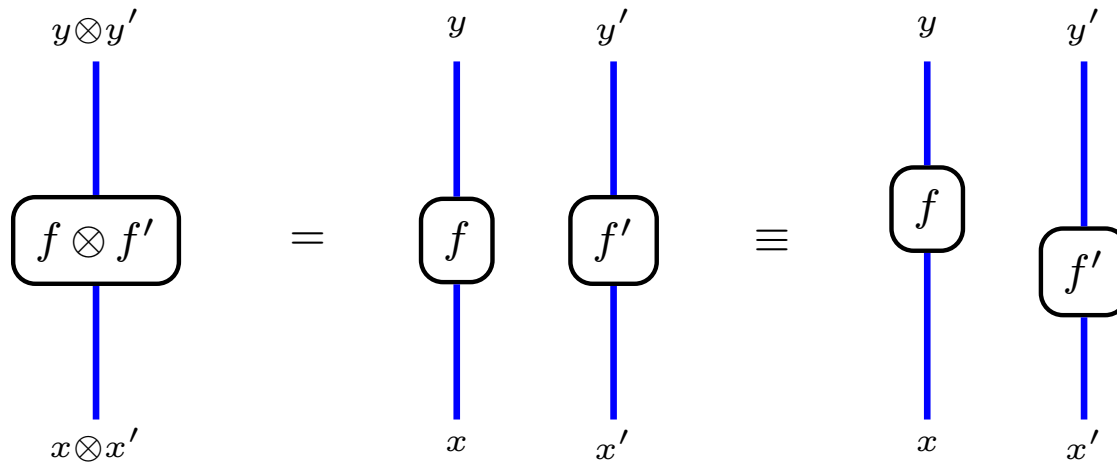


tensor product = juxtaposition



GRAPHICAL CALCULUS

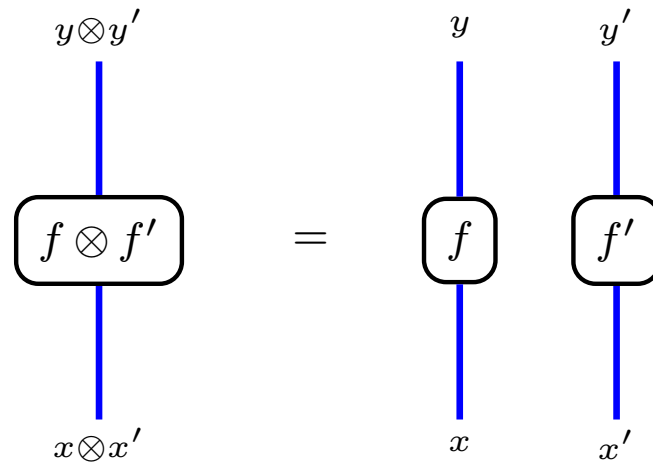
👉 tensor product = juxtaposition



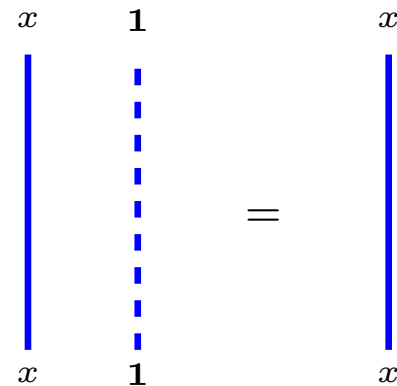
GRAPHICAL CALCULUS



tensor product = juxtaposition



tensor unit 1 invisible



Fusion

DEFINITION

Grothendieck group

➡ Grothendieck group $K_0(\mathcal{C})$ of abelian category \mathcal{C}

$:=$ abelian group presented by generator and relations :

⚡ one generator $[x]$ for each isomorphism class of objects of \mathcal{C}

⚡ one relation $[z] - [x] - [y] = 0$

for each exact sequence $0 \rightarrow x \rightarrow z \rightarrow y \rightarrow 0$

COMMENTS

➡ can be generalized to larger class of categories

➡ in particular $[z] = [x] + [y]$ for $z = x \oplus y$

DEFINITION

Grothendieck group

- ✎ Grothendieck group $K_0(\mathcal{C})$ of abelian category \mathcal{C}
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 - for each exact sequence $0 \rightarrow x \rightarrow z \rightarrow y \rightarrow 0$

DEFINITION

Exact tensor product

- ✎ \otimes exact
 - $:=$ for every exact sequence $0 \rightarrow x \rightarrow z \rightarrow y \rightarrow 0$
 - also $0 \rightarrow u \otimes x \rightarrow u \otimes z \rightarrow u \otimes y \rightarrow 0$
 - and $0 \rightarrow x \otimes u \rightarrow z \otimes u \rightarrow y \otimes u \rightarrow 0$ exact for any $u \in \mathcal{C}$

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for each exact sequence $0 \rightarrow x \rightarrow z \rightarrow y \rightarrow 0$

PROPOSITION

Grothendieck ring

For \mathcal{C} monoidal with exact tensor product, setting

$$[x] * [y] := [x \otimes y]$$

endows $K_0(\mathcal{C})$ with a ring structure

with unit element $[1]$

▪ assume \mathcal{C} monoidal and semisimple

\implies

⚡ $x \otimes y$ = direct sum of simple objects for any $x, y \in \mathcal{C}$

▪ assume \mathcal{C} monoidal and semisimple and with exact tensor product

\implies

⚡ $x \otimes y$ = direct sum of simple objects

⚡ all tensor products $x \otimes y$ determined up to iso by those of simple objects

⚡ select family

$$\{X_i \mid i \in \mathcal{I}\}$$

of representatives for the isomorphism classes of simple objects with $X_0 = \mathbf{1}$

☞ assume \mathcal{C} monoidal and semisimple and with exact tensor product

\implies

⚡ $x \otimes y$ = direct sum of simple objects

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of representatives for the isomorphism classes of simple objects with $X_0 = \mathbf{1}$

PROPOSITION

Fusion rules

For \mathcal{C} semisimple monoidal with exact tensor product :

$$[X_i] * [X_j] = \sum_{k \in \mathcal{I}} N_{ij}^k [X_k]$$

⚡ $N_{ij}^k \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$

⚡ associative: $\sum_{l \in \mathcal{I}} N_{ij}^l N_{lk}^m = \sum_{l \in \mathcal{I}} N_{jk}^l N_{il}^m$

⚡ unital: $N_{i0}^k = \delta_j^k = N_{0i}^k$

✎ assume \mathcal{C} monoidal and semisimple and with exact tensor product

\implies

⚡ $x \otimes y$ = direct sum of simple objects

⚡ all tensor products $x \otimes y$ determined up to iso by those of simple objects

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of representatives for the isomorphism classes of simple objects with $X_0 = \mathbf{1}$

PROPOSITION

Fusion rules

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⚡ $N_{ij}^k \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ called **fusion rules** / **fusion coefficients**

⚡ associative: $\sum_{l \in \mathcal{I}} N_{ij}^l N_{lk}^m = \sum_{l \in \mathcal{I}} N_{jk}^l N_{il}^m$

⚡ unital: $N_{i0}^k = \delta_j^k = N_{0i}^k$

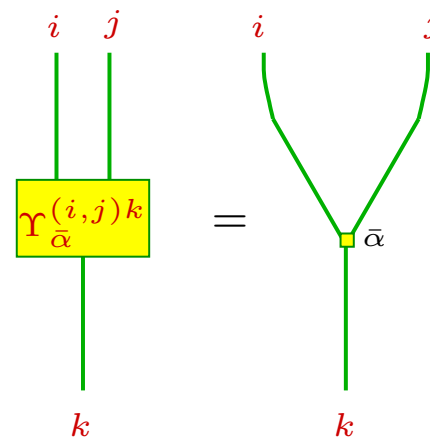
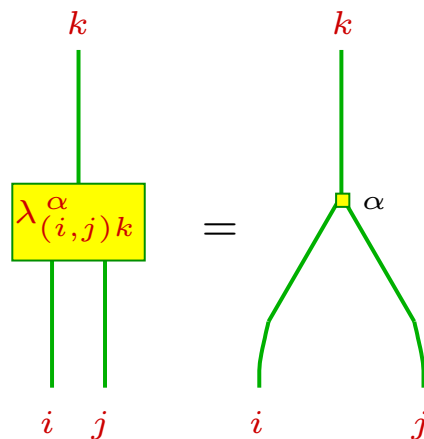
Graphical calculus

GRAPHICAL CALCULUS

for finitely semisimple monoidal categories



bases for copuling spaces



GRAPHICAL CALCULUS

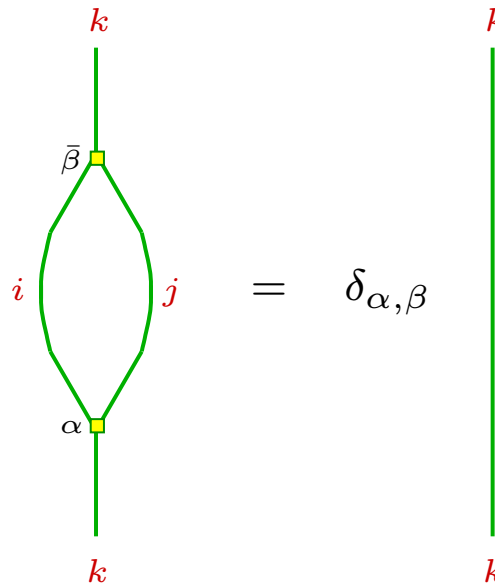
for finitely semisimple monoidal categories



bases for copuling spaces

$$\{ \lambda_{(i,j)k}^{\alpha} \} \subset \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(X_i \otimes X_j, X_k) \quad \{ \Upsilon_{\bar{\alpha}}^{(i,j)k} \} \subset \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(X_k, X_i \otimes X_j)$$

⚡ can be chosen dual :



GRAPHICAL CALCULUS

for finitely semisimple monoidal categories .

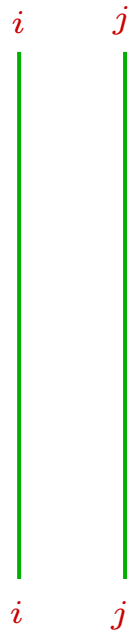


bases for copuling spaces

⚡ can be chosen dual

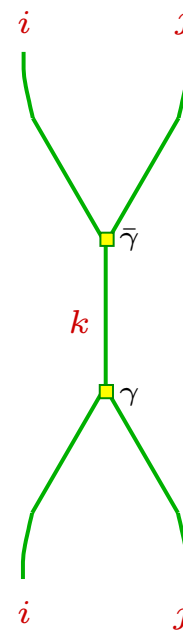
⚡ dominance

/ completeness :



=

$$\sum_{k \in \mathcal{I}} \sum_{\gamma}$$



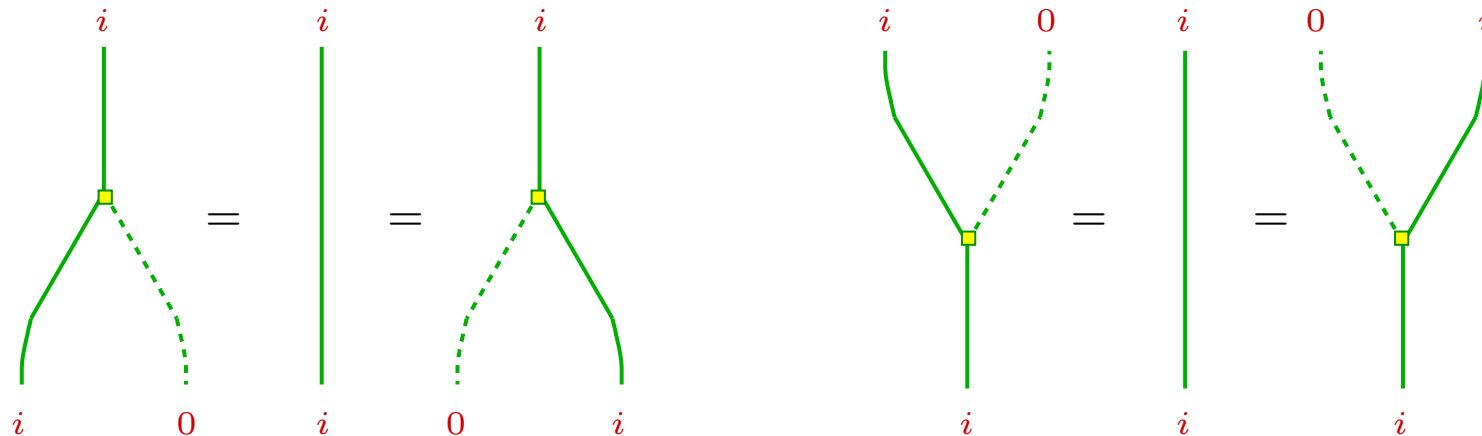
GRAPHICAL CALCULUS

for finitely semisimple monoidal categories .



bases for copuling spaces

- ⚡ can be chosen dual
- ⚡ dominance / completeness
- ⚡ basis elements involving the tensor unit can be chosen trivial :



GRAPHICAL CALCULUS

for finitely semisimple strict monoidal categories

- two distinct distinguished bases for $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(U_i \otimes U_j \otimes U_k, U_l)$ corresponding to decompositions

$$\bigoplus_{q \in \mathcal{I}} \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(U_i \otimes U_j, U_q) \otimes \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(U_q \otimes U_k, U_l)$$

and $\bigoplus_{p \in \mathcal{I}} \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(U_j \otimes U_k, U_p) \otimes \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(U_i \otimes U_p, U_l)$

(shadow of the associator)

GRAPHICAL CALCULUS

for finitely semisimple strict monoidal categories

- two distinct distinguished bases for $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(U_i \otimes U_j \otimes U_k, U_l)$
- coefficients of basis transformation: **fusing matrices**
/ F-matrices / 6j-symbols

$$\begin{array}{c}
 l \\
 \alpha \\
 \swarrow \searrow \\
 i \quad j \quad p \\
 \swarrow \searrow \\
 \quad \quad \beta \\
 \swarrow \searrow \\
 \quad \quad \quad k
 \end{array}
 =
 \sum_{q \in \mathcal{I}} \sum_{\gamma, \delta} F_{\alpha p \beta, \gamma q \delta}^{(i j k) l}
 \begin{array}{c}
 l \\
 \delta \\
 \swarrow \searrow \\
 i \quad j \quad q \\
 \swarrow \searrow \\
 \quad \quad \gamma \\
 \swarrow \searrow \\
 \quad \quad \quad k
 \end{array}$$

GRAPHICAL CALCULUS

for finitely semisimple strict monoidal categories

- two distinct distinguished bases for $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(U_i \otimes U_j \otimes U_k, U_l)$
- coefficients of basis transformation: fusing matrices

composing
with dual morphism
gives

$$= F_{\alpha p \beta, \gamma q \delta}^{(i j k) l}$$

Functors

- adapt notions of functor and natural transformation to monoidal setting

INFORMAL DEFINITION — Monoidal functor / natural transformation

- monoidal functor = functor
plus compatibility with tensor products
- monoidal natural transformation = natural transformation
plus compatibility with tensor products

-
-
- adapt notions of functor and natural transformation to monoidal setting
-

INFORMAL DEFINITION — Monoidal functor / natural transformation

- monoidal functor = functor
plus compatibility with tensor products (structure)
- monoidal natural transformation = natural transformation
plus compatibility with tensor products (properties)

DEFINITION

Monoidal functor

monoidal functor $(F, \varphi_0, \varphi_2)$ from \mathcal{C} to \mathcal{D} :

Data :

⚡ functor $F: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$

⚡ isomorphism $\varphi_0: \mathbf{1}_{\mathcal{D}} \xrightarrow{\cong} F(\mathbf{1}_{\mathcal{C}})$ in \mathcal{D}

⚡ natural isomorphism $\varphi_2: \otimes_{\mathcal{D}} \circ (F \times F) \xrightarrow{\cong} F \circ \otimes_{\mathcal{C}}$
of functors from $\mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{C}$ to \mathcal{D}

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⚡ natural isomorphism $\varphi_2: \otimes_{\mathcal{D}} \circ (F \times F) \xrightarrow{\cong} F \circ \otimes_{\mathcal{C}}$

Axioms :

⚡ compatibility with associativity constraint

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 (F(x) \otimes F(y)) \otimes F(z) & \xrightarrow{a_{F(x), F(y), F(z)}} & F(x) \otimes (F(y) \otimes F(z)) \\
 \downarrow \varphi_2(x, y) \otimes \text{id}_{F(z)} & & \downarrow \text{id}_{F(x)} \otimes \varphi_2(y, z) \\
 F(x \otimes y) \otimes F(z) & & F(x) \otimes F(y \otimes z) \\
 \downarrow \varphi_2(x \otimes y, z) & & \downarrow \varphi_2(x, y \otimes z) \\
 F((x \otimes y) \otimes z) & \xrightarrow{F(a_{x, y, z})} & F(x \otimes (y \otimes z))
 \end{array}$$

DEFINITION

Monoidal functor

monoidal functor $(F, \varphi_0, \varphi_2)$ from \mathcal{C} to \mathcal{D} :

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⚡ natural isomorphism $\varphi_2: \otimes_{\mathcal{D}} \circ (F \times F) \xrightarrow{\cong} F \circ \otimes_{\mathcal{C}}$

Axioms:

⚡ compatibility with associativity constraint

⚡ compatibility with left unit constraint

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 & & \mathbf{1}_{\mathcal{D}} \otimes F(x) & & \\
 & \swarrow \varphi_0 \otimes \text{id}_{F(x)} & & \searrow l_F(x) & \\
 F(\mathbf{1}_{\mathcal{C}}) \otimes F(x) & \xrightarrow{\varphi_2(\text{id}_{\mathcal{C}}, x)} & F(\mathbf{1}_{\mathcal{C}} \otimes x) & \xrightarrow{F(l_x)} & F(x)
 \end{array}$$

⚡ compatibility with right unit constraint

COMMENTS

▪ suppress labels \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{D} when notation too clumsy otherwise

▪ φ_2 gives in particular isomorphisms

$$(\varphi_2)_{(x,y)}: F(x) \otimes_{\mathcal{D}} F(y) \xrightarrow{\cong} F(x \otimes_{\mathcal{C}} y) \quad \text{for } x, y \in \mathcal{C}$$

▪ weakened versions: lax monoidal functor / oplax monoidal functor:
morphisms φ_0, φ_2 only in one direction

COMMENTS

☞ suppress labels \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{D} when notation too clumsy otherwise

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☞ weakened versions: lax monoidal functor / oplax monoidal functor:
morphisms φ_0, φ_2 only in one direction

DEFINITION

Monoidal natural transformation

☞ monoidal natural transformation $\eta: (F, \varphi_0, \varphi_2) \rightarrow (G, \psi_0, \psi_2)$

between monoidal functors: $\eta: F \rightarrow G$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \mathbf{1}_{\mathcal{D}} & \\ F(\mathbf{1}_{\mathcal{C}}) & \searrow & \swarrow G(\mathbf{1}_{\mathcal{C}}) \\ & \eta_1 & \\ F(\mathbf{1}_{\mathcal{C}}) & \xrightarrow{\quad} & G(\mathbf{1}_{\mathcal{C}}) \end{array}$$

and

$$\begin{array}{ccc} F(x) \otimes F(y) & \xrightarrow{\varphi_2(x,y)} & F(x \otimes y) \\ \downarrow \eta_x \otimes \eta_y & & \downarrow \eta_{x \otimes y} \\ G(x) \otimes G(y) & \xrightarrow{\psi_2(x,y)} & G(x \otimes y) \end{array}$$

for all $x, y \in \mathcal{C}$

Algebras

☞ recall: categories

EXAMPLES



category \mathcal{Vect}

⚡ objects = vector spaces

⚡ morphisms = linear maps



category \mathbf{vect}

⚡ objects = finite-dimensional vector spaces

⚡ morphisms = linear maps

☞ indeed: monoidal categories

EXAMPLES

☞ monoidal category \mathcal{Vect}

- ⚡ objects = vector spaces
- ⚡ morphisms = linear maps
- ⚡ tensor product $\otimes_{\mathbb{k}}$ of vector spaces
- ⚡ tensor unit $\mathbf{1} = \mathbb{k}$

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☞ unital associative **algebra**

= vector space with multiplication and unit element

☞ indeed: monoidal categories

EXAMPLES

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☞ unital associative **algebra**

= **object** of $\mathcal{Vect} / \mathbf{vect}$ endowed with “multiplication and unit”

☞ indeed: monoidal categories

EXAMPLES

☞ monoidal category \mathcal{Vect}

⚡ objects = vector spaces

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☞ unital associative algebra

= object of $\mathcal{Vect} / \mathbf{vect}$ endowed with multiplication and unit morphisms

☞ interpret

⚡ multiplication \equiv bilinear map $A \times A \rightarrow A \rightsquigarrow$ linear map $m: A \otimes_{\mathbb{k}} A \rightarrow A$

⚡ unit element $1_A \in A \rightsquigarrow$ linear map $\eta: \mathbb{k} \rightarrow A \quad \eta(c) = c 1$

☞ interpret

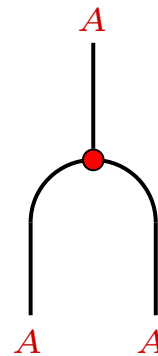
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\implies \mathbb{k} -algebra = algebra object $(A, m, \eta) \in \mathcal{Vect}$

☞ associative **algebra** = object A + morphism

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

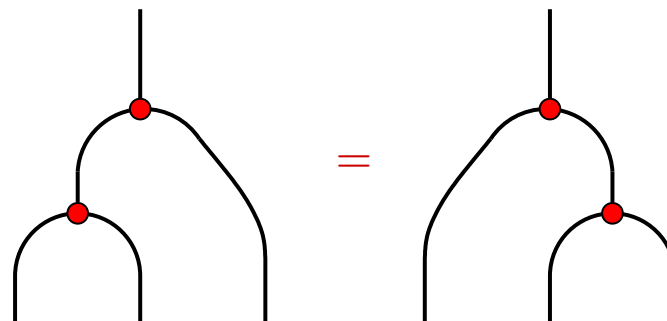
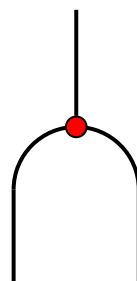


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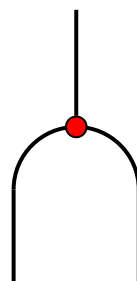
such that

$$m \circ (m \otimes \text{id}) = m \circ (\text{id} \otimes m)$$



☞ associative **algebra** = object A + morphism

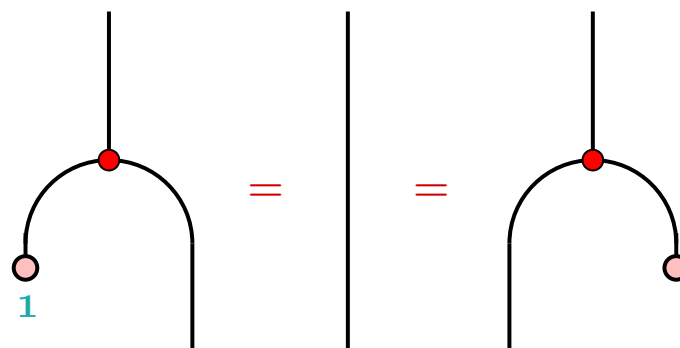
$$m : A \otimes A \longrightarrow A$$



☞ **unital** algebra (A, m, η) :

$$\eta : 1 \rightarrow A$$

$$m \circ (\eta \otimes \text{id}) = \text{id} = m \circ (\text{id} \otimes \eta)$$

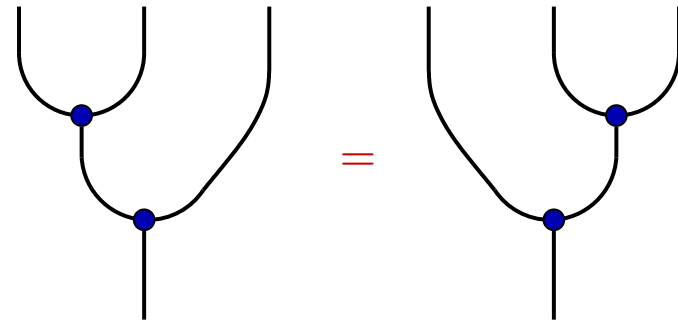


☞ natural setting: monoidal categories $(\mathcal{C}, \otimes, 1)$

☞ coassociative **coalgebra** (C, Δ) :

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

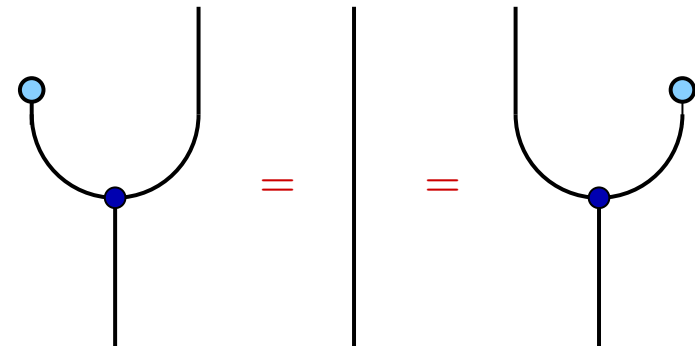
$$(\Delta \otimes \text{id}) \circ \Delta = (\text{id} \otimes \Delta) \circ \Delta$$



☞ **co-unital** coalgebra (C, Δ, ε) :

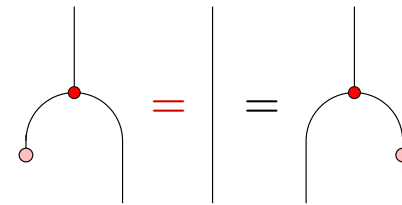
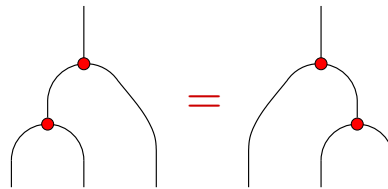
$$\varepsilon : A \rightarrow \mathbf{1}$$

$$(\varepsilon \otimes \text{id}) \circ \Delta = \text{id} = (\text{id} \otimes \varepsilon) \circ \Delta$$

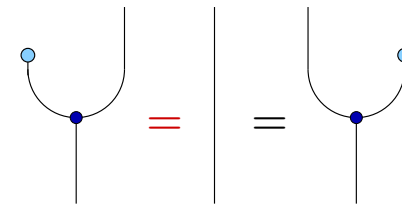
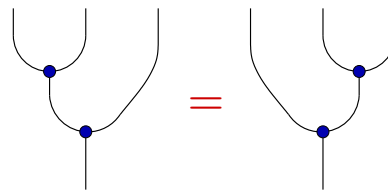


☞ natural setting: monoidal categories

☞ **Algebra :**

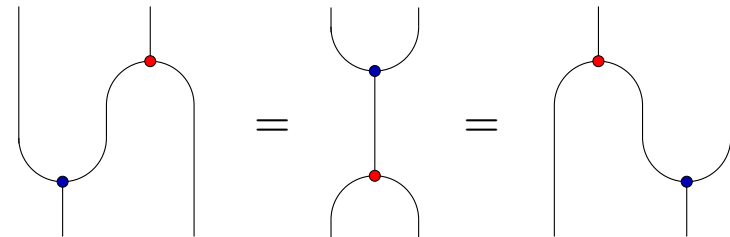


☞ **Coalgebra :**

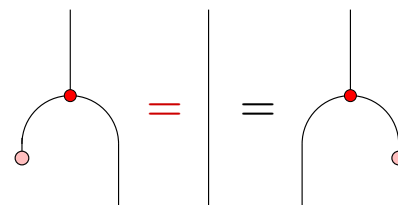
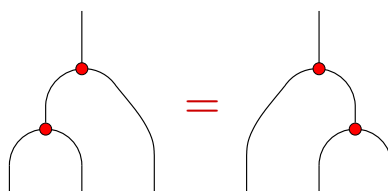


☞ **Frobenius algebra :** algebra and coalgebra

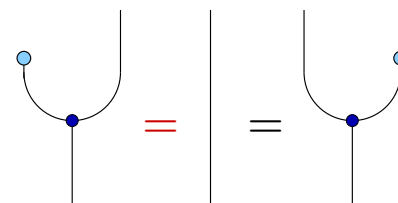
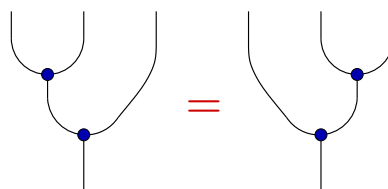
and coproduct a **bimodule morphism :**



☞ **Algebra** :

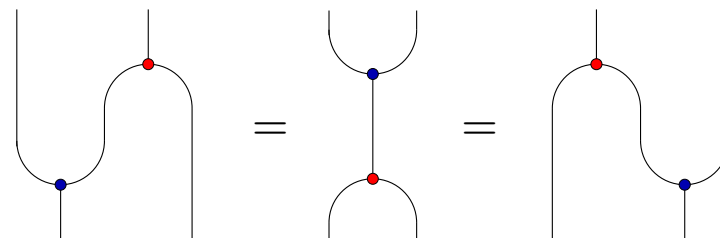


☞ **Coalgebra** :

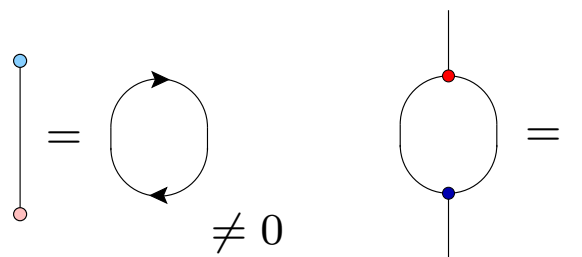


☞ **Frobenius algebra** : algebra and coalgebra

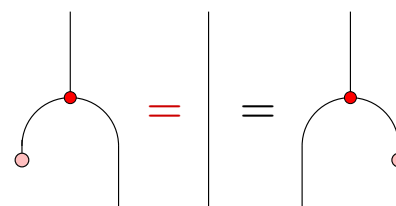
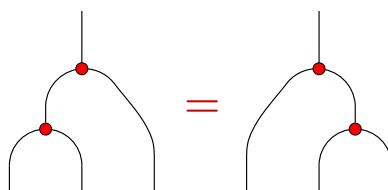
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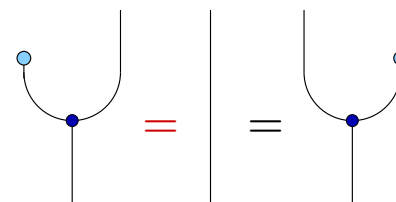
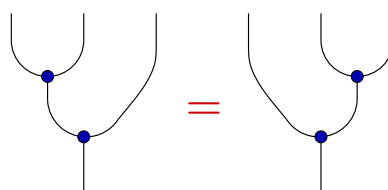
☞ **special** Frobenius algebra :



☞ Algebra :

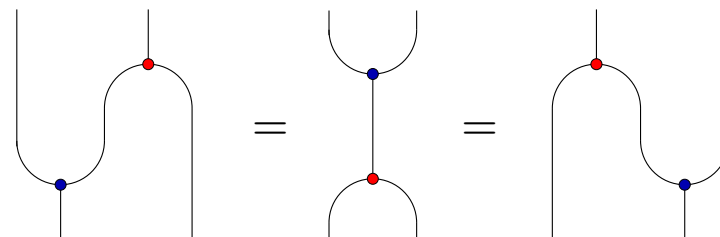


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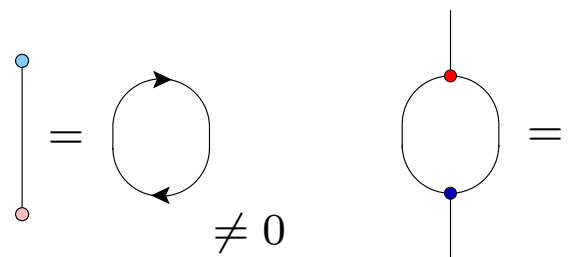


☞ Frobenius algebra : algebra and coalgebra

and coproduct a bimodule morphism :



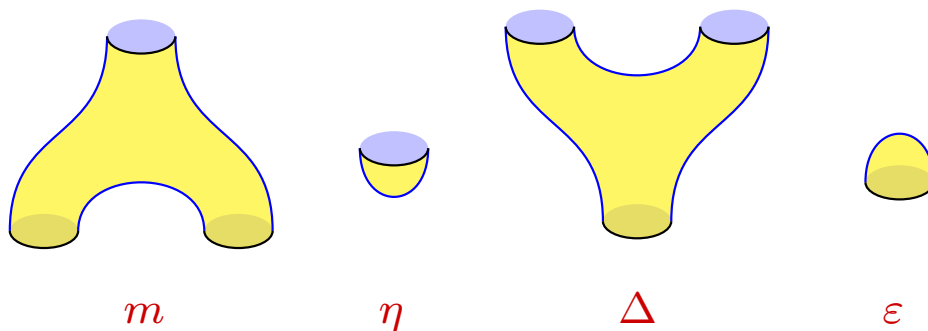
☞ special Frobenius algebra :



☞ natural setting : monoidal categories

Solution exercises

☞ the circle as a symmetric Frobenius algebra in $Cobord_{2,1}$:



Solution exercise 2

- Lesson: graphical calculus allows one to
 - ⚡ memorize definitions and results
 - ⚡ visualize proofs

Lemma [1:5.2]: For any symmetric special Frobenius algebra A

in a ribbon category \mathcal{C} the morphism

$$P := (\text{id} \otimes d) \circ (c_{A, A^\vee}^{-1} \otimes \text{id}) \circ (\text{id}^\vee \otimes m \otimes \text{id}) \circ (\tilde{b} \otimes \Delta)$$

is an idempotent

Proof:

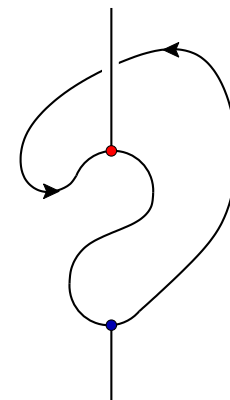
$$\begin{aligned} P \circ P &= (\text{id} \otimes d) \circ (c_{A, A^\vee}^{-1} \otimes \text{id}) \circ (\text{id}^\vee \otimes m \otimes \text{id}) \circ (\tilde{b} \otimes \Delta) \circ (\text{id} \otimes d) \circ (c_{A, A^\vee}^{-1} \otimes \text{id}) \circ (\text{id}^\vee \otimes m \otimes \text{id}) \circ (\tilde{b} \otimes \Delta) \\ &= \dots \\ &= (\text{id} \otimes d) \circ (c_{A, A^\vee}^{-1} \otimes \text{id}) \circ (\text{id}^\vee \otimes m \otimes \text{id}) \circ (\text{id}^\vee \otimes m \otimes \Delta) \circ (\tilde{b} \otimes \text{id} \otimes \text{id} \otimes d) \circ (c_{A, A^\vee}^{-1} \otimes c_{A, A^\vee}^{-1} \otimes \text{id}) \circ (\tilde{b} \otimes \Delta) \\ &= \dots \\ &= (\text{id} \otimes \tilde{d}) \circ (c_{A, A}^{-1} \otimes d \otimes \text{id}) \circ (\text{id} \otimes c_{A, A^\vee}^{-1} \otimes \text{id} \otimes \text{id}^\vee) \circ (\text{id} \otimes \text{id}^\vee \otimes m \otimes m \otimes \text{id}^\vee) \circ (\text{id} \otimes \tilde{b} \otimes \Delta \otimes d \otimes b) \\ &\quad \circ (c_{A, A^\vee}^{-1} \otimes c_{A, A^\vee}^{-1} \otimes \text{id}) \circ (\tilde{b} \otimes \Delta) \\ &= \dots \\ &= (\text{id} \otimes d) \circ (c_{A, A^\vee}^{-1} \otimes \text{id}) \circ (\text{id}^\vee \otimes m \otimes \text{id}) \circ (\tilde{b} \otimes \text{id} \otimes m) \circ (\Delta \otimes \text{id}) \circ \Delta \\ &= \dots \\ &= \dots \\ &= P \end{aligned}$$

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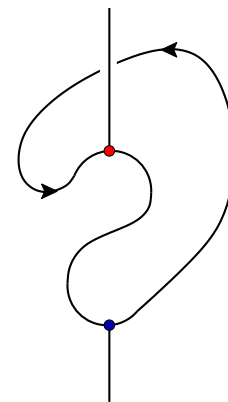
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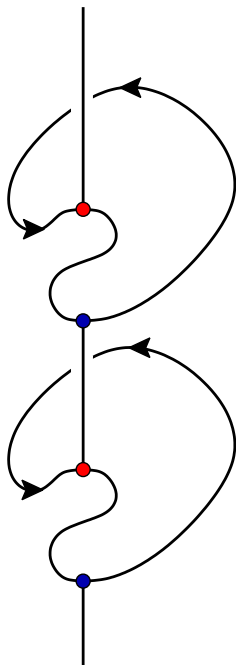
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Proof:

$$P \circ P =$$



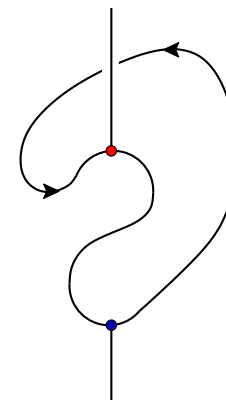
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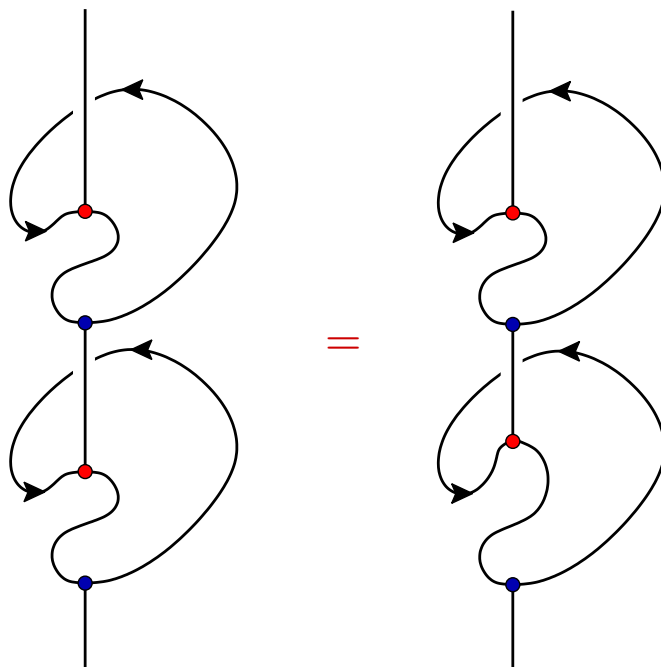
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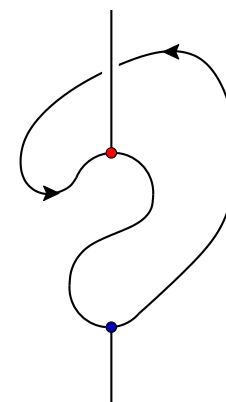
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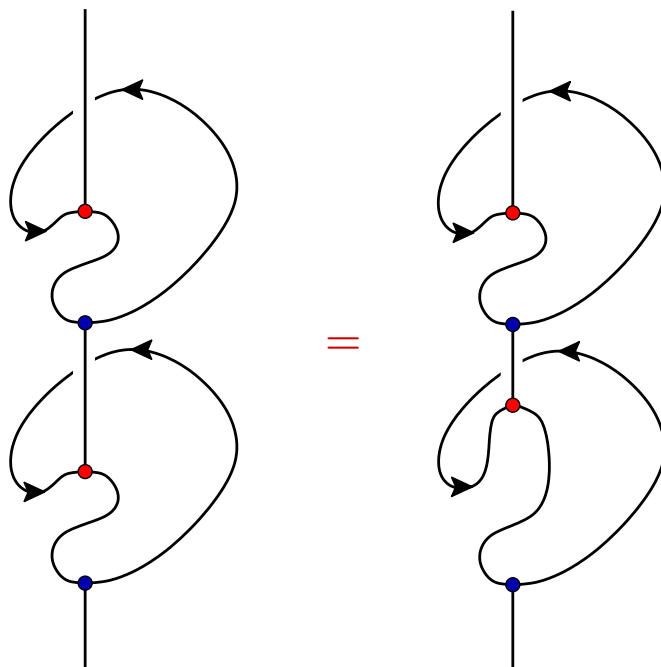
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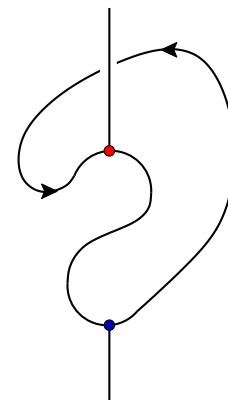
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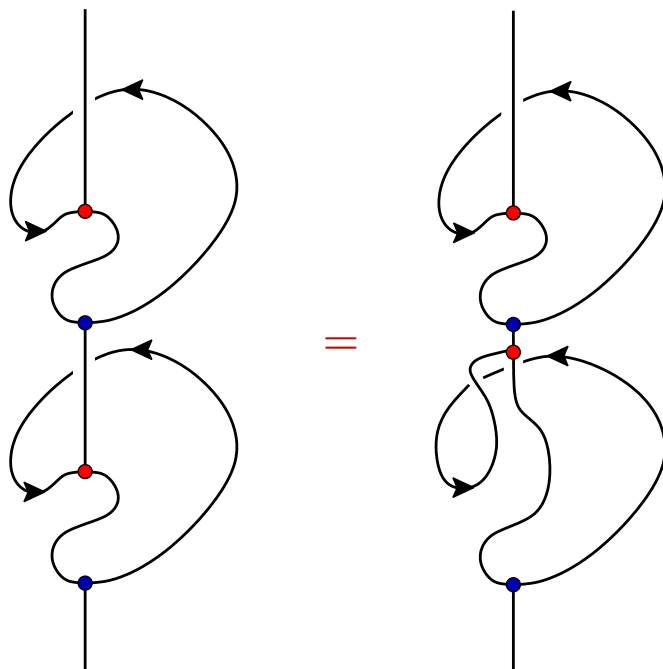
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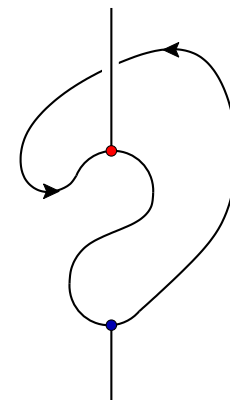
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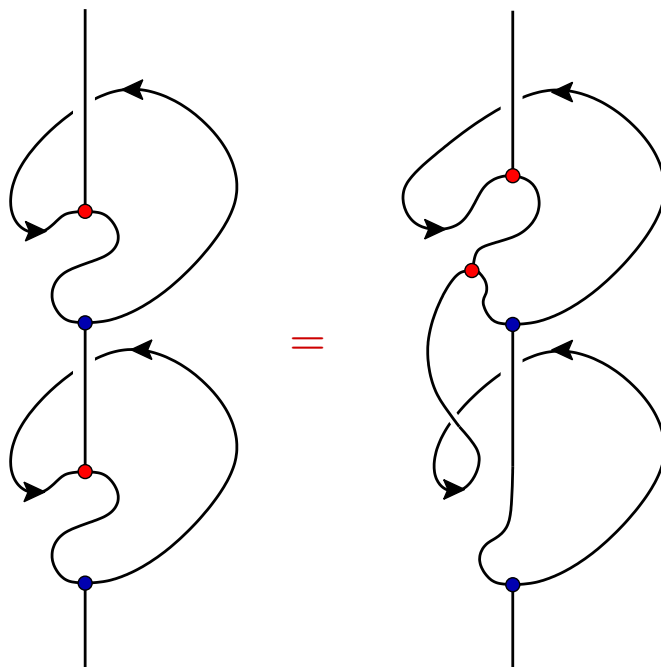
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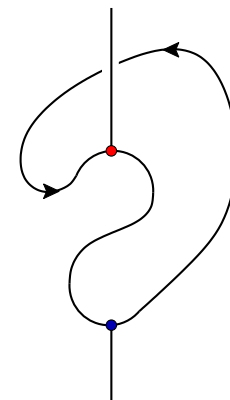
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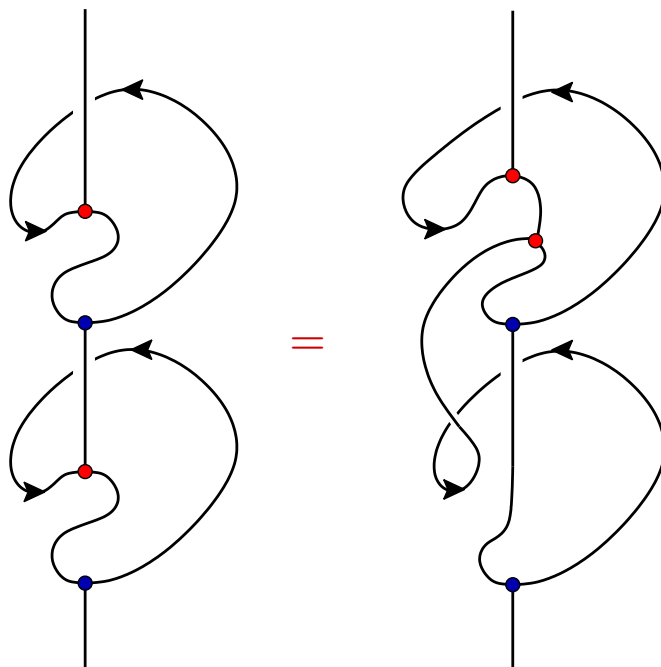
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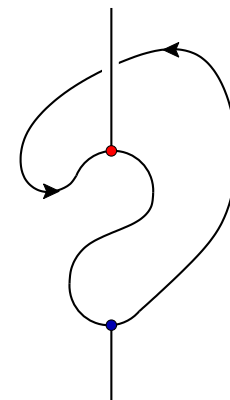
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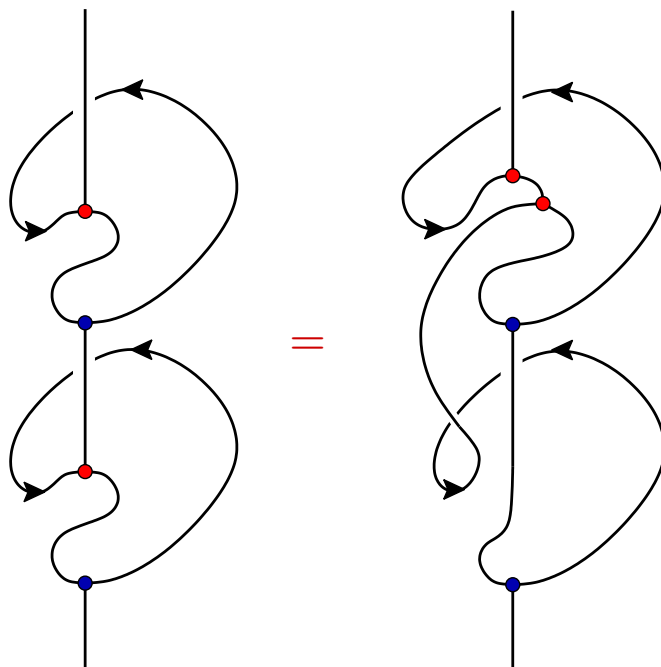
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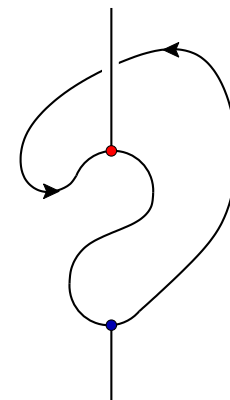
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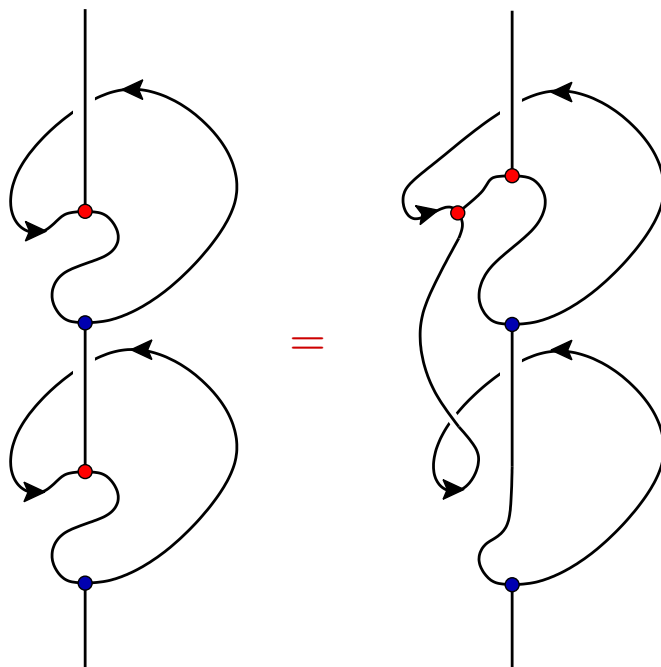
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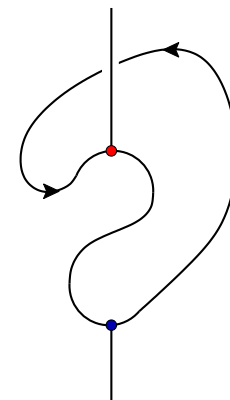
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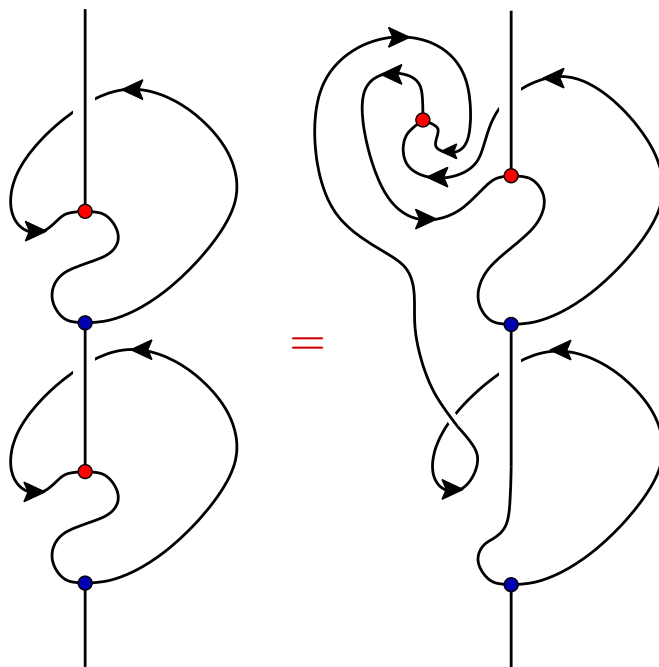
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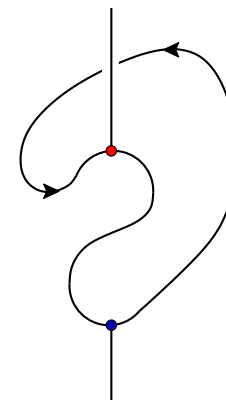
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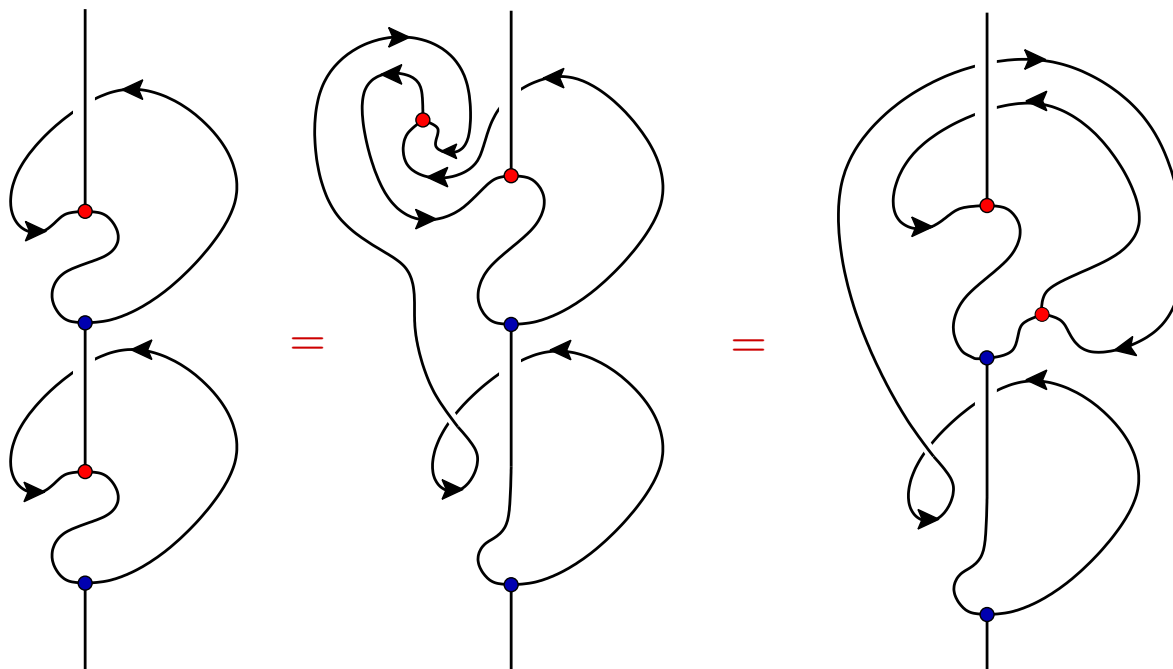
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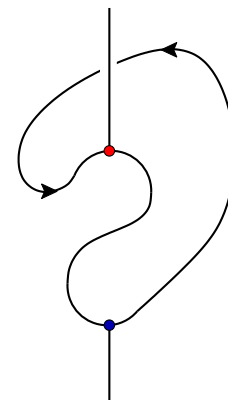
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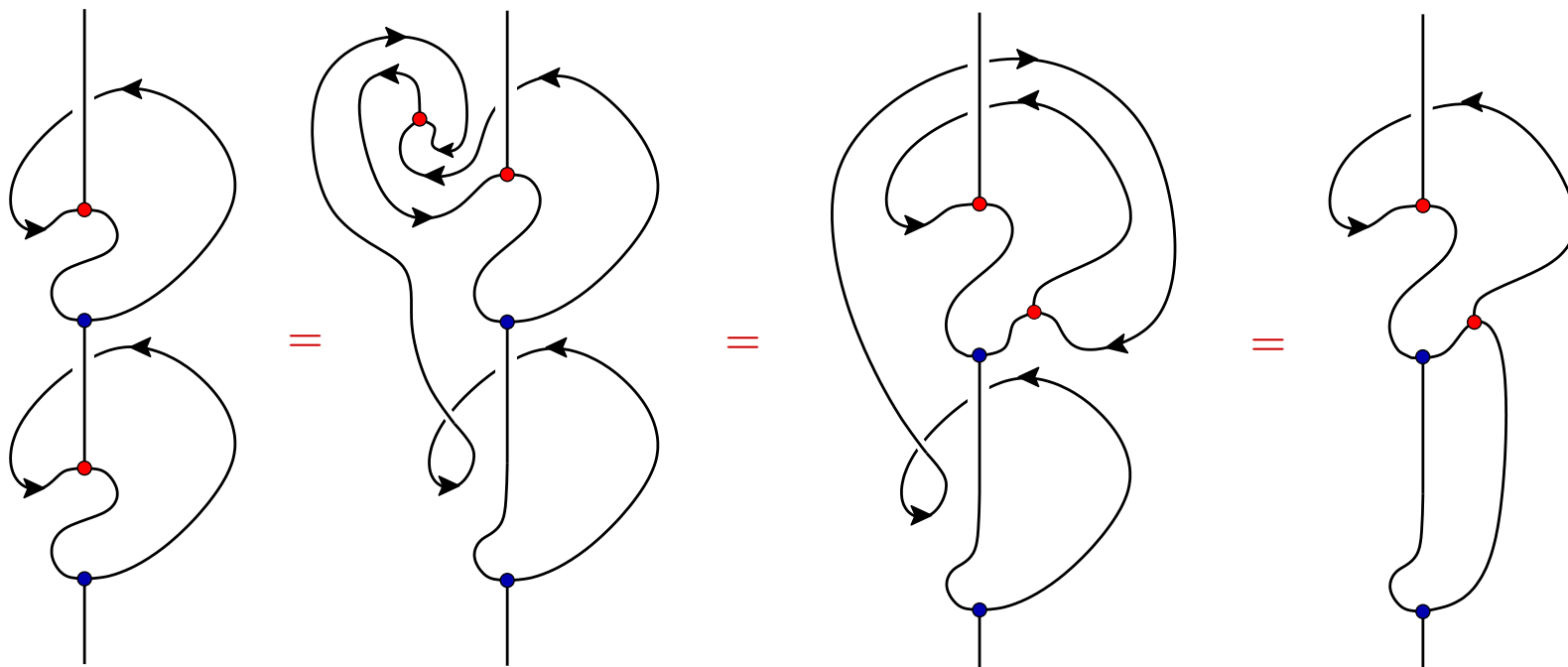
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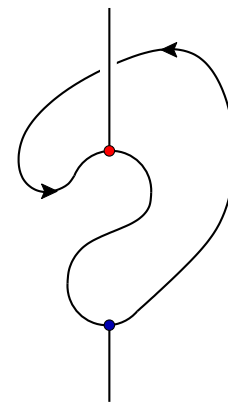
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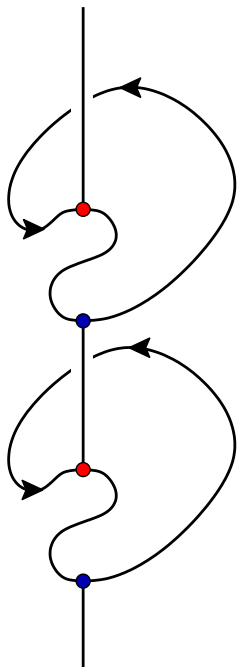
$$P := (\text{id} \otimes d) \circ (c_{A, A^\vee}^{-1} \otimes \text{id}) \circ (\text{id}^\vee \otimes m \otimes \text{id}) \circ (\tilde{b} \otimes \Delta) =$$

is an idempotent

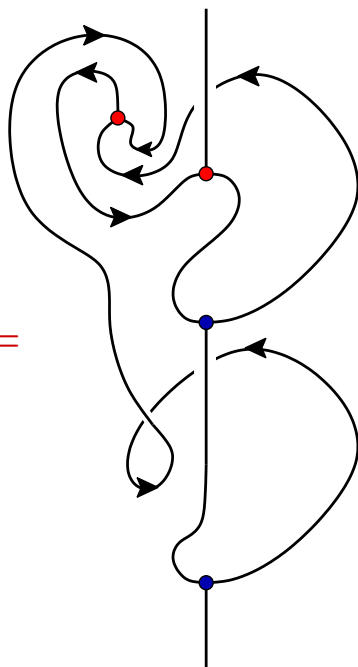


Proof:

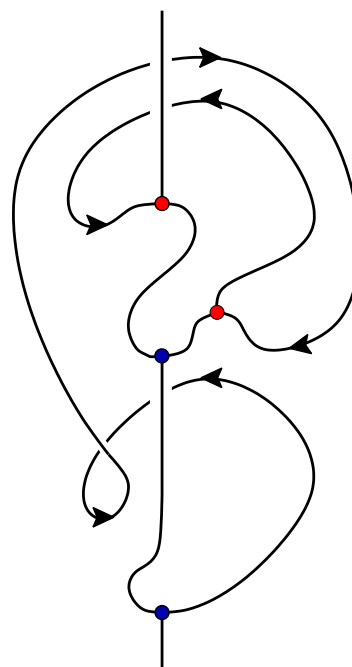
$$P \circ P =$$



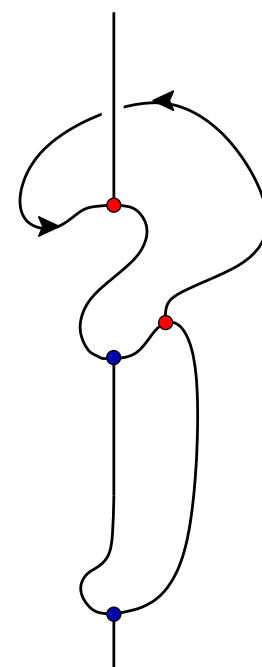
$$=$$



$$=$$



$$=$$



$$= \dots = P$$

Lemma [I:5.2]: For any object U of \mathcal{C} the morphism

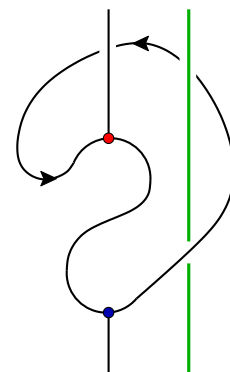
$$P_U := (\mathrm{id}_A \otimes d \otimes \mathrm{id}_U) \circ (c_{A,A^\vee}^{-1} \otimes c_{U,A}) \\ \circ (\mathrm{id}^\vee \otimes m \otimes \mathrm{id}_A \otimes \mathrm{id}_U) \circ (\tilde{b} \otimes c_{A,U}) \circ (\Delta \otimes \mathrm{id}_U)$$

is an idempotent

Lemma [I:5.2]: For any object U of \mathcal{C} the morphism

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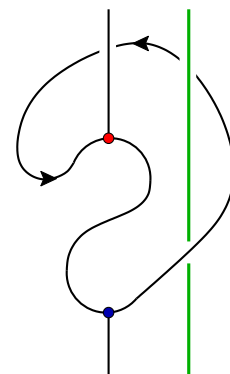
is an idempotent



Lemma [I:5.2]: For any object U of \mathcal{C} the morphism

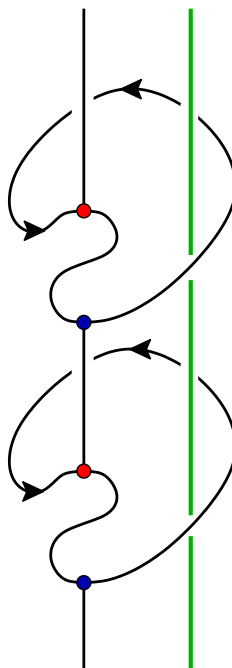
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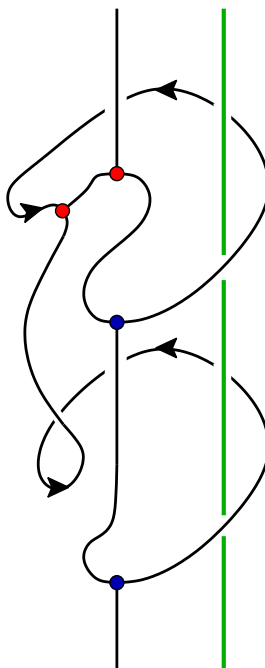


Proof:

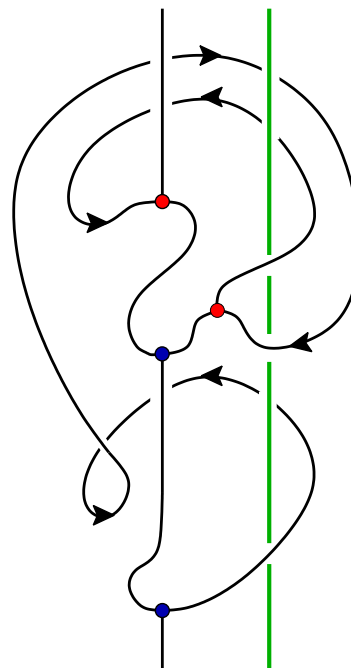
$$P_U \circ P_U =$$



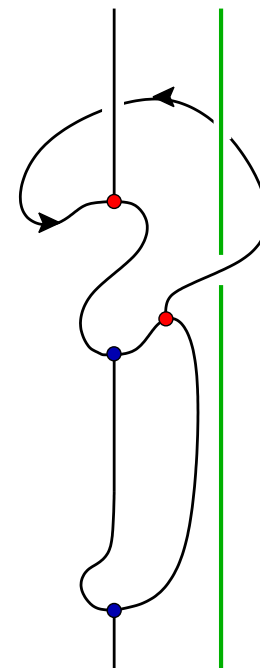
=



=



=



$$= \dots = P_U$$

Braided categories

Rigid monoidal categories

Fusion categories

Ribbon categories

ribbons@hyatt



Modular tensor categories

Drinfeld center

DESIRABLE

Braiding

- ➡ many interesting monoidal categories non-braided
- ➡ would like to promote them to braided categories

DESIRABLE

Braiding

- many interesting monoidal categories non-braided
- would like to promote them to braided categories

DEFINITION

Drinfeld center

- Drinfeld center $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{C})$** of monoidal category $\mathcal{C} :=$ category with
 - objects = pairs (x, γ) with $x \in \mathcal{C}$ and
$$\gamma = (\gamma_y)_{y \in \mathcal{C}} \text{ natural isomorphism } \gamma_y : x \otimes y \rightarrow y \otimes x$$
satisfying one half of the properties of a braiding (“half-braiding”)
 - morphisms = compatible morphisms of \mathcal{C}

PROPOSITION

Drinfeld center

☞ $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{C})$ monoidal with same associativity constraint as \mathcal{C}

☞ forgetting the half-braiding furnishes monoidal functor $U: \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$

PROPOSITION — Drinfeld center

- $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{C})$ monoidal with same associativity constraint as \mathcal{C}
- $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{C})$ braided with braiding $(\gamma^{\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{C})})_{(a,\gamma),(a',\gamma')} = \gamma_{a'}$

PROPOSITION — Drinfeld center

- $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{C})$ monoidal with same associativity constraint as \mathcal{C}
- $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{C})$ braided with braiding $(\gamma^{\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{C})})_{(a,\gamma),(a',\gamma')} = \gamma_{a'}$
- \mathcal{C} endowed with (right/left) duality
 $\Rightarrow \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{C})$ endowed with duality with
 $(x,\gamma)^\vee = (x^\vee, \gamma^-)$ and same evaluation and coevaluation
 with $(\gamma^-)_b$

$$:= (\text{ev}_a \otimes \text{id}_b \otimes \text{id}_{a^\vee}) \circ (\text{id}_{a^\vee} \otimes \gamma_b^{-1} \otimes \text{id}_{a^\vee}) \circ (\text{id}_{a^\vee} \otimes \text{id}_b \otimes \text{coev}_a)$$

PROPOSITION — Drinfeld center

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- \mathcal{C} ribbon \Rightarrow natural ribbon structure on $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{C})$

DEFINITION

Reverse category



Reverse category $\bar{\mathcal{C}}$ of braided / ribbon category \mathcal{C}

$:=$ same monoidal category with opposite braiding / and inverse twist

INFORMAL DEFINITION

Deligne product



Deligne product $\mathcal{C} \boxtimes \mathcal{D}$ of finite abelian categories \mathcal{C} and \mathcal{D}

⚡ sensible generalization of tensor product

⚡ defined through a universal property

DEFINITION

Reverse category

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DEFINITION

Deligne product

- Deligne product $\mathcal{C} \boxtimes \mathcal{D}$ of finite abelian categories \mathcal{C} and \mathcal{D}
 $:=$ the abelian category such that for any other abelian category \mathcal{E}
 right exact functors $\mathcal{C} \boxtimes \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$
 equivalent to functors $\mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$ right exact in each argument

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DEFINITION

Enveloping category

- enveloping category of $\mathcal{C} := \bar{\mathcal{C}} \boxtimes \mathcal{C}$

PROPOSITION

Enveloping category vs center

For any finite ribbon category \mathcal{C} have canonical braided monoidal functor

$$G_{\mathcal{C}}: \bar{\mathcal{C}} \boxtimes \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{C})$$

as a functor: $\bar{\mathcal{C}} \boxtimes \mathcal{C} \ni \bar{u} \boxtimes v \mapsto (\bar{u} \otimes v, (\gamma^{\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{C})})_{\bar{u} \otimes v})$

$$\bar{u} \boxtimes v \in \bar{\mathcal{C}} \boxtimes \mathcal{C}$$

$$(\gamma^{\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{C})})_{\bar{u} \otimes v; c} = ((\gamma^{\mathcal{C}})^{-1}_{c, \bar{u}} \otimes \text{id}_v) \circ (\text{id}_{\bar{u}} \otimes (\gamma^{\mathcal{C}})_{v, c})$$

PROPOSITION — Enveloping category vs center

For any finite ribbon category \mathcal{C} have canonical braided monoidal functor

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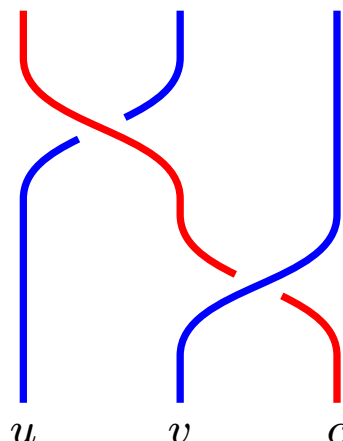
as a functor: $\bar{\mathcal{C}} \boxtimes \mathcal{C} \ni \bar{u} \boxtimes v \mapsto (\bar{u} \otimes v, (\gamma^{\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{C})})_{\bar{u} \otimes v})$

⚡ $\bar{u} \boxtimes v \in \bar{\mathcal{C}} \boxtimes \mathcal{C}$

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⚡ pictorially:

$$(\gamma^{\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{C})})_{\bar{u} \otimes v; c} =$$



PROPOSITION

Enveloping category vs center

For any finite ribbon category \mathcal{C} have canonical braided monoidal functor

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THEOREM

Modularity

Braided fusion category \mathcal{C} modular $\iff G_{\mathcal{C}}$ braided equivalence

Bicategories

- ☞ recall: category $Cobord_{d,d-1}$
 - with $d-1$ -manifolds as objects and d -manifolds as morphisms
- ☞ can cut a d -manifold along a $d-1$ -submanifold \rightsquigarrow locality property

☞ recall: category $\text{Cobord}_{d,d-1}$

with $d-1$ -manifolds as objects and d -manifolds as morphisms

DESIRABLE

Locality

☞ realize **locality** in strong sense :

allow for cutting also $d-1$ -submanifold along $d-2$ -submanifold etc.

☞ recall: category $Cobord_{d,d-1}$

with $d-1$ -manifolds as objects and d -manifolds as morphisms

DESIRABLE

Locality

☞ realize **locality** in strong sense :

allow for cutting also $d-1$ -submanifold along $d-2$ -submanifold etc.

☞ this way get multi-layered structure :

⚡ d -manifolds

⚡ $d-1$ -submanifolds

⚡ $d-2$ -submanifolds

⚡

☞ other example of three-layered structure : collection of all categories

⚡ categories

⚡ functors

⚡ natural transformations

DEFINITION

Bicategory

☞ bicategory \mathcal{B} :

Data :

- ⚡ class $\text{Obj}(\mathcal{B})$ of objects
- ⚡ category $\mathcal{H}om(A, B)$ for each pair $A, B \in \mathcal{B}$
- ⚡ functor $c_{A,B,C} : \mathcal{H}om(B, C) \times \mathcal{H}om(A, B) \rightarrow \mathcal{H}om(A, C)$
for each triple $A, B, C \in \mathcal{B}$
- mapping pairs of objects $(g, f) \mapsto g \circ f \in \mathcal{H}om(A, C)$
- and pairs of morphisms $(\beta, \alpha) \mapsto \beta \circ \alpha \in \mathcal{H}om_{\mathcal{H}om(A, C)}(-, -)$
- ⚡ functor $I_A : *//\text{id}_* \rightarrow \mathcal{H}om(A, A)$ for each $A \in \mathcal{B}$
- ⚡ ...

Axioms :

⚡ ...

DEFINITION

Bicategory

☞ **bicategory** :

Data : ⚡ class $\text{Obj}()$ / categories $\mathcal{H}om(A, B)$

⚡ composition functors $c_{A,B,C}$ / identity functors I_A

⚡ natural isomorphisms a, r, l of functors expressing

– associativity : $\mathcal{H}om(C, D) \times \mathcal{H}om(B, C) \times \mathcal{H}om(A, B)$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & \xleftarrow{c_{B,C,D} \times \text{Id}} & \\
 & \swarrow & \searrow \\
 \mathcal{H}om(B, D) \times \mathcal{H}om(A, B) & \xrightarrow{a_{A,B,C,D}} & \mathcal{H}om(C, D) \times \mathcal{H}om(A, C) \\
 \searrow c_{A,B,D} & & \swarrow c_{A,C,D} \\
 & \mathcal{H}om(A, D) &
 \end{array}$$

– unitality : $\mathcal{H}om(A, B) \times * // \text{id}_* \xrightarrow{\cong} \mathcal{H}om(A, B)$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & & \uparrow r_{A,B} \\
 & \searrow \text{Id} \times I_A & \nearrow a_{A,A,B} \\
 & \mathcal{H}om(A, B) \times \mathcal{H}om(A, A) &
 \end{array}$$

and ...

DEFINITION

Bicategory

⌚ bicategory \mathcal{B} :

Data: ⚡ class $\text{Obj}()$ / categories $\text{Hom}(A, B)$

⚡ composition functors $c_{A,B,C}$ / identity functors I_A

⚡ natural isomorphisms a, r, l

Axioms:

⚡ pentagon:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & ((kh)g)f & \\
 \alpha_{k,h,g} \otimes \text{id} \swarrow & & \searrow \alpha_{kh,g,f} \\
 (k(hg))f & & (kh) \otimes (gf) \\
 \alpha_{k,hg,f} \downarrow & & \downarrow \alpha_{k,h,gf} \\
 k(hg)f & \xrightarrow{\text{id} \otimes \alpha_{h,g,f}} & k(h(gf))
 \end{array}$$

⚡ triangle:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 (g \text{id})f & \xrightarrow{\alpha_{g,\text{id},f}} & g(\text{id}f) \\
 \searrow r_g * \text{id} & & \swarrow \text{id} * l_f \\
 & gf &
 \end{array}$$

COMMENTS

☞ terminology: objects / 1-morphisms / 2-morphisms
or 0-cells / 1-cells / 2-cells

☞ common notation: $*//\text{id}_* =: \mathbf{1}$

☞ common notation: “ \Rightarrow ” for 2-cells

☞ natural isomorphisms give specific 2-cell components

$$a_{h,g,f}: (hg)f \xrightarrow{\cong} h(gf) \quad l_f: \mathbf{1}_B \circ f \xrightarrow{\cong} f \quad r_f: f \circ \mathbf{1}_A \xrightarrow{\cong} f$$

EXAMPLES



$\mathcal{C}at$

- ⚡ objects = small categories
- ⚡ 1-morphisms = functors
- ⚡ 2-morphisms = natural transformations



bicategory with a single object $*$

- ⚡ specified by the category $\mathcal{E}nd(*)$ (monoidal)
- ⚡ composition of 1-morphisms = tensor product of $\mathcal{E}nd(*)$



$\mathcal{A}lg$

- ⚡ objects = \mathbb{k} -algebras
- ⚡ $\mathcal{H}om(A, A')$ = category $A\text{-Bimod-}A'$ of A - A' -bimodules
- ⚡ composition of 1-morphisms = tensor product of bimodules

special case :

DEFINITION 2-category

■ $2\text{-category} :=$ strict bicategory

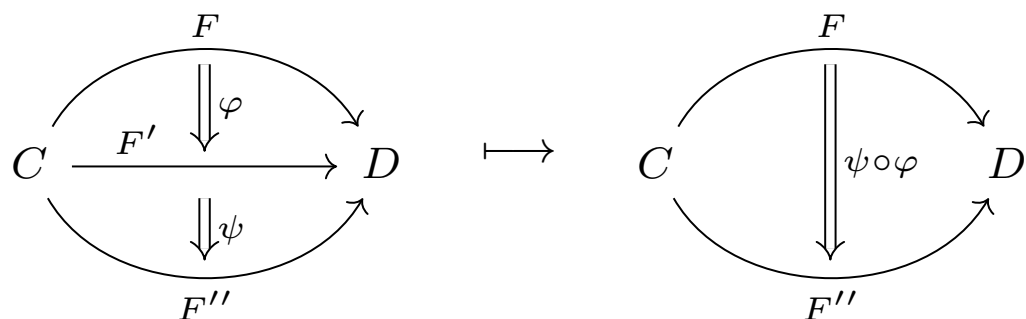
i.e. α, l, r identities

EXAMPLE

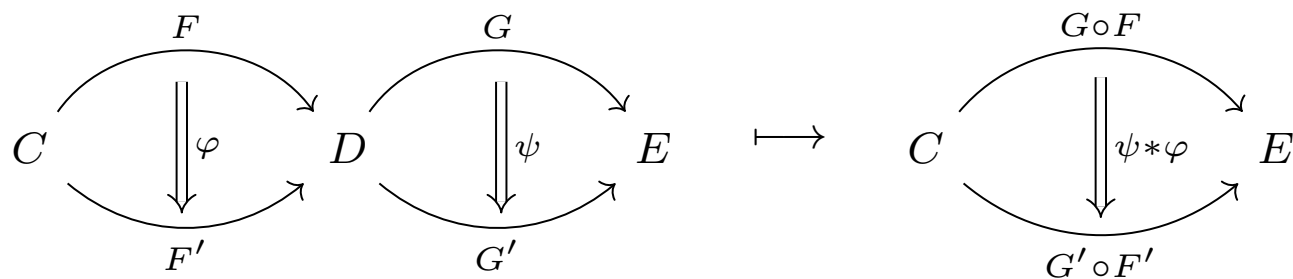
■ Cat

☞ two different compositions of 2-cells :

⚡ vertical composition = composition of morphisms in $\mathcal{H}om(-, -)$:

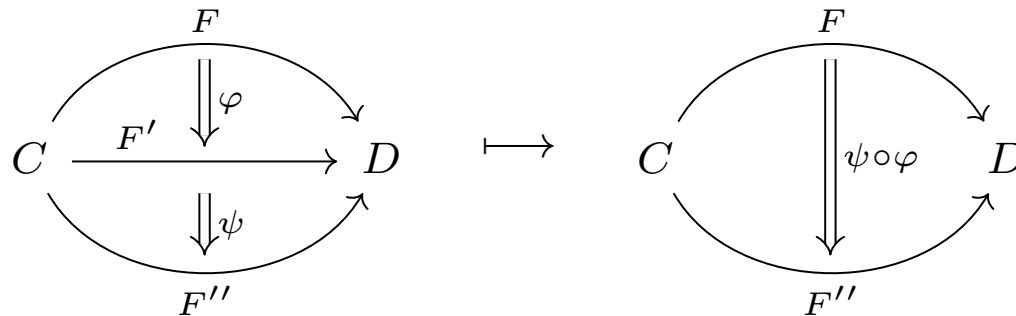


⚡ horizontal composition :

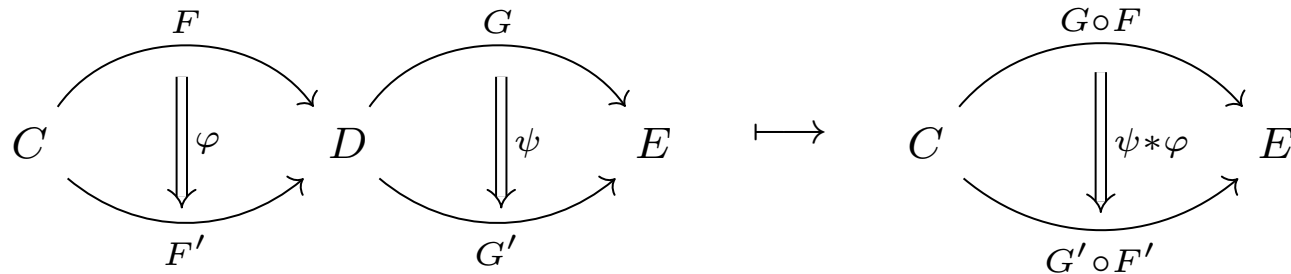


☞ two different compositions of 2-cells :

⚡ vertical composition = composition of morphisms in $\mathcal{H}om(-, -)$:



⚡ horizontal composition :



⚡ horizontal composition associative up to natural isomorphism

⚡ interchange law : $(\alpha * \beta) \circ (\gamma * \delta) = (\alpha \circ \gamma) * (\beta \circ \delta)$

Defects

- 👉 Goal: 2-d defects in 3-d TFT as models for line defects in topological orders
- 👉 Warmup: Line defects in 2-d RCFT
- 👉 Then: topological defects in 3-d TFT of Reshetikhin-Turaev type

👉 Codimension-1 defect QFT_1 | QFT_2

= interface separating region supporting QFT_1 from region supporting QFT_2

☞ Codimension-1 defect $\text{QFT}_1 \mid \text{QFT}_2$

= interface separating region supporting QFT_1 from region supporting QFT_2

⚡ ubiquitous in nature

⚡ natural part of the structure of quantum field theory

⚡ *physical boundaries* as special case

$\text{QFT}_1 \mid$

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= interface separating region supporting QFT_1 from region supporting QFT_2

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⚡ *physical boundaries* as special case

☞ *Topological defect*: correlators do not change when deforming the defect
without crossing other substructures

☞ *Example*: 2-d Ising model

⚡ ferromagnetic nearest-neighbour interaction

⚡ change coupling to *anti*-ferromagnetic on all bonds crossed by some line

↪ topological defect line

☞ Codimension-1 defect $\text{QFT}_1 \mid \text{QFT}_2$

= interface separating region supporting QFT_1 from region supporting QFT_2

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☞ *Topological defect*: correlators do not change when deforming the defect
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☞ Some general features of topological defects :

⚡ codimension-2 defects $\text{def}_1 \mid \text{def}_2$ etc

⚡ transparent defect

⚡ invert orientation \rightsquigarrow dual defect

⚡ move two topological defects to coincidence \rightsquigarrow fusion product of defects

- 👉 Codimension-1 **defect** $\text{QFT}_1 \mid \text{QFT}_2$
 - = interface separating region supporting QFT_1 from region supporting QFT_2
 - ⚡ ubiquitous in nature
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- 👉 **Topological defect**: correlators do not change when deforming the defect
 - without crossing other substructures
- 👉 Some general features of topological defects :
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 - ⚡ transparent defect
 - ⚡ invert orientation \rightsquigarrow dual defect
 - ⚡ move two topological defects to coincidence \rightsquigarrow fusion product of defects
- 👉 **Mathematical formulation**: \rightsquigarrow higher categories

Invertible defects and symmetries

Tensor categories and topological order

assume : defects form a rigid monoidal category
(proven for 2-d RCFT)

▮ Subclass : *invertible* topological defects :

$$D \otimes D^\vee \cong \mathbf{1} \cong D^\vee \otimes D$$

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▮ Subclass : *invertible* topological defects :

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▮ Basic property :

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram: Two vertical lines. The left line is labeled } D \text{ with an upward arrow. The right line is labeled } D^\vee \text{ with a downward arrow.} \\ \text{Diagram: A pair of pants shape. A line labeled } D \text{ enters from the top left, and a line labeled } D^\vee \text{ enters from the top right. Both lines merge into a single line exiting from the bottom.} \end{array}$$

drawn for $d = 2$

$$\dim(D) = \pm 1$$

~ identity of correlators when applied locally in any configuration of fields & defects

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$$\begin{array}{c} \uparrow \\ D \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \downarrow \\ D^V \end{array} = \dim(D) \quad \begin{array}{c} D \quad D^V \\ \downarrow \quad \uparrow \end{array}$$

identity of correlators when applied locally in any configuration of fields & defects

Invertible defects and symmetries

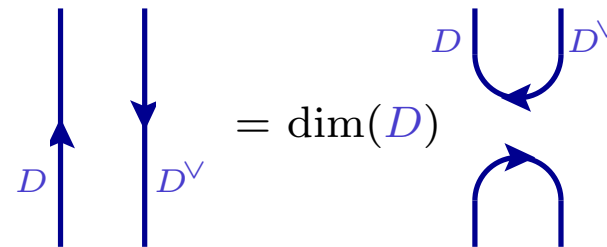
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➡ Basic property :


$$\begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram: Two vertical lines, left labeled } D \text{ (upward arrow), right labeled } D^\vee \text{ (downward arrow).} \\ \text{Diagram: A cup and cap, top labeled } D \text{ and } D^\vee, bottom labeled } D^\vee \text{ and } D. \end{array} = \dim(D)$$

~ identity of correlators when applied locally in any configuration of fields & defects

⚡ invertible defects form a group under fusion

⚡ act on *all* data of the theory as a *symmetry group*

⚡ e.g. critical 2-d Ising model : \mathbb{Z}_2

critical three-state Potts model : \mathfrak{S}_3

Invertible defects and symmetries

Tensor categories and topological order

assume : defects form a rigid monoidal category
(proven for 2-d RCFT)

➡ Subclass : *invertible* topological defects :

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➡ Basic property :

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram of } D \text{ and } D^\vee \text{ lines} \end{array} = \dim(D) \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram of } D \text{ and } D^\vee \text{ arcs} \end{array}$$

~ identity of correlators when applied locally in any configuration of fields & defects

⚡ invertible defects form a group under fusion

⚡ act on *all* data of the theory as a *symmetry group*

⚡ **Example** : equalities for bulk field correlators on sphere :

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram of 4 dots} \end{array} = \dim(D) \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram of circle with dot and 2 dots} \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram of 4 circles with dots} \end{array}$$

(continuing in $d = 2$)

- Wrapping of general topological defect around a bulk field :

The diagram illustrates the wrapping of a general topological defect around a bulk field. On the left, a red line representing a defect D forms a loop that encircles a blue dot representing a bulk field ϕ . This is set equal to a summation over intermediate defects D_i . On the right, a red line D is shown as a vertical line. A blue dot ϕ is connected to this line by a horizontal blue line segment labeled D_i . A small red circle is drawn around the blue dot ϕ , and a green line segment connects the blue dot to the red circle.

$$\text{Red line } D \text{ wrapping } \phi = \sum_{\text{intermediate defects } D_i} \text{Red line } D \text{ with } \phi \text{ and } D_i$$

(continuing in $d = 2$)

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The diagram illustrates the wrapping of a general topological defect around a bulk field. On the left, a red line representing a defect D forms a loop that encircles a blue dot representing a bulk field ϕ . This is set equal to a summation over intermediate defects D_i . On the right, the diagram shows a red line D passing through a blue dot ϕ . A small red circle labeled D is attached to the line, and a blue line segment labeled D_i connects the blue dot to the red line.

$$\text{Red line } D \text{ wrapping } \phi = \sum_{\text{intermediate defects } D_i} \text{Red line } D \text{ passing through } \phi \text{ with } D_i \text{ segment}$$

- ⚡ bulk field turned into disorder field

(continuing in $d = 2$)

- Wrapping of general topological defect around a bulk field :

$$\text{Diagram of } D \text{ around } \phi = \sum_{\text{intermediate defects } D_i} \text{Diagram of } D \text{ around } \phi \text{ connected to } D_i$$

- ⚡ bulk field turned into disorder field
- ⚡ wrapping with dual defect turns disorder field back to bulk field if and only if $D \otimes D^\vee$ is direct sum of invertible defects
- ⚡ in this case have an **order-disorder duality**
 - e.g. critical 2-d Ising model: remnant of Kramers-Wannier duality
- ⚡ again action on all field theoretic quantities

(continuing in $d = 2$)

- Wrapping of general topological defect around a bulk field :

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- bulk field turned into disorder field

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$D \otimes D^\vee$ is direct sum of invertible defects

- Example** : correlator of two Ising spin fields on a torus :

$$\text{Diagram of } \sigma \text{ correlator} = \frac{1}{2} \text{Diagram of } \mu \text{ correlator} + \frac{1}{2} \text{Diagram of } \mu \text{ correlator} + \frac{1}{2} \text{Diagram of } \mu \text{ correlator} + \frac{1}{2} \text{Diagram of } \mu \text{ correlator}$$

- ☞ **RT-type TFT**: symmetric monoidal functor $\mathbf{tft}_{3,2}^{\mathcal{D}} : \mathit{Cobord}_{3,2} \longrightarrow \mathit{Vect}$
 resp. 2-functor $\mathbf{tft}_{3,2,1}^{\mathcal{D}} : \mathit{Cobord}_{3,2,1} \longrightarrow 2\text{-}\mathit{Vect}$
- ⚡ input: a modular tensor category \mathcal{D}

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- ⚡ input : a modular tensor category \mathcal{D}
- ⚡ Wilson lines (ribbons) in three-manifolds labeled by objects of \mathcal{D}
- ⚡ insertions on Wilson lines / junctions labeled by morphisms of \mathcal{D}
- ⚡ 2-d cut-and-paste boundaries on which Wilson lines can end
- ⚡ state spaces for cut-and-paste boundaries = morphisms spaces $\mathit{Hom}_{\mathcal{D}}(X, \mathbf{1})$

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☞ RT-type TFT with boundaries and defects :

- ⚡ include in \mathcal{Cobord} three-manifolds with physical boundary
- ⚡ include in \mathcal{Cobord} three-manifolds with surface defects

-
-
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- **RT-type TFT with boundaries and defects** :
- ⚡ include three-manifolds with physical boundary and/or surface defects
- ⚡ 3-d bulk regions labeled by modular tensor categories $\mathcal{D}_1, \mathcal{D}_2, \dots$
(bulk Wilson lines in such a region labeled by objects of \mathcal{D}_i)
- ⚡ boundary Wilson lines and defect Wilson lines
- ⚡ several layers of insertions and of junctions

☞ RT-type TFT : symmetric monoidal functor $\mathbf{tft}_{3,2}^{\mathcal{D}} : \mathbf{Cobord}_{3,2} \longrightarrow \mathbf{Vect}$
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Task : construct symmetric monoidal 2-functor $\mathbf{Cobord}_{3,2,1}^{\partial} \longrightarrow 2\text{-}\mathbf{Vect}$
 for category of cobordisms with corners

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Task : construct symmetric monoidal 2-functor $\mathbf{Cobord}_{3,2,1}^{\partial} \longrightarrow 2\text{-}\mathbf{Vect}$
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In particular :






- ⚡ determine labels for physical boundaries / for surface defects
- ⚡ determine labels for boundary and defect Wilson lines and for insertions

Conjecture : *Fit together to form bicategories of module categories*

Boundary Wilson lines

- ☞ Select boundary “ a ” to some bulk region labeled by a modular tensor category \mathcal{C}
 - ⚡ can contain boundary Wilson lines
 - ⚡ Wilson line can contain insertions
 - ⚡ insertions can be composed

category \mathcal{W}_a of Wilson lines on boundary a

-
-
-  Select boundary “ a ” to some bulk region labeled by a modular tensor category \mathcal{C}
 -  can contain boundary Wilson lines
 -  Wilson line can contain insertions
 -  insertions can be composed
 -  boundary Wilson lines can be fused and can be deformed
-
-

•  rigid monoidal category \mathcal{W}_a of Wilson lines on boundary a

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 - ⚡ can contain boundary Wilson lines
 - ⚡ Wilson line can contain insertions
 - ⚡ insertions can be composed
 - ⚡ boundary Wilson lines can be fused and can be deformed
 - ⚡ also impose : finitely semisimple etc
 - 🌀 spherical fusion category \mathcal{W}_a of Wilson lines on boundary a

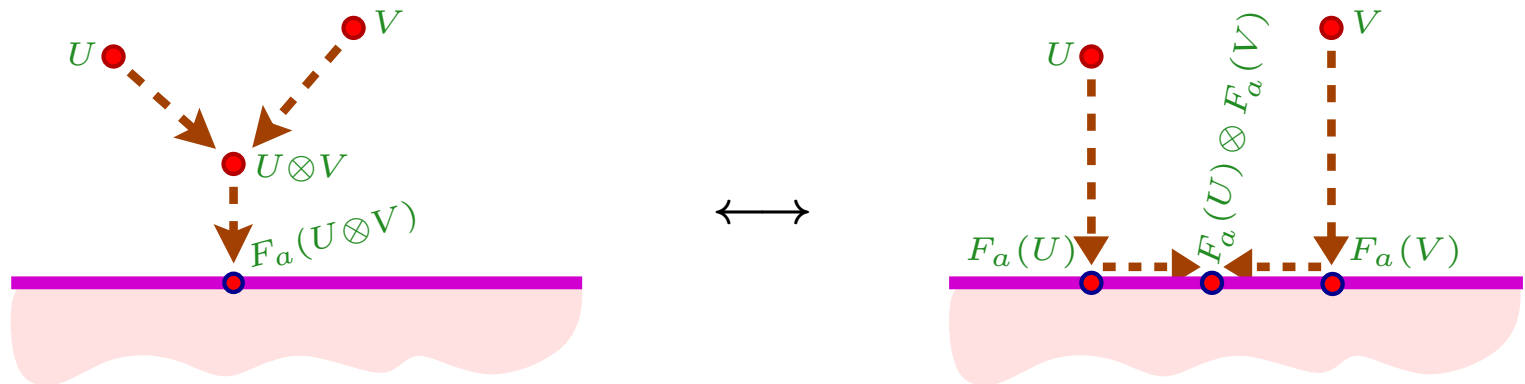
Boundary Wilson lines

- ☞ Select boundary “ a ” to some bulk region labeled by a modular tensor category \mathcal{C}
 - \rightsquigarrow fusion category \mathcal{W}_a of Wilson lines on boundary a
- ☞ Postulate process of moving bulk Wilson lines to boundary
 - \rightsquigarrow functor $F_a: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{W}_a$

- ☞ Select boundary “ a ” to some bulk region labeled by a modular tensor category \mathcal{C}

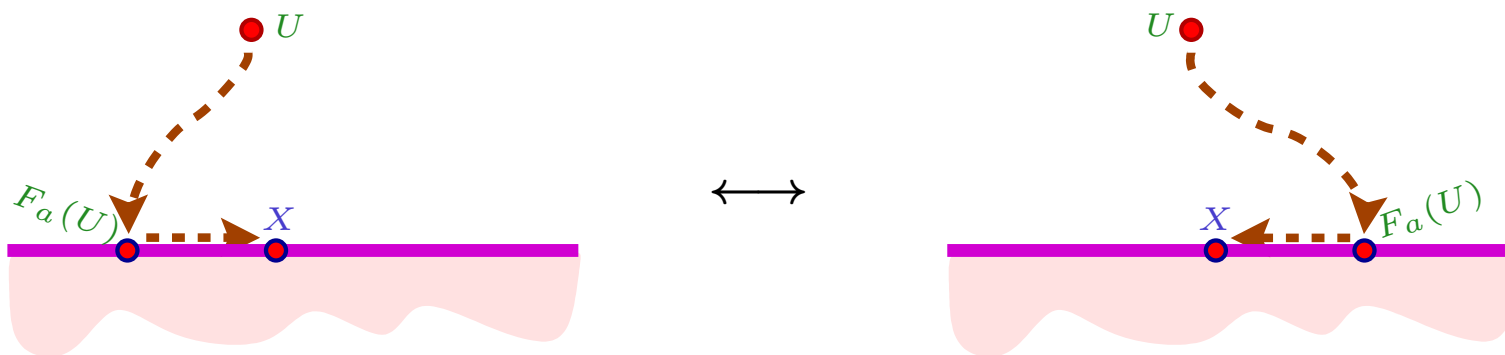
\leadsto fusion category \mathcal{W}_a of Wilson lines on boundary a
- ☞ Postulate process of moving bulk Wilson lines to boundary

\leadsto functor $F_a: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{W}_a$
- ☞ Impose compatibility of fusion in bulk and boundary



\leadsto monoidal structure $F_a(U \otimes_{\mathcal{C}} V) \xrightarrow{\cong} F_a(U) \otimes_{\mathcal{W}_a} F_a(V)$

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- ☞ Impose independence from details of bulk-to-boundary process



\leadsto central structure $F_a(U) \otimes_{\mathcal{W}_a} X \xrightarrow{\cong} X \otimes_{\mathcal{W}_a} F_a(U)$

-
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 - \leadsto central structure $F_a(U) \otimes_{\mathcal{W}_a} X \xrightarrow{\cong} X \otimes_{\mathcal{W}_a} F_a(U)$

equivalently: choice of lift

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{W}_a) & \\
 \tilde{F}_a \nearrow & \downarrow \text{forget} & \\
 \mathcal{C} & \xrightarrow{F_a} & \mathcal{W}_a
 \end{array}$$

to Drinfeld center of \mathcal{W}_a

- Select boundary “ a ” to some bulk region labeled by a modular tensor category \mathcal{C}

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 \leadsto central structure $F_a(U) \otimes_{\mathcal{W}_a} X \xrightarrow{\cong} X \otimes_{\mathcal{W}_a} F_a(U)$
- Postulate naturality :

 only reason for being able to consistently move boundary Wilson line $Y \in \mathcal{W}_a$

 past any $X \in \mathcal{W}_a$ should be that $Y = F_a(U)$ for some $U \in \mathcal{C}$

 \leadsto braided equivalence $\mathcal{C} \xrightarrow{\cong} \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{W}_a)$

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In short: Compatible boundary condition for bulk region \mathcal{C}

$$= \text{Witt trivialization } \tilde{F}_a: \mathcal{C} \xrightarrow{\cong} \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{W}_a) \quad \text{for some fusion category } \mathcal{W}_a$$

■ Thus for single boundary condition a :

$$\mathcal{C} \xrightarrow{\cong} \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{W}_a)$$

⚡ in particular **obstruction**: no compatible boundary condition unless $[\mathcal{C}] = 0$
in *Witt group* of modular tensor categories

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- Other boundary condition b :

other fusion category \mathcal{W}_b of Wilson lines in region b

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■ Other boundary condition b :

⚡ category $\mathcal{W}_{a,b}$

of Wilson lines separating boundary region labeled a from region labeled b

⚡ fusion of Wilson lines in region $a \rightsquigarrow$ functor $\mathcal{W}_a \times \mathcal{W}_{a,b} \longrightarrow \mathcal{W}_{a,b}$

⚡ gives action of \mathcal{W}_a on $\mathcal{W}_{a,b}$: $\mathcal{W}_{a,b}$ is left module category over \mathcal{W}_a

⚡ likewise: $\mathcal{W}_{a,b}$ is right module category over \mathcal{W}_b

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⚡ likewise: $\mathcal{W}_{a,b}$ is right module category over \mathcal{W}_b

⚡ but also: $\mathcal{W}_{a,b}$ is right module category over $\text{End}_{\mathcal{W}_a}(\mathcal{W}_{a,b})$

↖ module endofunctors

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- Impose naturality: $\text{End}_{\mathcal{W}_a}(\mathcal{W}_{a,b}) \simeq \mathcal{W}_b$

Consistency check: $\mathcal{Z}(\text{End}_{\mathcal{W}_a}(\mathcal{W}_{a,b})) \simeq \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{W}_a)$ canonically

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☞ Impose naturality: $\text{End}_{\mathcal{W}_a}(\mathcal{W}_{a,b}) \simeq \mathcal{W}_b$

\implies can work with a single *reference boundary condition* a

☞ **Conjecture**: *Boundary conditions for \mathcal{C} form the bicategory $\mathcal{W}_a\text{-Mod}$*

of module categories over a fusion category \mathcal{W}_a satisfying $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{W}_a) \simeq \mathcal{C}$

Boundary conditions

- ☞ Will assume: Boundary conditions given by $\mathcal{W}_a\text{-Mod}$
- ☞ Then $\mathcal{W}_{b,c} \simeq \text{Fun}_{\mathcal{W}_a}(\mathcal{W}_b, \mathcal{W}_c)$ for any pair of boundary conditions b, c

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☞ Warning:

via $\mathcal{C} \xrightarrow{\simeq} \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{W}_a) \xrightarrow{\text{forget}} \mathcal{W}_a$

any $\mathcal{M} \in \mathcal{W}_a\text{-Mod}$ has natural structure of \mathcal{C} -module category

But not every \mathcal{C} -module category of a Witt-trivial \mathcal{C} gives a boundary condition

Illustration: Toric code

⚡ 2 elementary boundary conditions

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Illustration : Toric code

⚡ 2 elementary boundary conditions

⚡ $\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{Z}(\text{Vect}(\mathbb{Z}_2))$

⚡ 6 inequivalent indecomposable module categories over \mathcal{C}

⚡ 2 inequivalent indecomposable module categories over $\mathcal{W} = \text{Vect}(\mathbb{Z}_2)$

☞ Parallel analysis for **surface defects** :

⚡ defect d separating bulk regions labeled by \mathcal{C}_1 and \mathcal{C}_2

⚡ two monoidal functors $\mathcal{C}_1 \rightarrow \mathcal{W}_d$ and $\mathcal{C}_2^{\text{rev}} \rightarrow \mathcal{W}_d$ to fusion category \mathcal{W}_d

 inverse braiding

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⚡ combine to central functor $\mathcal{C}_1 \boxtimes \mathcal{C}_2^{\text{rev}} \rightarrow \mathcal{W}_d$

⤵ Deligne product

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- ⚡ combine to central functor $\mathcal{C}_1 \boxtimes \mathcal{C}_2^{\text{rev}} \rightarrow \mathcal{W}_d$
- ⚡ naturality \rightsquigarrow braided equivalence $\mathcal{C}_1 \boxtimes \mathcal{C}_2^{\text{rev}} \xrightarrow{\cong} \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{W}_d)$
- ⚡ obstruction : no defects between \mathcal{C}_1 and \mathcal{C}_2 unless $[\mathcal{C}_1] = [\mathcal{C}_2]$ in Witt group

▮ Parallel analysis for **surface defects** :

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▮ *Defects separating \mathcal{C}_1 from \mathcal{C}_2 form the bicategory $\mathcal{W}_d\text{-Mod}$*

of module categories over a fusion category \mathcal{W}_d satisfying $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{W}_d) \simeq \mathcal{C}_1 \boxtimes \mathcal{C}_2^{\text{rev}}$

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▮ **Example**: Canonical Witt trivialization $\mathcal{C} \boxtimes \mathcal{C}^{\text{rev}} \xrightarrow{\cong} \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{C})$ (\mathcal{C} modular)

⚡ defects separating \mathcal{C} from itself = \mathcal{C} -module categories

☞ Parallel analysis for **surface defects** :

- ⚡ defect d separating bulk regions labeled by \mathcal{C}_1 and \mathcal{C}_2
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☞ Canonical Witt trivialization $\mathcal{C} \boxtimes \mathcal{C}^{\text{rev}} \xrightarrow{\simeq} \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{C})$

- ⚡ defects separating \mathcal{C} from itself = \mathcal{C} -module categories
- ⚡ *regular* \mathcal{C} -module category $(\mathcal{C}, \otimes) \leadsto$ **transparent defect** \mathcal{T}
- ⚡ serves as monoidal unit for fusion of surface defects
- ⚡ Wilson lines separating transparent defect from itself = ordinary Wilson lines

Parallel analysis for **surface defects** :

- ⚡ defect d separating bulk regions labeled by \mathcal{C}_1 and \mathcal{C}_2
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Defects separating \mathcal{C}_1 from \mathcal{C}_2 form the bicategory $\mathcal{W}_d\text{-Mod}$

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Canonical Witt trivialization $\mathcal{C} \boxtimes \mathcal{C}^{\text{rev}} \xrightarrow{\simeq} \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{C})$

- ⚡ defects separating \mathcal{C} from itself = \mathcal{C} -module categories
- ⚡ regular \mathcal{C} -module category $(\mathcal{C}, \otimes) \leadsto$ transparent defect \mathcal{T}

Example: Turaev-Viro TFT: $\mathcal{C}_1 \simeq \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{A}_1)$ and $\mathcal{C}_2 \simeq \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{A}_2)$

$$\leadsto \mathcal{C}_1 \boxtimes \mathcal{C}_2^{\text{rev}} \simeq \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{A}_1) \boxtimes \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{A}_2^{\text{op}}) \simeq \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{A}_1 \boxtimes \mathcal{A}_2^{\text{op}})$$

\leadsto defects separating \mathcal{C}_1 from \mathcal{C}_2 form bicategory $\mathcal{A}_1\text{-}\mathcal{A}_2\text{-Bimod}$