

# Thesis

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## Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Equality of variables in Geometry and logic</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Clifford algebras</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Koszul Complex</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Matrix factorisations</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>The Bicategory of Landau-Ginzburg models (over <math>k</math>)</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Splitting idempotents</b>	<b>9</b>
6.1	The superbicategorical structure on the homotopy category of matrix factorisations . . . . .	12
<b>7</b>	<b>The superbicategory <math>\mathcal{LG}</math></b>	<b>12</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Clifford thickening</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>Material I don't think I need</b>	<b>14</b>
9.1	The superbicategory $\mathcal{C}$ . . . . .	14
9.2	Super(bi)categories . . . . .	16
9.2.1	Supercategories . . . . .	16

# 1 Equality of variables in Geometry and logic

## 2 Clifford algebras

We work over the complex numbers  $k = \mathbb{C}$ .

**Definition 2.0.1.**

**Definition 2.0.2.** For  $n \geq 0$  let  $e_n \in C_n$  denote the element

$$e_n = \gamma_1 \cdots \gamma_n \gamma_n^\dagger \cdots \gamma_1^\dagger \quad (1)$$

## 3 Koszul Complex

Recall that a  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -graded ring  $R$  comes equipped with a choice of isomorphism  $R \cong R_0 \oplus R_1$  where  $R_0, R_1$  are subgroups of  $R$ . In such a setting we call elements of  $R_1$  **odd**.

**Definition 3.0.1.** Let  $E$  be a  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -graded ring and consider a set of odd elements  $\theta_1, \dots, \theta_n, \theta_1^*, \dots, \theta_n^* \in E$ . These **satisfy the canonical anticommutation relations** if the following hold for all  $i, j = 1, \dots, n$ .

- $\theta_i \theta_j + \theta_j \theta_i = 0$
- $\theta_i^* \theta_j^* + \theta_j^* \theta_i^* = 0$
- $\theta_i \theta_j^* + \theta_j^* \theta_i = \delta_{ij}$

Recall that when  $A, B$  are  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -graded modules (over a graded ring  $R$ , say) then  $\text{Hom}(A, B)$  is also a  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -graded module over  $R$ .

**Definition 3.0.2.** Let  $R$  be a commutative ring and  $E$  a finitely generated free  $R$ -module (of rank  $r$  say). Assume we are given an  $R$ -linear map  $s : E \rightarrow R$ . Then we define the **Koszul Complex** to be the following chain complex of  $R$ -modules.

$$0 \longrightarrow \bigwedge^r E \xrightarrow{d_r} \bigwedge^{r-1} E \xrightarrow{d_{r-1}} \cdots \longrightarrow \bigwedge^1 E \xrightarrow{d_1} R \longrightarrow 0 \quad (2)$$

where for  $i = 1, \dots, r$ :

$$d_i : \bigwedge^i E \longrightarrow \bigwedge^{i-1} E$$

$$e_{j_1} \wedge \dots \wedge e_{j_i} \longmapsto \sum_{k=1}^i s(e_{j_k})(-1)^{k-1} e_{j_1} \wedge \dots \wedge \hat{e}_{j_k} \wedge \dots \wedge e_{j_i}$$

where  $\hat{e}_{j_k}$  means to omit  $e_{j_k}$ .

When  $E$  is a  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -graded ring of the form  $E = \text{End}(A)$  for some  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -graded ring  $A$ , then  $E$  admitting a set of odd elements satisfying the anticommutation relations is sufficient for  $A$  to admit a Clifford algebra representation. See Lemma [1, Lemma 5.6.2].

Given a free  $R$ -module  $A = R\theta_1 \oplus \dots \oplus R\theta_r$  of rank  $r$ , the standard multiplication and contraction operators

$$\theta_i \wedge \_ \quad \theta_i^* \lrcorner \_ \tag{3}$$

satisfy the canonical anticommutation relations. Thus,  $A$  admits a Clifford algebra representation.

## 4 Matrix factorisations

Let  $k$  denote a ring.

Recall that if  $A, B$  are  $\mathbb{Z}$ -graded  $k$ -modules then  $\text{Hom}(A, B)$  is also  $\mathbb{Z}$ -graded [3]. We have a similar definition for  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -graded modules.

**Definition 4.0.1.** Let  $A, B$  be  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -graded  $k$ -modules. A homomorphism  $f : A \longrightarrow B$  is **even** if  $f(A_0) \subseteq B_0$  and  $f(A_1) \subseteq A_1$ . The homomorphism  $f$  is **odd** if  $f(A_0) \subseteq B_1$  and  $f(A_1) \subseteq B_0$ .

**Remark 4.0.2.** If  $f : A \longrightarrow B$  is any module homomorphism then  $f$  can be written as a matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} f_{00} & f_{01} \\ f_{10} & f_{11} \end{pmatrix} \tag{4}$$

The morphism  $f$  is thus even if  $f_{01} = f_{10} = 0$  and is odd if  $f_{00} = f_{11} = 0$ . This also shows that the morphism  $f$  can be written as the sum of an even and an odd component.

**Definition 4.0.3.** Let  $f \in k$  be a non-zero divisor. A **linear factorisation of  $f \in k$  over  $k$**  is a pair  $(X, \partial_X)$  consisting of a  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -graded  $k$ -module  $X = X_0 \oplus X_1$  and an odd homomorphism  $\partial_X : X \rightarrow X$  satisfying

$$\partial_X^2 = f \cdot \text{id}_X \quad (5)$$

If  $X$  is free then  $(X, \partial_X)$  is a **matrix factorisation**.

The theory of Matrix factorisations is motivated by the search for square roots to operators. As a toy example, multiplication by  $x^2 - y^2$  in  $\mathbb{C}[x, y]$  does not admit a square root, but it does if we allow matrix solutions.

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & x - y \\ x + y & 0 \end{pmatrix}^2 = (x^2 - y^2) \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (6)$$

A more serious example is given by the square root of the Laplacian operator, see the Introduction of [4].

Our interest in matrix factorisations comes from the fact that appropriate homotopy categories of matrix factorisations form the homcategories of the bicategory of Landau-Ginzburg models, which we anticipate to find within a model of multiplicative linear logic (proofs as hypersurface singularities).

**Definition 4.0.4.** A **morphism of linear factorisations**

$$\alpha : \left( X = X_0 \oplus X_1, d_X = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & p_X \\ q_X & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right) \longrightarrow \left( Y = Y_0 \oplus Y_1, d_Y = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & p_Y \\ q_Y & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right)$$

of  $f \in R$  is a pair of morphisms  $\alpha_0 : X_0 \rightarrow Y_0, \alpha_1 : X_1 \rightarrow Y_1$  rendering the following diagram commutative.

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} X_0 & \xrightarrow{p_X} & X_1 & \xrightarrow{q_X} & X_0 \\ \downarrow \alpha_0 & & \downarrow \alpha_1 & & \downarrow \alpha_0 \\ Y_0 & \xrightarrow{p_Y} & Y_1 & \xrightarrow{q_Y} & Y_0 \end{array} \quad (7)$$

Given a matrix factorisation  $(X = X_0 \oplus X_1, d_X) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & p_X \\ q_X & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  there is a sequence

$$\dots \xrightarrow{p_X} X_1 \xrightarrow{q_X} X_0 \xrightarrow{p_X} X_1 \xrightarrow{q_X} \dots \quad (8)$$

however, we note that in general  $d_X^2 = f \cdot I \neq 0$  and so strictly speaking this is *not* a chain complex.

**Definition 4.0.5.** We use the notation of Definition 4.0.4. Let  $\beta = (\beta_0, \beta_1)$  be another morphism of linear factorisations  $(X, d_X) \rightarrow (Y, d_Y)$ . The morphisms  $\alpha, \beta$  are **homotopic** if there exists a pair of morphisms  $h_0 : X_0 \rightarrow Y_1, h_1 : X_1 \rightarrow Y_0$  such that the following holds

$$\alpha_0 - \beta_0 = q_Y h_0 + h_1 p_X, \quad \alpha_1 - \beta_1 = h_0 q_X + p_Y h_1 \quad (9)$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccccc} \dots & \xrightarrow{q_X} & X_0 & \xrightarrow{p_X} & X_1 & \xrightarrow{q_X} & X_0 & \xrightarrow{p_X} & X_1 & \xrightarrow{q_X} & \dots \\ & \nearrow h_0 & \downarrow \alpha_0 & \downarrow \beta_0 & \nwarrow h_1 & & \downarrow \alpha_1 & \downarrow \beta_1 & \nwarrow h_0 & & \downarrow \alpha_0 & \downarrow \beta_0 & \nwarrow h_1 & & \downarrow \alpha_1 & \downarrow \beta_1 & \nwarrow h_0 & & \downarrow \alpha_0 & \downarrow \beta_0 & \nwarrow h_1 & & \downarrow \alpha_1 & \downarrow \beta_1 & \nwarrow h_0 & & \dots \\ \dots & \xrightarrow{q_Y} & Y_0 & \xrightarrow{p_Y} & Y_1 & \xrightarrow{q_Y} & Y_0 & \xrightarrow{p_Y} & Y_1 & \xrightarrow{q_Y} & \dots \end{array}$$

The relation of homotopy defines an equivalence relation on the set of morphisms of linear factorisations.

**Definition 4.0.6.** A linear transformation whose underlying  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -graded  $k$ -module is free and of finite rank is a **matrix factorisation**. There is a category  $\text{hmf}(k[\underline{x}], f)$  where the objects are matrix factorisations of  $f$  and the morphisms are homotopy equivalence classes of morphisms of matrix factorisations.

**Definition 4.0.7.** If  $(X, d_X)$  is a matrix factorisation then so is  $(X[1], -d_X)$ . If we denote this by  $\Psi(X, d_X)$  then  $\Psi : \text{hmf}(k[\underline{x}], f) \rightarrow \text{hmf}(k[\underline{x}], f)$  extends to an endofunctor which induces a supercategorical structure on  $\text{hmf}(k[\underline{x}], f)$  if we take  $\xi : \Psi^2 \rightarrow 1_{\text{hmf}(k[\underline{x}], f)}$  to be the identity.

**Definition 4.0.8.** Let  $(X, \partial_X)$  be a linear factorisation of  $f \in k$  over  $k$  and  $(Y, \partial_Y)$  a linear factorisation of  $g \in k$  also over  $k$ . Then the **tensor product** of  $(X, \partial_X)$  and  $(Y, \partial_Y)$  consists of the following data:

$$X \otimes_k Y, \quad \partial_{X \otimes_k Y} = d_X \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes d_Y \quad (10)$$

where  $X \otimes_k Y$  is the *graded* tensor product, which satisfies the following for all  $x_1, x_2 \in X, y_1, y_2 \in Y$ .

$$(x_1 \otimes y_1)(x_2 \otimes y_2) = (-1)^{\deg(x_2)\deg(y_1)}(x_1 x_2 \otimes y_1 y_2) \quad (11)$$

**Lemma 4.0.9.** *The tensor product  $(X \otimes_k Y, \partial_{X \otimes_k Y})$  is a linear factorisation of  $f + g$ .*

*Proof.* See [1][Page 35]. □

In the special case where there exists  $f \in k[\underline{x}], g \in k[\underline{y}], h \in k[\underline{z}]$  and  $(X, \partial_X)$  is a linear factorisation of  $f - g \in k[\underline{x}, \underline{y}]$  and  $(Y, \partial_Y)$  is a linear factorisation of  $g - h \in k[\underline{y}, \underline{z}]$  then we also have the *cut* of  $(X, \partial_X)$  and  $(Y, \partial_Y)$ .

**Definition 4.0.10.** For each  $y_1, \dots, y_n \in \underline{y}$  let  $\partial_{y_i} g$  denote the formal partial derivative of  $g$  with respect to  $y_i$ . Denote by  $J_g$  the following  $k[\underline{y}]$ -module.

$$J_g := k[\underline{y}] / (\partial_{y_1} g, \dots, \partial_{y_n} g) \quad (12)$$

The **cut** of  $(X, \partial_X), (Y, \partial_Y)$  is the data of

$$X|Y := (X \otimes_{k[\underline{y}]} J_g \otimes_{k[\underline{y}]} Y), \quad \partial_{X|Y} = d_X \otimes 1 \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes 1 \otimes d_Y \quad (13)$$

**Lemma 4.0.11.** *The cut  $X|Y$  is a matrix factorisation of  $f - h$ .*

*Proof.* **Check this.** □

We will use the following Lemma to indirectly talk about matrix factorisations using  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -graded modules over Clifford algebras.

**Definition 4.0.12.** Let  $k[\underline{x}], k[\underline{y}]$  denote polynomial rings over variables  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  and  $y_1, \dots, y_n$  respectively. Let  $U(\underline{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2$ .

We let  $C_U$  denote the  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -graded  $k$ -algebra with multiplicative generators  $\mu_1, \dots, \mu_n, \nu_1, \dots, \nu_n$  satisfying the relations

$$[\mu_i, \mu_j] = -2\delta_{ij} \quad [\mu_i, \nu_j] = 0 \quad [\nu_i, \nu_j] = 2\delta_{ij} \quad (14)$$

where  $\delta_{ij} = 1$  if and only if  $i = j$  and  $\delta_{ij} = 0$  otherwise is the Kronecker delta.

**Remark 4.0.13.** The algebra  $C_U$  described in Definition 4.0.12 is the Clifford algebra corresponding to the quadratic form

$$\begin{pmatrix} I_n & 0 \\ 0 & -I_n \end{pmatrix} \quad (15)$$

where  $I_n$  is the  $n \times n$  identity matrix, on the space  $k^{2n}$ .

**Lemma 4.0.14.** *Let  $\tilde{X}$  be a  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -graded  $C_U$ -module which is free and finitely generated over  $k$ . Then  $X := \tilde{X} \otimes_k k[\underline{x}, \underline{y}]$  coupled with the map*

$$\partial_X = \sum_{i=1}^n \mu_i x_i + \sum_{j=1}^n \nu_j y_j \quad (16)$$

*is a matrix factorisation of  $U(\underline{y}) - U(\underline{x}) \in k[\underline{x}, \underline{y}]$ .*

*Proof.* See [1][Lemma 5.6.1]. □

**Remark 4.0.15.** The map (16) is odd because we consider  $k[\underline{x}, \underline{y}]$  to admit the  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -grading

$$k[\underline{x}, \underline{y}] \oplus 0 \quad (17)$$

That is,  $k[\underline{x}, \underline{y}]$  has  $k[\underline{x}, \underline{y}]$  entirely in degree 0, and the zero module 0 in degree 1. For example, if  $\underline{x}, \underline{y}$  are both singleton sets  $\underline{x} = \{x\}, \underline{y} = \{y\}$  then

$$\begin{aligned} \deg(\partial_X(x \otimes p)) &= \deg(\mu x \otimes xp + \nu x \otimes yp) \\ &= \deg(\mu x) \quad (= \deg(\nu x)) \\ &= \deg(x) + 1 \end{aligned}$$

**Example 4.0.16.** Let  $\underline{x}$  be a set of variables  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  and  $\sigma \in S_n$  a permutation on this set. Let  $\tilde{X}$  denote the  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -graded  $k$ -algebra

$$\tilde{X} := \bigwedge (k\theta_1 \oplus \dots \oplus k\theta_n) \quad (18)$$

which is a  $C_U$ -algebra (Definition 4.0.12) with  $C_U$ -action induced by the following

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_i &= \theta_{\sigma^{-1}i} + \theta_{\sigma^{-1}i}^* \\ \nu_i &= \theta_i - \theta_i^* \end{aligned}$$

Thus, by Lemma 4.0.14 we obtain a matrix factorisation  $(X = \tilde{X} \otimes k[\underline{x}, \underline{y}], \partial_X)$ .

Now say we had another similar matrix factorisation; let  $\underline{y} = \{y_1, \dots, y_m\}$  be another set of variables and let  $\tau$  be a permutation on this set. Let  $\tilde{Y}$  denote the  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -graded  $k$ -algebra

$$\tilde{Y} := \bigwedge (k\psi_1 \oplus \dots \oplus k\psi_m) \quad (19)$$

This is a  $C_U$ -module with  $C_U$ -action induced by the following

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{\nu}_i &= \psi_{\tau^{-1}i} + \psi_{\tau^{-1}i}^* \\ \omega_i &= \psi_i - \psi_i^*\end{aligned}$$

This induces a matrix factorisation  $(Y = \tilde{Y} \otimes k[\underline{y}, \underline{z}], \partial_Y)$  of  $U(\underline{y}) - U(\underline{z})$  where

$$\partial_Y := \sum_{i=1}^n \bar{\nu}_i y_i + \sum_{i=1}^n \omega_i z_i \quad (20)$$

and  $\underline{z} = \{z_1, \dots, z_n\}$  is another set of variables.

We will first consider the cut  $X|Y$ . The sequence of partial derivatives  $(\partial_{y_1} U(\underline{y}), \dots, \partial_{y_n} U(\underline{y})) = (2y_1, \dots, 2y_n)$  and so

$$J_{U(\underline{y})} = k[\underline{y}] / (y_1, \dots, y_n) = k \quad (21)$$

as a  $k[\underline{y}]$ -module with trivial  $k[\underline{y}]$ -action. We thus have

$$X|Y = X \otimes_{k[\underline{x}, \underline{y}]} k \otimes_{k[\underline{y}, \underline{z}]} Y, \quad \partial_{X|Y} = d_X \otimes 1 \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes 1 \otimes d_Y \quad (22)$$

Say  $R$  is a commutative ring. We will consider an element  $f \in R$  of the following particular form: say we have  $a_1, \dots, a_n, b_1, \dots, b_n \in R$  such that  $f = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i b_i$ . The guiding example of such an element is when  $R$  is a polynomial ring and  $f$  is a quadratic form.

**Lemma 4.0.17.** *Suppose  $M$  is a  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -graded  $R$ -module with odd  $R$ -linear maps  $\theta_i, \theta_i^* : M \rightarrow M, i = 1, \dots, n$  satisfying the canonical anticommutation relations. Then, setting  $\delta_+ = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \theta_i$  and  $\delta_- = \sum_{i=1}^n b_i \theta_i^*$  we have that  $(M, \delta_- + \delta_+)$  is a linear factorisation of  $f$ .*

*Proof.* See [1, Lemma 4.2.3]. □

Therefore,  $(\bigwedge R^n, \delta_- + \delta_+)$  is a matrix factorisation of  $f$ . This is the **Koszul matrix factorisation of  $f$** .

## 5 The Bicategory of Landau-Ginzburg models (over $k$ )

Let  $k$  be a commutative ring.



**Definition 5.0.1.** A polynomial  $U(\underline{x}) \in k[\underline{x}] = k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  is a **potential** if

- The sequence of partial derivatives  $(\partial_{x_1} U(\underline{x}), \dots, \partial_{x_n} U(\underline{x}))$  is Koszul-regular.
- The Jacobi ring  $k[\underline{x}]/(\partial_{x_1} U(\underline{x}), \dots, \partial_{x_n} U(\underline{x}))$  is a finitely generated free  $k$ -module.

**Definition 5.0.2.** The bicategory of Landau-Ginzburg models over  $k$ , denoted  $\mathcal{LG}_k$ , consists of the following data:

- The objects of  $\mathcal{LG}_k$  are pairs  $(k[\underline{x}], U(\underline{x}))$  where  $k[\underline{x}]$  is a polynomial ring and  $U(\underline{x}) \in k[\underline{x}]$  is a potential.
- The category of 1-morphisms  $(k[\underline{x}], U(\underline{x})) \longrightarrow (k[\underline{y}], V(\underline{y}))$  is  $(\text{hmf}(k[\underline{x}, \underline{y}]), V(\underline{y}) - U(\underline{x}))^\omega$ , the idempotent completion of the category of finite rank matrix factorisations (with morphisms homotopy equivalence classes of morphisms of linear factorisations).
- Composition of the 1-morphisms

$$(k[\underline{x}], U(\underline{x})) \xrightarrow{(X, d_X)} (k[\underline{y}], V(\underline{y})) \xrightarrow{(Y, d_Y)} (k[\underline{z}], W(\underline{z})) \quad (23)$$

is given by taking the tensor product of linear factorisations over  $k[\underline{y}]$

$$(X, d_X) \otimes_{k[\underline{y}]} (Y, d_Y) = (X \otimes_{k[\underline{y}]} Y, d_X \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes d_Y) \quad (24)$$

- Consider an object  $(k[\underline{x}], U(\underline{x}))$  where  $k[\underline{x}] = k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  and the polynomial ring  $k[\underline{x}, \underline{x}'] = k[x_1, \dots, x_n, x'_1, \dots, x'_n]$ . The unit 1-morphism  $(I_{U(\underline{x})}, d_{I_{U(\underline{x})}})$  of  $(k[\underline{x}], U(\underline{x}))$  is a Koszul matrix factorisation of  $U(\underline{x}') - U(\underline{x}) \in k[\underline{x}, \underline{x}']$  arising from the Koszul complex of the sequence  $(x_1 - x'_1, \dots, x_n - x'_n)$  in  $k[\underline{x}, \underline{x}']$ .

## 6 Splitting idempotents

In this thesis we defend the proposition that the splitting of idempotents has fundamental relevance to computation.

Throughout, we work with a  $k$ -linear category  $\mathcal{C}$ , that is, the category  $\mathcal{C}$  has  $k$ -modules for homsets.

**Definition 6.0.1.** Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a category. An **idempotent** in  $\mathcal{C}$  is an endomorphism  $e : C \longrightarrow C$  such that  $e^2 = e$ .

An idempotent  $e$  is **split** if there exists a pair of morphisms  $s : R \longrightarrow C, r : C \longrightarrow R$  such that  $sr = e, rs = \text{id}_R$ .

**Lemma 6.0.2.** *Let  $e : C \longrightarrow C$  be an idempotent in  $\mathcal{C}$ . Then the following are equivalent.*

- $e = sr$  is split where  $s : R \longrightarrow C, r : C \longrightarrow R$ .
- The Equaliser  $\text{Eq}(e, \text{id}_e)$  exists and is equal to  $s : R \longrightarrow C$ .
- The Coequaliser  $\text{Coeq}(e, \text{id}_e)$  exists and is equal to  $r : C \longrightarrow R$ .

*Proof.* See [1][Lemma B.1] or [2][Proposition 6.5.4]. □

**Lemma 6.0.3.** *Assume  $\mathcal{C}$  is the category of vector spaces over some field  $k$ . Let  $e : C \longrightarrow C$  be an idempotent. Assume  $e = sr$  is split with  $s : R \longrightarrow C, r : C \longrightarrow R$  and  $1 - e = s'r'$  is also split with  $s' : R' \longrightarrow C, r' : C \longrightarrow R'$ . Then there is a split short exact sequence*

$$0 \longrightarrow R \xrightarrow{s} C \xrightarrow{r'} R' \longrightarrow 0 \quad (25)$$

*Proof.* Consider the morphism  $(r, r') : C \longrightarrow R \oplus R'$ . Then  $\forall x \in C$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} (r, r')s(x) &= (rs(x), r's(x)) \\ &= (x, r's(x)) \end{aligned}$$

we claim  $r's(x) = 0$ . By Lemma 6.0.2 we have that  $r' : C \longrightarrow R'$  is the coequaliser  $\text{Coeq}(1 - e, \text{id}_C)$ . Thus  $r's(x) = r'(1 - e)s(x) = r's(x) - r'es(x)$ . On the other hand,  $s : R \longrightarrow C$  is the equaliser  $\text{Eq}(e, \text{id}_C)$  and so  $es = s$ .

Thus we have a commuting diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & R & \xrightarrow{r} & C & \xrightarrow{r'} & R' \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & & \searrow & \downarrow (r, r') & \nearrow & \\ & & & & R \oplus R' & & \end{array}$$

Moreover, the homomorphism  $(r, r')$  is an isomorphism. To see this, say  $x, x' \in C$  are such that  $(r, r')(x) = (r, r')(x')$ . Then  $r(x) = r(x')$  implies

$s(r(x)) = s(r(x'))$  which implies  $e(x) = e(x')$  and similarly  $(1 - e)(x) = (1 - e)(x')$ . Thus we have

$$\begin{aligned} x &= (1 - e)(x) + e(x) \\ &= (1 - e)(x') + e(x') \\ &= x' \end{aligned}$$

For surjectivity, notice if  $(x, x') \in R \oplus R'$  are given, then  $(r, r')(s, s')(x, x') = (x, x')$ .  $\square$

The next Lemma states that splitting an idempotent is equivalent to finding its image.

**Lemma 6.0.4.** *Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be linear and admit kernels and cokernels. Then if  $e : C \rightarrow C$  is split we have*

$$\text{Eq}(\text{id}, e) \cong \text{im}(e) \cong \text{Coeq}(\text{id}, e) \quad (26)$$

*Sketch.* We have

$$\text{Eq}(\text{id}, e) \cong \ker(\text{id} - e) \cong \text{im}(e) \quad (27)$$

and

$$\text{Coeq}(\text{id}, e) \cong \text{Coker}(\text{id} - e) \cong \text{im}(e) \quad (28)$$

$\square$

**Remark 6.0.5.** Another way of understanding Lemma 6.0.4 is that given a vector space  $C$  and  $v \in C$  along with an idempotent  $e : C \rightarrow C$  we have  $x = e(x) + (\text{id} - e)x$ . It follows that

$$C \cong \text{im } e \oplus \text{im}(\text{id} - e) \quad (29)$$

From this it is clear that  $\text{Coker}(\text{id} - e) \cong \text{im}(e)$ .

Thus, to split an idempotent is to calculate the image of the idempotent. This is where the intuition that the splitting of idempotents is a fundamental component of the abstract study of computation; idempotents dictate the projection onto states of knowledge, which reduces entropy, and the calculation of the image of these spaces is the arrival at such a state of knowledge.

## 6.1 The superbicategorical structure on the homotopy category of matrix factorisations

## 7 The supercategory $\mathcal{LG}$

Note: so far we have only defined the bicategory (and we haven't even done that), do we even need the “super”-structure?

Throughout,  $k$  is a Noetherian, commutative ring (but note that has already been understood how the following theory works in a more general context, see [5]).

**Definition 7.0.1.** A polynomial  $U \in k[x] = k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  is a **potential** if:

- The sequence of partial derivatives  $(\partial_{x_1} U, \dots, \partial_{x_n} U)$  is quasi-regular.
- The Jacobi ring  $k[x]/(\partial_{x_1} U, \dots, \partial_{x_n} U)$  is a finitely generated free  $k$ -module.

Check with Dan if this is correct.

**Definition 7.0.2.** The **bicategory of Landau-Ginzburg models over  $k$** , denoted  $\mathcal{LG}_k$ , consists of the following data:

- The objects of  $\mathcal{LG}_k$  are pairs  $(k[x], U)$  where  $k[x] = k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  is a polynomial ring and  $U \in k[x]$  is a potential.
- The category of 1-morphisms  $(k[x], U) \longrightarrow (k[y], V)$  is  $h(U, V)^\omega$ . **What is this?**
- Composition of 1-morphisms

$$(k[x], U) \xrightarrow{(X, d_X)} (k[y], V) \xrightarrow{(Y, d_Y)} (k[z], W) \quad (30)$$

is given by taking the tensor product of linear factorisations over  $k[y]$ :

$$(X, d_X) \otimes_{k[y]} (Y, d_Y) = (X \otimes_{k[y]} Y, d_X \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes d_Y) \quad (31)$$

- Consider an object  $(k[x], U)$  where  $k[x] = k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  and the polynomial ring  $k[x, x'] = k[x_1, \dots, x_n, x'_1, \dots, x'_n]$ . The unit 1-morphism  $(I_U, d_{I_U})$  of  $(k[x], U)$  is a Koszul matrix factorisation of  $U(x') - U(x) \in k[x, x']$  arising from the Koszul complex of the sequence  $(x_1 - x'_1, \dots, x_n - x'_n)$  in  $k[x, x']$ .

We remark that Definition 7.0.2 is incomplete.

Note that it is not clear that the tensor product is a well-defined composition functor. Consider the 1-morphisms

$$(k[x], U) \xrightarrow{(X, d_X)} (k[y], V) \xrightarrow{(Y, d_Y)} (k[z], W) \quad (32)$$

in  $\mathcal{LG}_k$ . Writing  $X = k[x, y]^m$  and  $Y = k[y, z]^{m'}$  for some  $m, m' \in \mathbb{N}$  we have that

$$X \otimes_{k[y]} Y = (k[x, y] \otimes_{k[y]} k[y, z])^{mm'} = k[x, y, z]^{mm'} \quad (33)$$

which is free, but not finitely generated over  $k[x, z]$ . Hence it is only clear that the composition of  $(X, d_X)$  and  $(Y, d_Y)$  belongs to  $\text{HMF}(k[x, z], W(z) - U(x))$ , rather than  $h(U, W)^\omega$ .

## 8 Clifford thickening

Let  $\mathcal{T}$  be a small idempotent complete supercategory. We construct a new supercategory  $\mathcal{T}^\bullet$  called the **Clifford thickening** in which the objects are pairs  $(X, n)$  of an integer  $n \geq 0$  and a left  $C_n$ -module  $X$  in  $\mathcal{T}$ . Recall that if  $A$  is a  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -graded  $k$ -algebra then  $\mathcal{T}_A$  denotes the supercategory of  $A$ -modules in  $\mathcal{T}$  with  $A$ -linear maps.

**Definition 8.0.1.** Let  $\mathcal{M}$  denote the supercategory of Morita trivial  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -graded  $k$ -algebras. The 1-morphisms are  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -graded bimodules which are finitely generated and projective over  $k$  and the 2-morphisms are degree zero bimodule maps.

**Proposition 8.0.2.** *The assignment of the supercategory  $\mathcal{T}_A$  to an algebra  $A$  and of the superfunctor  $\Phi_V = V \otimes_A (-)$  to a  $B - A$ -bimodule  $V$  determines a strong superfunctor*

$$\Phi^{\mathcal{T}} : \mathcal{M} \longrightarrow \text{Cat}_k^{\text{sup}} \quad (34)$$

*to the supercategory of small supercategories and superfunctors*

*Proof.* See [5, Proposition 2.22]. □

**Definition 8.0.3.** Let  $\mathbb{N}$  denote the category of integers  $n \geq 0$  with a unique morphism  $\phi_{m,n} : n \longrightarrow m$  for each pair  $m, n$ .

We view  $\mathbb{N}$  as a bicategory with only identity 2-morphisms. Rewrite this and check with Dan if this is the correct definition, do we really have morphisms for *any* pair  $m, n$ ?

**Lemma 8.0.4.** *There is a strong functor  $\mathbb{N} \longrightarrow \mathcal{M}$  defined by*

$$\begin{aligned} n &\longmapsto C_n = \text{End}_k(S_n) \\ \phi_{m,n} &\longmapsto S_{m,n} = S_m \otimes_k S_n^* \end{aligned}$$

The composite of these strong functors is a strong functor

$$\mathbb{N} \longrightarrow \mathcal{M} \longrightarrow \text{Cat}_k^{\text{sup}} \quad (35)$$

sending  $n$  to the category of left  $C_n$ -modules in  $\mathcal{T}$  and  $\phi_{m,n}$  to the functor  $S_{m,n} \otimes_{C_n} -$ .

**Definition 8.0.5.** The **Clifford thickening**  $\mathcal{T}^\bullet$  of the supercategory  $\mathcal{T}$  is the category which results from the Grothendieck construction applied to the strong functor (35).

There is a more concrete definition circumnavigating the Grothendieck construction but I do not understand it yet.

**Lemma 8.0.6.** *Let  $X$  be a  $C_n$ -module in  $\mathcal{T}$ . The idempotent  $e_n : X \longrightarrow X$*

## 9 Material I don't think I need

### 9.1 The superbicategory $\mathcal{C}$

In this section we define a superbicategory without units  $\mathcal{C}$ . The objects of  $\mathcal{C}$  are the same as  $\mathcal{LG}$ , namely potentials  $(x, W)$ .

**Definition 9.1.1.** Given potentials  $(x, W)$  and  $(y, V)$  we define

$$\mathcal{C}(W, V) := \left( \text{hmf}(k[x, y], V - W)^\omega \right) \quad (36)$$

where  $(-)^\omega$  denotes the idempotent completion and  $(-)^\bullet$  is the Clifford thickening.

Thus a 1-morphism  $W \longrightarrow V$  in  $\mathcal{C}$  is a finite rank matrix factorisation of  $V(y) - W(x)$  together with an idempotent endomorphism  $e$  and a family of odd operators  $\gamma_i, \gamma_i^\dagger$  satisfying Clifford relations and the equations (all up to homotopy)

$$\gamma_i e = \gamma_i = e \gamma_i, \quad \gamma_i^\dagger e = \gamma_i^\dagger = e \gamma_i^\dagger \quad (37)$$

For matrix factorisations  $X, Y$  of  $V(y) - W(x)$  with respective Clifford actions  $\{\gamma_i, \gamma_i^\dagger\}_{i=1}^a$  and  $\{\rho_j, \rho_j^\dagger\}_{j=1}^b$  the 2-morphisms  $\phi : (X, a) \longrightarrow (Y, b)$  in  $\mathcal{C}$  are in bijection with morphisms of matrix factorisations  $\phi : X \longrightarrow Y$  satisfying

$$\phi \gamma_i^\dagger = 0, \quad \rho_j \phi = 0, \quad 1 \leq i \leq a, \quad 1 \leq j \leq b \quad (38)$$

**Lemma missing here** The first aim of this section is to define, for any object  $(z, U)$  of  $\mathcal{LG}$ , a functor

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{C}(V, U) \otimes_k \mathcal{C}(W, V) &\longrightarrow \mathcal{C}(W, U) \\ (Y, X) &\longmapsto Y \mid X \end{aligned}$$

**What does  $\otimes$  mean here?**

which we call the **cut functor**. The cut operation is defined on matrix factorisations  $X$  of  $V - W$  and  $Y$  of  $U - V$  as follows, assuming  $y = (y_1, \dots, y_m)$  and writing

$$J_V = k[y]/(\partial_{y_1} V, \dots, \partial_{y_m} V) \quad (39)$$

**Lemma 9.1.2.** *The  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -graded  $k[x, z]$ -module*

$$Y \mid X = Y \otimes_{k[y]} J_V \otimes_{k[y]} X \quad (40)$$

*with the differential  $d_Y \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes d_X$  is a finite rank matrix factorisation of  $U - W$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $V$  is a potential  $J_V$  is a finite rank free  $k$ -module, and it follows that  $Y \mid X$  is a finite rank free  $k[x, z]$ -module.  $\square$

There exists a Clifford action on  $Y \mid X$ , however it is difficult to describe in general and so we now describe how multiplicative proof nets will be modeled and then consider this Clifford action in this particular case.

## 9.2 Super(bi)categories

Throughout  $k$  is a notherian  $\mathbb{Q}$ -alebra. By default categories and functors are  $k$ -linear.

### 9.2.1 Supercategories

**Definition 9.2.1.** A **supercategory** is a category  $\mathcal{C}$  together with a functor  $\Psi : \mathcal{C} \longrightarrow \mathcal{C}$  and a natural isomoprhim  $\xi : \Psi^2 \longrightarrow 1_{\mathcal{C}}$  satisfying the condition

$$\xi * 1_{\Psi} = 1_{\Psi} * \xi \quad (41)$$

as natural transformations  $\Psi^3 \longrightarrow \Psi$ . A **superfunctor**  $(F, \gamma)$  from a supercategory  $(\mathcal{C}, \Psi_{\mathcal{C}})$  to a supercategory  $(\mathcal{D}, \Psi_{\mathcal{D}})$  is a functor  $F : \mathcal{C} \longrightarrow \mathcal{D}$  together with a natural isomoprhim  $\gamma : F\Psi_{\mathcal{C}} \longrightarrow \Psi_{\mathcal{D}}F$  satisfying

$$1_F * \xi = (\xi * 1_F)(1_{\Psi} * \gamma)(\gamma * 1_{\Psi}) \quad (42)$$

A **supernatural transformation**  $\varphi : F \longrightarrow G$  between superfunctors  $(F, \gamma_F), (G, \gamma_G)$  is a natural transformation making the following diagram commute:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} F\Psi & \xrightarrow{\varphi\Psi} & G\Psi \\ \downarrow \gamma_F & & \downarrow \gamma_G \\ \Psi F & \xrightarrow{\Psi\varphi} & \Psi G \end{array} \quad (43)$$

**Remark 9.2.2.** Condition (41) means that for all  $C \in \mathcal{C}$  we have the following equality.

$$\xi_{\Psi C} = \Psi \xi_C \quad (44)$$

Condition (42) means that for all  $C \in \mathcal{C}$  we have the following equality.

$$F\xi_C = \xi_{FC}\Psi_{\mathcal{D}}\gamma_C\gamma_{\Psi_{\mathcal{C}}C} \quad (45)$$

which can be written as requiring commutativity of the following diagram.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} F\Psi_C C & \xrightarrow{\gamma_{\Psi_C C}} & \Psi_{\mathcal{D}} F\Psi_C C \\ F\xi_C \downarrow & & \downarrow \Psi_{\mathcal{D}} \gamma_C \\ FC & \xleftarrow{\xi_{\mathcal{D}FC}} & \Psi_{\mathcal{D}}^2 FC \end{array} \quad (46)$$



Lower case letters  $a, b, \dots$  denote objects of a bicategory, while upper case letters  $X, Y, \dots$  and greek letters  $\alpha, \beta, \dots$  respectively denote 1-morphisms and 2-morphisms. Units are denoted  $\Delta$ , associators are  $\alpha$ , and unitors are  $\lambda, \rho$ . The composition of  $Y, X$  is denoted  $YX$  or  $Y \circ X$ .

**Definition 9.2.3.** A **superbicategory** is a bicategory  $\mathcal{B}$  together with the data:

- For each object  $a$  a 1-morphism  $\Psi_a : a \longrightarrow a$  and a 2-isomorphism  $\xi_a : \Psi_a^2 \longrightarrow \Delta_a$ .
- For each 1-morphism  $X : a \longrightarrow b$  a natural 2-isomorphism  $\gamma_X : X\Psi_a \longrightarrow \Psi_b X$ .

This data is required to satisfy the following axioms:

- For each composable pair  $X, Y$  of 1-morphisms the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (YX)\Psi & \xrightarrow{\gamma_{YX}} & \Psi(YX) \\ \downarrow \alpha & & \uparrow \alpha \\ Y(X\Psi) & \xrightarrow{1_Y * \gamma_X} Y(\Psi X) \xrightarrow{\alpha^{-1}} (Y\Psi)X & \xrightarrow{\gamma_Y * 1_X} (\Psi Y)X \end{array} \quad (47)$$

commutes.

- For every object  $a$ ,  $\xi_a * 1_\Psi = 1_\Psi * \xi_a$ .
- For every 1-morphism  $X : a \longrightarrow b$ ,  $1_X * \xi_a = (\xi_b * 1)(1_\Psi * \gamma_X)(\gamma_X * 1_\Psi)$ .

**Example 9.2.4.** There is a bicategory of  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -graded  $k$ -algebras where 1-morphisms are  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -graded bimodules and 2-morphisms are degree zero bimodule maps. Given a  $B$ – $A$ –module  $M$  the shift  $M[1]$  has the grading  $M[1]_i = M_{i+1}$  and the left and right action given by

$$b \cdot m = (-1)^{|b|}bm, \quad m \cdot a = (-1)^{|a|}ma \quad (48)$$

This is a functor  $\Psi = (\_) [1]$  on the category of  $B$ – $A$ –bimodules and with  $\xi = 1$  this defines the structure of a supercategory on this category of bimodules. The usual isomorphisms of bimodules  $\tau$

$$N[1] \otimes M \longrightarrow (N \otimes M)[1], \quad n \otimes m \longmapsto n \otimes m \quad (49)$$

$$N \otimes M[1] \longrightarrow (N \otimes M)[1], \quad n \otimes m \longmapsto (-1)^{|n|}n \otimes m \quad (50)$$

satisfy the conditions in Appendix [5, B] and therefore give the bicategory of  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -graded algebras and bimodules the structure of a superbicategory.

## References

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