

# (Tensor) Triangular Geometry

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## Motivation

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a monoidal triangulated category. That is:

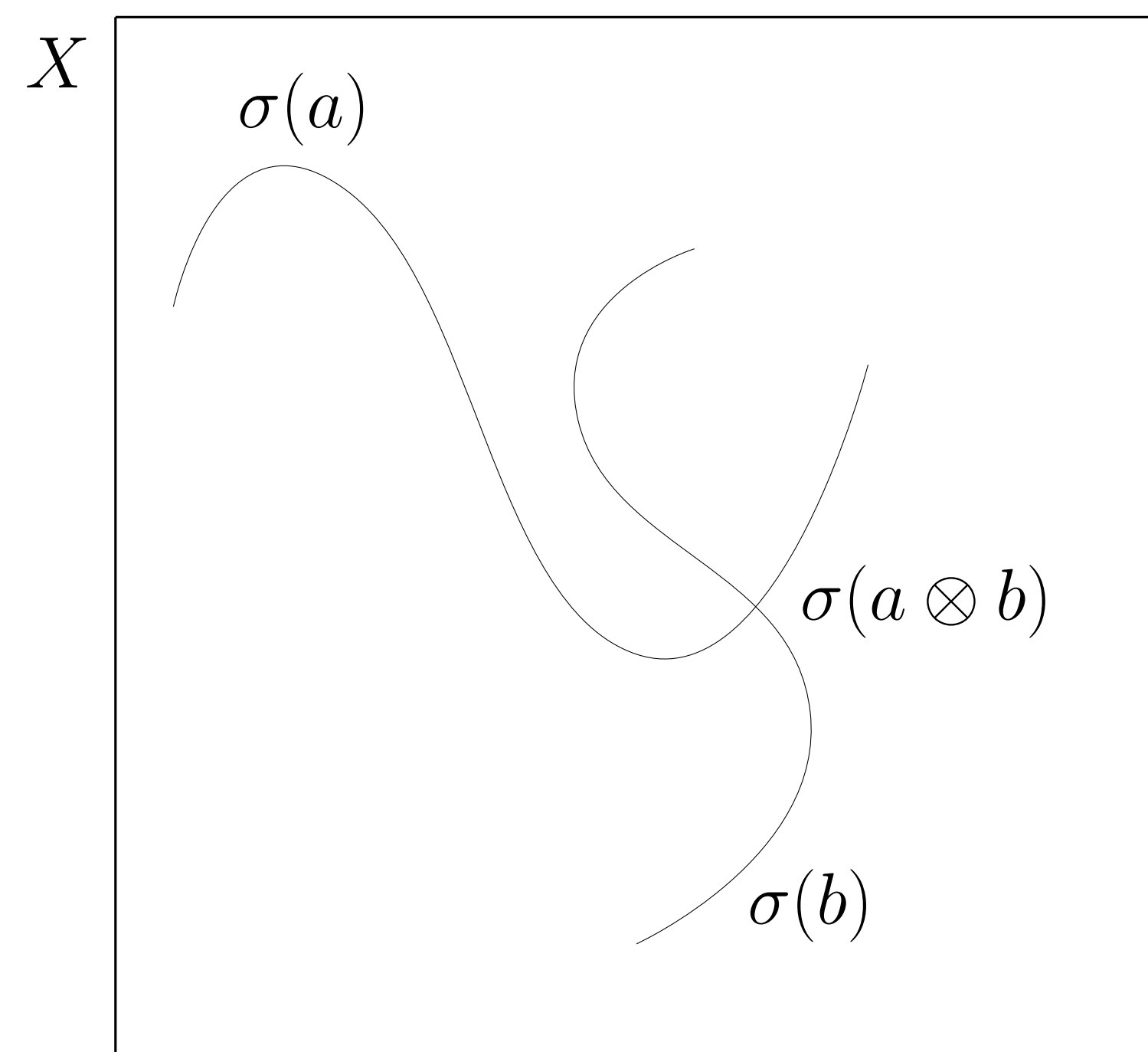
- $\mathcal{C}$  is essentially small,
- $\mathcal{C}$  is an additive category,
- $T : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  is an exact functor,
- there is a collection of exact triangles  $a \rightarrow b \rightarrow c \rightarrow Ta$  of  $\mathcal{C}$ ,
- $\otimes : \mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  is a symmetric biexact functor,
- $1 \in \text{Obj}(\mathcal{C})$  is the monoidal unit.

We want to do geometry with  $\mathcal{C}$ . That is, we want to draw a picture that captures the essential information within  $\mathcal{C}$ . Mathematically this is done via a function  $\sigma$  which assigns to each object  $a$  of  $\mathcal{C}$  a closed subset of a topological space  $X$ . Our goal is to find such a function.

$$\sigma : \text{Obj}(\mathcal{C}) \longrightarrow \text{Closed}(X)$$

This function should be compatible with the structure of  $\mathcal{C}$ . Namely, we have the following wish list:

- (SD1)  $\sigma(0) = \emptyset$ ,
- (SD2)  $\sigma(a \oplus b) = \sigma(a) \cup \sigma(b)$  for all  $a, b \in \text{Obj}(\mathcal{C})$ ,
- (SD3)  $\sigma(Ta) = \sigma(a)$  for all  $a \in \text{Obj}(\mathcal{C})$ ,
- (SD4)  $\sigma(a) \subseteq \sigma(b) \cup \sigma(c)$  for all exact triangles  $a \rightarrow b \rightarrow c \rightarrow Ta$  of  $\mathcal{C}$ ,
- (SD5)  $\sigma(1) = X$ ,
- (SD6)  $\sigma(a \otimes b) = \sigma(a) \cap \sigma(b)$  for all for all  $a, b \in \text{Obj}(\mathcal{C})$ .



As it is posed, our goal is very easy! It suffices to take  $X = \{\star\}$  a single point, declaring  $\sigma(0) = \emptyset$  and  $\sigma(a) = \star$  for all nonzero  $a \in \text{Obj}(\mathcal{C})$ .

## The universal space admitting supports [B05]

We would like to have a space more interesting than just a point. Being ambitious, we ask about the best space to draw pictures. Mathematically, this will be the final space admitting a support datum for  $\mathcal{C}$ . Remarkably, this space exists: Its points are certain subcategories of  $\mathcal{C}$ .

**Definition 1.** A support datum *on a monoidal triangulated category  $\mathcal{C}$*  is a pair  $(X, \sigma)$  where  $X$  is a topological space and  $\sigma$  assigns to every  $a \in \text{Obj}(\mathcal{C})$  a closed subset  $\sigma(a) \subseteq X$  satisfying (SD1), (SD2), (SD3), (SD4), (SD5), and (SD6).

**Theorem 2.** The pair  $(\text{Spc}(\mathcal{C}), \text{supp})$  is the final support datum on  $\mathcal{C}$ , where  $\text{Spc}(\mathcal{C}) = \{\mathcal{P} \subsetneq \mathcal{C} \mid \mathcal{P} \text{ prime thick triangulated tensor ideal}\}$  and  $\text{supp}(a) = \{\mathcal{P} \in \text{Spc}(\mathcal{C}) \mid a \notin \mathcal{P}\}$  for all  $a \in \text{Obj}(\mathcal{C})$ .

Being *final* means that if  $(X, \sigma)$  is another support datum on  $\mathcal{C}$ , then there exists a continuous function  $f : X \rightarrow \text{Spc}(\mathcal{C})$  such that  $\sigma(a) = f^{-1}(\text{supp}(a))$  for all  $a \in \text{Obj}(\mathcal{C})$ . In other words, all support datum  $(X, \sigma)$  can be obtained from  $(\text{Spc}(\mathcal{C}), \text{supp})$ .

**Theorem 3.** Let  $X$  be a quasi-compact quasi-separated scheme, then:

$$\text{Spc}(\text{D}^{\text{perf}}(X)) \cong X.$$

**Theorem 4.** Let  $R$  be a commutative Noetherian ring, then:

$$\text{Spc}(\text{D}^{\text{perf}}(R)) \cong \text{Spec}(R).$$

**Theorem 5.** Let  $G$  be a finite group, then:

$$\text{Spc}(\text{stmod}(\mathbb{k}G)) \cong \text{Proj}(\text{H}^\bullet(G, \mathbb{k})).$$

**Example 6.** The Zariski spectrum of the integers.

$$\text{Spc}(\text{D}^{\text{perf}}(\mathbb{Z})) \cong \begin{array}{c} \bullet \quad \bullet \quad \dots \quad \bullet \quad \dots \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \bullet \end{array}$$

**Example 7.** Let  $\mathbb{k}$  be an algebraically closed field.

$$\text{Spc}(\text{D}^b(\mathbb{k}[x])) \cong \mathbb{A}_{\mathbb{k}}^1 \cong \text{---}$$

**Example 8.** Let  $\mathbb{k}$  be a field of characteristic 2.

$$\text{Spc}(\text{stmod}(\mathbb{k}(C_2 \times C_2))) \cong \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \bullet \text{---} \bullet \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \bullet \end{array}$$

## Generalizing to (non-monoidal) triangulated categories [BO24]

What happens if our category does not have a monoidal structure? We no longer need to care about the requirements involving the tensor product (SD5) and (SD6), but we can still ask for a universal space where pictures can be drawn. Surprisingly, this space is still an interesting one!

**Theorem 9.** Let  $\text{Sp}(\mathcal{C}) = \{\mathcal{T} \subseteq \mathcal{C} \mid \mathcal{T} \text{ thick subcategory}\}$  and  $\text{sup}(a) = \{\mathcal{T} \in \text{Sp}(\mathcal{C}) \mid a \notin \mathcal{T}\}$  for all  $a \in \text{Obj}(\mathcal{C})$ . The pair  $(\text{Sp}(\mathcal{C}), \text{sup})$  is the final support datum on  $\mathcal{C}$ .

*Proof.* Let  $(X, \sigma)$  be a support datum on  $\mathcal{C}$ , then  $f : X \rightarrow \text{Sp}(\mathcal{C})$  defined by  $f(x) = \{a \in \mathcal{C} \mid x \notin \sigma(a)\}$  is the desired unique continuous map.  $\square$

**Example 10.** Let  $\mathbb{k}$  be a field.

$$\text{Sp}(\text{D}^b(\mathbb{k}A_2)) \cong \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \bullet \text{---} \bullet \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \bullet \end{array}$$

**Example 11.** Let  $\mathbb{k}$  be an algebraically closed field.

$$\text{Sp}(\text{D}^b(\text{Coh}(\mathbb{P}_{\mathbb{k}}^1))) \cong \dots \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \bullet \text{---} \bullet \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \bullet \end{array} \dots$$

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