

# RECONSTRUCTION FOR LAX MODULE MONADS

Foregoing the fibre functor in  $n$  easy steps!

Based on joint work with Matti Stroiński: [arXiv:2409.00793](https://arxiv.org/abs/2409.00793)



25.04.2025

---

Tony Zorman

[tony.zorman@tu-dresden.de](mailto:tony.zorman@tu-dresden.de)

Given a monoidal category  $\mathcal{C}$ , are all left  $\mathcal{C}$ -module categories equivalent to the modules of an algebra object in  $\mathcal{C}$ ?

### **Theorem ([Ost03; EGNO15])**

*Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a finite tensor category and let  $\mathcal{M}$  be a finite abelian  $\mathcal{C}$ -module category, such that the evaluation functor  $- \triangleright \ell : \mathcal{C} \longrightarrow \mathcal{M}$  is exact, for all  $\ell \in \mathcal{M}$ . Then there exists an algebra object  $A \in \mathcal{C}$  such that there is an equivalence of  $\mathcal{C}$ -module categories  $\text{mod}_{\mathcal{C}}(A) \simeq \mathcal{M}$ .*

Finiteness assumptions, exactness assumptions, and rigidity assumptions.

### **Proposition ([DSPS19])**

*In the absence of rigidity, there are finite abelian  $\mathcal{C}$ -module categories that cannot be realised as the modules of an algebra object in  $\mathcal{C}$ .*

Given a monoidal category  $\mathcal{C}$ , are all left  $\mathcal{C}$ -module categories equivalent to the modules of a monad on  $\mathcal{C}$ ?

# The setup

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a  $\mathbb{k}$ -linear monoidal, and  $\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{N}$   $\mathbb{k}$ -linear left  $\mathcal{C}$ -module categories.

$$\otimes: \mathcal{C} \otimes_{\mathbb{k}} \mathcal{C} \longrightarrow \mathcal{C}, \quad \triangleright: \mathcal{C} \otimes_{\mathbb{k}} \mathcal{M} \longrightarrow \mathcal{M}.$$

such that for all  $x, y, z \in \mathcal{C}$  and  $m \in \mathcal{M}$ , e.g.,

$$(x \otimes y) \otimes z \cong x \otimes (y \otimes z) \quad \text{and} \quad (x \otimes y) \triangleright \ell \cong x \triangleright (y \triangleright \ell).$$

A functor  $F: \mathcal{M} \longrightarrow \mathcal{N}$  is a *lax  $\mathcal{C}$ -module functor* if there exists an appropriately associative and unital natural transformation

$$F_2: - \triangleright F(=) \Longrightarrow F(- \triangleright =).$$

The functor  $F$  is *oplax* if  $F_2$  goes the other way, and *strong* if it is invertible.

# The Yoneda lemma<sup>TM</sup>

## Proposition

*There is an equivalence of  $\mathcal{C}$ -module categories*

$$\mathcal{M} \simeq \text{Str}\mathcal{C}\text{Mod}(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{M}), \quad \ell \longmapsto - \triangleright \ell, \quad F1 \longleftarrow F.$$

*In particular,  $\mathcal{C}^{\text{rev}} \simeq \text{Str}\mathcal{C}\text{Mod}(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{C})$ .*

Study cases in which  $- \triangleright \ell$  admits a right adjoint. The resulting monad canonically has a lax  $\mathcal{C}$ -module structure. Then apply Beck's monadicity theorem.

## Theorem (Kelly's doctrinal adjunctions, [Kel74])

*Given an adjunction  $F: \mathcal{C} \rightleftarrows \mathcal{D} : U$  between monoidal categories, oplax monoidal structures on  $F$  are in bijective correspondence with lax monoidal structures on  $U$ .*

An adjunction  $F: \mathcal{C} \rightleftarrows \mathcal{M} : U$  is called *monadic* if the canonical comparison functor  $K: \mathcal{M} \longrightarrow \mathcal{C}^{UF}$  is an equivalence.

## Theorem (Abelian monadicity, [BZBJ18])

*An adjunction is monadic if and only if  $U$  is exact and reflects zero objects.*



# Internal projectives

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  and  $\mathcal{M}$  be abelian. An object  $\ell \in \mathcal{M}$  is *closed* if there is an adjunction

$$-\triangleright \ell: \mathcal{C} \rightleftarrows \mathcal{M} : \lfloor \ell, - \rfloor.$$

A closed object is called  *$\mathcal{C}$ -projective* if  $\lfloor \ell, - \rfloor$  is (right) exact and a  *$\mathcal{C}$ -generator* if it is faithful.

## Example

- Every object in a rigid monoidal category  $\mathcal{C}$  is  $\mathcal{C}$ -projective.
- Finite  $\mathcal{C}$ -module categories over finite tensor categories always admit  $\mathcal{C}$ -projective  $\mathcal{C}$ -generators [EGNO15; DSPS19].

Only the Eilenberg–Moore category of an  
oplax  $\mathcal{C}$ -module monad has a canonical  
 $\mathcal{C}$ -module structure.

# Linton coequalisers

## Definition

The *Linton coequaliser* of  $x \in \mathcal{C}$  and  $m \in \mathcal{M}^T$  is:

$$T(x \triangleright Tm) \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{T(x \triangleright \nabla_m)} \\ \xrightarrow{\mu_{x \triangleright m} \circ TT_{a;x,m}} \end{array} T(x \triangleright m) \longrightarrow x \triangleright m.$$

## Theorem ([SZ24])

*The Eilenberg–Moore category of any right exact lax  $\mathcal{C}$ -module monad can be equipped with a canonical  $\mathcal{C}$ -module structure by mean of Linton coequalisers.*

# The reconstruction result

## Theorem ([SZ24])

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be an abelian monoidal category,  $\mathcal{M}$  an abelian  $\mathcal{C}$ -module category, and assume that  $\ell \in \mathcal{M}$  is a closed  $\mathcal{C}$ -projective  $\mathcal{C}$ -generator. Then there is an equivalence of  $\mathcal{C}$ -module categories

$$\mathcal{M} \simeq \mathcal{C}^{[\ell, - \triangleright \ell]}.$$

Furthermore, there is a bijection

$$\{(\mathcal{M}, \ell) \text{ as before}\} / \mathcal{M} \simeq \mathcal{N} \xleftrightarrow{\cong} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Right exact lax } \mathcal{C}\text{-module} \\ \text{monads on } \mathcal{C} \end{array} \right\} / \mathcal{C}^T \simeq \mathcal{C}^S$$

$$(\mathcal{M}, \ell) \longmapsto [\ell, - \triangleright \ell]$$

$$(\mathcal{C}^T, T1) \longleftarrow T$$

## Back to Hopf algebras

Let  $H$  be a Hopf algebra and  $\mathcal{C} := {}^H\mathbf{vect} \implies \mathrm{Ind}(\mathcal{C}) \simeq {}^H\mathbf{Vect}$ .

Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be an abelian  $\mathcal{C}$ -module category such that  $\mathrm{Ind}(\mathcal{M})$  admits a coclosed  $\mathrm{Ind}(\mathcal{C})$ -injective  $\mathrm{Ind}(\mathcal{C})$ -cogenerator.

Then there exists an  $H$ -comodule coalgebra  $C$  such that  $\mathrm{Ind}(\mathcal{M}) \simeq \mathrm{Comod}_H C$  as  $\mathrm{Ind}(\mathcal{C})$ -module categories.

This restricts to a  $\mathcal{C}$ -module equivalence  $\mathcal{M} \simeq \mathrm{comod}_H C$ .

# **(Op)lax module functors in action**

---

# Hopf trimodules

## Theorem ([SZ24])

Let  $B$  be a bialgebra, and define  $\mathcal{V} := {}^B\mathbf{Vect}$ . There is a monoidal equivalence

$$\begin{aligned} {}^B_B\mathbf{Vect} &\longrightarrow \mathbf{LexLax}\mathcal{V}\mathbf{Mod}(\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{V}) \\ X &\longmapsto (X \square_B -, \chi) \end{aligned}$$

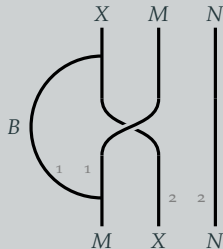
between the category of Hopf trimodules, and the category of left exact finitary lax  $\mathcal{V}$ -module endofunctors on  $\mathcal{V}$ .

# The interchanger

For all  $M, N \in {}^B\mathbf{Vect}$ , the arrow

$$\chi_{M,N}: M \otimes_{\mathbb{k}} (X \square_B N) \longrightarrow X \square_B (M \otimes_{\mathbb{k}} N)$$

is defined by





# Deducing a theorem for Hopf trimodules

## Proposition

*Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a left closed monoidal category such that every lax  $\mathcal{C}$ -module endofunctor of  $\mathcal{C}$  is strong—in other words, that the monoidal embedding*

$$\mathrm{Str}\mathcal{C}\mathrm{Mod}(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{C}) \hookrightarrow \mathrm{Lax}\mathcal{C}\mathrm{Mod}(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{C})$$

*is an equivalence. Then  $\mathcal{C}$  is left rigid.*

## Corollary ([SZ24])

*A bialgebra  $B$  admits a twisted antipode if and only if the canonical functor  $B \otimes_{\mathbb{k}} - : {}^B\mathrm{Vect} \longrightarrow {}^B_B\mathrm{Vect}^B$  is an equivalence.*

# Fusion operators for Hopf monads

## Proposition ([SZ24])

*Let  $F: \mathcal{C} \rightleftarrows \mathcal{D} : U$  be an oplax monoidal adjunction. The strong monoidal structure of  $U$  turns  $\mathcal{C}$  into a  $\mathcal{D}$ -module category via  $- \triangleright = := U(-) \otimes =$ . The bimonad  $T := UF$  on  $\mathcal{C}$  becomes an oplax  $\mathcal{D}$ -module monad. In particular, the right fusion operator is the “free part” of the coherence morphism:*

$$T_{2;F,\text{Id}} = T_{\text{rf}}.$$

*Further,  $T_{\text{rf}}$  is an isomorphism if and only if  $T_2$  is.*

# Thanks!



[tony-zorman.com/hopf25](https://tony-zorman.com/hopf25)

Reconstruction of module categories  
in the infinite and non-rigid settings.

arXiv:2409.00793

# References i

- [BLV11] Alain Bruguières, Steve Lack, and Alexis Virelizier. **Hopf monads on monoidal categories.** In: *Advances in Mathematics* 227.2 (2011), pp. 745–800. ISSN: 0001-8708. DOI: 10.1016/j.aim.2011.02.008.
- [BZBJ18] David Ben-Zvi, Adrien Brochier, and David Jordan. **Integrating quantum groups over surfaces.** In: *J. Topol.* 11.4 (2018), pp. 874–917. ISSN: 1753-8416. DOI: 10.1112/topo.12072.
- [Del02] Pierre Deligne. **Catégories tensorielles. (Tensor categories).** French. In: *Mosc. Math. J.* 2.2 (2002), pp. 227–248. ISSN: 1609-3321.

- [DSPS19] Christopher L. Douglas, Christopher Schommer-Pries, and Noah Snyder. **The balanced tensor product of module categories.** In: *Kyoto J. Math.* 59.1 (2019), pp. 167–179. ISSN: 2156-2261. DOI: 10.1215/21562261-2018-0006.
- [EGNO15] Pavel Etingof, Shlomo Gelaki, Dmitri Nikshych, and Victor Ostrik. **Tensor categories.** Vol. 205. Mathematical Surveys and Monographs. American Mathematical Society, Providence, RI, 2015, pp. xvi+343. ISBN: 978-1-4704-2024-6. DOI: 10.1090/surv/205.
- [HN99] Frank Hausser and Florian Nill. **Integral Theory for Quasi-Hopf Algebras.** In: *arXiv e-prints* (1999). arXiv: math/9904164 [math.QA].

## References iii

- [HZ24] Sebastian Halbig and Tony Zorman. **Diagrammatics for Comodule Monads**. In: *Appl. Categ. Struct.* 32 (2024). Id/No 27, p. 17. ISSN: 0927-2852. DOI: 10.1017/CB09781139542333.
- [Kel74] Gregory M. Kelly. **Doctrinal adjunction**. Proceedings Sydney Category Seminar, 1972/1973, Lect. Notes Math. 420, 257-280 (1974). 1974.
- [Moe02] Ieke Moerdijk. **Monads on tensor categories**. In: *J. Pure Appl. Algebra* 168.2-3 (2002). Category theory 1999 (Coimbra), pp. 189–208. ISSN: 0022-4049. DOI: 10.1016/S0022-4049(01)00096-2.
- [Ost03] Viktor Ostrik. **Module categories, weak Hopf algebras and modular invariants**. In: *Transform. Groups* 8.2 (2003), pp. 177–206. ISSN: 1083-4362. DOI: 10.1007/s00031-003-0515-6.

- [Ost04] Victor Ostrik. **Tensor categories (after P. Deligne)**. In: *arXiv e-prints* (2004). arXiv: math/0401347 [math.CT].
- [Sar17] Paolo Saracco. **On the structure theorem for quasi-Hopf bimodules**. In: *Appl. Categ. Struct.* 25.1 (2017), pp. 3–28. ISSN: 0927-2852. DOI: 10.1007/s10485-015-9408-9.
- [SZ24] Mateusz Stroiński and Tony Zorman. **Reconstruction of module categories in the infinite and non-rigid settings**. In: *arXiv e-prints* (2024). arXiv: 2409.00793 [math.QA].