

Orbifolds of topological quantum field theories

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https://www.carqueville.net/nils/2021-02-08_IPMU.pdf

In a nutshell

A TQFT is a functor

$$\mathcal{Z}: \text{Spacetime Caricature} \longrightarrow \text{Algebra}$$

Summary:

- n -dimensional **closed** TQFTs \implies **algebras**
- n -dimensional **defect** TQFTs \implies **n -categories**
- **orbifolds** \implies representation theory in n -categories

Applications for $n \lesssim 4$:

$n = 2$: Landau–Ginzburg models

$n = 3$: Chern–Simons and Reshetikhin–Turaev theory

$n = 4$: Crane–Yetter and Douglas–Reutter theory

Motivation 1: basic features of quantum physics

- *physical states*: **vector space** V
- *observables*: **linear operators** on V
- *time evolution* of $\Psi \in V$ described by linear map U_t :

$$i \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial t} = H \Psi \quad \Psi(t) = U_t \Psi(0) \quad U_t = e^{-iHt}$$

$$U_{t+t'} = U_t \circ U_{t'}$$

Think of **quantum field theory** as a map

$$\text{Spacetime} \longrightarrow \text{Algebra}$$

Motivation 2: group representations

Let G be a group. A G -representation is a functor

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$$\begin{array}{l} * \longmapsto \rho(*) =: V \\ \text{End}(*) = G \ni g \longmapsto \rho(g) \in \text{End}(V) \end{array}$$

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Functoriality means $\rho(e) = \text{id}_V$ and $\rho(gh) = \rho(g)\rho(h)$, so we have a *group homomorphism*

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Think of **QFT** as a **representation of spacetime on algebra**.

Topological quantum field theory

A **2-dimensional closed TQFT** is a symmetric monoidal functor

$$\text{Bord}_2 \xrightarrow{\mathcal{Z}} \text{Vect}$$

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orient. circles S^1 and surfaces with bdry./diffeom.

vector spaces and linear maps

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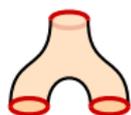
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$$\mapsto (V \otimes V \xrightarrow{\mu} V)$$

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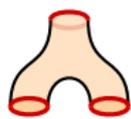
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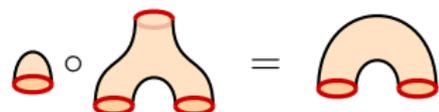
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A **2-dimensional closed TQFT** is a symmetric monoidal functor

$$\text{Bord}_2 \xrightarrow{\mathcal{Z}} \text{Vect}$$

$$S^1 \mapsto V \quad (\text{vector space})$$

$$\text{trivalent junction} \mapsto (\mu: V \otimes V \longrightarrow V) \quad (\text{associative multiplication})$$

$$\text{cup} \mapsto (\langle -, - \rangle: V \otimes V \longrightarrow \mathbb{k}) \quad (\text{nondegenerate } \mu\text{-compatible pairing})$$

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Proof sketch:

Multiplication $\mathcal{Z}(\text{multiplication diagram})$ associative, pairing $\mathcal{Z}(\text{pairing diagram})$ nondegenerate:

$$\text{associativity diagram} = \text{associativity diagram} \quad \text{pairing diagram} = \text{pairing diagram} \quad \text{etc.}$$

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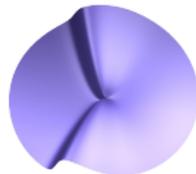
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Examples.

- $V = \mathbb{k}G$ and $\langle g, h \rangle = \delta_{g, h^{-1}}$ for finite abelian group G
- $V = \mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_n] / (\partial_{x_1} W, \dots, \partial_{x_n} W)$ (pairing $\langle -, - \rangle$ from residue theory)



How to make this more interesting?

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- Increase “spacetime” dimension.
- Promote source and target to higher categories.
- Consider other tangential structures.
- Decompose bordisms *without* higher categories as input.

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- Study non-topological QFT...

Defect TQFT

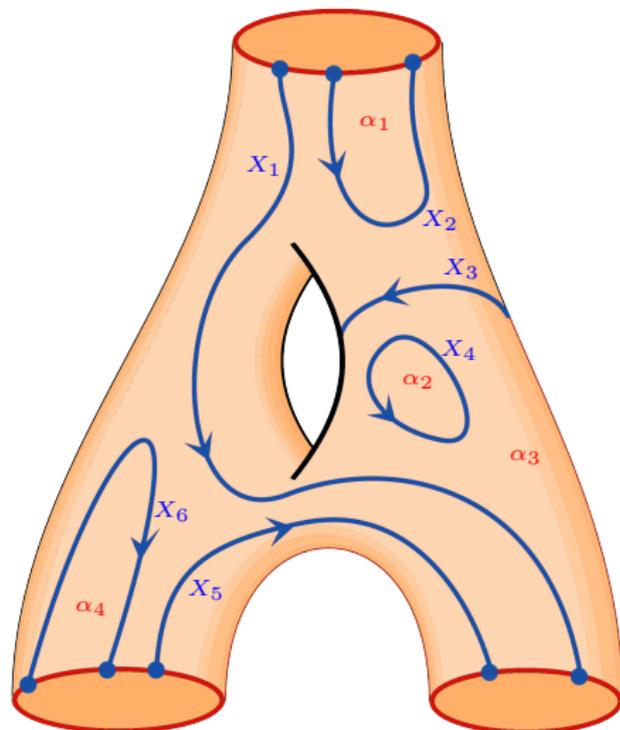
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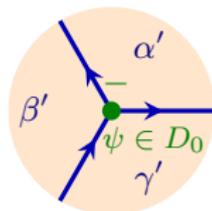
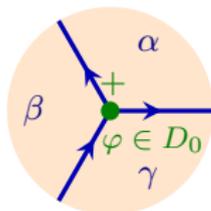
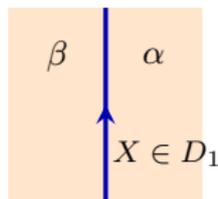
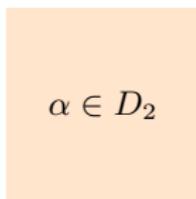
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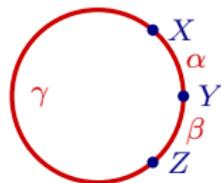
$$\mathcal{Z}: \text{Bord}_2^{\text{def}}(\mathbb{D}) \longrightarrow \text{Vect}$$

depending on **defect data** \mathbb{D} consisting of:

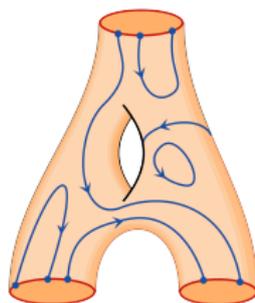
- set D_2 of bulk theories
- set D_1 of line defects
- set D_0 of junction fields



objects:



morphisms:



Examples of 2d defect TQFTs

Trivial defect TQFT $\mathcal{Z}^{\text{triv}}$:

$$D_2 := \{\mathbb{k}\}$$

$$D_1 := \{\text{finite-dimensional } \mathbb{k}\text{-vector spaces}\}$$

$$D_0 := \{\text{linear maps}\}$$

$$\mathcal{Z}^{\text{triv}} \left(\text{circle with } m \text{ points } V_1, \dots, V_m \right) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} V_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes V_m$$

$$\mathcal{Z}^{\text{triv}} \left(\text{pair of pants diagram} \right) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (\text{evaluate 0- und 1-strata as string diagrams in Vect})$$

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B-twisted sigma models:

Calabi–Yau manifolds and holomorphic vector bundles

Landau–Ginzburg models:

isolated singularities and homological algebra

Δ -separable symmetric Frobenius algebra (over \mathbb{k})

$A \in \text{Vect}$ with

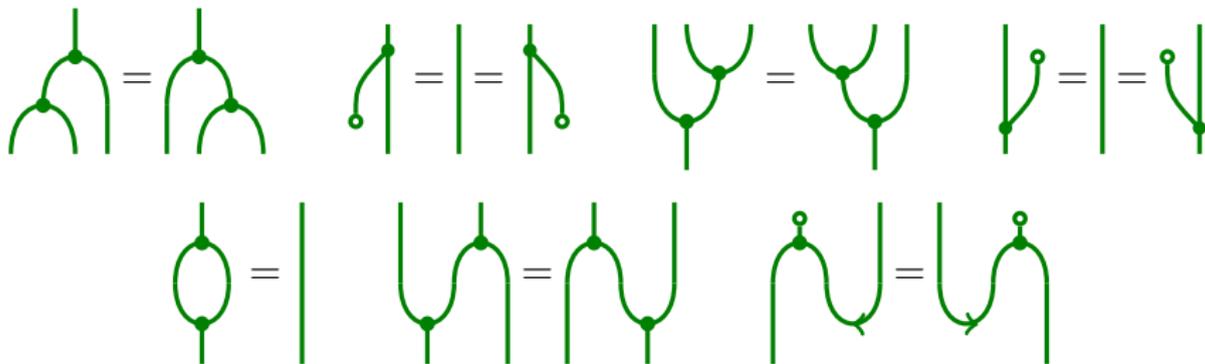
$$\mu = \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ | \\ \bullet \\ \text{---} \\ | \\ \bullet \\ \text{---} \\ | \\ \text{---} \end{array} : A \otimes A \longrightarrow A$$

$$\Delta = \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ | \\ \bullet \\ \text{---} \\ | \\ \bullet \\ \text{---} \\ | \\ \text{---} \end{array} : A \longrightarrow A \otimes A$$

$$\eta = \begin{array}{c} | \\ \bullet \\ \text{---} \end{array} : \mathbb{k} \longrightarrow A$$

$$\epsilon = \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ \bullet \\ | \end{array} : A \longrightarrow \mathbb{k}$$

such that

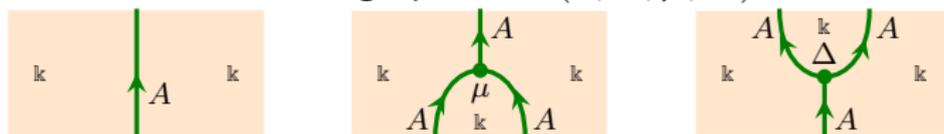


(A need *not* be commutative.)

State sum models

Input: Δ -separable symmetric Frobenius \mathbb{k} -algebra (A, μ, Δ)

- (1) Choose oriented **triangulation** t for every bordism Σ in Bord_2
- (2) **Decorate Poincaré-dual** graph with $(\mathbb{k}, A, \mu, \Delta)$:



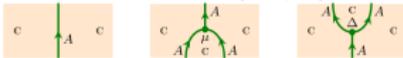
- (3) Obtain $\Sigma^{t,A}$ in $\text{Bord}_2^{\text{def}}(\mathbb{D}^{\text{triv}})$ and define $\mathcal{Z}_A^{\text{ss}}(\Sigma) = \mathcal{Z}^{\text{triv}}(\Sigma^{t,A})$

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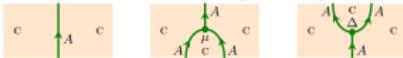
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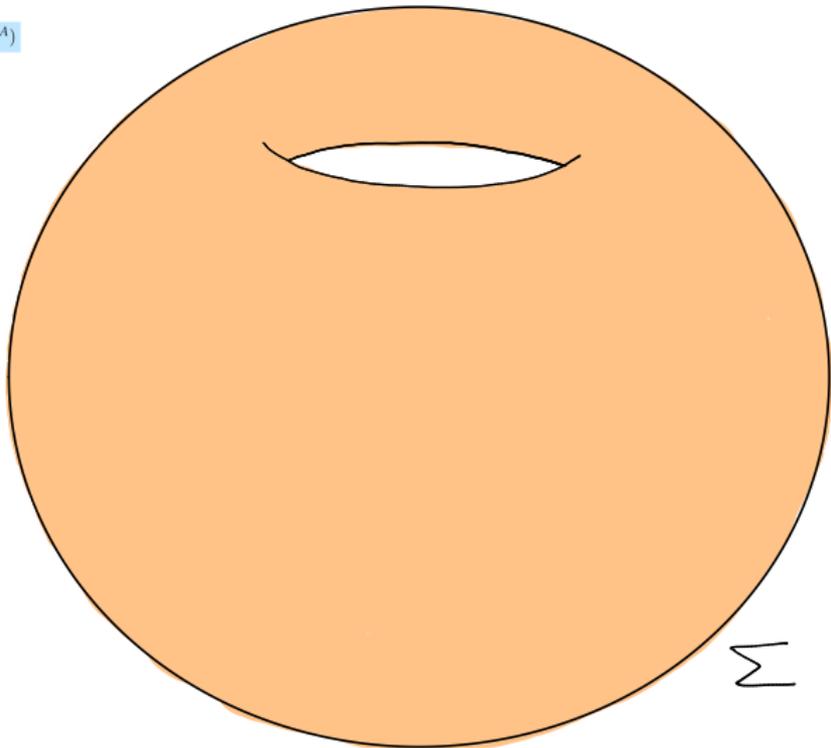
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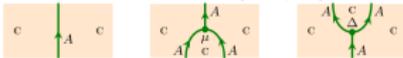


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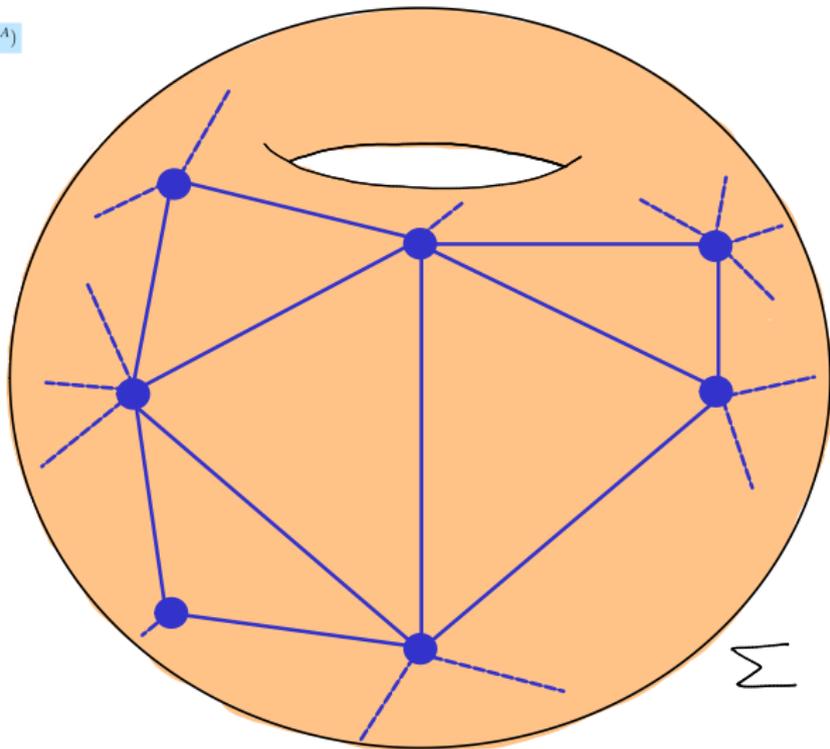
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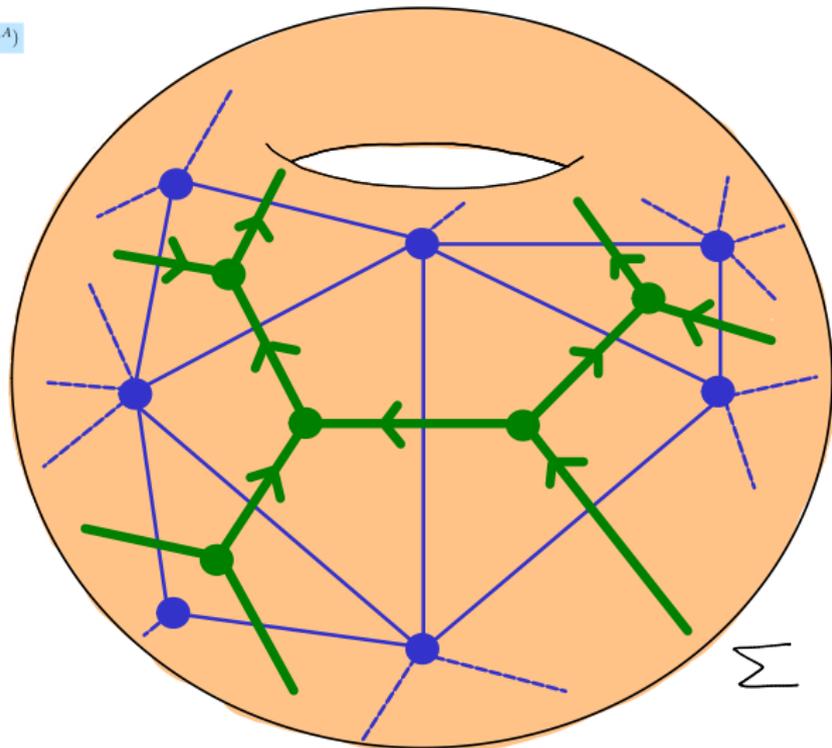
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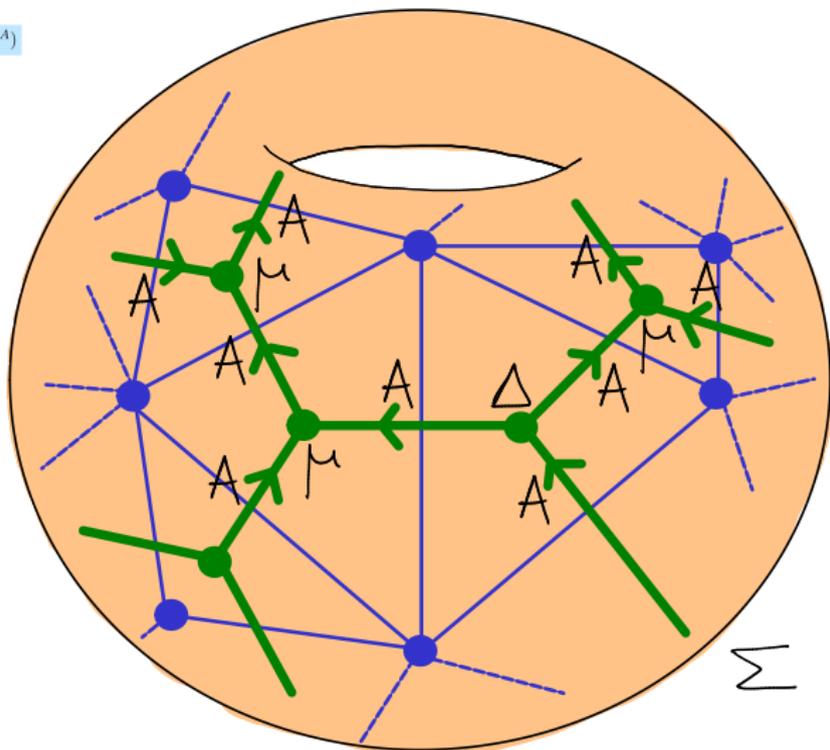
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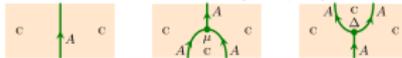


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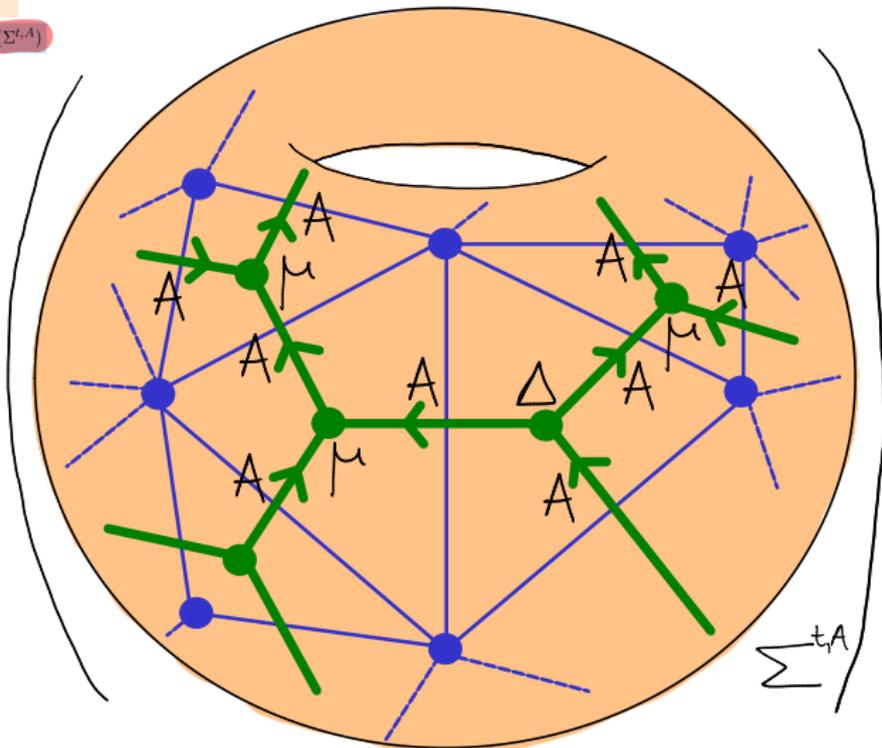
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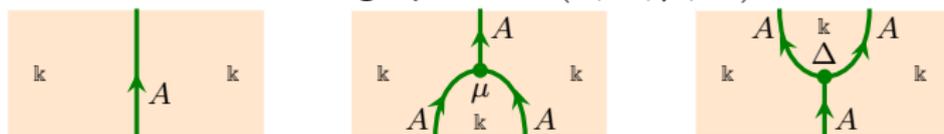
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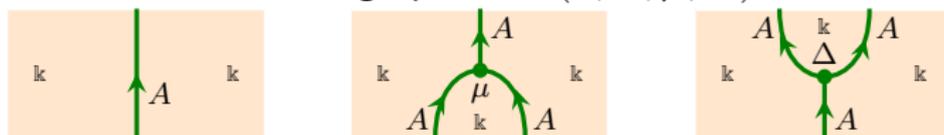


- (3) Obtain $\Sigma^{t,A}$ in $\text{Bord}_2^{\text{def}}(\mathbb{D}^{\text{triv}})$ and define $\mathcal{Z}_A^{\text{ss}}(\Sigma) = \mathcal{Z}^{\text{triv}}(\Sigma^{t,A})$

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Input: Δ -separable symmetric Frobenius \mathbb{k} -algebra (A, μ, Δ)

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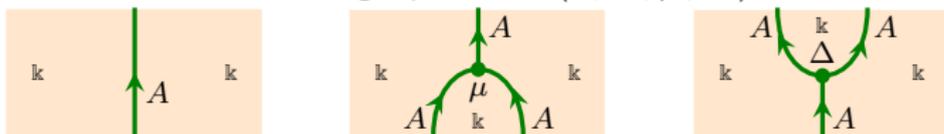
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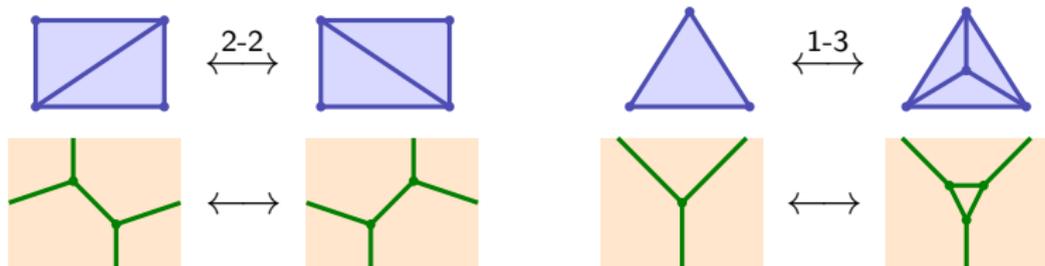
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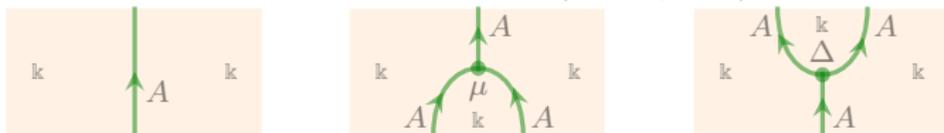
Proof sketch: Defining properties of (A, μ, Δ) encode invariance under **Pachner moves** \implies independent of choice of triangulation:



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No need to consider only algebras over \mathbb{k} !

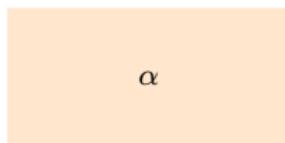
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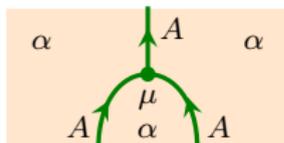
An **orbifold datum** for \mathcal{Z} is $\mathcal{A} \equiv (\alpha, A, \mu, \Delta)$:



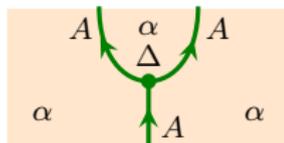
$\alpha \in D_2$



$A \in D_1$

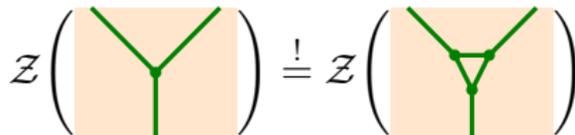
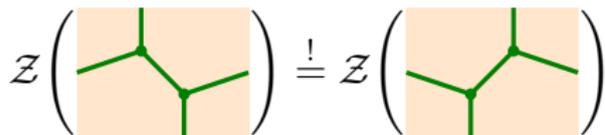


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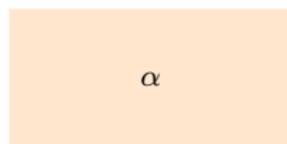
such that *Pachner moves become identities* under \mathcal{Z} :



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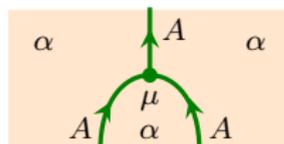
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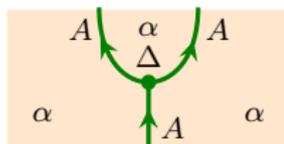
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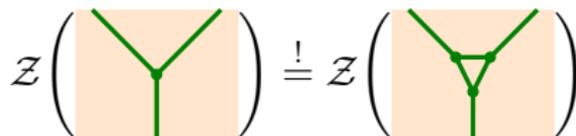
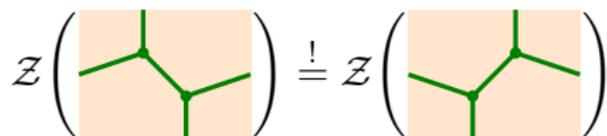


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Definition & Theorem.

Triangulation + \mathcal{A} -decoration + evaluation with $\mathcal{Z} = \mathcal{A}$ -orbifold TQFT

$$\mathcal{Z}_{\mathcal{A}}: \text{Bord}_2 \rightarrow \text{Vect}$$

Algebraic characterisation

Theorem.

2d defect TQFT $\mathcal{Z} \implies$ pivotal 2-category $\mathcal{B}_{\mathcal{Z}}$

Algebraic characterisation

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Proof idea:

- objects = closed TQFTs
- 1-morphisms = line defects (= codimension-1 defects)
- 2-morphisms = point defects (= codimension-2 defects)
- adjunctions from orientation reversal

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Examples.

- **vector spaces**: $\text{Bvect}_{\mathbb{k}}$
*, finite-dimensional \mathbb{k} -vector spaces, linear maps
- **algebras over \mathbb{k}**
separable symmetric Frobenius \mathbb{k} -algebras, bimodules, intertwiners
- **algebraic geometry**
Calabi–Yau varieties, Fourier–Mukai kernels, RHom
- **symplectic geometry**
symplectic manifolds, Lagrangian correspondences, Floer homology
- **Landau–Ginzburg models**
isolated singularities, matrix factorisations
- **differential graded categories**
smooth and proper dg categories, dg bimodules, intertwiners
- **categorified quantum groups**
weights, functors $\mathcal{E}_i, \mathcal{F}_j \dots$, string diagrams. . .

Algebraic characterisation of orbifolds

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2d defect TQFT \mathcal{Z} \implies pivotal 2-category $\mathcal{B}_{\mathcal{Z}}$

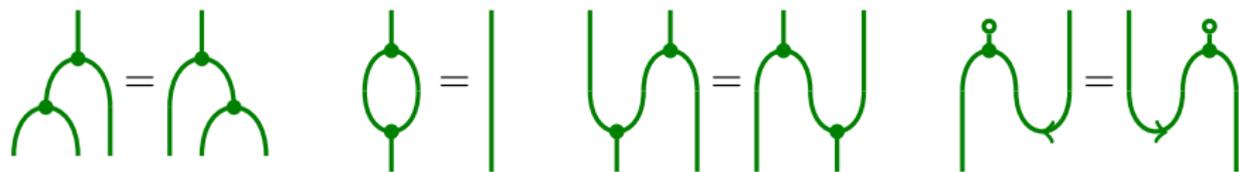
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$$\mathcal{Z} \left(\begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 1} \\ \text{Diagram 2} \end{array} \right) = \mathcal{Z} \left(\begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 3} \\ \text{Diagram 4} \end{array} \right) \quad \mathcal{Z} \left(\begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 5} \\ \text{Diagram 6} \end{array} \right) = \mathcal{Z} \left(\begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 7} \\ \text{Diagram 8} \end{array} \right)$$

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Lemma. $A_G := \bigoplus_{g \in G} \rho(g)$ is Δ -separable Frobenius algebra in $\mathcal{B}_{\mathcal{Z}}$.

\implies G -orbifolds are orbifolds: $\mathcal{Z}^G = \mathcal{Z}_{A_G} \quad \mathcal{C}^G \cong \text{mod}_{\mathcal{C}}(A_G) \quad \text{☺}$

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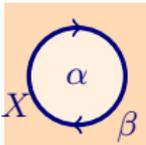
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Orbifolds unify gauging of symmetry groups and state sum models.

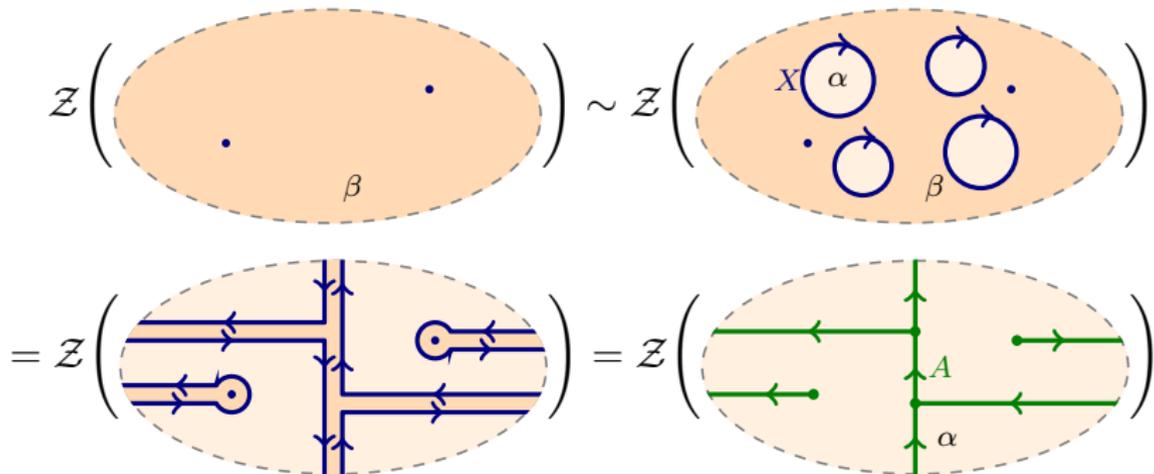
Orbifold equivalence: main idea

Let $X: \alpha \rightarrow \beta$ be line defect such that



$\neq 0$ in correlators.

Then with $A := X^\dagger \otimes X: \alpha \rightarrow \alpha$ we have:



Theorem. (orbifold equivalence $\alpha \sim \beta$)

(theory β) \cong (A -orbifold of theory α)

Orbifold equivalence

Orbifold completion of pivotal 2-category \mathcal{B} is pivotal 2-category \mathcal{B}_{orb} :

- *objects*: **Δ -separable symmetric Frobenius algebras** $A \in \mathcal{B}(\alpha, \alpha)$
- *1-morphisms* $(\alpha, A) \rightarrow (\beta, B)$: B - A -bimodules in $\mathcal{B}(\alpha, \beta)$
- *2-morphisms*: bimodule maps

Lemma. $\mathcal{B} \hookrightarrow \mathcal{B}_{\text{orb}} \cong (\mathcal{B}_{\text{orb}})_{\text{orb}}$

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Theorem & Definition. (**Orbifold equivalence** $\alpha \sim \beta$)

If $X \in \mathcal{B}(\alpha, \beta)$ has *invertible* $\dim(X) \in \text{End}(1_\beta)$, then:

- $A := X^\dagger \otimes X$ is *separable* symmetric Frobenius algebra in $\mathcal{B}(\alpha, \alpha)$
- $X: (\alpha, A) \rightleftarrows (\beta, 1_\beta) : X^\dagger$ is adjoint equivalence in \mathcal{B}_{orb}

Remark.

\mathcal{B}_{orb} as *oriented* gapped condensation of topological phases of matter

Orbifold equivalence

Orbifold completion of 2-category \mathcal{B} is 2-category \mathcal{B}_{eq} :

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 \mathcal{B}_{eq} = “condensation completion”

Orbifolds of Landau–Ginzburg models

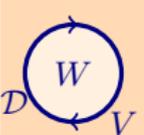
Theorem. There is a *(graded)* pivotal 2-category \mathcal{LG} with:

- objects = isolated singularities $W \in \mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$
- $\mathcal{LG}(W, V) =$ homotopy category of matrix factorisations \mathcal{D} of $V - W$

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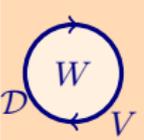
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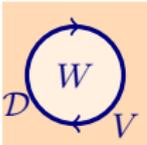
Why care?

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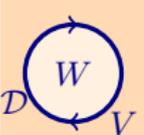
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- CFT/LG correspondence
- CY/LG correspondence
- derived geometry & representation theory
- homological knot invariants
- surface defects in Rozansky–Witten models

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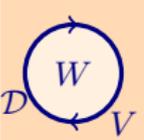
Theorem. (**Orbifold equivalences** in \mathcal{LG})

$$\begin{array}{ll} x^k + xy^2 & \sim u^{2k} + v^2 & (\mathbf{D}_{k+1} \sim \mathbf{A}_{2k-1}) \\ x^3 + y^4 & \sim u^{12} + v^2 & (\mathbf{E}_6 \sim \mathbf{A}_{11}) \\ x^3 + xy^3 & \sim u^{18} + v^2 & (\mathbf{E}_7 \sim \mathbf{A}_{17}) \\ x^3 + y^5 & \sim u^{30} + v^2 & (\mathbf{E}_8 \sim \mathbf{A}_{29}) \end{array}$$

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 x^5y + y^3 & \sim u^3v + v^5 & (\mathbb{E}_{13} \sim \mathbb{Z}_{11}) \\
 x^6 + xy^3 + z^2 & \sim vw^3 + v^3 + u^2w & (\mathbb{Z}_{13} \sim \mathbb{Q}_{11})
 \end{array}$$

Aside: Non-semisimple fully extended TQFTs

Theorem.

For every $W \in \mathcal{LG}$, the associated Landau–Ginzburg model $\text{Bord}_2 \rightarrow \text{Vect}$ can be lifted to a **fully extended TQFT**

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Bord}_{2,1,0}^{\text{fr}} &\longrightarrow \mathcal{LG} \\ \text{pt}_+ &\longmapsto W \\ S_1^1 &\longmapsto \mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_n]/(\partial_{x_1} W, \dots, \partial_{x_n} W) \end{aligned}$$

Remarks.

- Jacobi algebra $\mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_n]/(\partial_{x_1} W, \dots, \partial_{x_n} W)$ is **non-semisimple**.

Aside: Non-semisimple fully extended TQFTs

Theorem.

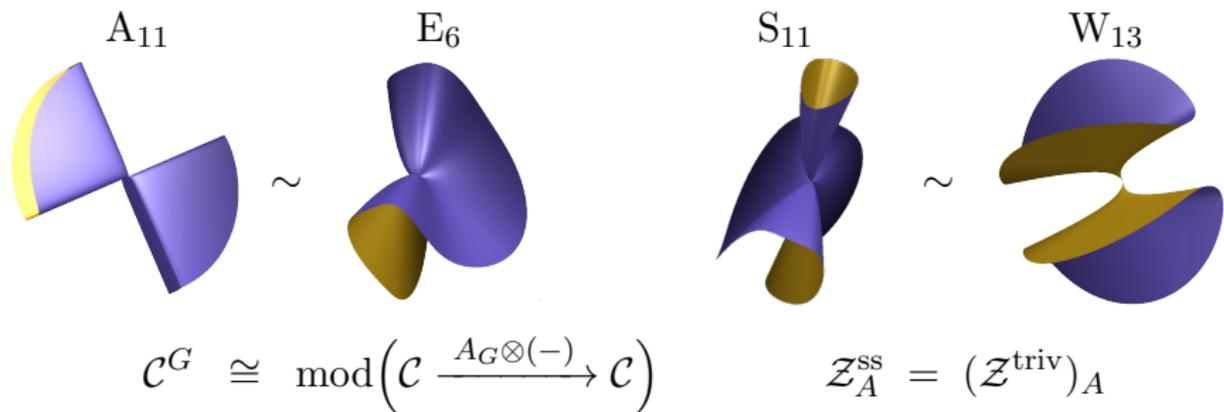
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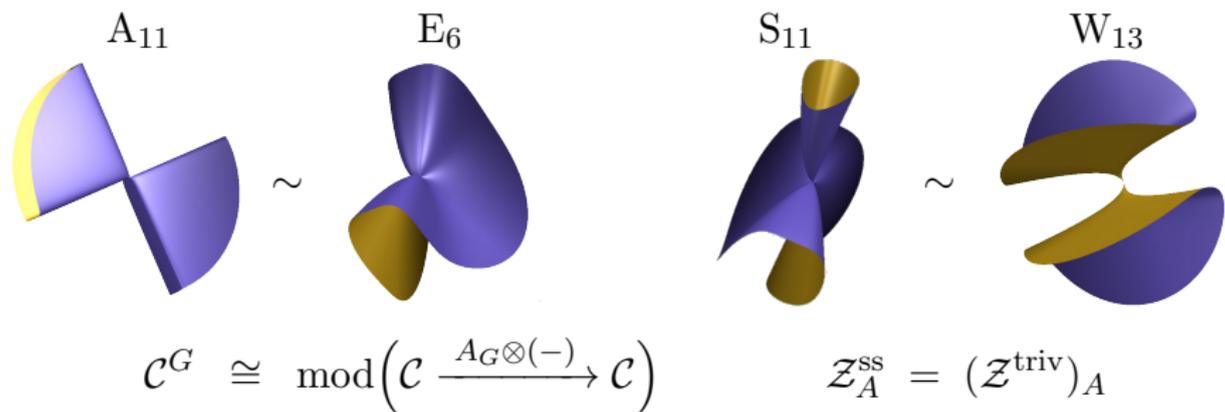
Remarks.

- Jacobi algebra $\mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_n]/(\partial_{x_1} W, \dots, \partial_{x_n} W)$ is **non-semisimple**.
- Get **oriented TQFT** from $\text{SO}(2)$ -homotopy fixed points, i. e. trivialisations of Serre automorphism $S_W = 1_W[n]$.
- Get **r -spin TQFTs** in \mathcal{LG} and \mathcal{LG}_{eq} .

Summary so far



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2d orbifolds

- encode triangulation invariance in algebraic structure
- representation theory of algebras in 2-categories
- unify gauging of symmetry groups and state sum models
- new relations in Landau–Ginzburg models, algebra and geometry

The **orbifold construction** can be generalised to n -dimensional defect TQFTs

$$\mathcal{Z}: \text{Bord}_n^{\text{def}}(\mathbb{D}) \longrightarrow \text{Vect}$$

in any dimension $n \geq 1$.

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- **Applications:**
 - ▶ unify gauging of symmetry groups and state sum models
 - ▶ lift Reshetikhin–Turaev theory to defect TQFT
 - ▶ Reshetikhin–Turaev theories close under orbifolds
 - ▶ models for topological quantum computation

n -dimensional defect TQFTs

An n -dimensional defect TQFT is a symmetric monoidal functor

$$\mathcal{Z}: \text{Bord}_n^{\text{def}}(\mathbb{D}) \longrightarrow \text{Vect}$$

that depends on **defect data** \mathbb{D} , consisting of:

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- rules how strata are allowed to meet (defined recursively via cones and cylinders)

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Examples of 3d defect TQFTs.

- quantum **Chern–Simons theory** (\subset Reshetikhin–Turaev theory $\mathcal{Z}^{\mathcal{C}}$)
 - ▶ $D_3 = \{\text{gauge group}\}$ (more generally: modular tensor category \mathcal{C})
 - ▶ $D_2 = \{\Delta\text{-separable symmetric Frobenius algebras in } \mathcal{C}\}$
 - ▶ $D_1 = \{\text{cyclic modules}\} \supset \{\text{Wilson line labels}\}$
- **Rozansky–Witten theory** (conjecturally)
 - ▶ $D_3 = \{\text{holomorphic symplectic manifolds}\}$
 - ▶ $D_2 = \{\text{“generalised Landau–Ginzburg models”}\}$
 - ▶ $D_1 = \{\text{“fibred matrix factorisations”}\}$

Reshetikhin–Turaev theory with defects

Theorem.

For modular tensor category \mathcal{C} , there is a **defect TQFT** $\mathcal{Z}^{\mathcal{C}}$ with

$$D_3 = \{\mathcal{C}\}$$

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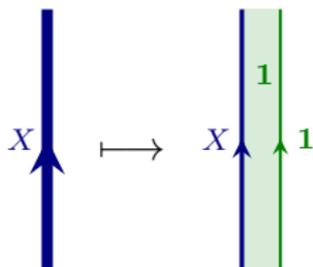
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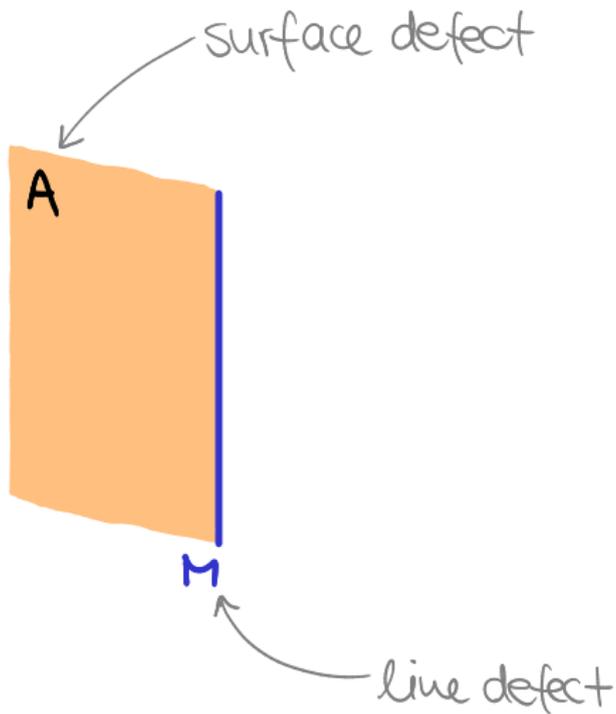
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Proof idea:

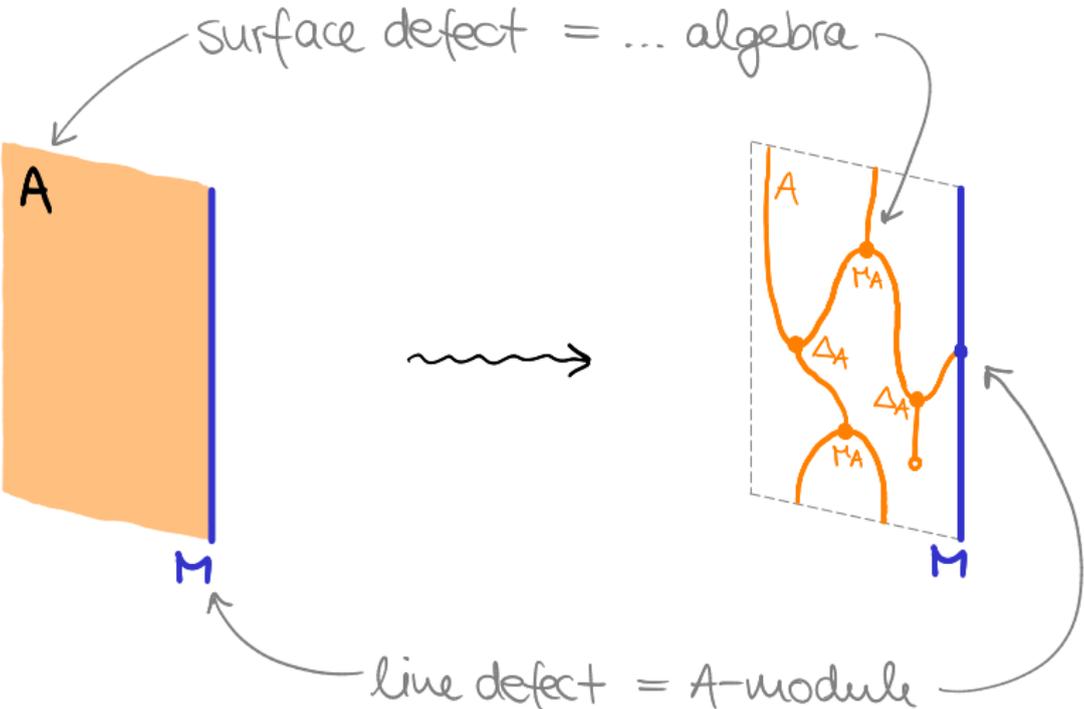
- replace A -decorated 2-strata by trivalent network of A -ribbons
- evaluate with $\mathcal{Z}^{\mathcal{C}, \text{RT}}$
- model X -ribbons by 1- and 2-strata:



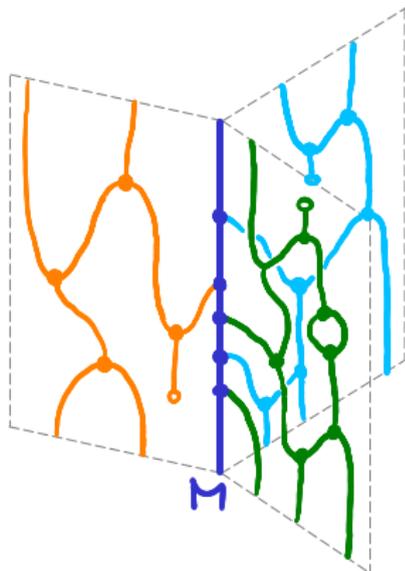
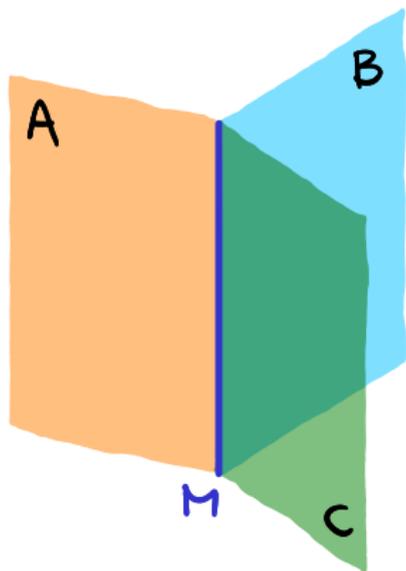
Reshetikhin–Turaev theory with surface defects



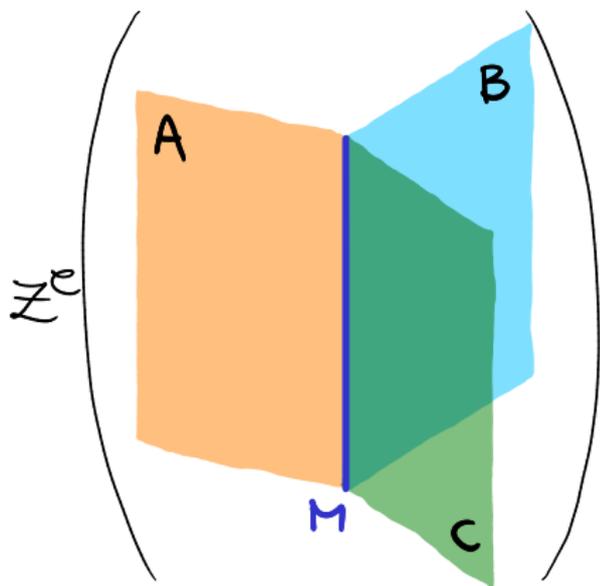
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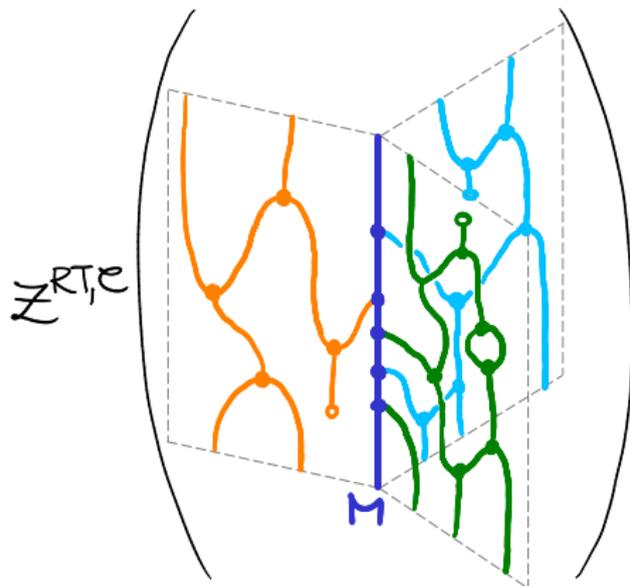
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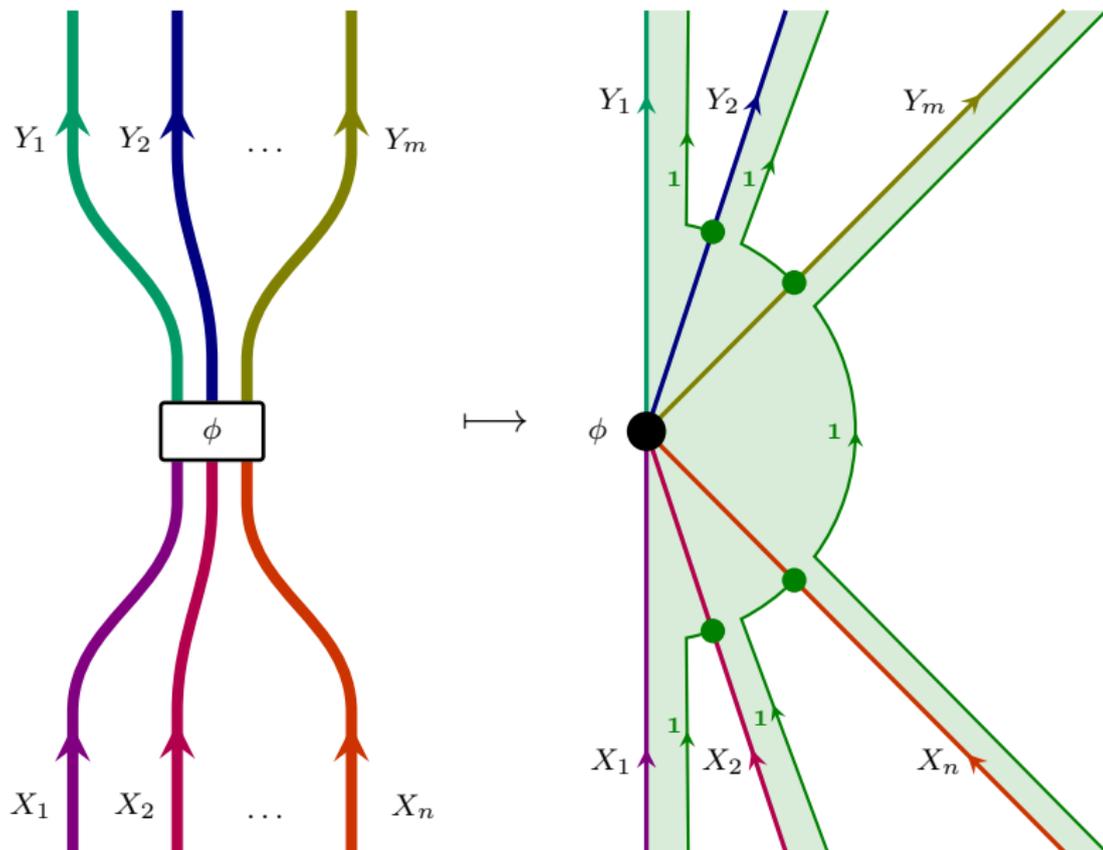
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$\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \equiv$

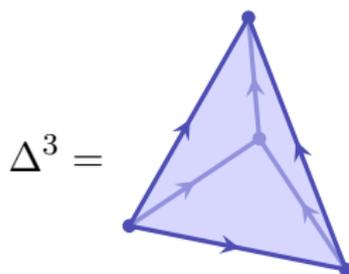
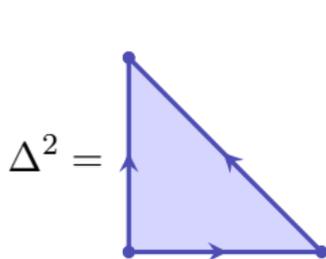


Reshetikhin–Turaev theory with defects



Triangulations

standard n -simplex $\Delta^n := \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{n+1} t_i e_i \mid t_i \geq 0, \sum_{i=1}^{n+1} t_i = 1 \right\} \subset \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$



simplicial complex C is collection of simplices such that

- ▶ all faces of all $\sigma \in C$ are also in C
- ▶ $\sigma, \sigma' \in C \implies \sigma \cap \sigma' = \emptyset$ or $\sigma \cap \sigma' = \text{face}$

triangulation of manifold M is simplicial complex C with homeomorphism $\varphi: |C| \xrightarrow{\cong} M$

(details for smooth, oriented, ...)

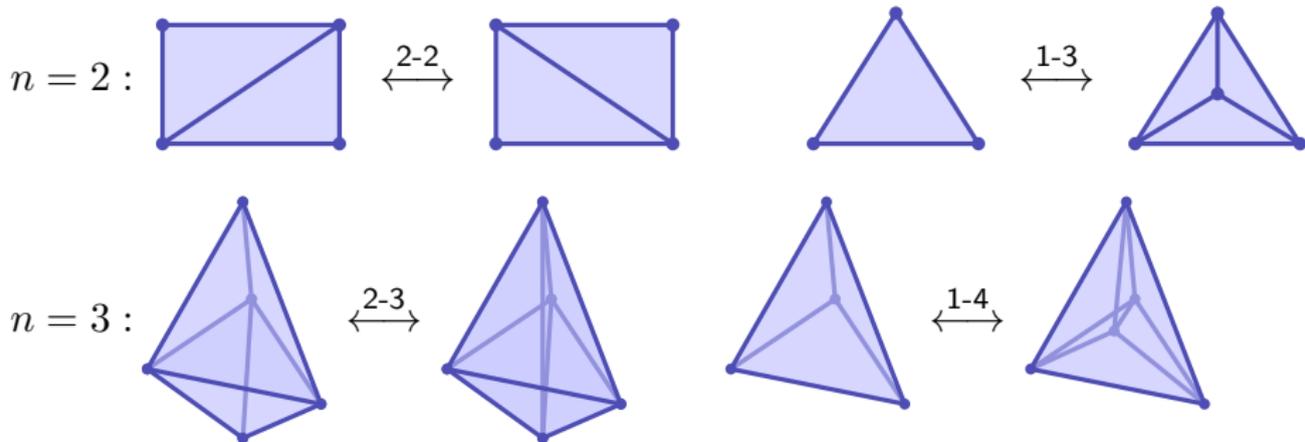
Pachner moves

Let $\varphi: |C| \xrightarrow{\cong} M$ be triangulated n -manifold.

Let $F \subset \partial\Delta^{n+1} \subset C$ be n -dimensional subcomplex.

A **Pachner move** “glues the other side of $\partial\Delta^{n+1}$ into M ”:

$$M \longmapsto |\partial\Delta^{n+1} \setminus \overset{\circ}{F}| \cup_{\varphi|_{\partial F}} (M \setminus \varphi(|F|))$$



Theorem. If triangulated PL manifolds are PL isomorphic, then there exists a finite sequence of Pachner moves between them.

Orbifolds in any dimension n

An **orbifold datum** \mathcal{A} for $\mathcal{Z}: \text{Bord}_n^{\text{def}}(\mathbb{D}) \rightarrow \text{Vect}$ consists of

- $\mathcal{A}_j \in D_j$ for all $j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$,
- $\mathcal{A}_0^+, \mathcal{A}_0^- \in D_0$,
- such that “Pachner moves become identities”
 - ▶ **compatibility:**
 \mathcal{A}_j is allowed decoration of $(n - j)$ -simplices dual to j -strata
 - ▶ **triangulation invariance:**
Let B, B' be \mathcal{A} -decorated n -balls dual to two sides of a Pachner move.
Then: $\mathcal{Z}(B) = \mathcal{Z}(B')$.

$n = 2$ is special case:

$$\mathcal{Z} \left(\begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 1} \end{array} \right) = \mathcal{Z} \left(\begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 2} \end{array} \right) \quad \mathcal{Z} \left(\begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 3} \end{array} \right) = \mathcal{Z} \left(\begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 4} \end{array} \right)$$

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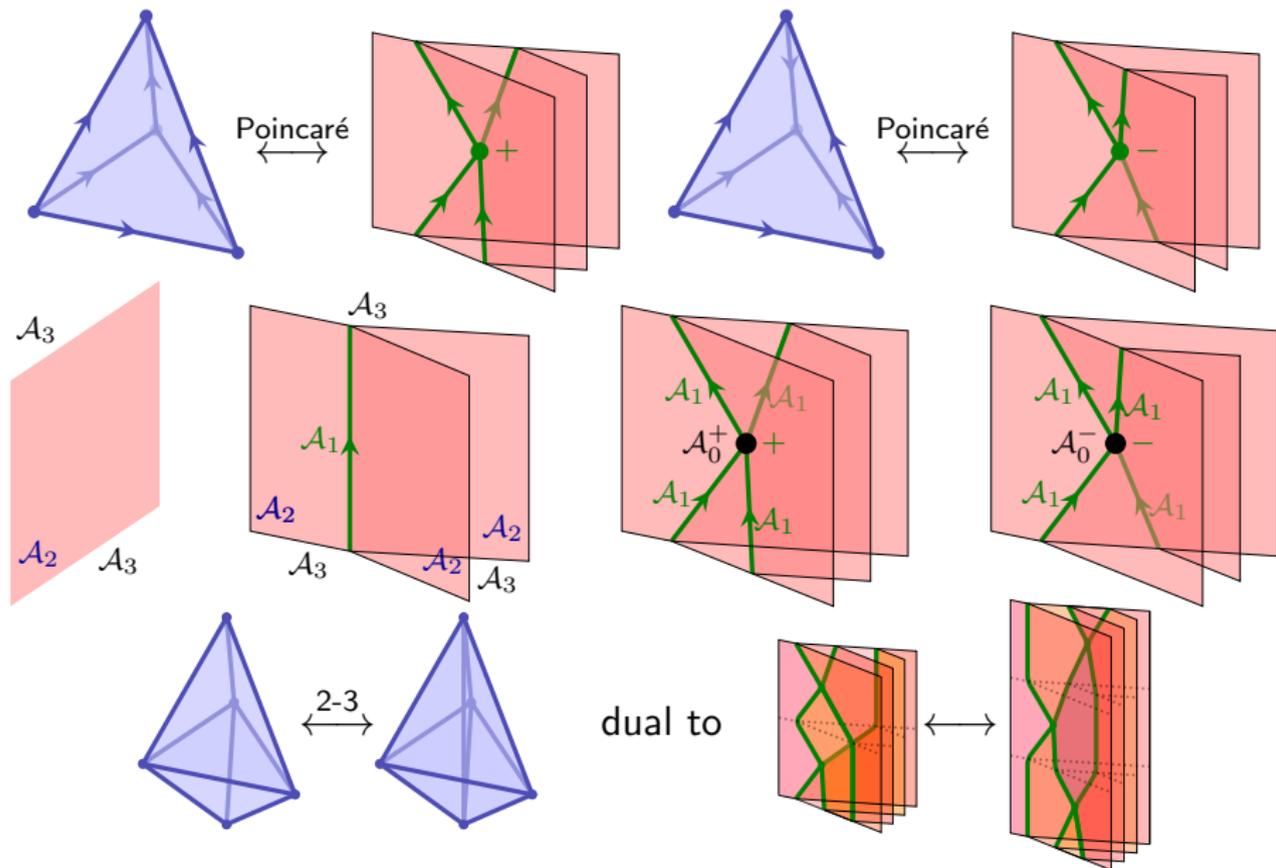
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Definition & Theorem.

Triangulation + \mathcal{A} -decoration + evaluation with $\mathcal{Z} = \mathcal{A}$ -orbifold TQFT

$$\mathcal{Z}_{\mathcal{A}}: \text{Bord}_n \rightarrow \text{Vect}$$

Orbifold datum \mathcal{A} for $n = 3$



3d orbifolds

Theorem.

3d defect TQFT $\mathcal{Z} \implies$ 3-category $\mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{Z}}$

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Theorem. (“State sum models are orbifolds of the trivial TQFT.”)

Turaev–Viro–Barrett–Westbury models are orbifolds of $\mathcal{Z}^{\text{vect}}$

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Theorem.

Orbifolds of Reshetikhin–Turaev theories are Reshetikhin–Turaev theories.

In a nutshell

A TQFT is a functor

$$\mathcal{Z}: \text{Spacetime Caricature} \longrightarrow \text{Algebra}$$

Summary:

- n -dimensional **closed** TQFTs \implies **algebras**
- n -dimensional **defect** TQFTs \implies **n -categories**
- **orbifolds** \implies representation theory in n -categories

Applications for $n \lesssim 4$:

$n = 2$: Landau–Ginzburg models

$n = 3$: Chern–Simons and Reshetikhin–Turaev theory

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[unify and extend state sum models and symmetry gauging]

Applications for $n \lesssim 4$:

$n = 2$: Landau–Ginzburg models:

[new dualities; fully extended framed/oriented/spin TQFTs]

$n = 3$: Chern–Simons and Reshetikhin–Turaev theory:

[surface defects; close under orbifolds]

$n = 4$: Crane–Yetter and Douglas–Reutter theory

Application: topological quantum computation

Interpretation of Reshetikhin–Turaev theory $\mathcal{Z}^{\mathcal{C}}$:

- objects u_i in \mathcal{C} : anyonic quasiparticles in 2+1 dimensions
- $\mathcal{Z}^{\mathcal{C}}(\Sigma_{u_1, \dots, u_m})$: qubit storage on surface Σ with m anyons
- braiding matrices β_{u_i, u_j} : quantum gates
- $\langle \beta_{u_i, u_j} \rangle$ dense in $U(N)$ for $N \gg 1$: *universal* quantum computation

Fact. $\mathcal{C} =$ Ising category not universal.

“Gauging” of S_2 -symmetry of $\mathcal{C} \boxtimes \mathcal{C}$ is universal!

Conjecture. **Orbifolds of $\mathcal{Z}^{\mathcal{C}}$** construct universal quantum computers with larger qubit storages $\mathcal{Z}^{\mathcal{C}}(\Sigma_{u_1, \dots, u_m})$; in particular

- $\rho: BS_N \rightarrow \text{Bimod}_{\mathcal{C}}$ with $\rho(*) = \mathcal{C}^{\boxtimes N}$
- \mathcal{C} - \mathcal{C}' -bimodules with “invertible quantum bubble”