

The braided monoidal structure of tube algebra representations

based on [arxiv:2511.08482](https://arxiv.org/abs/2511.08482)

(joint w/ Makoto Yamashita)

David Jaklitsch
University of Oslo

Quantum groups Seminar (QGS)

16.12.2025

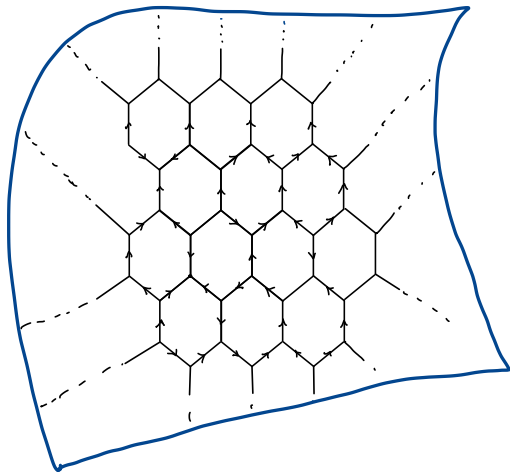
Motivation

Levin-Wen lattice models

oriented surface Σ

(storage device)

unitary fusion
category $\mathcal{X}$



protected space

$LW_{\mathcal{X}}(\Sigma)$



Excited states

$=$
anyons on the lattice

(given by simples in $\mathbb{Z}(\mathcal{X})$)

$$\mathbb{Z}(\mathcal{X}) \xrightarrow{\cong} \text{Rep Tube } \mathcal{X}$$

concrete linear equivalence

Preliminaries

Definition

(i) Multitensor category: $\mathcal{X}$ locally finite $\mathbb{K}$ -linear cat. + rigid monoidal str.

$$\otimes: \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X} \longrightarrow \mathcal{X} + 1 \in \mathcal{X} + a \otimes 1 \cong 1 \otimes a \cong a + a \otimes (b \otimes c) \cong (a \otimes b) \otimes c$$

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$$\text{ev}_a: a^\vee \otimes a \longrightarrow 1 \quad \text{coev}_a: 1 \longrightarrow a \otimes a^\vee \quad \overline{\text{ev}}_a: a \otimes a^\vee \longrightarrow 1 \quad \overline{\text{coev}}_a: 1 \longrightarrow {}^\vee a \otimes a$$

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$$ev_a: a^\vee \otimes a \longrightarrow 1$$

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$$\overline{ev}_a: a \otimes a^\vee \longrightarrow 1$$

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$$1 = \bigoplus_{i \in \Gamma} 1_i \quad \text{simplex}$$

$$\mathcal{X} = \bigoplus_{i,j \in \Gamma} \mathcal{X}_{ij}$$

$$\text{where } \mathcal{X}_{ij} = 1_i \otimes \mathcal{X} \otimes 1_j$$

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$$\text{Notation: } a \otimes b \equiv ab$$

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allowing to identify $\bar{a} := a^\vee = {}^\vee a$ for every $a \in \mathcal{X}$

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$$tr^l(f) = tr_{1_i}(ev_a \circ (f \otimes id) \circ \overline{coev}_a), \quad tr^r(f) = tr_{1_j}(\overline{ev}_a \circ (id \otimes f) \circ coev_a) \quad \text{for } f \in End_{\mathcal{X}}(a)$$

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(iii) p is spherical iff $tr^l(f) = tr^r(f) \equiv tr_a(f)$ for every $f \in End_{\mathcal{X}}(a)$

$$\text{Dimensions: } \dim(a) := tr_a(id_a)$$

$$\dim \mathcal{A} := \sum_{a \in Irr \mathcal{A}} \dim(a)^2$$

Cyclically invariant spaces of morphisms

Let $\mathcal{X}$ be a spherical multitensor category

cyclically tensorable objects $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ where $x_k \in \mathcal{X}_{i_k i_{k+1}}$ and $i_{n+1} = i_1$

$$\mathrm{Hom}_{\mathcal{X}}(1, x_1 x_2 \cdots x_n) \cong \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathcal{X}}(\overline{x_1}, x_2 \cdots x_n) \cong \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathcal{X}}(1, x_2 \cdots x_n x_1)$$

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Composition for $a \in \mathcal{X}$ $\alpha : H[x \bar{a}] \otimes H[a y] \longrightarrow H[xy]$

Unit morphism for $x \in \mathcal{X}$ $e_x \in H[\bar{x} x] \cong \underbrace{\mathrm{Hom}_{\mathcal{X}}(1, \bar{x} x)}_{\cong \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathcal{X}}(x, x)} \ni \mathrm{coev}_x \ni \mathrm{id}_x$

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$$\text{Hom}_x(x, x) \ni \text{id}_x$$

Partial traces $f \in H[y\bar{x}]$

$$\text{ptr}_x(f) := f \circ_{\bar{x}x} e_x \in H[y]$$

Full traces $f \in H[\bar{x}x]$, $x \in \mathcal{X}_{ij}$

$$\text{tr}_x(f) := f \circ_{\bar{x}} e_x \in H[1:] \cong \mathbb{K}$$

Graphical calculus

Let $\mathcal{X}$ be a spherical multitensor category

Objects

$$\begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ i \end{array} \xrightarrow{x} \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ j \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ i \end{array} \xleftarrow{\bar{x}} \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ j \end{array} \quad x \in \mathcal{X}_{ij}$$

Unit

$$\begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ i \end{array} \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ i \end{array} \quad 1_i$$

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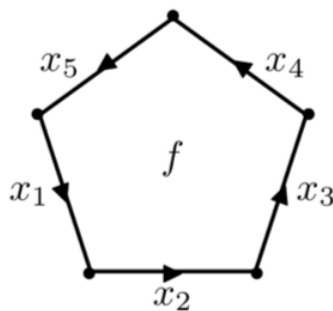
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Morphisms



$$\in H[x_1 x_2 \cdots x_5]$$

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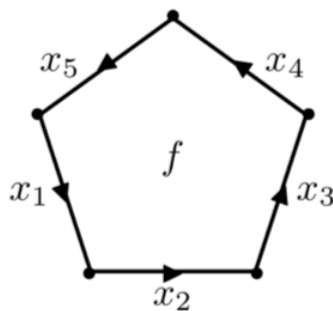
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$$f \in H[\mathcal{X}_1 \mathcal{X}_2 \cdots \mathcal{X}_5]$$

Partial traces

$$\text{ptr}_x(f) = \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \bullet \text{---} e_x \text{---} \\ \nearrow x \quad \searrow x \\ \text{---} f \text{---} \\ \nwarrow \quad \nearrow \\ \bullet \text{---} y \text{---} \end{array}$$

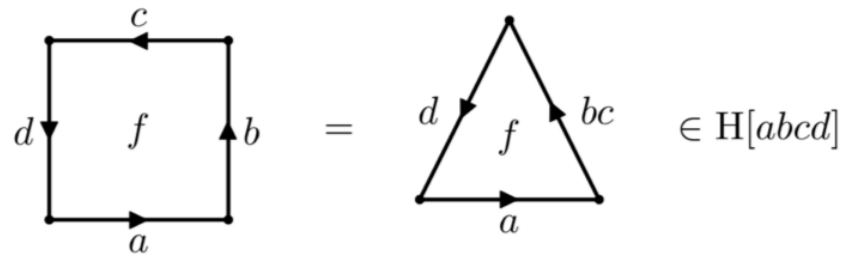
Full traces

$$\text{tr}_x(f) = \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \bullet \text{---} e_x \text{---} \\ \nearrow x \quad \searrow x \\ \text{---} f \text{---} \\ \nwarrow \quad \nearrow \\ \bullet \text{---} \end{array}$$

Graphical calculus

Different graphs may represent the same element in $H[x_1 \dots x_n]$

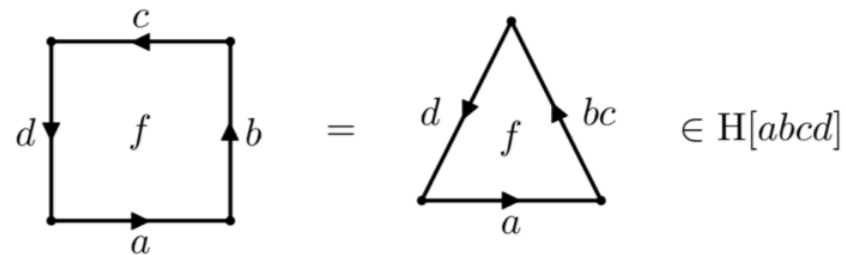
Edge fusion:



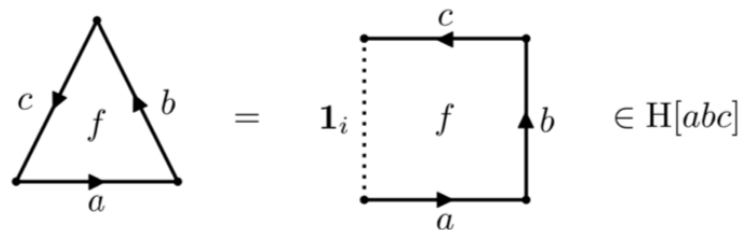
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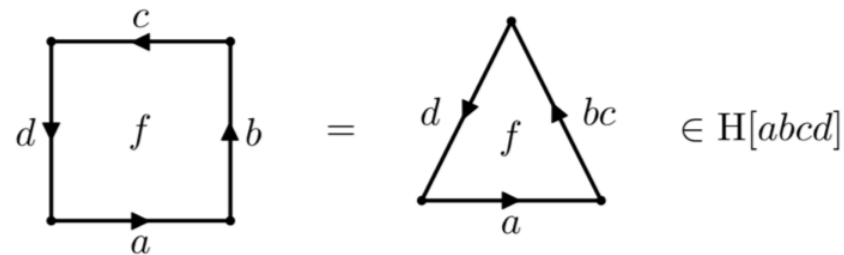
Unit insertion:



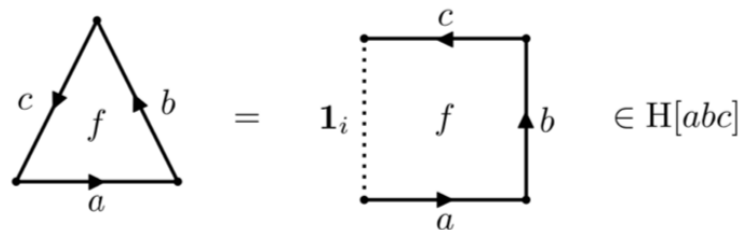
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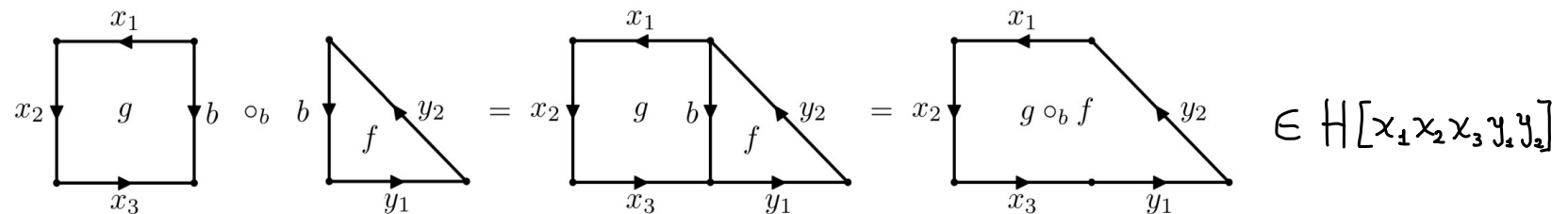
Edge fusion:



Unit insertion:



gluing:



Trace Pairing

$$\langle -, - \rangle : H[\bar{x}_n \cdots \bar{x}_1] \otimes H[x_1 \cdots x_n] \longrightarrow \mathbb{K},$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{c} \text{---} \bar{x}_1 \\ | \\ f \text{---} \bar{x}_2 \\ | \\ \text{---} \bar{x}_3 \end{array} \right) \otimes \left(\begin{array}{c} \bar{x}_1 \text{---} \\ | \\ \bar{x}_2 \text{---} g \\ | \\ \bar{x}_3 \text{---} \end{array} \right) \longmapsto \left(\begin{array}{c} \text{---} \bar{x}_1 \\ | \\ f \text{---} \bar{x}_2 \text{---} g \\ | \\ \text{---} \bar{x}_3 \end{array} \right) \in H[1_{i_n}] \cong \mathbb{K}$$

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Definition

Bases $\{\alpha^i\}$ and $\{\bar{\alpha}_j\}$ of $H[xa]$ and $H[\bar{a}\bar{x}]$

are paired if $\langle \alpha^i, \bar{\alpha}_j \rangle = \delta_{ij}$

$$\left(\begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ x \quad \bar{\alpha}_i \quad a \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ \bullet \end{array} \right) \otimes \left(\begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ a \quad \alpha^i \quad x \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ \bullet \end{array} \right) \in H[xa] \otimes H[\bar{a}\bar{x}]$$

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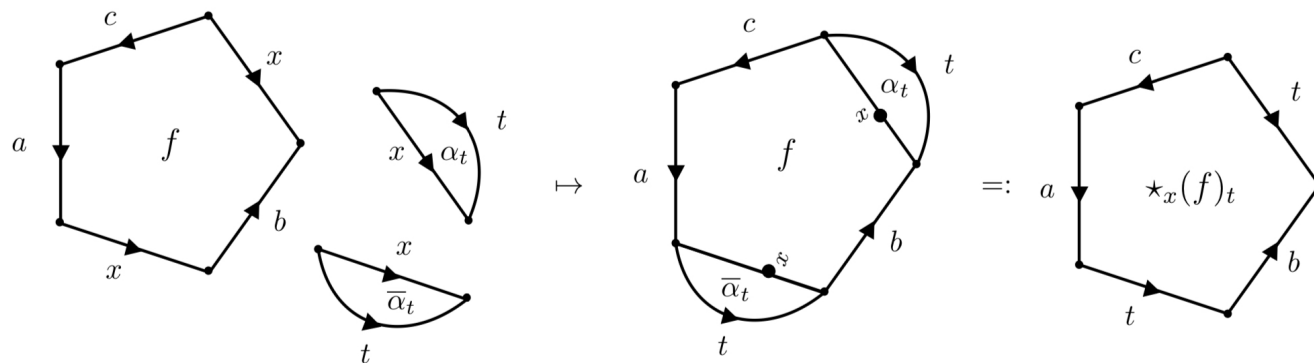
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$\Rightarrow$ Resolution of dual edges over simple objects

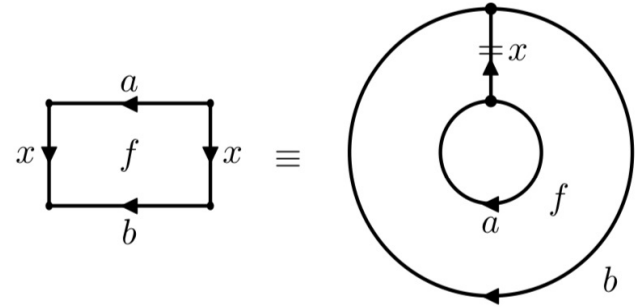
$$\star_x : H[axb\bar{x}c] \longrightarrow \bigoplus_{t \in \text{In } \chi} H[atb\bar{t}c]$$



Spaces of tubes

Pick $I = \coprod_{i \in I} I_i$, $I_{rr} \chi_i \subseteq I_i \subseteq I_{so} \chi_i$

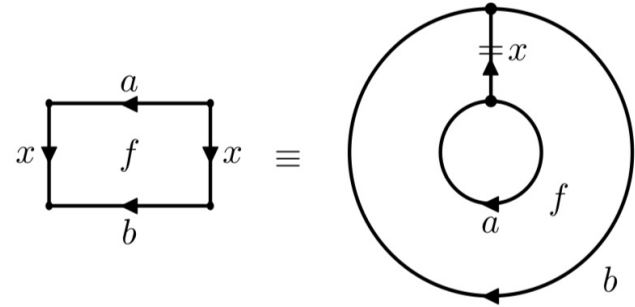
For $a, b \in I$, $T_{a,b} := \bigoplus_{x \in I_{rr} \chi} H[b \bar{x} a x]$



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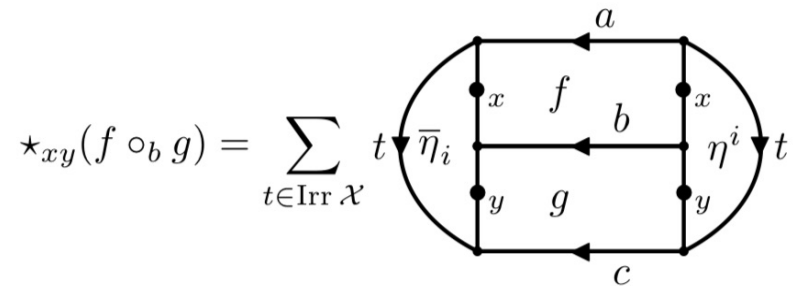
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welding of tubes for $f \in H[\bar{b} \bar{x} a x]$ and $g \in H[\bar{c} \bar{y} b y]$

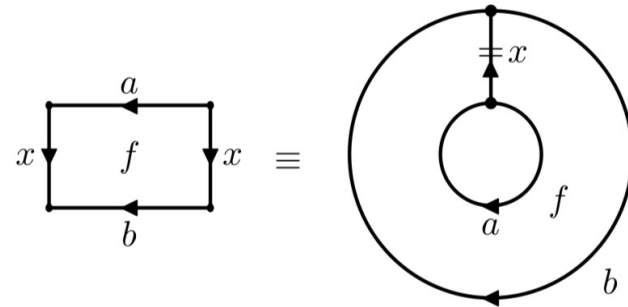
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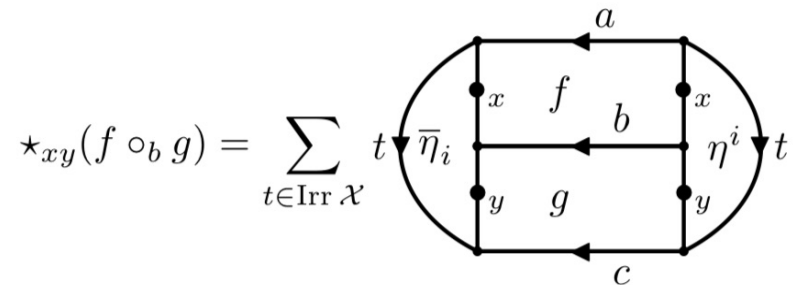
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Tube algebra $Tube(\chi, I) := \bigoplus_{a, b \in I} T_{a;b}$

Algebras with local units and representations

Definition

(i) Algebra with local units: A $\mathbb{K}$ -vector space + associative product $A \otimes A \longrightarrow A$

$\forall$ finite-dimensional $V \subset A \quad \exists$ idempotent $e \in A$ s.t. $V \subset eAe$

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$\text{Rep } A$ denotes the $\mathbb{K}$ -linear category of locally presented representations

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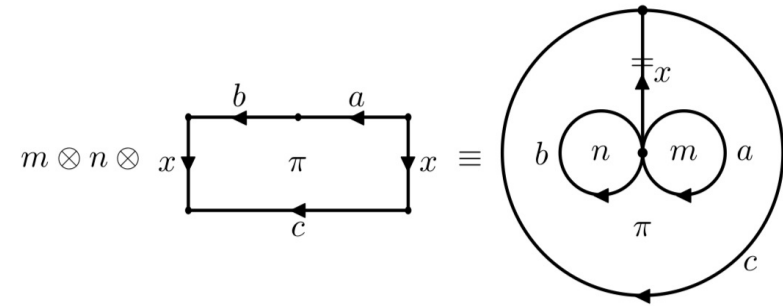
$\text{Rep } A$ denotes the $\mathbb{K}$ -linear category of locally presented representations

For $M \in \text{Rep Tube}(\mathcal{X}, I)$ $M \cong \bigoplus_{a \in I} M_a$ with $M_a := M.e_a$

Tensor product of representations

Let $M, N \in \text{Rep Tube}(x, I)$

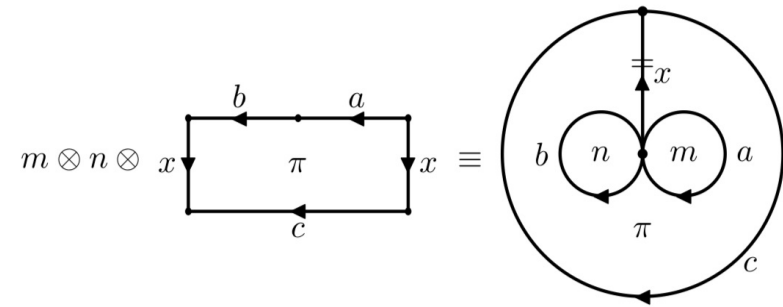
$$(M \tilde{\otimes} N)_c := \bigoplus_{a, b \in I} M_a \otimes N_b \otimes T_{ab; c}$$



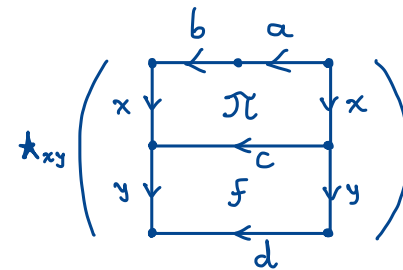
Tensor product of representations

Let $M, N \in \text{Rep Tube}(\chi, I)$

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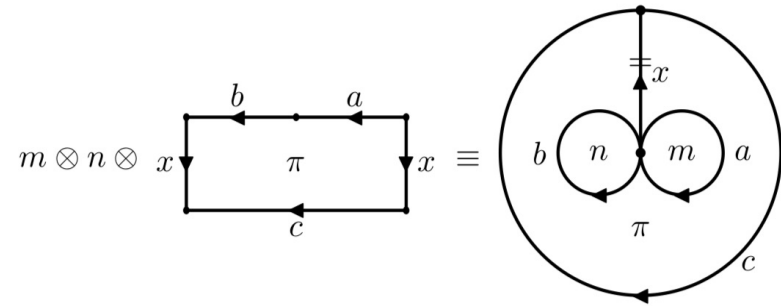
$\text{Tube}(\chi, I)$ acts on $M \tilde{\otimes} N$ via



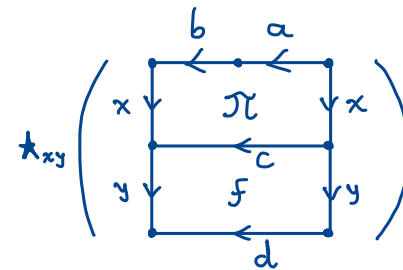
Tensor product of representations

Let $M, N \in \text{Rep Tube}(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{I})$

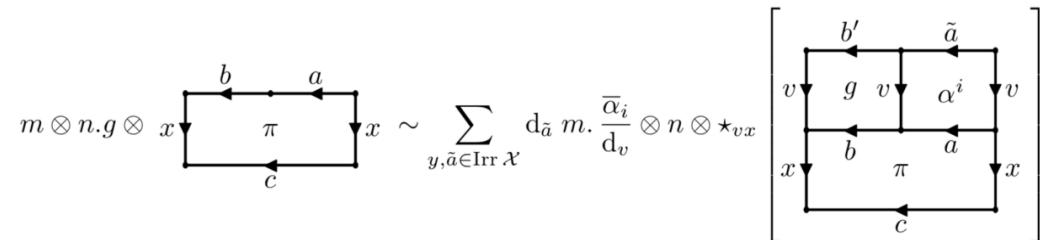
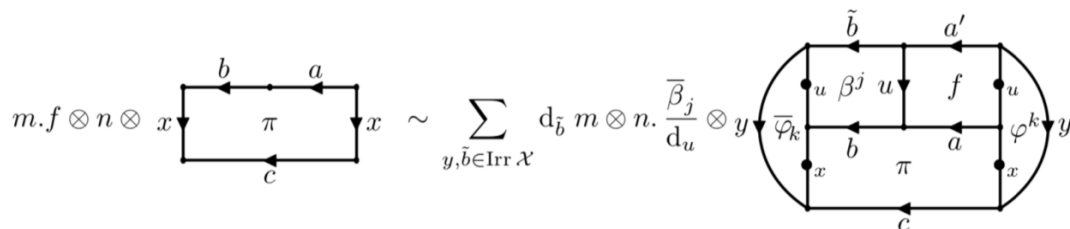
$$(M \tilde{\square} N)_c := \bigoplus_{a, b \in \mathcal{I}} M_a \otimes N_b \otimes T_{ab; c}$$



$\text{Tube}(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{I})$ acts on $M \tilde{\square} N$ via



Definition Tensor product $M \square N := M \tilde{\square} N / \sim$



Associators

Let $M, N, L \in \text{Rep Tube}(\mathcal{X}, I)$

$$A_{M,N,L}: (M \square N) \square L \xrightarrow{\sim} M \square (N \square L)$$

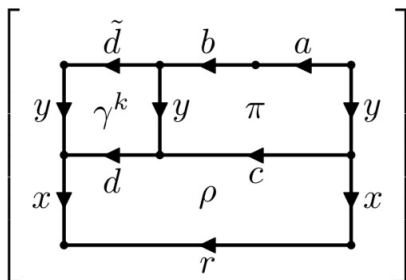
$$(m \otimes n \otimes \pi) \otimes l \otimes \rho \mapsto \sum_{\tilde{d} \in \text{Irr } \mathcal{X}} d_{\tilde{d}} m \otimes \left(n \otimes l \cdot \frac{\bar{\gamma}_k}{d_y} \otimes e_{b\tilde{d}} \right) \otimes \star_{yx} \left[\begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{ccccc} & \tilde{d} & & b & a \\ \hline y \downarrow & \gamma^k & \downarrow y & \pi & \downarrow y \\ \hline x \downarrow & d & \rho & c & \downarrow x \\ \hline & r & & & \end{array} \end{array} \right]$$

$m \in M_a, n \in N_b, l \in L_d, \pi \in T_{ab;c}$ and $\rho \in T_{cd;r}$

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$$m \in M_a, n \in N_b, l \in L_d, \pi \in T_{ab;c} \text{ and } \rho \in T_{cd;r}$$

Proposition

$$A_{M,N,L} \left[\left(m \otimes n \otimes \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{b} \quad \xrightarrow{a} \\ \pi \\ \xleftarrow{d} \end{array} \right) \otimes l \otimes \rho \right] = m \otimes (n \otimes l \otimes e_{bc}) \otimes \pi \circ_d \rho \implies \text{pentagon axiom}$$

Lemma

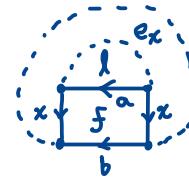
$$d_x m \otimes n \otimes \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{b} \quad \xrightarrow{a} \\ \pi \\ \xleftarrow{c} \end{array} x \sim \sum_{t,s \in \text{Irr } \mathcal{X}} d_t d_s m \cdot \bar{\mu}_i \otimes n \cdot \bar{\nu}_j \otimes \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{s} \quad \xrightarrow{t} \\ \nu^j \quad x \quad \mu^i \\ \xleftarrow{b} \quad \xleftarrow{a} \\ \pi \\ \xleftarrow{c} \end{array}$$

Monoidal unit and Dualizable objects

Definition

(i) Trivial tube algebra representation

$$\mathbb{I} := \bigoplus_{a \in I} H[\bar{a} 1] \quad \text{with action} \quad l.f := dx$$

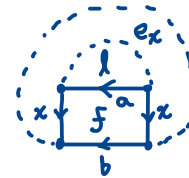


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(ii) $M \in \text{Rep Tube}(\mathcal{X}, \mathbb{I})$

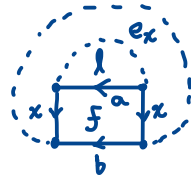
Right unitor $r_M: M \xrightarrow{\sim} M \square \mathbb{I}, \quad m_a \longmapsto m_a \otimes e_1 \otimes e_a$

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(iii) M is called locally finite if M_a finite dimensional $\forall a \in I$

+ $\{t \in \text{Irr } x \mid M_t \neq 0\}$ is finite

Monoidal unit and Dualizable objects

tube involution $(-)^{\#} : T_{a;b} \longrightarrow T_{\bar{b};\bar{a}},$

$$\begin{array}{|c|} \hline a \\ \hline \leftarrow f \rightarrow \\ \hline b \\ \hline \end{array}
 \begin{array}{|c|} \hline x \\ \hline \leftarrow f \rightarrow \\ \hline x \\ \hline \end{array}
 \longmapsto
 \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \bar{b} \\ \hline \leftarrow f \rightarrow \\ \hline \bar{a} \\ \hline \end{array}
 \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \bar{x} \\ \hline \leftarrow f \rightarrow \\ \hline \bar{x} \\ \hline \end{array}
 \quad (f \cdot g)^{\#} = g^{\#} \cdot f^{\#}$$

Monoidal unit and Dualizable objects

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The dual representation of $M \in \text{Rep}^{l.f.} \text{Tube}(\mathcal{X}, I)$ consists of

(i) $\bar{M}_a := M_{\bar{a}}^* = \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{K}}(M_{\bar{a}}, \mathbb{K})$ with action $\varphi.f(m) := \varphi(m.f^{\#})$,
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Monoidal unit and Dualizable objects

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(ii) The evaluation morphism

$ev_M : \bar{M} \square M \longrightarrow \mathbb{I}, \quad \varphi \otimes m \otimes \begin{array}{c} \xleftarrow{b} \quad \xleftarrow{a} \\ \boxed{\pi} \\ \xrightarrow{c} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} x \\ \downarrow \\ x \end{array} \mapsto d_x \varphi \cdot \bar{\eta}_k(m) \text{ptr}_x \left(\begin{array}{c} \text{---} \eta^k \text{---} \\ \xleftarrow{b} \quad \xleftarrow{a} \\ \boxed{\pi} \\ \xrightarrow{c} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} x \\ \downarrow \\ x \end{array} \right)$

Monoidal unit and Dualizable objects

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(iii) The coevaluation morphism

$$\text{coev}_M : \mathbb{I} \longrightarrow M \square \bar{M}, \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{---} l \text{---} \\ \downarrow \\ c \end{array} \mapsto \sum_{t \in \text{Irr } \mathcal{X}} d_t \sum_i m_t^i \otimes \bar{m}_t^i \otimes \begin{array}{c} \xleftarrow{t} \quad \xleftarrow{t} \\ \downarrow \quad \downarrow \\ e_t \\ \uparrow \quad \uparrow \\ \text{---} l \text{---} \\ \downarrow \\ c \end{array}$$

Twists and Braiding

$a \in I$, twist element $\tau_a := d_a^{-1} a \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{a} \\ \uparrow e_a \quad \nearrow \\ \downarrow e_a \quad \nwarrow \\ \xleftarrow{a} \end{array} a$, τ_a is invertible, $\tau_a \cdot f = f \cdot \tau_b$

Definition $M \in \text{Rep Tube}(\chi, I)$

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$$\Theta_M: M \xrightarrow{\sim} M,$$

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Definition $M, N \in \text{Rep Tube}(\mathcal{X}, I)$

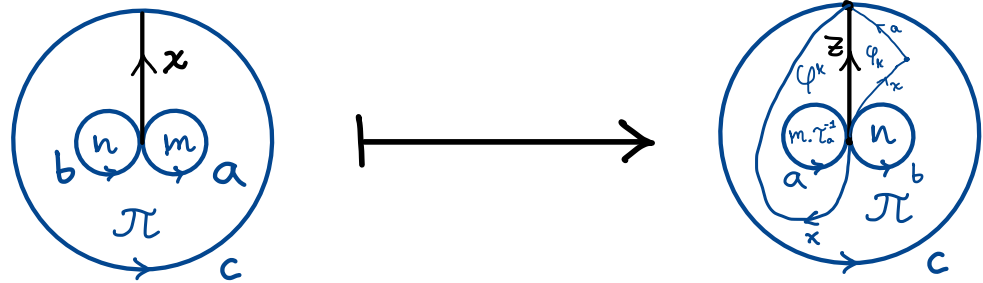
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$$B_{M,N} : M \square N \xrightarrow{\sim} N \square M$$

$$m \otimes n \otimes x \begin{array}{c} \xleftarrow{b} \quad \xrightarrow{a} \\ \downarrow \quad \quad \downarrow \\ \pi \\ \uparrow \quad \quad \uparrow \\ \xrightarrow{c} \end{array} x \mapsto \sum_{z \in \text{Irr } \mathcal{X}} n \otimes m \cdot \tau_a^{-1} \otimes z \begin{array}{c} \xleftarrow{a} \quad \xrightarrow{b} \\ \downarrow \quad \quad \downarrow \\ \pi \\ \uparrow \quad \quad \uparrow \\ \xrightarrow{c} \end{array} z$$



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Theorem $\mathcal{X}$ spherical semisimple multitensor category

The data $(\square, \mathbb{I}, A, B, \Theta)$ endow $\text{Rep Tube}(\mathcal{X}, I)$ with the structure of a braided monoidal category with twist.

$\text{Rep}^{\text{l.f.}} \text{Tube}(\mathcal{X}, I)$ ribbon tensor category.

Drinfeld center and Ind-completion

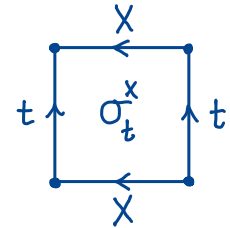
Ind $\mathcal{X}$ filtered colimit completion $\Longleftrightarrow$ objects $\bigoplus_{a \in \text{Irr} \mathcal{X}} V_a \otimes a$

Drinfeld center and Ind-completion

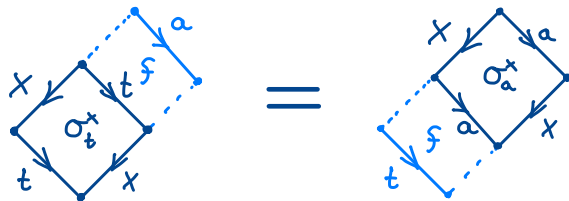
$\text{Ind } \mathcal{X}$ filtered colimit completion $\iff$ Objects $\bigoplus_{a \in \text{Irr } \mathcal{X}} V_a \otimes a$

$\mathbb{Z}(\text{Ind } \mathcal{X}) \ni (X, \sigma)$ where $X \in \text{Ind } \mathcal{X}$

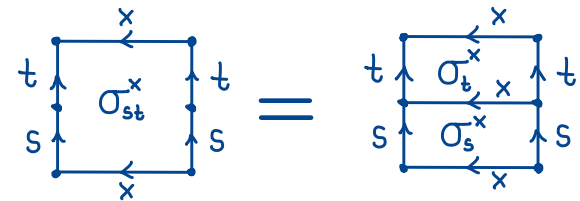
$$\sigma_t^X : t \otimes X \xrightarrow{\sim} X \otimes t \quad \text{for } t \in \text{Ind } \mathcal{X}$$



Naturality:



Hexagon:

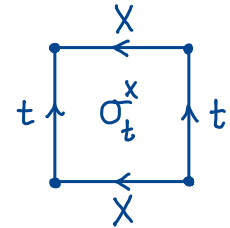


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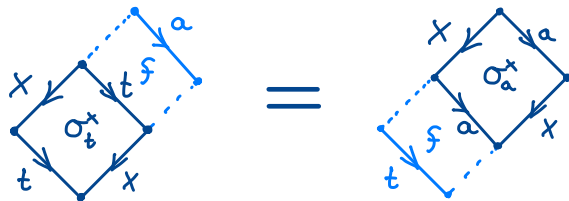
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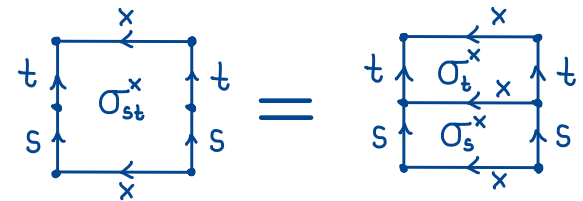
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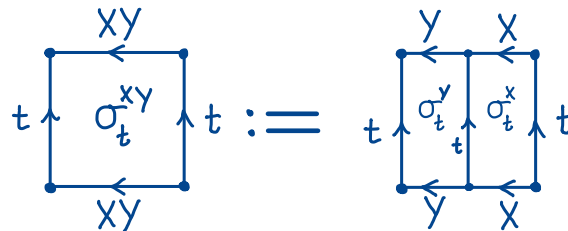
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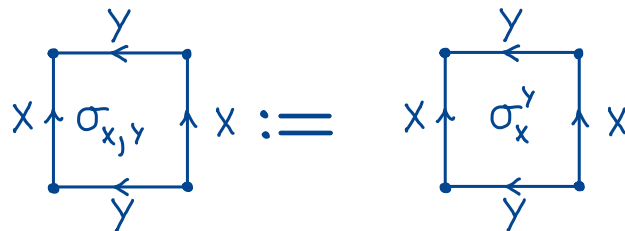
Hexagon:



Tensor product $X \otimes Y$



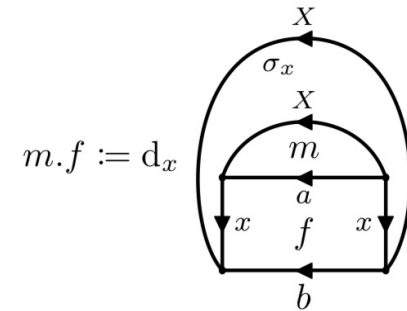
Braiding



Braided monoidal Equivalence

Theorem [Neshveyev, Yamashita '18] There is a linear equivalence

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 E: & \mathbb{Z}(\text{Ind } \chi) & \xrightarrow{\cong} \text{Rep Tube } \chi \\
 & (X, \sigma) & \longmapsto \bigoplus_{\alpha \in \text{Irr } \chi} H[\bar{\alpha} X]
 \end{array}$$

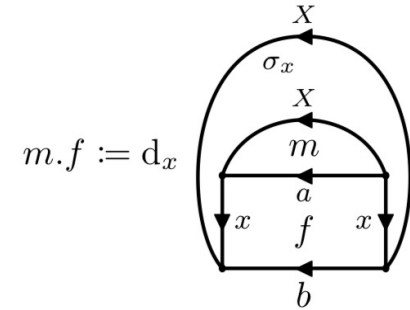


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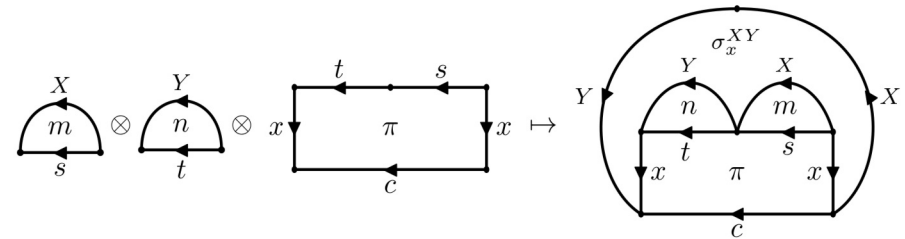
$$E: \mathbb{Z}(\text{Ind } \chi) \xrightarrow{\cong} \text{Rep Tube } \chi$$

$$(X, \sigma) \longmapsto \bigoplus_{\alpha \in \text{Irr } \chi} H[\bar{\alpha} X]$$



Theorem [J., Yamashita '25] Given $X, Y \in \mathbb{Z}(\text{Ind } \chi)$

$$\Psi_{X,Y}: E(x) \square E(y) \xrightarrow{\sim} E(x \otimes y)$$



is a well-defined isomorphism of tube algebra representations and endows E with a braided monoidal structure.

restr. on dualizable $\mathbb{Z}(\chi) \xrightarrow{\cong} \text{Rep}^{\text{L.f.}} \text{Tube } \chi$ ribbon tensor categories

Thank
you!