

>>> Topological Higher Gauge Theory - from $2BF$ to $3\hat{B}F$ theory

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>>> A sketch of the talk

▶ 3-group and 3-gauge theory

→ based on *R. Picken and J. Faria Martins*, *Diff. Geom. Appl.* 29, 179 (2011), [arXiv:0907.2566](#).

▶ $3BF$ action with constraints

→ Models with relevant dynamics *T. Radenković and M. Vojinović*, *J. High Energy Phys.* 10, 222 (2019), [arXiv:1904.07566](#).

▶ Quantization of the topological $3BF$ theory

→ the state sum Z is an example of Porter's TQFT for $d = 4$ and $n = 3$
T. Porter, *J. Lond. Math. Soc.* (2)58, No. 3, 723 (1998), MR 1678163.

▶ Pachner move invariance - sketch of the proof

→ This is a generalization of the state sum based on the classical $2BF$ action with the underlying 2-group structure
F. Girelli, H. Pfeiffer and E. M. Popescu, *Jour. Math. Phys.* 49, 032503 (2008), [arXiv:0708.3051](#).

▶ Conclusions

>>> 3-groups

2-crossed module $(L \xrightarrow{\delta} H \xrightarrow{\partial} G, \triangleright, \{-, -\}_P)$

- * Groups G , H , and L ;
- * maps ∂ and δ ($\partial\delta = 1_G$);
- * an action \triangleright of the group G on all three groups;
- * a map $\{-, -\}_P$ called the *Peiffer lifting*:

$$\{-, -\}_P : H \times H \rightarrow L.$$

Certain axioms hold true among all these maps:

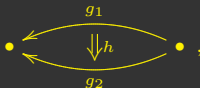
1. $\delta(\{h_1, h_2\}_P) = \langle h_1, h_2 \rangle_P, \quad \forall h_1, h_2 \in H,$
2. $[l_1, l_2] = \{\delta(l_1), \delta(l_2)\}_P, \quad \forall l_1, l_2 \in L.$ Here, the notation $[l, k] = lkl^{-1}k^{-1}$ is used;
3. $\{h_1h_2, h_3\}_P = \{h_1, h_2h_3h_2^{-1}\}_P \partial(h_1) \triangleright \{h_2, h_3\}_P, \quad \forall h_1, h_2, h_3 \in H;$
4. $\{h_1, h_2h_3\}_P = \{h_1, h_2\}_P \{h_1, h_3\}_P \{\langle h_1, h_3 \rangle_P^{-1}, \partial(h_1) \triangleright h_2\}_P, \quad \forall h_1, h_2, h_3 \in H;$
5. $\{\delta(l), h\}_P \{h, \delta(l)\}_P = l(\partial(h) \triangleright l^{-1}), \quad \forall h \in H, \quad \forall l \in L.$

>>> 3-gauge theory

- * Curves are labeled with the elements of G , and the elements are composed as



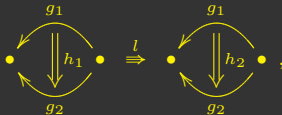
- * Surfaces are labeled with the elements $h \in H$. We split the boundary into two curves, the source curve $g_1 \in G$ and the target curve $g_2 \in G$,



so that the surface $h \in H$ satisfies:

$$\partial(h) = g_2 g_1^{-1} .$$

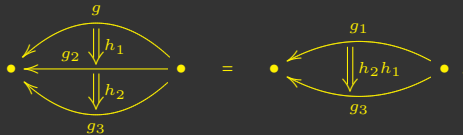
- * Volumes are labeled with the elements $l \in L$. We split the boundary into the source surface $\partial_3^-(l) = h_1$ and the target surface $\partial_3^+(l) = h_2$, and the common boundary of h_1 and h_2 we split into the source curve $\partial_2^-(l) = g_1$ and the target curve $\partial_2^+(l) = g_2$,



$$\delta(l) = h_2 h_1^{-1} .$$

>>> 3-gauge theory

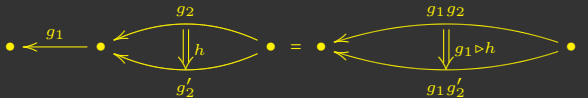
- * *Vertical composition of 2-morphisms.* One can compose 2-morphisms (g_1, h_1) and (g_2, h_2) vertically, when they are compatible, when $\partial_2^+(h_1) = \partial_2^-(h_2)$,



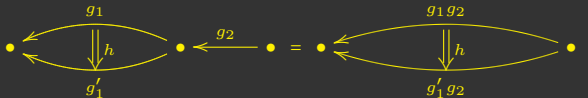
results in a 2-morphism (g_1, h_2h_1) ,

$$(g_2, h_2) \#_2 (g_1, h_1) = (g_1, h_2h_1). \quad (1)$$

- * *Whiskering.* One can whisker a 2-morphism h with a morphism g_1 by attaching the whisker g_1 to the surface h from the left, such that $\partial_1^-(g_1) = \partial_1^+(h)$,

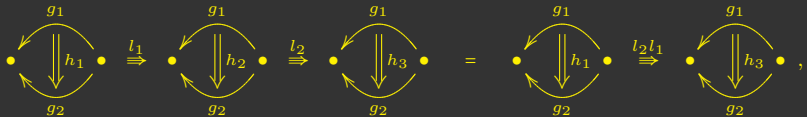


One can whisker g_2 to a surface h from the right, such that $\partial_1^-(h) = \partial_1^+(g_2)$,



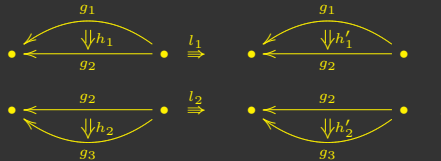
>>> 3-gauge theory

* *Upward composition.* The upward composition of 3-morphisms (g_1, h_1, l_1) and (g_1, h_2, l_2) , when they are compatible, when $\partial_3^+(l_1) = \partial_3^-(l_2)$,

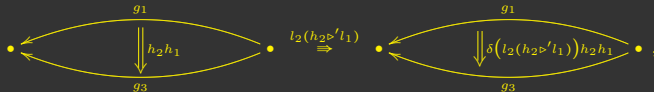


$$(g_1, h_2, l_2) \#_3 (g_1, h_1, l_1) = (g_1, h_1, l_2 l_1). \quad (2)$$

* *Vertical composition.* The vertical composition of two 3-morphisms (g_1, h_1, l_1) and (g_2, h_2, l_2) , when they are compatible, when $\partial_2^+(l_1) = \partial_2^-(l_2)$,



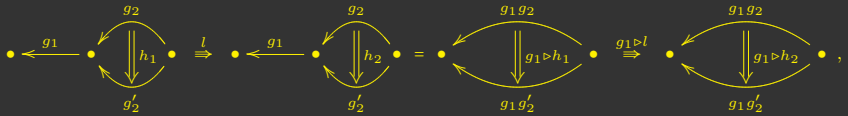
results in a 3-morphism $(g_1, h_2 h_1, l_2 (h_2 \triangleright' l_1))$,



$$(g_2, h_2, l_2) \#_2 (g_1, h_1, l_1) = (g_1, h_2 h_1, l_2 (h_2 \triangleright' l_1)). \quad (3)$$

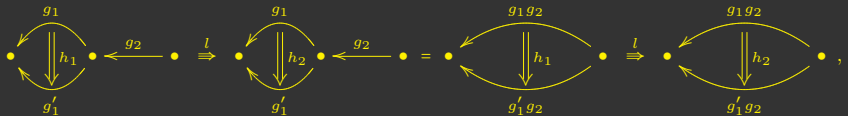
>>> 3-gauge theory

* *Whiskering of the 3-morphisms with morphisms.* Whiskering of a 3-morphism by a morphism from the left is the composition of a volume $l \in L$ and curve $g_1 \in G$ from the left, when they are compatible, when $\partial_1^+(l) = \partial_1^+(g_1)$,



$$g_1 \#_1 (g_2, h_1, l) = (g_1 g_2, g_1 \triangleright h, g_1 \triangleright l). \quad (4)$$

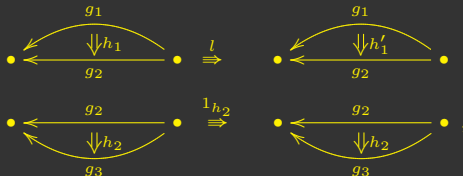
One can whisker a 3-morphism by a morphism from the right, when they are compatible, $\partial_1^-(l) = \partial_1^+(g_2)$,



$$(g_1, h_1, l) \#_{1g_2} = (g_1 g_2, h_1, l). \quad (5)$$

>>> 3-gauge theory

- * *Whiskering of 3-morphisms with 2-morphisms.* Whiskering of a 3-morphism with a 2-morphisms from below, when they are compatible, $\partial_2^+(l) = \partial_2^-(h_2)$, is formed as a vertical composition of 3-morphisms (g_1, h_1, l) and (g_2, h_2, l_{h_2}) ,



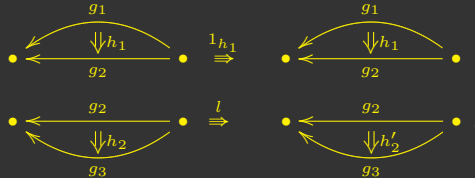
which results in a 3-morphism



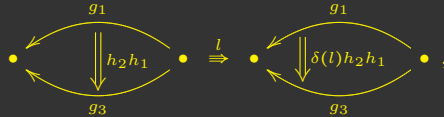
$$(g_1, h_1, l) \#_2 (g_2, h_2) = (g_1, h_2 h_1, h_2 \triangleright' l). \quad (6)$$

>>> 3-gauge theory

* Whiskering a 3-morphism by 2-morphism from above, when they are compatible, when $\partial_2^-(l) = \partial_2^+(h_1)$,



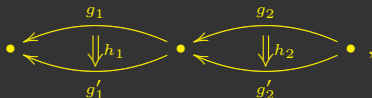
results in a 3-morphism,



$$(g_1, h_1) \#_2 (g_2, h_2, l) = (g_1, h_2 h_1, l). \tag{7}$$

>>> 3-gauge theory

- * *The interchanging 3-arrow.* The horizontal composition of two 2-morphisms h_1 and h_2 , when they are compatible, when $\partial_1^-(h_1) = \partial_1^+(h_2)$,



that results in a 3-morphism l , with source surface

$$\partial_3^-(l) = ((g_1, h_1) \#_1 g'_2) \#_2 (g_1 \#_1 (g_2, h_2)),$$

and target surface

$$\partial_3^+(l) = (g'_1 \#_1 (g_2, h_2)) \#_2 ((g_1, h_1) \#_1 g_2),$$



One obtains,

$$(g_1, h_1) \#_1 (g_2, h_2) = (g_1 g_2, h_1 g_1 \triangleright h_2, l), \quad (8)$$

where the 3-morphism l is Peiffer lifting $\{h_1, g_1 \triangleright h_2\}_p^{-1}$.

>>> 3-gauge theory

Lemma

Let us consider a triangle, (jkl) . The edges $(jk), j < k$, are labeled by group elements $g_{jk} \in G$ and the triangle $(jkl), j < k < l$, by element $h_{jkl} \in H$.

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 l \bullet & & k \bullet \\
 \swarrow^{g_{kl}} & & \nwarrow^{g_{jk}} \\
 & & j \bullet \\
 \searrow_{g_{jl}} & & \swarrow_{h_{jkl}} \\
 & &
 \end{array} \\
 = \\
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 l \bullet & & l \bullet \\
 \swarrow^{1_{\bullet}} & & \nwarrow^{g_{kl}} \\
 & & k \bullet \\
 \searrow_{\partial(h_{jkl})} & & \nwarrow^{g_{jk}} \\
 & & j \bullet \\
 \searrow_{g_{kl}g_{jk}} & & \swarrow_{h_{jkl}} \\
 & &
 \end{array} \\
 = \\
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 l \bullet & & k \bullet \\
 \swarrow^{g_{kl}} & & \nwarrow^{g_{jk}} \\
 & & j \bullet \\
 \searrow_{\partial(h_{jkl})g_{kl}g_{jk}} & & \swarrow_{h_{jkl}} \\
 & &
 \end{array}
 \end{array} \tag{9}$$

The curve $\gamma_1 = g_{kl}g_{jk}$ is the source and the curve $\gamma_2 = g_{jl}$ is the target of the surface morphism $\Sigma: \gamma_1 \rightarrow \gamma_2$, labeled by the group element h_{jkl} ,

$$g_{jl} = \partial(h_{jkl})g_{kl}g_{jk} . \tag{10}$$

>>> 3-gauge theory

Lemma

Let us consider a tetrahedron, $(jklm)$.

$$= (g_{lm}g_{jl}, h_{jlm}) \#_2 (g_{lm} \#_1 (g_{kl}g_{jk}, h_{jkl})) = (g_{lm}g_{kl}g_{jk}, h_{jlm}(g_{lm} \triangleright h_{jkl})).$$

(11)

$$= (g_{km}g_{jk}, h_{jkm}) \#_2 ((g_{lm}g_{kl}, h_{klm}) \#_1 g_{jk}) = (g_{lm}g_{kl}g_{jk}, h_{jkm}h_{klm}).$$

(12)

Moving from surface shown on the diagram (11) to the surface shown on the diagram (12) is determined by the group element l_{jklm} ,

$$h_{jkm}h_{klm} = \delta(l_{jklm})h_{jlm}(g_{lm} \triangleright h_{jkl}).$$

(13)

>>> 3-gauge theory

Lemma (δ_L)

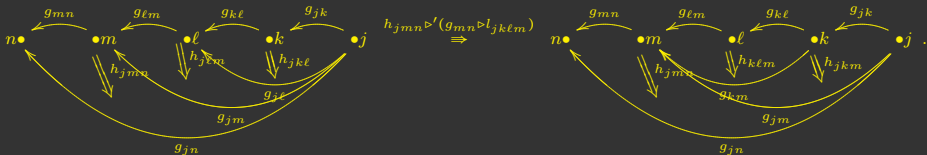
We consider a 4-simplex, $(jklmn)$. We cut the 4-simplex volume along the surface $h_{jmn}g_{mn} \triangleright (h_{jlm}g_{lm} \triangleright h_{jkl})$.

Step 1.

- * We move the surface from $h_{jlm}g_{lm} \triangleright h_{jkl}$ to $h_{jkm}h_{klm}$ with the 3-arrow l_{jklm} .
- * To compose the resulting 3-morphism with surface h_{jmn} one must first whisker it from the left with g_{mn} .
- * The obtained 3-morphism $(g_{mn}g_{lm}g_{kl}g_{jk}, g_{mn} \triangleright (h_{jlm}g_{lm} \triangleright h_{jkl}), g_{mn} \triangleright l_{jklm})$ can be whiskered from below with the 2-morphism $(g_{mn}g_{jm}, h_{jmn})$.
- * The resulting 3-morphism is

$$(g_{mn}g_{lm}g_{kl}g_{jk}, h_{jmn}g_{mn} \triangleright (h_{jlm}g_{lm} \triangleright h_{jkl}), h_{jmn} \triangleright' (g_{mn} \triangleright l_{jklm}))$$

$\Sigma_1 \rightarrow \Sigma_2$, $\Sigma_1 = h_{jmn}g_{mn} \triangleright (h_{jlm}g_{lm} \triangleright h_{jkl})$ and $\Sigma_2 = h_{jmn}g_{mn} \triangleright (h_{jkm}h_{klm})$.



>>> 3-gauge theory

Lemma (δ_L)

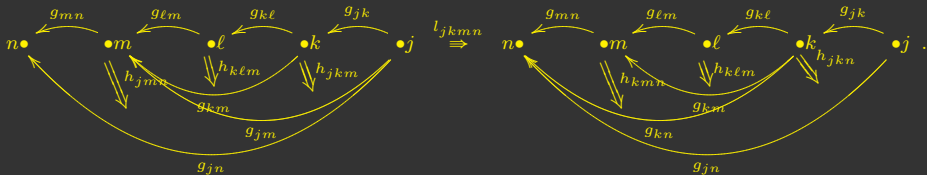
Step 2.

Let us move the surface to $h_{jkn}h_{kmn}g_{ml} \triangleright h_{klm}$.

- * We consider the 3-morphism $(g_{mn}g_{km}g_{jk}, h_{jmn}g_{mn} \triangleright h_{jkm}, l_{jkmn})$ with the source surface $h_{jmn}g_{mn} \triangleright h_{jkm}$ and target surface $h_{jkn}h_{kmn}$.
- * This 3-morphism can be whiskered from above with the 2-morphism $(g_{mn}g_{lm}g_{kl}g_{jk}, g_{mn} \triangleright h_{klm})$.
- * The obtained 3-morphism is

$$(g_{mn}g_{lm}g_{kl}g_{jk}, h_{jmn}g_{mn} \triangleright (h_{jkm}h_{klm}), l_{jkmn})$$

$\Sigma_1 \rightarrow \Sigma_2$, $\Sigma_1 = h_{jmn}g_{mn} \triangleright (h_{jkm}h_{klm})$ and $\Sigma_2 = h_{jkn}h_{kmn}g_{mn} \triangleright h_{klm}$.



(15)

>>> 3-gauge theory

Lemma (δ_L)

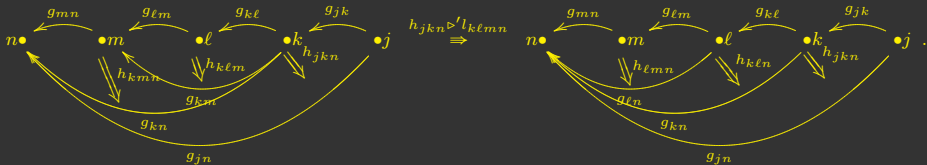
Step 3.

Next, we want to move the surface $h_{jkn}h_{kmn}g_{mn} \triangleright h_{klm}$ to surface $h_{jkn}h_{kln}h_{lmn}$.

- * We whisker the 3-morphism $(g_{mn}g_{lm}g_{kl}, h_{kmn}g_{mn} \triangleright h_{klm}, l_{klmn})$, with the source surface $h_{kmn}g_{mn} \triangleright h_{klm}$ and target surface $h_{kln}h_{lmn}$, with the morphism g_{jk} from the right.
- * The obtained the 3-morphism $(g_{mn}g_{lm}g_{kl}g_{jk}, h_{kmn}g_{mn} \triangleright h_{klm}, l_{klmn})$ we whisker with the 2-morphism $(g_{kn}g_{jk}, h_{jkn})$ from below.
- * We obtain the 3-morphism

$$(g_{mn}g_{lm}g_{kl}g_{jk}, h_{jkn}h_{kmn}g_{mn} \triangleright h_{klm}, h_{jkn} \triangleright' l_{klmn})$$

$\Sigma_1 \rightarrow \Sigma_2$, $\Sigma_1 = h_{jkn}h_{kmn}g_{mn} \triangleright h_{klm}$ and $\Sigma_2 = h_{jkn}h_{kln}h_{lmn}$.



(16)

>>> 3-gauge theory

Lemma (δ_L)

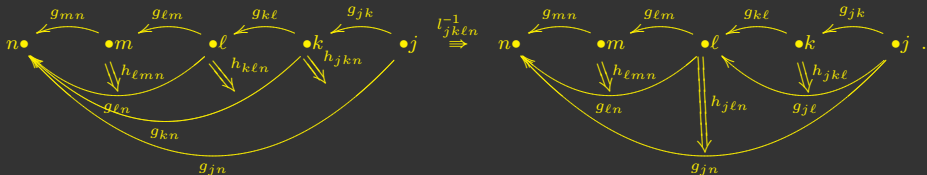
Step 4.

We map the surface $h_{jkn}h_{kln}h_{lmn}$ to the surface $h_{jln}g_{ln} \triangleright h_{jkl}h_{lmn}$.

- * The 3-morphism with the appropriate source and target is constructed by whiskering the 3-morphism $(g_{ln}g_{kl}g_{jk}, h_{jkn}h_{kln}, l_{jkl}^{-1})$ with 2-morphism $(g_{mn}g_{lm}g_{kl}g_{jk}, h_{lmn})$ from above.
- * The obtained 3-morphism is

$$(g_{mn}g_{lm}g_{kl}g_{jk}, h_{jkn}h_{kln}h_{lmn}, l_{jkl}^{-1})$$

$\Sigma_1 \rightarrow \Sigma_2$, $\Sigma_1 = h_{jkn}h_{kln}h_{lmn}$ and $\Sigma_2 = h_{jln}g_{ln} \triangleright h_{jkl}h_{lmn}$.



(17)

>>> 3-gauge theory

Lemma (δ_L)

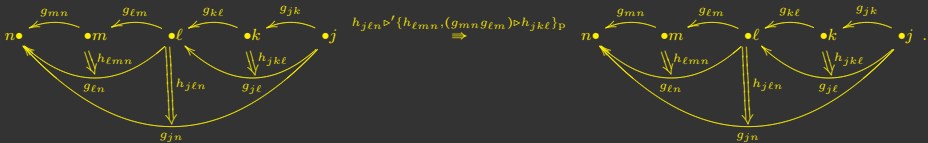
Step 5.

Next we map the surface $h_{j\ell n}g_{\ell n} \triangleright h_{jkl}h_{\ell mn}$ to the surface $h_{j\ell n}h_{\ell mn}(g_{mn}g_{\ell m}) \triangleright h_{jkl}$.

- * We use the inverse interchanging 2-arrow composition to map the surface $g_{\ell n} \triangleright h_{jkl}h_{\ell mn}$ to the surface $h_{\ell mn}(g_{mn}g_{\ell m}) \triangleright h_{jkl}$, resulting in the 3-morphism $(g_{mn}g_{\ell m}g_{kl}g_{jk}, g_{\ell n} \triangleright h_{jkl}h_{\ell mn}, \{h_{\ell mn}, (g_{mn}g_{\ell m}) \triangleright h_{jkl}\}_P)$.
- * Next, we whisker the obtained 3-morphism with the 2-morphism $(g_{\ell n}g_{j\ell}, h_{j\ell n})$ from below.
- * The obtained 3-morphism with the appropriate source and target surfaces is

$$(g_{mn}g_{\ell m}g_{kl}g_{jk}, h_{j\ell n}g_{\ell n} \triangleright h_{jkl}h_{\ell mn}, h_{j\ell n} \triangleright' \{h_{\ell mn}, (g_{mn}g_{\ell m}) \triangleright h_{jkl}\}_P)$$

$\Sigma_1 \rightarrow \Sigma_2$, $\Sigma_1 = h_{j\ell n}g_{\ell n} \triangleright h_{jkl}h_{\ell mn}$ and $\Sigma_2 = h_{j\ell n}h_{\ell mn}(g_{mn}g_{\ell m}) \triangleright h_{jkl}$.



(18)

>>> 3-gauge theory

Lemma

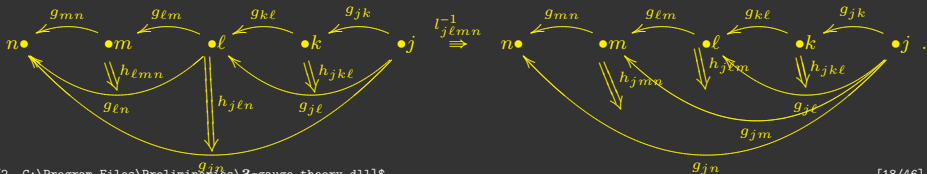
Step 6.

Finally, we construct the 3-morphism that maps the surface $h_{jln}h_{lmn}(g_{mn}g_{lm}) \triangleright h_{jkl}$ to the starting surface $h_{jmn}g_{mn} \triangleright (h_{jlm}g_{lm} \triangleright h_{jkl})$.

- * To obtain the 3-morphism with the appropriate source and target surfaces we first move the surface $h_{jln}h_{lmn}$ to the surface $h_{jmn}g_{mn} \triangleright h_{jlm}$ with the 3-arrow $(g_{mn}g_{lm}g_{jl}, h_{jln}h_{lmn}, l_{jlmn}^{-1})$.
- * Next, we whisker the 3-morphism $(g_{mn}g_{lm}g_{jl}, h_{jln}h_{lmn}, l_{jlmn}^{-1})$ with the 2-morphism $(g_{mn}g_{lm}g_{kl}g_{jk}, (g_{mn}g_{lm}) \triangleright h_{jkl})$ from above.
- * The obtained 3-morphism

$$(g_{mn}g_{lm}g_{kl}g_{jk}, h_{jln}h_{lmn}(g_{mn}g_{lm}) \triangleright h_{jkl}, l_{jlmn}^{-1})$$

$\Sigma_1 \rightarrow \Sigma_2$, $\Sigma_1 = h_{jln}h_{lmn}(g_{mn}g_{lm}) \triangleright h_{jkl}$ and $\Sigma_2 = h_{jmn}g_{mn} \triangleright (h_{jlm}g_{lm} \triangleright h_{jkl})$.



>>> 3-gauge theory

Lemma (δ_L)

After the upward composition of the 3-morphisms given by the diagrams (14)-(19), the obtained 3-morphism is:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & (g_{mn}g_{lm}g_{kl}g_{jk}, h_{jln}h_{lmn}(g_{mn}g_{lm}) \triangleright h_{jkl}, l_{jlmn}^{-1}) \#_3 \\
 & (g_{mn}g_{lm}g_{kl}g_{jk}, g_{ln} \triangleright h_{jkl}h_{lmn}, h_{jln} \triangleright' \{h_{lmn}, (g_{mn}g_{lm}) \triangleright h_{jkl}\}_P) \#_3 \\
 & (g_{mn}g_{lm}g_{kl}g_{jk}, h_{jkn}h_{kln}h_{lmn}, l_{jkln}^{-1}) \#_3 \\
 & (g_{mn}g_{lm}g_{kl}g_{jk}, h_{jkn}h_{kmn}g_{ml} \triangleright h_{klm}, h_{jkn} \triangleright' l_{jkmn}) \#_3 \\
 & (g_{mn}g_{lm}g_{kl}g_{jk}, h_{jmn}g_{mn} \triangleright (h_{jkm}h_{klm}), l_{jkmn}) \#_3 \\
 & (g_{mn}g_{lm}g_{kl}g_{jk}, h_{jmn}g_{mn} \triangleright (h_{jlm}g_{lm} \triangleright h_{jkl}), h_{jmn} \triangleright' (g_{mn} \triangleright l_{jklm})) \\
 = & (g_{mn}g_{lm}g_{kl}g_{jk}, h_{jmn}g_{mn} \triangleright (h_{jlm}g_{lm} \triangleright h_{jkl}), l_{jlmn}^{-1} h_{jln} \triangleright' \{h_{lmn}, (g_{mn}g_{lm}) \triangleright h_{jkl}\}_P \\
 & l_{jkln}^{-1} (h_{jkn} \triangleright' l_{klmn}) l_{jkmn} h_{jmn} \triangleright' (g_{mn} \triangleright l_{jklm})).
 \end{aligned} \tag{20}$$

The obtained 3-morphism is the identity morphism with source and target surface $\mathcal{V}_1 = \mathcal{V}_2 = h_{jmn}g_{mn} \triangleright (h_{jlm}g_{lm} \triangleright h_{jkl})$,

$$l_{jlmn}^{-1} h_{jln} \triangleright' \{h_{lmn}, (g_{mn}g_{lm}) \triangleright h_{jkl}\}_P l_{jkln}^{-1} (h_{jkn} \triangleright' l_{klmn}) l_{jkmn} h_{jmn} \triangleright' (g_{mn} \triangleright l_{jklm}) = e. \tag{21}$$

>>> The 3BF theory

One can now generalize the notion of parallel transport from curves to surfaces and volumes.

- * Given a 2-crossed module, one can define a 3-connection, an ordered triple (α, β, γ) , where α , β , and γ are algebra-valued differential forms,

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha &= \alpha^\alpha{}_\mu \tau_\alpha dx^\mu, & \alpha &\in \mathcal{A}^1(\mathcal{M}_4, \mathfrak{g}), \\ \beta &= \beta^\alpha{}_{\mu\nu} t_\alpha dx^\mu \wedge dx^\nu, & \beta &\in \mathcal{A}^2(\mathcal{M}_4, \mathfrak{h}), \\ \gamma &= \gamma^A{}_{\mu\nu\rho} T_A dx^\mu \wedge dx^\nu \wedge dx^\rho, & \gamma &\in \mathcal{A}^3(\mathcal{M}_4, \mathfrak{l}).\end{aligned}\tag{22}$$

- * Then introduce the line, surface and volume holonomies,

$$g = \mathcal{P}\exp \int_\gamma \alpha, \quad h = \mathcal{P}\exp \int_S \beta, \quad l = \mathcal{P}\exp \int_V \gamma.\tag{23}$$

- * The corresponding fake 3-curvature $(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{G}, \mathcal{H})$ is defined as:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{F} &= d\alpha + \alpha \wedge \alpha - \partial\beta, & \mathcal{G} &= d\beta + \alpha \wedge^\triangleright \beta - \delta\gamma, \\ \mathcal{H} &= d\gamma + \alpha \wedge^\triangleright \gamma + \{\beta \wedge \beta\}_{\text{pf}}.\end{aligned}\tag{24}$$

>>> The $3BF$ theory

At this point one can construct the so-called $3BF$ theory.

- * For a manifold \mathcal{M}_4 and the 2-crossed module

$(L \xrightarrow{\delta} H \xrightarrow{\partial} G, \triangleright, \{_, _\}_{\text{pf}})$, that gives rise to 3-curvature $(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{G}, \mathcal{H})$, one defines the $3BF$ action as

$$S_{3BF} = \int_{\mathcal{M}_4} \langle B \wedge \mathcal{F} \rangle_{\mathfrak{g}} + \langle C \wedge \mathcal{G} \rangle_{\mathfrak{h}} + \langle D \wedge \mathcal{H} \rangle_{\mathfrak{l}}. \quad (25)$$

- * $3BF$ theory is a topological gauge theory,
- * it is based on the 3-group structure,
- * it is a generalization of an ordinary BF theory for a given Lie group G .
- * The physical interpretation of the Lagrange multipliers C and D :
 - * the \mathfrak{h} -valued 1-form C can be interpreted as the tetrad field if $H = \mathbb{R}^4$ is the spacetime translation group,

$$C \rightarrow e = e^a{}_{\mu}(x) t_a dx^{\mu}, \quad (26)$$

- * the \mathfrak{l} -valued 0-form D can be interpreted as the set of real-valued matter fields, given some Lie group L :

$$D \rightarrow \phi = \phi^A(x) T_A. \quad (27)$$

>>> Constrained 3BF action

* Physically relevant models - The constrained 2BF actions describing the *Yang-Mills field* and *Einstein-Cartan gravity*, and constrained 3BF actions describing the *Klein-Gordon*, *Dirac*, *Weyl* and *Majorana fields* coupled to Yang-Mills fields and gravity in the standard way are formulated.

* Gravity and SU(N) Yang-Mills theory

* A crossed-module $(H \xrightarrow{\partial} G, \triangleright)$:

- * $G = SO(3,1) \times SU(N)$, $H = \mathbb{R}^4$,
- * $M_{ab} \triangleright P_c = [M_{ab}, P_c]$, $\tau_I \triangleright P_a = 0$,
- * $\partial(\tau_I) = 0$.

* The 2-connection (α, β) : $\alpha = \omega^{ab} M_{ab} + A^I \tau_I$, $\beta = \beta^a P_a$.

* The 2-curvature $(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{G})$: $\mathcal{F} = R^{ab} M_{ab} + F^I \tau_I$, $\mathcal{G} = \nabla \beta P_a$.

*

$$S_{2BF} = \int_{\mathcal{M}_4} B^{ab} \wedge R_{ab} + B^I \wedge F_I + e_a \wedge \nabla \beta^a.$$

* The constrained action:

$$S = \int_{\mathcal{M}_4} B^{ab} \wedge R_{ab} + B^I \wedge F_I + e_a \wedge \nabla \beta^a - \lambda_{ab} \wedge \left(B^{ab} - \frac{1}{16\pi l_p^2} \varepsilon^{abcd} e_c \wedge e_d \right) \\ + \lambda^I \wedge \left(B_I - \frac{12}{g} M_{abI} e^a \wedge e^b \right) + \zeta^{abI} \left(M_{abI} \varepsilon_{cdef} e^c \wedge e^d \wedge e^e \wedge e^f - g_{IJ} F^J \wedge e_a \wedge e_b \right).$$

>>> Constrained 3BF action

* Real Klein-Gordon field $D = \phi \mathbb{I}$

* A 2-crossed module $(L \xrightarrow{\delta} H \xrightarrow{\partial} G, \triangleright, \{-, -\})$:

* $G = SO(3, 1), \quad H = \mathbb{R}^4, \quad L = \mathbb{R},$

* $M_{ab} \triangleright P_c = [M_{ab}, P_c], \quad M_{ab} \triangleright T_A = 0,$

* $\partial(P_a) = 0, \quad \delta(T_A) = 0, \quad \{P_a, P_b\} = 0.$

* The 3-connection (α, β, γ) : $\alpha = \omega^{ab} M_{ab}, \quad \beta = \beta^a P_a, \quad \gamma = \gamma \mathbb{I}.$

* The 3-curvature $(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{G}, \mathcal{H})$: $\mathcal{F} = R^{ab} M_{ab}, \quad \mathcal{G} = \nabla \beta^a P_a, \quad \mathcal{H} = d\gamma.$

*

$$S_{3BF} = \int_{\mathcal{M}_4} B^{ab} \wedge R_{ab} + e_a \wedge \nabla \beta^a + \phi d\gamma.$$

* The constrained action:

$$\begin{aligned} S = & \int_{\mathcal{M}_4} B^{ab} \wedge R_{ab} + e_a \wedge \nabla \beta^a + \phi d\gamma - \lambda_{ab} \wedge \left(B^{ab} - \frac{1}{16\pi l_p^2} \varepsilon^{abcd} e_c \wedge e_d \right) \\ & + \lambda \wedge \left(\gamma - \frac{1}{2} H_{abc} e^a \wedge e^b \wedge e^c \right) + \Lambda^{ab} \wedge \left(H_{abc} \varepsilon^{cdef} e_d \wedge e_e \wedge e_f - d\phi \wedge e_a \wedge e_b \right) \\ & - \frac{1}{2 \cdot 4!} m^2 \phi^2 \varepsilon_{abcd} e^a \wedge e^b \wedge e^c \wedge e^d. \end{aligned}$$

>>> Constrained 3BF action

* Weyl spinor fields

$$D = \psi_\alpha P^\alpha + \bar{\psi}^{\dot{\alpha}} P_{\dot{\alpha}}$$

* A 2-crossed module $(L \xrightarrow{\delta} H \xrightarrow{\partial} G, \triangleright, \{-, -\})$:

* $G = SO(3, 1), \quad H = \mathbb{R}^4, \quad L = \mathbb{R}^4(\mathbb{G}),$

* $M_{ab} \triangleright P_c = [M_{ab}, P_c], \quad M_{ab} \triangleright P^\alpha = \frac{1}{2}(\sigma_{ab})^\alpha{}_\beta P^\beta, \quad M_{ab} \triangleright P_{\dot{\alpha}} = \frac{1}{2}(\bar{\sigma}_{ab})^{\dot{\beta}}{}_{\dot{\alpha}} P_{\dot{\beta}},$

* $\partial(P_a) = 0, \quad \delta(T_A) = 0, \quad \{P_a, P_b\} = 0.$

* The 3-connection (α, β, γ) :

$$\alpha = \omega^{ab} M_{ab}, \quad \beta = \beta^a P_a, \quad \gamma = \gamma_\alpha P^\alpha + \bar{\gamma}^{\dot{\alpha}} P_{\dot{\alpha}}.$$

*

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{F} &= R^{ab} M_{ab}, & \mathcal{G} &= \nabla \beta^a P_a, \\ \mathcal{H} &= (d\gamma_\alpha + \frac{1}{2}\omega^{ab}(\sigma^{ab})^\beta{}_\alpha \gamma_\beta) P^\alpha + (d\bar{\gamma}^{\dot{\alpha}} + \frac{1}{2}\omega_{ab}(\bar{\sigma}^{ab})^{\dot{\alpha}}{}_{\dot{\beta}} \bar{\gamma}^{\dot{\beta}}) P_{\dot{\alpha}} \equiv (\vec{\nabla}\gamma)_\alpha P^\alpha + (\vec{\nabla}\bar{\gamma})^{\dot{\alpha}} P_{\dot{\alpha}}. \end{aligned}$$

*

$$S_{3BF} = \int_{\mathcal{M}_4} B^{ab} \wedge R_{ab} + e_a \wedge \nabla \beta^a + \psi^\alpha \wedge (\vec{\nabla}\gamma)_\alpha + \bar{\psi}_{\dot{\alpha}} \wedge (\vec{\nabla}\bar{\gamma})^{\dot{\alpha}}.$$

We construct the constrained 3BF action corresponding to the full Standard Model coupled to Einstein-Cartan gravity.

>>> Quantization of the topological **3BF** theory

We want to construct a *state sum model* from the classical S_{3BF} action by the usual spinfoam quantization procedure.

$$Z = \int \mathcal{D}\alpha \mathcal{D}\beta \mathcal{D}\gamma \mathcal{D}B \mathcal{D}C \mathcal{D}D \exp \left(i \int_{M_4} \langle B \wedge \mathcal{F} \rangle_{\mathfrak{g}} + \langle C \wedge \mathcal{G} \rangle_{\mathfrak{h}} + \langle D \wedge \mathcal{H} \rangle_{\mathfrak{l}} \right). \quad (28)$$

↪ The formal integration over the Lagrange multipliers B , C , and D leads to:

$$Z = \mathcal{N} \int \mathcal{D}\alpha \mathcal{D}\beta \mathcal{D}\gamma \delta(\mathcal{F}) \delta(\mathcal{G}) \delta(\mathcal{H}). \quad (29)$$

↪ Discretization of the 3-connection:

- ▶ $\alpha \in \mathcal{A}^1(\mathcal{M}_4, \mathfrak{g}) \mapsto g_\epsilon \in G$ coloring the edges $\epsilon = (jk) \in \Lambda_1$,
- ▶ $\beta \in \mathcal{A}^2(\mathcal{M}_4, \mathfrak{h}) \mapsto h_\Delta \in H$ coloring the triangles $\Delta = (jkl) \in \Lambda_2$,
- ▶ $\gamma \in \mathcal{A}^3(\mathcal{M}_4, \mathfrak{l}) \mapsto l_\tau \in L$ coloring the tetrahedrons $\tau = (jklm) \in \Lambda_3$.

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \int \mathcal{D}\alpha \quad \mapsto \quad \prod_{(jk) \in \Lambda_1} \int_G dg_{jk} \\ \int \mathcal{D}\beta \quad \mapsto \quad \prod_{(jkl) \in \Lambda_2} \int_H dh_{jkl} \\ \int \mathcal{D}\gamma \quad \mapsto \quad \prod_{(jklm) \in \Lambda_3} \int_L dl_{jklm} \end{array} \right\} \longrightarrow \text{The discretization of path integral measures.}$$

>>> Quantization of the topological $3BF$ theory

→ The condition $\delta(\mathcal{F})$ is discretized as

$$\delta(\mathcal{F}) = \prod_{(jkl) \in \Lambda_2} \delta_G(g_{jkl}), \quad \delta_G(g_{jkl}) = \delta_G(\partial(h_{jkl}) g_{kl} g_{jk} g_{jl}^{-1}). \quad (30)$$

→ The condition $\delta(\mathcal{G})$ on the fake curvature 3-form reads

$$\delta(\mathcal{G}) = \prod_{(jklm) \in \Lambda_3} \delta_H(h_{jklm}), \quad (31)$$

$$\delta_H(h_{jklm}) = \delta_H(\delta(l_{jklm}) h_{jlm} (g_{lm} \triangleright h_{jkl}) h_{klm}^{-1} h_{jkm}^{-1}). \quad (32)$$

→ The condition $\delta(\mathcal{H})$ is discretized as

$$\delta(\mathcal{H}) = \prod_{(jklmn) \in \Lambda_4} \delta_L(l_{jklmn}), \quad (33)$$

$$\delta_L(l_{jklmn}) = \delta_L(l_{jlmn}^{-1} h_{jln} \triangleright' \{h_{lmn}, (g_{mn} g_{lm}) \triangleright h_{jkl}\}_P l_{jkn}^{-1} (h_{jkn} \triangleright' l_{klmn}) l_{jkmn} h_{jmn} \triangleright' (g_{mn} \triangleright l_{jklm})). \quad (34)$$

...all off this \implies

$$Z = \mathcal{N} \prod_{(jk) \in \Lambda_1} \int_G dg_{jk} \prod_{(jkl) \in \Lambda_2} \int_H dh_{jkl} \prod_{(jklm) \in \Lambda_3} \int_L dl_{jklm} \left(\prod_{(jkl) \in \Lambda_2} \delta_G(g_{jkl}) \right) \left(\prod_{(jklm) \in \Lambda_3} \delta_H(h_{jklm}) \right) \left(\prod_{(jklmn) \in \Lambda_4} \delta_L(l_{jklmn}) \right). \quad (35)$$

This expression can be made independent of the triangulation if one appropriately chooses the constant factor \mathcal{N} .

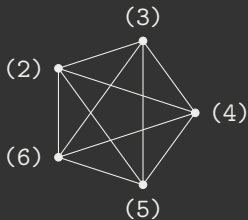
Definition

Let \mathcal{M}_4 be a compact and oriented combinatorial 4-manifold, and $(L \xrightarrow{\delta} H \xrightarrow{\partial} G, \triangleright, \{_, _\}_{\text{pf}})$ be a 2-crossed module. The state sum of *topological higher gauge theory* is defined by

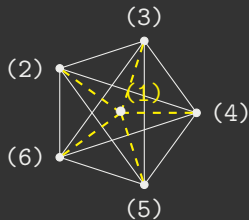
$$\begin{aligned}
 Z = & |G|^{-|\Lambda_0|+|\Lambda_1|-|\Lambda_2|} |H|^{|\Lambda_0|-|\Lambda_1|+|\Lambda_2|-|\Lambda_3|} |L|^{-|\Lambda_0|+|\Lambda_1|-|\Lambda_2|+|\Lambda_3|-|\Lambda_4|} \\
 & \times \left(\prod_{(jkl) \in \Lambda_1} \int_G dg_{jk} \right) \left(\prod_{(jkl) \in \Lambda_2} \int_H dh_{jkl} \right) \left(\prod_{(jklm) \in \Lambda_3} \int_L dl_{jklm} \right) \\
 & \times \left(\prod_{(jkl) \in \Lambda_2} \delta_G(\partial(h_{jkl}) g_{kl} g_{jk} g_{jl}^{-1}) \right) \left(\prod_{(jklm) \in \Lambda_3} \delta_H(\delta(l_{jklm}) h_{jlm} (g_{lm} \triangleright h_{jkl}) h_{klm}^{-1} h_{jkm}^{-1}) \right) \\
 & \times \left(\prod_{(jklmn) \in \Lambda_4} \delta_L(l_{jlmn}^{-1} h_{jln} \triangleright' \{h_{lmn}, (g_{mn} g_{lm}) \triangleright h_{jkl}\}_P l_{jklm}^{-1} (h_{jkn} \triangleright' l_{klmn}) l_{jkmn} h_{jmn} \triangleright' (g_{mn} \triangleright l_{jklm})) \right).
 \end{aligned} \tag{36}$$

Here $|\Lambda_0|$ denotes the number of vertices, $|\Lambda_1|$ edges, $|\Lambda_2|$ triangles, $|\Lambda_3|$ tetrahedrons, and $|\Lambda_4|$ 4-simplices of the triangulation.

>>> 1 ↔ 5 Pachner move



1 ↔ 5



	l.h.s.	r.h.s
M_0		(1)
M_1		(12), (13), (14), (15), (16)
M_2		(123), (124), (125), (126), (134), (135), (136), (145), (146), (156)
M_3		(1234), (1235), (1236), (1245), (1246), (1256), (1345), (1346), (1356), (1456)
M_4	(23456)	(13456), (12456), (12356), (12346), (12345)

>>> 1 ↔ 5 Pachner move

	$ \Lambda_0 $	$ \Lambda_1 $	$ \Lambda_2 $	$ \Lambda_3 $	$ \Lambda_4 $
l.h.s.	5	10	10	5	1
r.h.s.	6	15	20	15	5

Right side

$$Z_{\text{right}}^{1 \leftrightarrow 5} = |G|^{-11} |H|^{-4} |L|^{-1} \int_{G^5} \prod_{(jk) \in M_1} dg_{jk} \int_{H^{10}} \prod_{(jkl) \in M_2} dh_{jkl} \int_{L^{10}} \prod_{(jklm) \in M_3} dl_{jklm} \cdot \left(\prod_{(jkl) \in M_2} \delta_G(g_{jkl}) \right) \left(\prod_{(jklm) \in M_3} \delta_H(h_{jklm}) \right) \left(\prod_{(jklmn) \in M_4} \delta_L(l_{jklmn}) \right) Z_{\text{remainder}} \quad (37)$$

Left side

$$Z_{\text{left}}^{1 \leftrightarrow 5} = |G|^{-5} |H|^0 |L|^{-1} \delta_L(l_{23456}) Z_{\text{remainder}} \quad (38)$$

The $Z_{\text{remainder}}$ denotes the part of the state sum that is the same on both sides of the move, and thus irrelevant for the proof of invariance.

>>> Proof of 1 ↔ 5 Pachner move invariance

On the left hand side of the move there is the integrand $\delta_L(l_{23456})$:

$$\delta_L(l_{23456}) = \delta_L(l_{2346}^{-1}(h_{236} \triangleright' l_{3456})l_{2356}h_{256} \triangleright' (g_{56} \triangleright l_{2345})l_{2456}^{-1}h_{246} \triangleright' \{h_{456}, (g_{56}g_{45}) \triangleright h_{234}\}_P). \quad (39)$$

Let us examine the right hand side of the move, given by the equation (37).

- * First, one integrates out g_{12} using $\delta_G(g_{123})$, g_{13} using $\delta_G(g_{134})$, g_{14} using $\delta_G(g_{145})$, and g_{15} using $\delta_G(g_{156})$.
- * One integrates out h_{123} using $\delta_H(h_{1234})$, h_{124} using $\delta_H(h_{1245})$, h_{125} using $\delta_H(h_{1256})$, h_{134} using $\delta_H(h_{1345})$, h_{135} using $\delta_H(h_{1356})$, and h_{145} using $\delta_H(h_{1456})$.
- * Next, one integrates out l_{1235} using $\delta_L(l_{12345})$, l_{1236} using $\delta_L(l_{12346})$, l_{1246} using $\delta_L(l_{12456})$, and l_{1346} using $\delta_L(l_{13456})$.

>>> Proof of 1 ↔ 5 Pachner move invariance

* The δ -functions on the group G now read $\delta_G(e)^6$. First, for $\delta_G(g_{124})$ one obtains

$$\begin{aligned}
 \delta_G(g_{124}) &= \delta_G(\partial(h_{124}) g_{24} g_{12} g_{14}^{-1}) \\
 &= \delta_G(\partial(h_{124}) g_{24} g_{23}^{-1} \partial(h_{123})^{-1} g_{13} g_{14}^{-1}) \\
 &= \delta_G(\partial(h_{124}) g_{24} g_{23}^{-1} g_{34}^{-1} \partial(h_{234})^{-1} \partial(h_{124})^{-1} \partial(h_{134}) g_{34} g_{13} g_{14}^{-1}) \\
 &= \delta_G(\partial(h_{124}) g_{24} g_{23}^{-1} g_{34}^{-1} (g_{34} g_{23}^{-1} g_{24}^{-1}) \partial(h_{124})^{-1} e) \\
 &= \delta_G(e),
 \end{aligned} \tag{40}$$

Similarly, $\delta_G(g_{125}) = \delta_G(g_{126}) = \delta_G(g_{135}) = \delta_G(g_{136}) = \delta_G(g_{146}) = \delta_G(e)$.

>>> Proof of $1 \leftrightarrow 5$ Pachner move invariance

* Let us now show that the remaining δ -functions on the group H equal $\delta_H(e)^4$.
First, $\delta_H(h_{1235})$ becomes:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \delta_H(h_{1235}) &= \delta_H(\delta(l_{1235})h_{135}(g_{35} \triangleright h_{123})h_{235}^{-1}h_{125}^{-1}) \\
 &= \delta_H\left(\delta\left((h_{125} \triangleright l_{2345})l_{1245}h_{145} \triangleright (g_{45} \triangleright l_{1234})l_{1345}^{-1}h_{135} \triangleright \{h_{345}, (g_{45}g_{34}) \triangleright h_{123}\}_p\right)h_{135}(g_{35} \triangleright h_{123})h_{235}^{-1}h_{125}^{-1}\right) \\
 &= \delta_H\left(\left(h_{125}\delta(l_{2345})h_{125}^{-1}\delta(l_{1245})h_{145}(g_{45} \triangleright \delta(l_{1234}))h_{145}^{-1}\delta(l_{1345})^{-1}h_{135}\delta(\{h_{345}, (g_{45}g_{34}) \triangleright h_{123}\}_p)h_{135}^{-1}\right.\right. \\
 &\quad \left.\left. h_{135}(g_{35} \triangleright h_{123})h_{235}^{-1}h_{125}^{-1}\right)\right) \\
 &= \delta_H\left(h_{235}h_{345}(g_{45} \triangleright h_{234}^{-1})h_{245}^{-1}h_{125}^{-1}h_{125}h_{245}(g_{45} \triangleright h_{124}^{-1})h_{145}^{-1}h_{145}(g_{45} \triangleright (h_{124}h_{234}(g_{34} \triangleright h_{123}^{-1})h_{134}^{-1}))\right. \\
 &\quad \left. h_{145}^{-1}(h_{145}(g_{45} \triangleright h_{134})h_{345}^{-1}h_{135}^{-1})h_{135}\delta(\{h_{345}, (g_{45}g_{34}) \triangleright h_{123}\}_p)h_{135}^{-1}h_{135}(g_{35} \triangleright h_{123})h_{235}^{-1}\right) \\
 &= \delta_H(h_{345}((g_{45}g_{34}) \triangleright h_{123}^{-1})h_{345}^{-1}\delta(\{h_{345}, (g_{45}g_{34}) \triangleright h_{123}\}_p)(g_{35} \triangleright h_{123})). \tag{41}
 \end{aligned}$$

Here, one uses the following identity

$$\delta\{h_1, h_2\}_p(\partial(h_1) \triangleright h_2)h_1h_2^{-1}h_1^{-1} = e. \tag{42}$$

Substituting $g_{35} = \partial(h_{345})g_{45}g_{34}$, and applying the (42) identity for $h_1 = h_{345}$ and $h_2 = (g_{45}g_{34}) \triangleright h_{123}$, one obtains

$$\delta_H(h_{1235}) = \delta_H(e). \tag{43}$$

Similarly, one obtains for $\delta_H(h_{1236}) = \delta_H(h_{1246}) = \delta_H(h_{1346}) = \delta_H(e)$.

>>> Proof of $1 \leftrightarrow 5$ Pachner move invariance

* The remaining δ -function on the group L $\delta_L(l_{12356})$, after substituting the equations for l_{1235} , l_{1236} , l_{1246} , and l_{1346} , reads:

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_L(l_{12356}) = & \delta_L \left(h_{136} \triangleright' \{ h_{346}, (g_{46}g_{34}) \triangleright h_{123} \}_P^{-1} (h_{136} \triangleright' l_{3456}) l_{1356} h_{156} \triangleright' (g_{56} \triangleright l_{1345}) l_{1456}^{-1} \right. \\ & h_{146} \triangleright' \{ h_{456}, (g_{56}g_{45}) \triangleright h_{134} \}_P h_{146} \triangleright' (g_{46} \triangleright l_{1234})^{-1} h_{146} \triangleright' \{ h_{456}, (g_{56}g_{45}) \triangleright h_{124} \}_P^{-1} l_{1456} \\ & h_{156} \triangleright' (g_{56} \triangleright l_{1245})^{-1} l_{1256}^{-1} (h_{126} \triangleright' l_{2456})^{-1} (h_{126} \triangleright' l_{2346}^{-1}) (h_{126} \triangleright' l_{2356}) l_{1256} \\ & \left. h_{156} \triangleright' (g_{56} \triangleright ((h_{125} \triangleright' l_{2345}) l_{1245} h_{145} \triangleright' (g_{45} \triangleright l_{1234}) l_{1345}^{-1} h_{135} \triangleright' \{ h_{345}, (g_{45}g_{34}) \triangleright h_{123} \}_P)) \right. \\ & \left. l_{1356}^{-1} h_{136} \triangleright' \{ h_{356}, (g_{56}g_{35}) \triangleright h_{123} \}_P \right). \end{aligned} \quad (44)$$

Using the identity

$$\{ h_1 h_2, h_3 \}_P = (h_1 \triangleright' \{ h_2, h_3 \}_P) \{ h_1, \partial(h_2) \triangleright h_3 \}_P, \quad (45)$$

the delta function $\delta_L(l_{12356})$ becomes:

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_L(l_{12356}) = & \delta_L \left((h_{136} \triangleright' l_{3456}) l_{1356} h_{156} \triangleright' (g_{56} \triangleright l_{1345}) l_{1456}^{-1} \right. \\ & h_{146} \triangleright' \{ h_{456}, (g_{56}g_{45}) \triangleright h_{134} \}_P h_{146} \triangleright' (g_{46} \triangleright l_{1234})^{-1} h_{146} \triangleright' \{ h_{456}, (g_{56}g_{45}) \triangleright h_{124} \}_P^{-1} l_{1456} \\ & \delta(h_{156} \triangleright' (g_{56} \triangleright l_{1245})^{-1}) \triangleright' \left((\delta(l_{1256})^{-1} h_{126}) \triangleright' (l_{2456}^{-1} l_{2346}^{-1} l_{2356}) h_{156} \triangleright' (g_{56} \triangleright (h_{125} \triangleright' l_{2345})) \right) \\ & \left. h_{156} \triangleright' (g_{56} \triangleright (h_{145} \triangleright' (g_{45} \triangleright l_{1234}) l_{1345}^{-1})) l_{1356}^{-1} (h_{136} h_{346}) \triangleright' \{ h_{346}^{-1} h_{356} g_{56} \triangleright h_{345}, (g_{56}g_{45}g_{34}) \triangleright h_{123} \}_P \right). \end{aligned} \quad (46)$$

>>> Proof of $1 \leftrightarrow 5$ Pachner move invariance

One obtains

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_L(l_{12356}) = & \delta_L\left((h_{156} \triangleright' (g_{56} \triangleright \delta(l_{1245})^{-1}) \delta(l_{1256})^{-1} h_{126}) \triangleright' (l_{2456}^{-1} l_{2346}^{-1} l_{2356} h_{256} \triangleright' (g_{56} \triangleright l_{2345}))\right. \\ & h_{156} \triangleright' (g_{56} \triangleright (h_{145} \triangleright' (g_{45} \triangleright l_{1234}) l_{1345}^{-1})) l_{1356}^{-1} (h_{136} h_{346}) \triangleright' \{h_{346}^{-1} h_{356} g_{56} \triangleright h_{345}, (g_{56} g_{45} g_{34}) \triangleright h_{123}\}_p \\ & h_{136} \triangleright' l_{3456} l_{1356} h_{156} \triangleright' (g_{56} \triangleright l_{1345}) (\delta(l_{1456})^{-1} h_{146}) \triangleright' (\{h_{456}, (g_{56} g_{45}) \triangleright h_{134}\}_p \\ & \left. (\delta(l_{1456})^{-1} h_{146}) \triangleright' ((g_{46} \triangleright l_{1234})^{-1}) (\delta(l_{1456})^{-1} h_{146}) \triangleright' \{h_{456}, (g_{56} g_{45}) \triangleright h_{124}\}_p^{-1}\right). \end{aligned} \quad (47)$$

The tetrahedron (3456) is part of the integrand on both sides of the move, so using the condition (32) for $\delta_H(h_{3456})$ one can write

$$h_{346}^{-1} h_{356} g_{56} \triangleright h_{345} = h_{346}^{-1} \triangleright' \delta(l_{3456})^{-1} h_{456}.$$

Then, using the identity (45) one obtains that

$$\begin{aligned} \{h_{346}^{-1} h_{356} g_{56} \triangleright h_{345}, (g_{56} g_{45} g_{34}) \triangleright h_{123}\}_p = & h_{346}^{-1} \triangleright' l_{3456}^{-1} \{h_{456}, (g_{56} g_{45} g_{34}) \triangleright h_{123}\}_p \\ & ((g_{46} g_{34}) \triangleright h_{123} h_{346}^{-1}) \triangleright' l_{3456}, \end{aligned} \quad (48)$$

where in the last row the definition of the action \triangleright' is used. Substituting the equation (48) in the equation (47) one obtains

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_L(l_{12356}) = & \delta_L\left((h_{156} \triangleright' (g_{56} \triangleright \delta(l_{1245})^{-1}) \delta(l_{1256})^{-1} h_{126} \delta(l_{2456})^{-1}) \triangleright' (l_{2346}^{-1} l_{2356} h_{256} \triangleright' (g_{56} \triangleright l_{2345}) l_{2456}^{-1})\right. \\ & h_{156} \triangleright' (g_{56} \triangleright (h_{145} \triangleright' (g_{45} \triangleright l_{1234}))) (h_{156} \triangleright' (g_{56} \triangleright \delta(l_{1345})^{-1}) \delta(l_{1356})^{-1} h_{136} \delta(l_{3456})^{-1} h_{346}) \triangleright' \\ & (\{h_{456}, (g_{56} g_{45} g_{34}) \triangleright h_{123}\}_p ((g_{46} g_{34}) \triangleright h_{123}) \triangleright' l_{3456}) (\delta(l_{1456})^{-1} h_{146}) \triangleright' (\{h_{456}, (g_{56} g_{45}) \triangleright h_{134}\}_p \\ & \left. (\delta(l_{1456})^{-1} h_{146}) \triangleright' ((g_{46} \triangleright l_{1234})^{-1}) (\delta(l_{1456})^{-1} h_{146}) \triangleright' \{h_{456}, (g_{56} g_{45}) \triangleright h_{124}\}_p^{-1}\right). \end{aligned} \quad (49)$$

>>> Proof of $1 \leftrightarrow 5$ Pachner move invariance

Commuting the element l_{3456} to the end of the expression, one obtains

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_L(l_{12356}) = & \delta_L((h_{156} \triangleright' (g_{56} \triangleright \delta(l_{1245})^{-1}) \delta(l_{1256})^{-1} h_{126} \delta(l_{2456})^{-1}) \triangleright' (l_{2346}^{-1} l_{2356} h_{256} \triangleright' (g_{56} \triangleright l_{2345}) l_{2456}^{-1})) \\ & h_{156} \triangleright' (g_{56} \triangleright (h_{145} \triangleright' (g_{45} \triangleright l_{1234}))) (h_{156} \triangleright' (g_{56} \triangleright \delta(l_{1345})^{-1}) \delta(l_{1356})^{-1} h_{136} \delta(l_{3456})^{-1} h_{346}) \triangleright' \\ & (\{h_{456}, (g_{56} g_{45} g_{34}) \triangleright h_{123}\}_P) (\delta(l_{1456})^{-1} h_{146}) \triangleright' (\{h_{456}, (g_{56} g_{45}) \triangleright h_{134}\}_P) \quad (50) \\ & (\delta(l_{1456})^{-1} h_{146}) \triangleright' ((g_{46} \triangleright l_{1234})^{-1}) (\delta(l_{1456})^{-1} h_{146}) \triangleright' \{h_{456}, (g_{56} g_{45}) \triangleright h_{124}\}_P^{-1} \\ & (h_{156} g_{56} \triangleright h_{145} h_{246} g_{46} \triangleright h_{234} h_{346}^{-1}) \triangleright' l_{3456}). \end{aligned}$$

Acting to the whole expression with

$(h_{156} \triangleright' (g_{56} \triangleright \delta(l_{1245})^{-1}) \delta(l_{1256})^{-1} h_{126} \delta(l_{2456})^{-1})^{-1} \triangleright'$, one obtains,

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_L(l_{12356}) = & \delta_L(l_{2346}^{-1} l_{2356} h_{256} \triangleright' (g_{56} \triangleright l_{2345}) l_{2456}^{-1} (h_{246} h_{456} (g_{56} g_{45}) \triangleright h_{124}^{-1}) \triangleright' \\ & ((g_{56} g_{45}) \triangleright l_{1234} ((g_{56} g_{45}) \triangleright h_{134} h_{456}^{-1}) \triangleright' \{h_{456}, (g_{56} g_{45} g_{34}) \triangleright h_{123}\}_P) \quad (51) \\ & h_{456}^{-1} \triangleright' \{h_{456}, (g_{56} g_{45}) \triangleright h_{134}\}_P h_{456}^{-1} \triangleright g_{46} \triangleright l_{1234}^{-1} (h_{456}^{-1} g_{46} \triangleright h_{124}) \triangleright' \{h_{456}, (g_{56} g_{45}) \triangleright h_{124}^{-1}\}_P) \\ & (h_{246} g_{46} \triangleright h_{234} h_{346}^{-1}) \triangleright' l_{3456}. \end{aligned}$$

Using the identity

$$\{h_1, h_2 h_3\}_P = \{h_1, h_2\}_P (\partial(h_1) \triangleright h_2) \triangleright' \{h_1, h_3\}_P, \quad (52)$$

for $\{h_{456}, (g_{56} g_{45}) \triangleright (h_{134} g_{34} \triangleright h_{123})\}_P$,

$$\{h_{456}, (g_{56} g_{45}) \triangleright (h_{134} g_{34} \triangleright h_{123})\}_P = \{h_{456}, (g_{56} g_{45}) \triangleright h_{134}\}_P (g_{46} \triangleright h_{134}) \triangleright' \{h_{456}, (g_{56} g_{45} g_{34}) \triangleright h_{123}\}_P. \quad (53)$$

>>> Proof of $1 \leftrightarrow 5$ Pachner move invariance

one obtains:

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_L(l_{12356}) = & \delta_L(l_{2346}^{-1}l_{2356}h_{256} \triangleright' (g_{56} \triangleright l_{2345})l_{2456}^{-1} \\ & h_{246} \triangleright' \left((h_{456}(g_{56}g_{45}) \triangleright h_{124}^{-1}) \triangleright' \left((g_{56}g_{45}) \triangleright l_{1234}h_{456}^{-1} \triangleright' \{h_{456}, (g_{56}g_{45}) \triangleright (h_{134}g_{34} \triangleright h_{123})\}_P \right. \right. \\ & \left. \left. h_{456}^{-1} \triangleright g_{46} \triangleright l_{1234}^{-1} \right) \{h_{456}, (g_{56}g_{45}) \triangleright h_{124}^{-1}\}_P \right) (h_{246}g_{46} \triangleright h_{234}h_{346}^{-1}) \triangleright' l_{3456}. \end{aligned} \quad (54)$$

Using the identity (52) for $\{h_{456}, (g_{56}g_{45}) \triangleright (h_{124}^{-1}\delta(l_{1234})h_{134}g_{34} \triangleright h_{123})\}_P$ one obtains the terms featuring l_{1234} cancel,

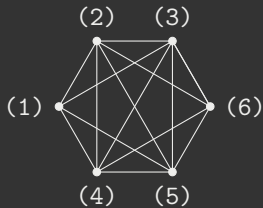
$$\begin{aligned} \delta_L(l_{12356}) = & \delta_L(l_{2346}^{-1}l_{2356}h_{256} \triangleright' (g_{56} \triangleright l_{2345})l_{2456}^{-1} \\ & h_{246} \triangleright' \{h_{456}, (g_{56}g_{45}) \triangleright (h_{124}^{-1}\delta(l_{1234})h_{134}g_{34} \triangleright h_{123})\}_P (h_{246}g_{46} \triangleright h_{234}h_{346}^{-1}) \triangleright' l_{3456} \\ = & \delta_L(l_{2346}^{-1}l_{2356}h_{256} \triangleright' (g_{56} \triangleright l_{2345})l_{2456}^{-1} h_{246} \triangleright' \{h_{456}, (g_{56}g_{45}) \triangleright h_{234}\}_P (\delta(l_{2346})^{-1} h_{236}) \triangleright' l_{3456}) \\ = & \boxed{\delta_L(l_{23456})}. \end{aligned} \quad (55)$$

The delta function $\delta_L(l_{12356})$ on the r.h.s. reduces to the delta function $\delta_L(l_{23456})$ of the l.h.s. The integrations over l_{1234} , l_{1245} , l_{1256} , l_{1345} , l_{1356} , and l_{1456} are trivial, and finally one obtains,

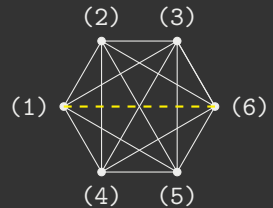
$$r.h.s. = \delta_G(e)^6 \delta_H(e)^4 \delta_L(l_{23456}) = |G|^6 |H|^4 \delta_L(l_{23456}). \quad (56)$$

The prefactors $|G|^{-11} |H|^{-4} |L|^{-1}$ on the r.h.s. and $|G|^{-5} |H|^0 |L|^{-1}$ on the l.h.s., compensate for left-over factors.

>>> 2 ↔ 4 Pachner move



2 ↔ 4



	l.h.s.	r.h.s
M ₀		
M ₁		(16)
M ₂		(126), (136), (146), (156)
M ₃	(2345)	(1236), (1246), (1256), (1346), (1356), (1456)
M ₄	(23456), (12345)	(12346), (12356), (12456), (13456)

>>> 2 ↔ 4 Pachner move

	$ \Lambda_0 $	$ \Lambda_1 $	$ \Lambda_2 $	$ \Lambda_3 $	$ \Lambda_4 $
l.h.s.	6	14	16	9	2
r.h.s.	6	15	20	14	4

Right side

$$Z_{left}^{2 \leftrightarrow 4} = |G|^{-8} |H|^{-1} |L|^{-1} \int_L dl_{2345} \delta_H(h_{2345}) \left(\prod_{(jklmn) \in M_4} \delta_L(l_{jklmn}) \right) Z_{remainder}, \quad (57)$$

Left side

$$Z_{right}^{2 \leftrightarrow 4} = |G|^{-11} |H|^{-3} |L|^{-1} \int_G dg_{16} \int_{H^4} dh_{126} dh_{136} dh_{146} dh_{156} \int_L dl_{1236} dl_{1246} dl_{1256} dl_{1346} dl_{1356} dl_{1456} \\ \left(\prod_{(jkl) \in M_2} \delta_G(g_{jkl}) \right) \left(\prod_{(jklm) \in M_3} \delta_H(h_{jklm}) \right) \left(\prod_{(jklmn) \in M_4} \delta_L(l_{jklmn}) \right) Z_{remainder}. \quad (58)$$

>>> Proof of $2 \leftrightarrow 4$ Pachner move invariance

* On the left hand side of the move one has the following integrals and the integrand,

$$\int_L dl_{2345} \delta_H(h_{2345}) \delta_L(l_{23456}) \delta_L(l_{12345}). \quad (59)$$

We integrate out l_{2345} using $\delta_L(l_{12345})$. The δ -function $\delta_H(h_{2345})$ now reads,

$$\delta_H(h_{2345}) = \delta_H(e). \quad (60)$$

The remaining δ -function $\delta_L(l_{23456})$, reads

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_L(l_{23456}) = & \delta_L(l_{2456}^{-1} l_{2346}^{-1} l_{2356} (h_{256} g_{56} \triangleright h_{125}^{-1}) \triangleright' g_{56} \triangleright l_{1235} (h_{256} g_{56} \triangleright h_{125}^{-1} g_{56} \triangleright h_{135}) \triangleright' \\ & ((g_{35} \triangleright h_{123} h_{356}^{-1}) \triangleright' l_{3456}) \{g_{56} \triangleright h_{345}, (g_{56} g_{45} g_{34}) \triangleright h_{123}\}_p^{-1} (g_{56} \triangleright h_{345} (g_{56} g_{45}) \triangleright (h_{123} h_{234}^{-1}) h_{456}^{-1}) \triangleright' \\ & \{h_{456}, (g_{56} g_{45}) \triangleright h_{234}\}_p (h_{256} g_{56} \triangleright h_{125}^{-1}) \triangleright' g_{56} \triangleright l_{1345} \\ & (h_{256} g_{56} \triangleright h_{125}^{-1} g_{56} \triangleright h_{145}) \triangleright' ((g_{56} g_{45}) \triangleright l_{1234})^{-1} (h_{256} g_{56} \triangleright h_{125}^{-1}) \triangleright' g_{56} \triangleright l_{1245}^{-1}). \end{aligned} \quad (61)$$

Finally, the l.h.s. reads:

$$\boxed{l.h.s. = \delta_H(e) \delta_L(l_{23456}) = |H| \delta_L(l_{23456})}. \quad (62)$$

>>> Proof of $2 \leftrightarrow 4$ Pachner move invariance

* On the right hand side of the move there is the integral

$$\int_G dg_{16} \int_{H^4} dh_{126} dh_{136} dh_{146} dh_{156} \int_L dl_{1236} dl_{1246} dl_{1256} dl_{1346} dl_{1356} dl_{1456} \left(\prod_{(jkl) \in M_2} \delta_G(g_{jkl}) \right) \left(\prod_{(jklm) \in M_3} \delta_H(h_{jklm}) \right) \left(\prod_{(jklmn) \in M_4} \delta_L(l_{jklmn}) \right). \quad (63)$$

- * One integrates out g_{16} using $\delta_G(g_{126})$, h_{126} using $\delta_H(h_{1236})$, h_{136} using $\delta_H(h_{1346})$, and h_{146} using $\delta_H(h_{1456})$.
- * One integrates out l_{1236} using $\delta_L(l_{12346})$, l_{1246} using $\delta_L(l_{12456})$, l_{1346} using $\delta_L(l_{13456})$.
- * The remaining δ -functions on the group G reduces to $\delta_G(e)^3$,

$$\delta_G(g_{136}) = \delta_G(g_{146}) = \delta_G(g_{156}) = \delta_G(e).$$

- * One obtains that the remaining δ -functions on H reduce on $\delta_H(e)^3$,

$$\delta_H(h_{1256}) = \delta_H(h_{1356}) = \delta_H(h_{1456}) = \delta_H(e).$$

>>> Proof of $2 \leftrightarrow 4$ Pachner move invariance

* For the remaining δ -function $\delta_L(l_{12356})$,

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_L(l_{12356}) = & \delta_L(l_{2456}^{-1} l_{2346}^{-1} l_{2356} (h_{256} g_{56} \triangleright h_{125}^{-1}) \triangleright' g_{56} \triangleright l_{1235} (h_{256} g_{56} \triangleright h_{125}^{-1} g_{56} \triangleright h_{135}) \triangleright' \\ & ((g_{35} \triangleright h_{123} h_{356}^{-1}) \triangleright' l_{3456}) \{g_{56} \triangleright h_{345}, (g_{56} g_{45} g_{34}) \triangleright h_{123}\}_p^{-1} (g_{56} \triangleright h_{345} (g_{56} g_{45}) \triangleright (h_{123} h_{234}^{-1}) h_{456}^{-1}) \triangleright' \\ & \{h_{456}, (g_{56} g_{45}) \triangleright h_{234}\}_p (h_{256} g_{56} \triangleright h_{125}^{-1}) \triangleright' g_{56} \triangleright l_{1345} \\ & (h_{256} g_{56} \triangleright h_{125}^{-1} g_{56} \triangleright h_{145}) \triangleright' ((g_{56} g_{45}) \triangleright l_{1234})^{-1} (h_{256} g_{56} \triangleright h_{125}^{-1}) \triangleright' g_{56} \triangleright l_{1245}^{-1}). \end{aligned} \quad (64)$$

which is precisely the equation (61).

The remaining integration over the element h_{156} H and remaining integrations over the three elements l_{1246} , l_{1256} , and l_{1356} , are trivial, yielding the result of the r.h.s. to:

$$r.h.s. = \delta_G(e)^3 \delta_H(e)^3 \delta_L(l_{12356}) = |G|^3 |H|^3 \delta_L(l_{12356}) . \quad (65)$$

The prefactors are $|G|^{-8} |H|^{-1} |L|^{-1}$ on the l.h.s., and $|G|^{-11} |H|^{-3} |L|^{-1}$ on the r.h.s. compensate for the left-over factors.

>>> 3 ↔ 3 Pachner move



	l.h.s.	r.h.s
M_0		
M_1		
M_2	(456)	(123)
M_3	(1456), (2456), (3456)	(1234), (1235), (1236)
M_4	(23456), (13456), (12456)	(12356), (12346), (12345).

>>> Proof of $3 \leftrightarrow 3$ Pachner move invariance

* Let us first investigate the r.h.s. of the move:

$$\int_H dh_{123} \int_{L^3} dl_{1234} dl_{1235} dl_{1236} \delta_G(g_{123}) \delta_H(h_{1234}) \delta_H(h_{1235}) \delta_H(h_{1236}) \delta_L(l_{12356}) \delta_L(l_{12346}) \delta_L(l_{12345}). \quad (68)$$

- * First, one integrates out the l_{1235} , using $\delta_L(l_{12345})$, one integrates out l_{1236} , using $\delta_L(l_{12356})$, and one integrates out h_{123} , using $\delta_H(l_{1234})$.
- * Similarly, one obtains that $\delta_H(h_{1235}) = \delta_H(h_{1236}) = \delta_H(e)$.
- * The remaining δ -function $\delta_L(l_{12346})$ reads

$$\delta_L(l_{12346}) = \delta_L((h_{146}g_{46} \triangleright h_{134}) \triangleright' \{h_{346}^{-1} h_{356} (g_{56} \triangleright h_{345}), (g_{56}g_{45}) \triangleright (h_{134}^{-1} h_{124} h_{234})\}_p^{-1} l_{1346}^{-1} l_{1356} h_{156} \triangleright' (g_{56} \triangleright l_{1345}) h_{156} \triangleright' (g_{56} \triangleright l_{1245})^{-1} (h_{156}g_{56} \triangleright h_{125}) \triangleright' (g_{56} \triangleright l_{2345}^{-1}) l_{1256}^{-1} h_{126} \triangleright' l_{2356}^{-1} (h_{126} \triangleright' l_{2346}) l_{1246}). \quad (69)$$

One obtains that the integration over l_{1234} is trivial, and the r.h.s. of the move finally reads

$$r.h.s. = \delta_G(e) \delta_H(e)^2 \delta_L(h_{156} \triangleright' (g_{56} \triangleright l_{1245})^{-1} h_{156} \triangleright' (g_{56} \triangleright (h_{125} \triangleright' l_{2345}))^{-1} l_{1256}^{-1} h_{126} \triangleright' l_{2356}^{-1} (h_{126} \triangleright' l_{2346}) l_{1246} (h_{146}g_{46} \triangleright h_{134}) \triangleright' \{h_{346}^{-1} h_{356} (g_{56} \triangleright h_{345}), (g_{56}g_{45}) \triangleright (h_{134}^{-1} h_{124} h_{234})\}_p^{-1} l_{1346}^{-1} l_{1356} h_{156} \triangleright' (g_{56} \triangleright l_{1345}). \quad (70)$$

>>> Proof of $3 \leftrightarrow 3$ Pachner move invariance

* The integral of the l.h.s. reads

$$\int_H dh_{456} \int_L^3 dl_{1456} dl_{2456} dl_{3456} \delta_G(g_{456}) \delta_H(h_{3456}) \delta_H(h_{2456}) \delta_H(h_{1456}) \delta_L(l_{23456}) \delta_L(l_{13456}) \delta_L(l_{12456}). \quad (71)$$

* One integrates out the l_{1456} , exploiting $\delta_L(l_{13456})$, one one integrates out the l_{2456} , exploiting $\delta_L(l_{23456})$, and one integrates out h_{456} , exploiting $\delta_H(h_{3456})$.

* Using this we obtain

$$\delta_G(g_{456}) = \delta_G(e). \quad (72)$$

* Similarly as done for the right-hand side of the move, one shows

$$\delta_H(h_{1456}) = \delta_H(h_{2456}) = \delta_H(e).$$

* The remaining $\delta_L(l_{12456})$ now reads

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_L(l_{12456}) = & \delta_L(l_{1246}^{-1} h_{126} \triangleright' l_{2346}^{-1} h_{126} \triangleright' l_{2356} (h_{126} h_{256}) \triangleright' (g_{56} \triangleright l_{2345})) l_{1256} h_{156} \triangleright' (g_{56} \triangleright l_{1245}) \\ & h_{156} \triangleright' (g_{56} \triangleright l_{1345})^{-1} l_{1356}^{-1} l_{1346} (h_{146} g_{46} \triangleright h_{134}) \triangleright' \{h_{456}, (g_{56} g_{45}) \triangleright (h_{134}^{-1} h_{124} h_{234})\}_p. \end{aligned} \quad (73)$$

One obtains that the integral over l_{3456} is now trivial and l.h.s. of the move finally reduces to:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{l.h.s.} = & \delta_G(e) \delta_H(e)^2 \delta_L(h_{126} \triangleright' l_{2346} l_{1246} (h_{146} g_{46} \triangleright h_{134}) \triangleright' \{h_{456}, (g_{56} g_{45}) \triangleright (h_{134}^{-1} h_{124} h_{234})\}_p^{-1} l_{1346}^{-1} \\ & l_{1356} h_{156} \triangleright' (g_{56} \triangleright l_{1345}) h_{156} \triangleright' (g_{56} \triangleright l_{1245})^{-1} (h_{156} g_{56} \triangleright h_{125}) \triangleright' (g_{56} \triangleright l_{2345})^{-1} l_{1256}^{-1} h_{126} \triangleright' l_{2356}^{-1}). \end{aligned} \quad (74)$$

The expressions (70) and (74) are the same, which proves the invariance of the state sum (10) under the Pachner move $3 \leftrightarrow 3$. The numbers of k -simplices agree on both sides of the $3 \leftrightarrow 3$ move for all k , and the prefactors play no role in this case.

>>> Synopsis

- * 2-crossed modules and 3-gauge theory
- * Physically relevant models -The constrained $2BF$ actions describing the *Yang-Mills field* and *Einstein-Cartan gravity*, and constrained $3BF$ actions describing the *Klein-Gordon*, *Dirac*, *Weyl* and *Majorana fields* coupled to Yang-Mills fields and gravity in the standard way.
- * Starting from the notion of Lie 3-groups, we generalize the integral picture of gauge theory to a 3-gauge theory that involves curves, surfaces, and volumes labeled with elements of non-Abelian groups.
- * The definition of the discrete state sum model of topological higher gauge theory in dimension $d=4$.
- * We prove that the state sum is well defined, i.e., invariant under the Pachner moves and thus independent of the chosen triangulation.

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Thank you for your attention!