

# A CATEGORIFICATION OF THE TUBE ALGEBRA

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Based around work  
in Arxiv:2006.06536  
w. Delcamp

# Motivation

- \* Application of higher category theory to physics
  - Classification of phases of matter beyond Landau-Ginzburg symmetry breaking
  - phenomenology of such systems
  - Applications to quantum information/computation

# Topological phase of matter

\* Equivalence class of gapped, local quantum many-body systems.

\* Equivalence relation  $\Rightarrow$  Two systems in same topological phase if they share a common TQFT description of far infra-red limit.

Physically:

\* Example

- Fractional quantum hall effect, Chern-Simons effective field theory

\* Topological excitations

- Anyons

- Candidate physics for engineering fault-tolerant quantum computer. Topological protection from errors.

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TQFT in a nutshell

Atiyah, TQFT is a symmetric monoidal functor

$$Z : (n+1)\text{ Cob} \rightarrow \text{Vect}$$

# TQFT in a nutshell

Atiyah, TQFT is a symmetric monoidal functor

$$Z: (n+1)\text{Cob} \rightarrow \text{Vect}$$

Essentially a set of rules

$$Z: M^n \mapsto \mathcal{H}[M^n] \quad \leftarrow \text{state-space}$$

$$Z: C: M^n \rightarrow M^n \mapsto Z(C): \mathcal{H}[M^n] \rightarrow \mathcal{H}[M^n]$$

$\leftarrow$  depends only on diffeomorphism class.

# TQFT in a nutshell

Pros: nice concise defn ✓

Cons: lots of data required ✗

lack of phenomenology ✗

- only tells us  $H[M^n]$  as rep of  $MCG(M^n)$

- nothing about excitations

- real materials have boundaries, only tells us about closed spatial materials

No 1-1 between TQFT and physically realisable TPM ✗

- not necessarily local.



# TQFT in a nutshell

\* Extended TQFT - addresses some of problems

$$Z(M^{n+1}) \in \mathbb{C}$$

$$Z(M^n) \in \text{Vect}$$

$$Z(M^{n-1}) \in 2\text{Vect}$$

⋮

$$Z(*) \in n\text{Vect}$$

↖ provides notion of locality

Idea: swap topological complexity for algebraic data

# TQFT in a nutshell

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cobordism hypothesis

↔ can reconstruct rest of theory from point

# TQFT in a nutshell

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⋮

$$Z(*) \in n\text{Vect} \leftarrow$$

However: What do we assign to lower dim manifolds

cobordism hypothesis

$\cong$  can reconstruct rest of theory from point

# HAMILTONIAN MODELS OF TPM

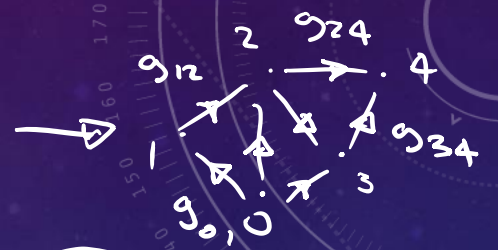


# Local, lattice Hamiltonian scheme

defn: pick spatial dimension  $n$ , then  
for all triangulated  $n$ -manifolds  $M_\Delta^n$

1)  $\{s: M_\Delta^n \rightarrow \mathcal{L}\}$   $\leftarrow$  set of classical  
field configurations

2)  $H = \sum_{\Delta^0 \subseteq \text{Int}(M_\Delta^n)} H_{\Delta^0}$   $\leftarrow$  Hamiltonian



$g_{ij} \in \mathcal{L}$

where  $H: \text{Span}_{\mathbb{C}} \{s: M_\Delta^n \rightarrow \mathcal{L}\} \rightarrow \text{Span}_{\mathbb{C}} \{s: M_\Delta^n \rightarrow \mathcal{L}\} \equiv V[M_\Delta^n]$

$H_{\Delta^0}: \text{Diagram } g \rightarrow \sum_{g'} \text{Diagram } g' \phi(g, \dots)$   $\leftarrow$  phase factor!

— changes field configuration in local neighbourhood of a vertex

# Exactly solvable LLHS

$$V[M_{\Delta}^{\wedge}] := \text{Span}_{\mathbb{Q}} \{ s: M_{\Delta}^{\wedge} \rightarrow \mathcal{L} \}, \quad H = \sum_{\Delta^{\circ} \subseteq \text{Int}(M_{\Delta}^{\wedge})} H_{\Delta^{\circ}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{— Exactly solvable} &\Rightarrow H_{\Delta^{\circ}} \cdot H_{\Delta^{\circ}} = H_{\Delta^{\circ}} \\ &[H_{\Delta^{\circ}}, H_{\Delta^{\circ}}] = 0 \end{aligned} \quad \forall \Delta^{\circ} \subseteq M_{\Delta}^{\wedge}$$

$$\text{— ground state subspace} \Rightarrow \mathcal{H}[M_{\Delta}^{\wedge}] \equiv \text{Im} \left[ \prod_{\Delta^{\circ}} H_{\Delta^{\circ}} \right]$$

↖ projector

↖ mutually commuting projectors!

# Models for TPM

\* Given exactly solvable LLHS

if  $\forall M^n$  w. triangulations  $M_\Delta^n, M'_\Delta^n$  s.t.  $\partial M_\Delta^n = \partial M'_\Delta^n$

$\exists$  unitary isomorphism s.t.  $\prod_{\Delta^o \in \text{Int}(M_\Delta^n)} H_{\Delta^o} \circ U = U \circ \prod_{\Delta^o \in \text{Int}(M'_\Delta^n)} H_{\Delta^o}$  and

$$\mathcal{H}[M_\Delta^n] \xrightarrow{U} \mathcal{H}[M'_\Delta^n] \xrightarrow{U'} \mathcal{H}[M'_\Delta^n] = \mathcal{H}[M_\Delta^n] \xrightarrow{U' \circ U} \mathcal{H}[M'_\Delta^n]$$

- we say we have a topological lattice model

\* such models expected to capture infra-red limit effective field theory of condensed matter lattice models eg. TPM.

# State-Sum TQFT

Given data of topological lattice model we can construct state-sum TQFT

Roughly: sstQFT computes TQFT on simplicial model of space-time

To find sstQFT we use unitary isomorphisms  $U$  to define partition on local balls of spacetime and glue to evaluate a full partition function.



# Continuum theory

- \* Using colimit over all triangulations we can define  $\mathcal{H}[M^2]$  for closed  $M^n$  via a colimit construction
- \* Such construction defines continuum theory which can be lifted to Atiyah TQFT.

Folk lore : sTQFT in 1-1-correspondence w. fully extended TQFT

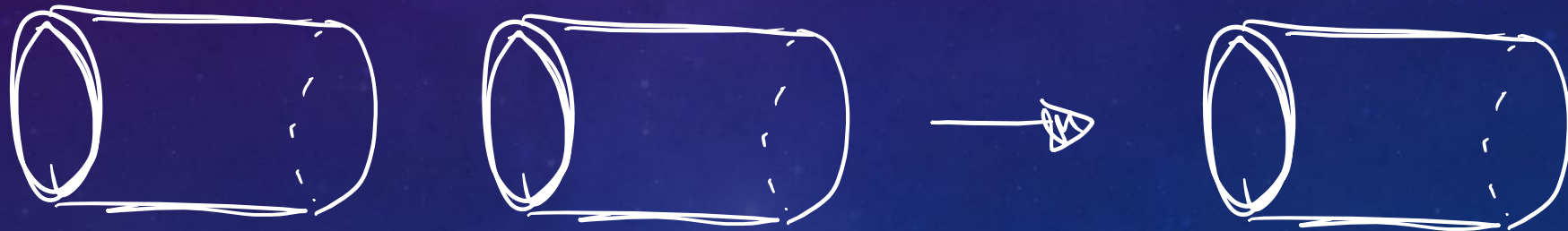
Folk lore: sTQFT in 1-1-correspondence w. fully extended TQFT

Assuming true  $\Rightarrow$

Question: What do our TLM / sTQFT assign to lower dimensional manifolds

◦ How can we compute properties of lattice model from this vantage point?

# TUBE ALGEBRAS



## Tube algebras:

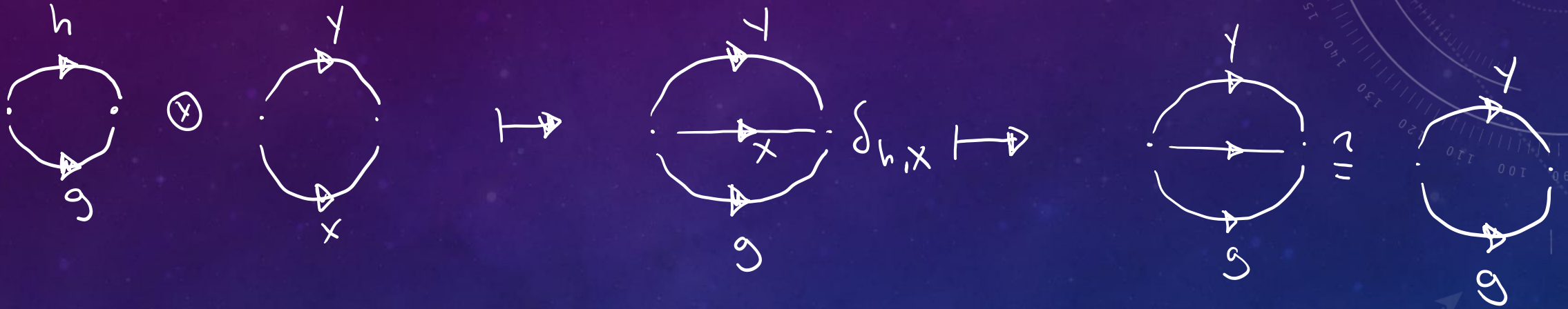
So far given a TLM we showed how to define a Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}[M_\Delta]$  to a triangulated  $n$ -manifold

- the idea of the tube algebra is to associate a "2-Hilbert space" to a triangulated  $(n-1)$ -manifold.

\* in the following a (finite dim) 2-Hilbert space := semisimple  $\mathbb{C}$ -linear Abelian category.  
(I won't discuss categorified inner product structure but can be added!)

# Tube algebra

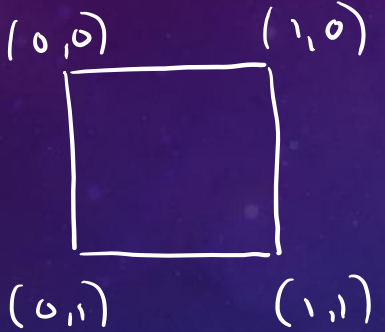

$$H[\bigcirc] \otimes H[\bigcirc] \rightarrow V[\bigcirc] \hookrightarrow H[\bigcirc] \xrightarrow{111} H[\bigcirc]$$




# Tube algebras

let  $N_\Delta$  be a triangulated  $(n-1)$ -manifold and  $\Delta N_\Delta$  a triangulation of

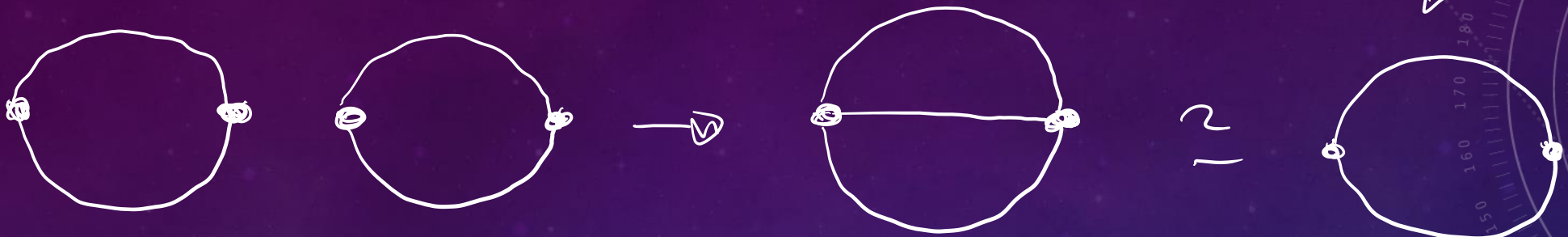
$$N \times_p I = \underbrace{N \times I}_{\sim} \quad (n, i) \sim (n, j) \quad \forall (n, i), (n, j) \in \partial N \times I$$

eg:  $I \times_p I =$    $=$  

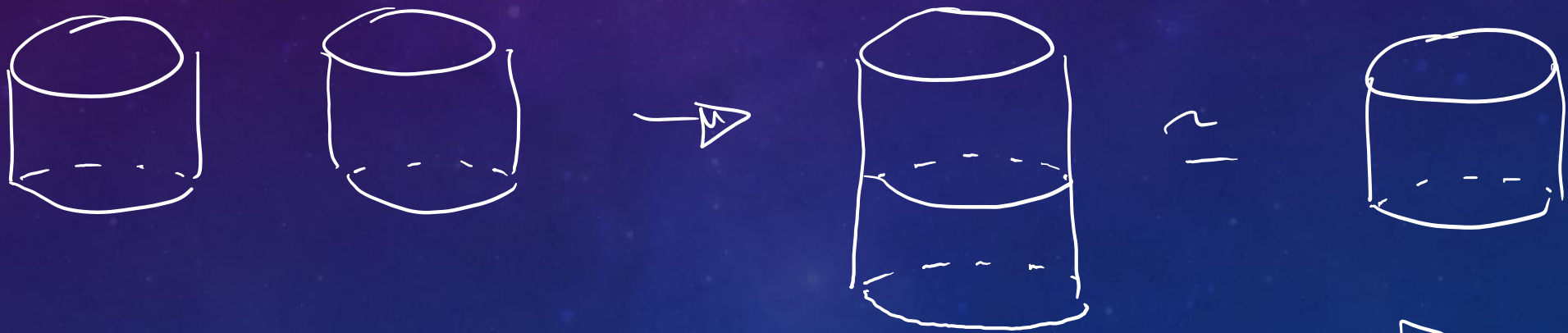
$(0, i) \sim (0, i')$   
 $(1, j) \sim (1, j')$

eg:  $S^1 \times_p I = S^1 \times I =$  

# Tube algebras



$$N_{\Delta} = I$$



$$\Delta N_{\Delta} \sqcup \Delta N_{\Delta} \rightarrow \Delta N_{\Delta} \cup_{N_{\Delta} \sqcup N_{\Delta}} N_{\Delta} \cong \Delta N_{\Delta}$$

$$N_{\Delta} = S'$$



## Tube algebra

Given the tube algebra on  $\mathcal{H}[\Delta N_\Delta]^*$  we define semisimple Abelian category  $\text{Mod}(N_\Delta)$  as category of  $\mathcal{H}[\Delta N_\Delta]^*$  modules.

$\text{Mod}(N_\Delta) \equiv \mathbb{Z}$ -Hilbert space we associate to triangulated  $(n-1)$ -manifold  $N_\Delta$ !

## Tube algebra

Given the tube algebra on  $\mathcal{H}^*[\Delta N_\Delta]$  we define semisimple Abelian category  $\text{Mod}(N_\Delta)$  as category of  $\mathcal{H}^*[\Delta N_\Delta]$  modules.

$\text{Mod}(N_\Delta) \equiv$  2-Hilbert space we associate to triangulated  $(n-1)$ -manifold  $N_\Delta$ !

\* Importantly  $\text{Mod}(N_\Delta) \cong \text{Mod}(N_{\Delta'})$  (equivalence of ss. Abelian categories)  
for all  $N_\Delta, N_{\Delta'}$  s.t.  $\partial N_\Delta = \partial N_{\Delta'}$

- this follows from Morita equivalence of  $\mathcal{H}^*[\Delta N_\Delta]$  and  $\mathcal{H}^*[\Delta' N_{\Delta'}]$

Morita equivalence :

two equivalent definitions : two algebras  $A, B$  are Morita equivalent iff

1) there exists an  $A$ - $B$ -bimodule  $AQ_B$  and a  $B$ - $A$ -bimodule  $BP_A$

$$\text{s.t. } AQ_B \otimes_B BP_A \cong A$$

$$BP_A \otimes_A AQ_B \cong B$$

← isomorphic as  $A$ - $A$ -bimodules  
 $B$ - $B$ -bimodules

2)  $\text{Mod}(A)$  is equivalent to  $\text{Mod}(B)$

Morita equivalence:

two equivalent definitions: two algebras  $A, B$  are Morita equivalent iff

1) there exists an  $A$ - $B$ -bimodule  $AQ_B$  and a  $B$ - $A$ -bimodule  $BP_A$

$$\text{s.t. } A Q_B \otimes_B B P_A \cong A$$

$$B P_A \otimes_A A Q_B \cong B$$

← isomorphic as  $A$ - $A$ -bimodules  
 $B$ - $B$ -bimodules

2)  $\text{Mod}(A)$  is equivalent to  $\text{Mod}(B)$

To see  $\mathcal{H}^*[\triangleleft N \triangleleft]$  is Morita to  $\mathcal{H}^*[\triangleleft N \triangleleft]$  we make following observations:

\*  $\mathcal{H}[\cdot \curvearrowright]$  defines a right  $\mathcal{H}[\cdot \curvearrowright]$  and left  $\mathcal{H}^*[\cdot \circlearrowleft]$  module!

\*  $\mathcal{H}[\cdot \curvearrowright]$

$$\otimes_{\mathcal{H}^*[\cdot \curvearrowright]} \cong \mathcal{H}^*[\cdot \circlearrowleft]$$

as  $\mathcal{H}^*[\cdot \circlearrowleft]$  bimodules and similarly in other direction!

$\mathcal{H}[\cdot \circlearrowleft]$

Crossing with circle

defn: the dimension of a category  $\equiv \text{Nat}(\text{id}, \text{id})$

facts: \* for an algebra  $A$   $\dim[\text{Mod}(A)] \cong Z(A)$  as commutative algebras

\* if  $A$  is Morita  $B$   $Z(A) \cong Z(B)$

$$\dim \text{Mod}(N_\Delta) \cong \dim \text{Mod}(N_{\Delta'}) \cong \mathcal{H}[N_\Delta \times S^1]$$

$\cong$  isomorphism of Hilbert spaces

for all closed  $(n-1)$ -manifolds  $N$

$$\mathcal{H}[\text{circle with seam}] \subseteq \mathcal{H}[\text{cylinder}]$$

$\nearrow$  identify boundary +  $\mathcal{H}$  operators  
on "gluing seam".

# CATEGORIFIED TUBE ALGEBRAS

(and some physics...)

# Algebra

Given a monoidal category  $\mathcal{C}$  an algebra  $(A, \rho)$  is an object  $A \in \mathcal{C}^0$  and morphism  $\rho: A \otimes A \rightarrow A$  s.t. following commutes

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (A \otimes A) \otimes A & \xrightarrow{\rho \otimes A} & A \otimes A \\ \downarrow \alpha_{A,A,A} & & \searrow \rho \\ A \otimes (A \otimes A) & \xrightarrow{A \otimes \rho} & A \otimes A \\ & & \nearrow \rho \\ & & A \end{array}$$

## 2-Algebra

Given a monoidal bicategory  $\mathcal{B}$  a 2-algebra  $(A, \rho, \bar{Q})$  is an object  $A \in \mathcal{B}^0$   
a morphism  $\rho: A \otimes A \rightarrow A$  and 2-morphism

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (A \otimes A) \otimes A & \xrightarrow{\rho \otimes A} & A \otimes A \\ \downarrow \alpha_{A,A,A} & \swarrow \bar{Q} & \searrow \rho \\ A \otimes (A \otimes A) & \xrightarrow{A \otimes \rho} & A \otimes A \end{array}$$

satisfying some coherence data...



## 2-Algebra

Given a monoidal bicategory  $\mathcal{B}$  a 2-algebra  $(A, \rho, \mathcal{Q})$  is an object  $A \in \mathcal{B}^0$   
a morphism  $\rho: A \boxtimes A \rightarrow A$  and 2-morphism

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} (A \boxtimes A) & A & \xrightarrow{\rho \boxtimes A} & A \boxtimes A & \xrightarrow{\rho} & A \\ \downarrow \alpha_{A,A,A} & & & \swarrow \mathcal{Q} & & \\ A \boxtimes (A \boxtimes A) & \xrightarrow{A \boxtimes \rho} & A \boxtimes A & \xrightarrow{\rho} & A & \end{array}$$

satisfying some coherence data...

\* example in  $2\text{Vect}$  (Bicategory of Vect-module categories)  
are tensor categories

\* semisimple 2-algebras in  $2\text{Vect}$  are multifusion categories

see eg. EGNO, Douglas+Reutter 1812.11933

## Categorified tube algebras

\* semisimple 2-algebra in  $2\text{Vect}$ , multifusion categories.

\* let  $O_\Delta$  be a closed triangulated  $(n-2)$ -manifold eg \*  $n=2$

\* can define  $\text{Mod}(O_\Delta \times I)$  eg  $\text{Mod}(\text{---})$   $n=2$

\* want to define linear monoidal structure

$$\otimes : \text{Mod}(O_\Delta \times I) \boxtimes \text{Mod}(O_\Delta \times I) \longrightarrow \text{Mod}(O_\Delta \times I)$$

$\Rightarrow$  Categorified tube algebra for  $O_\Delta$  !

# Categorified tube algebra for $*$ in 2+1D

$$\text{Mod}(\bullet \rightarrow \bullet) \boxtimes \text{Mod}(\bullet \rightarrow \bullet) \rightarrow \text{Mod}(\bullet \rightarrow \bullet \rightarrow \bullet)$$

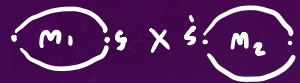


induced from Morita equiv.  
 $\cong \text{Mod}(\bullet \rightarrow \bullet)$

\* action on morphisms similarly defined

# Categorified tube algebra for $*$ in 2+1D

$$\text{Mod}(\bullet \rightarrow \bullet) \boxtimes \text{Mod}(\bullet \rightarrow \bullet) \rightarrow \text{Mod}(\bullet \rightarrow \bullet \rightarrow \bullet)$$



$$\cong \text{Mod}(\bullet \rightarrow \bullet)$$

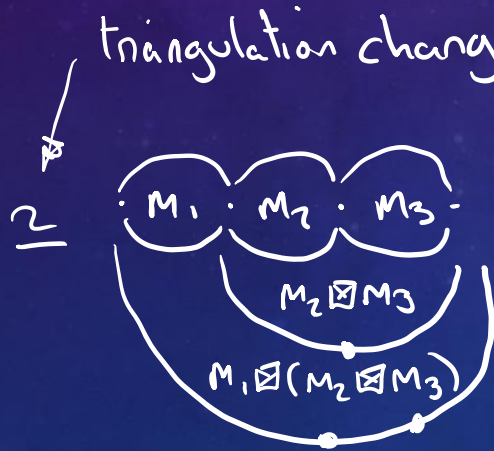
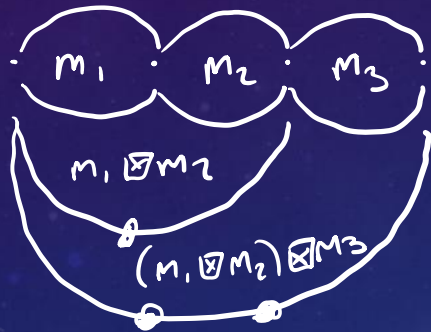


induced from Morita equiv.

$$\xrightarrow{\overline{S}_{S,S'}} \mathcal{H}^*[\langle \cdot \rangle]$$

\* action on morphisms similarly defined

- Now we have a natural choice for associator



$\cong$

triangulation change defines module intertwiner. Triangulation of partition function guarantees solution to pentagon equation.

\* unit + dualisability are consequences of existence of 2-inner product

## Examples

$O_\Delta = *$  in 2+1D THGT with  $\mathcal{G} = (\partial: E \rightarrow G, \triangleright)$   
let  $\bar{\mathcal{G}}$  denote corresponding monoidal groupoid

$[\bar{\mathcal{G}}, \text{Vect}]^\otimes =$  multifusion cat of monoidal functors + monoidal nat trans

$O_\Delta = *$  in 2+1D TGT theory  $\cong \text{Vect}_G^\otimes$ , multifusion cat of  $G$ -graded vector spaces

Now we define

$\text{MOD}(O_\Delta) =$  bicategory of  $\text{Mod}^\otimes(\Delta O_\Delta)$ -module categories, nat-trans, modifications  
 $\equiv$  3-Hilbert space assigned to  $N_\Delta$

$\Rightarrow \text{MOD}(*)$  in 2+1D THGT  $\cong 2\text{Rep}(G)$

and some physics....

- How can we interpret  $\text{MOD}(\ast)$  ?



Z-morphisms  
define fusion

Defn: Dimension of bicategory  $\equiv$  braided monoidal category  
of pseudo-natural transformations of identity bifunctor

$$\dim \text{MOD}(O_\Delta) \cong \text{Mod}^{\mathbb{R}, \otimes}(O_\Delta \times S^1) \cong \mathbb{Z}[\text{Mod}^{\otimes}(O_\Delta \times I)]$$

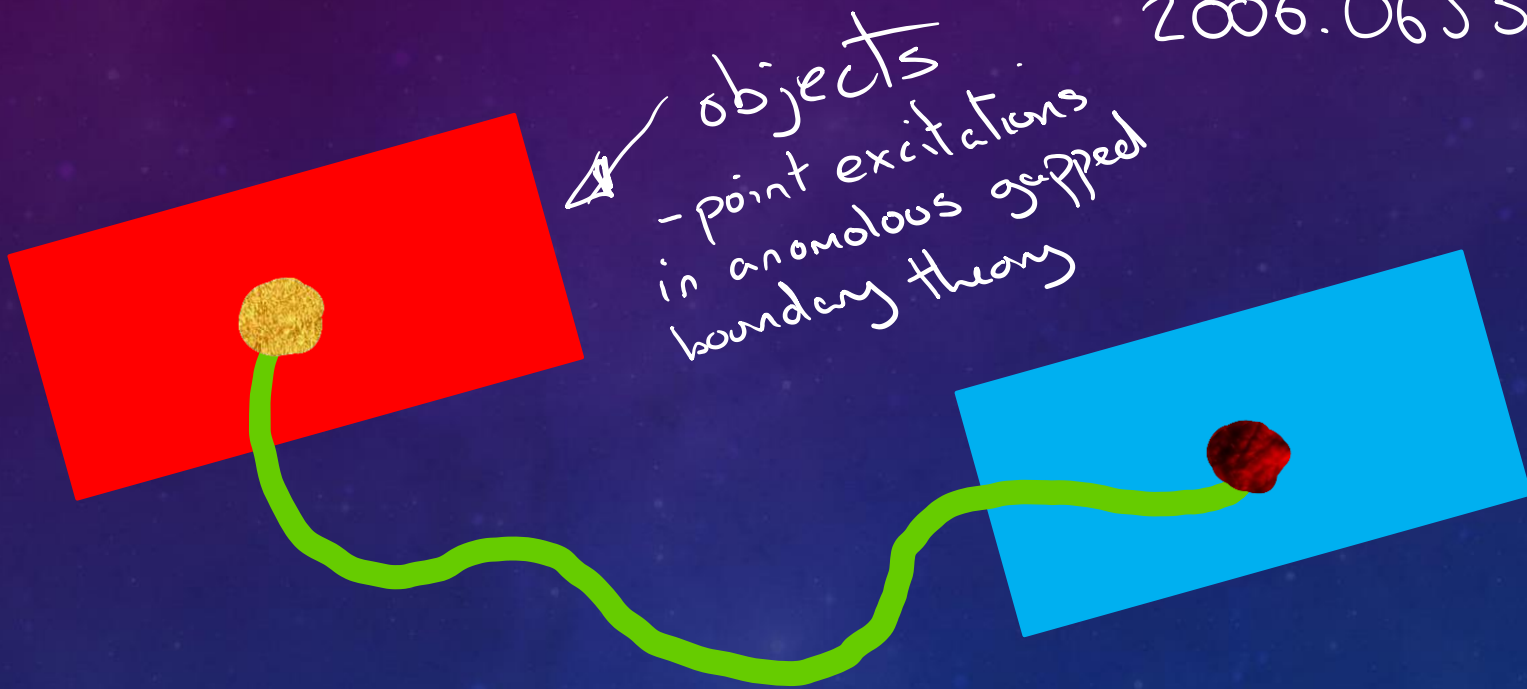
$$\dim \text{MOD}(\ast) \cong \mathbb{Z}[\text{Mod}^{\otimes}(\ast)] \leftarrow \text{Dingeld center}$$

$\Rightarrow$  algebraic data of anyons w. fusion + braiding

and some more physics ----

In 3+1D  $\text{MOD}(S')$

[for DW theory see  
2006.06536 w. Delcamp]



objects  
- point excitations  
in anomalous gapped  
boundary theory

morphisms  
- open string excitations

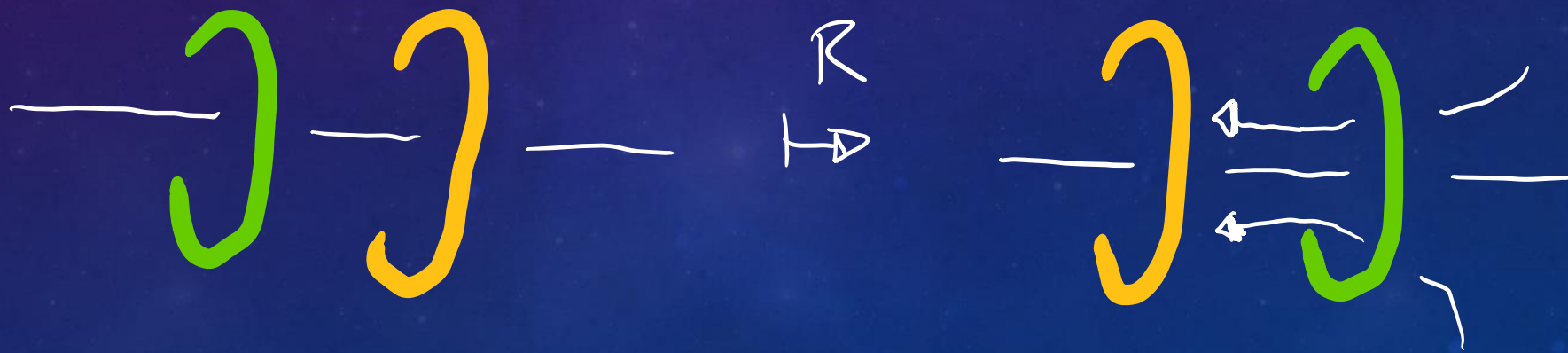


and some more physics ----

In 3+1D  $\text{MOD}(S')$

(coming soon w. Delcamp)

$\dim[\text{MOD}(S')] \cong \text{Mod}(S' \times S')^{\mathbb{R}, \otimes}$  - describes closed loop excitations w. braiding and fusion!



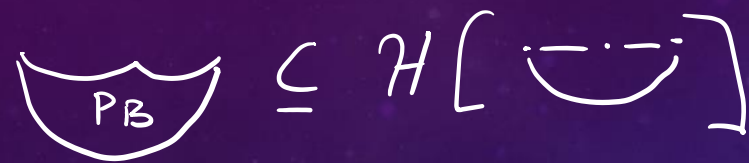
Thanks



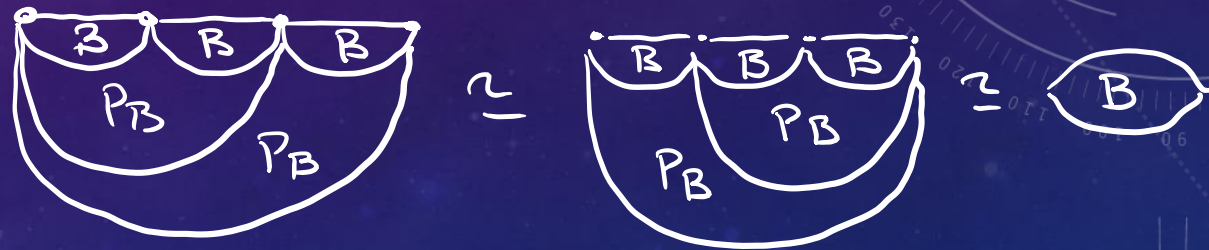
For

Listening!

# Algebras and chunks of space



$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 (B \otimes B) \otimes B & \xrightarrow{P_{B \otimes B}} & B \otimes B & \xrightarrow{P_B} & B \\
 \downarrow \alpha & & & & \uparrow P_B \\
 B \otimes (B \otimes B) & \xrightarrow{B \otimes P_B} & B \otimes B & & 
 \end{array}$$



# modules and chunks of space



$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 (M \otimes B) \otimes B & \xrightarrow{m_B} & M \otimes B \\
 \downarrow \alpha_{M, B, B} & & \searrow^{B_B} \\
 M \otimes (B \otimes B) & \xrightarrow{m_B} & M \otimes B \\
 & & \nearrow_{M_B}
 \end{array}$$

Diagram illustrating the associativity of the tensor product. The top row shows  $(M \otimes B) \otimes B$  mapping to  $M \otimes B$  via  $m_B$ . The bottom row shows  $M \otimes (B \otimes B)$  mapping to  $M \otimes B$  via  $m_B$ . A vertical arrow labeled  $\alpha_{M, B, B}$  points from the top row to the bottom row. A curved arrow labeled  $B_B$  points from the top-right  $M \otimes B$  to the bottom-right  $M \otimes B$ . A curved arrow labeled  $M_B$  points from the bottom-right  $M \otimes B$  to the top-right  $M \otimes B$ .

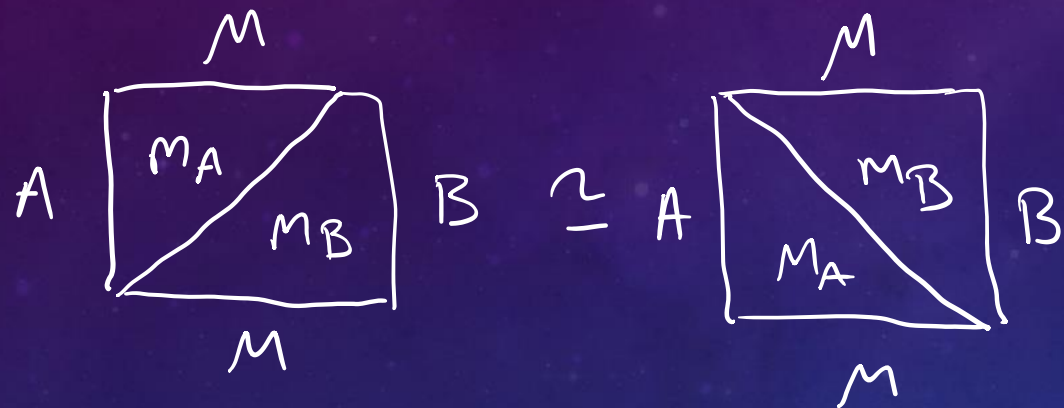


Bimodules and chunks of space

$$\begin{array}{c}
 A \otimes ([A \otimes (M \otimes B)] \otimes B) \xrightarrow{A \otimes (\phi_{A,B} \otimes B)} A \otimes (M \otimes B) \\
 \downarrow A \otimes \alpha_{A, M \otimes B, B} \\
 A \otimes (A \otimes [(M \otimes B) \otimes B]) \\
 \downarrow A \otimes (A \otimes \alpha_{M, B, B}) \\
 A \otimes (A \otimes [M \otimes (B \otimes B)]) \\
 \downarrow A \otimes (A \otimes (M \otimes B)) \\
 A \otimes (A \otimes (M \otimes B)) \xrightarrow{\alpha_{A, A, M \otimes B}^{-1}} (A \otimes A) \otimes (M \otimes B) \xrightarrow{m_{A \otimes (M \otimes B)}} A \otimes (M \otimes B)
 \end{array}$$

$\phi_{A,B}$   
 $M$   
 $\phi_{A,B}$

Bimodules and chunks of space

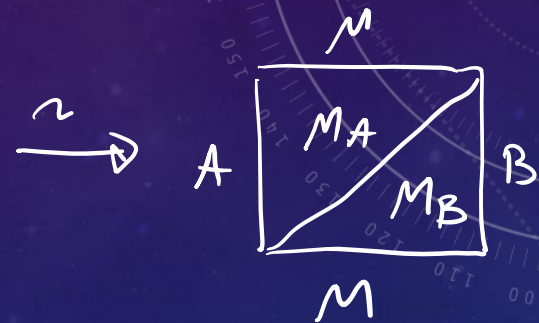
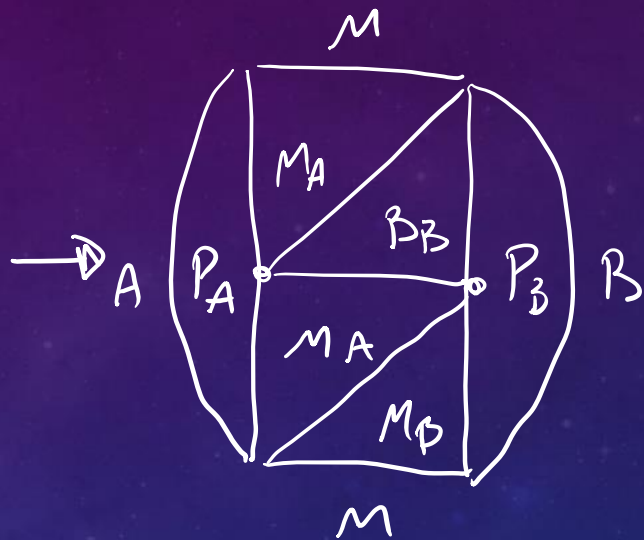
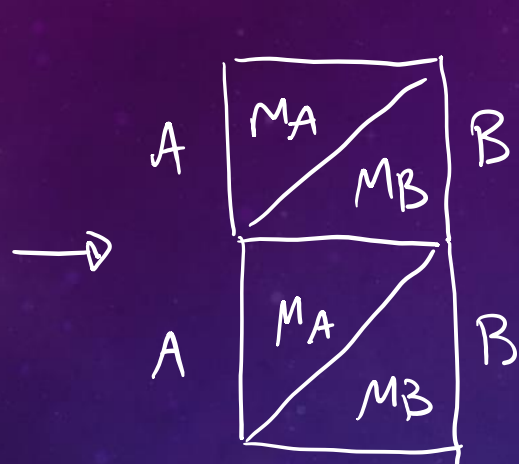
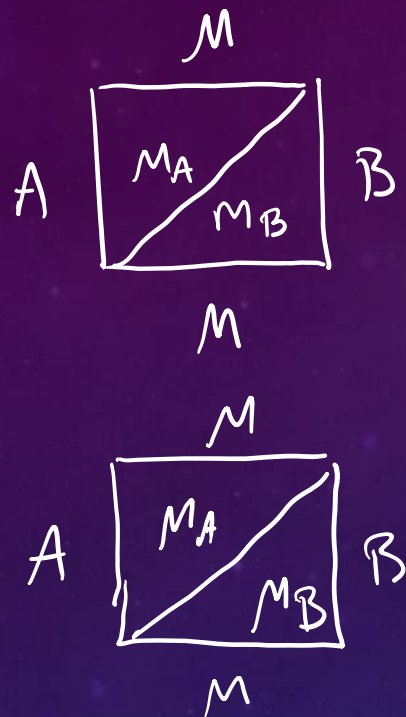


$$(A \otimes M) \otimes B \xrightarrow{M_A \otimes B} M \otimes B$$

$$\downarrow \alpha_{A, M, B}$$

$$A \otimes (M \otimes B) \xrightarrow{A \otimes M_B} A \otimes M$$





- boundary tube algebra



describes renormalisation properties for boundary excitations!

- Rep  $\Rightarrow$  excite