

# TOPOLOGICAL ORDERS FROM CENTERS IN $(3+1)D$

ALEX BULLIVANT  
MAYNOOTH



# Topological Phases of Matter

The background is a dark blue gradient with faint, stylized circular patterns and a scale on the right side. The scale is a semi-circular arc with markings from 0 to 210 in increments of 10. There are also several concentric circles and dashed lines with arrows, suggesting a scientific or mathematical theme.

# Topological Phases of Matter

- Quantum phases of matter

Quantum effects dominate physics not *thermal* as in classical case

- Gapped

Excited states have *finite energy gap* from G.S. in  $\infty$ -volume limit

- Local



# Topological Phases of Matter

Defn: Path connected component in space of gapped, local QFT's



continuous family of gapped QFT's  
given by varying parameters  
of model w/o



# Topological Phases of Matter

Defn: Path connected component in space of gapped, local QFT's

\* More generally can require further properties eg:  
symmetry and ask for continuous family preserving

- symmetry enriched top phase



continuous family of gapped QFT's  
given by varying parameters  
of model w/o

# Topological Phases of Matter

Defn: Path connected component in space of gapped, local QFT's

\* Universal properties (low energy limit)  
effective field theory  $\Rightarrow$

Topological Quantum Field Theory  
TQFT



taking renormalisation group  
flow to low energy limit  
TQFT is fixed point

# TQFT

Defn: QFT whose correlation functions independent of metric structure of space-time

- \* partition function on closed space-time = diffeomorphism invariant
- \* TQFT describing phase defines the Topological Order



# Algebraic Model of Topological Order

Conjecture (Kong + Wen 1405.5858)

$(n+1)$ D topological orders admit an algebraic description

Via non-degenerate braided fusion  $(n-1)$ -categories

# Algebraic Model of Topological Order

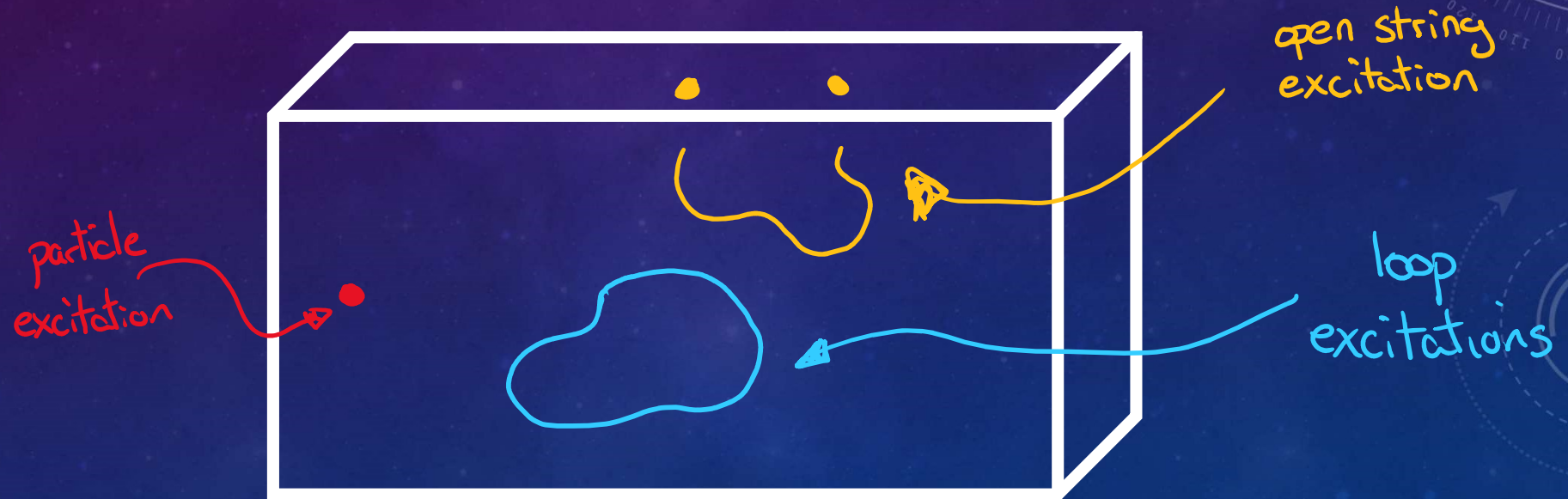
Conjecture (Kong + Wen 1405.5858)

$(3+1)$ D topological orders admit an algebraic description

Via non-degenerate braided fusion  $\mathcal{Z}$ -categories

\* In this talk we will consider  $n=3$  example!

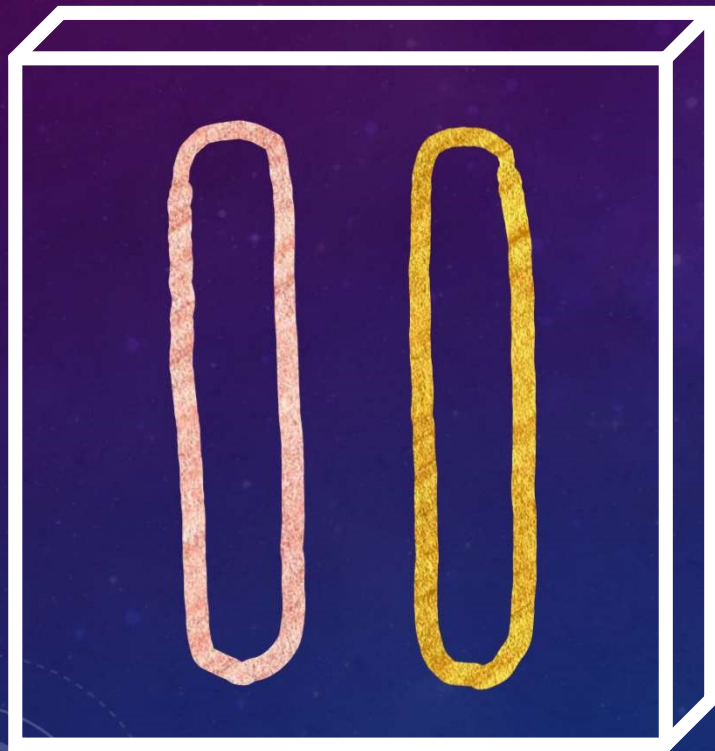
- Rules:
- \* Assign f.d. Hilbert space to 3-disk  $D^3$  w. massive topological excitations
    - Top excitations ~ measurable at all length scales + properties protected topologically/non-locally.
  - \* Linear map to diffeomorphism class of  $D^4$  space-time cobordism





## Fusion 2-Category Roughly

\* Book keeping device for physics of 3+1D topological order

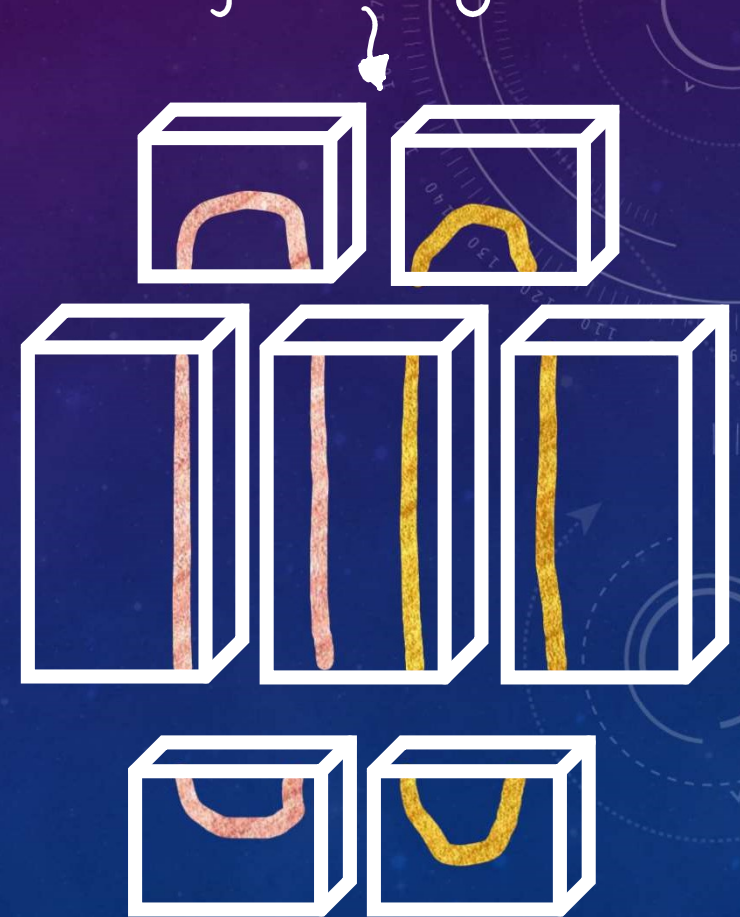


collection of rules  
to define Hilbert space

$\simeq$

for 3-Disk w. excit  
from "elementary"  
building blocks

"cut" Hilbert space into  
tensor factors using locality



# Motion Group Representations

\* TQFT  $\Rightarrow H|\Psi\rangle=0$  trivial time evolution on  $M^n \times I$

However Topologically non-trivial space-time leads to dynamics. (Topological Quantum Computing)



$\sim$

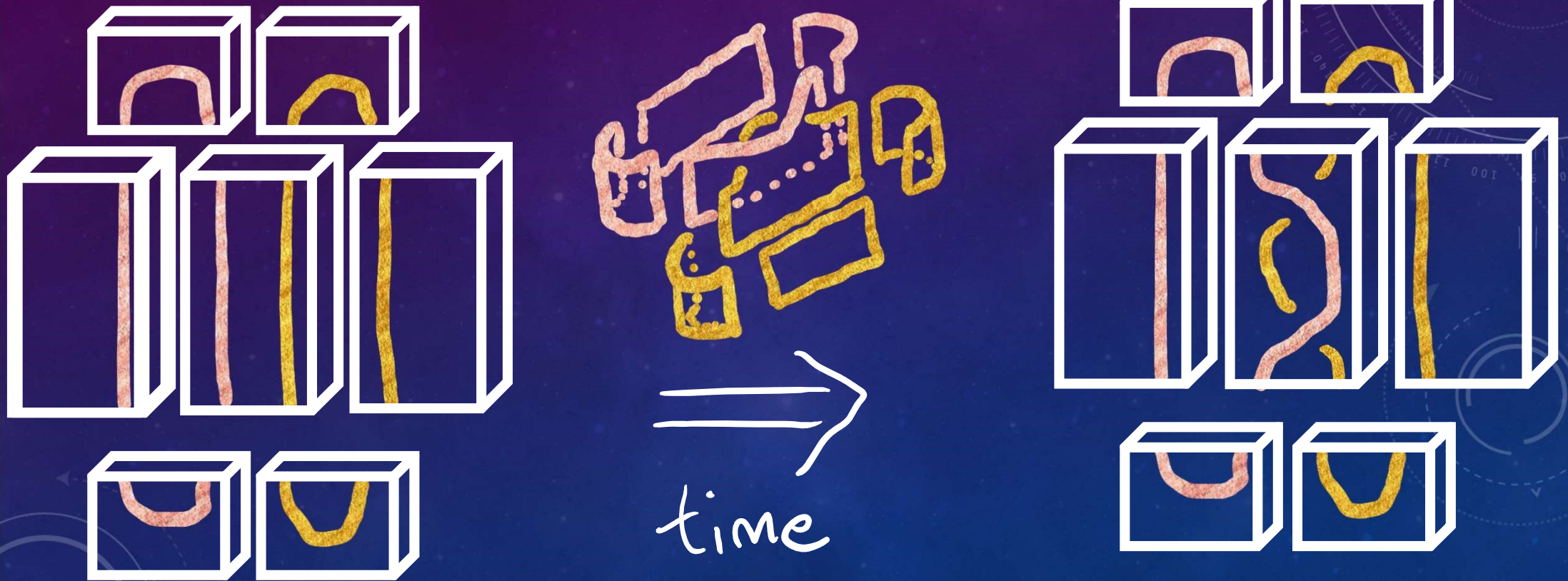


{ Amplitude depends  
on ISOTOPY class  
of loop world-sheet  
in  $D^4 = [0,1]^4$   
space-time }



## Braided Fusion 2-category Roughly

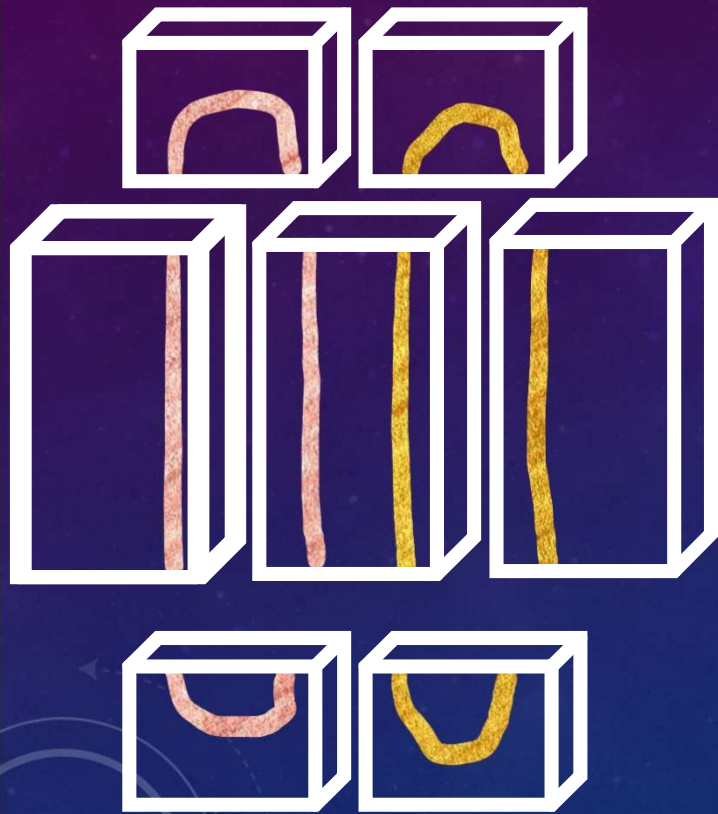
- \* Allows us to discuss "under and over crossing"  $\equiv$  braiding
- \* Non-degeneracy - braiding allows us to distinguish all excitations!



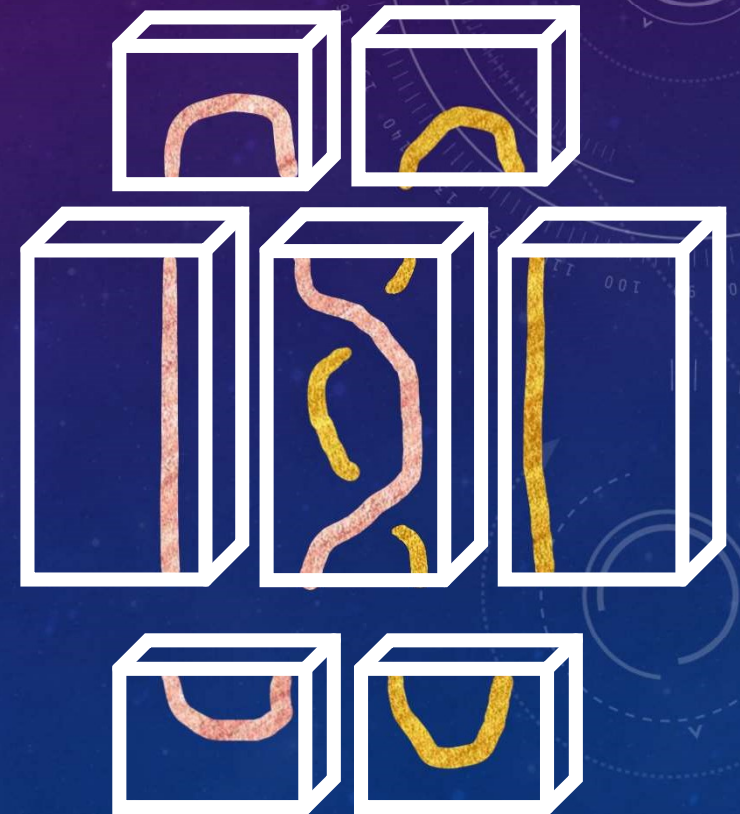


## Braided Fusion 2-category Roughly

- \* Allows us to discuss "under and over crossing"  $\equiv$  braiding
- \* Non-degeneracy - braiding allows us to distinguish all excitations!



$\Rightarrow$   
time

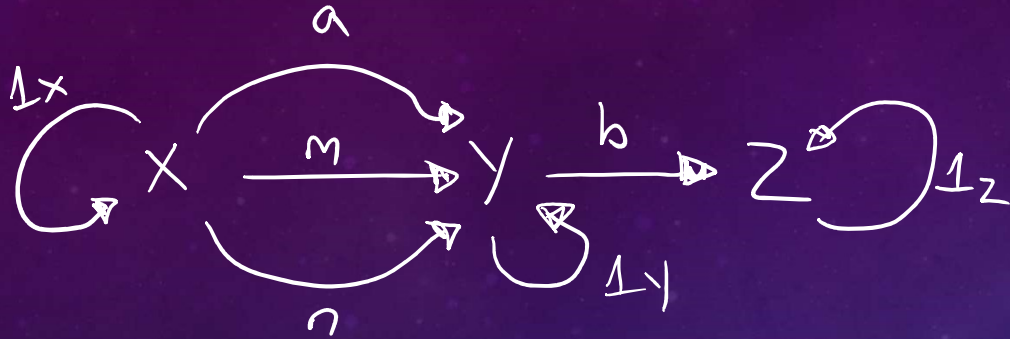


possible tensions:  
data in finite region  $D^3$   
but gapped degn requires  $\infty$ -volume?

# categorification

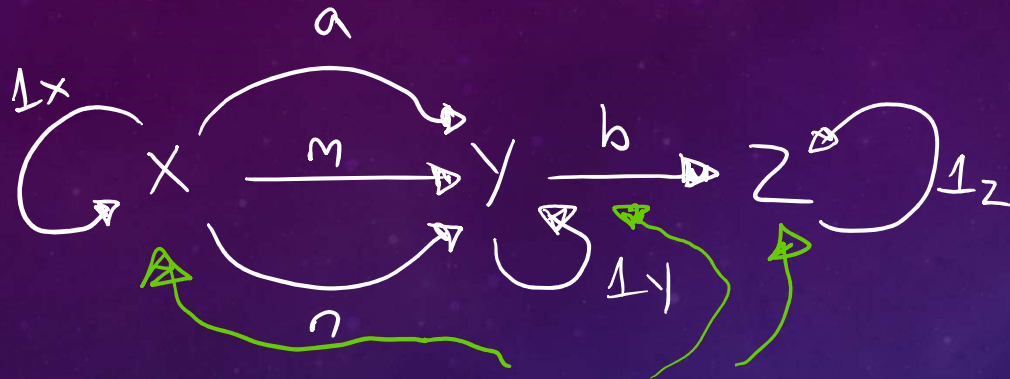
"the process of replacing sets with categories"

# Categories



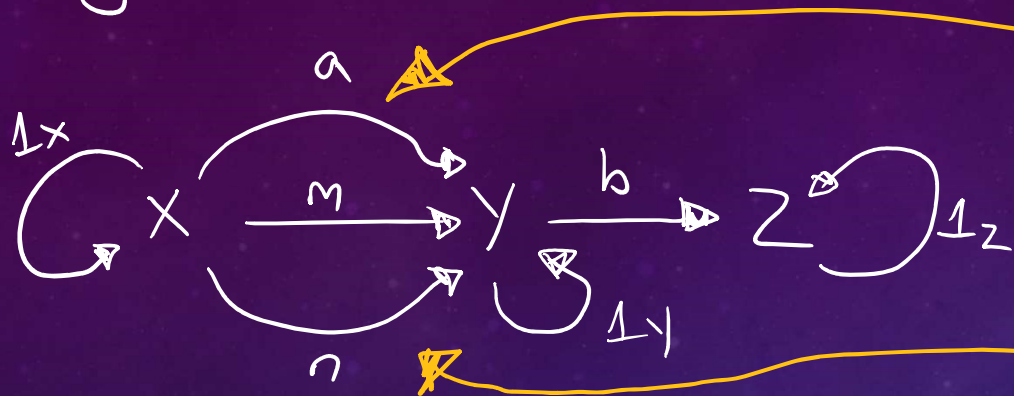


# Categories



Set of OBJECTS  $\{X, Y, Z, \dots\}$

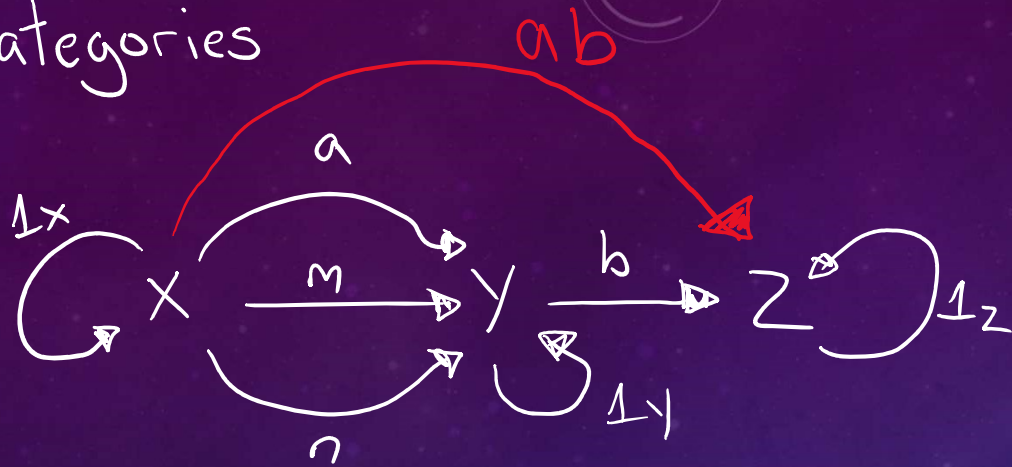
# Categories



Set of OBJECTS  $\{X, Y, Z, \dots\}$

For each pair of objects, a set  $\text{hom}(X, Y) = \{X \xrightarrow{a} Y, X \xrightarrow{c} Y, \dots\}$   
of MORPHISMS

# Categories



Set of OBJECTS  $\{X, Y, Z, \dots\}$

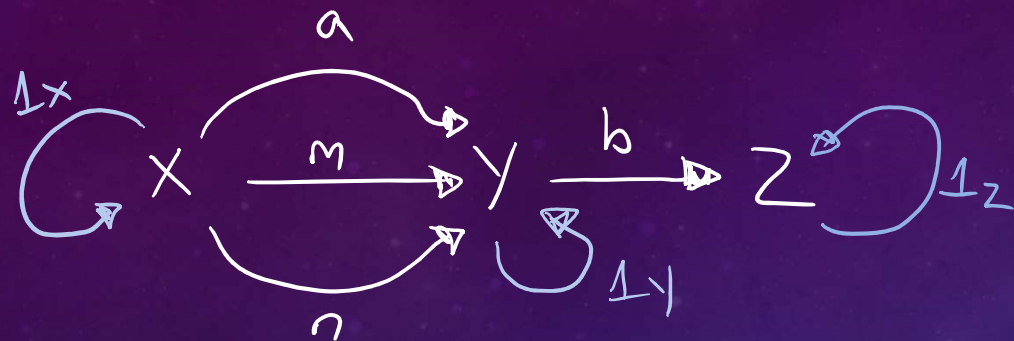
For each pair of objects, a set  $\text{hom}(X, Y) = \{X \xrightarrow{a} Y, X \xrightarrow{c} Y, \dots\}$   
of MORPHISMS

For each triple of objects, a COMPOSITION function

$$\circ : \text{hom}(X, Y) \times \text{hom}(Y, Z) \longrightarrow \text{hom}(X, Z)$$



# Categories



Such that  
1) + 2)  
are satisfied

1) Composition is ASSOCIATIVE

$$X \xrightarrow{a} Y \xrightarrow{b} Z \xrightarrow{c} W = X \xrightarrow{a(bc)} W = X \xrightarrow{(ab)c} W$$

2)  $\forall X \in \text{objects}, \exists X \xrightarrow{1_X} X \in \text{hom}(X, X)$  called UNIT

$$X \xrightarrow{1_X} X \xrightarrow{a} Y = X \xrightarrow{a} Y = X \xrightarrow{a} Y \xrightarrow{1_Y} Y$$

Examples:

1) Given a set  $S = \{x, y, z, \dots\} \Rightarrow$  "discrete category"



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Examples:

1) Given a set  $S = \{x, y, z, \dots\} \Rightarrow$  "discrete category"  
- a category is a set with "relations" between elements



2) Given a finite dim  $k$ -alg  $A \Rightarrow \text{"Mod}(A)"$ , objects  $\equiv$  (right)  $A$ -modules, morphisms  $\equiv$  intertwiners

\* here  $\text{hom}_{\text{Mod}(A)}(p, \sigma)$  is not just a set but  $k$ -vector space

$$\forall p \xrightarrow{f} \sigma \text{ \& \> } p \xrightarrow{g} \sigma, \quad p \xrightarrow{a \cdot f + b \cdot g} \sigma$$

\* We say  $\text{Mod}(A)$  is  $k$ -linear

# Categorification

Defn: The process of generating new mathematical structures  
by replacing sets  $\mapsto$  categories  
functions  $\mapsto$  functors

## Functors

Given a pair of categories  $\mathcal{C}$  and  $\mathcal{D}$  a functor  $F : \mathcal{C} \longrightarrow \mathcal{D}$

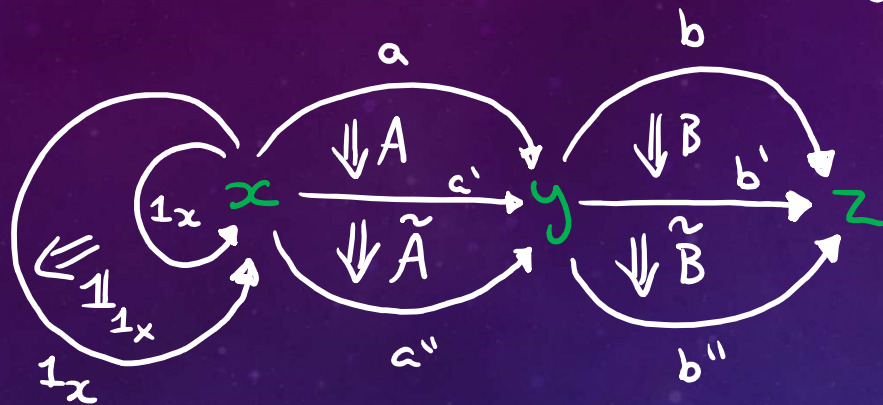
consists of : a function  $F^0 : \text{ob}(\mathcal{C}) \longrightarrow \text{ob}(\mathcal{D})$

a function  $F^1 : \text{hom}(\mathcal{C}) \longrightarrow \text{hom}(\mathcal{D})$

$$\text{s.t. } F(x \xrightarrow{f} y \xrightarrow{g} z) = F(x \xrightarrow{f} y) \circ_{\mathcal{D}} F(y \xrightarrow{g} z)$$

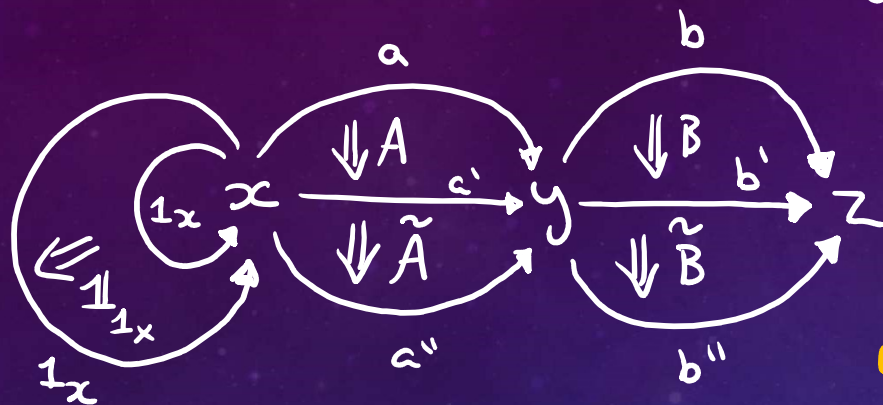


# $2$ -Categories (categorified categories)



Set of OBJECTS  $\{x, y, z, \dots\}$

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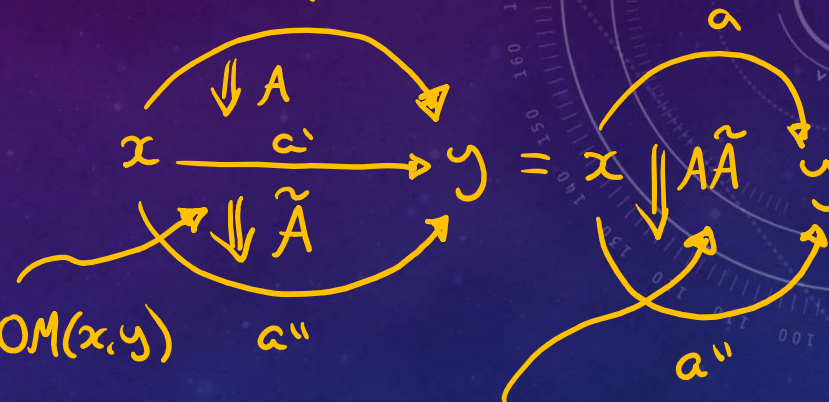


morphism of  $\text{HOM}(x, y)$   
 $\equiv$  2-morphism

Set of OBJECTS  $\{x, y, z, \dots\}$

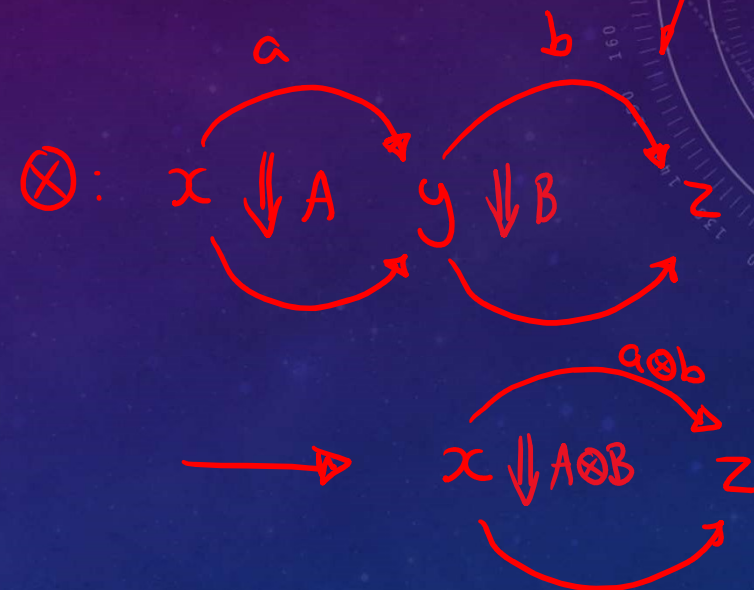
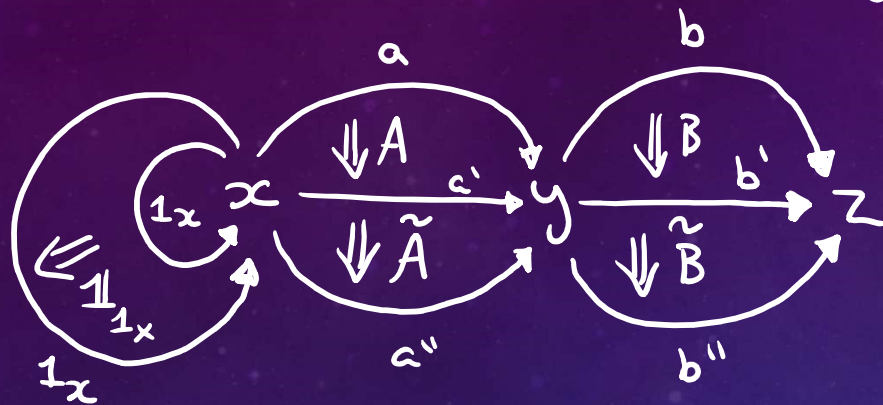
For each pair of objects, a category  $\text{HOM}(x, y)$

object of  $\text{HOM}(x, y)$   
 $\equiv$  1-morphism



composition in  $\text{HOM}(x, y)$   
 $\equiv$  vertical composition

# $2$ -Categories (categorified categories)



Set of OBJECTS  $\{x, y, z, \dots\}$

For each pair of objects, a category  $\text{HOM}(x, y)$

For each triple of objects, a functor  $\otimes: \text{HOM}(x, y) \times \text{HOM}(y, z) \longrightarrow \text{HOM}(x, z)$



More generally : Such a categorification can be iterated  
to form  $n$ -categories which have an  $n$ -dim'l  
like structure

(sets can be thought of as 0-categories)

Algebra  $A(\text{unital})$

f.d. Vector space  $V$

Composition linear map

$$\circ: V \otimes V \rightarrow V$$

Module  $\triangleright: M \otimes V \rightarrow V$

Modules of  $A$  form a  
category

1- Algebra  $A$

f.d. Vector space  $V$

Composition linear map

$$\circ: V \otimes V \rightarrow V$$

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Modules of  $A$  form a category

2- Algebra  $\underline{A}$

f.d. 2-Vector space

$$\underline{V} = \text{Mod}(A)$$

for separable 1-alg

Composition linear functor

$$\otimes: \underline{V} \boxtimes \underline{V} \rightarrow \underline{V}$$

(monoidal structure)

Module category

$$\odot: \underline{M} \boxtimes \underline{V} \rightarrow \underline{V}$$

Module cats of  $\underline{A}$

form a 2-cat  $2\text{Mod}(\underline{A})$

separable if  $A$ -bimodule intertwiners

$$A \xrightarrow{\Delta} A \otimes A \xrightarrow{\circ} A = A \xrightarrow{\text{id}} A$$



1- Algebra  $A$

f.d. Vector space  $V$

Composition linear map

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Modules of  $A$  form a category

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Module category

$$\odot: \underline{M} \boxtimes \underline{V} \longrightarrow \underline{V}$$

Module cats of  $\underline{A}$   
form a 2-cat  $2\text{Mod}(\underline{A})$

3- Algebra  $\underline{\underline{A}}$

f.d. 3-Vector space

$$\underline{\underline{V}} \equiv 2\text{Mod}(\underline{A})$$

for separable 2-alg

Composition linear 2-functor

$$\boxtimes: \underline{\underline{V}} \boxtimes \underline{\underline{V}} \longrightarrow \underline{\underline{V}}$$

(2-monoidal structure)

Module 2-category

$$\diamond: \underline{\underline{M}} \boxtimes \underline{\underline{V}} \longrightarrow \underline{\underline{V}}$$

Module 2-cats of  $\underline{\underline{A}}$  form  
a 3-cat  $3\text{Mod}(\underline{\underline{A}})$

Defn: A multijusion  $n$ -category is an  $(n+1)$ -algebra which is fully dualisable

For a detailed account see:

Gaiotto + Johnson-Freyd 1905.09566

Kong + Zheng 2011.02859

Defn: A multifusion  $n$ -category is an  $(n+1)$ -algebra which is fully dualisable

Corollary: Multifusion  $n$ -categories are semisimple

$\hat{=}$  all modules are equivalent to direct sum of simple modules (no non-zero proper submodules)

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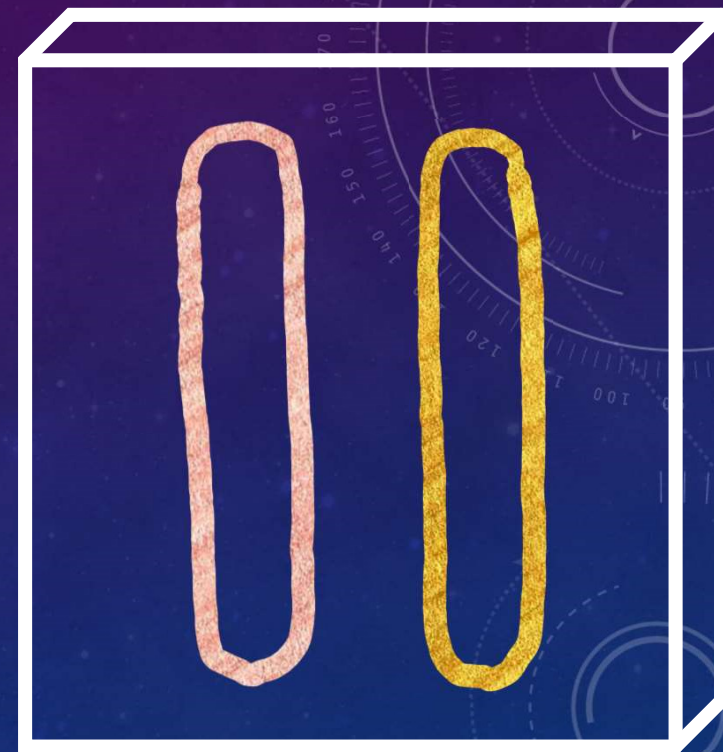
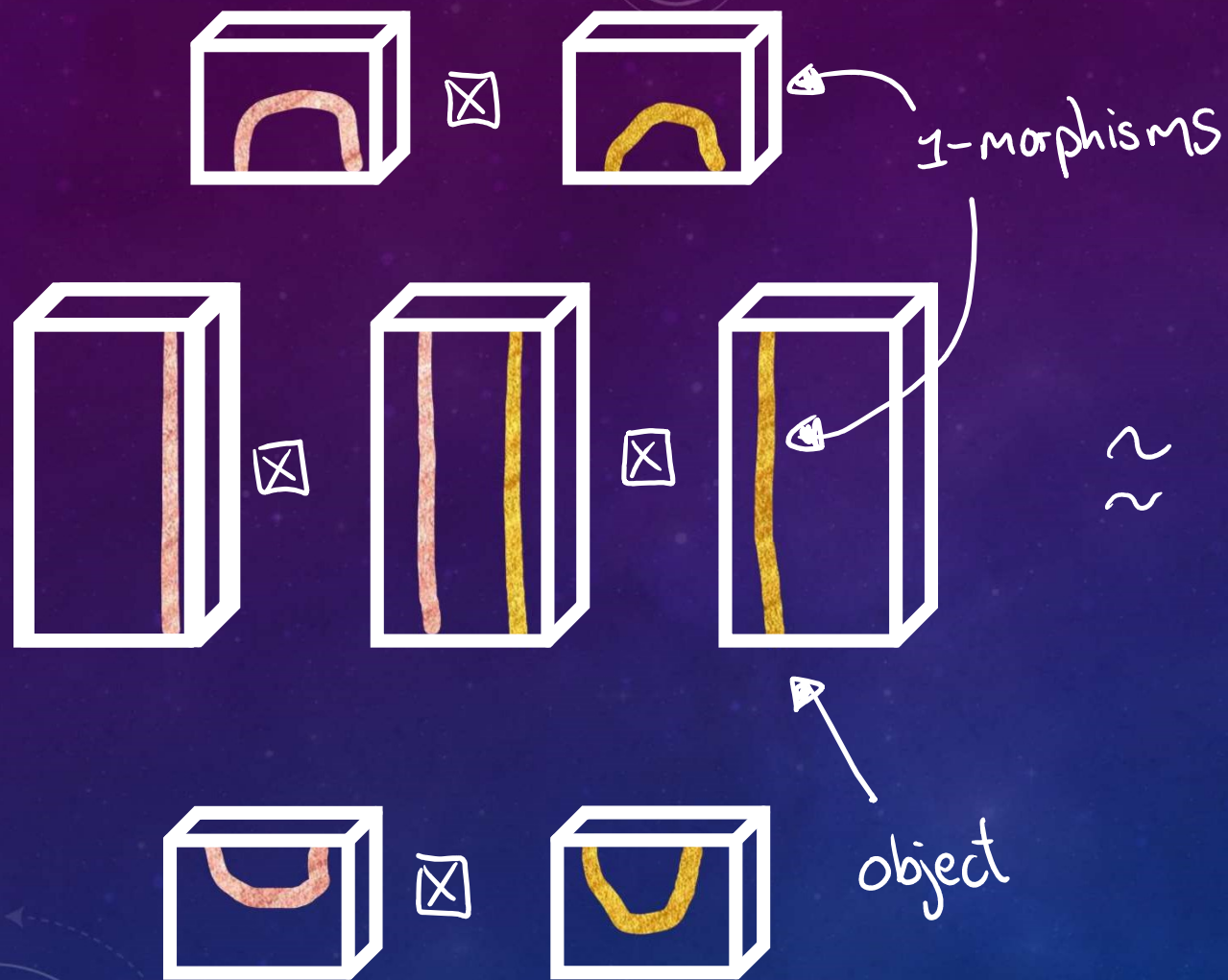
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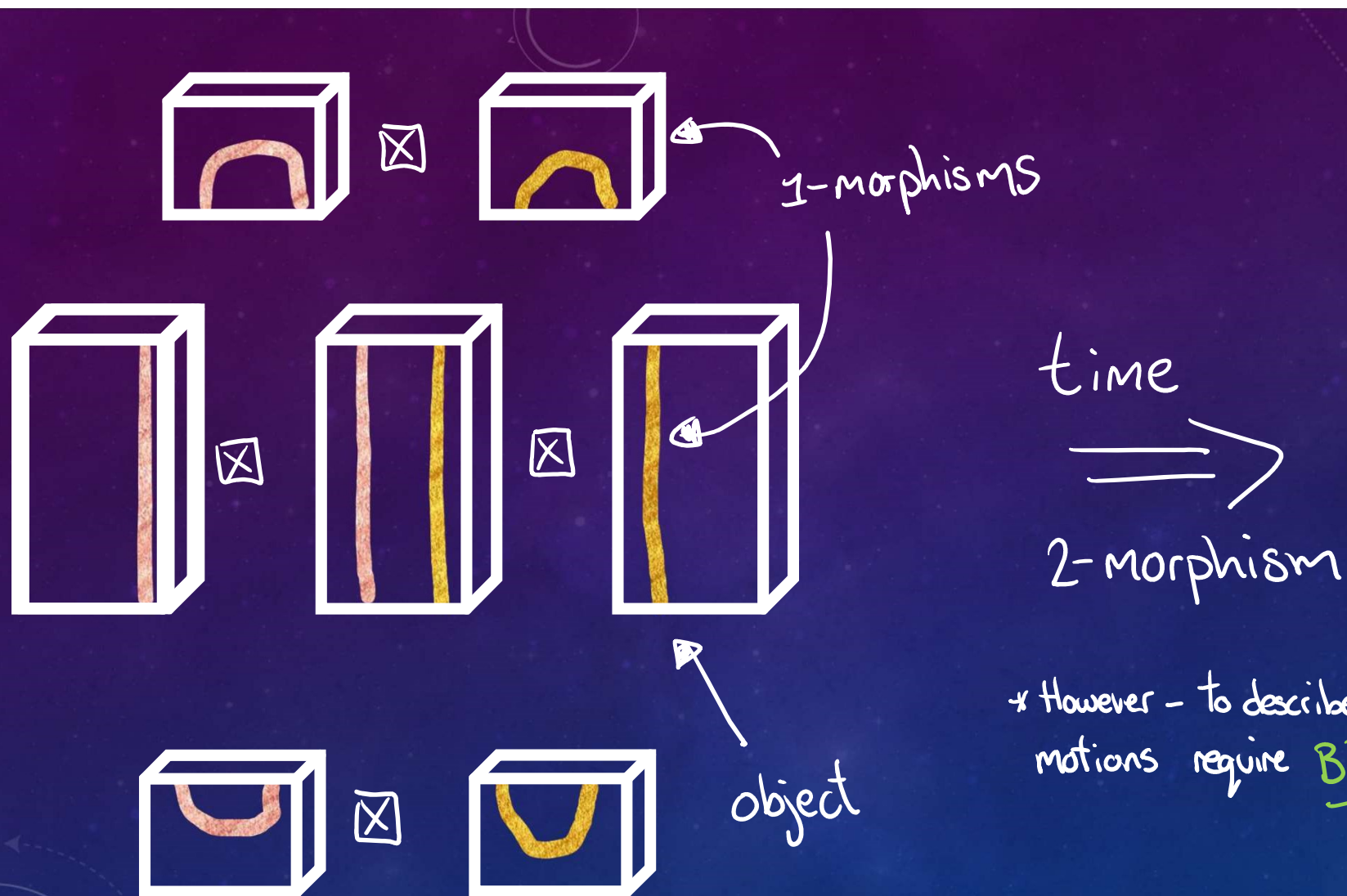
Defn: Multifusion  $n$ -category is fusion if unit object is simple

For a detailed account see:

Gaiotto + Johnson-Freyd 1905.09566

Kong + Zheng 2011.02859





\* However - to describe top non-trivial motions require BRAIDING





CENTERS

## Center of an Algebra

Recall: Given an algebra  $A$ , its centre  $Z(A) \subseteq A$  the subalgebra consisting of  $\{z \in A \mid a \circ z = z \circ a \ \forall a \in A\}$

## Center of a 3-Algebra

\* 3-Algebra consists of: 3-vector space  $\underline{A}$  (2-cat)  
product  $\boxtimes : \underline{A} \diamond \underline{A} \rightarrow \underline{A}$  (2-monoidal structure)

\* Center  $\mathbb{Z}(\underline{A})$  is the commutative sub 3-algebra (braided monoidal 2-category)

\* center  $\mathbb{Z}(C)$  for fusion 2-category  $C \Rightarrow$  non-degenerate, braided fusion 2-category

$\cong$  3+1D Top order  
K-W

- center defined generally for monoidal 2-categories

See: Baez + Neuchl  $q$ -alg/9511013

Crans Adv. Math 136 (1998), 183-223

Kong + Tian + Zhou 1905.04644



Objects in  $\underline{Z}(\underline{A})$

$Z \in \text{ob}(\underline{A})$  is in  $\underline{Z}(\underline{A})$  if there exist:

$\forall X \in \text{ob}(\underline{A})$

$$Z \boxtimes X \xrightarrow{R_{Z,X}} X \boxtimes Z$$

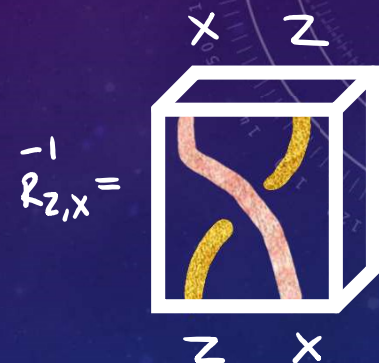
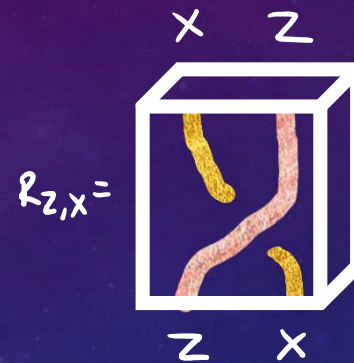
$$X \boxtimes Z \xrightarrow{R_{Z,X}^{-1}} Z \boxtimes X$$

half-braiding

categories

$$Z \circ X = X \circ Z \quad \forall X \in A$$

relation w. diagrams see also Saito + Carter  
"Combinatorial description of knotted surfaces  
and their isotopies"



Objects in  $\underline{Z}(\underline{A})$

$Z \in \text{ob}(\underline{A})$  is in  $\underline{Z}(\underline{A})$  if there exist:

$\forall X \in \text{ob}(\underline{A})$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & X \boxtimes Z & \\ R_{Z,X} \nearrow & \uparrow \epsilon_{Z,X} & \nwarrow R_{Z,X}^{-1} \\ Z \boxtimes X & \xrightarrow{1_{Z \boxtimes X}} & Z \boxtimes X \end{array}$$

$\simeq$

$1_{Z \boxtimes X}$



$R_{Z,X} \otimes R_{Z,X}^{-1}$

categories

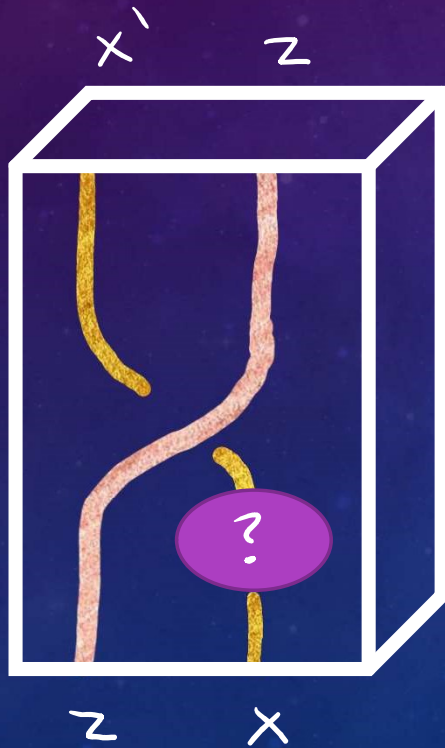
$$Z \otimes X = X \otimes Z \quad \forall X \in A$$

$\forall X \xrightarrow{?} X'$   
a 1-morphism  
in  $\underline{A}$

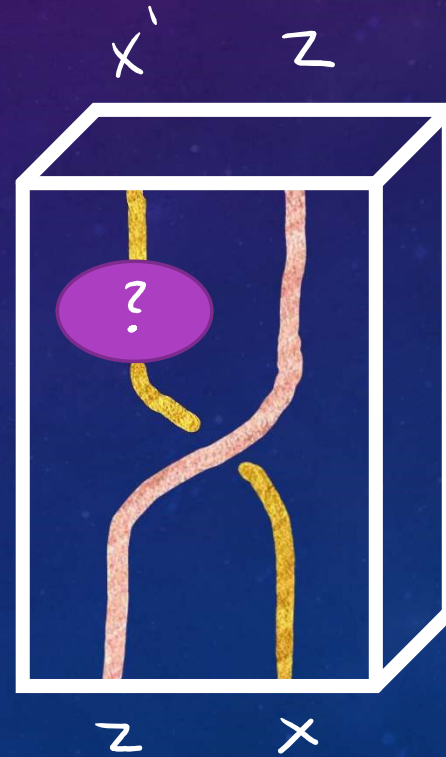
$$\begin{array}{ccc} Z \boxtimes X' & \xrightarrow{R_{Z,X'}} & X' \boxtimes Z \\ \uparrow 1_Z \boxtimes ? & \searrow R_{Z,?} & \uparrow ? \boxtimes 1_Z \\ Z \boxtimes X & \xrightarrow{R_{Z,X}} & X \boxtimes Z \end{array}$$

no analogue for algebras

$(1_Z \boxtimes ?)$   
 $\otimes R_{Z,X'}$



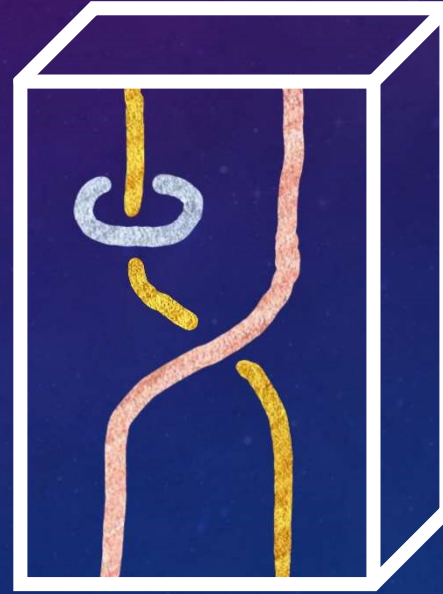
$R_{Z,?}$   
 $\Rightarrow$



$R_{Z,X} \otimes$   
 $(? \boxtimes 1_Z)$

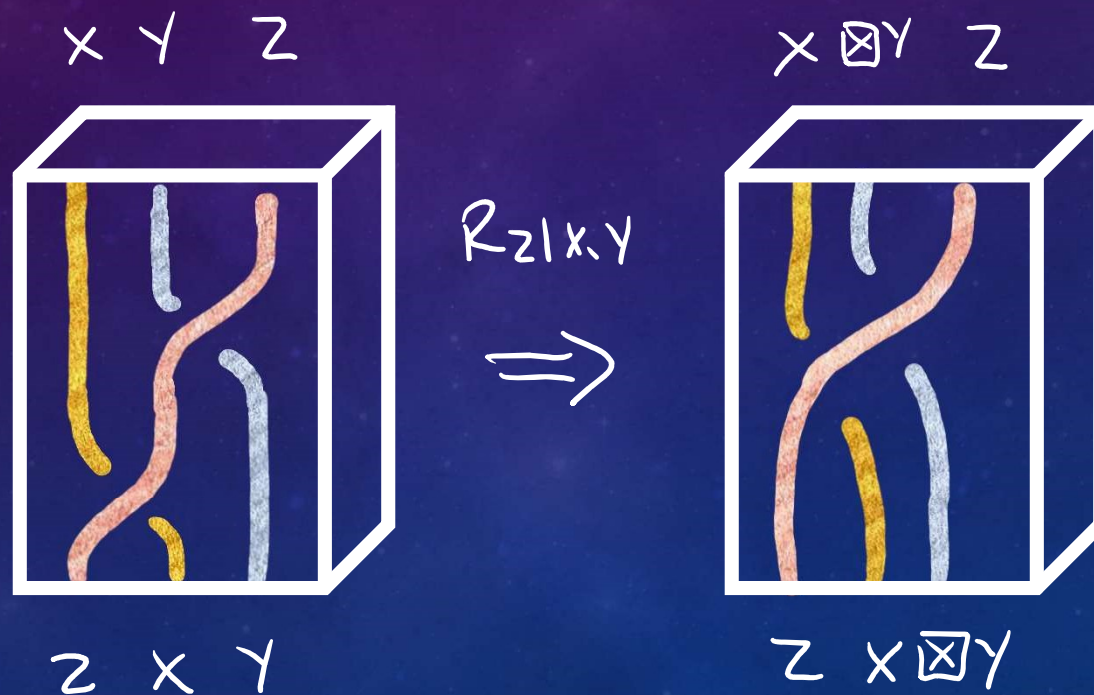


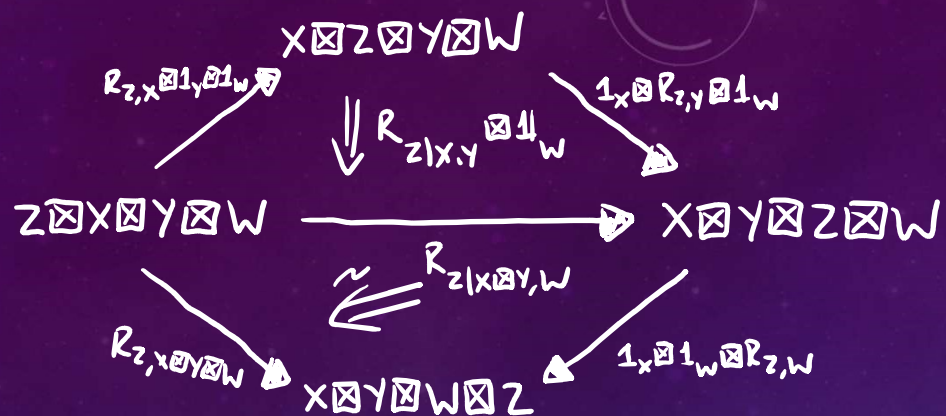
eg:



$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & R_{z,x} \boxtimes 1_Y & \\
 & \nearrow & \\
 Z \boxtimes X \boxtimes Y & & X \boxtimes Z \boxtimes Y \\
 & \Downarrow R_{z|x,y} & \\
 & & X \boxtimes Y \boxtimes Z \\
 & R_{z,x} \boxtimes 1_Y & \nwarrow 1_X \boxtimes R_{z,y}
 \end{array}$$

Categories if  $Z \circ X = X \circ Z$   
 $Z \circ Y = Y \circ Z$   
 $\Rightarrow Z \circ X \circ Y = X \circ Y \circ Z$





=



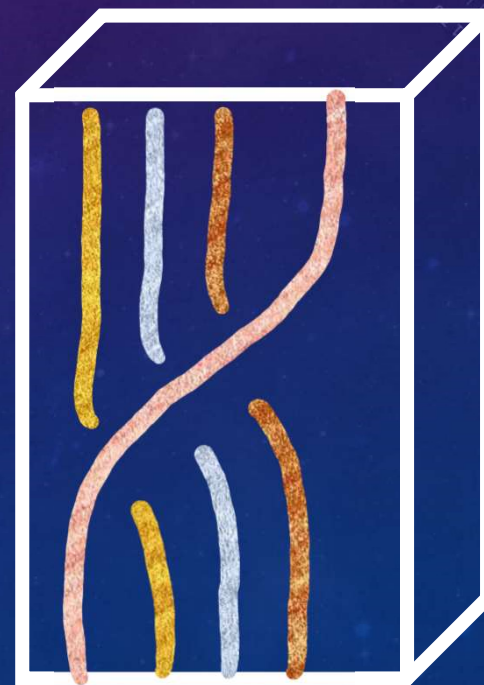
$$(R_{Z|X,Y} \otimes 1_W) \cdot (R_{Z|X \otimes Y,W})$$



||



$$\begin{aligned}
 & (R_{Z,X} \otimes [1_X \otimes R_{Z|Y,W}]) \\
 & \cdot (R_{Z|X,Y} \otimes 1_W)
 \end{aligned}$$





Given fusion 2-category  $\mathcal{C}$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}(\mathcal{C})$  defines TO in sense of Kong + Wen



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# REALISING ON THE LATTICE



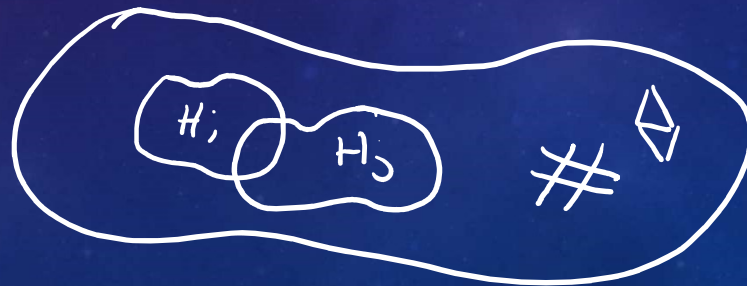
## Lattice Hamiltonians

Lattice  $\cong$  not to degenerate CW-complex  
homeomorphic to a manifold  
- usually a triangulation

- \* Multifusion  $n$ -category  $\equiv$  Semisimple  $(n+1)$ -algebra
- \* Algebraic data of multifusion  $n$ -cat  $C$  define  $(n+2)$ D state-sum TQFT / Lattice Hamiltonian  
(Gaiotto + Johnson-Freyd 1905.09566)

eg - 2+1D Turaev-Viro-Basnet-Westbury TQFT / Levin-Wen String-Net model  
- 3+1D Crane-Yetter-Kauffman / Walker-Wang-Williamson model  
+ many more ....

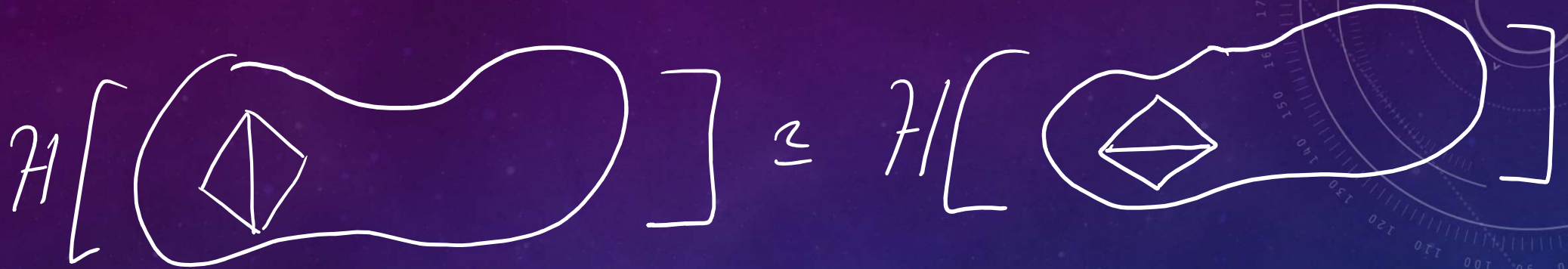
Local, mutually commuting Hamiltonian:  $H = - \sum_i H_{\Delta_i}^n$ ,  $H_{\Delta_i}^2 = H_{\Delta_i}$ ,  $[H_{\Delta_i}, H_{\Delta_j}] = 0$



$$M_{\Delta}^n = \bigcup_i \Delta_i^n$$



Groundstate subspace

$$\mathcal{H}[\text{torus}] \cong \mathcal{H}[\text{torus}]$$


Given a multifusion  $n$ -category

- groundstate subspace on piecewise-linear homeomorphic CW-complexes give rise to isomorphic Hilbert spaces.

Conjecture (Bullivant 21')

Given a pivotal fusion 2-category  $\mathcal{C}$  & corresponding 3+1D Hamiltonian model  $H = - \sum_i H_i$ , the physics of topological excitations in 3-disk is captured by  $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{C})$

Proof - outlined in following

defn of pivotal fusion 2-cat

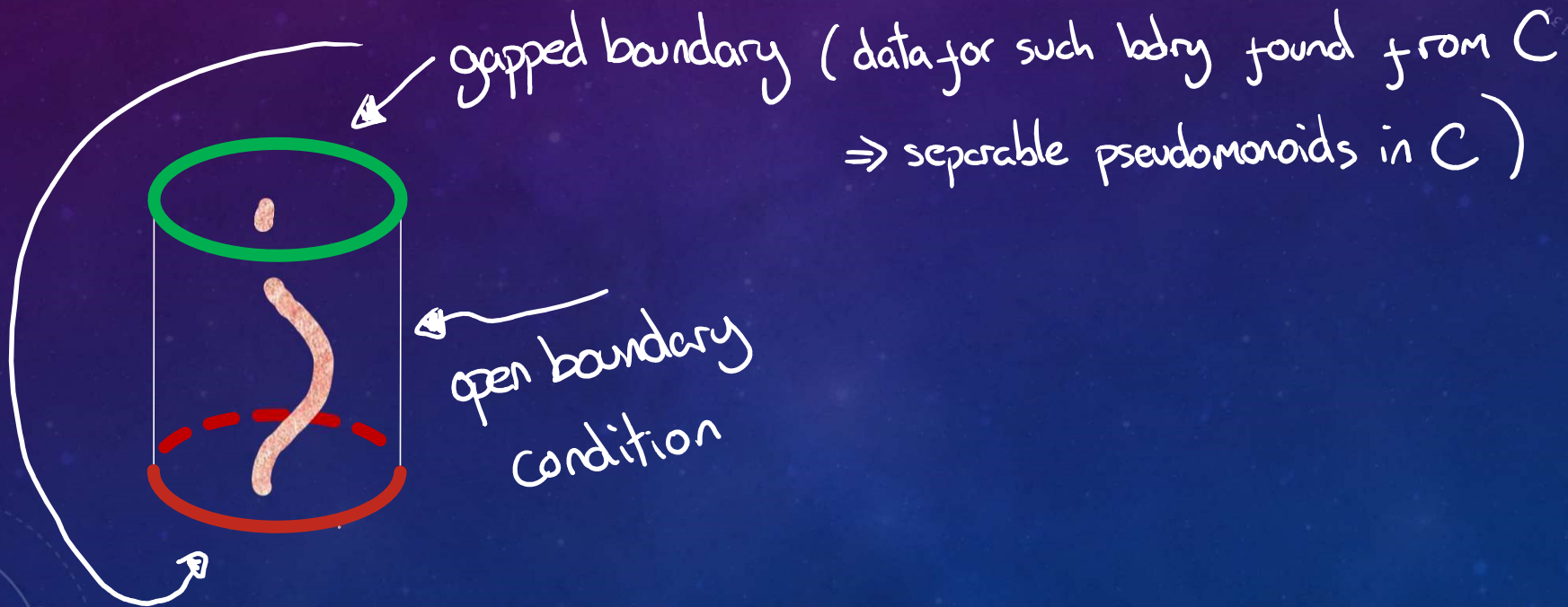
see: Douglas + Reutter

1812.11933

Given 3-disk,  $H = - \sum_i H_i$

\* groundstate  $|\psi\rangle = (\prod_i H_i) |\psi\rangle$

\* excitation  $E \subseteq \mathbb{D}^3$  s.t.  $\forall \Delta_i \subseteq E \quad H_i |\psi\rangle = 0$



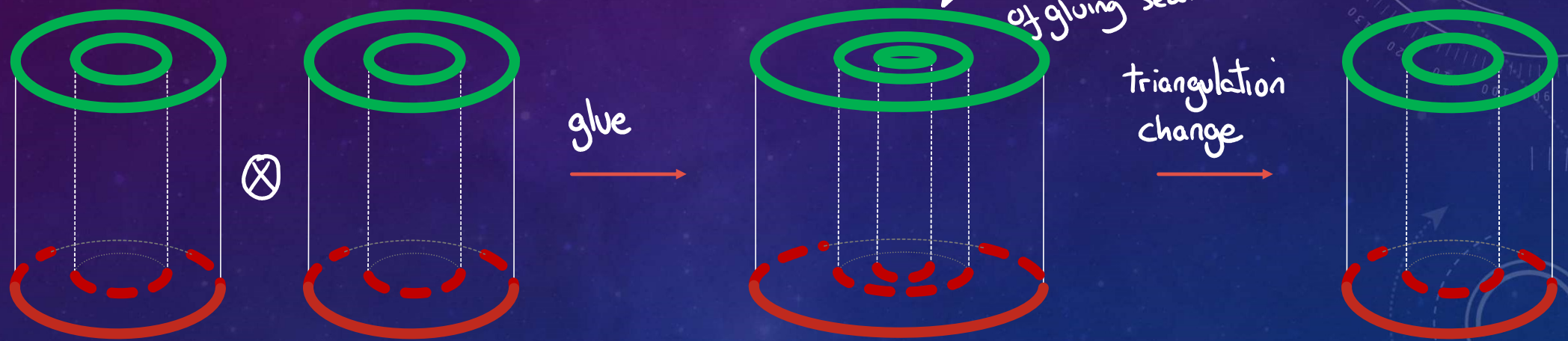


- 1) For gapped system correlation function decays exponentially (zero in our model)
- 2) Topological excitations are measurable at all length scales!
- 3) Excitations classified by entanglement w. G.S.
  - using 1)  $\Rightarrow$  bdy condition for local neighbourhood of excitation



# Boundary Tube Algebra

- f.d.  $*$ -algebra
- modules define bdy conditions invariant under "renorm group" / adding more space around excitation
- $\sim$  topological excitations



\* For Dijkgraaf-Witten theory computation see AB+Delcamp 2006.06536

- \* Data for string endpoints  $\Rightarrow$  objects of  $\mathcal{Z}(C)$
- \* Modules of bdy tube algebra  $\Rightarrow$  1-morphism of  $\mathcal{Z}(C)$
- \* Intertwiners  $\Rightarrow$  2-morphisms of  $\mathcal{Z}(C)$
- In this way we can construct  $\mathcal{Z}(C)$  from bdy tube algebra and vice versa
- This can be done formally w. **Tube 2-Category**
  - \* generalisation of Ocneanu Tube algebra



Thanks



For

Listening!