

Conformal field theories and tensor categories  
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# Tensor categories in Conformal Field Theory

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# Correlation functions and conformal blocks

Conformal Field Theory is determined by *correlation functions*

Variables: complex numbers or (better) points on some complex curve

$$\psi(z_1, \dots, z_n) = \sum_p F_p(z_1, \dots, z_n) \overline{G_p(z_1, \dots, z_n)}$$

where  $F_p$  and  $G_p$  are *holomorphic* multivaluable functions with poles at the diagonals  $z_i = z_j$

more precisely:  $F_p$  and  $G_p$  are (flat) sections of bundles of **conformal blocks**

*Monodromy* is described by representations of various braid groups

**Example:** Pure braid group  $PB_n = \pi_1(\mathbb{C}^n \setminus \cup_{i \neq j} \{z_i = z_j\})$

# Representations of vertex algebras

**Fact:** Conformal blocks are controlled by **vertex algebras** and their representations

## Representations of a vertex algebra $V$

**Notation:**  $\text{Rep}(V)$  – representations of  $V$

$\text{Rep}(V)$  is a *category*: we have morphisms of representations with associative composition

$\text{Rep}(V)$  is  $\mathbb{C}$ –*linear* category:  $\text{Hom}(M, N)$  is  $\mathbb{C}$ –vector space and composition is bilinear

$\text{Rep}(V)$  is *abelian* category: we can talk about kernels and cokernels of morphisms

## Rationality

*Rational* vertex algebra: any  $M \in \text{Rep}(V)$  is a direct sum of irreducibles; there are just finitely many of irreducibles

## Theorem (Huang)

Let  $V$  be a good rational vertex algebra. Then  $\text{Rep}(V)$  has a natural structure of a **Modular Tensor Category** (MTC).

## Definition

*Tensor category*: sextuple  $(\mathcal{C}, \otimes, a_{\bullet\bullet\bullet}, \mathbf{1}, l_{\bullet}, r_{\bullet})$

$\mathcal{C}$  – category

$\otimes : \mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  – (bi)functor

$a_{XYZ} : (X \otimes Y) \otimes Z \simeq X \otimes (Y \otimes Z)$  (functorial) *associativity constraint*

$\mathbf{1}$  – *unit object*

$l_X : \mathbf{1} \otimes X \simeq X$

$r_X : X \otimes \mathbf{1} \simeq X$

subject to axioms

# Axioms

*Pentagon axiom:*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & (X \otimes Y) \otimes (Z \otimes T) & \\ a_{X \otimes Y, Z, T} \nearrow & & \searrow a_{X, Y, Z \otimes T} \\ ((X \otimes Y) \otimes Z) \otimes T & & X \otimes (Y \otimes (Z \otimes T)) \\ \downarrow a_{X, Y, Z} \otimes \text{id}_T & & \uparrow a_{\text{id}_X \otimes a_{Y, Z, T}} \\ (X \otimes (Y \otimes Z)) \otimes T & \xrightarrow{a_{X, Y \otimes Z, T}} & X \otimes ((Y \otimes Z) \otimes T) \end{array}$$

and *Triangle axiom*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (X \otimes \mathbf{1}) \otimes Y & \xrightarrow{a_{X, \mathbf{1}, Y}} & X \otimes (\mathbf{1} \otimes Y) \\ r_X \otimes \text{id}_Y \searrow & & \swarrow \text{id}_X \otimes l_Y \\ & X \otimes Y & \end{array}$$

# Rigidity

$X \in \mathcal{C}$ : right dual  $X^* \in \mathcal{C}$  and left dual  ${}^*X \in \mathcal{C}$

$$\begin{array}{ll} \mathbf{1} \rightarrow X \otimes X^* & \text{coevaluation} \\ X^* \otimes X \rightarrow \mathbf{1} & \text{evaluation} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{ll} \mathbf{1} \rightarrow {}^*X \otimes X \\ X \otimes {}^*X \rightarrow \mathbf{1} \end{array}$$

Axiom: the maps below are identities:

$$X = \mathbf{1} \otimes X \rightarrow X \otimes X^* \otimes X \rightarrow X \otimes \mathbf{1} = X$$

$$X^* = X^* \otimes \mathbf{1} \rightarrow X^* \otimes X \otimes X^* \rightarrow \mathbf{1} \otimes X^* = X^*$$

## Definition

A tensor category  $\mathcal{C}$  is **rigid** if any object has both left and right dual

We will consider only  $\mathbb{C}$ -linear abelian tensor categories (with bilinear tensor product)

**Useful fact** (Deligne, Milne): In a rigid abelian tensor category tensor product is *exact*

# Finiteness conditions

*Finite category:* abelian category equivalent to  $\text{Rep}^{fd}(A)$  where  $A$  is a finite dimensional algebra.

Equivalently: f.d. Hom's, finitely many irreducible objects, any object has finite length, and enough projective objects.

*Finite multi-tensor category:* rigid tensor category which is finite.

**Finite tensor category:** finite multi-tensor category with  $\text{End}(\mathbf{1}) = \mathbb{C}$ .

**Fusion category:** finite tensor category which is semisimple (that is each object is a direct sum of irreducible ones).

*Multi-fusion category:* finite multi-tensor category which is semisimple.

## Examples

- $\text{Vec}$  – finite dimensional vector spaces over  $\mathbb{C}$
- $\text{Rep}(G)$  ( $G$  – finite group) – f.d. representations of  $G$  over  $\mathbb{C}$
- $\text{Rep}^{fd}(H)$  ( $H$  – f.d. (weak/quasi) Hopf algebra)

# Pointed Example (Hoang Sinh)

## Example

$G$  is a (semi)group;

simple objects  $g \in G$ ;  $g \otimes h = gh$ ;

$a_{g,h,k} \in \mathbb{C}^\times$ ;

pentagon axiom  $\Leftrightarrow a_{gh,k,l} a_{g,h,kl} = a_{g,h,k} a_{g,hk,l} a_{h,k,l}$

$\Leftrightarrow \partial a = 1$ , that is  $a$  is a 3-cocycle;

triangle axiom  $\Leftrightarrow$  3-cocycle  $a$  is normalized;

rigidity  $\Leftrightarrow G$  is a group

Fact: the category above depends only on the class  $\omega = [a] \in H^3(G, \mathbb{C}^\times)$

Notation:  $\text{Vec}_G^\omega$

## Ocneanu rigidity

For a finite group  $G$  the group  $H^3(G, \mathbb{C}^\times)$  is finite.

**Generalization** (Ocneanu; Etingof, Nikshych, O): there are just countably many fusion categories.



# Pivotal and spherical structures

*Pivotal* structure: choice of an isomorphism of *tensor* functors  $\text{Id} \rightarrow **$   
(that is functorial isomorphism  $X \simeq X^{**}$  compatible with tensor product)  
Allows to define *traces* and *dimensions*

$$\text{Tr}(f) : \mathbf{1} \rightarrow X \otimes X^* \xrightarrow{f \otimes \text{id}} X \otimes X^* \rightarrow X^{**} \otimes X^* \rightarrow \mathbf{1}$$

$$\dim(X) = \text{Tr}(\text{id}_X)$$

*Spherical* structure: pivotal structure with  $\dim(X) = \dim(X^*)$  for all  $X$

**Question:** Is it true that any fusion category has a spherical structure?

**Theorem** (Etingof, Nikshych, O)

*For any fusion category there is a distinguished isomorphism of tensor functors  $\text{Id} \rightarrow ****$*

# Braided structure

*Braiding*: functorial isomorphism  $c_{XY} : X \otimes Y \simeq Y \otimes X$  satisfying hexagon axioms for  $c$  and  $c_{XY}^{rev} := c_{YX}^{-1}$

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & X \otimes (Y \otimes Z) & & \\ & \nearrow^{a_{X,Y,Z}} & & \searrow^{c_{X,Y \otimes Z}} & \\ (X \otimes Y) \otimes Z & & & & (Y \otimes Z) \otimes X \\ \downarrow^{c_{X,Y} \otimes \text{id}_Z} & & & & \downarrow^{a_{Y,Z,X}} \\ (Y \otimes X) \otimes Z & & & & Y \otimes (Z \otimes X) \\ & \searrow^{a_{Y,X,Z}} & & \nearrow^{\text{id}_Y \otimes c_{X,Z}} & \\ & & Y \otimes (X \otimes Z) & & \end{array}$$

If  $\mathcal{C}$  is a braided tensor category then the pure braid group  $PB_n$  acts on  $X_1 \otimes \dots \otimes X_n$  and the braid group  $B_n$  acts on  $X^{\otimes n}$ .

**Remark:**  $c$  is a braiding  $\iff c^{rev}$  is a braiding

**Notation:**  $\mathcal{C}^{rev} = \mathcal{C}$  as a tensor category but  $c$  is replaced by  $c^{rev}$

## Pointed Example II

### Example (Joyal-Street)

What are possible braided structures on  $\text{Vec}_G^\omega$ ?

$G = A$  should be abelian (since  $a \otimes b = ab$  and  $b \otimes a = ba$ )

For any  $a \in A$  the braiding  $c_{aa} : a \otimes a \rightarrow a \otimes a$  is just a scalar  $q(a) \in \mathbb{C}^\times$

**Claim:**  $q : A \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$  is a *quadratic form*:

$B(a, b) := \frac{q(ab)}{q(a)q(b)}$  is bilinear and

$q(a^{-1}) = q(a)$

**Fact:** Braided tensor category above is uniquely determined by  $(A, q)$

In particular  $\omega$  is determined by  $q$ . For example:

$\omega$  is trivial  $\Leftrightarrow q(a) = \tilde{B}(a, a)$  for some bilinear (possibly non-symmetric) form  $\tilde{B} : A \times A \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$

**Notation:**  $\mathcal{C}(A, q)$

Number of braidings on  $\text{Vec}_G^\omega$  is finite.

**Generalization** (Ocneanu): Number of braidings on a fusion category is finite.

# Symmetric tensor categories

## Definition

A braided tensor category is *symmetric* if  $c_{YX} \circ c_{XY} = \text{Id}$  (equivalently,  $c^{\text{rev}} = c$ ).

## Examples

- $\text{Vec}$
- $\mathcal{C}(A, q)$  is symmetric  $\Leftrightarrow B \equiv 1$  ( $q(ab) = q(a)q(b)$ )
- $\text{Rep}(G)$  with  $c_{XY}(x \otimes y) = y \otimes x$
- Modify  $\text{Rep}(G)$ : pick a central involution  $z \in G$  and set

$$c'_{XY}(x \otimes y) = (-1)^{mn} y \otimes x$$

$$\text{if } zx = (-1)^m x, zy = (-1)^n y$$

**Notation:**  $\text{Rep}(G, z)$

- Super vector spaces:  $s\text{Vec} = \text{Rep}(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}, z)$  ( $z$  nontrivial)

# Classification of symmetric tensor categories

Theorem (Grothendieck, Saavedra Rivano, Doplicher, Roberts, Deligne)

*A rigid symmetric tensor category satisfying some finiteness assumptions is of the form  $\text{Rep}(G, z)$  where  $G$  is a (super) group.*

Remark

Any finite tensor category satisfies the assumptions of the Theorem. However there are reasonable examples for which Theorem fails.

# Drinfeld center

This is a construction of braided tensor category  $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{C})$  starting with any tensor category  $\mathcal{C}$

Objects of  $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{C})$ :  $(X, c_\bullet)$  with  $X \in \mathcal{C}$ ,  $c_Y : X \otimes Y \simeq Y \otimes X$  satisfying one hexagon axiom

Tensor product:  $(X, c_\bullet) \otimes (Y, d_\bullet) = (X \otimes Y, \widetilde{cd}_\bullet)$

Braiding: use  $c_Y$  to identify  $X \otimes Y$  and  $Y \otimes X$

**Remark:** there is no reason for the braiding to be symmetric

## Remarks

- There is a *forgetful functor*  $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ ,  $(X, c_\bullet) \mapsto X$
- If  $\mathcal{C}$  is braided, then there are obvious tensor functors  $\mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{C})$  and  $\mathcal{C}^{rev} \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{C})$ ; moreover we can combine them

$$\mathcal{C} \boxtimes \mathcal{C}^{rev} \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{C})$$

## Theorem (Müger; Etingof, Nikshych, O)

*Assume  $\mathcal{C}$  is fusion category. Then  $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{C})$  is also a fusion category.*

## Theorem (Etingof, O)

*Assume  $\mathcal{C}$  is finite tensor category. Then  $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{C})$  is also a finite tensor category.*

## Example

$\mathcal{Z}(\text{Vec}_G^\omega)$  – twisted Drinfeld double of  $G$

If  $\omega = 0$  then

$$\text{Irr}(\mathcal{Z}(\text{Vec}_G^\omega)) = \{(x, \rho) \mid x \in G, \rho \in \text{Irr}(C_G(x))\} / G$$

If  $\omega \neq 0$  use projective representations of  $C_G(x)$

# Non-degeneracy

*Non-degenerate* braided tensor category: “opposite” of symmetric

## 3 equivalent definitions of non-degenerate braided fusion category

- 1) (Turaev)  $S$ -matrix is non-degenerate:  $S_{ij} = \text{Tr}(c_{X_i X_j} \circ c_{X_j X_i})$
- 2) (Bruguières, Müger) No transparent objects: if  $c_{XY} \circ c_{YX} = \text{id}_{Y \otimes X}$  for all  $Y \in \mathcal{C}$  then  $X$  is a multiple of  $\mathbf{1}$
- 3)  $\mathcal{C}$  is factorizable: the functor  $\mathcal{C} \boxtimes \mathcal{C}^{\text{rev}} \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{C})$  is an equivalence

## Example

$\mathcal{C}(A, q)$  is non-degenerate  $\Leftrightarrow B(a, b) = \frac{q(ab)}{q(a)q(b)}$  is non-degenerate

## What about Logarithmic CFT?

Guess: factorizable categories



## Definition (Turaev)

MTC is a non-degenerate braided fusion category with a choice of spherical structure.

## Examples

- $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{A})$  where  $\mathcal{A}$  is a spherical fusion category (e.g.  $\mathcal{A} = \text{Vec}_G^\omega$ ) is MTC.
- Wess-Zumino-Witten model: let  $\mathfrak{g}$  be a simple finite dimensional Lie algebra and  $k \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$ . Then  $\mathcal{C}(\mathfrak{g}, k) =$  integrable  $\hat{\mathfrak{g}}$ -modules of level  $k$  has a structure of MTC.
- Dijkgraaf-Witten: given a compact group  $G$  and  $\omega \in H^4(BG, \mathbb{Z})$  (satisfying some non-degeneracy condition) we should have MTC
  - $G$  is simple and simply connected:  $H^4(BG, \mathbb{Z}) = \mathbb{Z}$ : WZW model
  - $G$  is finite:  $H^4(BG, \mathbb{Z}) = H^3(G, \mathbb{C}^\times)$ :  $\mathcal{Z}(\text{Vec}_G^\omega)$
  - $G$  is torus: pointed category  $\mathcal{C}(A, q)$
  - general  $G$ : not known

# Module categories

## Definition

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a tensor category. **Module category** over  $\mathcal{C}$  is a quadruple

$$(\mathcal{M}, \otimes, a_{\bullet\bullet\bullet}, l_{\bullet})$$

$\mathcal{M}$  is an abelian  $\mathbb{C}$ -linear category

$\otimes : \mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$  is an exact bifunctor

$$a_{XYM} : (X \otimes Y) \otimes M \simeq X \otimes (Y \otimes M)$$

$$l_M : \mathbf{1} \otimes M \simeq M$$

satisfying the pentagon and triangle axioms

## Example

Let  $\mathcal{C} = \text{Vec}$ . The module categories over  $\mathcal{C}$  are all abelian  $\mathbb{C}$ -linear categories. Thus it is a bad idea to study all module categories over given  $\mathcal{C}$ .

Reasonable class of module categories for a fusion category  $\mathcal{C}$ : finite semisimple ones

## Examples

- $\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{C}$  is module category over  $\mathcal{C}$
- If  $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  is a tensor functor then  $\mathcal{D}$  is a module category over  $\mathcal{C}$
- Let  $H$  be a Hopf algebra and let  $\mathcal{C} = \text{Rep}^{fd}(H)$ . Then there is a forgetful tensor functor  $\mathcal{C} \rightarrow \text{Vec}$ . Thus  $\text{Vec}$  is a module category over  $\text{Rep}^{fd}(H)$
- In general:  $\mathcal{M}$  is module category over  $\mathcal{C} \Leftrightarrow$  there is a tensor functor  $\mathcal{C} \rightarrow \text{Fun}(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{M})$  (category of exact functors  $\mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$ )

## Direct sums

There is an easy operation of direct sum  $\mathcal{M}_1 \oplus \mathcal{M}_2$ . Each module category as above is a direct sum of indecomposable ones in a unique way. Thus for a complete classification it is enough to describe *indecomposable* module categories.

# Module categories and correlation functions

## Theorem (Fjelstad, Fuchs, Runkel, Schweigert)

Let  $V$  be a rational vertex algebra and let  $\mathcal{M}$  be an indecomposable (finite semisimple) module category over  $\text{Rep}(V)$  satisfying some condition. Then there is a way to combine conformal blocks of  $V$  into a consistent system of correlation functions.

Full RCFT: good rational vertex algebra  $V$  and an indecomposable module category over  $\text{Rep}(V)$ .

Physical interpretation of objects of  $\mathcal{M}$ : *boundary conditions*

## Guess for LCFT: *exact module categories*

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a finite tensor category. A module category over  $\mathcal{C}$  is exact if  $P \otimes M$  is projective whenever  $P \in \mathcal{C}$  is (notice that  $X \otimes M$  is automatically projective for a projective  $M \in \mathcal{M}$ ).

# Classifications of module categories

## Theorem (Etingof, Nikshych, O)

*For a given fusion category  $\mathcal{C}$  there are just finitely many indecomposable module categories.*

## Examples

- $\text{Rep}(G)$ :  $\text{Rep}^\psi(H)$  – representations of twisted group algebra  $\mathbb{C}[H]_\psi$  where  $H \subset G$ ,  $\psi \in H^2(H, \mathbb{C}^\times)$  (Bezrukavnikov, O)
- $\text{Vec}_G^\omega$ :  $(H, \psi)$  where  $H \subset G$ ,  $\partial\psi = \omega|_H$  (O)
- $\mathcal{Z}(\text{Vec}_G^\omega)$ :  $(H, \psi)$ ,  $H \subset G \times G$ ,  $\partial\psi = \tilde{\omega}|_H$  (O)
- $\mathcal{C}(sl_2, k)$ : ADE classification (Cappelli, Itzykson, Zuber et al)
- $\mathcal{C}(sl_n, k)$ : classification is known for  $n = 3, 4$  (Ocneanu)
- Haagerup subfactor (Grossman, Snyder)

**Problem:** Classify module categories over  $\mathcal{C}(\mathfrak{g}, k)$ .

## Definition

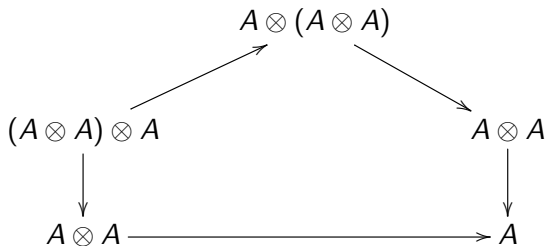
An associative algebra with unit  $A \in \mathcal{C}$  is a triple  $(A, m, i)$  where

$A \in \mathcal{C}$  is an object

$m : A \otimes A \rightarrow A$  multiplication morphism

$i : \mathbf{1} \rightarrow A$  unit morphism

Associativity axiom:



# Algebras II

Unit axiom:

$$A = \mathbf{1} \otimes A \rightarrow A \otimes A \rightarrow A \text{ is } \text{id}_A$$

$$A = A \otimes \mathbf{1} \rightarrow A \otimes A \rightarrow A \text{ is } \text{id}_A$$

## Examples

- If  $X \in \mathcal{C}$  then  $A = X \otimes X^*$  is an algebra:

$$i : \mathbf{1} \xrightarrow{\text{coev}} X \otimes X^*, \quad m : X \otimes X^* \otimes X \otimes X^* \xrightarrow{\text{id} \otimes \text{ev} \otimes \text{id}} X \otimes X^*$$

- For  $H \subset G$ ,  $\mathbb{C}[H]_\psi$  is an algebra in  $\text{Vec}_G$
- For  $H \subset G$ ,  $\psi \in Z^2(H, \mathbb{C}^\times)$  with  $\partial\psi = \omega|_H$ ,  $\mathbb{C}[H]_\psi$  is an algebra in  $\text{Vec}_G^\omega$

## Commutative algebras

If  $\mathcal{C}$  is braided we say that an algebra  $A \in \mathcal{C}$  is *commutative* if

$$A \otimes A \xrightarrow{c_{AA}} A \otimes A \xrightarrow{m} A \text{ equals } m : A \otimes A \rightarrow A$$

## Definition

Let  $A \in \mathcal{C}$  be an algebra. Right  $A$ -module is a pair  $(M, \mu)$ ,  $M \in \mathcal{C}$ ,  $\mu : M \otimes A \rightarrow M$  such that

$(M \otimes A) \otimes A \xrightarrow{\mu \otimes \text{id}_A} M \otimes A \xrightarrow{\mu} M$  coincides with

$(M \otimes A) \otimes A \xrightarrow{\alpha_{MAA}} M \otimes (A \otimes A) \xrightarrow{\text{id}_M \otimes m} M \otimes A \xrightarrow{\mu} M$

and  $M = M \otimes \mathbf{1} \rightarrow M \otimes A \rightarrow M$  is  $\text{id}_M$ .

## Category of $A$ -modules

Right  $A$ -modules form an abelian category  $\mathcal{C}_A$ : morphism from  $(M, \mu)$  to  $(N, \nu)$  is  $f : M \rightarrow N$  such that  $M \otimes A \xrightarrow{f \otimes \text{id}} N \otimes A$  commutes.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} M \otimes A & \xrightarrow{f \otimes \text{id}} & N \otimes A \\ \downarrow \mu & & \downarrow \nu \\ M & \xrightarrow{f} & N \end{array}$$

**Observation:**  $\mathcal{C}_A$  has an obvious structure of module category over  $\mathcal{C}$ :  $X \otimes M \in \mathcal{C}_A$  for  $X \in \mathcal{C}$ ,  $M \in \mathcal{C}_A$



## Modules II

### Definition

Assume  $\mathcal{C}$  is fusion category.  $A \in \mathcal{C}$  is *separable* if  $\mathcal{C}_A$  is semisimple.

### Theorem (O)

For a fusion category  $\mathcal{C}$  any (semisimple) module category over  $\mathcal{C}$  is of the form  $\mathcal{C}_A$  for some separable algebra  $A$ .

### Morita equivalence

Algebra  $A$  in the Theorem above is not unique!

Module categories over  $\mathcal{C} \leftrightarrow$  separable algebras in  $\mathcal{C}$  up to *Morita equivalence*

### Example

Algebra  $A = X \otimes X^*$  is Morita equivalent to algebra  $\mathbf{1}$ .

# Bimodules and dual categories

For any algebra  $A$  we consider category  ${}_A\mathcal{C}_A$  of  $A$ -bimodules.  
 ${}_A\mathcal{C}_A$  is tensor category with tensor product  $\otimes_A$  and unit object  $A$ .

**Theorem (Etingof, Nikshych, O)**

$\mathcal{C}$  is fusion category and  $A \in \mathcal{C}$  is separable  $\Rightarrow {}_A\mathcal{C}_A$  is a fusion category.

**Fact:**  ${}_A\mathcal{C}_A$  depends only on Morita equivalence class of  $A$ .

**Notation:** dual category  $\mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{M}}^* := {}_A\mathcal{C}_A$  where  $\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{C}_A$ .

**Fact (Müger):**  $\mathcal{C} \sim \mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{M}}^*$  is an equivalence relation.

This is weak Morita equivalence, or 2-Morita equivalence.

**Example:**  $\text{Rep}^{fd}(H)$  is 2-Morita equivalent to  $\text{Rep}^{fd}(H^*)$ .

**Theorem (Drinfeld; Kitaev; Etingof, Nikshych, O)**

$\mathcal{C}$  and  $\mathcal{D}$  are 2-Morita equivalent  $\Leftrightarrow \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{C}) \simeq \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{D})$

**Physical interpretation** of objects of  $\mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{M}}^*$ : labels for defect lines

## Observation

Assume that  $A \in \mathcal{C}$  is commutative. Then  $\mathcal{C}_A$  is tensor category (with  $\otimes_A$  as a tensor product)

## Definition

An **étale** algebra in a braided fusion category  $\mathcal{C}$  is algebra which is both commutative and separable.

An étale algebra  $A \in \mathcal{C}$  is *connected* if  $\text{Hom}(\mathbf{1}, A) = \mathbb{C}$

Any étale algebra decomposes uniquely into a direct sum of connected ones

## Lemma

Assume that  $A \in \mathcal{C}$  is connected étale. Then  $\mathcal{C}_A$  is a fusion category (usually not braided). Moreover, we have a surjective tensor functor  $\mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_A$ ,  $X \mapsto X \otimes A$

- 1 Extensions of vertex algebras
- 2 Kernels of central functors
- 3 Kernels of tensor functors
- 4 Quantum Manin pairs
- 5 Modular invariants
- 6 Left/right centers

# Extensions of vertex algebras

Let  $V$  be a vertex algebra.

**Question:** What are possible extensions  $W \supset V$ ?

**Theorem** (Kirillov Jr., O; Huang, Kirillov Jr., Lepowsky)

*Assume that  $V$  is good rational, so  $\text{Rep}(V)$  is MTC.*

*Vertex algebra extensions  $\leftrightarrow$  (some) étale algebras in  $\text{Rep}(V)$ .*

This produces many interesting examples for categories  $\mathcal{C}(\mathfrak{g}, k)$  via the theory of *conformal embeddings*

**Dyslexia** (Pareigis)

What is  $\text{Rep}(W)$  in the categorical terms?

**Answer:** *dyslectic* (or *local*) modules

$$\mathcal{C}_A^0 = \{M \in \mathcal{C}_A \mid \mu \circ c_{AM} \circ c_{MA} = \mu\} \subset \mathcal{C}_A$$

## Central functors

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a braided category and  $\mathcal{D}$  be a tensor category. A *central functor*  $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  is a tensor functor together with isomorphisms  $F(X) \otimes Y \simeq Y \otimes F(X)$  satisfying some axioms. Equivalently, this is a factorization  $\mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{D}) \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  where functor  $\mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{D})$  is braided.

**Observation:** The functor  $\mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_A$  has a natural structure of central functor.

## Theorem (Davydov, Müger, Nikshych, O)

*Conversely, let  $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  be a central functor between fusion categories. Let  $I : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  be the right adjoint functor of  $F$ . Then  $A = I(\mathbf{1}) \in \mathcal{C}$  has a natural structure of (connected) étale algebra; moreover the central functor  $\mathcal{C} \rightarrow F(\mathcal{C}) \subset \mathcal{D}$  is isomorphic to  $\mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_A$*

# Kernels of tensor functors

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a tensor category and let  $A \in \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{C})$  be a commutative algebra.

**Observation (Schauenburg):**  $\mathcal{C}_A$  is a tensor category and there is a tensor functor  $\mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_A$ ,  $X \mapsto X \otimes A$ .

## Theorem (Schauenburg)

$$\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{C}_A) = \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{C})_A^0$$

## Theorem (Kitaev; Bruguières, Natale; Davydov, Müger, Nikshych, O)

Let  $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  be a tensor functor between (multi-)fusion categories. Let  $I : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  be the right adjoint functor of  $F$ . Then  $A = I(\mathbf{1}) \in \mathcal{C}$  has a natural lift to  $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{C})$ ; in addition  $I(\mathbf{1}) \in \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{C})$  has a natural structure of étale algebra. Moreover the tensor functor  $\mathcal{C} \rightarrow F(\mathcal{C}) \subset \mathcal{D}$  is isomorphic to  $\mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_A$

# Quantum Manin pairs

Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a fusion category. The forgetful functor  $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  is central and surjective. Let  $A = I(\mathbf{1}) \in \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{A})$ . Then  $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{A})_A$ .

## Theorem (Kitaev; Davydov, Müger, Nikshych, O)

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a non-degenerate braided fusion category and  $A \in \mathcal{C}$  be an étale algebra. The functor  $\mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_A$  is isomorphic to the forgetful functor  $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  if and only if  $\mathcal{C}_A^0 = \text{Vec}$ .

## Definition

**Lagrangian algebra:** connected étale algebra  $A$  in a non-degenerate braided fusion category  $\mathcal{C}$  such that  $\mathcal{C}_A^0 = \text{Vec}$ .

**Quantum Manin pair:**  $(\mathcal{C}, A)$  where  $A \in \mathcal{C}$  is Lagrangian.

## Example (non-degenerate pointed category $\mathcal{C}(A, q)$ )

étale algebras in  $\mathcal{C}(A, q) \leftrightarrow$  isotropic subgroups ( $H \subset A, q|_H = 1$ )

Lagrangian algebras in  $\mathcal{C}(A, q) \leftrightarrow$  Lagrangian subgroups ( $H = H^\perp$ )



# Quantum Manin pairs II

## Example

There is a conformal embedding  $so(5)_{12} \subset (E_8)_1$ . Since  $\mathcal{C}(E_8, 1) = \text{Vec}$  we see that  $\mathcal{C}(so(5), 12) = \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{A})$  for some  $\mathcal{A}$ .

## Module category and Lagrangian algebras

Assume that  $\mathcal{M}$  is a module category over  $\mathcal{A}$ . Then there is a functor  $\mathcal{A} \rightarrow \text{Fun}(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{M})$  described by a connected étale algebra  $B \in \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{A})$ .

Theorem (Kong, Runkel; Etingof, Nikshych, O; Davydov, Müger, Nikshych, O)

*Algebra  $B \in \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{A})$  is Lagrangian. Moreover, the assignment  $\mathcal{M} \mapsto B$  is a bijection: indecomposable module categories over  $\mathcal{A} \leftrightarrow$  Lagrangian algebras  $B \in \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{A})$*

Aside: lattice of subcategories of  $\mathcal{A}$  is anti-isomorphic to lattice of étale subalgebras of  $I(\mathbf{1}) \in \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{A})$

# Modular invariants (after Rehren)

Reminder: full RCFT  $\Leftrightarrow$  vertex algebra  $V$  and module category  $\mathcal{M}$  over  $\mathcal{C} = \text{Rep}(V) \Leftrightarrow$  vertex algebra  $V$  and Lagrangian algebra  $\mathcal{L} \in \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{C})$ .

$\mathcal{C}$  is MTC, so  $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{C}) = \mathcal{C} \boxtimes \mathcal{C}^{\text{rev}}$ ;  $\mathcal{L} \in \mathcal{C} \boxtimes \mathcal{C}^{\text{rev}}$  is **bulk algebra**

The class  $[\mathcal{L}] \in K(\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{C}))$  can be written as  $\sum_{i,j} Z_{ij} [X_i \boxtimes X_j]$  where  $Z_{ij} \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ ,  $Z_{00} = 1$  (since  $\mathcal{L}$  is connected).

**Theorem** (Böckenhauer, Evans, Kawahigashi; Fuchs, Runkel, Schweigert)

*Assume that  $Z_{ij}$  commutes with  $T$ -matrix. Then  $Z_{ij}$  commutes with  $S$ -matrix; that is  $Z_{ij}$  is a modular invariant.*

**Remark.** If  $\dim(X_i) > 0$  then  $[Z, T] = 0$  automatically.

## Physical modular invariants

Physical modular invariant = modular invariant of the form  $[\mathcal{L}]$

Modular invariant can be physical in more than one way.

# Modular invariants II

## Construction of étale algebras in $\mathcal{C} \boxtimes \mathcal{D}$

Pick étale algebras  $A \in \mathcal{C}$ ,  $B \in \mathcal{D}$ , tensor subcategories  $\mathcal{C}_1 \subset \mathcal{C}_A^0$  and  $\mathcal{D}_1 \subset \mathcal{D}_B^0$  and a braided equivalence  $\phi : \mathcal{C}_1 \simeq \mathcal{D}_1^{rev}$ . Then  $\bigoplus_{M \in Irr(\mathcal{C}_1)} M \boxtimes \phi(M)^*$  has a natural structure of étale algebra.

## Theorem (Müger; Davydov, Nikshych, O)

*Any connected étale algebra in  $\mathcal{C} \boxtimes \mathcal{D}$  is isomorphic to one constructed above.*

This applies to  $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{C}) = \mathcal{C} \boxtimes \mathcal{C}^{rev}$  where  $\mathcal{C}$  is non-degenerate (e.g. MTC). Algebra above is Lagrangian  $\Leftrightarrow \mathcal{C}_1 = \mathcal{C}_A^0$ ,  $\mathcal{D}_1 = (\mathcal{C}^{rev})_B^0$ .

## Corollary (Böckenhauer, Evans; Fuchs, Runkel, Schweigert)

*Indecomposable module categories over a non-degenerate braided fusion category  $\mathcal{C}$  are labeled by triples  $(A, B, \phi)$  where  $A, B \in \mathcal{C}$  are connected étale algebras and  $\phi : \mathcal{C}_A^0 \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_B^0$  is a braided equivalence.*

# Modular invariants III

## Corollary (Etingof, Nikshych, O)

For a non-degenerate  $\mathcal{C}$ ,  $\text{Aut}^{br}(\mathcal{C}) \leftrightarrow \text{invertible module categories } \text{Pic}(\mathcal{C})$

## Physical interpretation $\sim$ 1989 (Moore, Seiberg; Dijkgraaf, Verlinde)

Algebra  $\mathcal{L} \in \mathcal{C} \boxtimes \mathcal{C}^{rev}$  considered as a vector space  $\bigoplus_{i,j} (X_i \otimes X_j)^{Z_{ij}}$  –

**Hilbert space of states**

$[\mathcal{L}]$  considered as a linear combination of characters  $\sum_{i,j} Z_{ij} \chi_i \bar{\chi}_j$  –

**partition function** of the theory

**type I** theory –  $A = B$  and  $\phi = \text{id}$

**type II** theory –  $A = B$  and  $\phi \neq \text{id}$

**heterotic** theory –  $A \neq B$

## Example

**Example:**  $\mathcal{C}(G_2, 3)$ –modular invariant  $|\chi_{00} + \chi_{11}|^2 + 2|\chi_{02}|^2$  has 2 distinct physical realizations.

# Left/right centers

## Two centers

Let  $E \in \mathcal{C}$  be an algebra in a braided category  $\mathcal{C}$ .

*Left center:* biggest  $C_l(E) \subset E$   
such that  $C_l(E) \otimes E \xrightarrow{m} E$  equals  
 $C_l(E) \otimes E \xrightarrow{c_{C_l(E)E}} E \otimes C_l(E) \xrightarrow{m} E$ .

*Right center:* biggest  $C_r(E) \subset E$   
such that  $E \otimes C_r(E) \xrightarrow{m} E$  equals  
 $E \otimes C_r(E) \xrightarrow{c_{EC_r(E)}} C_r(E) \otimes E \xrightarrow{m} E$ .

## Theorem (Fuchs, Schweigert, Runkel)

Let  $E$  be a separable algebra in a (non-degenerate) braided fusion category  $\mathcal{C}$ . Then  $C_l(E)$  and  $C_r(E)$  are étale. Moreover, there is a braided equivalence  $\mathcal{C}_{C_l(E)}^0 \simeq \mathcal{C}_{C_r(E)}^0$ .

## Proof.

Let  $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}(A, B, \phi)$  be Lagrangian algebra associated with  $\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{C}_E$ . Then  $C_l(E) = A$  and  $C_r(E) = B$ . □

Thanks for listening!