

# Summing Over Bordisms In TQFT

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# Work with Anindya Banerjee

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Comments On Summing Over Bordisms In TQFT



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Summary & Some Open Problems

# I. Motivation

A longstanding problem in quantum gravity:

Probability amplitudes are computed by “summing” (as in a path integral) over metrics on some spacetime  $Y$

$$\exp\left\{-\frac{G_N}{16\pi^2} \int_Y \mathcal{R}(g) \text{vol}(g) + \dots\right\}$$

If we sum over metrics, should we also sum over topologies?

# Puzzles In AdS/CFT

There are hyperbolic  $Y$  where  $\partial Y$  has multiple connected components.

⇒ Puzzling aspects of the AdS/CFT correspondence - the “factorization problem” [Yau & Witten 1999; Maldacena & Maoz 2004]

Saad-Shenker-Stanford [1903.11115] identifies sum of topologies in “JT gravity” with a matrix model:  
Raises conceptual questions about whether string theory should be dual to an ensemble of QFTs.

Motivated by these issues, and the recent vigorous discussion in the quantum gravity community, D. Marolf and H. Maxfield recently [2002.08950] considered a curious ``topological model of 2d gravity.”

An essential part of their discussion involved summing over topologies with disconnected components.

My project with Anindya Banerjee was motivated by the desire to understand the MM model in terms of standard TQFT.

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## II. Reminders On TQFT

### Definition of a ``bordism''

Let  $X_{in}, X_{out}$  be smooth, compact manifolds of dimension  $d - 1$ .

A **bordism**  $Y: X_{in} \rightarrow X_{out}$  is:

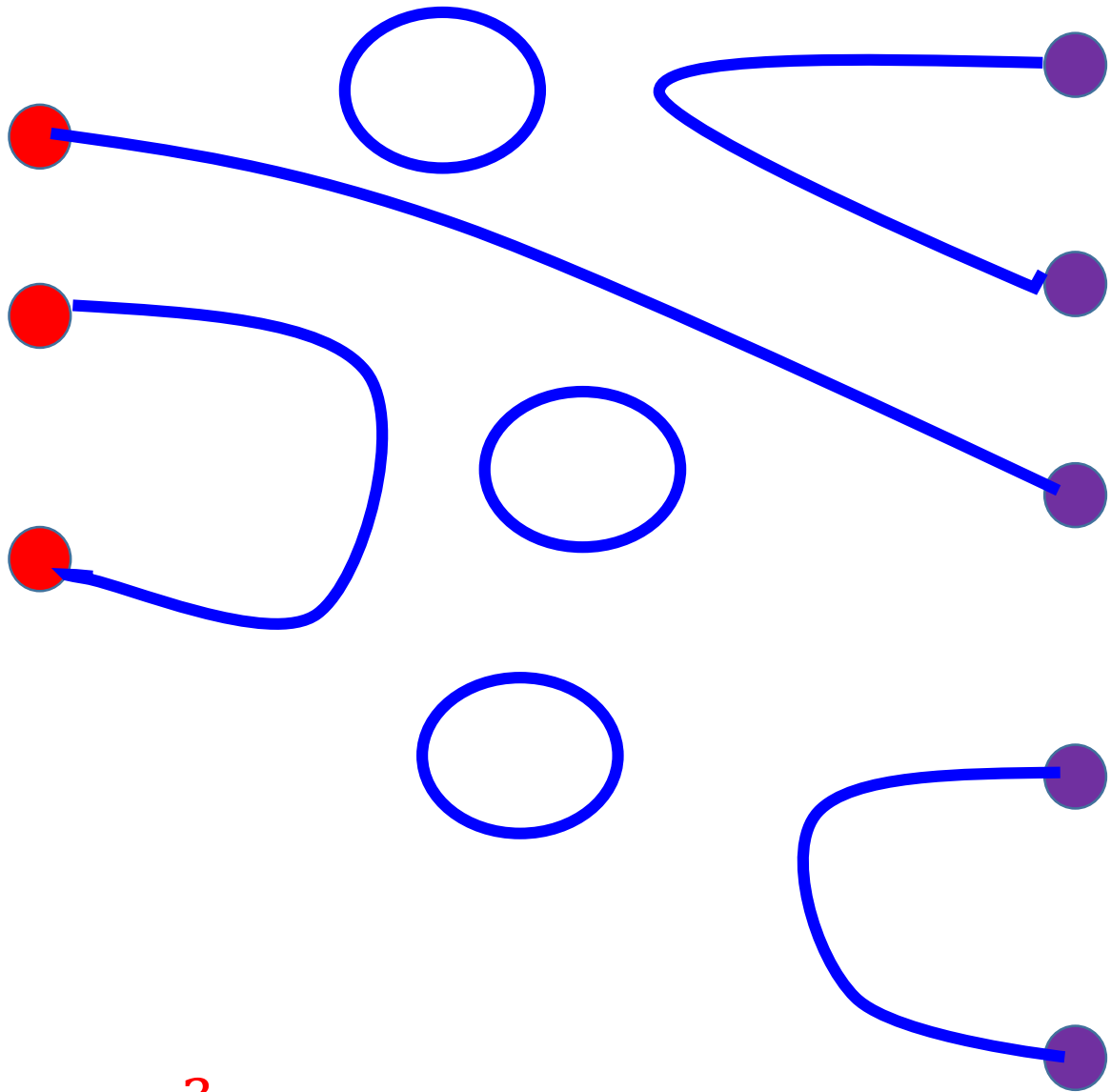
A  $d$ -manifold  $Y$  together with a disjoint decomposition  $\partial Y = (\partial Y)_{in} \sqcup (\partial Y)_{out}$

Diffeomorphisms  $(\partial Y)_{in} \cong X_{in}$  &  $(\partial Y)_{out} \cong X_{out}$

Embeddings  $X_{in} \times [0,1) \rightarrow Y$  &  $X_{out} \times (-1,0] \rightarrow Y$

which reduce to the specified diffeos on the boundary of  $Y$





There are 105 such bordisms.

+ infinitely many more including disjoint unions with circles....

Y:  $X_{in} = \prod_{1}^3 pt \rightarrow X_{out} = \prod_{1}^5 pt$

Bordisms are morphisms in a category  $\mathcal{Bord}_{\langle d, d-1 \rangle}$

A TQFT (in this talk) is a monoidal functor  $\mathcal{Z}$  to the category  $VECT_{\kappa}$  of vector spaces over a field  $\kappa$

$\mathcal{Z}(X)$ : Vector space of “states” for spatial manifold  $X$

$$\mathcal{Z}(X_1 \sqcup X_2) \cong \mathcal{Z}(X_1) \otimes \mathcal{Z}(X_2)$$

$$Y: X_{in} \rightarrow X_{out}$$

$$\mathcal{Z}(Y) \in \text{Hom}(\mathcal{Z}(X_{in}), \mathcal{Z}(X_{out}))$$

$$\mathcal{Z}(Y_1 \circ Y_2) = \mathcal{Z}(Y_1) \circ \mathcal{Z}(Y_2)$$

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# III. Summed & Total Amplitudes: Splitting Property

Recall we can have different bordisms between fixed  $X_{in}$  and  $X_{out}$

Given a TQFT  $\mathcal{Z}$  (the “seed TQFT”) define the “summed amplitude”

$$\mathcal{A}(X_{in}, X_{out}) := \sum_{Y: X_{in} \rightarrow X_{out}} \frac{\mathcal{Z}(Y)}{|Aut(Y)|}$$

$Aut(Y)$ : Automorphism group of homeomorphism type restricting to the identity on the boundary.

## Some Questions:

$$\mathcal{A}(X_{in}, X_{out}) := \sum_{Y: X_{in} \rightarrow X_{out}} \frac{\mathcal{Z}(Y)}{|Aut(Y)|} \in Hom(\mathcal{Z}(X_{in}), \mathcal{Z}(X_{out}))$$

1. Does it exist?
2. Is it computable?
3. What properties does it have ?
4. Extension to the fully local TQFT ?

# Some Answers:

1. It exists for  $d=1,2$  and does not exist for  $d \geq 3$ , at least not in the most naïve sense...
2. Yes, when it exists.
3. From explicit computations: Splitting Property
4. For  $d=2$ , this is the extension to open-closed TQFT.

# The Total Amplitude

Consider all summed amplitudes simultaneously as a linear transformation on the tensor algebra:

$$\mathcal{A} \in \text{End} \left( T^* \left( \bigoplus_X \mathcal{Z}(X) \right) \right)$$

$\bigoplus_X$  : Direct sum over all smooth connected (d-1)-manifolds  
(up to diffeomorphism - a countable sum )

The summed amplitudes descend to

$$\bar{\mathcal{A}} \in \text{End} \left( S^* \left( \bigoplus_X \mathcal{Z}(X) \right) \right) := \text{End}(\text{Fock}(\mathcal{Z}))$$

# The Splitting Property

For  $\kappa = \mathbb{C}$  we can put an inner product structure on  $Fock(\mathcal{Z})$  and there exists an inner product space  $\mathcal{W}$  such that

$$\Phi: Fock(\mathcal{Z}) \rightarrow \mathcal{W}$$

$$\bar{\mathcal{A}} = \Phi\Phi^*$$



## Our Convention:

$$\text{Hom}(V_1, V_2) \cong V_1^\vee \otimes V_2$$

$$T_{12} \in \text{Hom}(V_1, V_2) \quad T_{23} \in \text{Hom}(V_2, V_3)$$

$$T_{12}T_{23} \in \text{Hom}(V_1, V_3)$$

$$T_{12} \otimes T_{23} \in V_1^\vee \otimes V_2 \otimes V_2^\vee \otimes V_3 \mapsto T_{12}T_{23} \in V_1^\vee \otimes V_3$$

$$\bar{\mathcal{A}} = \Phi\Phi^*$$

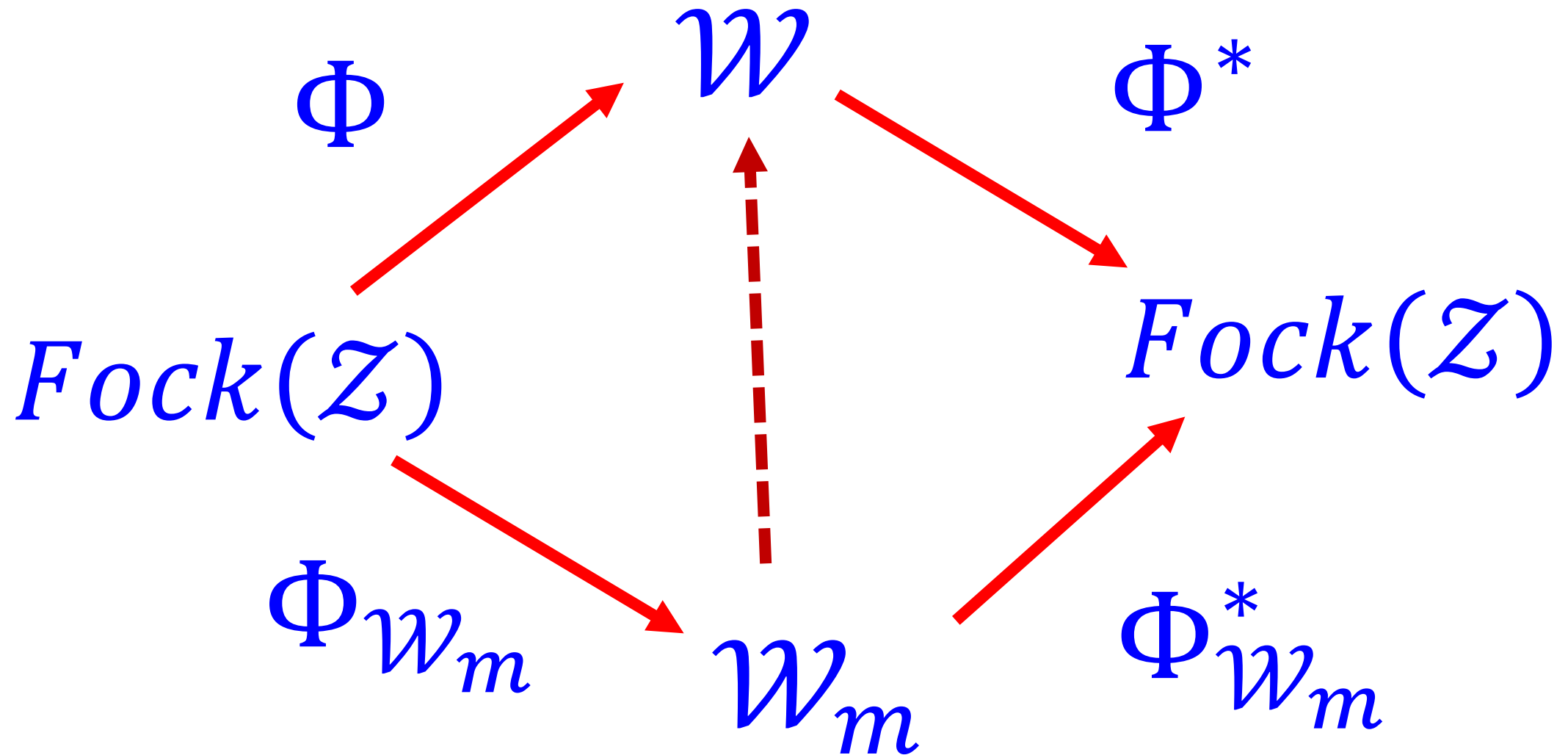
1.  $\bar{\mathcal{A}}$  need not be positive definite.

2. Even if existence is trivial, explicitly finding  $\mathcal{W}$  and  $\Phi$  in examples seems to be slightly nontrivial.

3.  $\mathcal{W}$  is not unique:  $\mathcal{W} \rightarrow \bigoplus_{\alpha} \mathcal{W}_{\alpha}$

$$\Phi \rightarrow \bigoplus_{\alpha} \sqrt{p_{\alpha}} \Phi_{\alpha} \quad \sum p_{\alpha} = 1$$

4. There might be a "minimal"  $\mathcal{W}_m$



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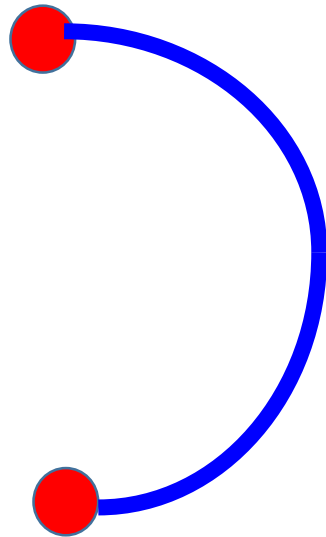
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## IV. Example: $d=1$ , unoriented

$\mathcal{Z}$  is determined by a f.d. vector space  $V = \mathcal{Z}(pt)$  and a symmetric nondegenerate bilinear form  $b: V \otimes V \rightarrow \kappa$



$$\mathit{Fock}(\mathcal{Z}) = \mathit{Fock}(V) = S^*V = \kappa \oplus V \oplus S^2V \oplus \dots$$

$$\text{Start with } X_{in} = X_{out} = \emptyset \quad \mathcal{Z}(S^1) = \dim_{\kappa} V$$

$$\mathcal{A}(\emptyset, \emptyset) = \exp \dim_{\kappa} V$$

# Hartle-Hawking Vector & Covector

HH vector: The sum of nothing to something:

$$\kappa \hookrightarrow \text{Fock}(\mathcal{Z}) \xrightarrow{\bar{\mathcal{A}}} \text{Fock}(\mathcal{Z}) : 1 \mapsto \Psi_{HH} \in \text{Fock}(\mathcal{Z})$$

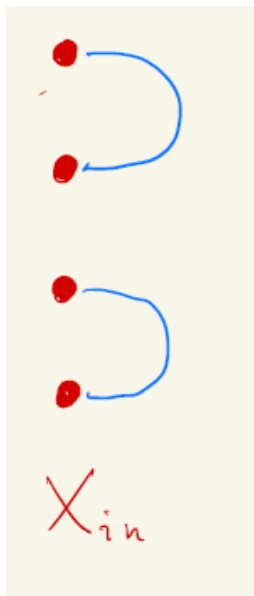
HH covector: The sum of anything to nothing:

$$\text{Fock}(\mathcal{Z}) \xrightarrow{\bar{\mathcal{A}}} \text{Fock}(\mathcal{Z}) \rightarrow \kappa : \Psi_{HH}^V \in \text{Hom}(\text{Fock}(\mathcal{Z}), \kappa)$$

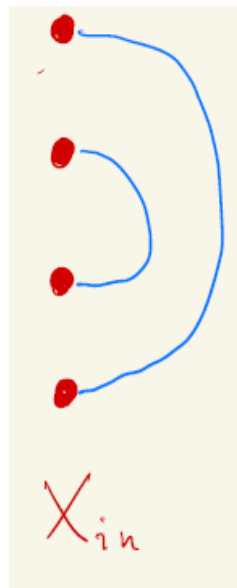
Simplest example: Suppose  $\dim V = 1$

Take  $\kappa = \mathbb{C}$  and choose  $v$  with  $b(v, v) = 1$

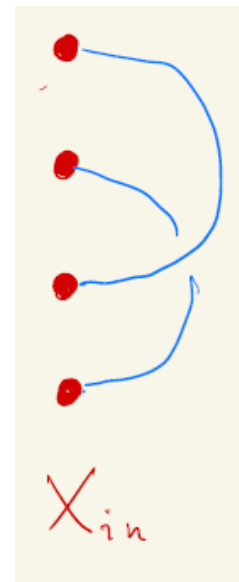
$$\Psi_{HH}^V = \exp(1) \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(2n)!}{n! 2^n} (v^V)^{2n} \in S^* V^V$$



+



+

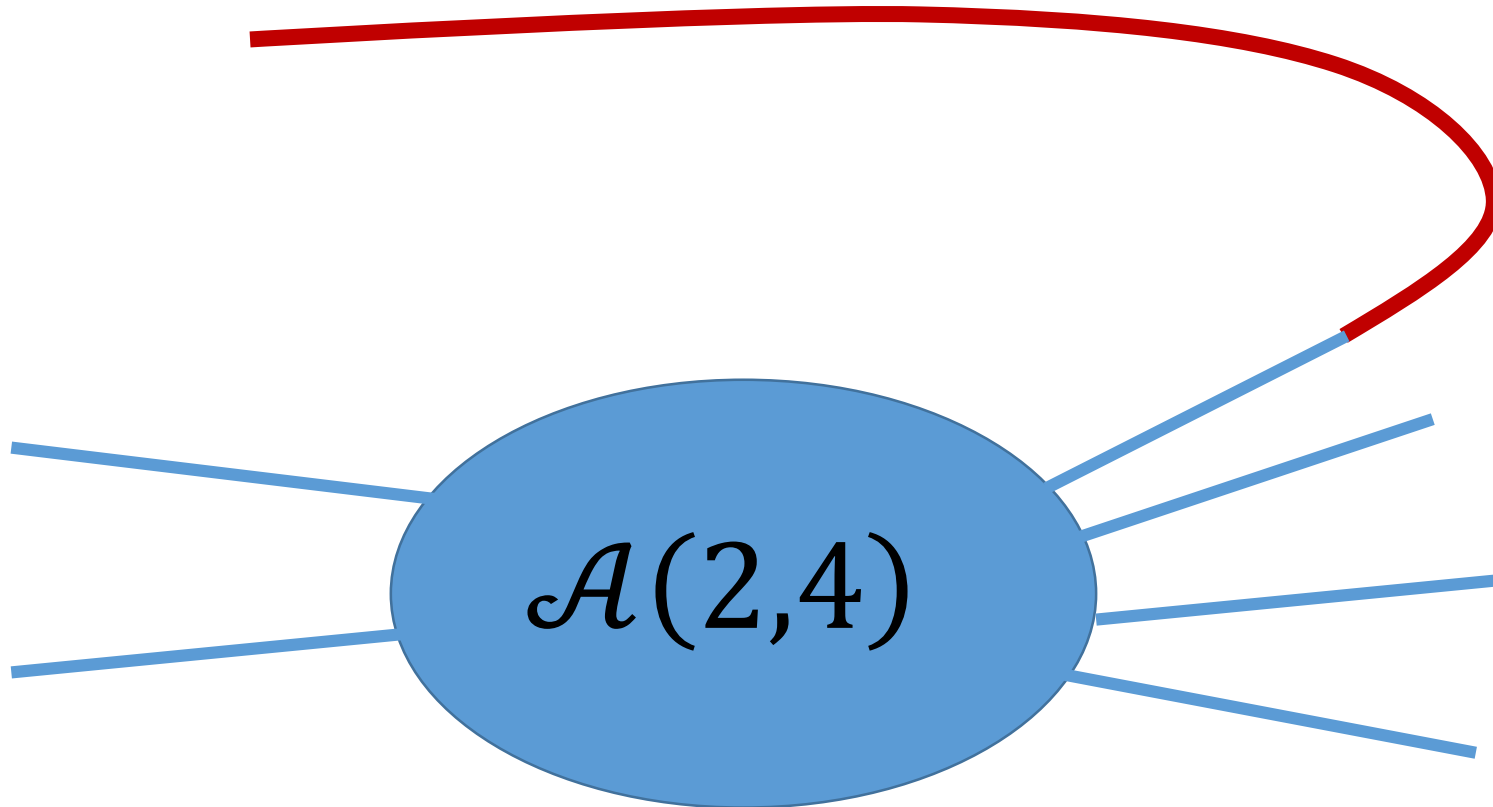




Nondegenerate  $b \Rightarrow$  canonical isomorphisms

$$b^\vee: V \rightarrow V^\vee \quad b_\vee: V^\vee \rightarrow V$$

$$b^\vee \circ \mathcal{A}(n_i, n_o) = \mathcal{A}(n_i + 1, n_o - 1)$$



$$\bar{\mathcal{A}} = \exp(1) \sum_{n_{in} + n_{out} = 2n}^{\infty} \frac{(2n)!}{n! 2^n} (v^V)^{n_{in}} \otimes v^{n_{out}}$$

$$\in S^*V^V \otimes S^*V \cong \text{End}(\text{Fock}(V))$$

# Splitting

Wick's theorem:  $\frac{(2n)!}{n! 2^n} = \int \frac{dh}{\sqrt{2\pi}} h^{2n} e^{-\frac{1}{2}h^2}$

$$\psi_n = (2\pi)^{-\frac{1}{4}} h^n e^{-\frac{1}{4}h^2} \in L^2(\mathbb{R}) = \mathcal{W}$$

$$\langle \psi_n, \psi_m \rangle = \delta_{n+m=0} \frac{(2n+2m)!}{(n+m)! 2^{n+m}}$$

$$\Phi = \exp\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \sum_n (v^V)^n \otimes \psi_n \in \text{Hom}(\text{Fock}(V), \mathcal{W})$$

Generalizes to  $\dim V > 1$

$$\Psi_{HH}^V(e^v) = \exp\left[\dim V + \frac{1}{2}b(v, v)\right] \quad v \in V$$

$\Psi_{HH}^V$  is multilinear & totally symmetric  $\Rightarrow$   
determined by values on the diagonal.

Results can be extended to oriented  $d=1$  theory  
 $\mathcal{Z}$  determined solely by a single vector space  $V$

$$\mathcal{Z}(pt_+) = V \quad \mathcal{Z}(pt_-) = V^\vee \quad \mathcal{W} = L^2(T^2)$$

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## V. Example: d=2 & Oriented

$\mathcal{Z}(S^1) = \mathcal{C}$ : f.d. commutative Frobenius algebra

[Friedan, Dijkgraaf, Segal,...]

$\mathcal{Z}(Disk)$ :  $\theta_{\mathcal{C}}: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \kappa$

$b(\phi_1, \phi_2) = \theta_{\mathcal{C}}(\phi_1 \phi_2)$  : Symmetric nondegenerate form

Open-closed case discussed later.

Complete proof of the sewing theorem (including equivariant case): Moore & Segal 2002

Semisimple

Non-semisimple

Closed

Yes

Examples

Open-closed

Yes

????

$\mathcal{Z}(S^1)$  Semisimple

$$\mathcal{C} = \bigoplus_{x \in \mathcal{X}} \mathcal{C}_x = \bigoplus_{x \in \mathcal{X}} \mathbb{C} \varepsilon_x$$

$$\varepsilon_x \varepsilon_y = \delta_{x,y} \varepsilon_x \quad \theta(\varepsilon_x) = \theta_x \in \kappa^*$$

2d Topological String Theory with target space

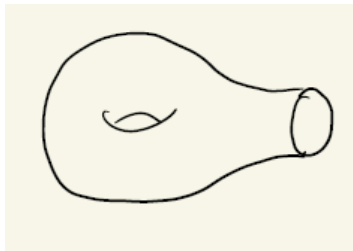
$$\mathcal{X} = \text{Spec}(\mathcal{C}) \text{ and dilaton } \theta_x = g_{string,x}^{-2}$$



$$\bar{\mathcal{A}}(\emptyset, \emptyset) = \exp(\mathcal{Z}(Y_0) + \mathcal{Z}(Y_1) + \dots)$$

$$= \exp\left(\theta_{\mathcal{C}} \left(\frac{1}{1-h}\right)\right) = \exp \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} \lambda_x$$

$h \in \mathcal{C}$  : Handle-adding element defined by the one-hole torus with one outgoing  $S^1$



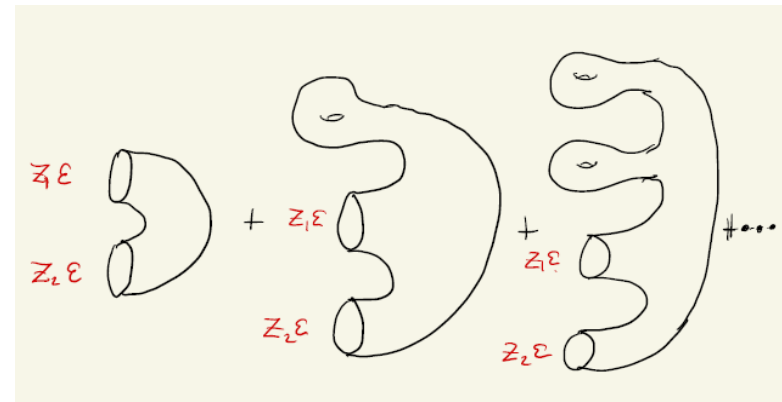
$$\lambda_x = \frac{\theta_x}{1 - \theta_x^{-1}} = g_x^{-2} + 1 + g_x^2 + \dots$$

$$\bar{\mathcal{A}}(S^1 \sqcup S^1, \emptyset)(\phi_1, \phi_2) = ?$$

For simplicity: Take  $\dim \mathcal{C} = 1$        $\phi_1 = z_1 \varepsilon$ ,       $\phi_2 = z_2 \varepsilon \in \mathcal{C}$

Bordisms with one connected component:

$$\phi_1 \otimes \phi_2 \mapsto z_1 z_2 \lambda$$

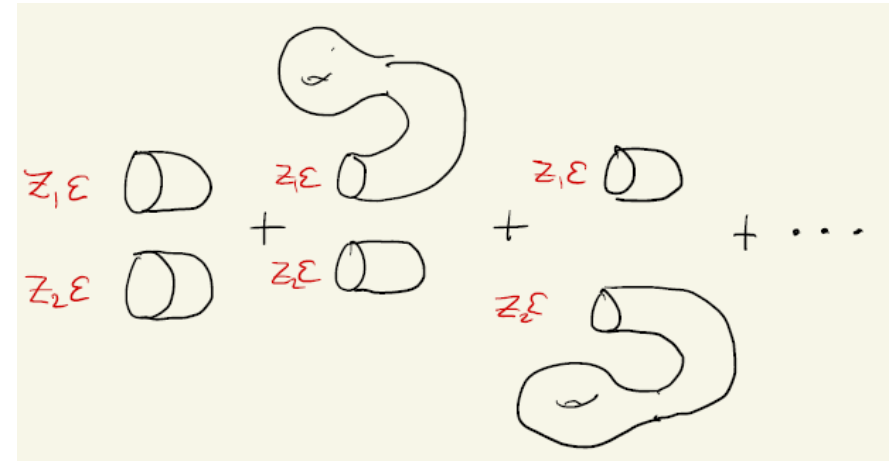


Bordisms with one connected component and  $n$  ingoing circles:

$$\phi_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes \phi_n \mapsto (z_1 \cdots z_n) \lambda$$

Returning to 2 ingoing circles: We can also have bordisms with two connected components:

$$\phi_1 \otimes \phi_2 \mapsto z_1 z_2 \lambda^2$$



Altogether:  $\bar{\mathcal{A}}(2,0)(\phi_1, \phi_2) = z_1 z_2 e^\lambda (\lambda + \lambda^2)$

Marolf-Maxfield recognize  $B_2(\lambda)$  as a Bell polynomial  $= z_1 z_2 e^\lambda B_2(\lambda)$

# Bell Polynomials

$B_n(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ : A polynomial that counts the ways a set of  $n$  elements can be partitioned

Coefficient of  $x_1^{k_1} x_2^{k_2} \dots$  : counts disjoint decompositions with

$k_1$  subsets of cardinality 1

Etc.

$k_2$  subsets of cardinality 2

$B_n(\lambda) := B_n(\lambda, \lambda, \dots, \lambda)$  (Touchard polynomials)

Dividing a bordism  $\coprod_1^n S^1 \rightarrow \emptyset$  into connected components will have  $k_j$  connected components with  $j$  ingoing circles. Each such component, when summed over handles gives a factor of  $\lambda$

Upshot is:

$$\Psi_{HH}^V = e^\lambda \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} B_n(\lambda) (\varepsilon^V)^n$$

Applying  $b_v$  

$$\bar{\mathcal{A}} = e^\lambda \sum_{n_i, n_o} B_{n_i+n_o}(\lambda) (\varepsilon^V)^{n_i} \otimes \left( \frac{\varepsilon}{\theta} \right)^{n_o}$$

$$e^\lambda B_n(\lambda) = \sum_{d=0}^{\infty} \frac{\lambda^d}{d!} d^n$$

Used extensively in the Marolf-Maxfield paper.

$$\bar{\mathcal{A}} = e^\lambda \sum_{n_i, n_o} B_{n_i+n_o}(\lambda) (\varepsilon^V)^{n_i} \otimes \left( \frac{\varepsilon}{\theta} \right)^{n_o}$$

$$e^\lambda B_n(\lambda) = \sum_{d=0}^{\infty} \frac{\lambda^d}{d!} d^n \quad \longrightarrow$$

$$\bar{\mathcal{A}} = \sum_{n_i, n_o \geq 0} (\varepsilon^V)^{\otimes n_i} \left( \sum_{d=0}^{\infty} \frac{\lambda^d}{d!} d^{n_i+n_o} \right) \otimes \left( \frac{\varepsilon}{\theta} \right)^{\otimes n_o}$$

Frobenius structure gives canonical  
sesquilinear form

$$\varepsilon^* = \theta \varepsilon^V \quad (\varepsilon^V)^* = (\theta^*)^{-1} \varepsilon$$

$$\mathcal{W} = \text{Fock}(\mathcal{C})$$

For  $\theta$  real, but not necessarily positive,

$$\bar{\mathcal{A}} = \Phi \Phi^* \quad \Phi = \sum_{\ell, d \in \mathbb{Z}_+} \sqrt{\frac{\lambda^d}{d!}} (d \varepsilon^V)^\ell \otimes \left( \frac{\varepsilon}{\sqrt{\theta}} \right)^d$$



$$\Phi \otimes \Phi^* = \sum_{\ell_i, d_i, \ell_o, d_o} \sqrt{\frac{\lambda^{d_i}}{d_i!}} \sqrt{\frac{\bar{\lambda}^{d_o}}{d_o!}}$$

$$(d_i \varepsilon^V)^{\ell_i} \otimes \left( \frac{\varepsilon}{\sqrt{\theta}} \right)^{d_i} \otimes \left( \frac{\theta}{\sqrt{\bar{\theta}}} \varepsilon^V \right)^{d_o} \otimes \left( \frac{d_o}{\bar{\theta}} \varepsilon \right)^{\ell_o}$$

Contracting inner two factors puts  $d_i = d_o$   
and recovers  $\bar{\mathcal{A}}$  if  $\theta$  is real.

# Relation To Coherent States - 1/2

$$[a, a^*] = 1 \quad \frac{1}{\sqrt{d!}} (a^*)^d |0\rangle := |d\rangle \leftrightarrow \left( \frac{\varepsilon}{\sqrt{\theta}} \right)^d \in S^d \mathcal{C}$$

$$\Psi_\lambda := \exp(\sqrt{\lambda} a^*) |0\rangle$$

$$N := a^* a$$

$$e^\lambda B_n(\lambda) = \langle \Psi_\lambda, N^n \Psi_\lambda \rangle$$

# Relation To Coherent States - 2/2

$$Z_{ann}: \mathcal{W} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}^{\vee} \otimes \mathcal{W} \quad |d\rangle \mapsto (d \varepsilon^{\vee}) \otimes |d\rangle$$

$$Z_{cr}: \mathcal{W}^{\vee} \rightarrow \mathcal{W}^{\vee} \otimes \mathcal{C} \quad \langle d| \mapsto \langle d| \otimes \left( \frac{d}{\theta} \varepsilon \right)$$

$$\bar{\mathcal{A}} = \left\langle \Psi_{\lambda}, \frac{1}{1 - Z_{cr}} \frac{1}{1 - Z_{ann}} \Psi_{\lambda} \right\rangle$$

$$\in S^* \mathcal{C}^{\vee} \otimes S^* \mathcal{C} \cong \text{End}(\text{Fock}(\mathcal{C}))$$

In some sense  $\mathcal{W}$  is the Hilbert space of a  
`dual quantum mechanical system` to the  
`quantum gravity theory.`

$$\bar{\mathcal{A}} = \left\langle \frac{1}{1 - Z_{cr}} \Psi_\lambda, \frac{1}{1 - Z_{ann}} \Psi_\lambda \right\rangle \in \text{End}(S^* \mathcal{C})$$

Digression: Formulae are reminiscent of  
“quantum mechanics with noncommutative amplitudes”

Standard QM:  $\langle \psi_1, \psi_2 \rangle \in \mathbb{C}$

QMNA:  $\langle \Psi_1, \Psi_2 \rangle \in \text{some } C^* \text{ –algebra}$

i.e.  $\Psi$  in a Hilbert  $C^*$  module  $\mathcal{E}$

Born Rule ?

Consider “adjointable operators”  $T : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$

$$(\Psi_1, T\Psi_2)_{\mathfrak{A}} = (T^*\Psi_1, \Psi_2)_{\mathfrak{A}}$$

The adjointable operators  $\mathfrak{B}$  are another  $C^*$  algebra.

**Definition:** QMNA observables are self-adjoint elements of  $\mathfrak{B}$

**Definition:** A QMNA state is a completely positive unital map  $\varphi : \mathfrak{B} \rightarrow \mathfrak{A}$

# QMNA Born Rule

Main insight is that we should regard the Born Rule as a map

$$BR : \mathcal{S}^{\text{QMNA}} \times \mathcal{O}^{\text{QMNA}} \times \mathcal{S}(\mathfrak{A}) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}$$

For general  $\mathfrak{A}$  the datum  $\omega \in \mathcal{S}(\mathfrak{A})$  together with complete positivity of  $\varphi$  give just the right information to state a Born rule in general:

$$BR(\varphi, T, \omega) \in \mathcal{P}$$

Family of quantum systems over a noncommutative space.

Reinterpret various constructions in quantum information theory in terms of noncommutative geometry

END OF DIGRESSION



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# VI. $d=2$ Open-Closed: Oriented, Semi-simple

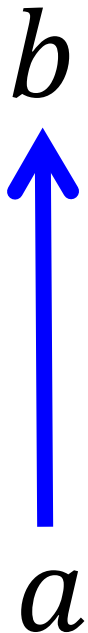
In/out manifolds are disjoint unions of circles  
and oriented intervals

The intervals are 1-morphisms  
in a category (of manifolds with corners)

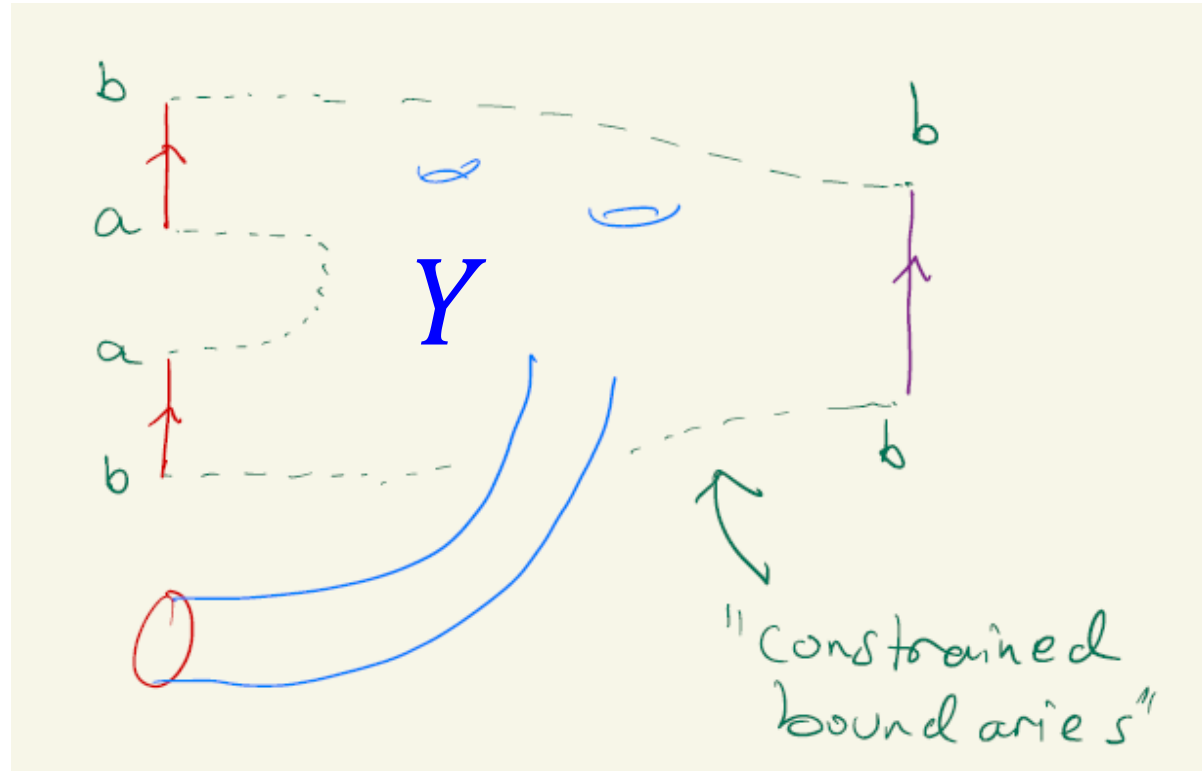
$a, b$  are objects in a category of  
boundary conditions.

[Moore  
& Segal]

$$\mathcal{Z}(I_{ab}) = \text{Hom}(a, b) := \mathcal{O}_{ab}$$

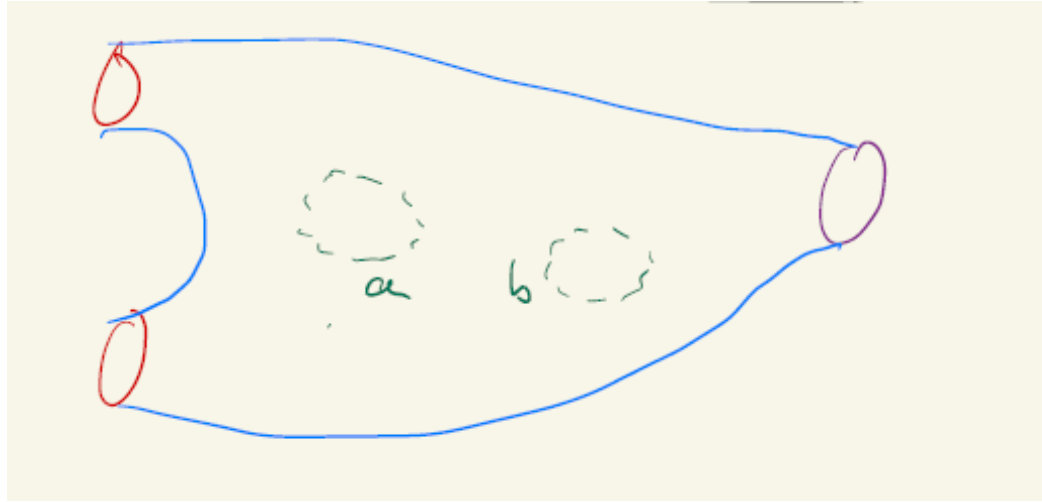


# The surfaces are now 2-morphisms in a 2-category



$$\partial Y = (\partial Y)_{in} \coprod (\partial Y)_{out} \coprod (\partial Y)_{constrained}$$

# We can also have closed constrained boundaries



## Three conceptually distinct kinds of boundaries

1. Ingoing/outgoing circles & intervals
2. Constrained boundaries connecting in/out endpoints to in and/or out endpoints of intervals
3. Closed constrained boundaries

# Splitting Formula - Simplest Case

For simplicity (we can relax all these conditions):

1.  $\dim \mathcal{C} = 1$

2. All constrained boundaries are labeled with single b.c.  $a$  with  $\text{Hom}(a, a) = \mathcal{O}_{aa}$

3. No closed constrained boundaries

4. All in/out manifolds are intervals  $I_{aa}$

$\mu^{-1}$  = open string coupling:  $\mu^2 = \theta$

For  $\mu$  real,  $\theta > 0$   $\bar{\mathcal{A}} = \Phi\Phi^*$

$$\Phi: S^* \mathcal{O}_{aa} \rightarrow L^2(\mathcal{E}_{N_a})$$

“Cardy condition” implies  $\mathcal{O}_{aa} \cong \text{Mat}_{N_a \times N_a}(\mathbb{C})$  [Moore&Segal]

$\mathcal{E}_{N_a}$  = vector space of  $N_a \times N_a$  Hermitian matrices

$$\Phi = \sum_n \sum_{S=\{i_1 j_1, i_2 j_2, \dots, i_n j_n\}} \prod_{a=1}^n e^{i_a j_a} \int_{\mathcal{E}_{N_a}} [dH] e^{-\frac{1}{2}U(H)} \prod_{a=1}^n H_{j_a i_a} \langle H |$$

$e_{ij}$  : Basis of matrix units for  $\mathcal{O}_{aa}$  ;  $e_{ij}^V$  is the dual basis

$$e^{-U(H)} = \int_{\sqrt{-1}\mathcal{E}_{N_a}} [dS] \exp \left( \left( \frac{\lambda}{\det(1 - S)^{\frac{1}{\mu}}} \right) - \text{Tr}(SH) \right)$$

Corollary:

$$\Psi_{HH}^V(e^T) = \exp \left[ \lambda / (\det(1 - T)^{\frac{1}{\mu}}) \right]$$

Related formula in  
Gardiner-Megas

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# G- Equivariant Generalization: Finite Groups

1. Bordism category: Principal G-bundles
2. Replace Frobenius algebra by Turaev algebra  $\mathcal{C}$
3. Sum over bordisms splits into two parts: Sum over bundles and sum over topologies of surfaces
4. Sum over bundles is gauging. It simply replaces  $\mathcal{C}$  by ss Frobenius algebra  $\mathcal{C}^{orb}$  and we are back in the previous case.

# Topological Gravity Coupled To 2D YM

$G$ : Compact connected simple Lie group

Morphisms are surfaces with area  $A$ ,  
which is additive under gluing.

$$\mathcal{Z}(S^1) = L^2(G)^G \otimes \mathcal{C}$$

ON basis:  $\chi_R \otimes \varepsilon/\sqrt{\theta} \quad R \in G^\vee$ :

$G^\vee$ : Unitary dual: Irreps of  $G$

$$\log \mathcal{A}(\emptyset, \emptyset) = \int_0^\infty \frac{dA}{A} A^p \sum_{g=0}^{\infty} \sum_{R \in \mathcal{G}^V} (\theta \dim(R)^2)^{1-g} e^{-A(g_{ym}^{-2} C_2(R) + \Lambda_0)}$$

$\Lambda_0 > 0$       Cosmological constant

$p$ : Determines the measure for summing over bordisms

Depends on the nature of the quantum gravity we couple to.

$$\log \mathcal{A}(\emptyset, \emptyset) = \int_0^\infty \frac{dA}{A} A^p \sum_{g=0}^{\infty} \sum_{R \in \mathcal{G}^V} (\theta \dim(R)^2)^{1-g} e^{-A(\mu C_2(R) + \mu_0)}$$

$$= \sum_{R \in \mathcal{G}^V} \lambda_R \quad \lambda_R = \frac{\theta (\dim(R)^2)}{1 - (\theta (\dim(R)^2))^{-1}} \frac{\Gamma(p)}{(g_{ym}^{-2} C_2(R) + \Lambda_0)^p}$$

Converges for  $Re(p) > |\Delta_+(g)| + \frac{1}{2}$

Expected to admit analytic continuation in  $p$

$$\Psi_{HH}^V(e^{z \varepsilon \otimes U}) = \prod_{R \in G^V} \exp\left[ \lambda_R \exp\left( z \frac{\chi_R(U)}{\dim(R)} \right) \right]$$

Compare with result for semisimple 2d closed case:

$$\Psi_{HH}^V(e^{z_x \varepsilon_x}) = \prod_{x \in \mathcal{X}} \exp\left[ \lambda_x \exp(z_x) \right]$$

strongly suggests there will be factorization with

$$\mathcal{W} = \text{Fock}(\mathcal{Z}(S^1)) = S^*(L^2(G)^G \otimes \mathcal{C})$$

- 1 Motivation
- 2 Reminders On TQFT
- 3 Summed & Total Amplitudes: Splitting Property
- 4 Example:  $d = 1$
- 5 Example:  $d = 2$ , closed
- 6 Example:  $d = 2$ , open-closed
- 7 Coupling To 2d YM
- 8  $d \geq 3$ : Comments
- 9 Summary & Some Open Problems

## VIII. Comments On $d \geq 3$

Can we extend these ideas to  $d=3$  TQFT ?

Classification of manifolds is **MUCH** more difficult !!

$$\mathcal{A}(\emptyset, \emptyset) = \exp\left(\sum_Y \mathcal{Z}(Y)\right)$$

Sum over closed connected 3-folds  $Y$

That includes the sum over  $Y = S^1 \times \Sigma_g$

$$\mathcal{Z}(Y) = \dim \mathcal{Z}(\Sigma_g)$$

For standard fully local TQFT,  $\dim \mathcal{Z}(\Sigma_g)$  grows with  $g$

The sum is irretrievably divergent.

Can we have  $\dim \mathcal{Z}(\Sigma_g) = 0$  for sufficiently large  $g$  ?

Sergei Gukov: No!

Cut along the boundary of a handlebody for any  $g$

If  $\dim \mathcal{Z}(\Sigma_g) = 0$  for any  $g$  then all amplitudes vanish!!



Is there some way to modify the domain  
and/or codomain categories to produce  
interesting examples for  $d > 2$  ?

1

Motivation

2

Reminders On TQFT

3

Summed & Total Amplitudes: Splitting Property

4

Example:  $d = 1$

5

Example:  $d = 2$ , closed

6

Example:  $d = 2$ , open-closed

7

Coupling To 2d YM

8

$d \geq 3$ : Comments

9

Summary & Some Open Problems

# IX. Summary And Open Problems

For suitable parameters of our TQFT, the total amplitude

$$\bar{\mathcal{A}} \in \text{End}(\otimes_X S^*(\mathcal{Z}(X))) := \text{End}(\text{Fock}(\mathcal{Z}))$$

Has a splitting:  $\bar{\mathcal{A}} = \Phi\Phi^*$

$$\Phi: \text{Fock}(\mathcal{Z}) \rightarrow \mathcal{W}$$

We also worked out some examples for non-semi-simple d=2 TQFT. The splitting persists

Potential conceptual interpretations: Holography & QMNA

# Extensions of the d=2 results

1. The general non-semisimple case, closed, and open

2. Other tangential structures: Unorientable, (s)pin, ...

3. Topological string theory:  $\bar{\mathcal{A}} \in \text{End} \left( S^* H_q^*(\mathcal{X}) \right)$

4. A splitting formula for JT gravity might have interesting implications for the ongoing discussion about the role of ensemble averages in AdS/CFT

Is the existence of a splitting formula deep or a trivial consequence of linear algebra ?

Rough idea: The total amplitude is symmetric under exchange of all in-going boundaries for all out-going boundaries.

But any symmetric (f.d. complex) matrix  $S$   
can be written as  $S = \Phi\Phi^{tr}$

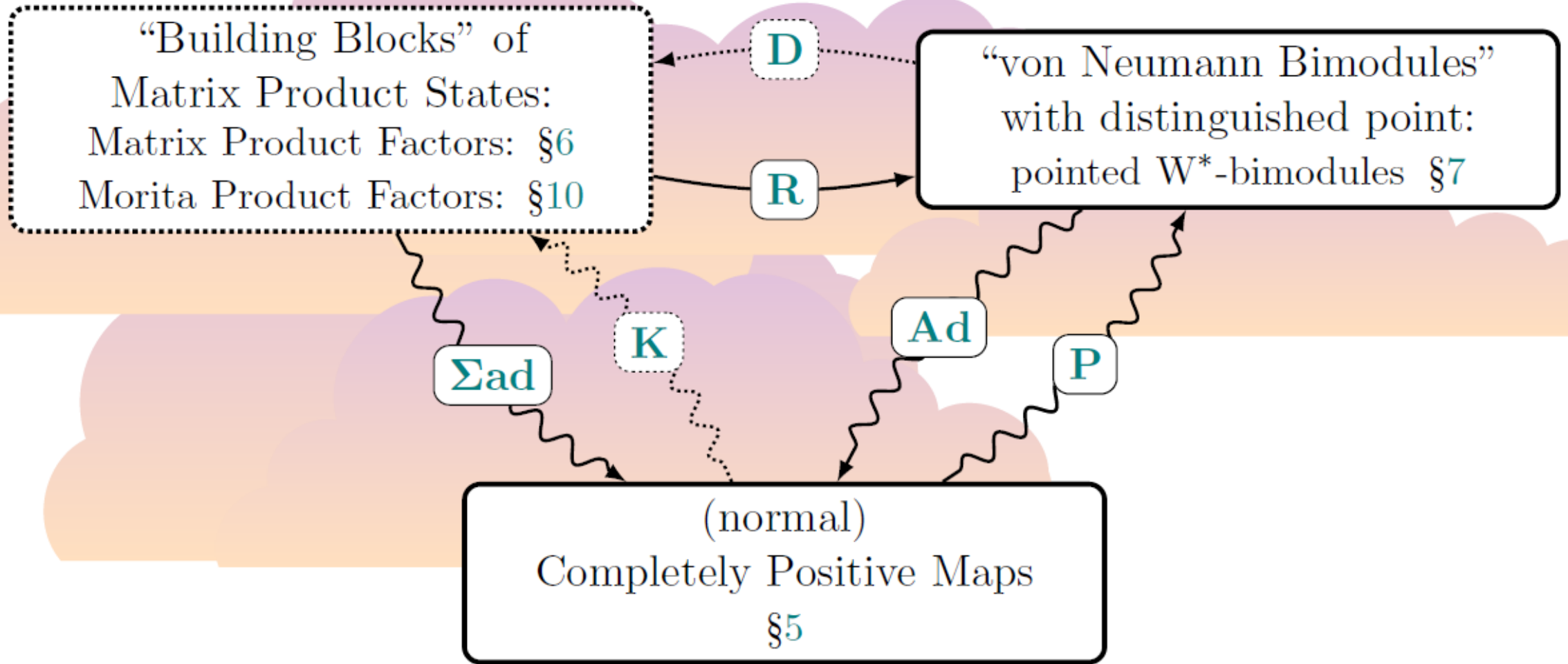
If it doesn't just follow by linear algebra,  
is there an a priori reason why it should hold?

And what to do about  $d \geq 3$  ???

... and before we finish ...

... an advertisement for an upcoming paper  
with Roman Geiko and Tom Mainiero

# Equivalence of 2-categories of



*Thanks for your attention!*



# SUPPLEMENT 1

# MM construction of “baby universe Hilbert space”

A sesquilinear form on  $S^* \mathcal{C}$  is defined by

$$\langle \phi_1, \phi_2 \rangle = \Psi_{HH}^{\vee} (K(\phi_1) \phi_2)$$

$$\phi = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n \varepsilon^n \rightarrow f_{\phi}(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^n$$

$$\langle \phi_1, \phi_2 \rangle = \sum_{d=0}^{\infty} \frac{\lambda^d}{d!} (f_1(d))^* f_2(d)$$

$Ann(\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle) \cong$  A vector space of  
order  $\leq 1$  entire functions that vanish on  $\mathbb{Z}_+$

$S^* \mathcal{C}$  is viewed as a  $*$ -algebra.

MM then imitate the GNS construction and define a “baby universe Hilbert space”

$$\mathcal{H}_{BU} := S^* \mathcal{C} / \text{Ann}(\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$$

$$\cong \left\{ (\xi_0, \xi_1, \dots) \in \mathbb{C}^\infty \mid \sum \frac{\lambda^d}{d!} |\xi_d|^2 < \infty \right\}$$

$(\lambda > 0) \quad \cong$  H.O. representation of Heisenberg algebra

Expectation values in a coherent state are then interpreted as stochastic expectations of a “universe creation operator  $Z$ ”

$\Psi_{HH}^V$  is viewed as defining an expectation value on polynomials in a stochastic variable  $Z$  on  $S^*\mathcal{C}$  where  $Z(\varepsilon)$  has the interpretation of the partition function of a 1d TQFT chosen from an ensemble with Poisson probability distribution

$$p(d) = e^{-\lambda} \frac{\lambda^d}{d!}$$

for an ensemble of 1d TQFTs with  $\dim V = d$ .

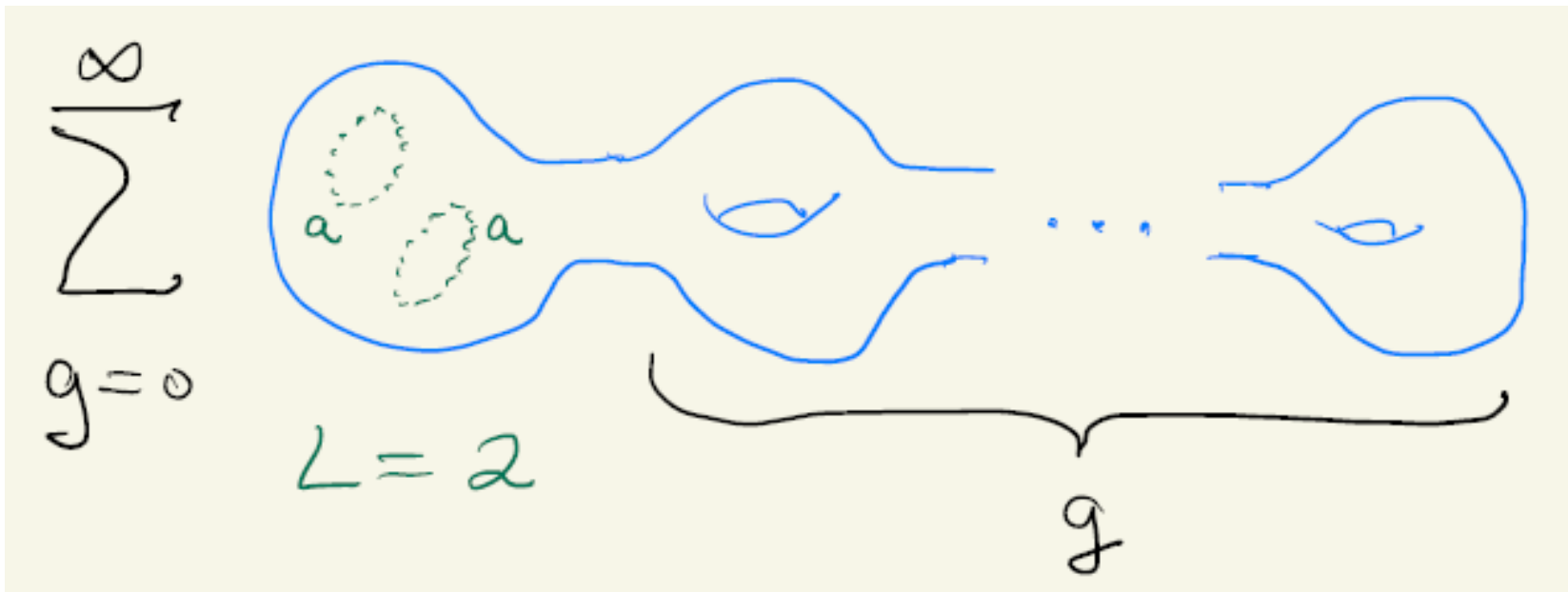
END OF SUPPLEMENT 1

BEGIN SUPPLEMENT 2

# VII. Constrained Boundaries & An Ensemble Interpretation

MM paper aimed to give an interpretation of the 2d model in terms of an ensemble average of 1d models.

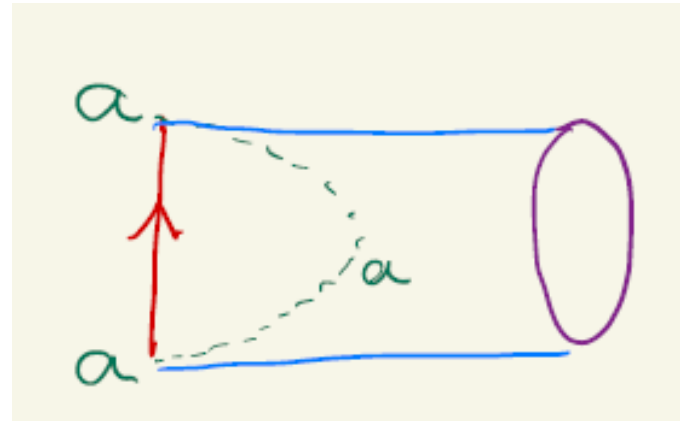
Sum over bordisms  $\emptyset \rightarrow \emptyset$  with  $L$  constrained boundaries of type  $a$



+ Disconnected surfaces

$$\frac{\bar{\mathcal{A}}_{\{L\}}(\emptyset, \emptyset)}{\bar{\mathcal{A}}(\emptyset, \emptyset)} = B_L(x_1, \dots, x_L) \quad x_j = \theta_c \left( \frac{1}{1-h} B_a^j \right)$$

$$B_a := \iota_a(1_{\mathcal{O}_{aa}}) \in \mathcal{C}$$



$$\dim \mathcal{C} = 1 : \quad B_a = \frac{N_a}{\mu} \varepsilon$$

$$\frac{\bar{\mathcal{A}}_{\{L\}}(\emptyset, \emptyset)}{\bar{\mathcal{A}}(\emptyset, \emptyset)} = \left(\frac{1}{\mu}\right)^L \sum_{d=0}^{\infty} e^{-\lambda} \frac{\lambda^d}{d!} (dN_a)^L$$

$$= \left(\frac{1}{\mu}\right)^L \langle \mathcal{Z}(S^1)^L \rangle_{\mathcal{E}}$$

$\mathcal{Z}$  is a stochastic variable on an ensemble  $\mathcal{E}$  of 1d oriented TQFT's  $\mathcal{Z}_d$  labeled by  $d \in \mathbb{Z}_+$  with

$$p(\mathcal{Z}_d) = e^{-\lambda} \frac{\lambda^d}{d!} \quad \mathcal{Z}_d(S^1) = \dim V_d = d N_a$$



It would be interesting to give an ensemble interpretation to the full set of open/closed amplitudes.

This suggests it could be interesting to consider TQFT's where the target category is the category of f.d. vector bundles over measure spaces as a way to model ensemble averages of field theories.

END OF SUPPLEMENT 2

BEGIN SUPPLEMENT 3

# Quantum Systems

Set of physical “states”  $\mathcal{S}$

Set of physical “observables”  $\mathcal{O}$

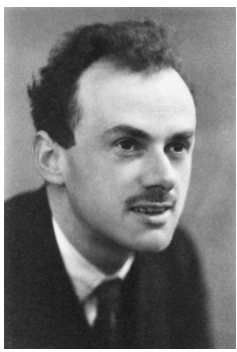
Born Rule:  $BR : \mathcal{S} \times \mathcal{O} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}$

$\mathcal{P}$  Probability measures on  $\mathbb{R}$ .

$$m \in \mathfrak{M}(\mathbb{R}) \longrightarrow 0 \leq \wp(m) \leq 1$$

$$m = [r_1, r_2] \subset \mathbb{R} \quad BR(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{O})([r_1, r_2])$$

is the probability that a measurement of the observable  $\mathbf{O}$  in the state  $\mathbf{s}$  has value between  $r_1$  and  $r_2$ .



# Dirac-von Neumann Axioms



$\mathcal{S}$  Density matrices  $\rho$ : Positive trace class operators on Hilbert space of trace =1

$\mathcal{O}$  Self-adjoint operators  $T$  on Hilbert space

Spectral Theorem: There is a one-one correspondence of self-adjoint operators  $T$  and projection valued measures:

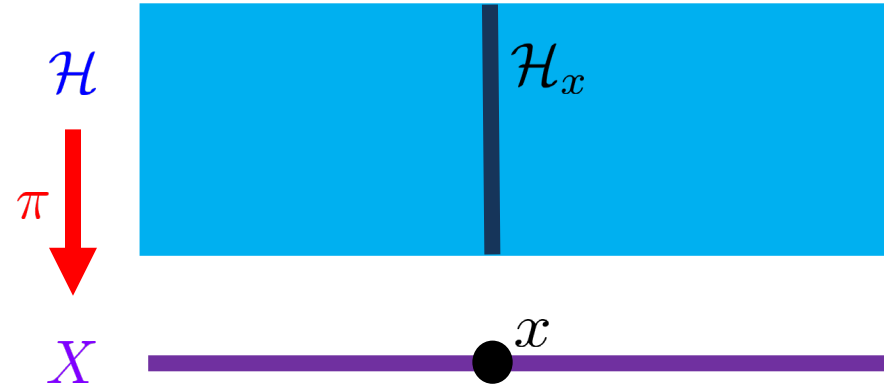
$$m \in \mathfrak{M}(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow P_T(m)$$

**Example:**  $T = \sum_{\lambda} \lambda P_{\lambda} \quad P_T([r_1, r_2]) = \sum_{r_1 \leq \lambda \leq r_2} P_{\lambda}$

$$m \in \mathfrak{M}(\mathbb{R}) \quad BR(\rho, T)(m) = \text{Tr}_{\mathcal{H}} (\rho P_T(m))$$

# Continuous Families Of Quantum Systems

Hilbert bundle over space  $X$  of control parameters.



For each  $x$  get a probability measure  $\wp_x$ :

$$m \in \mathfrak{M}(\mathbb{R}) \mapsto \wp_x(m) := \text{Tr}_{\mathcal{H}_x}(\rho_x P_{T_x}(m))$$

$$BR : \mathcal{S} \times \mathcal{O} \times X \rightarrow \mathcal{P}$$

$$BR(\rho, T, x) = \wp_x$$



# Noncommutative Control Parameters

We would like to define a family of quantum systems parametrized by a NC manifold whose “algebra of functions” is a general  $C^*$  algebra  $\mathfrak{A}$

What are observables?

What are states?

What is the Born rule?

What replaces the Hilbert bundle?

# Noncommutative Hilbert Bundles

Definition: Hilbert  $C^*$  module  $\mathcal{E}$  over  $C^*$ -algebra  $\mathfrak{A}$ .

Complex vector space  $\mathcal{E}$  with a right-action of  $\mathfrak{A}$   
and an "inner product" valued in  $\mathfrak{A}$

$$\Psi_1, \Psi_2 \in \mathcal{E} \quad (\Psi_1, \Psi_2)_{\mathfrak{A}} \in \mathfrak{A}$$

$$(\Psi_1, \Psi_2)_{\mathfrak{A}}^* = (\Psi_2, \Psi_1)_{\mathfrak{A}}$$

$$(\Psi, \Psi)_{\mathfrak{A}} \geq 0 \quad (\text{Positive element of the } C^* \text{ algebra.})$$

$$(\Psi_1, \Psi_2 a) = (\Psi_1, \Psi_2) a \dots$$

Like a Hilbert space, but "overlaps" are valued  
in a (possibly) noncommutative algebra.

# Quantum Mechanics With Noncommutative Amplitudes

Basic idea: Replace the Hilbert space by a Hilbert C\* module

$$\mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$$

$$\Psi_1, \Psi_2 \in \mathcal{E} \quad (\Psi_1, \Psi_2)_{\mathfrak{A}} \in \mathfrak{A}$$

Overlaps are valued in a possibly noncommutative algebra.

$$\text{QM:} \quad 0 \leq \wp(\lambda) = (\psi_\lambda, \psi)(\psi_\lambda, \psi)^* \leq 1$$

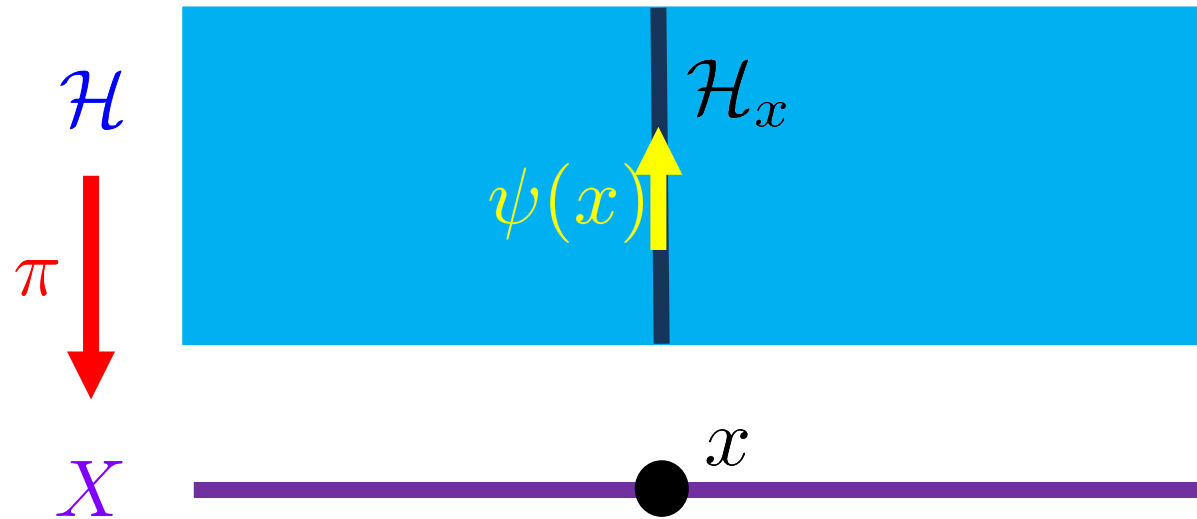
$$\text{QMNA:} \quad (\Psi_\lambda, \Psi)(\Psi_\lambda, \Psi)^* \in \mathfrak{A}$$



# Example 1: Hilbert Bundle Over A Commutative Manifold

$$\mathcal{E} = \Gamma[\mathcal{H} \rightarrow X] \quad \mathfrak{A} = C(X)$$

$$\Psi : x \mapsto \psi(x) \in \mathcal{H}_x$$



$$(\Psi_1, \Psi_2)_{\mathfrak{A}} \in \mathfrak{A} := C(X)$$

$$(\Psi_1, \Psi_2)_{\mathfrak{A}}(x) := (\psi_1(x), \psi_2(x))_{\mathcal{H}_x} \in \mathbb{C}$$

## Example 2: Hilbert Bundle Over A Fuzzy Point

Def: "fuzzy point" has  $\mathfrak{A} \cong \text{Mat}_{a \times a}(\mathbb{C})$

$$\mathcal{E} = \text{Mat}_{b \times a}(\mathbb{C})$$

$$(\Psi_1, \Psi_2)_{\mathfrak{A}} = \Psi_1^\dagger \Psi_2$$

# Observables In QMNA

Consider “adjointable operators”  $T : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$

$$(\Psi_1, T\Psi_2)_{\mathfrak{A}} = (T^*\Psi_1, \Psi_2)_{\mathfrak{A}}$$

The adjointable operators  
 $\mathfrak{B}$  are another C\* algebra.

**Definition: QMNA observables  
are self-adjoint elements of  $\mathfrak{B}$**

(Technical problem: There is no spectral theorem for self-adjoint elements of an abstract C\* algebra. )

# C\* Algebra States

Definition: A C\*-algebra state  $\omega \in \mathcal{S}(\mathfrak{A})$   
is a positive linear functional

$$\omega : \mathfrak{A} \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \quad \omega(\mathbf{1}) = 1$$

$$\mathfrak{A} = C(X) \quad \omega \in \mathcal{S}(\mathfrak{A})$$

$$\omega(f) = \int_X f d\mu \quad d\mu = \text{a positive measure on } X:$$

$$\mathfrak{A} \cong \text{Mat}_{a \times a}(\mathbb{C}) \quad \omega \in \mathcal{S}(\mathfrak{A})$$

$$\omega(T) = \text{Tr}_{\mathcal{H}}(\rho T) \quad \rho = \text{a density matrix}$$



# QMNA States

Definition: A QMNA state is a completely positive unital map  $\varphi : \mathfrak{B} \rightarrow \mathfrak{A}$

“Completely positive” comes up naturally both in math and in quantum information theory.

Positive:  $\varphi : \mathfrak{B}_{\geq 0} \rightarrow \mathfrak{A}_{\geq 0}$

Unital:  $\varphi(1_{\mathfrak{B}}) = 1_{\mathfrak{A}}$

Completely positive

$$\varphi \otimes 1 : (\mathfrak{B} \otimes \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{C}))_{\geq 0} \rightarrow (\mathfrak{A} \otimes \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{C}))_{\geq 0}$$

# QMNA Born Rule

Main insight is that we should regard the Born Rule as a map

$$BR : \mathcal{S}^{\text{QMNA}} \times \mathcal{O}^{\text{QMNA}} \times \mathcal{S}(\mathfrak{A}) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}$$

For general  $\mathfrak{A}$  the datum  $\omega \in \mathcal{S}(\mathfrak{A})$  together with complete positivity of  $\varphi$  give just the right information to state a Born rule in general:

$$BR(\varphi, T, \omega) \in \mathcal{P}$$

# Family Of Quantum Systems Over A Fuzzy Point

$$\mathcal{E} = \text{Mat}_{b \times a}(\mathbb{C}) = \mathbb{C}^b \otimes \mathbb{C}^a = \mathcal{H}_{\text{Bob}} \otimes \mathcal{H}_{\text{Alice}}$$

$$\mathfrak{A} = \text{Mat}_a(\mathbb{C}) = \text{End}(\mathcal{H}_{\text{Alice}})$$

$$\mathfrak{B} = \text{Mat}_b(\mathbb{C}) = \text{End}(\mathcal{H}_{\text{Bob}})$$

$$BR(\varphi, T, \omega)(m) = \text{Tr}_{\mathcal{H}_A} \rho_A \varphi(P_T(m))$$

“A NC measure  $\omega \in \mathcal{S}(\mathfrak{A})$ ” is equivalent to a density matrix  $\rho_A$  on  $\mathcal{H}_A$

QMNA  
state:

$$\varphi(T) = \sum_{\alpha} E_{\alpha}^{\dagger} T E_{\alpha} \quad \sum_{\alpha} E_{\alpha}^{\dagger} E_{\alpha} = 1$$

# Quantum Information Theory & Noncommutative Geometry

$$\begin{aligned}BR(\varphi, T, \omega)(m) &= \text{Tr}_{\mathcal{H}_A} \rho_A \varphi(P_T(m)) \\ &= \sum_{\alpha} \text{Tr}_{\mathcal{H}_A} \rho_A E_{\alpha}^{\dagger}(P_T(m)) E_{\alpha} \\ &= \sum_{\alpha} \text{Tr}_{\mathcal{H}_B} E_{\alpha} \rho_A E_{\alpha}^{\dagger} P_T(m) \\ &= \text{Tr}_{\mathcal{H}_B} \mathcal{E}(\rho_A) P_T(m)\end{aligned}$$

Last expression is the measurement by Bob of  $T$  in the state  $\rho_A$  prepared by Alice and sent to Bob through quantum channel  $\mathcal{E}$ .