

Title: Topological Quantum Field Theories Lecture 20231006

Speakers: Lukas Mueller

Collection: Topological Quantum Field Theories - mini-course

Date: October 06, 2023 - 2:00 PM

URL: <https://pirsa.org/23100078>

# Topological quantum field theories

- 1 Motivation
- 2 Monoidal categories
- 3 Basic properties
- 4 2D classification
- 5 Dijkgraaf-Witten theories
- 6 Advanced topics

$$- \langle \sigma_1 \dots \sigma_n \rangle_g = \frac{1}{Z} \int_{\mathcal{F}_M} D\phi \sigma_1(\phi) \dots \sigma_n(\phi) e^{iS[\phi]}$$

A theory is topological if:

$$\frac{\delta \langle \sigma_1 \dots \sigma_n \rangle_g}{\delta g} = 0$$

$\mathcal{F}_M$   
 partition function  
 $\phi \in \mathcal{F}_M$   
 $\int D\phi e^{iS[\phi]}$

eg.  $S[A] = \int \text{Tr} \left( A \wedge dA + \frac{2}{3} A \wedge A \wedge A \right)$

- 3D Quantum gravity

$$\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{L}^2(\mathbb{F}_\pm) \quad \mathcal{H} = \mathcal{L}^2(\mathbb{F}_\pm) - \mathcal{L}^2(\mathbb{F}_\pm)$$

$$\mathcal{H}_{\Sigma} = \mathcal{L}^2(\mathcal{F}_{\Sigma})$$

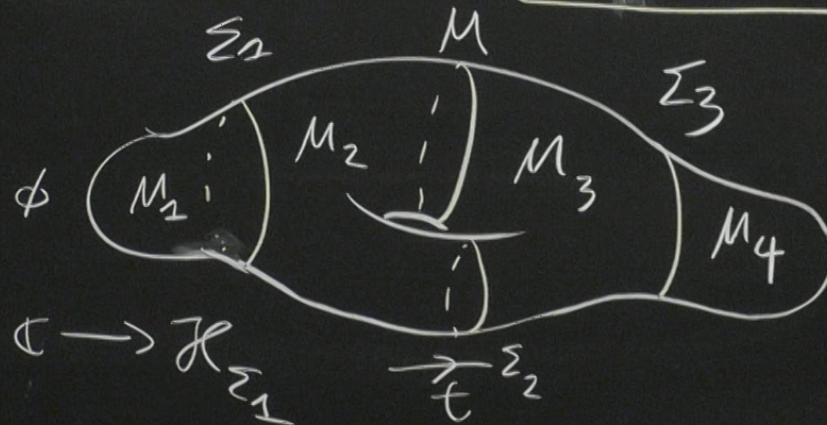
$(n-1)$ -timeslice

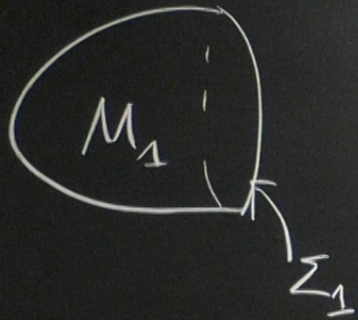
$$\mathcal{H}_{\Sigma \sqcup \Sigma'} = \mathcal{L}^2(\mathcal{F}_{\Sigma \sqcup \Sigma'}) = \mathcal{L}^2(\mathcal{F}_{\Sigma} \times \mathcal{F}_{\Sigma'})$$

$$= \mathcal{L}^2(\Sigma) \otimes \mathcal{L}^2(\Sigma')$$



$$\mathcal{H}_{\Sigma \sqcup \Sigma'} \cong \mathcal{H}_{\Sigma} \otimes \mathcal{H}_{\Sigma'}$$

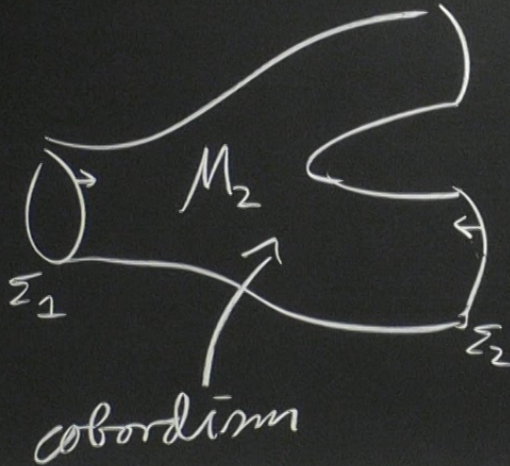




$$Z_{M_1} \in \mathcal{H}_{\Sigma_1} \cong \mathcal{L}^2(\mathcal{F}_{\Sigma_1})$$

$$\phi_{\Sigma_1} \mapsto \int e^{iS[\phi]} \in \mathcal{L}^2(\mathcal{F}_{\Sigma_1})$$

$\phi \in \mathcal{F}_{M_1}$   
 $\phi|_{\partial\Sigma_1} = \phi_{\Sigma_1}$



$$Z(M_2) = \mathcal{H}_{\Sigma_1} \longrightarrow \mathcal{H}_{\Sigma_2} = \int e^{-iS[\phi]} f(\phi|_{\Sigma_1})$$

$f(-) \mapsto \phi_{\Sigma_2}$   
 $\phi \in \mathcal{F}(M_2)$   
 $\phi|_{\Sigma_2} = \phi_{\Sigma_2}$

$$Z(M_3) \circ \left[ Z(M_2)(f(-)) \right] (\phi_{\Sigma_3}) = \int e^{iS[\phi]} Z(M_2)(f) [\phi_{M_2|_{\Sigma_2}}]$$

$$\int \int f(\phi_{M_2|_{\Sigma_1}}) e^{i(S_{M_3}[\phi_{M_3}] + S_{M_2}[\phi_{M_2}])} \phi_{M_3} \in \mathcal{F}_{M_3}$$

$$S_{M_3 \circ M_2}[\phi_{M_3 \circ M_2}] \quad \phi_{M_3|_{\Sigma_3}} = \phi_{\Sigma_3}$$

$$\phi_{M_3|_{\Sigma_3}} = \phi_{\Sigma_3} \quad \phi_{M_2|_{\Sigma_2}} = \phi_{M_3|_{\Sigma_3}}$$

$$\int f(\phi|_{\Sigma_1}) e^{iS[\phi]} = Z(M_3 \circ M_2)[f][\phi_{\Sigma_3}]$$

$$\phi_{M_3 \circ M_2|_{\Sigma_3}} = \phi_{\Sigma_3}$$

CAUTION  
DO NOT TOUCH THE BOARD WHEN  
IT IS BEING USED BY OTHERS  
OR IT MAY BE DAMAGED

$$Z(M_3) \circ \left[ Z(M_2)(f(-)) \right] (\phi_{\Sigma_3}) = \int e^{-iS[\phi]} Z(M_2)(f) [\phi_{\Sigma_2}]$$

$$\int \int f(\phi_{M_2}|_{\Sigma_1}) e^{-i(S_{M_3}[\phi_{M_3}] + S_{M_2}[\phi_{M_2}])} \phi_{M_3} \in \mathcal{F}_{M_3}$$

$S_{M_3 \circ M_2}[\phi_{M_3 \circ M_2}]$

$\phi_{M_3}|_{\Sigma_3} = \phi_{\Sigma_3}$

$$\phi_{M_3}|_{\Sigma_3} = \phi_{\Sigma_3} \quad \phi_{M_2}|_{\Sigma_2} = \phi_{M_3}|_{\Sigma_3}$$

$$\int f(\phi|_{\Sigma_1}) e^{-iS[\phi]} = Z(M_3 \circ M_2)[f][\phi_{\Sigma_3}]$$

$$\phi_{M_3 \circ M_2}|_{\Sigma_3} = \phi_{\Sigma_3}$$

$$Z(M_3 \circ M_2) = Z(M_3) \circ Z(M_2)$$

Guess for a definition:

An  $n$ -dimensional TQFT is the following data:

- A Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}_\Sigma$  for all compact oriented  $(n-1)$  manifolds

- A linear map  $Z(M): \mathcal{H}_\Sigma \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_{\Sigma'}$   
for all cobordisms  $M: \Sigma \rightarrow \Sigma'$

$$\mathcal{H}_{\Sigma_1 \sqcup \Sigma_2} \cong \mathcal{H}_{\Sigma_1} \otimes \mathcal{H}_{\Sigma_2} \quad \mathcal{H}_\emptyset \cong \mathbb{D}$$



$Z(M_2)$   $\supset \Sigma_2$

$$Z(M_2) \circ Z(M_1) = Z(M_2 \circ M_1)$$

$\Gamma_S$   $n$ -2-dim  $\rightsquigarrow \mathcal{H}_S$  -  $\mathbb{C}$ -linear category

$*$   $\longrightarrow$   $\mathbb{C}$ -linear  $n$ -category

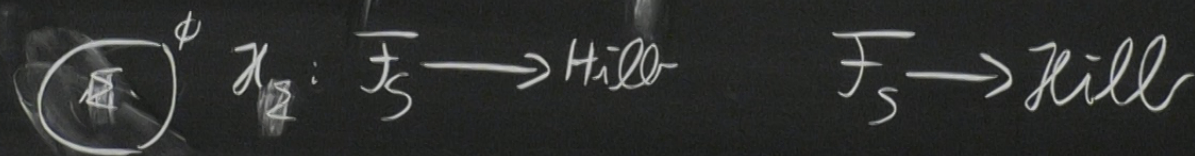
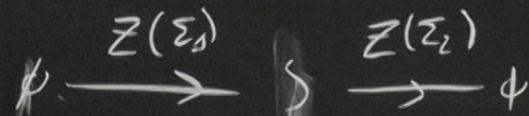
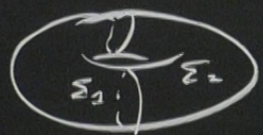


$Z(M_2) \circ Z(M_1)$

$$Z(M_2) \circ Z(M_1) = Z(M_2 \circ M_1)$$

$\Gamma_S$   $n$ -2-dim  $\rightsquigarrow \mathcal{H}_S$   $\mathbb{C}$ -linear category

$\ast \longrightarrow \mathbb{C}$ -linear  $n$ -category



# 1 Monoidal categories

E. Riehl. Categories in context

Def. 1.1 A category  $\mathcal{C}$  consists of

- a collection of objects  $X, Y, \dots, x, y, \dots, c, c'$
- a collection of morphisms  $f, g, \dots$

$\text{Obj}(\mathcal{C})$  for class of objects

$\text{Mor}(\mathcal{C})$  for class of morphisms

s.t.

- Each  $f$  has specified domain and codomain

$$f: X \rightarrow Y$$

We write  $s(f) = X$   $t(f) = Y$

- $M_2 \mid M \mid \mathbb{R}_A = \mathbb{C}$
- Each object  $X$  has an identity morphism  $\text{id}_X: X \rightarrow X$
  - Composition for all  $f: X \rightarrow Y$   $g: Y \rightarrow Z$

$$g \circ f: X \rightarrow Z$$

$$\text{s.t. } g \circ \text{id}_{s(g)} = \text{id}_{t(g)} \circ g = g$$

$$(h \circ g) \circ f = h \circ (g \circ f) \quad \forall f: X \rightarrow Y, g: Y \rightarrow Z, h: Z \rightarrow U$$

Example 1.2

- Set: Objects: set & Mor: functions
- Vect $_{\mathbb{K}}$ : Obj: vector spaces over a field  $\mathbb{K}$  Mor: linear maps

- Let  $G$  be a group.  $BG$  has one object  $*$

$$\text{Mor}(BG) = G \quad * \xrightarrow{g} * \xrightarrow{h} * = h \circ g = h \cdot g$$

$$\text{id}_* = e$$

Def 1.3 Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a category. A morphism  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  is called an isomorphism if  $\exists f^{-1}: Y \rightarrow X$ , s.t.

$$f \circ f^{-1} = \text{id}_Y \quad f^{-1} \circ f = \text{id}_X$$

$\mathcal{C}$  is called a groupoid if every morphism is an isomorphism.