



Mathematical Institute

# A factorization view on states and observables

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Oxford Mathematics States versus observables



## States (Schrödinger picture)

## Observables (Heisenberg picture)

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## States

#### Functorial field theory (from TFT/CFT)

Atiyah, Segal, Freed, Lurie, ...

 $\operatorname{Bord}^{\operatorname{II}} \to \operatorname{Vect}^{\otimes}$ 

 $\mapsto (V \otimes V \to V)$ 

## Observables

#### Factorization algebras

Beilinson-Drinfeld, Lurie, Costello-Gwilliam,

Morrison-Walker, Ayala-Francis, ...



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#### States - functorial topological field theories





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## Construction (Calaque–S., Haugseng, Johnson-Freyd–S.) Given a "nice" symmetric monoidal $(\infty, k)$ -category S, there is a symmetric monoidal $(\infty, n + k)$ -category $Alg_n(S)$ .

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## Construction (Calaque–S., Haugseng, Johnson-Freyd–S.)

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## Application

 $S = \text{Cat}_k = k$ -linear categories, k-linear functors, natural transformations (is also a 2Vect):

- Alg<sub>1</sub>(Cat<sub>k</sub>) is natural home for tensor categories (cf. Turaev-Viro theory)
- Alg<sub>2</sub>(Cat<sub>k</sub>): objects are braided monoidal categories, e.g. Rep<sub>q</sub>(g).

#### Cobordism Hypothesis and finiteness conditions

Hopkins-Lurie, Lurie, Ayala-Francis





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#### Cobordism Hypothesis and finiteness conditions

Hopkins-Lurie, Lurie, Ayala-Francis





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#### Cobordism Hypothesis and finiteness conditions

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"*n*-dualizable" (over  $\mathbb{C}$ ):

- n = 1: finite dimensional vector space
- ▶ n = 2: finite dimensional semi-simple algebra Lurie, Pstragowski
- ▶ n = 3, Alg<sub>1</sub>(Cat<sub>k</sub>): finite semi-simple tensor category; in particular, fusion category Douglas-Schommer-Pries-Snyder

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#### A relative version: twisted field theories

(not to be confused with boundary "relative" field theories)



Stolz-Teichner:



with either S or T the trivial theory  $\mathbb{1} = k$ , the other is the "twist". On closed manifold M: get  $k \to T(M)$  (a vector in the vector space T(M)) or  $S(M) \to k$  (a covector in the vector space S(M)).

Technically: lax or oplax natural transformation Johnson-Freyd-S.



## Proposition (Johnson-Freyd–S.)

1-dimensional twisted topological field theories with target  $Alg_1$  are fully determined by a morphism  $_AM_B$  which has

(lax) a left adjoint, i.e. is finitely presented and projective over A, or (oplax) a right adjoint, i.e. is finitely presented and projective over B.

## Example (Gwilliam–S.)

Take a (possibly infinite dimensional) vector space V, and view it as a bimodule  $_{EndV}V_k$ . This *always* determines a lax twisted theory, and an oplax twisted theory iff V is finite dimensional.

#### Observables versus states revisited





Can think of Z as the "trace".

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#### Observables versus states revisited





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Topological case: The twist arises from factorization homology of an  $E_n$ -algebra, with target (n + 1)Vect = Alg<sub>n</sub> <sub>Calaque-S</sub>.

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#### Twisted topological field theories in dimension 2

Abstract nonsense



## Theorem (S.)

## The factorization model of the $(\infty, 2)$ -category Alg<sub>2</sub> is fully

2-dualizable. (= "has duals" Lurie = "has adjoints" Francis)

proof

## Twisted topological field theories in dimension 2

Abstract nonsense



## Theorem (S.)

The factorization model of the  $(\infty, 2)$ -category  $Alg_2$  is fully 2-dualizable. (="has duals" Lurie = "has adjoints" Francis)

proof

## Proposition (Gwilliam–S. after Johnson-Freyd–S.)

2-dimensional twisted topological field theories with target  $Alg_2$  are fully determined by a morphism  ${}_SM_T$  for which the unit and counit of the adjunction between M and its left adjoint have left adjoints.

(This holds iff the same statement with "right" holds.)

The example: Observables and states



## Deligne's Conjecture:

Given an algebra A, its Hochschild cohomology Z(A) is an  $E_2$ -algebra. Moreover, it acts on A.

 $\Rightarrow$  bimodule  $_{Z(A)}A_k$ : generalization of  $_{EndV}V_k$  from above, since Z(A)=derived endomorphisms of A as an (A, A)-bimodule =derived center of A.

The example: Observables and states



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## Theorem (Gwilliam-S.)

 $_{Z(A)}A_k$  determines a twisted field theory iff A is smooth and proper over Z(A). Explicitly, this means that

• A has a left adjoint as a  $(Z(A), m_1^{op})$ -algebra

• A has a left adjoint as a " $A \otimes_{Z(A)} A^{op}$ -algebra".

The example: Observables and states continued



#### Example

Underived situation: A= polynomial differential operators (Weyl algebra) in characteristic p, Z(A)= usual center of A. Then,

- A is finitely presented and projective over Z(A)
- A is separable over Z(A).

The example: Observables and states continued



#### Example

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cf B-model *M* variety, Coh(M) dg category of coherent sheaves is 2-dualizable if *M* is smooth and proper. Modifications of above would just need: smooth and proper over  $HH^*(Coh(M)) = \Gamma(\Lambda T_M)$  (polyvector fields) (as factorization algebra: Li-Li)

#### Twisted topological field theories in dimension 2

The example: Observables and states



#### "Proof" of Theorem of existence of adjoints for 1-morphisms:



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