

# Computing $F$ -symbols for the center of a fusion category

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Joint work with

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Why F-symbols ?

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## Fusion category $\mathcal{C}$ :

\* Finite set of simple objects:

$$\text{Ob}(\mathcal{C}) = \{1, a, b, c, \dots\}$$

\* Morphisms  $f: a \rightarrow b, g: b \rightarrow c$

with composition

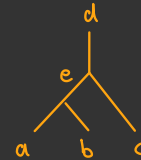
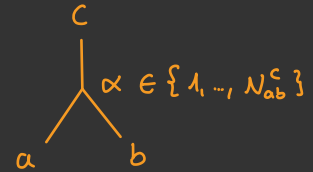
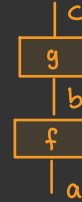
\* Fusion rules:  $a \otimes b = \sum_c N_{ab}^c c$

↳ Fusion spaces:  $V_{ab}^c$  with  $\dim(V_{ab}^c) = N_{ab}^c$

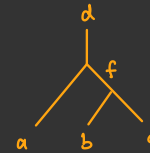
\* F-symbols (associator):

$$F_{abc}^d: \bigoplus_e V_{ab}^e \otimes V_e^{cd} \xrightarrow{\sim} \bigoplus_f V_{af}^d \otimes V_{bc}^f$$

## Graphical calculus:



$\cong$

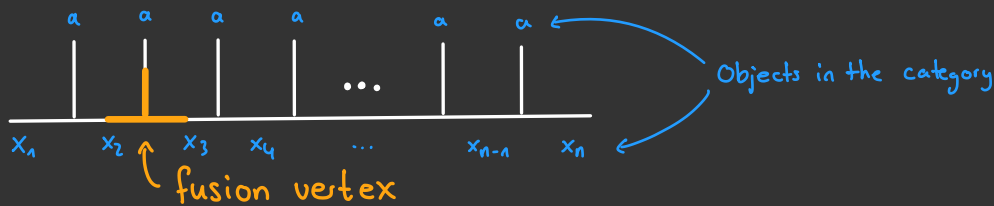


$\cong$



# Application 1: Anyon chains

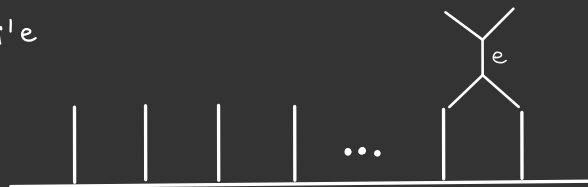
\* One-dimensional lattice model:



\* Dynamics: Nearest-neighbor interaction

→ Projection onto a simple object  $e$ :  $\mathcal{P}^{(e)} =$  

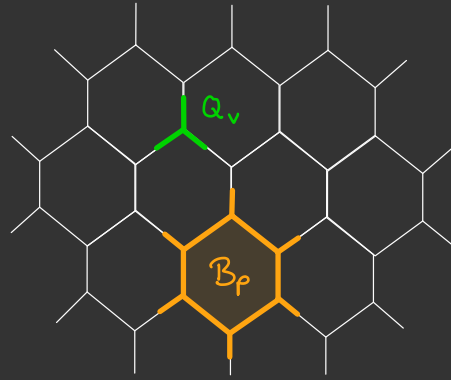
$$\mathcal{P}_i^{(e)} = \left( F_{x_{i+1}}^{x_{i-1} \ a \ a} \right)_{e \ x_i} \left( F_{x_{i+n}}^{x_{i-1} \ a \ a} \right)_{x_i' \ e}^\dagger$$



\* Investigate phase transitions → conformal field theories?

## Application 2 : Levin-Wen model

\* Two-dimensional lattice model:



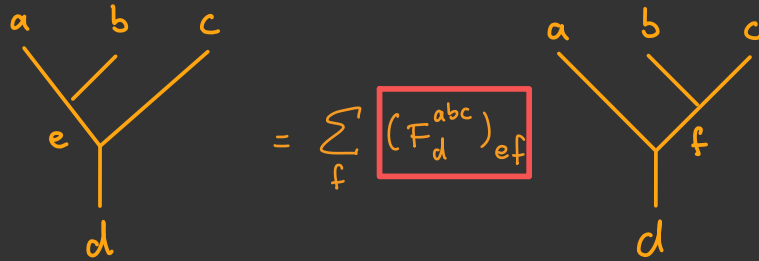
\* Dynamics: Vertex operator  $Q_v$   
Plaquette operator  $B_p$  ← contains lots of F-symbols

\* Study of topological phases

\* Excitations of the model correspond to objects in the center of the category

Both applications show:

We need explicit data of the fusion categories,  
in particular  $F$ -symbols



The diagram shows an equation between two tree-like structures. On the left, three lines labeled 'a', 'b', and 'c' at the top meet at a central node labeled 'e'. From node 'e', a single line labeled 'd' extends downwards. On the right, three lines labeled 'a', 'b', and 'c' at the top meet at a central node labeled 'f'. From node 'f', a single line labeled 'd' extends downwards. Between these two diagrams is an equals sign followed by a summation symbol with a subscript 'f'. The term being summed is  $(F_d^{abc})_{ef}$ , which is enclosed in a red rectangular box.

$$\begin{array}{c} a & b & c \\ & \diagdown & \diagup \\ & e & \\ & | \\ & d \end{array} = \sum_f (F_d^{abc})_{ef} \begin{array}{c} a & b & c \\ & \diagdown & \diagup \\ & f & \\ & | \\ & d \end{array}$$

# Challenges

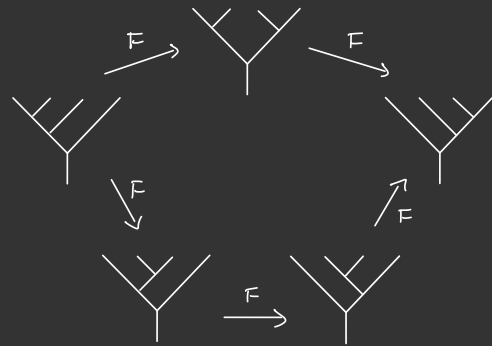
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Pentagon equation:

$$(F_e^{fcd})_{gl} (F_e^{abl})_{fh} = \sum_h (F_g^{abc})_{fh} (F_e^{ahd})_{gk} (F_k^{bcd})_{hl}$$

with multiplicities:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\delta} (F_e^{fcd})_{(\beta, g, \gamma)(\delta, l, \nu)} (F_e^{abl})_{(\alpha, f, \delta)(\lambda, k, \mu)} \\ = \sum_{h, \sigma, \psi, \xi} (F_g^{abc})_{(\alpha, f, \beta)(\sigma, h, \psi)} (F_e^{ahd})_{(\sigma, g, \gamma)(\lambda, k, \xi)} (F_k^{bcd})_{(\psi, h, \xi)(\mu, l, \nu)} \end{aligned}$$



\* multivariate polynomial equations up to 3rd order

\* thousands of variables + equations



# The idea

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based on joint work with Daniel Barter and Jacob Bridgeman,  
SciPost Physics 13, 029 (2022)

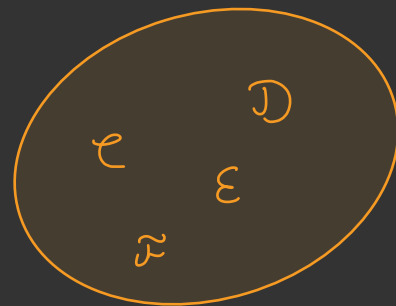
Morita equivalence class:

\* For a bimodule  $\mathcal{C} \rightsquigarrow \mathcal{M} \leftarrow \mathcal{D}$ :

$$\text{Rep}(\text{Tub}_{\mathcal{C}}(\mathcal{M})) \equiv \mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{M}}^* \equiv \mathcal{D}$$

$\longleftarrow$  category of endomorphisms of  $\mathcal{M}$  over  $\mathcal{C}$

\* If  $\mathcal{C}$  and  $\mathcal{M}$  are unitary  $\Rightarrow \mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{M}}^*$  unitary

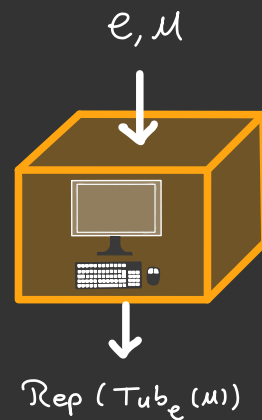


**GOAL:** Construct the category  $\text{Rep}(\text{Tub}_{\mathcal{C}}(\mathcal{M}))$  and calculate F-symbols

Why is this better?

$\text{Rep}(\text{Tub}_{\mathcal{C}}(\mathcal{M}))$  has more structure

$\leadsto$  Compute F-symbols via solving linear equations



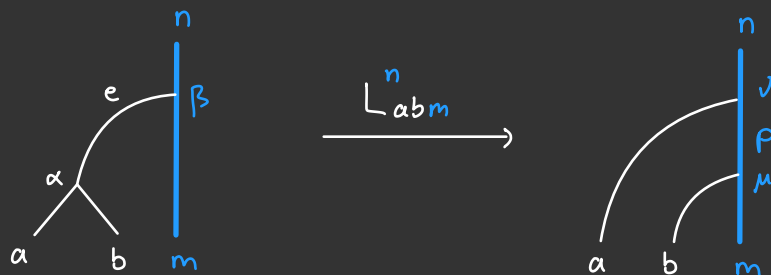
Tube algebra

# Module category $\mathcal{C} \curvearrowright \mathcal{M}$

\* Simple objects:  $m, n \in \text{Ob}(\mathcal{M})$ ,  $a \in \text{Ob}(\mathcal{C})$ :



\* Associator:



Pentagon equation:

$$(L_{fc m}^n)_{g p} (L_{ab p}^n)_{f q} = \sum_z (F_{abc}^g)_{f z} (L_{a z m}^n)_{g q} (L_{b c m}^q)_{z p}$$

↳ Only quadratic polynomials (if F-symbols of  $\mathcal{C}$  are known)

# Module tube category $\text{Tub}_e(\mathcal{U})$

\* Simple objects:  $\text{Ob}(\text{Tub}_e(\mathcal{U})) = \{(m, n) \mid m, n \in \text{Ob}(\mathcal{U})\}$

\* Morphisms:  $\text{Hom}_{\text{Tub}_e(\mathcal{U})}((m, n), (p, q))$  "half tubes" ;



basis:

$$\Lambda = \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram of a half tube with a white arc labeled } x \text{ and boundaries } m, n, p, q. \\ \left| \right. \quad x \in \text{Ob}(\mathcal{U}), \quad 1 \leq \alpha \leq N_{x, m}^p, \quad 1 \leq \beta \leq N_{x, n}^q \end{array} \right\}$$

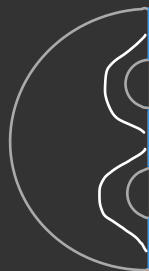
Composition:

tube algebra



"stacking tubes"

tensor product:



The algorithm

Step 1: Construct irreducible representations of the module tube algebra

$$* \mathcal{M} \text{ irreducible} \Rightarrow \text{Tab}_e(\mathcal{M}) \cong \bigoplus_{\alpha=1}^n \underbrace{\text{Mat}(\mathbb{D}_\alpha)}_{= \mathbb{D}_\alpha \times \mathbb{D}_\alpha \text{-matrix algebra over } \mathbb{C}}$$

\* Convenient to find matrix unit basis:

$$\{ [e_\alpha]_{ij} \mid 0 \leq i, j < \mathbb{D}_\alpha, [e_\alpha]_{ij} [e_\alpha]_{kl} = \delta_{jk} [e_\alpha]_{il} \}$$

\* and express them in terms of tube diagrams:

$$[e_\alpha]_{ij} = \sum_{p \in \Lambda} c_p^\alpha \mathcal{P}$$



\* irreducible representation: vector space + action

Natural choice: Algebra acts on itself


$\hookrightarrow$  irrep: vector space  $V^\alpha$  with basis  $[v_\alpha]_i = [e_\alpha]_{i0}$

\* irreps  $V^\alpha \rightarrow$  simple objects in  $\mathcal{C}_\mathcal{M}^*$

$$= \alpha \bullet i$$

## Step 2: Compute fusion rules

\* Construct basis for tensor product space

$$\alpha, \beta \in \text{Ob}(\mathcal{C}_\mu^*) : \alpha \otimes \beta = \begin{array}{c} \beta \\ \bullet \\ \alpha \\ \bullet \end{array} \longrightarrow [v_\alpha]_i \otimes [v_\beta]_j = \sum \dots$$


objects have to match here

\* decompose into irreps:

$$\begin{array}{c} \beta \\ \bullet \\ \alpha \\ \bullet \end{array} \cong \bigoplus_{\gamma} \begin{array}{c} \gamma \\ \bullet \end{array}$$

$$\dim(\alpha \otimes \beta) \leq \dim \alpha \cdot \dim \beta$$

\* Compute fusion rules: Take generic vector in  $\alpha \otimes \beta$ :


$$v = \sum_{ij} c_{ij} \begin{array}{c} \beta \\ \bullet \\ \alpha \\ \bullet \end{array} \begin{array}{c} j \\ i \end{array}$$

Project onto  $\gamma$  using  $\mathbb{1}_\gamma = \sum_i [e_\gamma]_{ii}$

$N_{\alpha\beta}^\gamma$  = dimension spanned by such projected vectors



Step 3: Compute embedding matrices

\* Map that embeds  $\gamma$  into  $\alpha \otimes \beta$ :  $V_{\alpha\beta}^{\gamma; x} :=$    
 $= \dim(\alpha \otimes \beta) \times \dim_{\gamma}$  matrix

\* choose  $w \in \alpha \otimes \beta$

$$\begin{aligned} & \downarrow \\ [e_{\gamma}]_{00} w &= v_{0,x}^{\gamma} v_{1,x}^{\gamma} [e_{\gamma}]_{10} v_{0,x}^{\gamma} \\ & \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{brown bar} \\ \text{blue bar} \end{array} \parallel \begin{array}{c} \text{brown bar} \\ \text{blue bar} \end{array} \dots \right) = V_{\alpha\beta}^{\gamma; x} \end{aligned}$$

\* Reshape into 3-tensor of size  $(\dim \alpha, \dim \beta; \dim \gamma)$

Step 4: Compute F-symbols

$$\begin{array}{c} \gamma \\ \beta \\ \alpha \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \diagup \\ \diagdown \\ \diagup \end{array} \begin{array}{c} j \\ i \\ \mu \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \diagdown \\ \diagup \\ \diagdown \end{array} \delta = \sum_{k, \nu, l} (F_{\alpha\beta\gamma}^{\delta})_{(i, \mu, j)(k, \nu, l)}$$

||

$$V_{\alpha\beta}^{\mu; i} \quad V_{\mu\gamma}^{\delta; j}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \gamma \\ \beta \\ \alpha \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \diagup \\ \diagdown \\ \diagup \end{array} \begin{array}{c} k \\ \nu \\ l \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \diagdown \\ \diagup \\ \diagdown \end{array} \delta$$

||

$$V_{\alpha\nu}^{\delta; l} \quad V_{\beta\gamma}^{\nu; k}$$

Linear equation

compare pentagon equation:

$$\sum_{\delta} (F_e^{fcd})_{(\beta, g, \gamma)(\delta, l, \nu)} (F_e^{abl})_{(\alpha, f, \delta)(\gamma, k, \mu)} = \sum_{h, \sigma, \psi, s} (F_g^{abc})_{(\alpha, f, \beta)(\sigma, h, \psi)} (F_e^{ahd})_{(\sigma, g, \gamma)(\gamma, k, s)} (F_k^{bcd})_{(\psi, h, s)(\mu, l, \nu)}$$

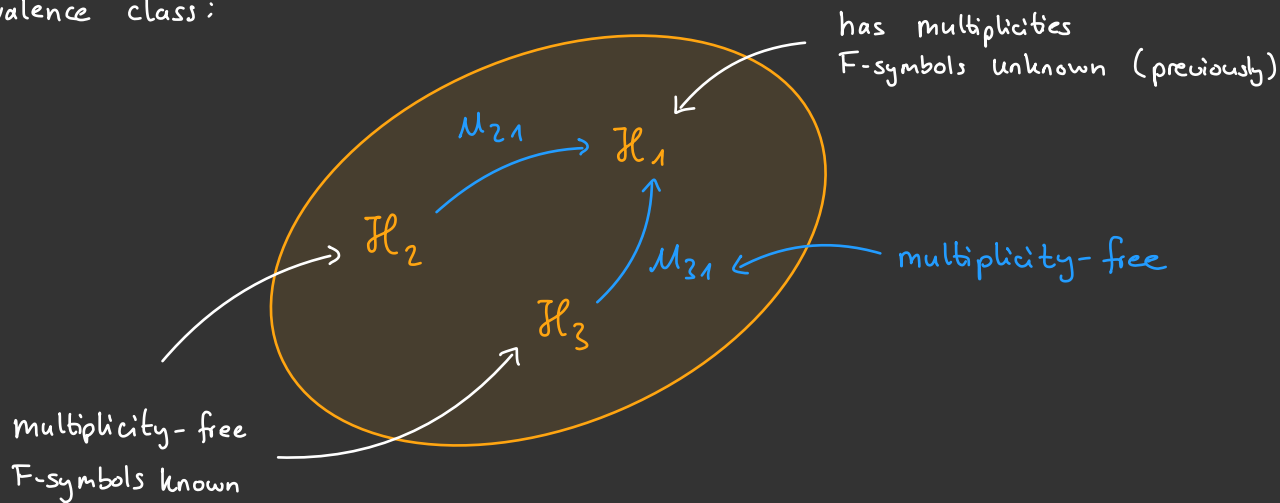
## Summary :

1. Find irreducible representations of the tube algebra  $\text{Tube}(\mathcal{U})$   
↳ Simple objects
2. Compute the decomposition of the tensor product of all irrep pairs  
↳ Fusion rules
3. Form explicit matrices for embeddings, reshape into 3-tensors
4. Solve linear equations to compute F-symbols

Applications

## Application: Haagerup categories

Morita equivalence class:



$\hookrightarrow$  construct  $\text{Rep}(\text{Tub}_{\mathcal{H}_3}(\mu_{31})) \equiv \mathcal{H}_1$

Example

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Example:  $\text{Vec}(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})_{\text{Vec}}^* \cong \text{Rep}(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$

\*  $\text{Vec}(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$  :  $\text{Obj} = \{0, 1\}$   
 $d_0 = d_1 = 1$   
 $a \otimes b = a + b \bmod 2$   
 all F-symbols = 1 when allowed

\* Module category  $\text{Vec}$  :  $\text{Obj} = \{*\}$   
 $d_* = \sqrt{2}$   
 all L-symbols = 1 when allowed

\*  $\text{Tub}_{\text{Vec}(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})}(\text{Vec})$  :


$$1 = \left\{ T_0 = \text{diagram}, T_1 = \text{diagram} \right\}$$

$$T_x \circ T_y = T_{x+y \bmod 2}$$

Example:  $\text{Vec}(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})_{\text{Vec}}^* \cong \text{Rep}(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$

Step 1: Find irreducible representations of  $\text{Tub}_{\text{Vec}(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})}(\text{Vec})$

$$\text{Tub}_{\text{Vec}(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})}(\text{Vec}) \cong \mathbb{C} \oplus \mathbb{C}$$


 1-dim. matrix algebras

Matrix units:  $[e_1]_{00} = \frac{1}{2} (T_0 + T_1) = \frac{1}{2} \left( \text{Cup} + \text{Cap} \right)$

$$[e_\psi]_{00} = \frac{1}{2} (T_0 - T_1) = \frac{1}{2} \left( \text{Cup} - \text{Cap} \right)$$

Basis for irreps:  $[v_1] = [e_1]_{00} = 1 \bullet$

$$[v_\psi] = [e_\psi]_{00} = \psi \bullet$$

action:  $[e_\alpha][v_\beta] = \delta_{\alpha\beta} [e_\alpha]$



Example:  $\text{Vec}(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})_{\text{Vec}}^* \cong \text{Rep}(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$

Step 2: Compute Fusion rules

Tensor product basis:

$$[V_1] \otimes [V_1] = \frac{1}{4} \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 1} \\ + \\ \text{Diagram 2} \\ + \\ \text{Diagram 3} \\ + \\ \text{Diagram 4} \end{array} \right)$$

$$[V_1] \otimes [V_\psi] = \frac{1}{4} \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 1} \\ - \\ \text{Diagram 2} \\ + \\ \text{Diagram 3} \\ - \\ \text{Diagram 4} \end{array} \right)$$

$$[V_\psi] \otimes [V_1] = \frac{1}{4} \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 1} \\ + \\ \text{Diagram 2} \\ - \\ \text{Diagram 3} \\ - \\ \text{Diagram 4} \end{array} \right)$$

$$[V_\psi] \otimes [V_\psi] = \frac{1}{4} \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 1} \\ - \\ \text{Diagram 2} \\ - \\ \text{Diagram 3} \\ + \\ \text{Diagram 4} \end{array} \right)$$

Example:  $\text{Vec}(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})_{\text{Vec}}^* \cong \text{Rep}(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$

Step 2: Compute Fusion rules

Example: Project  $\psi$  into  $1 \otimes \psi$ :

$$[e_\psi]_{00} ([v_1] \otimes [v_\psi]) = \frac{1}{8} \left( \text{diagram 1} - \text{diagram 2} \right) \circ \left( \text{diagram 3} - \text{diagram 4} + \text{diagram 5} - \text{diagram 6} \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{8} \left( \text{diagram 7} - \text{diagram 8} + \text{diagram 9} - \text{diagram 10} - \text{diagram 11} + \text{diagram 12} - \text{diagram 13} + \text{diagram 14} \right)$$

Diagrammatic identities used for simplification:

- $|| = \text{cup} \rightarrow ||$
- $|| \leftarrow || = \text{cap} \Rightarrow ||$

$$= [v_1] \otimes [v_\psi] \Rightarrow 1 \otimes \psi = \psi$$

$$\psi \otimes 1 = \psi$$

$$\psi \otimes \psi = 1$$

$\text{Rep}(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$

Example:  $\text{Vec}(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})_{\text{Vec}}^* \cong \text{Rep}(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$

Step 3: Compute embedding matrices

$$V_{\alpha\beta}^{\gamma;x} := \begin{array}{c} \beta \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \alpha \quad x \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \gamma \end{array}$$

Example:  $V_{1\psi}^{\psi} = \begin{array}{c} \psi \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ 1 \quad \psi \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \psi \end{array} \quad (1\text{-dim.})$

Choose a general vector  $w \in 1 \otimes \psi$ :  $w = c \cdot [v_1] \otimes [v_\psi]$

$$[e_\psi] (c \cdot [v_1] \otimes [v_\psi]) = c \cdot [v_1] \otimes v_\psi$$

$$\Rightarrow V_{1\psi}^{\psi} = (w_{1\psi}^{\psi}) \cdot 2^{1/4} \quad (\text{isometry})$$

$$\uparrow |w_{1\psi}^{\psi}| = 1$$

Example:  $\text{Vec}(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})_{\text{Vec}}^* \cong \text{Rep}(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$

Step 4: Compute F-symbols

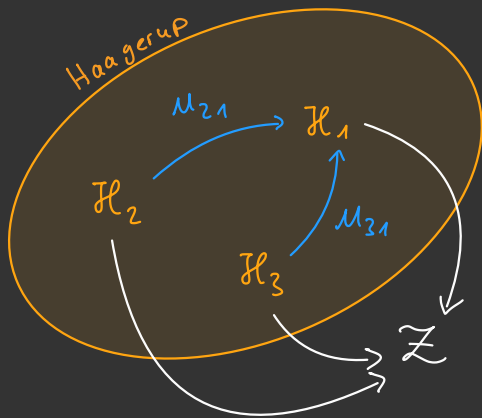
$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \begin{array}{c} \psi \\ \psi \\ 1 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \diagdown \\ \diagup \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \diagup \\ \diagdown \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \psi \\ 1 \end{array} & = & (F_1^{\psi\psi\psi})_{\psi 1} \begin{array}{c} \psi \\ \psi \\ 1 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \diagdown \\ \diagup \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \diagup \\ \diagdown \end{array} \begin{array}{c} 1 \end{array} \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 V_{1\psi}^{\psi} V_{\psi\psi}^1 & & V_1^{\psi\psi} V_1^{\psi\psi}
 \end{array}$$

$$\Rightarrow (F_1^{\psi\psi\psi})_{\psi 1} = \frac{V_{1\psi}^{\psi} V_{\psi\psi}^1}{V_1^{\psi\psi} V_1^{\psi\psi}} = \frac{\omega_{1\psi}^{\psi} \omega_{\psi\psi}^1}{\omega_{1\psi}^1 \omega_{\psi\psi}^{\psi}} = \frac{\omega_{\psi}^{\psi\psi}}{\omega_{\psi}^{\psi\psi}}$$

We can set all parameters  $\omega_{\alpha\beta}^{\gamma} = 1$ .

↳ All allowed F-symbols are equal to 1

$\text{Rep}(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$



# The center

Ongoing work with Jacob Bridgeman and Alexander Hahn

Similar idea:  $\text{Rep}(\text{Tub}(e)) = \mathcal{Z}(e)$

$\swarrow$  different kind of tube       $\nwarrow$  center of  $e$

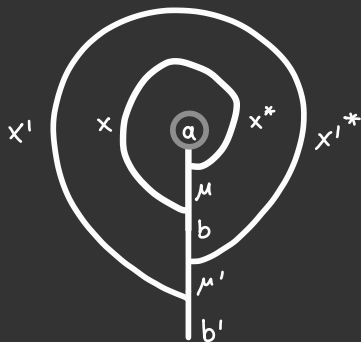
Full tubes:



$$\leadsto T[ab, x, \mu] :=$$



Composition: Put one tube around the other



$$= \sum \dots \text{ (F-symbols etc.)}$$



$\Rightarrow$  We have an algebra, so we can do step 1 from the algorithm:

Calculate its irreducible representations to get the simple objects of the center

## Step 2: Calculate fusion rules

→ we need a basis for the tensor product space

Tensor product of two tubes:

### Option 1

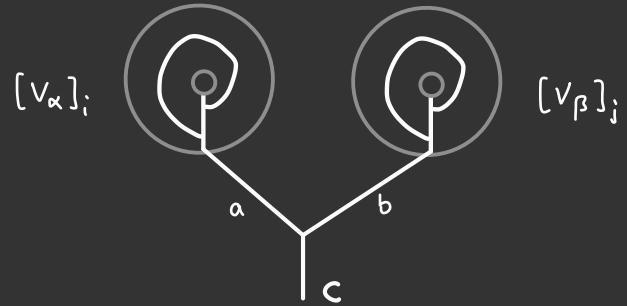


Tensor product of two irreps:  
basis of the space is formed by

$$\{ [v_\alpha]_i \otimes [v_\beta]_j : [v_\alpha]_i - \text{basis of irrep } \alpha, \\ [v_\beta]_j - \text{basis of irrep } \beta \}$$

$$\Rightarrow \dim(\alpha \otimes \beta) = \dim \alpha \cdot \dim \beta$$

### Option 2



Why would we need this?

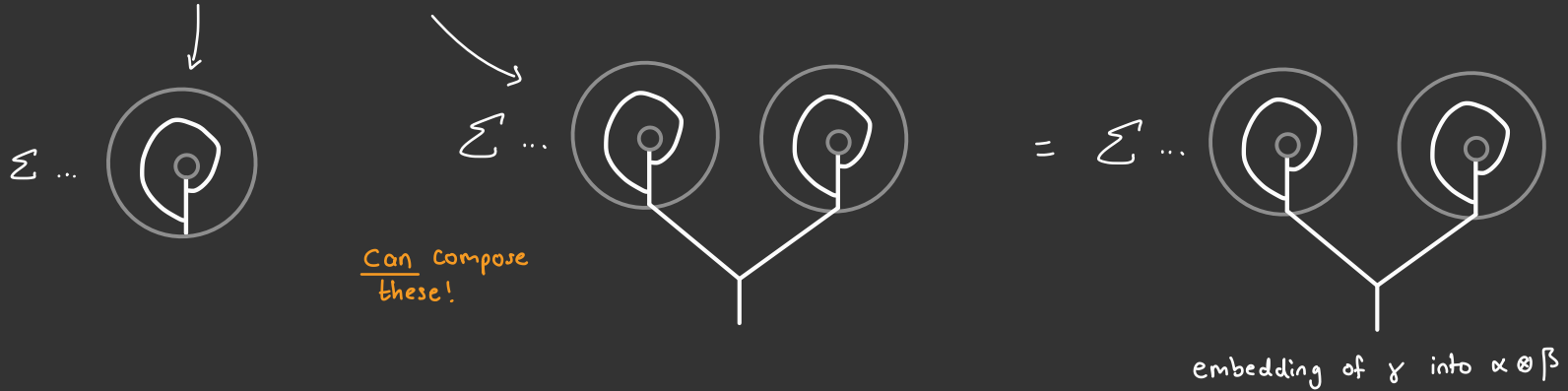
Tensor product of two irreps:  
basis of the space is formed by

$$\{ [v_\alpha]_i \otimes_c [v_\beta]_j : [v_\alpha]_i - \text{basis of irrep } \alpha, \\ [v_\beta]_j - \text{basis of irrep } \beta \\ c \in a \otimes b \}$$

$$\Rightarrow \dim(\alpha \otimes \beta) \geq \dim \alpha \cdot \dim \beta$$

How to get fusion rules, e.g.  $\alpha \otimes \beta = \gamma$

Recall:  $[e_\gamma]_{00} ([v_\alpha]_i \otimes [v_\beta]_j)$



What we got: Correct fusion rules for the center of

- \* Fibonacci
- \*  $\text{Vec } \mathbb{Z}_2$
- \*  $\text{Vec } S_3$

Haagerup? Can't solve it on a laptop...



### Step 3: Compute embedding matrices

\* Map that embeds  $\gamma$  into  $\alpha \otimes \beta$ :  $V_{\alpha\beta}^{\gamma} :=$    
 $= \dim(\alpha \otimes \beta) \times \dim \gamma$  matrix

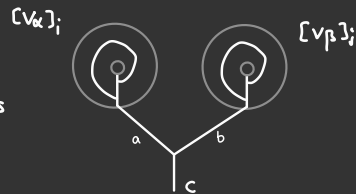
\* choose  $w \in \alpha \otimes \beta$

$$\downarrow$$

$$[e_\gamma]_{00} w =: v_0^\gamma \quad v_1^\gamma = [e_\gamma]_{10} v_0^\gamma$$

$$\dim(\alpha \otimes \beta) \left\{ \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \text{brown bar} & \text{blue bar} & \dots \end{pmatrix}}_{\dim \gamma} \right\} = V_{\alpha\beta}^{\gamma}$$

$$v_0^\gamma = \sum_i c_i [v_{\alpha \otimes \beta}]_i \rightarrow \text{only works if we treat each of those vectors as an individual summand}$$



\* Reshape into 3-tensor of size  $(\dim \alpha, \dim \beta; \dim \gamma)$   $\leftarrow$  does not work if  $\dim(\alpha \otimes \beta) > \dim \alpha \cdot \dim \beta$

Step 4: Compute F-symbols

How?

$$\begin{array}{c} \gamma \\ \beta \\ \alpha \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \diagup \\ \diagdown \\ \diagup \end{array} \begin{array}{c} i \\ \mu \\ i \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \diagdown \\ \diagup \\ \diagdown \end{array} \delta = \sum_{\kappa, \nu, l} (F_{\alpha\beta\gamma}^{\delta})_{(i, \mu, j) (\kappa, \nu, l)}$$

||

$$V_{\alpha\beta}^{\mu; i} \quad V_{\mu\gamma}^{\delta; j}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \gamma \\ \beta \\ \alpha \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \diagup \\ \diagdown \\ \diagup \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \kappa \\ \nu \\ l \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \diagdown \\ \diagup \\ \diagdown \end{array} \delta$$

||

$$V_{\alpha\nu}^{\delta; l} \quad V_{\beta\gamma}^{\nu; \kappa}$$

Additional challenge: Computationally costly to compute embedding matrices