

Examples of monoidal categories

Last week, we finished by the example Vec_G

Today, we will start by defining Vec_G^w (like Vec_G but with a deformation w)

Consider the simple objects of Vec_G : one-dim.
vector space δ_g with $(\delta_g)_h = \delta_{g,h} \cdot \delta_g$
($1 = \delta_1 = \text{Id}$)

$\nwarrow$ Kronecker symbol

Then: $\delta_g \otimes \delta_h = \delta_{gh}$ δ_{ghm} (trivial) δ_{ghm}

And: a $\delta_g, \delta_h, \delta_m = \text{id}_{\delta_{ghm}} : (\delta_g \otimes \delta_h) \otimes \delta_m \rightarrow \delta_g \otimes (\delta_h \otimes \delta_m)$

We will make a modification on the associativity constraint a ,
to define Vec_G^w :

Now: $a_{\delta_g, \delta_h, \delta_m} = \omega(g, h, m) \text{id}_{\delta_{ghm}}$.

with $\omega: G \times G \times G \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^*$ such that (Pentagon Axiom)

$$\omega(g_1, g_2, g_3, g_4) \omega(g_1, g_2, g_3, g_4) = \omega(g_1, g_2, g_3) \omega(g_1, g_2, g_3, g_4) \omega(g_2, g_3, g_4)$$

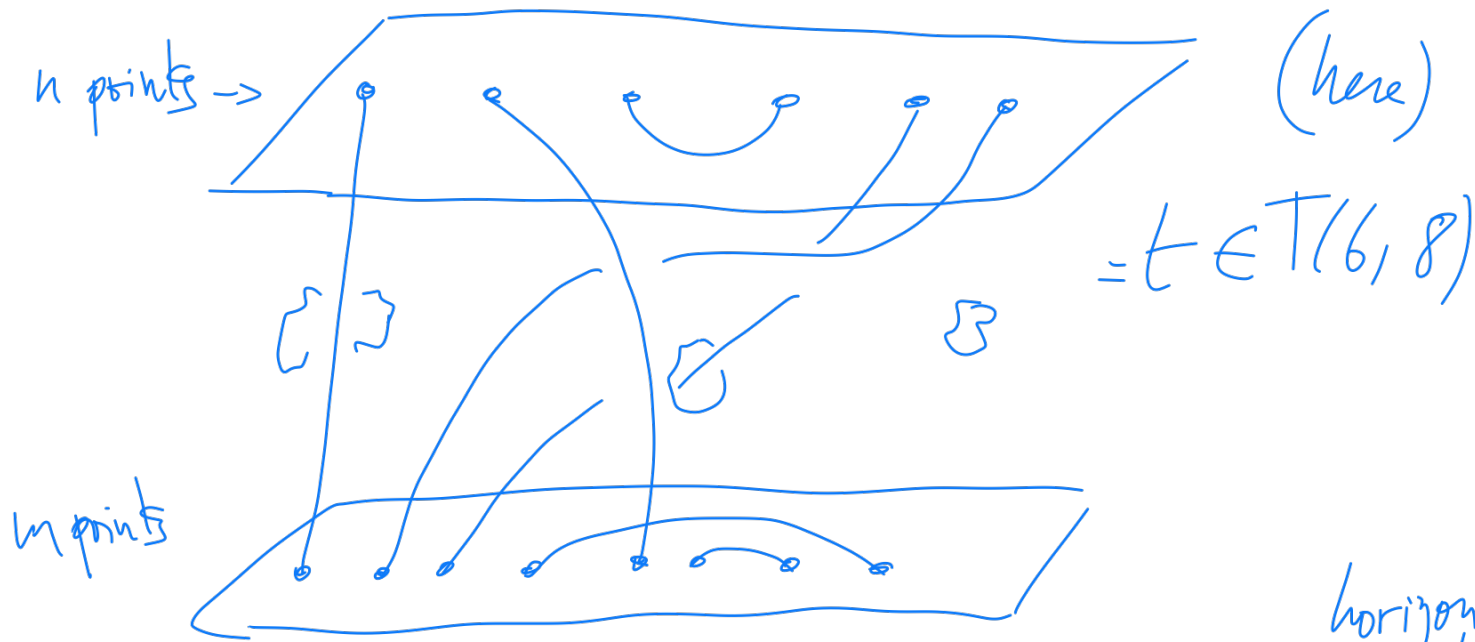
(such an ω is called a 3-cocycle).

Now, an example where the objects are NOT sets:

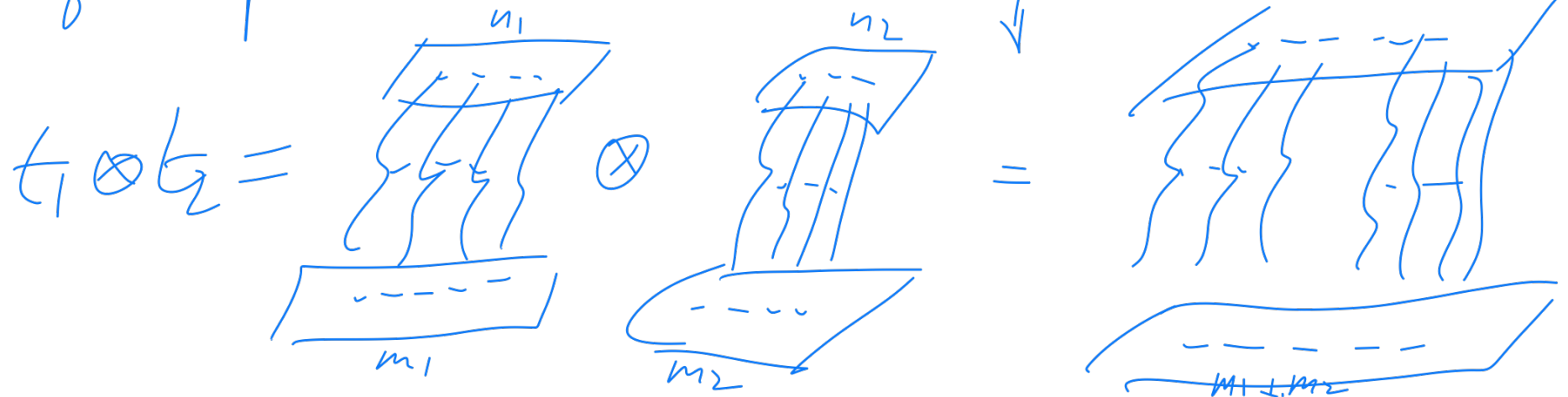
Category of tangles $\mathcal{C}$.

- objects: numbers $n \in \mathbb{N}_{\geq 0}$
 - $\otimes: n \otimes m = n + m$
 - unit: 0
- $\left\{ a, \iota : \text{obvious} \right.$

- morphisms : $\text{hom}_e(n|m) = T(n|m)$ set of tangles as below
(up to isotopy)



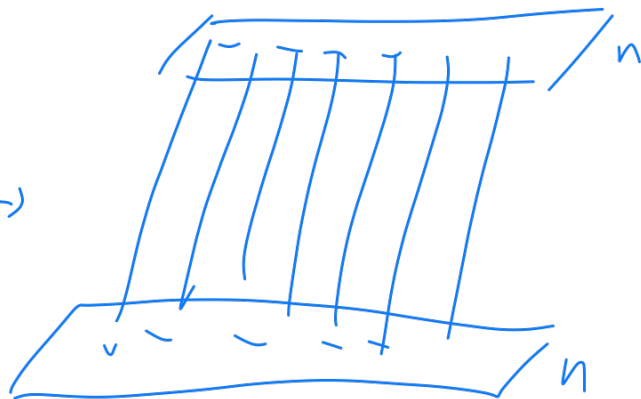
$\otimes$ of morphisms:



- identities :

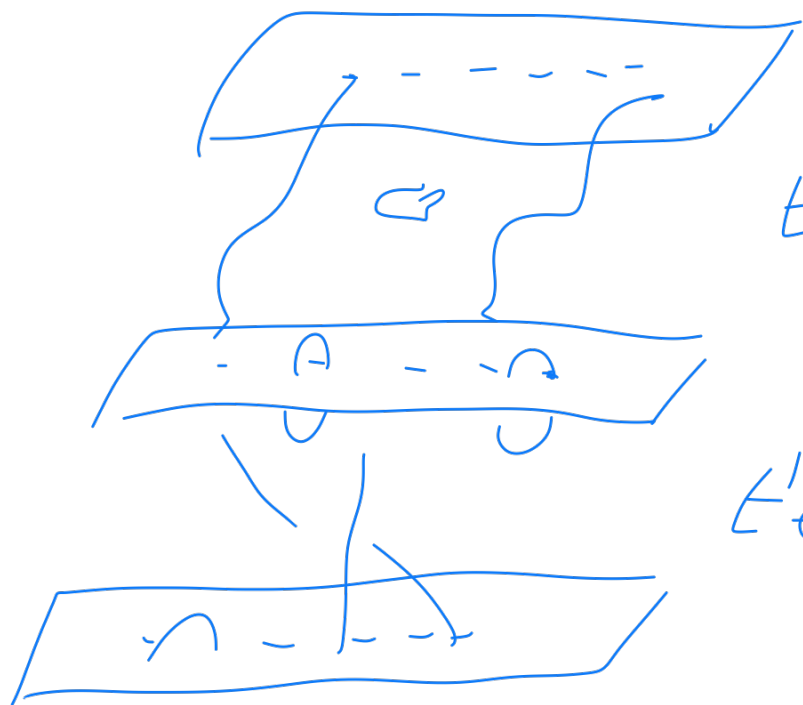
Straight
lines

→



$\in T(n, n)$

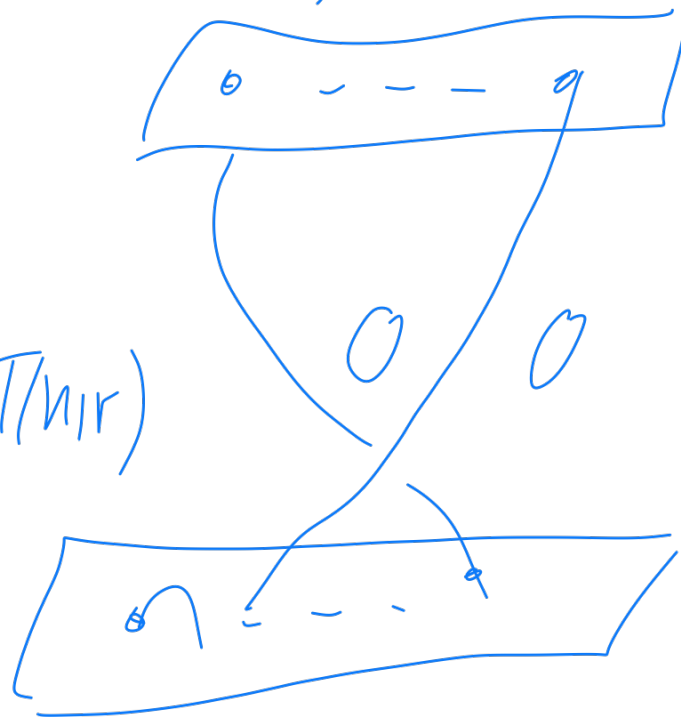
- composition of tangles (vertical concatenation):



$t \in T(n|m)$

$t' \in T(m|r)$

$t \circ t' \in T(n|r)$



--- (Summary of last semester course 5) ---

Monoidal functors: between two monoidal categories
 $(\mathcal{C}, \otimes, 1, a, l)$ and $(\mathcal{C}', \otimes', 1', a', l')$

is a couple (F, J) , where $F: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}'$ functor
and J is a natural isomorphism:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}' & \xrightarrow{J} & \mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}' \\ (x, y) \mapsto F(x) \otimes' F(y) & & (x, y) \mapsto F(x \otimes y) \end{array}$$

[then: $\forall x, y \in \mathcal{C}$, $J_{x,y} : F(x) \otimes' F(y) \xrightarrow{\sim} F(x \otimes y)$
+ commuting diagrams of natural transformation]

satisfying the following two axioms (made to avoid any ambiguity):

(1) Unit Axiom: $F(1) \sim 1'$, i.e. $\exists \varphi: 1' \xrightarrow{\sim} F(1)$ isom.

(2) Monoidal structure axiom: $\forall X, Y, Z \in \mathcal{C}$, the following commutes:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 (F(X) \otimes' F(Y)) \otimes' F(Z) & \xrightarrow{a'_{F(X), F(Y), F(Z)}} & F(X) \otimes' (F(Y) \otimes' F(Z)) \\
 \downarrow J_{X,Y} \otimes \text{id}_{F(Z)} & & \downarrow \text{id}_{F(X)} \otimes J_{Y,Z} \\
 F(X \otimes Y) \otimes' F(Z) & & F(X) \otimes' F(Y \otimes Z) \\
 \downarrow J_{X \otimes Y, Z} & & \downarrow J_{X, Y \otimes Z} \\
 F((X \otimes Y) \otimes Z) & \xrightarrow{F(a_{X,Y,Z})} & F(X \otimes (Y \otimes Z))
 \end{array}$$

Rk: A functor can have zero or one or several non-equivalent monoidal structure (see examples later).

To solve extra-ambiguity involving the unit object:

Theorem: There is a canonical isomorphism $\varphi: I' \rightarrow F(I)$ s.t.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 I' \otimes' F(I) & \xrightarrow{l'_{F(I)}} & F(I) \\
 \varphi \otimes' \text{id}_{F(I)} \downarrow & & \downarrow F(l_I)^{-1} \\
 F(I) \otimes F(I) & \xrightarrow{j_{I,I}} & F(I, I)
 \end{array} \quad \text{commutes.}$$

Rk: Above commuting diagram can be generalized where $I \mapsto X$ and there is also an analogous with r (instead of l). In other words, $\forall X \in \mathcal{C}$, the following diagrams commute.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 1' \otimes F(X) & \xrightarrow{l'_{F(X)}} & F(X) \\
 \varphi \otimes \text{id}_{F(X)} \downarrow & & \downarrow F(l_X)^{-1}
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 F(1) \otimes F(X) & \xrightarrow{F_{1,X}} & F(1 \otimes X)
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \textcircled{\text{and}} & F(X) \otimes 1' & \xrightarrow{r'_{F(X)}} F(X) \\
 \text{id}_{F(X)} \otimes \varphi \downarrow & & \downarrow F(r_X)^{-1}
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 F(X) \otimes F(1) & \xrightarrow{J_{X,1}} & F(X \otimes 1)
 \end{array}$$

Def: A monoidal functor can alternatively be defined as a triple (F, J, φ) satisfying:

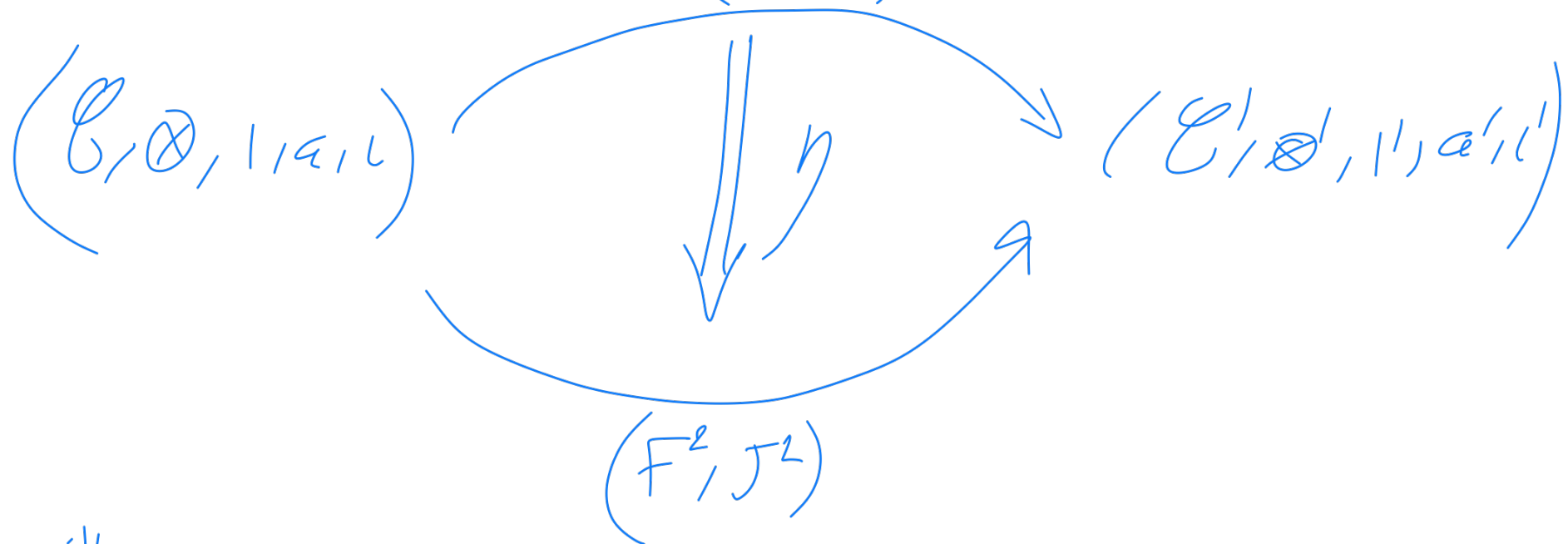
- monoidal structure axioms
- two commuting diagrams above.

But, the def we gave (following the book) is simpler, as don't assume the existence of φ (it is just proved to exist)

Convention: $1'$ and $F(1)$ can safely be identified.

Then $F(1) = 1'$, $\varphi = \text{id}_{1'}$, $J_{1',X} = J_{X,1'} = \text{id}_X$.

Natural transformation of monoidal functors:



with:

- natural transformation $\eta: F^1 \rightarrow F^2$
- isomorphism: $F^1(1) \xrightarrow{\eta_1} F^2(1)$

$\parallel$
 $1'$

$\parallel$
 $1'$

← convention

- the following diagram commutes $\forall X, Y \in \mathcal{C}$:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 F^1(X) \otimes^1 F^1(Y) & \xrightarrow{J_{X,Y}^1} & F^1(X \otimes Y) \\
 \eta_X \otimes \eta_Y \downarrow & & \downarrow \eta_{X \otimes Y} \\
 F^2(X) \otimes^1 F^2(Y) & \xrightarrow{J_{X,Y}^2} & F^2(X \otimes Y)
 \end{array}$$

--- (Summary of last semester course 6) ---

Examples of monoidal functors and natural transformations between them.

Let $f: H \rightarrow G$ be a (finite) group morphism. The following f^* and f_* are monoidal functors:

- The restriction of a rep. V of G to $f(H) < G$ provides a rep of H . Notation: $f^*: \text{Rep}(G) \rightarrow \text{Rep}(H)$

• Let W be a H -graded vector space : $W = \bigoplus_{h \in H} W_h$.

It is also G -graded as : $W = \bigoplus_{g \in G} \left(\bigoplus_{h \in f^{-1}(g)} W_h \right)$

Notation: $f_* : \text{Vec}_H \rightarrow \text{Vec}_G$

• Let S be a monoid, consider $\mathcal{C} = \text{Vec}_S$
the identity functor $\text{id}_{\mathcal{C}}$ is a monoidal functor (where $J_{X,Y} = \text{id}_{X \otimes Y}$)

A natural transformation of monoidal functor $\eta : \text{id}_{\mathcal{C}} \rightarrow \text{id}_{\mathcal{C}}$
is completely characterized by a map $\tilde{\eta} : S \rightarrow \text{Hz}$ (Schur's lemma)
(because, for $s \in S$, δ_s simple, $\eta_{\delta_s} \in \text{hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(\delta_s, \delta_s) = \text{Hz } \text{id}_{\delta_s}$)
s.t. $\tilde{\eta}$ is a morphism of monoid.

- Monoidal functors between $\text{Vec}_{G_1}^{\omega_1}$ and $\text{Vec}_{G_2}^{\omega_2}$ -

It is completely characterized by two maps f, ψ , so that such functor is denoted $F_{f, \psi}$, where:

$$\begin{aligned} f: G_1 &\rightarrow G_2 && \text{group morphism} \\ \psi: G_1 \times G_2 &\rightarrow \mathbb{H}^* && \text{maps s.t.} \end{aligned}$$

$$(*) \quad J_{g, h} = \psi(g, h) \text{id}_{F_{f(gh)}}$$

$$\forall g, h, l \in G_1$$

$$(**) \quad \psi(g, hl) \cdot \psi(h, l) \omega_2(f(g), f(h), f(l)) = \omega_1(g, h, l) \psi(gh, l) \psi(g, h)$$

--- (Summary of last semester session 7) ---

([↑] before ~~course~~ session)

The natural monoidal transformations $\gamma : F_{f, \tau} \rightarrow F_{f', \tau'}$

First if such $\gamma^{(\neq 0)}$ exists then $f=f'$ and γ is iso. i.e. $\gamma_g = \tilde{\gamma}(g) \text{Id}_{f(g)}$

and then, it is completely characterized by $\tilde{\gamma} : G_1 \rightarrow H^*$

$$\text{s.t. } \tilde{\gamma}_{gh} \cdot \tau(g, h) = \tau'(g, h) (\tilde{\gamma}_g \times \tilde{\gamma}_h)$$

Rh: By above result, the 3-cocycle w for Vec_G^w can be taken "normalized" (w/o loss of generality) (without) :

$$w(g, h, k) = 1 \quad \forall g, h, k \in G$$

(up to equivalence) ?

If $G = \langle g \mid g^n = e \rangle$ cyclic group of order n , then $\exists s \in \mathbb{N}, 0 \leq s < n$

$$\text{s.t. } w = w_s \quad \text{with } w_s(g^a, g^b, g^c) = \exp\left(\frac{2\pi i}{n} \cdot \text{s.a.} \left\lfloor \frac{b+c}{n} \right\rfloor\right)$$

Next time : we will start by defining the notion of
Group action on categories and equivariantization.
(book, subsection 2.7)

