

# Monoidal categories graded by 2-groups

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**International Conference on Hopf Algebras  
and Tensor Categories**

TSIMF - January 21, 2026



# Topological motivation for graded structures

- Monoidal categories play a central role in quantum topology: they are used to define quantum invariants
- **Goal:** extend quantum invariants of 3-manifolds to invariants of 3-manifolds with extra structure
- Encode the extra structure with a homotopy class of maps to a target  $X$  (viewed as the classifying space of the structure)

**Ex:**  $X = BG$  with  $G$  a group  $\leftrightarrow$  principal  $G$ -bundles

$X = B\mathcal{G}$  with  $\mathcal{G}$  a 2-group  $\leftrightarrow$  principal  $\mathcal{G}$ -2-bundles

$\rightsquigarrow$  invariants of pairs  $(M \text{ closed oriented 3-manifold, } h \in [M, X])$

Example: cohomological invariants from  $\theta \in H^3(X, \mathbb{k}^*)$

$$\tau^\theta(M, h) = \langle h^*(\theta), [M] \rangle \in \mathbb{k}$$

$h^*(\theta) \in H^3(M, \mathbb{k}^*)$  and  $[M] \in H_3(M, \mathbb{Z})$  fundamental class of  $M$

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A  **$n$ -type** is a connected CW-complex with  $\pi_k = 0$  for  $k > n$ .

- **X is a 0-type:**  $X \simeq \{\text{pt}\}$

Turaev-Viro (1992), Barret-Westburry (1996)

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# Monoidal categories graded by a group $G$

A  $\mathbb{k}$ -linear monoidal category  $\mathcal{C}$  is  **$G$ -graded** if

- 1 it decomposes as  $\mathcal{C} = \bigoplus_{g \in G} \mathcal{C}_g$  (set  $|X| = g$  for  $X \in \mathcal{C}_g$ )  
For homogenous objects:  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(X, Y) \neq 0 \Rightarrow |Y| = |X|$
- 2  $|X \otimes Y| = |X| |Y|$  and  $|\mathbb{1}| = 1$

**Ex:** category of modules over a Hopf  $G$ -coalgebra  $A = \{A_g\}_{g \in G}$

$$\mathcal{C}_g = \text{Mod}(A_g) \quad \otimes_{\mathcal{C}} \text{ induced by } \Delta_{g,h}: A_{gh} \rightarrow A_g \otimes_{\mathbb{k}} A_h$$

A  **$G$ -fusion category** is a rigid  $G$ -graded  $\mathcal{C} = \bigoplus_{g \in G} \mathcal{C}_g$  such that:

- 3  $\mathcal{C}$  is semisimple
- 4 each  $\mathcal{C}_g$  has finitely many simple objects (up to iso)
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**Ex:** •  $\text{Mod}_{fd}(A)$  with  $A = \{A_g\}_{g \in G}$  semisimple of finite-type

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# State sum invariants

A  **$n$ -type** is a connected CW-complex with  $\pi_k = 0$  for  $k > n$ .

- **X is a 0-type:**  $X \simeq \{\text{pt}\}$  ( $\Leftrightarrow G$  trivial)

Turaev-Viro (1992), Barret-Westburry (1996)

$C$  spherical fusion category  $\rightsquigarrow \text{TV}_C(M)$

- **X is a 1-type:**  $X \simeq BG$  with  $G$  a group

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Sözer-V. (2022)

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# 2-groups

A **2-group** is a monoidal category  $\mathcal{G}$  such that:

- every morphism is invertible
- for  $x \in \mathcal{G}$ , there is  $x^* \in \mathcal{G}$  with  $x \otimes x^* \cong \mathbb{1} \cong x^* \otimes x$

Modelization:

A **crossed module** is  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{a group morphism } \chi: E \rightarrow H \\ \text{a left action of } H \text{ on } E \end{array} \right.$

such that

$$\chi({}^h e) = h\chi(e)h^{-1}$$

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**Strictification:**  $\mathcal{G} \simeq_{\otimes} \mathcal{G}^{\text{strict}} \rightsquigarrow \text{crossed module } \chi: E \rightarrow H$

$H = \text{Ob}(\mathcal{G}^{\text{strict}})$     $E = \{\text{morphisms of source } \mathbb{1}\}$     $\chi = \text{target map}$

**Reconstruction:**  $\text{crossed module } \chi: E \rightarrow H \rightsquigarrow \text{strict 2-group } \mathcal{G}_{\chi}$

$$\text{Ob}(\mathcal{G}_{\chi}) = H \quad \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{G}_{\chi}}(x, y) = \{e \in E \mid y = \chi(e)x\}$$

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**Strictification:**  $\mathcal{G} \simeq_{\otimes} \mathcal{G}^{\text{strict}} \rightsquigarrow \text{crossed module } \chi: E \rightarrow H$

$H = \text{Ob}(\mathcal{G}^{\text{strict}})$     $E = \{\text{morphisms of source } \mathbb{1}\}$     $\chi = \text{target map}$

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$$\text{Ob}(\mathcal{G}_{\chi}) = H \quad \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{G}_{\chi}}(x, y) = \{e \in E \mid y = \chi(e)x\}$$

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## 2-groups

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## Examples:

- The inclusion  $E \hookrightarrow H$  of a normal subgroup
- Any epimorphism  $E \twoheadrightarrow H$  with central kernel
- $E \rightarrow \text{Aut}(E)$  sending  $e \in E$  to the inner automorphism
- $\partial: \pi_2(X, A, *) \rightarrow \pi_1(A, *)$  with  $*$  in  $A \subset X$

The **classifying space**  $B\chi$  is a 2-type:

$$\pi_1(B\chi) = \text{Coker}(\chi), \quad \pi_2(B\chi) = \text{Ker}(\chi), \quad \pi_k(B\chi) = 0 \quad \text{for } k \geq 3$$

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# Monoidal categories graded by $\chi: E \rightarrow H$

A  $\mathbb{k}$ -linear monoidal category  $\mathcal{C}$  is  $\chi$ -graded if:

- 1 Hom-spaces are  $E$ -graded:

$$\mathrm{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(X, Y) = \bigoplus_{e \in E} \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}^e(X, Y)$$

For homogenous morphisms:  $|\beta \circ \alpha| = |\beta| |\alpha|$        $|\mathrm{id}_X| = 1$

- 2 Associator and unitors are of degree 1

$\rightsquigarrow$  the monoidal subcategory  $\mathcal{C}^1$  of degree 1 morphisms:

$$\mathrm{Ob}(\mathcal{C}^1) = \mathrm{Ob}(\mathcal{C}) \quad \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}^1}(X, Y) = \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}^1(X, Y)$$

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$\rightsquigarrow \mathcal{C}$  has homogeneous objects with degree in  $H$

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$$\mathrm{Hom}_C^e(X, Y) \neq 0 \Rightarrow |Y| = \chi(e) |X|$$

- 5 For homogenous morphisms:

$$|\alpha \otimes \beta| = |\alpha|^{s(\alpha)} |\beta|$$

# Monoidal categories graded by $\chi: E \rightarrow H$

A  $\mathbb{k}$ -linear monoidal category  $\mathcal{C}$  is  $\chi$ -graded if:

- 1 Hom-spaces are  $E$ -graded:

$$\mathrm{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(X, Y) = \bigoplus_{e \in E} \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}^e(X, Y) \leftarrow \text{degree } e \text{ homogeneous morphisms}$$

For homogenous morphisms:  $|\beta \circ \alpha| = |\beta| |\alpha|$        $|\mathrm{id}_X| = 1$

- 2 Associator and unitors are of degree 1

$\rightsquigarrow$  the monoidal subcategory  $\mathcal{C}^1$  of degree 1 morphisms:

$$\mathrm{Ob}(\mathcal{C}^1) = \mathrm{Ob}(\mathcal{C}) \quad \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}^1}(X, Y) = \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}^1(X, Y)$$

- 3 The subcategory  $\mathcal{C}^1$  is  $H$ -graded

$\rightsquigarrow \mathcal{C}$  has homogeneous objects with degree in  $H$

- 4 For homogenous objects:  $\mathrm{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}^e(X, Y) \neq 0 \Rightarrow |Y| = \chi(e) |X|$

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A  $\chi$ -fusion category is a  $\chi$ -graded category  $C$  such that:

- 1 the  $H$ -graded subcategory  $C^1$  is  $H$ -fusion
- 2 for all  $e \in E$ , each object  $X$  of  $C$  is a  $e$ -direct sum of simple objects of  $C^1$  ( $X = \bigoplus_{\alpha} s_{\alpha}$  with  $|s_{\alpha} \hookrightarrow X| = e$ )

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**Ex:** the linearization  $\mathbb{k}\mathcal{G}_{\chi}$  of the 2-group  $\mathcal{G}_{\chi}$  is  $\chi$ -fusion

$$\text{Ob}(\mathbb{k}\mathcal{G}_{\chi}) = H \quad \text{and} \quad \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{k}\mathcal{G}_{\chi}}^e(x, y) = \begin{cases} \mathbb{k} & \text{if } y = \chi(e)x \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

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$C$  spherical  $\chi$ -fusion category  $\rightsquigarrow$  trace of degree 1 endomorphisms

The **graded 6j-symbol** associated with a 6-tuple  $(i, j, k, \ell, m, n)$  of objects and  $(e_1, e_2, e_3, e_4) \in E^4$  such that  $e_1 e_2 ({}^{\ell}e_3) e_4 = 1$  is

$$\left| \begin{array}{ccc} i & j & k \\ \ell & m & n \end{array} \right|_{e_1, e_2, e_3, e_4} : \begin{cases} V_{n \otimes i, m}^{e_1} \otimes V_{\ell \otimes j, n}^{e_2} \otimes V_{k, j \otimes i}^{e_3} \otimes V_{m, \ell \otimes k}^{e_4} \rightarrow \mathbb{k} \\ \alpha \otimes \beta \otimes \gamma \otimes \delta \mapsto \text{tr}(\alpha(\beta \otimes \text{id}_i)(\text{id}_\ell \otimes \gamma)\delta) \end{cases}$$

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$$|u \otimes v| = |u|^{|\text{is}(u)|} |v|$$

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**More generally:** isotopy invariant  $F_C$  of  $C$ -colored  $\chi$ -graphs in  $S^2$

$$\left| \begin{array}{ccc} i & j & k \\ \ell & m & n \end{array} \right|_{e_1, e_2, e_3, e_4} = F_C \left( \text{Diagram} \right)$$



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$$\left| \begin{array}{ccc} i & j & k \\ \ell & m & n \end{array} \right|_{e_1, e_2, e_3, e_4} : \left\{ \begin{array}{l} V_{n \otimes i, m}^{e_1} \otimes V_{\ell \otimes j, n}^{e_2} \otimes V_{k, j \otimes i}^{e_3} \otimes V_{m, \ell \otimes k}^{e_4} \rightarrow \mathbb{k} \\ \alpha \otimes \beta \otimes \gamma \otimes \delta \mapsto \text{tr}(\alpha(\beta \otimes \text{id}_i)(\text{id}_\ell \otimes \gamma)\delta) \end{array} \right.$$

where  $V_{X,Y}^e = \text{Hom}_C^e(X, Y)$

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**More generally:** isotopy invariant  $F_C$  of  $C$ -colored  $\chi$ -graphs in  $S^2$

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$$\text{HTV}_{\mathcal{C}}(M, h) = \sum_{\mathbf{c}} \left( \prod_e \dim(\mathbf{c}_e) \right) \text{ctr}_f(\otimes_{\Delta} |\Delta|) \in \mathbb{k}$$

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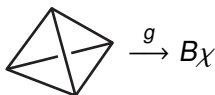
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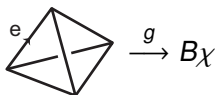
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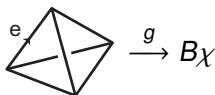
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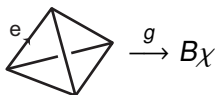
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Theorem (Sozer-V., 2022)

- 1  $\text{HTV}_{\mathcal{C}}(M, h)$  is an invariant of  $h \in [M, B_{\chi}]$
- 2  $\text{HTV}_{\mathcal{C}}$  can distinguish phantom maps
- 3  $\text{HTV}_{\mathcal{C}}$  extends to a 3-dimensional HQFT with target  $B_{\chi}$

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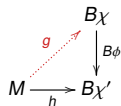
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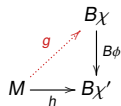
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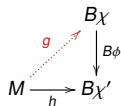
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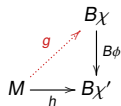
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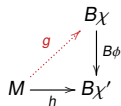
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# $\chi$ -graded categories from Hopf $\chi$ -coalgebras

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1 Hopf  $\chi$ -coalgebra  $A = \{A_x\}_{x \in H} \rightsquigarrow \chi$ -graded cat.  $\text{Mod}(A)$

2  $A$  involutory of finite type  $\Rightarrow \text{Mod}_{\text{id}}(A)$  spherical  $\chi$ -fusion

- homogenous objects are  $A_x$ -modules with  $x \in H$
- for  $M$  an  $A_x$ -module,  $N$  an  $A_y$ -module,  $e \in E$  with  $y = \chi(e)x$ , homogeneous morphisms of degree  $e$  from  $M$  to  $N$  are  $\mathbb{k}$ -linear maps  $\alpha: M \rightarrow N$  such that

$$\begin{array}{c} N \\ | \\ N \\ | \\ \alpha \\ | \\ M \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} y = \chi(e)x \\ | \\ e \\ | \\ x \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} N \\ | \\ \alpha \\ | \\ M \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} x \\ | \\ M \end{array}$$

where

$$\begin{array}{c} \chi(e)x \\ | \\ e \\ | \\ x \end{array} = \phi_{x,e}$$

- monoidal product is given by

$$\left( M, \begin{array}{c} | \\ M \\ | \\ x \end{array} \right) \otimes \left( N, \begin{array}{c} | \\ M \\ | \\ y \end{array} \right) = \left( M \otimes_{\mathbb{k}} N, \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{c} x \\ | \\ y \end{array} \begin{array}{c} | \\ M \\ | \\ xy \end{array} \end{array} \right)$$



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2  $A$  involutory of finite type  $\Rightarrow \text{Mod}_{fd}(A)$  spherical  $\chi$ -fusion

- homogenous objects are  $A_x$ -modules with  $x \in H$
- for  $M$  an  $A_x$ -module,  $N$  an  $A_y$ -module,  $e \in E$  with  $y = \chi(e)x$ , homogeneous morphisms of degree  $e$  from  $M$  to  $N$  are  $\mathbb{k}$ -linear maps  $\alpha: M \rightarrow N$  such that

where  $\begin{array}{c} \chi(e)x \\ \bullet e \\ | \\ x \end{array} = \phi_{x,e}$

- monoidal product is given by

$$\left( M, \begin{array}{c} |M \\ \curvearrowright \\ |M \end{array} \right)_x \otimes \left( N, \begin{array}{c} |M \\ \curvearrowright \\ |M \end{array} \right)_y = \left( M \otimes_{\mathbb{k}} N, \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{c} x \\ \curvearrowright \\ y \end{array} \begin{array}{c} |M \\ |N \end{array} \\ \curvearrowright \\ \begin{array}{c} |M \\ |N \end{array} \end{array} \right)_{xy}$$

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## Example of a Hopf $\chi$ -coalgebra

$$\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z} = \{\bar{0}, \bar{1}, \bar{2}, \bar{3}\} \xrightarrow{\chi} \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} = \{0, 1\} \quad \chi(\bar{n}) = 0 \quad {}^1\bar{n} = -\bar{n}$$

Consider:  $A_0 = \mathbb{C}\langle a \mid a^4 = 1 \rangle$   
 $A_1 = \mathbb{C}\langle u, v \mid u^2 = 1 = v^2, vu = -uv \rangle$

with coproduct:

$$\Delta_{0,0}(a) = (a \otimes a)\Omega(a^2, a^2) \quad \Delta_{1,1}(a) = (u \otimes u)\Omega(-v, v)$$

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$A = \{A_0, A_1\}$  is a Hopf  $\chi$ -coalgebra which is involutory of finite type

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