

# Orbifolds via defects

**Nils Carqueville**

Universität Wien

**spacetime**



**algebra**

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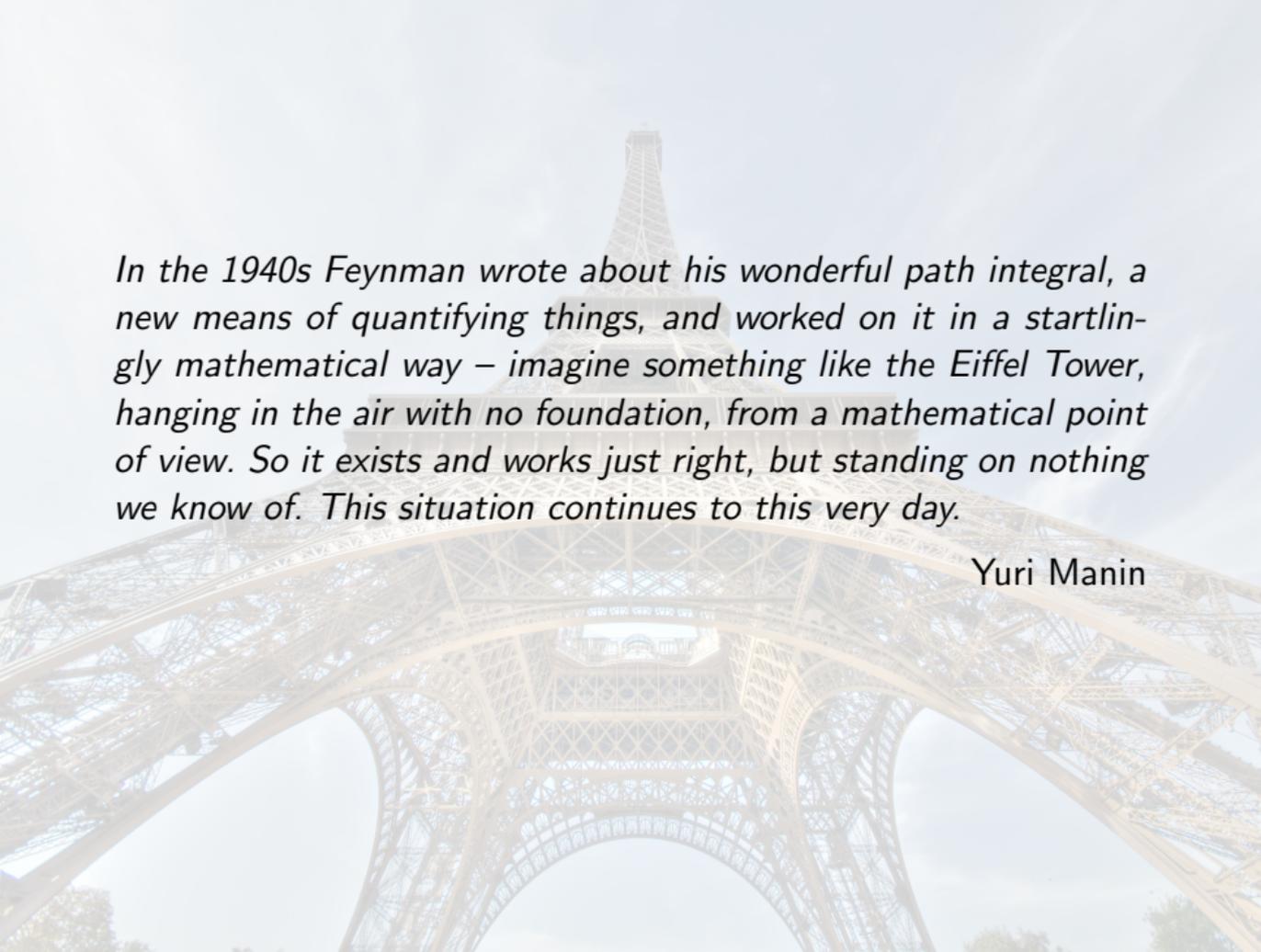
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*In the 1940s Feynman wrote about his wonderful path integral, a new means of quantifying things, and worked on it in a startlingly mathematical way – imagine something like the Eiffel Tower, hanging in the air with no foundation, from a mathematical point of view. So it exists and works just right, but standing on nothing we know of. This situation continues to this very day.*

Yuri Manin







TQFT

??

??

**spacetime**



**algebra**

**spacetime**  $\supset$   $\text{Bord}_n^{\text{def}}(\mathbb{D})$   $\longrightarrow$   $\text{Vect}_{\mathbb{k}}$   $\subset$  **algebra**

$$\mathbf{spacetime} \supset \mathbf{Bord}_n^{\mathbf{def}}(\mathbb{D}) \xrightarrow{\mathbf{defect\ TQFT}} \mathbf{Vect}_{\mathbb{k}} \subset \mathbf{algebra}$$

## Motivation: group representations

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(Functoriality means  $\rho(e) = \text{id}_V$  and  $\rho(gh) = \rho(g) \circ \rho(h)$  for all  $g, h \in G$ .)

# Topological quantum field theory

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orient. circles  $S^1$  and surfaces with bdy./diffeom.

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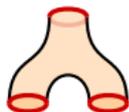
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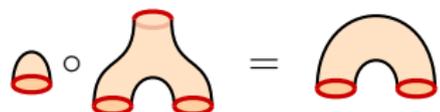
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- $C = \mathbb{k}G$  and  $\langle g, h \rangle = \delta_{g, h^{-1}}$  for finite abelian group  $G$

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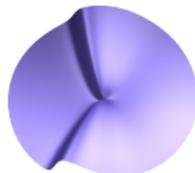
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- $C = \mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_n] / (\partial_{x_1} W, \dots, \partial_{x_n} W)$  ( $\langle -, - \rangle$  from residue theory)



# Defect TQFT

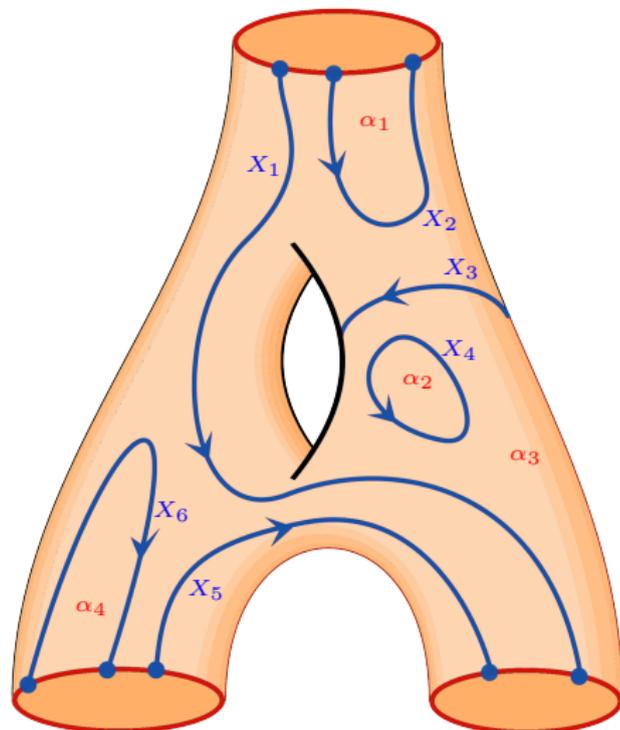
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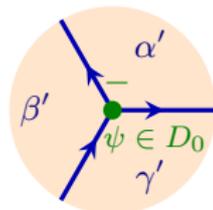
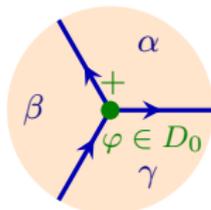
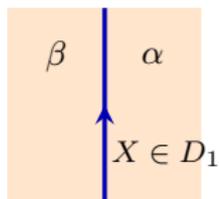
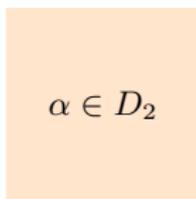
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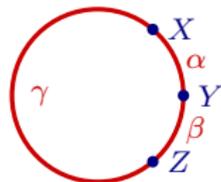
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depending on **defect data**  $\mathbb{D}$  consisting of:

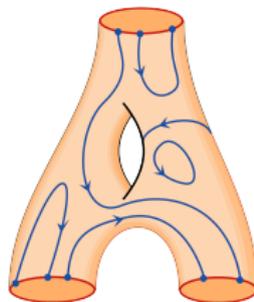
- sets  $D_j$ , whose elements decorate  $j$ -strata of bordisms
- rules how strata are allowed to meet:



objects:



morphisms:



## Examples of 2d defect TQFTs

**Trivial defect TQFT**  $\mathcal{Z}^{\text{triv}}$ :

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**B-twisted sigma models:**

complex manifolds and holomorphic vector bundles

**Landau-Ginzburg models:**

isolated singularities and homological algebra

(more soon...)

# State sum models

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## State sum models

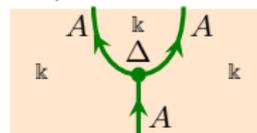
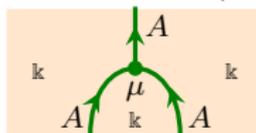
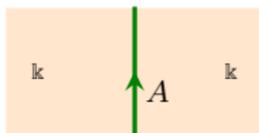
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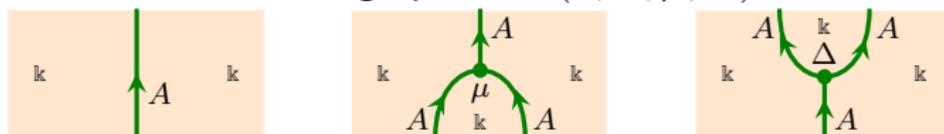
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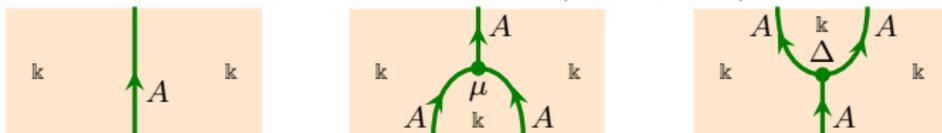


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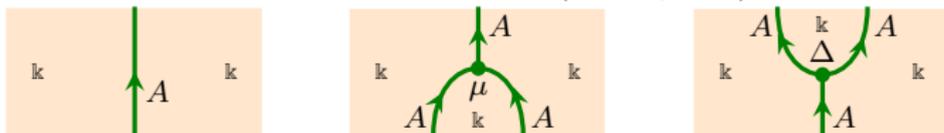
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**Theorem.** Construction yields TQFT  $\mathcal{Z}_A^{\text{ss}}: \text{Bord}_2 \rightarrow \text{Vect}_{\mathbb{k}}$ .

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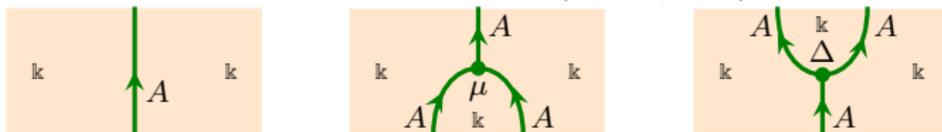
*Proof sketch:* Defining properties of  $(A, \mu, \Delta)$  encode invariance under **Pachner moves**  $\implies$  independent of choice of triangulation:



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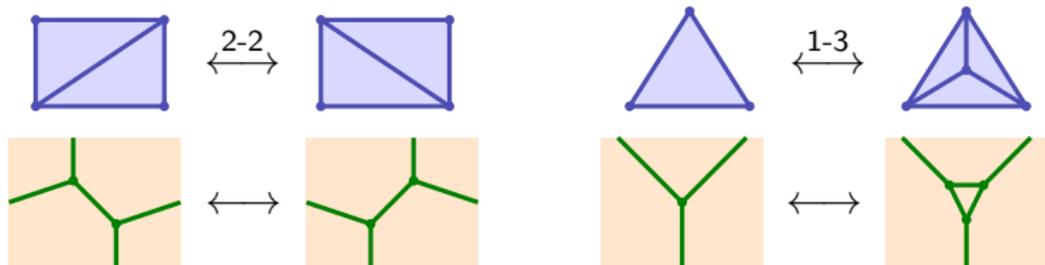
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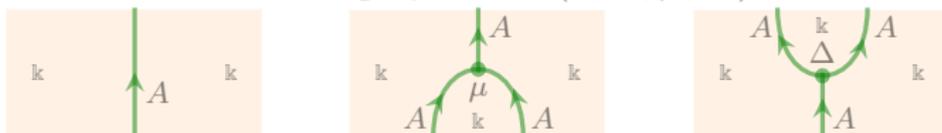
*Proof sketch:* Defining properties of  $(A, \mu, \Delta)$  encode invariance under **Pachner moves**  $\implies$  independent of choice of triangulation:



Input:  $\Delta$ -separable symmetric Frobenius  $\mathbb{k}$ -algebra  $(A, \mu, \Delta)$

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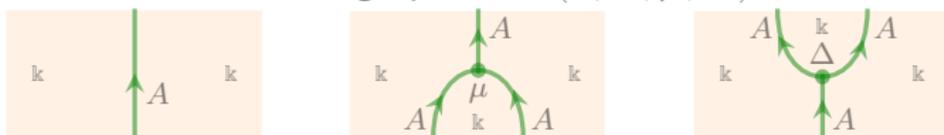


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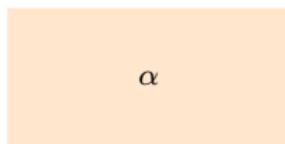
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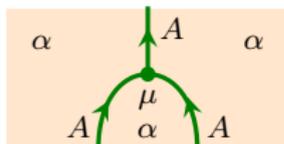
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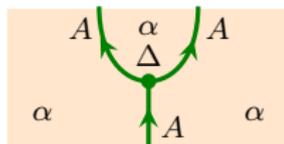
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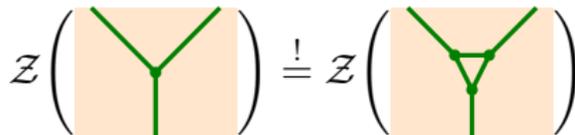
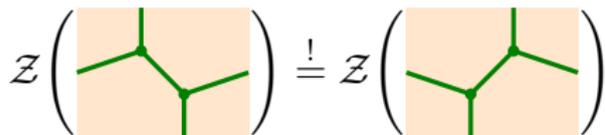


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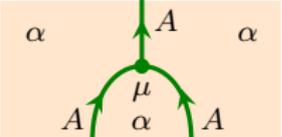
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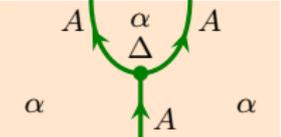
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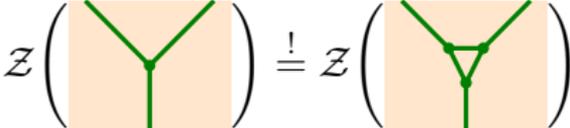
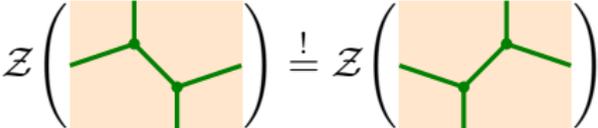


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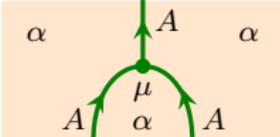
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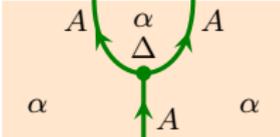
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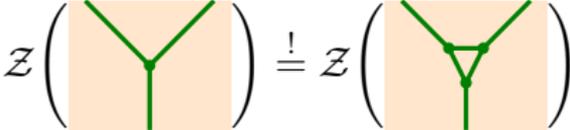
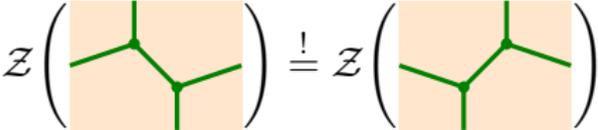


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## Theorem.

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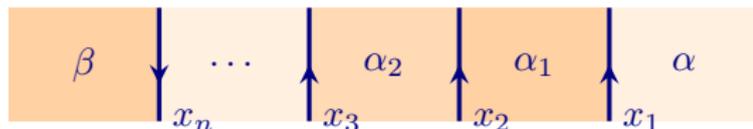
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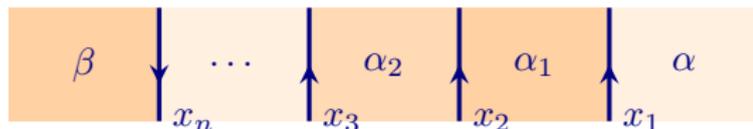
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$$\text{Hom}(X, Y) = \mathcal{Z} \left( \begin{array}{c} \dots \\ y_2 \\ y_1 \\ x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \dots \end{array} \right)$$

A diagram illustrating a junction field. A red circle with blue dots representing junctions. Labels  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  are on the bottom half, and labels  $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_m$  are on the top half.

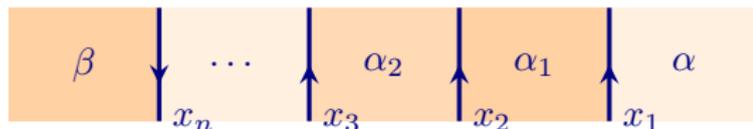
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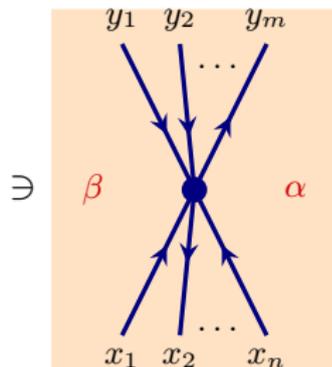
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Calabi-Yau varieties, Fourier-Mukai kernels,  $\text{RHom}$
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- **Landau-Ginzburg models**  
isolated singularities, matrix factorisations
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smooth and proper dg categories, dg bimodules, intertwiners
- **categorified quantum groups**  
weights, functors  $\mathcal{E}_i, \mathcal{F}_j \dots$ , string diagrams. . .

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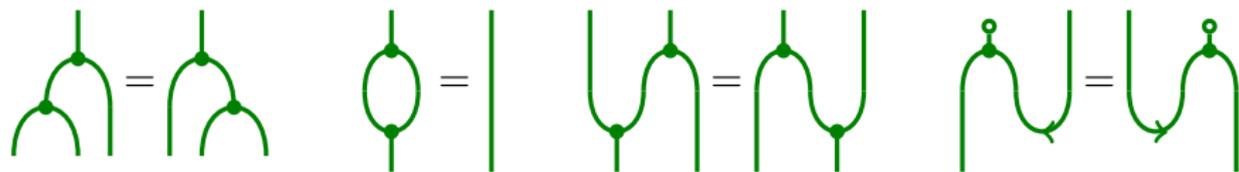
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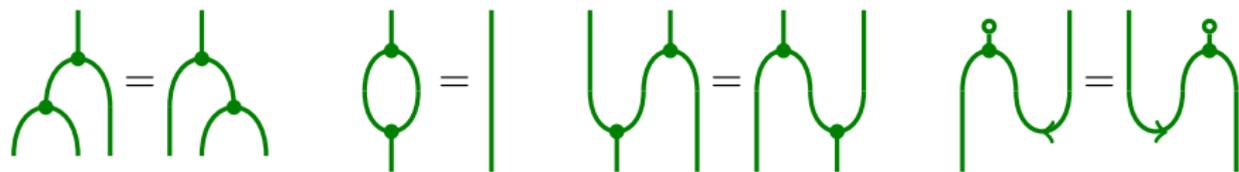
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**Orbifolds unify**  $G$ -equivariantisations and state sum models.

# Orbifold equivalence

The **orbifold completion** of a pivotal 2-category  $\mathcal{B}$  is a pivotal 2-category  $\mathcal{B}_{\text{orb}}$  with:

- *objects* =  **$\Delta$ -separable symmetric Frobenius algebras**  $A \in \mathcal{B}(\alpha, \alpha)$
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**Corollary.**

$\alpha \sim \beta \implies \mathcal{B}(\gamma, \beta) \cong \mathcal{B}_{\text{orb}}((\gamma, 1_\gamma), (\alpha, A)) \cong \text{mod}(A)$  for all  $\gamma \in \mathcal{B}$ .  
 $\implies$  Theory  $\beta$  determined by theory  $\alpha$  and defect  $A$ .

# Orbifolds of Landau-Ginzburg models

**Theorem.** There is a pivotal 2-category  $\mathcal{LG}$  with:

– objects = isolated singularities  $W \in \mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$

$(\dim \mathbb{C}[x]/(\partial_x W) < \infty)$

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– objects = isolated singularities  $W \in \mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  ( $\dim \mathbb{C}[x]/(\partial_x W) < \infty$ )

**Examples.**  $W_{A_{n-1}} = x_1^n + x_2^2$ ,  $W_{D_{n+1}} = x_1^n + x_1 x_2^2$ ,  $W_{E_7} = x_1^3 + x_1 x_2^3$

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**Examples.**  $\mathcal{D} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & u^{n-i} \\ u^i & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  for  $u^n$ ,  $\mathcal{D} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & x & y \\ 0 & 0 & y^2 & -x \\ x^2 & xy & 0 & 0 \\ xy^2 & -x^2 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  for  $x^3 + xy^3$

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**Corollary.**  $\text{hmf}(W^{(\mathbb{E}_6)}) \cong \text{mod} \left( \text{hmf}(W^{(\mathbb{A}_{11})}) \xrightarrow{\mathbb{A} \otimes (-)} \text{hmf}(W^{(\mathbb{A}_{11})}) \right)$  etc.

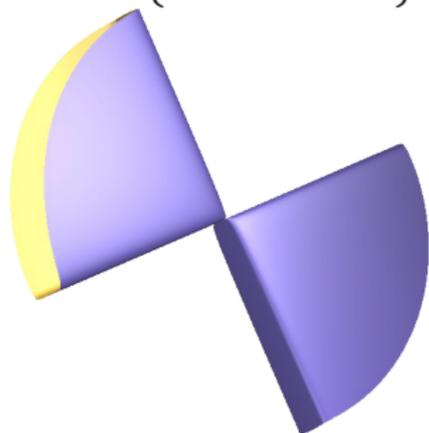
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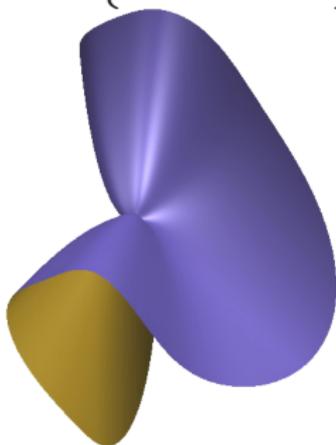
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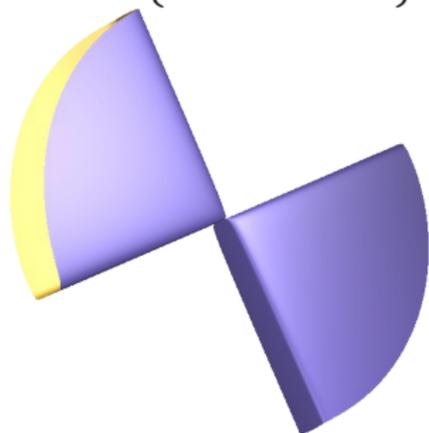
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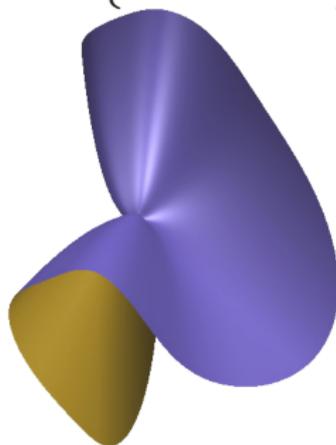
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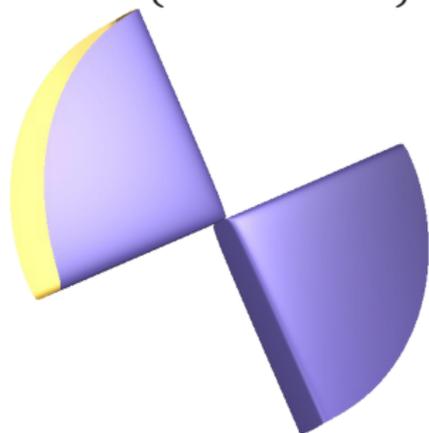
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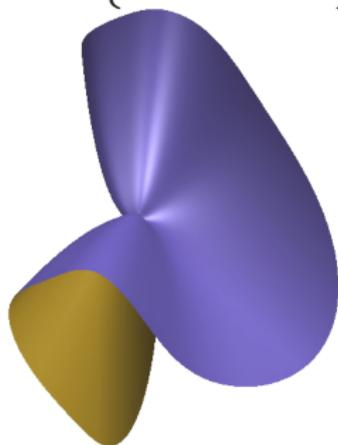
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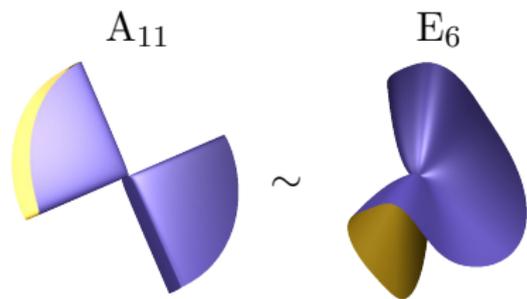


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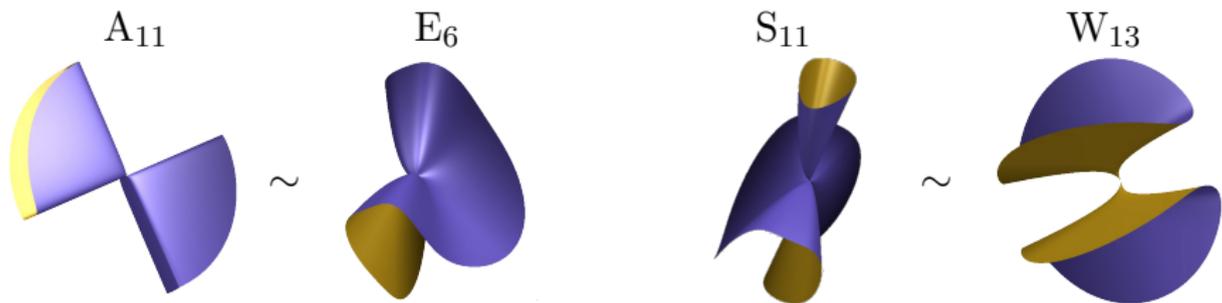
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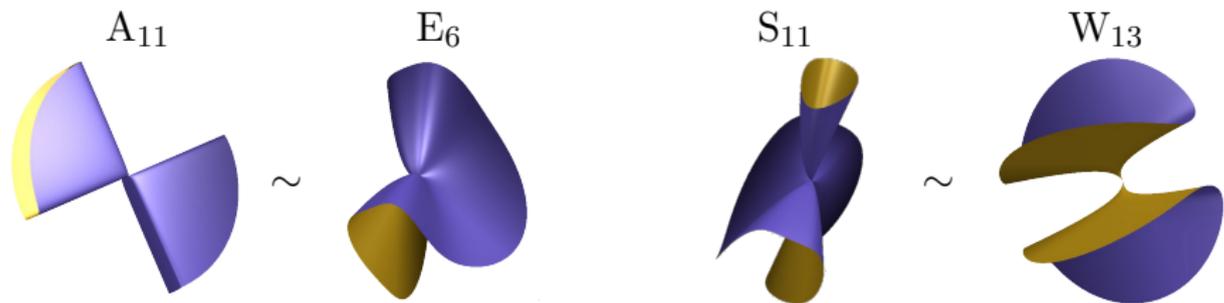
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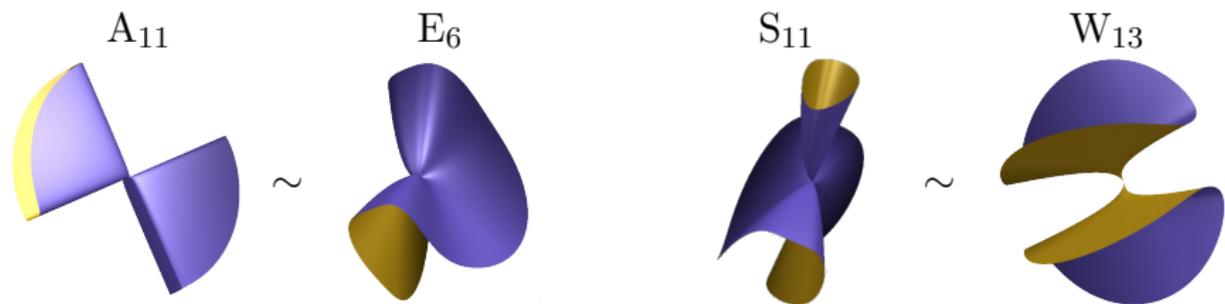
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### 2d orbifolds

- **encode triangulation invariance in algebraic structure**
- representation theory of algebras in 2-categories
- unify  $G$ -equivariantisation and state sum models
- give new relations in algebra and geometry

The **orbifold construction** can be generalised to  $n$ -dimensional defect TQFTs

$$\mathcal{Z}: \text{Bord}_n^{\text{def}}(\mathbb{D}) \longrightarrow \text{Vect}_{\mathbb{k}}$$

in any dimension  $n \geq 1$ .

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### **$n$ -dimensional orbifolds**

- **triangulation invariance  $\implies$  algebraic structures**
  - ▶  $n = 2$ : Frobenius algebras in 2-categories
  - ▶  $n = 3$ : spherical fusion categories in 3-categories
- rich representation theory
- unify  $G$ -equivariantisation and state sum models
- ...

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## Examples of 3d defect TQFTs.

- quantum **Chern-Simons theory** (= Reshetikhin-Turaev theory  $\mathcal{Z}^{\mathcal{C}}$ )
  - ▶  $D_3 = \{\text{gauge group}\}$  (more generally: modular tensor category  $\mathcal{C}$ )
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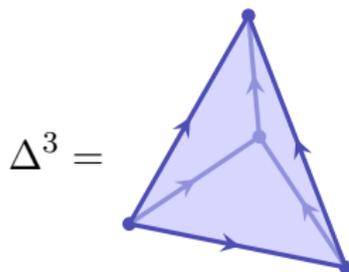
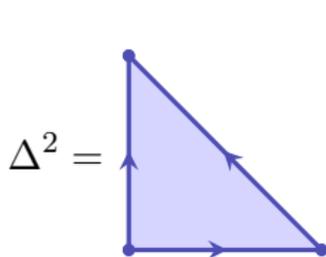
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- **Rozansky-Witten theory** (conjecturally)
  - ▶  $D_3 = \{\text{holomorphic symplectic manifolds}\}$
  - ▶  $D_2 = \{\text{“generalised Landau-Ginzburg models”}\}$
  - ▶  $D_1 = \{\text{“fibred matrix factorisations”}\}$

# Triangulations

**standard  $n$ -simplex**  $\Delta^n := \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{n+1} t_i e_i \mid t_i \geq 0, \sum_{i=1}^{n+1} t_i = 1 \right\} \subset \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$



**simplicial complex**  $C$  is collection of simplices such that

- ▶ all faces of all  $\sigma \in C$  are also in  $C$
- ▶  $\sigma, \sigma' \in C \implies \sigma \cap \sigma' = \emptyset$  or  $\sigma \cap \sigma' = \text{face}$

**triangulation** of manifold  $M$  is simplicial complex  $C$  with homeomorphism  $\varphi: |C| \xrightarrow{\cong} M$

(details for smooth, oriented, ...)

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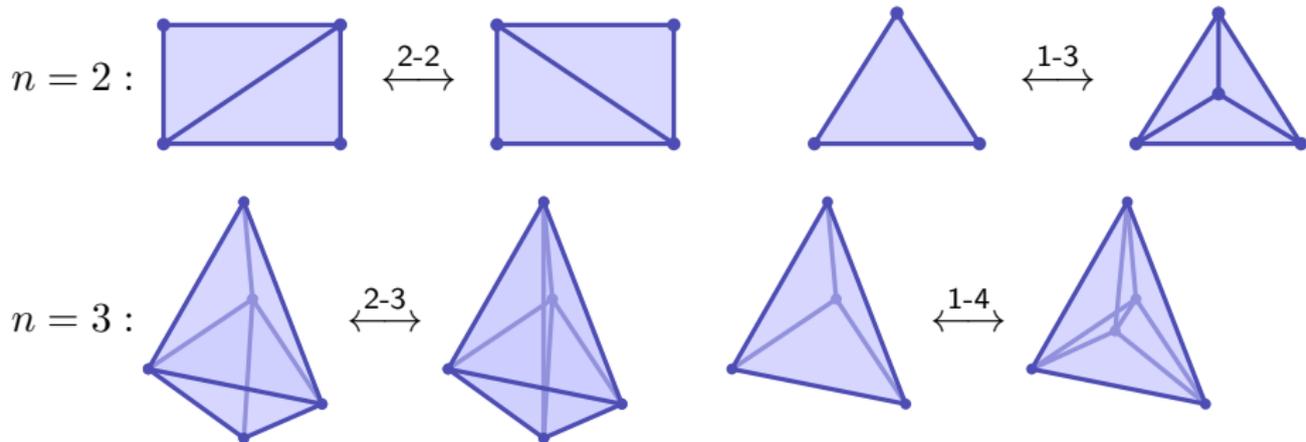
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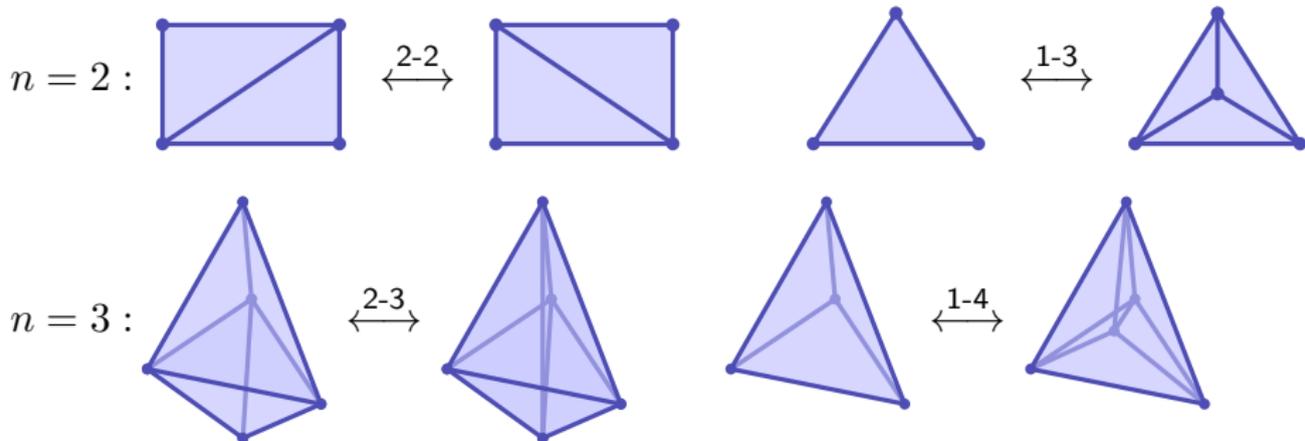
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**Theorem.** If triangulated PL manifolds are PL isomorphic, then there exists a finite sequence of Pachner moves between them.

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## Definition & Theorem.

Triangulation +  $\mathcal{A}$ -decoration + evaluation with  $\mathcal{Z}$

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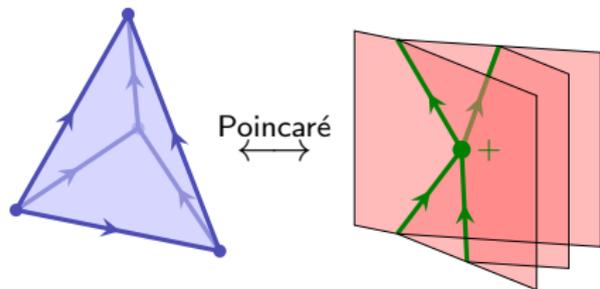
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## Definition & Theorem.

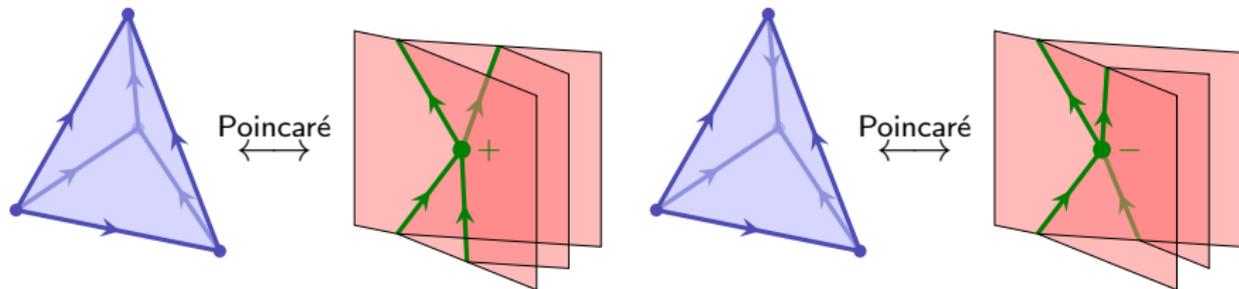
Triangulation +  $\mathcal{A}$ -decoration + evaluation with  $\mathcal{Z} = \mathcal{A}$ -orbifold TQFT

$$\mathcal{Z}_{\mathcal{A}}: \text{Bord}_n \rightarrow \text{Vect}_{\mathbb{k}}$$

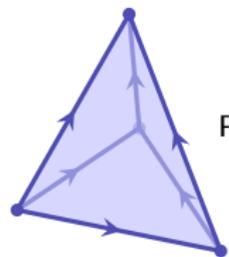
# Orbifold datum $\mathcal{A}$ for $n = 3$



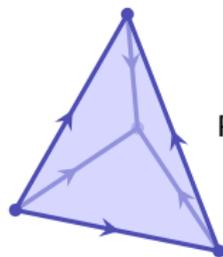
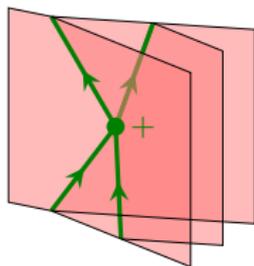
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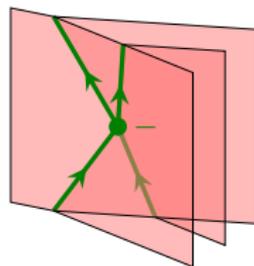
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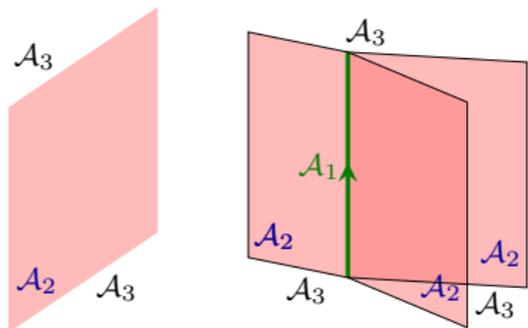
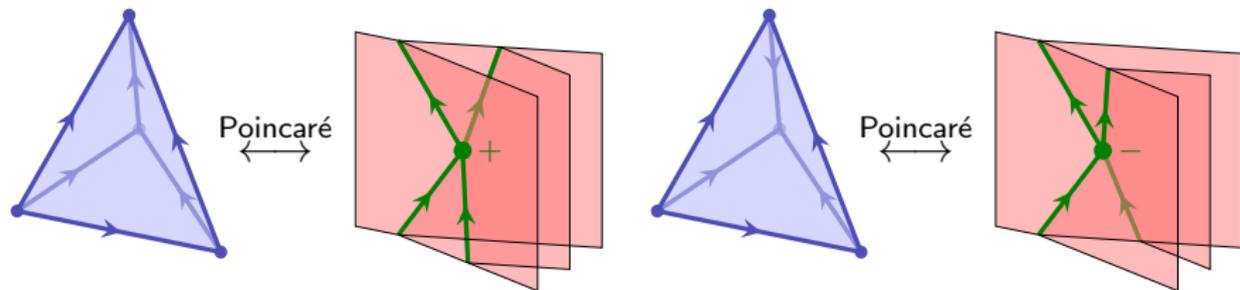
Poincaré  
↔



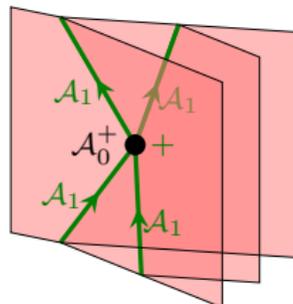
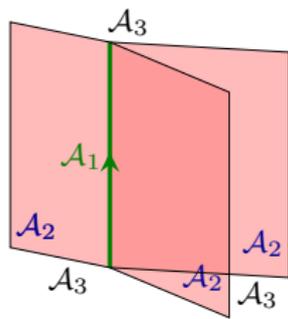
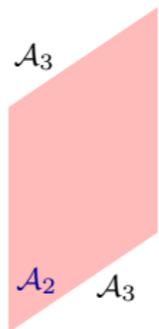
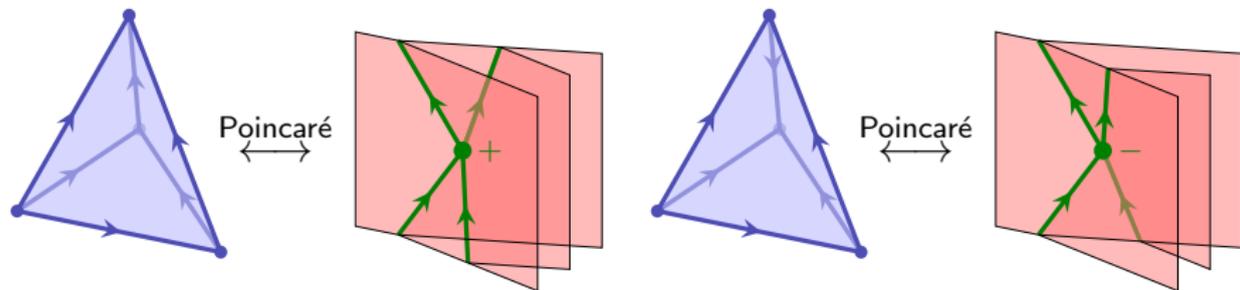
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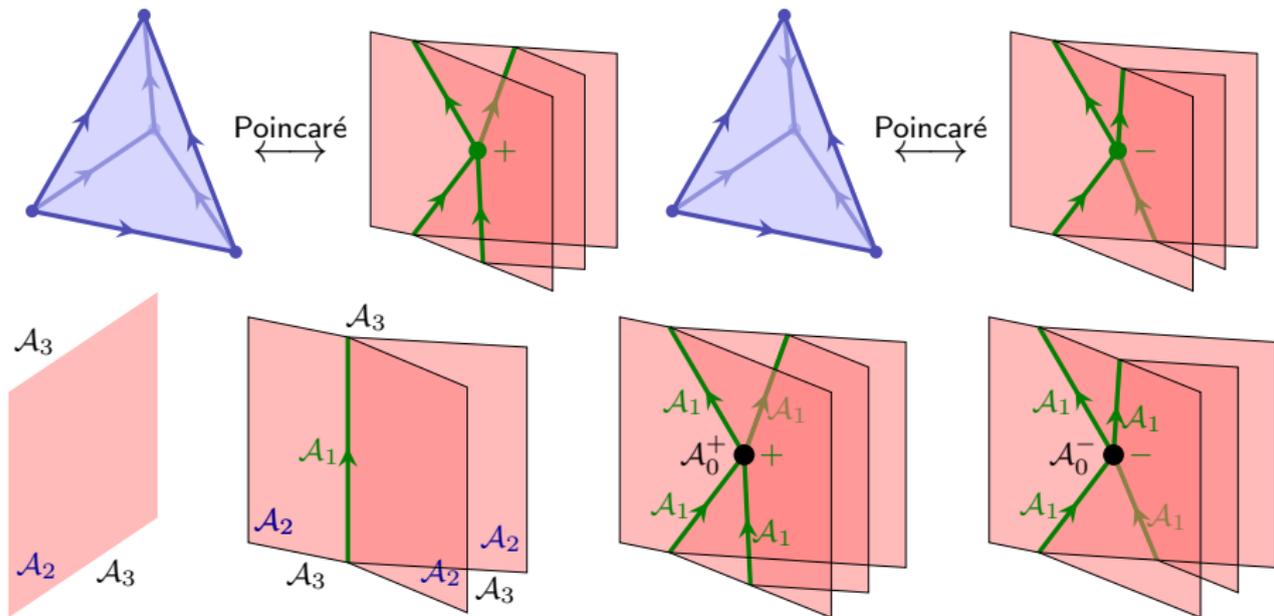
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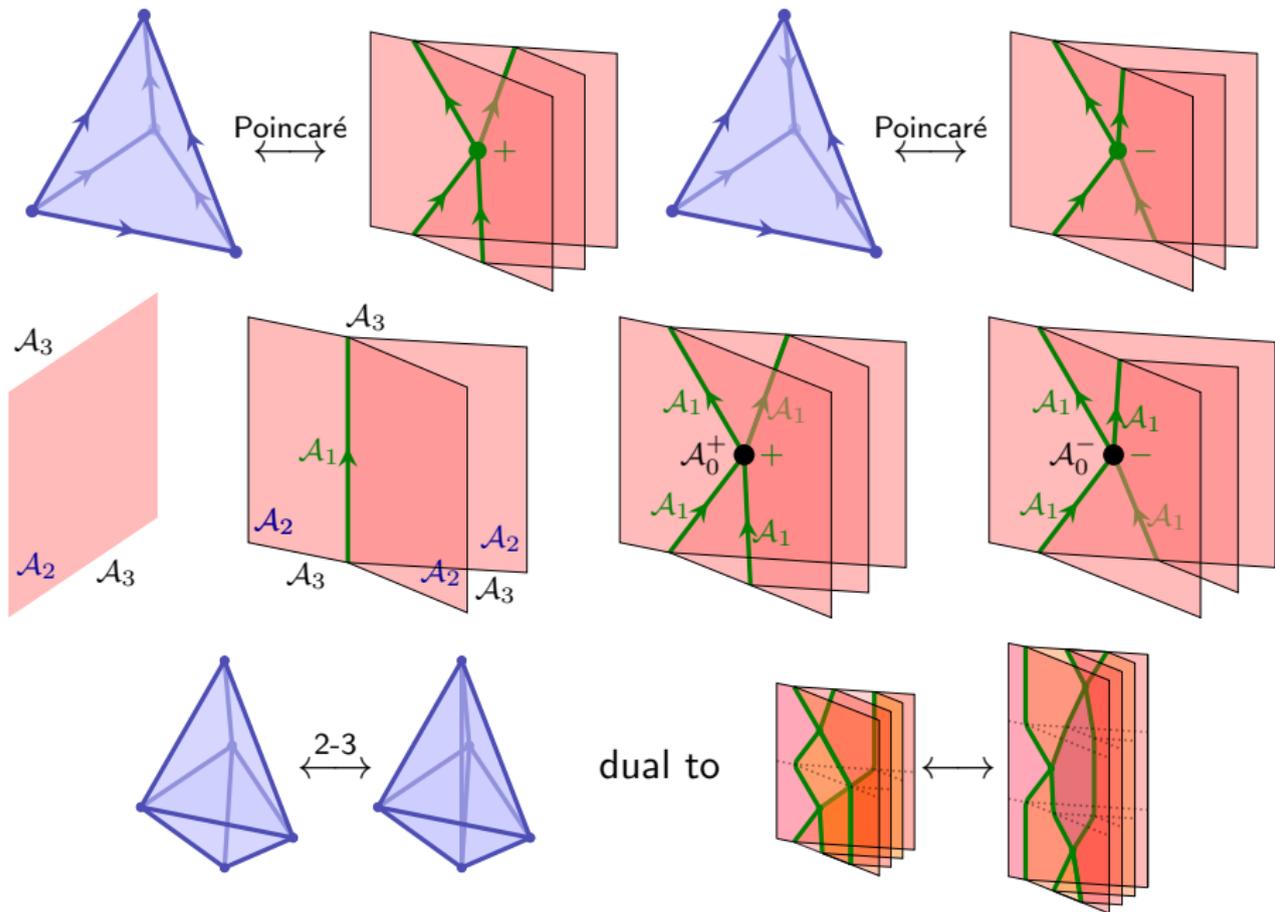
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**Turaev-Viro models** are orbifolds of  $\mathcal{Z}^{\text{vect}_{\mathbb{k}}}$ :

From spherical fusion category  $\mathcal{A}$  get orbifold datum

- $\mathcal{A}_3 = *$
- $\mathcal{A}_2 = \mathcal{A}$  (equivalently:  $\mathbb{k}^{\#}$  simples of  $\mathcal{A}$ )
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**Upshot:** theory well-developed and ready for applications

# Application 1: 3d TQFT $\cong$ semisimplicity

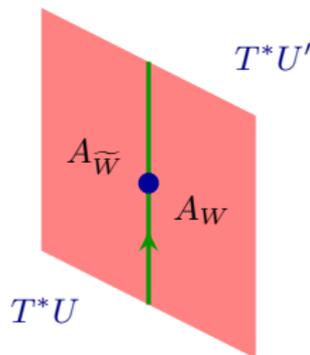
**Rozansky-Witten theory** as 3-category  $\mathcal{C}^{\text{RW}}$  with duals:

objects:  $T^*U$  for complex manifolds  $U$

1-morphisms  $T^*U \rightarrow T^*U'$  are  
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$$A_W := \left( \Omega^{0,\bullet}(U \times U'), \bar{\partial}, W \right)$$

2- and 3-morphisms:  $\mathbb{D}(A_W^{\text{op}} \otimes A_{\tilde{W}})$



**Theorem.**  $\text{BLG} \xrightarrow{U \text{ pt}} \mathcal{C}^{\text{RW}}$  (“LG models are surface defects”)

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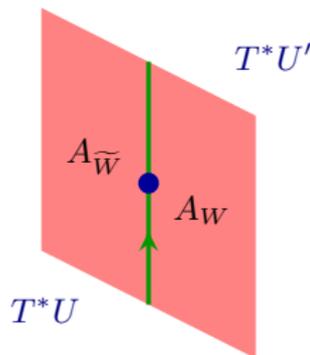
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**Future:**

- 3d TQFTs from tensor categories  $\mathbb{D}(A_W^{\text{op}} \otimes A_{\widetilde{W}})$
- representation theory of **non-semisimple tensor categories**
- new invariants of knots and surface embeddings

## Application 2: topological quantum computation

Interpretation of Reshetikhin-Turaev theory  $\mathcal{Z}^{\text{RT},\mathcal{C}}$ :

- objects  $u_i$  in  $\mathcal{C}$ : anyonic quasiparticles in 2+1 dimensions
- $\mathcal{Z}^{\text{RT},\mathcal{C}}(\Sigma_{u_1,\dots,u_m})$ : qubit storage on surface  $\Sigma$  with  $m$  anyons
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- $\langle \beta_{u_i,u_j} \rangle$  dense in  $U(N)$  for  $N \gg 1$ : *universal* quantum computations

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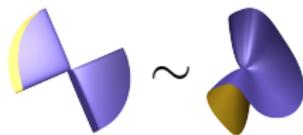
**Conjecture.** **Orbifolds of  $\mathcal{Z}^{\mathcal{C}}$**  construct universal quantum computers with larger qubit storages  $\mathcal{Z}^{\mathcal{C}}(\Sigma_{u_1, \dots, u_m})$ ; in particular

- $\rho: \text{BS}_N \rightarrow \text{Bimod}_{\mathbb{k}}$  with  $\rho(*) = \mathcal{C}^{\boxtimes N}$
- $\mathcal{C}$ - $\mathcal{C}'$ -bimodules with “invertible quantum bubble”

The **orbifold construction** can be generalised to  $n$ -dimensional defect TQFTs

$$\mathcal{Z}: \text{Bord}_n^{\text{def}}(\mathbb{D}) \longrightarrow \text{Vect}_{\mathbb{k}}$$

in any dimension  $n \geq 1$ .



- **triangulation invariance  $\implies$  algebraic structures**
  - ▶  $n = 2$ : Frobenius algebras in 2-categories
  - ▶  $n = 3$ : spherical fusion categories in 3-categories
- rich representation theory
- unify  $G$ -equivariantisation and state sum models
- **Applications:**
  - ▶ 3-manifold invariants from non-semisimple tensor categories
  - ▶ embedding invariants from modular tensor categories
  - ▶ models for topological quantum computation

