

What is the target of a
2-functor $\text{Tang}(G, X) \rightarrow \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$?

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$\mathcal{C}$ ribbon category

Tang category of
oriented framed
tangles

$\text{Tang}_{\mathcal{C}}$ tangles colored by objects
of $\mathcal{C}$

Reshetikhin-Turaev Construction

There is a functor

$$\text{Tang}_{\mathcal{C}} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$$

giving tangle invariants

$\mathcal{C}$ ribbon category

Tang category of oriented framed tangles

$\text{Tang}_{\mathcal{C}}$ tangles colored by objects of $\mathcal{C}$

G group

$\mathcal{C}$ G -ribbon category

$\text{Tang}(G)$ category of oriented framed tangles with reps $\pi_i \rightarrow G$
 G -structures

$\text{Tang}_{\mathcal{C}}(G)$ tangles colored by objects of $\mathcal{C}$ respecting degrees

Reshetikhin-Turaev Construction

There is a functor

$$\text{Tang}_{\mathcal{C}} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$$

giving invariants of tangles

G -Reshetikhin-Turaev [Turaev, others?]

There is a functor

$$\text{Tang}_{\mathcal{C}}(G) \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$$

giving invariants of tangles with G -structures

Today,

$\text{Targ}(G, X)$ where X is a G -module

- Now a 2-category, not just monoidal
(but 0-deg part is pointed, in some sense)
- Two constructions of functors from $\text{Targ}(G, X)$
 1. quantization of $SL_2(\mathbb{C})$ Chern-Simons
 2. twisting and RT invariants

Question

What is the right definition of target category for these?

Background

monoidal category

product $\otimes$ on objects

$$X, Y \mapsto X \otimes Y$$

$$f: X \rightarrow X', g: Y \rightarrow Y'$$

$$f \otimes g: X \otimes Y \rightarrow X' \otimes Y'$$

Ex vector spaces over a field
 $\otimes$ is tensor product

Ex A -modules for A a Hopf alg.
product $\otimes$ comes from coproduct $\Delta: A \rightarrow A \otimes A$

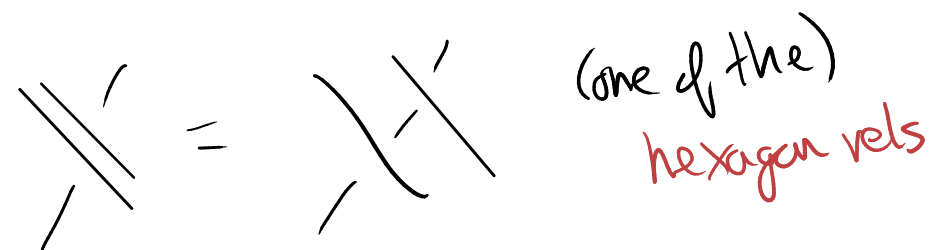
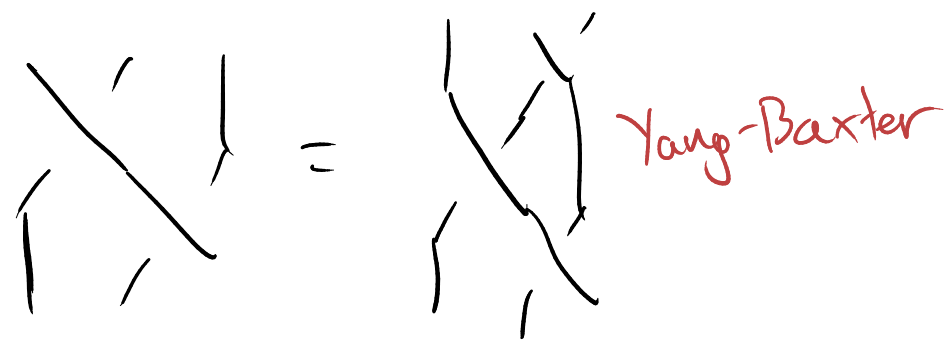
Ex cobordisms, $\otimes$ is disjoint union

Ex $\text{Tang} =$ oriented framed tangles. Product is disjoint union!



Convention: real tangles $\downarrow$
 $\rightarrow$

Tang is also braided



A **braiding** on a monoidal category has maps

$$\beta_{x,y} : x \otimes y \rightarrow y \otimes x$$

satisfying compatibility w/ $\otimes$, **"hexagon axioms"** which imply braid relations

Reshetikhin-Turaev: Can interpret tangles colored by objects of a **ribbon** (braided + twist) category $\mathcal{C}$ as morphisms in $\mathcal{C}$.

Gives invariants of tangles.

A G -graded monoidal category
(over a field $\mathbb{k}$) has

objects $X \cong \bigoplus_{g \in G} X_g$,
 $|X_g| = g$

morphisms

$$\text{Hom}(X, Y) = 0$$

unless $|X| = |Y|$

← for homogeneous objects

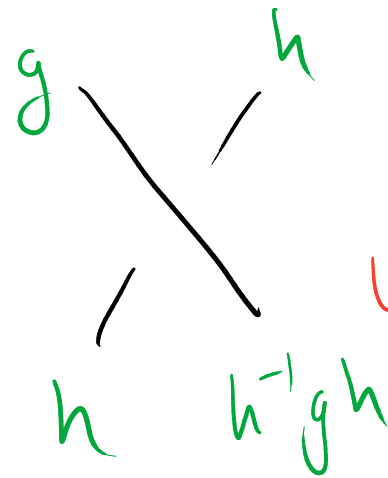
$$|X \otimes Y| = |X| \cdot |Y|$$

A G -crossed braiding has

a G -action $Y \mapsto Y^g$

$$|Y| = h, |Y^g| = hgh^{-1}$$

Ex $\text{Tang}(G)$ has tangles (use Wirtinger presentation)
with reps of π_1 into G :



this is the wrong convention
on π_1 : I blame quantum topologists

braiding maps

$$\beta: X_g \otimes Y_h \rightarrow (Y_h)^g \otimes X_g$$

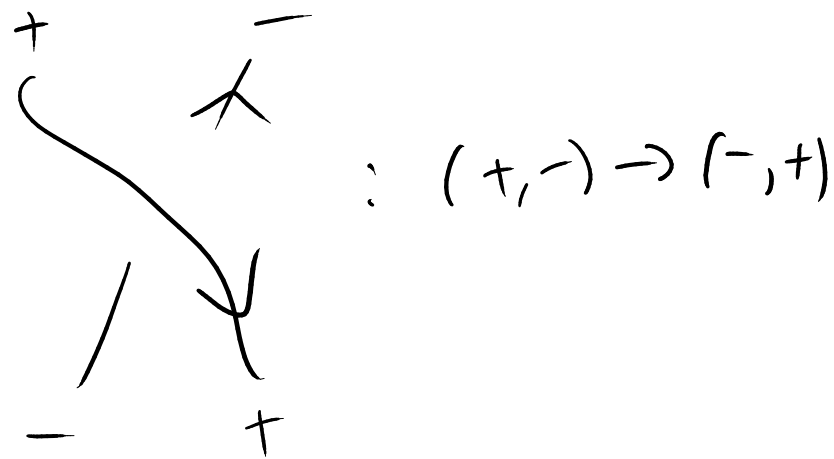
$$|(Y_h)^g| = hgh^{-1}$$

satisfying
septagon axioms

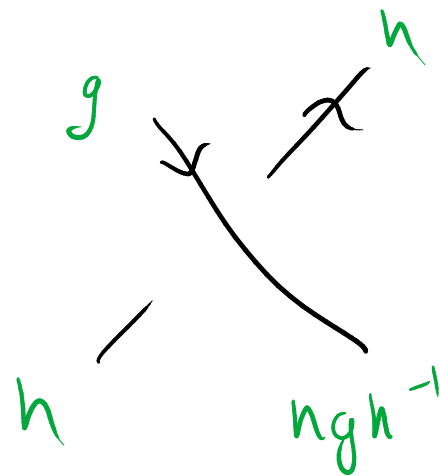
(hexagon w/
 G -actions)

More precisely:

Tang has objects generated by $+, -$



Tang(G) has objects generated by $(g, \pm)$ for $g \in G$



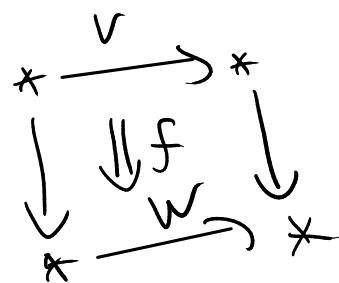
: $(g, +; h, -) \rightarrow (h, -; ngh^{-1}, +)$

Observation A monoidal category $(\mathcal{C}, \otimes)$ is a 2-category* with one object:

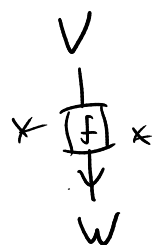
* I am going to assume strictness and probably say something more arguable

object: $*$
 1-morphisms: objects V of $\mathcal{C}$
 $V: * \rightarrow *$
 1-morphism composition $\otimes$

2-morphisms: morphisms $f: V \rightarrow W$ of $\mathcal{C}$
 2-morphism composition $\circ$



← dualize



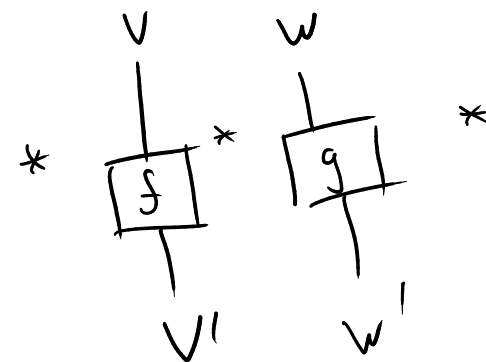
Graphical calculus

$*$ $\longleftrightarrow$ regions dim 2
 $\text{Ob}(\mathcal{C}) \longleftrightarrow$ points/strings dim 1
 $\text{Hom}(\mathcal{C}) \longleftrightarrow$ morphisms dim 0

Now $(f \otimes g) \circ (f' \otimes g') = (f \circ f') \otimes (g \circ g')$

is something about compatibility

$f \otimes g$ becomes



Since there is only one region label we usually drop it

What if we didn't drop the region labels?

Def G group, X a G -module

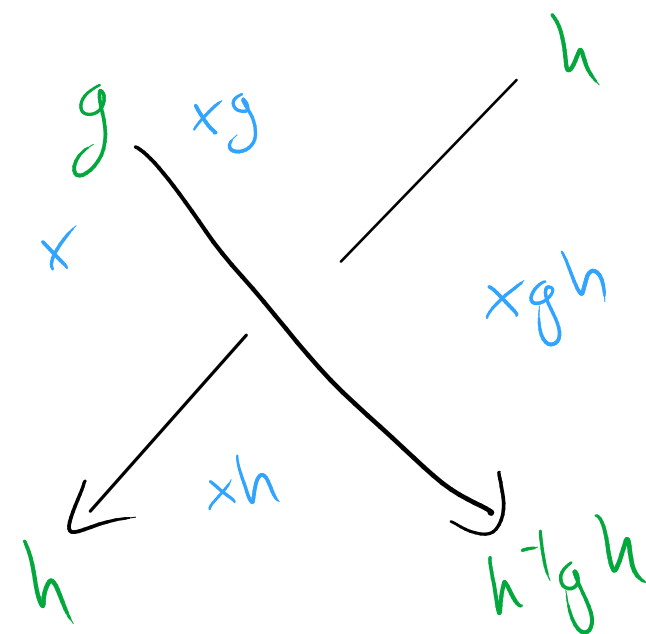
$\text{Tang}(G, X)$ has

objects $x \in X$

1-morphisms For each $g \in G, x \in X$

$$g: x \rightarrow xg$$

2-morphisms Tangles plus G and X labeling



Note: region labels are determined by any one value.

Topologically a 2-morphism of $\text{Tang}(G, X)$

is:

- tangle T
- rep $\pi_1(\text{complement } T) \rightarrow G$
- gauge data $x \in X$ (of left-hand region)

Note:

Can think of this as $\otimes$ being partially defined

$$\left(\begin{array}{c} g_1 \\ | \\ \boxed{T_1} \\ | \\ h_1 \end{array} \right) \otimes \left(\begin{array}{c} g_2 \\ | \\ \boxed{T_2} \\ | \\ h_2 \end{array} \right)$$

is defined iff $xg_1 = g$

Brading gives gauge transformations:

A

$$\times \begin{array}{c} g \\ | \\ \boxed{T} \\ | \\ h \end{array} \times g$$

$\sim$

$$\begin{array}{c} g \\ | \\ A^{-1} \times \boxed{T} \times g \\ | \\ h \end{array}$$

B

$$\times \begin{array}{c} g_1 \\ | \\ \boxed{T} \\ | \\ h_1 \end{array}$$

$\sim$

$$\begin{array}{c} g \\ | \\ B^{-1} \times \boxed{T} \times B \\ | \\ h \end{array}$$

Reason 1 you should care: $SL_2(\mathbb{C})$ Chern-Simons invariants of tangles

M closed 3-mfld

$\rho: \pi_1(M) \rightarrow SL_2(\mathbb{C})$ (hyperbolic structure)

A flat sl_2 connection with holonomy ρ

$$S(A) := \frac{-i}{4} \int \text{tr}[A, dA] + \frac{2}{3} \text{tr}[A, A^2 A]$$

$SL_2(\mathbb{C})$ Chern-Simons invariant
indep of A mod $4\pi^2 i$

$$\text{Re}(S(M, \rho)) = \text{Vol}(M, \rho)$$

hyperbolic volume

How to compute?

1. triangulate M
2. use ρ to find geometric shapes of tetrahedra
3. add up dilogarithms on each (nontrivial boundary conditions here)

nontrivial! $\rightarrow$

What about knots and tangles?

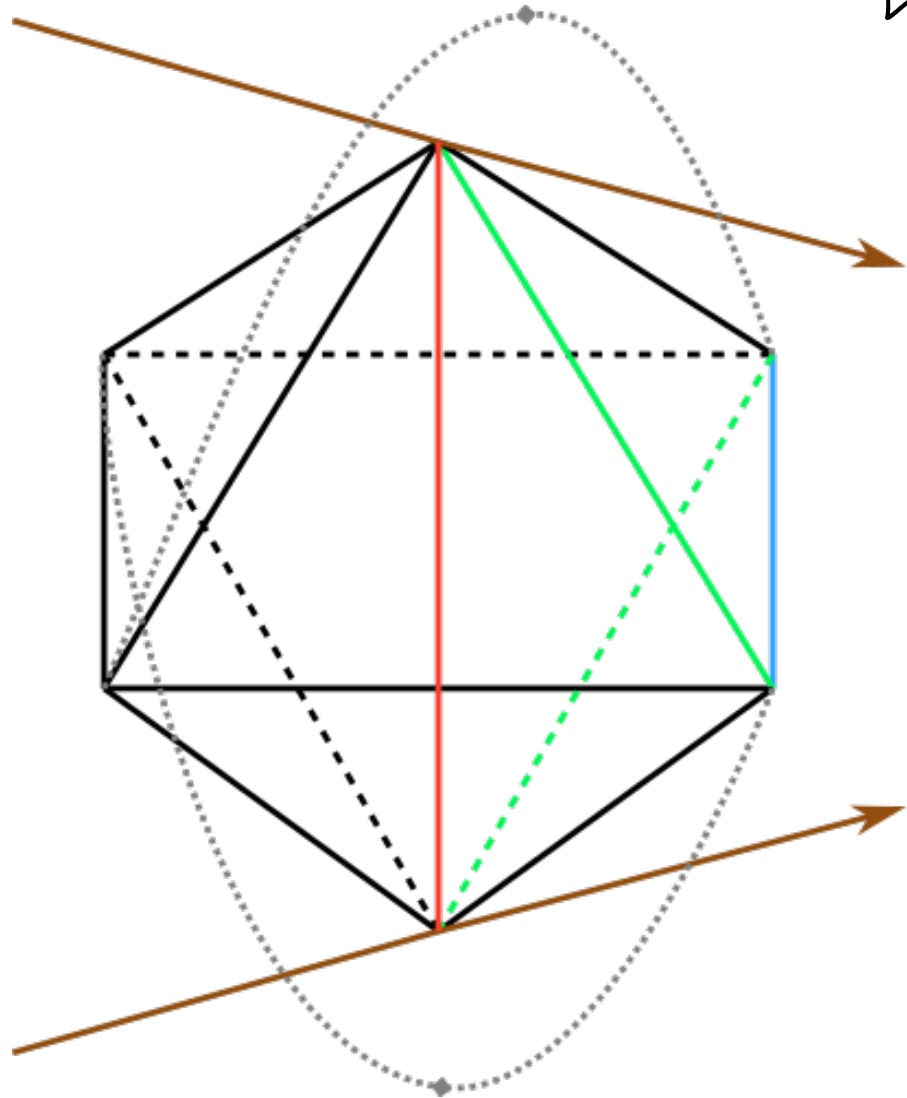
If M (say $S^3 \setminus \nu(K)$ knot exterior) has boundary, S depends on boundary sections,

Now $S(M, \rho)$ takes value in line bundle over rep. var of ∂M .

How to do this for links/tangles
from a diagram D ?

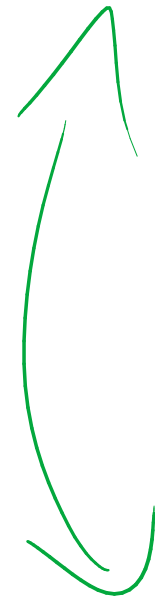
octahedral decomposition $\mathcal{T}_D$

4 tetrahedra
per crossing
of D



To encode ρ in $\mathcal{T}_D$

local description of π , using
face-pairing maps



to go back and forth
need $\text{Tang}(SL_2(\mathbb{C}), \mathbb{C}^2)$
to keep track of gauge data

To encode ρ in D

global description of π , using
Wirtinger generators

Thm [Me, extending Iwue and Kobayashi]

Can define 2-functor*

$$\mathcal{I}: \text{Targ}(SL_2(\mathbb{C}), \mathbb{C}^2)^* \rightarrow \text{Vect}$$

capturing $e^{\frac{CS_g}{2\pi}}$, exponentiated
 $SL_2(\mathbb{C})$ Chern-Simons invariant

Need *shockw coloring* by elts
 of $\mathbb{C}^2$ to keep track of
 octahedral parameters

* only generically defined
 * replace $SL_2(\mathbb{C})$ by
 decorated quandle:
 pairs (g, L) with L
 eigenspace of g

$$x \in \mathbb{C}^2 \xrightarrow{\mathcal{I}} \mathbb{C}$$

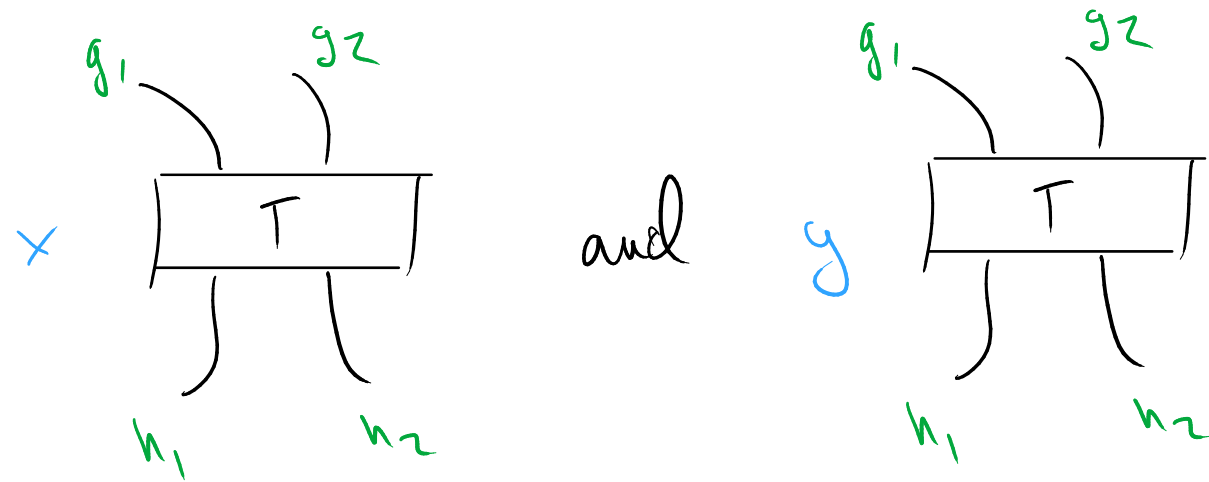
$$x \underset{\substack{\uparrow g \\ \downarrow xg}}{\vee} \xrightarrow{\mathcal{I}}$$

so $\mathcal{I}$ is invertible
 a complex line depending on
 x and g (not canonically $\mathbb{C}$)

$$x \underset{\substack{\uparrow g_1 \quad \uparrow g_2 \\ \downarrow xg_1 \quad \downarrow xg_2}}{\int} \begin{array}{|c|} \hline T \\ \hline \end{array} \underset{\substack{\uparrow h_1 \quad \uparrow h_2 \\ \downarrow xh_1 \quad \downarrow xh_2}}{\int} \quad xg_1g_2 = xh_1h_2$$

$\xrightarrow{\mathcal{I}}$ an element of product
 of relevant complex lines

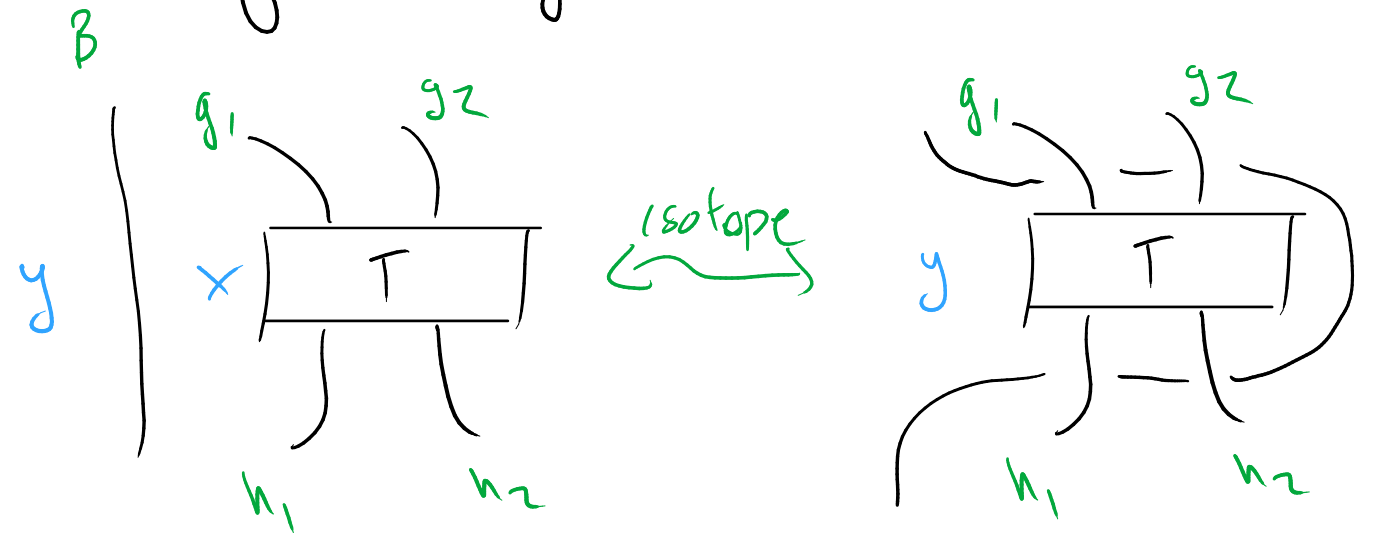
Regular colors really are needed
to get this to work:



are **not** equal in general: are not
even elements of same space!

Gauge equivalence $\sim$ braiding

If $x = y\beta$, $\beta \in \Omega_2(\mathcal{C})$ then



Can relate values using braiding
action on boundary strands

If T is a link then indep of shadow

Thm [me, part with N. Reshetikhin]

There is a quantum invariant

$\tilde{Z}_N(T, \rho)$ of tangles that is
a quantization^{*} of $\tilde{Z}(T, \rho)$ ^{* in algebraic sense}

When ρ is trivial get (Kashaev's invariant)

Related to (hopefully)

• $SL_2(\mathbb{C})$ quantum Chern - Simons
(WRT is usually $SU(2)$)

• volume conjecture

Construction uses

$$\zeta = e^{\pi i / N}$$

• cyclic $U_3(\zeta)$ modules $E^N, F^N \neq 0$

• parametrized by same coordinates
as octahedral decomposition

• need to use same diagrams as
for $\tilde{Z}$ to get it to work

Reason 2 you should care: Zesting

original construction uses ordinary
A-graded categories ($A = \text{abelian grp}$)

recent work [Me, Delaney] uses $\text{Tang}(A, A)$

Testing [Delaney, Galindo, Plavnik, Rowell, Zhang]

$\mathcal{C}$ = modular* tensor category

* can be weakened

A = universal grading group of $\mathcal{C}$

maximal A with $\mathcal{C}$ faithfully

A -graded. Concretely:

$$\chi: \text{Inv}(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow \hat{A}, \eta \mapsto \chi_\eta$$

where

$$|X| = a \quad \eta \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{---} x_a \\ \text{---} \end{array} = \chi_{\eta(a)} \quad \begin{array}{c} x \\ \text{---} \end{array}$$

$\mathcal{Z} = (\lambda, \nu, t, \epsilon)$ ~~testing~~ data

$\lambda: A^2 \rightarrow \text{Inv}(\mathcal{C})$ a symmetric 2-cocycle

$\uparrow$ (monoidal structure)

$\nu(a, b, c): \lambda(a, b) \otimes \lambda(b, c) \rightarrow \lambda(b, c) \otimes \lambda(a, b)$

realized by

$t: \lambda(a, b) \rightarrow \lambda(b, a)$ (braiding)

$\epsilon(a) \in \mathbb{K}^\times$ (pivotal structure)

Thm [DGPRZ]

If these satisfy compatibility conditions,

$\mathcal{C} \xrightarrow{\text{test}} \mathcal{C}^{\mathcal{Z}}$ new MTC

$\mathcal{C}^3$ has same objects,
new $\otimes$ product $\otimes_3$

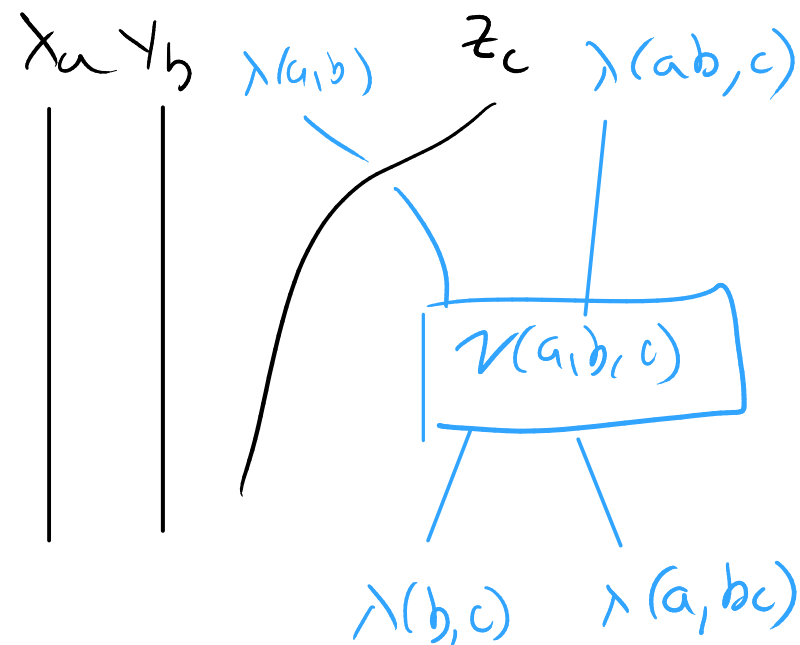
$$X_a \otimes_3 Y_b :=$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X_a & Y_b & \lambda(a,b) \\ | & | & | \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$(X_a \otimes_3 Y_b) \otimes_3 Z_c$$

$$\xrightarrow{\alpha_3}$$

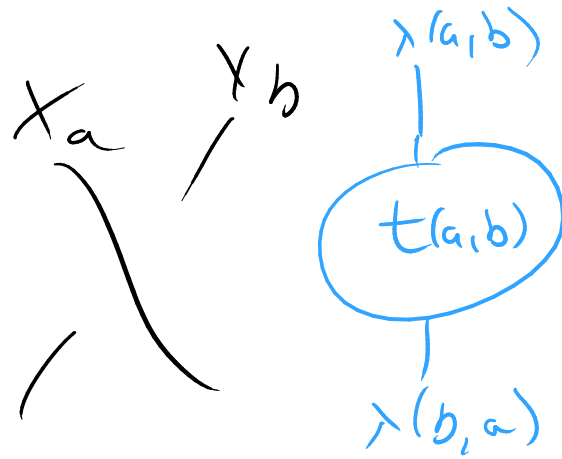
$$X_a \otimes_3 (Y_b \otimes_3 Z_c)$$



associators

New braiding

$$\beta_{x_a, x_b}^z : x_a \otimes x_b \rightarrow x_b \otimes x_a$$



ε is involved in
duality

tangle colored by objects of $\mathcal{C}$ $\longrightarrow \mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{C}}(T)$ $\xrightarrow{RT} Inv$
 coloring by objects of $\mathcal{C}_3$ $\longrightarrow \mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{C}_3}(T)$ $\xrightarrow{RT} Inv$

Question! How are $\mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{C}}(T)$ and $\mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{C}_3}(T)$ related?

Thm [Delaney, Kim, Plambrink] If coloring is A -homogeneous and T is a link,
 there is a scalar $J(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{C}_3, L)$ with $\mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{C}_3}(L) = \mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{C}}(L) J(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{C}_3, L)$

What is this scalar? Is it an RT invariant?

Does this work for tangles?

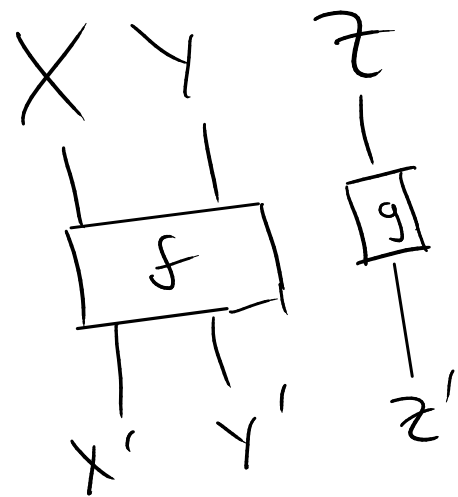
Thm [Me, Delaney] Yes, but you need to use an extra grading.
to appear

Can define functor

$$J_2: \text{Tang}(A, A) \rightarrow \text{Inv}(\mathcal{C}_e)$$

for $G = A$
 $X = A$ acting on A

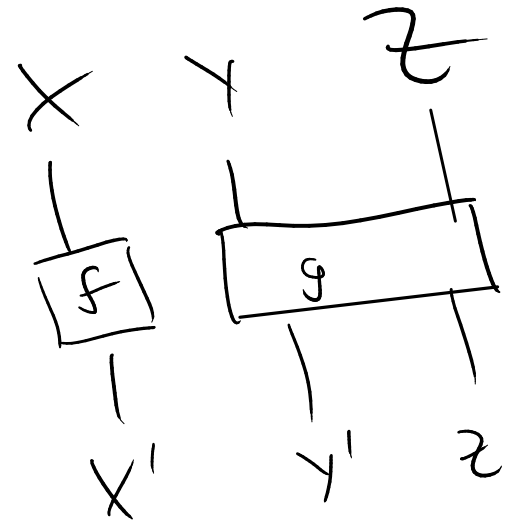
Convention When using graphical calculus for a non-strict $\otimes$, always left-associate



means

$$(X \otimes Y) \otimes Z \longrightarrow (X' \otimes Y') \otimes Z$$

$$f \otimes g$$



means

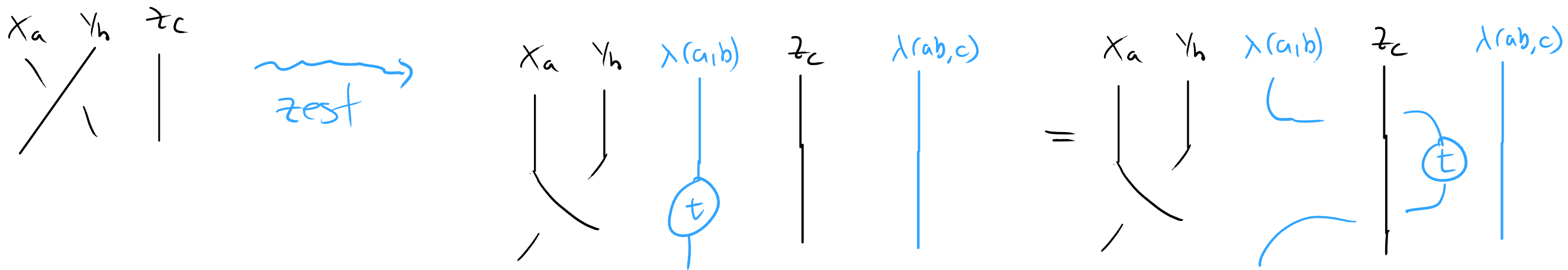
$$(X \otimes Y) \otimes Z \longrightarrow (X' \otimes Y') \otimes Z$$

$$\alpha (f \otimes g) \alpha^{-1}$$

Goal Find a functor $J_3: \text{Tang}(A) \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ so that

$J_{e^3}(T)$ is a product of $J_e(T)$ and $J_2(T)$
(in some sense)

We will see that we need to use $\text{Tang}(A, A)$
as the domain



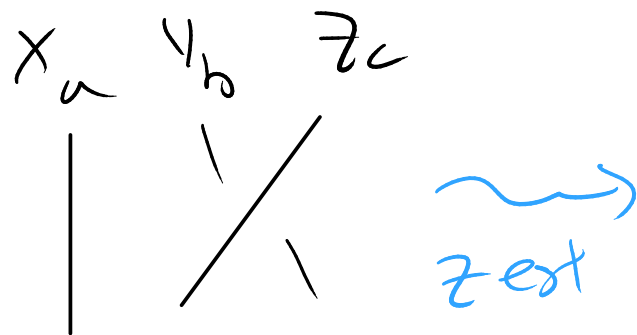
So we define

$$J_3(1, a, b, c) = \lambda(a, b) \otimes \lambda(ab, c)$$

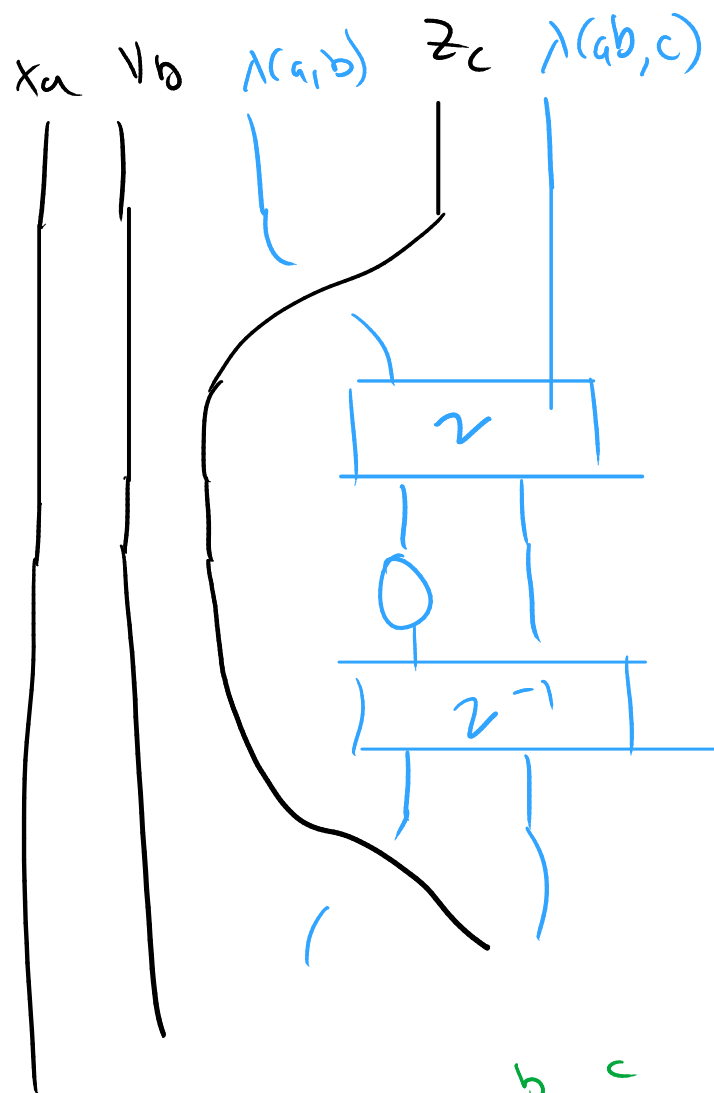
$$J\left(\begin{array}{c} \overset{a}{1} \\ \mid \\ \overset{b}{a} \end{array} \mid \begin{array}{c} \overset{b}{ab} \\ \mid \\ \overset{c}{ab} \end{array}\right) = J_3(1, a) \oplus J_2(a, b) \oplus J_3(ab, c) \\ = \lambda(1, a) \oplus \lambda(a, b) \oplus \lambda(ab, c) \\ = \lambda(a, b) \otimes \lambda(a, c)$$

$$J_3\left(\begin{array}{c} \overset{a}{1} \\ \mid \\ \overset{b}{a} \end{array} \mid \begin{array}{c} \overset{b}{ab} \\ \mid \\ \overset{c}{ab} \end{array}\right) = \begin{array}{c} \lambda(a, b) \\ \mid \\ \bigcirc \end{array} \mid \begin{array}{c} \lambda(ab, c) \\ \mid \\ \mid \end{array}$$

we need the second grading



(convention: always left-associative)



So define $J_2 \left(\begin{array}{c} b \quad c \\ i \diagdown \diagup \\ c \quad b \end{array} \right) =$

$$(x_2 \otimes y_2) \otimes z_2$$

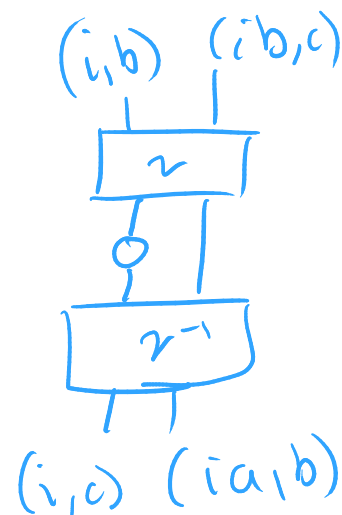
$$X_a \otimes (Y_b \otimes Z_c)$$

$$\downarrow \quad \downarrow \beta$$

$$x_a \otimes (z_c \otimes y_b)$$

$$\downarrow \alpha^{-1}$$

$$(x_u \otimes z_c) \otimes y_b)$$



Gives the right answer!

$$J_3 \left(\begin{array}{c} a & b & c \\ | & \diagdown & \diagup & | \\ & i & & \end{array} \right) = J_3 \left(\begin{array}{c} a & b \\ | & \diagdown & \diagup & | \\ & i & & \end{array} \right) \otimes J_3 \left(\begin{array}{c} c \\ ab \\ | \end{array} \right)$$

$$= \begin{array}{c} (i,a)=1 \quad (a,b) \\ \boxed{\text{id}} \\ (i,b)=1 \\ \downarrow \\ \boxed{\text{id}^{-1}} \\ (b,a) \end{array} \quad (ab,c) =$$

$$J_2 \left(\begin{array}{c} b & c \\ \diagdown & \diagup \\ i & \\ \diagup & \diagdown \\ c & b \end{array} \right) = \begin{array}{c} (i,b) \quad (i,b,c) \\ \boxed{r} \\ \downarrow \\ \boxed{r^{-1}} \\ (i,c) \quad (i a,b) \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} (a,b) \\ \downarrow \\ (b,a) \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} (ab,c) \\ \downarrow \\ (ab,c) \end{array}$$

right answer!

Gives the right answer:

$$J_3 \left(\begin{array}{c} a & b & c \\ | & | & \diagdown \\ 1 & 1 & \diagup \end{array} \right) = J_3 \left(\begin{array}{c} a \\ | \\ 1 \end{array} \right) \otimes J_3 \left(\begin{array}{c} b & c \\ \diagdown & \diagup \\ a & \end{array} \right)$$

$$= \begin{array}{c} (1,a)=1 \\ \hline (1,a)=1 \end{array} \otimes \begin{array}{c} (a,b) \quad (a,b,c) \\ \boxed{r} \\ \circ \\ \boxed{r^{-1}} \\ (a,c) \quad (a,b) \end{array}$$

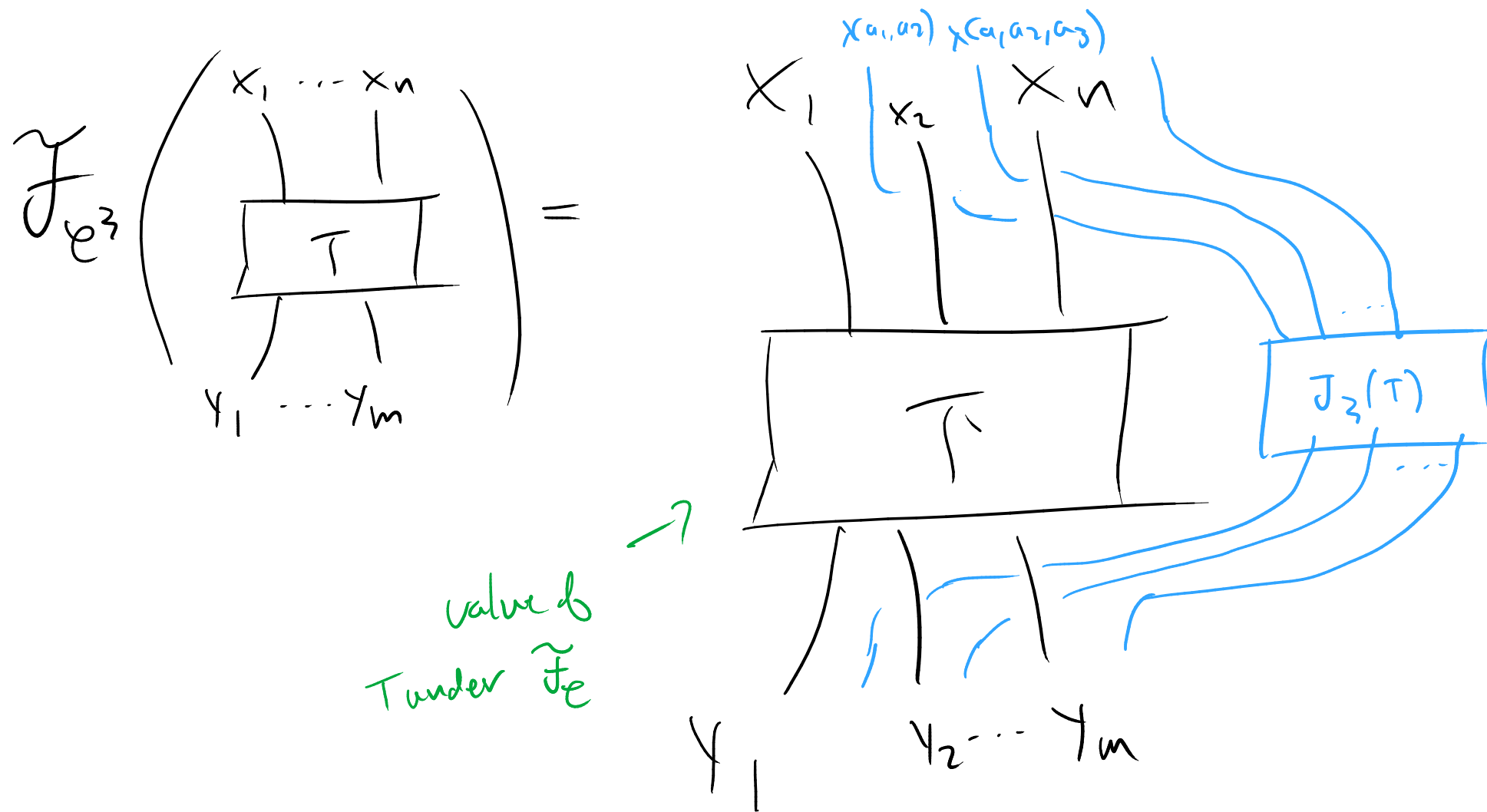
$$J_2 \left(\begin{array}{c} b & c \\ \diagdown & \diagup \\ i & \end{array} \right) = \begin{array}{c} (i,b) \quad (i,b,c) \\ \boxed{r} \\ \circ \\ \boxed{r^{-1}} \\ (i,c) \quad (i,c,b) \end{array}$$

right answer!

Takeaway: associators in $\mathcal{C}^3$ mean you have to keep track
of A-gradings of earlier terms in products

Exactly done by functor J_3 and $\text{tang}(A, A)$

Thm [Me, Delaney] For any homogeneous $\mathcal{C}$ -colored tangle T ,



we call this the
warp product
of $J(T)$ and $J_3(T)$

where $J_3: \text{Tang}(A, A) \rightarrow \text{Inv}(\mathcal{C}_e)$ is well-defined and can be computed in polynomial time.

Problems/Questions

1. a) How does J_3 relate to condensed fiber product characterization of $\mathcal{Z}$ -esting?
↑ Julia Plavnik's talk?
- b) Is the image of J_3 a 2-category $\mathcal{B}_3$ in a useful way?
- c) Is $\mathcal{C}^2$ a fiber product of $\mathcal{B}_3$ and $\mathcal{C}$?

Problems / Questions

2. What is the right definition/perspective for (G, X) -graded 2-cats?
I know how to define $\text{Tang}(G, X)$: what are targets?

I can write down some axioms but what are right ones?
↑
have not
yet

Problems/Questions

3. How does this relate to Sözer-Virelizier invariants

↑ kürzest Sözer's talk

from homotopy 2-types? We have a G and an action on X ,
and in both examples X is a group too.

Maybe:

0-morphisms	X	π_2
1-morphisms	G	π_1
2-morphisms	?	?

related question

What is π_2 of a
tangle complement?

$\pi_2(S^3 \setminus L) = 0$ for L a link.

Has to do w/ gauge invariance?