



(Compare [BNS, BN]) A The Abstract Context injections) $\rightarrow$ (sets) (think "M(S) is quantum  $G^S$ ", for G a group)

along with natural operations  $*: M(S_1) \times M(S_2) \rightarrow M(S_1 \sqcup S_2)$ whenever  $S_1 \cap S_2 = \emptyset$  and  $m_c^{ab} \colon M(S) \to M((S \setminus \{a, b\}) \sqcup \{c\})$ whenever  $a \neq b \in S$  and  $c \notin S \setminus \{a, b\}$ , such that

meta-associativity: 
$$m_a^{ab}/\!/m_a^{ac} = m_b^{bc}/\!/m_a^{ab}$$
  
meta-locality:  $m_c^{ab}/\!/m_f^{de} = m_f^{de}/\!/m_c^{ab}$ 

and, with  $\epsilon_b = M(S \hookrightarrow S \sqcup \{b\})$ ,

neta-unit: 
$$\epsilon_b / m_a^{ab} = Id = \epsilon_b / m_a^{ba}$$
.

Claim. Pure virtual tangles *P*/*T* form a meta-monoid.

**Theorem.**  $S \mapsto \Gamma_0(S)$  is a meta-monoid and  $z_0 \colon PT \to \Gamma_0$  is a morphism of meta-monoids.

Strong Conviction. There exists an extension of  $\Gamma_0$  to a bigger meta-monoid  $\Gamma_{01}(S) = \Gamma_0(S) \times \Gamma_1(S)$ , along with an extension of  $z_0$  to  $z_{01}: P V T \to \Gamma_{01}$ , with

$$\Gamma_1(S) = V \oplus V^{\otimes 2} \oplus V^{\otimes 3} \oplus S^2(V)^{\otimes 2} \qquad (\text{with } V \coloneqq R_S \langle S \rangle).$$

Furthermore, upon reducing to a single variable everything is polynomial size and polynomial time.

**Furthermore**,  $\Gamma_{01}$  is given using a "meta-2-cocycle  $\rho_c^{ab}$  over  $\Gamma_0$ ": In addition to  $m_c^{ab} \rightarrow m_{0c}^{ab}$ , there are  $R_S$ -linear  $m_{1c}^{ab}$ :  $\Gamma_1(S \sqcup$  $\{a, b\}$ )  $\rightarrow \Gamma_1(S \sqcup \{c\})$ , a meta-right-action  $\alpha^{ab} \colon \Gamma_1(S) \times \Gamma_0(S) \rightarrow$  $\Gamma_1(S)$   $R_S$ -linear in the first variable, and a first order differential operator (over  $R_S$ )  $\rho_c^{ab}$ :  $\Gamma_0(S \sqcup \{a, b\}) \to \Gamma_1(S \sqcup \{c\})$  such that

$$(\zeta_0,\zeta_1)/\!\!/m_c^{ab} = \left(\zeta_0/\!\!/m_{0c}^{ab},(\zeta_1,\zeta_0)/\!\!/\alpha^{ab}/\!\!/m_{1c}^{ab} + \zeta_0/\!\!/\rho_c^{ab}\right)$$

What's done? The braid part, with still-ugly formulas.

What's missing? A lot of concept- and detail-sensitive work towards  $m_{1c}^{ab}$ ,  $\alpha^{ab}$ , and  $\rho_c^{ab}$ . The "ribbon element".



a ribbon singularity a clasp singularity A bit about ribbon knots. A "ribbon knot" is a knot that can be  $S^3 = \partial B^4$  which is the boundary of a non-singular disk in  $B^4$ .

Every ribbon knots is clearly slice, yet, Conjecture. Some slice knots are not ribbon.

Fox-Milnor. The Alexander polynomial of a ribbon knot is always of the form A(t) = f(t)f(1/t). (also for slice)



Video and more at http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/Talks/LesDiablerets-1508/