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Hopf Algebras and Tensor Categories

The group of modular extensions of a symmetric tensor  
category

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# Braided fusion categories

## Fusion categories

=  $\mathbb{C}$ -linear (or  $k$ -linear) semisimple rigid tensor categories,  
 $\dim \text{Hom}(X, Y) < \infty$ , finitely many simple objects,  $\mathbf{1}$  is simple  
Measure of size: *Frobenius-Perron dimension*  $\text{FPdim}(\mathcal{C}) \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$

## Double braiding

$\mathcal{C}$  – braided fusion category

Braiding  $c_{XY} : X \otimes Y \rightarrow Y \otimes X$

$\mathcal{C}' := \{X \in \mathcal{C} \mid c_{XY} \circ c_{YX} = \text{Id} \ \forall Y \in \mathcal{C}\} \leftarrow$  Müger center

## Two extremes

$\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{E}$  is **symmetric** if  $\mathcal{E}' = \mathcal{E}$

$\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{M}$  is *non-degenerate* or **modular** if  $\mathcal{M}' = \text{Vec} = \langle \mathbf{1} \rangle$

**Remark:**  $\mathcal{C}'$  is always symmetric

# (Minimal) Modular Extensions

$\mathcal{C}$  – braided fusion category

**Question:** Can we embed  $\mathcal{C}$  into modular  $\mathcal{M}$ ?

**Answer:** Yes, e.g.  $\mathcal{C} \subset \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{C}) \leftarrow$  Drinfeld center

**Question:** What are most economical embeddings  $\mathcal{C} \subset \mathcal{M}$ ?

**Theorem (Müger, Drinfeld-Gelaki-Nikshych-O)**

$$\text{FPdim}(\mathcal{M}) \geq \text{FPdim}(\mathcal{C})\text{FPdim}(\mathcal{C}').$$

**Definition**

*Minimal modular extension:*  $\mathcal{C} \subset \mathcal{M}$  with

$$\text{FPdim}(\mathcal{M}) = \text{FPdim}(\mathcal{C})\text{FPdim}(\mathcal{C}').$$

**Example**

$$\text{FPdim}(\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{C})) = \text{FPdim}(\mathcal{C})^2$$

Hence  $\mathcal{C} \subset \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{C})$  is minimal if and only if  $\mathcal{C}$  is symmetric

# $Mext(\mathcal{C})$ and $Mext(\mathcal{E})$

**Notation:**  $Mext(\mathcal{C})$  – set of (minimal) modular extensions of  $\mathcal{C}$

**Remark:**  $Mext(\mathcal{C})$  might be empty! (examples by Drinfeld)

## Theorem (Lan-Kong-Wen)

(i) For symmetric  $\mathcal{E}$ ,  $Mext(\mathcal{E})$  is an abelian group

(ii)  $Mext(\mathcal{C})$  is a torsor over  $Mext(\mathcal{E})$  where  $\mathcal{E} = \mathcal{C}'$

## Example

(i)  $G$  – finite group and  $\mathcal{E} = \text{Rep}_{\mathbb{C}}(G)$

Then  $Mext(\mathcal{E}) = H^3(G, \mathbb{C}^{\times})$

Explicitly: for  $\omega \in H^3(G, \mathbb{C}^{\times})$ ,  $\text{Rep}(G) \subset \mathcal{Z}(\text{Vec}_G^{\omega})$

(ii)  $\mathcal{E} = \text{sVec}$  then  $Mext(\mathcal{E}) = \mathbb{Z}/16\mathbb{Z}$  (Kitaev)

16-fold way (Bruillard, Galindo, Hagge, Ng, Plavnik, Rowell, Wang):

if  $\mathcal{C}' = \text{sVec}$  then  $|Mext(\mathcal{C})| = 16$  or (**open question!**) 0

# Classification of symmetric tensor categories

## More symmetric categories

Modify braiding in  $\text{Rep}(G)$ : pick a central involution  $z \in G$  and set

$$c'_{XY}(x \otimes y) = (-1)^{mn} y \otimes x$$

$$\text{if } zx = (-1)^m x, zy = (-1)^n y$$

**Notation:**  $\text{Rep}(G, z)$

## Example

$$\text{Rep}(G, e) = \text{Rep}(G)$$

Super vector spaces:  $\text{sVec} = \text{Rep}(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}, z)$  ( $z$  nontrivial)

Theorem (Grothendieck, Saavedra Rivano, Doplicher–Roberts, Deligne)

*A symmetric fusion category over  $\mathbb{C}$  is of the form  $\text{Rep}(G, z)$ .*

# $\mathcal{Mext}(\text{Rep}(G, z))$

Category **zGrp**:

Objects:  $(G, z)$  where  $z \in G$  is central of order  $\leq 2$

Morphisms from  $(G, z)$  to  $(G', z')$ :

homomorphisms  $\phi : G \rightarrow G'$  such that  $\phi(z) = z'$

## Theorem (R. Usher)

$\mathcal{Mext}(\text{Rep}(G, z))$  is a contravariant functor  $\mathbf{zGrp} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}\text{-Mod}$

**Question:** What is this functor?

## Example

Assume  $z$  is nontrivial.

Obvious morphism:  $(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}, z) \rightarrow (G, z)$

Hence homomorphism:

$\mathcal{Mext}(\text{Rep}(G, z)) \rightarrow \mathcal{Mext}(\text{Rep}(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}, z)) = \mathbb{Z}/16\mathbb{Z}$

# Homomorphism: $\mathcal{M}ext(\text{Rep}(G, z)) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/16\mathbb{Z}$

## Theorem (R. Usher)

The homomorphism  $\mathcal{M}ext(\text{Rep}(G, z)) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/16\mathbb{Z}$  is surjective iff

$$1 \rightarrow \langle z \rangle = \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow G \rightarrow G/\langle z \rangle \rightarrow 1$$

splits.

**Question:** How to characterize central extensions giving other images?

## Example

$G = \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}$ ,  $z \in G$  is nontrivial

Then  $|\mathcal{M}ext(\text{Rep}(G, z))| = 32$

Image of  $\mathcal{M}ext(\text{Rep}(G, z)) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/16\mathbb{Z}$  is of order 8

Which group this is?

## Back to $\mathcal{E} = \text{Rep}(G)$

Recall that  $\mathcal{M}\text{ext}(\text{Rep}(G)) = H^3(G, \mathbb{C}^\times)$

Also  $H^4(G, \mathbb{C}^\times)$  – group of obstructions for  $\mathcal{M}\text{ext}(\mathcal{C})$  being non-empty (where  $\mathcal{C}' = \text{Rep}(G)$ )

$H^1(G, \mathbb{C}^\times)$  = group of invertible objects in  $\text{Rep}(G)$

$H^2(G, \mathbb{C}^\times)$  = group of invertible module categories over  $\text{Rep}(G)$

## Definition

For symmetric fusion category  $\mathcal{E}$  we set

$H_{\text{sym}}^1(\mathcal{E})$  = group of invertible objects in  $\mathcal{E}$  (?)

$H_{\text{sym}}^2(\mathcal{E})$  = group of invertible module categories over  $\mathcal{E}$

$H_{\text{sym}}^3(\mathcal{E}) = \mathcal{M}\text{ext}(\mathcal{E})$

$H_{\text{sym}}^4(\mathcal{E})$  – conjectural group of obstructions for  $\mathcal{M}\text{ext}(\mathcal{C})$  being non-empty (where  $\mathcal{C}' = \mathcal{E}$ )

**Question:** In what sense  $H_{\text{sym}}^i(\mathcal{E})$  is a cohomology theory?



# Non-semisimple generalization

$\mathcal{E}$  – **finite** symmetric tensor category

$\mathcal{Mext}(\mathcal{E})$  – group of minimal *factorizable* extensions  $\mathcal{E} \subset \mathcal{M}$

**Fact:** if  $\mathcal{E}$  is fusion over  $\mathbb{C}$  we get the same notion as before

**Fact:** in characteristic  $p > 0$  new definition of  $\mathcal{Mext}(\mathcal{E})$  is forced:

$\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{E})$  might be non-semisimple!

## Example

$\mathcal{E}$  over  $\mathbb{C}$ : representations of additive supergroup  $(V_{odd}, +) =$   
representations of super Hopf algebra  $\wedge^\bullet(V)$

Gelaki-Sebbag:  $\mathcal{Mext}(\mathcal{E}) = \mathbb{Z}/16\mathbb{Z}$

Another interesting example:  $\mathcal{E} = \text{Ver}_p$  (Verlinde category) **open!**

Thanks for listening!