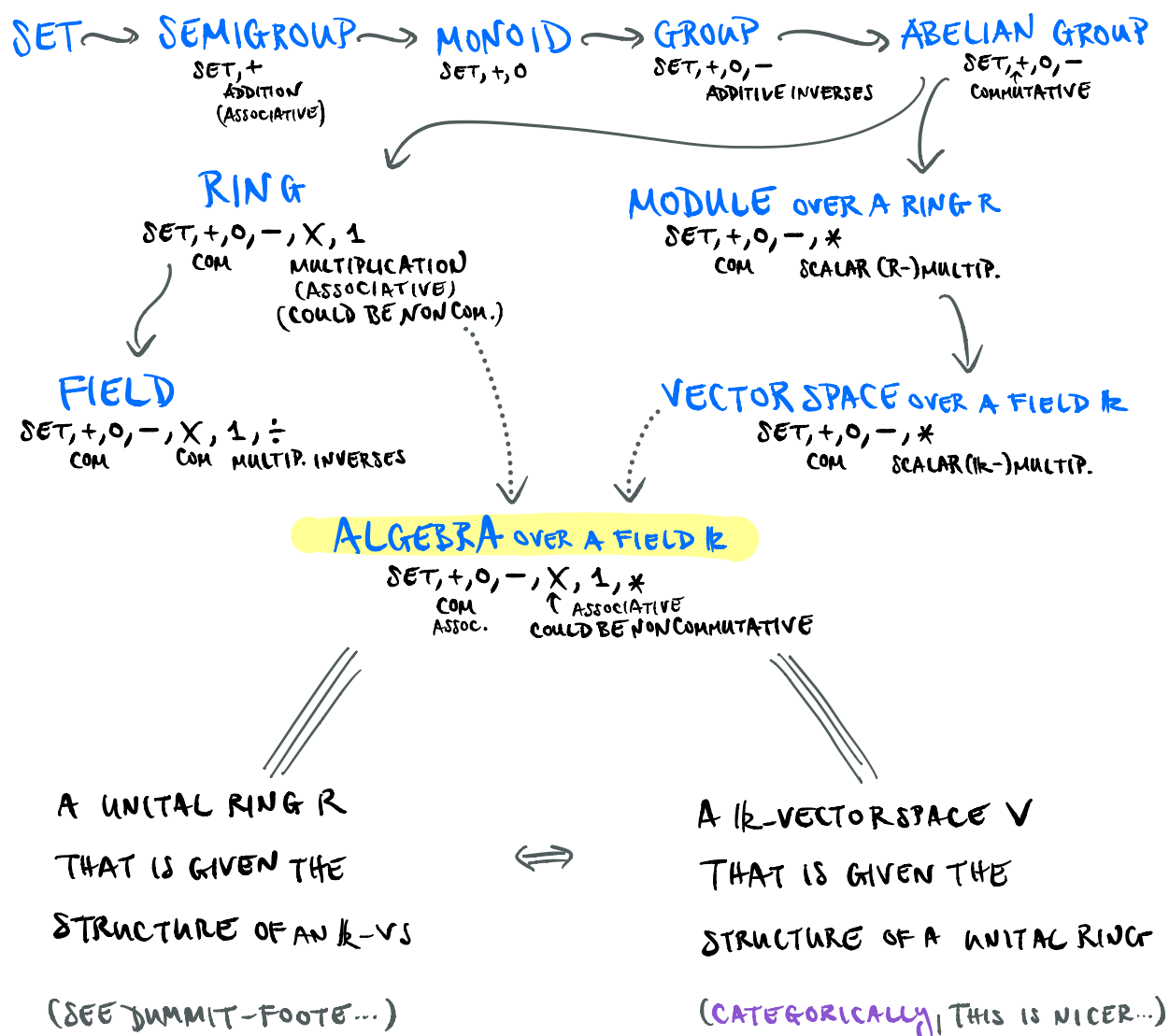


FROBENIUS ALGEBRAS

galore

CHELSEA WALTON
RICE UNIVERSITY

SETTING THE SCENE: ALGEBRAIC STRUCTURES...



CATEGORY

≡ COLLECTION OF OBJECTS
 & MAPS BETWEEN THESE OBJECTS.
 (SUBJECT TO ADD'L NICE CONDITIONS)

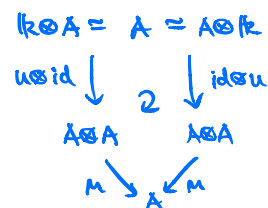
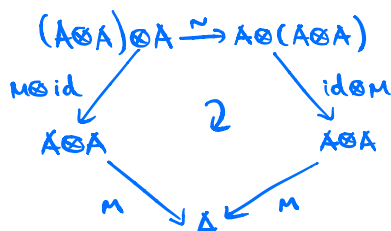
ALGEBRA/ $\mathbb{K}$ IS A TRIPLE:

A , $\mathbb{K}$ -VECTOR SPACE

$m: A \otimes A \rightarrow A$, $\mathbb{K}$ -LINEAR MAP "mult."

$u: \mathbb{K} \rightarrow A$, $\mathbb{K}$ -LINEAR MAP "unit" $\otimes := \otimes_{\mathbb{K}}$

SUBJECT TO ASSOCIATIVITY & UNITALITY CONSTRAINTS



CAN REVERSE ARROWS
 & DEFINE "CO" STRUCTURES

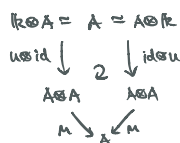
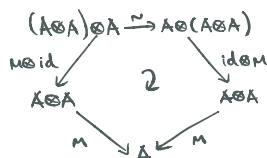
ALGEBRA/ $\mathbb{K}$ IS A TRIPLE:

A , $\mathbb{K}$ -VECTOR SPACE

$m: A \otimes A \rightarrow A$, $\mathbb{K}$ -LINEAR MAP

$u: \mathbb{K} \rightarrow A$, $\mathbb{K}$ -LINEAR MAP

SUBJECT TO ASSOCIATIVITY
 & UNITALITY CONSTRAINTS



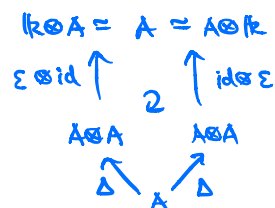
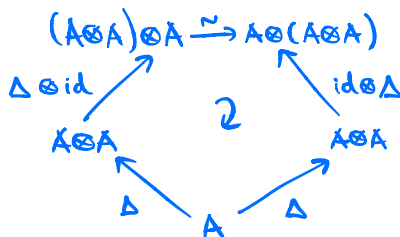
COALGEBRA/ $\mathbb{K}$ IS A TRIPLE:

A , $\mathbb{K}$ -VECTOR SPACE

$\Delta: A \rightarrow A \otimes A$, $\mathbb{K}$ -LINEAR MAP "comult."

$\epsilon: A \rightarrow \mathbb{K}$, $\mathbb{K}$ -LINEAR MAP "counit"

SUBJECT TO COASSOCIATIVITY & COUNITALITY CONSTRAINTS



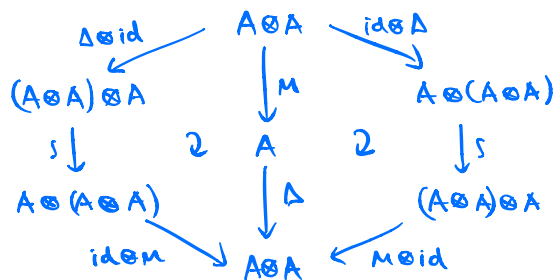
CAN EASILY COMBINE
STRUCTURES TO
FORM NEW & COOL ONES
~~✂~~

NOT THE
ORIGINAL
DEFINITION

SUBJECT TO
COMPATIBILITY
CONDITION:

FROBENIUS ALGEBRA/ k
IS A 5-TUPLE:

FORMS AN ALGEBRA/ k {
 A , k -VECTOR SPACE
 $m: A \otimes A \rightarrow A$, k -LINEAR MAP
 $u: k \rightarrow A$, k -LINEAR MAP
 $\Delta: A \rightarrow A \otimes A$, k -LINEAR MAP
 $\varepsilon: A \rightarrow k$, k -LINEAR MAP
 } FORMS A COALGEBRA/ k



BUT WHY CARE??

OUTLINE FOR REST OF TALK

- I. HISTORY & THE VARIOUS DEFNS OF FROBENIUS ALGEBRAS/ k
- II. FROBENIUS ALGEBRAS IN MONOIDAL CATEGORIES
- III. RECENT WORK INVOLVING FROBENIUS ALGEBRAS

I. HISTORY & THE VARIOUS DEFINS OF FROBENIUS ALGEBRAS/ $\mathbb{K}$

A 1903-STYLE GAME —

DUE TO F.G. FROBENIUS (1849-1937)

- START WITH A FINITE-DIM'L $\mathbb{K}$ -ALGEBRA A

- PICK BASIS $\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ OF A

- GET SCALARS $\beta_{ij}^{(a)}, \gamma_{ij}^{(a)} \in \mathbb{K}$ SUCH THAT

$$v_i a = \sum_{j=1}^n \beta_{ij}^{(a)} v_j \quad \& \quad a v_i = \sum_{j=1}^n \gamma_{ji}^{(a)} v_j \quad \forall a \in A$$

- GET $\mathbb{K}$ -LINEAR MAPS

$$\begin{aligned} \beta: A &\longrightarrow \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{K}) & \& & \gamma: A &\longrightarrow \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{K}) \\ a &\longmapsto (\beta_{ij}^{(a)}) & & & a &\longmapsto (\gamma_{ij}^{(a)}) \end{aligned}$$

Q: WHEN DOES $\exists P \in \text{GL}_n(\mathbb{K}) \rightarrow P \beta(a) = \gamma(a) P \quad \forall a \in A$?

IN THE MODERN
LANGUAGE OF
REP. THEORY:

BACK IN 1903:

NO REPS, NO MODULES,

& "ALGEBRAS"

= "HYPERCOMPLEX SYSTEMS"

Q $\Leftrightarrow$

WHEN ARE THE
REG. REPS β, γ OF A
EQUIVALENT?

CAN ANSWER QUESTION VIA
MATRICES...

FINITE-DIM'L $\mathbb{K}$ -ALGEBRA A

BASIS $\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ OF A

$\beta_{ij}^{(a)}, \gamma_{ij}^{(a)} \in \mathbb{K}$ SUCH THAT

$$v_i a = \sum_{j=1}^n \beta_{ij}^{(a)} v_j$$

$$\nexists a v_j = \sum_{i=1}^n v_i \gamma_{ij}^{(a)} \quad \forall a \in A$$

GET $\mathbb{K}$ -LINEAR MAPS

$$\beta: A \longrightarrow \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{K})$$
$$a \longmapsto (\beta_{ij}^{(a)})$$

$$\gamma: A \longrightarrow \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{K})$$
$$a \longmapsto (\gamma_{ij}^{(a)})$$

Q: WHEN DOES $\exists P \in \text{GL}_n(\mathbb{K}) \rightarrow$

$$P \beta(a) = \gamma(a) P \quad \forall a \in A?$$

GET SCALARS $p_{ij}^k \in \mathbb{K}$ SUCH THAT

$$v_i v_j = \sum_{k=1}^n p_{ij}^k v_k$$

FOR $\underline{c} = (c_1, \dots, c_n) \in \mathbb{K}^n$, DEFINE

PARATROPHIC MATRIX OF A AT $\underline{c}$

$$P_{\underline{c}} = (\sum_{k=1}^n c_k p_{ij}^k)_{i,j} \in \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{K})$$

A: [FROBENIUS, 1903]:

WHEN $\exists \underline{c} \in \mathbb{K}^n \rightarrow P_{\underline{c}}$ IS INVERTIBLE
(IN THIS CASE, $P_{\underline{c}} = P$ ABOVE)

DEFINITION 1

A FINITE-DIM'L $\mathbb{K}$ -ALG. A

IS FROBENIUS*



$$\exists \underline{c} \in \mathbb{K}^n \rightarrow \det(P_{\underline{c}}) \neq 0$$

* NOT SELF NAMED

(NON)EXAMPLES

TRY!

• $\mathbb{K}[x, y] / (x^2, y^2)$ IS FROB.

• $\mathbb{K}[x, y] / (x^2, xy, y^2)$ IS NOT FROB

FINITE-DIM'L $\mathbb{K}$ -ALGEBRA A

BASIS $\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ OF A

Q: WHEN DOES $\exists P \in \text{GL}_n(\mathbb{K}) \rightarrow$

$$P \beta(a) = \gamma(a) P \quad \forall a \in A?$$

GET SCALARS $p_{ij}^k \in \mathbb{K}$ SUCH THAT

$$v_i v_j = \sum_{k=1}^n p_{ij}^k v_k$$

FOR $\underline{c} = (c_1, \dots, c_n) \in \mathbb{K}^n$, DEFINE

PARATROPHIC MATRIX OF A AT $\underline{c}$

$$P_{\underline{c}} = (\sum_{k=1}^n c_k p_{ij}^k)_{i,j} \in \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{K})$$

A: [FROBENIUS, 1903]:

WHEN $\exists \underline{c} \in \mathbb{K}^n \rightarrow P_{\underline{c}}$ IS INVERTIBLE
(IN THIS CASE, $P_{\underline{c}} = P$ ABOVE)

≡ AND THEN THE GAME WAS OVER FOR A WHILE ≡
 ≡ UNTIL ~35 YEARS LATER ≡

DEFINITION 1

A FINITE DIM'L $\mathbb{K}$ -ALG. A

IS FROBENIUS *



$$\exists e \in \mathbb{K}^n \rightarrow \det(P_e) \neq 0$$

↑
PARATROPHIC MATRIX

* NOT SELF NAMED

FROM LAM'S BOOK —

C. Nesbitt wrote: "The writer, in collaborating with T. Nakayama, adopted the term Frobeniusean algebra, but now, quailing before our critics, we return to simply Frobenius algebra." So apparently, people were not attracted by a six-syllable word.

MORE TOOLS OF ABSTRACT ALG. NOW
 RINGS, ALGEBRAS, MODULES ...

≡ ABLE TO WORK BASIS-FREE ≡

(THANKS, EMMY NOETHER!)

BRAUER, NAKAYAMA,
 & NESBITT REVIVED
 FROBENIUS ALGEBRAS

DEFINITION 1

FINITE DIM. $\mathbb{K}$ -ALG. A IS FROBENIUS

$$\exists e \in \mathbb{K}^n \rightarrow \det(P_e) \neq 0$$

↑
PARATROPHIC MATRIX

EXAMPLES

- MATRIX ALGEBRAS $\text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{K})$
- EXTERIOR ALGEBRAS $\wedge(V)$
 (CALLED "CARTAN'S ALGEBRA OF OUTER MULTIPLICATION" IN 1941)
- GROUP ALGEBRAS $\mathbb{K}G$
- COHOMOLOGY ALGEBRAS OF ORIENTED MANIFOLDS $H^*(X)$

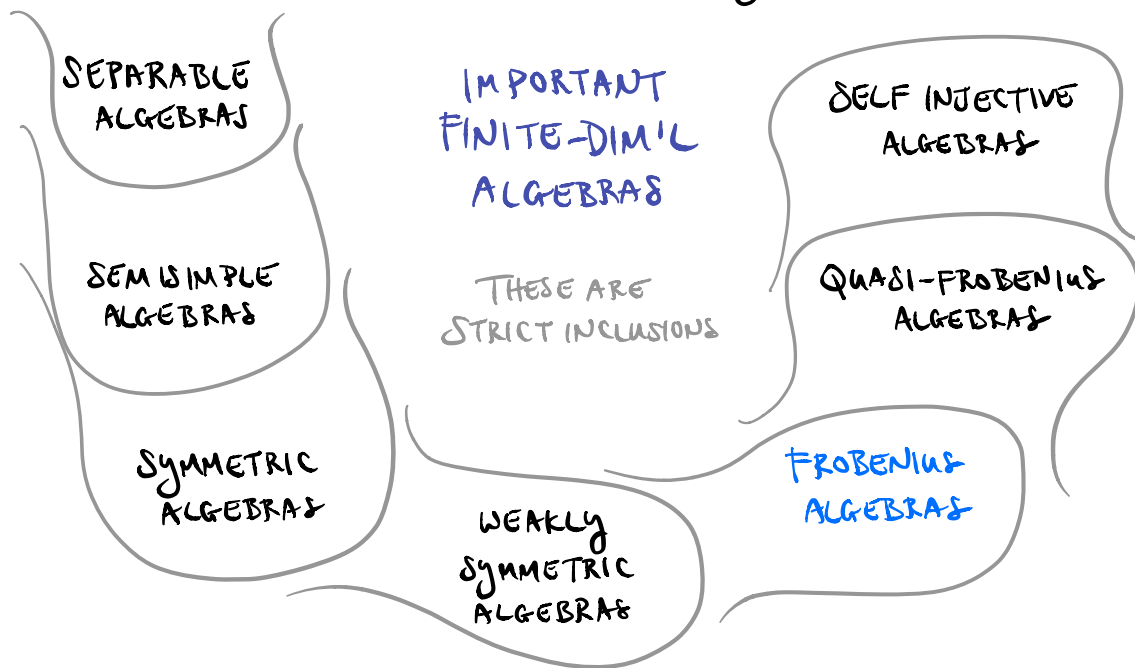
DEFINITIONS galore

THEOREM [BRAUER-NESBITT, NAKAYAMA, 1937-1942]

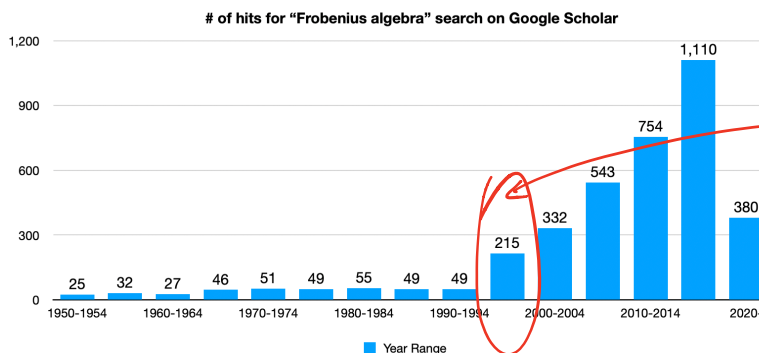
LET A BE A FINITE DIM'L $\mathbb{K}$ -ALGEBRA
 THEN THE FOLLOWING ARE EQUIVALENT:

1. A IS FROBENIUS
2. $\exists$ NONDEG. ASSOC. $\mathbb{K}$ -BILINEAR FORM
 $(-, -): A \times A \rightarrow \mathbb{K}$
3. $\exists$ ISOM. OF LEFT A -MODULES: $A \simeq A^*$
- 3'. $\exists$ ISOM. OF RIGHT A -MODULES: $A \simeq A^*$
4. $\exists$ $\mathbb{K}$ -LINEAR FORM $\nu: A \rightarrow \mathbb{K} \rightarrow \ker(\nu)$
 DOES NOT CONTAIN $\neq 0$ LEFT IDEAL OF A
- 4'. $\exists$ $\mathbb{K}$ -LINEAR FORM $\nu: A \rightarrow \mathbb{K} \rightarrow \ker(\nu)$
 DOES NOT CONTAIN $\neq 0$ RIGHT IDEAL OF A

≡ RELATED GAMES OF THE 1940'S & BEYOND ≡
INVOLVE THE PLAYERS...

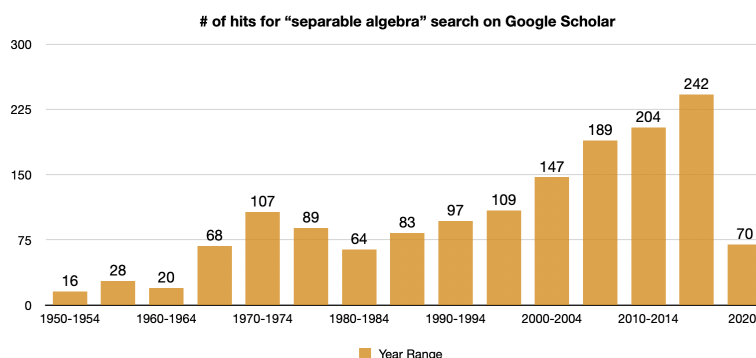


POPULARITY
THROUGHOUT
THE YEARS



SOMETHING
HAPPENED
HERE

(JUST
FOR
COMPARISON)



(EXAMPLES
INCLUDE
IMPORTANT
FROB. ALGS
LIKE $\text{Mat}_n(k)$,
 $k[G]$, $|G| \in k^\times$)

II. FROBENIUS ALGEBRAS IN MONOIDAL CATEGORIES

A LATE 1980's/1990's STYLE GAME -

DUE TO G. SEGAL, E. WITTEN, M. ATIYAH ORIGINALLY...

BUILD A CATEGORICAL MACHINE

TO PRODUCE INVARIANTS OF LOW-DIM'L MANIFOLDS

CATEGORY $\mathcal{C}$

$\equiv$ COLLECTION OF OBJECTS

& MAPS BETWEEN THESE OBJECTS.

(SUBJECT TO ADD'L NICE CONDITIONS)

MONOIDAL CATEGORY $(\mathcal{C}, \otimes, \mathbb{1})$

$\equiv$ CATEGORY $\mathcal{C}$ EQUIPPED WITH

BIFUNCTOR $\otimes: \mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$

DISTINGUISHED OBJECT $\mathbb{1}$

THAT MIMIC THE STRUCTURE OF A MONOID

(SUBJECT TO COMPATIBILITY CONDITIONS)

SYMMETRIC MON'L CAT. $(\mathcal{C}, \otimes, \mathbb{1}, c)$

$\equiv$ MONOIDAL CATEGORY EQUIPPED WITH

NATURAL ISOMORPHISM: $\forall x, y \in \mathcal{C}$

$c_{x,y}: x \otimes y \xrightarrow{\sim} y \otimes x \quad \exists. \quad c^2 = \text{id}$

EX. $(\text{Vec}_{\mathbb{R}}, \otimes_{\mathbb{R}}, \mathbb{R}, c)$ $\xleftarrow{\text{FLIP MAP}}$

IS A SYM. MON'L CATEGORY

d-TQFT $\equiv$ A SYMMETRIC MONOIDAL FUNCTOR

TOP'L QUANTUM FIELD THY

$\mathcal{Z}: d\text{-Cobord} \longrightarrow \text{Vec}_{\mathbb{R}}$

OBJECTS: ORIENTED, CLOSED

SMOOTH $(d-1)$ -DIM. MFLDS

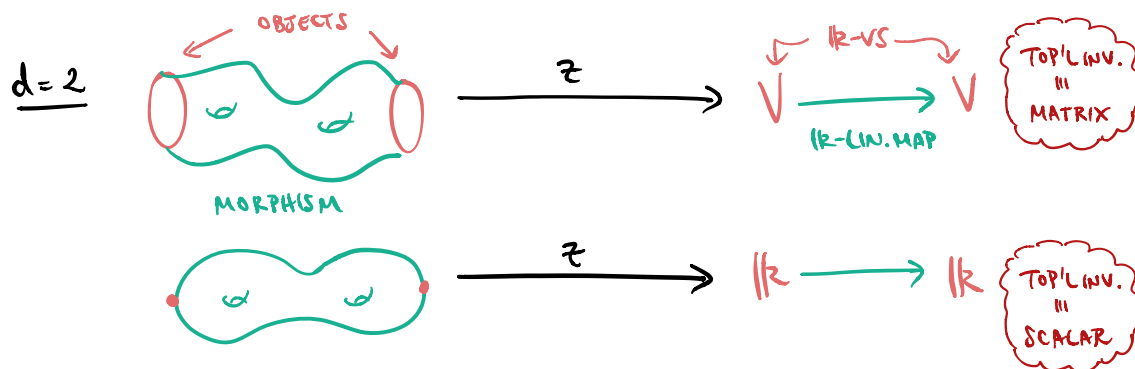
OBJECTS:

$\mathbb{R}$ -VECTOR SPACES

MORPHISMS: (BOUNDARY & ORIENTATION)
(PRES. DIFFEOM. CLASSES OF)
COMPACT d -DIM. MFLDS.

MORPHISMS

$\mathbb{R}$ -LINEAR MAPS



d -TQFTS PRODUCE K -LINEAR ALGEBRAIC INVARIANTS OF d -MFDS

WHEN $\text{Vec}_K \leadsto \mathcal{C} : "$ $\mathcal{C}$ -ALGEBRAIC " " "

$\text{SYM} \otimes \text{CAT.}$

THEOREM ["FOLKLORE": A. VORONOV (1994)]

"FOLKLORE NO MORE!" : L. ABRAMS (1996)]

THERE IS AN EQUIVALENCE OF MONOIDAL CATEGORIES

MON. CATEGORY OF 2-TQFTS $\S$ MON. CATEGORY OF COMMUTATIVE FROBENIUS ALGEBRAS/ K

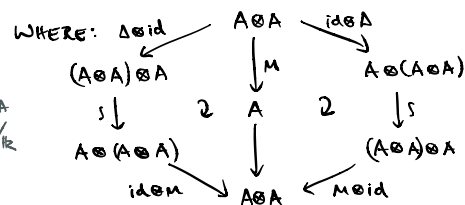
WITH VALUE IN Vec_K

AND THE DEF'N OF A FROBENIUS ALG. USED HERE WAS THE ONE FROM THE VERY BEG.!

DEFINITION 5 [L. ABRAMS] $\swarrow$ SHOWED EQUIV. TO DEF2 INVOLVING NONDEG PAIRING

FROBENIUS ALGEBRA/ K IS A 5-TUPLE:

FORMS AN ALG/ K $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} A, K\text{-VECTOR SPACE} \\ m: A \otimes A \rightarrow A, K\text{-LINEAR MAP} \\ u: K \rightarrow A, K\text{-LINEAR MAP} \\ \Delta: A \rightarrow A \otimes A, K\text{-LINEAR MAP} \\ \varepsilon: A \rightarrow K, K\text{-LINEAR MAP} \end{array} \right.$ FORMS A COALG/ K



CATEGORICAL UPGRADE TAKE $(\mathcal{C}, \otimes, 1)$ A MONOIDAL CATEGORY

FROBENIUS
ALGEBRA
IN $\mathcal{C}$

IS A 5-TUPLE:

$A \in \mathcal{C}$ OBJECT
 $m: A \otimes A \rightarrow A \in \mathcal{C}$
 $u: 1 \rightarrow A \in \mathcal{C}$
 $\Delta: A \rightarrow A \otimes A \in \mathcal{C}$
 $\varepsilon: A \rightarrow 1 \in \mathcal{C}$

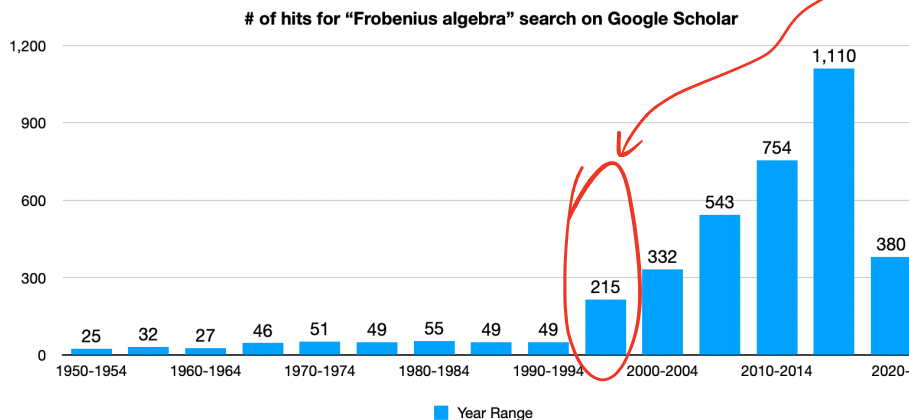
WITH (A, m, u) IS AN ALGEBRA IN $\mathcal{C}$
 (A, Δ, ε) IS A COALGEBRA IN $\mathcal{C}$

SATISFYING SIMILAR DIAGRAMS
AS FOR $\mathcal{C} = \text{Vec}_{\mathbb{K}}$

THEOREM FOR A SYMMETRIC MONOIDAL CATEG. $(\mathcal{C}, \otimes, 1, c)$

THERE IS AN EQUIVALENCE OF MONOIDAL CATEGORIES
MON. CATEGORY OF 2-TQFTS $\S$ MON. CATEGORY OF COMMUTATIVE
FROBENIUS ALGEBRAS IN $\mathcal{C}$
WITH VALUE IN $\mathcal{C}$

(WITH SAME PROOF AS FOR $\mathcal{C} = \text{Vec}_{\mathbb{K}}$)



2D-TQFTS
MOSTLY
CAUSED THIS

DUBROVIN'S (1996)
"FROBENIUS MANIFOLDS"
WAS ALSO A CAUSE
... QUANTUM COHOMOLOGY...
(SKIPPING HERE...)

... AND FROBENIUS ALGEBRAS
IN MONOIDAL CATEGORIES
HAVE BEEN OF GREAT INTEREST
EVER SINCE ...

INCLUDING APPLICATIONS IN
MORITA THEORY
QFTS $\S$ CFTS
COMPUTER SCIENCE
RECENTLY: 3D-TQFTS
ARXIV: 2105.04613 [KMRS]

CATEGORICAL FROBENIUS ALGEBRAS *galore*

LET A BE A FINITE DIM'L $\mathbb{k}$ -ALGEBRA
THEN THE FOLLOWING ARE EQUIVALENT:

1. $\exists$ INVERTIBLE PARATOPHIC MATRIX
2. $\exists$ NONDEG. ASSOC. $\mathbb{k}$ -BILINEAR FORM
 $(-, -) : A \times A \rightarrow \mathbb{k}$
3. $\exists$ ISOM. OF LEFT A -MODULES: $A \cong A^*$
- 3'. $\exists$ ISOM. OF RIGHT A -MODULES: $A \cong A^*$
4. $\exists$ $\mathbb{k}$ -LINEAR FORM $\nu : A \rightarrow \mathbb{k} \ni \ker(\nu)$
DOES NOT CONTAIN $\neq 0$ LEFT IDEAL OF A
- 4'. $\exists$ $\mathbb{k}$ -LINEAR FORM $\nu : A \rightarrow \mathbb{k} \ni \ker(\nu)$
DOES NOT CONTAIN $\neq 0$ RIGHT IDEAL OF A
5. $\exists$ $\mathbb{k}$ -LINEAR MAPS $\Delta : A \rightarrow A \otimes_{\mathbb{k}} A, \varepsilon : A \rightarrow \mathbb{k}$
 $\Rightarrow (A, \Delta, \varepsilon)$ IS A $\mathbb{k}$ -COALG. + COMPATIBILITY

LET $\mathcal{C}$ BE A RIGID MONOIDAL CATEG.
 $\exists$ DUAL OBJECTS $\uparrow$. TAKE AN ALG IN $\mathcal{C}$.

1. NO CATEGORICAL ANALOGUE TO DATE

2. $\leftarrow$

3. $\leftarrow$
3' $\leftarrow$

$\exists$ CATEGORICAL
ANALOGUE.

[FUCHS-STIGNER]
2009

4. $\exists$ CATEGORICAL ANALOGUE
- 4' ...NOW! [W-YADAV]
2021, IN PREP.

NEED $\mathcal{C}$ ABELIAN
& $\otimes$ BIELECT

5. $\leftarrow$

III. RECENT WORK INVOLVING FROBENIUS ALGEBRAS $\leftarrow$

THEOREM [W-YADAV, 2021 (IN PREP.)]

GENERALIZES WORK OF
BONGHALE (1967): $\mathcal{C} = \text{Vect}_{\mathbb{k}}$

TAKE $\mathcal{C}$ ABELIAN, RIGID MONOIDAL CATEG. w/ $\otimes$ BIELECT

IF A IS A "FILTERED" ALGEBRA IN $\mathcal{C}$

& ITS ASSOC. GRADED ALGEBRA $gr(A)$ IS FROBENIUS IN $\mathcal{C}$

THEN SO IS A .

MAIN EXAMPLE $A = \text{"BRAIDED CLIFFORD ALGEBRA"}$

$gr(A) = \text{"BRAIDED EXTERIOR ALGEBRA"}$

OTHER RECENT WORKS:

[MMPRTW] (WINARTZ GROUP) (ARXIV: 2001.03837)

USES "SPECIAL" FROBENIUS ALGEBRAS TO
STUDY MORITA EQUIVALENCE OF ALGEBRAS
IN NICE "FUSION CATEGORIES"

BOTH WORKS
ARE WRITTEN
FOR NEWCOMERS

PUBLISHED VERS.
WILL BE SHORTER.

[W-WICKS-WON] (ARXIV: 1911.12847)

DEVELOPS / RECONCILES FORMULAE VS CATEGORICAL

NOTIONS OF $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{ALGEBRAS} \\ \text{COALGEBRAS} \\ \text{FROB. ALGS} \end{array} \right.$ WITH
"WEAK HOPF ALG." SYMMETRY...

NOW
ACCEPTING
APPLICATIONS

It's going
to be
galore... nius

WINART3 workshop

Women in Noncommutative Algebra and
Representation Theory workshop 3.
Banff International Research Station (BIRS).
April 3 – 8, 2022.

GROUP LEADERS:

BAUR + TODOROV	BENKART + KIRKMAN
CANACKI + GARCIA EISENER	CARBONE + JURISICH
FABER + MARSH	REDONDO + ROSSI BERTONE
SCHROLL + SOLOTAR	WALTON + WICKS

≡ THANKS FOR LISTENING ≡