

# Mini-Course on Tensor Categories Monday

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# Landscape: $vN$ vs $C^*$

**Goal:** Transfer(ence) of subfactor techniques to  $C^*$ -algebras

## von Neumann Algebras

### Classification:

►<sub>[MvN43, Con76]</sub> Injective factors:

$$M \otimes \mathcal{R} \cong M$$

∃! hyperfinite  $II_1$ -factor:

$$\mathcal{R} \cong \mathcal{R} \otimes \mathcal{R}$$

Subfactors:  $N \subset M$  (Survey: <sub>[Pop23]</sub>)

►<sub>[Jon83]</sub> Index Rigidity Theorem:

$$[M : N] \in \{4 \cos^2 \frac{\pi}{n}\}_{n \geq 3} \cup [4, \infty).$$

$N \subset M \iff$  **quantum symmetry**:

$$\{N \subset M\} \leftrightarrow \{\mathcal{C} \curvearrowright N + \text{generator}\}$$

## $C^*$ -algebras

Elliott Program: (Survey: <sub>[Whi23]</sub>)

► 'Many hands' <sub>[GLN14, EGLN15, TWW17]</sub>

Classify simple amenable  $C^*$ -algs  
by  $K$ -theory and traces

**Feat:**  $\mathcal{Z}, \mathcal{O}_2, \mathcal{O}_n, \mathcal{O}_\infty, AF, A_\theta, \dots$

$C^*$ -inclusions:  $A \subset B$  <sub>[HPN23]</sub>

♥  $C^*$ -algs have QuSymmetry!

♣ Characterization of framework

◇ Classification of QuDynamics?

♠ Interactions with  $K$ -theory

# Natural habitat for Unitary Tensor Categories (UTC)

**Discrete & compact groups:**

- $\text{Hilb}_f(\Gamma)$
- $\text{Hilb}_f(\Gamma, \omega)$ ,  $[\omega] \in H^3(G, \mathbb{T})$
- $\text{Rep}_f(G)$



**Discrete/compact quantum gps** [NT13]:

$$\bullet \left\{ \mathbb{G} \right\} \xleftrightarrow{\text{T-K-W}} \left\{ \underbrace{\text{Rep}_f(\mathbb{G}) \otimes \text{Hilb}_f}_{\text{Fiber functor}} \right\}$$



**Subfactors: The standard invariant**

$$\left\{ N \subset M \right\} \leftrightarrow \left\{ \underbrace{\mathcal{C}_{N \subset M} \xrightarrow{\otimes} \text{Bim}(N)}_{\text{generalized fiber functor}} + \underbrace{Q := {}_N L^2(M)_N}_{\text{Q-system [Lon84]}} \right\}$$

$$\triangleright (N \subset M) \cong (N \subset N \rtimes Q)$$

▶ Every  $\mathcal{C}$  comes from  $L\mathbb{F}_\infty \cong N \subset M \cong L\mathbb{F}_\infty$  [PS03]

[Ocn88, Pop95a, Jon22, Müg03]

# Subfactors and their standard invariants

**Realization/Crossed Products:** [ILP98, JP19]

$$\{N \subset M\} \xleftarrow{\times Q} \left\{ \mathcal{C}_{N \subset M} \overset{\otimes}{\rightarrow} \text{Bim}(N) + Q := {}_N L^2(M)_N \right\}$$
$$\rightsquigarrow (N \subset M) \cong (N \subset N \rtimes Q)$$

## Subfactor Classification

**P1** Analytic/Dynamical: Construct & classify  $\{\mathcal{C} \curvearrowright N\}$ ,

**P2** Algebraic: Construct & classify Q-sys/W\*-algebras  $\{Q \in \mathcal{C}\}$ .

**Example (Hyperfinite Subfactors  $\mathcal{R} \cong N \subset M \cong \mathcal{R}$  [Pop94, Pop95b])**

Standard invariant is complete for amenable hyperfinite subfactors!

# C\* Quantum dynamics

## C\*-algebras have quantum symmetry too!

- ▶ Every UTC from some C\*-inclusion [HHP20]
- ▶ C\*-algebras are *Q-system complete* [CHPJP22]

## C\*-inclusions

Standard invariants transfer to C\*-inclusions [HPN23]:

$$\underbrace{\left\{ \mathcal{C} \overset{\otimes}{\rightarrow} \text{Bim}(A) + \mathcal{C}\text{-graded C}^*\text{-Alg } \mathbb{B} \right\}}_{\text{C}^* \text{ Quantum Dynamics}} \rightsquigarrow \left\{ A \overset{E}{\subset} A \rtimes_r \mathbb{B} \right\}$$






**Known:** Largest class  $\{A \subset B\}$  determined by standard invariant







## Future problems

- ▶ Construct/classify C\* Qudynamics (on classifiables)
- ▶ Robustness of classifiable C\* by discrete extensions

# Content of Minicourse


1. Introduction and UTC examples
2. Fundamentals of tensor categories
3. Unitarity in tensor categories, Index theory and Concrete examples
4. Q-systems & algebra objects, and the standard invariant
5. Actions of UTCs on  $C^*$ -algebras and their crossed products by example


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# Tensor Category

**Example:**  $\text{Rep}(G)$ , category of finite dimensional representations of a finite group  $G$  over  $\mathbb{C}$ .

- ▶ Objects: representations of  $G$  over  $\mathbb{C}$
- ▶ Morphisms: Interwiners

A **tensor category**  $\mathcal{C}$  over  $\mathbb{C}$  is category that is

- ▶ monoidal:  $(\otimes, \mathbf{1})$
- ▶  $\mathbb{C}$ -linear:  $\text{Hom}(X, Y)$  is  $\mathbb{C}$ -vector space and composition is bilinear.

## Tensor Categories

A tensor category  $(\mathcal{C}, \otimes, \mathbf{1}, \alpha, l, r)$  is a  $\mathbb{C}$ -linear category  $\mathcal{C}$  with

- ▶ a tensor product functor

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

- ▶ a unit object

$$\mathbf{1} \in \mathcal{C}$$

- ▶ an associativity constraint  $\alpha$ ,

$$\alpha : (- \otimes -) \otimes - \xrightarrow{\sim} - \otimes (- \otimes -)$$

- ▶ a left unit constraint

$$l_X : \mathbf{1} \otimes X \xrightarrow{\sim} X,$$

- ▶ a right unit constraint

$$r_X : X \otimes \mathbf{1} \xrightarrow{\sim} X,$$

# Tensor Categories

and the data  $(\mathcal{C}, \otimes, \mathbf{1}, \alpha, l, r)$  satisfies

- ▶ the Pentagon Axiom

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & & (W \otimes X) \otimes (Y \otimes Z) \\ & \nearrow^{\alpha_{W \otimes X, Y, Z}} & \\ ((W \otimes X) \otimes Y) \otimes Z & & W \otimes (X \otimes (Y \otimes Z)) \\ \alpha_{W, X, Y} \otimes \text{id}_Z \downarrow & & \uparrow \text{id}_W \otimes \alpha_{X, Y, Z} \\ (W \otimes (X \otimes Y)) \otimes Z & \xrightarrow{\alpha_{W, X \otimes Y, Z}} & W \otimes ((X \otimes Y) \otimes Z) \end{array}$$

- ▶ Triangle Axiom

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (X \otimes \mathbf{1}) \otimes Y & \xrightarrow{\alpha_{X, \mathbf{1}, Y}} & X \otimes (\mathbf{1} \otimes Y) \\ & \searrow^{r_X \otimes \text{id}_Y} & \swarrow_{\text{id}_X \otimes l_Y} \\ & X \otimes Y & \end{array}$$

- ▶ The tensor category is said to be strict if  $\alpha, l, r$  are all identities.

## Example: Category of Vector Spaces

- ▶  $\mathcal{C} = \text{Vec}_{\mathbb{C}}$ , the category of vector spaces over  $\mathbb{C}$ .
- ▶  $\otimes$  is the tensor product of vector spaces over  $\mathbb{C}$ .
- ▶  $\mathbf{1} = \mathbb{C}$  is the ground field  $\mathbb{C}$ .
- ▶ associativity

$$\alpha((u \otimes v) \otimes w) = u \otimes (v \otimes w),$$

for  $u \in U, v \in V, w \in W$ .

- ▶ unit constraints

$$l(1 \otimes v) = v = r(v \otimes 1)$$

## $\text{Vec}_G^\omega$ : Category of $G$ -graded Vector Spaces

- ▶ Objects:  $G$ -graded f.d. vector spaces  $V = \bigoplus_{g \in G} V_g$ .
- ▶ Morphisms: linear maps which preserve the grading.
- ▶ If  $V = \bigoplus_{g \in G} V_g$  and  $W = \bigoplus_{g \in G} W_g$ , then

$$(V \otimes W)_g = \bigoplus_{h \in G} V_h \otimes W_{h^{-1}g}$$

- ▶  $\mathbf{1} = \mathbb{C}_e$ , and associativity

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_{V,W,Z} : (V \otimes W) \otimes Z &\rightarrow V \otimes (W \otimes Z) \\ (v_g \otimes w_h) \otimes z_k &\mapsto \omega(g, h, k) v_g \otimes (w_h \otimes z_k), \end{aligned}$$

$g, h, k \in G, v_g \in V_g, w_h \in W_h, z_k \in Z_k$ .

- ▶  $\omega$  is a 3-cocycle:  $\omega : G \times G \times G \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$  such that

$$\omega(ab, c, d)\omega(a, b, cd) = \omega(a, b, c)\omega(a, bc, d)\omega(b, c, d)$$



# Tensor Categories from Representations

$\text{Rep}(G)$ ,  $G$  a group.

- ▶ Objects: representations of  $G$  over  $\mathbb{k}$ ,
- ▶ Morphisms: interwiners,
- ▶  $\otimes$  is the tensor product of representations

$$\rho_{V \otimes W}(g) := \rho_V(g) \otimes \rho_W(g)$$

$\text{Rep}(\mathfrak{g})$ ,  $\mathfrak{g}$  a Lie algebra over  $\mathbb{C}$

- ▶  $\otimes$  is defined by

$$\rho_{V \otimes W}(a) = \rho_V(a) \otimes \text{id}_W + \text{id}_V \otimes \rho_W(a)$$

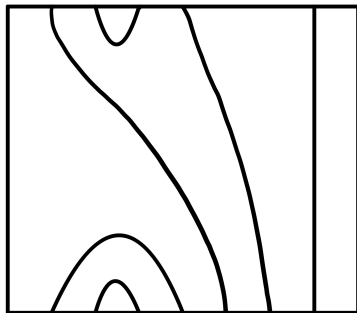
## Temperley-Lieb Diagrams

Let  $t$  be an indeterminant over  $\mathbb{C}$  and  $d = (t + t^{-1})$ .

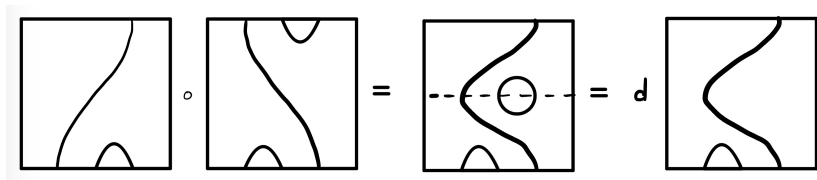
Let  $m, n \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$  and  $m - n$  even.

The  $(m, n)$ -TL diagrams

Figure: A  $(5, 7)$ -TL Diagram



## Composing Temperley-Lieb Diagrams



# Temperley-Lieb Categories

The generic Temperley-Lieb category is a tensor category with

- ▶ objects: elements of  $\mathbb{N}_0 = \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ .

- ▶ morphisms

  - If  $n - m$  is odd, then  $\text{Hom}(m, n)$  is the 0 -vector space.

  - If  $n - m$  even,  $\text{Hom}(m, n)$  is the  $\mathbb{C}(t)$ -vector space with basis the set of equivalence classes of  $(m, n)$ -TL diagrams.

- ▶ tensor product

  - on objects:  $n \otimes n' = n + n'$ .

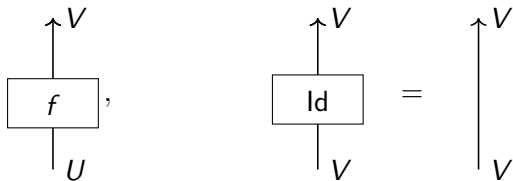
  - on morphisms: horizontal juxtaposition.

Tensoring an  $(n, m)$ -TL diagram with an  $(n', m')$ -diagram gives a  $(n + n', m + m')$ - TL diagram.

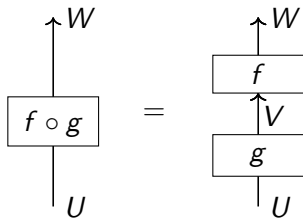
# Graphical Calculus for Morphisms

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a strict tensor category.

►  $f : U \rightarrow V$

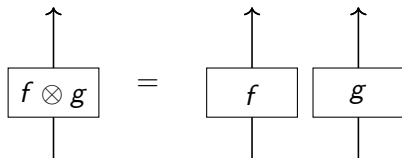


►  $f \circ g$

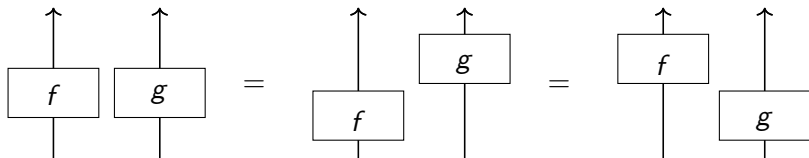


# Graphical Calculus for Morphisms

►  $f \otimes g$



►  $f \otimes g = (f \circ \text{id}) \otimes (\text{id} \circ g) = (\text{id} \circ f) \otimes (g \circ \text{id})$



## Dagger Category

We say that  $\mathcal{C}$  is a **dagger category** if and only if for each  $X, Y \in \mathcal{C}$  there is an anti-linear map

$$\dagger : \text{Hom}(X, Y) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(Y, X)$$

such that

- ▶  $(f^\dagger)^\dagger = f$ , for any  $X, Y \in \mathcal{C}$  and  $f \in \text{Hom}(X, Y)$ .
- ▶  $(f \circ g)^\dagger = g^\dagger \circ f^\dagger$
- ▶  $(f \otimes g)^\dagger = f^\dagger \otimes g^\dagger$

We say that  $f \in \text{Hom}(X, Y)$  is unitary if it is invertible with  $f^{-1} = f^\dagger$ .

- ▶ Examples:

**Hilb**, the category of complex Hilbert spaces.

**Hilb**( $\Gamma, \omega$ ), the category of  $\omega$ -twisted complex  $\Gamma$ - graded Hilbert spaces.

## $C^*$ Category

A dagger category  $\mathcal{C}$  is called a  $C^*$ -category if

- ▶ For every  $X, Y \in \mathcal{C}$  and  $f \in \text{Hom}(X, Y)$ , there is a  $g \in \text{End}(X)$  such that  $f^\dagger \circ f = g^\dagger \circ g$ .
- ▶ The function  $\|\cdot\| : \text{Hom}(X, Y) \rightarrow [0, \infty]$  defined by

$$\|f\|^2 = \sup \left\{ |\lambda| \geq 0 \mid f^\dagger \circ f - \lambda \text{id}_X \text{ is not invertible} \right\}$$

is a complete norm on  $\text{Hom}(X, Y)$ .

- ▶  $\|f \circ g\| \leq \|f\| \cdot \|g\|$
- ▶  $\|f^\dagger \circ f\| = \|f\|^2$



## Tensor Functor

Let  $\mathcal{C} = (\mathcal{C}, \otimes, \mathbf{1}, \alpha, l, r)$  and  $\mathcal{D} = (\mathcal{D}, \otimes', \mathbf{1}', \alpha', l', r')$  be tensor categories.

A (strong) tensor functor from  $\mathcal{C}$  to  $\mathcal{D}$  is a functor  $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  with an isomorphism  $F_0 : \mathbf{1}' \rightarrow F(\mathbf{1})$  in  $\mathcal{D}$  and with a natural isomorphism

$$F_2(X, Y) : F(X) \otimes' F(Y) \rightarrow F(X \otimes Y)$$

such that

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (F(X) \otimes' F(Y)) \otimes' F(Z) & \xrightarrow{\alpha'_{F(X), F(Y), F(Z)}} & F(X) \otimes' (F(Y) \otimes' F(Z)) \\ F_2(X, Y) \otimes' \text{id}_{F(Z)} \downarrow & & \downarrow \text{id}_{F(X)} \otimes' F_2(Y, Z) \\ F(X \otimes Y) \otimes' F(Z) & & F(X) \otimes' F(Y \otimes Z) \\ F_2(X \otimes Y, Z) \downarrow & & \downarrow F_2(X, Y \otimes Z) \\ F((X \otimes Y) \otimes Z) & \xrightarrow{F(\alpha_{X, Y, Z})} & F(X \otimes (Y \otimes Z)) \end{array}$$

# Tensor Functor

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathbf{1}' \otimes' F(X) & \xrightarrow{l'_{F(X)}} & F(X) \\
 F_0 \otimes \text{id}_{F(X)} \downarrow & & \uparrow F(l_X) \\
 F(\mathbf{1}) \otimes' F(X) & \xrightarrow{F_2(\mathbf{1}, X)} & F(\mathbf{1} \otimes X),
 \end{array}
 \qquad
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 F(X) \otimes' \mathbf{1}' & \xrightarrow{r'_{F(X)}} & F(X) \\
 \text{id}_{F(X)} \otimes F_0 \downarrow & & \uparrow F(r_X) \\
 F(X) \otimes' F(\mathbf{1}) & \xrightarrow{F_2(X, \mathbf{1})} & F(X \otimes \mathbf{1})
 \end{array}$$

commute.

A **natural transformation of tensor functors**

$\eta : (F, F_0, F_2) \rightarrow (G, G_0, G_2)$  is a natural transformation

$\eta : F \rightarrow G$  such that  $\eta_{\mathbf{1}}$  is an isomorphism, and

$$\eta_{X \otimes Y} F_2(X, Y) = G_2(X, Y) (\eta_X \otimes' \eta_Y)$$

## Examples of Tensor Functors

Let  $A$  be a unital  $C^*$ -algebra and  $\Gamma$  be a discrete group acting on  $A$ .

Then we have a tensor functor  $F$

$$F : \text{Hilb}(\Gamma) \rightarrow \text{Bim}(A) \\ \mathbb{C}_g \mapsto {}_g A$$

where  ${}_g A$  is  $A$  as a right Hilbert  $A$ -module and

$$a \triangleright b = g^{-1}(a)b$$

The tensorator for  $F$  is

$$F_2^{g,h} : F(g) \otimes_A F(h) \cong F(gh) \\ a \otimes b \mapsto h^{-1}(a)b.$$

This can be generalized to anomalous actions on a  $C^*$ -algebra.

## Duality in $\text{Vec}_{\mathbb{C}}$

Consider  $\text{Vec}_{\mathbb{C}}$ , the category of f.d. vector spaces over  $\mathbb{C}$ .

- ▶  $\forall V \in \text{Ob}(\text{Vec}_{\mathbb{C}}), \exists V^*$ , and morphisms

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ev}_V &: V^* \otimes V \rightarrow \mathbb{C}, \\ \text{coev}_V &: \mathbb{C} \rightarrow V \otimes V^*, \end{aligned}$$

- ▶  $\text{ev}_V$  is the evaluation map,
- ▶  $\text{coev}_V(1) := \sum v_i \otimes v^i$ ,  $\{v_i\}$  and  $\{v^i\}$  are dual bases in  $V$  and  $V^*$ .

# Duality in Tensor Categories

- ▶ Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a tensor category and  $X \in \mathcal{C}$ . A **left dual** of  $X$  is an object  $X^*$  with

$$\text{ev}_X : X^* \otimes X \rightarrow \mathbf{1}, \quad \text{coev}_X : \mathbf{1} \rightarrow X \otimes X^*,$$

such that the composition

$$X \xrightarrow{\text{coev}_X \otimes \text{id}_X} X \otimes X^* \otimes X \xrightarrow{\text{id}_X \otimes \text{ev}_X} X$$

$$X^* \xrightarrow{\text{id}_{X^*} \otimes \text{coev}_X} X^* \otimes X \otimes X^* \xrightarrow{\text{ev}_X \otimes \text{id}_{X^*}} X^*$$

are identities.

- ▶ Similarly, one can define **right dual**  $({}^*X, \text{ev}'_X, \text{coev}'_X)$  of  $X$ .
- ▶ A tensor category  $\mathcal{C}$  is called **rigid** if every object of  $\mathcal{C}$  has right and left duals.

# Dual Morphism

If  $X, Y \in \mathcal{C}$  which have left duals  $X^*, Y^*$  and  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is a morphism.

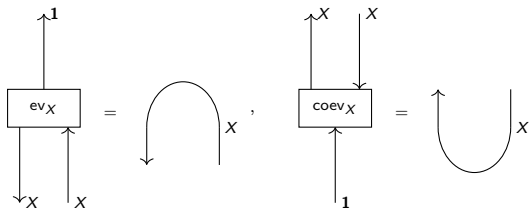
Define the left dual  $f^* : Y^* \rightarrow X^*$  of  $f$  by

$$f^* := Y^* \xrightarrow{\text{id}_{Y^*} \otimes \text{coev}_X} Y^* \otimes X \otimes X^* \xrightarrow{\text{id}_{Y^*} \otimes f \otimes \text{id}_{X^*}} Y^* \otimes Y \otimes X^* \xrightarrow{\text{ev}_Y \otimes \text{id}_{X^*}} X^*.$$

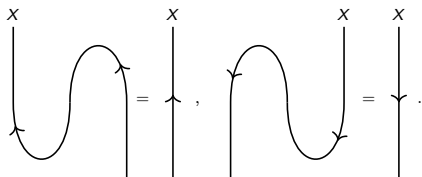
Similarly, one can define the right dual  $*f : *Y \rightarrow *X$  of  $f$ .

# Graphical Calculus for Rigidity

- ▶  $ev_X$  and  $coev_X$



- ▶ The graphical form of rigidity axioms

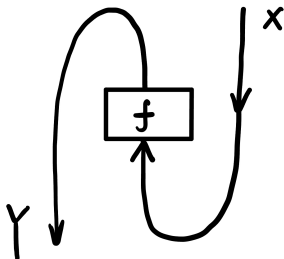


Recall

$$\begin{aligned}
 X &\xrightarrow{coev_X \otimes id_X} X \otimes X^* \otimes X \xrightarrow{id_X \otimes ev_X} X \\
 X^* &\xrightarrow{id_{X^*} \otimes coev_X} X^* \otimes X \otimes X^* \xrightarrow{ev_X \otimes id_{X^*}} X^*
 \end{aligned}$$

## Graphical Calculus for Rigidity

- ▶ The left dual  $f^* : Y^* \rightarrow X^*$



Recall

$$f^* := Y^* \xrightarrow{\text{id}_{Y^*} \otimes \text{coev}_X} Y^* \otimes X \otimes X^* \xrightarrow{\text{id}_{Y^*} \otimes f \otimes \text{id}_{X^*}} Y^* \otimes Y \otimes X^* \xrightarrow{\text{ev}_Y \otimes \text{id}_{X^*}} X^*.$$

- ▶ Let  $f : V \rightarrow W, g : U \rightarrow V$  be morphisms in  $\mathcal{C}$ , then

$$(f \circ g)^* = g^* \circ f^*$$

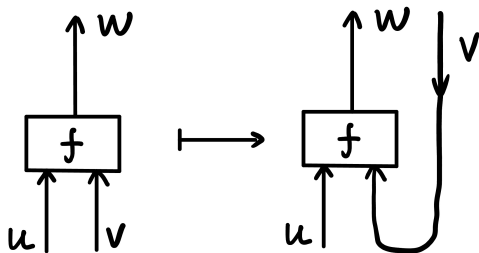
$$(\text{id}_V)^* = \text{id}_{V^*}$$



## Useful Adjunctions

For any family  $U, V, W$  of objects of  $\mathcal{C}$ , we have natural bijections

$$\text{Hom}(U \otimes V, W) \cong \text{Hom}(U, W \otimes V^*)$$



and

$$\text{Hom}(U^* \otimes V, W) \cong \text{Hom}(V, U \otimes W)$$

## Examples of Rigid Tensor Categories

- ▶  $\text{Vec}_G^\omega$  with normalized cocycle  $\omega$ .

$$\mathbb{C}_g^* = {}^*\mathbb{C}_g = \mathbb{C}_{g^{-1}}$$

Normalize the coevaluation morphisms of  $\mathbb{C}_g$  to be the identities. Then

$$\text{ev}_{\mathbb{C}_g} = \omega(g, g^{-1}, g) \text{id}_1$$

- ▶  $\text{Rep}_G$ . For a finite dimensional representation  $V$ ,
  - ▶ the dual representation  $V^*$  is the usual dual space
  - ▶  $G$ -action is given  $\rho_{V^*}(g) = (\rho_V(g)^{-1})^*$

# Invertible Objects

- ▶ Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a rigid tensor category.
- ▶ An object  $X$  in  $\mathcal{C}$  is **invertible** if

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ev}_X &: X^* \otimes X \rightarrow \mathbf{1} \\ \text{coev}_X &: \mathbf{1} \rightarrow X \otimes X^* \end{aligned}$$

are isomorphisms.

- ▶ Examples:
  - ▶ The objects  $\mathbb{C}_g$  in  $\text{Vec}_G^\omega$  are invertible.
  - ▶ The invertible objects in  $\text{Rep}(G)$  are the 1-dimensional representations of  $G$ .
- ▶ The invertible objects of  $\mathcal{C}$  form a tensor subcategory  $\text{Inv}(\mathcal{C})$  of  $\mathcal{C}$ .

## Plan for Tomorrow

- ▶ Pivotal structure, Categorical trace, Spherical categories
- ▶ Fusion categories
- ▶ ...