

# Open/closed string theory and operads

joint work of  
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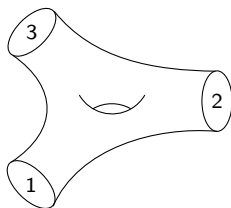
30.4.2016

# Closed string worldsheets

Quantum Closed string operad:

$$QC(n, G) :=$$

{homeomorphism classes of compact orientable  $2D$  surfaces of genus  $G$  with  $n$  boundary components labelled  $1, 2, \dots, n$ }

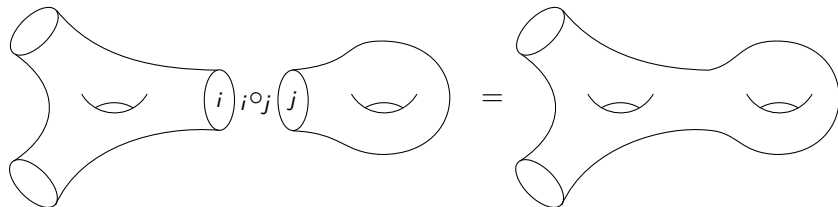


$$|QC(n, G)| = 1$$

## Closed string worldsheets - continued

Gluing of surfaces along boundary components:

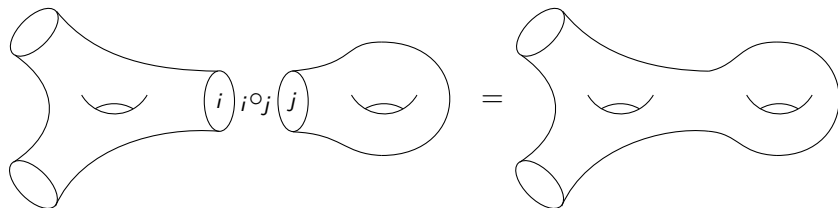
$$i \circ j : \mathcal{QC}(n_1, G_1) \times \mathcal{QC}(n_2, G_2) \rightarrow \mathcal{QC}(n_1 + n_2 - 2, G_1 + G_2)$$



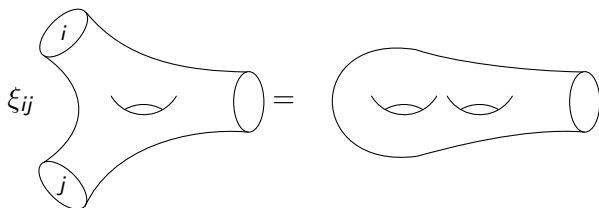
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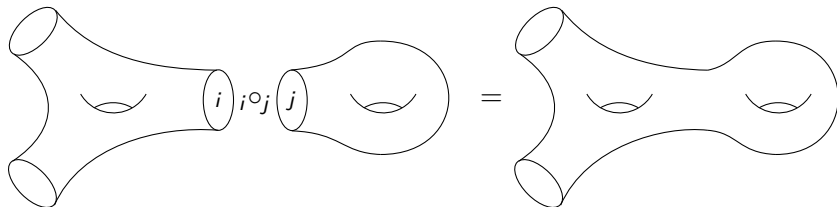
$$\xi_{ij} : \mathcal{QC}(n, G) \rightarrow \mathcal{QC}(n - 2, G + 1)$$



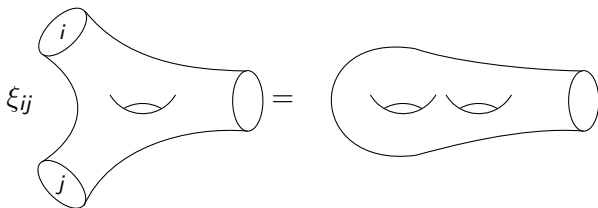
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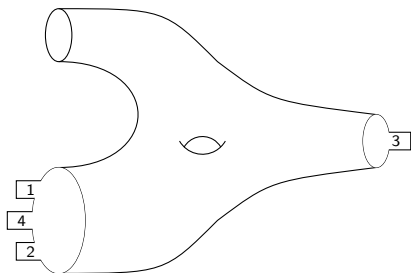
$\Sigma_n$  acts on  $\mathcal{QC}(n, G)$  by permuting the labels of the boundary components - trivial action.

# Open string worldsheets

Quantum Open string operad:

$$\mathcal{QO}(n, G) :=$$

{homeomorphism classes of compact orientable  $2D$  surfaces  
of genus  $g$  with  $n$  distinguished intervals (open inputs)  
labelled  $1, 2, \dots, n$  on  $b$  boundary components,  
 $G = 2g + b - 1$ }

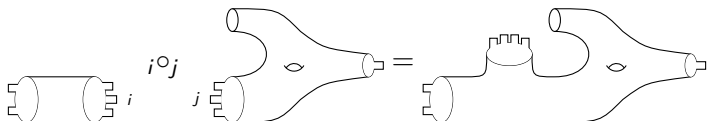


$$|\mathcal{QO}(n, G)| > 1$$

# Open string worldsheets - continued

Gluing of surfaces using ribbons:

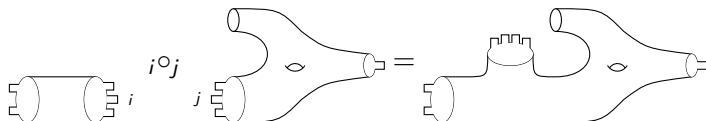
$$i \circ_j : \mathcal{QO}(n_1, G_1) \times \mathcal{QO}(n_2, G_2) \rightarrow \mathcal{QO}(n_1 + n_2 - 2, G_1 + G_2)$$



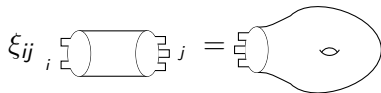
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$$\xi_{ij} : \mathcal{QO}(n, G) \rightarrow \mathcal{QO}(n - 2, G + 1)$$

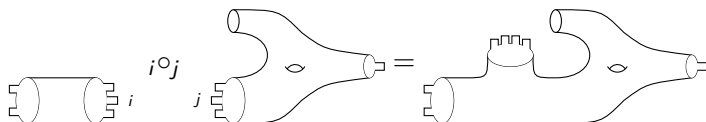




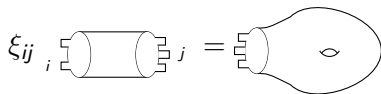
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Gluing of surfaces using ribbons:

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$\Sigma_n$  acts on  $\mathcal{QO}(n, G)$  by permuting the labels of the open inputs.

## Modular operad

Symmetric monoidal category  $\mathbf{C} = (\mathbf{C}, \otimes, I, s)$

Examples:  $(\text{Set}, \times, \{*\}, s)$ ,  $(\text{dgVec}_{\mathbb{K}}, \otimes, \mathbb{K}, s)$ ,  $\text{SSet}$ ,  $\text{Top}, \dots$

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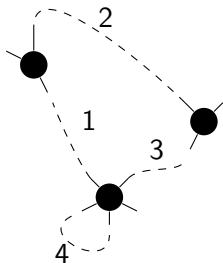
**Modular operad**  $\mathcal{P}$  in  $\mathcal{C}$  consists of a collection  $\{\mathcal{P}(n, G)\}_{n, G \geq 0}$  of objects of  $\mathcal{C}$  with  $\Sigma_n$  actions by morphisms of  $\mathcal{C}$ , and collections

$$i \circ_j : \mathcal{P}(n_1, G_1) \otimes \mathcal{P}(n_2, G_2) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(n_1 + n_2 - 2, G_1 + G_2)$$

$$\xi_{ij} : \mathcal{P}(n, G) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(n - 2, G + 1)$$

of equivariant morphisms of  $\mathcal{C}$  satisfying the axioms:

1.  $i \circ_j = j \circ_i s$ ,  $\xi_{ij} = \xi_{ji}$
2.  $\xi_{ij} \xi_{kl} = \xi_{kl} \xi_{ij}$
3.  $\xi_{ij} k \circ_l = \xi_{kl} i \circ_j$
4.  $i \circ_j (\xi_{kl} \otimes 1) = \xi_{kl} i \circ_j$
5.  $i \circ_j (1 \otimes k \circ_l) = k \circ_l (i \circ_j \otimes 1)$



# Operad variants

$Com \subset QC$ : surfaces with genus  $G = 0$

$Ass \subset QO$ : surfaces with genus  $g = 0$  and a single boundary

**Cyclic operad** - no  $\xi_{ij}$

**Ordinary operad** - one output, several inputs

**Properad** - several inputs, several outputs

## Endomorphism operad

$V$  is a vector space over  $\mathbb{K}$ ,  $\dim_{\mathbb{K}} V =: N < \infty$

$B : V \otimes V \rightarrow \mathbb{K}$  a scalar product

$\{a_i\}_{i=1}^N$  a basis,  $B^{ij}$  is the inverse matrix of  $B_{ij} = B(a_i, a_j)$

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$$\mathcal{E}nd_V(n, G) := \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{K}}(V^{\otimes n}, \mathbb{K})$$

$$i \circ j : \mathcal{E}nd_V(n_1, G_1) \otimes \mathcal{E}nd_V(n_2, G_2) \rightarrow \mathcal{E}nd_V(n_1 + n_2 - 2, G_1 + G_2)$$

$$(f \circ j g)(v_1, \dots, v_{n_1+n_2-2}) :=$$

$$= \sum_{k,l} f(v_1, \dots, \underbrace{a_k}_{i\text{-th}}, \dots, v_{n_1-1}) B^{kl} g(v_{n_1}, \dots, \underbrace{a_l}_{j\text{-th}}, \dots, v_{n_1+n_2-2})$$

$$\xi_{ij} : \mathcal{E}nd_V(n, G) \rightarrow \mathcal{E}nd_V(n-2, G+1)$$

$$(\xi_{ij} f)(v_1, \dots, v_{n-2}) := \sum_{k,l} f(v_1, \dots, \underbrace{a_k}_{i\text{-th}}, \dots, \underbrace{a_l}_{j\text{-th}}, \dots, v_{n-2}) B^{kl}$$

$$\sigma \in \Sigma_n \text{ acts by } (\sigma \cdot f)(v_1, \dots, v_n) := f(v_{\sigma(1)}, \dots, v_{\sigma(n)})$$

# Algebra over an operad

**Morphism**  $\alpha : \mathcal{P} \rightarrow \mathcal{Q}$  of modular operads is a collection of equivariant maps

$$\alpha : \mathcal{P}(n, G) \rightarrow \mathcal{Q}(n, G), \quad n, G \geq 0,$$

satisfying

$$\alpha(p_1) \circ_j \alpha(p_2) = \alpha(p_1 \circ_j p_2) \quad \text{and} \quad \xi_{ij} \alpha(p) = \alpha(\xi_{ij} p)$$

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**Algebra over  $\mathcal{P}$**  (or  $\mathcal{P}$  algebra) on a vector space  $V$  is a modular operad morphism  $\mathcal{P} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}nd_V$ .

compare: representation of group,  $G \rightarrow \text{End}(V)$



# Examples of algebras over operads

## Algebras over

- ▶  $Com$ : non-unital commutative Frobenius algebra
- ▶  $QC$ : essentially 2D TQFT  
(compare: monoidal functor  $Cob_2 \rightarrow Vec_{\mathbb{C}}$ )
- ▶  $Ass$ : non-unital Frobenius algebra
- ▶  $QO$ : essentially 2D open TQFT

# Modular envelope

$$\text{CycOp} \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{\text{Mod}} \\ \perp \\ \xleftarrow{\text{forget}} \end{array} \text{ModOp}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{C} & \hookrightarrow & \text{Mod}(\mathcal{C}) \\ & \searrow & \downarrow \text{modular} \\ & & \mathcal{P} \end{array}$$

$\forall F$  cyclic       $\exists! \tilde{F}$

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In particular ( $\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{E}nd_V$ ):

$$\{\text{algebras over } \mathcal{C}\} \leftrightarrow \{\text{algebras over } \text{Mod}(\mathcal{C})\}$$

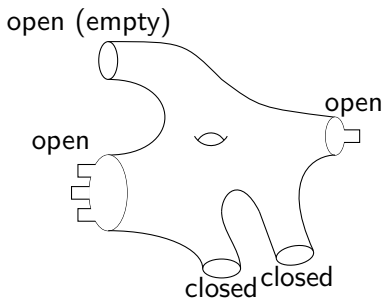
Examples:

- ▶  $\text{Mod}(\text{Com}) \cong \mathcal{QC}$ , explains 2D TQFT
- ▶  $\text{Mod}(\text{Ass}) \cong \mathcal{QO}$
- ▶  $\text{Mod}(\mathcal{OC}) / (\text{Cardy relation}) \cong \mathcal{QOC}$

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2-coloured modular operad:

$\mathcal{QOC} := \{2D \text{ surfaces with both open and closed inputs}\}$



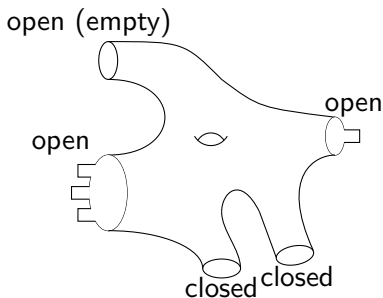
2-coloured cyclic suboperad of  $\mathcal{QOC}$ :

$\mathcal{OC} := \{2D \text{ surfaces of genus } 0 \text{ with both open and closed inputs}\}$

$\text{Mod}(\mathcal{OC}) / (\text{Cardy relation}) \cong \mathcal{QOC}$

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$\mathcal{QOC}$  algebras:  $A, B$  Frobenius algebras,  $A$  commutative,  $A \rightarrow B$  a morphism of algebras,  $f(A) \subset Z(B)$ , Cardy condition

# Homotopy algebras

$$h \circlearrowleft (V, d_V) \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{p} \\ \xleftarrow{i} \end{array} (H, d_H)$$

**Transfer problem:** Given  $\mathcal{P}$  algebra structure on  $(V, d_V)$ , given dg maps  $p, i$  such that  $ip \sim 1_V$  via homotopy  $h$ , find a  $\mathcal{P}$  algebra structure on  $(H, d_H)$  and extend  $p, i$  to morphisms of  $\mathcal{P}$  algebras.

**Example:** Gauge fixing

# Homotopy algebras

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**Example:** Gauge fixing

$$\{\mathcal{P} \text{ algebras}\} \subset \{\mathcal{P}_\infty \text{ algebras}\}$$

E.g. cofibrant replacement  $\mathcal{P}_\infty \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathcal{P}$

**Theorem:** The transfer problem is always solvable for algebras over cofibrant operads.

Ordinary operads:  $\mathcal{P}_\infty = \Omega B(\mathcal{P})$  cobar-bar construction

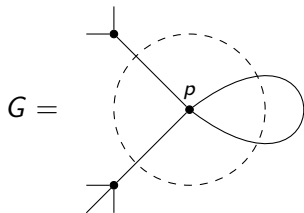
$\mathcal{P}_\infty = \Omega(\mathcal{P}^i)$  Koszul resolution

## Feynman transform

Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be a modular operad.

$\mathbf{F}(\mathcal{P})(n, G) \approx \mathbb{K}\{\text{graphs of genus } G \text{ with } n \text{ legs}$   
and vertices decorated by elements of  $\mathcal{P}\}$

$i \circ_j$  and  $\xi_{ij}$  are defined by grafting of graphs



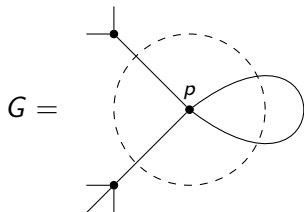


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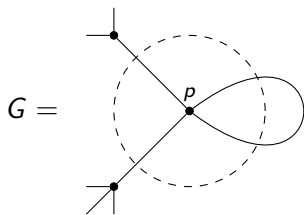
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$$\partial(G) := \sum_{v \text{ vertex of } G} \pm G_v$$

where  $G_v$  is obtained from  $G$  by replacing a small neighborhood of vertex  $v$  decorated by  $p \in \mathcal{P}$  by a graph with a single inner edge and vertices decorated using duals of  $i \circ_j$  and  $\xi_{ij}$  on  $\mathcal{P}$ .

# Feynman transform - continued



$$G_v = \sum_{p_1 \circlearrowleft j \ p_2 = p} \text{Diagram 1} + \sum_{\xi_{ij} \ q = p} \text{Diagram 2}$$

Diagram 1: A graph with two external vertices connected to  $p_1$  and  $p_2$ . A dashed circle encloses  $p_1$ . A loop is attached to  $p_2$ .

Diagram 2: A graph with two external vertices connected to  $q$ . A dashed circle encloses  $q$ . A loop is attached to  $q$ .

$i \circlearrowleft j$  and  $\xi_{ij}$  refers to  $\mathcal{P}$

# Homotopy algebras - cyclic and modular examples

## Algebras over

- ▶  $\Omega(\mathcal{C}om)$ : cyclic  $L_\infty$  algebras
- ▶  $\mathbf{F}(\mathcal{Q}\mathcal{C})$ : quantum  $L_\infty$  algebras (a.k.a. loop homotopy algebras)
- ▶  $\Omega(\mathcal{A}ss)$ : cyclic  $A_\infty$  algebras
- ▶  $\mathbf{F}(\mathcal{Q}\mathcal{O})$ : quantum  $A_\infty$  algebras
- ▶  $\mathbf{F}(\mathcal{Q}\mathcal{O}\mathcal{C})$ : quantum open/closed homotopy algebras

# Master equation

$$P := \prod_{n,g} (\mathcal{P}(n, g) \otimes \mathcal{E}nd_V(n, g))^{\Sigma_n} \quad (\text{invariants})$$

with operations  $d, \Delta : P \rightarrow P$ ,  $\{ \} : P \otimes P \rightarrow P$ :

$$d(p \otimes e) := d_{\mathcal{P}}(p) \otimes e \pm p \otimes d(e)$$

$$\Delta(p \otimes e) := \xi_{ij} p \otimes \xi_{ij} e$$

$$\{p \otimes e, p' \otimes e'\} := \sum_{\rho} \pm(\rho \otimes \rho)((p \circ_{\rho} p') \otimes (e \circ_{\rho} e'))$$

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$$\Delta(p \otimes e) := \xi_{ij} p \otimes \xi_{ij} e$$

$$\{p \otimes e, p' \otimes e'\} := \sum_{\rho} \pm (\rho \otimes \rho) ((p \circ_{\rho} p') \otimes (e \circ_{\rho} e'))$$

**Theorem:** Algebras over  $\mathbf{F}(\mathcal{P})$  on  $(V, d)$  are in bijection with degree 0 solutions of the master equation in  $P$ :

$$dS + \Delta S + \frac{1}{2}\{S, S\} = 0, \quad S \in P.$$

Moreover,  $(P, d, \Delta, \{ \})$  is a generalized Batalin-Vilkovisky algebra.

# Master equation for $\mathbf{F}(\mathcal{QC})$

$$P \cong \prod_{n,g} \mathcal{QC}(n, g) \otimes_{\Sigma_n} V^{\#\otimes n} \cong \mathbb{K}[[\phi^1, \dots, \phi^N]] \quad (\text{power series})$$

with operations

$$\Delta(S) = \sum_{i,j} \pm B^{ij} \frac{\partial^2 S}{\partial \phi^i \partial \phi^j}$$
$$\{S, T\} = \sum_{i,j} \pm B^{ij} \frac{\partial S}{\partial \phi^i} \cdot \frac{\partial T}{\partial \phi^j}$$

for  $S, T \in \mathbb{K}[[\phi^1, \dots, \phi^N]]$ .

$(P, d, \Delta, \{\}, \cdot)$  is an honest Batalin-Vilkovisky algebra.

# Homotopy transfer for $\mathbf{FQC}$ algebras

$$\begin{array}{ccc} h \begin{array}{c} \curvearrowright \\ \text{---} \end{array} (V, d_V) & \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{p} \\ \xleftarrow{i} \end{array} & (H_*(V), 0) \\ & \Downarrow & \\ h \begin{array}{c} \curvearrowright \\ \text{---} \end{array} (P_V, \{S_0, -\}) & \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{p} \\ \xleftarrow{i} \end{array} & (P_H, 0) \end{array}$$

The following are equivalent:

1.  $d_V S + \Delta_V S + \frac{1}{2}\{S, S\}_V = 0$
2.  $\Delta_V S' + \frac{1}{2}\{S', S'\}_V = 0$  for  $S' = S_0 + S$
3.  $(\Delta_V(-) + \{S', -\}_V) \circ (\Delta_V(-) + \{S', -\}_V) = 0$ , i.e.  
 $(\Delta_V(-) + \{S, -\}_V)$  is a perturbation of  $\{S_0, -\}_V$

**Homological perturbation lemma**  $\Rightarrow$  explicit perturbation of 0 on  $P_H$  of the form  $\Delta_H(-) + \{S_H, -\}_H$ , i.e. a  $\mathbf{F}(\mathcal{QC})$  algebra on  $H_*(V)$

# Homology of Feynman transform

- ▶ What are  $\mathbf{F}(\mathcal{QC})$ ,  $\mathbf{F}(\mathcal{QO})$ ,  $\mathbf{F}(\mathcal{QOC})$  cofibrantly replacing?  
Calculate homology!
- ▶  $H_*(\mathbf{F}(\underline{\mathcal{Com}}))$  is classifying Vassiliev invariants
- ▶  $H_*(\mathbf{F}(\mathcal{QO})(n, G)) \cong H^{\text{top}(e), e}(\overline{M}_{G, n})$  (moduli space of complex stable curves)
- ▶ graph complexes...



# Conclusion

	closed strings	open strings	open and closed
classical theory	$Com$	$Ass$	$OC$
modular envelope	$\downarrow$	$\downarrow$	
quantum theory	$QC$	$QO$	$QOC$
tree level Feyn. d.	$\Omega(Com)$	$\Omega(Ass)$	$\Omega(OC)$
full Feyn. diagrams	$\mathbf{F}(QC)$	$\mathbf{F}(QO)$	$\mathbf{F}(QOC)$

generalizations: D-branes, different cyclic suboperads...

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Thank you for your attention!