

# FAST-GROWING $\mathbb{C}$ -LINEAR ADDITIVE LOCALLY FINITE CATEGORIES WITH ACU TENSOR PRODUCT AND STRONG DUALITY

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The purpose of this note is to describe a class of symmetric, rigid, locally finite tensor categories whose growth is arbitrarily large. The categories we construct do not have a tensor abelian envelope. Write  $[[n]] = \{1, \dots, n\} \times \{0, 1\}$ ,  $[n]_\epsilon = \{1, \dots, n\} \times \{\epsilon\}$ , for  $\epsilon = 0, 1$ .

## 1. T-ALGEBRAS

A graded symmetric, rigid, locally finite tensor category generated by an object  $X$  is determined by the structure on  $End(X^{\otimes n})$  such that  $End(1) = \mathbb{C}$  (graded means that for all  $n, m, k, \ell$  such that  $m + \ell \neq n + k$ ,

$$Hom(X^{\otimes m} \otimes (X^\vee)^{\otimes k}, X^{\otimes n} \otimes (X^\vee)^{\otimes \ell}) = 0).$$

The structure which determines such a category consists of describing the properties of the traces and products.

**Definition 1.** *Define a T-algebra over  $\mathbb{C}$  as a collection of the following data:*

- (1) *A sequence of complex  $\Sigma_n \times \Sigma_n$ -representations  $V_n$  indexed by  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$*

- (2) *For every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $k \leq n$ , a  $\Sigma_k \times (\Sigma_{n-k})^2$ -equivariant map*

$$\sigma_k : V_n \rightarrow V_{n-k}$$

*(where we interpret  $\Sigma_k \times (\Sigma_{n-k})^2 \subset (\Sigma_k \times \Sigma_{n-k})^2$  by embedding  $\Sigma_k$  diagonally) satisfying*

$$\sigma_{k+\ell} = \sigma_k \circ \sigma_\ell,$$

*as maps over  $\Sigma_k \times \Sigma_\ell \times (\Sigma_{n-k} \times \Sigma_{n-k-\ell})^2 \subset \Sigma_{k+\ell} \times (\Sigma_{n-k-\ell})^2$ .*

- (3) *A product map*

$$\pi : V_m \otimes V_n \rightarrow V_{n+m}$$

which is equivariant with respect to

$$(\Sigma_m \times \Sigma_m) \times (\Sigma_n \times \Sigma_n) \subset \Sigma_{m+n} \times \Sigma_{m+n}$$

that is compatible with all  $\sigma_k, \sigma_\ell$  for  $k \leq m, \ell \leq n$ . More specifically, the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} V_m \otimes V_n & \xrightarrow{\pi} & V_{m+n} \\ \sigma_k \otimes \sigma_\ell \downarrow & & \downarrow \tau^{-1} \sigma_{k+\ell} \tau \\ V_{m-k} \otimes V_{n-\ell} & \xrightarrow{\pi} & V_{m+n-k-\ell} \end{array}$$

where  $\tau$  denotes the permutation given by, for  $i \in \{1, \dots, m+n\}$

$$\tau(i) = \begin{cases} i & \text{if } i \leq k \\ i + \ell & \text{if } k < i \leq m \\ i - n + k & \text{if } m < i \leq m + \ell \\ i & \text{if } m + \ell < i \leq m + n \end{cases}$$

- (4)  $\pi$  is commutative, associative, unital in the obvious sense. For example, commutativity means commutativity of the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} V_m \otimes V_n & \xrightarrow{\pi} & V_{m+n} \\ T \downarrow & & \downarrow (\sigma, \sigma) \\ V_n \otimes V_m & \xrightarrow{\pi} & V_{m+n} \end{array}$$

where  $T$  denotes the switch of tensor factors, and  $\sigma \in \Sigma_{m+n}$  denotes the permutation sending  $\{1, \dots, m\}$  to  $\{n+1, \dots, m+n\}$  and  $\{m+1, \dots, m+n\}$  to  $\{1, \dots, n\}$  in the order-preserving way.

- (5) An element  $\iota \in V_1$  such that

$$\sigma_1((12) \times \text{Id}(\iota \pi x)) = x$$

It is also useful to consider the operations

$$\sigma_{i,j} = (\tau \times \tau')^{-1} \sigma_1(\tau \times \tau')$$

where we take permutations  $\tau = (12 \dots i)$ ,  $\tau' = (12 \dots j)$ .

**Proposition 2.** *Given a  $T$ -algebra  $V = (V_n)$ , there exists a  $\mathbb{C}$ -linear pre-additive category  $\mathcal{C}(V)$  with an ACU tensor product and strong duality such that for a certain  $X \in \text{Obj}(V)$ ,*

$$\text{Obj}(\mathcal{C}(V)) = \{X^{\otimes m} \otimes (X^\vee)^{\otimes n} \mid m, n \in \mathbb{N}_0\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Mor}(X^{\otimes m_1} \otimes (X^\vee)^{\otimes n_1}, X^{\otimes m_2} \otimes (X^\vee)^{\otimes n_2}) &= \\ &= \begin{cases} V_{m_1+n_2} & \text{if } m_1 + n_2 = m_2 + n_1 \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* The defining axioms of a T-algebra are translations of the corresponding categorical ones.  $\square$

In the remaining sections, we shall construct a  $T$ -algebra  $\mathbb{T}$  such that  $\mathbb{T}_0 = \mathbb{C}$  and  $\dim(\mathbb{T}_n)$  is finite but grows faster than any given function in  $n$ . This gives a symmetric, rigid, locally finite category of arbitrarily high growth.

## 2. REPRESENTATION STRUCTURE

**Definition 3.** Fix a sequence of natural numbers  $(n_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$ . Define  $\mathbb{T}_n$  as the free  $\mathbb{C}$ -vector space on the set  $\mathbb{S}_n$  of choices of the following data:

- (1) For  $1 \leq k \leq n$ , a subset

$$\mathcal{T}(k) \subseteq \mathcal{P}([n]),$$

letting  $\mathcal{P}$  denote the power set.

- (2) A function

$$\chi : \mathcal{T}(k) \rightarrow \{1, \dots, n_k\}.$$

- (3) Subsets  $W_0 \subseteq [n]_0$  and  $W_1 \subseteq [n]_1$  with

$$|W_0| = |W_1|,$$

and a bijection

$$\beta : W_0 \rightarrow W_1$$

- (4) A bijection  $b : Z_0 \rightarrow Z_1$  where

$$Z_\epsilon := [n]_\epsilon \setminus \left( W_\epsilon \cup \bigcup_{k=1}^n \bigcup_{T \in \mathcal{T}(k)} T \right)$$

satisfying the following conditions:

- (1) For each  $T \in \mathcal{T}(k)$ , for both  $\epsilon = 0, 1$ ,

$$|T \cap [n]_\epsilon| = k.$$

- (2) For all distinct  $T \in \mathcal{T}(k)$ ,  $T' \in \mathcal{T}(\ell)$ ,

$$T \cap T' = \emptyset$$

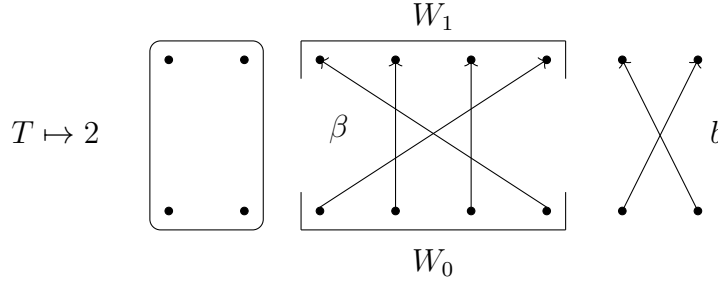
and for  $\epsilon = 0, 1$ ,

$$T \cap W_\epsilon = \emptyset.$$

(Note that conditions (1), (2) imply  
 $|Z_0| = |Z_1|$ .)

For example, the following diagram is a visulaization of an element of  $\mathbb{S}_8$  corresponding to taking  $T = \{(1, 0), (2, 0), (1, 1), (2, 1)\}\}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{T}(2) &= \{T\}, \quad \chi(T) = 2, \\ \mathcal{T}(k) &= \emptyset \text{ for all } k \neq 2, \text{ and } W_\epsilon = \{3, 4, 5, 6\} \times \{\epsilon\}: \end{aligned}$$



The  $\mathbb{C}$ -vector space  $\mathbb{T}_n$  also has a  $\Sigma_n \times \Sigma_n$ -action induced by the  $\Sigma_n \times \Sigma_n$ -action on  $[[n]]$  given by letting the first and second factors act on  $[n]_0$  and  $[n]_1$ , respectively.

### 3. PRODUCT STRUCTURE

For all  $n, m$ , we further give a homomorphism over  $(\Sigma_n)^2 \times (\Sigma_m)^2 \subseteq (\Sigma_{n+m})^2$  mapping

$$\pi_{n,m} : \mathbb{T}_n \times \mathbb{T}_m \rightarrow \mathbb{T}_{n+m}.$$

In diagrams, we will take this operation to be placing diagram side by side, i.e. using disjoint union. More precisely, let us fix elements

$$\Phi = (\mathcal{T}(1), \dots, \mathcal{T}(n), \chi, \beta, W_0, W_1, b) \in \mathbb{T}_n$$

$$\Phi' = (\mathcal{T}'(1), \dots, \mathcal{T}'(m), \chi', \beta', W'_0, W'_1, b') \in \mathbb{T}_m$$

Take, then,

$$\widetilde{\mathcal{T}(k)} = \mathcal{T}(k) \amalg \mathcal{T}'(k)$$

(taking undefined sets to be empty and identifying  $\{1, \dots, n\} \amalg \{1, \dots, m\} \cong \{1, \dots, n+m\}$  by sending  $j \mapsto j+n$  for  $j \in \{1, \dots, m\}$ ),

$$\widetilde{\chi} = \chi \amalg \chi' : \widetilde{\mathcal{T}(k)} \rightarrow \{1, \dots, n_k\},$$

for  $\epsilon = 0, 1$

$$\widetilde{W}_\epsilon = W_\epsilon \amalg W'_\epsilon,$$

$\widetilde{\beta} = \beta \amalg \beta'$  and  $\widetilde{b} = b \amalg b'$ . Then we put

$$\pi_{n,m}((\Phi, \Phi')) = (\widetilde{\mathcal{T}(1)}, \dots, \widetilde{\mathcal{T}(n)}, \widetilde{\chi}, \widetilde{\beta}, \widetilde{W}_0, \widetilde{W}_1, \widetilde{b}),$$

inducing such a product map  $\pi_{n,m}$ .

#### 4. TRACE STRUCTURE

To give the sequence of  $\Sigma_n \times \Sigma_n$ -representations  $(\mathbb{T}_n)$  the structure of a  $T$ -algebra, we must also describe trace. We define  $\Sigma_{n-i} \times \Sigma_{n-i} \times \Sigma_i$ -equivariant maps

$$tr_\sigma : \mathbb{T}_n \rightarrow \mathbb{T}_{n-i}$$

(embedding  $\Sigma_{n-i} \times \Sigma_{n-i} \times \Sigma_i$  diagonally into

$$\Sigma_{n-i} \times \Sigma_{n-i} \times \Sigma_i \times \Sigma_i \subseteq \Sigma_n \times \Sigma_n$$

for the left hand side) after being given a bijection  $\sigma$  between two  $i$ -element subsets of  $[n]_0$  and  $[n]_1$ .

Suppose we are given two such subsets  $R_0 \subseteq [n]_0$ ,  $R_1 \subseteq [n]_1$  with

$$|R_0| = |R_1| = i$$

and a bijection

$$\sigma : R_0 \rightarrow R_1.$$

Our convention is to use the order-preserving bijections

$$(1) \quad [n-i]_\epsilon \rightarrow [n]_\epsilon \setminus R_\epsilon$$

for the definition of  $tr_\sigma$ .

Consider the graph  $\Gamma$  with vertices  $[[n]]$  and edges  $\{i, \sigma(i)\}$ ,  $\{j, b(j)\}$ . The vertices of  $\Gamma$  have degree  $\leq 2$ , so components can be individual vertices, (connected) cycles, or paths. First of all, we eliminate all (connected) cycles and replace each with a factor  $c$  (where  $c \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \mathbb{Z}$  is a number fixed throughout). Let  $s$  be the number of such cycles.

Paths from  $[n]_0$  to  $[n]_1$  can be identified with the data of subsets  $\widehat{R}_0 \subseteq [n]_0$ ,  $\widehat{R}_1 \subseteq [n]_1$  and a bijection  $\widehat{\sigma} : \widehat{R}_0 \rightarrow \widehat{R}_1$ .

A path from  $[n]_\epsilon$  to  $[n]_\epsilon$  ends with a  $\sigma$ -edge on one side and a  $b$ -edge on the other side. Thus, from these paths, we can extract sets  $\overline{R}_\epsilon \subseteq [n]_\epsilon$ ,  $\overline{R}_\epsilon \cap \widehat{R}_\epsilon = \emptyset$  and injections

$$\rho_\epsilon : \overline{R}_\epsilon \rightarrow [n]_\epsilon \setminus \widehat{R}_\epsilon$$

which send the  $\sigma$ -end of the path to the  $b$ -end.

**Definition 4.** Call an element of  $\mathbb{S}_n$ , i.e. a collection of data

$$\Phi = (\mathcal{T}(1), \dots, \mathcal{T}(n), \chi, \beta, W_0, W_1, b),$$

matchable with respect to  $\sigma$  if for  $x \in W_0 \cap \widehat{R}_0$ ,  $y \in W_1 \cap \widehat{R}_1$ ,  $\widehat{\sigma}(x) = y$  implies  $\beta(x) = y$ , and for all  $T \in \mathcal{T}(k)$  one of the following is true:

- (1) There exists  $T' \neq T \in \mathcal{T}(k)$  such that  $T \cap \widehat{R}_0 \neq \emptyset$  or  $T \cap \widehat{R}_1 \neq \emptyset$ ,

$$\widehat{\sigma}(T \cap \widehat{R}_0) \subseteq (T' \cap \widehat{R}_1)$$

$$\widehat{\sigma}^{-1}(T \cap \widehat{R}_1) \subseteq (T' \cap \widehat{R}_0).$$

Note that the conditions imply that the above formulae must also then be true for  $T$  and  $T'$  switched and that  $T'$  is unique.

- (2) We have  $T \cap \widehat{R}_0 = \emptyset$  and  $T \cap \widehat{R}_1 = \emptyset$ .

If  $\Phi \in \mathbb{S}_n$  is not matchable with respect to  $\sigma$ , put

$$tr_\sigma(\Phi) = 0.$$

We shall now define  $tr_\sigma(\Phi)$  in the case when  $\Phi \in \mathbb{S}_n$  is matchable.

Let  $\widehat{W}_\epsilon$  be obtained from  $W_\epsilon$  by deleting any source (resp. target) elements of  $\widehat{\sigma}$  and replacing  $x \in W_\epsilon \cap \widehat{R}_\epsilon$  by  $\widehat{x} = \rho_\epsilon(x)$  and define  $\widehat{\beta}$  by taking  $\beta$  and replacing an element  $x$  of its source (resp. target) by  $\widehat{X}$  when applicable. Similarly, for each  $T \in \mathcal{T}(k)$ , let  $\widehat{T}$  be obtained by replacing each  $x \in T \cap \widehat{R}_\epsilon$  by  $\rho_\epsilon(x)$ .

Replace each  $T \in \mathcal{T}(k)$  satisfying Case 2 of Definition 4 by  $\widehat{T}$ . Let  $\widehat{\mathcal{T}}(k)$  be the set of all such  $\widehat{T}$ , and put  $\widehat{\chi}(\widehat{T}) = \chi(T)$ .

Now let  $\widehat{\mathcal{T}}(k)$  be the set of all unordered pairs  $\{T, T'\} \subseteq \mathcal{T}(k)$  satisfying Case 1 of Definition 4. For such a pair  $\{T, T'\}$ , define

$$(2) \quad \beta_{\{T, T'\}} = q(\sum(\gamma : (\widehat{T} \cap [n]_0) \setminus \widehat{R}_0 \xrightarrow{\cong} (\widehat{T}' \cap [n]_1) \setminus \widehat{R}_1)) \cdot (\sum(\gamma' : (\widehat{T}' \cap [n]_0) \setminus \widehat{R}_0 \xrightarrow{\cong} (\widehat{T} \cap [n]_1) \setminus \widehat{R}_1)).$$

(In (2), we consider a bijection as a “product” of its pairs, the product is distributive with respect to sums). Define, also,

$$W_\epsilon^{\{T, T'\}} = ((\widehat{T} \cup \widehat{T}') \cap [n]_\epsilon) \setminus \widehat{R}_\epsilon.$$

Now let

$$\widetilde{W}_\epsilon = \widehat{W}_\epsilon \cup \bigcup_{k=1}^{n-i} \bigcup_{\{T, T'\} \in \widehat{\mathcal{T}}(k)} W_\epsilon^{\{T, T'\}}$$

and

$$\tilde{\beta} = \hat{\beta} \cdot \prod_{k=1}^{n-i} \prod_{\{T, T'\} \in \widehat{\mathcal{T}(k)}} \beta_{\{T, T'\}}.$$

Finally, let  $\tilde{b}$  be the restriction of  $\hat{\sigma}$  to

$$[n]_0 \setminus \left( \bigcup_{k=1}^{n-i} \bigcup_{T \in \widehat{\mathcal{T}(k)}} T \cup \widetilde{W}_0 \right) \rightarrow [n]_1 \setminus \left( \bigcup_{k=1}^{n-i} \bigcup_{T \in \widehat{\mathcal{T}(k)}} T \cup \widetilde{W}_1 \right).$$

Now we define

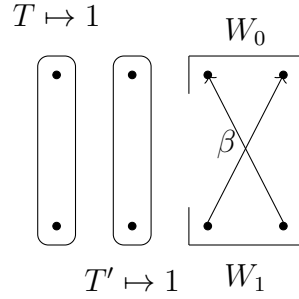
$$tr_{\sigma}(\Phi) = c^s \tilde{\Phi}$$

where

$$\tilde{\Phi} = (\widetilde{\mathcal{T}(1)}, \dots, \widetilde{\mathcal{T}(n-i)}, \tilde{\chi}, \tilde{\beta}, \widetilde{W}_0, \widetilde{W}_1, \tilde{b}),$$

using the identification (1).

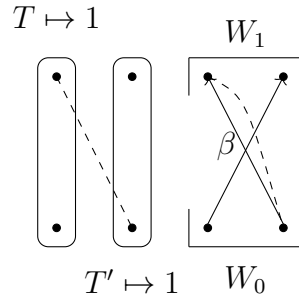
For example, the element  $\Phi$  of  $\mathbb{T}_4$  corresponding to the diagram



is matchable with respect to

$$\sigma : \{2, 4\} \times \{0\} \rightarrow \{1, 3\} \times \{1\}$$

given by  $\sigma((2, 0)) = (1, 1)$ ,  $\sigma((4, 0)) = (3, 1)$  (represented by the dotted lines):



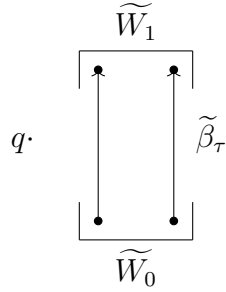
Then to find  $tr_\sigma(\Phi)$  we delete the elements of the  $T$ 's and  $W$ 's connected by  $\sigma$ . In this case,  $Z_\epsilon$ ,  $\overline{R}_\epsilon$  and  $\widehat{R}_\epsilon$  are all empty. None of the  $\widetilde{\mathcal{T}}(k)$ 's will be non-empty, and all remaining points will belong to the new  $\widetilde{W}_\epsilon$ 's. There is only one unordered pair of sets  $\{T, T'\} \in \widehat{\mathcal{T}}(k)$ , and

$$\begin{aligned} W_0^{\{T, T'\}} &= \{(1, 0)\} \\ W_1^{\{T, T'\}} &= \{(2, 1)\}, \end{aligned}$$

with

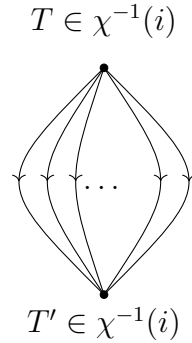
$$\beta_{\{T, T'\}} = q \cdot ((1, 0) \mapsto (2, 1))$$

Thus,  $tr_\sigma(\Phi)$  can be visualized as



(the top row of points representing  $\{(2, 1), (4, 1)\}$  and the bottom row of points representing  $\{(1, 0), (3, 0)\}$ ).

**Remark:** The motivation of this definition comes from making traces of diagrams of the form



equal to  $q$ , and “introducing no other non-zero traces.” The formalism of the set  $W$  is introduced to eliminate negligible elements that would arise from different values of  $i$ .