

Unitary Invertible Field Theories and Short-Range Entangled Phases

Dan Freed

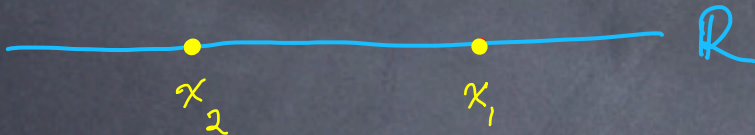
University of Texas at Austin

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Joint work with [Mike Hopkins](#)
([arXiv:1604.06527](#))

Three “Mathematical” Objects

- 1 An ordered pair (x_1, x_2) of distinct real numbers



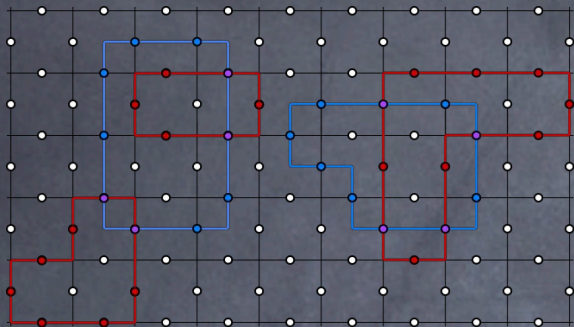
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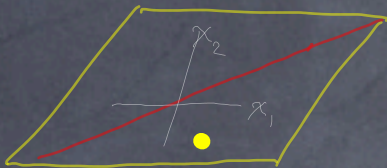
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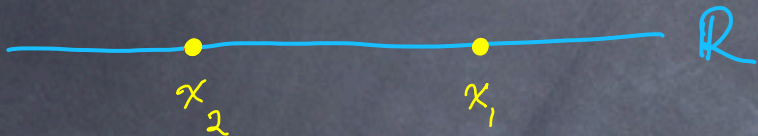
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- 3 2000's?

Moduli Spaces

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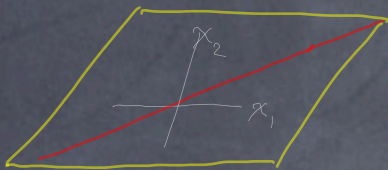


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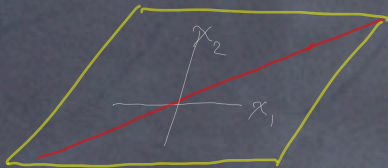


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Geometric Invariant: $\mathcal{M} \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^{>0}$ (separation)

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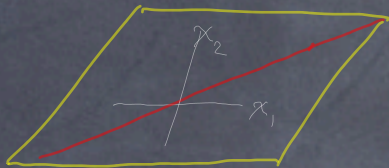
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Topological Invariant: $\pi_0 \mathcal{M}$ set of deformation classes

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Remark: $\pi_0 \mathcal{M}$ is nontrivial because of *gap* condition $x_1 \neq x_2$

Moduli Spaces

② A **knot** in Euclidean 3-space \mathbb{E}^3

Moduli space \mathcal{M} is trickier to define, e.g. it is infinite-dimensional

Geometric Invariant: $\kappa: \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{>0}$ (total curvature)

Topological Invariant: $\pi_0\mathcal{M}$ is the subject of knot theory
 $\pi_0\mathcal{M} \rightarrow \text{polynomials}$ (Jones, ...)

Moduli Spaces

- ③ A gapped short-range-entangled d -dimensional **lattice system** with fixed symmetry group



\mathcal{M} not defined!

Geometric Invariant: Correlation functions

Topological Invariant: $\pi_0\mathcal{M}$ is the set of **topological phases of matter**

Transition to Field Theory

- Two principles:**
- The deformation class of a quantum system is determined by its low energy behavior
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- Axiom System applies to scale-dependent theories...

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Starting point: *relativistic* QFT on Minkowski spacetime M^n

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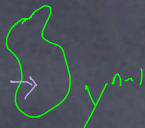
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$$M^n \rightsquigarrow \mathcal{D} \rightsquigarrow \mathbb{E}^n \rightsquigarrow X^n$$

Definition: An n -dimensional field theory is a homomorphism

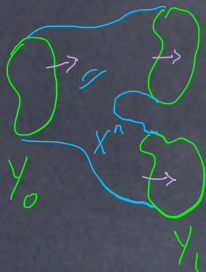
$$F: \text{Bord}_{\langle n-1, n \rangle}(H_n) \longrightarrow \text{Vect}_{\mathbb{C}}^{\text{top}}$$



$$\xrightarrow{F}$$

$F(Y)$

topological
vector space



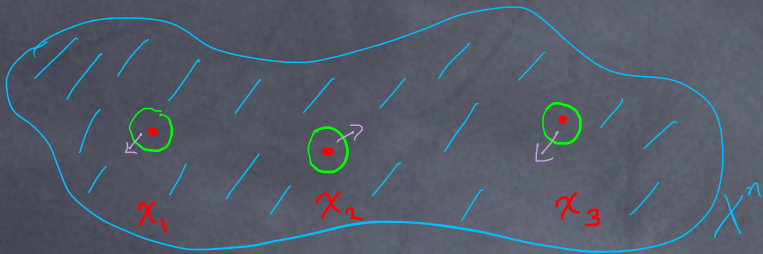
$$\xrightarrow{F}$$

$F(X): F(Y_0) \longrightarrow F(Y_1)$

Contracting
linear map

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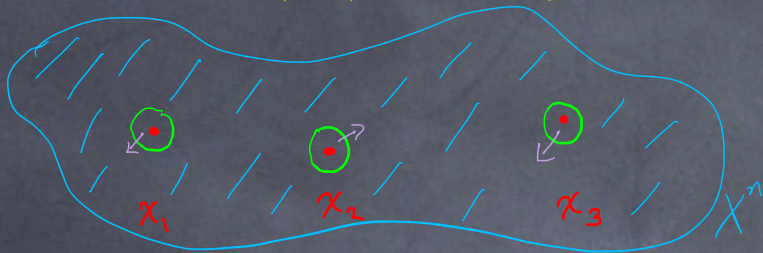


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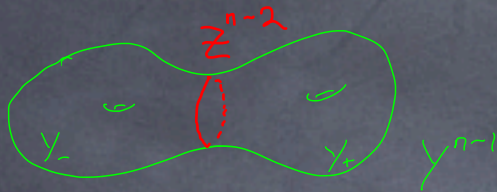
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N.B.: The most far-reaching assertion is that the field theory can be encoded by *compact* Riemannian manifolds

Locality and Unitarity

The state space $F(Y^{n-1})$ depends *locally* on Y

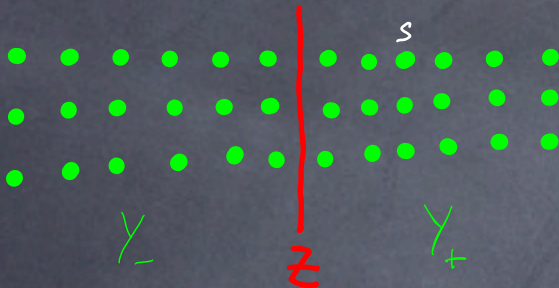


$$F(Y) \stackrel{\kappa}{=} \langle F(Y_-), F(Y_+) \rangle_{F(\mathbb{Z})}$$

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$$\mathcal{H} = \bigotimes_S \mathcal{H}_S$$

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Extended field theory: invariants for manifolds of dimension $\leq n$

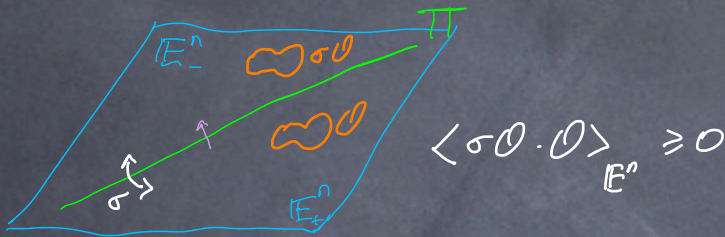
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Open Question: What is *extended* reflection positivity?

We propose a solution for invertible topological theories

Main Theorem

$\mathcal{M}'_{\text{top}}(n, H_n) :=$ moduli space of reflection positive invertible
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Annotations:

- Space-time dimension: n
- symmetry group: H_n
- Thom spectrum: $MT\mathbb{H}$
- Stabilized symmetry group: $\Sigma^{n+1} I\mathbb{Z}$
- torsion subgroup: $_{\text{tor}}$
- Anderson dual to sphere spectrum: $I\mathbb{Z}$

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Conjecture (F.-Hopkins): There is a 1:1 correspondence

$$\pi_0 \mathcal{M}'(n, H_n) \cong [MTH, \Sigma^{n+1} I\mathbb{Z}]$$

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Will show some concrete results at end of lecture

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G_n	$\mathcal{G}_n/\text{translations}$
$K := \ker(\rho_n)$	internal symmetry group (compact)

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$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 1 & \longrightarrow & K & \longrightarrow & G_n & \xrightarrow{\rho_n} & O_{1,n-1} \\
 & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 1 & \longrightarrow & K(\mathbb{C}) & \longrightarrow & G_n(\mathbb{C}) & \xrightarrow{\rho_n} & O_n(\mathbb{C}) \\
 & & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow \\
 1 & \longrightarrow & K & \longrightarrow & H_n & \xrightarrow{\rho_n} & O_n
 \end{array}$$

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compact Lie group

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Relativistic invariance: $\text{Image}(\rho_n) = SO_n$ or O_n

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Minimal internal symmetry group K :

states/symmetry	H_n	K	k_0
bosons only	SO_n	$\{1\}$	1
bosons, time-reversal (T)	O_n	$\{1\}$	1
fermions allowed	Spin_n	$\{\pm 1\}$	-1
fermions, $T^2 = (-1)^F$	Pin_n^+	$\{\pm 1\}$	-1
fermions, $T^2 = \text{id}$	Pin_n^-	$\{\pm 1\}$	-1

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Theorem: There are 10 stable symmetry groups H of this type:

$K = \mathbb{T}$	$\text{Spin}^c, \text{Pin}^c,$ $\text{Pin}^{\tilde{c}+} := \text{Pin}^+ \times_{\{\pm 1\}} \mathbb{T}$ $\text{Pin}^{\tilde{c}-} := \text{Pin}^- \times_{\{\pm 1\}} \mathbb{T}$
$K = \{\pm 1\}$	$\text{Spin}, \text{Pin}^+, \text{Pin}^-$
$K = SU_2$	$\text{Spin} \times_{\{\pm 1\}} SU_2$ $\text{Pin}^+ \times_{\{\pm 1\}} SU_2$ $\text{Pin}^- \times_{\{\pm 1\}} SU_2$

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topological insulators

$$K = \{\pm 1\}$$

$$\text{Spin}, \text{Pin}^+, \text{Pin}^-$$

$$K = SU_2$$

$$\text{Spin} \times_{\{\pm 1\}} SU_2$$

$$\text{Pin}^+ \times_{\{\pm 1\}} SU_2$$

$$\text{Pin}^- \times_{\{\pm 1\}} SU_2$$

topological superconductors

Uniform treatment via Clifford algebras

Theorem: There are embeddings $H_n(s) \hookrightarrow \text{Cliff}_{+n} \otimes D(s)$ compatible with Clifford multiplication.

s	H^c	K	Cartan	D
0	Spin^c	\mathbb{T}	A	\mathbb{C}
1	Pin^c	\mathbb{T}	AIII	$\text{Cliff}_{-1}^{\mathbb{C}}$

s	H	K	Cartan	D
0	Spin	$\{\pm 1\}$	D	\mathbb{R}
-1	Pin^+	$\{\pm 1\}$	DIII	Cliff_{-1}
-2	$\text{Pin}^+ \times_{\{\pm 1\}} \mathbb{T}$	\mathbb{T}	AII	Cliff_{-2}
-3	$\text{Pin}^- \times_{\{\pm 1\}} SU_2$	SU_2	CII	Cliff_{-3}
4	$\text{Spin} \times_{\{\pm 1\}} SU_2$	SU_2	C	\mathbb{H}
3	$\text{Pin}^+ \times_{\{\pm 1\}} SU_2$	SU_2	CI	Cliff_{+3}
2	$\text{Pin}^- \times_{\{\pm 1\}} \mathbb{T}$	\mathbb{T}	AI	Cliff_{+2}
1	Pin^-	$\{\pm 1\}$	BDI	Cliff_{+1}

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time-reversal?

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Free Fermion \longrightarrow Invertible Field Theory

Scenario I: spinors as boundary theory

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- **Lemma:** \mathbb{S} admits a mass term iff $\mathbb{S} \oplus \mathbb{S}^*$ extends to a module over $\text{Cliff}_{+(n-3+s)} \otimes \text{Cliff}_{-1}$

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- relativistic free fermion data: (ungraded) $\text{Cliff}_{+(n-3+s)}^0$ -module \mathbb{S}
- **Lemma:** \mathbb{S} admits a mass term iff $\mathbb{S} \oplus \mathbb{S}^*$ extends to a module over $\text{Cliff}_{+(n-3+s)} \otimes \text{Cliff}_{-1}$
- **Atiyah-Bott-Shapiro:**
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Computations

$\mathcal{M}'_{\text{top}}(n, H_n) :=$ moduli space of reflection positive invertible n -dimensional extended topological field theories with symmetry group H_n

Theorem/Conjecture (F.-Hopkins): There is a 1:1 correspondence

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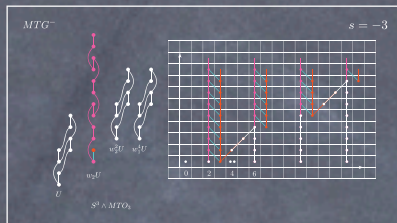
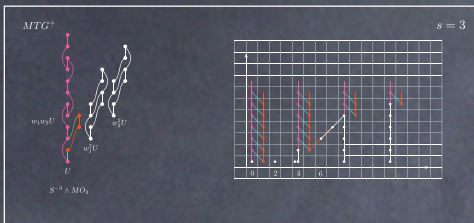
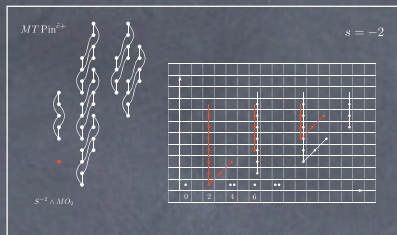
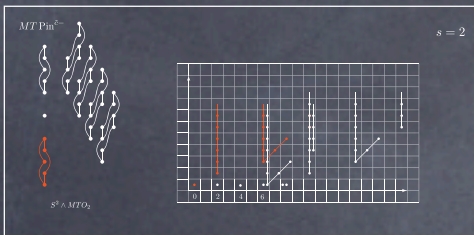
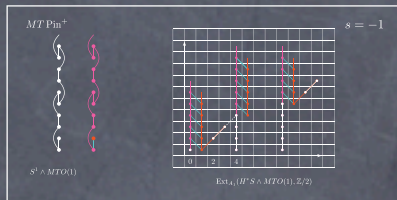
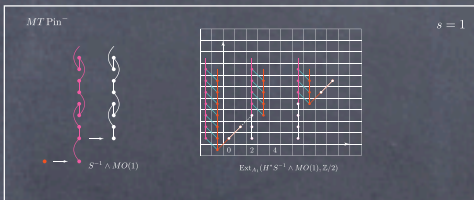
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Compute RHS of (1) using Adams spectral sequence. Forthcoming paper with Jonathan Campbell to explain technique and more examples



Computations

Class DIII (Pin^+):

n	$\ker \Phi$	$\longrightarrow FF_n(\text{Pin}^+)$	$\xrightarrow{\Phi} TP_n(\text{Pin}^+)$	$\longrightarrow \text{coker } \Phi$
4	$16\mathbb{Z}$	\mathbb{Z}	$\mathbb{Z}/16\mathbb{Z}$	0
3	0	$\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$	$\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$	0
2	0	$\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$	$\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$	0
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- Φ is the map described above (essentially **ABS**)
- The FF_n groups are well-known. Many TP_n **appear** in the condensed matter literature (together with Φ) via other methods

Class AII ($\text{Pin}^{\tilde{c}+}$):

n	$\ker \Phi$	$FF_n(\text{Pin}^{\tilde{c}+})$	$TP_n(\text{Pin}^{\tilde{c}+})$	$\text{coker } \Phi$
4	0	$\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$	$(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^3$	$(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^2$
3	0	$\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$	$\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$	0
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- Metlitski asked about $TP_4(\text{Pin}^{\tilde{c}+})$ vs. bordism computation
- The results in 3 dimensions are also **known** via non-bordism means

Class CI ($G^+ = \text{Pin}^+ \times_{\{\pm 1\}} SU_2$):

n	$\ker \Phi$	$FF_n(G^+)$	$TP_n(G^+)$	$\text{coker } \Phi$
4	$4\mathbb{Z}$	\mathbb{Z}	$\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$	$\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$
3	0	0	0	0
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- Unsure if $TP_{2,3}(G^+)$ are in the CM literature (**prediction**)

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4	0	$\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$	$(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^3$	$(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^2$
3	0	0	0	0
2	$2\mathbb{Z}$	\mathbb{Z}	$\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$	0
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- **Open Question:** Extended reflection positivity in general