

# Introduction to Quantum Programming and Semantics

Week 2: Monoidal categories

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## Tensor products

Function  $f: U \times V \rightarrow W$  is **bilinear** when it is linear in each variable  
**Tensor product** of vector spaces  $U$  and  $V$  is a vector space  $U \otimes V$  with bilinear  $f: U \times V \rightarrow U \otimes V$  such that for every bilinear  $g: U \times V \rightarrow W$  there exists unique linear  $h: U \otimes V \rightarrow W$  such that  $g = h \circ f$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} U \times V & \xrightarrow{\text{(bilinear) } f} & U \otimes V \\ & \searrow \text{(bilinear) } g & \downarrow h \text{ (linear)} \\ & & W \end{array}$$

Hilbert space with  $\langle u \otimes v | u' \otimes v' \rangle = \langle u | u' \rangle \langle v | v' \rangle$

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If  $H \xrightarrow{f} H'$  and  $K \xrightarrow{g} K'$  then  $f \otimes g: H \otimes K \rightarrow H' \otimes K'$

$$(f \otimes g) = \begin{pmatrix} (f_{11}g) & (f_{12}g) & \cdots & (f_{1n}g) \\ (f_{21}g) & (f_{22}g) & \cdots & (f_{2n}g) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ (f_{m1}g) & (f_{m2}g) & \cdots & (f_{mn}g) \end{pmatrix}$$

# Monoidal categories

Category theory describes systems and processes:

- ▶ physical systems, and physical processes governing them;
- ▶ data types, and algorithms manipulating them;
- ▶ algebraic structures, and structure-preserving functions;
- ▶ logical propositions, and implications between them.

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Monoidal category theory adds the idea of **parallelism**:

- ▶ independent physical systems evolve simultaneously;
- ▶ running computer algorithms in parallel;
- ▶ products or sums of algebraic or geometric structures;
- ▶ using separate proofs of  $P$  and  $Q$  to construct a proof of the conjunction ( $P$  and  $Q$ ).

## Why so serious?

- ▶ Let  $A$ ,  $B$  and  $C$  be processes, and let  $\otimes$  be parallel composition
- ▶ What *relationship* should there be between these systems?

$$(A \otimes B) \otimes C$$

$$A \otimes (B \otimes C)$$

- ▶ It's not right to say they're *equal*, since even just for sets,

$$(S \times T) \times U \neq S \times (T \times U).$$

- ▶ Maybe they should be *isomorphic* — but then what *equations* should these isomorphisms satisfy?
- ▶ How do we treat *trivial* systems?
- ▶ What should the relationship be between  $A \otimes B$  and  $B \otimes A$ ?

# Monoidal category

is a category  $\mathbf{C}$  equipped with the following data:

- ▶ a **tensor product** functor

$$\otimes: \mathbf{C} \times \mathbf{C} \rightarrow \mathbf{C};$$

$$\begin{array}{l} (A, B) \longmapsto A + B \\ \downarrow (f, g) \longmapsto \quad \downarrow [f, g] \\ (A', B') \longmapsto A' + B' \end{array}$$

- ▶ a **unit object**

$$I \in \text{Ob}(\mathbf{C}); \quad \emptyset$$

- ▶ an **associator** natural isomorphism

$$(A \otimes B) \otimes C \xrightarrow{\alpha_{A,B,C}} A \otimes (B \otimes C);$$

- ▶ a **left unitor** natural isomorphism

$$I \otimes A \xrightarrow{\lambda_A} A; \quad \emptyset + A \simeq A$$

- ▶ and a **right unitor** natural isomorphism

$$A \otimes I \xrightarrow{\rho_A} A.$$

# Monoidal category

must satisfy **triangle** and **pentagon** equations:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (A \otimes I) \otimes B & \xrightarrow{\alpha_{A,I,B}} & A \otimes (I \otimes B) \\ \rho_A \otimes \text{id}_B \searrow & & \swarrow \text{id}_A \otimes \lambda_B \\ & A \otimes B & \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} ((a, \bullet), b) & \xrightarrow{\quad} & (a, (\bullet, b)) \\ \downarrow & & \swarrow \\ (a, b) & = & (a, b) \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (A \otimes (B \otimes C)) \otimes D & \xrightarrow{\alpha_{A,B \otimes C, D}} & A \otimes ((B \otimes C) \otimes D) \\ \alpha_{A,B,C} \otimes \text{id}_D \nearrow & & \searrow \text{id}_A \otimes \alpha_{B,C,D} \\ ((A \otimes B) \otimes C) \otimes D & & A \otimes (B \otimes (C \otimes D)) \\ \alpha_{A \otimes B, C, D} \searrow & & \nearrow \alpha_{A, B, C \otimes D} \\ & (A \otimes B) \otimes (C \otimes D) & \end{array}$$



## Monoidal category

must satisfy **triangle** and **pentagon** equations:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (A \otimes I) \otimes B & \xrightarrow{\alpha_{A,I,B}} & A \otimes (I \otimes B) \\ & \searrow \rho_A \otimes \text{id}_B & \swarrow \text{id}_A \otimes \lambda_B \\ & A \otimes B & \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (A \otimes (B \otimes C)) \otimes D & \xrightarrow{\alpha_{A,B \otimes C,D}} & A \otimes ((B \otimes C) \otimes D) \\ \alpha_{A,B,C} \otimes \text{id}_D \nearrow & & \searrow \text{id}_A \otimes \alpha_{B,C,D} \\ ((A \otimes B) \otimes C) \otimes D & & A \otimes (B \otimes (C \otimes D)) \\ \alpha_{A \otimes B,C,D} \searrow & & \nearrow \alpha_{A,B,C \otimes D} \\ & (A \otimes B) \otimes (C \otimes D) & \end{array}$$

**Coherence theorem for monoidal categories:** If the pentagon and triangle equations hold, so does any well-typed equation built from  $\alpha$ ,  $\lambda$ ,  $\rho$  and their inverses. (to appreciate this, try to prove  $\lambda_I = \rho_I!$ )

# Set is monoidal

► **tensor product** is Cartesian product of sets

► **tensor unit** is a chosen singleton set  $\{\bullet\}$

► **associators**  $(A \times B) \times C \xrightarrow{\alpha_{A,B,C}} A \times (B \times C)$   
defined by  $((a, b), c) \mapsto (a, (b, c))$

► **left unitors**  $I \times A \xrightarrow{\lambda_A} A$  defined by  $(\bullet, a) \mapsto a$

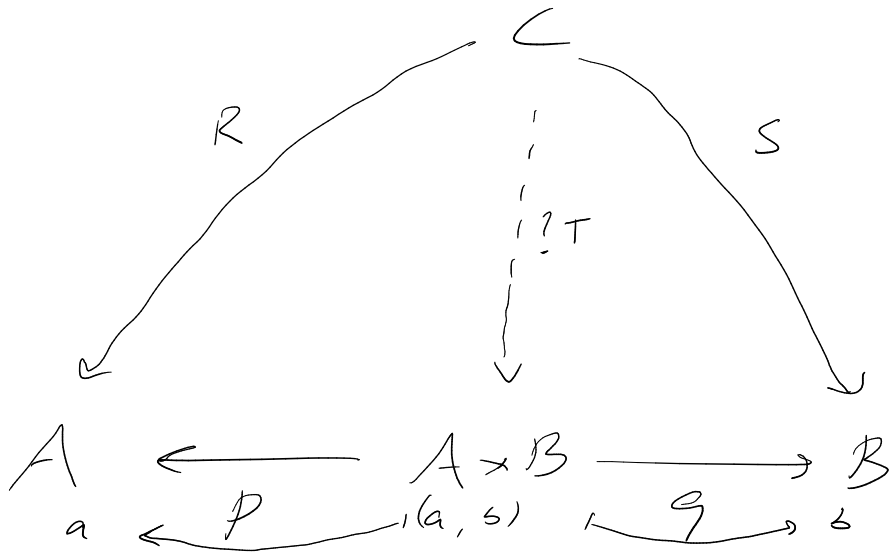
► **right unitors**  $A \times I \xrightarrow{\rho_A} A$  defined by  $(a, \bullet) \mapsto a$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 A & A \times A' & A' \\
 f \downarrow & \downarrow f \times f' & \downarrow f' \\
 B & B \times B' & B'
 \end{array}$$

$(a, a')$   
 $(f(a), f'(a'))$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 (A \times B) \times C & \xrightarrow{\alpha_{A,B,C}} & A \times (B \times C) \\
 (f \times g) \times h \downarrow & & \downarrow f \times (g \times h) \\
 (A' \times B') \times C' & \xrightarrow{\alpha_{A',B',C'}} & A' \times (B' \times C') \\
 ((a, b), c) & \longmapsto & (a, (b, c)) \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 ((fa, gb), hc) & \longmapsto & (fa, (gb, hc))
 \end{array}$$

Other tensor products exist, this one is canonical for classical theory



$$(c, (a, b)) \in T \iff (c, a) \in R \text{ and } (c, b) \in S$$

$(\mathbb{N}, \leq)$  can be regarded as a category:

objects are  $n \in \mathbb{N}$

there is a morphism  $m \rightarrow n$  exactly when  $m \leq n$

it can be made monoidal by:

- least upper bound:  $m \otimes n := \max(m, n)$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} m & n & m \otimes n \\ \downarrow & \downarrow & \downarrow ? \\ m' & n' & m' \otimes n' \end{array}$$

$m \leq m', n \leq n' \implies \max(m, n) \leq \max(m', n') \checkmark$

$$I := 0 \quad I \otimes n = \max(0, n) = n \quad \checkmark$$

- multiplication:

$$m \otimes n := mn$$

$m \leq m', n \leq n' \implies mn \leq m'n' \quad \checkmark$

$$I := 1 \quad I \otimes n = 1n = n \quad \checkmark$$

- addition:

...

## Set is monoidal

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Other tensor products exist, this one is canonical for classical theory

# Rel is monoidal

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 (A, B) & A \times B & R \subseteq A \times A' \\
 \downarrow (R, S) & \downarrow ? & S \subseteq B \times B' \\
 (A', B') & A' \times B' & ? \subseteq (A \times B) \times (A' \times B')
 \end{array}$$

- ▶ **tensor product** is Cartesian product of sets  $\{(a, b), (a', b')\} \mid (a, a') \in R \text{ and } (b, b') \in S\}$  on morphisms:  $(a, c)(R \times S)(b, d)$  if and only if  $aRb$  and  $cSd$
- ▶ **tensor unit** is a chosen singleton set  $= \{\bullet\}$
- ▶ **associators**  $(A \times B) \times C \xrightarrow{\alpha_{A,B,C}} A \times (B \times C)$  are the relations defined by  $((a, b), c) \sim (a, (b, c))$
- ▶ **left unitors**  $I \times A \xrightarrow{\lambda_A} A$  are the relations defined by  $(\bullet, a) \sim a$
- ▶ **right unitors**  $A \times I \xrightarrow{\rho_A} A$  are the relations defined by  $(a, \bullet) \sim a$

This is **not** a categorical product in **Rel**

# Hilb is monoidal

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 H & H' & H \otimes H' = \overline{\text{span}} \{ h \otimes h' \mid h \in H, h' \in H' \} \\
 f \downarrow & \downarrow f' & \downarrow f \otimes f' \quad (h \otimes h') = f(h) \otimes f'(h') \\
 K & K' & K \otimes K'
 \end{array}$$

- ▶ tensor product  $\otimes: \mathbf{Hilb} \times \mathbf{Hilb} \rightarrow \mathbf{Hilb}$  is tensor product
- ▶ tensor unit  $I$  is the one-dimensional Hilbert space  $\mathbb{C}$
- ▶ associators  $(H \otimes J) \otimes K \xrightarrow{\alpha_{H,J,K}} H \otimes (J \otimes K)$   
defined by  $(u \otimes v) \otimes w \mapsto u \otimes (v \otimes w)$
- ▶ left unitors  $\mathbb{C} \otimes H \xrightarrow{\lambda_H} H$  defined by  $1 \otimes u \mapsto u$
- ▶ right unitors  $H \otimes \mathbb{C} \xrightarrow{\rho_H} H$  defined by  $u \otimes 1 \mapsto u$

Other tensor products exist, this one is canonical for quantum theory

$$H \oplus H' = H \times H' \quad \langle (x, y) \mid (u, v) \rangle_{H \oplus H'} = \langle x \mid u \rangle_H + \langle y \mid v \rangle_{H'}$$

## Interchange

Any morphisms  $A \xrightarrow{f} B$ ,  $B \xrightarrow{g} C$ ,  $D \xrightarrow{h} E$  and  $E \xrightarrow{j} F$  in a monoidal category satisfy the **interchange law**:

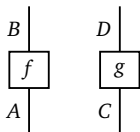
$$(g \circ f) \otimes (j \circ h) = (g \otimes j) \circ (f \otimes h)$$

Proof:

$$\begin{aligned}(g \circ f) \otimes (j \circ h) &= \otimes(g \circ f, j \circ h) \\ &= \otimes((g, j) \circ (f, h)) && \text{(composition in } \mathbf{C} \times \mathbf{C} \text{)} \\ &= (\otimes(g, j)) \circ (\otimes(f, h)) && \text{(functoriality of } \otimes \text{)} \\ &= (g \otimes j) \circ (f \otimes h)\end{aligned}$$

## Graphical calculus

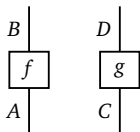
For morphisms  $A \xrightarrow{f} B$  and  $C \xrightarrow{g} D$ , draw  $A \otimes C \xrightarrow{f \otimes g} B \otimes D$  as:





## Graphical calculus

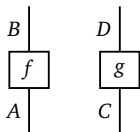
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The tensor unit  $I$  is drawn as the empty diagram:

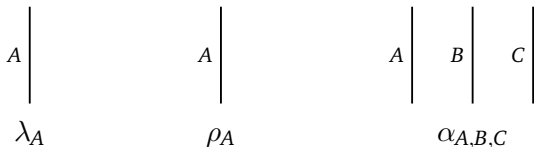
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Unitors and associators are also not depicted:

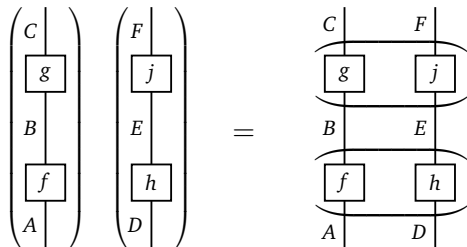


Coherence is essential for the graphical calculus: as there can only be a single morphism built from their components of any given type, it *doesn't matter* that their graphical calculus encodes no information

# Graphical calculus

Interchange law trivialises:

$$(g \circ f) \otimes (j \circ h) = (g \otimes j) \circ (f \otimes h)$$

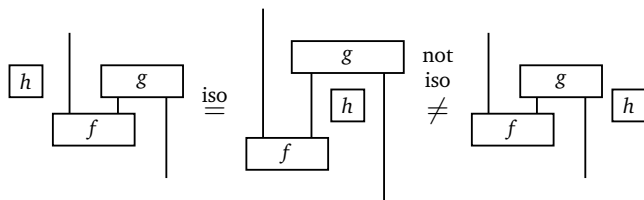


Apparent complexity of monoidal categories just complexity of *geometry of the plane*. In geometrical notation complexity vanishes.

# Isotopy

Two diagrams are **planar isotopic** when one can be deformed continuously into the other, such that:

- ▶ diagrams remain confined to a rectangular region of the plane
- ▶ input and output wires terminate at lower and upper boundaries
- ▶ components never intersect



(Height of diagrams may change, and input/output wires may slide horizontally along boundary, but may not change order)

## Correctness

**Theorem:** well-formed equation  $f = g$  in monoidal category follows from the axioms  $\iff$  it holds graphically up to planar isotopy

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- ▶  $P(f, g) =$  ‘under the axioms of a monoidal category,  $f = g$ ’
- ▶  $Q(f, g) =$  ‘graphically,  $f$  and  $g$  are planar isotopic’

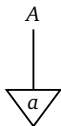
**Soundness** is the assertion that  $P(f, g) \Rightarrow Q(f, g)$  for all such  $f$  and  $g$   
(easy to prove: just check each axiom)

**Completeness** is the converse:  $Q(f, g) \Rightarrow P(f, g)$  for such  $f$  and  $g$   
(harder: must show that planar isotopy is generated by finite set of moves, each being implied by the monoidal axioms)

# States

Cannot 'look inside' object to see elements, must use morphisms.

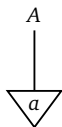
A **state** of an object  $A$  is a morphism  $I \rightarrow A$ .



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- ▶ In **Hilb**: linear functions  $\mathbb{C} \xrightarrow{f} H$ , so **elements** of  $H$       $f(2) = 2 \cdot f(1)$
- ▶ In **Set**: functions  $\{\bullet\} \rightarrow A$ , so **elements** of  $A$
- ▶ In **Rel**: relations  $\{\bullet\} \xrightarrow{R} A$ , so **subsets** of  $A$

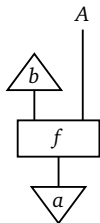


## Effects

e.g. in  $\text{Set}$ :  $A \xrightarrow{f} \{0\}$  only one!  
Real:  $A \xrightarrow{R} \{0,1\}$  subsets of  $A$   
Hilb:  $H \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  vectors in  $H$

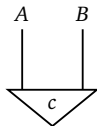
An **effect** on an object  $A$  is a morphism  $A \rightarrow I$

Interpret effect as *observation* that a system has some property  
States, effects, and other morphisms, build up **histories**:

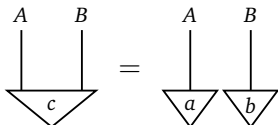


## Joint states

A morphism  $I \xrightarrow{c} A \otimes B$  is a **joint state** of  $A$  and  $B$ .



It is a **product state** when of the form  $I \xrightarrow{\lambda_I^{-1}} I \otimes I \xrightarrow{a \otimes b} A \otimes B$ :



It is **entangled** when not a product state.

# Joint states: examples

- ▶ **In Set:**

- ▶ *joint states* of  $A$  and  $B$  are elements of  $A \times B$
- ▶ *product states* are elements  $(a, b) \in A \times B$
- ▶ *entangled states* don't exist

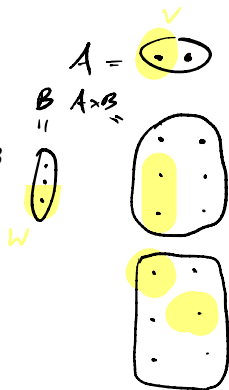
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## ► In Rel:

- *joint states* of  $A$  and  $B$  are subsets of  $A \times B$
- *product states* are 'square' subsets  $V \times W \subseteq A \times B$
- *entangled states* are subsets not of this form



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## ▶ In Hilb:

- ▶ *joint states* of  $H$  and  $K$  are elements of  $H \otimes K$
- ▶ *product states* are factorizable states
- ▶ *entangled states* are entangled states in the quantum sense

$$x \in H$$

$$y \in K$$

$$x \otimes y \in H \otimes K$$

e.g.  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \otimes \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \otimes \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{C}^2 \otimes \mathbb{C}^2$

# Summary

- ▶ Monoidal category: coherent tensor products
- ▶ Sound and complete graphical calculus
- ▶ States and effects: histories

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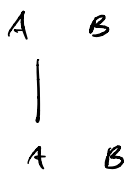
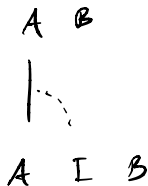
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