

We were doing category theory.

Previously: Adjoints are equivalent to bijection between Hom's.

EX

$X = \text{a set}$

$k\{X\} = \text{free } k\text{-alg. on } X$

$C = k\text{-algebras}$

$D = \underline{\text{sets}}$

$\rightarrow$  free & forgetful functors are adjoint

$$G: \underline{\text{sets}} \rightarrow \underline{k\text{-alg}}$$

$$X \mapsto k\{X\}$$

$$F: \underline{k\text{-alg}} \rightarrow \underline{\text{sets}}$$

$$A \mapsto A$$

(forget algs)  
s+r

Then  $G: \underline{\text{sets}} \rightleftarrows \underline{k\text{-alg}} : F$  adjoint

$$\text{Hom}(k\{X\}, A) \rightleftarrows \text{Hom}(X, F(A))$$

(algebra maps from free algebras)  $\rightleftarrows$  (maps from generators.)

EX

(Tensor products)

$C = D$  vector spaces.  $V = \text{fixed v.s.}$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} F: C \rightarrow D \\ u \mapsto \text{Hom}(V, u) \end{array} \right\} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} G: D \rightarrow C \\ w \mapsto w \otimes V \end{array} \right\}$$

$- \otimes V : \underline{\text{v.sp.}} \rightleftarrows \underline{\text{v.sp.}} : \text{Hom}(V, -)$  adjoint

$$\text{Hom}(w \otimes V, u) \rightleftarrows \text{Hom}(w, \text{Hom}(V, u))$$

Next: Tensor Categories !!

# Tensor Categories

Ingredients: (1)  $\mathcal{C}$  a category

(2)  $- \otimes - : \mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$

a functor  $\begin{cases} V, W \rightsquigarrow V \otimes W \\ f, g \rightsquigarrow f \otimes g \end{cases}$

Note:  $\begin{cases} (f' \otimes g') \circ (f \otimes g) = (f' \circ f) \otimes (g' \circ g) \\ id_{\otimes} = id_{\mathcal{C}} \otimes id_{\mathcal{C}} \end{cases}$

(Prototype:  $\mathcal{C} = \text{Vector spaces } \mathbb{k}$   
w/ usual tensor product)

(3) (Associativity constraint)

$\exists$  natural isom

$$a : ((- \otimes -) \otimes -) \longrightarrow (- \otimes (- \otimes -))$$

(i.e.  $a : \otimes (\otimes \times id) \longrightarrow \otimes (id \times \otimes)$ )

Equivalently must have the following commute:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (U \otimes V) \otimes W & \xrightarrow{a} & U \otimes (V \otimes W) \\ \downarrow (f \otimes g) \otimes h & & \downarrow f \otimes (g \otimes h) \\ (U' \otimes V') \otimes W' & \xrightarrow{a} & U' \otimes (V' \otimes W') \end{array}$$

(4) (Pentagon axiom)

The following pentagon commutes:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & ((U \otimes V) \otimes W) \otimes X & \\ \swarrow & & \searrow \\ (U \otimes (V \otimes W)) \otimes X & & (U \otimes V) \otimes (W \otimes X) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ U \otimes ((V \otimes W) \otimes X) & \longrightarrow & U \otimes (V \otimes (W \otimes X)) \end{array}$$

⑤ (left/right unit constraint with respect to ~~the~~ object  $I$ )

$\exists$  natural isom

$$l: \otimes(I \times id) \rightarrow id \quad \begin{array}{ccc} I \otimes V & \rightarrow & V \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ I \otimes V' & \rightarrow & V' \end{array}$$

$$r: \otimes(id \times I) \rightarrow id \quad \begin{array}{ccc} V \otimes I & \rightarrow & V \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ V' \otimes I & \rightarrow & V' \end{array}$$

(Idea:  $I$  is left/right unit)

⑥ (Triangle axiom) (left/right unit structures should be compatible)

$$(V \otimes I) \otimes W \rightarrow V \otimes (I \otimes W)$$

$\searrow \quad \swarrow$   
 $V \otimes W$

commutes.

Def: A tensor category is  $(\mathcal{C}, \otimes, I, a, \overset{\text{cat. prod.}}{\underset{\text{unit str.}}{\ell, r}})$  as described above.

## Basic Propositions

### • Properties of Unit.

Lemma: The following commutes:

$$(I \otimes V) \otimes W \rightarrow I \otimes (V \otimes W)$$

$\searrow \quad \swarrow$   
 $V \otimes W$

$$(V \otimes W) \otimes I \rightarrow V \otimes (W \otimes I)$$

$\searrow \quad \swarrow$   
 $V \otimes W$

Proof: (Sketch)

Combine pentagon  $\hat{=}$  triangle axioms.  
(throw in an extra  $I \otimes \dots$ )

Use isom  $l$  at the end to get rid of extra  $I$ .



Goals In any tensor category  
 $\text{End}(I)$  is a commutative monoid.

(Need one more lemma first)

then examples...

then braided categories...