

Today: Category of Tangles!

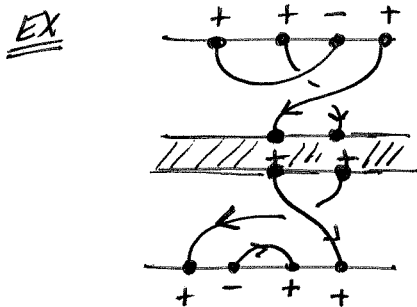
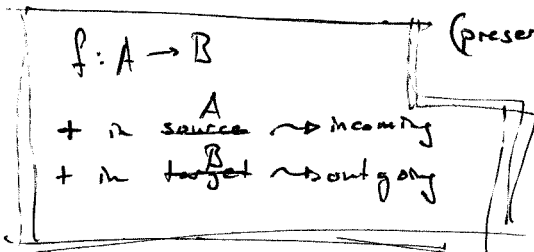
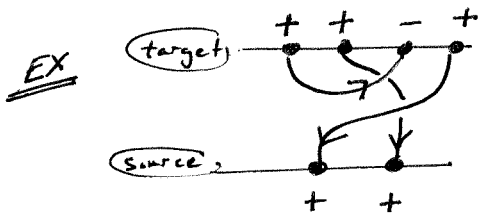
T = "category of tangles"

$$Ob(T) = \{ \text{finite sequences of } \pm \text{ signs} \}$$

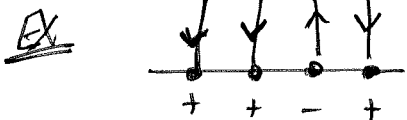
including empty seq.

$$Mor(T) = \{ \text{isotopy classes of oriented tangles} \}$$

(preserve sign)

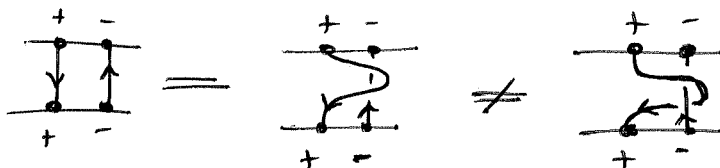


Composition is gluing w/
 matching signs.



Identity is "straight arrows"
 w/ orientation from sign

Remark Isotopy classes so e.g.



Tangles is a strict tensor category :

$$\begin{aligned}
 & (+, -, +, \dots) \otimes (-, +, +, \dots) = (+, -, +, \dots, -, +, +, \dots) \\
 & (\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2, \dots, \varepsilon_n) \otimes (\varepsilon_{n+1}, \varepsilon_{n+2}, \dots, \varepsilon_m) = (\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2, \dots, \varepsilon_n, \varepsilon_{n+1}, \varepsilon_{n+2}, \dots, \varepsilon_m)
 \end{aligned}$$

Similarly for morphisms:

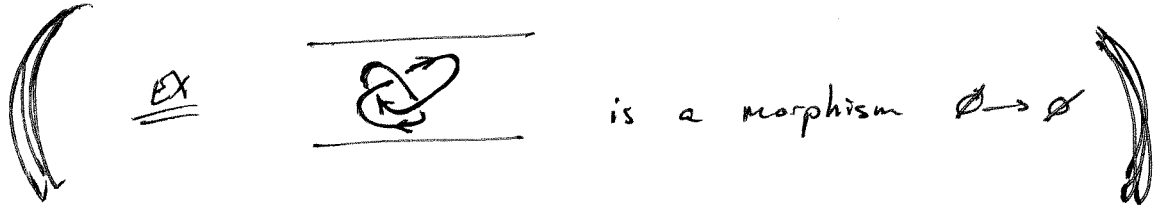


• Unit object is empty tangle

$$A \otimes \emptyset = A$$

(identity morphism of \emptyset is "empty morphism")

→ Note $End(\emptyset) = \{\text{Links}\}$



Generators and Relations

Notation: $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \downarrow \text{ will be } \begin{array}{c} + \\ \downarrow \\ + \end{array} : \text{identity morphism on } (+) \\ \uparrow \text{ will be } \begin{array}{c} - \\ \uparrow \\ - \end{array} : \text{identity morphism on } (-) \end{array} \right.$

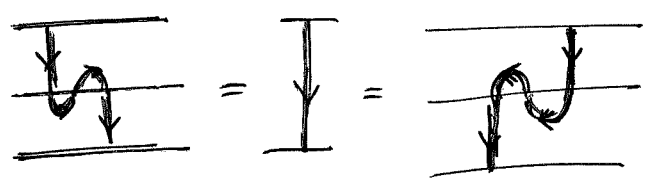
cup $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \circ \quad \cup \text{ will be } \begin{array}{c} + \\ \cup \\ - \end{array} : \text{morphism } \emptyset \rightarrow (+, -) \\ \circ \quad \bar{\cup} \text{ will be } \begin{array}{c} - \\ \bar{\cup} \\ + \end{array} : \text{morphism } \emptyset \rightarrow (-, +) \end{array} \right.$

cap $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \circ \quad \cap \text{ will be } \begin{array}{c} - \\ \cap \\ + \end{array} : \text{morphism } (-, +) \rightarrow \emptyset \\ \circ \quad \bar{\cap} \text{ will be } \begin{array}{c} + \\ \bar{\cap} \\ - \end{array} : \text{morphism } (+, -) \rightarrow \emptyset \end{array} \right.$

cross $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \circ \quad X_+ \text{ will be } \begin{array}{c} + + \\ \diagdown \diagup \\ + + \end{array} : \text{morphism } (+, +) \rightarrow (+, +) \\ \circ \quad X_- \text{ will be } \begin{array}{c} + + \\ \diagup \diagdown \\ + + \end{array} : \text{morphism } (+, +) \rightarrow (+, +) \end{array} \right.$

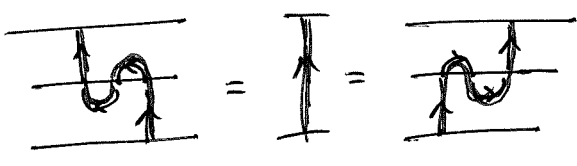
Thm: These generate all tangles (via composition w/id $i \otimes$)
 Furthermore relations are generated by the following 8 relations:

① $(\downarrow \cap) \circ (\cup \downarrow) = \downarrow = (\tilde{\cap} \downarrow) \circ (\downarrow \tilde{\cup})$

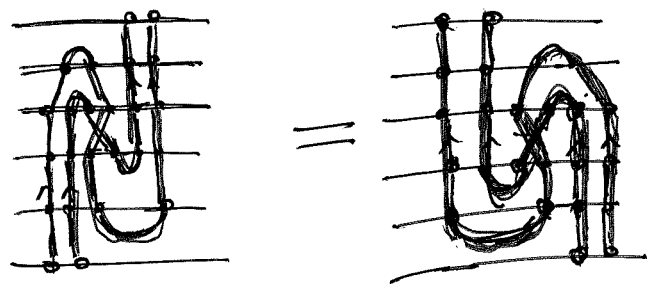


Convention: $\downarrow \cap = \downarrow \otimes \cap$

② $(\uparrow \tilde{\cap}) \circ (\tilde{\cup} \uparrow) = \uparrow = (\cap \uparrow) \circ (\uparrow \cup)$



③ $(\cap \uparrow \uparrow) \circ (\uparrow \cap \downarrow \uparrow \uparrow) \circ (\uparrow \uparrow X_{\pm} \uparrow \uparrow) \circ (\uparrow \uparrow \downarrow \cup \uparrow) \circ (\uparrow \uparrow \cup)$
 $= (\uparrow \uparrow \tilde{\cap}) \circ (\uparrow \uparrow \downarrow \tilde{\cap} \uparrow) \circ (\uparrow \uparrow X_{\pm} \uparrow \uparrow) \circ (\uparrow \uparrow \tilde{\cup} \downarrow \uparrow \uparrow) \circ (\tilde{\cup} \uparrow \uparrow)$

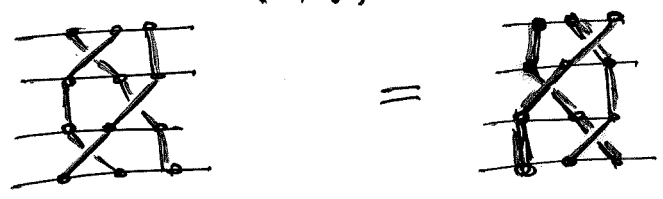


X_{\pm} with arrows reversed !!

④ $X_+ \circ X_- = X_- \circ X_+ = \downarrow \downarrow$

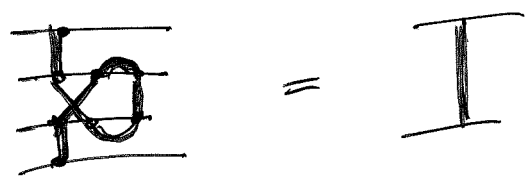


⑤ $(X_+ \downarrow) \circ (\downarrow X_+) \circ (X_+ \downarrow) = (\downarrow X_+) \circ (X_+ \downarrow) \circ (\downarrow X_+)$



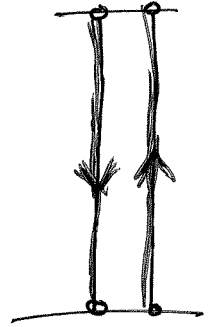
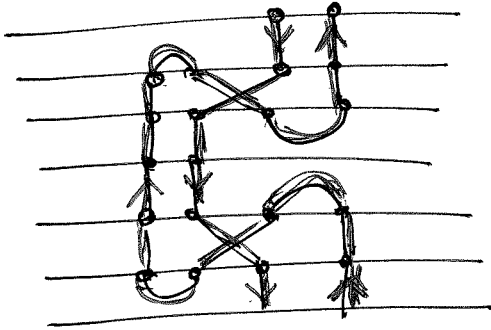
Reidemeister move 3

⑥ $(\downarrow \tilde{\cap}) \circ (X_{\pm} \uparrow) \circ (\downarrow \cup) = \downarrow$



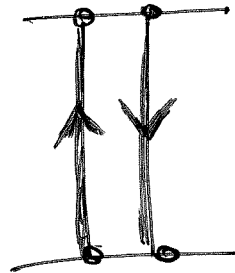
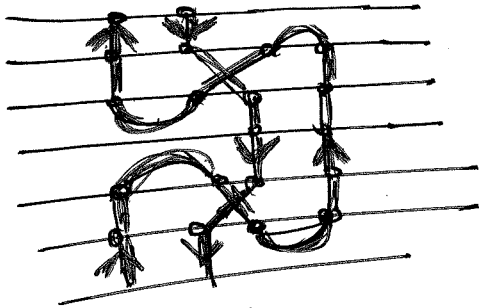
Reidemeister move 2

$$\textcircled{7} (\cap \downarrow \uparrow) \circ (\uparrow X_{\pm} \uparrow) \circ (\uparrow \downarrow \cup) \circ (\uparrow \downarrow \cap) \circ (\uparrow X_{\mp} \uparrow) \circ (\cup \downarrow \uparrow) = \downarrow \uparrow \quad \textcircled{4}$$



("combine #3 and #4")

$$\textcircled{8} (\uparrow \downarrow \cap) \circ (\uparrow X_{\pm} \uparrow) \circ (\cup \downarrow \uparrow) \circ (\cap \downarrow \uparrow) \circ (\uparrow X_{\mp} \uparrow) \circ (\uparrow \downarrow \cup) = \uparrow \downarrow$$



(reverse arrows in $\textcircled{7}$)

Q: Why not include an inversion

$$S : T \rightarrow T$$

by reversing sign on objects
arrow on morphisms

Call this a "tensor Hopf category"

\leadsto modulo S there are less ~~messy~~ messy relations & generators...?

ex: $\textcircled{8}$ is $S\textcircled{7}$

ex: $\textcircled{3}$ shows how to make SX_{\pm}