

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a monoidal category.  $k = \bar{k}$  a field of char. 0  
we can talk about algebras in  $\mathcal{C}$ :  
this will be an object  $A \in \text{Ob } \mathcal{C}$ , together  
w. a morphism  $m: A \otimes A \rightarrow A$

if  $F: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \text{Vec}_k$  is a monoidal functor, then  
 $F(A)$  is an algebra w. multiplication  $F(m)$

we think of such a functor as an interpretation  
of objects of  $\mathcal{C}$  as vector spaces.

of course, we may have more than one interpretation

We give the following definition:

Def<sup>n</sup>: A monoidal cat.  $\mathcal{C}$  is called:

$k$ -linear if  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(x, y)$  is a  $k$ -vec. sp.

$\forall x, y \in \text{Ob } \mathcal{C}$ , and composition is  $k$ -bilinear

rigid if  $\forall x \in \text{Ob } \mathcal{C} \exists x^* \in \text{Ob } \mathcal{C}$  w. morphisms  $\pi: x \otimes x^* \rightarrow 1$ ,

$x^* \otimes x \rightarrow 1$ , and similarly, an obj  ${}^*x$  w. morphisms

$1 \rightarrow {}^*x \otimes x$ ,  $x \otimes {}^*x \rightarrow 1$  (these morphisms satisfy certain

conditions)

We say that two algebras  $A_1, A_2$  in  $\text{Vec}_k$  are  
monoidally equivalent if  $\exists$  an abelian  $k$ -linear  
rigid monoidal category  $\mathcal{C}$ , an algebra  $A \in \text{Ob } \mathcal{C}$ ,  
and two exact monoidal functors  $F_1, F_2: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \text{Vec}_k$   
such that  $F_i(A) \cong A_i$

An exact functor here will automatically be  
faithful. So, for example,  $A_1$  is associative  
iff  $A$  is associative iff  $A_2$  is associative.

We can talk also on other algebraic structures  
 for example: a braided vector space  
 is a pair  $(V, c)$  of a fin. dim. vector sp.  $V$   
 and  $c: V \otimes V \xrightarrow{\cong} V \otimes V$  which satisfies the  
 YB-equation:

$$c_{12} c_{23} c_{12} = c_{23} c_{12} c_{23} : V \otimes V \otimes V \rightarrow V \otimes V \otimes V.$$

Example (of monoidally eq. algebras) and braided vec sp.

Let  $G$  be a group,  $\alpha \in H^2(G, K^\times)$   
 Then  $\mathcal{C} = \text{Vec}_G$  is the monoidal cat. of  
 $G$ -graded vec. sp. We have a tensor  
 auto. eq.  $F_\alpha : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$   $F_\alpha(V) = V$

$$F_\alpha(V \otimes W) \rightarrow F_\alpha(V) \otimes F_\alpha(W)$$

$$V \otimes W \rightarrow \alpha(|V|, |W|) V \otimes W$$

and a forgetful functor  $F: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \text{Vec}_K$

Then  $A = KG$  is an algebra in  $\mathcal{C}$ , and  
 the functors  $F, F_\alpha$  shows that  $KG$  and  
 $K^\times G$  are monoidally equivalent  
 so for example, if  $G = C_n \times C_n = \langle x, y \rangle$ ,  
 $\alpha(x^i y^j, x^k y^l) = \xi^{ijk}$ ,  $\xi = \sqrt[n]{1}$ , then we get  
 that:  $K^{\mathbb{Z}^2}, M_n(K)$  are monoidally equivalent

If  $G = \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} = \langle x, y \rangle$ , let  $V = \text{span}\{v_1, v_2\}$ , and  
 let  $c: V \otimes V \rightarrow V \otimes V$  be the usual flip.  
 $v \otimes w \rightarrow w \otimes v$

$V \in \text{Vec}_G$  by writing  $\text{deg } v_1 = x$   
 $\text{deg } v_2 = y$

for  $\lambda \in k^\times$ , let  $\alpha_\lambda(x^i y^j, x^k y^l) = \lambda^{jk}$ ,  $\alpha \in H^2(G, k^\times)$

then we see that  $(V, c)$  is monoidally equivalent to  $(V, \tilde{c})$ , where

$$\tilde{c}: V_i \otimes V_j \rightarrow V_i \otimes V_j \quad i, j = 1, 2$$

$$V_1 \otimes V_2 \rightarrow \lambda V_2 \otimes V_1$$

$$V_2 \otimes V_1 \rightarrow \lambda^{-1} V_1 \otimes V_2$$

The fact that we can get non-isomorphic structures which are monoidally equivalent is a non-commutative phenomenon.

Indeed, by a theorem of Deligne, if we had changed "~~symm~~" monoidal category/functor" to "symmetric monoidal", then symmetric monoidal eq  $\Leftrightarrow$  isomorphism.

If  $H$  is a Hopf alg. then a  $YD$ -module (yetter Drinfeld) over  $H$  is a pair  $(X, \Phi)$  where  $X$  is an  $H$ -module and  $\Phi_Y: X \otimes Y \rightarrow Y \otimes X$  is a family of isomorphisms, natural in  $Y$ , which satisfies  $\Phi_{Y \otimes Z} = (1_Y \otimes \Phi_Z)(\Phi_Y \otimes 1_Z)$ .

In particular,  $\Phi_X: X \otimes X \rightarrow X \otimes X$  gives a braiding on  $X$ .

One of the central questions arising in the classification of fin. dim. Hopf algs regards the "Nichols algebra" of a braided vec. sp. If  $(V, c)$  is a braided vec. sp. then  $TV$  is a braided Hopf alg:

$$\Delta V = 1 \otimes 1 + V, \quad S(w) = VW \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes VW + V \otimes W + c(V \otimes W) \text{ etc}$$

(Hopf) The Nichols algebra  $B(V)$  is the ~~the~~ biggest quotient of  $T(V)$  where all primitives are of degree 1

For example. If  $c$  is the flip,

$$B(V) = S(V).$$

If  $c = -\text{flip}$ ,  $B(V) = \Lambda(V)$  (exterior algebra)

Question: when is  $B(V)$  fin. dim?

claim: If  $(V_1, c_1) \underset{\substack{\text{mono-} \\ \text{idally} \\ \text{eq}}}{\sim} (V_2, c_2)$  then

$B(V_1) \underset{\substack{\text{mono-} \\ \text{idally} \\ \text{eq}}}{\sim} B(V_2)$ . In particular:  $B(V_1) \stackrel{\text{is}}{\text{fin. dim}}$  iff  $B(V_2) \stackrel{\text{is}}{\text{fin. dim}}$ .

The reason is that  $B(V)$  can be constructed in  $\mathbb{C}$  already.

Example: If  $G = S_4$  there are exactly 3 irred.  $YD$ -modules  $V_1, V_2, V_3$  ( $H = KG$ ) s.t. ~~the~~  $B(V_i)$  is fin. dim. (Andruskiewitsch-Heckenberger-Schneider). Moreover, if  $B(V)$  is fin. dim then  $V = V_i$  for  $i=1, 2, 3$  (also AHS)  
 $\dim B(V_i) = 576$  for  $i=1, 2, 3$

$i=1$  - Fomin & Kirillov

$i=2$  - Milinski & Schneider

$i=3$  - Andruskiewitsch & Graña

irred.  $YD$  modules correspond to conj class  $[g]$  and a rep of  $C_G(g)$ .

for  $V_1, V_2, g = (12)$   $V_3$   $g = (1234)$

We can show that  $V_1 \sim V_2 \sim V_3$ , and deduce the dimension of  $B(V_2)$   $B(V_3)$  from  $B(V_1)$ .

If  $(V, c)$  is braided,  $c^2 = \text{Id}$ , then if also  $c^*: V^* \otimes V \rightarrow V \otimes V^*$  is invertible, we can use Deligne's Theorem to prove that  $(V, c)$  is monoidally equivalent to some super vector space.

Remarks: - This relation was also studied for  $c^*$ -algebras in RepH by Neshveyev & Tuset  
- It is problematic to talk about monoidally equivalent Lie/Hopf algebras, because the definition requires to use the flip.