

(Tensor) Triangular Geometry

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Motivation

Let \mathcal{C} be a monoidal triangulated category. That is:

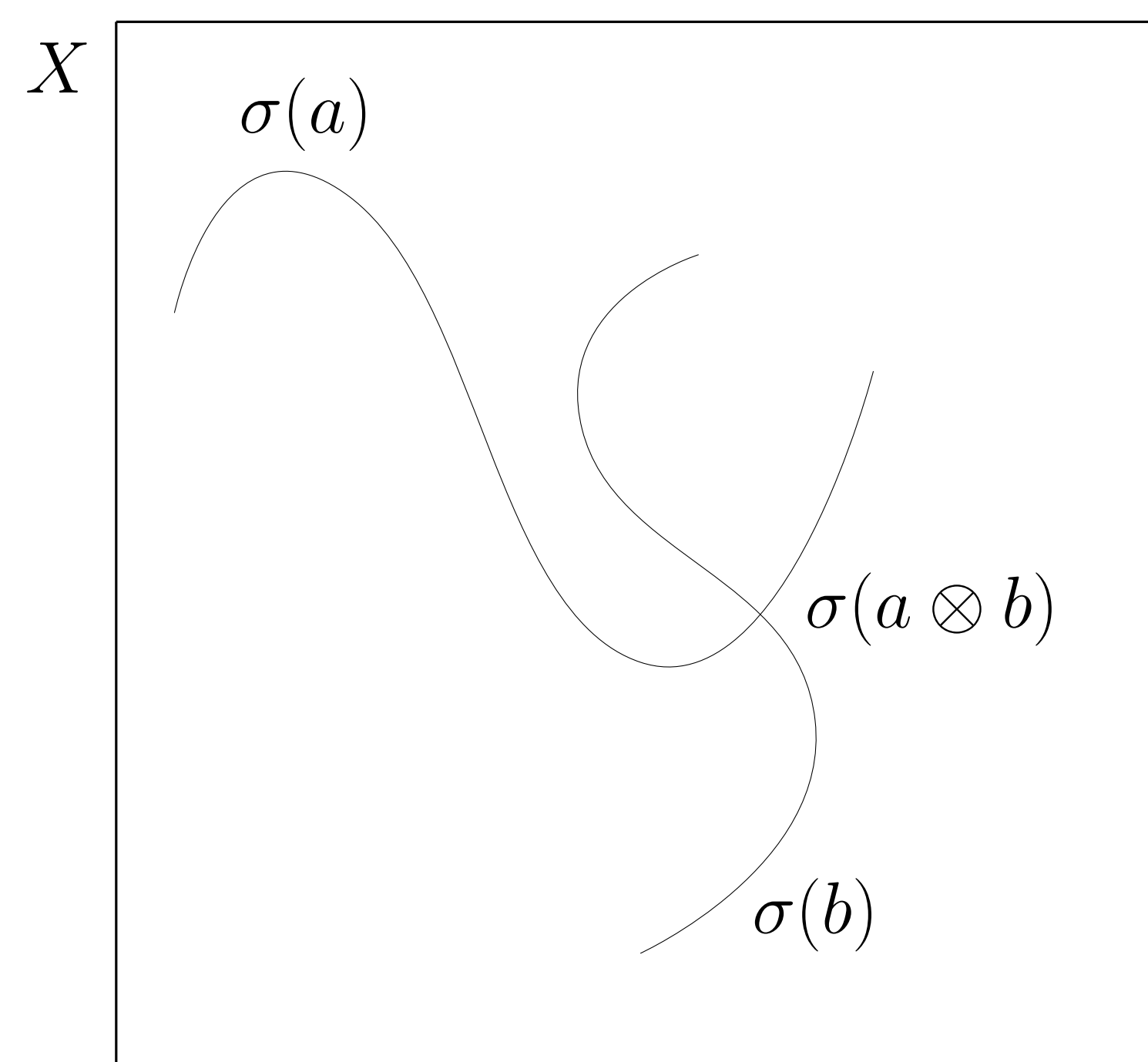
- \mathcal{C} is essentially small,
- \mathcal{C} is an additive category,
- $T : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ is an exact functor,
- there is a collection of exact triangles $a \rightarrow b \rightarrow c \rightarrow Ta$ of \mathcal{C} ,
- $\otimes : \mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ is a symmetric biexact functor,
- $1 \in \text{Obj}(\mathcal{C})$ is the monoidal unit.

We want to do geometry with \mathcal{C} . That is, we want to draw a picture that captures the essential information within \mathcal{C} . Mathematically this is done via a function σ which assigns to each object a of \mathcal{C} a closed subset of a topological space X . Our goal is to find such a function.

$$\sigma : \text{Obj}(\mathcal{C}) \longrightarrow \text{Closed}(X)$$

This function should be compatible with the structure of \mathcal{C} . Namely, we have the following wish list:

- (SD1) $\sigma(0) = \emptyset$,
- (SD2) $\sigma(a \oplus b) = \sigma(a) \cup \sigma(b)$ for all $a, b \in \text{Obj}(\mathcal{C})$,
- (SD3) $\sigma(Ta) = \sigma(a)$ for all $a \in \text{Obj}(\mathcal{C})$,
- (SD4) $\sigma(a) \subseteq \sigma(b) \cup \sigma(c)$ for all exact triangles $a \rightarrow b \rightarrow c \rightarrow Ta$ of \mathcal{C} ,
- (SD5) $\sigma(1) = X$,
- (SD6) $\sigma(a \otimes b) = \sigma(a) \cap \sigma(b)$ for all for all $a, b \in \text{Obj}(\mathcal{C})$.



As it is posed, our goal is very easy! It suffices to take $X = \{\star\}$ a single point, declaring $\sigma(0) = \emptyset$ and $\sigma(a) = \star$ for all nonzero $a \in \text{Obj}(\mathcal{C})$.

The universal space admitting supports [Bal05]

We would like to have a space more interesting than just a point. Being ambitious, we ask about the best space to draw pictures. Mathematically, this will be the final space admitting a support datum for \mathcal{C} . Remarkably, this space exists: Its points are certain subcategories of \mathcal{C} .

Definition 1. A support datum on a monoidal triangulated category \mathcal{C} is a pair (X, σ) where X is a topological space and σ assigns to every $a \in \text{Obj}(\mathcal{C})$ a closed subset $\sigma(a) \subseteq X$ satisfying (SD1), (SD2), (SD3), (SD4), (SD5), and (SD6).

Theorem 2. The pair $(\text{Spc}(\mathcal{C}), \text{supp})$ is the final support datum on \mathcal{C} , where $\text{Spc}(\mathcal{C}) = \{\mathcal{P} \subsetneq \mathcal{C} \mid \mathcal{P} \text{ prime thick triangulated tensor ideal}\}$ and $\text{supp}(a) = \{\mathcal{P} \in \text{Spc}(\mathcal{C}) \mid a \notin \mathcal{P}\}$ for all $a \in \text{Obj}(\mathcal{C})$.

Being *final* means that if (X, σ) is another support datum on \mathcal{C} , then there exists a continuous function $f : X \rightarrow \text{Spc}(\mathcal{C})$ such that $\sigma(a) = f^{-1}(\text{supp}(a))$ for all $a \in \text{Obj}(\mathcal{C})$. In other words, all support datum (X, σ) can be obtained from $(\text{Spc}(\mathcal{C}), \text{supp})$.

Theorem 3. Let X be a quasi-compact quasi-separated scheme, then:

$$\text{Spc}(\text{D}^{\text{perf}}(X)) \cong X.$$

Theorem 4. Let R be a commutative Noetherian ring, then:

$$\text{Spc}(\text{D}^{\text{perf}}(R)) \cong \text{Spec}(R).$$

Theorem 5. Let G be a finite group, then:

$$\text{Spc}(\text{stmod}(\mathbb{k}G)) \cong \text{Proj}(\text{H}^\bullet(G, \mathbb{k})).$$

Example 6. The Zariski spectrum of the integers.

$$\text{Spc}(\text{D}^{\text{perf}}(\mathbb{Z})) \cong \begin{array}{c} \bullet \quad \bullet \quad \dots \quad \bullet \quad \dots \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \bullet \end{array}$$

Example 7. Let \mathbb{k} be an algebraically closed field.

$$\text{Spc}(\text{D}^b(\mathbb{k}[x])) \cong \mathbb{A}_{\mathbb{k}}^1 \cong \text{---}$$

Example 8. Let \mathbb{k} be a field of characteristic 2.

$$\text{Spc}(\text{stmod}(\mathbb{k}(C_2 \times C_2))) \cong \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \bullet \text{---} \bullet \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \bullet \end{array}$$

Generalizing to (non-monoidal) triangulated categories [BO24]

What happens if our category does not have a monoidal structure? We no longer need to care about the requirements involving the tensor product (SD5) and (SD6), but we can still ask for a universal space where pictures can be drawn. Surprisingly, this space is still an interesting one!

Theorem 9. Let $\text{Sp}(\mathcal{C}) = \{\mathcal{T} \subseteq \mathcal{C} \mid \mathcal{T} \text{ thick subcategory}\}$ and $\text{sup}(a) = \{\mathcal{T} \in \text{Sp}(\mathcal{C}) \mid a \notin \mathcal{T}\}$ for all $a \in \text{Obj}(\mathcal{C})$. The pair $(\text{Sp}(\mathcal{C}), \text{sup})$ is the final support datum on \mathcal{C} .

Proof. Let (X, σ) be a support datum on \mathcal{C} , then $f : X \rightarrow \text{Sp}(\mathcal{C})$ defined by $f(x) = \{a \in \mathcal{C} \mid x \notin \sigma(a)\}$ is the desired unique continuous map. \square

Example 10. Let \mathbb{k} be a field.

$$\text{Sp}(\text{D}^b(\mathbb{k}A_2)) \cong \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \bullet \text{---} \bullet \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \bullet \end{array}$$

Example 11. Let \mathbb{k} be an algebraically closed field.

$$\text{Sp}(\text{D}^b(\text{Coh}(\mathbb{P}_{\mathbb{k}}^1))) \cong \dots \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \bullet \text{---} \bullet \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \bullet \end{array} \dots$$

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