

By a *state sum triple*, we mean a triple  $(V, a, \mu)$ , where  $V$  is a finite-dimensional vector space over a field  $\mathbb{k}$ ,  $a \in V \otimes V \otimes V$ , and  $\mu \in (V \otimes V)^*$ , such that

$$\tau_3(a) = a, \quad \mu\tau_2 = \mu, \quad \mu_{34}(a \otimes a) = \tau_4(\mu_{34}(a \otimes a)), \quad \mu_{19}\mu_{34}\mu_{67}(a \otimes a \otimes a) = a.$$

Here  $\otimes = \otimes_{\mathbb{k}}$ , the map  $\tau_n$  is the  $\mathbb{k}$ -linear automorphism of  $V^{\otimes n}$  defined by

$$\tau_n(x_1 \otimes x_2 \otimes \cdots \otimes x_n) = x_2 \otimes \cdots \otimes x_n \otimes x_1,$$

and  $\mu_{ij}$  denotes the contraction of the  $i$ -th and  $j$ -th component using  $\mu$ .

**Exercice 1. (Product and coproduct of a state sum triple)**

Let  $(V, a, \mu)$  be a state sum triple. Set

$$\Delta = (\mu \otimes \text{id}_{V^{\otimes 2}})(\text{id}_V \otimes a): V \rightarrow V \otimes V \quad \text{and} \quad m = (\mu \otimes \text{id}_V)(\text{id}_V \otimes \Delta): V \otimes V \rightarrow V.$$

a. Prove that  $\Delta$  is coassociative,  $m$  is associative, and

$$(m \otimes \text{id}_V)(\text{id}_V \otimes \Delta) = \Delta m = (\text{id}_V \otimes m)(\Delta \otimes \text{id}_V).$$

b. Prove that the  $\mathbb{k}$ -linear map  $\pi = m\Delta: V \rightarrow V$  satisfies

$$m = \pi m = m(\text{id}_V \otimes \pi) = m(\pi \otimes \text{id}_V)$$

and is a projector (i.e.,  $\pi^2 = \pi$ ).

c. Assume that  $\mu$  is non-degenerate. Prove that

$$\text{Im}(\pi) = \text{Im}(m) = \{(\text{id}_V \otimes \phi)(a) \mid \phi \in (V \otimes V)^*\}$$

and

$$(V, m) \text{ has a unit} \Leftrightarrow \pi = \text{id}_V \Leftrightarrow V = \{(\text{id}_V \otimes \phi)(a) \mid \phi \in (V \otimes V)^*\}.$$

**Exercice 2.**

Let  $(V, a, \mu)$  be a state sum triple. Consider the kernel  $\text{Ker}(\mu) = \{x \in V \mid \mu(x \otimes \cdot) = 0\}$  of  $\mu$  and the canonical projection map

$$p: V \rightarrow \bar{V} = V/\text{Ker}(\mu).$$

a. Prove that there is a unique  $\bar{\mu} \in (\bar{V} \otimes \bar{V})^*$  such that  $\mu = \bar{\mu}(p \otimes p)$ .

b. Prove that  $\bar{\mu}$  is non-degenerate.

c. Prove that  $(\bar{V}, \bar{a}, \bar{\mu})$  is a state sum triple, where  $\bar{a} = (p \otimes p \otimes p)(a)$ .

**Exercice 3.**

Let  $(V, a, \mu)$  be a state sum triple. Set

$$\tilde{V} = \{(\text{id}_V \otimes \phi)(a) \mid \phi \in (V \otimes V)^*\}.$$

a. Prove that  $\tilde{V}$  is the smallest vector subspace of  $V$  such that  $a \in \tilde{V} \otimes \tilde{V} \otimes \tilde{V}$ .

b. Prove that  $(\tilde{V}, \tilde{a}, \tilde{\mu})$  is a state sum triple, where  $\tilde{a} = a$  and  $\tilde{\mu} = \mu|_{\tilde{V} \otimes \tilde{V}}$ .

c. Prove that if  $\mu$  is non-degenerate, then so is  $\tilde{\mu}$ .

**Exercice 4.**

Let  $(V, a, \mu)$  be a state sum triple such that  $V = \{(\text{id}_V \otimes \phi)(a) \mid \phi \in (V \otimes V)^*\}$  and  $\mu$  is non-degenerate. Consider the center  $A$  of the  $\mathbb{k}$ -algebra  $(V, m)$ . Prove that  $\mu|_{A \otimes A}$  is non-degenerate.

**Exercise 5.**

Let  $(V, a, \mu)$  be a state sum triple. The goal of this exercise is to determine the Frobenius algebra associated to the 2-dimensional TQFT  $Z_{(V, a, \mu)}$ . We say that two state sum triples are *equivalent* if they define isomorphic TQFTs.

**a.** Let  $(\bar{V}, \bar{a}, \bar{\mu})$  be the state sum triple of Exercise 2.

Prove that the state sum triples  $(\bar{V}, \bar{a}, \bar{\mu})$  et  $(V, a, \mu)$  are equivalent.

**b.** Let  $(\tilde{V}, \tilde{a}, \tilde{\mu})$  be the state sum triple of Exercise 3.

Prove that the state sum triples  $(\tilde{V}, \tilde{a}, \tilde{\mu})$  et  $(V, a, \mu)$  are equivalent.

**c.** Assume that  $V = \{(\text{id}_V \otimes \phi)(a) \mid \phi \in (V \otimes V)^*\}$  and  $\mu$  is non-degenerate.

Prove that the Frobenius algebra associated to the 2-dimensional TQFT  $Z_{(V, a, \mu)}$  is isomorphic to the center of the  $\mathbb{k}$ -algebra  $(V, m)$ , where

$$m = (\mu \otimes \text{id}_V \otimes \mu)(\text{id}_V \otimes a \otimes \text{id}_V): V \otimes V \rightarrow V.$$

**d.** Conclude by noticing that the state sum triple  $(\tilde{\tilde{V}}, \tilde{\tilde{a}}, \tilde{\tilde{\mu}})$  satisfies the assumptions of question c.