DHR bimodules of quasi-local algebras and symmetric quantum cellular automata

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Abstract. For a net of C*-algebras on a discrete metric space, we introduce a bimodule version of the DHR tensor category and show that it is an invariant of quasi-local algebras under isomorphisms with bounded spread. For abstract spin systems on a lattice $L \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ satisfying a weak version of Haag duality, we construct a braiding on these categories. Applying the general theory to quasi-local algebras A of operators on a lattice invariant under a (categorical) symmetry, we obtain a homomorphism from the group of symmetric QCA to $\operatorname{Aut}_{\operatorname{br}}(\operatorname{DHR}(A))$, containing symmetric finite-depth circuits in the kernel. For a spin chain with fusion categorical symmetry \mathcal{D} , we show that the DHR category of the quasi-local algebra of symmetric operators is equivalent to the Drinfeld center $Z(\mathcal{D})$. We use this to show that, for the double spin-flip action $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \curvearrowright \mathbb{C}^2 \otimes \mathbb{C}^2$, the group of symmetric QCA modulo symmetric finite-depth circuits in 1D contains a copy of S_3 ; hence, it is non-abelian, in contrast to the case with no symmetry.

1. Introduction

In the algebraic approach to quantum spin systems on a lattice, a fundamental role is played by the quasi-local C*-algebra generated by local operators [13]. In ordinary spin systems, this is an infinite tensor product of matrix algebras. Upon restricting to operators invariant under a global (categorical) symmetry or when considering the operators acting on the boundary of a topologically ordered spin system, the resulting quasi-local algebras can be more complicated approximately finite-dimensional (AF) algebras. The work of Bratteli [11] and Elliott [31] gives a classification of AF algebras up to isomorphism. However, arbitrary isomorphisms between quasi-local algebras are not always physically relevant since, in general, they do not map local Hamiltonians to local Hamiltonians. (Here, by local Hamiltonian we mean the terms in the Hamiltonian have supports with uniformly bounded diameters [91, Chapter 4].)

A physically natural condition to impose on isomorphisms between quasi-local algebras defined on the same metric space is *bounded spread*. For two nets of algebras

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defined on a discrete metric space L, an isomorphism α between their quasi-local algebras has bounded spread if there exists an $R \ge 0$ such that operators localized in a finite region $F \subseteq L$ are mapped to operators localized in the R neighborhood of F by α and α^{-1} . Unlike generic isomorphisms between quasi-local algebras, isomorphisms with bounded spread map local Hamiltonians to local Hamiltonians, making them more natural from a physical perspective. This raises the general problem of classifying quasi-local algebras up to bounded spread isomorphism.

Bounded spread isomorphisms are also interesting as objects in their own right. Automorphisms of the quasi-local algebra of a spin system (without symmetry) with bounded spread are called *quantum cellular automata* (QCA) [84] and have been extensively studied in the physics literature. (We refer the reader to the review article [35] and references therein.) These can be viewed as not only a natural class of symmetries of the moduli space of local Hamiltonians, but also as natural models for discrete-time unitary dynamics. Finite-depth quantum circuits (FDQC) are a normal subgroup of QCA which are implemented by local unitaries and are used as to operationally define equivalence for topologically ordered states [20]. There is significant interest in understanding the quotient group QCA/FDQC, which can be interpreted as the collection of topological phases of QCA¹ [37, 38, 43, 47–49, 85]. While there has been recent progress on studying symmetry protected QCA [21, 42], relatively little is known about the structure of topological phases of QCA defined only on symmetric operators.

We can approach both the problems of finding bounded spread isomorphism invariants of quasi-local algebras and of finding invariants of QCA/FDQC simultaneously, by looking for *functorial* invariants of quasi-local algebras. To be more precise, consider the groupoid **Net**_L whose objects are general nets of C*-algebras on a discrete metric space L (Definition 2.2) and whose morphisms are isomorphisms of quasi-local algebras with bounded spread. Then, any functor from Net_L to another groupoid which contains finite-depth circuits in the kernel will yield algebraic invariants of both general quasi-local algebras and topological phases of QCA.

An important component of an algebraic quantum field theory is its DHR category of superselection sectors [25–27]. Motivated by finding functorial invariants for discrete nets of C*-algebras, we develop a version of DHR theory suitable for our setting. For a net of C*-algebras A over a discrete metric space L, we introduce the C*-tensor category **DHR**(A), which consists of localizable bimodules of the quasi-local algebra (Definition 3.2). This is a direct generalization of localized, transportable endomorphisms from the usual DHR formalism [44, 50]. Our formalism extends the ideas of [74], who consider the special case of 1D spin chains with Hopf algebra symmetry and utilize the formalism of unital amplimorphisms rather than bimodules.

¹See Section 2.2 for further discussion and references.

To state the first main result of the paper, let C^* -Tens denote the groupoid of C^* -tensor categories and unitary tensor equivalences (up to unitary monoidal natural isomorphism). Then, we have the following theorem.

Theorem A. Let *L* be a countable metric space with bounded geometry. There is a canonical functor **DHR** : **Net**_{*L*} \rightarrow **C*-Tens**, containing finite-depth quantum circuit in the kernel. In particular, we have the following.

- (1) The monoidal equivalence class of **DHR**(*A*) is an invariant of the quasi-local algebra up to bounded spread isomorphism.
- (2) We have a homomorphism

DHR : $\mathbf{QCA}(A)/\mathbf{FDQC}(A) \rightarrow \mathbf{Aut}_{\otimes}(\mathbf{DHR}(A))$.

The first item above allows us to distinguish quasi-local algebras that are isomorphic as C*-algebras but not by bounded spread isomorphisms, while the second gives us a topological invariant of QCA. In particular, we can conclude that a QCA is *not* a quantum circuit if it has a non-trivial image in $Aut_{\otimes}(DHR(A))$. We will exploit both of these consequences in the case of 1D symmetric spin systems (see Examples 4.21 and 4.24).

First, we address the issue of braidings. In the usual DHR theory, the resulting categories are braided, which plays a significant role in many applications. In our context, this additional structure provides a finer invariant for quasi-local algebras and restricts the image of the DHR homomorphisms from QCA. Under some additional assumptions on the lattice (namely, that it is a discrete subspace of \mathbb{R}^n) and the net itself (weak algebraic Haag duality, Definition 2.7), our DHR categories admit canonical braidings, and bounded spread isomorphisms induce braided equivalences on DHR categories.

Theorem B. Suppose that $L \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ is a lattice. If a net A over L satisfies weak algebraic Haag duality, there exists a canonical braiding on **DHR**(A). Furthermore, if A and B are two such nets, then for any isomorphism $\alpha : A \to B$ with bounded spread, **DHR**(α) is a braided equivalence. As a consequence, we obtain the following.

- (1) The braided monoidal equivalence class of **DHR**(*A*) is an invariant of the quasi-local algebra up to bounded spread isomorphism.
- (2) We have a homomorphism

DHR :
$$\mathbf{QCA}(A)/\mathbf{FDQC}(A) \rightarrow \mathbf{Aut}_{br}(\mathbf{DHR}(A))$$

We proceed to apply the general theory to the case of 1D spin systems with fusion categorical symmetry. Categorical symmetry can be formalized either in terms of matrix product operators (MPOs) or weak Hopf algebra actions. In either case, we can realize the quasi-local algebra of symmetric operators as a net over \mathbb{Z} , where the local algebras are endomorphisms of tensor powers of an object X internal to a unitary fusion category \mathcal{D} . Recall that $Z(\mathcal{D})$ denotes the *Drinfeld center* of \mathcal{D} .

Theorem C. Let \mathcal{D} be a unitary fusion category, and suppose that $X \in \mathcal{D}$ is strongly tensor generating. Then, the net A over $\mathbb{Z} \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ of tensor powers of X satisfies (weak) algebraic Haag duality, and **DHR** $(A) \cong \mathbb{Z}(\mathcal{D})$ as braided C*-tensor categories. In particular, there exists a canonical homomorphism

DHR : $\mathbf{QCA}(A)/\mathbf{FQDC}(A) \to \mathbf{Aut}_{\mathrm{br}}(\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{D})) \cong \mathbf{BrPic}(\mathcal{D}).$

Furthermore, if X is a characteristic object², then the image of **DHR** contains the subgroup **Out**(\mathcal{D}) \subseteq **Aut**_{br}($\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{D})$).

The equivalence of the DHR category with the Drinfeld center generalizes the main result of [74] from the context of Hopf algebra symmetries to general fusion categorical symmetry. This family of categorical nets was recently studied from a physical perspective in [65, 66]. In these works, bounded spread isomorphisms between nets are constructed from categorical data which implement duality transformations on symmetric Hamiltonians using matrix product operators. A key role is played by their notion of topological sector, which we expect to be closely related to our DHR bimodules.

Our analysis of **DHR**(A) makes heavy use of the techniques of subfactor theory [34,56,58,82] recently translated to the C*-context [17,18] (see Section 4.1). We refer the reader to [51,61,74] for a related analysis of 1D spin systems from a subfactor point of view.

One of the most remarkable results in the theory of QCA is that the group QCA/ FDQC of an ordinary spin system is abelian, even without adding ancilla [37]. As a corollary of our results, we will see that in the symmetric case this is not true. First, consider an ordinary spin system, where the local Hilbert space is \mathbb{C}^2 with the $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ spin-flip symmetry. We partition the system into adjacent pairs and coarse grain so that the local Hilbert space is

$$K := \mathbb{C}^2 \otimes \mathbb{C}^2,$$

and the group is $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ acting on *K* by a "double spin-flip".

Corollary D. For the double spin-flip $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \curvearrowright \mathbb{C}^2 \otimes \mathbb{C}^2$ on-site symmetry, the group of symmetric QCA modulo symmetric finite-depth circuits contains S_3 and in particular is non-abelian.

²We call an object characteristic if it is fixed up to isomorphism by any monoidal autoequivalence.

It is clear that **DHR** is not a complete invariant for QCA up to finite-depth circuits even in 1D. Indeed, for the case of the trivial categorical symmetry, this is an ordinary spin system and our invariant is trivial. However, the group QCA/FDQC is a highly non-trivial subgroup of \mathbb{Q}^{\times} , with isomorphism given by the GNVW index [43]. However, we believe the action on the DHR category will be the crucial component beyond index theory for any general classification scheme for symmetric QCA.

Finally, while we have motivated our DHR theory with applications to understanding isomorphisms between quasi-local algebras with bounded spread, we anticipate many further applications. For example, for any state ϕ on a quasi-local algebra A, the superselection category of ϕ is a module category over **DHR**(A), opening the door to an intrinsically categorical (rather than analytic) treatment of superselection theory of states for symmetric nets. In another direction, we believe that discrete nets of C*-algebras over a (sufficiently regular) fixed lattice in \mathbb{R}^n should assemble into a symmetric monoidal n + 2 category, with the n = 1 case being a discrete version of the symmetric monoidal 3-category of coordinate-free CFTs [4–6]. The DHR category of a net A we consider here should then arise as $\Omega^{n+1}(A)$ in the n + 2 category.

2. Discrete nets of C*-algebras

In this section, we introduce our general mathematical framework, which is a straightforward "AQFT-style" extension of the usual axioms for abstract spin systems as found, for example, in [13]. These mathematical objects are meant to axiomatize the algebras of local operators of any kind of discrete quantum field theory, which simultaneously encodes both local observables and local unitaries. The version of discrete metric space that we found most appropriate for our framework is shown in the following.

Definition 2.1. We say a countably infinite metric space *L* has bounded geometry if, for any $R \ge 0$, there exists an *S* with $|B_R(x)| \le S$ for all $x \in L$.

In the above definition, we use the notation $B_R(x)$ to denote the (closed) ball of radius R about the point x. Also, note that, in the above definition, we are assuming our space to be countably infinite. Examples include Cayley graphs of infinite, finitely generated groups (or more generally path metrics on graphs with bounded degree) and discrete subsets of Riemannian manifolds with bounded sectional curvature. Bounded geometry spaces play an important role in the study of large-scale geometry (see [75]).

We denote the *poset of finite subsets ordered by inclusion* in L by $\mathcal{F}(L)$ and the *poset of balls ordered by inclusion* by $\mathcal{B}(L)$. These will be the fundamental "small regions" in our discrete QFT.

Definition 2.2. A *discrete net* of C*-algebras consists of an infinite bounded geometry metric space L, a unital C*-algebra A (called the quasi-local algebra), and a poset homomorphism from $\mathcal{F}(L)$ to the poset of unital C*-subalgebras of A ordered by inclusion, denoted by $F \mapsto A_F$, subject to the following conditions.

(1) If
$$F \cap G = \emptyset$$
, then $[A_F, A_G] = 0$.

(2) $\bigcup_{F \in \mathcal{F}(L)} A_F$ is dense in A.

To simplify the notation, we will often simply denote a discrete net in terms of its quasi-local algebra A, with the additional structure of the poset homomorphism from finite subsets of L to unital subalgebras of A implicit additional structure.

We note that we can naturally extend our poset homomorphism from the poset of finite subsets to $\mathcal{P}(L)$, the collection of *all* subsets of *L*, as follows.

For any $M \subseteq L$, define

$$A_M := C^* \langle \{ x \in A_F : F \in \mathcal{F}(L) \text{ and } F \subseteq M \} \rangle.$$

In other words, A_M is the C* subalgebra of A generated by the algebras A_F , where F ranges over finite subsets of M. The two requirements in the definition for a discrete net now hold when replacing $\mathcal{F}(L)$ with $\mathcal{P}(L)$.

We can also use other data to generate a net. For example, we may have a poset homomorphism from the poset $\mathcal{B}(L)$ of balls in L to subalgebras of A, and we can extend this to be defined on $\mathcal{P}(L)$ (and hence on $\mathcal{F}(L)$) in the same way. In practice, this is usually how we will do things, but there is nothing really special about balls, and other types of standard regions (e.g., rectangles) work equally as well.

Example 2.3 (Spin systems). The fundamental family of examples are the nets of spin observables. Let *L* be an arbitrary metric space with bounded geometry. Fix a positive integer *d* and define A^d to be the UHF algebra $M_{d^{\infty}} \cong \bigotimes_{x \in L} M_d(\mathbb{C})$, where here $M_d(\mathbb{C})$ denotes the algebra of $d \times d$ matrices. For each finite subset in $\mathcal{F}(L)$, we set $A_F^d := \bigotimes_{x \in F} M_d(\mathbb{C}) \subseteq A^d$. This clearly satisfies the axioms of a discrete net. For an extensive exposition on this class of examples, see [13].

Example 2.4 (Symmetric spin systems). Suppose that we start with a spin system A over L equipped with a global, onsite symmetry G. More specifically, suppose that we have a homomorphism $G \to \operatorname{Aut}(M_d(\mathbb{C}))$, where d is the dimension of the onsite Hilbert space. Then, by taking the infinite tensor product, this defines a global symmetry on A^d which preserves the local subalgebras. We set A^G to be the algebra of operators invariant under the G action, and for any ball $F \in \mathcal{B}(L)$, we set $A_F^G := (A_F^d)^G$. This assembles into a discrete net over L as discussed above and serves as the motivating example of a discrete net that is of physical interest but not an ordinary spin system. By forcing invariance under G, we are implementing *local* superselection

sectors. One of the goals of this paper is to give a model-independent formulation of these superselection sectors via a DHR category.

There are many generalizations of group symmetry that are considered in the context of spin systems. For example, in 1D we can have fusion categorical (or weak Hopf algebra) symmetries, and taking invariant local operators gives us a new net. We will study such examples in depth in Section 4. In the world of AQFT, taking the net of operators invariant under a global symmetry is sometimes called *gauging the global symmetry*, or applying the orbifold construction. We encourage the reader to think of an abstract discrete net as a gauging of a spin system by some kind of (possibly generalized) global symmetry so that the elements in A_F are the operators that are invariant under a global symmetry.

Example 2.5 (Boundaries of commuting projector systems). Consider a commuting projector Hamiltonian an on the regular lattice \mathbb{Z}^n . Consider the half-lattice $\mathbb{Z}^n \leq 0$, which has a boundary lattice equivalent to \mathbb{Z}^{n-1} . Define a net of algebras on \mathbb{Z}^{n-1} consisting of operators localized near the boundary and cut down by the projection P onto the bulk ground state, similarly to [45]. Modulo some technical details, this assembles into a net of "boundary algebras" which can have non-trivial local superselection sectors. Applying the DHR construction from Section 3 to the boundary quasi-local algebra yields a braided tensor category, which should correspond to the topological order of the bulk theory. This is a concrete manifestation of a "bulkboundary correspondence" in the setting of topological codes. We will clarify this story in future work.

For any subset $F \in \mathcal{P}(L)$ and $R \ge 0$, we define its *R*-neighborhood as

$$N_R(F) := \{ x \in L : d(x, F) \le R \}.$$

A property that may be satisfied by discrete nets that will sometimes be useful is the following.

Definition 2.6. A discrete net is *boundedly generated* if there exists a $T \ge 0$ such that every A_F is generated by its subalgebras $\{A_G : G \subseteq F \text{ and } \text{diam}(G) < T\}$.

This condition guarantees that the algebra is generated "uniformly locally". This is a weak version of an additivity-type axiom in AQFT. We do not need to assume it for any technical results, but it is a nice property that the nets in our examples will always satisfy.

We now move on to define a technical condition that will be fundamental for building a braiding on discrete DHR categories. Recall that if $B \subseteq A$ is a subset of the algebra A, the centralizer of B in A is defined as

$$Z_A(B) := \{x \in A : [x, y] = 0 \text{ for all } y \in B\}.$$

Definition 2.7 (Cf. [74, Definition 2.3]). A discrete net A satisfies the following.

- (1) Weak algebraic Haag duality if there exists $R, D \ge 0$ such that for any $F \in \mathcal{B}(L)$ of radius $U \ge R$ about the point $x \in L, Z_A(A_{F^c}) \subseteq A_G$, where $G \in \mathcal{B}(L)$ is the ball about x of radius U + D. Specific choices of R and D are called *duality constants*.
- (2) Algebraic Haag duality if it satisfies weak algebraic Haag duality with D = 0. In this case, $Z_A(A_{F^c}) = A_F$.

Remark 2.8. Algebraic Haag duality is a version of the usual Haag duality from AQFT [44], with the major difference that we are only asking for the *relative commutant* of the A_{F^c} in A to be A_F , rather than the commutant in a larger B(H) for some global Hilbert space H. Weak algebraic Haag duality is inspired by the weak Haag duality of Ogata, used to derive braided categories in the context of topologically ordered spin systems [76]. All of our examples of interest satisfy algebraic Haag duality, but the weaker version has the added theoretical advantage of being invariant under isomorphisms with bounded spread, which we show below. We thank Pieter Naaijkens, David Penneys, and Daniel Wallick for discussions on the related topic of topologically ordered spin systems, where a similar version of weak Haag duality emerged naturally.

Conceptually, weak algebraic Haag duality gives us a powerful tool to verify an operator being localized in a finite region by checking that it commutes with all operators localized in the complement.

2.1. Bounded spread isomorphisms and QCA

Definition 2.9. For two discrete nets *A* and *B* over the metric space *L*, a *-isomorphism $\alpha : A \to B$ of quasi-local algebras has *bounded spread* if there exists an $R \ge 0$ such that for any $F \in \mathcal{F}(L)$, $\alpha(A_F) \subseteq B_{N_R(F)}$, and $\alpha^{-1}(B_F) \subseteq A_{N_R(F)}$.

Definition 2.10. For a fixed infinite metric space L with bounded geometry, \mathbf{Net}_L is the groupoid whose

- (1) objects are discrete nets over L,
- (2) morphisms $\operatorname{Net}_L(A, B)$ consist of *-isomorphisms $\alpha : A \to B$ such that α has bounded spread.

In many examples, $\alpha(A_F) \subseteq B_{N_R(F)}$ for all *F* automatically implies $\alpha^{-1}(B_F) \subseteq A_{N_R(F)}$ (for example, in ordinary spin systems [3]).

Proposition 2.11. The property of weak algebraic Haag duality is invariant under bounded spread isomorphism.

Proof. Suppose that *A* satisfies weak algebraic Haag duality, with constants *R* and *D*, and suppose that $\alpha : A \to B$ is a *-isomorphism with spread at most *T*. We claim that *B* satisfies weak algebraic Haag duality with constants *R*, *D* + 2*T*. Let *F* be a ball of radius $U \ge R$ about some point *x*. Then, set *F'* to be the corresponding ball of radius U + T and *F''* the ball of radius U + T + D. Then, $A_{(F')^c} \subseteq \alpha^{-1}(B_{F^c})$, so

$$\alpha^{-1}(Z_B(B_{F^c})) = Z_A(\alpha^{-1}(B_{F^c}))$$
$$\subseteq Z_A(A_{(F')^c})$$
$$\subseteq A_{F''}.$$

Therefore,

$$Z_B(B_{F^c}) \subseteq \alpha(A_{F''}) \subseteq B_G,$$

where G is the ball of radius U + 2T + D about x, proving the claim.

Definition 2.12. The group of *quantum cellular automata* on a net *A* is defined to be $Net_L(A, A)$. We denote this group by QCA(A).

Quantum cellular automata (QCA) of spin systems have recently been extensively investigated in the physics literature. We will say some words about QCA from a physical viewpoint in the next section. The easiest examples of quantum cellular automata are *finite-depth quantum circuit*. Let *A* be a discrete net of C*-algebras. A depth one quantum circuit in *A* is a QCA constructed from the following data.

- $\{F_i\}_{i \in I}$ is a partition of L by finite sets with uniformly bounded diameters.
- $\{u_i \in A_{F_i}\}$ is a choice of unitaries.

From this data, we define an automorphism of the quasi-local algebra A. Identify I with the natural numbers \mathbb{N} (which is possible since we assumed that L is countably infinite), and define $G_n = \bigcup_{i=1}^n F_n$. Set $v_n := \prod_{i=1}^n u_i \in A_{G_n}$. Then, consider $\alpha_n := \operatorname{Ad}(v_n) \in \operatorname{Aut}(A)$. For any finite subset F, let n_0 be the smallest natural such that $F \subseteq G_{n_0}$. Then, for every $n \ge n_0$, if $x \in A_F$, we have $\alpha_n(x) = \alpha_{n_0}(x)$. We define $\alpha_v(x) := \lim_n \alpha_n(x)$, which stabilizes pointwise, thus giving a *-automorphism on the union of local algebras. Since there is a unique C*-norm on any increasing union of finite-dimensional C*-algebras, this extends to a *-automorphism of the quasi-local algebra. We call automorphisms constructed in this way *depth one* quantum circuits.

In practice, we can simply write

$$\alpha(x) := \Big(\prod_{i \in I} v_n\Big) x\Big(\prod_{i \in I} v_n^*\Big),$$

which makes sense for any local operator $x \in A_F$, since all but finitely many of the v_n will commute with x. Also, note that the spread of a depth one circuit is bounded by the largest diameter of a set in the underlying partition.

Definition 2.13. An automorphism $\alpha \in \mathbf{QCA}(A)$ is called a *finite-depth quantum circuit* if $\alpha = \alpha_1 \circ \alpha_2 \cdots \circ \alpha_n$, where each α_i is a depth one circuit. We denote the set of finite-depth circuits by **FDQC**(*A*).

Proposition 2.14. If $\alpha \in \text{Net}_L(A, B)$ and $\beta \in \text{FDQC}(A)$, then

 $\alpha \circ \beta \circ \alpha^{-1} \in \mathbf{FDQC}(B).$

Proof. Let $\beta \in \mathbf{FDQC}(A)$ be depth one, and $\alpha \in \mathbf{Net}_L(A, B)$ with spread at most R. Let $F = \{F_i \in \mathcal{F}(L)\}_{i \in I}$ be a collection of finite sets corresponding to β and $T \ge 0$ such that diam $(F_i) \le T$. Let $u_i \in A_{F_i}$ the corresponding unitaries implementing β .

Consider the graph G with vertex set I, defined by declaring i adjacent to j if $N_{3R}(F_i) \cap F_j \neq \emptyset$. This relation is symmetric. Clearly, the degree of each vertex is finite. We claim that, in addition, the degree is uniformly bounded. Indeed, since each $N_{3R}(F_i)$ is contained in a ball of radius T + 3R of any point in F_i , by the bounded geometry assumption there exists an S depending only on T + 3R such that $|N_{3R}(F_i)| \leq S$ for all *i*. Therefore, the number of distinct *j* such that

$$N_{3R}(F_i) \cap F_i \neq \emptyset$$

is bounded by S. In particular, the degree of G is uniformly bounded by S.

We claim that there is a vertex coloring with a finite number of colors. Indeed, for every finite subgraph $G' \subseteq G$, the degree is also bounded by S, so utilizing the greedy coloring algorithm, we can color G' with S + 1 colors. By the De Bruijn–Erdős theorem [24], this implies that G can be colored S + 1 colors. Choose such a coloring.

For each color $a \in \{1, 2, ..., S + 1\}$, define I_a as the set of vertices colored a. Consider the family $G^a = \{G_i := N_R(F_i) \in F : i \in I_a\}$. We can extend this trivially to a partition by adding singletons. Note that since adjacent vertices have different colors, it is clearly the case that $G_i \cap G_j = \emptyset$ for any $G_i, G_j \in G^a$. Hence, the elements of each family are pairwise disjoint. For $i \in I_a$, define $w_i := \alpha(u_i) \in B_{G_i}$ (or $w_i = 1$ for the added singletons), and let β_a denote the corresponding depth one circuit. Note that since u_i commutes with u_j , then $\alpha(u_i)$ commutes with $\alpha(u_j)$. Then, we see for any local operator $x \in B_F$ that

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha \circ \beta \circ \alpha^{-1}(x) \\ &= \alpha \Big(\Big(\prod u_i \Big) \alpha^{-1}(x) \Big(\prod u_i^* \Big) \Big) \\ &= \Big(\prod \alpha(u_i) \Big) x \Big(\prod \alpha(u_i)^* \Big) \\ &= \Big(\prod_{i_1 \in I_1} w_{i_1} \Big) \cdots \Big(\prod_{i_{S+1} \in I_{S+1}} w_{i_{S+1}} \Big) x \Big(\prod_{i_{S+1} \in I_{S+1}} w_{i_{S+1}}^* \Big) \cdots \Big(\prod_{i_1 \in I_1} w_{i_1}^* \Big) \\ &= \beta_1 \circ \ldots \circ \beta_{S+1}(x). \end{aligned}$$

The above proposition shows that FDQC behaves like a normal subgroup of the groupoid **Net**_L (and, in particular, *is* a normal subgroup of the automorphism group of any object). We define the equivalence relation \sim_{FDQC} on **Net**_L(A, B) by $\alpha \sim_{\text{FDQC}} \beta$ if $\beta^{-1}\alpha \in \text{FDQC}(A)$, or, equivalently, if $\alpha\beta^{-1} \in \text{FDQC}(B)$. By the previous lemma, composition gives a well-defined associative operation on equivalence classes. This leads to the following definition.

Definition 2.15. Net_L/FDQC is the groupoid whose

- objects are nets of C*-algebras over L,
- morphisms are $\operatorname{Net}_L(A, B) / \sim_{\operatorname{FDQC}}$,
- composition is induced from $Net_L(A, B)$.

If we have a groupoid homomorphism from Net_L which contains FDQC in the kernel of all the automorphism groups of all the objects, then this descends to a well-defined groupoid morphism from $Net_L/FDQC$. This restricts to a homomorphism from QCA(A)/FDQC(A) for any A.

Remark 2.16. It would be interesting to define a version of FDQC(A), where the elements are the actual sequence of unitaries rather than the resulting automorphisms. One could imagine defining a unitary 2-group which could be characterized by an anomaly $[\omega] \in H^3(QCA(A)/FDQC(A), U(1))$ in the sense of [54].

2.2. Physical interpretation of QCA

In this subsection, we will discuss two physical interpretations of the group of QCA and the group QCA/FDQC. These correspond to (at least) two natural ways to view QCA of ordinary spin systems from a physical perspective.

The first arises from viewing the structure of a discrete net as a host for the moduli space of local (symmetric) Hamiltonians. In particular, any local Hamiltonian is built from terms living in finite regions with globally bounded diameter. Thus, an isomorphism between two nets

$$\alpha:A\to B$$

which has bounded spread maps local Hamiltonians to local Hamiltonians. In particular, the group QCA(A) can be viewed as the group of symmetries of the moduli space of local Hamiltonians, which have the potential to implement "dualities" between a priori very different looking Hamiltonians [1, 2, 29, 65, 66]. This point of view is particularly interesting in the context of symmetric nets. In this case, QCA are symmetries of the space of local *symmetric* Hamiltonians and may implement equivalence between symmetric Hamiltonians that have no non-symmetric counterpart; i.e., the symmetric QCA cannot be extended to an ordinary QCA without sacrificing invertibility. We can use QCA to define a natural equivalence relation on local Hamiltonians. We declare two Hamiltonians equivalent if they are in the same orbit under the action of QCA. Since states in the thermodynamic limit of a spin system are just states on the quasi-local algebra, QCA can also be used to define equivalence relations *directly on states themselves* without reference to a parent Hamiltonian.

A second perspective is to view a QCA as a discrete-time unitary dynamics [48]. This extends the standard viewpoint on classical cellular automata as discrete-time updates of configurations to the quantum setting. This class of evolutions retains physical properties such as local causality and quantum reversibility while dispensing with the differential equations and local Hamiltonian generator which usually give rise to these properties. Interest in this perspective emerged alongside the rise of quantum computing, where discrete-time evolutions are very natural. We note that QCA themselves are generally not realizable as time evolutions generated by local Hamiltonians unless they are circuits but can nevertheless approximate arbitrary local Hamiltonian evolutions in a certain sense [47]. This partly justifies the study of "strictly local" QCA which we consider here, as opposed to more general versions of QCA which have tails that arise from time evolutions of local Hamiltonians.

The role of finite-depth quantum circuits in phases of quantum matter was first proposed in [20]. The authors argue that a natural way to consider two ground states of gapped Hamiltonians equivalent is if they are related by a finite-depth circuit, which gives a definition that is independent of a choice of parent Hamiltonian. This equivalence relation gives a possible operational definition for "topological phase" of ground states of gapped Hamiltonians. This can naturally be extended to an equivalence relation on Hamiltonians themselves, where we declare two local Hamiltonians equivalent if one is conjugate to the other by a finite-depth circuits, which we call circuit equivalence. Then, it is the group QCA/FDQC which acts by symmetries on the moduli space of circuit equivalence classes of Hamiltonians. From the perspective of discrete-time unitary dynamics, it makes sense to consider QCA/FDQC as the group of *topological phases* of discrete-time unitary dynamics.

From both of these viewpoints, it makes sense to say two QCA are topologically equivalent if they differ by a circuit. This leads to the following question.

Problem 2.17. For a given discrete net A, find topological invariants for QCA(A) and apply them to compute QCA(A)/FDQC(A).

A complete solution to this problem is given for ordinary spin systems on a 1D lattice [43]. This index has been extended to higher-dimensional manifolds, with a complete classification given in 2D [38]. However, it is believed that this index is insufficient in higher dimensions. Indeed, in three dimensions, there is intriguing evidence that this group should be related to the Witt group of modular tensor categories,

or, equivalently, invertible fully extended 3+1 D TQFTs [46, 48, 49, 85]. In general, it is known that the group **QCA/FDQC** for ordinary spin systems is abelian [37]³.

One of the main results of our paper is that even in 1D, in the symmetric case, the group QCA(A)/FDQC(A) of an arbitrary net is generally not abelian. Hence, we will need invariants beyond a numerical index theory to classify these groups, which is one motivation for the development of DHR theory for symmetric spin systems.

3. Discrete DHR theory

In this section, we develop a version of the DHR theory of superselection theory suitable for abstract spin systems. We note that the usual DHR theory is based on a distinguished Hilbert space representation (the "vacuum" or "ground state" representation) and proceeds to study superselection sectors as other representations which "look like" the vacuum representation outside any small region. This approach has been useful in the study of topologically ordered spin systems [16, 70, 71, 76, 89]. However, this approach is heavily state dependent and is not well suited for the study of QCA, which depend only on the quasi-local algebra.

In this section, we introduce a version of DHR theory in which the role of states is replaced by ucp (unital completely positive) maps on the quasi-local algebra, and the role of Hilbert space representations is replaced by bimodules. Physically, we can think of this as a superselection theory of quantum channels, rather than a superselection theory of states. The DHR category we define is then the category of superselection sectors of the identity channel. To motivate this conception, we first heuristically review the connection between states, representations, and superselection theory.

In the study of quantum spin systems, we are interested in states in the thermodynamic limit (see [13, 72]), which are modeled by *states* on the quasi-local algebra A. Recall a state on the C*-algebra A is simply a positive linear functional $\phi : A \to \mathbb{C}$ such that $\phi(1) = 1$. In practice, these often arise as ground states or equilibrium states of a local Hamiltonian, but from the quantum information perspective, it is desirable to study these states independently of their origin.

Given a state on A, we can build a Hilbert space of local perturbations, sometimes called a "sector". This is achieved by applying the Gelfand–Naimark–Segal (GNS) construction. We start by representing the state ϕ formally as the vector state Ω_{ϕ} . We

³We caution the reader that many of the results beyond 1D use more general notions of equivalence of QCA, in particular stable equivalence (adding ancilla locally) and blending. It is not entirely clear what the right version of these notions is in the symmetric setting, since abstract nets of C*-algebras are less flexible than ordinary spin systems.

introduce other vectors to this Hilbert space by formally adding *local perturbations* of ϕ , yielding the vectors space $\{a\Omega_{\phi} : a \in A\}$. Intuitively, these are the states accessible from ϕ by the application of local operators. The inner product of any two of these is defined to be

$$\langle a\Omega_{\phi} \mid b\Omega_{\phi} \rangle := \phi(a^*b).$$

We quotient out by the null vectors and complete this to obtain a Hilbert space denoted $L^2(A, \phi)$. This gives a concrete Hilbert space realization of all local perturbations of ϕ , which is acted upon by A.

We are thus led to extending the *convex set* of states to the W^* -category **Rep**(A), whose objects are Hilbert space representations of A, and morphisms are bounded linear operators intertwining the actions. The advantage of this approach is that it allows us to consider all local perturbations of a state globally, as an object in the category **Rep**(A). Thus, macroscopic properties of states, which should be invariant under local perturbations, should be expressible as properties of the corresponding GNS representation, opening the door to applying category theory in the study of quantum many-body systems.

Now, we recall the theory of superselection sectors from the perspective of algebraic quantum field theory (see [44]). Given a state ϕ on the quasi-local C*-algebra *A*, a representation *H* is *localizable with respect to* ϕ if, for any (sufficiently large) ball *F*,

$$H|_{A_{F^c}} \approx L^2(A,\phi)|_{A_{F^c}}.$$

Here, \approx denotes quasi-equivalence of representations of a C*-algebra [12], but morally it is useful to think of "equivalence"⁴. This condition is often called the *superselection criterion*. We also note that we are using "balls" here primarily for expository purposes, but this is not essential. For example, in applications to topologically ordered spin systems in 2+1 dimensions, infinite cones are the appropriate regions to use.

We interpret a localizable representation as a sector (or collection of states related by local perturbations) that "looks like" the vacuum sector outside any small region. In other words, the measurable difference from the ground state representation can be localized in any small (but non-empty) region. By zooming out and squinting our eyes, it is reasonable to consider these objects as *topological point defects* of the state ϕ . They are considered "topological" because the region F of localization can be chosen arbitrarily, and "point" because balls of finite radius look like points from infinity.

We define the category of superselection sectors $\operatorname{Rep}_{\phi}(A)$ as the W * category of representations satisfying the superselection criteria. In most applications of superselection theory, one proceeds to make some technical assumptions which allow for

⁴Indeed, in many cases, equivalence is automatically implied.

the construction of a braided monoidal structure on this category. This plays a crucial role in many aspects of chiral conformal field theory and topologically ordered spin systems. Building these structures is highly non-trivial, and it is the study of the braided monoidal structure that we refer to as DHR theory, after the seminal work of Doplicher, Haag, and Roberts [25–27].

In most manifestations of this story, there is a basic state as a fundamental part of the data: in AQFT, it is usually part of the definitions (the vacuum state), and in topologically ordered spin systems, it arises as the ground state of a Hamiltonian. Superselection theory is then considered relative to that state.

The idea will be to extend the above discussion by replacing states with quantum channels. Suppose now that we have *two* discrete nets of algebras, A and B, over the same metric space L. Conceptually, we make the following substitutions.

- States on $A \mapsto$ ucp maps (i.e., quantum channels) from A to B.
- Representations of $A \mapsto A$ -B bimodules (right correspondences).

This analogy is well known in the theory of operator algebras. Indeed, this is more than an analogy: if we substitute $B = \mathbb{C}$, we recover states and Hilbert space representations on the nose. Recall that a ucp map $\phi : A \to A$ is a completely positive map with $\phi(1) = 1$. Thus, the state-Hilbert space picture is a special case of the ucp mapbimodule correspondence. In quantum information theory, ucp are called "quantum channels", being the most general type of operation on a quantum system mapping states to states (by composing).

Like states, ucp maps have an analog of the GNS construction obtained by taking local perturbations, but instead of producing a Hilbert space representation of A, they result in a right A-B correspondence (which should be viewed as a C*-algebra version of "bimodule"; for a detailed definition, see Section 3.1). This works as follows.

Let $\phi : A \to B$ be a ucp map. We build a vector space, starting with the channel ϕ , represented by the vector Ω_{ϕ} as in the GNS construction. Then, the vector space will consist of local perturbations of this channel. We can perturb by operators from *A* on the left and operators from *B* on the right so that we obtain vectors of the form $\{a\Omega_{\phi}b : a \in A, b \in B\}$.

Then, we consider a (right) *B*-valued inner product:

$$\langle a\Omega_{\phi}b \mid c\Omega_{\phi}d \rangle := b^*\phi(a^*c)d$$

Modding out by the kernel and completing, we obtain a right A-B correspondence, which we call $L^2(A - B, \phi)$, directly generalizing the GNS construction. This strongly suggests that the analog of a Hilbert space representation for quantum channels should be a (right) A-B correspondence.

From this perspective, it seems plausible that we should be able to define a *super-selection category of a quantum channel* rather than of a single state. Here, we have

the added advantage that, unlike Hilbert space representations, correspondences naturally have a monoidal product (or more precisely, C*-algebras and right correspondences form a 2-category). Furthermore, on any given quasi-local algebra, there is a canonical quantum channel: the identity map. This should then give a canonical, state-independent superselection category for any net of C*-algebras, which naturally has the structure of a C*-tensor category.

We proceed to give a formal definition of this superselection category for a net A. This will consist of "localizable" bimodules and will naturally assemble into a C*-tensor category. Since this is fairly close in spirit to the DHR perspective of endomorphisms on the quasi-local algebra, we will call this category **DHR**(A). First, we give some background definitions on bimodules of C*-algebras in the next section.

3.1. Bimodules of a C*-algebra

Let A be a (unital) C*-algebra. A (right) Hilbert A-module consists of a vector space X, which is a right A module (algebraically), together with a sesquilinear map

$$\langle \cdot | \cdot \rangle : X \times X \to A$$

(conjugate linear in the first variable, linear in the second) satisfying the following.

- (1) $\langle x \mid ya \rangle = \langle x \mid y \rangle a$.
- (2) $\langle x \mid x \rangle \ge 0$, with equality if and only if x = 0.

(3)
$$\langle x \mid y \rangle^* = \langle y \mid x \rangle.$$

(4) The norm $||x|| := ||\langle x | x \rangle||^{\frac{1}{2}}$ is complete.

Given two Hilbert A-modules X and Y, an adjointable operator from X to Y is an A-module intertwiner $T : X \to Y$ such that there exists an A-module intertwiner $T^* : Y \to X$ with $\langle T(x) | y \rangle_Y = \langle x | T^*(y) \rangle_X$. The space of adjointable operators is denoted by $\mathcal{L}(X, Y)$. $\mathcal{L}(X, X)$ is a unital C*-algebra.

If A is a C*-algebra, an A-A bimodule is a Hilbert A-module X, together with a unital *-homomorphism $A \rightarrow \mathcal{L}(X, X)$. We express this homomorphism as a left action, either with standard left multiplication notation, e.g., ax, or with triangles, e.g., $a \triangleright x$. In the literature, what we are calling bimodules are usually called (right) correspondences, and we will use the terms interchangeably.

An intertwiner between bimodules X and Y is an element $f \in \mathcal{L}(X, Y)$ such that f(ax) = af(x). (Note that $f \in \mathcal{L}(X, Y)$ already implies that f intertwines the right A action.) The collection of all bimodules and intertwiners assembles into a C*-category which we call **Bim**(A).

In fact, **Bim**(A) has the structure of a C*-*tensor category*. Recall that C*-tensor categories are C*-categories (see, e.g., [41]) with a linear monoidal structure such

that the * operation is compatible with \otimes , and the unitors and associators are unitary isomorphisms. For further details, see [18, 64] and references therein.

To define the tensor product on Bim(A), we consider the A-valued sesquilinear form

$$(X \otimes Y) \times (X \otimes Y) \to A$$

defined by

$$\langle x_1 \otimes y_1 \mid x_2 \otimes y_2 \rangle_{X \boxtimes_A Y} := \langle y_1 \mid \langle x_1 \mid x_2 \rangle_X y_2 \rangle_Y.$$

Taking the quotient by the kernel of this form and then completing gives a new *A*-*A* bimodule denoted by $X \boxtimes_A Y$ or simply $X \boxtimes Y$ if the *A* subscript is clear from context. We will typically denote the image of the simple tensor $x \otimes y$ inside $X \boxtimes_A Y$ by $x \boxtimes y$. Then, the left and right actions of *A* are simply given on simple tensors by

 $a(x \boxtimes y)b := ax \boxtimes yb.$

Similarly, if $f: X_1 \to X_2, g: Y_1 \to Y_2$ are bimodule intertwiners, then

$$f \boxtimes g : X_1 \boxtimes Y_1 \to X_2 \boxtimes Y_2$$
$$(f \boxtimes g)(x \boxtimes y) := f(x) \boxtimes g(y)$$

gives a well-defined bimodule intertwiner. The obvious "move the parentheses map" from $(X \boxtimes Y) \boxtimes Z \cong X \boxtimes (Y \boxtimes Z)$ is a natural bimodule intertwiner and satisfies the pentagon identity. Thus, **Bim**(*A*) is canonically equipped with the structure of a C*-tensor category. For further details on the categorical structure, see [18, Section 2].

An important ingredient for us is projective bases for correspondences. In the context of subfactors, these were first introduced by Pimsner and Popa [78], and for inclusions of C*-algebras and bimodules by Watatani [90] and Kajiwara and Watatani [59], to study the Jones index [57]. From an algebraic perspective, these are straightforward analytic extensions of projective bases for modules of associative algebras; hence, for this reason, we will call them projective bases here.

Definition 3.1. Let X be a right Hilbert A-module. A projective basis is a finite subset $\{b_i\}_{i=1}^n \subseteq X$ such that, for all $x \in X$,

$$\sum_{i} b_i \langle b_i \mid x \rangle = x.$$

A bimodule is called *right finite* if there exists a projective basis.

It is easy to see that a right Hilbert module admits a projective basis if and only if it is finitely generated and projective as an *A* module (hence the terminology). A bimodule is right finite if and only if it has an *amplimorphism* model. These are built

from (not necessarily unital) homomorphisms $\pi : A \to M_n(A)$, with the bimodule X given by $\pi(1)A^n$, with left action of π and right action diagonal. This correspondence is described, for example, in the II₁ factor context in [86] or more categorically in [19, Remark 2.12]. Amplimorphisms are closer to the picture of endomorphisms typically used in AQFT.

The collection of right finite bimodules is a full C*-tensor subcategory of **Bim**(*A*), since if $\{b_i\}$ and $\{c_j\}$ are projective bases for *X*, *Y*, respectively, then $\{b_i \boxtimes c_j\}$ is a projective basis for $X \boxtimes Y$. If *X* has a projective basis $\{b_i\}$, then *X* is the *A*-linear span of the $\{b_i\}$. In particular, if *Y* is another right Hilbert *A*-module and $f : X \to Y$ is a right *A*-module homomorphism, then *f* is uniquely determined by its action on basis elements.

3.2. DHR functor

Let *A* be a discrete net over the countable bounded geometry metric space *L*. Recall that, for any finite region *F*, A_{F^c} is the C*-subalgebra of *A* generate by all A_G , where $G \in \mathcal{F}(L)$ and $G \cap F = \emptyset$.

Definition 3.2. Let $F \in \mathcal{F}(L)$. We say that a right finite correspondence X is *local-izable in* F if there exists a projective basis $\{b_i\}_{i=1}^n$ such that for any $a \in A_{F^c}$, for each i,

$$ab_i = b_i a$$
.

Definition 3.3. Suppose that A is a discrete net. Then, we say that a right finite correspondence X is *localizable* if there exists an $R \ge 0$ such that X is localizable in all balls of radius at least R. We denote the full C*-tensor subcategory of localizable right finite correspondences in **Bim**(A) by **DHR**(A)

For a localizable bimodule, we say that the R in the definition is a *localization* radius of X. Since we can replace R with any larger R, we can assume, without loss of generality, that the localization radius is a positive integer.

Let C*-TensCat be the groupoid defined as follows.

- Objects are C*-tensor categories.
- Morphisms between C*-tensor categories are unitary equivalences between C*tensor categories up to unitary monoidal equivalence.
- Composition is induced from composition of equivalences.

Theorem 3.4 (Theorem A). The assignment $A \mapsto \mathbf{DHR}(A)$ extends to a functor

DHR : Net_L \rightarrow C*-TensCat.

The corresponding homomorphism

DHR :
$$\mathbf{QCA}(A) \rightarrow \mathbf{Aut}_{\otimes}(\mathbf{DHR}(A))$$

contains FDQC(A) in its kernel.

Proof. First, note that, for any isomorphism of C*-algebras $\alpha : A \to B$, we have a canonical equivalence $\alpha_* : \mathbf{Bim}(A) \to \mathbf{Bim}(B)$. Here, the *A*-*A* bimodule *X* is sent to $\alpha_*(X) \in \mathbf{Bim}(B)$, where $\alpha_*(X) = X$ as a Banach space, with *B*-*B* bimodule structure defined for $a, b \in B, x, y \in X$ by

$$a \triangleright_{\alpha} x \triangleleft_{\alpha} b := \alpha^{-1}(a) x \alpha^{-1}(b),$$
$$\langle x | y \rangle_{\alpha_{*}(X)} := \alpha(\langle x | y \rangle_{X}).$$

This extends to a *-functor by defining, for any $f : X \to Y$,

$$\alpha_*(f):\alpha_*(X)\ni x\mapsto f(x)\in\alpha_*(Y).$$

There is an obvious unitary monoidal structure on α_* , with tensorator

$$\mu_{X,Y}^{\alpha} : \alpha^{*}(X) \boxtimes_{B} \alpha_{*}(Y) \cong \alpha_{*}(X \boxtimes_{A} Y)$$
$$\mu_{X,Y}^{\alpha}(X \boxtimes_{B} y) := x \boxtimes_{A} y.$$

Also, it is clear from the definition that $\alpha_* \circ \beta_* \cong (\alpha \circ \beta)_*$.

Now, the claim is that if A and B are nets over L, X is a localizable bimodule over A with localization radius R, and $\alpha \in \mathbf{Net}_L(A, B)$ such that α^{-1} has spread at most T, then $\alpha_*(X)$ is localizable in B, with localizable radius R + T. To see this, suppose that F is a ball of radius greater than R + T, and let $\{b_i\}$ be a projective basis in X localizing in the corresponding ball of radius R. Then, since the spread is at most T, clearly $\{b_i\}$ is a projective basis for $\alpha_*(X)$ which is localizing in F, proving the claim.

We can define

DHR(
$$\alpha$$
) := $\alpha_*|_{\text{DHR}(A)}$

Now, to show the second part of the theorem, it suffices to show that for any depth one circuit $\alpha \in \mathbf{Net}_L(A, A) = \mathbf{QCA}(A)$, $\mathbf{DHR}(\alpha)$ is monoidally naturally isomorphic to the identity. Suppose that $\mathbf{F} = \{F_i\}_{i \in J}$ is a partition of L with uniformly bounded diameter T, and $u_i \in A_{F_i}$ a choice of unitaries with

$$\alpha(a) := \Big(\prod_{i \in J} u_i\Big)a\Big(\prod_{i \in J} u_i^*\Big).$$

For any finite subset $F \subseteq L$, define $X_F := \{x \in X : ax = xa \text{ for all } a \in A_{F^c}\}$. Note that since X is localizable, the union $\bigcup_{F \text{ is a ball}} X_F \subseteq X$ is dense. (In fact, we can take the union over *any* increasing sequence of balls.) For any $F \subseteq L$, we set $J_F = \{i \in J : F_i \cap F \neq \emptyset\}.$

We define the map

$$\eta_X:\alpha_*(X)\to X$$

by setting, for any $x \in X_F$,

$$\eta_X(x) = \left(\prod_i u_i^*\right) x \left(\prod_i u_i\right)$$
$$= \left(\prod_{i \in J_F} u_i^*\right) x \left(\prod_{i \in J_F} u_i\right)$$
$$= \left(\prod_{i \in J_G} u_i^*\right) x \left(\prod_{i \in J_G} u_i\right) \text{ for any } F \subseteq G \text{ finite.}$$

This is clearly a norm isometry on this dense subspace and thus extends to a uniquely defined linear map. To check that it is a bimodule intertwiner, let $a \in A_I$, $b \in A_K$, and $x \in X_M$. Set $N = I \cup K \cup M$:

$$\begin{split} \eta_X(a \succ_\alpha x \triangleleft_\alpha b) &= \Big(\prod_{i \in J_N} u_i^*\Big)\Big(\Big(\prod_{i \in J_I} u_i\Big)a\Big(\prod_{i \in J_I} u_i^*\Big)x\Big(\prod_{i \in J_K} u_i\Big)b\Big(\prod_{i \in J_K} u_i^*\Big)\Big)\Big(\prod_{i \in J_N} u_i\Big)\\ &= \Big(\prod_{i \in J_N} u_i^*\Big)\Big(\Big(\prod_{i \in J_N} u_i\Big)a \operatorname{Ad}\Big(\prod_{i \in J_N} u_i^*\Big)(x)b\Big(\prod_{i \in J_N} u_i^*\Big)\Big)\Big(\prod_{i \in J_N} u_i\Big)\\ &= a\Big(\prod_{i \in J_N} u_i^*\Big)x\Big(\prod_{i \in J_N} u_i\Big)b\\ &= a \eta_X(x) b. \end{split}$$

Note that the adjoint of η_X is

$$\eta_X^*(x) = \left(\prod_i u_i\right) x \left(\prod_i u_i^*\right) = \eta_X^{-1}(x).$$

To see that the family $\eta = {\eta_X}_{X \in \mathbf{DHR}(A)}$ is a monoidal natural transformation, we first check naturality. For any bimodule intertwiner $f : X \to Y$, note that, for any finite set F, if $x \in X_F$, then $f(x) \in Y_F$. Then, we compute that

$$f(\eta_X(x)) = f\left(\left(\prod_{i \in J_F} u_i^*\right) x\left(\prod_{i \in J_F} u_i\right)\right)$$
$$= \left(\prod_{i \in J_F} u_i^*\right) f(x)\left(\prod_{i \in J_F} u_i\right)$$
$$= \eta_Y(f(x))$$
$$= \eta_Y(\alpha_*(f)(x)).$$

In the above computation, we have used the fact that the finite product $(\prod_{i \in J_F} u_i) \in A$ so is intertwined by f. Finally, for monoidality of η , let $x \in X_F$ and $y \in Y_G$. Choose some $H \in \mathcal{B}(L)$ with $F \cup G \subseteq H$. Then,

$$\mu_{X,Y}^{\alpha}(\eta_X \boxtimes \eta_Y)(x \boxtimes y) = \eta_X(x) \boxtimes \eta_Y(y)$$

= $\left(\prod_{i \in J_H} u_i^*\right) x \left(\prod_{i \in J_H} u_i\right) \boxtimes \left(\prod_{i \in J_H} u_i^*\right) y \left(\prod_{i \in J_H} u_i\right)$
= $\left(\prod_{i \in J_H} u_i^*\right) (x \boxtimes y) \left(\prod_{i \in J_H} u_i\right)$
= $\eta_{X \boxtimes Y}(\mu_{X,Y}^{\alpha}(x \boxtimes y)).$

Here, we have again used the fact that the finite product $(\prod_{i \in J_H} u_i) \in A$ and the tensor product is A middle-linear.

3.3. Constructing the braiding

We now follow the usual DHR recipe to build a braiding on the HDR tensor category. However, without additional assumptions, we run into problems: braidings may not exist, or may not be unique. In order to avoid these technicalities, for this paper, we restrict our attention to lattices in \mathbb{R}^n .

Definition 3.5. An *n*-dimensional *lattice* is a uniformly discrete subset $L \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ such that there is a *C* with d(x, L) < C for all $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$. We call *C* a lattice constant.

For the rest of the section, we will let *L* be a lattice in \mathbb{R}^n with lattice constant *C* and *A* a discrete net on *L* satisfying weak algebraic Haag duality with duality constants *R*, *D* (Definition 2.7). Set $T_0 := 2C + 2D + 2R$. We proceed to construct a braiding on **DHR**(*A*).

First, we note an immediate consequence of the definition of weak algebraic Haag duality.

Corollary 3.6. Suppose that a net satisfies weak algebraic Haag duality with duality constants R, D. If $F \in \mathcal{B}(L)$ is a ball of radius $U \ge R$ about a point $x \in L$, $\{b_i\}_{i=1}^n$ is any F-localizing basis of a correspondence X and G is any ball of radius at least U + D about x, then, for any $a \in A_F$, $\langle b_i | ab_j \rangle \in A_G$.

Proof. It suffices to show that $\langle b_i | ab_j \rangle \in Z_A(A_{F^c})$. But for any $b \in A_{F^c}$, we have ab = ba, so

$$\langle b_i \mid ab_j \rangle b = \langle b_i \mid ab_j b \rangle = \langle b_i \mid bab_j \rangle = \langle b^*b_i \mid ab_j \rangle$$

= $\langle b_i b^* \mid ab_j \rangle = b \langle b_i \mid ab_j \rangle.$

Lemma 3.7. Let $X, Y \in \mathbf{DHR}(A)$, and let $(x, y) \in L \times L$ with

$$d(x, y) > T_0 + R_X + R_Y.$$

Let $F = B_{R_X}(x)$ and $G = B_{R_Y}(y)$, and let $\{b_i\}$ and $\{c_j\}$ be F and G localizing bases for X and Y, respectively. Then, the assignment $\sum b_i \boxtimes_A c_j a_{ij} \mapsto \sum c_j \boxtimes_A b_i a_{ij}$ gives a well-defined unitary (hence adjointable) operator of right Hilbert modules

$$u_{X,Y}^{F,G}: X \boxtimes_A Y \to Y \boxtimes_A X$$

independent of the choice of F and G localizing bases.

Proof. First, we check that

$$\begin{split} \left\langle u_{X,Y}^{F,G} \left(\sum b_i \boxtimes c_j a_{ij} \right) \mid u_{X,Y}^{F,G} \left(\sum b_i \boxtimes c_j a_{ij} \right) \right\rangle \\ &= \left\langle \sum c_j \boxtimes_A b_i a_{ij} \mid \sum c_j \boxtimes_A b_i a_{ij} \right\rangle \\ &= \sum a_{ij}^* \langle b_i \mid \langle c_j \mid c_k \rangle b_l \rangle a_{lk} \\ &= \sum a_{ij}^* \langle b_i \mid b_l \rangle \langle c_j \mid c_k \rangle a_{lk} \\ &= \sum \langle c_j a_{ij} \mid \langle b_i \mid b_l \rangle c_k a_{lk} \rangle \\ &= \left\langle \sum b_i \boxtimes c_j a_{ij} \mid \sum b_i \boxtimes c_j a_{ij} \right\rangle. \end{split}$$

In the above computation, we have used the fact that $F' \cap G' = \emptyset$, where $F' := B_{R_X+D}(x)$ and $G' = B_{R_Y+D}(y) = 0$, together with Corollary 3.6. In particular, this implies that our linear map $u_{X,Y}^{F,G}$ preserves the kernel in the relative tensor product and hence is well defined and an isometry of right *A*-modules.

Computing the adjoint, we see that $(u_{X,Y}^{F,G})^*(c_j \boxtimes b_i) = b_i \boxtimes c_j = (u_{X,Y}^{F,G})^{-1}(c_j \boxtimes b_i)$, and thus, $u_{X,Y}^{F,G}$ is a unitary.

Now, suppose that $\{b'_i\}$, $\{c'_j\}$ are alternative choices for F and G-localizing bases, respectively, for X and Y. Then, we see that

$$u_{X,Y}^{F,G}(b'_{i} \boxtimes c'_{j}) = u_{X,Y}^{F,G} \Big(\sum_{l,k} b_{l} \langle b_{l} \mid b'_{i} \rangle \boxtimes c_{k} \langle c_{k} \mid c'_{j} \rangle \Big)$$
$$= u_{X,Y}^{F,G} \Big(\sum_{l,k} b_{l} \boxtimes c_{k} \langle b_{l} \mid b'_{i} \rangle \langle c_{k} \mid c'_{j} \rangle \Big)$$
$$= \sum_{l,k} c_{k} \boxtimes b_{l} \langle b_{l} \mid b'_{i} \rangle \langle c_{k} \mid c'_{j} \rangle$$
$$= c'_{j} \boxtimes b'_{i}.$$

Remark 3.8. We henceforth assume that $R_X \ge R$ for all $X \in \mathbf{DHR}(A)$; otherwise, we simply replace R_X by max $\{R, R_X\}$.

Corollary 3.9. Suppose that $U \ge R_X$, $V \ge R_Y$, and $d(x, y) > U + V + T_0$. If $F = B_{R_X}(x)$, $F' = B_U(x)$, $G = B_{R_Y}(y)$, $G' = B_V(y)$, then $u_{X,Y}^{F,G} = u_{X,Y}^{F',G'}$.

Proof. This follows from the previous lemma since bases localized in $B_{R_X}(x)$ are also localized in $B_U(x)$ (similarly for y, Y, and V).

Lemma 3.10. Let $(x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2) \in L \times L$ satisfy $d(x_i, y_i) > R_X + R_Y + T_0$ (and if $n = 1, x_i < y_i$). Let $F = B_{R_X}(x_1), G = B_{R_Y}(y_1), F' = B_{R_X}(x_2), G' = B_{R_Y}(y_2)$. Then,

$$u_{X,Y}^{F,G} = u_{X,Y}^{F',G'}.$$

Proof. First, suppose that (x_1, y_1) and (x_2, y_2) satisfy the property that there exist balls H and K of radius at least R_X and R_Y , respectively, such that the corresponding balls H' and K' with radii increased by D are disjoint, and $F \cup F' \subseteq H$ and $G \cup G' \subseteq K$. Let $\{b_i\}, \{b'_i\}, \{c_i\}, \{c'_i\}$ be F, F', G, G'-localizing bases, respectively. Then,

$$u_{X,Y}^{F',G'}(b_i \boxtimes c_j) = u_{F',G'} \Big(\sum_{l,k} b_l' \langle b_l' \mid b_i \rangle \boxtimes c_k' \langle c_k' \mid c_j \rangle \Big)$$
$$= \sum_{l,k} c_k' \boxtimes b_l' \langle b_l' \mid b_i \rangle \langle c_k' \mid c_j \rangle$$
$$= c_j \boxtimes b_i = u_{X,Y}^{F,G}(b_i \boxtimes c_j),$$

where we have used the fact that $\langle b'_l | b_i \rangle \in A_{H'}$ and $\langle c'_k | c_j \rangle \in A_{K'}$.

Now, we claim that, for any pair (x_1, y_1) and (x_2, y_2) as in the hypothesis of this lemma, there exists a sequence of $(x_1, y_1) = (x'_1, y'_1), \ldots, (x'_n, y'_n) = (x_2, y_2)$ with $d(x'_i, y'_i) > R_X + R_Y + T_0$ and there exist disjoint balls H_i , K_i whose D extensions H'_i and K'_i are disjoint, and with $B_{R_X}(x'_i) \cup B_{R_X}(x'_{i+1}) \subseteq H_i$ and $B_{R_Y}(y'_i) \cup$ $B_{R_Y}(y'_{i+1}) \subseteq K_i$. By the above argument, this will prove the claim. But the continuous version of this claim in \mathbb{R}^n is clear, and since our lattice L is C-close to any point in \mathbb{R}^n , the result follows from our assumption that

$$d(x, y) > 2C + 2D + R_X + R_Y.$$

Definition 3.11. For $X, Y \in \mathbf{DHR}(A)$, define $u_{X,Y} = u_{X,Y}^{F,G}$, where $F = B_{R_X}(x)$, $G = B_{R_Y}(y)$, and $d(x, y) > R_X + R_Y + T_0$. (In the 1-dimensional case, we assume x < y.) By the above lemma, this is independent of the choice of (x, y).

Lemma 3.12. For any $X, Y \in \mathbf{DHR}(A)$, $u_{X,Y}$ is a bimodule intertwiner.

Proof. Let $a \in A_F$, where F is some ball of radius $U \ge R_X$ about the point x. Choose y sufficiently far away, i.e., $d(x, y) \gg T_0 + U + R_Y$ (and if n = 1, x < y). Set

$$G = B_{R_Y}(y).$$

Then, choose $\{b_i\}$ and $\{c_j\} F$ and G localizing bases for X and Y, respectively. Then, by Corollary 3.6, $\langle b_j | ab_i \rangle \in A_{F'}$, where

$$F' = B_{U+D}(x) \subset G^c.$$

Thus,

$$u_{X,Y}(ab_i \boxtimes c_k) = u_{X,Y} \Big(\sum_j b_j \langle b_j | ab_i \rangle \boxtimes c_k \Big)$$

= $u_{X,Y} \Big(\sum_j b_j \boxtimes c_k \langle b_j | ab_i \rangle \Big)$
= $u_{X,Y}^{F,G} \Big(\sum_j b_j \boxtimes c_k \Big) \langle b_j | ab_i \rangle$
= $\sum_j c_k \boxtimes b_j \langle b_j | ab_i \rangle$
= $c_k \boxtimes ab_i$
= $ac_k \boxtimes b_i$
= $au_{X,Y}(b_i \boxtimes c_k).$

Recall that a *unitary braiding* on a C*-tensor category is a family of natural isomorphisms

$$u_{X,Y}: X \boxtimes Y \cong Y \boxtimes X$$

satisfying coherences called the hexagon identities (see [32, Chapter 8] for an extensive introduction). The next theorem shows that the unitary isomorphisms we have built satisfy the coherences of a braiding.

Theorem 3.13 (Cf. Theorem B). The family $\{u_{X,Y} : X \boxtimes_A Y \to Y \boxtimes_A X\}$ defines a unitary braiding on **DHR**(*A*).

Proof. First, we check naturality of $u_{X,Y}$. Let $f : X \to X'$ and $g : Y \to Y'$. We need to show that

$$u_{X',Y'} \circ (f \boxtimes g) = (g \boxtimes f) \circ u_{X,Y}.$$

Then, pick (x, y) such that

$$d(x, y) > R_X + R_Y + R_{X'} + R_{Y'} + T_0;$$

set $H = B_{R_X+R_{X'}+D}(x)$ and $K = B_{R_Y+R_{Y'}+D}(y)$. Note that $H \cap K = \emptyset$, so A_H commutes with A_K .

Let $\{b_i\}, \{b'_i\}$ be $B_{R_X}(x), B_{R_{X'}}(x)$ -localizing bases for X and X', respectively, and let $\{c_j\}, \{c'_j\}$ be $B_{R_Y}(y), B_{R_Y}(y)$ -localizing bases for Y and Y', respectively. Then, $\langle b'_l | f(b_i) \rangle \in A_H$ and $\langle c'_k | g(c_j) \rangle \in A_K$ by Corollary 3.6. It suffices to check naturality for morphisms evaluated on (any) projective basis elements, and we compute that

$$u_{X',Y'} \circ (f \boxtimes g)(b_i \boxtimes c_j) = \sum_{l,k} u_{X',Y'} (b_l' \langle b_l' \mid f(b_i) \rangle \boxtimes c_k' \langle c_k' \mid g(c_j) \rangle)$$

$$= \sum_{l,k} u_{X',Y'} (b_l' \boxtimes c_k') \langle b_l' \mid f(b_i) \rangle \langle c_k' \mid g(c_j) \rangle$$

$$= \sum_{l,k} c_k' \langle c_k' \mid g(c_j) \rangle \boxtimes b_l' \langle b_l' \mid f(b_i) \rangle$$

$$= g(c_j) \boxtimes f(b_i)$$

$$= (g \boxtimes f) \circ u_{X,Y} (b_i \boxtimes c_j).$$

Now, we check the hexagon identity. Let $X, Y, Z \in \mathbf{DHR}(A)$. Choose points $x, y, z \in L$ with the distance between any two greater than $R_X + R_Y + R_Z + T_0$ such that there is a ball K around z containing $B_{R_Y}(y) \cup B_{R_Z}(z) \subseteq K$ with

$$K \cap B_{R_Y}(x) = \emptyset.$$

Then, if $\{b_i\}$, $\{c_i\}$, $\{d_i\}$ localize X, Y, Z in $B_{R_X}(x)$, $B_{R_Y}(y)$, $B_{R_Z}(z)$, respectively, we have that $\{c_j \boxtimes d_k\}$ localizes $Y \boxtimes Z$ in K. Denoting $F = B_{R_X}(x)$, we have

$$(1_Y \boxtimes u_{X,Z}) \circ (u_{X,Y} \boxtimes 1_Z)(b_i \boxtimes c_j \boxtimes d_k) = c_j \boxtimes d_k \boxtimes b_i$$
$$= u_{X,Y \boxtimes Z}^{F,K}(b_i \boxtimes c_j \boxtimes d_k)$$
$$= u_{X,Y \boxtimes Z}(b_i \boxtimes c_j \boxtimes d_k),$$

where the last equality follows from Corollary 3.9. This gives us one of the hexagon identities. The other follows from a similar argument. In the above computation, we have suppressed the associator, which acts on basis elements

$$(b_i \boxtimes c_i) \boxtimes d_k \mapsto b_i \boxtimes (c_i \boxtimes d_k).$$

Corollary 3.14. For a net A over a lattice $L \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ with $n \ge 2$, the braiding on **DHR**(A) is symmetric.

Proof. Any pair of points in \mathbb{R}^n can be connected to each other in the manner of the proof of Lemma 3.10. We see that $u_{X,Y} = u_{X,Y}^{F,G} = u_{X,Y}^{G,F} = (u_{Y,X})^{-1}$, where the last equality follows from the definition of $u_{X,Y}^{F,G}$.

By the Doplicher–Roberts theorem, any symmetric C*-tensor category with simple unit is equivalent to Rep(G, z), where (G, z) is a supergroup [28]. In particular, the pair (G, z) is interpreted as the (global) gauge (super)-group of the theory. In general,

when we have an abstract net of C*-algebras, we should think of the braided tensor category **DHR**(A) as the representation category of some generalized symmetry G acting on an ordinary spin system, with A the net of local symmetric operators.

Theorem 3.15 (Cf. Theorem B). If A, B are nets on L satisfying weak algebraic Haag duality, then, for any $\alpha \in Net_L(A, B)$, the unitary monoidal equivalence

$\mathbf{DHR}(\alpha) : \mathbf{DHR}(A) \cong \mathbf{DHR}(B)$

is braided.

Proof. Let $X, Y \in \mathbf{DHR}(A)$. Suppose that α has spread at most S. Choose balls F, G such that $N_S(F) \cap N_S(G) = \emptyset$. Then, pick F and G localizing bases $\{b_i\}, \{c_j\}$, respectively, for X and Y, respectively. Let $F' = N_S(F), G' = N_S(G)$. Then, $\{b_i\}$ and $\{c_i\}$ are F' and G' localizing bases, respectively, of $\alpha_*(X)$ and $\alpha_*(Y)$, respectively. Here, we are using the notation α_* for $\mathbf{DHR}(\alpha)$ as in the proof of Theorem 3.4. We compute that

$$(\mu_{X,Y}^{\alpha})^* \circ \alpha_*(u_{X,Y}) \circ \mu_{X,Y}^{\alpha}(b_i \boxtimes_B c_j) = (\mu_{X,Y}^{\alpha})^*(u_{X,Y}^{F,G}(b_i \boxtimes_A c_j))$$
$$= (\mu_{X,Y}^{\alpha})^*(c_j \boxtimes_A b_i)$$
$$= c_j \boxtimes_B b_i$$
$$= u_{\alpha_*(X),\alpha_*(Y)}^{F',G'}(b_i \boxtimes_B c_j)$$
$$= u_{\alpha_*(X),\alpha_*(Y)}(b_i \boxtimes_B c_j).$$

Since module maps are determined on projective basis elements, this proves the claim.

4. 1D spin systems with categorical symmetries

Recall that a *unitary fusion category* is a semisimple C*-tensor category with simple unit, duals, and finitely many isomorphism classes of simple objects. Fusion categories simultaneously generalize finite groups and their representation categories and have become important tools for understanding generalized symmetries in mathematics and physics [32, 33]. Recently, there has been significant interest in fusion categorical symmetries on spin chains, part of a larger interest in non-invertible symmetry [36]. One motivation is the search for exotic conformal field theories [52, 87].

There are (at least) two equivalent pictures to describe categorical symmetries.

(1) The first way is to have fusion categories act by *matrix product operators* (MPOs) [14, 15, 40, 60, 61, 83]. Mathematically, the data that characterize this

are described by a module category \mathcal{M} for \mathcal{C} and an object $X \in \mathcal{C}_*(\mathcal{M})$ in the dual category [40, 67]. The operators localized on *n*-sites invariant under this symmetry are isomorphic to $\operatorname{End}_{\mathcal{C}_*(\mathcal{M})}(X^{\otimes n})$.

(2) Equivalently, we can consider a weak C*-Hopf algebra H [10] acting on a physical on-site Hilbert space K of spins [53,68,74], which is a more straightforward generalization of on-site group symmetry. Then, K ∈ Rep(H), and we can consider the *n*-site Hilbert space K^{⊠n}, which is equipped with an action of H using the coproduct. We note that K^{⊠n} ⊆ K^{⊗n}, but if H is not a Hopf algebra, these are not equal. There is a distinguished subalgebra S ≤ H, and any module K becomes a bimodule over S. Then, K^{⊠n} ≅ K ⊗_S K ⊗_S … K. The local observable is given by the H intertwining endomorphisms, End_H(K^{⊠n}).

In both of these situations, the resulting nets of algebras are described by abstract nets of algebras built directly in terms of abstract fusion categories. This allows us to analyze the theory without worrying about the physical realization of the original spin system. This will also cover Example 2.5, which we will discuss in detail in the sequel. For any unitary fusion category \mathcal{D} (which we assume is strict for convenience) and any object $X \in \mathcal{D}$, we can define a net of finite-dimensional C*-algebras on the lattice $\mathbb{Z} \subseteq \mathbb{R}$. For any interval I with *n*-sites, we set

$$A_I := \mathcal{D}(X^n, X^n).$$

Here, we use the notation $\mathcal{D}(X, Y)$ as shorthand for the morphism space Hom(X, Y) in the category \mathcal{D} , and X^n is shorthand for the *n*-fold tensor power $X^{\otimes n}$ in \mathcal{D} .

Now, suppose I = [a, b] and J = [c, d] with $I \subseteq J$ (so $c \leq a$ and $b \leq d$). Then, we can define the inclusion $A_I \subseteq A_J$ by identifying

$$f \mapsto \mathbf{1}_{X^{d-c}} \otimes f \otimes \mathbf{1}_{X^{d-b}}$$

We then take the colimit over the directed set of intervals in the category of C*algebras to obtain the quasi-local algebra

$$A := \varinjlim A_I.$$

For any interval, we denote the inclusion $i_{a,b} : A_{[a,b]} \hookrightarrow A$ and identify $A_{[a,b]}$ with its image.

Proposition 4.1. The assignment $F \mapsto A_F$ constructed above defines a discrete net of C^* -algebras over $\mathbb{Z} \subseteq \mathbb{R}$. We call the nets constructed this way fusion spin chains.

The goal of this section is to characterize the DHR category of a fusion spin chain. We will see that, under some mild assumptions on the tensor generator, the DHR category of a fusion spin chain is equivalent to the Drinfeld center of the underlying fusion category. To prove this, we will apply ideas and results from subfactor theory. The next section is mostly expository and will include a summary of the machinery we will utilize to obtain the main results of this section.

4.1. Quantum symmetries: Definitions and results

We will now review some concepts and results originating from the theory of subfactors. We discuss their modern manifestation in terms of fusion category theory and their recent extension from the W*-setting to the C*-setting.

4.1.1. Actions of fusion categories on C*-algebras.

Definition 4.2. If \mathcal{C} is a unitary fusion category and A is a (unital) C*-algebra, an action of \mathcal{C} on A is a C*-tensor functor $F : \mathcal{C} \to \mathbf{Bim}(A)$.

Unpacking this definition slightly further, the data of an action of \mathcal{C} on A is as follows: for every object $X \in \mathcal{C}$, a bimodule $F(X) \in \mathbf{Bim}(A)$; for $f \in \mathcal{C}(X, Y)$, a bimodule intertwiner $F(f) : F(X) \to F(Y)$; and for every pair of objects $X, Y \in \mathcal{C}$, a unitary isomorphism $F_{X,Y}^2 : F(X) \boxtimes_A F(Y) \to F(X \otimes Y)$. This data is required to satisfy coherences: F should be *-functor, $F_{X,Y}^2$ should be natural in X and Y, and the family $\{F_{X,Y}^2\}$ should satisfy associativity constraint with respect to the bimodule associator (see [32, Chapter 2.4]).

Actions of unitary fusion categories on finite-dimensional C*-algebras are well understood in terms of module categories for \mathcal{C} (for example, see Corollary 3.6 in [17] and the discussion therein). Note, however, that any action of a non-trivial fusion category on a finite-dimensional algebra is never fully faithful. An AF-action is an action on an AF C*-algebra built out of these finite-dimensional pieces, and these can be fully faithful. AF-actions are the actions that are relevant for analyzing the DHR category of fusion spin chains. To give a proper account of AF-actions, we include the following definition for the sake of completeness.

Definition 4.3 (Cf. [17, Lemma 3.8]). Let *A*, *B* be unital C*-algebras and $\phi : A \to B$ a unital *-homomorphism. Let \mathcal{C} be a unitary fusion category, and suppose that we have actions $F : \mathcal{C} \to \text{Bim}(A)$ and $G : \mathcal{C} \to \text{Bim}(B)$. An equivariant structure on ϕ with respect to *F* and *G* is a family of linear maps $\{k^X : F(X) \to G(X) : X \in \mathcal{C}\}$ satisfying the following conditions.

- (1) For $a, b \in A$, $ax \in X$, $k^X(a \triangleright x \triangleleft b) = \phi(a) \triangleright k^X(x) \triangleleft \phi(b)$.
- (2) For $f \in \mathcal{C}(X, Y)$, $x \in X$, $k^Y \circ F(f)(x) = G(f) \circ k^X(x)$.
- (3) $\langle k^X(x) | k^X(y) \rangle_B = \phi(\langle x | y \rangle_A).$
- (4) $G(X) = k^X(F(X)) \triangleleft B$.

(5) The following diagram commutes:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} F(X) \otimes F(Y) & \longrightarrow & F(c) \boxtimes_A F(d) \xrightarrow{F_{X,Y}^2} & F(X \otimes Y) \\ k^X \otimes k^Y & & & \downarrow \\ G(X) \otimes G(Y) & \longrightarrow & G(X) \boxtimes_B G(Y) \xrightarrow{G_{X,Y}^2} & G(X \otimes Y) \end{array}$$

Let \mathcal{C} be a (strict) unitary fusion category. Suppose that we have

- (1) a sequence of finite-dimensional C*-algebras A_n and unital, injective *-inclusions $\iota_n : A_n \to A_{n+1}$,
- (2) a sequence of actions $F_n : \mathcal{C} \to \mathbf{Bim}(A_n)$,
- (3) a family $\{k_n^X\}$ of equivariant structures on ι_n with respect to F_n and F_{n+1} .

Then, if we let $A := \varinjlim A_n$ be the inductive limit of the sequence A_n in the category of C*-algebras, there exists a canonical action $F : \mathcal{C} \to \operatorname{Bim}(A)$ called the inductive limit action of the F_n (for a detailed construction, see [17, Proposition 4.4]). Any action of \mathcal{C} on an AF C*-algebra equivalent (in the sense of [17, Definition 3.9]) to the one constructed as above is called an *AF*-action.

Before we go into our main examples, we recall the following definition.

Definition 4.4. A self-dual object $X \in \mathcal{D}$ is called *strongly tensor generating* if there exists some *n* such that every simple object *Y* is a summand of X^n .

The canonical example of a strong tensor generator is simply the direct sum over all simple objects with multiplicity 1. For any tensor generator X, the object $X \oplus \mathbb{1}$ will be strongly tensor generating. The self-duality condition we use in the definition is not strictly necessary and implies a kind of spatial reflection symmetry on the fusion spin chain built from X. For us, it is a matter of convenience, since we can use this assumption to compare our C*-algebra constructions with subfactor theory. In particular, it allows us to use Ocneanu compactness directly (see Remark 4.7).

Remark 4.5. If X^n contains all isomorphism classes of simple objects, then so does X^m for any $m \ge n$. More generally, suppose that Y is some object such that every isomorphism class of simple object appears as a summand. Then, for any object Z, $Y \otimes Z$ also satisfies this property. Indeed, by semisimplicity, for a simple W, W appears as a summand of $Y \otimes Z$ if and only if $\mathcal{C}(W, Y \otimes Z) \ne 0$. But by Frobenius reciprocity, $\mathcal{C}(W, Y \otimes Z) \cong \mathcal{C}(W \otimes \overline{Z}, Y)$, where \overline{Z} denotes the dual object. But the latter space is non-zero since Y contains a copy of all simple objects (up to isomorphism).

Example 4.6 (Standard AF-actions). We recall the "standard AF-actions" of fusion categories that have historically played an important role in subfactor theory.

Now, given a strong tensor generator X, we construct an AF-action as follows. First, by replacing X with a sufficiently large tensor power, we can assume that X itself contains every isomorphism class of simple object, which by Remark 4.5 implies that every power of X will as well.

Set $A_n := \mathcal{C}(X^n, X^n)$. This is a finite-dimensional C*-algebra, whose matrix summands are indexed by isomorphism classes of simple objects. There is a natural unital inclusion $\iota_n : A_n \to A_{n+1}$ given by

$$a \mapsto 1_X \otimes a$$
.

The inductive limit algebra $A := \lim A_n$ is an AF C*-algebra. A is a simple AFalgebra with a unique tracial state since it has a simple stationary Bratteli diagram (see, for example, [11] and [30, Chapter 6]). We will now build an AF-action of \mathcal{C} on A.

For any $Y \in \mathcal{C}$, set $F_n(Y) := \mathcal{C}(X^n, X^n \otimes Y)$. This has the structure of an A_n -bimodule with

$$a \triangleright \xi \triangleleft y := (x \otimes 1_Y) \circ \xi \circ b$$

for $a, b \in A_n, \xi \in F_n(Y)$. The right A_n -valued inner product is

$$\langle \xi \mid \eta \rangle_{A_n} := \xi^* \circ \eta.$$

For $f \in \mathcal{C}(Y, Z)$, $F_n(f)(\xi) := (1_{X^n} \otimes f) \circ \xi$, which is clearly a bimodule intertwiner. It is straightforward to check that $F_n : \mathcal{C} \to \operatorname{Bim}(A_n)$ is a C*-functor.

The monoidal structure $(F_n)_{Y,Z}^2$: $F_n(Y) \boxtimes_{A_n} F_n(Z) \to F_n(Y \otimes Z)$ is induced by the linear map

$$(F_n)^2_{Y,Z}(\xi \otimes \eta) := (\xi \otimes 1_Z) \circ \eta \in \mathcal{C}(X^n, X^n \otimes Y \otimes Z) = F_n(Y \otimes Z).$$

It is easy to check that these extend to natural unitary isomorphisms satisfying the required associativity constraints. (It is here where we use the strong tensor generator assumption, i.e., that all simple objects appear as summands of all tensor powers of X.)

Now, we define $k_n^Y : F_n(Y) \to F_{n+1}(Y)$ by

$$k_n^Y(\xi) := \mathbf{1}_X \otimes \xi.$$

It is straightforward to verify that this defines an equivariant structure on ι_n with respect to F_n and F_{n+1} . Taking the limit, we obtain an AF-action $F : \mathcal{C} \to \text{Bim}(A)$ which we call a *standard AF-action*.

Remark 4.7. Standard actions have the nice property of being *fully faithful*; namely, for any objects $Y, Z \in \mathcal{C}, F : \mathcal{C}(Y, Z) \rightarrow \text{Bim}(A)(F(Y), F(Z))$ is an isomorphism.

Indeed, this follows from a standard application of Ocneanu compactness [79], [56, Chapter 5] to the subfactor $N \subseteq M$, where M is the II₁ factor obtained from completing A in the GNS representation of its unique trace and N is the completion of the "shifted" subalgebra $1_X \otimes A \subseteq A$ (see [7, Theorem 5.1 and Section 6.1]). This is the only place where we will need self-duality of the tensor generator X so that we can directly apply Ocneanu compactness. If X were not self-dual, our tower of algebras would not be a standard λ -lattice (in the sense of [81]) since it would lack Jones projections. In this case, we would not be able to apply the theorems of subfactor theory directly and instead would need to apply a more general version of Ocneanu compactness (for example, see [22]).

4.1.2. Module categories and *Q*-systems. If \mathcal{C} is a unitary fusion category, recall that a unitary module category \mathcal{M} is a finitely semisimple C*-category, together with a C*-bifunctor $\mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{M} \to \mathcal{M}$ and a coherent natural associator (see [32, Chapter 7] for definitions). By MacLane's coherence theorem, without loss of generality, we can assume that our module category has trivial associator (i.e., is strict). To set some notation, for $Y \in \mathcal{C}$, $m \in \mathcal{M}$, we denote the image of the bifunctor by $Y \triangleright m$, and for $f \in \mathcal{C}(Y, Z)$, $g \in \mathcal{M}(m, n)$, we denote the image under the functor by $f \triangleright g \in \mathcal{M}(Y \triangleright m, Z \triangleright n)$. Strictness of the module category is expressed in this notation by

$$Y \triangleright (Z \triangleright m) = (Y \otimes Z) \triangleright m$$

and

$$f \triangleright (g \triangleright h) = (f \otimes g) \triangleright h$$

Associated to a \mathcal{C} -module category \mathcal{M} is the unitary multifusion category of \mathcal{C} module endofunctors $\operatorname{End}_{\mathcal{C}}(\mathcal{M})$ (see [32, Chapter 7] or [73]). This is fusion precisely
when \mathcal{M} is indecomposable. In this case, we define the dual fusion category $\mathcal{C}^*_{\mathcal{M}} :=$ $\operatorname{End}_{\mathcal{C}}(\mathcal{M})^{\operatorname{mp}}$, where the superscript mp denotes the monoidal opposite category.

Remark 4.8. For a unitary fusion category \mathcal{D} , we recall that \mathcal{D}^{mp} denotes the monoidal opposite category. The objects of \mathcal{D}^{mp} are the same as the objects of \mathcal{D} , but we denote the version in \mathcal{D}^{mp} by an mp superscript. Then, $\mathcal{D}^{mp}(X^{mp}, Y^{mp}) := \mathcal{D}(X, Y)$, and the composition, *-structure, and norm are the same as in \mathcal{D} . The difference from \mathcal{D} is the monoidal product. The monoidal product is given by

$$X^{\mathrm{mp}} \otimes Y^{\mathrm{mp}} := (Y \otimes X)^{\mathrm{mp}}$$

with the obvious extension to morphisms and the choice of associator.

Let \mathcal{M} be an indecomposable module category over the unitary fusion category \mathcal{C} . If we pick any $m \in \mathcal{M}$, then we can take the *internal end* construction to obtain an algebra object $\underline{\operatorname{End}}(m) \in \mathcal{C}$, called the *internal endomorphism* of the object m. This

algebra object is technically only defined up to isomorphism, but there is a choice of representation which is a *Q*-system. A *Q*-system is a unital, associative algebra object *Q* such that the adjoint of the multiplication map is a right inverse for multiplication (or in other words, is an isometry) as well as a *Q*-*Q* bimodule intertwiner from *Q* to $Q \otimes Q$. *Q*-systems are C*-Frobenius algebra object in \mathcal{C} (for detailed definitions and discussions, we refer the reader to the comprehensive references [9, 18, 73, 88]). We will describe the internal endomorphism as an associative algebra object following [55] and refer the readers to the above-mentioned references for *Q*-system details. As an object,

$$\underline{\operatorname{End}}(m) \cong \bigoplus_{Y \in \operatorname{Irr}(\mathcal{C})} \mathcal{M}(Y \triangleright m, m) \otimes Y.$$

Here, if *V* is a finite-dimensional Hilbert space⁵ and *Y* is a simple object in \mathcal{C} , $V \otimes Y$ represents the object $Y^{\oplus \dim(V)}$, where we explicitly identify the multiplicity space $\mathcal{C}(Y, V \otimes Y)$ with *V*. Irr(\mathcal{C}) represents a fixed set of representatives of isomorphism classes of simple objects. Using this notation, for any (not necessarily simple) object *Z*, we have

$$Z \cong \bigoplus_{Y \in \operatorname{Irr}(\mathcal{C})} \mathcal{C}(Y, Z) \otimes Y$$

by semisimplicity, where $\mathcal{C}(Y, Z)$ is equipped with the composition inner product,

$$\langle f \mid g \rangle 1_Y = f^* \circ g.$$

In particular, for the object $Z := V \otimes Y$, V is identified with $\mathcal{C}(Y, Z)$. Thus,

$$\mathcal{C}(Y,\underline{\operatorname{End}}(m))\cong\mathcal{M}(Y\triangleright m,m)$$

for any simple Y. We call this notation and perspective on expressing objects the *Yoneda representation*. In the Yoneda representation,

$$Z_1 \otimes Z_2 \cong \bigoplus_{Y \in Irr(\mathcal{C})} \mathcal{C}(Y, Z_1 \otimes Z_2) \otimes Y$$
$$\cong \bigoplus_{Y, U, W} (\mathcal{C}(U, Z_1) \otimes \mathcal{C}(Y, U \otimes W) \otimes \mathcal{C}(W, Z_2)) \otimes Y.$$

One advantage of the Yoneda representation is that it makes morphisms in the category \mathcal{C} expressible purely in terms of (ordinary) linear transformations. Indeed, if $W \cong \bigoplus_{Y \in Irr(\mathcal{C})} \mathcal{C}(Y, W) \otimes Y$, then by semisimplicity any morphism $f \in \mathcal{C}(Z, W)$ is uniquely determined by a family of linear transformations

$$f \sim \{f_Y : \mathcal{C}(Y, Z) \to \mathcal{C}(Y, W) \mid Y \in \operatorname{Irr}(\mathcal{C})\}.$$

⁵We have intentionally not yet specified an inner product on $\mathcal{M}(Y \triangleright m, m)$; see Remark 4.9.

Given $f \in \mathcal{C}(Z, W)$ and $g \in \mathcal{C}(Y, Z)$, $f_Y(g) := f \circ g \in \mathcal{C}(Y, W)$. That fact that the correspondence $f \sim \{f_Y\}_{Y \in Irr(\mathcal{C})}$ uniquely determines f follows immediately from the Yoneda lemma, hence the origin of the terminology for this picture.

Now, returning to internal end objects to define a multiplication morphism μ : $\underline{\operatorname{End}}(m) \otimes \underline{\operatorname{End}}(m) \rightarrow \underline{\operatorname{End}}(m)$, observe that

$$\underline{\operatorname{End}}(m) \otimes \underline{\operatorname{End}}(m)$$

$$\cong \bigoplus_{Y,W,Z \in \operatorname{Irr}(\mathcal{C})} (\mathcal{M}(Y \triangleright m, m) \otimes \mathcal{C}(W, Y \otimes Z) \otimes \mathcal{M}(Z \triangleright m, m)) \otimes W$$

Thus, for $W \in Irr(\mathcal{C})$, we define

$$\mu_{W}: \bigoplus_{Y,Z \in \operatorname{Irr}(\mathcal{C})} \mathcal{M}(Y \triangleright m, m) \otimes \mathcal{C}(W, Y \otimes Z) \otimes \mathcal{M}(Z \triangleright m, m) \to \mathcal{M}(W \triangleright m, m)$$

on homogeneous tensors $\xi \otimes f \otimes \nu \in \mathcal{M}(Y \triangleright m, m) \otimes \mathcal{C}(W, Y \otimes Z) \otimes \mathcal{M}(Z \triangleright m, m)$ by

$$\mu_W(\xi \otimes f \otimes \nu) := \xi \circ (1_Y \otimes \nu) \circ (f \triangleright 1_m).$$

Then, $\mu := \{\mu_W\}$ equips $\underline{\text{End}}(m)$ with the structure of an associative algebra object, in fact, a *Q*-system (see Remark below).

Remark 4.9. There is one subtlety that we are sweeping under the rug in this discussion; namely, we have not specified the Hilbert space structures on the $\mathcal{M}(Y \triangleright m, m)$. We need to do this to actually pin down a morphism for the object in \mathcal{C} rather than the version of \mathcal{C} that forgets the dagger structure. For specifying an algebra structure on $\underline{\text{End}}(m)$, this is not relevant, since we can apply the definitions above to obtain isomorphic algebra structures for any choice. However, the definition of Q-system requires constraints on the adjoint of the multiplication map, and this is sensitive to which Hilbert space structures we put on the multiplicity spaces. A choice can always be made making this into a Q-system (see [17, Theorem 4.6] for this level of generality) that is essentially a choice of a unitary module trace, but an in-depth discussion would take us too far afield. We have chosen to not include this discussion since we are satisfied considering only the algebra structure on $\underline{\text{End}}(m)$, which are all isomorphic independently of the Hilbert space structures we put on the multiplicity spaces.

We have the following unitary version of Ostrik's theorem.

Theorem 4.10 ([88, Theorem 4.6], cf. [73, 77]). Let \mathcal{C} be a unitary fusion category and \mathcal{M} an indecomposable unitary module category. Let $m \in \mathcal{M}$ and Q := End(m).

(1) The module category \mathcal{M} is equivalent to the category \mathcal{C}_Q of right Q-modules internal to \mathcal{C} .

(2) The dual category $\mathcal{C}^*_{\mathcal{M}}$ is equivalent to the unitary fusion category ${}_{\mathcal{Q}}\mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{Q}}$ of Q-Q bimodules internal to \mathcal{C} .

Example 4.11 (The canonical module and $Z(\mathcal{C})$). Let \mathcal{C} be a unitary fusion category, and consider $\mathcal{E} := \mathcal{C} \boxtimes \mathcal{C}^{mp}$, where \boxtimes denotes the Deligne product of fusion categories [32]. Then, the C*-category \mathcal{C} canonical carries the structure of a left \mathcal{E} -module category, with action

$$X \boxtimes Y^{\mathrm{mp}} \triangleright Z := X \otimes Z \otimes Y.$$

It is well known that the dual category $\mathcal{E}_{\mathcal{C}}^* \cong \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{C})$, where $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{C})$ denotes the *Drinfeld center* of \mathcal{C} [32,69].

Recall that if \mathcal{C} is a unitary fusion category, its Drinfeld center $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{C})$ is a braided unitary fusion category that controls \mathcal{C} 's Morita theory [32]. We will follow the definition conventions of [69], to which we refer the reader for further details on $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{C})$. Briefly, objects in $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{C})$ consist of pairs (Z, σ) , where $Z \in \text{Obj}(\mathcal{C})$ and

$$\sigma = \{\sigma_{Z,X} : Z \otimes X \cong X \otimes Z \mid X \in \operatorname{Obj}(\mathcal{C})\}$$

is a family of unitary isomorphisms, natural in X, satisfying the hexagon relation (in X). The family σ is called a unitary half-braiding. Morphisms $(Z, \sigma) \to (W, \delta)$ are morphisms $f : Z \to W$ in \mathcal{D} that intertwine the half-braidings.

As a consequence of the unitary version of Ostrik's theorem mentioned above, for any object $Y \in \mathcal{C}$, we obtain a *Q*-system $Q_Y := \underline{End}(Y) \in \mathcal{E} = \mathcal{C} \boxtimes \mathcal{C}^{mp}$ such that

$$\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{C}) \cong_{Q_Y} \mathcal{E}_{Q_Y}.$$

The object Q_{1} is sometimes called the symmetric enveloping algebra object, or the Longo–Rehren algebra.

4.1.3. Realization. In this section, we tie together actions and Q-systems via the *realization construction*. For the rest of this section, let \mathcal{C} be a unitary fusion category, A a unital simple separable C*-algebra, and suppose that we are given a *fully faithful action* $F : \mathcal{C} \to \text{Bim}(A)$. Then, for any Q-system, we can construct the realization C*-algebra |Q| [18, Section 4.1]. This is a unital C*-algebra containing A and comes equipped with a faithful conditional expectation $E_A : |Q| \to A$ with finite Watatani index. This is simply a reflection of the fact that if A is a simple separable C*-algebra, then Q-systems in the C*-tensor category Bim(A) simply *are* finite Watatani index extensions of A; thus, any Q-system in \mathcal{C} can simply be "pushed forward" to obtain a finite-index extension.

In particular, for $Q \cong \bigoplus_{Y \in Irr(\mathcal{C})} \mathcal{C}(Y, Q) \otimes Y$, then

$$|Q| = F(Q) \cong \bigoplus_{Y \in \operatorname{Irr}(\mathcal{C})} \mathcal{C}(Y, Q) \otimes F(Y),$$

where now the \otimes is literally the \otimes of vector spaces. The associative product on the C*-algebra |Q| is the pushforward under *F* of the algebra multiplication morphism for *Q*.

In this situation, we have a linear restriction functor (which is not monoidal in general) **Res** : **Bim**(|Q|) \rightarrow **Bim**(A) defined as follows.

- (1) For X ∈ Bim(|Q|), consider X as a vector space, where left and right A-actions just the restrictions of |Q| actions. The right A-valued inner product is given as (ξ | ν)_A := E_A((ξ | ν)_{|Q|}).
- (2) For a bimodule intertwiner f, Res(f) = f is the same linear map thought of as an A-bimodule intertwiner.

We note that even though $\langle \xi | \nu \rangle_A \neq \langle \xi | \nu \rangle_{|Q|}$, since E_A has finite Watatani index, these inner products induce the same topology on X, so **Res**(X) is indeed a Hilbert module without needing to complete. As a direct corollary of the main result of [18] (that the 2-category of C*-algebras is Q-system complete), we have the following theorem.

Theorem 4.12. Let $\operatorname{Bim}(|Q|, \mathcal{C})$ be the full tensor subcategory of $\operatorname{Bim}(|Q|)$ spanned by objects X such that $\operatorname{Res}(X) \cong F(Y)$ for some $Y \in \mathcal{C}$. Then, $\operatorname{Bim}(|Q|, \mathcal{C}) \cong {}_{\mathcal{Q}}\mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{Q}}$ as C*-tensor categories.

4.2. DHR categories for fusion spin chains

In this section, let \mathcal{D} be a unitary fusion category, and let X be a strongly tensor generating self-dual object. Let $F \mapsto A_F$ be the net of algebras on \mathbb{Z} as in Proposition 4.1. Our goal in this section is to analyze **DHR**(A). We will use the machinery of quantum symmetries described in the previous three subsections to prove that **DHR**(A) $\cong \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{D})$ as unitary braided tensor categories.

First, fix any interval $[a, b] \subseteq \mathbb{Z}$. Notice that the algebra $A_{(\infty,a)}$ by definition is precisely the algebra from the standard action of \mathcal{D} built from X (Example 4.6). This gives us a fully faithful unitary tensor functor $L^a : \mathcal{D} \to \operatorname{Bin}(A_{(-\infty,a)})$. Similarly, we see that $A_{(b,\infty)}$ is precisely the algebra obtained from the standard action of $\mathcal{D}^{\operatorname{mp}}$ with object X^{mp} . Thus, we have a fully faithful unitary tensor functor $R^b : \mathcal{D}^{\operatorname{mp}} \to$ $\operatorname{Bin}(A_{(b,\infty)})$. Putting these together, we obtain a fully faithful unitary tensor functor

$$L^a \boxtimes R^b : \mathcal{D} \boxtimes \mathcal{D}^{\mathrm{mp}} \to \operatorname{Bim}(A_{(-\infty,a)} \otimes A_{(b,\infty)})$$

Here, $L^a \boxtimes R^b(Y \boxtimes Z^{mp}) = L^a(Y) \otimes R^b(Z^{mp})$, where the tensor product is simply a linear tensor product, and this space is equipped with the obvious structure of an $A_{(-\infty,a)} \otimes A_{(b,\infty)}$ algebraic bimodule. We then complete this with respect to the natural $A_{(-\infty,a)} \otimes A_{(b,\infty)}$ -valued inner product. We also remark that the symbol \otimes in $A_{(-\infty,a)} \otimes A_{(b,\infty)}$ is unambiguous, since the two algebras are AF, hence nuclear, as C*-algebras. Since L^a and R^b are fully faithful, so is $L^a \boxtimes R^b$.

Now, consider the indecomposable $\mathcal{D} \boxtimes \mathcal{D}^{\text{mp}}$ -module category \mathcal{D} as described in Example 4.11. Pick the object $m := X^{b-a+1}$, and set $Q_{a,b} := \underline{\text{End}}(m)$ as in Section 4.1.2. Note that inside A, we have a canonical embedding

$$\Delta_{a,b}: A_{(-\infty,a)} \otimes A_{(b,\infty)} \hookrightarrow A,$$

given by

$$\Delta_{a,b}(f \otimes g) := f \otimes 1_{X^{b-a+1}} \otimes g \in A.$$

One of the primary purposes of Section 4.1 is to clearly state the following theorem. It is a version of standard results on the symmetric enveloping inclusion/asymptotic inclusion/Longo–Rehren inclusion from subfactor theory (see [34, 63, 80], respectively). This result is certainly well known to experts, but we could not find it precisely stated in the literature in the form we need. The closest statement to the following that we know of is in [19, Section 6].

Theorem 4.13. For any interval [a, b], there is an isomorphism of C*-algebras

$$|Q_{a,b}| \cong A$$

which restricts to $\Delta_{a,b}$ on $A_{(-\infty,a)} \otimes A_{(b,\infty)}$. In particular, we have a fully faithful action

$$F_{a,b}: \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{D}) \to \mathbf{Bim}(A)$$

whose image is characterized as the bimodules of A whose restriction to the subalgebra $A_{(-\infty,a)} \otimes A_{(b,\infty)}$ lies in the image $L^a \boxtimes R^b(\mathcal{D} \boxtimes \mathcal{D}^{mp})$.

Proof. It suffices to construct the isomorphism $|Q_{a,b}| \cong A$. The rest follows immediately from Theorems 4.10 and 4.12, where $F_{a,b}$ is the identification of $Z(\mathcal{D})$ with **Bim**($|Q_{a,b}|, \mathcal{D} \boxtimes \mathcal{D}^{mp}$).

Now, using the description of internal endomorphisms and realizations from Sections 4.1.2 and 4.1.3, we see that

$$|Q_{a,b}| \cong \bigoplus_{Y,Z \in \operatorname{Irr}(\mathcal{D})} \mathcal{D}(Y \otimes X^{b-a+1} \otimes Z, X^{b-a+1}) \otimes L^{a}(Y) \otimes R^{b}(Z^{\mathrm{mp}}).$$

But, by construction of standard actions, $L^a \boxtimes R^b$ is an inductive limit of the actions

$$L_n^a \boxtimes R_n^b : \mathcal{D} \boxtimes \mathcal{D}^{\mathrm{mp}} \to \mathbf{Bim}(A_{[a-n,a)} \otimes A_{(b,b+n]})$$

By [17, Theorem 4.6], $|Q_{a,b}| \cong \varinjlim |Q_{a,b}|_n$, where the latter denotes the realization with respect to the $L_n^a \boxtimes R_n^b$ functors.
To build the desired isomorphism, we will construct an isomorphism

$$\pi_n: |Q_{a,b}|_n \cong A_{[a-n,b+n]}.$$

Note that

$$L_n^a(Y) = \mathcal{D}(X^n, X^n \otimes Y)$$

and

$$R_n^b(Z^{\mathrm{mp}}) = \mathcal{D}^{\mathrm{mp}}((X^{\mathrm{mp}})^{\otimes n}, (X^{\mathrm{mp}})^{\otimes n} \otimes Z^{\mathrm{mp}}) = \mathcal{D}(X^n, Z \otimes X^n).$$

For $f \otimes g \otimes h \in \mathcal{D}(Y \otimes X^{b-a+1} \otimes Z, X^{b-a+1}) \otimes L_n^a(Y) \otimes R_n^b(Z^{\mathrm{mp}})$, define π_n by

$$\pi_n(f \otimes g \otimes h) := (\mathbf{1}_{X^n} \otimes f \otimes \mathbf{1}_{X^n}) \circ (g \otimes \mathbf{1}_{X^{b-a+1}} \otimes h).$$

Tracking through the definitions, it is easy to see that this is an isomorphism of C*-algebras which is compatible with the local inclusions in the inductive limit. Therefore, it extends to the desired π . Clearly, this restricts to $\Delta_{a,b}$ on $A_{(-\infty,a)} \otimes A_{(b,\infty)}$.

We note that the above theorem furnishes us with a conditional expectation

$$E_{A_{(-\infty,a)}\otimes A_{(b,\infty)}}:A\to A_{(-\infty,a)}\otimes A_{(b,\infty)}$$

by transporting the conditional expectation from the realization $|Q_{a,b}|$. Another immediate consequence of the above theorem is algebraic Haag duality for fusion categorical spin chains.

Proposition 4.14. If X strongly tensor generates the fusion category \mathcal{D} , the net A constructed above satisfies algebraic Haag duality and uniformly bounded generation.

Proof. To see algebraic Haag duality, let *n* be the smallest positive integer *n* such that X^n contains a copy of every simple. Fix any interval [a, b] with b - a > n.

The relative commutant $Z_A(A_{(-\infty,a)} \otimes A_{(b,\infty)})$ corresponds to the central vectors in A as an $A_{(-\infty,a)} \otimes A_{(b,\infty)}$ bimodule. But since $A_{(-\infty,a)} \otimes A_{(b,\infty)}$ is simple and $\mathcal{D} \boxtimes \mathcal{D}^{\mathrm{mp}} \to \operatorname{Bim}(A_{(-\infty,a)} \otimes A_{(b,\infty)})$ is fully faithful, the central vectors must lie in the summand isomorphic to copies $A_{(-\infty,a)} \otimes A_{(b,\infty)}$. From the description of Q-system realization from above, this is precisely isomorphic to $\pi(A_{(-\infty,a)} \otimes$ $A_{[a,b]} \otimes A_{(b,\infty)} \subseteq A)$, where π is the isomorphism from the previous theorem. But $A_{(-\infty,a)} \otimes A_{(b,\infty)}$ has trivial center and thus the central vectors are of the form $1_{(-\infty,a)} \otimes A_{[a,b]} \otimes 1_{(b,\infty)}$ as desired.

We claim that uniformly bounded generation holds with constant n + 1, where n is again the smallest positive integer with X^n containing copies of all simples.

We will show that if $k \ge n + 1$, then the algebra $A_{[a,a+k]} \cong \mathcal{D}(X^{k+1}, X^{k+1})$ is generated by the subalgebras $A_{[a,a+k-1]} \cong \mathcal{D}(X^k, X^k) \otimes 1_X$ and $A_{[a+1,a+k]} \cong 1_X \otimes \mathcal{D}(X^k, X^k)$. This will imply our desired result inductively.

Since X^n contains all simple objects as summands, X^l will contain all simple objects as summands for $l \ge n$ by Remark 4.5. By semisimplicity, if we pick, for each triple of isomorphism classes of simple objects Y, Z, W, bases $\{e_{X^k,i}^Y\}$ of $\mathcal{D}(X^k, Y)$, a basis $\{f_{Y,j}^{XZ}\}$ of $\mathcal{D}(Y, X \otimes Z)$, and a basis $g_{ZX,l}^W$ of $\mathcal{D}(Z \otimes X, W)$, then we have the set

$$\left\{ \left(\mathbf{1}_X \otimes \left((e_{X^k,s}^W)^* \circ g_{ZX,l}^W \right) \right) \circ \left((f_{Y,j}^{XZ} \circ e_{X^k,i}^Y) \otimes \mathbf{1}_X \right) : Y, Z, W \in \operatorname{Irr}(\mathcal{C}) \right\},$$

where the indices *s*, *l*, *j*, *i* range over all possible values is a basis for $\mathcal{D}(X^{k+1}, X^{k+1})$. Therefore, it suffices to show that any such element is a product $(1_X \otimes \alpha) \circ (\beta \otimes 1_X)$ with $\alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{D}(X^k, X^k)$. Since $k \ge n + 1$, X^{k-1} contains all simple objects as summands, there is a non-zero morphism $h \in \mathcal{D}(Z, X^{k-1})$ with $h^* \circ h = 1_Z$.

Then, choosing a specific basis element from above, if we set

$$\alpha := ((1_X \otimes h) \circ f_{Y,j}^{XZ} \circ e_{X^k,i}^Y) \otimes 1_X \in \mathcal{D}(X^k, X^k)$$

and

$$\beta := 1_X \otimes ((e_{X^k,l}^W)^* \circ (g_{ZX,k}^W \circ h^* \otimes 1_X)) \in \mathcal{D}(X^k, X^k),$$

then

$$(1_X \otimes \alpha) \circ (\beta \otimes 1_X) = (1_X \otimes ((e_{X^k,l}^W)^* \circ g_{ZX,k}^W)) \circ ((f_{Y,j}^{XZ} \circ e_{X^n,l}^Y) \otimes 1_X),$$

as desired.

We return to the actions $F_{a,b}$ of $Z(\mathcal{D})$ built in Theorem 4.13 $F_{a,b}$. Using the AF model for the $Q_{a,b}$ realization, we can explicitly write down an AF model for the functor $F_{a,b}$, by considering the dual actions of $Z(\mathcal{D})$ to $\mathcal{D} \boxtimes \mathcal{D}^{mp}$ on the finite-dimensional algebras $A_{[a-k,b+k]}$. This has essentially been done in [19, Section 6] with slightly different conventions (and in the II₁ factor framework), but we include details here for the convenience of the reader.

Let $(Z, \sigma) \in \mathbb{Z}(\mathcal{D})$, where $Z \in \mathcal{D}$ and $\sigma = \{\sigma_{Z,Y} : Y \in \mathcal{D}\}$ is a unitary halfbraiding. Then, for each interval $I_k := [a - k, b + k]$, we have the A_{I_k} bimodule

$$F_{a,b}^k(Z,\sigma) := \mathcal{D}(X^{2k+b-a+1}, X^{k+b-a+1} \otimes Z \otimes X^k)$$

with right A_{I_k} Hilbert module structure

$$\langle f \mid g \rangle_{A_{I_k}} = f^* \circ g.$$

The right action is the obvious (pre-composition), while the left action is given by

$$x \triangleright f := (1_{X^{k+b-a+1}} \otimes \sigma^*_{Z,X^k}) \circ x \circ (1_{X^{k+b-a+1}} \otimes \sigma_{Z,X^k}) \circ f.$$

If $\xi \in \mathbb{Z}(\mathcal{D})((Z,\sigma),(W,\delta))$, then $F_{a,b}^k(\xi): F_{a,b}^k(Z,\sigma) \to F_{a,b}^k(W,\delta)$ is defined by

$$F_{a,b}^k(\xi)(f) := (\mathbf{1}_{X^{b-a+k+1}} \otimes \xi \otimes \mathbf{1}_{X^k}) \circ f.$$

We have tensorators

$$(F_{a,b}^k)^2_{(Z,\sigma),(W,\delta)} : F_{a,b}^k(Z,\sigma) \boxtimes_{A_{I_k}} F_{a,b}^k(W,\delta) \cong F_{a,b}^k(Z \otimes W, \sigma \otimes \delta)$$

given by

$$(F_{a,b}^k)^2_{(Z,\sigma),(W,\delta)}(f \boxtimes g) := (1_{X^{k+b-a+1} \otimes Z} \otimes \delta^*_{W,X^k}) \circ (f \otimes 1_W)$$
$$\circ (1_{X^{k+b-a+1}} \otimes \delta_{W,X^k}) \circ g.$$

These assemble into a unitary tensor functor $F_{a,b}^k : \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{D}) \to \operatorname{Bim}(A_{I_k})$. We have a natural inclusion $F_{a,b}^k(Z,\sigma) \to F_{a,b}^{k+1}(Z,\sigma)$ given by $f \mapsto 1_X \otimes f \otimes 1_X$. This is an isometry of Hilbert modules and is compatible with the A_{I_k} and $A_{I_{k+1}}$ actions and bimodule structure in the sense of Definition 4.3. (We denote these bimodule inclusions v_k if the object $(Z, \sigma) \in \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{D})$ is clear from context.) The resulting inductive limit action $\lim_{a,b} F_{a,b}^k$ is an action on A, which is canonically monoidally equivalent to the action $F_{a,b}$, so we identify these actions. We will denote the resulting inclusions $j_{a-k,b+k}: F_{a,b}^k(Z,\sigma) \hookrightarrow F_{a,b}(Z,\sigma).$

Lemma 4.15. If $b - a \ge n$, then $F_{a,b}(Z, \sigma)$ has a projective basis localized in [a, b]for any $(Z, \sigma) \in \mathbb{Z}(\mathcal{D})$.

Proof. If $b - a \ge n$, then all simple objects occur as a summand of X^{b-a+1} . Thus, there is a projective basis for $F_{a,b}^0(Z,\sigma)$ as a right $A_{[a,b]}$ correspondence. Indeed, pick any finite collection of morphisms $\{b_i\} \subset F^0_{a,b}(Z,\sigma) = \mathcal{D}(X^{b-a+1}, X^{b-a+1} \otimes Z)$ with

$$\sum_{i} |b_i\rangle_{A_{[a,b]}} \langle b_i| = \sum_{i} b_i \circ b_i^* = \mathbf{1}_{X^{b-a+1} \otimes Z} = id_{F^0_{[a,b]}}.$$

But since the inclusion $F^0_{a,b}(Z,\sigma) \hookrightarrow F^k_{a,b}(Z,\sigma)$ is a Hilbert module isometry, the image of b_i satisfies

$$\sum_{i} |1_{X^{k}} \otimes b_{i} \otimes 1_{X^{k}}\rangle_{A_{[a-k,b+k]}} \langle 1_{X^{k}} \otimes b_{i} \otimes 1_{X^{k}} |$$
$$= \sum_{i} (1_{X^{k}} \otimes b_{i} \otimes 1_{X^{k}}) \circ (1_{X^{k}} \otimes b_{i}^{*} \otimes 1_{X^{k}})$$
$$= 1_{X^{2k+b-a+1} \otimes Z} = id_{F_{[a,b]}^{k}(Z,\sigma)}$$

Since this is true for all k, the image $j_{a,b}(b_i)$ in the inductive limit $F_{a,b}(Z, \sigma)$ is also a projective basis. Now, to see if it satisfies the localization condition, let $x \in A_{[c,d]} \cong \mathcal{D}(X^{d-c+1}, X^{d-c+1})$ with d < a. Then, to see its action on $j_{a,b}(b_i)$, set k = a - c. Then, the inclusion of x into $A_{[a-k,b+k]}$ is given by $x \otimes 1_{X^{b+a-c-d}} \in A_{[c,b+a-c]} = A_{[a-k,b+k]}$. We compute

$$i_{c,d}(x) \triangleright j_{a,b}(b_i) = j_{a-k,b+k}(x \otimes 1_{X^{b-d+k}} \triangleright 1_{X^k} \otimes b_i \otimes 1_{X^k})$$

= $j_{a-k,b+k}(x \otimes 1_{X^{a-d}} \otimes 1_{X^{b-c}} \triangleright 1_{X^k} \otimes b_i \otimes 1_{X^k})$
= $j_{a-k,b+k}((x \otimes 1_{X^{a-d}} \otimes 1_{X^{b-c}}) \circ (1_{X^k} \otimes b_i \otimes 1_{X^k}))$
= $j_{a-k,b+k}((1_{X^k} \otimes b_i \otimes 1_{X^k}) \circ (x \otimes 1_{X^{a-d}} \otimes 1_{X^{b-c}} \circ))$
= $j_{a,b}(b_i) \triangleleft i_{c,d}(x).$

Now, we check the case for b < c, and we set k = d - b. Then, [a - k, b + k] contains both [a, b] and [c, d]. We obtain

$$\begin{split} i_{c,d}(x) \triangleright j_{a,b}(b_i) &= j_{a-k,b+k} (\mathbf{1}_{X^{c-a+k}} \otimes x \triangleright \mathbf{1}_{X^k} \otimes b_i \otimes \mathbf{1}_{X^k}) \\ &= j_{a-k,b+k} (\mathbf{1}_{X^{c-a+k}} \otimes x \triangleright \mathbf{1}_{X^{d-b}} \otimes b_i \otimes \mathbf{1}_{X^{d-b-c}}) \\ &= (\mathbf{1}_{X^{k+b-a}} \otimes \sigma_{Z,X^k}^*) \circ (\mathbf{1}_{X^{c-a+k}} \otimes x) \circ (\mathbf{1}_{X^{k+b-a}} \otimes \sigma_{Z,X^k}) \\ &\circ (\mathbf{1}_{X^k} \otimes b_i \otimes \mathbf{1}_{X^k}) \\ &= j_{a-k,b+k} ((\mathbf{1}_{X^k} \otimes b_i \otimes \mathbf{1}_{X^k}) \circ (x \otimes \mathbf{1}_{X^{c-a+k}})) \\ &= j_{a,b}(b_i) \triangleleft i_{c,d}(x). \end{split}$$

In the second to last step, we have crucially used naturality of the half-braiding.

Lemma 4.16. For any two intervals [a,b] and [c,d] of length greater than n and any object $(Z,\sigma) \in \mathbb{Z}(\mathfrak{D})$, $F_{a,b}(Z,\sigma) \cong F_{c,d}(Z,\sigma)$.

Proof. First, assume $b \le d$. We recall the building blocks of the inductive limit model:

$$F_{a,b}^k(Z,\sigma) := \mathcal{D}(X^{2k+b-a+1}, X^{k+b-a+1} \otimes Z \otimes X^k).$$

For a given k, choose m such that $[a - k, b + k] \subseteq [c - m, d + m]$. Then, we consider the map $\kappa_k : F_{a,b}^k(Z, \sigma) \to F_{c,d}(Z, \sigma)$ by

$$\kappa_k(x) := j_{c+m,d-m}((1_{X^{b-c+m}} \otimes \sigma_{Z,X^{d-b}} \otimes 1_{X^m}) \circ (1_{X^{a-k-c+m}} \otimes x \otimes 1_{X^{d-b-k+m}})).$$

Note that this does not depend on the choice of *m*. Furthermore, by construction, this is $A_{[a-k,b+k]}$ bimodular. In order to show that this extends to a well-defined bimodule intertwiner from $F_{a,b}(Z,\sigma)$, we have to show that, for every *k*, it is compatible with the inclusions $v_k : F_{a,b}^k(Z,\sigma) \to F_{a,b}^k(Z,\sigma)$ in the sense the $\kappa_{k+1} \circ v_k = \kappa_k$. Choose

m such that $[a - k - 1, b + k + 1] \subseteq [c - m, d + m]$. Let $x \in A_{[a-k,b+k]}$; recall $\nu_k(x) = 1_X \otimes x \otimes 1_X$. Then, we have

$$\kappa_{k+1} \circ \nu_k(x) = j_{c+m,d-m}((1_{X^{b-c+m}} \otimes \sigma_{Z,X^{d-b}} \otimes 1_{X^m}))$$

$$\circ (1_{X^{a-k-1-c+m}} \otimes \nu_k(x) \otimes 1_{X^{d-b-k-1+m}}))$$

$$= j_{c+m,d-m}((1_{X^{b-c+m}} \otimes \sigma_{Z,X^{d-b}} \otimes 1_{X^m}))$$

$$\circ ((1_{X^{a-k-c+m}} \otimes x) \otimes 1_{X^{d-b-k+m}}))$$

$$= \kappa_k(x).$$

Thus, by [17, Proposition 4.4], the family of κ_k extend to a bimodule intertwiner

$$v: F_{a,b}(Z,\sigma) \cong F_{c,d}(Z,\sigma).$$

Since each κ_k is an isometry, so is the extension.

We can see that v is a unitary explicitly by exchanging the roles of the intervals [a, b] and [c, d] and using $\sigma^{-1} = \sigma^*$ in place of σ . Incidentally, this is also how we build the unitary in the case d < b.

Alternatively, if we first assume that (Z, σ) is a simple object in $Z(\mathcal{D})$, then $F_{a,b}(Z, \sigma)$ and $F_{c,d}(Z, \sigma)$ are both simple objects in the C*-category of correspondences, since both $F_{a,b}$ and $F_{c,d}$ are fully faithful. Thus, any isometry between them is a unitary, and we obtain the desired result for simple objects. Since $Z(\mathcal{D})$ is semisimple and $F_{a,b}$ and $F_{c,d}$ respect direct sums, the general result follows.

Corollary 4.17. For any interval [a, b] with $b - a \ge n$, $F_{a,b}(\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{D})) \subseteq \mathbf{DHR}(A)$.

Proof. Let [c, d] be any other interval with $b - a \ge n$ and

$$v: F_{a,b}(Z,\sigma) \cong F_{[c,d]}(Z,\sigma)$$

the unitary bimodule isomorphism from the previous lemma. Then, there exists a projective basis $\{b_i\}$ localized in [c, d]. Then, $\{v^*(b_i)\} \subseteq F_{a,b}(Z, \sigma)$. Then,

$$\sum v^*(b_i) \langle v^*(b_i) | a \rangle_{F_{a,b}(Z,\sigma)} = \sum v^*(b_i) \langle b_i | v(a) \rangle_{F_{c,d}(Z,\sigma)}$$
$$= \sum v^*(b_i \langle b_i | v(a) \rangle_{F_{c,d}(Z,\sigma)})$$
$$= v^*(v(a)) = a.$$

Thus, $\{v^*(b_i)\}$ is a projective basis. Now, it is also localized in [c, d] since for any $a \in A_{[c,d]^c}$ we have

$$av^{*}(b_{i}) = v^{*}(ab_{i}) = v^{*}(b_{i}a) = v^{*}(b_{i})a.$$

Lemma 4.18. For any [a, b], the functor $F_{a,b} : \mathbb{Z}(\mathcal{D}) \to \mathbf{DHR}(A)$ is braided.

Proof. We present an argument which is essentially the same as [19, Proposition 6.15]. Fix I := [a, b] with $b - a \ge n$, and let

$$\{e_i\} \subset F^0_{a,b}(Z,\sigma) = \mathcal{D}(X^{b-a+1}, X^{b-a+1} \otimes Z)$$

and $\{f_j\} \subset F^0_{a,b}(W, d) = \mathcal{D}(X^{b-a+1}, X^{b-a+1} \otimes W)$ be projective bases so that $\{j_{a,b}(e_i)\}$ and $\{j_{a,b}(f_j)\}$ are projective bases for $F_{a,b}(Z, \sigma)$ and $F_{a,b}(W, d)$ by Lemma 4.15.

Then, it suffices to show that

$$(F_{a,b})^{2}_{(W,d),(Z,\sigma)} \circ u_{F_{a,b}(Z,\sigma),F_{a,b}(W,d)}(j_{a,b}(e_{i}) \boxtimes j_{a,b}(f_{j}))$$

= $j_{a,b}(1_{X^{b-a+1}} \otimes \sigma_{Z,W}) \circ (e_{i} \otimes 1_{W}) \circ f_{j}).$ (4.1)

We compute the left-hand side. First, pick an interval [c, d] with $b \ll c$, and consider a projective basis $\{f'_j\}$ of the corresponding $A_{[c,d]}$ module $F^0_{c,d}(W, d)$ so that $\{v^*(j_{c,d}(f'_j))\}$ is a projective base of $F_{a,b}(W, d)$ localized in [c, d] as in the proof of Lemma 4.16.

Then,

$$\begin{split} &u_{F_{a,b}(Z,\sigma),F_{a,b}(W,d)}(j_{a,b}(e_{i})\boxtimes j_{a,b}(f_{j}))\\ &= u_{F_{a,b}(Z,\sigma),F_{a,b}(W,d)}\Big(\sum_{l}j_{a,b}(e_{i})\boxtimes v^{*}(j_{c,d}(f_{j}'))\langle v^{*}(j_{c,d}(f_{j}')) \mid j_{a,b}(f_{j}))\rangle\Big)\\ &= \sum_{l}v^{*}(j_{c,d}(f_{j}'))\boxtimes j_{a,b}(e_{i})\langle v^{*}(j_{c,d}(f_{j}')) \mid j_{a,b}(f_{j}))\rangle\\ &= \sum_{l,s}j_{a,b}(f_{s})\langle j_{a,b}(f_{s}) \mid v^{*}(j_{c,d}(f_{j}'))\rangle\boxtimes j_{a,b}(e_{i})\langle v^{*}(j_{c,d}(f_{j}')) \mid j_{a,b}(f_{j}))\rangle\\ &= \sum_{s,l}j_{a,b}(f_{s})\boxtimes \langle j_{a,b}(f_{s}) \mid v^{*}(j_{c,d}(f_{j}'))\rangle j_{a,b}(e_{i})\langle v^{*}(j_{c,d}(f_{j}')) \mid j_{a,b}(f_{j}))\rangle. \end{split}$$

Using the definitions, we see the term

$$\sum_{l} \langle j_{a,b}(f_s) \mid v^*(j_{c,d}(f'_j)) \rangle j_{a,b}(e_i) \langle v^*(j_{c,d}(f'_j)) \mid j_{a,b}(f_j) \rangle$$

= $j_{a,b}((f_s^* \otimes 1_Z) \circ 1_{X^{b-a+1}} \otimes \sigma_{Z,W}) \circ (e_i \otimes 1_W) \circ f_j).$

Therefore, we can evaluate the left-hand side of equation (4.1) to get

$$(F_{a,b})^2_{(W,d),(Z,\sigma)} \circ u_{F_{a,b}(Z,\sigma),F_{a,b}(W,d)}(j_{a,b}(e_i) \boxtimes j_{a,b}(f_j))$$

= $j_{a,b} \circ (F^0_{[a,b]})^2_{(W,d),(Z,\sigma)} \Big(\sum_s f_s \boxtimes (f_s^* \otimes 1_Z) \circ 1_{X^{b-a+1}} \otimes \sigma_{Z,W}) \circ (e_i \otimes 1_W) \circ f_j \Big)$
= $j_{a,b}((1_{X^{b-a+1}} \otimes \sigma_{Z,W}) \circ (e_i \otimes 1_W) \circ f_j).$

Theorem 4.19 (Cf. Theorem C). For any interval [a, b] with $b - a \ge n$,

$$F_{a,b}: \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{D}) \to \mathbf{DHR}(A)$$

is a braided equivalence.

Proof. The only thing left to prove is that $F_{a,b}$ is essential surjectivity onto **DHR**(A). But since the replete image of $F_{a,b}$ is the same as $F_{c,d}$ in **Bim**(A), it suffices to show that any bimodule $W \in$ **DHR**(A) is in the image of $F_{c,d}$ for some sufficiently large interval [c, d]. Let $W \in$ **DHR**(A), and choose a basis $\{b_i\}$ localized in [c, d]. By Theorem 4.13, it suffices to show that W lies in the image $L^c \boxtimes R^d(\mathcal{D} \boxtimes \mathcal{D}^{mp})$ when considered as a $A_{(-\infty,c)} \otimes A_{(d,\infty)}$ bimodule.

Note that A decomposes as an $A_{(-\infty,c)} \otimes A_{(d,\infty)}$ bimodule via

$$A \cong \bigoplus_{i,j \in \operatorname{Irr}(\mathcal{D})} (L^{c}(Y_{i}) \boxtimes R^{d}(Y_{j}^{\operatorname{mp}}))^{\oplus N_{i,j}}$$

for some non-negative integers $N_{i,j}$. Now, note that since each [c, d]-localized basis element $b_k \in W$ is $A_{(-\infty,c)} \otimes A_{(d,\infty)}$ -central, the space $b_k \triangleleft ((L^a \boxtimes R^b)(Y_i \boxtimes Y_j^{mp}))$ for each of the $N_{i,j}$ copies of $(L^a \boxtimes R^b)(Y_i \boxtimes Y_j^{mp})$ in A is a sub $A_{(-\infty,c)} \otimes A_{(d,\infty)}$ bimodule of W, and the span as these range over all localized basis elements b_k and all i, j is all of W.

But the map

$$(L^{a} \boxtimes R^{b})(Y_{i} \boxtimes Y_{j}^{\mathrm{mp}}) \mapsto b_{k} \triangleleft \left((L^{a} \boxtimes R^{b})(Y_{i} \boxtimes Y_{j}^{\mathrm{mp}}) \right)$$

is a bounded algebraic bimodule intertwiner; hence, it is an intertwiner of correspondences $(L^a \boxtimes R^b)(Y_i \boxtimes Y_j^{mp}) \to W$. But $(L^a \boxtimes R^b)(Y_i \boxtimes Y_j^{mp})$ is irreducible by fully faithfulness of $L^a \boxtimes R^b$, so the above map is either a scalar multiple of an isometry (in which case $(L^a \boxtimes R^b)(Y_i \boxtimes Y_j^{mp})$ is isomorphic to its image) or 0. But the images of these maps span X, and since X itself is semisimple, the images of $(L^a \boxtimes R^b)(Y_i \boxtimes Y_j^{mp})$ exhaust possible simple summands of W.

Thus, when we restrict W to an $A_{(-\infty,c)} \otimes A_{(d,\infty)}$ bimodule, then W is a direct sum of the $(L^a \boxtimes R^b)(Y_i \boxtimes Y_i^{mp})$, hence in the image of $F_{[c,d]}$ as claimed.

We can immediately use this to approach the problem described in the introduction of distinguishing quasi-local algebras up to bounded spread isomorphism. The following example is the standard example of global symmetry: spin flips.

Example 4.20 (Ordinary spin system). Let $d \in \mathbb{N}$ and consider the onsite Hilbert space \mathbb{C}^d , which we view as having a trivial onsite categorical symmetry. The fusion category is **Hilb**_{*f*,*d*,}, and the object $X = \mathbb{C}^d$ is clearly strongly tensor generating.

The resulting net A_d over \mathbb{Z} is then the usual net of all local operators, and the quasi-local algebra is the UHF C*-algebra $M_d \infty$. By Theorem 4.19, we have **DHR** $(A_d) \cong \mathbb{Z}(\text{Hilb}_{f.d.}) \cong \text{Hilb}_{f.d.}$ as braided tensor categories.

Example 4.21 (Generalized spin-flip). Let *G* be an abelian finite group. Consider the onsite Hilbert space $K := \mathbb{C}^{|G|}$, and the action of *G* on *K* which permutes the standard basis vectors, i.e., the left regular representation. *K*, as an object in **Rep**(*G*), contains all isomorphism classes of simples; hence, it is a strongly tensor generating object in **Rep**(*G*) (with n = 1).

Then, we consider the net of symmetric observables constructed as above, which we denote by A^G . It is easy to see that the resulting UHF algebra is $M_{|G^{\infty}|}$. In particular, as C*-algebras, we have an isomorphism of the quasi-local algebras $A^G \cong A_{|G|}$. In particular, for any groups G and H of the same order, $A^G \cong A^H$.

However, by Theorem 4.19, **DHR** $(A^G) \cong \mathbb{Z}(\operatorname{Rep}(G))$. This implies that even though $A^{\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}} \cong A_2$ as C*-algebras, there is no isomorphism with bounded spread between these. Similarly, at the level of algebras, $A^{\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}} \cong A^{\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}}$, but there is no bounded spread isomorphism between these because the underlying fusion categories **Hilb**_{*f.d.*}($\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}$) and **Hilb**_{*f.d.*($\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$) are not Morita equivalent.}

4.3. Examples of QCA

Recall that if \mathcal{C} is a braided C*-tensor category, $\operatorname{Aut}_{\operatorname{br}}(\mathcal{C})$ is the group of unitary isomorphism monoidal natural isomorphism classes of braided (unitary) monoidal equivalences of \mathcal{C} . We have the following corollary to the previous section.

Corollary 4.22 (Cf. Theorem C). Let A denote the fusion spin chain constructed from a fusion category \mathcal{D} and strongly tensor generating object X. Then, there is a homomorphism **DHR** : **QCA**(A)/**FDQC**(A) \rightarrow **Aut**_{br}(Z(\mathcal{D})).

The goal in this section is to find examples of QCA that map onto specific braided autoequivalences of the center. Let \mathcal{D} be a unitary fusion category and X a strongly tensor generating object, and let A denote the net over \mathbb{Z} . Note that any unitary autoequivalence of \mathcal{C} induces a braided unitary autoequivalence of the center $\tilde{\alpha} \in$ Aut_{br}($\mathbb{Z}(\mathcal{D})$) [32]. More specifically, if $(Z, \sigma) \in \mathbb{Z}(\mathcal{D})$ and $\alpha \in$ Aut_{\otimes}(\mathcal{C}), then define

$$(\alpha(Z), \sigma^{\alpha})$$

where $\sigma_{\alpha(Z),X}^{\alpha}: \alpha(Z) \otimes X \cong X \otimes \alpha(Z)$ is defined as the composition

$$\alpha(Z)\otimes X\xrightarrow{\operatorname{can}}\alpha(Z\otimes\alpha^{-1}(X))\xrightarrow{\alpha(\sigma_{Z,\alpha^{-1}(X)})}\alpha(\alpha^{-1}(X)\otimes Z)\xrightarrow{\operatorname{can}}X\otimes\alpha(Z).$$

Here, can denotes the canonical isomorphisms built from the monoidal structure on the functor α . It is easy to check that the assignment $\tilde{\alpha}(Z, \sigma) := (\alpha(Z), \sigma^{\alpha})$ extends

naturally to a braided monoidal equivalence of $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{D})$. Then, $\alpha \mapsto \tilde{\alpha}$ gives a homomorphism from $\operatorname{Aut}_{\otimes}(\mathcal{D}) \to \operatorname{Aut}_{\operatorname{br}}(\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{D}))$, whose image is denoted by $\operatorname{Out}(\mathcal{D})$.

Let $\operatorname{Stab}(X)$ be the group whose objects are monoidal equivalence classes of unitary monoidal autoequivalences of \mathcal{D} such that $\alpha(X) \cong X$. For any $\alpha \in \operatorname{Stab}(X)$, we will build a QCA on A with spread 0, whose induced action on $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{D})$ is given by $\widetilde{\alpha}$. Recall that $A_{[a,b]} := \mathcal{D}(X^{b-a+1}, X^{b-a+1})$. Then, applying α to the morphisms in \mathcal{D} and conjugating by the tensorator of α , we get the map

$$\widehat{\alpha}: \mathcal{D}(X^{b-a+1}, X^{b-a+1}) \mapsto \mathcal{D}(\alpha(X)^{b-a+1}, \alpha(X)^{b-a+1}).$$

Choose an isomorphism $\eta : \alpha(X) \cong X$, and define the homomorphism

$$\mathcal{Q}_{\alpha}^{[a,b]}: A_{[a,b]} \cong \mathcal{D}(X^{b-a+1}, X^{b-a+1}) \to \mathcal{D}(X^{b-a+1}, X^{b-a+1}) \cong A_{[a,b]}$$

by

$$Q_{\alpha}^{[a,b]}(f) := (\eta^{\otimes b-a}) \circ \widehat{\alpha}(f) \circ ((\eta^*)^{\otimes b-a+1})$$

These isomorphisms are clearly compatible with inclusions and thus assemble into a QCA with 0-spread:

$$Q_{\alpha}: A \to A.$$

By construction, the assignment only depends on the choice of η up to a depth one circuit. Furthermore, from our analysis in the previous section, it is clear that

$$\mathbf{DHR}(\mathcal{Q}_a) \cong \widetilde{\alpha} \in \mathbf{Out}(\mathcal{D}) \leq \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{D}).$$

Corollary 4.23 (Cf. Theorem C). Suppose that the tensor generating object X is stable under any monoidal autoequivalence of C. Then, the image of the DHR homomorphism $\mathbf{QCA}(A)/\mathbf{FDQC}(A) \rightarrow \mathbf{Aut}_{br}(\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{D}))$ contains the subgroup $\mathbf{Out}(\mathcal{D})$. In particular, if $\mathbf{Out}(\mathcal{D})$ is non-abelian, then so is $\mathbf{QCA}(A)/\mathbf{FDQC}(A)$.

Example 4.24 (Non-abelian $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ -symmetric QCA (cf. Corollary D)). We now give a concrete example. We consider on ordinary spin system, coarse-grained so that the on-site Hilbert space consists of two qubits

$$K:=\mathbb{C}^2\otimes\mathbb{C}^2.$$

Let $G := \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ act on *K*, where each copy of $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ acts by a spin-flip on the corresponding tensor factor. This defines a global, on-site symmetry. Viewing $K \in \operatorname{Rep}(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$, we see that *K* is in fact the regular representation and thus is characteristic (since it decomposes as a direct sum of all simple objects with multiplicity 1).

Thus, the image of DHR for the resulting net contains

$$\operatorname{Out}(\operatorname{Rep}(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}\times\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})) \supseteq \operatorname{Out}(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}\times\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}) \cong S_3.$$

In this case, we can implement this S_3 action explicitly on the original Hilbert space. Using the standard qubit basis, we consider the basis for $\mathbb{C}^2 \otimes \mathbb{C}^2$; i.e., we consider the vectors in \mathbb{C}^2 :

$$|+\rangle := \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|0\rangle + |1\rangle),$$
$$|-\rangle := \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|0\rangle - |1\rangle)$$

and define the orthonormal basis of $\mathbb{C}^2 \otimes \mathbb{C}^2$ as follows.

$$\begin{aligned} |a\rangle &:= |+\rangle \otimes |+\rangle, \\ |1\rangle &:= |+\rangle \otimes |-\rangle, \\ |2\rangle &:= |-\rangle \otimes |+\rangle, \\ |3\rangle &:= |-\rangle \otimes |-\rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Then, for any $g \in S_3$, consider the unitary U_g on $\mathbb{C}^2 \otimes \mathbb{C}^2$, which fixes $|a\rangle$ and permutes $\{|1\rangle, |2\rangle, |3\rangle\}$ accordingly.

Then, conjugation by the product of $Ad(U_g)$ over all sites gives a spread 0 QCA on the algebra of $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ symmetric operators, which cannot be disentangled by a symmetric finite circuit. Note that even though this QCA is defined on the full spin system and preserves the symmetric subalgebra, it does not commute with the group action.

4.4. 2+1D topological boundaries theories

Let \mathcal{C} be a unitary modular tensor category. Recall that a *Lagrangian* algebra is a commutative, connected separable algebra object (or Q-system) $A \in \mathcal{C}$ such that $\dim(A)^2 = \dim(\mathcal{C})$. Equivalently, the category of local modules $\mathcal{C}_A^{loc} \cong \operatorname{Hilb}_{f.d}$. In this case, the category \mathcal{C}_A of right A-modules is a fusion category, and the central functor $\mathcal{C} \to \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{C}_A)$ is a braided equivalence. We can view Lagrangian algebras as parameterizing "ways \mathcal{C} can be realized as a Drinfeld center of a fusion category", and the fusion category in question is \mathcal{C}_A .

From a physical perspective, if we view \mathcal{C} as the topological order of a 2+1D theory, then topological (gapped) boundaries are characterized by Lagrangian algebras $A \in \mathcal{C}$ [39,62]. The fusion category \mathcal{C}_A is the fusion category of topological boundary excitations.

We define the groupoid **TopBound** $_{2+1}$ as follows.

• Objects are pairs (\mathcal{C} , A), where \mathcal{C} is a unitary modular tensor category and A is a Lagrangian algebra.

Morphisms (C, A) → (D, B) are pairs (α, η), where α : C ≅ D is a unitary braided equivalence and η : α(A) ≅ B is a unitary isomorphism of algebra objects. These morphisms are taken up to the equivalence relation (α, η) ~ (β, λ) if there is a monoidal natural isomorphism δ : α ≅ β such that λ ∘ δ_A = η (see [8, Definition 4.1]). Composition is induced from the natural composition of autoequivalences.

In this section, we will give a construction of a 1D net of algebras from the data of the pair (\mathcal{C} , A) which is functorial from **TopBound**₂₊₁ \rightarrow **Net**_Z/ \sim **FDQC**. Recall that there is a forgetful functor **Forget** : **TopBound**₂₊₁ \rightarrow **BrTens** that simply forgets the choice of Lagrangian algebra. We have the following theorem, which allows us to realize many examples of braided equivalences between concrete quasi-local algebras.

Theorem 4.25. There exists a functor \mathbf{B} : **TopBound**₂₊₁ \rightarrow **Net**_{\mathbb{Z}} such that **DHR** \circ **B** \cong **Forget** as functors **TopBound**₂₊₁ \rightarrow **BrTens**.

Proof. To build G, let $(\mathcal{C}, A) \in \mathbf{TopBound}_{2+1}$. Choose the object

$$X_{\mathcal{C}} = \bigoplus_{Z \in \operatorname{Irr}(\mathcal{C})} Z \in \mathcal{C}.$$

Then, as described above: $\mathcal{C} \cong Z(\mathcal{C}_A)$, and we have a forgetful functor $F_A : \mathcal{C} \to \mathcal{C}_A$, which is equivalent to the free module functor $Z \mapsto Z \otimes A$. We consider fusion spin chain net as in Proposition 4.1 with fusion category \mathcal{C}_A and generator $F_A(X_{\mathcal{C}})$. This is a strong tensor generator for \mathcal{C}_A since the forgetful functor F_A from the center is always dominant, so all simple objects in \mathcal{C}_A are already summands of $F_A(X_{\mathcal{C}})$.

We denote this net over \mathbb{Z} by **B**(\mathcal{C} , A). For an interval with n points, the local algebra is

$$\mathcal{C}_A(F_A(X_{\mathcal{C}})^n, F_A(X_{\mathcal{C}})^n) \cong \mathcal{C}(X_{\mathcal{C}}^n, X_{\mathcal{C}}^n \otimes A)$$

(see, e.g., [55]). In the latter model, composition is given by

$$f \cdot g = (1_{X_{\varphi}^{n}} \otimes m) \circ (f \otimes 1_{A}) \circ g,$$

where $m : A \otimes A \rightarrow A$ is the multiplication. The inclusions

$$\mathcal{C}_A(F_A(X_{\mathcal{C}})^n, F_A(X_{\mathcal{C}})^n) \hookrightarrow \mathcal{C}_A(F_A(X_{\mathcal{C}})^{n+1}, F_A(X_{\mathcal{C}})^{n+1})$$

given by tensoring $1_{F_A(X_{\mathcal{C}})}$ on the left and right are given in our alternate model by sending, for $f \in \mathcal{C}(X_{\mathcal{C}}^n, X_{\mathcal{C}}^n \otimes A)$,

$$f \mapsto \mathbf{1}_{X_{\mathcal{C}}} \otimes f$$

and

$$f \mapsto (\mathbf{1}_{X_{\mathcal{C}}^n} \otimes \sigma_{A, X_{\mathcal{C}}}) \circ (f \otimes \mathbf{1}_{X_{\mathcal{C}}}),$$

respectively, where $\sigma_{A,X_{\mathcal{C}}} : A \otimes X_{\mathcal{C}} \cong X_{\mathcal{C}} \otimes A$ is the braiding in \mathcal{C} .

We will now extend the assignment $(\mathcal{C}, A) \mapsto \mathbf{B}(\mathcal{C}, A)$ to a functor. Suppose that

$$(\mathcal{C}, A), (\mathcal{D}, B) \in \mathbf{TopBound}_{2+1},$$

and let α : $\mathcal{C} \cong \mathcal{D}$ be a braided equivalence with $\alpha(A) \cong B$ as algebra objects. Choose a specific (unitary) algebra isomorphism

$$\eta:\alpha(A)\cong B.$$

Then, $\alpha(X_{\mathcal{C}}) \cong X_{\mathcal{D}}$ since both are simply a direct sum of all the simple objects. Pick such a unitary and call it ν .

Then, using the monoidal structure on α , we get an algebra homomorphism

$$\widehat{\alpha}: \mathcal{C}(X_{\mathcal{C}}^n, X_{\mathcal{C}}^n \otimes A) \mapsto \mathcal{D}(\alpha(X_{\mathcal{C}})^n, \alpha(X_{\mathcal{C}})^n \otimes \alpha(A)).$$

Then, for $f \in \mathcal{C}(X_{\mathcal{C}}^n, X_{\mathcal{C}}^n \otimes A)\mathbf{B}(\mathcal{C}, A)_{[a,a+n]}$, we define

$$\mathbf{B}(\alpha)(f) := ((\nu^*)^{\otimes n} \otimes \eta) \circ \hat{\alpha}(f) \circ ((\nu^*)^{\otimes n}) \in \mathcal{D}(X_{\mathcal{D}}^n, X_{\mathcal{D}}^n \otimes B).$$

Since η is an algebra isomorphism, it is easy to see that this is an isomorphism of local algebras. Since α is a braided monoidal equivalence, this is compatible with the left and right inclusions and thus extends to an isomorphism of quasi-local algebras with spread 0. This gives us a morphism $\mathbf{B}(\alpha) \in \mathbf{Net}_{\mathbb{Z}}(\mathbf{B}(\mathcal{C}, A), \mathbf{B}(\mathcal{D}, B))$. By construction, this only depends on the choice of η up to a finite depth (in fact, depth one) circuit.

Now, consider **DHR** \circ **B** : **TopBound**₂₊₁ \rightarrow **BrTens**. But since $F_A : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_A$ factors through an equivalence with the center $\tilde{F}_A : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{C}_A)$ [23], thus, from the previous section, we have an equivalence **DHR**(**B**(\mathcal{C}, A)) $\cong \mathcal{C}$, and under this identification, **DHR**(**B**(α)) = [α].

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