

## NOTETAKER CHECKLIST FORM

(Complete one for each talk.)

Name: Leanne Merrill Email/Phone: leannem@uoregon.edu / 5184617614

Speaker's Name: Christopher Douglas

Talk Title: Towards explicit models for higher K-theories

Date: 1, 28, 14 Time: 2:00 am / pm (circle one)

List 6-12 key words for the talk: virtual vector spaces, Fredholm ~~operators~~ operators, Topological field theory, quantum fields, trace class operators, TMF.

Please summarize the lecture in 5 or fewer sentences: The lecture focused on analogies between K-theory and virtual vector spaces, Fredholm operators, and semigroups of trace class operators. It explored in detail the one dimensional pictures of topological field theories and used them to build intuition for higher dimensional versions. It ended with a question about the connection between TMF and 2-fredholm quantum fields.

### CHECK LIST

(This is NOT optional, we will not pay for incomplete forms)

- Introduce yourself to the speaker prior to the talk. Tell them that you will be the note taker, and that you will need to make copies of their notes and materials, if any.
- Obtain ALL presentation materials from speaker. This can be done before the talk is to begin or after the talk; please make arrangements with the speaker as to when you can do this. You may scan and send materials as a .pdf to yourself using the scanner on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor.
  - **Computer Presentations:** Obtain a copy of their presentation
  - **Overhead:** Obtain a copy or use the originals and scan them
  - **Blackboard:** Take blackboard notes in black or blue **PEN**. We will **NOT** accept notes in pencil or in colored ink other than black or blue.
  - **Handouts:** Obtain copies of and scan all handouts
- For each talk, all materials must be saved in a single .pdf and named according to the naming convention on the "Materials Received" check list. To do this, compile all materials for a specific talk into one stack with this completed sheet on top and insert face up into the tray on the top of the scanner. Proceed to scan and email the file to yourself. Do this for the materials from each talk.
- When you have emailed all files to yourself, please save and re-name each file according to the naming convention listed below the talk title on the "Materials Received" check list.  
(YYYY.MM.DD.TIME.SpeakerLastName)
- Email the re-named files to notes@msri.org with the workshop name and your name in the subject line.

# Christopher Douglas - Towards an explicit model for higher K-theory

①

1/28/14

Joint work with Henriques.

Context w/ Bartels, Henriques.

Based on Segal, Stolz - Teichner.

Situation:

algebra: cohomology, K-theory, Tmf ...

topology: cells, vector bundles, ? ...

Understanding of algebra has outstripped that of topology. How can we extend the topology?

From vector spaces ...

... to K-theory.

consider  $\left\{ \begin{array}{c} V \\ \downarrow \\ X \end{array} \right\} / \sim$   
vector bundle

or, better ...  $\left\{ \begin{array}{c} V \oplus W \\ \downarrow \\ X \end{array} \right\} / \sim$   
virtual vector bundle

~~for simplicity~~

for simplicity  $K^0(X) := \left\{ \begin{array}{c} V \oplus W \\ \downarrow \\ X \end{array} \right\} / \sim$   
for simplicity  $X = *$

suggests { "virtual vector spaces" }  $\sim K$ .

... to topological field theory.

given  $V$  a vector space, have

$$\text{TFT } \text{Bord}_0^1 \longrightarrow \text{Vect}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \bullet & \longrightarrow & V \\
 \square & \longrightarrow & V^* \otimes V \xrightarrow{\text{ev}} \mathbb{C}
 \end{array}$$

suggests  $K$  theory  $\rightsquigarrow$  1-dim TFT.

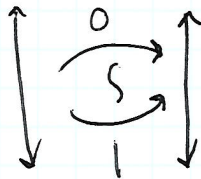
$K$ -Theory via Fredholm operators:

Encode  $V \subset H \leftarrow$  a fixed infinite dim. ambient Hilbert space.

$$\text{as: } (F: H \rightarrow H \rightsquigarrow \begin{array}{l} \text{Ker } F \subset H \\ \text{Coker } F \subset H \end{array})$$

Def:  $F: H \rightarrow H$  is Fredholm if  $\text{Ker } F, \text{Coker } F$  are finite dimensional.

Note: Topology on operators allows cancelling; eg in the one dimensional case.



$$\Rightarrow \begin{array}{c} \mathbb{R} \oplus \mathbb{R} \\ \text{is} \\ \mathbb{0} \oplus \mathbb{0} \end{array}$$

Model:  $\{ \text{Fredholm operators} \} \sim K$ .

ie, it is a classifying space for  $K$  theory.

$$\text{Map is: } F \longmapsto \text{Ker } F \oplus \text{Coker } F.$$

Interlude: operators as quantum fields.

Infinite dimensional  $H$  provides partial TFT:

$$\left( \cdot_H, \overline{\text{id}_H} \right)$$

operator  $F$  provides an extension to  $\xrightarrow{*}$  (manifolds with marked points)  
 this assigns  $H \xrightarrow{F} H$

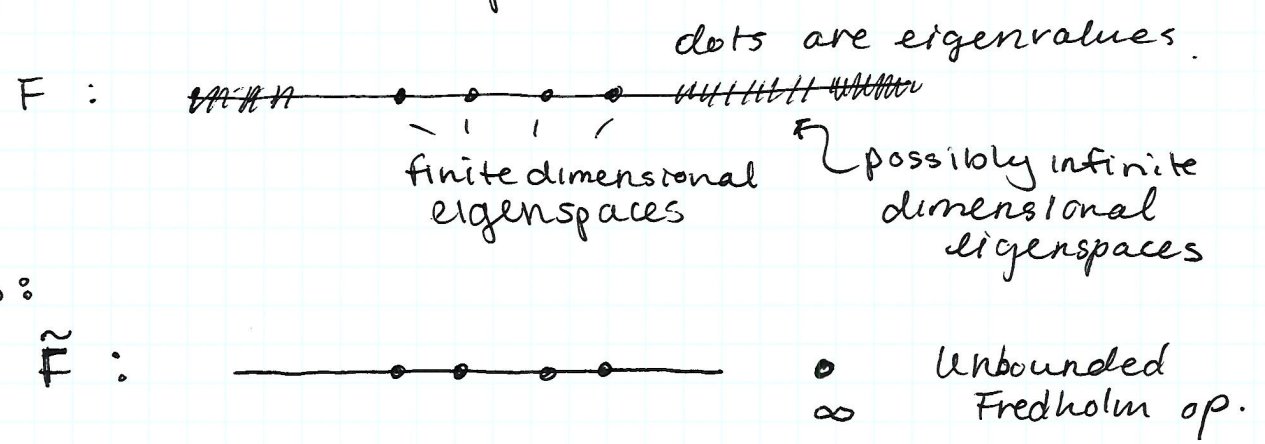
Def A quantum field is

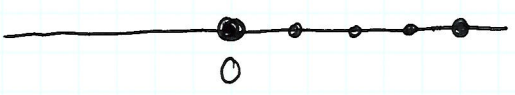
$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc} \text{Bord}'_0 & \rightarrow & \text{Vect} \\ \wedge & & \nearrow \\ \text{Bord}'_0^{!m} & & \end{array} \right) \quad (m \text{ stands for marked pt})$$

Model:  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Fredholm quantum fields} \\ \text{for } 1\text{-dim } \text{PTFT} \end{array} \right\} \sim K$

K-Theory via trace class semigroups:

Deform a Fredholm operator  $F$ :



by pushing infinite dimensional eigenspaces to infinity.  
 to:  $\exp e^{-t\tilde{F}}$   trace class operator  
 giant kernel from infinity above

Actually have a one-parameter family of trace class operators.

Model # :  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \mathbb{R}_+ \text{- semigroups} \\ \text{of trace class ops} \end{array} \right\} \sim K$

# - sweeping things under the rug.

Interlude: trace class semigroups as QFTs.

Reform  $\rho$ TFT  $Z_H = (\cdot, \text{id}_H)$

using quantum field  $F$

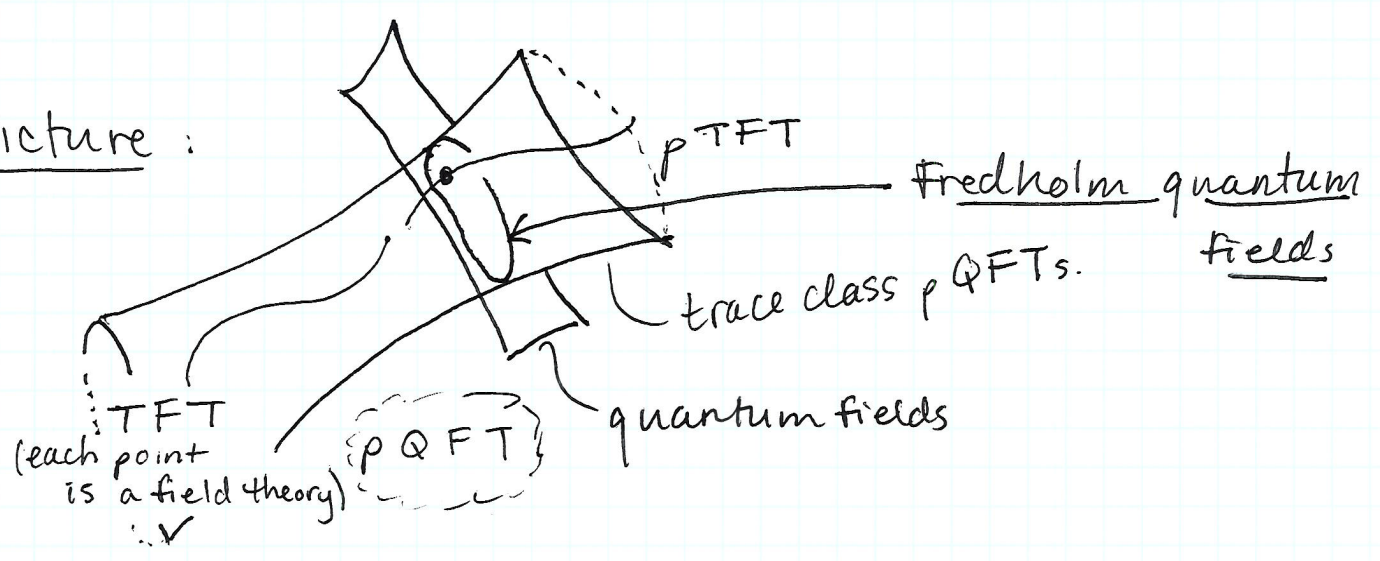
to ~~the~~  $\rho$ QFT  $Z_H^F$  (a QFT is like a TFT, except that manifolds in ~~the~~ question have metrics).

where:

$$Z_H^F \left( \text{---} \right)_t = \text{"xxxxx"} \\ := \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \overbrace{\text{xxxxx}}^n = e^{-tF} \\ \underbrace{\hspace{1cm}}_{1 - \frac{t}{n} F}$$

Model # :  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{trace class} \\ \rho\text{QFT} \\ \text{dim. 1} \end{array} \right\} \sim K$

Picture :



How to go to higher dimensions?  
Specifically, what do "trace class" and "Fredholm" mean in two dimensions?

Trace class and traces

+ -  
∩ ⊂

Dualizable:

$V \in \mathcal{C}$  dualizable  $\rightsquigarrow$  TFT  $\text{Bord}_0^1 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z} \mathcal{C}$   
for  $f: V \rightarrow V$ , trace  $\text{tr}(f) = \int_{\infty}^f (= \sum_{\eta \in \pi_1^S} \mathbb{Z}_V(\eta, f))$ .  
agrees with notion of trace of a matrix.

Non-dualizable:

$V \in \mathcal{C} \rightsquigarrow \rho$  TFT. Not clear how to define trace.

Def (Stolz - Teichner):

$f: V \rightarrow V$  is trace class if  $\exists \left( \begin{matrix} V & W \\ \hookrightarrow & \hookrightarrow \\ W & V \end{matrix} \right)$   
 $- f - = \int$

Exercise: dualizable admit trace class operators.

Def If  $f$  is trace class, then

$\text{tr}(f) = \int$

Note:  $\int^f = \int \circ f = \int \circ f \circ \text{id} = \int$


so this reproduces the usual notion of trace in the dualizable context.

~~2-trace class and 2-traces:~~

2-trace class and 2-traces:

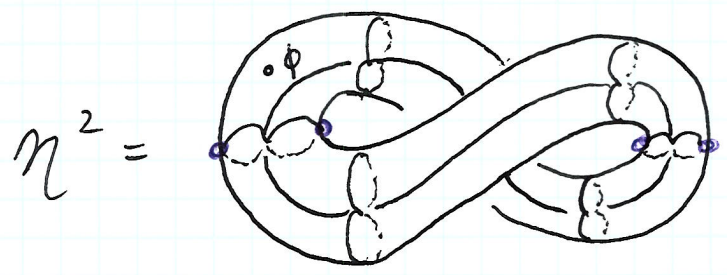
Dualizable

$A \in \mathcal{C}^2$  dualizable,  $\phi: \text{id}_A \Rightarrow \text{id}_A$

Drawn as: 

Then  $\text{tr}_2(\phi) = Z_A(\eta^2, \phi)$ .  
 ↙ field theory provided by cobordism hypothesis

Picture :

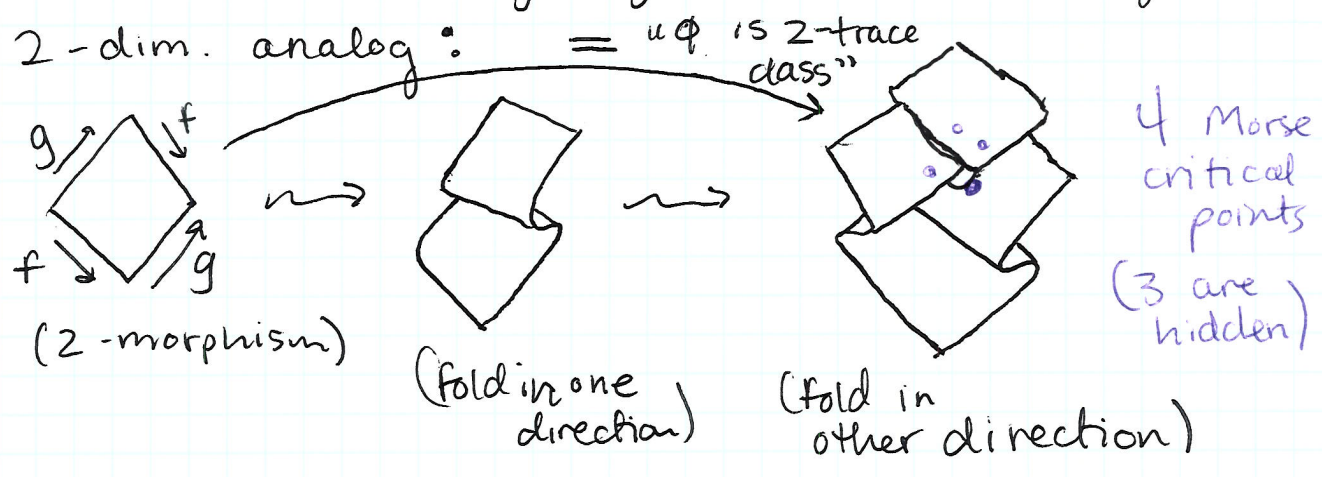


4 morse critical points.

Take a figure-eight, and move it around in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  in the shape of a figure-eight.

Non-dualizable:

Theme: field theory beyond the cobordism hypothesis.



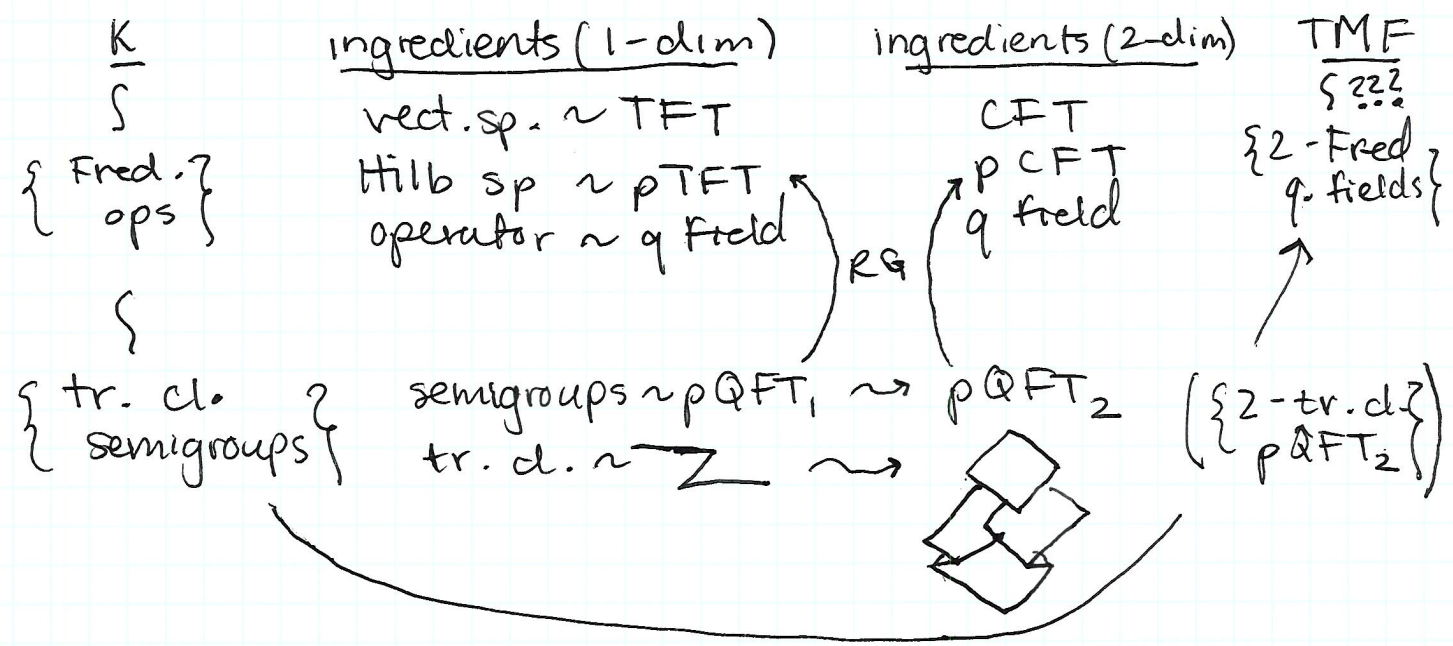
Def If  $A \in \mathcal{C}^2$ ,  $f : A \rightarrow A$ ,  $g : A \rightarrow A$ , we say  $\phi : fg \Rightarrow gf$  is 2-trace class if

$$-f- = \overset{f}{\underbrace{\quad}_f}, \quad -g- = \underset{g}{\overbrace{\quad}_g}$$

and (insert pictures of board here).

The 1-trace is another name for Hochschild homology.  
 The 2-trace is another name for  $S^1 \times S^1$  Hochschild homology.

Summary:



Questions:

What evidence is there that this models TMF?

Theorem : QFT<sub>2</sub> gives...

- Stolz-Teichner : modular forms
- DH : string group
- C : witten genus
- BE : TMF  $\otimes$  C

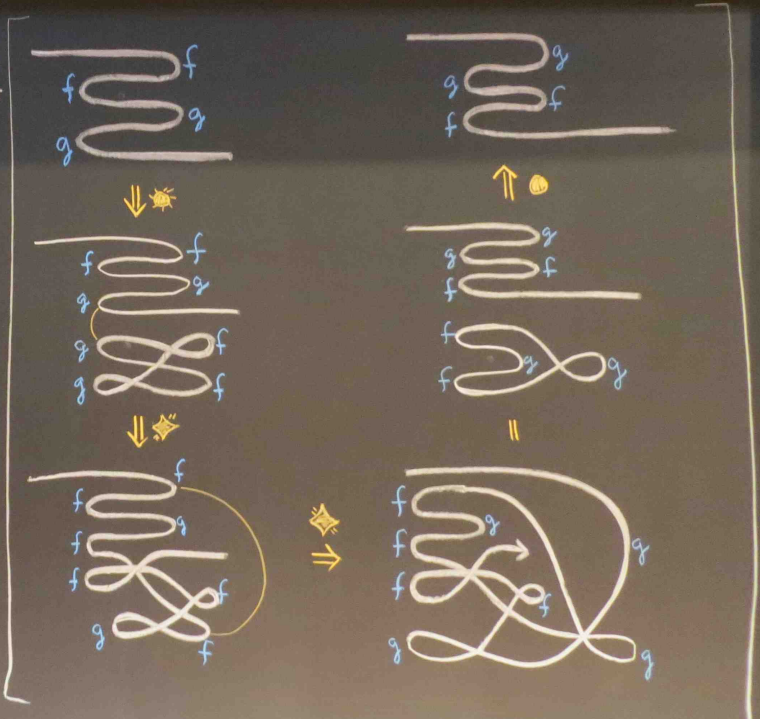


$$\exists \phi \stackrel{id}{=} \emptyset \Rightarrow \begin{matrix} g & f \\ \text{---} & \text{---} \\ g & f \end{matrix} \text{ s.t. } \phi =$$

$$\phi \stackrel{\diamond}{=} \begin{matrix} g & \\ \text{---} & \\ g & \end{matrix} \Rightarrow \begin{matrix} f & \\ \text{---} & \\ f & \end{matrix}$$

$$\phi \stackrel{\diamond}{=} \begin{matrix} f & \\ \text{---} & \\ f & \end{matrix} \Rightarrow \begin{matrix} g & \\ \text{---} & \\ g & \end{matrix}$$

$$\phi \stackrel{\odot}{=} \begin{matrix} f & g \\ \text{---} & \text{---} \\ f & g \end{matrix} \Rightarrow \emptyset$$



Def: for  $\phi$  2-trace class, the 2-trace is

$\#_r(\phi) :=$

