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Owen Gwilliam: Symmetries via factorization algebras

Thursday 31 August 2023 09:00 (1 hour)

Factorization algebras arose in topology and representation theory but also provide a framework for describing the observables and symmetries of a field theory. This talk will begin by surveying factorization algebras and what they do well – and do not – in physics, at least at present. In the latter part we will describe work in progress with Araminta Amabel on selection rules for line operators of gauge theories, transposing Dan Freed’s argument into the key of factorization algebras.