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Title: Topological field theories via sheaf theory

Abstract: The goal of this talk will be to explain a general procedure for constructing topological field theories by linearization. More precisely, I will describe a family of TQFTs whose values on a manifold M are higher categories of sheaves on the moduli space of locally constant maps from M into some fixed target X . In various special cases the resulting TQFTs play a central role in three dimensional mirror symmetry and the geometric Langlands program.