1051-16-271 Yevgenia Kashina, Susan Montgomery and Siu-Hung Ng^{*}, Iowa State University, Ames, IA 50014. On some gauge invariants of Hopf algebras.

Frobenius-Schur indicators of the representations of a finite group have been studied for more than a century. The notion has been recently generalized to pivotal categories and these indicators are invariants of pivotal categories. However, the representation category of a finite-dimensional Hopf algebra is not necessarily pivotal. In this talk, we introduce some gauge invariants for each finite-dimensional Hopf algebra H, and we show that these invariants coincide with the Frobenius-Schur indicators of the regular representation when H is a semisimple complex Hopf algebra. As an application, we demonstrate the inequivalence of the Taft algebras by computing these gauge invariants.

Part of this talk is based on joint work with Y. Kashina and S. Montgomery. (Received August 26, 2009)