

# Operads as double functors

Claudio Pisani

Virtual Double Categories Workshop  
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# Table of Contents

- 1 Motivations
- 2 Operads
- 3 Non-skeletal operads
- 4 Operads as discrete double fibrations
- 5 Operads as lax double functors
- 6 Special operads
- 7 Changing the base
- 8 Further work

# Motivations

## Aim

A more natural approach to colored **operads** (symmetric multicategories).

## Achievement

The **non-skeletal** approach to operads seems in fact more natural in many respects.

## Technical tools

In this approach, **double categories** play a pivotal role.

## Byproduct

This is how I learned to love double categories.

# Motivations

## The operad of sets

- Objects are sets.
- Arrows  $f : X_1; \cdots ; X_n \rightarrow Y$   
are maps which take a list of elements  
 $x_1; \cdots ; x_n$  (with  $x_i \in X_i$ )  
and give an element  $y \in Y$ .

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 $x_1; \dots; x_n$  (with  $x_i \in X_i$ )  
and give an element  $y \in Y$ .

But order doesn't really matter...

# Motivations

## More naturally

- Objects are sets.
- Arrows  $f : (X_i)_{i \in A} \rightarrow Y$   
are maps which take a family of elements  
 $(x_i)_{i \in A}$  (with  $x_i \in X_i$ )  
and give an element  $y \in Y$ .

# Motivations

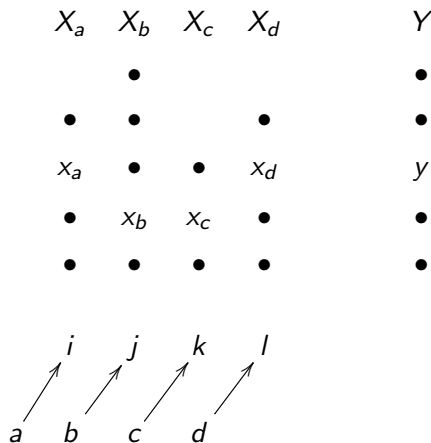
$X_i$	$X_j$	$X_k$	$X_l$	$Y$
	•			•
•	•		•	•
•	•	•	•	•
•	•	•	•	•
•	•	•	•	•
$i$	$j$	$k$	$l$	

# Motivations

$X_i$	$X_j$	$X_k$	$X_l$	$Y$
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•	$x_j$	$x_k$	•	•
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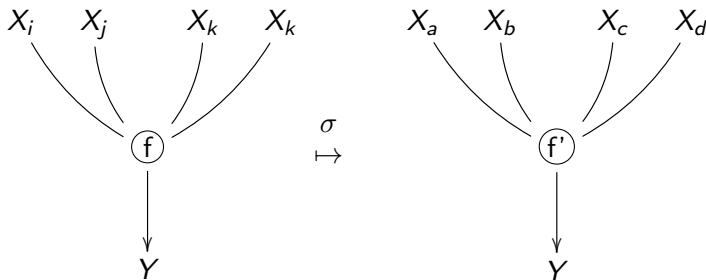
# Motivations



# Motivations

## Reindexing of arrows

A bijection  $\sigma : B \rightarrow A$  gives a reindexing, taking any arrow whose domain is indexed by  $A$  to an arrow whose domain is indexed by  $B$ .

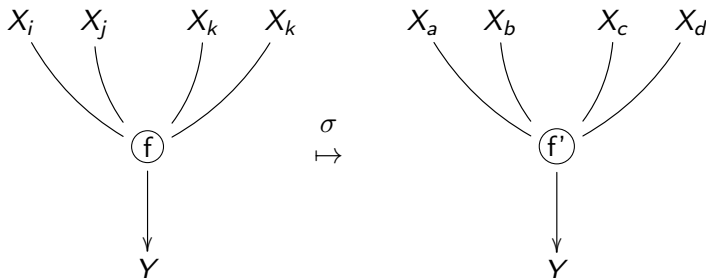


# Motivations

## Idea

The maps  $f$  and  $f'$  are the same, up to the indexing of domains.

But indexing is necessary in order to composing arrows.



# Motivations

If, instead of single arrows, we consider **families of arrows**, we get a category with an underlying functor to  $\text{Set}_f$ .

$$(X_i)_{i \in A} \xrightarrow{(f_j)_{j \in B}} (Y_j)_{j \in B} \xrightarrow{(g_k)_{k \in C}} (Z_k)_{k \in C}$$

$(h_k)_{k \in C}$

$$A \xrightarrow{\bar{f}} B \xrightarrow{\bar{g}} C$$

$\bar{h}$

# Motivations

Reindexing of families of arrows  
are the cells **double category**.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (X'_j)_{j \in B} & \xleftarrow{\sigma^*} & (X_i)_{i \in A} \\ \downarrow f' & & \downarrow f \\ (Y'_s)_{s \in D} & \xleftarrow{\rho^*} & (Y_t)_{t \in C} \end{array}$$

# Motivations

## Main idea

To properly understand operads, we need a framework allowing to express **symmetry of arrows** and yet retaining the possibility of **composing** them.

Double categories provide this framework.

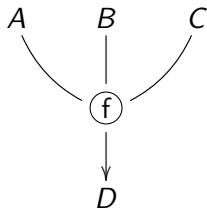
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# Operads (arity)

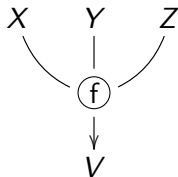
## Arrows of any arity

A ternary arrow, a unary arrow and a nullary arrow.

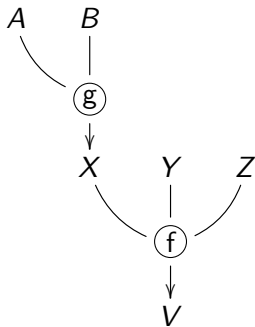




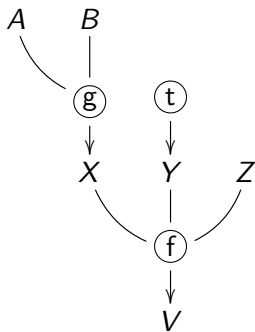
# Operads (composition)



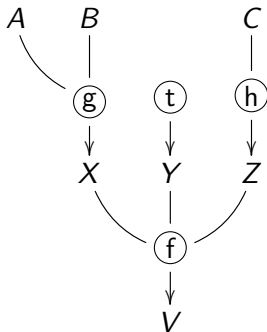
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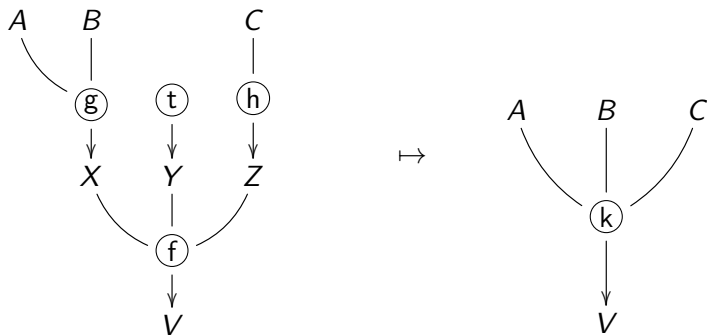
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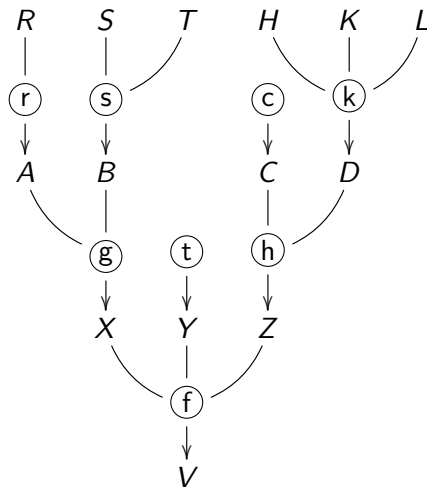
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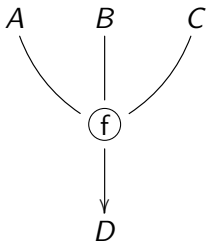
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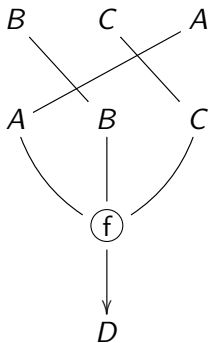
# Operads (associativity)



## Operads (symmetry)

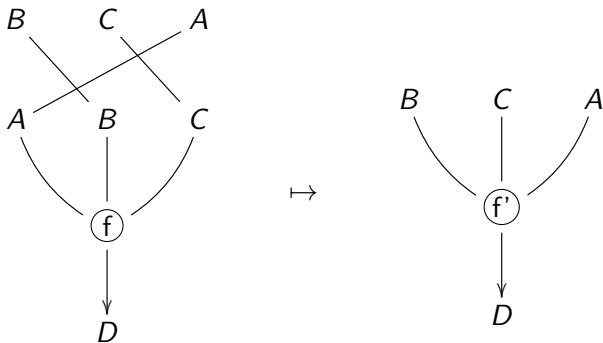


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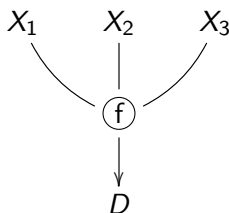


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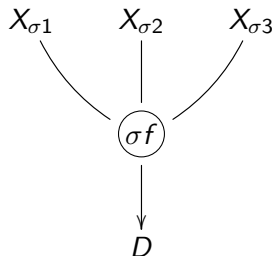
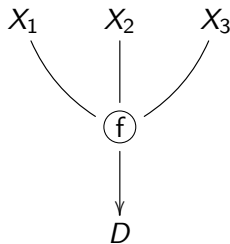
# Operads: Classical approach

The domain of an arrow is a **list**  $X : n \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_0$   
of objects in  $\mathcal{O}$



# Operads: Classical approach

Arrows can be transported along permutations  $\sigma$  of the indexing set  $n = \{1, \dots, n\}$



# Operads: Classical approach

## Axioms

- Composition and associativity.
- Permutations act on arrows.
- The action is compatible with composition.

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- Composition and associativity.
- Permutations act on arrows.
- The action is compatible with composition.

When made explicit,  
these conditions assume a rather **unwieldy form**  
(involving for instance block permutations)  
showing **drawbacks of the skeletal choice for indexing**.

# Operads: Examples

## Monoidal operads

Any **symmetric monoidal category** gives an operad  $\mathcal{O}$ ,  
whose arrows  $f : X_1; \dots; X_n \rightarrow Y$   
are arrows  $f : X_1 \otimes \dots \otimes X_n \rightarrow Y$ .

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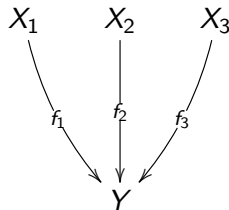
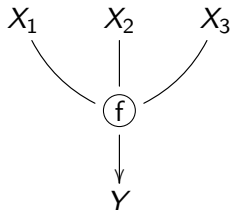
In particular, one can consider a **cartesian** monoidal category.

Starting with  $(\text{Set}, \times, 1)$  we get the **operad of sets**.

# Operads: Examples

Starting with a **cocartesian** monoidal category  $(\mathcal{C}, +, 0)$  we get the **sequential** operad  $\mathcal{C}_{\blacktriangleright}$  whose maps are sequences of concurrent arrows in  $\mathcal{C}$  (discrete cocones).

One can consider  $\mathcal{C}_{\blacktriangleright}$  for any category  $\mathcal{C}$ .



# Operads: Aim

The examples also suggest a more natural notion of operad:

## Non-skeletal operads

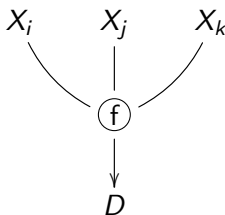
The domain of an arrow is a family of objects  
**indexed by an arbitrary finite set**  
(rather than by a set in a skeleton  $N$  of  $\text{Set}_f$ )  
and **reindexing of objects can be extended to arrows**.

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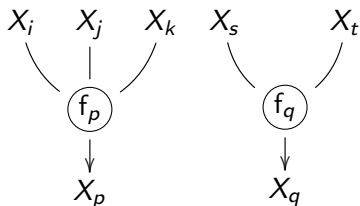
# Operads: non-skeletal approach

The domain of an arrow is an arbitrary family  
 $X : A \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_0$  of objects



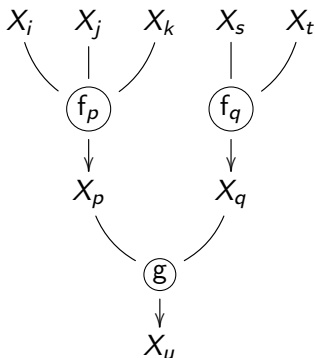
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Taking in account composition,  
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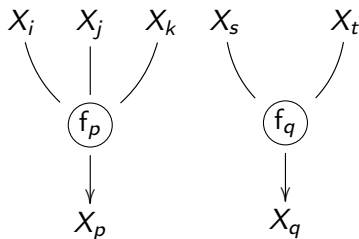
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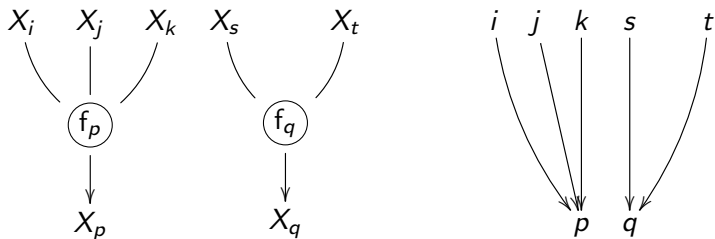
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# Operads: non-skeletal approach

## Question

So, what do we get by considering families of arrows in a non-skeletal operad  $\mathcal{O}$ ?

## Answer

They form a **category  $\mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{O}}$  over finite sets**: the functor  $d : \mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{O}} \rightarrow \text{Set}_f$  keeps track of the **indexing** of objects and maps.

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The category  $\mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{O}}$ , in its skeletal form, appears in the literature under several names, such as “operator” or “envelope” category of  $\mathcal{O}$ , or the free PROP generated by  $\mathcal{O}$ .

## Operads: non-skeletal approach

### Question

What further structure is inherited by  $\mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{O}}$  from the operad structure  $\mathcal{O}$ ?

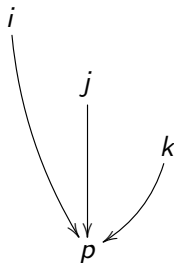
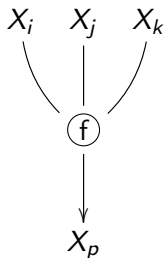
### Answer

Its maps (families of arrows in  $\mathcal{O}$ ) can be reindexed **along pullbacks** in  $\mathbf{Set}_f$ .

# Reindexing along pullbacks

For instance, we can reindex a single arrow or a family of arrows along pullbacks whose horizontal sides are isomorphisms.

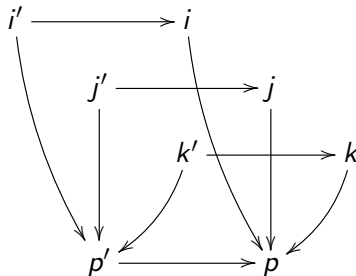
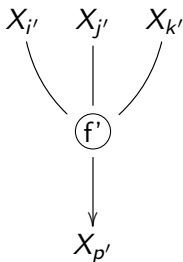
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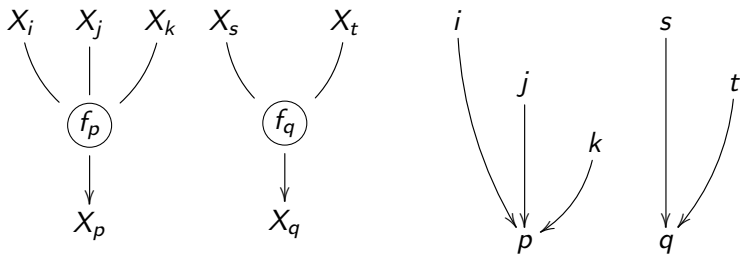
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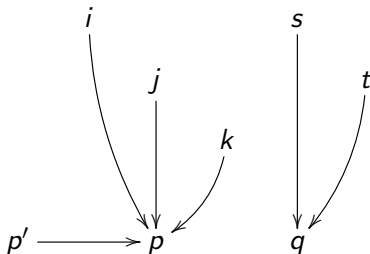
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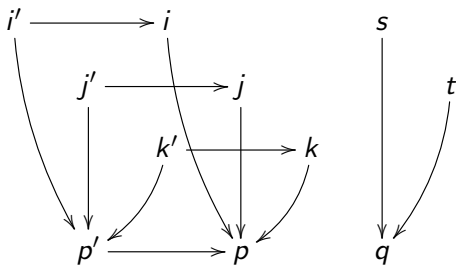
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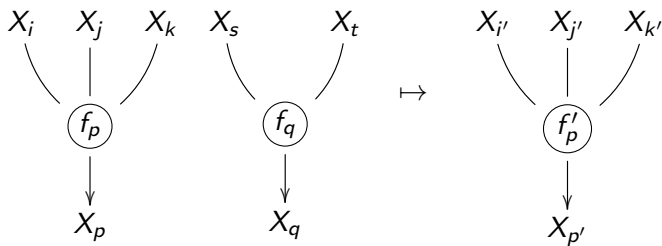


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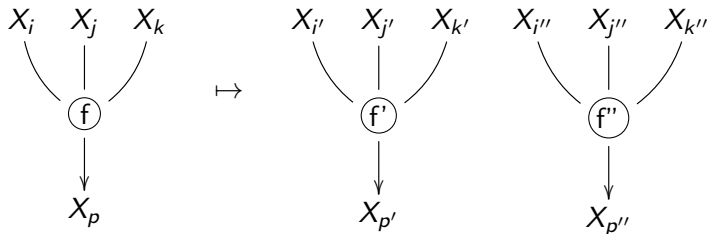


# Reindexing along pullbacks



# Reindexing along pullbacks

Or we can reindex along more general mappings to obtain **copies** of some of the arrows in a family.



# Table of Contents

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- The reindexing is compatible with composition.



## Here they come double categories

For any pullback in  $\mathbf{Set}_f$  there is a reindexing over it.

$$\begin{array}{c} X \\ \downarrow f \\ Y \end{array}$$

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# Here they come double categories

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$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & & \\ \downarrow f & & \\ Y & & \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{ccccc} A' & \xrightarrow{s} & A & & \\ \downarrow k & & \downarrow df & & \\ B' & \xrightarrow{t} & B & & \end{array}$$

pb

## Here they come double categories

For any pullback in  $\mathbf{Set}_f$  there is a reindexing over it.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} s^*X & \dashrightarrow & X \\ & & \downarrow f \\ t^*Y & \dashrightarrow & Y \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A' & \xrightarrow{s} & A \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow df \\ B' & \xrightarrow{t} & B \end{array}$$

the dashed arrows indicate that  $s^*X$  and  $t^*Y$  are the reindexing of the families  $X$  and  $Y$  along  $s$  and  $t$ .

## Here they come double categories

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$$\begin{array}{ccc} s^*X & \text{---} & X \\ \text{\scriptsize $f'$} \downarrow \cdots & & \downarrow \text{\scriptsize $f$} \\ t^*Y & \text{---} & Y \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A' & \xrightarrow{s} & A \\ \text{\scriptsize $df'=k$} \downarrow & & \downarrow \text{\scriptsize $df$} \\ B' & \xrightarrow{t} & B \end{array}$$

the vertical dotted arrow is uniquely determined.

# The double category of an operad

The reindexing is compatible with composition

Reindexing squares can be composed **vertically**  
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- Horizontal arrows are the arrows of the discrete fibration  $\mathcal{O}_0^A$ ,  $A \in \text{Set}_f$ , the family fibration on the set  $\mathcal{O}_0$ .
- Cells are the reindexing of families of arrows.

# Operads as discrete fibrations

Furthermore, there is a **discrete double fibration**

$$d : \mathbb{D}_{\mathcal{O}} \rightarrow \mathbb{Pb}(\mathbf{Set}_f)$$

giving the reindexing of objects and of maps

discrete double fibration (Lambert, 2021)

That is, both the components

$d_0 : \mathbb{D}_0 \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}_f$  and  $d_1 : \mathbb{D}_1 \rightarrow \mathbf{PbSet}_f$   
are discrete fibrations.

# Operads as discrete fibrations

Lastly,  $d : \mathbb{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{Pb}(\mathbf{Set}_f)$   
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## Glueing condition for objects

If  $X$  and  $Y$  are objects in  $\mathbb{D}$  over  $A$  and  $B$  respectively,  
there is a unique object  $Z$  over a sum  $C = A + B$  in  $\mathbf{Set}_f$   
which restricts to  $X$  and  $Y$  along injections.

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## Glueing condition for maps

If  $f$  and  $g$  are maps over  $s$  and  $t$  respectively,  
there is a unique map  $h$  over a sum  $r = s + t$  in  $\mathbf{Set}_f^2$   
which restricts to  $f$  and  $g$  along injections  
(which are pullbacks in  $\mathbf{Set}_f$ ).

# Operads as discrete fibrations

## Objects are families of objects...

The glueing condition for objects assures that the horizontal part  $d^h$  of  $d : \mathbb{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{Pb}(\mathbf{Set}_f)$  is indeed the family fibration on  $\mathcal{O}_0$  (where  $\mathcal{O}_0$  is the fiber over a terminal set).

## ...and maps are families of arrows

The glueing condition for maps assures that a proarrow in  $\mathbb{D}$  (that is, an object in  $\mathbb{D}_1$ ) is indeed a family of “single arrows”, that is of proarrows with the codomain indexed by a **terminal** set.

# Operads as discrete fibrations

We so arrive to our definition of operad:

## Non-skeletal notion of operad

An operad is a double discrete fibration  $d : \mathbb{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{Pb}(\mathbf{Set}_f)$  satisfying the glueing condition.

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## Non-skeletal notion of operad

An operad is a double discrete fibration  $d : \mathbb{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{Pb}(\mathbf{Set}_f)$  satisfying the glueing condition.

Note that  $\mathbb{D}$  is a **strict** double category,  
and that  $d : \mathbb{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{Pb}(\mathbf{Set}_f)$  is a **strict** double functor.



# The category of operads

This notion of non-skeletal operad is essentially equivalent to the classical one.

**Morphisms**  $\mathcal{O} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}'$  of non-skeletal operads are double functors  $\mathbb{D}_{\mathcal{O}} \rightarrow \mathbb{D}_{\mathcal{O}'}$  over  $\text{Set}_f$ .  
The category of non-skeletal operads is **equivalent** to the category of classical operads.

# Operads as discrete fibrations (advantages)

## Compatibility of permutation actions with composition

Figure from Leinster's book.

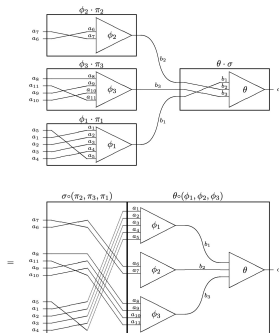


Figure 2-H: Symmetric multicategory axiom

$$\begin{aligned}
 & (\theta \cdot \sigma) \circ (\phi_{\sigma(1)} \cdot \pi_{\sigma(1)}, \dots, \phi_{\sigma(n)} \cdot \pi_{\sigma(n)}) \\
 = & (\theta \circ (\phi_1, \dots, \phi_n)) \cdot (\sigma \circ (\pi_{\sigma(1)}, \dots, \pi_{\sigma(n)}))
 \end{aligned}$$

# Operads as discrete fibrations (advantages)

## Confronting two ways of expressing compatibility

In our context, compatibility is given by  
**vertical composition of cells.**

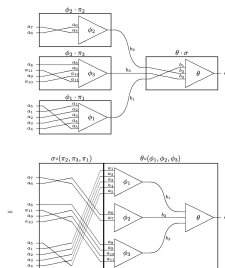


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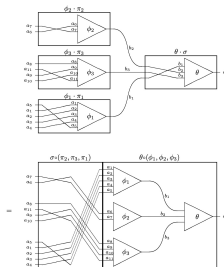
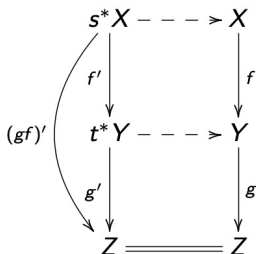


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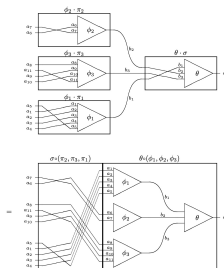
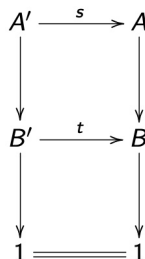
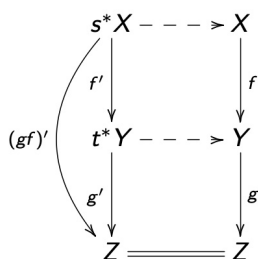


Figure 2-H: Symmetric multicategory axiom



# Table of Contents

- 1 Motivations
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- 3 Non-skeletal operads
- 4 Operads as discrete double fibrations
- 5 Operads as lax double functors**
- 6 Special operads
- 7 Changing the base
- 8 Further work

# Operads as double functors

Double Grothendieck correspondence  
(Lambert 2021, Paré 2011)

Double discrete fibrations  $d : \mathbb{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{A}$  correspond to  
**lax** functors  $F : \mathbb{A}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$   
to the (non-strict) double category of mappings and spans.

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## Universal property of the monoid construction (Cruttwell & Shulman 2010)

Since the monoid construction on  $\mathbf{Span}$  gives  $\mathbf{Cat}$ , the double category of functors and profunctors, lax functors  $F : \mathbb{A}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$  correspond to **normal** lax functors  $F' : \mathbb{A}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \mathbf{Cat}$ .



# Operads as double functors

Thus, given an non-skeletal operad

$$d_{\mathcal{O}} : \mathbb{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{Pb} \mathbf{Set}_f$$

there are corresponding lax functors

$$F_{\mathcal{O}} : (\mathbb{Pb} \mathbf{Set}_f)^{\mathrm{op}} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$$

$$F'_{\mathcal{O}} : (\mathbb{Pb} \mathbf{Set}_f)^{\mathrm{op}} \rightarrow \mathbf{Cat}$$

# Operads as double functors

Furthermore it is easy to see that the **glueing condition** on  $d_{\mathcal{O}}$  corresponds to the fact that  $F_{\mathcal{O}}$  and  $F'_{\mathcal{O}}$  **preserve products**.

Products in  $(\mathbb{P}\mathbf{b}\mathbf{Set}_f)^{\text{op}}$  are sums in  $\mathbb{P}\mathbf{b}\mathbf{Set}_f$ , that is pair of commuting squares whose horizontal sides are sums in  $\mathbf{Set}_f$  (since  $\mathbf{Set}_f$  is extensive).

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} A_1 & \xrightarrow{i} & A_1 + A_2 & \xleftarrow{j} & A_2 \\ \downarrow s & & \downarrow s+t & & \downarrow t \\ B_1 & \xrightarrow{i} & B_1 + B_2 & \xleftarrow{j} & B_2 \end{array}$$

# What is an operad?

## Summarizing

A (non-skeletal) operad  $\mathcal{O}$   
can be defined in three equivalent ways:

- 1 A double discrete fibration with glueing  
 $d_{\mathcal{O}} : \mathbb{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{Pb} \mathbf{Set}_f$ .
- 2 A product-preserving lax functor  
 $F_{\mathcal{O}} : (\mathbb{Pb} \mathbf{Set}_f)^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$ .
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# What is an operad?

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Each definition gives a different point of view  
best suited to treat some aspects of operads.

# Operads as double functors (explicitly)

The functor  $F_{\mathcal{O}} : (\mathbb{P}\mathbf{b}\mathbf{Set}_f)^{\mathrm{op}} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$   
takes a set  $A \in \mathbf{Set}_f$  to the set  $\mathcal{O}_0^A$ ,  
and a mapping  $t : A \rightarrow B$  to the span  
whose vertex is formed by all families of arrows over  $t$   
and whose legs are given by domain and codomain.

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The functor  $F'_{\mathcal{O}} : (\mathbb{P}\mathbf{b}\mathbf{Set}_f)^{\mathrm{op}} \rightarrow \mathbf{Cat}$   
takes a set  $A \in \mathbf{Set}_f$  to the category  $\mathcal{O}_1^A$ ,  
(where  $\mathcal{O}_1$  is the category of **unary arrows** in  $\mathcal{O}$ )  
and a mapping  $t : A \rightarrow B$  to the profunctor  $\bar{t}$  such that  
 $\bar{t}(X, Y)$  is formed by all families of arrows  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  over  $t$ .

# Table of Contents

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- 2 Operads
- 3 Non-skeletal operads
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## Special operads

Given an operad  $d_{\mathcal{O}} : \mathbb{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{Pb} \mathbf{Set}_f$ ,  
the horizontal part  $d_{\mathcal{O}}^h : \mathbb{D}_0 \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}_f$  is forced to be  
the discrete family fibration on the set  $\mathcal{O}_0$   
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Thus, **the character** of  $\mathcal{O}$  is in a sense  
**determined by the vertical part**  $d_{\mathcal{O}}^v : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}_f$ .

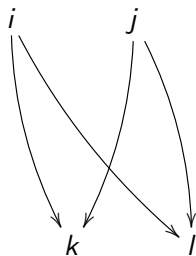
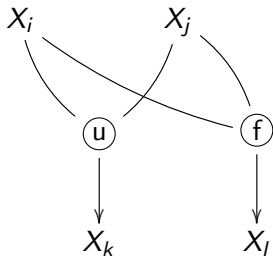
# Symmetric monoidal categories

The vertical part  $d_{\mathcal{O}}^{\vee} : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}_f$  is an **opfibration** if and only if  $\mathcal{O}$  has tensor products.  
That is, it is a **symmetric monoidal category** in its universal form  
(the representable multicategories of Hermida and Leinster).

# Symmetric monoidal categories

## Universal arrows

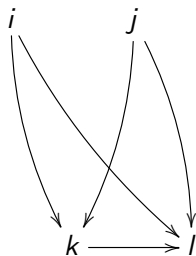
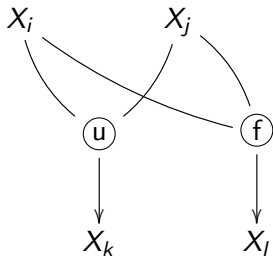
The opcartesian arrows for  $d_O^v$  are the universal arrows defining **tensor products**.



# Symmetric monoidal categories

## Universal arrows

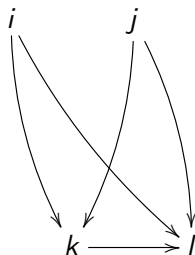
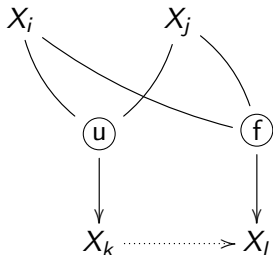
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## Universal arrows

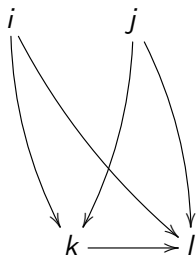
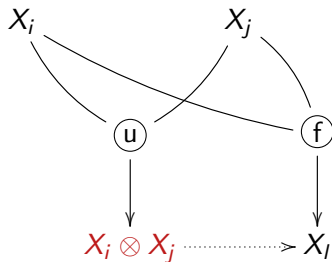
The opcartesian arrows for  $d_O^v$  are the universal arrows defining **tensor products**.



# Symmetric monoidal categories

## Universal arrows

The opcartesian arrows for  $d_{\mathcal{O}}^{\vee}$  are the universal arrows defining **tensor products**.



# Symmetric monoidal categories as lax double functors

An operad  $F_{\mathcal{O}} : (\mathbb{Pb} \mathbf{Set}_f)^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \mathbf{Cat}$ ,  
is a **symmetric monoidal category**  
if and only if its vertical part  $F_{\mathcal{O}}^{\vee} : \mathbf{Set}_f \rightarrow \mathbf{Prof}$ ,  
(in general, a lax functor of bicategories)  
lands in **representable profunctors**.

# Commutative monoids

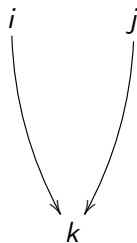
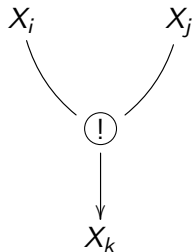
The vertical part  $d_{\mathcal{O}}^{\vee} : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}_f$  is a **discrete opfibration** if and only if  $\mathcal{O}$  is a **commutative monoid**.

That is, it is a discrete symmetric monoidal category.



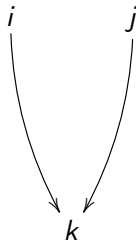
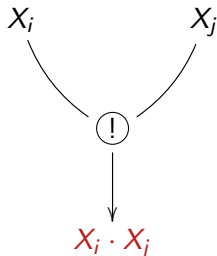
# Commutative monoids

There is exactly one arrow out of any family of objects  
(over a given mapping in  $\text{Set}_f$ )  
whose codomain is the product of the family.



# Commutative monoids

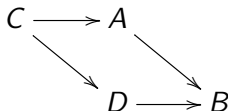
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# Commutative monoids

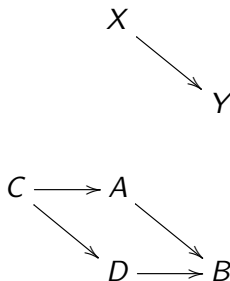
In elementary terms, a commutative monoid consists of a **discrete family fibration** and a **discrete opfibration** over finite sets, with the same objects which are **compatible**:

$X$



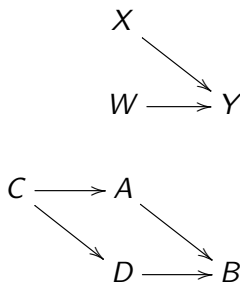
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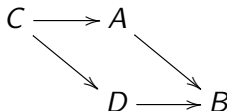
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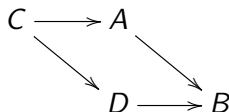
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# Commutative monoids

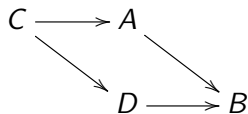
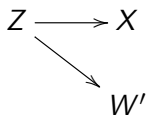
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$$Z \longrightarrow X$$



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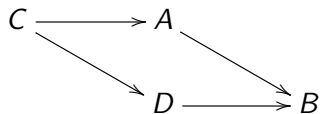
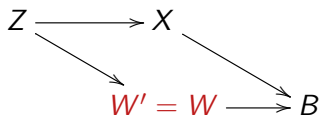
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# Commutative monoids

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# Commutative monoids as double functors

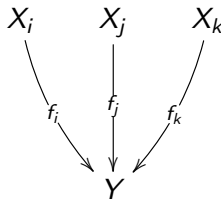
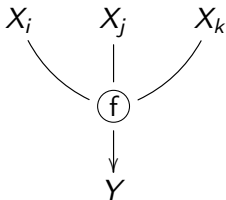
## Corollary

A commutative monoid consists of a product-preserving strict double functor

$$(\mathbb{P}\mathbf{b}\mathbf{Set}_f)^{\mathrm{op}} \rightarrow \mathbf{Sq}\mathbf{Set}$$

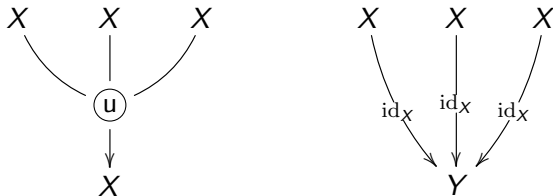
# Sequential operads

The vertical part  $d_{\mathcal{O}}^{\vee} : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \text{Set}_f$  is a **fibration** if and only if  $\mathcal{O}$  is a **sequential operad**.



# Sequential operads

The vertical part  $d_{\mathcal{O}}^V : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \text{Set}_f$  is a **fibration** if and only if  $\mathcal{O}$  is a **sequential operad**.



The **cartesian arrows** in  $\mathcal{D}$  are those made up of identities (or isomorphisms) in  $\mathcal{C}$ .

They form a “**central monoid**” in the operad, which is in fact a way to characterize sequential operads (P. 2014).

# Cocartesian monoidal categories

## Corollary

The vertical part  $d_{\mathcal{O}}^{\vee} : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}_f$  is a **bifibration** if and only if  $\mathcal{O}$  is both **monoidal** and **sequential**. That is,  $\mathcal{O}$  is a **cocartesian** monoidal category (since universal arrows are colimiting cones).

# Cocartesian monoidal categories

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## Copying and deleting

The well-known characterization of cartesian monoidal categories is a manifestation of (the dual of) the above fact: the “copying-deleting” arrows are the cartesian maps of  $d_{\mathcal{O}}^{\vee}$ .

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## Caution

The term “cartesian” is overworked: cartesian arrow (of a fibration), cartesian monoidal category, cartesian operad (to be considered later on)...

# Exponentiable operads

An operad  $d_{\mathcal{O}} : \mathbb{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{Pb} \mathbf{Set}_f$ , is **exponentiable** if and only if its vertical part  $d_{\mathcal{O}}^v : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}_f$  is itself exponentiable in  $\mathbf{Cat}/\mathbf{Set}_f$ .



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That is, if and only if  $d_{\mathcal{O}}^{\vee}$  is a **Conduché fibration**. These include fibrations and opfibration, so that symmetric monoidal categories and sequential operad are both exponentiable.

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Exponentiable operads coincide with **promonoidal** symmetric multicategories.

# Exponentiable operads as double functors

An operad  $F_{\mathcal{O}} : (\mathbb{P}\mathbf{b} \mathbf{Set}_f)^{\mathrm{op}} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$ , is **exponentiable** if and only if its vertical part  $F_{\mathcal{O}}^{\vee} : \mathbf{Set}_f \rightarrow \mathbf{Prof}$ , (in general, a lax functor of bicategories) is a **pseudofunctor**.

# Table of Contents

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# Changing the base

Till now, we have presented a non-skeletal approach to operads. The main advantages are:

- It avoids the introduction of spurious orders, rendering neater the notion.
- We can exploit the language of double categories, to capture in a smooth way various classes of operads and to highlight their connections.

# Changing the base

Now, we briefly review a possible generalization, obtained by replacing the base category  $\mathbf{Set}_f$  with another category  $\mathcal{S}$ .

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The first obvious idea is to use  $\mathbf{Set}$  in place  $\mathbf{Set}_f$  as the base category.

## Infintary operads

- 1 A double discrete fibration with glueing  
 $d_{\mathcal{O}} : \mathbb{D} \rightarrow \mathbf{Pb\,Set}$ .
- 2 A product-preserving lax functor  
 $F_{\mathcal{O}} : (\mathbf{Pb\,Set})^{\mathrm{op}} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$ .
- 3 A product-preserving normal lax functor  
 $F'_{\mathcal{O}} : (\mathbf{Pb\,Set})^{\mathrm{op}} \rightarrow \mathbf{Cat}$ .



## Changing the base: example

Consider a category  $\mathcal{C}$  and the family fibration  $d : \text{Fam } \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \text{Set}$  given by  $\mathcal{C}^A$ ;  $A \in \text{Set}$  is the vertical part of an operad  $d_{\mathcal{O}} : \mathbb{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{Pb} \text{Set}$  (the infinitary sequential operad on  $\mathcal{C}$ ).

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If  $\mathcal{C}$  has **small sums** the family fibration  $d : \text{Fam } \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \text{Set}$  is a **bifibration**.

We thus have a notion of **infinitary monoidal category**, namely, an operad  $d_{\mathcal{O}} : \mathbb{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{Pb} \text{Set}$  such that the vertical part  $d_{\mathcal{O}}^{\vee} : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \text{Set}$  is an **opfibration**.

## Changing the base: example

Of course, we also have a notion of **infinitary commutative monoid**, namely, an operad  $d_{\mathcal{O}}$  on  $\mathbf{Set}$  such that the vertical part  $d^{\vee}$  is a **discrete opfibration**.

## Changing the base: example

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And taking **isomorphism classes** of an infinitary monoidal category one gets an infinitary commutative monoid.

This is a way to make it precise the idea that universal sums or products can be “decategorified” to give algebraic structures, not only in the finite case.

## Changing the base: example

More generally, we have a notion of monoidal category on  $\mathcal{S}$ , namely, an operad  $d_{\mathcal{O}} : \mathbb{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{Pb} \mathcal{S}$  such that the vertical part is an opfibration, and such that  
opcartesian arrows are stable with respect to reindexing.

This sort of Beck condition is necessary to assure that, also in this general case, by taking isomorphism classes one gets a commutative monoid on  $\mathcal{S}$ .

We now show how also the notion of **cartesian operad** can be developed relatively to any category  $\mathcal{S}$  is with pullbacks.

# Cartesian operads

## Idea 1

The notion of **cartesian operad** (or cartesian multicategory) is aimed to fill the missing term in the equality  
operads :: symmetric monoidal = ?? :: cartesian monoidal



# Cartesian operads

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The notion of **cartesian operad** (or cartesian multicategory) is aimed to fill the missing term in the equality  
operads :: symmetric monoidal = ?? :: cartesian monoidal

Thus, one minimum requirement is:

**representable cartesian operads = cartesian monoidal categories.**

That is, if a cartesian operad  $\mathcal{O}$  has tensor products, these are cartesian (that is, universal) products.

# Cartesian operads

## Idea 2

Cartesian operads are operads  $\mathcal{O}$  with an adjunctive structure which makes it possible **weakening** and **contraction** of variables.

# Cartesian operads

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Cartesian operads are operads  $\mathcal{O}$  with an adjunctive structure which makes it possible **weakening** and **contraction** of variables.

Cartesian operads are a notion of **algebraic theory** alternative to (and more flexible than) Lawvere theories.

# Cartesian operads

## weakening and contraction

For instance, in the operad of sets,  
a map  $f : X, Y, X \rightarrow T$  gives another map  $f' : Y, Z, X \rightarrow T$   
by the rule  $f'(y, z, x) = f(x, y, x)$   
which introduces the extra variable  $z$  (weakening)  
and identifies the repeated variables  $x$  (contraction).

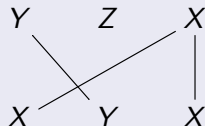
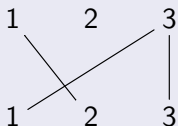
# Cartesian operads

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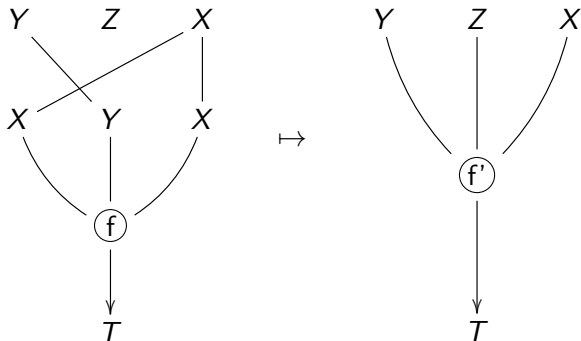
## weakening and contraction

The map  $f'$  is then obtained by  $f$   
covariantly along the reindexing of the domain



# Cartesian operads : “contraction” and “weakening”

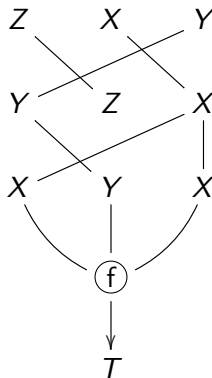
Reindexing arrows act **covariantly** on maps.



# Cartesian operads

Reindexing arrows act on maps.

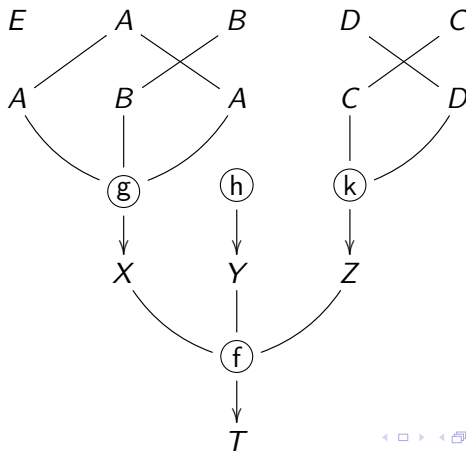
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# Cartesian operads

The action is compatible with composition from below.

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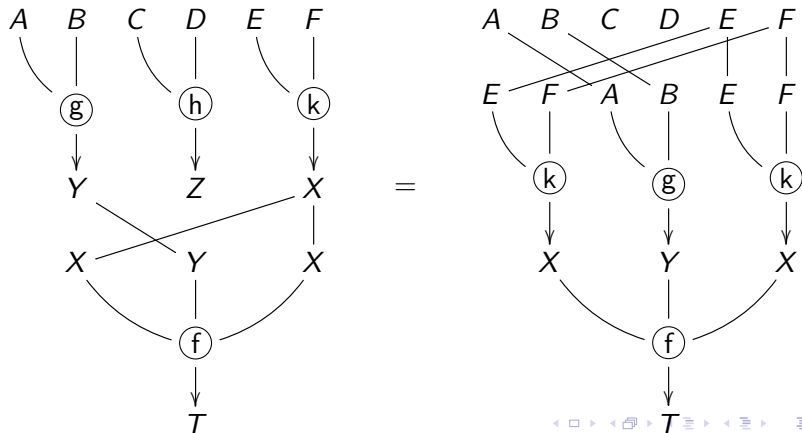




# Cartesian operads

## Combing

The action is compatible with composition from above.

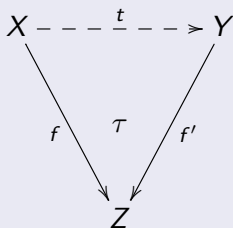


# Cartesian operads

## Cartesian operads

Let  $\mathcal{S}$  be a category with pullbacks. A cartesian operad on  $\mathcal{S}$  is an operad  $d_{\mathcal{O}} : \mathbb{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{Pb} \mathcal{S}$ ,  
such that  $\mathbb{D}$  has, in addition to ordinary cells, also  
**triangular cells**, formed by two proarrows and an arrow.

## Triangular cells (giving covariant reindexing)



# Cartesian operads

## Cartesian operads

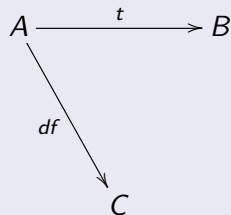
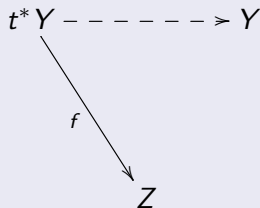
A cartesian operad on  $\mathcal{C}$  is an operad  $d_{\mathcal{O}} : \mathbb{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{Pb}\mathcal{C}$ , such that  $\mathbb{D}$  has, in addition to ordinary cells, also **triangular cells** satisfying the conditions

- Maps in  $\mathcal{D}$  (proarrows) can be covariantly reindexed along commutative triangles in  $\mathcal{C}$ .
- Triangular cells compose horizontally and with proarrows out of them.
- Triangular cells can be pasted with square cells.
- Triangular cells are stable with respect to reindexing.

# Cartesian operads

## Covariant reindexing of maps

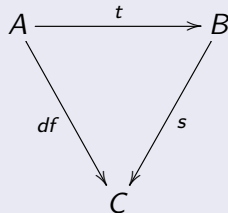
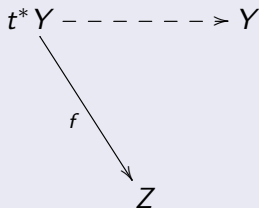
Given a proarrow  $f : t^*Y \rightarrow Z$  in  $\mathcal{D}$ ,  
and a commutative triangle in  $\mathcal{S}$  completing  $df$  and  $t$ ,  
there is a unique extension to a triangular cell over it:



# Cartesian operads

## Covariant reindexing of maps

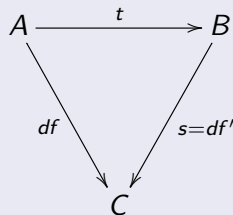
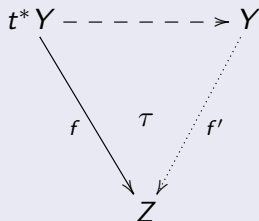
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# Cartesian operads

## Covariant reindexing of maps

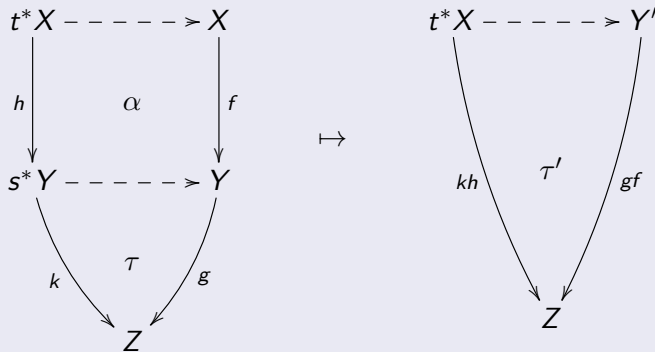
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# Cartesian operads

A triangular cell can be pasted with a square cell, giving a triangular cell.

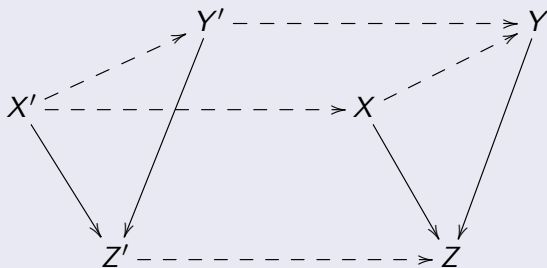
## Pasting



# Cartesian operads

Triangular cells are stable with respect to reindexing.

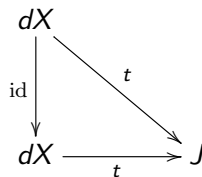
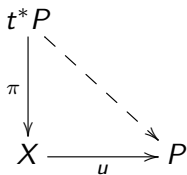
## Stability





# Algebraic products

Given a cartesian operad  $d_{\mathcal{O}} : \mathbb{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{Pb} \mathcal{S}$ ,  
an object  $X \in \mathbb{D}$  and a map  $t : dX \rightarrow J$  in  $\mathcal{S}$ ,  
an **algebraic product** for  $X$  along  $t$   
is an object  $P \in \mathbb{D}$  over  $J$  along with a vertical map  
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...such that the following are both triangular cells:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} t^*P & \overset{\sim}{\rightrightarrows} & P \\ \pi \downarrow & & \downarrow \text{id} \\ X & & \\ & \searrow u & \swarrow \\ & P & \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & \overset{\Delta}{\rightrightarrows} & h^*X \\ & \searrow \text{id} & \downarrow t^*u \\ & & t^*P \\ & \swarrow \pi & \downarrow \\ & X & \end{array}$$

# Main result

## Main result for cartesian operads

For a cartesian operad  $\mathcal{O}$  on  $\mathcal{S}$ , the following are equivalent:

- 1  $\mathcal{O}$  has algebraic products.
- 2  $\mathcal{O}$  has universal products.
- 3  $\mathcal{O}$  is monoidal (representable).

This result indicates that we have indeed captured a proper notion of cartesian operad.

# Cartesian + Sequential = Semiadditive

## Further evidence

One can also generalize results such as the following:

## Cartesian + Sequential = Semiadditive (Pisani 2014)

Cartesian structures on **sequential operads** correspond to **enrichments** of the underlying category in the category of **commutative monoids**.

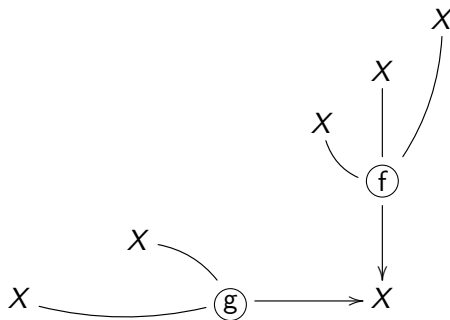
In the present context, objects are to be intended as **sections**  $x : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{D}^h$  of  $d_{\mathcal{O}}^h$ , and the commutative monoid  $\mathcal{O}(x; y)$  is a commutative monoid on  $\mathcal{S}$  in the generalized sense.

# Commuting internal operations

One important notion that can be considered in operads is that of **commuting internal operations** (that is, arrows involving just one object).

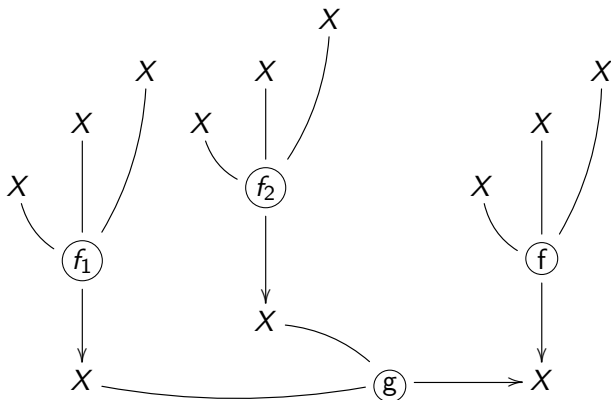
# Commuting internal operations

Two internal operations with the same codomain.



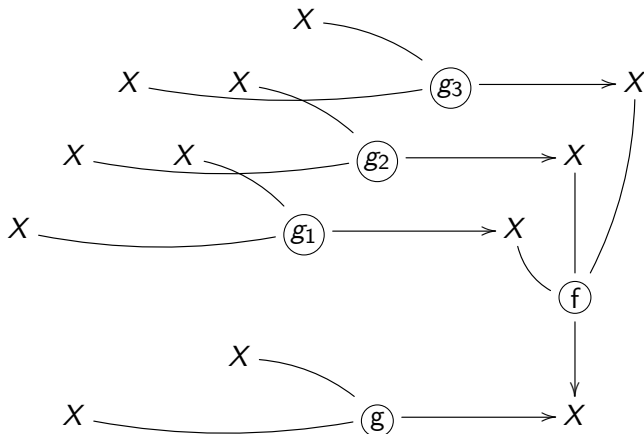
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Reindexing  $f$  along  $dg$ .



# Commuting internal operations

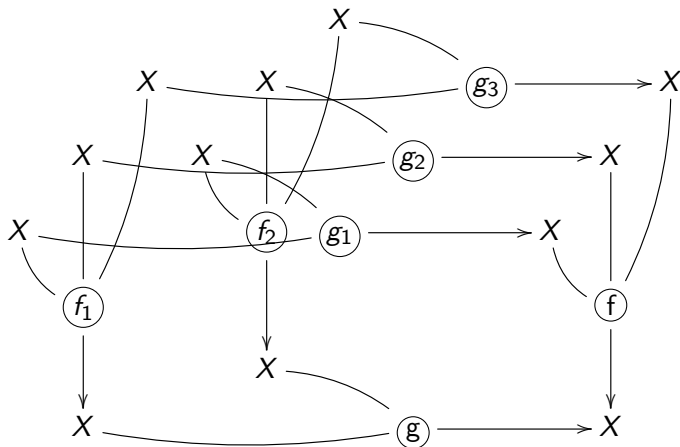
Reindexing  $g$  along  $df$ .





# Commuting internal operations

The two reindexing can be composed and may give the same result.



# Commuting internal operation

Also this notion has a natural definition in the general setting of an operad  $d_{\mathcal{O}}$  on a category  $\mathcal{S}$  with pullbacks, and one can prove therein sort of Hilton-Eckman arguments.

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## Internal operations

A map  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is an **internal operation** if  $X = (df)^*Y$ , that is, it is parallel to the horizontal lifting from  $Y$  of its image.

$$X \xrightarrow{f} Y \qquad dX \xrightarrow{df} dY$$

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## Internal operations

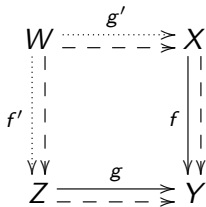
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$$X \underset{\text{---}}{\overset{f}{\rightrightarrows}} Y \qquad dX \xrightarrow{df} dY$$

# Commuting internal operation

## Commuting internal operations

Two internal operations  $f$  and  $g$ , with the same codomain, **commute** if the square below commutes in  $\mathcal{D}$ :  $fg' = gf'$ .



$f'$  and  $g'$  are obtained by reindexing once “horizontally” and once “vertically”.  
(The notion does not depend on the chosen pullback.)

# Table of Contents

- 1 Motivations
- 2 Operads
- 3 Non-skeletal operads
- 4 Operads as discrete double fibrations
- 5 Operads as lax double functors
- 6 Special operads
- 7 Changing the base
- 8 Further work**

# Fibrations as discrete double fibrations

## Decoupled fibrations

The present approach to operads also suggests the more general idea of **decoupled fibration**.

Indeed, an operad  $d_{\mathcal{O}} : \mathbb{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{S}$  can be seen as a (split) fibration where the (chosen) cartesian arrows are separated from the other arrows (proarrows).

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In fact, we have the following result:

Split fibrations  $d : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{S}$   
are discrete double fibrations  $d : \mathbb{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{S}q\mathcal{S}$   
such that  $\mathbb{D}$  has **companions** preserved by  $d$ .



# Fibrations as lax double functors

From the point of view of lax functors, we have:

A lax functor  $F : \mathbb{S}q \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}at$  is a fibration if and only if it preserves companions.

Which amounts to saying that the vertical part  $F^v$  is determined by the horizontal part:  
 $F^v(f)$  is the profunctor represented by  $F^h(f)$ .

# To explore

Another promising development is considering operads on double categories which are more “relations-like”, for instance cospans in  $\mathbf{Set}_f$ .

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In this case, it seems appropriate to consider the double category of **summand squares** rather than that of pullback squares.  
There is no difference in extensive categories.