

Higher categories in $\mathbb{C}\mathbf{at}^\sharp$

Brandon T. Shapiro

University of Virginia

Topos Institute Colloquium



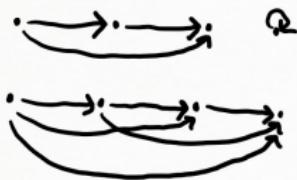
Categories with Different Cell Shapes

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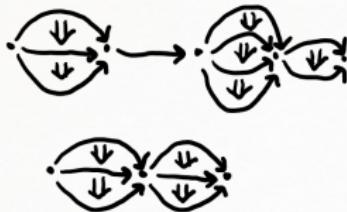
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 - dots, arrows, globular 2-cells



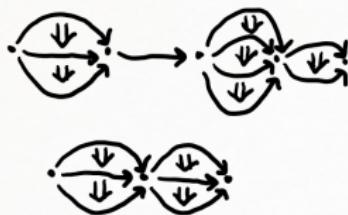
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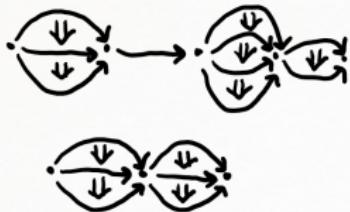
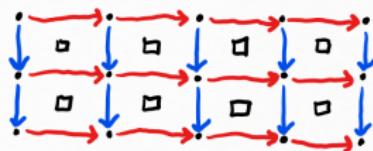
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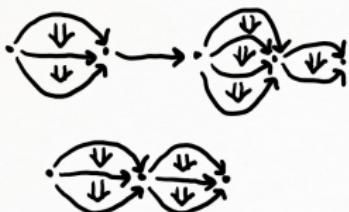
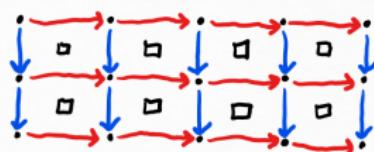
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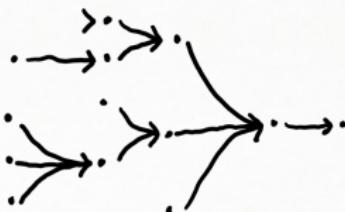
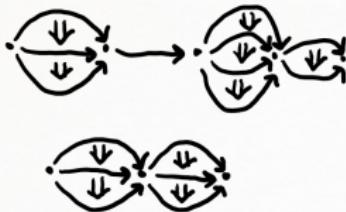
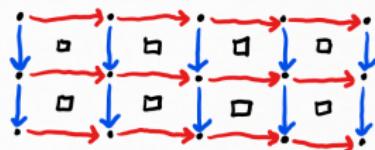
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Familial Monads on Cell Diagrams

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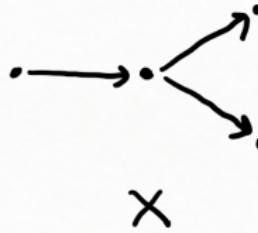
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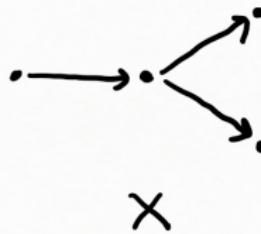
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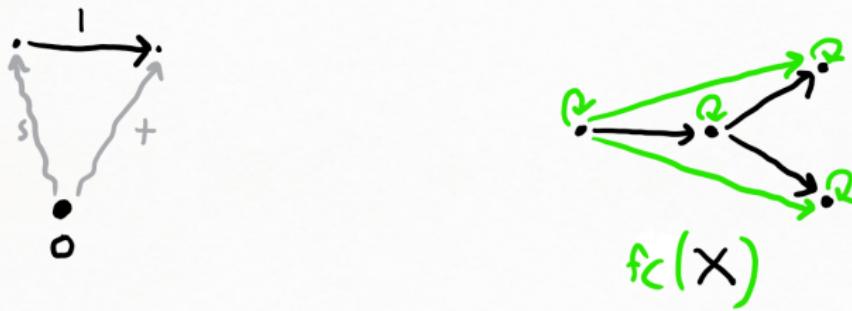
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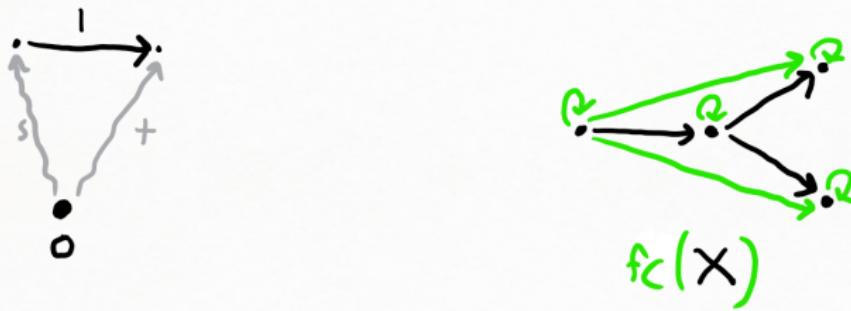
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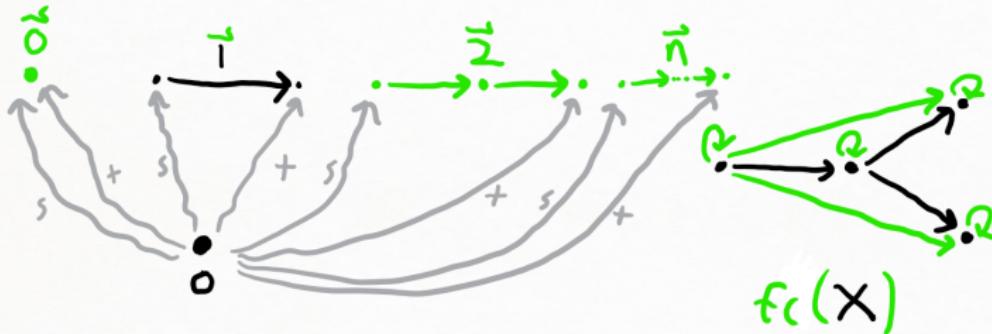
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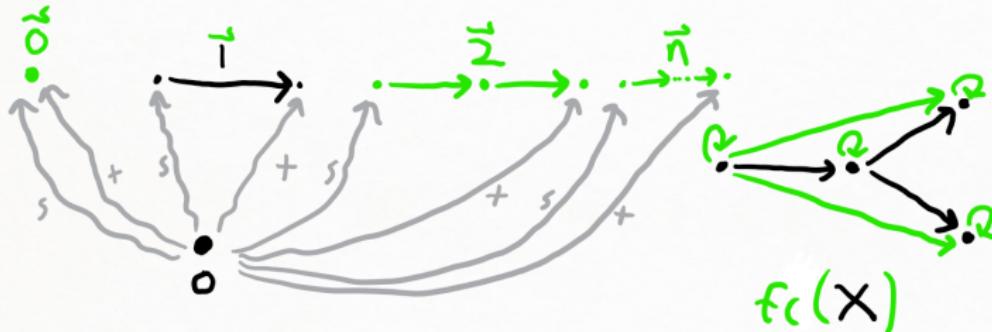
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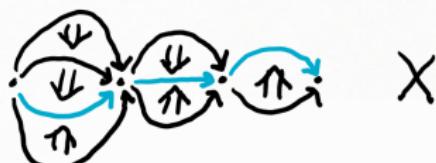
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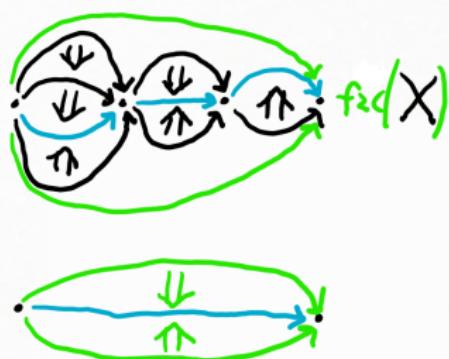
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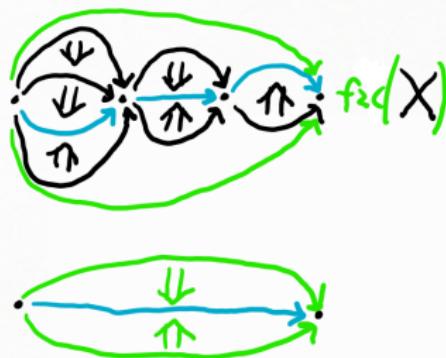
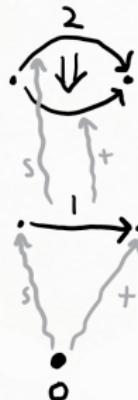


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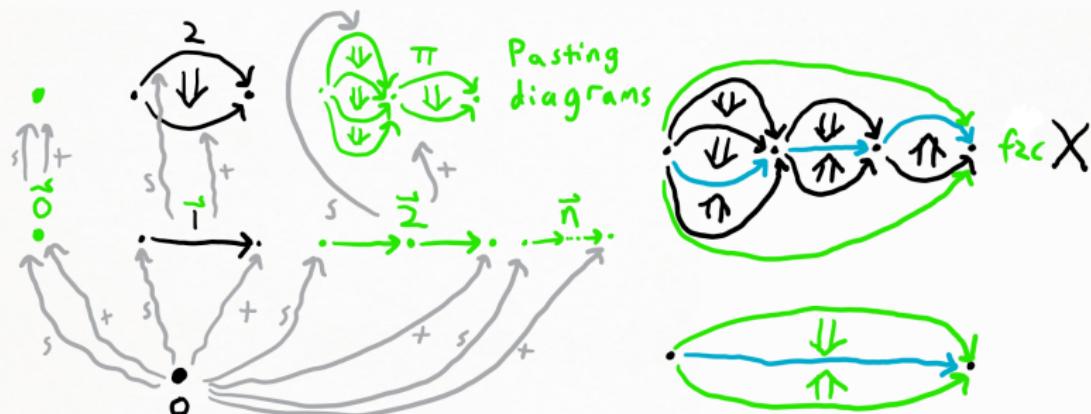


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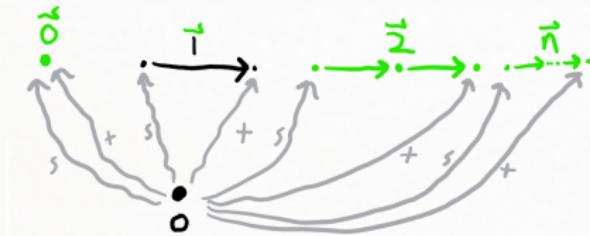
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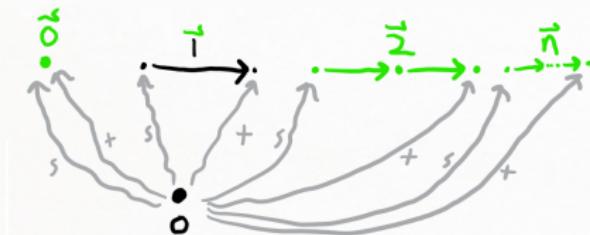


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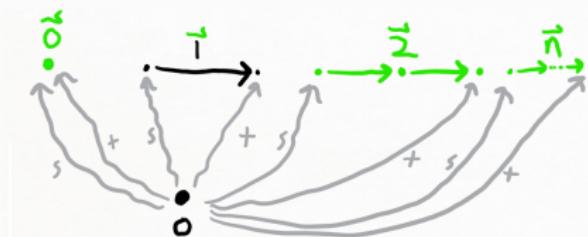
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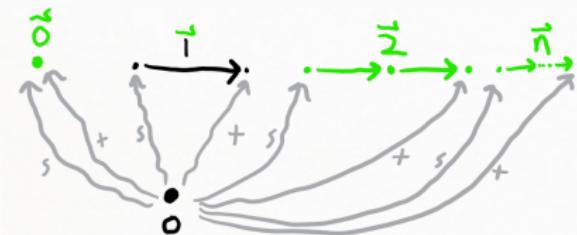
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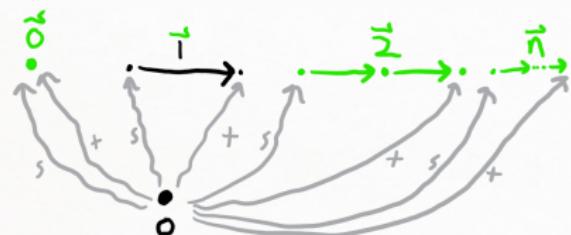
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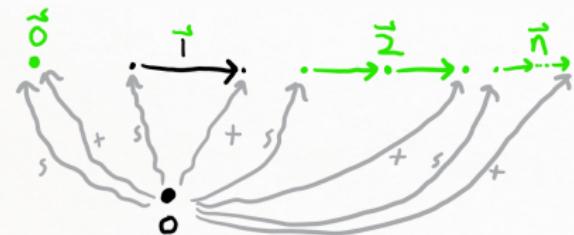


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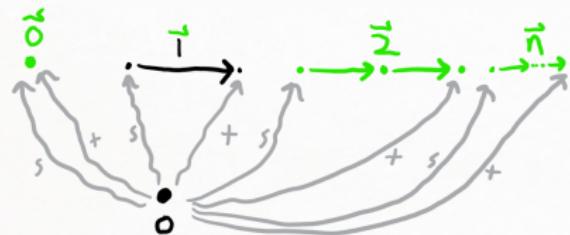


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- Categories agree with \triangleleft -comonoids in Poly (Ahman-Uustalu)

Familial Monads in Poly

Example: Free category monad on $G_1\text{-Set}$

- $fc(1)_0 = \{0\}, fc(1)_1 = \mathbb{N}, fc[n] = \cdot \rightarrow \cdots \cdot \rightarrow \cdot$
- $fc(X)_0 = \text{Hom}_{G_1\text{-Set}}(\cdot, X),$
 $fc(X)_1 = \coprod_{n \geq 0} \text{Hom}_{G_1\text{-Set}}(\cdot \rightarrow \cdots \cdot \rightarrow \cdot, X)$
- Unit and multiplication on edges given by length 1 paths and path concatenation

In Poly-notation, $fc = \{0\}y^{fc[0]} + \{1\} \sum_{n \in fc(1)_1} y^{fc[n]}$.

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Familial Monads in Poly

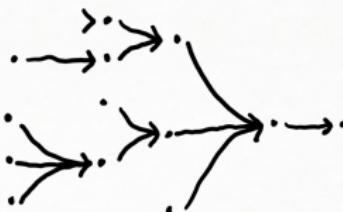
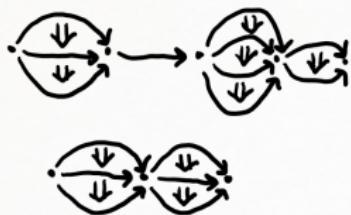
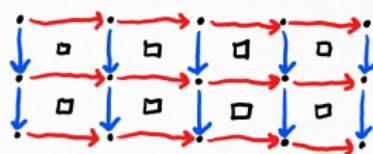
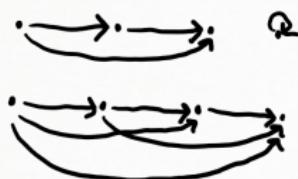
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- Cat^\sharp is the bicategory of categories, prafunctors, and transformations
- A familial monad is a bicomodule $C \xleftarrow{t} \triangleleft C$, written

$$t = \sum_{c \in \text{Ob}(C)} \sum_{I \in t(1)_c} y^{t[I]},$$

with cartesian transformations $\text{id}_C \rightarrow t$ and $t \triangleleft_C t \rightarrow t$

Nerves of Higher Categories

- Categories
- 2-Categories
- Double categories
- Multicategories

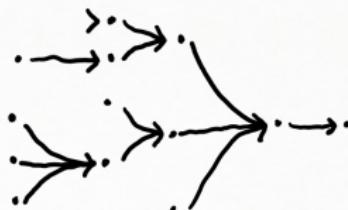
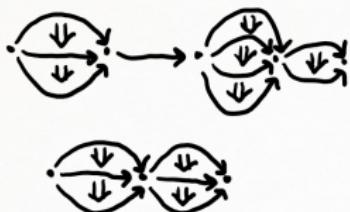
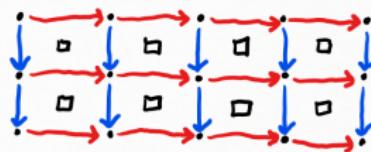


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$\rightarrow \widehat{\Delta}$

simplicial sets



Nerves of Higher Categories

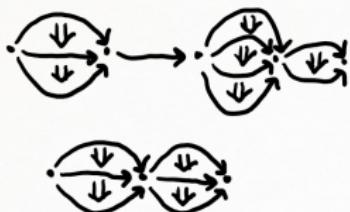
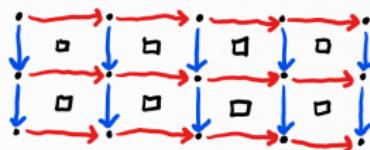
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$$\rightarrow \widehat{\Delta}$$

$$\rightarrow \widehat{\Theta}_2$$

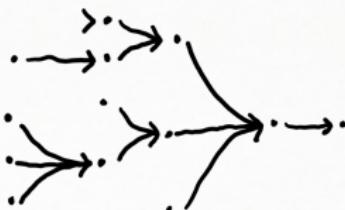
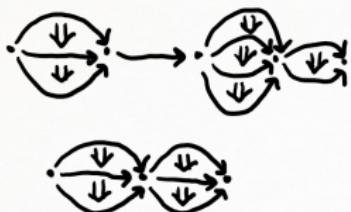
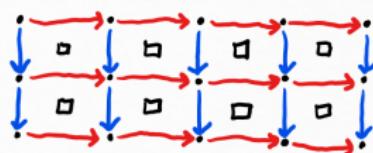
simplicial sets

Θ_2 -sets



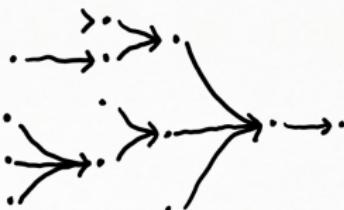
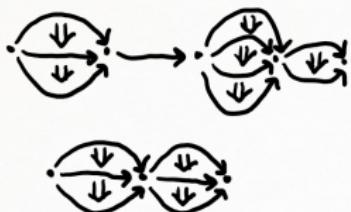
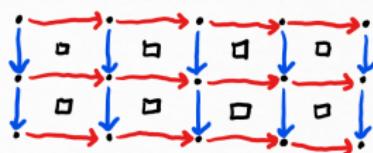
Nerves of Higher Categories

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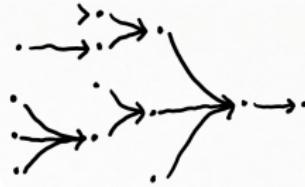
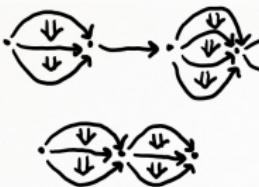


Nerves of Higher Categories

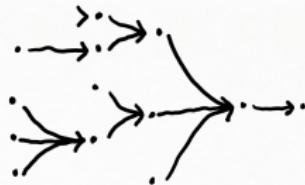
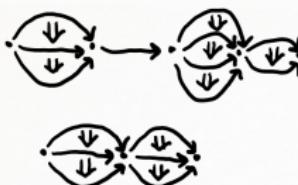
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Nerves of Higher Categories



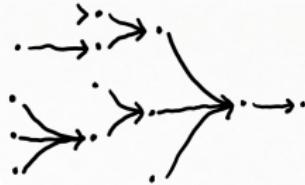
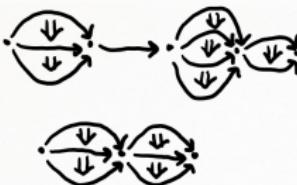
Nerves of Higher Categories



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with cartesian transformations $\text{id}_C \rightarrow t$ and $t \triangleleft_C t \rightarrow t$

Nerves of Higher Categories



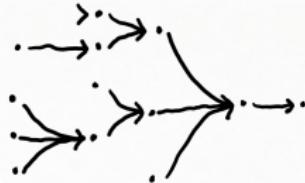
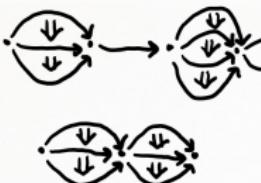
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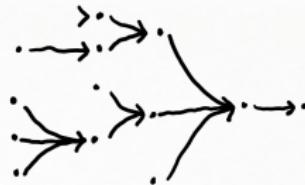
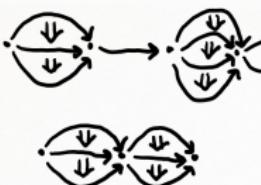
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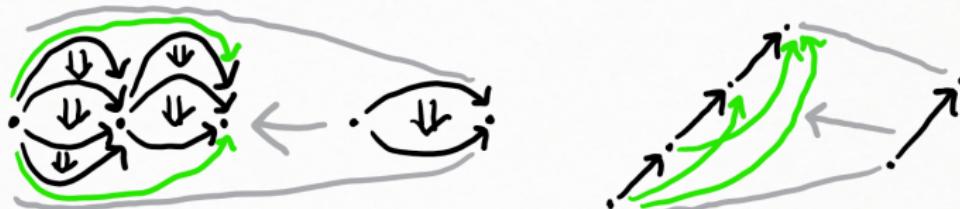
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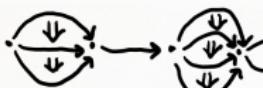
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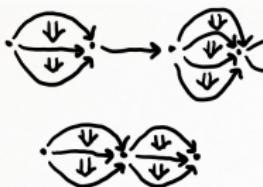
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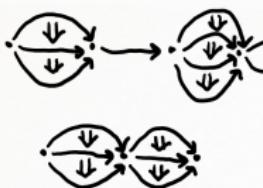
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- For bicomodules p, q as below,

$$\begin{array}{ccc} C & \begin{matrix} \xleftarrow{p} \\[-1ex] \Downarrow \\[-1ex] \xrightarrow{q} \end{matrix} & E \\ [q] \nearrow & \Downarrow & \searrow [p] \\ & D & \end{array}$$

there is a bicomodule $\begin{bmatrix} q \\ p \end{bmatrix} := \sum_{c \in \text{Ob}(C)} \sum_{I \in p(1)_c} y^{q(p[I])}$

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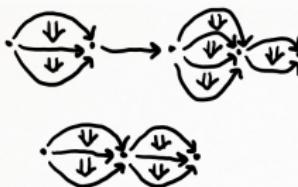
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$$\begin{array}{ccc} C\text{-Set} & \xrightarrow{t} & C\text{-Set} \\ \downarrow t \circ t & & \Downarrow \\ C\text{-Set} & \curvearrowright & \text{Lan} \end{array}$$

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Nerves of Higher Categories

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there is a bicomodule $\begin{bmatrix} t \triangleleft_C t \\ t \end{bmatrix} = \sum_{c \in \text{Ob}(C)} \sum_{I \in t(1)_c} y^{t(t(t[I]))}$

- $\begin{bmatrix} t \triangleleft_C t \\ t \end{bmatrix}$ is a comonoid corresponding to the category Θ_t^{op} , as

$$t(t(t[I])) = \sum_{c \in \text{Ob}(C)} \sum_{J \in p(1)_c} t(t(I))^{t[J]} \cong \sum \text{Hom}_{t\text{-alg}}(t(t[J]), t(t[I]))$$

Nerves of Higher Categories

- (Weber '07) There is a fully faithful functor $t\text{-alg} \rightarrow \Theta_t^{op}\text{-Set}$ for a category Θ_t with objects $\coprod_{c \in \text{Ob}(C)} t(1)_c$ and

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Nerves of Higher Categories

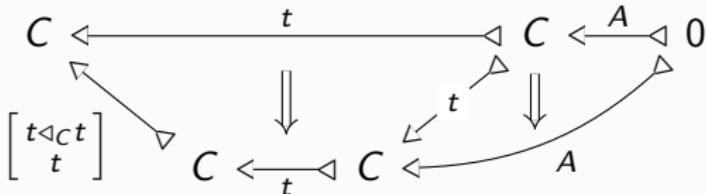
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- (Lynch-S.-Spivak) The nerve of an algebra A is $t(A)$, which is a Θ_t^{op} -set as $t \triangleleft_C A$ has a Θ_t^{op} -coalgebra structure:



References

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- Brandon T. Shapiro, Thesis “Shape Independent Category Theory.” pi.math.cornell.edu/~bts82/research
- David I. Spivak, “Functorial Aggregation.” arXiv:2111.10968
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Thanks!