# Cauchy-complete $(\infty, n)$ -categories and Higher Idempotents

Markus Zetto

University of Hamburg

Joint work in progress with David Reutter

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### Motivation

# Additive Categories

#### Definition

An *additive category* is an Ab-enriched category that admits finite (including empty) coproducts.

This agrees with the usual notion, in particular the initial object is terminal and coproducts agree with products.

#### Proof Sketch.

There can only exist precisely one morphism from the initial object  $\emptyset$  to itself, so  $\mathrm{id}_{\emptyset}$  and the zero morphism must agree. Given any  $f:c\to\emptyset$  from some  $c\in\mathcal{C}$ , this implies

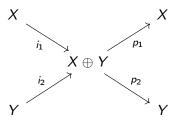
$$f = id_{\emptyset} \circ f = 0 \circ f = 0$$

so there is precisely one morphism from any c to  $\emptyset$ . (Co)Products work similarly.

# Additive Categories

We say that initial objects are absolute colimits when enriching over pointed sets, and finite coproducts are absolute colimits over Ab:

- They can be written as limits,
- Any enriched functor preserves them,
- They are characterized by a diagrammatic property:



Are those all absolute colimits over Ab? And what about other enrichment categories?

# Motivation: Morita Theory

#### Can we recover:

- A ring R from its category of modules  $LMod_R(Ab)$ ?
- A ring R from its derived category  $D(R) \simeq \mathsf{LMod}_{HR}(\mathsf{Sp})$ ?
- A category  $\mathcal{C}$  from its presheaf category  $\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{C})$ ?
- A  $\mathcal{V}$ -enriched category  $\mathcal{C}$  from its enriched presheaf category  $\mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{V}}(\mathcal{C}) := \operatorname{Fun}^{\mathcal{V}}(\mathcal{C}^{op}, \mathcal{V})$ ?

Generally not, only up to Morita equivalence. Note that the case of enriched  $\infty$ -categories subsumes all of the above.

# Motivation: Morita Theory

- If we knew which module  $M \in \mathsf{LMod}_R(\mathsf{Ab})$  was the trivial module  ${}_RR$ , we could recover  $R \simeq \underline{\mathsf{End}}_R({}_RR)$ .
- We know  $_RR$  is always dualizable and generates  $\mathsf{LMod}_R(\mathsf{Ab})$  under colimits.
- However by the main theorem of Morita theory, any dualizable module M that generates  $\mathsf{LMod}_R(\mathsf{Ab})$  under colimits satisfies  $\mathsf{LMod}_R(\mathsf{Ab}) \simeq \mathsf{LMod}_{End_R(M)}(\mathsf{Ab})$ . Any ring Morita-equivalent to R arises this way.

# Recovering a Category from its Presheaf Category

Similarly, we could recover  $\mathcal{C}$  as a full subcategory of  $\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{C})$  if we knew which presheaves are representable:

#### Observation

The Yoneda embedding  $\&: \mathcal{C} \to \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{C})$  embeds  $\mathcal{C}$  as a full subcategory. Also, for  $c \in \mathcal{C}$  and  $F \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{C})$ ,

$$\mathsf{Map}_{\mathfrak{P}(\mathfrak{C})}(\ \ \ \ \ _{c},F)\simeq F(c)=\mathsf{ev}_{c}(F)$$

implying that  $\operatorname{Map}_{\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{C})}(\mbox{$\mathbb{k}_c$},-):\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{C})\to\operatorname{Set}$  preserves colimits. Because of this, we call  $\mbox{$\mathbb{k}_c$}\in\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{C})$  tiny.

# Recovering a Category from its Presheaf Category

### Proposition

The tiny objects in  $\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{C})$  are precisely the retracts of representable presheaves. The full subcategory of  $\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{C})$  on the tiny presheaves is called the *idempotent completion* of  $\mathcal{C}$ .



Enriched ∞-categories

# Tiny Objects

Fix a presentably monoidal  $\infty$ -category  $\mathcal{V} \in \mathsf{Alg}(\mathsf{Pr}^L)$ , and a presentably  $\mathcal{V}$ -tensored  $\infty$ -category  $\mathcal{M} \in \mathsf{RMod}_{\mathcal{V}}(\mathsf{Pr}^L)$ .

#### Definition

An object  $m \in \mathcal{M}$  is called *tiny* if the internal Hom

$$\underline{\mathsf{Hom}}_{\mathfrak{M}}(m,-): \mathfrak{M} \to \mathfrak{V}$$

preserves colimits and V-tensoring.

### Valent enriched $\infty$ -categories

#### Definition

A valent V-enriched  $\infty$ -category  ${\mathfrak C}$  is specified by

- An underlying space X of objects,
- An enriched presheaf category  $\mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{V}}(\mathcal{C}) \in \mathsf{Pr}_{\mathcal{V}}$ ,
- A Yoneda functor  $\mbox{$\mathcal{L}$}^{\mathcal{V}}: X \to \mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{V}}(\mathcal{C})$ ,

satisfying the following conditions:

- The full image  $\operatorname{Im}(\mathcal{L}^{\mathcal{V}}) \subseteq \mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{V}}(\mathcal{C})$  consists of tiny objects,
- ② The full image  $Im(\mathcal{L}^{\mathcal{V}})$  generates  $\mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{V}}(\mathcal{C})$  under colimits and  $\mathcal{V}$ -tensoring.

In other words, valent  $\mathcal{V}$ -categories form a full subcategory  $vCat_X(\mathcal{V})$  of  $RMod_{\mathcal{V}}(Pr^L)_{X/}$ . We say that  $\mathcal{L}^{\mathcal{V}}$  marks the representable presheaves.

### Valent enriched $\infty$ -categories

Similarly, define vCat(V) as a full subcategory of the pullback

$$\mathbb{S} \times_{\mathsf{Fun}(\{0\},\mathsf{RMod}_{\mathcal{V}}(\mathsf{Pr}^{\mathrm{L}}))} \mathsf{Fun}([1],\mathsf{RMod}_{\mathcal{V}}(\mathsf{Pr}^{\mathrm{L}}))$$

and vEnr using  $Fun([1], RMod(Pr^{L}))$ .

### Theorem (Reutter, Z.)

They are equivalent to Gepner-Haugseng's categorical algebras:

$$\mathsf{vCat}_X(\mathcal{V}) \simeq \mathsf{Alg}_{\mathsf{Ass}_X}(\mathcal{V}) \quad \mathsf{vCat}(\mathcal{V}) \simeq \int^{X \in \mathbb{S}} \mathsf{Alg}_{\mathsf{Ass}_X}(\mathcal{V})$$

This equivalence is functorial in V, and compatible with the respective monoidal structures.

### Univalence

Among all markings  $X \to \mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{V}}(\mathcal{C})$  specifying the same representable presheaves, one is distinguished:

#### Definition

A valent  $\mathcal{V}$ -category  $\mathcal{C}$  is called *univalent* if the Yoneda-functor  $\mathcal{L}^{\mathcal{V}}: X \to \mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{V}}(\mathcal{C})$  is a monomorphism, i.e. exhibits  $X \simeq \operatorname{Im}(\mathcal{L}^{\mathcal{V}})^{\simeq}$ . Denote by  $\operatorname{Cat}(\mathcal{V}) \subseteq \operatorname{vCat}(\mathcal{V})$  their full subcategory. The *univalization* of  $\mathcal{L}^{\mathcal{V}}: X \to \mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{V}}(\mathcal{C})$  is defined as  $\operatorname{Im}(\mathcal{L}^{\mathcal{V}})^{\simeq} \hookrightarrow \mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{V}}(\mathcal{C})$ .

This corresponds to Gepner-Haugseng's notion of completion, in particular Rezk-completeness of Segal spaces in case  $\mathcal{V} = \mathcal{S}$ .

# Cauchy-complete ${\mathcal V}$ -categories

Among all markings  $X \to \mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{V}}(\mathcal{C})$ , one is distinguished:

#### Definition

A univalent  $\mathcal{V}$ -category  $\mathcal{C}$  is called *Cauchy-complete* if any tiny presheaf is representable, i.e.  $\mathcal{L}^{\mathcal{V}}: X \to \mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{V}}(\mathcal{C})$  exhibits  $X \simeq \mathcal{M}^{\mathsf{tiny}, \simeq}$ . Denote by  $\mathsf{CauchyCat}(\mathcal{V}) \subseteq \mathsf{Cat}(\mathcal{V})$  their full subcategory.

Given a valent  $\mathcal{V}$ -category  $\mathcal{C} = (X \to \mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{V}}(\mathcal{C}))$ , we can just replace X by  $\mathcal{M}^{\mathsf{tiny}, \simeq}$  to obtain its *Cauchy-completion*  $\hat{\mathcal{C}}$ .

By definition, every Morita-equivalence class contains an essentially unique Cauchy-complete V-category.

#### Remark

A V-category  ${\mathfrak C}$  is Cauchy-complete iff it "admits all absolute weighted colimits".

### Examples

- CauchyCat  $(\mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}, \geq, +)$  is the category of generalized metric spaces where all Cauchy-sequences converge.
- CauchyCat(Set) consists of idempotent complete categories, and CauchyCat(S) of idemp. compl. ∞-categories.
- CauchyCat(Cat<sub>(n-1,m-1)</sub>) consists of idemp. compl. (n,m)-categories for  $1 \le m \le n \le \infty$ .
- CauchyCat(Set<sub>\*</sub>) consists of idemp. compl. categories with zero object, similarly for S<sub>\*</sub>.
- CauchyCat(Ab) consists of idemp. compl. additive categories, and CauchyCat(Sp<sup>cn</sup>) of idemp. compl. additive ∞-categories.
- CauchyCat(Sp) consists of idemp. compl. stable ∞-categories.
- Unfortunately, only idempotent splittings are absolute over CauchyCat(Cond(S)), just as over any local ∞-topos.

Cauchy-complete  $(\infty, n)$ -categories

# Iterative Cauchy-completion

If  $\mathcal V$  is symmetric monoidal, so is  $\mathrm{vCat}(\mathcal V)$ : The tensor product  $\mathcal C\otimes \mathcal D$  has space of objects  $X\times Y$  and morphism objects  $\mathrm{Hom}_{\mathcal C\otimes \mathcal D}((x,y),(x',y')):=\mathrm{Hom}_{\mathcal C}(x,y)\otimes\mathrm{Hom}_{\mathcal D}(x',y')\in \mathcal V$ . This localizes to a symmetric monoidal structure  $\hat\otimes$  on

This localizes to a symmetric monoidal structure  $\hat{\otimes}$  of CauchyCat( $\mathcal{V}$ ) with  $\mathcal{C}\hat{\otimes}\mathcal{D}:=\widehat{\mathcal{C}\otimes\mathcal{D}}$  and unit  $\widehat{B1}_{\mathcal{V}}$ .

### Theorem (WIP)

The construction of associating to symmetric monoidal  $\mathcal V$  its symmetric monoidal CauchyCat( $\mathcal V$ ) assembles into a functor CauchyCat(-): CAlg( $\mathsf{Pr}^{\mathsf{L}}$ )  $\to$  CAlg( $\mathsf{Pr}^{\mathsf{L}}$ ).

In particular, we can iterate this endofunctor to define the category of *Cauchy-complete*  $\mathcal{V}$ -enriched  $(\infty, n)$ -categories CauchyCat<sup>n</sup> $(\mathcal{V})$ .

### Higher Idempotents

Following [Gaiotto, Johnson-Freyd] a 2-retraction in a 2-category  ${\mathfrak C}$  is a diagram of shape



where  $r_2: \mathrm{id}_X \to r_1 i_1, i_2: r_1 i_1 \to \mathrm{id}_Y$  and  $r_2 i_2 \simeq \mathrm{id}_{id_Y}$ . Similarly define n-retractions for  $n < \infty$ .

# Examples

- CauchyCat<sup>n</sup>(S) consists of n-idemp. compl.  $(\infty, n)$ -categories.
- CauchyCat<sup>n</sup>(Ab) consists of n-idemp. compl. additive (n, n)-categories, similarly for  $Sp^{cn}$ .
- CauchyCat(LMod<sub>R</sub>(Ab)) consists of *n*-idemp. compl. *R*-linear (n, n)-categories, similarly for LMod<sub>HR</sub>( $\operatorname{Sp^{cn}}$ ).
- CauchyCat(Cat<sup>colim</sup>) consists of 2-idemp. compl. locally cocomplete (∞, 2)-categories admitting lax colimits, called *lax* semiadditive in [Christ, Dyckerhoff, Walde].
- CauchyCat<sup>2</sup>(Sp) consists of 2-idemp. compl. locally stable  $(\infty, 2)$ -categories with recollements (lax colimits over  $\Delta^1$ ) [anticipated by Campion].
- CauchyCat<sup>n</sup>(CMon<sub>m</sub>(S))  $\subseteq$  CauchyCat<sup>n-1</sup>(Cat<sup>m-sa</sup>) consists of n-idemp. compl. m-semiadditive  $(\infty, n)$ -categories, in the sense of [WIP by Scheimbauer, Walde].

# Constructing Fully Dualizable Categories

### Theorem (WIP, parts shown by Gaiotto, Johnson-Freyd)

The monoidal unit  $\Sigma^n_{\mathcal{V}}1:=B\ldots\widehat{B1_{\mathcal{V}}}\in\mathsf{CauchyCat}^n(\mathcal{V})$  is a fully dualizable (n-1)-category. In fact for  $\mathcal{V}=\mathsf{Vec}_k$ , it is the category of fully dualizable n-vector spaces.

### Example

- $\Sigma_{\mathcal{V}} 1_{\mathcal{V}}$  are the dualizable objects in  $\mathcal{V}$ .
- $\Sigma^2_{\text{Vec}} k$  is the Morita category of separable k-algebras.
- $\Sigma_{\text{Vec}_{k}}^{3} k$  is the Morita cat. of separable k-multifusion categories.
- $\Sigma_{D(k)}^2 k[0]$  is the Morita cat. of smooth proper dg-algebras.

Much is still to study about these categories, e.g. higher Tannaka duality results,  $\infty$ -semiadditive structure...

# Decategorification Functors

Given a lax monoidal functor d: CauchyCat( $\mathcal{V}$ )  $\to \mathcal{V}$ , change-of-enrichment along it followed by Cauchy-completion induces a diagram

$$\cdots \to \mathsf{CauchyCat}^3(\mathcal{V}) \longrightarrow \mathsf{CauchyCat}^2(\mathcal{V}) \stackrel{\widehat{d}_!}{\longrightarrow} \mathsf{CauchyCat}(\mathcal{V}) \to \mathcal{V}$$
 so in particular functors  $\mathsf{CauchyCat}^n(\mathcal{V}) \to \mathcal{V}$ . We write  $\mathsf{CauchyCat}^\infty(\mathcal{V},d)$  for its limit.

### Example

- For  $\mathcal{V} = \mathcal{S}$ , the realization |-| and the maximal subgroupoid functor  $(-)^{\sim}$ .
- For  $\mathcal{V} = \mathsf{Ab}$ , the Grothendieck group of  $K_0$ .
- For  $\mathcal{V} = \mathbb{S}p$ , K-theory of stable categories K.
- For  $\mathcal{V} = \mathbb{S}p^{cn}$ , K-theory of additive categories  $K \circ K^b$ .

# Thank you for listening!

Slides available at www.markus-zetto.com/enriched