

Higher categories in $\mathcal{C}at^{\#}$

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Topos Institute Colloquium



Categories with Different Cell Shapes

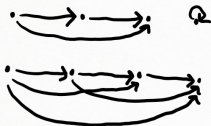
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- Categories
 - dots, arrows

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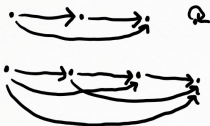
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- 2-Categories
 - dots, arrows, globular 2-cells



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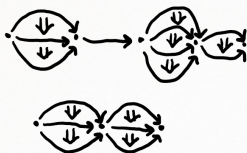
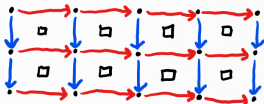
Categories with Different Cell Shapes

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- Double categories
 - dots, red/blue arrows, squares



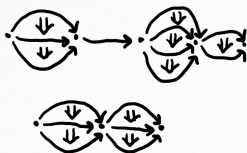
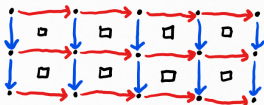
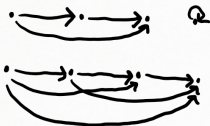
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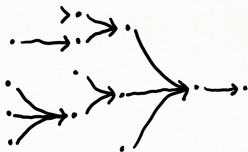
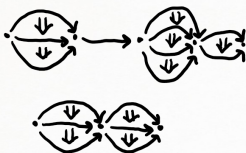
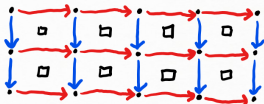
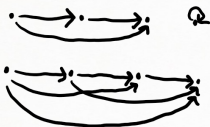
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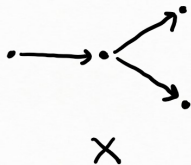
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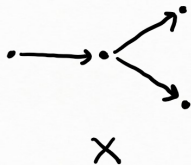
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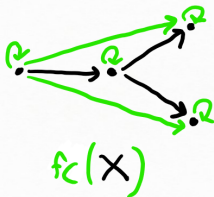
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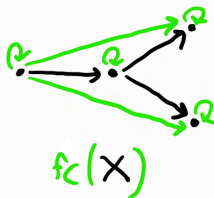
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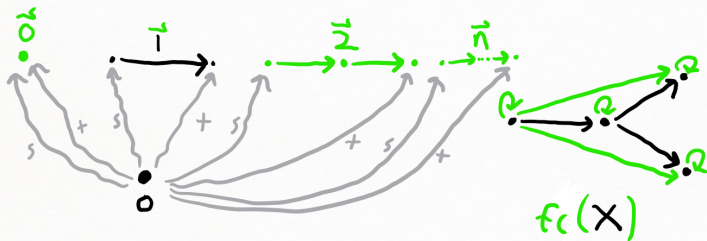
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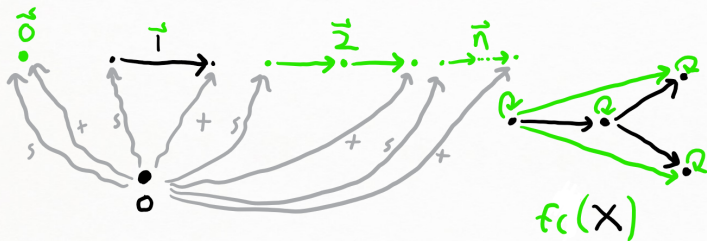
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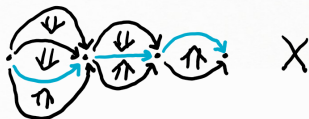
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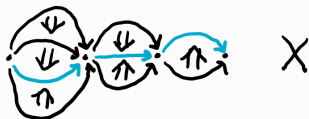
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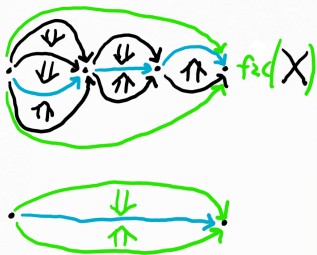
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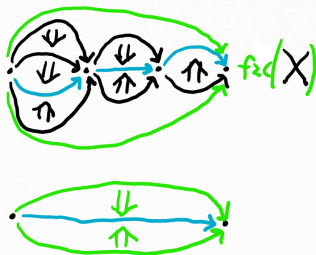
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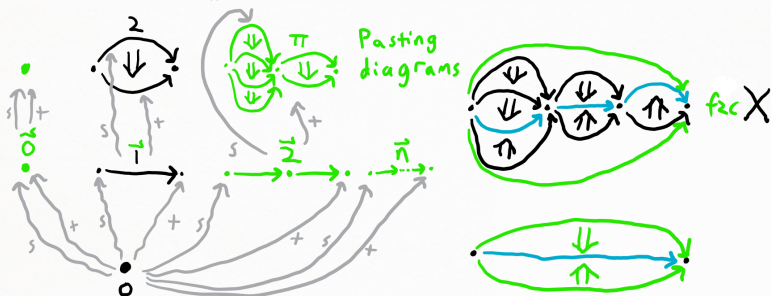
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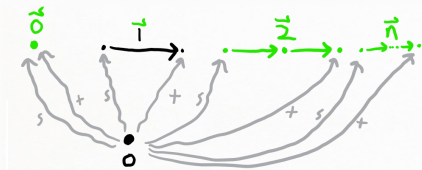
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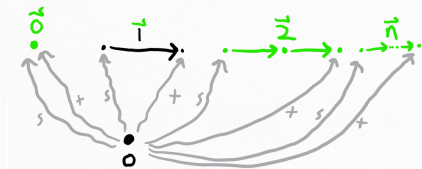


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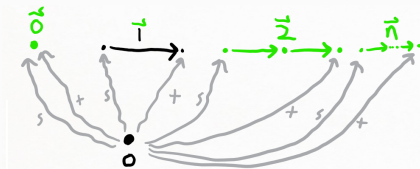
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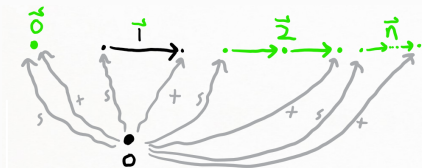
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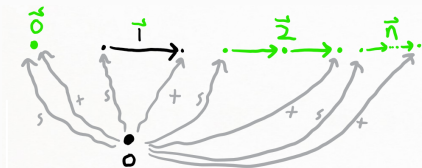
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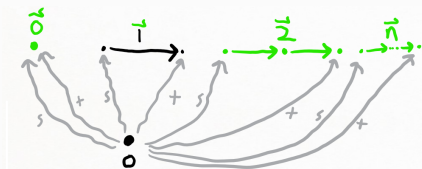


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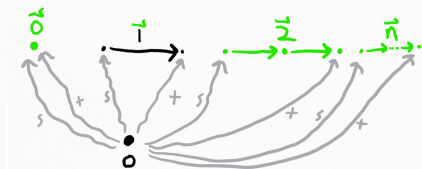


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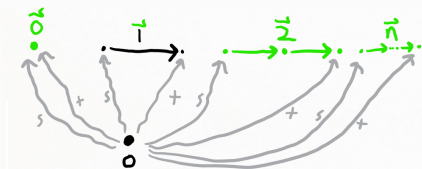


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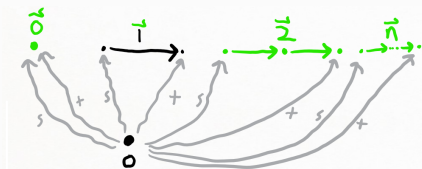


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- For 0 the empty category, a familial functor $0\text{-Set} \rightarrow D\text{-Set}$ is just a single D -set.

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

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- Unit and multiplication on edges given by length 1 paths and path concatenation

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

- The monoidal category $(\text{Poly}, y, \triangleleft)$ of polynomial endofunctors on Set consists of disjoint unions of representables y^A

Familial Monads in *Poly*

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Familial Monads in $Poly$

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Familial Monads in *Poly*

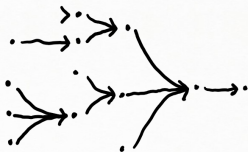
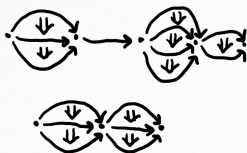
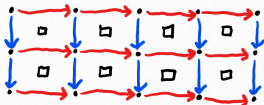
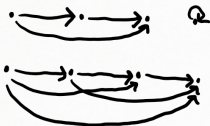
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- $\mathbb{C}\text{at}^\sharp$ is the bicategory of categories, prafunctors, and transformations
- A familial monad is a bicomodule $C \xleftarrow{t} \triangleleft C$, written

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

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

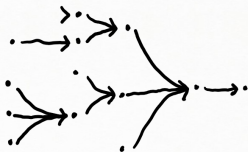
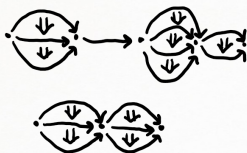
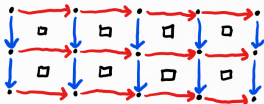
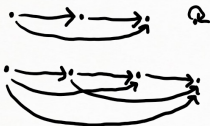


Nerves of Higher Categories

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$\rightarrow \hat{\Delta}$

simplicial sets



Nerves of Higher Categories

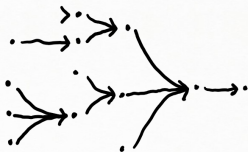
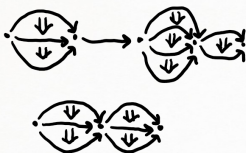
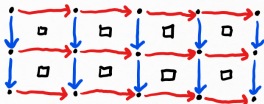
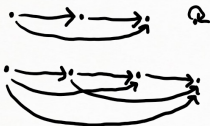
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- 2-Categories
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→ $\widehat{\Delta}$

simplicial sets

→ $\widehat{\Theta}_2$

Θ_2 -sets



Nerves of Higher Categories

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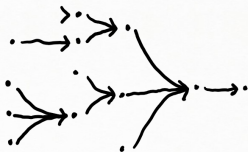
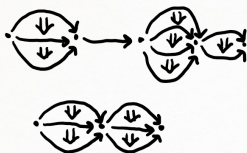
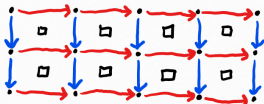
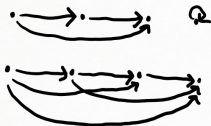
simplicial sets

→ $\widehat{\Theta}_2$

Θ_2 -sets

→ $\widehat{\Delta \times \Delta}$

bisimplicial sets



Nerves of Higher Categories

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→ $\widehat{\Delta}$

simplicial sets

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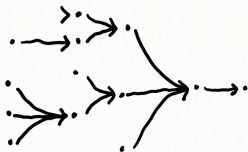
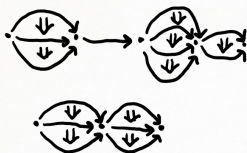
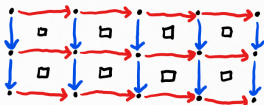
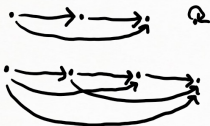
Θ_2 -sets

→ $\widehat{\Delta \times \Delta}$

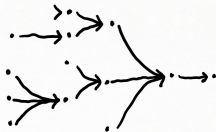
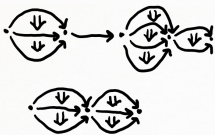
bisimplicial sets

→ $\widehat{\Omega}$

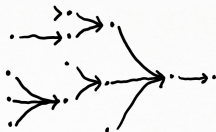
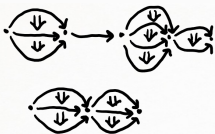
dendroidal sets



Nerves of Higher Categories



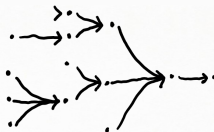
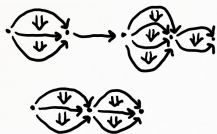
Nerves of Higher Categories



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

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

Nerves of Higher Categories

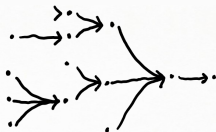
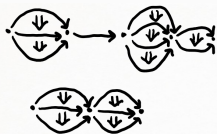


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Nerves of Higher Categories



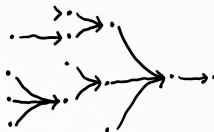
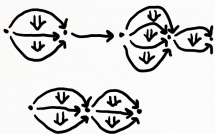
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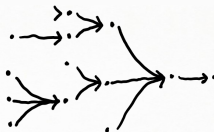
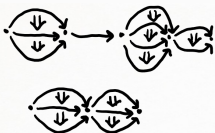
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Nerves of Higher Categories



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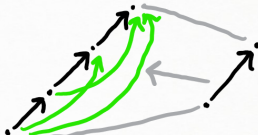
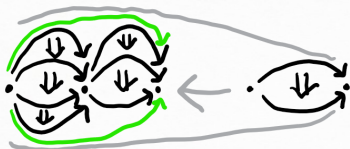
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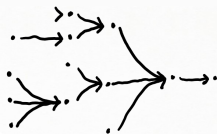
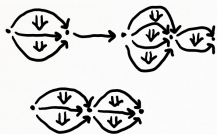
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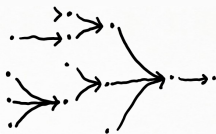
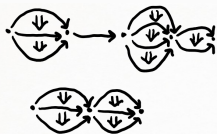
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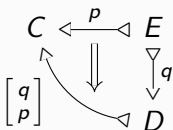
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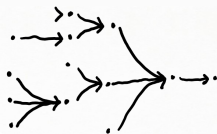
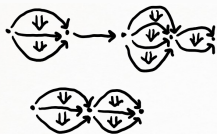
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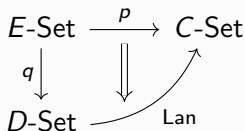
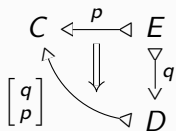
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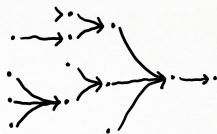
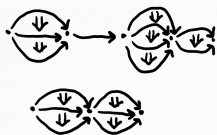
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- $[t \triangleleft_c t]$ is a comonoid corresponding to the category Θ_t^{op} , as

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

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

$$\text{Hom}(I, J) = \text{Hom}_{t\text{-alg}}(t(t[I]), t(t[J]))$$

- $\left[\begin{smallmatrix} t \triangleleft_C t \\ t \end{smallmatrix} \right] = \sum_{c \in \text{Ob}(C)} \sum_{I \in t(1)_c} y^{t(t(I))}$ is a comonoid corresponding to the category Θ_t^{op}

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Nerves of Higher Categories

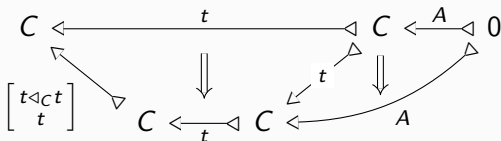
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- (Lynch-S.-Spivak) The nerve of an algebra A is $t(A)$, which is a Θ_t^{op} -set as $t \triangleleft_C A$ has a Θ_t^{op} -coalgebra structure:



- Owen Lynch, Brandon T. Shapiro, David I. Spivak, “All Concepts are $\mathbb{C}at^{\sharp}$.” arXiv:2305.02571
- Brandon T. Shapiro, Thesis “Shape Independent Category Theory.” pi.math.cornell.edu/~bts82/research
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- Mark Weber, “Familial 2-functors and parametric right adjoints.” TAC18-22

Thanks!