

Commutative Algebra of Categories

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K Theory of categories

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\mathcal{C}^{iso} is an $(\infty-)$ groupoid (space).

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$\coprod_n B\Sigma_n$ inherits *two* \mathbb{E}_{∞} -space structures from Π, \times .

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$K(\mathcal{C}^\oplus)$ = 'group completion' of the \mathbb{E}_∞ -space \mathcal{C}^{iso} (a spectrum).

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Finite sets: $\mathcal{C}^\oplus = \text{Fin}^{\text{II}}$
 $K(\mathcal{C}^\oplus) \cong \mathbb{S}$ (Barratt-Priddy-Quillen theorem)

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Alternative: categorify ordinary semirings and group completion!

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- 6 $\mathbb{Z} \otimes_{\mathbb{N}} -$ is group completion.

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Proofs are formal, using higher algebra of presentable ∞ -categories.

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- connective commutative ring spectra (\mathbb{S} , KU , HR)

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If $\mathcal{C}^{\oplus, \otimes}$ not a groupoid but semiadditive (Mod_R),

$$K(\mathcal{C}^{\oplus}) \cong \mathbb{S} \otimes \mathrm{Fun}^{\oplus, \otimes}(\mathrm{Burn}[\mathrm{Cob}_1^{\mathrm{fr}}], \mathcal{C}).$$

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- Set is cocartesian monoidal.
- Set^{op} is cartesian monoidal.
- Ab (or ComMon) is semiadditive.

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$$Fin \otimes Fin^{op} \cong Burn$$

Modules over semiring categories

Semiring ∞ -category \mathcal{R}	\mathcal{R} -modules
\mathbb{S}	Spectra
$\mathbf{Fin}^{\text{iso}}$	Symmetric monoidal
\mathbf{Fin}	Cocartesian monoidal
\mathbf{Fin}^{op}	Cartesian monoidal
$\mathbf{Fin}^{\text{inj}}$	Symmetric monoidal with initial unit
$\mathbf{Fin}^{\text{inj,op}}$	Symmetric monoidal with terminal unit
\mathbf{Fin}_*	Cocartesian monoidal with $0 = 1$
$\mathbf{Fin}_*^{\text{op}}$	Cartesian monoidal with $0 = 1$
\mathbf{Burn}	Semiadditive
$\mathbf{Burn}_{\text{gp}}$	Additive

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Definition 13

A \mathcal{P}^\oplus -algebra in \mathcal{C}^\otimes is a symmetric monoidal functor

$$\text{Alg}_{\mathcal{P}}(\mathcal{C}^\otimes) = \text{Hom}(\mathcal{P}^\oplus, \mathcal{C}^\otimes).$$

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Definition 15

A *Lawvere theory* is a cartesian monoidal PROP \mathcal{L}^{\times} . Algebras are taken in Set^{\times} (1-categories) or Top^{\times} (∞ -categories):

$$\text{Alg}_{\mathcal{L}} = \text{Alg}_{\mathcal{L}}(\text{Top}^{\times}) \cong \text{Hom}(\mathcal{L}^{\times}, \text{Top}^{\times}).$$

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Lawvere theory	Set-algebras	Top-algebras
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- If $\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{P}'$ are PROPs/Lawvere theories, so is $\mathcal{P} \otimes \mathcal{P}'$.

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- If $\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{P}'$ are PROPs/Lawvere theories, so is $\mathcal{P} \otimes \mathcal{P}'$.
- If \mathcal{P}^{\oplus} is a PROP, the associated Lawvere theory is $\mathcal{P}^{\oplus} \otimes \text{Fin}^{\text{op}}$:

$$\text{Alg}_{\mathcal{P}}(\text{Top}^{\times}) \cong \text{Alg}_{\mathcal{P} \otimes \text{Fin}^{\text{op}}}(\text{Top}^{\times}).$$

Definition 18 (B.)

An *equivariant Lawvere theory* is a cyclic Fin_G^{op} -module \mathcal{L}^\times .

$$\text{Alg}_{\mathcal{L}} = \text{Hom}(\mathcal{L}^\times, \text{Top}^\times).$$

Application: equivariant homotopy theory

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Fin_G^{op} is the equivariant Lawvere theory for Top_G .

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$\text{Burn}_G = \text{Span}(\text{Fin}_G)$ is the equivariant Lawvere theory for $\text{Sp}_G^{\geq 0}$.

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Conjecture

$\text{Poly}_G = \text{Bispan}(\text{Fin}_G)$ is the equivariant Lawvere theory for $\text{CRingSp}_G^{\geq 0}$.

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Commutative operad $\text{Comm}(X) = *$.

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Example 22

$$\text{Env}(\text{Comm})^{\Pi} = \text{Fin}^{\Pi}.$$

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Given an operad \mathcal{O} , $\text{Env}(\mathcal{O}) \otimes \text{Fin}^{\text{op}}$ is:

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Conjecture

The PROP for \mathcal{O} – \mathcal{O}' –bialgebras can be computed via a span construction.

Push/pull square of rings:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbf{Fin}^{\text{iso}} & \longrightarrow & \mathbf{Fin} \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \mathbf{Fin}^{\text{op}} & \longrightarrow & \mathbf{Burn} \end{array}$$

Push/pull square of rings:

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$\mathbb{S} \otimes \text{Fin} \cong \mathbb{S} \otimes \text{Fin}^{\text{op}} \cong 0$, but $\mathbb{S} \not\cong 0$.

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Can operad \mathcal{O} be recovered from $\text{Env}(\mathcal{O}) \otimes \text{Fin}$ and $\text{Env}(\mathcal{O}) \otimes \text{Fin}^{\text{op}}$?

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- earlier conjecture on operadic bialgebras
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