

An abstract, colorful painting with various brushstrokes in shades of blue, green, yellow, red, and white, creating a complex, textured background.

# Univalent Multicategories

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# *Multicategories*

## A classical presentation

A multicategory  $M$  is given by [1]

- A **collection**  $M_0$  of *objects*.
- A **set**  $M(\vec{A}, B)$  between  $\vec{A} : \text{List } M_0$  and  $B : M_0$  of *morphisms*.
- An associative operation  $\circ$ , where if  $f : \text{Hom}(\vec{B}, C)$  and  $g_i : \text{Hom}(\vec{A}^i, B_i)$ ,

$$f \circ [g_1, g_2, \dots, g_n] : \text{Hom}(\vec{A}^0 \# \vec{A}^1 \# \dots \# \vec{A}^n, C).$$

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and morphisms

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- An identity  $\text{id}_A : \text{Hom}([A], A)$  such that

$$f \circ [\text{id}_{A_1}, \text{id}_{A_2}, \dots, \text{id}_{A_n}] = f = \text{id}_B \circ [f].$$

- Monads in the bicategory of  $T$ -spans for a cartesian monad  $T$

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & 1 & & \\ & \eta_a \swarrow & \downarrow \text{id}_a & \searrow a & \\ TM_0 & \xleftarrow{\text{src}} & M_1 & \xrightarrow{\text{dst}} & M_0 \end{array}$$

- Multilinear maps

- ▶ objects are  $R$ -modules

- ▶ morphisms from  $\overrightarrow{M}$  to  $N$  are functions  $f : \prod_i M_i \rightarrow N$  such that

$$f(x_1, x_2, \dots, rx_i + y_i, \dots, x_n) = rf(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_i, \dots, x_n) + f(x_1, x_2, \dots, y_i, \dots, x_n)$$

- ▶  $\text{id} : N \rightarrow N$  is the identity function

- Sequents

- ▶ objects are lists  $\Gamma$  of types

- ▶ morphisms from  $\Gamma$  to  $T$  are sequents  $\Gamma \vdash x : T$

# *Distribution Types*

The category  $\text{Dist}$  has

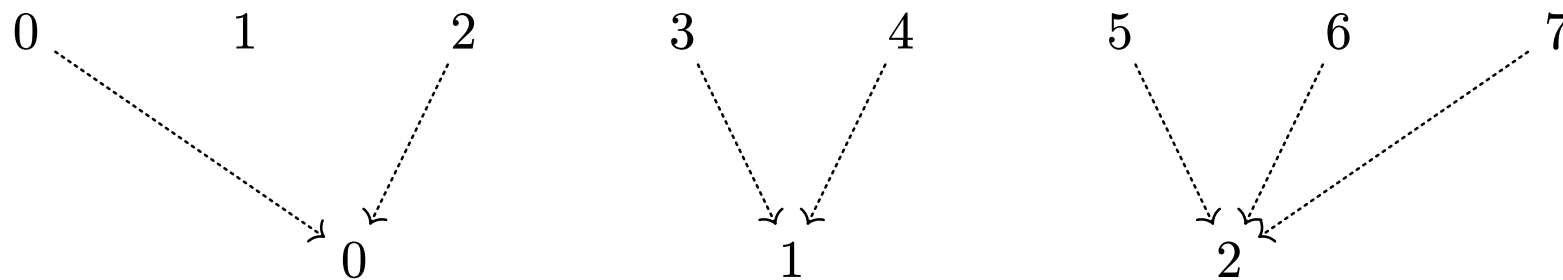
- $\text{Ob} = \mathbb{N}$

- $\text{Hom}(n, m) = \sum_{\substack{f: \text{Fin } n \\ \rightarrow \text{Maybe } (\text{Fin } m)}} \prod_{j, k: \text{Fin } n} \underbrace{(j < k) \rightarrow (fj \neq *) \rightarrow (fk \neq *) \rightarrow fj < fk}_{f \text{ partially ascending}}$

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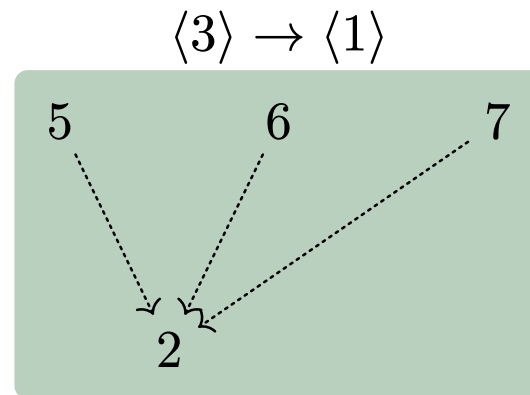
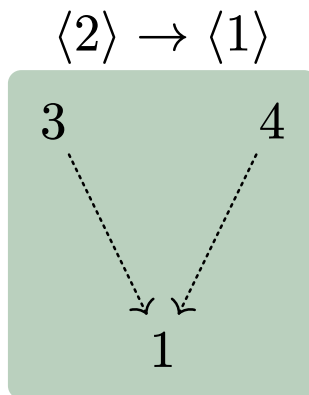
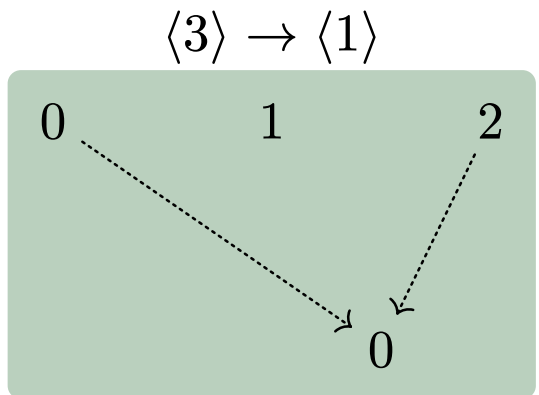


$$f : \langle 8 \rangle \rightarrow \langle 3 \rangle$$

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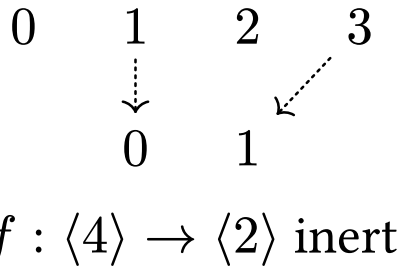
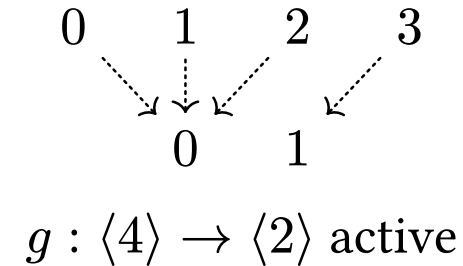
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## Inert and Active morphisms

**Inert****Active**

- partial bijections where  $f : \langle n \rangle \rightarrow \langle m \rangle$  is defined  $n$ -times.
- represent how an  $m$ -ary vector can be contained within an  $n$ -ary vector.
- e.g.  $\rho_i : \langle n \rangle \rightarrow \langle 1 \rangle$  such that  $\rho_i : i \mapsto 0$

- totally defined functions
- $f : \langle n \rangle \rightarrow \langle m \rangle$  represents an multi-morphism from  $n$  to  $m$  with all variables “used”.
- e.g. the constant function  $\Delta_0 : \langle n \rangle \rightarrow \langle 1 \rangle$

Introduced by F.E.J. Linton in 1970!

By a  $\mathcal{V}$ -multimap  $f = \langle f_1, \dots, f_k \rangle : \langle A_1, \dots, A_n \rangle \longrightarrow \langle B_1, \dots, B_k \rangle$  of distribution type  $\alpha$  ( $\alpha : \{1 \dots n\} \rightarrow \{1 \dots k\}$  an order preserving function) we mean simply a sequence  $f = \langle f_1, \dots, f_k \rangle$  of multilinear  $\mathcal{V}$ -maps

$$f_i : \langle (A_j)_{j \in \alpha^{-1}(i)} \rangle \longrightarrow B_i \quad (1 \leq i \leq k).$$

# *Multicategories (a second approach)*

## Displayed Categories

A category  $E$  displayed over  $C$  [2] has

- for each object  $a : C$ , a **collection** of objects  $E_a$
- for  $f : a \rightarrow b$ , objects  $A : E_a, B : E_b$  a **set**  $E_f(A, B)$  of morphisms
- a *displayed composition* between

$$\circ : E_f(B, C) \times E_g(A, B) \rightarrow E_{f \circ g}(A, C)$$

- if  $a : C$  and  $A : E_a$ , an identity  $\text{id}_A : E_{\text{id}_a}(A, A)$

- **Dependent paths**

$$\lambda' : F \circ \text{id}_A \underset{\lambda_f}{=} F$$

$$\rho' : \text{id}_B \circ F \underset{\rho_f}{=} F$$

$$\alpha' : F \circ (G \circ H) \underset{\alpha_{fgh}}{=} (F \circ G) \circ H$$

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$$E_{f \circ \text{id}_a}(A, B)$$



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**Definition 1 (Multicategory)** A *multicategory* is a category  $M$  displayed over  $\text{Dist}$ .

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- we call  $M_n$  a list of objects of length  $n$
- given  $F : M_f(A, B)$  we say  $F$  has *distribution type*  $f$ .

 **Important**

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**Note** We have composition, identity and a collection  $M_1$  of objects. What is missing?

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$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & & \\ \downarrow & & \\ n & \xrightarrow{\rho_i} & 1 \end{array}$$

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$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{\tilde{\rho}_i} & A_i \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ n & \xrightarrow{\rho_i} & 1 \end{array}$$

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**Note** Now we have projections on lists of objects and morphisms. Is that all?

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**Definition 1 (Multicategory)** A *multicategory* is a category  $M$  displayed over  $\text{Dist}$ .

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- where  $\text{idx}(\cdot, \cdot)$  has inverse  $\langle \dots \rangle : \left( \prod_{i < n} \text{Hom}_{\rho_i \circ f}(A, B_i) \right) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_f(A, B)$
- an operation  $\uparrow : M_1^n \rightarrow M_n$ 
  - ▶ with cocartesian morphisms  $p_i : M_{\rho_i}(\uparrow A, A_i)$
  - ▶ *i.e.*  $A_i \cong (\uparrow A)_i$

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Given a multicategory  $M$ ,

- if  $f : \langle n \rangle \rightarrow \langle m \rangle$  is inert, we call  $F : M_f(A, B)$  *inert* if  $F$  is  $f$ -cocartesian.
- if  $g : \langle n \rangle \rightarrow \langle m \rangle$  is active, all morphisms  $M_g(A, B)$  are called *active*

**Theorem (from Lurie [3])** Inert and active morphisms form an OFS on  $\int M$ .

**Definition 2** A functor between multicategories  $M$  and  $N$  consists of

- A functor  $\mathcal{T} : M \Rightarrow N$  displayed over the identity functor on  $\text{Dist}$
- such that  $\mathcal{T}$  preserves inert morphisms

thus if  $\mathcal{T} : M \rightarrow N$ ,  $F : M_f(A, B)$

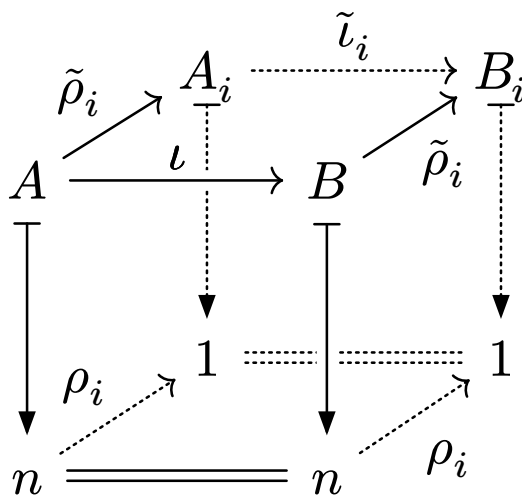
$$\mathcal{T}(A_j) \simeq \mathcal{T}(A)_j$$

and

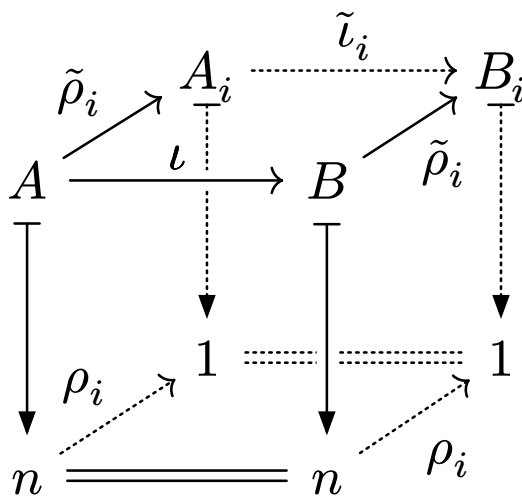
$$\mathcal{T}(F_j) = \mathcal{T}(\tilde{\rho}_j \circ F) = \mathcal{T}(\tilde{\rho}_j) \circ \mathcal{T}(F) = \tilde{\rho}_j \circ \mathcal{T}(F) = \mathcal{T}(F)_j$$

# *Univalent Multicategories*

- any isomorphism in a multicategory is of the form  $M([A], A)$
- a displayed of the form  $\iota : M_{\text{id}_n}(A, B)$  (as  $\text{Dist}$  is univalent)



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- thus we want every isomorphism in  $M_{\text{id}_n}(A, B)$  to give  $A \underset{M_n}{=} B$
- this is exactly displayed univalence [2] over  $\text{Dist}$

**Definition 3 (Univalent Multicategory)** *A univalent multicategory is a multicategory  $M$  such that  $M$  is univalent (as a displayed category)*

- if  $N$  is univalent, the category of functors  $\mathbf{Multi}(M, N)$  is univalent
  - if  $M$  is a univalent displayed category over  $\mathbf{Dist}$ , then  $\mathbf{is\_multicat}(M)$  is a mere proposition
- $\therefore$  the bicategory  $\mathbf{Multi}$  is univalent bicategory\* [4].

---

\* assuming equivalence is an identity system for categories displayed over a univalent base

- Show that the “classical” definition of multicategories coincides with the displayed definition.
- Prove global univalence for the bicategory of displayed categories over a shared base and vertical functors

Thank you!

## Bibliography

- [1] T. Leinster, *Higher Operads, Higher Categories*. in London Mathematical Society Lecture Note Series. Cambridge University Press, 2004.
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- [3] J. Lurie, *Higher Algebra*. 2017.
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