July 17th, 2025 CT2025, Brno (CZ)

2-classifiers for 2-algebras

in 7 minutes

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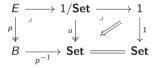
In Cat, it can be characterized internally as the discrete opfibration 2-classifier:





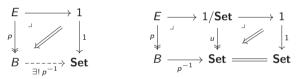
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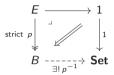




What happens when we equip categories with structure? Is **Set** still the 2-classifier?

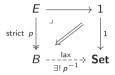


e.g. consider monoidal categories, and let's try to classify strict monoidal discrete opfibrations:





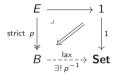
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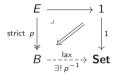
What is the monoidal structure on **Set**? What about the laxator of p^{-1} ?

Let T= free symmetric monoidal category 2-monad, consider

$$T\textbf{Set} \, -\text{----} \, \textbf{Set}$$

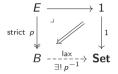


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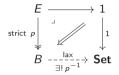


$$T(1/\mathsf{Set}) \stackrel{1}{\longrightarrow} 1 \ \downarrow_1 \ T\mathsf{Set} \stackrel{1}{\longrightarrow} \mathsf{Set}$$

$$(X_i)_{i\leq n}$$



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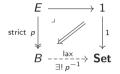


$$\{(x_i)_{i \leq n} \mid \forall i. x_i \in X_i\}$$
 $T(1/\mathbf{Set}) \xrightarrow{Tu} \downarrow 1$

$$\downarrow 1$$
 $T\mathbf{Set} \xrightarrow{T\mathbf{Set}} \mathbf{Set}$
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$$\prod_{i \leq n} X_i \qquad T(1/\mathbf{Set}) \xrightarrow{J} \qquad 1$$

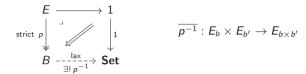
$$\downarrow \qquad \qquad \downarrow \downarrow 1$$

$$\mathsf{TSet} \qquad \mathsf{Set}$$

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$$(X_i)_{i \leq n} \quad \longmapsto \quad \prod_{i \leq n} X_i$$



Theorem

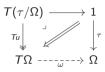
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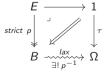
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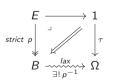
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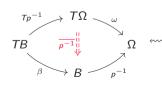
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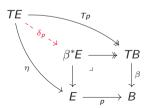
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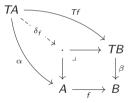




Cartesian maps of T-algebras

Definition

Let $f: A \to B$ be a strict T-morphism. We call T-cartesianity defect of f the canonical comparison map induced by the pullback below:



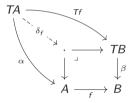
We say f is T-cartesian when its defect is invertible.



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Corollary

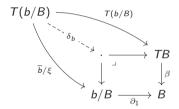
 p^{-1} is T-strong if and only if p is T-cartesian.



Cartesian objects of T-algebras

Definition

Let $b: X \to B$ be a colax T-morphism¹. We call T-cartesianity defect of f at b the canonical comparison map induced by the pullback below:



We say (B, β) is T-cartesian at b when its defect at b is invertible.

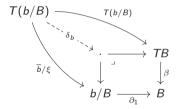


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B(b, -) is T-strong if and only if B is cartesian at b.

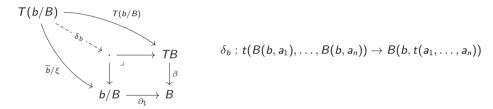


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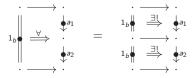
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Bonus fact: functors $p: E \to B = \text{strict (tightly)}$ discrete opfibrations $p: \ell E \to \ell B$ $\leadsto B \text{\'e}nabou\ construction}$: $\mathbf{Cat}/B \cong \mathbb{D}\mathbf{blCat}_{lx}(\ell B, \mathbb{S}\mathbf{et})$



Thanks!

Enhanced 2-categories

Definition

An **enhanced 2-category**, or \mathscr{F} -category, is a 2-category $\mathcal{K} \equiv : \mathcal{K}_l$ whose 1-cells are called **loose** (\leadsto) and a wide and locally full subcategory $\mathcal{K}_t \hookrightarrow \mathcal{K}_l$. whose 1-cells are called **tight** (\rightarrow).

Definition

Enhanced 2-functors are 2-functors that preserve tightness, while **enhanced 2-natural transformations**, or **tight natural transformations**, are 2-natural transformations whose components are all tight.

Definition (Enhanced 2-monad)

An **enhanced 2-monad** is an \mathscr{F} -monad, thus a 2-monad (T, i, m) such that T preserves tightness and where i and m have tight components.



Enhanced 2-category of *T*-algebras and lax morphisms

Definition

The enhanced 2-category of T-algebras and lax T-morphism $\mathcal{A}|g_I(T)$ for an enhanced 2-monad T on the enhanced 2-category \mathcal{K} is the enhanced 2-category so comprised:

- 1. its objects are strict T-algebras whose structure map is tight in K,
- 2. its loose maps are lax T-morphisms,

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
TA & \xrightarrow{Tf} & TB \\
\alpha \downarrow & & \downarrow \beta \\
A & \xrightarrow{} & B
\end{array}$$

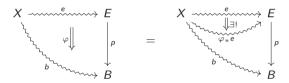
3. its tight maps are strict T-morphisms whose underlying map is tight in \mathcal{K} ,

4. its 2-morphisms are T-2-morphisms.

TDOs

Definition ((Tight) discrete opfibration)

A (tight) discrete opfibration in a(n enhanced) 2-category K is a (tight) map $p: E \to B$ that admits unique (opcartesian) lifts:





Representable TDOs

Definition (Representable discrete opfibration)

A discrete opfibration is **representable** if it is equivalent to the projection out of a comma object dashed below:



We say $b/B \xrightarrow{\partial_1} B$ is represented by the object $b: X \to B$. When X = 1, we say it is globally representable. When $b = \mathrm{id}_B$, we get the domain opfibration associated to B.



TDOs classifier

This is an 'enhanced' and refined version of a definition from (Weber 2007) and (Mesiti 2024):

Definition (Enhanced 2-classifier)

An enhanced 2-classifier in an enhanced 2-category \mathcal{K} with tight terminal object 1 and (left-tight) commas is a tight map

$$au: 1 o \Omega$$

such that the functor $\tau/-$ induced by taking comma objects is amnestic, and fully faithful, and equipped with the structure of an adjoint equivalence:

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 tdos (B) $\xrightarrow{\tau/-}$ $\mathcal{K}(B,\Omega)$ \cong



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A map $f: B \to \Omega$ is a formal copresheaf and $\int f$ its category of elements, while $dp: B \to \Omega$ is the copresheaf of fibers of a tdos $p: E \to B$.



Generic discrete opfibration

The discrete opfibration classified by the identity or, equivalently, represented by τ , is called the **generic discrete opfibration**:





The setting of plumbuses

Definition (Plumbus)

A **plumbus** is an enhanced 2-category ${\cal K}$ admitting the following enhanced 2-limits:

- 1. all left-tight pullbacks of tight discrete opfibrations,
- 2. all left-tight commas,
- 3. a tight terminal object.

Let (T, i, m) be an enhanced 2-monad on K.

Proposition

Let $p:(E,\eta)\to (B,\beta)$ be a strict T-morphism. Then if p is a tight discrete opfibration in \mathcal{A} lg_I(T), then so it is in \mathcal{K} .

Proposition

When K is a plumbus, the 2-category $Alg_i(T)$ is a plumbus too.



An enhanced 2-monad 'cartesian enough' to lift a 2-classifier.

Definition (Opfibrantly cartesian enhanced 2-monad)

An enhanced 2-monad (T, i, m) is **opfibrantly cartesian** when

- ${f 1.}$ ${f T}$ preserves pullbacks of tight discrete opfibrations,
- ${f 2}.$ ${f T}$ preserves tight discrete opfibrations,
- 3. i and m are cartesian at all tight discrete opfibrations.

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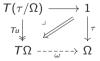
- 1. T preserves pullbacks of the **generic discrete opfibration** u,
- 2. Tu is a (tight) discrete opfibration,
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$$T(\tau/\Omega) \longrightarrow 1$$

$$T_{u} \downarrow \qquad \qquad \downarrow_{\tau}$$

$$T\Omega \xrightarrow{} \Omega$$

Lemma

 (Ω,ω) is a strict T-algebra, $\tau: 1 \to \Omega$ is a colax T-morphism, and (Ω,ω) is cartesian at τ .



An enhanced 2-monad 'cartesian enough' to lift a 2-classifier.

Definition

An enhanced 2-monad (T, i, m) is **opfibrantly cartesian** if and only if:

- ${f 1.}$ ${f T}$ preserves pullbacks of the generic discrete opfibration,
- 2. Ω is equipped with a T-algebra ω which is cartesian at τ .

The theorem

Theorem (C., Myers)

Let T be an opfibrantly cartesian 2-monad on a plumbus $\mathcal K$ such that $\tau: 1 \to (\Omega, \omega)$ is a strict T-morphism. Then its enhanced 2-category of T-algebras and lax morphisms admits τ as enhanced 2-classifier.

Corollary

Let $p: E \to B$ be a tight discrete opfibration in $\mathcal{A} lg_I(T)$. Its classifying map $\mathrm{d} p: B \to \Omega$ is strong if and only if p is T-cartesian. In particular, the representable copresheaf $B(b,-): B \to \Omega$ associated to a representable discrete opfibration $b/B \xrightarrow{\partial_1} B$ is always a lax T-morphism, and it is strong precisely when B is T-cartesian at b.

References I

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