

Descent & Univalence

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Abstract

The purpose of the talk is to explain the connection between the notion of **descent**, characteristic of ∞ -**topoi**, and the notion of **univalence**, characteristic of **HoTT**. Both of them being properties of the **universe** of a category with finite limits.

PLAN

- I. Univalence
- II. Descent
- III. Logos theory
- IV. Problems with ω and elementary higher topoi

Sizes

ω = countable cardinal

I need three inaccessible cardinals $\gamma > \beta > \alpha \geq \omega$

<i>Cardinal</i>	ω	α	β	γ
<i>Size</i>	finite	small	normal	large
<i>Cat. of sets</i>	<i>set</i>	<i>Set</i>	<i>SET</i>	–
<i>Cat. of groupoids</i>	<i>gpd</i>	<i>Gpd</i>	<i>GPD</i>	–
<i>Cat. of categories</i>	<i>cat</i>	<i>Cat</i>	<i>CAT</i>	–

By default a category is assumed to be of normal size, i.e. β -small.

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Univalence

The universe of a lex category

I am going to start by some considerations of [1-category](#) theory.

The universe of a lex category

Let C be a (normal) 1-category.

If C is lex (=has finite limits), there exists a (pseudo-)functor

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{U} : C^{op} &\longrightarrow \text{CAT} \\ X &\longmapsto C_{/X} = \{Y \xrightarrow{r} X\} \\ f : X \rightarrow Y &\longmapsto f^* : C_{/Y} \rightarrow C_{/X} \end{aligned}$$

A map $Y \rightarrow X$ is thought as a **family of objects of C parametrized by X** .

Intuitively, \mathbb{U} **classifies families of objects in C and all morphisms between them**.

The universe of a lex category

The inclusion of the category of groupoids in the category of categories has **two adjoints**:

the **internal** and **external** groupoids of a category.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \xleftarrow{\text{ext (loc.)}} & \\ GPD & \hookrightarrow & CAT \\ & \xleftarrow{\text{int (core)}} & \end{array}$$

(Remark: the internal groupoid is not natural with respect to non-invertible 2-arrows of CAT .)

The universe of a lex category

A variation of \mathbb{U} is the **internal groupoid** U of \mathbb{U} (its **core**)

$$U : C^{op} \longrightarrow CAT \xrightarrow{int} GPD$$
$$X \longmapsto C_{/X}^{(core)} = \{Y \xrightarrow{r} X \text{ with only iso. as morphisms}\}$$

Intuitively, U classifies families of objects in C and *isomorphism* between them.

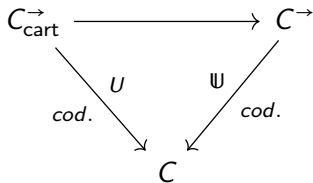
I will call U the **universe** of C .

The universe of a lex category

As **fibered categories** over C ,

\mathbb{W} correspond to the codomain fibration and

U to the subfibration of spanned by cartesian maps only



The universe of a lex category

The universe has a **derivative**

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{U}' : C^{op} &\longrightarrow \text{CAT} \\ X &\longmapsto C_X = \{Y \underset{r}{\overset{s}{\rightleftarrows}} X\}\end{aligned}$$

Intuitively, \mathbb{U}' **classifies families of pointed objects** in C and all morphisms between them.

The second derivative \mathbb{U}'' would classify families of bi-pointed objects in C , etc.

The universe of a lex category

We can also consider the core of \mathbb{W}'

$$U' : C^{op} \longrightarrow CAT \xrightarrow{int} GPD$$
$$X \longmapsto C_X^{(core)} = \{ Y \underset{r}{\overset{s}{\rightleftarrows}} X \text{ with only iso. as morphisms} \}$$

Intuitively, U' classifies families of pointed objects in C and isomorphism between them.

I will call U' the **derived universe** of C .

The universe of a lex category

Forgetting the section induces a natural transformation

$$v: U' \rightarrow U$$

called the **universal family**.

The universe of a lex category

An Z object of C defines a functor

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{B} : C^{op} &\longrightarrow SET \\ X &\longmapsto [X, B].\end{aligned}$$

C is not assumed locally small, so the values are normal sets.

Using the embedding $SET \hookrightarrow GPD$ one can view faithfully \hat{Z} as a functor

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{B} : C^{op} &\longrightarrow GPD \\ X &\longmapsto [X, B].\end{aligned}$$

The universe of a lex category

A map

$$\chi_f : \hat{B} \rightarrow U$$

in $[C^{op}, GPD]$, is the same thing as a map/family

$$f : E \rightarrow B$$

in C .

The correspondence between the two is given by the (pseudo-)pullback square in $[C^{op}, GPD]$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \hat{E} & \longrightarrow & U' \\ \hat{f} \downarrow & \ulcorner & \downarrow v \\ \hat{B} & \xrightarrow{\chi_f} & U \end{array}$$

The universe of a lex category

Proposition (Universal property of the universe)

For any map $f : E \rightarrow B$, there exists a *unique* (pseudo-)cartesian square in $[C^{op}, GPD]$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \hat{E} & \longrightarrow & U' \\ \hat{f} \downarrow & \ulcorner & \downarrow v \\ \hat{B} & \xrightarrow{\chi_f} & U \end{array}$$

(in particular, v is a representable natural transformation).

The universe of a lex category

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \{X \xrightarrow{s'} E\} & \longrightarrow & \{Y \begin{array}{c} \xleftarrow{s} \\ \xrightarrow{r} \end{array} X\} \\ \downarrow & \searrow r & \downarrow \text{forget section} \\ \{X \xrightarrow{u} B\} & \xrightarrow{\chi_f} & \{Y \xrightarrow{r'} X\} \end{array}$$

$$\chi_f(X \xrightarrow{u} B) = E \times_B X \rightarrow X$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} E \times_B X & \longrightarrow & E \\ \downarrow \chi_f(u) & \nearrow s' & \downarrow f \\ X & \xrightarrow{u} & B \end{array}$$

A dashed arrow labeled s points from X to $E \times_B X$.

The universe of a lex category

Given two objects X and Y in C , there is a **presheaf of isomorphisms**

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{Iso}(X, Y) : C^{op} &\longrightarrow SET \\ Z &\longmapsto Iso_Z(Z \times X, Z \times Y) \\ &= \{ \text{iso. } Z \times X \simeq Z \times Y \text{ in } C/Z \} \end{aligned}$$

This presheaf is **representable** if C is **LCC** (locally cartesian closed).

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \underline{Iso}(X, Y) & \longrightarrow & \llbracket Y, X \rrbracket \times \llbracket X, Y \rrbracket \times \llbracket Y, X \rrbracket \\ \downarrow & \ulcorner & \downarrow (h, f, g) \mapsto (hf, fg) \\ 1 & \xrightarrow{(id_Y, id_X)} & \llbracket Y, Y \rrbracket \times \llbracket X, X \rrbracket \end{array}$$

The universe of a lex category

What is the fiber of the diagonal of U ?

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \Omega_{X,Y}U & \longrightarrow & U \\ \downarrow & \ulcorner & \downarrow \Delta \\ \mathbf{1} & \xrightarrow{(X,Y)} & U \times U \end{array}$$

$$\Omega_{X,Y}U = ?$$

The universe of a lex category

Computation shows that we have

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \underline{Iso}(X, Y) & \longrightarrow & U \\ \downarrow & \lrcorner & \downarrow \Delta \\ 1 & \xrightarrow{(X, Y)} & U \times U. \end{array}$$

$$\Omega_{X, Y} U = \underline{Iso}(X, Y)$$

This says that, U is **univalent**. We shall come back to this.

The universe of a lex category

Recall that $\underline{Iso}(X, Y)$ is not assumed to be representable, but that it is if C is LCC.

In this case, we have a map

$$\begin{aligned} Iso : U \times U &\longrightarrow U \\ (X, Y) &\longmapsto Iso(X, Y) \end{aligned}$$

The universe of a lex category

The formula $\Omega_{X,Y} U = \underline{Iso}(X, Y)$ says that there exists a **cartesian square**

$$\begin{array}{ccc} U & \xrightarrow{X \mapsto id_X \in Iso(X, X)} & U' \\ \Delta \downarrow & \ulcorner & \downarrow v \\ U \times U & \xrightarrow{(X, Y) \mapsto Iso(X, Y)} & U \end{array}$$

This is another formulation of the **univalence of U** when C is *LCC*.

The universe of a lex category

In category theory, the univalence of U is **not a condition**, it is an **obvious property**.

Before Voevodsky, this property was never even given a name.

This is why it is so difficult for algebraic topologists/geometers to understand the univalent axiom (it is too obvious to them, they use it implicitly all the time, they would find absurd a setting where it would not hold).

The universe of a lex category

The universe U and its derivative U'

$$\begin{array}{ccc} U : C^{op} & \longrightarrow & GPD \\ X & \longmapsto & C_{/X}^{(\text{core})} \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{ccc} U' : C^{op} & \longrightarrow & GPD \\ X & \longmapsto & C_X^{(\text{core})} \end{array}$$

cannot be representable (in general) for two reasons:

1. their values are **groupoids** and not sets,
2. their values are **too big** (Russel paradox).

The universe of a lex category

It is possible to solve issue 1 by considering ∞ -categories.

All we used so far was that C was a lex 1-category.

But the same construction works if C is a lex ∞ -category.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} U : C^{op} & \longrightarrow & \infty\text{-GPD} \\ X & \longmapsto & C_{/X}^{(\text{core})} \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{ccc} U' : C^{op} & \longrightarrow & \infty\text{-GPD} \\ X & \longmapsto & C_X^{(\text{core})} \end{array}$$

From now on, C is going to be an $(\infty,1)$ -category (in particular, it can still be a 1-category).

The universe of a lex ∞ -category

In an ∞ -category, the functor of points of an object Z take values in ∞ -groupoids

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{Z} : C^{op} &\longrightarrow \infty\text{-GPD} \\ X &\longmapsto [X, Z]\end{aligned}$$

This is now **homogenous with the universe** (and its derivative)

$$\begin{aligned}U : C^{op} &\longrightarrow \infty\text{-CAT} \xrightarrow{\text{int}} \infty\text{-GPD} \\ X &\longmapsto C_{/X}^{(\text{core})} = \{Y \xrightarrow{r} X \text{ and iso.}\}\end{aligned}$$

The universe of a lex ∞ -category

The embedding $1\text{-CAT} \subset \infty\text{-CAT}$ preserves lex categories.

There is **no canonical way** to transform a lex 1-category C into a non-trivial lex ∞ -category D where the universe of C could be representable.

We have to **work by hand** to find such a D .

Example: $C = \text{Set}$, $D = \infty\text{-GPD}$

The universe of a lex ∞ -category

But there is still the size issue 2.

This was handled by Voevodsky by introducing [univalent maps](#).

The universe of a lex ∞ -category

A map $E \rightarrow B$ in C is **univalent** if its characteristic map is a **monomorphism** in the arrow category of $[C^{op}, \infty\text{-GPD}]$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \hat{E} & \hookrightarrow & U' \\ \hat{f} \downarrow & \ulcorner & \downarrow v \\ \hat{B} & \xrightarrow{\chi_f} & U \end{array}$$

I will call a **representable subobject of U** such a monomorphism $\hat{B} \hookrightarrow U$.

The universe of a lex ∞ -category

Given a univalent map $E \rightarrow B$, we have a cartesian square

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \hat{B} & \hookrightarrow & U \\ \Delta \downarrow & \ulcorner & \downarrow \Delta \\ \hat{B} \times \hat{B} & \hookrightarrow & U \times U \end{array}$$

(This is true for any mono.)

The universe of a lex ∞ -category

In particular, given to points of B

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \hat{B} & \hookrightarrow & U \\ \Delta \downarrow & \ulcorner & \downarrow \Delta \\ \hat{B} \times \hat{B} & \hookrightarrow & U \times U \\ \begin{array}{c} (x,y) \\ \nearrow \\ 1 \end{array} & & \begin{array}{c} \searrow \\ (X,Y) \\ 1 \end{array} \end{array}$$

we have

$$\Omega_{x,y} B = \Omega_{X,Y} U.$$

The universe of a lex ∞ -category

From previous computations, we deduce

$$\Omega_{x,y}B = \underline{Iso}(X, Y).$$

This is another way to state the condition defining univalent maps $E \rightarrow B$ (X and Y are the fibers at x and y).

In particular, $\underline{Iso}(X, Y)$ is representable.

The universe of a lex ∞ -category

For any two points x and y in B , if $x = y$, then the corresponding fibers X and Y are isomorphic:

$$\Omega_{x,y}B \rightarrow \underline{Iso}(X, Y).$$

The univalence condition says that the reciprocal is true: if two fibers X and Y are isomorphic, then they have to be the same fiber at a same point $x = y$.

The universe of a lex ∞ -category

Intuitively, a map $E \rightarrow B$ is **univalent** iff it **contains each of its fiber only once**.

This is trickier than it sounds:

a map of sets with a single fiber $E \rightarrow \{\star\}$ is not univalent!

There are **more isomorphisms** $E \simeq E$ **than paths** in $B = \{\star\}$.

$$\Omega B \rightarrow \underline{Iso}(E, E) = 1 \xrightarrow{\neq} Aut(E)$$

The universe of a lex ∞ -category

The only univalent maps in *Set* are

$$\emptyset \rightarrow \{0\}$$

$$\{1\} \rightarrow \{1\}$$

and

$$\{1\} \rightarrow \{0, 1\}.$$

The only univalent maps in a 1-topos are the submaps of

$$1 \rightarrow \Omega$$

(where Ω is the subobject classifier).

The universe of a lex ∞ -category

More examples of univalent maps can be found in [in \$\infty\$ -Gpd](#)

Given a small ∞ -groupoid E (for example a set), the group of symmetries $Aut(E)$ acts on E . I denote by $E//Aut(E)$ be the (homotopy) quotient.

$Aut(E)$ also acts on the point 1 . The quotient $1//Aut(E)$ is the classifying groupoid $BAut(E)$ of $Aut(E)$.

The map $E \rightarrow 1$ is equivariant for the action of $Aut(E)$ and induces a quotient map

$$E/Aut(E) \rightarrow BAut(E).$$

The universe of a lex ∞ -category

The map

$$E/\text{Aut}(E) \rightarrow B\text{Aut}(E).$$

is an example of a **univalent maps**
(because $\Omega(B\text{Aut}(E)) = \text{Aut}(E)$).

Example: If $E = \{1, \dots, n\}$, we get

$$\{1, \dots, n\}/\Sigma_n \rightarrow B(\Sigma_n) = B(\Sigma_{n-1}) \rightarrow B(\Sigma_n)$$

The universe of a lex ∞ -category

The previous [size issue 2](#) can be handled by asking that the [universe](#) U , even though it cannot be representable, can be [approximated by representable objects](#).

Definition (EUM)

A lex category C is said to have [enough univalent maps \(EUM\)](#) if U is the union of all its representable subobjects.

Counter-Examples: posets, *Set*, 1-topoi, truncated ∞ -categories

Examples: 1 , ∞ -*Gpd*, $[C, \infty$ -*Gpd*] (C locally small)

The universe of a lex ∞ -category

Condition EUM says that for any map $X \rightarrow Y$, there exists a univalent map $E \rightarrow B$ and a cartesian square in \mathcal{C}

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & \longrightarrow & E \\ \downarrow & \ulcorner & \downarrow \text{univ.} \\ Y & \longrightarrow & B. \end{array}$$

Condition EUM implies also that $\underline{\text{Iso}}(X, X')$ is representable for any two objects of $\mathcal{C}_{/Y}$. (This is close but weaker than being LCC.)

The universe of a lex ∞ -category

All this depends only on a **lex** category C .

I have **not used** the existence of **colimits** so far.

The **interaction of the universe with colimits** is the matter of **descent**.

We will see that the condition EUM needs to be improved when colimits are involved.

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Descent

Descent

Let C be a lex category with α -small colimits (cc lex category).

Recall that I have assumed $\alpha \geq \omega$, so "small" can mean "finite".

I will work directly in the setting of ∞ -categories (and therefore drop the ∞ prefix).

Descent

Definition

C is said to *have descent* if the (categorical) universe

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{U} : C^{op} &\longrightarrow \text{CAT} \\ X &\longmapsto C_{/X} \end{aligned}$$

send colimits to limits: for any diagram $X : I \rightarrow C$

$$C_{/\text{colim}_i X_i} = \lim_i C_{/X_i}$$

(where the limit in the right hand side is a pseudo-limit in CAT).

Descent

The category $\lim_i C_{/X_i}$ can be described as the category of cartesian diagrams over $X : I \rightarrow C$:

$$\lim C_{/X_i} = (C_{cart}^I)_{/X}$$

where C_{cart}^I is the category of I -diagrams and cartesian morphisms.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} Y & & Y_i \longrightarrow Y_j \\ \downarrow & = & \downarrow \quad \quad \quad \downarrow \\ \text{cart} & & \downarrow \quad \quad \quad \downarrow \\ X & & X_i \longrightarrow X_j \end{array}$$

Descent

For any diagram $X : I \rightarrow C$, we get an adjunction

$$C_{/\text{colim } X_i} \begin{array}{c} \xleftarrow{\text{colim}_I} \\ \xrightarrow{\text{cst}_I} \end{array} (C^I_{\text{cart}})_{/X_\bullet} = \lim C_{/X_i}.$$

where

$$\text{cst}_I(Y \rightarrow \text{colim } X)_i = Y_i$$

is defined by

$$\begin{array}{ccc} Y_i & \longrightarrow & Y \\ \downarrow & \lrcorner & \downarrow \\ X_i & \longrightarrow & \text{colim } X_i. \end{array}$$

Descent

The **descent condition** $C_{/\text{colim } X_i} = \lim_i C_{/X_i}$ is the statement that the adjunction

$$C_{/\text{colim } X_i} \begin{array}{c} \xleftarrow{\text{colim}_I} \\ \xrightarrow{\text{cst}_I} \end{array} (C_{\text{cart}}^I)_{/X_\bullet} = \lim C_{/X_i}.$$

is an equivalence.

Recall that an adjunction is an equivalence if both functors are fully faithful.

Descent

The descent condition decomposes into two conditions

1. **Colimits are universal** if, for all $X : I \rightarrow C$, cst_I is fully faithful (= colim_I is a localization): for all $Y \rightarrow \text{colim } X_i$

$$Y = \text{colim}_i (Y \times_{\text{colim } X_i} X_i)$$

(decomposition then recomposition condition)

2. **Colimits are effective** of, for all $X : I \rightarrow C$, colim_I is fully faithful: for all $E_i \rightarrow X_i$

$$E_i = (\text{colim}_i E_i) \times_{\text{colim}_i X_i} X_i.$$

(composition then decomposition condition)

Descent

The condition of **universality of colimits** is an easy one, it is satisfied as soon as C is **LCC**.

The condition of **effectivity of colimits** is more difficult. We'll see below that the category *Set* does not have effective colimits.

The only 1-category satisfying it is $C = 1$.

Descent

In the case of a sum, the **effectivity condition** says that in the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} Y_1 & \dashrightarrow & Y_1 \amalg Y_2 & \dashleftarrow & Y_2 \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ X_1 & \dashrightarrow & X_1 \amalg X_2 & \dashleftarrow & X_2 \end{array}$$

the two squares are cartesian.

Again, this means intuitively that pushing out does not touch the fibers.

Together with universality, this gives the **extensivity of sums**

$$C_{/X_1 \amalg X_2} = C_{/X_1} \times C_{/X_2}.$$

Descent

Set does not satisfy descent: colimits are universal (*Set* is LCC) but **not effective**.

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \{x, x'\} & \xleftarrow{(id, id)} & \{a, a'\} \amalg \{b, b'\} & \xrightarrow{(id, \sigma)} & \{y, y'\} \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \{x\} & \xleftarrow{\quad} & \{a, b\} & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \{y\} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{colim } Y_{\bullet} = 1 \\ \downarrow \\ \text{colim } X_{\bullet} = 1 \end{array}$$

The fiber is everywhere two points.

But the fiber of the colimit map is a single point set.

Descent

∞ -Gpd does satisfy descent.

Recall the recipe to compute the colimit of a diagram $X : I \rightarrow \infty$ -Gpd:

1. compute the **category of elements** $\int_I X$
2. take its **external groupoid** $(\int_I X)^{\text{ext}}$

This is the colimit!

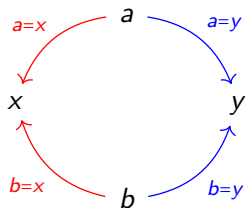
(In *Set*, the recipe would be to take connected components of $\int_I X$, which is also the π_0 of the colimit $(\int_I X)^{\text{ext}}$ in ∞ -Gpd).

Descent

In the case of the pushout

$$\{x\} \longleftarrow \{a, b\} \longrightarrow \{y\}$$

The category of elements is



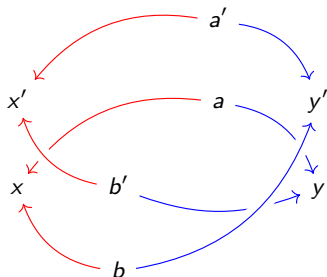
and the colimit is the **circle** S^1 in $\infty\text{-Gpd}$.

Descent

In the case of the pushout

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \left\{ \begin{array}{cc} a & b' \\ b & a' \end{array} \right\} & \xrightarrow{p_2} & \left\{ \begin{array}{c} y \\ y' \end{array} \right\} \\ p_1 \downarrow & & \\ \{x, x'\} & & \end{array}$$

The category of elements is



and the colimit is again a **circle**.

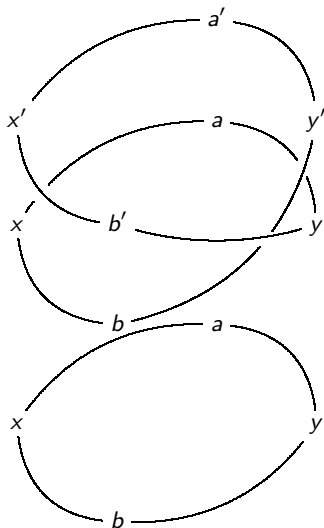
Descent

Let us come back to the previous example

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \{x, x'\} & \xleftarrow{(id, id)} & \{a, a'\} \amalg \{b, b'\} & \xrightarrow{(id, \sigma)} & \{y, y'\} & Y \bullet \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & \downarrow \\ \{x\} & \xleftarrow{\quad} & \{a, b\} & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \{y\} & X \bullet \end{array}$$

Descent

The map between the colimits is the two-fold cover of the circle



$\text{colim } Y_\bullet$



$\text{colim } X_\bullet$

The fiber is now the same as in the diagram: two points.

Descent

The descent condition for $S = \infty\text{-Gpd}$ is

$$S_{/\text{colim } X_i} = \lim S_{/X_i}$$

If K is a groupoid and $X : K \rightarrow C$ is the constant diagram 1, the descent condition is the [homotopy Galois theorem](#) (Toën, Shulman)

$$S_{/K} = S^K$$

(where $S^K = [K, S]$).

If $K = BG$ is connected,

$$S_{/BG} = S^{BG}.$$

says that [an action of \$G\$](#) is the same thing as a space over BG .

Descent

In $S = \infty\text{-Gpd}$, descent is equivalent to the homotopy Galois theorem:

$$S_{/\text{colim } X_i} = S^{\text{colim } X_i} = \lim S^{X_i} = \lim S_{/X_i}.$$

In more general settings, descent is motivated by working equivariantly: if a group G acts on an object X , with quotient $X//G$

$$C_{/(X//G)} = \{\text{actions of the groupoid } G \times X \rightrightarrows X \text{ in } C\}.$$

Other examples: $[C, S]$ (C locally small), lex localization of such...

Descent

The universe and univalent maps were defined using only finite limits in C .

The descent is a condition involving colimits in C .

More precisely **descent** is a property of **compatibility** between colimits and finite limits, akin to **distributivity** (we will see).

Descent

Definition

C is said to *have core descent* if the (core) universe

$$\begin{aligned} U : C^{op} &\longrightarrow GPD \\ X &\longmapsto C_{/X}^{(core)} \end{aligned}$$

send colimits to limits: for any diagram $X : I \rightarrow C$

$$C_{/\operatorname{colim}_i X_i}^{(core)} = \lim_i C_{/X_i}^{(core)}$$

Descent

Proposition

If C has universal colimits (e.g. C is LCC) and core descent, then it has descent.

Proof.

If

$$\lim_i C_{/X_i} \xrightarrow{\text{colim}} C_{/\text{colim}_i X_i}$$

is a localization, it is an equivalence iff it is conservative, but this is condition

$$C_{/\text{colim}_i X_i}^{(\text{core})} = \lim_i C_{/X_i}^{(\text{core})}.$$



Descent

To connect univalence with descent, we need the following definition.

Recall that we fixed $\omega \leq \alpha < \beta$ and that a normal category is β -small.

Definition (EUM revisited)

A lex category C has *α -enough univalent maps* (α -EUM) if

1. U is the union of representable sub-universes, and
2. this union is α -filtered.

I don't know how to deduce this from [condition EUM](#). (I think this is a mistake in the n -lab page on "elementary ∞ -topoi", and in N. Rasekh paper.)

Examples: ∞ -Gpd, ∞ -topoi, $[C, \infty$ -Gpd] (C locally small).

Descent

Proposition

A cc lex ∞ -category has core descent iff it has α -EUM.

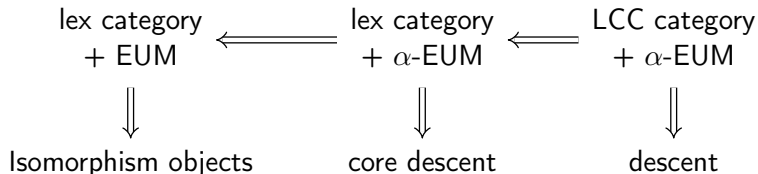
Proposition

A cc LCC ∞ -category has descent iff it has α -EUM.

Descent

Summary

for a cc lex category



– III –

Logos theory

Logos theory

Definition

A cc lex ∞ -category is called a (α) logos if it has descent.

A morphism of logos $f^* : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathcal{F}$ is simply a cc lex functor.

Examples:

1. $S = \infty\text{-Gpd}$
2. $[C, \infty\text{-Gpd}]$ (C small but also locally small)
3. β -small colimits of $[C, \infty\text{-Gpd}]$
4. free cocompletion $P(C)$ of a lex ∞ -category

Logos theory

Definition

A *Grothendieck logos* is a logos which is (α) -presentable.

Let

$$PresLogos \subset Logos$$

be the subcategory of presentable logoi.

The opposite category of *PresLogos* is the category of ∞ -topoi in the sense of Lurie's book

$$Topos = PresLogos^{op}.$$

Every logos is a β -small α -filtered colimit of Grothendieck logoi.

Logos theory

The notion of **logos** was introduced (with the presentability assumption) in **Topo-logic** (2019, Anel-Joyal) as the algebraic notion dual to the geometric notion of topos.

The motivation to introduce a more general notion are:

1. **examples**: gros topoi (don't need to be truncated anymore), Schulze pro-etale site...
2. the category *Logos* is **better behaved** than *PresLogos*,
3. a good structural **analogy with commutative rings** (presentable logoi are like finitely presented rings),
4. the general context of logoi is useful to encompass both Grothendieck and elementary topoi,
5. logos are **higher analogs of pre-topoi**.

Logos theory

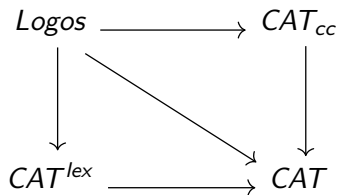
But this comes at a price:

1. morphisms of logoi need not have a right adjoint
2. logoi need not be locally cartesian closed
3. logoi need not be locally small categories

Logos theory

A logos is a category with finite limits and small colimits.

We can forget these structures:



Logos theory

Here is a nice feature of the general notion of logos.

Theorem (A.)

For any $\alpha > \omega$, the previous functors have *left adjoints*

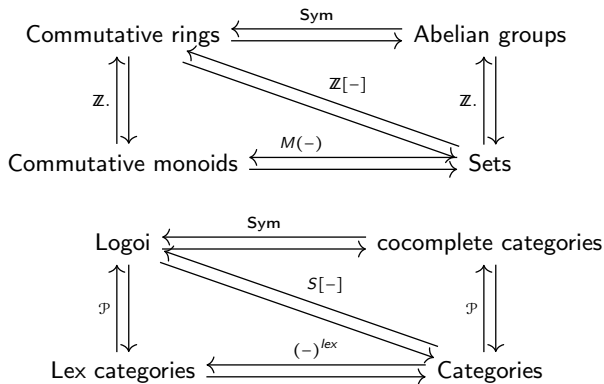
$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Logos} & \begin{array}{c} \xleftarrow{\text{Sym}} \\ \xrightarrow{\quad} \end{array} & \text{CAT}_{cc} \\ \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \mathcal{P} \\ \downarrow \mathcal{P} \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} \swarrow S[-] \\ \searrow (-)^{\text{lex}} \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \mathcal{P} \\ \downarrow \mathcal{P} \end{array} \\ \text{CAT}^{\text{lex}} & \begin{array}{c} \xleftarrow{\quad} \\ \xrightarrow{\quad} \end{array} & \text{CAT} \end{array}$$

Moreover *Logos* is *monadic* over *CAT*.

Remark: The category of ω -logoi is *not monadic* over ∞ -*CAT* (there is no free ω -logoi).

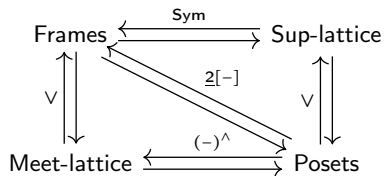
Logos theory

Analogy with commutative rings



Logos theory

And with frame theory



Logos theory

The **free logos** $S[C]$ on a category C is constructed by

1. completing C for finite limits C^{lex}
2. completing C^{lex} for small limits $S[C] = P(C^{lex})$

If C is small, so is C^{lex} and

$$S[C] = P(C^{lex}) = [(C^{lex})^{op}, S].$$

Every logos is a left exact localization of a free logos.

Logos theory

Descent = Distributivity

	<i>Descent</i>	<i>Commutative ring</i>
<i>Universality colimits</i>	$Y = \operatorname{colim}_i (Y \times_{\operatorname{colim}_j X_j} X_i)$	distributivity relation $y \sum_j x_j = \sum_i y x_i$
<i>Effectivity colimits</i>	given $\begin{array}{ccc} Y_i & \rightarrow & Y_j \\ \downarrow^r & & \downarrow \\ X_i & \rightarrow & X_j \end{array}$ $Y_i = (\operatorname{colim}_j Y_j) \times_{\operatorname{colim}_j X_j} X_i$ <p>(not a consequence of universality)</p>	given elements x_i and y_i such that $y_i x_j = x_i y_j$ $y_i \sum_j x_j = x_i \sum_j y_j$ <p>(consequence of distributivity)</p>

Logos theory

<i>Logos theory</i>	<i>Commutative algebra</i>
α	ω
general logos	arbitrary ring
Grothendieck logos	finitely presented ring
"bounded" \mathcal{E} -logos $\mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathcal{F}$	finitely presented morphism $A \rightarrow B$
polynomial functor $P : U' \rightarrow U$	exponential function $\exp(x) = \sum \frac{x^n}{n!}$ (not a polynomial)
universe $U = P(1)$ (not representable)	Euler number $e = \exp(1) = \sum \frac{1}{n!}$ (not algebraic)

– IV –

Problems with ω and elementary higher topoi

Problems with ω

One question about ∞ -topoi is to find a generalization of **elementary topoi**.

The way I understand this problem is to find some kind of **finite version** of a higher topos.

I'm going to finish on a few thought about this, and share my pessimism about the problem.

Please prove me wrong!

Problems with ω

The way I understand the problem to define higher elementary topoi is to fill the gap in the following [analogy table](#)

<i>1-categorical setting</i>	∞ -categorical setting
Grothendieck topos	presentable logos
elementary topos	?
pre-topos	general logos

Problems with ω

I know two examples of elementary 1-logoi that are not Grothendieck topoi.

1. the category *FinSet* of **finite sets**
2. the **effective topos** (that I don't understand enough to say anything about it)

Problems with ω

The trouble with higher "elementary topoi" start with this remark:

the category *Fin* of finite homotopy types does not have fiber products, nor dependent products.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{Z} & \longrightarrow & 1 \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ 1 & \longrightarrow & S^1 \end{array}$$

$$\prod_{S^1} S^1 = S^1 \times \mathbb{Z}$$

(This is the **obstruction for the monadicity** of ω -logoi mentioned earlier.)

Problems with ω

An **inaccessible cardinal** α is a cardinal such that sets of size $< \alpha$ are stable by

- ▶ dependent sums (regular cardinal)
- ▶ and dependent products.

An **∞ -inaccessible cardinal** α is a cardinal such that ∞ -groupoids of size $< \alpha$ are stable by

- ▶ dependent sums (∞ -regularity)
- ▶ and dependent products.

ω is not ∞ -inaccessible.

But it is still ∞ -regular.

Problems with ω

The ordinal ω suffers other **important drawbacks** in the higher setting (some of them I mentioned already):

1. the notion of ω -logos is **not monadic**,
2. finite CW complexes do **not have finite limits** (= ∞ -accessibility),
3. finite CW complexes have **infinite** homotopy invariants,
4. coherent homotopy types (type with finite homotopy) are **infinite** cell-complexes,
5. the computation of the image and Postnikov truncations of a morphism use **countable** colimits, and
6. the splitting of idempotents is also **countable** colimit.

Problems with ω

For all these reasons, I do not think a reasonable notion of logos could be found by asking only for finite colimits.

Some ∞ -inaccessible cardinal has to be involved.

Thanks!