

# Weak $\omega$ -categories as models of a type theory

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CEA LIST

Logic and higher structures  
CIRM, February 23, 2022

# Dependent type theories and higher structures

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- ▶ The iterated identity types have the structure of an  $\omega$ -groupoid
- ▶ This suggest a link between dependent type theories and higher structures.

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In this type theory, the identity types are not inductive, instead there is a family of term constructors that witnesses the algebraic structure.



# DTT and higher structures

The correspondence between dependent type theories and higher algebraic structure follows the principle

type dependency  $\rightsquigarrow$  higher dimensional shapes  
term constructors  $\rightsquigarrow$  algebraic structure

# Weak $\omega$ -categories

# An Overview

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Lots of other definitions, with other shapes.

# Weak $\omega$ -categories

## The Grothendieck-Maltsiniotis definition

## A bit of context

- ▶ Originally proposed by Grothendieck for weak  $\omega$ -groupoids [5]. Brunerie has proved that his type theory describes exactly Grothendieck's weak  $\omega$ -groupoids



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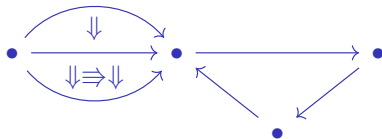
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Intuition : enforce a privileged direction on the rules
- ▷ Proven equivalent to Batanin-Leinster definition by Ara [1]

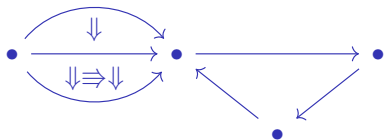
## A globular definition

- ▶ Supported by globular sets



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- ▶ Presheaf category whose representables are disks

$$D^0 : \bullet$$

$$D^1 : \bullet \longrightarrow \bullet$$

$$D^2 : \bullet \begin{array}{c} \curvearrowright \\ \Downarrow \\ \curvearrowleft \end{array} \bullet$$

$$D^3 : \bullet \begin{array}{c} \curvearrowright \\ \Downarrow \Rightarrow \Downarrow \\ \curvearrowleft \end{array} \bullet$$

...

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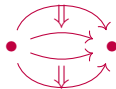
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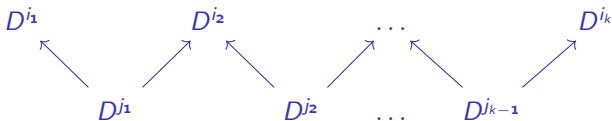
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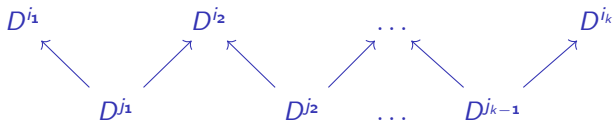
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- ▶ The globular sums are exactly the pasting schemes.  
Define  $\Theta_0$  to the full subcategory of globular sets whose objects are the globular sums.

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actually one has to do infinitely many steps to build  $\Theta_\infty$

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- ▶ We can define them as presheaves over the category  $\Theta_\infty$ .
- ▶ We need to require those presheaves to preserve globular sums, to avoid having too much shapes allowed.

# The type theory CaTT



# Intuition

- ▷ Introduced by Finster and Mimram [4]  
Intuition : It defines the following "pushout"

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Grothendieck's } \omega\text{-groupoids} & \xrightarrow{\text{direction}} & \text{G.-M. } \omega\text{-categories} \\ \text{type theory} \downarrow & & \downarrow \text{type theory} \\ \text{Brunerie's type theory} & \xrightarrow[\text{direction}]{} & \text{CaTT} \end{array}$$

# The type theory CaTT

Dependent type theories and their categorical semantics

# Building blocks of a dependent type theory (DTT)

A dependent type theory  $\mathcal{T}$  has syntactic objects :

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$$\Delta \vdash \gamma : \Gamma$$

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The dependent type theories the structure in common

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A CwF is the collection of all this data

This presentation follows the style of Awodey's natural models



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- ▶ There is a CwF structure on the category of sets
- ▶ A model of the theory  $\mathcal{T}$  is a morphism of CwF  $\mathcal{S}_{\mathcal{T}} \rightarrow \text{Set}$

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Presentation of the theory

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- ▷ Denote GSeTT the theory with just these type constructors
- ▷  $\mathcal{S}_{\text{GSeTT}}$  is the opposite of finite globular sets  
For instance, the following context and globular sets are in correspondence

$$(x : *, y : *, z : *, f : x \rightarrow y, g : y \rightarrow z) \qquad \bullet^x \longrightarrow \bullet^y \longleftarrow \bullet^z$$



# Ps-contexts

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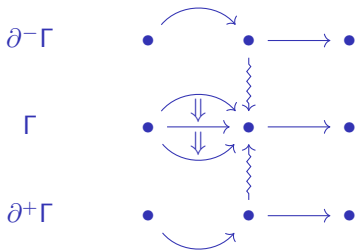
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To simplify the recognition, we require the ps-context to be in a specific order
- ▷ Each ps-context  $\Gamma$  has a source  $\partial^-\Gamma$  and a target  $\partial^+\Gamma$



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- ▷ **Every two compositions of the same pasting scheme are related**

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\text{ps}} \quad \Gamma \vdash t : A \quad \Gamma \vdash u : A}{\Gamma \vdash \text{coh}_{\Gamma, t \rightarrow u} : t \xrightarrow[A]{} u} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{Var}(t : A) = \text{Var}(\Gamma) \\ \text{Var}(u : A) = \text{Var}(\Gamma) \end{array}$$

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- ▷ We get terms in generic context by action of substitutions  
Hence relax the previous rules to have

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\text{ps}} \quad \partial^- \Gamma \vdash t : A \quad \partial^+ \Gamma \vdash u : A \quad \Delta \vdash \gamma : \Gamma}{\Delta \vdash \text{op}_{\Gamma, t \xrightarrow[A]{} u} [\gamma] : t[\gamma] \rightarrow u[\gamma]}$$

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(keeping the side condition)



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Consider the ps-context

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We have the type

$$\Gamma_a \vdash \text{comp}(f, \text{comp}(g, h)) \rightarrow \text{comp}(\text{comp}(f, g), h).$$

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We have  $\partial^- \Gamma_c = (x : \star)$  and  $\partial^+ \Gamma_c = (z : \star)$ .

So we deduce the term  $\Gamma_c \vdash \text{op}_{\Gamma_c, x \rightarrow z} : x \rightarrow z$  (denoted  $\text{comp}$ ).

▷ Associativity :

Consider the ps-context

$$\Gamma_a = (x : \star, y : \star, f : x \rightarrow y, z : \star, g : y \rightarrow z, w : \star, h : z \rightarrow w).$$

We have the type

$$\Gamma_a \vdash \text{comp}(f, \text{comp}(g, h)) \rightarrow \text{comp}(\text{comp}(f, g), h).$$

Both sides use all the variables of  $\Gamma_a$  (some are implicit).

## Examples of derivation

▷ Composition :

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# The type theory CaTT

Semantics of the theory



## The subcategory of ps-contexts

Define PS : the full subcategory of  $\mathcal{S}_{\text{CaTT}}$  whose objects are the ps-contexts

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## Models of the theory

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Proved by showing the initiality theorem for the theory CaTT.

## The syntactic category

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Conjecture : the syntactic category is the opposite of the subcategory of the weak  $\omega$ -categories freely by finite computads, for an appropriate notion of computad.
- ▶ There is work conducted around this conjecture and extension of CaTT.  
Ongoing work related to this question and CaTT by Finster, Vicary, Markakis, Rice



Thank you !

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