

Familial Monads for Higher and Lower Category Theory

Brandon Shapiro

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PolyFun 2022



Categories with Different Cell Shapes

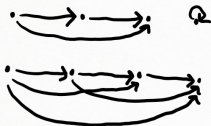
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- Categories
 - dots, arrows

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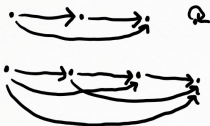
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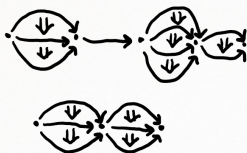
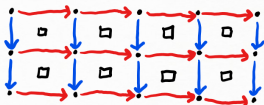
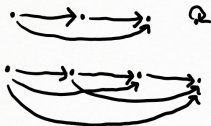
Categories with Different Cell Shapes

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- Double-Categories
 - dots, red/blue arrows, squares



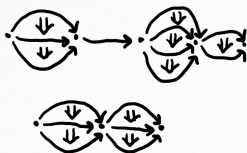
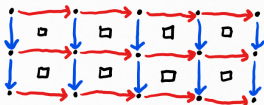
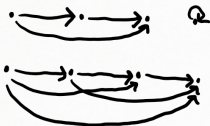
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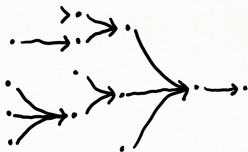
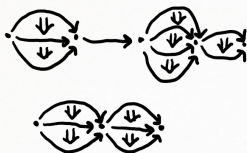
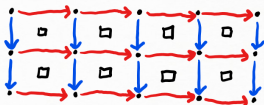
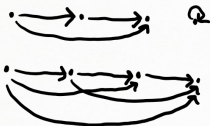
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 - Multi-Categories
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 - dots, n -to-1 arrows, $n \geq 0$



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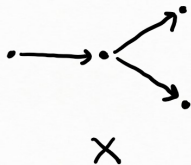
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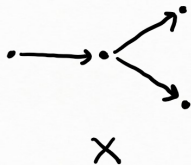
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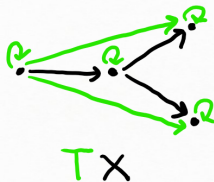
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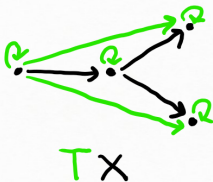
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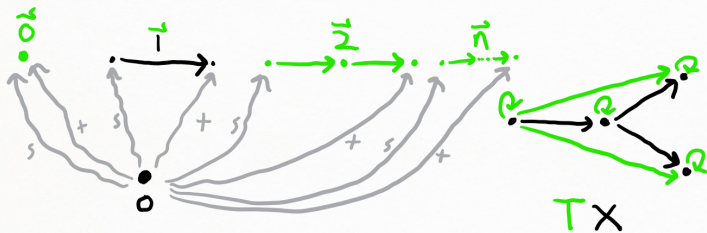
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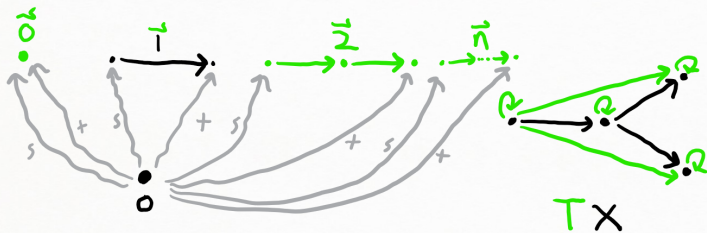
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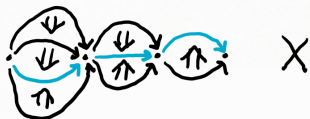
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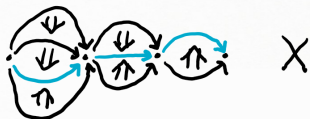
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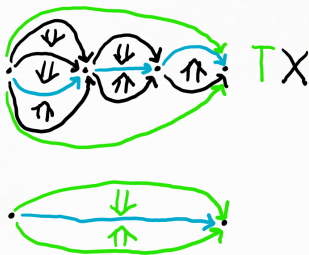
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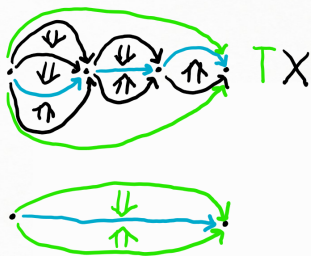
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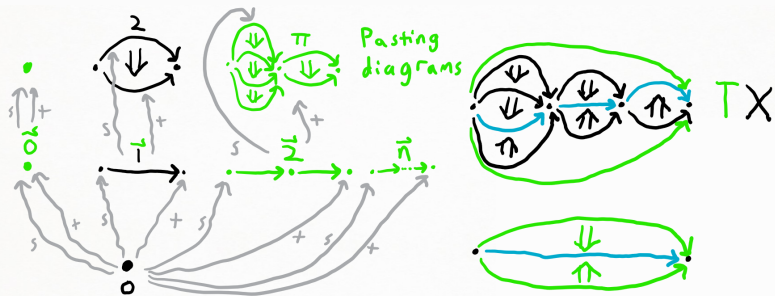
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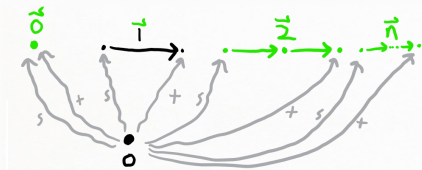


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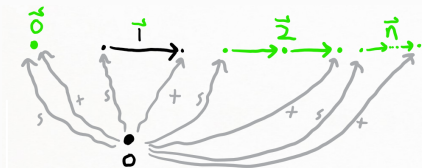


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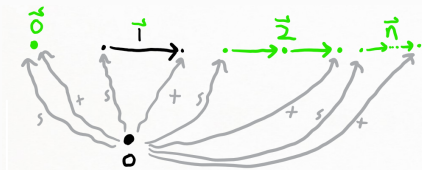
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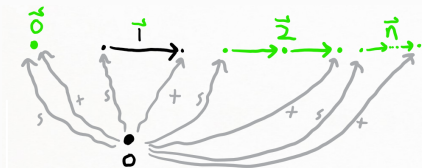
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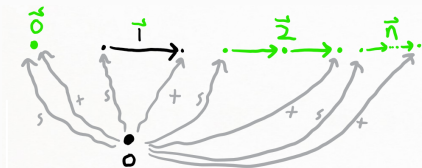
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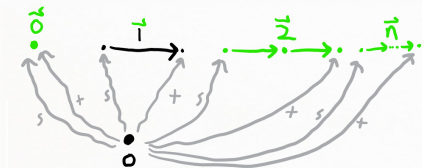


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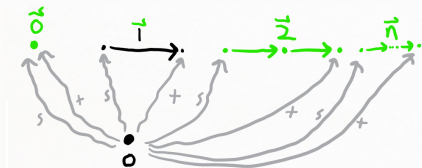


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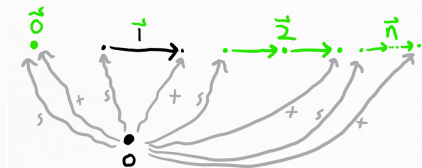


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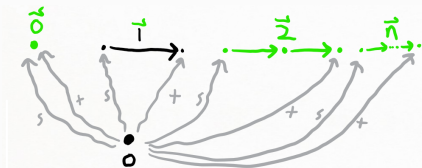


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- For 0 the empty category, a familial functor $\hat{0} \rightarrow \hat{\mathcal{D}}$ is just a presheaf S over \mathcal{D}

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Familial Monads in *Poly*

- The category *Poly* of polynomial endofunctors on *Set* is a rich environment, including a monoidal structure (\triangleleft, y) given by composition and identity
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- In this sense, algebraic higher categories “live in” *Poly*

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- They can model commutativity *up to a higher cell*, like in symmetric monoidal categories

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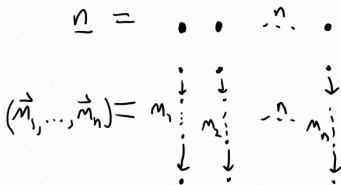
$$\begin{array}{c}
 n = \bullet \bullet \cdots \bullet \\
 \downarrow \downarrow \cdots \downarrow \\
 (\vec{m}_1, \dots, \vec{m}_n) = m_1 \cdots m_n
 \end{array}$$

The diagram illustrates the relationship between a presheaf n and its components. The top row shows n as a sequence of n objects, represented by dots. The bottom row shows $(\vec{m}_1, \dots, \vec{m}_n)$ as a sequence of n objects, also represented by dots. Vertical arrows point from each dot in the top row to a corresponding dot in the bottom row. The arrows are labeled with m_1, \dots, m_n , indicating the components of the presheaf.

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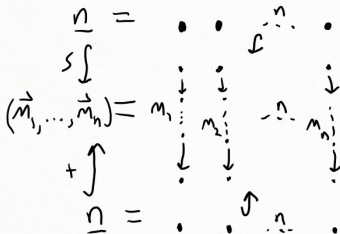
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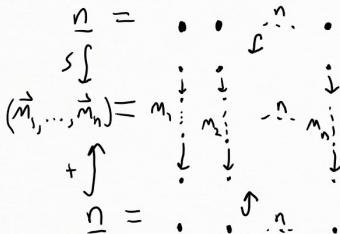
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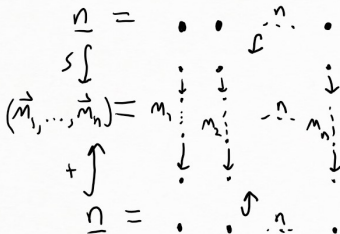
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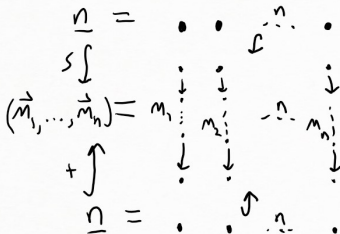
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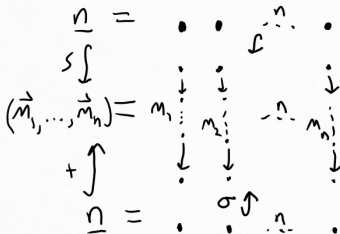
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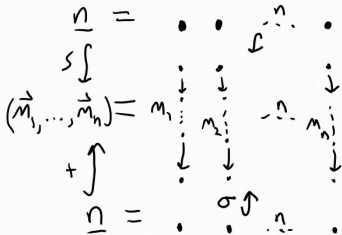
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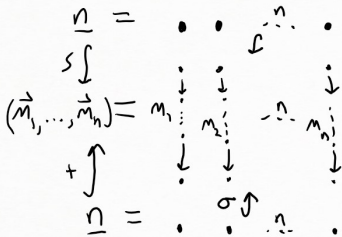
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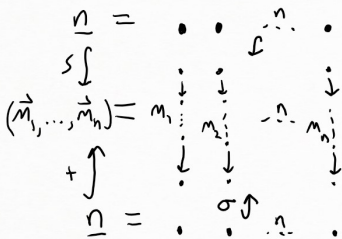


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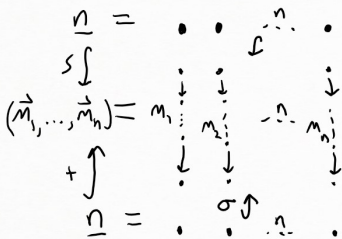
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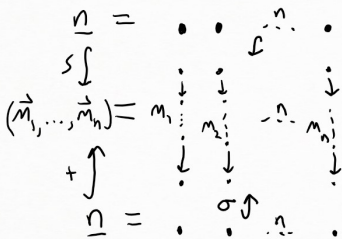
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- The case $m_1 = \dots = m_n = 1$ encodes naturality of the symmetries, and the monad structure ensures invertibility etc.



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- This diagram may be more easily described in *Poly* than the category of commutative monoids

- Brandon Shapiro, “Familial Monads as Higher Category Theories.” arXiv:2111.14796
- David Spivak, “Functorial Aggregation.” arXiv:2111.10968

Thanks!