

# The Web Monoid and Opetopic Sets

Stanisław Szawiel  
joint work with  
Marek Zawadowski

Institute of Mathematics  
University of Warsaw

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# Goals

- ▶ Make M. Makkai's definition of weak  $\omega$ -categories useable

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- ▶ First step: make opetopic sets easier to work with

# To build an opetopic set ...

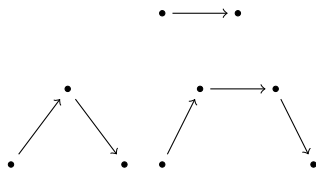
- ▶ ... start with  $n$ -cells

Example ( $n = 1$ )



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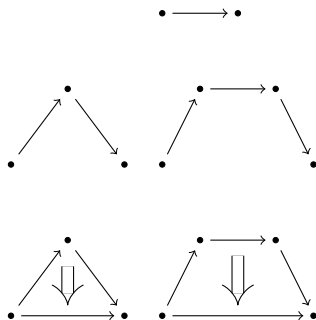
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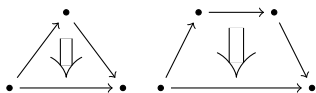
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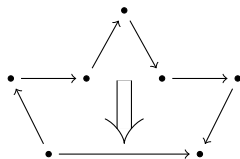
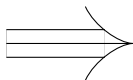
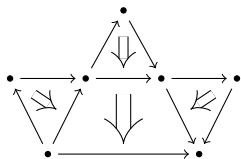
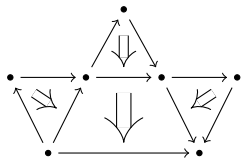
- ▶ ... start with  $n$ -cells
- ▶ **Hocus-Pocus** – determine the possible  $(n + 1)$ -cells
- ▶ Decide which  $(n + 1)$ -cells are realized

# To build an opetopic set ...

Example ( $n = 2$ )



- ▶ ... start with  $n$ -cells
- ▶ **Hocus-Pocus** – determine the possible  $(n + 1)$ -cells
- ▶ Decide which  $(n + 1)$ -cells are realized





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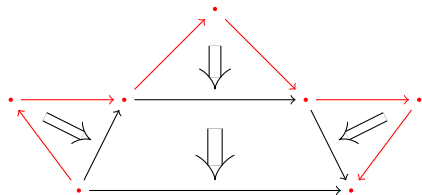
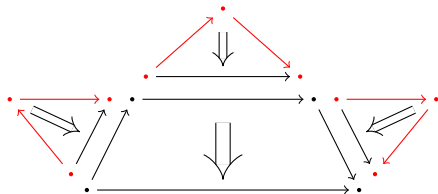
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- ▶ Operad for operads (Baez-Dolan). Motivated conceptually.
- ▶ Multicategory of function replacement (Hermida-Makkai-Power). Motivated geometrically.
- ▶ Web Monoid – seeks the middle ground.

# The Geometrical Problem

following Hermida-Makkai-Power

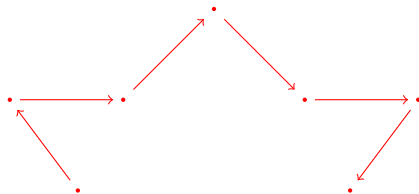
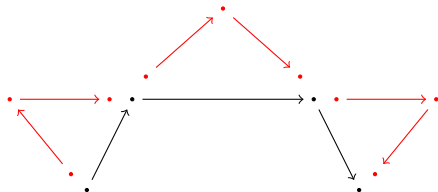
**Problem:** Composing cells pastes their domains!



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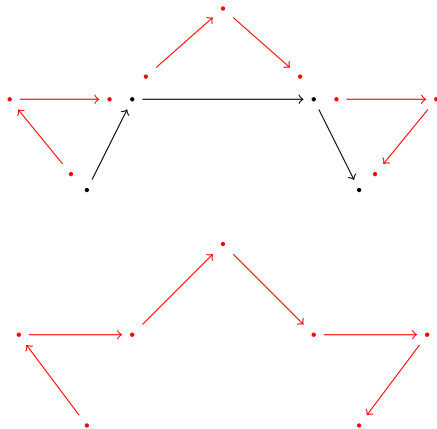
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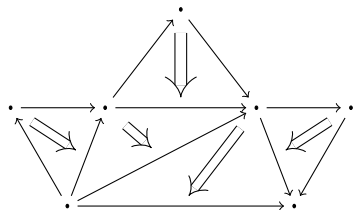
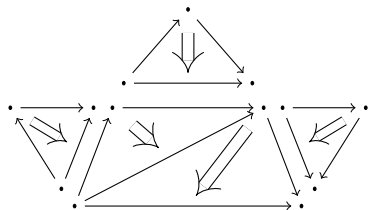
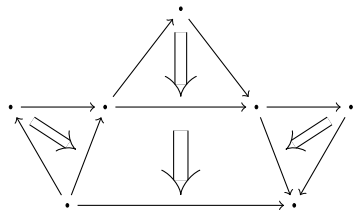
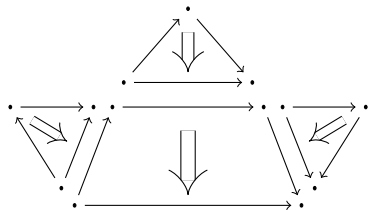


Replace instances of cells (black) with **formal composites** of cells.



# An Insight

This operation commutes with taking formal composites



# Lax Monoidal Fibrations

## Definition

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- ▶ The reindexing functors are lax monoidal
- ▶ Our examples: fibers are strong, reindexing – never

# Ordinary Signatures

with amalgamation

Category **Sig<sub>a</sub>**

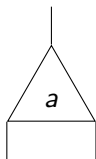
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Sets  $A$  together with a **typing**

$$\partial^A : A \rightarrow O \times O^*$$

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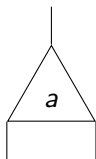
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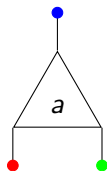
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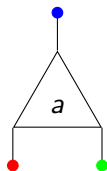
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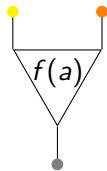
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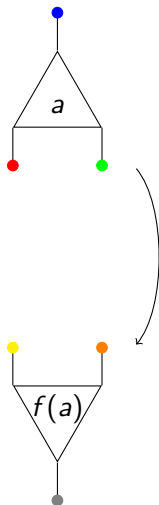
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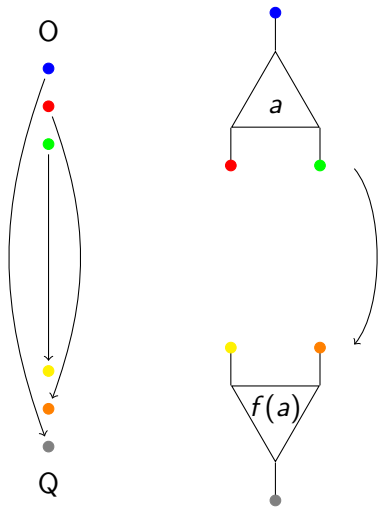
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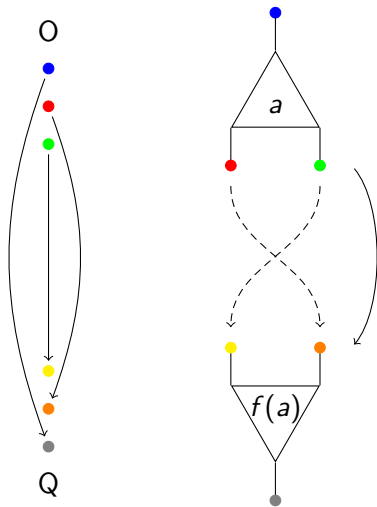
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- ▶  $\sigma_a$  connects inputs of  $a$  to those of  $f(a)$ , respecting types

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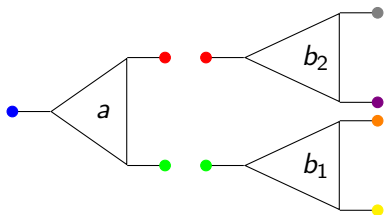
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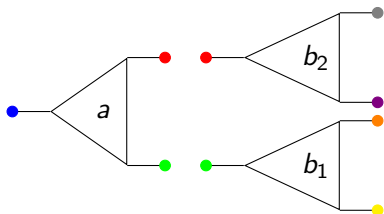
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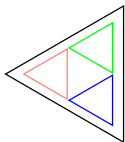
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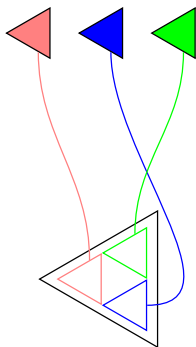
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# Two Monoidal Structures



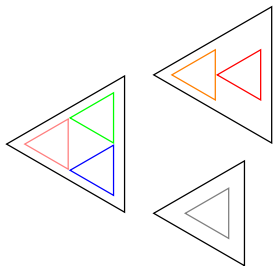


## Two Monoidal Structures



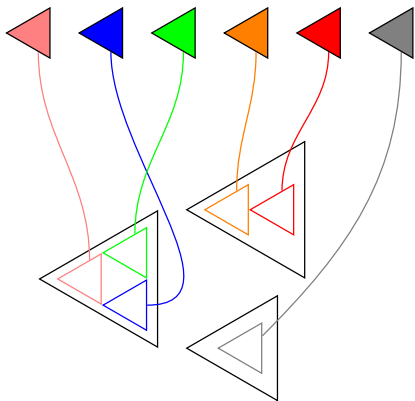
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## Two Monoidal Structures



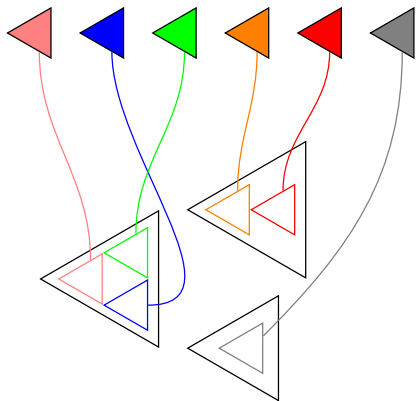
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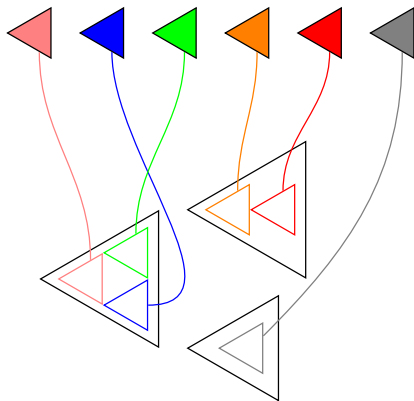
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- ▶ A natural isomorphism makes the picture unambiguous

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which satisfy some coherence conditions



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# The Three Tensors Theorem

statement

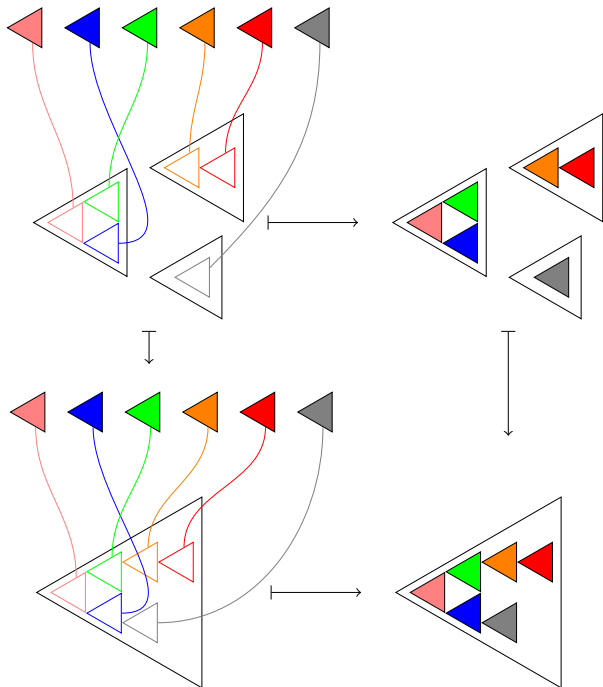
## Theorem

There is a unique  $\otimes$ -monoid structure on  $\mathcal{W} := \mathcal{F}_\odot(I_\otimes)$ , such that the unit of the adjunction  $\eta : I_\otimes \rightarrow \mathcal{F}_\odot(I_\otimes)$  is the unit of the multiplication  $\nu : \mathcal{W} \otimes \mathcal{W} \rightarrow \mathcal{W}$ , which in turn makes the following **main diagram** commute:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (\mathcal{W} \otimes \mathcal{W}) \odot (\mathcal{W} \otimes \mathcal{W}) & \xrightarrow{\nu \odot \nu} & \mathcal{W} \odot \mathcal{W} \\ \varphi \downarrow & & \downarrow \mu \\ (\mathcal{W} \odot \mathcal{W}) \otimes \mathcal{W} & & \mathcal{W} \\ \mu \otimes 1 \downarrow & & \downarrow \nu \\ \mathcal{W} \otimes \mathcal{W} & \xrightarrow{\nu} & \mathcal{W} \end{array}$$

$\mu$  - multiplication in free monoid

# Main Diagram



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- ▶ The amalgamation permutations of  $\mathcal{W}(M)$  cannot be straightened out, in general, even if  $M$  is standard.

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- ▶  $S_0$ , the monoid of 0-pasting diagrams, is the pullback of the trivial monoid along  $X_0 \rightarrow 1$ :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} 1 & \longleftarrow & S_0 \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \partial \\ \{*\}^\dagger & \xleftarrow{(!)^\dagger} & X_0^\dagger \end{array}$$

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  3.  $\mathcal{W}(S_n)$  - calculate possible  $(n+1)$ -pasting diagrams.
  4.  $S_{n+1}$  is the pullback of  $\mathcal{W}(S_n)$  along  $\vartheta_{n+1}$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{W}(S_n) & \longleftarrow & S_{n+1} \\ \partial \downarrow & & \downarrow \partial \\ S_n^\dagger & \xleftarrow{(\vartheta_{n+1})^\dagger} & X_{n+1}^\dagger \end{array}$$

This attaches cell names to the codomain and openings in the domain of every possible diagram.

# Opetopic Sets

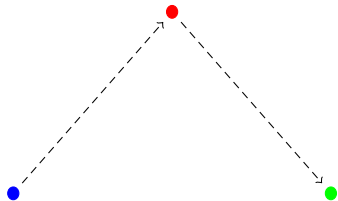
in pictures

- ▶ An element of  $S_0$



# Opetopic Sets

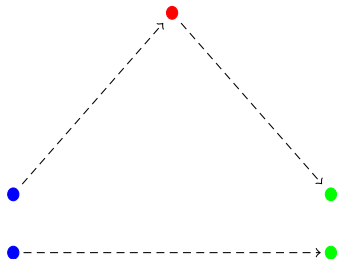
in pictures



► Multiplication in  $S_0$

# Opetopic Sets

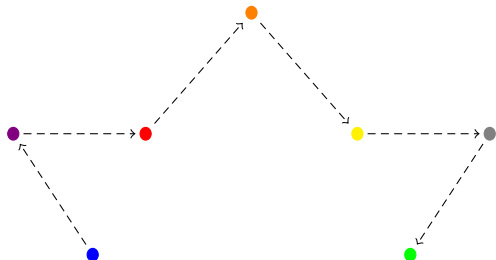
in pictures



► Multiplication in  $S_0$

# Opetopic Sets

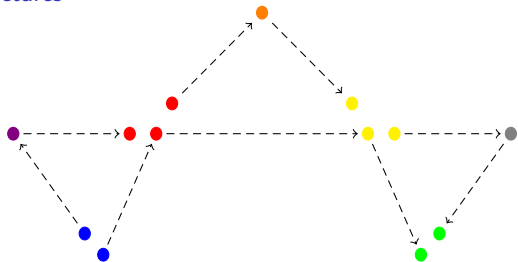
in pictures



► An element of  $\mathcal{W}(S_0)$

# Opetopic Sets

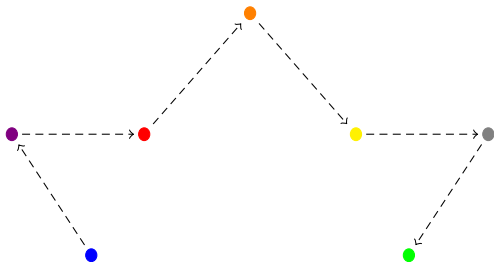
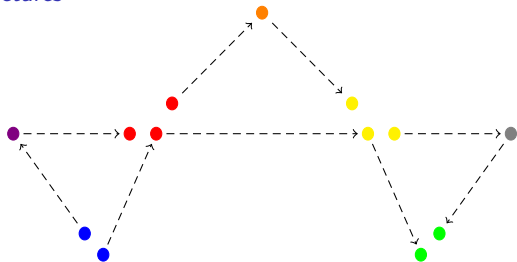
in pictures



- ▶ Multiplication in  $\mathcal{W}(S_0)$

# Opetopic Sets

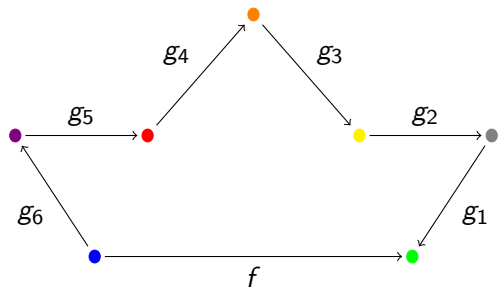
in pictures



► Multiplication in  $\mathcal{W}(S_0)$

# Opetopic Sets

in pictures



► An element of  $S_1$



# Opetopic Sets

the category

A morphism of opetopic sets  $X \rightarrow Y$ :

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- ▶ Maps of cells – functions  $f_n : X_n \rightarrow Y_n$

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the category

A morphism of opetopic sets  $X \rightarrow Y$ :

- ▶ Maps of cells – functions  $f_n : X_n \rightarrow Y_n$
- ▶ Compatible with forming pasting diagrams, taking domains and codomains.