

# **Semistrict models of connected 3-types and Tamsamani's weak 3-groupoids**

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## Main themes

- Modelling connected 3-types:

Homotopy theory  $\longrightarrow$   $\text{cat}^2$ -groups (Loday).

Higher category theory  $\longrightarrow$  Tamsamani's weak  
3-groupoids  
(with 1 object)

- Comparison problem.
- Semistrictification results for Tamsamani's weak 3-groupoids with 1 object.

## $\text{Cat}^n$ -groups as homotopy models

- Definition  $\text{Cat}^n(\text{Gp}) = \text{Cat}(\text{Cat}^{n-1}(\text{Gp}))$   
 $\text{Cat}^0(\text{Gp}) = \text{Gp}$
- Multinerve  $\mathcal{N} : \text{Cat}^n(\text{Gp}) \rightarrow [\Delta^{n^{op}}, \text{Gp}]$
- Classifying space of  $\mathcal{G} \in \text{Cat}^n(\text{Gp})$   
 $B\mathcal{G} = B\mathcal{N}\mathcal{G}$ .
- Weak equivalence  $f : \mathcal{G} \rightarrow \mathcal{G}' \in \text{mor}(\text{Cat}^n(\text{Gp}))$   
s.t.  $Bf$  weak homotopy equivalence.
- Theorem  
[Whitehead  $n = 1$ ]  
[Loday; Bullejos-Cegarra-Duskin; Porter,  $n \geq 1$ ]

$$\overline{B} : \frac{\text{Cat}^n(\text{Gp})}{\sim} \simeq \mathcal{H}o\left(\begin{array}{c} \text{connected} \\ n + 1\text{-types} \end{array}\right) : \overline{\mathcal{P}}$$

## Tamsamani's model: $n=2$

- Segal maps

$\mathcal{C}$  category with finite limits,  $\phi \in [\Delta^{op}, \mathcal{C}]$

$$n \geq 2 \quad \eta_n : \phi_n \rightarrow \phi_1 \times_{\phi_0} \cdots \times_{\phi_0}^n \phi_1.$$

fact:  $\phi$  nerve of object of  $\text{Cat } \mathcal{C} \Leftrightarrow$

$\eta_n$  isomorphism for all  $n \geq 2$ .

- Tamsamani's weak 2-nerves,  $\mathcal{N}_2$ .

$$\phi \in [\Delta^{2op}, \text{Set}] \quad \phi_n = ([n], -)$$

(i)  $\phi_n$  nerve of category of all  $n \geq 0$ .

(ii)  $\phi_0$  constant.

(iii) Segal maps equivalences of categories  $\forall n \geq 2$ .

- Weak 2-groupoids  $\mathcal{T}_2$ ,  $\phi \in \mathcal{N}_2$  s.t.

(i)  $\phi_n$  nerve of groupoid,  $\forall n \geq 0$ .

(ii)  $T\phi : \Delta^{op} \rightarrow \text{Set}$  nerve of groupoid

$$(T\phi)_n = \pi_0 \phi_n$$

- External equivalences of 2-nerves

$$f : \phi \rightarrow \psi \quad \phi_1 = \coprod_{x,y \in \phi_0} \phi(x,y)$$

(i)  $\phi(x,y) \rightarrow \psi(fx, fy)$

(ii)  $Tf$

equivalences of categories.

## Tamsamani's model: $n=3$

- Tamsamani's weak 3-nerves,  $\mathcal{N}_3$ .

$$\phi \in [\Delta^{3^{op}}, \text{Set}] \quad \phi_n = ([n], -, -)$$

(i)  $\phi_n \in \mathcal{N}_2 \quad \forall n \geq 0$ .

(ii)  $\phi_0$  constant.

(iii) Segal maps equivalences of 2-nerves  $\forall n \geq 2$ .

- Weak 3-groupoids  $\mathcal{T}_3$ ,  $\phi \in \mathcal{N}_3$  s.t.

(i)  $\phi_n \in \mathcal{T}_2 \quad \forall n \geq 0$ .

(ii)  $T^2\phi : \Delta^{op} \rightarrow \text{Set}$  nerve of groupoid.

- Fact: external equivalences in  $\mathcal{T}_2$  and  $\mathcal{T}_3$   
 $\equiv$  weak homotopy equivalences

- The subcategory  $\mathcal{S} \subset \mathcal{T}_3$

$$\phi \in \mathcal{S} \text{ if } \phi \in \mathcal{T}_3 \text{ and } \phi_0(-, -) = \{\cdot\}.$$

- Theorem [Tamsamani]

$$\mathcal{T}_3 / \sim^{ext} \simeq \mathcal{H}o(3\text{-types})$$

$$\mathcal{S} / \sim^{ext} \simeq \mathcal{H}o\left(\begin{array}{c} \text{connected} \\ 3\text{-types} \end{array}\right)$$

## Summary: $\text{cat}^2\text{-gp}$ versus $\mathcal{T}_3$ .

$\text{Cat}^2(\text{Gp})$

$\mathcal{T}_3$

- $\mathcal{G} \in [\Delta^{2^{op}}, \text{Gp}]$   
 $\mathcal{G}_n$  nerve of  $\text{Cat}(\text{Gp})$   
 Segal maps iso.
- multisimplicial inductive definition based on  $\text{Gp}$  strict structure “cubical”
- Main issues in the comparison:

cubical  $\xrightarrow{\text{discretization}}$  globular

$\text{Gp} \xrightarrow{\text{nerve}} [\Delta^{op}, \text{Set}]$

- dealt with functors:

$\text{Cat}^2(\text{Gp}) / \sim \xrightarrow{\text{disc}} \mathcal{D} / \sim$

$\mathcal{D} / \sim \longrightarrow \mathcal{H} / \sim^{ext} \quad \mathcal{H} \subset \mathcal{S}.$

## The discretization functor

- Key Lemma:  $\mathcal{G} \in \text{Cat}^2(\text{Gp})$ . There is  $\phi \in \text{Cat}^2(\text{Gp})$

$$\phi_1 \times_{\phi_0} \phi_1 \xrightarrow{c} \phi_1 \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{\partial_0} \\ \xrightarrow{\partial_1} \\ \xleftarrow{\sigma_0} \end{array} \phi_0$$

with  $\phi_0$  projective in  $\text{Cat}(\text{Gp})$  and  $B\phi \simeq B\mathcal{G}$ .

- Projective objects in  $\text{Cat}(\text{Gp})$

$d : \phi_0 \longrightarrow \phi_0^d$  weak equivalence.

$\phi_0^d$  discrete internal category.

section  $t : \phi_0^d \longrightarrow \phi_0$ ,  $dt = \text{id}$ .

- The discrete multinerve  $ds\mathcal{N}\phi \in [\Delta^{2op}, \text{Gp}]$

$$\cdots \phi_1 \times_{\phi_0} \phi_1 \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{\quad} \\ \xleftarrow{\quad} \\ \xrightarrow{\quad} \\ \xleftarrow{\quad} \end{array} \phi_1 \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{d\partial_0} \\ \xrightarrow{d\partial_1} \\ \xleftarrow{\sigma_0 t} \end{array} \phi_0^d$$

i)  $B ds\mathcal{N}\phi = B\phi \simeq B\mathcal{G}$ .

ii) Segal maps weak equivalences in  $[\Delta^{op}, \text{Gp}]$ .

- Functor  $disc : \text{Cat}^2(\text{Gp}) / \sim \longrightarrow \mathcal{D} / \sim$

$$disc[\mathcal{G}] = [ds\mathcal{N}\phi]$$

$\mathcal{D} \subset [\Delta^{2op}, \text{Gp}]$  "internal 2-nerves".

## First semistrictification result.

- The subcategory  $\mathcal{H} \subset \mathcal{S}$ .

$\phi \in \mathcal{S}$  and Segal maps  $\phi_n \rightarrow \phi_1 \times \cdots \times \phi_1$  iso.

Objects of  $\mathcal{H}$  are “semistrict”.

- Theorem [P.] Commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \text{Cat}^2(\text{Gp})/\sim & \xrightarrow{F} & \mathcal{H}/\sim^{ext} \\
 & \searrow B & \swarrow B \\
 & \mathcal{H}_0(\text{connected } 3\text{-types}) &
 \end{array}$$

where  $F : \text{Cat}^2(\text{Gp})/\sim \xrightarrow{disc} \mathcal{D}/\sim \xrightarrow{R} \mathcal{H}/\sim^{ext}$ .

Let  $\mathcal{H}_0(\mathcal{H}) \subset \mathcal{S}/\sim^{ext}$  full subcategory with objects in  $\mathcal{H}$ . Then

$$\frac{\text{Cat}^2(\text{Gp})}{\sim} \simeq \mathcal{H}_0(\mathcal{H}).$$

- Corollary: Every object of  $\mathcal{S}$  is equivalent to an object of  $\mathcal{H}$  through a zig-zag of external equivalences.

- Remark:  $\mathcal{H} \subset \text{Mon}(\mathcal{T}_2, \times)$ .



## Second semistrictification result.

- The subcategory  $\mathcal{K} \subset \mathcal{S}$ .  
 $\phi \in \mathcal{S}$  and  $\phi_n$  strict 2-groupoid  $\forall n \geq 0$ .  
 Objects of  $\mathcal{K}$  are semistrict but  $\mathcal{K} \neq \mathcal{H}$ .
- Theorem[P.] Commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathcal{S}/\sim^{ext} & \xrightarrow{\overline{St}} & \mathcal{K}/\sim^{ext} \\
 & \searrow B & \swarrow B \\
 & \mathcal{H}o(\text{connected } 3\text{-types}) &
 \end{array}$$

Let  $\mathcal{H}o_{\mathcal{S}}(\mathcal{K}) \subset \mathcal{S}/\sim^{ext}$  full subcategory with objects in  $\mathcal{K}$ . Then

$$\mathcal{S}/\sim^{ext} \simeq \mathcal{H}o_{\mathcal{S}}(\mathcal{K})$$

idea of proof:

$$St : \mathcal{T}_2 \xrightarrow{G} Bigpd \xrightarrow{st} 2\text{-gpd} \xrightarrow{\nu} \mathcal{T}_2^{st}$$

$$\psi \in \mathcal{S}, \quad (\overline{St} \psi)_n = St \psi_n.$$

$$(\overline{St} \psi)_n = St \psi_n \simeq St (\psi_1 \times \cdots \times \psi_1) \simeq$$

$$\simeq St \psi_1 \times \cdots \times St \psi_1 = (\overline{St} \psi)_1 \times \cdots \times (\overline{St} \psi)_1$$

hence  $\overline{St} \psi \in \mathcal{K}$ .

## The comparison with Gray groupoids.

- Gray groupoids.

Gray = (2-cat,  $\otimes_{gray}$ ).

Gray-enriched category with invertible cells.

- Theorem [Joyal - Tierney, Leroy]

$\mathcal{H}o(3\text{-types}) \simeq Gray\text{-gpd}/\sim$

$\mathcal{H}o(\text{conn. } 3\text{-types}) \simeq (Gray\text{-gpd})_0/\sim.$

- Theorem [P.] Commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 \mathcal{H}o_{\mathcal{S}}(\mathcal{H}) & \xrightarrow{S} & (Gray\text{-gpd})_0/\sim & \xleftarrow{T} & \mathcal{H}o_{\mathcal{S}}(\mathcal{K}) \\
 & \searrow B & \downarrow B & & \swarrow B \\
 & & \mathcal{H}o(\text{connected } 3\text{-types}) & & 
 \end{array}$$

idea of proof:

- Monoidal functor

$$(\mathcal{T}_2, \times) \xrightarrow{G} (Bigpd, \times) \xrightarrow{st} (2\text{-gpd}, \otimes_{gray})$$

$$\phi \in \mathcal{H} \subset \text{Mon}(\mathcal{T}_2, \times) \Rightarrow st G \phi \in (Gray\text{-gpd})_0$$

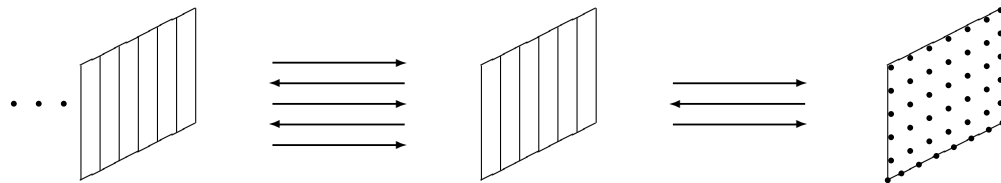
Let  $S(\phi) = st Bic \phi$ .

- Every object of  $\mathcal{K}$  is equivalent to one of  $\overline{St} \mathcal{H}$ .

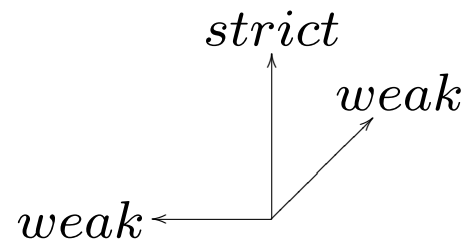
$$T[\psi] = T[\overline{St} \phi] = [st G \phi].$$

# Conclusion: modelling connected 3-types using Tamsamani's model.

- Tamsamani's weak 3-groupoids,  $\mathcal{S}$



$$\mathcal{S}/\sim^{ext} \simeq \mathcal{H}o(\text{connected 3-types})$$

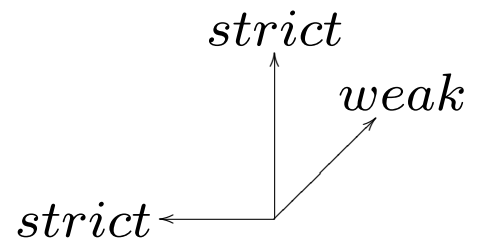


- Semistrict cases.

a)  $\mathcal{H} \subset \mathcal{S}$

$$\mathcal{H}o_{\mathcal{S}}(\mathcal{H}) \simeq \mathcal{H}o(\text{connected 3-types})$$

$$\mathcal{H} \subset \text{Mon}(\mathcal{T}_2, \times).$$



b)  $\mathcal{K} \subset \mathcal{S}$

$$\mathcal{H}o_{\mathcal{S}}(\mathcal{K}) \simeq \mathcal{H}o(\text{connected 3-types})$$

