

# TRIANGULATED CATEGORIES AND REPRESENTATION THEORY

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Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a category and  $S$  a multiplicative system of  $\mathcal{C}$ .  
The localization of  $\mathcal{C}$  by  $S$ , denoted  $\mathcal{C}_S$ , has as hom-sets

$$\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}_S}(X, Y) = \left\{ (X', s, f) \mid \begin{array}{l} X' \in \text{Ob } \mathcal{C}, s \in S \\ s \in \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(X', X), \\ f \in \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(X', Y) \end{array} \right\} / \sim$$

where  $\sim$  is the equivalence relation defined below.

Notation. A triple  $(X', s, f)$  is drawn as the roof  
and we denote it  $\frac{f}{s}$ . (The  $\sim$  denotes)

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X' & & \\ s \swarrow \sim & & \searrow f \\ X & & Y \end{array}$$

Def. Given  $(X', s, f)$  and  $(X'', t, g)$ , we define  $\frac{f}{s} \sim \frac{g}{t}$  iff  
there is  $u \in S$ ,  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{C}$  s.t. the following diagram commutes

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & X & & \\ & \nearrow s & \uparrow u & \searrow t & \\ X' & & X''' & & X'' \\ \downarrow \alpha & \quad \quad \quad \downarrow \beta & & \quad \quad \quad \downarrow f & \downarrow g \\ Y & & & & Z \end{array}$$

The equivalence class of the roof  $(X', s, f)$  is denoted  $[\frac{f}{s}]$ .

GOAL To show that composition of classes of roofs is well-defined.

In other words:  $\frac{f}{s} \sim \frac{f'}{s'}$  and  $\frac{g}{t} \sim \frac{g'}{t'}$   $\Rightarrow \frac{g}{t} \circ \frac{f}{s} \sim \frac{g'}{t'} \circ \frac{f'}{s'}$   
for  $[\frac{f}{s}] \in \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}_S}(X, Y)$  and  $[\frac{g}{t}] \in \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}_S}(Y, Z)$ .

Def of Composition Fix two roofs

If there exist a pair of arrows

$$X' \xleftarrow{s'} \sim W \xrightarrow{t'} Y'$$

s.t. the square commutes,

$$\begin{array}{ccc} W & \xrightarrow{t'} & Y' \\ s' \downarrow \sim & & \downarrow \sim t \\ X' & \xrightarrow{f} & Y \end{array}$$

then we obtain the comm. diagram which yields the roof

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & X' & & Y' & \\ s \swarrow & f & & t & \searrow g \\ X & & Y & & Z \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & W & & Y' & \\ s' \swarrow & & t' & & \searrow g \\ X' & \xrightarrow{f} & Y & \xrightarrow{t} & Z \end{array}$$

We denote this roof by  $\frac{g}{t} \circ \frac{f}{s}$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} W & & \\ \swarrow s' & & \searrow g \\ X & & Z \end{array}$$

Obs: It turns out such pair of arrows always exists.

(Thus any two morphisms  $X \rightarrow Y$  and  $Y \rightarrow Z$  in  $\mathcal{C}_S$  can be composed.)

This follows from the properties of the multiplicative system  $S$ .  
(Specifically, by (S3)).

Recall:

(S1)  $1_X \in S$  for all  $X \in \mathcal{C}$

(S2) If  $f, g \in S$  are composable, then  $gof \in S$ .

(S3) Any diagram of the form

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & Z & \\ & \downarrow s \in S & \\ X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y \end{array}$$

can be completed to a commutative sq.

(with  $s \in S$ )

(S3') Same statement with the arrows reversed.

(S4) Let  $f, g \in \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(X, Y)$ .  
The foll. are eq:

(a)  $\exists t \in S : tof = tog$

(b)  $\exists s \in S : fos = gos$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} W & \xrightarrow{g} & Z \\ t \downarrow \sim & & \downarrow \sim s \\ X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y \end{array}$$

with  $t \in S$ .

Proposition.  $\circ$  is well-defined. In other words,

If  $\left[\frac{f}{s}\right] = \left[\frac{f'}{s'}\right]$  and  $\left[\frac{g}{t}\right] = \left[\frac{g'}{t'}\right]$ , then  $\left[\frac{g}{t} \circ \frac{f}{s}\right] = \left[\frac{g' \circ f'}{t' s'}\right]$ .  
(whenever the roofs are composable)

Proof.

Suppose

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & & A' \\ s \swarrow \sim \quad f \searrow & \sim & s' \swarrow \sim \quad f' \searrow \\ X & & Y \\ & & \text{i.e. } \frac{f}{s} \sim \frac{f'}{s'} \end{array}$$

and

$$\begin{array}{ccc} B & & B' \\ t \swarrow \sim \quad g \searrow & \sim & t' \swarrow \sim \quad g' \searrow \\ Y & & Z \\ & & \text{i.e. } \frac{g}{t} \sim \frac{g'}{t'} \end{array}$$

We will show  $\frac{g}{t} \circ \frac{f}{s} \sim \frac{g' \circ f'}{t' s'}$  and  $\frac{g' \circ f'}{t' s'} \sim \frac{g' \circ f'}{t' s'}$   
whence the result follows by transitivity of  $\sim$ .

Since  $\frac{f}{s} \sim \frac{f'}{s'}$ , there exist 6 morphisms  $A'' \xrightarrow{a} A$  and  $A'' \xrightarrow{\alpha} X$   
s.t. the following diagram commutes  $A'' \xrightarrow{a'} A'$  ( $\alpha$  in S.)

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & X & & \\ & s \nearrow & \uparrow n\alpha & \searrow s' & \\ A & \xleftarrow{a} & A'' & \xrightarrow{a'} & A' \\ & f \searrow & & \swarrow f' & \\ & & Y & & \end{array}$$

Now, by S3, we find arrows  $C \xrightarrow{c_1} A$   
s.t. the foll. diag. commutes  $C \xrightarrow{c_2} B$

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & C & & \\ & g_1 \swarrow \sim & \downarrow c_1 & \searrow g_2 & \\ & A & & B & \\ s \swarrow \sim & f \searrow & t \swarrow \sim & g \searrow & \\ X & & Y & & Z \end{array}$$

By S3 again, we obtain the c.d.

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & C' & & \\ & c'_1 \swarrow \sim & \downarrow c'_2 & \searrow c'_3 & \\ A' & \xleftarrow{s'} & A'' & \xrightarrow{f'} & B \\ & t \swarrow \sim & & \searrow g & \\ X & & Y & & Z \end{array}$$

\* thus, we have obtained two roofs  
that we wish to show are equivalent:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & & C \\ s \circ c_1 \swarrow \sim & \downarrow g \circ c_2 & \searrow s' \circ c'_1 \sim \\ X & & Z \\ & & \text{i.e. } s \circ c_1 \sim s' \circ c'_1 \end{array}$$

By consecutive application of (S3) the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & C' & \\
 & \downarrow c'_1 & \\
 A'' & \xrightarrow{a'} & A' \\
 a \downarrow & & \\
 C & \xrightarrow{c_1} & A
 \end{array}$$

can be completed to ...

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 E & \xrightarrow{e'} & D' & \xrightarrow{\partial'} & C' \\
 \downarrow e & & \downarrow d' & & \downarrow c'_1 \\
 D & \xrightarrow[\sim]{\partial} & A'' & \xrightarrow{a'} & A' \\
 \downarrow d & & \downarrow a & & \\
 C & \xrightarrow{c_1} & A & &
 \end{array}$$

which commutes.

Then, the following diagram commutes:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 E & \xrightarrow{e'} & D' & \xrightarrow{\partial'} & C' & \xrightarrow{c'_2} & B & \xrightarrow{g} Z \\
 \downarrow e & \searrow \partial \circ e & \downarrow d' & & \downarrow c'_1 & & \downarrow t & \\
 D & \xrightarrow[\sim]{\partial} & A'' & \xrightarrow{a'} & A' & \xrightarrow{f'} & Y \\
 \downarrow d & & \downarrow a & \searrow s & \downarrow s' & & \\
 C & \xrightarrow{c_1} & A & \xrightarrow[\sim]{s} & X & & \\
 \downarrow c_2 & & \downarrow f & & & & \\
 B & \xrightarrow[\sim]{t} & Y & & Y & & \\
 \downarrow g & & & & & & 
 \end{array}$$

Thus:

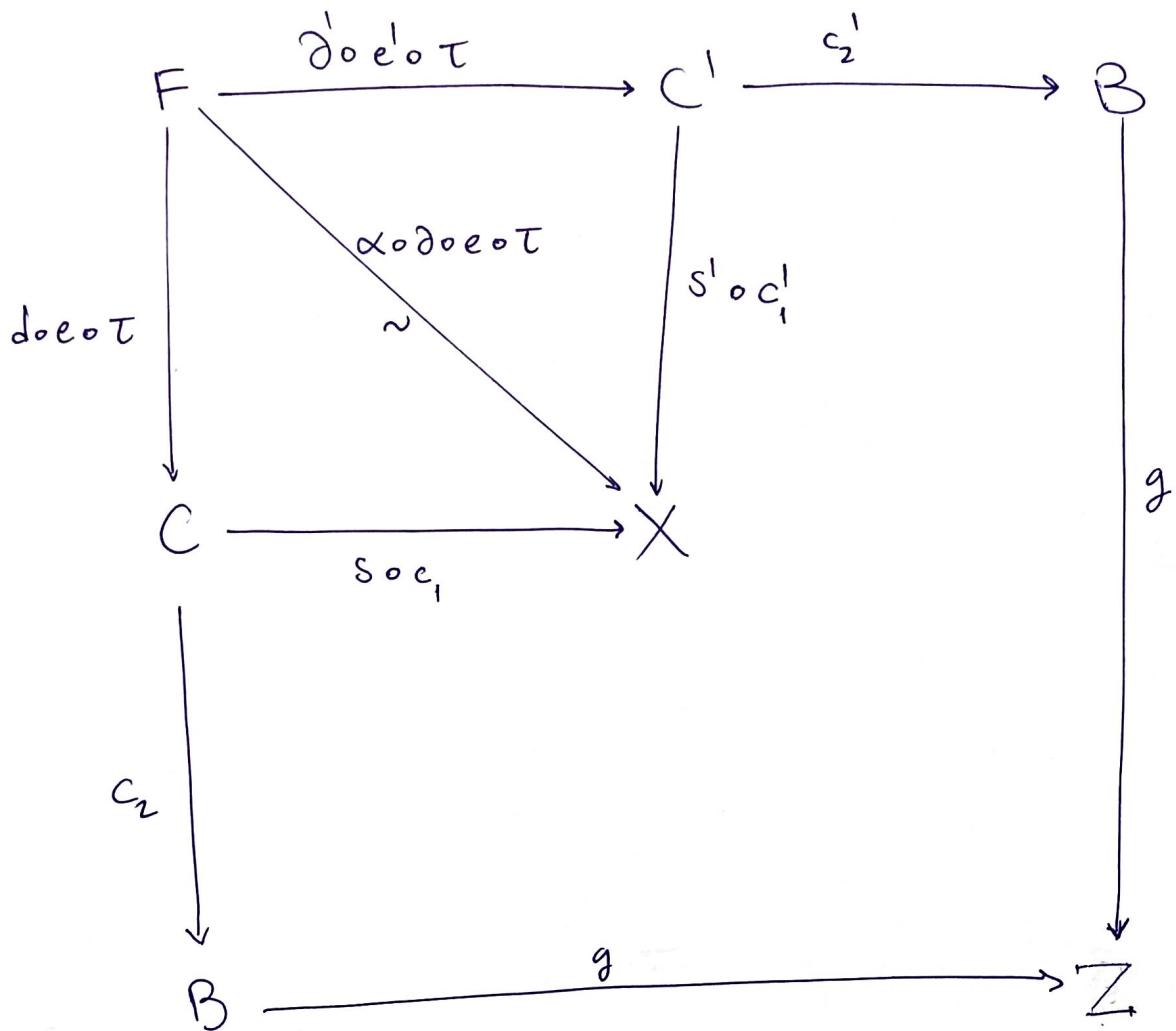
$$t \circ c'_2 \circ d \circ e = t \circ c'_2 \circ \partial' \circ e'$$

By (S4), there exists  $F \xrightarrow{\tau} E$  in  $S$  s.t.

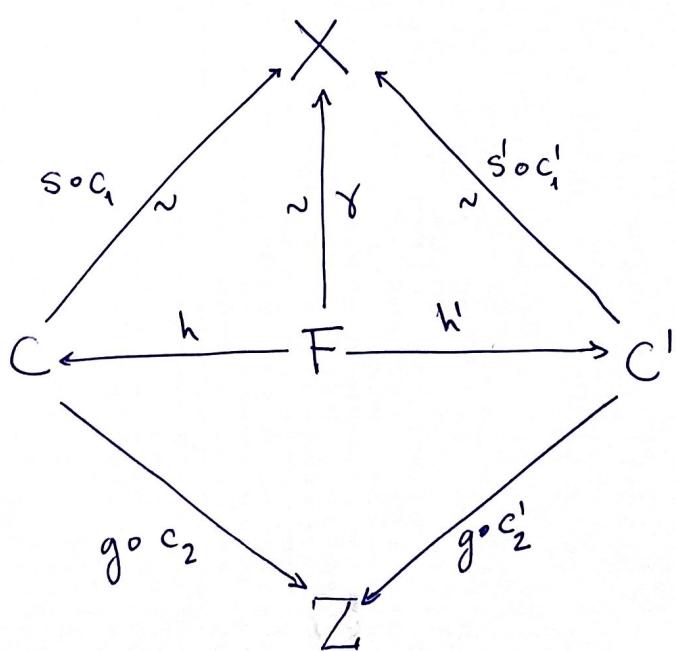
$$c'_2 \circ d \circ e \circ \tau = c'_2 \circ \partial' \circ e' \circ \tau$$

Let  $h = d \circ e \circ \tau$ ,  
 $h' = \partial' \circ e' \circ \tau$ .

It follows that the next diagram commutes:



But this is nothing else than the diagram



Here:

$$\gamma = \alpha \circ \delta \circ e \circ T \in S$$

$$h = d \circ e \circ T$$

$$h' = d' \circ e' \circ T$$

Therefore

$$\frac{g \circ c_2}{s \circ c_1} \sim \frac{g \circ c'_2}{s' \circ c'_1} \quad \text{meaning} \quad \frac{g}{t} \circ \frac{f}{s} \sim \frac{g}{t} \circ \frac{f'}{s'}$$

Finally, we prove  $\frac{g}{t} \circ \frac{f'}{s'} \sim \frac{g'}{t'} \circ \frac{f}{s'}$ .

We have the following c.d. since we know  $\frac{g}{t} \sim \frac{g'}{t'}$ ,

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & Y & & \\ & t & \nearrow & \searrow & t' \\ B & \xleftarrow{\pi} & P & \xrightarrow{\pi'} & B' \\ g & \searrow & & \swarrow & g' \\ & Z & & & \end{array}$$

with  $\pi \in S$ .

By (S3) the following diagram can be completed with the square at the top:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} R & \xrightarrow{r} & P & \xrightarrow{p} & B & \xrightarrow{g} & Z \\ r' \downarrow & & \downarrow \pi & & & & \\ A' & \xrightarrow{f'} & Y & & & & \\ s' \downarrow & & & & & & \\ X & & & & & & \end{array} \quad (\text{with } r' \in S)$$

which yields the roof

$$\begin{array}{ccc} R & \xrightarrow{s' \circ r'} & X \\ & \searrow & \downarrow & \swarrow & g \circ p \circ r \\ & & & & Z \end{array}$$

Since  $g \circ p = g' \circ p'$  by  $\textcircled{*}$ , this roof is equal to  
therefore, these two roofs are equivalent.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} R & \xrightarrow{s' \circ r'} & X \\ & \searrow & \downarrow & \swarrow & g' \circ p' \circ r' \\ & & & & Z \end{array}$$

The first roof belongs to  $\left[ \frac{g}{t} \circ \frac{f'}{s'} \right]$ .

The second roof belongs to  $\left[ \frac{g'}{t'} \circ \frac{f'}{s'} \right]$ .

Hence

$$\left[ \frac{g'}{t'} \circ \frac{f'}{s'} \right] = \left[ \frac{g}{t} \circ \frac{f'}{s'} \right]$$

The proof is complete. 32