

# NEW TRENDS IN HOPF ALGEBRAS AND MONOIDAL CATEGORY

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## Groupal Pseudofunctors

Giuseppe Metere\*  
Università degli Studi di Palermo

\* *From an ongoing joint project with Alan S. Cigoli and Sandra Mantovani*

*Introduction*  
*Internal algebraic structures in a category*

## Internal monoids

One good reason to study monoidal categories:

you can define **internal monoid** objects

$M = (M, M \otimes M \xrightarrow{*} M, I \xrightarrow{e} M)$  monoid object in  $\mathbf{B} = (\mathbf{B}, \otimes, I, \alpha, \lambda, \rho)$ :

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 (M \otimes M) \otimes M \cong M \otimes (M \otimes M) & \xrightarrow{\text{id} \otimes *} & M \otimes M & I \otimes M & \xrightarrow{e \otimes \text{id}} & M \otimes M & \xleftarrow{\text{id} \otimes e} & M \otimes I \\
 \downarrow * \otimes \text{id} & & \downarrow * & \searrow \lambda_M & & \downarrow * & \swarrow \rho_M & \\
 M \otimes M & \xrightarrow{*} & M & & & M & & 
 \end{array}$$

$M$  is **commutative** if endowed with  
 $\text{sym}: M \times M \rightarrow M \times M$  s.t.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 M \times M & \xrightarrow{\text{sym}} & M \times M \\
 \searrow * & & \swarrow * \\
 & M & 
 \end{array}$$

Examples:

- $\mathbf{B} = (\mathbf{Set}, \times)$ ,  $M$  is a monoid
- $\mathbf{B} = (\mathbf{Gp}, \times)$ , or  $\mathbf{B} = (\mathbf{Ab}, \times)$   $M$  is an abelian group
- $\mathbf{B} = (\mathbf{Ab}, \otimes)$   $M$  is a ring (with unit)

## Internal groups

If  $\mathbf{B}$  is **cartesian monoidal** ( $\otimes = \times, I = 1$ ):

*you can define **internal (abelian) group objects***

The monoid  $(M, *, e)$  is a group if endowed with  $inv: M \rightarrow M$  s.t.

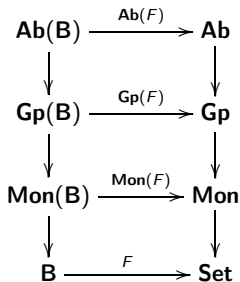
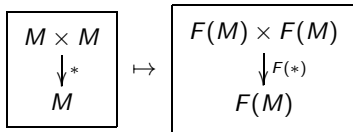
$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 & & M \times M & \xrightarrow{\text{id} \times \text{inv}} & M \times M & & \\
 & \nearrow \Delta & & & & \searrow * & \\
 M & & & & & & M \\
 & \xrightarrow{!} & 1 & \xrightarrow{e} & & & \\
 & \searrow \Delta & & & & \nearrow * & \\
 & & M \times M & \xrightarrow{\text{inv} \times \text{id}} & M \times M & & 
 \end{array}$$

## Lax monoidal structures

**Fact:** lax monoidal functors take monoids to monoids

Special case:  $\mathbf{B}$  with fin. prod. and  $F: \mathbf{B} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$  preserving them,

- $F$  takes internal monoids in  $\mathbf{B}$  to monoids (in  $\mathbf{Set}$ ):



i.e.  $F$  lifts to  $\mathbf{Mon}(\mathbf{B})$ .

With same hyps,  $F$  lifts to  $\mathbf{Gp}(\mathbf{B})$  and to  $\mathbf{Ab}(\mathbf{B})$ .

**Consequence:** if  $\mathbf{Ab}(\mathbf{B}) \rightarrow \mathbf{B} = \text{id}$  (e.g. when  $\mathbf{B}$  is abelian), then  $F$  factors through the forgetful functor  $U: \mathbf{Ab} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$ .

*Today's plan: push these results one dimension up!*

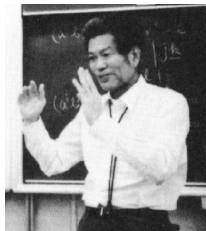
## Motivating example: Baer sums *à la* Yoneda

Let  $\mathbf{B}$  be an abelian category, and  $A$  in  $\mathbf{B}$ . A functor is defined [Yoneda, 1960]:

$$\text{Ext}^n(A, -): \mathbf{B} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$$

$$B \mapsto \{[0 \rightarrow B \rightarrow E_n \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow E_1 \rightarrow A \rightarrow 0]_{\sim}\}$$

where  $\sim$  is the **connectedness** relation, i.e. the equiv. rel. generated by maps of  $n$ -extensions that fix  $B$  and  $A$ .



Now,  $\text{Ext}^n(A, -)$  preserves finite products, and  $\mathbf{Ab}(\mathbf{B}) = \mathbf{B}$ ,  
 $\Rightarrow$  we get the factorization  $\text{Ext}^n(A, -): \mathbf{B} \rightarrow \mathbf{Ab}$ .

**Fact:** The abelian group structure induced on  $\text{Ext}^n(A, B)$  is that of Baer sums.

*WHAT IF we do not take the quotient on the connectedness relation?*

Get a pseudofunctor  $\text{EXT}^n(A, -): \mathbf{B} \rightarrow \mathbf{Cat}$ . [dictionary: *pseudo* = *up-to-iso*]

A natural question is: under which conditions does such pseudofunctor induce any kind of structure on the categories  $\text{EXT}^n(A, B)$ . **Monoidal? Groupal?**

*Part 1*  
*Internal weak structures in a 2-category*

## Internal **pseudomonoid** objects

One good reason to study monoidal 2-categories:

you can define **internal pseudomonoid** objects

### Definition

A pseudomonoid in 2-category  $\mathbf{B}$  with finite products is an object  $M$  endowed with 1-cells  $\otimes: M \times M \rightarrow M$ ,  $l: 1 \rightarrow M$  and (coherent) iso 2-cells:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 (M \times M) \times M \cong M \times (M \times M) & \xrightarrow{\text{id} \times \otimes} & M \times M & 1 \times M & \xrightarrow{l \times \text{id}} & M \times M & \xleftarrow{\text{id} \times l} & M \times 1 \\
 \otimes \times \text{id} \downarrow & \swarrow \alpha & \downarrow \otimes & \searrow \pi_2 & \swarrow \lambda & \downarrow \otimes & \swarrow \rho & \searrow \pi_1 \\
 M \times M & \xrightarrow{\otimes} & M & & & M & & 
 \end{array}$$

Examples:

- A **monoidal category**  $\mathbf{C} = (\mathbf{C}, \otimes, l, \alpha, \lambda, \rho)$  is a pseudomonoid in **Cat**.
- Let  $\mathbf{B}$  be a category with fin. prod. considered as a 2-category with trivial 2-cells. A pseudomonoid  $M$  in  $\mathbf{B}$  is just an ordinary internal monoid.



## Lax monoidal pseudofunctors

Let  $\mathbf{B}$  be a category with fin. prod. considered as a loc. disc. 2-category.

A **pseudofunctor**  $F: \mathbf{B} \rightarrow \underline{\mathbf{Cat}}$  is a weak 2-functor which preserves composition and identities only up to coherent isomorphisms:

$$\phi_{g,f}: F(g) \circ F(f) \cong F(g \circ f) \quad \phi^1: \text{id}_{F(B)} \rightarrow F(\text{id}_B)$$

$F: (\mathbf{B}, \times, 1) \rightarrow (\underline{\mathbf{Cat}}, \times, \mathbf{1})$  is **lax (2-)monoidal** if it is endowed with with pseudonatural transformations:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathbf{B} \times \mathbf{B} & \xrightarrow{\times} & \mathbf{B} \\
 \downarrow F \times F & \nearrow R & \downarrow F \\
 \underline{\mathbf{Cat}} \times \underline{\mathbf{Cat}} & \xrightarrow{\times} & \underline{\mathbf{Cat}}
 \end{array}
 \qquad
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathbf{1} & \xrightarrow{1} & \mathbf{B} \\
 \searrow \mathbf{1} & \nearrow R^1 & \downarrow F \\
 & & \underline{\mathbf{Cat}}
 \end{array}$$

with functor components:

$$R^{A,B}: F(A) \times F(B) \rightarrow F(A \times B) \quad R^1: \mathbf{1} \rightarrow F(\mathbf{1})$$

and suitable modifications with components that do not fit this page...

...but do fit **this** page...

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 F((A \times B) \times C) & \xrightarrow{F(\alpha_{A,B,C})} & F(A \times (B \times C)) \\
 \uparrow R^{A \times B, C} & & \uparrow R^{A, B \times C} \\
 F(A \times B) \times F(C) & \xrightarrow{\omega_{A,B,C}} & F(A) \times F(B \times C) \\
 \uparrow R^{A,B} \times \text{id} & \cong & \uparrow \text{id} \times L^{B,C} \\
 (F(A) \times F(B)) \times F(C) & \xrightarrow{\alpha_{F(A),F(B),F(C)}} & F(A) \times (F(B) \times F(C))
 \end{array}$$
  

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 F(A) & \xleftarrow{F(\pi_1)} & F(A \times 1) \\
 \uparrow \pi_1 & \xrightarrow{\zeta_A} & \uparrow R^{A,1} \\
 F(A) \times \mathbf{1} & \xrightarrow{\text{id} \times R^1} & F(A) \times F(1)
 \end{array}
 \qquad
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 F(1 \times A) & \xrightarrow{F(\pi_2)} & F(A) \\
 \uparrow R^{1,A} & \xleftarrow{\xi_A} & \uparrow \pi_2 \\
 F(1) \times F(A) & \xleftarrow{R^1 \times \text{id}} & \mathbf{1} \times F(A)
 \end{array}$$

...together with some coherence conditions that do not fit this page and will not be commented here!

## Cartesian monoidal pseudofunctors

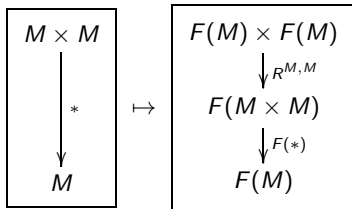
**Good news:** Monoidal pseudofunctors take pseudomonoids to pseudomonoids.

[Day Street, 1997]

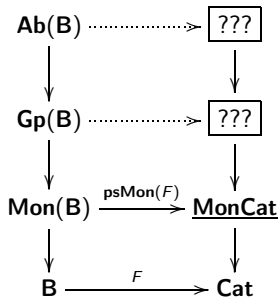
In particular for monoidal

$$F: (\mathbf{B}, \times, 1) \rightarrow (\mathbf{Cat}, \times, \mathbf{I})$$

- $F$  takes (commutative) monoids in  $\mathbf{B}$  to (symmetric) monoidal categories,



i.e.  $F$  lifts to  $\mathbf{psMon}(\mathbf{B}) = \mathbf{Mon}(\mathbf{B})$ .



**Question:** does  $F$  lift to groups and to abelian groups?

The notion we need to fill the  $\mathbf{???}$ 's is that of **internal pseudogroups** in  $\mathbf{Cat}$ .

## Internal pseudogroups

Internal pseudogroups have been introduced in [Baez Lauda, 2004], with the name of **weak 2-groups**.

### Definition

A pseudogroup in a 2-category with finite products is a pseudomonoid

$$(G, \otimes: G \times G \rightarrow G, I: 1 \rightarrow G, \dots)$$

endowed with an *inverse* 1-cell  $(-)^*: G \rightarrow G$  and iso 2-cells

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 & G \times G & \xrightarrow{\text{id} \times (-)^*} & G \times G & \\
 \Delta \nearrow & & \Downarrow & & \searrow \otimes \\
 G & \xrightarrow{!} & 1 & \xrightarrow{I} & G \\
 \Delta \searrow & & \Downarrow & & \nearrow \otimes \\
 & G \times G & \xrightarrow{(-)^* \times \text{id}} & G \times G & 
 \end{array}
 \quad + \quad \text{coherence}$$

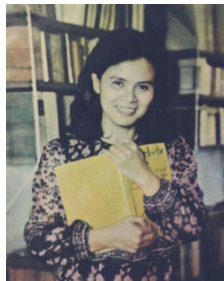
In fact pseudogroups existed already *in nature* well before 2004.

## Categorical groups *aka* weak 2-groups *aka* Gr-catégories

Pseudogroups in **Cat** have been studied by Grothendieck's student **Hoàng Xuân Sính** in her 1975 PhD thesis, who named them *Gr-catégories*.

They are **monoidal groupoids** with every objects pseudoinvertible w.r.t. tensor product.

*Why monoidal groupoids, and not just monoidal categories?*



**Fact:** If  $\mathbf{G}$  is a pseudogroup in **Cat**, then its 1-cells are invertible w.r.t. composition, i.e.  $\mathbf{G}$  is a groupoid.

??? [Baez Lauda, 2004]

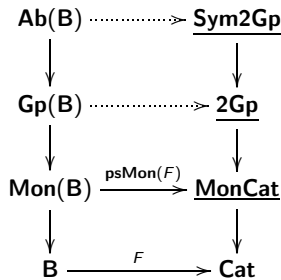
*This happens because we want  $(-)^* : \mathbf{G} \rightarrow \mathbf{G}$  to be internal, i.e. a covariant functor. Requiring just pseudo invertible objects in a monoidal category produces a contravariant functor.*

**Example:** Let **PreOrd** be the cat. of preorders, seen as a 2-cat. A preordered group  $G$  is an internal pseudomonoid in **PreOrd** which happens to be a group. Inversion map is antitone, i.e. contravariant. If we impose inversion map of  $G$  to be monotone, then the underlying preorder is an equivalence relation.

So far so good...

We found very good candidates to fill the ???'s.

Now we have to fill the .....➤'s!



In dimension 1, every product preserving functor takes internal (abelian) groups to (abelian) groups.

Do *all* cartesian monoidal pseudofunctors take (abelian) groups to (Symmetric) 2-groups?

The answer is: **NO!**

**Example:** Consider the lax monoidal pseudofunctor

$$\text{Sub}(-): (\mathbf{Ab}, \oplus, 0) \rightarrow (\mathbf{Cat}, \times, \mathbf{I})$$

that assigns to every abelian group  $A$  the poset  $\text{Sub}(A)$  of its subobjects. The canonical abelian group structure on an object  $A$  induces the symmetric monoidal structure on  $\text{Sub}(A)$  given by the join of subobjects. However,  $\text{Sub}(A)$  is not a groupoid, hence it cannot support any 2-group structure.

*Part 2*  
*Preservation of group-like structure*

## Lax monoidal pseudofunctors

The example of  $\text{Sub}(-)$  makes the following definition sensible.

### Definition

A lax monoidal pseudofunctor  $F: (\mathbf{B}, \times, I) \rightarrow (\mathbf{Cat}, \times, I)$  is termed **groupal** if it lifts to a pseudofunctor  $\hat{F}$  that makes the diagram commute:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathbf{Gp}(\mathbf{B}) & \longrightarrow & \underline{\mathbf{2Gp}} \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 \mathbf{B} & \xrightarrow{F} & \underline{\mathbf{Cat}}
 \end{array}$$

**Fact:**  $\hat{F}$  clearly restricts to  $\mathbf{Ab}(\mathbf{B}) \rightarrow \underline{\mathbf{Sym2Gp}}$ .

**Aim of the second part of my talk:** Characterize and (perhaps) explain groupal pseudofunctors.



## Pseudofunctor vs (op)Fibrations.

There is a canonical way to translate a pseudofunctors into Grothendieck fibrations: the Grothendieck-Bénabou construction.

Bénabou's viewpoint is well-known:

*[...] one might feel forced to accept pseudo-functors and the ensuing bureaucratic handling of “canonical isomorphisms”. However, as we will show immediately one may replace pseudo-functors  $H: \mathbf{B}^{op} \rightarrow \mathbf{Cat}$  by fibrations  $P: \mathbf{X} \rightarrow \mathbf{B}$  where this bureaucracy will turn out as luckily hidden from us.*

[Streicher, 2022]



This is also [Cigoli, Mantovani, M., 2022]'s take on the subject, where results are achieved by fibrational techniques.

On the other hand, by using the language pseudofunctors, **it is easier to focus on the dimension leap**, which is a main theme in my talk. Therefore, I will keep walking on the pseudofunctor side, and try to hide fibrations under the carpet! However, fibrational details can be found in the cited article ;)

## Proposition (Cigoli, Mantovani, M., 2022)

Let  $\mathbf{B}$  be a category with fin. prod., and  $F: \mathbf{B} \rightarrow \underline{\mathbf{Cat}}$  be a pseudofunctor. Then  $F$  is canonically endowed with an **oplax** symmetric monoidal structure

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathbf{B} \times \mathbf{B} & \xrightarrow{\times} & \mathbf{B} \\
 F \times F \downarrow & \swarrow L & \downarrow F \\
 \underline{\mathbf{Cat}} \times \underline{\mathbf{Cat}} & \xrightarrow{\times} & \underline{\mathbf{Cat}}
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathbf{I} & \xrightarrow{I} & \mathbf{B} \\
 & \searrow L^1 & \downarrow F \\
 & \mathbf{I} & \underline{\mathbf{Cat}}
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 L^{A,B}: F(A \times B) &\rightarrow F(A) \times F(B) \\
 Z &\mapsto (F(\pi_1)(Z), F(\pi_2)(Z))
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 L^1: F(\mathbf{I}) &\rightarrow \mathbf{I} \\
 J &\mapsto *
 \end{aligned}$$

## Theorem (Cigoli, Mantovani, M., 2022)

Let  $\mathbf{B}$  be a cat. with fin. prod., and  $F: \mathbf{B} \rightarrow \underline{\mathbf{Cat}}$  be a pseudofunctor. TFAE:

- Pseudonat. transf.  $L^1$  and  $L$  have a right adjoints  $R^1$  and  $R$  in the hom-2-cats  $\mathbf{PsFunc}(\mathbf{I}, \underline{\mathbf{Cat}})$  and  $\mathbf{PsFunc}(\mathbf{B} \times \mathbf{B}, \underline{\mathbf{Cat}})$  respectively.
- $F$  is **cartesian**, i.e. endowed with a lax symmetric monoidal structure

$$(F, R, R^1, \dots): (\mathbf{B}, \times, I) \longrightarrow (\underline{\mathbf{Cat}}, \times, \mathbf{I})$$

$$\text{s.t. } R^{A,B}(X, Y) = X \times Y \text{ and } R^1(\star) = 1.$$



### Proposition (Cigoli, Mantovani, M., 2022)

Let  $\mathbf{B}$  be a category with fin. prod., and  $F: \mathbf{B} \rightarrow \underline{\mathbf{Cat}}$  be a pseudofunctor. Then  $F$  is canonically endowed with an **oplax** symmetric monoidal structure

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathbf{B} \times \mathbf{B} & \xrightarrow{\times} & \mathbf{B} \\
 F \times F \downarrow & \swarrow L & \downarrow F \\
 \underline{\mathbf{Cat}} \times \underline{\mathbf{Cat}} & \xrightarrow{\times} & \underline{\mathbf{Cat}}
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathbf{I} & \xrightarrow{I} & \mathbf{B} \\
 & \searrow L^1 & \downarrow F \\
 & & \underline{\mathbf{Cat}}
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 L^{A,B}: F(A \times B) &\rightarrow F(A) \times F(B) \\
 Z &\mapsto (F(\pi_1)(Z), F(\pi_2)(Z))
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
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### Theorem (Cigoli, Mantovani, M., 2022)

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- $F$  is **cartesian**, i.e. endowed with a lax symmetric monoidal structure

$$(F, R, R^1, \dots): (\mathbf{B}, \times, \mathbf{I}) \longrightarrow (\underline{\mathbf{Cat}}, \times, \mathbf{I})$$

$$\text{s.t. } R^{A,B}(X, Y) = X \times Y \text{ and } R^1(\star) = 1.$$

$$\text{in } \mathbf{X} = \int_{\mathbf{B}} F$$

## Theorem (Cigoli, Mantovani, M., 2022)

Let  $\mathbf{B}$  be a category with fin. prod., and  $F: \mathbf{B} \rightarrow \mathbf{Cat}$  be a cartesian (lax symmetric monoidal) pseudofunctor. TFAE:

- For every  $A$  in  $\mathbf{B}$  supporting an internal group structure, the units

$$\eta^1: id_{F(I)} \Rightarrow R^1 \circ L^1 \quad \eta^{A,A}: id_{F(A \times A)} \Rightarrow R^{A,A} \circ L^{A,A}$$

of the adjunctions are isomorphisms.

- The pseudofunctor  $F$  is groupal.

Idea of the proof.

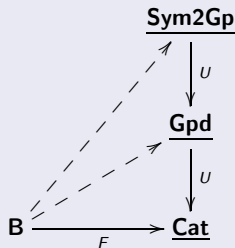
$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 F(A) & \xrightarrow{\Delta} & F(A) \times F(A) & \xrightarrow{\text{id} \times F(inv)} & F(A) \times F(A) \\
 \downarrow F(\tau) & \searrow F(\Delta) & \uparrow L^{A,A} & \cong & \downarrow R^{A,A} \\
 F(I) & & F(A \times A) & \xrightarrow{id} & F(A \times A) \\
 \downarrow L^1 & \swarrow \eta^1 & \downarrow F(id \times inv) & \cong & \downarrow F(*) \\
 I & \xrightarrow{R^1} & F(I) & \xrightarrow{F(e)} & F(A)
 \end{array}$$

Additional arrows and labels in the diagram:
 

- A curved arrow labeled  $\text{id} \times F(inv)$  from  $F(A) \times F(A)$  to  $F(A) \times F(A)$ .
- A curved arrow labeled  $F(id) \times F(inv)$  from  $F(A) \times F(A)$  to  $F(A) \times F(A)$ .
- A curved arrow labeled  $L^{A,A}$  from  $F(A \times A)$  to  $F(A) \times F(A)$ .
- A curved arrow labeled  $R^{A,A}$  from  $F(A) \times F(A)$  to  $F(A \times A)$ .
- A curved arrow labeled  $\eta^{A,A}$  from  $F(A \times A)$  to  $F(A \times A)$ .
- A curved arrow labeled  $\eta^1$  from  $F(I)$  to  $F(I)$ .
- A curved arrow labeled  $\eta^1$  from  $F(I)$  to  $F(I)$ .

### Corollary (Cigoli, Mantovani, M., 2022)

Let  $\mathbf{B}$  be a category with fin. prod. such that  $\mathbf{Ab}(\mathbf{B}) = \mathbf{B}$ , and  $F: \mathbf{B} \rightarrow \underline{\mathbf{Cat}}$  be a cartesian (lax symmetric monoidal) pseudofunctor. The following factorizations imply one another:



## Back to Yoneda

Fix an object  $A$  of an abelian category  $\mathbf{B}$  and recall the pseudofunctor

$$EXT^n(A, -): \mathbf{B} \rightarrow \underline{\mathbf{Cat}}$$

of  $n$ -fold extensions of  $A$ .

- $n = 1$ . For every  $B$  in  $\mathbf{B}$ , each  $EXT^1(A, B)$  is a groupoid.  
 $\Rightarrow$  The pseudofunctor is groupal, and  $B$  induces a symmetric 2-group structure on  $EXT^1(A, B)$ . Its  $\pi_0$  is the cohomology group  $H^2(A, B)$ .
- $n > 1$ . The categories  $EXT^n(A, B)$  are not groupoids, in general.  
 $\Rightarrow$  The pseudofunctor is not groupal and  $B$  only induces a symmetric monoidal structure on  $EXT^n(A, B)$ .

However, even if they are not, they can be made groupoids by taking suitable categories of fractions, and recover the cohomology groups  $H^n(A, B)$ ,  $n > 2$ .

In the same way as for the abelian case of  $EXT^n(A, -)$ , one can deal with **non abelian cohomology** by means of **crossed  $n$ -fold extensions** in a strongly semi-abelian category.

But then, it becomes hard not to deal with the fibrational POV...

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!