

# Higher Descent

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## 1. Descent for Sheaves

Let  $X$  be a topological space, and consider a sheaf  $\mathcal{F}$  of sets on  $X$ .

By a *twisted form* of  $\mathcal{F}$  we mean a sheaf  $\mathcal{F}'$  which is locally isomorphic to  $\mathcal{F}$ .

Namely for some open covering  $U = \{U_k\}_{k \in K}$  of  $X$ , there are isomorphisms of sheaves of sets

$$\mathcal{F}'|_{U_k} \cong \mathcal{F}|_{U_k}.$$

Such a covering  $U$  is called a *trivializing covering* for  $\mathcal{F}$ .

The idea of descent is to classify these twisted forms  $\mathcal{F}'$  (up to isomorphism) in terms of *descent data*, or in other words *cocycles*.



## Outline

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6. Cosimplicial Crossed Groupoids
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This concept is of course not restricted to sheaves of sets.

We may consider twisted forms of a sheaf of groups, or a sheaf of rings, and so on.

Perhaps the most familiar situation is this: suppose  $(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$  is an algebraic variety, or a differentiable manifold.

Fix a positive integer  $r$ , and consider the  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -module  $\mathcal{F} = \mathcal{O}_X^r$ . An  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -module locally isomorphic to  $\mathcal{F}$  is just a rank  $r$  locally free  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -module, which is the same as the sheaf of sections of a rank  $r$  vector bundle on  $X$ .

Thus classifying twisted forms of  $\mathcal{F} = \mathcal{O}_X^r$  amounts to classifying rank  $r$  vector bundles on  $X$ .



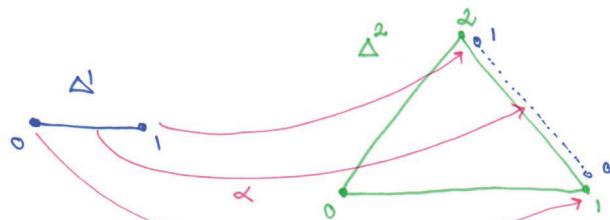
There is no reason to restrict attention to topological spaces – we could look at sheaves on sites (like the étale site of a scheme  $X$ ).

Indeed, Galois descent, which is a special case of étale descent, is very useful in algebra, number theory and group theory. But in this talk I'll stick to spaces.

Before explaining how descent works, I need to recall some combinatorial constructions.



It is useful to picture  $p$  as the real  $p$ -dimensional simplex  $\Delta^p$ ; and to view arrows in the simplex category  $\Delta$  as linear maps between these real simplices.



A morphism  $\alpha : \Delta^1 \rightarrow \Delta^2$  in the simplex category. As a sequence we have  $\alpha = (1, 2)$ .



## 2. Cosimplicial Groups

We first recall the *simplex category*  $\Delta$ . The set of objects of  $\Delta$  is  $\mathbb{N}$ , and the morphisms  $\alpha : p \rightarrow q$  are the order preserving functions

$$\alpha : \{0, \dots, p\} \rightarrow \{0, \dots, q\}.$$

A *cosimplicial object* in a category  $\mathcal{C}$  is a functor  $C : \Delta \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ .

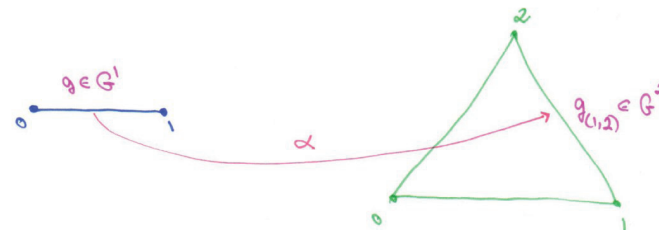
So in fact  $C$  is a collection  $\{C^p\}_{p \in \mathbb{N}}$  of objects, together with a collection of morphisms  $C(\alpha) : C^p \rightarrow C^q$ , satisfying certain relations.



Suppose  $G = \{G^p\}_{p \in \mathbb{N}}$  is a cosimplicial group. Take an element  $g \in G^p$ , and an arrow  $\alpha : \Delta^p \rightarrow \Delta^q$ . We then write

$$g_\alpha := G(\alpha)(g) \in G^q,$$

and think of this as “the element  $g$  pushed to the  $\alpha$  face of  $\Delta^q$ ”.

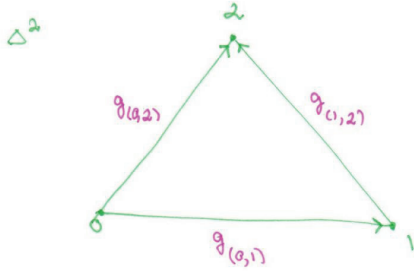


Consider an element  $g$  of the group  $G^1$ .

We say that  $g$  is a 1-cocycle, or a *descent datum*, if the equation

$$g_{(0,2)}^{-1} \cdot g_{(1,2)} \cdot g_{(0,1)} = 1 \quad (2.1)$$

holds in the group  $G^2$ .



### 3. Back to Sheaves

We now return to the question of classifying twisted forms of a sheaf of sets  $\mathcal{F}$  on a topological space  $X$ .

There is a sheaf of groups  $\mathcal{G} := \text{Aut}(\mathcal{F})$  on  $X$ . This is the sheaf whose sections on an open set  $U$  is the group

$$\Gamma(U, \mathcal{G}) = \text{Aut}(\mathcal{F}|_U)$$

of automorphisms of the sheaf  $\mathcal{F}|_U$ .

Let  $\mathbf{U} = \{U_k\}_{k \in K}$  be an open covering of  $X$ .

For any natural number  $p$  define the group

$$C^p(\mathbf{U}, \mathcal{G}) := \prod_{k_0, \dots, k_p \in K} \Gamma(U_{k_0, \dots, k_p}, \mathcal{G}).$$



The set of 1-cocycles of  $G$  is denoted by  $\text{Desc}(G)$ .

There is an action of the group  $G^0$  on the set  $\text{Desc}(G)$ . The quotient set is denoted by  $H^1(G) = \overline{\text{Desc}(G)}$ , and called the 1-st cohomology of  $G$ .

In fact  $H^1(G)$  is a *pointed set*; the special point is the class of the trivial element  $1 \in G^1$ .

If  $G$  is an abelian cosimplicial group, then  $H^1(G)$  is an abelian group.



The restriction homomorphisms give the collection

$$C(\mathbf{U}, \mathcal{G}) := \{C^p(\mathbf{U}, \mathcal{G})\}_{p \in \mathbb{N}}$$

a structure of a cosimplicial group. This is the *Čech cosimplicial group*.

The 1-st Čech cohomology of  $\mathcal{G}$  is the pointed set

$$\check{H}^1(\mathbf{U}, \mathcal{G}) := H^1(C(\mathbf{U}, \mathcal{G})) = \overline{\text{Desc}(C(\mathbf{U}, \mathcal{G}))}.$$

Here is the result summarizing descent theory:

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a sheaf of sets on  $X$ , with sheaf of automorphisms  $\mathcal{G} = \text{Aut}(\mathcal{F})$ , and let  $\mathbf{U}$  be an open covering of  $X$ . There is a canonical bijection of pointed sets*

$$\frac{\{\text{twisted forms } \mathcal{F}' \text{ of } \mathcal{F} \text{ that trivialize on } \mathbf{U}\}}{\text{isomorphism}} \cong \check{H}^1(\mathbf{U}, \mathcal{G}).$$



In this theorem, “sheaf of sets” can of course be replaced by “rank  $r$  vector bundle” etc.

The corresponding statement for vector bundles is: the pointed set  $\check{H}^1(\mathcal{U}, \mathrm{GL}_r(\mathcal{O}_X))$  classifies rank  $r$  vector bundles that trivialize on  $\mathcal{U}$ .

Can we capture all twisted forms of  $\mathcal{F}$  this way?

Let me give two answers.

First, it could happen that the covering  $\mathcal{U}$  trivializes all twisted forms of  $\mathcal{F}$ . Then  $\check{H}^1(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{G})$  classifies all twisted forms of  $\mathcal{F}$ .

**Example 3.2.** Assume  $X$  is an algebraic variety,  $\mathcal{G} = \mathcal{A}ut(\mathcal{F})$  is abelian, and is isomorphic (as sheaf of groups) to a coherent  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -module.

Let  $\mathcal{U}$  be an affine open covering of  $X$ . Then  $\check{H}^1(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{G})$  classifies all twisted forms of  $\mathcal{F}$ .



#### 4. Higher Descent: Stacks

I will quickly explain the geometric meaning of higher descent, for those who know stacks. Stacks will appear also in the examples that I will give. However the results stated in the talk do not require knowledge of stacks.

Let  $X$  be a topological space, and let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a stack of categories on  $X$ . A twisted form of  $\mathcal{F}$  is a stack  $\mathcal{F}'$  which is locally equivalent to  $\mathcal{F}$ .

Higher descent (or “nonabelian second cohomology”) is the way to classify twisted forms of  $\mathcal{F}$ .

I should say that unlike classical descent, in higher descent usually open coverings (and their limits) are not sufficient. In many instances it is necessary to use *hypercoverings*.



Here is the second and complete answer.

We can pass to the colimit on all open coverings and define:

$$\check{H}^1(X, \mathcal{G}) := \varinjlim_{\mathcal{U} \rightarrow} \check{H}^1(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{G}).$$

Theorem 3.1 shows that:

**Corollary 3.3.** *The pointed set  $\check{H}^1(X, \mathcal{G})$  classifies all twisted forms of  $\mathcal{F}$ .*



#### 5. Crossed Groupoids

The passage to higher descent, from the combinatorial point of view, is not so hard: we replace cosimplicial groups with *cosimplicial crossed groupoids*.

I have to define what is a *crossed groupoid*. This is also known as *strict 2-groupoid*, or *2-truncated crossed complex*, or *groupoid with inner gauge groups*.

Recall that a groupoid is a category in which all morphisms are invertible.

For a groupoid  $\mathcal{G}$  and  $x \in \mathrm{Ob}(\mathcal{G})$  we write  $\mathcal{G}(x) := \mathcal{G}(x, x)$ , the set of morphisms from  $x$  to itself. This is the automorphism group of  $x$ .



Suppose  $\mathbf{N}$  is another groupoid, such that  $\text{Ob}(\mathbf{N}) = \text{Ob}(\mathbf{G})$ .

An *action*  $\Psi$  of  $\mathbf{G}$  on  $\mathbf{N}$  is a collection of group isomorphisms

$$\Psi(g) : \mathbf{N}(x) \xrightarrow{\cong} \mathbf{N}(y)$$

for all  $x, y \in \text{Ob}(\mathbf{G})$  and  $g \in \mathbf{G}(x, y)$ , such that

$$\Psi(h \circ g) = \Psi(h) \circ \Psi(g)$$

whenever  $g$  and  $h$  are composable arrows in  $\mathbf{G}$ , and  $\Psi(1_x) = 1_{\mathbf{N}(x)}$ .

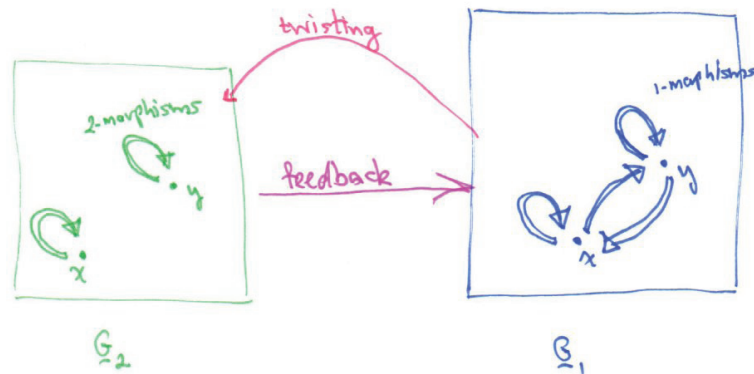
The prototypical example is the adjoint action  $\text{Ad}_{\mathbf{G}}$  of  $\mathbf{G}$  on itself, namely

$$\text{Ad}_{\mathbf{G}}(g)(h) := g \circ h \circ g^{-1}$$

for  $g \in \mathbf{G}(x, y)$  and  $h \in \mathbf{G}(x, x)$ .



Crossed Groupoid  $\underline{G} = (G_1, G_2, \text{Ad}, D)$



**Definition 5.1.** A *crossed groupoid* is a structure

$$\mathbf{G} = (\mathbf{G}_1, \mathbf{G}_2, \text{Ad}_{\mathbf{G}_1 \curvearrowright \mathbf{G}_2}, D)$$

consisting of:

- ▶ Groupoids  $\mathbf{G}_1$  and  $\mathbf{G}_2$ , such that  $\mathbf{G}_2$  is totally disconnected, and  $\text{Ob}(\mathbf{G}_1) = \text{Ob}(\mathbf{G}_2)$ . We write  $\text{Ob}(\mathbf{G}) := \text{Ob}(\mathbf{G}_1)$ .
- ▶ An action  $\text{Ad}_{\mathbf{G}_1 \curvearrowright \mathbf{G}_2}$  of  $\mathbf{G}_1$  on  $\mathbf{G}_2$ , called the *twisting*.
- ▶ A morphism of groupoids (i.e. a functor)  $D : \mathbf{G}_2 \rightarrow \mathbf{G}_1$  called the *feedback*, which is the identity on objects.

There are two conditions, that I will not specify.

We sometimes refer to the morphisms in the groupoid  $\mathbf{G}_1$  as *1-morphisms*, and to the morphisms in  $\mathbf{G}_2$  as *2-morphisms*.



If the crossed groupoid  $\mathbf{G}$  has only one object, then it is called a *crossed group*, or a *crossed module*, or a *strict 2-group*.

In this case often the notation is  $(G_2 \rightarrow G_1)$ . The arrow denotes the feedback, and the twisting is implicit.

**Example 5.2.** A stupid example: groups posing as crossed groups.

Take any group  $G$ . We then have a crossed group  $(1 \rightarrow G)$ .

**Example 5.3.** An interesting example of a crossed group.

Take any group  $G$ . There is a crossed group

$$\mathbf{G} := (G \rightarrow \text{Aut}(G)).$$

The twisting is the canonical action of  $\text{Aut}(G)$  on  $G$ ; the feedback is  $D := \text{Ad}_G$ .



**Example 5.4.** Let  $\mathbf{Ring}$  be the category of rings. Consider the subcategory  $\mathbf{Ring}^\times$  that has the same set of objects, but the morphisms are the ring *isomorphisms*  $g : A \rightarrow B$ .

We can upgrade the groupoid  $\mathbf{G}_1 := \mathbf{Ring}^\times$  to a crossed groupoid

$$\mathbf{G} = (\mathbf{G}_1, \mathbf{G}_2, \text{Ad}_{\mathbf{G}_1 \curvearrowright \mathbf{G}_2}, \text{D})$$

as follows.

For an object  $A$ , i.e. a ring, the group  $\mathbf{G}_2(A)$  is the multiplicative group  $A^\times$  of invertible elements.

The feedback

$$\text{D} : \mathbf{G}_2(A) = A^\times \rightarrow \mathbf{G}_1(A) = \text{Aut}_{\mathbf{Ring}}(A)$$

is the conjugation action.

The twisting  $\text{Ad}_{\mathbf{G}_1 \curvearrowright \mathbf{G}_2}$  is obvious.



Let

$$\mathbf{G} = (\mathbf{G}_1, \mathbf{G}_2, \text{Ad}_{\mathbf{G}_1 \curvearrowright \mathbf{G}_2}, \text{D})$$

and

$$\mathbf{H} = (\mathbf{H}_1, \mathbf{H}_2, \text{Ad}_{\mathbf{H}_1 \curvearrowright \mathbf{H}_2}, \text{D})$$

be crossed groupoids. A morphism of crossed groupoids  $\mathbf{G} \rightarrow \mathbf{H}$  consists of groupoid morphisms  $\mathbf{G}_i \rightarrow \mathbf{H}_i$  that respect the rest of the structure. We get a category structure on the set of crossed groupoids.

This allows us to consider *cosimplicial crossed groupoids*

$\mathbf{G} = \{\mathbf{G}^p\}_{p \in \mathbb{N}}$ , i.e. functors

$$\mathbf{G} : \Delta \rightarrow \{\text{crossed groupoids}\}.$$



**Example 5.5.** The most fascinating crossed groupoid that I encountered is the *Deligne crossed groupoid*.

Let  $\mathbb{K}$  be a field of characteristic 0. By a *parameter algebra* over  $\mathbb{K}$  we mean a complete noetherian local commutative  $\mathbb{K}$  algebra  $(R, \mathfrak{m})$ , with residue field  $R/\mathfrak{m} = \mathbb{K}$ . The main example is of course  $R = \mathbb{K}[[\hbar]]$ .

A DG Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$  is called *quantum type* if  $\mathfrak{g} = \bigoplus_{i \geq -1} \mathfrak{g}^i$ .

There is an induced pronilpotent DG Lie algebra

$$\mathfrak{m} \hat{\otimes} \mathfrak{g} = \bigoplus_{i \geq -1} \mathfrak{m} \hat{\otimes} \mathfrak{g}^i.$$

The *Deligne crossed groupoid*  $\text{Del}(\mathfrak{m} \hat{\otimes} \mathfrak{g})$  is made up of these components: the objects are the solutions of the *Maurer-Cartan equation* in  $\mathfrak{m} \hat{\otimes} \mathfrak{g}$ ; the 1-morphisms and 2-morphisms are certain symmetries of these solutions. See [Ge, Ye3].



## 6. Cosimplicial Crossed Groupoids

Let  $\mathbf{G} = \{\mathbf{G}^p\}_{p \in \mathbb{N}}$  be a cosimplicial crossed groupoid.

Fix  $p \in \mathbb{N}$ ; so  $\mathbf{G}^p$  is a crossed groupoid. For any  $x \in \text{Ob}(\mathbf{G}^p)$  there is a group homomorphism (the feedback)

$$\text{D} : \mathbf{G}_2^p(x) \rightarrow \mathbf{G}_1^p(x).$$

And for every morphism  $g : x \rightarrow y$  in  $\mathbf{G}_1^p$  there is a group isomorphism (the twisting)

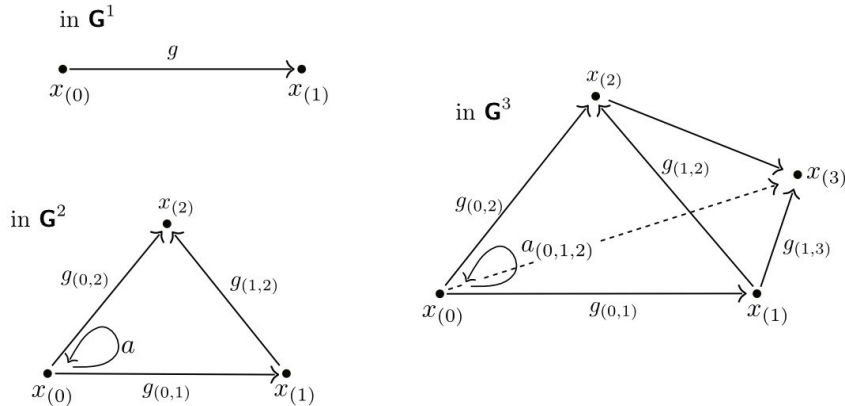
$$\text{Ad}(g) : \mathbf{G}_2^p(x) \rightarrow \mathbf{G}_2^p(y).$$



**Definition 6.1.** Let  $\mathbf{G} = \{\mathbf{G}^p\}_{p \in \mathbb{N}}$  be a cosimplicial crossed groupoid.

A *combinatorial descent datum* in  $\mathbf{G}$  is a triple  $(x, g, a)$  of elements of the following sorts:

- (0)  $x \in \text{Ob}(\mathbf{G}^0)$ .
- (1)  $g \in \mathbf{G}_1^1(x_{(0)}, x_{(1)})$ .
- (2)  $a \in \mathbf{G}_2^2(x_{(0)})$ .



**Figure:** Illustration of a combinatorial descent datum  $(x, g, a)$  in the cosimplicial crossed groupoid  $\mathbf{G} = \{\mathbf{G}^p\}_{p \in \mathbb{N}}$ .



The conditions are as follows:

- (i) (Failure of 1-cocycle)

$$g_{(0,2)}^{-1} \circ g_{(1,2)} \circ g_{(0,1)} = D(a)$$

in the group  $\mathbf{G}_1^2(x_{(0)})$ .

- (ii) (Twisted 2-cocycle)

$$a_{(0,1,3)}^{-1} \circ a_{(0,2,3)} \circ a_{(0,1,2)} = \text{Ad}(g_{(0,1)}^{-1})(a_{(1,2,3)})$$

in the group  $\mathbf{G}_2^3(x_{(0)})$ .

We denote by  $\text{Desc}(\mathbf{G})$  the set of all descent data in  $\mathbf{G}$ .



There is an equivalence relation on the set  $\text{Desc}(\mathbf{G})$ , and we denote the quotient set by  $\overline{\text{Desc}}(\mathbf{G})$ .

Observe that if  $\mathbf{G}$  is a cosimplicial group posing as a cosimplicial crossed groupoid (cf. Example 5.2), then

$$\overline{\text{Desc}}(\mathbf{G}) = \check{H}^1(G).$$



**Example 6.2.** Let  $\mathcal{G}$  be a sheaf of groups on a topological space  $X$ .

Consider the gerbe  $\mathcal{F}$  of left  $\mathcal{G}$ -torsors. A twisted form of  $\mathcal{F}$  is called a  $\mathcal{G}$ -gerbe.

Here is the higher descent classification of  $\mathcal{G}$ -gerbes, following Breen [Br].

Consider the sheaf of crossed groups  $\mathcal{G} := (\mathcal{G} \rightarrow \text{Aut}(\mathcal{G}))$ , as in Example 5.3.

Let  $\mathbf{U}$  be an open covering of  $X$ . The Čech construction gives rise to a cosimplicial crossed group  $\mathbf{G} := \mathbf{C}(\mathbf{U}, \mathcal{G})$ .

The set  $\overline{\text{Desc}}(\mathbf{G})$  is an approximate classification of  $\mathcal{G}$ -gerbes; to get it right we need to use hypercoverings, and to pass to the colimit by refinement.



**Example 6.4.** This example is taken from [Ye2].

Let  $X$  be a smooth algebraic variety over a field  $\mathbb{K}$  of characteristic 0.

There is a sheaf  $\mathcal{T}_{\text{poly}, X}$  of quantum type DG Lie algebras on  $X$ , called the sheaf of *polyderivations*.

Let  $\mathbf{U} = \{U_k\}$  be a finite affine open covering of  $X$ . The Čech construction gives rise to a cosimplicial quantum type DG Lie algebra  $\mathbf{C}(\mathbf{U}, \mathcal{T}_{\text{poly}, X})$ .

Take a parameter algebra  $(R, \mathfrak{m})$ . Applying the Deligne construction we obtain a cosimplicial crossed groupoid

$$\mathbf{G} := \text{Del}(\mathfrak{m} \hat{\otimes} \mathbf{C}(\mathbf{U}, \mathcal{T}_{\text{poly}, X})).$$

The set  $\overline{\text{Desc}}(\mathbf{G})$  classifies *twisted Poisson  $R$ -deformations*  $\mathcal{A}$  of  $\mathcal{O}_X$ .



Sometimes a single open covering  $\mathbf{U}$  is enough to classify  $\mathcal{G}$ -gerbes.

A sufficient condition is that  $\mathbf{U}$  *totally trivializes* all  $\mathcal{G}$ -gerbes.

By definition the covering  $\mathbf{U} = \{U_k\}_{k \in K}$  totally trivializes a gerbe  $\mathcal{F}$  if for every  $k_0, k_1 \in K$  the groupoids  $\mathcal{F}(U_{k_0})$  and  $\mathcal{F}(U_{k_0, k_1})$  are nonempty and connected.

**Example 6.3.** Assume  $X$  is an algebraic variety, and  $\mathcal{G}$  is a sheaf of abelian groups that is isomorphic to a quasi-coherent  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -module.

Then any affine open covering  $\mathbf{U}$  totally trivializes all  $\mathcal{G}$ -gerbes.



**(cont.)** There is another important sheaf of quantum type DG Lie algebras on  $X$ : it is the sheaf  $\mathcal{D}_{\text{poly}, X}$  of *polydifferential operators*.

We get another cosimplicial crossed groupoid

$$\mathbf{H} := \text{Del}(\mathfrak{m} \hat{\otimes} \mathbf{C}(\mathbf{U}, \mathcal{D}_{\text{poly}, X})).$$

The set  $\overline{\text{Desc}}(\mathbf{H})$  classifies *twisted associative  $R$ -deformations*  $\mathcal{A}$  of  $\mathcal{O}_X$ . These are very similar to *stacks of algebroids* in the sense of [Ko2].

Let me give a partial explanation why a single affine open covering suffices for the classification of twisted  $R$ -deformations.

A twisted deformation  $\mathcal{A}$  comes equipped with a *gauge gerbe*  $\mathcal{G}$ . If  $\mathcal{A}$  is a twisted associative deformation, then  $\mathcal{G} = \mathcal{A}^\times$ , the gerbe of invertible morphisms. In the Poisson case it is more subtle.

Our work on pronilpotent gerbes and obstruction classes in [Ye1] implies that any affine open covering  $\mathbf{U}$  totally trivializes the gauge gerbe  $\mathcal{G}$ .





## 7. The Equivalence Theorem

A crossed groupoid  $\mathbf{G}$  has homotopy groups. A morphism of crossed groupoids  $\mathbf{G} \rightarrow \mathbf{H}$  is called a *weak equivalence* if it induced bijections on all homotopy groups.

Next consider cosimplicial crossed groupoids  $\mathbf{G} = \{\mathbf{G}^p\}_{p \in \mathbb{N}}$  and  $\mathbf{H} = \{\mathbf{H}^p\}_{p \in \mathbb{N}}$ . A morphism of cosimplicial crossed groupoids  $\mathbf{G} \rightarrow \mathbf{H}$  is called a weak equivalence if in every simplicial dimension  $p$  the morphism  $\mathbf{G}^p \rightarrow \mathbf{H}^p$  is a weak equivalence.



Using Theorem 7.1 and the bar-cobar construction for DG Lie algebras, we prove the next result in [Ye2]:

**Theorem 7.2. (Lie Equivalence)** *Let  $\Psi : \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{h}$  be a cosimplicial  $L_\infty$  morphism between cosimplicial quantum type DG Lie algebras, and let  $(R, \mathfrak{m})$  be a parameter algebra.*

*There is a function*

$$\overline{\text{Desc}}(\text{Del})(\Psi) : \overline{\text{Desc}}(\text{Del}(\mathfrak{m} \hat{\otimes} \mathfrak{g})) \rightarrow \overline{\text{Desc}}(\text{Del}(\mathfrak{m} \hat{\otimes} \mathfrak{h}))$$

*with explicit formula.*

*The function  $\overline{\text{Desc}}(\text{Del})(\Psi)$  is functorial in  $\Psi$  and  $\mathfrak{m}$ .*

*If  $\Psi$  is a cosimplicial  $L_\infty$  quasi-isomorphism, then  $\overline{\text{Desc}}(\text{Del})(\Psi)$  is bijective.*



Here is a recent result of mine from [Ye4].

**Theorem 7.1. (Combinatorial Equivalence)** *Let  $\mathbf{G}$  and  $\mathbf{H}$  be cosimplicial crossed groupoids, and let  $\Phi : \mathbf{G} \rightarrow \mathbf{H}$  be a cosimplicial weak equivalence. Then the induced function*

$$\overline{\text{Desc}}(\Phi) : \overline{\text{Desc}}(\mathbf{G}) \rightarrow \overline{\text{Desc}}(\mathbf{H})$$

*is bijective.*

The proof of this theorem is by a direct combinatorial calculation.

I was initially looking for a homotopical proof of the theorem, but all “obvious” approaches (like using the Reedy model structure on cosimplicial simplicial sets) failed.

Very recently Prezma [Pr] was able to come up with a proof using homotopy theory. His proof gives more information than mine.



## 8. An Application: Twisted Deformation Quantization

To finish, let me explain how Theorem 7.2 is used in [Ye2]. We continue with the setup of Example 6.4.

There is a quasi-isomorphism of sheaves of DG Lie algebras

$$\mathcal{T}_{\text{poly}, X} \rightarrow \text{Mix}_{\mathcal{U}}(\mathcal{T}_{\text{poly}, X})$$

called the *mixed resolution*. The sheaf  $\text{Mix}_{\mathcal{U}}(-)$  is a “mixture” of the Čech resolution and the jet resolution.

Similarly there is the mixed resolution

$$\mathcal{D}_{\text{poly}, X} \rightarrow \text{Mix}_{\mathcal{U}}(\mathcal{D}_{\text{poly}, X}).$$

The Kontsevich Formality gives rise to an  $L_\infty$  quasi-isomorphism

$$\Psi : \text{Mix}_{\mathcal{U}}(\mathcal{T}_{\text{poly}, X}) \rightarrow \text{Mix}_{\mathcal{U}}(\mathcal{D}_{\text{poly}, X})$$

between these sheaves of DG Lie algebras.



The Čech construction gives a diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} C(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{T}_{\text{poly}, X}) & & C(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{D}_{\text{poly}, X}) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ C(\mathcal{U}, \text{Mix}_{\mathcal{U}}(\mathcal{T}_{\text{poly}, X})) & \xrightarrow{C(\mathcal{U}, \Psi)} & C(\mathcal{U}, \text{Mix}_{\mathcal{U}}(\mathcal{D}_{\text{poly}, X})) \end{array}$$

The objects are cosimplicial quantum type DG Lie algebras, the vertical arrows are cosimplicial DG Lie quasi-isomorphisms, and the horizontal arrow is a cosimplicial  $L_{\infty}$  quasi-isomorphism.

Theorem 7.2 tells us that when we apply the operation

$$\overline{\text{Desc}}(\text{Del}(\mathfrak{m} \hat{\otimes} -))$$

to this diagram, the three arrows become bijections.



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Therefore there is an induced bijection in the top row:

$$\overline{\text{Desc}}(\text{Del}(\mathfrak{m} \hat{\otimes} C(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{T}_{\text{poly}, X}))) \xrightarrow{\cong} \overline{\text{Desc}}(\text{Del}(\mathfrak{m} \hat{\otimes} C(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{D}_{\text{poly}, X}))) .$$

This is the *twisted quantization* map

$$\begin{aligned} \text{tw.quant} : & \frac{\{\text{twisted Poisson } R\text{-deformations of } \mathcal{O}_X\}}{\text{twisted gauge equivalence}} \\ & \xrightarrow{\cong} \frac{\{\text{twisted associative } R\text{-deformations of } \mathcal{O}_X\}}{\text{twisted gauge equivalence}} \end{aligned}$$

It is conjectured that the twisted quantization map destroys the geometry: it could take a Poisson deformation (a sheaf), and send it to a twisted associative deformation which is really twisted (i.e. not equivalent to a sheaf).

– END –



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