

# Internal double categories and 2-categories in the abelian context

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# Outline

- 1 Categorical theory of central extensions
- 2 Internal higher categories in the abelian context
- 3 Higher central extensions
- 4 Further questions

A surjective group homomorphism

$$A \xrightarrow{f} \twoheadrightarrow B$$

is called:

- a **trivial extension** if  $\hat{f}$  is an isomorphism.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} [A,A] & \xrightarrow[\hat{f}]{\cong} & [B,B] \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ A & \xrightarrow{f} \twoheadrightarrow & B \end{array}$$

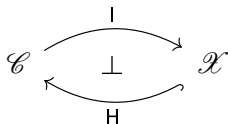
- a **central extension** if  $\text{Ker}(f) \subseteq \text{Centr}(A)$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & \text{Centr}(A) & & \\ & \nearrow \text{---} & & \searrow & \\ \text{Ker}(f) & \xrightarrow{\quad} & A & \xrightarrow{f} \twoheadrightarrow & B \end{array}$$

[Janelidze-Kelly, 1994]:

$\mathcal{C}$  (Barr-)exact category

$\mathcal{X}$  Birkhoff subcategory of  $\mathcal{C}$  (replete full reflective subcategory closed under subobjects and quotients)



$$C \twoheadrightarrow X$$

$$X \twoheadrightarrow C$$

Example

$\mathcal{C} = \text{Grp}$ ,  $\mathcal{X} = \text{Ab}$

$I = \text{ab} : \text{Grp} \rightarrow \text{Ab}$ ,  $B \mapsto B/[B, B]$

$B \in \text{Obj}(\mathcal{C})$ :

$$\mathcal{C} \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{I} \\ \perp \\ \xleftarrow{H} \end{array} \mathcal{X}$$

$$\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{C}}(B) \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{I^B} \\ \perp \\ \xleftarrow{H^B} \end{array} \text{Ext}_{\mathcal{X}}(IB)$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} B \times_{H^I(B)} H(X) & \longrightarrow & H(X) \\ H^B(f) \downarrow \Downarrow & \lrcorner & \downarrow H(f) \\ B & \xrightarrow{\eta_B} & H^I(B) \end{array}$$

$\mathcal{X}$  is called **admissible** if  $H^B$  is fully faithful for all  $B \in \text{Obj}(\mathcal{C})$ . This is always the case if  $\mathcal{C}$  is a Mal'tsev category: a finitely complete category where any internal reflexive relation is an equivalence relation.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & \xrightarrow{I^B} & \\
 \text{Ext}_{\mathcal{C}}(B) & \perp & \text{Ext}_{\mathcal{X}}(IB) \\
 & \xleftarrow{H^B} & 
 \end{array}$$

An extension  $f \in \text{Ext}_{\mathcal{C}}(B)$  is called:

- **trivial** if it lies in the essential image of  $H^B$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 A & \xrightarrow{\eta_A} & \text{HI}(A) \\
 f \downarrow & \lrcorner & \downarrow \text{HI}(f) \\
 B & \xrightarrow{\eta_B} & \text{HI}(B)
 \end{array}$$

- **central** if there exists an extension  $g$  such that  $q_1$  is trivial.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 E \times_B A & \xrightarrow{q_2} & A \\
 q_1 \downarrow & \lrcorner & \downarrow f \\
 E & \xrightarrow{g} & B
 \end{array}$$

- $\text{Triv}_{\mathcal{C}}(B) \subseteq \text{Centr}_{\mathcal{C}}(B) \subseteq \text{Ext}_{\mathcal{C}}(B)$
- Classification of central extensions in terms of internal actions of the **Galois pregroupoid**

$\mathcal{C}$  finitely complete category

Internal category (groupoid) in  $\mathcal{C}$ :

$$C_1 \times_{C_0} C_1 \xrightarrow{m} C_1 \begin{array}{c} \overset{i}{\curvearrowright} \\ \xrightarrow{d} \\ \xleftarrow{e} \\ \xrightarrow{c} \end{array} C_0$$

$\mathcal{A}$  abelian category

$\text{Grpd}(\mathcal{A}) \cong \text{Cat}(\mathcal{A}) \cong \text{RG}(\mathcal{A}) \cong \text{Arr}(\mathcal{A})$

$$C_1 \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{d} \\ \xleftarrow{e} \\ \xrightarrow{c} \end{array} C_0 \quad \mapsto \quad \text{Ker}(d) \xrightarrow{\ker(d)} C_1 \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{d} \\ \xrightarrow{c} \end{array} C_0$$

$\text{cker}(d)$

$$A \oplus B \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{\pi_2} \\ \xleftarrow{\iota_2} \\ \xrightarrow{[f, 1_B]} \end{array} B \quad \leftarrow \quad A \xrightarrow{f} B$$



$$\text{Grpd}^2(\mathcal{A}) = \text{Grpd}(\text{Grpd}(\mathcal{A})) \cong \text{Arr}^2(\mathcal{A}) = \text{Arr}(\text{Arr}(\mathcal{A}))$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 C_1^1 & \xrightarrow{d^1} & C_0^1 \\
 \leftarrow e^1 & & \leftarrow \\
 C_1^0 & \xrightarrow{d^0} & C_0^0 \\
 \leftarrow e^0 & & \leftarrow \\
 & \xrightarrow{c^0} & \\
 \uparrow e_1 & & \uparrow e_0 \\
 C_1^0 & & C_0^0 \\
 \downarrow d_1 & & \downarrow d_0 \\
 C_1^1 & & C_0^1 \\
 \downarrow c_1 & & \downarrow c_0
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 A_1^1 & \xrightarrow{a^1} & A_0^1 \\
 \downarrow a_1 & & \downarrow a_0 \\
 A_1^0 & \xrightarrow{a^0} & A_0^0
 \end{array}$$

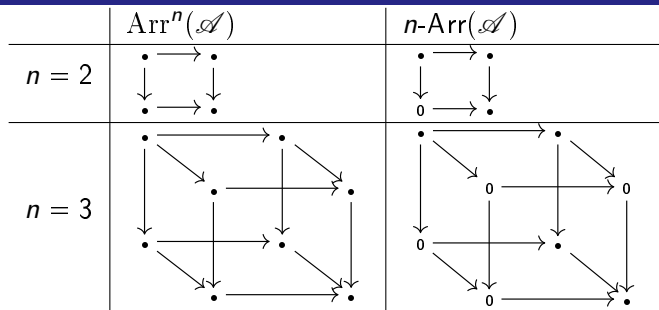
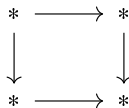
$$2\text{-Grpd}(\mathcal{A})$$

$$\cong$$

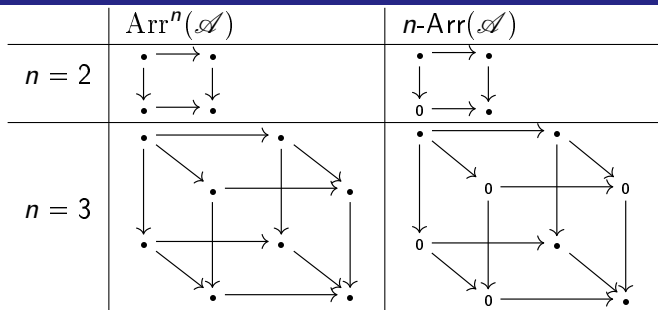
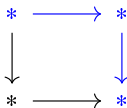
$$2\text{-Arr}(\mathcal{A})$$

$$C_1^0 \cong C_0^0$$

$$A_1^0 = 0$$


 $\mathbb{T}$ 


$$\text{Arr}^2(\mathcal{A}) = \mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{T}}$$


 $\mathbb{T}(\mathbb{S})$ 


$$\text{Arr}^2(\mathcal{A}) = \mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{T}}$$

$$2\text{-Arr}(\mathcal{A}) = \mathcal{F}, \quad \text{Obj}(\mathcal{F}) := \{F \in \mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{T}} \mid F(T) = 0 \forall T \notin \mathbb{S}\}$$

$\mathcal{A}$  abelian category  
 $\mathbb{T}$  finite category  
 $\mathbb{S}$  replete full subcategory of  $\mathbb{T}$

$\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{T}}$  functor category

$\mathcal{F}$  full subcategory of  $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{T}}$  with

$$\text{Obj}(\mathcal{F}) := \{F \in \mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{T}} \mid F(T) = 0 \forall T \notin \mathbb{S}\}$$

Proposition (E.)

$\mathcal{F}$  is an admissible Birkhoff subcategory of  $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{T}}$ .

Proof

Let  $F \in \mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{T}}$ . For  $T \in \mathbb{T}$ ,

$$[T] := \{t : \tilde{T} \rightarrow T \mid \tilde{T} \notin \mathbb{S}\}$$

Let  $\tau : T \rightarrow T'$  in  $\mathbb{T}$ . Set

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 \bigoplus_{t \in [T]} F(d(t)) & \xrightarrow{[F(t)]_{t \in [T]}} & F(T) & \xrightarrow{\text{cok}([F(t)]_t) =: (\eta_F)_T} & \text{Cok}([F(t)]_t) =: l(F)(T) \\
 \downarrow \varphi & & \downarrow F(\tau) & & \downarrow l(F)(\tau) \\
 \bigoplus_{t' \in [T']} F(d(t')) & \xrightarrow{[F(t')]_{t' \in [T']}} & F(T') & \xrightarrow{\text{cok}([F(t')]_{t'}) =: (\eta_F)_{T'}} & \text{Cok}([F(t')]_{t'}) =: l(F)(T')
 \end{array}$$

- $[F(t)]_{t \in [T]} \iota_{\hat{t}} = F(\hat{t})$  for  $\hat{t} \in [T]$
- $\varphi \iota_{\hat{t}} = \iota_{\tau \hat{t}}$  for  $\hat{t} \in [T]$

This yields the reflector  $l : \mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{T}} \rightarrow \mathcal{F}$  with unit  $\eta$ .

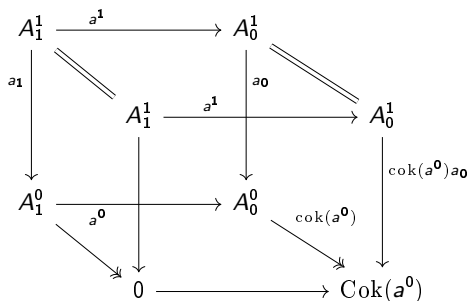
- $\mathcal{F}$  is closed under quotients: Let  $\alpha : F \Rightarrow G$  be a regular epimorphism with  $F \in \mathcal{F}$ . Let  $T \notin \mathbb{S}$ . Then

$$0 = F(T) \xrightarrow{\alpha_T} G(T)$$

Thus,  $G(T) = 0$ .

- $\mathcal{F}$  is admissible: ✓

Example:  $l : \text{Arr}^2(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow 2\text{-Arr}(\mathcal{A})$



### Proposition (E.)

Let  $\alpha : F \Rightarrow G$  be an extension in  $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{T}}$ . TFAE:

- 1  $\alpha$  is trivial wrt to  $\mathcal{F}$ .
- 2  $\alpha_T$  and  $(\eta_F)_T$  are jointly monic for all  $T \in \mathbb{T}$ .

For  $T \notin \mathbb{S}$ , this means that  $\alpha_T$  is an isomorphism.

### Proof

Using [Janelidze-Kelly, 1994]



## Proposition (E.)

Let  $\alpha : F \Rightarrow G$  be an extension in  $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{T}}$ . TFAE:

- 1  $\alpha$  is central wrt to  $\mathcal{F}$ .
- 2  $\alpha_T$  is an isomorphism for all  $T \notin \mathbb{S}$ .

### Proof

[Everaert-Gran, 2010]:

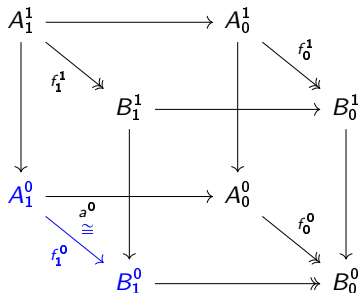
$\mathcal{C}$  semi-abelian,  $\mathcal{X}$  Birkhoff subcategory,  $l : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$  protoadditive  
(preserves split short exact sequences)

$\Rightarrow f$  central wrt  $\mathcal{X}$  iff  $\text{Ker}(f) \in \mathcal{X}$

Here:

$\text{Ker}(\alpha) \in \mathcal{F}$  iff  $\text{Ker}(\alpha_T) = 0$  for all  $T \notin \mathbb{S}$

Example: Central extensions in  $\text{Arr}^2(\mathcal{A})$  wrt to  $2\text{-Arr}(\mathcal{A})$



$\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{T}}$  $\mathcal{F}$  full subcategory of  $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{T}}$  with

$$\text{Obj}(\mathcal{F}) := \{F \in \mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{T}} \mid F(T) = 0 \forall T \notin \mathbb{S}\}$$

 $\mathcal{T}$  full subcategory of  $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{T}}$  with

$$\text{Obj}(\mathcal{T}) := \{F \in \mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{T}} \mid [F(t)]_{t \in [T]} \text{ epimorphism } \forall T \in \mathbb{T}\}$$

### Proposition (E.)

$(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{F})$  is a torsion theory in  $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{T}}$ .

Proof

Let  $F \in \mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{T}}$ . Construct


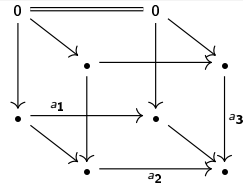
$$0 \longrightarrow \mathbb{T}(F) \xrightarrow{\varepsilon_F} F \xrightarrow{\eta_F} \mathbb{I}(F) \longrightarrow 0$$

Let  $\tau : T \rightarrow T'$  in  $\mathbb{T}$ . Consider

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 \bigoplus_{t \in [T]} F(d(t)) & \xrightarrow{[F(t)]_{t \in [T]}} & F(T) & \xrightarrow{(\eta_F)_T} & \mathbb{I}(F)(T) \\
 \downarrow \varphi & \dashrightarrow^e & \downarrow \text{ker}((\eta_F)_T) =: (\varepsilon_F)_T & \downarrow F(\tau) & \downarrow \mathbb{I}(F)(\tau) \\
 & & \text{Ker}((\eta_F)_T) =: \mathbb{T}(F)(T) & & \\
 \bigoplus_{t' \in [T']} F(d(t')) & \xrightarrow{[F(t')]_{t' \in [T']}} & F(T') & \xrightarrow{(\eta_F)_{T'}} & \mathbb{I}(F)(T') \\
 & \dashrightarrow^{e'} & \downarrow \text{ker}((\eta_F)_{T'}) =: (\varepsilon_F)_{T'} & & \\
 & & \text{Ker}((\eta_F)_{T'}) =: \mathbb{T}(F)(T') & & \\
 & & \downarrow \mathbb{T}(F)(\tau) & & 
 \end{array}$$

The fact that  $e$  is an epimorphism implies that  $\mathbb{T}(F) \in \mathcal{T}$ .

## Examples

$\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{T}}$	$\text{Arr}^2(\mathcal{A})$	$\text{Arr}^3(\mathcal{A})$
$\mathcal{F}$	$2\text{-Arr}(\mathcal{A})$	$3\text{-Arr}(\mathcal{A})$
$\text{Obj}(\mathcal{F})$	 <p><math>a</math> epimorphism</p>	 <p><math>a_1</math> epimorphism <math>a_2, a_3</math> jointly epimorphic</p>

$$\text{Grp} \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{\text{ab}} \\ \perp \\ \xleftarrow{\quad} \end{array} \text{Ab}$$

$$B \mapsto B/[B, B]$$

$$\text{Ext}(\text{Grp}) \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{\text{ab}_1} \\ \perp \\ \xleftarrow{\quad} \end{array} \text{CExt}_{\text{Ab}}(\text{Grp})$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{f} & B \\ & \searrow & \swarrow \text{ab}_1(f) \\ & A/[\text{Ker}(f), A] & \end{array}$$

$$H_2(B) = \frac{[A, A] \cap \text{Ker}(f)}{[\text{Ker}(f), A]}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{f} & B \\ & \searrow & \swarrow \\ & A/[\text{Ker}(f), A] & \end{array}$$

$[\text{Ker}(f), A] = 0$

$$\text{Ext}^2(\text{Grp}) \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{\text{ab}_2} \\ \perp \\ \xleftarrow{\quad} \end{array} \text{CExt}_{\text{Ab}}^2(\text{Grp})$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{f_2} & A_2 \\ \downarrow f_1 & \searrow & \swarrow \\ A_1 & & B \\ \downarrow & \swarrow & \downarrow \\ & A/C & \\ & \swarrow & \downarrow \\ & & B \end{array}$$

$C := [\text{Ker}(f_1) \cap \text{Ker}(f_2), A]$   
 $[\text{Ker}(f_1), \text{Ker}(f_2)]$

$$H_3(B) = \frac{[A, A] \cap \text{Ker}(f_1) \cap \text{Ker}(f_2)}{C}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{f_2} & A_2 \\ \downarrow f_1 & \searrow & \swarrow \\ A_1 & & B \\ \downarrow & \swarrow & \downarrow \\ & A_1 \times_B A_2 & \\ & \swarrow & \downarrow \\ & & B \end{array}$$

$$[\text{Ker}(f_1) \cap \text{Ker}(f_2), A] = 0$$

$$[\text{Ker}(f_1), \text{Ker}(f_2)] = 0$$

[Everaert, 2014]:

$$\mathcal{C} \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{I} \\ \perp \\ \xleftarrow{H} \end{array} \mathcal{X}$$

 $\mathcal{C}$  exact Mal'tsev category $\mathcal{X}$  Birkhoff subcategory of  $\mathcal{C}$  $\mathcal{E}$  class of regular epimorphisms in  $\mathcal{C}$ trivial extension $f \in \mathcal{E}$ 

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{\eta_A} & \text{HI}(A) \\ f \downarrow & \lrcorner & \downarrow \text{HI}(f) \\ B & \xrightarrow{\eta_B} & \text{HI}(B) \end{array}$$

central extension $f \in \mathcal{E}$  st  $\exists g \in \mathcal{E}$ 

$$\begin{array}{ccc} E \times_B A & \xrightarrow{q_2} & A \\ q_1 \downarrow & \lrcorner & \downarrow f \\ E & \xrightarrow{g} & B \end{array}$$

$$\text{Ext}(\mathcal{C}) \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{I_1} \\ \perp \\ \xleftarrow{H_1} \end{array} \text{CExt}_{\mathcal{X}}(\mathcal{C})$$

 $\text{Ext}(\mathcal{C})$ full subcategory of  $\text{Arr}(\mathcal{C})$  corresponding to  $\mathcal{E}$  $\text{CExt}_{\mathcal{X}}(\mathcal{C})$ central extensions of  $\mathcal{C}$  wrt  $\mathcal{X}$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & \xrightarrow{I_1} & \\
 \text{Ext}(\mathcal{C}) & \perp & \text{CExt}_{\mathcal{X}}(\mathcal{C}) \\
 & \xleftarrow{H_1} & 
 \end{array}$$

 $\text{Ext}(\mathcal{C})$ 
 $\text{CExt}_{\mathcal{X}}(\mathcal{C})$ 
 $\mathcal{E}^1$ 

 full subcategory of  $\text{Arr}(\mathcal{C})$  corresponding to  $\mathcal{E}$ 

 central extensions of  $\mathcal{C}$  wrt  $\mathcal{X}$ 

class of double extensions

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 A & \xrightarrow{f_2} & & A_2 & \\
 \downarrow f_1 & \dashrightarrow & A_1 \times_B A_2 & \nearrow & \downarrow \\
 A_1 & \xrightarrow{\quad} & & B & 
 \end{array}$$



$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & \xrightarrow{l_1} & \\
 \text{Ext}(\mathcal{C}) & \perp & \text{CExt}_{\mathcal{X}}(\mathcal{C}) \\
 & \xleftarrow{H_1} & 
 \end{array}$$

$\text{Ext}(\mathcal{C})$  full subcategory of  $\text{Arr}(\mathcal{C})$  corresponding to  $\mathcal{E}$

$\text{CExt}_{\mathcal{X}}(\mathcal{C})$  central extensions of  $\mathcal{C}$  wrt  $\mathcal{X}$

$\mathcal{E}^1$  class of double extensions

trivial double extension

central double extension

$$f \in \mathcal{E}^1$$

$$f \in \mathcal{E}^1 \text{ st } \exists g \in \mathcal{E}^1$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 A & \xrightarrow{\quad} & H_1 l_1(A) \\
 f \downarrow & \lrcorner \eta_A^1 & \downarrow H_1 l_1(f) \\
 B & \xrightarrow{\eta_B^1} & H_1 l_1(B)
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 E \times_B A & \xrightarrow{q_2} & A \\
 q_1 \downarrow & \lrcorner & \downarrow f \\
 E & \xrightarrow{g} & B
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & \xrightarrow{l_2} & \\
 \text{Ext}^2(\mathcal{C}) & \perp & \text{CExt}_{\mathcal{X}}^2(\mathcal{C}) \\
 & \xleftarrow{H_2} & 
 \end{array}$$

$\text{Ext}^2(\mathcal{C})$  full subcategory of  $\text{Arr}^2(\mathcal{C})$  corresponding to  $\mathcal{E}^1$

$\text{CExt}_{\mathcal{X}}^2(\mathcal{C})$  central extensions of  $\text{Ext}(\mathcal{C})$  wrt  $\text{CExt}_{\mathcal{X}}(\mathcal{C})$

## Proposition (E.)

Let

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 F & \xrightarrow{\alpha_2} & F_2 \\
 \alpha_1 \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 F_2 & \longrightarrow & G
 \end{array}
 \quad (\star)$$

be a double extension in  $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{T}}$ . Tfae:

- 1  $(\star)$  is central wrt  $\mathcal{F}$ .
- 2  $(\alpha_1)_T, (\alpha_2)_T$  are jointly monic for all  $T \notin \mathbb{S}$ .

Proof

[Evert-Gran, 2010]:

$\mathcal{C}$  semi-abelian,  $\mathcal{X}$  Birkhoff subcategory,  $l : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$  protoadditive

$\Rightarrow (f_1, f_2)$  central wrt to  $\mathcal{X}$

iff  $\text{Ker}(f_1) \cap \text{Ker}(f_2) \in \mathcal{X}$

## Further questions

- For  $\mathcal{A}$  semi-abelian,  $\mathcal{F}$  is still a Birkhoff subcategory of  $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{T}}$  but its reflector is not necessarily protoadditive and it is not necessarily torsion-free:  
*What can we say about the (higher) central extensions in this case?*
- For  $\mathcal{A}$  semi-abelian, we no longer have  $\text{Grpd}(\mathcal{A}) \cong \text{Arr}(\mathcal{A})$  but  $\text{Grpd}(\mathcal{A}) \cong \text{XMod}(\mathcal{A})$ :  
*How can we incorporate actions in our approach?*

## References

- [1] G. Janelidze and G. M. Kelly, *Galois theory and a general notion of central extensions*, J. Pure Appl. Algebra **97** (1994), 135–161.
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