

Barely locally presentable categories

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joint work with L. Positselski

Leeds 2017

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If coproduct injections are monomorphisms then A is barely λ -presentable if and only if for every morphism $f : A \rightarrow \coprod_{i \in I} K_i$ there is a subset J of I of cardinality less than λ such that f factorizes as $A \rightarrow \coprod_{j \in J} K_j \rightarrow \coprod_{i \in I} K_i$ where the second morphism is the subcoproduct injection.

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Coproduct injections are very often monomorphisms, for instance in any pointed category. However, in the category of commutative rings, the coproduct is the tensor product and the coproduct injection $\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z} \otimes \mathbb{Z}/2 \cong \mathbb{Z}/2$ is not a monomorphism.

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A cocomplete category \mathcal{K} will be called *barely locally λ -presentable* if it is strongly co-wellpowered and has a strong generator consisting of barely λ -presentable objects.

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Any locally λ -presentable category is barely locally λ -presentable.

A category \mathcal{K} has λ -directed unions if for any λ -directed set of subobjects $(K_i)_{i \in I}$ of K the induced morphism $\operatorname{colim}_{i \in I} K_i \rightarrow K$ is a monomorphism. The following result was proved by Positselski and Šťovíček for abelian categories and for $\lambda = \aleph_0$.

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We say that \mathcal{K} has *coproduct λ -directed unions* if for every coproduct λ -directed colimit $\coprod_{j \in J} K_j \rightarrow \coprod_{i \in I} K_i$, every morphism $\coprod_{i \in I} K_i \rightarrow K$ whose compositions with $\coprod_{j \in J} K_j \rightarrow \coprod_{i \in I} K_i$ are monomorphisms is a monomorphism.

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Proposition 2. Any barely locally λ -presentable category has coproduct λ -directed unions.

Proposition 3. Let \mathcal{K} be a locally presentable category such that \mathcal{K}^{op} has coproduct λ -directed unions for some regular cardinal λ . Then \mathcal{K} is equivalent to a complete lattice.

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Thus a non-trivial locally presentable category cannot have the barely locally presentable dual.

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Conversely, from the negation of Vopěnka's principle, we construct artificial examples of regular barely locally presentable categories which are not locally presentable.

Problem. Is there a barely locally presentable category which is not locally presentable in ZF?

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In fact, A is barely λ^+ -presentable where λ is its uniform character (Hušek 1973), i.e., the smallest cardinality of a base of uniform covers of A .

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Lemma 2. Let \mathcal{K} be a barely locally presentable category with pullbacks such that coproduct injections are monomorphisms. Then any object of \mathcal{K} is barely presentable.

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\mathbb{R} is a cogenerator in \mathbf{Prox}_0 because any separated proximity space is a subspace of powers of \mathbb{R} . But it is not a strong cogenerator in \mathbf{Prox}_0 because strong monomorphisms in \mathbf{Prox}_0 are closed embeddings.

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Let $\mathbf{Prox}_{\mathbb{R}}$ be the full subcategory of \mathbf{Prox}_0 consisting of closed subspaces of powers of \mathbb{R} .

Proposition 4. $\mathbf{Prox}_{\mathbb{R}}^{\text{op}}$ is barely locally \aleph_1 -presentable.

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\mathbb{R} is a strong cogenerator in $\mathbf{Prox}_{\mathbb{R}}^{\text{op}}$ and has uniform character \aleph_0 .

Proposition 5. Assuming Vopěnka's principle, $\mathbf{Prox}_{\mathbb{R}}^{\text{op}}$ is locally presentable.

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Any K in $\mathbf{Prox}_{\mathbb{R}}$ induces a realcompact topological space. The category of proximity spaces is isomorphic to the category \mathcal{K} whose objects are triples (X, bX, f) where $f : X \rightarrow bX$ is an embedding of X to its compactification, i.e., f makes X a dense subspace of a compact space bX . Consider the functor $G : \mathcal{K}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \mathbf{Ring}^{\rightarrow}$ sending (X, bX, f) to the monomorphism $C(f) : C(bX) \rightarrow C(X)$ where $C(X)$ is the ring of continuous functions $X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. This makes \mathcal{K}^{op} isomorphic to a full subcategory of the category $\mathbf{Ring}^{\rightarrow}$ of morphisms of rings. Since the latter is locally presentable, Vopěnka's principle implies that \mathcal{K}^{op} is locally presentable.

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We do not know whether the local presentability of $\mathbf{Prox}_{\mathbb{R}}^{\text{op}}$ depends on set theory.

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A uniform space is barely λ^+ -presentable in $\mathbf{Unif}^{\text{op}}$ where λ is its uniform character. This follows from the fact that any uniformly continuous mappings from a subspace of a product depends on λ many coordinates (Vidossich 1970). This is not true for proximity spaces (Hušek 1973).

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Let \mathbf{Unif}_1 be the full subcategory of \mathbf{Unif} consisting of subspaces of powers of \mathbb{R} . Spaces from \mathbf{Unif}_1 are rather special, any has the uniform character $< \aleph_1$. Let $\mathbf{Unif}_{\mathbb{R}}$ be the full subcategory of \mathbf{Unif}_1 consisting of closed subspaces of powers of \mathbb{R} .

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Proposition 6. $\mathbf{Unif}_{\mathbb{R}}^{\text{op}}$ is locally \aleph_1 -presentable.

Proposition 7. Any barely locally presentable category with pullbacks is complete.

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Proposition 8. Let $\lambda_1 < \lambda_2$ be regular cardinals. Then any barely λ_1 -presentable category is barely λ_2 -presentable.

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Proposition 8. Let $\lambda_1 < \lambda_2$ be regular cardinals. Then any barely λ_1 -presentable category is barely λ_2 -presentable.

Proposition 9. Let \mathcal{K} be a barely locally λ -presentable category and \mathcal{C} be a small category. Then the functor category $\mathcal{K}^{\mathcal{C}}$ is barely locally λ -presentable.