

# The Rezk Completion for Elementary Topoi

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## Abstract

The development of category theory in univalent foundations and the formalization thereof is an active field of research. In univalent foundations, one can distinguish different flavours of categories. The most prominent of those is the notion of a univalent category, where identities and isomorphisms of objects coincide. One consequence hereof is that equivalences and identities coincide for univalent categories. In particular, structure on categories transfer along equivalences of univalent categories. A key aspect in the study of univalent categories is the Rezk completion, which allows us to construct univalent categories from non-univalent ones.

In this work, we present a modular framework for extending the Rezk completion from categories to categories with structure. We demonstrate the modularity of our framework by lifting the Rezk completion from categories to elementary topoi in manageable steps.

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## 1 Introduction

In this work, we continue the development of category theory in univalent foundations [17]. One of the central notions herein is that of a *univalent category*, which has the advantage that structures are invariant under equivalences and that structures defined via universal properties become unique up to identity. A key facet in the theory of univalent categories is the Rezk completion, which provides a construction to obtain univalent categories from non-univalent categories. We present a framework for extending the Rezk completion from categories to categories with structure.

**Univalent foundations** Univalent foundations are foundations in which structure and property are invariant under equivalence. The axiomatic system underpinning univalent foundations is dependent type theory, which provides the basis for various proof assistants and provides internal languages for categories.

One of the key features of UF is how equality of types is handled. The underlying type theory already gives equality. In UF, however, one assumes the so-called univalence axiom (UA), which states that identities (equalities) of types coincide with equivalences of types. The original semantics of UF is in the category of simplicial sets [10].

The univalence axiom indeed guarantees that structures are invariant under equivalence [5, 6]. Furthermore, UA implies a variety of extensionality principles, such as function extensionality, which implies that equality of algebraic structures coincides with isomorphism of algebraic structures, and is incompatible with uniqueness of identity proofs.

**Univalent categories** In univalent foundations, one can distinguish different flavours of categories. Categories contain a type of objects and a dependent family of morphisms. Usually, however, one considers additional requirements due to non-trivial identity types. This leads to two notions of category: set-categories and univalent categories. While both correspond to categories in the simplicial set model, univalent categories arise naturally in univalent foundations.

Set-categories behave more like categories in the traditional (classical) sense. Univalent categories, however, are specific to univalent foundations, relying on the non-trivial identity types and the univalence axiom.

Univalent categories are categories for which identities of objects and isomorphisms of objects coincide [2]. The univalence condition on categories is often very desirable and is motivated by various examples. In the simplicial set model, the univalence condition corresponds to the completeness condition of Segal spaces. Furthermore, between univalent categories, the different notions of “sameness” all coincide. These notions of sameness are equivalences, isomorphisms, and identities. In particular, structures on univalent categories also transport along equivalences between them.

The univalence condition extends suitably to many categorical structures, such as bicategories [1], monoidal categories [23], and enriched categories [19]. In [5, 6], a univalence condition has been formulated for higher-categorical structures, generalizing in particular the aforementioned structures.

**The Rezk completion** Various constructions on categories, however, often produce non-univalent categories. For example, the construction of the Kleisli category via Kleisli morphisms [19] and the Cauchy completion when constructed via objects and idempotent morphisms [18] generally produce a non-univalent category, even if the category we start with is univalent. Furthermore, the tripos-to-topos construction, a fundamental construction in topos theory, generally produces a non-univalent category [9, 13].

In [2], Ahrens, Kapulkin, and Shulman, constructed for every category a univalent category which is equivalent, in a weak sense, to the original category. This construction is referred to as the Rezk completion.

Even though the Rezk completion provides a way to obtain a univalent category, for some constructions, you want the Rezk completion to have additional structure. For example, although one can apply the Rezk completion to the output of tripos-to-topos construction, one still needs to construct a topos structure on the Rezk completion for this to extend to a tripos-to-univalent-topos construction.

**Goal** In this work, we present a framework to extend the Rezk completion from categories to structured categories. The framework is designed to be modular and applicable to a variety of structures that a category can possess. To test our framework, we consider elementary topoi since they are categories with a variety of structures. While elementary topoi are our case study, our technique is general and can be used to lift Rezk completions to other classes of structured categories as well.

## 1.1 Contributions

The contributions of this paper are as follows:



1. In Section 3, we define displayed universal arrows (Definition 8), and we give a technique to construct displayed universal arrows over the Rezk completion (Proposition 10).

2. In Section 4, we use the technique of Section 3 to construct the Rezk completion of various classes of structured categories, among which are elementary topoi (Theorem 12).

In addition, the results in this paper are formalized using UniMath [21]. We recall the material necessary to understand this paper in Section 2.

## 1.2 Formalization

Most of the results presented here are formalized in the Rocq-library UniMath on univalent mathematics [16, 21]. The logic underlying the UniMath library is an intensional dependent type theory whose universes satisfy the univalence axiom. We do not rely on the axiom of choice nor the law of excluded middle. We also rely propositional truncation.

The formalization, and this paper, makes heavily use of the already existing material on (bi)category theory in the UniMath-library and the accompanied literature [2, 1]. The environments annotated with a  denote that the result is formalized. Upon clicking , the reader is directed towards the HTML documentation. The commit number from which the documentation is generated is 94b49c3.

## 2 Preliminaries

In this section, we give a brief introduction to univalent foundations and the development of category theory therein. A comprehensive introduction to univalent foundations can be found in e.g., [17, 14].

### 2.1 Univalent Foundations

Univalent foundations is a version of dependent type theory where types are identified if they are equivalent. As a consequence, structure and property are invariant under equivalences, and all kind of mathematical structures are identified up to isomorphism.

**Type theory in a nutshell** We assume that the reader is familiar with the basics of dependent type theory, and for a complete reference we reader the reader to [12]. Here we recall the notation necessary for the remainder of the paper.

The basic building blocks of type theory are types and terms. Types are denoted by  $A, B, \dots$ , and we write  $a : A$  for a term  $a$  of type  $A$ .

In our type theory, we have various type formers. In particular, types constitutes a type, denoted  $\mathcal{U}$ , i.e.,  $A : \mathcal{U}$ . To avoid paradoxes, there is actually a hierarchy of universes. Furthermore, functions from  $A$  to  $B$  are terms in the function type  $A \rightarrow B$ . If  $A$  is a type and  $B : A \rightarrow \mathcal{U}$  a type family, we denote by  $\prod_{a:A} B(a)$  and  $\sum_{a:A} B(a)$  the type of dependent functions and dependent pairs respectively. Finally, given a type  $A$  and terms  $a, b : A$ , we denote the identity type as  $a = b$  or  $a =_A b$ .

**Univalence axiom** The univalence axiom is a property for universes and characterizes their identity types. Let  $\mathcal{U}$  be a universe and  $A, B : \mathcal{U}$  terms. Then we can consider the identity type  $A =_{\mathcal{U}} B$ . While terms in  $A =_{\mathcal{U}} B$  witness that  $A$  and  $B$  are *the same*, one can consider a weaker notion of sameness: equivalence.

An **equivalence** from  $A$  to  $B$  is a function with a left and right inverse and the type of equivalences is denoted  $A \simeq B$ . There is a function  $\text{idtoweq}_{A,B} : (A =_{\mathcal{U}} B) \rightarrow (A \simeq B)$  which sends the reflexivity path to the identity equivalence. The universe  $\mathcal{U}$  satisfies the **univalence axiom** if  $\text{idtoweq}_{A,B}$  is an equivalence of types for every  $A, B : \mathcal{U}$ .

129 The univalence axiom implies a variety of extensionality principles, such as function  
 130 extensionality which says that identities of functions correspond to pointwise identities [17].

131 **Homotopy levels** In our type theory, identity types can contain more than one element.  
 132 Hence, types can be classified up to the complexity of their identity types. Let  $A$  be a type.  
 133 Then  $A$  is **contractible** if  $A$  is equivalent to the unit type. The type  $A$  is a **proposition**, if  
 134  $a = b$  is contractible for every  $a, b : A$ . If for all  $a, b : A$  the type  $a = b$  is a proposition, then  
 135  $A$  is a **set**.

136 The **propositional truncation** of a type  $A$  is the smallest proposition  $\|A\|$  with a map  
 137 from  $A$  to  $\|A\|$ . More precisely, for a type  $A$ , there is a proposition  $\|A\|$  which is universal  
 138 among all propositions. That is, if  $B$  is a proposition and there is a function  $A \rightarrow B$ , then  
 139 we also have a function  $\|A\| \rightarrow B$ . This allows us to distinguish between chosen structure  
 140 and structure that merely exists. More precisely, if  $B : A \rightarrow \mathcal{U}$  is a type family, then we say  
 141 that there exists an  $a : A$  such that  $B$  holds if  $\|\sum_{a:A} B(a)\|$  is inhabited.

## 142 2.2 Categories in Univalent Foundations

143 In traditional/set-based mathematics, a category  $\mathcal{C}$  consists in particular of a set of objects  $\mathcal{C}_0$   
 144 and for every two objects  $x$  and  $y$  in  $\mathcal{C}_0$ , a set of morphisms  $x \rightarrow y$ . Furthermore, a category  
 145 is equipped with composition operation on the morphisms and identity morphisms which are  
 146 associative and unital. There are multiple translation hereof into univalent foundations. A  
 147 naive translation hereof into univalent foundations is to replace sets by types. Of course,  
 148 one can replace sets by the (UF) sets, but even the category of sets and functions does not  
 149 satisfy this criteria. Nonetheless, if the types have arbitrary homotopy levels, then one would  
 150 need to impose higher coherence conditions.

151 To ensure that equalities of morphisms are propositions, each  $x \rightarrow y$  is assumed to be  
 152 a set. In [2], such categories are referred to as *precategories*, but we will simply call them  
 153 **categories**.

154 A **univalent category** is a category for which identities and isomorphisms between  
 155 two objects coincide. More precisely, let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a category and denote by  $(x \cong y)$  the  
 156 type of isomorphisms from  $x$  to  $y$ , for  $x, y : \mathcal{C}_0$ . By path induction, we have a function  
 157  $\text{idtoiso}_{x,y} : (x = y) \rightarrow (x \cong y)$ . Then a category  $\mathcal{C}$  is **univalent** if  $\text{idtoiso}_{x,y}$  is an equivalence  
 158 of types, for every  $x, y : \mathcal{C}_0$ . In particular, this implies that every  $x = y$  is a set.

159 Many examples of categories are univalent. Examples include the category **Set** of sets  
 160 and functions, presheaf categories, and categories of algebraic structures, such as groups and  
 161 rings.

162 ► **Notation 1.** *Composition is written in diagrammatic order. That is, if  $f : x \rightarrow y$  and*  
 163  *$g : y \rightarrow z$  are morphisms, we denote by  $f \cdot g$  their composite.*

## 164 2.3 The Rezk Completion for Categories

165 Even though many categories are univalent, a variety of constructions do not produce  
 166 univalent categories. For example, there are two constructions of the Kleisli category, either  
 167 via Kleisli morphisms or via free algebras. While the latter construction always produce a  
 168 univalent category, the former does not [19]. An analogous observation holds for the Cauchy  
 169 completion of a category [18]. Indeed, if one construct the Cauchy completion as a full  
 170 subcategory of the presheaf categories, one obtains a univalent category. In particular, if  
 171 one starts with a not-necessarily univalent category, then the presheaf construction gives  
 172 a univalent category. However, if one constructs the Cauchy completion as objects in the

initial category together with an idempotent morphism we do not have a univalent category, not even when the category started with is univalent.

The tripos-to-topos construction does, in general, not produce univalent categories [13, 9]. Furthermore, as opposed to the previous examples, there does not seem to be alternative equivalent construction hereof which does produce univalent topoi.

Nonetheless, there is a general construction to find a suitable univalent replacement for these categories, known as the **Rezk completion**. In this section, we recall the main theory of the Rezk completion. First, we recall the definition of the Rezk completion in Definition 2. Then we recall the universal property characterizing the Rezk completion in Proposition 3 and how this property can be described 2-categorically (Corollary 4). Lastly, in Remark 5 we zoom in on how the Rezk completion can be constructed and how Corollary 4 needs to be adapted to take into account the construction details. The Rezk completion provides a universal solution to making a category univalent [2]. In [2], it is proven that the universal property of the Rezk completion can be characterized in terms of weak equivalences.

A functor  $F : \mathcal{C}_1 \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_2$  is **essentially surjective** if for every object  $y : \mathcal{C}_2$  in the codomain, there merely exists an object  $x : \mathcal{C}_1$  in the domain, and an isomorphism of type  $F x \cong y$ . Furthermore, an essentially surjective functor  $F$  is a **weak equivalence** if  $F$  is fully faithful.

► **Definition 2** (Rezk completion). *A category  $\mathcal{D}$  is a **Rezk completion** for  $\mathcal{C}$  if  $\mathcal{D}$  is univalent and there is a weak equivalence from  $\mathcal{C}$  to  $\mathcal{D}$ .*

That the Rezk completion indeed satisfies the universal property of the free univalent completion follows more generally from the following proposition.

► **Proposition 3** (🔗 Thm 8.4. [2]). *Let  $G : \mathcal{C}_0 \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_1$  be a weak equivalence between not-necessarily univalent categories. Then for every univalent category  $\mathcal{C}_2$ , the precomposition functor  $(G \cdot -) : \text{Cat}(\mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{C}_2) \rightarrow \text{Cat}(\mathcal{C}_0, \mathcal{C}_2)$  is an adjoint equivalence of univalent categories.*

In particular, this means that every functor into a univalent category can be extended along a weak equivalence, unique up to a natural isomorphism.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{C}_0 & \xrightarrow{G} & \mathcal{C}_1 \\ & \searrow \forall F & \swarrow \exists! H \\ & \mathcal{C}_2 & \end{array}$$

Furthermore, Rezk completions are unique up to an equivalence of categories. Due to univalence, Rezk completions are unique up to identity. Hence, for every category, its type of Rezk completions is a proposition. Thus we can say the Rezk completion.

To extend the Rezk completion to categories with structure, we consider (structured) categories as objects in a bicategory. One advantage hereof, is that we can treat structures uniformly and, in particular, we obtain modular constructions. Such an approach is indeed possible because the universal property can be phrased by saying that the inclusion of univalent categories into all categories has a left biadjoint.

Recall that a pseudofunctor  $R : \mathcal{B}_1 \rightarrow \mathcal{B}_2$  has a **left biadjoint**  $L$  if we have a function  $L : \mathcal{B}_2 \rightarrow \mathcal{B}_1$ , a family of morphisms  $\eta : \prod_{X : \mathcal{B}_2} X \rightarrow R(L(X))$  called **the unit**, and for every  $X : \mathcal{B}_2$  and  $Y : \mathcal{B}_1$ , the functor  $\eta_X \cdot R(-) : \mathcal{B}_1(L X, Y) \rightarrow \mathcal{B}_2(X, R Y)$  is an adjoint equivalence of categories.

Let  $\text{Cat}$  be the bicategory of categories, functors, and natural transformations. Denote by  $\text{Cat}_{\text{univ}}$  the full subcategory of  $\text{Cat}$  consisting of those categories that are univalent.

214 ► **Corollary 4.** *Assume that for every category  $\mathcal{C}$  a Rezk completion  $\mathrm{RC}(\mathcal{C})$  is given, whose*  
 215 *weak equivalence is denoted  $\eta_{\mathcal{C}} : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathrm{RC}(\mathcal{C})$ . Then the inclusion of  $\mathrm{Cat}_{\mathrm{univ}}$  into  $\mathrm{Cat}$  has a left*  
 216 *biadjoint  $\mathrm{RC} : \mathrm{Cat} \rightarrow \mathrm{Cat}_{\mathrm{univ}}$ . In particular, the action on objects is given by  $\mathcal{C} \mapsto \mathrm{RC}(\mathcal{C})$ , and*  
 217 *the unit is pointwise given by  $\eta_{\mathcal{C}}$ .*

218 There are various constructions of the Rezk completion. However, there are some subtleties  
 219 if we want to use Corollary 4 for them.

220 ► **Remark 5 (On the construction of  $\mathrm{RC}(\mathcal{C})$ ).** Ahrens, Kapulkin, and Shulman, showed that the  
 221 Rezk completion of  $\mathcal{C}$  can be constructed as a full subcategory of its category of presheaves  
 222  $[\mathcal{C}^{\mathrm{op}}, \mathrm{Set}]$  [2]. More precisely, the Rezk completion can be constructed as the replete  
 223 full subcategory  $\mathrm{RC}^p(\mathcal{C})$  of representable presheaves, and the weak equivalence is given by  
 224 restricting the Yoneda embedding.

225 The *representable presheaf*-construction provides a general construction of the Rezk  
 226 completion. Nonetheless, the category  $\mathrm{RC}^p(\mathcal{C})$  lives in a higher universe level (see below). In  
 227 concrete instances, one often has an alternative construction available that does not increase  
 228 the universe level. For the Rezk completion, this can be done via higher inductive types [17].

229 For our purposes, lifting Rezk completions, the precise implementation of the Rezk  
 230 completion is not relevant. Nonetheless, if we use the representable presheaf-construction,  
 231 Corollary 4 has to be suitably adapted.

232 Recall that there is a hierarchy of universes and let  $\mathcal{U}_k$  the universe at level  $k$ . Denote by  
 233  $\mathrm{Cat}^{(i,j)}$  the type of categories whose type of objects is in  $\mathcal{U}^{(i)}$  and where every  $\mathcal{C}(x, y)$  is in  
 234  $\mathcal{U}_j$ . Then, for  $\mathcal{C} : \mathrm{Cat}^{(i,j)}$  we have  $\mathrm{RC}^p(\mathcal{C}) : \mathrm{Cat}^{(i \vee (j+1), i \vee j)}$ , where  $\vee$  is the least upperbound  
 235 of universe levels. Hence,  $\mathrm{RC}^p$  does *not* induce a pseudofunctor of type  $\mathrm{Cat}^{(i,j)} \rightarrow \mathrm{Cat}_{\mathrm{univ}}^{(i,j)}$ .

236 To take into account that the representable presheaf-construction raises the universe level,  
 237 one can rephrase Corollary 4 in terms of relative left pseudoadjoints [7]. Instead, one can say  
 238 that  $\mathrm{RC}^p$  is a  $J$ -relative left pseudoadjoint to  $\iota$  as depicted in following diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & \mathrm{Cat}_{\mathrm{univ}}^{(i \vee (j+1), i \vee j)} & \\
 \mathrm{RC}^p \nearrow & & \downarrow \iota \\
 \mathrm{Cat}^{(i,j)} & \xrightarrow{J} & \mathrm{Cat}^{(i \vee (j+1), i \vee j)}
 \end{array}$$

### 240 **3 On the Lifting of Biadjoints**

241 Our goal is to lift the Rezk completion from categories to categories with additional structure,  
 242 such as finitely complete categories. More precisely, we lift the left biadjoint to bicategories  
 243 whose objects are structured categories and whose morphisms are structure preserving  
 244 functors. In this section, we reduce the problem of lifting the Rezk completion in terms of  
 245 weak equivalences, and we provide the general methodology we use.

246 The reduction step builds forth on the theory of displayed bicategories which provides  
 247 a modular approach to the construction of bicategories and allows for a modular proof  
 248 technique of e. g., proving univalence for categories. We recall the necessary ingredients of  
 249 this theory in Section 3.1 and we define the notion of *displayed universal arrows* in Definition 8  
 250 which gives a modular construction of (left) biadjoints, as witnessed by Proposition 9. In  
 251 Section 3.2, we then apply Proposition 9 to obtain a formal description of the reduction step  
 252 in Proposition 10.



### 3.1 Displayed Universal Arrows

In the remainder of this paper, we make heavy use of displayed bicategories, and we start by recalling this notion. Displayed bicategories serve various purposes, and one of these, is that we can use them to modularly construct bicategories and to modularly prove their univalence [1, 3]. To understand what displayed bicategories are, let us first recall an example of a displayed category. We can construct the category  $\mathbf{Mon}$  of monoids and monoid homomorphisms by endowing the objects and morphisms of  $\mathbf{Set}$  with extra structure and properties. Specifically, for every set there is a type of monoid structures on it, and for every function between sets with monoid structures on them we have a type expressing that this function is a homomorphism. One must also prove that the identity function is a homomorphism, and that homomorphisms are closed under composition. Displayed categories generalize such descriptions of categories. Specifically, in a displayed category  $\mathcal{D}$  over a category  $\mathcal{C}$ , we have a type  $\mathcal{D}(x)$  of displayed objects over every object  $x : \mathcal{C}$  and a set  $\bar{x} \rightarrow_f \bar{y}$  of displayed morphisms for every morphism  $f : x \rightarrow y$  and displayed objects  $\bar{x} : \mathcal{D}(x)$  and  $\bar{y} : \mathcal{D}(y)$ . Displayed bicategories generalize displayed categories to the bicategorical setting, meaning that they also have displayed 2-cells with suitable compositions, associators, unitors, and coherences.

In Section 4 we consider various bicategories of structured categories. The objects of these bicategories are categories equipped a structure that is characterized by a universal property, the morphisms are functors which preserve this structure up to isomorphism. The 2-cells of these bicategories are all natural transformations. To construct such bicategories, we use a simplified version of displayed bicategories compared to [1]. Specifically, assume that the types of 2-cells are unit types, and we define them as follows.

► **Definition 6** (🚩). Let  $\mathcal{B}$  be a bicategory. A **displayed bicategory** with contractible 2-cells  $\mathcal{D}$  over  $\mathcal{B}$  consists of

1. for every  $x : \mathcal{B}$ , a type  $\mathcal{D}(x)$ ; whose terms are called *displayed objects*;
2. for every  $f : \mathcal{B}(x, y)$ ,  $\bar{x} : \mathcal{D}(x)$ , and  $\bar{y} : \mathcal{D}(y)$ , a type  $\bar{x} \rightarrow_f \bar{y}$ ; whose terms are called *displayed morphisms*;
3. for every  $x : \mathcal{B}$  and  $\bar{x} : \mathcal{D}(x)$ , a displayed morphism of type  $\bar{x} \rightarrow_{\text{id}_x} \bar{x}$ ;
4. for every  $\bar{f} : \bar{x} \rightarrow_f \bar{y}$  and  $\bar{g} : \bar{y} \rightarrow_g \bar{z}$ , a displayed morphism of type  $\bar{x} \rightarrow_{f \cdot g} \bar{z}$ .

Observe that no axioms are required since the axioms are phrased in terms of 2-cells.

The **total bicategory** of  $\mathcal{D}$ , denoted  $\int \mathcal{D}$ , is the bicategory whose objects are (dependent) pairs  $(x, \bar{x})$ , with  $x : \mathcal{B}$  and  $\bar{x} : \mathcal{D}(x)$ . The morphisms are pairs  $(f, \bar{f})$  with  $f : \mathcal{B}(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$  and  $\bar{f} : \bar{x} \rightarrow_f \bar{y}$ . The 2-cells are the 2-cells in  $\mathcal{B}$ .


In the remainder of the paper, we assume that the types of 2-cells for each of our displayed bicategories is contractible. In particular, a displayed pseudofunctor between such displayed bicategories reduces to:


► **Definition 7** (🚩). Let  $F : \mathcal{B}_1 \rightarrow \mathcal{B}_2$  be a pseudofunctor and  $\mathcal{D}_i$  a displayed bicategory over  $\mathcal{B}_i$ , for  $i = 1, 2$ . A **displayed pseudofunctor** over  $F$  consists of:

1. for every  $x : \mathcal{B}_1$ , a function  $\hat{F} : \mathcal{D}_1(x) \rightarrow \mathcal{D}_2(F x)$ ;
  2. for every  $f : \mathcal{B}_1(x, y)$  and  $\bar{x} : \mathcal{D}_1(x), \bar{y} : \mathcal{D}_1(y)$ , a function  $\hat{F} : (x \rightarrow_f y) \rightarrow (\hat{F} \bar{x} \rightarrow_{F f} \hat{F} \bar{y})$ ;
- The assignment  $(x, \bar{x}) \rightarrow (F x, \hat{F} \bar{x})$  bundles into a pseudofunctor  $\int_R \hat{R} : \int \mathcal{D}_1 \rightarrow \int \mathcal{D}_2$ , and is referred to as the **total pseudofunctor**.

The following definition makes precise what is needed to lift a (left) biadjoint to displayed bicategories. For the definition of displayed adjoint equivalence between (1-)categories, we

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refer the reader to the formalization  (also see pages 8-9 in [3], and [1] for such equivalences between displayed bicategories).

► **Definition 8** . Let  $R$  be a pseudofunctor from  $\mathcal{B}_1$  to  $\mathcal{B}_2$  with a left biadjoint  $(L, \eta)$ . Let  $\hat{R}$  be a displayed pseudofunctor from  $\mathcal{D}_1$  to  $\mathcal{D}_2$ , over  $R$ . A **(left) displayed universal arrow** for  $\hat{R}$  (over  $(R, L, \eta)$ ) consists of:

1.  $\hat{L} : \prod_{x:\mathcal{B}_2} \mathcal{D}_2(x) \rightarrow \mathcal{D}_1(Lx)$ , we write  $\hat{L}(\bar{x}) := \hat{L}(x, \bar{x})$ ;
2. a family  $\hat{\eta}_{\bar{x}} : \bar{x} \rightarrow_{\eta_x} \hat{R}(\hat{L}(\bar{x}))$  of displayed morphisms, for all  $(x, \bar{x})$  in  $\int \mathcal{D}_2$ ; and such that the displayed functor between displayed hom-categories

$$\hat{\eta}_{\bar{x}} \cdot \hat{R}(-) : \mathcal{D}_1(\hat{L}\bar{x}, \bar{y}) \rightarrow \mathcal{D}_2(\bar{x}, \hat{R}\bar{y}),$$

is a displayed adjoint equivalence whose base of displayment is the adjoint equivalence  $\eta_x \cdot R(-)$  given by  $(R, L, \eta)$ .


► **Proposition 9** . Let  $(\hat{R}, \hat{L}, \hat{\eta})$  be a displayed universal arrow for  $(R, L, \eta)$ . Then the total pseudofunctor  $\int_R \hat{R} : \int_{\mathcal{B}_1} \mathcal{D}_1 \rightarrow \int_{\mathcal{B}_2} \mathcal{D}_2$ , has a left biadjoint.

### 3.2 Displayed Universal Arrows over the Rezk Completion


In the remainder of this section, we apply Proposition 9 to reduce the lifting of the biadjunction in terms of weak equivalences and is made precise in Proposition 10.

Let  $\mathcal{D}$  be a displayed bicategory over  $\mathbf{Cat}$ . Then,  $\mathcal{D}$  can be restricted to  $\mathbf{Cat}_{\text{univ}}$  by taking the (2-)pullback as depicted in the following diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \int \mathcal{D}_{\text{univ}} & \xrightarrow{\ell} & \int \mathcal{D} \\ U \downarrow & \lrcorner & \downarrow U \\ \mathbf{Cat}_{\text{univ}} & \xrightarrow{\ell} & \mathbf{Cat} \end{array} \quad (1)$$

► **Proposition 10** . Let  $\mathcal{D}$  be a displayed bicategory over  $\mathbf{Cat}$  such that for every weak equivalence  $G : \mathcal{C}_0 \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_1$ , whose codomain is univalent, we have:

1. for  $\bar{x} : \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{C}_0)$ , there is a  $\hat{x} : \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{C}_1)$  and a  $\hat{G} : \bar{x} \rightarrow_G \hat{x}$ ;
  2. for every univalent category  $\mathcal{C}_2$ , functors  $F : \mathcal{C}_0 \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_2$  and  $G : \mathcal{C}_1 \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_2$ , and a natural isomorphism  $\alpha : G \cdot H \Rightarrow F$ , if  $\bar{x}_i : \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{C}_i)$  and  $\bar{F} : \bar{x}_0 \rightarrow_F \bar{x}_2$ , then there is a  $\bar{G} : \bar{x}_1 \rightarrow_G \bar{x}_2$ .
- Then the pseudofunctor  $\text{RC} : \mathbf{Cat} \rightarrow \mathbf{Cat}_{\text{univ}}$  lifts to a left biadjoint for  $\int \mathcal{D}_{\text{univ}} \rightarrow \int \mathcal{D}$ .

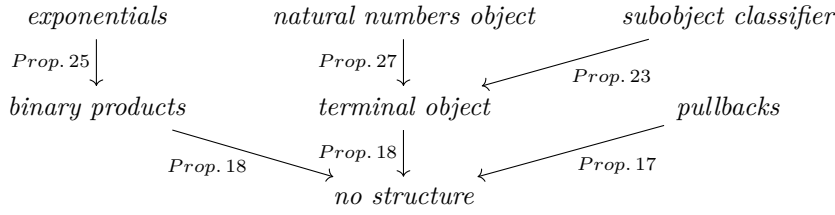
► **Remark 11** . In Section 4, we stack displayed bicategories to obtain the displayed bicategory of elementary topoi. Proposition 10 works directly over  $\mathbf{Cat}$ , and not over a total bicategory  $\int_{\mathbf{Cat}} \mathcal{D}$ . Nonetheless, if  $\mathcal{E}$  is a displayed bicategory over  $\int_{\mathbf{Cat}} \mathcal{D}$ , the total bicategory  $\int_{\int_{\mathbf{Cat}} \mathcal{D}} \mathcal{E}$  is equivalent to a displayed bicategory over  $\mathbf{Cat}$  by applying the  $\Sigma$  construction for displayed bicategories ([1, Definition 6.6]). In particular, if  $\mathcal{D}$  and  $\mathcal{D}'$  are both displayed bicategories over  $\mathbf{Cat}$ , we can form their product, which is again a displayed bicategory over  $\mathbf{Cat}$ .

## 4 The Rezk Completion Lifted To Topoi

In this section, we prove that the Rezk completion lifts from categories to categories equipped with structures defined via universal properties. In particular, we conclude that the Rezk completion for categories preserves many categorical structures. More precisely, we lift the biadjoint in Corollary 4 from categories to categories with the structures depicted in Figure 1, which allows us to conclude that the Rezk completions lifts from categories to topoi:



336 ► **Theorem 12** (👉👉). Let  $\mathbf{Top}_{\text{el}}$  be the bicategory of elementary topoi, logical functors, and  
 337 natural transformations, and denote by  $(\mathbf{Top}_{\text{el}})_{\text{univ}}$  its full subcategory on elementary topoi  
 338 whose underlying category are univalent. Then the inclusion  $(\mathbf{Top}_{\text{el}})_{\text{univ}} \hookrightarrow \mathbf{Top}_{\text{el}}$  has a left  
 339 biadjoint  $\mathbf{RC}^{\text{top}}$ . In particular:  
 340 1. the Rezk completion of an elementary topos  $\mathcal{E}$  is an elementary topos  $\mathbf{RC}^{\text{top}}(\mathcal{E})$ ;  
 341 2. the weak equivalence  $\eta_{\mathcal{E}} : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathbf{RC}^{\text{top}}(\mathcal{E})$  is a logical functor;  
 342 3. and,  $(\mathbf{RC}^{\text{top}}(\mathcal{E}), \eta_{\mathcal{E}})$  is universal among the univalent elementary topoi.  
 343 Furthermore, if  $\mathcal{E}$  has a parameterized natural numbers object (NNO) then  $\mathbf{RC}^{\text{top}}(\mathcal{E})$  has an  
 344 NNO,  $\eta_{\mathcal{E}}$  preserves the NNO, and universality lifts to elementary topoi with NNOs.



■ **Figure 1** Tower Of Structures

(a) The labels of the vertices refer to the result stating the lifting.

345 To prove that the Rezk completion and the left biadjoint lift from categories to each  
 346 of the structures we apply Proposition 10. That is, we prove that the two assumptions in  
 347 Proposition 10 are satisfied. To do this, we take the following approach:

- 348 1. First, we show that given a weak equivalence, with possibly the assumption of univalence  
 349 on the codomain, a structure on the domain transports onto the image of the codomain.  
 350 From this, condition 1 is a direct consequence due to the properties of weak equivalences  
 351 and possibly the univalence requirement which guarantees that the type witnessing the  
 352 structure on the codomain is a proposition.
- 353 2. Second, to conclude condition 2, we first prove that weak equivalences reflect the structure.  
 354 Then we apply essential surjectivity to work directly in the image of the weak equivalence  
 355 and hence in the domain of the weak equivalence.

356 In Section 4.1, we spell out the approach and most of the details to conclude the Rezk  
 357 completion for categories with pullbacks. The proof for the other structures follow the same  
 358 approach.

359 For readability, we use the following notation:

360 ► **Notation 13.** The concrete bicategories we consider are constructed as displayed bicategories  
 361 over  $\mathbf{Cat}$ . For readability, we make no distinction between the bicategories and the displayed  
 362 bicategories. For  $\mathcal{K} \in \{\mathcal{B}, \mathcal{D}\}$ , we write  $\mathcal{K}_{\text{univ}}$  to denote the restriction of  $\mathcal{K}$  to univalent  
 363 categories.

## 364 4.1 (Co)Limits

365 In this subsection, we show that the Rezk completion for categories lifts to finitely complete  
 366 categories. It is well-known that the existence of a terminal object and pullbacks implies  
 367 the existence of all finite limits. Hence, it is sufficient to lift the Rezk completion for those  
 368 limits. We only discuss the lifting of pullbacks and refer the reader to the formalization for  
 369 the result on the other limits.

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First, we show in Lemma 14 that the image of a pullback square under a weak equivalence is again a pullback square. From this, we conclude in Lemma 15 that the Rezk completion of a category with pullbacks also has pullbacks and that the weak equivalence into the Rezk completion (i.e., the unit) preserves pullbacks. Then, we show in Lemma 16 that weak equivalences reflect pullbacks which allows us to conclude that the biadjunction given by the Rezk completion lifts from categories to categories with pullbacks. Combined with the analogous results for the terminal object, we conclude in Proposition 18 that the biadjunction lifts from categories to finitely complete categories.

► **Lemma 14** (🔴). *Let  $G : \mathcal{C}_0 \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_1$  be a weak equivalence. Then the image of a pullback square under  $G$  is again a pullback square.*

**Proof.** Assume that the following diagram is a pullback square in  $\mathcal{C}_0$ :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} p & \xrightarrow{\pi_2} & x_2 \\ \pi_1 \downarrow & & \downarrow p_2 \\ x_1 & \xrightarrow{p_1} & y \end{array}$$

We have to show that its image under  $G$  is again a pullback square. Hence, fix  $\bar{z} : \mathcal{C}_1$ ,  $\bar{f}_1 : \bar{z} \rightarrow G(x_1)$ ,  $\bar{f}_2 : \bar{z} \rightarrow G(x_2)$  and assume  $\bar{f}_1 \cdot F(p_1) = \bar{f}_2 \cdot F(p_2)$ . Observe that

$$\exists! \bar{k} : \bar{z} \rightarrow F(p), \bar{k} \cdot F(\pi_1) = \bar{f}_1 \times \bar{k} \cdot F(\pi_2) = \bar{f}_2, \quad (2)$$

is a proposition. Thus, we can apply essential surjectiveness of  $G$  to get an object  $z : \mathcal{C}$  and an isomorphism  $i : G(z) \cong \bar{z}$ . The result now follows from the usual proof that an equivalence of categories preserves limits. Indeed, let  $f_1 := G^{-1}(i \cdot \bar{f}_1)$  and  $f_2 := G^{-1}(i \cdot \bar{f}_2)$  where  $G^{-1}$  is the inverse function of the action of  $G$  on morphisms given fully faithfulness of  $G$ . Then, one can prove that  $(z, f_1, f_2)$  is a cone, where the commutativity of the diagram follows from the fact that a fully faithful functor reflects equality of morphisms. Hence, there exists a unique  $k : z \rightarrow p$  such that  $k \cdot \pi_1 = f_1$  and  $k \cdot \pi_2 = f_2$ . We can now show that  $\bar{k} := i^{-1} \cdot G(k)$  is a proof of Equation (2) and, that  $\bar{k}$  is necessarily unique. ◀

► **Lemma 15** (🔴). *Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a category equipped with pullbacks. Then  $\text{RC}(\mathcal{C})$  is equipped with pullbacks. Furthermore,  $\eta_{\mathcal{C}} : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \text{RC}(\mathcal{C})$  preserves those pullbacks.*

**Proof.** Let  $\bar{y}, \bar{x}_1, \bar{x}_2 : \text{RC}(\mathcal{C})$  and  $\bar{p}_1 : \text{RC}(\mathcal{C})(\bar{x}_1, \bar{y})$  and  $\bar{p}_2 : \text{RC}(\mathcal{C})(\bar{x}_2, \bar{y})$ . We have to construct the pullback of  $\bar{p}_1$  along  $\bar{p}_2$ . Since  $\text{RC}(\mathcal{C})$  is univalent, the type of pullbacks of  $\bar{p}_1$  along  $\bar{p}_2$  is a proposition. Hence, by essential surjectiveness there are isomorphisms of types  $\eta_{\mathcal{C}}(y) \cong \bar{y}$ ,  $\eta_{\mathcal{C}}(x_1) \cong \bar{x}_1$ , and  $\eta_{\mathcal{C}}(x_2) \cong \bar{x}_2$ , for some  $y, x_1, x_2 : \mathcal{C}$ . By univalence of  $\text{RC}(\mathcal{C})$ , these isomorphisms correspond to identities. Hence, by induction on those identities,  $\bar{p}_i$  is equivalently a morphism of type  $\text{RC}(\mathcal{C})(\eta_{\mathcal{C}} x_i, \eta_{\mathcal{C}} y)$  (for  $i = 1, 2$ ). Thus, by fully faithfulness,  $\bar{p}_i = \eta(p_i)$  for some  $p_i : \mathcal{C}(x_i, y)$ . That  $\text{RC}(\mathcal{C})$  has pullbacks now follows because we can take the pullback of  $p_1$  and  $p_2$  (in  $\mathcal{C}$ ) and then use that weak equivalences preserve pullbacks (Lemma 14). ◀

► **Lemma 16** (🔴). *Every weak equivalence reflect pullbacks.*

Let  $\text{Cat}_{\text{pb}}$  be the bicategory whose objects are categories equipped with pullbacks, whose morphisms are pullback preserving functors, and whose 2-cells are natural transformations.

► **Proposition 17** (🔴). *The inclusion  $(\text{Cat}_{\text{pb}})_{\text{univ}} \rightarrow \text{Cat}_{\text{pb}}$  has a left biadjoint.*

**Proof.** The first assumption of Proposition 10 has been proven in Lemma 14 and Lemma 15. Hence, it remains to prove that for every diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathcal{C}_0 & \xrightarrow{G} & \mathcal{C}_1 \\
 & \searrow F \quad \swarrow H & \\
 & \mathcal{C}_2 &
 \end{array}
 \quad \alpha
 \quad (3)$$

where  $G$  is a weak equivalence, we have if  $F$  preserves pullbacks, then so does  $H$ . Assume that the following diagram on the left is a pullback square in  $\mathcal{C}_1$ :

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 p' & \xrightarrow{\pi'_2} & x'_2 & & H(p') \xrightarrow{H(\pi'_2)} H(x'_2) & & F(p) \xrightarrow{F(\pi_2)} F(x_2) \\
 \pi'_1 \downarrow & & \downarrow p'_2 & & H(\pi'_1) \downarrow & & F(\pi_1) \downarrow \\
 x'_1 & \xrightarrow{p'_1} & y' & & H(x'_1) \xrightarrow{H(p'_1)} H(y') & & F(x_1) \xrightarrow{F(p_1)} F(y)
 \end{array}
 \quad (4)$$

We have to show that the diagram on the middle is a pullback. Since the type expressing that a square is a pullback is a proposition, essential surjectiveness implies that  $p', x'_1, x'_2, y'$  are isomorphic to the image of  $G$  of some objects  $p, x_1, x_2, y : \mathcal{C}_0$ . Furthermore, by fully faithfulness of  $G$ , the  $p'_i$ 's and  $\pi'_i$ 's correspond uniquely with morphisms in  $\mathcal{C}_0$ . More precisely, we define  $\pi_i := G^{-1}(j_p \cdot \pi'_i \cdot j_{x_i}^{-1}) : \mathcal{C}_0(p, x_i)$  and  $p_i := G^{-1}(j_{x_i} \cdot p'_i \cdot j_y^{-1}) : \mathcal{C}_0(x_i, y)$ , where the  $j$ 's are the isomorphisms given by essential surjectiveness. Since  $(\pi'_1, \pi'_2)$  is a pullback of  $(p'_1, p'_2)$ , and since weak equivalences reflect pullbacks,  $(\pi_1, \pi_2)$  is a pullback of  $(p_1, p_2)$ . Now, since  $F$  preserves pullbacks, we have that the right diagram in 4 is a pullback square. The claim now follows since the middle and right diagram are equivalent by  $\alpha$ . ◀

Let  $\mathbf{FinLim}$  be the bicategory whose objects are categories equipped with a *terminal object and pullbacks*, whose morphisms are functors preserving those limits, and whose 2-cells are natural transformations. This bicategory is defined via the product for displayed bicategories.

► **Proposition 18** (🔴). *The inclusion  $\mathbf{FinLim}_{\text{univ}} \rightarrow \mathbf{FinLim}$  has a left biadjoint.*

We define the bicategory  $\mathbf{FinColim}$  of finitely cocomplete categories similarly. That is, as the product of displayed bicategories encoding binary coproducts, and coequalizers:

► **Corollary 19** (🔴). *The inclusion of  $\mathbf{FinColim}_{\text{univ}} \rightarrow \mathbf{FinColim}$  has a left biadjoint.*

**Proof.** This follows from the duality between limits and colimits and the fact that the opposite of weak equivalence is a weak equivalence between the opposite categories. ◀

► **Remark 20** (Infinite (co)limits). Whereas (strong) equivalences of categories create arbitrary (co)limits, there is no reason for weak equivalences to create infinitary (co)limits, even if one assume the codomain to be univalent. Indeed, let  $\eta_{\mathcal{C}} : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathbf{RC}(\mathcal{C})$  be the Rezk completion and assume  $(x_i)_{i:I}$  is a product cone in  $\mathbf{RC}(\mathcal{C})$ . Since the type of products for  $(x_i)_i$  is a proposition, essential surjectivity could be used to an individual  $x_i$ , or a finite set, but not all simultaneously.

## 4.2 Subobject Classifier

In this subsection, we show that the Rezk completion for finitely complete categories lifts to such categories with a subobject classifier. We take the same steps as before. That is, we first show in Lemma 22 that the image of a subobject classifier is again a subobject classifier

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and then we show in Proposition 23 that the factorization of a subobject classifier preserving functor along a weak equivalence again preserves subobject classifiers. Both proofs also rely on the interaction between monomorphisms and weak equivalences (Lemma 21).

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a category with a terminal object  $T$ . Recall that a **subobject classifier** consists of an object  $\Omega : \mathcal{C}$  and a monomorphism  $\tau : \mathcal{C}(T, \Omega)$ , which furthermore satisfies the following universal property. For every mono  $f : \mathcal{C}(x, y)$ , there is a unique morphism  $\chi_f : \mathcal{C}(y, \Omega)$  such that the following diagram commutes and is a pullback square:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} x & \xrightarrow{!} & T \\ f \downarrow & & \downarrow \tau \\ y & \xrightarrow{\chi_f} & \Omega \end{array}$$

We refer to  $\tau$  as the *truth map*.

Recall that a morphism  $f : \mathcal{C}(x, y)$  is a monomorphism if and only if

$$\begin{array}{ccc} x & \xlongequal{\quad} & x \\ \parallel & & \downarrow f \\ x & \xrightarrow{f} & y \end{array}$$

is a pullback square.

► **Lemma 21** (🔴🔴). *Weak equivalences preserve and reflect monomorphisms.*

Recall that if  $G$  is a weak equivalence and  $T_0$  a terminal object, then  $G(T_0)$  is terminal. Lemma 22 follows since weak equivalences preserve pullbacks:

► **Lemma 22** (🔴). *Let  $G : \mathcal{C}_0 \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_1$  be a weak equivalence between categories with a terminal object, denoted  $T_0$  and  $T_1$  respectively. Let  $!$  be the unique morphism from  $T_1$  to  $F(T_0)$ . If  $(\Omega, \tau : T_0 \rightarrow \Omega)$  is a subobject classifier, then so is  $F(\Omega)$  whose truth map is  $! \cdot F(\tau) : T_1 \rightarrow F(\Omega)$ .*

Recall that a functor  $F : \mathcal{C}_0 \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_1$  between categories with a terminal object, denoted  $T_i$  for  $i = 0, 1$ , and a subobject classifier  $(\Omega_i, \tau_i)$  preserves the subobject classifier if one of the following two equivalent conditions hold:

1.  $\left( F(\Omega_0), T_1 \xrightarrow{!} F(T_0) \xrightarrow{F(\tau_0)} F(\Omega_0) \right)$  is a subobject classifier in  $\mathcal{C}_1$ ;
2. there is an isomorphism  $i : F(\Omega_0) \simeq \Omega_1$  such that  $F(\tau_0) \cdot i = !^{-1} \cdot \tau_1$ .

Let  $\text{FinLim}_\Omega$  be the bicategory whose objects are finitely complete categories equipped with a subobject classifier and whose morphisms are functors that preserve finite limits and the subobject classifier.

► **Proposition 23** (🔴). *The inclusion  $(\text{FinLim}_\Omega)_{\text{univ}} \rightarrow \text{FinLim}_\Omega$  has a left biadjoint.*

**Proof.** Again, it suffices to verify the conditions given in Proposition 10. The first condition is an immediate consequence of Lemma 22. The second condition follows because subobject classifiers are unique up to isomorphism and since weak equivalences reflect subobject classifiers. ◀

### 4.3 Cartesian Closedness

Now, we lift the Rezk completion from categories to cartesian closed categories, which concludes the first part in Theorem 12. We already know that the Rezk completion extends to

finite products. Hence, it remains to verify that the Rezk completion extends to exponentials. Again, we apply the same approach as in the previous subsections.

Recall that an object  $x : \mathcal{C}$  in a category with binary products is **exponentiable** if  $- \times x : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  has a right adjoint, which is denoted as  $(-)^x : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ . That is, for every  $y : \mathcal{C}$  there are given an object  $y^x : \mathcal{C}$  and a morphism  $\text{ev} := \text{ev}_{x,y} : \mathcal{C}(y^x \times x, y)$  which is universal in the sense that  $(y^x, \text{ev})$  is the terminal such pair. The object  $y^x$  is referred to as the *exponential* of  $x$  with  $y$ , and  $\text{ev}_{x,y}$  is referred to as the *evaluation morphism*. We say that a category is **cartesian closed** if it has binary products and all exponentials.

Recall that the Rezk completion lifts to categories with binary products. In particular, there is a necessarily unique isomorphism  $\mu := \mu_{x,y} : \eta(x) \times \eta(y) \cong \eta(x \times y)$ , for every  $x, y : \mathcal{C}$  and natural in  $x$  and  $y$ .

► **Lemma 24** (☞). *Let  $\mathcal{C}_0$  be a cartesian closed category and  $G : \mathcal{C}_0 \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_1$  a weak equivalence. Then, the image of an exponential, under  $G$  is again an exponential. That is, if  $(y^x, \text{ev})$  is an exponential of  $x$  with  $y$ , then  $(G(y^x), G(\text{ev}))$  is an exponential of  $G(x)$  with  $G(y)$ .*

A **cartesian closed functor** is a binary product preserving functor  $F : \mathcal{C}_0 \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_1$  between cartesian closed categories which **preserves exponentials**. That is, for every  $x, y : \mathcal{C}_0$  the unique morphism from  $F(y^x)$  to  $F(y)^{F(x)}$  is an isomorphism. The bicategory of cartesian closed categories, cartesian closed functors, and natural transformations is denoted CCC. Since exponentials are unique up to isomorphism, the preservation of exponentials is equivalent to the statement that the image of an exponential object is again an exponential object as in Lemma 24. Hence, Lemma 24 implies the first two conditions in Proposition 10 applied to  $\mathcal{D} := \text{CCC}$ .

► **Proposition 25** (☞). *The inclusion  $\text{CCC}_{\text{univ}} \rightarrow \text{CCC}$  has a left biadjoint.*

Hence, by combining Proposition 18, Proposition 23, and Proposition 25, we lifted the Rezk completion from categories to elementary topoi, which concludes the first part in Theorem 12.

## 4.4 Paramaterized NNO

We now prove the furthermore clause in Theorem 12. That is, the Rezk completion preserves (parameterized) natural numbers objects.

The most common way to interpret, or axiomatize, the object of natural numbers in a category leads to the definition of a *natural numbers object*. Nonetheless, in the absence of exponentials, there is a more appropriate interpretation by weakening the recursion principle and is known as a *parameterized natural numbers object* ☞ [11]. We work with the more general version.

A **parameterized natural numbers object** (NNO) in a category  $\mathcal{C}$  with finite products is a tuple  $(\mathbb{N}, z, s)$  where  $\mathbb{N} : \mathcal{C}$  is an object and  $z : \mathcal{C}(T, \mathbb{N})$ ,  $s : \mathcal{C}(\mathbb{N}, \mathbb{N})$  are morphisms which satisfies the following universal property: for every tuple  $(t : \mathcal{C}, m : \mathcal{C}, z' : \mathcal{C}(t, m), s' : \mathcal{C}(m, m))$ , there exists a unique  $f : \mathcal{C}(t \times \mathbb{N}, m)$  such that the following diagram commutes:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} t & \xrightarrow{\langle \text{id}_t, ! \cdot z \rangle} & t \times \mathbb{N} & \xleftarrow{\text{id} \times s} & t \times \mathbb{N} \\ & \searrow z' & \downarrow f & & \downarrow f \\ & & m & \xleftarrow{s'} & m \end{array}$$

Recall that the image of a terminal object under a weak equivalence is again terminal.

517 ► **Lemma 26** (🔴🔴). *Let  $G : \mathcal{C}_0 \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_1$  be a weak equivalence where both  $\mathcal{C}_0$  and  $\mathcal{C}_1$  have binary*  
 518 *products. Assume that  $\mathbb{N} : \mathcal{C}_0$ ,  $z : \mathcal{C}_0(T_0, \mathbb{N})$ , and  $s : \mathcal{C}_0(\mathbb{N}, \mathbb{N})$  are given. Then  $(\mathbb{N}, z, s)$  is an*  
 519 *NNO if and only if  $(G(\mathbb{N}), G(z), G(s))$  is an NNO.*

520 Let  $\text{Cat}_{\mathbb{N}}$  be the bicategory whose objects are cartesian categories equipped with a  
 521 parameterized NNO, and whose morphisms are terminal preserving functors  $F : \mathcal{C}_0 \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_1$   
 522 such that the unique morphism from  $\mathbb{N}_1 \rightarrow F(\mathbb{N}_0)$ , induced by the universal property of the  
 523 NNO, is an isomorphism.

524 ► **Proposition 27** (🔴). *The inclusion  $(\text{Cat}_{\mathbb{N}})_{\text{univ}} \rightarrow \text{Cat}_{\mathbb{N}}$  has a left biadjoint.*

525 ► **Corollary 28** (🔴). *The left biadjoint RC lifts to elementary topoi with NNO's.*

## 526 5 Related Work

527 We elaborate on the different methods to extend the Rezk completion to categories with  
 528 structure found in the literature.

529 In [4], the Rezk completion has been extended to, in particular, categories with families  
 530 (CwFs). That is, they showed that for weak equivalence into a univalent category (i.e.,  
 531 the Rezk completion), induces a map from the type of CwFs on the domain to the type  
 532 of CwFs on the codomain. Furthermore, they showed that for every weak equivalence one  
 533 has an equivalence between the representable map structures on the involved categories.  
 534 These results allowed them to prove that there is an equivalence between representable  
 535 maps of presheaves on a category and the CwFs on its Rezk completion. While our focus  
 536 has been on displayed bicategories with contractible 2-cells, CwFs and representable maps  
 537 require propositional 2-cells. Nonetheless, Proposition 10 could be slightly generalized to  
 538 have propositional 2-cells. In particular, we expect our methodology to also work for these  
 539 structures.

540 In [20], it was proven that the inclusion of the bicategory of univalent groupoids into  
 541 the bicategory all groupoids admits a left biadjoint. Furthermore, it was shown that this  
 542 biadjoint lifts to a variety of structures on groupoids. However, instead of considering each  
 543 structure individually, as we have done, [20] presented a signature for higher inductive types  
 544 to encode structure on groupoids and then showed that the structure definable by such HITs  
 545 induces a left biadjoint for the inclusion of structured univalent groupoids into structured  
 546 groupoids. In particular, [20] considers *algebraic* structure where as we consider *universal*  
 547 structure on categories. Furthermore, while we work with biadjoints in terms of equivalences  
 548 between hom-categories, [20] working with biadjoints in terms of the unit-counit description.

549 In [23], the Rezk completion has been extended to *monoidal categories*. In particular, they  
 550 also proved that the biadjoint given by the Rezk completion lifts from categories to monoidal  
 551 categories, although not in the exact same words. The approach considered here differs in  
 552 the following way. First, we do not rely on the universal property of weak equivalences and  
 553 the Rezk completion. Instead, we show the lifting in terms of weak equivalences. Second,  
 554 whereas in [23], they relied on displayed categories to lift the equivalence on hom-categories,  
 555 we now rely on displayed bicategories to formulate displayed biadjunctions/universal arrows.

556 Instead of working with *abstract Rezk completions*, one can also try to use a *concrete*  
 557 *implementation* of the Rezk completion, either via the presheaf construction, or via higher  
 558 inductive types. In [23], it was furthermore sketched how the presheaf construction inherits a  
 559 monoidal structure by considering the Day convolution structure on the category of presheaves.  
 560 In [19], both implementations of the Rezk completion have been extended to the setting of  
 561 enriched categories. However, as opposed to the monoidal case, some modifications have



been done. First, the notion of fully faithfulness, and hence weak equivalence, has to be adapted to take the enrichment into account. Nonetheless, [19] showed that such weak equivalences imply an equivalence on the *enriched functor categories*, similar universal to the (non-enriched) weak equivalences. Second, as opposed to the monoidal Rezk completion, [19] considered enriched presheaves, as opposed to **Set**-valued presheaves. Furthermore, while the presheaf construction has been adapted, the HIT construction for the enriched Rezk completion shows that the underlying category of the enriched Rezk completion is the *ordinary* Rezk completion.

## 6 Conclusion

We have presented a modular framework for the lifting of Rezk completions from categories to categories with structures and concluded that the Rezk completion of an elementary topos is again an elementary topos. In particular, our main result implies that the interpretation of type-formers and logical constructs is preserved under the Rezk completion.

There are multiple ways in which this work can be extended. First, in [1], it is proven that the presheaf construction for the Rezk completion of (1-)categories induces a similar result when passing to (locally univalent) bicategories. Hence, there is the question of how the results presented here *categorify* to higher categories and topoi (see e.g., [15, 22]).

Second, we can compose the tripos-to-topos construction with the Rezk completion for topoi, which provides a *tripos-to-univalent-topos construction*. Nonetheless, if one uses this construction to get realizability topoi, it remains to be seen whether the obtained topoi share the same structures and properties as realizability topoi. Hence, one would need to verify the properties of the Giraud-like theorem for realizability topoi [8].

Third, there are more categorical structures one can consider. One such example is *locally cartesian closedness*, used to interpret  $\Pi$ -types. We expect this to follow from the results about cartesian closed categories presented above and the fact that taking slice categories is well-behaved with respect to weak equivalences. One can also consider examples outside of topos theory. For example, abelian categories can be characterized in an *enrichment-free* way using (finitary) universal constructions, whose preservation properties should follow from the above.

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