



4-Dimensional 2-Crossed Modules

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Abstract — In this work, we defined a new category called 4-Dimensional 2-crossed modules. We identified the subobjects and ideals in this category. The notion of the subobject is a generalization of ideas like subsets from set theory, subspaces from topology, and subgroups from group theory. We then exemplified subobjects and ideals in the category of 4-Dimensional 2-crossed modules. A quotient object is the dual concept of a subobject. Concepts like quotient sets, spaces, groups, graphs, etc. are generalized with the notion of a quotient object. Using the ideal, we obtain the quotient of two subobjects and prove that the intersection of finite ideals is also an ideal in this category.

Keywords — *Crossed Module, subobject, ideal, category*

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1. Introduction

In order to generalize the well-known conclusion that the category of crossed modules is equivalent to the category of simplicial groups with a Moore complex of length 2, Conduché introduced 2-crossed modules of groups in [1] demonstrating that the category of simplicial groups with a three-dimensional Moore complex and the category of 2-crossed modules are equivalent. Therefore, 2-crossed modules also serve as algebraic models for connected homotopy 3-types or pointed CW-complexes X such that $\pi(X) = 0$ if $i > 3$. The idea of 2-crossed modules is adapted for algebras by Grandjean and Vale [2].

The homotopy 3-types can also be represented by crossed squares [3] and quadratic modules [4]. The categories of braided regular crossed modules [5] and Gray 3-groupoids with a single object [6], are other categories that are equivalent to the category of 2-crossed modules. The category of 2-crossed modules is also shown in [7] to be equivalent to the categories of neat crossed squares and neat maps.

For the algebraic description of pointed relative CW-complexes with cells in dimensions 4, Baues and Bleile introduced the concept of 4-dimensional quadratic complexes [8] to investigate the presentation of a space X as mapping cone of a map $\partial(X)$ under a space D . The need for a proper understanding of the relevant algebraic and categorical structure of the 4-Dimensional 2-crossed modules are motivated by studies and examples [9–15] for higher categorical structures. In this work, we defined the notion of 4-Dimensional 2-crossed modules in order to look into any potential equivalence between homotopy 4-types, which was inspired by the work of Baues and Bleile. Examining how 4-Dimensional 2-crossed modules relate to an algebraic structure resembling 2-crossed modules is the main goal of this paper. In order to achieve this, we first introduce the category of 4-Dimensional 2-crossed modules before describing subobjects and ideals in full detail. In conclusion, we demonstrate that the quotient of the objects in this category is a 4-Dimensional 2-crossed module.

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The main ideas of this work can be given as:

- To construct a new category weaker than homotopy 4-types and stronger than homotopy 3-types,
- To fully describe the subobjects and ideals within this category,
- To construct the quotient object by using ideals in this category.

2. 4-Dimensional 2-Crossed Modules

Grandjeán and Vale [2] have given a definition of 2-crossed modules of algebras. The following is an equivalent formulation of that concept.

A 2-crossed module of k -algebras consists of a complex of P -algebras $L \xrightarrow{\partial_2} M \xrightarrow{\partial_1} P$ together with an action of P on all three algebras and a P -linear mapping

$$\{-, -\} : M \times M \rightarrow L$$

which is often called the Peiffer lifting such that the action of P on itself is by multiplication, ∂_2 and ∂_1 are P -equivariant.

PL1 : $\partial_2 \{m_0, m_1\} = m_0 m_1 - \partial_1 (m_1) \cdot m_0$

PL2 : $\{\partial_2 (l_0), \partial_2 (l_1)\} = l_0 l_1$

PL3 : $\{m_0, m_1 m_2\} = \{m_0 m_1, m_2\} + \partial_1 (m_2) \cdot \{m_0, m_1\}$

PL4 : $\{m, \partial_2 (l)\} + \{\partial_2 (l), m\} = \partial_1 (m) \cdot l$

PL5 : $\{m_0, m_1\} \cdot p = \{m_0 \cdot p, m_1\} = \{m_0, m_1 \cdot p\}$

for all $m, m_0, m_1, m_2 \in M, l, l_0, l_1 \in L$ and $p \in P$. Note that we have not specified that M acts on L . We could have done that as follows: if $m \in M$ and $l \in L$, define

$$m \cdot l = \{m, \partial_2 (l)\}$$

From this equation (L, M, ∂_2) becomes a crossed module. We can split **PL4** into two pieces:

PL4 :

(a) $\{m, \partial_2 (l)\} = m \cdot l$

(b) $\{\partial_2 (l), m\} = m \cdot l - \partial_1 (m) \cdot l$

We denote such a 2-crossed module of algebras by $\{L, M, P, \partial_2, \partial_1\}$.

A morphism of 2-crossed modules is given by the following diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} L & \xrightarrow{\partial_2} & M & \xrightarrow{\partial_1} & P \\ f_2 \downarrow & & f_1 \downarrow & & f_0 \downarrow \\ L' & \xrightarrow{\partial'_2} & M' & \xrightarrow{\partial'_1} & P' \end{array}$$

where $f_0 \partial_1 = \partial'_1 f_1, f_1 \partial_2 = \partial'_2 f_2$

$$f_1 (p \cdot m) = f_0 (p) \cdot f_1 (m) \quad , \quad f_2 (p \cdot l) = f_0 (p) \cdot f_2 (l)$$

for all $m \in M, l \in L, p \in P$ and

$$\{-, -\} (f_1 \times f_1) = f_2 \{-, -\}$$

We thus get the category of 2-crossed modules denoting it by $X_2\text{Mod}$. In [4], Baues developed the concept of 4-dimensional quadratic modules after defining quadratic modules. Adapting this definition for 2-crossed modules we get a complex of algebras

$$\sigma : K \xrightarrow{\partial_4} L \xrightarrow{\partial_3} M \xrightarrow{\partial_2} P$$

such that

1. $(L, M, P, \partial_2, \partial_3)$ is a 2-crossed module with Peiffer lifting $\{-, -\} : M \times M \rightarrow L$;

2. K is a L -module such that $\partial_2(M)$ acts trivially and
3. ∂_4 is a homomorphism of Q_1 -modules, such that $\partial_3\partial_4 = 0$.

A morphism of 4-dimensional 2-crossed modules, $f : \sigma \rightarrow \sigma'$, is a sequence of morphisms

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \sigma : K & \xrightarrow{\partial_4} & L & \xrightarrow{\partial_3} & M & \xrightarrow{\partial_2} & P \\ f_4 \downarrow & & f_3 \downarrow & & f_2 \downarrow & & f_1 \downarrow \\ \sigma' : K' & \xrightarrow{\partial_4} & L' & \xrightarrow{\partial'_3} & M' & \xrightarrow{\partial'_2} & P' \end{array}$$

such that (f_3, f_2, f_1) yields a morphism of 2-crossed modules, f_4 is an f_1 -equivariant homomorphism of modules and $\partial_4 f_4 = f_3 \partial_4$. We denote the category of 4-Dimensional 2-crossed modules by X_2Mod^{4D} .

Next, we will define the subobjects in X_2Mod^{4D} .

Definition 2.1. Let

$$\sigma : Q_4 \xrightarrow{\partial_4} Q_3 \xrightarrow{\partial_3} Q_2 \xrightarrow{\partial_2} Q_1$$

be an object in X_2Mod^{4D} . Then we say that

$$\sigma' : Q'_4 \xrightarrow{\partial'_4} Q'_3 \xrightarrow{\partial'_3} Q'_2 \xrightarrow{\partial'_2} Q'_1$$

is a subobject of σ if

1. Q'_4 is a subalgebra of Q_4 , Q'_3 is a subalgebra of Q_3 and Q'_2 is a subring of Q_2 ;
2. $\partial'_2 : Q'_2 \rightarrow Q'_1$ is a subpre-crossed module of $\partial_2 : Q_2 \rightarrow Q_1$;
3. The actions of Q'_2 on Q'_4 and Q'_3 via Q'_1 is induced from the actions of Q_2 on Q_4 and Q_3 via Q_1 ;
4. σ' is an object in X_2Mod^{4D} and
5. The diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} & & Q_2 \times Q_2 & & & & \\ & & \downarrow \{-, -\} & & & & \\ Q_4 & \xrightarrow{\partial_3} & Q_3 & \xrightarrow{\partial_2} & Q_2 & \xrightarrow{\partial_1} & Q_1 \\ & & \downarrow \mu_1 \times \mu_1 & & \downarrow \mu_1 & & \downarrow \mu_0 \\ & & Q'_2 \times Q'_2 & & & & \\ & & \downarrow \{-, -\}' & & & & \\ Q'_4 & \xrightarrow{\partial'_3} & Q'_3 & \xrightarrow{\partial'_2} & Q'_2 & \xrightarrow{\partial'_1} & Q'_1 \end{array}$$

is commutative where for $i=1, 2, 3$ μ_i are injections.

Example 2.2. Let

$$\sigma : Q_2 \otimes Q_2 \xrightarrow{\partial_4} Q_2 \otimes Q_2 \xrightarrow{\partial_3} Q_2 \xrightarrow{\partial_2} Q_1$$

be an object in X_2Mod^{4D} with $Id : Q_2 \otimes Q_2 \rightarrow Q_2 \otimes Q_2$ as Peiffer lifting. If K_2 is ideal of Q_2 and K_1 is a subring of Q_1 that is $\delta_2 : K_2 \rightarrow K_1$ is a subpre-crossed module of $\partial_2 : Q_2 \rightarrow Q_1$ then

$$\sigma' : K_2 \otimes K_2 \xrightarrow{Id} K_2 \otimes K_2 \xrightarrow{\delta_3} K_2 \xrightarrow{\delta_2} K_1$$

is a subobject of σ with $Id : K_2 \otimes K_2 \rightarrow K_2 \otimes K_2$ as Peiffer lifting.

Example 2.3. Let R be a k -algebra and

$$\begin{array}{c} R/R^2 \otimes R/R^2 \\ \{-,-\}=Id \downarrow \\ \sigma : R/R^2 \otimes R/R^2 \xrightarrow{Id} R/R^2 \otimes R/R^2 \xrightarrow{\partial} R \xrightarrow{Id} R \end{array}$$

be an object in X_2Mod^{4D} . If I is an ideal of R and J is a subring of I then,

$$\begin{array}{c} I/I^2 \otimes I/I^2 \\ \{-,-\}=Id \downarrow \\ \sigma' : I/I^2 \otimes I/I^2 \xrightarrow{Id} I/I^2 \otimes I/I^2 \xrightarrow{\partial'} I \xrightarrow{i} J \end{array}$$

is a subobject of σ .

3. Ideals in X_2Mod^{4D}

In this section we will define ideals in X_2Mod^{4D} and intersections of two ideals is an ideal in this category.

Definition 3.1. Let

$$\sigma : K \xrightarrow{\partial_4} L \xrightarrow{\partial_3} M \xrightarrow{\partial_2} P$$

be an object in X_2Mod^{4D} . Then we say that

$$\sigma' : K' \xrightarrow{\partial'_4} L' \xrightarrow{\partial'_3} M' \xrightarrow{\partial'_2} P'$$

is an ideal of σ if

1. Let $L'L \subseteq L'$, $K'K \subset K'$ and M' be an ideal of M ;
2. (a) $M'M \subset M$ and P' is an ideal of P ;
 (b) for $p \in P'$ and $m \in M$, $p \cdot m \in M'$;
 (c) for $m' \in M'$ and $p \in P$, $p \cdot m' \in M'$;
3. For $m' \in M'$, $l \in L$, $k \in K$ $\partial_1(m') \cdot l \in L'$, $\partial_1(m') \cdot k \in K'$;
4. For $l' \in L'$, $m \in M$ and $k' \in K'$, $\partial_1(m) \cdot l' \in L'$, $\partial_1(m) \cdot k' \in K'$;
5. K' and L' are P -algebras. That is,
 - (a) For $p' \in P'$, $l \in L$ and $k \in K$, $p' \cdot l \in L'$, $p' \cdot k \in K'$;
 - (b) For $l' \in L'$, $p \in P$ and $k' \in K'$, $p \cdot l' \in L'$, $p \cdot k' \in K'$;

Example 3.2. Let I be an ideal of R if

$$\theta : K \longrightarrow L \longrightarrow I \xrightarrow{id} I$$

is an object in X_2Mod^{4D} then θ is an ideal of the 4-Dimensional 2-crossed module σ in Example 2.3.

Example 3.3. Let I and I' be ideals of R and $(I, R, \mu), (I', R, \mu')$ be two nil(2)-modules. Since $(I \cap I', I, \vartheta)$ is a nil(2)-module we have,

i)

$$\sigma' : K \xrightarrow{\partial_2} L \xrightarrow{\pi} I \cap I' \xrightarrow{\vartheta'} I'$$

is an ideal of

$$\sigma : K \xrightarrow{\delta_2} I \times I \xrightarrow{\pi} I \xrightarrow{\mu} R$$

ii)

$$\theta' : K \xrightarrow{\partial_2} L \xrightarrow{\pi} I \cap I' \xrightarrow{\vartheta} I$$

is an ideal of

$$\theta : K \xrightarrow{\delta'_2} I' \times I' \xrightarrow{\pi} I' \xrightarrow{\mu'} R$$

where $L = (I \cap I') \times (I \cap I')$ with Peiffer liftings as identities and π as projection.

Theorem 3.4. The intersection of finite ideals is an ideal in X_2Mod^{4D} .

PROOF. Let

$$\sigma : K \xrightarrow{\partial_3} L \xrightarrow{\partial_2} M \xrightarrow{\partial_1} P$$

be an object in X_2Mod^{4D} . If

$$\sigma_1 : K_1 \xrightarrow{\partial'_3} L_1 \xrightarrow{\partial'_2} M_1 \xrightarrow{\partial'_1} P_1$$

and

$$\sigma_2 : K_2 \xrightarrow{\partial''_3} L_2 \xrightarrow{\partial''_2} M_2 \xrightarrow{\partial''_1} P_2$$

be two subobjects of σ . Then we have,

1. Since $L_1L \subset L_1, L_2L \subset L_2$ and $K_1K \subset K_1, K_2K \subset K_2$ we get

$$(L_1 \cap L_2)L \subseteq L_1 \cap L_2$$

and

$$(K_1 \cap K_2)K \subset K_1 \cap K_2$$

2. a. Since $M_1M \subseteq M_1$ and $M_2M \subseteq M_2$ we get

$$(M_1 \cap M_2)M \subseteq M_1 \cap M_2$$

where $N_1 \trianglelefteq P$ and $P_2 \trianglelefteq P$ imply $P_1 \cap P_2 \trianglelefteq P$.

b. Since σ_1 is an ideal of σ for $x \in P_1$ we have $x \cdot m \in M_1$ and σ_2 is an ideal of σ for $x \in P_2$ we have $x \cdot m \in M_2$. Then we get $x \cdot m \in M_1 \cap M_2$.

c. Since σ_1 and σ_2 are ideals of σ , for $y \in M_1, y \in M_2$, and $p \in P$ we have $p \cdot y \in M_1$ and $p \cdot y \in M_2$ which implies $p \cdot y \in M_1 \cap M_2$.

3. Since σ_1 is an ideal of σ for $y \in M_1$ and $l \in L$ we have $\partial(y) \cdot l \in L_1$ and since ∂_2 is an ideal of σ for $\partial(y) \in M_2$ and $l \in L$ we have $\partial(y) \cdot l \in L_2$. Then we get $\partial(y) \cdot l \in L_1 \cap L_2$. Similarly for $y \in M_1 \cap M_2$ and $k \in K$ we get $\partial(y) \cdot k \in K_1 \cap K_2$.

4. Since for $z \in L_1$ and $m \in M$ $\partial_1(m) \cdot z \in L_1$ and for $z \in L_2, m \in M$ $\partial_1(m) \cdot z \in L_2$ we have $\partial_1(m) \cdot z \in L_1 \cap L_2$. Similarly for $t \in K_1 \cap K_2$ we get $\partial_1(m) \cdot t \in K_1 \cap K_2$.

5. a. Let $x \in P_1 \cap P_2$ for $x \in P_1$ and $l \in L$ we have $x \cdot l \in L_1$ and for $x \in P_2$ and $l \in L$ we have $x \cdot l \in L_2$. Then we get $x \cdot l \in L_1 \cap L_2$. Similarly for $x \in P_1 \cap P_2$ and $k \in K$ we have $x \cdot k \in K_1 \cap K_2$.

b. Let $z \in L_1 \cap L_2$ for $p \in P$ and $z \in L_1$ we have $p \cdot z \in L_1$ and for $z \in L_2$ and $p \in P$ we have $p \cdot z \in L_2$. Then we have $p \cdot z \in L_1 \cap L_2$. Similarly for $t \in K_1 \cap K_2$ we have $p \cdot k \in K_1 \cap K_2$.

As a result the object

$$K_1 \cap K_2 \xrightarrow{(\partial'_3, \partial''_3)} L_2 \cap L_2 \xrightarrow{(\partial'_2, \partial''_2)} M_1 \cap M_2 \xrightarrow{(\partial'_1, \partial''_1)} P_1 \cap P_2$$

in X_2Mod^{4D} is an ideal of

$$K \xrightarrow{\partial_3} L \xrightarrow{\partial_3} M \xrightarrow{\partial_3} P$$

□

4. Quotient object in X_2Mod^{4D}

In this section using the ideal σ' of an object σ in X_2Mod^{4D} , we prove that the quotient σ/σ' is an object in X_2Mod^{4D} .

Let

$$\sigma' : K' \xrightarrow{\partial'_3} L' \xrightarrow{\partial'_2} M' \xrightarrow{\partial'_1} P'$$

be an ideal of

$$\sigma : K \xrightarrow{\partial_3} L \xrightarrow{\partial_2} M \xrightarrow{\partial_1} P$$

in X_2Mod^{4D} . Since $M \trianglelefteq M$ and $P' \trianglelefteq P$, the action of P/P' on M/M' can be given as

$$(x + P') \cdot (y + M') = x \cdot y + M'$$

and for $p' \in P'$

$$\begin{aligned} p' \cdot (y + M') &= p' \cdot y + M' \\ &= 0 + M' \quad (\because p' \cdot y \in M) \end{aligned}$$

P' acts on M/M' trivially. Next, we will show that

$$\begin{aligned} \delta : M/M' &\rightarrow P/P' \\ y + M' &\mapsto \partial_1(y) + P' \end{aligned}$$

is a well defined nil(2)-module morphism.

∂'_1 is the restriction of ∂_1 to M' implies $\partial'_1 \subset P'$. For $m' \in M'$ we have $\partial'_1(m') \cdot (l + L') = \partial_1(m') \cdot l + L' = L'$ (σ' is an ideal of σ then $\partial'_1(m') \cdot l \in L'$). That is the action of M' on L/L' via P' must be trivial. Therefore M/M' acts on L/L' via P/P' . This action can be defined as:

$$(\partial_1(m) + M) \cdot (l + L') = \partial_1(m) \cdot l + L'$$

for $l + L' \in L/L'$ and $m + M' \in M/M'$.

Theorem 4.1. Let

$$\sigma' : K' \xrightarrow{\partial'_3} L' \xrightarrow{\partial'_2} M' \xrightarrow{\partial'_1} P'$$

be an ideal of

$$\sigma : K \xrightarrow{\partial_3} L \xrightarrow{\partial_2} M \xrightarrow{\partial_1} P$$

in X_2Mod^{4D} . Then

$$\sigma/\sigma' : K/K' \xrightarrow{\delta_3} L/L' \xrightarrow{\delta_2} M/M' \xrightarrow{\delta_1} P/P'$$

is an object in X_2Mod^{4D} .

PROOF. 1. PL1. For $x_1 + M', x_2 + M' \in M/M'$:

$$\begin{aligned} \delta\{x_1 + M', x_2 + M'\}_\delta &= \partial_2\{x_1, x_2\}_\sigma + L' \\ &= x_1x_2 - x_1 \cdot \partial_1(x_2) + L' \end{aligned}$$

PL2. For $y_1 + M', y_2 + M' \in L/L'$:

$$\begin{aligned} \{\delta_2(y_1 + L'), \delta_2(y_2 + L')\}_\delta &= \{\partial_2(y_1) + M', \partial_2(y_2) + M'\}_\sigma \\ &= \{\partial_2(y_1), \partial_2(y_2)\}_\sigma + M' \\ &= y_1y_2 + M' \\ &= (y_1 + M')(y_2 + M') \end{aligned}$$

PL3. For $x_0 + M', x_1 + M', x_2 + M' \in M/M'$:

$$\begin{aligned} \{x_0 + M', x_1x_2 + M'\}_\delta &= \{x_0, x_1x_2\}_\sigma + M' \\ &= \{x_0x_1, x_2\}_\sigma + \partial_1(x_2)\{x_0, x_1\}_\sigma + M' \\ &= \{x_0x_1, x_2\}_\sigma + M' + \partial_1(x_2)\{x_0, x_1\}_\sigma + M' \\ &= \{x_0x_1 + M', x_2 + M'\}_\delta + \partial_1(x_2)\{x_0 + M', x_1 + M'\}_\delta \end{aligned}$$

PL4. a. For $y + L' \in L/L'$ and $x + M' \in M/M'$:

$$\begin{aligned} \{\delta_2(y + L'), x + M'\}_\delta &= \{\partial_2(y) + M', x + M'\}_\delta \\ &= \{\partial_2(y), x\}_\sigma + M' \\ &= (x \cdot y - \partial_1(x) \cdot y) + M' \end{aligned}$$

b. For $y + L' \in L/L'$ and $x + M' \in M/M'$:

$$\begin{aligned} \{x + M', \delta_2(y + L')\}_\delta &= \{x + M', \partial_2(y) + M'\}_\delta \\ &= \{x, \partial_2(y)\}_\sigma + M' \\ &= (x \cdot y) + M' \end{aligned}$$

PL5. For $x_0 + M', x_1 + M' \in M/M'$ and $t + P' \in P/P'$:

$$\begin{aligned} \{x_0 + M', x_1 + M'\}_\delta \cdot (t + P') &= (\{x_0, x_1\}_\sigma \cdot (t + P')_\delta) + M' \\ &= (\{x_0 \cdot t, x_1\}_\sigma) + M' \\ &= \{(x_0 \cdot t) + M', x_1 + M'\}_\delta \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \{x_0 + M', x_1 + M'\}_\delta \cdot (t + P') &= (\{x_0, x_1\}_\sigma \cdot (t + P')_\delta) + M' \\ &= (\{x_0, x_1 \cdot t\}_\sigma) + M' \\ &= \{x_0 + M', (x_1 \cdot t) + M'\}_\delta \end{aligned}$$

2. Since σ' is an ideal of σ/σ' for $m + M' \in M/M'$ we have $\delta_1(m + M') \cdot (k + K') = \delta_1(m + M') \cdot (k + K') = K'$. That is M/M' acts on K/K' via P' trivially. Therefore K/K' is a P/P' -module.

3. For $k + K' \in K/K'$:

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_2\delta_3(k + K') &= \delta_2(\partial_3(k) + L') \\ &= \partial_2(\partial_3(k) + M') \\ &= 0 + M' \\ &= 0_{M/M'} \end{aligned}$$

□

5. Conclusion

In this work, we introduced a new category weaker than homotopy 4-types and stronger than homotopy 3-types. As an intriguing result 4-dimensional 2-crossed modules serve as a bridge to investigate categorical equivalences between homotopy 3-types and homotopy 4-types. The categorical equivalences of the category X_2Mod^{4D} and other homotopy 3–4 types from the various models can be explored as further research. The research presented in this study has addressed fundamentals of the category X_2Mod^{4D} , and these provide guidance for future work in the following:

- Constructing categorical properties such as limit, product, pullback, pushout, etc.,
- Embedding theorem can be adapted for the category X_2Mod^{4D} ,
- Freeness conditions and simplicial properties can be examined.

In addition, categorical equivalences and properties are also reference points for further work of X_2Mod^{4D} .

Author Contributions

The author read and approved the last version of the paper.

Conflicts of Interest

The author declares no conflict of interest.

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