



# Correction to: The Karoubi envelope and weak idempotent completion of an extriangulated category

Dixy Msapato<sup>1</sup>

Published online: 22 April 2022  
 © The Author(s) 2022

**Correction to: Applied Categorical Structures**  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10485-021-09664-8>

## 1 Introduction

In the original article [2], we showed that given an extriangulated category  $(\mathcal{C}, \mathbb{E}, \mathfrak{s})$ , its idempotent completion  $\tilde{\mathcal{C}}$  is also an extriangulated category  $(\tilde{\mathcal{C}}, \mathbb{F}, \mathfrak{r})$ . An important technical result is [2, Proposition 3.10], which states that the correspondence  $\mathfrak{r}$  is well-defined. The proof of the proposition given in the original article was incorrect. We will give a correct proof of this statement in this corrigendum. The statement of the proposition is as follows.

**Proposition 3.10** *Let  $\delta$  be an extension in  $\mathbb{F}((C, p), (A, q))$  realised under  $\mathfrak{s}$  by the following sequences,*

$$A \xrightarrow{a} B \xrightarrow{b} C, \quad (1)$$

$$A \xrightarrow{x} Y \xrightarrow{y} C. \quad (2)$$

*Then given idempotents  $r: B \rightarrow B$  and  $w: Y \rightarrow Y$  such that*

$$aq = ra, \quad pb = br \text{ and } xq = wx, \quad py = yw \quad (3)$$

*the sequences*

$$(A, q) \xrightarrow{aq} (B, r) \xrightarrow{pb} (C, p), \quad (4)$$

$$(A, q) \xrightarrow{xq} (Y, w) \xrightarrow{py} (C, p). \quad (5)$$

*are equivalent. That is to say,  $\mathfrak{r}$  is well-defined.*

To prove the equivalence of the sequences (4) and (5) in  $\tilde{\mathcal{C}}$ , the strategy used in [2] was to prove that the morphism  $wfr: (B, r) \rightarrow (Y, w)$  is an isomorphism, where  $f: B \rightarrow Y$  is an isomorphism in  $\mathcal{C}$  which gives the equivalence of the sequences (1) and (2) in  $\mathcal{C}$ . We claimed

---

The original article can be found online at <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10485-021-09664-8>.

---

✉ Dixy Msapato  
 mmdmm@leeds.ac.uk

<sup>1</sup> School of Mathematics, University of Leeds, Leeds LS2 9JT, UK

this could be done by first showing that  $wfr = wf$ , using the fact that  $wfra q = wfa q$  and hence  $(wfr - wf)aq = 0$ , then employing the fact that  $py$  is a weak cokernel of  $aq$  in  $\tilde{\mathcal{C}}$  to further deduce that  $wfr = wf$ . However, it is not clear if  $wf$  is a morphism in  $\tilde{\mathcal{C}}$ , so we cannot take advantage of the fact that  $py$  is a weak cokernel of  $aq$  in  $\tilde{\mathcal{C}}$  in this way.

## 2 Corrigendum

Recall for an extriangulated category  $(\mathcal{C}, \mathbb{E}, \mathfrak{s})$ , we defined the biadditive functor  $\mathbb{F}: \tilde{\mathcal{C}}^{\text{op}} \times \tilde{\mathcal{C}} \rightarrow \text{Ab}$  on the idempotent completion as follows. Given a pair of objects  $(X, p)$  and  $(Y, q)$  in  $\tilde{\mathcal{C}}$ , we define  $\mathbb{F}$  on objects by setting,

$$\mathbb{F}((X, p), (Y, q)) := p^* q_* \mathbb{E}(X, Y) = \{p^* q_* \delta \mid \delta \in \mathbb{E}(X, Y)\} \subseteq \mathbb{E}(X, Y).$$

This is just the image of  $\mathbb{E}(X, Y)$  under the group homomorphism  $\mathbb{E}(p, q)$ . For morphisms  $f: (A, a) \rightarrow (A', a')$  and  $g: (C, c) \rightarrow (C', c') \in \tilde{\mathcal{C}}$ , we then defined  $\mathbb{F}(f, g) := \mathbb{E}(f, g)|_{\mathbb{F}((C, c), (A, a))}$ , the restriction of the group homomorphism  $\mathbb{E}(f, g)$  to  $\mathbb{F}((C, c), (A, a))$ . Before we can give the proof of Proposition 3.10, we first need to collect some lemmas which will be needed.

**Lemma 2.1** [1, Lemma 4.1] *Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be an additive category with biadditive functor  $\mathbb{E}: \mathcal{C}^{\text{op}} \times \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \text{Ab}$ . Let  $X_{\bullet} = A \xrightarrow{x_1} X \xrightarrow{x_2} C$  and  $Y_{\bullet} = A \xrightarrow{y_1} Y \xrightarrow{y_2} C$  be a pair of complexes in  $\mathcal{C}$ . Suppose that the following sequences of functors are exact,*

$$\mathcal{C}(C, -) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{C}(x_2, -)} \mathcal{C}(X, -) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{C}(x_1, -)} \mathcal{C}(A, -)$$

$$\mathcal{C}(-, A) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{C}(-, x_1)} \mathcal{C}(-, X) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{C}(-, x_2)} \mathcal{C}(-, C)$$

and likewise for  $Y_{\bullet}$ . Then for any commutative diagram  $f_{\bullet} = (1_A, f, 1_C): X_{\bullet} \rightarrow Y_{\bullet}$

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} A & \xrightarrow{x_1} & X & \xrightarrow{x_2} & C \\ \parallel & & \downarrow f & & \parallel \\ A & \xrightarrow{y_1} & Y & \xrightarrow{y_2} & C \end{array}$$

the following statements are equivalent.

1.  $f_{\bullet}$  is a homotopy equivalence.
2.  $f_{\bullet}$  is an equivalence of the sequences  $X_{\bullet}$  and  $Y_{\bullet}$ , i.e.  $f$  is an isomorphism and the squares in the above diagram commute.
3.  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  is an isomorphism.

**Lemma 2.2** [1, Proposition 2.21] *Let  $\delta \in \mathbb{E}(C, A)$  be an extension, and let  $X_{\bullet} = A \xrightarrow{x_1} X \xrightarrow{x_2} C$  and  $Y_{\bullet} = A \xrightarrow{y_1} Y \xrightarrow{y_2} C$  be a pair of complexes in  $\mathcal{C}$ . Suppose that the following sequences of functors are exact,*

$$\mathcal{C}(C, -) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{C}(x_2, -)} \mathcal{C}(X, -) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{C}(x_1, -)} \mathcal{C}(A, -) \xrightarrow{\delta^{\#}} \mathbb{E}(C, -)$$

$$\mathcal{C}(-, A) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{C}(-, x_1)} \mathcal{C}(-, X) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{C}(-, x_2)} \mathcal{C}(-, C) \xrightarrow{\delta_{\#}} \mathbb{E}(-, A)$$

and likewise for  $Y_{\bullet}$ . Let  $f_{\bullet} = (1_A, f, 1_C): X_{\bullet} \rightarrow Y_{\bullet}$  be a commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} A & \xrightarrow{x_1} & X & \xrightarrow{x_2} & C \\ \parallel & & \downarrow f & & \parallel \\ A & \xrightarrow{y_1} & Y & \xrightarrow{y_2} & C \end{array}$$

If there exists a commutative diagram  $g_\bullet = (1_A, g, 1_C): Y_\bullet \rightarrow X_\bullet$ :

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} A & \xrightarrow{y_1} & Y & \xrightarrow{y_2} & C \\ \parallel & & \downarrow g & & \parallel \\ A & \xrightarrow{x_1} & X & \xrightarrow{x_2} & C \end{array}$$

Then  $f_\bullet$  is a homotopic equivalence.

We also need to strengthen [2, Lemma 3.9] as follows.

**Lemma 2.3** Let  $\delta = p^*q_*\varepsilon$  be an extension in  $\mathbb{F}((Z, p), (X, q))$  such that

$$\mathfrak{s}(p^*q_*\varepsilon) = [X \xrightarrow{x} Y \xrightarrow{y} Z].$$

Then the following sequences of functors are exact;

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\mathcal{C}}((Z, p), -) &\xrightarrow{\tilde{\mathcal{C}}(py, -)} \tilde{\mathcal{C}}((Y, r), -) \xrightarrow{\tilde{\mathcal{C}}(xq, -)} \tilde{\mathcal{C}}((X, q), -) \xrightarrow{\delta^\#} \mathbb{F}((Z, p), -) \\ \tilde{\mathcal{C}}(-, (X, q)) &\xrightarrow{\tilde{\mathcal{C}}(-, xq)} \tilde{\mathcal{C}}(-, (Y, r)) \xrightarrow{\tilde{\mathcal{C}}(-, py)} \tilde{\mathcal{C}}(-, (Z, p)) \xrightarrow{\delta_-^\#} \mathbb{F}(-, (X, q)) \end{aligned}$$

where  $r: Y \rightarrow Y$  is an idempotent morphism such that  $rx = xq$  and  $yr = py$ , obtained by an application of [2, Lemma 3.5].

**Proof** We will only show the exactness of the first sequence. The proof of the exactness of the second sequence is dual. Exactness at  $\tilde{\mathcal{C}}((Y, r), -)$  is as in [2, Lemma 3.9]. So what is left is to prove exactness at  $\tilde{\mathcal{C}}((X, q), -)$ . Since  $(\mathcal{C}, \mathbb{E}, \mathfrak{r})$  is an extriangulated category, the following sequence

$$\mathcal{C}(Z, -) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{C}(y, -)} \mathcal{C}(Y, -) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{C}(x, -)} \mathcal{C}(X, -) \xrightarrow{\delta_-^\#} \mathbb{E}(Z, -) \quad (6)$$

is exact.

Let  $(A, e)$  be an arbitrary object in  $\tilde{\mathcal{C}}$ . Take any morphism  $f: (Y, r) \rightarrow (A, e) \in \tilde{\mathcal{C}}((Y, r), (A, e))$ . Then

$$(\delta_{(A, e)}^\# \circ \tilde{\mathcal{C}}(xq, (A, e)))(f) = (fxq)_*\delta = (f(xq))_*\delta = (f(rx))_*\delta = ((fr)x)_*\delta = 0$$

by the exactness of (6). We conclude that  $\text{im}(\tilde{\mathcal{C}}(xq, (A, e))) \subseteq \ker(\delta_{(A, e)}^\#)$ .

Now take any morphism  $g: (X, q) \rightarrow (A, e) \in \tilde{\mathcal{C}}((X, q), (A, e))$ . Recall that this means  $g$  is a morphism  $g: X \rightarrow A$  in  $\mathcal{C}$  such that  $gq = eg = g$ . Suppose  $\delta_{(A, e)}^\#(g) = g_*\delta = 0$ . Since  $g$  is also a morphism in  $\mathcal{C}$  and  $\delta$  is an  $\mathbb{E}$ -extension, we have by the exactness of (6) that there exists  $h: Y \rightarrow A$  such that  $g = hx$ . Now consider the morphism  $h' = ehr: (Y, r) \rightarrow (A, e)$ . We have that

$$h'xq = (ehr)xq = eh(rx)q = eh(xq)q = e(hx)q = e(g)q = g.$$

We conclude that  $\ker(\delta_{(A, e)}^\#) \subseteq \text{im}(\tilde{\mathcal{C}}(xq, (A, e)))$ . Therefore we have exactness at  $\tilde{\mathcal{C}}((X, q), -)$  as required.  $\square$

We are now able to give a proof of Proposition 3.10.

## 2.1 Proof of Proposition 3.10

**Proof** Since the sequences  $A \xrightarrow{a} B \xrightarrow{b} C$ , and  $A \xrightarrow{x} Y \xrightarrow{y} C$  both realise  $\delta$ , they are by definition equivalent in  $\mathcal{C}$ . That is to say we have the following commutative diagram,

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} A & \xrightarrow{a} & B & \xrightarrow{b} & C \\ \parallel & & \downarrow f & & \parallel \\ A & \xrightarrow{x} & Y & \xrightarrow{y} & C \end{array} \quad (7)$$

where the morphism  $f: B \rightarrow Y$  is an isomorphism. Now consider the following diagram.

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} (A, q) & \xrightarrow{aq} & (B, r) & \xrightarrow{pb} & (C, p) \\ \parallel & & \downarrow wfr & & \parallel \\ (A, q) & \xrightarrow{xq} & (Y, w) & \xrightarrow{py} & (C, p) \end{array} \quad (8)$$

From the relations in (3) and those arising from the commutative diagram (7), we can observe the following:

$$wf(ra)q = wf(aq)q = wf(aq) = w(fa)q = w(x)q = (wx)q = (xq)q = xq, \quad (9)$$

$$p(yw)fr = p(py)fr = (py)fr = p(yf)r = p(b)r = p(br) = p(pb) = pb. \quad (10)$$

That is to say, diagram (8) is a commutative diagram. Now consider the following diagram.

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} (A, q) & \xrightarrow{xq} & (Y, w) & \xrightarrow{py} & (C, p) \\ \parallel & & \downarrow rf^{-1}w & & \parallel \\ (A, q) & \xrightarrow{aq} & (B, r) & \xrightarrow{pb} & (C, p) \end{array} \quad (11)$$

From the relations in (3) and those arising from the commutative diagram (7), we can observe the following:

$$rf^{-1}(wx)q = rf^{-1}(xq)q = r(f^{-1}x)q = r(a)q = (ra)q = (aq)q = aq, \quad (12)$$

$$p(br)f^{-1}w = p(pb)f^{-1}w = p(bf^{-1})w = p(y)w = p(yw) = p(py) = py. \quad (13)$$

That is to say, diagram (11) is a commutative diagram. By [2, Lemma 3.9] both (4) and (5) are complexes, that is to say  $pb \circ aq = 0$  and  $py \circ xq = 0$ . We apply Lemma 2.2 to conclude that  $wfr_{\bullet} = (1_{(A,q)}, wfr, 1_{(C,p)})$  is a homotopy equivalence, and hence by Lemma 2.1, the morphism  $wfr$  is an isomorphism. We conclude that (8) is an equivalence, that is to say  $\tau$  is well-defined.  $\square$

**Acknowledgements** The author wishes to thank their supervisor, Bethany Marsh for their support and invaluable insight. The author also thanks Amit Shah for bringing to their attention the error in question. The author also thanks Amit Shah and Carlo Klapproth for suggesting this new proof to resolve the error.

**Funding** This research was supported by an EPSRC Doctoral Training Partnership (Reference EP/R513258/1) through the University of Leeds.

## References

1. Herschend, Martin, Liu, Yu., Nakaoka, Hiroyuki:  $n$ -exangulated categories (I): definitions and fundamental properties. *J. Algebra* **570**, 531–586 (2021)
2. Msapato, D.: The Karoubi envelope and weak idempotent completion of an extriangulated category. *Appl. Categ. Struct.*, 1–37 (2021)

**Publisher's Note** Springer Nature remains neutral with regard to jurisdictional claims in published maps and institutional affiliations.