Semi-abelian categories, Hopf algebras and internal groupoids

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Since their introduction twenty years ago, semi-abelian categories [1] have attracted a lot of interest, since they are useful to study some fundamental exactness properties the categories of groups, Lie algebras, compact groups and crossed modules have in common. In this talk I shall explain some simple ideas of this area of categorical algebra, with a special emphasis on the role of internal groupoids in semi-abelian categories. These structures are closely related to commutators, central extensions and non-abelian homology. The category of groupoids in a semi-abelian category contains various interesting non-abelian torsion theories. It can be seen as the exact completion of its subcategory of equivalence relations, as it follows from a general characterization of the semilocalizations of semi-abelian categories [2]. A couple of results concerning the internal groupoids in the semi-abelian category of cocommutative Hopf algebras will also be considered [3,4].

References

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