

1134-18-244 **Kevin Carlson*** (carlskevin@gmail.com). *Higher Category Theory via Derivators*. Preliminary report.

The theory of derivators is intended, from one perspective, to give an approach to higher category theory that is as lightweight as possible. In particular, a derivator is built out of categories, rather than spaces, and so working with them recovers some of the simplicity of ordinary category theory. The general goal is to advance the program of developing a framework in which homotopical areas of mathematics are closer to being as easy to talk about as their classical counterparts. I'll talk about in what sense it's true that derivators model higher categories, and say a few words about ongoing work on using derivators to model approximations of fully coherent higher category theory. (Received September 07, 2017)