

# Stabilised Profunctors between Groupoids

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## Abstract

We examine the fundamental mathematical setting provided by the biequivalence between the compact closed bicategory  $\text{Prof}$  of profunctors (aka bimodules or distributors) between groupoids and natural transformations between them, and the 2-category of cocontinuous functors between categories of presheaves over groupoids (aka categories of groupoid actions) and natural transformations between them.

Our starting point is a basic representation theorem for presheaves over groupoids that leads to the consideration of groupoids with additional structure called kits. Kits have both combinatorial and logical character. From a combinatorial viewpoint, they serve to restrict presheaves to stable ones. From a logical perspective, we will consider a class of Boolean kits. These are drawn from Boolean algebras associated to groupoids by means of a general universal construction to be introduced and discussed. In this context, the dualities of profunctors and of Boolean algebras will be placed side by side to define a bicategory  $S\text{Prof}$  of stabilised profunctors between Boolean kits and natural transformations between them. We shall show that  $S\text{Prof}$  is  $\star$ -autonomous, with a projection onto  $\text{Prof}$  degenerating to its compact-closed structure, and that it is biequivalent to the 2-category of linear functors (those being left and right local adjoints) between categories of stable presheaves over Boolean kits and natural transformations between them.

The motivation and context for these investigations are developments in category theory (polynomial functors), structural combinatorics (species of structures), and theoretical computer science (linear logic). In particular, symmetric-algebra structure (Fock space) in this setting plays a fundamental role and, time permitting, will also be discussed.

This is joint work with Zeinab Galal and Hugo Paquet.

## Background

### ► Groupoids

= small categories with all maps invertible

(every groupoid is equivalent to a small sum of groups)

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## ▶ Profunctors (bimodules or distributors)

$$P: A \leftrightarrow B$$

$$= P: B^{\text{op}} \times A \rightarrow \underline{\text{Set}} \quad (\text{example: } \text{hom}_A: A \leftrightarrow A)$$

$$= P: A \rightarrow \underline{\text{Set}}^{B^{\text{op}}} \quad (\text{example: } \gamma_A: A \leftrightarrow \text{Set}^{A^{\text{op}}})$$

► Presheaves (or actions)

$$\underline{\text{Psh}}(A) = \underline{\text{Set}}^{A^{\text{op}}}$$

examples: for  $a \in A$

- free actions:  $\gamma(a) \in \underline{\underline{\text{Psh}}}(A)$

► Presheaves (or actions)

$$\underline{\text{Psh}}(A) = \underline{\text{Set}}^{A^{\text{op}}}$$

examples: for  $a \in A$

• free actions:  $y(a) \in \underline{\text{Psh}}(A)$

• quotients of free actions by subgroups:

for  $G \leq A(a, a)$

$$(g \in G) \curvearrowright y(a) \rightarrow y(a)/G$$

• SUMS

# Prof between groupoids

▶ profunctor  $A \rightsquigarrow B$   $\approx$   $\underline{\text{Psh}}(A) \xrightarrow{\text{cocontinuous}} \underline{\text{Psh}}(B)$

$\{$

( $\underline{\text{Psh}}(C)$  is the completion of  $C$ )

# Prof between groupoids

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( $\underline{\text{Psh}}(C)$  is the completion of  $C$ )

$\text{hom}_A \approx \text{Id}_{\underline{\text{Psh}}(A)}$

composition

$$(Q \circ P)(c, a) = \left( \sum_{b \in B} Q(c, b) \times P(b, a) \right) / \approx$$

$$\frac{A \xrightarrow{P} B \xrightarrow{Q} C}{A \xrightarrow{Q \circ P} C}$$



## Prof

- ▶ symmetric monoidal closed structure

$$A \otimes B = A \times B$$

- ▶ biproduct structure

$$A \oplus B = A + B$$

- ▶ compact closed structure

$$A^* = A^{op}$$

- ▶ symmetric-algebra structure (or Fock space)

$$S(A) = \text{symmetric-monoidal completion}$$

# Representation of groupoid actions

► Every  $X \in \underline{\text{PSh}}(A)$  is of the form

$$\sum_{i \in I} y^{(a_i)} / G_i$$

where

$$G_i \in \left\{ \underline{\text{Stab}}(x) \mid x \in X(a_i) \right\}$$

||

$$\left\{ \alpha \in A(a_i, a_i) \mid x \cdot \alpha = x \right\}$$

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$$\parallel$$
$$\left\{ \alpha \in A(a_i, a_i) \mid x \cdot \alpha = x \right\}$$

NB:  $\forall a \in A. \left\{ \underline{\text{Stab}}(x) \mid x \in X(a) \right\}$

is closed under conjugation

# Kits on groupoids

► A kit  $\mathcal{A}$  on  $A$  is an assignment

$$a \in A \mapsto \mathcal{A}(a) \subseteq \underline{\text{SubGroups}}(A(a, a))$$

⋈  
closed under conjugation

Example: for  $X \in \underline{\text{PSH}}(A)$

$$a \mapsto \{ \underline{\text{Stab}}(x) \mid x \in X(a) \}$$

## Stable presheaves

$$\mathcal{S}(A, \mathcal{A}) \hookrightarrow \underline{\text{PSh}}(A)$$

//

$$\{ X \mid \forall a \in A. \forall x \in X(a). \underline{\text{Stab}}(x) \in \mathcal{A}(a) \}$$

## Boolean Rings via orthogonality

► Let  $A$  be a group. For  $G, G' \leq A$  define

$$G \perp G' \iff G \cap G' \text{ is trivial}$$

## Boolean kits via orthogonality

- ▶ Let  $A$  be a group. For  $G, G' \leq A$  define

$$G \perp G' \iff G \cap G' \text{ is trivial}$$

- ▶ The orthogonal of a kit  $\mathcal{A}$  on  $A$  is the kit  $\mathcal{A}^\perp$  on  $A^{\text{op}}$  defined as:

$$\mathcal{A}^\perp(a) = (\mathcal{A}(a))^\perp$$

$$= \{ G' \leq A(a, a) \mid \forall G \in \mathcal{A}(a). G \perp G' \}$$

## Boolean Kits

► Boolean kits are those such that


$$\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{A}^{\perp\perp}$$

imposes strong closure properties: non-emptiness, downwards closure, closure under filtered unions



## Boolean Kits

- ▶ Boolean kits are those such that

$$\alpha A = \alpha A^{\perp\perp}$$


imposes strong closure properties: non-emptiness, downwards closure, closure under filtered unions

- ▶ The Boolean kits on a groupoid form a complete Boolean algebra with complement given by orthogonality and meets by intersection  
(Rem: This construction arises by Booleanisation)

# Stabilised profunctors between Boolean kits

▶  $P: (A, \mathcal{A}) \leftrightarrow (B, \mathcal{B})$

=  $P: A \leftrightarrow B$

st.

$$\alpha \cdot p \cdot \beta = p \in P(b, a)$$

implies

$$\alpha \in \cup \mathcal{A}(a) \Rightarrow \beta \in \cup \mathcal{B}(b)$$

and

$$\beta \in \cup \mathcal{B}^\perp(b) \Rightarrow \alpha \in \cup \mathcal{A}^\perp(a)$$

# Stabilised profunctors between Boolean kits

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$$= P: A \dashv\vdash B$$

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Rem: Stabilised profunctors are closed under composition

Rem.

$$P: (A, \mathcal{A}) \rightarrow (B, \mathcal{B})$$

$\Downarrow$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} S(A, \mathcal{A}) & \dashrightarrow & S(B, \mathcal{B}) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \underline{PSh}(A) & \xrightarrow{P^\#} & \underline{PSh}(B) \end{array}$$

and

$$\begin{array}{ccc} S(B^\circ, \mathcal{B}^\perp) & \dashrightarrow & S(A^\circ, \mathcal{A}^\perp) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \underline{PSh}(B^\circ) & \xrightarrow{(P^*)^\#} & \underline{PSh}(A^\circ) \end{array}$$

▶

$$(A, \mathcal{A}) \xrightarrow{\text{stabilised profunctor}} (B, \mathcal{B})$$

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$$S(A, \mathcal{A}) \xrightarrow{\text{linear functor}} S(B, \mathcal{B})$$

//

left and right local adjoint

# SProf

- ▶ symmetric monoidal closed structure

$$(A, \mathcal{A}) \otimes (B, \mathcal{B}) = (A \times B, (\mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{B})^{++})$$

- ▶ biproduct structure

$$(A, \mathcal{A}) \oplus (B, \mathcal{B}) = (A + B, [\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}])$$

- ▶ \*-autonomous structure

$$(A, \mathcal{A})^* = (A^{\text{op}}, \mathcal{A}^{\perp})$$

- ▶ symmetric-algebra structure (or Fock space)

$$\Sigma(A, \mathcal{A}) = (S(A), \mathcal{O}(\mathcal{A})^{++})$$

# Generalised species of structures



$$S(A) \xrightarrow{t} B$$

generalised species Esp

# Generalised species of structures and analytic functors

▶

$$\begin{array}{c} \underline{\underline{S(A) \mapsto B}} \\ \underline{\underline{PSH(A) \longrightarrow PSH(B)}} \end{array}$$

generalised species Esp  
analytic functors Ana  
(= finitary preserving  
quasi-pullbacks and  
inverse limits)



# Generalised species of structures and analytic functors

▶ 
$$\frac{S(A) \rightarrow B}{\text{generalised species } \underline{\underline{\text{Esp}}}}$$
$$\frac{\underline{\underline{\text{PSH}}}(A) \rightarrow \underline{\underline{\text{PSH}}}(B)}{\text{analytic functors } \underline{\underline{\text{Ana}}}}$$

▶ Esp/Ana have cartesian closed and differential structure

# Stable species and functors

▶  $\underline{\underline{\Sigma(A, A) \rightarrow (B, B)}}$

stable species      SEsp

$S(A, A) \rightarrow S(B, B)$

stable functors      Stab

(= finitary, epi-preserving  
local right adjoints)

▶ SEsp / Stab have cartesian closed and  
differential structure

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