

# The word problem for $\Sigma\Pi$ -categories, i.e. properties of free $\Sigma\Pi$ -categories (II)

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Cape Town, Category Theory 2009

# Outline

## Introductory remarks

$\Sigma\Pi$ -categories and their theory

Context, some motivations

The free  $\Sigma\Pi$ -category

## “En route” towards a decision procedure

The CT2006 results

## Softness, cardinals, and (some hints on) a decision procedure

Understanding softness

Pushouts-pullbacks, bouncing

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# $\Sigma\Pi$ -categories and their theory

A  $\Sigma\Pi$ -category :

a category with (chosen) finite products and finite coproducts.

► *Binary products:*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} [X, A] \times [X, B] & \xrightarrow{\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle} & [X, A \times B] \\ [X_i, A] & \xrightarrow{\pi_i} & [X_0 \times X_1, A] \end{array}$$

such that

$$\pi_i(\langle f_0, f_1 \rangle) = f_i, \quad \langle \pi_0(f), \pi_1(f) \rangle = f.$$

► *Binary coproducts:* dual nats  $\{ \cdot, \cdot \}$  and  $\sigma_j, j = 0, 1, \dots$   
... and dual equations.

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# Units, empty products and coproducts, terminal and initial objects

- ▶ The units:

$$[X, 1] = \{!_X\}$$

$$[0, A] = \{?_A\}$$

- ▶ Some derived equations:

$$\{!_X, !_Y\} = !_X + !_Y : X + Y \rightarrow 1$$

$$!_0 = ?_1 : 0 \rightarrow 1$$

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# The word problem for $\Sigma\Pi$ -categories?

- ▶ Elementary but important mathematical theory,
- ▶ Ties to linear logic (additives),
- ▶ A challenge for category theorists and logicians:
  - ▶ Joyal & Hu 96, Hu 98,
  - ▶ Dosen 99, Dosen & Petric 2009,
  - ▶ Hughes 2000, Hughes & van Glabbeek 03,
  - ▶ Joyal 95,
  - ▶ Cockett & Seely 2001,
- ▶ From Whitman's condition to softness:  
mimicking the theory of free lattices,
- ▶ Joyal's theory of communication:  
free  $\Sigma\Pi$ -categories are semantics for communication protocols,  
we tackle equivalence of these protocols.

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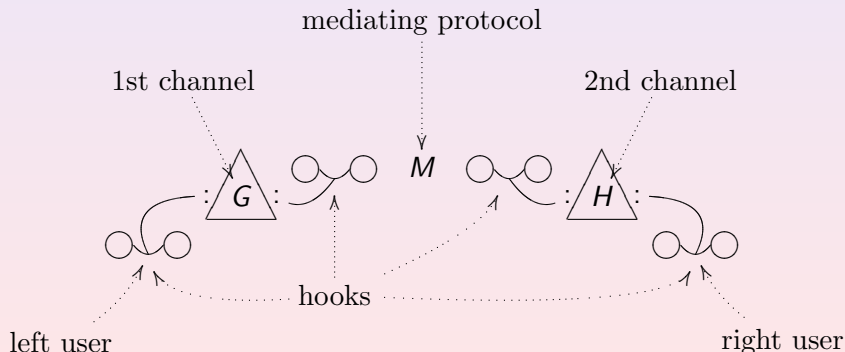
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# $\Sigma\Pi$ s: a theory of communication

Objects of  $\Sigma\Pi(\mathcal{A})$  are channels,

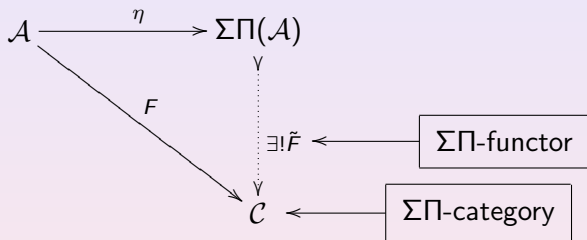
arrows of  $\Sigma\Pi(\mathcal{A})$  are mediating protocols.

$$G \xrightarrow{M} H$$



# $\Sigma\Pi(\mathcal{A})$ , the free $\Sigma\Pi$ category on $\mathcal{A}$

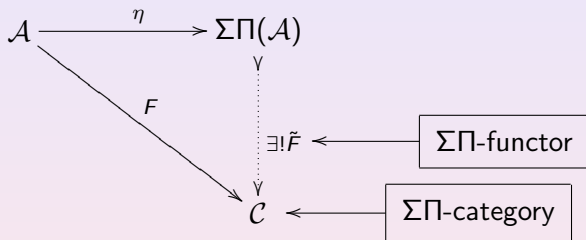
- ▶ free  $\Sigma\Pi$ -category generated by  $\mathcal{A}$ :



- ▶  $\Sigma\Pi$ -functor:  
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# CS01 : a Lambek-style construction of $\Sigma\Pi(\mathcal{A})$

$$\frac{x \xrightarrow{f} y}{\eta(x) \xrightarrow{\eta(f)} \eta(y)}$$

$$\frac{-}{X \xrightarrow{!} 1} R1$$

$$\frac{X_i \xrightarrow{f} A}{X_0 \times X_1 \xrightarrow{\pi_i(f)} A} L_i \times$$

$$\frac{X \xrightarrow{f} A \quad X \xrightarrow{g} B}{X \xrightarrow{\langle f, g \rangle} A \times B} R \times$$

$$\frac{-}{0 \xrightarrow{?} A} L0$$

$$\frac{X \xrightarrow{f} A \quad Y \xrightarrow{g} A}{X + Y \xrightarrow{\{f, g\}} A} L+$$

$$\frac{X \xrightarrow{f} A_j}{X \xrightarrow{\sigma_j(f)} A_0 + A_1} R_j +$$



# CS01: confluence modulo equations

## Proposition

*The cut-elimination procedure is confluent modulo the equations:*

$$\pi_i(\langle f, g \rangle) = \langle \pi_i(f), \pi_i(g) \rangle \quad \sigma_j(\{f, g\}) = \{\sigma_j(f), \sigma_j(g)\}$$

$$\pi_i(\sigma_j(f)) = \sigma_j(\pi_i(f))$$

$$\{\langle f_{11}, f_{12} \rangle, \langle f_{21}, f_{22} \rangle\} = \langle \{f_{11}, f_{21}\}, \{f_{12}, f_{22}\} \rangle$$

$$\pi_i(!) = !$$

$$\sigma_j(?) = ?$$

$$\{!, !\} = !$$

$$\langle ?, ? \rangle = ?$$

$$!_0 = ?_1$$

# Abstract characterization of free $\Sigma\Pi$ -cats [CS01, J95]

1. The functor  $\eta : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \Sigma\Pi(\mathcal{A})$  is full and faithful.
2. Generators are *atomic*:

$$\coprod_j [\eta(a), Y_j] \rightarrow [\eta(a), \coprod_j Y_j]$$

$$\coprod_i [X_i, \eta(b)] \rightarrow [\coprod_i X_i, \eta(b)]$$

are isomorphisms.

3.  $\Sigma\Pi(\mathcal{A})$  is *soft*:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \coprod_{i,j} [X_i, Y_j] & \longrightarrow & \coprod_j [\coprod_i X_i, Y_j] \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \coprod_i [X_i, \coprod_j Y_j] & \longrightarrow & [\coprod_i X_i, \coprod_j Y_j] \end{array}$$

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# Characterization of free $\Sigma\Pi$ -categories (cont.)

## Theorem

*The pair  $(\eta, \Sigma\Pi(\mathcal{A}))$  satisfies 1,2,3.*

*If  $\mathcal{C}$  is a  $\Sigma\Pi$ -category “generated” by  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $F : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ ,  
and  $(F, \mathcal{C})$  satisfies 1,2,3,  
then the extension  $\hat{F} : \Sigma\Pi(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  is an equivalence.*

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# A result presented at CT06

## Theorem

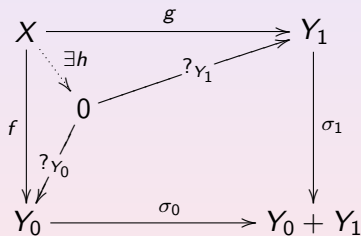
*In  $\Sigma\Pi(\mathcal{A})$  coproducts are weakly disjoint:*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & \xrightarrow{g} & Y_1 \\ f \downarrow & & \downarrow \sigma_1 \\ Y_0 & \xrightarrow{\sigma_0} & Y_0 + Y_1 \end{array}$$

# A result presented at CT06

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*In  $\Sigma\Pi(\mathcal{A})$  coproducts are weakly disjoint:*





## ... and some Corollaries

- ▶ decide in linear time whether
  - ▶ an object of  $\Sigma\Pi(\mathcal{A})$  is isomorphic to 0 or 1,
  - ▶ an arrow of  $\Sigma\Pi(\mathcal{A})$  factors through 0 and or 1.

- ▶ a simple characterization of monic coproduct injections:

$$\sigma_0 : A \longrightarrow A + B$$

is monic iff either  $B$  is not pointed or  $A$  is pointed.

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## Softness: the focus of a decision procedure

A decision procedure focuses on the homset  $[X \times Y, A + B]$ .

For example:

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let equal f g : X → A × B =
  let
    f = ⟨f1, f2⟩
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the pushout

$$\begin{array}{ccc} [X, A] + [X, B] + [Y, A] + [Y, B] & \longrightarrow & [X \times Y, A] + [X \times Y, B] \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ [X, A + B] + [Y, A + B] & \longrightarrow & [X \times Y, A + B] \end{array}$$

# Understanding softness

The homset  $[X \times Y, A + B]$  is ...

the colimit of the “diagram of cardinals”:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} [X \times Y, A] & \xleftarrow{\pi_0} & [X, A] & \xrightarrow{\sigma_0} & [X, A + B] \\ \uparrow \pi_1 & & & & \uparrow \sigma_1 \\ [Y, A] & & & & [X, B] \\ \downarrow \sigma_0 & & & & \downarrow \pi_0 \\ [Y, A + B] & \xleftarrow{\sigma_1} & [Y, B] & \xrightarrow{\pi_1} & [X \times Y, B] \end{array}$$

# Understanding softness

The homset  $[X \times Y, A + B]$  is ...

the quotient of

$$[X, A + B] + [Y, A + B] + [X \times Y, A] + [X \times Y, B]$$

under the equivalence relation generated by elementary pairs  $(f, g)$ :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & h \in [X, A] & \\ \pi_0 \swarrow & & \searrow \sigma_0 \\ f \in [X \times Y, A] & & g \in [X, A + B] \end{array}$$

$$f = \pi_0(h)$$

$$\sigma_0(h) = g$$

# (In)definite arrows

## Definition

An arrow is *indefinite* if it factors through 0 or through 1. Otherwise, it is *definite*.

A simple decision procedure for indefinite maps:

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let equal f g = (*f g factor through 0*)
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    f = f';?
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## A useful Lemma

If

$$\pi : f = f_0 g_1 f_2 \dots g_n = g$$

is a path of elementary pairs crossing a corner,

then  $[f] = [g] \in [X \times Y, A + B]$  is indefinite.

Consider

$$\dots f_{i-1} = \pi_0(h_i) \quad \sigma_0(h_i) = g_i \quad g_i = \sigma_1(h_{i+1}) \quad \pi_0(h_{i+1}) = f_{i+1} \dots$$

then  $h_i$  and  $h_{i+1}$  are copointed and  $[g] = [f]$  as well.

Lemma

*If  $[f] \in [X \times Y, A + B]$  is definite and  $\pi : f \xrightarrow{*} g$  is a path of elementary pairs, then  $\pi$  "bounces" along one side of this diagram.*

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## Softness for definite maps

The previous Lemma transforms – for definite maps – the cardinal diagram from

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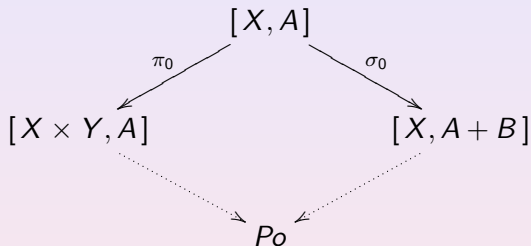
$$\begin{array}{ccc} [X \times Y, A] & & [X, A + B] \\ \uparrow \pi_1 & & \uparrow \sigma_1 \\ [Y, A] & & [X, B] \\ \downarrow \sigma_0 & & \downarrow \pi_0 \\ [Y, A + B] & & [X \times Y, B] \end{array}$$

$$[Y, A + B] \xleftarrow{\sigma_1} [Y, B] \xrightarrow{\pi_1} [X \times Y, B]$$

# A new main result

## Theorem

*A pushout diagram*



*is also a pullback.*

That is: given  $\pi : f \xrightarrow{*} g$  a path “bouncing” on the upper row, there exists a unique  $h$  such that

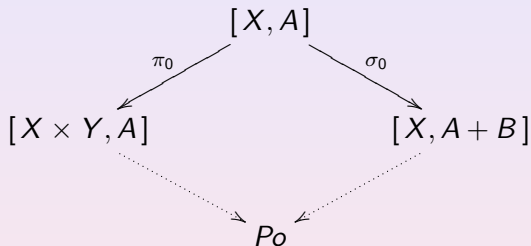
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# Deciding whether $[f] = [g]$ in $[X_0 \times X_1, A_0 + A_1]$

let equivalent  $f \sim g =$

(\*  $f \sim g$  are both definite

$f: X \times Y \rightarrow A, g: X \rightarrow A + B$  \*)

find  $h$  s.t.

$f = \sigma_0(h) \ \&\& \ \pi_0(h) = g$

Uniqueness of such  $h$  “makes it is easy” to find it.

## Theorem

*There exists an algorithm to decide whether two parallel arrow-terms  $f, g$  of  $\Sigma\Pi(\mathcal{A})$  are equal in  $[X, A]$ . The procedure runs in time polynomial in*

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# Deciding whether $[f] = [g]$ in $[X_0 \times X_1, A_0 + A_1]$

let equivalent  $f \ g =$

(\*  $f \ g$  are both definite

$f : X \times Y \rightarrow A, \ g : X \rightarrow A + B$  \*)

find  $h$  s.t.

$f = \sigma_0(h) \ \&\& \ \pi_0(h) = g$

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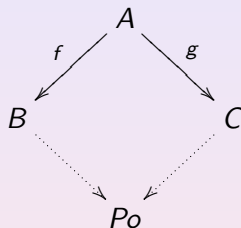
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$$(\text{hgt}(X) + \text{hgt}(A)) \cdot \text{size}(X) \cdot \text{size}(A).$$

# Background on bouncers

## Lemma

Consider a pushout in Set



TFAE:

- ▶ the diagram is a weak pullback,
- ▶  $\text{Ker}(f)$  and  $\text{Ker}(g)$  commute.

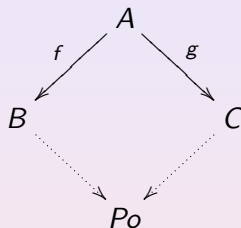
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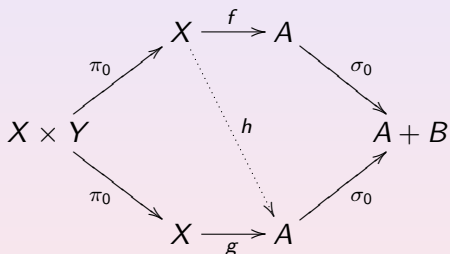
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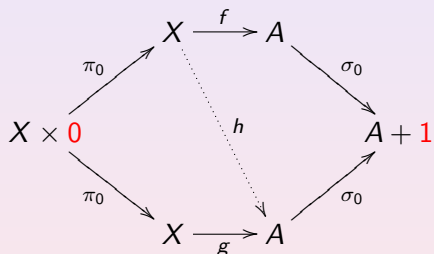
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## A minimal nontrivial bouncer

In  $\Sigma\Pi(\emptyset)$  all bouncer are trivial. This is not the case in general:

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*In  $\Sigma\Pi(\mathcal{A})$   $(f, g)$  have a bouncer if and only if  $(g, f)$  have a bouncer.*

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