

Purity and freshness (in categorical model theory)

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September 2020

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- 1 J. Adámek and J. Rosický, *Locally Presentable and Accessible Categories*, London Mathematical Society Lecture Notes Series **189**, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1994.

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- 4 References [2] and [3] above can both be downloaded from <https://wehrungf.users.lmno.cnrs.fr/pubs.html> .

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- Examples:

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- **Examples:** Posets of finitely generated ideals of rings,

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- A way to define intractability is to state that \mathcal{C} is **not** the class of models of any **infinitary (not just first-order!) sentence**.

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- In what follows, we introduce a way to construct, for any infinite cardinal λ , an $\mathcal{L}_{\infty\lambda}$ -elementary submodel A of a model B , such that $A \in \mathcal{C}$ and $B \notin \mathcal{C}$.

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- This proves intractability of \mathcal{C} , in the sense above.

Definition (Prüfer 1923)

A subgroup A of an abelian group B is a **pure subgroup** if $A \cap nB = nA$ for every integer n .

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Finite equation systems and pure subgroups

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Finite equation system over an abelian group A :

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Finite equation system over an abelian group A :

$$k_{11}x_1 + \cdots + k_{1n}x_n = a_1;$$

$$k_{21}x_1 + \cdots + k_{2n}x_n = a_2;$$

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$$k_{m1}x_1 + \cdots + k_{mn}x_n = a_m,$$

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Theorem (folklore)

A subgroup A is pure in B iff every finite equation system over A , solvable in B , is also solvable in A .

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Proof. \mathbb{Z} is a PID, thus, letting $K = (k_{ij})_{i,j}$, there are invertible matrices P and Q such that PKQ is diagonal; this reduces the problem to a system of the form $d_j x_j = a'_j$ ($1 \leq j \leq n$), where all $a'_j \in A$ and $d_j \in \mathbb{Z}$.

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- **First-order language:** $\Sigma = (\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{R}, \text{ar})$ with $\mathcal{F} \cap \mathcal{R} = \emptyset$ and $\text{ar}: \mathcal{F} \cup \mathcal{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ with $0 \notin \text{ar}[\mathcal{R}]$.

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- **model for Σ (or Σ -structure):** $\mathbf{A} = (A, s^{\mathbf{A}})_{s \in \mathcal{F} \cup \mathcal{R}}$, where
 - $R^{\mathbf{A}} \subseteq A^{\text{ar}(R)}$ for each $R \in \mathcal{R}$;
 - $f^{\mathbf{A}}: A^{\text{ar}(f)} \rightarrow A$ for each $f \in \mathcal{F}$ with nonzero arity;
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- **atomic formulas:** $Rt_1 \dots t_n$, where the t_i are terms and R is either the equality ($n = 2$), or a relation symbol ($n = \text{ar}(R)$).

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- **First-order formulas** obtained by closing the atomic formulas under \wedge, \neg, \exists (thus also \vee, \forall).

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- **Satisfaction** of a **closed** (no free variables) formula φ with parameters from a model \mathbf{A} (in symbol $\mathbf{A} \models \varphi$) defined by induction on the complexity of φ , the usual way.

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- A map $f: A \rightarrow B$ is an **elementary embedding** if $\mathbf{A} \models \varphi(\vec{a}) \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{B} \models \varphi(f\vec{a})$, for every closed formula φ with parameters \vec{a} from \mathbf{A} .

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- Direction \Rightarrow (resp., \Leftrightarrow) for **atomic** φ : we say that f is a **homomorphism** (resp., an **embedding**).
- Those concepts can be extended to many logics (special sets of formulas, infinitary logics. . .).

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- For any homomorphism $f: \mathbf{A} \rightarrow \mathbf{B}$, if an atomic system $\Phi(\vec{a})$ over \mathbf{A} has a solution over \mathbf{A} , then $\Phi(f\vec{a})$ has a solution over \mathbf{B} (*straightforward*).

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- An **atomic system** over a model \mathbf{A} is a set of atomic formulas with parameters from \mathbf{A} .
- For any homomorphism $f: \mathbf{A} \rightarrow \mathbf{B}$, if an atomic system $\Phi(\vec{a})$ over \mathbf{A} has a solution over \mathbf{A} , then $\Phi(f\vec{a})$ has a solution over \mathbf{B} (*straightforward*).
- A homomorphism $f: \mathbf{A} \rightarrow \mathbf{B}$ is **pure** if for every **finite** atomic system $\Phi(\vec{a})$ over \mathbf{A} , if $\Phi(f\vec{a})$ is solvable in \mathbf{B} , then $\Phi(\vec{a})$ is solvable in \mathbf{A} .

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- Equivalently: for every **finite** conjunction φ of atomic formulas, $\mathbf{B} \models \exists \vec{x} \varphi(f\vec{a}, \vec{x})$ implies $\mathbf{A} \models \exists \vec{x} \varphi(\vec{a}, \vec{x})$.

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- For abelian groups, we recover the usual concept of purity.

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Proposition (Adámek and Rosický 1994)

Let Σ be a finite first-order language. An embedding $f: \mathbf{A} \rightarrow \mathbf{B}$, of models of Σ , is pure iff for all **finitely presentable** \mathbf{A}' and \mathbf{B}' and all homomorphisms $a: \mathbf{A}' \rightarrow \mathbf{A}$, $b: \mathbf{B}' \rightarrow \mathbf{B}$, and $f': \mathbf{A}' \rightarrow \mathbf{B}'$, if $f \circ a = b \circ f'$, then there exists a homomorphism $g: \mathbf{B}' \rightarrow \mathbf{A}$ such that $a = g \circ f'$.

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A model \mathbf{C} is **finitely presentable** if for every **directed colimit** $S = \varinjlim_{i \in I} S_i$, every homomorphism $c: \mathbf{C} \rightarrow S$ factors “in an essentially unique way” through some S_i .

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- Purity is thus a **categorical** concept.

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- Purity is thus a **categorical** concept.
- Can be extended to **λ -purity**, for any infinite regular cardinal λ (so purity is just ω -purity).

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Let \mathcal{C} be a category and let λ be an infinite regular cardinal. A morphism $f: A \rightarrow B$ in \mathcal{C} is **λ -pure** iff for all **λ -presentable** A' and B' and all morphisms $a: A' \rightarrow A$, $b: B' \rightarrow B$, and $f': A' \rightarrow B'$, if $f \circ a = b \circ f'$, then there exists a morphism $g: B' \rightarrow A$ such that $a = g \circ f'$.

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- Can be expressed in terms of λ -small atomic systems.

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- Can be expressed in terms of λ -small atomic systems.
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Even “ ∞ -purity” of $f: A \rightarrow B$ just means that f has a **retraction** (i.e., $(\exists g)(g \circ f = \text{id})$),

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Even “ ∞ -purity” of $f: A \rightarrow B$ just means that f has a **retraction** (i.e., $(\exists g)(g \circ f = \text{id})$), which does **not** imply that f is an elementary embedding.

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The symmetric category $\mathfrak{P}_{\text{inj}}(\Omega)$

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Definition

Define the **symmetric category** over a set Ω , and denote it by $\mathfrak{P}_{\text{inj}}(\Omega)$, by the one whose **objects** are the subsets of Ω , and whose **morphisms** are the one-to-one maps $f: X \rightarrow Y$ where $X, Y \subseteq \Omega$.

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- The only compositions occurring in $\mathfrak{P}_{\text{inj}}(\Omega)$ are the $g \circ f$, where $f: X \rightarrow Y$ and $g: Y \rightarrow Z$ (and $(g \circ f)(x) = g(f(x))$ as usual).

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- **Directed colimits** in $\mathfrak{P}_{\text{inj}}(\Omega)$: $X = \varinjlim_{i \in I} X_i$ means that up to isomorphism, $X = \bigcup_{i \in I} X_i$ (directed union).

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- A subset $X \subseteq \Omega$ is **λ -presentable**, within $\mathfrak{P}_{\text{inj}}(\Omega)$, iff $\text{card } X < \lambda$.

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Proposition (W 2019)

Let λ be an infinite regular cardinal, let Ω be a set, and let $f: A \twoheadrightarrow B$ in $\mathfrak{P}_{\text{inj}}(\Omega)$. The following are equivalent:

- 1 f is λ -fresh.
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Outline of proof of the interesting direction

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- Since $\text{card } B' < \lambda \leq \text{card } A$, there is enough room in A for this.

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- For cardinals κ and λ with $\kappa \geq \lambda$, **infinitary formulas** (denoted $\mathcal{L}_{\kappa\lambda}$) over a first-order language Σ are defined the same way as ordinary first-order formulas, with the following differences:

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 - — For any $\alpha < \kappa$ and any collection $\{\varphi_\xi \mid \xi < \alpha\}$ of formulas in $\mathcal{L}_{\kappa\lambda}$, **over less than λ free variables altogether**, the conjunction $\bigwedge_{\xi < \alpha} \varphi_\xi$ is a formula in $\mathcal{L}_{\kappa\lambda}$.
 - — For any family $(x_\eta \mid \eta < \beta)$, with $\beta < \lambda$, of free variables of a formula $\varphi \in \mathcal{L}_{\kappa\lambda}$, the formula $(\exists_{\eta < \beta} x_\eta)\varphi$ is in $\mathcal{L}_{\kappa\lambda}$.

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- **Extension to $\kappa = \infty$** (yields $\mathcal{L}_{\infty\lambda}$): we allow arbitrary conjunctions on sets of formulas over less than λ free variables altogether, and λ -small quantifications.

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- **Ordinary first-order logic**: it is $\mathcal{L}_{\omega\omega}$.

Examples outside first-order logic

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- **Finiteness** (of the ambient universe) is $\mathcal{L}_{\omega_1\omega}$:

$$\bigwedge_{n < \omega} (\exists_{i < n} x_i) (\forall x) \bigwedge_{i < n} (x = x_i).$$

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$$\bigvee_{n < \omega} (\exists_{i < n} x_i) (\forall x) \bigvee_{i < n} (x = x_i).$$

- **Well-foundedness** (of the ambient poset) is $\mathcal{L}_{\omega_1\omega_1}$:

$$(\forall_{n < \omega} x_n) \bigvee_{n < \omega} (x_{n+1} \not\leq x_n).$$

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- **Finiteness** (of the ambient universe) is $\mathcal{L}_{\omega_1\omega}$:

$$\bigvee_{n < \omega} (\exists_{i < n} x_i) (\forall x) \bigvee_{i < n} (x = x_i).$$

- **Well-foundedness** (of the ambient poset) is $\mathcal{L}_{\omega_1\omega_1}$:

$$(\forall_{n < \omega} x_n) \bigvee_{n < \omega} (x_{n+1} \not\leq x_n).$$

- **Torsion-freeness** (of a group) is $\mathcal{L}_{\omega_1\omega}$:

$$\bigwedge_{0 < n < \omega} (\forall x) (x^n = 1 \Rightarrow x = 1).$$

From fresh to elementary

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For any first-order language Σ , we denote by **Str** Σ the category of all Σ -structures with Σ -homomorphisms.

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For any first-order language Σ , we denote by $\mathbf{Str} \Sigma$ the category of all Σ -structures with Σ -homomorphisms.

Proposition (W 2019)

Let λ be an infinite regular cardinal and let Σ be a first-order language. Then every λ -fresh homomorphism $f: \mathbf{A} \rightarrow \mathbf{B}$ in $\mathbf{Str} \Sigma$ is an $\mathcal{L}_{\infty\lambda}$ -elementary embedding.

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- This says that $\mathbf{A} \models \varphi(\vec{a})$ iff $\mathbf{B} \models \varphi(f\vec{a})$, whenever φ is an $\mathcal{L}_{\infty\lambda}$ sentence with parameters \vec{a} from \mathbf{A} .

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- The case where φ is **atomic** is not completely trivial, and already follows from the λ -purity of f . Thus f is an **embedding**.

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The following says that functors from $\mathfrak{P}_{\text{inj}}(\Omega)$ to a category \mathcal{C} create lots of fresh morphisms in \mathcal{C} .

Proposition (W 2019)

Let λ be an infinite regular cardinal, let \mathcal{C} be a category, let Ω be a set, and let $\Gamma: \mathfrak{P}_{\text{inj}}(\Omega) \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ be a **λ -continuous** functor.

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- **λ -continuous** means that Γ preserves **λ -directed** colimits. That is, from every λ -directed union $X = \bigcup_{i \in I} X_i$ we get a colimit $\Gamma(X) = \varinjlim_{i \in I} \Gamma(X_i)$.

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- This result is a particular case of a more general preservation result of freshness under functors.

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Definition (W 2019)

A class \mathcal{C} of objects in a category \mathcal{S} is **anti-elementary in \mathcal{S}** if there are arbitrarily large pairs $\lambda < \kappa$ of cardinals, with λ regular, and λ -continuous functors $\Gamma: \mathfrak{P}_{\text{inj}}(\kappa) \rightarrow \mathcal{S}$ such that $\Gamma(\lambda) \in \mathcal{C}$ and $\Gamma(\kappa) \notin \mathcal{C}$.

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- By the previous result, the canonical morphism $e_\lambda^\kappa: \Gamma(\lambda) \rightarrow \Gamma(\kappa)$ is λ -fresh.

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- By the previous result, the canonical morphism $e_\lambda^\kappa: \Gamma(\lambda) \rightarrow \Gamma(\kappa)$ is λ -fresh. Thus, if $\mathcal{S} = \mathbf{Str} \Sigma$ for some first-order language Σ , then e_λ^κ is an $\mathcal{L}_{\infty\lambda}$ -elementary embedding.

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- By the previous result, the canonical morphism $e_\lambda^\kappa: \Gamma(\lambda) \rightarrow \Gamma(\kappa)$ is λ -fresh. Thus, if $\mathcal{S} = \mathbf{Str} \Sigma$ for some first-order language Σ , then e_λ^κ is an $\mathcal{L}_{\infty\lambda}$ -elementary embedding.
- In particular, \mathcal{C} is not the class of all models of any class of $\mathcal{L}_{\infty\lambda}$ sentences.

Where does Γ come from?

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- Typically, $\mathcal{S} = \mathbf{Str} \Sigma$ and \mathcal{C} is the range of a functor $\Phi: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{S}$:

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- The main difficulty is the construction of the functor Γ . It relies on the existence of a “ **Φ -commutative diagram**” \vec{A} from \mathcal{A} , indexed by (usually) a lattice P , such that $\Phi \vec{A} \not\cong \Phi \vec{X}$ for any **commutative** diagram \vec{X} from \mathcal{A} .

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- Using infinite combinatorial properties of P , a certain “lifter” $\partial: P\langle\kappa\rangle \rightarrow P$ is constructed (usually $\kappa \geq \lambda^{+n}$, where $n = \dim P - 1$), then a “ P -scaled Boolean algebra” $\mathbf{F}(P\langle\kappa\rangle)$, and then a “condensate” $\mathbf{F}(P\langle\kappa\rangle) \otimes_{\Phi}^{\lambda} \vec{A}$.

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- The functor Γ is given by $\Gamma(X) = \mathbf{F}(P\langle X\rangle) \otimes_{\Phi}^{\lambda} \vec{A}$.

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Thanks for your attention!