

Projective classes as images of accessible functors

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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.
- 2 P. Gillibert and F. Wehrung, *From Objects to Diagrams for Ranges of Functors*, Springer Lecture Notes **2029**, Springer, Heidelberg, 2011.
- 3 F. Wehrung, *From non-commutative diagrams to anti-elementary classes*, J. Math. Logic **21**, no. 2 (2021), 2150011.
- 4 F. Wehrung, *Projective classes as images of accessible functors*, HAL-03580184.
- 5 References [2,3,4] above can be downloaded from <https://wehrungf.users.lmno.cnrs.fr/pubs.html> .

General type of problem

- We are given a class \mathcal{C} of structures $M = (M, \dots, R_1, R_2, R_3, \dots, f_1, f_2, f_3, \dots)$, in a given **vocabulary** $\mathbf{v} = (R_1, R_2, R_3, \dots, f_1, f_2, f_3, \dots)$ (the R_i are relation symbols, the f_i are operation symbols), usually “nicely defined”.

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- We are asking whether there is a “nice” description for the class $\mathcal{C} \upharpoonright_{\mathbf{u}}$ of all **reducts** $\mathbf{M} \upharpoonright_{\mathbf{u}} = (M, \dots, R_1, \dots, f_1, \dots)$ to a given **subvocabulary** $\mathbf{u} = (R_1, \dots, f_1, \dots)$, for $\mathbf{M} \in \mathcal{C}$.

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- Usually the class \mathcal{C} is **definable** in (some extension of) **first-order logic**.

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- We are asking whether there is a “nice” description for the class $\mathcal{C} \upharpoonright_{\mathbf{u}}$ of all **reducts** $\mathbf{M} \upharpoonright_{\mathbf{u}} = (M, \dots, R_1, \dots, f_1, \dots)$ to a given **subvocabulary** $\mathbf{u} = (R_1, \dots, f_1, \dots)$, for $\mathbf{M} \in \mathcal{C}$.
- Usually the class \mathcal{C} is **definable** in (some extension of) **first-order logic**.
- **More generally**, given a “nice” class \mathcal{C} of structures, we form a class \mathcal{C}' by “**forgetting some structure**”. Is \mathcal{C}' “nice”?

Examples

- 1 \mathcal{C} is the class of all **totally ordered Abelian groups** $(A, +, \leq)$ (i.e., $(A, +)$ is an Abelian group, \leq is a total order on A , and $x \leq y \Rightarrow x + z \leq y + z$), $\mathbf{v} = (+, \leq)$.

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Letting $\mathbf{u} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (+)$, $\mathcal{C}|_{\mathbf{u}}$ is the class of all **totally orderable** Abelian groups.

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Letting $\mathbf{u} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (+)$, $\mathcal{C}|_{\mathbf{u}}$ is the class of all **totally orderable Abelian groups**.
- 2 \mathcal{C} is the class of all **fields**, $\mathbf{v} = (+, \cdot)$, $\mathbf{u} = (\cdot)$.

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- 2 \mathcal{C} is the class of all **fields**, $\mathbf{v} = (+, \cdot)$, $\mathbf{u} = (\cdot)$. Then $\mathcal{C}|_{\mathbf{u}}$ is the class of all **multiplicative groups of fields**.

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- 3 \mathcal{C} is the class of all **unital rings**.

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- 3 \mathcal{C} is the class of all **unital rings**. Define \mathcal{C}' as the class of all partially ordered sets (= posets) of finitely generated two-sided ideals of rings.

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- 4 \mathcal{C} is the class of all **Abelian lattice-ordered groups** (" **ℓ -groups**").

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- 4 \mathcal{C} is the class of all **Abelian lattice-ordered groups** (" **ℓ -groups**"). \mathcal{C}' is the class of all lattices of principal ℓ -ideals of Abelian ℓ -groups (i.e., Stone duals of **spectra** of Abelian ℓ -groups).

Discussion of those examples

- The solution for (1) (totally orderable Abelian groups) is well known:

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- The solution for (1) (totally orderable Abelian groups) is well known: An Abelian group is **totally orderable** iff it is **torsion-free**.

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- Examples (3) and (4), obtained by “forgetting structure”, do not seem to fit the “from \mathcal{C} to $\mathcal{C}' \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathcal{C}|_{\mathbf{u}}$ ” scheme *a priori*.

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A closer look at Example (4)

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- For an Abelian ℓ -group G , $\text{Id}_c G \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (\text{lattice of all principal } \ell\text{-ideals of } G) = \{\langle a \rangle \mid a \in G^+\}$ where $\langle a \rangle \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{x \in G \mid (\exists n \in \mathbb{N})(|x| \leq na)\}$. Let $\text{Id}_c \mathcal{A} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{D \mid (\exists G)(D \cong \text{Id}_c G)\}$.

A closer look at Example (4)

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- Every member of $\text{Id}_c \mathcal{A}$ is a distributive 0-lattice. It is **completely normal** (abbrev. CN), that is, it satisfies

$$(\forall a, b)(\exists x, y)(a \vee b = a \vee y = x \vee b \ \& \ x \wedge y = 0).$$

A closer look at Example (4)

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$$(\forall a, b)(\exists x, y)(a \vee b = a \vee y = x \vee b \ \& \ x \wedge y = 0).$$

- Every member of $\text{Id}_c \mathcal{A}$ has **countably based differences** (abbrev. CBD), that is, it satisfies

$$(\forall a, b)(\exists_{n < \omega} c_n)(\forall x)(a \leq b \vee x \Leftrightarrow c_n \leq x \text{ for some } n).$$

Ploščica's Condition

- For an ideal I in a distributive lattice D , $x \equiv_I y$ if $(\exists z \in I)(x \vee z = y \vee z)$. Set $D/I \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} D/\equiv_I$.

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- A bounded distributive lattice D satisfies **Ploščica's Condition** (abbrev. Plo) if for every $a \in D$ and every collection $(\mathfrak{m}_i \mid i \in I)$ of maximal ideals of $\downarrow a, \downarrow a/\bigcap_i \mathfrak{m}_i$ has cardinality $\leq 2^{\text{card } I}$.

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Theorem (Ploščica 2021)

Every member of $\text{Id}_c \mathcal{A}$ satisfies Plo. On the other hand, $0\text{-DLat}\&\text{CN}\&\text{CBD}$ does not imply Plo.

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Every member of $\text{Id}_c \mathcal{A}$ satisfies Plo. On the other hand, $0\text{-DLat}\&\text{CN}\&\text{CBD}$ does not imply Plo.

- **Question:** Does the conjunction $0\text{-DLat}\&\text{CN}\&\text{CBD}\&\text{Plo}$ (and more...) characterize the members of $\text{Id}_c \mathcal{A}$?

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Theorem (Ploščica 2021)

Every member of $\text{Id}_c \mathcal{A}$ satisfies Plo. On the other hand, $0\text{-DLat}\&\text{CN}\&\text{CBD}$ does not imply Plo.

- **Question:** Does the conjunction $0\text{-DLat}\&\text{CN}\&\text{CBD}\&\text{Plo}$ (and more...) characterize the members of $\text{Id}_c \mathcal{A}$?
- **Answer:** A strong **NO** under (a fragment of) GCH, with a counterexample of cardinality \aleph_4 .

v-structures

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- **Vocabulary:** $\mathbf{v} = (\mathbf{v}_{\text{ope}}, \mathbf{v}_{\text{rel}}, \text{ar})$ with $\mathbf{v}_{\text{ope}} \cap \mathbf{v}_{\text{rel}} = \emptyset$ and $\text{ar}: \mathbf{v}_{\text{ope}} \cup \mathbf{v}_{\text{rel}} \rightarrow \text{ordinals}$ (usually) with $0 \notin \text{ar}[\mathbf{v}_{\text{rel}}]$.

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- $\text{ar}(s) = 0 \stackrel{\text{def}}{\iff} s$ is a “constant”.

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- $\text{ar}(s) = 0 \stackrel{\text{def}}{\iff} s$ is a “constant”.
- Add to this a large enough set (“alphabet”) of “variables”.

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- **Vocabulary:** $\mathbf{v} = (\mathbf{v}_{\text{ope}}, \mathbf{v}_{\text{rel}}, \text{ar})$ with $\mathbf{v}_{\text{ope}} \cap \mathbf{v}_{\text{rel}} = \emptyset$ and $\text{ar}: \mathbf{v}_{\text{ope}} \cup \mathbf{v}_{\text{rel}} \rightarrow \text{ordinals}$ (usually) with $0 \notin \text{ar}[\mathbf{v}_{\text{rel}}]$.
- $\text{ar}(s) = 0 \stackrel{\text{def}}{\iff} s$ is a “constant”.
- Add to this a large enough set (“alphabet”) of “variables”.
- **model for \mathbf{v}** (or **\mathbf{v} -structure**): $\mathbf{A} = (A, s^{\mathbf{A}})_{s \in \mathbf{v}_{\text{ope}} \cup \mathbf{v}_{\text{rel}}}$, with the interpretations $s^{\mathbf{A}}$ defined the usual way.

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- **Str(\mathbf{v})** $\stackrel{\text{def}}{=}$ category of all \mathbf{v} -structures with \mathbf{v} -homomorphisms (it is **locally presentable**).

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- **Str(\mathbf{v})** $\stackrel{\text{def}}{=}$ category of all \mathbf{v} -structures with \mathbf{v} -homomorphisms (it is **locally presentable**).
- **Terms:** closure of variables under all functions symbols.
- **atomic formulas:** $s = t$, for terms s and t , or $R(t_\xi \mid \xi \in \text{ar}(R))$ where the t_ξ are terms and $R \in \mathbf{v}_{\text{rel}}$.

The languages $\mathcal{L}_{\kappa\lambda}$

- Here κ and λ are “extended cardinals” (∞ allowed) with $\omega \leq \lambda \leq \kappa \leq \infty$.

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- For any vocabulary \mathbf{v} , $\mathcal{L}_{\kappa\lambda}(\mathbf{v}) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{closure of all atomic } \mathbf{v}\text{-formulas under disjunctions of } < \kappa \text{ members } (\bigvee_{i \in I} E_i \text{ where } \text{card } I < \kappa), \text{ negation, and existential quantification over sets of less than } \lambda \text{ variables } ((\exists X)E \text{ with } \text{card } X < \lambda, \text{ or, in indexed form, } \exists \vec{x} E \text{ with } \text{card } I < \lambda).$

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- **Satisfaction** $\mathbf{A} \models E(\vec{a})$ defined as usual (\mathbf{A} is a \mathbf{v} -structure, $E \in \mathcal{L}_{\infty\infty}(\mathbf{v})$, \vec{a} : free variables $(E) \rightarrow A$).

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- **$\mathcal{L}_{\kappa\lambda}$ -elementary class:**
 $\mathcal{C} = \text{Mod}_{\mathbf{v}}(E) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{ \mathbf{A} \in \text{Str}(\mathbf{v}) \mid \mathbf{A} \models E \}$ where E is an $\mathcal{L}_{\kappa\lambda}(\mathbf{v})$ -sentence.

(Relatively) projective classes

A class \mathcal{C} of \mathbf{v} -structures is

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A class \mathcal{C} of \mathbf{v} -structures is

- **projective over** $\mathcal{L}_{\kappa\lambda}$ (abbrev. $\text{PC}(\mathcal{L}_{\kappa\lambda})$) if there are a vocabulary $\mathbf{w} \supseteq \mathbf{v}$ and a sentence $E \in \mathcal{L}_{\kappa\lambda}(\mathbf{w})$ such that $\mathcal{C} = \{\mathbf{M} \upharpoonright_{\mathbf{v}} \mid \mathbf{M} \in \text{Mod}_{\mathbf{w}}(E)\}$.
- **relatively projective over** $\mathcal{L}_{\kappa\lambda}$ (abbrev. $\text{RPC}(\mathcal{L}_{\kappa\lambda})$) if there are a unary predicate symbol U , a vocabulary $\mathbf{w} \supseteq \mathbf{v} \cup \{U\}$, and a sentence $E \in \mathcal{L}_{\kappa\lambda}(\mathbf{w})$ such that $\mathcal{C} = \{U^{\mathbf{M}} \upharpoonright_{\mathbf{v}} \mid \mathbf{M} \in \text{Mod}_{\mathbf{w}}(E), U^{\mathbf{M}} \text{ closed under } \mathbf{v}_{\text{ope}}\}$.

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- **relatively projective over** $\mathcal{L}_{\kappa\lambda}$ (abbrev. $\text{RPC}(\mathcal{L}_{\kappa\lambda})$) if there are a unary predicate symbol U , a vocabulary $\mathbf{w} \supseteq \mathbf{v} \cup \{U\}$, and a sentence $E \in \mathcal{L}_{\kappa\lambda}(\mathbf{w})$ such that $\mathcal{C} = \{U^{\mathbf{M}}|_{\mathbf{v}} \mid \mathbf{M} \in \text{Mod}_{\mathbf{w}}(E), U^{\mathbf{M}} \text{ closed under } \mathbf{v}_{\text{ope}}\}$.
- Hence $\text{PC}(\mathcal{L}_{\kappa\lambda}) \subseteq \text{RPC}(\mathcal{L}_{\kappa\lambda})$. Note that $\text{PC}(\mathcal{L}_{\omega\omega}) \subsetneq \text{RPC}(\mathcal{L}_{\omega\omega})$ (even on finite structures).

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- Hence $\text{PC}(\mathcal{L}_{\kappa\lambda}) \subseteq \text{RPC}(\mathcal{L}_{\kappa\lambda})$. Note that $\text{PC}(\mathcal{L}_{\omega\omega}) \subsetneq \text{RPC}(\mathcal{L}_{\omega\omega})$ (even on finite structures).

Theorem (W 2021)

Let λ be an infinite cardinal. Then $\text{PC}(\mathcal{L}_{\infty\lambda}) = \text{RPC}(\mathcal{L}_{\infty\lambda})$ (in full generality; no restrictions on vocabularies). Moreover, if λ is singular, then $\text{PC}(\mathcal{L}_{\infty\lambda}) = \text{PC}(\mathcal{L}_{\infty\lambda^+})$.

Examples of “elementary” classes

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

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

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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 $\mathcal{L}_{\omega_1\omega}$:

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

An example of RPC (that turns out to be PC)

- $\mathcal{C} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{ \mathbf{M} = (M, \cdot, 1) \text{ monoid} \mid (\exists \mathbf{G} \text{ group})(\mathbf{M} \hookrightarrow \mathbf{G}) \}$ is, by definition, $\text{RPC}(\mathcal{L}_{\omega\omega})$.

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- Here $\mathbf{v} = \left(\begin{smallmatrix} \cdot, 1 \\ (2) \end{smallmatrix}, \begin{smallmatrix} 1 \\ (0) \end{smallmatrix} \right)$, $\mathbf{w} = (\cdot, 1, U)$ for a unary predicate U , the required E states that the given \mathbf{w} -structure is a group (so " $U^{\mathbf{G}}$ is \mathbf{v} -closed in \mathbf{G} " means that U interprets a submonoid of \mathbf{G}).

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- By Mal'cev's work, $\mathcal{C} = \{ \mathbf{M} \mid (\forall n < \omega)(\mathbf{M} \models E_n) \}$ for an effectively constructed sequence $(E_n \mid n < \omega)$ of quasi-identities over \mathbf{v} , **not reducible to any finite subset**.

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- Nonetheless,
 $\mathcal{C} = \{ \mathbf{M} \mid (\exists \text{ group structure } \mathbf{G} \text{ on } M)(\exists f: \mathbf{M} \hookrightarrow \mathbf{G}) \}$ is $\text{PC}(\mathcal{L}_{\omega\omega})$.

Other examples

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- For a unital ring R , $\text{Id}_c R \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (\vee, 0)$ -semilattice of all finitely generated two-sided ideals of R . Let $\mathcal{C} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{\text{Id}_c R \mid R \text{ unital ring}\}$ (up to isomorphism).

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- For an Abelian ℓ -group G , $\text{Id}_c G \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{lattice of all principal } \ell\text{-ideals of } G$. Let $\mathcal{C} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{\text{Id}_c G \mid G \text{ Abelian } \ell\text{-group}\}$.

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- For a commutative unital ring A , $\Phi(A) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{Stone dual of the real spectrum of } A$ (it is a bounded distributive lattice). Let $\mathcal{C} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{\Phi(A) \mid A \text{ commutative unital ring}\}$.

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- All those classes are $\text{PC}(\mathcal{L}_{\omega_1\omega})$ (remember the “from \mathcal{C} to $\mathcal{C}|_{\mathbf{u}}$ ” scheme).

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- Observe that they are all defined as images of functors.

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- All those classes are $\text{PC}(\mathcal{L}_{\omega_1\omega})$ (remember the “from \mathcal{C} to $\mathcal{C}|_{\mathbf{u}}$ ” scheme).
- Observe that they are all defined as images of functors.
- We will see that none of those classes is $\text{co-PC}(\mathcal{L}_{\infty\infty})$ (i.e., complement of a $\text{PC}(\mathcal{L}_{\infty\infty})$).

Accessible categories and functors

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Let λ be a regular cardinal.

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- A category \mathcal{S} is **λ -accessible** if it has all λ -directed colimits and it has a λ -directed colimit-dense **subset** \mathcal{S}^\dagger , consisting of λ -presentable objects.

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- One can then take $\mathcal{S}^\dagger = \mathbf{Pres}_\lambda \mathcal{S}$, “the” set of all λ -presentable objects in \mathcal{S} (up to isomorphism).

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- A category \mathcal{S} is **λ -accessible** if it has all λ -directed colimits and it has a λ -directed colimit-dense **subset** \mathcal{S}^\dagger , consisting of λ -presentable objects.
- One can then take $\mathcal{S}^\dagger = \mathbf{Pres}_\lambda \mathcal{S}$, “the” set of all λ -presentable objects in \mathcal{S} (up to isomorphism).
- A functor $\Phi: \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathcal{T}$ is **λ -continuous** if it preserves λ -directed colimits. If \mathcal{S} and \mathcal{T} are both λ -accessible categories, we say that Φ is a **λ -accessible functor**.

Accessible categories and functors

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- There are many examples: **$\mathbf{Str}(\mathbf{v})$** , quasivarieties. . .

PC versus accessible

Say that a vocabulary \mathbf{v} is λ -ary if every symbol in \mathbf{v} has arity $< \lambda$.

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Theorem (W 2021)

Let λ be a regular cardinal, let \mathbf{v} be a λ -ary vocabulary, and let \mathcal{C} be a class of \mathbf{v} -structures. Then TFAE:

- 1 \mathcal{C} is $\text{PC}(\mathcal{L}_{\infty\lambda})$ - (resp., $\text{RPC}(\mathcal{L}_{\infty\lambda})$)-definable.
- 2 There are a λ -accessible category \mathcal{S} and a λ -continuous functor (that can then be taken faithful) $\Phi: \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathbf{Str}(\mathbf{v})$ with $\Phi(\mathcal{S}) = \mathcal{C}$.

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- Recall that $\Phi(\mathcal{S}) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{\mathbf{M} \mid (\exists S \in \text{Ob } \mathcal{S})(\mathbf{M} \cong \Phi(S))\}$.

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- Recall that $\Phi(\mathcal{S}) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{\mathbf{M} \mid (\exists S \in \text{Ob } \mathcal{S})(\mathbf{M} \cong \Phi(S))\}$.
- The assumption that \mathbf{v} be λ -ary cannot be dispensed with (counterexamples for both directions, involving idempotence and emptiness, respectively).

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Infinitely deep languages

- **Idea:** extend $\mathcal{L}_{\kappa\lambda}$ in such a way that infinite alternations of quantifiers be enabled.

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- **Idea:** extend $\mathcal{L}_{\kappa\lambda}$ in such a way that infinite alternations of quantifiers be enabled.
- **Game formula** (of Gale-Stewart kind): $\exists \vec{x} E(\vec{x})$ is $(\forall x_0)(\exists x_1)(\forall x_2) \cdots E(x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots)$.

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- Can be interpreted *via* a **game** with two players, \forall (who plays all x_{2n}) and \exists (who plays all x_{2n+1}). Hence \forall (resp., \exists) **wins** iff $E(x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots)$ (resp., $\neg E(x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots)$).

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- The game above has “clock” ω .
- The “**infinitely deep language**” $\mathcal{M}_{\kappa\lambda}(\mathbf{v})$ contains more general formulas than the $\exists \vec{x} E(\vec{x})$ above, now clocked by posets which are simultaneously **trees** and **meet-semilattices**, in which every node has $< \kappa$ upper covers and every branch has length a successor $< \lambda$.

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- The “infinitely deep language” $\mathcal{M}_{\kappa\lambda}(\mathbf{v})$ contains more general formulas than the $\exists \vec{x} E(\vec{x})$ above, now clocked by posets which are simultaneously **trees** and **meet-semilattices**, in which every node has $< \kappa$ upper covers and every branch has length a successor $< \lambda$.
- **Satisfaction** of an $\mathcal{M}_{\kappa\lambda}(\mathbf{v})$ -statement is expressed *via* the existence of a **winning strategy** in the associated game.

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Theorem (Tuuri 1992)

Let κ be a regular cardinal, let \mathbf{v} be a κ -ary vocabulary, set $\lambda \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sup\{\kappa^\alpha \mid \alpha < \kappa\}$, and let E and F be $\mathcal{L}_{\kappa+\kappa}(\mathbf{v})$ -sentences such that the conjunction $E \wedge F$ has no \mathbf{v} -model. Then there exists an $\mathcal{M}_{\lambda+\lambda}(\mathbf{v})$ -sentence G , with vocabulary the intersection of the vocabularies of E and F , such that $\models (E \Rightarrow G)$ and $\models (F \Rightarrow \sim G)$.

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- Here, $\sim G$ denotes the sentence obtained by interchanging \bigvee and \bigwedge , \exists and \forall , A and $\neg A$ in the expression of G by a tree-clocked game; it implies the usual negation $\neg G$ (which, however, is no longer an $\mathcal{M}_{\lambda+\lambda}$ -sentence).

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- By a 1971 counterexample due to Malitz, $\mathcal{M}_{\lambda+\lambda}$ cannot be replaced by $\mathcal{L}_{\infty\infty}$ in the statement of Tuuri's Theorem.

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Corollary

Let \mathbf{v} be a vocabulary. Then for all classes \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} of \mathbf{v} -structures, if \mathcal{A} is $\text{PC}(\mathcal{L}_{\infty\infty})$, \mathcal{B} is $\text{co-PC}(\mathcal{L}_{\infty\infty})$, and $\mathcal{A} \subseteq \mathcal{B}$, then there exists an $\mathcal{M}_{\infty\infty}(\mathbf{v})$ -sentence G such that $\mathcal{A} \subseteq \text{Mod}_{\mathbf{v}}(G) \subseteq \mathcal{B}$.

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Corollary

In order to prove that a $\text{PC}(\mathcal{L}_{\infty\infty})$ class \mathcal{C} of \mathbf{v} -structures is not $\text{co-PC}(\mathcal{L}_{\infty\infty})$, it suffices to prove that \mathcal{C} is not $\mathcal{M}_{\infty\infty}(\mathbf{v})$ -definable.

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But then, what is the advantage of $\mathcal{M}_{\infty\infty}$ -definable over $\text{PC}(\mathcal{L}_{\infty\infty})$ -definable or $\text{co-PC}(\mathcal{L}_{\infty\infty})$ -definable?

That's back-and-forth!

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- There are several non-equivalent definitions of back-and-forth between models (extended to categorical model theory by Beke and Rosický in 2018).

That's back-and-forth!

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- There are several non-equivalent definitions of back-and-forth between models (extended to categorical model theory by Beke and Rosický in 2018).

Definition (Karttunen 1979)

For a regular cardinal λ , a λ -back-and-forth system between models \mathbf{M} and \mathbf{N} over a vocabulary \mathbf{v} consists of a poset $(\mathcal{F}, \trianglelefteq)$, together with a function $f \mapsto \bar{f}$ with domain \mathcal{F} , such that each $\bar{f}: \mathbf{d}(f) \xrightarrow{\cong} \mathbf{r}(f)$ with $\mathbf{d}(f) \leq \mathbf{M}$ and $\mathbf{r}(f) \leq \mathbf{N}$, and the following conditions hold:

- 1 $f \trianglelefteq g$ implies $\bar{f} \subseteq \bar{g}$;
- 2 $(\mathcal{F}, \trianglelefteq)$ is λ -inductive;
- 3 whenever $f \in \mathcal{F}$ and $x \in \mathbf{M}$ (resp., $y \in \mathbf{N}$), there is $g \in \mathcal{F}$ such that $f \subseteq g$ and $x \in \mathbf{d}(g)$ (resp., $y \in \mathbf{r}(g)$).

We then write $\mathbf{M} \Leftrightarrow_{\lambda} \mathbf{N}$.

$\mathcal{M}_{\infty\lambda}$ versus back-and-forth

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Theorem (Karttunen 1979)

Let λ be a regular cardinal and let \mathbf{M} and \mathbf{N} be structures over a vocabulary \mathbf{v} . If $\mathbf{M} \Leftrightarrow_{\lambda} \mathbf{N}$, then \mathbf{M} and \mathbf{N} satisfy the same $\mathcal{M}_{\infty\lambda}(\mathbf{v})$ -sentences.

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- Extended by Karttunen to the even more general languages $\mathcal{N}_{\infty\lambda}$.

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- Extended by Karttunen to the even more general languages $\mathcal{N}_{\infty\lambda}$.
- The syntax for $\mathcal{N}_{\infty\lambda}$ is far more complex than for $\mathcal{M}_{\infty\lambda}$, the semantics are even trickier (not unique!).

Establishing intractability

- By the above,

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Proposition

In order to prove that a $\text{PC}(\mathcal{L}_{\infty\infty})$ class \mathcal{C} of \mathbf{v} -structures is not $\text{co-PC}(\mathcal{L}_{\infty\infty})$, it suffices to prove that it is not closed under $\leftrightarrow_{\lambda}$ for a suitable regular cardinal λ .

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- Applies to earlier introduced examples $\text{Id}_{\mathbf{c}}$ (unital rings), $\text{Id}_{\mathbf{c}}$ (Abelian ℓ -groups), duals of real spectra of commutative unital rings, and many others: each of those classes fails to be closed under a suitable $\Leftrightarrow_{\lambda}$.

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- The real trouble is: find a back-and-forth system $\mathcal{F}: \mathbf{M} \Leftrightarrow_{\lambda} \mathbf{N}$ with $\mathbf{M} \in \mathcal{C}$ and $\mathbf{N} \notin \mathcal{C}$ (where \mathcal{C} is the given class).

Back-and-forth systems from continuous functors

- In many examples, such as $\Phi(\text{unital rings})$ and $\Phi(\text{Abelian } \ell\text{-groups})$ (where $\Phi = \text{Id}_c$), \leftrightarrow_λ arises from some λ -continuous functor $\Gamma: [\kappa]^{\text{inj}} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ with $\kappa \geq \lambda$.

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- It is often the case that for $X \subseteq \kappa$ with $\text{card } X < \lambda$, $\Gamma(X) = \Phi(\prod(S_{|u|} \mid u \in X^{\subseteq P}))$ (a “condensate”), where:
 - 1 P is a suitable finite lattice (in both examples above, $P = \{0, 1\}^3$; also, **this method provably fails for arbitrary finite bounded posets!**);
 - 2 $X^{\subseteq P} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \bigcup \{X^D \mid D \subseteq P\}$;
 - 3 $|u| \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \bigvee \text{dom } u$ whenever $u \in X^{\subseteq P}$;
 - 4 \vec{S} is a **non-commutative diagram**, indexed by P , such that, for the given functor Φ , the diagram $\Phi(\vec{S})$ is commutative.

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 - 4 \vec{S} is a **non-commutative diagram**, indexed by P , such that, for the given functor Φ , the diagram $\Phi(\vec{S})$ is commutative.
- Finding P and \vec{S} is usually hard, very much connected to the algebraic and combinatorial data of the given problem.

The diagram \vec{S} for $\text{Id}_c(\text{Abelian } \ell\text{-groups})$

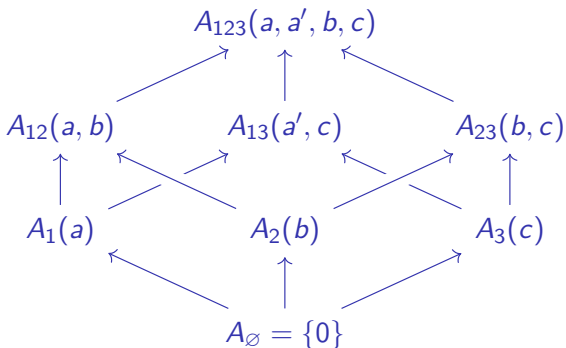
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systems



$$0 \leq a \leq a' \leq 2a; \quad b \geq 0; \quad c \geq 0.$$

$A_1(a) \rightarrow A_{13}(a', c)$ via $a \mapsto a'$.

Projective
classes as
images of
accessible
functors

Motivation

Elementary,
projective

Tuuri's
Interpolation
Theorem

Karttunen's
back-and-forth
systems

Thanks for your attention!