

Category theory as an abstract programming language

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Joint work with

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Example (Intersection of subspaces)

Compute the intersection of the two subspaces of $V := \mathbb{Q}^{3 \times 1}$

$$U_1 := \langle (1, 2, 3), (2, 3, 4), (0, 1, 2) \rangle,$$

$$U_2 := \langle (1, 2, 4), (3, 2, 0) \rangle.$$

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Solution:

$$U_1 \cap U_2 = \langle (1, 1, 1) \rangle < \mathbb{Q}^{3 \times 1}.$$

Intersection: From concrete algorithms to abstraction

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- Describe algorithms to intersect vector subspaces;

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Intersection1 (u_1, u_2)

```
1  |  m1 := REF(u1)                // row echelon form of u1
2  |  m2 := REF(u2)
3  |  ( n1 | n2 ) := LeftNullSpace( $\begin{pmatrix} m_1 \\ m_2 \end{pmatrix}$ )
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4  |  i1 := MatMul(n1, m1) := n1m1
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1   $m_1 := \text{REF}(u_1)$  // row echelon form of  $u_1$ 
2   $m_2 := \text{REF}(u_2)$ 
3   $(n_1 \mid n_2) := \text{LeftNullSpace}\left(\begin{pmatrix} m_1 \\ m_2 \end{pmatrix}\right)$ 
4   $i_1 := \text{MatMul}(n_1, m_1) := n_1 m_1$ 
5  return  $i_1$ 
```

Algorithm 2 to intersect two vector subspaces

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Input: Two stackable matrices $u_1, u_2 \in \mathbb{Q}^{? \times d}$

$U_1 := \langle \text{rows of the matrix } u_1 \rangle, U_2 := \langle \text{rows of the matrix } u_2 \rangle.$

Output: s_1 with $U_1 \cap U_2 = \langle \text{rows of the matrix } s_1 \rangle \leq \mathbb{Q}^{1 \times d}$

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- 2 $w_1 := \text{MatMul}(u_1, e_2) := u_1 e_2$
- 3 $k_1 := \text{LeftNullSpace}(w_1)$

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Input: Two stackable matrices $u_1, u_2 \in \mathbb{Q}^{? \times d}$

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Intersection2 (u_1, u_2)

- 1 $e_2 := \text{RightNullSpace}(u_2)$
- 2 $w_1 := \text{MatMul}(u_1, e_2) := u_1 e_2$
- 3 $k_1 := \text{LeftNullSpace}(w_1)$
- 4 $v_1 := \text{MatMul}(k_1, u_1) := k_1 u_1$

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Output: s_1 with $U_1 \cap U_2 = \langle \text{rows of the matrix } s_1 \rangle \leq \mathbb{Q}^{1 \times d}$

Intersection2 (u_1, u_2)

```
1  e2 := RightNullSpace(u2)
2  w1 := MatMul(u1, e2) := u1e2
3  k1 := LeftNullSpace(w1)
4  v1 := MatMul(k1, u1) := k1u1
5  s1 := REF(v1)
```

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Input: Two stackable matrices $u_1, u_2 \in \mathbb{Q}^{? \times d}$

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```
1   e2 := RightNullSpace(u2)
2   w1 := MatMul(u1, e2) := u1e2
3   k1 := LeftNullSpace(w1)
4   v1 := MatMul(k1, u1) := k1u1
5   s1 := REF(v1)
6   return s1
```

Algorithm 3 to intersect two vector subspaces

Algorithm 3: Intersection of vector subspaces

Input: Two stackable matrices $u_1, u_2 \in \mathbb{Q}^{? \times d}$

$U_1 := \langle \text{rows of the matrix } u_1 \rangle, U_2 := \langle \text{rows of the matrix } u_2 \rangle.$

Output: k with $U_1 \cap U_2 = \langle \text{rows of the matrix } k \rangle \leq \mathbb{Q}^{1 \times d}$

Intersection3 (u_1, u_2)

Algorithm 3 to intersect two vector subspaces

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Output: k with $U_1 \cap U_2 = \langle \text{rows of the matrix } k \rangle \leq \mathbb{Q}^{1 \times d}$

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1 | $e_1 := \text{RightNullSpace}(u_1)$

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Input: Two stackable matrices $u_1, u_2 \in \mathbb{Q}^{? \times d}$

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Output: k with $U_1 \cap U_2 = \langle \text{rows of the matrix } k \rangle \leq \mathbb{Q}^{1 \times d}$

Intersection3 (u_1, u_2)

```
1 | e1 := RightNullSpace(u1)
2 | e2 := RightNullSpace(u2)
```

Algorithm 3 to intersect two vector subspaces

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Input: Two stackable matrices $u_1, u_2 \in \mathbb{Q}^{? \times d}$

$U_1 := \langle \text{rows of the matrix } u_1 \rangle, U_2 := \langle \text{rows of the matrix } u_2 \rangle.$

Output: k with $U_1 \cap U_2 = \langle \text{rows of the matrix } k \rangle \leq \mathbb{Q}^{1 \times d}$

Intersection3 (u_1, u_2)

```
1 | e1 := RightNullSpace(u1)
2 | e2 := RightNullSpace(u2)
3 | a := Augment(e1, e2)
```

Algorithm 3 to intersect two vector subspaces

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Intersection3 (u_1, u_2)

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1   e1 := RightNullSpace(u1)
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Intersection3 (u_1, u_2)

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1   e1 := RightNullSpace(u1)
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4   k := LeftNullSpace(a)
5   return k
```

Algorithm 4 = 3' to intersect two vector subspaces

Algorithm 4: Intersection of vector subspaces

Input: Two stackable matrices $u_1, u_2 \in \mathbb{Q}^{? \times d}$

$U_1 := \langle \text{rows of the matrix } u_1 \rangle, U_2 := \langle \text{rows of the matrix } u_2 \rangle.$

Output: z_0 with $U_1 \cap U_2 = \langle \text{rows of the matrix } z_0 \rangle \leq \mathbb{Q}^{1 \times d}$

Intersection4 (u_1, u_2)

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1 | $d := \text{NrColumns}(u_1)$

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Intersection4 (u_1, u_2)

```
1 | d := NrColumns(u1)
2 | i := IdentityMat(d, ℚ)
```


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Intersection4 (u_1, u_2)

```
1  d := NrColumns(u1)
2  i := IdentityMat(d, ℚ)
3  p := Stack(Augment(i, i), Diag(u1, u2)) :=  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ u_1 & 0 \\ 0 & u_2 \end{pmatrix}$ 
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4  ( z0 | z1 z2 ) := LeftNullSpace(p)
5  return z0
```

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Main idea

Describe the subspaces $U_1, U_2 \leq V$ as the image of linear maps u_1, u_2 defined by the matrices u_1, u_2 , respectively:

$$u_1 : \mathbb{Q}^{g_1 \times 1} \xrightarrow{u_1} \mathbb{Q}^{d \times 1},$$

$$u_2 : \mathbb{Q}^{g_2 \times 1} \xrightarrow{u_2} \mathbb{Q}^{d \times 1}.$$

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Vector spaces together with their linear maps form a **category**.

Data structures and algorithms for a category

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Data structures and algorithms for a category

A **quiver** (directed multi-graph) \mathcal{C} consists of

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- two structure maps:
(1,2) source and target $s, t : \mathcal{C}_1 \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_0$;

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- (3) the identity $1 : \mathcal{C}_0 \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_1$;

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A **category** is a quiver \mathcal{C} with two further structure maps:

- (3) the identity $1 : \mathcal{C}_0 \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_1$;
- (4) the “composition” $\mu : \mathcal{C}_1 \times_{\mathcal{C}_0} \mathcal{C}_1 \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_1, (\varphi, \psi) \mapsto \varphi\psi$

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- subject to the obvious relations.

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A **quiver** (directed multi-graph) \mathcal{C} consists of

- a class of objects \mathcal{C}_0 ;
- a class of morphisms $\mathcal{C}_1 := \dot{\bigcup}_{M,N \in \mathcal{C}_0} \underbrace{\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(M, N)}_{(s \times t)^{-1}(M, N)}$;
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(1,2) source and target $s, t : \mathcal{C}_1 \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_0$;

A **category** is a quiver \mathcal{C} with two further structure maps:

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subject to the obvious relations.

To describe an *instance* of a category we need **two data structures** (for $\mathcal{C}_0, \mathcal{C}_1$) and **four algorithms** (for $s, t, 1, \mu$).

Data structures and algorithms for a category

A **quiver** (directed multi-graph) \mathcal{C} consists of

- a class of objects \mathcal{C}_0 ;
- a class of morphisms $\mathcal{C}_1 := \dot{\bigcup}_{M,N \in \mathcal{C}_0} \underbrace{\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(M, N)}_{(s \times t)^{-1}(M, N)}$;
- two structure maps:
(1,2) source and target $s, t : \mathcal{C}_1 \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_0$;

A **category** is a quiver \mathcal{C} with two further structure maps:

- (3) the identity $1 : \mathcal{C}_0 \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_1$;
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Categories up to equivalence emphasize morphisms and treat objects merely as place holders for sources and targets.

Further definitions and examples

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- **small** if both \mathcal{C}_0 and \mathcal{C}_1 are sets;

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(associative unital) ring \equiv ringoid on one object

Further doctrines: k -linear categories

Let k be commutative unital ring.

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- A finite **product** of objects in a category \mathcal{C}

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\vdots

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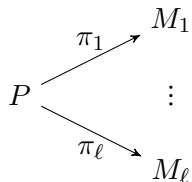
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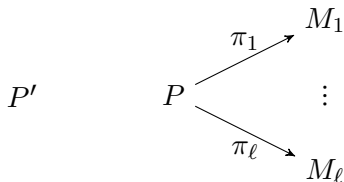
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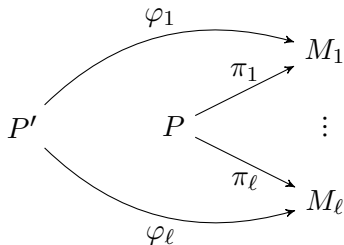
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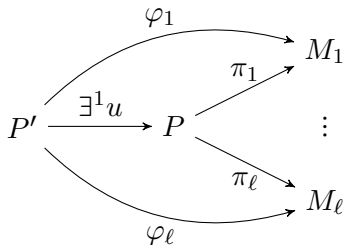
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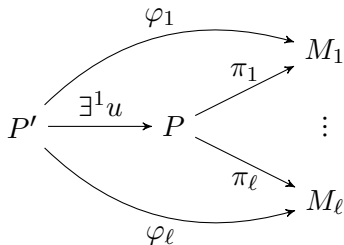
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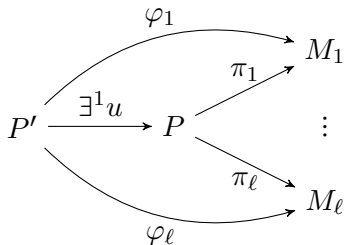
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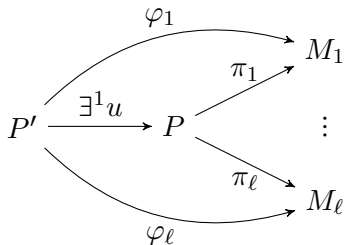
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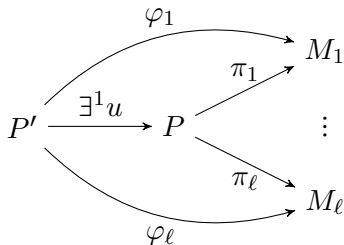
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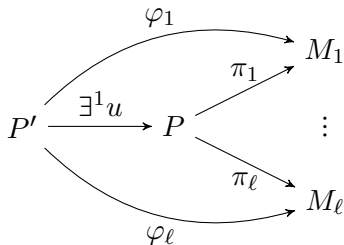
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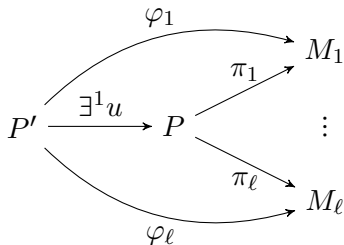
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Q:

What are the initial and terminal objects in `SkeletalFintSets`?

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In particular, **AdditiveClosure** *invents* matrix calculus.

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Linear algebra and matrix theory

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$k\text{-vec} \simeq k\text{-mat}$ has much more structure.

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An ABELian category is a category in which we can do a very general form of linear algebra.

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A category \mathcal{A} is called ABELian if

- finite biproducts exist,
- each morphism has an additive inverse, (additive)
- kernels and cokernels exist, (pre-ABELian)
- the homomorphism theorem is valid, i.e., $\text{coim } \varphi \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{im } \varphi$.

Definition

A category is called **computable** ABELian if all disjunctions (\vee) and all existential quantifiers (\exists) in the axioms of an ABELian category are realized by algorithms.

The “hidden” existential quantifiers of “kernels”

Example

Let $\varphi : M \rightarrow N$ be a morphism in \mathcal{A} .

$$M \xrightarrow{\varphi} N$$

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Let $\varphi : M \rightarrow N$ be a morphism in \mathcal{A} .

$\ker \varphi$

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Example

Let $\varphi : M \rightarrow N$ be a morphism in \mathcal{A} .

$$\ker \varphi \xrightarrow{\kappa} M \xrightarrow{\varphi} N$$

The “hidden” existential quantifiers of “kernels”

Example

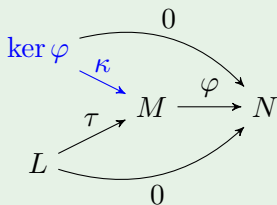
Let $\varphi : M \rightarrow N$ be a morphism in \mathcal{A} .

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \ker \varphi & \xrightarrow{\quad 0 \quad} & N \\ & \searrow \kappa & \nearrow \varphi \\ & M & \longrightarrow N \end{array}$$

The “hidden” existential quantifiers of “kernels”

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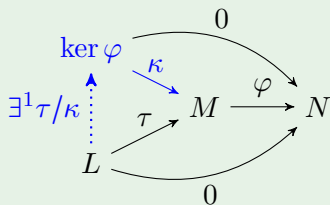
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The “hidden” existential quantifiers of “kernels”

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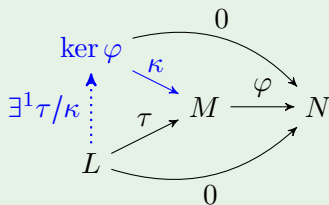
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The “hidden” existential quantifiers of “kernels”

Example

Let $\varphi : M \rightarrow N$ be a morphism in \mathcal{A} .



So \mathcal{A} is a **computational context** with *many* basic algorithms.

Categorical algorithms of k -mat

Proposition

k -mat is a computable Abelian category.

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Proof.

- Objects m, n are natural numbers in \mathbb{N}

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- $s(\varphi) = \text{Source}(\varphi)$

Categorical algorithms of k -mat

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Categorical algorithms of k -mat

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- $\text{DirectSum}(m, n)$

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- $\text{DirectSum}(m, n) := m + n$
- $\text{UniversalMorphismIntoDirectSum}(\varphi, \psi)$

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Categorical algorithms of k -mat

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Proof. (continued)

- `KernelObject(φ)`

Categorical algorithms of k -mat

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Proof. (continued)

- $\text{KernelObject}(\varphi) := \text{NrRows}(\varphi) - \text{Rank}(\varphi)$

Categorical algorithms of k -mat

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Proof. (continued)

- $\text{KernelObject}(\varphi) := \text{NrRows}(\varphi) - \text{Rank}(\varphi)$
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Categorical algorithms of k -mat

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Categorical algorithms of k -mat

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Categorical algorithms of $k\text{-mat}$

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- $\text{CokernelObject}(\varphi) := \text{NrColumns}(\varphi) - \text{Rank}(\varphi)$

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Categorical algorithms of k -mat

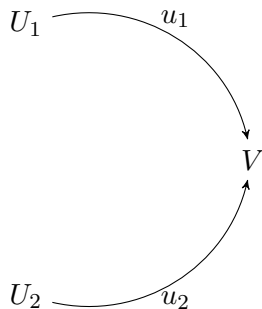
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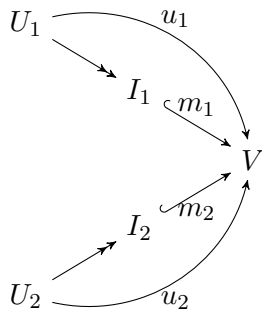
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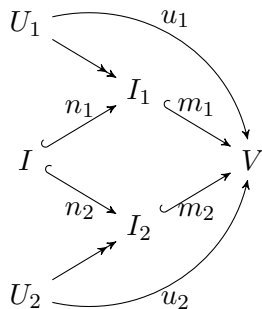
Intersection in Abelian categories



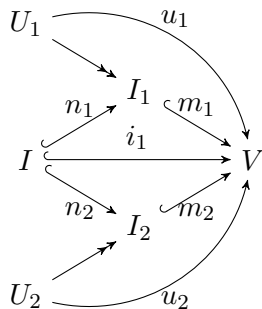
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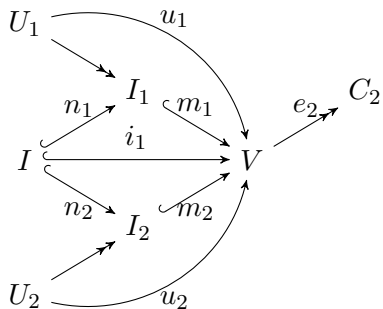
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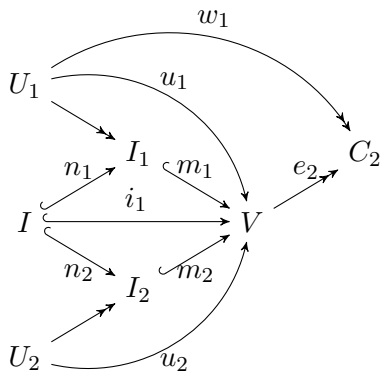
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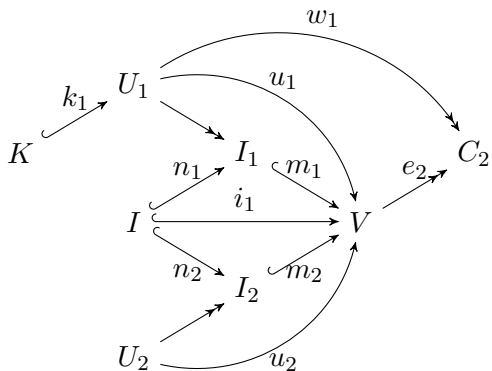
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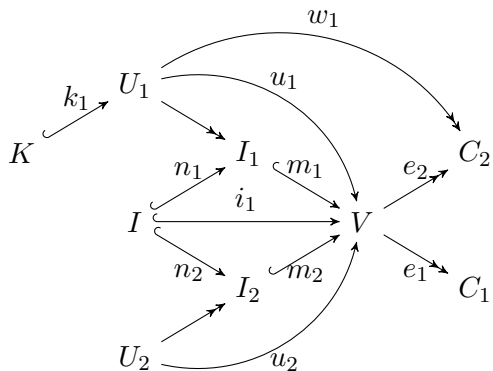
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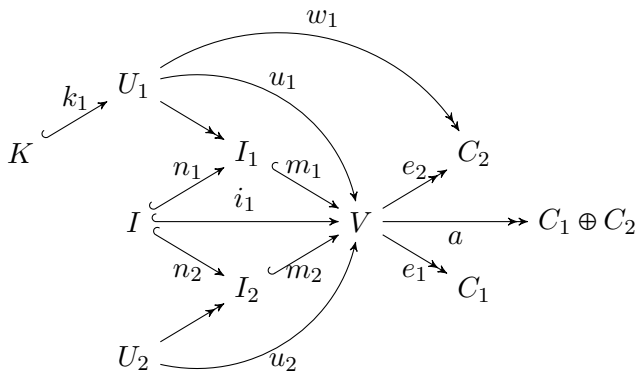
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Intersection in Abelian categories



Intersection in Abelian categories



A computable model for R -fdmod

Let k be a field.

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Proposition (GAP-package `FunctorCategories`)

If \mathcal{B} is a finitely presented k -linear category (k -algebroid) and \mathcal{A} is computable ABELian over k , then the functor category

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Let R be a finitely presented k -algebra (or k -algebroid), then the category of *finite dimensional* R -modules

$$R\text{-fdmod} \simeq k\text{-mat}^R = \left(\dot{\bigcup}_{g, g' \in \mathbb{N}} k^{g \times g'} \right)^R$$

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What about finitely presented modules?

Computable rings

From now on let R be a ring with 1.

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Proposition ([Pos17])

If R is left computable then the category $\dot{\bigcup}_{g, g' \in \mathbb{N}} R^{g \times g'}$ is computable additive with weak kernels and decidable lifts.

From now on let R be a ring with 1.

Definition

We call a constructive ring **left computable** if the solvability of $XA = B$ is algorithmically decidable. This means:

- **Determining** a **syzygy matrix** S of A :

$$SA = 0, \forall S' : S'A = 0 \implies \exists Y : YS = S';$$

- **Deciding** the solvability of $XA = B$ and in the affirmative case **determining** a **particular solution** X .

Proposition ([Pos17])

If R is left computable then the category $\dot{\bigcup}_{g,g' \in \mathbb{N}} R^{g \times g'}$ is computable additive with weak kernels and decidable lifts.

Now to a computable model for the category of f.p. R -modules:

A computable model for $R\text{-fpmod}$

Freyd construction $\mathbf{Freyd}(\mathbf{P})$

Let \mathbf{P} be an additive category, then a particular ideal quotient

$$\mathbf{Freyd}(\mathbf{P}) := \mathbf{P}^{\{\bullet \rightarrow \star\}} / I = \mathbf{FuncCat}(\{\bullet \rightarrow \star\}, \mathbf{P}) / I$$

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Theorem ([Pos17])

Freyd's construction yields a computable ABELian category if in addition \mathbf{P} has weak cokernels and decidable lifts.

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Corollary ([Pos17], [BLH11])

If R is left computable then

$$R\text{-fpmod} \simeq \mathbf{Freyd} \left(\dot{\bigcup}_{g, g' \in \mathbb{N}} R^{g \times g'} \right)$$

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Freyd construction **Freyd**(\mathbf{P})

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Freyd(**AdditiveClosure**($R\text{-LinClosure}$ (**CatClosure**(\bullet))))!!

Examples of computable rings

Example (computable rings)

ring	algorithm
a constructive field k	GAUSS
ring of rational integers \mathbb{Z}	HERMITE normal form
a univariate polynomial ring $k[x]$	HERMITE normal form
a polynomial ring ^a $R[x_1, \dots, x_n]$	BUCHBERGER
many noncommutative rings	n.c. BUCHBERGER
$k[x_1, \dots, x_n]_p$	MORA BUCHBERGER
residue class rings ^b	
...	

^a R any of the above rings

^bmodulo ideals which are f.g. as left resp. right ideals.

In this context any algorithm to compute a GRÖBNER basis is a substitute for the GAUSS resp. HERMITE normal form algorithm.

Question

Q:

$\text{Freyd}^2(\text{AdditiveClosure}(R\text{-LinClosure}(\text{CatClosure}(q)..))?)$

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Category theory “invents” data structures and calculi

Free instance of a doctrine

Calculus

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Category theory “invents” data structures and calculi

Free instance of a doctrine	Calculus
cartesian closed category (CCC)	λ -calculus

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cartesian closed category (CCC)	λ -calculus
compact closed category (CCC)	quantized λ -calculus

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locally closed category (LCCC)	dependent type theory

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Software demo

Thank you



Mohamed Barakat and Markus Lange-Hegermann, *An axiomatic setup for algorithmic homological algebra and an alternative approach to localization*, J. Algebra Appl. **10** (2011), no. 2, 269–293, ([arXiv:1003.1943](#)). MR 2795737 (2012f:18022)



Sebastian Posur, *A constructive approach to Freyd categories*, ArXiv e-prints (2017), ([arXiv:1712.03492](#)).