

Monoidal optics are universal

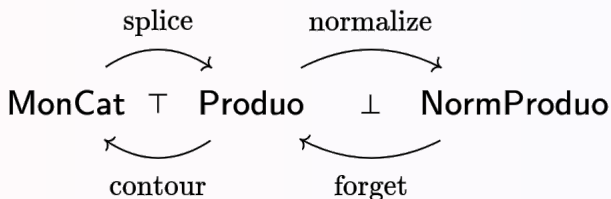
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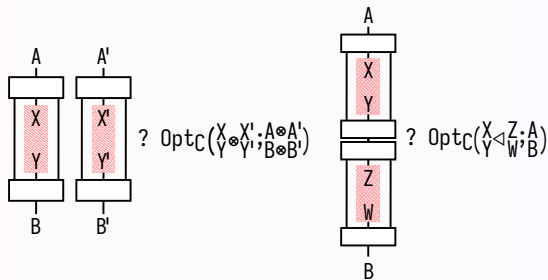
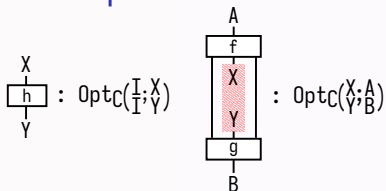
Applied Category Theory
Oxford, June 2024

This talk is about the *universal property*
of the *normal produoidal category*
of *optics in a monoidal category*.



 E, Hefford, and Román, [2024](#) – *The Produoidal Algebra of Process Decomposition*

The structure of categories of optics



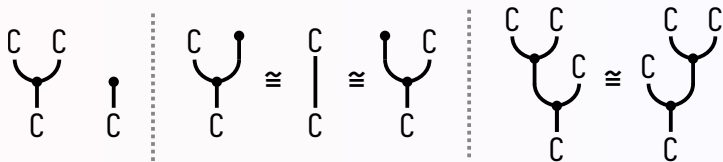
 Street, 2012, §4.6 – *Monoidal categories in, and linking, geometry and algebra*

 Pastro and Street, 2008 – *Doubles for monoidal categories*

 Riley, 2018 – *Categories of optics*

Promonoidal categories

A promonoidal category is a category \mathcal{C} equipped with unit and tensor profunctors



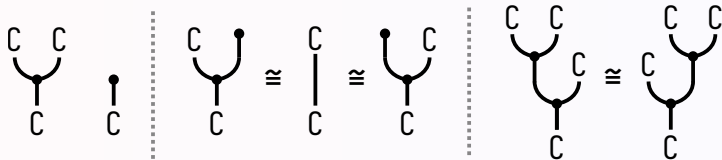
such that these isomorphisms are coherent (pentagon + triangle axioms).

More concretely, we have a category equipped with

- a set $\otimes_{\mathcal{C}}(A, B; C) =: \mathcal{C}(A \otimes B; C)$ for every triple of objects (“splits”)
- a set $I(; A) =: \mathcal{C}(I; A)$ for every object (“atoms”)
- functorial actions of the morphisms of $\mathcal{C} / \mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{C}$ on these sets
- such that splits are coherent

Promonoidal categories

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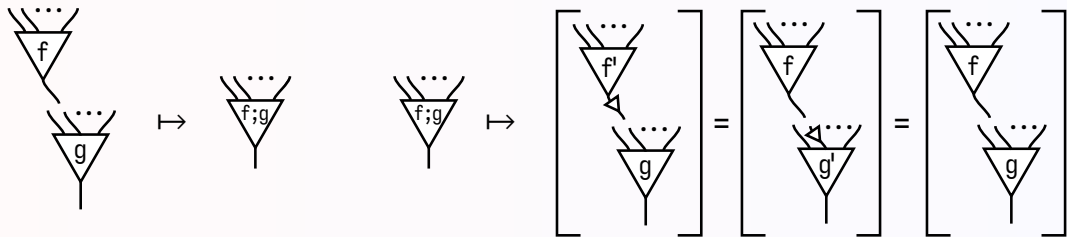


such that these isomorphisms are coherent (pentagon + triangle axioms).

- Every monoidal category is promonoidal
- Closed monoidal structures on presheaves \simeq promonoidal structures on the base (Day, [1970](#))
- Promonoidal categories \simeq malleable multicategories (M. Román, [2023](#))
- Optics in a planar monoidal category (Pastor and Street, [2008](#))
- *Spliced arrows in a category*

Promonoidal categories \simeq malleable multicategories

A multicategory \mathcal{M} is *malleable* if its composition is invertible up to dinaturality.

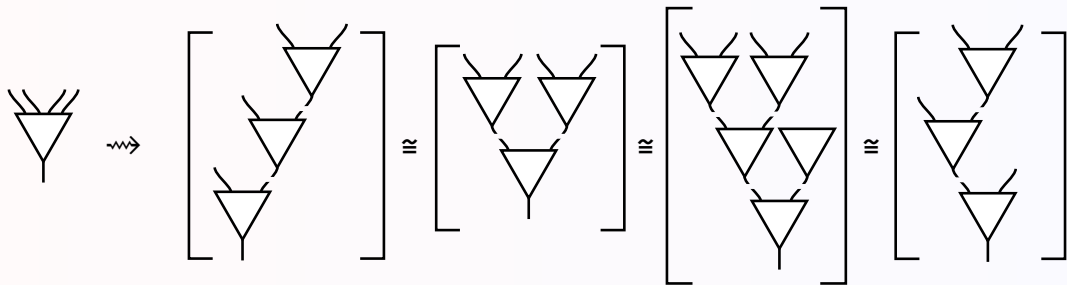


Theorem  M. Román, [2023](#) – *Monoidal Context Theory*.

The category of promonoidal categories is equivalent to the category of malleable multicategories.

Promonoidal categories \simeq malleable multicategories

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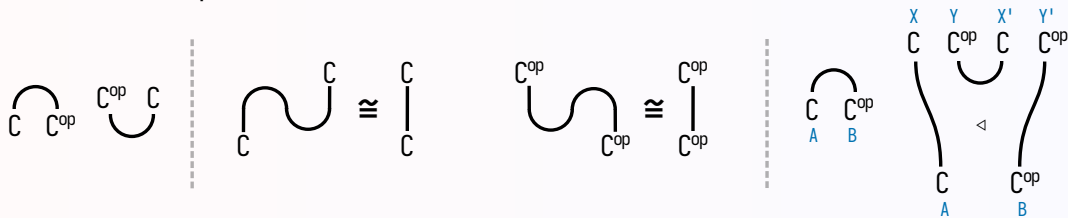


Theorem  M. Román, [2023](#) – *Monoidal Context Theory*.

The category of promonoidal categories is equivalent to the category of malleable multicategories.

Splice: the cofree promonoidal category over a category

$\mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}$ has a promonoidal structure:



$$I(; \frac{A}{B}) = \mathcal{C}(A; B)$$

$$\triangleleft(\frac{X}{Y}, \frac{X'}{Y'}; \frac{A}{B}) = \mathcal{C}(A; X) \times \mathcal{C}(Y; X') \times \mathcal{C}(Y'; B)$$

$$A \longrightarrow X \qquad Y \longrightarrow X' \qquad Y' \longrightarrow B$$

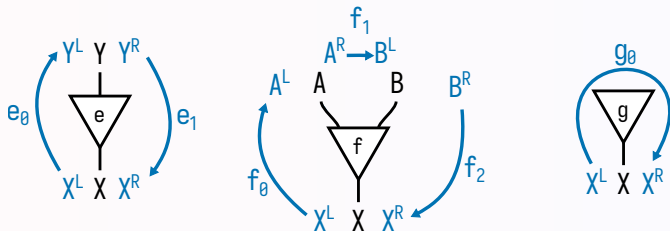
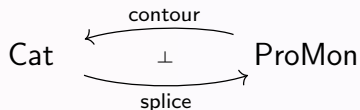
Composing profunctors...


$$\mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{C}^{\text{op}} \left(\frac{X}{Y} \triangleleft (\frac{X'}{Y'} \triangleleft \frac{X''}{Y''}); \frac{A}{B} \right) \cong \mathcal{C}(A; X) \times \mathcal{C}(Y; X') \times \mathcal{C}(Y'; X'') \times \mathcal{C}(Y''; B)$$

cf. Day, 1970 – *On closed categories of functors* Melliès and Zeilberger, 2023 – *Categorical contours...*

Splicing is right adjoint to contouring

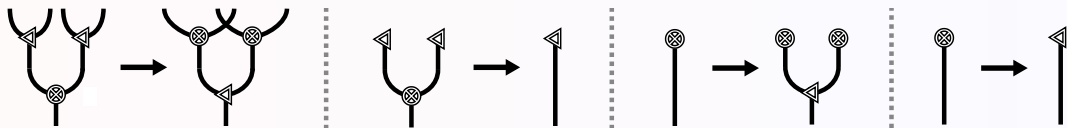
Theorem (E, Hefford, and Román, 2024).



cf.  Mellìès and Zeilberger, 2023 – *Categorical contours...*

Produoidal categories

A *produoidal category* is a category with two promonoidal structures such that...



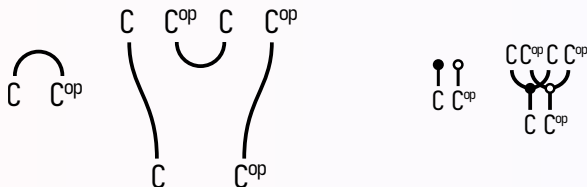
Examples

- Every duoidal category is a produoidal category
- Closed duoidal structures on presheaves \simeq produoidal structures on the base
- *Spliced monoidal arrows*
- *Optics in a (planar) monoidal category*

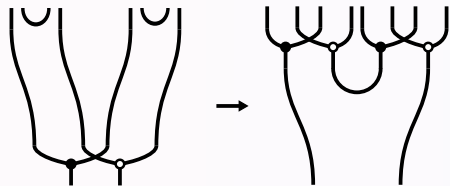
cf.  Booker and Street, [2013](#) – *Tannaka Duality and Convolution for Duoidal Categories*

Splice (II): The cofree produoidal category over a monoidal category

When \mathcal{C} is monoidal we have a second promonoidal structure on $\mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}$

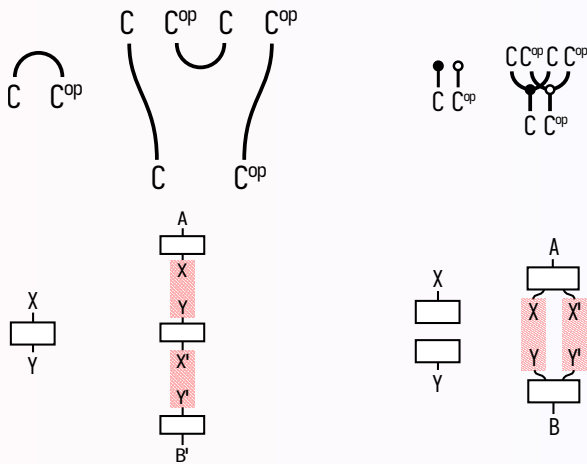


and these interact to form a produoidal structure, e.g.



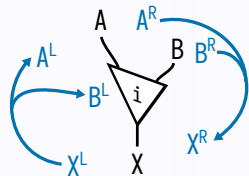
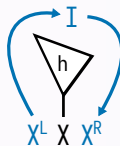
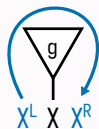
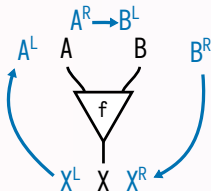
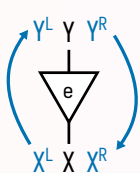
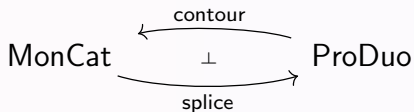
Splice (II): The cofree produoidal category over a monoidal category

The produoidal category of *spliced monoidal arrows*



Splicing is right adjoint to contouring (II)

Theorem (E, Hefford, and Román, 2024).



Normalization

Any produoidal category can be *normalized*: this forces an isomorphism



$$\mathcal{N}\mathcal{C}(A; B) := \mathcal{C}(N \otimes A \otimes N; B)$$

$$\mathcal{N}\mathcal{C}(A \otimes B; C) := \mathcal{C}(N \otimes A \otimes N \otimes B \otimes N; C)$$

$$\mathcal{N}\mathcal{C}(I; A) := \mathcal{C}(N; A)$$

$$\mathcal{N}\mathcal{C}(A \triangleleft B; C) := \mathcal{C}((N \otimes A \otimes N) \triangleleft (N \otimes B \otimes N); C)$$

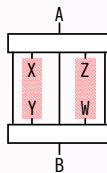
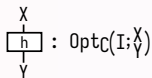
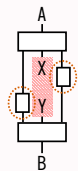
$$\mathcal{N}\mathcal{C}(N; A) := \mathcal{C}(N; A)$$

Theorem (E, Hefford, and Román, 2024). *Normalization extends to an idempotent adjunction between produoidals and normal produoidals.*

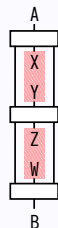
cf. 📄 Garner and Franco, 2016 – *Commutativity*

Normalization of spliced monoidal arrows

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{N}\text{Splice}(\mathcal{C})(\overset{X}{\underset{Y}{\rhd}}; \overset{A}{\underset{B}{\lrcorner}}) &:= \text{Splice}(\mathcal{C})(N \otimes \overset{X}{\underset{Y}{\rhd}} \otimes N; \overset{A}{\underset{B}{\lrcorner}}) \\
 &= \int_{\overset{P}{\underset{Q}{\rhd}}, \overset{P'}{\underset{Q'}{\rhd}} \in \text{Splice}(\mathcal{C})} \mathcal{C}(A; P \otimes X \otimes Q) \times \mathcal{C}(P' \otimes Y \otimes Q'; B) \times \mathcal{C}(P; P') \times \mathcal{C}(Q; Q') \\
 &\cong \int_{P, P' \in \mathcal{C}} \mathcal{C}(A; P \otimes X \otimes P') \times \mathcal{C}(P \otimes Y \otimes P'; B)
 \end{aligned}$$



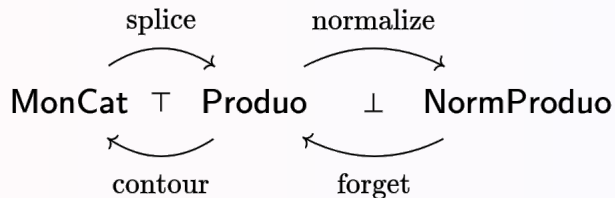
$\text{Opt}_{\mathcal{C}}(\overset{X}{\underset{Y}{\rhd}} \otimes \overset{Z}{\underset{W}{\rhd}}; \overset{A}{\underset{B}{\lrcorner}})$



$\text{Opt}_{\mathcal{C}}(\overset{X}{\underset{Y}{\rhd}} \triangleleft \overset{Z}{\underset{W}{\rhd}}; \overset{A}{\underset{B}{\lrcorner}})$

Theorem (E, Hefford, and Román, 2024). *Optics in a monoidal category \mathcal{C} are the free normalization of the cofree produoidal category on \mathcal{C} , $\text{Opt}_{\mathcal{C}} \cong \mathcal{N}\text{Splice}(\mathcal{C})$.*

Conclusion and further work



- Duomulticategories
- Tambara modules
- Recovering operads of wiring diagrams
- Polar shuffles

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