

Intro to Profunctor Optics

Bartosz Milewski

Programming Cafe

2022

Profunctors

Definition

Profunctors are **Set**-valued functors of the type:

$$p: \mathcal{C}^{op} \times \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$$

- For each pair of objects, a set:

$$p\langle c, d \rangle$$

- For each pair of morphisms:

$$f: s \rightarrow c$$

$$g: d \rightarrow t$$

a function:

$$p\langle f, g \rangle: p\langle c, d \rangle \rightarrow p\langle s, t \rangle$$

- Endo-Profunctors

$$p: \mathcal{C}^{op} \times \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$$

- They generalize hom-functors:

$$\mathcal{C}(-, =): \mathcal{C}^{op} \times \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$$

- Enriched profunctors.
 \mathcal{C} and \mathcal{D} , \mathcal{V} -enriched categories.

$$p: \mathcal{C}^{op} \otimes \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{V}$$

Profunctors as proof-relevant relations

- Element of $p\langle c, d \rangle$ is a proof that c is related to d
- Relations that are compatible with categorical structure.
If c is related to d then s is related to t , if the objects are connected by morphisms:

$$f: s \rightarrow c$$

$$g: d \rightarrow t$$

Profunctors as linear transformations

- Elements of a co-presheaf as vectors:

$$v: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$$

v_i is a component of v at object i

- Especially if \mathcal{C} is a discrete category.
 $\mathcal{C}(i, j)$ acts like a Kronecker delta.
- A profunctor acts like a linear transformation, a matrix, or a mixed covariance tensor:

$$p_{ij}$$

Composition

$$\circ: \mathcal{C}(b, c) \times \mathcal{C}(a, b) \rightarrow \mathcal{C}(a, c)$$

- Profunctor composition:

$$\diamond: q\langle b, c \rangle \times p\langle a, b \rangle \rightarrow (q \diamond p)\langle a, c \rangle$$

- As relations: A proof of $(q \diamond p)\langle a, c \rangle$ is:

$$\exists b. q\langle b, c \rangle \wedge p\langle a, b \rangle$$

- As linear transformations:

$$(q \diamond p)_{ik} = \sum_j q_{jk} \times p_{ij} = \text{Tr}(q_{-k} \times p_{i-})$$

- The sum (coproduct) works well for discrete categories. Otherwise, it over-counts.

Coend as sum

- As trace

$$\sum_i p_{ii} \qquad \int^a p\langle a, a \rangle$$

- As sum (only in discrete categories)

$$\begin{array}{ccc} p\langle x, x \rangle & p\langle y, y \rangle & p\langle z, z \rangle \\ & \downarrow i_y & \\ & \sum_a p\langle a, a \rangle & \end{array}$$

i_x i_z

- Overcounting: if there's a morphism $f: x \rightarrow y$:

$$p\langle y, f \rangle: p\langle y, x \rangle \rightarrow p\langle y, y \rangle$$

$$p\langle f, x \rangle: p\langle y, x \rangle \rightarrow p\langle x, x \rangle$$

Co-wedge condition

- Like sum, modulo identifications:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & p\langle y, x \rangle & \\ p\langle y, f \rangle \swarrow & & \searrow p\langle f, x \rangle \\ p\langle y, y \rangle & & p\langle x, x \rangle \\ i_y \searrow & & \swarrow i_x \\ & \int^a p\langle a, a \rangle & \end{array}$$

- Universal co-wedge is the coend
- Like a sum, co-end has the mapping out property
- Generalizes to enriched categories

Profunctor composition

- Composition

$$(q \diamond p)\langle a, b \rangle = \int^c q\langle c, b \rangle \times p\langle a, c \rangle$$

- Compare with:

$$(q \diamond p)_{ik} = \sum_j q_{jk} \times p_{ij} = \text{Tr}(q_{-k} \times p_{i-})$$

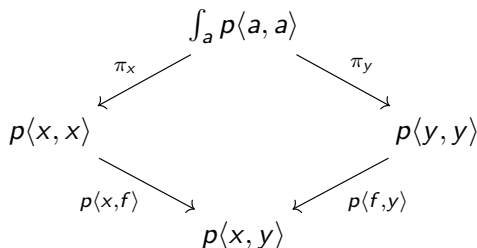
$$(q \diamond p)\langle a, c \rangle = \exists b. q\langle b, c \rangle \wedge p\langle a, b \rangle$$

- Enriched version uses tensor product in \mathcal{V}

- Like a product of diagonal elements (in a discrete category)

$$\prod_a p\langle a, a \rangle$$

- Like a universal quantifier $\forall_a p\langle a, a \rangle$
- Wedge condition



- Universal wedge is the end
- Like a product, end has a mapping in property

Natural transformations

- Two functors F and G from \mathcal{C} to \mathcal{D}

$$[\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{D}](F, G) \cong \int_{x: \mathcal{C}} \mathcal{D}(Fx, Gx)$$

- Element of this end: a giant tuple of morphisms. Wedge condition = naturality square
- Can be used to define natural transformations between enriched functors
- (Ninja) Yoneda lemma

$$\int_{x: \mathcal{C}} \mathbf{Set}(\mathcal{C}(a, x), Fx) \cong Fa$$

- (Ninja) co-Yoneda

$$\int^{x: \mathcal{C}} \mathcal{C}(x, a) \times Fx \cong Fa$$

- Colimit of representables. $a = \sum_i e_i a_i$

Continuity of hom-functor

- Mapping out of a coend

$$\mathbf{Set}\left(\int^a p\langle a, a \rangle, C\right) \cong \int_a \mathbf{Set}(p\langle a, a \rangle, C)$$

- Mapping into an end

$$\mathbf{Set}\left(C, \int_a p\langle a, a \rangle\right) \cong \int_a \mathbf{Set}(C, p\langle a, a \rangle)$$

Categories

- The action of a monoidal category \mathcal{M} on \mathcal{C}

$$\bullet: \mathcal{M} \times \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$$

- Preserving monoidal structure

$$m \bullet (n \bullet a) \cong (m \otimes n) \bullet a$$

- Action of \mathcal{C} on itself through:

- product: $c \bullet a = c \times a$
- sum (coproduct): $c \bullet a = c + a$

- Polynomial action (power series): streams of \mathcal{C} acting on \mathcal{C} :

$$\bullet: [\mathbb{N}, \mathcal{C}] \times \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$$

$$c \bullet a = \sum_k c_k \times a^k$$

- Dependent lens: fibrations with pullbacks (locally closed categories)
- Action of profunctors on co-presheaf categories

Existential optics

- Mixed optics:

$$\mathcal{O}\langle s, t \rangle \langle a, b \rangle = \int^{m: \mathcal{M}} \mathcal{C}(s, m \bullet a) \times \mathcal{D}(m \bullet b, t)$$

- Lens

$$\mathcal{L}\langle s, t \rangle \langle a, b \rangle = \int^{c: \mathcal{C}} \mathcal{C}(s, c \times a) \times \mathcal{C}(c \times b, t)$$

- Currying adjunction:

$$\int^{c: \mathcal{C}} \mathcal{C}(s, c \times a) \times \mathcal{C}(c, [b, t])$$

- co-Yoneda \rightarrow set/get:

$$\mathcal{C}(s, [b, t] \times a) \cong \mathcal{C}(s, [b, t]) \times \mathcal{C}(s, a)$$

Tannakian reconstruction

- Reconstruct a monoid from all its representations
- Monoid \mathcal{M} : single object $*$, hom-set $\mathcal{M}(*,*)$
- Representation $F: \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$
- Category of representations $[\mathcal{M}, \mathbf{Set}]$ with natural transformations as equivariant functions
- Tannakian reconstruction:

$$\int_{F: [\mathcal{M}, \mathbf{Set}]} \mathbf{Set}(F*, F*) \cong \mathcal{M}(*, *)$$

- More general

$$\int_{F: [\mathcal{C}, \mathbf{Set}]} \mathbf{Set}(Fa, Fb) \cong \mathcal{C}(a, b)$$

Tannakian reconstruction with adjunction

- Tannaka

$$\int_{F: [\mathcal{C}, \mathbf{Set}]} \mathbf{Set}(Fa, Fb) \cong \mathcal{C}(a, b)$$

- More general:

- A category \mathcal{T} of functors with additional structure
- forgetful functor $U: \mathcal{T} \rightarrow [\mathcal{C}, \mathbf{Set}]$
- Free functor F adjoint to U

$$\int_{P: \mathcal{T}} \mathbf{Set}((UP)a, (UP)b) \cong ((U \circ F)\mathcal{C}(a, -))b$$

- Fiber functor $\mathcal{T} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$ (“stalk” over a)

$$P \mapsto (UP)a$$

- The monad $\Phi = U \circ F$ in the functor category $[\mathcal{C}, \mathbf{Set}]$ acting on the representable $\mathcal{C}(a, -)$

- Replace \mathcal{C} with $\mathcal{C}^{op} \times \mathcal{C}$ to get Tannakian reconstruction for profunctors:

$$\mathcal{O}\langle s, t \rangle \langle a, b \rangle = \int_{P: \mathcal{T}} \mathbf{Set}((UP)\langle a, b \rangle, (UP)\langle s, t \rangle)$$

$$\cong (\Phi(\mathcal{C}^{op} \times \mathcal{C})(\langle a, b \rangle, -))\langle s, t \rangle$$

- $\Phi = U \circ F$ is a profunctor functor.
- We get optics when \mathcal{T} is a category of Tambara modules

- A profunctor equipped with a family of transformations

$$\alpha_{\langle a, b \rangle, m}: p\langle a, b \rangle \rightarrow p\langle m \bullet a, m \bullet b \rangle$$

- suitably natural and compatible with the monoidal action
- Mixed optics: two separate actions of the same monoidal category in two categories
- Pastro and Street calculated the monad Φ

- The monad in $[\mathcal{C}^{op} \times \mathcal{D}, \mathbf{Set}]$

$$(\Phi P)\langle s, t \rangle = \int^{\langle u, v \rangle, m} (\mathcal{C}^{op} \times \mathcal{D})(m \bullet \langle u, v \rangle, \langle s, t \rangle) \times P\langle u, v \rangle$$

- where

$$m \bullet \langle u, v \rangle = \langle m \bullet a, m \bullet b \rangle$$

- Substituting $(\Phi(\mathcal{C}^{op} \times \mathcal{D}))(\langle a, b \rangle, -)\langle s, t \rangle$

$$\int^{\langle u, v \rangle, m} (\mathcal{C}^{op} \times \mathcal{D})(m \bullet \langle u, v \rangle, \langle s, t \rangle) \times (\mathcal{C}^{op} \times \mathcal{D})(\langle a, b \rangle, \langle u, v \rangle)$$

$$\int^m (\mathcal{C}^{op} \times \mathcal{D})(m \bullet \langle a, b \rangle, \langle s, t \rangle)$$

$$\int^m \mathcal{C}(s, m \bullet a) \times \mathcal{D}(m \bullet b, t)$$

Co-presheaf optics

- Polynomial functor

$$P(y) = \sum_{n \in N} s_n \times [t_n, y]$$

- Natural transformations between two polynomials:

$$\int^{c_{ki}} \prod_{k \in K} \mathbf{Set} \left(s_k, \sum_{n \in N} a_n \times c_{nk} \right) \times \prod_{i \in K} \mathbf{Set} \left(\sum_{m \in N} b_m \times c_{mi}, t_i \right)$$

- c_{nk} are not “square”. Not a monoidal action!
- If a_n, s_k interpreted as co-presheaves, then c_{nk} are profunctors:

$$c: [\mathcal{N}, \mathbf{Set}] \rightarrow [\mathcal{K}, \mathbf{Set}]$$

of actegory we have the action of **Prof** (with profunctor composition) on co-presheaves,

$$(c \bullet a)k = \int^n a(n) \times p\langle n, k \rangle$$

- Bartosz Milewski, The Dao of Functional Programming (available on github)
- Pastro, Street, Doubles for monoidal categories
- Bryce Clarke, Derek Elkins, Jeremy Gibbons, Fosco Loregian, Bartosz Milewski, Emily Pillmore, Mario Román, Profunctor optics, a categorical update
- Bartosz Milewski on github, project PolyLens