

# August 22: Exploring causal assumptions with string diagrams

Anonymous Author(s)

Affiliation

Address

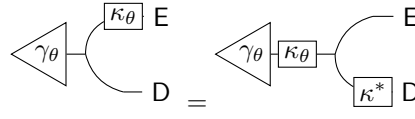
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## 1 Recoverability

- A natural assumption suggested by the notion of a CSDP is that of *recoverability* - that a causal theory  $\mathcal{T} : E \times D \rightarrow E$  permits some decision function that reproduces the distribution of the observed data. That is, we assume that for every  $(\kappa_\theta, \mu_\theta) := \theta \in \mathcal{T}$  there exists  $\gamma_\theta \in \Delta(\mathcal{D})$  such that

$$\gamma_\theta \kappa_\theta = \mu_\theta \quad (1)$$

- Suppose also that we have some  $\kappa^*$  that, for all  $\theta \in \mathcal{T}$ , is a Bayesian inversion of  $\gamma_\theta$  and  $\kappa_\theta$ ; that is:



$$\quad (2)$$

- A sufficient condition for the existence of such a  $\kappa^*$  is the assumption that decisions correspond to *variable setting* - that is, there is some variable  $X : E \rightarrow X$  such that for all  $a \in D$ ,  $\theta \in \mathcal{T}$  we have  $\delta_a \kappa_\theta F_X = \delta_a$  (such an assumption arises in graphical models as hard interventions, and in potential outcomes as “potential-outcome identifiers”). Indeed  $F_X$  is in this case a candidate for  $\kappa^*$ . It is not necessary that  $\kappa^*$  be deterministic, however - suppose every  $\kappa$  ignores  $D$ . Then choose  $\gamma_\theta = \gamma$  for arbitrary  $\gamma \in \Delta(\mathcal{D})$  and it can be verified that  $\kappa^* : b \mapsto \gamma$  satisfies 2.

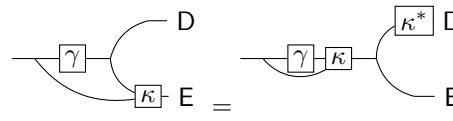
- I believe a weaker sufficient condition for the existence of a universal  $\kappa^*$  is that every  $\kappa_\theta$  factorises as  $\kappa_\theta = h \vee (\text{Id}_F \otimes j_\theta)$  for some fixed  $h : D \rightarrow \Delta(\mathcal{F})$ , but I have not yet shown this.

- We will proceed somewhat rashly: suppose that by defining  $\gamma : \mathcal{T} \rightarrow \Delta(\mathcal{D})$ ,  $\mu : \mathcal{T} \rightarrow \Delta(\mathcal{E})$  and  $\kappa : \mathcal{T} \times D \rightarrow \Delta(\mathcal{E})$  by  $\gamma : \theta \rightarrow \gamma_\theta$ ,  $\mu : \theta \rightarrow \mu_\theta$  and  $\kappa : (\theta, d) \rightarrow \kappa_\theta(d; \cdot)$  that all resulting objects are Markov kernels, and that  $\mathcal{T}$  is a standard measurable space.

- By previous assumptions, we have the following properties:



$$\quad (3)$$



$$\quad (4)$$



$$\quad (5)$$

18 From 4 we also have

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{---} \boxed{\gamma} \text{---} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \text{D} \\ \text{---} \boxed{\kappa^*} \text{---} \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \boxed{\gamma} \boxed{\kappa} \text{---} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \boxed{\kappa^*} \text{---} \text{D} \\ \text{---} \text{*} \end{array} \quad (6)$$

$$\text{---} \boxed{\gamma} \text{---} \text{D} = \text{---} \boxed{\mu} \boxed{\kappa^*} \text{---} \text{D} \quad (7)$$

19 Where 7 follows from 1.

20 Suppose we have that  $\mu$  is deterministic, relieving us of having to deal with any issues regarding  
 21 inferring the observed distribution from a finite sample (e.g. we are in the world of classical physics).  
 22  $\mu$  therefore has a left inverse  ${}^\dagger\mu$ .

23 A corollary of Lemma 2.5 is that left inverses have the following property:

$$\boxed{{}^\dagger A} \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \boxed{A} \text{---} \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \boxed{{}^\dagger A} \\ \text{---} \end{array} \quad (8)$$

24 And Fong [2013] has shown that for deterministic  $A$  we have

$$\boxed{A} \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \boxed{A} \text{---} \\ \boxed{A} \text{---} \end{array} \quad (9)$$

25 We then have

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{---} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \boxed{\mu} \boxed{\kappa^*} \boxed{\kappa} \text{---} \end{array} \stackrel{4}{=} \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \boxed{\mu} \boxed{{}^\dagger\mu\mu} \boxed{\kappa^*} \text{---} \end{array} \quad (10)$$

$$\stackrel{4}{=} \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \boxed{\mu} \boxed{{}^\dagger\mu} \boxed{\mu} \boxed{\kappa^*} \boxed{\kappa} \text{---} \end{array} \quad (11)$$

$$\stackrel{4}{=} \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \boxed{\mu} \boxed{{}^\dagger\mu} \boxed{\mu} \boxed{\kappa^*} \boxed{\kappa} \text{---} \end{array} \quad (12)$$

$$\stackrel{29}{=} \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \boxed{\mu} \boxed{{}^\dagger\mu} \boxed{\kappa^*} \boxed{\kappa} \text{---} \end{array} \quad (13)$$

$$\stackrel{9}{=} \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \boxed{\mu} \boxed{{}^\dagger\mu} \boxed{\mu\kappa^*} \boxed{\kappa} \text{---} \end{array} \quad (14)$$

Equation 14 implies that, given any  $\xi \in \Delta(\mathcal{T})$ , all distributions of the form

Admit both  $\boxed{\kappa}$  and  $\boxed{\mu^\dagger \mu} \boxed{\kappa}$  as disintegrations from  $(D, T) \dashrightarrow E$ . Therefore these two kernels agree almost surely with respect to the distribution 15 for any prior  $\xi$ . We appear to require additional assumptions in order to support a nontrivial result, however. Given that  $\mu$  is deterministic, we might suppose  $\kappa^*$  is also likely to be deterministic (or, if it is not, the nondeterminism is not carried through by  $\kappa$ ). Then we will have only a single pair in  $D \times \mathcal{T}$  having nonzero measure for each  $\theta \in \mathcal{T}$ , so the “almost surely” condition rules out almost all feasible decision functions. There appear to be two competing demands - we want  $\kappa^*$  stochastic in order to determine the results of a wide variety of decision functions, but we want  $\mu$  deterministic in order to support statistical inference. One option might be to relax the assumption of determinism on  $\mu$  slightly and hope that we “gain more than we lose”. I suspect, at this point, that this does not work.

An alternative nontrivial case of “optimisability” requires the additional assumption of *double exchangeability*. This is exchangeability in the standard statistical sense, not in the sense of the Rubin causal model; a doubly exchangeable kernel is a kernel that remains the same if inputs and outputs are permuted in the same way.

**Definition 1.1** (Double exchangeability). A kernel  $\kappa : X \rightarrow \Delta(\mathcal{Y})$  is *doubly exchangeable* with respect to random variable multisets  $\{X_i\}_{i \in A}, \{Y_i\}_{i \in A}$  where  $A = [n]$  or  $A = \mathbb{N}$  and  $X_i : X \rightarrow X_i, Y_i : Y \rightarrow Y_i$  if, given any finite permutation  $\sigma$  and its inverse  $\sigma^{-1}$  we have both

- There exists  $\sigma_X : X \rightarrow X$  and  $\sigma_Y^{-1} : Y \rightarrow Y$  such that  $F_{\sigma_X} \Upsilon(\otimes_{i \in A} X_{a_i}) = \Upsilon(\otimes_{i \in A} X_{\sigma(a_i)})$  and similarly for  $F_{\sigma_Y^{-1}}$  and
- $F_{\sigma_X} \kappa F_{\sigma_Y^{-1}} = \kappa$

The result isn’t trivial, however. We identify  $\mathcal{T} \cong [0, 1] \times T$ ,  $E \cong [0, 1]^2$  and  $D \cong \{0, 1\}^{\mathbb{N}}$ . For  $(\theta, \phi) \in \mathcal{T}$  let  $\mu : (\theta; A \times B) \mapsto \delta_{0.5}(A) \delta_{\theta}(B)$ .

Define  $\overline{D}^n : \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow [0, 1]$  by  $\overline{D}^n : (y_0, \dots, y_n) \mapsto \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i \in [n]} y_i$  and let  $\overline{D} : D \rightarrow [0, 1]$  be the limit  $\overline{D} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \overline{D}^n$ . Let  $\gamma$  be for all  $(\theta, \phi)$  the unique distribution such that  $\gamma F_{\overline{D}^n}(\theta, \phi; A) = \delta_{0.5}(A)$  (i.e. the distribution of an infinite sequence of IID RVs with success probability 0.5) and assert that  $\delta_{(\theta, \phi)} \Upsilon(\text{Id}_{\mathcal{T}} \otimes \gamma) \kappa = \delta_{\theta} \mu$  almost surely for all  $(\theta, \phi)$ . We note that  $\kappa^* : (; A) \mapsto \gamma(\cdot; A)$  satisfies 4 for arbitrary  $\kappa$ .

## 2 Notes on category theoretic probability and string diagrams

Category theoretic treatments of probability theory often start with *probability monads* (for a good overview, see [Jacobs, 2018]). A monad on some category  $C$  is a functor  $T : C \rightarrow C$  along with natural transformations called the unit  $\eta : 1_C \rightarrow T$  and multiplication  $\mu : T^2 \rightarrow T$ . Roughly, functors are maps between categories that preserve identity and composition structure and natural transformations are “maps” between functors that also preserve composition structure. The monad unit is similar to the identity element of a monoid in that application of the identity followed by multiplication yields the identity transformation. The multiplication transformation is also (roughly speaking) associative.

An example of a probability monad is the discrete probability monad given by the functor  $\mathcal{D} : \mathbf{Set} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$  which maps a countable set  $X$  to the set of functions from  $X \rightarrow [0, 1]$  that are probability measures on  $X$ , denoted  $\mathcal{D}(X)$ .  $\mathcal{D}$  maps a measurable function  $f$  to  $\mathcal{D}f : X \rightarrow \mathcal{D}(X)$  given by  $\mathcal{D}f : x \mapsto \delta_{f(x)}$ . The unit of this monad is the map  $\eta_X : X \rightarrow \mathcal{D}(X)$  given by  $\eta_X : x \mapsto \delta_x$  (which is equivalent to  $\mathcal{D}1_X$ ) and multiplication is  $\mu_X : \mathcal{D}^2(X) \rightarrow \mathcal{D}(X)$  where  $\mu_X : \Omega \mapsto \sum_{\phi} \Omega(\phi) \phi$ .

68 For continuous distributions we have the Giry monad on the category **Meas** of measurable spaces  
 69 given by the functor  $\mathcal{G}$  which maps a measurable space  $X$  to the set of probability measures on  $X$ ,  
 70 denoted  $\mathcal{G}(X)$ . Other elements of the monad (unit, multiplication and map between morphisms) are  
 71 the “continuous” version of the above.

72 Of particular interest is the Kleisli category of the monads above. The Kleisli  $C_T$  category of a  
 73 monad  $T$  on category  $C$  is the category with the same objects and the morphisms  $X \rightarrow Y$  in  $C_T$  is  
 74 the set of morphisms  $X \rightarrow TY$  in  $C$ . Thus the morphisms  $X \rightarrow Y$  in the Kleisli category **Set<sub>D</sub>** are  
 75 morphisms  $X \rightarrow \mathcal{D}(Y)$  in **Set**, i.e. stochastic matrices, and in the Kleisli category **Meas<sub>G</sub>** we have  
 76 Markov kernels. Composition of arrows in the Kleisli categories correspond to Matrix products and  
 77 “kernel products” respectively.

78 Both  $\mathcal{D}$  and  $\mathcal{G}$  are known to be *commutative* monads, and the Kleisli category of a commutative  
 79 monad is a symmetric monoidal category.

80 Diagrams for symmetric monoidal categories consist of wires with arrows, boxes and a couple of  
 81 special symbols. The identity object (which we identify with the set  $\{*\}$ ) is drawn as nothing at all  
 82  $\{*\} := \square$  and identity maps are drawn as bare wires:

$$\text{Id}_X := \uparrow_X \quad (16)$$

83 We draw Kleisli arrows from the unit (i.e. probability distributions)  $\mu : \{*\} \rightarrow X$  as triangles and  
 84 Kleisli arrows  $\kappa : X \rightarrow Y$  (i.e. Markov kernels  $X \rightarrow \Delta(\mathcal{Y})$ ) as boxes. We draw the Kleisli arrow  
 85  $\mathbb{1}_X : X \rightarrow \{*\}$  (which is unique for each  $X$ ) as below

$$\mu := \triangle^{\uparrow X} \quad \kappa := \boxed{\kappa}^{\uparrow Y} \quad (17)$$

86 The product of objects in **Meas** is given by  $(X, \mathcal{X}) \cdot (Y, \mathcal{Y}) = (X \times Y, \mathcal{X} \otimes \mathcal{Y})$ , which we will  
 87 often write as just  $X \times Y$ . Horizontal juxtaposition of wires indicates this product, and horizontal  
 88 juxtaposition also indicates the tensor product of Kleisli arrows. Let  $\kappa_1 : X \rightarrow W$  and  $\kappa_2 : Y \rightarrow Z$ :

$$(X \times Y, \mathcal{X} \otimes \mathcal{Y}) := \uparrow_X \uparrow_Y \quad \kappa_1 \otimes \kappa_2 := \begin{array}{c} \uparrow W \quad \uparrow Z \\ \boxed{\kappa_1} \quad \boxed{\kappa_2} \\ \downarrow X \quad \downarrow Y \end{array} \quad (18)$$

89 Composition of arrows is achieved by “wiring” boxes together. For  $\kappa_1 : X \rightarrow Y$  and  $\kappa_2 : Y \rightarrow Z$   
 90 we have

$$\kappa_1 \kappa_2(x; A) = \int_Y \kappa_2(y; A) \kappa_1(x; dy) := \begin{array}{c} \uparrow Z \\ \boxed{\kappa_2} \\ \downarrow \\ \boxed{\kappa_1} \\ \downarrow X \end{array} \quad (19)$$

91 Symmetric monoidal categories have the following coherence theorem[Selinger, 2010]:

92 **Theorem 2.1** (Coherence (symmetric monoidal)). *A well-formed equation between morphisms in*  
 93 *the language of symmetric monoidal categories follows from the axioms of symmetric monoidal*  
 94 *categories if and only if it holds, up to isomorphism of diagrams, in the graphical language.*

95 Isomorphism of diagrams for symmetric monoidal categories (somewhat informally) is any planar  
 96 deformation of a diagram including deformations that cause wires to cross. We consider a diagram  
 97 for a symmetric monoidal category to be well formed only if all wires point upwards.

98 In fact the Kleisli categories of the probability monads above have (for each object) unique *copy*:  
 99  $X \rightarrow X \times X$  and *erase*:  $X \rightarrow \{*\}$  maps that satisfy the *commutative comonoid axioms* that (thanks

100 to the coherence theorem above) can be stated graphically. These differ from the copy and erase  
 101 maps of *finite product* or *cartesian* categories in that they do not necessarily respect composition of  
 102 morphisms.

$$\text{Erase} = \mathbb{1}_X := \begin{array}{c} * \\ | \end{array} \quad \text{Copy} = x \mapsto \delta_{x,x} := \begin{array}{c} \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ | \end{array} \quad (20)$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ | \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ | \end{array} := \begin{array}{c} \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ | \end{array} \quad (21)$$

$$\begin{array}{c} * \\ | \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} * \\ | \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \end{array} \quad (22)$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ \cup \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ | \end{array} \quad (23)$$

103 Finally,  $\{*\}$  is a terminal object in the Kleisli categories of either probability monad. This means  
 104 that the map  $X \rightarrow \{*\}$  is unique for all objects  $X$ , and as a consequence for all objects  $X, Y$  and all  
 105  $\kappa : X \rightarrow Y$  we have

$$\begin{array}{c} * \\ \boxed{\kappa} \\ | \\ X \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} * \\ | \\ X \end{array} \quad (24)$$

106 This is equivalent to requiring for all  $x \in X$   $\int_Y \kappa(x; dy) = 1$ . In the case of  $\mathbf{Set}_{\mathcal{D}}$ , this condition is  
 107 what differentiates a stochastic matrix from a general positive matrix (which live in a larger category  
 108 than  $\mathbf{Set}_{\mathcal{D}}$ ).

109 Thus when manipulating diagrams representing Markov kernels in particular (and, importantly, not  
 110 more general symmetric monoidal categories) diagram isomorphism also includes applications of 21,  
 111 22, 23 and 24.

112 A particular property of the copy map in  $\mathbf{Meas}_{\mathcal{G}}$  (and probably  $\mathbf{Set}_{\mathcal{D}}$  as well) is that it commutes with  
 113 Markov kernels iff the markov kernels are deterministic [Fong, 2013].

## 114 2.1 Disintegration and Bayesian inversion

115 *Disintegration* is a key operation on probability distributions (equivalently arrows  $\{*\} \rightarrow X$ ) in  
 116 the categories under discussion. It corresponds to “finding the conditional probability” (though  
 117 conditional probability is usually formalised in a slightly different way).

118 Given a distribution  $\mu : \{*\} \rightarrow X \otimes Y$ , a disintegration  $c : X \rightarrow Y$  is a Markov kernel that satisfies

$$\begin{array}{c} X \quad Y \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ \mu \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} X \quad Y \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ \mu \end{array} \quad (25)$$

119 Disintegrations always exist in  $\mathbf{Set}_{\mathcal{D}}$  but not in  $\mathbf{Meas}_{\mathcal{G}}$ . They do exist in the latter if we restrict  
 120 ourselves to standard measurable spaces. If  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  are disintegrations  $X \rightarrow Y$  of  $\mu$ , they are equal

121  $\mu$ -A.S. In fact, this equality can be strengthened somewhat - they are equal almost surely with respect  
 122 to any distribution that shares the “ $X$ -marginal” of  $\mu$ .  
 123 Given  $\sigma : \{*\} \rightarrow X$  and a channel  $c : X \rightarrow Y$ , a Bayesian inversion of  $(\sigma, c)$  is a channel  $d : Y \rightarrow X$   
 124 such that

$$(26)$$

125 We can obtain disintegrations from Bayesian inversions and vice-versa.  
 126 Clerc et al. [2017] offer an alternative view of Bayesian inversion which they claim doesn’t depend  
 127 on standard measurability conditions, but there is a step in their proof I didn’t follow.

## 128 2.2 Generalisations

129 Cho and Jacobs [2019] make use of a larger “CD” category by dropping 24. I’m not completely clear  
 130 whether you end up with arrows being “Markov kernels for general measures” or something else (can  
 131 we have negative arrows?). This allows for the introduction of “observables” or “effects” of the form



132  
 133 Jacobs et al. [2019] make use of an embedding of  $\mathbf{Set}_D$  in  $\mathbf{Mat}(\mathbb{R}^+)$  with morphisms all positive  
 134 matrices (I’m not totally clear on the objects, or how they are self-dual - this doesn’t seem to be  
 135 exactly the same as the category of finite dimensional vector spaces). This latter category is compact  
 136 closed, which - informally speaking - supports the same diagrams as symmetric monoidal categories  
 137 with the addition of “upside down” wires.

## 138 2.3 Key questions for Causal Theories

139 We will first define *labeled diagrams*. Rather than labelling the wires of our diagrams with *spaces* (as is  
 140 typical [Selinger, 2010]), we assign a unique label to each “wire segment” (with some qualifications).  
 141 That is, we assign a unique label to each bare wire in the diagram with the following additional  
 142 qualifications:

- 143 • If we have a box in the diagram representing the identity map, the incoming and outgoing  
 144 wires are given the same label
- 145 • If we have a wire crossing in the diagram, the diagonally opposite wires are given the same  
 146 label
- 147 • The input wire and the *two* output wires of the copy map are given the same label

148 Given two diagrams  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  that are isomorphic under transformations licenced by the axioms of  
 149 symmetric monoidal categories and commutative comonoid axioms, suppose we have a labelling of  
 150  $G_1$ . We can label  $G_2$  using the following translation rule:

- 151 • For each box in  $G_2$ , we can identify a corresponding box in  $G_1$  via labels on each box. For  
 152 each such pair of boxes, we label the incoming wires of the  $G_2$  box with the labels of the  
 153  $G_1$  box preserving the left-right order. We do likewise for outgoing wires.

154 These rules will lead to a unique labelling of  $G_2$  with all wire segments are labelled. We would like  
 155 for these rules to yield the following:

- 156 • For any sequence of diagram isomorphisms beginning with  $G_1$  and ending with  $G_2$ , we end  
 157 up with the same set of labels
- 158 • If we label  $G_2$  according to the rules above then relabel  $G_1$  from  $G_2$  according to the same  
 159 rules we retrieve the original labels of  $G_1$

I’m sure one of the papers I read mentioned labeled diagrams, I just couldn’t find it when I looked for it

Since writing this, I found Kissinger [2014] as an example of a diagrammatic system with labeled wires, I will follow it up

160 We do not prove these properties here, but motivate them via the following considerations:

- 161 • These properties obviously hold for the wire segments into and out of boxes
- 162 • The only features a diagram may have apart from boxes and wires are wire crossings, copy
- 163 maps and erase maps
- 164 • The labeling rule for wire crossings respects the symmetry of the swap map
- 165 • The labeling rule for copy maps respects the symmetry of the copy map and the property
- 166 described in Equation 23

167 We will follow the convention whereby “internal” wire labels are omitted from diagrams.

168 Note also that each wire that terminates in a free end can be associated with a random variable.  
 169 Suppose for  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  we have a kernel  $\kappa : A \rightarrow \Delta(\times_{i \in N} X_i)$ . Define by  $p_j$  ( $j \in [N]$ ) the projection  
 170 map  $p_j : \times_{i \in N} X_i \rightarrow X_j$  defined by  $p_j : (x_0, \dots, x_N) \mapsto x_j$ .  $p_j$  is a measurable function, hence  
 171 a random variable. Define by  $\pi_j$  the projection kernel  $\mathcal{G}(\pi_j)$  (that is,  $\pi_j : \mathbf{x} \mapsto \delta_{p_j(\mathbf{x})}$ ). Note that  
 172  $\kappa(y; p_j^{-1}(A)) = \int_{X_j} \delta_{p_j(\mathbf{x})}(A) \kappa(y; d\mathbf{x}) = \kappa \pi_j$ . Diagrammatically,  $\pi_j$  is the identity map on the  $j$ -th  
 173 wire tensored with the erase map on every other wire. Thus the  $j$ -th wire carries the distribution  
 174 associated with the random variable  $p_j$ . We will therefore consider the labels of the “outgoing” wires  
 175 of a diagram to denote random variables (though there are obviously many random variables not  
 176 represented by such wires). We will additionally distinguish wire labels from spaces by font - wire  
 177 labels are sans serif  $A, B, C, X, Y, Z$  while spaces are serif  $A, B, C, X, Y, Z$ .

Wire labels appear to have a key advantage over random variables: they allow us to “forget” the sample space as the correct typing is handled automatically by composition and erasure of wires

179 **generalised disintegrations** : Of key importance to our work is generalising the notion of disinte-  
 180 gration (and possibly Bayesian inversion) to general kernels  $X \rightarrow Y$  rather than restricting ourselves  
 181 to probability distributions  $\{*\} \rightarrow Y$ . We will define generalised disintegrations as a straightforward  
 182 analogy regular disintegrations, but the conditions under which such disintegrations exist are more  
 183 restrictive than for regular disintegrations.

184 **Definition 2.2** (Label signatures). If a kernel  $\kappa : X \rightarrow \Delta(Y)$  can be represented by a diagram  
 185  $G$  with incoming wires  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  and outgoing wires  $Y_1, \dots, Y_m$ , we can assign the kernel a “label  
 186 signature”  $\kappa : X_1 \otimes \dots \otimes X_n \dashrightarrow Y_1 \otimes \dots \otimes Y_m$  or, for short,  $\kappa : X_{[n]} \dashrightarrow Y_{[m]}$ . Note that this  
 187 signature associates each label with a unique space - the space of  $X_1$  is the space associated with the  
 188 left-most wire of  $G$  and so forth. We will implicitly leverage this correspondence and write with  $X_1$   
 189 the space associated with  $X_1$  and so forth. Note that while  $X_1$  is by construction always different from  
 190  $X_2$  (or any other label), the space  $X_1$  may coincide with  $X_2$  - the fact that labels always maintain  
 191 distinctions between wires is the fundamental reason for introducing them in the first place.

There might actually be some sensible way to consider  $\kappa$  to be transforming the measurable functions of a type similar to  $\otimes_{i \in [n]} X_i$  to functions of a type similar to  $\otimes_{i \in [m]} Y_i$  (or vice versa - perhaps related to Clerc et al. [2017]), but wire labels are all we need at this point

193 **Definition 2.3** (Generalised disintegration). Given a kernel  $\kappa : X \rightarrow \Delta(Y)$  with label signature  
 194  $\kappa : X_{[n]} \dashrightarrow Y_{[m]}$  and disjoint subsets  $S, T \subset [m]$  such that  $S \cup T = [m]$ , a kernel  $c$  is a *g-*  
 195 *disintegration from  $S$  to  $T$*  if it’s type is compatible with the label signature  $c : Y_S \dashrightarrow Y_T$  and we  
 196 have the identity (omitting incoming wire labels):

$$\begin{array}{c} Y_S \quad Y_T \\ \text{---} \kappa_v \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} Y_S \quad Y_T \\ \text{---} \kappa_v^* \\ \text{---} c \end{array} \quad (27)$$

I have introduced without definition additional labeling operations here: first, each label has a particular space associated with it (in order to license the notion of “type compatible with label signature”), and we have supposed labels can be “bundled”.

197

198 In contrast to regular disintegrations, generalised disintegrations “usually” do not exist. Consider  
 199  $X = \{0, 1\}$ ,  $Y = \{0, 1\}^2$  and  $\kappa$  has label signature  $X_1 \dashrightarrow Y_{\{1,2\}}$  with

$$\kappa : \begin{cases} 1 \mapsto \delta_1 \otimes \delta_1 \\ 0 \mapsto \delta_1 \otimes \delta_0 \end{cases} \quad (28)$$

200  $\kappa$  imposes contradictory requirements for any disintegration  $c : \{0, 1\} \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  from  $\{1\}$  to  $\{2\}$ :  
 201 equality for  $X_1 = 1$  requires  $c(1; \cdot) = \delta_1$  while equality for  $X_1 = 0$  requires  $c(1; \cdot) = \delta_0$ . Subject  
 202 to some regularity conditions (similar to standard Borel conditions for regular disintegrations),  
 203 we can define g-disintegrations of a canonically related kernel that do generally exist; intuitively,  
 204 g-disintegrations exist if they take the “input wires” of  $\kappa$  as input wires themselves.

205 **Lemma 2.4.** *Given  $\kappa : X \rightarrow \Delta(Y)$ , a kernel  $\kappa^\dagger$  is a right inverse iff we have for all  $x \in X$   
 206  $\kappa^\dagger(y; A) = \delta_x(A)$ ,  $\kappa(x; \cdot)$ -almost surely.*

207 *Proof.* Suppose  $\kappa^\dagger$  satisfies the almost sure equality for all  $x \in X$ . Then for all  $x \in X$ ,  $A \in \mathcal{Y}$  we  
 208 have  $\kappa\kappa^\dagger(x; A) = \int_Y \kappa^\dagger(y; A)\kappa(x; dy) = \int_Y \delta_x(A)\kappa(x; dy) = \delta_x(A)$ ; that is,  $\kappa\kappa^\dagger = \text{Id}_X$ , so  $\kappa^\dagger$  is  
 209 a right inverse of  $\kappa$ .

210 Suppose we have a right inverse  $\kappa^\dagger$ . By definition, for all  $x \in X$  and  $A \in \mathcal{Y}$  we have  
 211  $\int_Y \kappa^\dagger(y; A)\kappa(x; dy) = \delta_x(A)$ . Suppose  $x \notin A$  and let  $B_\epsilon = \kappa_A^{\dagger-1}((\epsilon, 1])$  for some  $\epsilon > 0$ . We  
 212 have  $\int_Y \kappa^\dagger(y; A)\kappa(x; dy) \geq \epsilon\kappa(x; B)$ . For any  $\epsilon > 0$  we have  $\kappa(x; B_\epsilon) = 0$ . Consider the set  
 213  $B_0 = \kappa_A^{\dagger-1}((0, 1])$ . For some sequence  $\{\epsilon_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$  such that  $\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} \epsilon_i = 0$  we have  $B_0 = \cup_{i \in \mathbb{N}} B_{\epsilon_i}$ .  
 214 By countable additivity,  $\kappa(x; B_0) = 0$ . Suppose  $x \in A$  and let  $B^{1-\epsilon} = \kappa_A^{\dagger-1}([0, 1 - \epsilon])$ . By  
 215 an argument analogous to the above, we have  $\kappa(x; B^1) = 0$ . Thus the  $\kappa(x; \cdot)$  measure of the set  
 216 on which  $\kappa^\dagger(y; A)$  disagrees with  $\delta_x(A)$  is  $\kappa(x; B_0) + \kappa(x; B^1) = 0$  and hence  $\kappa^\dagger(y; A) = \delta_x(A)$   
 217  $\kappa(x; \cdot)$ -almost surely.  $\square$

I haven’t shown that any map inverting  $\kappa$  implies the existence of a Markov kernel that does so

218

I am using countable sets below to get my general argument in order without getting too hung up on measurability; I will try to lift it to standard measurable once it’s all there

219

220 **Lemma 2.5.** *Given  $\kappa : X \rightarrow \Delta(Y)$  and a right inverse  $\kappa^\dagger$ , we have*

$$\begin{array}{c} X \quad Y \\ \downarrow \quad \downarrow \\ \boxed{\kappa^\dagger} \\ \downarrow \\ \boxed{\kappa} \\ \downarrow \\ X \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} X \quad Y \\ \downarrow \quad \downarrow \\ \boxed{\kappa} \\ \downarrow \\ \boxed{\kappa^\dagger} \\ \downarrow \\ X \quad Y \end{array} \quad (29)$$



221 *Proof.* Let the diagram on the left hand side be  $L$  and the diagram on the right hand side be  $R$ .

$$L(x; A \times B) = \int_Y \int_{Y \times Y} \text{Id}_Y \otimes \kappa_S^\dagger(y, y'; A \times B) \delta_{(z, z)}(dy \times dy') \kappa \pi_S(x; dz) \quad (30)$$

$$= \int \text{Id}_Y \otimes \kappa^\dagger(z, z; A \times B) \kappa \pi_S(x; dz) \quad (31)$$

$$= \int \delta_z(A) \kappa_S^\dagger(z; B) \kappa \pi_S(x; dz) \quad (32)$$

$$= \int_A \kappa_S^\dagger(z; B) \kappa \pi_S(x; dz) \quad (33)$$

$$= \delta_x(B) \kappa \pi_S(x; A) \quad (34)$$

222 Where 34 follows from Lemma 2.4.

$$R(x; A \times B) = \int \delta_{(x, x)}(dy \times dy') \kappa \pi_S \otimes \text{Id}_X(y, y'; A \times B) \quad (35)$$

$$= \kappa \pi_S(x; A) \delta_x(B) = L \quad (36)$$

223

□

224 **Theorem 2.6.** Given countable  $X$  and standard measurable  $Y$ ,  $n, m \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $S, T \subset [m]$ ,  $\kappa$  with label  
225 signature  $X_{[n]} \dashrightarrow Y_{[m]}$  a  $g$ -disintegration exists from  $S$  to  $T$  if  $\kappa \pi_S$  is right-invertible

226 *via a Markov kernel*

227 *Proof.* In addition, as  $R$  is a composition of Markov kernels, and hence a Markov kernel itself,  $L$   
228 must also be a Markov kernel even if  $\kappa^\dagger$  is not.

229 For all  $x \in X$  we have a (regular) disintegration  $c_x : Y_S \rightarrow \Delta(Y_T)$  of  $\kappa(x; \cdot)$  by standard mea-  
230 surability of  $Y$ . Define  $c : X \otimes Y_S \rightarrow \Delta(Y_T)$  by  $c : (x, y_S) \mapsto c_x(y_S)$ . Clearly,  $c(x, y_S)$  is a  
231 probability distribution on  $Y_T$  for all  $(x, y_S) \in X \otimes Y_S$ . It remains to show  $c(\cdot)^{-1}(B)$  is measurable  
232 for all  $B \in \mathcal{B}([0, 1])$ . But  $c(\cdot)^{-1}(B) = \cap_{x \in X} c_y(\cdot)^{-1}(B)$ . The right hand side is measurable by  
233 measurability of  $c_y(\cdot)^{-1}(B)$  countability of  $X$ , so  $c$  is a Markov kernel.

234 By the definition of  $c_x$ , we have for all  $x \in X$

$$\quad (37)$$

$$\quad (38)$$

235 Which implies

$$\begin{array}{c} Y_S \quad Y_T \\ \downarrow \quad \downarrow \\ \boxed{\kappa} \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} Y_S \quad Y_T \\ \downarrow \quad \downarrow \\ \begin{array}{c} \boxed{C} \\ \downarrow \\ \boxed{\kappa} \end{array} \end{array} \quad (39)$$

236 Finally, we have

$$\begin{array}{c} Y_S \quad Y_T \\ \downarrow \quad \downarrow \\ \begin{array}{c} \boxed{C} \\ \downarrow \\ \boxed{\kappa_S^\dagger} \\ \downarrow \\ \boxed{\kappa} \end{array} \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} Y_S \quad Y_T \\ \downarrow \quad \downarrow \\ \begin{array}{c} \boxed{C} \\ \downarrow \\ \boxed{\kappa_S^\dagger} \\ \downarrow \\ \boxed{\kappa} \end{array} \end{array} \quad (40)$$

$$\begin{array}{c} Y_S \quad Y_T \\ \downarrow \quad \downarrow \\ \begin{array}{c} \boxed{C} \\ \downarrow \\ \boxed{\kappa} \end{array} \end{array} \quad (41)$$

237 Where the first line follows from 22 and the second line from 29. If  $\kappa_S^\dagger$  is a Markov kernel, then  
 238  $\Upsilon(\text{Id}_{Y_S} \otimes \kappa_S^\dagger)c$  is a g-disintegration.  $\square$

239 In the reverse direction, suppose  $\kappa$  is such that  $\kappa\pi_T = \text{Id}_X$ ; that is,  $\pi_T$  is a right inverse of  $\kappa$ . If  
 240  $\kappa\pi_S$  is not right invertible then, by definition, there is no  $d$  such that  $\kappa\pi_S d\pi_T = \text{Id}_X$ . However, if a  
 241 g-disintegration of  $\kappa$  exists then there is a  $d$  such that  $\kappa\pi_S d = \kappa$ , a contradiction. Thus if  $\kappa\pi_S$  is not  
 242 right invertible then there is *in general* no g-disintegration from  $S$  to  $T$ .

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