

# Fraïssé-Jónsson limits

## Category-theoretic approach

Wiesław Kubiś

Czech Academy of Sciences (CZECH REPUBLIC)  
and  
Jan Kochanowski University, Kielce (POLAND)  
<http://www.ujk.edu.pl/~wkubis/>

Eilat  
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  - Fraïssé sequences
  - The existence
  - Cofinality, homogeneity and uniqueness
  - Back-and-forth argument
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# Amalgamations

Let  $\mathfrak{K}$  be a category.

We say that  $\mathfrak{K}$  has the **amalgamation property** if

for every arrows  $f: z \rightarrow x$ ,  $g: z \rightarrow y$  there are arrows  $f': x \rightarrow w$  and  $g': y \rightarrow w$  such that  $f' \circ f = g' \circ g$ .

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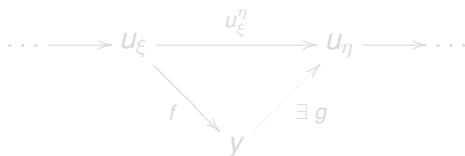
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## Definition

A sequence  $\vec{u}: \kappa \rightarrow \mathfrak{K}$  is **Fraïssé** if it satisfies the following conditions.

- 1  $\vec{u}$  is cofinal in  $\mathfrak{K}$ , i.e. for every  $x \in \mathfrak{K}$  there are  $\alpha < \kappa$  and  $f: x \rightarrow u_\alpha$  in  $\mathfrak{K}$ .
- 2 For every  $\xi < \kappa$ , for every  $f: u_\xi \rightarrow y$ , there exist  $\eta \geq \xi$  and  $g: y \rightarrow u_\eta$  such that  $u_\xi^\eta = g \circ f$ .

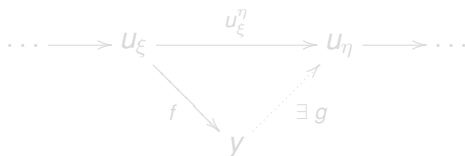


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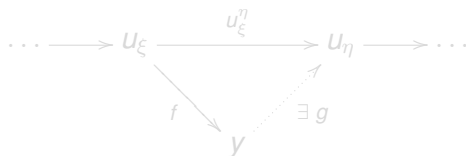


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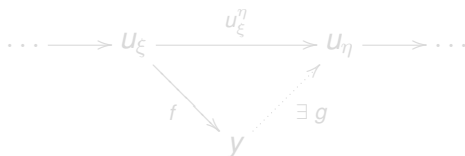


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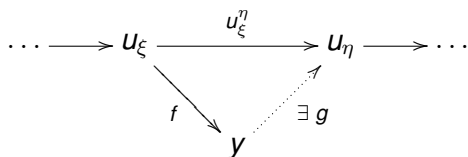


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$\mathfrak{S}_{\leq \kappa}(\mathfrak{K})$  = the category of sequences of length  $\leq \kappa$  in  $\mathfrak{K}$ .

A category  $\mathfrak{K}$  is  $\kappa$ -**bounded** if for every sequence  $\vec{u} \in \mathfrak{S}_{< \kappa}(\mathfrak{K})$  there are  $a \in \mathfrak{K}$  and an arrow of sequences  $\vec{f}: \vec{u} \rightarrow a$ .

A subcategory  $\mathcal{F} \subseteq \mathfrak{K}$  is **dominating** in  $\mathfrak{K}$  if

- 1  $\mathcal{F}$  is cofinal in  $\mathfrak{K}$ , i.e. every object of  $\mathfrak{K}$  has an arrow into an object of  $\mathcal{F}$ .
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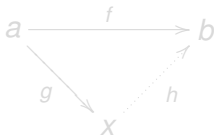
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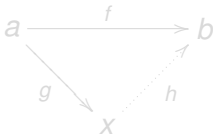
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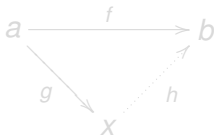
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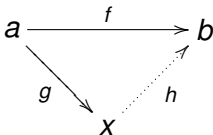
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# The existence

## Theorem

*Let  $\kappa > 1$  be a regular cardinal and let  $\mathfrak{K}$  be a  $\kappa$ -bounded category which has the amalgamation property and the joint embedding property. Assume further that  $\mathfrak{K}$  has a dominating subcategory of cardinality  $\leq \kappa$ .*

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Assume  $\vec{u}$  is a Fraïssé sequence in a category with amalgamation  $\mathfrak{K}$ . Then for every countable sequence  $\vec{x}$  in  $\mathfrak{K}$  there exists an arrow  $\vec{f}: \vec{x} \rightarrow \vec{u}$ .

## Corollary

Let  $\vec{u}$  be a countable Fraïssé sequence in a category  $\mathfrak{K}$ . If  $\mathfrak{K}$  has the amalgamation property then  $\vec{u}$  is cofinal in  $\mathfrak{S}_\omega(\mathfrak{K})$ .

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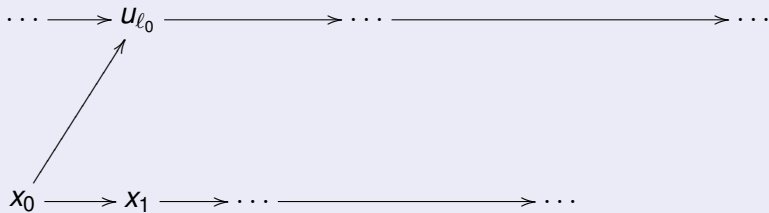
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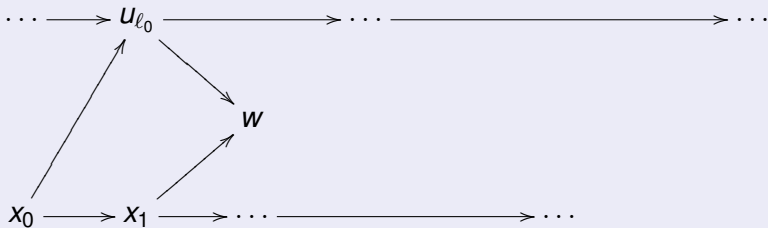
$\dots \longrightarrow u_{\ell_0} \longrightarrow \dots \longrightarrow \dots$

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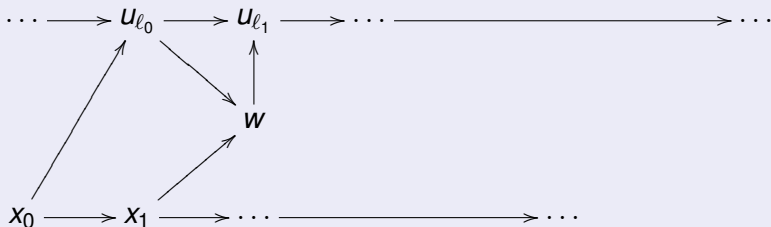
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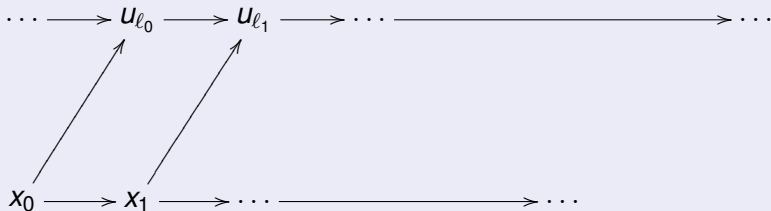


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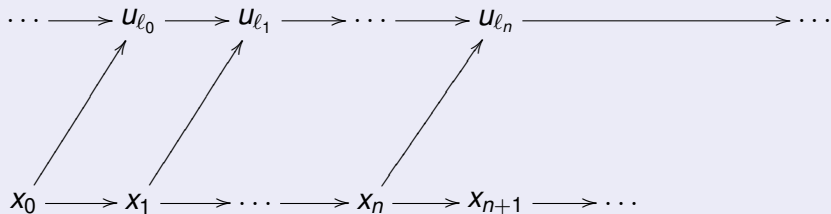




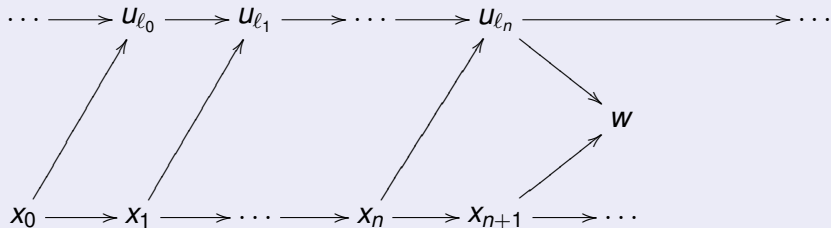
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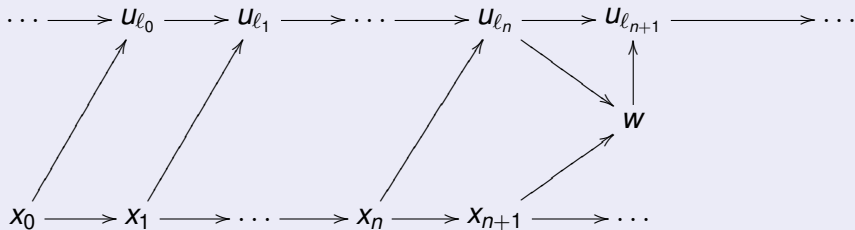
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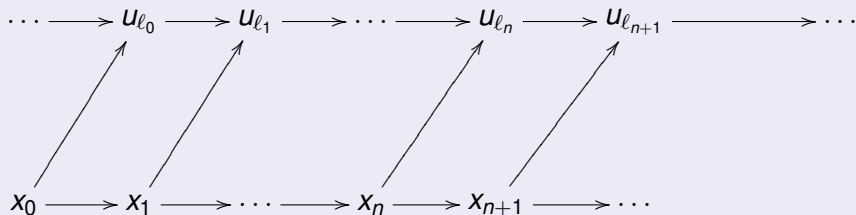
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# Homogeneity & Uniqueness

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Assume that  $\vec{u}, \vec{v}$  are  $\omega$ -Fraïssé sequences in a fixed category  $\mathfrak{K}$ .

- (a) Let  $f: u_k \rightarrow v_\ell$ , where  $k, \ell < \omega$ . Then there exists an isomorphism  $F: \vec{u} \rightarrow \vec{v}$  such that  $F \circ u_k = v_\ell \circ f$ . In particular  $\vec{u} \approx \vec{v}$ .
- (b) Assume  $\mathfrak{K}$  has the amalgamation property. Then for every  $a, b \in \mathfrak{K}$  and for every arrows  $f: a \rightarrow b$ ,  $i: a \rightarrow \vec{u}$ ,  $j: b \rightarrow \vec{v}$  there exists an isomorphism  $F: \vec{u} \rightarrow \vec{v}$  such that  $F \circ i = j \circ f$ .

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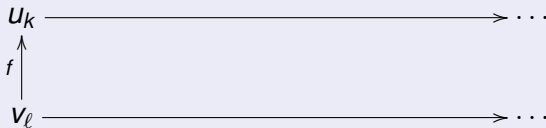
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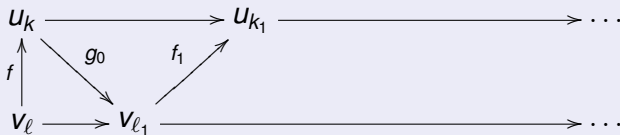
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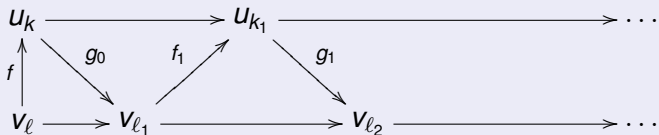
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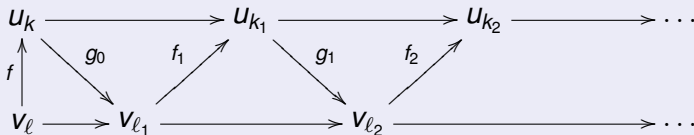
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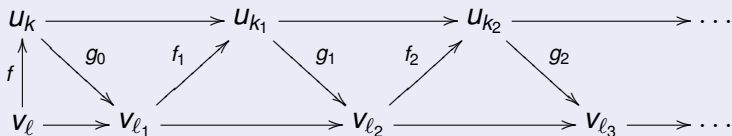
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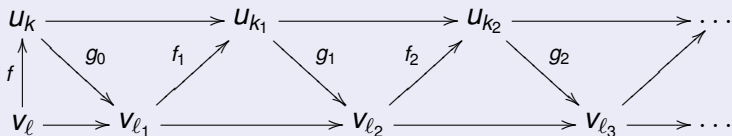
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# Some history

-  FRAÏSSÉ, R., *Sur quelques classifications des systèmes de relations*, Publ. Sci. Univ. Alger. Sér. A. **1** (1954) 35–182
-  JÓNSSON, B., *Homogeneous universal relational systems*, Math. Scand. **8** (1960) 137–142
-  DROSTE, M.; GÖBEL, R., *A categorical theorem on universal objects and its application in abelian group theory and computer science*, Proceedings of the International Conference on Algebra, Part 3 (Novosibirsk, 1989), 49–74, Contemp. Math., 131, Part 3, Amer. Math. Soc., Providence, RI, 1992
-  IRWIN, T.; SOLECKI, S., *Projective Fraïssé limits and the pseudo-arc*, Trans. Amer. Math. Soc. **358**, no. 7 (2006) 3077–3096

# Projection-embedding pairs

Fix a category  $\mathfrak{K}$ .

Define a new category  $\mathfrak{K}^{\text{PE}}$  as follows.

- The objects of  $\mathfrak{K}^{\text{PE}}$  are the objects of  $\mathfrak{K}$ .
- An arrow from  $a \in \mathfrak{K}^{\text{PE}}$  to  $b \in \mathfrak{K}^{\text{PE}}$  is a pair  $\langle e, p \rangle$ , where

$$a \xrightarrow{e} b, \quad a \xleftarrow{p} b$$

are arrows in  $\mathfrak{K}$  satisfying  $p \circ e = \text{id}_a$ .

- The composition is

$$\langle e, p \rangle \circ \langle e', p' \rangle = \langle e \circ e', p' \circ p \rangle.$$

There are two natural functors:

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Define a new category  $\mathcal{K}^{\text{PE}}$  as follows.

- The objects of  $\mathcal{K}^{\text{PE}}$  are the objects of  $\mathcal{K}$ .
- An arrow from  $a \in \mathcal{K}^{\text{PE}}$  to  $b \in \mathcal{K}^{\text{PE}}$  is a pair  $\langle e, p \rangle$ , where

$$a \xrightarrow{e} b, \quad a \xleftarrow{p} b$$

are arrows in  $\mathcal{K}$  satisfying  $p \circ e = \text{id}_a$ .

- The composition is

$$\langle e, p \rangle \circ \langle e', p' \rangle = \langle e \circ e', p' \circ p \rangle.$$

There are two natural functors:

$$P(\langle e, p \rangle) = p, \quad E(\langle e, p \rangle) = e.$$

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$\mathfrak{Set}$  = the category of nonempty finite sets.

Let  $\vec{u}$  be a Fraïssé sequence in  $\mathfrak{Set}^{\text{PE}}$ .

How to interpret its properties?

Let  $\vec{x}, \vec{y}$  be sequences in  $\mathfrak{Set}^{\text{PE}}$  and fix  $\vec{f}: \vec{x} \rightarrow \vec{y}$ . Let

$$X = \varprojlim P[\vec{x}], \quad Y = \varprojlim P[\vec{y}]$$

and

$$D = \lim E[\vec{x}], \quad G = \lim E[\vec{y}].$$

### Claim

*X and Y are totally disconnected compact metric spaces, D is dense in X, G is dense in Y and  $\vec{f}$  corresponds to a pair  $\langle f, j \rangle$ , where*

- $f: Y \rightarrow X$  is a quotient map,*
- $j: X \rightarrow Y$  is a topological embedding,*
- $f \circ j = \text{id}_X$  and  $j[D] \subseteq G, f[G] = D$ .*

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*The Fraïssé sequence in  $\mathfrak{S}_{\text{ct}}^{\text{PE}}$  corresponds to a pair  $\langle 2^\omega, Q \rangle$ , where  $Q$  is a countable dense subset of the Cantor set  $2^\omega$ .*

## Corollary

*Let  $K$  be a totally disconnected compact metric space and let  $D \subseteq K$  be dense. Then there exists a retraction  $f: 2^\omega \rightarrow K$  such that  $f \upharpoonright Q$  is a retraction onto  $D$ .*

## Corollary

*Let  $K$  be a totally disconnected compact metric space without isolated points and let  $D \subseteq K$  be countable and dense. Then*

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Homogeneity translates to the following:

### Fact

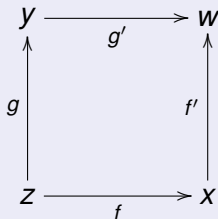
*Let  $\{U_0, \dots, U_{n-1}\}$  and  $\{V_0, \dots, V_{n-1}\}$  be two partitions of  $2^\omega$  into clopen sets and let  $a_i \in U_i$ ,  $b_i \in V_i$  be fixed for each  $i < n$ . Then there exists a homeomorphism  $h: 2^\omega \rightarrow 2^\omega$  satisfying*

$$h(a_i) = b_i \quad \text{and} \quad h^{-1}[V_i] = U_i$$

*for every  $i < n$ .*

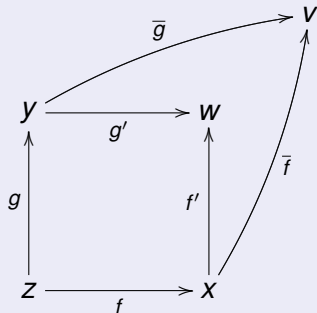
The arrows  $\langle f', g' \rangle$  provide a **pushout** of  $\langle f, g \rangle$  if moreover for every  $\bar{f}, \bar{g}$  satisfying  $\bar{f} \circ f = \bar{g} \circ g$  there exists a unique arrow  $h$  such that  $h \circ f' = \bar{f}$  and  $h \circ g' = \bar{g}$ .

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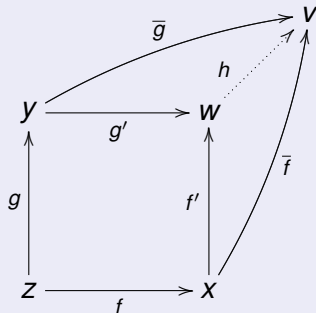
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## The pushout of $\langle f, g \rangle$





# A general example

Fix a small category  $\mathbb{B}$  and fix a covariant functor  $F: \mathcal{K} \rightarrow \mathcal{L}$ .  
Define a new category  $\text{fun}(\mathbb{B}, F)$  as follows.

- An object of  $\text{fun}(\mathbb{B}, F)$  is a map  $x: \text{Ob}(\mathbb{B}) \rightarrow \text{Ob}(\mathcal{K})$  which after moving to  $\mathcal{L}$  via  $F$  “becomes” a covariant functor.

That is, for each  $b \in \text{Ob}(\mathbb{B})$ ,  $x(b) \in \text{Ob}(\mathcal{K})$  and for each arrow  $f: a \rightarrow b$  in  $\mathbb{B}$ ,

$$x(f): F(x(a)) \rightarrow F(x(b))$$

so that compositions are preserved.

- An arrow from  $x$  to  $y$  is a natural transformation from  $F \circ x$  to  $F \circ y$ .

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$F$  has the **pushout property** if for every  $\mathfrak{K}$ -arrows  $f: z \rightarrow x$ ,  $g: z \rightarrow y$ , there exist  $k: x \rightarrow w$ ,  $\ell: y \rightarrow w$  such that

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 y & \xrightarrow{\ell} & w \\
 g \uparrow & & \uparrow k \\
 z & \xrightarrow{f} & x
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and

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## Lemma

*Assume  $F$  has the pushout property. Then  $\text{fun}(\mathbb{B}, F)$  has the amalgamation property.*

## Example

Let  $\mathbb{B} = \mathbb{Z}$  or  $\mathbb{B} = \mathbb{N}$ , treated as a monoidal category.

Let  $\mathfrak{K}$  be the category of monomorphisms of a fixed category  $\mathfrak{L}$ .

Let  $F$  be the “inclusion” functor.

Under suitable assumptions,  $\text{fun}(\mathbb{B}, F)$  has a Fraïssé sequence.

## Corollary

There exists a *nonexpansive* homeomorphism  $h: 2^\omega \rightarrow 2^\omega$  such that for every totally disconnected compact metric space  $K$  and for every *nonexpansive* homeomorphism  $f: K \rightarrow K$  there is a quotient  $q: 2^\omega \rightarrow 2^\omega$  for which the diagram

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*commutes.*

## Example

Let  $\mathbb{B}$  have two objects  $0 \neq 1$  and two arrows  $e: 0 \rightarrow 1$ ,  $p: 1 \rightarrow 0$ , satisfying  $p \circ e = \text{id}_0$ .

In particular,  $\text{End}(0) = \{\text{id}_0\}$  and  $\text{End}(1) = \{\text{id}_1, e \circ p\}$ .

Let  $F$  be as before.

## Assume

- 1  $\mathcal{K}$  is a countable category.
- 2  $\mathcal{K}$  has the initial object.
- 3 Monomorphisms admit pushouts in  $\mathcal{K}$ .

Let  $\mathcal{K}^{\text{mon}}$  be the category of all monomorphisms of  $\mathcal{K}$ .

### Proposition

$\mathcal{K}^{\text{mon}}$  has a unique (countable) Fraïssé sequence  $\vec{u}$ . Further,

- $\vec{u} \oplus \vec{u} \approx \vec{u}$ .
- The colimit of any countable sequence of monomorphisms

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## Theorem

There exists a PE-pair  $\langle r, j \rangle: \vec{u} \rightarrow \vec{u}$  such that for every morphism  $\langle p, e \rangle: \vec{x} \rightarrow \vec{y}$  in  $\mathfrak{S}_\omega(\mathfrak{K})^{\text{PE}}$  there are monomorphisms  $k: \vec{x} \rightarrow \vec{u}$ ,  $\ell: \vec{y} \rightarrow \vec{u}$  such that the diagrams

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# The Gurarii space

## Theorem (Gurarii, 1966)

*There exists a separable Banach space  $\mathbb{G}$  with the following property:*

- (\*) *Given finite-dimensional spaces  $Y \subseteq X$ ,  $\varepsilon > 0$  and an isometric embedding  $i: Y \rightarrow \mathbb{G}$  there exists an embedding  $j: X \rightarrow \mathbb{G}$  such that*

$$j \upharpoonright Y = i \quad \text{and} \quad \max\{\|j\|, \|j^{-1}\|\} < 1 + \varepsilon.$$

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*The space  $\mathbb{G}$  is unique up to isometry.*

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$$\mathbb{G} \oplus_1 \mathbb{G} \approx \mathbb{G}.$$

## Explanation:

$X \oplus_1 Y$  is  $X \times Y$  with the norm  $\|\langle x, y \rangle\| = \|x\| + \|y\|$ .

## Corollary

*The  $\aleph_1$ -sum of  $\aleph_1$  many copies of the Gurarii space is a Gurarii space.*

## Remark

From the general theory of Fraïssé-Jónsson limits it follows that, under CH, there exists a unique Banach space  $U$  of density  $\aleph_1$  such that for every separable spaces  $E \subseteq F$ , every isometric embedding  $T: E \rightarrow U$  extends to an isometric embedding  $\bar{T}: F \rightarrow U$ .

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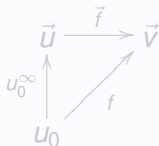
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## Projection-embedding pairs II

A sequence  $\vec{x}$  in  $\mathfrak{K}^{\text{PE}}$  will be called **semicontinuous** if  $E[\vec{x}]$  is continuous in  $\mathfrak{K}$ .

### Theorem

Let  $\mathfrak{K}$  be a category and let  $\vec{u}$  and  $\vec{v}$  be semicontinuous Fraïssé sequences in  $\mathfrak{K}^{\text{PE}}$  of the same regular length  $\kappa$ . Then for every arrow  $f: u_0 \rightarrow \vec{v}$  in  $\mathfrak{K}^{\text{PE}}$  there exists an isomorphism of sequences  $\vec{f}: \vec{u} \rightarrow \vec{v}$  such that  $\vec{f} \circ u_0^\infty = f$ .



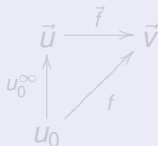
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A commutative diagram with three nodes:  $\vec{u}$  at the top left,  $\vec{v}$  at the top right, and  $u_0$  at the bottom center. An arrow labeled  $\vec{f}$  points from  $\vec{u}$  to  $\vec{v}$ . An arrow labeled  $f$  points from  $u_0$  to  $\vec{v}$ . A vertical arrow labeled  $u_0^\infty$  points from  $u_0$  to  $\vec{u}$ .

*In particular,  $\vec{u} \approx \vec{v}$ .*



## Projection-embedding pairs II

A sequence  $\vec{x}$  in  $\mathfrak{K}^{\text{PE}}$  will be called **semicontinuous** if  $E[\vec{x}]$  is continuous in  $\mathfrak{K}$ .

### Theorem

Let  $\mathfrak{K}$  be a category and let  $\vec{u}$  and  $\vec{v}$  be semicontinuous Fraïssé sequences in  $\mathfrak{K}^{\text{PE}}$  of the same regular length  $\kappa$ . Then for every arrow  $f: u_0 \rightarrow \vec{v}$  in  $\mathfrak{K}^{\text{PE}}$  there exists an isomorphism of sequences  $\vec{f}: \vec{u} \rightarrow \vec{v}$  such that  $\vec{f} \circ u_0^\infty = f$ .

A commutative diagram with three nodes:  $\vec{u}$  at the top left,  $\vec{v}$  at the top right, and  $u_0$  at the bottom center. An arrow labeled  $\vec{f}$  points from  $\vec{u}$  to  $\vec{v}$ . An arrow labeled  $f$  points from  $u_0$  to  $\vec{v}$ . A vertical arrow labeled  $u_0^\infty$  points from  $u_0$  to  $\vec{u}$ .

In particular,  $\vec{u} \approx \vec{v}$ .

## Proposition

Let  $f: z \rightarrow x$ ,  $g: z \rightarrow y$  be arrows in  $\mathfrak{K}^{\text{PE}}$ . If  $\langle E(f), E(g) \rangle$  has a pushout in  $\mathfrak{K}$ , then  $\langle f, g \rangle$  has a **proper** amalgamation in  $\mathfrak{K}^{\text{PE}}$ . That is, there exist arrows  $h: x \rightarrow w$ ,  $k: y \rightarrow w$  in  $\mathfrak{K}^{\text{PE}}$  such that the following diagrams commute in  $\mathfrak{K}$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 w & \xleftarrow{E(k)} & y \\
 \uparrow E(h) & & \uparrow E(g) \\
 x & \xleftarrow{E(f)} & z
 \end{array} & 
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 w & \xrightarrow{P(k)} & y \\
 \downarrow P(h) & & \downarrow P(g) \\
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## Proposition

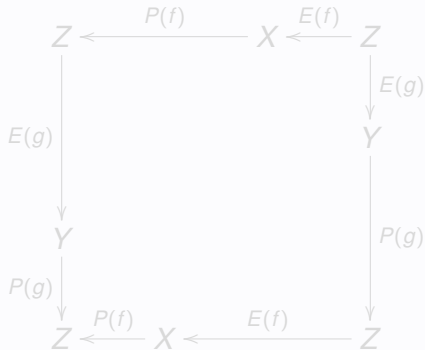
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## Claim

If  $\mathfrak{K}$  has pullbacks or pushouts then  $\mathfrak{K}^{\text{PE}}$  has proper amalgamations.

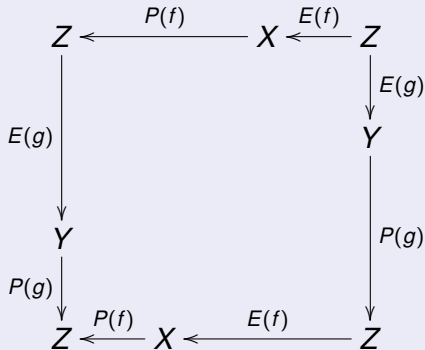
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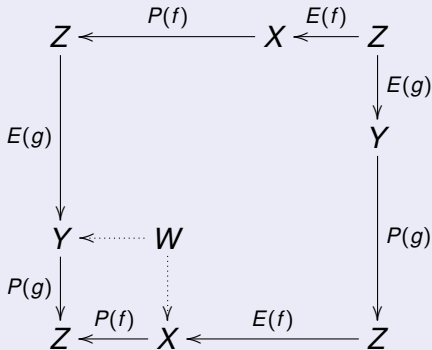
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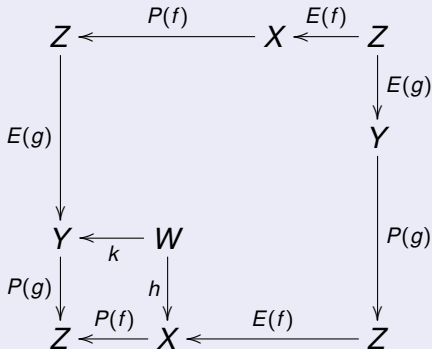
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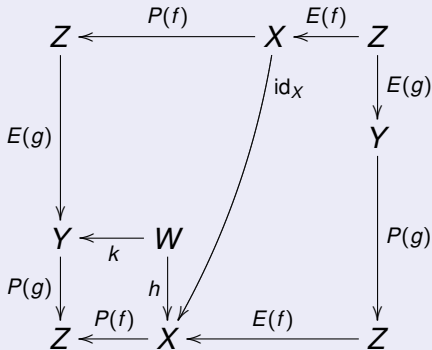
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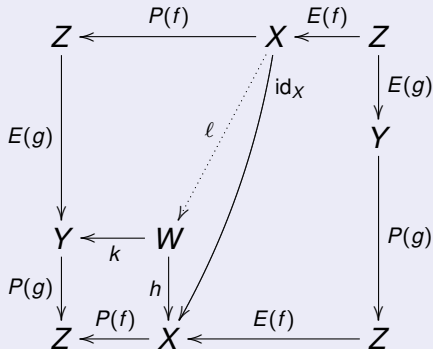




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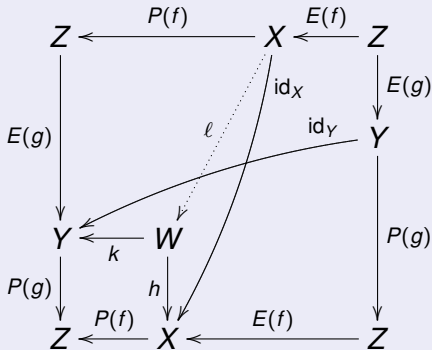
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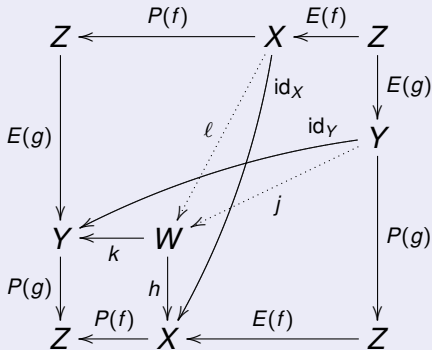
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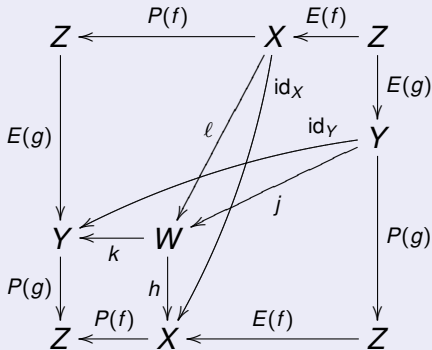
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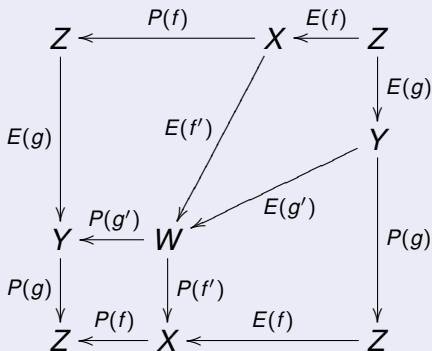
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## Claim

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## Proof.



## Theorem

Let  $\mathfrak{K}$  be a category such that  $\mathfrak{K}^{\text{PE}}$  has proper amalgamations. Assume  $\vec{u}$  is a semi-continuous  $\kappa$ -Fraïssé sequence in  $\mathfrak{K}^{\text{PE}}$ .

Then for every semi-continuous sequence  $\vec{x} \in \mathfrak{G}_{\leq \kappa}(\mathfrak{K}^{\text{PE}})$  there exists an arrow of sequences  $\vec{f}: \vec{x} \rightarrow \vec{u}$  in  $\mathfrak{K}^{\text{PE}}$ .

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Let  $\mathfrak{B}_{\text{sep}}$  be the category of all separable Banach spaces with linear transformations of norm  $\leq 1$ .

### Claim

*Left-invertible arrows have pushouts in  $\mathfrak{B}_{\text{sep}}$ .*

### Claim

*The category  $\mathfrak{B}_{\text{sep}}$  has  $2^{\aleph_0}$  many isomorphic types of arrows.*

### Theorem

*Assume  $2^{\aleph_0} = \aleph_1$ . Then there exists a semicontinuous  $\omega_1$ -Fraïssé sequence in  $\mathfrak{B}_{\text{sep}}^{\text{PE}}$ .*



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Let  $X$  be a Banach space of density  $\aleph_1$ . A **projectional resolution of identity (PRI)** is a sequence of norm one projections  $\{P_\alpha\}_{\alpha < \omega_1}$  onto separable subspaces of  $X$  such that

①  $P_\xi P_\eta = P_\eta P_\xi = P_{\min\{\xi, \eta\}}$

②  $X = \bigcup_{\alpha < \omega_1} \text{im } P_\alpha$

③  $\text{im } P_\delta = \overline{\bigcup_{\alpha < \delta} \text{im } P_\alpha}$  for every limit ordinal  $\delta < \omega_1$ .

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Assume  $2^{\aleph_0} = \aleph_1$ .

There exists a Banach space  $E$  with a PRI  $\{P_\alpha\}_{\alpha < \omega_1}$  and of density  $\aleph_1$ , which has the following properties:

- (a) The family  $\{X \subseteq E : X \text{ is } 1\text{-complemented in } E\}$  is, modulo linear isometries, the class of all Banach spaces of density  $\leq \aleph_1$  with a PRI.
- (b) Given separable subspaces  $X, Y \subseteq E$ , norm one projections  $P: E \rightarrow X, Q: E \rightarrow Y$ , both compatible with  $\{P_\alpha\}_{\alpha < \omega_1}$ , and given a linear isometry  $T: X \rightarrow Y$ , there exist a linear isometry  $H: E \rightarrow E$  extending  $T$  and satisfying  $H \circ P = Q \circ H$ .

Moreover, the above properties describe the space  $E$  uniquely, up to a linear isometry.



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THE END

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