## On the Essence and Initiality of Conflicts

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## Parallel Independence of Transformations



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Conflict

## Motivation

- Conflicts capture important information about behaviour
- Enumerating potential conflicts has many applications
- Critical pairs or initial conflicts
- Understanding root causes is often important


## Background: The DPO Approach

Rule: $\quad \rho=L \stackrel{\iota}{\leftarrow} K \stackrel{r}{\mapsto} R$
Match: $m: L \mapsto G$
Transformation: $\quad G \stackrel{\rho, m}{\Longrightarrow} H$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& L \stackrel{I}{\longleftrightarrow} K \xrightarrow{r} R
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& G \underset{g}{\longleftarrow} D \underset{h}{\longrightarrow} H
\end{aligned}
$$

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- Previous work based on the standard condition for parallel independence



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- Equivalent to standard condition
- Goal: review characterization of conflicts under new light


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Top is $X$
Bottom usually "empty", if exists

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- We use categories $\mathbb{S e t}{ }^{\mathbb{S}}$ of functors $\mathbb{S} \rightarrow \mathbb{S}$ et with natural transformations as arrows (essentially presheaves)
- Generalizes graphs and graph structures

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\mathbb{G}^{\text {raph }}=\operatorname{Set}^{\mathbb{G}} \quad \mathbb{G}=V \underset{t}{\stackrel{s}{\longrightarrow}} E
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\text { Graph }=\operatorname{Set}^{\mathbb{G}} \quad \mathbb{G}=V \underset{t}{\stackrel{s}{\rightrightarrows}} E
$$

- Limits, colimits, monos and epis are pointwise
- Always adhesive


## Outline

1. Characterize conflict between transformations
2. Useful properties of the characterization
3. Compare with conflict reasons of Lambers, Ehrig, and Orejas (2008)
4. Relate to initial conflicts

## Essential Condition of Parallel Independence

Corradini et al. (2018)

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H_{1} \stackrel{t_{1}}{\rightleftharpoons} G \stackrel{t_{2}}{\Longrightarrow} H_{2}
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- Both morphisms iso $\Rightarrow$ parallel independence
- Either morphism not iso $\Rightarrow$ conflict
- $K_{1} L_{2} \rightarrow L_{1} L_{2}$ not iso $\Rightarrow t_{1}$ disables $t_{2}$


## Example: Conflict



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## Determining the Root Cause

- Useful concept: initial pushout over $f: X \rightarrow Y$

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& B \succ b \rightarrow X \\
& \bar{f} \downarrow \quad \downarrow f \\
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- "Categorical diff" for a morphism


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- "Categorical diff" for a morphism
- Context $c: C \rightarrow Y$ contains "modified stuff"
- Boundary $b: B \rightarrow C$ contains "points of contact"


## Example: Initial Pushout



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## Conflict and Disabling Essences

## Definition

Given transformations $\left(t_{1}, t_{2}\right): H_{1} \stackrel{\rho_{1}, m_{1}}{\rightleftharpoons} G \stackrel{\rho_{2}, m_{2}}{\rightleftharpoons} H_{2}$ :


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- Disabling essence for $\left(t_{2}, t_{1}\right)$ is $c_{2} \in \operatorname{Sub}\left(L_{1} L_{2}\right)$
- Conflict essence for $\left(t_{1}, t_{2}\right)$ is $c=c_{1} \cup c_{2}$



## Example: Parallel Independence



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No conflict $\Longrightarrow$ no element caused a conflict

## Empty Essences

## Recall: bottom subobject generalizes "emptiness"

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$$
\text { Consider }\left(t_{1}, t_{2}\right): H_{1} \stackrel{\rho_{1}, m_{1}}{\rightleftharpoons} G \stackrel{\rho_{2}, m_{2}}{\Longrightarrow} H_{2}
$$

Theorem
The conflict essence for $\left(t_{1}, t_{2}\right)$ is $\perp \in \operatorname{Sub}\left(L_{1} L_{2}\right)$ if and only if $t_{1}$ and $t_{2}$ are parallel independent.

## Extension

- Same transformation in "larger context"



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- Lower pushouts ensure $t$ behaves like $\bar{t}$


## Essence Inheritance

## Theorem

If extension diagrams below exist, $\left(t_{1}, t_{2}\right)$ and $\left(\overline{t_{1}}, \overline{t_{2}}\right)$ have the same disabling and conflict essences.


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If extension diagrams below exist, $\left(t_{1}, t_{2}\right)$ and $\left(\overline{t_{1}}, \overline{t_{2}}\right)$ have the same disabling and conflict essences.


Conflicts are preserved and reflected by extension.

## Disabling Reasons

Essences are not the first proposed characterization

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## Definition (Lambers, Ehrig, and Orejas 2008)

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B_{l 1}-\bar{l}_{1} \rightarrow & C_{l 1} \\
b_{l 2} \downarrow & \downarrow^{l_{11}} \\
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There is no $b^{*}$ making diagram commute.


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There is no $b^{*}$ making diagram commute.

Conflict reason is union of relevant disabling reasons.

## Comparing Reasons and Essences

- Non-empty reasons exist even with parallel independence



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- Non-empty reasons exist even with parallel independence

- Isolated boundary nodes (Lambers, Born, et al. 2018)
- Inheritance also doesn't hold


## Essence $\subseteq$ Reason

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## Remark

Conflict reason determines $s \in \mathbf{S u b}\left(L_{1} L_{2}\right)$.


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Theorem
If $c \in \operatorname{Sub}\left(L_{1} L_{2}\right)$ is disabling essence and $s \in \operatorname{Sub}\left(L_{1} L_{2}\right)$
disabling reason, then $\mathrm{c} \subseteq$ s.
The same holds if c is conflict essence and s conflict reason.

## Initial Conflicts

- We now understand individual conflicting transformations
- We want overview of potential conflicts for rules


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- We want overview of potential conflicts for rules
- Lambers, Born, et al. (2018) proposed initial conflicts (w.r.t extension)



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- Initial conflicts capture all conflicts $\Longleftrightarrow$ every transformation pair is extension of some initial transformation pair
- But: no categorical construction yet


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## Overview

Available for: -_Adhesive Categories --- Set ${ }^{\mathbb{S}} \quad . . . . . . . \operatorname{Graph}_{T}$


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## Conclusions

- Essential condition allowed powerful characterization for root causes of conflicts
- Lots of future work!
- Constraints and application conditions
- Compare with notions of granularity (Born et al. 2017)
- Attributed graphs and other adhesive categories
- Sesqui-Pushout and AGREE


## Thank you! Questions?

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## Notes

