

# How to Measure a Groupoid

First Steps towards Topological Groupoidification

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Joint work with Daniele Grandini and Christopher Walker

**Groupoidfest 2009**

Boulder, Colorado - October 24, 2009

# Counterrevolutionaries

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A program led by J. Baez and J. Dolan.

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\*\* *“Higher-Dimensional Algebra VII: Groupoidification”* by John Baez, Alex Hoffnung and Christopher Walker. arXiv:0908.4305v1

# Goal

Extend degroupoidification from the realm of discrete groupoids to the topological and measure theoretic setting (with groupoidification of structures like operator algebras in mind).

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inverse:  $(i, t, j)^{-1} = (j, t, i)$

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Suggests richness when considering topology: as a groupoid  $\mathcal{G}$  is always cotrivial, but as a topological space it can be any  $\mathcal{T}$  above.

# Groupoid Cardinality

A key notion in the discrete setting.

Definition (Baez and Dolan, 2001)

$$\|X\| = \sum_{[u] \in \underline{X}} \frac{1}{|Aut(u)|}$$

where  $Aut(u) = X_u^u$  is the automorphism (or isotropy) group of a unit  $u \in X^{(0)}$ , which is assumed to be finite for every  $u$ .

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## Example:

Let  $\Gamma$  be a finite group acting on a finite set  $S$ , and let  $X = S \times \Gamma$  denote the corresponding transformation groupoid.

$$\|X\| = \frac{|S|}{|\Gamma|}$$

Motivating example for Baez and Dolan.

**Example:**

Let  $E$  be the groupoid of bijections of finite sets.

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**Remark:**

Equivalent formula for groupoid cardinality:

$$\|X\| = \sum_{u \in X^{(0)}} \frac{1}{|X^u|}$$

where  $X^u = r^{-1}(u)$  is assumed to be finite for every  $u$ .

# Groupoid Measure

Let  $G$  be a topological groupoid that admits a continuous left Haar system  $\lambda = \{\lambda^u\}_{u \in G^{(0)}}$ , and let  $\mu$  be a (Radon) measure on  $G^{(0)}$ . Assume that each  $\lambda^u$  is finite and that  $u \mapsto (\int_{G^u} 1 d\lambda^u)^{-1}$  is  $\mu$ -measurable.

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\* Alex, please don't ask what is a stack.

## Example

Let  $\Gamma$  be a locally compact group acting on a locally compact Hausdorff space  $X$ , and let  $G = X \times \Gamma$  be the corresponding transformation groupoid. Note that  $G^{(0)} \cong X$ . Let  $\mu$  be a (Radon) measure on  $X$  and let  $\lambda_\Gamma$  be the left Haar measure of  $\Gamma$ .

$\lambda_\Gamma$  induces a left Haar system  $\lambda = \{\lambda^u\}_{u \in G^{(0)}}$  on  $G$  given by  $\lambda^u = \lambda^{(x,e)} = \delta_x \times \lambda_\Gamma$ , where  $\delta_x$  is the point mass at  $x \in X$ .

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### Proposition

*If  $\Gamma$  is compact and  $\mu$  is finite then:*

$$\|G\|_{\lambda, \mu} = \frac{\mu(X)}{\lambda_\Gamma(\Gamma)}$$

## Example

Recall the open cover groupoid  $\mathcal{G}$ . Take  $\mu$  to be the Lebesgue measure on  $\mathcal{T}$ .  $\mu$  induces a measure  $\mu^0$  on  $\mathcal{G}^{(0)} = \coprod_{i=1}^n U_i$ , defined by

$$\mu^0(S) = \sum_{i=1}^n \mu(S \cap U_i), \quad S \subseteq \mathcal{G}^{(0)}.$$

Let  $\lambda = \{\lambda^u\}$  be the counting Haar system on the étale groupoid  $\mathcal{G}$ . Observe that for any  $u \in \mathcal{G}^{(0)}$ , the set  $\mathcal{G}^u$  is nonempty and finite, and moreover

$$\left( \int_{\mathcal{G}^u} 1 d\lambda^u \right)^{-1} = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{G}^u|}.$$

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$\|\mathcal{G}\|_{\lambda, \mu^0}$  does not depend on the cover  $\mathcal{U}$ . This is consistent with invariance of groupoid measure under equivalence of groupoids.

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### Idea of proof - by example:

$$\mathcal{T} = [0, 1] \times [0, 1]$$

$$\mathcal{U} = \{U_1, U_2, U_3, U_4\}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \|\mathcal{G}\|_{\lambda, \mu^0} &= \int_{G^{(0)}} \left( \int_{G^u} 1 d\lambda^u \right)^{-1} d\mu \\ &= \int_{G^{(0)}} \frac{1}{|\mathcal{G}^u|} d\mu \\ &= 4 \left( (1-\alpha)^2 \cdot \frac{1}{1} + 2(\alpha - (1-\alpha)) \cdot (1-\alpha) \cdot \frac{1}{2} + (\alpha - (1-\alpha))^2 \cdot \frac{1}{4} \right) \\ &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

# The space $\mathbb{R}^X$

Recall that in the discrete case:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & & \mathbb{R}^X \\ \text{discrete groupoid} & \dashrightarrow & \text{vector space} \\ & & \text{(of functions)} \end{array}$$

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In fact, explicit vectors can be constructed:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} p : \Psi \longrightarrow X & & \tilde{\Psi} \\ \text{(tame) groupoid} & \dashrightarrow & \text{explicit function} \\ \text{over } X & & \text{in } \mathbb{R}^X \end{array}$$

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where  $\tilde{\Psi}([u]) := \|p^{-1}([u])\|$

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What is  $\tilde{p}$  ?

Let  $p : H \longrightarrow G$  be a continuous groupoid homomorphism. Assume  $H$  admits a Haar system  $\eta$  and a measure  $\nu$  on  $H^{(0)}$ .

Denote by  $\pi : G \longrightarrow \underline{G}$  the continuous map  $x \longmapsto [r(x)]$ . For every Borel subset  $S$  of  $\underline{G}$ ,  $\hat{S} = p^{-1}(\pi^{-1}(S))$  is a subgroupoid of  $H$ .

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### Example:

For the open cover groupoid  $\mathcal{G}$ , we recover the original measure  $\mu$  on  $\underline{G} = \mathcal{T}$  from the identity homomorphism.

$$id : \mathcal{G} \longrightarrow \mathcal{G} \quad \dashrightarrow \quad \tilde{id}_{\mathcal{G}} = \mu$$

# Spans

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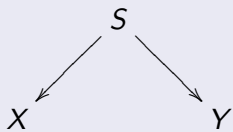
In progress.

# Spans

In progress.

But let me tell you a bit about our progress.

Recall that:



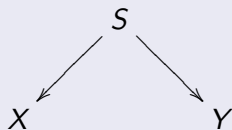
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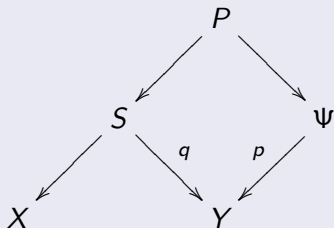
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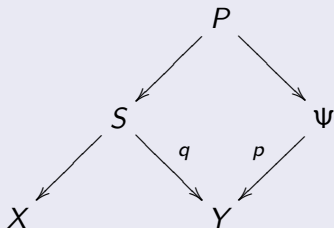
There is an explicit formula for  $\tilde{S}$ .

In particular, the operator  $\tilde{S}$  is applied to the vector in  $\mathbb{R}^Y$  corresponding to  $\Psi \rightarrow Y$  via a certain “weak pullback” construction, as in the following diagram:



Where  $P = \{(s, y, \psi) \mid r(q(s)) = r(y) \text{ and } r(p(\psi)) = d(y)\}$ .

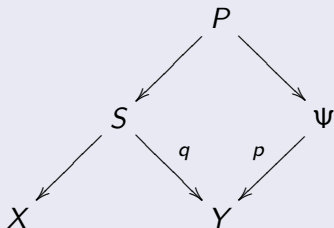
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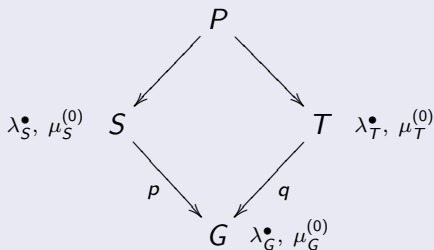
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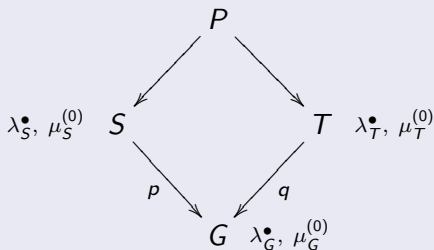
Composition of spans is also achieved via weak pullbacks.

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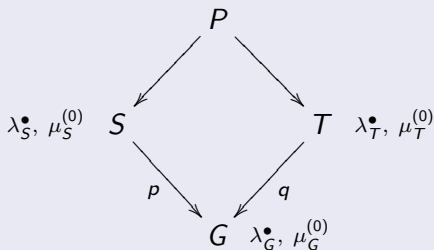


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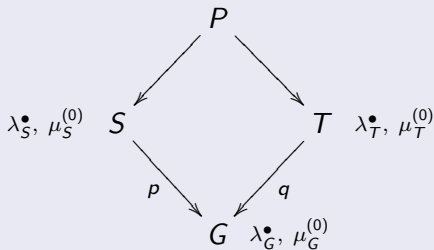
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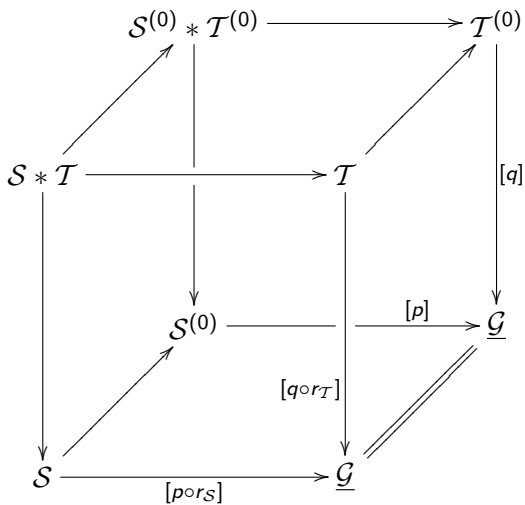
This we now (believe we) know how to do.

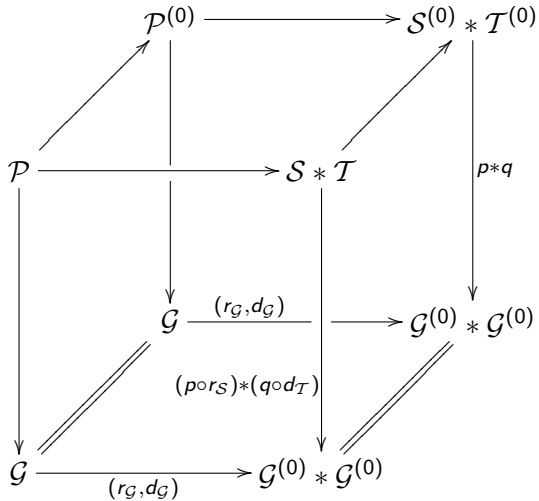
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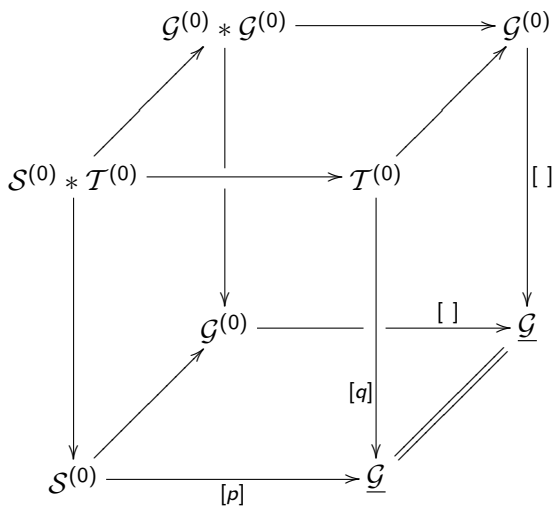


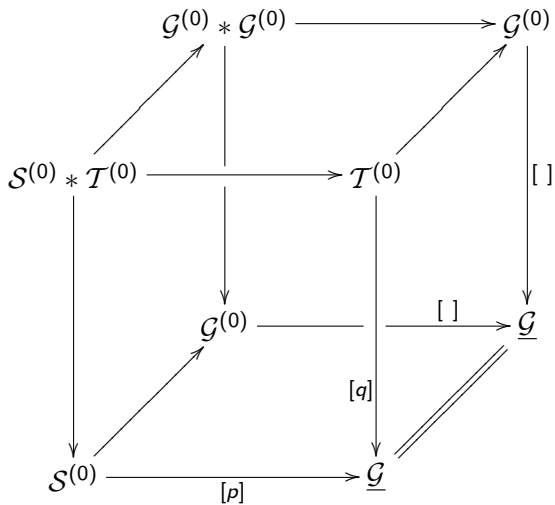
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Eventually, we construct the following Haar system on  $P$ :

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And a measure on  $P^{(0)}$  defined on  $\Sigma \subseteq P^{(0)}$  by:

$$\mu_P^{(0)}(\Sigma) := \int_G \eta^x(\Sigma) d\mu_G(x)$$

where

$$\mu_G(E) = \int_{G^{(0)}} \lambda_G^u(E) d\mu_G^{(0)}(u)$$

and  $\eta^x$  is a system of measures corresponding to the projection  $\pi_G : P^{(0)} \rightarrow G$ , given by:

$$\eta^x = \gamma_P^{r(x)} \times \delta_x \times \gamma_Q^{d(x)}$$

**Thank you!**