

# Data Structures for Network Languages

Brendan Fong (MIT)

Category Theory Workshop  
NIST  
15 March 2018

# Backprop as Functor

Brendan Fong (MIT), with David Spivak and Rémy Tuyéras

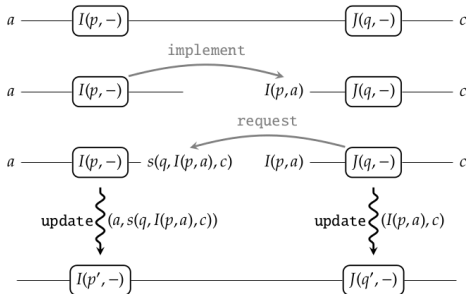
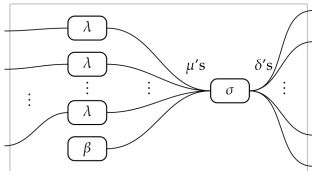
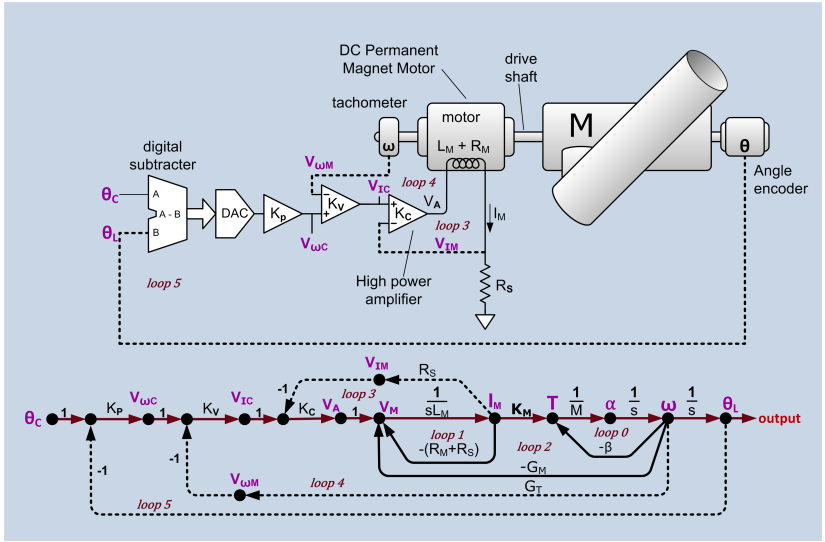
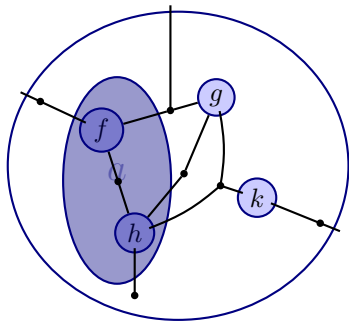
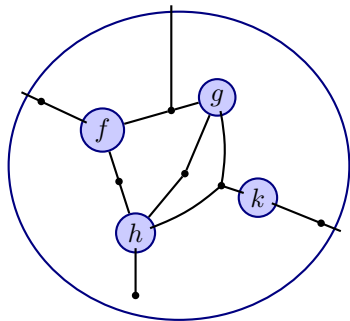


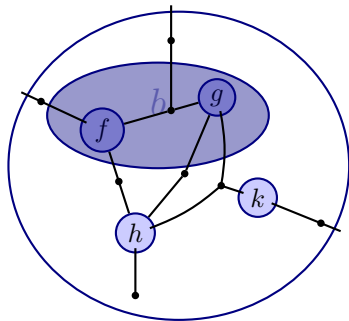
Figure 2. A request function allows an update function to be defined for the composite  $J(q, I(p, -))$ .

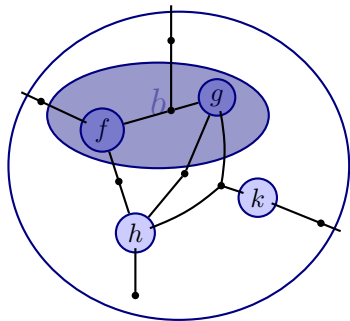
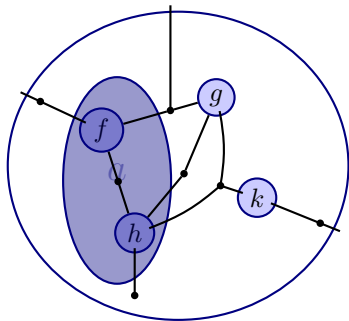
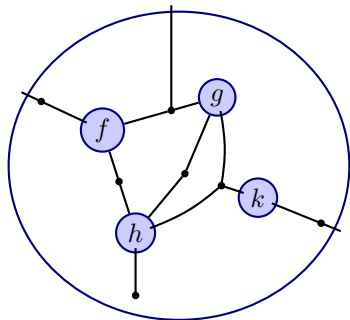






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We'll call these hypergraph categories.

## A data structure problem.

To specify a hypergraph category:

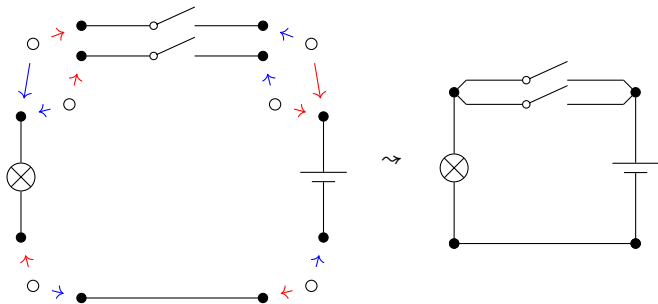
- (i) list all systems  $f, g$  etc.
- (ii) list the composition rule: for **all** systems arranged in **all** possible networks name the composite system.

## A data structure problem.

To specify a hypergraph category:

- (i) list all systems  $f, g$  etc.
- (ii) list the composition rule: for **all** systems arranged in **all** possible networks name the composite system.

then check this data **coheres**.



This corresponds to taking the *colimit* of  $\{\text{white } \circ\} \begin{matrix} \xrightarrow{f} \\ \xrightarrow{g} \end{matrix} \{\text{black } \bullet\}$



To specify a **decorated cospan** hypergraph category:

(i) list all systems  $f, g$  etc.

(ii) list how systems interact with functions.

then check this data forms a lax monoidal functor.

**Universal constructions (colimits; a left Kan extension) take care of the rest.**

For details, <http://brendanfong.com/>:

Decorated Cospans

Decorated Corelations

The Algebra of Open and Interconnected Systems

**Seven Sketches in Compositionality**

## Seven Sketches in Compositionality: An Invitation to Applied Category Theory

Brendan Fong, David I Spivak

*(Submitted on 14 Mar 2018)*

### Chapters:

1. Generative effects: Posets and adjunctions
2. Resources: Monoidal posets and enrichment
3. Databases: Categories, functors, and universal constructions
4. Co-design: Profunctors and monoidal categories
5. Signal flow graphs: Props, presentations, and proofs
6. **Circuits: Hypergraph categories and operads**
7. Logic of behavior: Sheaves, toposes, and languages