# Derived graphs come from an adjunction arXiv:2008.12055

Gejza Jenča

Slovak University of Technology Bratislava

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Gejza Jenča

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# Graphs

A graph is a quadruple  $G = (V, D, s, t, \lambda)$ , where

- *D* is the set of darts of *G*
- V is the set of vertices of G
- $s, t: D \rightarrow V$  are the source and target maps, respectively.
- $\lambda: D \to E$  is a mapping such that  $\lambda \circ \lambda = id_D$ .
- $s \circ \lambda = t$ .

The mapping  $\lambda$  is called the *dart-reversing involution* of *G*.

#### Graphs

All the data in a graph ( $V, D, s, t, \lambda$ ) can be expressed graphically by a commutative diagram:



# Morphisms of graphs

A morphism of graphs  $f: G \to H$  is a pair of mappings  $(f^V, f^D)$ , where

• 
$$f^V \colon V(G) \to V(H)$$

- $f^D \colon D(G) \to D(H)$
- for every dart  $d \in D(G)$

$$s(f^{D}(d)) = f^{V}(s(d))$$
$$t(f^{D}(d)) = f^{V}(t(d))$$
$$\lambda(f^{D}(d)) = f^{D}(\lambda(d))$$

Clearly, graphs equipped with morphisms form a category, denoted by **Graph**.

# Voltage graphs

A voltage graph is a triple  $(G, \Gamma, \alpha)$ , where

- G is a graph
- Γ is a group
- $\alpha: D(G) \to \Gamma$  is a mapping such that

$$\alpha(\lambda(d)) = (\alpha(d))^{-1}$$

The mapping  $\alpha$  is called a  $\Gamma$ -voltage on G.

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# Derived graph

#### Definition

[Gro74] Let  $(G, \Gamma, \alpha)$  be a voltage graph. There is a *derived*  $\Gamma$ -voltage graph of  $(G, \Gamma, \alpha)$ , denoted by  $(G^{\alpha}, \Gamma, \alpha')$ 

• 
$$V(G^{\alpha}) = V(G) \times \Gamma$$

• 
$$D(G^{\alpha}) = D(G) \times \Gamma$$

• 
$$s(d, x) = (s(d), x)$$

• 
$$t(d, x) = (t(d), x.\alpha(d))$$

• 
$$\lambda(d, x) = (\lambda(d), x.\alpha(d))$$

• 
$$\alpha(d, x) = \alpha(d)$$

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#### An example; the group is $\mathbb{Z}_3$



- There is always a projection map:  $((a, x) \mapsto a): G^{\alpha} \to G$
- The projection map is a very nice surjection (a *covering*).

# Morphisms of voltage graphs

A morphism of voltage graphs  $(G, \Gamma, \alpha) \rightarrow (G', \Gamma', \alpha')$  is a pair (f, h), where

- $f: G \to G'$  is a morphism of graphs
- $h: \Gamma \to \Gamma'$  is a morphism of groups such that,
- for all  $d \in D(G)$ ,  $h(\alpha(d)) = \alpha'(f^D(d))$ .



• The category of voltage graphs is denoted by Volt.

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#### Group labeled graphs

A group labeled graph is a triple  $(G, \Gamma, \beta)$ , where G is a graph,  $\Gamma$  is a group and  $\beta \colon V(G) \to \Gamma$  is a mapping, called a  $\Gamma$ -labeling on G.

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# Morphisms of group labeled graphs

A morphism of group labeled graphs  $(G, \Gamma, \beta) \rightarrow (G', \Gamma', \beta')$  is a pair (f, h), where

- $f: G \to G'$  is a morphism of graphs
- $h: \Gamma \to \Gamma'$  is a morphism of groups
- for all  $v \in V(G)$ ,  $h(\beta(v)) = \beta'(f^V(v))$ .



• The category of group labeled graphs is denoted by Lab.

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#### From group labeled graphs to voltage graphs

For every group labeled graph  $L(G, \Gamma, \beta)$ , there is a voltage graph  $L(G, \Gamma, \beta) = (G, \Gamma, \alpha)$ , with the voltage  $\alpha$  given by the rule  $\alpha(d) = \beta(s(d))^{-1}\beta(t(d))$ .



*L* is a functor **Lab**  $\rightarrow$  **Volt**.

#### Main results

• There is an adjunction



between a category **Volt** of voltage graphs and a category **Lab** of group labeled graphs.

- For every voltage graph (G, Γ, α), LR(G, Γ, α) is the derived voltage graph.
- The canonical projection LR(G, Γ, α) → (G, Γ, α) is the counit of the L ⊢ R adjunction.

# Where does the adjunction come from? The *l* functor

- For every group  $\Gamma$ ,  $\ell(\Gamma)$  is the graph that
  - has a single vertex,
  - the elements of  $\Gamma$  are the darts of  $\ell(\Gamma)$ ,
  - the  $\lambda$  map is the group inverse.
- $\ell$ : **Grp**  $\rightarrow$  **Graph** is a functor from the category of group to the category of graphs.

Volt as a comma category

• A voltage graph is a morphism  $\alpha \colon G \to \ell(\Gamma)$ .

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Volt as a comma category

• A voltage graph is a morphism  $\alpha \colon G \to \ell(\Gamma)$ .

• A morphism of voltage graphs is then a commutative square in **Graph** 



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Volt as a comma category

• A voltage graph is a morphism  $\alpha \colon G \to \ell(\Gamma)$ .

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• So Volt is just the comma category  $Graph \downarrow \ell$ .

# Where does the adjunction come from? The $\mathring{K}$ functor

- For every group  $\Gamma$ ,  $\mathring{K}(\Gamma)$  is the graph such that
  - the elements of  $\Gamma$  are the vertices of  $\mathring{K}(\Gamma)$ ,
  - there is exactly one dart between each pair of vertices (including loops).
- $\mathring{K}$ : **Grp**  $\rightarrow$  **Graph** is a functor from the category of group to the category of graphs.

Lab as a comma category

• A group-labeled graph is a morphism  $\beta \colon G \to \mathring{K}(\Gamma)$ .

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Lab as a comma category

- A group-labeled graph is a morphism  $\beta \colon G \to \mathring{K}(\Gamma)$ .
- A morphism of group-labeled graphs is then a commutative square in Graph



• So **Lab** is just the *comma category* **Graph**  $\downarrow \mathring{K}$ .

The left adjoint as a post-composition

• For every group  $\Gamma$ , there is a morphism

$$\mathring{K}(\Gamma) \xrightarrow{q_{\Gamma}} \ell(\Gamma)$$

given by the rule  $q_{\Gamma}^{D}(x, y) = y^{-1}x$  on darts.

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The left adjoint as a post-composition

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given by the rule  $q_{\Gamma}^{D}(x, y) = y^{-1}x$  on darts.

• This is a natural transformation  $q: \mathring{K} \to \ell$ , because

$$\overset{\mathring{\mathcal{K}}(\Gamma)}{\underset{q_{\Gamma}}{\longrightarrow}} \overset{\mathring{\mathcal{K}}(\Gamma')}{\underset{\ell(\Gamma)}{\longrightarrow}} \overset{\mathring{\mathcal{K}}(\Gamma')}{\underset{\ell(\Gamma)}{\longrightarrow}} \overset{q_{\Gamma'}}{\underset{\ell(\Gamma')}{\longrightarrow}}$$

commutes, for every morphism of groups  $h\colon \Gamma \to \Gamma'$ .

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The left adjoint as a post-composition with  $q_{\Gamma}$ 

$$G \xrightarrow{f} G'$$

$$\beta \downarrow (2.1) \beta' \downarrow$$

$$\mathring{K}(\Gamma) \xrightarrow{K(h)} \mathring{K}(\Gamma')$$

$$\downarrow q_{\Gamma} (2.2) \qquad \qquad \downarrow q_{\Gamma'}$$

$$\ell(\Gamma) \xrightarrow{\ell(h)} \ell(\Gamma')$$

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The left adjoint as a post-composition with  $q_{\Gamma}$ 

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 $L(G, \Gamma, \beta) \simeq (G, \Gamma, q_{\Gamma} \circ \beta)$ 

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The right adjoint as a pullback

For every voltage graph  $(G, \Gamma, \alpha)$ , we have  $R(G, \Gamma, \alpha) \simeq (G \times_{\ell(\Gamma)} \mathring{K}(\Gamma), \Gamma, q_{\Gamma}^*(\alpha))$ 



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• Derived graph of  $(G, \Gamma, \alpha)$  arises as a pullback of  $\alpha$  along  $q_{\Gamma}$ .

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The right adjoint as a pullback

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- Derived graph of  $(G, \Gamma, \alpha)$  arises as a pullback of  $\alpha$  along  $q_{\Gamma}$ .
- The top arrow is the canonical projection.

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The right adjoint as a pullback

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- Derived graph of  $(G, \Gamma, \alpha)$  arises as a pullback of  $\alpha$  along  $q_{\Gamma}$ .
- The top arrow is the canonical projection.
- The canonical projection is a fibration of graphs, because q<sub>Γ</sub> is a fibration and the square is a pullback, see [BV02].



#### Paolo Boldi and Sebastiano Vigna. Fibrations of graphs. Discrete Mathematics, 243(1-3):21–66, 2002.

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Voltage graphs.

Discrete mathematics, 9(3):239–246, 1974.

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