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David Rudrauf, Tonglin Yan, Nils Ruet, Kenneth Williford, Grégoire  
Sergeant-Perthuis

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# Integrated Information Theory (IIT) with Simple Maths

David Rudrauf, **Tonglin Yan**<sup>1</sup>, Nils Ruet, Kenneth Williford,  
**Grégoire Sergeant-Perthuis**<sup>2</sup>

[1] CIAMS, Université Paris-Saclay, [2] LCQB, Sorbonne Université

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For the 'preprint' go here: [here](#)

- What we do:
  - **Reinforcement learning** + **phenomenological** aspects of consciousness

## Reproduce the experience of *space* in 'robots'

*Consciousness involves a subjective perspective, characterized by viewpoint-structured organization, a sense of unity (holistic world), embodiment, and an internal representation of the world in perspective from a specific standpoint.*

### ↔ the **Projective Consciousness Model**

- Initiated by D. Rudrauf, K. Williford, D. Bennequin, K. Friston [RBG<sup>+</sup>17, WBFR18, RBW20]

→ See K. Williford's MoC4 presentation of phenomenological motivation  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eHyVZWZMqzg&t=853s>

- What do I do?
  - Background: mathematical physics (PhD)
  - Machine learning  $\cap$  geometry → computational biology
  - ↪ Embarked on the *consciousness* adventure
    - ↔ Geometric structure of the world model [RSPB<sup>+</sup>20, SPRR<sup>+</sup>23]
- Why this work?
  - Disseminate formal and computational models of consciousness
  - Simplify entering into the mathematical details of the models: IIT, active inference, etc.

Based on a seminar given at:

- PMMC2: Paris Mathematical Models of Cognition and Consciousness (PMMC2, [link to the seminar page](#))
  - On mathematical and computational models of consciousness and cognition
  - Longer version on YouTube: [link to the talk](#)
  - ↪ Come and give a talk

Today's presentation is a simplification of the excellent presentation:

- *The mathematical structure of integrated information theory*, Johannes Kleiner and Sean Tull. In *Frontiers in Applied Mathematics and Statistics*, 2020.

## Definition (Probability measures)

Let  $E$  be a finite set, denote by  $\mathbb{P}(E)$  the set of probability measures on  $E$ ,

$$p \in \mathbb{P}(E) \iff \forall x \in E, p(x) \geq 0 \text{ and } \sum_{x \in E} p(x) = 1 \quad (0.1)$$

## Definition (Markov kernels (stochastic maps))

A Markov kernel or stochastic map  $T$  from  $E$  to  $F$ , denoted as  $T : E \rightarrow \mathbb{P}(F)$ , sends any point  $x \in E$  to a probability measure  $T_x \in \mathbb{P}(F)$ . For  $x \in E$  and  $y \in F$ , we will denote  $T_x(y)$  as  $T(y|x)$ .

- We will be considering multiple variables  $(X_i, i \in S)$  denotes  $X_S$
- When  $S$  is a finite set:
  - enumerate  $S$ ,  $S \simeq [1, \dots, N]$
- We will consider sub-collections of variable:
  - $a \subseteq S$
  - $\bar{a}$  the complement of  $a$  in  $S$ ,

$$a \cup \bar{a} = S \qquad a \cap \bar{a} = \emptyset$$

- a subset  $a \subseteq S$  is associates to a random variable  $(X_i, i \in a)$ 
  - $X_i$  takes values in  $E_{X_i}$
  - Denote  $(X_i, i \in a)$  as  $X_a$
  - $X_a$  takes values in  $\prod_{i \in a} E_{X_i}$  denoted as  $E_{X_a}$

## Definition (Conditional expectation)

Let  $(Y_i, i \in S_1)$  be a collection of variables taking values in  $F = \prod_{i \in S_1} F_{Y_i}$ . Each  $F_{Y_i}$  is a finite set. Let  $p \in \mathbb{P}(F)$ . For any  $a \subseteq S_1$ , and any function  $f : F \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , one defines the conditional expectation with respect to  $Y_a$  as;

$$\forall y_a \in F_a, \quad \mathbb{E}[f | Y_a](y_a) = \sum_{y_{\bar{a}} \in Y_{\bar{a}}} \frac{f(y_{\bar{a}}, y_a) p(y_{\bar{a}}, y_a)}{\sum_{y_{\bar{a}} \in Y_{\bar{a}}} p(y_{\bar{a}}, y_a)}$$

Example with two random variables  $X, Y$ , assume:

→  $X \in E, Y \in F$ , where  $E, F$  are finite sets

→  $x \in E, y \in F$

then,

→  $\mathbb{E}[Y = y | X = x] := P(y|x)$

→ and

$$P(y|x) = \frac{P(X = x, Y = y)}{P(X = x)} \quad (\text{Bayes' Rule})$$



We want to see the effect of the stochastic dynamic  $T$  on sub-collections of variables.

- We start with  $T : E_{X_1} \times \dots \times E_{X_N} \rightarrow \mathbb{P}(F_{Y_1} \times \dots \times F_{Y_M})$
- Choose  $a = (1, \dots, n_1)$  and  $b = (1, \dots, m_1)$  with  $n_1 \leq N$  and  $m_1 \leq M$
- How to deduce a transition

$$T^{a,b} : E_{X_1} \times \dots \times E_{X_{n_1}} \rightarrow \mathbb{P}(F_{Y_1} \times \dots \times F_{Y_{m_1}})$$

## Definition (Building a Markov kernel $E_{X_a} \rightarrow \mathbb{P}(F_{Y_b})$ from a prior $Q$ )

Let  $X_S := (X_i, i \in S)$ ,  $Y_{S_1} := (Y_i, i \in S_1)$  and  $E = \prod_{i \in S} E_{X_i}$ ,  
 $F = \prod_{i \in S_1} F_{Y_i}$ .

Let  $T = E \rightarrow \mathbb{P}(F)$  be a Markov kernel. For any  $a \subseteq S$  and  $b \subseteq S_1$ , a choice of  $Q \in \mathbb{P}(E)$  allows us to derive from  $T$  the kernel denoted  $T^{Q,a,b} : E_{X_a} \rightarrow \mathbb{P}(F_{Y_b})$ , which encodes the effect of the variables  $X_a$  on  $Y_b$ . It is defined as,

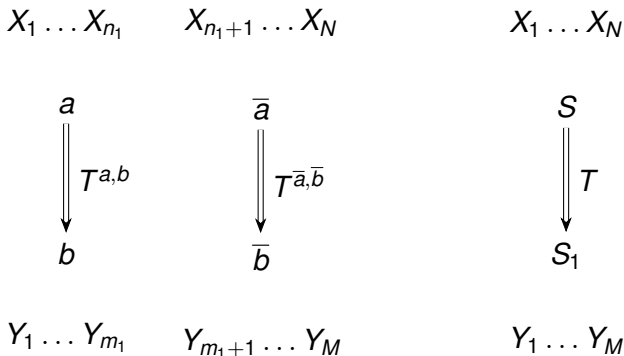
$$\forall y_b \in F_{Y_b}, \forall x_a \in E_{X_a} \quad T^{Q,a,b}(y_b|x_a) := \mathbb{E}[Y_b = y_b | X_a = x_a]$$

– How?  $\leftrightarrow$  Joint distribution,

$$P(Y_{S_1} = y, X_S = x) := T(y|x) \times Q(x)$$

$\leftrightarrow$  Sum out (*marginalize*)  $X_{\bar{a}}$ ,  $Y_{\bar{b}}$

## ***'Cutting' interactions: the central operation***



Left: Cutting the interactions. Right: Overall interaction.

- We quantify the effect of ‘cutting’ interactions between variables
- $(T^{a,b}, T^{\bar{a},\bar{b}})$  should be in the same space as  $T$

### Definition (Product of local kernels)

For any two probability kernels,  $T^{a,b} : E_{X_a} \rightarrow \mathbb{P}(F_{Y_b})$  and  $T^{\bar{a},\bar{b}} : E_{X_{\bar{a}}} \rightarrow \mathbb{P}(F_{Y_{\bar{b}}})$  posit,

$$(T^{a,b} \otimes T^{\bar{a},\bar{b}})(y|x) := T^{a,b}(y_b|x_a) \cdot T^{\bar{a},\bar{b}}(y_{\bar{b}}|x_{\bar{a}}) \quad (0.2)$$

→ We want to quantify how far  $T^{a,b} \otimes T^{\bar{a},\bar{b}}$  is from  $T$

### Definition (Informal definition of divergence)

For a finite space  $Y$ , we define a divergence  $D$  on  $\mathbb{P}(Y)$  as a function  $D : \mathbb{P}(Y) \times \mathbb{P}(Y) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$  such that, for any two probability distributions  $P$  and  $P_1$  in  $\mathbb{P}(Y)$ ,  $D(P, P_1)$  decreases as the two distributions  $P$  and  $P_1$  get 'closer'; and it reaches its minimum value of 0 when and only when  $P = P_1$ .

- The dissimilarity is on *probability distributions*.
- Fix  $x \in E$  then,  $T^{a,b} \otimes T^{\bar{a},\bar{b}}(\cdot|x)$  is a probability distribution.
- Similarly  $T(\cdot|x) \in \mathbb{P}(F)$

→ For a fixed  $x$

↪ denote  $T^{a,b} \otimes T^{\bar{a},\bar{b}}(\cdot|x)$  as  $T_{x_a}^{a,b} \otimes T_{x_{\bar{a}}}^{\bar{a},\bar{b}}$

↪ denote  $T(\cdot|x)$  as  $T_x$

- Little  $\varphi_e$  focusing on effects.
  - $S \simeq [1, \dots, N]$  and  $X_1 \dots X_N$
  - $M \subseteq S$ , 'old'  $X_S$  is now  $X_M$
  - $P \subseteq S$  'old'  $Y_{S_1}$  is now  $X_P$
  - To remember that we start with  $X_M$  and we go to  $X_P$  denote  $T_M^P$  the associated kernel

## Definition

For any  $M, P \subseteq S$  and  $x_M \in X_M$ ,

$$\varphi_{M, x_M}^P := \inf_{\substack{a \subseteq M \\ b \subseteq P}} D(T_{M, x_M}^P | T_{M, x_a}^{P, (a, b)} \otimes T_{M, x_{\bar{a}}}^{P, (\bar{a}, \bar{b})}) \quad (0.3)$$

And

$$\varphi_{M, x_M}^* := \max_{P \subseteq S} \varphi_{M, x_M}^P \quad (0.4)$$

→ One more step to compute *big*  $\Phi$ , focusing on effects (see [here](#))

$$\Phi_{M,x,b} := \sum_{a \subseteq M} \varphi_{a,x_a}^* D(T_{a,x_a}^{\psi(a,x_a)} | T_{a,x_a}^{b_a} \otimes T_{a,x_a}^{\bar{b}_a})$$

with  $\psi(M, x) := \mathbf{argmax} \varphi_M^P$

$$\Phi_{M,x} = \mathbf{argmin}_{b \subseteq \psi(M, x_M)} \Phi_{M,x,b}$$

→ IIT 4.0 introduces an important difference in how information is quantified  $\rightsquigarrow$  dissimilarity function.




→ Go check their paper [ABF<sup>+</sup>23].

Thank you very much for your attention


Thank you very much for your attention!



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