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**The stable category of preorders in a pretopos II: the universal property.**

(English summary)

*Ann. Mat. Pura Appl.* (4) **201** (2022), no. 6, 2847–2869.

A. Facchini and C. A. Finocchiaro [*Ann. Mat. Pura Appl.* (4) **199** (2020), no. 3, 1073–1089; [MR4102802](#)] observed that, in the category,  $\text{PreOrd}$ , of pre-ordered sets, there is a natural pretorsion theory,  $(\text{Eq}, \text{ParOrd})$ , where  $\text{Eq}$  is the *torsion* subcategory of equivalence relations and  $\text{ParOrd}$  is the *torsion-free* subcategory of partial orders. Writing  $\mathcal{Z}$  for  $\text{Eq} \cap \text{ParOrd}$ , and calling a morphism  $\mathcal{Z}$ -trivial if it factors via an object in  $\mathcal{Z}$ , this just amounts to the observations that any morphism from an equivalence relation to a partial order is  $\mathcal{Z}$ -trivial, whilst any preorder fits in a canonical  $\mathcal{Z}$ -trivial exact sequence, analogous to the torsion subobject/torsion-free quotient exact sequence in a classical torsion-theoretic setting.

Part I [F. Borceux, F. Campanini and M. Gran, *J. Pure Appl. Algebra* **226** (2022), no. 9, Paper No. 106997; [MR4403640](#)] of this series established that, whenever  $\mathbb{C}$  is a coherent category [P. T. Johnstone, *Sketches of an elephant: a topos theory compendium. Vol. 1*, Oxford Logic Guides, 43, Oxford Univ. Press, New York, 2002; [MR1953060](#)], it is possible to give a purely categorical construction of the stable category  $\text{Stab}(\mathbb{C})$  of the category  $\text{PreOrd}(\mathbb{C})$  of internal preorders in  $\mathbb{C}$ . Furthermore, when  $\mathbb{C}$  is a pretopos, the canonical functor

$$\Sigma: \text{PreOrd}(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow \text{Stab}(\mathbb{C})$$

preserves coproducts, sending short  $\mathcal{Z}$ -exact sequences in  $\text{PreOrd}(\mathbb{C})$  to short exact sequences in the pointed category  $\text{Stab}(\mathbb{C})$  [Part I, op. cit. (Theorem 7.14)].

This paper, as the second of the series, aims to establish the universal property of the stable category  $\text{Stab}(\mathbb{C})$ , demonstrating:

Theorem 1. The canonical functor

$$\Sigma: \text{PreOrd}(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow \text{Stab}(\mathbb{C})$$

is universal among all finite coproduct preserving torsion theory functors

$$G: \text{PreOrd}(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow \mathbb{X}$$

where  $\text{PreOrd}(\mathbb{C})$  is rigged out in the pretorsion theory  $(\text{Eq}(\mathbb{C}), \text{ParOrd}(\mathbb{C}))$ , and  $\mathbb{X}$  is a pointed category with coproducts rigged out in a torsion theory  $(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{F})$ .

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*Note: This list reflects references listed in the original paper as accurately as possible with no attempt to correct errors.*