

# Are Monoidal Fibrations Instances Of 2-fibrations?

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## Abstract

In these notes I will relate the notion to monoidal fibration introduced in (Shulman 2009) to the notion of 2-fibration in (Hermida 1999), (Bakovic 2012) and (Buckley 2014).

According to (Shulman 2009):

**DEFINITION 0.1.** Suppose  $(\mathcal{X}, \otimes, k)$  and  $(\mathcal{C}, \otimes', k')$  are monoidal categories. A **monoidal fibration** is a functor  $P: \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  such that that

1.  $P$  is a Grothendieck fibration,
2.  $P$  is a strict monoidal functor, and
3. The tensor product  $\otimes$  of  $\mathcal{X}$  preserves cartesian arrows.

If  $P$  is also an opfibration and  $\otimes$  preserves opcartesian arrows, we say that  $P$  is a **monoidal bifibration**.

In a monoidal fibration with cartesian base, each fibre is monoidal and each transition functor  $f^*$  is strong monoidal. Shulman calls the monoidal structure on  $\mathcal{X}$  the **external** monoidal structure, and the monoidal structures on fibres the **internal** monoidal structures.

**CONSTRUCTION 0.2 (fibrewise/internal monoidal structure).** Let  $P: (\mathcal{X}, \otimes, k) \rightarrow (\mathcal{C}, \times, 1)$  be a cloven monoidal fibration, and let  $B \in \mathcal{C}$ . We define a monoidal structure on the fiber  $\mathcal{X}_B$  as follows. The unit object is  $k_B = !_B^* k$ , and the tensor product is given by

$$X \boxtimes Y = \Delta_B^*(X \otimes Y)$$

where  $X, Y \in \mathcal{X}_B$ .

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$$\begin{array}{ccc}
\mathcal{X}_B & & \mathcal{X}_{B \times B} \\
\begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ \circlearrowleft \\ X \\ \Delta_B^*(X \otimes Y) \\ Y \\ \circlearrowright \\ \text{---} \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{(\Delta_B)!} \\ \\ \xleftarrow{(\Delta_B)^*} \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} \circlearrowleft \\ X \otimes Y \\ \circlearrowright \end{array} \\
B & \xrightarrow{\Delta_B} & B \times B
\end{array}$$

**EXAMPLE 0.3.** A cloven fibration  $(\text{cod}, \rho) : \mathcal{C}^{[1]} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  is precisely a category  $\mathcal{C}$  with a choice of pullbacks in  $\mathcal{C}$ . The fibre over  $\Gamma$  is the slice category  $\mathcal{C}/\Gamma$ , and base change functors are pullback functors. Then fibrewise/internal tensor product in  $\mathcal{C}/\Gamma$  is fibre product (aka pullback): if  $p: X \rightarrow \Gamma$ , and  $q: Y \rightarrow \Gamma$ , then  $X \boxtimes Y = X \times_{\Gamma} Y$ , and  $p \boxtimes q = \Delta^*(p \times q)$  since

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
X \times_{\Gamma} Y & \longrightarrow & X \times Y \\
p \boxtimes q \downarrow & \lrcorner & \downarrow p \times q \\
\Gamma & \xrightarrow{\Delta} & \Gamma \times \Gamma
\end{array}$$

We want to relate monoidal fibration structure of  $P$  to 2-fibration structure of delooping functor  $\mathbb{P}$  of  $P$ . First, we recall the definition of strict 2-fibration from (Hermida 1999) and weak 2-fibration from (Bakovic 2012) and (Buckley 2014):

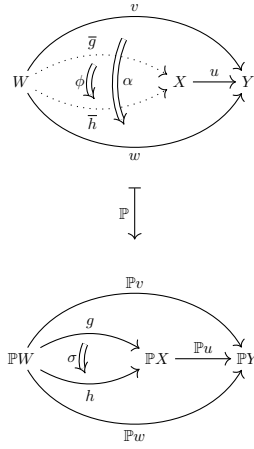
Suppose  $\mathbb{P}: \mathbb{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  is a 2-functor. Inspired by the case of 1-functors we define 2-cartesian 1-cells as follows.

**DEFINITION 0.4.** A 1-cell  $u: X \rightarrow Y$  in  $\mathbb{X}$  is **cartesian** with respect to  $\mathbb{P}$  whenever for each 0-cell  $W$  in  $\mathbb{X}$  the following commuting square is a (strict) pullback diagram in 2-category  $\mathcal{C}\text{at}$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
\mathbb{X}(W, X) & \xrightarrow{u_*} & \mathbb{X}(W, Y) \\
\mathbb{P}_{W, X} \downarrow & \lrcorner & \downarrow \mathbb{P}_{W, Y} \\
\mathbb{C}(\mathbb{P}W, \mathbb{P}X) & \xrightarrow{\mathbb{P}(u)_*} & \mathbb{C}(\mathbb{P}W, \mathbb{P}Y)
\end{array}$$

**REMARK 0.5.** By considering object component of pullback diagram above we observe that every 2-cartesian 1-cell is automatically 1-cartesian in the usual sense.

This definition gives us two layers of cartesian properties of 1-cells w.r.t.  $\mathbb{P}$  in  $\mathbb{X}$ . First of all,  $u$  is 1-cartesian as usual. Second, every 2-cell  $\alpha: v \Rightarrow w: W \rightarrow Y$  and every 2-cell  $\sigma: g \Rightarrow h: \mathbb{P}W \rightarrow \mathbb{P}X$  with  $\mathbb{P}(\alpha) = \mathbb{P}(u) \cdot \sigma$  there is a unique lift  $\phi$  of  $\sigma$  such that  $u \cdot \phi = \alpha$ .



**DEFINITION 0.6.** A 2-functor  $\mathbb{P}: \mathbb{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  is a **2-fibration** if

1. any 1-cell in  $\mathbb{C}$  of the form  $f: A \rightarrow \mathbb{P}X$  has a 2-cartesian lift,
2.  $\mathbb{P}$  is a local fibration, that is the functor  $\mathbb{P}_{X,Y}: \mathbb{X}(X, Y) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}(\mathbb{P}X, \mathbb{P}Y)$  is a Grothendieck fibration for every pair of objects  $X, Y$  in  $\mathbb{X}$ , and
3. cartesian 2-cells in  $\mathbb{X}$  are closed under pre-composition and post-composition with arbitrary 1-cells.

Now, suppose  $P: (\mathcal{X}, \otimes, k) \rightarrow (\mathcal{C}, \otimes', k')$  is monoidal fibration. The fact that  $P$  is a strict monoidal functor, makes it possible to define a (strict) delooping 2-functor  $\mathbb{P}: \mathbb{B}\mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{B}\mathcal{C}$  of  $P$ . The condition of local fibration of  $\mathbb{P}$  corresponds exactly to the fact that  $P$  is fibration of categories. The third condition in definition (0.6) says that cartesian morphisms in  $\mathcal{X}$  are preserved under tensoring. Now, we want to see what condition in definition (0.6) says. First of all it gives, for every object  $A$  of  $\mathcal{C}$ , a lift  $\tilde{A}$  in  $\mathcal{X}$  such that  $\tilde{A}$  is cartesian, that is given objects  $X$  in  $\mathcal{X}$  and  $B$  in  $\mathcal{C}$  with  $A \otimes' B = P(X)$ , there is a unique object  $\tilde{B}$  in  $\mathcal{X}$  such that  $\tilde{A} \otimes \tilde{B} = X$ . Moreover, given any morphisms  $f: X_0 \rightarrow X_1$  and a morphism  $g: B_0 \rightarrow B_1$  with  $A \otimes' g = P(f)$  there is a unique morphism  $\bar{g}: \tilde{B}_0 \rightarrow \tilde{B}_1$  such that  $\tilde{A} \otimes \bar{g} = f$ .

## References

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