

Enriched Lawvere Theories for Operational Semantics

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How do we integrate syntax and semantics?

object	type
morphism	term
* 2-morphism	rewrite *

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algebraic theories : *denotational* semantics

$$(ab)c = a(bc)$$

enriched theories : *operational* semantics



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Lawvere theories

Th(Mon)

type

M

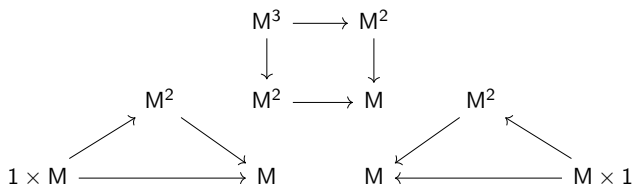
monoid

operations

$m: M^2 \rightarrow M$ multiplication

$e: 1 \rightarrow M$ identity

equations



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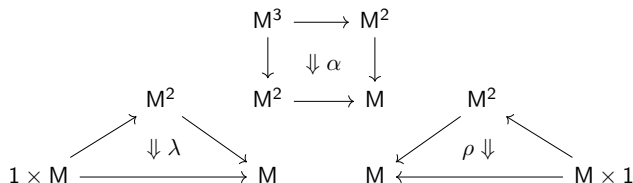
Enriched theories

$\text{Th}(\text{PsMon})$

type M pseudomonoid

operations $\otimes: M^2 \rightarrow M$ multiplication
 $1: 1 \rightarrow M$ identity

rewrites



equations pentagon, triangle identities

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Enriched categories

Let V be monoidal. A V -enriched category has hom-objects in V ; composition and identity are morphisms in V , as are the components of a V -functor and a V -natural transformation:

$$\mathbf{V\text{-category}} \quad C(a, b) \quad \in V$$

$$\mathbf{V\text{-functor}} \quad F_{ab}: C(a, b) \rightarrow D(F(a), F(b)) \quad \in V$$

$$\mathbf{V\text{-transformation}} \quad \varphi_a: 1_V \rightarrow D(F(a), G(a)) \quad \in V.$$

These form the 2-category $VCat$.

Our enriching category

Let \mathbf{V} be a cartesian closed category:

$$\mathbf{V}(a \times b, c) \cong \mathbf{V}(a, [b, c]).$$

Then $\underline{\mathbf{V}} \in \mathbf{VCat}$.

Let $\mathbf{V} \in \mathbf{CCC}_{fc(1)}$, meaning assume and choose:

$$n_{\mathbf{V}} := \sum_n 1_{\mathbf{V}}.$$

Let $\mathbf{N}_{\mathbf{V}} := \{n_{\mathbf{V}} \mid n \in \mathbf{N}\} \subset_{full} \mathbf{V}$

and $\mathbf{A}_{\mathbf{V}} := \underline{\mathbf{N}}_{\mathbf{V}}^{\text{op}}$ – our “arities”.

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The **V-product** of $(a_i) \in \mathbf{C}$ is an object $\prod_i a_i \in \mathbf{C}$ equipped with a V -natural isomorphism

$$\mathbf{C}(-, \prod_i a_i) \cong \prod_i \mathbf{C}(-, a_i).$$

A V -functor $F: \mathbf{C} \rightarrow \mathbf{D}$ **preserves** V -products if the “projections” induce a V -natural isomorphism:

$$\mathbf{D}(-, F(\prod_i a_i)) \cong \prod_i \mathbf{D}(-, F(a_i)).$$

Let \mathbf{VCat}_{fp} be the 2-category of V -categories with finite V -products and V -functors preserving them.

Definition

A **V-theory** is a V-category $T \in \mathbf{VCat}_{fp}$ whose objects are finite V-products of a distinguished object.

A morphism of V-theories is a V-functor $F: T \rightarrow T' \in \mathbf{VCat}_{fp}$. These and V-natural transformations form the 2-category of V-theories, \mathbf{VLaw} .

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Definition

A **context** is a V -category $C \in \mathbf{VCat}_{fp}$.

A **model** of T is a V -functor

$$\mu: T \rightarrow C \in \mathbf{VCat}_{fp}.$$

The category of models is $\mathbf{Mod}(T, C) := \mathbf{VCat}_{fp}(T, C)$.

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Example: monoidal categories

Let $\mathcal{V} = \text{Cat}$.

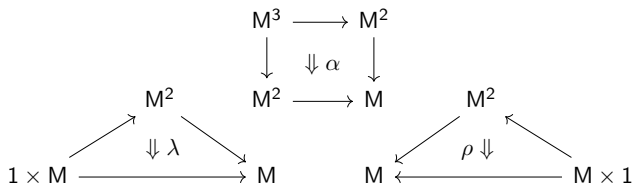
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Example: cartesian object

Let $V = \text{Cat}$.

$\text{Th}(\text{Cart})$

type	X	cartesian object
operations	$m: X^2 \rightarrow X$ $e: 1 \rightarrow X$	product terminal element
rewrites	$\Delta: \text{id}_X \implies m \circ \Delta_X$ $\pi: \Delta_X \circ m \implies \text{id}_{X^2}$ $\top: \text{id}_X \implies e \circ !_X$ $\epsilon: !_X \circ e \implies \text{id}_1$	unit of $m \vdash \Delta_X$ counit of $m \vdash \Delta_X$ unit of $e \vdash !_X$ counit of $e \vdash !_X$
equations		triangle identities

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Change of base

Let $F: V \rightarrow W$ preserve finite products, and $C \in \mathbf{VCat}$.

Then F induces a **change of base**:

$$F_*(C)(a, b) := F(C(a, b)).$$

This gives a 2-functor

$$F_*: \mathbf{VCat} \rightarrow \mathbf{WCat}.$$

Enrichment provides semantics, so change of base should *preserve* theories to be a *change of semantics*.

Theorem

Let $F: V \rightarrow W \in \text{CCC}_{fc(1)}$.

Then F is a **change of semantics**:

F_* preserves theories. For every V -theory $\tau_V: A_V \rightarrow T$,

$$\tau_W := A_W \xrightarrow{\sim} F_*(A_V) \xrightarrow{F_*(\tau_V)} F_*(T) \text{ is a } W\text{-theory.}$$

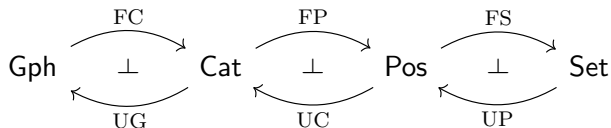
F_* preserves models. For every model $\mu: T \rightarrow C$,

$$F_*(\mu): F_*(T) \rightarrow F_*(C) \text{ is a model of } (F_*(T), \tau_W).$$

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Change of semantics

There is a “spectrum” of semantics:



FC_* maps small-step to big-step operational semantics.

FP_* maps big-step to full-step operational semantics.

FS_* maps full-step to denotational semantics.

The theory of SKI

Th(SKI)

type	t		
terms	$S:$	$1 \rightarrow t$	
	$K:$	$1 \rightarrow t$	
	$I:$	$1 \rightarrow t$	
	$(- -):$	$t^2 \rightarrow t$	
rewrites	$\sigma:$	$((S a) b) c$	$\Rightarrow ((a c) (b c))$
	$\kappa:$	$((K a) b)$	$\Rightarrow a$
	$\iota:$	$(I a)$	$\Rightarrow a$

A model of Th(SKI)

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A Gph-product preserving Gph-functor $\mu: \text{Th}(\text{SKI}) \rightarrow \text{Gph}$ yields a graph $\mu(t)$ of SKI-terms:

$$1 \cong \mu(1) \xrightarrow{\mu(S)} \mu(t) \xleftarrow{\mu((- -))} \mu(t^2) \cong \mu(t)^2.$$

The rewrites are transferred by the enrichment of μ :

$$\mu_{1,t}: \text{Th}(\text{SKI})(1, t) \rightarrow \text{Gph}(1, \mu(t)).$$

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The free model of SKI

The syntax and semantics of the SKI combinator calculus are given by the free model

$$\mu_{\text{SKI}}^{\text{Gph}} := \text{Th}(\text{SKI})(1, -) : \text{Th}(\text{SKI}) \rightarrow \text{Gph}.$$

The graph $\mu_{\text{SKI}}^{\text{Gph}}(t)$ is the *transition system* which represents the **small-step operational semantics** of the SKI-calculus:

$$(\mu(a) \rightarrow \mu(b) \in \mu_{\text{SKI}}^{\text{Gph}}(t)) \iff (a \Rightarrow b \in \text{Th}(\text{SKI})(1, t)).$$

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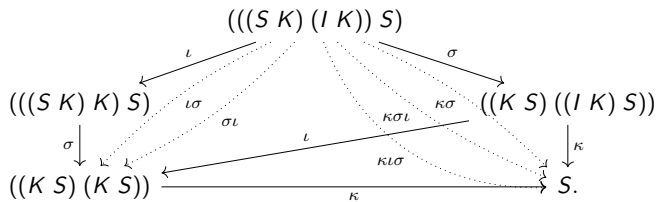
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Change of semantics

FC: $\text{Gph} \rightarrow \text{Cat}$ preserves products, hence gives a change of semantics from *small-step* to *big-step* operational semantics:



FP: $\text{Cat} \rightarrow \text{Pos}$ gives *full-step* (Hasse diagram), and
FS: $\text{Pos} \rightarrow \text{Set}$ gives *denotational* semantics, collapsing the
connected component to a point.

Conclusion

Enriched theories give a way to unify the structure and behavior of formal languages.

Enriching in category-like structures reifies operational semantics by incorporating rewrites between terms.

Cartesian functors between enriching categories induce change-of-semantics functors between categories of models.

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Acknowledgements

This paper builds on the ideas of Mike Stay and Greg Meredith presented in “Representing operational semantics with enriched Lawvere theories”.

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