

# The Agda Universal Algebra Library and Birkhoff's Theorem in Dependent Type Theory

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## Abstract

The Agda Universal Algebra Library (UALib) is a library of types and programs (theorems and proofs) we developed to formalize the foundations of universal algebra in Martin-Löf-style dependent type theory using the Agda programming language and proof assistant. This paper describes the UALib and demonstrates that Agda is accessible to working mathematicians (such as ourselves) as a tool for formally verifying nontrivial results in general algebra and related fields. The library includes a substantial collection of definitions, theorems, and proofs from universal algebra and equational logic and as such provides many examples that exhibit the power of inductive and dependent types for representing and reasoning about general algebraic and relational structures.

The first major milestone of the UALib project is a complete proof of Birkhoff's HSP theorem. To the best of our knowledge, this is the first time Birkhoff's theorem has been formulated and proved in dependent type theory and verified with a proof assistant.

In this paper we describe the Agda UALib and the formal proof of Birkhoff's theorem, discussing some of the technically challenging parts of the proof. In so doing, we illustrate the effectiveness of dependent type theory, Agda, and the UALib for formally verifying nontrivial theorems in universal algebra and equational logic.

**2012 ACM Subject Classification** Theory of computation  $\rightarrow$  Constructive mathematics; Theory of computation  $\rightarrow$  Type theory; Theory of computation  $\rightarrow$  Logic and verification; Computing methodologies  $\rightarrow$  Representation of mathematical objects; Theory of computation  $\rightarrow$  Type structures

**Keywords and phrases** Universal algebra, Equational logic, Martin-Löf Type Theory, Birkhoff's HSP Theorem, Formalization of mathematics, Agda, Proof assistant

**Digital Object Identifier** 10.4230/LIPIcs.2021.0

**Related Version** hosted on arXiv

*Extended Version:* [arxiv.org/pdf/2101.10166](https://arxiv.org/pdf/2101.10166)

## Supplementary Material

*Documentation:* [ualib.org](https://ualib.org)

*Software:* <https://gitlab.com/ualib/ualib.gitlab.io.git>

**Acknowledgements** The author wishes to thank Hyeyoung Shin and Siva Somayyajula for their contributions to this project and Martín Escardó for creating the Type Topology library and teaching a course on Univalent Foundations of Mathematics with Agda at the 2019 Midlands Graduate School in Computing Science. Of course, this work would not exist in its current form without the Agda 2 language by Ulf Norell.<sup>1</sup>

## 1 Introduction

To support formalization in type theory of research level mathematics in universal algebra and related fields, we present the Agda Universal Algebra Library (Agda UALib), a software library containing formal statements and proofs of the core definitions and results of universal algebra.

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<sup>1</sup> Agda 2 is partially based on code from Agda 1 by Catarina Coquand and Makoto Takeyama, and from Agdalign by Ulf Norell and Andreas Abel.



The Agda UALib is written in Agda [7], a programming language and proof assistant based on Martin-Löf Type Theory that not only supports dependent and inductive types, but also provides powerful *proof tactics* for proving things about the objects that inhabit these types.

There have been a number of prior efforts to formalize parts of universal algebra in type theory, most notably

- Capretta [2] (1999) formalized the basics of universal algebra in the Calculus of Inductive Constructions using the Coq proof assistant;
- Spitters and van der Weegen [9] (2011) formalized the basics of universal algebra and some classical algebraic structures, also in the Calculus of Inductive Constructions using the Coq proof assistant, promoting the use of type classes as a preferable alternative to setoids;
- Gunther, et al [6] (2018) developed what seems to be (prior to the UALib) the most extensive library of formal universal algebra to date; in particular, this work includes a formalization of some basic equational logic; the project (like the UALib) uses Martin-Löf Type Theory and the Agda proof assistant.

Some other projects aimed at formalizing mathematics generally, and algebra in particular, have developed into very extensive libraries that include definitions, theorems, and proofs about algebraic structures, such as groups, rings, modules, etc. However, goals of this prior work seem to be the formalization of special classical algebraic structures, as opposed to the general theory of (universal) algebras.

Although the Agda UALib project was initiated relatively recently (in 2018), the part of universal algebra and equational logic that it formalizes extends beyond the scope of prior efforts. In particular, the UALib now includes the only formal, constructive, machine-checked proof of Birkhoff’s variety theorem that we know of. We remark that, with the exception of [3], all other proofs of Birkhoff’s theorem we have seen are informal and not known to be constructive.

The seminal idea for the Agda UALib project was the observation that, on the one hand, a number of fundamental constructions in universal algebra can be defined recursively, and theorems about them proved by structural induction, while, on the other hand, inductive and dependent types make possible very precise formal representations of recursively defined objects, which often admit elegant constructive proofs of properties of such objects. An important feature of such proofs in type theory is that they are total functional programs and, as such, they are computable and composable.

Finally, our own research experience has taught us that a proof assistant and programming language (like Agda), when equipped with specialized libraries and domain-specific tactics to automate proof idioms of a particular field, can be an extremely powerful and effective asset. We believe that such libraries, and the proof assistants they support, will eventually become indispensable tools in the working mathematician’s toolkit.

## 1.1 Contributions and organization

Apart from the library itself, we describe the formal implementation and proof of a deep result, Garrett Birkhoff’s celebrated HSP theorem [1], which was among the first major results of universal algebra. The theorem states that a *variety* (a class of algebras closed under quotients, subalgebras, and products) is an equational class (defined by the set of identities satisfied by all its members). The fact that we now have a formal proof of this is noteworthy, not only because this is the first time the theorem has been proved in dependent type theory and verified with a proof assistant, but also because the proof is constructive. As the paper [3] of Carlström makes clear, it is a highly nontrivial exercise to take a well-known informal proof of a theorem like Birkhoff’s and show that it can be formalized using only constructive logic and natural deduction, without appealing to, say, the Law of the Excluded Middle or the Axiom of Choice.

Each of the sections that follow describes the most important or noteworthy components of the UALib. We cover just enough to keep the paper somewhat self-contained. Of course, space does not permit us to cover every definition and theorem required to present a complete formal proof of a theorem like Birkhoff's. We remedy this in two ways. First, throughout the paper we include pointers to places in the documentation where the omitted material can be found. Second, we include an appendix containing Agda background, discussion of the foundational assumptions of the UALib, and definitions of some important types of dependent type theory and how they are represented in Agda and in the UALib. We hope this appendix is especially useful to readers who are not already proficient users of Agda.

Finally, the official sources of information about the Agda UALib are

- [ualib.org](http://ualib.org) (the web site) includes every line of code in the library, rendered as html and accompanied by documentation, and
- [gitlab.com/ualib/ualib.gitlab.io](https://gitlab.com/ualib/ualib.gitlab.io) (the source code) freely available and licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0 International License.

## 2 Algebras

We define the type of *operations* and, as an example, the type of *projections*.

```
Op :  $\mathcal{V} \cdot \rightarrow \mathcal{U} \cdot \rightarrow \mathcal{U} \sqcup \mathcal{V} \cdot$ 
Op I A = (I  $\rightarrow$  A)  $\rightarrow$  A

 $\pi : \{I : \mathcal{V} \cdot\} \{A : \mathcal{U} \cdot\} \rightarrow I \rightarrow \text{Op } I A$ 
 $\pi \ i \ x = x \ i$ 
```

The type `Op` encodes the arity of an operation as an arbitrary type  $I : \mathcal{V} \cdot$ , which gives us a very general way to represent an operation as a function type with domain  $I \rightarrow A$  (the type of “tuples”) and codomain  $A$ . The last two lines of the code block above codify the  $i$ -th  $I$ -ary projection operation on  $A$ .

### 2.1 Signature type

We define the signature of an algebraic structure in Agda like this.

```
Signature : ( $\mathfrak{O} \mathcal{V} : \text{Universe}$ )  $\rightarrow$  ( $\mathfrak{O} \sqcup \mathcal{V}$ )+
Signature  $\mathfrak{O} \mathcal{V} = \Sigma F : \mathfrak{O} \cdot, (F \rightarrow \mathcal{V} \cdot)$ 
```

Here  $\mathfrak{O}$  is the universe level of operation symbol types, while  $\mathcal{V}$  is the universe level of arity types. We denote the first and second projections by `|_` and `||_||` (§A.3) so if  $S$  is a signature, then `| S |` denotes the type of *operation symbols*, and `|| S ||` denotes the *arity* function. If  $f : | S |$  is an operation symbol in the signature  $S$ , then `|| S || f` is the arity of  $f$ . For example, here is the signature of *monoids*, as a member of the type `Signature  $\mathfrak{O} \mathcal{U}_0$` .

```
data monoid-op :  $\mathfrak{O} \cdot$  where
  e : monoid-op
   $\cdot$  : monoid-op

monoid-sig : Signature  $\mathfrak{O} \mathcal{U}_0$ 
monoid-sig = monoid-op ,  $\lambda \{ e \rightarrow 0 ; \cdot \rightarrow 2 \}$ 
```

This signature has two operation symbols, `e` and `·`, and a function  $\lambda \{ e \rightarrow 0 ; \cdot \rightarrow 2 \}$  which

## 0:4 The Agda Universal Algebra Library

maps `e` to the empty type `0` (since `e` is nullary), and `·` to the 2-element type `2` (since `·` is binary).

### 2.2 Algebra type

For a fixed signature  $S : \text{Signature } \mathbf{0} \ \mathcal{V}$  and universe  $\mathcal{U}$ , we define the type of *algebras* in the signature  $S$  (or *S-algebras*) and with *domain* (or *carrier*)  $A : \mathcal{U} \cdot$  as follows<sup>2</sup>

$\text{Algebra} : (\mathcal{U} : \text{Universe}) (S : \text{Signature } \mathbf{0} \ \mathcal{V}) \rightarrow \mathbf{0} \sqcup \mathcal{V} \sqcup \mathcal{U} \cdot$

$\text{Algebra } \mathcal{U} \ S = \Sigma A : \mathcal{U} \cdot, ((f : | S |) \rightarrow \text{Op } (|| S || f) A)$

We may refer to an inhabitant of  $\text{Algebra } S \ \mathcal{U}$  as an “ $\infty$ -algebra” because its domain can be an arbitrary type, say,  $A : \mathcal{U} \cdot$  and need not be truncated at some level (§A.6). In particular,  $A$  need not be a set (as defined in §A.6).<sup>3</sup>

Next we define a convenient shorthand for the interpretation of an operation symbol. We use this often in the sequel.

$\_ \hat{\_} : (f : | S |) (\mathbf{A} : \text{Algebra } \mathcal{U} \ S) \rightarrow (|| S || f \rightarrow | \mathbf{A} |) \rightarrow | \mathbf{A} |$

$f \hat{\_} \mathbf{A} = \lambda x \rightarrow (|| \mathbf{A} || f) x$

This is similar to the standard notation that one finds in the literature and seems much more natural to us than the double bar notation that we started with.

We assume that we always have at our disposal an arbitrary collection  $X$  of variable symbols such that, for every algebra  $\mathbf{A}$ , no matter the type of its domain, we have a surjective map  $h_0 : X \rightarrow | \mathbf{A} |$  from variables onto the domain of  $\mathbf{A}$ .

$\_ \twoheadrightarrow \_ : \{\mathcal{U} \ \mathcal{X} : \text{Universe}\} \rightarrow \mathcal{X} \cdot \rightarrow \text{Algebra } \mathcal{U} \ S \rightarrow \mathcal{X} \sqcup \mathcal{U} \cdot$

$X \twoheadrightarrow \mathbf{A} = \Sigma h : (X \rightarrow | \mathbf{A} |), \text{Epic } h$

Finally, we define the type of *product algebras* the obvious way.

$\sqcap : \{\mathcal{F} : \text{Universe}\} \{I : \mathcal{F} \cdot\} (\mathcal{A} : I \rightarrow \text{Algebra } \mathcal{U} \ S) \rightarrow \text{Algebra } (\mathcal{F} \sqcup \mathcal{U}) \ S$

$\sqcap \{\mathcal{F}\} \{I\} \mathcal{A} =$

$((i : I) \rightarrow | \mathcal{A} \ i |), \lambda(f : | S |) (\mathbf{a} : || S || f \rightarrow (j : I) \rightarrow | \mathcal{A} \ j |) (i : I) \rightarrow (f \hat{\_} \mathcal{A} \ i) \lambda\{x \rightarrow \mathbf{a} \ x \ i\}$

## 3 Quotient Types and Quotient Algebras

For a binary relation  $R$  on  $A$ , we denote a single  $R$ -class by  $[a] R$  (this denotes the class containing  $a$ ). We denote the type of all classes of a relation  $R$  on  $A$  by  $\mathcal{C} \{A\} \{R\}$ . These are defined as in the UALib as follows.

$[ ] : \{A : \mathcal{U} \cdot\} \rightarrow A \rightarrow \text{Rel } A \ \mathcal{R} \rightarrow \text{Pred } A \ \mathcal{R}$

$[a] R = \lambda x \rightarrow R \ a \ x$

<sup>2</sup> The Agda UALib includes an alternative definition of the type of algebras using records, but we don’t discuss these here since they are not needed in the sequel. We refer the interested reader to [4] and the html documentation available at <https://ualib.gitlab.io/UALib.Algebras.Algebras.html>.

<sup>3</sup> We could pause here to define the type of “0-algebras,” which are algebras whose domains are sets. This type is probably closer to what most of us think of when doing informal universal algebra. However, in the UALib we have so far only needed to know that the domain of an algebra is a set in a handful of specific instances, so it seems preferable to work with general ( $\infty$ )-algebras throughout the library and then assume *uniqueness of identity proofs* explicitly where, and only where, a proof relies on this assumption.

```

176
177    $\mathcal{C} : \{A : \mathcal{U} \cdot\} \{R : \text{Rel } A \mathcal{R}\} \rightarrow \text{Pred } A \mathcal{R} \rightarrow (\mathcal{U} \sqcup \mathcal{R}^+)$ 
178    $\mathcal{C} \{A\} \{R\} = \lambda (C : \text{Pred } A \mathcal{R}) \rightarrow \Sigma a : A, C \equiv ([a] R)$ 

```

There are a few ways we could define the quotient with respect to a relation. We have found the following to be the most convenient.

```

183    $\_/_ : (A : \mathcal{U} \cdot) \rightarrow \text{Rel } A \mathcal{R} \rightarrow \mathcal{U} \sqcup (\mathcal{R}^+)$ 
184    $A / R = \Sigma C : \text{Pred } A \mathcal{R}, \mathcal{C} \{A\} \{R\} C$ 

```

We then have the following introduction and elimination rules for a class with a designated representative.

```

189    $\llbracket \_ \rrbracket : \{A : \mathcal{U} \cdot\} \rightarrow A \rightarrow \{R : \text{Rel } A \mathcal{R}\} \rightarrow A / R$ 
190    $\llbracket a \rrbracket \{R\} = ([a] R), a, \text{refl}$ 
191
192    $\lceil \_ \rceil : \{A : \mathcal{U} \cdot\} \{R : \text{Rel } A \mathcal{R}\} \rightarrow A / R \rightarrow A$ 
193    $\lceil a \rceil = \llbracket a \rrbracket$ 

```

### 3.1 Quotient extensionality

We will need a subsingleton identity type for congruence classes over sets so that we can equate two classes, even when they are presented using different representatives. For this we assume that our relations are on sets, rather than arbitrary types. As mentioned earlier, this is equivalent to assuming that there is at most one proof that two elements of a set are the same. The following *class extensionality principle* accomplishes this for us.

```

202   class-extensionality' : propext  $\mathcal{R} \rightarrow \text{global-dfunext} \rightarrow \{A : \mathcal{U} \cdot\} \{a a' : A\} \{R : \text{Rel } A \mathcal{R}\}
203   \rightarrow (\forall a x \rightarrow \text{is-subsingleton } (R a x)) \rightarrow (\forall C \rightarrow \text{is-subsingleton } (\mathcal{C} C))
204   \rightarrow \text{IsEquivalence } R
205   -----
206   \rightarrow R a a' \rightarrow (\llbracket a \rrbracket \{R\}) \equiv (\llbracket a' \rrbracket \{R\})$ 
```

We omit the proof. (See [4] or [ualib.org](http://ualib.org) for details.)

### 3.2 Compatibility

We say that a (unary) operation  $f : X \rightarrow X$  is *compatible* with (or *respects*, or *preserves*) the binary relation  $R$  on  $X$  just in case  $\forall x, y : X$ , we have  $R x y \rightarrow R (f x) (f y)$ . Now suppose  $\mathcal{U}$ ,  $\mathcal{V}$ , and  $\mathcal{W}$  are universes and assume the following typing judgments:  $\gamma : \mathcal{V} \cdot$ ,  $X : \mathcal{U} \cdot$ . We lift the definition of compatibility from unary to  $\gamma$ -ary operations in the following obvious way: for all  $u v : \gamma \rightarrow X$  ( $\gamma$ -tuples of  $X$ ), we say that the pair  $u v$  is  $R$ -related, and we write  $\text{lift-rel } R u v$  provided  $\forall i : \gamma, R (u i) (v i)$ . The function  $\text{lift-rel}$  is defined as follows.

```

217   lift-rel : Rel  $Z \mathcal{W} \rightarrow (\gamma \rightarrow Z) \rightarrow (\gamma \rightarrow Z) \rightarrow \mathcal{V} \sqcup \mathcal{W} \cdot$ 
218   lift-rel  $R f g = \forall x \rightarrow R (f x) (g x)$ 

```

If  $f : (\gamma \rightarrow X) \rightarrow X$  is a  $\gamma$ -ary operation on  $X$ , we say that  $f$  is *compatible* with  $R$  provided for all  $u v : \gamma \rightarrow X$ ,  $\text{lift-rel } R u v$  implies  $R (f u) (f v)$ .

```

223   compatible-op : {A : Algebra  $\mathcal{U} S\} \rightarrow |S| \rightarrow \text{Rel } |A| \mathcal{W} \rightarrow \mathcal{U} \sqcup \mathcal{V} \sqcup \mathcal{W} \cdot
224   compatible-op \{A\} f R = \forall \{a\} \{b\} \rightarrow (\text{lift-rel } R) a b \rightarrow R ((f \hat{\ } A) a) ((f \hat{\ } A) b)$ 
```

## 0:6 The Agda Universal Algebra Library

Finally, to represent that all basic operations of an algebra are compatible with a given relation, we define

```
compatible : (A : Algebra U S) → Rel | A | W → O ⊔ U ⊔ V ⊔ W .
compatible A R = ∀ f → compatible-op{A} f R
```

We'll see this definition of compatibility at work very soon when we define congruence relations in the next section.

### 3.3 Congruence relations

This `UALib.Relations.Congruences` module of the Agda UALib defines three alternative representations of congruence relations of an algebra—first as a function, then as a predicate on binary relations, and finally as a record type.

```
Con : {U : Universe}(A : Algebra U S) → O ⊔ V ⊔ U+ .
Con {U} A = Σ θ : ( Rel | A | U ) , IsEquivalence θ × compatible A θ

con : {U : Universe}(A : Algebra U S) → Pred (Rel | A | U) (O ⊔ V ⊔ U)
con A = λ θ → IsEquivalence θ × compatible A θ

record Congruence {U W : Universe} (A : Algebra U S) : O ⊔ V ⊔ U ⊔ W+ . where
  constructor mkcon
  field
    ⟨_⟩ : Rel | A | W
    Compatible : compatible A ⟨_⟩
    IsEquiv : IsEquivalence ⟨_⟩

open Congruence

compatible-equivalence : {U W : Universe}{A : Algebra U S} → Rel | A | W → O ⊔ V ⊔ W ⊔ U .
compatible-equivalence {U}{W} {A} R = compatible A R × IsEquivalence R
```

### 3.4 Quotient algebras

An important construction in universal algebra is the quotient of an algebra **A** with respect to a congruence relation  $\theta$  of **A**. This quotient is typically denote by  $\mathbf{A} / \theta$  and Agda allows us to define and express quotients using this standard notation.

```
⌊_⌋_ : {U R : Universe}(A : Algebra U S) → Congruence{U}{R} A → Algebra (U ⊔ R+) S
A ⌊_⌋ θ = (( | A | ⌊_⌋ θ ) , - carrier
  (λ f args - operations
    → ([ (f ^ A) (λ i1 → | || args i1 || | ) ] ⌊_⌋ θ ) ,
    ((f ^ A) (λ i1 → | || args i1 || | ) , refl _ )
  )
)
```

## 4 Homomorphisms, terms, and subalgebras

### 4.1 Homomorphisms

The definition of homomorphism we use is a standard, *extensional* one; that is, the homomorphism condition holds pointwise. This will become clearer once we have the formal definitions in

hand. Generally speaking, though, we say that two functions  $f, g : X \rightarrow Y$  are extensionally equal iff they are pointwise equal, that is, for all  $x : X$  we have  $f\ x \equiv g\ x$ .

To define *homomorphism*, we first say what it means for an operation  $f$ , interpreted in the algebras  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\mathbf{B}$ , to commute with a function  $g : A \rightarrow B$ .

```
compatible-op-map : {Q U : Universe} (A : Algebra Q S) (B : Algebra U S)
  (f : | S |) (g : | A | → | B |) → V ⊔ U ⊔ Q .
compatible-op-map A B f g = ∀ a → g ((f ^ A) a) ≡ (f ^ B) (g ∘ a)
```

Note the appearance of the shorthand  $\forall a$  in the definition of `compatible-op-map`. We can get away with this in place of  $a : \parallel S \parallel f \rightarrow | A |$  since Agda is able to infer that the  $a$  here must be a tuple on  $| A |$  of “length”  $\parallel S \parallel f$  (the arity of  $f$ ).

Next we will define the type `hom A B` of *homomorphisms* from  $\mathbf{A}$  to  $\mathbf{B}$  in terms of the property `is-homomorphism`.

```
is-homomorphism : {Q U : Universe} (A : Algebra Q S) (B : Algebra U S)
  → (| A | → | B |) → Q ⊔ V ⊔ Q ⊔ U .
is-homomorphism A B g = ∀ (f : | S |) → compatible-op-map A B f g

hom : {Q U : Universe} → Algebra Q S → Algebra U S → Q ⊔ V ⊔ Q ⊔ U .
hom A B = Σ g : (| A | → | B |) , is-homomorphism A B g
```

We define an inductive datatype called `Term` which, not surprisingly, represents the type of *terms* in a given signature. Here the type  $X : \mathfrak{X} \cdot$  represents an arbitrary collection of variable symbols.

```
data Term {X : Universe} {X : X ·} : Q ⊔ V ⊔ X + · where
  generator : X → Term {X} {X}
  node : (f : | S |) (args : ∥ S ∥ f → Term {X} {X}) → Term
```

## 4.2 Terms

Terms can be viewed as acting on other terms and we can form an algebraic structure whose domain and basic operations are both the collection of term operations. We call this the *term algebra* and denote it by `T X`.

```
T : {X : Universe} (X : X ·) → Algebra (Q ⊔ V ⊔ X + ·) S
T {X} X = Term {X} {X} , node
```

The term algebra is *absolutely free*, or *universal*, for algebras in the signature  $S$ . That is, for every  $S$ -algebra  $\mathbf{A}$ , every map  $h : X \rightarrow | A |$  lifts to a homomorphism from `T X` to  $\mathbf{A}$ , and the induced homomorphism is unique. This is proved by induction on the structure of terms, as follows.

```
free-lift : {X U : Universe} {X : X ·} (A : Algebra U S) (h : X → | A |) → | T X | → | A |
free-lift _ h (generator x) = h x
free-lift A h (node f args) = (f ^ A) λ i → free-lift A h (args i)

lift-hom : {X U : Universe} {X : X ·} (A : Algebra U S) (h : X → | A |) → hom (T X) A
lift-hom A h = free-lift A h , λ f a → ap ( _ ^ A ) refl

free-unique : {X U : Universe} {X : X ·} → funext V U
free-unique → (A : Algebra U S) (g h : hom (T X) A)
```

```

323   →      (∀ x → | g | (generator x) ≡ | h | (generator x))
324   →      (t : Term {X} {X})
325   -----
326   →      | g | t ≡ | h | t
327
328   free-unique _ _ _ p (generator x) = p x
329   free-unique fe A g h p (node f args) =
330     | g | (node f args) ≡ ⟨ || g || f args ⟩
331     (f ^ A)(λ i → | g | (args i)) ≡ ⟨ ap (λ _ ^ A) γ ⟩
332     (f ^ A)(λ i → | h | (args i)) ≡ ⟨ (|| h || f args)⊥ ⟩
333     | h | (node f args) ■
334   where γ = fe λ i → free-unique fe A g h p (args i)

```

### 4.3 Subalgebras

#### 4.3.1 Subuniverses

The `UALib.Subalgebras.Subuniverses` module defines, unsurprisingly, the `Subuniverses` type. Perhaps counterintuitively, we begin by defining the collection of all subuniverses of an algebra. Therefore, the type will be a predicate of predicates on the domain of the given algebra.

```

341   Subuniverses : {Q U : Universe} (A : Algebra Q S) → Pred (Pred | A | U) (Q ⊔ V ⊔ Q ⊔ U)
342   Subuniverses A B = (f : | S |) (a : || S || f → | A |) → Im a ⊆ B → (f ^ A) a ∈ B

```

An important concept in universal algebra is the subuniverse generated by a subset of the domain of an algebra. We define the following inductive type to represent this concept.

```

347   data Sg {U W : Universe} (A : Algebra U S) (X : Pred | A | W) :
348     Pred | A | (Q ⊔ V ⊔ W ⊔ U) where
349     var : ∀ {v} → v ∈ X → v ∈ Sg A X
350     app : (f : | S |) (a : || S || f → | A |) → Im a ⊆ Sg A X → (f ^ A) a ∈ Sg A X

```

The proof that `Sg X` is a subuniverse is as trivial as they come.

```

354   sgIsSub : {U W : Universe} {A : Algebra U S} {X : Pred | A | W} → Sg A X ∈ Subuniverses A
355   sgIsSub = app

```

And the proof that `Sg X` is the smallest subuniverse containing `X` is not much harder and proceeds by induction on the shape of elements of `Sg X`.

```

360   sgIsSmallest : {U W R : Universe} (A : Algebra U S) {X : Pred | A | W} {Y : Pred | A | R}
361     → Y ∈ Subuniverses A → X ⊆ Y → Sg A X ⊆ Y
362
363   sgIsSmallest _ _ _ X ⊆ Y (var v ∈ X) = X ⊆ Y v ∈ X
364   sgIsSmallest A Y Y ≤ A X ⊆ Y (app f a p) = fa ∈ Y
365   where
366     IH : Im a ⊆ Y
367     IH i = sgIsSmallest A Y Y ≤ A X ⊆ Y (p i)
368
369     fa ∈ Y : (f ^ A) a ∈ Y
370     fa ∈ Y = Y ≤ A f a IH

```

Evidently, when the element of `Sg X` is constructed as `app f a p`, we may assume (the induction hypothesis) that the arguments `a` belong to `Y`. Then the result of applying `f` to `a` must also belong to `Y`, since `Y` is a subuniverse.



### 4.3.2 Subalgebra type

Given algebras  $\mathbf{A} : \text{Algebra } \mathcal{W} \ S$  and  $\mathbf{B} : \text{Algebra } \mathcal{U} \ S$ , we say that  $\mathbf{B}$  is a *subalgebra* of  $\mathbf{A}$ , and (in the UALib) we write  $\mathbf{B} \text{ IsSubalgebraOf } \mathbf{A}$ , just in case  $\mathbf{B}$  can be embedded in  $\mathbf{A}$ ; in other terms, there exists a map  $h : | \mathbf{A} | \rightarrow | \mathbf{B} |$  from the universe of  $\mathbf{A}$  to the universe of  $\mathbf{B}$  such  $h$  is an embedding (i.e., *is-embedding*  $h$  holds) and  $h$  is a homomorphism from  $\mathbf{A}$  to  $\mathbf{B}$ .

```
_IsSubalgebraOf_ : {U W : Universe} (B : Algebra U S) (A : Algebra W S) → 0 ⊔ V ⊔ U ⊔ W ·
  B IsSubalgebraOf A = Σ h : (| B | → | A |), is-embedding h × is-homomorphism B A h
```

Here is some convenient syntactic sugar for the subalgebra relation.

```
_≤_ : {U Q : Universe} (B : Algebra U S) (A : Algebra Q S) → 0 ⊔ V ⊔ U ⊔ Q ·
  B ≤ A = B IsSubalgebraOf A
```

We can now write  $\mathbf{B} \leq \mathbf{A}$  to assert that  $\mathbf{B}$  is a subalgebra of  $\mathbf{A}$ .

## 5 Equations and Varieties

Let  $S$  be a signature. By an *identity* or *equation* in  $S$  we mean an ordered pair of terms, written  $p \approx q$ , from the term algebra  $\mathbf{T} \ X$ . If  $\mathbf{A}$  is an  $S$ -algebra we say that  $\mathbf{A}$  *satisfies*  $p \approx q$  provided  $p \cdot \mathbf{A} \equiv q \cdot \mathbf{A}$  holds. In this situation, we write  $\mathbf{A} \models p \approx q$  and say that  $\mathbf{A}$  *models* the identity  $p \approx q$ . If  $\mathcal{K}$  is a class of algebras, all of the same signature, we write  $\mathcal{K} \models p \approx q$  if, for every  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathcal{K}$ ,  $\mathbf{A} \models p \approx q$ .<sup>4</sup>

### 5.1 Types for Theories and Models

The binary “models” relation  $\models$  relating algebras (or classes of algebras) to the identities that they satisfy is defined in the `UALib.Varieties.ModelTheory` module. Agda supports the definition of infix operations and relations, and we use this to define  $\models$  so that we may write, e.g.,  $\mathbf{A} \models p \approx q$  or  $\mathcal{K} \models p \approx q$ .

```
_|=≈_| : {U X : Universe} {X : X ·} → Algebra U S → Term {X} {X} → Term → U ⊔ X ·
  A |= p ≈ q = (p · A) ≡ (q · A)

_|=≈_| : {U X : Universe} {X : X ·} → Pred (Algebra U S) (OV U)
  → Term {X} {X} → Term → 0 ⊔ V ⊔ X ⊔ U ⊔ U + ·

_|=≈_| K p q = {A : Algebra _ S} → K A → A |= p ≈ q
```

The Agda UALib makes available the standard notation  $\text{Th } \mathcal{K}$  for the set of identities that hold for all algebras in a class  $\mathcal{K}$ , as well as  $\text{Mod } \mathcal{E}$  for the class of algebras that satisfy all identities in a given set  $\mathcal{E}$ .

```
Th : {U X : Universe} {X : X ·} → Pred (Algebra U S) (OV U)
  → Pred (Term {X} {X} × Term) (0 ⊔ V ⊔ X ⊔ U ⊔ U +)
```

<sup>4</sup> Because a class of structures has a different type than a single structure, we must use a slightly different syntax to avoid overloading the relations  $\models$  and  $\approx$ . As a reasonable alternative to what we would normally express informally as  $\mathcal{K} \models p \approx q$ , we have settled on  $\mathcal{K} \models p \approx q$  to denote this relation. To reiterate, if  $\mathcal{K}$  is a class of  $S$ -algebras, we write  $\mathcal{K} \models p \approx q$  if every  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathcal{K}$  satisfies  $\mathbf{A} \models p \approx q$ .

```

419   Th  $\mathcal{K} = \lambda (p, q) \rightarrow \mathcal{K} \models p \approx q$ 
420
421   Mod : { $\mathcal{U} \mathcal{X} : \text{Universe}$ }(X :  $\mathcal{X} \rightarrow \cdot$ )  $\rightarrow \text{Pred} (\text{Term} \{ \mathcal{X} \} \{ X \} \times \text{Term} \{ \mathcal{X} \} \{ X \}) (\mathbf{0} \sqcup \mathcal{V} \sqcup \mathcal{X} \sqcup \mathcal{U}^+)$ 
422      $\rightarrow \text{Pred} (\text{Algebra } \mathcal{U} \ S) (\mathbf{0} \sqcup \mathcal{V} \sqcup \mathcal{X}^+ \sqcup \mathcal{U}^+)$ 
423
424   Mod X  $\mathcal{E} = \lambda A \rightarrow \forall p q \rightarrow (p, q) \in \mathcal{E} \rightarrow A \models p \approx q$ 

```

## 5.2 Inductive types for closure operators

Fix a signature  $S$ , let  $\mathcal{K}$  be a class of  $S$ -algebras, and define

- **H**  $\mathcal{K}$  = algebras isomorphic to a homomorphic image of a members of  $\mathcal{K}$ ;
- **S**  $\mathcal{K}$  = algebras isomorphic to a subalgebra of a member of  $\mathcal{K}$ ;
- **P**  $\mathcal{K}$  = algebras isomorphic to a product of members of  $\mathcal{K}$ .

A *variety* is a class  $\mathcal{K}$  of algebras in a fixed signature that is closed under the taking of homomorphic images (**H**), subalgebras (**S**), and arbitrary products (**P**). That is,  $\mathcal{K}$  is a variety if and only if  $\mathbf{HSP} \mathcal{K} \subseteq \mathcal{K}$ .

The `UAlib.Varieties.Varieties` module of the Agda UAlib introduces three new inductive types that represent the closure operators **H**, **S**, **P**. Separately, an inductive type **V** is defined which represents closure under all three operators. These definitions have been fine-tuned to strike a balance between faithfully representing the desired semantics and facilitating proof by induction.

```

439   data H { $\mathcal{U} \mathcal{W} : \text{Universe}$ }( $\mathcal{K} : \text{Pred} (\text{Algebra } \mathcal{U} \ S) (\text{OV } \mathcal{U})$ ) :
440     Pred (Algebra ( $\mathcal{U} \sqcup \mathcal{W}$ ) S) (OV ( $\mathcal{U} \sqcup \mathcal{W}$ )) where
441       hbase : { $A : \text{Algebra } \mathcal{U} \ S$ }  $\rightarrow A \in \mathcal{K} \rightarrow \text{lift-alg } A \ \mathcal{W} \in \mathbf{H} \ \mathcal{K}$ 
442       hlift : { $A : \text{Algebra } \mathcal{U} \ S$ }  $\rightarrow A \in \mathbf{H} \{ \mathcal{U} \} \{ \mathcal{U} \} \ \mathcal{K} \rightarrow \text{lift-alg } A \ \mathcal{W} \in \mathbf{H} \ \mathcal{K}$ 
443       hhimg : { $A \ B : \text{Algebra } \_ \ S$ }  $\rightarrow A \in \mathbf{H} \{ \mathcal{U} \} \{ \mathcal{W} \} \ \mathcal{K} \rightarrow B \text{ is-hom-image-of } A \rightarrow B \in \mathbf{H} \ \mathcal{K}$ 
444       hiso : { $A : \text{Algebra } \_ \ S$ } { $B : \text{Algebra } \_ \ S$ }  $\rightarrow A \in \mathbf{H} \{ \mathcal{U} \} \{ \mathcal{U} \} \ \mathcal{K} \rightarrow A \cong B \rightarrow B \in \mathbf{H} \ \mathcal{K}$ 
445
446
447   data S { $\mathcal{U} \mathcal{W} : \text{Universe}$ }( $\mathcal{K} : \text{Pred} (\text{Algebra } \mathcal{U} \ S) (\text{OV } \mathcal{U})$ ) :
448     Pred (Algebra ( $\mathcal{U} \sqcup \mathcal{W}$ ) S) (OV ( $\mathcal{U} \sqcup \mathcal{W}$ )) where
449       sbase : { $A : \text{Algebra } \mathcal{U} \ S$ }  $\rightarrow A \in \mathcal{K} \rightarrow \text{lift-alg } A \ \mathcal{W} \in \mathbf{S} \ \mathcal{K}$ 
450       slift : { $A : \text{Algebra } \mathcal{U} \ S$ }  $\rightarrow A \in \mathbf{S} \{ \mathcal{U} \} \{ \mathcal{U} \} \ \mathcal{K} \rightarrow \text{lift-alg } A \ \mathcal{W} \in \mathbf{S} \ \mathcal{K}$ 
451       ssub : { $A : \text{Algebra } \mathcal{U} \ S$ } { $B : \text{Algebra } \_ \ S$ }  $\rightarrow A \in \mathbf{S} \{ \mathcal{U} \} \{ \mathcal{U} \} \ \mathcal{K} \rightarrow B \leq A \rightarrow B \in \mathbf{S} \ \mathcal{K}$ 
452       ssubw : { $A \ B : \text{Algebra } \_ \ S$ }  $\rightarrow A \in \mathbf{S} \{ \mathcal{U} \} \{ \mathcal{W} \} \ \mathcal{K} \rightarrow B \leq A \rightarrow B \in \mathbf{S} \ \mathcal{K}$ 
453       siso : { $A : \text{Algebra } \mathcal{U} \ S$ } { $B : \text{Algebra } \_ \ S$ }  $\rightarrow A \in \mathbf{S} \{ \mathcal{U} \} \{ \mathcal{U} \} \ \mathcal{K} \rightarrow A \cong B \rightarrow B \in \mathbf{S} \ \mathcal{K}$ 
454
455
456   data P { $\mathcal{U} \mathcal{W} : \text{Universe}$ }( $\mathcal{K} : \text{Pred} (\text{Algebra } \mathcal{U} \ S) (\text{OV } \mathcal{U})$ ) :
457     Pred (Algebra ( $\mathcal{U} \sqcup \mathcal{W}$ ) S) (OV ( $\mathcal{U} \sqcup \mathcal{W}$ )) where
458       pbase : { $A : \text{Algebra } \mathcal{U} \ S$ }  $\rightarrow A \in \mathcal{K} \rightarrow \text{lift-alg } A \ \mathcal{W} \in \mathbf{P} \ \mathcal{K}$ 
459       pliftu : { $A : \text{Algebra } \mathcal{U} \ S$ }  $\rightarrow A \in \mathbf{P} \{ \mathcal{U} \} \{ \mathcal{U} \} \ \mathcal{K} \rightarrow \text{lift-alg } A \ \mathcal{W} \in \mathbf{P} \ \mathcal{K}$ 
460       pliftw : { $A : \text{Algebra } (\mathcal{U} \sqcup \mathcal{W}) \ S$ }  $\rightarrow A \in \mathbf{P} \{ \mathcal{U} \} \{ \mathcal{W} \} \ \mathcal{K} \rightarrow \text{lift-alg } A \ (\mathcal{U} \sqcup \mathcal{W}) \in \mathbf{P} \ \mathcal{K}$ 
461       produ : { $I : \mathcal{W} \rightarrow \cdot$ } { $\mathcal{A} : I \rightarrow \text{Algebra } \mathcal{U} \ S$ }  $\rightarrow (\forall i \rightarrow (\mathcal{A} \ i) \in \mathbf{P} \{ \mathcal{U} \} \{ \mathcal{U} \} \ \mathcal{K}) \rightarrow \prod \mathcal{A} \in \mathbf{P} \ \mathcal{K}$ 
462       prodw : { $I : \mathcal{W} \rightarrow \cdot$ } { $\mathcal{A} : I \rightarrow \text{Algebra } \_ \ S$ }  $\rightarrow (\forall i \rightarrow (\mathcal{A} \ i) \in \mathbf{P} \{ \mathcal{U} \} \{ \mathcal{W} \} \ \mathcal{K}) \rightarrow \prod \mathcal{A} \in \mathbf{P} \ \mathcal{K}$ 
463       pisou : { $A : \text{Algebra } \mathcal{U} \ S$ } { $B : \text{Algebra } \_ \ S$ }  $\rightarrow A \in \mathbf{P} \{ \mathcal{U} \} \{ \mathcal{U} \} \ \mathcal{K} \rightarrow A \cong B \rightarrow B \in \mathbf{P} \ \mathcal{K}$ 
464       pisow : { $A \ B : \text{Algebra } \_ \ S$ }  $\rightarrow A \in \mathbf{P} \{ \mathcal{U} \} \{ \mathcal{W} \} \ \mathcal{K} \rightarrow A \cong B \rightarrow B \in \mathbf{P} \ \mathcal{K}$ 

```

The operator that corresponds to closure with respect to **HSP** is often denoted by  $\mathbb{V}$ ; we represent it by the inductive type **V**, defined as follows.

```

468
469 data V {U W : Universe} (K : Pred (Algebra U S) (OV U)) :
470   Pred (Algebra (U ⊔ W) S) (OV (U ⊔ W)) where
471   vbase : {A : Algebra U S} → A ∈ K → lift-alg A W ∈ V K
472   vlift  : {A : Algebra U S} → A ∈ V {U} {U} K → lift-alg A W ∈ V K
473   vliftw : {A : Algebra _ S} → A ∈ V {U} {W} K → lift-alg A (U ⊔ W) ∈ V K
474   vhimg  : {A B : Algebra _ S} → A ∈ V {U} {W} K → B is-hom-image-of A → B ∈ V K
475   vssub  : {A : Algebra U S} {B : Algebra _ S} → A ∈ V {U} {U} K → B ≤ A → B ∈ V K
476   vssubw : {A B : Algebra _ S} → A ∈ V {U} {W} K → B ≤ A → B ∈ V K
477   vprodu : {I : W → {A : I → Algebra U S}} → (∀ i → (A i) ∈ V {U} {U} K) → ∏ A ∈ V K
478   vprodw : {I : W → {A : I → Algebra _ S}} → (∀ i → (A i) ∈ V {U} {W} K) → ∏ A ∈ V K
479   visou  : {A : Algebra U S} {B : Algebra _ S} → A ∈ V {U} {U} K → A ≅ B → B ∈ V K
480   visow  : {A B : Algebra _ S} → A ∈ V {U} {W} K → A ≅ B → B ∈ V K

```

481 Thus, if  $\mathcal{K}$  is a class of  $S$ -algebras, then the *variety generated by  $\mathcal{K}$* —that is, the smallest class  
 482 that contains  $\mathcal{K}$  and is closed under **H**, **S**, and **P**—is  $V \mathcal{K}$ .  
 483

### 484 5.3 Class products, $\mathbf{PS} \subseteq \mathbf{SP}$ and $\prod S \in \mathbf{SP}$

485 There are two main results we need to establish about the closure operators defined in the  
 486 last section. The first is the inclusion  $\mathbf{PS}(\mathcal{K}) \subseteq \mathbf{SP}(\mathcal{K})$ . The second requires that we con-  
 487 struct the product of all subalgebras of algebras in an arbitrary class, and then show that this  
 488 product belongs to  $\mathbf{SP}(\mathcal{K})$ . These are both nontrivial formalization tasks with rather lengthy  
 489 proofs, which we omit. However, the interested reader can view the complete proofs on the  
 490 web page [ualib.gitlab.io/UALib.Varieties.Varieties.html](http://ualib.gitlab.io/UALib.Varieties.Varieties.html) or by looking at the source code of the  
 491 [UALib.Varieties](http://ualib.gitlab.com/ualib) module at [gitlab.com/ualib](http://gitlab.com/ualib).

492 Here is the formal statement of the first goal, along with the first few lines of proof.<sup>5</sup>

```

493
494 PS⊆SP : (P {ovu} {ovu} (S {U} {ovu} K)) ⊆ (S {ovu} {ovu} (P {U} {ovu} K))
495
496 PS⊆SP (pbase (sbase x)) = sbase (pbase x)
497 PS⊆SP (pbase (slift {A} x)) = slift (S⊆SP {U} {ovu} K) (slift x)
498 PS⊆SP (pbase {B} (ssub {A} sA B ≤ A)) = ...

```

499 Evidently, the proof is by induction on the form of an inhabitant of  $\mathbf{PS}(\mathcal{K})$ , handling in turn  
 500 each way such an inhabitant can be constructed. (See [4] or [ualib.org](http://ualib.org) for details.)

501 Next we formally state and prove that, given an arbitrary class  $\mathcal{K}$  of algebras, the product  
 502 of all algebras in the class  $\mathbf{S}(\mathcal{K})$  belongs to  $\mathbf{SP}(\mathcal{K})$ .<sup>6</sup> The type that serves to index the class  
 503 (and the product of its members) is the following.  
 504  
 505

```

506 J : {U : Universe} → Pred (Algebra U S) (ov U) → (ov U) ·
507 J {U} K = ∑ A : (Algebra U S), A ∈ K

```

508 Taking the product over this index type  $\mathbf{J}$  requires a function like the following, which takes an  
 509 index ( $i : \mathbf{J}$ ) and returns the corresponding algebra. Here is such a function.  
 510  
 511

<sup>5</sup> For legibility we use **ovu** as a shorthand for  $\mathbf{O} \sqcup \mathbf{V} \sqcup \mathbf{U}^+$ .

<sup>6</sup> This turned out to be a nontrivial exercise. In fact, it is not even immediately obvious (at least not to this author) how one should express the product of an entire arbitrary class of algebras as a dependent type. However, after a number of failed attempts, the right type revealed itself. Now that we have it, it seems almost obvious.



To represent  $\mathfrak{F}$  as a type in Agda, we must formally construct the congruence  $\psi(\mathcal{K}, \mathbf{T} X)$ . We begin by defining the collection **Timg** of homomorphic images of the term algebra.

```

Timg : Pred (Algebra  $\mathcal{U}$   $S$ )  $ovu$   $\rightarrow$   $ovu \sqcup \mathfrak{X}^+$  .
Timg  $\mathcal{K}$  =  $\Sigma \mathbf{A} : (\text{Algebra } \mathcal{U} S) , \Sigma \phi : \text{hom } (\mathbf{T} X) \mathbf{A} , (\mathbf{A} \in \mathcal{K}) \times \text{Epic } |\phi|$ 

```

The inhabitants of this Sigma type represent algebras  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathcal{K}$  such that there exists a surjective homomorphism  $\phi : \text{hom } (\mathbf{T} X) \mathbf{A}$ . Thus, **Timg** represents the collection of all homomorphic images of  $\mathbf{T} X$  that belong to  $\mathcal{K}$ . Of course, this is the entire class  $\mathcal{K}$ , since the term algebra is absolutely free. Nonetheless, this representation of  $\mathcal{K}$  is useful since it endows each element with extra information. Indeed, each inhabitant of **Timg**  $\mathcal{K}$  is a quadruple,  $(\mathbf{A} , \phi , ka , p)$ , where  $\mathbf{A}$  is an  $S$ -algebra,  $\phi$  is a homomorphism from  $\mathbf{T} X$  to  $\mathbf{A}$ ,  $ka$  is a proof that  $\mathbf{A}$  belongs to  $\mathcal{K}$ , and  $p$  is a proof that the underlying map  $|\phi|$  is epic.

Next we define the congruence relation modulo which  $\mathbf{T} X$  yields the relatively free algebra,  $\mathfrak{F} \mathcal{K} X$ . We start by letting  $\psi$  be the collection of all identities  $(p, q)$  satisfied by all subalgebras of algebras in  $\mathcal{K}$ ,

```

 $\psi : (\mathcal{K} : \text{Pred } (\text{Algebra } \mathcal{U} S) \text{ } ovu) \rightarrow \text{Pred } (|\mathbf{T} X| \times |\mathbf{T} X|) \text{ } ovu$ 
 $\psi \mathcal{K} (p , q) = \forall (\mathbf{A} : \text{Algebra } \mathcal{U} S) \rightarrow (sA : \mathbf{A} \in S\{\mathcal{U}\}\{\mathcal{U}\} \mathcal{K})$ 
 $\rightarrow |\text{lift-hom } \mathbf{A} (\text{fst}(\mathfrak{X} \mathbf{A}))| p \equiv |\text{lift-hom } \mathbf{A} (\text{fst}(\mathfrak{X} \mathbf{A}))| q,$ 

```

which we convert into a relation by Currying,  $\psi\text{Rel } \mathcal{K} p q = \psi \mathcal{K} (p , q)$ . The relation  $\psi\text{Rel}$  is an equivalence relation and is compatible with the operations of  $\mathbf{T} X$ , which are just the terms themselves.<sup>8</sup> Therefore, from  $\psi\text{Rel}$  we can construct a congruence relation of the term algebra  $\mathbf{T} X$ . The inhabitants of this congruence are pairs of terms representing identities satisfied by all subalgebras of algebras in the class. We call this  $\psi\text{Con}$  and define it using the **Congruence** constructor **mkcon** as follows.

```

 $\psi\text{Con} : (\mathcal{K} : \text{Pred } (\text{Algebra } \mathcal{U} S) \text{ } ovu) \rightarrow \text{Congruence } (\mathbf{T} X)$ 
 $\psi\text{Con } \mathcal{K} = \text{mkcon } (\psi\text{Rel } \mathcal{K}) (\psi\text{compatible } \mathcal{K}) \psi\text{IsEquivalence}$ 

```

The free algebra  $\mathfrak{F}$  is then defined as the quotient  $\mathbf{T} X / (\psi\text{Con } \mathcal{K})$ .

```

 $\mathfrak{F} : \text{Algebra } \mathfrak{F} S$ 
 $\mathfrak{F} = \mathbf{T} X / (\psi\text{Con } \mathcal{K})$ 

```

where  $\mathfrak{F} = (\mathfrak{X} \sqcup ovu)^+$  happens to be the universe level of  $\mathfrak{F}$ . The domain of the free algebra is  $|\mathbf{T} X| / \langle \psi\text{Con } \mathcal{K} \rangle$ , which is  $\Sigma C : \_ , \Sigma p : |\mathbf{T} X| , C \equiv ([p] \langle \psi\text{Con } \mathcal{K} \rangle)$ , by definition; i.e., the collection  $\{C : \exists p \in |\mathbf{T} X| , C \equiv [p] \langle \psi\text{Con } \mathcal{K} \rangle\}$  of  $\langle \psi\text{Con } \mathcal{K} \rangle$ -classes of  $\mathbf{T} X$ .

## 6 Birkhoff's HSP Theorem

This section presents the **UALib.Birkhoff** module of the Agda **UALib**. In §5.5, we present a formal representation of the *free algebra* in **S** (**P**  $\mathcal{K}$ ) over  $X$ , for a given class  $\mathcal{K}$  of  $S$ -algebras. In §6.1, we state a number of lemmas needed in §6.2 where, finally, we present the statement and proof of Birkhoff's HSP theorem.

<sup>8</sup> We omit the easy proofs, but see the **UALib.Birkhoff.FreeAlgebra** module for details.

## 6.1 HSP Lemmas

This subsection gives formal statements of four lemmas that we will string together in §6.2 to complete the proof of Birkhoff's theorem.

The first hurdle is the `lift-alg-V-closure` lemma, which says that if an algebra  $\mathbf{A}$  belongs to the variety  $\mathbb{V}$ , then so does its lift. This dispenses with annoying universe level problems that arise later—a minor technical issue, but the proof is long and tedious, not to mention uninteresting. (See [4] or `ualib.org` for details.) The next fact that must be formalized is the inclusion  $\mathbf{SP}(\mathcal{K}) \subseteq \mathbf{V}(\mathcal{K})$ , which also suffers from the unfortunate defect of being boring, so we omit this one as well.

After these first two lemmas are formally verified (see [4] or `ualib.org` for proofs), we arrive at a step in the formalization of Birkhoff's theorem that turns out to be surprisingly nontrivial. We must show that the relatively free algebra  $\mathfrak{F}$  embeds in the product  $\mathfrak{C}$  of all subalgebras of algebras in the given class  $\mathcal{K}$ . We begin by constructing  $\mathfrak{C}$ , using the class-product types described in §5.3. Observe that the elements of  $\mathfrak{C}$  are maps from  $\mathfrak{I}s$  to  $\{\mathfrak{A}s \mid i : i \in \mathfrak{I}s\}$ .

```

 $\mathfrak{I}s : \text{ovu} \cdot$  – for indexing over all subalgebras of algebras in  $\mathcal{K}$ 
 $\mathfrak{I}s = \mathfrak{I} \ (S \{ \mathfrak{U} \} \{ \mathfrak{U} \} \ \mathcal{K})$ 
 $\mathfrak{A}s : \mathfrak{I}s \rightarrow \text{Algebra } \mathfrak{U} \ S$ 
 $\mathfrak{A}s = \lambda \ (i : \mathfrak{I}s) \rightarrow | \ i \ |$ 
 $\mathfrak{C} : \text{Algebra } \text{ovu} \ S$  – the product of all subalgebras of algebras in  $\mathcal{K}$ 
 $\mathfrak{C} = \prod \mathfrak{A}s$ 

```

Next, we construct an embedding  $\mathfrak{f}$  from  $\mathfrak{F}$  into  $\mathfrak{C}$  using a UALib tool called  `$\mathfrak{F}$ -free-lift`.

```

 $\mathfrak{h}_0 : X \rightarrow | \ \mathfrak{C} \ |$ 
 $\mathfrak{h}_0 \ x = \lambda \ i \rightarrow (\text{fst } (\mathfrak{X} \ (\mathfrak{A}s \ i))) \ x$ 
 $\phi_{\mathfrak{C}} : \text{hom } (\mathbf{T} \ X) \ \mathfrak{C}$ 
 $\phi_{\mathfrak{C}} = \text{lift-hom } \mathfrak{C} \ \mathfrak{h}_0$ 
 $\mathfrak{f} : \text{hom } \mathfrak{F} \ \mathfrak{C}$ 
 $\mathfrak{f} = \mathfrak{F}\text{-free-lift } \mathfrak{C} \ \mathfrak{h}_0 \ , \ \lambda \ f \ a \rightarrow \| \ \phi_{\mathfrak{C}} \ \| \ f \ (\lambda \ i \rightarrow \ulcorner \ a \ i \urcorner)$ 

```

The hard part is showing that  $\mathfrak{f}$  is a monomorphism. For lack of space, we must omit the inner workings of the proof, and settle for the outer shell. (See [4] or `ualib.org` for details.) For ease of notation, let  $\Psi = \psi\text{Rel } \mathcal{K}$ .

```

 $\text{monf} : \text{Monic } | \ \mathfrak{f} \ |$ 
 $\text{monf} \ (\cdot (\Psi \ p) \ , \ p \ , \ \text{refl } \_) \ (\cdot (\Psi \ q) \ , \ q \ , \ \text{refl } \_) \ fpq = \gamma$ 
  where
  ... details omitted ...
 $\gamma : (\Psi \ p \ , \ p \ , \ \text{refl}) \equiv (\Psi \ q \ , \ q \ , \ \text{refl})$ 
 $\gamma = \text{class-extensionality}' \ pe \ gfe \ ssR \ ssA \ \psi\text{IsEquivalence } p \ \Psi \ q$ 

```

Assuming the foregoing, the proof that  $\mathfrak{F}$  is (isomorphic to) a subalgebra of  $\mathfrak{C}$  would be completed as follows.

```

 $\mathfrak{F} \leq \mathfrak{C} : \text{is-set } | \ \mathfrak{C} \ | \rightarrow \mathfrak{F} \leq \mathfrak{C}$ 
 $\mathfrak{F} \leq \mathfrak{C} \ Cset = | \ \mathfrak{f} \ | \ , \ (\text{embf} \ , \ \| \ \mathfrak{f} \ \|)$ 
  where
   $\text{embf} : \text{is-embedding } | \ \mathfrak{f} \ |$ 
   $\text{embf} = \text{monic-into-set-is-embedding } Cset \ | \ \mathfrak{f} \ | \ \text{monf}$ 

```

With the foregoing results in hand, along with what we proved earlier—namely, that  $\mathbf{PS}(\mathcal{K})$

649  $\subseteq \text{SP}(\mathcal{K}) \subseteq \text{V}(\mathcal{K})$ —it is not hard to show that  $\mathfrak{F}$  belongs to  $\text{SP}(\mathcal{K})$ , and hence to  $\text{V}(\mathcal{K})$ .  
 650  
 651  $\mathfrak{F} \in \text{SP} : \text{is-set} \mid \mathfrak{C} \mid \rightarrow \mathfrak{F} \in (\text{S}\{\text{ovu}\}\{\text{ovu}^+\} (\text{P}\{\mathfrak{U}\}\{\text{ovu}\} \mathcal{K}))$   
 652  $\mathfrak{F} \in \text{SP} \text{ Cset} = \text{ssub spC} (\mathfrak{F} \leq \mathfrak{C} \text{ Cset})$   
 653 *where*  
 654  $\text{spC} : \mathfrak{C} \in (\text{S}\{\text{ovu}\}\{\text{ovu}\} (\text{P}\{\mathfrak{U}\}\{\text{ovu}\} \mathcal{K}))$   
 655  $\text{spC} = (\text{class-prod-s-}\in\text{-sp hfe})$   
 656  
 657  $\mathfrak{F} \in \text{V} : \text{is-set} \mid \mathfrak{C} \mid \rightarrow \mathfrak{F} \in \text{V}$   
 658  $\mathfrak{F} \in \text{V} \text{ Cset} = \text{SP} \subseteq \text{V}' (\mathfrak{F} \in \text{SP} \text{ Cset})$

## 659 6.2 The HSP Theorem

660 It is now all but trivial to use what we have already proved and piece together a complete  
 661 formal, type-theoretic proof of Birkhoff’s celebrated HSP theorem asserting that every variety  
 662 is defined by a set of identities (is an “equational class”).

663 *module Birkhoffs-Theorem*  
 664  $\{\mathcal{K} : \text{Pred} (\text{Algebra } \mathfrak{U} \text{ } S) \text{ ovu}\}$   
 665 *– extensionality assumptions*  
 666  $\{hfe : \text{hfunext ovu ovu}\}$   
 667  $\{pe : \text{propext ovu}\}$   
 668 *– truncation assumptions:*  
 669  $\{ssR : \forall p q \rightarrow \text{is-subsingleton } ((\psi \text{Rel } \mathcal{K}) p q)\}$   
 670  $\{ssA : \forall C \rightarrow \text{is-subsingleton } (\mathcal{C}\{\text{ovu}\}\{\text{ovu}\}\{\mid \text{ } \mathbf{T} \text{ } X \mid\}\{\psi \text{Rel } \mathcal{K}\} C)\}$   
 671 *where*  
 672  
 673 *– Birkhoff’s theorem: every variety is an equational class.*  
 674  $\text{birkhoff} : \text{is-set} \mid \mathfrak{C} \mid \rightarrow \text{Mod } X (\text{Th } \text{V}) \subseteq \text{V}$   
 675  
 676  $\text{birkhoff} \text{ Cset } \{\mathbf{A}\} \text{ MThVA} = \gamma$   
 677 *where*  
 678  $\phi : \Sigma h : (\text{hom } \mathfrak{F} \text{ } \mathbf{A}) , \text{Epic} \mid h \mid$   
 679  $\phi = (\mathfrak{F}\text{-lift-hom } \mathbf{A} \mid \times \mathbf{A} \mid) , \mathfrak{F}\text{-lift-of-epic-is-epic } \mathbf{A} \mid \times \mathbf{A} \mid \parallel \times \mathbf{A} \parallel$   
 680  
 681  $\text{AiF} : \mathbf{A} \text{ is-hom-image-of } \mathfrak{F}$   
 682  $\text{AiF} = (\mathbf{A} , \mid \text{fst } \phi \mid , (\parallel \text{fst } \phi \parallel , \text{snd } \phi) ) , \text{refl-}\cong$   
 683  
 684  $\gamma : \mathbf{A} \in \text{V}$   
 685  $\gamma = \text{vhimg } (\mathfrak{F} \in \text{V} \text{ Cset}) \text{ AiF}$

686 Some readers might worry that we haven’t quite achieved our goal because what we just proved  
 687 (birkhoff) is not an “if and only if” assertion. Those fears are quickly put to rest by noting  
 688 that the converse—that every equational class is closed under HSP—was already proved in  
 689 the Equation Preservation module. Indeed, there we proved the following identity preservation  
 690 lemmas:

- 692 ■ (H-id1)  $\mathcal{K} \models p \approx q \rightarrow \text{H } \mathcal{K} \models p \approx q$
- 693 ■ (S-id1)  $\mathcal{K} \models p \approx q \rightarrow \text{S } \mathcal{K} \models p \approx q$
- 694 ■ (P-id1)  $\mathcal{K} \models p \approx q \rightarrow \text{P } \mathcal{K} \models p \approx q$

695 From these it follows that every equational class is a variety.



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**A Agda Prerequisites**

For the benefit of readers who are not proficient in Agda and/or type theory, we describe some of the most important types and features of Agda used in the UALib.

We begin by highlighting some of the key parts of `UALib.Prelude.Preliminaries` of the Agda UALib. This module imports everything we need from Martin Escardo’s Type Topology library [5], defines some other basic types and proves some of their properties. We do not cover the entire Preliminaries module here, but call attention to aspects that differ from standard Agda syntax. For more details, see [4, §2].

**A.1 Options and imports**

Agda programs typically begin by setting some options and by importing from existing libraries. Options are specified with the `OPTIONS` pragma and control the way Agda behaves by, for example, specifying which logical foundations should be assumed when the program is type-checked to verify its correctness. All Agda programs in the UALib begin with the pragma



{-# OPTIONS -without-K -exact-split -safe #-} (2)

This has the following effects:

1. **without-K** disables Streicher’s K axiom; see [10];
2. **exact-split** makes Agda accept only definitions that are *judgmental* or *definitional* equalities. As Escardó explains, this “makes sure that pattern matching corresponds to Martin-Löf eliminators;” for more details see [12];
3. **safe** ensures that nothing is postulated outright—every non-MLTT axiom has to be an explicit assumption (e.g., an argument to a function or module); see [11] and [12].

Throughout this paper we take assumptions 1–3 for granted without mentioning them explicitly.

The Agda UALib adopts the notation of the Type Topology library. In particular, universes are denoted by capitalized script letters from the second half of the alphabet, e.g.,  $\mathcal{U}$ ,  $\mathcal{V}$ ,  $\mathcal{W}$ , etc. Also defined in Type Topology are the operators  $\cdot$  and  $+$ . These map a universe  $\mathcal{U}$  to  $\mathcal{U} \cdot$  := **Set**  $\mathcal{U}$  and  $\mathcal{U} +$  := **Isuc**  $\mathcal{U}$ , respectively. Thus,  $\mathcal{U} \cdot$  is simply an alias for **Set**  $\mathcal{U}$ , and we have  $\mathcal{U} \cdot : (\mathcal{U} +) \cdot$ . Table 1 translates between standard Agda syntax and Type Topology/UALib notation.

## A.2 Agda’s universe hierarchy

The hierarchy of universe levels in Agda is structured as  $\mathcal{U}_0 : \mathcal{U}_1$ ,  $\mathcal{U}_1 : \mathcal{U}_2$ ,  $\mathcal{U}_2 : \mathcal{U}_3$ , .... This means that  $\mathcal{U}_0$  has type  $\mathcal{U}_1 \cdot$  and  $\mathcal{U}_n$  has type  $\mathcal{U}_{n+1} \cdot$  for each  $n$ . It is important to note, however, this does *not* imply that  $\mathcal{U}_0 : \mathcal{U}_2$  and  $\mathcal{U}_0 : \mathcal{U}_3$ , and so on. In other words, Agda’s universe hierarchy is *noncumulative*. This makes it possible to treat universe levels more generally and precisely, which is nice. On the other hand, it is this author’s experience that a noncumulative hierarchy can sometimes make for a nonfun proof assistant. (See [4, §3.3] for a more detailed discussion.)

Because of the noncumulativity of Agda’s universe level hierarchy, certain proof verification (i.e., type-checking) tasks may seem unnecessarily difficult. Luckily there are ways to circumvent noncumulativity without introducing logical inconsistencies into the type theory. We present here some domain specific tools that we developed for this purpose. (See [4, §3.3] for more details).

A general **Lift** record type, similar to the one found in the **Level** module of the Agda Standard Library, is defined as follows.

```
record Lift { $\mathcal{U} \mathcal{W} : \text{Universe}$ } ( $X : \mathcal{U} \cdot$ ) :  $\mathcal{U} \sqcup \mathcal{W} \cdot$  where
  constructor lift
  field lower :  $X$ 
  open Lift
```

It is useful to know that **lift** and **lower** compose to the identity.

```
lower~lift : { $\mathcal{X} \mathcal{W} : \text{Universe}$ } { $X : \mathcal{X} \cdot$ } → lower{ $\mathcal{X}$ } { $\mathcal{W}$ } ∘ lift ≡ id X
lower~lift = refl _
```

Similarly, **lift** ∘ **lower** ≡ id (Lift{ $\mathcal{X}$ } { $\mathcal{W}$ }).

### A.2.1 The lift of an algebra

More domain-specifically, here is how we lift types of operations and algebras.

```

790 lift-op : { $\mathcal{U}$  : Universe}{ $I$  :  $\mathcal{V}$  ·}{ $A$  :  $\mathcal{U}$  ·}
791   → (( $I \rightarrow A$ ) →  $A$ ) → ( $\mathcal{W}$  : Universe) → (( $I \rightarrow \text{Lift}\{\mathcal{U}\}\{\mathcal{W}\}A$ ) →  $\text{Lift}\{\mathcal{U}\}\{\mathcal{W}\}A$ )
792 lift-op  $f \mathcal{W} = \lambda x \rightarrow \text{lift } (f (\lambda i \rightarrow \text{lower } (x i)))$ 
793
794 lift- $\infty$ -algebra lift-alg : { $\mathcal{U}$  : Universe} → Algebra  $\mathcal{U} S$  → ( $\mathcal{W}$  : Universe) → Algebra ( $\mathcal{U} \sqcup \mathcal{W}$ )  $S$ 
795 lift- $\infty$ -algebra  $\mathbf{A} \mathcal{W} = \text{Lift} \mid \mathbf{A} \mid , (\lambda (f : \mid S \mid) \rightarrow \text{lift-op } (\parallel \mathbf{A} \parallel f) \mathcal{W})$ 
796 lift-alg = lift- $\infty$ -algebra

```

### 797 A.3 Dependent pairs and projections

798 Given universes  $\mathcal{U}$  and  $\mathcal{V}$ , a type  $X : \mathcal{U}$  ·, and a type family  $Y : X \rightarrow \mathcal{V}$  ·, the *Sigma type* (or  
799 *dependent pair type*) is denoted by  $\Sigma(x : X), Y(x)$  and generalizes the Cartesian product  $X \times Y$   
800 by allowing the type  $Y(x)$  of the second argument of the ordered pair  $(x, y)$  to depend on the  
801 value  $x$  of the first. That is,  $\Sigma(x : X), Y(x)$  is inhabited by pairs  $(x, y)$  such that  $x : X$  and  $y :$   
802  $Y(x)$ .

803 Agda’s default syntax for a Sigma type is  $\Sigma \lambda(x : X) \rightarrow Y$ , but we prefer the notation  
804  $\Sigma x : X , Y$ , which is closer to the standard syntax described in the preceding paragraph.  
805 Fortunately, this preferred notation is available in the Type Topology library (see [5,  $\Sigma$  types]).<sup>9</sup>

806 Convenient notations for the first and second projections out of a product are  $\lfloor \_ \rfloor$  and  $\parallel \_ \parallel$ ,  
807 respectively. However, to improve readability or to avoid notation clashes with other modules,  
808 we sometimes use more standard alternatives, such as  $\text{pr}_1$  and  $\text{pr}_2$ , or  $\text{fst}$  and  $\text{snd}$ , or some  
809 combination of these. The definitions are standard so we omit them (see [4] for details).

### 810 A.4 Equality

811 Perhaps the most important types in type theory are the equality types. The *definitional*  
812 *equality* we use is a standard one and is often referred to as “reflexivity” or “refl”. In our case,  
813 it is defined in the Identity-Type module of the Type Topology library, but apart from syn-  
814 tax it is equivalent to the identity type used in most other Agda libraries. Here is the definition.  
815

```

816 data ==_ { $\mathcal{U}$ } { $X$  :  $\mathcal{U}$  ·} :  $X \rightarrow X \rightarrow \mathcal{U}$  · where
817   refl : { $x$  :  $X$ } →  $x \equiv x$ 

```

### 818 A.5 Function extensionality and intensionality

819 Extensional equality of functions, or *function extensionality*, is a principle that is often assumed  
820 in the Agda UALib. It asserts that two point-wise equal functions are equal and is defined in  
821 the Type Topology library in the following natural way:  
822

```

823 funext :  $\forall \mathcal{U} \mathcal{V} \rightarrow (\mathcal{U} \sqcup \mathcal{V})^+ \cdot$ 
824 funext  $\mathcal{U} \mathcal{V} = \{X : \mathcal{U} \cdot\} \{Y : \mathcal{V} \cdot\} \{f g : X \rightarrow Y\} \rightarrow f \sim g \rightarrow f \equiv g$ 

```

825 where  $f \sim g$  denotes pointwise equality, that is,  $\forall x \rightarrow f x \equiv g x$ .

826 Pointwise equality of functions is typically what one means in informal settings when one  
827 says that two functions are equal. However, as Escardó notes in [5], function extensionality  
828 is known to be not provable or disprovable in Martin-Löf Type Theory. It is an independent  
829 axiom which may be assumed (or not) without making the logic inconsistent.  
830

<sup>9</sup> The symbol  $:$  in the expression  $\Sigma x : X , Y$  is not the ordinary colon ( $:$ ); rather, it is the symbol obtained by typing `\:4` in `agda2-mode`.

Dependent and polymorphic notions of function extensionality are also defined in the UALib and Type Topology libraries (see [4, §2.4] and [5, §17-18]).

*Function intensionality* is the opposite of function extensionality and it comes in handy whenever we have a definitional equality and need a point-wise equality.

```
intensionality : {U W : Universe} {A : U ·} {B : W ·} {f g : A → B}
  → f ≡ g → (x : A) → f x ≡ g x
intensionality (refl _) _ = refl _
```

Of course, the intensionality principle has dependent and polymorphic analogues defined in the Agda UALib, but we omit the definitions. See [4, §2.4] for details.

## A.6 Truncation and sets

In general, we may have many inhabitants of a given type, hence (via Curry-Howard correspondence) many proofs of a given proposition. For instance, suppose we have a type  $X$  and an identity relation  $\equiv_x$  on  $X$  so that, given two inhabitants of  $X$ , say,  $a, b : X$ , we can form the type  $a \equiv_x b$ . Suppose  $p$  and  $q$  inhabit the type  $a \equiv_x b$ ; that is,  $p$  and  $q$  are proofs of  $a \equiv_x b$ , in which case we write  $p, q : a \equiv_x b$ . Then we might wonder whether and in what sense are the two proofs  $p$  and  $q$  the “same.” We are asking about an identity type on the identity type  $\equiv_x$ , and whether there is some inhabitant  $r$  of this type; i.e., whether there is a proof  $r : p \equiv_{x1} q$ . If such a proof exists for all  $p, q : a \equiv_x b$ , then we say that the proof of  $a \equiv_x b$  is *unique*. As a property of the types  $X$  and  $\equiv_x$ , this is sometimes called *uniqueness of identity proofs*.

Perhaps we have two proofs, say,  $r, s : p \equiv_{x1} q$ . Then it is natural to wonder whether  $r \equiv_{x2} s$  has a proof! However, we may decide that at some level the potential to distinguish two proofs of an identity in a meaningful way (so-called *proof relevance*) is not useful or interesting. At that point, say, at level  $k$ , we might assume that there is at most one proof of any identity of the form  $p \equiv_{xk} q$ . This is called *truncation*.

In *homotopy type theory* [8], a type  $X$  with an identity relation  $\equiv_x$  is called a *set* (or *0-groupoid* or *h-set*) if for every pair  $a, b : X$  of elements of type  $X$  there is at most one proof of  $a \equiv_x b$ . This notion is formalized in the Type Topology library as follows:

```
is-set : U · → U ·
is-set X = (x y : X) → is-subsingleton (x ≡ y)
```

where

```
is-subsingleton : U · → U ·
is-subsingleton X = (x y : X) → x ≡ y
```

Truncation is used in various places in the UALib, and it is required in the proof of Birkhoff’s theorem. Consult [5, §34-35] or [8, §7.1] for more details.

## A.7 Inverses, Epics and Monics

This section describes some of the more important parts of the `UALib.Prelude.Inverses` module. In § A.7.1, we define an inductive datatype that represents our semantic notion of the *inverse image* of a function. In § A.7.2 we define types for *epic* and *monic* functions. Finally, in Subsections A.8, we consider the type of *embeddings* (defined in [5, §26]), and determine how this type relates to our type of monic functions.

### A.7.1 Inverse image type

```

875 data Image_⊃_ : {A :  $\mathcal{U}$  · } {B :  $\mathcal{W}$  · } (f : A → B) : B →  $\mathcal{U} \sqcup \mathcal{W}$  ·
876   where
877     im : (x : A) → Image f ⊃ f x
878     eq : (b : B) → (a : A) → b ≡ f a → Image f ⊃ b
879

```

880 Note that an inhabitant of `Image f ⊃ b` is a dependent pair  $(a, p)$ , where  $a : A$  and  $p : b \equiv f a$   
881 is a proof that  $f$  maps  $a$  to  $b$ . Thus, a proof that  $b$  belongs to the image of  $f$  (i.e., an inhabitant  
882 of `Image f ⊃ b`), is always accompanied by a witness  $a : A$ , and a proof that  $b \equiv f a$ , so the  
883 inverse of a function  $f$  can actually be *computed* at every inhabitant of the image of  $f$ .  
884

885 We define an inverse function, which we call `Inv`, which, when given  $b : B$  and a proof  $(a, p) : \text{Image } f \ni b$   
886 that  $b$  belongs to the image of  $f$ , produces  $a$  (a preimage of  $b$  under  $f$ ).  
887

```

888 Inv : {A :  $\mathcal{U}$  · } {B :  $\mathcal{W}$  · } (f : A → B) (b : B) → Image f ⊃ b → A
889 Inv f .(f a) (im a) = a
890 Inv f _ (eq _ a _) = a

```

891 Thus, the inverse is computed by pattern matching on the structure of the third explicit argu-  
892 ment, which has (inductive) type `Image f ⊃ b`. Since there are two constructors, `im` and `eq`, that  
893 argument must take one of two forms. Either it has the form `im a` (in which case the second  
894 explicit argument is `.(f a)`),<sup>10</sup> or it has the form `eq b a p`, where  $p$  is a proof of  $b \equiv f a$ . (The  
895 underscore characters replace  $b$  and  $p$  in the definition since `Inv` doesn't care about them; it  
896 only needs to extract and return the preimage  $a$ ).  
897

898 We can formally prove that `Inv f` is the right-inverse of  $f$ , as follows. Again, we use pattern  
899 matching and structural induction.  
900

```

901 InvInv : {A :  $\mathcal{U}$  · } {B :  $\mathcal{W}$  · } (f : A → B)
902         (b : B) (b∈Imgf : Image f ⊃ b)
903         → f (Inv f b b∈Imgf) ≡ b
904 InvInv f .(f a) (im a) = refl _
905 InvInv f b (eq b a b≡fa) = b≡fa-1

```

907 Here we give names to all the arguments for readability, but most of them could be replaced  
908 with underscores.  
909

### A.7.2 Epic and monic function types

911 Given universes  $\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{W}$ , types  $A : \mathcal{U} \cdot$  and  $B : \mathcal{W} \cdot$ , and  $f : A \rightarrow B$ , we say that  $f$  is an *epic* (or  
912 *surjective*) *function from A to B* provided we can produce an element (or proof or witness) of  
913 type `Epic f`, where  
914

```

915 Epic : {A :  $\mathcal{U}$  · } {B :  $\mathcal{W}$  · } (f : A → B) →  $\mathcal{U} \sqcup \mathcal{W}$  ·
916 Epic f =  $\forall y \rightarrow \text{Image } f \ni y$ 

```

917 We obtain the (right-) inverse of an epic function  $f$  by applying the following function to  $f$  and  
918 a proof that  $f$  is epic.  
919  
920

<sup>10</sup>The dotted pattern is used when the form of the argument is forced... todo: fix this sentence

```

921   EpicInv : {A :  $\mathcal{U}$  · } {B :  $\mathcal{W}$  · }
922         (f : A → B) → Epic f
923   -----
924   →      B → A
925   EpicInv f p b = Inv f b (p b)

```

926 The function defined by **EpicInv**  $f$   $p$  is indeed the right-inverse of  $f$ , as we now prove.

```

927   EpicInvIsRightInv : funext  $\mathcal{W}$   $\mathcal{W}$  → {A :  $\mathcal{U}$  · } {B :  $\mathcal{W}$  · }
928         (f : A → B) (fE : Epic f)
929   -----
930   →      f ∘ (EpicInv f fE) ≡ id B
931   EpicInvIsRightInv f f fE = f (λ x → InvIsInv f x (fE x))

```

932 Similarly, we say that  $f : A \rightarrow B$  is a *monic* (or *injective*) function from  $A$  to  $B$  if we have  
 933 a proof of **Monic**  $f$ , where

```

934   Monic : {A :  $\mathcal{U}$  · } {B :  $\mathcal{W}$  · } (f : A → B) →  $\mathcal{U} \sqcup \mathcal{W}$  ·
935   Monic f = ∀ a1 a2 → f a1 ≡ f a2 → a1 ≡ a2

```

936 As one would hope and expect, the *left*-inverse of a monic function is derived from a proof  
 937  $p : \mathbf{Monic} \ f$  in a similar way. (See **MonicInv** and **MonicInvIsLeftInv** in [4, §2.3] for details.)

## 943 A.8 Monic functions are set embeddings

944 An *embedding*, as defined in [5, §26], is a function with *subsingleton fibers*. The meaning of this  
 945 will be clear from the definition, which involves the three functions **is-embedding**, **is-subsingleton**,  
 946 and **fiber**. The second of these is defined in (4); the other two are defined as follows.

```

947   is-embedding : {X :  $\mathcal{U}$  · } {Y :  $\mathcal{V}$  · } → (X → Y) →  $\mathcal{U} \sqcup \mathcal{V}$  ·
948   is-embedding f = (y : codomain f) → is-subsingleton (fiber f y)
949
950   fiber : {X :  $\mathcal{U}$  · } {Y :  $\mathcal{V}$  · } (f : X → Y) → Y →  $\mathcal{U} \sqcup \mathcal{V}$  ·
951   fiber f y = Σ x : domain f , f x ≡ y

```

952 This is not simply a *monic* function (§A.7.2), and it is important to understand why not.  
 953 Suppose  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is a monic function from  $X$  to  $Y$ , so we have a proof  $p : \mathbf{Monic} \ f$ . To prove  $f$   
 954 is an embedding we must show that for every  $y : Y$  we have **is-subsingleton** (**fiber**  $f$   $y$ ). That is,  
 955 for all  $y : Y$ , we must prove the following implication:

$$956 \frac{(x \ x' : X) \quad (p : f \ x \equiv y) \quad (q : f \ x' \equiv y) \quad (m : \mathbf{Monic} \ f)}{(x, p) \equiv (x', q)}$$

957 By  $m$ ,  $p$ , and  $q$ , we have  $r : x \equiv x'$ . Thus, in order to prove  $f$  is an embedding, we must somehow  
 958 show that the proofs  $p$  and  $q$  (each of which entails  $f \ x \equiv y$ ) are the same. However, there is  
 959 no axiom or deduction rule in MLTT to indicate that  $p \equiv q$  must hold; indeed, the two proofs  
 960 may differ.

961 One way we could resolve this is to assume that the codomain type,  $B$ , is a *set*, i.e., has  
 962 *unique identity proofs*. Recall the definition (3) of **is-set** from the Type Topology library. If the  
 963 codomain of  $f : A \rightarrow B$  is a set, and if  $p$  and  $q$  are two proofs of an equality in  $B$ , then  $p \equiv q$ ,  
 964 and we can use this to prove that a injective function into  $B$  is an embedding.

965

```

968   monic-into-set-is-embedding : {A :  $\mathcal{U}$  ·} {B :  $\mathcal{W}$  ·} → is-set B
969   → (f : A → B) → Monic f
970   -----
971   → is-embedding

```

972 We omit the formal proof for lack of space, but see [4, §2.3].  
973

## 974 A.9 Unary Relations (predicates)

975 We need a mechanism for implementing the notion of subsets in Agda. A typical one is called  
976 **Pred** (for predicate). More generally, **Pred** A  $\mathcal{U}$  can be viewed as the type of a property that  
977 elements of type A might satisfy. We write  $P : \text{Pred } A \mathcal{U}$  to represent the semantic concept of  
978 a collection of elements of type A that satisfy the property P. Here is the definition, which is  
979 similar to the one found in the `Relation/Unary.agda` file of the Agda Standard Library.  
980

```

981   Pred :  $\mathcal{U}$  · → ( $\mathcal{V}$  : Universe) →  $\mathcal{U} \sqcup \mathcal{V}^+$  ·
982   Pred A  $\mathcal{V}$  = A →  $\mathcal{V}$  ·

```

983 Below we will often consider predicates over the class of all algebras of a particular type. By  
984 definition, the inhabitants of the type **Pred** (**Algebra**  $\mathcal{U}$  S)  $\mathcal{U}$  are maps of the form  $\mathbf{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{U}$  ·.

985 In type theory everything is a type. As we have just seen, this includes subsets. Since  
986 the notion of equality for types is usually a nontrivial matter, it may be nontrivial to represent  
987 equality of subsets. Fortunately, it is straightforward to write down a type that represents what  
988 it means for two subsets to be equal in informal (pencil-paper) mathematics. In the UALib we  
989 denote this *subset equality* by  $=\cdot$  and define it as follows.<sup>11</sup>  
990  
991

```

992    $\_=\_$  : { $\mathcal{U} \mathcal{W} \mathcal{T}$  : Universe} {A :  $\mathcal{U}$  ·} → Pred A  $\mathcal{W}$  → Pred A  $\mathcal{T}$  →  $\mathcal{U} \sqcup \mathcal{W} \sqcup \mathcal{T}$  ·
993   P  $=\cdot$  Q = (P  $\subseteq$  Q) × (Q  $\subseteq$  P)

```

## 994 A.10 Binary Relations

995 In set theory, a binary relation on a set A is simply a subset of the product  $A \times A$ . As such,  
996 we could model these as predicates over the type  $A \times A$ , or as relations of type  $A \rightarrow A \rightarrow \mathcal{R}$  ·  
997 (for some universe  $\mathcal{R}$ ). A generalization of this notion is a binary relation is a *relation from A*  
998 *to B*, which we define first and treat binary relations on a single A as a special case.  
999

```

1000   REL : { $\mathcal{R}$  : Universe} →  $\mathcal{U}$  · →  $\mathcal{R}$  · → ( $\mathcal{N}$  : Universe) → ( $\mathcal{U} \sqcup \mathcal{R} \sqcup \mathcal{N}^+$ ) ·
1001   REL A B  $\mathcal{N}$  = A → B →  $\mathcal{N}$  ·

```

1002 The notions of reflexivity, symmetry, and transitivity are defined as one would hope and  
1003 expect, so we present them here without further explanation.

```

1004   reflexive : { $\mathcal{R}$  : Universe} {X :  $\mathcal{U}$  ·} → Rel X  $\mathcal{R}$  →  $\mathcal{U} \sqcup \mathcal{R}$  ·
1005   reflexive  $\_ \approx \_$  =  $\forall x \rightarrow x \approx x$ 
1006
1007   symmetric : { $\mathcal{R}$  : Universe} {X :  $\mathcal{U}$  ·} → Rel X  $\mathcal{R}$  →  $\mathcal{U} \sqcup \mathcal{R}$  ·
1008   symmetric  $\_ \approx \_$  =  $\forall x y \rightarrow x \approx y \rightarrow y \approx x$ 
1009

```

---

<sup>11</sup> Our notation and definition representing the semantic concept “x belongs to P,” or “x has property P,” is standard. We write either  $x \in P$  or  $P x$ . Similarly, the “subset” relation is denoted, as usual, with the  $\subseteq$  symbol (cf. in the Agda Standard Library). The relations  $\in$  and  $\subseteq$  are defined in the Agda UALib in a way similar to that found in the `Relation/Unary.agda` module of the Agda Standard Library. (See [4, §4.1.2].)

```

1010   transitive : { $\mathcal{R}$  : Universe} { $X$  :  $\mathcal{U}$  ·} → Rel  $X$   $\mathcal{R}$  →  $\mathcal{U} \sqcup \mathcal{R}$  ·
1011   transitive _≈_ =  $\forall x\ y\ z \rightarrow x \approx y \rightarrow y \approx z \rightarrow x \approx z$ 

```

## 1012 A.11 Kernels of functions

1013 The kernel of a function can be defined in many ways. For example,

```

1014
1015   KER : { $\mathcal{R}$  : Universe} { $A$  :  $\mathcal{U}$  ·} { $B$  :  $\mathcal{R}$  ·} → ( $A \rightarrow B$ ) →  $\mathcal{U} \sqcup \mathcal{R}$  ·
1016   KER { $\mathcal{R}$ } { $A$ }  $g = \Sigma x : A, \Sigma y : A, g\ x \equiv g\ y$ 

```

1017 or as a unary relation (predicate) over the Cartesian product,

```

1018   KER-pred : { $\mathcal{R}$  : Universe} { $A$  :  $\mathcal{U}$  ·} { $B$  :  $\mathcal{R}$  ·} → ( $A \rightarrow B$ ) → Pred ( $A \times A$ )  $\mathcal{R}$ 
1019   KER-pred  $g\ (x, y) = g\ x \equiv g\ y$ 

```

1022 or as a relation from  $A$  to  $B$ ,

```

1023   Rel :  $\mathcal{U}$  · → ( $\mathcal{N}$  : Universe) →  $\mathcal{U} \sqcup \mathcal{N}^+$  ·
1024   Rel  $A\ \mathcal{N} = \text{REL } A\ A\ \mathcal{N}$ 
1025
1026   KER-rel : { $\mathcal{R}$  : Universe} { $A$  :  $\mathcal{U}$  ·} { $B$  :  $\mathcal{R}$  ·} → ( $A \rightarrow B$ ) → Rel  $A\ \mathcal{R}$ 
1027   KER-rel  $g\ x\ y = g\ x \equiv g\ y$ 

```

## 1030 A.12 Equivalence Relations

1031 Types for equivalence relations are defined in the `UALib.Relations.Equivalences` module of the  
 1032 Agda UALib using a `record` type, as follows:

```

1033
1034   record IsEquivalence { $A$  :  $\mathcal{U}$  ·} (_≈_ : Rel  $A\ \mathcal{R}$ ) :  $\mathcal{U} \sqcup \mathcal{R}$  · where
1035     field
1036       rfl  : reflexive _≈_
1037       sym  : symmetric _≈_
1038       trans : transitive _≈_

```

1039 For example, here is how we construct an equivalence relation out of the kernel of a function.

```

1040   map-kernel-IsEquivalence : { $\mathcal{W}$  : Universe} { $A$  :  $\mathcal{U}$  ·} { $B$  :  $\mathcal{W}$  ·}
1041   (f :  $A \rightarrow B$ ) → IsEquivalence (KER-rel f)
1042
1043   map-kernel-IsEquivalence { $\mathcal{W}$ } f =
1044     record { rfl =  $\lambda x \rightarrow \text{refl}$ 
1045             ; sym =  $\lambda x\ y\ x_1 \rightarrow \equiv\text{-sym}\{\mathcal{W}\}\ (f\ x)\ (f\ y)\ x_1$ 
1046             ; trans =  $\lambda x\ y\ z\ x_1\ x_2 \rightarrow \equiv\text{-trans}\ (f\ x)\ (f\ y)\ (f\ z)\ x_1\ x_2$  }

```

## 1049 A.13 Relation truncation

1050 Here we discuss a special technical issue that will arise when working with quotients, specifically  
 1051 when we must determine whether two equivalence classes are equal. Given a binary relation<sup>12</sup>  
 1052  $P$ , it may be necessary or desirable to assume that there is at most one way to prove that a  
 1053 given pair of elements is  $P$ -related. This is an example of *proof-irrelevance*; indeed, under this

---

<sup>12</sup> Binary relations, as represented in Agda in general and the UALib in particular, are described in §A.10.

Standard Agda	Type Topology/UALib
<code>Level</code>	<code>Universe</code>
<code>ℳ : Level</code>	<code>ℳ : Universe</code>
<code>Set ℳ</code>	<code>ℳ ·</code>
<code>lsuc ℳ</code>	<code>ℳ +</code>
<code>Set (lsuc ℳ)</code>	<code>ℳ + ·</code>
<code>lzero</code>	<code>ℳ<sub>0</sub></code>
<code>Setω</code>	<code>ℳ<sub>ω</sub></code>

■ **Table 1** Special notation for universe levels

assumption, proofs of `P x y` are indistinguishable, or rather distinctions are irrelevant in given context.

In the UALib, the `is-subsingleton` type of Type Topology is used to express the assertion that a given type is a set, or *0-truncated*. Above we defined truncation for a type with an identity relation, but the general principle can be applied to arbitrary binary relations. Indeed, we say that `P` is a *0-truncated binary relation* on  $X$  if for all  $x y : X$  we have `is-subsingleton (P x y)`.

`Rel0 : ℳ · → (ℳ : Universe) → ℳ ⊔ ℳ + ·`  
`Rel0 A ℳ = Σ P : (A → A → ℳ ·) , ∀ x y → is-subsingleton (P x y)`

Thus, a *set*, as defined in §A.6, is a type  $X$  along with an equality relation  $\equiv$  of type `Rel0 X ℳ`, for some  $\mathcal{M}$ .

## A.14 Nonstandard notation and syntax

The notation we adopt is that of the Type Topology library of Martín Escardó. Here we give a few more details and a table (Table 1) which translates between standard Agda syntax and Type Topology/UALib notation.

Many occasions call for a the universe that is the least upper bound of two universes, say,  $\mathcal{U}$  and  $\mathcal{V}$ . This is denoted by  $\mathcal{U} \sqcup \mathcal{V}$  in standard Agda syntax, and in our notation the corresponding type is  $(\mathcal{U} \sqcup \mathcal{V}) \cdot$ , or, more simply,  $\mathcal{U} \sqcup \mathcal{V} \cdot$  (since  $\_ \sqcup \_$  has higher precedence than  $\_ \cdot$ ).

To justify the introduction of this somewhat nonstandard notation for universe levels, Escardó points out that the Agda library uses `Level` for universes (so what we write as  $\mathcal{U} \cdot$  is written `Set ℳ` in standard Agda), but in univalent mathematics the types in  $\mathcal{U} \cdot$  need not be sets, so the standard Agda notation can be misleading.

In addition to the notation described in §A.1 above, the level `lzero` is renamed  $\mathcal{U}_0$ , so  $\mathcal{U}_0 \cdot$  is an alias for `Set lzero`. (For those familiar the Lean proof assistant,  $\mathcal{U}_0 \cdot$  (i.e., `Set lzero`) is analogous to Lean’s `Sort 0`.)