

# A Machine-checked Proof of Birkhoff's Variety Theorem in Martin-Löf Type Theory

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## 1 Introduction

The Agda Universal Algebra Library ([agda-algebras](#)) is a collection of types and programs (theorems and proofs) formalizing the foundations of universal algebra in dependent type theory using the Agda programming language and proof assistant. The [agda-algebras](#) library now 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 [agda-algebras](#) project is a new formal proof of *Birkhoff's variety theorem* (also known as the *HSP theorem*), the first version of which was completed in January of 2021. To the best of our knowledge, this was the first time Birkhoff's theorem had been formulated and proved in dependent type theory and verified with a proof assistant.

In this paper, we present a single Agda module called [Demos.HSP](#). This module extracts only those parts of the library needed to prove Birkhoff's variety theorem. In order to meet page limit guidelines, and to reduce strain on the reader, we omit proofs of some routine or technical lemmas that do not provide much insight into the overall development. However, a long version of this paper, which includes all code in the [Demos.HSP](#) module, is available on the arXiv. [reference needed]

In the course of our exposition of the proof of the HSP theorem, we discuss some of the more challenging aspects of formalizing *universal algebra* in type theory and the issues that arise when attempting to constructively prove some of the basic results in this area. We demonstrate that dependent type theory and Agda, despite the demands they place on the user, are accessible to working mathematicians who have sufficient patience and a strong enough desire to constructively codify their work and formally verify the correctness of their results. Perhaps our presentation will be viewed as a sobering glimpse of the painstaking process of doing mathematics in the languages of dependent type theory using the Agda proof assistant. Nonetheless we hope to make a compelling case for investing in these technologies. Indeed, we are excited to share the gratifying rewards that come with some mastery of type theory and interactive theorem proving.

### 1.1 Prior art

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

1. In [2], Capretta formalized the basics of universal algebra in the Calculus of Inductive Constructions using the Coq proof assistant;
2. In [4], Spitters and van der Weegen formalized the basics of universal algebra and some classical algebraic structures, also in the Calculus of Inductive Constructions using the Coq proof assistant and promoting the use of type classes;



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3. In [3] Gunther, et al developed what was (prior to the `agda-algebras` library) the most extensive library of formalized universal algebra to date; like `agda-algebras`, that work is based on dependent type theory, is programmed in Agda, and goes beyond the Noether isomorphism theorems to include some basic equational logic; although the coverage is less extensive than that of `agda-algebras`, Gunther et al do treat *multisorted* algebras, whereas `agda-algebras` is currently limited to single sorted structures.
4. Lynge and Spitters [Lynge:2019] (2019) formalize basic, mutisorted universal algebra, up to the Noether isomorphism theorems, in homotopy type theory; in this setting, the authors can avoid using setoids by postulating a strong extensionality axiom called *univalence*.

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, the goals of these efforts seem to be the formalization of special classical algebraic structures, as opposed to the general theory of (universal) algebras. Moreover, the part of universal algebra and equational logic formalized in the `agda-algebras` library extends beyond the scope of prior efforts.

## 2 Preliminaries

### 2.1 Logical foundations

An Agda program typically begins by setting some language options and by importing types from existing Agda libraries. The language options are specified using the `OPTIONS pragma` which affect control the way Agda behaves by controlling the deduction rules that are available to us and the logical axioms that are assumed when the program is type-checked by Agda to verify its correctness. Every Agda program in the `agda-algebras` library, including the present module (`Demos.HSP`), begins with the following line.

```
{-# OPTIONS -without-K -exact-split -safe #-}
```

We give only very terse descriptions of these options, and refer the reader to the accompanying links for more details.

- *without-K* disables Streicher’s *K* axiom. See the section on axiom *K* in the Agda Language Reference Manual [5].
- *exact-split* makes Agda accept only those definitions that behave like so-called *judgmental* equalities. See the Pattern matching and equality section of the Agda Tools documentation [7].
- *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 the `cmdoption-safe` section of the Agda Tools documentation and the Safe Agda section of the Agda Language Reference [6].

The `OPTIONS` pragma is usually followed by the start of a module and a list of import directives. For example, the collection of imports required for the present module, `Demos.HSP`, is relatively modest and appears below.

```
- Import 3 definitions from the agda-algebras library.
open import Algebras.Basic using ( Ⓞ ; ℳ ; Signature )
```

```

– Import 16 definitions from the Agda Standard Library.
open import Data.Unit.Polymorphic      using ( ⊤ ; tt )
open import Function                   using ( id ; flip ; _∘_ )
open import Level                      using ( Level )
open import Relation.Binary            using ( Rel ; Setoid ; IsEquivalence )
open import Relation.Binary.Definitions using ( Reflexive ; Symmetric )
                                      using ( Transitive ; Sym ; Trans )
open import Relation.Binary.PropositionalEquality using ( _≡_ )
open import Relation.Unary             using ( Pred ; _⊆_ ; _∈_ )

– Import 23 definitions from the Agda Standard Library and rename 12 of them.
open import Agda.Primitive renaming ( Set to Type ) using ( _⊔_ ; Isuc )
open import Data.Product  renaming ( proj₁ to fst )
                           renaming ( proj₂ to snd ) using ( _×_ ; _-_- ; Σ ; Σ-syntax )
open import Function      renaming ( Func to _→_ ) using ( Injection ; Surjection )
open                      renaming ( f to _⟨$⟩_ ) using ( cong )
open                      renaming ( refl to refls )
                           renaming ( sym to syms )
                           renaming ( trans to transs )
                           renaming ( _≈_ to _≈s_ ) using ( Carrier ; isEquivalence )
open                      renaming ( refl to refle )
                           renaming ( sym to syme )
                           renaming ( trans to transe ) using ( )

– Assign handles to 3 modules of the Agda Standard Library.
import Function.Definitions as FD
import Relation.Binary.PropositionalEquality as ≡
import Relation.Binary.Reasoning.Setoid as SetoidReasoning

```

Note that the above imports include some of the minor adjustments to “standard Agda” syntax to suite our own taste. Take special note of the following conventions used throughout the `agda-algebras` library and this paper: we use `Type` in place of `Set`, the infix long arrow symbol, `_→_`, instead of `Func` (the type of “setoid functions” discussed in §2.3 below), and the symbol `_⟨$⟩_` in place of `f` (application of the map of a setoid function); we use `fst` and `snd`, and sometimes `|_|` and `||_|`, to denote the first and second projections out of the product type `_×_`.

## 2.2 Setoids

A *setoid* is a pair  $(A, \approx)$  where  $A$  is a type and  $\approx$  is an equivalence relation on  $A$ . Setoids seem to have gotten a bad wrap in some parts of the interactive theorem proving community because of the extra overhead that their use requires. However, we feel they are ideally suited to the task of representing the basic objects of informal mathematics (i.e., sets) in a constructive, type-theoretic way.

A set used informally typically comes equipped with an equivalence relation manifesting the notion of equality of elements of the set. When working informally, we often take the equivalence for granted or view it as self-evident; rarely do we take the time to define it explicitly. While this approach is well-suited to informal mathematics, formalization using a machine demands that we make nearly everything explicit, including notions of equality.

Actually, the `agda-algebras` library was first developed without setoids, relying exclusively on the inductively defined equality type `_≡_` from `Agda.Builtin.Equality`, along with some experimental, domain-specific types for equivalence classes, quotients, etc. One notable consequence of this design decision was that our formalization of many theorems required postulating function extensionality, an axiom that is not provable in pure Martin-Löf type theory (MLTT). [reference needed]

In contrast, our current approach using setoids makes the equality relation of a given type explicit. A primary motivation for taking this approach is to make it clear that the library is fully constructive and confined to pure Martin-Löf dependent type theory (as defined, e.g., in [ref needed]). In particular, there are no appeals to function extensionality in the present work. Finally, we are confident that the current version<sup>1</sup> of the `agda-algebras` library is free of hidden assumptions or inconsistencies that could be used to “fool” the type-checker.

### 2.3 Setoid functions

In addition to the `Setoid` type, much of our code employs the standard library’s `Func` type which represents a function from one setoid to another and packages such a function with a proof (called `cong`) that the function respects the underlying setoid equalities. As mentioned above, we renamed `Func` to the more visually appealing infix long arrow symbol, `_→_`, and throughout the paper we refer to inhabitants of this type as “setoid functions.”

#### Inverses of setoid functions

We begin by defining an inductive type that represents the semantic concept of the *image* of a function.<sup>2</sup>

```
module _ {A : Setoid α ρa} {B : Setoid β ρb} where
  open Setoid B using ( _≈_ ; sym ) renaming ( Carrier to B )

  data Image_⊃_ (f : A → B) : B → Type (α ⊔ β ⊔ ρb) where
    eq : {b : B} → ∀ a → b ≈ f ($) a → Image f ⊃ b
```

An inhabitant of `Image f ⊃ b` is a dependent pair  $(a, p)$ , where  $a : A$  and  $p : b ≈ f a$  is a proof that  $f$  maps  $a$  to  $b$ . Since the proof that  $b$  belongs to the image of  $f$  is always accompanied by a witness  $a : A$ , we can actually *compute* a range-restricted right-inverse of  $f$ . For convenience, we define this inverse function and give it the name `Inv`.

```
Inv : (f : A → B) {b : B} → Image f ⊃ b → Carrier A
Inv _ (eq a _) = a
```

For each  $b : B$ , given a pair  $(a, p) : Image f ⊃ b$  witnessing the fact that  $b$  belongs to the image of  $f$ , the function `Inv` simply returns the witness  $a$ , which is a preimage of  $b$  under  $f$ . We can formally verify that `Inv f` is indeed the (range-restricted) right-inverse of  $f$ , as follows.

```
InvIsInverser : {f : A → B} {b : B} (q : Image f ⊃ b) → f ($) (Inv f q) ≈ b
InvIsInverser (eq _ p) = sym p
```

<sup>1</sup> [ref. with version information needed]

<sup>2</sup> cf. the `Overture.Func.Inverses` module of the `agda-algebras` library.

## Injective and surjective setoid functions

If  $f$  is a setoid function from  $(A, \approx_0)$  to  $(B, \approx_1)$ , then we call  $f$  *injective* provided  $\forall (a_0 a_1 : A), f \langle \$ \rangle a_0 \approx_1 f \langle \$ \rangle a_1$  implies  $a_0 \approx_0 a_1$ ; we call  $f$  *surjective* provided  $\forall (b : B), \exists (a : A)$  such that  $f \langle \$ \rangle a \approx_1 b$ . The [Agda Standard Library](#) represents injective functions on bare types by the type [Injective](#), and uses this to define the [IsInjective](#) type to represent the property of being an injective setoid function. Similarly, the type [IsSurjective](#) represents the property of being a surjective setoid function. [SurjInv](#) represents the *right-inverse* of a surjective function. We omit the relatively straightforward formal definitions of these types, but see the unabridged version of this paper for the complete formalization, as well as formal proofs of some of their properties.

## Kernels of setoid functions

The *kernel* of a function  $f : A \rightarrow B$  (where  $A$  and  $B$  are bare types) is defined informally by  $\{(x, y) \in A \times A : f x = f y\}$ . This can be represented in Agda in a number of ways, but for our purposes it is most convenient to define the kernel as an inhabitant of a (unary) predicate over the square of the function's domain, as follows.

```
kernel : {A : Type α}{B : Type β} → Rel B ρ → (A → B) → Pred (A × A) ρ
kernel _≈_ f (x , y) = f x ≈ f y
```

The kernel of a *setoid* function  $f : A \longrightarrow B$  is  $\{(x, y) \in A \times A : f \langle \$ \rangle x \approx f \langle \$ \rangle y\}$ , where  $\_ \approx \_$  denotes equality in  $B$ . This can be formalized in Agda as follows.

```
module _ {A : Setoid α ρa}{B : Setoid β ρb} where
  open Setoid A using () renaming (Carrier to A)

  ker : (A → B) → Pred (A × A) ρb
  ker g (x , y) = g ⟨$⟩ x ≈ g ⟨$⟩ y where open Setoid B using ( _≈_ )
```

## 3 Types for Basic Universal Algebra

In this section we develop a working vocabulary and formal types for classical, single-sorted, set-based universal algebra. We cover a number of important concepts, but we limit ourselves to those concepts required in our formal proof of Birkhoff's HSP theorem. In each case, we give a type-theoretic version of the informal definition, followed by a formal implementation of the definition in Martin-Löf dependent type theory using the Agda language.

This section is organized into the following subsections: §3.1 defines a general notion of *signature* of a structure and then defines a type that represent signatures; §3.2 does the same for *algebraic structures* and *product algebras*; §3.3 defines *homomorphisms*, *monomorphisms*, and *epimorphisms*, presents types that codify these concepts and formally verifies some of their basic properties; §§3.4–3.5 do the same for *subalgebras* and *terms*, respectively.

### 3.1 Signatures

In model theory, the *signature*  $S = (C, F, R, \rho)$  of a structure consists of three (possibly empty) sets  $C$ ,  $F$ , and  $R$ —called *constant*, *function*, and *relation* symbols, respectively—along with a function  $\rho : C + F + R \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  that assigns an *arity* to each symbol. Often, but not always,  $\mathbb{N}$  is taken to be the set of natural numbers.

As our focus here is universal algebra, we are more concerned with the restricted notion of an *algebraic signature*, that is, a signature for “purely algebraic” structures. Such a signature is a pair  $S = (F, \rho)$  where  $F$  is a collection of *operation symbols* and  $\rho : F \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  is an *arity function* which maps each operation symbol to its arity. Here,  $\mathbb{N}$  denotes the *arity type*. Heuristically, the arity  $\rho f$  of an operation symbol  $f \in F$  may be thought of as the number of arguments that  $f$  takes as “input.”

The `agda-algebras` library represents an (algebraic) signature as an inhabitant of the following dependent pair type:

```
Signature : (ℳ ℳ : Level) → Type (lsuc (ℳ ⊔ ℳ))
Signature ℳ ℳ = Σ[ F ∈ Type ℳ ] (F → Type ℳ)
```

Using special syntax for the first and second projections—`|_` and `||_||` (resp.)—if  $S : \text{Signature } \mathcal{M} \mathcal{V}$  is a signature, then  $| S |$  denotes the set of operation symbols and  $|| S ||$  denotes the arity function. Thus, if  $f : | S |$  is an operation symbol in the signature  $S$ , then  $|| S || f$  is the arity of  $f$ .

We need to augment the ordinary `Signature` type so that it supports algebras over setoid domains. To do so, we follow Andreas Abel’s lead [ref needed] and define an operator that translates an ordinary signature into a *setoid signature*, that is, a signature over a setoid domain. This raises a minor technical issue concerning the dependent types involved in the definition; some readers might find the resolution of this issue instructive, so let’s discuss it.

Suppose we are given two operations  $f$  and  $g$ , a tuple  $u : || S || f \rightarrow A$  of arguments for  $f$ , and a tuple  $v : || S || g \rightarrow A$  of arguments for  $g$ . If we know that  $f$  is identically equal to  $g$ —that is,  $f \equiv g$  (intensionally)—then we should be able to check whether  $u$  and  $v$  are pointwise equal. Technically, though,  $u$  and  $v$  inhabit different types, so, before comparing them, we must first convince Agda that  $u$  and  $v$  inhabit the same type. Of course, this requires an appeal to the hypothesis  $f \equiv g$ , as we see in the definition of `EqArgs` below (adapted from Andreas Abel’s development [ref needed]), which neatly resolves this minor technicality.

```
EqArgs : {S : Signature ℳ ℳ} {ξ : Setoid α ρa}
→      ∀ {f g} → f ≡ g → (|| S || f → Carrier ξ) → (|| S || g → Carrier ξ) → Type (ℳ ⊔ ρa)

EqArgs {ξ = ξ} ≡ .refl u v = ∀ i → u i ≈ v i where open Setoid ξ using ( _≈_ )
```

Finally, we are ready to define an operator which translates an ordinary (algebraic) signature into a signature of algebras over setoids. We denote this operator by `<_>` and define it as follows.

```
<_> : Signature ℳ ℳ → Setoid α ρa → Setoid _ _

Carrier (< S > ξ)          = Σ[ f ∈ | S | ] (|| S || f → ξ .Carrier)
_≈s_ (< S > ξ)(f, u)(g, v) = Σ[ eqv ∈ f ≡ g ] EqArgs{ξ = ξ} eqv u v

refle (isEquivalence (< S > ξ))          = ≡.refl , λ i → refls ξ
syme (isEquivalence (< S > ξ)) (≡.refl, g) = ≡.refl , λ i → syms ξ (g i)
transe (isEquivalence (< S > ξ)) (≡.refl, g)(≡.refl, h) = ≡.refl , λ i → transs ξ (g i) (h i)
```

### 3.2 Algebras

Informally, an *algebraic structure in the signature*  $S = (F, \rho)$  (or *S-algebra*) is denoted by  $\mathbf{A} = (A, F^A)$  and consists of

- a *nonempty* set (or type)  $\mathbf{A}$ , called the *domain* of the algebra;
  - a collection  $F^A := \{ f^A \mid f \in F, f^A : (\rho f \rightarrow A) \rightarrow A \}$  of *operations* on  $\mathbf{A}$ ;
  - a (potentially empty) collection of *identities* satisfied by elements and operations of  $\mathbf{A}$ .
- The `agda-algebras` library represents algebras as the inhabitants of a record type with two fields:

- **Domain**, representing the domain of the algebra;
- **Interp**, representing the *interpretation* in the algebra of each operation symbol in  $S$ .

The **Domain** is actually a setoid whose **Carrier** denotes the carrier of the algebra and whose equivalence relation denotes equality of elements of the domain.

Here is the definition of the **Algebra** type followed by an explanation of how the standard library’s **Func** type is used to represent the interpretation of operation symbols in an algebra.

```
record Algebra α ρ : Type (ℓ ⊔ ℓ' ⊔ Isuc (α ⊔ ρ)) where
  field Domain : Setoid α ρ
  Interp      : ⟨ S ⟩ Domain → Domain
```

Recall, we renamed Agda’s **Func** type, preferring instead the long-arrow symbol  $\longrightarrow$ , so the **Interp** field has type **Func**  $(\langle S \rangle \text{Domain}) \text{Domain}$ , a record type with two fields:

- a function  $f : \text{Carrier } (\langle S \rangle \text{Domain}) \rightarrow \text{Carrier Domain}$  representing the operation;
- a proof **cong** :  $f \text{ Preserves } \_ \approx_1 \_ \longrightarrow \_ \approx_2 \_$  that the operation preserves the relevant setoid equalities.

Thus, for each operation symbol in the signature  $S$ , we have a setoid function  $f$ —with domain a power of **Domain** and codomain **Domain**—along with a proof that this function respects the setoid equalities. The latter means that the operation  $f$  is accompanied by a proof of the following:  $\forall u v \text{ in } \text{Carrier } (\langle S \rangle \text{Domain}), \text{ if } u \approx_1 v, \text{ then } f \langle \$ \rangle u \approx_2 f \langle \$ \rangle v$ .

In the `agda-algebras` library is defined some syntactic sugar that helps to make our formalizations easier to read and comprehend. The following are three examples of such syntax that we use below: if  $\mathbf{A}$  is an algebra, then

- $\mathbb{D}[\mathbf{A}]$  denotes the setoid **Domain**  $\mathbf{A}$ ,
- $\mathbb{U}[\mathbf{A}]$  is the underlying carrier of the algebra  $\mathbf{A}$ , and
- $f^\wedge \mathbf{A}$  denotes the interpretation in the algebra  $\mathbf{A}$  of the operation symbol  $f$ .

We omit the straightforward formal definitions of these types, but see the unabridged version of this paper for the complete formalization.

## Product Algebras

We give an informal description of the *product* of a family of  $S$ -algebras and then define a type which formalizes this notion.

Let  $\iota$  be a universe and  $I : \text{Type } \iota$  a type (which, in the present context, we might refer to as the “indexing type”). Then the dependent function type  $\mathcal{A} : I \rightarrow \text{Algebra } \alpha \rho^a$  represents an *indexed family of algebras*. Denote by  $\prod \mathcal{A}$  the *product of algebras* in  $\mathcal{A}$  (or *product algebra*), by which we mean the algebra whose domain is the Cartesian product  $\prod i : I, \mathbb{D}[\mathcal{A} i]$  of the domains of the algebras in  $\mathcal{A}$ , and whose operations are those arising by point-wise interpretation in the obvious way: if  $f$  is a  $J$ -ary operation symbol and if  $a : \prod i : I, J \rightarrow \mathbb{D}[\mathcal{A} i]$  is, for each  $i : I$ , a  $J$ -tuple of elements of the domain  $\mathbb{D}[\mathcal{A} i]$ , then we define the interpretation of  $f$  in  $\prod \mathcal{A}$  by  $(f^\wedge \prod \mathcal{A}) a := \lambda (i : I) \rightarrow (f^\wedge \mathcal{A} i)(a i)$ .

The `agda-algebras` library defines a function called  $\prod$  which formalizes the foregoing notion of *product algebra* in Martin-Löf type theory. Here we merely display this function’s interface, but see the `Algebras.Func.Products` module for the complete definition.



```

module _ { $\iota$  : Level} {I : Type  $\iota$ } where
   $\sqcap$  : ( $\mathcal{A}$  : I  $\rightarrow$  Algebra  $\alpha$   $\rho^a$ )  $\rightarrow$  Algebra ( $\alpha \sqcup \iota$ ) ( $\rho^a \sqcup \iota$ )

```

### 3.3 Homomorphisms

Suppose  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\mathbf{B}$  are  $S$ -algebras. A *homomorphism* (or “hom”) from  $\mathbf{A}$  to  $\mathbf{B}$  is a setoid function  $h : \mathbb{D}[\mathbf{A}] \rightarrow \mathbb{D}[\mathbf{B}]$  that is *compatible* (or *commutes*) with all basic operations; that is, for every operation symbol  $f : |S|$  and all tuples  $a : \|S\| f \rightarrow \mathbb{D}[\mathbf{A}]$ , the following equality holds:  $h \langle \$ \rangle (f \hat{\ } \mathbf{A}) a \approx (f \hat{\ } \mathbf{B}) \lambda x \rightarrow h \langle \$ \rangle (a \times)$ .

To formalize this concept in Agda, we first define a type `compatible-map-op` representing the assertion that a given setoid function  $h : \mathbb{D}[\mathbf{A}] \rightarrow \mathbb{D}[\mathbf{B}]$  commutes with a given basic operation  $f$ .

```

module _ ( $\mathbf{A}$  : Algebra  $\alpha$   $\rho^a$ ) ( $\mathbf{B}$  : Algebra  $\beta$   $\rho^b$ ) where
  compatible-map-op : ( $\mathbb{D}[\mathbf{A}] \rightarrow \mathbb{D}[\mathbf{B}]$ )  $\rightarrow$  |S|  $\rightarrow$  Type _
  compatible-map-op h f =  $\forall \{a\} \rightarrow h \langle \$ \rangle (f \hat{\ } \mathbf{A}) a \approx (f \hat{\ } \mathbf{B}) \lambda x \rightarrow h \langle \$ \rangle (a \times)$ 
  where open Setoid  $\mathbb{D}[\mathbf{B}]$  using (  $\_ \approx \_$  )

```

Generalizing over operation symbols gives the following type of compatible maps from (the domain of)  $\mathbf{A}$  to (the domain of)  $\mathbf{B}$ .

```

compatible-map : ( $\mathbb{D}[\mathbf{A}] \rightarrow \mathbb{D}[\mathbf{B}]$ )  $\rightarrow$  Type _
compatible-map h =  $\forall \{f\} \rightarrow$  compatible-map-op h f

```

With this we define a record type `IsHom` representing the property of being a homomorphism, and finally the type `hom` of homomorphisms from  $\mathbf{A}$  to  $\mathbf{B}$ .

```

record IsHom (h :  $\mathbb{D}[\mathbf{A}] \rightarrow \mathbb{D}[\mathbf{B}]$ ) : Type ( $\mathcal{O} \sqcup \mathcal{V} \sqcup \alpha \sqcup \rho^b$ ) where
  constructor mkhom ; field compatible : compatible-map h

hom : Type _
hom =  $\Sigma (\mathbb{D}[\mathbf{A}] \rightarrow \mathbb{D}[\mathbf{B}])$  IsHom

```

Observe that an inhabitant of `hom` is a pair  $(h, p)$  whose first component is a setoid function from the domain of  $\mathbf{A}$  to that of  $\mathbf{B}$  and whose second component is  $p : \text{IsHom } h$ , a proof that  $h$  is a homomorphism.

A *monomorphism* (resp. *epimorphism*) is an injective (resp. surjective) homomorphism. The `agda-algebras` library defines types `IsMon` and `IsEpi` to represent these properties, as well as `mon` and `epi`, the types of monomorphisms and epimorphisms, respectively. We won’t reproduce the formal definitions of these types here, but see the unabridged version of this paper for the complete formalization.

The composition of homomorphisms is again a homomorphism, and similarly for epimorphisms (and monomorphisms). The proofs of these facts are relatively straightforward so we omit them. When applied below, they are called `o-hom` and `o-epi`.

Another basic but important fact about homomorphisms is the following factorization theorem: if  $g : \text{hom } \mathbf{A} \mathbf{B}$ ,  $h : \text{hom } \mathbf{A} \mathbf{C}$ ,  $h$  is surjective, and  $\ker h \subseteq \ker g$ , then there exists  $\varphi : \text{hom } \mathbf{C} \mathbf{B}$  such that  $g = \varphi \circ h$ . The type `HomFactor`, defined below, formalizes this result in MLTT. Here we merely give a formal statement of this theorem.



```

module _ {A : Algebra α ρa}(B : Algebra β ρb){C : Algebra γ ρc}
  (gh : hom A B)(hh : hom A C) where
  open Setoid D[ B ] using () renaming ( _≈_ to _≈2_ )
  open Setoid D[ C ] using () renaming ( _≈_ to _≈3_ )
  private gfunc = | gh | ; g = _⟨$⟩_ gfunc ; hfunc = | hh | ; h = _⟨$⟩_ hfunc

  HomFactor : kernel _≈3_ h ⊆ kernel _≈2_ g
  →      IsSurjective hfunc
  →      Σ[ φ ∈ hom C B ] ∀ a → g a ≈2 | φ | ⟨$⟩ h a

```

Two structures are *isomorphic* provided there are homomorphisms going back and forth between them which compose to the identity map. The `agda-algebras` library's `_≅_` type codifies the definition of isomorphism, as well as some obvious consequences. Here we display only the core part of this record type, but see the unabridged version of this paper for the complete formalization or the `Homomorphisms.Func.Isomorphisms` module of the `agda-algebras` library.

```

module _ (A : Algebra α ρa) (B : Algebra β ρb) where
  open Setoid D[ A ] using ( _≈_ )
  open Setoid D[ B ] using () renaming ( _≈_ to _≈B_ )

  record _≅_ : Type (ℓ ⊔ ℳ ⊔ α ⊔ ρa ⊔ β ⊔ ρb) where
    constructor mkiso
    field
      to : hom A B
      from : hom B A
      to~from : ∀ b → | to | ⟨$⟩ (| from | ⟨$⟩ b) ≈B b
      from~to : ∀ a → | from | ⟨$⟩ (| to | ⟨$⟩ a) ≈ a

```

We conclude this section on homomorphisms with what seems, for our purposes, the most useful way to represent the class of *homomorphic images* of an algebra in dependent type theory. (The first function, `ov`, merely provides a handy shorthand for universe levels.)

```

ov : Level → Level
ov α = ℓ ⊔ ℳ ⊔ Isuc α

_IsHomImageOf_ : (B : Algebra β ρb)(A : Algebra α ρa) → Type _
B IsHomImageOf A = Σ[ φ ∈ hom A B ] IsSurjective | φ |

HomImages : Algebra α ρa → Type (α ⊔ ρa ⊔ ov (β ⊔ ρb))
HomImages {β = β}{ρb = ρb} A = Σ[ B ∈ Algebra β ρb ] B IsHomImageOf A

```

For future reference we record the fact that an algebra is its own homomorphic image.

```

IdHomImage : {A : Algebra α ρa} → A IsHomImageOf A
IdHomImage {α = α}{A = A} = id , λ {y} → Image_⊃_.eq y refl
  where open Setoid (Domain A) using ( refl )

```

### 3.4 Subalgebras

Given  $S$ -algebras  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\mathbf{B}$ , we say that  $\mathbf{A}$  is a *subalgebra* of  $\mathbf{A}$  and write  $\mathbf{A} \leq \mathbf{B}$  just in case  $\mathbf{A}$  can be *homomorphically embedded* in  $\mathbf{B}$ ; in other terms,  $\mathbf{A} \leq \mathbf{B}$  iff there exists a monomorphism  $h : \text{mon } \mathbf{A} \mathbf{B}$  from  $\mathbf{A}$  to  $\mathbf{B}$ .

The following definition codifies the binary subalgebra relation  $\_ \leq \_$  on the class of  $S$ -algebras in MLTT.

$\_ \leq \_ : \text{Algebra } \alpha \rho^a \rightarrow \text{Algebra } \beta \rho^b \rightarrow \text{Type } \_$   
 $\mathbf{A} \leq \mathbf{B} = \Sigma[ \mathbf{h} \in \text{hom } \mathbf{A} \mathbf{B} ] \text{IsInjective } | \mathbf{h} |$

Obviously the subalgebra relation is reflexive by the identity monomorphism, as well as transitive since composition of monomorphisms is a monomorphism. Here we merely give the formal statements, but omit the easy proofs, of these results.

$\leq\text{-reflexive} : \{ \mathbf{A} : \text{Algebra } \alpha \rho^a \} \rightarrow \mathbf{A} \leq \mathbf{A}$   
 $\leq\text{-transitive} : \{ \mathbf{A} : \text{Algebra } \alpha \rho^a \} \{ \mathbf{B} : \text{Algebra } \beta \rho^b \} \{ \mathbf{C} : \text{Algebra } \gamma \rho^c \}$   
 $\rightarrow \mathbf{A} \leq \mathbf{B} \rightarrow \mathbf{B} \leq \mathbf{C} \rightarrow \mathbf{A} \leq \mathbf{C}$

If  $\mathcal{A} : \mathbf{I} \rightarrow \text{Algebra } \alpha \rho^a$  and  $\mathcal{B} : \mathbf{I} \rightarrow \text{Algebra } \beta \rho^b$  are families of  $S$ -algebras such that  $\mathcal{B} \mathbf{i} \leq \mathcal{A} \mathbf{i}$  for every  $\mathbf{i} : \mathbf{I}$ , then  $\prod \mathcal{B}$  is a subalgebra of  $\prod \mathcal{A}$ . We omit the straightforward proof and merely assign the formalization of this result the name  $\prod\text{-}\leq$  for future reference. We conclude this brief subsection on subalgebras with two easy facts that will be useful later, when we prove the HSP theorem. The first merely converts a monomorphism into a pair in the subalgebra relation while the second is an algebraic invariance property of  $\_ \leq \_$ . (Proofs omitted.)

$\text{mon} \rightarrow \leq : \{ \mathbf{A} : \text{Algebra } \alpha \rho^a \} \{ \mathbf{B} : \text{Algebra } \beta \rho^b \} \rightarrow \text{mon } \mathbf{A} \mathbf{B} \rightarrow \mathbf{A} \leq \mathbf{B}$   
 $\cong\text{-trans}\leq : \{ \mathbf{A} : \text{Algebra } \alpha \rho^a \} \{ \mathbf{B} : \text{Algebra } \beta \rho^b \} \{ \mathbf{C} : \text{Algebra } \gamma \rho^c \}$   
 $\rightarrow \mathbf{A} \cong \mathbf{B} \rightarrow \mathbf{B} \leq \mathbf{C} \rightarrow \mathbf{A} \leq \mathbf{C}$

### 3.5 Terms

Fix a signature  $S$  and let  $\mathbf{X}$  denote an arbitrary nonempty collection of variable symbols. (The chosen collection of variable symbols is sometimes called the *context*.) Assume the symbols in  $\mathbf{X}$  are distinct from the operation symbols of  $S$ , that is  $\mathbf{X} \cap | S | = \emptyset$ .

A *word* in the language of  $S$  is a finite sequence of members of  $\mathbf{X} \cup | S |$ . We denote the concatenation of such sequences by simple juxtaposition. Let  $S_0$  denote the set of nullary operation symbols of  $S$ . We define by induction on  $n$  the sets  $T_n$  of *words* over  $\mathbf{X} \cup | S |$  as follows (cf. [1, Def. 4.19]):  $T_0 := \mathbf{X} \cup S_0$  and  $T_{n+1} := T_n \cup \mathcal{T}_n$ , where  $\mathcal{T}_n$  is the collection of all  $\mathbf{f} \mathbf{t}$  such that  $\mathbf{f} : | S |$  and  $\mathbf{t} : | S | \parallel \mathbf{f} \rightarrow T_n$ . (Recall,  $| S | \parallel \mathbf{f}$  is the arity of the operation symbol  $\mathbf{f}$ .) An  $S$ -term is a term in the language of  $S$  and the collection of all  $S$ -terms in the context  $\mathbf{X}$  is given by  $\text{Term } \mathbf{X} := \bigcup_n T_n$ .

As even its informal definition of  $\text{Term } \mathbf{X}$  is recursive, it should come as no surprise that the semantics of terms can be faithfully represented in type theory as an inductive type. Indeed, here is such a representation.

**data**  $\text{Term } (\mathbf{X} : \text{Type } \chi) : \text{Type } (\text{ov } \chi)$  **where**  
 $\mathbf{g} : \mathbf{X} \rightarrow \text{Term } \mathbf{X}$   
 $\text{node} : (\mathbf{f} : | S |)(\mathbf{t} : | S | \parallel \mathbf{f} \rightarrow \text{Term } \mathbf{X}) \rightarrow \text{Term } \mathbf{X}$

This is a very basic inductive type that represents each term as a tree with an operation symbol at each **node** and a variable symbol at each leaf ( $\mathbf{g}$ ); hence the constructor names ( $\mathbf{g}$  for “generator” and **node** for “node”). We will enrich this type with an inductive type  $\_ \simeq \_$  representing equality of terms, and then we will package up  $\text{Term}$ ,  $\_ \simeq \_$ , and a proof that

$\simeq$  is an equivalence relation into a setoid of  $S$ -terms. Ultimately we will use this term setoid as the domain of an algebra—the (absolutely free) *term algebra* in the signature  $S$ .

First, the equality-of-terms type is defined as follows.

```
module _ {X : Type χ} where

data _≡_ : Term X → Term X → Type (ov χ) where
  rfl : {x y : X} → x ≡ y → (g x) ≡ (g y)
  gnl : ∀ {f} {s t : || S || f → Term X} → (∀ i → (s i) ≡ (t i)) → (node f s) ≡ (node f t)
```

Next, we would show that equality of terms so defined is an equivalence relation, but the proof of this fact is trivial, so we omit it and merely give the fact a name; call it  $\simeq$ -isEquiv.

### The term algebra

For a given signature  $S$ , if the type  $\text{Term } X$  is nonempty (equivalently, if  $X$  or  $| S |$  is nonempty), then we can define an algebraic structure, denoted by  $\mathbf{T } X$  and called the *term algebra in the signature  $S$  over  $X$* . Terms are viewed as acting on other terms, so both the domain and basic operations of the algebra are the terms themselves.

For each operation symbol  $f : | S |$ , we denote by  $f^\wedge \mathbf{T } X$  the operation on  $\text{Term } X$  that maps each tuple of terms, say,  $t : || S || f \rightarrow \text{Term } X$ , to the formal term  $f t$ . We let  $\mathbf{T } X$  denote the term algebra in  $S$  over  $X$ ; it has universe  $\text{Term } X$  and operations  $f^\wedge \mathbf{T } X$ , one for each symbol  $f$  in  $| S |$ . Finally, we formalize this notion of term algebra in Agda as follows.

```
TermSetoid : (X : Type χ) → Setoid _ _
TermSetoid X = record { Carrier = Term X ; _≈_ = _≡_ ; isEquivalence = ≡-isEquiv }

T : (X : Type χ) → Algebra (ov χ) (ov χ)
Algebra.Domain (T X) = TermSetoid X
Algebra.Interp (T X) ($) (f , ts) = node f ts
cong (Algebra.Interp (T X)) (≡.refl , ss≃ts) = gnl ss≃ts
```

### Environments and the interpretation of terms therein

In this section, we formalize the notions *environment* and *interpretation of terms* in an algebra, evaluated in an environment. The approach to formalizing these notions, as well as the Agda code presented in this subsection, is based on similar code developed by Andreas Abel to formalize Birkhoff's completeness theorem.<sup>3</sup>

Fix a signature  $S$ , a context of variable symbols  $X$ , and an  $S$ -algebra  $\mathbf{A}$ . An *environment* for these data is a function  $\rho : X \rightarrow \mathbb{U}[\mathbf{A}]$  which assigns a value in the universe to each variable symbol in the context. We represent the notion of environment in Agda using a function,  $\text{Env}$ , which takes an algebra  $\mathbf{A}$  and a context  $X$  and returns a setoid whose **Carrier** has type  $X \rightarrow \mathbb{U}[\mathbf{A}]$  and whose equivalence relation is pointwise equality of functions in  $X \rightarrow \mathbb{U}[\mathbf{A}]$  (relative to the setoid equality of  $\mathbb{D}[\mathbf{A}]$ ).

Before defining the  $\text{Env}$  function (which will depend on a specific algebra) we first define a substitution from one context, say,  $X$ , to another  $Y$ , which assigns a term in  $X$  to each symbol in  $Y$ . The definition of  $\text{Sub}$  (which does not depend on a specific algebra) is a slight

<sup>3</sup> See <http://www.cse.chalmers.se/~abela/agda/MultiSortedAlgebra.pdf>.

modification of the one given by Andreas Abel (*op. cit.*), as is the recursive definition of the syntax  $t \ [ \ \sigma \ ]$ , which denotes a term  $t$  applied to a substitution  $\sigma$ .

```

Sub : Type  $\chi \rightarrow$  Type  $\chi \rightarrow$  Type  $\_$ 
Sub X Y = (y : Y)  $\rightarrow$  Term X

 $\llbracket \_ \rrbracket$  : {X Y : Type  $\chi$ } {t : Term Y} ( $\sigma$  : Sub X Y)  $\rightarrow$  Term X
( $g \ x$ )  $\llbracket \ \sigma \ \rrbracket$  =  $\sigma \ x$ 
(node f ts)  $\llbracket \ \sigma \ \rrbracket$  = node f ( $\lambda \ i \rightarrow$  ts i  $\llbracket \ \sigma \ \rrbracket$ )

```

Now we are ready to define the aforementioned environment function `Env` as well as the recursive function  `$\llbracket \_ \rrbracket$`  which defines the *interpretation* of a term in a given algebra, *evaluated* in a given environment. Since the next few definitions are relative to a certain fixed algebra, we put them inside a submodule called `Environment` so that later, when we load the environment, we can associate its definitions with different algebras.

```

module Environment (A : Algebra  $\alpha \ell$ ) where
  open Setoid  $\mathbb{D}[A]$  using (  $\_ \approx \_$  ; refl ; sym ; trans )
  Env : Type  $\chi \rightarrow$  Setoid  $\_$ 
  Env X = record { Carrier = X  $\rightarrow$   $\mathbb{U}[A]$ 
    ;  $\_ \approx \_$  =  $\lambda \ \rho \ \tau \rightarrow$  ( $x : X$ )  $\rightarrow \rho \ x \approx \tau \ x$ 
    ; isEquivalence = record { refl =  $\lambda \ \_ \rightarrow$  refl
    ; sym =  $\lambda \ h \ x \rightarrow$  sym (h x)
    ; trans =  $\lambda \ g \ h \ x \rightarrow$  trans (g x)(h x) }}

 $\llbracket \_ \rrbracket$  : {X : Type  $\chi$ } {t : Term X}  $\rightarrow$  (Env X)  $\rightarrow$   $\mathbb{D}[A]$ 
 $\llbracket \ g \ x \rrbracket \ \langle \$ \rangle \ \rho$  =  $\rho \ x$ 
 $\llbracket \ \text{node } f \ \text{args} \rrbracket \ \langle \$ \rangle \ \rho$  = (Interp A)  $\langle \$ \rangle$  (f ,  $\lambda \ i \rightarrow \llbracket \ \text{args } i \rrbracket \ \langle \$ \rangle \ \rho$ )
cong  $\llbracket \ g \ x \rrbracket \ u \approx v$  =  $u \approx v \ x$ 
cong  $\llbracket \ \text{node } f \ \text{args} \rrbracket \ x \approx y$  = cong (Interp A) ( $\equiv$ .refl ,  $\lambda \ i \rightarrow$  cong  $\llbracket \ \text{args } i \rrbracket \ x \approx y$  )

```

Two terms interpreted in  $A$  are proclaimed *equal* if they are equal for all environments. This equivalence of terms is formalized in Agda as follows.

```

Equal : {X : Type  $\chi$ } {s t : Term X}  $\rightarrow$  Type  $\_$ 
Equal {X = X} s t =  $\forall \ (\rho : \text{Carrier } (\text{Env } X)) \rightarrow \llbracket \ s \rrbracket \ \langle \$ \rangle \ \rho \approx \llbracket \ t \rrbracket \ \langle \$ \rangle \ \rho$ 

 $\simeq \rightarrow$  Equal : {X : Type  $\chi$ } {s t : Term X}  $\rightarrow$  s  $\simeq$  t  $\rightarrow$  Equal s t
 $\simeq \rightarrow$  Equal .( $g \ \_$ ) .( $g \ \_$ ) (rfl  $\equiv$ .refl) =  $\lambda \ \_ \rightarrow$  refl
 $\simeq \rightarrow$  Equal (node  $\_$  s) (node  $\_$  t) (gnl x) =
   $\lambda \ \rho \rightarrow$  cong (Interp A) ( $\equiv$ .refl ,  $\lambda \ i \rightarrow \simeq \rightarrow$  Equal (s i) (t i) (x i)  $\rho$  )

```

The proof that `Equal` is an equivalence relation is trivial, so we omit it.

A substitution from one context  $X$  to another  $Y$  is used to transport an environment from  $X$  to  $Y$  and the function  `$\llbracket \_ \rrbracket$`  (definition omitted) carries out this transportation of environments. An easy substitution lemma is that  $\llbracket \ t \ [ \ \sigma \ ] \rrbracket \ \langle \$ \rangle \ \rho$  (= the term  $t$  applied to a substitution  $\sigma$  and evaluated in an environment  $\rho$ ) is the same as  $\llbracket \ t \rrbracket \ \langle \$ \rangle \ (\llbracket \ \sigma \rrbracket s \ \rho)$  (= the term  $t$  evaluated in the  $\sigma$ -transported environment).

As the proof is a simple recursive argument, we merely display the formal statement of the lemma.

```

substitution : {X Y : Type  $\chi$ }  $\rightarrow$  (t : Term Y) ( $\sigma$  : Sub X Y) ( $\rho$  : Carrier (Env X))

```

$$\rightarrow \quad \llbracket t[\sigma] \rrbracket \langle \$ \rangle \rho \approx \llbracket t \rrbracket \langle \$ \rangle \llbracket \sigma \rrbracket s \rho$$

This concludes the definition of the `Environment` module (based on Abel’s Agda proof of the completeness theorem; *op. cit.*).

Later we will need two important facts about term operations. The first, called `comm-hom-term`, asserts that every term commutes with every homomorphism. The second, `interp-prod`, shows how to express the interpretation of a term in a product algebra. We omit the formal definitions and proofs of these types, but see the `Types.Func.Properties` module of the `agda-algebras` library for details.

## 4 Equational Logic

### Basic definitions

Given a signature  $S$  and a context of variable symbols  $X$ , a *term equation* or *identity* (in this signature and context) is an ordered pair  $(p, q)$  of  $S$ -terms. (Informally, such an equation is often denoted by  $p \approx q$ .) For instance, if the context is the type  $X : \text{Type } \chi$ , then a term equation is a pair inhabiting the Cartesian product type  $\text{Term } X \times \text{Term } X$ .

We say that the algebra  $\mathbf{A}$  *satisfies*  $p \approx q$  if for all environments  $\rho : X \rightarrow \mathbb{D}[\mathbf{A}]$  (assigning values in the domain of  $\mathbf{A}$  to variable symbols in  $X$ ) we have  $\llbracket p \rrbracket \langle \$ \rangle \rho \approx \llbracket q \rrbracket \langle \$ \rangle \rho$ . In other words, when they are interpreted in the algebra  $\mathbf{A}$ , the terms  $p$  and  $q$  are equal (no matter what values in  $\mathbf{A}$  are assigned to variable symbols in  $X$ ). 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  $\mathcal{K} \models p \approx q$  and say that  $\mathcal{K}$  *models* the identity  $p \approx q$  provided for every  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathcal{K}$ , we have  $\mathbf{A} \models p \approx q$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \_ \models \_ & : \text{Algebra } \alpha \rho^a \rightarrow \text{Term } \Gamma \rightarrow \text{Term } \Gamma \rightarrow \text{Type } \_ \\ \mathbf{A} \models p \approx q & = \text{Equal } p \ q \text{ where open Environment } \mathbf{A} \\ \_ \models \_ & : \text{Pred } (\text{Algebra } \alpha \rho^a) \ell \rightarrow \text{Term } \Gamma \rightarrow \text{Term } \Gamma \rightarrow \text{Type } \_ \\ \mathcal{K} \models p \approx q & = \forall \mathbf{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{K} \ \mathbf{A} \rightarrow \mathbf{A} \models p \approx q \end{aligned}$$

We represent a collection of identities as a predicate over pairs of terms—for example,  $\mathcal{E} : \text{Pred } (\text{Term } X \times \text{Term } X) \_$ —and we denote by  $\mathbf{A} \models \mathcal{E}$  the assertion that the algebra  $\mathbf{A}$  models every equation  $p \approx q$

$$\begin{aligned} \_ \models \_ & : (\mathbf{A} : \text{Algebra } \alpha \rho^a) \rightarrow \text{Pred } (\text{Term } \Gamma \times \text{Term } \Gamma) (\text{ov } \chi) \rightarrow \text{Type } \_ \\ \mathbf{A} \models \mathcal{E} & = \forall \{p \ q\} \rightarrow (p, q) \in \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \text{Equal } p \ q \text{ where open Environment } \mathbf{A} \end{aligned}$$

In (informal) equational logic, if  $\mathcal{K}$  is a class of structures and  $\mathcal{E}$  a set of term identities, then the set of term equations modeled by  $\mathcal{K}$  is denoted  $\text{Th } \mathcal{K}$  and called the *equational theory* of  $\mathcal{K}$ , while the class of structures modeling  $\mathcal{E}$  is denoted by  $\text{Mod } \mathcal{E}$  and is called the *equational class axiomatized* by  $\mathcal{E}$ . These notions may be formalize in type theory as follows.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Th} & : \{X : \text{Type } \chi\} \rightarrow \text{Pred } (\text{Algebra } \alpha \rho^a) \ell \rightarrow \text{Pred } (\text{Term } X \times \text{Term } X) \_ \\ \text{Th } \mathcal{K} & = \lambda (p, q) \rightarrow \mathcal{K} \models p \approx q \\ \text{Mod} & : \{X : \text{Type } \chi\} \rightarrow \text{Pred } (\text{Term } X \times \text{Term } X) \ell \rightarrow \text{Pred } (\text{Algebra } \alpha \rho^a) \_ \\ \text{Mod } \mathcal{E} \ \mathbf{A} & = \forall \{p \ q\} \rightarrow (p, q) \in \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \text{Equal } p \ q \text{ where open Environment } \mathbf{A} \end{aligned}$$

We represent entailment in type theory by defining an inductive type that is similar to the one Andreas Abel defined for formalizing Birkhoff's completeness theorem (*op. cit.*).

```

data _⊢_▷_≈_ (ℳ : {Y : Type} → Pred(Term Y × Term Y) (ov χ)) :
  (X : Type χ)(p q : Term X) → Type (ov χ) where

hyp      : ∀{Y}{p q : Term Y} → (p , q) ∈ ℳ → ℳ ⊢ _▷ p ≈ q
app      : ∀{Y}{ps qs : || S || f → Term Y}
          → (∀ i → ℳ ⊢ Y ▷ ps i ≈ qs i) → ℳ ⊢ Y ▷ (node f ps) ≈ (node f qs)
sub      : ∀{p q}      → ℳ ⊢ Γ ▷ p ≈ q → (σ : Sub Δ Γ) → ℳ ⊢ Δ ▷ (p [ σ ]) ≈ (q [ σ ])
reflexive : ∀{p}        → ℳ ⊢ Γ ▷ p ≈ p
symmetric : ∀{p q}      → ℳ ⊢ Γ ▷ p ≈ q → ℳ ⊢ Γ ▷ q ≈ p
transitive : ∀{p q r}   → ℳ ⊢ Γ ▷ p ≈ q → ℳ ⊢ Γ ▷ q ≈ r → ℳ ⊢ Γ ▷ p ≈ r

```

Entailment is *sound* in the following sense: if  $\mathcal{E}$  entails  $p \approx q$  and  $\mathbf{A} \models \mathcal{E}$ , then  $p \approx q$  holds in  $\mathbf{A}$ . In other terms, the derivation  $\mathcal{E} \vdash X \triangleright p \approx q$  implies that  $p \approx q$  holds in every model of  $\mathcal{E}$ . We will apply this result—called *sound* and borrowed from Andreas Abel's proof of Birkhoff's completeness theorem (*op. cit.*)—only once below, so we omit its straightforward formalization.

### The Closure Operators H, S, P and V

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

- $\mathbf{H} \mathcal{K}$  = algebras isomorphic to homomorphic images of members of  $\mathcal{K}$ ;
- $\mathbf{S} \mathcal{K}$  = algebras isomorphic to subalgebras of a members of  $\mathcal{K}$ ;
- $\mathbf{P} \mathcal{K}$  = algebras isomorphic to products of members of  $\mathcal{K}$ .

A straight-forward verification confirms that  $\mathbf{H}$ ,  $\mathbf{S}$ , and  $\mathbf{P}$  are *closure operators* (expansive, monotone, and idempotent). A class  $\mathcal{K}$  of  $S$ -algebras is said to be *closed under the taking of homomorphic images* provided  $\mathbf{H} \mathcal{K} \subseteq \mathcal{K}$ . Similarly,  $\mathcal{K}$  is *closed under the taking of subalgebras* (resp., *arbitrary products*) provided  $\mathbf{S} \mathcal{K} \subseteq \mathcal{K}$  (resp.,  $\mathbf{P} \mathcal{K} \subseteq \mathcal{K}$ ). The operators  $\mathbf{H}$ ,  $\mathbf{S}$ , and  $\mathbf{P}$  can be composed with one another repeatedly, forming yet more closure operators.

A *variety* is a class of  $S$ -algebras that is closed under the taking of homomorphic images, subalgebras, and arbitrary products. To represent varieties we define types for the closure operators  $\mathbf{H}$ ,  $\mathbf{S}$ , and  $\mathbf{P}$  that are composable. Separately, we define a type  $\mathbf{V}$  which represents closure under all three operators,  $\mathbf{H}$ ,  $\mathbf{S}$ , and  $\mathbf{P}$ . Thus, if  $\mathcal{K}$  is a class of  $S$ -algebras, then  $\mathbf{V} \mathcal{K} := \mathbf{H} (\mathbf{S} (\mathbf{P} \mathcal{K}))$ , and  $\mathcal{K}$  is a variety iff  $\mathbf{V} \mathcal{K} \subseteq \mathcal{K}$ .

We now define the type  $\mathbf{H}$  to represent classes of algebras that include all homomorphic images of algebras in the class—i.e., classes that are closed under the taking of homomorphic images—the type  $\mathbf{S}$  to represent classes of algebras that closed under the taking of subalgebras, and the type  $\mathbf{P}$  to represent classes of algebras closed under the taking of arbitrary products.

```

module _ {α ρa β ρb : Level} where
  private a = α ⊔ ρa

  H : ∀ ℓ → Pred(Algebra α ρa) (a ⊔ ov ℓ) → Pred(Algebra β ρb) _
  H _ ℳ B = Σ[ A ∈ Algebra α ρa ] A ∈ ℳ × B IsHomImageOf A

  S : ∀ ℓ → Pred(Algebra α ρa) (a ⊔ ov ℓ) → Pred(Algebra β ρb) _
  S _ ℳ B = Σ[ A ∈ Algebra α ρa ] A ∈ ℳ × B ≤ A

  P : ∀ ℓ ℓ' → Pred(Algebra α ρa) (a ⊔ ov ℓ) → Pred(Algebra β ρb) _

```

$$\mathbf{P} \_ \iota \mathcal{K} \mathbf{B} = \Sigma[ \mathbf{l} \in \mathbf{Type} \iota ] (\Sigma[ \mathcal{A} \in (\mathbf{l} \rightarrow \mathbf{Algebra} \alpha \rho^a) ] (\forall i \rightarrow \mathcal{A} i \in \mathcal{K}) \times (\mathbf{B} \cong \prod \mathcal{A}))$$

As mentioned,  $\mathbf{S}$  is a closure operator. The facts that  $\mathbf{S}$  is monotone and expansive won't be needed, so we omit their proofs. However, we do make use of idempotence of  $\mathbf{S}$ , so let us pause to prove that property here.

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{S}\text{-idem} : & \{ \mathcal{K} : \mathbf{Pred} (\mathbf{Algebra} \alpha \rho^a) (\alpha \sqcup \rho^a \sqcup \mathbf{ov} \ell) \} \\ \rightarrow & \mathbf{S} \{ \beta = \gamma \} \{ \rho^c \} (\alpha \sqcup \rho^a \sqcup \ell) (\mathbf{S} \{ \beta = \beta \} \{ \rho^b \} \ell \mathcal{K}) \subseteq \mathbf{S} \{ \beta = \gamma \} \{ \rho^c \} \ell \mathcal{K} \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathbf{S}\text{-idem} (\mathbf{A} , (\mathbf{B} , \mathbf{sB} , \mathbf{A} \leq \mathbf{B}) , \mathbf{x} \leq \mathbf{A}) = \mathbf{B} , (\mathbf{sB} , \leq\text{-transitive} \mathbf{x} \leq \mathbf{A} \mathbf{A} \leq \mathbf{B})$$

Finally, we define the *variety closure* of a class  $\mathcal{K}$  to be the class  $\mathbf{V} \mathcal{K} := \mathbf{H} (\mathbf{S} (\mathbf{P} \mathcal{K}))$ . (Recall,  $\mathcal{K}$  is called a *variety* if  $\mathbf{V} \mathcal{K} = \mathcal{K}$ .)

```
module _ {α ρa β ρb γ ρc δ ρd : Level} where
  private a = α ⊔ ρa ; b = β ⊔ ρb
```

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{V} : & \forall \ell \iota \rightarrow \mathbf{Pred} (\mathbf{Algebra} \alpha \rho^a) (\mathbf{a} \sqcup \mathbf{ov} \ell) \rightarrow \mathbf{Pred} (\mathbf{Algebra} \delta \rho^d) \_ \\ \mathbf{V} \ell \iota \mathcal{K} = & \mathbf{H} \{ \gamma \} \{ \rho^c \} \{ \delta \} \{ \rho^d \} (\mathbf{a} \sqcup \mathbf{b} \sqcup \ell \sqcup \iota) (\mathbf{S} \{ \beta \} \{ \rho^b \} (\mathbf{a} \sqcup \ell \sqcup \iota) (\mathbf{P} \ell \iota \mathcal{K})) \end{aligned}$$

The binary relation  $\models$  would be practically useless if it were not an *algebraic invariant* (i.e., invariant under isomorphism). Let us now verify that the models relation we defined above has this essential property.

```
module _ {X : Type χ} {A : Algebra α ρa} {B : Algebra β ρb} (p q : Term X) where
```

```

|=l-invar : A ⊨ p ≈ q → A ≅ B → B ⊨ p ≈ q
|=l-invar Apq (mkiso fh gh f~g g~f) ρ =
begin
  [ p ]    ⟨ $ ⟩ ρ                ≈~ ⟨ cong [ p ] (f~g ∘ ρ)          ⟩
  [ p ]    ⟨ $ ⟩ (f ∘ (g ∘ ρ)) ≈~ ⟨ comm-hom-term fh p (g ∘ ρ) ⟩
  f([ p ]A ⟨ $ ⟩ (g ∘ ρ))    ≈~ ⟨ cong | fh | (Apq (g ∘ ρ))      ⟩
  f([ q ]A ⟨ $ ⟩ (g ∘ ρ))    ≈~ ⟨ comm-hom-term fh q (g ∘ ρ)      ⟩
  [ q ]    ⟨ $ ⟩ (f ∘ (g ∘ ρ)) ≈~ ⟨ cong [ q ] (f~g ∘ ρ)          ⟩
  [ q ]    ⟨ $ ⟩ ρ            ■
where
  private f = _⟨ $ ⟩_ | fh | ; g = _⟨ $ ⟩_ | gh |
  open Environment A using () renaming ( [ ] to [ ]A )
  open Environment B using ( [ ] )
  open SetoidReasoning D[ B ]
```

Identities modeled by an algebra  $\mathbf{A}$  are also modeled by every subalgebra of  $\mathbf{A}$ . We will refer to this fact as  $\models\text{-S-invar}$ . We omit its proof since it is similar to the proof of  $\models\text{-l-invar}$ . Next, an identity satisfied by all algebras in an indexed collection is also satisfied by the product of algebras in that collection. We omit the formal proof of this fact, and refer to it as  $\models\text{-P-invar}$  below.

The classes  $\mathbf{H} \mathcal{K}$ ,  $\mathbf{S} \mathcal{K}$ ,  $\mathbf{P} \mathcal{K}$ , and  $\mathbf{V} \mathcal{K}$  all satisfy the same set of equations. We will only use a subset of the inclusions used to prove this fact. For complete proofs, see the `Varieties.Func.Preservation` module of the `agda-algebras` library. Specifically, we will cite the following facts, whose formal proofs we omit.



$\text{H-id1} : \mathcal{K} \models p \approx q \rightarrow (\text{H } \{\beta = \alpha\} \{\rho^a\} \ell \mathcal{K}) \models p \approx q$   
 $\text{S-id1} : \mathcal{K} \models p \approx q \rightarrow (\text{S } \{\beta = \alpha\} \{\rho^a\} \ell \mathcal{K}) \models p \approx q$   
 $\text{S-id2} : \text{S } \ell \mathcal{K} \models p \approx q \rightarrow \mathcal{K} \models p \approx q$   
 $\text{P-id1} : \forall \{\iota\} \rightarrow \mathcal{K} \models p \approx q \rightarrow \text{P } \{\beta = \alpha\} \{\rho^a\} \ell \iota \mathcal{K} \models p \approx q$   
 $\text{V-id1} : \mathcal{K} \models p \approx q \rightarrow \text{V } \ell \iota \mathcal{K} \models p \approx q$

## 5 Free Algebras

### The absolutely free algebra

The term algebra  $\mathbf{T} X$  is *absolutely free* (or *universal*, or *initial*) for algebras in the signature  $S$ . That is, for every  $S$ -algebra  $\mathbf{A}$ , the following hold.

- Every function from  $X$  to  $\mathbb{U}[\mathbf{A}]$  lifts to a homomorphism from  $\mathbf{T} X$  to  $\mathbf{A}$ .
- The homomorphism that exists by the previous item is unique.

We now prove the first of these facts in Agda.<sup>4</sup>

```

module _ {X : Type} {A : Algebra α ρa} (h : X → U[ A ]) where
  free-lift : U[ T X ] → U[ A ]
  free-lift (g x) = h x
  free-lift (node f t) = (f ^ A) (λ i → free-lift (t i))

  free-lift-func : D[ T X ] → D[ A ]
  free-lift-func ($) x = free-lift x
  cong free-lift-func = flcong
  where
    open Setoid D[ A ] using ( _≈_ ) renaming ( reflexive to reflexiveA )
    flcong : ∀ {s t} → s ≈ t → free-lift s ≈ free-lift t
    flcong (≈_ . rfl x) = reflexiveA (≡.cong h x)
    flcong (≈_ . gnl x) = cong (Interp A) (≡.refl , (λ i → flcong (x i)))

```

Naturally, at the base step of the induction, when the term has the form  $g x$ , the free lift of  $h$  agrees with  $h$ . For the inductive step, when the given term has the form  $\text{node } f t$ , the free lift is defined as follows: Assuming (the induction hypothesis) that we know the image of each subterm  $t i$  under the free lift of  $h$ , define the free lift at the full term by applying  $f ^ A$  to the images of the subterms. The free lift so defined is a homomorphism by construction. Indeed, here is the trivial proof.

```

lift-hom : hom (T X) A
lift-hom = free-lift-func , hhom
where
  hfunc : D[ T X ] → D[ A ]
  hfunc = free-lift-func

  hcomp : compatible-map (T X) A free-lift-func
  hcomp {f}{a} = cong (Interp A) (≡.refl , (λ i → (cong free-lift-func){a i} ≈-isRefl))

```

<sup>4</sup> For the proof of uniqueness, see the `Terms.Func.Properties` module of the `agda-algebras` library.

```

hhom : IsHom (T X) A hfunc
hhom = mkhom (λ{f}{a} → hcomp{f}{a})

module _ {X : Type} {χ : {A : Algebra α ρa} where
  open Setoid D[ A ] using ( _≈_ ; refl )
  open Environment A using ( [ ] )

  free-lift-interp : (η : X → U[ A ]) (p : Term X) → [ p ] ($) η ≈ (free-lift{A = A} η) p
  free-lift-interp η (g x) = refl
  free-lift-interp η (node f t) = cong (Interp A) (≡.refl , (free-lift-interp η) o t)

```

### The relatively free algebra in theory

In this subsection, we describe, for a given class  $\mathcal{K}$  of  $S$ -algebras, the *relatively free algebra* in  $\mathbf{S}(\mathbf{P} \mathcal{K})$  over  $X$ , using the standard, informal language that is typically used in mathematics literature. In the next section we will present the same material using Agda and the formal language of type theory.

Above we defined the term algebra  $\mathbf{T} X$ , which is free in the class of all  $S$ -algebras; that is,  $\mathbf{T} X$  has the universal property and belongs to the class of  $S$ -algebras. Given an arbitrary class  $\mathcal{K}$  of  $S$ -algebras, we can't expect that  $\mathbf{T} X$  belongs to  $\mathcal{K}$ , so, in general, we say that  $\mathbf{T} X$  is free *for*  $\mathcal{K}$ . Indeed, it might not be possible to find a free algebra that belongs to  $\mathcal{K}$ . However, for any class  $\mathcal{K}$  we can construct an algebra that is free *for*  $\mathcal{K}$  and belongs to the class  $\mathbf{S}(\mathbf{P} \mathcal{K})$ , and this often suffices.

The informal construction of the free algebra in  $\mathbf{S}(\mathbf{P} \mathcal{K})$ , for an arbitrary class  $\mathcal{K}$  of  $S$ -algebras, often proceeds by way of a quotient. We let  $\Theta := \bigcap \{ \theta \in \mathbf{Con}(\mathbf{T} X) : \mathbf{T} X / \theta \in \mathbf{S} \mathcal{K} \}$ ,<sup>5</sup> and define the *relatively free algebra over*  $X$  (relative to  $\mathcal{K}$ ) to be the quotient of  $\mathbf{T} X$  modulo the congruence  $\Theta$ , which we denote by  $\mathbb{F}[X] := \mathbf{T} X / \Theta$ . It's not hard to see that  $\mathbb{F}[X]$  is a subdirect product of the algebras in  $\{ \mathbf{T} X / \theta \}$ , where  $\theta$  ranges over all congruences modulo which  $\mathbf{T} X$  belongs to  $\mathbf{S} \mathcal{K}$ . Thus  $\mathbb{F}[X]$  belongs to  $\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{S} \mathcal{K}) \subseteq \mathbf{S}(\mathbf{P} \mathcal{K})$ , and it follows that  $\mathbb{F}[X]$  satisfies the identities in  $\mathbf{Th} \mathcal{K}$  (those modeled by all members of  $\mathcal{K}$ ). Indeed, for each pair  $p q : \mathbf{Term} X$ , if  $\mathcal{K} \models p \approx q$ , then  $p$  and  $q$  must belong to the same  $\Theta$ -class, so  $p$  and  $q$  are identified in  $\mathbb{F}[X]$ .

### The relatively free algebra in Agda

We now define the relatively free algebra in Agda using the language of type theory. Our approach will be different from the informal one described above in that we start with a set (or, rather, a type)  $\mathcal{E}$  of identities, instead of a class of algebras, and we avoid quotients altogether, in favor of setoids. The domain of the free algebra will be a setoid whose **Carrier** is the type  $\mathbf{Term} X$  of  $S$ -terms in  $X$  and whose equivalence relation will include all pairs  $(p, q) \in \mathbf{Term} X \times \mathbf{Term} X$  such that  $p \approx q$  is derivable from  $\mathcal{E}$ ; that is,  $\mathcal{E} \vdash X \triangleright p \approx q$ . Finally, the interpretation of an operation in the free algebra is simply the operation itself, which works since  $\mathcal{E} \vdash X \triangleright \_ \approx \_$  is a congruence relation.

```

module FreeAlgebra {χ : Level} {ℰ : {Y : Type} χ → Pred (Term Y × Term Y) (ov χ)} where

  FreeDomain : Type χ → Setoid _ _
  FreeDomain X =
    record { Carrier      = Term X

```

<sup>5</sup>  $\mathbf{Con}(\mathbf{T} X)$  is the set of congruences of  $\mathbf{T} X$ .

```

; _≈_ = ℳ ⊢ X ▷ _≈_
; isEquivalence = record { refl = reflexive ; sym = symmetric ; trans = transitive } }

ℱ[ ] : Type χ → Algebra (ov χ) _
Domain ℱ[ X ] = FreeDomain X
Interp ℱ[ X ] = FreeInterp
where
  FreeInterp : ∀ {X} → ⟨ S ⟩ (FreeDomain X) → FreeDomain X
  FreeInterp ⟨$⟩ (f , ts) = node f ts
  cong FreeInterp (≡.refl , h) = app h

```

### The natural epimorphism

We now define the natural epimorphism from  $\mathbf{T} X$  onto the relatively free algebra  $\mathbb{F}[X]$  and prove that the kernel of this morphism is the congruence of  $\mathbf{T} X$  defined by the identities modeled by  $(S \mathcal{K})$ , hence by  $\mathcal{K}$ .

```

module FreeHom {ℳ : Pred(Algebra α ρa) (α ⊔ ρa ⊔ ov ℓ)} where
  private c = α ⊔ ρa ⊔ ℓ ; ι = ov c

  open FreeAlgebra {χ = c} (Th ℳ) using ( ℱ[ ] )

  epiℱ[ ] : (X : Type c) → epi (T X) ℱ[ X ]
  epiℱ[ X ] = h , hepi
  where
    open Setoid ℙ[ T X ] using () renaming ( _≈_ to _≈0_ ; refl to reflT )
    open Setoid ℙ[ ℱ[ X ] ] using ( refl ) renaming ( _≈_ to _≈1_ )

    con : ∀ {x y} → x ≈0 y → x ≈1 y
    con (rfl {x}{y} ≡.refl) = refl
    con (gnt {f}{s}{t} x) = cong (Interp ℱ[ X ]) (≡.refl , con ∘ x)

    h : ℙ[ T X ] → ℙ[ ℱ[ X ] ]
    h = record { f = id ; cong = con }

    hepi : IsEpi (T X) ℱ[ X ] h
    compatible (isHom hepi) = cong h reflT
    isSurjective hepi {y} = eq y refl

  homℱ[ ] : (X : Type c) → hom (T X) ℱ[ X ]
  homℱ[ X ] = IsEpi.HomReduct || epiℱ[ X ] ||

  kernel-in-theory : {X : Type c} → ker | homℱ[ X ] | ⊆ Th (V ℓ ι ℳ)
  kernel-in-theory {X = X} {p , q} pKq A vkA = V-id1{ℓ = ℓ}{p = p}{q} (ζ pKq) A vkA
  where
    ζ : ∀{p q} → (Th ℳ) ⊢ X ▷ p ≈ q → ℳ || p ≈ q
    ζ x A kA = sound (λ y ρ → y A kA ρ) x where open Soundness (Th ℳ) A

```

Next we prove an important property of the relatively free algebra (relative to  $\mathcal{K}$  and satisfying the identities in  $\text{Th } \mathcal{K}$ ), which will be used in the formalization of the HSP theorem; this is the assertion that for every algebra  $\mathbf{A}$ , if  $\mathbf{A} \models \text{Th } (V \mathcal{K})$ , then there exists an epimorphism from  $\mathbb{F}[A]$  onto  $\mathbf{A}$ .

```

module _ {A : Algebra (α ⊔ ρa ⊔ ℓ) (α ⊔ ρa ⊔ ov ℓ)} {ℳ : Pred(Algebra α ρa) (α ⊔ ρa ⊔ ov ℓ)} where

```

```

private c =  $\alpha \sqcup \rho^a \sqcup \ell$  ;  $\iota = \text{ov } c$ 
open FreeHom { $\ell = \ell$ } { $\mathcal{K}$ }
open FreeAlgebra { $\chi = c$ } (Th  $\mathcal{K}$ ) using (  $\mathbb{F}[\_]$  )
open Setoid  $\mathbb{D}[\mathbf{A}]$  using ( refl ; sym ; trans ) renaming ( Carrier to  $\mathbf{A}$  )

F-ModTh-epi :  $\mathbf{A} \in \text{Mod } (\text{Th } (\mathbf{V} \ell \iota \mathcal{K})) \rightarrow \text{epi } \mathbb{F}[\mathbf{A}] \mathbf{A}$ 
F-ModTh-epi A ∈ ModThK =  $\varphi$  , isEpi
where
 $\varphi : \mathbb{D}[\mathbb{F}[\mathbf{A}]] \rightarrow \mathbb{D}[\mathbf{A}]$ 
 $\_ \langle \$ \rangle \_ \varphi = \text{free-lift}\{\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{A}\} \text{ id}$ 
cong  $\varphi \{p\} \{q\} \text{ pq} = \text{trans } ( \text{sym } (\text{free-lift-interp}\{\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{A}\} \text{ id } p) )$ 
( trans ( A ∈ ModThK {p = p} {q} (kernel-in-theory pq) id )
( free-lift-interp{ $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{A}$ } id q ) )

isEpi : IsEpi  $\mathbb{F}[\mathbf{A}] \mathbf{A} \varphi$ 
compatible (isHom isEpi) = cong (Interp  $\mathbf{A}$ ) ( $\equiv.\text{refl}$  , ( $\lambda \_ \rightarrow \text{refl}$ ))
isSurjective isEpi {y} = eq ( $\_ y$ ) refl

```

## 6 Birkhoff's Variety Theorem

### 6.1 Informal statement and proof

Let  $\mathcal{K}$  be a class of algebras. Recall that  $\mathcal{K}$  is a *variety* provided it is closed under homomorphisms, subalgebras and products; equivalently,  $\mathbf{H}(\mathbf{S}(\mathbf{P} \mathcal{K})) \subseteq \mathcal{K}$ . (As  $\mathbf{H}$ ,  $\mathbf{S}$ , and  $\mathbf{P}$  are closure operators, the inclusion  $\mathcal{K} \subseteq \mathbf{H}(\mathbf{S}(\mathbf{P} \mathcal{K}))$  is always valid, for every class  $\mathcal{K}$ .) We call  $\mathcal{K}$  an *equational class* if it is precisely the class of all models of some set of term identities.

It is easy to prove that *every equational class is a variety*. Indeed, suppose  $\mathcal{K}$  is an equational class and suppose the set  $\mathcal{E}$  of term identities *axiomatizes*  $\mathcal{K}$ . That is,  $\mathcal{K} \models \mathcal{E}$  and for all  $\mathbf{A}$  we have  $\mathbf{A} \models \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathbf{A} \in \mathcal{K}$ . Then, since the classes  $\mathbf{H} \mathcal{K}$ ,  $\mathbf{S} \mathcal{K}$ ,  $\mathbf{P} \mathcal{K}$  and  $\mathcal{K}$  all satisfy the same set of equations, we have  $\mathbf{H}(\mathbf{S}(\mathbf{P} \mathcal{K})) \models \mathcal{E}$ , so  $\mathbf{V} \mathcal{K} = \mathbf{H}(\mathbf{S}(\mathbf{P} \mathcal{K})) \subseteq \mathcal{K}$ ; that is,  $\mathcal{K}$  is a variety. The converse assertion—that *every variety is an equational class*—is more difficult to prove and is known as Birkhoff's variety theorem.

We now describe the standard informal proof of Birkhoff's theorem and then present a formal, constructive, type-theoretic proof of this theorem in Agda.

Let  $\mathcal{K}$  be an arbitrary variety. We will describe a set of equations that axiomatizes  $\mathcal{K}$ , thus showing that  $\mathcal{K}$  is an equational class. A natural choice is the set  $\text{Th } \mathcal{K}$  of all equations that hold in  $\mathcal{K}$ . We will prove that  $\mathcal{K}$  is precisely the class of structures modeling  $\text{Th } \mathcal{K}$ . Define  $\mathcal{K}^+ = \text{Mod } (\text{Th } \mathcal{K})$ . Clearly,  $\mathcal{K} \subseteq \mathcal{K}^+$ . We prove the reverse inclusion. Let  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathcal{K}^+$ . To complete the proof it suffices to find an algebra  $\mathbf{F}$  belonging to  $\mathbf{S}(\mathbf{P} \mathcal{K})$  such that  $\mathbf{A}$  is the homomorphic image of  $\mathbf{F}$ . Indeed, this will prove that  $\mathbf{A}$  belongs to  $\mathbf{H}(\mathbf{S}(\mathbf{P} \mathcal{K}))$ , which is  $\mathcal{K}$ , since we assumed that  $\mathcal{K}$  is a variety.

Let  $X$  be a set of cardinality  $\max(|A|, \omega)$ , and let  $\rho : X \rightarrow \mathbb{U}[\mathbf{A}]$  be a surjective valuation of variable symbols in the domain of  $\mathbf{A}$ . By the *lift-hom* lemma that we formalized above, there is an epimorphism  $h$  from  $\mathbf{T} X$  onto  $\mathbb{U}[\mathbf{A}]$  that *extends*  $\rho$  (that is,  $h \ x \approx \rho \ x$  for all  $x : X$ ). Now, put  $\mathbb{F}[X] := \mathbf{T} X / \Theta$ , and let  $g : \mathbf{T} X \rightarrow \mathbb{F}[X]$  be the natural epimorphism with kernel  $\Theta$ . We claim that  $\ker g \subseteq \ker h$ . If the claim is true, then there is a map  $f : \mathbb{F}[X] \rightarrow \mathbf{A}$  such that  $f \circ g = h$ . Since  $h$  is epic, so is  $f$ . Hence  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbf{H}(\mathbb{F}[X]) \subseteq \mathcal{K}^+$  completing the proof.

## 6.2 Formal statement and proof

We now show how to formally express and prove the twin assertions that (i) every equational class is a variety and (ii) every variety is an equational class.

### Every equational class is a variety

For (i), we need an arbitrary equational class. To obtain one, we start with an arbitrary collection  $\mathcal{E}$  of equations and let  $\mathcal{K} = \text{Mod } \mathcal{E}$ , the equational class determined by  $\mathcal{E}$ . We prove that  $\mathcal{K}$  is a variety by showing that  $\mathcal{K} = \mathbf{V} \mathcal{K}$ . The inclusion  $\mathcal{K} \subseteq \mathbf{V} \mathcal{K}$ , which holds for all classes  $\mathcal{K}$ , is called the *expansive* property of  $\mathbf{V}$ . The converse inclusion  $\mathbf{V} \mathcal{K} \subseteq \mathcal{K}$ , on the other hand, requires the hypothesis that  $\mathcal{K}$  is an equation class. We now formalize each of these inclusions.

```

module _ (K : Pred (Algebra α ρa) (α ⊔ ρa ⊔ ov ℓ)) {X : Type (α ⊔ ρa ⊔ ℓ)} where
  private c = α ⊔ ρa ⊔ ℓ ; ι = ov c

V-expa : K ⊆ V ℓ ι K
V-expa {x = A} kA = A , (A , (⊔ , (λ _ → A)) , (λ _ → kA) , Goal) , ≤-reflexive , IdHomImage
  where
    open Setoid D[ A ] using ( refl )
    open Setoid D[ ⊔ (λ _ → A) ] using () renaming ( refl to refl⊔ )

    to⊔ : D[ A ] → D[ ⊔ (λ _ → A) ]
    (to⊔ ($) x) = λ _ → x
    cong to⊔ xy = λ _ → xy

    from⊔ : D[ ⊔ (λ _ → A) ] → D[ A ]
    (from⊔ ($) x) = x tt
    cong from⊔ xy = xy tt

    Goal : A ≅ ⊔ (λ x → A)
    Goal = mkiso (to⊔ , mkhom refl⊔) (from⊔ , mkhom refl) (λ _ _ → refl) (λ _ → refl)

```

Earlier we proved the following identity preservation lemma:  $\text{V-id1} : \mathcal{K} \models p \approx q \rightarrow \mathbf{V} \ell \iota \mathcal{K} \models p \approx q$ . Thus, if  $\mathcal{K}$  is an equational class, then  $\mathbf{V} \mathcal{K} \subseteq \mathcal{K}$ . The `Birkhoff|eqcl→var` lemma below formalizes this fact.

```

module _ {ℓ : Level} {X : Type ℓ} {E : {Y : Type ℓ} → Pred (Term Y × Term Y) (ov ℓ)} where
  private ι = ov ℓ

  private K = Mod {α = ℓ} {ℓ} {X} E - an arbitrary equational class

  EqCl⇒Var : V ℓ ι K ⊆ K
  EqCl⇒Var {A} vA {p} {q} pEq q ρ = V-id1 {ℓ = ℓ} {K = K} {p} {q} (λ _ x τ → x pEq q τ) A vA ρ

```

Together, `V-expa` and `Eqcl⇒Var` prove that every equational class is a variety.

### Every variety is an equational class

To prove statement (ii), we need an arbitrary variety; to obtain one, we start with an arbitrary class  $\mathcal{K}$  of  $S$ -algebras and take its *variety closure*,  $\mathbf{V} \mathcal{K}$ . We prove that  $\mathbf{V} \mathcal{K}$  is an equational class by showing it is precisely the collection of algebras that model the equations in  $\text{Th} (\mathbf{V} \mathcal{K})$ ; that is, we prove  $\mathbf{V} \mathcal{K} = \text{Mod} (\text{Th} (\mathbf{V} \mathcal{K}))$ . The inclusion  $\mathbf{V} \mathcal{K} \subseteq \text{Mod} (\text{Th} (\mathbf{V} \mathcal{K}))$  is a

simple consequence of the fact that **Mod Th** is a closure operator. Nonetheless, completeness demands that we formalize this fact, however trivial is its proof.

```

module _ (K : Pred (Algebra α ρa) (α ⊔ ρa ⊔ ov ℓ)) {X : Type (α ⊔ ρa ⊔ ℓ)} where
  private c = α ⊔ ρa ⊔ ℓ ; ι = ov c

  ModTh-closure : V {β = β} {ρb} {γ} {ρc} {δ} {ρd} ℓ ι K ⊆ Mod {X = X} (Th (V ℓ ι K))
  ModTh-closure {x = A} vA {p} {q} x ρ = x A vA ρ

```

It remains to prove the converse inclusion,  $\text{Mod} (\text{Th} (V \mathcal{K})) \subseteq V \mathcal{K}$ , which is the main focus of the rest of the paper. We proceed as follows:

1. Construct an algebra **C** that is a product of algebras in  $S \mathcal{K}$ , hence belongs to  $P S \mathcal{K} \subseteq S P \mathcal{K}$ .
2. Prove that  $\mathbb{F}[X]$  is a subalgebra of **C**, which puts  $\mathbb{F}[X]$  in  $S (S (P \mathcal{K})) (= S (P \mathcal{K}))$ .
3. Prove that every algebra in  $\text{Mod} (\text{Th} (V \mathcal{K}))$  is a homomorphic image of  $\mathbb{F}[X]$  and thus belongs to  $H (S (P \mathcal{K})) (= V \mathcal{K})$ .

We will define the algebra **C** to be the product of *all* algebras in  $S \mathcal{K}$ , and this requires that we index the algebras in  $S \mathcal{K}$ . In fact, we will need to associate each “indexing pair”  $(A, p)$  (where  $p : A \in S \mathcal{K}$ ) with an arbitrary environment  $\rho : X \rightarrow \mathbb{U}[A]$ . Consequently, the indices of the product will be triples  $(A, p, \rho)$  ranging over all algebras in  $S \mathcal{K}$  and all environments assigning values in the domain of **A** to variables in **X**. Here is the construction of **C**.

```

open FreeHom {ℓ = ℓ} {K}
open FreeAlgebra {χ = c} (Th K) using (F[_])
open Environment using (Env)

J+ : Type ι
J+ = Σ [A ∈ (Algebra α ρa)] (A ∈ S ℓ K) × (Carrier (Env A X))

A+ : J+ → Algebra α ρa
A+ i = | i |

C : Algebra ι ι
C = ∏ A+

skEqual : (i : J+) → ∀ {p q} → Type ρa
skEqual i {p} {q} = [ p ] ⟨$⟩ snd || i || ≈ [ q ] ⟨$⟩ snd || i ||
  where open Setoid D [ A+ i ] using ( _ ≈ _ ) ; open Environment (A+ i) using ( [ _ ] )

```

The type **skEqual** provides a term identity  $p \approx q$  for each index  $i = (A, p, \rho)$  of the product.

```

homC : hom (T X) C
homC = ∏-hom-co A+ h
  where
    h : ∀ i → hom (T X) (A+ i)
    h i = lift-hom (snd || i ||)

homFC : hom F[X] C
homFC = | HomFactor C homC homF[X] kerF ⊆ kerC (isSurjective || epiF[X] ||) |

```

If  $(p, q)$  belongs to the kernel of  $\text{hom}\mathbf{C}$ , then  $\text{Th } \mathcal{K}$  includes the identity  $p \approx q$ —that is,  $\text{Th } \mathcal{K} \vdash X \triangleright p \approx q$ . Equivalently, if the kernel of  $\text{hom}\mathbf{C}$  is contained in that of  $\text{hom}\mathbb{F}[X]$ . We omit the formal proof of this lemma and merely display its formal statement, which is the following. We conclude that the homomorphism from  $\mathbb{F}[X]$  to  $\mathbf{C}$  is injective, whence it follows that  $\mathbb{F}[X]$  is (isomorphic to) a subalgebra of  $\mathbf{C}$ .

```

monFC : mon  $\mathbb{F}[X] \mathbf{C}$ 
monFC = | homFC | , isMon
where
isMon : isMon  $\mathbb{F}[X] \mathbf{C}$  | homFC |
isHom isMon = || homFC ||
isInjective isMon {p}{q}  $\varphi p q = \text{kerC} \subseteq \text{kerF}$   $\varphi p q$ 

F $\leq$ C :  $\mathbb{F}[X] \leq \mathbf{C}$ 
F $\leq$ C = mon $\rightarrow$  $\leq$  monFC

```

Using the last result we prove that  $\mathbb{F}[X]$  belongs to  $\mathbf{S}(\mathbf{P} \mathcal{K})$ . This requires one more technical lemma concerning the classes  $\mathbf{S}$  and  $\mathbf{P}$ ; specifically,  $\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{S} \mathcal{K}) \subseteq \mathbf{S}(\mathbf{P} \mathcal{K})$  holds for every class  $\mathcal{K}$ . The `Varieties.Func.Preservation.lagda` module contains the formal statement and proof of that result (called  $\mathbf{PS} \subseteq \mathbf{SP}$ ) which we omit.

```

SPF :  $\mathbb{F}[X] \in \mathbf{S} \iota (\mathbf{P} \ell \iota \mathcal{K})$ 
SPF = S-idem ( $\mathbf{C}$  , (spC , F $\leq$ C))
where
psC :  $\mathbf{C} \in \mathbf{P} (\alpha \sqcup \rho^a \sqcup \ell) \iota (\mathbf{S} \ell \mathcal{K})$ 
psC =  $\mathcal{J}^+$  , ( $\mathcal{A}^+$  , (( $\lambda i \rightarrow \text{fst } || i ||$ ) ,  $\cong\text{-refl}$ ))
spC :  $\mathbf{C} \in \mathbf{S} \iota (\mathbf{P} \ell \iota \mathcal{K})$ 
spC =  $\mathbf{PS} \subseteq \mathbf{SP}$  psC

```

Finally, we prove that every algebra in  $\text{Mod}(\text{Th}(\mathbf{V} \ell \iota \mathcal{K}))$  is a homomorphic image of  $\mathbb{F}[X]$ , for some  $X$ .

```

module _ { $\mathcal{K}$  : Pred(Algebra  $\alpha \rho^a$ ) ( $\alpha \sqcup \rho^a \sqcup \text{ov } \ell$ )} where
private c =  $\alpha \sqcup \rho^a \sqcup \ell$  ;  $\iota = \text{ov } c$ 
open FreeAlgebra { $\chi = c$ }(Th  $\mathcal{K}$ ) using (  $\mathbb{F}[\_]$  )

Var $\Rightarrow$ EqCl :  $\forall \mathbf{A} \rightarrow \mathbf{A} \in \text{Mod}(\text{Th}(\mathbf{V} \ell \iota \mathcal{K})) \rightarrow \mathbf{A} \in \mathbf{V} \ell \iota \mathcal{K}$ 
Var $\Rightarrow$ EqCl  $\mathbf{A}$  ModThA =  $\mathbb{F}[\cup[\mathbf{A}]]$  , (spFA , AimgF)
where
spFA :  $\mathbb{F}[\cup[\mathbf{A}]] \in \mathbf{S}\{\iota\} \iota (\mathbf{P} \ell \iota \mathcal{K})$ 
spFA = SPF{ $\ell = \ell$ }  $\mathcal{K}$ 

epiFIA : epi  $\mathbb{F}[\cup[\mathbf{A}]]$  (Lift-Alg  $\mathbf{A} \iota \iota$ )
epiFIA = F-ModTh-epi-lift{ $\ell = \ell$ } ( $\lambda \{p\ q\} \rightarrow \text{ModThA}\{p = p\}\{q\}$ )

 $\varphi$  : Lift-Alg  $\mathbf{A} \iota \iota$  isHomImageOf  $\mathbb{F}[\cup[\mathbf{A}]]$ 
 $\varphi$  = epi $\rightarrow$ ontohom  $\mathbb{F}[\cup[\mathbf{A}]]$  (Lift-Alg  $\mathbf{A} \iota \iota$ ) epiFIA

AimgF :  $\mathbf{A}$  isHomImageOf  $\mathbb{F}[\cup[\mathbf{A}]]$ 
AimgF = o-hom |  $\varphi$  | (from Lift- $\cong$ ) ,
o-isSurjective _ _ ||  $\varphi$  || (fromIsSurjective (Lift- $\cong\{\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{A}\}$ ))

```



It follows immediately from [ModTh-closure](#) and [Var⇒EqCl](#) that  $\mathbf{V} \mathcal{K} = \mathbf{Mod} (\mathbf{Th} (\mathbf{V} \mathcal{K}))$  holds for every class  $\mathcal{K}$  of  $S$ -algebras. Thus, every variety is an equational class. This completes the formal proof of Birkhoff’s variety theorem.

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