# High-level signatures and initial semantics

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### Introduction

This work is about constructing and specifying the syntax of untyped languages with variables and well-behaved substitution (e.g. lambda-calculus).

We expect that our work generalizes to simply-typed syntaxes.

# What is a syntax?

A **syntax** should enjoy a well-behaved substitution and provide a recursion principle.

Syntaxes are specified by **signatures**:

- to a signature is associated a notion of **model**. Such models form a category;
- the syntax is defined as the **initial object** in this category, if it exists.

Signatures which we care about are those whose category of models have an initial object.

# Purpose of our work

We present a notion of signatures based on the notion of module over a monad, and their associated models.

**Goal of our work**: Identify a large class of these signatures whose category of models have an initial object.

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#### 1. Standard signatures and their models

- 2. Languages, monads and modules
- 3. Recursion
- 4. Presentables signatures

### First-order signatures

A family of natural numbers specifies a language.

Each natural number specifies the number of arguments of the associated operation.

#### **Example:** binary trees (leaves are labelled by variables)

```
expr ::= x (variable)

b(t_1,t_2) (node with 2 children)

u(t) (node with 1 child)
```

#### Two operations:

```
binary node (2 arguments) unary node (1 argument)
```

(2,1)

### First-order signatures

#### **Example:** binary trees (leaves labelled by variables)

The language induces an endofunctor **B** (on Set) mapping a set of variables to the set of binary trees built out of them.

The binary/unary node constructions induce natural transformations:

$$\mathbf{B} \times \mathbf{B} \to \mathbf{B}$$

$$B \rightarrow B$$

binary node (2 arguments)

unary node (1 argument)

Using disjoint union, they gather into a single one:

$$\mathbf{B} \times \mathbf{B} + \mathbf{B} \rightarrow \mathbf{B}$$

Thus, **B** is an algebra for the endofunctor  $\mathbf{F} \mapsto \mathbf{F} \times \mathbf{F} + \mathbf{F}$ . Actually, **B** is the initial algebra.

### First-order signatures

Any first-order signature induces similarly an endofunctor (on the category of endofunctors on Set).

Natural notion of model for an endofunctor: an algebra for this endofunctor.

The syntax is characterized as the initial algebra/model.

# Binding signatures

[Fiore-Plotkin-Turi 1999] studies binding signatures generalizing firstorder signatures. They are given by a family of lists of natural numbers:

- each list specifies an operation in the language.
- the number of its arguments is the size of the list
- each natural number in the list indicates the number of bound variables in the corresponding argument

#### **Example: Lambda-calculus:**

Two operations:

```
application (2 arguments)
```

lambda-abstraction (1 argument binding 1 variable)

# High-level signatures

As for first-order signatures, a binding signature induces an endofunctor  $\Sigma$ .

A model **M** is an algebra that comes with a well-behaved substitution (i.e. a **monad**).

The action  $\Sigma(M) \rightarrow M$  is required to commute with substitution.

For this last condition to be expressed, the endofunctor  $\Sigma(\mathbf{M})$  should come with a substitution.

This is the case for endofunctors  $\Sigma$  coming from binding signatures because they have a *strength*.

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### Our signatures

In our framework, signatures are functors, not endofunctors: the source/target category are refined.

#### **Source category**:

The domain category of the signature is the subcategory of endofunctors with a well-behaved notion of substitution (i.e. **monads**).

#### **Target category**:

A signature  $\Sigma$  associates to any monad  $\mathbf{R}$  an endofunctor  $\Sigma(\mathbf{R})$  compatible with the monad substitution (i.e. a **module** over the input monad  $\mathbf{R}$ )

#### **Category of models:**

A model is a monad  $\mathbf{R}$  with a natural transformation from  $\mathbf{\Sigma}(\mathbf{R})$  to  $\mathbf{R}$  compatible with the substitution (i.e. a **module morphism**).

### Monads

A monad  ${\bf R}$  corresponds to a language with variables as placeholders for any expression of  ${\bf R}$ .

 $\mathbf{R}(\mathbf{X})$  denotes the set of expressions taking variables in  $\mathbf{X}$ . Intuitively, it should contain at least the set  $\mathbf{X}$  of variables.

Given any family  $(\mathbf{t_x})_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{X}}$  of elements of  $\mathbf{R}(\mathbf{Y})$ , any expression  $\mathbf{e}$  in  $\mathbf{R}(\mathbf{X})$  can be substituted to yield an expression  $\mathbf{e}[\mathbf{x} \mapsto \mathbf{t_x}]$  in  $\mathbf{R}(\mathbf{Y})$ .

The substitution is required to statisfy some intuitive equations.

A **monad morphism** between two monads **R** and **S** is a family of maps  $(\mathbf{f}_X : \mathbf{R}(\mathbf{X}) \to \mathbf{S}(\mathbf{X}))_X$  preserving variables and substitution.

### Operations as module morphisms

In the lambda-calculus,

$$\operatorname{app}(t,u)[x\mapsto v_x] = \operatorname{app}(t[x\mapsto v_x],u[x\mapsto v_x])$$
 i.e.

#### application commutes with substitution

Let us rewrite the right hand side:

$$app(t, u)[x \mapsto v_x] = app((t, u)[x \mapsto v_x])$$

considering the obvious substitution on pairs of lambda terms.

We abstract this situation as follows:

- pairs of lambda-terms form a module over the lambda-calculus monad,
- application is a module morphism

### Module over a monad

A module **M** over a monad **R** corresponds to expressions with variables as placeholders for any expression in the language **R**.

Given a module M, the set M(X) is the set of expressions taking variables in X (but contrary to monads, a variable may not immediately yield a generalized expression).

Given any family  $(t_X)_X \in X$  of expressions in R(Y), any expression e in M(X) can be substituted to yield an expression  $e[x \mapsto t_X]$  in M(Y).

As for monads, the substitution is required to statisfy some intuitive equations.

### Examples of modules

#### Modules over a monad:

Some examples of modules over a monad **R**:

- **R** itself
- R x R (i.e. pairs of expressions of R)
- M x N for any module M and N

#### Important example: Derivative of a module

- R' is the module defined by R'(X) = R(X + {x}) for any set X of variables
- more generally, we similarly define **M'** given a module **M**

The new variable  $\mathbf{x}$  is used to model an operation binding a variable (e.g. the lambda-abstraction).

# Examples of module morphisms

A module morphism between two modules M and N on the same monad R is a family of maps  $(f_X:M(X) \rightarrow N(X))_X$  commuting with substitution.

#### **Examples:**

 $idM: M \rightarrow M$ 

the family of identity maps  $(id_{M(X)}:M(X) \to M(X))_X$  for any module **M** 

 $app: L \times L \rightarrow L$ 

the application operation of the lambda calculus monad L.

#### **Binding variables:**

In  $\lambda x.t$ , the term t depends on an additional free variable x:

If  $\lambda x.t \in L(Y)$ , then  $t \in L(Y + \{x\}) = L'(Y)$ 

**abs:L'** → **L** is a module morphism

# Signatures

A **signature**  $\Sigma$  assigns (functorially) to each monad R a module  $\Sigma_R$  over it.

A **model** of a signature  $\Sigma$  is a monad R together with a morphism of modules  $\sigma_R: \Sigma_R \to R$ .

Models form a category (morphisms are monad morphisms commuting with  $\sigma$ ).

The **syntax generated by** a signature  $\Sigma$  is the initial object in its category of models.

This notion of signature is too general in the sense that we do not expect that this initial object always exists.

# Examples of syntax generating signatures

 $-R \mapsto R \times R$ 

models are monads R that comes with a module morphism R  $\times$  R  $\rightarrow$  R. The syntax corresponds to a language with variables and a binary operator **b**:

expr ::= 
$$x$$
 (variable)  
|  $\mathbf{b}(t, u)$  where  $t$  and  $u$  are any expressions

 $-R \mapsto R \times R + R'$ 

By universal property of the disjoint sum +, models are monads R equipped with two modules morphisms R x R  $\rightarrow$  R and R'  $\rightarrow$  R. The syntax corresponds to lambda calculus.

# Algebraic signatures

More generally, any signature of the form  $R \mapsto R' \times R'' \times R''' + R \times R'' \times R''' \times R'' \times R'' \times R''' \times R'' \times R''$ 

These **algebraic signatures** correspond to combinatorial signatures. They specifiy languages with n-ary operations binding a finite number of variables in their arguments.

Our main result: quotients of algebraic signatures also generate a syntax

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- 3. Recursion
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### Copie de Recursion

Question: cette section est-elle vraiment éncessaire, puisque on n'a pas vraiment de contribution là-dedans ? (ca fait partie du background initial semantics, non ?).

Benedikt suggère de ne pas faire plus d'une slide là dessus

### Recursion

Initiality of the syntax allows recursion.

#### Example: computing the set of free variables of a lambda-term

Let **LC** be the monad of lambda-calculus.

Let  $\mathbf{t} \in \mathbf{LC}(\mathbf{X})$  be a term (whose free variables are in  $\mathbf{X}$ ). We want to compute its set of free variables  $\mathbf{fv}(\mathbf{t}) \subset \mathbf{X}$  (i.e.  $\mathbf{fv}(\mathbf{t}) \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{X})$ ).

#### **Strategy:**

The only thing to do is to give the assignement  $X \mapsto \mathcal{P}(X)$  the adequate structure of a monad, then of a model.

define  $\mathbf{fv}: \mathbf{LC} \to \mathscr{P}$  by initiality of LC in the category of models of its signature.

# Computing free variables

The assignement which to any set X associates its power set  $\mathcal{P}(X)$  can be given the structure of a monad (variables are singletons, substitution is union).

 $\operatorname{app}_{\mathscr{P}} \colon \mathscr{P}(\mathbf{X}) \times \mathscr{P}(\mathbf{X}) \to \mathscr{P}(\mathbf{X})$  and  $\operatorname{abs}_{\mathscr{P}} \colon \mathscr{P}(\mathbf{X} + \{\mathbf{x}\}) \to \mathscr{P}(\mathbf{X})$  should be given to yield a model. Let us study the case of  $\operatorname{app}$ :

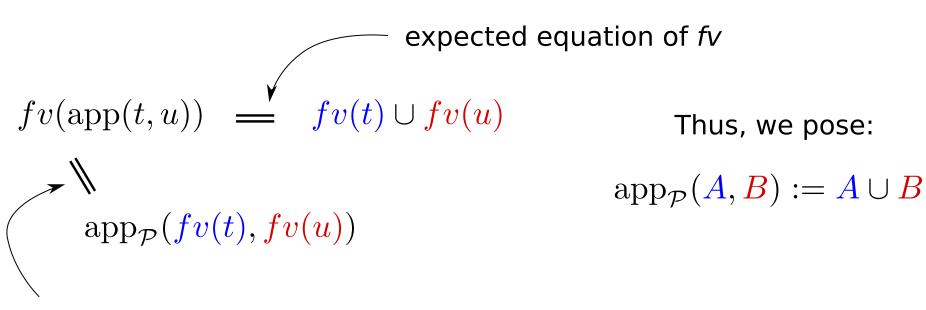
$$fv(\operatorname{app}(t,u)) = fv(t) \cup fv(u)$$
 
$$\operatorname{app}_{\mathcal{P}}(fv(t),fv(u))$$

fv should be a model morphism

# Computing free variables

The assignement which to any set X associates its power set  $\mathcal{P}(X)$  can be given the structure of a monad (variables are singletons, substitution is union).

 $\operatorname{app}_{\mathscr{P}} \colon \mathscr{P}(\mathbf{X}) \times \mathscr{P}(\mathbf{X}) \to \mathscr{P}(\mathbf{X})$  and  $\operatorname{abs}_{\mathscr{P}} \colon \mathscr{P}(\mathbf{X} + \{\mathbf{x}\}) \to \mathscr{P}(\mathbf{X})$  should be given to yield a model. Let us study the case of  $\operatorname{app}$ :



fv should be a model morphism

# Computing free variables

The case of **abs**<sub>P</sub> is similar.

It can be shown that  $\mathbf{app}_{\mathscr{P}}$  and  $\mathbf{abs}_{\mathscr{P}}$  are module morphisms, hence give the monad  $\mathscr{P}$  the structure of a model for the signature of the lambda-calculus.

By initiality of the syntax **LC**, we get a (unique) model morphism from **LC** to  $\mathscr{P}$  which satisfies:

$$fv(t u) = fv(t) \cup fv(u)$$
$$fv(\lambda x.t) = fv(t) \setminus \{x\}$$
$$fv(x) = \{x\}$$

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### Quotient of a signature

#### **Quotient of a set:**

A quotient of a set X is a set Y together with a surjection  $p: X \rightarrow Y$ .

$$x \sim x' \iff p(x) = p(x')$$

#### **Quotient of a signature:**

A quotient of a signature  $\Sigma$  is a signature  $\Psi$  together with a (natural) family of module morphisms  $(\mathbf{f_R}:\Sigma_R\to\Psi_R)_R$  that is pointwise surjective.

A presentable signature is a quotient of an algebraic signature.

**Main Theorem**: Any presentable signature generates a syntax.

# Examples of presentable signatures

Presentable signatures allow to extend a syntax generated by an algebraic (or combinatorial) signature with new kinds of operations.

#### A binary commutative operation:

as a quotient of the signature of a binary operation  $R \mapsto R \times R$  by the the action of the symmetry.

#### A syntactic closure operator:

Such an operator allows to bind a given set of variables in an expression (thus invariant under permutation of these variables).

The signature is obtained as a quotient of the algebraic signature specifying a sequence of increasingly sequential binding operators.

# Examples of presentable signatures

#### **Explicit substitution:**

It is possible to specify an operation  $\_\langle \mathbf{x_i} \mapsto \mathbf{t_i} \rangle$  that mimics the behavior of the true substitution  $\_[\mathbf{x_i} \mapsto \mathbf{t_i}]$  in the sense that it enjoys some of its coherences, for example:

- if **u** does not depend on **y**,

$$u\langle x\mapsto v,y\mapsto w\rangle=u\langle x\mapsto v\rangle$$

- let **u'** be **u** where the variables **x** and **y** have been swapped,

$$u'\langle x\mapsto v,y\mapsto w\rangle=u\langle x\mapsto w,y\mapsto v\rangle$$

# Examples of presentable signatures

#### A coherent fixedpoint operator:

A language with (mutual) fixedpoints comes with a construction

```
let rec \mathbf{f}_1 = \mathbf{t}_1 and \mathbf{f}_2 = \mathbf{t}_2 where each \mathbf{f}_j may appear as a variable in each expression \mathbf{t}_i. and \mathbf{f}_n = \mathbf{t}_n
```

Thus, it takes  $\mathbf{n}$  expressions  $\mathbf{t}_1,...,\mathbf{t}_n$  depending on  $\mathbf{n}$  new variables  $\mathbf{f}_1,...,\mathbf{f}_n$  and produces an expression which does not depend on these variables.

As such, it can be specified by an algebraic signature.

# Coherent fixedpoint operator

But we would like to encode some of the expected behaviour of such a fixed point. For instance:

let rec 
$$\mathbf{f}_1 = \mathbf{t}_1$$
 let rec  $\mathbf{f}_1 = \mathbf{t}_2'$  and  $\mathbf{f}_2 = \mathbf{t}_2$  and  $\mathbf{f}_2 = \mathbf{t}_1'$  let  $\mathbf{f}_1$  and  $\mathbf{f}_2$  have in  $\mathbf{f}_1$  in  $\mathbf{f}_1$  been swapped)

or, if  $\mathbf{t}_1$  does not depend on  $\mathbf{f}_2$ ,

let rec 
$$\mathbf{f}_1 = \mathbf{t}_1$$
 and  $\mathbf{f}_2 = \mathbf{t}_2$  = let rec  $\mathbf{f}_1 = \mathbf{t}_1$  in  $\mathbf{f}_1$ 

A construction satisfying these equations can be specified by quotienting the naive algebraic signature.

### Conclusion

We found a criterion for high-level 'monadic' signatures to specify a syntax. This criterion encompasses the classical combinatorial signatures, and allows fancier operations at the level of the syntax.

#### Future work:

We plan to take into account more sophisticated equations in the syntax than just quotients, extend our framework to simply typed syntaxes.

### FIN PROVISOIRE

Ne pas lire les slides qui suivent (ce sont des anciennes slides que je garde au cas où).

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# Signatures with strength

In the litterature, there is also a refined notion of signature as an endofunctor with *strength*.

This extra property allow in particular to give a refined notion of model as algebras with a well-behaved substitution.

A combinatorial signature yields such a signature.

We don't need the notion of strength in our framework.

## Copie de High-level signatures

As before, binding signatures induce an endofunctor.

Category of models of such a signature: the category of its algebras.

Any combinatorial signature can be turned into an endofunctor on the category of endofunctors on **Set**.

Indeed, we think of an endofunctor on **Set** as a mapping associating to any set of free variables the set of expressions built out of them.

### Copie de Purpose of our work

The specified language (or **syntax**) is characterized as the initial object in the category of models.



The initial object may not exist and therefore the signature does not specify anything!

**Goal of our work**: Identify a large class of high-level signatures (they are not exactly endofunctors in our setting) that actually specify a language.

### Copie de Introduction

**Ultimate goal**: (untyped) languages with variables and substitution **Classical signatures**: a combinatorial specification of a language as families of lists of natural numbers:

- each list specifies an operation in the language.
- the number of its arguments is the size of the list
- each natural number in the list indicates the number of bound variables in the corresponding argument

#### **Example: Lambda-calculus:**

application (2 arguments)

lambda-abstraction (1 argument binding 1 variable)

((0,0),(1))

This work: a general notion of signature

### Copie de Examples of presentable signatures

#### A coherent fixedpoint operator:

A unary fixed point operator for a monad is an operation (or module morphism) **Y** turning an expression **e** depending on an additional formal variable **\*** into an expression **Y(e)** that doesn't depend on it, such that the fixedpoint equation holds:

$$Y(e[\star \mapsto Y(e)]) = Y(e)$$

(for the lambda-calculus monad modulo beta-eta equivalence, it corresponds to a fixedpoint combinator)

### Examples of monads (à siupprimer ?)

- the syntax of arithmetic expressions
- the (untyped) syntax of lambda-calculus *L* (modulo alpha equivalence)

```
expr ::= x (variable)
| t u (application)
| λx.t (abstraction)
```

- the (untyped) syntax of lambda-calculus modulo betaequivalence and eta-equivalence

## 'High-level' VS classical signatures

+ Our 'high-level' signatures are more abstract and contrast with 'low-level' signatures which seem quite ad-hoc.

- Our signatures, are too general: we don't expect that all of
- them specify a language (i.e. that the initial object always exist in the category of models associated to a signature).

#### Goal of our work:

Identify a large class of (high-level) signatures which actually specify a language.

## Copie de Languages as monads

#### A monad A as a language with variables:

- for each set X, a set A(X) of expressions taking free variables in X.
- any variable  $x \in X$  is a valid expression that we note  $var_X(x) = \underline{x} \in A(X)$
- given a family  $(t_x)_{x \in X}$  of expressions in A(Y), we can perform for any expression **e** in **A(X)** the substitution  $e[x \mapsto t_x]$  lying in A(Y)

Three monadic laws:

COMPOSITION OF SUBSTITUTIONS  $e[x \mapsto t_x][y \mapsto u_y] = e[x \mapsto t_x[y \mapsto u_y]]$ 

**IDENTITY SUBSTITUTION** 

$$e[x \mapsto x] = e$$

**VARIABLE SUBSTITUTION** 

$$\forall x \in X \ x[y \mapsto t_y] = t_x$$

# Copie de Overview of the methodology

- 1. Introduce a notion of signature.
- Construct an associated notion of model (suitable as domain of interpretation of the syntax generated by the signature). Such models form a category.
- 3. Define the syntax generated by a signature as its initial model, when it exists.

4. Identify a class of signatures that generate a syntax: **presentable signatures** 

### Copie de Operations as module morphisms

:

For each set X, the sum of two expressions  $e,e' \in A(X)$  take free variables in X:

$$\forall X, \ add_X : A(X) \times A(X) \to A(X)$$

$$(e, e') \mapsto e + e'$$

Note that (commutation with substitution):

$$(e+e')[x \mapsto t_x] = e[x \mapsto t_x] + e'[x \mapsto t_x]$$

We characterize this situation as follows:

 $A(X) \times A(X)$  expressions are "substitutable"  $\nearrow$  A x A is a **module** on A add commutes with substitution  $\nearrow$  add is a **module morphism** 

## Examples of monads

- the assignement  $X \mapsto \mathscr{P}(X) = \{ U \mid U \subset X \} \text{ yields a monad } \mathscr{P}$ .

$$\forall X, \ var_X : X \to \mathcal{P}(X)$$
$$x \mapsto \{x\}$$

Let  $U \subset X$  (i.e.  $U \in \mathscr{P}(X)$ ) and  $(V_x)_{x \in X}$  a family of subsets of Y. Substitution is defined as union:

$$U[x \mapsto V_x] = \bigcup_{x \in U} V_x \quad \in \mathcal{P}(Y)$$

#### Induction

#### Example: computing the free variables of a lambda-term

We compute it by induction on the syntax:

$$fv(x) = \{x\}$$
 (variable)  
 $fv(tu) = fv(t) \cup fv(u)$  (application)  
 $fv(\lambda x.t) = fv(t) \setminus \{x\}$  (abstraction)

This is formalized in our setting as a family of maps  $(fv_X: L(X) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(X))_X$  which commutes with variable and substitution:

$$fv(var_L(x)) = \{x\} \qquad fv(u[x \mapsto t_x]_L) = \bigcup_{y \in fv(u)} t_y$$
$$= var_{\mathcal{P}}(x) \qquad = fv(u)[x \mapsto fv(t_x)]_{\mathcal{P}}$$

(This is a definition of a monad morphism)

#### Induction

#### Example: computing the free variables of a lambda-term

fv also commutes with 'application' and 'abstraction'

$$app_{\mathcal{P}}: \mathcal{P} \times \mathcal{P} \to \mathcal{P}$$

$$(V, V') \mapsto V \cup V'$$

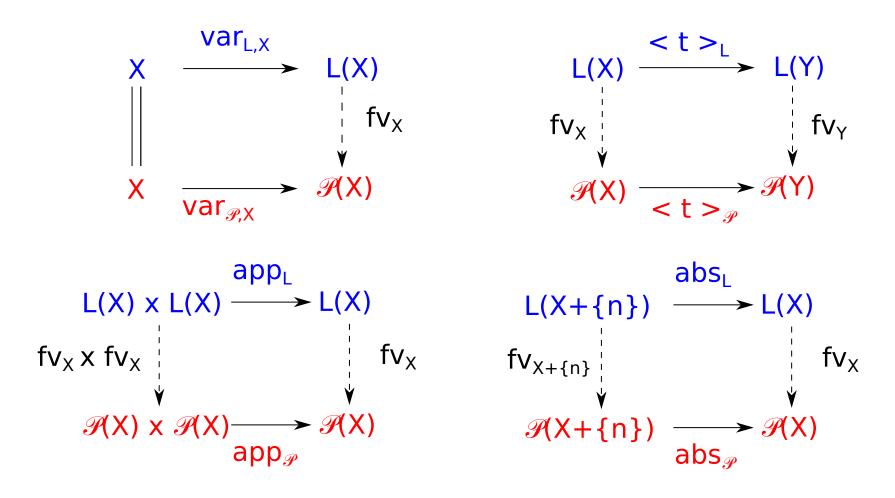
$$abs_{\mathcal{P},X}: \mathcal{P}'(X) \to \mathcal{P}$$

$$V \mapsto V \setminus \{n\}$$

Actually, these commutations **define** fv uniquely by induction:

$$fv(x) = \{x\}$$
 (commutation with variable)  
 $fv(tu) = fv(t) \cup fv(u)$  (commutation with application)  
 $fv(\lambda x.t) = fv(t) \setminus \{x\}$  (commutation with abstraction)

fv is the unique family of maps that makes the following diagrams commute:



More generally, let R be a monad with application and abstraction.

$$X \xrightarrow{\text{var}_{R,X}} R(X)$$

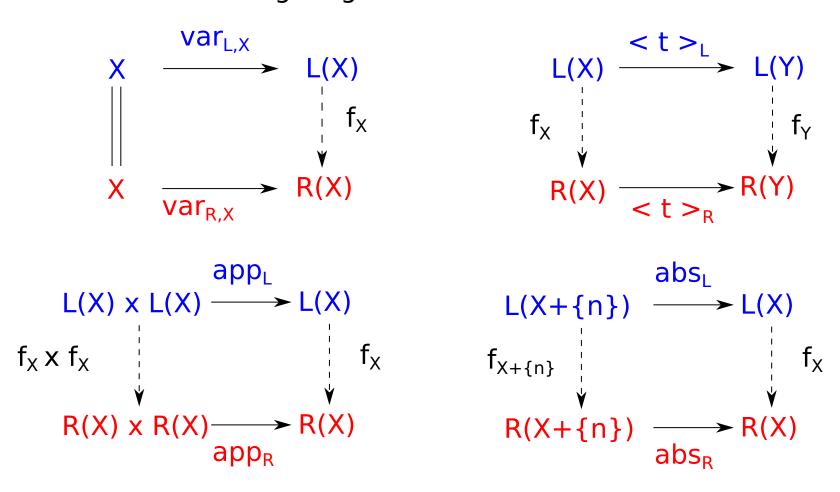
$$R(X) \xrightarrow{< t>_R} R(Y)$$

$$R(X) \times R(X) \longrightarrow R(X)$$
 $app_R$ 

$$R(X+\{n\}) \xrightarrow{} R(X)$$
 abs<sub>R</sub>

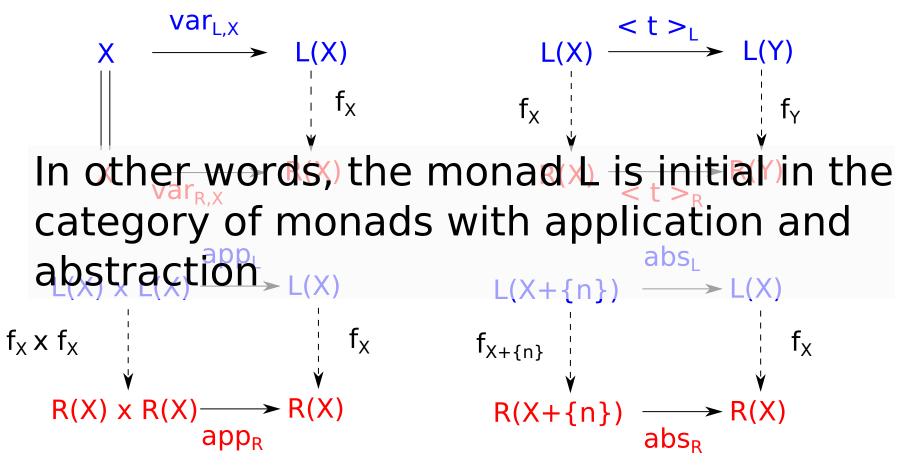
More generally, let R be a monad with application and abstraction.

Then there is a unique family  $(f_X)_X$  of maps (defined by induction) that makes the following diagrams commute:



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Then there is a unique family  $(f_X)_X$  of maps (defined by induction) that makes the following diagrams commute:



### Syntax and initiality

#### A definition of a syntax:

A **syntax** is a monad that comes with an *induction principle*, *i.e.* which is initial in a suitable category of *monads* + *operations that it implements.* 

#### **Example:**

The monad L of lambda calculus is initial in the category of *monads* + application and abstraction.

We say that L is the **syntax generated** by the **signature** of **application** and **abstraction**.

We will now present a general definition of **signatures**.

#### What a signature should be:

L is initial among the monads R that model the signature  $\Sigma L$  of application and abstraction, i.e. monads R that come with module morphisms:

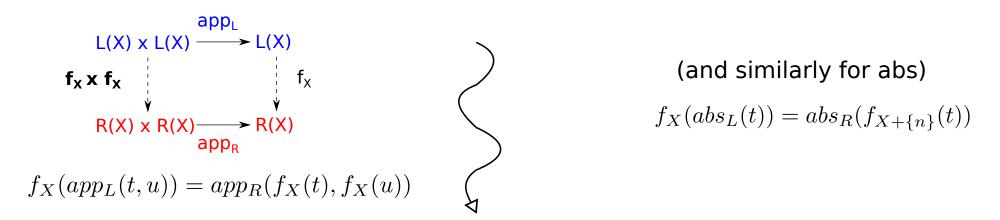
$$app_R: R \times R \to R \\ abs_R: R' \to R$$
 or  $[app_R, abs_R]: R \times R + R' \to R$   $\geq$   $\Sigma L(R)$ 

A syntax S is initial among the monads R that model its associated signature  $\Sigma$ , i.e. monads R that come with a module morphism:

$$\sigma_R:\Sigma_R\to R$$

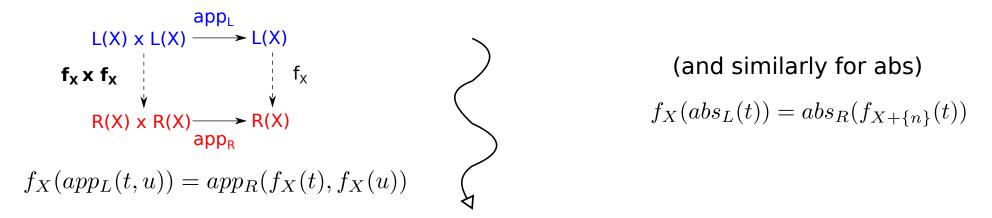
Thus, a signature  $\Sigma$  should assign to any monad R a module  $\Sigma_R$  over it.

Let **R** be a monad that models the signature of application and abstraction. Then there exists a unique monad morphism  $\mathbf{f}: \mathbf{L} \to \mathbf{R}$  which commutes with abstraction and application:

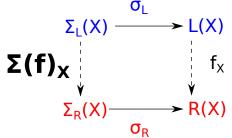


Let **R** be a monad that models a signature  $\Sigma$  (there is a module morphism  $\sigma_R: \Sigma_R \to R$ ). Then there exists a unique monad morphism  $f: S \to R$  which commutes with  $\sigma$ :

Let **R** be a monad that models the signature of application and abstraction. Then there exists a unique monad morphism  $\mathbf{f}: \mathbf{L} \to \mathbf{R}$  which commutes with abstraction and application:



Let **R** be a monad that models a signature  $\Sigma$  (there is a module morphism  $\sigma_R: \Sigma_R \to R$ ). Then there exists a unique monad morphism  $f: S \to R$  which commutes with  $\sigma$ :



Thus, a signature  $\Sigma$  assigns to any monad morphism  $f:L\to R$  which a family of maps  $(\Sigma(f)_X:\Sigma_R(X)\to \Sigma_{R'}(X))_{X.}$ 

As for module morphisms, we require that this family commutes with substitution:

$$\Sigma(f)_Y(e[x\mapsto t_x]_{\Sigma_R})=\Sigma(f)_X(e)[x\mapsto f_X(t_x)]_{\Sigma_R'}$$
 Let **R** be a monad that models a signature **\Sigma** (there is a module morphism

 $\sigma_R: \Sigma_R \to R$ ). Then there exists a unique monad morphism  $f: S \to R$  which

 $\Sigma_{L}(X) \xrightarrow{O_{L}} L(X)$   $\Sigma(f)_{X} \downarrow \qquad \qquad \downarrow f_{X}$   $\Sigma_{R}(X) \xrightarrow{G_{R}} R(X)$ 

#### Plan

#### **PLAN**

- 1. Languages, monads and modules
- 2. Induction and Initiality
- 3. Signatures

#### Definition of signatures

#### A **signature** $\Sigma$ is given by:

- for each monad R, a module  $\Sigma_R$  over it
- for each monad morphism  $f: R \to S$ , a family  $\Sigma(f): \Sigma_R \to \Sigma_S$  of morphisms which commutes with substitution:

$$\Sigma(f)_Y(e[x \mapsto t_x]_{\Sigma_R}) = \Sigma(f)_X(e)[x \mapsto f_X(t_x)]_{\Sigma_R'}$$

such that (functoriality)

$$\Sigma(f \circ g) = \Sigma(f) \circ \Sigma(g)$$
 and  $\Sigma(id_R) = id_{\Sigma R}$ 

A **model** of a signature  $\Sigma$  is a monad R together with a morphism of modules  $\sigma_R: \Sigma_R \to R$ 

A **model morphism** of a signature  $\Sigma$  between two models R and R' is a monad morphism  $f: R \to S$  which commutes with  $\sigma: \sigma_R \circ f = \Sigma_f \circ \sigma_{R'}$ 

The **syntax generated by** a signature  $\Sigma$  is its initial model.

## Syntax generated by a signature

This notion of signature is very general so that we do not expect that all of them generate a syntax.

#### **Examples of syntax generating signatures:**

-  $R \mapsto R \times R$ :

models are monads R that comes with a module morphism R  $\times$  R  $\rightarrow$  R.

The syntax corresponds to a language with variables and a binary

operator b: expr ::= x (variable)

| b(t, u) where t and u are any expressions

 $-R \mapsto R \times R + R'$ :

By universal property of the disjoint sum +, models are monads R equipped with two modules morphisms R x R  $\rightarrow$  R and R'  $\rightarrow$  R.

The syntax corresponds to lambda calculus

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