

# Enriched Lawvere Theories for Operational Semantics

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How do we integrate syntax and semantics?

type    object  
term    morphism  
\* rewrite    2-morphism \*

algebraic theories : *denotational* semantics

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

**enriched theories** : *operational* semantics



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

**type**

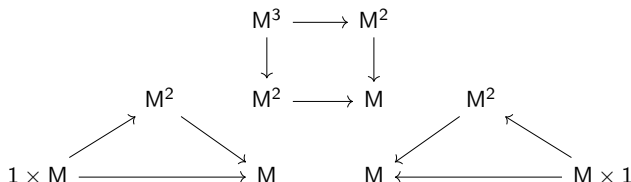
$M$

monoid

**operations**

$m: M^2 \rightarrow M$  multiplication  
 $e: 1 \rightarrow M$  identity

**equations**



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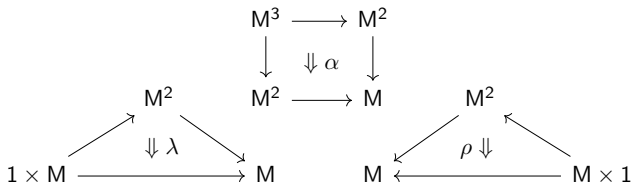
# Enriched theories

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

**type**                       $M$                       pseudomonoid

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

**rewrites**



**equations**    pentagon, triangle identities

Let  $V$  be monoidal (cartesian).

**V-category**  $C(a, b) \in V$

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

**V-transformation**  $\alpha_a: 1_V \rightarrow D(F(a), G(a)) \in V$

These form the 2-category  $VCat$ .

# Our enriching category

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Let  $V$  be a cartesian closed category:

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

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

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

$$n_V := \sum_n 1_V.$$

Let  $N_V := \{n_V | n \in \mathbb{N}\} \subset_{full} V$

and  $A_V := \underline{N}_V^{op}$  – our “arities”.

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

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

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

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

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

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## Definition

A **V-theory** is a V-category  $T \in \mathbf{VCat}_{fp}$  equipped with:

$$\tau: A_V \rightarrow T$$

i.e., whose objects are finite V-products of  $t := \tau(1_V)$ .

The 2-category of V-theories is  $\mathbf{VLaw} := A_V \downarrow \mathbf{VCat}_{fp}$ .

If  $V$  is *complete*, then  $\underline{\mathbf{VLaw}} \in \mathbf{VCat}$ .



## Definition

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

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

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

The 2-category of models is  $\mathbf{Mod}(T, C) := \mathbf{VCat}_{fp}(T, C)$ .

If  $V$  is *complete*, then  $\underline{\mathbf{Mod}}(T, C) \in \mathbf{VCat}$ .

# Example: cartesian object

Let  $V = \mathbf{Cat}$ .

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

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

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

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

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

This gives a 2-functor

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

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

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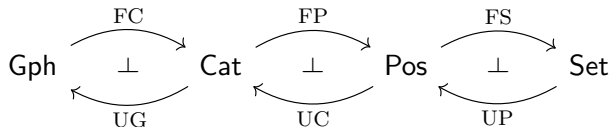
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# Change of semantics

There is a “spectrum” of semantics:



- $FC_*$  maps small-step to big-step operational semantics.
- $FP_*$  maps big-step to full-step operational semantics.
- $FS_*$  maps full-step to denotational semantics.

## Theorem

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

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

$F_*$  preserves theories. For every  $\mathcal{V}$ -theory  $\tau_{\mathcal{V}}: A_{\mathcal{V}} \rightarrow T$ ,

$$\tau_{\mathcal{W}} := A_{\mathcal{W}} \xrightarrow{\sim} F_*(A_{\mathcal{V}}) \xrightarrow{F_*(\tau_{\mathcal{V}})} F_*(T) \quad \text{is a } \mathcal{W}\text{-theory.}$$

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

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

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The  $\lambda$  calculus:

$$M, N := x \mid (M \ N) \mid \lambda x.M$$

$$\beta: (\lambda x.M \ N) \Rightarrow M[N/x].$$

Variable binding is subtle:

$$(\lambda x.(\lambda y.(x \ y)) \ y) \Rightarrow ?$$

Translate to *combinators*:

$$[[ - ]]: \Lambda \rightarrow \{\text{SKI}\}.$$

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# The theory of SKI

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Th(SKI)

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

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# A model of Th(SKI)

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

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

The rewrites are transferred by the enrichment of  $\mu$ :

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

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# The free model of SKI

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

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

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

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

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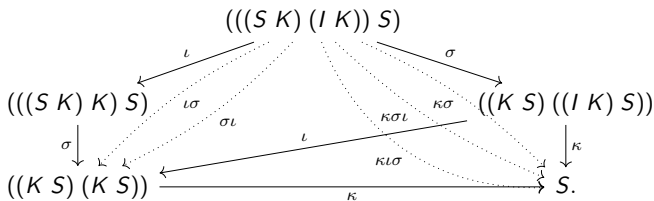
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# Change of semantics

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



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

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

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

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

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

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