

Algebras for a Functor

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Motivation

Modelling inductive types.

category C , endofunctor $F: C \rightarrow C$

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$$FA \xrightarrow{\alpha} A$$

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$$\begin{array}{ccc} FA & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & A \\ Ff \downarrow & & \downarrow f \\ FB & \xrightarrow{\beta} & B \end{array}$$

Initial Objects

Such an object I , that for every object X , there exist a **unique** morphism $I \rightarrow X$.

Lemma (Lambek)

If $I = (A, \alpha)$ is an initial algebra, then A is isomorphic to FA via α .

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$$\begin{array}{ccc} FA & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & A \\ \downarrow Fi & & \downarrow i \\ F(FA) & \xrightarrow{F\alpha} & FA \end{array}$$

Polynomial Functor

Initial object in F-Algebra Category

Problems in Implementation

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```
; _°_ = λ f g → record {  
  f = F-Algebra-Morphism.f f ° F-Algebra-Morphism.f g ;  
  commutes = glue {! 0!} (F-Algebra-Morphism.commutes f)  
  (F-Algebra-Morphism.commutes g)}
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Initial / \Rightarrow record $\{ \perp, \perp\text{-is-initial} \} \Rightarrow$ record $\{ A, \alpha \}$.

Future work