

On the decomposition of a strong epimorphism into regular epimorphisms

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February 12, 2025. Kyoto Category Theory Meeting

← Today's slides

This work is supported by JSPS KAKENHI Grant Numbers JP24KJ1462.

1 Strong and regular epimorphisms

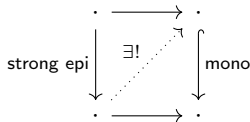
2 The decomposition number

3 Partial Horn theories

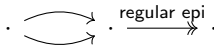
4 Main results

Strong and regular epimorphisms

Strong epimorphisms = morphisms having the left lifting property w.r.t. every monomorphisms.



Regular epimorphisms = morphisms being the coequalizer of some parallel pair of morphisms.



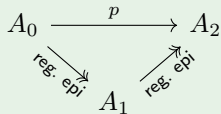
Fact [GU71]

In a locally presentable category,

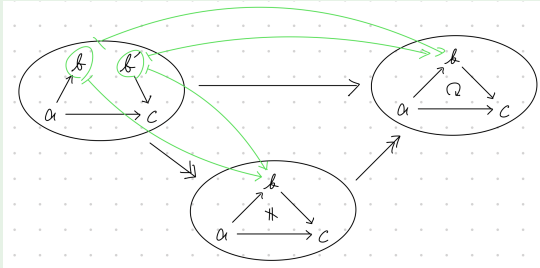
$$\text{strong epis} = \text{transfinite composites of regular epis}$$

Example

Cat: the category of small categories.



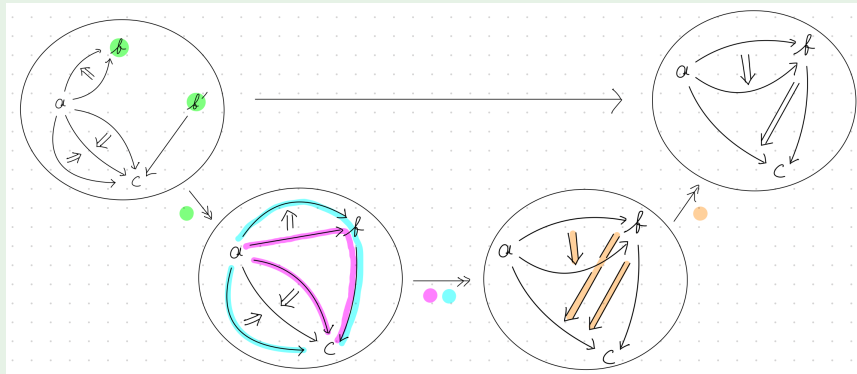
in **Cat**



Example

2Cat: the category of small 2-categories.

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 A_0 & \xrightarrow{p} & A_3 & & \\
 \searrow \text{reg. epi} & & \nearrow \text{reg. epi} & & \\
 & A_1 \xrightarrow{\text{reg. epi}} A_2 & & &
 \end{array}
 \quad \text{in } \mathbf{2Cat}$$



Actually...

Fact I

The length of the regular epi chains in the previous slides can NOT be shorter.

Fact II

- 1 In **Cat**, every strong epimorphism is decomposed into two regular epimorphisms.
- 2 In **2Cat**, every strong epimorphism is decomposed into three regular epimorphisms.

How to prove?

1 Strong and regular epimorphisms

2 The decomposition number

3 Partial Horn theories

4 Main results

Definition

A **decomposition (of length α)** of $A \xrightarrow{p} X$ in \mathcal{C} is a cocontinuous functor D such that the following commutes:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{1} & & \\ \lceil \alpha \rceil \downarrow & \searrow \lceil p \rceil & \\ \mathbb{Q} + 1 & \xrightarrow{D} & A/\mathcal{C} \end{array} \quad \text{in } \mathbf{CAT}.$$

Here, $\mathbb{1}$ denotes the terminal category, and $\mathbb{Q} + 1$ denotes the category obtained by regarding the ordinal number $\alpha + 1$ as a poset $\{0 < 1 < \dots < \alpha\}$.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{p} & X \\ D0 \downarrow \cong & \searrow D1 & \searrow D\alpha \\ \cdot & \xrightarrow{D_{01}} \cdot \xrightarrow{D_{12}} \dots & \longrightarrow \cdot \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \\ \\ \parallel \end{array} \quad \text{in } \mathcal{C}$$

Definition

A decomposition D (of length α) is called **regular** if $D_{\beta, \beta+1}$ is a regular epimorphism for any $0 \leq \beta < \alpha$.

The decomposition number

Definition

\mathcal{A} : a locally presentable category.

- ① The **decomposition number** $\delta(f)$ of $A \xrightarrow{f} B$ in \mathcal{A} is the smallest ordinal number α s.t. there is a factorization $f = m \circ p$ by a morphism p with its regular decomposition of length α and by a monomorphism m .

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} A & \xrightarrow{\quad f \quad} & B \\ \downarrow & \searrow p & \uparrow m \\ A_1 & \longrightarrow \twoheadrightarrow A_2 \longrightarrow \twoheadrightarrow \cdots \longrightarrow & A_\alpha \end{array}$$

- ② $\delta(\mathcal{A}) := \min\{\alpha \mid \delta(f) < \alpha \text{ for every } f \text{ in } \mathcal{A}\}.$

Theorem ([GU71])

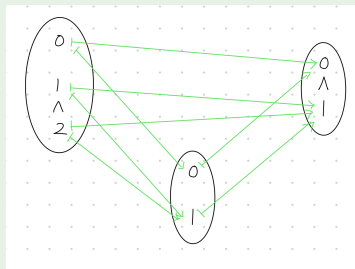
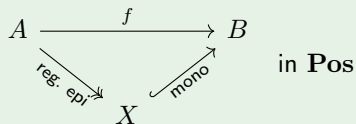
\mathcal{A} : a locally λ -presentable category.

\implies For every morphism f in \mathcal{A} , $\delta(f) \leq \lambda$. Therefore, $\delta(\mathcal{A}) \leq \lambda + 1$.

The decomposition number

Example

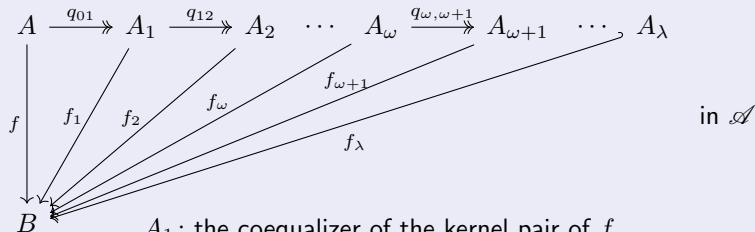
Pos: the category of posets.



In this case, $\delta(f) = 1$ and $\delta(\mathbf{Pos}) = 2$.

The small object argument

\mathcal{A} : locally λ -presentable category.



A_1 : the coequalizer of the kernel pair of f

A_2 : the coequalizer of the kernel pair of f_1

A_ω : the colimit of the chain $(A_n)_{n < \omega}$

$A_{\omega+1}$: the coequalizer of the kernel pair of f_ω

At least f_λ becomes monic. Let $\sigma(f)$ denote the smallest ordinal number α s.t. f_α is monic.

Corollary

$$\delta(f) \leq \sigma(f)$$

Theorem

In a locally presentable category, $\delta(f) = \sigma(f)$.

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For simplicity, we assume $\delta(f) = n < \omega$.

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$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} & & \xrightarrow{\quad f \quad} & & & & \\ X_0 & \xrightarrow{p_1} \twoheadrightarrow & X_1 & \xrightarrow{p_2} \twoheadrightarrow & X_2 & \xrightarrow{p_3} \twoheadrightarrow & \dots \xrightarrow{p_n} \twoheadrightarrow X_n \\ q_{01} \downarrow & & & & & & \parallel \\ A_1 & & & & & & X_n \\ & \searrow f_1 \quad \quad \quad \nearrow & & & & & \end{array}$$



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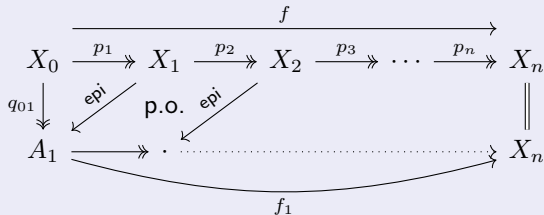


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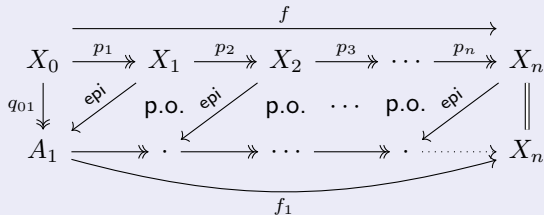


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 & & \xrightarrow{f} & & & & \\
 X_0 & \xrightarrow{p_1} \gg & X_1 & \xrightarrow{p_2} \gg & X_2 & \xrightarrow{p_3} \gg & \dots \xrightarrow{p_n} \gg X_n \\
 \downarrow q_{01} & \swarrow \text{epi} & & \swarrow \text{p.o.} & \swarrow \text{epi} & & \swarrow \text{p.o.} \quad \dots \quad \swarrow \text{p.o.} \quad \not\cong \\
 A_1 & \xrightarrow{\quad} \cdot & \xrightarrow{\quad} \gg & \dots & \xrightarrow{\quad} \gg & \cdot & \xrightarrow{\quad} \cong X_n \\
 & \searrow f_1 & & & & & \\
 & & & & & &
 \end{array}$$

Diagram illustrating the proof structure. The top row shows a sequence of objects $X_0, X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$ connected by epimorphisms $p_1, p_2, p_3, \dots, p_n$. A map f is shown above the sequence. The bottom row shows a sequence of objects $A_1, \cdot, \dots, \cdot, X_n$ connected by epimorphisms. A map f_1 is shown below the sequence. Vertical arrows connect X_0 to A_1 (labeled q_{01}) and X_n to X_n (labeled \cong). Diagonal arrows connect X_0 to A_1 (labeled epi), X_1 to A_1 (labeled p.o.), X_2 to A_1 (labeled epi), and X_n to A_1 (labeled p.o.).



Theorem

In a locally presentable category, $\delta(f) = \sigma(f)$.

Proof.

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 \downarrow q_{01} & \swarrow \text{epi} & & \swarrow \text{epi} & & \swarrow \text{p.o.} & \\
 A_1 & \xrightarrow{\quad} \gg & \cdot & \xrightarrow{\quad} \gg & \dots & \xrightarrow{\quad} \gg & \cdot \\
 & & \xrightarrow{f_1} & & & &
 \end{array}$$

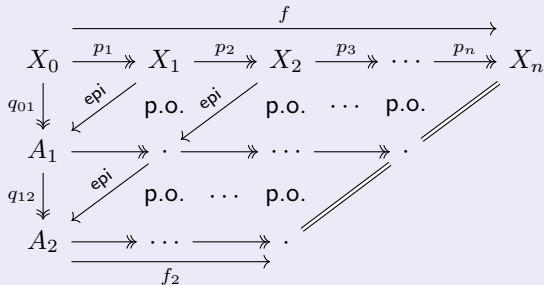


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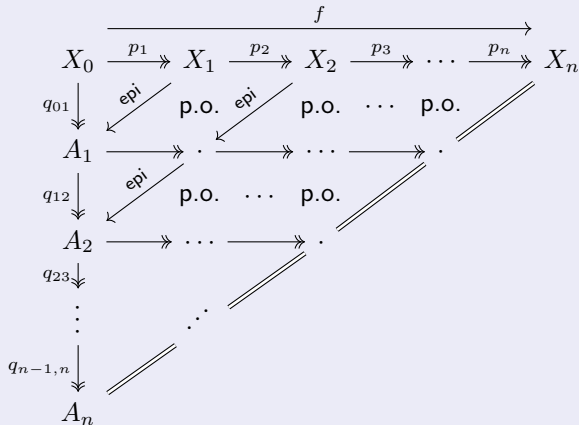


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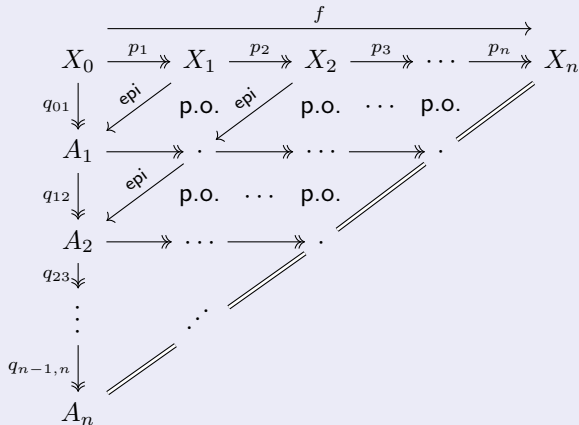


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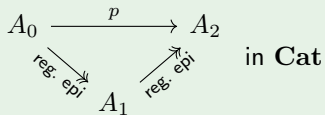
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Thus, we have $\sigma(f) \leq n$.

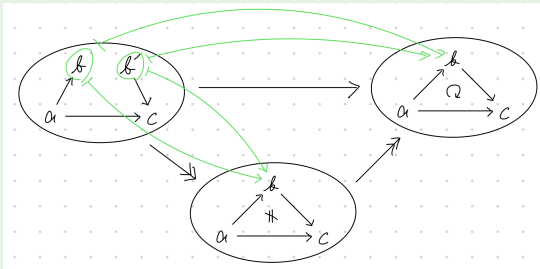
□

Example (recall)



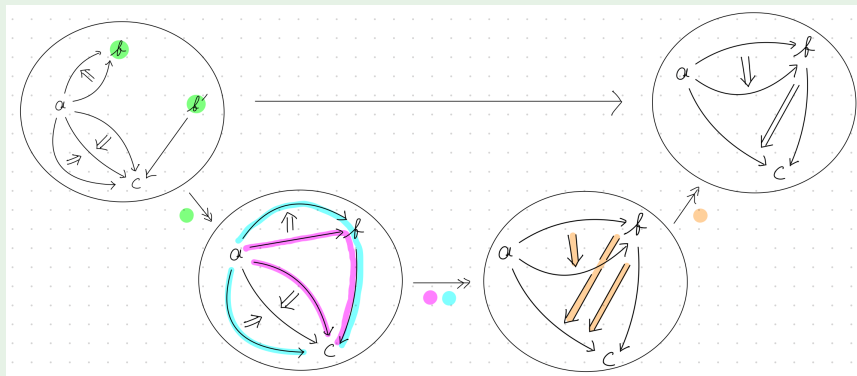
in \mathbf{Cat}

$$\implies \delta(p) = \sigma(p) = 2.$$



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$$\Rightarrow \quad \delta(p) = \sigma(p) = 3.$$

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Multi-sorted signature

Definition

S : the set of sorts. λ : an infinite regular cardinal.

An **S -sorted (λ -ary) signature** Σ consists of:

- function symbols f, f', f'', \dots
- relation symbols R, R', R'', \dots

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- arity of each function symbol $f: \prod_{i < \alpha} s_i \rightarrow s$, $f': \prod \dots$
- arity of each relation symbol $R: \prod_{j < \beta} s_j$, $R': \prod \dots$

where $\alpha, \beta < \lambda$ and $s_i, s_j, s \in S$.

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where $\alpha, \beta < \lambda$ and $s_i, s_j, s \in S$.

From now on, we fix λ .

Partial Horn theory

Σ : an S -sorted signature.

- A **term** $\tau ::= x \mid f(\tau_i)_{i < \alpha}$;
- A (λ -ary) **Horn formula** $\varphi ::= \top \mid \bigwedge_{i < \alpha} \varphi_i \mid \tau = \tau' \mid R(\tau_i)_{i < \alpha}$;
- A (λ -ary) **context** $\cdots \vec{x} = (x_i)_{i < \alpha}$ (a family of distinct variables).

Here, $\alpha < \lambda$. The notation $\vec{x}.\varphi$ (resp. $\vec{x}.\tau$) means that all variables of φ (resp. τ) are in the context \vec{x} . (*Horn formula (resp. term)-in-context*)

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Definition

- ① A (λ -ary) **Horn sequent** over Σ is an expression of the form

$$\varphi \vdash_{\vec{x}} \psi \quad (\text{"}\varphi \text{ implies } \psi\text{"})$$

(φ, ψ are λ -ary Horn formulas over Σ in the same λ -ary context \vec{x} .)

- ② A (λ -ary) **partial Horn theory** \mathbb{T} over Σ is a set of (λ -ary) Horn sequents over Σ .

Horn vs partial Horn

What is the difference between ordinary Horn theory and partial Horn theory?

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↪ It lies in the concept of models.

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	(ordinary) Horn theory	partial Horn theory
Axiom	Horn sequent $\varphi \vdash^{\vec{x}} \psi$	Horn sequent $\varphi \vdash^{\vec{x}} \psi$
Interpretation of func.symb.	total map $M_{\vec{s}} \xrightarrow{[f]_M} M_s$	partial map $M_{\vec{s}} \xrightarrow{[f]_M} M_s$
Interpretation of rel.symb.	subset $\llbracket R \rrbracket_M \subseteq M_{\vec{s}}$	subset $\llbracket R \rrbracket_M \subseteq M_{\vec{s}}$
Validity of φ	" φ holds."	" All terms in φ are defined and φ holds."
Validity of $\varphi \vdash^{\vec{x}} \psi$	"If φ holds then ψ holds."	"If all terms in φ are defined and φ holds, then all terms in ψ are defined and ψ holds."

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Validity of $\varphi \vdash_{\vec{x}} \psi$	"If φ holds then ψ holds."	"If all terms in φ are defined and φ holds, then all terms in ψ are defined and ψ holds."

Especially,

An equation $\tau = \tau$ holds iff the value of the partial map $\llbracket \tau \rrbracket_M$ is defined.

So, we will use the abbreviation $\tau \downarrow$ for $\tau = \tau$.

Categories of partial models

Notation

\mathbb{T} : a partial Horn theory.

PMo d \mathbb{T} : the category of (partial) models of \mathbb{T} .

Fact

A category \mathcal{A} is locally λ -presentable $\iff \mathcal{A} \simeq \mathbf{PMo}d\, \mathbb{T}$ for some λ -ary partial Horn theory \mathbb{T} .

Example: small categories

Example (small categories)

We can define the partial Horn theory \mathbb{T}_{cat} of small categories as follows:
The $S := \{\text{ob}, \text{mor}\}$ -sorted signature Σ_{cat} consists of:

$$\text{id}: \text{ob} \rightarrow \text{mor}, \quad \text{d}: \text{mor} \rightarrow \text{ob}, \quad \text{c}: \text{mor} \rightarrow \text{ob}, \quad \circ: \text{mor} \sqcap \text{mor} \rightarrow \text{mor}.$$

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The partial Horn theory \mathbb{T}_{cat} over Σ_{cat} consists of:

$$\top \vdash \frac{x:\text{ob}}{\text{id}(x)\downarrow}, \quad (\text{id is total.})$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \text{d}(g) = \text{c}(f) &\vdash \frac{g, f:\text{mor}}{} (g \circ f) \downarrow, \\ (g \circ f) \downarrow &\vdash \frac{g, f:\text{mor}}{} \text{d}(g) = \text{c}(f), \end{aligned} \quad (g \circ f \text{ is defined iff } \text{d}(g) = \text{c}(f).)$$

and so on.

\rightsquigarrow We have $\mathbf{PMod} \mathbb{T}_{\text{cat}} \cong \mathbf{Cat}$.

Example: small 2-categories

Example (small 2-categories)

There is an $S := \{0, 1, 2\}$ -sorted signature $\Sigma_{2\text{cat}}$ and a finitary PHT $\mathbb{T}_{2\text{cat}}$ over $\Sigma_{2\text{cat}}$ s.t.

$$\mathbf{PMod} \, \mathbb{T}_{2\text{cat}} \cong \mathbf{2Cat}.$$

Example: posets

Example (posets)

We present the partial Horn theory \mathbb{T}_{pos} of posets. Let $S := \{*\}$, $\Sigma_{\text{pos}} := \{\leq : * \sqcap *\}$. The partial Horn theory \mathbb{T}_{pos} over Σ_{pos} consists of:

$$\top \vdash^x x \leq x, \quad x \leq y \wedge y \leq x \vdash^{x,y} x = y, \quad x \leq y \wedge y \leq z \vdash^{x,y,z} x \leq z.$$

Then, we have $\mathbf{PMod} \mathbb{T}_{\text{pos}} \cong \mathbf{Pos}$.

Representing models

\mathbb{T} : a λ -ary partial Horn theory.

Construction

$\vec{x}.\varphi$: a $\kappa(\geq \lambda)$ -ary Horn formula (in a κ -ary context).

- A term $\vec{x}.\tau$ is **defined under $\vec{x}.\varphi$** $\stackrel{\text{def}}{\iff} \varphi \vdash_{\vec{x}} \tau \downarrow$ can be derived from \mathbb{T} .
- The following gives an equivalence relation on the terms defined under $\vec{x}.\varphi$:

$$\tau \sim \tau' \quad \stackrel{\text{def}}{\iff} \quad \varphi \vdash_{\vec{x}} \tau = \tau' \text{ can be derived from } \mathbb{T}.$$

- Quotienting all of the terms defined under $\vec{x}.\varphi$ by \sim , we obtain a \mathbb{T} -model $\langle \vec{x}.\varphi \rangle_{\mathbb{T}}$, called the **representing \mathbb{T} -model**.

Fact

- 1 For every \mathbb{T} -model M , $\llbracket \vec{x}.\varphi \rrbracket_M \cong \mathbf{PMod} \mathbb{T}(\langle \vec{x}.\varphi \rangle_{\mathbb{T}}, M)$.
- 2 A \mathbb{T} -model M is $\kappa(\geq \lambda)$ -presentable $\iff M \cong \langle \vec{x}.\varphi \rangle_{\mathbb{T}}$ for some κ -ary Horn formula $\vec{x}.\varphi$.

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Gauges

Definition

\mathbb{T} : a λ -ary PHT.

A **gauge** (of length α) for \mathbb{T} is an assignment to each term $\vec{x}.\tau$ in a λ -ary context, of the following data:

- an ordinal number $\sharp(\vec{x}.\tau) < \alpha$;
- a set $\text{Def}(\vec{x}.\tau)$ of pairs (σ^0, σ^1) of terms in the context \vec{x}

such that, for every $\vec{x}.\tau$,

- $\mathbb{T} \models \left(\tau = \tau \xrightarrow{\vec{x}} \bigwedge_{(\sigma^0, \sigma^1) \in \text{Def}(\vec{x}.\tau)} \sigma^0 = \sigma^1 \right)$;
- $\forall (\sigma^0, \sigma^1) \in \text{Def}(\vec{x}.\tau). \sharp(\vec{x}.\sigma^0), \sharp(\vec{x}.\sigma^1) < \sharp(\vec{x}.\tau).$

Theorem

\mathbb{T} : a λ -ary PHT with a gauge of length α .

$\implies \delta(f) \leq \alpha \ (\forall f \text{ in } \mathbf{PMod} \ \mathbb{T}), \text{ hence } \delta(\mathbf{PMod} \ \mathbb{T}) \leq \alpha + 1.$

How to construct a gauge

Definition

\mathbb{T} : a λ -ary partial Horn theory.

- Let \vec{x} be a λ -ary context.

$$\text{Term}_1(\vec{x}) := \{\vec{x}.\tau \mid \mathbb{T} \models (\tau \downarrow \vdash_{\vec{x}} \top)\}.$$

$$\text{Term}_{\beta+1}(\vec{x}) := \text{Term}_{\beta}(\vec{x}) \cup$$

$$\left\{ \vec{x}.\tau \mid \exists E \subseteq \text{Term}_{\beta}(\vec{x})^2 \text{ s.t. } \mathbb{T} \models (\tau \downarrow \vdash_{\vec{x}} \bigwedge_{(\sigma^0, \sigma^1) \in E} \sigma^0 = \sigma^1) \right\}.$$

$$\text{Term}_{\sup \beta}(\vec{x}) := \bigcup_{\beta} \text{Term}_{\beta}(\vec{x}).$$

- $\text{dep}(\vec{x}) := \min\{\alpha \mid \text{Term}_{\alpha}(\vec{x}) = \text{Term}_{\alpha+1}(\vec{x})\}.$
- $\text{dep}(\mathbb{T}) := \min\{\alpha \mid \forall \vec{x}: \lambda\text{-ary. } \text{dep}(\vec{x}) < \alpha\}$ (the **depth** of \mathbb{T}).

Lemma

Assume every $\vec{x}.\tau$ belongs to $\text{Term}_{\alpha}(\vec{x})$ for some α ($\stackrel{\text{def}}{\Leftrightarrow}$: \mathbb{T} is **essentially algebraic**). Then, \mathbb{T} has a gauge of length “ $\text{dep}(\mathbb{T}) - 1$.”

Theorem

$$\mathbb{T}: \text{essentially algebraic} \implies \delta(\mathbf{PMod} \mathbb{T}) \leq \begin{cases} \text{dep}(\mathbb{T}) & \text{if } \text{dep}(\mathbb{T}): \text{ a successor} \\ \text{dep}(\mathbb{T}) + 1 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

Example

$$\delta(\mathbf{Pos}) \leq \text{dep}(\mathbb{T}_{\text{pos}}) = 2;$$

$$\delta(\mathbf{Cat}) \leq \text{dep}(\mathbb{T}_{\text{cat}}) = 3;$$

$$\delta(\mathbf{2Cat}) \leq \text{dep}(\mathbb{T}_{\text{2cat}}) = 4.$$

Therefore,

$$\delta(\mathbf{Pos}) = 2;$$

$$\delta(\mathbf{Cat}) = 3;$$

$$\delta(\mathbf{2Cat}) = 4.$$

The decay number

Definition

\mathbb{T} : a λ -ary partial Horn theory.

- L : a set of terms in a common context.

$$\text{eq}(L) := \left(\bigwedge_{\tau, \tau' \in L} \tau = \tau' \right).$$

- \vec{x} : a λ -ary context.

$$\text{dec}(\vec{x}) := \min \left\{ \alpha \mid \mathbb{T} \models \left(\text{eq}(\text{Term}_\alpha(\vec{x})) \vdash^{\vec{x}} \text{eq}(\text{Term}_{\alpha+1}(\vec{x})) \right) \right\}.$$

- $\text{dec}(\mathbb{T}) := \min \{ \alpha \mid \forall \vec{x}: \lambda\text{-ary}. \text{dec}(\vec{x}) < \alpha \}$ (the **decay number** of \mathbb{T}).

Remark

$$\text{dec}(\vec{x}) \leq \text{dep}(\vec{x}), \text{ hence } \text{dec}(\mathbb{T}) \leq \text{dep}(\mathbb{T}).$$

Proposition

For $\langle \vec{x}. \top \rangle \xrightarrow{!} 1$ in $\mathbf{PMod} \mathbb{T}$, $\delta(!) = \text{dec}(\vec{x})$.

Example

Let \mathbb{T} be the single-sorted finitary PHT defined as follows:

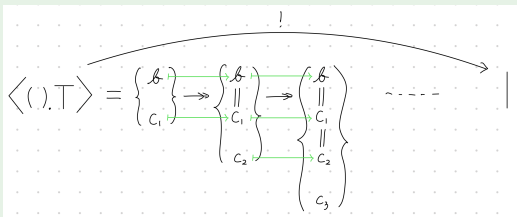
$$\Sigma := \{ b, c_n : \text{constants (for } n \geq 1) \},$$

$$\mathbb{T} := \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \top \vdash b = b \wedge c_1 = c_1 \\ b = c_n \vdash c_{n+1} = c_{n+1} \text{ (for } n \geq 1) \end{array} \right\}.$$

Then,

$$\text{Term}_1() = \{b, c_1\}, \quad \text{Term}_2() = \{b, c_1, c_2\}, \quad \text{Term}_3() = \{b, c_1, c_2, c_3\}, \dots$$

$$\text{dec}() = \text{dep}() = \omega.$$



in $\mathbf{PMod} \mathbb{T}$.

Corollary

$$\text{dec}(\mathbb{T}) \leq \delta(\mathbf{PMod} \mathbb{T}).$$

Theorem

- ① If \mathbb{T} is essentially algebraic,

$$\text{dec}(\mathbb{T}) \leq \delta(\mathbf{PMod} \mathbb{T}) \leq \begin{cases} \text{dep}(\mathbb{T}) & \text{if } \text{dep}(\mathbb{T}): \text{ a successor} \\ \text{dep}(\mathbb{T}) + 1 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

- ② If $\text{dec}(\mathbb{T}) = \text{dep}(\mathbb{T})$ and it is a successor additionally, then

$$\delta(\mathbf{PMod} \mathbb{T}) = \text{dep}(\mathbb{T}).$$

Thank you!

Today's slides

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Motivation

In abstract algebra (or universal algebra), the homomorphism theorem is fundamental. Categorically, it can be treated by *regular categories*.

Recall

In a regular category,

- Every morphism can be decomposed into a *regular epimorphism* and a *monomorphism*.
- Such a decomposition is always given in the “canonical” way: taking a quotient by the *kernel pair*.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{f} & B \\ & \searrow & \nearrow \\ & A/\text{Ker } f & \end{array}$$

- The class of regular epimorphisms is stable under pullbacks.

Motivation

Example

The regular categories include various categories considered in classical universal algebra: groups, monoids, etc.

The above examples are captured by the following general fact:

Fact

Monadic categories over **Set** are regular.

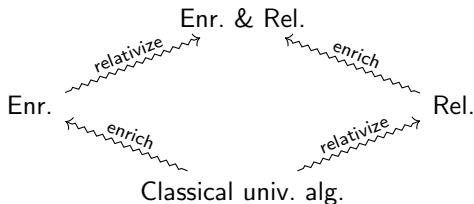
Motivation

There are several directions to generalize classical universal algebra “syntactically.” For example:

Enriching \mathcal{V} -enriched λ -ary monadic categories over \mathcal{V} [RT24].

Relativizing (**Set**-enriched) λ -ary monadic categories over a locally λ -presentable category [Kaw24].

Enr. & Rel. \mathcal{V} -enriched λ -ary monadic categories over a locally λ -presentable \mathcal{V} -category [Ros21].



Motivation

A problem

Monadic categories over a locally presentable category are NOT regular in general, even when the base category is regular.

Example

Cat, the category of small categories, are finitary monadic over **Quiv**, the category of quivers (=directed graphs). However, **Cat** is not regular even if **Quiv** is regular.