

Dependently typed algebraic theories

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1 Mar. 2021

Masaryk University Algebra Seminar

- ▶ This talk will oscillate between syntactic definitions and category theory, so do interrupt when necessary! 😊
- ▶ The work on \mathbb{S} -contextual categories is joint with Peter LeFanu Lumsdaine.
- ▶ The work on opetopic nerve functors is joint with Cédric Ho Thanh.

Outline

1. Introduction (algebraic theories revisited)
2. Dependent type signatures as lfd-categories
3. Contextual categories as monoids in collections
4. Interesting example: opetopic nerve functors
5. Perspective: theories of higher algebraic structures

Introduction

Algebraic theories

Many algebraic structures can be specified by **algebraic** (or “Lawvere”) **theories**. Such a theory consists of:

1. A set S of sorts,
2. a set Σ of S -sorted (finitary) function symbols, each written

$$x:A_1, \dots, x_n:A_n \vdash f : A \quad (A_1, \dots, A_n, A \in S),$$

3. Equations between S -sorted terms over Σ , each written

$$x:A_1, \dots, x_n:A_n \vdash t = u : A.$$

Example

The theory of **associative monoids**:

1. set of sorts $\{M\}$,
2. function symbols

$$\vdash 1 : M \qquad x, y : M \vdash \circ : M,$$

3. equations

$$x : M \vdash 1 \circ x = x : M \qquad x : M \vdash x \circ 1 = x : M$$

$$x, y, z : M \vdash (x \circ y) \circ z = x \circ (y \circ z) : M.$$

also of groups, rings, unicoloured operads,...

Generalising algebraic theories

Some algebraic structures cannot be described by algebraic theories.
E.g. small categories, coloured operads, small groupoids,
 n -categories, simplicial sets . . .

Two well-known generalisations of algebraic theories are :

- ▶ Essentially algebraic theories
- ▶ Generalised algebraic theories (à la Cartmell)

Example

The essentially algebraic theory of categories :

1. sorts are $\{O, H\}$,
2. (partial) function symbols are

$$f:H \vdash s : O$$

$$f:H \vdash t : O$$

$$x:O \vdash 1 : H$$

$$f, g:H, sg = tf:O \vdash \circ : H$$

3. equations are

$$x:O \vdash s(1(x)) = x : O$$

$$x:O \vdash t(1(x)) = x : O$$

$$f:H \vdash 1(t(f)) \circ f = f : H$$

$$f:H \vdash f \circ 1(s(f)) = f : H$$

$$\dots \vdash s(g \circ f) = s(f) : H$$

$$\dots \vdash t(g \circ f) = t(g) : H$$

$$\dots \vdash h \circ (g \circ f) = (h \circ g) \circ f : H.$$

Example

The *generalised* algebraic theory of categories :

1. sorts are

$$\vdash O \qquad x, y:O \vdash H(x, y)$$

2. function symbols are

$$x:O \vdash 1 : H(x, x) \quad \dots, f:H(x, y), g:H(y, z) \vdash \circ : H(x, z)$$

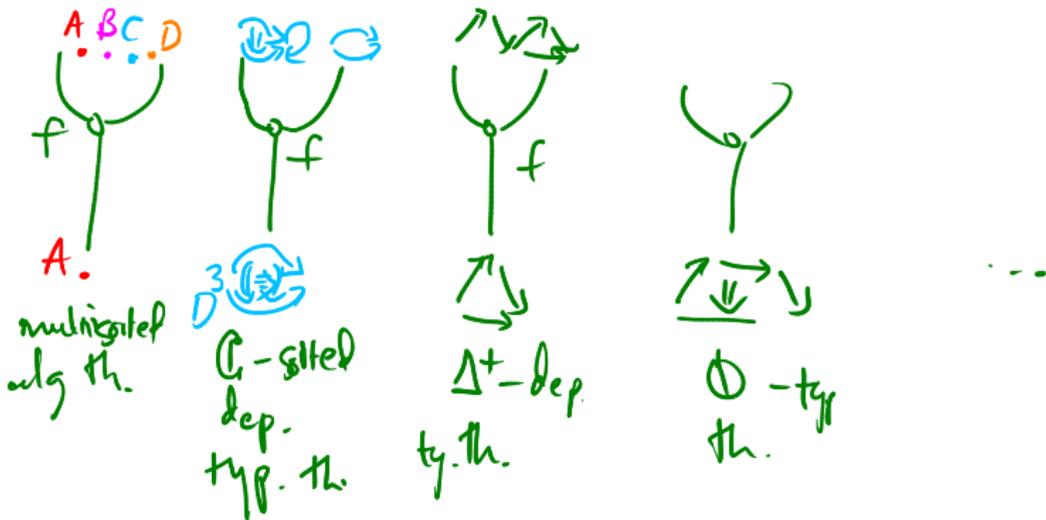
3. equations are

$$\dots \vdash 1 \circ f = f : H(x, y) \qquad \dots \vdash f \circ 1 = f : H(x, y)$$

$$\dots \vdash h \circ (g \circ f) = (h \circ g) \circ f : H(x_1, x_4).$$

- ▶ I will present a strict subclass of generalised algebraic theories (**dependently typed algebraic theories**).
- ▶ But which nicely generalise multisorted algebraic theories from a category-theoretic point of view.
- ▶ And there are many interesting examples of these!

The guiding intuition is that the contexts of variables of these theories are *finite cell complexes* (whose generating cells are of some kind of shape, and of finite dimension).



Algebraic theories as finite-product categories

Every S -sorted algebraic theory \mathbb{T} has a **syntactic category** $C_{\mathbb{T}}$ of contexts.

The objects of $C_{\mathbb{T}}$ are finite contexts of S -sorted variables (e.g. $x:A, y:B$ where $A, B \in S$).

A morphism $\Gamma \rightarrow (x_1:A_1, \dots, x_n:A_n)$ is a list $(t_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n}$ of terms of \mathbb{T} , sorted as $\Gamma \vdash t_i : A_i$.

Composition of morphisms is defined by substitution.

The syntactic category C_S of the S -sorted algebraic theory with *no* function symbols (and no equations) is a finite-product completion of S .

For every \mathbb{T} , there is a unique identity-on-objects, finite-product preserving functor $C_S \rightarrow C_{\mathbb{T}}$.

A morphism $\mathbb{T} \rightarrow \mathbb{T}'$ is simply a functor $C_{\mathbb{T}} \rightarrow C_{\mathbb{T}'}$ making the triangle commute. Call this category \mathcal{Th}_S .

$$\begin{array}{ccc} C_S & \longrightarrow & C_{\mathbb{T}} \\ & \searrow & \downarrow \\ & & C_{\mathbb{T}'} \end{array}$$

A **model** of \mathbb{T} is a finite-product preserving functor $C_{\mathbb{T}} \rightarrow \text{Set}$.
Morphisms of models are natural transformations.

The category of models of C_S is just Set/S .

So $C_{\mathbb{T}} \rightarrow \text{Set}$ is a model of \mathbb{T} iff the composite $C_S \rightarrow C_{\mathbb{T}} \rightarrow \text{Set}$ is in Set/S .

Multisorted algebraic theories as monoids in collections

Let $S \in \text{Set}$ be “a set of sorts”.

The over-category $\mathcal{F}in/S$ is the category of f.p. objects of Set/S .

(N.B. $\mathcal{F}in$ is the category of finite sets.)

$\mathcal{F}in/S$ is also the free completion of S under finite coproducts.

(Objects of $\mathcal{F}in/S$ are exactly finite contexts of S -sorted variables.)



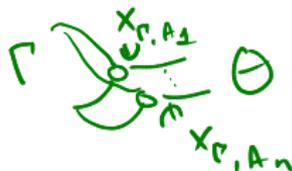
Definition

The category of **S -sorted cartesian collections** is the presheaf category $\mathbb{C}oll_S := [\mathcal{F}in_{/S}, \mathcal{S}et_{/S}] = [\mathcal{F}in_{/S} \times S, \mathcal{S}et]$.

Every presheaf $X \in \mathbb{C}oll_S$ is a signature* of S -sorted function symbols. (For every finite context $\Gamma \in \mathcal{F}in_{/S}$ and every sort $A \in S$, $X_{(\Gamma, A)}$ is its set of function symbols $\Gamma \vdash f : A$.)

Collections can be composed: for $X, Y \in \mathcal{C}oll_S$,

$$(Y \circ X)_{(\Gamma, A)} := \int^{\Theta \in \mathcal{F}in/S} Y_{(\Theta, A)} \times \mathcal{S}et/S(\Theta, X_{(\Gamma, -)}).$$



$- \circ -$ is a monoidal product on $\mathcal{C}oll_S$, with unit $i: \mathcal{F}in/S \hookrightarrow \mathcal{S}et/S$.

Left Kan extension along $i: \mathcal{F}in_S \hookrightarrow \mathcal{S}et_S$ is a full monoidal embedding $\mathcal{C}oll_S \hookrightarrow [\mathcal{S}et_S, \mathcal{S}et_S]$ whose image is the category of **finitary** endofunctors on $\mathcal{S}et_S$.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathcal{F}in_S & \xrightarrow{X} & \mathcal{S}et_S \\
 i \downarrow & \cong \nearrow & \\
 \mathcal{S}et_S & \text{Lan}_i X &
 \end{array}$$

So $\text{Mon}(\mathcal{C}oll_S, \circ, i) \subset \text{Mnd}(\mathcal{S}et_S)$ is the full subcategory of finitary monads on $\mathcal{S}et_S$.

For T a monad on Set/S , we have a commutative square

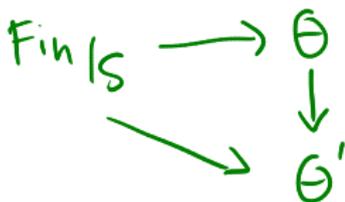
$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathcal{F}\text{in}/S & \xrightarrow{l_T \text{ i.o.}} & \Theta_T \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 \text{Set}/S & \xrightarrow{F_T} & T\text{-Alg.}
 \end{array}$$

T.F.A.E.

1. T is finitary.
2. l_T preserves finite coproducts.

3. $(l_T)^*(l_T)_!$ restricts to Set/S *(l_T is Lawvere theory with arities $\text{Fin}/S \hookrightarrow \text{Set}/S$)*

An S -sorted **Lawvere theory** is an identity-on-objects finite-coproduct preserving functor $\mathcal{F}in/S \rightarrow \Theta$. A morphism is just a functor $\Theta \rightarrow \Theta'$ making the triangle commute. Call this category $\mathcal{L}aw_S$.



We have

$$\text{Mon}(\text{Coll}_S, \circ, i) \simeq \mathcal{F}in\underline{\text{Mnd}}(\text{Set}/S) \simeq \mathcal{L}aw_S \simeq \mathcal{T}h_S.$$

We could play the same game by taking \mathbb{S} to be a small category,
and replacing

$[\mathbb{S}^{\text{op}}, \text{Set}]$

1. Set/\mathbb{S} and Fin/\mathbb{S} with $\widehat{\mathbb{S}}$ and $\widehat{\mathbb{S}}_{\text{fp}}$ resp.,
2. finite coproducts with finite colimits,
3. $\mathcal{L}aw_{\mathbb{S}}$ with $\mathcal{L}aw_{\widehat{\mathbb{S}}}$.

But the syntactic counterpart of $\mathcal{T}h_{\mathbb{S}}$ is not straightforward.

I will show that when \mathbb{S} is a small category of “shapes” that corresponds to a dependent type signature, there is a $\mathcal{T}h_{\mathbb{S}}$ that is just as elegant.

Dependent type signatures as locally finite direct categories

Dependent type signatures

Begin with a syntactic definition.

A **(dependent) type signature** S is a graded set $S = \coprod_{n \in \mathbb{N}} S_n$, such that each S_j is a set of *type declarations* over the signature $S_{<j} = \coprod_{i < j} S_i$.

A **type declaration** over a signature S is a pair (Γ, A) where Γ is a (Martin-Löf) context typed by S and A is a (fresh) type symbol.

Examples

▶ $S = \emptyset$

▶ $S =$

$$\begin{aligned} \{ \vdash \text{Ob} \} &= S_1 \\ \{ x, y: \text{Ob} \vdash \text{Hom}(x, y) \} &= S_2 \end{aligned}$$

▶ $S =$

$$\begin{aligned} \{ \vdash C \} &= S_1 \\ S_2 &= \left\{ x_1: C, \dots, x_k: C, y: C \vdash \text{Op}(x_1, \dots, x_k, y) \quad \forall k \in \mathbb{N} \right\} \end{aligned}$$

Every signature S has a **syntactic category** whose objects are contexts Γ typed by S and whose morphisms are context morphisms $\Gamma \rightarrow \Delta$.
 (τ_1, \dots, τ_k)

For a signature S , let \mathbb{C}_S be the full subcategory of its category of contexts on the contexts $(\Gamma, x:A)$ for all (Γ, A) in S .

Then \mathbb{C}_S^{op} is a *locally finite direct* category.

Lfd categories

A **direct** category is a small category C such that the relation

$$c < d \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \exists \text{ a non-identity arrow } c \rightarrow d$$

on the objects of C is well-founded (i.e. no infinite chains $\dots < c_0$).

If C is direct and $X \in \widehat{C}$, then C/X is direct.

A category C is **locally finite** if each of its slice categories is finite, i.e. in every cartesian square in $\mathcal{C}at$ of the form

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 A & \longrightarrow & C^{\rightarrow} \\
 \downarrow & \lrcorner & \downarrow t \\
 \star & \longrightarrow & C
 \end{array}
 \quad A \text{ is finite.}$$

If C is locally finite and $X \in \widehat{C}$, then C/X is locally finite.

(Recall:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 A^{\rightarrow} & \xrightarrow{p^{\rightarrow}} & B^{\rightarrow} \\
 t \downarrow & & \downarrow t \\
 A & \xrightarrow{p} & C
 \end{array}
 \quad \text{is cartesian iff } p \text{ is a disc. fibration.)}$$

Categorical definition of type signatures

$\mathbb{S} \in \mathcal{Cat}$ is **lfd** if it is locally finite and direct.

So if $X \in \widehat{\mathbb{S}}$, then \mathbb{S}/X is lfd.

For every lfd category \mathbb{S} , there is a unique type signature S such that $\mathbb{S} \cong \mathbb{C}_S$.

$$S = \{ (\partial c, c) \mid c \in \mathbb{S} \}$$

\mathbb{S} is lfd iff \mathbb{S}^{op} is *simple* (or “one-way finitely branching”) in the sense of Makkai[Mak95]. (FOLDS paper)

Examples of dependent type signatures/lfd categories

0. Any set S , seen as a discrete category.
1. The category $\{s, t : 0 \rightrightarrows 1\}$.
2. The category \mathbb{G} of globes.
3. The category Δ^+ of semi-simplices.
4. The category elt_{pl} of planar corollas/elementary trees.
5. The category Ω_{pl} of planar trees.
6. The category \mathbb{O} of opetopes.
7. The category of globular pasting schemes.

$$\mathbb{O} \subset \hat{\mathbb{G}}$$

Contextual categories as monoids in collections

Contextual categories (Cartmell, PhD thesis)

A *contextual category* C is the data of:

1. a small category C ,
2. a grading of objects as $\text{ob}(C) = \coprod_{n \in \mathbb{N}} C_n$,
3. an object $1 \in C_0$,
4. "parent" functions $\text{ft}(-)_n : C_{n+1} \rightarrow C_n$ (we will usually suppress the subscript),
5. for each $\Gamma \in C_{n+1}$, a map $p_\Gamma : \Gamma \rightarrow \text{ft}(\Gamma)$,
6. for each $\Gamma \in C_{n+1}$ and $f : \Gamma' \rightarrow \text{ft}(\Gamma)$, an object $f^*\Gamma$ together with a connecting map $f.\Gamma : f^*\Gamma \rightarrow \Gamma$;



such that:

- ▶ 1 is the unique object in C_0 ;
- ▶ 1 is a terminal object in C ;
- ▶ for each $\Gamma \in C_{n+1}$, and $f: \Gamma' \rightarrow \text{ft}(\Gamma)$, we have $\text{ft}(f^*\Gamma) = \Gamma'$, and the square

$$\begin{array}{ccc} f^*\Gamma & \xrightarrow{f \cdot \Gamma} & \Gamma \\ \text{p}_{f^*\Gamma} \downarrow & \lrcorner & \downarrow \text{p}_\Gamma \\ \Gamma' & \xrightarrow{f} & \text{ft}(\Gamma) \end{array}$$

is cartesian (the *canonical pullback* of Γ along f); and

- ▶ canonical pullbacks are strictly functorial.

The category of contextual categories is denoted CtxCat .

The syntactic category of a Martin-Löf type theory is a contextual category.

The initial \mathbb{S} -contextual category

Let \mathbb{S} be an lfd category.

For $c \in \mathbb{S}$, let $\mathbb{S}_{/c}^- \subset \mathbb{S}_{/c}$ be obtained by removing the identity morphism $1_c: c \rightarrow c$.

Let the **boundary** of c be the subrepresentable presheaf $\partial c \hookrightarrow c$ that is the colimit of $\mathbb{S}_{/c}^- \rightarrow \mathbb{S} \hookrightarrow \widehat{\mathbb{S}}$.

Since \mathbb{S} is locally finite, every ∂c is finitely presentable.

We define the set $I_{\mathbb{S}} := \{\partial c \hookrightarrow c \mid c \in \mathbb{S}\}$.

The category $\mathcal{C}ell(\mathbb{S})$ of *finite $I_{\mathbb{S}}$ -cell complexes* is defined as:

- ▶ objects are finite sequences $\emptyset \rightarrow X_1 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow X_n$ in $\widehat{\mathbb{S}}$, along with for each morphism $X_i \rightarrow X_{i+1}$, a choice of pushout square

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \partial c & \xrightarrow{\gamma} & X_i \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow p_{X_{i+1}} \\ c & \xrightarrow{\gamma \cdot c} & X_{i+1}, \end{array}$$

- ▶ its morphisms are defined by

$$\mathcal{C}ell(\mathbb{S})(\emptyset \rightarrow \dots X, \emptyset \rightarrow \dots Y) := \widehat{\mathbb{S}}(X, Y).$$

The image of the fully faithful forgetful functor $\mathcal{C}ell(\mathbb{S}) \rightarrow \widehat{\mathbb{S}}$ is $\widehat{\mathbb{S}}_{\text{fp}}$.
(Since \mathbb{S} is lfd, $I_{\mathbb{S}}$ is a f.p. cellular model for $\widehat{\mathbb{S}}$.)

Let D be a contextual category. Then $f: \mathbb{S}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow D$ is a **contextual functor** if for all c in \mathbb{S} ,

1. fc is in D_{k_c} , where $k_c = \sum_{d \in \mathbb{S}} |\mathbb{S}(d, c)| = |\text{ob}(\mathbb{S}/_c)|$,
2. $\text{ft}(fc)$ is a limit of $(\mathbb{S}^-/_c)^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^{\text{op}} \xrightarrow{f} D$, and $p_{fc}: fc \rightarrow \text{ft}(fc)$ is the canonical morphism of limits given by $\mathbb{S}^-/_c \subset \mathbb{S}/_c$.

The category $\text{CxlCat}_{\mathbb{S}^{\text{op}}/}$ of contextual functors under \mathbb{S}^{op} has as morphisms those of CxlCat making the triangle commute.

The inclusion $\ast \mathbb{S}^{\text{op}} \subset \text{Cell}(\mathbb{S})^{\text{op}}$ is the initial object in $\text{CxlCat}_{\mathbb{S}^{\text{op}}/}$.

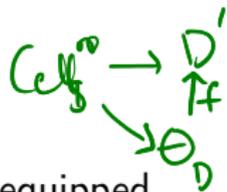
That is, $\text{CxlCat}_{\mathbb{S}^{\text{op}}/} \simeq \text{CxlCat}_{\text{Cell}(\mathbb{S})^{\text{op}}/}$.

(costive)

An **\mathbb{S} -contextual category** is a morphism of contextual categories

$\mathcal{C}ell(\mathbb{S})^{op} \rightarrow D$ such that in its (i.o.,ff) factorisation

$$\mathcal{C}ell(\mathbb{S})^{op} \xrightarrow{l_D} \Theta_D \xrightarrow{k_D} D :$$



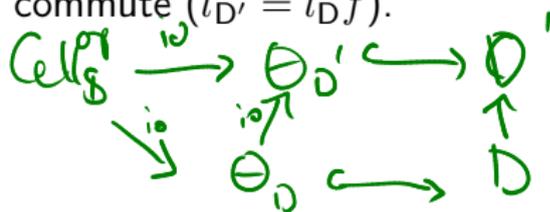
- ▶ $k_D: \Theta_D \hookrightarrow D$ is initial among all $g: \mathcal{C}ell(\mathbb{S})^{op} \rightarrow D'$ equipped with a functor $\Theta_D \xrightarrow{f} D'$ such that $g = \mathcal{C}ell(\mathbb{S})^{op} \rightarrow \Theta_D \rightarrow D'$.

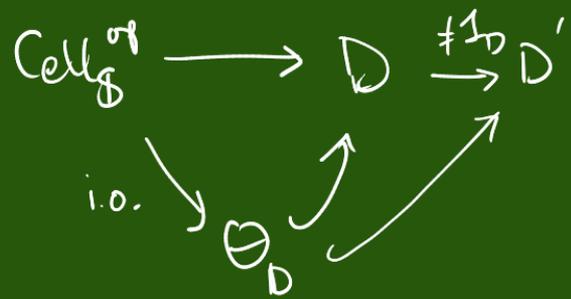
The category $\mathcal{C}xlCat_{\mathbb{S}}$ of \mathbb{S} -contextual categories is the full subcategory of $\mathcal{C}xlCat_{\mathcal{C}ell(\mathbb{S})^{op}/}$ on the \mathbb{S} -contextual categories.

Proposition

A morphism of \mathbb{S} -contextual categories is just a functor

$f: \Theta_D \rightarrow \Theta_{D'}$ making the triangle commute ($l_{D'} = l_D f$).





$\text{Cell}_S^{\text{of}}$ $\vdash c \quad \{c \in C_1\}$

$- \vdash$

$(x:c, y:c) \in C_2$

$S_C \xrightarrow[\text{nonwide}_c]{\text{nonfull}} C$

Q?

Final picture

Playing the same game as for algebraic theories, we have

$$\text{Mon}(\text{Coll}_{\mathbb{S}}, \circ, i) \simeq \text{FinMnd}(\widehat{\mathbb{S}}) \simeq \underbrace{\text{Law}_{\mathbb{S}}}_{\text{Law}_{\mathbb{S}}} \simeq \text{CxlCat}_{\mathbb{S}}.$$

(Rmq: $\text{Cell}_{\mathbb{S}}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow D$ in CxlCat
preserves finite limits)

Opetopic theories

Opetopes

I won't recall the category \mathbb{O} of opetopes (this is a little involved).
But for those who know it, it is easy to see that it is an lfd category.

\mathbb{O} contains (as full subcats) the category $\{s, t: 0 \rightrightarrows 1\}$ as well as the category elt_{pl} of planar corollas/elementary trees.

Pictures

$$\mathbb{D}_0 = \{ \cdot \}$$

$$\mathbb{D}_1 = \{ \cdot \longrightarrow \cdot \}$$

$$\mathbb{D}_2 = \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \curvearrowright \\ \Downarrow \\ \curvearrowright \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \end{array} \right\} \quad | \quad n \in \mathbb{N}$$

$$\mathbb{D}_3 = \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \circlearrowleft \\ \Downarrow \\ \circlearrowright \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \curvearrowright \\ \Downarrow \\ \curvearrowright \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \begin{array}{c} \curvearrowright \\ \Downarrow \\ \curvearrowright \end{array}$$

Let $\mathbb{O}_{m,n}$ be the full subcategory of \mathbb{O} of objects of dimensions $m \leq i \leq n$. Then

$$\mathbb{O}_{0,1} = \left\{ \diamond \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{s} \\ \xrightarrow{t} \end{array} \square \right\}$$

$$\mathbb{O}_{1,2} = \begin{array}{ccc} & \xrightarrow{s_n} & \underline{\mathbf{n}} \\ & \dots & \uparrow \\ & \xrightarrow{s_1} & \underline{\mathbf{1}} \\ \square & \xrightarrow{t} & \vdots \\ & \xrightarrow{t} & \underline{\mathbf{0}} \end{array}$$

So we have $\mathcal{Gph} = \widehat{\mathbb{O}_{0,1}}$ (directed graphs) and $\mathcal{Coll} = \widehat{\mathbb{O}_{1,2}}$ (coloured planar collections).

The category $\widehat{\mathbb{O}}_{1,3}$ is the category of *coloured combinatorial patterns* of Loday [Lod12].

↪ slides

We have monadic adjunctions $\widehat{\mathbb{O}}_{0,1} \xrightarrow{\perp} \text{Cat}$ (small categories) and $\widehat{\mathbb{O}}_{1,2} \xrightarrow{\perp} \text{Opd}$ (planar coloured Set-operads).

We also have a monadic adjunction $\widehat{\mathbb{O}}_{1,3} \xrightarrow{\perp} \text{Comb}$ (planar coloured combinads [Lod12]).

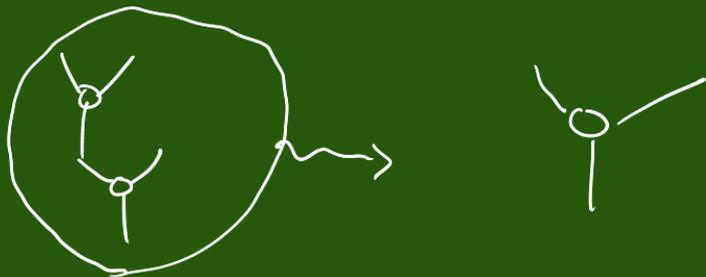
Opetopic nerve theorem

Theorem [HTLS19]

$\mathcal{C}at$, $\mathcal{O}pd$, $\mathcal{C}omb$ are *reflective* subcategories of $\widehat{\mathcal{O}}$. The idempotent monad is finitary in each case.

There are "idempotent" \mathcal{O} -typed theories for $\mathcal{C}at$, $\mathcal{O}pd$, $\mathcal{C}omb$.

$$\hat{\mathbb{D}}: \forall \omega \in \mathcal{O}. \Lambda[\omega] \hookrightarrow \omega$$



$$\hat{\mathbb{D}} \left[\left\{ \Lambda[\omega] \hookrightarrow \omega \mid \omega \in \mathcal{O}_{\geq 2} \right\}^{-1} \right] = \text{Cat}$$

Pictures



Cédric Ho Thanh and Chaitanya Leena Subramaniam.

Opetopic algebras I: Algebraic structures on opetopic sets.

arXiv preprint arXiv:1911.00907, 2019.



Jean-Louis Loday.

Algebras, operads, combinads.

2012.

Slides of a talk given at HOGT Lille on 23th of March (2012).



Michael Makkai.

First order logic with dependent sorts, with applications to category theory.

1995.