



MACQUARIE
University
SYDNEY · AUSTRALIA

The topological behaviour category of an algebraic theory

TACL 2022

Richard Garner
Centre of Australian Category Theory
Macquarie University

Algebraic theories in Mathematics

A signature is a set Σ of operations σ , each with an arity $|\sigma| \in \text{Set}$

Example: signature Σ_{grp} for groups is $\{\cdot, e, (-)^{-1}\}$ with arities $\{2, 0, 1\}$

Given a signature Σ and set A , can define set $\Sigma(A)$ of terms with free vars from A .

Example: we have $(x \cdot y) \cdot z, (x^{-1})^{-1}, (y \cdot e^{-1})^{-1} \cdot z \in \Sigma_{\text{grp}}(\{x, y, z\})$

An algebraic theory Π is a signature Σ and a set E of equations $s=t$ between terms in the same free vars.

Example: Π_{grp} has equations like $(x \cdot y) \cdot z = x \cdot (y \cdot z), x \cdot x^{-1} = e, \dots$

Algebraic theories in Mathematics

If \mathcal{C} is a category with products and $\Pi = (\Sigma, E)$ a theory, then a Σ -structure in \mathcal{C} is an $X \in \mathcal{C}$ +/w interpretations

$$\llbracket \sigma \rrbracket: X^{|\sigma|} \rightarrow X \quad \text{for all } \sigma \in \Sigma.$$

Given a Σ -structure in \mathcal{C} , can recursively define derived interpretations

$$\llbracket t \rrbracket: X^A \rightarrow X \quad \text{for all } t \in \Sigma(A)$$

and say X is a Π -model if $\llbracket s \rrbracket = \llbracket t \rrbracket$ for all $s=t$ in E .

- Example:**
- A Π_{Grp} -model in Set is a group
 - A Π_{Grp} -model in Top is a topological group
 - A Π_{Grp} -model in Cocoalg_k is a cocommutative Hopf algebra

Algebraic theories in computer science

If Π is an algebraic theory, and A is a set, then we write $T(A)$ for the set of Π -terms with free variables from A : this is the quotient of $\Sigma(A)$ by Π -provable equality.

Each $T(A)$ is a Π -model via substitution of terms; in fact, it's the free Π -model on the set A .

Example: $T_{\text{grp}}(A)$ is the free group with generating set A

In computer science, we see algebraic theories Π as encoding notions of computation, with $T(A)$ being the set of all Π -programs returning values from the set A .

Algebraic theories in computer science

Example: Let I be a set. The theory \mathbb{T}_{In} of input from the alphabet I has a single I -ary operation read , subject to no equations. We interpret elements of $T_{\text{In}}(A)$ as programs via

$$\begin{array}{lcl} a \in A \subseteq T_{\text{In}}(A) & \longleftrightarrow & \text{return } a \\ \text{read}(l_i, t_i) & \longleftrightarrow & \text{let } i = \text{read}() \text{ in } t(i) \end{array}$$

For instance, when $I = \mathbb{N}$, the program which reads two numbers and returns their sum is given by

$$\text{read}(\lambda n. \text{read}(\lambda m. n+m)) \in T_{\text{In}}(\mathbb{N})$$

Algebraic theories in computer science

Example: The theory \mathcal{T}_{RI} of reversible input from the alphabet I extends \mathcal{T}_{In} with I new unary operations $unread_i$ and equations

$$\begin{aligned} unread_i(\text{read}(\lambda j. x_j)) &= x_i & \forall i \in I \\ \text{read}(\lambda i. unread_i(x)) &= x \end{aligned}$$

We think of $unread_i(x)$ as pushing i back onto the input stream and then continuing as x .

For instance, when $I = \mathbb{N}$, the program which reads two numbers and puts their sum back on the input stream is given by

$$\text{read}(\lambda n. \text{read}(\lambda m. unread_{n+m}(*))) \in \mathcal{T}_{RI}(\{*\}).$$

Algebraic theories in computer science

Definition: A self-similar action of a monoid M on I is a function

$$\delta: I \times M \longrightarrow M \times I \quad (i, m) \longmapsto (m|_i, i \cdot m)$$

such that

$$i \cdot 1 = i$$

$$(i \cdot m) \cdot n = i \cdot (mn)$$

$$1|_i = 1$$

$$mn|_i = m|_i \ n|_{i \cdot m}$$

Idea: δ induces an action of M on $I^{\mathbb{N}}$ via

$$(\dots, i_2, i_1, i_0) \cdot m = (\dots, i_2 \cdot (m|_{i_0})|_{i_1}, i_1 \cdot m|_{i_0}, i_0 \cdot m)$$

Example: let $M = \mathbb{N}$ and $I = \{0, 1\}$. The adder action is:

$$(i, 2n) \longmapsto (n, i)$$

$$(0, 2n+1) \longmapsto (n, 1) \quad \text{and, e.g., } (\dots 0110) \cdot 3 = (\dots 1001)$$

$$(1, 2n+1) \longmapsto (n+1, 0)$$

Algebraic theories in computer science

Example: Let $\delta: I \times M \rightarrow M \times I$ be a self-similar monoid action. The theory Π_δ of reversible input acted on by M via δ extends Π_{RI} with unary operations ($\alpha_m: m \in M$) and equations

$$\alpha_1(x) = x \quad \alpha_m(\alpha_n(x)) = \alpha_{mn}(x)$$

$$\alpha_m(\text{read}(\lambda_i. x_i)) = \text{read}(\lambda_i. \alpha_{m|i}(x_{m \cdot i}))$$

The idea is that $\alpha_m(x)$ acts on the input stream via $(-)\cdot m$ and then continues as x . For instance, when δ is as on last slide, the program which adds the front four bits of the stream to the rest is

$$\text{read}(\lambda_{i_0}. \text{read}(\lambda_{i_1}. \text{read}(\lambda_{i_2}. \text{read}(\lambda_{i_3}. \alpha_{i_0+2i_1+4i_2+8i_3}(*)))) \in \Pi_\delta(\{*\})$$

Algebraic theories in computer science

Example: Let B be a **Boolean algebra**. The theory \mathbb{T}_B of **B -valued Boolean state** has binary operations b for each $b \in B$ and equations

Bergman
1991

$$b(x, x) = x \quad b(b(x, y), z) = b(x, z) \quad b(x, b(y, z)) = b(x, z)$$

$$1(x, y) = x \quad b'(x, y) = b(y, x) \quad b(c(x, y), y) = (b \wedge c)(x, y)$$

The idea is that B is a Boolean algebra of **propositions about the external world**, and that

$$b(x, y) \iff \text{if } b \text{ then } x \text{ else } y$$

Comodels

In **mathematics**, we care about algebraic theories for their **models**.

In **computer science**, we care more about **free models** ... but also **comodels**!

A **comodel** of an algebraic theory Π is a model in Set^{op} . Thus, it involves:

- A set S
- For each $\sigma \in \Sigma$ a **co-interpretation** $\llbracket \sigma \rrbracket: S \rightarrow |\sigma| \times S$;
- ... inducing **derived co-interpretations** $\llbracket t \rrbracket: S \rightarrow A \times S$ for all $t \in \Sigma(A)$;
- ... which we require to satisfy $\llbracket t \rrbracket = \llbracket u \rrbracket$ for all $t = u$ in E

In **mathematics**, comodels tend to be rather **dull**:

Example: A Π_{grp} -comodel S involves, among other things, a cointerpretation $\llbracket e \rrbracket: S \rightarrow \phi$, which **forces** $S = \phi$.

Comodels

... but in **computer science**, comodels are much more interesting!

Example: A Π_n -comodel is a set S t/w a function $[[\text{read}]]: S \rightarrow I \times S$.

We view this as a **state machine** that answers requests for I -tokens:

- S is a set of **states**;
- $[[\text{read}]]$ assigns to each state $s \in S$ a **next token** $i \in I$ and a **next state** $s' \in S$.

Power-Shkaravsha 2004 

In general, if Π -terms are **programs** which interact with an **environment**, then Π -comodels are **state machines** providing instances of that environment.

Comodels

In this view, the **cointerpretation** $\llbracket t \rrbracket: S \rightarrow A \times S$ of $t \in T(A)$ assigns to each $s \in S$ the result of **running** the computation t from state s to get a **return value** $a \in A$ and a **final state** $s' \in S$.

Example: let $S = \{a, b, c\}$ be the Π_{in} -comodel over the alphabet \mathbb{N} with:

$$\llbracket \text{read} \rrbracket: a \mapsto (7, b) \quad b \mapsto (11, c) \quad c \mapsto (9, b)$$

The **co-interpretation** $\llbracket t \rrbracket: S \rightarrow \mathbb{N} \times S$ of $t = \text{read}(\lambda n. \text{read}(\lambda m. n+m)) \in T_{in}(\mathbb{N})$ is:

$$\llbracket t \rrbracket: a \mapsto (18, c) \quad b \mapsto (20, b) \quad c \mapsto (20, c)$$

Comodels

Example: A $\Pi_{\mathbb{R}I}$ -comodel is a set S t/w functions

$$\llbracket \text{read} \rrbracket: S \rightarrow I \times S \quad (\llbracket \text{unread}_i \rrbracket: S \rightarrow S)_{i \in I}$$

... and the **axioms** say $\llbracket \text{read} \rrbracket$ is **inverse** to $\langle \llbracket \text{unread}_i \rrbracket \rangle_{i \in I}: I \times S \rightarrow S$.

So a **comodel** is a set S with an **isomorphism** $S \cong I \times S$.

Example: If $\delta: I \times M \rightarrow M \times I$ is a **self-similar monoid action**, then a

Π_{δ} -comodel is a $\Pi_{\mathbb{R}I}$ -comodel S with a **right M -action** s/t:

$$\llbracket \text{read} \rrbracket(s) = (i, s') \implies \llbracket \text{read} \rrbracket(s \cdot m) = (i \cdot m, s' \cdot m|_i)$$

Example: If \mathbb{B} is a **Boolean algebra**, then a $\Pi_{\mathbb{B}}$ -comodel is a set S

t/w a function $S \times \mathbb{B} \xrightarrow{\vee} 2$ s.t. each $v(s, -): \mathbb{B} \rightarrow 2$ is a

Boolean homomorphism.

The final comodel

Given a Π_{in} -comodel

$$\llbracket \text{read} \rrbracket : S \longrightarrow I \times S \quad s \longmapsto (h(s), \delta(s))$$

each **state** $s \in S$ has an associated **behaviour**: the stream of values

$$\beta(s) := (h(s), h(\delta(s)), h(\delta^2(s)), h(\delta^3(s)), \dots)$$

Abstractly, we find these **behaviours** as elements of the **final comodel**

$$\llbracket \text{read} \rrbracket : I^{\mathbb{N}} \longrightarrow I \times I^{\mathbb{N}} \quad \underbrace{(i_0, i_1, i_2, \dots)}_i \longmapsto (i_0, \underbrace{(i_1, i_2, \dots)}_{\delta i})$$

and recover $\beta(s)$ from s via the **unique comodel map**

$$\begin{array}{ccc} S & \longrightarrow & I \times S \\ \beta \downarrow & & \downarrow I \times \beta \\ I^{\mathbb{N}} & \longrightarrow & I \times I^{\mathbb{N}} \end{array}$$

In fact we can describe the **final comodel** for a general Π !

The final comodel

Definition: Let \mathbb{T} be an algebraic theory, $t \in T(I)$ and $u \in T(J)$.
We write

$$t \gg u := t(\lambda i. u) \in T(J)$$

(run t , throw away the return value, and then run u).

Definition: Let \mathbb{T} be an algebraic theory. An **admissible \mathbb{T} -behaviour** is
is a **natural family** of functions

$$\beta_I : T(I) \longrightarrow I$$

such that, for all $t \in T(I)$ and $\vec{u} \in T(J)^I$, we have

$$\beta(t(\vec{u})) = \beta(t \gg u_{\beta(t)})$$

The final comodel

Theorem (G.): Let Π be an algebraic theory. The **final Π -comodel** F is the set of Π -admissible behaviours, with **cooperations**

$$\llbracket \sigma \rrbracket : F \longrightarrow |\sigma| \times F$$

$$\beta \longmapsto (\beta(\sigma), \beta(\sigma \gg -))$$

Example: an **admissible behaviour** of Π_{in} is **uniquely specified** by

$$\left(\underset{\text{!}i_0}{\beta(\text{read})}, \underset{\text{!}i_1}{\beta(\text{read} \gg \text{read})}, \underset{\text{!}i_2}{\beta(\text{read} \gg \text{read} \gg \text{read})}, \dots \right) \in I^{\mathbb{N}}$$

E.g.,
$$\begin{aligned} \beta(\text{read}(\lambda n. \text{read}(\lambda m. n+m))) &= \beta(\text{read} \gg \text{read}(\lambda m. i_0+m)) \\ &= \beta(\text{read} \gg \text{read} \gg i_0+i_1) = i_0+i_1 \end{aligned}$$

The final comodel

Example: The final Π_{RI} -comodel is once again $I^{\mathbb{N}}$, with $\llbracket \text{read} \rrbracket$ given as before, and with

$$\llbracket \text{unread}_i \rrbracket : I^{\mathbb{N}} \longrightarrow I^{\mathbb{N}} \quad (i_0, i_1, \dots) \longmapsto (i, i_0, i_1, \dots)$$

Example: If $\delta : I \times M \rightarrow M \times I$ is a self-similar monoid action, then the final Π_{δ} -comodel is the final Π_{RI} -comodel augmented by the right M -action:

$$(i_0, i_1, i_2, \dots) \cdot m = (i_0 \cdot m, i_1 \cdot (m/i_0), i_2 \cdot (m/i_0/i_1), \dots)$$

Example: if B is a Boolean algebra, the final Π_B -comodel is

$$\mathcal{U}B = \text{BAlg}(B, 2) \text{ with}$$

$$v : \mathcal{U}B \times B \longrightarrow 2 \quad v(\mathcal{G}, b) = \mathcal{G}(b)$$

The behaviour category

So we now understand the **final comodel** pretty well. What about an **arbitrary comodel**?

Theorem (G.): Let \mathbb{T} be an algebraic theory. The **category of \mathbb{T} -comodels** is a **presheaf category** $[\mathbb{B}_{\mathbb{T}}, \text{Set}]$, where the **behaviour category** $\mathbb{B}_{\mathbb{T}}$ has:

- **objects** being **admissible behaviours** (ie $\text{ob } \mathbb{B}_{\mathbb{T}} = \mathcal{F}$);
- $\mathbb{B}_{\mathbb{T}}(\beta, \gamma) = \{m \in \mathcal{T}(1) : \gamma = \beta(m(-))\} / \sim_{\beta}$
where \sim_{β} is **smallest equiv. relation** s.t.

$$t(\lambda_i. m_i) \sim_{\beta} t \gg m_{\beta(t)}$$

The behaviour category

Example: the behaviour category $\mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{N}}$ of $\mathbb{T}_{\mathbb{N}}$ has:

- object-set $I^{\mathbb{N}}$;
- $IB(\vec{i}, \vec{j}) = \{n \in \mathbb{N} : \partial^n \vec{i} = \vec{j}\}$

E.g. $\dots 0101110 \xrightarrow{3} \dots 0101$

Example: the behaviour category $\mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{Z}}$ of $\mathbb{T}_{\mathbb{Z}}$ has:

- object-set $I^{\mathbb{N}}$;
- $IB(\vec{i}, \vec{j}) = \{k \in \mathbb{Z} : \partial^{N+k} \vec{i} = \partial^N \vec{j} \text{ for some } N \in \mathbb{N}\}$

E.g. $\dots 0101110 \begin{matrix} \xrightarrow{3} \\ \xleftarrow{-3} \end{matrix} \dots 0110$

The behaviour category

Example: for a self-similar action $I \times M \xrightarrow{\delta} M \times I$, the behaviour category \mathcal{B}_δ has:

- object-set $I^{\mathbb{N}}$;
- $\mathcal{B}(\vec{i}, \vec{j}) = \{ (r, m, s) \in \mathbb{N} \times M \times \mathbb{N} : d^s(\vec{j}) = d^r(\vec{i}) \cdot m \} / \sim$

where \sim generated by $(r, m, s) \sim (r+1, m|_{i_r}, s+1)$.

E.g. $\overbrace{\dots 100101110}^W \xrightarrow{(5, m, 2)} \overbrace{\dots 111110}^{W \cdot m}$

Example: for a Boolean algebra B , the behaviour category \mathcal{B}_B is discrete on $\mathcal{U}B = \text{BA}(\mathcal{g}(B, 2))$.

Topological comodels

A **topological comodel** of an algebraic theory Π is a model in Top^{op} .

Thus, it's a **comodel** S t/w a **topology** on S making each

$\llbracket \sigma \rrbracket : S \rightarrow |S| \times S$ **continuous**. discrete topology

Idea: **open sets** in S encode **computably observable sets of states**.

Theorem (G.): Let Π be an algebraic theory. The **final topological comodel** is the final Π -comodel F under the topology w/ subbasis:

$$\llbracket t \mapsto i \rrbracket = \{ \beta \in F : \beta(t) = i \} \quad \forall t \in T(I), i \in I.$$

Topological comodels

Example: In the cases of Π_{In} , Π_{RI} and Π_S , the topology on the final topological comodel $I^{\mathbb{N}}$ is the prodiscrete (= Baire) topology, with basic clopens

$$[i_0 \cdots i_n] = \{ \vec{i} \in I^{\mathbb{N}} : \vec{i}|_{0, \dots, n} = (i_0, \dots, i_n) \}$$

Example: In the case of Π_B for a Boolean algebra B , the topology on the final topological comodel UB is the Stone topology, with basic clopens

$$[b] = \{ \wp : B \rightarrow 2 \mid \wp(b) = \top \}$$

The topological behaviour category

So we now understand the final topological comodel. What about an arbitrary topological comodel?

Theorem (G.): Let Π be an algebraic theory. The category of topological comodels is the category of left \mathbb{B}_Π -spaces, where \mathbb{B}_Π is the topological behaviour category with

- **Object-space** the final topological comodel F ;
- **Arrow-space** the topologisation of the arrows of the behaviour caty w/ subbasic open sets

$$[m, t \mapsto i] = \{ m: \beta \rightarrow \beta(m(-)) \mid \beta(t) = i \} \quad \text{for } m \in T(I), t \in T(I), i \in I$$

The topological behaviour category

In our examples, the topological behaviour categories give known objects from the world of non-commutative geometry:

- In the case of π_{RI} , we get the Cuntz topological groupoid, whose associated C^* -algebra is the Cuntz C^* -algebra and whose associated R -algebra is the Leavitt algebra.
- In the case of π_δ for $G \times I \xrightarrow{\delta} I \times G$ a self-similar group action, we get the Nekrashevych-Röver groupoid.
- ... just the start of a bigger story!

The bigger picture

An obvious **question**: which **topological catys** are **behaviour catys**?

We can in fact **over-answer** this question. There's an **adjunction**

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \text{finitary} & \nearrow & \\
 \text{for simplicity} & & \\
 \text{AlgThy}^{\omega} & \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{\Pi \mapsto \mathbb{B}_{\Pi}} \\ \perp \\ \xleftarrow{\Pi_{\mathbb{C}} \leftarrow \mathbb{C}} \end{array} & (\text{TopCat})^{\text{op}} \\
 & & \nwarrow \text{morphisms are} \\
 & & \text{cofunctors}
 \end{array}$$

where $\Pi_{\mathbb{C}}$ extends $\Pi_{\text{clopen}(C_0)}$ with unary ops m for each $m: \begin{array}{c} \rightarrow C_1 \\ \downarrow S \\ C_0 \end{array} + \text{axioms}$.

This is a **Galois (= idempotent)** adjunction whose **restriction to fixpoints** is:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \text{CartClosedThy}^{\omega} & \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{\approx} \\ \xleftarrow{\approx} \end{array} & (\text{Ample TopCat})^{\text{op}} \\
 \nearrow \text{induces cart closed variety} & & \nwarrow \text{source map is étale} \\
 & & \text{space of obs is Stone space}
 \end{array}$$

This extends the **non-commutative Stone duality** of Kudryavtseva & Lawson