Universality of coherence

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The coherence theorem for pseudo-algebras is shown here as *freely forcing (strict)* algebras to be invariant under equivalence. The precise formulation involves (free) relative 2-fibrations: the forgetful 2-functor from pseudo-algebras to the base is the free **Equ**-fibration over the forgetful 2-functor for strict algebras. We exhibit the corresponding result for lax algebras, involving adjoint retracts instead of equivalences, and consider various homotopical implications.

References

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