Enriched algebraic theories, monads, and varieties

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University of Calgary Peripatetic Seminar September 27, 2023¹



Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada Conseil de recherches en sciences naturelles et en génie du Canada



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¹We acknowledge the support of the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC). Nous remercions le Conseil de recherches en sciences naturelles et en génie du Canada (CRSNG) de son soutien.

Introduction

 My first postdoc was from September 2020–August 2023 at Brandon University in Brandon, Manitoba (even colder than Calgary), where I worked with Rory Lucyshyn-Wright. We mainly worked on enriched algebraic theories, enriched monads, and enriched varieties.

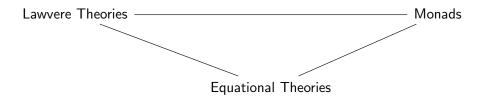


Rory:

Introduction

- I will first give a historical overview of the topic, and then describe the new contributions that Rory and I made.
- I will conclude by mentioning some of my recent, current, and future research on this topic.

The trinity of categorical algebra



Back to the beginning: Birkhoff, Lawvere, Linton

- Birkhoff [Bir35] originated the study of **universal algebra** in the 1930s, which was then given a categorical formulation by Lawvere [Law63] and Linton [Lin66] in the 1960s. Birkhoff defined a general notion of **(equational) variety of algebras**, which is a class of algebraic structures axiomatized by equations. E.g. the varieties of monoids, groups, commutative rings with unit, lattices, and many more.
- A (finitary) signature is a set Σ of operation symbols equipped with the assignment to each operation symbol σ ∈ Σ of an arity n ≥ 0. A Σ-algebra A is a set A equipped with a function σ^A : Aⁿ → A for each σ ∈ Σ of arity n ≥ 0.
- A morphism of Σ -algebras $f : A \to B$ is a function $f : A \to B$ such that $f \circ \sigma^A = \sigma^B \circ f^n : A^n \to B$ for each $\sigma \in \Sigma$. We have the category Σ -Alg of Σ -algebras and a forgetful functor $U^{\Sigma} : \Sigma$ -Alg \to Set.

Equational theories I

- Given a context of variables v = v₁,..., v_n, one can recursively define the set Term(Σ; v) of Σ-terms in context v as follows: each v_i (1 ≤ i ≤ n) is a Σ-term in context v; and if σ ∈ Σ has arity m ≥ 0 and t₁,..., t_m are Σ-terms in context v, then σ(t₁,..., t_m) is a Σ-term in context v.
- Given a Σ -algebra A, each Σ -term t in context \vec{v} induces an interpretation function $t^A : A^n \to A$.
- A (syntactic) Σ -equation in context \vec{v} is an expression of the form $s \doteq t$ for Σ -terms s, t in context \vec{v} . A Σ -algebra A satisfies $s \doteq t$ if $s^A = t^A : A^n \to A$.

Equational theories II

An equational theory is a pair T = (Σ, E) consisting of a signature Σ and a set E of syntactic Σ-equations in context. A T-algebra is a Σ-algebra that satisfies each equation in E. We have the full subcategory T-Alg → Σ-Alg and a forgetful functor U^T : T-Alg → Set, so that T-Alg can be regarded as an object of the slice category CAT/Set.

Varieties and finitary monads

- A variety is an object of CAT/Set of the form \mathcal{T} -Alg for some equational theory \mathcal{T} . Examples include the varieties of sets, monoids, groups, commutative rings with unit, lattices, and many more.
- For each equational theory *T*, the forgetful functor
 U^T : *T*-Alg → Set has a left adjoint *F^T* : Set → *T*-Alg, and the
 resulting monad on Set is finitary, meaning that *U^TF^T* : Set → Set
 preserves filtered colimits. Conversely, for every finitary monad T on
 Set, there is an equational theory *T* such that T-Alg ≅ *T*-Alg in
 CAT/Set. This correspondence extends to a dual equivalence

 $Var \simeq Mnd_f(Set)^{op}$.

Lawvere theories I

- Lawvere [Law63] discovered a purely categorical formulation of varieties in terms of Lawvere theories. A Lawvere theory is a category 𝒴 with finite products equipped with an identity-on-objects functor τ : FinCard^{op} → 𝒴 that preserves finite products. A 𝒴-algebra is a functor A : 𝒴 → Set that preserves finite products, and a morphism of 𝒴-algebras is a natural transformation. We have a category 𝒴-Alg and a forgetful functor U^𝒴 : 𝒴-Alg → Set given by A ↦ A(1).
- The functor U^𝔅 has a left adjoint, and the resulting monad on Set is finitary. Conversely, given a finitary monad T on Set, the full subcategory 𝔅 of T-Alg consisting of the free T-algebras on finite cardinals is a Lawvere theory with T-Alg ≅ 𝔅-Alg in CAT/Set. This correspondence extends to an equivalence

$$\mathsf{Mnd}_f(\mathsf{Set}) \simeq \mathsf{Law}.$$

 All told, in the classical setting of finitary universal algebra, we have the following (dual) equivalences between Lawvere theories, finitary monads on Set, and varieties, due to Birkhoff [Bir35], Lawvere [Law63] and Linton [Lin66]:

 $Law \simeq Mnd_f(Set) \simeq Var^{op}$.

Various settings for enriched algebra I

- After Lawvere and Linton, various researchers generalized the notions of Lawvere theory and finitary monad to the **enriched setting**, including:
 - [BD80] Francis Borceux and Brian Day, Universal algebra in a closed category, 1980.
 - ▶ [Pow99] John Power, Enriched Lawvere theories, 1999.
 - [NP09] Koki Nishizawa and John Power, Lawvere theories enriched over a general base, 2009.
 - ▶ [LR11] Stephen Lack and Jiří Rosický, Notions of Lawvere theory, 2011.
 - ▶ [LW16] Rory B. B. Lucyshyn-Wright, *Enriched algebraic theories and monads for a system of arities*, 2016.
 - ▶ [BG19] John Bourke and Richard Garner, *Monads and theories*, 2019.

Various settings for enriched algebra II

- However, virtually none of these frameworks developed a corresponding notion of **enriched variety**, and most of them were formulated in the **locally presentable** setting, which excludes many important (topological) categories in mathematics. Also, there was no framework for enriched algebra that captured all of these prior frameworks under one roof.
- So Rory and I set out to rectify all of these issues, which we did in the following papers and preprints:
 - [LWP22] Presentations and algebraic colimits of enriched monads for a subcategory of arities, TAC, 2022.
 - [LWP23a] Diagrammatic presentations of enriched monads and varieties for a subcategory of arities, ACS, 2023.
 - [LWP23b] Enriched structure-semantics adjunctions and monad-theory equivalences for subcategories of arities, Preprint, 2023.
 - ► [LWP23c] Diagrammatic presentations of enriched monads and the axiomatics of enriched algebra, In preparation, 2023.

Moving towards the enriched setting...

- We can refer to the full subcategory j : FinCard → Set as a subcategory of arities (because it is dense). A contravariant functor FinCard^{op} → Set is a j-nerve if it is of the form Set(j-, X) for some set X.
- A Lawvere theory can then be equivalently defined as a category *T* equipped with an identity-on-objects functor *τ* : FinCard^{op} → *T* such that for each *n* ∈ N, the functor *T*(*n*,*τ*−) : FinCard^{op} → Set is a *j*-nerve.
- A \mathscr{T} -algebra can also be equivalently defined as a functor $A : \mathscr{T} \to \mathbf{Set}$ such that $A \circ \tau : \mathbf{FinCard^{op}} \to \mathbf{Set}$ is a *j*-nerve.

Subcategories of arities

- Let 𝒴 be a complete and cocomplete symmetric monoidal closed category (a cosmos), and let 𝒴 be a complete and cocomplete 𝒴-category. A subcategory of arities is a dense full sub-𝒴-category j : 𝒴 ⊆ 𝒴.
- E.g. with $\mathscr{V} = \mathbf{Set}$ and $\mathscr{C} = \mathbf{Set}$, we have the subcategory of arities $j : \mathbf{FinCard} \hookrightarrow \mathbf{Set}$.

\mathscr{J} -theories

- A *j*-nerve is a 𝒱-functor 𝒱^{op} → 𝒱 of the form 𝔅(*j*-, 𝔅) for some object 𝔅 of 𝔅.
- A \mathscr{J} -theory is a \mathscr{V} -category \mathscr{T} equipped with an identity-on-objects \mathscr{V} -functor $\tau : \mathscr{J}^{op} \to \mathscr{T}$ such that for each $J \in ob \mathscr{J}$, the \mathscr{V} -functor $\mathscr{T}(J, \tau -) : \mathscr{J}^{op} \to \mathscr{V}$ is a *j*-nerve.
- A *T*-algebra is a *V*-functor A : *T* → *V* such that A ∘ τ : *J*^{op} → *V* is a *j*-nerve. There is a *V*-category *T*-Alg and a forgetful *V*-functor U^T : *T*-Alg → *C*. With *V* = Set and *C* = Set and *J* = FinCard → Set, we recover Lawvere theories and their (categories of) algebras.

The enriched monad-theory equivalence I

A V-monad T on C is J-ary (or J-nervous) if it satisfies some technical conditions [LWP23b]. With V = Set and C = Set and J = FinCard → Set, we recover finitary monads on Set.

Theorem ([LWP23b])

Suppose that the subcategory of arities $\mathscr{J} \hookrightarrow \mathscr{C}$ is amenable. Then there is an equivalence

$$\mathsf{Th}_{\mathscr{J}}(\mathscr{C})\simeq\mathsf{Mnd}_{\mathscr{J}}(\mathscr{C})$$

between the category of \mathcal{J} -theories and the category of \mathcal{J} -ary \mathcal{V} -monads on \mathcal{C} , which respects semantics in an appropriate sense.

 With 𝒴 = Set and 𝒴 = Set and 𝒴 = FinCard → Set, we recover the classical equivalence between Lawvere theories and finitary monads on Set.

The enriched monad-theory equivalence II

- Moreover, this Theorem recovers the enriched monad-theory equivalences established in all of the aforementioned papers (and more): [BD80], [Pow99], [NP09], [LR11], [LW16], [BG19]. So we have united all of these frameworks under one roof!
- Examples of **amenable** subcategories of arities $\mathscr{J} \hookrightarrow \mathscr{C}$ include:
 - Any eleutheric subcategory of arities 𝒢 → 𝔅 (e.g. FinCard → Set; 𝔅_α → 𝔅 for a locally α-presentable 𝒱-category 𝔅; FinCard → 𝒱 for a complete and cocomplete cartesian closed 𝒱).
 - Any small subcategory of arities 𝒢 → 𝔅 in a 𝒱-sketchable
 𝒱-category 𝔅 enriched over a locally bounded 𝒱. In particular, any small subcategory of arities in a locally bounded 𝒱, e.g. in any topological category over Set.

The enriched monad-theory equivalence III

• The second class of examples is completely new: none of the aforementioned papers [BD80], [Pow99], [NP09], [LR11], [LW16], [BG19] had managed to incorporate topological bases of enrichment in any significant way, because they almost always used **locally presentable** bases of enrichment.

What about enriched varieties? I

- With 𝒴 = Set and 𝒴 = Set and 𝒴 = FinCard → Set, there is an established notion of variety. None of the prior papers developed an enriched notion of variety, so Rory and I did that in [LWP22, LWP23a, LWP23c].
- Well, actually, the following papers went partway towards defining enriched notions of variety in certain restricted settings:
 - [KP93] G. M. Kelly and A. J. Power, Adjunctions whose counits are coequalizers, and presentations of finitary enriched monads, 1993.
 - [KL93] G. M. Kelly and Stephen Lack, Finite-product-preserving functors, Kan extensions and strongly-finitary 2-monads, 1993.

But their notions were quite far from the classical notions, and not as concrete and user-friendly as the ones that we ultimately developed.

What about enriched varieties? II

- To motivate this enriched notion of variety, let's start by reformulating the classical notion of variety in a way that will more readily admit generalization to the enriched setting.
- First, note that a signature Σ can be equivalently formulated as a family of sets (Σn)_{n∈FinCard}. A Σ-algebra A can then be (re)formulated as a set A equipped with, for each n ∈ N, an interpretation function

$$\mathfrak{i}_n^A:\Sigma(n)
ightarrow \mathbf{Set}\left(A^n,A
ight)=\mathbf{Set}\left(\mathbf{Set}(n,A),A
ight).$$

What about enriched varieties? III

Now let's look at Σ-terms. It is a classical fact/result that the Σ-terms t in context v = v₁,..., v_n correspond bijectively to algebraic Σ-operations of arity n, i.e. natural transformations

$$\omega^t : \operatorname{Set}\left(n, U^{\Sigma}-\right) \Longrightarrow U^{\Sigma} : \Sigma\operatorname{-Alg} \to \operatorname{Set},$$

in such a way that

$$t^{A} = \omega_{A}^{t} : A^{n} = \mathbf{Set}(n, A) \to A$$

for each Σ -algebra A.

A syntactic Σ-equation s = t in context v can then be equivalently formulated as an algebraic Σ-equation of arity n, i.e. a pair ω^s = ω^t of algebraic Σ-operations of arity n. A Σ-algebra A satisfies s = t iff ω^s_A = ω^t_A : Aⁿ → A.

What about enriched varieties? IV

- In summary: an equational theory can be equivalently formulated as a pair $\mathcal{T} = (\Sigma, \mathcal{E})$ consisting of a **FinCard**-indexed family of sets $\Sigma = (\Sigma n)_{n \in \text{FinCard}}$ and a set \mathcal{E} of algebraic Σ -equations.
- This will be our basis for defining notions of enriched equational theory and enriched variety.

Equational \mathscr{J} -theories and \mathscr{J} -ary varieties I

- A *J*-signature is an ob *J*-indexed family Σ = (ΣJ)_{J∈ob *J*} of objects of *C*.
- A Σ -algebra is an object A of \mathscr{C} equipped with, for each $J \in ob \mathscr{J}$, an interpretation \mathscr{C} -morphism

$$\mathfrak{L}_J^A:\Sigma J\to [\mathscr{C}(J,A),A].$$

We have a \mathscr{V} -category Σ -**Alg** of Σ -algebras and a forgetful \mathscr{V} -functor $U^{\Sigma} : \Sigma$ -**Alg** $\rightarrow \mathscr{C}$.

• An algebraic Σ -operation is a \mathscr{V} -natural transformation

$$\omega:\mathscr{C}\left(J,U^{\Sigma}-\right)\otimes P\Longrightarrow U^{\Sigma}:\Sigma\text{-}\mathbf{Alg}\to\mathscr{C}$$

for a specified arity $J \in \mathbf{ob} \mathscr{J}$ and parameter (object) $P \in \mathbf{ob} \mathscr{C}$.

Equational *J*-theories and *J*-ary varieties II

- An algebraic Σ-equation is a pair ω = ν of algebraic Σ-operations with the same arity and parameter. A Σ-algebra A satisfies ω = ν when ω_A = ν_A : C(J, A) ⊗ P → A.
- An equational \mathscr{J} -theory is a pair $\mathcal{T} = (\Sigma, \mathcal{E})$ consisting of a \mathscr{J} -signature Σ and a set \mathcal{E} of algebraic Σ -equations. A \mathcal{T} -algebra is a Σ -algebra that satisfies each algebraic Σ -equation in \mathcal{E} . We have the full sub- \mathscr{V} -category \mathcal{T} -Alg $\hookrightarrow \Sigma$ -Alg and a forgetful \mathscr{V} -functor $U^{\mathcal{T}} : \mathcal{T}$ -Alg $\to \mathscr{C}$, so that \mathcal{T} -Alg may be regarded as an object of the slice category \mathscr{V} -CAT/ \mathscr{C} .
- A *J*-ary variety is an object of *V*-CAT/*C* of the form *T*-Alg for some equational *J*-theory *T*. We write Var_{*J*}(*C*) for the category of *J*-ary varieties (a full subcategory of *V*-CAT/*C*).

Equational \mathscr{J} -theories and \mathscr{J} -ary varieties III

Theorem ([LWP23c])

Suppose that the subcategory of arities $\mathscr{J} \hookrightarrow \mathscr{C}$ is **strongly amenable**. Then the category $\operatorname{Var}_{\mathscr{J}}(\mathscr{C})$ of \mathscr{J} -ary varieties is dually equivalent to the categories $\operatorname{Th}_{\mathscr{J}}(\mathscr{C})$ of \mathscr{J} -theories and $\operatorname{Mnd}_{\mathscr{J}}(\mathscr{C})$ of \mathscr{J} -ary \mathscr{V} -monads on \mathscr{C} :

 $\mathsf{Var}_{\mathscr{J}}(\mathscr{C})^{\mathsf{op}}\simeq\mathsf{Th}_{\mathscr{J}}(\mathscr{C})\simeq\mathsf{Mnd}_{\mathscr{J}}(\mathscr{C}).$

These (dual) equivalences respect semantics. In particular, every equational \mathcal{J} -theory **presents** a \mathcal{J} -theory and a \mathcal{J} -ary \mathcal{V} -monad on \mathcal{C} , while every \mathcal{J} -theory and every \mathcal{J} -ary \mathcal{V} -monad is **presented by** an equational \mathcal{J} -theory.

With $\mathscr{V} = \mathbf{Set}$ and $\mathscr{C} = \mathbf{Set}$ and $\mathscr{J} = \mathbf{FinCard} \hookrightarrow \mathbf{Set}$, we recover the classical (dual) equivalences between varieties, Lawvere theories, and finitary monads on **Set**.

Examples of *J*-ary varieties I

- With C = V cartesian closed and J = FinCard → V: the
 V-category of internal R-modules for an internal ri(n)g R in V.
- With $\mathscr{V} = Set$ and $\mathscr{C} = Grph$ and $\mathscr{J} = Grph_{fp} \hookrightarrow Grph$: the category Cat of small categories.
- With C = V = Cat and J = FinCard → Cat: the 2-category of small monoidal categories and strict monoidal functors.
- With 𝒱 locally bounded and 𝔅 = Grph(𝒱) (internal graphs in 𝒱): the 𝒱-category of internal categories in 𝒱.

Examples of *J*-ary varieties II

- With *C* = *V* = CGTop and *J* = FinCard → CGTop: the CGTop-category of H-monoids, i.e. internal 'monoids' in CGTop whose multiplication is only associative and unital up to specified homotopies.
- The ordered equational theories of Adámek–Dostál–Velebil
 [ADV22], with 𝒴 = Pos and 𝒴 = FinCard → Pos.
- The quantitative equational theories of Mardare–Panangaden–Plotkin [MPP16], with 𝒴 = Met and 𝒴 = FinCard → Met.

Examples of *J*-ary varieties III

- The relational algebraic theories of Ford-Milius-Schröder [FMS21], with 𝒴 = 𝔅-Mod and 𝒴 = 𝔅-Mod for a relational Horn theory 𝔅 and 𝒴 = 𝔅-Mod_{fp} ↔ 𝔅-Mod.
- The continuous varieties of Adámek–Dostál–Velebil [ADV23], with $\mathscr{V} = \omega$ -CPO/DCPO and $\mathscr{C} = \omega$ -CPO/DCPO and $\mathscr{J} =$ FinCard $\hookrightarrow \omega$ -CPO/DCPO.

Current and future research I

- I have recently been focusing on specific settings where equational *𝔅*-theories and *𝔅*-ary varieties have an even more concrete and syntactic formulation. In particular, I have recently worked in the setting where *𝔅* is topological over **Set**:
 - [Par23] Jason Parker, Free algebras of topologically enriched multi-sorted equational theories, Preprint, 2023.
- Currently I am working in the setting where 𝒴 = 𝔅-Mod for a relational Horn theory 𝔅, where equational 𝒴-theories have an even more concrete formulation than in [Par23]. Examples of such 𝒴 include Pos, Met, Simp, ProbMet, 𝔅-Cat for a commutative unital quantale 𝔅, and many more.

Current and future research II

- In these settings, I have been focusing on the case of multi-sorted equational *J*-theories and *J*-ary varieties, where one takes *C* = *V*^S and *J* = FinCard_S → *V*^S for a set of sorts S.
- Classical multi-sorted equational theories (with \(\nabla = Set\)) have had many applications in algebraic specification, algebraic datatypes, and the (categorical) theory of databases, so I am hoping that enriched multi-sorted equational theories may have similar applications!
- I will talk about these further topics (and others) at future seminars!

Thank you!

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