

Understanding the classical monad-theory correspondence

Nathan Corbyn

University of Oxford

MSFP 08.07.2024

Objective

Objective

- Prove the equivalence:

$$\mathbf{Law} \simeq \mathbf{Mnd}_{fin}(\mathbf{Set})$$

Objective

- ~~Prove~~ *Understand* the equivalence:

$$\mathbf{Law} \simeq \mathbf{Mnd}_{fin}(\mathbf{Set})$$

Plan

Plan

- Take three steps:

Plan

- Take three steps:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Law} &\simeq \text{ProMnd}_\times(\mathbb{F}^{\text{op}}) \\ &\simeq \text{RMnd}(\mathbb{F} \hookrightarrow \text{Set}) \\ &\simeq \text{Mnd}_{\text{fin}}(\text{Set})\end{aligned}$$

Plan

- Take three steps:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Law} &\simeq \text{ProMnd}_\times(\mathbb{F}^{\text{op}}) \\ &\simeq \text{RMnd}(\mathbb{F} \hookrightarrow \text{Set}) \\ &\simeq \text{Mnd}_{\text{fin}}(\text{Set})\end{aligned}$$

- Although not necessary to write down a proof, hopefully these all feel very natural by the end!

Plan

- Take three steps:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Law} &\simeq \text{ProMnd}_\times(\mathbb{F}^{\text{op}}) \\ &\simeq \text{RMnd}(\mathbb{F} \hookrightarrow \text{Set}) \\ &\simeq \text{Mnd}_{\text{fin}}(\text{Set})\end{aligned}$$

- Although not necessary to write down a proof, hopefully these all feel very natural by the end!
- Arkor's thesis takes this approach in extreme generality

Outline

Part I

Lawvere theories

Cartesian promonads

$\text{Law} \simeq \text{ProMnd}_{\times}(\mathbb{F}^{\text{op}})$

Part II

Finitary monads

Relative monads

$\text{RMnd}(\mathbb{F} \hookrightarrow \text{Set}) \simeq \text{Mnd}_{\text{fin}}(\text{Set})$

Part III

$\text{ProMnd}_{\times}(\mathbb{F}^{\text{op}}) \simeq \text{RMnd}(\mathbb{F} \hookrightarrow \text{Set})$

Part I

Lawvere theories

Lawvere theories

- Presentation invariant descriptions of algebraic theories

Lawvere theories

- Presentation invariant descriptions of algebraic theories
- Can be quite tricky to wrap your head around

Lawvere theories

- Consider a presentation of the theory of monoids:

Lawvere theories

- Consider a presentation of the theory of monoids:

$$u : 0$$

$$\oplus : 2$$

Lawvere theories

- Consider a presentation of the theory of monoids:

$$u : 0$$

$$\oplus : 2$$

$$u \oplus x = x$$

$$x \oplus u = x$$

$$(x \oplus y) \oplus z = x \oplus (y \oplus z)$$

Lawvere theories

- We get lots of *derivable* operations

Lawvere theories

- We get lots of *derivable* operations—e.g.,

$$x \oplus (y \oplus (z \oplus w))$$

$$x \oplus x$$

$$(u \oplus x) \oplus (x \oplus u)$$

$$(x \oplus y) \oplus (z \oplus w)$$

Lawvere theories

- We get lots of *derivable* operations—e.g.,

$$x \oplus (y \oplus (z \oplus w))$$

$$x \oplus x$$

$$(u \oplus x) \oplus (x \oplus u)$$

$$(x \oplus y) \oplus (z \oplus w)$$

- Some of these are *provably equal*

Lawvere theories

- We get lots of *derivable* operations—e.g.,

$$x \oplus (y \oplus (z \oplus w))$$

$$x \oplus x$$

$$(u \oplus x) \oplus (x \oplus u)$$

$$(x \oplus y) \oplus (z \oplus w)$$

- Some of these are *provably equal*:

$$x \oplus x = (u \oplus x) \oplus (x \oplus u)$$

$$(x \oplus y) \oplus (z \oplus w) = x \oplus (y \oplus (z \oplus w))$$

Lawvere theories

- We get lots of *derivable* operations—e.g.,

$$\mathbf{x} \oplus (\mathbf{y} \oplus (\mathbf{z} \oplus \mathbf{w}))$$

$$\mathbf{x} \oplus \mathbf{x}$$

$$(\mathbf{u} \oplus \mathbf{x}) \oplus (\mathbf{x} \oplus \mathbf{u})$$

$$(\mathbf{x} \oplus \mathbf{y}) \oplus (\mathbf{z} \oplus \mathbf{w})$$

- Some of these are *provably equal*:

$$\mathbf{x} \oplus \mathbf{x} = (\mathbf{u} \oplus \mathbf{x}) \oplus (\mathbf{x} \oplus \mathbf{u})$$

$$(\mathbf{x} \oplus \mathbf{y}) \oplus (\mathbf{z} \oplus \mathbf{w}) = \mathbf{x} \oplus (\mathbf{y} \oplus (\mathbf{z} \oplus \mathbf{w}))$$

- **Important:** Copying and discarding of variables is allowed

Lawvere theories

Lawvere theories

- **Lawvere's idea:** no matter how you present the theory, the same operations should be derivable and satisfy the same equations

Lawvere theories

- **Lawvere's idea:** no matter how you present the theory, the same operations should be derivable and satisfy the same equations
- A Lawvere theory bundles derivable operations and their equations into a category

Lawvere theories

Lawvere theories

- What does this look like?

Lawvere theories

- What does this look like?
- For each $n \in \mathbb{N}$, write down the set of derivable operations in at most n variables, modulo provable equality:

$$T(n, 1)$$

Lawvere theories

- What does this look like?
- For each $n \in \mathbb{N}$, write down the set of derivable operations in at most n variables, modulo provable equality:

$$T(n, 1)$$

- Extend this to all $m \in \mathbb{N}$ taking

$$\begin{aligned}T(n, 0) &= \{\star\} \\ T(n, m + 1) &= T(n, m) \times T(n, 1)\end{aligned}$$

Lawvere theories

- What does this look like?
- For each $n \in \mathbb{N}$, write down the set of derivable operations in at most n variables, modulo provable equality:

$$T(n, 1)$$

- Extend this to all $m \in \mathbb{N}$ taking

$$\begin{aligned}T(n, 0) &= \{\star\} \\ T(n, m + 1) &= T(n, m) \times T(n, 1)\end{aligned}$$

- In other words, $T(n, m)$ consists of tuples of m operations each in (at most) n variables

Lawvere theories

Lawvere theories

- **Idea:** $T(-, =)$ describes the hom-sets of a category.

Lawvere theories

- **Idea:** $T(-, =)$ describes the hom-sets of a category.
- Composition is substitution!

Lawvere theories

- **Idea:** $T(-, =)$ describes the hom-sets of a category.
- Composition is substitution!

$$\underbrace{T(n, m)}_{m \text{ operations in } n \text{ variables}} \quad \times \quad \underbrace{T(m, 1)}_{1 \text{ operation in } m \text{ variables}}$$

↓

$$\underbrace{T(n, 1)}_{\text{substitute the } m \text{ variables for the } m \text{ derived operations}}$$

Lawvere theories

Lawvere theories

- We get more than just a category, we get a *cartesian* category

Lawvere theories

- We get more than just a category, we get a *cartesian* category:

$$n \xleftarrow{\langle x_i \rangle_{i \in \underline{n}}} n + m \xrightarrow{\langle x_{i+n} \rangle_{i \in \underline{m}}} m \qquad n \xrightarrow{\langle \rangle} 0$$

Lawvere theories

- We get more than just a category, we get a *cartesian* category:

$$n \xleftarrow{\langle x_i \rangle_{i \in \underline{n}}} n + m \xrightarrow{\langle x_{i+n} \rangle_{i \in \underline{m}}} m \qquad n \xrightarrow{\langle \rangle} 0$$

- This is intimately connected with the fact that we've allowed variables to be copied and discarded

Relationship to \mathbb{F}^{op}

Relationship to \mathbb{F}^{op}

- Call \mathbb{F} the category with objects $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and morphisms $\mathbb{F}(n, m) = \underline{n} \rightarrow \underline{m}$

Relationship to \mathbb{F}^{op}

- Call \mathbb{F} the category with objects $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and morphisms $\mathbb{F}(n, m) = \underline{n} \rightarrow \underline{m}$
- **Claim:** \mathbb{F}^{op} corresponds to the Lawvere theory determined by the empty presentation:

Relationship to \mathbb{F}^{op}

- Call \mathbb{F} the category with objects $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and morphisms $\mathbb{F}(n, m) = \underline{n} \rightarrow \underline{m}$
- **Claim:** \mathbb{F}^{op} corresponds to the Lawvere theory determined by the empty presentation:
 - The only derivable operations are the variables

Relationship to \mathbb{F}^{op}

- Call \mathbb{F} the category with objects $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and morphisms $\mathbb{F}(n, m) = \underline{n} \rightarrow \underline{m}$
- **Claim:** \mathbb{F}^{op} corresponds to the Lawvere theory determined by the empty presentation:
 - The only derivable operations are the variables:

$$\begin{aligned} T_{\emptyset}(n, 1) &= \underline{n} \\ &\cong \mathbb{F}(1, n) \end{aligned}$$

Relationship to \mathbb{F}^{op}

- Call \mathbb{F} the category with objects $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and morphisms $\mathbb{F}(n, m) = \underline{n} \rightarrow \underline{m}$
- **Claim:** \mathbb{F}^{op} corresponds to the Lawvere theory determined by the empty presentation:
 - The only derivable operations are the variables:

$$\begin{aligned}T_{\emptyset}(n, 1) &= \underline{n} \\ &\cong \mathbb{F}(1, n)\end{aligned}$$

- Extending,

$$\begin{aligned}T_{\emptyset}(n, 0) &= \{\star\} \cong \mathbb{F}(0, n) \\ T_{\emptyset}(n, m+1) &= T_{\emptyset}(n, m) \times T_{\emptyset}(n, 1) \\ &\cong \mathbb{F}(m, n) \times \mathbb{F}(1, n) \\ &\cong \mathbb{F}(m+1, n)\end{aligned}$$

Relationship to \mathbb{F}^{op}

Relationship to \mathbb{F}^{op}

- If we have two presentations $\Theta \subseteq \Theta'$, we get a (unique) corresponding identity-on-objects functor $T_{\Theta} \rightarrow T_{\Theta'}$

Relationship to \mathbb{F}^{op}

- If we have two presentations $\Theta \subseteq \Theta'$, we get a (unique) corresponding identity-on-objects functor $T_{\Theta} \rightarrow T_{\Theta'}$
 - **Hand-waving**: All the operations derivable in the old theory are still derivable in the new theory, but might be identified via the new equations

Relationship to \mathbb{F}^{op}

- If we have two presentations $\Theta \subseteq \Theta'$, we get a (unique) corresponding identity-on-objects functor $T_{\Theta} \rightarrow T_{\Theta'}$
 - **Hand-waving**: All the operations derivable in the old theory are still derivable in the new theory, but might be identified via the new equations
- In particular, we always have a (unique) identity-on-objects functor

$$\mathbb{F}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow T_{\Theta}$$

Relationship to \mathbb{F}^{op}

- If we have two presentations $\Theta \subseteq \Theta'$, we get a (unique) corresponding identity-on-objects functor $T_\Theta \rightarrow T_{\Theta'}$
 - **Hand-waving**: All the operations derivable in the old theory are still derivable in the new theory, but might be identified via the new equations
- In particular, we always have a (unique) identity-on-objects functor

$$\mathbb{F}^{op} \rightarrow T_\Theta$$

- Moreover, this functor will always preserve products *strictly*

Relationship to \mathbb{F}^{op}

- If we have two presentations $\Theta \subseteq \Theta'$, we get a (unique) corresponding identity-on-objects functor $T_\Theta \rightarrow T_{\Theta'}$
 - **Hand-waving**: All the operations derivable in the old theory are still derivable in the new theory, but might be identified via the new equations
- In particular, we always have a (unique) identity-on-objects functor

$$\mathbb{F}^{op} \rightarrow T_\Theta$$

- Moreover, this functor will always preserve products *strictly*
- We can use this to define Lawvere theories semantically!

Semantic definition

Semantic definition

- **Definition:** a *Lawvere theory* is a category T equipped with a strictly product-preserving identity-on-objects functor $J : \mathbb{F}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow T$

Semantic definition

- **Definition:** a *Lawvere theory* is a category T equipped with a strictly product-preserving identity-on-objects functor $J : \mathbb{F}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow T$
- We obtain a category Law of Lawvere theories and triangles:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} T & \xrightarrow{F} & T' \\ & \swarrow J & \nearrow J' \\ & \mathbb{F}^{\text{op}} & \end{array}$$

Promonads

Promonads

- **Definition:** A promonad is a monoid in the category of endoprofunctors on a category \mathcal{C}

Promonads

- **Definition:** A promonad is a monoid in the category of endoprofunctors on a category \mathcal{C}

Promonads

Promonads

- **Definition:** A promonad is a profunctor $P : \mathcal{C}^{\text{op}} \times \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \text{Set}$ equipped with maps

$$\mu : \int^{c:\mathcal{C}} P(-, c) \times P(c, =) \rightarrow P(-, =)$$

$$\eta : \mathcal{C}(-, =) \rightarrow P(-, =)$$

subject to...

Promonads

- **Definition:** A promonad is a profunctor $P : \mathcal{C}^{\text{op}} \times \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \text{Set}$ equipped with maps

$$\mu : \int^{c:\mathcal{C}} P(-, c) \times P(c, =) \rightarrow P(-, =)$$

$$\eta : \mathcal{C}(-, =) \rightarrow P(-, =)$$

subject to...

Promonads

Promonads

- Promonads are an extremely useful way to build new categories from old ones

Promonads

- Promonads are an extremely useful way to build new categories from old ones
- Promonads show up everywhere but aren't given the credit they deserve

Promonads

Promonads

- Say we have some category \mathcal{C}

Promonads

- Say we have some category \mathcal{C}
- We **love** the objects of \mathcal{C}

Promonads

- Say we have some category \mathcal{C}
- We **love** the objects of \mathcal{C}
- But the morphisms are a bit of a **disappointment**

Promonads

- Say we have some category \mathcal{C}
- We **love** the objects of \mathcal{C}
- But the morphisms are a bit of a **disappointment**:

Promonads

- Say we have some category \mathcal{C}
- We **love** the objects of \mathcal{C}
- But the morphisms are a bit of a **disappointment**:
 - Missing some maps

Promonads

- Say we have some category \mathcal{C}
- We **love** the objects of \mathcal{C}
- But the morphisms are a bit of a **disappointment**:
 - Missing some maps
 - Not enough equations

Promonads

- Say we have some category \mathcal{C}
- We **love** the objects of \mathcal{C}
- But the morphisms are a bit of a **disappointment**:
 - Missing some maps
 - Not enough equations
 - Still important though!

Promonads

- Say we have some category \mathcal{C}
- We **love** the objects of \mathcal{C}
- But the morphisms are a bit of a **disappointment**:
 - Missing some maps
 - Not enough equations
 - Still important though!
- Promonads are a technical tool for describing the morphisms we wish we had and how they relate to the morphisms we've got right now

Promonads

- Say we have some category \mathcal{C}
- We **love** the objects of \mathcal{C}
- But the morphisms are a bit of a **disappointment**:
 - Missing some maps
 - Not enough equations
 - Still important though!
- Promonads are a technical tool for describing the morphisms we wish we had and how they relate to the morphisms we've got right now
- If we set things up properly, we get a new category \mathcal{D} with the same objects as \mathcal{C} and an identity-on-objects functor $\mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$

Promonads

Promonads

- How do we do this?

Promonads

- How do we do this?
- Start with a *profunctor* $P(-, =) : \mathcal{C}^{\text{op}} \times \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \text{Set}$

Promonads

- How do we do this?
- Start with a *profunctor* $P(-, =) : \mathcal{C}^{\text{op}} \times \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \text{Set}$
 - For each $x, y \in \mathcal{C}$, $P(x, y)$ is the hom-set you wish you had

Promonads

- How do we do this?
- Start with a *profunctor* $P(-, =) : \mathcal{C}^{\text{op}} \times \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \text{Set}$
 - For each $x, y \in \mathcal{C}$, $P(x, y)$ is the hom-set you wish you had
 - The functorial actions tell you how to compose your dream maps with your disappointments

Promonads

- How do we do this?
- Start with a *profunctor* $P(-, =) : \mathcal{C}^{\text{op}} \times \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \text{Set}$
 - For each $x, y \in \mathcal{C}$, $P(x, y)$ is the hom-set you wish you had
 - The functorial actions tell you how to compose your dream maps with your disappointments
- Ask for a natural transformation

$$\eta : \mathcal{C}(-, =) \rightarrow P(-, =)$$

Promonads

- How do we do this?
- Start with a *profunctor* $P(-, =) : \mathcal{C}^{\text{op}} \times \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \text{Set}$
 - For each $x, y \in \mathcal{C}$, $P(x, y)$ is the hom-set you wish you had
 - The functorial actions tell you how to compose your dream maps with your disappointments
- Ask for a natural transformation

$$\eta : \mathcal{C}(-, =) \rightarrow P(-, =)$$

- Every disappointment has something to live up to

Promonads

- How do we do this?
- Start with a *profunctor* $P(-, =) : \mathcal{C}^{\text{op}} \times \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \text{Set}$
 - For each $x, y \in \mathcal{C}$, $P(x, y)$ is the hom-set you wish you had
 - The functorial actions tell you how to compose your dream maps with your disappointments
- Ask for a natural transformation

$$\eta : \mathcal{C}(-, =) \rightarrow P(-, =)$$

- Every disappointment has something to live up to
- Not necessarily injective

Promonads

Promonads

- We've also got to explain how to compose our ideal maps

Promonads

- We've also got to explain how to compose our ideal maps
- For each $c \in \mathcal{C}$ we *want* to say we have a natural transformation:

$$\mu_c : P(-, c) \times P(c, =) \rightarrow P(-, =)$$

Promonads

- We've also got to explain how to compose our ideal maps
- For each $c \in \mathcal{C}$ we *want* to say we have a natural transformation:

$$\mu_c : P(-, c) \times P(c, =) \rightarrow P(-, =)$$

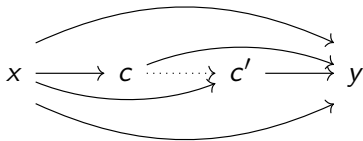
- But it's a bit more subtle!

Promonads

- We need all our composition operations to line up with each other

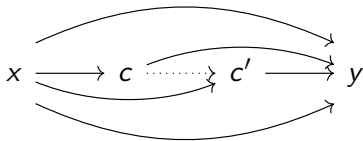
Promonads

- We need all our composition operations to line up with each other:



Promonads

- We need all our composition operations to line up with each other:



- The fancy way to say this is that we have a single natural transformation

$$\mu : \int^{c:\mathcal{C}} P(-, c) \times P(c, =) \rightarrow P(-, =)$$

Promonads

Promonads

- Finally, we need a couple of laws to hold:

Promonads

- Finally, we need a couple of laws to hold:
 - Composition should be associative

Promonads

- Finally, we need a couple of laws to hold:
 - Composition should be associative
 - Lifting and composing should agree with acting

Promonads

- Finally, we need a couple of laws to hold:
 - Composition should be associative
 - Lifting and composing should agree with acting

$$\begin{array}{ccc} P(-, c) \times \mathcal{C}(c, =) & \xrightarrow{P(-, c) \times \eta_c} & P(-, c) \times P(c, =) \\ & \searrow \triangleleft_c & \downarrow \mu_c \\ & & P(-, =) \end{array}$$

Promonads

- Finally, we need a couple of laws to hold:
 - Composition should be associative
 - Lifting and composing should agree with acting

$$\begin{array}{ccc} P(-, c) \times \mathcal{C}(c, =) & \xrightarrow{P(-, c) \times \eta_c} & P(-, c) \times P(c, =) \\ & \searrow \triangleleft_c & \downarrow \mu_c \\ & & P(-, =) \end{array}$$

- We get a category $\text{ProMnd}(\mathcal{C})$ whose objects are promonads on \mathcal{C} and morphisms are natural transformations which respect the composition and lifting

Promonads

Promonads

- What's this bought us?

Promonads

- What's this bought us?
- We certainly get a functor:

$$\text{ProMnd}(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow (\mathcal{C}/\text{Cat})_{\text{ioo}}$$

Promonads

- What's this bought us?
- We certainly get a functor:

$$\text{ProMnd}(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow (\mathcal{C}/\text{Cat})_{\text{i00}}$$

- In fact, we get an equivalence:

$$\text{ProMnd}(\mathcal{C}) \simeq (\mathcal{C}/\text{Cat})_{\text{i00}}$$

Cartesian promonads

Cartesian promonads

- You may have spotted, we've got the following:

$$\text{Law} = (\mathbb{F}^{\text{op}}/\text{Cat})_{\text{ioo}, \times} \hookrightarrow (\mathbb{F}^{\text{op}}/\text{Cat})_{\text{ioo}} \simeq \text{ProMnd}(\mathbb{F}^{\text{op}})$$

Cartesian promonads

- You may have spotted, we've got the following:

$$\text{Law} = (\mathbb{F}^{\text{op}}/\text{Cat})_{\text{ioo}, \times} \hookrightarrow (\mathbb{F}^{\text{op}}/\text{Cat})_{\text{ioo}} \simeq \text{ProMnd}(\mathbb{F}^{\text{op}})$$

- Can we restrict the right-hand side to get an equivalence?

Cartesian promonads

Cartesian promonads

- We only want to consider promonads which induce cartesian functors

Cartesian promonads

- We only want to consider promonads which induce cartesian functors
- Consider $(P : \mathbb{F} \times \mathbb{F}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{Set}, \mu, \eta)$ a promonad on \mathbb{F}^{op}

Cartesian promonads

- We only want to consider promonads which induce cartesian functors
- Consider $(P : \mathbb{F} \times \mathbb{F}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{Set}, \mu, \eta)$ a promonad on \mathbb{F}^{op}
- Because the induced functor is identity-on-objects, it will strictly preserve products iff our dream maps still validate the universal properties

Cartesian promonads

- We only want to consider promonads which induce cartesian functors
- Consider $(P : \mathbb{F} \times \mathbb{F}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{Set}, \mu, \eta)$ a promonad on \mathbb{F}^{op}
- Because the induced functor is identity-on-objects, it will strictly preserve products iff our dream maps still validate the universal properties
- In other words,

$$P(-, 0) \cong \top$$
$$P(-, n + m) \cong P(-, n) \times P(-, m)$$

naturally in m and n

Cartesian promonads

$$P(-, 0) \cong \top$$

$$P(-, n + m) \cong P(-, n) \times P(-, m)$$

Cartesian promonads

$$P(-, 0) \cong \top$$
$$P(-, n + m) \cong P(-, n) \times P(-, m)$$

- **Key point:** this is the same as asking that the curried functor

$$P : \mathbb{F} \rightarrow [\mathbb{F}^{\text{op}}, \text{Set}]$$

lands in cartesian functors

Cartesian promonads

$$P(-, 0) \cong \top$$
$$P(-, n + m) \cong P(-, n) \times P(-, m)$$

- **Key point:** this is the same as asking that the curried functor

$$P : \mathbb{F} \rightarrow [\mathbb{F}^{\text{op}}, \text{Set}]$$

lands in cartesian functors

- We want *cartesian* profunctors:

$$P : \mathbb{F} \rightarrow [\mathbb{F}^{\text{op}}, \text{Set}]_{\times}$$

The first equivalence

The first equivalence

$$\mathbf{Law} \simeq \mathbf{ProMnd}_\times(\mathbb{F}^{\text{op}})$$

Part II

Monads

Monads

- A monad is a monoid in the category of endofunctors on a category \mathcal{C}

Monads

- ~~A monad is a monoid in the category of endofunctors on a category \mathcal{C}~~

Monads

Monads

- A monad is a lax 2-functor $\mathbf{1} \rightarrow \mathbf{Cat}$

Monads

- A monad is a lax 2-functor $\mathbf{1} \rightarrow \mathbf{Cat}$

Monads

Monads

- Monads are a technical tool for describing algebraic structures internal to general categories

Monads

- Monads are a technical tool for describing algebraic structures internal to general categories
- Rather than take a syntactic approach, monads are fundamentally semantically motivated

Monads

- Monads are a technical tool for describing algebraic structures internal to general categories
- Rather than take a syntactic approach, monads are fundamentally semantically motivated
- The monad-theory correspondence for \mathbf{Set} essentially says that the semantic approach and the syntactic approach are secretly the same

Monads

- Monads are a technical tool for describing algebraic structures internal to general categories
- Rather than take a syntactic approach, monads are fundamentally semantically motivated
- The monad-theory correspondence for \mathbf{Set} essentially says that the semantic approach and the syntactic approach are secretly the same
- *Mumble mumble technicalities...*

Monads

Monads

- **Fundamental observation:** an algebra is an object equipped with some operations we can somehow evaluate

Monads

- **Fundamental observation:** an algebra is an object equipped with some operations we can somehow evaluate
- Take an object $x \in \mathcal{C}$, what does it mean to evaluate in x ?

Monads

- **Fundamental observation:** an algebra is an object equipped with some operations we can somehow evaluate
- Take an object $x \in \mathcal{C}$, what does it mean to evaluate in x ?
- Choose another object $Tx \in \mathcal{C}$ of 'computations' and a map

$$a : Tx \rightarrow x$$

Monads

Monads

- How do we make sure we've chosen a sensible notion of computation?

Monads

- How do we make sure we've chosen a sensible notion of computation?
- First, we make $T : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ an endofunctor:

Monads

- How do we make sure we've chosen a sensible notion of computation?
- First, we make $T : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ an endofunctor:
 - The notion of computation should be independent of the specific x I've chosen

Monads

- How do we make sure we've chosen a sensible notion of computation?
- First, we make $T : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ an endofunctor:
 - The notion of computation should be independent of the specific x I've chosen
 - Functoriality says that T can't 'see' x

Monads

Monads

- If we've already got a (generalised) element of x , we should have a 'do nothing' computation:

$$\eta_x : x \rightarrow Tx$$

Monads

- If we've already got a (generalised) element of x , we should have a 'do nothing' computation:

$$\eta_x : x \rightarrow Tx$$

- Similarly, if I have a computation that computes a computation, this should reduce to a single computation that works out what it needs to do and does it:

$$\mu_x : TTx \rightarrow Tx$$

Monads

- If we've already got a (generalised) element of x , we should have a 'do nothing' computation:

$$\eta_x : x \rightarrow Tx$$

- Similarly, if I have a computation that computes a computation, this should reduce to a single computation that works out what it needs to do and does it:

$$\mu_x : TTx \rightarrow Tx$$

- These should be natural (again, we shouldn't look at x):

$$\eta : 1_C \rightarrow T$$

$$\mu : TT \rightarrow T$$

Monads

Monads

- The monad laws express three more sensible properties of computation when you think in these terms!

Monads

- The monad laws express three more sensible properties of computation when you think in these terms!

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} T_X & \xrightarrow{\eta_{T_X}} & TT_X & \xleftarrow{T(\eta_X)} & T_X \\ & \searrow 1_{T_X} & \downarrow \mu_X & \swarrow 1_{T_X} & \\ & & T_X & & \end{array}$$

Monads

- The monad laws express three more sensible properties of computation when you think in these terms!

$$\begin{array}{ccc} T_X & \xrightarrow{\eta_{T_X}} & T T_X & \xleftarrow{T(\eta_X)} & T_X \\ & \searrow 1_{T_X} & \downarrow \mu_X & & \swarrow 1_{T_X} \\ & & T_X & & \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} T T T_X & \xrightarrow{T(\mu_X)} & T T_X \\ \mu_{T_X} \downarrow & & \downarrow \mu_X \\ T T_X & \xrightarrow{\mu_X} & T_X \end{array}$$

Monads

- The monad laws express three more sensible properties of computation when you think in these terms!

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} T_X & \xrightarrow{\eta_{T_X}} & T T_X & \xleftarrow{T(\eta_X)} & T_X \\ & \searrow 1_{T_X} & \downarrow \mu_X & \swarrow 1_{T_X} & \\ & & T_X & & \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} T T T_X & \xrightarrow{T(\mu_X)} & T T_X \\ \mu_{T_X} \downarrow & & \downarrow \mu_X \\ T T_X & \xrightarrow{\mu_X} & T_X \end{array}$$

- We get a category $\text{Mnd}(\mathcal{C})$ whose objects are monads on \mathcal{C} and whose morphisms are natural transformations preserving all the structure

Finitary monads

Finitary monads

- **Disclaimer:** this part is quite technical, so I'm going to brush over a lot of details, but hopefully the picture still comes out!

Finitary monads

Finitary monads

- We're not always interested in notions of computation in the most general sense

Finitary monads

- We're not always interested in notions of computation in the most general sense
- Sometimes we want to ensure that our computations are somehow 'finitely describable':

Finitary monads

- We're not always interested in notions of computation in the most general sense
- Sometimes we want to ensure that our computations are somehow 'finitely describable':
 - If we have a monad T on Set , we might hope that a computation $c \in TX$ can be described using at most finitely many elements of X

Finitary monads

- We're not always interested in notions of computation in the most general sense
- Sometimes we want to ensure that our computations are somehow 'finitely describable':
 - If we have a monad T on Set , we might hope that a computation $c \in TX$ can be described using at most finitely many elements of X
 - For example, computations might be formal sums of at most finitely many elements

Finitary monads

- We're not always interested in notions of computation in the most general sense
- Sometimes we want to ensure that our computations are somehow 'finitely describable':
 - If we have a monad T on Set , we might hope that a computation $c \in TX$ can be described using at most finitely many elements of X
 - For example, computations might be formal sums of at most finitely many elements
- If we're looking for a connection with universal algebra, this is certainly a sensible restriction!

Finitary monads

- Category theory gives us some very technical, but very useful, notions of finiteness in general categories
- As we're only really interested in monads on Set today:
 - A monad T on Set is finitary iff for every set X and element $c \in TX$, there is a finite subset $i : X_0 \rightarrow X$ through which c factors:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \{\star\} & \xrightarrow{c} & TX \\ & \searrow c_0 & \nearrow Ti \\ & TX_0 & \end{array}$$

- We'll call the full subcategory of $\text{Mnd}(\text{Set})$ spanned by finitary monads $\text{Mnd}_{fin}(\text{Set})$
- It only really matters what T does to finite sets!

Relative monads

Relative monads

- A monad relative to a functor $J : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$ is a monoid in the skew-monoidal category $([\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{E}], \circ^J, J)$

Relative monads

- A monad relative to a functor $J: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$ is a monoid in the skew-monoidal category $([\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{E}], \circ^J, J)$

Relative monads

Relative monads

- Relative monads are a technical tool for describing notions of computation constrained to some particular diagram in a category

Relative monads

- Relative monads are a technical tool for describing notions of computation constrained to some particular diagram in a category
- The computations might form objects in a much larger category, but are only described for a (potentially) smaller system of objects

Relative monads

Relative monads

- What does this look like?

Relative monads

- What does this look like?
- First, pick your system of objects $J : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$

Relative monads

- What does this look like?
- First, pick your system of objects $J : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$
- For each object $x \in \mathcal{C}$, define the computations $T_x \in \mathcal{E}$

Relative monads

- What does this look like?
- First, pick your system of objects $J : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$
- For each object $x \in \mathcal{C}$, define the computations $Tx \in \mathcal{E}$
- Again, we want 'do nothing' computations

$$\eta_x : Jx \rightarrow Tx$$

Relative monads

Relative monads

- This time, we can't necessarily build computations that compute computations

Relative monads

- This time, we can't necessarily build computations that compute computations
- However, we can introduce a mechanism for *sequencing* computations

$$(-)^{\dagger} : \mathcal{E}(Jx, Ty) \rightarrow \mathcal{E}(Tx, Ty)$$

Relative monads

- This time, we can't necessarily build computations that compute computations
- However, we can introduce a mechanism for *sequencing* computations

$$(-)^{\dagger} : \mathcal{E}(Jx, Ty) \rightarrow \mathcal{E}(Tx, Ty)$$

- I find it helps to think of maps $Jx \rightarrow Ty$ as computations with a 'parameter'

Relative monads

Relative monads

- Similar to monads, we have some sensible properties we expect to hold

Relative monads

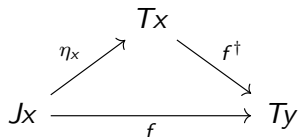
- Similar to monads, we have some sensible properties we expect to hold

$$(\eta_x)^\dagger = \mathbf{1}_{T_x}$$

Relative monads

- Similar to monads, we have some sensible properties we expect to hold

$$(\eta_x)^\dagger = 1_{T_x}$$



Relative monads

Relative monads

$$Jx \xrightarrow{f} Ty \xrightarrow{g^\dagger} Tz$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} Tx & \xrightarrow{(g^\dagger f)^\dagger} & Tz \\ & \searrow f^\dagger & \nearrow g^\dagger \\ & Ty & \end{array}$$

Relative monads

$$Jx \xrightarrow{f} Ty \xrightarrow{g^\dagger} Tz$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} Tx & \xrightarrow{(g^\dagger f)^\dagger} & Tz \\ & \searrow f^\dagger & \nearrow g^\dagger \\ & Ty & \end{array}$$

- These laws automatically guarantee functoriality of T and naturality of η and $(-)^{\dagger}$!

Relative monads

$$Jx \xrightarrow{f} Ty \xrightarrow{g^\dagger} Tz$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} Tx & \xrightarrow{(g^\dagger f)^\dagger} & Tz \\ & \searrow f^\dagger & \nearrow g^\dagger \\ & Ty & \end{array}$$

- These laws automatically guarantee functoriality of T and naturality of η and $(-)^{\dagger}$!
- For each $J : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$, we get a category $\text{RMnd}(J)$ of monads relative to J and natural transformations preserving the structure

The second equivalence

The second equivalence

$$\mathbf{RMnd}(\mathbb{F} \hookrightarrow \mathbf{Set}) \simeq \mathbf{Mnd}_{\mathit{fin}}(\mathbf{Set})$$

The picture

The picture

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \text{Set} & \\ J \nearrow & \Uparrow & \searrow \text{Lan}_J T \\ \mathbb{F} & \xrightarrow{T} & \text{Set} \end{array}$$

Part III

The third equivalence

The third equivalence

$$\text{ProMnd}_\times(\mathbb{F}^{\text{op}}) \simeq \text{RMnd}(\mathbb{F} \hookrightarrow \text{Set})$$

What we've got

What we've got

- $P : \mathbb{F} \rightarrow [\mathbb{F}^{\text{op}}, \text{Set}]_{\times}$

What we've got

- $P : \mathbb{F} \rightarrow [\mathbb{F}^{\text{op}}, \text{Set}]_{\times}$
- $\eta : \mathbb{F}^{\text{op}}(-, =) \rightarrow P$

What we've got

- $P : \mathbb{F} \rightarrow [\mathbb{F}^{\text{op}}, \text{Set}]_{\times}$
- $\eta : \mathbb{F}^{\text{op}}(-, =) \rightarrow P$
- $\mu : \int^{c:\mathcal{C}} P(-, c) \times P(c, =) \rightarrow P$

What we've got

- $P : \mathbb{F} \rightarrow [\mathbb{F}^{\text{op}}, \text{Set}]_{\times}$
- $\eta : \mathbb{F}^{\text{op}}(-, =) \rightarrow P$
- $\mu : \int^{c:\mathcal{C}} P(-, c) \times P(c, =) \rightarrow P$
- ...

What we've got

- $P : \mathbb{F} \rightarrow [\mathbb{F}^{\text{op}}, \text{Set}]_{\times}$
- $\eta : \mathbb{F}^{\text{op}}(-, =) \rightarrow P$
- $\mu : \int^{c:\mathcal{C}} P(-, c) \times P(c, =) \rightarrow P$
- ...

- $T : \mathbb{F} \rightarrow \text{Set}$

What we've got

- $P : \mathbb{F} \rightarrow [\mathbb{F}^{\text{op}}, \text{Set}]_{\times}$
 - $\eta : \mathbb{F}^{\text{op}}(-, =) \rightarrow P$
 - $\mu : \int^{c:\mathcal{C}} P(-, c) \times P(c, =) \rightarrow P$
 - ...
-
- $T : \mathbb{F} \rightarrow \text{Set}$
 - $\eta : J \rightarrow T$

What we've got

- $P : \mathbb{F} \rightarrow [\mathbb{F}^{\text{op}}, \text{Set}]_{\times}$
 - $\eta : \mathbb{F}^{\text{op}}(-, =) \rightarrow P$
 - $\mu : \int^{c:\mathcal{C}} P(-, c) \times P(c, =) \rightarrow P$
 - ...
-
- $T : \mathbb{F} \rightarrow \text{Set}$
 - $\eta : J \rightarrow T$
 - $(-)^{\dagger} : \text{Set}(J(-), T(=)) \rightarrow \text{Set}(T(-), T(=))$

What we've got

- $P : \mathbb{F} \rightarrow [\mathbb{F}^{\text{op}}, \text{Set}]_{\times}$
- $\eta : \mathbb{F}^{\text{op}}(-, =) \rightarrow P$
- $\mu : \int^{c:\mathcal{C}} P(-, c) \times P(c, =) \rightarrow P$
- ...

- $T : \mathbb{F} \rightarrow \text{Set}$
- $\eta : J \rightarrow T$
- $(-)^{\dagger} : \text{Set}(J(-), T(=)) \rightarrow \text{Set}(T(-), T(=))$
- ...

Key ingredient

Key ingredient

$$[\mathbb{F}^{\text{op}}, \text{Set}]_{\times} \simeq \text{Set}$$

What we've got

- $P : \mathbb{F} \rightarrow [\mathbb{F}^{\text{op}}, \text{Set}]_{\times}$
- $\eta : \mathbb{F}^{\text{op}}(-, =) \rightarrow P$
- $\mu : \int^{c:\mathcal{C}} P(-, c) \times P(c, =) \rightarrow P$
- ...

What we've got

- $P : \mathbb{F} \rightarrow [\mathbb{F}^{\text{op}}, \text{Set}]_{\times}$
 - $\eta : \mathbb{F}^{\text{op}}(-, =) \rightarrow P$
 - $\mu : \int^{c:\mathcal{C}} P(-, c) \times P(c, =) \rightarrow P$
 - ...
-
- $T : \mathbb{F} \rightarrow \text{Set}$

What we've got

- $P : \mathbb{F} \rightarrow [\mathbb{F}^{\text{op}}, \text{Set}]_{\times}$
- $\eta : \mathbb{F}^{\text{op}}(-, =) \rightarrow P$
- $\mu : \int^{c:\mathcal{C}} P(-, c) \times P(c, =) \rightarrow P$
- ...

- $T : \mathbb{F} \rightarrow \text{Set} \simeq [\mathbb{F}^{\text{op}}, \text{Set}]_{\times}$

What we've got

- $P : \mathbb{F} \rightarrow [\mathbb{F}^{\text{op}}, \text{Set}]_{\times}$
- $\eta : \mathbb{F}^{\text{op}}(-, =) \rightarrow P$
- $\mu : \int^{c:\mathcal{C}} P(-, c) \times P(c, =) \rightarrow P$
- ...

- $T : \mathbb{F} \rightarrow \text{Set} \simeq [\mathbb{F}^{\text{op}}, \text{Set}]_{\times}$
- $\eta : J \rightarrow T$

What we've got

- $P : \mathbb{F} \rightarrow [\mathbb{F}^{\text{op}}, \text{Set}]_{\times}$
 - $\eta : \mathbb{F}^{\text{op}}(-, =) \rightarrow P$
 - $\mu : \int^{c:\mathcal{C}} P(-, c) \times P(c, =) \rightarrow P$
 - ...
-
- $T : \mathbb{F} \rightarrow \text{Set} \simeq [\mathbb{F}^{\text{op}}, \text{Set}]_{\times}$
 - $\eta : J \rightarrow T$ $\eta : \mathbb{F}^{\text{op}}(-, =) \rightarrow T$
 - $(-)^{\dagger} : \text{Set}(J(-), T(=)) \rightarrow \text{Set}(T(-), T(=))$

What we've got

- $P : \mathbb{F} \rightarrow [\mathbb{F}^{\text{op}}, \text{Set}]_{\times}$
- $\eta : \mathbb{F}^{\text{op}}(-, =) \rightarrow P$
- $\mu : \int^{c:\mathcal{C}} P(-, c) \times P(c, =) \rightarrow P$
- ...

- $T : \mathbb{F} \rightarrow \text{Set} \simeq [\mathbb{F}^{\text{op}}, \text{Set}]_{\times}$
- $\eta : J \rightarrow T$ $\eta : \mathbb{F}^{\text{op}}(-, =) \rightarrow T$
- $(-)^{\dagger} : \text{Set}(J(-), T(=)) \rightarrow \text{Set}(T(-), T(=))$

$$T(m, n) \cong [\mathbb{F}^{\text{op}}, \text{Set}]_{\times}(\mathbb{F}^{\text{op}}(n, -), Tm) \rightarrow [\mathbb{F}^{\text{op}}, \text{Set}]_{\times}(Tn, Tm)$$

Summary

Summary

- We've covered a lot of ground:

Summary

- We've covered a lot of ground:
 - Lawvere theories

Summary

- We've covered a lot of ground:
 - Lawvere theories
 - Finitary monads

Summary

- We've covered a lot of ground:
 - Lawvere theories
 - Finitary monads
 - Relative monads

Summary

- We've covered a lot of ground:
 - Lawvere theories
 - Finitary monads
 - Relative monads
 - Promonads

Summary

- We've covered a lot of ground:
 - Lawvere theories
 - Finitary monads
 - Relative monads
 - Promonads
 - Ways these all link up!

Summary

- We've covered a lot of ground:
 - Lawvere theories
 - Finitary monads
 - Relative monads
 - Promonads
 - Ways these all link up!
- Hopefully you've got some intuitions for some of these and can go away and look at the details

References

Thorsten Altenkirch, James Chapman, and Tarmo Uustalu.

Monads need not be endofunctors.

Lecture Notes in Computer Science (including subseries Lecture Notes in Artificial Intelligence and Lecture Notes in Bioinformatics), 6014 LNCS:297–311, 2010.

Nathanael Arkor.

Monadic and higher-order structure.

2022.

F. William Lawvere.

Functorial semantics of algebraic theories and some algebraic problems in the context of functorial semantics of algebraic theories, 1963.