

The representing localic groupoid of a geometric theory

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Joint work with Joshua Wrigley

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Geometric theories

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For example, consider the theory of *inhabited total orders*. This has one sort X , one relation $\leq \subseteq X \times X$ and the following axioms.

	$\vdash_{x: X} x \leq x$	(reflexivity)
$x \leq y \wedge y \leq z$	$\vdash_{x,y,z: X} x \leq z$	(transitivity)
$x \leq y \wedge y \leq x$	$\vdash_{x,y: X} x = y$	(antisymmetry)
	$\vdash_{x,y: X} x \leq y \vee y \leq x$	(totality)
	$\vdash_{\emptyset} \exists x: X. \top$	(inhabitedness)

Classifying toposes

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For each geometric theory \mathbb{T} , there is a **classifying topos** $\mathbf{Set}[\mathbb{T}]$ satisfying $\text{Geom}(\mathcal{E}, \mathbf{Set}[\mathbb{T}]) \simeq \text{Mod}_{\mathbb{T}}(\mathcal{E})$.

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There is a **generic model** $M^{\mathbb{T}}$ in $\mathbf{Set}[\mathbb{T}]$ such that any model $M' \in \text{Mod}_{\mathbb{T}}(\mathcal{E})$ can be obtained from some geometric morphism $F: \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}[\mathbb{T}]$ by 'pulling back' $M^{\mathbb{T}}$ along F .

Propositional theories and locales

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More precisely, a propositional theory defines a ‘*point-free*’ space called a **locale**. The category **Loc** of locales is the opposite of the a certain algebraic category of lattices (‘of opens’) called **frames**.

Frames

A **frame** is a lattice with finite meets and arbitrary joins satisfying the distributivity condition $a \wedge \bigvee_{\alpha} b_{\alpha} = \bigvee_{\alpha} a \wedge b_{\alpha}$.

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Fix a set X and consider the theory of *partial surjections from \mathbb{N} to X* . This adds the axiom $\top \vdash \bigvee_{n \in \mathbb{N}} [f(n) = x]$ for each $x \in X$ to the theory of partial functions from \mathbb{N} to X .

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If X is sufficiently large this has no **Set**-models (i.e. points). However, the frame is always nontrivial in a strong sense.

Sheaves

If $X_{\mathbb{T}}$ is the locale obtained from a propositional theory \mathbb{T} , then $\mathbf{Set}[\mathbb{T}]$ is the topos $\mathbf{Sh}(X_{\mathbb{T}})$ of sheaves on $X_{\mathbb{T}}$.

A **sheaf** on a locale X can be defined as a *local homeomorphism* into X .
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Not every topos is **localic**. This is a pity, since it is easier to work with locales than toposes. However, Joyal and Tierney showed that this is almost true — every topos is a topos of sheaves on a **localic groupoid**.

A locale of models for a general geometric theory

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This suggests representing sorts by **partial equivalence relations** on \mathbb{N} . These have a propositional geometric theory with basic propositions $[n \sim m]$ for $n, m \in \mathbb{N}$ and the following axioms.

- $[n \sim m] \vdash [m \sim n]$ (symmetry)
- $[n \sim m] \wedge [m \sim \ell] \vdash [n \sim \ell]$ (transitivity)

The locale of models $G_0^{\mathbb{T}}$

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- For each sort X of \mathbb{T} , add a copy of the theory of partial equivalence relations on \mathbb{N} (i.e. add basic propositions $[n \sim^X m]$ and axioms for symmetry and transitivity).

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- For each relation symbol $R \subseteq X^1 \times \dots \times X^k$ of \mathbb{T} , and for each $n_1, \dots, n_k \in \mathbb{N}$ and $m_1, \dots, m_k \in \mathbb{N}$, add a proposition $[(n_1, \dots, n_k) \in R]$ and axioms
 - $[(n_1, \dots, n_k) \in R] \wedge [n_1 \sim^{X^1} m_1] \wedge \dots \wedge [n_k \sim^{X^k} m_k] \vdash [(m_1, \dots, m_k) \in R]$,
 - $[(n_1, \dots, n_k) \in R] \vdash [n_1 \sim^{X^1} n_1] \wedge \dots \wedge [n_k \sim^{X^k} n_k]$.

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- For each axiom $\varphi \vdash_{x_1, \dots, x_k} \psi$ of \mathbb{T} , we add an axiom

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for each $n_1, \dots, n_k \in \mathbb{N}$, where $\varphi_{n_1, \dots, n_k}$ and ψ_{n_1, \dots, n_k} are obtained from φ and ψ by replacing:

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Different subquotients of \mathbb{N} might correspond to isomorphic models. To deal with this we construct a locale of isomorphisms.

The locale of isomorphisms $G_1^{\mathbb{T}}$

We define a locale $G_1^{\mathbb{T}}$ as the classifying locale of the theory $P[\mathbb{T}_{\cong}]$ where \mathbb{T}_{\cong} is the theory of *isomorphisms* of \mathbb{T} -models.

The theory \mathbb{T}_{\cong} is obtained by simply taking two copies of each sort, relations and axioms of \mathbb{T} , adding relations corresponding to bijections between corresponding sorts, and adding axioms that force relations on each copy to map into each other via the appropriate bijections.

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We can now equip $G_0^{\mathbb{T}}$ and $G_1^{\mathbb{T}}$ with locale morphisms to give an internal groupoid $G^{\mathbb{T}}$ in **Loc**.

$$G_1^{\mathbb{T}} \times_{G_0^{\mathbb{T}}} G_1^{\mathbb{T}} \xrightarrow{m} G_1^{\mathbb{T}} \begin{array}{c} \overset{i}{\curvearrowright} \\ \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{s} \\ \xleftarrow{e} \\ \xrightarrow{t} \end{array} \\ \end{array} G_0^{\mathbb{T}}$$

This is (essentially) the localic groupoid of Joyal and Tierney.

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The Joyal–Tierney result shows that $\mathrm{Sh}(G^{\mathbb{T}}) \simeq \mathbf{Set}^{\mathbb{T}}$.

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In particular, we can express the generic model of $\mathbf{Set}[\mathbb{T}]$ in terms of structures on $G^{\mathbb{T}}$.

For a sort X the corresponding étale space is given by the locale classifying pairs $(x, [n])$ with $x \in G_0^{\mathbb{T}}$ and $[n] \in \mathbb{N}/E_X(x)$ where E_X is the value of the partial equivalence relation \sim^X at the point x .

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The generic \mathbb{T} -model over $G^{\mathbb{T}}$ then satisfies a universal property, not only in the 2-category of toposes, but in a bicategory of all localic groupoids (and anafunctors between them).

Analogous constructions

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- We should then be able to classify compact Hausdorff models for a ‘dual geometric’ logic by a similar construction.

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