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A FORMAL DESCRIPTION OF COHERENCE IN ABSTRACT REWRITING

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Algebraic rewriting seminar

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14th of October 2021

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LIX

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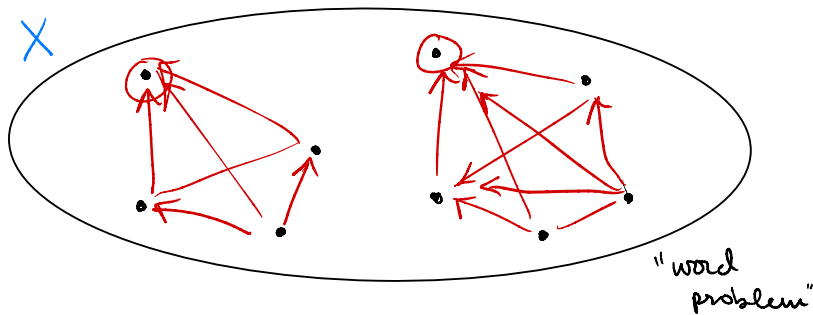
INTRODUCTION

↳ ARS, Relation algebras and coherence

Abstract rewriting theory studies directed transformations between abstract objects.

$$(x, y) \quad x \longrightarrow y$$

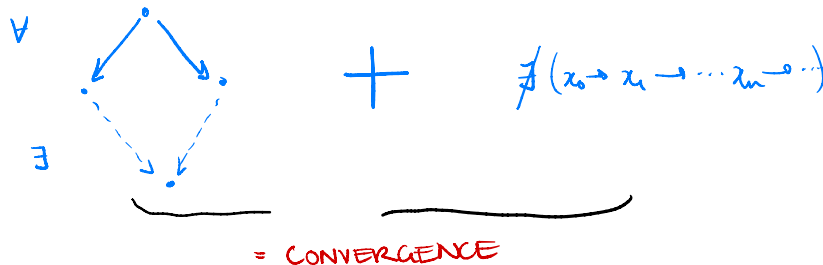
A first application of rewriting was in comparing elements of a set modulo some equivalence relation on a set X :



"Good" properties of an ARS, such as...

CONFLUENCE

TERMINATION



...express that in each equivalence class, there exists a distinguished element which represents the entire class. These are called normal forms.

In this way, comparison problems are solved by choosing a "base-point" in each connected component and describing a contraction of each to that point via directed transformations

"0-dimensional choice + direction"

RELATIONAL DESCRIPTION

An ARS may be thought of as a relation $R \subseteq X \times X$:

$(x, y) \in R \equiv x$ is rewritten to y

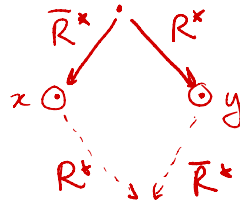
The set of relations on X , equipped with union and composition, form the relation algebra on X : $A \subseteq B \Leftrightarrow A \cup B = B$.

$(\underbrace{P(X \times X)}_X, \cup, \emptyset, \circ, \mathbb{1}, \subseteq)$
 $\hookrightarrow X \times X$

- The converse of R is $\bar{R} = \{(y, x) \mid (x, y) \in R\}$
- The reflexive, transitive closure of a relation S is denoted S^* .

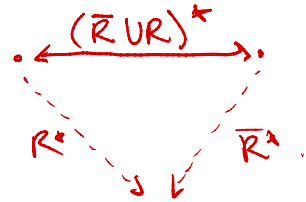
Properties of the ARS become inequalities in this algebra:

CONFLUENCE



$$\bar{R}^* \circ R^* \leq R^* \circ \bar{R}^*$$

CHURCH-ROSSER



$$(RUR)^* \leq R^* \circ \bar{R}^*$$

Classic results may be expressed and proved in this setting, using formal methods:

Thm (Church-Rosser)
Let $R \subseteq P(X \times X)$. Then

$$\bar{R}^* \circ R^* \leq R^* \circ \bar{R}^* \iff (RUR)^* \leq R^* \circ \bar{R}^*$$



In the relational description, there is no clear notion of "parallel" transformation.

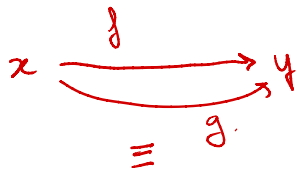
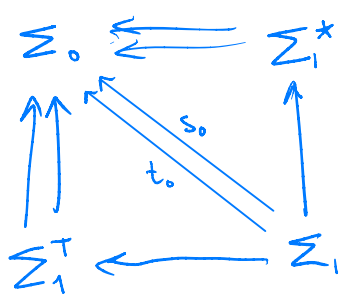
Indeed, for $R, S \in P(X \times X)$ we may have

$$(x, y) \in R \text{ and } (x, y) \in S, \text{ but } R \neq S.$$

We have limited 1-dimensional information...

POLYGRAPHIC DESCRIPTION

We can also describe an ARS via the notion of **1-polygraph** $\Sigma = (\Sigma_0, \Sigma_1)$:

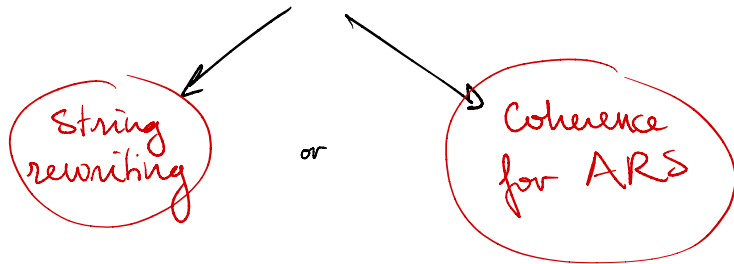


x is rewritten to y via f .

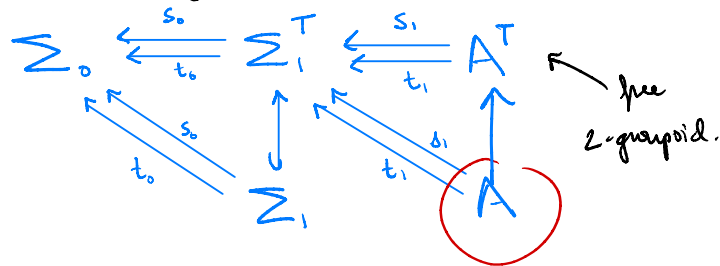
free groupoid

free category

The same properties and results may be expressed here, but now we can compare the paths

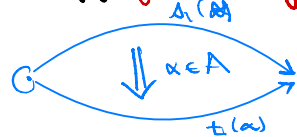


Coherence properties are tracked via higher-dimensional cells; we consider a **cellular extension** A of Σ^T :



The **source** and **target** maps satisfy **globularity**:

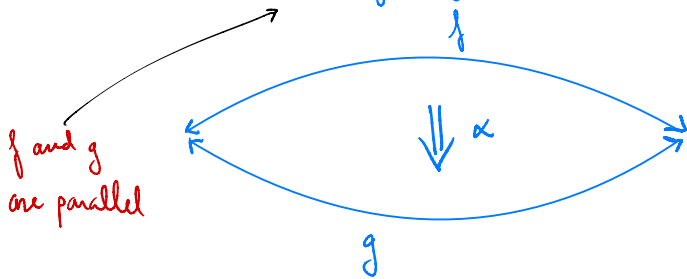
$$s_0 s_1 = s_0 t_1 \quad \text{and} \quad t_0 s_1 = t_0 t_0.$$



While convergence deals with 0-dimensional contractibility along directed paths, coherence expresses 1-dimensional contractibility along undirected 2-cells:

DEF: an ARS Σ is **coherent** wrt A if:

$$\forall f, g \in \Sigma_i^+, \quad \begin{matrix} s_0(f) = t_0(g) \\ t_0(f) = t_0(g) \end{matrix} \quad \exists \alpha \in A^\Sigma, \quad \alpha: f \Rightarrow g.$$



In order to prove coherence of a convergent ARS, we proceed in a similar way to before; convergence is used to show that we may choose a (1-dimensional) "base-point" in each set of parallel arrows.

This is the notion of **normalisation strategy**.

DEF: Recall that an ARS generates an equivalence relation on 0-cells (connected components). Given a **section** of that relation

$$\hat{(-)}: \Sigma_0 \longrightarrow \Sigma_0,$$

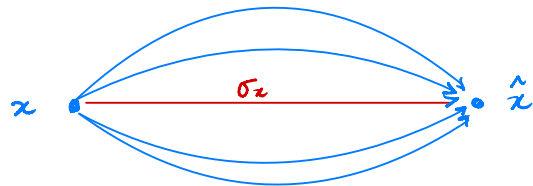
a **normalisation strategy** for Σ wrt $\hat{(-)}$ is a map

$$\sigma: \Sigma_0 \longrightarrow \Sigma_1^*$$

such that for all $x \in \Sigma_0$

$$\sigma_x: x \longrightarrow \hat{x} \quad \text{and} \quad \sigma_x = 1_x$$

Remark: In the case of a convergent ARS, we may consider the section given by normal forms.

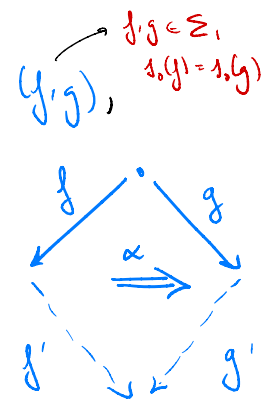


For a convergent ARS Σ , coherence wrt the cellular extension A given by local branchings can be proved in three steps:

For every local branching choose a confluence (f', g') .

Define A by taking a 2-cell $\alpha : f f' \Rightarrow g g'$ for every local branching.

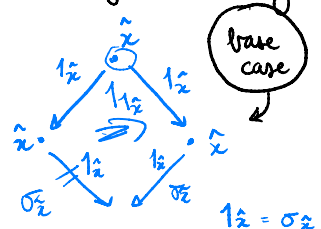
Fix a normalisation strategy σ wrt normal forms.



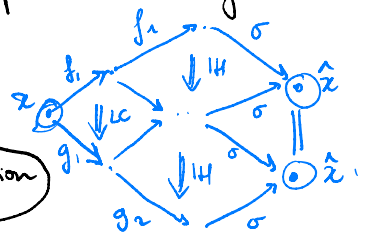
$f', g' \in \Sigma^*$
 $t_0(f') = t_0(g')$
 $\sigma : \Sigma_0 \rightarrow \Sigma_1^*$

1 Normalising Newman

"Every branching can be paved to a confluence in σ "

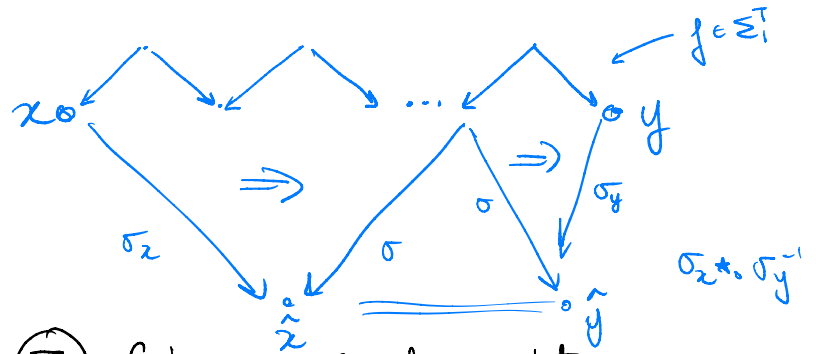


induction step



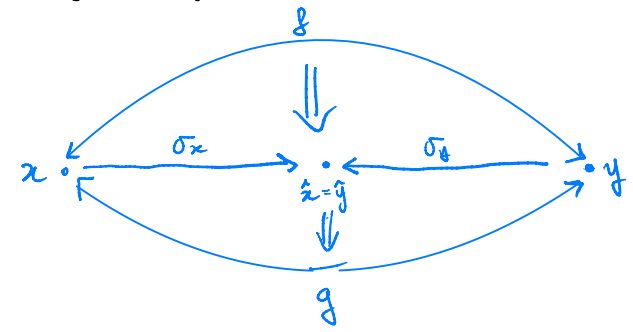
2 Normalising Church-Rosser:

"Every zig-zag can be paved to a confluence in σ "



3 Coherence via base-points:

"Every pair of parallel zig-zags are paved"



GOAL Formulate and prove the coherence theorem for convergent ARS in Kleene algebras.

Outline:

- ① modal Kleene algebras and ARS
- ② 2-Kleene algebras and paving
- ③ Strategies and coherence.

1. MKA & ARS.

A **Kleene algebra** is a structure

$$(K, +, 0, \cdot, 1, (-)^*)$$

such that...

$\rightarrow (K, +, 0)$ is a commutative idempotent monoid
 $\varphi + \varphi = \varphi \quad \forall \varphi \in K$ \leftarrow "union"

$\triangle!$ This endows K with an **ordering**

$$\varphi \leq \psi \iff \varphi + \psi = \psi$$

$\rightarrow (K, \cdot, 1)$ is a monoid "composition/
concatenation"

\rightarrow **Multiplication** distributes over **addition**

$\rightarrow (-)^* : K \rightarrow K$ is a map satisfying:

$$1 + \varphi \cdot \varphi^* \leq \varphi^*, \quad 1 + \varphi^* \cdot \varphi \leq \varphi^* \quad (\text{unfold})$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} - \underbrace{\xi} + \underbrace{\varphi\psi} \leq \psi \implies \varphi^* \cdot \xi \leq \psi \\ - \xi + \psi\varphi \leq \psi \implies \xi \cdot \varphi^* \leq \psi \end{array} \right\} (\text{induction})$$

This is called the **Kleene star**.

Example: Path algebras

Let Σ be a 1-polygraph. Then

$$(\mathcal{P}(\Sigma^*), \cup, \emptyset, \circ, \mathbb{1}_\circ, (-)^*)$$

is a Kleene algebra, denoted by $K(\Sigma)$.

$$\varphi \circ \psi := \{f * g \mid f \in \varphi, g \in \psi \text{ and } t_o(f) = s_o(g)\},$$

$$\varphi^* := \{f_1 * \dots * f_n \mid n \in \mathbb{N}, f_i \in \varphi, t_o(f_i) = s_o(f_{i+1})\}$$

$$\mathbb{1}_\circ = \{1_x \mid x \in \Sigma_\circ\} \cup \{1_x \mid x \in \Sigma_\circ\}$$

Model Kleene algebras

Consider a Kleene algebra equipped with a map $d: K \rightarrow K$ satisfying

$$d(\emptyset) = 0, \quad \varphi = d(\varphi) \cdot \varphi, \quad d(\varphi\psi) \leq d(\varphi d(\psi)),$$

$$d(\varphi) \leq 1, \quad d(\varphi + \psi) = d(\varphi) + d(\psi).$$

This is called a **domain operation**. The set

$$K_\circ = \{\varphi \mid d(\varphi) = \varphi\} = d(K)$$

is called the **domain algebra**; restricting the operations to K_\circ gives a distributive lattice bounded by 0 and 1.

We may also consider a **range operation** $r: K \rightarrow K$ satisfying domain axioms in the opposite Kleene algebra (in which multiplication is reversed).

G. Struth et al

A Kleene algebra with a domain and a range is called a **model Kleene algebra** if

$$d \circ r = r \quad \text{and} \quad r \circ d = d.$$

This assumes that the domain and range algebras coincide.

(N.B.) Elements of K_0 will be denoted p, q, r, \dots
 $\text{ad } \text{ad} := d$

⚠ Axiomatizing notions of **antidomain** and **antirange**, we may equip K_0 with a Boolean complementation, i.e. $\boxed{\neg : K_0 \rightarrow K_0}$

$$p \cdot \neg p = 0, \quad p + \neg p = 1.$$

These are called **Boolean MKAs**. Henceforth we will consider such structures.

Example: For $\varphi \in K(\Sigma)$, we have:

$$\rightarrow d(\varphi) = \{1_z \mid \exists f \in \varphi, s_0(f) = z\},$$

$$\leftarrow \varphi = \{1_y \mid \exists f \in \varphi, t_0(f) = y\},$$

$$p = \{1_z \mid z \in A \in \Sigma_0\}, \quad \neg p = \{1_y \mid y \in \Sigma_0 \setminus A\}$$

$$K(\Sigma)_0 \cong \mathcal{P}(\Sigma_0).$$

Modalities

As the name indicates, in a modal Kleene algebra, each element gives rise to **modal diamond operators** on K_0 :

For every $\varphi \in K$, $\langle \varphi \rangle : K_0 \rightarrow K_0$

$$\langle \varphi \rangle(p) := d(\varphi \cdot p) \quad \text{"forward diamond"}$$

"The set of points from which a φ -step goes into p "

Similarly, we define a **backward diamond**

$$\langle \varphi | (p) = r(p \cdot \varphi),$$

and **forward/backward box operators**:

$$[\varphi](p) = \neg \langle \varphi \rangle(\neg p) \quad \text{and} \quad [\varphi | (p) = \neg \langle \varphi | (\neg p).$$

Converses in MKA.

Let K be an MKA equipped with an involution

$$\overline{(-)} : K \longrightarrow K \quad \text{"converse"}$$

satisfying

$$\left[\begin{array}{l} \overline{(\varphi + \psi)} = \overline{\varphi} + \overline{\psi}, \quad \overline{\varphi \cdot \psi} = \overline{\psi} \cdot \overline{\varphi}, \\ \overline{(\varphi^*)} = (\overline{\varphi})^* \quad \text{and} \quad d(\varphi) \leq \varphi \cdot \overline{\varphi}. \end{array} \right.$$

Converse exchanges domain/range as well as forward/backward modalities:

$$\begin{array}{ll} d(\varphi) = r(\overline{\varphi}) & |\varphi\rangle = \langle \overline{\varphi}| \\ r(\varphi) = d(\overline{\varphi}) & \langle \varphi| = |\overline{\varphi}\rangle. \end{array}$$

Finally, it is idempotent on K_0 :

$$\overline{\overline{p}} = p \quad \text{for all } p \in K_0.$$

Example: For $\varphi \in K(\Sigma)$, $p \in K(\Sigma)$,

$$\left[\begin{array}{l} |\varphi\rangle(p) = \{1_x \mid \exists (f: x \rightarrow y) \in \varphi \text{ with } 1_y \in p\} \\ \overline{\varphi} = \{f^{-1} \mid f \in \varphi\}. \end{array} \right.$$

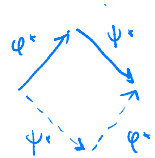
Abstract rewriting in MKAs.

• Confluence properties are given by semi-commutation. Let $\varphi, \psi \in K$:

→ (φ, ψ) semi-commutes

- (globally) if

$$\varphi^* \cdot \psi^* \leq \psi^* \cdot \varphi^*$$



- locally if

$$\varphi \cdot \psi \leq \psi^* \cdot \varphi^*$$



We say that φ is (locally) confluent if $(\overline{\varphi}, \varphi)$ semi-commutes (locally).

→ (φ, ψ) has the **Church-Rosser property** if

$$(\varphi + \psi)^* \leq \psi^* \varphi^*$$



φ has the **CR property** if $(\bar{\varphi}, \varphi)$ does.

• Termination properties are captured via model operators. Let $\varphi \in K$:

φ **terminates** if for all $p \in K_0$,

$$p \leq |\varphi \rangle(p) \implies p = 0.$$

"p contains a φ -loop
or a ω - φ -path"

"p is empty".

We have an equivalent formulation with boxes:

$$\forall p \in K_0, |\varphi \rangle(p) \leq p \implies p = 1.$$

When $\varphi \in K$ is confluent and terminates, we say that φ is **convergent**.

Classic results from abstract rewriting may now be expressed and proved in MKA:

Theorem (Formal Newman) G. Smolth et al

Let $\varphi \in K$ be locally confluent and terminating. Then φ is (globally) confluent.

Theorem (Formal Church-Rosser) G. Smolth

Let $\varphi, \psi \in K$. Then

(φ, ψ) semi-commutes $\iff (\varphi, \psi)$ has the CR prop.

I can sketch a proof if there is interest.

Otherwise on to higher dimensions!

2. 2-MKAs & pairing.

In order to capture coherence properties in Kleene algebra, we need an extra dimension.

A modal 2-Kleene algebra (2-MKA) is a structure

$$(K, +, 0, \overset{\bar{(-)}}{(-)}, \cdot, 1, (-)^*, d_i, r_i)_{i=0,1}$$

such that

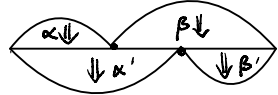
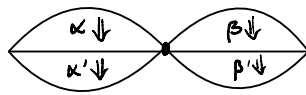
- for $i=0$, we obtain a Boolean MKA with converse.
- for $i=1$ we obtain a MKA.

The domain algebra associated with d_i will be denoted by K_i .

Now we need some axioms describing the interaction of these structures:

i) **Weak exchange law**: for $A, B, A', B' \in K_1$,

$$(A \circ_0 A') \circ_0 (B \circ_1 B') \neq (A \circ_0 B) \circ_0 (A' \circ_0 B')$$



ii) **Completeness of 1-unit** wrt 0-mult:

$$1_1 \circ_0 1_1 = 1_1$$

iii) **Domain/range absorption**: $K_0 \subseteq K_1$

$$d_1 \circ_0 d_0 = d_0 \quad \text{and} \quad r_1 \circ_0 r_0 = r_0$$

iv) **Kleene star axioms**: for $A \in K$, $\varphi \in K_1$,

$$\varphi \circ_0 A^* \leq (\varphi \circ_0 A)^* \quad \text{and} \quad A^* \circ_0 \varphi \leq (A \circ_0 \varphi)^*$$



To avoid confusion, elements of...

... K_0 will be denoted p, q, r, \dots

... K_1 will be denoted $\varphi, \psi, \xi, \dots$

Other elements of K will be denoted A, B, C, \dots

Finally, we want domain and range to satisfy **globularity conditions**:

$$d_0 = d_0 \circ d_1 = d_0 \circ r_1 \quad r_0 \circ d_1 = r_0 \circ r_1 = r_0$$

$$d_1(A \circ B) = d_1(A) \circ d_1(B)$$

$$r_1(A \circ B) = r_1(A) \circ r_1(B)$$



This means that we have homomorphisms

$$\underbrace{K_0 \begin{array}{c} \xleftarrow{d_0} \\ \xrightarrow{r_0} \end{array} K_1}_{\text{MKA}} \begin{array}{c} \xleftarrow{d_1} \\ \xrightarrow{r_1} \end{array} K \underbrace{\quad}_{\text{MKA}}$$

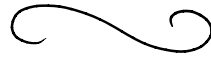
Example: 2-path algebra.

Let Σ be a 1-polygraph with cellular extension A . Then the structure

$$(P(A_2^T), U, \emptyset, \circ_i, \mathbb{1}_i, (-)^*, d_i, r_i)_{i=0,1}$$

is a globular 2-MKA, where the operations are defined as in the 1-polygraph case.

This structure is denoted by $K(\Sigma, A)$.



Modalities

Just as in the case of MKA, we obtain modal operators in each dimension:

$$\left[\begin{array}{l} |A\rangle_1(\varphi) = d_1(A \circ_1 \varphi) \quad , \quad \langle A|_1(\varphi) = r_1(\varphi \circ_1 A) \\ |A\rangle_0(p) = d_0(A \circ_0 p) \quad , \quad \langle A|_0(p) = r_0(A \circ_0 p) \end{array} \right.$$

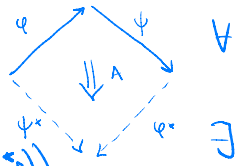
Paving in 2-MKA.

Let $A \in K$ and $\varphi, \psi \in K_1$.

- A is a local confluence filler for (φ, ψ) if

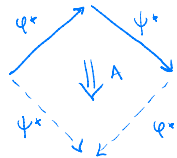
$$\varphi \circ \psi \leq |A\rangle_1 (\psi \circ \varphi^*)$$

$$= d_1(A \circ_1 (\psi^* \circ \varphi^*))$$



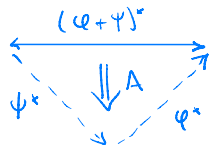
- A is a confluence filler for (φ, ψ) if

$$\varphi^* \circ \psi^* \leq |A\rangle_1 (\psi^* \circ \varphi^*)$$



- A is a Church-Rosser filler for (φ, ψ) if

$$(\varphi + \psi)^* \leq |A\rangle_1 (\psi^* \circ \varphi^*)$$

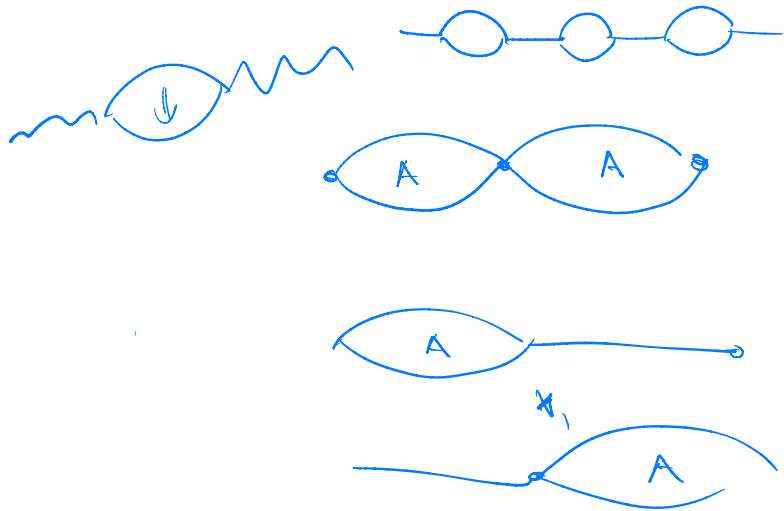


Completion

Let A be a filler for (φ, ψ) . We define the total whiskering of A by

$$\hat{A} = (\varphi + \psi)^* \circ_0 A \circ_0 (\varphi + \psi)^*$$

The completion of A is the element \hat{A}^* .



3. Strategies & coherence

Notice that in a 2-MKA, we can't describe coherence via passing from zig-zags to zig-zags; indeed

$$|\hat{A}^* \rangle \geq ((\varphi + \bar{\varphi})^*) \geq (\varphi + \bar{\varphi})^*$$

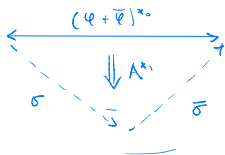
$\forall f, g \in \Sigma^+$
 parallel
 $\exists \alpha: f \geq g$

is satisfied by any element A since

$$\hat{A}^* \geq 1_1$$

The solution to this problem is to capture the notion of normalisation strategy in MKAs; coherence will be satisfied when

$$(\varphi + \bar{\varphi})^* \leq |\hat{A}^* \rangle, (\sigma \circ \bar{\sigma})$$



$$\sigma_x = x \rightarrow \hat{x}$$

Sections, skeletons & strategies

Let K_1 be a Boolean MKA and $\varphi \in K_1, \rho \in K_2$.

→ The **equivalence** generated by φ is the element $\varphi^\top := (\varphi + \bar{\varphi})^*$.

→ ρ is a **covering set** for φ if

$$|\varphi^\top \rangle (\rho) = 1.$$

A **section** of φ is a minimal covering set.

→ A **wide sub** of φ is an element $\psi \in K_1$ such that $\psi \leq \varphi$ and

$$|\varphi \rangle = |\psi \rangle \quad \text{and} \quad \langle \varphi | = \langle \psi |.$$

A **skeleton** of φ is a minimal wide sub.

→ Finally, given a section s of φ , a **strategy** for (φ, s) is a skeleton σ of $\varphi^\top \circ s$ such that $s \circ \sigma \leq s$. $\sigma_x = 1_x$

Exhaustive iteration & normal forms.

Let $\varphi \in K_1$. The **exhaustive iteration** of φ is defined as

$$\text{exh}(\varphi) := \varphi^* \circ_0 (\neg d_0(\varphi)).$$

"do φ steps until no longer possible".

The **normal forms element** of φ is defined as

$$\text{nfe} := \Omega_0(\text{exh}(\varphi))$$

We rediscover known properties:

→ If φ is confluent, normal forms are unique:

$$\langle \text{exh}(\varphi) \mid_0 \text{exh}(\varphi) \rangle_0(p) \leq p$$

→ If φ terminates, a normal form may be reached from any point: $d_0(\text{exh}(\varphi)) = 1_0$.

Even better, we have:

Lemma: For $\varphi \in K_1$ convergent,

i) nfe is a section of φ .

ii) any skeleton of $\text{exh}(\varphi)$ is a strategy for (φ, nfe) .

This result, and other technical lemmas, suggest that this is a "good" definition of strategy in MKA.

In the polygraphic model $K(\Sigma)$, a strategy $\sigma: \Sigma_0 \rightarrow \Sigma_1^T$ gives a strategy in the sense of MKA by simply considering its image:

$$\sigma(\Sigma_0) = \{\sigma_x \mid x \in \Sigma_0\}.$$

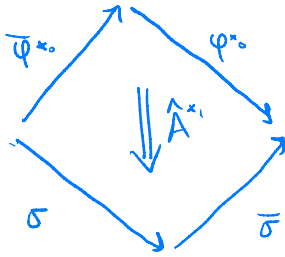
A formal coherence theorem.

Now we can state the **main results** of this work:

Theorem (Coherent normalizing Newman).

Let K be a 2-MKA and $\varphi \in K_1$ convergent. If A is a local confluence filler for φ and σ is a strategy for (φ, φ) , then

$$\varphi^{*0} \circ \varphi^{*0} \leq |\hat{A}^{*1}|_1 (\sigma \circ \bar{\sigma})$$

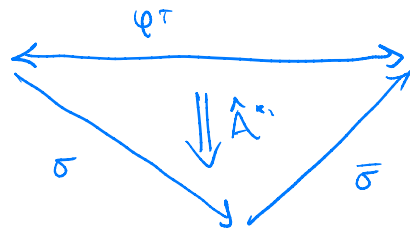


This is
① from
the intro.

Theorem (Abstract coherence.).

Under the same hypotheses, we have

$$\varphi^T \leq |\hat{A}^{*1}|_1 (\sigma \circ \bar{\sigma}).$$



This is
② from
intro.

THANK YOU!