

Equational reasoning for probabilistic programming

Part I: (a) Basic equational logic (b) Metrics

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- Equations are at the heart of mathematical reasoning.
- Reasoning about programs is also based on program equivalences.
- A trinity of ideas: Equationally given algebras, Lawvere theories, Monads on **Set**
- The dawning of the age of quantitative reasoning.
- We want quantitative analogues of algebraic reasoning.
- (Pseudo)metrics instead of equivalence relations.
- Equality indexed by a real number $=_{\epsilon}$.
- Monads on **Met**.
- Enriched Lawvere theories?

- Summary of equational logic
- Monads
- Monads and computation
- Metrics for probabilistic systems

Finitary equational theories

- Signature $\Omega = \{(Op_i, n_i) \mid i = 1 \dots k\}$
- Terms $t ::= x \mid Op(t_1, \dots, t_n)$
- Equations $s = t$
- Axioms, sets of equations Ax
- Deduction $Ax \vdash s = t$
- Usual rules for deduction: equivalence relation, congruence,...
- Theories: set of equations closed under deduction.

Equational deduction rules

- Axiom $Ax \vdash s = t$ if $s = t \in Ax$
- Equivalence

$$\frac{\overline{Ax \vdash t = t}}{Ax \vdash s = t, Ax \vdash t = u} \\ \frac{}{Ax \vdash s = u} \\ \frac{Ax \vdash s = t}{Ax \vdash t = s}$$

- Congruence

$$\frac{Ax \vdash t_1 = s_1, \dots, Ax \vdash t_n = s_n}{Ax \vdash Op(t_1, \dots, t_n) = Op(s_1, \dots, s_n)}$$

- Substitution

$$\frac{Ax \vdash t = s}{Ax \vdash t[u/x] = s[u/x]}$$

- We assume that there is one set of “basic things” – one-sorted algebras.
- Fix a set Ω of *operations*, each with a fixed arity $n \in \mathbb{N}$. These include *constants* as arity zero “operations.” Such an Ω is called a signature.
- Everything has finite arity.
- As Ω -algebra \mathcal{A} is a set A to interpret the basic sort and, for each operation f of arity n a function $f_{\mathcal{A}} : A^n \rightarrow A$.

Algebras equationally II

- Can define homomorphisms and subalgebras easily.
- What about equations that are required to hold?
- Given a set X we define the *term algebra generated by X* , TX
- The elements of X are in TX .
- If t_1, \dots, t_n are in TX and f has arity n then $f(t_1, \dots, t_n)$ is in TX .

Algebras from equations I

- Want to write things like $\forall x, y, z; f(x, f(y, z)) = f(f(x, y), z)$.
- X , set of *variables*.
- Let s, t be terms in TX , we say the equation $s = t$ *holds* in an Ω -algebra \mathcal{A} if *for every* homomorphism $h : TX \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ we have $h(s) = h(t)$ where, in the latter, $=$ means identity.
- Let S be a set of equations between pairs of terms in TX . We define a *congruence relation* \sim_S on TX in the evident way.

Algebras from equations II

- Easy to check that if $t_1 \sim_S s_1, \dots, t_n \sim_S s_n$ then $f(t_1, \dots, t_n) \sim_S f(s_1, \dots, s_n)$ we can define f_{\sim_S} on TX / \sim_S .
- Let $[t]$ be an equivalence class of \sim_S ; $f_{\sim_S}([t_1], \dots, [t_n])$ is well defined by $[f(t_1, \dots, t_n)]$.
- A class of Ω -algebras satisfying a set of equations is called a variety of algebras (not the same as an algebraic variety!).
- When are a set of equations bad? If we can derive $x = y$ from S then the only algebras have one element.

Examples

- Monoids, groups, rings, lattices, boolean algebras are all examples.
- Vector spaces have two sorts.
- Fields are annoying because we have to say $x \neq 0$ implies x^{-1} exists. Fields do not form an equational variety.
- Sometimes we need to state conditional equations; these are called *Horn clauses*. Example: cancellative monoids, $x \cdot y = x \cdot z \vdash y = z$.
- Stacks are equationally definable but queues are not.

Example: barycentric algebras (Stone 1949)

- Signature:

$$\{+_{\epsilon} \mid \epsilon \in [0, 1]\}$$

- Axioms:

$$(B_1) \vdash t +_1 t' = t'$$

$$(B_2) \vdash t +_{\epsilon} t = t$$

$$(SC) \vdash t +_{\epsilon} t' = t' +_{1-\epsilon} t$$

$$(SA) \vdash (t +_{\epsilon} t') +_{\epsilon'} t'' = t +_{\epsilon\epsilon'} \left(t' +_{\frac{\epsilon' - \epsilon\epsilon'}{1 - \epsilon\epsilon'}} t'' \right)$$

Universal properties

- Let $\mathbb{K}(\Omega, S)$ be the collection of algebras satisfying the equations in S . $\mathbb{K}(\Omega, S)$ becomes a category if we take the morphisms to be Ω -homomorphisms.
- Let X be a set of generators. We write $T[X]$ for TX / \sim_S . There is a map $\eta_X : X \rightarrow T[X]$ given by $\eta_X(x) = [x]$.
- Universal property.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Set} & & \mathbb{K}(\Omega, S) \\ \\ X & \xrightarrow{\eta_X} & T[X] \\ & \searrow \alpha & \downarrow h \\ & & A \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{c} T[X] \\ \downarrow h \\ \mathcal{A} \end{array}$$

Variety theorem

Birkhoff

A collection of algebras is a variety of algebras if and only if it is closed under homomorphic images, subalgebras and products.

There are analogous results for algebras defined by Horn clauses: quasivariety theorems.

Example

Consider $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$. It's not a field because, *e.g.* $(1, 0) \times (0, 1) = (0, 0)$. Hence fields cannot be described by equations!

- Capturing universal algebra categorically.
- Data: (i) Endofunctor $T : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$, (ii) $\eta : I \rightarrow T$ natural, and (iii) $\mu : T^2 \rightarrow T$ also natural.
- Some diagrams are required to commute.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} T^3A & \xrightarrow{\mu_{TA}} & T^2A \\ T\mu_A \downarrow & & \downarrow \mu_A \\ T^2A & \xrightarrow{\mu_A} & TA \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & & & \\ & & & & \\ TA & \xrightarrow{\eta_{TA}} & T^2A & \xleftarrow{T\eta_A} & TA \\ & \parallel & \downarrow \mu_A & \parallel & \\ & & TA & & \end{array}$$

- Examples: powerset, “free” constructions e.g. monoid, group, the Giry monad.

The Kleisli construction

- From a monad $T : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ make a new category: the Kleisli category \mathcal{C}_T .
- Objects, the same as those of \mathcal{C} .
- Morphisms $f : A \rightarrow B$ in \mathcal{C}_T are $f : A \rightarrow TB$ in \mathcal{C} .
- Composition? $f : A \rightarrow TB$ and $g : B \rightarrow TC$ don't match.
- $f : A \rightarrow TB$ and $Tg : TB \rightarrow T^2C$ to match but we are in T^2C .
- Compose with $\mu_C : T^2C \rightarrow TC$ to get $A \rightarrow TC$.
- The Kleisli category of the powerset monad is the category of sets and relations.

- **Mes**: objects are sets equipped with a σ -algebra (X, Σ) , morphisms $f : (X, \Sigma) \rightarrow (Y, \Lambda)$ are functions $f : X \rightarrow Y$ such that $\forall B \in \Lambda, f^{-1}(B) \in \Sigma$.
- $\mathcal{G} : \mathbf{Mes} \rightarrow \mathbf{Mes}$, $\mathcal{G}(X, \Sigma) = \{p \mid p \text{ is a probability measure on } \Sigma\}$.
- For each $A \in \Sigma$, define $e_A : \mathcal{G}(X) \rightarrow [0, 1]$ by $e_A(p) = p(A)$. Equip $\mathcal{G}(X)$ with the smallest σ -algebra making all the e_A measurable.
- $f : X \rightarrow Y$, $\mathcal{G}(f) : \mathcal{G}(X) \rightarrow \mathcal{G}(Y)$ given by $\mathcal{G}(f)(p)(B \in \Lambda) = p(f^{-1}(B))$.

- $\eta_X : X \rightarrow \mathcal{G}(X)$ given by $\eta_X(x) = \delta_x$, where $\delta_x(A) = 1$ if $x \in A$ and 0 if $x \notin A$.
- $\mu_X(Q \in \mathcal{G}^2(X))(A) = \int e_A dQ$. Averaging over \mathcal{G} using Q .
- Probabilistic analogue of the powerset.

The Kleisli category of \mathcal{G}

- Objects: Same as **Mes**, morphisms from X to Y are measurable functions from X to $\mathcal{G}(Y)$.
- Compose: $h : X \rightarrow \mathcal{G}(Y)$, $k : Y \rightarrow \mathcal{G}(Z)$ by the formula:
 $(k\tilde{\circ}h) = (\mu_Z) \circ (\mathcal{G}(k)) \circ h$ where $\tilde{\circ}$ is the Kleisli composition and \circ is composition in **Mes**.
- Curry the definition of morphism: $h : X \times \Sigma_Y \rightarrow [0, 1]$. Markov kernels. We call this category **Ker**. Probabilistic relations.
- Composition in terms of kernels:
 $(k\tilde{\circ}h)(x, C \subset Z) = \int k(y, C)h(x, \cdot)$. Relational composition, matrix multiplication.

The Eilenberg-Moore category

- From T we can construct a category of algebras: objects $a : TA \rightarrow A$
- and morphisms $f : A \rightarrow B$ such that

$$\begin{array}{ccc} TA & \xrightarrow{a} & A \\ Tf \downarrow & & \downarrow f \\ TB & \xrightarrow{b} & B \end{array}$$

commute.

- Many categories of algebras (monoids, groups, rings, lattices) can be reconstructed this way.
- The Kleisli category = the category of “free” algebras.
- We get a monad on \mathbf{Set} from $X \mapsto T[X]$. The Eilenberg-Moore category for this monad is isomorphic to $\mathbb{K}(\Omega, S)$.
- Algebras for a monad \Leftrightarrow Algebras given by equations and operations.

- Quantitative analogue of an equivalence relation.
- Space M , (pseudo)metric $d : M \times M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{\geq 0}$
- $d(x, x) = 0$, $d(x, y) = d(y, x)$ and $d(x, z) \leq d(x, y) + d(y, z)$.
- If $d(x, y) = 0$ implies $x = y$ we say d is a **metric**.
- We can define usual notions of convergence, completeness, topology, continuity etc.
- Maps: $f(X, d) \rightarrow (Y, d')$ are *nonexpansive* $d'(f(x), f(y)) \leq d(x, y)$; automatically continuous
- We define **Met**: objects metric spaces, morphisms are nonexpansive functions.
- Quantitative equations give monads on **Met**.

Metrics between probability distributions

Let p, q be probability distributions on (X, d, Σ) .

- Total variation $tv(p, q) = \sup_{E \in \Sigma} |p(E) - q(E)|$.
- Kantorovich: $\kappa(p, q) = \sup_f \left| \int f dp - \int f dq \right|$ where f is nonexpansive.
- A *coupling* π between p, q is a distribution on $X \times X$ such that the marginals of π are p, q . Write $\mathcal{C}(p, q)$ for the space of couplings.
- Kantorovich: $\kappa(p, q) = \inf_{\mathcal{C}(p, q)} \int_{X \times X} d(x, y) d\pi(x, y)$.
Kantorovich-Rubinshtein duality.
- Wasserstein: $W^{(l)}(p, q) = \left[\inf_{\mathcal{C}(p, q)} \int_{X \times X} d(x, y)^l d\pi(x, y) \right]^{1/l}$. $l = 1$ gives Kantorovich.
- $W^{(l)}(\delta_x, \delta_y) = d(x, y)$.

- Basic operational semantics for probabilistic programming languages.
- $(S, \Sigma, \mathcal{A}, \forall a \in \mathcal{A} \tau_a : X \times \Sigma \rightarrow [0, 1])$.
- τ_a are Markov kernels.

- Let R be an equivalence relation. R is a bisimulation if: $s R t$ if $(\forall a)$:

$$\tau_a(s, C) = \tau_a(t, C)$$

where C is a measurable union of R -equivalence classes.

- We say R is a bisimulation relation.
- s, t are bisimilar if there is a bisimulation relating them.
- There is a maximum bisimulation relation.

A metric-based approximate viewpoint

- Move from equality between processes to distances between processes (Jou and Smolka 1990).
- There is a logical characterization of bisimulation.
- If two states are not bisimilar then some formula distinguishes them.
- If the *smallest* formula separating two states is “big” the states are “close.”
- We can define a pseudometric such that distance is zero iff the states are bisimilar.

- d is a metric-bisimulation if: $d(s, t) < \epsilon \Rightarrow$:

$$\kappa(\tau(s, \cdot), \tau(t, \cdot)) < \epsilon$$

- The required canonical metric on processes is the least such: ie. the distances are the least possible.
- Thm: *Canonical least metric exists.*
- Uses basic fixed-point theory on the complete lattice of pseudometrics.

- Develop a real-valued “modal logic” based on the analogy:

Kozen’s analogy

Program Logic	Probabilistic Logic
State s	Distribution μ
Formula ϕ	Random Variable f
Satisfaction $s \models \phi$	$\int f d\mu$

- Define a metric based on how closely the random variables agree.
- Thm: d coincides with the fixed-point definition of metric-bisimulation.