Effect Algebras as a Simplicially Enriched Category SSAOS 2025

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Two structures

Definition (Foulis and Bennett 1994)

We call a partial algebra $(E, \oplus, ', 0, 1)$ of signature (2, 1, 0, 0) an effect algebra if for each $a, b, c \in E$:

- (i) $(E, \oplus, 0)$ is a partial commutative monoid;
- (ii) a' is the unique element such that $a \oplus a' = 1$,
- (iii) if $a \oplus 1$ is defined, then a = 0 and $a \oplus 1 = 1$.

An effect algebra admits a natural partial order.

Example: Orthomodular posets, MV-algebras.

Effect algebras with structure-preserving maps form a category **EA**.

Definition

We call a small nonempty category G a groupoid if each arrow in G is an isomorphism.

Groupoids with functors form a category GR.

Both GR and EA live together in one "hotel"



which we call Frobenius algebras in Rel.

Heunen, Contreras, and Cattaneo 2013 (**GR**) Pavlovic and Seidel 2016 (**EA**).

The rich and the poor

Rich Homo:

Given two groupoids G,H, we can equip the set of natural transformations ${\rm Hom}(G,H)$ with a structure of a groupoid.

The rich and the poor

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Poor Homo:

Given two effect algebras E, F, the set of morphisms $\operatorname{Hom}(E, F)$ is just a set:

For $f, g: E \to F$ (unless in a trivial situation):

- ▶ There is no $f \oplus g$ since $f(1) \not\perp g(1)$.
- ► There is no obvious ordering, since

$$f(a) \le g(a) \implies f(a') \ge g(a').$$

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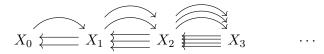
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One should somehow enrich the poor EA!

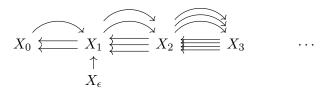
Jump to combinatorial topology

Simplicial sets:



There is a fully faithful functor $N \colon \mathbf{GR} \to \operatorname{Set}_{\Delta}$.

ϵ -simplicial sets



There is a fully faithful functor $N \colon \mathbf{EA} \to \mathrm{Set}_{\Delta}^{\epsilon}$. (Lachman 2025)

Effect algebra $E \mapsto \epsilon$ -simplicial set N(E)

$a = a_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus a_n$	\longleftrightarrow	n-simplices
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n = 0 0 = 0

the zero element gives the only vertex

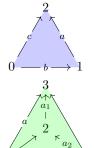
n=1 a=a

 $\{\text{elements of }E\}\cong\{\text{edges}\}$

$$\{1\}\cong\{\epsilon\mathrm{-edges}\}$$

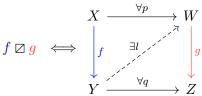
$$n=2$$
 $c=a\oplus b$

$$n=3$$
 $a=a_1\oplus a_2\oplus a_3$



Lifting properties

For two morphisms $f \colon X \to Y$ and $g \colon W \to Z$ in $\operatorname{Set}_{\Delta}$ or $\operatorname{Set}_{\Delta}^{\epsilon}$, we set:



We say g has the right lifting property (RLP) with respect to f.

Kan fibration: $g \colon X \to Y$ is called *Kan fibration* if $(\Lambda_i^n \hookrightarrow \Delta^n) \boxtimes g$ for each $1 \le n$, $0 \le i \le n$.

Trivial fibration: $g \colon X \to Y$ is called *trivial fibration* if $(\partial \Delta^n \hookrightarrow \Delta^n) \boxtimes g$ for each $0 \le n$.

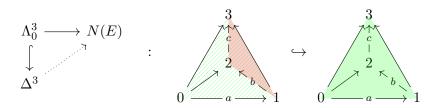
Characterisation theorems

Theorem (folklore)

A simplicial set X is isomorphic to N(G) for a groupoid G iff it admits the unique right lifting property w.r.t. all horns $\Lambda^n_i \subset \Delta^n$, $1 \leq n, \ 0 \leq i \leq n$.

Theorem (L.)

Let $E \in \textbf{EA}$. Then N(E) admits the unique RLP with respect to all horns $\Lambda^n_i \subset \Delta^n$ for $n \geq 3$.



Mapping space

Theorem (L.)

Let E and F be two effect algebras. Then there is a Frobenius algebra H, such that

$$N(H) \cong \operatorname{Map}(N(E), N(F)). \tag{1}$$

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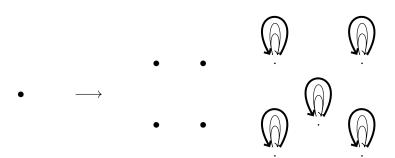
$$N(H) \cong \operatorname{Map}(N(E), N(F)).$$
 (1)

Theorem (L.)

There is a category **EA** of effect algebras, enriched over the category $\operatorname{Set}_{\Delta}^{\epsilon}$ with the cartesian monoidal structure. Moreover, the underlying category **EA** $_0$ coincides with the ordinary category of effect algebras.

$$\mathsf{EA}_0(E,F) \cong \mathrm{Hom}(\Delta^0, \mathrm{Map}(N(E), N(F))). \tag{2}$$

$\triangle^0 \to \operatorname{Map}(N(E), N(F))$



 $\{\text{vertices}\}\cong \{\text{partial monoid morphisms }E\to F\},$ $\{\text{loops over }h\colon E\to F\}\cong \text{elements of the interval }[0,h(1)'].$

Pseudo effect algebras (another "hotel" resident)

Commutativity \leadsto braiding \sim EA \leadsto PEA

$$a \oplus b_1 = b_2 \oplus a \tag{3}$$

In this situation, we say that b_1 and b_2 are conjugate.

Let $E, F \in \mathbf{PEA}$. In the mapping space $\mathrm{Map}(N(E), N(F))$, we have:

 $\{\text{vertices}\}\cong \{\text{partial monoid morphisms }E\to F\},$ arrows between vertices $f\colon E\to F$ and $g\colon E\to F$ corresponds to conjugation.

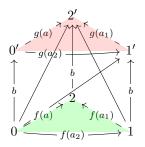
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Observation

Let $f \colon E \to F$ be a morphism and g be a pointwise conjugation, that is $b \oplus f(-) = g(-) \oplus b$, for some $b \in F$. Then g is a morphism.

Proof:



$$f(a) = f(a_1) \oplus f(a_2) \implies g(a) = g(a_1) \oplus g(a_2)$$

Main theorem

Theorem (L.)

Let $E, F \in \textbf{PEA}$ and $f \colon \underline{1} \to E$ be the unique morphism from the initial (two-elements) PEA $\underline{1}$. Then the restriction morphism

$$p \colon \operatorname{Map}(N(E), N(F)) \to \operatorname{Map}(N(\underline{1}), N(F))$$

is a Kan fibration. Moreover $(\partial \Delta^n \subset \Delta^n) \boxtimes p$ for each $n \geq 2$.

References

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Thank you for your attention!