

# On Autosynthesis

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**Why's it called 'the  
groupoid model'?**

[HS95] defines the **groupoid model** of (Martin-Löf) type theory.

**Q:** Why's it called 'the groupoid model'?

**A1:** *it's made of groupoids:* the contexts are groupoids, substitutions are groupoid morphisms (functors), types are families of groupoids, etc.

**A2:** *it models a synthetic theory of groupoids:* each type  $A$  represents a groupoid

- ▶ whose 'objects' are the terms  $t : A$  and
- ▶ whose 'morphisms' from  $s$  to  $t$  are terms of type  $\text{Id}(s, t)$ , with
- ▶ identity morphisms given by  $\text{refl}$ , composition and inverses definable by identity elimination ( $J$ );
- ▶ failure of UIP means there can be multiple parallel morphisms ( $A$  is a groupoid, not necessarily a setoid), but UIP 'one level up' means that each hom-set is indeed a *set*

A model made of **groupoids**  
which models a type theory of synthetic **groupoids**

**Q1:** Are there any other instances of this?

**Q2:** What does Q1 mean exactly?

**Defn.** A **category with families** (CwF) consists of

- $\text{Con} : \text{Set}$
- $\text{Sub} : \text{Con} \rightarrow \text{Con} \rightarrow \text{Set}$
- $\text{Ty} : \text{Con} \rightarrow \text{Set}$
- $\text{Tm} : (\Gamma : \text{Con}) \rightarrow \text{Ty } \Gamma \rightarrow \text{Set}$

along with various operations making  $(\text{Con}, \text{Sub})$  into a category,  $\text{Ty}$  into a presheaf, and  $\text{Tm}$  into a *locally representable* presheaf.

**Defn.** A CwF morphism  $F$  consists of components  $F_{\text{Con}}, F_{\text{Sub}}, F_{\text{Ty}}, F_{\text{Tm}}$  which commute with the CwF operations in the appropriate way ( $(F_{\text{Con}}, F_{\text{Sub}})$  is a functor,  $F_{\text{Ty}}$  a natural transform, etc.)

**Defn.** A **concrete category** is a category  $\mathbb{C}$  equipped with a faithful functor  $\mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$  (more generally, a *concrete category over*  $\mathbb{D}$  is a category  $\mathbb{C}$  equipped with faithful  $\mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{D}$ ).

**Prop.** A functor  $F$  is a monomorphism in the category of categories iff

- **Injectivity:** if  $F(I) = F(J)$  for objects  $I, J$ , then  $I = J$
- **Faithfulness:** if  $F(f) = F(g)$  for parallel morphisms  $f, g$ , then  $f = g$ .

**Prop.** A CwF morphism  $F$  is a monomorphism in the category of CwFs iff

- **Injectivity:** if  $F_{\text{Con}}(\Gamma) = F_{\text{Con}}(\Delta)$ , then  $\Gamma = \Delta$
- **Faithfulness:** if  $F_{\text{Sub}}(\sigma) = F_{\text{Sub}}(\tau)$ , then  $\sigma = \tau$
- **Local Injectivity:** if  $F_{\text{Ty}}(A) = F_{\text{Ty}}(B)$ , then  $A = B$
- **Local Faithfulness:** if  $F_{\text{Tm}}(s) = F_{\text{Tm}}(t)$  for terms  $s, t$ , then  $s = t$ .

**Defn.** The **set model** [Dyb95] has sets for contexts, functions for substitutions, families of sets for types, and sections of set families as terms.

## Source of concrete CwFs: GAT algebras

*Generalized algebraic theories* provide a very general framework for articulating ‘notions of structure’

- Original formulation: pre-theories and restriction to well-formed theories [Car86]
- Intrinsically-well-formed signature languages [KKA19]

[KKA19] show that every GAT  $\mathcal{G}$  gives rise to a concrete CwF  $\mathcal{C}(\mathcal{G})$ :

- Contexts are  $\mathcal{G}$ -algebras
- Substitutions are  $\mathcal{G}$ -algebra homomorphisms
- Types are *displayed*  $\mathcal{G}$ -algebras
- Terms are *sections* of displayed  $\mathcal{G}$ -algebras

# genalg.info

```
def Cat : GAT := {  
  Obj : U,  
  Hom : Obj => Obj => U,  
  id : (X : Obj) => Hom X X,  
  comp : {X Y Z : Obj} =>  
    Hom Y Z => Hom X Y => Hom X Z,  
  lunit : {X Y : Obj} => (f : Hom X Y) =>  
    comp (id Y) f ≡ f,  
  runit : {X Y : Obj} => (f : Hom X Y) =>  
    comp f (id X) ≡ f,  
  assoc : {W X Y Z : Obj} => (e : Hom W X) =>  
    (f : Hom X Y) => (g : Hom Y Z) =>  
    comp g (comp f e) ≡ comp (comp g f) e  
}
```

- ◇
- ▷ U
- ▷ Π 0 (Π 1 U)
- ▷ Π 1 (El (1 @ 0 @ 0))
- ▷ Π 2 (Π 3 (Π 4 (Π (4 @ 1 @ 0) (Π (5 @ 3 @ 2) (El (6 @ 4 @ 2))))))
- ▷ Π 3 (Π 4 (Π (4 @ 1 @ 0) (Eq (3 @ 2 @ 1 @ 1 @ (4 @ 1) @ 0) 0)))
- ▷ Π 4 (Π 5 (Π (5 @ 1 @ 0) (Eq (4 @ 2 @ 2 @ 1 @ 0 @ (5 @ 2)) 0)))
- ▷ Π 5 (Π 6 (Π 7 (Π 8 (Π (8 @ 3 @ 2) (Π (9 @ 3 @ 2) (Π (10 @ 3 @ 2) (Eq (9 @ 6 @ 4 @ 3 @ 0 @ (9 @ 6 @ 5 @ 4 @ 1 @ 2) (9 @ 6 @ 5 @ 3 @ (9 @ 5 @ 4 @ 3 @ 0 @ 1) @ 2))))))))))



[KKA19,  
Appendix A]

## Definition 2. Categories (Cat-Alg) [Cat.alg]

A  $\mathcal{C}\text{-alg}$  consists of

- $\text{Obj} : \text{Set}$
- $\text{Hom} : \text{Obj} \rightarrow \text{Obj} \rightarrow \text{Set}$
- $\text{id} : (X : \text{Obj}) \rightarrow \text{Hom } X X$
- $\text{comp} : \{X Y Z : \text{Obj}\} \rightarrow \text{Hom } Y Z \rightarrow \text{Hom } X Y \rightarrow \text{Hom } X Z$
- $\text{lunit} : \{X Y : \text{Obj}\} (f : \text{Hom } X Y) \rightarrow \text{comp } (\text{id } Y) f = f$
- $\text{runit} : \{X Y : \text{Obj}\} (f : \text{Hom } X Y) \rightarrow \text{comp } f (\text{id } X) = f$
- $\text{assoc} : \{W X Y Z : \text{Obj}\} (e : \text{Hom } W X) (f : \text{Hom } X Y) (g : \text{Hom } Y Z) \rightarrow \text{comp } g (\text{comp } f e) = \text{comp } (\text{comp } g f) e$

## Definition 3. Functors (Homomorphisms of Categories, Cat-Hom) [Cat.hom]

A homomorphism of  $\mathcal{C}\text{-alg}$ s (from  $(\text{Obj}_0, \text{Hom}_0, \text{id}_0, \dots)$  to  $(\text{Obj}_1, \text{Hom}_1, \text{id}_1, \dots)$ ) consists of

- $\text{Obj}^M : \text{Obj}_0 \rightarrow \text{Obj}_1$
- $\text{Hom}^M : \{X Y : \text{Obj}_0\} \rightarrow \text{Hom}_0 X Y \rightarrow \text{Hom}_1 (\text{Obj}^M X) (\text{Obj}^M Y)$
- $\text{id}^M : (X : \text{Obj}_0) \rightarrow \text{Hom}^M (\text{id}_0 X) = \text{id}_1 (\text{Obj}^M X)$
- $\text{comp}^M : \{X Y Z : \text{Obj}_0\} (g : \text{Hom}_0 Y Z) (f : \text{Hom}_0 X Y) \rightarrow \text{Hom}^M (\text{comp}_0 g f) = \text{comp}_1 (\text{Hom}^M g) (\text{Hom}^M f)$

## Definition 4. Displayed Categories (Cat-DAlg) [Cat.dalg]

A displayed  $\mathcal{C}\text{-alg}$  (over a  $\mathcal{C}\text{-alg}$   $(\text{Obj}, \text{Hom}, \text{id}, \dots)$ ) consists of

- $\text{Obj}^D : \text{Obj} \rightarrow \text{Set}$
- $\text{Hom}^D : \{X : \text{Obj}\} (X^D : \text{Obj}^D X) \{Y : \text{Obj}\} (Y^D : \text{Obj}^D Y) \rightarrow \text{Hom } X Y \rightarrow \text{Set}$
- $\text{id}^D : (X : \text{Obj}) (X^D : \text{Obj}^D X) \rightarrow \text{Hom}^D X^D X^D (\text{id } X)$
- $\text{comp}^D : \{X : \text{Obj}\} (X^D : \text{Obj}^D X) \{Y : \text{Obj}\} (Y^D : \text{Obj}^D Y) \{Z : \text{Obj}\} (Z^D : \text{Obj}^D Z) (g : \text{Hom } Y Z) (g^D : \text{Hom}^D Y^D Z^D g) (f : \text{Hom } X Y) (f^D : \text{Hom}^D X^D Y^D f) \rightarrow \text{Hom}^D X^D Z^D (\text{comp } g f)^D$
- $\text{lunit}^D : \{X : \text{Obj}\} (X^D : \text{Obj}^D X) \{Y : \text{Obj}\} (Y^D : \text{Obj}^D Y) (f : \text{Hom } X Y) (f^D : \text{Hom}^D X^D Y^D f) \rightarrow \text{comp}^D (\text{id}^D Y^D) f^D = f^D$
- $\text{runit}^D : \{X : \text{Obj}\} (X^D : \text{Obj}^D X) \{Y : \text{Obj}\} (Y^D : \text{Obj}^D Y) (f : \text{Hom } X Y) (f^D : \text{Hom}^D X^D Y^D f) \rightarrow \text{comp}^D f^D (\text{id}^D X^D) = f^D$
- $\text{assoc}^D : \{W : \text{Obj}\} (W^D : \text{Obj}^D W) \{X : \text{Obj}\} (X^D : \text{Obj}^D X) \{Y : \text{Obj}\} (Y^D : \text{Obj}^D Y) \{Z : \text{Obj}\} (Z^D : \text{Obj}^D Z) (e : \text{Hom } W X) (e^D : \text{Hom}^D W^D X^D e) (f : \text{Hom } X Y) (f^D : \text{Hom}^D X^D Y^D f) (g : \text{Hom } Y Z) (g^D : \text{Hom}^D Y^D Z^D g) \rightarrow \text{comp}^D g^D (\text{comp}^D f^D e^D) = \text{comp}^D (\text{comp}^D g^D f^D) e^D$

## Definition 5. Sections of Displayed Categories (Cat-Sect) [Cat.sect]

A section of a displayed  $\mathcal{C}\text{-alg}$   $(\text{Obj}^D, \text{Hom}^D, \text{id}^D, \dots)$  (over a  $\mathcal{C}\text{-alg}$   $(\text{Obj}, \text{Hom}, \text{id}, \dots)$ ) consists of

- $\text{Obj}^S : (X : \text{Obj}) \rightarrow \text{Obj}^D X$
- $\text{Hom}^S : \{X Y : \text{Obj}\} (f : \text{Hom } X Y) \rightarrow \text{Hom}^D (\text{Obj}^S X) (\text{Obj}^S Y) \rightarrow \text{Set}$
- $\text{id}^S : (X : \text{Obj}) \rightarrow \text{Hom}^S (\text{id } X) = \text{id}^D (\text{Obj}^S X)$
- $\text{comp}^S : \{X Y Z : \text{Obj}\} (g : \text{Hom } Y Z) (f : \text{Hom } X Y) \rightarrow \text{Hom}^S (\text{comp } g f) = \text{comp}^D (\text{Hom}^S g) (\text{Hom}^S f)$

# GAT methodology for designing type theories

**Key Fact** Every GAT (indeed, every QIIT signature) has an initial algebra

**Method** Specify new type theories as GAT (or QIIT) extensions of  $\mathcal{CwF}$ , get initial syntax models automatically

**Ex.** CwFs with identity types:

$\mathcal{CwF} \triangleright \Pi 25 (\Pi (16 @ 0) (\Pi (13 @ 1 @ 0) (\Pi (14 @ 2 @ 1) (EI (19 @ 3))))))$   
 $\triangleright \Pi 26 (\Pi (17 @ 0) (\Pi (14 @ 1 @ 0) (EI (15 @ 2 @ (3 @ 2 @ 1 @ 0 @ 0))))$   
 $\triangleright \dots$

## Ex. $\mathcal{C}(\text{Setoid})$ supports identity types

```
Id : ∀ {i} {Γ : Setoid i} {j} {α : DispSetoid Γ j} (s t : SetoidSec Γ α) → DispSetoid Γ j
> Id {i} {Γ} {j} {α} s t = record ...
```

with reflexivity

```
rfl : ∀ {i} {Γ : Setoid i} {j} {α : DispSetoid Γ j} (s : SetoidSec Γ α) → SetoidSec Γ (Id s s)
> rfl {i} {Γ} {j} {α} s = record ...
```

but not transport

```
hasTransport : {i : Level} (Φ : ∀ {i : Level} (Γ : Setoid i) (j : Level) → Type (i ⊔ lsuc j)) →
(∀ {i} {Γ} {j} → Φ {i} Γ j → DispSetoid {i} Γ j) → Type (lsuc i)
hasTransport {i} Φ toDisp =
  ∀ {Γ : Setoid i} {A : Φ {i} Γ i} {B : Φ {i} (Γ ▷ (toDisp A)) i}
  {s t : SetoidSec Γ (toDisp A)} (f : SetoidSec Γ (Id s t)) →
  SetoidSec Γ {i} ((toDisp B) [ 0 := s ] T) → SetoidSec Γ {i} ((toDisp B) [ 0 := t ] T)

concSetoidNoTrspt : ¬ hasTransport {lzero} DispSetoid (λ A → A)
concSetoidNoTrspt dTrspt = | dTrspt {Γ} {A} {B} {s} {t} f z | t tt where ...
```

**Solution: Fibrancy!**

$\mathcal{L}_{\text{split}}(\text{Setoid})$



$\mathcal{L}_{\text{ps}}(\text{Setoid})$



$\mathcal{L}(\text{Setoid})$

"the setoid model"

```
record splitSetoidFibrancy {i}(Γ : Setoid i) j (α : psSetoidFam Γ j) : Type (i ⊔ lsuc j) where
  field
  coeT-ref : ∀ {γ : | Γ |C}( x : | fst α |T γ ) → coeT (snd α) (refC Γ γ) x ≡ x
  coeT-trans : ∀ {γ γ' γ''}{p : Γ C γ ~ γ'}{q : Γ C γ' ~ γ''}(x : | fst α |T γ) →
    (coeT (snd α) (transC Γ p q) x) ≡ coeT (snd α) q (coeT (snd α) p x)
```

```
record psSetoidFibrancy {i}(Γ : Setoid i) j (α : DispSetoid Γ j) : Type (i ⊔ lsuc j) where
  field
  coeT : {γ γ' : | Γ |C} → (p : Γ C γ ~ γ') → | α |T γ → | α |T γ'
  cohT : {γ γ' : | Γ |C}(p : Γ C γ ~ γ')(x : | α |T γ) → α T p ⊢ x ~ (coeT p x)
```

```
record DispSetoid {i}(Γ : Setoid i) j : Type (i ⊔ lsuc j) where
  field
  | _ |T _ : | Γ |C → Type j
  ~D : ∀ (γ γ' : | Γ |C)(p : Γ C γ ~ γ') → | _ |T_ γ → | _ |T_ γ' → Prop j
  refT : ∀{γ} x → ~D γ γ (refC Γ γ) x x
  symT : ∀{γ γ'}{p : Γ C γ ~ γ'}{x : | _ |T_ γ}{x' : | _ |T_ γ'}
    → ~D γ γ' p x x' → ~D γ' γ (symC Γ p) x' x
  transT : ∀{γ γ' γ''}{p : Γ C γ ~ γ'}{q : Γ C γ' ~ γ''}
    {x : | _ |T_ γ}{x' : | _ |T_ γ'}{x'' : | _ |T_ γ''}
    → ~D γ γ' p x x' → ~D γ' γ'' q x' x'' → ~D γ γ'' (transC Γ p q) x x''
```

```

trspt : ∀ {i} → hasTransport {i} psSetoidFam fst
trspt {i}{Γ}{α}{β}{s}{t} f b = record
  { |_t = λ γ → coeT (snd β) (refC Γ γ ,p un↑ps (| f |t γ)) (| b |t γ)
  ; ~t = λ {γ} {γ'} p →
      let
        refC,f γ = (refC Γ γ) ,p un↑ps (| f |t γ)
        open DispSetoidReasoning (fst β)
      in
        coeT (snd β) (refC,f γ) (| b |t γ)
        | | ~D( reverseT (cohT (snd β) (refC,f γ) (| b |t γ)) )
        | b |t γ
        | | ~D( ~t b p )
        | b |t γ'
        | | ~D( cohT (snd β) (refC,f γ') (| b |t γ') )
        coeT (snd β) (refC,f γ') (| b |t γ')
        | | ~D■
  }

```

# Fibrancy unlocks the door to auto-synthesis

- **Setoid**
  - ▶ Fibrancy gives us transport
  - ▶ With transport, we can prove symmetry and transitivity of  $\text{Id}$ , i.e that the types of the setoid model are synthetic setoids
- **Grpd**
  - ▶ The groupoid model has split fibrant displayed groupoids as types
  - ▶ Fibrancy gives us transport
  - ▶ With transport, we can prove symmetry and transitivity of  $\text{Id}$ , i.e that the types of the groupoid model are synthetic groupoids

Central question of [Neu25]: how does  $\mathcal{Cat}$  (and  $\mathfrak{PreOrd}$ ) auto-synthesize?

- Polarity

- ▶ Two notions of types,  $\mathsf{Ty}$  and  $\mathsf{Ty}^-$  (opfibrations and fibrations, respectively), with their own context extension operators
- ▶ Express  $\mathsf{Ty}^-$  in terms of the opposite category operation (on contexts) and its fiberwise version (on types)
- ▶ Hom-type and  $\Pi$ -type formers come with polarity annotations (polarities prevent directed J-rule from proving symmetry)

Central question of [Neu25]: how does  $\mathcal{C}at$  (and  $\mathcal{PreOrd}$ ) auto-synthesize?

- Neutralizing the polarity
  - ▶ A calculus for working in groupoid contexts, where we can coerce between the polarities
  - ▶ Make polarized  $\Pi$ -types and Hom-types actually useful
  - ▶ Characterize the Hom-types of  $\Sigma$ -types
- Synthetic category theory
  - ▶ Any type we can write down carries the structure of a synthetic category (composition constructible by J)
  - ▶ Functions are synthetic functors (morphism part and functoriality automatic)
  - ▶ Directed univalent universe of sets
  - ▶ Universal mapping properties (products, exponentials, adjoints) as principles of induction

# The general situation

**Question** For which GATs  $\mathcal{G}$  can we find

- a type theory, i.e. an extension  $\mathcal{G}\mathcal{CwF}$  of  $\mathcal{CwF}$ , and
- a  $\mathcal{G}\mathcal{CwF}$ -algebra  $\mathcal{M}(\mathcal{G})$  (“the  $\mathcal{G}$ -algebra model”)

such that

- $\mathcal{M}(\mathcal{G})$  is a concrete CwF over  $\mathcal{C}(\mathcal{G})$  (“ $\mathcal{M}(\mathcal{G})$  is made of  $\mathcal{G}$ -algebras”)
- the (closed) types of the initial  $\mathcal{G}\mathcal{CwF}$  are synthetic  $\mathcal{G}$ -algebras (“ $\mathcal{M}(\mathcal{G})$  models a type theory of synthetic  $\mathcal{G}$ -algebras”)?

# Some thoughts and questions

- Besides  $\mathcal{S}et$  (which trivially auto-synthesizes), the lower bound seems to be  $\mathcal{C}at$ 
  - ▶ Cosmology: view the collection of  $\mathcal{G}$ -algebras itself as a  $\mathcal{G}$ -algebra, to define  $Ty(\Gamma) = \Gamma \rightarrow \mathcal{G} - Alg$
  - ▶ Fibrancy seems to play a key role. Does fibrancy make sense for non-categorical structures?
- Beyond  $\mathcal{C}at$ 
  - ▶ 2-category model?  $n$ -category model?
  - ▶ The  $\mathcal{C}w\mathcal{F}$  model? Types in  $\Gamma$  are CwF morphisms from  $\Gamma$  to  $\mathcal{C}(\mathcal{C}w\mathcal{F})$ ? Fibrant displayed CwFs? A type theory for synthetic CwFs?
  - ▶ The GAT signature language is itself the initial algebra of a GAT? Does *it* auto-synthesize?

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- The Generalized Algebra website:  
[genalg.info](http://genalg.info)
- More about my PhD project:  
[jacobneu.phd](http://jacobneu.phd)

*Thank you!*