

# Making Model Theory Coordinate Free

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Goal: to express adequately the idea that a structure  $M$  gives rise to an entire mathematical world  $wM$ .

Example An algebraically closed field  $K$  gives rise to "algebraic geometry over  $K$ " (very rich, but well "below Gödel")

Structures will be many-sorted, and starting with  $M$  we obtain  $wM$  in several steps:

$$M \longrightarrow cM \longrightarrow CM \longrightarrow wM$$

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$M$  denotes an  $S$ -sorted structure,  $S =$  set of sorts, so  $M$  is given by a family  $(M_s)_{s \in S}$  of sets, and for each  $\vec{s} = (s_1, \dots, s_n) \in S^n$  we are given a boolean algebra  $\mathcal{D}_{\vec{s}}$  of subsets of  $M_{\vec{s}} := M_{s_1} \times \dots \times M_{s_n}$ , the algebra of definable subsets of  $M_{\vec{s}}$ . This system of boolean algebras must be closed under:

- diagonals
  - cartesian products:  $A \in \mathcal{D}_{\vec{s}}, B \in \mathcal{D}_{\vec{t}} \Rightarrow A \times B \in \mathcal{D}_{\vec{s} \uplus \vec{t}}$
  - taking images under projection maps
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$M$  gives rise to a small category  $cM$ :

- its objects are the definable sets, always labeled as elements of a specific  $\mathcal{D}_{\vec{s}}$
- its morphisms are the definable maps between these.

$cM$  has some nice category-theoretic properties, especially, it has (finite) products, given by cartesian products. But it may not have finite sums, or quotients.

We want to be able to glue definable sets together:

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Def. A finite  $M$ -atlas on a set  $X$  is a finite set  $\{f_i : U_i \rightarrow f_i(U_i) \mid i \in I\}$  of bijections between sets  $U_i \subseteq X$  and  $f_i(U_i) \subseteq M_{s_i}$  such that  $X = \bigcup_i U_i$  and for all  $i, j \in I$   $f_i(U_i \cap U_j) \subseteq M_{s_i}$  is definable, and the transition map  $f_{ij} = f_j \circ f_i^{-1} : f_i(U_i \cap U_j) \rightarrow f_j(U_i \cap U_j)$  is definable.

Two finite  $M$ -atlases on  $X$  are equivalent if their union is a finite  $M$ -atlas on  $X$ .

Def A finitary  $M$ -set is a set  $X$  equipped with an equivalence class of finite  $M$ -atlases on  $X$ .

Let us fix a finitary  $M$ -set  $X$ , given by a finite  $M$ -atlas  $\{f_i : U_i \rightarrow f_i(U_i) \mid i \in I\}$  as above.

1. Call a set  $E \subseteq X$  definable if each  $f_i(U_i \cap E) \subseteq M_{\bar{s}_i}$  is definable.  
(Then  $E$  itself is finitary  $M$ -set with atlas  $\{f_i|_{U_i \cap E} : i \in I\}$ .)
2. Given a second finitary  $M$ -set  $Y$  with atlas  $\{g_j : V_j \rightarrow \bar{q}_j(V_j) \mid j \in J\}$  we make  $X \times Y$  into a finitary  $M$ -set by taking as finite  $M$ -atlas  $\{f_i \times g_j : U_i \times V_j \rightarrow f_i(U_i) \times \bar{q}_j(V_j) \mid (i, j) \in I \times J\}$ .
3. A map  $F : X \rightarrow Y$  is a finitary  $M$ -map if its graph  $\Gamma(F) \subseteq X \times Y$  is a definable subset of the finitary  $M$ -set  $X \times Y$ .
4.  $\mathcal{CM} :=$  category with objects the finitary  $M$ -sets, and as morphisms the finitary  $M$ -maps.
5.  $\mathcal{CM}$  contains  $c\mathcal{M}$  as a full subcategory, by viewing each definable set  $X \subseteq M_{\bar{s}}$  as a finitary  $M$ -set with  $\{id_X : X \rightarrow X\}$  as finite  $M$ -atlas.

- 6.  $CM$  has products and sums
- 7. If  $M$  has EI (elimination of imaginaries) then each object of  $CM$  is isomorphic to an object of  $cM$ , so  $CM$  and  $cM$  are equivalent categories
- 8. Any family  $N = (N_t)_{t \in T}$  of finitary  $M$ -sets "is" a  $T$ -sorted structure in an obvious way

Locally definable objects

$CM$  is still too small for many purposes, for example in algebraic geometry we have besides varieties also large auxiliary objects associated to them; their coordinate rings, sheaves, groups of cycles. While these objects are too large to live in  $CM$ , they are typically functorial in nature, and can be used to introduce invariants such as (co)homology groups that are "definable", i.e. in  $CM$ .

We extend CM to a ~~category~~ <sup>category</sup> in which these "large" objects live. 6

Def. An M-atlas on a set  $X$  is defined like a finite M-atlas on  $X$ , by leaving out "finite" in the definition.

Two M-atlases  $\{f_i: U_i \rightarrow f_i(U_i) \mid i \in I\}$  and  $\{g_j: V_j \rightarrow g_j(V_j) \mid j \in J\}$  on  $X$  are equivalent if their union is an M-atlas on  $X$ , each  $U_i$  is covered by finitely many  $V_j$ , and each  $V_j$  is covered by finitely many  $U_i$ .

Def. An M-set is a set  $X$  equipped with an equivalence class of M-atlases.

Example Suppose  $M$  is a field.

Then  $M[X_1, \dots, X_n] = \bigcup_{d \in \mathbb{N}} U_d$   
 with  $U_d := \{P \in M[X_1, \dots, X_n] : \text{degree}(P) \leq d\}$ .  
 For each  $d$ , let  $\Delta_d: U_d \rightarrow M^{N(d)}$  be an  $M$ -linear bijection.  
 Then  $\{\Delta_d: U_d \rightarrow M^{N(d)} \mid d \in \mathbb{N}\}$  is an M-atlas on  $M[X_1, \dots, X_n]$  with an M-set

Fix  $M$ -set  $X$  given by  $M$ -atlas  $\{f_i: U_i \rightarrow f_i(U_i) \mid i \in I\}$

Call a set  $E \subseteq X$  locally definable if each set  $f_i(E \cap U_i) \subseteq M_{s_i}$  is definable.

If  $Y$  is a second  $M$ -set given by  $M$ -atlas  $\{g_j: V_j \rightarrow g_j(V_j) \mid j \in J\}$ , then we make  $X \times Y$  into an  $M$ -set by taking  $\{f_i \times g_j: U_i \times V_j \rightarrow f_i(U_i) \times g_j(V_j) \mid i \in I, j \in J\}$  as  $M$ -atlas.

3. Given an  $M$ -set  $Y$ , a map  $F: X \rightarrow Y$  is an  $M$ -map if its graph  $\Gamma(F) \subseteq X \times Y$  is locally definable and each  $F(U_i)$  is covered by finitely many  $V_j$ .

4. Def  $wM$  is the category whose objects are the  $M$ -sets and whose morphisms are the  $M$ -maps.

5. Each finitary  $M$ -set is an  $M$ -set in a natural way.  $CM$  is a full subcategory of  $wM$ .

An  $M$ -group is a group in the category  $\mathbf{wM}$ , that is, an  $M$ -set  $G$  with a distinguished element  $e \in G$  and endowed with  $M$ -maps  $p: G \times G \rightarrow G$  and  $i: G \rightarrow G$  such that  $(G, e, p, i)$  is a group.

Similarly one defines  $M$ -rings, and  $M$ -fields (for which "multiplicative inverse" is required to be an  $M$ -map).

Examples Suppose  $M$  is a field. Then  $M[X_1, \dots, X_n]$  is naturally an  $M$ -ring.

The algebraic closure  $\tilde{M}$  of  $M$  is an  $M$ -field: for each finite degree subextension  $L \supseteq M$  of  $\tilde{M} \supseteq M$  we take an  $M$ -linear bijection  $L \cong M^d$  as a chart for  $\tilde{M}$ .



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Suppose  $M$  has  $EI$

Then  $wM$  has quotients:

If  $X$  is an  $M$ -set and  $E$  an equivalence relation on  $X$ , locally definable in  $X \times X$ , then we can make the quotient set  $X/E$  into an  $M$ -set such that the projection map  $X \rightarrow X/E$  is an  $M$ -map, and each  $M$ -map  $X \rightarrow Y$  that is constant on  $E$ -classes induces an  $M$ -map  $X/E \rightarrow Y$ .

For example, if  $R$  is an  $M$ -ring and  $I$  a two-sided locally definable ideal in  $R$ , then the equivalence relation  $x \equiv y \pmod{I}$  is locally definable, and the ~~the~~ residue ring  $R/I$  is easily seen to be an  $M$ -ring.

Remark If  $M$  is a field ~~unary~~, then each ideal  $I$  of  $M[X_1, \dots, X_n]$  is locally definable.

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Suppose  $M$  has  $EI$

Then for any finitary  $M$ -sets  $X$  and  $Y$ , the set  $[X \rightarrow Y]$  of finitary  $M$ -maps with parameters  $X \rightarrow Y$  can be made into an  $M$ -set such that

$$(F, x) \mapsto F(x) : [X \rightarrow Y] \times X \rightarrow Y$$

is an  $M$ -map.

Also, for any finitary  $M$ -sets  $A, X$  and  $Y$ , any finitary  $M$ -map  $A \times X \rightarrow Y$  induces an  $M$ -map  $A \rightarrow [X \rightarrow Y]$ .

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In the special case  $Y = \{0, 1\}$  we obtain that for any finitary  $M$ -set  $X$  the collection of subsets of  $X$  that are definable with parameters is an  $M$ -set in a natural way.