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# A Theory of Recursive Domains with Applications to Concurrency

(Extended Abstract)

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**Abstract**

We develop a 2-categorical theory for recursively defined domains. In particular, we generalise the traditional approach based on order-theoretic structures to category-theoretic ones. A motivation for this development is the need of a domain theory for concurrency, with an account of bisimulation. Indeed, the leading examples throughout the paper are provided by recursively defined presheaf models for concurrent process calculi. Further, we use the framework to study (open-map) bisimulation.

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# Introduction

A motivation for this work comes from concurrency where it has become pressing to lift domain theory from its traditional treatment of partial orders of information to categories. The models used in concurrency have too intricate a structure to fit comfortably within partial orders; only within categories can we see the constructions of process languages as universal and exploit the preservation properties of adjoints in relating models [33]. The presentation of models for concurrency as categories makes possible a general definition of bisimulation based on open maps, once a distinguished subcategory of paths is given [14].

This definition of bisimulation suggested a much broader class of models for concurrency built directly from the categories of paths—presheaf models. The Yoneda embedding provides each presheaf category with a canonical choice of path category and so of open maps and bisimulation [13]. Presheaf models can be assembled together in the bicategory of *profunctors* [2] or its equivalent presentation as the 2-category **Prof** of colimit-preserving functors between presheaf categories (with natural transformations as 2-cells). The key facts here are: open maps and so bisimulation are preserved by such functors [4]; the 2-category is rich in constructions which can be summarised as those we expect from a model of classical linear logic [32, 3]; open maps are closed under a wide range of constructions [12, 13]. We have the basics of a domain theory for concurrency with a compositional account of bisimulation, though at a cost; we have to move domain theory up a level to handle categories rather than just partial orders and the theory has not yet been set in place. This is the intended rôle of the work described here, where we show how to solve domain equations beyond the traditional **Cpo**-enriched setting and make a start on applications to concurrency.

The generalisation of domain theory from order-theoretic structures to category-theoretic ones has been considered before [18, 19, 30, 1]. In particular, Paul Taylor [30] investigated the limit-colimit coincidence for categories with filtered colimits. In some respects his work is a precursor to ours; however, we take a step further and develop an *axiomatic* theory in accordance with the approach to Axiomatic Domain Theory adopted in [6, 24, 9, 10]. Conceptually, the categorical theory of domains that we put forward may be seen as the traditional theory of Smyth and Plotkin [28] where $\omega$-cpos ($\omega$-complete partial orders) are replaced with their categorical analogue (viz. small categories with colimits of $\omega$-chains). Technically, this

is not straightforward. For example, the consideration of categorical notions up to equivalence and coherent isomorphism has to be taken care of.

**Organisation of the paper.** In Section 1 we review some basic elements of 2-category theory. In Sections 2 and 3 we develop a 2-categorical theory of recursive domains. We present a generalisation of the limit-colimit coincidence and study algebraic compactness in a 2-categorical setting. In Section 4 we give an interpretation in **Prof** of recursive domains for concurrency. In Sections 5 and 6 we consider relational structures and provide a coinduction property based on bisimulation. In Section 7 we apply our theory to the study of open-map bisimulation. Finally, in Section 8, we discuss plans for future work.

# 1 Background

The theory developed in this paper is a theory for solving domain equations in certain 2-categories.

**Enriched categories.** A *2-category* $\mathcal{K}$ consists of a collection of objects $|\mathcal{K}|$ and hom-categories $\mathcal{K}(A,B)$ for every $A, B \in |\mathcal{K}|$, equipped with *identity functors* $\mathbf{1} \to \mathcal{K}(C,C)$ for every $C \in |\mathcal{K}|$, and *composition functors* $\mathcal{K}(B,C) \times \mathcal{K}(A,B) \to \mathcal{K}(A,C)$ for every $A, B, C \in |\mathcal{K}|$, subject to the usual laws (see [15]). As a convention, the action of the composition functors is denoted by juxtaposition. Also, for objects $A, B \in |\mathcal{K}|$, objects and morphisms of the hom-category $\mathcal{K}(A,B)$ are respectively called morphisms and *2-cells* of $\mathcal{K}$; the latter are typically indicated by '$\Rightarrow$' with composition denoted by '$\cdot$'. Invertible 2-cells are called *pseudo cells*. The paradigmatical example of a 2-category is **Cat**: the objects are small categories, the morphisms are functors, and the 2-cells are natural transformations.

We will be interested in $\omega$**Cat**-categories (and $\omega\mathbf{Cat}_0$-categories). These are 2-categories with the property that every hom-category has colimits of $\omega$-chains (and an initial object) which are preserved by the composition functors. Examples of $\omega$**Cat**-categories are: **Cpo** (**Cppo**$_\perp$) —the objects are $\omega$-cpos ($\omega$-cppos), the morphisms are (strict) $\omega$-continuous functions, and the 2-cells are given by the pointwise order— and $\omega$**Cat** ($\omega\mathbf{Cat}_0$) —the objects are small categories with colimits of $\omega$-chains (and an initial object), the morphisms are functors that preserve these colimits, and the 2-cells are natural transformations.

Concerning exactness properties in 2-categories we will focus on *bicategorical (co)limits* [29]. We exemplify this notion with the most basic example.

**Bicategorical (or pseudo) initial object.** An object 0 in a 2-category is said to be *pseudo initial* if, for every object $C$, there exists a morphism $\bot : 0 \to C$ such that for every morphism $c : 0 \to C$, we have that $\bot \cong c$ via a unique pseudo cell.

The reason for considering this level of generality is that our applications range naturally within the class of *bicategories* [2] —see Section 8 for discussions. And, as remarked in [29, (1.18)], there are important 2-categories which admit certain bicategorical colimits which are not 2-colimits. Even though the results presented here are in a 2-categorical setting, we aim at generalising them to a bicategorical one. This seems possible using the coherence result stating that every bicategory is biequivalent to a 2-category.

**Profunctors.** We conclude this section with the definition of the $\omega\mathbf{Cat}_0$-categories that will serve as our source of examples throughout the paper: **Prof** (**Prof**$_M$) has small categories $\mathbb{C}$ as objects, morphisms $\mathbb{A} \mathrel{-\!\!\!\mapsto} \mathbb{B}$ are colimit preserving functors $\widehat{\mathbb{A}} \to \widehat{\mathbb{B}}$ between the corresponding presheaf categories, and 2-cells are (monomorphic) natural transformations.

# 2 Local-characterisation theorem

We present a central result of the paper, namely a generalisation of the *local characterisation* of colimits of $\omega$-chains of embeddings in **Cpo**-categories [28] which yields the *limit-colimit coincidence* [26]. We generalise in two directions. First, we move from the notion of embedding-projection pair in a **Cpo**-category (viz. coreflection, in the categorical jargon) to consider adjunctions in an $\omega$**Cat**-category (c.f. [30, 27]). Next, for the reasons exposed above, we consider bicategorical and pseudo-colimits rather than strict ones.

We start by recalling some definitions and fixing notation.

**Adjunctions.** Let $\mathcal{K}$ be a 2-category. We define $\mathcal{K}^{\mathrm{adj}}$ to be the *2-category of adjunctions* as follows. The objects of $\mathcal{K}^{\mathrm{adj}}$ are those of $\mathcal{K}$; whilst $\mathcal{K}^{\mathrm{adj}}(A, B)$ is the category whose objects are tuples $(\eta, \varepsilon : f \dashv g : B \to A)$, where $f \dashv g$ is an adjunction in $\mathcal{K}$ with unit $\eta$ and counit $\varepsilon$, and a 2-cell $(\eta, \varepsilon : f \dashv g) \Rightarrow (\eta', \varepsilon' : f' \dashv g')$ is given by a pair of 2-cells $\sigma : f \Rightarrow f' : A \to B$ and $\tau : g \Rightarrow g' : B \to A$ in $\mathcal{K}$, such that $(\tau\sigma) \cdot \eta = \eta'$ and $\varepsilon' \cdot (\sigma\tau) = \varepsilon$. We write

$\mathcal{K}^{\mathrm{cor}}$ for the full sub-2-category of $\mathcal{K}^{\mathrm{adj}}$ consisting of *coreflections*; i.e. tuples $(\eta, \varepsilon : f \dashv g)$ where $\eta$ is a pseudo cell.

**Pseudo cones.** Let $\mathcal{K}$ be a 2-category. An *$\omega$-chain* in $\mathcal{K}$ is given by an $\omega$-indexed family of arrows $\langle f_n : A_n \to A_{n+1} \rangle$. For $l \geq n$, we will write $f_{n,l} : A_n \to A_l$ for the inductively defined arrow $f_{n,l+1} \stackrel{\mathrm{def}}{=} f_l f_{n,l}$, where $f_{n,n} \stackrel{\mathrm{def}}{=} 1_{A_n}$. Similar definitions, with all arrows and indexes reversed, apply to $\omega^{\mathrm{op}}$-chains.

A *pseudo cone* for an $\omega$-chain $\langle f_n : A_n \to A_{n+1} \rangle$ is given by the following data: an object $A$, an $\omega$-indexed family of arrows $\langle \varphi_n : A_n \to A \rangle$, and an $\omega$-indexed family of pseudo cells $\langle \Phi_n : \varphi_{n+1} f_n \stackrel{\sim}{\Longrightarrow} \varphi_n \rangle$. The dual definition describes pseudo cones for $\omega^{\mathrm{op}}$-chains.

**Canonical cones.** Let us spell out in elementary terms the notion of pseudo cone for an $\omega$-chain in $\mathcal{K}^{\mathrm{adj}}$. A pseudo cone for the $\omega$-chain

$$\langle \eta_n, \varepsilon_n : f_n \dashv g_n : A_{n+1} \longrightarrow A_n \rangle$$

in $\mathcal{K}^{\mathrm{adj}}$ consists of: an object $A$, an $\omega$-indexed family $\langle \iota_n, \jmath_n : \varphi_n \dashv \gamma_n \rangle$, and an $\omega$-indexed family $\langle \Phi_n, \Gamma_n \rangle$ of pseudo cells $\Phi_n : \varphi_{n+1} f_n \stackrel{\sim}{\Longrightarrow} \varphi_n$ and $\Gamma_n : g_n \gamma_{n+1} \stackrel{\sim}{\Longrightarrow} \gamma_n$ such that the squares

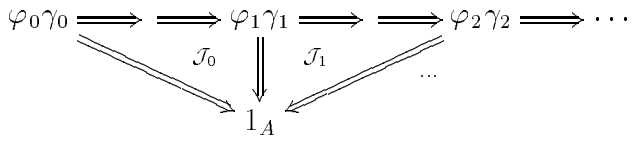
$$\mathcal{I}_n : \quad \begin{array}{ccc} 1_{A_n} & \xRightarrow{\eta_n} & g_n f_n \\ {\scriptstyle \iota_n}\Downarrow & & \Downarrow{\scriptstyle g_n \iota_{n+1} f_n} \\ \gamma_n \varphi_n & \xLeftarrow[\Gamma_n \Phi_n]{} & g_n \gamma_{n+1} \varphi_{n+1} f_n \end{array} \tag{1}$$

$$\mathcal{J}_n : \quad \begin{array}{ccc} \varphi_n \gamma_n & \xRightarrow{\Phi_n^{-1} \Gamma_n^{-1}} & \varphi_{n+1} f_n g_n \gamma_{n+1} \\ {\scriptstyle \jmath_n}\Downarrow & & \Downarrow{\scriptstyle \varphi_{n+1} \varepsilon_n \gamma_{n+1}} \\ 1_A & \xLeftarrow[\jmath_{n+1}]{} & \varphi_{n+1} \gamma_{n+1} \end{array} \tag{2}$$

commute for all $n$.

It is important to observe that a pseudo cone for an $\omega$-chain of adjunctions induces $\omega$-chains in $\mathcal{K}(A_n, A_n)$ and $\mathcal{K}(A, A)$ with associated *canonical* cones. Indeed, let $\langle \Phi_n, \Gamma_n \rangle$ be as above. Then we have the following cones

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 1_{A_n} & \Longrightarrow & g_n f_n & \Longrightarrow & g_{n+2,n} f_{n,n+2} & \Longrightarrow & \cdots \\ \Downarrow & \mathcal{I}_n & \Downarrow & g_n \mathcal{I}_{n+1} f_n & \Downarrow & \cdots & \\ \gamma_n \varphi_n & \Longleftarrow & g_n \gamma_{n+1} \varphi_{n+1} f_n & \Longleftarrow & g_{n+2,n} \gamma_{n+2} \varphi_{n+2} f_{n,n+2} & \Longleftarrow & \cdots \end{array}$$




obtained from the diagrams (1) and (2). We will indicate these cones as the *canonical cones* $\langle g_{l,n} f_{n,l} \rangle_l \stackrel{\cdot}{\Longrightarrow} \gamma_n \varphi_n$ and $\langle \varphi_n \gamma_n \rangle \stackrel{\cdot}{\Longrightarrow} 1_A$, respectively.

**Bicategorical colimits.** A pseudo cone $\langle \Phi_n : \varphi_{n+1} f_n \stackrel{\sim}{\Longrightarrow} \varphi_n : A_n \to A \rangle$ for an $\omega$-chain $\langle f_n : A_n \to A_{n+1} \rangle$ is said to be a *bicategorical (pseudo) colimit* [29] if it satisfies the following universal property:

1. For every pseudo cone $\langle \Psi_n : \psi_{n+1} f_n \stackrel{\sim}{\Longrightarrow} \psi_n : A_n \to X \rangle$ there exists an arrow $u : A \to X$ and an $\omega$-indexed family of pseudo cells $\langle \mu_n : u\varphi_n \stackrel{\sim}{\Longrightarrow} \psi_n \rangle$ such that $\mu_n \cdot (u\Phi_n) = \Psi_n \cdot (\mu_{n+1} f_n) : u\varphi_{n+1} f_n \Rightarrow \psi_n$.

2. For every pair of arrows $u, v : A \to X$ and every $\omega$-indexed family of 2-cells (pseudo-cells) $\langle \xi_n : u\varphi_n \Rightarrow v\varphi_n \rangle$ satisfying $\xi_n \cdot (u\Phi_n) = (v\Phi_n) \cdot (\xi_{n+1} f_n) : u\varphi_{n+1} f_n \Rightarrow v\varphi_n : A_n \to X$, there exists a unique 2-cell (pseudo-cell) $\xi : u \Rightarrow v$ such that $\xi_n = \xi\varphi_n$.

**Central results.** A generalisation of [28, Theorem 2] follows.

**Theorem 2.1 (Local characterisation)** *In an* $\omega$**Cat***-category, for an* $\omega$*-chain of coreflections (adjunctions)* $\langle f_n \dashv g_n : A_{n+1} \to A_n \rangle$ *and a pseudo cone* $\langle \Phi_n : \varphi_{n+1} f_n \stackrel{\sim}{\Longrightarrow} \varphi_n : A_n \to A \rangle$ *for the* $\omega$*-chain* $\langle f_n : A_n \to A_{n+1} \rangle$*, the following are equivalent:*

1. $\langle \Phi_n : \varphi_{n+1} f_n \stackrel{\sim}{\Longrightarrow} \varphi_n : A_n \to A \rangle$ *is a bicategorical colimit for* $\langle f_n : A_n \to A_{n+1} \rangle$.

2. $\langle \Phi_n : \varphi_{n+1} f_n \stackrel{\sim}{\Longrightarrow} \varphi_n : A_n \to A \rangle$ *is a pseudo colimit for* $\langle f_n : A_n \to A_{n+1} \rangle$.

3. *There is a pseudo cone of coreflections (adjunctions)*

$$(\Phi_n, \Gamma_n) : (\varphi_{n+1} \dashv \gamma_{n+1})(f_n \dashv g_n) \stackrel{\sim}{\Longrightarrow} (\varphi_n \dashv \gamma_n)$$

*such that the canonical cone(s)* $\langle \varphi_n \gamma_n \rangle \stackrel{\cdot}{\Longrightarrow} id_A$ *(and* $\langle g_{l,n} f_{n,l} \rangle_l \stackrel{\cdot}{\Longrightarrow} \gamma_n \varphi_n$*) is (are) colimiting.*

The above theorem and its dual, yield the following.

**Corollary 2.2 (Limit-colimit coincidence)** *In an* $\omega$**Cat**-*category, for an* $\omega$-*chain of coreflections (adjunctions)* $\langle f_n \dashv g_n : A_{n+1} \to A_n \rangle$ *and a pseudo cone of coreflections (adjunctions)*

$$(\Phi_n, \Gamma_n) : (\varphi_{n+1} \dashv \gamma_{n+1})(f_n \dashv g_n) \stackrel{\sim}{\Longrightarrow} (\varphi_n \dashv \gamma_n)$$

*the following are equivalent:*

1. $\langle \Phi_n : \varphi_{n+1} f_n \stackrel{\sim}{\Longrightarrow} \varphi_n : A_n \to A \rangle$ *is a bicategorical colimit for* $\langle f_n : A_n \to A_{n+1} \rangle$.
2. $\langle \Gamma_n : g_n \gamma_{n+1} \stackrel{\sim}{\Longrightarrow} \gamma_n : A \to A_n \rangle$ *is a bicategorical limit for* $\langle g_n : A_{n+1} \to A_n \rangle$.

**Example.** In **Prof** pseudo colimits of $\omega$-chains of coreflections (adjunctions) can be calculated as follows. Let $F_n : \mathbb{A}_n \overset{\curvearrowright}{\underset{\curvearrowleft}{\perp}} \mathbb{A}_{n+1} : G_n$ be an $\omega$-chain in $\mathbf{Prof}^{\mathrm{cor}}$ ($\mathbf{Prof}^{\mathrm{adj}}$). For every $n$, write $E_n : \mathbb{A}_n \hookrightarrow \overline{\mathbb{A}_n}$ for the embedding of the category $\mathbb{A}_n$ into its *Cauchy completion* $\overline{\mathbb{A}_n}$, and let $E_n^* : \widehat{\overline{\mathbb{A}_n}} \stackrel{\simeq}{\longrightarrow} \widehat{\mathbb{A}_n}$ denote the induced equivalence of categories. It is known (see, for example, [17, 2]) that there exist functors $H_n : \overline{\mathbb{A}_n} \to \overline{\mathbb{A}_{n+1}}$ such that $F_n$ can be seen as a left Kan extension as follows:

$$F_n \;\cong\; \mathrm{Lan}_{\mathrm{y}_n}(E_{n+1}^* H_n E_n) \; .$$

Let $\varphi_n : \overline{\mathbb{A}_n} \to \mathbb{A}$ be a colimit of the $\omega$-chain $\langle H_n : \overline{\mathbb{A}_n} \to \overline{\mathbb{A}_{n+1}} \rangle$ in **Cat**. Then, a pseudo colimit in **Prof** of the chain $F_n : \mathbb{A}_n \mathrel{-\!\!\!\mapsto} \mathbb{A}_{n+1}$ is given by a choice of left Kan extensions, along Yoneda embeddings, of the functors $\mathbb{A}_n \xhookrightarrow{E_n} \overline{\mathbb{A}_n} \xrightarrow{\varphi_n} \mathbb{A} \xrightarrow{\mathrm{y}_{\mathbb{A}}} \widehat{\mathbb{A}}$.

The same construction yields pseudo colimits in $\mathbf{Prof}_M$.

# 3 Pseudo-algebraic compactness

*Algebraic compactness* is a universal property due to Freyd [7] that provides canonical interpretations of recursive domains. In this section we show this property for so-called *Kcats*; these may be seen as a 2-categorical analogue

of $\omega$-cppos ($\omega$-complete pointed partial orders). Following [5], our approach is to obtain the result from the Local-Characterisation and Limit-Colimit Coincidence Theorems, together with the Basic Lemma [28]. Recall that the *Basic Lemma* provides conditions under which an initial algebra (and hence a fixed-point, by a lemma due to Lambek) of an endofunctor can be obtained as a colimit of the $\omega$-chain constructed by iterating the endofunctor on an initial object.

We start by providing a version of the Basic Lemma for *pseudo endofunctors* on 2-categories.

**Pseudo functors.** Roughly speaking, pseudo functors between 2-categories are 2-categorical mappings for which functoriality is only required to hold up to coherent isomorphism. More precisely, a *pseudo functor* $T : \mathcal{K} \to \mathcal{K}'$ between 2-categories is given by a mapping $T : |\mathcal{K}| \to |\mathcal{K}'|$ and functors $T_{A,B} : \mathcal{K}(A,B) \to \mathcal{K}'(TA, TB)$ for all $A, B \in |\mathcal{K}|$ together with *coherent* pseudo cells $1_{TC} \stackrel{\sim}{\Longrightarrow} T_{C,C}(1_C)$ for all $C \in |\mathcal{K}|$, and $T_{B,C}(g)T_{A,B}(f) \stackrel{\sim}{\Longrightarrow} T_{A,C}(gf)$ for all $A \stackrel{f}{\longrightarrow} B \stackrel{g}{\longrightarrow} C$ in $\mathcal{K}$.

**Pseudo initial algebra.** By a *pseudo initial algebra* for a pseudo functor $T$ on a 2-category $\mathcal{K}$, we mean an algebra $a : TA \to A$ such that for every algebra $x : TX \to X$ there exists $(\mathrm{it}, \iota)$ as in

$$\begin{array}{ccc} TA & \xrightarrow{a} & A \\ {\scriptstyle T(\mathrm{it})}\downarrow & \stackrel{\iota}{\cong} & \downarrow{\scriptstyle \mathrm{it}} \\ TX & \xrightarrow[x]{} & X \end{array}$$

such that whenever

$$\begin{array}{ccc} TA & \xrightarrow{a} & A \\ {\scriptstyle Tu}\downarrow & \stackrel{\mu}{\cong} & \downarrow{\scriptstyle u} \\ TX & \xrightarrow[x]{} & X \end{array}$$

we have a unique pseudo cell $\xi : \mathrm{it} \cong u$ for which

$$\begin{array}{ccc} TA & \xrightarrow{a} & A \\ {\scriptstyle T(\mathrm{it})}\Big(\stackrel{T\xi}{\cong}\Big){\scriptstyle Tu} & \stackrel{\mu}{\cong} & \Big){\scriptstyle u} \\ TX & \xrightarrow[x]{} & X \end{array} \quad = \quad \begin{array}{ccc} TA & \xrightarrow{a} & A \\ {\scriptstyle T(\mathrm{it})}\Big( & \stackrel{\iota}{\cong} & {\scriptstyle \mathrm{it}}\Big(\stackrel{\xi}{\cong}\Big){\scriptstyle u} \\ TX & \xrightarrow[x]{} & X \end{array}$$

Notice that pseudo initial algebras are *equivalences*.

**Lemma 3.1 (Pseudo basic lemma)** *Let $\mathcal{K}$ be a 2-category with pseudo initial object 0 and let $T : \mathcal{K} \to \mathcal{K}$ be a pseudo functor. For $\bot : 0 \to T0$ consider the $\omega$-chain $\langle T^n\bot : T^n0 \to T^{n+1}0\rangle$ and let $\Phi_n : \varphi_{n+1}f_n \stackrel{\sim}{\Longrightarrow} \varphi_n : T^n0 \to A$ be a pseudo colimit for it.*

*If $\Phi'_n : T(\varphi_{n+1})T(f_n) \stackrel{\sim}{\Longrightarrow} T(\varphi_{n+1}f_n) \stackrel{T\Phi_n}{\Longrightarrow} T\varphi_n : T^{n+1}0 \to TA$ is a pseudo colimit of the $\omega$-chain $\langle T^{n+1}\bot : T^{n+1}0 \to T^{n+2}0\rangle$ and $a : TA \to A$ mediates between the pseudo cones $\langle\Phi'_n\rangle$ and $\langle\Phi_{n+1}\rangle$, then $a$ is a pseudo initial $T$-algebra.*

**Kcats.** A *Kcat* (c.f. [6, Definition 7.3.11]) is an $\omega\mathbf{Cat}_0$-category with pseudo initial object and pseudo colimits of $\omega$-chains of coreflections.

As examples of Kcats we have: **Pfn** (the category of sets and partial functions, with hom-sets ordered by graph inclusion), **Rel** (the category of sets and relations, with hom-sets ordered by inclusion), **pCpo** (the category of $\omega$-cpos and partial $\omega$-continuous functions, with hom-sets ordered pointwise), **Prof**, and $\mathbf{Prof}_M$.

From Theorem 2.1, Corollary 2.2, and Lemma 3.1, we can deduce pseudo-algebraic compactness (see [8, 6]).

**Corollary 3.2 (Pseudo-algebraic compactness)** *Kcats are pseudo-algebraically compact with respect to pseudo $\omega$**Cat**-functors.*

Thus, every pseudo $\omega\mathbf{Cat}$-functor $T : \mathcal{K}^{\mathrm{op}} \times \mathcal{K} \to \mathcal{K}$ on a Kcat $\mathcal{K}$ has a *free pseudo dialgebra* $T(D, D) \simeq D$ characterised by the following universal property: for every $A' \to T(A, A')$ and $T(A', A) \to A$, we have

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A' & \longrightarrow & T(A,A') \\ {\scriptstyle \mathrm{coit}}\downarrow & \cong & \downarrow{\scriptstyle T(\mathrm{it},\mathrm{coit})} \\ D & \xrightarrow{\simeq} & T(D,D) \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{ccc} T(D,D) & \xrightarrow{\simeq} & D \\ {\scriptstyle T(\mathrm{coit},\mathrm{it})}\downarrow & \cong & \downarrow{\scriptstyle \mathrm{it}} \\ T(A',A) & \longrightarrow & A \end{array}$$

given uniquely up to canonical coherent isomorphism (as defined for pseudo initial algebras).

# 4 Recursive domains for concurrency

As an application of the theory of Sections 2 and 3, we sketch the interpretation in **Prof** of types given by the following grammar

$$t \quad ::= \quad 0 \mid 1 \mid t \oplus t' \mid t \otimes t' \mid t^* \mid !t \mid \vartheta \mid \textstyle\sum_{i\in I} t_i \mid t_\bot \mid \mu\vartheta.t \ .$$

These types are that of *compact closed categories* extended with type *variables* ($\vartheta$), arbitrary *sums* ($\sum$), a *lifting* operator ($(-)_\perp$), and a *recursive-type* constructor ($\mu$).

As usual in compact closed categories, *linear implication* is definable from $\otimes$ and $(-)^*$ as $t \multimap t' \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} t^* \otimes t'$.

**Interpretation.** For a list of distinct type variables $\Theta$, we write $\Theta \vdash t$ to indicate that $t$ is a well-formed type with free type variables amongst those in $\Theta$. Type judgements $\Theta \vdash t$ are interpreted as pseudo $\omega\mathbf{Cat}$-functors

$$[\![\Theta \vdash t]\!] : (\mathbf{Prof}^{\mathrm{op}} \times \mathbf{Prof})^{|\Theta|} \to \mathbf{Prof} \ ,$$

where $|\Theta|$ is the length of the list $\Theta$, according to the following interpretation of constants and type constructors.
*Zero:* $\mathbf{0}$, the initial category.
*One:* $\mathbf{1}$, the terminal category.
*Sum:* $\oplus$ is interpreted by the pseudo functor $+ : \mathbf{Prof} \times \mathbf{Prof} \to \mathbf{Prof}$ that takes two categories to their disjoint union. Arbitrary sums $\sum_{i \in I} t_i$, indexed by a set $I$, are defined similarly —the binary sum $\oplus$ and the empty sum $\mathbf{0}$ are special cases.
*Tensor:* $\otimes$ is interpreted by the pseudo functor, $\otimes : \mathbf{Prof} \times \mathbf{Prof} \to \mathbf{Prof}$ mapping two categories to their product.
*Dualizer:* The dualizer $(-)^*$ is the pseudo functor $\mathbf{Prof}^{\mathrm{op}} \to \mathbf{Prof}$ that associates a category with its dual.
*Exponential:* Our choice for the ! operator (see [32, 3] for motivations) is the pseudo functor $\mathbf{Prof} \to \mathbf{Prof}$ sending a category to its free finite-colimit completion.
*Variables:* Are interpreted as projections.
*Lifting:* The pseudo functor $(-)_\perp : \mathbf{Prof} \to \mathbf{Prof}$ extends any small category by adding a new strict initial object (typically denoted $\perp$) to it.
*Recursive-type constructor:* We use the results of Section 3, and take *parameterised* free pseudo algebras (see [6]).

# 5 Relational structures

Following [20, 22], we consider *relational structures* in the spirit of categorical logic [16] (c.f. [11]). A relational structure $\mathcal{R}$ on an $\omega\mathbf{Cat}_0$-category $\mathcal{K}$ induces a $\omega\mathbf{Cat}_0$-*category of relations* $\{\mathcal{K} \mid \mathcal{R}\}$ with objects $\{C \mid R\}$ given

by an object $C$ of $\mathcal{K}$ together with a *relation* $R$ on it, maps are required to be *parametric* (i.e. relation preserving). Our main result here is that the category of relations $\{\mathcal{K}\,|\,\mathcal{R}\}$ on a Kcat $\mathcal{K}$ is a again a Kcat.

Our intent is to consider relational structures on $\mathbf{Prof}_M$ and $\mathbf{Prof}$, and use the induced categories of relations to study *bisimulation*. This is carried out in Section 7, after a brief study of *coinduction* in relational structures done in Section 6.

**Relational structures.** A *relational structure* on a category $\mathcal{C}$ is a functor $\mathcal{C}^{\mathrm{op}} \to (\mathbf{CPPO}_\perp)^*$, where $(\mathbf{CPPO}_\perp)^*$ is the category of possibly large posets $P$ such that $P^{\mathrm{op}}$ is pointed and $\omega$-complete, and monotone functions $f : P \to Q$ such that $f^{\mathrm{op}} : P^{\mathrm{op}} \to Q^{\mathrm{op}}$ is strict and $\omega$-continuous.

An *admissible relational structure* $\mathcal{R}$ on an $\omega\mathbf{Cat}_0$-category $\mathcal{K}$ is a relational structure on the ordinary category underlying $\mathcal{K}$, such that

1. for a pair of morphisms $f, g : A \to B$, if $f \cong g$ then $\mathcal{R}(f) = \mathcal{R}(g)$;
2. for a morphism $f : A \to B$ and an element $S \in \mathcal{R}(B)$, if $f$ is initial in $\mathcal{K}(A, B)$ then $\mathcal{R}(f)(S) = \top_{\mathcal{R}(A)}$;
3. for an $\omega$-chain $\langle f_n \rangle$ in $\mathcal{K}(A, B)$ with colimit $f : A \to B$,

$$R \subset \mathcal{R}(f_n)(S), \text{ for all } n, \text{ implies } R \subset \mathcal{R}(f)(S)$$

for all $R \in \mathcal{R}(A)$ and $S \in \mathcal{R}(B)$.

Our admissible relational structures on a $\mathbf{Cppo}_\perp$-category are (slightly weaker than) Pitts' relational structures admitting inverse images and intersections in which every relation is admissible (as defined in [22]).

**Examples.** We have the following admissible relational structures.

1. *Admissible extensional relations* on $\mathbf{Prof}_M$: E is defined as follows.

   For every small category $\mathbb{C}$, $\mathrm{E}(\mathbb{C})$ is the complete meet semilattice of relations $R \subseteq |\widehat{\mathbb{C}}^{\,2}|$ such that

   (a) $X' \cong X \; R \; Y \cong Y'$ implies $X' \; R \; Y'$;

   (b) $0 \; R \; 0$;

   (c) for every pair of *$\omega$-chains of monomorphisms* $\vec{X}$ and $\vec{Y}$ with colimits $X$ and $Y$ respectively,

if $\vec{X}_n \; R \; \vec{Y}_n$, for all $n$, then $X \; R \; Y$.

These relations are ordered by inclusion.

The action of E on morphisms is by inverse image.

2. *Admissible intensional relations* on **Prof**: I is defined as follows.

   For every small category $\mathbb{C}$, $\mathrm{I}(\mathbb{C})$ is the complete meet semilattice of *intensional* relations $R \subseteq |\widehat{\mathbb{C}}^{\swarrow\searrow}|$ such that

   (a) for every triple of isomorphisms $W \cong W'$, $X \cong X'$, and $Y \cong Y'$,
   $$(X \leftarrow W \rightarrow Y) \in R \text{ implies}$$
   $$(X' \cong X \leftarrow W \xleftarrow{\cong} W' \xrightarrow{\cong} W \rightarrow Y \cong Y') \in R;$$

   (b) $(0 \leftarrow 0 \rightarrow 0) \in R$;

   (c) for every span of natural transformations $\vec{X} \xleftarrow{p} \vec{W} \xrightarrow{q} \vec{Y}$ where $\vec{X}$, $\vec{W}$, and $\vec{Y}$ are $\omega$-chains with colimits $X$, $W$, and $Y$ respectively,
   $$\text{if } (\vec{X}_n \xleftarrow{p_n} \vec{W}_n \xrightarrow{q_n} \vec{Y}_n) \in R, \text{ for all } n,$$
   $$\text{then } \; (X \xleftarrow{\operatorname{colim} p} W \xrightarrow{\operatorname{colim} q} Y) \in R.$$

   These intensional relations are ordered by inclusion.

   The action of I on morphisms is by inverse image.

With respect to a relational structure $\mathcal{R}$, for $f : A \to B$, we write $f : R \subset S$ (where $R \in \mathcal{R}(A)$ and $S \in \mathcal{R}(B)$) whenever $R \subset \mathcal{R}(f)(S)$. Hence, for the above examples we have that, for $F \in \mathbf{Prof}(\mathbb{A}, \mathbb{B})$,

1. $F : R \subset_{\mathrm{E}} S$ (where $R \in \mathrm{E}(\mathbb{A})$ and $S \in \mathrm{E}(\mathbb{B})$) if and only if $(X, Y) \in R$ implies $(FX, FY) \in S$, and

2. $F : R \subset_{\mathrm{I}} S$ (where $R \in \mathrm{I}(\mathbb{A})$ and $S \in \mathrm{I}(\mathbb{B})$) if and only if $(X \leftarrow W \rightarrow Y) \in R$ implies $(FX \leftarrow FW \rightarrow FY) \in S$.

**Category of relations.** Let $\mathcal{R}$ be an admissible relational structure on an $\omega\mathbf{Cat}_0$-category $\mathcal{K}$. The *$\omega\mathbf{Cat}_0$-category of relations* $\{\mathcal{K} \,|\, \mathcal{R}\}$ has: objects given by pairs $\{C \mid R\}$ with $C \in |\,\mathcal{K}\,|$ and $R \in \mathcal{R}(C)$; hom-categories $\{\mathcal{K} \,|\, \mathcal{R}\}(\{A \,|\, R\}, \{B \,|\, S\})$ defined as the full subcategory of $\mathcal{K}(A, B)$ consisting of all those $f$ such that $f : R \subset S$; and identities and compositions given as in $\mathcal{K}$.

The forgetful functor $\{\mathcal{K} \,|\, \mathcal{R}\} \to \mathcal{K}$ is faithful and $\omega\mathbf{Cat}_0$-enriched.

**Theorem 5.1** *Let $\mathcal{R}$ be an admissible relational structure on an $\omega\mathbf{Cat}_0$-category $\mathcal{K}$. The forgetful $\omega\mathbf{Cat}_0$-functor $\{\mathcal{K}\,|\,\mathcal{R}\} \to \mathcal{K}$ creates pseudo initial objects and pseudo colimits of $\omega$-chains of coreflections.*

PROOF: Let 0 be a pseudo initial object in $\mathcal{K}$. Then, the object $\{0\,|\,\top_{\mathcal{R}(0)}\}$ is pseudo initial in $\{\mathcal{K}\,|\,\mathcal{R}\}$ because $\{\mathcal{K}\,|\,\mathcal{R}\}(\{0\,|\,\top_{\mathcal{R}(0)}\}, \{C\,|\,R\}) = \mathcal{K}(0, C)$.

Let $f_n : \{C_n\,|\,R_n\} \underset{\longleftarrow}{\overset{\longrightarrow}{\perp}} \{C_{n+1}\,|\,R_{n+1}\} : g_n$ be an $\omega$-chain of coreflections in $\{\mathcal{K}\,|\,\mathcal{R}\}$, and let $\Phi_n : \varphi_{n+1} f_n \overset{\sim}{\Longrightarrow} \varphi_n : C_n \to C$ be a pseudo colimit of $f_n : C_n \to C_{n+1}$ in $\mathcal{K}$.

Since $f_n : C_n \underset{\longleftarrow}{\overset{\longrightarrow}{\perp}} C_{n+1} : g_n$ is an $\omega$-chain of coreflections in $\mathcal{K}$, it follows by the local-characterisation theorem (in $\mathcal{K}$) that there exists a pseudo cone of coreflections $(\Phi_n, \Gamma_n) : (\varphi_{n+1} \dashv \gamma_{n+1})(f_n \dashv g_n) \overset{\sim}{\Longrightarrow} (\varphi_n \dashv \gamma_n)$ such that the associated canonical cone $\langle \varphi_n \gamma_n \rangle \overset{\cdot}{\Longrightarrow} 1_A$ is colimiting.

Thus, to show that the forgetful $\omega\mathbf{Cat}_0$-functor $\{\mathcal{K}\,|\,\mathcal{R}\} \to \mathcal{K}$ creates $\omega$-chains of coreflections it is enough, by the local-characterisation theorem (in $\{\mathcal{K}\,|\,\mathcal{R}\}$), to find an $R \in \mathcal{R}(C)$ such that, for all $n$, $\varphi_n : R_n \subset R$ and $\gamma_n : R \subset R_n$.

To conclude the proof we observe that $\{\mathcal{R}(\gamma_n)(R_n)\}$ is an $\omega^{\mathrm{op}}$-chain in $\mathcal{R}(C)$, and that $R = \bigwedge \langle \mathcal{R}(\gamma_n)(R_n) \rangle$ satisfies the above requirements. □

**Corollary 5.2** *For an admissible relational structure $\mathcal{R}$ on a Kcat $\mathcal{K}$, the category of relations $\{\mathcal{K}\,|\,\mathcal{R}\}$ is a Kcat.*

It follows that $\{\mathbf{Prof}_M\,|\,\mathrm{E}\}$ and $\{\mathbf{Prof}\,|\,\mathrm{I}\}$ are Kcats.

# 6 Coinduction property

As an application of Theorem 5.1, we present a mixed induction/coinduction principle for recursive domains, à la Pitts [22]. From it, we derive a coinduction property based on bisimulation which will be important in Section 7.

**Proposition 6.1** *Let $\mathcal{R}$ be an admissible relational structure on a Kcat $\mathcal{K}$, and let $T$ and $T^{\#}$ be $\omega\mathbf{Cat}$-functors as in*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \{\mathcal{K}\,|\,\mathcal{R}\}^{\mathrm{op}} \times \{\mathcal{K}\,|\,\mathcal{R}\} & \xrightarrow{T^{\#}} & \{\mathcal{K}\,|\,\mathcal{R}\} \\ \downarrow{\scriptstyle U^{\mathrm{op}} \times U} & & \downarrow{\scriptstyle U} \\ \mathcal{K}^{\mathrm{op}} \times \mathcal{K} & \xrightarrow[T]{} & \mathcal{K} \end{array}$$

*where $U$ denotes the forgetful $\omega\mathbf{Cat}_0$-functor. Then, for every free pseudo $T$-dialgebra*

$$\text{fold} : T(D, D) \simeq D : \text{unfold}$$

*there exists (a necessarily unique) $\Delta \in \mathcal{R}(D)$ such that*

$$\text{fold} : T^{\#}(\{D \,|\, \Delta\}, \{D \,|\, \Delta\}) \simeq \{D \,|\, \Delta\} : \text{unfold}$$

*is a free pseudo $T^{\#}$-dialgebra.*

**Coinduction and bisimulation.** In the situation of the above proposition, let

$$T^{\#}(\{A' \,|\, R'\}, \{A \,|\, R\}) = (T(A', A), T_{\mathcal{R}}(R', R)) \ .$$

Then, $\Delta \in \mathcal{R}(D)$ satisfies the following rule [22]

$$\frac{\text{unfold} : R' \subset T_{\mathcal{R}}(R, R') \qquad \text{fold} : T_{\mathcal{R}}(R', R) \subset R}{R' \subset \Delta \subset R}$$

for all $R', R \in \mathcal{R}(D)$.

Define a *$T_{\mathcal{R}}$-bisimulation* to be an $R \in \mathcal{R}(D)$ such that

$$\text{unfold} : R \subset T_{\mathcal{R}}(\Delta, R) \ .$$

Clearly, $\Delta$ is a $T_{\mathcal{R}}$-bisimulation. Moreover, if

$$T_{\mathcal{R}}(R, \Delta) \quad = \quad T_{\mathcal{R}}(\Delta, \Delta) \tag{3}$$

for all $R \in \mathcal{R}(D)$, then free pseudo dialgebras satisfy the following *coinduction property* (c.f. [21, 22, 5, 11]):

$$\Delta = \bigvee \{R \in \mathcal{R}(D) \mid R \text{ is a } T_{\mathcal{R}}\text{-bisimulation}\} \ .$$

Notice that the requirement (3) is vacuous when $T^{\#}$ is *essentially covariant*; that is, when it factors through an endofunctor on $\{\mathcal{K} \,|\, \mathcal{R}\}$ via the projection $\{\mathcal{K} \,|\, \mathcal{R}\}^{\text{op}} \times \{\mathcal{K} \,|\, \mathcal{R}\} \to \{\mathcal{K} \,|\, \mathcal{R}\}$.

# 7 Open-map bisimulation

We provide models of part of the type theory of Section 4 in the Kcats of relations $\{\mathbf{Prof}_M \,|\, \mathrm{E}\}$ and $\{\mathbf{Prof} \,|\, \mathrm{I}\}$. In these models, the denotation of a type provides a *model for concurrency* (in the form of a presheaf category [4]) equipped with a relation. The presheaf models so obtained coincide with those of Section 4, whilst the relations will be shown to be in accordance with *open-map bisimulation* (viz. the relation holding between presheaves that are connected by a surjective open span). Thus, by the results of the previous section, we may use coinduction principles to reason about open-map bisimulation.

## 7.1 Extensional relations

In constructing relations within the relational structure E we restrict to the types built up from arbitrary sums, lifting, discrete function space, and recursion, as follows:

$$t \;::=\; \vartheta \mid \textstyle\sum_{i\in I} t_i \mid t_\perp \mid \mathbb{V} \multimap t \mid \mu\vartheta.t \;. \tag{4}$$

The constant $\mathbb{V}$ ranges over discrete small categories. $I$ is an indexing set, possibly empty, in which case the sum is understood as the zero object $\mathbf{0}$. The interpretation of a type $\Theta \vdash t$ determines a pseudo $\omega\mathbf{Cat}$-functor

$$[\![\Theta \vdash t]\!] : {\mathbf{Prof}_M}^{|\Theta|} \to \mathbf{Prof}_M \;.$$

Each such pseudo $\omega\mathbf{Cat}$-functor extends to a pseudo $\omega\mathbf{Cat}$-functor on extensional relations $[\![\Theta \vdash t]\!]^{\#} : \{\mathbf{Prof}_M \,|\, \mathrm{E}\}^{|\Theta|} \to \{\mathbf{Prof}_M \,|\, \mathrm{E}\}$; it suffices to show how sum, lifting, and discrete function space extend.
*Sums:* Consider a presheaf $X$ over $\sum_{i\in I} \mathbb{A}_i$. Its projection $(X)_i$, for $i \in I$, is the presheaf obtained as the restriction of $X$ to $\mathbb{A}_i$. Define

$$\textstyle\sum_{i\in I}\{\mathbb{A}_i \,|\, R_i\} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{\sum_{i\in I} \mathbb{A}_i \,|\, R\}$$

where

$$X \; R \; Y \;\stackrel{\text{def}}{\Longleftrightarrow}\; \forall i \in I.\; (X)_i \; R_i \; (Y)_i \;.$$

It is easy to check that this extension is well-defined and that

$$(\forall i \in I.\; F_i : R_i \subset S_i) \Rightarrow \textstyle\sum_{i\in I} F_i : \sum_{i\in I} R_i \subset \sum_{i\in I} S_i \;.$$

*Lifting:* Consider a presheaf $X$ over $\mathbb{A}_\perp$. It decomposes into a sum

$$X \;\cong\; \textstyle\sum_{x \in X(\perp)} u_*(X_{|x}) \qquad (5)$$

where each presheaf $X_{|x}$ in $\widehat{\mathbb{A}}$ is the component subtended from the element $x$ as detailed in [32], and $u_*$ is the functor that puts a root to a presheaf. For $X' \in \widehat{\mathbb{A}}$, write

$$X \xrightarrow{\perp} X'$$

when there is $x \in X(\perp)$ such that $X' = X_{|x}$.

The "obvious" way to extend lifting to relations is, given a relation $R$ between presheaves over $\mathbb{A}$ to define $(R)^0_\perp$ a relation between presheaves over $\mathbb{A}_\perp$ by taking: $X\ (R)^0_\perp\ Y$ iff

$$\forall X'.\ X \xrightarrow{\perp} X' \Rightarrow \exists Y'.\ Y \xrightarrow{\perp} Y' \ \&\ X'\ R\ Y',$$
$$\forall Y'.\ Y \xrightarrow{\perp} Y' \Rightarrow \exists X'.\ X \xrightarrow{\perp} X' \ \&\ X'\ R\ Y'\ .$$

But, unfortunately, the relation $(R)^0_\perp$ may fail to satisfy the $\omega$-admissibility requirement (c) in the definition of admissible extensional relations even though $R$ lies in $\mathrm{E}(\mathbb{A})$. We thus define $X\ (R)_\perp\ Y$ iff there are $\omega$-chains of monomorphisms $\vec{X}$, $\vec{Y}$ with colimits $X$ and $Y$ respectively for which $\vec{X}_n\ (R)^0_\perp\ \vec{Y}_n$ for all $n \in \omega$. Finally we define

$$(\{\mathbb{A} \,|\, R\})_\perp \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{\mathbb{A}_\perp \,|\, (R)_\perp\}\ .$$

Suppose $F : R \subset S$ in $\{\mathbf{Prof}_M \,|\, \mathrm{E}\}$. Then from $F$ being colimit, and so sum, preserving, it follows that $(F)_\perp : (R)_\perp \subset (S)_\perp$.

**Locally-finite presheaves.** A presheaf $X$ over a small category $\mathbb{C}$ is said to be *locally finite* if, for every object $C$ of $\mathbb{C}$, the set $X(C)$ is finite.

On locally finite presheaves, open-map bisimilarity satisfies an $\omega$-admissibility property.

**Lemma 7.1** *Let $\mathbb{C}$ be a small category. Let $\vec{X}$ and $\vec{Y}$ be two $\omega$-chains of monomorphisms in $\widehat{\mathbb{C}}$ with colimits $X$ and $Y$ respectively. For locally finite $X$ and $Y$, if $\vec{X}_n$ and $\vec{Y}_n$ are open-map bisimilar, for all $n$, then so are $X$ and $Y$.*

This result generalises to larger cardinals, in the sense that the statement is still valid if, for any $n \in \omega$, one replaces $\omega$-chains with $\omega_{n+1}$-chains and assumes $X$ and $Y$ to be locally of size $\omega_n$. We remark that the assumption that the $\omega$-chains consist of monomorphisms is crucial; hence our restriction to $\mathbf{Prof}_M$ when considering extensional relations.

By a proof reminiscent of Lemma 7.1, we can show that the two relations $(R)^0_\perp$ and $(R)_\perp$ coincide on locally finite presheaves.

**Lemma 7.2** *Let $X, Y$ be locally finite presheaves over $\mathbb{A}_\perp$. Suppose the $\omega$-chains of monomorphisms $\vec{X}$, $\vec{Y}$ have colimits $X$ and $Y$ respectively. Then,*

$$(\forall n \in \omega.\ \vec{X}_n\ (R)^0_\perp\ \vec{Y}_n) \Rightarrow X\ (R)^0_\perp\ Y\ .$$

*Consequently,*

$$X\ (R)^0_\perp\ Y\ \Leftrightarrow X\ (R)_\perp\ Y\ .$$

*Discrete function space:* A presheaf $X$ over $\mathbb{V} \multimap \mathbb{A}$ corresponds to a functor $\mathbb{V} \to \widehat{\mathbb{A}}$, and we write $Xv$ for the presheaf in $\mathbb{A}$ resulting from the functor's application to $v \in \mathbb{V}$. Define

$$(\mathbb{V} \multimap \{\mathbb{A} \,|\, R\}) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{(\mathbb{V} \multimap \mathbb{A}) \,|\, (\mathbb{V} \multimap R)\}$$

where

$$X\ (\mathbb{V} \multimap R)\ Y \stackrel{\text{def}}{\iff} (\forall v \in \mathbb{V}.\ (Xv)\ R\ (Yv))\ .$$

This extension is well-defined and such that

$$F : R \subset S \Rightarrow (\mathbb{V} \multimap F) : (\mathbb{V} \multimap R) \subset (\mathbb{V} \multimap S)\ .$$

Thus by structural induction any closed type $t$ in the grammar (4) is associated with an extensional relation $\approx^{\mathrm{E}}_t \in \mathrm{E}(\llbracket t \rrbracket)$. Recursive types $\mu\vartheta.t$ are interpreted as parameterised free pseudo dialgebras in the Kcat $\{\mathbf{Prof}_M \,|\, \mathrm{E}\}$; specialising the pseudo-colimit construction of the Pseudo Basic Lemma (using Theorem 5.1).

The relation $\approx^{\mathrm{E}}_t$ coincides with open-map bisimulation on locally finite presheaves.

**Theorem 7.3** *Let $t$ be a closed type in the grammar (4). Let $X, Y$ be locally finite presheaves over $\llbracket t \rrbracket$. Then, $X \approx^{\mathrm{E}}_t Y$ iff $X$ and $Y$ are open-map bisimilar.*

PROOF: The proof proceeds by structural induction on $t$. Write $OK\{\mathbb{A}\,|\,S\}$ when a relation $\{\mathbb{A}\,|\,S\}$ in $\{\mathbf{Prof}\,|\,\mathrm{E}\}$ satisfies the condition that on locally finite presheaves $X, Y$ over $\mathbb{A}$

$$X\ S\ Y \Leftrightarrow X, Y \text{ are open-map bisimilar.}$$

As the induction hypothesis, on type judgement $\vartheta_1, \cdots, \vartheta_k \vdash t$, we take

$$\begin{aligned} &OK\{\mathbb{A}_1\,|\,S_1\}\ \&\cdots\&\ OK\{\mathbb{A}_k\,|\,S_k\} \\ &\quad\Rightarrow OK([\![\vartheta_1, \cdots, \vartheta_k \vdash t]\!]\{\mathbb{A}_1\,|\,S_1\}\cdots\{\mathbb{A}_k\,|\,S_k\})\ . \end{aligned}$$

It can be checked that each of the constructions lifting, sum, and discrete function space preserve the $OK$ property on relations. This covers all cases of the induction but for recursive types.

Consider the relation interpreting a recursively-defined type

$$[\![\vartheta_1, \cdots, \vartheta_k \vdash \mu\vartheta.t]\!]\{\mathbb{A}_1\,|\,S_1\}\cdots\{\mathbb{A}_k\,|\,S_k\}$$

in the environment where we assume

$$OK\{\mathbb{A}_1\,|\,S_1\}\ \&\cdots\&\ OK\{\mathbb{A}_k\,|\,S_k\}\ .$$

The relation is a pseudo colimit $\{\mathbb{D}\mid R\}$ of an $\omega$-chain $\{\mathbb{D}_n\mid R_n\}$ where $\{\mathbb{D}_0\,|\,R_0\} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{\mathbf{0}\,|\,\{(0,0)\}\}$ and

$$\{\mathbb{D}_{n+1}\,|\,R_{n+1}\} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} [\![\vartheta_1, \cdots, \vartheta_k, \vartheta \vdash t]\!]\{\mathbb{A}_1\,|\,S_1\}\cdots\{\mathbb{A}_k\,|\,S_k\}\{\mathbb{D}_n\,|\,R_n\}\ .$$

Using the structural induction hypothesis, an induction on $n$ shows that $OK\{\mathbb{D}_n\mid R_n\}$ at each stage $n$. Suppose $X\ R\ Y$. Projecting, we have $\gamma_n X\ R_n\ \gamma_n Y$ at each $n$. Each $\gamma_n X, \gamma_n Y$ is also locally finite ($\gamma_n$ being part of a coreflection in **Prof**). Thus $\gamma_n X, \gamma_n Y$ are open-map bisimilar over $\mathbb{D}_n$. Injecting, we obtain $\omega$-chains of monomorphisms $\langle X_n\rangle$, $\langle Y_n\rangle$ in $\widehat{\mathbb{D}}$ with pseudo colimits $X$ and $Y$. But maps in **Prof** preserve open-map bisimilarity, so $X_n$ and $Y_n$ are open-map bisimilar for each $n$. We now meet the conditions of Lemma 7.1, from which we conclude that $X$ and $Y$ are open-map bisimilar. □

From the above and the results of Section 6 we obtain the following characterisation.

**Corollary 7.4** *Let $\vartheta \vdash t$ be a type in the grammar (4), and let*

$$[\![\vartheta \vdash t]\!]^{\#} : \{\mathbf{Prof}_M \,|\, \mathrm{E}\} \to \{\mathbf{Prof}_M \,|\, \mathrm{E}\}$$

*be its interpretation as sketched above. Then, for presheaves $X, Y$ over $[\![\mu\vartheta.t]\!]$, the following are equivalent:*

- $X \approx^{\mathrm{E}}_{\mu\vartheta.t} Y$.
- *$X$ and $Y$ are $[\![\vartheta \vdash t]\!]_{\mathrm{E}}$-bisimilar.*

*Thus, for locally finite $X$ and $Y$, a further equivalent statement is:*

- *$X$ and $Y$ are open-map bisimilar.*

**Strong bisimulation.** Let $\mathbb{P} = \mu\vartheta.T$ where $T\vartheta = (\vartheta)_\perp$. Presheaves over $\mathbb{P}$ correspond to trees and $\approx^{\mathrm{E}}_{\mathbb{P}}$ to an $\omega$-admissible version of Park and Milner's strong bisimulation. It specialises to the usual strong bisimulation on locally finite presheaves (i.e. finitely branching trees). Further, by Corollary 7.4, a $T_{\mathrm{E}}$-bisimulation between locally finite presheaves is a strong bisimulation.

**Late bisimulation.** A domain for value-passing with "late" semantics is obtained as $\mathbb{P} = \mu\vartheta.T$ where

$$T\vartheta = \vartheta_\perp + \textstyle\sum_{a \in \mathrm{Chan},\ v \in \mathbb{V}} \vartheta_\perp + \sum_{a \in \mathrm{Chan}} (\mathbb{V} \multimap \vartheta)_\perp$$

with sums over channels Chan and values $\mathbb{V}$. A $T_{\mathrm{E}}$-bisimulation between locally finite presheaves is a *late bisimulation on presheaves* in the sense of [32] which is there shown to coincide with open-map bisimulation. Here this result follows from Corollary 7.4. Fortuitously the process language of [32] allows only guarded recursive definitions of processes, so that all process terms denote locally finite presheaves over $\mathbb{P}$. Consequently the relation $\approx^{\mathrm{E}}_{\mathbb{P}}$ holds between denotations of closed terms iff they are late-bisimilar in the traditional sense.

**Remark.** Our treatment thus coincides with that usually adopted in operational semantics of process languages *provided* we restrict to "finitely branching" processes whose denotations are locally finite presheaves. We expect that we could extend the treatment to "countably branching" processes whose denotations are locally countable presheaves if we generalise the results here from $\omega$-colimits to $\omega_1$-colimits. This would follow the pioneering work on countable nondeterminism described in [23]. Of course an even greater degree of branching would require even larger cardinals.

## 7.2 Intensional relations

We consider the following extension of the grammar in (4):

$$t ::= \vartheta \mid \textstyle\sum_{i\in I} t_i \mid t_\perp \mid \mathbb{V} \multimap t \mid \mu\vartheta.t \mid t \otimes t' \tag{6}$$

obtained by adding tensors, and give an interpretation of these types in $\{\mathbf{Prof} \mid \mathrm{I}\}$. Again, it suffices to show how sums, lifting, discrete function space, and tensor extend to pseudo $\omega\mathbf{Cat}$-functors.

*Sums:* Consider an $I$-indexed family of relations $\langle R_i \in \mathrm{I}(\mathbb{A}_i)\rangle$. Then, a span $X \Leftarrow W \Rightarrow Y$ in $\widehat{\sum_{i\in I}\mathbb{A}_i}$ is defined to be in $\sum_{i\in I} R_i$ iff for every $i \in I$, the restriction $(X)_i \Leftarrow (W)_i \Rightarrow (Y)_i$ is in $R_i$.

*Lifting:* Consider presheaves $W$ and $X$ over $\mathbb{A}_\perp$. As we have already remarked in (5), they decompose as

$$W \cong \sum_{w\in W(\perp)} u_*(W_{|w}) \text{ and } X \cong \sum_{x\in X(\perp)} u_*(X_{|x}),$$

where the $W_{|w}$'s and $X_{|x}$'s are presheaves over $\mathbb{A}$. It follows that to give a natural transformation $p : W \Rightarrow X$ in $\widehat{\mathbb{A}_\perp}$ is to give a $W(\perp)$-indexed family of natural transformations $\langle p_{|w} : W_{|w} \Rightarrow X_{|p_\perp(w)}\rangle$ in $\widehat{\mathbb{A}}$.

Then, for $R \in \mathrm{I}(\mathbb{A})$, we define $X \overset{p}{\Longleftarrow} W \overset{q}{\Longrightarrow} Y$ to be in $(R)_\perp$ iff the span $X(\perp) \overset{p_\perp}{\longleftarrow} W(\perp) \overset{q_\perp}{\longrightarrow} Y(\perp)$ consists of surjections and, for every $w \in W(\perp)$, the span $X_{|p_\perp(w)} \overset{p_{|w}}{\Longleftarrow} W_{|w} \overset{q_{|w}}{\Longrightarrow} Y_{|q_\perp(w)}$ is in $R$.

*Discrete function space:* Analogous to the extensional case. For $R \in \mathrm{I}(\mathbb{A})$, a span $X \Leftarrow W \Rightarrow Y$ is in $\mathbb{V} \multimap R$ if, for every $v \in \mathbb{V}$, the span $Xv \Leftarrow Wv \Rightarrow Yv$ is in $R$.

*Tensor:* Let $R \in \mathrm{I}(\mathbb{A})$ and $S \in \mathrm{I}(\mathbb{B})$. A span $X \Leftarrow W \Rightarrow Y$ in $\widehat{\mathbb{A}\otimes\mathbb{B}}$ is defined to be in $R \otimes S$ if, for every $A \in |\mathbb{A}|$,

$$X(A,-) \Leftarrow W(A,-) \Rightarrow Y(A,-) \text{ is in } S$$

and, for every $B \in |\mathbb{B}|$,

$$X(-,B) \Leftarrow W(-,B) \Rightarrow Y(-,B) \text{ is in } R \quad .$$

Thus every closed type $t$ in the grammar (6) is associated with an intensional relation $\approx^{\mathrm{I}}_t \in \mathrm{I}([\![t]\!])$, which can be shown to coincide with open-map bisimulation.

**Theorem 7.5** *Let $t$ be a closed type in the grammar (6). Then,*

$$\approx^{\mathrm{I}}_{t} \;=\; \mathrm{sOs}_{[\![t]\!]}$$

*where* $\mathrm{sOs}_{\mathbb{C}}$ *denotes the class of surjective open spans in* $\widehat{\mathbb{C}}$.

**Corollary 7.6** *Let $\vartheta \vdash t$ be a type in the grammar (6), and let*

$$[\![\vartheta \vdash t]\!]^{\#} : \{\mathbf{Prof}\,|\,\mathrm{I}\} \to \{\mathbf{Prof}\,|\,\mathrm{I}\}$$

*be its interpretation as sketched above. Then,*

$$\begin{aligned} \approx^{\mathrm{I}}_{\mu\vartheta.t} &= \mathrm{sOs}_{[\![\mu\vartheta.t]\!]} \\ &= \bigcup \{R \mid R \textit{ is a } [\![\mu\vartheta.t]\!]_{\mathrm{I}}\textit{-bisimulation}\}\ . \end{aligned}$$

**Strong bisimulation revisited.** Recall that presheaves over $\mathbb{P} = \mu\vartheta.(\vartheta)_{\perp}$ correspond to trees. The intensional relation $\approx^{\mathrm{I}}_{\mathbb{P}}$ captures strong bisimulation precisely. Indeed, two trees are connected by a span in $\approx^{\mathrm{I}}_{\mathbb{P}}$ iff they are strongly bisimilar. As far as we know, this is the first domain-theoretic characterisation of strong bisimulation for *arbitrary* trees.

# 8 Further work

In this paper we have concentrated on solving recursive domain equations for pseudo $\omega$**Cat**-functors on $\omega$**Cat**-categories. Our motivating example is the 2-category **Prof** that we have used to define so-called presheaf models [4, 32, 3]. The 2-category **Prof** can also be presented as the bicategory of **Set**-bimodules [17, 15]. From this viewpoint a natural development of our work is to generalise the results of Section 2 and 3 to handle enriched pseudo-functors between 'enriched' bicategories. This seems to be possible via a coherence result. In this way we will be able to deal with, for instance, the extended class of examples given by $\mathcal{V}$-bimodules [15]. Among these, we find Lawvere's generalised metric spaces [17] for $\mathcal{V} = \Re^{+}$, and $\mathbf{Set}^{\mathcal{I}}$-bimodules where $\mathcal{I}$ is the category of finite cardinals and injections. The latter is a promising setting for working out a theory of presheaf models for *higher-order* process calculi [25, 31] with features of local name creation and name passing as in the $\pi$-calculus.

Aiming at a general treatment of higher order concurrent process calculi, a clear next step is to extend the intensional relations of Section 7.2 to include a treatment of the full function space $(- \multimap +)$ as well as the exponential (!), and in particular allow for constructions on relations when there is contravariance at play. As presented the two accounts of bisimulation, via extensional and intensional relations are rather separate. It is far from straightforward to generalise the extensional account of open-map bisimulation in the presence of tensor and general function space. The question seems related to that of giving an operational account of open-map bisimulation when constructions like full function space and exponential are involved. By "operational account" is meant a traditional, coinductive characterisation of open-map bisimulation on process terms based on an operational semantics (allowing some extra tagging of terms or transitions—as some preliminary success suggests).

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