

Discrete temporal type theory

David I. Spivak

2018/04/26 at MIT CT seminar

I. Introduction

A. Goal: a higher-order logic for behavior

1. Continuous version (joint with P. Schultz, <https://arxiv.org/abs/1710.10258>)
 - a. ODEs, LTSs, delays
 - b. Combining disparate sorts of systems
 - c. A language for behavior contracts
2. Discrete version
 - a. Simpler, but still quite rich
 - b. Kinda like: A higher-order logic for graphs
 - c. One can reason about restrictions on paths (e.g. "Whenever g traverses a blue edge, it must traverse two more consecutive blue edges within five hops.")
 - d. One can reason about "effects" of traversing longer paths, i.e. information which can't be reduced to what's observable on the edges.

B. Formal language

1. Very useful for defining and proving properties about behavior.
2. Higher-order logic with topos semantics works well.

C. Plan:

1. Describe the topos externally
2. Explain the type theory
3. Return to the above statement re: graphs

II. Topos of discrete behavior types $\mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{Z}}$

A. Two presheaf toposes

1. Geometric theory of discrete finite intervals
 - a. For each $d, u \in \mathbb{Z}$ with $d \leq u$, a proposition " $d \leq t \leq u$ "¹
 - b. Axiom: $\vdash \bigvee_{d \leq u} d \leq t \leq u$.

¹ "d is for down, u is for up"

- c. If $d' \leq d \leq u \leq u'$ then $d \leq t \leq u \vdash d' \leq t \leq u'$
2. Its syntactic category: the open sets of a topological space $\mathbb{I}\mathbb{Z}$
- Points of $\mathbb{I}\mathbb{Z}$ are intervals $[a, b]$ with $a \leq b$
 - Basis of open subsets: $\{\downarrow[d, u] \mid d \leq u\}$
 - I.e. an open set $\downarrow[d, u] = \{[a, b] := d \leq a \leq b \leq u\}$ for each pair of integers $d \leq u$
 - Opens are arbitrary unions of these. We'll meet them in some form later.
3. $\text{Psh}(\mathbb{I}\mathbb{Z})$
- Formal colimit completion of $\mathbb{I}\mathbb{Z}$
 - Has finite limits, nno, exponential objects, subobject classifier
 - Epi-mono factorization, quotients by equivalence relations, disjoint co-products
4. \mathbb{Z} -action and quotient topos
- For any $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ and open $[d, u] \in \mathbb{I}\mathbb{Z}$, have $[d + n, u + n]$
 - For any $X \in \text{Psh}(\mathbb{I}\mathbb{Z})$, let $T(X)[d, u] := \prod_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} X[d + n, u + n]$
 - T is a left-exact comonad. Denote topos of coalgebras by $\text{Psh}(\mathbb{I}\mathbb{Z})_{\mathbb{Z}}$.
 - Let $\mathbf{Int}_{\mathbb{Z}}$ denote localization of $\mathbb{I}\mathbb{Z}$ by \mathbb{Z} -action:

$$\text{Ob}(\mathbf{Int}_{\mathbb{Z}}) = \{[d, u] \mid d \leq u\}$$

$$\mathbf{Int}_{\mathbb{Z}}([d, u], [d', u']) = \{n \in \mathbb{Z} \mid [d + n, u + n] \subseteq [d', u']\}$$

- As always, $\mathbf{Int}_{\mathbb{Z}}$ is equivalent to its skeleton
 - Formally: $\mathbf{Int}_{\mathbb{Z}}$ is twisted arrow category of \mathbb{N} , as a one-object cat
 - Concretely:

$$\text{Ob}(\mathbf{Int}_{\mathbb{Z}}) = \mathbb{N}$$

$$\mathbf{Int}_{\mathbb{Z}}(\ell', \ell) = \{n \in \mathbb{N} \mid n + \ell' \leq \ell\}$$

- Theorem: $\text{Psh}(\mathbf{Int}_{\mathbb{Z}}) \cong \text{Psh}(\mathbb{I}\mathbb{Z})_{\mathbb{Z}}$, call it $\mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{Z}}$

B. Examples in $\mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{Z}} = \text{Psh}(\mathbf{Int}_{\mathbb{Z}})$:

- Graphs (fully faithful)
- Representables $y\ell$ given by $y\ell(\ell') = \mathbf{Int}_{\mathbb{Z}}(\ell', \ell) = \{n \in \mathbb{N} \mid n + \ell' \leq \ell\}$
- Simplicial sets (faithful, not full), induced by "obvious functor" $\mathbf{Int} \rightarrow \Delta$
- Presheaf $X(0) := \{V\}$, $X(1) := \{E\}$, $X(2) := \{P_1, P_2\}$, $X(n+3) := \emptyset$.

C. The subobject classifier and Catalan numbers

- Calculate $\Omega(\ell)$ for $\ell = 0, 1$

(2) Write $c \Vdash P(x)$ to mean that $yc \xrightarrow{x} X$ factors through $\{X \mid P\} \subseteq X$.

b. Then it turns out that for any $x \in X(c)$:

(1) $c \Vdash P(x) \wedge Q(x)$ iff $c \Vdash P(x)$ and $c \Vdash Q(x)$.

(2) $c \Vdash P(x) \vee Q(x)$ iff $c \Vdash P(x)$ or $c \Vdash Q(x)$.

(3) $c \Vdash P(x) \Rightarrow Q(x)$ iff the following holds for all $d \rightarrow c$ in C : if $d \Vdash P(x|_d)$ then $d \Vdash Q(x|_d)$.

(4) $c \Vdash \neg P(x)$ iff for each $d \rightarrow c$ in C , it is *not the case that* $d \Vdash P(x|_d)$

(5) $c \Vdash \forall(y : Y). P(x, y)$ iff, for all $d \rightarrow c$ in C and all $y \in Y(d)$, we have $d \Vdash P(x|_d, y)$.

(6) $c \Vdash \exists(y : Y). P(x, y)$ iff there exists $y \in Y(c)$ with $c \Vdash P(x, y)$.

c. Warning: the above facts only hold for presheaf toposes.

IV. Temporal type theory

A. A type theory with semantics in $\mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{Z}}$

1. Atomic type **Time**, atomic predicate $\delta : \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbf{Time} \rightarrow \mathbf{Prop}$

2. Some axioms:

a. $\forall(n : \mathbb{Z})(t : \mathbf{Time}). \neg\neg\delta(n, t) \Rightarrow \delta(n, t)$.

(1) Let $v : \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbf{Time} \rightarrow \mathbf{Prop}$ be $v(n, t) := \neg\delta(n + 1, t)$

(2) Syntactic sugar: Write $n \leq t$ for $\delta(n, t)$, and write $t \leq n$ for $v(n, t)$

(3) We have $t \leq n$ iff $\neg(n + 1 \leq t)$

b. $\forall(t : \mathbf{Time}). \exists(n : \mathbb{Z}). n \leq t$

c. $\forall(t : \mathbf{Time}). \exists(n : \mathbb{Z}). t \leq n$

d. $\forall(t : \mathbf{Time})(m, n : \mathbb{Z}). (m \leq n) \wedge (n \leq t) \Rightarrow (m \leq t)$

e. $\forall(t_1, t_2 : \mathbf{Time}). (\forall(n : \mathbb{Z}). (n \leq t_1) \Leftrightarrow (n \leq t_2)) \Rightarrow (t_1 = t_2)$

f. Torsor axioms:

(1) $\forall(t : \mathbf{Time})(n' : \mathbb{Z}). \exists(t' : \mathbf{Time}). \forall(n : \mathbb{Z}). ((n + n' \leq t') \Leftrightarrow (n \leq t))$

(2) Given t, n' , write $(t + n') : \mathbf{Time}$ for unique such t'

(3) $\forall(t, t' : \mathbf{Time}). \exists(n' : \mathbb{Z}). \forall(n : \mathbb{Z}). ((n + n' \leq t') \Leftrightarrow (n \leq t))$

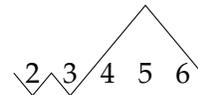
(4) Given t, t' , write $(t' - t) : \mathbb{Z}$ for unique such n'

B. The semantics

1. Atomic type **Time** is sent to the graph $\dots \rightarrow \bullet^{-1} \rightarrow \bullet^0 \rightarrow \bullet^1 \rightarrow \bullet^2 \rightarrow \dots$

2. Predicate $\delta : \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbf{Time} \rightarrow \mathbf{Prop}$ has $\ell \vdash (n, [t_0, t_1, \dots, t_\ell])$ iff $n \leq t_0$.

$(4 \leq [2, 3, 4, 5, 6]) :=$

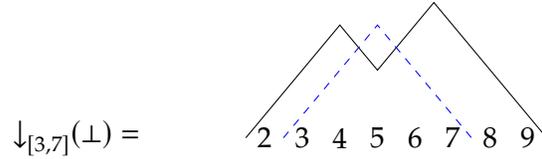


$\neg(4 \leq [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6]) :=$



C. Useful modalities

1. A modality $j: \text{Prop} \rightarrow \text{Prop}$ is a function satisfying the following for all $P, Q: \text{Prop}$
 - a. $P \Rightarrow jP$,
 - b. $jjP \Rightarrow P$, and
 - c. $j(P \wedge Q) \Leftrightarrow (jP \wedge jQ)$.
2. $\downarrow: \text{Time} \rightarrow (\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow \text{Prop} \rightarrow \text{Prop}$
 - a. Write $t \# [d, u]$ to mean $(t \leq d - 1) \vee (u + 1 \leq t)$, “ t is apart from $[d, u]$ ”
 - b. Define $\downarrow_{[d,u]}^t P := P \vee t \# [u, d]$.²
 - c. Example $\downarrow_{[3,7]}^t \perp = t \# [7, 3] = (t \leq 6) \vee (4 \leq t)$, with $t = [2, \dots, 9]$:



- d. $\downarrow_{[d,u]} P$ wipes all information about P except what occurs on intervals containing $[d, u]$.
3. $@: \text{Time} \rightarrow (\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow \text{Prop} \rightarrow \text{Prop}$
 - a. Define $@_{[d,u]}^t P := (P \Rightarrow t \# [u, d]) \Rightarrow t \# [u, d]$
 - b. $@_{[d,u]}^t P$ wipes all information about P except what occurs on the interval $[d, u]$.
 - c. Derive modality “ $\text{At}_{[d,u]} P \rightsquigarrow$ ” given by

$$\text{At}_{[d,u]} P \rightsquigarrow Q := (@_{[d,u]} P) \Rightarrow \downarrow_{[d,u]} Q.$$

4. $\pi: \text{Prop} \rightarrow \text{Prop}$, “pointwise”
 - a. Defined by $\epsilon P := \forall (t: \text{Time}). @_{[0,0]}^t P$
 - b. The subtopos defined by π is a subtopos of sets.
5. $\epsilon: \text{Prop} \rightarrow \text{Prop}$, “edgewise”
 - a. Defined by $\epsilon P := \forall (t: \text{Time}). @_{[0,1]}^t P$
 - b. The subtopos defined by ϵ is a subtopos of graphs.

D. Finally, we have nice language

1. Example: given a graph G and a subgraph $B \subseteq G$ defined by $i_B: G \rightarrow \text{Prop}$
2. $\left\{ g: G \mid \forall (t: \text{Time}). \text{At}_{[-1,0]} i_B(g) \rightsquigarrow \exists (n: \mathbb{Z}). 0 \leq n \leq 5 \wedge @_{[n,n+2]}^t i_B(g) \right\}$.
3. “Whenever g traverses a blue edge, it must traverse two more consecutive blue edges within five hops.”

²Inverted order not a typo.