

- WILLIAM ZULUAGA, *A universal algebraic approach to definability in categories*.
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We investigate definability phenomena that emerge when universal algebra meets categorical logic. While definability of operations—via terms or finite families of equations—is a central theme in universal algebra, doctrines capture the categorical essence of logical structure through natural transformations. Our aim is to unite these viewpoints by isolating a purely algebraic fragment of categorical logic where definability can be analyzed with precision.

To this end, we introduce *propositional \mathcal{V} -doctrines* (PVDs): functors $F : \mathbf{C}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \mathcal{V}$, with \mathbf{C} possessing finite products and \mathcal{V} a variety of algebras. Finitary F -connectives are natural transformations $F^n \rightarrow F$. We develop an equational semantics for PVDs, based on the class $\mathcal{K}_F = \{F(A) : A \in \mathbf{C}\}$, showing that definability of connectives admits both an internal description in the functor category $\mathcal{V}^{\mathbf{C}^{\text{op}}}$ and an external, universal-algebraic characterization on \mathcal{K}_F .

Building on [1], we provide necessary and sufficient conditions for term-definability and for equational definability of F -connectives. We prove that a connective $\eta : F^n \rightarrow F$ is term-definable precisely when its canonical value in $F(A^n)$ lies in every projection-generated subalgebra of $F(A)$. For equational definability, we identify the finite systems of equations in $F(A^{n+1})$ that determine η , obtaining preservation criteria for locally finite varieties.

Finally, we analyze representable PVDs, which extend the classical theory of subobject doctrines studied in the literature. Representability transfers definability questions to the algebraic structure of $F(A)$, yielding a unified and transparent method for classifying internal logical operations in categories equipped with subobject classifiers.

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