Talk #10: Interpretations



The graph

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can be "encoded" into a semilattice:

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Vertices = atoms. Edge between $x, y \in V$ represented by a height-2 element that dominates both x and y. This IS a semilattice order, provided ...

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A class \mathcal{K} of *K*-structures is **interpretable by parameters** (or **definable by parameters**) in a class \mathcal{L} of *L*-structures by a scheme Σ if for every $\mathbf{A} \in \mathcal{K}$ there is a $\mathbf{B} \in \mathcal{L}$ and $\mathbf{b} \in B^n$ such that \mathbf{A} witnesses that (\mathbf{B}, \mathbf{b}) admits Σ .

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To prove, e.g., that a decidable variety \mathcal{V} satisfies the $\langle \mathbf{2}, \mathbf{3} \rangle$ -transfer principle, assume otherwise. There must exist $\mathbf{A} \in \mathcal{V}$ with congruences $0 \stackrel{\mathbf{2}}{\prec} \beta \stackrel{\mathbf{3}}{\prec} \gamma$. Let $U = e(A) \in \operatorname{Min}_{\mathbf{A}}(0,\beta)$ and $V = \{0,1\} \in \operatorname{Min}_{\mathbf{A}}(\beta,\gamma)$. Choose distinct $a, b \in U$ in a $\langle 0, \beta \rangle$ -trace N. By the transfer failure, we must have $(a, b) \in \operatorname{Cg}(0, 1)$, so there exists a nonconstant polynomial $f : V \to N$. Finish the argument by showing that the class of structures $\langle \overline{V}, \overline{U}, \overline{f} \rangle$ where \overline{V} is a BA, \overline{U} is a vector space, and $\overline{f} : \overline{V} \to \overline{U}$ is nonconstant is herditarily undecidable and interpretable into \mathcal{V} .
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