

# Equational theories of algebraic operators on Weihrauch problems

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$\supseteq$  lies and *revisionism*

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Dagstuhl meeting 25141

# Setting for the motivation

## Type 2 computability

Turing Machines with

- Input tape containing some  $i \in 2^\omega$
- Write-and-go-right-only-output tape
- Natural setting to compute with infinite objects  
(the “real”  $2^\omega$  is representable)

## The category of represented spaces $\mathbf{ReprSp}$

- Objects:  $(X, \delta_X)$  where  $\delta_X$  is a **partial** surjection  $2^\omega \twoheadrightarrow X$
- Morphisms: maps  $X \rightarrow X'$  with a type 2-computable witness
- Super nice: extensive, lcc,  $W/M$ -types
- ( $\cong$  subcategory of the modest sets in the Kleene-Vesley topos)

# Weihrauch problems

## Definition of Weihrauch problems as *containers*

A Weihrauch problem  $P$  is an internal family in  $\mathbf{ReprSp}$ , i.e.

$$P : \text{positions}(P) \rightarrow \text{shape}(P)$$

- $\text{shape}(P)$  is the space of **questions**
- $\text{positions}(P)$  is the space of **answers**
- $P$  links answers with the questions they are answering
- **Notation:**  $P_i = P^{-1}(i)$

Examples:

- $C_{\mathbb{N}}$ : “Given  $p \in \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$ , find something not enumerated by  $p$ ”  
 $\{(p, n) \in \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}} \times \mathbb{N} \mid n \notin \text{range}(p)\} = \text{positions}(C_{\mathbb{N}}) \xrightarrow{\pi_1} \text{shape}(C_{\mathbb{N}}) \subseteq \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$
- $\text{WKL}_0$ : “given an infinite binary tree, produce an infinite path”

# Weihrauch reducibility

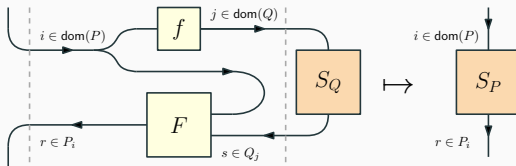
TL;DR: Turing reducibility, but

- adapted to type 2 computability
- reductions must make **exactly** one oracle call

## Official definition

$P \leq_W Q$  if there are **computable**

$$f : \text{shape}(P) \rightarrow \text{shape}(Q) \quad \text{and} \quad F : \prod_{i \in \text{shape}(P)} (Q_{f(i)} \rightarrow P_i)$$



Reductions compose + Quotienting by  $\equiv_W \rightsquigarrow$  **Weihrauch degrees**

## The more general picture: container morphisms

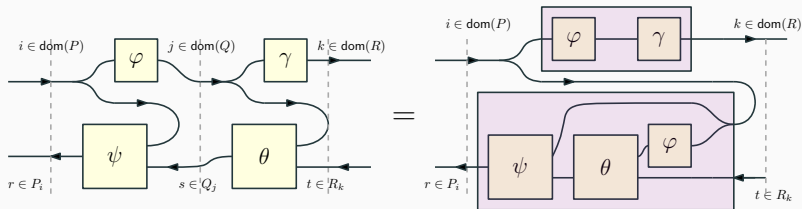
- Fix a category  $\mathcal{C}$  with **pullbacks**
- $\text{Cont}(\mathcal{C})$  has internal families in  $\mathcal{C}$  as objects

## Official definition

A morphism  $P \rightarrow Q$  in  $\text{Cont}(\mathcal{C})$  is **a** pair  $(f, F)$  of

$$f : \text{shape}(P) \rightarrow \text{shape}(Q) \quad \text{and} \quad F : \prod_{i \in \text{shape}(P)} (Q_{f(i)} \rightarrow P_i)$$

(To make sense of what  $F$  is: requires pullbacks)



A Weihrauch reduction  $P \leq_W Q = \text{morphism } P \rightarrow Q \text{ in } \text{Cont}(\text{ReprSp})$  <sup>5/23</sup>

## Some functors on containers/Weihrauch problems

- Coproducts (joins)  $+$ :

$$\begin{array}{lll} \text{shape}(P + Q) \cong \text{shape}(P) + \text{shape}(Q) & (P + Q)_{\text{in}_1(i)} & = P_i \\ & (P + Q)_{\text{in}_2(j)} & = Q_j \end{array}$$

- Cartesian product  $\times$ : “given inputs for both, solve one”

$$\text{shape}(P \times Q) \cong \text{shape}(P) \times \text{shape}(Q) \quad (P \times Q)_{i,j} = P_i + Q_j$$

- Parallel product  $\otimes$ : “solve both problems”

$$\text{shape}(P \otimes Q) \cong \text{shape}(P) \times \text{shape}(Q) \quad (P \otimes Q)_{i,j} = P_i \times Q_j$$

- **I**:  $\text{shape}(\mathbf{I}) = \text{positions}(\mathbf{I}) = 1$

# Composition, iterated composition

## Sequential composition $Q \triangleright P$

- Implicitly: ability to make an oracle call to  $Q$  then  $P$
- Explicitly: given an instance  $i$  of  $Q$  and a function that takes a solution of  $i$  to an instance of  $P$ , compute all relevant solutions

$$\begin{aligned}\text{shape}(Q \triangleright P) &\cong \sum_{i \in \text{shape}(Q)} (Q_i \rightarrow \text{shape}(P)) \\ (Q \triangleright P)_{i,f} &\cong \sum_{r \in Q_i} P_{f(r)}\end{aligned}$$

## Iterated composition $P^\triangleright$

- Explicitly: computed as the least fixpoint of  $X \mapsto \mathbf{I} + (P \triangleright X)$
- Implicitly: ability to make a finite but not fixed in advance number of oracle calls to  $P$

# Fixpoint of operators

least fixpoint	initial algebra	$\mu$
greatest fixpoint	terminal coalgebra	$\nu$

## A very plausible conjecture (Folklore?)

If  $F$  is a fibred polynomial endofunctor over containers, the following exists:

- an initial algebra  $\mu F$  for  $F$
- a terminal coalgebra  $\nu F$  for  $F$
- a somewhat canonical (co)algebra  $\zeta F$  sitting in-between

Examples:

- $P^\triangleright = \mu(X \mapsto \mathbf{I} + P \triangleright X)$
- $P^\otimes = \mu(X \mapsto \mathbf{I} + X \otimes P)$
- $P^{\otimes\infty} = \zeta(X \mapsto X \otimes P)$
- $P^{\triangleright\infty} = \zeta(X \mapsto P \triangleright X)$



# Equational theory of the Weihrauch lattice

- The Weihrauch degrees are a distributive lattice.
- Every countable distributive lattice embeds into  $(\mathfrak{W}, +, \times)$   
(via the Medvedev degrees)
- Thus,  $(\mathfrak{W}, +, \times) \models t \leq u$  iff  $t \leq u$  is provable from the axioms of distributive lattices. (formulas being implicitly universally quantified)

## Driving question

Can we extend this to additional operations? In particular:

- Can we axiomatize equation in those extensions?
- What is the complexity of deciding universal validity of  $t \leq u$ ?

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## Meta-question

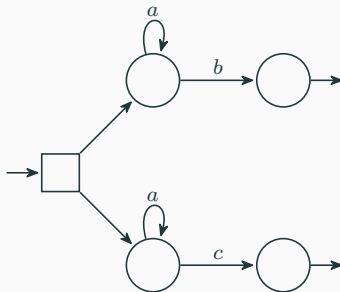
For a given signature, is there anything true in the Weihrauch degree that is not true for **all** (suitable) categories of containers?

# Terms with composition and automata

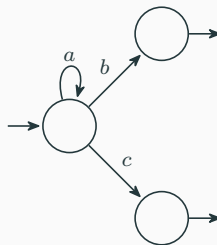
## Starting observation

Terms over  $0, \mathbf{I}, +, \triangleright, (-)^\triangleright =$  can be regarded as regular expressions.  
(alphabet = the set of variables)

- Terms can be mapped to NFAs in a meaningful way
- Adding  $\times$  = allowing alternating automata



$(a^\triangleright \triangleright b) \times (a^\triangleright \triangleright c)$



$a^\triangleright \triangleright (b + c)$

# Universal validity and games

Given alternating automata  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$ , we can define a game  $\mathfrak{D}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$  that captures a notion of simulation such that

## Theorem

$(\mathfrak{M}, +, \times, \triangleright, (-)^\triangleright) \models t \leq u$  iff Duplicator wins in  $\mathfrak{D}(\mathcal{A}_t, \mathcal{A}_u)$ .

Some properties of  $\mathfrak{D}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$ :

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- allows to make several attempts at simulating  $\mathcal{A}$  in parallel  
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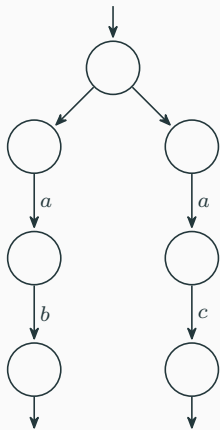
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## Corollary

“( $\mathfrak{W}, \mathbf{I}, 0, +, \times, \triangleright, (-)^\triangleright$ )  $\models t \leq u$ ?” is decidable.

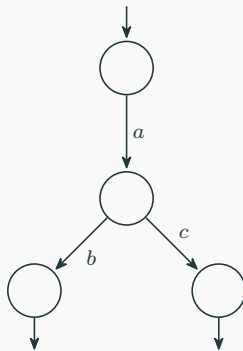
- Conjecture: this is PSPACE-complete.

# A simple example of simulation and non-simulation



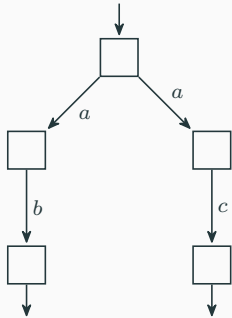
$$(a \triangleright b) + (a \triangleright c)$$

$<$



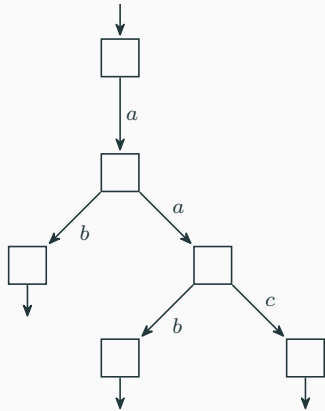
$$a \triangleright (b + c)$$

# A simulation requiring several concurrent attempts



$$(a \triangleright b) \times (a \triangleright c)$$

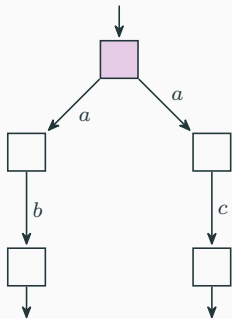
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$$a \triangleright ((a \triangleright (c \times b)) \times b)$$

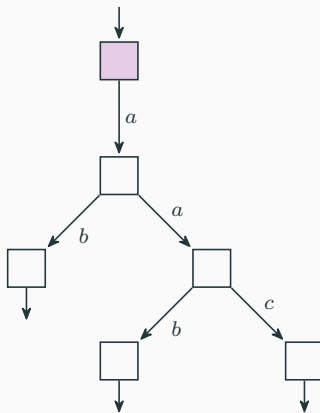


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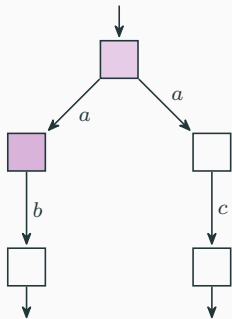
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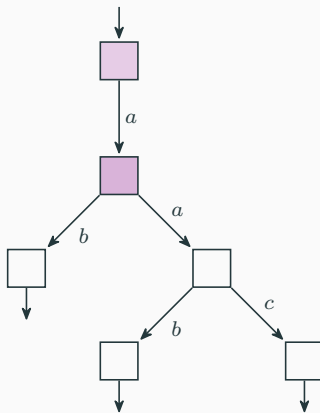
Let's play ?!

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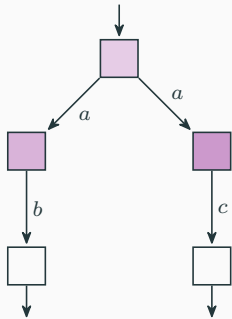
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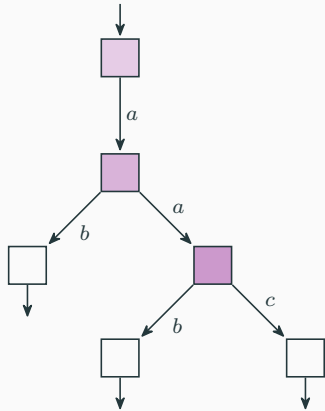
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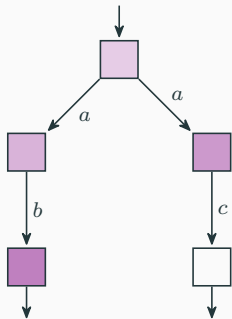
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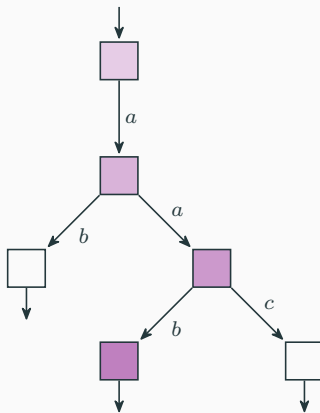
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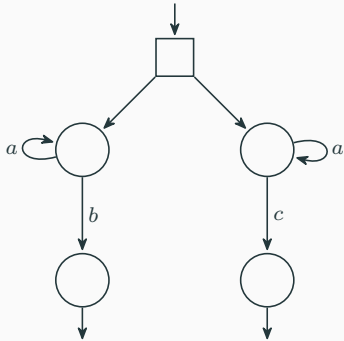
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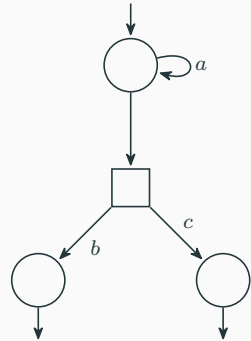
Let's play ?!

## Another simulation requiring several concurrent attempts



$$(a^{\triangleright} \triangleright b) \times (a^{\triangleright} \triangleright c)$$

$\equiv$



$$a^{\triangleright} \triangleright (b \times c)$$

# Induction principles for $(-)^{\triangleright}$

## Non-trivial useful axiom for fixpoints (Westrick, 2021)

The following is valid in the Weihrauch degrees

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(key example:  $\mathbf{I} \leq a \times b$  implies  $a^{\triangleright} \times b^{\triangleright} \leq (a \times b)^{\triangleright}$ )



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## Theorem

The above axioms are valid in the extended Weihrauch degrees.

# Completeness

Candidate axiomatization of inequations

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### Theorem

Complete for the equational theory of  $(\mathfrak{W}, \mathbf{I}, 0, 1, +, \times, \triangleright, (-)^\triangleright)$ .

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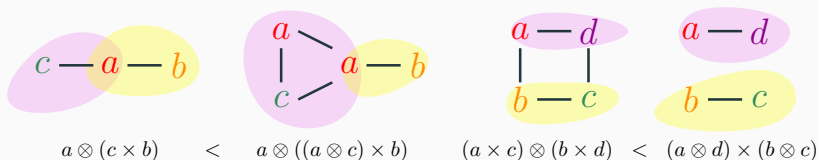
Complete for the equational theory of  $(\mathfrak{W}, \mathbf{I}, 0, 1, +, \times, \triangleright, (-)^\triangleright)$ .

Proof idea:  $\exists$  positional simulation strategies, induction on the syntax

# How this started: the theory of $\otimes, \times$

## A notion of combinatorial reduction between graphs

A reduction from  $(V_0, E_0, c_0)$  to  $(V_1, E_1, c_1)$  is a colour-preserving function  $h : V_1 \rightarrow V_0$  such that the image of any maximal clique in  $(V_1, E_1)$  under  $h$  contains a maximal clique in  $(V_0, E_0)$ .



## Combinatorial characterization (Neumann, Pauly, P.)

$(\mathfrak{W}, \times, \otimes) \models t \leq u$  iff there is a reduction from  $G_t$  to  $G_u$ .

As a result, deciding  $(\mathfrak{W}, \times, \otimes) \models t \leq u$  is  $\Sigma_2^p$ -complete.

- Axiomatizing: harder!
- $+$ ,  $\triangleright$  and  $\otimes$ : opens the gates of hell (**concurrency theory**)



Conjectures!  
(and related mess)

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# Extending the signature/the simulation game

- Enriching the signature with aforementioned  $\mu$  = same thing with all finite alternating automata
- Then enriching the signature with  $\nu$  = parity alternating automata
- Then enriching the signature with  $\zeta$  (or  $(-)^{\triangleright\infty}$ ) = runs of countable ordinal length
- Enriching with  $\otimes$  = going to higher-dimensional automata
  - Dealing with stuff that sounds like concurrency
  - Scarier to me!

# Some englobing syntax for all signatures discussed here

$$\frac{x \in \Gamma \cup \Delta}{\Gamma; \Delta \vdash x}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma; \Delta \vdash t \quad \Gamma; \Delta \vdash u \quad \square \in \{\otimes, \times, +\}}{\Gamma; \Delta \vdash t \square u}$$

$$\overline{\Gamma; \Delta \vdash \mathbf{I}}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma; \cdot \vdash t \quad \Gamma; \Delta \vdash u}{\Gamma; \Delta \vdash t \triangleright u}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma; \Delta \vdash t \quad \Gamma; \cdot \vdash u}{\Gamma; \Delta \vdash t \blacktriangleright u}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma; \cdot \vdash t \quad \Gamma; \cdot \vdash u \quad -* \in \{\neg, \circ, \Rightarrow\}}{\Gamma; \Delta \vdash t -* u}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma; \Delta, x \vdash t \quad \gamma \in \{\mu, \nu, \zeta\}}{\Gamma; \Delta \vdash \gamma x.t}$$

# Another kind of questions

## Conjecture(s)

For various signatures, true inequations in the slightly extended Weihrauch degrees are true in **all** categories of containers.

- Proofs of completeness = there exists messy enough problems to not create other true equations in Weihrauch degrees.
- When does that happen in a category  $\mathcal{C}$

## Conjecture: that's true when

For every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , there is

- an object  $A$  in  $\mathcal{C}$
- a strong antichain of (regular?) subobjects  $(V_i)_{i < n}$  of  $A$
- with all  $V_i \cup V_j$  are connected

## Meta-question: motivations?

Would anyone care about similar results for other categories of containers?

# A vaguer project

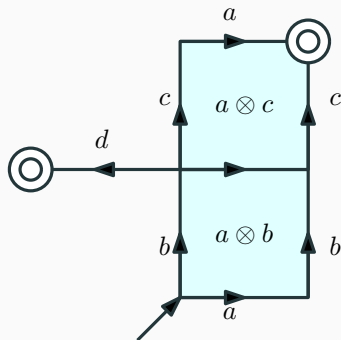
## Inconvenient truths

- Weihrauch problems are the containers over **regular projective** represented spaces (subspaces of  $\mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$ ) for which every question has an answer
- Containers over subspaces of Baire space are only **weakly** locally cartesian closed
- (and also have only weak (co)inductive types)
- It sounds unproblematic in practice because
  - The weak structure is good enough
  - (a systematic way of relating that = this is the category of regular projectives of represented spaces, which is a nice lccc)

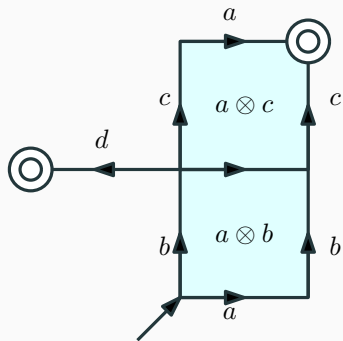
## Question(s)

How do we transfer cleanly results about containers on a nice category  $\mathcal{C}$  with enough projectives to containers of the full subcategory of projectives?

## Example of what's a higher-dimensional automaton



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(I dislike this HDA, I feel it is not nice enough to interpret in containers)