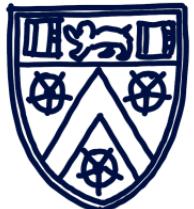


# ALGEBRAIC THEORIES

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## Part 1

What are algebraic theories?

# What is an algebraic theory?

- A **group** is a set  $G$  equipped with

$$m : G \times G \rightarrow G$$

satisfying

$$\forall x, y, z \in G, \quad m(m(x, y), z) = m(x, m(y, z))$$

$$\exists e \in G \text{ s.t. i) } \forall x \in G, \quad m(e, x) = x = m(x, e)$$

$$\text{ii) } \forall x \in G, \exists x' \in G \text{ s.t.}$$

$$m(x', x) = e = m(x, x')$$

# What is an algebraic theory?

- A **group** is a set  $G$  equipped with

$$m : G \times G \rightarrow G$$

$$i : G \rightarrow G$$

$$e \in G$$

satisfying

$$\forall x, y, z \in G \quad m(m(x, y), z) = m(x, m(y, z))$$

$$\forall x \in G \quad m(i(x), x) = e$$

$$\forall x \in G \quad m(x, i(x)) = e$$

$$\forall x \in G \quad m(e, x) = x$$

$$\forall x \in G \quad m(x, e) = x$$

# What is an algebraic theory?

- A **group** is a set  $G$  equipped with

$$m : G^2 \longrightarrow G$$

$$i : G^1 \longrightarrow G$$

$$e : G^0 \longrightarrow G$$

satisfying

$$\forall x, y, z \in G \quad m(m(x, y), z) = m(x, m(y, z))$$

$$\forall x \in G \quad m(i(x), x) = e$$

$$\forall x \in G \quad m(x, i(x)) = e$$

$$\forall x \in G \quad m(e, x) = x$$

$$\forall x \in G \quad m(x, e) = x$$

# What is an algebraic theory?

- An equational theory consists of
    - i) A set  $\Omega$  of function symbols
    - ii) An arity function  $\alpha: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ ,
    - iii) A set  $T$  of equations built from the function symbols and variables  $x, y, z, \dots$

e.g.  $\Sigma = \{m, i, e\}$      $\alpha(m) = 2$      $\alpha(i) = 1$   
 $\alpha(e) = 0$

$$T = \{ m(m(x, y), z) = m(x, m(y, z)), \\ m(i(x), x) = e, \\ \dots \}$$

# What is an algebraic theory?

- A model of an equational theory is

- i) A set  $A$

- ii) For each function symbol  $f \in \Sigma$ , an interpretation

$$|f|: A^{\alpha(f)} \longrightarrow A$$

- iii) such that "the equations hold"

e.g. for groups, have

$$\forall x, y, z \in A, |m|(|m|(x, y), z) = |m|(x, |m|(y, z))$$

and so on...

# What is an algebraic theory?

- Examples: Groups, Rings, Lattices
- Non-examples: Fields

Why? Equations must be universally quantified  
(but takes a little more work to prove no  
axiomatisation works)

# Universal algebra

- Want to study equational theories as objects in their own right
  - Problem: "same" theory can be presented by different operations and equations
  - Solution: Abstract clones or Lawvere theories
- Idea: Don't treat some operations as "basic" or "special"
- Instead consider the set of all operations, and describe how they compose

## Part 2

What did I do?

# Tensors of thy's

- The tensor product is a way to combine two Lawvere theories and get a new one
- A model of  $L_1 \otimes L_2$  is a set with the structure of a model of  $L_1$  and the structure of a model of  $L_2$ , such that "the operations commute"
- Useful in computer science, for studying "algebraic effects"

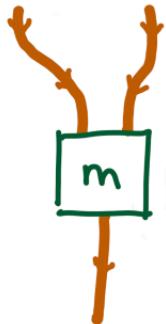
# First half of project

- Tensor products of *large Lawvere theories* don't always exist
- Goncharov and Schröder\* show they exist if one of the theories is "uniform"
- Corrected proof
- Applied to "Select" theory

\* Powermonads and Tensors of Unranked Effects

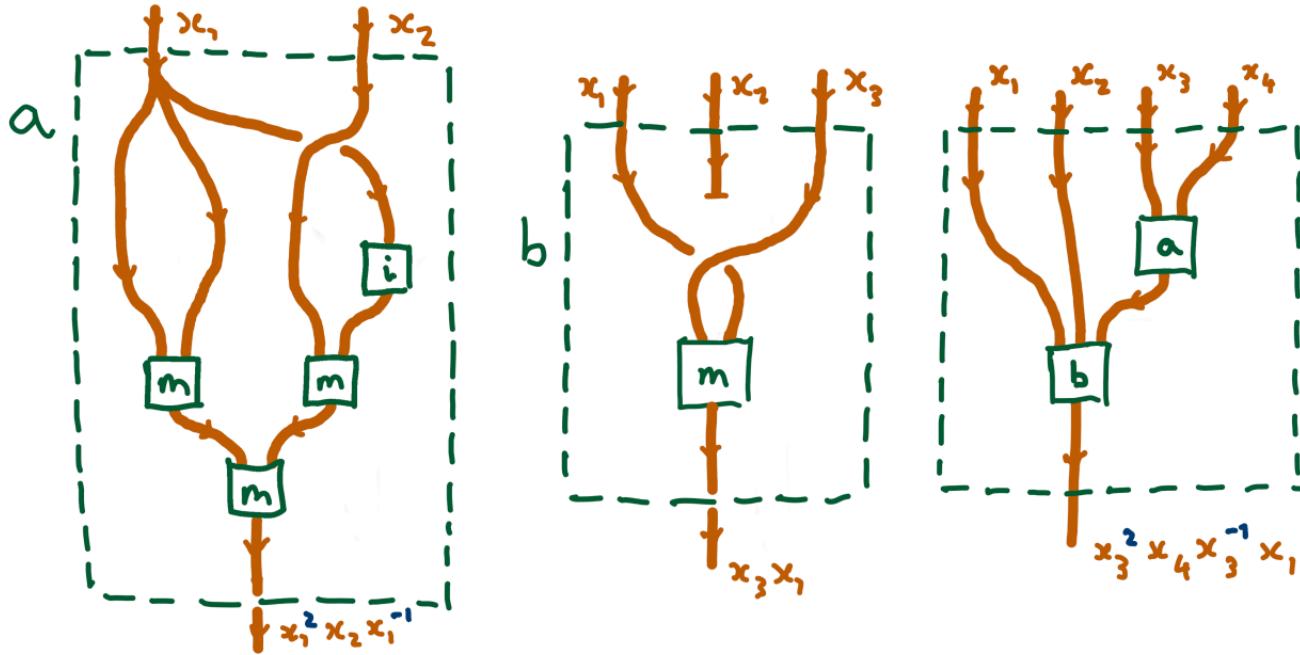
# Notions of composition

- Generalised algebraic theory – have a collection of operations, and you can compose operations
- What do we want “you can compose operations” to mean?
- Think of an n-ary operation as a machine with n input wires and one output wire



# Notions of composition

- To compose operations, hook up the wires
- In a Lawvere theory, wires can cross, split and end



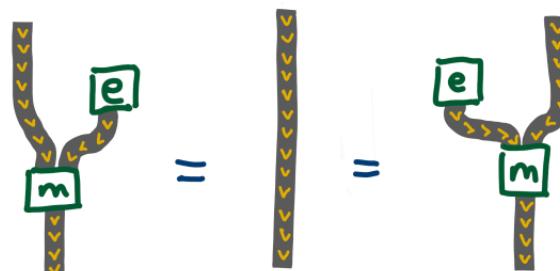
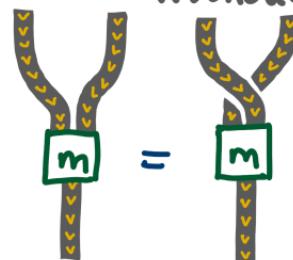
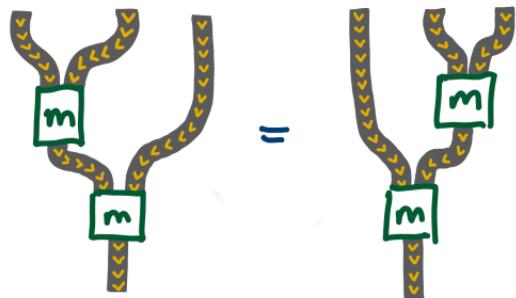
# Notions of composition

- When composing the operations of a (symmetric) operad, wires can't end or split
- We can picture this as machines joined by conveyor belts
- An operad can be specified by an equational theory where all variables in an equation occur exactly once on each side

# Notions of composition

- For example, there is a commutative monoid operad

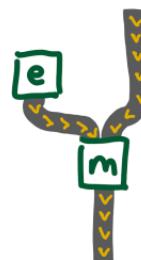
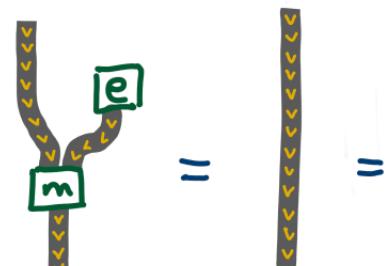
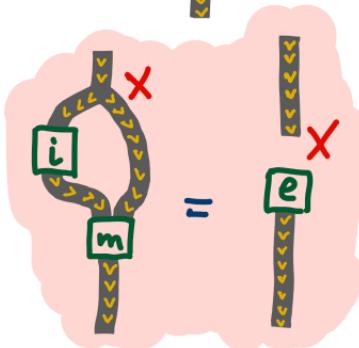
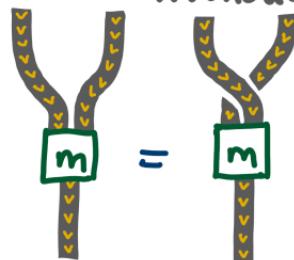
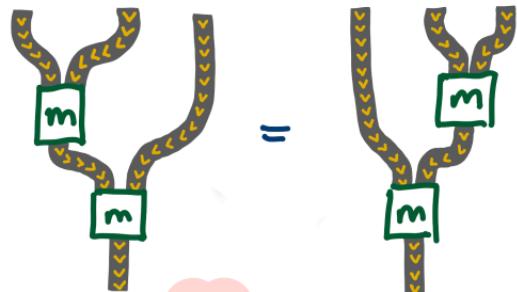
(abelian group  
without inverses)



# Notions of composition

- For example, there is a commutative monoid operad

↑  
(abelian group  
without inverses)



# Second half of project

- Hyland\* gives a definition of a generalised algebraic theory (using profunctors)
- Kock\*\* gives a very different approach to operads (using polynomial functors over groupoids)
- Can we rigorously relate these approaches?
- Made some progress, more to be done

\* Elements of a theory of algebraic theories

\*\* Data Types with Symmetries and Polynomial Functors over Groupoids

Questions?