

Distributive Laws in the Boom Hierarchy

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Overview

- Introduction
 - Motivation: monads and monad compositions
 - Reminder: algebraic theories and composites
 - My strategy proving for no-go theorems
- Boom hierarchy: examples and intuition
- Spotlight theorem: too many constants theorem
- Conclusion

Motivation: monads and monad compositions

A monad is a categorical structure used for:

- Modelling of data structures (lists, trees, etc)

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A monad is a categorical structure used for:

- Modelling of data structures (lists, trees, etc)
- Modelling of computation (exception, reader, writer, etc)

Monads: What are they?

A monad is a triple $\langle T, \eta, \mu \rangle$, with T an endofunctor and $\eta : 1 \Rightarrow T$, $\mu : TT \Rightarrow T$ natural transformations, such that:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 T & \xrightarrow{\eta^T} & TT \\
 T\eta \downarrow & \searrow \text{Id} & \downarrow \mu \\
 TT & \xrightarrow{\mu} & T
 \end{array}
 \qquad
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 TTT & \xrightarrow{T\mu} & TT \\
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 \end{array}$$

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Examples:

- List
- Multiset/Bag
- Powerset
- Distribution
- Exception
- Writer
- Reader

Composing Monads

- Find η^{TS}, μ^{TS} such that $\langle TS, \eta^{TS}, \mu^{TS} \rangle$ is a monad.

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- If λ is a *distributive law*, then the above choices form a monad.

- Beck 1969.

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My weapon of choice:

- Algebra.



A quick reminder: algebraic theories

Algebraic theory:

- Signature Σ and a set of variables give *terms*.
- Axioms E and equational logic give equivalence of terms.

Reflexivity:	$\frac{}{t = t}$	Axiom:	$\frac{(s, t) \in E}{s = t}$
Symmetry:	$\frac{t = t'}{t' = t}$	Substitution:	$\frac{t = t'}{t[f] = t'[f]}$
Transitivity:	$\frac{t = t', t' = t''}{t = t''}$	For any σ :	$\frac{t_1 = t'_1, \dots, t_n = t'_n}{\sigma(t_1, \dots, t_n) = \sigma(t'_1, \dots, t'_n)}$

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Monoids:

$$\Sigma = \{1^{(0)}, *^{(2)}\}$$

$$E = \{1 * x = x = x * 1, \\ (x * y) * z = x * (y * z)\}$$

Abelian groups:

$$\Sigma = \{0^{(0)}, -^{(1)}, +^{(2)}\}$$

$$E = \{0 + x = x = x + 0, \\ (x + y) + z = x + (y + z), \\ x + y = y + x, \\ x + (-x) = 0 = (-x) + x\}$$

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Monads arise from free/forgetful adjunction between Set and category of (Σ, E) -algebras.

Composite theories: the equivalent of distributive laws

Example: Rings are a *composite theory*¹ of Abelian groups after Monoids.

Rings:

$$\begin{aligned} \Sigma &= \Sigma^A \uplus \Sigma^M \\ &= \{0^{(0)}, 1^{(0)}, -^{(1)}, +^{(2)}, *^{(2)}\} \\ E &= E^A \cup E^M \cup \\ &\quad \{a * (b + c) = (a * b) + (a * c) \\ &\quad (a + b) * c = (a * c) + (b * c)\} \end{aligned}$$

¹Piróg and Staton 2017.

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Using composite theories:

- Choose two theories to compose.

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- List equations in the proof.



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- List equations in the proof.
- \Rightarrow No-go theorem.



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The Boom Hierarchy

The Boom Hierarchy is a set of data structures:

Trees



Lists



Bags



Sets

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$$\Sigma = \{0^{(0)}, +^{(2)}\}, \text{ (unital equations)}$$

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plus associativity

Monoids

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A first look

The Boom Hierarchy

Possibility of compositions Column \neq Row.

	Trees	Lists	Bags	Sets
Trees	N	N	Y	Y
Lists	N	N	Y	y
Bags	N	N	Y	Y
Sets	N	N	N	N

- Manes and Mulry 2007, 2008
- Klin and Salamanca 2018
- Zwart and Marsden 2019, 2020 (under review)

A first look

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Possibility of compositions Column \circ Row.

	Trees	Lists	Bags	Sets
Trees	N	N	Y	Y
Lists	N	N	Y	Y
Bags	N	N	Y	Y
Sets	N	N	N	N

The Non-Empty Boom Hierarchy

Possibility of compositions Column \circ Row.

	Trees	Lists	Bags	Sets
Trees	Y	Y	Y	Y
Lists	Y	Y	Y	Y
Bags	Y	?	Y	Y
Sets	?	?	N	N

- Manes and Mulry 2007, 2008
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Extending the Boom hierarchy

- Boom Hierarchy: 4 structures (8 if non-empty are considered)

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Extending the Boom hierarchy

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- Extension: all combinations of axioms gives 16 structures.
 - Unit (U): Y/N
 - Associativity (A): Y/N
 - Commutativity (C): Y/N
 - Idempotence (I): Y/N
- UAC stands for a structure with signature $\Sigma = \{0^{(0)}, +^{(2)}\}$ and the equations Unit, Associativity, Commutativity: bags.

A dramatic result

Combinations where both structures have units:

The Extended Boom Hierarchy (1/4)

Possibility of compositions Column ◦ Row.

	U	UI	UC	UCI	UA	UAI	UAC	UACI
U	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y
UI	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
UC	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y
UCI	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
UA	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y
UAI	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
UAC	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y
UACI	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N

Venturing into unknown territory

The non-empty equivalents are more promising:

The Extended Boom Hierarchy (2/4)

Possibility of compositions Column \circ Row.

	\emptyset	I	C	CI	A	AI	AC	ACI
\emptyset	Y		Y		Y		Y	Y
I		N	N	N		N	N	N
C	Y		Y				Y	Y
CI		N	N	N		N	N	N
A	Y				Y		Y	Y
AI		N	N	N		N	N	N
AC	Y						Y	Y
ACI		N	N	N		N	N	N

The full picture

Extended Boom Hierarchy, showing which compositions of form Column ◦ Row are possible.

Theories all consist of one binary operator, that is possibly idempotent (I), commutative (C), and/or associative (A), with possibly a constant that satisfies the unit equations. (U) Y indicates a successful composition, N indicates that the composition is impossible, empty cells represent unknowns. My own contributions have been highlighted in green.

	∅	I	C	CI	A	AI	AC	ACI	U	UI	UC	UCI	UA	UAI	UAC	UACI
∅	Y		Y		Y		Y	Y							Y	Y
I		N	N	N		N	N	N		N	N	N		N	N	N
C	Y		Y				Y	Y							Y	Y
CI		N	N	N		N	N	N		N	N	N		N	N	N
A	Y				Y		Y	Y							Y	Y
AI		N	N	N		N	N	N		N	N	N		N	N	N
AC	Y						Y	Y							Y	Y
ACI		N	N	N		N	N	N		N	N	N		N	N	N
U	Y						Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y
UI		N	N	N		N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
UC	Y						Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y
UCI		N	N	N		N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
UA	Y						Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y
UAI		N	N	N		N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
UAC	Y						Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y
UACI		N	N	N		N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N

Lessons from the Boom hierarchy

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- Key property: reducing a term to a variable.

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- Key property: reducing a term to a variable.

- **Conjecture:**

Equations that reduce a term to a variable are necessary for distributive laws to fail.

(but not sufficient)

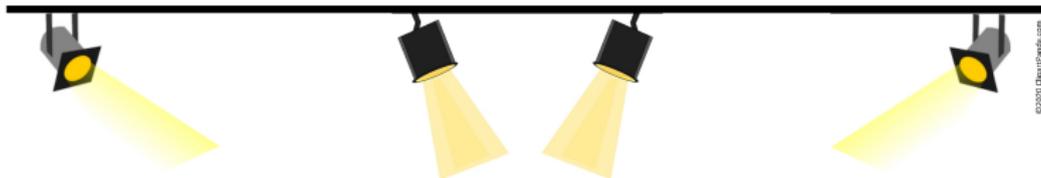
Predictions

Extended Boom Hierarchy, showing which compositions of form Column \circ Row are possible.

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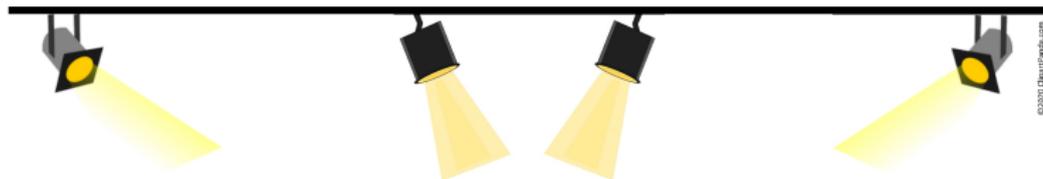
	\emptyset	I	C	CI	A	AI	AC	ACI	U	UI	UC	UCI	UA	UAI	UAC	UACI
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C	Y		Y				Y	Y							Y	Y
CI		N	N	N		N	N	N		N	N	N		N	N	N
A	Y				Y		Y	Y							Y	Y
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When it's just too much



Too Many Constants Theorem

When it's just too much



Too Many Constants Theorem

But first, a proposition.

An important proposition

We need an interaction law:

Proposition (Multiplicative Zeroes)

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Any composite theory \mathbb{U} of \mathbb{T} after \mathbb{S} has the following interaction:

For any $x \in \text{var}(s)$:

$$s[0/x] =_{\mathbb{U}} 0.$$

Theorem (No-Go Theorem: Too Many Constants)

Let \mathbb{S} be an algebraic theory with a term s such that:

- s can be reduced to a variable via a substitution.
- s has **two** or more free variables.

And let \mathbb{T} be an algebraic theory with **at least two constants** $0, 1$ such that for both constants:

$$t[f] =_{\mathbb{T}} 0 \Rightarrow t =_{\mathbb{T}} 0 \quad t[f] =_{\mathbb{T}} 1 \Rightarrow t =_{\mathbb{T}} 1$$

Then there exists no composite theory of \mathbb{T} after \mathbb{S} .

Proof of the Too Many Constants Theorem

Proof.

Suppose that \mathbb{U} is a composite theory of \mathbb{T} after \mathbb{S}

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Contradiction. So \mathbb{U} cannot be a composite of \mathbb{T} after \mathbb{S} . □

Another extension of the Boom hierarchy

Iterating Compositions in the Boom Hierarchy

Possibility of compositions Column ° Row.

	Trees	Lists	Bags	Sets	BT	BL	BB	ST	SL	SB
Trees	N	N	Y	Y						
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BL	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
BB	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
ST	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
SL	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
SB	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N

Conclusion

- Not all monads compose via a distributive law.
 - Boom hierarchy provides some intuition.
-
- `https://www.cs.ox.ac.uk/people/maaike.zwart/`
 - `maaike.annebeth@gmail.com`

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 - Reducing a term to a variable key property for no-go theorems.
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- Reducing a term to a variable key property for no-go theorems.
- Too many constants / multiplicative zeroes prevent iterated distributive laws within the Boom hierarchy.
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- maaike.annebeth@gmail.com