

# Coequalizers and Tensor Products for Continuous Idempotent Semirings

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## Motivating question

The context-free languages  $\mathcal{C}X^*$  over  $X$  can be obtained from the regular languages  $\mathcal{R}(X \cup Y)^*$  of an extended alphabet  $X \cup Y$ :

Theorem (Chomsky/Schützenberger 1963)

Consider an alphabet  $X \dot{\cup} Y$ , where

- ▶  $Y = \{b, d, p, q\}$  consists of two pairs  $b, d$  and  $p, q$  of brackets,
- ▶  $D \subseteq (X \cup Y)^*$  the Dyck-language of well-bracketed strings
- ▶  $h : (X \cup Y)^* \rightarrow X^*$  the bracket-erasing homomorphism.

Then  $\mathcal{C}X^* = \{h(R \cap D) \mid R \in \mathcal{R}(X \cup Y)^*\}$ .

**Question:** Is  $\mathcal{C}X^*$  a (purely algebraic?) function of  $\mathcal{R}X^*$  alone?

# Content

We provide some algebraic infrastructure to attack the question.

- ▶ Monadic operators  $\mathcal{A} : \text{MONOID} \rightarrow \mathbb{D} := \text{DIOID}$
- ▶ The subcategory  $\mathbb{D}\mathcal{A}$  of  $\mathbb{D}$  of  $\mathcal{A}$ -dioids and  $\mathcal{A}$ -morphisms
- ▶ Congruences and coequalizers
- ▶ Tensor product
- ▶ Application to the motivating question

In the paper also:

- ▶ Coproduct
- ▶ Free extension

## Monadic operators $\mathcal{A} : \mathbb{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{D}$

Let  $\mathbb{M}$  be the category of monoids  $(M, \cdot, 1)$  and homomorphisms.

Let  $\mathbb{D}$  be the category of idempotent semirings (**dioids**)  $(D, +, \cdot, 0, 1)$  with semiring homomorphisms as morphisms.

Each dioid  $D$  implicitly has a partial order  $\leq$  defined by

$$d \leq d' \iff d + d' = d'.$$

The power-set functor  $\mathcal{P} : \mathbb{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{D}$  assigns to a monoid  $M$  a dioid

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{P}M &= (|\mathcal{P}M|, \cup, \cdot, \emptyset, \{1\}), \text{ where} \\ A \cdot B &:= \{a \cdot b \mid a \in A, b \in B\}, \end{aligned}$$

and to each homomorphism  $f : M \rightarrow N$  a dioid-homomorphism

$$\mathcal{P}f = \lambda A \{ f(a) \mid a \in A \} : \mathcal{P}M \rightarrow \mathcal{P}N.$$

A **monadic operator**  $\mathcal{A}$  (Hopkins 2008) is a subfunctor of the power-set functor  $\mathcal{P} : \mathbb{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{D}$  that satisfies, for each monoid  $M$ ,

$A_0$   $\mathcal{A}M$  is a set of subsets of  $M$ :  $\mathcal{A}M \subseteq \mathcal{P}M$ ,

$A_1$   $\mathcal{A}M$  contains each finite subset of  $M$ :  $\mathcal{F}M \subseteq \mathcal{A}M$ ,

$A_2$   $\mathcal{A}M$  is closed under product (hence a monoid),

$A_3$   $\mathcal{A}M$  is closed under union of sets from  $\mathcal{A}M$  (hence a dioid),

$A_4$   $\mathcal{A}$  preserves homomorphisms: if  $f : M \rightarrow N$  is a homomorphism, so is  $\mathcal{A}f := \lambda U \{ f(u) \mid u \in U \} : \mathcal{A}M \rightarrow \mathcal{A}N$ .

Remark: Each monadic operator  $\mathcal{A} : \mathbb{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{D}$  is the left adjoint of an adjunction between  $\mathbb{M}$  and a subcategory  $\mathbb{D}\mathcal{A}$  of  $\mathbb{D}$ .

## Example

The power set operator  $\mathcal{P}$  is monadic;  $\mathbb{D}\mathcal{P}$  is the category of quantales with unit.

Let  $\mathcal{F}$  assign to each monoid  $M$  its finite subsets. Then  $\mathcal{F}$  is monadic;  $\mathbb{D}\mathcal{F}$  is the category  $\mathbb{D}$  of dioids.

## Example

For infinite cardinal  $\kappa$ ,  $\mathcal{P}_\kappa M = \{X \mid X \subseteq M, |X| \leq \kappa\}$  is a monadic operator;  $\mathbb{D}\mathcal{P}_{\aleph_0}$  is the category of closed semirings.

For regular cardinal  $\kappa$ ,  $\mathcal{F}_\kappa M = \{X \mid X \subseteq M, |X| < \kappa\}$  is monadic;  $(A_3)$  corresponds to regularity.

## Example

The sets  $\mathcal{RM}$ ,  $\mathcal{CM}$  and  $\mathcal{TM}$  of all **regular**, **context-free** and **Turing** subsets of a monoid  $M$  can be defined via grammars.

For a *grammar*  $G = (Q, S, P)$  of type  $\mathcal{A} \in \{\mathcal{R}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{T}\}$  over  $X^1$ , define  $L(G) \subseteq X^*$  and

$$\mathcal{AX}^* := \{ L(G) \mid G \text{ is a grammar of type } \mathcal{A} \text{ over } X \}$$

as usual. With the canonical homomorphism  $h : M^* \rightarrow M$ , put

$$\mathcal{AM} := \{ h(L) \mid L \in \mathcal{AX}^* \}$$

Hopkins 2008:  $\mathcal{F} \leq \mathcal{R} \leq \mathcal{C} \leq \mathcal{T} \leq \mathcal{P}$  are monadic operators.

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<sup>1</sup>with finite  $P \subseteq Q \times (QX \cup X)$ ,  $Q \times (Q \cup X)^*$ ,  $Q^+ \times (Q \cup X)^*$ , respectively

## The category $\mathbb{D}\mathcal{A} \subseteq \mathbb{D}$ of $\mathcal{A}$ -dioids

An  $\mathcal{A}$ -dioid is a partially ordered monoid  $M = (M, \cdot, 1, \leq)$  which is

- ▶  $\mathcal{A}$ -complete: every  $U \in \mathcal{A}M$  has a supremum  $\sum U \in M$ , and
- ▶  $\mathcal{A}$ -distributive: for all  $U, V \in \mathcal{A}M$ ,  $\sum(UV) = (\sum U)(\sum V)$ .

A map  $f : M \rightarrow N$  between partially ordered monoids is  $\mathcal{A}$ -continuous, if for all  $U \in \mathcal{A}M$  and  $n > (\mathcal{A}f)(U)$  there is some  $m > U$  with  $n \geq f(m)$ , where  $x > X$  means that  $x$  is an upper bound of  $X$ .

An  $\mathcal{A}$ -morphism is an  $\mathcal{A}$ -continuous monotone homomorphism.

Let  $\mathbb{D}\mathcal{A}$  be the category of  $\mathcal{A}$ -dioids with  $\mathcal{A}$ -morphisms.



**Prop.** (i) Every  $\mathcal{A}$ -dioid  $(M, \cdot, 1, \leq)$  is a dioid  $(M, +, \cdot, 0, 1)$  via

$$a + b := \sum \{a, b\}, \quad 0 := \sum \emptyset.$$

(ii) For  $f : M \rightarrow N$  between  $\mathcal{A}$ -dioids  $M, N$ :

$f$  is  $\mathcal{A}$ -continuous iff for all  $U \in \mathcal{A}M$ :  $f(\sum U) = \sum (\mathcal{A}f)(U)$

We treat  $\mathcal{A}$ -dioids in the dioid-signature:  $D = (D, +, \cdot, 0, 1)$ .

**Prop.** For monoids  $M$ ,  $\mathcal{A}M$  is the free  $\mathcal{A}$ -dioid generated by  $M$ .

## Theorem

*Hopkins 2008:*  $\mathbb{D}\mathcal{R}$  is the category of  $*$ -continuous Kleene algebras.

*Previous talk:*  $\mathbb{D}\mathcal{C}$  is the category of  $\mu$ -continuous Chomsky algebras.

*Unresolved:*  $\mathbb{D}\mathcal{T}$ , the category of Markov/Turing/Thue algebras

A monadic operator  $\mathcal{A}$  is the left adjoint of an adjunction  $(\mathcal{A}, \hat{\mathcal{A}}, \eta, \epsilon) : \mathbb{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{D}\mathcal{A}$  between  $\mathbb{M}$  and  $\mathbb{D}\mathcal{A}$ , where

- ▶  $\hat{\mathcal{A}} : \mathbb{D}\mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathbb{M}$  is the forgetful functor, and if  $M \in \mathbb{M}, D \in \mathbb{D}\mathcal{A}$ ,
- ▶  $\eta_M : M \rightarrow \mathcal{A}M$  is  $m \mapsto \{m\}$ ,  $\epsilon_D : \mathcal{A}D \rightarrow D$  is  $U \mapsto \sum U$ .

This adjunction gives rise to a **monad**  $T_{\mathcal{A}} = (\hat{\mathcal{A}} \circ \mathcal{A}, \eta, \mu)$  in  $\mathbb{M}$ , an endofunctor  $T = \hat{\mathcal{A}} \circ \mathcal{A} : \mathbb{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{M}$ , where

- ▶ the unit  $\eta : I \rightarrow T$  maps  $m \in M$  to  $\{m\} \in \mathcal{A}M$ ,
- ▶ the product  $\mu : TT \rightarrow T$  maps  $\mathcal{U} \in \mathcal{A}AM$  to  $\bigcup \mathcal{U} \in \mathcal{A}M$ .

$\hat{\mathcal{A}}$  is called a **monadic functor** in category theory.

The monad  $T = T_{\mathcal{A}} : \mathbb{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{M}$  of the adjunction  $\mathcal{A} : \mathbb{M} \rightleftarrows \mathbb{D}\mathcal{A} : \widehat{\mathcal{A}}$  gives rise to an **Eilenberg-Moore category**  $\mathbb{M}^T$  of  $T$ -algebras.

A  **$T$ -algebra**  $\langle M, h \rangle$  consists of an object  $M$  and a morphism  $h : TM \rightarrow M$  of  $\mathbb{M}$  such that

$$1_M = h \circ \eta_M : M \rightarrow M, \text{ and } h \circ (Th) = h \circ \mu_M : TTM \rightarrow M.$$

A  **$T$ -algebra morphism**  $f : \langle M, h \rangle \rightarrow \langle M', h' \rangle$  is a morphism  $f : M \rightarrow M'$  in  $\mathbb{M}$  such that

$$f \circ h = h' \circ (Tf) : TM \rightarrow M'.$$

The comparison functor  $K : \mathbb{D}\mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathbb{M}^T$  is an isomorphism, where

$$KD = \langle \widehat{D}, \sum_D : T\widehat{D} \rightarrow \widehat{D} \rangle, \quad K(f : D \rightarrow D') = f : \widehat{D} \rightarrow \widehat{D}'$$

## Coequalizers

For a dioid  $D$  and  $U, V \subseteq D$ , put  $U \simeq V : \iff U^{\leq} = V^{\leq}$ , where

$$U^{\leq} := \{ d \in D \mid d \leq u \text{ for some } u \in U \},$$

For a dioid-congruence  $\rho$  on  $D$ , the set  $D/\rho$  of congruence classes is a dioid under the operations defined as expected.

An  $\mathcal{A}$ -congruence on an  $\mathcal{A}$ -dioid  $D$  is a dioid-congruence  $\rho$  s.th. for all  $U, V \in \mathcal{A}D$ , if  $U/\rho \simeq V/\rho$ , then  $(\sum U)/\rho = (\sum V)/\rho$ .

For any  $E \subseteq D \times D$ , there is a least  $\mathcal{A}$ -congruence on  $D$  above  $E$ .

### Lemma

Let  $q : D \rightarrow Q$  be an  $\mathcal{A}$ -morphism between  $\mathcal{A}$ -dioids  $D, Q$ . Then

$$\ker(q) := \{ (a, b) \mid q(a) = q(b), a, b \in D \}$$

is an  $\mathcal{A}$ -congruence on  $D$ .

**Prop.** If  $D$  is an  $\mathcal{A}$ -dioid and  $\rho$  an  $\mathcal{A}$ -congruence on  $D$ , then  $D/\rho$  is an  $\mathcal{A}$ -dioid and the canonical map  $d \mapsto d/\rho$  is an  $\mathcal{A}$ -morphism.

**Proof.**

$D/\rho$  is  $\mathcal{A}$ -complete: Each  $U' \in \mathcal{A}(D/\rho)$  is  $U/\rho$  for some  $U \in \mathcal{A}D$ . Since  $\rho$  is an  $\mathcal{A}$ -congruence,

$$\sum U' := (\sum U)/\rho$$

is well-defined, and an upper bound of  $U' = U/\rho$ .

Let  $e/\rho$  be any upper bound of  $U'$ . As  $\{U, \{e\}\} \in \mathcal{FAD} \subseteq \mathcal{AAD}$ , we have  $U \cup \{e\} \in \mathcal{AD}$ . By choice of  $e$ ,  $(U \cup \{e\})/\rho \simeq \{e\}/\rho$ , so

$$(e + \sum U)/\rho = (\sum (U \cup \{e\}))/\rho = (\sum \{e\})/\rho = e/\rho.$$

Hence  $(\sum U)/\rho \leq e/\rho$ , and  $\sum U'$  is a least upper bound of  $U'$ .  $\square$

A **coequalizer** of two morphisms  $f, g : N \rightarrow M$  is an object  $Q$  with a morphism  $q : M \rightarrow Q$  such that  $q \circ f = q \circ g$  and every morphism  $q' : M \rightarrow Q'$  with  $q' \circ f = q' \circ g$  splits uniquely as shown:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 N & \xrightarrow{f} & M & \xrightarrow{q} & Q \\
 & \xrightarrow{g} & & & \vdots \\
 & & & \searrow q' & h_{q'} \\
 & & & & Q'
 \end{array}$$

### Example

In  $\mathbb{M}$ , a coequalizer of  $f, g : N \rightarrow M$  consists of the quotient monoid  $M/\rho$  with the canonical map  $m \mapsto m/\rho$ , where  $\rho$  is the least congruence on  $M$  above  $\{(f(n), g(n)) \mid n \in N\}$ .

## Theorem

$\mathbb{D}\mathcal{A}$  has coequalizers. The coequalizer of  $f, g : N \rightarrow M$  is the canonical map  $q : M \rightarrow Q$ , where  $Q = M/\rho$  and  $\rho$  is the least  $\mathcal{A}$ -congruence on  $M$  above  $E := \{(f(n), g(n)) \mid n \in N\}$ .

## Proof.

$Q$  is an  $\mathcal{A}$ -dioid and  $q$  an  $\mathcal{A}$ -morphism. Clearly,  $q \circ f = q \circ g$ .

Suppose  $q' : M \rightarrow Q'$  be an  $\mathcal{A}$ -morphism with  $q' \circ f = q' \circ g$ . Define  $h : Q \rightarrow Q'$  by  $h(m/\rho) := q'(m)$ , so  $q' = h \circ q$ .

$h$  is well-defined: since  $E \subseteq \ker(q')$ ,  $\rho \subseteq \ker(q')$  by the lemma.  $h$  is an  $\mathcal{A}$ -morphism, because  $q'$  is: for  $U \in \mathcal{A}M$ ,

$$h(\sum(U/\rho)) = h((\sum U)/\rho) = q'(\sum U) = \sum\{h(m/\rho) \mid m \in U\}.$$

As  $q : M \rightarrow Q = M/\rho$  is surjective,  $h$  is unique. □

**Prop.** If  $q : M \rightarrow Q$  is a coequalizer of  $f, g : N \rightarrow M$  in  $\mathbb{M}$ , then  $\mathcal{A}q : \mathcal{A}M \rightarrow \mathcal{A}Q$  is a coequalizer of  $\mathcal{A}f, \mathcal{A}g : \mathcal{A}N \rightarrow \mathcal{A}M$  in  $\mathbb{DA}$ .

## Theorem

Let  $E$  be a congruence on the monoid  $M$ ,  $\mathcal{A}E$  the least  $\mathcal{A}$ -congruence on  $\mathcal{A}M$  above  $\{(\{m\}, \{m'\}) \mid (m, m') \in E\}$ . Then  $\mathcal{A}M/\mathcal{A}E \simeq \mathcal{A}(M/E)$ .

**Proof.** By the Prop.,  $\mathcal{A}$  maps the coequalizer in  $\mathbb{M}$

$$M_1 \times M_2 \supseteq \langle E \rangle \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{\pi_1} \\ \xrightarrow{\pi_2} \end{array} M \xrightarrow{\cdot/E} M/E$$

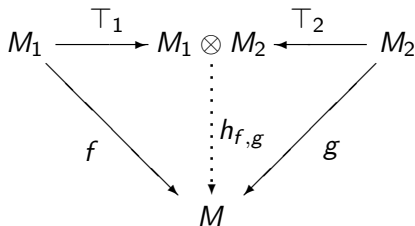
to a coequalizer  $\mathcal{A}(\cdot/E) : \mathcal{A}M \rightarrow \mathcal{A}(M/E)$  of  $\mathcal{A}\pi_1, \mathcal{A}\pi_2$  in  $\mathbb{DA}$ . Show that  $\cdot/\mathcal{A}E : \mathcal{A}M \rightarrow \mathcal{A}M/\mathcal{A}E$  is a coequalizer of  $\mathcal{A}\pi_1, \mathcal{A}\pi_2$ .



# Tensor Product

In  $\mathbb{M}$ , two morphisms  $f : M_1 \rightarrow M \leftarrow M_2 : g$  are **relatively commuting**, if for all  $m_1 \in M_1, m_2 \in M_2$ ,  $f(m_1)g(m_2) = g(m_2)f(m_1)$ .

In a category whose objects have a monoid structure, a **tensor product** of two objects  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  is an object  $M_1 \otimes M_2$  with two relatively commuting morphisms  $\top_1 : M_1 \rightarrow M_1 \otimes M_2 \leftarrow M_2 : \top_2$  such that for any pair  $f : M_1 \rightarrow M \leftarrow M_2 : g$  of relatively commuting morphisms the diagram



can be uniquely completed as shown.

Intuitively,  $M_1 \otimes M_2$  is a free extension of both objects in which elements of one commute with elements of the other.

### Example

In  $\mathbb{M}$ , the tensor product  $\top_1 : M_1 \rightarrow M_1 \otimes M_2 \leftarrow M_2 : \top_2$  consists of  $M_1 \otimes M_2 := M_1 \times M_2$  with  $T_1(m) = (m, 1)$ ,  $T_2(m') = (1, m')$ .

## Theorem

In the category  $\mathbb{D}\mathcal{A}$ , the tensor product of  $\mathcal{A}$ -dioids  $D_1, D_2$  is

$$\top_1 : D_1 \rightarrow D_1 \otimes_{\mathcal{A}} D_2 \leftarrow D_2 : \top_2$$

with  $D_1 \otimes_{\mathcal{A}} D_2 := \mathcal{A}(M_1 \otimes M_2) / \equiv$  and  $\top_k = \pi \circ \eta \circ \hat{\top}_k$ , where

- ▶  $\equiv$  is the least  $\mathcal{A}$ -congruence on  $\mathcal{A}(M_1 \otimes M_2)$  above

$$E := \{ (\{(\sum A, \sum B)\}, A \times B) \mid A \in \mathcal{A}M_1, B \in \mathcal{A}M_2 \},$$

- ▶  $\hat{\top}_1 : M_1 \rightarrow M_1 \otimes M_2 \leftarrow M_2 : \hat{\top}_2$  in  $\mathbb{M}$  of  $M_k = \hat{\mathcal{A}}D_k$
- ▶  $\eta : M_1 \otimes M_2 \rightarrow \mathcal{A}(M_1 \otimes M_2)$  is  $(m_1, m_2) \mapsto \{(m_1, m_2)\}$ ,
- ▶  $\pi$  is the canonical map  $U \mapsto U / \equiv$ .

The induced map of  $f : D_1 \rightarrow D \leftarrow D_2 : g$  is

$$h_{f,g}(U / \equiv) := \sum \{ f(a)g(b) \mid (a, b) \in U \}, \quad U \in \mathcal{A}(M_1 \times M_2).$$

## Proof.

Let  $f : D_1 \rightarrow D \leftarrow D_2 : g$  be relatively commuting  $\mathcal{A}$ -morphisms. The homomorphism  $\hat{h}_{f,g} : M_1 \times M_2 \rightarrow D$  with  $f = \hat{h}_{f,g} \circ \hat{\top}_1$  and  $g = \hat{h}_{f,g} \circ \hat{\top}_2$ , i.e.  $\hat{h}_{f,g}(a, b) = f(a)g(b)$ , extends uniquely to an  $\mathcal{A}$ -morphism  $\hat{h}_{f,g}^* : \mathcal{A}(M_1 \times M_2) \rightarrow D$  with  $\hat{h}_{f,g} = \hat{h}_{f,g}^* \circ \eta$ , by

$$\hat{h}_{f,g}^*(U) = \sum \{ \hat{h}_{f,g}(a, b) \mid (a, b) \in U \}.$$

We have  $E \subseteq \ker(\hat{h}_{f,g}^*)$ , hence  $\equiv \subseteq \ker(\hat{h}_{f,g}^*)$ , so

$$h_{f,g}(U/\equiv) := \hat{h}_{f,g}^*(U), \quad \text{for } U \in \mathcal{A}(M_1 \times M_2),$$

well-defines  $h_{f,g} : D_1 \otimes_{\mathcal{A}} D_2 \rightarrow D$ .

The needed properties of  $h_{f,g}, \top_k$  follow from those of  $\hat{h}_{f,g}, \hat{\top}_k$ .  $\square$

**Prop.**  $\mathcal{A}M_1 \otimes_{\mathcal{A}} \mathcal{A}M_2 \simeq \mathcal{A}(M_1 \otimes M_2)$  for monoids  $M_1, M_2$ .

**Proof** (Sketch) Recall  $M_1 \otimes M_2 = M_1 \times M_2$  and use

$$\begin{aligned} U/\equiv &\mapsto \{(\sum A, \sum B) \mid (A, B) \in U\}, \quad U \in \mathcal{A}(\mathcal{A}M_1 \times \mathcal{A}M_2) \\ V &\mapsto \{(\{a\}, \{b\}) \mid (a, b) \in V\}/\equiv, \quad V \in \mathcal{A}(M_1 \times M_2). \end{aligned}$$

It is known that  $D^{n \times n} \in \mathbb{D}\mathcal{A}$  for  $\mathcal{A} \in \{\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{R}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{P}\}$ .

**Prop.** If  $D^{n \times n} \in \mathbb{D}\mathcal{A}$ , then  $D^{n \times n} \simeq D \otimes_{\mathcal{A}} \mathbb{B}^{n \times n}$ .

Similarly for the coproduct:

**Theorem**

*The coproduct of  $D_1, D_2 \in \mathbb{D}\mathcal{A}$  is  $D_1 \oplus_{\mathcal{A}} D_2 := \mathcal{A}(M_1 \oplus M_2)/\equiv$ .*

**Prop.**  $\mathcal{A}M_1 \oplus_{\mathcal{A}} \mathcal{A}M_2 \simeq \mathcal{A}(M_1 \oplus M_2)$  for monoids  $M_1, M_2$ .

## Return to the question: Is $\mathcal{C}X^*$ a function of $\mathcal{R}X^*$ alone?

The  $\rho$  be the  $\mathcal{R}$ -congruence on  $\mathcal{R}Y^*$  generated by the equations<sup>2</sup>

$$bd = 1, \quad pq = 1, \quad bq = 0, \quad pd = 0$$

Then  $\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{R}Y^*/\rho$  is an  $\mathcal{R}$ -dioid, the **polycyclic**  $\mathcal{R}$ -dioid.

In  $\mathcal{C}$ , every  $w \in Y^* \setminus \{d, q\}^* \{b, p\}^*$  is equivalent to 0 or 1.

Identify  $w \in X^*, z \in Y^*$  with their images  $T_1(\{w\}), T_2(\{z\}/\rho)$  in the tensor product  $T_1 : \mathcal{R}X^* \rightarrow \mathcal{R}X^* \otimes_{\mathcal{R}} \mathcal{C} \leftarrow \mathcal{C} : T_2$ .

### Theorem

$\mathcal{C}X^* \subseteq \mathcal{R}X^* \otimes_{\mathcal{R}} \mathcal{C}$ , in the sense that for each  $L \in \mathcal{C}X^*$ ,

$$\sum L = \sum \{T_1(\{w\}) \mid w \in L\} \in \mathcal{R}X^* \otimes_{\mathcal{R}} \mathcal{C}.$$

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<sup>2</sup>as usual,  $w \in Y^*$  stands for  $\{w\} \in \mathcal{R}Y^*$ , 0 for  $\emptyset$

## Corollary

Every context-free language  $L \subseteq X^*$  is denoted by a regular expression over  $X \cup Y$  in  $K := \mathcal{R}X^* \otimes_{\mathcal{R}} C$ .

## Example

For  $L = \{u^n v^n \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\} \in \mathcal{C}X^*$ ,  $\sum L = b(up)^*(qv)^*d \in K$ :

Since  $K$  is  $*$ -continuous and  $x \in X$  commutes with  $y \in Y$  in  $K$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} K \ni b(up)^*(qv)^*d &= b\left(\sum_n (up)^n\right)\left(\sum_m (qv)^m\right)d \\ &= \sum_{n,m} u^n v^m b p^n q^m d \\ &= \sum_n u^n v^n = \sum L. \end{aligned}$$

This has implications for recognition/parsing/transduction!

Adding  $db + qp \leq 1$  to  $\rho$  in  $C = \mathcal{R}Y^*/\rho$ , one can show:

### Theorem (Hopkins, in preparation)

- ▶ For any monoid  $M$ ,

$$CM = \{ r \in \mathcal{R}M \otimes_{\mathcal{R}} C \mid r \text{ commutes with each } c \in C \}.$$

- ▶ There is an adjunction  $Q : \mathbb{D}\mathcal{R} \rightleftarrows \mathbb{D}C : \widehat{Q}$  such that

$$QD = \{ r \in D \otimes_{\mathcal{R}} C \mid r \text{ commutes with each } c \in C \}$$

is the “fixed-point closure” of the  $*$ -continuous Kleene algebra.



## Conclusion

We have provided some universal-algebraic infrastructure for classes of idempotent semirings  $D$  with subset families  $\mathcal{A}D$  where

- ▶  $\leq$  is  $\mathcal{A}$ -complete: each  $A \in \mathcal{A}D$  has a supremum  $\sum A \in D$ ,
- ▶  $\cdot$  is  $\mathcal{A}$ -distributive:  $\sum(AB) = (\sum A)(\sum B)$  for all  $A, B \in \mathcal{A}D$ .

## Open questions

1. Do the results follow from known results in category theory?
2. Axiomatizations for  $\mathbb{D}\mathcal{S}$  and  $\mathbb{D}\mathcal{T}$ ?  $\mathcal{T}X^* \subseteq \mathcal{R}X^* \otimes_{\mathcal{R}} C \otimes_{\mathcal{R}} C$ ?
3. Our  $\mathcal{A} : \mathbb{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{D}$  use  $A_1 : \mathcal{F} \leq \mathcal{A}$  and involve semirings. A  $T$ -algebra construction as for  $\mathbb{D}\mathcal{A} \simeq \mathbb{M}^T$  only needs  $A_1^- : \mathcal{I} \leq \mathcal{A}$  for  $\mathcal{I}M := \{ \{m\} \mid m \in M \}$  and also works if  $\mathbb{D}$  is replaced by  $\mathbb{M}^{\leq}$ , the partially ordered monoids.  
Which of the results hold for the subcategories  $\mathbb{M}^{\leq}\mathcal{A}$  of  $\mathbb{M}^{\leq}$ ?
4. For  $\mathcal{A}$ -dioids  $D$ , is  $D^{n \times n}$  an  $\mathcal{A}$ -dioid?