



Mathematical Sciences Research Institute

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## NOTETAKER CHECKLIST FORM

(Complete one for each talk.)

Name: Leanne Merrill Email/Phone: leannem@uoregon.edu / 518 461 7614

Speaker's Name: William Dwyer

Talk Title: Introduction to operads

Date: 1/27/14 Time: 9:30 am / pm (circle one)

List 6-12 key words for the talk: little n-disk operad

Lie operad, Koszul duality, Étale homotopy group, Grothendieck-Teichmüller group,

Galois theory

Please summarize the lecture in 5 or fewer sentences: The talk presented two equivalent definitions of operads. There were four main examples of operads given. Then the talk explored uses of operads in homotopy theory and manifold theory. Finally we used operads in algebra and Galois theory, and stated two conjectures in these areas.

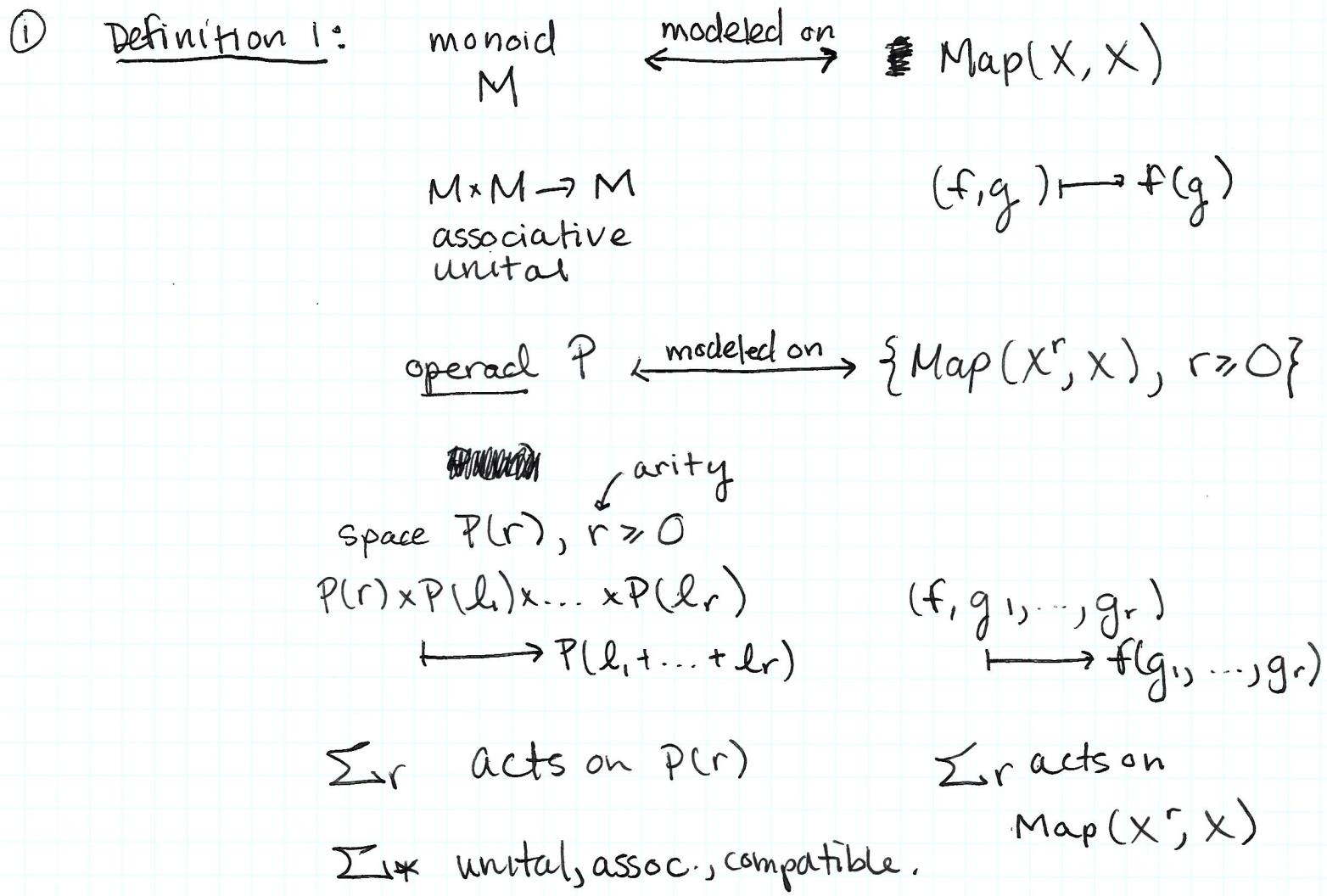
## CHECK LIST

(This is NOT optional, we will not pay for incomplete forms)

- Introduce yourself to the speaker prior to the talk. Tell them that you will be the note taker, and that you will need to make copies of their notes and materials, if any.
- Obtain ALL presentation materials from speaker. This can be done before the talk is to begin or after the talk; please make arrangements with the speaker as to when you can do this. You may scan and send materials as a .pdf to yourself using the scanner on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor.
  - Computer Presentations: Obtain a copy of their presentation
  - Overhead: Obtain a copy or use the originals and scan them
  - Blackboard: Take blackboard notes in black or blue PEN. We will NOT accept notes in pencil or in colored ink other than black or blue.
  - Handouts: Obtain copies of and scan all handouts
- For each talk, all materials must be saved in a single .pdf and named according to the naming convention on the "Materials Received" check list. To do this, compile all materials for a specific talk into one stack with this completed sheet on top and insert face up into the tray on the top of the scanner. Proceed to scan and email the file to yourself. Do this for the materials from each talk.
- When you have emailed all files to yourself, please save and re-name each file according to the naming convention listed below the talk title on the "Materials Received" check list.  
(YYYY.MM.DD.TIME.SpeakerLastName)
- Email the re-named files to notes@msri.org with the workshop name and your name in the subject line.

- Operads
- Tools for describing algebraic structures
  - Mathematical objects in their own right

- Outline:
- ① Operads and their actions on things
  - ② A particular family of four operads
  - ③ Where operads show up:
    - Homotopy theory
    - Manifold theory
    - Algebra
  - ④ Mash-up.



A P-action on  $X$  ( $P$ -alg) ②

operad map  $P \longrightarrow \{ \text{Map}(X^r, X), r \geq 0 \}$

$$\coprod_{r \geq 0} P(r) \times_{\Sigma_r} X^r \longrightarrow X \quad (+\text{associative, unital}).$$

Definition 2: A symmetric sequence is

$\{ S(r), r \geq 0, \Sigma_r \text{ action on } S(r) \}$

There is a monoidal structure on symm. seq.:

$$(S \circ T)(r) = \left( \coprod_{\substack{k, i_1, \dots, i_k \\ i_1 + \dots + i_k = r}} S(k) \times T(i_1) \times \dots \times T(i_k) \right)$$

$\sum$ -stuff

Think of  $\coprod_{r \geq 0} P(r) \times_{\Sigma_r} X^r$  as

$$\frac{\sum_P P r!}{r!} \quad (\text{like a Taylor series}).$$

So we define:

An operad  $P$  is a monoid for  $\circ$  which is  
 $P \circ P \rightarrow P$ , associative, unital.

An action of  $P$  on a symm. seq.  $S$ :

left module  $P \circ S \rightarrow S$

right module  $S \circ P \rightarrow S$

algebra  $X$   $P \circ X_{\langle 0 \rangle} \rightarrow X_{\langle 0 \rangle}$ .

② Family of four :

③

Name

- commutative operad  $\mathcal{C}$
- associative operad  $\mathcal{A}$
- Little  $n$ -disk operad  $\mathcal{D}_n$

Ingredients

$$\mathcal{C}(r) = * \quad \forall r.$$

$$\mathcal{A}(r) = \Sigma_r \quad \forall r.$$

$$\mathcal{D}_n(r) = \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram of } n \text{-disk structure} \\ \text{with } r \text{ small disks inside} \end{array} \right\}$$

operad structure: inside each small disk there are smaller disks; composition is just viewing these as small disks inside the larger disk.

- Lie operad (in spectra)  $\mathcal{L}$

$$\mathcal{L}(r) \simeq \bigvee_{(r-1)!} S^{1-r}$$

All of these are tied to each other in duality and in tensor product.

Koszul duality

$$P \longleftrightarrow P^\vee$$

$P$  acts on

Things

$P^\vee$  acts on

cochains on  
things

$$A \longleftrightarrow A$$

$$\mathcal{D}_n \longleftrightarrow \mathcal{D}_n$$

$$\mathcal{C} \longleftrightarrow \mathcal{L}$$

### B-V Tensor Product $P \boxtimes Q$

(4)

$P \boxtimes Q =$  a  $P$ -algebra in  $Q$ -algebras or  
a  $Q$ -algebra in  $P$ -algebras

Two algebra ~~is~~ structures that "commute"  
with each other in some sense.

$$D_n \simeq D_1 \boxtimes^h D_1 \boxtimes^h \dots \boxtimes^h D_1 .$$

$\boxtimes^h$ -homotopy  
derived.  
tensor  
product.

$$A \sim \prod_0 D_1$$

$$e \sim \operatorname{colim} D_n = D_\infty .$$

Let's try to turn these operads into power series:

$$C \longleftrightarrow \coprod * x \sum_n X^n \longleftrightarrow \sum \frac{x^n}{n!}$$

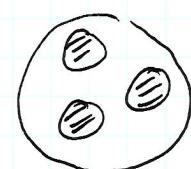
$$\mathcal{D} \longleftrightarrow \coprod \frac{\vee S^{1-n}}{(n-1)!} \wedge \sum_n \blacksquare X^{1_n} \longleftrightarrow \sum \frac{(-1)^{1-n} x^n}{n}$$

from the Euler characteristic

③ Where they come up:

3a. Homotopy theory:

point in  $D_n(r) =$



gives  $\xrightarrow{m} \left( \frac{\text{Big disk}}{\partial} \rightarrow \frac{\text{Big disk}}{\text{complement of small disks}} \right)$

$$= \left( S^n \rightarrow \bigvee_r S^n \right).$$

X a pointed space:

$X \wedge S^n \longrightarrow \bigvee_r (X \wedge S^n)$  shows  $X \wedge S^n$  is  
an algebra over  $D(n)$  in  $\operatorname{Top}^\text{op}$ .

X a pointed space:

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$\Omega^n X \times \dots \times \Omega^n X \rightarrow \Omega^n X$  shows  $\Omega^n X$  is an algebra over  $D(n)$ .

Theorem : (Hopkins) .  $n$ -fold suspensions  $\xleftarrow{\sim}$  algebras over  $D(n)$  in  $\text{Top}^{\text{op}}$  .

Theorem : (May, B-V) :  $n$ -fold loop space  $\xleftarrow{\sim}$  algebras over  $D(n)$  .

3b. Manifold Theory: (Stick to parallelized manifolds)

Suppose  $N$  is a <sup>framed</sup> manifold,  $n$  a fixed integer.  $n \geq 0$ .

Define  $N^\Delta(r) = \{ \coprod_r D^n \hookrightarrow N \}$ , tangentially straightened.

$N^\Delta$  is a right module over  $D_n$ .  $\blacksquare$

Theorem (Weiss, Weiss - Boavida de Brito) :

If  $n = \dim N$ , and  $\dim M > n+2$ , then

$$\text{Emb}^{\text{ts}}(N, M) \simeq \text{Map}_{R+D_n \text{ mod}}^h(N^\Delta, M^\Delta) .$$

( $\text{ts} = \text{tangentially straightened}$ )

This theorem has computational power!

Theorem (Dwyer - Hess).

$$\left( \begin{array}{l} \text{Space of long knots} \\ \text{in } \mathbb{R}^n, n \geq 3 \end{array} \right) \simeq \Omega^2 \text{Map}_{\text{operad}}^h(D_1, D_n) \\ \uparrow \text{double loop space.}$$

$$\left( \begin{array}{l} \text{Vassiliev approximation} \\ \text{to long knots in } \mathbb{R}^3 \end{array} \right) \simeq \Omega^2 \text{Map}_{\text{op}}^h(D_1, D_3)$$

~~skip~~

## 3c. Algebra.

$$F_2 \simeq \pi_1(\mathbb{C} \setminus \{0, 1\})$$

$\mathbb{A}^1 \setminus \{0, 1\}$  defined over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

so  $\text{Gal}(\bar{\mathbb{Q}}/\mathbb{Q})$  acts on  $\pi_1^{\text{et}}(\mathbb{A}_{\mathbb{C}}^1 \setminus \{0, 1\}) \simeq \pi_1(\mathbb{C} \setminus \{0, 1\}) \simeq F_2^\wedge$

$\wedge$  - profinitely completed  
 $\wedge$  - étale homotopy gp

Grothendieck:

$$\text{Gal}(\bar{\mathbb{Q}}/\mathbb{Q}) \hookrightarrow \text{GT}^\wedge \xrightarrow{\text{equations}} \text{Aut}(F_2^\wedge)$$

Drinfeld:

$$\text{GT}_{\mathbb{Q}} \xrightarrow{\text{same equations}} \text{Aut}(F_2, \mathbb{Q})$$

Fresse:

$$\text{GT}_{\mathbb{Q}} \xrightarrow{\cong} \pi_0 \text{Aut}^h(D_{2, \mathbb{Q}})$$

where GT is the Grothendieck-Teichmüller group.

Question:  $\text{GT}^\wedge \xrightarrow{\cong} \pi_0 \text{Aut}^h(D_2^\wedge) ?$

Question: (Dwyer-Hess)  $\text{Top}(n) \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{Aut}^h(D_n) ?$

↑  
group of automorphisms  
of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

evidence for second conjecture:  $\text{Diff}(D^n, \partial) \simeq \Omega^n \text{Top}(n) / O(n)$ .

(4)

(7)

