

(IN) FINITE BASES

Def. Equational base for a variety  $\mathcal{V} =$  a set  $E$  of identities such that  $\mathcal{V} = \text{Mod}(E)$

Recall:  $\forall$  variety has an equational base

Def.  $\mathcal{V}$  is finitely based, if it has a finite eq. base  
( $\Leftrightarrow \exists$  finite  $E$  such that  $\mathcal{V} \models s \approx t$  iff  $E \vdash s \approx t$ )

$A$  is finitely based, if  $\text{HSP}(A)$  is

( $\Leftrightarrow \exists$  finite  $E$  such that  $A \models s \approx t$  iff  $E \vdash s \approx t$ )

Remark: in Mod-Id finitely based varieties  $\leftrightarrow$  compact equational theories

Examples

- the variety of all groups
  - ——— all rings
  - ——— all lattices
  - ——— all vector spaces over  $\mathbb{R}$  -- not finitely based
- BUT:  $\infty$ -many operation symbols ... cheating

Assume: signature is finite!

**Proposition**

$\mathcal{V}$  finitely based  $\iff \mathcal{V}$  can be finitely axiomatized using 1st order logic (1 sentence enough)

Proof:  $\implies$  triv.

- $\impliedby$
- $\mathcal{E}$  some equational base for  $\mathcal{V}$
  - $\varphi$  sentence axiomatizing  $\mathcal{V}$   
(ie.  $\underline{A} \in \mathcal{V} \iff \underline{A} \models \varphi$ )

•  $\mathcal{E} \models \mathcal{V} \implies \mathcal{E} \vdash \varphi$

$\exists$  formal proof of  $\varphi$  from  $\mathcal{E}$   
(more general  $\vdash$  than previously)

completeness thm.  
for 1st order logic

$\implies \exists$  finite  $\mathcal{F} \subseteq \mathcal{E}$  such that  $\mathcal{F} \vdash \varphi$

•  $\mathcal{V} = \text{Mod}(\varphi) = \text{Mod}(\mathcal{F})$

$\supseteq \text{Mod}(\mathcal{F}) \supseteq \text{Mod}(\mathcal{E}) = \mathcal{V}$   
 $\uparrow$   
 $\mathcal{F} \subseteq \mathcal{E}$

$\subseteq$  since  $\mathcal{F} \vdash \varphi$

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5.3

Main focus: finite algebras

History

7-element example

• not every finite algebra is finitely based [Lyndon '54]

• 6-element semigroup [Perkins '69]

$(\{ \begin{pmatrix} 00 \\ 00 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 10 \\ 00 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 01 \\ 00 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 00 \\ 10 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 00 \\ 01 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 10 \\ 01 \end{pmatrix} \}; \cdot)$  matrix mul.

• 3-element grupoid [Murski '65]

•	0	1	2
0	0	0	0
1	0	0	1
2	0	2	2

• some finitely based algebras

•  $\forall$  2-element algebra [Lyndon '51]

•  $\forall$  finite group [Oates & Powell '65]

Ex:  $HSP(S_3) = \text{Mod}(\text{group axioms}, x^6 \approx 1, (x^{-1}y^{-1}xy)^3 = 1, x^2y^2 \approx y^2x^2)$

how to show - syntactically (scary)

- using SI's (not easy either)

but not  $\forall$  pointed group [Bryant]

•  $\forall$  finite ring [Kreuzer, L'vov '73]

•  $\forall$  finite commutative semigroup [Perkins '69]

•  $\forall$  finite lattice [McKenzie '70]

Which finite algebras are finitely based?

Theorem [McKenzie '96]

The problem

INPUT: finite A  
OUTPUT: is it finitely based?

is undecidable

"Tarski's finite basis problem"

"Park's conjecture" [76] A finite, and  $\{\underline{B} \in \text{HSP}(\underline{A}); \underline{B} \text{ SI}\}$  is finite set of finite algebras. Then A is finitely based

True if  $\text{HSP}(\underline{A})$  is CD [Baker '72]

CM [McKenzie '87]

"meet semidistributive" SD( $\wedge$ ) [Willard '00]

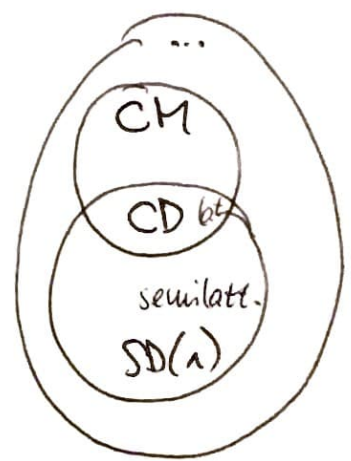
... [Willard, Kearnes, Szendrei '13]

87 EUR for counterexample!

①  $\underline{A} = (A; f_1, \dots, f_k), g \in \text{Clo}(\underline{A})$ . Then A fin. based  $\Leftrightarrow (A; f_1, \dots, f_k, g)$  fin. based

②  $\text{Clo}(\underline{A}) = \text{Clo}(\underline{B})$ . Then A fin. based  $\Leftrightarrow \underline{B}$  fin. based

clone property!



**Theorem** [Birkhoff '35] A finite  $\mathcal{A}$

- (1) A is finitely based
- (2)  $\exists n$  A has a base consisting of identities over  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$

(1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2) trivial

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (1) show that there is a "finite base of identities over  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ " for each finite A

i.e. finite  $\mathcal{E}$  over  $\mathcal{A}$  such that  $s \approx t$  (over  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ )  $\Rightarrow \mathcal{E} \vdash s \approx t$

- $C := F_{\underline{A}}(\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}) = F(\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}) / \mathcal{A}$
- $C$  finite ( $C \cong \text{con } \underline{A}$ )  $(x_i / \mathcal{A})^* = x_i$
- for each  $c \in C$  take  $c^* \in C / \mathcal{A}$  so that  $\frac{c^*}{\mathcal{A}} = x_i$
- $\mathcal{E} := \left\{ f(c_1^*, \dots, c_k^*) \approx [f(c_1, \dots, c_k)]^* ; \right.$   
 $\left. f \in \Sigma, \text{ar}(f) = k, c_1^*, \dots, c_k^* \in C \right\}$
- by induction of height show  $\mathcal{E} \vdash s \approx (s / \mathcal{A})^*$
- $s \approx t \Rightarrow s / \mathcal{A} = t / \mathcal{A} \Rightarrow \mathcal{E} \vdash s \approx (s / \mathcal{A})^* = (t / \mathcal{A})^* \approx t$

Ex.  $\underline{A} = (\{0, 1\}, \wedge)$ ,  $n=2$ ,  $F_{\underline{A}}(\{x, y\}) = \{ \frac{x}{\mathcal{A}}, \frac{y}{\mathcal{A}}, \frac{x \wedge y}{\mathcal{A}} \}$

$\mathcal{E}$ :

$x \wedge x \approx x$	$y \wedge x \approx x \wedge y$	$(x \wedge y) \wedge x \approx x \wedge y$
$x \wedge y \approx x \wedge y$	$y \wedge y \approx y$	$(x \wedge y) \wedge y \approx x \wedge y$
$x \wedge (x \wedge y) \approx x \wedge y$	$y \wedge (x \wedge y) \approx x \wedge y$	$(x \wedge y) \wedge (x \wedge y) \approx x \wedge y$

the stars

(it is not a base for  $\text{MSP}(\underline{A})$ )  
 need  $n=3$

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5.6

A non-finitely based algebra [Park '80]

$$\underline{A} = (\{0, 1, 2, \perp\}, \circ)$$

$\circ$	0	1	2	$\perp$
0	0	1	$\perp$	$\perp$
1	1	1	2	$\perp$
2	$\perp$	2	2	$\perp$
$\perp$	$\perp$	$\perp$	$\perp$	$\perp$

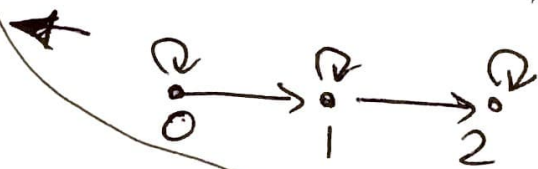
more general construction of an algebra

ID-digraph

$$\underline{A} = (D \cup \{\perp\}, \circ)$$

$$u \cdot v = v \cdot u = v \text{ if } u \rightarrow v$$

$$u \cdot v = \perp \text{ if } u \not\rightarrow v \text{ and } v \not\rightarrow u$$



- commutative, idempotent, not associative

$$x_1 x_2 \dots x_n := \dots (((x_1 x_2) x_3) \dots) x_n$$

- for  $\hookrightarrow$  assume  $\mathcal{E}$  finite base

- say all identities over  $\{x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}\}$

$$s := x_1 x_2 \dots x_n x_1 x_2 \dots x_n$$

$$t := x_2 x_3 \dots x_n x_1 x_2 \dots x_n x_1$$

- will show  $\underline{A} \models s \approx t$

but  $\mathcal{E} \not\models s \approx t$

}  $\hookrightarrow$

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5.7

$$A: \mathbb{Q} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$$

$$s = x_1 x_2 \dots x_n x_1 x_2 \dots x_n$$

$$t = x_2 x_3 \dots x_n x_1 x_2 \dots x_n x_1$$

$$A \models s \approx t$$

• Pick  $a_1, \dots, a_n \in A$

•  $s^A(a_1, \dots, a_n) \stackrel{?}{=} t^A(a_1, \dots, a_n)$

•  $\exists i \ a_i = \perp \quad \checkmark$  (both LHS=RHS= $\perp$ )

•  $\{0, 2\} \subseteq \{a_1, \dots, a_n\} \quad \checkmark$

$$\text{LHS} = \text{RHS} = \perp$$

•  $\{a_1, \dots, a_n\} \subseteq \{0, 1\} \quad \checkmark$

since  $(\{0, 1\}, \cdot, \wedge)$  2-element semilattice  
(commutative, associative)

•  $\{a_1, \dots, a_n\} \subseteq \{1, 2\} \quad \checkmark$

$$(\{1, 2\}, \cdot, \wedge) \quad \text{---||---}$$

5.8

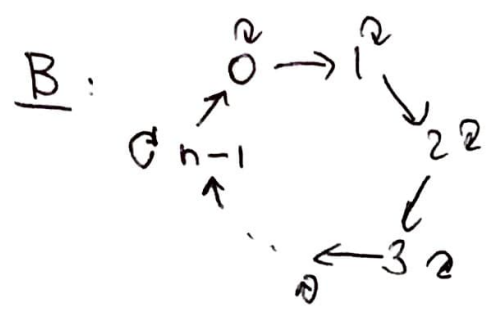
A:  $\mathbb{Q} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$

$S = x_1 x_2 \dots x_n x_1 x_2 \dots x_n$   
 $t = x_2 x_3 \dots x_n x_1 \dots x_n x_1$

$\mathcal{E} \subseteq \{ \text{identities over } \{x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}\} \text{ satisfied by } \underline{A} \}$

$\mathcal{E} \neq s \approx t$

Find B such that (a)  $\underline{B} \models \mathcal{E}$   
 (b)  $\underline{B} \not\models s \approx t$



$s^{\underline{B}}(0, 1, \dots, n-1) = n-1$   
 $t^{\underline{B}}(0, 1, \dots, n-1) = 0$  } (b) ✓

- (a) for  $\downarrow$  assume
- $p \approx q$  in  $\mathcal{E}$
  - $p^{\underline{B}}(b_1, \dots, b_{n-1}) \neq q^{\underline{B}}(b_1, \dots, b_{n-1})$
  - some element of  $\{0, 1, \dots, n-1\}$  not among the  $b_i$
  - symmetry  $\rightarrow$  WLOG assume  $0 \notin \{b_1, \dots, b_{n-1}\}$
  - $\underline{C} := \underline{B} \setminus \{0\} \leq \underline{B}$       $\underline{C}: \mathbb{Q} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$
  - $\underline{C} \not\models p \approx q$  (because  $p^{\underline{C}}(b_1, \dots, b_{n-1}) \neq q^{\underline{C}}(b_1, \dots, b_{n-1})$ )
  - But  $\underline{C} \in \text{HSP}(\underline{A}) \rightarrow \downarrow$

•  $D \in \mathcal{S}(A^{n-3})$       $D = \begin{matrix} (0, \dots, 0, 0) & \xrightarrow{\theta} & 1 \\ (0, \dots, 0, 1) & \xrightarrow{\theta} & 2 \\ (0, \dots, 0, 1, 2) & & \vdots \\ (0, \dots, 0, 1, 2, 2) & & \vdots \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ (2, 2, \dots, 2) & \xrightarrow{\theta} & n-1 \\ \text{containing } \perp \} & \xrightarrow{\theta} & \perp \end{matrix}$

•  $\theta: \underline{D} \rightarrow \underline{C}$