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## Morita equivalence of many-sorted algebraic theories

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### Abstract

Algebraic theories are called Morita equivalent provided that the corresponding varieties of algebras are equivalent. Generalizing Dukarm's result from one-sorted theories to many-sorted ones, we prove that all theories Morita equivalent to an  $S$ -sorted theory  $\mathcal{T}$  are obtained as idempotent modifications of  $\mathcal{T}$ . This is analogous to the classical result of Morita that all rings Morita equivalent to a ring  $R$  are obtained as idempotent modifications of matrix rings of  $R$ .

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**1. Introduction**

The classical results of Kiiti Morita characterizing equivalence of categories of modules, see [12], have been generalized to one-sorted algebraic theories in several articles. The aim of the present paper is to generalize one of the basic characterizations to many-sorted theories, and to illustrate the result on concrete examples.

Let us first recall the classical results concerning

***R-Mod***

the category of left *R*-modules for a given ring *R*. Two rings *R* and *Q* are called *Morita equivalent* if the corresponding categories ***R-Mod*** and ***Q-Mod*** are equivalent. (For distinction we speak about *categorical equivalence* whenever the equivalences of categories in the usual sense is discussed.) For Lawvere’s algebraic theories  $\mathcal{T}$  [9], i.e., small categories having finite products, we have the analogous concept w.r.t. the categories *Alg*  $\mathcal{T}$  of  $\mathcal{T}$ -algebras (i.e., set functors preserving finite products): we call two theories *Morita equivalent* if their categories of algebras are categorically equivalent. For categories of modules K. Morita provided two types of characterizations:

*Type 1:* Rings *R* and *Q* are Morita equivalent iff there exist an *R-Q*-bimodule *M* and an *Q-R*-bimodule *M'* such that

$$M \otimes M' \cong Q \quad \text{and} \quad M' \otimes M \cong R.$$

This result was fully generalized by F. Borceux and E. Vitale [4] to Lawvere’s algebraic theories as follows: given algebraic theories  $\mathcal{T}$  and  $\mathcal{T}'$ , by a  $\mathcal{T}$ - $\mathcal{T}'$ -bimodel *M* is meant a model of  $\mathcal{T}$  in the category of  $\mathcal{T}'$ -algebras. Two algebraic theories  $\mathcal{T}$  and  $\mathcal{T}'$  are Morita equivalent iff there exist a  $\mathcal{T}$ - $\mathcal{T}'$ -bimodel *M* and a  $\mathcal{T}'$ - $\mathcal{T}$ -bimodel *M'* such that

$$M \otimes M' \cong \mathcal{T}' \quad \text{and} \quad M' \otimes M \cong \mathcal{T},$$

where  $\cong$  means natural isomorphism and  $\otimes$  is the tensor product corresponding to  $\text{Hom}(M, -)$  and  $\text{Hom}(M', -)$ , respectively.

*Type 2:* Two constructions on a ring *R* are specified yielding a Morita equivalent ring. Then it is proved that every Morita equivalent ring can be obtained from *R* by applying successively the two constructions.

- (a) *Matrix ring*  $R^{[n]}$ . This is the ring of all  $n \times n$  matrices over *R* with the usual addition, multiplication, and unit matrix. This ring  $R^{[n]}$  is always Morita equivalent to *R*.
- (b) *Idempotent modification*  $uRu$ . Let *u* be an idempotent element of *R*,  $uu = u$ , and let  $uRu$  be the ring of all elements of the form  $uxu$  (i.e., all elements  $x \in R$  with  $x = uxu$ ). The addition and multiplication of  $uRu$  is that of *R*, and *u* is the multiplicative unit. This ring  $uRu$  is Morita equivalent to *R* whenever *u* is pseudoinvertible, i.e.,  $eum = 1$  for some elements *e* and *m* of *R*.

K. Morita proved that two rings *R* and *Q* are Morita equivalent iff *Q* is isomorphic to the ring  $uR^{[n]}u$  for some pseudoinvertible  $n \times n$  matrix *u* over *R*.

This result was generalized to one-sorted algebraic theories  $\mathcal{T}$  (i.e., categories having as objects natural numbers, and such that every object  $n$  is a product of  $n$  copies of 1) by J.J. Dukarm [6] who again introduced two constructions yielding from a given one-sorted theory a Morita equivalent theory:

- (a) *Matrix theory*  $\mathcal{T}^{[n]}$ . This is the full subcategory of  $\mathcal{T}$  on all objects  $kn$  ( $k \in \mathbb{N}$ ).
- (b) *Idempotent modification*  $u\mathcal{T}u$ . Given an idempotent morphism  $u : 1 \rightarrow 1$ , i.e.,  $u \cdot u = u$ , we denote by

$$u^k = u \times u \times \cdots \times u : k \rightarrow k$$

the corresponding idempotents of  $\mathcal{T}$ , and we call  $u$  *pseudoinvertible* if there is  $k \geq 1$  such that

$$eu^k m = \text{id}$$

for some morphisms  $1 \xrightarrow{m} k \xrightarrow{e} 1$  of  $\mathcal{T}$ .

We denote, for every pseudoinvertible idempotent  $u$ , by  $u\mathcal{T}u$  the theory of all those morphisms  $f : p \rightarrow q$  of  $\mathcal{T}$  which fulfill  $f = u^q f u^p$ . The composition is as in  $\mathcal{T}$ , and the identity morphisms are  $u^n$ .

J.J. Dukarm proved, again, that whenever  $\mathcal{T}$  and  $\mathcal{T}'$  are one-sorted algebraic theories, then they are Morita equivalent iff  $\mathcal{T}'$  is categorically equivalent to the theory  $u\mathcal{T}^{[n]}u$  for some  $n$  and some pseudoinvertible idempotent  $u$  of  $\mathcal{T}^{[n]}$ .

Before turning to many-sorted algebraic theories, let us recall a classical result concerning small categories  $\mathcal{T}$  and  $\mathcal{T}'$  in general, first formulated by M. Bunge [5]: the functor categories  $\mathbf{Set}^{\mathcal{T}}$  and  $\mathbf{Set}^{\mathcal{T}'}$  are categorically equivalent iff the two categories  $\mathcal{T}$  and  $\mathcal{T}'$  have the same idempotent completion (see Remark 2.2 below). Consequently, algebraic theories are Morita equivalent iff they have the same idempotent completion. However for one-sorted algebraic theories Dukarm’s result is much “sharper” than this general observation. This was nicely demonstrated by R. McKenzie [11] and H.-E. Porst [13] who provided a concrete description of algebras both of matrix theories and idempotent modifications of theories.

The aim of the present paper is to generalize Dukarm’s characterization of Morita equivalence to many-sorted theories. By an *S-sorted algebraic theory* we mean one of the following equivalent concepts:

- (a) a category with finite products and chosen objects  $A_s, s \in S$ , such that every object is a finite product  $A_{s_1} \times \cdots \times A_{s_n}$  ( $s_i \in S$ ),

or

- (b) a category whose objects form the set  $S^*$  of all finite words on  $S$ , and such that every object  $s_1 \cdots s_n$  is a product of  $s_1, \dots, s_n$ .

We introduce a concept of idempotent modification of a many-sorted algebraic theory which generalizes the above matrix theory and idempotent modifications (in one step). And we prove that for every  $S$ -sorted theory  $\mathcal{T}$  all Morita equivalent theories are precisely the idempotent modifications of  $\mathcal{T}$ .

The result is illustrated by examples of algebraic theories of sets,  $M$ -sets for monoids  $M$ , and  $R$ -modules. For example, **Set** has the obvious list of all one-sorted algebraic theories: just the matrix theories  $\mathcal{T}^{[n]}$  of the category  $\mathcal{T}$  dual to the one of finite sets. The list of all many-sorted theories (i.e., all  $S$ -sorted idempotent modifications of  $\mathcal{T}$ ) is more colorful. We present it at the end of the paper.

**2. Morita equivalence of algebraic theories**

**Notation 2.1.** For an algebraic theory  $\mathcal{T}$ , i.e., a small category with finite products, we denote by

$$\text{Alg } \mathcal{T}$$

the category of algebras, i.e., the full subcategory of  $\mathbf{Set}^{\mathcal{T}}$  formed by all functors preserving finite products. For  $S$ -sorted algebraic theories  $\mathcal{T}$  these categories are (up to categorical equivalence) precisely the  $S$ -sorted varieties of algebras, see, e.g., [10].

Two algebraic theories  $\mathcal{T}$  and  $\mathcal{T}'$  are called *Morita equivalent* provided that the categories  $\text{Alg } \mathcal{T}$  and  $\text{Alg } \mathcal{T}'$  are categorically equivalent.

**Remark 2.2.** (a) We call a category *idempotent-complete* provided that every idempotent morphism in it splits (i.e., has the form  $u = i \cdot e$  where  $e \cdot i = \text{id}$ ). Recall that every category  $\mathcal{K}$  has an *idempotent completion*  $\mathcal{L}$  (called Cauchy completion in [3]), i.e.,  $\mathcal{L}$  is an idempotent-complete category containing  $\mathcal{K}$  as a full subcategory such that every object of  $\mathcal{L}$  is obtained as a splitting of an idempotent of  $\mathcal{K}$ .

(b) Recall from [1] the concept of a *sifted colimit*. For the proof below all the reader has to know about sifted colimits is the following:

- (i) If a category  $\mathcal{D}$  has finite coproducts then every diagram with domain  $\mathcal{D}$  is sifted.
- (ii) A *strongly finitely presentable* object is an object whose hom-functor preserves sifted colimits. In categories  $\text{Alg } \mathcal{T}$  of algebras, strongly finitely presentable objects are precisely the retracts of the “free algebras”

$$YB : \mathcal{T} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set} \quad \text{for } B \in \mathcal{T},$$

where  $Y : \mathcal{T}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{Alg } \mathcal{T}$  is the Yoneda embedding and  $B$  an arbitrary object of  $\mathcal{T}$ .

**Definition 2.3.** A collection of idempotent morphisms

$$u_s : B_s \rightarrow B_s \quad (s \in S)$$

of an algebraic theory  $\mathcal{T}$  is called *pseudoinvertible* provided that for every object  $T \in \mathcal{T}$  there exist morphisms

$$T \xrightarrow{m} B_{s_1} \times \cdots \times B_{s_n} \xrightarrow{\ell} T \quad (s_1 \cdots s_n \in S^*)$$

such that the square

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 B_{s_1} \times \cdots \times B_{s_n} & \xrightarrow{u_{s_1} \times \cdots \times u_{s_n}} & B_{s_1} \times \cdots \times B_{s_n} \\
 \uparrow m & & \downarrow e \\
 T & \xlongequal{\quad\quad\quad} & T
 \end{array}$$

commutes.

**Remark 2.4.** Given an  $R$ -sorted theory  $\mathcal{T}$ , with chosen objects  $T_r, r \in R$ , for a verification of the pseudoinvertibility of a collection  $u = (u_s)_{s \in S}$  of idempotents it is sufficient to find  $m$  and  $e$  above for all the chosen objects  $T = T_r, r \in R$ . In particular, in case of one-sorted theories Definition 2.3 coincides with the pseudoinvertibility in the introduction.

**Definition 2.5.** By an  $S$ -sorted idempotent modification of an algebraic theory  $\mathcal{T}$  is meant the following  $S$ -sorted theory  $u\mathcal{T}u$ , where  $u = (u_s)_{s \in S}$  is a pseudoinvertible collection of idempotents  $u_s : B_s \rightarrow B_s$  of  $\mathcal{T}$ . Objects of  $u\mathcal{T}u$  form the set  $S^*$  (see the introduction). The morphisms from  $s_1 \cdots s_n$  to  $t_1 \cdots t_k$  are precisely those morphisms  $f : B_{s_1} \times \cdots \times B_{s_n} \rightarrow B_{t_1} \times \cdots \times B_{t_k}$  of  $\mathcal{T}$  for which the following square

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 B_{s_1} \times \cdots \times B_{s_n} & \xrightarrow{f} & B_{t_1} \times \cdots \times B_{t_k} \\
 \downarrow u_{s_1} \times \cdots \times u_{s_n} & & \uparrow u_{t_1} \times \cdots \times u_{t_k} \\
 B_{s_1} \times \cdots \times B_{s_n} & \xrightarrow{f} & B_{t_1} \times \cdots \times B_{t_k}
 \end{array} \tag{2.1}$$

commutes. The composition in  $u\mathcal{T}u$  is that of  $\mathcal{T}$ , and the identity morphism of  $s_1 \cdots s_n$  is  $u_{s_1} \times \cdots \times u_{s_n}$ .

**Remark 2.6.** (1) If  $\mathcal{T}$  is a one-sorted theory, and  $S = \{s\}$  has just one element, i.e., a single idempotent  $u : n \rightarrow n$  is given, then  $u\mathcal{T}u$  of Definition 2.5 is the category  $u\mathcal{T}^{[n]}u$  of the introduction, with the difference that in Definition 2.5 we call the objects words  $s \cdots s$  (of length  $k$ ) rather than the corresponding natural numbers  $kn$ .

(2) The matrix theory  $\mathcal{T}^{[n]}$  of the introduction has the obvious  $S$ -sorted generalization: given a collection  $D = \{B_s; s \in S\}$  of objects of  $\mathcal{T}$ , we consider the full subcategory  $\mathcal{T}^{[D]}$  of  $\mathcal{T}$  on all finite products of these objects. This is a special case of  $u\mathcal{T}u$ : choose  $u_s = \text{id}_{B_s}$ , for  $s \in S$ . Pseudoinvertibility means here that all objects are retracts of products  $B_{s_1} \times \cdots \times B_{s_n}$ .

**Theorem 2.7.** *Let  $\mathcal{T}$  be an algebraic theory. Then an  $S$ -sorted algebraic theory is Morita equivalent to  $\mathcal{T}$  iff it is categorically equivalent to an  $S$ -sorted idempotent modification of  $\mathcal{T}$ .*

**Proof.** (1) Sufficiency: let

$$u_s : B_s \rightarrow B_s \quad (s \in S)$$

be a pseudoinvertible collection of idempotents. We will find a category  $\mathcal{T}^{(u)}$  Morita equivalent to  $\mathcal{T}$  which is categorically equivalent to  $u\mathcal{T}u$ —then  $u\mathcal{T}u$  is, obviously, also Morita equivalent to  $\mathcal{T}$ . Denote by

$$Y : \mathcal{T}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{Alg } \mathcal{T}$$

the Yoneda embedding. Since  $\text{Alg } \mathcal{T}$  is complete, the idempotent  $Yu_s$  has a splitting

$$Yu_s \begin{array}{c} \hookrightarrow \\ \circlearrowleft \end{array} YB_s \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{\varepsilon_s} \\ \xleftarrow{\mu_s} \end{array} A_s$$

in  $\text{Alg } \mathcal{T}$ : let  $\mu_s$  be an equalizer of  $Yu_s$  and  $\text{id}$ , and  $\varepsilon_s : YB_s \rightarrow A_s$  be the unique morphism with

$$\mu_s \varepsilon_s = Yu_s \quad \text{and} \quad \varepsilon_s \mu_s = \text{id} \quad \text{in } \text{Alg } \mathcal{T}. \tag{2.2}$$

Denote by

$$\mathcal{T}^{(u)} \subseteq (\text{Alg } \mathcal{T})^{\text{op}} \tag{2.3}$$

the  $S$ -sorted algebraic theory which is the full subcategory of  $(\text{Alg } \mathcal{T})^{\text{op}}$  on all objects which are, in  $(\text{Alg } \mathcal{T})^{\text{op}}$ , finite products of the algebras  $A_s$  ( $s \in S$ ).

(1a) We prove that  $\mathcal{T}$  and  $\mathcal{T}^{(u)}$  are Morita equivalent. The closure  $\mathcal{C}$  of  $\mathcal{T}^{(u)}$  under retracts in the (idempotent-complete) category  $(\text{Alg } \mathcal{T})^{\text{op}}$  is an idempotent completion of  $\mathcal{T}^{(u)}$ . It is sufficient to prove that

$$YB_s \in \mathcal{C}$$

for every  $s \in S$ : in fact, we then have  $YT \in \mathcal{C}$  for every  $T \in \mathcal{T}$  because  $T$  is a retract of a finite product  $B_{s_1} \times \dots \times B_{s_n}$  (use  $m$  and  $\bar{e} = e \cdot (u_{s_1} \times \dots \times u_{s_n})$  in Definition 2.3). Therefore,  $Y^{\text{op}}[\mathcal{T}]$  is contained in  $\mathcal{C}$ . Moreover, since  $A_s$  is a retract of  $YB_s$  (use (2.2) above), we conclude that  $\mathcal{C}$  is an idempotent completion of  $Y^{\text{op}}[\mathcal{T}] \cong \mathcal{T}$ , thus,  $\mathcal{T}$  and  $\mathcal{T}^{(u)}$  are Morita equivalent.

For the proof of  $YB_s \in \mathcal{C}$  apply Definition 2.3 to  $T = B_s$  and consider the following morphisms of  $\text{Alg } \mathcal{T}$ :

$$\tilde{e} \equiv YB_s \xrightarrow{Ye} YB_{s_1} + \dots + YB_{s_n} \xrightarrow{\varepsilon_{s_1} + \dots + \varepsilon_{s_n}} A_{s_1} + \dots + A_{s_n}$$

and

$$\tilde{m} \equiv A_{s_1} + \dots + A_{s_n} \xrightarrow{\mu_{s_1} + \dots + \mu_{s_n}} YB_{s_1} + \dots + YB_{s_n} \xrightarrow{Ym} YB_s.$$

Since (2.2) implies  $\tilde{m} \cdot \tilde{e} = Ym \cdot Y(u_{s_1} \times \cdots \times u_{s_n}) \cdot Ye = Y[e \cdot (u_{s_1} \times \cdots \times u_{s_n}) \cdot m] = \text{id}$ , we see that  $YB_s$  is a retract of  $A_{s_1} \times \cdots \times A_{s_n}$  in  $(\text{Alg } \mathcal{T})^{\text{op}}$ , thus, it lies in  $\mathcal{C}$ .

(1b) We prove next that  $\mathcal{T}^{(u)}$  is categorically equivalent to  $u\mathcal{T}u$ —thus, by (1a),  $u\mathcal{T}u$  is Morita equivalent to  $\mathcal{T}$ .

Define a functor

$$E : u\mathcal{T}u \rightarrow \mathcal{T}^{(u)}$$

on objects by

$$E(s_1 \cdots s_n) = A_{s_1} \times \cdots \times A_{s_n}$$

and on morphisms  $f : s_1 \cdots s_n \rightarrow t_1 \cdots t_k$  (which, recall, are special morphisms  $f : B_{s_1} \times \cdots \times B_{s_n} \rightarrow B_{t_1} \times \cdots \times B_{t_k}$  of  $\mathcal{T}$ ) by the commutativity of the following square in  $\text{Alg } \mathcal{T}$ :

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 A_{s_1} + \cdots + A_{s_n} & \xleftarrow{Ef} & A_{t_1} + \cdots + A_{t_k} \\
 \uparrow \varepsilon_{s_1} + \cdots + \varepsilon_{s_n} & & \downarrow \mu_{t_1} + \cdots + \mu_{t_k} \\
 YB_{s_1} + \cdots + YB_{s_n} = Y(B_{s_1} \times \cdots \times B_{s_n}) & \xleftarrow{Yf} & Y(B_{t_1} \times \cdots \times B_{t_k}) = YB_{t_1} + \cdots + YB_{t_k}
 \end{array}
 \tag{2.4}$$

It is easy to verify that  $E$  is well defined, let us prove that it is an equivalence functor.

$E$  is faithful because  $Y$  is faithful, and we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 Yf &= Y(u_{s_1} \times \cdots \times u_{s_n}) \cdot Yf \cdot Y(u_{t_1} \times \cdots \times u_{t_k}) \quad \text{see (2.1)} \\
 &= (\mu_{s_1} + \cdots + \mu_{s_n}) \cdot (\varepsilon_{s_1} + \cdots + \varepsilon_{s_n}) \\
 &\quad \cdot Yf \cdot (\mu_{t_1} + \cdots + \mu_{t_k}) \cdot (\varepsilon_{t_1} + \cdots + \varepsilon_{t_k}) \quad \text{see (2.2)} \\
 &= (\mu_{s_1} + \cdots + \mu_{s_n}) \cdot Ef \cdot (\varepsilon_{t_1} + \cdots + \varepsilon_{t_k}) \quad \text{see (2.4)}.
 \end{aligned}$$

$E$  is full because  $Y$  is full: given  $h : A_{t_1} + \cdots + A_{t_k} \rightarrow A_{s_1} + \cdots + A_{s_n}$  in  $\text{Alg } \mathcal{T}$ , we have  $f : B_{s_1} \times \cdots \times B_{s_n} \rightarrow B_{t_1} \times \cdots \times B_{t_k}$  in  $\mathcal{T}$  with

$$Yf = (\mu_{s_1} + \cdots + \mu_{s_n}) \cdot h \cdot (\varepsilon_{t_1} + \cdots + \varepsilon_{t_k}). \tag{2.5}$$

From (2.2) we conclude that

$$Yf = Y[(u_{t_1} \times \cdots \times u_{t_k}) \cdot f \cdot (u_{s_1} \times \cdots \times u_{s_n})],$$

hence  $f$  is a morphism of  $u\mathcal{T}u$  (recall that  $Y$  is faithful). From (2.2), (2.4) and (2.5) we conclude  $Ef = h$ .

Since  $E$  is surjective on objects, it is an equivalence functor.

(2) Necessity: given an  $S$ -sorted algebraic theory  $\mathcal{T}'$  with chosen objects  $C_s$  ( $s \in S$ ), and given an equivalence functor

$$F : \text{Alg } \mathcal{T}' \rightarrow \text{Alg } \mathcal{T},$$

we find a pseudoinvertible collection  $u = (u_s)_{s \in S}$  of idempotents with  $\mathcal{T}'$  categorically equivalent to  $u\mathcal{T}u$ . Denote the corresponding Yoneda embeddings by  $Y_{\mathcal{T}} : \mathcal{T}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{Alg } \mathcal{T}$  and  $Y_{\mathcal{T}'} : \mathcal{T}'^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{Alg } \mathcal{T}'$ . The  $\mathcal{T}$ -algebras

$$A_s = F(Y_{\mathcal{T}'} C_s) \quad (s \in S)$$

are strongly finitely presentable (since  $Y_{\mathcal{T}'} C_s$  are, see Remark 2.2(b)). Thus, each  $A_s$  is a retract of some  $Y_{\mathcal{T}} B_s$  for  $B_s \in \mathcal{T}$ . Choose homomorphisms

$$Y_{\mathcal{T}} B_s \begin{matrix} \xrightarrow{\varepsilon_s} \\ \xleftarrow{\mu_s} \end{matrix} A_s \quad \text{with } \varepsilon_s \mu_s = \text{id (in Alg } \mathcal{T}\text{)}.$$

Then the idempotent  $\mu_s \varepsilon_s$  has the form  $Y_{\mathcal{T}} u_s$  for a unique idempotent  $u_s : B_s \rightarrow B_s$  of  $\mathcal{T}^{\text{op}}$ . And the codomain restriction of  $(F \cdot Y_{\mathcal{T}'})^{\text{op}} : \mathcal{T}' \rightarrow (\text{Alg } \mathcal{T})^{\text{op}}$  yields an equivalence functor between  $\mathcal{T}'$  and  $\mathcal{T}^{(u)}$ , see (2.3) above. As in (1b), we deduce that  $u\mathcal{T}u$  is categorically equivalent to  $\mathcal{T}^{(u)}$ . It remains to show that  $u$  is pseudoinvertible.

For every object  $T \in \mathcal{T}$  we will prove that  $Y_{\mathcal{T}} T$  is a retract of an object of  $(\mathcal{T}^{(u)})^{\text{op}}$  in  $\text{Alg } \mathcal{T}$ , i.e., that there exist homomorphisms  $\bar{e} : A_{s_1} + \dots + A_{s_n} \rightarrow Y_{\mathcal{T}} T$  and  $\bar{m} : Y_{\mathcal{T}} T \rightarrow A_{s_1} + \dots + A_{s_n}$  with  $\bar{e} \cdot \bar{m} = \text{id}$  in  $\text{Alg } \mathcal{T}$ . This will prove the pseudoinvertibility: we have unique morphisms  $m$  and  $e$  in  $\mathcal{T}$  with

$$Y_{\mathcal{T}} e = Y_{\mathcal{T}} T \xrightarrow{\bar{m}} A_{s_1} + \dots + A_{s_n} \xrightarrow{\mu_{s_1} + \dots + \mu_{s_n}} Y_{\mathcal{T}}(B_{s_1} \times \dots \times B_{s_n})$$

and

$$Y_{\mathcal{T}} m = Y_{\mathcal{T}}(B_{s_1} \times \dots \times B_{s_n}) \xrightarrow{\varepsilon_{s_1} + \dots + \varepsilon_{s_n}} A_{s_1} + \dots + A_{s_n} \xrightarrow{\bar{e}} Y_{\mathcal{T}} T.$$

The desired square in Definition 2.3 follows from the fact that  $Y_{\mathcal{T}}$  is faithful:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 Y_{\mathcal{T}} T & \xrightarrow{Y_{\mathcal{T}}[e(u_{s_1} \times \dots \times u_{s_n})m] = \text{id}} & Y_{\mathcal{T}} T \\
 \bar{m} \downarrow & & \uparrow \bar{e} \\
 A_{s_1} + \dots + A_{s_n} & \xrightarrow{\text{id}} & A_{s_1} + \dots + A_{s_n} \\
 \mu_{s_1} + \dots + \mu_{s_n} \downarrow & & \uparrow \varepsilon_{s_1} + \dots + \varepsilon_{s_n} \\
 Y_{\mathcal{T}} B_{s_1} + \dots + Y_{\mathcal{T}} B_{s_n} & \xrightarrow{\varepsilon_{s_1} + \dots + \varepsilon_{s_n}} A_{s_1} + \dots + A_{s_n} \xrightarrow{\mu_{s_1} + \dots + \mu_{s_n}} Y_{\mathcal{T}} B_{s_1} + \dots + Y_{\mathcal{T}} B_{s_n} & 
 \end{array}$$



To prove that  $Y_{\mathcal{T}}T$  is a retract of an object of  $(\mathcal{T}^{(u)})^{\text{op}}$ , observe that since the algebras  $Y_{\mathcal{T}'}C_s$  ( $s \in S$ ) are dense in  $\text{Alg } \mathcal{T}'$ , it follows that  $A_s$  ( $s \in S$ ) are dense in  $\text{Alg } \mathcal{T}$ . And so is their closure  $(\mathcal{T}^{(u)})^{\text{op}}$  under finite coproducts. Therefore,  $Y_{\mathcal{T}}T$  is a canonical colimit of the diagram  $D$  of all homomorphisms  $A \rightarrow Y_{\mathcal{T}}T$  with  $A \in (\mathcal{T}^{(u)})^{\text{op}}$ . The domain of this diagram, i.e., the comma-category  $(\mathcal{T}^{(u)})^{\text{op}}/Y_{\mathcal{T}}T$ , has finite coproducts (being closed under them in  $\text{Alg } \mathcal{T}/Y_{\mathcal{T}}T$ ), thus, the diagram is sifted, see Remark 2.2(b). Since  $Y_{\mathcal{T}}T$  is strongly finitely presentable, it follows that one of the colimit morphisms of  $D$  is a split epimorphism.  $\square$

### 3. Examples

**Example 3.1.** Modules. For one-sorted theories  $\mathbf{K}$ . Morita covered the whole spectrum: there exist no other one-sorted theories of  $R\text{-Mod}$  than those canonically derived from Morita equivalent rings.

More detailed:

- (i) Each  $R^n$  ( $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ) has a natural structure of a left  $R$ -module. The full subcategory

$$\mathcal{T}_R = \{R^n; n \in \mathbb{N}\}$$

of  $(R\text{-Mod})^{\text{op}}$  is a one-sorted algebraic theory of  $R\text{-Mod}$ .

- (ii) Consequently, for every ring  $Q$  Morita equivalent to  $R$ , we have an algebraic theory  $\mathcal{T}_Q$  of  $R\text{-Mod}$ .
- (iii) The above are, up to categorical equivalence, all one-sorted algebraic theories of  $R\text{-Mod}$ . In fact, let  $\mathcal{T}$  be a one-sorted algebraic theory with an equivalence functor

$$E : \text{Alg } \mathcal{T} \rightarrow R\text{-Mod}.$$

Then  $\mathcal{T}$  is categorically equivalent to  $\mathcal{T}_Q$  for a ring  $Q$  Morita equivalent to  $R$ : indeed, following [7],  $\text{Alg } \mathcal{T}$  is equivalent to  $Q\text{-Mod}$ , with  $Q = \mathcal{T}(1, 1)$ . Moreover, the composition of the Yoneda embedding  $Y : \mathcal{T}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{Alg } \mathcal{T}$  with the equivalence  $\text{Alg } \mathcal{T} \rightarrow Q\text{-Mod}$  sends an object  $n$  to  $\mathcal{T}(n, 1)$  which, by additivity, is isomorphic to  $\mathcal{T}(1, 1)^n = Q^n$ . This shows that  $\mathcal{T}$  is equivalent to  $\mathcal{T}_Q$ , with  $Q$  Morita equivalent to  $R$ .

**Remark 3.2.** There are, of course, additional algebraic theories of  $R\text{-Mod}$  which are not one-sorted. For example, in  $\mathbf{Ab} = \mathbb{Z}\text{-Mod}$  the theory  $\mathcal{T}'$  generated by  $\mathbb{Z}$  and  $\mathbb{Z}_2 = \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$  is certainly Morita equivalent to  $\mathbb{Z}$ , but it is not categorically equivalent to  $\mathcal{T}_Q$  for any Morita equivalent ring  $Q$  (e.g.,  $\mathcal{T}'$  contains an object with a finite hom).

**Example 3.3.** All algebraic theories of  $\mathbf{Set}$ . The one-sorted theories are well known to be just the theories

$$\mathcal{T}^{[n]} \quad (n = 1, 2, 3, \dots),$$

where  $\mathcal{T} \subseteq \mathbf{Set}^{\text{op}}$  is the full subcategory on all natural numbers, and  $\mathcal{T}^{[n]}$  is the matrix theory, i.e., the full subcategory of  $\mathcal{T}$  on  $0, n, 2n, \dots$ . And these theories are, obviously, pairwise categorically nonequivalent.

We now describe all many-sorted theories: they are precisely the matrix theories  $\mathcal{T}^{[D]}$ , see 2.6(2), for finite sets

$$D \subseteq \mathbb{N}$$

which are *sum-irreducible*, i.e., no number of  $D$  is a sum of more than one member of  $D$ . Recall that

$$\mathcal{T}^{[D]}$$

is the dual of the full subcategory of  $\mathbf{Set}$  on all finite sums of members of  $D$ . Then we know that  $\mathcal{T}^{[D]}$  is an algebraic theory of  $\mathbf{Set}$ . We are going to prove that these are precisely all of them:

(a) Every algebraic theory  $\mathcal{T}'$  is categorically equivalent to  $\mathcal{T}^{[D]}$  for some finite sum-irreducible  $D \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ . In fact, consider a pseudoinvertible collection  $u_s : B_s \rightarrow B_s$  ( $s \in S$ ) of idempotents in  $\mathcal{T}$  with  $\mathcal{T}'$  categorically equivalent to  $u\mathcal{T}u$ , where  $u_s$  has precisely  $r_s$  fixed points. Without loss of generality we can assume  $u_s \neq \text{id}_\emptyset$  for every  $s$ , i.e.,  $r_s \geq 1$ . Let  $K$  be the subsemigroup of the additive semigroup  $\mathbb{N}$  generated by  $\{r_s\}_{s \in S}$ . (That is,  $K$  is the set of all numbers of fixed points of the morphisms  $u_{s_1} \times \dots \times u_{s_n}$  in  $\mathbf{Set}^{\text{op}}$ .) Then  $u\mathcal{T}u$  is categorically equivalent to  $K$  as a full subcategory of  $\mathbf{Set}^{\text{op}}$ . Recall that every subsemigroup  $K$  of the additive semigroup of natural numbers is finitely generated (see [14]). Therefore, if  $D$  is a minimum set of generators of  $K$ , then  $D$  is finite, sum-irreducible and  $K$  is categorically equivalent to  $\mathcal{T}^{[D]}$ .

(b) The theories  $\mathcal{T}^{[D]}$  are pairwise nonequivalent categories. In fact, every element  $n \in D$  defines an object of  $\mathcal{T}^{[D]}$  which is product-indecomposable and has  $n^n$  endomorphisms—this determines  $D$  categorically.

**Example 3.4.** *M*-sets. For monoids  $M$  the question of Morita equivalence (that is, given a monoid  $M'$  when are  $M\text{-Set}$  and  $M'\text{-Set}$  equivalent categories) was studied by B. Banaschewski [2] and U. Knauer [8]. The main result is formally very similar to that of K. Morita: let us say that an idempotent  $u \in M$  is *pseudoinvertible* if there exist  $e, m \in M$  with  $eum = 1$ . It follows that the monoid

$$uMu = \{uxu : x \in M\}$$

whose unit is  $u$  and multiplication is as in  $M$  is Morita equivalent to  $M$ . And these are all monoids Morita equivalent to  $M$ , up to isomorphism.

Unlike Example 3.1, this does *not* describe all one-sorted theories of  $M\text{-Set}$ . In fact, if  $M = \{1\}$  is the trivial one-element monoid, then  $M\text{-Set} = \mathbf{Set}$  has infinitely many pairwise nonequivalent one-sorted theories, as we saw in Example 3.3, although there are no nontrivial monoids Morita equivalent to  $\{1\}$ .

**Remark 3.5.** We saw above that all algebraic theories of **Set** are finitely-sorted (i.e., have finitely many objects whose finite products form all objects). This is not true for  $M$ -sets, in general. In fact, whenever  $M$  is a commutative monoid with uncountably many idempotents, then the “standard” algebraic theory  $\mathcal{T}$  (dual to the category of all free  $M$ -sets on finitely many generators) has an idempotent completion  $\mathcal{T}'$  which has uncountably many pairwise nonisomorphic objects. In fact, every idempotent  $m$  of  $M$  yields an idempotent endomorphism  $m \cdot - : M \rightarrow M$  in  $\mathcal{T}$ , and the splittings of these endomorphisms produce pairwise nonisomorphic objects  $A_m$  of  $\mathcal{T}'$ : indeed, whenever  $A_m$  is isomorphic to  $A_n$ , then for every element  $x$  of  $M$  we see that  $m \cdot x = x$  iff  $n \cdot x = x$ . By choosing  $x = n$  and  $x = m$  we conclude  $m = n$ . Consequently,  $\mathcal{T}'$  is an algebraic theory of  $M$ -sets which is not finitely-sorted.

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