

## INTERNAL COMPLETENESS AND INJECTIVITY OF BOOLEAN ALGEBRAS IN THE TOPOS OF $M$ -SETS

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In this paper we study internal completeness, injectivity and some related notions in the category  $\mathbf{MBoo}$  of Boolean algebras in the topos  $\mathbf{MEns}$  of  $M$ -sets, for a monoid  $M$ .

In Section 1, we deal with the notion of internal completeness in  $\mathbf{MBoo}$  and show that an algebra  $A$  in  $\mathbf{MBoo}$  is internally complete if and only if the embedding  $[\cdot]: A \rightarrow N(A)$  of  $A$  into the algebra  $N(A)$  of (internal) normal ideals of  $A$  is an isomorphism.

In Section 2, we study the notion of injectivity and essential extensions in  $\mathbf{MBoo}$  and show that: injectivity implies internal completeness; the injective hull of  $2$  is  $H(2)$ , the algebra of all subsets of  $M$ , if and only if  $M$  is a finite group; for a finite monoid  $M$ ,  $2$  is injective if and only if  $M$  has a right absorbing element; and for a finite and commutative monoid  $M$ , a subalgebra  $A$  of  $H(2)$  is an essential extension of  $2$  if and only if  $A$  is generated by the blocks of a monoid congruence  $\theta$  on  $M$  with  $M/\theta$  being a group. Further, we give examples to show that the latter result is not true in general.

Finally, in Section 3, we characterise the subdirectly irreducible algebras in  $\mathbf{MBoo}$ .

### 0. PRELIMINARIES

**0.1** For a monoid  $M$  let  $\mathbf{MEns}$  be the topos of all (left)  $M$ -sets (sets with a left  $M$ -action) and the equivariant maps between them. Considering  $M$  as a category with one object,  $\mathbf{MEns}$  is the functor category  $\mathbf{Ens}^M$  where  $\mathbf{Ens}$  is the category of sets. Hence, the subobject classifier  $\Omega$  of this topos is the set of all left ideals of  $M$  (subsets of  $M$  which are closed under the left multiplication) together with the action of  $M$  on  $\Omega$  given by division, that is for  $t \in M$  and  $S \in \Omega$ ,  $tS = \{s \in M \mid st \in S\}$ . The

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true map  $1 \rightarrow \Omega$ , where  $1 = \{0\}$  is the terminal object of  $\mathbf{MEns}$ , takes  $0$  to  $M$ , the largest ideal of  $M$ . For any subobject  $A \xrightarrow{\tau} B$ , the classifying map  $f_\tau: B \rightarrow \Omega$  is defined by  $f_\tau(b) = \{x \in M \mid xb \in A\}$ . Hence  $f_\tau(b) = M$  if and only if  $b \in A$ . Notice that  $\Omega = \{\phi, M\}$  if and only if  $M$  is a group. For  $A \in \mathbf{MEns}$ , a global element  $f: 1 \rightarrow A$  is given by an element  $f(0)$  of  $A$  which is fixed under the action of  $M$ . Since  $tS = M$  if and only if  $t \in S$ , one can check easily that  $\Omega$  has exactly two global elements. This shows that the topos  $\mathbf{MEns}$  is bivalued. But  $\mathbf{MEns}$  is a Boolean topos if and only if  $M$  is a group.

**0.2** The power set  $\mathcal{P}(M)$  of  $M$  is an  $M$ -set with the action given by division, and  $\Omega$  is a pseudo-complemented subalgebra of  $\mathcal{P}(M)$ . The pseudo-complement of  $S \in \Omega$  is

$$S^* = \{s \in M \mid (\forall t \in M)(ts \notin S)\}$$

It is easily checked that  $\Omega$  is a Stone algebra, that is  $S^* \cup S^{**} = M$ , if and only if  $S^* = \emptyset$  for all  $S \neq \emptyset$  in  $\Omega$ . Also, by [9],  $\Omega$  is a Stone algebra if and only if  $M$  satisfies the (left) Ore condition, that is, for any  $a, b$  in  $M$ , there exist  $s, t$  in  $M$  such that  $sa = ta$ . In fact, if the Ore condition is satisfied,  $S \neq \emptyset$  is in  $\Omega$  and  $a \in S$ , then for any  $b \in M$ , there exist  $s, t$  in  $M$  with  $tb = sa$ . Now, since  $S$  is a left ideal of  $M$ ,  $tb = sa \in S$ . This gives us that  $b \notin S^*$ , and hence  $S^* = \emptyset$ .

**0.3** For  $A, B$  in  $\mathbf{MEns}$ ,  $B^A$  is the set of all equivariant maps  $f: M \times A \rightarrow B$ , together with the action of  $M$  defined by

$$(sf)(t, a) = f(ts, a)$$

for  $s, t$  in  $M$  and  $a \in A$ . It is easily seen that  $\Omega^A \cong \text{Sub}(M \times A)$  subobjects of  $M \times A$ . For any subobject  $X$  of  $M \times A$ , we have

$$X = \bigcup_{s \in M} \{s\} \times X_s$$

where  $X_s = \{a \in A \mid (s, a) \in X\}$ . Hence we can identify  $X$  by a family  $(X_s)_{s \in M}$ , where for each  $s \in M$ ,  $X_s$  is a subset of  $A$  with

$$(\forall t \in M)(a \in X_s \Rightarrow ta \in X_{ts}).$$

The action of  $M$  on  $\Omega^A$  is then given by

$$tX = (X_{st})_{s \in M}.$$

**0.4** In the following,  $\mathbf{MLatt}$  will denote the category of lattices in  $\mathbf{MEns}$ , with lattice maps preserving the  $M$  action, and  $\mathbf{MBoo}$  is the category of Boolean algebras in  $\mathbf{MEns}$ . For any algebra  $A$ , the underlying object of  $A$  is denoted by the same letter  $A$ .

1. INTERNAL COMPLETENESS

1.1 For  $A \in \mathbf{MLatt}$ ,  $\text{Id}(A)$  and  $\text{MId}(A)$  denote the set of ideals of (the lattice) and  $M$ -ideals of (the  $M$ -lattice)  $A$ , respectively. The action of  $M$  on  $\text{Id}(A)$  is given by  $s \cdot J = [sJ]$ , for  $s \in M$  and  $J \in \text{Id}(A)$ , where  $[sJ]$  is the ideal of  $A$  generated by the set  $sJ = \{sx \mid x \in J\}$ . That is

$$s \cdot J = \{a \in A \mid (\exists x \in J)(a \leq sx)\}.$$

The action of  $M$  on  $\text{MId}(A)$  is defined in the same way.

It is clear that the map  $\downarrow: A \rightarrow \text{Id}(A)$  defined by  $a \mapsto \downarrow a = \{x \in A \mid x \leq a\}$  is an equivariant map.

1.2 For  $A \in \mathbf{MBoo}$ , the *internal ideal lattice*  $\mathcal{J}(A)$  of  $A$  in the topos  $\mathbf{MEns}$  is given by

$$\mathcal{J}(A) = \{X = (X_s)_{s \in M} \mid (X \in \Omega^A) \ \& \ (\forall s \in M)(X_s \in \text{Id}(A))\}.$$

For  $X = (X_s)_{s \in M}$  and  $Y = (Y_s)_{s \in M}$ , their meet and join in  $\mathcal{J}(A)$  is defined component-wise, that is

$$X \wedge Y = (X_s \wedge Y_s)_{s \in M} \text{ and } X \vee Y = (X_s \vee Y_s)_{s \in M},$$

where  $X_s \wedge Y_s$  is their intersection and  $X_s \vee Y_s$  is their join in  $\text{Id}(A)$ , that is  $X_s \vee Y_s = \{b \vee c \mid b \in X_s, c \in Y_s\}$ . The action of  $M$  on  $\mathcal{J}(A)$  is the same as the action on  $\Omega^A$ . Notice that if  $M$  is a group, then  $\mathcal{J}(A) = \text{Id}(A)$ .

One also defines a lattice embedding  $[\cdot]: A \rightarrow \mathcal{J}(A)$  by  $[a] = (\downarrow sa)_{s \in M}$ , which preserves the action of  $M$ .

In addition, one defines a lattice embedding  $(\cdot)^\# : \text{Id}(A) \rightarrow \mathcal{J}(A)$ , preserving the action, by  $J^\# = ([sJ])_{s \in M}$ , for  $J \in \text{Id}(A)$ . Since  $(\downarrow a)^\# = [a]$ , the following diagram is commutative

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{[\cdot]} & \mathcal{J}(A) \\ \downarrow & & \uparrow (\cdot)^\# \\ \text{Id}(A) & \xlongequal{\quad} & \text{Id}(A) \end{array}$$

1.3 Recall that a lattice  $A$  in  $\mathbf{MEns}$  is *internally complete* (see [8], p.147) if there exists an order preserving equivariant map  $V: \mathcal{J}(A) \rightarrow A$  which is (internally) left adjoint to  $[\cdot]: A \rightarrow \mathcal{J}(A)$ . That is, for  $X = (X_s)_{s \in M}$  in  $\mathcal{J}(A)$  and  $c \in A$ ,

$$V X \leq c \iff X \leq [c] \iff (\forall s \in M)(X_s \leq \downarrow sc).$$

By Proposition 5.35 and 5.36 in [8],  $\Omega$  and  $\Omega^A$  are internally complete.

**PROPOSITION 1.4.** *If  $A \in \mathbf{MBoo}$  is internally complete, then  $A$  is complete in  $\mathbf{Boo}$  and the action of  $M$  on  $A$  is complete (that is preserves the join).*

**PROOF:** Since the underlying functor  $U: \mathbf{MBoo} \rightarrow \mathbf{Boo}$  has a left adjoint, which preserves pullbacks,  $A$  is complete as a Boolean algebra (see Proposition 5.6) [8]. In fact the join map  $\tilde{V}: \text{Id}(A) \rightarrow A$  is given by the following commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{J}(A) & \xrightarrow{V} & A \\ (\cdot)^\# \uparrow & & \uparrow \tilde{V} \\ \text{Id}(A) & \xlongequal{\quad} & \text{Id}(A) \end{array}$$

That is,  $\tilde{V}J = VJ^\#$ , for  $J \in \text{Id}(A)$ . Since the maps  $(\cdot)^\#$  and  $V$  are both equivariant, so is  $\tilde{V}$ .

The converse of the above proposition is not true in general. Consider the initial object  $2$  of  $\mathbf{MBoo}$ . By [9],  $2$  is internally complete if and only if  $\Omega$  is a stone algebra, that is if and only if  $M$  satisfies the left Ore condition (see 0.2).

If  $M$  is a group, then  $A \in \mathbf{MBoo}$  is internally complete if and only if  $A \in \mathbf{Boo}$  is complete. This is because  $\mathcal{J}(A) = \text{Id}(A)$ , and the actions are isomorphism (onto) and hence complete, for the join in  $\mathbf{Boo}$  is defined by means of the order and the actions preserve the order.

Let  $A \in \mathbf{MBoo}$  and  $J \in \mathcal{J}(A)$ . The (internal) pseudo-complement  $J^*$  of  $J$  is defined by

$$\begin{aligned} J_s^* &= \{x \in A \mid (\forall t \in M)(tx \in (J_{ts})^*)\} \\ &= \bigcap_{t \in M} t^{-1}(J_{ts})^* \end{aligned}$$

for each  $s \in M$ . We now prove that  $J^*$  is indeed the pseudo-complement of  $J$ . □

**LEMMA 1.5.**  *$J^*$  is the pseudo-complement of  $J$ .*

**PROOF:**  $J^*$  is in  $\mathcal{J}(A)$ , because each  $(J_{ts})^*$  is in  $\text{Id}(A)$  and, since  $t^{-1}(J_{ts})^*$  is in  $\text{Id}(A)$ ,  $J_s^* = \bigcap_{t \in M} t^{-1}(J_{ts})^*$  belongs to  $\text{Id}(A)$ . If  $x \in J_s^*$  and  $t_0 \in M$ , then for any  $t \in M$ ,  $t(t_0x) = (tt_0)x$  belongs to  $(J_{tt_0s})^*$ , and hence  $t_0x \in J_{t_0s}^*$ . Now,  $x \in J_s \cap J_s^*$  implies that  $x \in J_s$  and  $x \in J_s^*$ . Hence  $tx \in (J_{ts})^*$ , for all  $t \in M$ , which implies that  $x \in (J_s)^*$ . Hence, by the definition of  $(J_s)^*$ ,  $x = x \wedge x = 0$ .

Now let  $J \wedge H = 0$ , for some  $H \in \mathcal{J}(A)$ . Then  $J_s \cap H_s = 0$ , for all  $s \in M$ . To show that  $H_s \subseteq J_s^*$ , let  $h \in H_s$ . To see that  $th \in (J_{ts})^*$ , for all  $t \in M$ , let  $b \in J_{ts}$ . Now  $th \wedge b \in J_{ts}$  and since  $th \in H_{ts}$ ,  $th \wedge b \in H_{ts}$ . Then  $th \wedge b$  being in  $J_{ts} \cap H_{ts} = 0$  implies that  $th \in (J_{ts})^*$ . Hence  $J^*$  is indeed the pseudo-complement of  $J$ . □

Notice that, since  $(t \cdot J)^* = t \cdot J^*$ , the map  $(\cdot)^*: \mathcal{J}(A) \rightarrow \mathcal{J}(A)$  is equivariant.

**LEMMA 1.6.** *If  $A \in \mathbf{MBoo}$  is internally complete and  $J \in \mathcal{J}(A)$ , then*

$$J^* = [(VJ)']$$

where  $(\ )'$  is complementation in  $A$ .

**PROOF:** Let  $c = VJ$ . To see that for each  $s \in M$ ,

$$\mathcal{J}_s^* = \{x \mid tx \in (J_{ts})^*\} = \downarrow sc'$$

Let  $x \in \mathcal{J}_s^*$ . Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} x \leq sc' &\iff sc \leq x' \\ &\iff sVJ \leq x' \\ &\iff Vs \cdot J \leq x' && \text{(by 1.4)} \\ &\iff s \cdot J \leq [x'] && \text{(definition of } V) \\ &\iff (\forall t \in M)((s \cdot J)_t \leq \downarrow tx') \\ &\iff (\forall t \in M)(J_{st} \leq \downarrow tx') \\ &\iff (\forall t \in M)((\downarrow tx')^* \leq (J_{st})^*) \\ &\iff (\forall t \in M)(\downarrow tx \leq (J_{st})^*) \\ &\iff (\forall t \in M)(tx \in (J_{st})^*) \\ &\iff (x \in \mathcal{J}_s^*). \end{aligned}$$

□

**1.7** Let  $N(A) = \{J \in \mathcal{J}(A) \mid J = J^{**}\} = \{J^* \mid J \in \mathcal{J}(A)\}$ . That is  $N(A)$  is the equaliser of  $(\ )^{**}: \mathcal{J}(A) \rightarrow \mathcal{J}(A)$  and the identity map  $\mathcal{J}(A) \rightarrow \mathcal{J}(A)$ . We call this the algebra of (internal) *normal ideals* of  $A$ . Since  $[\cdot]^* = [(\cdot)']$ , the embedding  $[\cdot]: A \rightarrow \mathcal{J}(A)$  factors through  $N(A)$ . This shows that any algebra  $A$  in  $\mathbf{MBoo}$  can be embedded into an internally complete one. That  $N(A)$  is internally complete follows from the fact that the usual proof is constructively valid.

The above lemma shows that

**PROPOSITION 1.8.**  *$A \in \mathbf{MBoo}$  is internally complete if and only if  $[\cdot]: A \rightarrow N(A)$  is an isomorphism.*

## 2. INJECTIVITY IN $\mathbf{MBoo}$

**2.1** Recall that an object  $A$  in a category is *injective* if and only if for any morphism  $h: B \rightarrow A$  and any monomorphism  $g: B \hookrightarrow C$ , there exists a morphism  $f: C \rightarrow A$  such that  $fg = h$ . Further, a monomorphism  $h: A \hookrightarrow B$  is called *essential* if any

$g: B \rightarrow C$  for which  $gh$  is a monomorphism is itself a monomorphism. In  $\mathbf{MBoo}$ , one checks easily that  $h: A \rightarrow B$  is essential if and only if every  $M$ -ideal of  $B$  with zero inverse image by  $h$  is itself zero. The result of Ebrahimi [4] and the classical facts about Boolean algebras show that for any Grothendieck topos, and hence in particular for  $\mathbf{MEns}$ , every algebra  $A \in \mathbf{MBoo}$  has an *injective hull* (that is an essential injective extension). That is, the category  $\mathbf{MBoo}$  has enough injectives.

2.2 Consider the following adjointness

$$\mathbf{MEns} \begin{matrix} \xrightarrow{U} \\ \xleftarrow{H} \end{matrix} \mathbf{Ens}$$

with the underlying functor  $U$  a left adjoint of the functor  $H$  defined by : for any  $X \in \mathbf{Ens}$ ,  $H(X)$  is the set of all functions from the set  $M$  to the set  $X$ , with the action of  $M$  on  $H(X)$  given by  $(sf)(t) = f(ts)$ , for  $f \in H(X)$  and  $s, t \in M$ . This adjointness can be lifted to

$$\mathbf{MBoo} \begin{matrix} \xrightarrow{U} \\ \xleftarrow{H} \end{matrix} \mathbf{Boo}$$

denoted by the same letters. Since  $H$  has a left adjoint  $U$  which preserves finite limits, and hence monomorphisms,  $H$  preserves injective and complete Boolean algebras. In particular, for  $2 \in \mathbf{Boo}$ , the algebra  $H(2)$  of all subsets of  $M$  is injective and internally complete.

LEMMA 2.3.  $[\cdot]: A \rightarrow N(A)$  is essential.

PROOF: Let the composite  $A \xrightarrow{[\cdot]} N(A) \xrightarrow{\varphi} B$  be a monomorphism; that is, for  $x \in A$ ,  $\varphi[x] = \varphi[(\downarrow sx)_{s \in M}] = 0$  implies that  $x = 0$ . Let  $X = (X_s)_{s \in M}$  be in  $N(A)$  and  $\varphi(X) = 0$ . Let  $X_s \neq 0$ , for some  $s \in M$ . Then  $X_s = (s \cdot X)_e \neq 0$ , where  $e$  is the identity of  $M$ . Let  $x \in (s \cdot X)_e$ , then, for any  $t \in M$ ,  $tx \in (s \cdot X)_{te}$ , and hence  $\downarrow tx \subseteq (s \cdot X)_t$ , for  $(s \cdot X)_t$  in an ideal of  $A$ . Thus  $[x] \leq s \cdot X$ , and hence  $\varphi[x] \leq \varphi(s \cdot X) = s\varphi(X) = 0$ . Thus  $x = 0$ , and hence  $X_s = 0$ , which proves the lemma. □

PROPOSITION 2.4. If  $A \in \mathbf{MBoo}$  is injective, then it is internally complete.

PROOF: By the above lemma,  $N(A)$  is essential over  $A$  and since  $A$  is injective  $A \cong N(A)$ . Hence, by 1.8,  $A$  is internally complete. □

The converse of the above proposition is not true in general: for a nontrivial (finite) group  $M$ ,  $2$  is internally complete in  $\mathbf{MBoo}$  but it is not injective, since  $H(2)$  is an essential extension of  $2$ . In fact we have the following proposition which is a special case of Lemma 1.9 of [3].

PROPOSITION 2.5.  $H(2)$  is an essential extension of  $2$  if and only if  $M$  is a finite group.

PROOF: It is clear that an algebra  $E$  in  $\mathbf{MBoo}$  is essential over  $2$  if and only if it is simple, that is  $M \text{Id}(E) \cong 2$ . Let  $M$  be a finite group, and  $I \neq 0$  be an  $M$ -ideal of  $H(2)$ . Let  $\emptyset \neq K \in I$ , and  $s \in K$ . Since  $I$  is an  $M$ -ideal,  $sK = \{t \mid ts \in K\}$  in  $I$ , and hence  $\{e\} \subseteq sK$  is in  $I$ . Now, for any  $m \in M$ ,  $m^{-1}\{e\} = \{m\}$  is in  $I$ . Since  $M$  is finite,  $M = \bigcup_{m \in M} \{m\}$  belongs to  $I$ . This shows that  $H(2)$  is simple, and hence essential over  $2$ . Conversely, let  $H(2)$  be essential over  $2$ . Let  $S \subseteq M$  be the set of all right invertible elements of  $M$ . For  $K \subseteq S$  and  $s \in M$ ,  $sK = \{t \mid ts \in K\}$  is a subset of  $S$ . Hence the set of all subsets of  $S$  is a (nontrivial)  $M$ -ideal of  $H(2)$ . By essentialness, we get that  $M = S$ . This shows that  $M$  is a group. Now, since  $M$  is a group, it is checked easily that the set  $P_f(M)$  of all finite subsets of  $M$  is a (nontrivial)  $M$ -ideal of  $H(2)$ . By essentialness,  $M \in P_f(M)$  and hence  $M$  is finite.  $\square$

PROPOSITION 2.6. *The injective hull of  $2$  in  $\mathbf{MBoo}$  is  $H(2)$  if and only if  $M$  is a finite group.*

REMARK 2.7. For any monoid  $M$ , the injective hull of  $2$  in  $\mathbf{MBoo}$  is  $H(2)/J$  for a maximal  $M$ -ideal  $J$  of  $H(2)$ .

PROPOSITION 2.8. *For a finite monoid  $M$ ,  $2$  is injective in  $\mathbf{MBoo}$  if and only if  $M$  has a “right absorbing” element  $a$  (that is,  $as = a$  for all  $s \in M$ ).*

PROOF: Let  $2$  be injective. Since  $H(2)$  is injective, there exists  $h: H(2) \rightarrow 2$ . Now  $h^{-1}\{1\}$  is an  $M$ -ultrafilter on  $M$  (in  $H(2)$ ). Since  $M$  is finite,  $h^{-1}\{1\}$  is generated by  $\{a\}$ , for some  $a \in M$ , that is

$$\bigcap_{\substack{h(X)=1 \\ X \subseteq M}} X = \{a\}.$$

Now, for any  $s \in M$ ,  $h(s\{a\}) = sh(\{a\}) = s \cdot 1 = 1$ . This implies that  $\{a\} \subseteq s\{a\}$ . But  $s\{a\} = \{x \in M \mid xs = a\}$ , hence  $as = a$  for all  $s \in M$ . Conversely, let  $a \in M$  be a right absorbing element. Consider  $\mathcal{A} = \{X \mid a \in X \subseteq M\} = \uparrow \{a\}$  in  $H(2)$ . For any  $s \in M$ ,  $a \in sX$ , because  $sX = \{x \in M \mid xs \in X\}$  and  $as = a$  is in  $X$ . Hence, for  $X \in \mathcal{A}$ ,  $as = a \in X$  implies that  $a \in sX$ . Thus  $\mathcal{A}$  is an  $M$ -ultrafilter on  $M$ . Thus, there exists  $h: H(2) \rightarrow 2$  given by

$$h(X) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } a \in X \\ 0 & \text{if } a \notin X \end{cases}$$

which is an  $\mathbf{MBoo}$  morphism. Hence  $2$  retracts the injective algebra  $H(2)$ . This shows that  $2$  is injective.  $\square$

Notice that the finiteness of  $M$  is not needed to prove the converse of the above proposition.

**PROPOSITION 2.9.** *Let  $M$  be a finite and commutative monoid. Then a subalgebra  $A$  of  $H(2)$  is an essential extension of  $2$  if and only if  $A$  is generated by (the blocks) of a monoid congruence  $\theta$  on  $M$  with  $M/\theta$  being a group.*

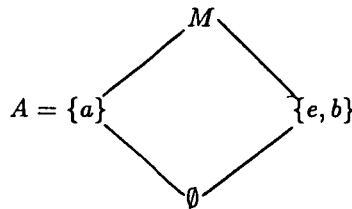
**PROOF:** Since  $M$  is commutative, the maps  $\lambda_t: A \rightarrow A$  induced by the action of  $t \in M$  are endomorphisms. Since  $A$  is essential over  $2$ , and hence simple, the  $\lambda_t$ 's are one to one. By finiteness of  $A$ , the  $\lambda_t$ 's are isomorphisms. Now, for  $\theta = \{(s, t) \mid \lambda_s = \lambda_t\}$ ,  $M/\theta$  is a group.

To see that  $A$  is generated by the  $\theta$ -blocks, let  $E \in A$  be the atom of  $A$  containing  $e$ , which exists because  $A$  is finite. If  $\lambda_s = \text{Id} = \lambda_e$ , that is  $s \in \theta[e]$ , the  $\theta$  block of  $e$ , then  $sE = E$  and hence  $s \in E$ . This shows that  $\theta[e] = E$ . On the other hand, for  $s \in E$ ,  $E \subseteq sE$ , because  $e \in sE$  and  $E$  is an atom. Since the  $\lambda_t$ 's are automorphisms,  $sE$  is an atom, and hence  $E = sE$ . Further  $s(tE) = tE$ , by commutativity, and thus  $\lambda_s = \text{Id}$ , leaving all the atoms of  $A$  fixed; every atom of  $A$  is of the form  $tE$  for some  $t \in M$ , because  $M = t_1E \cup \dots \cup t_kE$  for suitable  $t_1, \dots, t_k$ .

Finally, if  $\lambda_{\bar{s}} = \lambda_s^{-1}$ , then  $sE = \theta[\bar{s}]$ , because  $(xs, e) \in \theta$  if and only if  $(x, \bar{s}) \in \theta$ . This shows that  $A$  is generated by the blocks of a congruence  $\theta$  on  $M$  with  $M/\theta$  being a group.

Conversely if  $\theta$  is a monoid congruence on  $M$  with  $M/\theta$  being a group, then  $s\theta[e] = \theta[\bar{s}]$  for  $s\bar{s} = e$  and the  $\theta$ -blocks generate a subalgebra  $A$  of  $H(2)$  which is an essential extension of  $2$ . □

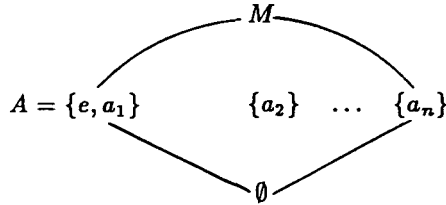
**EXAMPLE 2.10.** *Consider the monoid  $M = \{e, a, b\}$  with  $xy = y$ , for  $x, y$  in  $M$ . The algebra*



in **MBoo** is an essential extension (in fact the injective hull) of  $2$ , but the partition  $\{\{a\}, \{e, b\}\}$  which generates  $A$  is not a monoid congruence.

In fact, for the monoid  $M = \{e, a_1, \dots, a_n\}$  with  $xy = y$ , for  $x, y$  in  $M$ , the algebra





is the injective hull of 2.

3. SUBDIRECT IRREDUCIBILITY

Recall that an algebra  $A$  is a category is *subdirectly irreducible* if and only if for any monomorphism  $f: A \rightarrow \prod_{i \in I} A_i$ , there exists an  $i \in I$  with  $p_i f: A \rightarrow A_i$  a monomorphism, where  $p_i$  is the  $i$ -th projection. For  $A \in \mathbf{MBoo}$ , this is equivalent to  $A$  having a smallest nonzero  $M$ -ideal. For a different proof of the following see [7].

**LEMMA 3.1.** *If  $A \in \mathbf{MBoo}$  is subdirectly irreducible, then  $A$  can be embedded into  $H(2)$ .*

**PROOF:** For  $A \in \mathbf{MBoo}$ ,  $U(A)$  is in  $\mathbf{Boo}$  (see 2.2) and by the Representation Theorem in  $\mathbf{Boo}$ , there exists a set  $S$  with a monomorphism  $U(A) \rightarrow 2^S$ . Hence we have

$$A \mapsto HU(A) \mapsto H(2^S) \simeq (H2)^S.$$

Now, since  $A$  is subdirectly irreducible,  $A \mapsto H(2)$  is an embedding. □

**LEMMA 3.2.** *Every subalgebra  $A$  of  $H(2)$  is subdirectly irreducible.*

**PROOF:** Suppose  $A$  is not subdirectly irreducible. Thus there exists a family  $I_\lambda (\lambda \in \Lambda)$  of nontrivial  $M$ -ideals of  $A$  whose intersection is trivial. Since the  $I_\lambda$ 's are nontrivial, there are nonempty sets  $X_\lambda$  in  $I_\lambda$ , for each  $\lambda$ . For each  $\lambda$ , take  $s_\lambda \in X_\lambda$ . Since the  $I_\lambda$ 's are  $M$ -ideals,  $s_\lambda X_\lambda \in I_\lambda$ , hence the intersection  $X$  of the sets  $s_\lambda X_\lambda (\lambda \in \Lambda)$  belongs to the intersection of the  $M$ -ideals  $I_\lambda (\lambda \in \Lambda)$  which is trivial. Now,  $X = \{x \in M \mid (\forall \lambda)(xs_\lambda \in X_\lambda)\}$ , and hence  $e \in X$ , that is  $X \neq \emptyset$  which is a contradiction. □

By the last two lemmas we get

**PROPOSITION 3.3.** *An algebra in  $\mathbf{MBoo}$  is subdirectly irreducible if and only if it is isomorphic to a subalgebra of the algebra  $H(2)$ .*

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