# L-algebras, normality and exact completions

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The quasi-variety of *L*-algebras

**Exact completion** 

**Commutator of ideals** 

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## Definition

Let  $\mathbb C$  be a finitely complete category with a zero object 0. Then  $\mathbb C$  is a normal category if

any morphism *f*: *A* → *B* in C admits a factorization *f* = *m* · *q*, where *q* is a normal epimorphism and *m* is a monomorphism :



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any morphism *f*: *A* → *B* in C admits a factorization *f* = *m* · *q*, where *q* is a normal epimorphism and *m* is a monomorphism :



• normal epimorphisms are stable under pullbacks.

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In particular, the categories Grp of groups, Rng of rings, K-Alg of associative algebras,  $Lie_K$  of Lie algebras, Heyt of Heyting semi-lattices, DiGrp of digroups are all normal.

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In all these categories the Split Short Five Lemma holds.

A preordered group  $(G, \leq, +)$  is a group *G* endowed with a preorder relation  $\leq$  on *G* that is "compatible" with the group operation +:

$$[a \leq c, \text{ and } b \leq d] \Rightarrow [a+b \leq c+d].$$

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A morphism  $f: (G, \leq, +) \rightarrow (H, \leq, +)$  in the category PreOrdGrp of preordered groups is a monotone group homomorphism.

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PreOrdGrp is a normal category that is not homological, as shown by M.M. Clementino, N. Martins-Ferreira and A. Montoli, 2019.

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#### **Noether's Isomorphism Theorems**

The first isomorphism theorem of group theory holds in any normal category  $\mathbb{C}$ : for any regular epimorphism  $f: A \to B$ ,



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there is an isomorphism  $B \cong \frac{A}{\operatorname{Ker}(f)}$ .

This uses the property that  $f: A \to B$  is monomorphism if and only if Ker (f) = 0.

The double quotient isomorphism theorem also holds in any normal category  $\mathbb{C}$  (T. Everaert and M. Gran, 2013) : given normal subobjects  $K \subset L \subset A$  of an  $A \in \mathbb{C}$ , there is an isomorphism

$$A/L \cong \frac{A/K}{L/K}.$$

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The Zassenhaus Lemma, used in the proof of the Jordan-Hölder theorem, also holds in any normal category (O. Ngaha and F. Sterck, 2019).

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### The quasi-variety of *L*-algebras

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### Definition (W. Rump, 2008)

An L-algebra is a set X with a binary operation  $\cdot$  and a 0-ary operation 1 such that

$$\boldsymbol{x} \cdot \boldsymbol{x} = \boldsymbol{x} \cdot \boldsymbol{1} = \boldsymbol{1}, \ \boldsymbol{1} \cdot \boldsymbol{x} = \boldsymbol{x}, \tag{1}$$

$$(x \cdot y) \cdot (x \cdot z) = (y \cdot x) \cdot (y \cdot z), \tag{2}$$

$$x \cdot y = y \cdot x = 1 \implies x = y \tag{3}$$

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for every  $x, y, z \in X$ .

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for every  $x, y, z \in X$ .

#### Remark

The identity (2) holds in most generalizations of classical logic, including intuitionistic and many valued logic (" $\cdot$ " can represent an implication " $\rightarrow$ ").

The category LAIg of *L*-algebras, with morphisms preserving  $\cdot$  and 1, is clearly a quasivariety, because of the implications

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These include Heyting algebras, Boolean algebras, MV-algebras and other algebraic structures in logic.

### **Boolean algebras**

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#### **MV-algebras**

In 2005 Gispert and Mundici characterised MV-algebras as commutative monoids  $(M, \cdot, 1)$  with an involution ()':  $M \to M$  (the "negation") such that 0 = 1' satisfies  $x \cdot 0 = 0$  and

$$x \cdot (x \cdot y')' = y \cdot (y \cdot x')'.$$

Rump proved that the operation  $x \rightarrow y = (x \cdot y')'$  defines an *L*-algebra.

The constant 1, called the logical unit, is the unique element with the property that

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If we think of . as an "implication" these identities become

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where 1 can be interpreted as "truth".

# Proof (sketch) :

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The trivial algebra  $\{1\}$  is the zero object of LAIg.

Let us show that any surjective homomorphism is the cokernel of its kernel.

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First observe that the terms  $t_1(x, y) = x \cdot y$  and  $t_2(x, y) = y \cdot x$  satisfy

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Let  $A \xrightarrow{f} B$  be a surjective homomorphism,  $K \xrightarrow{k} A$  its kernel, and  $A \xrightarrow{g} C$  any morphism such that  $g \circ k = 1$ 

$$K \xrightarrow{k} A \xrightarrow{f} B$$

$$\downarrow g$$

$$\{1\} \longrightarrow C$$

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For any  $b \in B$  there is an  $a \in A$  such that f(a) = b. Let us show that by setting

 $\phi(b) := g(a)$ 

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Indeed, let *a* and *a'* be such that f(a) = f(a'). Then, for any  $i \in \{1, 2\}$ ,

$$f(t_i(a, a')) = t_i(f(a), f(a')) = t_i(f(a), f(a)) = 1,$$

hence  $t_i(a, a') \in K$ .

This implies that  $t_i(g(a), g(a')) = g(t_i(a, a')) = 1$ , so that g(a) = g(a') by (3).

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In the commutative diagram



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It follows that f = coker(k), and f is then a normal epimorphism. Accordingly, LAlg is a normal category. The quasivariety LAIg is a full subcategory of the variety PreLAIg of pre-*L*-algebras (also called *unital cycloids* in the literature), determined by

$$x \cdot x = x \cdot 1 = 1, \ 1 \cdot x = x,$$
(1)  
(x \cdot y) \cdot (x \cdot z) = (y \cdot x) \cdot (y \cdot z) (2)

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There is then an adjunction

$$\mathsf{LAlg} \xrightarrow{F} \mathsf{PreLAlg}_{}^{}$$

where the reflection  $A \xrightarrow{\eta_A} UF(A) = \frac{A}{\sim}$  of a pre-L-algebra A is a quotient, with

$$(x, y) \in \sim \Leftrightarrow x \cdot y = 1 = y \cdot x$$



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## Exact completion of a regular category

What is the relationship between the regular category LAIg and the exact category PreLAIg in terms of the exact completion  $\mathbb{C}_{ex/reg}$  of a regular  $\mathbb{C}$ ?

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Given a regular category  $\mathbb{C}$ , there is a fully faithful functor  $\Gamma : \mathbb{C} \to \mathbb{C}_{ex/reg}$  to an exact category  $\mathbb{C}_{ex/reg}$ .

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A functor  $F : \mathbb{C} \to \mathbb{D}$  between regular categories is regular if it preserves finite limits and regular epimorphisms.

# This functor $\Gamma : \mathbb{C} \to \mathbb{C}_{ex/reg}$ satisfies the following universal property : for any regular functor $F : \mathbb{C} \to \mathbb{D}$



there is an essentially unique regular functor  $\overline{F} : \mathbb{C}_{ex/reg} \to \mathbb{D}$  with  $\overline{F} \circ \Gamma \cong F$ .

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The variety **PreLAIg** is the exact completion of **LAIg**.

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A key argument in the proof of this result comes from the fact that free algebras of LAIg are in PreLAIg.

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Note that the exact completion of a normal category is not normal, in general (M. Gran and Z. Janelidze, 2014). We observe that a new example is given here by the variety  $PreLAlg = LAlg_{ex/reg}$ .

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The quotient  $\frac{X}{\sim}$  of a pre-*L*-algebra X by the congruence  $\sim$  defined by  $(x, y) \in \sim$  if and only if  $x \cdot y = 1 = y \cdot x$  "forces" the quasivariety LAlg to be normal.

A property that is "stable" under the exact completion is the Mal'tsev property.

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Indeed, one can show that a regular  $\mathbb{C}$  is a Mal'tsev category if and only if  $\mathbb{C}_{ex/reg}$  is a Mal'tsev category.

Given a regular Mal'tsev category C, consider a reflexive relation



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there is a regular epimorphism  $p: X \to A$  with  $X \in \mathbb{C}$ :



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It is then easy to complete the diagram



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with  $\overline{R}$  a reflexive relation on X in  $\mathbb{C}$ , p and p' regular epis.

Since  $\mathbb{C}$  is a Mal'tsev category,  $\overline{R}$  is a symmetric relation in  $\mathbb{C}$ :



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This implies that *R* is a symmetric relation in  $\mathbb{C}_{ex/reg}$  as well.

The fact that

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Similar results can be proved for other exactness properties, such as :

- protomodularity (M. Gran and S. Lack, 2014)
- subtractivity and unitality (M. Gran and D. Rodelo, 2012).

$$s(x, 1) = 1 \cdot x = x, \qquad s(x, x) = x \cdot x = 1.$$

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Accordigly, some homological lemmas (such as the "upper" and "lower"  $3\times3\text{-Lemma}$  ) hold true in LAlg.

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However, the quasivariety of LAIg is not a Mal'tsev category, as we now explain.

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Accordigly, some homological lemmas (such as the "upper" and "lower"  $3\times$  3-Lemma) hold true in LAlg.

However, the quasivariety of LAIg is not a Mal'tsev category, as we now explain.

Consider the two element *L*-algebra *X* whose multiplication is defined by

$$\begin{array}{c|cc} \cdot & 0 & 1 \\ \hline 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{array}$$

## The relation $R = \{(0, 1), (1, 0), (1, 1)\}$ on X is a subalgebra of the L-algebra $X \times X$ .

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The relation  $R = \{(0, 1), (1, 0), (1, 1)\}$  on X is a subalgebra of the L-algebra  $X \times X$ .

The kernel pairs  $Eq(p_1)$  and  $Eq(p_2)$  of the projections



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do not permute :  $Eq(p_1) \circ Eq(p_2) \neq Eq(p_2) \circ Eq(p_1)$ .

Indeed,

 $Eq(p_1) = \{((0,1), (0,1)), ((1,0), (1,0)), ((1,1), (1,1)), ((1,0), (1,1)), ((1,1), (1,0))\}$  and

 $Eq(p_2) = \{((0,1),(0,1)),((1,0),(1,0)),((1,1),(1,1)),((0,1),(1,1)),((1,1),(0,1))\}.$ 

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## Indeed,

 $Eq(p_1) = \{((0,1), (0,1)), ((1,0), (1,0)), ((1,1), (1,1)), ((1,0), (1,1)), ((1,1), (1,0))\}$  and

 $Eq(p_2) = \{((0,1),(0,1)),((1,0),(1,0)),((1,1),(1,1)),((0,1),(1,1)),((1,1),(0,1))\}.$ 

Accordingly,

$$(1,0)Eq(p_1)(1,1)Eq(p_2)(0,1)$$

showing that

$$((1,0),(0,1))\in Eq(p_2)\circ Eq(p_1).$$

However,

 $((1,0),(0,1)) \notin Eq(p_1) \circ Eq(p_2), \text{ since } (0,0) \notin R$ 

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## Proposition

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Under this respect these categories are very different from Boolean algebras, Heyting algebras and MV-algebras.

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## **Proposition**

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#### Remark

It is interesting to note that both LAIg and PreLAIg are "permutable at 1", this meaning that

$$(x,1)\in S\circ R\Leftrightarrow (x,1)\in R\circ S,$$

for any pair of congruences *R* and *S* on the same algebra.

Indeed, consider the "subtractive" term  $s(x, y) = y \cdot x$ . If there is y such that xRyS1, then

$$x = 1 \cdot x = s(x, 1) S s(x, y) R s(y, y) = y \cdot y = 1$$
, and  $(x, 1) \in R \circ S$ .



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## **Commutator of ideals**

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### **Commutator of ideals**

A subset *I* of a pre-*L*-algebra *X* is an ideal of *X* if

$$1 \in I,$$
  

$$x \in I \text{ and } x \cdot y \in I \implies y \in I,$$
  

$$x \in I \implies (x \cdot y) \cdot y \in I,$$
  

$$x \in I \implies y \cdot x \in I,$$
  

$$x \in I \implies y \cdot (x \cdot y) \in I$$

for every  $x, y \in X$ .

Ideals of a pre-*L*-algebra X correspond to equivalence relations R on X such that the quotient X/R is in LAIg.
The correspondence between equivalence relations in PreLAlg and ideals is the following :

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given an equivalence relation *R* on a pre-L-algebra *X*, the associated ideal is the equivalence class  $[1]^{R} = [1]$  of the unit 1;

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given an equivalence relation *R* on a pre-L-algebra *X*, the associated ideal is the equivalence class  $[1]^{R} = [1]$  of the unit 1;

given an ideal *I* of *X*, the associated equivalence relation  $\sim$  is defined by

$$(x,y) \in \sim \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad (x \cdot y \in I) \land (y \cdot x \in I).$$

#### **Commutator of ideals**

Let X be an L-algebra and I, J two ideals of X. Define their commutator [I, J] as the smallest ideal of X for which the multiplication  $\cdot$  in X, i.e., the mapping

$$\mu \colon I \times J \to X/[I, J]$$
$$\mu(i, j) = [i \cdot j]^{[I, J]}$$

is an *L*-algebra morphism.

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For every pair I, J of ideals of an *L*-algebra *X*, one has

 $[I,J]=I\cap J.$ 

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# Proposition

For every pair I, J of ideals of an *L*-algebra *X*, one has

 $[I,J]=I\cap J.$ 

#### Proof

This will follow from the fact that, for any  $x \in I \cap J$ , the equivalence class  $[x]^{[I,J]} = [x]$  is the neutral element in the quotient X/[I,J] : [x] = [1].

Indeed, for any  $i \in I$ ,  $j \in J$ ,  $x \in I \cap J$  one has the equality

 $([x] \cdot [x]) \cdot ([i] \cdot [j]) = ([x] \cdot [i]) \cdot ([x] \cdot [j]).$ 

Indeed, for any  $i \in I$ ,  $j \in J$ ,  $x \in I \cap J$  one has the equality

$$([x] \cdot [x]) \cdot ([i] \cdot [j]) = ([x] \cdot [i]) \cdot ([x] \cdot [j]).$$

By choosing i = 1 and j = x we get

$$([x] \cdot [x]) \cdot ([1] \cdot [x]) = ([x] \cdot [1]) \cdot ([x] \cdot [x]),$$

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from which it follows that [x] = [1], and  $I \cap J = [I, J]$  as desired.

The result that  $I \cap J = [I, J]$  implies that the only abelian object is 0, since [A, A] = 0 implies that  $A \cap A = A = 0$ .

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It would be interesting to investigate - from a categorical perspective - the commutator theory of congruences in *relatively modular quasivarieties* and in *relatively distributive quasivarieties*, such as LAIg.

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