#### Pre-Lie algebras, pre-morphisms

Alberto Facchini Università di Padova, Italy

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"Life is a journey, it can take you anywhere you choose to go."

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(1) M. Cerqua and A. Facchini, Pre-Lie algebras, their multiplicative lattice, and idempotent endomorphisms, to appear in Functor Categories, Module Theory, Algebraic Analysis, and Constructive Methods, A. Martsinkovski Ed., Springer Proc. Math. and Stat., 2023, also available at: arXiv:2301.02627.

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(2) F. Azmy Ebrahim and A. Facchini, Idempotent pre-endomorphisms of algebras, submitted for publication, 2023, available at: arXiv:2304.05079.

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For any ring R (an associative ring, possibly without an identity), we can define the commutator  $[-, -]: R \times R \to R$ , setting  $[x, y] = x \cdot y - y \cdot x$  for every  $x, y \in R$ .

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(1) is trivial. (2) is also very easy (it is a standard exercise in the first lecture of every course of Lie algebras; 12 products of x, y, z, in all their possible 6 orders, 6 with plus and 6 with minus, of the form (xy)z - x(yz) say, and they pairwise cancel because the operation  $\cdot$  in the ring R is associative. Associativity of  $\cdot$  is not really necessary to prove the Jacobi identity, something less is sufficient.

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A *k*-algebra is a *k*-module  $_kM$  with a further *k*-bilinear operation  $M \times M \to M$ ,  $(x, y) \mapsto xy$ 

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The opposite  $M^{op}$  of an algebra M is defined taking as multiplication in  $M^{op}$  the mapping  $(x, y) \mapsto yx$ .

#### Homomorphisms.

If *M* and *M'* are two *k*-algebras, a *k*-linear mapping  $\varphi \colon M \to M'$  is a *k*-algebra homomorphism if  $\varphi(xy) = \varphi(x)\varphi(y)$  for every  $x, y \in M$ .

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k-algebras form a variety in the sense of Universal Algebra.

If M is any k-algebra, its endomorphisms form a monoid, that is, a semigroup with a two-sided identity, with respect to composition  $\circ$  of mappings.

A pre-Lie k-algebra is a k-algebra  $(M, \cdot)$  satisfying the identity

$$(x \cdot y) \cdot z - x \cdot (y \cdot z) = (y \cdot x) \cdot z - y \cdot (x \cdot z) \tag{1}$$

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For any k-algebra  $(M, \cdot)$ , defining the commutator  $[x, y] = x \cdot y - y \cdot x$  for every  $x, y \in M$ , the algebra (M, [-, -]) is anticommutative (i.e., [x, y] = -[y, x] and [x, x] = 0), but it is not-necessarily a Lie algebra.

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If  $(M, \cdot)$  is a pre-Lie algebra, one gets that (M, [-, -]) is a Lie algebra, called the *Lie algebra sub-adjacent* to the pre-Lie algebra  $(M, \cdot)$ .

Pre-Lie algebras are also called Vinberg algebras or left-symmetric algebras.

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It is easily seen that the category of left-symmetric algebras and the category of right-symmetric algebras are isomorphic (the categorical isomorphism is given by  $M \mapsto M^{\text{op}}$ ).

Example 1. Every associative algebra is a pre-Lie algebra.

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A much better term would have been "pre-associative algebras".

# A hierarchy of algebras

- (1) Associative algebras.
- (2) Pre-Lie algebras.

(3) Lie admissible algebras (= algebras  $(M, \cdot)$  for which (M, [-, -]) is a Lie algebra).

(4) (Arbitary non-associative) algebras.

#### Associator. Lie admissible algebras

The associator of a k-algebra M is defined as (x, y, z) = (xy)z - x(yz) for all x, y, z in M.

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Being a Lie-admissible algebra is equivalent to

(x, y, z) + (y, z, x) + (z, x, y) = (y, x, z) + (x, z, y) + (z, y, x)

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

# Derivations on $k[x_1, \ldots, x_n]^n$ .

Let k be a commutative ring with identity,  $n \ge 1$  be an integer, and  $k[x_1, \ldots, x_n]$  be the ring of polynomials in the n indeterminates  $x_1, \ldots, x_n$  with coefficients in k. Let A be the free  $k[x_1, \ldots, x_n]$ -module  $k[x_1, \ldots, x_n]^n$  with free set  $\{e_1, \ldots, e_n\}$  of generators. As a k-module, A is the free k-module with free set of generators the set  $\{x_1^{i_1} \ldots x_n^{i_n} e_j \mid i_1, \ldots, i_n \ge 0, j = 1, \ldots, n\}$ .

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Define a multiplication on A setting, for every  $u = (u_1, \ldots, u_n), v = (v_1, \ldots, v_n) \in A$ ,

$$\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{u} = (\sum_{j=1}^{n} \mathbf{v}_j \frac{\partial u_1}{\partial x_j}, \dots, \sum_{j=1}^{n} \mathbf{v}_j \frac{\partial u_n}{\partial x_j}).$$

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Then A is a pre-Lie k-algebra.

Recall that a *tree* is an undirected graph in which any two vertices are connected by exactly one path, or equivalently a connected acyclic undirected graph. A *rooted tree* of degree n is a pair (T, r), where T is a tree with n vertices, and its *root* r is a vertex of T.

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Let k be a commutative ring with identity and  $T_n$  be the free k-module with free set of generators the set of all isomorphism classes of rooted trees of degree n. Set

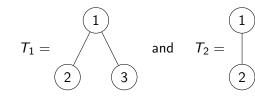
$$\mathcal{T} := \bigoplus_{n \ge 1} \mathcal{T}_n.$$

Define a multiplication on  $\mathcal{T}$  setting, for every pair  $T_1, T_2$  of rooted trees,

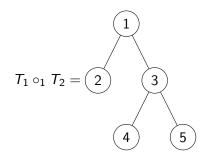
$$T_1 \cdot T_2 = \sum_{v \in V(T_2)} T_1 \circ_v T_2,$$

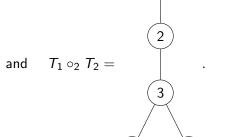
where  $V(T_2)$  is the set of vertices of  $T_2$ , and  $T_1 \circ_v T_2$  is the rooted tree obtained by adding to the disjoint union of  $T_1$  and  $T_2$ a further new edge joining the root vertex of  $T_1$  with the vertex vof  $T_2$ . The root of  $T_1 \circ_v T_2$  is defined to be the same as the root of  $T_2$ . To get a multiplication on  $\mathcal{T}$ , extend this multiplication by *k*-bilinearity.

Let us give an example. Suppose



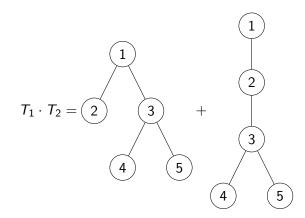
Then





4

Therefore



In this way, one gets a pre-Lie k-algebra  $\mathcal{T}$ .

A *k*-module morphism  $\varphi \colon M \to M'$ , where M, M' are arbitrary (not-necessarily associative) *k*-algebras, is a *pre-morphism* if  $\varphi(xy) - \varphi(x)\varphi(y) = \varphi(yx) - \varphi(y)\varphi(x)$  for every  $x, y \in M$ .

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#### Lemma

(a) Every k-algebra morphism is a pre-morphism.

(b) The composite mapping of two pre-morphisms is a pre-morphism.

(c) The inverse mapping of a bijective pre-morphism is a pre-morphism.

For any (not-necessarily associative) *k*-algebra *M*, there is a mapping  $\lambda \colon M \to \operatorname{End}(_k M)$ , where  $\lambda \colon x \mapsto \lambda_x$ ,  $\lambda_x \colon M \to M$ , and  $\lambda_x(a) = xa$ .

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(1) The mapping  $\lambda$  is a *k*-algebra morphism if and only if *M* is associative.

(2) The mapping  $\lambda$  is a pre-morphism if and only if M is a pre-Lie algebra.

### Two categories

Category  $Alg_k$  of (not-necessarily associative) k-algebras with their homomorphisms.

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There is a functor  $U: \operatorname{Alg}_{k,p} \to \operatorname{Alg}_k$  that associates with any k-algebra  $(A, \cdot)$  its sub-adjacent anticommutative algebra (A, [-, -]), where [x, y] = xy - yx for every  $x, y \in A$ . It associates with any pre-morphism  $f: (A, \cdot) \to (B, \cdot)$  in  $\operatorname{Alg}_k$ , the same mapping  $U(f) = f: (A, [-, -]) \to (B, [-, -])$ .

#### **Examples**

# (1) The center Z(A) of an associative algebra M is $Z(M) = \{ x \in M \mid [x, M] = \{0\} \}$ . It is a pre-ideal of M.

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(1) The center Z(A) of an associative algebra M is  $Z(M) = \{ x \in M \mid [x, M] = \{0\} \}$ . It is a pre-ideal of M.

(2) The kernel of any pre-morphism (=the inverse image of 0) is always a pre-ideal.

Corresponding to the notion of pre-morphism, there is a notion of pre-derivation. We say that a *k*-module endomorphism  $\delta: M \to M$ , where *M* is an arbitrary (not-necessarily associative) *k*-algebra, is a *pre-derivation* if

$$\delta(xy) - \delta(x)y - x\delta(y) = \delta(yx) - \delta(y)x - y\delta(x)$$

for every  $x, y \in M$ .

# Modules over a pre-Lie algebra

There is a natural notion of module over a pre-Lie algebra:

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There is a natural notion of module over a pre-Lie algebra:

A module *M* over a pre-Lie *k*-algebra  $(A, \cdot)$  is a *k*-module *M* with a pre-morphism  $\lambda \colon (A, \cdot) \to (\operatorname{End}(_k M), \circ)$ .

Commutator of two ideals in a pre-Lie algebra

For pre-Lie algebras, Smith=Huq.

Theorem

The commutator [I, J] of two ideals I and J of a pre-Lie algebra A is the ideal of A generated by the subset  $\{i \cdot j, j \cdot i \mid i \in I, j \in J\}$ .

# Dorroh extension of a pre-Lie algebra

It is possible to adjoin an identity to a pre-Lie algebra.

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# Dorroh extension of a pre-Lie algebra

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An *identity* in a pre-Lie *k*-algebra *A* is an element, which we will denote by  $1_A$ , such that  $a \cdot 1_A = 1_A \cdot a = a$  for every  $a \in A$ .

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An element e of A is *idempotent* if  $e^2 := e \cdot e = e$ . The zero of A is always an idempotent element of A, and the identity, when it exists, is also an idempotent element of A.

Let A be any fixed pre-Lie k-algebra.

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Then the associative commutative ring k is a pre-Lie k-algebra, and there is a one-to-one correspondence between the set of all the pre-Lie k-algebra morphisms  $k \rightarrow A$  and the set of all idempotent elements of A.

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For any idempotent element e of A the corresponding morphism  $\varphi_e \colon k \to A$  is defined by  $\varphi_e(\lambda) = \lambda e$  for every  $\lambda \in k$ .

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Conversely, for any morphism  $\varphi \colon k \to A$  the corresponding idempotent element of A is  $\varphi(1)$ .

For any fixed pre-Lie k-algebra A it is possible to construct the k-module direct sum  $A \oplus k$  with multiplication defined by

$$(x,\alpha)(y,\beta) = (x \cdot y + \beta x + \alpha y, \alpha \beta)$$

for every  $(x, \alpha), (y, \beta) \in A \oplus k$ .

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(This k-algebra  $A \oplus k$ , usually denoted A # k, is a particular case of semidirect product of pre-Lie algebras.).

Let  $\operatorname{PreL}_{k,1}$  be the category of all unital pre-Lie *k*-algebras. Its objects are the pre-Lie *k*-algebras *A* with an identity. Its morphisms  $f: A \to B$  are the *k*-algebra morphisms *f* such that  $f(1_A) = 1_B$ .

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Its objects are all the pairs  $(A, \varepsilon_A)$ , where A is a unital pre-Lie k-algebra and  $\varepsilon_A \colon A \to k$  is a morphism in  $\operatorname{PreL}_{k,1}$  that is a left inverse for  $\varphi_{1_A} \colon k \to A$ ,  $\varphi_{1_A} \colon \lambda \in k \to \lambda \cdot 1_A$ :

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$$k \xrightarrow{\varphi_{1_A}} A \xrightarrow{\varepsilon_A} k.$$

The morphisms  $f: (A, \varepsilon_A) \to (B, \varepsilon_B)$  are the morphisms  $f: A \to B$ in  $\operatorname{PreL}_{k,1}$  such that  $\varepsilon_B f = \varepsilon_A$ . For instance, the *k*-algebra A # k is clearly a unital *k*-algebra with augmentation: the augmentation is the canonical projection  $\pi_2: A \# k = A \oplus k \to k$  onto the second summand.

It is easy to see that:

#### Theorem

There is a category equivalence  $F : \operatorname{PreL}_k \to \operatorname{PreL}_{k,1,a}$  that associates with any object A of  $\operatorname{PreL}_k$  the k-algebra with augmentation  $F(A) := (A \# k, \pi_2)$ . The quasi-inverse of F is the functor  $\operatorname{PreL}_{k,1,a} \to \operatorname{PreL}_k$ , that associates with each unital pre-Lie k-algebra with augmentation  $(A, \varepsilon_A)$  the kernel ker $(\varepsilon_A)$  of the augmentation.

#### Proposition

Let *M* be a *k*-algebra. There is a bijection betwee the set  $E := \{ e \in \operatorname{End}_k(M) \mid e \text{ is a morphism and } e \colon M \to M \text{ is }$ idempotent  $\}$  of all idempotent endomorphisms of *M* and the set *P* of all pairs (*K*, *B*), where *K* is a ideal of *M*, *B* is a *k*-subalgebra of *B*, and  $_kM = K \oplus B$  as a *k*-module.

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If *M* is a *k*-algebra, *K* is a ideal of *M*, *B* is a *k*-subalgebra of *B*, and  $_kM = K \oplus B$  as a *k*-module, there there is a pair  $(\lambda, \rho)$  of *k*-linear mappings  $B \to \operatorname{End}(I_k)$  defined by  $\lambda(b)(i) = bi$  and  $\rho(b)(i) = ib$  for every  $b \in B$  and  $i \in I$ .

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In the particular case where M is a pre-Lie k-algebra, one finds that:

(a) 
$$\lambda: (B, \cdot) \to (\text{End}(I_k), \circ)$$
 is a pre-morphism.  
(b)  $\rho_a \circ \lambda_b - \lambda_b \circ \rho_a = \rho_a \circ \rho_b - \rho_{b \cdot a}$  for every  $a, b \in B$ .  
(c)  $\lambda_a(i) \cdot j - \lambda_a(i \cdot j) = \rho_a(i) \cdot j - i \cdot \lambda_a(j)$  for every  $a \in B$  and  $i, j \in I$ .  
(d)  $\rho_a(i \cdot j) - i \cdot \rho_a(j) = \rho_a(j \cdot i) - j \cdot \rho_a(i)$  for every  $a \in B$  and  $i, j \in I$ .

Action of a pre-Lie algebra on another pre-Lie algebra

Let *I* and *B* be pre-Lie *k*-algebras and  $(\lambda, \rho)$  a pair of *k*-linear mappings  $B \to \operatorname{End}(I_k)$  such that: (a)  $\lambda \colon (B, \cdot) \to (\operatorname{End}(I_k), \circ)$  is a pre-morphism. (b)  $\rho_a \circ \lambda_b - \lambda_b \circ \rho_a = \rho_a \circ \rho_b - \rho_{b \cdot a}$  for every  $a, b \in B$ . (c)  $\lambda_a(i) \cdot j - \lambda_a(i \cdot j) = \rho_a(i) \cdot j - i \cdot \lambda_a(j)$  for every  $a \in B$  and  $i, j \in I$ . (d)  $\rho_a(i \cdot j) - i \cdot \rho_a(j) = \rho_a(j \cdot i) - j \cdot \rho_a(i)$  for every  $a \in B$  and  $i, j \in I$ .

On the k-module direct sum  $I \oplus B$  define a multiplication \* setting

$$(i, b) * (j, c) = (i \cdot j + \lambda_b(j) + \rho_c(i), b \cdot c)$$

for every  $(i, b), (j, c) \in I \oplus B$ . Then  $(I \oplus B, *)$  is a pre-Lie *k*-algebra (the semidirect product).

Idempotent endomorphisms of an algebra are related to semidirect-product decompositions of the algebra.

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Here by idempotent pre-endomorphism  $e: M \to M$  of a k-algebra M we mean a k-linear mapping such that  $e^2 = e$  and

$$e(xy) - e(x)e(y) = e(yx) - e(y)e(x)$$
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Recall that it is possible to associate to any k-algebra  $(M, \cdot)$  the anticommutative k-algebra (M, [-, -]).

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The first possibility leads to the notion of Jordan algebras, the second one to anti-pre-Lie algebras.

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In a Jordan algebra powers  $x^n$  of an element work well: (1)  $x^n = x \cdots x$  is independent of how we parenthesize the expression on the right.

(2)  $\lambda_{x^m} \circ \lambda_{x^n} = \lambda_{x^n} \circ \lambda_{x^m}$  for every pair of integers  $m, n \ge 0$ .

# Anti-pre-Lie algebras

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The k-algebra A is an anti-pre-Lie k-algebra if

$$(x \cdot y) \cdot z + x \cdot (y \cdot z) = (y \cdot x) \cdot z + y \cdot (x \cdot z)$$
(3)

and

$$[x, y] \cdot z + [y, z] \cdot x + [z, x] \cdot y = 0$$
(4)

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