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# Constructing combinatorial operads from monoids

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**Abstract.** We introduce a functorial construction which, from a monoid, produces a set-operad. We obtain new (symmetric or not) operads as suboperads or quotients of the operad obtained from the additive monoid. These involve various familiar combinatorial objects: parking functions, packed words, planar rooted trees, generalized Dyck paths, Schröder trees, Motzkin paths, integer compositions, directed animals, *etc.* We also retrieve some known operads: the magmatic operad, the commutative associative operad, and the diassociative operad.

**Résumé.** Nous introduisons une construction fonctorielle qui, à partir d'un monoïde, produit une opérade ensembliste. Nous obtenons de nouvelles opérades (symétriques ou non) comme sous-opérades ou quotients de l'opérade obtenue à partir du monoïde additif. Celles-ci mettent en jeu divers objets combinatoires familiers : fonctions de parking, mots tassés, arbres plans enracinés, chemins de Dyck généralisés, arbres de Schröder, chemins de Motzkin, compositions d'entiers, animaux dirigés, *etc.* Nous retrouvons également des opérades déjà connues : l'opérade magmatique, l'opérade commutative associative et l'opérade diassociative.

**Keywords:** Operad; Monoid; Generalized Dyck path; Tree; Directed animal; Diassociative operad.

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## 1 Introduction

Operads are algebraic structures introduced in the 1970s by Boardman and Vogt [1] and by May [13] in the context of algebraic topology. Informally, an operad is a structure containing operators with  $n$  inputs and 1 output, for all positive integer  $n$ . Two operators  $x$  and  $y$  can be composed at  $i$ th position by grafting the output of  $y$  on the  $i$ th input of  $x$ . The new operator thus obtained is denoted by  $x \circ_i y$ . In an operad, one can also switch the inputs of an operator  $x$  by letting a permutation  $\sigma$  act to obtain a new operator denoted by  $x \cdot \sigma$ . One of the main relishes of operads comes from the fact that they offer a general theory to study in a unifying way different types of algebras, such as associative algebras and Lie algebras.

In recent years, the importance of operads in combinatorics has continued to increase and several new operads were defined on combinatorial objects (see *e.g.*, [3, 4, 9, 10]). The structure thereby added on combinatorial families enables to see these in a new light and offers original ways to solve some combinatorial problems. For example, the dendriform operad [10] is an operad on binary trees and plays an interesting role for the understanding of the Hopf algebra of Loday-Ronco of binary trees [8, 11]. Besides, this operad is a key ingredient for the enumeration of intervals of the Tamari lattice [2, 3]. There is also a very rich link connecting combinatorial Hopf algebra theory and operad theory: various constructions produce combinatorial Hopf algebras from operads [5, 12].

In this paper, we propose a new generic method to build combinatorial operads. The starting point is to pick a monoid  $M$ . We then consider the set of words whose letters are elements of  $M$ . The arity of such words are their length, the composition of two words is expressed from the product of  $M$ , and permutations act on words by permuting letters. In this way, we associate to any monoid  $M$  an operad denoted by  $\mathsf{T}M$ . This construction is rich from a combinatorial point of view since it allows, by considering suboperads and quotients of  $\mathsf{T}M$ , to get new operads on various combinatorial objects.

This paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, we recall briefly the basics about set-operads. Section 3 is devoted to the definition of the construction associating an operad to a monoid and to establish its first properties. We show that this construction is a functor from the category of monoids to the category of operads that respects injections and surjections. Finally we apply this construction in Section 4 on various monoids and obtain several new combinatorial (symmetric or not) operads on the following combinatorial objects: endofunctions, parking functions, packed words, permutations, planar rooted trees, generalized Dyck paths, Schröder trees, Motzkin paths, integer compositions, directed animals, and segmented integer compositions. We conclude by building an operad isomorphic to the diassociative operad [10].

## Acknowledgements

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## 2 Preliminaries and notations

### 2.1 Permutations

Let us denote by  $[n]$  the set  $\{1, \dots, n\}$  and by  $\mathfrak{S}_n$  the set of permutations of  $[n]$ . Let  $\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n, \nu \in \mathfrak{S}_m$ , and  $i \in [n]$ . The *substitution* of  $\nu$  into  $\sigma$  is the permutation  $B_i(\sigma, \nu) := \sigma'_1 \dots \sigma'_{i-1} \nu''_1 \dots \nu''_m \sigma'_{i+1} \dots \sigma'_n$  where  $\sigma'_j := \sigma_j$  if  $\sigma_j < \sigma_i$  and  $\sigma'_j := \sigma_j + m - 1$  otherwise, and  $\nu''_j := \nu_j + \sigma_i - 1$ . For instance, one has  $B_4(7415623, 231) = 941675823$ .

### 2.2 Operads

Recall that a *set-operad*, or an *operad* for short, is a set  $\mathcal{P} := \bigsqcup_{n \geq 1} \mathcal{P}(n)$  together with *substitution maps*

$$\circ_i : \mathcal{P}(n) \times \mathcal{P}(m) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(n + m - 1), \quad n, m \geq 1, i \in [n], \quad (1)$$

a distinguished element  $\mathbf{1} \in \mathcal{P}(1)$ , the *unit* of  $\mathcal{P}$ , and a *symmetric group action*

$$\cdot : \mathcal{P}(n) \times \mathfrak{S}_n \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(n), \quad n \geq 1. \quad (2)$$

The above data has to satisfy the following relations:

$$(x \circ_i y) \circ_{i+j-1} z = x \circ_i (y \circ_j z), \quad x \in \mathcal{P}(n), y \in \mathcal{P}(m), z \in \mathcal{P}(k), i \in [n], j \in [m], \quad (3)$$

$$(x \circ_i y) \circ_{j+m-1} z = (x \circ_j z) \circ_i y, \quad x \in \mathcal{P}(n), y \in \mathcal{P}(m), z \in \mathcal{P}(k), 1 \leq i < j \leq n, \quad (4)$$

$$\mathbf{1} \circ_1 x = x = x \circ_1 \mathbf{1}, \quad x \in \mathcal{P}(n), i \in [n], \quad (5)$$

$$(x \cdot \sigma) \circ_i (y \cdot \nu) = (x \circ_{\sigma_i} y) \cdot B_i(\sigma, \nu), \quad x \in \mathcal{P}(n), y \in \mathcal{P}(m), \sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n, \nu \in \mathfrak{S}_m, i \in [n]. \quad (6)$$

The *arity* of an element  $x$  of  $\mathcal{P}(n)$  is  $n$ . Let  $\mathcal{Q}$  be an operad. A map  $\phi : \mathcal{P} \rightarrow \mathcal{Q}$  is an *operad morphism* if it commutes with substitution maps and symmetric group action and maps elements of arity  $n$  of  $\mathcal{P}$  to elements of arity  $n$  of  $\mathcal{Q}$ . A *non-symmetric operad* is an operad without symmetric group action. The above definitions also work when  $\mathcal{P}$  is a  $\mathbb{N}$ -graded vector space. In this case, the substitution maps  $\circ_i$  are linear maps, and the symmetric group action is linear on the left.

### 3 A combinatorial functor from monoids to operads

#### 3.1 The construction

##### 3.1.1 Monoids to operads

Let  $(M, \bullet, 1)$  be a monoid. Let us denote by  $TM$  the set  $TM := \bigsqcup_{n \geq 1} TM(n)$ , where for all  $n \geq 1$ ,

$$TM(n) := \{(x_1, \dots, x_n) : x_i \in M \text{ for all } i \in [n]\}. \quad (7)$$

We endow the set  $TM$  with maps

$$\circ_i : TM(n) \times TM(m) \rightarrow TM(n+m-1), \quad n, m \geq 1, i \in [n], \quad (8)$$

defined as follows: For all  $x \in TM(n)$ ,  $y \in TM(m)$ , and  $i \in [n]$ , we set

$$x \circ_i y := (x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, x_i \bullet y_1, \dots, x_i \bullet y_m, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_n). \quad (9)$$

Let us also set  $\mathbf{1} := (1)$  as a distinguished element of  $TM(1)$ . We endow finally each set  $TM(n)$  with a right action of the symmetric group

$$\cdot : TM(n) \times \mathfrak{S}_n \rightarrow TM(n), \quad n \geq 1, \quad (10)$$

defined as follows: For all  $x \in TM(n)$  and  $\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n$ , we set

$$x \cdot \sigma := (x_{\sigma_1}, \dots, x_{\sigma_n}). \quad (11)$$

The elements of  $TM$  are words over  $M$  regarded as an alphabet. The arity of an element  $x$  of  $TM(n)$ , denoted by  $|x|$ , is  $n$ . For the sake of readability, we shall denote in some cases an element  $(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  of  $TM(n)$  by its word notation  $x_1 \dots x_n$ .

**Proposition 3.1** *If  $M$  is a monoid, then  $TM$  is a set-operad.*

**Proof:** Let us respectively denote by  $\bullet$  and  $1$  the product and the unit of  $M$ . First of all, thanks to (8) and (9), the maps  $\circ_i$  are well-defined and are substitution maps of operads. Let us now show that  $TM$  satisfies (3), (4), (5), and (6).

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Let } x \in TM(n), y \in TM(m), z \in TM(k), i \in [n], \text{ and } j \in [m]. \text{ We have, using associativity of } \bullet, \\ (x \circ_i y) \circ_{i+j-1} z &= (x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, x_i \bullet y_1, \dots, x_i \bullet y_m, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_n) \circ_{i+j-1} z \\ &= (x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, x_i \bullet y_1, \dots, x_i \bullet y_{j-1}, (x_i \bullet y_j) \bullet z_1, \dots, (x_i \bullet y_j) \bullet z_k, \\ &\quad x_i \bullet y_{j+1}, \dots, x_i \bullet y_m, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_n) \\ &= (x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, x_i \bullet y_1, \dots, x_i \bullet y_{j-1}, x_i \bullet (y_j \bullet z_1), \dots, x_i \bullet (y_j \bullet z_k), \\ &\quad x_i \bullet y_{j+1}, \dots, x_i \bullet y_m, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_n) \\ &= x \circ_i (y_1, \dots, y_{j-1}, y_j \bullet z_1, \dots, y_j \bullet z_k, y_{j+1}, \dots, y_m) \\ &= x \circ_i (y \circ_j z), \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

showing that  $\circ_i$  satisfies (3).

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Let } x \in \mathbb{T}M(n), y \in \mathbb{T}M(m), z \in \mathbb{T}M(k), \text{ and } i < j \in [n]. \text{ We have,} \\
(x \circ_j z) \circ_i y &= (x_1, \dots, x_{j-1}, x_j \bullet z_1, \dots, x_j \bullet z_k, x_{j+1}, \dots, x_n) \circ_i y, \\
&= (x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, x_i \bullet y_1, \dots, x_i \bullet y_m, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_{j-1}, \\
&\quad x_j \bullet z_1, \dots, x_j \bullet z_k, x_{j+1}, \dots, x_n) \\
&= (x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, x_i \bullet y_1, \dots, x_i \bullet y_m, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_n) \circ_{j+m-1} z \\
&= (x \circ_i y) \circ_{j+m-1} z,
\end{aligned} \tag{13}$$

showing that  $\circ_i$  satisfies (4).

The element  $\mathbf{1}$  is the unit of  $\mathbb{T}M$ . Indeed, we have  $\mathbf{1} \in \mathbb{T}M(1)$ , and, for all  $x \in \mathbb{T}M(n)$  and  $i \in [n]$ ,

$$x \circ_i \mathbf{1} = (x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, x_i \bullet \mathbf{1}, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_n) = x, \tag{14}$$

since  $\mathbf{1}$  is the unit for  $\bullet$ , and

$$\mathbf{1} \circ_1 x = (\mathbf{1} \bullet x_1, \dots, \mathbf{1} \bullet x_n) = x, \tag{15}$$

for the same reason. That shows (5).

Finally, since the symmetric group  $\mathfrak{S}_n$  acts by permuting the letters of a word  $(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  of  $\mathbb{T}M(n)$ , the maps  $\circ_i$  and the action  $\cdot$  satisfy together (6).  $\square$

### 3.1.2 Monoids morphisms to operads morphisms

Let  $M$  and  $N$  be two monoids and  $\theta : M \rightarrow N$  be a monoid morphism. Let us denote by  $\mathbb{T}\theta$  the map

$$\mathbb{T}\theta : \mathbb{T}M \rightarrow \mathbb{T}N, \tag{16}$$

defined for all  $(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{T}M(n)$  by

$$\mathbb{T}\theta(x_1, \dots, x_n) := (\theta(x_1), \dots, \theta(x_n)). \tag{17}$$

**Proposition 3.2** *If  $M$  and  $N$  are two monoids and  $\theta : M \rightarrow N$  is a monoid morphism, then the map  $\mathbb{T}\theta : \mathbb{T}M \rightarrow \mathbb{T}N$  is an operad morphism.*

**Proof:** Let us respectively denote by  $\bullet_M$  (resp.  $\bullet_N$ ) and  $1_M$  (resp.  $1_N$ ) the product and the unit of  $M$  (resp.  $N$ ).

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Let } x \in \mathbb{T}M(n), y \in \mathbb{T}M(m), \text{ and } i \in [n]. \text{ Since } \theta \text{ is a monoid morphism, we have} \\
\mathbb{T}\theta(x \circ_i y) &= \mathbb{T}\theta(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, x_i \bullet_M y_1, \dots, x_i \bullet_M y_m, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_n) \\
&= (\theta(x_1), \dots, \theta(x_{i-1}), \theta(x_i \bullet_M y_1), \dots, \theta(x_i \bullet_M y_m), \theta(x_{i+1}), \dots, \theta(x_n)) \\
&= (\theta(x_1), \dots, \theta(x_{i-1}), \theta(x_i) \bullet_N \theta(y_1), \dots, \theta(x_i) \bullet_N \theta(y_m), \theta(x_{i+1}), \dots, \theta(x_n)) \\
&= (\theta(x_1), \dots, \theta(x_n)) \circ_i (\theta(y_1), \dots, \theta(y_m)) \\
&= \mathbb{T}\theta(x) \circ_i \mathbb{T}\theta(y).
\end{aligned} \tag{18}$$

Moreover, since  $(1_M)$  is by definition the unit of  $\mathbb{T}M$ , we have

$$\mathbb{T}\theta(1_M) = (\theta(1_M)) = (1_N). \tag{19}$$

Finally, since the symmetric group  $\mathfrak{S}_n$  acts by permuting letters, we have for all  $x \in \mathbb{T}M(n)$  and  $\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n$ ,  $\mathbb{T}\theta(x \cdot \sigma) = \mathbb{T}\theta(x) \cdot \sigma$ .

The map  $\mathbb{T}\theta$  satisfies the three required properties and hence, since by Proposition 3.1,  $\mathbb{T}M$  and  $\mathbb{T}N$  are operads,  $\mathbb{T}\theta$  is an operad morphism.  $\square$

### 3.2 Properties of the construction

**Proposition 3.3** *Let  $M$  and  $N$  be two monoids and  $\theta : M \rightarrow N$  be a monoid morphism. If  $\theta$  is injective (resp. surjective), then  $\mathbb{T}\theta$  is injective (resp. surjective).*

**Proof:** Assume that  $\theta$  is injective and that there are two elements  $x$  and  $y$  of  $\mathbb{T}M$  such that  $\mathbb{T}\theta(x) = \mathbb{T}\theta(y)$ . Then,

$$\mathbb{T}\theta(x) = (\theta(x_1), \dots, \theta(x_n)) = (\theta(y_1), \dots, \theta(y_n)) = \mathbb{T}\theta(y), \quad (20)$$

implying  $\theta(x_i) = \theta(y_i)$  for all  $i \in [n]$ . Since  $\theta$  is injective, we have  $x_i = y_i$  for all  $i \in [n]$  and thus,  $x = y$ . Hence, since  $\mathbb{T}\theta$  is, by Proposition 3.2, an operad morphism, it also is an injective operad morphism.

Assume that  $\theta$  is surjective and let  $y$  be an element of  $\mathbb{T}N(n)$ . Since  $\theta$  is surjective, there are some elements  $x_i$  of  $M$  such that  $\theta(x_i) = y_i$  for all  $i \in [n]$ . We have

$$\mathbb{T}\theta(x_1, \dots, x_n) = (\theta(x_1), \dots, \theta(x_n)) = (y_1, \dots, y_n). \quad (21)$$

Hence, since  $(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  is by definition an element of  $\mathbb{T}M(n)$ , and since  $\mathbb{T}\theta$  is, by Proposition 3.2, an operad morphism, it also is a surjective operad morphism.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.4** *The construction  $\mathbb{T}$  is a functor from the category of monoids with monoid morphisms to the category of set-operads with operad morphisms. Moreover,  $\mathbb{T}$  respects injections and surjections.*

**Proof:** By Proposition 3.1,  $\mathbb{T}$  constructs a set-operad from a monoid, and by Proposition 3.2, an operad morphism from a monoid morphism.

Let  $M$  be a monoid,  $\theta : M \rightarrow M$  be the identity morphism on  $M$ , and  $x$  be an element of  $\mathbb{T}M(n)$ . We have

$$\mathbb{T}\theta(x) = (\theta(x_1), \dots, \theta(x_n)) = (x_1, \dots, x_n) = x, \quad (22)$$

showing that  $\mathbb{T}\theta$  is the identity morphism on the operad  $\mathbb{T}M$ .

Let  $(L, \bullet_L)$ ,  $(M, \bullet_M)$ , and  $(N, \bullet_N)$  be three monoids,  $\theta : L \rightarrow M$  and  $\omega : M \rightarrow N$  be two monoid morphisms, and  $x$  be an element of  $\mathbb{T}L(n)$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{T}(\omega \circ \theta)(x) &= (\omega(\theta(x_1)), \dots, \omega(\theta(x_n))) \\ &= \mathbb{T}\omega(\theta(x_1), \dots, \theta(x_n)) \\ &= \mathbb{T}\omega(\mathbb{T}\theta(x_1, \dots, x_n)) \\ &= (\mathbb{T}\omega \circ \mathbb{T}\theta)(x), \end{aligned} \quad (23)$$

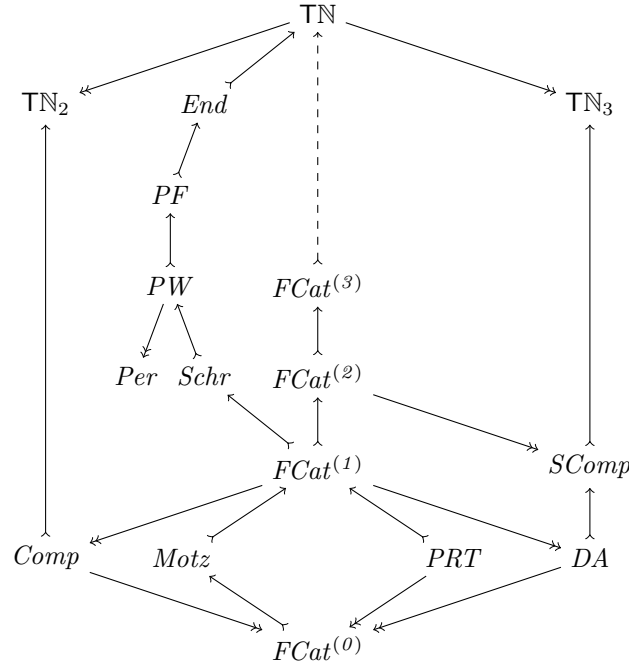
showing that  $\mathbb{T}$  is compatible with map composition. Hence,  $\mathbb{T}$  is a functor, and by Proposition 3.3,  $\mathbb{T}$  also respects injections and surjections.  $\square$

## 4 Some operads obtained by the construction

Through this Section, we consider examples of applications of the functor  $\mathbb{T}$ . We shall mainly consider, given a monoid  $M$ , some suboperads of  $\mathbb{T}M$ , symmetric or not, and generated by a finite subset of  $\mathbb{T}M$ .

We shall denote by  $\mathbb{N}$  the additive monoid of integers, and for all  $\ell \geq 1$ , by  $\mathbb{N}_\ell$  the quotient of  $\mathbb{N}$  consisting in the set  $\{0, 1, \dots, \ell - 1\}$  with the addition modulo  $\ell$  as the operation of  $\mathbb{N}_\ell$ . Note that since  $\mathbb{T}$  is a functor that respects surjective maps (see Theorem 3.4),  $\mathbb{T}\mathbb{N}_\ell$  is a quotient operad of  $\mathbb{T}\mathbb{N}$ .

The operads constructed in this Section fit into the diagram of non-symmetric operads represented in Figure 1. Table 1 summarizes some information about these operads.



**Figure 1:** The diagram of non-symmetric suboperads and quotients of  $T\mathbb{N}$ . Arrows  $\rightarrow$  (resp.  $\dashrightarrow$ ) are injective (resp. surjective) non-symmetric operad morphisms.

### 4.1 Endofunctions, parking functions, packed words, and permutations

Neither the set of endofunctions nor the set of parking functions, packed words, and permutations are suboperads of  $T\mathbb{N}$ . Indeed, one has the following counterexample:

$$12 \circ_2 12 = 134, \tag{24}$$

and, even if 12 is a permutation, 134 is not an endofunction.

Therefore, let us call a word  $u$  a *twisted* endofunction (resp. parking function, packed word, permutation) if the word  $(u_1 + 1, u_2 + 1, \dots, u_n + 1)$  is an endofunction (resp. parking function, packed word, permutation). For example, the word 2300 is a twisted endofunction since 3411 is an endofunction. Let us denote by  $End$  (resp.  $PF$ ,  $PW$ ,  $Per$ ) the set of endofunctions (resp. parking functions, packed words, permutations). Under this reformulation, one has the following result:

**Proposition 4.1** *The sets  $End$ ,  $PF$ , and  $PW$  are suboperads of  $T\mathbb{N}$ .*

For example, we have in  $End$  the following substitution:

$$2123 \circ_2 30313 = 24142423, \tag{25}$$

and the following application of the symmetric group action:

$$11210 \cdot 23514 = 12011. \tag{26}$$

Operad	Generators	First dimensions	Combinatorial objects
<i>End</i>	—	1, 4, 27, 256, 3125	Endofunctions
<i>PF</i>	—	1, 3, 16, 125, 1296	Parking functions
<i>PW</i>	—	1, 3, 13, 75, 541	Packed words
<i>Per</i>	—	1, 2, 6, 24, 120	Permutations
<i>PRT</i>	01	1, 1, 2, 5, 14, 42	Planar rooted trees
<i>FCat<sup>(k)</sup></i>	00, 01, ..., 0k	Fuss-Catalan numbers	<i>k</i> -Dyck paths
<i>Schr</i>	00, 01, 10	1, 3, 11, 45, 197	Schröder trees
<i>Motz</i>	00, 010	1, 1, 2, 4, 9, 21, 51	Motzkin paths
<i>Comp</i>	00, 01	1, 2, 4, 8, 16, 32	Integer compositions
<i>DA</i>	00, 01	1, 2, 5, 13, 35, 96	Directed animals
<i>SComp</i>	00, 01, 02	1, 3, 27, 81, 243	Segmented integer compositions

**Table 1:** Generators, first dimensions, and combinatorial objects involved in the non-symmetric suboperads and quotients of  $\mathbb{T}\mathbb{N}$ .

Note that *End* is not a finitely generated operad. Indeed, the twisted endofunctions  $u := u_1 \dots u_n$  satisfying  $u_i := n - 1$  for all  $i \in [n]$  cannot be obtained by substitutions involving elements of *End* of arity smaller than  $n$ . Similarly, *PF* is not a finitely generated operad since the twisted parking functions  $u := u_1 \dots u_n$  satisfying  $u_i := 0$  for all  $i \in [n - 1]$  and  $u_n := n - 1$  cannot be obtained by substitutions involving elements of *PF* of arity smaller than  $n$ . However, the operad *PW* is a finitely generated operad:

**Proposition 4.2** *The operad PW is the suboperad of  $\mathbb{T}\mathbb{N}$  generated, as a symmetric operad, by the elements 00 and 01.*

Let  $\mathbb{K}$  be a field and let us from now consider that *PW* is an operad in the category of  $\mathbb{K}$ -vector spaces, i.e., *PW* is the free  $\mathbb{K}$ -vector space over the set of twisted packed words with substitution maps and the right symmetric group action extended by linearity.

Let *I* be the free  $\mathbb{K}$ -vector space over the set of twisted packed words having multiple occurrences of a same letter.

**Proposition 4.3** *The vector space I is an operadic ideal of PW. Moreover, the operadic quotient  $Per := PW/I$  is the free vector space over the set of twisted permutations.*

One has, for all twisted permutations  $x$  and  $y$ , the following expression for the substitution maps in *Per*:

$$x \circ_i y = \begin{cases} x \circ_i y & \text{if } x_i = \max x, \\ 0_{\mathbb{K}} & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases} \tag{27}$$

where  $0_{\mathbb{K}}$  is the null vector of *Per* and the map  $\circ_i$  in the right member of (27) is the substitution map of *PW*.

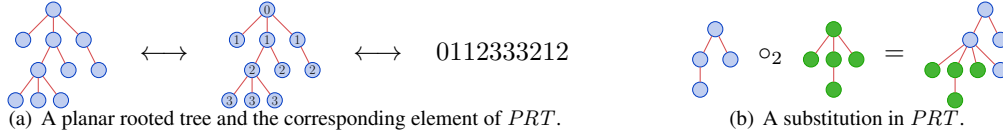
### 4.2 Planar rooted trees

Let *PRT* be the non-symmetric suboperad of  $\mathbb{T}\mathbb{N}$  generated by 01. One has the following characterization of the elements of *PRT*:

**Proposition 4.4** *The elements of PRT are exactly the words x on the alphabet  $\mathbb{N}$  that satisfy  $x_1 = 0$  and  $1 \leq x_{i+1} \leq x_i + 1$  for all  $i \in [|x| - 1]$ .*



Proposition 4.4 implies that we can regard the elements of arity  $n$  of  $PRT$  as planar rooted trees with  $n$  nodes. Indeed, there is a bijection between words of  $PRT$  and such trees. Given a planar rooted tree  $T$ , one computes an element of  $PRT$  by labelling each node  $x$  of  $T$  by its depth and then, by reading its labels following a depth-first traversal of  $T$ . Figure 2(a) shows an example of this bijection.



**Figure 2:** Interpretation of the elements and substitution of the non-symmetric operad  $PRT$  in terms of planar rooted trees.

This bijection offers an alternative way to compute the substitution in  $PRT$ :

**Proposition 4.5** *Let  $S$  and  $T$  be two planar rooted trees and  $s$  be the  $i$ th visited node of  $S$  following its depth-first traversal. The substitution  $S \circ_i T$  in  $PRT$  amounts to graft the subtrees of the root of  $T$  as leftmost sons of  $s$ .*

Figure 2(b) shows an example of substitution in  $PRT$ .

**Proposition 4.6** *The non-symmetric operad  $PRT$  is isomorphic to the free non-symmetric operad generated by one element of arity 2.*

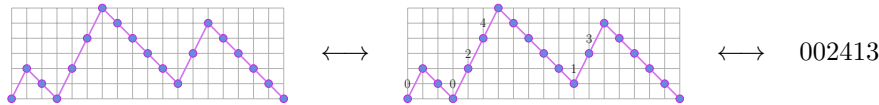
Proposition 4.6 also says that  $PRT$  is isomorphic to the magmatic operad. Hence,  $PRT$  is a realization of the magmatic operad. Moreover,  $PRT$  can be seen as a planar version of the operad  $NAP$  of Livernet [9].

### 4.3 Generalized Dyck paths

Let  $k \geq 0$  be an integer and  $FCat^{(k)}$  be the non-symmetric suboperad of  $TN$  generated by  $00, 01, \dots, 0k$ . One has the following characterization of the elements of  $FCat^{(k)}$ :



**Proposition 4.7** *The elements of  $FCat^{(k)}$  are exactly the words  $x$  on the alphabet  $\mathbb{N}$  that satisfy  $x_1 = 0$  and  $0 \leq x_{i+1} \leq x_i + k$  for all  $i \in [|x| - 1]$ .*

Let us recall that a  $k$ -Dyck path of length  $n$  is a path in  $\mathbb{N}^2$  connecting the points  $(0, 0)$  and  $((k + 1)n, 0)$  and consisting in  $n$  up steps  $(1, k)$  and  $kn$  down steps  $(1, -1)$ . It is well-known that  $k$ -Dyck paths are enumerated by Fuss-Catalan numbers [6]. Proposition 4.7 implies that we can regard the elements of arity  $n$  of  $FCat^{(k)}$  as  $k$ -Dyck paths of length  $n$ . Indeed, there is a bijection between words of  $FCat^{(k)}$  and such paths. Given a  $k$ -Dyck path  $P$ , one computes an element of  $FCat^{(k)}$  by writing, from left to right, the ordinate of the starting point of each up step of  $P$ . Figure 3 shows an example of this bijection.



**Figure 3:** A 2-Dyck path and the corresponding element of the non-symmetric operad  $FCat^{(2)}$ .

Note that the operad  $FCat^{(0)}$  is the commutative associative operad. Next Theorem elucidates the structure of  $FCat^{(1)}$ :

**Theorem 4.8** *The non-symmetric operad  $FCat^{(1)}$  is the free non-symmetric operad generated by two elements  and  of arity 2, subject to the three relations*

$$\begin{matrix} \text{purple zigzag} \circ_1 \text{purple zigzag} \\ \text{purple zigzag} \circ_1 \text{purple zigzag} \end{matrix} = \begin{matrix} \text{purple zigzag} \circ_2 \text{purple zigzag} \\ \text{purple zigzag} \circ_2 \text{purple zigzag} \end{matrix}, \quad (28)$$

$$\begin{matrix} \text{purple zigzag} \circ_1 \text{purple zigzag} \\ \text{purple zigzag} \circ_1 \text{purple zigzag} \end{matrix} = \begin{matrix} \text{purple zigzag} \circ_2 \text{purple zigzag} \\ \text{purple zigzag} \circ_2 \text{purple zigzag} \end{matrix}, \quad (29)$$

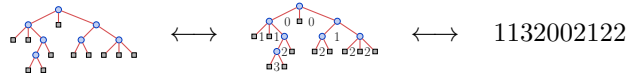
$$\begin{matrix} \text{purple zigzag} \circ_1 \text{purple zigzag} \\ \text{purple zigzag} \circ_1 \text{purple zigzag} \end{matrix} = \begin{matrix} \text{purple zigzag} \circ_2 \text{purple zigzag} \\ \text{purple zigzag} \circ_2 \text{purple zigzag} \end{matrix}. \quad (30)$$

### 4.4 Schröder trees




Let  $Schr$  be the non-symmetric suboperad of  $T\mathbb{N}$  generated by 00, 01, and 10. One has the following characterization of the elements of  $Schr$ :




**Proposition 4.9** *The elements of  $Schr$  are exactly the words  $x$  on the alphabet  $\mathbb{N}$  that have at least one occurrence of 0 and, for all letter  $b \geq 1$  of  $x$ , there exists a letter  $a := b - 1$  such that  $x$  has a factor  $aub$  or  $bua$  where  $u$  is a word consisting in letters  $c$  satisfying  $c \geq b$ .*

Recall that a *Schröder tree* is a planar rooted tree such that no node has exactly one child. The *leaves* of a Schröder tree are the nodes without children. We call *sector* of a Schröder tree  $T$  a triple  $(x, i, j)$  consisting in a node  $x$  and two adjacent edges  $i$  and  $j$ , where  $i$  is immediately on the left of  $j$ . Proposition 4.9 implies that we can regard the elements of arity  $n$  of  $Schr$  as Schröder trees with  $n$  leaves. Indeed, there is a bijection between words of  $Schr$  and such trees. Given a Schröder tree  $T$ , one computes an element of  $Schr$  by labelling each sector  $(x, i, j)$  of  $T$  by the depth of  $x$  and then, by reading the labels from left to right. Figure 4 shows an example of this bijection.



**Figure 4:** A Schröder tree and the corresponding element of the non-symmetric operad  $Schr$ .

Let us respectively denote by , , and  the generators 00, 01, and 10 of  $Schr$ .

**Proposition 4.10** *The generators , , and  of  $Schr$  are subject, in degree 2, to the seven relations*

$$\begin{matrix} \text{tree with root 0} \circ_1 \text{tree with root 0} \\ \text{tree with root 0} \circ_1 \text{tree with root 0} \end{matrix} = \begin{matrix} \text{tree with root 0} \circ_2 \text{tree with root 0} \\ \text{tree with root 0} \circ_2 \text{tree with root 0} \end{matrix}, \quad (31)$$

$$\begin{matrix} \text{tree with root 1} \circ_1 \text{tree with root 1} \\ \text{tree with root 1} \circ_1 \text{tree with root 1} \end{matrix} = \begin{matrix} \text{tree with root 1} \circ_2 \text{tree with root 1} \\ \text{tree with root 1} \circ_2 \text{tree with root 1} \end{matrix}, \quad (32)$$

$$\begin{matrix} \text{tree with root 0} \circ_1 \text{tree with root 1} \\ \text{tree with root 0} \circ_1 \text{tree with root 1} \end{matrix} = \begin{matrix} \text{tree with root 0} \circ_2 \text{tree with root 1} \\ \text{tree with root 0} \circ_2 \text{tree with root 1} \end{matrix}, \quad (33)$$

$$\begin{matrix} \text{tree with root 1} \circ_1 \text{tree with root 0} \\ \text{tree with root 1} \circ_1 \text{tree with root 0} \end{matrix} = \begin{matrix} \text{tree with root 1} \circ_2 \text{tree with root 0} \\ \text{tree with root 1} \circ_2 \text{tree with root 0} \end{matrix}, \quad (34)$$

$$\begin{matrix} \text{tree with root 0} \circ_1 \text{tree with root 1} \\ \text{tree with root 0} \circ_1 \text{tree with root 1} \end{matrix} = \begin{matrix} \text{tree with root 0} \circ_2 \text{tree with root 1} \\ \text{tree with root 0} \circ_2 \text{tree with root 1} \end{matrix}, \quad (35)$$

$$\begin{matrix} \text{tree with root 1} \circ_1 \text{tree with root 0} \\ \text{tree with root 1} \circ_1 \text{tree with root 0} \end{matrix} = \begin{matrix} \text{tree with root 1} \circ_2 \text{tree with root 0} \\ \text{tree with root 1} \circ_2 \text{tree with root 0} \end{matrix}, \quad (36)$$

$$\begin{matrix} \text{tree with root 0} \circ_1 \text{tree with root 0} \\ \text{tree with root 0} \circ_1 \text{tree with root 0} \end{matrix} = \begin{matrix} \text{tree with root 0} \circ_2 \text{tree with root 0} \\ \text{tree with root 0} \circ_2 \text{tree with root 0} \end{matrix}. \quad (37)$$

### 4.5 Motzkin paths

Let  $Motz$  be the non-symmetric suboperad of  $T\mathbb{N}$  generated by 00 and 010. Since 00 and 01 generate  $FCat^{(1)}$  and since  $010 = 00 \circ_1 01$ ,  $Motz$  is a non-symmetric suboperad of  $FCat^{(1)}$ . One has the following characterization of the elements of  $Motz$ :

**Proposition 4.11** *The elements of  $Motz$  are exactly the words  $x$  on the alphabet  $\mathbb{N}$  that begin and start by 0 and such that  $|x_i - x_{i+1}| \leq 1$  for all  $i \in [|x| - 1]$ .*

Recall that a Motzkin path of length  $n$  is a path in  $\mathbb{N}^2$  connecting the points  $(0, 0)$  and  $(n, 0)$ , and consisting in *up steps*  $(1, 1)$ , *down steps*  $(1, -1)$ , and *stationary steps*  $(1, 0)$ . Proposition 4.11 implies that we can regard the elements of arity  $n$  of  $Motz$  as Motzkin paths of length  $n - 1$ . Indeed there is a bijection between words of  $Motz$  and such paths. Given a Motzkin path  $P$ , one computes an element

of *Motz* by writing for each point  $p$  of  $P$  the ordinate of  $p$ , and then, by reading these labels from left to right. Figure 5 shows an example of this bijection.

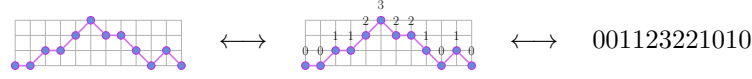


Figure 5: A Motzkin path and the corresponding element of the non-symmetric operad *Motz*.

Let us respectively denote by  $\bullet\bullet$  and  $\curvearrowright$  the generators 00 and 010 of *Motz*.

**Proposition 4.12** *The generators  $\bullet\bullet$  and  $\curvearrowright$  of *Motz* are subject, in degree 2, to the four relations*

$$\begin{aligned} \bullet\bullet \circ_1 \bullet\bullet &= \bullet\bullet \circ_2 \bullet\bullet, & (38) & & \bullet\bullet \circ_1 \curvearrowright &= \curvearrowright \circ_3 \bullet\bullet, & (40) \\ \curvearrowright \circ_1 \bullet\bullet &= \bullet\bullet \circ_2 \curvearrowright, & (39) & & \curvearrowright \circ_1 \curvearrowright &= \curvearrowright \circ_3 \curvearrowright. & (41) \end{aligned}$$

### 4.6 Integer compositions

Let *Comp* be the non-symmetric suboperad of  $\mathbb{T}\mathbb{N}_2$  generated by 00 and 01. Since  $FCat^{(1)}$  is the non-symmetric suboperad of  $\mathbb{T}\mathbb{N}$  generated by 00 and 01, and since  $\mathbb{T}\mathbb{N}_2$  is a quotient of  $\mathbb{T}\mathbb{N}$ , *Comp* is a quotient of  $FCat^{(1)}$ . One has the following characterization of the elements of *Comp* :

**Proposition 4.13** *The elements of *Comp* are exactly the words on the alphabet  $\{0, 1\}$  that begin by 0.*

Proposition 4.13 implies that we can regard the elements of arity  $n$  of *Comp* as integer compositions of  $n$ . Indeed, there is a bijection between words of *Comp* and integer compositions. Given a composition  $C := (C_1, C_2, \dots, C_\ell)$ , one computes the following element of *Comp*:

$$01^{C_1-1}01^{C_2-1} \dots 01^{C_\ell-1}. \tag{42}$$

Encoding integer compositions by ribbon diagrams offers an alternative way to compute the substitution in *Comp*:

**Proposition 4.14** *Let  $C$  and  $D$  be two ribbon diagrams,  $i$  be an integer, and  $c$  be the  $i$ th visited box of  $C$  by scanning it from up to down and from left to right. Then, the substitution  $C \circ_i D$  in *Comp* returns to replace  $c$  by  $D$  if  $c$  is the upper box of its column, or to replace  $c$  by the transpose ribbon diagram of  $D$  otherwise.*

Figure 6 shows two examples of substitution in *Comp*.

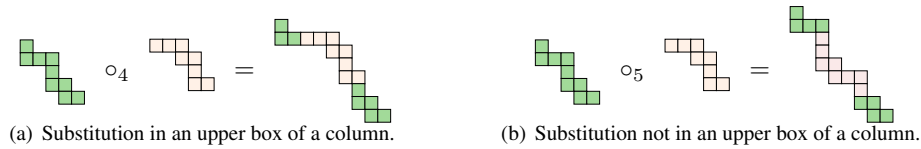


Figure 6: Two examples of substitutions in the non-symmetric operad *Comp*.

**Theorem 4.15** *The non-symmetric operad *Comp* is the free non-symmetric operad generated by two elements  $\blacksquare$  and  $\square$  of arity 2, subject to the four relations*

$$\begin{aligned} \blacksquare \circ_1 \blacksquare &= \blacksquare \circ_2 \blacksquare, & (43) & & \square \circ_1 \square &= \square \circ_2 \blacksquare, & (45) \\ \square \circ_1 \blacksquare &= \blacksquare \circ_2 \square, & (44) & & \blacksquare \circ_1 \square &= \square \circ_2 \square. & (46) \end{aligned}$$

### 4.7 Directed animals

Let  $DA$  be the non-symmetric suboperad of  $T\mathbb{N}_3$  generated by 00 and 01. Since  $FCat^{(1)}$  is the non-symmetric suboperad of  $T\mathbb{N}$  generated by 00 and 01, and since  $T\mathbb{N}_3$  is a quotient of  $T\mathbb{N}$ ,  $DA$  is a quotient of  $FCat^{(1)}$ .

From now, we shall represent by  $-1$  the element 2 of  $\mathbb{N}_3$ . With this encoding, let

$$\phi : \{-1, 0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{-1, 0, 1\}^{n-1}, \quad (47)$$

be the map defined for all  $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b} \in \{-1, 0, -1\}$  by

$$\phi(\mathbf{a}) := \epsilon \quad \text{and} \quad \phi(\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} \cdot u) := (\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{a}) \cdot \phi(u). \quad (48)$$

For example, the element  $x := 011220201$  of  $DA$  is represented by the word  $x' := 011 -1 -10 -101$  and we have  $\phi(x') = 10101 -111$ .

**Proposition 4.16** *By interpreting letters  $-1$  (resp. 0, 1) as down (resp. stationary, up) steps, the map  $\phi$  induces a bijection between the elements of  $DA$  of arity  $n$  and the prefixes of Motzkin paths of length  $n - 1$ .*

Recall that a *directed animal* is a subset  $A$  of  $\mathbb{N}^2$  such that  $(0, 0) \in A$  and  $(i, j) \in A$  with  $i \geq 1$  or  $j \geq 1$  implies  $(i - 1, j) \in A$  or  $(i, j - 1) \in A$ . Using a bijection of Gouyou-Beauchamps and Viennot [7] between directed animals of size  $n$  and prefixes of Motzkin paths of length  $n - 1$ , one obtains, by Proposition 4.16, a bijection between the elements of  $DA$  of arity  $n$  and directed animals of size  $n$ . Hence,  $DA$  is a non-symmetric operad on directed animals.

### 4.8 Segmented integer compositions

Let  $SComp$  be the non-symmetric suboperad of  $T\mathbb{N}_3$  generated by 00, 01, and 02. Since  $FCat^{(2)}$  is the non-symmetric suboperad of  $T\mathbb{N}$  generated by 00, 01, and 02, and since  $T\mathbb{N}_3$  is a quotient of  $T\mathbb{N}$ ,  $SComp$  is a quotient of  $FCat^{(2)}$ . One has the following characterization of the elements of  $SComp$ :

**Proposition 4.17** *The elements of  $SComp$  are exactly the words on the alphabet  $\{0, 1, 2\}$  that begin by 0.*

Recall that a *segmented integer composition* of  $n$  is a sequence  $(S_1, \dots, S_\ell)$  of integers compositions such that  $S_1$  is an integer composition of  $n_1, \dots, S_\ell$  is an integer composition of  $n_\ell$ , and  $n_1 + \dots + n_\ell = n$ . Proposition 4.17 implies that we can regard the elements of arity  $n$  of  $SComp$  as segmented integer compositions of  $n$ . Indeed, there is a bijection between words of  $SComp$  and segmented compositions since there are  $3^{n-1}$  segmented compositions of  $n$  and also, by the above Proposition,  $3^{n-1}$  elements of  $SComp$  of arity  $n$ .

### 4.9 The diassociative operad

Let  $M$  be the submonoid of the multiplicative monoid restricted to the set  $\{0, 1\}$ . Let  $D$  be the non-symmetric suboperad of  $TM$  generated by 01 and 10. One has the following characterization of the elements of  $D$ :

**Proposition 4.18** *The elements of  $D$  are exactly the words on the alphabet  $\{0, 1\}$  that contain exactly one 1.*

Recall that the *diassociative operad* [10]  $Dias$  is the non-symmetric operad generated by two elements  $\dashv$  and  $\vdash$  of arity 2, subject only to the relations

$$\dashv \circ_1 \dashv = \dashv \circ_2 \dashv = \dashv \circ_2 \vdash, \quad (49) \quad \dashv \circ_1 \vdash = \vdash \circ_2 \dashv. \quad (51)$$

$$\vdash \circ_2 \vdash = \vdash \circ_1 \vdash = \vdash \circ_1 \dashv, \quad (50)$$

**Proposition 4.19** *The non-symmetric operads  $D$  and  $Dias$  are isomorphic. The map  $\phi : Dias \rightarrow D$  defined by  $\phi(\dashv) := 10$  and  $\phi(\vdash) := 01$  is an isomorphism.*

Proposition 4.19 also says that  $D$  is a realization of the diassociative operad.

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