

FINITE EQUATIONAL BASES  
FOR UNIVERSAL ALGEBRAS

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A Thesis Abstract  
Presented to  
the Faculty of Graduate Studies  
University of Manitoba

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In Partial Fulfillment  
of the Requirements for the Degree  
Master of Arts

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April 1968

### THESIS ABSTRACT

This thesis is concerned with the problem of determining under what conditions the identities holding in a universal algebra can be formally deduced from a finite subset (a finite equational basis) of these identities. After a preliminary review of the basic results of Universal Algebra, the problem is considered in its most general form, and some results about the concept of deducibility are obtained. Then the effect of the number of elements in a finite algebra upon its possession of a finite equational basis is investigated. Finally, further results in the field are stated and discussed, to provide a review of the research to date.



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#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to express my gratitude to my advisor, Prof. G. Gratzner, for his kind assistance, and for making available to me various unpublished results.

I would also like to thank the administrative staff of Brandon University for their assistance in preparing the final copies of this thesis.

## CHAPTER I

### PRELIMINARIES

The purpose of this chapter is to introduce the basic concepts and theorems of Universal Algebra which will be required in the remainder of the discussion. The results are presented without proof, and the reader is referred to G. Gratzner's Universal Algebra [3] for full details.

#### 1. Universal Algebras

Definition 1.1: A type  $\tau$  is a sequence of non-negative integers,  $\langle n_0, n_1, \dots, n_\gamma, \dots \rangle$ ,  $\gamma < o(\tau)$ , where  $o(\tau)$  is an ordinal number called the order of the type.

For each  $\gamma < o(\tau)$ , we introduce a symbol  $f_\gamma$ , called an operation symbol.

Definition 1.2: An algebra  $\mathcal{A} = \langle A; F \rangle$  of type  $\tau$  is an ordered pair, where  $A$  is a non-void set, and  $F = \langle f_0, f_1, \dots, f_\gamma, \dots \rangle$ ,  $\gamma < o(\tau)$ , is a sequence of operations on  $A$ .

$f_\gamma$  is an  $n_\gamma$ -ary operation, called the realization of  $\underline{f}_\gamma$  in  $\mathcal{A}$ . If  $n_\gamma = 0$ ,  $f_\gamma$  is a nullary operation; that is, a mapping  $f_\gamma: A^\circ = \{\emptyset\} \rightarrow A$ , and so effectively picks out an element  $a = f_\gamma(\emptyset)$  from  $A$ . We will often denote  $f_\gamma$  by  $a$  in this case.

If  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  are algebras of the same type, we denote the realizations of  $\underline{f}_\gamma$  in both algebras by  $f_\gamma$ . If there is danger of confusion, we will use the notation  $(f_\gamma)_{\mathcal{A}}$  and  $(f_\gamma)_{\mathcal{B}}$ . Thus, in general, we will write  $\mathcal{A} = \langle A; F \rangle$  and  $\mathcal{B} = \langle B; F \rangle$ .

Definition 1.3: An algebra will be said to be A-finite if the set of elements upon which it is defined is finite, and F-finite if the set of operations is finite. An algebra is finite if it is both A-finite and F-finite. When an algebra is F-finite, so that the set of operations has the form  $\langle f_0, f_1, \dots, f_{n-1} \rangle$ , we will write  $\mathcal{A} = \langle A; f_0, f_1, \dots, f_{n-1} \rangle$ .

We denote by  $K(\tau)$  the class of all algebras of type  $\tau$ .

Definition 1.4: Let  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B} \in K(\tau)$ . Then a mapping  $\delta: A \rightarrow B$  is a homomorphism if

$$f_{\gamma}(a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{n_{\gamma}-1})\delta = f_{\gamma}(a_0\delta, a_1\delta, \dots, a_{n_{\gamma}-1}\delta)$$

for all  $f_{\gamma} \in F$ , and all  $a_i \in A$ . The concepts of endomorphism, isomorphism, and automorphism are then defined in the usual manner.

Definition 1.5: An equivalence relation  $\theta$  on  $A$  is a congruence relation on  $\mathcal{A} = \langle A; F \rangle$  if  $a_i \equiv b_i(\theta)$  implies

$$f_{\gamma}(a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{n_{\gamma}-1}) \equiv f_{\gamma}(b_0, b_1, \dots, b_{n_{\gamma}-1})(\theta)$$

for all  $f_{\gamma} \in F$ .

If  $\theta$  is a congruence relation on  $\mathcal{A}$ , we can define a factor algebra  $\mathcal{A}/\theta = \langle A/\theta; F \rangle$  in the usual manner. If  $\delta: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$  is a homomorphism, then the relation  $\theta$  on  $A$  defined by:  $a \equiv b(\theta)$  if and only if  $a\delta = b\delta$ , is a congruence on  $\mathcal{A}$ . Furthermore,  $\mathcal{A}/\theta$  is isomorphic to  $\langle A\delta; F \rangle$ . There are two trivial congruence relations on any algebra: the relation of equality, and the total relation, where any two elements are congruent.

## 2. Polynomials and Polynomial Symbols

Definition 1.6: The n-ary polynomials of an algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  are functions from  $A^n \rightarrow A$ , defined as follows:

- (i) The projections  $e_i^n(x_0, x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}) = x_i$ ,  
for  $i = 0, 1, \dots, n-1$ , are  $n$ -ary polynomials.  
In practice, the function  $e_i^n$  is identified  
with the variable  $x_i$ .
- (ii) If  $p_0(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}), p_1(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}), \dots$   
 $p_{n_\gamma-1}(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1})$  are  $n$ -ary polynomials,  
then so is  $f_\gamma(p_0, p_1, \dots, p_{n_\gamma-1})(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}) =$   
 $f_\gamma(p_0(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}), \dots, p_{n_\gamma-1}(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}))$ .
- (iii) The  $n$ -ary polynomials of the algebra are those,  
and only those, which can be obtained from (i)  
and (ii) in a finite number of steps.

Equality of  $n$ -ary polynomials is equality of functions.

We can extend this definition to  $\alpha$ -ary polynomials, where  $\alpha$  is an arbitrary ordinal number, by considering functions from  $A^\alpha$  into  $A$ . We need only replace  $e_i^n(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1})$  by  $e_i^\alpha(x_0, \dots, x_\gamma, \dots)$ ,  $\gamma < \alpha$ . Then every  $\alpha$ -ary polynomial depends upon only a finite number of its variables, and every  $n$ -ary polynomial can be extended to an  $\alpha$ -ary polynomial by the introduction of dummy variables. Since every  $\alpha$ -ary polynomial is essentially finite, it is usually most convenient to consider

$\omega$ -ary polynomials, where  $\omega$  is the order type of the natural numbers. We obtain essentially the same operations on  $A$  as we would from the  $n$ -ary polynomials,  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ , with the advantage that we can discuss the equality of functions without considering their arities.

A nullary operation is an  $\alpha$ -ary polynomial for every  $\alpha$ , and nullary polynomials exist if and only if there are nullary operations.

We will write  $p(x_0, x_1, \dots, x_{n-1})$  to mean that the set of variables upon which the function  $p$  depends is contained within the set  $\{x_0, x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}\}$ .

Definition 1.7: The  $n$ -ary polynomial symbols of type  $\tau$  are defined as follows:

- (i)  $\underline{x}_0, \underline{x}_1, \dots, \underline{x}_{n-1}$  are  $n$ -ary polynomial symbols.
- (ii) If  $\underline{p}_0, \underline{p}_1, \dots, \underline{p}_{n_\gamma-1}$  are  $n$ -ary polynomial symbols, then so is  $\underline{f}_\gamma(\underline{p}_0, \underline{p}_1, \dots, \underline{p}_{n_\gamma-1})$ .
- (iii) The  $n$ -ary polynomial symbols are those, and only those, which can be obtained from (i) and (ii) in a finite number of steps.

Again, we can extend the above definition for an arbitrary ordinal  $\alpha$  by modifying clause (i) to admit  $\underline{x}_0, \underline{x}_1, \dots, \underline{x}_\gamma, \dots$ ,  $\gamma < \alpha$ , as  $\alpha$ -ary polynomial symbols.

Nullary polynomial symbols exist if and only if nullary operation symbols exist in the type  $\tau$ . If  $a$  is a nullary operation, then  $\underline{a}$  will denote the corresponding symbol.

We will write  $\underline{p}(\underline{x}_0, \underline{x}_1, \dots, \underline{x}_{n-1})$  to indicate that the set of variable symbols occurring in  $\underline{p}$  is contained within the set  $\{\underline{x}_0, \underline{x}_1, \dots, \underline{x}_{n-1}\}$ . The expression  $\underline{p}(\underline{r}_0, \underline{r}_1, \dots, \underline{r}_{n-1})$  will denote the polynomial symbol which results from replacing each occurrence of  $\underline{x}_i$  by the polynomial symbol  $\underline{r}_i$  in  $\underline{p}$ .

If infix notation is used for operations, the same notation will be used for the corresponding operation symbol, as, for example, in  $\underline{x}_0 + \underline{x}_1$ . The context will make clear whether the operation  $+$  or the operation symbol  $+$  is intended. When only several variable symbols are involved in a polynomial symbol, we will use the more usual  $\underline{x}, \underline{y}, \underline{z}, \underline{u}, \underline{v}, \underline{w}, \dots$ , instead of  $\underline{x}_0, \underline{x}_1, \underline{x}_2, \dots$ .

As with polynomials, we will henceforth consider all polynomial symbols to be  $\omega$ -ary, unless otherwise stated.

Definition 1.8: Let  $\underline{p}$  be a polynomial symbol of type  $\tau$  and  $\mathcal{A}$  an algebra of type  $\tau$ . Then the polynomial induced in  $\mathcal{A}$  by  $\underline{p}$  is defined as follows:

- (i)  $\underline{x}_i$  induces  $e_i^\omega(x_0, x_1, \dots, x_\gamma, \dots)$ .
- (ii) If  $\underline{p}$  is  $\underline{f}_\gamma(\underline{p}_0, \underline{p}_1, \dots, \underline{p}_{n_\gamma-1})$ , and if  $\underline{p}_i$  induces  $p_i(x_0, \dots, x_\gamma, \dots)$ , then  $\underline{p}$  induces  $f_\gamma(p_0, \dots, p_{n_\gamma-1})(x_0, \dots, x_\gamma, \dots)$ .

Definition 1.9: Let  $\underline{P}(\tau)$  denote the  $\omega$ -ary polynomial symbols of type  $\tau$ . Then for  $f_\gamma \in F$ , and  $\underline{p}_0, \dots, \underline{p}_{n_\gamma-1} \in \underline{P}(\tau)$ , we define:

$$f_\gamma(\underline{p}_0, \dots, \underline{p}_{n_\gamma-1}) = \underline{f}_\gamma(\underline{p}_0, \dots, \underline{p}_{n_\gamma-1}).$$

Then we get an algebra of type  $\tau$  :

$$\mathcal{P}(\tau) = \langle \underline{P}(\tau); F \rangle$$

called the polynomial algebra of type  $\tau$ .

Similarly, we can define the  $\alpha$ -ary polynomial algebra  $\mathcal{P}^{(\alpha)}(\tau)$ , using  $\alpha$ -ary polynomial symbols.

### 3. Subterms

Definition 1.10: For each polynomial symbol  $\underline{p}$  of type  $\tau$ , we define a set  $s(\underline{p}) \subseteq \underline{P}(\tau)$  called the set of subterms of  $\underline{p}$ :

$$(i) \ s(\underline{x}_i) = \{\underline{x}_i\}.$$

(ii) If  $\underline{p}$  is  $\underline{f}_\gamma(\underline{p}_0, \underline{p}_1, \dots, \underline{p}_{n_\gamma-1})$ , then  $s(\underline{p}) =$

$$\{\underline{p}\} \cup s(\underline{p}_0) \cup s(\underline{p}_1) \cup \dots \cup s(\underline{p}_{n_\gamma-1}).$$

A polynomial symbol  $\underline{q}$  is a subterm of  $\underline{p}$  if  $\underline{q} \in s(\underline{p})$ .

We speak of the occurrence of a subterm  $\underline{q}$  if we wish to emphasize its position in  $\underline{p}$  as well as its form. Let  $os(\underline{p})$  be the set of all occurrences of subterms of  $\underline{p}$ . Then  $s(\underline{p}) \subseteq os(\underline{p})$ , with distinct occurrences of  $\underline{q}$  as a subterm of  $\underline{p}$  counting as distinct elements of  $os(\underline{p})$ .

We define a partial order  $\subseteq$  on  $os(\underline{p})$  as follows:  $\underline{r} \subseteq \underline{q}$  if and only if  $\underline{r} \in os(\underline{q})$ . If  $\underline{p}$  is  $\underline{f}_\gamma(\underline{p}_0, \dots, \underline{p}_{n_\gamma-1})$ , then the branches of  $\langle os(\underline{p}); \subseteq \rangle$  are the partially ordered sets  $\langle os(\underline{p}_i); \subseteq \rangle$ . It is clear that the inclusion diagram for  $\langle os(\underline{p}); \subseteq \rangle$  is a reverse tree, in the sense that distinct branches of  $\langle os(\underline{q}); \subseteq \rangle$  are disjoint for any  $\underline{q} \in os(\underline{p})$ .

Definition 1.11:  $\underline{q}, \underline{r} \in \text{os}(\underline{p})$  are said to overlap if there exists  $\underline{t} \in \text{os}(\underline{p})$  such that  $\underline{t} \subseteq \underline{q}$ , and  $\underline{t} \subseteq \underline{r}$ .

Lemma 1.12: If  $\underline{q}$  and  $\underline{r}$  overlap, then  $\underline{q} \subseteq \underline{r}$  or  $\underline{r} \subseteq \underline{q}$ .

Proof: If  $\underline{q}$  and  $\underline{r}$  are not comparable, then they occur in distinct branches of some subterm of  $\underline{p}$ . But these distinct branches are disjoint, so that  $\underline{t} \subseteq \underline{q}$  and  $\underline{t} \subseteq \underline{r}$  is impossible. Hence,  $\underline{q}$  and  $\underline{r}$  must be comparable.

#### 4. Identities

Definition 1.13: An identity of type  $\tau$  is an expression of the form  $\underline{p} = \underline{q}$ , where  $\underline{p}, \underline{q} \in \underline{P}(\tau)$ .

Definition 1.14: An identity  $\underline{p} = \underline{q}$  of type  $\tau$  holds in  $\mathcal{A} \in K(\tau)$  if  $\underline{p}$  and  $\underline{q}$  induce the same polynomial in  $\mathcal{A}$ .

Definition 1.15:  $\text{Id}(\mathcal{A})$  is the set of all identities which hold in  $\mathcal{A}$ . If  $K \subseteq K(\tau)$ ,  $\text{Id}(K)$  is the set of all identities which hold in every  $\mathcal{A} \in K$ .

Definition 1.16: If  $\Sigma$  is a set of identities of type  $\tau$ , then  $\Sigma''$  is the class of all algebras  $\mathcal{A}$  of type  $\tau$  such that each identity in  $\Sigma$  holds in  $\mathcal{A}$ .

## 5. Direct and Subdirect Products

Definition 1.17: Let  $\mathcal{A}_i = \langle A_i; F \rangle$ ,  $i \in I$ , be a family of algebras of the same type. The direct product of the algebras  $\mathcal{A}_i$  is the algebra

$$\Pi(\mathcal{A}_i \mid i \in I) = \langle \Pi(A_i \mid i \in I); F \rangle$$

where the operations are defined as follows:

$$f_\gamma(p_0, p_1, \dots, p_{n_\gamma-1})(i) = f_\gamma(p_0(i), \dots, p_{n_\gamma-1}(i))$$

for  $i \in I$ , and the  $p_j \in \Pi(A_i \mid i \in I)$ .

If  $I = \{0, 1, \dots, n-1\}$ , then we write  $\mathcal{A}_0 \times \mathcal{A}_1 \times \dots \times \mathcal{A}_{n-1}$  for the direct product of the algebras. If  $\mathcal{A}_i = \mathcal{A}$  for all  $i \in I$ , then we write  $\mathcal{A}^I$  for the direct product, and call it a direct power of  $\mathcal{A}$ . If, in this case,  $I = \{0, 1, \dots, n-1\}$ , then, we write  $\mathcal{A}^n$ .

Definition 1.18: The mapping  $\delta_i: \Pi(\mathcal{A}_i \mid i \in I) \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_i$  defined by  $\delta_i: p \rightarrow p(i)$  is called the ith projection.  $\delta_i$  is a homomorphism onto  $\mathcal{A}_i$ .

Definition 1.19: A subalgebra  $B$  of  $\Pi(\mathcal{A}_i \mid i \in I)$  is called a subdirect product of the  $\mathcal{A}_i$ ,  $i \in I$ , if the restriction of each  $\delta_i$  to  $B$  is onto  $\mathcal{A}_i$ .

If  $\alpha_i = \alpha$  for all  $i \in I$ , then  $\mathfrak{b}$  is called a subdirect power of  $\alpha$ .

If  $\epsilon_i$  is the congruence induced by  $\delta_i$ , let  $\theta_i$  be  $\epsilon_i$  restricted to  $\mathfrak{b}$ . Then  $\mathfrak{b}/\theta_i \cong \alpha_i$ , and  $\bigcap (\theta_i | i \in I)$  is the trivial congruence of equality. Conversely, if  $\{\theta_i | i \in I\}$  is a family of congruences on an algebra  $\alpha$  such that  $\bigcap (\theta_i | i \in I)$  is the trivial congruence of equality, then  $\alpha$  is isomorphic to a subdirect product of the algebras  $\alpha/\theta_i$ ,  $i \in I$ .

Definition 1.20:  $\alpha$  is subdirectly irreducible if, for any family of congruences  $\{\theta_i | i \in I\}$  on  $\alpha$ ,  $\bigcap (\theta_i | i \in I)$  being equality implies that  $\theta_i$  is equality for some  $i \in I$ .

Birkhoff has shown that every universal algebra is isomorphic to a subdirect product of subdirectly irreducible algebras.

## 6. Free Algebras

Definition 1.21: Let  $K \subseteq K(\tau)$ , and let  $\alpha$  be an ordinal number. The free algebra over  $K$  with  $\alpha$  generators, denoted by  $\mathcal{F}_K(\alpha) = \langle \mathcal{F}_K(\alpha); F \rangle$ , is defined as follows:

- (i)  $f_K(\alpha) \in K$ .
- (ii)  $f_K(\alpha)$  is generated by  $x_0, x_1, \dots, x_\gamma, \dots$ ,  
 $\gamma < \alpha$ .
- (iii) If  $a_0, a_1, \dots, a_\gamma, \dots$ ,  $\gamma < \alpha$ , are elements  
of an arbitrary algebra  $\mathcal{A} \in K$ , then the  
mapping  $x_\gamma \rightarrow a_\gamma$  can be extended to a homo-  
morphism of  $f_K(\alpha) \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ .

If  $f_K(\alpha)$  exists, it is unique up to isomor-  
phism. Specifically,  $f_K(\alpha) \cong \mathcal{P}^{(\alpha)}(\tau)/\theta_K$ , where  
 $\mathcal{P}^{(\alpha)}(\tau)$  is the polynomial algebra formed on  $\alpha$  variable  
symbols, and  $\theta_K$  is the congruence defined by:  $\underline{p} \equiv \underline{q}(\theta_K)$   
if and only if  $\underline{p} = \underline{q} \in \text{Id}(K)$ .

## 7. Equational Classes

Definition 1.22:  $K \equiv K(\tau)$  is an equational class  
if  $K = \Sigma''$ , for some set  $\Sigma$  of identities of type  $\tau$ .

A famous theorem proved by Birkhoff characterizes  
equational classes as those which are closed under the form-  
ation of subalgebras, homomorphic images, and direct pro-  
ducts.

Let  $\underline{S}(K)$  be the class of subalgebras of algebras of  $K$ . Similarly, define  $\underline{H}(K)$  and  $\underline{P}(K)$  for homomorphic images and direct products. Finally, let  $\underline{HSP}(K)$  represent  $\underline{H}(\underline{S}(\underline{P}(K)))$ . Then if  $K$  is any class of algebras,  $\underline{HSP}(K)$  is the smallest equational class containing  $K$ . If  $K = \{\mathcal{A}\}$ , we write  $\underline{HSP}(\mathcal{A})$  for the equational class generated by  $\mathcal{A}$ . These equational classes can also be defined as  $(\text{Id}(K))''$  and  $(\text{Id}(\mathcal{A}))''$ .

If  $K = \Sigma''$  is equational, then the free algebra over  $K$  on  $\alpha$  generators exists, and  $\mathcal{F}_K(\alpha)$  is isomorphic to  $\mathcal{P}^{(\alpha)}(\tau)/\theta_K$ , where  $\underline{p} \equiv \underline{q}(\theta_K)$  if and only if  $\underline{p} = \underline{q} \in \text{Id}(K)$ . Furthermore, the free algebra on  $\omega$  generators,  $\mathcal{F}_K(\omega) \cong \mathcal{P}(\tau)/\theta_K$ , satisfies precisely the set of identities  $\text{Id}(K)$ , and so completely determines  $K$ .

## CHAPTER II

### THE FINITE EQUATIONAL BASIS PROBLEM

This chapter contains a precise statement of the problem with which this thesis is concerned, and some very general results concerning this problem. All the results proved here are well-known to researchers in the field, and are used informally in the various papers on the subject. Since full proofs are not available in the literature, however, they are presented here.

#### 1. Deducibility

Let  $\Sigma$  be a set of identities of type  $\tau$ . We shall define what is meant by the statement: " $\underline{p} = \underline{q}$  can be deduced from  $\Sigma$ ", which is symbolized by:

$$\Sigma \vdash \underline{p} = \underline{q}.$$

We first give the elementary rules of inference in the following:

##### Definition 2.1:

(i)  $\vdash \underline{x}_0 = \underline{x}_0$  (in other words, we can always deduce this identity).

$$(ii) \underline{p} = \underline{q} \vdash \underline{q} = \underline{p}$$

$$(iii) \underline{p} = \underline{q}, \underline{q} = \underline{r} \vdash \underline{p} = \underline{r}$$

$$(iv) \underline{p}_i = \underline{q}_i, i = 0, 1, \dots, n_\gamma - 1 \vdash \\ \underline{f}_\gamma(\underline{p}_0, \underline{p}_1, \dots, \underline{p}_{n_\gamma - 1}) = \underline{f}_\gamma(\underline{q}_0, \underline{q}_1, \dots, \underline{q}_{n_\gamma - 1})$$

(v) If  $\underline{p}'$  and  $\underline{q}'$  are derived from  $\underline{p}$  and  $\underline{q}$  by replacing all occurrences of  $\underline{x}_i$  by an arbitrary polynomial symbol  $\underline{r}$ , then  $\underline{p} = \underline{q} \vdash \underline{p}' = \underline{q}'$ .

Definition 2.2: If  $\Sigma$  is a set of identities, a proof from  $\Sigma$  is a finite sequence of identities:

$$\begin{aligned}\underline{p}_0 &= \underline{q}_0 \\ \underline{p}_1 &= \underline{q}_1 \\ &\vdots \\ \underline{p}_{n-1} &= \underline{q}_{n-1}\end{aligned}$$

such that either  $\underline{p}_i = \underline{q}_i \in \Sigma$ , or  $\underline{p}_i = \underline{q}_i$  follows from previous identities in the sequence by the rules of inference. The sequence is said to be a proof of  $\underline{p}_{n-1} = \underline{q}_{n-1}$  from  $\Sigma$ .

Definition 2.3:  $\Sigma \vdash \underline{p} = \underline{q}$  means there is a proof from  $\Sigma$  of  $\underline{p} = \underline{q}$ .

We note that by using rules (i) and (v), that we always have  $\vdash \underline{p} = \underline{p}$ . Further, rule (iv) can be extended to:

(iv') If  $\underline{p}(\underline{x}_0, \dots, \underline{x}_{n-1}) \in \underline{P}(\tau)$ , then  $\underline{p}_0 = \underline{q}_0, \dots, \underline{p}_{n-1} = \underline{q}_{n-1} \vdash \underline{p}(\underline{p}_0, \dots, \underline{p}_{n-1}) = \underline{p}(\underline{q}_0, \dots, \underline{q}_{n-1})$ .

The proof of (iv') is immediate by induction on the number of operation symbols occurring in  $\underline{p}$ .

Definition 2.4: The closure of  $\Sigma$ , denoted by  $\bar{\Sigma}$ , is the set of all identities which can be deduced from  $\Sigma$ .  $\Sigma$  is closed if  $\Sigma = \bar{\Sigma}$ .

Definition 2.5:  $\Sigma \vdash W$  means  $\Sigma \vdash \underline{p} = \underline{q}$  for each  $\underline{p} = \underline{q} \in W$ . Equivalently, we could define this to mean  $W \subseteq \bar{\Sigma}$ .

We note that if  $\Sigma \subseteq W$ , then  $\bar{\Sigma} \subseteq \bar{W}$ , and that if  $\Sigma \vdash W$ , then  $\bar{W} \subseteq \bar{\Sigma}$ .

If  $\Sigma = \text{Id}(\mathcal{A})$ , then  $\Sigma$  is closed. Conversely, if  $\Sigma$  is closed, then  $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{P}(\tau)/\theta$ , where  $\underline{p} \equiv \underline{q}(\theta)$  if and only if  $\underline{p} = \underline{q} \in \Sigma$ , is an algebra with  $\text{Id}(\mathcal{A}) = \Sigma$ . Thus rules (i) to (v) provide a complete set of rules of inference in the following sense: if  $\underline{p} = \underline{q}$  is satisfied in  $\mathcal{A}$  whenever  $\Sigma$  is satisfied in  $\mathcal{A}$ , then  $\Sigma \vdash \underline{p} = \underline{q}$ .

## 2. Bases for Sets of Identities

Definition 2.6: A set  $\Sigma$  of identities of type  $\tau$  is finitely based if there exists a finite set  $W$  of identities of type  $\tau$  such that  $\bar{W} = \bar{\Sigma}$ .

Theorem 2.7: If  $\Sigma$  is finitely based, then there exists a finite set of identities  $\Sigma_0 \subseteq \Sigma$  such that  $\bar{\Sigma}_0 = \bar{\Sigma}$ .

Proof: Let  $W = \{ p_i = q_i \mid i = 0, 1, \dots, n-1 \}$  be a finite set of identities such that  $\bar{W} = \bar{\Sigma}$ . Then  $W \subseteq \bar{\Sigma}$ , so for each  $p_i = q_i$ , there is a proof from  $\Sigma$ , involving a finite set of identities  $E_i \subseteq \Sigma$ . Let  $\Sigma_0 = E_0 \cup E_1 \cup \dots \cup E_{n-1}$ . Since  $\Sigma_0 \subseteq \Sigma$ ,  $\bar{\Sigma}_0 \subseteq \bar{\Sigma}$ . Also,  $\Sigma_0 \vdash W$ , so  $\bar{W} = \bar{\Sigma} \subseteq \bar{\Sigma}_0$ . Thus  $\bar{\Sigma}_0 = \bar{\Sigma}$ .

Such a set  $\Sigma_0$  will be called a finite basis for  $\Sigma$ . If  $\Sigma = \text{Id}(\mathcal{A})$ , then  $\Sigma_0$  will be called a finite equational basis (FEB) for  $\mathcal{A}$ .

The finite equational basis problem, in its most general form, is the following: to find necessary and sufficient conditions for an algebra to have a FEB. A related problem is the following: given an algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  satisfying various properties, to determine whether  $\mathcal{A}$  has a FEB.

### 3. Extension of Rules of Deduction

Definition 2.8: Let  $\underline{p}(x_0, \dots x_{n-1})$ ,  $\underline{q}(x_0, \dots x_{n-1})$  be polynomial symbols of type  $\tau$ . Let  $\underline{p}'$  and  $\underline{q}'$  be  $\underline{p}(p_0, \dots p_{n-1})$  and  $\underline{q}(p_0, \dots p_{n-1})$ . Let  $\underline{r} \in P(\tau)$ , such that  $\underline{p}'$  is a subterm of  $\underline{r}$ . Let  $\underline{t}$  be the result of substituting  $\underline{q}'$  for  $\underline{p}'$  in  $\underline{r}$ .

Then  $\underline{p} = \underline{q} \overset{S_1}{\vdash} \underline{r} = \underline{t}$ .

Definition 2.9:  $\underline{p} = \underline{q} \overset{S_2}{\vdash} \underline{r} = \underline{t}$  if and only if

$\underline{p} = \underline{q} \overset{S_1}{\vdash} \underline{t} = \underline{r}$ .

We will use the symbol  $S$  to mean "either  $S_1$  or  $S_2$ ".

Theorem 2.10: If  $\underline{p} = \underline{q} \overset{S}{\vdash} \underline{r} = \underline{t}$ , then  $\underline{p} = \underline{q} \vdash \underline{r} = \underline{t}$ .

Proof: If  $S$  is  $S_1$ , then  $\underline{p} = \underline{q} \vdash \underline{p}' = \underline{q}'$  by a finite number of applications of rule (v). Then a finite number of applications of rule (iv) yields  $\underline{p} = \underline{q} \vdash \underline{r} = \underline{t}$ . If  $S$  is  $S_2$ , then we have by the first part of the theorem,

that  $\underline{p} = \underline{q} \vdash \underline{t} = \underline{r}$ , since, by definition,  $\underline{p} = \underline{q} \overset{S_1}{\vdash} \underline{t} = \underline{r}$ . Then, by rule (ii),  $\underline{p} = \underline{q} \vdash \underline{r} = \underline{t}$ .

We note, in particular, that if  $\underline{p}$  is a subterm of  $\underline{r}$  and  $\underline{t}$  is the result of substituting  $\underline{q}$  for  $\underline{p}$  in  $\underline{r}$ , then  $\underline{p} = \underline{q} \vdash \underline{r} = \underline{t}$ .

Lemma 2.11: If  $\underline{p} = \underline{q} \vdash^S \underline{r} = \underline{t}$ , and if  $\underline{r}'$  and  $\underline{t}'$  are obtained from  $\underline{r}$  and  $\underline{t}$  by substituting  $\underline{s}$  for all occurrences of  $\underline{x}_i$ , then  $\underline{p} = \underline{q} \vdash^S \underline{r}' = \underline{t}'$ .

Proof: It is sufficient to prove the result for  $S = S_1$ .

We recall that, by Definition 2.8,  $\underline{r}$  and  $\underline{t}$  have subterms  $\underline{p}'$  and  $\underline{q}'$  respectively, where  $\underline{p}'$  is  $\underline{p}(\underline{p}_0, \dots, \underline{p}_{n-1})$  and  $\underline{q}'$  is  $\underline{q}(\underline{p}_0, \dots, \underline{p}_{n-1})$ . Let  $\underline{p}'_0, \dots, \underline{p}'_{n-1}$  be the result of substituting  $\underline{s}$  for  $\underline{x}_i$  in  $\underline{p}_0, \dots, \underline{p}_{n-1}$ , and let  $\underline{p}''$  be  $\underline{p}(\underline{p}'_0, \dots, \underline{p}'_{n-1})$  and let  $\underline{q}''$  be  $\underline{q}(\underline{p}'_0, \dots, \underline{p}'_{n-1})$ . Then  $\underline{r}'$  has  $\underline{p}''$  as a subterm, and  $\underline{t}'$  is  $\underline{r}'$  with  $\underline{q}''$  substituted for  $\underline{p}''$ .

Thus  $\underline{p} = \underline{q} \vdash^{S_1} \underline{r}' = \underline{t}'$ .

Definition 2.12: Let  $\Sigma$  be a set of identities containing the identities  $\underline{p}_i = \underline{q}_i$ , for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .

Suppose the following sequence of deductions holds:

$$\begin{array}{c}
\underline{p}_1 = \underline{q}_1 \quad \frac{}{S} \quad \underline{r} = \underline{t}_1 \\
\underline{p}_2 = \underline{q}_2 \quad \frac{}{S} \quad \underline{t}_1 = \underline{t}_2 \\
\vdots \\
\underline{p}_n = \underline{q}_n \quad \frac{}{S} \quad \underline{t}_{n-1} = \underline{t}.
\end{array}$$

Then we say that  $\underline{t}$  is obtainable from  $\underline{r}$  through  $\Sigma$ ,

and we write  $\Sigma \frac{}{T} \underline{r} = \underline{t}$ . The sequence of deductions is called a T-sequence for  $\underline{r} = \underline{t}$ , or a T-sequence connecting  $\underline{r}$  to  $\underline{t}$ .

Theorem 2.13: If  $\Sigma \frac{}{T} \underline{r} = \underline{t}$ , then  $\Sigma \vdash \underline{r} = \underline{t}$ .

Proof: The proof is immediate from Theorem 2.10, and rule (iii).

Theorem 2.14: If  $\Sigma \vdash \underline{p} = \underline{q}$ , then either  $\underline{p}$  is  $\underline{q}$ ,

or  $\Sigma \frac{}{T} \underline{p} = \underline{q}$ .

Proof: The proof is by induction on  $k$  = the length of a proof from  $\Sigma$  of  $\underline{p} = \underline{q}$ . If  $k = 1$ , then  $\underline{p} = \underline{q} \in \Sigma$

and we have  $\underline{p} = \underline{q} \frac{}{S_1} \underline{p} = \underline{q}$ , which is a T-sequence for  $\underline{p} = \underline{q}$ .

We now assume that  $\underline{p}$  is not  $\underline{q}$ , and that the theorem is true for all identities which have a proof from  $\Sigma$  of length  $< k$ . There are four cases to consider, corresponding to the rules of inference (ii), (iii), (iv), and (v).

Case 1: Suppose that  $\underline{p} = \underline{q}$  follows from  $\underline{q} = \underline{p}$  occurring earlier in the proof, and hence having a proof of length  $< k$ . Then there is a T-sequence connecting  $\underline{q}$  to  $\underline{p}$ :

$$\begin{array}{c} \underline{p}_1 = \underline{q}_1 \quad \left| \begin{array}{c} \underline{S} \\ \hline \end{array} \right. \quad \underline{q} = \underline{t}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \underline{p}_n = \underline{q}_n \quad \left| \begin{array}{c} \underline{S} \\ \hline \end{array} \right. \quad \underline{t}_{n-1} = \underline{p}. \end{array}$$

Let  $\bar{S}_1 = S_2$ , and let  $\bar{S}_2 = S_1$ . Then

$$\begin{array}{c} \underline{p}_n = \underline{q}_n \quad \left| \begin{array}{c} \bar{S} \\ \hline \end{array} \right. \quad \underline{p} = \underline{t}_{n-1} \\ \vdots \\ \underline{p}_1 = \underline{q}_1 \quad \left| \begin{array}{c} \bar{S} \\ \hline \end{array} \right. \quad \underline{t}_1 = \underline{q} \end{array}$$

is a T-sequence for  $\underline{p} = \underline{q}$  from  $\Sigma$ .

Case 2: Suppose  $\underline{p} = \underline{q}$  follows from  $\underline{p} = \underline{r}$  and  $\underline{r} = \underline{q}$  occurring earlier in the proof. Then we have T-sequences

connecting  $\underline{p}$  to  $\underline{r}$ , and  $\underline{r}$  to  $\underline{q}$ . The juxtaposition of the two T-sequences is clearly a T-sequence for  $\underline{p} = \underline{q}$ .

Case 3: Suppose that  $\underline{p}$  is  $\underline{f}(\underline{p}_0, \dots \underline{p}_{n-1})$ ,  $\underline{q}$  is  $\underline{f}(\underline{q}_0, \dots \underline{q}_{n-1})$ , where  $\underline{f}$  is an operation symbol, and  $\underline{p}_i = \underline{q}_i$ ,  $i = 0, 1, \dots n-1$ , occur earlier in the proof. Then we have a T-sequence for each  $\underline{p}_i = \underline{q}_i$ . Suppose, that for  $\underline{p}_0 = \underline{q}_0$ , we have:

$$\begin{array}{c} \underline{r}_1 = \underline{s}_1 \quad \vdash^S \quad \underline{p}_0 = \underline{t}_1 \\ \\ \underline{r}_2 = \underline{s}_2 \quad \vdash^S \quad \underline{t}_1 = \underline{t}_2 \\ \\ \vdots \\ \\ \underline{r}_m = \underline{s}_m \quad \vdash^S \quad \underline{t}_{m-1} = \underline{q}_0. \end{array}$$

Then we can construct the T-sequence:

$$\begin{array}{c} \underline{r}_1 = \underline{s}_1 \quad \vdash^S \quad \underline{f}(\underline{p}_0, \dots \underline{p}_{n-1}) = \underline{f}(\underline{t}_1, \underline{p}_1, \dots \underline{p}_{n-1}) \\ \\ \underline{r}_2 = \underline{s}_2 \quad \vdash^S \quad \underline{f}(\underline{t}_1, \underline{p}_1, \dots \underline{p}_{n-1}) = \underline{f}(\underline{t}_2, \underline{p}_1, \dots \underline{p}_{n-1}) \\ \\ \vdots \\ \\ \underline{r}_m = \underline{s}_m \quad \vdash^S \quad \underline{f}(\underline{t}_{m-1}, \underline{p}_1, \dots \underline{p}_{n-1}) = \underline{f}(\underline{q}_0, \underline{p}_1, \dots \underline{p}_{n-1}). \end{array}$$

Similarly, using the T-sequence for  $\underline{p}_1 = \underline{q}_1$ , we can construct a T-sequence connecting  $\underline{f}(\underline{q}_0, \underline{p}_1, \dots, \underline{p}_{n-1})$  to  $\underline{f}(\underline{q}_0, \underline{q}_1, \underline{p}_2, \dots, \underline{p}_{n-1})$ . Finally, we will get a T-sequence connecting  $\underline{f}(\underline{q}_0, \dots, \underline{q}_{n-2}, \underline{p}_{n-1})$  to  $\underline{q}$ , which is  $\underline{f}(\underline{q}_0, \dots, \underline{q}_{n-1})$ . The juxtaposition of all these T-sequences will yield a T-sequence connecting  $\underline{p}$  to  $\underline{q}$ .

Case 4: Suppose that  $\underline{p}$  is derived from  $\underline{p}'$  by replacing all occurrences of the variable  $\underline{x}_i$  by a polynomial symbol  $\underline{s}$ , and that  $\underline{q}$  is similarly derived from  $\underline{q}'$ . Further, suppose that  $\underline{p}' = \underline{q}'$  occurs earlier in the proof. Then we have a T-sequence connecting  $\underline{p}'$  to  $\underline{q}'$ :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \underline{p}_1 = \underline{q}_1 & \xrightarrow{\underline{s}} & \underline{p}' = \underline{t}_1 \\ & \vdots & \\ & \vdots & \\ \underline{p}_n = \underline{q}_n & \xrightarrow{\underline{s}} & \underline{t}_{n-1} = \underline{q}' \end{array}$$

Using Lemma 2.11, we can replace all occurrences of  $\underline{x}_i$  in all identities on the right by  $\underline{s}$ , thus obtaining a T-sequence connecting  $\underline{p}$  to  $\underline{q}$ .

This completes the proof of the theorem.

#### 4. Normal Forms

Let  $\Sigma$  be a set of identities of type  $\tau$ . Then the binary relation  $\theta$  on  $P(\tau)$  defined by  $\underline{p} \equiv \underline{q}(\theta)$  if and only if  $\underline{p} = \underline{q} \in \bar{\Sigma}$ , is an equivalence relation.

Definition 2.15: A set  $N \subseteq P(\tau)$  of representatives of equivalence classes of  $P(\tau)/\theta$  is called a set of normal forms of  $\Sigma$ .

Thus for each  $\underline{p} \in P(\tau)$ , there is a unique  $\underline{p}_N \in N$ , the representative of the class  $[\underline{p}]\theta$ , such that  $\Sigma \vdash \underline{p} = \underline{p}_N$ .  $\Sigma$  is said to reduce  $\underline{p}$  to normal form  $\underline{p}_N$ .

Definition 2.16: Let  $W$  be any set of identities of type  $\tau$ . We say  $\Sigma$  normalizes  $W$  if there exists a set of normal forms,  $N$ , for  $\Sigma$ , such that whenever  $\underline{p} = \underline{q} \in W$ , then  $\underline{p}_N$  is  $\underline{q}_N$ .  $\Sigma$  is called a normalizer of  $W$ .

Theorem 2.17: If  $\Sigma$  normalizes  $W$ , then  $\Sigma \vdash W$ .

Proof: Let  $\underline{p} = \underline{q} \in W$ . Then  $\Sigma \vdash \underline{p} = \underline{p}_N$ , and  $\Sigma \vdash \underline{q} = \underline{q}_N$ . But  $\underline{p}_N$  is  $\underline{q}_N$ , so  $\Sigma \vdash \underline{p} = \underline{q}$ . Thus,  $\Sigma \vdash W$ .

Corollary 2.18: If  $\Sigma \subseteq W$  is a normalizer of  $W$ , then  $\bar{\Sigma} = \bar{W}$ .

Proof: If  $\Sigma \subseteq W$ , then  $\bar{\Sigma} \subseteq \bar{W}$ . Since  $\Sigma \vdash W$ ,  $\bar{W} \subseteq \bar{\Sigma}$ . Thus  $\bar{\Sigma} = \bar{W}$ .

We now consider the special case when  $W = \text{Id}(\mathcal{A})$ , for some algebra  $\mathcal{A}$ .

Theorem 2.19: Let  $\Sigma \subseteq \text{Id}(\mathcal{A})$ . Let  $(\underline{p})_{\mathcal{A}}$  denote the polynomial induced in  $\mathcal{A}$  by  $\underline{p}$ . Then  $\Sigma$  normalizes  $\text{Id}(\mathcal{A})$  if there exists a set  $N$  of normal forms such that, for distinct  $\underline{p}, \underline{q} \in N$ ,  $(\underline{p})_{\mathcal{A}} \neq (\underline{q})_{\mathcal{A}}$ .

Proof: Let  $\underline{p} = \underline{q} \in \text{Id}(\mathcal{A})$ , and let  $N$  be a set of normal forms of  $\Sigma$  as described in the theorem. We must show that  $\underline{p}_N$  is  $\underline{q}_N$ . Since  $\Sigma \vdash \underline{p} = \underline{p}_N$ ,  $\underline{q} = \underline{q}_N$ , and  $\Sigma \subseteq \text{Id}(\mathcal{A})$ , which is a closed set of identities, we have that  $\underline{p} = \underline{p}_N \in \text{Id}(\mathcal{A})$ , and  $\underline{q} = \underline{q}_N \in \text{Id}(\mathcal{A})$ . Then  $\underline{p} = \underline{q} \in \text{Id}(\mathcal{A})$  implies that  $\underline{p}_N = \underline{q}_N \in \text{Id}(\mathcal{A})$ ; that is,  $(\underline{p}_N)_{\mathcal{A}} = (\underline{q}_N)_{\mathcal{A}}$ . So  $\underline{p}_N$  must be  $\underline{q}_N$ , since if they were distinct, we would have that  $(\underline{p}_N)_{\mathcal{A}} \neq (\underline{q}_N)_{\mathcal{A}}$ .

## 5. Equivalence of Identities Modulo a Set of Identities

Let  $\Sigma \subseteq W$ , where  $W$  is a closed set of identities.

Definition 2.20: Let  $\underline{p} = \underline{q}, \underline{r} = \underline{s} \in W$ . These identities are equivalent modulo  $\Sigma$  if and only if:

$$\Sigma \cup \{ \underline{p} = \underline{q} \} \vdash \underline{r} = \underline{s}$$

and

$$\Sigma \cup \{ \underline{r} = \underline{s} \} \vdash \underline{p} = \underline{q}.$$

This is an equivalence relation on  $W$ .  $\bar{\Sigma}$  is an equivalence class, called the zero class.  $W/\Sigma$  denotes the set of equivalence classes.

Definition 2.21: Let  $N$  be a set of representatives of the non-zero equivalence classes of  $W/\Sigma$ .  $M \subseteq W$  is a basis modulo  $\Sigma$  for  $N$  if  $\Sigma \cup M \vdash N$ .

Theorem 2.22: If  $M$  is a basis modulo  $\Sigma$  for  $N$ , then  $\Sigma \cup M \vdash W$ .

Proof: Let  $\underline{p} = \underline{q} \in W$ , and  $(\underline{p} = \underline{q})_N$  the representative of  $[\underline{p} = \underline{q}]$ . Then  $\Sigma \cup M \vdash (\underline{p} = \underline{q})_N$ , and

$$\Sigma \cup \{ (\underline{p} = \underline{q})_N \} \vdash \underline{p} = \underline{q}. \text{ Thus } \Sigma \cup M \vdash \underline{p} = \underline{q}.$$

If  $W = \text{Id}(\mathcal{M})$  and  $\Sigma$  is finite, then we need only find a finite basis for a set of representatives

N of  $W/\Sigma$  to prove that  $\mathcal{A}$  has a FEB. The theorem, therefore, allows us to assume that any identity holding in  $\mathcal{A}$  has a particular form.

To illustrate this, let  $\mathcal{G}$  be a group, and let  $\Sigma$  be the group identities:  $\underline{x} \cdot (\underline{y} \cdot \underline{z}) = (\underline{x} \cdot \underline{y}) \cdot \underline{z}$ ,  $\underline{x} \cdot \underline{1} = \underline{x}$ ,  $\underline{1} \cdot \underline{x} = \underline{x}$ ,  $\underline{x} \cdot \underline{x}^{-1} = \underline{1}$ ,  $\underline{x}^{-1} \cdot \underline{x} = \underline{1}$ . If  $\underline{r} = \underline{s}$  is an identity holding in  $\mathcal{G}$ , then

$$\Sigma \cup \{\underline{r} = \underline{s}\} \vdash \underline{r} \cdot \underline{s}^{-1} = \underline{1}$$

$$\text{and } \Sigma \cup \{\underline{r} \cdot \underline{s}^{-1} = \underline{1}\} \vdash \underline{r} = \underline{s}.$$

Thus, in discussing the FEB problem for  $\mathcal{G}$ , we may assume that every identity satisfied in  $\mathcal{G}$  can be written in the form  $\underline{p} = \underline{1}$ . If we add to  $\Sigma$  the identity  $\underline{x} \cdot \underline{y} = \underline{y} \cdot \underline{x}$ , so that we have abelian groups, then we can assume that every identity has the form:

$$\underline{x}_0^{k_0} \cdot \underline{x}_1^{k_1} \cdot \dots \cdot \underline{x}_{n-1}^{k_{n-1}} = \underline{1}$$

where the  $k_i$  are integers, with the understanding that

$k_i = 0$  means that  $\underline{x}_i$  does not occur on the left.

Suppose that  $\underline{p}' = \underline{q}'$  is obtained from  $\underline{p} = \underline{q}$  by changing variable symbols in such a way that distinct variable symbols remain distinct. Then  $\underline{p}' = \underline{q}'$  and  $\underline{p} = \underline{q}$  are equivalent modulo the void set of identities. Hence if  $\underline{p} = \underline{q}$  has at most  $n$  distinct variable symbols, we can, in most cases, assume that these symbols are  $\underline{x}_0, \underline{x}_1, \dots, \underline{x}_{n-1}$ .

## 6. Equivalent Algebras

Let  $\mathcal{A} \in K(\tau)$  and  $\mathcal{A}' \in K(\sigma)$  be algebras defined on the same set  $A$ . Thus,  $\mathcal{A} = \langle A; F \rangle$  and  $\mathcal{A}' = \langle A; G \rangle$ . Let  $P(\mathcal{A})$  and  $P(\mathcal{A}')$  denote the sets of polynomials of  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{A}'$  respectively.

Definition 2.23:  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{A}'$  are equivalent if  $P(\mathcal{A}) = P(\mathcal{A}')$ .

Let  $f \in F$  be an  $n$ -ary operation on  $A$ . Then  $f \in P(\mathcal{A}')$ , so there is an  $n$ -ary polynomial symbol  $\underline{f}'(\underline{x}_0, \dots, \underline{x}_{n-1}) \in \underline{P}(\sigma)$  which induces the same function on  $A$ . Similarly, for  $g \in G$ , there is a polynomial symbol  $\underline{g}'(\underline{x}_0, \dots, \underline{x}_{m-1}) \in \underline{P}(\tau)$  which induces the same function on  $A$  as does  $g$ . We now define a mapping  $\underline{p} \rightarrow \underline{p}'$  of  $\underline{P}(\tau) \rightarrow \underline{P}(\sigma)$  as follows:

- (i)  $\underline{x}_i \rightarrow \underline{x}_i$ , for  $i = 0, 1, \dots$
- (ii) If  $\underline{p}$  is  $\underline{f}(\underline{p}_0, \dots, \underline{p}_{n-1})$ , and if  $\underline{p}_i \rightarrow \underline{p}'_i$ , then  $\underline{p} \rightarrow \underline{f}'(\underline{p}'_0, \dots, \underline{p}'_{n-1})$ .

Similarly, we define a mapping  $\underline{q} \rightarrow \underline{q}'$  of  $\underline{P}(\sigma) \rightarrow \underline{P}(\tau)$ .

This mapping makes precise the following procedure: for each operation symbol in  $\underline{p} \in \underline{P}(\tau)$ , we substitute the corresponding polynomial symbol of  $\underline{P}(\sigma)$ .

It is clear that the result is independent of the order in which the substitutions are made. Hence, we have the following:

Lemma 2.24: For any polynomial symbol  $\underline{t}$  of type  $\tau$  or  $\sigma$ , let  $\underline{t}''$  denote  $(\underline{t}')'$ . Then if  $\underline{p}$  is  $\underline{g}(\underline{p}_0, \dots, \underline{p}_{m-1})$ ,  $\underline{p}''$  is  $\underline{g}''(\underline{p}_0'', \dots, \underline{p}_{m-1}'')$ .

Lemma 2.25:  $\underline{p}$  and  $\underline{p}'$  induce the same functions on  $A$ .

Proof: If  $\underline{p}$  is  $\underline{x}_i$ , the lemma is obvious. Suppose  $\underline{p}_i$  and  $\underline{p}'_i$  induce the same functions on  $A$ , for  $i = 0, 1, \dots, n-1$ . Then, by the definition of  $\underline{f}'$ , we have that  $\underline{f}(\underline{p}_0, \dots, \underline{p}_{n-1})$  and  $\underline{f}'(\underline{p}'_0, \dots, \underline{p}'_{n-1})$  induce the same function on  $A$ .

Lemma 2.26: Let  $\Sigma = \{ \underline{g}(\underline{x}_0, \dots, \underline{x}_{m-1}) = \underline{g}''(\underline{x}_0, \dots, \underline{x}_{m-1}), \text{ for } \underline{g} \in G \}$ . Then  $\Sigma \vdash \underline{p} = \underline{p}''$  for all  $\underline{p} \in \underline{P}(\sigma)$ .

Proof: The result is obvious if  $\underline{p}$  is  $\underline{x}_i$ . Suppose that  $\underline{p}$  is  $\underline{g}(\underline{p}_0, \dots, \underline{p}_{m-1})$  and that  $\Sigma \vdash \underline{p}_i = \underline{p}''_i$  for all  $i = 0, 1, \dots, m-1$ . By rule (iv),

$$\Sigma \vdash \underline{g}(\underline{p}_0, \dots, \underline{p}_{m-1}) = \underline{g}(\underline{p}''_0, \dots, \underline{p}''_{m-1})$$

But  $\underline{g}(\underline{x}_0, \dots, \underline{x}_{m-1}) = \underline{g}''(\underline{x}_0, \dots, \underline{x}_{m-1}) \in \Sigma$ . Therefore,  
 $\Sigma \vdash \underline{g}(\underline{p}_0'', \dots, \underline{p}_{m-1}'') = \underline{g}''(\underline{p}_0'', \dots, \underline{p}_{m-1}'')$ . Thus,  
 $\Sigma \vdash \underline{g}(\underline{p}_0, \dots, \underline{p}_{m-1}) = \underline{g}''(\underline{p}_0'', \dots, \underline{p}_{m-1}'')$ . But by  
 Lemma 2.26,  $\underline{g}''(\underline{p}_0'', \dots, \underline{p}_{m-1}'')$  is  $\underline{p}''$ . So  $\Sigma \vdash \underline{p} = \underline{p}''$ .

Theorem 2.27: Let  $\mathcal{A} = \langle A; F \rangle$  be an algebra with a FEB,  $W$ . Let  $\mathcal{A}' = \langle A; G \rangle$  be an equivalent algebra with  $G$  finite. Let  $W' = \{ \underline{p}' = \underline{q}' \mid \underline{p} = \underline{q} \in W \}$ , and let  $\Sigma$  be as in Lemma 2.26. Then  $W' \cup \Sigma$  is a FEB for  $\mathcal{A}'$ .

Proof: Let  $\underline{p} = \underline{q} \in \text{Id}(\mathcal{A}')$ . Then  $\underline{p}' = \underline{q}' \in \text{Id}(\mathcal{A})$ , and so there is a proof  $P$  from  $W$  of  $\underline{p}' = \underline{q}'$ . Then we have a proof  $P'$  from  $W'$  of  $\underline{p}'' = \underline{q}''$ . But  $\Sigma \vdash \underline{p} = \underline{p}''$ ,  $\underline{q} = \underline{q}''$ . So  $\Sigma \cup W' \vdash \underline{p} = \underline{q}$ .

Corollary 2.28: If  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{A}'$  are equivalent  $F$ -finite algebras, then  $\mathcal{A}$  has a FEB if and only if  $\mathcal{A}'$  has a FEB.

### CHAPTER III

#### THE EFFECT OF FINITENESS CONDITIONS

It was at first supposed by researchers that every finite algebra has a FEB. The first results in this direction were obtained by Lyndon [6], who proved the conjecture for all finite two-element algebras. Lyndon [7] also obtained the first counter-example: a finite seven-element algebra with a single binary operation. Visin [16] then proposed the problem of finding the smallest  $k$  for which all finite  $k$ -element algebras have a FEB, and in the same paper, exhibited a four-element algebra with a single binary operation having no FEB. Murskii's example [11] of a three-element algebra with a single binary operation having no FEB showed that Lyndon's first result was the best possible.

In this chapter, we present Lyndon's results on the two-element algebras, and Murskii's three-element counter-example.

#### 1. Post's Iterative Systems

Post [15] gives a complete classification of what he calls "closed two-valued iterative systems"

(hereafter called Post systems), which are defined as follows:

Definition 3.1: A Post system is a set of operations  $F$  on the two-element set  $A = \{0,1\}$  such that if  $f(x_{i_1}, x_{i_2}, \dots, x_{i_n}) \in F$ , and  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  are either variables chosen from among  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n, \dots$ ,  $n < \omega$ , or functions from  $F$ , then the function  $f(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n) \in F$ .

The set of polynomials of any two-element algebra is then a Post system, and so Post's classification includes a classification of all two-element algebras, up to equivalence. Not every one of Post's systems corresponds to an algebra since he does not require the system to include the projection functions. In particular, we can immediately discard those systems which do not possess the identity function. From Post's method of classifying these systems, we cannot immediately verify whether a system possessing the identity function also contains all the other projection functions. This need cause no difficulty, however, since by considering each system separately, and assuming that it does contain the projection functions, we can only prove more than is necessary by giving separate proofs for the same (up to equivalence) algebra.

We can effect a further economy by omitting algebras corresponding to systems containing only constant functions and (possibly) projection functions, since such an algebra is equivalent to an algebra with a trivial FEB: either the void set of identities or  $\underline{x} = \underline{x}$  will do. We can also omit one of each pair of dual algebras, which are defined as follows:

Definition 3.2: Let  $f(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}): A^n \rightarrow A$ , and let  $\bar{0} = 1, \bar{1} = 0$ . Then the dual function  $\bar{f}$  is defined by:  $\bar{f}(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}) = \overline{f(\bar{x}_0, \dots, \bar{x}_{n-1})}$ .

Definition 3.3: If  $\mathcal{A} = \langle \{0,1\}; F \rangle$  is a two-element algebra, then its dual algebra is the algebra  $\bar{\mathcal{A}} = \langle \{0,1\}; \bar{F} \rangle$ , where  $\bar{F} = \{ \bar{f} \mid f \in F \}$ .

Then the omission mentioned is justified by the observation that the mapping  $\delta: 0 \rightarrow 1, 1 \rightarrow 0$  is an isomorphism between  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\bar{\mathcal{A}}$ .

Post has shown that all of his systems can be finitely generated by functions chosen from among the following:

- (i) Constant functions: 0 and 1.

(ii) Unary function:  $x'$  where  $0' = 1$  and  $1' = 0$ .

(iii) Binary functions, presented in dual pairs:

Join:  $x \vee y$

$x \backslash y$	0	1
0	0	1
1	1	1

Meet:  $x \wedge y$  or  $xy$

$x \backslash y$	0	1
0	0	0
1	0	1

Equivalence:  $x \equiv y$

$x \backslash y$	0	1
0	1	0
1	0	1

Symmetric Difference:  $x + y$

$x \backslash y$	0	1
0	0	1
1	1	0

Conditional:  $x \supset y$

$x \backslash y$	0	1
0	1	1
1	0	1

Set Difference:  $x - y$

$x \backslash y$	0	1
0	0	0
1	1	0

(iv) Ternary functions:  $(x, y, z) = x(y \vee z)$ ,  $[x, y, z] = x(y \equiv z)$ , and  $x + y + z$ . (It is well-known that symmetric difference is an associative operation, so that the latter is well-defined.)

(v)  $n$ -ary functions, for  $n > 2$ :  $d_n(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = x_2 x_3 \dots x_n \vee x_1 x_3 \dots x_n \vee x_1 x_2 x_4 \dots x_n \vee \dots \vee x_1 x_2 \dots x_{n-1}$ .

In the following sections, we shall list the Post systems which have not yet been eliminated. For each, we shall list one or more possible finite sets of generating functions. We shall then prove the existence of a FEB for the two-element algebra with these functions as operations, and hence for any equivalent finite algebra. Post's name for the system (for example,  $O_4$ ) will also be used for the name of the algebra.

## 2. Post Systems I

The algebras of this group can be proved to have a FEB using Theorems 2.17 and 2.19 on normal forms. For each algebra  $\mathcal{A}$ , we list a finite set of identities  $\Sigma(\mathcal{A})$  and a set of polynomial symbols  $N(\mathcal{A})$ . It can readily be verified that these sets satisfy the conditions on  $\Sigma$  and  $N$  in the theorems on normal forms, and so  $\Sigma(\mathcal{A})$  will be a FEB for  $\mathcal{A}$ .

We list for reference the following identities:

Idempotency:  $\mathcal{I}_1: \underline{x} \vee \underline{x} = \underline{x}$ ;  $\mathcal{I}_2: \underline{xx} = \underline{x}$ .

Associativity:  $\mathcal{A}_1: \underline{x} \vee (\underline{y} \vee \underline{z}) = (\underline{x} \vee \underline{y}) \vee \underline{z}$ ;

$$\mathcal{A}_2: \underline{x}(\underline{yz}) = (\underline{xy})\underline{z}$$

Commutativity:  $\mathcal{C}_1: \underline{x} \vee \underline{y} = \underline{y} \vee \underline{x}$ ;  $\mathcal{C}_2: \underline{xy} = \underline{yx}$ .

Absorption laws:  $\mathcal{B}_1: \underline{x} \vee (\underline{xy}) = \underline{x}$ ;  $\mathcal{B}_2: \underline{x}(\underline{x} \vee \underline{y}) = \underline{x}$ .

$$\text{Distributivity: } \mathcal{D}_1: \underline{x} \vee (\underline{y}\underline{z}) = (\underline{x} \vee \underline{y})(\underline{x} \vee \underline{z})$$

$$\mathcal{D}_2: \underline{x}(\underline{y} \vee \underline{z}) = (\underline{xy}) \vee (\underline{xz})$$

Finally, so that there will be no ambiguity, the last set of generating functions given for any Post system will be assumed to be the defining operations of the algebra in question.

$$(i) \mathcal{O}_4: \{ '\}; \Sigma(\mathcal{O}_4) = \{ (\underline{x}')' = \underline{x} \}; \quad N(\mathcal{O}_4) = \{ \underline{x}_0, \underline{x}'_0, \underline{x}_1, \underline{x}'_1, \dots, \underline{x}_n, \underline{x}'_n, \dots, n < \omega \}.$$

$$(ii) \mathcal{O}_9: \{ ', 0 \}; \Sigma(\mathcal{O}_9) = \Sigma(\mathcal{O}_4); \quad N(\mathcal{O}_9) = \{ \underline{0}, \underline{0}' \} \cup N(\mathcal{O}_4).$$

$$(iii) \mathcal{S}_1: \{ \vee \}; \quad \Sigma(\mathcal{S}_1) = \{ \mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{A}_1 \};$$

$$N(\mathcal{S}_1) = \{ \underline{x}_{i_1} \vee (\underline{x}_{i_2} \vee (\dots \vee (\underline{x}_{i_{n-1}} \vee \underline{x}_{i_n}))) \}, \text{ where}$$

$$i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_n, n < \omega \}.$$

$$(iv) \mathcal{S}_4: \{ \vee, 0 \}; \quad \Sigma(\mathcal{S}_4) = \{ \underline{x} \vee \underline{0} = \underline{x} \} \cup \Sigma(\mathcal{S}_1);$$

$$N(\mathcal{S}_4) = \{ \underline{0} \} \cup N(\mathcal{S}_1).$$

$$(v) \mathcal{S}_3: \{ \vee, 1 \}; \quad \Sigma(\mathcal{S}_3) = \{ \underline{x} \vee \underline{1} = \underline{1} \} \cup \Sigma(\mathcal{S}_1);$$

$$N(\mathcal{S}_3) = \{ \underline{1} \} \cup N(\mathcal{S}_1).$$

$$(vi) S_6: \{v, 0, 1\} ; \quad \Sigma(S_6) = \Sigma(S_4) \cup \Sigma(S_3);$$

$$N(S_6) = N(S_4) \cup N(S_3).$$

$$(vii) A_4: \{v, \wedge\} ; \quad \Sigma(A_4) = \Sigma(S_1) \cup \{g_2, b_2, \\ a_2, b_1, b_2, d_1, d_2\} ; \quad N(A_4) = \{p_1 v \dots v p_n | n < \omega, \\ p_i \text{ is of the form } \underline{x}_{i_1} \underline{x}_{i_2} \dots \underline{x}_{i_{k_i}} \text{ with } i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_{k_i}, \\ \text{the } p_i \text{ are distinct, } k_1 \leq k_2 \leq \dots \leq k_n, \text{ and the } p_i \text{ of} \\ \text{the same length are ordered lexicographically with respect} \\ \text{to the subscripts on the variable symbols}\}.$$

$$(viii) A_2: \{v, \wedge, 0\} ; \quad \Sigma(A_2) = \Sigma(A_4) \cup \{\underline{x} v \underline{0} = \underline{x}, \\ \underline{x0} = \underline{0}\} ; \quad N(A_2) = N(A_4) \cup \{\underline{0}\}.$$

$$(ix) A_1: \{v, \wedge, 0, 1\} ; \quad \Sigma(A_1) = \Sigma(A_2) \cup \\ \{\underline{x} v \underline{1} = \underline{1}, \underline{x1} = \underline{x}\} ; \quad N(A_1) = N(A_2) \cup \{\underline{1}\}.$$

$$(x) L_3: \{+\} \text{ or } \{+, 0\} ; \quad \Sigma(L_3) = \{\underline{x} + \underline{0} = \underline{x}, \\ \underline{x} + \underline{x} = \underline{0}, \underline{x} + \underline{y} = \underline{y} + \underline{x}, \underline{x} + (\underline{y} + \underline{z}) = (\underline{x} + \underline{y}) + \underline{z}\} ;$$

$$N(L_3) = \{\underline{0}, \underline{x}_{i_1} + (\underline{x}_{i_2} + (\dots + (\underline{x}_{i_{n-1}} + \underline{x}_{i_n}))), \text{ where} \\ i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_n\}.$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \text{(xi) } L_1: \{+, '\} \text{ or } \{+, ', 0, 1\} ; \Sigma(L_1) = \Sigma(L_3) \cup \\
 & \{(\underline{x}')' = \underline{x}, \underline{0}' = \underline{1}, \underline{x} + \underline{1} = \underline{x}', \underline{x}' + \underline{y} = \underline{x} + \underline{y}\} ; \\
 & N(L_1) = \{\underline{1}\} \cup N(L_3) \cup \{\underline{p}' \mid \underline{p} \in N(L_3), \text{ but is not } \underline{0}\} .
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \text{(xii) } C_3: \{-, \vee\} \text{ or } \{+, \wedge, 0\} ; \Sigma(C_3) = \Sigma(L_3) \cup \\
 & \{g_2, e_2, a_2, \underline{x0} = \underline{0}, \underline{x}(\underline{y} + \underline{z}) = \underline{xy} + \underline{xz}\} ; N(C_3) = \\
 & \{\underline{0}, \underline{p}_1 + \underline{p}_2 + \dots + \underline{p}_n \mid n < \omega, \text{ where } \underline{p}_i \text{ is of the form} \\
 & \underline{x}_{i_1} \underline{x}_{i_2} \dots \underline{x}_{i_k}, i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_k, \text{ and the } \underline{p}_i \text{ are dis-} \\
 & \text{tinct and ordered as for } A_4\} .
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \text{(xiii) } C_4: \{-, '\} \text{ or } \{+, \wedge, 0, 1\} \text{ or } \{\vee, \wedge, ', 0, 1\}; \\
 & \Sigma(C_4) = \text{the set of identities listed for reference on pages} \\
 & 39 \text{ to } 40, \text{ together with } \{(\underline{x}')' = \underline{x}, \underline{x} \vee \underline{0} = \underline{x}, \underline{x0} = \underline{0}, \\
 & \underline{x} \vee \underline{1} = \underline{1}, \underline{x1} = \underline{x}, \underline{0}' = \underline{1}, \underline{x}' \vee \underline{y}' = (\underline{xy})', \underline{x}'\underline{y}' = (\underline{x} \vee \underline{y})'\}; \\
 & N(C_4) = \{\underline{0}, \underline{1}\} \cup N(A_4) \cup \{\underline{p}' \mid \underline{p} \in N(A_4)\} .
 \end{aligned}$$

We note that  $C_4$  is (up to equivalence) the two-element Boolean algebra.

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \text{(xiv) } L_4: \{x + y + z\} ; \Sigma(L_4) = \text{a set of identities} \\
 & \text{asserting that } \underline{x} + \underline{y} + \underline{z} \text{ is invariant under any permuta-} \\
 & \text{tion of the variable symbols, together with} \\
 & \{\underline{x} + \underline{y} + \underline{y} = \underline{x}, \underline{x} + \underline{y} + (\underline{z} + \underline{u} + \underline{v}) = (\underline{x} + \underline{y} + \underline{z}) + \underline{u} + \underline{v}\} ;
 \end{aligned}$$

$N(L_4) = \{ \underline{x}_0, \dots, \underline{x}_n, \dots, n < \omega, \text{ and polynomial symbols} \\ \text{of the form } \underline{x}_{i_1} + \underline{x}_{i_2} + (\dots + (\underline{x}_{i_{k-2}} + \underline{x}_{i_{k-1}} + \underline{x}_{i_k})), \\ i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_k, k = 3, 4, \dots, n, \dots, n < \omega \}.$

(xv)  $L_5: \{ x + y + z, ' \} ; \Sigma(L_5) = \Sigma(L_4) \cup \\ \{ (\underline{x}')' = \underline{x}, (\underline{x} + \underline{y} + \underline{z})' = \underline{x}' + \underline{y} + \underline{z} \} ; N(L_5) = \\ N(L_4) \cup \{ \underline{p}' \mid \underline{p} \in N(L_4) \}.$

### 3. Post Systems II

The algebras in consideration here are  $F_4: \{ \supset \}$  and  $F_4^n: \{ \supset, d_n \}$  for  $n > 2$ . The proof of the existence of a FEB for these algebras will proceed as follows:

(a) We define "a fragment of the propositional calculus containing material implication" (hereafter called a Henkin fragment), and show that in such a formal system, a finite set of axiom schemata can be chosen from which all tautologies are deducible as theorems, using only modus ponens (MP) as a rule of inference.

(b) We show that from any finite two-element algebra  $\mathcal{A} = \langle \{0,1\}; F \rangle$ , where  $F$  contains the conditional ( $\supset$ ), we can construct a Henkin fragment  $L(\mathcal{A})$ .

(c) From the finite set of axiom schemata of  $L(\mathcal{A})$ , we can construct a finite basis for  $\text{Id}(\mathcal{A})$ .

Step (a): The results here are due to Henkin [4]. The proof is carried out for the case when there is just one other logical connective besides the material implication, but, as Henkin remarks, the modifications necessary for the more general result are notational rather than conceptual. Further, this particular result is sufficient for our purposes here.

Definition 3.4: A Henkin fragment is a formal system defined as follows:

(i) The primitive symbols are a denumerable set of variable symbols:  $x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n, \dots, n < \omega$ , connective symbols:  $\supset$  and  $\beta$ , and punctuation symbols:  $(, )$ , and  $'$ .

(ii) A variable alone is a well-formed formula (wff); if  $A$  and  $B$  are wff's, then so is  $A \supset B$ ; if  $A_1, \dots, A_m$  are wff's, then so is  $\beta(A_1, \dots, A_m)$ . We allow the case  $m = 0$ , in which case we write  $\beta$  rather than  $\beta( )$ .

(iii) For each logical connective, we have a truth table, the one for material implication being:

$x_0$	$x_1$	$x_0 \supset x_1$
0	0	1
0	1	1
1	0	0
1	1	1

Thus, if the variables in a wff are assigned truth values chosen from  $\{0, 1\}$ , then we can compute a corresponding truth value for the wff. If  $A$  is a wff containing variables  $x_0, x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}$ , we write  $x'_0, x'_1, \dots, x'_{n-1}$  for an assignment of truth values to these variables, and  $A'$  for the corresponding truth value of  $A$ .

(iv) A wff  $A$  is a tautology if  $A'$  is 1 for every possible assignment of truth values to its variables.

Definition 3.5: A schema is defined as follows:

- (i)  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n, \dots$ ,  $n < \omega$ , are schemas.
- (ii) If  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  are schemas, so is  $B_1 \supset B_2$ .
- (iii) If  $B_1, B_2, \dots, B_m$  are schemas, then so is  $\beta(B_1, B_2, \dots, B_m)$ .

It is clear that if for each  $a_i$  in a schema, we substitute a wff  $A_i$  for all occurrences of  $a_i$ , then the result is a wff. A property  $P$  is said to hold for

a schema if and only if it holds for all wff's which can be so derived from the schema. If all wff's derived from a schema  $\mathcal{B}$  are tautologies, then  $\mathcal{B}$  will be called an instance of a tautology. We note that for every schema  $\mathcal{B}$ , there is a simplest wff derivable from it by substituting  $x_i$  for  $a_i$ .

Let an arbitrary set of wff's and/or axiom schemata be designated as axioms and/or axiom schemata (this means that every wff derivable from the axiom schema is an axiom). Let modus ponens (MP) be designated as the single rule of inference: if  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  are wff's, then from  $A_1$  and  $A_1 \supset A_2$ , we can infer  $A_2$ .

Definition 3.6: A proof from the assumptions  $V$  is a finite sequence of wff's, each of which is an axiom, an element of some set  $V$  of wff's, or results from two preceding wff's of the sequence by MP. If  $A$  is the last wff of such a proof, we write  $V \vdash A$ . If  $V = \emptyset$ , we call  $A$  a theorem, and write  $\vdash A$ .

Definition 3.7: A Henkin fragment is said to be axiomatizable if there exists a finite set of axioms and/or axiom schemata such that every tautology is a theorem.

We shall show that every Henkin fragment is axiomatizable with the following finite set of axiom schemata:

$$A1: a_1 \supset (a_2 \supset a_1)$$

$$A2: (a_1 \supset a_2) \supset ((a_1 \supset (a_2 \supset a_3)) \supset (a_1 \supset a_3))$$

$$A3: (a_1 \supset a_3) \supset (((a_1 \supset a_2) \supset a_3) \supset a_3)$$

In addition, there are  $2^m$  further axiom schemata involving  $\beta$ . Let  $x_1, \dots, x_m$  be distinct variables, and select any one of the  $2^m$  assignments of truth values  $x'_1, \dots, x'_m$  to these variables, and let  $\beta'$  be the associated value of  $\beta(x_1, \dots, x_m)$ . Let  $y$  be any new variable, and let  $x_i^\circ$  be either  $(x_i \supset y) \supset y$  or  $x_i \supset y$ , according as  $x'_i$  is 1 or 0, for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ . Let  $\beta^\circ$  be  $(\beta(x_1, \dots, x_m) \supset y) \supset y$  or  $\beta(x_1, \dots, x_m) \supset y$ , according as  $\beta'$  is 1 or 0. Then any result of replacing each variable by some wff in:

$$x_1^\circ \supset (x_2^\circ \supset \dots \supset (x_m^\circ \supset \beta^\circ)) \dots)$$

is an axiom. This is done for each of the  $2^m$  possible assignments of truth values, thus yielding  $2^m$  axiom schemata. Here, the variables play the role of the  $a_i$  used in defining schemata, so that these are indeed schemata.

We note that each axiom schema is an instance of a tautology. Since modus ponens preserves the property of being a tautology, Henkin's result will show that the set of theorems is precisely the set of tautologies.

We will make use of the Deduction Theorem: If  $V \cup \{A\} \not\vdash B$ , then  $V \not\vdash A \supset B$ , for any wff's  $A$  and  $B$ , and any set  $V$  of wff's. This follows from  $A_1$ ,  $A_2$ , and the rule of modus ponens. A proof can be found in E. Mendelsohn's Introduction to Mathematical Logic [10].

Lemma 3.8: Let  $x_1', \dots, x_n'$  be any assignment of truth values to the distinct variables  $x_1, \dots, x_n$ .

Let  $A$  be any wff containing no other variables than  $x_1, \dots, x_n$ , and let  $A'$  be the associated value of  $A$ .

Let  $C$  be any wff. Define  $A^\circ$  to be  $(A \supset C) \supset C$  or  $A \supset C$ , according as  $A'$  is 1 or 0. Then,

$$x_1^\circ, \dots, x_n^\circ \not\vdash A^\circ.$$

Proof: The lemma is proved by induction on the length of  $A$ . First, if  $A$  is one of the variables, the proof is immediate.

Now suppose that  $A$  is  $B \supset D$ , and that the lemma holds for  $B$  and  $D$ . We have three cases to consider:

Case 1:  $B' = 0$ . Then  $B^\circ$  is  $B \supset C$ . Also,  $A' = (B \supset D)'$   $= 1$ , so  $A^\circ$  is  $(A \supset C) \supset C$ . By the induction hypothesis,  $x_1^\circ, \dots, x_n^\circ / \text{---} B \supset C$ . Using  $A3$ , we get that  $/ \text{---} (B \supset C) \supset ((B \supset D) \supset C) \supset C$ . So by MP, we get  $x_1^\circ, \dots, x_n^\circ / \text{---} ((B \supset D) \supset C) \supset C$ . But  $B \supset D$  is  $A$  and  $(A \supset C) \supset C$  is  $A^\circ$ . So  $x_1^\circ, \dots, x_n^\circ / \text{---} A^\circ$ .

Case 2:  $D' = 1$ . Then  $D^\circ$  is  $(D \supset C) \supset C$ . Also,  $A' = (B \supset D)' = 1$ , so  $A^\circ$  is  $(A \supset C) \supset C$ . By the induction hypothesis,  $x_1^\circ, \dots, x_n^\circ / \text{---} (D \supset C) \supset C$ . Consider the following chain of deductions:

$$\begin{aligned} D &/ \text{---} B \supset D && \text{(by A1 and MP)} \\ D, (B \supset D) \supset C &/ \text{---} C && \text{(by MP)} \\ (B \supset D) \supset C &/ \text{---} D \supset C && \text{(by Deduction Theorem)} \\ (B \supset D) \supset C, (D \supset C) \supset C &/ \text{---} C && \text{(by MP)} \\ (D \supset C) \supset C &/ \text{---} ((B \supset D) \supset C) \supset C && \text{(by} \end{aligned}$$

Deduction Theorem).

$$\text{Thus, } x_1^\circ, \dots, x_n^\circ / \text{---} ((B \supset D) \supset C) \supset C,$$

and this is  $A^\circ$ .

Case 3:  $B' = 1, D' = 0$ . Then  $B^\circ$  is  $(B \supset C) \supset C$ , and  $D^\circ$  is  $D \supset C$ . Then  $A' = (B \supset D)' = 0$  and so  $A^\circ$  is  $A \supset C$ . By the induction hypothesis,  $x_1^\circ, \dots, x_n^\circ / \text{---} (B \supset C) \supset C$ , and  $x_1^\circ, \dots, x_n^\circ / \text{---} D \supset C$ . Consider the deductions:

$B, B \supset D \text{ /— } D$  (by MP)  
 $B, B \supset D, D \supset C \text{ /— } C$  (by MP)  
 $B \supset D, D \supset C \text{ /— } B \supset C$  (by Deduction Theorem)  
 $(B \supset C) \supset C, B \supset D, D \supset C \text{ /— } C$  (by MP)  
 $(B \supset C) \supset C, D \supset C \text{ /— } (B \supset D) \supset C$  (by  
 Deduction Theorem).

Therefore,  $x_1^\circ, \dots, x_n^\circ \text{ /— } A^\circ$ . This exhausts all possibilities when  $A$  is of the form  $B \supset D$ .

Suppose that  $A$  has the form  $\beta(A_1, \dots, A_m)$ ,  
 and that the lemma holds for  $A_1, \dots, A_m$ . There are  
 $2^m$  cases, depending upon the assignment of truth  
 values  $A_1', \dots, A_m'$ . Suppose that we have such an assign-  
 ment. Then  $A_1^\circ \supset (A_2^\circ \supset \dots \supset (A_m^\circ \supset A^\circ)) \dots$  is an  
 axiom. By  $m$  successive applications of MP, we have  
 that  $A_1^\circ, \dots, A_m^\circ \text{ /— } A^\circ$ . By the induction hypothesis,  
 $x_1^\circ, \dots, x_n^\circ \text{ /— } A_i^\circ$ , for each  $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ . Thus,  
 $x_1^\circ, \dots, x_n^\circ \text{ /— } A^\circ$ . This completes the proof of the  
 lemma.

Theorem 3.9: If  $A$  is a tautology, then  $\text{ /— } A$ .

Proof: Let  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  be all the distinct variables  
 that appear in  $A$ . For each of the  $2^n$  possible assign-  
 ments  $x_1', \dots, x_n'$ ,  $A'$  is 1. Hence, by the preceding

lemma, if  $C$  is an arbitrary wff, and  $x_1^\circ$  and  $A^\circ$  are defined as before, we have, for each of the  $2^n$  possible sets  $V_n = \{x_1^\circ, \dots, x_n^\circ\}$ , that

$$V_n \not\vdash (A \supset C) \supset C.$$

This entails that for any of the  $2^{n-1}$  sets  $V_{n-1} = \{x_1^\circ, \dots, x_{n-1}^\circ\}$ , we have both

$$x_n \supset C, V_{n-1} \not\vdash (A \supset C) \supset C$$

$$\text{and } (x_n \supset C) \supset C, V_{n-1} \not\vdash (A \supset C) \supset C.$$

By the Deduction Theorem, we obtain:

$$V_{n-1} \not\vdash (x_n \supset C) \supset ((A \supset C) \supset C)$$

$$\text{and } V_{n-1} \not\vdash ((x_n \supset C) \supset C) \supset ((A \supset C) \supset C).$$

By A3, we have the following:

$$\begin{aligned} &\not\vdash ((x_n \supset C) \supset ((A \supset C) \supset C)) \supset (((x_n \supset C) \supset C) \supset \\ &\quad ((A \supset C) \supset C)) \supset (A \supset C) \supset C. \end{aligned}$$

Then by two applications of MP, we get that

$$V_{n-1} \not\vdash (A \supset C) \supset C.$$

Continuing thus, for each  $i = n-1, n-2, \dots, 2, 1$ , we obtain for each of the  $2^i$  possible sets  $V_i = \{x_1^\circ, \dots, x_i^\circ\}$

that  $V_i \not\vdash (A \supset C) \supset C$ . For  $i = 1$ , this gives

$$x_1 \supset C \not\vdash (A \supset C) \supset C \quad \text{and} \quad (x_1 \supset C) \supset C \not\vdash (A \supset C) \supset C.$$

A final use of A3 gives  $\not\vdash (A \supset C) \supset C$ . Since  $C$  is any wff, we have, in particular, that  $\not\vdash (A \supset A) \supset A$ .

But from  $A \not\vdash A$ , we obtain  $\not\vdash A \supset A$  by the Deduction Theorem, and hence by MP,  $\not\vdash A$ .

Step (b): We now show how, from a finite two-element algebra  $\mathcal{A} = \langle \{0,1\}; F \rangle$ , where  $F$  contains the conditional, we can define a Henkin fragment  $L(\mathcal{A})$ . Let  $\tau$  be the type of  $\mathcal{A}$ .

(i) The symbols of  $L(\mathcal{A})$  are the variable symbols,  $\underline{x}_0, \dots, \underline{x}_n, \dots$ ,  $n < \omega$ ; the connective symbols are the operation symbols,  $\underline{f}_\gamma$ , of type  $\tau$ . This includes the symbol " $\supset$ " for the conditional, which plays the role of material implication here. We also have the usual punctuation symbols.

(ii) The wff's of  $L(\mathcal{A})$  are the polynomial symbols of type  $\tau$ .

(iii) The truth table for  $\underline{f}_\gamma(\underline{x}_0, \dots, \underline{x}_{n_\gamma-1})$  is the operation table for  $\underline{f}_\gamma$  in  $\mathcal{A}$ .

(iv) A wff is a tautology if, as a polynomial symbol, it induces the constant 1 function in  $\mathcal{A}$ .

It is clear that  $L(\mathcal{A})$  is a Henkin fragment. If  $\alpha$  is a schema in  $L(\mathcal{A})$ , we denote by  $\underline{\alpha}$  the simplest wff (hence, polynomial symbol) obtainable from  $\alpha$ .

Step (c): If  $\mathcal{M}$  is an algebra satisfying the conditions of Step (b), then  $L(\mathcal{M})$  is a Henkin fragment, and so can be axiomatized by a finite set of axiom schemata:  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n$ . Let  $\underline{\alpha}_1, \underline{\alpha}_2, \dots, \underline{\alpha}_n$  be the simplest wff's (hence polynomial symbols) derivable from  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n$ . Let  $\underline{x}_k$  be a variable symbol other than  $\underline{x}$ ,  $\underline{y}$ , or any of the variable symbols occurring in  $\underline{\alpha}_1, \underline{\alpha}_2, \dots, \underline{\alpha}_n$ . If  $\underline{1}$  is not a constant (nullary) function in  $\mathcal{M}$ , we will use  $\underline{1}$  as an abbreviation for  $\underline{x}_k \supset \underline{x}_k$ .

Theorem 3.10:  $\mathcal{M}$  has the following FEB:  $\Sigma =$   
 $\{ \text{A1: } \underline{x} \supset \underline{x} = \underline{1}, \text{ A2: } \underline{1} \supset \underline{x} = \underline{x}, \text{ A3: } (\underline{x} \supset \underline{y}) \supset \underline{x} = (\underline{y} \supset \underline{x}) \supset \underline{x}, \text{ Bi: } \underline{\alpha}_i = \underline{1}, i = 1, 2, \dots, n. \}$

Proof: A1, A2, A3 clearly hold in  $\mathcal{M}$ . Since  $\alpha_i$  is an axiom schema of  $L(\mathcal{M})$ ,  $\underline{\alpha}_i$  is a tautology, so  $\underline{\alpha}_i = \underline{1}$  holds in  $\mathcal{M}$ .

We show first that if  $\not\vdash \underline{p}$ , then  $\Sigma \vdash \underline{p} = \underline{1}$ . If  $\underline{p}$  is an axiom of  $L(\mathcal{M})$ , then either  $\underline{p}$  is  $\underline{\alpha}_i$  for some  $i$ , or  $\underline{p}$  can be obtained from  $\underline{\alpha}_i$  by uniform substitution of wff's (hence, polynomial symbols) for the variable symbols of  $\underline{\alpha}_i$ . In either case,

$\alpha_i = \underline{1} \vdash \underline{p} = \underline{1}$ . Now suppose that  $\vdash \underline{p}$  and  $\vdash \underline{p} \supset \underline{q}$ , and that  $\Sigma \vdash \underline{p} = \underline{1}$  and  $\Sigma \vdash \underline{p} \supset \underline{q} = \underline{1}$ . Then by rule S, we can substitute  $\underline{1}$  for  $\underline{p}$  to get  $\Sigma \vdash \underline{1} \supset \underline{q} = \underline{1}$ . But by A2,  $\Sigma \vdash \underline{1} \supset \underline{q} = \underline{q}$ . So  $\Sigma \vdash \underline{q} = \underline{1}$ . This proves, inductively, that if  $\vdash \underline{p}$ , then  $\Sigma \vdash \underline{p} = \underline{1}$ .

Now suppose  $\underline{p} = \underline{q} \in \text{Id}(\mathcal{M})$ . We wish to show that  $\Sigma \vdash \underline{p} = \underline{q}$ . Since  $\underline{p} = \underline{q} \in \text{Id}(\mathcal{M})$ , we get by A1 that  $\underline{p} \supset \underline{q} = \underline{1}$  and  $\underline{q} \supset \underline{p} = \underline{1}$  hold in  $\mathcal{M}$ . Then  $\underline{p} \supset \underline{q}$  and  $\underline{q} \supset \underline{p}$  are tautologies and hence theorems of  $L(\mathcal{M})$ . By the first part of the theorem,  $\Sigma \vdash \underline{p} \supset \underline{q} = \underline{1}$ , and  $\Sigma \vdash \underline{q} \supset \underline{p} = \underline{1}$ . By A3,  $\Sigma \vdash (\underline{q} \supset \underline{p}) \supset \underline{p} = (\underline{p} \supset \underline{q}) \supset \underline{q}$ . Using rule S, we can substitute  $\underline{1}$  for  $\underline{p} \supset \underline{q}$  and  $\underline{q} \supset \underline{p}$  to obtain  $\Sigma \vdash \underline{1} \supset \underline{p} = \underline{1} \supset \underline{q}$ . Using A2, we get:  $\Sigma \vdash \underline{p} = \underline{q}$ .

Corollary 3.11: The algebras  $F_{\mathcal{L}}$  and  $F_{\mathcal{L}}^n$ ,  $n > 2$ , each have a FEB.

#### 4. Post Systems III

The proof in this section is essentially that given by Lyndon, with improvements suggested by G. Gratzner.

The algebras considered in this section are the following:

$$\begin{aligned}
F_6: & \{(x, y, z)\} \text{ or } \{(x, y, z), xy\} \\
F_7: & \{(x, y, z), 0\} \text{ or } \{(x, y, z), xy, 0\} \\
F_5: & \{[x, y, z]\} \text{ or } \{[x, y, z], (x, y, z), xy\} \\
C_4: & \{[x, y, z], x \vee y\} \text{ or } \{[x, y, z], (x, y, z), xy, x \vee y\} \\
F_5^n: & \{[x, y, z], d_n\} \text{ or } \{[x, y, z], (x, y, z), xy, d_n\} \\
F_6^n: & \{(x, y, z), d_n\} \text{ or } \{(x, y, z), d_n, xy\} \\
F_7^n: & \{(x, y, z), d_n, 0\} \text{ or } \{(x, y, z), d_n, 0, xy\}
\end{aligned}$$

We note that all these algebras have the operations  $(x, y, z)$  and  $xy$ .

Let  $\Sigma$  consist of the following identities:

$$\begin{aligned}
(1) \quad \underline{xx} &= \underline{x} & (2) \quad \underline{xy} &= \underline{yx} \\
(3) \quad \underline{x(yz)} &= (\underline{xy})\underline{z} & (4) \quad (\underline{x}, \underline{y}, \underline{y}) &= \underline{xy} \\
(5) \quad (\underline{x}, \underline{x}, \underline{y}) &= \underline{x} & (6) \quad (\underline{x}, \underline{y}, \underline{z}) &= (\underline{x}, \underline{z}, \underline{y}) \\
(7) \quad (\underline{x}, \underline{y}, \underline{z}) &= (\underline{x}, \underline{xy}, \underline{z}) & (8) \quad \underline{w}(\underline{x}, \underline{y}, \underline{z}) &= (\underline{wx}, \underline{y}, \underline{z}) \\
(9) \quad \underline{w}(\underline{x}, \underline{y}, \underline{z}) &= (\underline{x}, \underline{wy}, \underline{wz})
\end{aligned}$$

We note that  $\Sigma \subseteq \text{Id}(F_6)$ , so that  $\underline{\text{HSP}}(F_6) \subseteq \Sigma''$ . We now proceed to show that  $\Sigma'' \subseteq \underline{\text{HSP}}(F_6)$ , so that  $\Sigma$  will form a FEB for  $F_6$ .

Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be any algebra with operations  $(x,y,z)$  and  $xy$  satisfying  $\Sigma$ . For any  $x, y \in A$ , we define  $x \leq y$  to mean  $xy = x$ . Using the identities  $\Sigma$ , we can easily show that this defines a partial order on  $A$ .

Definition 3.12: A dual ideal in  $\mathcal{A}$  is a proper subset  $S \subset A$  such that:

- (i)  $x, y \in S$  implies that  $xy \in S$ , and
- (ii) if  $x \leq y$ , and  $x \in S$ , then  $y \in S$ .

Definition 3.13: A dual ideal  $S$  is prime if whenever  $(x,y,z) \in S$ , then either  $xy \in S$  or  $xz \in S$ .

Lemma 3.14: If  $a \leq b$  does not hold, then there exists a prime dual ideal containing  $a$  but not  $b$ .

Proof: Let  $S_0 = \{z \mid a \leq z\}$ . This is a dual ideal containing  $a$  but not  $b$ . We shall now show that every dual ideal with this property, if not already prime, can be properly extended to a larger dual ideal with the same property. Let  $S$  be a dual ideal, not prime, containing  $a$  and not  $b$ . Then, by definition,  $S$  contains some  $(u,v,w)$  while neither  $uv$  nor  $uw \in S$ . Suppose there existed  $p, q \in S$  such that  $puv \leq b$  and  $quw \leq b$ . Let  $r = pq$ , and note that  $r \in S$ .

Then we have the relations (R):  $ruv \leq b$  and  $ruw \leq b$ .

Now  $br(u,v,w) = (u,brv,brw)$  by identity (9),  
 $= (u,ubrv,ubrw)$  by (6) and (7),  
 $= (u,ruv,ruw)$  by the relations (R),  
 $= (u,rv,rw)$  by (6) and (7),  
 $= r(u,v,w)$  by (9).

This means that  $r(u,v,w) \leq b$ . But  $r, (u,v,w) \in S$  so  $r(u,v,w) \in S$ , and hence  $b \in S$ , contradicting  $b \notin S$ . So such  $p$  and  $q$  cannot exist. Suppose, by symmetry, that  $puv \leq b$  holds for no  $p \in S$ . Now let  $S' = \{z \mid puv \leq z, p \in S\}$ . This is a dual ideal not containing  $b$ . Also,  $S \subseteq S'$ , since  $puv \leq p$  for all  $p \in S$ . Finally, the inclusion is proper, for  $puv \in S'$  for any  $p \in S$ , while if  $puv \in S$ , then we would have  $uv \in S$ , contradicting the fact that  $uv$  and  $uw \notin S$ .

Now let  $\mathcal{S}$  be the set of all dual ideals of  $\mathcal{M}$  containing  $a$  and not  $b$ , partial ordered by set inclusion. The set union of any chain of such dual ideals is a dual ideal with the same properties, and so Zorn's Lemma can be applied to yield a maximal dual ideal  $M$  with these properties. Then  $M$  must be prime, for if not, it can be properly extended to a larger dual ideal containing  $a$  but not  $b$ , contradicting its maximality.

Theorem 3.15:  $\mathcal{A}$  is a subdirect power of  $F_6$ .

Proof: Let  $a, b \in A$  such that  $a \leq b$  does not hold, and let  $S$  be a prime dual ideal containing  $a$  but not  $b$ . We define a mapping  $\delta_{ab}: A \rightarrow F_6$  as follows:

$$\delta_{ab}: x \rightarrow 1 \text{ if } x \in S, \delta_{ab}: x \rightarrow 0 \text{ if } x \notin S.$$

We show first that  $\delta_{ab}$  is a homomorphism of  $\mathcal{A}$  into  $F_6$ . Since  $xy \in S$  if and only if  $x$  and  $y \in S$ , we have that  $(xy)\delta_{ab} = (x\delta_{ab})(y\delta_{ab})$  whenever  $x$  and  $y$  are both in  $S$  or both not in  $S$ . Now suppose  $x \in S$  and  $y \notin S$ , so that  $x\delta_{ab} = 1$  and  $y\delta_{ab} = 0$ . Now  $xy \notin S$ , for otherwise we would have  $y \in S$ . So  $(xy)\delta_{ab} = 0 = 1 \cdot 0 = (x\delta_{ab})(y\delta_{ab})$ .

Now consider  $(x, y, z)$  and suppose that  $(x, y, z) \in S$ , so that  $(x, y, z)\delta_{ab} = 1$ . Now, either  $xy \in S$  or  $xz \in S$ . If  $xy \in S$ , then both  $x$  and  $y \in S$ , and we get  $(x\delta_{ab}, y\delta_{ab}, z\delta_{ab}) = (1, 1, z\delta_{ab}) = 1$ . A similar result holds if  $xz \in S$ . If, on the other hand,  $(x, y, z) \notin S$ , then  $y(x, y, z) \notin S$ . But  $y(x, y, z) = (xy, y, z)$  by (8),  $= (xy, xy, xyz)$  by (6), (7),  $= xy$  by (5). Then  $xy \notin S$ , so  $x \notin S$  and  $y \notin S$ . So we get that  $(x\delta_{ab}, y\delta_{ab}, z\delta_{ab}) = (0, 0, z\delta_{ab}) = 0$  as required.

So  $\delta_{ab}$  is, indeed, a homomorphism.

Let  $\theta_{ab}$  be the congruence on  $\mathcal{A}$  induced by  $\delta_{ab}$ . We note that  $a \not\equiv b(\theta_{ab})$  since  $a\delta_{ab} = 1$  while  $b\delta_{ab} = 0$ . Also,  $\mathcal{A}/\theta_{ab} \cong F_6$ . Now let  $J = \{ \theta_{ab} \mid a \leq b \text{ does not hold in } \mathcal{A} \}$ , and let  $\theta = \bigcap (\theta_{ab} \mid \theta_{ab} \in J)$ . Let  $x \equiv y(\theta)$ , with  $x \neq y$ , so that either  $x < y$ , or  $x \leq y$  does not hold. If  $x < y$ , then  $y \leq x$  does not hold, and  $\theta_{yx} \in J$ , and  $\theta \leq \theta_{yx}$ . Then we get that  $x \equiv y(\theta_{yx})$  which is a contradiction. Similarly, if  $x \leq y$  does not hold, we get a contradiction using  $\theta_{xy}$ . Then  $x \equiv y(\theta)$  if and only if  $x = y$ , so  $\theta$  is the trivial congruence of equality. Then  $\mathcal{A}$  is a subdirect product of the  $\mathcal{A}/\theta_{ab}$ , that is, a subdirect power of  $F_6$ .

Theorem 3.16:  $\Sigma$  is a FEB for  $F_6$ .

Proof: If  $\mathcal{A} \in \Sigma''$ , then  $\mathcal{A}$  is a subdirect power of  $F_6$ , so  $\mathcal{A} \in \underline{\text{HSP}}(F_6)$ . Thus  $\Sigma'' \subseteq \underline{\text{HSP}}(F_6)$ . We have already noted that  $\underline{\text{HSP}}(F_6) \subseteq \Sigma''$ . Thus  $\Sigma'' = \underline{\text{HSP}}(F_6)$  and so  $\text{Id}(F_6) = \bar{\Sigma}$ .

The same technique will be used for the remaining algebras in this section; in each case, all that we must show is that the addition of a finite number of identities to  $\Sigma$  will ensure that the additional operations are preserved by  $\delta_{ab}$ . It should be noted that the additional identities do indeed hold in the algebra in question.

Theorem 3.17: Each of  $F_7$ ,  $F_5$ ,  $C_4$ ,  $F_6^n$ ,  $F_5^n$ , and  $F_7^n$  has a FEB.

Proof: (i)  $F_7$ :  $\{(x, y, z), xy, 0\}$ . We add the identity: (10)  $\underline{0x} = \underline{0}$ . We must show that  $(0)\delta_{ab} = 0$ . But if  $(0)\delta_{ab} = 1$ , then  $0 \in S$ . Since  $0x = 0$  for all  $x \in A$ ,  $0 \leq x$  for all  $x \in A$ , and so  $S = A$ . But  $S$  is a proper subset of  $A$ . So we must have  $(0)\delta_{ab} = 0$ .

(ii)  $F_5$ :  $\{[x, y, z], (x, y, z), xy\}$ . We add the identities: (11)  $[\underline{x}, \underline{y}, \underline{z}] = [\underline{x}, \underline{z}, \underline{y}]$   
 (12)  $\underline{x}[\underline{x}, \underline{y}, \underline{z}] = [\underline{x}, \underline{y}, \underline{z}]$   
 (13)  $\underline{y}[\underline{x}, \underline{y}, \underline{z}] = \underline{xyz}$   
 (14)  $(\underline{x}, (\underline{x}, \underline{y}, \underline{z}), [\underline{x}, \underline{y}, \underline{z}]) = \underline{x}$

Let  $[x, y, z] \in S$ . By (12),  $[x, y, z] \leq x$ , so  $x \in S$ .

If neither  $y$  nor  $z \in S$ , then  $[x\delta_{ab}, y\delta_{ab}, z\delta_{ab}] =$

$[1, 0, 0] = 1$  as required. Otherwise, suppose  $y \in S$ .

Then  $y[x,y,z] \in S$ , and  $y[x,y,z] = xyz$ , so  $z \in S$ . Then  $[x\delta_{ab}, y\delta_{ab}, z\delta_{ab}] = [1,1,1] = 1$  as required.

For the converse, suppose  $[x\delta_{ab}, y\delta_{ab}, z\delta_{ab}] = 1$ . Then  $x\delta_{ab} = 1$ , and  $y\delta_{ab} = z\delta_{ab}$ . So  $x \in S$ , and  $y$  and  $z$  are either both in  $S$  or both not in  $S$ . If they are both in  $S$ , then  $xyz \in S$ . Now  $xyz[x,y,z] = yz[x,y,z]$  by (12),  $= z(xyz)$  by (13),  $= xyz$ . Then  $xyz \leq [x,y,z]$  implies that  $[x,y,z] \in S$ , and  $[x,y,z]\delta_{ab} = 1$  as required.

On the other hand, if  $y$  and  $z$  are both not in  $S$ , we consider  $x = (x, (x,y,z), [x,y,z]) \in S$ . Then either  $x(x,y,z) = (x,y,z) \in S$ , or  $x[x,y,z] = [x,y,z] \in S$ . The first possibility cannot occur, since it would imply that either  $xy$  or  $xz \in S$ , and hence either  $y$  or  $z \in S$ . So  $[x,y,z] \in S$ , and  $[x,y,z]\delta_{ab} = 1$  as required.

(iii)  $C_4$ :  $\{[x,y,z], (x,y,z), xy, x \vee y\}$ . We add the

- identities: (15)  $\underline{x} \vee \underline{y} = \underline{y} \vee \underline{x}$   
 (16)  $\underline{x}(\underline{x} \vee \underline{y}) = \underline{x}$   
 (17)  $(\underline{x} \vee \underline{y}, \underline{x}, \underline{y}) = \underline{x} \vee \underline{y}$

Let  $(x \vee y)\delta_{ab} = 1$ . Since  $(x \vee y, x, y) = x \vee y$ , either  $x(x \vee y) = x \in S$  or  $y(x \vee y) = y \in S$ . So  $x\delta_{ab} \vee y\delta_{ab} = 1$ . Conversely, if  $x \vee y \notin S$ , then by (16), neither  $x$  nor  $y$  can be in  $S$ . So  $x\delta_{ab} \vee y\delta_{ab} = 0 \vee 0 = 0 = (x \vee y)\delta_{ab}$ .

(iv)  $\mathbb{F}_6^n$ ;  $\{(x, y, z), d_n, xy\}$ . Let  $(x, y_1, \dots, y_m)$  be an abbreviation for  $(x, (x, \dots (x, (x, y_1, y_2), y_3), \dots, y_m))$  and let  $x^i$  be an abbreviation for  $x_1 \dots x_{i-1} x_{i+1} \dots x_n$ . Note that the  $n$  is the one given by  $d_n$ . We add the identities:

$$(18) \quad \underline{x}^1 \underline{d}_n(\underline{x}_1, \dots, \underline{x}_n) = \underline{x}^1$$

$$(19) \quad \underline{d}_n(\underline{x}_1, \dots, \underline{x}_n) = (\underline{d}_n(\underline{x}_1, \dots, \underline{x}_n), \underline{x}^1, \underline{x}^2, \dots, \underline{x}^n)$$

$$(20) \quad \text{Identities asserting that } \underline{d}_n(\underline{x}_1, \dots, \underline{x}_n)$$

is invariant under any permutation of the variable symbols.

Now suppose  $\underline{d}_n(x_1 \delta_{ab}, \dots, x_n \delta_{ab}) = 1$ . Then for some  $i$ ,  $(x_1 \delta_{ab}) \dots (x_{i-1} \delta_{ab})(x_{i+1} \delta_{ab}) \dots (x_n \delta_{ab}) = 1$ . So  $x^i \delta_{ab} = 1$ , and  $x^i \in S$ . But by identities (18) and (20),  $x^i = x^i \underline{d}_n(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{i-1}, x_1, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_n)$ , so we get  $\underline{d}_n(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in S$ , and  $\underline{d}_n(x_1, \dots, x_n) \delta_{ab} = 1$  as required. Conversely, suppose that  $\underline{d}_n(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in S$ . Then by (19),  $(\underline{d}_n(x_1, \dots, x_n), x^1, \dots, x^n) \in S$ . So either  $\underline{d}_n(x_1, \dots, x_n)(\underline{d}_n(x_1, \dots, x_n), x^1, \dots, x^{n-1}) = (\underline{d}_n(x_1, \dots, x_n), x^1, \dots, x^{n-1})$  is in  $S$ , or  $x^n \underline{d}_n(x_1, \dots, x_n) = x^n \in S$ . If this latter holds, then  $x^n \delta_{ab} = 1$ , and  $\underline{d}_n(x_1 \delta_{ab}, \dots, x_n \delta_{ab}) = 1$ , as required. If not, then  $(\underline{d}_n(x_1, \dots, x_n), x^1, \dots, x^{n-1}) \in S$

and then either  $x^{n-1} \in S$ , or  $(d_n(x_1, \dots, x_n), x^1, \dots, x^{n-2}) \in S$ .

Continuing thus, either one of  $x^n, x^{n-1}, \dots, x^3 \in S$ , or else  $(d_n(x_1, \dots, x_n), x^1, x^2) \in S$ . If this latter holds,

then either  $x^1$  or  $x^2 \in S$ . In any case, at least one  $x^i \in S$ , and  $x^i \delta_{ab} = 1$ . Then  $d_n(x_1 \delta_{ab}, \dots, x_n \delta_{ab}) = 1$  as required.

(v)  $F_5^n: \{[x, y, z], (x, y, z), d_n, xy\}$ . Clearly, the identities (1) - (9), (11) - (14), and (18) - (20) will do.

(vi)  $F_7^n: \{(x, y, z), d_n, 0, xy\}$ . Here, identities (1) - (9), (10), and (18) - (20) will do.

## 5. Post Systems IV

The algebras to be considered here are the following:

$$\begin{aligned} D_2: & \{d_3 = d\} \\ D_1: & \{d, x + y + z\} \\ D_3: & \{d, x + y + z, '\} \end{aligned}$$

The method used for Post Systems III will be adapted here by introducing a zero and partial order into such algebras. This method was devised by G. Gratzner, following a suggestion in Lyndon's paper.

We note, first, that the following identities hold in  $D_2$ :

- (1')  $\underline{d}(u, \underline{x}, \underline{x}) = \underline{x}$
- (2')  $\underline{d}(u, \underline{x}, \underline{y}) = \underline{d}(u, \underline{y}, \underline{x})$
- (3')  $\underline{d}(u, \underline{x}, \underline{d}(u, \underline{y}, \underline{z})) = \underline{d}(u, \underline{d}(u, \underline{x}, \underline{y}), \underline{z})$
- (4')  $\underline{d}(u, \underline{x}, \underline{d}(\underline{x}, \underline{y}, \underline{y})) = \underline{d}(u, \underline{x}, \underline{y})$
- (5')  $\underline{d}(u, \underline{x}, \underline{d}(\underline{x}, \underline{x}, \underline{y})) = \underline{x}$
- (6')  $\underline{d}(u, \underline{x}, \underline{d}(\underline{x}, \underline{y}, \underline{z})) = \underline{d}(u, \underline{x}, \underline{d}(\underline{x}, \underline{z}, \underline{y}))$
- (7')  $\underline{d}(u, \underline{x}, \underline{d}(\underline{x}, \underline{y}, \underline{z})) = \underline{d}(u, \underline{x}, \underline{d}(\underline{x}, \underline{d}(u, \underline{x}, \underline{y}), \underline{z}))$
- (8')  $\underline{d}(u, \underline{w}, \underline{d}(u, \underline{x}, \underline{d}(\underline{x}, \underline{y}, \underline{z}))) = \underline{d}(u, \underline{d}(u, \underline{w}, \underline{x}), \underline{d}(\underline{d}(u, \underline{w}, \underline{x}), \underline{y}, \underline{z}))$
- (9')  $\underline{d}(u, \underline{w}, \underline{d}(u, \underline{x}, \underline{d}(\underline{x}, \underline{y}, \underline{z}))) = \underline{d}(u, \underline{x}, \underline{d}(\underline{x}, \underline{d}(u, \underline{w}, \underline{y}), \underline{d}(u, \underline{w}, \underline{z})))$
- (10')  $\underline{d}(u, u, \underline{x}) = \underline{u}$
- (18')  $\underline{d}(u, \underline{y}, \underline{d}(u, \underline{z}, \underline{d}(\underline{x}, \underline{y}, \underline{z}))) = \underline{d}(u, \underline{y}, \underline{z})$
- (19')  $\underline{d}(\underline{x}, \underline{y}, \underline{z}) = \underline{d}(u, \underline{d}(\underline{x}, \underline{y}, \underline{z})),$   
 $\underline{d}(\underline{d}(\underline{x}, \underline{y}, \underline{z}), \underline{d}(u, \underline{d}(\underline{x}, \underline{y}, \underline{z})), \underline{d}(\underline{d}(\underline{x}, \underline{y}, \underline{z}), \underline{d}(u, \underline{y}, \underline{z}), \underline{d}(u, \underline{x}, \underline{z}))), \underline{d}(u, \underline{x}, \underline{y}))$
- (20') Identities asserting that  $\underline{d}(\underline{x}, \underline{y}, \underline{z})$  is invariant under any permutations of  $\underline{x}$ ,  $\underline{y}$ , and  $\underline{z}$ .

The numbering and unnecessary repetitions in the list will serve to make the analogy with Systems III more immediate.

Let  $\Sigma_1$  denote this set of identities. Since  $\Sigma_1 \subseteq \text{Id}(D_2)$ , we have that  $\underline{\text{HSP}}(D_2) \subseteq \Sigma_1$ . For the other containment, we consider any algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  of the same type as  $D_2$  satisfying  $\Sigma_1$ . Let  $u \in A$  be fixed. We introduce the

following definitions:  $x \wedge_u y = d(u, x, y)$ ,  $(x, y, z)_u = x \wedge_u d(x, y, z)$ , and  $0_u = u$ . Let  $\mathcal{A}_u$  be an algebra on the same set  $A$  as  $\mathcal{A}$ , but with operations  $d$ ,  $x \wedge_u y$ ,  $(x, y, z)_u$ , and  $0_u$ . Thus  $\mathcal{A}_u$  is of the same type as  $F_7^3$ .

Now consider (1'):  $d(u, \underline{x}, \underline{x}) = \underline{x}$ . For the fixed  $u$  chosen and any  $x \in A$ ,  $d(u, x, x) = x$ . This means that  $x \wedge_u x = x$  for all  $x \in A$ . Then  $\underline{x} \wedge_u \underline{x} = \underline{x}$  holds in  $\mathcal{A}_u$ . Proceeding similarly with (2') - (9'), we see that  $\mathcal{A}_u$  satisfies the identities (1) - (9) listed for Systems III. Hence, we can define prime dual ideals in  $\mathcal{A}_u$ , and prove an analogue of Lemma 3.14, with a partial order defined in terms of  $x \wedge_u y$ . Translating identity (10'), we get  $0_u \wedge_u \underline{x} = 0_u$ , and the identities (18') - (20') yield the identities (18) - (20) listed for  $F_7^3$ . We define the algebra  $D'_2$  by adding to  $D_2$  the operations  $x \wedge_0 y$ ,  $(x, y, z)_0$ , and  $0$  as for  $\mathcal{A}$ . The algebra so derived is isomorphic to  $F_7^3$ .

It is clear, now, that we can parallel the proof in Systems III to obtain a homomorphism

$$\delta_{ab}: \mathcal{A}_u \rightarrow D'_2$$

which separates any  $a$  and  $b$  such that  $a \leq_u b$  does not hold.

The same mapping is a homomorphism of  $\mathcal{M} \rightarrow D_2$  which separates  $a$  and  $b$ . Then  $\mathcal{M}$  is isomorphic to a sub-direct power of  $D_2$ , and so  $\Sigma_1'' \subseteq \underline{\text{HSP}}(D_2)$ . Thus  $\text{Id}(D_2) = \bar{\Sigma}_1$ , and we have the following:

Theorem 3.18:  $D_2$  has  $\Sigma_1$  for a FEB.

Theorem 3.19:  $D_1$  and  $D_3$  have FEB's.

Proof: Again, we must show that the addition of a finite number of identities will ensure that  $\delta_{ab}$  preserves the additional operations  $x + y + z$  and  $x'$ .

For  $D_1$ , we add the following identities:

- (A)  $\underline{d}(\underline{u}, \underline{d}(\underline{x}, \underline{y}, \underline{z}), \underline{x} + \underline{y} + \underline{z}) = \underline{d}(\underline{u}, \underline{x}, \underline{d}(\underline{u}, \underline{y}, \underline{z}))$
- (B)  $\underline{x} + \underline{y} + \underline{z} = \underline{d}(\underline{u}, \underline{x} + \underline{y} + \underline{z}, \underline{d}(\underline{x} + \underline{y} + \underline{z}, \underline{d}(\underline{u}, \underline{x} + \underline{y} + \underline{z}, \underline{d}(\underline{x} + \underline{y} + \underline{z}, \underline{x}, \underline{y})), \underline{d}(\underline{u}, \underline{x} + \underline{y} + \underline{z}, \underline{d}(\underline{x} + \underline{y} + \underline{z}, \underline{y}, \underline{z}))))$
- (C)  $\underline{d}(\underline{u}, \underline{d}(\underline{u}, \underline{x}, \underline{d}(\underline{u}, \underline{y}, \underline{z})), \underline{x} + \underline{y} + \underline{z}) = \underline{d}(\underline{u}, \underline{x}, \underline{d}(\underline{u}, \underline{y}, \underline{x}))$
- (D)  $\underline{d}(\underline{u}, \underline{x}, \underline{d}(\underline{x}, \underline{x} + \underline{y} + \underline{z}, \underline{d}(\underline{x}, \underline{y}, \underline{z}))) = \underline{x}$

The  $u$ -translations of these become:

- (A')  $\underline{d}(\underline{x}, \underline{y}, \underline{z}) \wedge_u (\underline{x} + \underline{y} + \underline{z}) = \underline{x} \wedge_u \underline{y} \wedge_u \underline{z}$
- (B')  $\underline{x} + \underline{y} + \underline{z} = (\underline{x} + \underline{y} + \underline{z}, (\underline{x} + \underline{y} + \underline{z}, \underline{x}, \underline{y})_u, (\underline{x} + \underline{y} + \underline{z}, \underline{y}, \underline{z})_u)_u$
- (C')  $(\underline{x} \wedge_u \underline{y} \wedge_u \underline{z}) \wedge_u (\underline{x} + \underline{y} + \underline{z}) = \underline{x} \wedge_u \underline{y} \wedge_u \underline{z}$
- (D')  $(\underline{x}, \underline{x} + \underline{y} + \underline{z}, \underline{d}(\underline{x}, \underline{y}, \underline{z}))_u = \underline{x}$

Finally, we add identities asserting that  $\underline{x} + \underline{y} + \underline{z}$  is invariant under permutations of  $\underline{x}$ ,  $\underline{y}$ , and  $\underline{z}$ .

We will now show that  $(x + y + z)\delta_{ab} = x\delta_{ab} + y\delta_{ab} + z\delta_{ab}$ . Suppose that  $(x + y + z)\delta_{ab} = 1$ . If  $x, y, z \in S$ , then  $x\delta_{ab} + y\delta_{ab} + z\delta_{ab} = 1 + 1 + 1 = 1$ . Now suppose  $x \notin S$ . If  $y, z \in S$ , then  $d(x, y, z) \in S$ , so  $d(x, y, z) \wedge_u (x + y + z) = x \wedge_u y \wedge_u z \in S$ , by (A'), and so  $x \in S$ , contradicting  $x \notin S$ . So at least one of  $y, z$ , say  $y$ , is not in  $S$ . Now  $x + y + z \in S$ , so by (B'),  $(x + y + z, (x+y+z, x, y)_u, (x+y+z, y, z)_u)_u \in S$ . So either  $(x+y+z) \wedge_u (x+y+z, x, y)_u = (x+y+z, x, y)_u \in S$ , or  $(x+y+z) \wedge_u (x+y+z, y, z)_u = (x+y+z, y, z)_u \in S$ . The first possibility cannot occur, for then we would have that  $(x+y+z) \wedge_u x \in S$  or  $(x+y+z) \wedge_u y \in S$ , which would imply that either  $x \in S$  or  $y \in S$ . So the second alternative must hold, and a similar calculation yields that  $z \in S$ . Then  $x\delta_{ab} + y\delta_{ab} + z\delta_{ab} = 0 + 0 + 1 = 1$  as required.

Conversely, suppose that  $x\delta_{ab} + y\delta_{ab} + z\delta_{ab} = 1$ . So either  $x\delta_{ab} = y\delta_{ab} = z\delta_{ab} = 1$  or, say,  $x\delta_{ab} = y\delta_{ab} = 0$  and  $z\delta_{ab} = 1$ . In the first case,  $x, y, z \in S$ , and hence  $x \wedge_u y \wedge_u z \in S$ . By (C'),  $x \wedge_u y \wedge_u z \wedge_u (x + y + z) = x \wedge_u y \wedge_u z$ , and so  $x + y + z \in S$  as required. In the second case,  $z \in S$  and  $x, y \notin S$ . By (D'),  $z = (z, x + y + z, d(x, y, z))_u$ , and so either  $z \wedge_u (x+y+z) \in S$  or  $z \wedge_u d(x, y, z) \in S$ . But  $z \wedge_u d(x, y, z) = (z, x, y)_u \in S$  would imply that  $z \wedge_u x$  or  $z \wedge_u y \in S$ , which is a contra-

diction, since neither  $x$  nor  $y$  is in  $S$ . So we must have that  $z \wedge_u (x + y + z) \in S$ , and this implies that  $x + y + z \in S$  as required.

For  $D_3$ , we add the identity:  $\underline{d}(\underline{x}, \underline{y}, \underline{y}') = \underline{x}$ . Then for any  $x \in A$ ,  $x \wedge_u u' = d(u, x, u') = x$ , so  $u'$  is a maximal element. Also,  $S$  is non-empty, so there is an element  $z \in S$ , and  $z \leq_u u'$ . So  $u' \in S$ . Also, we note that  $x \wedge_u x' = d(u, x, x') = u = 0_u$ .

Now let  $x' \in S$ . If  $x \in S$ , then  $x \wedge_u x' = 0_u$  is in  $S$ , which is a contradiction. So  $x \notin S$ , and  $x\delta_{ab} = 0$ . Then  $(x\delta_{ab})' = 1 = (x')\delta_{ab}$ .

Conversely, if  $(x\delta_{ab})' = 1$ , then  $x\delta_{ab} = 0$ , and so  $x \notin S$ . Now  $u' \in S$ , and  $u' = u' \wedge_u u' = u' \wedge_u d(u', x, x') = (u', x, x')_u \in S$ . So either  $u' \wedge_u x = x \in S$ , or  $u' \wedge_u x' = x' \in S$ . Since  $x \notin S$ ,  $x' \in S$ , and  $(x')\delta_{ab} = 1$  as required.

This now completes the proof that every finite two-element algebra has a FEB. That this is the best possible result in this direction is exhibited in the next section of this chapter.

# 6. Murskii's Three-Element Counter-Example

$x \backslash y$	0	1	2
0	0	0	0
1	0	0	1
2	0	2	2

Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be defined on the set  $\{0, 1, 2\}$  with a single binary operation, denoted by  $xy$ , with operation table as at left.

Consider the polynomial symbols:

$$F_n: \underline{x}_1(\underline{x}_2(\underline{x}_3 \dots (\underline{x}_{n-1}(\underline{x}_n \underline{x}_1)) \dots ))$$

$$\text{and } G_n: (\underline{x}_1 \underline{x}_2)(\underline{x}_n(\underline{x}_{n-1} \dots (\underline{x}_4(\underline{x}_3 \underline{x}_2)) \dots )).$$

We shall show that for  $n < 2$ ,  $F_n = G_n$  holds in  $\mathcal{M}$ ,

but cannot be deduced from a set of identities in which any arbitrary term contains occurrences of not more than  $n-1$  different variable symbols.

Lemma 3.20: Let  $\underline{p}(\underline{x}_0, \dots, \underline{x}_{n-1})$  be a polynomial symbol of type  $\langle 2 \rangle$  containing each of  $\underline{x}_i$ ,  $i = 0, \dots, n-1$ . Then the polynomial  $p(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1})$  induced by  $\underline{p}$  in  $\mathcal{M}$  is a function depending on all its variables.

Proof: For arbitrary  $x_i$ ,  $p(2, 2, \dots, 2) = 2$ , whereas  $p(2, 2, \dots, 2, 0, 2, \dots, 2) = 0$ , when the  $i$ th variable is allowed to take on the value 0. Thus  $p$  depends upon  $x_i$ .

Corollary 3.21: If  $\underline{p} = \underline{q} \in \text{Id}(\mathcal{A})$ , then  $\underline{p}$  and  $\underline{q}$  contain the same variable symbols.

Definition 3.22: The term occurrence will denote the occurrence of a variable symbol in a polynomial symbol, and we will use the notation  $b_1, b_2, \dots$  for occurrences of  $\underline{x}_i, \underline{x}_j, \dots$

Definition 3.23: Two occurrences  $b_1$  and  $b_2$  in a polynomial symbol  $\underline{p}$  will be called adjacent in  $\underline{p}$  if  $\underline{p}$  contains a subterm  $\underline{p}_1 \underline{p}_2$ , and  $b_1$  is the left-most occurrence in  $\underline{p}_1$  and  $b_2$  is the left-most occurrence in  $\underline{p}_2$ , or vice-versa. Two variable symbols  $\underline{x}_i$  and  $\underline{x}_j$  (with possibly  $i = j$ ) are called adjacent in  $\underline{p}$  if there is an occurrence  $b_1$  of  $\underline{x}_i$  adjacent to an occurrence  $b_2$  of  $\underline{x}_j$  in  $\underline{p}$ . We note that every occurrence of a variable symbol  $\underline{x}_i$  in  $\underline{p}$  is one of a pair of adjacent occurrences.

Lemma 3.24: Let  $\underline{p}(\underline{x}_0, \dots, \underline{x}_{n-1}) \in \underline{P}(\langle 2 \rangle)$ , let  $\underline{p}(\underline{x}_0, \dots, \underline{x}_{n-1})$  be the induced polynomial in  $\mathcal{A}$ , and let  $a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{n-1} \in A$ . Then the following results hold:

- (i) if  $p(a_0, \dots a_{n-1}) \neq 0$ , then  $p(a_0, \dots a_{n-1}) = a_i$ , where  $\underline{x}_i$  is the left variable symbol of  $\underline{p}$ .
- (ii)  $p(a_0, \dots a_{n-1}) = 0$  if and only if some  $a_i = 0$ , or  $a_i = a_j = 1$ , where  $\underline{x}_i$  and  $\underline{x}_j$  are a pair of adjacent variable symbols of  $\underline{p}$ , possibly identical.

Proof: (i) This follows immediately from the fact that for any  $a, b \in A$ , if  $ab \neq 0$ , then  $ab = a$ .

(ii) If some  $a_i = 0$ , then  $p(a_0, \dots a_{n-1}) = 0$ . If  $a_i = a_j = 1$  where  $\underline{x}_i$  and  $\underline{x}_j$  are adjacent in  $\underline{p}$ , then  $\underline{p}$  has a subterm  $\underline{p}_1 \underline{p}_2$  such that  $\underline{x}_i$  is the left variable of  $\underline{p}_1$  and  $\underline{x}_j$  is the left variable of  $\underline{p}_2$ . If  $p_1(a_0, \dots a_{n-1}) = 0$ , or  $p_2(a_0, \dots a_{n-1}) = 0$ , we are done. Otherwise, by (i),  $p_1(a_0, \dots a_{n-1}) = 1$  and  $p_2(a_0, \dots a_{n-1}) = 1$ , and  $p_1(a_0, \dots a_{n-1})p_2(a_0, \dots a_{n-1}) = 0$ . Then  $p(a_0, \dots a_{n-1}) = 0$  as required.

Conversely, let  $p(a_0, \dots a_{n-1}) = 0$ . Let  $\underline{p}'$  be a subterm of  $\underline{p}$  such that  $p'(a_0, \dots a_{n-1}) = 0$  but all proper subterms of  $\underline{p}'$  do not have this property. If  $\underline{p}'$  is a variable symbol, we are done. Otherwise,  $\underline{p}'$  is  $\underline{p}_1 \underline{p}_2$  and  $p_1(a_0, \dots a_{n-1}) \neq 0$ ,  $p_2(a_0, \dots a_{n-1}) \neq 0$ . But  $p_1(a_0, \dots a_{n-1})p_2(a_0, \dots a_{n-1}) = 0$ , so each must be 1 (this can be seen by checking the operation table). Let  $\underline{x}_i$  be the left variable of  $\underline{p}_1$  and  $\underline{x}_j$  of  $\underline{p}_2$ . Then  $a_i = a_j = 1$  by (i), and  $\underline{x}_i, \underline{x}_j$  are adjacent in  $\underline{p}$ .

Corollary 3.25: If  $\underline{p}$  and  $\underline{q}$  have the same left variable symbols, and the same pairs of adjacent variable symbols, then  $\underline{p} = \underline{q} \in \text{Id}(\mathcal{O})$ .

Proof: Note first that the same variable symbols occur in  $\underline{p}$  and  $\underline{q}$ . Let  $a_0, \dots, a_{n-1} \in A$ , and suppose  $p(a_0, \dots, a_{n-1}) = 0$ . Then some  $a_i = 0$ , or  $a_i = a_j = 1$ , where  $\underline{x}_i$  and  $\underline{x}_j$  are adjacent in  $\underline{p}$ . In either case,  $q(a_0, \dots, a_{n-1}) = 0$ . Suppose  $p(a_0, \dots, a_{n-1}) \neq 0$ . Then  $p(a_0, \dots, a_{n-1}) = a_i$ , where  $\underline{x}_i$  is the left variable symbol of  $\underline{p}$ , and hence of  $\underline{q}$ . Suppose  $q(a_0, \dots, a_{n-1}) = 0$ . Then by the same reasoning as above, we would get that  $p(a_0, \dots, a_{n-1}) = 0$ . Hence  $q(a_0, \dots, a_{n-1}) \neq 0$ , and so must equal  $a_i$ . Then  $p(a_0, \dots, a_{n-1}) = q(a_0, \dots, a_{n-1})$  for all  $a_i \in A$ . So  $\underline{p} = \underline{q} \in \text{Id}(\mathcal{O})$ .

Lemma 3.26: Let  $\underline{p}$  be a polynomial symbol in which no variable symbol is adjacent to itself. Then every  $\underline{q}$  for which  $\underline{p} = \underline{q} \in \text{Id}(\mathcal{O})$  has the same left variable symbol and the same pairs of adjacent variable symbols as  $\underline{p}$ .

Proof: Let  $\underline{p}(\underline{x}_0, \dots, \underline{x}_{n-1})$  be built up from variable symbols  $\underline{x}_0, \dots, \underline{x}_{n-1}$ . Then  $\underline{q}$  has the same variable symbols. Now  $\underline{q}$  has no variable symbol  $\underline{x}_i$  adjacent to itself; otherwise, taking  $x_i = 1, x_j = 2$  for  $j \neq i$ , we would have  $p(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}) \neq 0$  and  $q(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}) = 0$ . Further,

if the left variable  $\underline{x}_j$  of  $\underline{p}$  is not identical with the left variable of  $\underline{q}$ , then for  $x_j = 1$ ,  $x_k = 2$  for  $k \neq j$ , we would have  $p(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}) = 1$ , while  $q(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}) = 2$ , since neither  $\underline{p}$  nor  $\underline{q}$  has a variable adjacent to itself. Finally, if two variables  $\underline{x}_i$  and  $\underline{x}_j$ ,  $i < j$ , adjacent in  $\underline{p}$ , are not adjacent in  $\underline{q}$ , then for  $x_i = x_j = 1$ , and  $x_k = 2$  for  $k \neq i, j$ , we would have  $p(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}) = 0$ , but  $q(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}) \neq 0$ . This completes the proof.

Lemma 3.27: Let  $P$  be a word (that is, a symbol formed by juxtaposition) in the alphabet  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  beginning with  $x_1$ , ending with  $x_3$ , and not containing some letter  $x_i$ ,  $i > 3$ . Furthermore, assume that any (unordered) pair of neighbouring letters of the word  $P$  is one of the pairs  $x_1x_2, x_2x_3, \dots, x_{n-1}x_n, x_nx_1$ . Then  $P$  contains the subword  $x_1x_2x_3$ .

Proof: The proof is a reverse induction on  $i$ , where  $x_i$  is the missing letter. Suppose  $x_n$  is missing. The initial segment of  $P$  is  $x_1x_2$ . If  $x_3$  follows  $x_2$ , we are done. Otherwise,  $P$  has the initial segment  $x_1x_2x_1x_2$ . Again, we have the two alternatives of  $x_3$  and  $x_1$ . Eventually, the next alternative must be  $x_3$ , or  $P$  would not contain  $x_3$ .

Suppose the result is true for  $x_k$  missing,  $k > 3$ . Let  $P$  be such a word with  $x_{k-1}$  missing. Then  $x_k$  occurs in  $P$  within subwords of the form  $x_{k+1}x_kx_{k+1}$ . For each such subword, erase  $x_kx_{k+1}$ . The resulting subword  $P'$  has  $x_k$  missing and satisfies the hypotheses of the lemma. So  $P'$  has  $x_1x_2x_3$  as a subword, and since  $k > 3$ ,  $P$  also contains this subword.

Corollary 3.28: If  $P$  is a word in the alphabet  $\{x_1, x_3, \dots, x_n\}$  beginning with  $x_1$ , ending with  $x_3$ , and with the same pairs of neighbouring letters as above, then each of  $x_1, x_3, x_4, \dots, x_n$  must occur in  $P$ .

Lemma 3.29: Let  $\underline{p}'$  be a subterm of  $\underline{p}$ ,  $b_1$  an occurrence in  $\underline{p}'$  which is not the left occurrence of  $\underline{p}'$ , and  $b_2$  an occurrence adjacent to  $b_1$ . Then  $b_2$  lies in  $\underline{p}'$ .

Proof: Assume  $b_2$  does not lie in  $\underline{p}'$ . We have two cases to consider:

Case (i):  $\underline{p}$  has a subterm  $\underline{p}_1\underline{p}_2$  where  $b_1$  is the left occurrence of  $\underline{p}_1$  and  $b_2$  is the left occurrence of  $\underline{p}_2$ . Then  $\underline{p}'$  overlaps  $\underline{p}_1\underline{p}_2$ . We cannot have  $\underline{p}_1\underline{p}_2 \subseteq \underline{p}'$ , since  $b_2$  does not lie in  $\underline{p}'$ . Hence  $\underline{p}' \subseteq \underline{p}_1\underline{p}_2$  and the containment is proper for the same reason. Then

$\underline{p}' \subseteq \underline{p}_1$  or  $\underline{p}' \subseteq \underline{p}_2$ . Since  $b_1$  occurs in  $\underline{p}'$ , we must have  $\underline{p}' \subseteq \underline{p}_1$ . But  $b_1$  is the left variable of  $\underline{p}_1$  and hence of  $\underline{p}'$ , contradicting the hypothesis.

Case (ii):  $\underline{p}$  contains  $\underline{p}_2 \underline{p}_1$  where  $\underline{p}_1$  and  $\underline{p}_2$  are as above. The same argument holds.

Corollary 3.30: Let  $b_2$  be an occurrence in  $\underline{p}$  adjacent to the distinct occurrences  $b_1$  and  $b_3$ . Let  $\underline{p}'$  be a subterm not containing one of these occurrences, and containing at least one of the others not on the left. Then  $b_2$  is the left occurrence of  $\underline{p}'$ .

Proof:  $b_2$  must occur in  $\underline{p}'$ , since otherwise,  $\underline{p}'$  would contain a non-left occurrence adjacent to an occurrence outside  $\underline{p}'$ , contradicting Lemma 3.29. By Lemma 3.29,  $b_2$  must be the left occurrence in  $\underline{p}'$ .

Corollary 3.31: Let  $\underline{p}_1$  and  $\underline{p}_2$  be non-overlapping subterms of  $\underline{p}$ . If  $b_1$  occurs in  $\underline{p}_1$ ,  $b_2$  in  $\underline{p}_2$ , and  $b_1$  is adjacent to  $b_2$ , then  $b_1$  and  $b_2$  are the left occurrences of  $\underline{p}_1$  and  $\underline{p}_2$ .

Proof: Immediate from Lemma 3.29.

Lemma 3.32: Let  $b_1$  and  $b_2$  be distinct occurrences in  $\underline{p}$ . Then there exists a sequence of pair-wise distinct occurrences  $b_1^\circ, b_2^\circ, \dots, b_m^\circ$ ,  $m > 1$ , such that  $b_1^\circ$  is  $b_1$ ,  $b_m^\circ$  is  $b_2$ , and, for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, m-1$ ,  $b_i^\circ$  is adjacent to  $b_{i+1}^\circ$ . (We will call such a sequence an A-sequence to  $b_1$  and  $b_2$ .)

Proof: The proof is by induction on the number  $k$  of distinct occurrences in  $\underline{p}$ . If  $k = 2$ ,  $\underline{p}$  is  $\underline{x_i x_j}$  with  $b_1$  the occurrence of  $\underline{x_i}$  and  $b_2$  the occurrence of  $\underline{x_j}$ , or vice-versa. Then  $b_1, b_2$  is the required A-sequence. Now suppose such a sequence exists for any two distinct occurrences in a polynomial symbol with fewer than  $k$  distinct occurrences. Let  $\underline{p}$  have  $k$  occurrences, and let  $b_1$  and  $b_2$  be distinct occurrences in  $\underline{p}$ . Let  $\underline{p}$  be  $\underline{p_1 p_2}$ . If  $b_1$  and  $b_2$  both occur in one of  $\underline{p_1}$  or  $\underline{p_2}$ , the result follows from the induction hypothesis. Otherwise, let  $b_1$  be in  $\underline{p_1}$  and  $b_2$  in  $\underline{p_2}$ . Suppose neither is the left occurrence of  $\underline{p_1}$  or  $\underline{p_2}$ . Let  $b_1, b_2^\circ, \dots, b_s^\circ$  be an A-sequence connecting  $b_1$  to the left occurrence  $b_s^\circ$  of  $\underline{p_1}$ . Let  $b_{k+1}^\circ$  be the left occurrence of  $\underline{p_2}$  and  $b_{k+1}^\circ, \dots, b_2$  an A-sequence connecting  $b_{k+1}^\circ$  to  $b_2$ . Since  $b_k^\circ$  and  $b_{k+1}^\circ$  are adjacent

and  $\underline{p}_1$  and  $\underline{p}_2$  do not overlap,  $b_1, b_2^\circ, \dots, b_k^\circ, b_{k+1}^\circ, \dots, b_2$  is an A-sequence connecting  $b_1$  to  $b_2$ . An obvious modification proves the result if either or both  $b_1, b_2$  are the left occurrences in  $\underline{p}_1$  and  $\underline{p}_2$ .

Definition 3.33: We define a subset  $K_n \subseteq \underline{P}(\langle 2 \rangle)$  as follows:  $\underline{p} \in K_n$  if and only if:

- (i)  $\underline{p}$  contains the variable symbols  $\underline{x}_1, \dots, \underline{x}_n$ .
- (ii)  $\underline{x}_1$  is the left variable symbol in  $\underline{p}$ .
- (iii) The pairs of adjacent variable symbols are precisely:  $\underline{x}_1\underline{x}_2, \underline{x}_2\underline{x}_3, \dots, \underline{x}_{n-1}\underline{x}_n, \underline{x}_n\underline{x}_1$ .

By Lemmas 3.24 and 3.26, if  $\underline{p}, \underline{q} \in K_n$ , then  $\underline{p} = \underline{q} \in \text{Id}(\mathcal{O})$ . Furthermore, if  $\underline{p} \in K_n$  and  $\underline{p} = \underline{q} \in \text{Id}(\mathcal{O})$ , then  $\underline{q} \in K_n$ .

In particular,  $F_n, G_n \in K_n$ , and so  $F_n = G_n$  holds in  $\mathcal{O}$  for each  $n$ .

Definition 3.34:  $\underline{p} \in \underline{P}(\langle 2 \rangle)$  has property  $P_n$  if and only if:

- (i)  $\underline{p} \in K_n$
- (ii) There is an occurrence of  $\underline{x}_2$  in  $\underline{p}$  adjacent both to some occurrence of  $\underline{x}_1$  and to some occurrence of  $\underline{x}_3$ .

We note that  $F_n$  has  $P_n$ , while  $G_n$  does not.

Lemma 3.35: Let  $\Sigma \in \text{Id}(\mathcal{M})$  be such that any identity of  $\Sigma$  contains occurrences of less than  $n$  different variable symbols. If  $\Sigma \vdash \underline{p} = \underline{q}$ , and  $\underline{p}$  has  $P_n$ , then  $\underline{q}$  has  $P_n$ .

Proof: If  $\underline{p}$  is  $\underline{q}$ , we are done. Otherwise, by Theorem 2.14,  $\Sigma \vdash^T \underline{p} = \underline{q}$ . Clearly, it is sufficient to show that a single application of rule  $S_1$  preserves  $P_n$ ; that is, if  $\underline{r} = \underline{s} \vdash^{S_1} \underline{p} = \underline{q}$  and one of  $\underline{p}$  or  $\underline{q}$  has  $P_n$ , then so does the other. We will assume that  $\underline{p}$  has  $P_n$  and show that  $\underline{q}$  also has  $P_n$ . The other case is proved in a similar manner.

Since  $\underline{r} = \underline{s} \in \text{Id}(\mathcal{M})$ , the same set of variable symbols  $\underline{y}_1, \dots, \underline{y}_k$ ,  $k < n$ , occurs in both  $\underline{r}$  and  $\underline{s}$ . We write  $\underline{r}(\underline{y}_1, \dots, \underline{y}_k)$  and  $\underline{s}(\underline{y}_1, \dots, \underline{y}_k)$  for  $\underline{r}$  and  $\underline{s}$ . Then for some polynomial symbols  $\underline{p}_1, \underline{p}_2, \dots, \underline{p}_k$ ,  $\underline{r}(\underline{p}_1, \dots, \underline{p}_k)$  is a subterm of  $\underline{p}$  and  $\underline{q}$  is the result of replacing this subterm in  $\underline{p}$  by the polynomial symbol  $\underline{s}(\underline{p}_1, \dots, \underline{p}_k)$ . We write  $\underline{r}'$  and  $\underline{s}'$  respectively for these subterms of  $\underline{p}$  and  $\underline{q}$ .

We note that  $\underline{r}'$  can be decomposed into non-overlapping subterms of the form  $\underline{p}_i$ . These will be called elementary subterms. Analogously, we decompose  $\underline{s}'$  into elementary subterms. Since  $\underline{r}$  and  $\underline{s}$  contain the same variable symbols,  $\underline{r}'$  and  $\underline{s}'$  contain the same elementary subterms. The left occurrences of two elementary subterms in  $\underline{r}'$  ( $\underline{s}'$ ) are adjacent if and only if the variable symbols they replace in  $\underline{r}$  ( $\underline{s}$ ) are adjacent. Further, in  $\underline{r}$ , there is no variable adjacent to itself. For if  $\underline{y}_i$  is adjacent to itself in  $\underline{r}$ , then the left variable symbol of  $\underline{p}_i$  is adjacent to itself in  $\underline{r}'$  and hence in  $\underline{p}$ . But  $\underline{p}$  has  $P_n$  and so the only pairs of adjacent variables are  $\underline{x}_1\underline{x}_2, \dots, \underline{x}_{n-1}\underline{x}_n, \underline{x}_n\underline{x}_1$ . Therefore, by Lemma 3.26,  $\underline{r}$  and  $\underline{s}$  have identical left variable symbols, and identical pairs of adjacent variable symbols. In particular, the left elementary subterms of  $\underline{r}'$  and  $\underline{s}'$  are identical.

We will call the left occurrence in an elementary subterm a supporting occurrence.

We assume that  $\underline{p}$  has  $P_n$ . Thus  $\underline{p} \in K_n$ , and so then is  $\underline{q} \in K_n$ . In  $\underline{p}$ , there is an occurrence  $b_2$  of  $\underline{x}_2$  adjacent both to an occurrence  $b_1$  of  $\underline{x}_1$  and an occurrence  $b_3$  of  $\underline{x}_3$ . We must prove that this also holds for  $\underline{q}$ . The following cases exhaust all the possibilities;

- (i) Each of  $b_1$ ,  $b_2$ , and  $b_3$  lies outside  $\underline{r}'$ .
- (ii) Two of  $b_1$ ,  $b_2$ , and  $b_3$  lie outside  $\underline{r}'$  and one inside.
- (iii)  $b_1$ ,  $b_2$ , and  $b_3$  lie within  $\underline{r}'$ .
- (iv) One of  $b_1$ ,  $b_2$ , and  $b_3$  lies outside  $\underline{r}'$ , and two inside.

Case (i): Since  $\underline{q}$  is obtained from  $\underline{p}$  by replacing  $\underline{r}'$  by  $\underline{s}'$ , there are occurrences of  $\underline{x}_1$ ,  $\underline{x}_2$ , and  $\underline{x}_3$  in  $\underline{q}$  having the same relationship to each other as do  $b_1$ ,  $b_2$ , and  $b_3$ . Hence  $\underline{q}$  has  $P_n$ .

Case (ii): The occurrence inside  $\underline{r}'$  must be the left occurrence of  $\underline{r}'$  (by Lemma 3.29). If the two occurrences outside  $\underline{r}'$  are adjacent in  $\underline{p}$ , then they remain adjacent after replacing  $\underline{r}'$  by  $\underline{s}'$ . If the left occurrence of  $\underline{r}'$  is adjacent to an occurrence outside  $\underline{r}'$ , then in  $\underline{q}$ , this occurrence outside  $\underline{s}'$  is adjacent to the left occurrence in  $\underline{s}'$ . But the left occurrences of  $\underline{r}'$  and  $\underline{s}'$  are identical. Hence  $\underline{q}$  has  $P_n$ .

Case (iii): If  $b_1$ ,  $b_2$ , and  $b_3$  lie in the same elementary subterm, we are done, since the same elementary subterm occurs in  $\underline{q}$ .

Assume that among  $b_1$ ,  $b_2$ , and  $b_3$ , there is a non-supporting occurrence, but that not all three occurrences belong to the same elementary subterm. By Lemma 3.29 and its corollaries,  $b_2$  is a supporting occurrence, one of  $b_1$  and  $b_3$  is a supporting occurrence, and the other lies in the same elementary subterm as  $b_2$ . Assume that  $b_1$  lies in  $\underline{p}_{i_1}$  and  $b_2$  and  $b_3$  in  $\underline{p}_{i_2}$ . The variable symbols  $\underline{y}_{i_1}$  and  $\underline{y}_{i_2}$  are adjacent in  $\underline{r}$ , and so there are adjacent occurrences of  $\underline{y}_{i_1}$  and  $\underline{y}_{i_2}$  in  $\underline{s}$ . Then the left occurrence of  $\underline{x}_2$  in  $\underline{p}_{i_2}$  is adjacent in  $\underline{s}'$  to the left occurrence of  $\underline{x}_1$  in  $\underline{p}_{i_1}$ ; in addition, in  $\underline{p}_{i_2}$ , the left occurrence of  $\underline{x}_2$  is adjacent to the occurrence of  $\underline{x}_3$  in  $\underline{p}_{i_2}$ . Hence  $\underline{q}$  has  $P_n$ .

It remains to consider the case when  $b_1$ ,  $b_2$ ,  $b_3$  are supporting occurrences. Then in  $\underline{s}'$ , there are also supporting occurrences  $b_1^\circ$ ,  $b_2^\circ$ ,  $b_3^\circ$  of the variable symbols  $\underline{x}_1$ ,  $\underline{x}_2$ , and  $\underline{x}_3$ . We can construct an A-sequence for  $b_1^\circ$  and  $b_3^\circ$ :  $b_1^\circ$ ,  $b_2'$ , ...  $b_s'$ ,  $b_3^\circ$ , where  $s \geq 0$ . All these occurrences are supporting: if, among them, there were some non-left occurrence of some elementary subterm, then the left occurrence of the same subterm

would occur twice in the sequence, since by Lemma 3.29, one can "enter" and "leave" a subterm only as a left occurrence. Let  $P = \underline{x}_1 \underline{x}_{i_1} \underline{x}_{i_2} \dots \underline{x}_{i_s} \underline{x}_3$  be the corresponding sequence of variable symbols. If  $P$  contains each of  $\underline{x}_1, \dots, \underline{x}_n$ , then  $\underline{r}'$  would contain at least  $n$  distinct elementary subterms, and so  $\underline{r}$  would contain at least  $n$  distinct variable symbols, contradicting  $k < n$ . Further, if  $\underline{x}_2$  is missing,  $P$  would contain each of  $\underline{x}_1, \underline{x}_3, \dots, \underline{x}_n$ , by Corollary 3.28. Since  $\underline{x}_2$  is also a supporting occurrence, this would again contradict  $k < n$ . Hence  $P$  satisfies the conditions of Lemma 3.27, and so contains a subword  $\underline{x}_1 \underline{x}_2 \underline{x}_3$ . In the A-sequence, this yields an occurrence of  $\underline{x}_2$  adjacent both to an occurrence of  $\underline{x}_1$  and an occurrence of  $\underline{x}_3$ . Hence  $\underline{q}$  has  $P_n$ .

Case (iv): By Corollary 3.30,  $b_2$  is the left occurrence of  $\underline{r}'$ . Assume that  $b_3$  lies outside  $\underline{r}'$  and  $b_1$  inside  $\underline{r}'$ . If  $b_1$  belongs to the left elementary subterm of  $\underline{r}'$ , the lemma is proved, since the left elementary subterm of  $\underline{s}'$  has the same form. Otherwise, by Corollary 3.31,  $b_1$  is a supporting occurrence. Hence, in  $\underline{s}'$ , there is a supporting occurrence  $b_1^\circ$  of  $\underline{x}_1$ . We join  $b_1^\circ$  to the left occurrence  $b_2^\circ$  of  $\underline{x}_2$  in  $\underline{s}'$  by an A-sequence. As before, all occurrences

in it are supporting. In this sequence,  $b_2^\circ$  adjoins either an occurrence of  $\underline{x}_1$  or an occurrence of  $\underline{x}_3$ . In the first case, we are done, since  $b_2^\circ$  is adjacent to the occurrence of  $\underline{x}_3$  outside  $\underline{s}'$ . In the second case, there are supporting occurrences of  $\underline{x}_1$ ,  $\underline{x}_2$ , and  $\underline{x}_3$  in  $\underline{s}'$ , and the lemma is proved by the argument in Case (iii).

In all cases, then,  $\underline{q}$  has  $P_n$ .

Theorem 3.36:  $\mathcal{O}$  has no FEB.

Proof: Suppose  $\Sigma \subseteq \text{Id}(\mathcal{O})$  were a finite basis for  $\text{Id}(\mathcal{O})$ . There exists, then, a positive integer  $n$  such that each polynomial symbol occurring in  $\Sigma$  contains fewer than  $n$  variable symbols. Then, since  $\Sigma \vdash F_n = G_n$  and  $F_n$  has  $P_n$ , by the last lemma,  $G_n$  must have  $P_n$ . But  $G_n$  does not have  $P_n$ .

## CHAPTER IV

### A SURVEY OF OTHER RESULTS

The aim of this chapter is to present a summary of all the additional results known to the author concerning the finite equational basis problem. Two of the shorter results, proving the existence of a FEB for any Boolean algebra and any abelian group, are presented in full detail. The remainder of the results are merely stated, with possibly an indication of their proofs.

#### 1. Boolean algebras

Definition 4.1: A Boolean algebra is an algebra  $\mathfrak{B} = \langle B; \vee, \wedge, ', 0, 1 \rangle$  satisfying the following identities:  $\Sigma = \{ \underline{x} \vee \underline{x} = \underline{x}, \underline{x} \wedge \underline{x} = \underline{x}, \underline{x} \vee \underline{y} = \underline{y} \vee \underline{x}, \underline{x} \wedge \underline{y} = \underline{y} \wedge \underline{x}, \underline{x} \vee (\underline{y} \wedge \underline{z}) = (\underline{x} \vee \underline{y}) \wedge \underline{z}, \underline{x} \wedge (\underline{y} \vee \underline{z}) = (\underline{x} \wedge \underline{y}) \vee (\underline{x} \wedge \underline{z}), \underline{x} \wedge (\underline{x} \vee \underline{y}) = \underline{x}, \underline{x} \vee (\underline{x} \wedge \underline{y}) = \underline{x}, \underline{x} \vee (\underline{y} \wedge \underline{z}) = (\underline{x} \vee \underline{y}) \wedge (\underline{x} \vee \underline{z}), \underline{x} \wedge (\underline{y} \vee \underline{z}) = (\underline{x} \wedge \underline{y}) \vee (\underline{x} \wedge \underline{z}), \underline{0} \vee \underline{x} = \underline{x}, \underline{1} \wedge \underline{x} = \underline{x}, \underline{x} \vee \underline{x}' = \underline{1}, \underline{x} \wedge \underline{x}' = \underline{0} \}$ .

Let  $\mathbf{2}$  denote the 2-element Boolean algebra. We have already shown that  $\text{Id}(\mathbf{2})$  has a finite basis.

Theorem 4.2: Let  $\mathbf{b}$  be a Boolean algebra with more than two elements. Then  $\text{Id}(\mathbf{b}) = \text{Id}(\mathbf{2})$ .

Proof: Since  $\mathbf{b}$  has more than two elements,  $\mathbf{b}$  has a two-element subalgebra isomorphic to  $\mathbf{2}$ . If  $\underline{p} = \underline{q}$  holds in  $\mathbf{b}$ , then  $\underline{p} = \underline{q}$  holds in the two-element subalgebra, and so in  $\mathbf{2}$ . Conversely, let  $\underline{p} = \underline{q} \in \text{Id}(\mathbf{2})$ . Every Boolean algebra is a subdirect power of the two-element Boolean algebra (this can be proved by showing that there always exists a prime ideal separating any two distinct elements, as in Post Systems III). Then  $\underline{p} = \underline{q}$  must hold in  $\mathbf{b}$ .

Corollary 4.3: Any Boolean algebra has a FEB.

## 2. Abelian Groups

The major result of this section is due to B. H. Neumann [12].

Definition 4.4: A group is an algebra  $\mathcal{G} = \langle G; \cdot, ^{-1}, 1 \rangle$  of type  $\langle 2, 1, 0 \rangle$ , satisfying the group identities  $\Sigma$  (see page 31).

Let  $K = \Sigma''$  denote the equational class of groups, and let  $\tau = \langle 2, 1, 0 \rangle$ . Let  $\Sigma$  also denote the congruence relation on  $\mathcal{P}(\tau)$  defined by  $\underline{p} \equiv \underline{q}(\Sigma)$  if and only if  $\Sigma \vdash \underline{p} = \underline{q}$ .

By Theorem 2.22, any identity  $\underline{r} = \underline{s} \in \text{Id}(\tau)$  is equivalent modulo  $\Sigma$  to an identity of the form  $\underline{p} = \underline{1}$ .

Lemma 4.5: Let  $\underline{p}(\underline{x}_0, \dots, \underline{x}_{n-1}) = \underline{1} \in \text{Id}(\tau)$ .  
Let  $\mathcal{Q}(n) = \mathcal{Q}^{(n)}(\tau)/\Sigma \cong \mathcal{F}_K(n)$ , and let  $\mathcal{Q}'(n)$  denote the commutator subgroup of  $\mathcal{Q}(n)$ . Then  $\underline{p}(\underline{x}_0, \dots, \underline{x}_{n-1}) = \underline{1}$  is equivalent modulo  $\Sigma$  to an identity of the form:

$$\underline{x}_0^{\alpha_0} \cdot \underline{x}_1^{\alpha_1} \cdot \dots \cdot \underline{x}_{n-1}^{\alpha_{n-1}} \underline{p}' = \underline{1}$$

where  $[\underline{p}'] \in G'(n)$ . (Note:  $\alpha_i = 0$  will indicate non-occurrence of  $\underline{x}_i$  in this form of the identity.)

Proof:  $\mathcal{Q}(n)$  is generated by  $[\underline{x}_0], \dots, [\underline{x}_{n-1}]$ .

Now  $[\underline{p}] \in G(n)$ , so  $[\underline{p}] = [\underline{q}][\underline{r}]$  where  $[\underline{r}] \in G'(n)$ ,

and  $[\underline{q}] = [\underline{x}_{i_0}]^{\beta_0} [\underline{x}_{i_1}]^{\beta_1} \dots [\underline{x}_{i_{k-1}}]^{\beta_{k-1}}$  where

$\{i_0, i_1, \dots, i_{k-1}\} = \{0, 1, \dots, n-1\}$ , and again,

$\beta_j = 0$  will be used to indicate non-occurrence of the

equivalence class in question. Since  $\mathcal{Q}(n)/\mathcal{Q}'(n)$

is abelian,  $[\underline{p}] = [\underline{x}_{i_0}]^{\beta_0} \dots [\underline{x}_{i_{k-1}}]^{\beta_{k-1}} [\underline{r}] =$

$[\underline{x}_0]^{\alpha_0} [\underline{x}_1]^{\alpha_1} \dots [\underline{x}_{n-1}]^{\alpha_{n-1}} [\underline{p}']$ , where  $[\underline{p}'] \in G'(n)$ ,

$= [\underline{x}_0]^{\alpha_0} \cdot \underline{x}_1^{\alpha_1} \cdot \dots \cdot \underline{x}_{n-1}^{\alpha_{n-1}} \cdot \underline{p}']$ . Then  $\Sigma \vdash \underline{x}_0^{\alpha_0} \dots \underline{x}_{n-1}^{\alpha_{n-1}} \underline{p}' = \underline{p}$ .

Then  $\Sigma, \underline{p} = \underline{1} \vdash \underline{x}_0^{\alpha_0} \underline{x}_1^{\alpha_1} \dots \underline{x}_{n-1}^{\alpha_{n-1}} \underline{p}' = \underline{1}$ ,

and  $\Sigma, \underline{x}_0^{\alpha_0} \underline{x}_1^{\alpha_1} \dots \underline{x}_{n-1}^{\alpha_{n-1}} \underline{p}' = \underline{1} \vdash \underline{p} = \underline{1}$ , and this is precisely what is required.

Definition 4.6: Consider  $\mathcal{G}(\omega) = \mathcal{P}(\tau)/\Sigma$ , the free group on  $\omega$  generators, and its commutator subgroup  $\mathcal{G}'(\omega)$ . An identity  $\underline{p} = \underline{1}$  is called a commutator identity if  $[\underline{p}] \in \mathcal{G}'(\omega)$ .

Theorem 4.7: Let  $\mathcal{G}$  be a group. Then  $\text{Id}(\mathcal{G})$  has a basis consisting of the group identities  $\Sigma$ , the identity  $\underline{x}^k = \underline{1}$ , where  $k$  is the least common multiple of the orders of all the elements of  $\mathcal{G}$  (if such  $k$  exists), and commutator identities.

Proof: Note first that  $k$  is the smallest positive integer for which  $\underline{x}^k = \underline{1}$  holds, for if  $\underline{x}^m = \underline{1}$  holds, then the order of every element divides  $m$ , and so  $k$  divides  $m$ , implying that  $k \leq m$ . Now if  $\underline{p} = \underline{1}$  holds in  $\mathcal{G}$ , we can assume that this identity has the form:

$$\underline{x}_0^{\alpha_0} \underline{x}_1^{\alpha_1} \dots \underline{x}_{n-1}^{\alpha_{n-1}} \underline{p}' = \underline{1}, [\underline{p}'] \in \mathcal{G}'(n).$$

For each  $i = 0, 1, \dots, n-1$ , substitute  $\underline{x}_i$  for  $\underline{x}_i$  and  $\underline{1}$  for the  $\underline{x}_j$  where  $j \neq i$ . We get that the following

hold in  $\mathcal{G}$ :  $\underline{x}_0^{\alpha_0} = \underline{1}, \dots, \underline{x}_{n-1}^{\alpha_{n-1}} = \underline{1}$ . Since  $k$  divides

$\alpha_i$ , we have that  $\Sigma, \underline{x}^k = \underline{1} \vdash \underline{x}_i^{\alpha_i} = \underline{1}$ . Also, since these latter identities hold in  $\mathcal{A}$ , we must have that  $\underline{p}' = \underline{1}$  holds in  $\mathcal{A}$ . Then  $\Sigma, \underline{x}^k = \underline{1}, \underline{p}' = \underline{1} \vdash \underline{p} = \underline{1}$ , and  $\underline{p}' = \underline{1}$  is a commutator identity, since  $G'(n) \subseteq G'(\omega)$ .

If no positive integer  $k$  exists such that  $\underline{x}^k = \underline{1}$  holds in  $\mathcal{A}$ , then all identities of  $\mathcal{A}$  can be deduced from  $\Sigma$  and commutator identities.

Corollary 4.8: If  $\mathcal{A}$  is abelian, then  $\text{Id}(\mathcal{A})$  is finitely based.

Proof: Let  $[\underline{p}'] \in G'(\omega)$ . Then  $\Sigma, \underline{x} \cdot \underline{y} = \underline{y} \cdot \underline{x} \vdash \underline{p}' = \underline{1}$ . Hence  $\Sigma, \underline{x} \cdot \underline{y} = \underline{y} \cdot \underline{x}, \underline{x}^k = \underline{1} \vdash \text{Id}(\mathcal{A})$ .

### 3. Further Results

#### (a) Primal Algebras:

Definition 4.9: An algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  is primal if it is  $A$ -finite, with more than one element, and if every function  $f: A^n \rightarrow A$  is a polynomial.

Rosenbloom [15a] has shown that every primal algebra which is  $F$ -finite has a FEB. Mackenzie [9] has provided a simplified proof of this result. For each  $n > 1$ , he exhibits a primal algebra  $\mathcal{A}_n$  with  $n$  elements which has a FEB. Any primal algebra  $\mathcal{B}$  with  $n$  elements, then,

can be assumed to be defined on the same set  $A_n$ , and so is equivalent to  $\mathcal{A}_n$ . Then by Theorem 2.27, if  $\mathcal{B}$  is  $F$ -finite, then it has a FEB.

(b) Direct Products of Primal Algebras

Definition 4.10: A class  $K = \{\mathcal{A}_i | i \in I\}$  of algebras of the same type is said to be independent if whenever  $\{p_i | i \in I\}$  are polynomial symbols, then there is a polynomial symbol  $p$  such that  $p$  induces the same polynomial in  $\mathcal{A}_i$  as does  $p_i$ , for each  $i \in I$ .

Yaqub [17] has proved the following:

Theorem 4.11: If  $K = \{\mathcal{A}_1, \mathcal{A}_2, \dots, \mathcal{A}_n\}$  is a finite independent class of primal algebras, then  $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{A}_1 \times \mathcal{A}_2 \times \dots \times \mathcal{A}_n$  has a FEB.

The proof of this theorem depends upon the following lemma due to Foster [2], presented here without proof:

Lemma 4.12: Let  $K$  be as above. An algebra  $\mathcal{B}$  of the same type is isomorphic to a subdirect product of subdirect powers of the  $\mathcal{A}_i$  if and only if:  
 $\text{Id}(\mathcal{A}_1 \times \mathcal{A}_2 \times \dots \times \mathcal{A}_n) \subseteq \text{Id}(\mathcal{B})$ .

Yaqub points out that Foster uses only a finite subset  $\Sigma \subseteq \text{Id}(\mathcal{M}_1 \times \mathcal{M}_2 \times \dots \times \mathcal{M}_n)$  in his proof, and that the lemma can be reformulated by replacing  $\text{Id}(\mathcal{M}_1 \times \dots \times \mathcal{M}_n)$  by  $\Sigma$ . The proof of the theorem then follows easily by considering the free algebra  $\mathcal{F}$  on  $\omega$  generators satisfying  $\Sigma$ . If  $\underline{p} = \underline{q}$  holds in  $\mathcal{M}_1 \times \dots \times \mathcal{M}_n$ , then it holds in each  $\mathcal{M}_i$ , and so in  $\mathcal{F}$  which is a subdirect product of subdirect powers of the  $\mathcal{M}_i$ . So  $\Sigma \vdash \underline{p} = \underline{q}$ .

(c) Semi-Groups

Definition 4.13: A uniformly periodic semi-group is one satisfying an identity of the form:

$$\underline{x}^m + k = \underline{x}^m$$

Definition 4.14: A permutative semi-group is one satisfying an identity of the form:

$$\underline{x}_0 \underline{x}_1 \dots \underline{x}_{n-1} = \underline{x}_{v(0)} \underline{x}_{v(1)} \dots \underline{x}_{v(n-1)}$$

where  $v$  is a permutation of the symbols  $0, 1, \dots, n-1$ .

Perkins [14] has obtained the following results:

Theorem 4.15: Every commutative semi-groups has a FEB.

Theorem 4.16: Every uniformly periodic, permutative semi-group has a FEB.

Theorem 4.17: Every three-element semi-group has a FEB.

Theorem 4.17 follows almost immediately from Theorem 4.16, since of the eighteen isomorphism-anti-isomorphism types of three-element semi-groups (enumerated by Forsythe in [1]), seventeen are permutative, while the eighteenth can be shown to have a FEB using normal forms.

Perkins has also displayed a six-element semi-group of matrices under matrix multiplication which does not have a FEB. The matrices are:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

(d) Nilpotent and Finite Groups

Lyndon [8] has proved:

Theorem 4.18: Every nilpotent group has a FEB.

His result has been generalized by Higman [5] as follows:

Theorem 4.19: Let  $K$  and  $L$  be equational classes of groups, and let  $K.L$  denote the equational class of groups with a normal subgroup in  $K$  with factor group in  $L$ . Then  $\text{Id}(K.L)$  is finitely based if every group in  $K$  is nilpotent,

and  $\text{Id}(L)$  is finitely based.

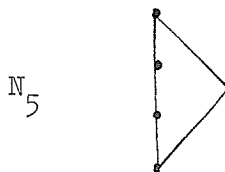
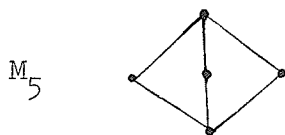
This is indeed a generalization, for let  $\mathcal{G}$  be a nilpotent group. Then the equational class  $K$  generated by  $\mathcal{G}$  has every group in it nilpotent, and  $\text{Id}(K) = \text{Id}(\mathcal{G})$ . Since  $K = K \cdot I$ , where  $I$  is the equational class of one-element groups (which is trivially finitely based),  $\text{Id}(K)$  is finitely based, by Higman's theorem. Hence,  $\text{Id}(\mathcal{G})$  is finitely based.

The following theorem has been proved by Oates and Powell [13]:

Theorem 4.20: Every finite group has a FEB.

(e) Non-distributive Lattices

It is well-known that any non-distributive lattice contains one of the following as subalgebras:



B. Jonson has communicated to G. Gratzer that he has shown that  $\text{Id}(M_5)$  has a finite basis.

Kirby Baker (in an unpublished result) has shown that there exist an infinite lattice with no FEB. This infinite lattice is, in fact, modular.

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