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## FEEDBACK, ITERATION AND REPETITION

Virgil-Emil Căzănescu and Gheorghe Ștefănescu

In order to get an algebraic theory of computation one needs an axiomatic looping operation. This may be Kleene's repetition (cf. [6], for example), Elgot's iteration [7] or feedback [11,12,3]. The proper acyclic context for repetition seems to be a matrix theory (such a theory is equivalent with the theory of matrices over a semiring [8]), for iteration an algebraic theory in the sense of Lawvere and for feedback a (symmetric) strict monoidal category in the sense of MacLane [10].

The equational axioms for the looping operation are not easily codified. A regular algebra cf. Conway [6] is a structure which satisfies all the identities (written in terms of union, composition, repetition and constants 0, 1) which are valid in the algebra of regular events. The theory of matrices over a regular algebra is a matrix theory, but the axioms for repetition are yet unknown (by authors' knowledge). This algebra is intended as a model for the input-output behaviour of nondeterministic computation.

An iteration theory cf. Bloom, Elgot and Wright [1] is a structure which satisfies all the identities (written in terms of tupling, composition, iteration and constants  $1_a, 0_a, x_1^a$ ) which are valid in the theory of regular trees. The axiomatization for iteration theories was found by Esik (see [9]). An iteration theory is an algebraic theory in which an iteration operation is given fulfilling some axioms. This algebra is intended as a model for the input behaviour of deterministic computation (we use the name "input behaviour" instead of the name "strong behaviour" used by Elgot).

A biflow is a structure which satisfies all the identities (written in terms of separated sum, composition, feedback and constants  $1_a, \forall_{a,b}$ ) which are valid in the algebra of flowchart schemes. An axiomatization for biflows is given in [12,3]. A

biflow is a symmetric strict monoidal category in which a feedback operation is given fulfilling some axioms. This model is more related with the algorithms themselves than with their behaviours.

It is well known that we have some natural inclusions

$$\text{matrix theories} \subseteq \text{algebraic theories} \subseteq (\text{symmetric}) \text{ strict monoidal categories}$$

and the inclusions are strict. It is also known that

$$\begin{matrix} \text{matrix theories} & \subseteq & \text{iteration theories} & \subseteq & \text{biflows} \\ \text{of regular algebras} & & \text{over matrix theories} & & \text{over matrix theories} \end{matrix}$$

and

$$\text{iteration theories} \subseteq \text{biflows over algebraic theories.}$$

(It seems likely that one can prove that the above inclusions are strict - this was proved by Erik for the latter one.)

The aim of this paper is to give another passing between iterations and feedbacks than that previously given in [5]. Via this passing the axioms of iteration in an axiomatic system for algebraic theories with iterate (= biflows over algebraic theories) are translated in terms of feedback one-by-one.

When we combine the present passing with the known passing iterations-repetitions [14] we get an easy and natural passing between feedbacks, iterations and repetitions. This is used to give certain axiomatic systems for biflows over algebraic or matrix theories. More importantly, this passing is used in the concluded remarks to emphasize some new advantages of the use of feedback over the use of iteration or repetition than those initially given in [12].

### BIFLOWS AND BIFLOWS OVER ALGEBRAIC AND MATRIX THEORIES

We assume the reader is familiar with the calculus of symmetric strict monoidal categories (cf. [10,4], for example), algebraic theories (cf. [7,4], for example) and matrix theories (cf. [8,4], for example).

Let us consider a category  $(T, \cdot, I_a)$  having as objects the elements of a monoid  $(M, +, \lambda)$ . That is the composition satisfies

$$B1 \quad (fg)h = f(gh) \qquad B2 \quad I_a f = f = f I_b$$

The application of a function  $f$  in a point  $x$  is written  $xf$ , while the composite of  $f:A \rightarrow B$  and  $g:B \rightarrow C$  is written in the diagramatic order  $f \cdot g$  (or  $fg$ ).

A category as above is a strict monoidal category (sme, for short) if a sum  $+ : T(a,b) \times T(c,d) \rightarrow T(a+c,b+d)$  is given fulfilling the axioms

$$\begin{aligned} B3 \quad (f+g)h &= f+(gh) & B5 \quad I_a + I_b &= I_{a+b} \\ B4 \quad I_\lambda + f &= f = f + I_\lambda & B6 \quad (f+g)(u+v) &= fu+gv \\ & & \text{for } a \xrightarrow{f} b \xrightarrow{u} c, a' \xrightarrow{g} b' \xrightarrow{v} c'. \end{aligned}$$

An sme  $T$  is a symmetric strict monoidal category (ssme, for short) if some constants  $\forall_{a,b} V_{a,b} \in T(a+b,b+a)$  are given fulfilling the axioms

$$\begin{aligned} B7 \quad \forall_{a,b} \forall_{b,a} &= I_{a+b} & B9 \quad \forall_{a,b+c} &= (\forall_{a,b} + I_c)(I_b + \forall_{a,c}) \\ B8 \quad \forall_{a,\lambda} &= I_a & B10 \quad (f+g)\forall_{b,d} &= \forall_{a,c}(g+f) \\ & & \text{for } f:a \rightarrow b, g:c \rightarrow d. \end{aligned}$$

An sme  $T$  is an algebraic theory if some constants  $0_a \in T(\lambda, a)$  and  $V_a \in T(a+a, a)$  are given fulfilling the axioms

$$\begin{aligned} B11 \quad 0_\lambda &= I_\lambda & B13 \quad V_a f &= (f+I)V_b \\ B12 \quad 0_\lambda f &= 0_a & B14 \quad I_{a+b} &= (I_a + 0_{b+a} + I_b)V_{a+b} \end{aligned}$$

In an algebraic theory  $T$ , defined as above, a tupling operation  $\langle , \rangle : T(a,c) \times T(b,c) \rightarrow T(a+b,c)$  and some constants  $\langle a,b,c \rangle \in T(b,a+b+c)$  may be introduced as follows

$$\langle f,g \rangle \doteq (f+g)V_c \qquad \langle a,b,c \rangle = 0_a + I_b + 0_c$$

An algebraic theory may equivalently be introduced as a category  $T$  as above in which a tupling  $\langle , \rangle$  and some constants  $\langle a,b,c \rangle$  are given fulfilling the axioms

- T1  $T(\lambda, a)$  contains a unique element, denoted  $0_a$ ;  
 T2  $\langle \lambda, a, \lambda \rangle = I_a$                       T3  $\langle a, b, c \rangle \langle d, a+b+c, c \rangle = \langle d+a, b, c+c \rangle$ ;  
 T4 for every  $f \in T(a, c)$  and  $g \in T(b, c)$  the morphism  $\langle f, g \rangle$  is the unique  $h \in T(a+b, c)$  such that  $\langle \lambda, a, b \rangle h = f$  and  $\langle a, b, \lambda \rangle h = g$ .

In a such defined algebraic theory the sum of  $f: a \rightarrow b$  and  $g: c \rightarrow d$  is  $\langle f \langle \lambda, b, d \rangle, g \langle b, d, \lambda \rangle \rangle$  and  $V_a = \langle I_a, I_a \rangle$ . We mention that every algebraic theory is an space, where  $V_{a,b} = \langle \langle b, a, \lambda \rangle, \langle \lambda, b, a \rangle \rangle$ .

An algebraic theory  $T$  is a matrix theory if some constants  $\perp_a \in T(a, \lambda)$  and  $\wedge_a \in T(a, a+a)$  are given fulfilling the axioms

- B15  $\perp_\lambda = I_\lambda$                       B17  $\wedge_b = \wedge_a (f+f)$   
 B16  $f \perp_b = \perp_a$                       B18  $\wedge_{a+b} (I_a + 0_{b+a} + I_b) = I_{a+b}$

In a matrix theory  $T$ , defined as above, a target-tupling  $[ , ] : T(a, b) \times T(a, c) \rightarrow T(a, b+c)$  and some constants  $[a, b, c] \in T(a+b+c, b)$  may be introduced as follows

$$[f, g] = \wedge_a (f+g) \qquad [a, b, c] = \perp_a + I_a + \perp_c$$

In a matrix theory  $T$  we may also define a union operation  $\cup : T(a, b) \times T(a, b) \rightarrow T(a, b)$  and some constants  $0_{a,b} \in T(a, b)$  as follows

$$f \cup g = \wedge_a (f+g) V_b \qquad 0_{a,b} = \perp_a 0_b$$

and a matrix building operation which maps  $f: a \rightarrow c$ ,  $g: a \rightarrow d$ ,  $h: b \rightarrow c$  and  $i: b \rightarrow d$  in  $\begin{bmatrix} f & g \\ h & i \end{bmatrix} \in T(a+b, c+d)$  defined as being

$$\text{either } \langle [f, g], [h, i] \rangle \qquad \text{or } \langle [f, h], [g, i] \rangle.$$

For given  $a, b, c$  and  $d$  every  $j \in T(a+b, c+d)$  may be written in a unique way as  $j = \begin{bmatrix} f & g \\ h & i \end{bmatrix}$  with  $f, g, h$  and  $i$  as above.

Let us consider the following axiomatic systems F1-2, f1-4 and R1-3.

Suppose a feedback operation  $\uparrow^a: T(a+b, a+c) \rightarrow T(b, c)$  is given.

- |                 |   |                 |  |
|-----------------|---|-----------------|--|
| F1 <sub>1</sub> | $\uparrow^a \vee_{a,a} = I_a$   | F2 <sub>1</sub> | $\uparrow^a (\vee_{a,a} (I_a + f)) = f$  |
| F1 <sub>2</sub> | $\uparrow^b \uparrow^a f = \uparrow^{a+b} f$                                  | F2 <sub>2</sub> | $\uparrow^b \uparrow^a f = \uparrow^{a+b} f$   |
| F1 <sub>3</sub> | $\uparrow^{a+b} ((\vee_{a,b} + I_c) f (\vee_{b,a} + I_d)) = \uparrow^{b+a} f$ | F2 <sub>3</sub> | $\uparrow^{a+b} ((\vee_{a,b} + I_c) f (\vee_{b,a} + I_d)) = \uparrow^{b+a} f$                      |
| F1 <sub>4</sub> | $(\uparrow^a f)g = \uparrow^a (f(I_a + g))$                                   | F2 <sub>4</sub> | $\uparrow^a (f + 0_d) = \uparrow^a f + 0_d$  |
| F1 <sub>5</sub> | $g(\uparrow^a f) = \uparrow^a ((I_a + g)f)$                                   | F2 <sub>5</sub> | $\uparrow^a \langle f, g \rangle = g \langle \uparrow^a \langle f, I_a + 0_c \rangle, I_c \rangle$ |
| F1 <sub>6</sub> | $\uparrow^a f + g = \uparrow^a (f + g)$                                       |                 | for $f: a \rightarrow a+c, g: b \rightarrow a+c$   |
| F1 <sub>7</sub> | $\uparrow^a I_a = I_\lambda$  |                 |  |

A morphism  $y: a \rightarrow b$  is called  $\uparrow$ -functorial if for every  $f: a+c \rightarrow a+d$  and  $g: b+c \rightarrow b+d$  the equality  $f(y + I_c) = (y + I_c)g$  implies  $\uparrow^a f = \uparrow^b g$ .

Suppose an iteration operation  $\dagger: T(a, a+b) \rightarrow T(a, b)$  is given.

- |                 |  |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|-----------------|--|
| I1 <sub>1</sub> | $(f(\vee_a + I_b))^\dagger = f^\dagger$  | I2 <sub>1</sub> | $f \langle f^\dagger, I_b \rangle = f^\dagger$                                       |
| I1 <sub>2</sub> | $(f(g + I_c))^\dagger = f \langle (gf)^\dagger, I_c \rangle$                         | I2 <sub>2</sub> | $(f(\vee_a + I_b))^\dagger = f^\dagger$  |
|                 | for $f: a \rightarrow b+c, g: b \rightarrow a$                                       | I2 <sub>3</sub> | $g(f(g + I_c))^\dagger = (gf)^\dagger$   |
| I1 <sub>3</sub> | $(f(I_a + g))^\dagger = f^\dagger g$   |                 | for $f: a \rightarrow b+c, g: b \rightarrow a$                                       |
|                 |  | I2 <sub>4</sub> | $(f(I_a + g))^\dagger = f^\dagger g$   |
| I3 <sub>1</sub> | $(0_a + I_a)^\dagger = I_a$  | I4 <sub>1</sub> | $(0_a + f)^\dagger = f$  |
| I3 <sub>2</sub> | $\langle f, g \rangle^\dagger = \langle f^\dagger \langle h, I_c \rangle, h \rangle$ | I4 <sub>2</sub> | $\langle f, g \rangle^\dagger = \langle f^\dagger \langle h, I_c \rangle, h \rangle$ |
|                 | where $h = (g \langle f^\dagger, I_{b+c} \rangle)^\dagger$                           |                 | where $h = (g \langle f^\dagger, I_{b+c} \rangle)^\dagger$                           |
| I3 <sub>3</sub> | $(\vee_{a,b} f(\vee_{b,a} + I_c))^\dagger = \vee_{a,b} f^\dagger$                    | I4 <sub>3</sub> | $(\vee_{a,b} f(\vee_{b,a} + I_c))^\dagger = \vee_{a,b} f^\dagger$                    |
| I3 <sub>4</sub> | $(f(I_a + g))^\dagger = f^\dagger g$   | I4 <sub>4</sub> | $(f + 0_c)^\dagger = f^\dagger + 0_c$  |

A morphism  $y: a \rightarrow b$  is called  $\dagger$ -functorial if for every  $f: a \rightarrow a+c$  and  $g: b \rightarrow b+c$  the equality  $f(y + I_c) = yg$  implies  $f^\dagger = yg^\dagger$ .

Suppose a repetition operation  $*$ :  $T(a, a) \rightarrow T(a, a)$  is given.

- |                 |                                |                 |                                |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| R1 <sub>1</sub> | $(f \cup g)^* = (f^* g)^* f^*$ | R2 <sub>1</sub> | $f^* = I_a \cup f f^*$         |
| R1 <sub>2</sub> | $(fg)^* = I_a \cup f(gf)^* g$  | R2 <sub>2</sub> | $(f \cup g)^* = (f^* g)^* f^*$ |
|                 |                                | R2 <sub>3</sub> | $(fg)^* f = f(gf)^*$           |

$$R3_1 \quad 0_{a,a}^* = I_a$$

$$R3_2 \quad \begin{bmatrix} f & g \\ h & i \end{bmatrix}^* = \begin{bmatrix} f^* g w h f^* \cup f^* & f^* g w \\ w h f^* & w \end{bmatrix}, \text{ where } w = (h f^* g \cup i)^*$$

$$R3_3 \quad (Y_{a,b}^* Y_{b,a}^*)^* = Y_{a,b}^* Y_{b,a}^*$$

A morphism  $y: a \rightarrow b$  is called \*-functorial if for every  $f: a \rightarrow a$  and  $g: b \rightarrow b$  the equality  $f y = y g$  implies  $f^* y = y g^*$ .

A biflow is by definition an ssmc in which a feedback is given fulfilling the axioms  $F1_{1-7}$ . A biflow over an algebraic theory (resp. over a matrix theory) is an algebraic theory (resp. a matrix theory) considered with the natural structure of ssmc in which a feedback is given fulfilling the axioms  $F1_{1-7}$ .

As a corollary of the theorems in this paper we note that in an algebraic theory (resp. in a matrix theory) the axiomatic systems  $F1, F2, I1, I2, I3$  and  $I4$  (resp.  $F1, F2, I1, I2, I3, I4, R1, R2$  and  $R3$ ) are equivalent.

Proposition. In an algebraic theory the axiomatic systems  $I1-4$  are equivalent.

Proof. It is known from Esik [9] that  $I4_{1-4}$  is equivalent with  $I2_1, I4_{2-3}$  and  $I2_4$ . As  $I4_1$  follows from  $I3_1$  and  $I3_4$  we get that  $I3 \iff I4$  holds.

Note that  $I3_3$  is a particular case of  $I2_3$ . By the Proposition B.1 of Appendix B in Stefanescu [13] the axiom  $I3_2$  is equivalent with  $I2_{2-3}$  in the presence of  $I2_1$  and  $I3_{3-4}$ . Hence  $I2 \iff I3$ .

It is easy to see that  $I1 \iff I2$ . Indeed,  $I1_2$  for  $g = I_a$  gives  $I2_1$ ; moreover,  $g(f(g + I_c))^{\dagger} = (\text{by } I1_2) g f \langle (g f)^{\dagger}, I_c \rangle = (\text{by } I2_1) (g f)^{\dagger}$ , hence  $I1_2 \implies I2_3$ . Conversely,  $I2_1 + I2_3 \implies I1_2$ ; indeed,  $(f(g + I_c))^{\dagger} = (\text{by } I2_1) f(g + I_c) \langle (f(g + I_c))^{\dagger}, I_c \rangle = f \langle g(f(g + I_c))^{\dagger}, I_c \rangle = (\text{by } I2_3) f \langle (g f)^{\dagger}, I_c \rangle$ .  $\square$



ITERATIONS AND FEEDBACKS IN ALGEBRAIC THEORIES

Let  $T$  be an algebraic theory and  $It(T)$  (resp.  $Fd(T)$ ) the set of all iterations (resp. feedbacks) defined on  $T$ . We define two applications

$$\alpha : Fd(T) \rightarrow It(T) \text{ and } \beta : It(T) \rightarrow Fd(T)$$

as follows

- $\uparrow\alpha$  maps  $f \in T(a, a+b)$  in  $\uparrow^a \langle f, I_a + 0_b \rangle$ ;
- $(\uparrow\beta)^a$  maps  $f = \langle f_1, f_2 \rangle \in T(a+b, a+c)$  (with  $f_1: a \rightarrow a+c$  and  $f_2: b \rightarrow a+c$ ) in  $f_2 \langle f_1^\dagger, I_c \rangle$ .

Let  $Fd_r(T)$  (resp.  $Fd_i(T)$ ) be the subset of all the feedbacks in  $Fd(T)$  that obey the axioms  $F1_{4-6}$  (resp.  $F2_5$ ) and  $It_r(T)$  the subset of all the iterations in  $It(T)$  that obey the axiom  $I3_4$ . Finally, let us consider the restrictions  $\alpha_r : Fd_r(T) \rightarrow It_r(T)$ ,  $\beta_r : It_r(T) \rightarrow Fd_r(T)$ ,  $\alpha_i : Fd_i(T) \rightarrow It(T)$  and  $\beta_i : It(T) \rightarrow Fd_i(T)$  induced by  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ .

Theorem. a) The restrictions  $\alpha_i$ ,  $\beta_i$ ,  $\alpha_r$  and  $\beta_r$  are (totally defined) bijective functions. Moreover  $\alpha_i$  is the converse of  $\beta_i$  and  $\alpha_r$  of  $\beta_r$ .

b) For  $k \in \{4\}$ ,  $\uparrow$  satisfied  $I4_k$  iff  $\uparrow\beta$  satisfies  $F2_k$ .

c) For  $k \in \{3\}$ ,  $\uparrow$  satisfies  $I3_k$  iff  $\uparrow\beta$  satisfies  $F1_k$ .

d)  $y$  is  $\uparrow$ -functorial iff  $y$  is  $\uparrow\beta$ -functorial.

Proof. a) Note that  $\uparrow = \uparrow\beta$  satisfies  $F2_5$ ; indeed,  $g \langle \uparrow^a \langle f, I_a + 0_b \rangle, I_b \rangle = g \langle (I_a + 0_b) \langle f^\dagger, I_b \rangle, I_b \rangle = g \langle f^\dagger, I_b \rangle = \uparrow^a \langle f, g \rangle$ . Consequently  $\beta_i$  is totally defined. Obviously  $\uparrow = \uparrow\beta\alpha$ . For the converse, note that  $(\uparrow\alpha\beta)^a$  maps  $\langle f_1, f_2 \rangle \in T(a+b, a+c)$  (with  $f_1: a \rightarrow a+c$  and  $f_2: b \rightarrow a+c$ ) in  $f_2 \langle \uparrow^a \langle f_1, I_a + 0_c \rangle, I_c \rangle$ . Hence  $\uparrow = \uparrow\alpha\beta$  for  $\uparrow \in Fd_i(T)$ .

For the second restriction, note that  $\uparrow$  satisfies  $I3_4$  iff  $\uparrow\beta$ , denoted  $\uparrow$ , satisfies  $F1_4$ . Indeed,  $\uparrow$  satisfies  $F1_4$  iff for every  $f = \langle f_1, f_2 \rangle : a+b \rightarrow a+c$  (with  $f_1: a \rightarrow a+c$  and  $f_2: b \rightarrow a+c$ ) and  $g: c \rightarrow d$   $(\uparrow^a f)g = f_2 \langle f_1^\dagger, I_c \rangle g = f_2 \langle f_1^\dagger g, g \rangle$  is equal to  $\uparrow^a (f(I_a + g)) = \uparrow^a \langle f_1(I_a + g), f_2(I_a + g) \rangle = f_2(I_a + g) \langle (f_1(I_a + g))^\dagger, I_d \rangle = f_2 \langle (f_1(I_a + g))^\dagger, g \rangle$ .

Consequently if  $\dagger$  satisfies  $I3_4$ , then  $\uparrow$  satisfies  $F1_4$  and if  $\uparrow$  satisfies  $F1_4$ , then by using  $I_{a+0_c}$  for  $f_2$  above we conclude that  $\dagger$  satisfies  $I3_4$ . Hence we have a bijective correspondence between  $\Pi_r(T)$  and the subset of all the feedbacks in  $Fd(T)$  that satisfy  $F2_5 + F1_4$ . The conclusion follows if we show that  $F2_5 + F1_4 \Leftrightarrow F1_{4-6}$ . Note that:

$F2_5 \Rightarrow F1_5$ ; indeed, if  $f = \langle f_1, f_2 \rangle : a+b \rightarrow a+c$  (with  $f_1 : a \rightarrow a+c$  and  $f_2 : b \rightarrow a+c$ ) and  $g : d \rightarrow b$ , then

$$\uparrow^a((I_a + g)f) = \uparrow^a \langle f_1, gf_2 \rangle = (\text{by } F2_5) gf_2 \langle \uparrow^a \langle f_1, I_{a+0_c} \rangle, I_c \rangle$$

$$= (\text{by } F2_5) g \uparrow^a \langle f_1, f_2 \rangle = g \uparrow^a f;$$

$F2_5 + F1_4 \Rightarrow F1_6$ ; indeed, if  $f = \langle f_1, f_2 \rangle : a+b \rightarrow a+c$  (with  $f_1 : a \rightarrow a+c$  and  $f_2 : b \rightarrow a+c$ ) and  $g : d \rightarrow c$ , then

$$\uparrow^a(f+g) = \uparrow^a \langle f_1 + 0_e, f_2 + g \rangle = (\text{by } F2_5) (f_2 + g) \langle \uparrow^a \langle f_1 + 0_e, I_{a+0_{c+e}} \rangle, I_{c+e} \rangle$$

$$= (\text{by } F1_4) (f_2 + g) \langle \uparrow^a \langle f_1, I_{a+0_c} \rangle + 0_e, I_{c+e} \rangle$$

$$= (f_2 + g) (\langle \uparrow^a \langle f_1, I_{a+0_c} \rangle, I_c \rangle + I_e) = f_2 \langle \uparrow^a \langle f_1, I_{a+0_c} \rangle, I_c \rangle + g = (\text{by } F2_5) \uparrow^a f + g.$$

$F1_{4-6} \Rightarrow F2_5$ ; indeed, if  $f : a \rightarrow a+c$  and  $g : b \rightarrow a+c$ , then

$$\uparrow^a \langle f, g \rangle = \uparrow^a [(I_a + g) \langle (I_a + 0_c) + I_e \rangle (I_a + V_e)] = (\text{by } F1_{4-6}) g (\uparrow^a \langle f, I_{a+0_c} \rangle + I_e) V_e = g \langle \uparrow^a \langle f, I_{a+0_c} \rangle, I_c \rangle.$$

b) Let  $\dagger$  and  $\uparrow$  be such that  $\dagger = \uparrow \beta$ . The equivalence in the case  $k=1$  holds since for  $f : b \rightarrow c$   $(0_a + f)^\dagger = \uparrow^a \langle 0_a + f, I_{a+0_c} \rangle = \uparrow^a (V_{a,a} (I_a + f))$ .

For  $k=2$ , note that if  $f : a \rightarrow a+b+c$ ,  $g : b \rightarrow a+b+c$  and  $i : d \rightarrow a+b+c$ , then  $\uparrow^{a+b} \langle f, g, i \rangle = i \langle \langle f, g \rangle^\dagger, I_c \rangle$  and  $\uparrow^b \uparrow^a \langle f, g, i \rangle = \uparrow^b (\langle g, i \rangle \langle f^\dagger, I_{b+c} \rangle) = \uparrow^b \langle g \langle f^\dagger, I_{b+c} \rangle, i \langle f^\dagger, I_{b+c} \rangle \rangle = i \langle f^\dagger, I_{b+c} \rangle \langle h, I_c \rangle = i \langle \langle f^\dagger \langle h, I_c \rangle, h \rangle, I_c \rangle$ , where  $h = (g \langle f^\dagger, I_{b+c} \rangle)^\dagger$ . Consequently  $\uparrow$  satisfies  $F2_2$  iff  $\dagger$  satisfies  $I4_2$ .

For  $k=3$ , note that if  $f = \langle f_1, f_2 \rangle : b+a+c \rightarrow b+a+d$  (with  $f_1 : b+a \rightarrow b+a+d$  and  $f_2 : c \rightarrow b+a+d$ ), then

$$\uparrow^{a+b} ((V_{a,b} + I_e) f (V_{b,a} + I_d)) = \uparrow^{a+b} \langle V_{a,b} f_1 (V_{b,a} + I_d), f_2 (V_{b,a} + I_d) \rangle$$

$$= f_2 (V_{b,a} + I_d) \langle (V_{a,b} f_1 (V_{b,a} + I_d))^\dagger, I_d \rangle = f_2 \langle V_{b,a} (V_{a,b} f_1 (V_{b,a} + I_d))^\dagger, I_d \rangle \quad \text{and}$$

$$\uparrow^{b+a} f = f_2 \langle f_1^\dagger, I_d \rangle. \text{ Since } V_{a,b} V_{b,a} = I_{a+b} \text{ it follows that } I4_3 \Leftrightarrow F2_3.$$

For  $k=4$ , note that the axioms  $F2_4$  and  $I4_4$  may be written as  $\uparrow^a (f(I_{a+c} + 0_d)) = (\uparrow^a f)(I_c + 0_d)$  and  $(f(I_{a+b} + 0_c))^\dagger = f^\dagger(I_b + 0_c)$ , respectively. Now the equivalence  $F2_4 \Leftrightarrow I4_4$  directly follows from the above proof of the equivalence  $F1_4 \Leftrightarrow I3_4$ .

The proof of c) is covered by the above proof of b).

d) Suppose that  $y:a \rightarrow b$  is  $\dagger$ -functorial and  $f = \langle f_1, f_2 \rangle : a+c \rightarrow a+d$  (with  $f_1:a \rightarrow a+d$  and  $f_2:c \rightarrow a+d$ ) and  $g = \langle g_1, g_2 \rangle : b+c \rightarrow b+d$  (with  $g_1:b \rightarrow b+d$  and  $g_2:c \rightarrow b+d$ ) are such that  $f(y + I_d) = (y + I_c)g$ . Then  $f_1(y+I_d) = yg_1$  and  $f_2(y+I_d) = g_2$ . By the  $\dagger$ -functoriality of  $y$   $f_1^\dagger = yg_1^\dagger$ . Hence  $\uparrow^a f = f_2 \langle f_1^\dagger, I_d \rangle = f_2 \langle yg_1^\dagger, I_d \rangle = f_2(y+I_d) \langle g_1^\dagger, I_d \rangle = g_2 \langle g_1^\dagger, I_d \rangle = \uparrow^b g$ .

Conversely, suppose that  $y:a \rightarrow b$  is  $\uparrow$ -functorial and  $f:a \rightarrow a+c$  and  $g:b \rightarrow b+c$  are such that  $f(y+I_c) = yg$ . Then  $\langle f, I_a + 0_c \rangle (y+I_c) = \langle f(y+I_c), y+0_c \rangle = \langle yg, y+0_c \rangle = (y+I_a) \langle g, y+0_c \rangle$ . By the  $\uparrow$ -functoriality of  $y$   $\uparrow^a \langle f, I_a + 0_c \rangle = \uparrow^b \langle g, y+0_c \rangle$ . As  $\uparrow^a \langle f, I_a + 0_c \rangle = (I_a + 0_c) \langle f^\dagger, I_c \rangle = f^\dagger$  and  $\uparrow^b \langle g, y+0_c \rangle = (y+0_c) \langle g^\dagger, I_c \rangle = yg^\dagger$  the result follows.  $\square$

Corollary. In an algebraic theory the axiomatic systems F1, F2, I1, I2, I3 and I4 are equivalent.  $\square$

REPETITIONS, ITERATIONS AND FEEDBACKS IN MATRIX THEORIES

Let  $T$  be a matrix theory and  $Rp(T)$  the set of all repetitions defined on  $T$ . We use the applications in [13]

$$\sigma : It(T) \rightarrow Rp(T) \quad \text{and} \quad \tau : Rp(T) \rightarrow It(T)$$

defined as follows

- $\sigma$  maps  $f \in T(a,a)$  in  $[f, I_a]^\dagger$ ;
- $\tau$  maps  $f = [f_1, f_2] \in T(a, a+b)$  (with  $f_1:a \rightarrow a$  and  $f_2:a \rightarrow b$ ) in  $f_1^* f_2$ .

Finally, let us consider the restrictions  $\sigma_r : It_r(T) \rightarrow Rp(T)$  and  $\tau_r : Rp(T) \rightarrow It_r(T)$  induced by  $\sigma$  and  $\tau$ .

Theorem. a) The restrictions  $\sigma_r$  and  $\tau_r$  are (totally defined) bijective functions. Moreover,  $\sigma_r$  is the converse of  $\tau_r$ .

- b) For  $k \in \{3\}$ ,  $*$  satisfies  $R3_k$  iff  $*\tau$  satisfies  $I3_k$ .
- c) For  $k \in \{3\}$ ,  $*$  satisfies  $R2_k$  iff  $*\tau$  satisfies  $I2_k$ .

d) For  $k \in [2]$ ,  $*$  satisfies  $R1_k$  iff  $*\tau$  satisfies  $I1_k$ .

e)  $y$  is  $*$ -functorial iff  $y$  is  $*\tau$ -functorial.

Proof. a) Note that  $*\tau$ , denoted  $\dagger$ , satisfies  $I3_4$ ; indeed, if  $f = [f_1, f_2]: a \rightarrow a+b$  (with  $f_1: a \rightarrow a$  and  $f_2: a \rightarrow b$ ) and  $g: b \rightarrow c$ , then  $(f(f_a + g))^\dagger = [f_1, f_2 g]^\dagger = f_1^* f_2 g = f^\dagger g$ . Consequently  $\tau_\dagger$  is totally defined. Obviously  $* = *\tau\sigma$ . For the converse note that  $\dagger\sigma\tau$  maps  $f = [f_1, f_2] = [f_1, I_a] \cup [f_2] \in T(a, a+b)$  (with  $f_1: a \rightarrow a$  and  $f_2: a \rightarrow b$ ) in  $[f_1, I_a]^\dagger f_2$ . Hence  $\dagger = \dagger\sigma\tau$  for  $\dagger \in H_1(f)$ .

b) Let  $\dagger$  and  $*$  be such that  $\dagger = *\tau$ . The equivalence in the case  $k = 1$  holds since  $(0_{a+a})^\dagger = (0_{a,a} \cup I_a)^\dagger = 0_{a,a}^* I_a = 0_{a,a}^*$ .

Let  $k = 2$ , note that if  $f = [f_1, f_2, f_3]: a \rightarrow a+b+c$  (with  $f_1: a \rightarrow a$ ,  $f_2: a \rightarrow b$  and  $f_3: a \rightarrow c$ ) and  $g = [g_1, g_2, g_3]: b \rightarrow a+b+c$  (with  $g_1: b \rightarrow a$ ,  $g_2: b \rightarrow b$  and  $g_3: b \rightarrow c$ ), then

$$\begin{aligned} \langle f, g \rangle^\dagger &= \begin{bmatrix} f_1 & f_2 & f_3 \\ g_1 & g_2 & g_3 \end{bmatrix}^\dagger = \begin{bmatrix} f_1 & f_2 \\ g_1 & g_2 \end{bmatrix}^* \begin{bmatrix} f_3 \\ g_3 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } h := \langle g, I_{b+c} \rangle^\dagger = \\ &= ([g_1 \ g_2 \ g_3] \begin{bmatrix} f_1^* f_2 & f_1^* f_3 \\ I_b & 0 \\ 0 & I_c \end{bmatrix})^\dagger = [g_1 f_1^* f_2 \cup g_2 \quad g_1 f_1^* f_3 \cup g_3]^\dagger = w(g_1 f_1^* f_3 \cup g_3), \text{ where} \\ w &= (g_1 f_1^* f_2 \cup g_2)^*, \text{ hence} \end{aligned}$$

$$\langle f^\dagger \langle h, I_c \rangle, h \rangle = \begin{bmatrix} f_1^* f_2 h \cup f_1^* f_3 \\ h \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} f_1^* f_2 w g_1 f_1^* \cup f_1^* & f_1^* f_2 w \\ w g_1 f_1^* & w \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} f_3 \\ g_3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Consequently, if  $*$  satisfies  $R3_2$  then  $\dagger$  satisfies  $I3_2$ . If  $\dagger$  satisfies  $I3_2$ , then applying

$$\begin{bmatrix} f_1 & f_2 \\ g_1 & g_2 \end{bmatrix}^* \begin{bmatrix} f_3 \\ g_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} f_1^* f_2 w g_1 f_1^* \cup f_1^* & f_1^* f_2 w \\ w g_1 f_1^* & w \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} f_3 \\ g_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

for  $f_3 = I_a$ ,  $g_3 = 0_{b,a}$  and  $f_2 = 0_{b,a}$ ,  $g_2 = I_b$  we get  $R3_2$ .

For  $k = 3$ , note that if  $f = [f_1, f_2]: b+a \rightarrow b+a+c$  (with  $f_1: b+a \rightarrow b+a$  and  $f_2: b+a \rightarrow c$ ),

then  $(\forall_{a,b} f(\forall_{b,a} I_c))^\dagger = [\forall_{a,b} f_1 \forall_{b,a} \quad \forall_{a,b} f_2]^\dagger = (\forall_{a,b} f_1 \forall_{b,a})^* \forall_{a,b} f_2$  and  $\forall_{a,b} f^\dagger = \forall_{a,b} f_1^* f_2$ . Since  $\forall_{b,a} \forall_{a,b} = I_{b+a}$  it follows that  $R3_3 \Leftrightarrow I3_3$ .

c) Let  $\dagger$  and  $*$  be such that  $\dagger = *\tau$ . For  $k = 1$ , note that if  $f = [f_1, f_2]: a \rightarrow a+b$  (with  $f_1: a \rightarrow a$  and  $f_2: a \rightarrow b$ ), then  $f^\dagger = f_1^* f_2$  and  $f \langle f^\dagger, I_b \rangle = f_1 f_1^* f_2 \cup f_2 = (f_1 f_1^* \cup I_a) f_2$ . Hence  $R2_1 \Leftrightarrow I2_1$ .

For  $k = 2$ , note that if  $f = [f_1, f_2, f_3] : a \rightarrow a+a+b$  (with  $f_1 : a \rightarrow a$ ,  $f_2 : a \rightarrow a$  and  $f_3 : a \rightarrow b$ ), then  $f^{\dagger\dagger} = [f_1^* f_2, f_1^* f_3]^{\dagger} = (f_1^* f_2)^* f_1^* f_3$  and  $(f(V_a + I_b))^{\dagger} = [f_1 \cup f_2, f_3]^{\dagger} = (f_1 \cup f_2)^* f_3$ . Hence  $R2_2 \Leftrightarrow I2_2$ .

For  $k = 3$ , note that if  $f = [f_1, f_2] : a \rightarrow b+c$  (with  $f_1 : a \rightarrow b$  and  $f_2 : a \rightarrow c$ ) and  $g : b \rightarrow a$ , then  $g(f(g + I_c))^{\dagger} = g[f_1 g, f_2]^{\dagger} = g(f_1 g)^* f_2$  and  $(gf)^{\dagger} = [gf_1, gf_2]^{\dagger} = (gf_1)^* gf_2$ . Hence  $R2_3 \Leftrightarrow I2_3$ .

d) The case  $k = 1$  is covered by e). For  $k = 2$ , note that if  $f = [f_1, f_2] : a \rightarrow b+c$  (with  $f_1 : a \rightarrow b$  and  $f_2 : a \rightarrow c$ ) and  $g : b \rightarrow a$ , then  $(f(g + I_c))^{\dagger} = [f_1 g, f_2]^{\dagger} = (f_1 g)^* f_2$  and  $f \langle (gf)^{\dagger}, I_c \rangle = [f_1, f_2] \langle (gf_1)^* gf_2, I_c \rangle = f_1 (gf_1)^* gf_2 \cup f_2 = (I_a \cup f_1 (gf_1)^* g) f_2$ . Hence  $R1_2 \Leftrightarrow I1_2$ .

e) Suppose that  $y : a \rightarrow b$  is  $*$ -functorial and  $f = [f_1, f_2] : a \rightarrow a+b$  (with  $f_1 : a \rightarrow a$  and  $f_2 : a \rightarrow b$ ) and  $g = [g_1, g_2] : b \rightarrow b+c$  (with  $g_1 : b \rightarrow b$  and  $g_2 : b \rightarrow c$ ) are such that  $(f(y + I_c)) = yg$ . Then  $f_1 y = yg_1$  and  $f_2 = yg_2$ . By the  $*$ -functoriality of  $y$   $f_1^* y = yg_1^*$ . Consequently,  $yg^{\dagger} = yg_1^* g_2 = f_1^* yg_2 = f_1^* f_2 = f^{\dagger}$ . Conversely, suppose that  $y : a \rightarrow b$  is  $\dagger$ -functorial and  $f : a \rightarrow a+b$  and  $g : b \rightarrow b+c$  are such that  $fy = yg$ . Then  $(f, y)(y + I_b) = [fy, y] = [yg, y] = y[g, I_b]$ , hence  $(f, y)^{\dagger} = y[g, I_b]^{\dagger}$ . Therefore  $f^* y = yg^*$ .  $\square$

Note that the composites  $\alpha\sigma$  and  $\tau\beta$  work as follows:

- $\uparrow\alpha\sigma$  maps  $f \in T(a, a)$  in  $\uparrow^a \begin{bmatrix} f & I_a \\ I_a & 0_{a,a} \end{bmatrix}$ ;
- $(*\tau\beta)^a$  maps  $f = \begin{bmatrix} f_{11} & f_{12} \\ f_{21} & f_{22} \end{bmatrix} \in T(a+b, a+b)$  (with  $f_{11} : a \rightarrow a$ ,  $f_{12} : a \rightarrow b$ ,  $f_{21} : b \rightarrow a$  and  $f_{22} : b \rightarrow b$ ) in  $f_{21} f_{11}^* f_{12} \cup f_{22}$ .

Corollary. a) The restrictions  $\alpha_r \sigma_r$  and  $\tau_r \beta_r$  are (totally defined) bijective functions. Moreover  $\alpha_r \sigma_r$  is the converse of  $\tau_r \beta_r$ .

b) For  $k \in \{3\}$ ,  $*$  satisfies  $R3_k$  iff  $*\tau\beta$  satisfies  $F1_k$ .

c)  $y$  is  $\ast$ -functorial iff  $y$  is  $\ast\tau\beta$ -functorial.  $\blacksquare$

Corollary. In a matrix theory the axiomatic systems F1, F2, I1, I2, I3, I4, R1, R2 and R3 are equivalent.  $\blacksquare$

#### CONCLUDED REMARKS

Here we give some advantages of the use of feedback over the use of iteration or repetition.

First, the proper acyclic context for the use of feedback is a symmetric strict monoidal category, for iteration an algebraic theory and for repetition a matrix theory. Hence feedback may be used in a more general context than iteration or repetition.

Second, in the context of matrix theories there is a bijection between iterations that obey the axiom  $I3_4$  and repetitions. Hence iteration is better than repetition since it displays some properties of the looping operation which are hidden by repetition. Analogously, in the context of algebraic theories there is a bijection between feedbacks that obey the axiom  $F2_5$  and iterations. Hence feedback is better than iteration (resp. repetition) since it displays some properties of the looping operation which are hidden by iteration (resp. repetition). Naturally, the proofs in terms of feedbacks are longer.

Finally, let us note that some properties are easier to express in terms of feedback, e.g. the property expressed by the "matrix formula"  $R3_2$  or by the "pairing axiom"  $I3_2$  is expressed in terms of feedback as  $F1_2$ .

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