

Dec 31, 2011: I should see if this should be reformulated in the language of PROPs.

A w-group is the following collection of data:

1. For every pair (H, T) ((heads, tails)) of sets of labels, a set $P(H, T)$ of "elements with heads H & tails T ".
2. Obvious head- & tail- renaming operations.
3. An "external product" operation

$$\bullet : P(H_1, T_1) \times P(H_2, T_2) \rightarrow P(H_1 \cup H_2, T_1 \cup T_2)$$

- 4a. For any pair of heads $x, y \in H$ and any "new" head $z \notin H$, a "head multiplication" map

$$m_z^{xy} : P(H, T) \rightarrow P(H \cup \{z\}, \{y\}, T)$$

- 4b. For any head z , an "inverse" $s^z : P(H, T) \rightarrow$

- bc. For any head z and new heads x and y , a "head doubling", or "head coproduct" map

$$\Delta_{xy}^z : P(H, T) \rightarrow P(H \cup \{x, y, z\}, T)$$

- 4d,e. unit η_x , counit ϵ^x

5. Likewise for tails:

- a. $m_{xy}^z : P(H, T) \rightarrow P(H, T \cup \{\bar{x}, \bar{y}, z\})$

- b. $s_z : P(H, T) \rightarrow$

- c. $\Delta_z^{xy} : P(H, T) \rightarrow P(H, T \cup \{x, y, \bar{z}\})$

6. For any tail x and head y , a "conjugation" or "head on tail action"

map:

$$C_x^y : P(H, T) \rightarrow$$

All this is subject to all the conditions that are satisfied in the following example:

Example. The Drinfeld double of a

group: G a group, $\mathbb{Z}G$ its group ring,

G^* := same but with Abelian structure,

$$P(H, T) := (\mathbb{Z}G)^{\otimes H} \otimes (G^*)^{\otimes T}$$

Definition. a w -group is called factorizable if for every $m \in P(H, T)$, for every head z and new heads x_1, x_2 , and for every splitting of the tails $T = T_1 \sqcup T_2$, there is an element

$$v \in P(H \cup \{x_1, x_2, z\}, T)$$

such that

$$1. \quad m_z^{x_1, x_2} v = m$$

$$2. \quad E_{T_2} E^{x_1} v = e^{x_1} v \text{ and } \dots$$