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Complex Algebras of Arithmetic

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Abstract

An *arithmetic circuit* is a labeled, acyclic directed graph specifying a sequence of arithmetic and logical operations to be performed on sets of natural numbers. Arithmetic circuits can also be viewed as the elements of the smallest subalgebra of the complex algebra of the semiring of natural numbers. In the present paper we investigate the algebraic structure of complex algebras of natural numbers and make some observations regarding the complexity of various theories of such algebras.

1 Introduction

Let ω be the set of natural numbers $\{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$. An *arithmetic circuit* (AC) [11, 12] is a labeled, acyclic directed graph specifying a sequence of arithmetic and logical operations to be performed on sets of natural numbers. Each node in this graph evaluates to a set of natural numbers, representing a stage of the computation performed by the circuit. Nodes without predecessors in the graph are called *input nodes*, and their labels are singleton sets of natural numbers. Nodes with predecessors in the graph are called *arithmetic gates*, and their labels indicate operations to be performed on the values of their immediate predecessors; the results of these operations are then taken to be the values of the arithmetic gates in question. One of the nodes in the graph (usually, a node with no successors) is designated as the *circuit output*; the set of natural numbers to which it evaluates is taken to be the value of the circuit as a whole.

More formally, an arithmetic circuit is a structure $C = \langle G, E, g_C, \alpha \rangle$, where $\langle G, E \rangle$ is a finite acyclic and asymmetric graph over 2^ω , $\text{In}(g) \leq 2$ for all $g \in G$, and $\alpha : G \rightarrow \{\cup, \cap, -, +, \bullet\} \cup \{\{n\} : n \in \omega\} \cup \{\emptyset, \omega\}$ is a labeling function for which

$$(1.1) \quad \alpha(g) \in \begin{cases} \{\{n\} : n \in \omega\} \cup \{\emptyset, \mathbb{N}\}, & \text{if } \text{In}(g) = 0, \\ \{-\}, & \text{if } \text{In}(g) = 1, \\ \{\cup, \cap, +, \bullet\}, & \text{if } \text{In}(g) = 2. \end{cases}$$

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Here, $\text{In}(g)$ is the in-degree of g and $+$ and $\bullet$ are the complex extensions of $+$ and $\cdot$, i.e.

$$(1.2) \quad a + b := \{k + n : k \in a, n \in b\}, \quad a \bullet b := \{k \cdot n : k \in a, n \in b\}.$$

g_C is called the *output gate*; if $\text{In}(g) = 0$, we call g an *input gate* or a *source*.

The arithmetical interpretation of C is as follows:

- (i) If $\text{In}(g) = 0$, then $I(g) = \alpha(g)$.
- (ii) If $\text{In}(g) = 1$, and g' is the unique predecessor of g , then $I(g) = \mathbb{N} \setminus I(g')$.
- (iii) If $\text{In}(g) = 2$, and g_0, g_1 are the two predecessors of g , then $I(g) := I(g_0) \alpha(g) I(g_1)$.

$I(C)$ is defined as $I(g_C)$.

Fig. 1 shows two examples of arithmetic circuits, where the output gate is indicated by the double circle. In Fig. 1a, Node 1 evaluates to $\{1\}$, and Node 2 to ω ; hence, Node 3 evaluates to $\{1\} + \{1\} = \{2\}$, and Node 4, the output of the circuit, to $\{2\} \bullet \omega$, i.e. the set of even numbers. The circuit of Fig. 1b functions similarly: Node 2 evaluates to $\{0\} \cup \{n \in \omega : n \geq 2\}$, and Node 3 to $\{0\} \cup \{n \in \omega : n \text{ is composite}\}$; hence, Node 4 evaluates to the set numbers which are either prime or equal to 1, and Node 5, the output of the circuit, to the set of primes. We say that the circuits of Fig. 1a and Fig. 1b *define*, respectively, the set of even numbers and the set of primes. Any arithmetic circuit defines a set of numbers in this way.

Figure 1: Arithmetic circuits defining: (a) the set of even numbers; (b) the set of primes. The integers next to the nodes are for reference only.

If $\mathcal{O} \subseteq \{\cap, \cup, -, +, \bullet\}$, an $\mathcal{O}$ -circuit is an arithmetic circuit whose non-input labels are among those contained in $\mathcal{O}$. Let

$$(1.3) \quad MC(\mathcal{O}) = \{\langle C, n \rangle : C \text{ is an } \mathcal{O}\text{-circuit}, n \in I(C)\}.$$

The *membership problem for $\mathcal{O}$* is the question whether $MC(\mathcal{O})$ is decidable [11]. In other words, is there an algorithm which decides membership of an arbitrary $n \in \omega$ in an arbitrary output C of an $\mathcal{O}$ -circuit? If the problem is decidable, then its complexity is of interest. For almost all cases of $\mathcal{O}$, the complexities have been determined by McKenzie and Wagner [11]. The question whether $MC(\mathcal{O})$ is decidable where $\mathcal{O} = \{\cap, \cup, -, +, \bullet\}$ is still open. The table of complexities for the membership problem where all Boolean operators are present is given in Table 1.

Algebraically speaking, an arithmetic circuit can be regarded as a well-formed term over an alphabet $\mathcal{A}$ containing operations from $\{\cap, \cup, -, \emptyset, \omega, +, \bullet\}$ and constants from $\{\{n\} : n \in \omega\}$ as input gates. If $+$ is present, then $\{0\}$ will suffice since

$$(1.4) \quad \{1\} = \overline{\overline{\{0\}} + \overline{\{0\}}} \cap \overline{\{0\}}.$$

Table 1: Complexity results for MC [11]

$\mathcal{O}$	Lower bound	Upper bound
$\cap, \cup, -, +$	PSPACE	PSPACE
$\cap, \cup, -, \bullet$	PSPACE	PSPACE
$\cap, \cup, -, +, \bullet$	NEXPTIME	?

The membership problem now can be seen as a word problem over $\mathcal{A}$:

$$(1.5) \quad \text{Given } n \in \omega \text{ and a well formed term } \tau \text{ over } \mathcal{A}, \text{ is } \{n\} \cap \tau = \{n\}?$$

It is natural to generalize the notion of arithmetic circuits by allowing input nodes to represent *variable* sets of numbers [5]. Logically speaking, we enhance our language by a set V of variables which are interpreted as sets of natural numbers; arithmetic circuits correspond to the variable free terms of this language. It now makes sense to consider satisfiability and validity of (in-) equations of terms of this language under this interpretation. Furthermore, the operations $f : (2^\omega)^k \rightarrow 2^\omega$ definable from the given operators $\mathcal{O}$ can be studied [16].

In analogy to the membership problem, Glaßer et al. [5] consider the complexity of

$$SC(\mathcal{O}) = \{ \langle C(x_0, \dots, x_n), k \rangle : C \text{ is an } \mathcal{O} \text{ circuit and } (\exists k_0, \dots, k_n) [k \in I(C(k_0, \dots, k_n))] \}$$

for various sets $\mathcal{O}$ and determine many of these complexities. The main open problem is the question whether $SC(\cap, \cup, -, \bullet)$ is decidable. In other words, is it decidable whether the equation

$$(1.6) \quad \{k\} \cap \tau(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}) = \{k\}$$

has a solution over the subsets of ω^n ?

In this paper we shall shed some light on these question and the structure of arithmetic circuits from an algebraic viewpoint. Our main tool will be the apparatus of Boolean algebras with operators, in particular, complex algebras of first order structures, which were introduced by Jónsson and Tarski [9].

2 Notation and definitions

2.1 Algebras

An algebra $\mathfrak{A}$ is a pair $\mathfrak{A} = \langle A, \mathcal{O} \rangle$, where A is a set and $\mathcal{O} = \{f_i : i \in I\}$ a set of operation symbols f each having a finite arity $\alpha(f)$; if we write $f(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1})$ we implicitly assume that $\alpha(f) = n$. Operations of arity 0 are called (*individual*) *constants*. We will usually denote algebras by gothic letters $\mathfrak{A}, \mathfrak{B}, \dots$, and their universes by the corresponding roman letter $A, B, \dots$. $\mathfrak{A}$ is called *subdirectly irreducible* if it has a smallest nontrivial congruence, and *congruence-distributive* if its congruence lattice is distributive.

Suppose that $\mathbf{K}$ is a class of algebras (of the same type $\mathcal{O}$). For $\mathfrak{A}, \mathfrak{B} \in \mathbf{K}$, $\mathfrak{A} \leq \mathfrak{B}$ means that $\mathfrak{A}$ is a subalgebra of $\mathfrak{B}$. The operators **I**, **S**, **H** and **P** have their usual meaning. $\mathbf{Var}(\mathbf{K})$ is the variety generated by $\mathbf{K}$, i.e. $\mathbf{Var}(\mathbf{K}) =$

HSP(K). A variety $\mathbf{V}$ is called *finitely based* if there is a finite set Σ of equations in the language of $\mathbf{V}$ such that $\mathfrak{A} \in \mathbf{V}$ if and only if $\mathfrak{A} \models \Sigma$, and $\mathbf{V}$ is called *finitely generated* if there is a finite set K of finite algebras such that $\mathbf{V} = \mathbf{Var}(K)$.

Suppose that K is a class of algebras of the same type $\mathcal{O}$. We consider the following sets of formulas in the language of $\mathcal{O}$ (plus equality).

- (i) The *first-order theory* **FO** K of K : The set of first-order formulas true in each member of K .
- (ii) The *equational theory* **Eq** K of K : The set of formulas of the forms $\tau(x_0, \dots, x_n) = \sigma(x_0, \dots, x_n)$ whose universal closures are true in each member of K .
- (iii) The *satisfiable equations* **EqSat** K of K : The set of formulas of the forms $\tau(x_0, \dots, x_n) = \sigma(x_0, \dots, x_n)$ whose existential closures are true in each member of K .

If $K = \{\mathfrak{A}\}$, we usually write **FO** $\mathfrak{A}$, **Eq** $\mathfrak{A}$, etc.

2.2 Boolean algebras with operators

In the following, let $\mathfrak{B} = \langle B, \vee, \wedge, \neg, \perp, \top \rangle$ be a Boolean algebra (BA); here, $\perp$ is the smallest and $\top$ is the largest element of B . If $a, b \in B$, then $a \triangle b$ denotes the symmetric difference $(a \wedge \bar{b}) \vee (b \wedge \bar{a})$; note that $a = b$ if and only if $a \triangle b = \perp$. If $\mathfrak{B}$ is atomic, $FC(\mathfrak{B})$ is the finite-cofinite Boolean subalgebra of $\mathfrak{B}$, i.e. every $b \in FC(\mathfrak{B}) \setminus \{\perp, \top\}$ is a finite sum of atoms or the complement of such an element.

Suppose that f is an n -ary operator on B .

- (i) f is called *additive in its i -th argument*, if

$$f(a_0, \dots, a_{i-1}, x, a_{i+1}, \dots, a_{n-1}) \vee f(a_0, \dots, a_{i-1}, y, a_{i+1}, \dots, a_{n-1}) = f(a_0, \dots, a_{i-1}, x \vee y, a_{i+1}, \dots, a_{n-1}).$$

- (ii) f is called *normal in its i -th argument* if $f(a_0, \dots, a_{i-1}, \perp, a_{i+1}, \dots, a_{n-1}) = \perp$.

Note that an additive operator is *isotone*, i.e. it preserves the Boolean order in each of its arguments.

A *Boolean algebra with operators* (BAO) is a Boolean algebra with additional mappings of finitary rank that are additive and normal in each argument [9].

A (*unary*) *discriminator function* on $\mathfrak{B}$ is an operation d on $\mathfrak{B}$ such that for all $a \in B$,

$$(2.1) \quad d(a) = \begin{cases} \perp, & \text{if } a = \perp, \\ \top, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

If $\mathfrak{B}$ has a discriminator function, we call $\mathfrak{B}$ a *discriminator algebra*.

For a class K of BAOs, a unary term t is a *discriminator term* if it represents the discriminator function on each subdirectly irreducible member of K . A variety of BAOs is called a *discriminator variety* if it is generated by a class of algebras with a common discriminator term.

Having a discriminator function d allows us to convert satisfiability (validity) of inequations into satisfiability (validity) of equations: Suppose that $\tau(\vec{x})$ and $\sigma(\vec{x})$ are terms with variables $\vec{x}$. Then

$$(2.2) \quad (\exists \vec{x})[\tau(\vec{x}) \neq \sigma(\vec{x})] \iff (\exists \vec{x})[\tau(\vec{x}) \triangle \sigma(\vec{x}) \neq \perp] \iff (\exists \vec{x})[d(\tau(\vec{x}) \triangle \sigma(\vec{x})) = \top],$$

$$(2.3) \quad (\forall \vec{x})[\tau(\vec{x}) \neq \sigma(\vec{x})] \iff (\forall \vec{x})[\tau(\vec{x}) \triangle \sigma(\vec{x}) \neq \perp] \iff (\forall \vec{x})[d(\tau(\vec{x}) \triangle \sigma(\vec{x})) = \top].$$

If K is a class of algebras of the same type, we denote by K^d the class obtained from adding a unary operation symbol which represents the discriminator function on the members of K .

2.3 Complex algebras

Traditionally, a subset of a group G is called a *complex of G* ; the *power algebra* of G has 2^G as its universe, and the group operations lifted to 2^G . Complex algebras are a generalization of this situation and special instances of BAOs. Suppose that $\langle \mathfrak{A}, \mathcal{O} \rangle$ is an algebra, and $f \in \mathcal{O}$ is n -ary. The *complex operation* $\mathbf{f} : (2^A)^n \rightarrow 2^A$ corresponding to f is defined by

$$(2.4) \quad \mathbf{f}(a_0, \dots, a_{n-1}) = \{f(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}) : x_0 \in a_0, \dots, x_{n-1} \in a_{n-1}\}.$$

The *full complex algebra* of $\mathfrak{A}$, denoted by $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathfrak{A}$, has as its universe the powerset of A and, besides the Boolean set operations, for each $f \in \mathcal{O}$ its complex operator $\mathbf{f}$ defined by (2.4).

More generally, the *full complex algebra* $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathcal{U}$ of a relational structure $\langle U, \mathcal{R} \rangle$ is the algebra $\langle 2^U, \cup, \cap, -, \emptyset, U \rangle$, which has for every $R \in \mathcal{R}$ of, say, arity $n + 1$, an n -ary operator $f_R : (2^U)^n \rightarrow 2^U$ defined by

$$(2.5) \quad f_R(X_0, \dots, X_{n-1}) = \{y \in U : (\exists x_0, \dots, x_{n-1})[x_0 \in X_0, \dots, x_{n-1} \in X_{n-1} \text{ and } R(y, x_0, \dots, x_{n-1})]\},$$

see e.g. [6].

Each subalgebra of $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathfrak{A}$ is called a *complex algebra of $\mathfrak{A}$* . Of particular interest for us are the subalgebra of $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathfrak{A}$ generated by the constants, which we denote by $\mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathfrak{A}$, and the subalgebra of $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathfrak{A}$ generated by the singletons $\{a\}$, where $a \in A$; we denote this algebra by $\mathfrak{Cm}_1 \mathfrak{A}$. Then, $\mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathfrak{A}$ is the smallest subalgebra of $\mathfrak{A}$ and $\mathfrak{Cm}_1 \mathfrak{A}$ is the subalgebra of $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathfrak{A}$ generated by the atoms. Clearly, $\mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathfrak{A} \leq \mathfrak{Cm}_1 \mathfrak{A}$, but the converse need not be true; an example will be given below.

2.4 Boolean monoids

The complex algebras of the various structures which we will consider have one or more commutative Boolean monoids as a reduct: A *commutative Boolean monoid* (CBM) is an algebra $\mathfrak{A} = \langle A, \vee, \wedge, -, \perp, \top, \circ, e \rangle$ such that

$$(2.6) \quad \langle A, \vee, \wedge, -, \perp, \top \rangle \text{ is a Boolean algebra.}$$

$$(2.7) \quad \langle A, \circ, e \rangle \text{ is a commutative monoid.}$$

$$(2.8) \quad x \circ \perp = \perp.$$

$$(2.9) \quad x \circ (y \vee z) = (x \circ y) \vee (x \circ z).$$

In the sequel, we let $c(x) = x \circ \top$; it is well known that c is an additive closure operator on CBMs [8]. Furthermore [see e.g. 17],

Lemma 2.1. (i) *The class CBM is congruence distributive.*

(ii) *I is a congruence ideal – i.e. the kernel of a congruence – on a CBM $\mathfrak{A}$ if and only if I is a Boolean ideal and $x \in I$ implies $c(x) \in I$ for all $x \in A$.*

(iii) *The principal (Boolean) ideal generated by $c(x)$ is the smallest congruence ideal containing x .*

An element $x \in A$ is called a *congruence element* if $c(x) = x$. By Lemma 2.1(3), each principal congruence ideal I of $\mathfrak{A}$ is of the form $I = \{y : y \leq x\}$ for some congruence element x . Note that a CBM is simple – i.e. has only two congruences – if and only if it satisfies

$$(2.10) \quad (\forall x)[x = \perp \vee c(x) = \top].$$

3 Complex algebras of $\mathbb{N}$

Let $\mathbb{N} = \langle \omega, 0, +, \cdot, 1 \rangle$ be the semiring of natural numbers, and $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N} = \langle 2^\omega, \cap, \cup, -, \emptyset, \omega, \{0\}, +, \{1\}, \bullet \rangle$ be its full complex algebra, i.e.

$$\begin{aligned} a + b &= \{n + m : n \in a, m \in b\}, \\ a \bullet b &= \{n \cdot m : n \in a, m \in b\}. \end{aligned}$$

A function $F : (2^\omega)^n \rightarrow 2^\omega$ is called *circuit definable* if there is a term $\tau(v_0, \dots, v_{n-1})$ in the language of $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}$ such that $F(s_0, \dots, s_{n-1}) = \tau(s_0/v_0, \dots, s_{n-1}/v_{n-1})$ for all $s_0, \dots, s_{n-1} \subseteq \omega$. A subset a of ω is called *circuit definable*, if there is a closed (i.e. variable free) term τ that evaluates to a . Each element of the smallest subalgebra $\mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N}$ of $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}$ corresponds to an arithmetic circuit with finite input nodes and vice versa via the interpretation I .

Both $\langle 2^\omega, +, \{0\} \rangle$ and $\langle 2^\omega, \bullet, \{1\} \rangle$ are commutative monoids. Furthermore, $+$ and $\bullet$ are normal and (completely) additive operators with respect to $\cup$, so that $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}$ is a Boolean algebra with operators, and

$$\langle 2^\omega, \cup, \cap, -, \emptyset, \omega, +, \{0\} \rangle, \quad \langle 2^\omega, \cup, \cap, -, \emptyset, \omega, \bullet, \{1\} \rangle$$

are CBMs.

Theorem 3.1. (i) *$\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}$ is a discriminator algebra.*

(ii) $\mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N} = \mathfrak{Cm}_1 \mathbb{N}$.

(iii) *$\mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N}$ is embeddable into any simple algebra of $\mathbf{Var}(\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N})$.*

Proof. (i) Let $f(x)$ be the function $\omega + (\{0\} \bullet x)$. If $x = \emptyset$, then $\{0\} \bullet x = \emptyset$, and thus, $f(x) = \omega + \emptyset = \emptyset$. If $x \neq \emptyset$, then $\{0\} \bullet x = \{0\}$, hence $f(x) = \omega + \{0\} = \omega$.

(ii) The atoms of $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}$ are the singletons $\{n\}$, and $\{n\} = \underbrace{\{1\} + \dots + \{1\}}_{n \text{ times}}$ if $n > 0$.

(iii) Since $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}$ is a discriminator algebra, it suffices to show that the smallest subalgebra $\mathfrak{A}$ of an ultrapower of copies of $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}$ is isomorphic to $\mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N}$. Thus, let $\mathfrak{B} := {}^\kappa \mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N} / U$ be an ultrapower of $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}$. Suppose that $e : \mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathfrak{B}$ is the canonical embedding, i.e. $e(a) = f_a / U$, where $f_a(i) = a$ for all $i < \kappa$. Since $\mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N}$ is generated by $\{0\}$, $e[\mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N}]$ is generated by $e(\{0\})$, and thus, since e is an embedding, $e[\mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N}]$ is the smallest subalgebra of $\mathfrak{B}$. $\square$

Theorem 3.2. *The Boolean reduct of $\mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N}$ has 2^ω ultrafilters.*

Proof. Let $p_0, \dots, p_k, q_0, \dots, q_k$ be different primes; then

$$p_0 \cdot \dots \cdot p_k \in (\omega \bullet p_0) \wedge \dots \wedge (\omega \bullet p_k) \wedge (\overline{\omega \bullet \{q_0\}}) \wedge \dots \wedge (\overline{\omega \bullet \{q_k\}}).$$

Hence, $\{\omega \bullet \{p\} : p \text{ prime}\}$ is an independent set which generates an atomless Boolean subalgebra $\mathfrak{A}$ of $\mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N}$. $\mathfrak{A}$ has 2^ω ultrafilters, and thus, so has $\mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N}$. $\square$

The atom structure $\mathfrak{At} \mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}$ of $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}$ has the set $\Omega = \{\{n\} : n \in \omega\}$ as its universe, and for each n -ary operator f an $n+1$ -ary relation $R_f := \{\langle p, q \rangle : p \in \Omega^n \text{ and } q \in \Omega, q \subseteq f(p)\}$. Then,

$$\begin{aligned} R_+(\{k\}, \{n\}, \{m\}) &\iff \{m\} \subseteq \{k\} + \{n\} \iff k + n = m, \\ R_\bullet(\{k\}, \{n\}, \{m\}) &\iff \{m\} \subseteq \{k\} \bullet \{n\} \iff k \cdot n = m. \end{aligned}$$

It is well known that $\mathfrak{At} \mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N} \cong \mathbb{N}$. Let us call a relation on $\mathfrak{At} \mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}$, i.e. on $\mathbb{N}$, *circuit definable* if it corresponds to a circuit definable operator on $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}$. A striking example of the lack of expressiveness of arithmetic circuits is the following:

Theorem 3.3. (i) *In $\mathbb{N}$, the converse $\geq$ of the natural ordering is circuit definable, while $\leq$ is not.*
(ii) *Relative subtraction is not circuit definable.*

Proof. Using (2.5) it is easily seen that $\geq$ is the relation corresponding to the function defined by $f(x) = x + \omega$. The ordering $\leq$ on ω corresponds to the function defined by $f(x) = \{n \in \omega : (\exists m)[m \in x \text{ and } n \leq m]\}$, and we have shown in [16] that this function is not circuit definable. In the same paper we have proved (ii). $\square$

3.1 Complex algebras of $\langle \omega, +, 0 \rangle$

Let $\mathbb{N}^+ = \langle \omega, +, 0, \rangle$, $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}^+$ be its full complex algebra, and $\mathbf{V}$ be the variety generated by $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}^+$. Furthermore, set $c(x) = x + \omega$. Recall that the constant $\{1\}$ is definable in $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}^+$ by

$$\{1\} = \omega \setminus ((\omega \setminus \{0\} + \omega \setminus \{0\}) \cup \{0\}).$$

Note that for all $a \subseteq \omega$,

$$\begin{aligned} (3.1) \quad c(a) &= a + \omega = \{k : (\exists n, m)[m \in a \text{ and } k = m + n]\} = \{k : \min(a) \leq k\} = c(\{\min(a)\}), \\ (3.2) \quad c(a) + \{1\} &= a + c(\{1\}) = a + \overline{\{0\}}. \end{aligned}$$

The following observation will be useful:

Lemma 3.4. *Let $a, b \subseteq \omega$. Then, $a = \emptyset$ or $b = \emptyset$ if and only if $c(a) \cap c(b) = \emptyset$.*

Proof. If, say, $a = \emptyset$, then $c(a) = \emptyset$. Conversely, if $c(a) \cap c(b) = \emptyset$, then one of $c(a)$ or $c(b)$ must be empty, since the intersection of any two cofinite sets is not empty. Hence, $a = \emptyset$ or $b = \emptyset$. $\square$

Recall that $\mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N}^+$ is the smallest subalgebra of $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}^+$. The following result is well known:

Lemma 3.5. *The universe of $\mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N}^+$ is the finite – cofinite subalgebra of 2^ω .*

Next, we describe the congruences of $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}^+$:

Theorem 3.6. *The congruences of $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}^+$ form a chain of order type $1 + \omega^*$.*

Proof. By Lemma 2.1, $c(\{n\})$ is a congruence element generating the congruence θ_n . Conversely, suppose that $\equiv$ is a congruence induced by the non-trivial ideal I ; then, $I \neq \emptyset$, and I is closed under c . Since I is also closed under $\subseteq$, $\{\min(a)\} \in I$ for every $a \in I$, and therefore, $n := \min(\{\min(a) : a \in I, a \neq \emptyset\})$ exists, and $c(\{n\}) \in I$. If $a \in I$, $a \neq \emptyset$, then $n \leq \min(a)$, and it follows that $a \subseteq c(a) = c(\{\min(a)\}) \subseteq c(\{n\})$. Hence, I is the principal ideal of 2^ω generated by $c(\{n\})$.

Observing that $c(\{n\}) = \{m : n \leq m\}$, we see that

$$\emptyset \subsetneq \dots \subsetneq c(\{n+1\}) \subsetneq c(\{n\}) \subsetneq \dots \subsetneq c(\{1\}) \subsetneq c(\{0\}) = \omega,$$

and thus,

$$(3.3) \quad 1' \subsetneq \dots \subsetneq \theta_{n+1} \subsetneq \theta_n \subsetneq \dots \subsetneq \theta_1 \subsetneq \theta_0 = V,$$

where $1'$ is the identity and V the universal congruence. Clearly, this chain has order type $1 + \omega^*$. It follows that $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}^+$ has no smallest nontrivial congruence, and therefore, $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}^+$ is not subdirectly irreducible. $\square$

Corollary 3.7. *The congruences of $\mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N}^+$ form a chain of order type $1 + \omega^*$.*

Proof. Each congruence θ_n of $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}^+$ is generated by a cofinite congruence element, which is in $\mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N}^+$ by Lemma 3.5. $\square$

Let $\mathfrak{B}_n := \mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}^+ / \theta_{n+1}$, and $\pi_n : \mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}^+ \twoheadrightarrow \mathfrak{B}_n$ be the quotient mapping. Note that the kernel of θ_{n+1} is the ideal of 2^ω generated by $c(\{n+1\}) = \{n+1\} + \omega = \omega \setminus [0, n]$. Thus, the Boolean part of $\mathfrak{B}_n$ is isomorphic to the powerset algebra of $\{0, \dots, n\}$ with atoms $g_i := \pi_n(\{i\})$ for $i \leq n$. In particular, $\mathfrak{B}_0$ is isomorphic to the two element Boolean algebra, since $c(\{1\}) = \omega \setminus \{0\}$ generates a prime ideal of 2^ω .

The composition table for $\circ$ on the atoms of $\mathfrak{B}_n$ is given below. Observe that $g_0 = \pi_n(\{0\})$ is the identity element e of $\langle \mathfrak{B}_n, \circ \rangle$, and $g_m = g_0 \circ \underbrace{g_1 \circ \dots \circ g_1}_{m \text{ -- times}}$.

$\circ$	g_0	g_1	g_2	$\dots$	g_{n-1}	g_n
g_0	g_0	g_1	g_2	$\dots$	g_{n-1}	g_n
g_1	g_1	g_2	g_3	$\dots$	g_n	$\perp$
g_2	g_2	g_3	g_4	$\dots$	$\perp$	$\perp$
$\dots$						
g_n	g_n	$\perp$	$\perp$	$\dots$	$\perp$	$\perp$

Theorem 3.8. (i) *Each $\mathfrak{B}_n$ is subdirectly irreducible.*

(ii) $\mathbf{Var}(\mathfrak{B}_n) \subsetneq \mathbf{Var}(\mathfrak{B}_{n+1})$.

(iii) $\mathbf{V} = \mathbf{Var}\{\mathfrak{B}_n : n \in \omega\}$, and thus, $\mathbf{V}$ is generated by its finite members.

Proof. (i) The congruences of $\mathfrak{B}_n$ are in 1–1 correspondence to the congruences of $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}^+$ containing θ_n . This is a finite chain, and the smallest nonzero congruence element of $\mathfrak{B}_n$ is g_n .

(ii) Clearly, $\mathbf{Var}(\mathfrak{B}_n) \subseteq \mathbf{Var}(\mathfrak{B}_{n+1})$. In $\mathfrak{B}_n$, $\underbrace{g_1 + \dots + g_1}_{n+1 \text{ times}} = \perp$, and $\underbrace{g_1 + \dots + g_1}_{n+1 \text{ times}} = g_{n+1} \neq \perp$ in $\mathfrak{B}_{n+1}$.

(iii) Clearly, $\mathfrak{B}_n \in \mathbf{V}$ for each $n \in \omega$. Conversely, by Birkhoff's subdirect representation theorem [3], $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}^+$ is isomorphic to a subdirect product of its subdirectly irreducible quotients, see e.g. [4], Theorem 8.6. By Theorem 3.6, the only proper quotients of $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}^+$ are the algebras $\mathfrak{B}_n$, and these are subdirectly irreducible by 1. above. $\square$

$\mathbf{V}$ contains all Boolean algebras for which the extra operator $\circ$ is the Boolean meet and $e = \top$, since the universe of $\mathfrak{B}_0$ is the two element Boolean algebra, and $\mathfrak{B}_0 \in \mathbf{V}$. Moreover,

Theorem 3.9. $\mathbf{Var}(\mathfrak{B}_n)$ is finitely based for each $n \in \omega$. Hence, $\mathbf{Eq} \mathfrak{B}_n$ is decidable for all $n \in \omega$.

Proof. Since $\mathbf{Var}(\mathfrak{B}_n)$ is congruence distributive and $\mathfrak{B}_n$ is finite, Baker's finite basis theorem [1] implies that $\mathbf{Var}(\mathfrak{B}_n)$ is finitely based for each $n \in \omega$. The second claim follows from the fact that a finitely based variety which is generated by a finite algebra has a decidable equational theory. $\square$

Corollary 3.10. $\mathbf{Eq} \mathbf{V}$ is co-r.e.

Proof. Given an equation $\tau = \sigma$ we can check whether $\tau = \sigma$ holds in $\mathfrak{B}_0, \mathfrak{B}_1, \dots$, since $\mathbf{Eq} \mathfrak{B}_n$ is decidable. Since $\mathbf{V}$ is generated by $\{\mathfrak{B}_n : n \in \omega\}$, any equation that fails in $\mathbf{V}$ must fail in some $\mathfrak{B}_n$. $\square$

Let g be the term

$$(3.4) \quad g := \overline{e \circ e} \wedge \bar{e}.$$

In $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}^+$, g evaluates to $\{1\}$. Furthermore, we set

$$g^n := \begin{cases} e, & \text{if } n = 0, \\ \underbrace{g \circ g \circ \dots \circ g}_{n\text{-times}}, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Consider the following identities in the language of $\mathbf{V}$:

$$(3.5) \quad e \wedge (x \circ y) = e \wedge x \wedge y.$$

$$(3.6) \quad c(g^{n+1}) = \overline{g^0 \vee \dots \vee g^n} \text{ for all } n \in \omega.$$

$$(3.7) \quad c[c(x) \wedge \overline{c(y)}] \wedge c[c(y) \wedge \overline{c(x)}] = \perp.$$

$$(3.8) \quad g \wedge (x \circ y) = [(e \wedge x) \circ (g \wedge y)] \vee [(g \wedge x) \circ (e \wedge y)]$$

$$(3.9) \quad (x \wedge g^n) \circ (\bar{x} \wedge g^n) = \perp \text{ for all } n \in \omega.$$

$$(3.10) \quad c(x) = c(x \wedge \overline{x \circ \bar{e}}).$$

Lemma 3.11. (3.5) – (3.10) hold in $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}^+$, and thus, in $\mathbf{V}$.

Proof. (3.5): Just note that $0 \in a + b \iff 0 \in a$ and $0 \in b$ so that $\{0\} \cap (a + b) \neq \emptyset$ if and only if $\{0\} \cap a \neq \emptyset$ and $\{0\} \cap b \neq \emptyset$.

(3.6): $c(\{n+1\}) = \{n+1\} + \omega = \uparrow \{n+1\} = \overline{\{0, \dots, n\}}$.

(3.7): The set $\{c(a) : a \subseteq \omega\}$ is a chain, thus, $c(x) \cap \overline{c(y)} = \emptyset$ or $c(y) \cap \overline{c(x)} = \emptyset$; hence, $c(c(x) \cap \overline{c(y)}) = \emptyset$ or $c(c(y) \cap \overline{c(x)}) = \emptyset$. Now apply Lemma 3.4.

(3.8): This follows immediately from the definition of $+$.

(3.9): Each g^n is an atom of $\mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N}^+$, so $x \wedge g^n = \perp$ or $\bar{x} \wedge g^n = \perp$ for all $x \in \mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N}^+$.

(3.10): If $a \subseteq \omega$ and $a = \emptyset$, the claim clearly holds. If $a \neq \emptyset$, then $a \cap \overline{a + \{0\}} = \min(a)$ whence the conclusion follows. $\square$

We do not know whether (3.5) – (3.10) are sufficient to axiomatize $\mathbf{V}$.

Theorem 3.12. Let $\mathfrak{A} \in \mathbf{V}$ be subdirectly irreducible and suppose that d is the smallest nonzero congruence element in $\mathfrak{A}$.

- (i) e is an atom of A .
- (ii) The congruence elements of $\mathfrak{A}$ are linearly ordered.
- (iii) If $\mathfrak{A}$ is finite, then it is isomorphic to some $\mathfrak{B}_n$.

Proof. (i) Assume that there are $a, b \in A$ such that $\perp \leq a, b$, $a \wedge b = \perp$, and $a \vee b = e$. Then, the monotonicity of $\circ$ implies that $a \circ b \leq e \circ e = e$, and by (3.5), $a \circ b = (a \circ b) \wedge e = a \wedge b \wedge e = \perp$.

Since $a \neq \perp$, we have $a \circ \top \neq \perp$, and the fact that d is the smallest non-zero congruence element implies $d \leq a \circ \top$. Now,

$$d \leq a \circ \top \Rightarrow d \circ b \leq a \circ b \circ \top = \perp \circ \top = \perp,$$

and, similarly, $d \circ a = \perp$. But then,

$$d = d \circ e = d \circ (a \vee b) = (d \circ a) \vee (d \circ b) = \perp,$$

contradicting our hypothesis that $d \neq \perp$.

(ii) Assume there are nonzero congruence elements x, y such that $x \wedge \bar{y} \neq \perp$ and $y \wedge \bar{x} \neq \perp$. Then, both $c(x \wedge \bar{y})$ and $c(y \wedge \bar{x})$ are nonzero congruence elements, and therefore, $d \leq c(x \wedge \bar{y}) \wedge c(y \wedge \bar{x})$. On the other hand,

$$c(x \wedge \bar{y}) \wedge c(y \wedge \bar{x}) = c(c(x) \wedge \overline{c(y)}) \wedge c(c(y) \wedge \overline{c(x)}) = \perp$$

by (3.7) which contradicts $d \neq \perp$.

(iii) By (3.6), $m \neq n$ implies that $g^m \wedge g^n = \perp$. Therefore, since $\mathfrak{A}$ is finite, there exists a smallest n such that $g^{n+1} = \perp$. We will prove that $\mathfrak{A} = \mathfrak{B}_n$.

1. $c(g^n) = g^n$: Again by (3.6) we have $g^0 \vee \dots \vee g^{n-1} \vee c(g^n) = \top$, and $c(g^n) \wedge g^m = \perp$ for all $m \leq n$. Suppose there is some $s \in A$ such that $s \wedge g^n = \perp$ and $s \vee g^n = c(g^n)$. Then,

$$g \circ s = \perp \vee (g \circ s) = (g \circ g^n) \vee (g \circ s) = g \circ (g^n \vee s) = g \circ c(g^n) = g \circ (g^n \circ \top) = (g \circ g^n) \circ \top = \perp,$$

and, by the normality of $\circ$ we obtain $g^m \circ s = \perp$ for all $1 \leq m \leq n$. Now,

$$c(g^n) = g^n \circ (g^0 \vee \dots \vee g^n \vee s) = (g^n \circ g^0) \vee \underbrace{g^n \circ g^1}_{=\perp} \vee \dots \vee \underbrace{g^n \circ g^n}_{=\perp} \vee \underbrace{g^n \circ s}_{=\perp} = g^n.$$

It follows that $s = \perp$ and also that $g^0 \vee \dots \vee g^n = \top$.

2. $d = g^n$: Since d is the smallest congruence element, we have $d \leq g^n$. Assume there is some $t \neq \perp$ such that $d \wedge t = \perp$ and $d \vee t = g^n$. Then, for $x \in \{d, t\}$ and $y \in \{g^1, \dots, g^n\}$ we have $x \circ y = \perp$. Furthermore, $d \circ d = d \circ t = t \circ t = \perp$, since $d, t \leq g^n$ and $g^{n+1} = \perp$. This implies that d and t are disjoint nonzero congruence elements, contradicting the subdirect irreducibility of $\mathfrak{A}$. It follows that $d = g^n$.
3. Each g^m is an atom of $\mathfrak{A}$: Assume that there are $\perp \leq s, t \leq g^m$ with $s \wedge t = \perp$ and $s \vee t = g^m$ for some $m \leq n$. By (i) above, we have $1 \leq m$. From $s \leq g^m$ it follows that $s \circ g^k \leq g^m \circ g^k = g^{k+m} \neq g^m$ for $k \neq 0$. Therefore,

$$g^m \wedge (s \circ \top) = g^m \wedge (s \vee (s \circ g^1) \vee \dots \vee (s \circ g^n)) = s.$$

Similarly we obtain $g^m \wedge (t \circ \top) = t$. Since t and s are nonzero and disjoint, $s \circ \top$ and $t \circ \top$ are incomparable congruence elements, contradicting (ii).

□

Theorem 3.13. $\mathfrak{A} \in \mathbf{V}$ is simple if and only if $|A| \leq 2$.

Proof. Clearly, $\mathfrak{A}$ is simple if it has at most two elements. Conversely, let $\mathfrak{A}$ be simple. If $g \neq \perp$, then $c(g) = \top$ by (2.10), and thus, $\perp = \overline{c(g)} = e$ by (3.6). The normality of $\circ$ implies that, for all $x \in A$, $x = e \circ x = \perp \circ x = \perp$, and therefore, $\mathfrak{A}$ has only one element.

Now, suppose that $g = \perp$; then, $\perp = c(g) = \bar{e}$ by (3.6), and thus, $e = \top$. If $x \neq \perp$, then

$$x = x \circ e = x \circ \top = c(x) = \top,$$

the latter by the simplicity of $\mathfrak{A}$.

□

Since every nontrivial variety contains a nontrivial simple algebra, it follows that the subvariety $\mathbf{V}_0$ of $\mathbf{V}$ generated by $\mathfrak{B}_0$ is smallest nontrivial subvariety of $\mathbf{V}$.

If $\mathfrak{A}$ is a CBM, we call $z \in A$ an *annihilator of $\circ$* , if $x \circ z = z$ for all $x \in A$, $x \neq \perp$. The complex algebra of $\langle \omega, 1, \cdot \rangle$ has $\{0\}$ as a nonzero annihilator. This cannot happen in $\mathbf{V}$:

Theorem 3.14. Suppose that $\mathfrak{A} \in \mathbf{V}$ and that $|A| > 2$. Then, $\mathfrak{A}$ has no nonzero annihilator.

Proof. Since $\mathbf{V} = \mathbf{HSP}\{\mathfrak{B}_n : n \in \omega\}$, there are a sequence $\{\mathfrak{C}_\alpha : \alpha < \kappa\}$ of algebras from $\{\mathfrak{B}_n : n \in \omega\}$, a subalgebra $\mathfrak{D}$ of $\mathfrak{C} := \prod_{\alpha < \kappa} \mathfrak{C}_\alpha$, and an onto homomorphism $\pi : \mathfrak{D} \twoheadrightarrow \mathfrak{A}$ with kernel I . Let $g = \overline{\bar{e} \circ \bar{e}} \wedge \bar{e}$ in $\mathfrak{C}$, and $g_\alpha = \overline{\bar{e} \circ \bar{e}} \wedge \bar{e}$ in $\mathfrak{C}_\alpha$. Since $\mathfrak{D}$ is a subalgebra of $\mathfrak{C}$ and g is a constant term, we have $g \in \mathfrak{D}$; furthermore, $g(\alpha) = g_\alpha$ for all $\alpha < \kappa$.

Assume that z is a nonzero annihilator of $\mathfrak{A}$, and let $f \in \mathfrak{D}$ with $z = \pi(f)$; since $z \neq \perp$ we have $f \notin I$, in particular, $f \neq \perp$. Now, $z = z \circ \top = \pi(f) \circ \pi(\top) = \pi(f \circ \top)$, and we may suppose that f is a congruence element. Since $\mathfrak{A}$ has more than two elements, $\perp < g_{\mathfrak{A}}$, and therefore $z \circ g_{\mathfrak{A}} = z$. Hence, there is some $i \in I$ such that $(f \circ g) \vee i = f \vee i$, in particular, $f \leq (f \circ g) \vee i$; since I is a congruence ideal, we may suppose w.l.o.g. that $i = c(i)$.

Let $\alpha < \kappa$ such that $f(\alpha) \neq \perp$, and suppose that $\mathfrak{C}_\alpha = \mathfrak{B}_n$; then, $f(\alpha) \leq (f(\alpha) \circ g_\alpha) \vee i(\alpha)$. Since f is a congruence element, so is $f(\alpha)$, and it follows from the definition of $\mathfrak{B}_n$ that there is some $m < n$ such that $f(\alpha) = c(g_\alpha^m)$. Now,

$$\begin{aligned} f(\alpha) &\leq (f(\alpha) \circ g(\alpha)) \vee i(\alpha) \\ &= (c(g_\alpha^m) \circ g_\alpha) \vee i(\alpha) \\ &= (g_\alpha^m \circ \top \circ g_\alpha) \vee i(\alpha) \\ &= c(g_\alpha^{m+1}) \vee i(\alpha) \\ &\stackrel{(3.6)}{=} \overline{g_\alpha^0 \vee \dots \vee g_\alpha^m} \vee i(\alpha) \\ &= \overline{(g_\alpha^0 \vee \dots \vee g_\alpha^{m-1}) \wedge \overline{g_\alpha^m}} \vee i(\alpha) \\ &= (f(\alpha) \wedge \overline{g_\alpha^m}) \vee i(\alpha), \end{aligned}$$

which implies

$$f(\alpha) \wedge g_\alpha^m \leq i(\alpha).$$

Now, $f(\alpha) = \overline{g_\alpha^0 \vee \dots \vee g_\alpha^{m-1}}$ implies $g_\alpha^m \leq f(\alpha)$, and thus, $g_\alpha^m \leq i(\alpha)$. Since $i(\alpha)$ is a congruence element, we have $i = i \circ \top$, and therefore,

$$f(\alpha) = c(g_\alpha^m) = g_\alpha^m \circ \top \leq i(\alpha) \circ \top = i(\alpha).$$

Thus, $f(\alpha) \leq i(\alpha)$ for all $\alpha < \kappa$ and it follows that $f \in I$, contradicting our hypothesis. $\square$

Let us briefly look at the complex algebra $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}^{+, \leq}$ of $\langle \omega, +, \leq, 0 \rangle$. We have seen earlier that the complex version of $\leq$ is the operator $\downarrow : 2^\omega \rightarrow 2^\omega$ defined by $\downarrow a = \{n \in \omega : (\exists m)[m \in a \text{ and } n \leq m]\}$; thus, the universe of $\mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N}^{+, \leq}$ is $FC(\omega)$.

Since $\leq$ is first order definable in $\langle \omega, +, 0 \rangle$, one might suspect that $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}^{+, \leq}$ and $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}^+$ are not “too far apart”. It turns out, however that $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}^{+, \leq}$ has much stronger properties than $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}^+$.

Theorem 3.15. (i) $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}^{+, \leq}$ is a discriminator algebra.

(ii) $\mathbf{Eq} \mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}^{+, \leq} \neq \mathbf{Eq} \mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N}^{+, \leq}$.

Proof. (i) Set $d(x) := \omega + \downarrow x$. If $x = \emptyset$, then $\downarrow x = \emptyset$, and thus, $d(x) = \emptyset$. Otherwise, $0 \in \downarrow x$, hence, $d(x) = \omega + x = \omega$.

(ii) Consider the function $\text{fin} : 2^\omega \rightarrow \{\emptyset, \omega\}$ defined by $\text{fin}(a) := \overline{d(\downarrow a)}$. Then,

$$\text{fin}(a) = \begin{cases} \omega, & \text{if } |a| = \omega, \\ \emptyset, & \text{if } a \text{ is finite.} \end{cases}$$

Since for each $a \in \mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N}^{+, \leq}$, either a finite or $\bar{a}$ is finite, the equation $\text{fin}(a) \cap \text{fin}(\bar{a}) = \emptyset$ holds in $\mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N}^{+, \leq}$, but not in $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}^{+, \leq}$. $\square$

3.2 Complex algebras of $\langle \omega, \cdot, 1 \rangle$

Let $\mathbb{N}^\bullet = \langle \omega, \cdot, 1 \rangle$, $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}^\bullet$ be its complex algebra, and $\mathbf{V}$ be the variety generated by $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}^\bullet$. Furthermore, let $c(a) := \omega \bullet a$ for every $a \subseteq \omega$.

We will first describe the smallest subalgebra of $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}^\bullet$.

Theorem 3.16. $\mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N}^+ \cong \mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N}^\bullet$.

Proof. For each $n \in \omega$, let

$$a_n := \{m \in \omega : m \text{ has exactly } n \text{ (possibly repeated) prime divisors}\}.$$

Then, $a_0 = \{1\}$, and the set of primes is circuit definable by

$$a_1 = \overline{(\omega \setminus \{1\}) \bullet (\omega \setminus \{1\})} \setminus \{1\}$$

It comes as no surprise that a_1 is nothing else than the constant g defined in (3.4). Each a_n is circuit definable, since $a_n = \underbrace{a_1 \bullet \dots \bullet a_1}_{n\text{-times}}$. Clearly, $a_i \cap a_j = \emptyset$ for $i \neq j$, and $\bigcup_{n \in \omega} a_n = \omega \setminus \{0\}$; the latter can be shown via induction on the degree of a term.

Let A_0 be the Boolean algebra with atoms $\{\{1\}, \omega \setminus \{1\}\}$, and for $n + 1$ let A_{n+1} be the Boolean closure of $\{a \bullet b : a, b \in A_n\}$. Furthermore, for each $n \in \omega$, let

$$b_{n+1} = \overline{a_0 \cup \dots \cup a_n}.$$

Claim. For $0 < n$ each A_n is finite with atoms $a_0, \dots, a_{2^n-1}, b_{2^{n-1}+1}$.

First, we consider $n = 1$. Computing $\{a \bullet b : a, b \in A_0\}$, we retain A_0 (since $\{1\} \in A_0$) and, obtain additionally, $(\omega \setminus \{1\}) \bullet (\omega \setminus \{1\})$ which is the set of all positive composite numbers. Thus, the atom $\omega \setminus \{1\}$ of A_0 splits into a_1 , the set of all prime numbers, and b_2 , the set of all composite numbers (including 0). Since $1 = 2^{1-1}$, the claim is true for $n = 1$.

Suppose that the claim is true for A_n , i.e. that the atoms of A_n are $a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{2^n-1}, b_{2^{n-1}+1}$. We need to show that the closure of $\{a \bullet b : a, b \in A_n\}$ under the Boolean operations gives us A_{n+1} . Since $\bullet$ distributes over $\cup$ it is

sufficient to find $a_i \bullet a_j$ and $a_i \bullet b_{n+1}$ for $i, j \leq n$. Now, if $i, j \leq n$, then $a_i \bullet a_j = a_{i+j}$, and thus, from $a_i \bullet a_j$ we obtain the disjoint sets

$$a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{2^{n-1}}, a_{2^{n-1}+1}, \dots, a_{2^{n-1}+2^{n-1}} = a_{2^{(n+1)-1}}.$$

From $a_i \bullet b_{2^{n-1}+1}$ we obtain

$$b_{2^{n-1}+1} \supseteq b_{2^{n-1}+2} \supseteq b_{2^{n-1}+1+2^{n-1}} = b_{2^{(n+1)-1}+1}$$

The claim now follows from $b_m \setminus b_{m+1} = a_m$.

Clearly, $\{a_n : n \in \omega\}$ is the set of atoms of $\mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N}^\bullet$. Let $f : \mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N}^+ \rightarrow \mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N}^\bullet$ be the mapping induced by $f(\{n\}) = a_n$. Then, f is bijective, and

$$f(\{n\} + \{m\}) = f(\{n+m\}) = a_{n+m} = a_n \bullet a_m = f(\{n\}) \bullet f(\{m\}).$$

Since $+$ and $\bullet$ are (completely) additive, f is an isomorphism. □

It may be noted that $0 \in \overline{a_n}$ for all $n \in \omega$. Thus, $\{0\}$ is not definable from the constants, and

$$\omega = \sum^{\mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N}^\bullet} \{a_n : n \in \omega\} \neq \sum^{\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}^\bullet} \{a_n : n \in \omega\} = \omega \setminus \{0\}.$$

It follows that $\mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N}^\bullet$ as a Boolean algebra is not a regular Boolean subalgebra of $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}^\bullet$ [for the definition see 10].

Let us now consider the algebra $\mathfrak{Cm}_1 \mathbb{N}^\bullet$, i.e. the subalgebra of $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}^\bullet$ generated by its atoms $\{n\}$. We note that $\{0\}$ is a nonzero annihilator, and thus is a proper congruence element - indeed, the smallest nonzero congruence element. Therefore, $\mathfrak{Cm}_1 \mathbb{N}^\bullet$ is subdirectly irreducible. By Theorem 3.14, no element of $\mathbf{Var} \mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}^+$ with more than two elements has a nonzero annihilator. Together with $\mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N}^+ \cong \mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N}^\bullet$ we obtain that $\mathfrak{Cm}_1 \mathbb{N}^\bullet \notin \mathbf{Var} \mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N}^\bullet$, and therefore, $\mathbf{Var} \mathfrak{Cm}_1 \mathbb{N}^\bullet \neq \mathbf{Var} \mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N}^\bullet$.

Let θ be the congruence generated by $\{0\}$, and $\mathfrak{A}$ be the complex algebra of $\langle \omega \setminus \{0\}, \cdot, 1 \rangle$. Then, clearly, $a\theta b \iff a \cup \{0\} = b \cup \{0\}$, and $\mathfrak{Cm}_1 \mathbb{N}^\bullet / \theta$ is isomorphic to the singleton algebra $\mathfrak{A}_1$ of $\mathfrak{A}$; furthermore, $\mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N}^\bullet \cong \mathfrak{A}_0$.

Owing to the presence of the nonzero annihilator $\{0\}$ we can still turn satisfiability (validity) of inequations into satisfiability (validity) of equations even though $\mathfrak{Cm}_1 \mathbb{N}^\bullet$ is not a discriminator algebra - it is subdirectly irreducible, but not simple:

$$(3.11) \quad (\exists \vec{x})[\tau(\vec{x}) \neq \sigma(\vec{x})] \iff (\exists \vec{x})[\tau(\vec{x}) \triangle \sigma(\vec{x}) \neq \perp] \iff (\exists \vec{x})[\{0\} \bullet (\tau(\vec{x}) \triangle \sigma(\vec{x})) = \{0\}],$$

$$(3.12) \quad (\forall \vec{x})[\tau(\vec{x}) \neq \sigma(\vec{x})] \iff (\forall \vec{x})[\tau(\vec{x}) \triangle \sigma(\vec{x}) \neq \perp] \iff (\forall \vec{x})[\{0\} \bullet (\tau(\vec{x}) \triangle \sigma(\vec{x})) = \{0\}].$$

We know already that the set of primes is definable in $\mathfrak{Cm}_1 \mathbb{N}^\bullet$. This can be generalized as follows: For $n \in \omega$ let $\mathbf{Po}(n)$ be the set of all powers of n .

Theorem 3.17. *Let $p_0, \dots, p_n$ be primes, and $b = \mathbf{Po}(p_0) \bullet \dots \bullet \mathbf{Po}(p_n)$. Then, for all $a \subseteq \omega$,*

$$a \cap b \in \mathfrak{Cm}_1 \mathbb{N}^\bullet \iff a \cap b \in FC(b).$$

Here, $FC(b)$ is the set of all finite or cofinite subsets of b .

Proof. “ $\Leftarrow$ ”: We first show that $\mathbf{Po}(p) \in \mathfrak{Cm}_1 \mathbb{N}^\bullet$ for every prime p . Consider the following sequence:

$\omega \bullet \{p\}$	All multiples of p
$\overline{\omega \bullet \{p\}}$	All n not divisible by p
$\overline{\omega \bullet \{p\} \cap \{1\}}$	All $n \neq 1$ not divisible by p , i.e. coprime to p , since p is prime
$\omega \bullet (\overline{\omega \bullet \{p\} \cap \{1\}})$	All n with a factor $\neq 1$ coprime to p
$\overline{\omega \bullet (\overline{\omega \bullet \{p\} \cap \{1\}})}$	All n with $(n \neq 1 \Rightarrow \text{no } m \text{ coprime to } p \text{ divides } n)$,

which defines the set of all powers of p . It follows that $b \in \mathfrak{Cm}_1 \mathbb{N}^\bullet$. Since all singletons are in $\mathfrak{Cm}_1 \mathbb{N}^\bullet$, each finite or cofinite subset of b is in $\mathfrak{Cm}_1 \mathbb{N}^\bullet$.

“ $\Rightarrow$ ”: Consider the condition

$$(3.13) \quad x \cap b \notin FC(b).$$

Suppose there are a term of minimal length $\tau(x_0, \dots, x_k)$ and $a_0, \dots, a_k \subseteq \omega$ such that $a := \tau(a_0, \dots, a_k)$ satisfies (3.13). If $a = s \cup t$, then s or t satisfy (3.13), contradicting the minimality of τ ; similarly, a is not of the form $\bar{s}$. Finally, let $a = s \bullet t$. By the minimality of τ , both $s \cap b$ and $t \cap b$ are in $FC(b)$, and by our assumption one must be cofinite in b , say, s . The cofinality implies there are $q_0, \dots, q_n \in \omega$ such that for all $m_0, \dots, m_n \in \omega$,

$$(3.14) \quad m_0 \geq q_0 \wedge \dots \wedge m_n \geq q_n \Rightarrow p^{m_0} \cdot \dots \cdot p^{m_n} \in s.$$

Let $q = p_0^{j_0} \cdot \dots \cdot p_n^{j_n} \in t \cap b$. Then, $\{q\} \bullet s$ is cofinite in s by (3.14), and thus, cofinite in b . It follows that $a = s \bullet t$ is cofinite in b , contradicting our assumption. $\square$

Theorem 3.17 does not hold in $\mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N}$: If $a := (\{3\} \bullet \omega) + \{1\}$, then $\mathbf{Po}(2) \cap a$ is the set of all powers of 4. This also shows that $\mathfrak{Cm}_1 \mathbb{N}^\bullet \subsetneq \mathfrak{Cm}_1 \mathbb{N}$.

Theorem 3.18. (i) For each $n > 0$, $\mathfrak{Cm}_1 \mathbb{N}^\bullet$ contains an idempotent subsemigroup with n generators and $2^n - 1$ elements.

(ii) Suppose that G is a subsemigroup of $\mathfrak{Cm}_1 \mathbb{N}^\bullet$ and a group. Then, $|G| = 1$.

Proof. (i) Let $P = \{p_1, \dots, p_n\}$ be a set of n primes, and for each nonempty $M = \{p_{i_1}, \dots, p_{i_k}\} \subseteq P$ let $a_M := \mathbf{Pop}_{i_1} \bullet \dots \bullet \mathbf{Pop}_{i_k}$. Then, $S = \{a_M : \emptyset \neq M \subseteq P\}$ is the desired semigroup generated by $\{a_{\{p_i\}} : 1 \leq i \leq n\}$; the identity element is a_P .

(ii) Let e be the neutral element of G . If $e = \emptyset$, then $a = a \bullet e = a \bullet \emptyset = \emptyset$ for all $a \in G$, and thus, $|G| = 1$. Similarly, if $e = \{0\}$ we have $|G| = 1$. Thus, suppose that $e \not\subseteq \{0\}$; it is easy to see that then $a \not\subseteq \{0\}$ for all $a \in G$. Let $n = \min(e \setminus \{0\})$. Since $e \bullet e = e$, there are $k, m \in e$ with $n = k \cdot m$. Minimality of n and $n \neq 0$ imply $n = k$ and $m = 1$ or $n = m$ and $k = 1$. In any case, $n = 1$, and thus, $1 \in e$.

Suppose that $a \in G$. Since $a \bullet a^{-1} = e$ and $1 \in e$, we have $1 \in a \cap a^{-1}$ and hence, $a = a \bullet \{1\} \subseteq a \bullet a^{-1} = e$.

Conversely, $e = e \bullet \{1\} \subseteq e \bullet a = a$, so that altogether $a = e$. $\square$

4 Decidability of theories

Recall that for a BAO $\mathfrak{B}$, we denote by $\mathfrak{B}_0$ the smallest subalgebra of $\mathfrak{B}$, i.e. the subalgebra of $\mathfrak{B}$ generated by the constants. In this section we consider the problems **FO** $\mathfrak{B}$, **Eq** $\mathfrak{B}$, and **EqSat** $\mathfrak{B}$ for the algebras $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}$, $\mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N}$, $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}^+$, $\mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N}^+$, $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}^\bullet$, and $\mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N}^\bullet$. If $\mathfrak{B}$ is one of these algebras, we denote by $\mathfrak{B}^d$ the algebra enhanced by an additional operator d which represents a discriminator function on $\mathfrak{B}$. A *conjunctive grammar* is a context-free grammar with an explicit intersection operation [13]. This section largely draws together work by Okhotin [14], Jež and Okhotin [7], and Pinus and Vazhenin [15].

We have the following undecidability results. If T is a Turing Machine, we can define the language $\text{VALC}(T)$ of *computations* of T , over the alphabet $\Sigma = \{0, \dots, k-1\}$, for some $k > 0$. It does not really matter how these computations are encoded: the important point here is that $\text{VALC}(T) = \emptyset$ if and only if the language accepted by T is empty. We may assume without loss of generality that no strings in $\text{VALC}(T)$ begin with the letter 0. Any string $s \in \Sigma^*$ which does not begin with 0 may be regarded as a base- k representation of a positive integer $\sharp(s)$. Thus, we obtain a 1–1 mapping $f_k : \text{VALC}(T) \rightarrow \{a\}^*$ given by $f_k(s) = a^{\sharp(s)}$. Thus, $f_k(\text{VALC}(T))$ is a language over the 1-element alphabet $\{a\}$.

Lemma 4.1. [7])

- (i) For every Turing Machine T , we can effectively construct conjunctive grammars G and G' over the alphabet $\{a\}$ such that $L(G) = f_k(\text{VALC}(T))$.
- (ii) If $a \subseteq \omega$ is recursive, there exists a finite system of equations of the form $\tau_i(y, x_1, \dots, x_n) = \sigma_i(y, x_1, \dots, x_n)$ in the language with $\cup, \cap, +$ such that its unique solution is $y = a$ and $x_i = b_i$ for some $\langle b_1, \dots, b_n \rangle \in (2^\omega)^n$.

First, we compare the theories of these algebras.

Theorem 4.2. (i) **Eq** $(\mathbb{N}^+) = \mathbf{Eq} (2^\omega, +, \{0\})$.

(ii) **Eq** $\mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N}^+ = \mathbf{Eq} \mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}^+$.

(iii) **EqSat** $\mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N}^+ \neq \mathbf{EqSat} \mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}^+$.

(iv) **Eq** $\mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N}^{+,d} \neq \mathbf{Eq} \mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}^{+,d}$.

(v) **Eq** $\mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N} \neq \mathbf{Eq} \mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}$.

Proof. (i) The mapping $f : \omega \rightarrow \{a \subseteq \omega : a \text{ is finite}\}$ which maps n to $\{n\}$ is an embedding of monoids, and thus, **Eq** $(2^\omega, +, \{0\}) \subseteq \mathbf{Eq} (\mathbb{N}^+)$. The reverse inclusion follows from the fact that $\mathbb{N}^+$ is the free monoid on a single generator.

(ii) Since $\mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N}^+ \leq \mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}^+$, it follows that $\mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N}^+ \in \mathbf{Var}(\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}^+)$. Conversely, each $\mathfrak{B}_n$ is in $\mathbf{Var}(\mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N}^+)$ by Corollary 3.7, and thus, $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}^+ \in \mathbf{Var}(\mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N}^+)$.

(iii) The equation

$$(4.1) \quad x + \{1\} = \bar{x}$$

has a unique solution in $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}^+$, namely, the set of even numbers, which is not in $\mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N}^+$.

(iv) This is a slight generalization of Theorem 3.15(2). The equation (4.1) has no solution in $FC(\omega)$, i.e. $(\forall x)[x + \{1\} \neq \bar{x}]$ holds in $\mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N}$. This is equivalent to the equation $d((x + \{1\}) \triangle \bar{x}) = \omega$ which is not valid in $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}^{+,d}$.

(v) Let $a \in \mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N} \setminus \mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N}$ be recursive. Such set exists, since every every set definable by an arithmetic circuit is in the bounded hierarchy BH [16], and the bounded hierarchy is known to be contained within the zeroth Grzegorzczak class, $\mathcal{E}_*^0$. By Lemma 4.1 there is a first order sentence $(\exists x)\varphi(x)$ such that $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N} \models \varphi(x/s)$ if and only if $s = a$. It follows that $\mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N} \not\models (\exists x)\varphi(x)$, i.e. $\mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N} \models (\forall x)\neg\varphi(x)$. Since $\mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N}$ is a discriminator algebra, there is an equation $\tau(x) = \sigma(x)$, such that $\mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N} \models (\forall x)\neg\varphi(x)$ if and only if $\mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N} \models \tau(x) = \sigma(x)$. Since $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N} \models (\exists x)\varphi(x)$, $\tau(x) = \sigma(x)$ cannot hold in $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}$. $\square$

Given any conjunctive grammar G with non-terminals $X_1, \dots, X_n$ over the alphabet $\{a\}$, we may effectively construct a system of language equations $\mathcal{E}$ in variables $V_1, \dots, V_n$, with the property that $\mathcal{E}$ has a unique least (under componentwise-inclusion) solution $S_1^0, \dots, S_n^0$ and, moreover, for all i ($1 \leq i \leq n$), S_i is the set of strings of $\{a\}^*$ to which G assigns the category X_i . Let us assume that X_1 is the start-symbol of G ; i.e., $L(G)$ is the set of strings to which G assigns category X_1 .

Theorem 4.3. *Let O be any collection of isotone operators on $\mathbb{N}$ with $+$ $\in O$. Then **EqSat** $\mathfrak{Cm}(\mathbb{N}, O)$ is co-r.e.-complete.*

Proof. For the lower bound, it suffices to establish the result in the case $\mathfrak{Cm}(\mathbb{N}, \{+\}) = \mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}^+$. We use the fact that the emptiness of the languages accepted by a Turing machine T is equivalent to the validity of the language equations $\mathcal{E}$, as outlined above. We must translate the language equations in $\mathcal{E}$ in the logical signature $\{\varepsilon, \{a\}, \cup, \cap, \cdot\}$, (where $\cdot$ denotes concatenation) into integer-set equations, by replacing ε by $\{0\}$, $\{a\}$ by $\{1\}$, and $\cdot$ by $+$. Let the result of this translation be $\mathcal{E}^*$. If $g : \{a\}^* \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ is the isomorphism given by $a^k \mapsto k$, then $S_1, \dots, S_n$ is a solution of $\mathcal{E}$ if and only if $g(S_1), \dots, g(S_n)$ is a solution of $\mathcal{E}^*$.

Altogether, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Acc}(T) = \emptyset &\Leftrightarrow \text{VALC}(T) = \emptyset \\ &\Leftrightarrow f_k(\text{VALC}(T)) = \emptyset \\ &\Leftrightarrow L_G = \emptyset \\ &\Leftrightarrow S_1^0 = \emptyset \\ &\Leftrightarrow \mathcal{E} \cup \{X_1 = \emptyset\} \text{ has a solution} \\ &\Leftrightarrow \mathcal{E}^* \cup \{X_1 = \emptyset\} \text{ has a solution.} \end{aligned}$$

This establishes that **EqSat** $\mathfrak{Cm}(\mathbb{N}, O)$ is co-r.e.-hard, as required.

To show that **EqSat** $\mathfrak{Cm}(\mathbb{N}, O)$ is co-r.e., it suffices to prove that, for any m -tuple of variables $\bar{x}$ and any term $\tau(\bar{x})$,

$$(4.2) \quad \tau(\bar{x}) = \emptyset \text{ has a solution in } (2^\omega)^m$$

if and only if, for all n ,

$$(4.3) \quad \tau(\bar{x}) \cap [0, n] = \emptyset \text{ has a solution in } (2^{[0, n]})^m,$$

since the condition (4.3) is evidently decidable for fixed n . In the sequel, if $\bar{s} = (s_1, \dots, s_m)$ and $\bar{t} = (t_1, \dots, t_m)$ are m -tuples of sets, we write $\bar{s} \cap [0, n]$ for the m -tuple $(s_1 \cap [0, n], \dots, s_m \cap [0, n])$, $\bar{s} \cup \bar{t}$ for the m -tuple $(s_1 \cup t_1, \dots, s_m \cup t_m)$ and $\bar{s} \subseteq \bar{t}$ for the condition $s_1 \subseteq t_1 \wedge \dots \wedge s_m \subseteq t_m$.

The direction from (4.2) to (4.3) is easy. For suppose $\tau(\bar{s}) = \emptyset$. Then, for all n , $\tau(\bar{s}) \cap [0, n] = \emptyset$, whence, by the monotonicity of the operators on $\mathcal{O}$, $\tau(\bar{s} \cap [0, n]) \cap [0, n] = \emptyset$. To show the converse, let V_n denote, for any n , the set of pairs $\langle \bar{s}, n \rangle$ where $\bar{s}$ is a solution of $\tau(\bar{x}) \cap [0, n] = \emptyset$ in $(2^{[0, n]})^m$. Thus, V_n is finite, and, assuming (4.3) for all n , non-empty. Define the directed graph (V, E) by setting $V = \bigcup V_n$ and

$$E = \{(\langle \bar{s}, n \rangle, \langle \bar{t}, n+1 \rangle) : \langle \bar{s}, n \rangle \in V_n, \langle \bar{t}, n+1 \rangle \in V_{n+1} \text{ and } \bar{s} \subseteq \bar{t}\}.$$

Thus, (V, E) is a finitely branching, infinite tree, and so has an infinite path $\langle \bar{s}_0, 0 \rangle, \langle \bar{s}_1, 1 \rangle, \dots$, where $\bar{s}_0 \subseteq \bar{s}_1 \subseteq \dots$. Letting $\bar{s} = \bigcup \bar{s}_n$, we have, for all n , $\tau(\bar{s}) \cap [0, n] = \tau(\bar{s}_n) \cap [0, n] = \emptyset$. Hence $\tau(\bar{s}) = \emptyset$, whence (4.2) holds. $\square$

It immediately follows from Theorem 4.3 that

Corollary 4.4. *EqSat $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}$ is co-r.e.-hard.*

In Corollary 3.10 we showed that **Eq** $\mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N}^+$ is co-re. On the other hand, it is not obvious that we can find a (computable) bound for the smallest witnesses of *inequations* in these languages.

While the membership problem for $\mathfrak{Cm}_0 \mathbb{N}$ is a word problem, the satisfaction problem (1.6) is related to the equational theory:

Theorem 4.5. *The equational theory of $\mathfrak{Cm}_1 \mathbb{N}^\bullet$ is decidable if and only if the satisfaction problem (1.6) is decidable.*

Proof. “ $\Rightarrow$ ”: Let $n \in \omega$ and $\tau(\vec{x})$ be a term with variables $\vec{x}$. Then,

$$\exists(\vec{x})[\{n\} \cap \tau(\vec{x}) \neq \emptyset] \iff \neg((\forall \vec{x})[\{n\} \cap \tau(\vec{x}) = \emptyset]).$$

“ $\Leftarrow$ ”: Suppose that $\tau(\vec{x})$, $\sigma(\vec{x})$ are terms with variables among $\vec{x}$; w.l.o.g. we may suppose that $\sigma(\vec{x}) = \emptyset$. Then,

$$(\forall \vec{x})[\tau(\vec{x}) = \emptyset] \iff (\forall \vec{x})[0 \notin \{0\} \bullet \tau(\vec{x})] \iff \neg((\exists \vec{x})[0 \in \{0\} \bullet \tau(\vec{x})]).$$

$\square$

As for equational theories, results are known as long as we have the wherewithal to convert equations into inequations. Determining whether an equation belongs to the equational theory of a language $\mathcal{L}$ over some interpretation $\mathfrak{A}$ is the co-problem of determining whether an *inequation* in $\mathcal{L}$ is satisfiable in $\mathfrak{A}$. If we have a discriminator at our disposal, then (2.2), (2.3) and Theorem 4.3 imply

Theorem 4.6. *The set **Eq** $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}^{+,d}$ is r.e.-hard. Hence, **Eq** $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}$ is r.e.-hard.*

If $\langle S, \circ \rangle$ is a semigroup, then its *power structure* is the semigroup of complexes of S . The following result is quoted by Pinus and Vazhenin [15, Theorem 2.3.2]:

Theorem 4.7. [2] *For a variety $\mathbf{V}$ of semigroups the class of power structures of elements of $\mathbf{V}$ has a decidable elementary theory if and only if $\mathbf{V} \subseteq \mathbf{Var}(\{x \circ y \circ z = x \circ z\})$.*

Neither $\langle \omega, +, 0 \rangle$ nor $\langle \omega, \cdot, 1 \rangle$ satisfy $x \circ y \circ z = x \circ z$. Since the power structure of $\langle \omega, +, 0 \rangle$ is a reduct of $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}^+$, this is another way to show that **FO** $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}^+$ is undecidable. It also applies to $\langle \omega, \cdot, 1 \rangle$:

Corollary 4.8. *FO $\mathfrak{Cm} \mathbb{N}^\bullet$ is undecidable.*

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