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It would be nice to characterize the collection  $I$  of those equational theories  $\Sigma$  that have a topological model  $\mathbf{A}$  based on some finite simplicial complex  $A$ . This  $I$  defines a downward-closed proper subset of the interpretability lattice.  $I$  is the union of classes  $I(A)$ , one for each finite simplicial complex  $A$ , where  $I(A)$  is the collection of theories that can be modeled on  $A$ .

In this survey talk we review some of the known higher (under interpretability) members of  $I$ , and mention one or two simple theories that are known not to lie in  $I$ .

Many questions can be asked about  $I$  and the individual classes  $I(A)$ . If  $\Sigma \in I(A)$ , is there a model  $\mathbf{A}$  whose operations are all piecewise multilinear? Does  $A$  model some  $\Sigma' \geq \Sigma$ , where all operations of  $\Sigma'$  are ternary? Binary? Does the ideal  $I(A)$  have a generator that is a finite theory? Is there an easily described family of theories that generate  $I$  as a downward-closed set?

For  $\Sigma$  ranging over finite theories and  $A$  ranging over finite simplicial complexes, is the relation  $\Sigma \in I(A)$  recursive in  $\Sigma$  and  $A$  (either jointly or in each variable separately)? (Received February 10, 2013)