

# Constructions of small A-loops

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# Quasigroups

## Definition

Let  $(G, \cdot)$  be a groupoid. The mapping  $L_x : a \mapsto xa$  is called the *left translation* and the mapping  $R_x : a \mapsto ax$  the *right translation*.

## Definition (Combinatorial)

A groupoid  $(Q, \cdot)$  is called a *quasigroup* if the mappings  $L_x$  and  $R_x$  are bijections for each  $x \in Q$ .

## Definition (Universal algebraic)

The algebra  $(Q, \cdot, /, \backslash)$  is called a *quasigroup* if it satisfies the following identities:

$$x \backslash (x \cdot y) = y$$

$$(x \cdot y) / y = x$$

$$x \cdot (x \backslash y) = y$$

$$(x / y) \cdot y = x$$

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# Loops

## Definition

A quasigroup  $Q$  is called a *loop* if it contains the identity element.

## Example (A minimal nonassociative loop)

	1	2	3	4	5
1	1	2	3	4	5
2	2	1	5	3	4
3	3	4	1	5	2
4	4	5	2	1	3
5	5	3	4	2	1

## Definition

Let  $Q$  be a loop. An element  $a \in Q$  belongs to the *center* of  $Q$  if  $ax = xa$ ,  $a \cdot xy = ax \cdot y$ ,  $x \cdot ay = xa \cdot y$ , and  $x \cdot ya = xy \cdot a$ , for all  $x, y \in Q$ .

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# Multiplication Groups

## Definitions

Let  $Q$  be a loop.

- The group generated by  $L_x$  and  $R_x$ , for all  $x \in Q$ , is called *the multiplication group* of  $Q$  and it is denoted by  $\text{Mlt}(Q)$ .
- The subgroup of  $\text{Mlt}(Q)$  stabilizing the neutral element of  $Q$  is called *the inner mapping group* of  $Q$  and it is denoted by  $\text{Inn}(Q)$ .

## Fact

*An inner mapping of a loop needs not to be an automorphism.*

## Definition

A loop  $Q$  is called an *A-loop* if  $\text{Inn}(Q) \leq \text{Aut}(Q)$ .

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# Variety of A-loops

## Fact

Let  $Q$  be a loop. The inner mapping group of  $Q$  is generated by the mappings

$$L_{xy}^{-1}L_xL_y, \quad R_{xy}^{-1}R_xR_y \quad \text{and} \quad L_x^{-1}R_x,$$

where  $x, y \in Q$ .

## Corollary

A loop is an A-loop if it satisfies the following three identities:

$$\begin{aligned} (xy) \setminus (x(y \cdot uv)) &= ((xy) \setminus (x \cdot yu)) \cdot ((xy) \setminus (x \cdot yv)), \\ ((uv \cdot x)y) / (xy) &= ((ux \cdot y) / (xy)) \cdot ((vx \cdot y) / (xy)), \\ x \setminus (uv \cdot x) &= (x \setminus (ux)) \cdot (x \setminus (vx)). \end{aligned}$$

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$$((uv \cdot x)y) / (xy) = ((ux \cdot y) / (xy)) \cdot ((vx \cdot y) / (xy)),$$

$$x \setminus (uv \cdot x) = (x \setminus (ux)) \cdot (x \setminus (vx)).$$

# Smallest Moufang Loop

Construction by O. Chein:

1	2	3	4	5	6	$\bar{1}$	$\bar{2}$	$\bar{3}$	$\bar{4}$	$\bar{5}$	$\bar{6}$
2	1	4	3	6	5	$\bar{2}$	$\bar{1}$	$\bar{6}$	$\bar{5}$	$\bar{4}$	$\bar{3}$
3	6	5	2	1	4	$\bar{3}$	$\bar{4}$	$\bar{5}$	$\bar{6}$	$\bar{1}$	$\bar{2}$
4	5	6	1	2	3	$\bar{4}$	$\bar{3}$	$\bar{2}$	$\bar{1}$	$\bar{5}$	$\bar{6}$
5	4	1	6	3	2	$\bar{5}$	$\bar{6}$	$\bar{1}$	$\bar{2}$	$\bar{3}$	$\bar{4}$
6	3	2	5	4	1	$\bar{6}$	$\bar{5}$	$\bar{4}$	$\bar{3}$	$\bar{2}$	$\bar{1}$
$\bar{1}$	$\bar{2}$	$\bar{3}$	$\bar{4}$	$\bar{5}$	$\bar{6}$	1	2	3	4	5	6
$\bar{2}$	$\bar{1}$	$\bar{6}$	$\bar{5}$	$\bar{4}$	$\bar{3}$	2	1	4	3	6	5
$\bar{3}$	$\bar{4}$	$\bar{5}$	$\bar{6}$	$\bar{1}$	$\bar{2}$	3	6	5	2	1	4
$\bar{4}$	$\bar{3}$	$\bar{2}$	$\bar{1}$	$\bar{5}$	$\bar{6}$	4	5	6	1	2	3
$\bar{5}$	$\bar{6}$	$\bar{1}$	$\bar{2}$	$\bar{3}$	$\bar{4}$	5	4	1	6	3	2
$\bar{6}$	$\bar{5}$	$\bar{4}$	$\bar{3}$	$\bar{2}$	$\bar{1}$	6	3	2	5	4	1

# Smallest Conjugacy Closed Loop

Construction by A. Drápal:

We take a group  $G(+)$ , an automorphism  $f \in \text{Aut}(G)$  and  $t \in G$  satisfying  $f^2(x) = t^{-1}xt$  and  $f(t) \neq t$ . We construct

$$x * y = \frac{x + y}{x + y} \quad \overline{f(x) + y} \\ f(x) + y + t$$

## Example

1	2	3	$\bar{1}$	$\bar{2}$	$\bar{3}$
2	3	1	$\bar{3}$	$\bar{1}$	$\bar{2}$
3	1	2	$\bar{2}$	$\bar{3}$	$\bar{1}$
$\bar{1}$	$\bar{2}$	$\bar{3}$	2	3	1
$\bar{2}$	$\bar{3}$	$\bar{1}$	1	2	3
$\bar{3}$	$\bar{1}$	$\bar{2}$	3	1	2

# Smallest A-loop

Construction by R. H. Bruck & L. J. Paige:

We take a group  $G$  and a nontrivial automorphism  $f \in \text{Aut}(G)$ . We construct

$$x * y = \frac{x + y}{f(x + y)} \quad \overline{x + y} \quad f^{-1}(x + y)$$

## Example

1	2	3	$\bar{1}$	$\bar{2}$	$\bar{3}$
2	3	1	$\bar{2}$	$\bar{3}$	$\bar{1}$
3	1	2	$\bar{3}$	$\bar{1}$	$\bar{2}$
$\bar{1}$	$\bar{3}$	$\bar{2}$	1	3	2
$\bar{3}$	$\bar{2}$	$\bar{1}$	3	2	1
$\bar{2}$	$\bar{1}$	$\bar{3}$	2	1	3

## Commutative A-loops of Order 8

1	2	3	4	$\bar{1}$	$\bar{2}$	$\bar{3}$	$\bar{4}$
2	3	4	1	$\bar{2}$	$\bar{3}$	$\bar{4}$	$\bar{1}$
3	4	1	2	$\bar{3}$	$\bar{4}$	$\bar{1}$	$\bar{2}$
4	1	2	3	$\bar{4}$	$\bar{1}$	$\bar{2}$	$\bar{3}$
$\bar{1}$	$\bar{2}$	$\bar{3}$	$\bar{4}$	1	4	3	2
$\bar{2}$	$\bar{3}$	$\bar{4}$	$\bar{1}$	4	3	2	1
$\bar{3}$	$\bar{4}$	$\bar{1}$	$\bar{2}$	3	2	1	4
$\bar{4}$	$\bar{1}$	$\bar{2}$	$\bar{3}$	2	1	4	3

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3	4	1	2	$\bar{3}$	$\bar{4}$	$\bar{1}$	$\bar{2}$
4	3	2	1	$\bar{4}$	$\bar{3}$	$\bar{2}$	$\bar{1}$
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# Construction of the Smallest Commutative A-loops

## Proposition (P.J.,M.K.,P.V.)

Let  $(G, +)$  be an abelian group,  $f$  an automorphism of  $G$  and  $t$  a fixed point of  $f$ . We define an operation  $*$  on  $Q = G \cup \bar{G}$  as follows:

$$x * y = x + y,$$

$$\bar{x} * y = \overline{x + y},$$

$$x * \bar{y} = \overline{x + y},$$

$$\bar{x} * \bar{y} = f(x + y) + t.$$

Then  $Q$  is a loop and

- $Q$  is associative if and only if  $f$  is trivial;
- if  $f$  is not trivial then  $Z(Q) = \{x \in G; f(x) = x\}$ ;
- $Q$  is an A-loop if and only if  $f(2x) = 2x$ , for all  $x \in G$ .

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# Commutative A-loops of Order 8 — Constructions

## Examples

The commutative A-loops of order 8 are

- 1  $G = \mathbb{Z}_4$ ,  $f : x \mapsto 3x$  and  $t = 0$  or  $2$ ;
- 2  $G = \mathbb{Z}_2^2$ ,  $f$  of order 2 and  $t$  neutral;
- 3  $G = \mathbb{Z}_2^2$ ,  $f$  of order 2 and  $t$  not neutral.
- 4  $G = \mathbb{Z}_2^2$ ,  $f$  of order 3 and  $t$  neutral;

## Corollary

*There exist commutative A-loops with trivial center for any size  $2^k$  with  $k > 2$ .*

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# Cocycles in Groups

## Definition

Let  $G$  be a group and  $V$  an abelian group. A mapping  $\theta : G^2 \rightarrow V$  is called a *group cocycle* if, for all  $g, h, k$  in  $G$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}\theta(g, 1) &= \theta(1, g) = 0, \\ \theta(g, hk) + \theta(h, k) &= \theta(g, h)^k + \theta(gh, k).\end{aligned}$$

## Theorem

Let  $G$  be a group and  $V$  an abelian group. The set  $G \times V$  with the operation

$$(g, u) \cdot (h, v) = (gh, \theta(g, h) + u^h + v)$$

is a group denoted by  $E(\theta, G, V)$ .

On the other hand, every group  $E$ , with a normal abelian subgroup  $V$  is isomorphic to  $E(\theta, E/V, V)$ , for some cocycle  $\theta$ .

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A subloop  $S$  of a loop  $L$  is called *normal* if it is preserved by any inner mapping of  $L$ .

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# Cocycle Extensions of A-loops

**Theorem (R. H. Bruck & L. J. Paige, special version)**

*Let  $Z$  be an elementary abelian 2-group and  $K$  a commutative A-loop of exponent 2. Let  $\theta : K \times K \rightarrow Z$  be a loop cocycle satisfying  $\theta(x, y) = \theta(y, x)$ , for every  $x, y \in K$ ,  $\theta(x, x) = 1$ , for every  $x \in K$ , and*

$$\begin{aligned} \theta(x, y)\theta(x', y)\theta(xx', y)\theta(x, x')\theta(xy, z)\theta(x'y, z)\theta(y, z)\theta((xx')y, z) = \\ \theta(R(y, z)x, yz)\theta(R(y, z)x', yz)\theta(R(y, z)(xx'), yz) \\ \theta(R(y, z)x, R(y, z)x, R(y, z)x') \end{aligned}$$

*for every  $x, y, z, x' \in K$ , where  $R(y, z) = R_y R_z R_{yz}^{-1}$ . Then  $K \rtimes_{\theta} R$  is a commutative A-loop of exponent 2.*

*Conversely, every commutative A-loop of exponent two that is a central extension of  $Z$  by  $K$  can be represented in this manner.*



# Enumeration

Numbers of non-associative commutative A-loops which are 2-loops. The columns show, for each order, the number of all commutative A-loops, the number of commutative A-loops of exponent 2 with nontrivial center and the number of commutative A-loops with trivial center.

loop order	all loops	e.2 + n.c.	trivial center
8	4	1	1
16	46	10	2
32	?	355	6 + ?

# Questions

## Question

Does there exist any finite simple non-associative commutative A-loop? If does, it has to be a  $p$ -loop of order  $p^k$ , for some prime  $p \neq 3$ .

## Question

Construct a finite commutative A-loop with trivial center and exponent different from 2.

## Question

Prove that there is no non-associative commutative A-loop of order  $p^2$ , for any prime  $p$ .

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