



## ON *BI*-ALGEBRAS

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### Abstract

In this paper, we introduce a new algebra, called a *BI*-algebra, which is a generalization of a (dual) implication algebra and we discuss the basic properties of *BI*-algebras, and investigate ideals and congruence relations.

### 1 Introduction

Y. Imai and K. Iséki introduced two classes of abstract algebras: *BCK*-algebras and *BCI*-algebras ([7]). It is known that the class of *BCK*-algebras is a proper subclass of the class of *BCI*-algebras. J. Neggers and H. S. Kim ([19]) introduced the notion of *d*-algebras, which is another useful generalization of *BCK*-algebras and investigated several relations between *d*-algebras and *BCK*-algebras, and then investigated other relations between oriented digraphs and *d*-algebras.

It is known that several generalizations of a *B*-algebra were extensively investigated by many researchers and properties have been considered systematically. The notion of *B*-algebras was introduced by J. Neggers and H. S. Kim ([17]). They defined a *B-algebra* as an algebra  $(X, *, 0)$  of type  $(2,0)$  (i.e., a non-empty set with a binary operation “\*” and a constant 0) satisfying the following axioms:

$$(B1) \quad x * x = 0,$$

$$(B2) \quad x * 0 = x,$$

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$$(B) (x * y) * z = x * [z * (0 * y)]$$

for any  $x, y, z \in X$ .

C. B. Kim and H. S. Kim ([12]) defined a *BG*-algebra, which is a generalization of *B*-algebra. An algebra  $(X, *, 0)$  of type  $(2,0)$  is called a *BG-algebra* if it satisfies  $(B1)$ ,  $(B2)$ , and

$$(BG) x = (x * y) * (0 * y)$$

for any  $x, y \in X$ .

Y. B. Jun, E. H. Roh and H. S. Kim ([9]) introduced the notion of a *BH*-algebra which is a generalization of *BCK/BCI/BCH*-algebras. An algebra  $(X, *, 0)$  of type  $(2,0)$  is called a *BH-algebra* if it satisfies  $(B1)$ ,  $(B2)$ , and

$$(BH) x * y = y * x = 0 \text{ implies } x = y$$

for any  $x, y \in X$ .

Moreover, A. Walendziak ([21]) introduced the notion of *BF/BF<sub>1</sub>/BF<sub>2</sub>*-algebras. An algebra  $(X, *, 0)$  of type  $(2,0)$  is called a *BF-algebra* if it satisfies  $(B1)$ ,  $(B2)$  and

$$(BF) 0 * (x * y) = y * x$$

for any  $x, y \in X$ .

A *BF*-algebra is called a *BF<sub>1</sub>-algebra* (resp., a *BF<sub>2</sub>-algebra*) if it satisfies  $(BG)$  (resp.,  $(BH)$ ).

In this paper, we introduce a new algebra, called a *BI*-algebra, which is a generalization of a (dual) implication algebra, and we discuss the basic properties of *BI*-algebras, and investigate ideals and congruence relations.

## 2 Preliminaries

In what follows we summarize several axioms for construct several generalizations of *BCK/BCI/B*-algebras. Let  $(X; *, 0)$  be an algebra of type  $(2,0)$ . We provide several axioms which were discussed in general algebraic structures as follows: for any  $x, y, z \in X$ ,

$$(B1) x * x = 0,$$

$$(B2) x * 0 = x,$$

$$(B) (x * y) * z = x * (z * (0 * y)),$$

- (BG)  $x = (x * y) * (0 * y)$ ,
- (BM)  $(z * x) * (z * y) = y * x$ ,
- (BH)  $x * y = 0$  and  $y * x = 0$  implies  $x = y$ ,
- (BF)  $0 * (x * y) = y * x$ ,
- (BN)  $(x * y) * z = (0 * z) * (y * x)$ ,
- (BO)  $x * (y * z) = (x * y) * (0 * z)$ ,
- (BP)  $x * (x * y) = y$ ,
- (Q)  $(x * y) * z = (x * z) * y$ ,
- (CO)  $(x * y) * z = x * (y * z)$ ,
- (BZ)  $((x * z) * (y * z)) * (x * y) = 0$ ,
- (K)  $0 * x = 0$ .

These axioms played important roles for researchers to construct algebraic structures and investigate several properties. For details, we refer to [1-23].

**Definition 2.1.** An algebra  $(X; *, 0)$  of type  $(2, 0)$  is called a

- *BCI-algebra* if satisfies in (B2), (BH) and  $((x * y) * (x * z)) * (z * y) = 0$  for all  $x, y, z \in X$  ([7]).
- *BCK-algebra* if it is a *BCI-algebra* and satisfies in (K) ([22]).
- *BCH-algebra* if satisfies in (B1), (BH) and (Q) ([6]).
- *BH-algebra* if satisfies in (B1), (B2) and (BH) ([9]).
- *BZ-algebra* if satisfies in (B2), (BH) and (BZ) ([23]).
- *d-algebra* if satisfies in (B1), (K) and (BH) ([19]).
- *Q-algebra* if satisfies in (B1), (B2) and (Q) ([20]).
- *B-algebra* if satisfies in (B1), (B2) and (B) ([17]).
- *BM-algebra* if satisfies in (B2) and (BM) ([11]).
- *BO-algebra* if satisfies in (B1), (B2) and (BO) ([13]).
- *BG-algebra* if satisfies in (B1), (B2) and (BG) ([12]).

- *BP-algebra* if satisfies in  $(B1)$ ,  $(BP1)$  and  $(BP2)$  ([3]).
- *BN-algebra* if satisfies in  $(B1)$ ,  $(B2)$  and  $(BN)$  ([10]).
- *BF-algebra* if satisfies in  $(B1)$ ,  $(B2)$  and  $(BF)$  ([21]).
- *Coxeter algebra* if satisfies in  $(B1)$ ,  $(B2)$  and  $(CO)$  ([15]).

**Definition 2.2.** A groupoid  $(X; *)$  is called an *implication algebra* ([1]) if it satisfies the following identities

$$(I1) \quad (x * y) * x = x,$$

$$(I2) \quad (x * y) * y = (y * x) * x,$$

$$(I3) \quad x * (y * z) = y * (x * z),$$

for all  $x, y, z \in X$ .

**Definition 2.3.** Let  $(X; *)$  be an implication algebra and let a binary operation “ $\circ$ ” on  $X$  be defined by

$$x * y := y \circ x.$$

Then  $(X; \circ)$  is said to be a *dual implication algebra*. In fact, the axioms of that are as follows:

$$(DI1) \quad x \circ (y \circ x) = x,$$

$$(DI2) \quad x \circ (x \circ y) = y \circ (y \circ x),$$

$$(DI3) \quad (x \circ y) \circ z = (x \circ z) \circ y,$$

for all  $x, y, z \in X$ . W. Y. Chen and J. S. Oliveira ([4]) proved that in any implication algebra  $(X; *)$  the identity  $x * x = y * y$  holds for all  $x, y \in X$ . We denote the identity  $x * x = y * y$  by the constant 0. The notion of *BI*-algebras comes from the (dual) implication algebra.

### 3 *BI*-algebras

**Definition 3.1.** An algebra  $(X; *, 0)$  of type  $(2, 0)$  is called a *BI-algebra* if

$$(B1) \quad x * x = 0,$$

$$(BI) \quad x * (y * x) = x$$

for all  $x, y \in X$ .

Let  $(X, *, 0)$  be a *BI*-algebra. We introduce a relation “ $\leq$ ” on  $X$  by  $x \leq y$  if and only if  $x * y = 0$ . We note that “ $\leq$ ” is not a partially order set, but it is only reflexive.

**Example 3.2.** (i). Every implicative *BCK*-algebra is a *BI*-algebra.  
(ii). Let  $X := \{0, a, b, c\}$  be a set with the following table.

$*$	0	$a$	$b$	$c$
0	0	0	0	0
$a$	$a$	0	$a$	$b$
$b$	$b$	$b$	0	$b$
$c$	$c$	$b$	$c$	0

Then it is easy to see that  $(X; *, 0)$  is a *BI*-algebra, but it is not implicative *BCK*-algebra, since

$$(c * (c * a)) * a = (c * b) * a = c * a = b \neq 0.$$

(iii). Let  $X$  be a set with  $0 \in X$ . Define a binary operation “ $*$ ” on  $X$  by

$$x * y = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x = y \\ x & \text{if } x \neq y \end{cases}$$

Then  $(X; *, 0)$  is an implicative *BCK*-algebra ([22]), and hence a *BI*-algebra.

Note that in Example 3.2(ii), we can see that it is not a *B*-algebra, since

$$(c * a) * b = b * b = 0 \neq c * (b * (0 * a)) = c * (b * 0) = c * b = c.$$

It is not a *BG*-algebra, since

$$c \neq (c * a) * (0 * a) = b * 0 = b.$$

It is not a *BM*-algebra, since

$$(b * a) * (b * c) = b * b = 0 \neq c * a = b.$$

It is not a *BF*-algebra, since

$$0 * (a * b) = 0 \neq b * a = b.$$

It is not a *BN*-algebra, since

$$(c * b) * a = c * a = b \neq (0 * a) * (b * c) = 0.$$

It is not a *BO*-algebra, since

$$c * (a * a) = c * 0 = c \neq (c * a) * (0 * a) = b * 0 = b.$$

It is not a *BP*-algebra, since

$$c * (c * b) = c * c = 0 \neq b.$$

It is not a *Q*-algebra, since

$$(c * b) * a = c * a = b \neq (c * a) * b = b * b = 0.$$

It is not a Coxeter algebra, since

$$(c * a) * b = b * b = 0 \neq c * (a * b) = c * a = b.$$

It is not a *BZ*-algebra, since

$$((a * c) * (0 * c)) * (a * 0) = (b * 0) * a = b \neq 0.$$

Also, we consider the following example.

**Example 3.3.** Let  $X := \{0, a, b, c\}$  be a set with the following table.

$*$	0	a	b	c
0	0	0	0	0
a	a	0	0	0
b	b	0	0	b
c	c	0	c	0

Then  $(X; *, 0)$  is a *BI*-algebra, but not a *BH/BCI/BCK*-algebra, since

$$a * b = 0 \text{ and } b * a = 0, \text{ while } a \neq b.$$

**Proposition 3.4.** *If  $(L; \vee, \wedge, \neg, 0, 1)$  is a Boolean lattice, then  $(L; *, 0)$  is a *BI*-algebra, where “ $*$ ” is defined by  $x * y = \neg y \wedge x$ , for all  $x, y \in L$ .*

**Proposition 3.5.** *Any dual implication algebra is a *BI*-algebra.*

Note that the converse of Proposition 3.5 does not hold in general. See the following example.

**Example 3.6.** Let  $X := \{0, a, b\}$  be a set with the following table.

$*$	0	a	b
0	0	0	0
a	a	0	a
b	b	b	0

Then  $(X; *, 0)$  is a *BI*-algebra, but it is not a dual implication algebra, since

$$a * (a * c) = a * b = a, \text{ while } c * (c * a) = c * b = c.$$

**Proposition 3.7.** *Let  $X$  be a *BI*-algebra. Then*

(i)  $x * 0 = x,$

(ii)  $0 * x = 0,$

(iii)  $x * y = (x * y) * y,$

(iv) if  $y * x = x, \forall x, y \in X,$  then  $X = \{0\},$

(v) if  $x * (y * z) = y * (x * z), \forall x, y \in X,$  then  $X = \{0\},$

(vi) if  $x * y = z,$  then  $z * y = z$  and  $y * z = y,$

(vii) if  $(x * y) * (z * u) = (x * z) * (y * u),$  then  $X = \{0\},$

for all  $x, y, z, u \in X.$

*Proof.* (i). Using (BI) and (B1) we have  $x = x * (x * x) = x * 0.$

(ii). By (BI) and (i) we have  $0 = 0 * (x * 0) = 0 * x.$

(iii). Given  $x, y \in X,$  we have

$$x * y = (x * y) * (y * (x * y)) = (x * y) * y.$$

(iv). For  $x \in X,$  we have

$$x = x * (y * x) = x * x = 0.$$

Hence  $X = \{0\}.$

(v). Given  $x \in X,$  we have

$$0 = 0 * (x * 0) = x * (0 * 0) = x * 0 = x,$$

Hence  $X = \{0\}.$

(vi). If  $x * y = z,$  then by (iii) we have

$$z * y = (x * y) * y = x * y = z.$$

Also,  $y * z = y * (x * y) = y.$

(vii). If  $x \in X,$  then we have

$$x = x * 0 = (x * 0) * (x * x) = (x * x) * (0 * x) = 0 * (0 * x) = 0 * 0 = 0.$$

Hence  $X = \{0\}$ . □

**Definition 3.8.** A BI-algebra  $X$  is said to be *right distributive* (or *left distributive*, resp.) if

$$(x * y) * z = (x * z) * (y * z), \quad (z * (x * y)) = (z * x) * (z * y), \quad \text{resp.}$$

for all  $x, y, z \in X$ .

**Proposition 3.9.** If BI-algebra  $X$  is a left distributive, then  $X = \{0\}$ .

*Proof.* Let  $x \in X$ . Then by (BI) and (B1) we have

$$x = x * (x * x) = (x * x) * (x * x) = 0 * 0 = 0.$$

□

**Example 3.10.** (i). Let  $X := \{0, a, b, c\}$  be a set with the following table.

*	0	a	b	c
0	0	0	0	0
a	a	0	a	0
b	b	b	0	0
c	c	b	a	0

Then  $(X; *, 0)$  is a right distributive BI-algebra.

(ii). Example 3.2(ii) is not right distributive, since

$$(c * a) * b = b * b = 0 \neq (c * b) * (a * b) = c * a = b.$$

**Proposition 3.11.** Let  $(X; *)$  be a groupoid with  $0 \in X$ . If the following axioms holds:

- (i)  $x * x = 0$ ,
- (ii)  $x * y = x$ , for all  $x \neq y$ ,

then  $(X; *, 0)$  is a right distributive BI-algebra.

**Proposition 3.12.** Let  $X$  be a right distributive BI-algebra. Then

- (i)  $y * x \leq y$ ,
- (ii)  $(y * x) * x \leq y$ ,
- (iii)  $(x * z) * (y * z) \leq x * y$ ,



- (iv) if  $x \leq y$ , then  $x * z \leq y * z$ ,  
 (v)  $(x * y) * z \leq x * (y * z)$ ,  
 (vi) if  $x * y = z * y$ , then  $(x * z) * y = 0$ ,

for all  $x, y, z \in X$ .

*Proof.* For any  $x, y \in X$ , we have

$$(i). \quad (y * x) * y = (y * y) * (x * y) = 0 * (x * y) = 0,$$

which shows that  $y * x \leq y$ .

$$(ii). \quad \begin{aligned} ((y * x) * x) * y &= ((y * x) * y) * (x * y) \\ &= ((y * y) * (x * y)) * (x * y) \\ &= (0 * (x * y)) * (x * y) \\ &= 0 * (x * y) = 0, \end{aligned}$$

which shows that  $(y * x) * x \leq y$ .

$$(iii). \quad \begin{aligned} ((x * z) * (y * z)) * (x * y) &= ((x * y) * z) * (x * y) \\ &= ((x * y) * (x * y)) * (z * (x * y)) \\ &= 0 * (z * (x * y)) = 0, \end{aligned}$$

proving that  $(x * z) * (y * z) \leq x * y$ .

(iv). If  $x \leq y$ , then  $x * y = 0$  and hence

$$(x * z) * (y * z) = (x * y) * z = 0 * z = 0,$$

proving that  $x * z \leq y * z$ .

(v). By (i), we have  $x * z \leq x$ . It follows from (iv) that  $(x * z) * (y * z) \leq x * (y * z)$ . Using the right distributivity, we obtain  $(x * y) * z \leq x * (y * z)$ .

(vi). Let  $x * y = z * y$ . Since  $X$  is right distributive, we obtain

$$(x * z) * y = (x * y) * (z * y) = (x * y) * (x * y) = 0.$$

□

It is easy to see that, if  $x \leq y$ , we does not conclude that  $z * x \leq z * y$  in general, since, in Example 3.10(i),  $a \leq c$  but

$$b * a = b \not\leq b * c = 0.$$

**Proposition 3.13.** *Let  $X$  have the condition:  $(z * x) * (z * y) = y * x$  for all  $x, y, z \in X$ . If  $x \leq y$ , then  $z * y \leq z * x$ .*

*Proof.* If  $x \leq y$ , then  $x * y = 0$ . It follows that  $(z * y) * (z * x) = x * y = 0$ . Hence  $z * y \leq z * x$ .  $\square$

An algebra  $(X; *)$  is said to have an *inclusion condition* if  $(x * y) * x = 0$  for all  $x, y \in X$ . Every right distributive *BI*-algebra has the inclusion condition by Proposition 3.12(i). If  $X$  is a right distributive *BI*-algebra, then  $X$  is a *quasi-associative algebra* by Proposition 3.12(v).

**Proposition 3.14.** *Let  $X$  be a right distributive *BI*-algebra. Then induced relation “ $\leq$ ” is a transitive relation.*

*Proof.* If  $x \leq y$  and  $y \leq z$ , then we obtain by Proposition 3.7(i)

$$\begin{aligned} x * z &= (x * z) * 0 \\ &= (x * z) * (y * z) \\ &= (x * y) * z \\ &= 0 * z \\ &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $x \leq z$ .  $\square$

## 4 Ideals in *BI*-algebras

In what follows, let  $X$  denote a *BI*-algebra unless otherwise specified.

**Definition 4.1.** A subset  $I$  of  $X$  is called an *ideal* of  $X$  if

- (I1)  $0 \in I$ ,
- (I2)  $y \in I$  and  $x * y \in I$  imply  $x \in I$  for any  $x, y \in X$ .

Obviously,  $\{0\}$  and  $X$  are ideals of  $X$ . We shall call  $\{0\}$  and  $X$  a *zero ideal* and a *trivial ideal*, respectively. An ideal  $I$  is said to be *proper* if  $I \neq X$ .

**Example 4.2.** In Example 3.2(ii),  $I_1 = \{0, a, c\}$  is an ideal of  $X$ , while  $I_2 = \{0, a, b\}$  is not an ideal of  $X$ , since  $c * a = b \in I_2$  and  $a \in I_2$ , but  $c \notin I_2$ .

We denote the set of all ideals of  $X$  by  $I(X)$ .

**Lemma 4.3.** *If  $\{I_i\}_{i \in \Lambda}$  is a family of ideals of  $X$ , then  $\bigcap_{i \in \Lambda} I_i$  is an ideal of  $X$ .*

*Proof.* Straightforward.  $\square$

Since the set  $I(X)$  is closed under arbitrary intersections, we have the following theorem.

**Theorem 4.4.**  *$(I(X), \subseteq)$  is a complete lattice.*

**Proposition 4.5.** *Let  $I$  be an ideal of  $X$ . If  $y \in I$  and  $x \leq y$ , then  $x \in I$ .*

*Proof.* If  $y \in I$  and  $x \leq y$ , then  $x * y = 0 \in I$ . Since  $y \in I$  and  $I$  is an ideal, we obtain  $x \in I$ .  $\square$

For any  $x, y \in X$ , define  $A(x, y) := \{t \in X : (t * x) * y = 0\}$ . It is easy to see that  $0, x \in A(x, y)$ . In Example 3.2(ii),  $A(a, b) = \{0, a, b, c\}$  and  $A(b, a) = \{0, a, b\}$ . Hence  $A(a, b) \neq A(b, a)$ . We note that

$$\begin{aligned} A(a, 0) &= \{t \in X : (t * a) * 0 = 0\} \\ &= \{t \in X : t * a = 0\} \\ &= \{t \in X : (t * 0) * a = 0\} \\ &= A(0, a). \end{aligned}$$

**Theorem 4.6.** *If  $X$  is a right distributive BI-algebra, then  $A(x, y)$  is an ideal of  $X$  where  $x, y \in X$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $x * y \in A(a, b)$ ,  $y \in A(a, b)$ . Then  $((x * y) * a) * b = 0$  and  $(y * a) * b = 0$ . By the right distributivity we have

$$\begin{aligned} 0 = ((x * y) * a) * b &= ((x * a) * (y * a)) * b \\ &= ((x * a) * b) * ((y * a) * b) \\ &= ((x * a) * b) * 0 \\ &= (x * a) * b, \end{aligned}$$

whence  $x \in A(a, b)$ . This proves that  $A(a, b)$  is an ideal of  $X$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 4.7.** *Let  $X$  be a BI-algebra. Then*

- (i)  $A(0, x) \subseteq A(x, y)$ , for all  $x, y \in X$ ,
- (ii) if  $A(0, y)$  is an ideal and  $x \in A(0, y)$ , then  $A(x, y) \subseteq A(0, y)$ .

*Proof.* (i). Let  $z \in A(0, x)$ . Then  $z * x = (z * 0) * x = 0$ . Hence  $(z * x) * y = 0 * y = 0$ . Thus  $z \in A(x, y)$  and so  $A(0, x) \subseteq A(x, y)$ .

(ii). Let  $A(0, y)$  be an ideal and  $x \in A(0, y)$ . If  $z \in A(x, y)$ , then  $(z * x) * y = 0$ . Hence  $((z * x) * 0) * y = 0$ . Therefore  $z * x \in A(0, y)$ . Now, since  $A(0, y)$  is an ideal and  $x \in A(0, y)$ ,  $z \in A(0, y)$ . Thus  $A(x, y) \subseteq A(0, y)$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 4.8.** *Let  $X$  be a BI-algebra. Then*

$$A(0, x) = \bigcap_{y \in X} A(x, y).$$

for all  $x, y \in X$ .

*Proof.* By Proposition 4.7(i), we have  $A(0, x) \subseteq \bigcap_{y \in X} A(x, y)$ . If  $z \in \bigcap_{y \in X} A(x, y)$ , then  $z \in A(x, y)$ , for all  $y \in X$ . It follows that  $z \in A(0, x)$ . Hence  $\bigcap_{y \in X} A(x, y) \subseteq A(0, x)$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 4.9.** *Let  $I$  be a non-empty subset of  $X$ . Then  $I$  is an ideal of  $X$  if and only if  $A(x, y) \subseteq I$  for all  $x, y \in I$ .*

*Proof.* Assume that  $I$  is an ideal of  $X$  and  $x, y \in I$ . If  $z \in A(x, y)$ , then  $(z * x) * y = 0 \in I$ . Since  $I$  is an ideal and  $x, y \in I$ , we have  $z \in I$ . Hence  $A(x, y) \subseteq I$ .

Conversely, suppose that  $A(x, y) \subseteq I$  for all  $x, y \in I$ . Since  $(0 * x) * y = 0$ ,  $0 \in A(x, y) \subseteq I$ . Let  $a * b$  and  $b \in I$ . Since  $(a * b) * (a * b) = 0$ , we have  $a \in A(b, a * b) \subseteq I$ , i.e.,  $a \in I$ . Thus  $I$  is an ideal of  $X$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 4.10.** *If  $I$  is an ideal  $X$ , then*

$$I = \bigcup_{x, y \in I} A(x, y).$$

*Proof.* Let  $I$  be an ideal of  $X$  and  $z \in I$ . Since  $(z * 0) * z = z * z = 0$ , we have  $z \in A(0, z)$ . Hence

$$I \subseteq \bigcup_{z \in I} A(0, z) \subseteq \bigcup_{x, y \in I} A(x, y)$$

If  $z \in \bigcup_{x, y \in I} A(x, y)$ , then there exist  $a, b \in I$  such that  $z \in A(a, b)$ . It follows

from Theorem 4.9 that  $z \in I$ , i.e.,  $\bigcup_{x, y \in I} A(x, y) \subseteq I$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 4.11.** *If  $I$  is an ideal of  $X$ , then*

$$I = \bigcup_{x \in I} A(0, x).$$

*Proof.* Let  $I$  be an ideal of  $X$  and  $z \in I$ . Since  $(z * 0) * z = z * z = 0$ , we have  $z \in A(0, z)$ . Hence

$$I \subseteq \bigcup_{z \in I} A(0, z).$$

If  $z \in \bigcup_{x \in I} A(0, z)$ , then there exists  $a \in I$  such that  $z \in A(0, a)$ , which means that  $z * a = (z * 0) * a = 0 \in I$ . Since  $I$  is an ideal of  $X$  and  $a \in I$ , we obtain  $z \in I$ . This means that  $\bigcup_{x \in I} A(0, x) \subseteq I$ .  $\square$

Let  $X$  be a right distributive  $BI$ -algebra and let  $I$  be an ideal of  $X$  and  $a \in X$ . Define

$$I_a^l := \{x \in X : x * a \in I\}.$$

**Theorem 4.12.** *If  $X$  is a right distributive  $BI$ -algebra, then  $I_a^l$  is the least ideal of  $X$  containing  $I$  and  $a$ .*

*Proof.* By (B1) we have  $a * a = 0$ , for all  $a \in X$ , i.e.  $a \in I_a^l$  and so  $I_a^l \neq \emptyset$ . Assume that  $x * y \in I_a^l$  and  $y \in I_a^l$ . Then  $(x * y) * a \in I$  and  $y * a \in I$ . By the right distributivity, we have  $(x * a) * (y * a) \in I$ . Since  $y * a \in I$ , we have  $x * a \in I$  and so  $x \in I_a^l$ . Therefore  $I_a^l$  is an ideal of  $X$ .

Let  $x \in I$ . Since  $(x * a) * x = (x * x) * (a * x) = 0 * (a * x) = 0 \in I$  and  $I$  is an ideal of  $X$ , we obtain  $x * a \in I$ . Hence  $x \in I_a^l$ . Thus  $I \subseteq I_a^l$ .

Now, let  $J$  be an ideal of  $X$  containing  $I$  and  $a$ . Let  $x \in I_a^l$ . Then  $x * a \in I \subseteq J$ . Since  $a \in J$  and  $J$  is an ideal of  $X$ , we have  $x \in J$ . Therefore  $I_a^l \subseteq J$ .  $\square$

The following example shows that the condition, right distributivity, is very necessary.

**Example 4.13.** In Example 3.2(ii),  $(X; *, 0)$  is a  $BI$ -algebra, but not right distributive, since

$$(c * a) * b = b * b = 0 \neq (c * b) * (a * b) = c * a = b.$$

We can see that  $I = \{0, a\}$  is an ideal of  $X$ , but  $I_b^l = \{0, a, b\}$  is not an ideal of  $X$ .

**Note.** Let  $I$  be an ideal of  $X$  and  $a \in X$ . If we denote

$$I_a^r := \{x \in X : a * x \in I\}$$

Then  $I_a^r$  is not an ideal of  $X$  in general.

**Example 3.14.** In Example 3.10(i),  $I = \{0, b\}$  is an ideal of  $X$  but  $I_c^r = \{a, c\}$  is not an ideal of  $X$ , because  $0 \notin I_c^r$ .

Let  $A$  be a non-empty subset of  $X$ . The set  $\bigcap\{I \in I(X) \mid A \subseteq I\}$  is called an *ideal generated by  $A$* , written  $\langle A \rangle$ . If  $A = \{a\}$ , we will denote  $\langle \{a\} \rangle$ , briefly by  $\langle a \rangle$ , and we call it a *principal ideal* of  $X$ . For  $I \in I(X)$  and  $a \in X$ , we denote by  $[I \cup \{a\}]$  the ideal generated by  $I \cup \{a\}$ . For convenience, we denote  $[\emptyset] = \{0\}$ .

**Proposition 4.15.** *Let  $A$  and  $B$  be two subsets of  $X$ . Then the following statements hold:*

- (i)  $[0] = \{0\}$ ,  $[X] = X$ ,
- (ii)  $A \subseteq B$  implies  $[A] \subseteq [B]$ ,
- (iii) if  $I \in I(X)$ , then  $[I] = I$ .

## 5 Congruence relations in $BI$ -algebras

Let  $I$  be a non-empty set of  $X$ . Define a binary relation “ $\sim_I$ ” by

$$x \sim_I y \text{ if and only if } x * y \in I \text{ and } y * x \in I.$$

The set  $\{y : x \sim_I y\}$  will be denoted by  $[x]_I$ .

**Theorem 5.1.** *Let  $I$  be an ideal of a right distributive  $BI$ -algebra  $X$ . Then “ $\sim_I$ ” is an equivalence relation on  $X$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $I$  is an ideal of  $X$ , we have  $x * x = 0 \in I$ . Thus  $x \sim_I x$ . So,  $\sim_I$  is reflexive. It is obvious that  $\sim_I$  is symmetric. Now, let  $x \sim_I y$  and  $y \sim_I z$ . Then  $x * y, y * x \in I$  and  $y * z, z * y \in I$ . By Proposition 3.12(iii), we have  $(x * z) * (y * z) \leq x * y$ . Since  $I$  is an ideal and  $x * y \in I$ , we have  $(x * z) * (y * z) \in I$  and so  $x * z \in I$ . Similarly, we obtain  $z * x \in I$ . Thus  $x \sim_I z$  and so  $\sim_I$  is a transitive relation. Therefore  $\sim_I$  is an equivalence relation on  $X$ .  $\square$

Recall that a binary relation “ $\theta$ ” on an algebra  $(X; *)$  is said to be

- (i) a *right compatible relation* if  $x\theta y$  and  $u \in X$ , then  $(x * u)\theta(y * u)$ ,
- (ii) a *left compatible relation* if  $x\theta y$  and  $v \in X$ , then  $(v * x)\theta(v * y)$ ,
- (iii) a *compatible relation* if  $x\theta y$  and  $u\theta v$ , then  $(x * u)\theta(y * v)$ .

A compatible equivalence relation on  $X$  is called a *congruence relation* on  $X$ .

**Theorem 5.2.** *The equivalence relation “ $\sim_I$ ” in Theorem 5.1 is a right congruence relation on  $X$ .*

*Proof.* If  $x \sim_I y$  and  $u \in X$ , then  $x * y$  and  $y * x \in I$ . By Proposition 3.12(iii), we have  $((x * u) * (y * u)) * (x * y) = 0 \in I$ . Since  $I$  is an ideal and  $x * y \in I$ , we have  $(x * u) * (y * u) \in I$ . Similarly we obtain  $(y * u) * (x * u) \in I$ . Therefore  $(x * u) \sim_I (y * u)$ .  $\square$

**Example 5.3.** In Example 3.10(i),  $I = \{0, a\}$  is an ideal of  $X$  and  $\sim_I := \{(0, 0), (a, a), (0, a), (a, 0), (0, b), (b, 0), (b, b), (c, b), (b, c), (c, 0), (0, c), (c, c)\}$  is a right congruence relation on  $X$  and

$$[0]_I = [a]_I = \{0, a\} \text{ and } [b]_I = [c]_I = \{0, a, b, c\}.$$

**Proposition 5.4.** *Let  $I$  be a subset of  $X$  with  $0 \in I$ . If  $I$  has the condition: if  $x * y \in I$ , then  $(z * x) * (z * y) \in I$ . Then  $X = I$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $x := 0$  and  $y := z$ . Then  $0 * z = 0 \in I$  imply  $(z * 0) * (z * z) = z * 0 = z \in I$ . Therefore  $X \subseteq I$  and so  $I = X$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 5.5.** *Let  $X$  be a right distributive BI-algebra and let  $I, J \subseteq X$ .*

- (i) *If  $I \subseteq J$ , then  $\sim_I \subseteq \sim_J$ ,*
- (ii) *If  $\sim_{I_i}$  for all  $i \in \Lambda$  are right congruence relations on  $X$ , then  $\sim_{\cap I_i}$  is also a right congruence relation on  $X$ .*

**Lemma 5.6.** *If  $\sim_I$  is a left congruence relation on a right distributive BI-algebra  $X$ , then  $[0]_I$  is an ideal of  $X$ .*

*Proof.* Obviously,  $0 \in [0]_I$ . If  $y$  and  $x * y$  are in  $[0]_I$ , then  $x * y \sim_I 0$  and  $y \sim_I 0$ . It follows that  $x = x * 0 \sim_I x * y \sim_I 0$ . Therefore  $x \in [0]_I$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 5.7.** *Let  $X$  be a right distributive BI-algebra. Then*

$$\phi_x := \{(a, b) \in X \times X : x * a = x * b\}$$

is a right congruence relation on  $X$ .

*Proof.* Straightforward.  $\square$

**Example 5.8.** In Example 3.10(i),

$$\phi_b = \{(0, 0), (0, a), (a, 0), (a, a), (b, b), (c, c), (b, c), (c, b)\}$$

is a right congruence relation on  $X$ .

**Proposition 5.9.** *Let  $X$  be a *BI*-algebra. Then*

(i)  $\phi_0 = X \times X$ ,

(ii)  $\phi_x \subseteq \phi_0$ ,

(iii) if  $X$  is right distributive, then  $\phi_x \cap \phi_y \subseteq \phi_{x*y}$ ,

for all  $x, y \in X$ .

## 6 Conclusion and future work

Recently, researchers proposed several kinds of algebraic structures related to some axioms in many-valued logic and several papers have been published in this field.

In this paper, we introduced a new algebra which is a generalization of a (dual) implication algebra, and we discussed the basic properties of *BI*-algebras, and investigated ideals and congruence relations. We hope the results can be a foundation for future works.

As future works, we shall define commutative *BI*-algebras and discuss on some relationships between other several algebraic structures. Also, we intend to study other kinds of ideals, and apply vague sets, soft sets, fuzzy structures to *BI*-algebras.

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