

## ON FULLY COMMUTATIVE $(n,m)$ -GROUPOIDS

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**A b s t r a c t:** In several papers (for ex. [2] and [8]) on fully commutative vector valued groupoids, corresponding properties by means of commutative vector valued groupoids are given. The goal of this paper is to give a direct investigation of the class of fully commutative vector valued groupoids without leaving the very class.

**Key words:** vector valued operation, fully commutative vector valued groupoid (semigroup, group).

### 1. PRELIMINARIES

In this section we introduce some notations and define some notions used in this paper. We also give a short summary of sections 2, 3 and 4.

**1.1.** Throughout this paper,  $Q^{(+)}$  denotes a free commutative semigroup with a given basis  $Q$ , where the operation is denoted multiplicatively, i.e., the operation sign is omitted.

Below we give a list of notations, notions, and properties used later on in the paper:

1) The mapping  $x \mapsto |x|$  is the homomorphism from  $Q^{(+)}$  into the additive semigroup of positive integers, such that  $|b| = 1$  for each  $b \in Q$ .

2) If  $r$  is a positive integer, then

$$Q^{(r)} = \{x \in Q^{(+)}; |x| = r\}.$$

3) For a given  $a \in Q$ ,  $x \mapsto |x|_a$ , is the homomorphism from  $Q^{(+)}$  into the additive semigroup of non-negative integers, such that  $|a|_a = 1$ ,  $|b|_a = 0$ , for  $b \neq a$ .

4) For  $x \in Q^{(+)}$  the set  $cn(x) = \{b \in Q : |x|_b > 0\}$  is the *content* of  $x$ .

5) If  $x, y \in Q^{(+)}$ , then

$$\rho(x, y) = \sum_{a \in Q} \left| |x|_a - |y|_a \right|$$

is called the *distance between  $x$  and  $y$* .

From the given definitions it follows that:

6) The semigroup  $Q^{(+)}$  is cancellative.

7) For each  $x \in Q^{(+)}$ ,  $|x| = \sum_{a \in Q} |x|_a = \sum_{a \in cn(x)} |x|_a$  is a positive integer.

8) For each pair  $x, y \in Q^{(+)}$ , the distance  $\rho(x, y)$  is a non-negative integer, where  $\rho(x, y) = 0$  iff  $x = y$ .

For technical reasons, we will add to  $Q^{(+)}$  an exterior unit  $e$  (i.e.  $e \notin Q^{(+)}$ ) and obtain that  $Q^{(*)} = Q^{(+)} \cup \{e\}$  is a free commutative monoid with a unit element and the basis  $Q$ . Therefore  $e$  has the following properties:

9)  $e \cdot x = x = x \cdot e$ , for every  $x \in Q^{(*)}$ ;  $|e| = 0$ ,  $cn(e) = \emptyset$ ,  $Q^{(0)} = \{e\}$ ,  $x^0 = e$ ,  $\rho(e, x) = |x|$ , for each  $x \in Q^{(*)}$ .

**1.2.** Further on we assume that  $(n, m)$  is a pair of positive integers, such that  $n - m = k \geq 1$ .

If  $f : x \mapsto f(x)$  is a mapping from  $Q^{(n)}$  into  $Q^{(m)}$ , then we call  $f$  a *fully commutative  $(n, m)$ -operation* and the pair  $\mathbf{Q} = (Q, f)$  a *fully commutative  $(n, m)$ -groupoid*. This notion is introduced first in [3] and [2], but it seems necessary to explain the prefix "fully commutative". One of the reasons is the fact that the term "commutative  $(n, m)$ -groupoid" is used in [1] and [4] for a pair of the form  $(Q, f)$ , such that  $f$  is a mapping from  $Q^n$  into  $Q^m$  with a corresponding property of commutativity.

In this paper we will consider only *fully commutative*  $(n, m)$ -groupoids, and thus we will usually omit the prefix "fully commutative".

**1.3.** In section 2 we define an infinite set  $\{f^r : r \geq 2\}$  of polynomial mappings in an  $(n, m)$ -groupoid  $(Q, f)$ , and here we will concentrate only to  $f^2$ . Namely,  $f^2$  is a mapping from  $Q^{(n)} \times Q^{(k)}$  into  $Q^{(m)}$  defined by

$$f^2(x, y) = f(f(x)y), \text{ for } x \in Q^{(n)}, y \in Q^{(k)}.$$

Using this, it follows that there is at most one  $(n+k, m)$ -operation  $f^{(2)}$ , such that  $f^{(2)}(xy) = f^2(x, y)$ . It comes out that for each pair  $(n, m)$  and a set  $Q$  with at least two distinct elements, there is an  $(n, m)$ -groupoid  $(Q, f)$  which does not allow  $(n+k, m)$ -operation  $f^{(2)}$  with the mentioned property. However, if such an  $(n+k, m)$ -operation exists, then  $(Q, f)$  is said to be a *fully commutative*  $(n, m)$ -semigroup. This definition of  $(n, m)$ -semigroup is equivalent to the definition in [2].

It is assumed in section 3 that  $(Q, f)$  is a given  $(m+k, m)$ -semigroup and the General Associative Law is proved. We note that this result is also proved in [2]. It took place in this paper, too, because its proof is such that we do not leave the class of fully commutative  $(n, m)$ -groupoids.

## 2. POLYNOMIAL MAPPINGS IN AN $(n, m)$ -GROUPOID

First we will prove the following:

**Proposition 2.1.** *If  $Q$  has at least two distinct elements, then there is an  $(n, m)$ -groupoid  $(Q, f)$  such that*

$$xy = x'y' \quad \& \quad f(f(x)y) \neq f(f(x')y'), \quad (2.1)$$

for some  $x, x' \in Q^{(n)}$ ,  $y, y' \in Q^{(k)}$ .

**Proof.** Let  $a, b \in Q$ ,  $a \neq b$  and let  $x, x' \in Q^{(n)}$ ,  $y, y' \in Q^{(k)}$  be defined as follows:

$$x = a^n, \quad y = b^k, \quad x' = a^{n-1}b, \quad y' = ab^{k-1}.$$

If  $f$  is a mapping from  $Q^{(n)}$  into  $Q^{(m)}$  with the properties

$$a^m = f(a^n) = f(a^m b^k), \quad b^m = f(a^{n-1} b) = f(ab^{n-1}),$$

then  $x, x' \in Q^{(n)}$  and  $y, y' \in Q^{(k)}$  are such that (2.1) holds.  $\square$

Below we assume that  $(Q, f)$  is an  $(n, m)$ -groupoid.

We define a set of mappings  $\{f^r : r \geq 1\}$  as follows. First,  $f^1 = f$ . Assuming that  $f^r : D_r \rightarrow Q^{(m)}$  is defined, we define  $f^{r+1} : D_{r+1} \rightarrow Q^{(m)}$ , where  $D_{r+1} = D_r \times Q^{(k)}$  ( $D_1 = Q^{(n)}$ ), by

$$f^{r+1}(x, y) = f(f^r(x)y), \quad (2.2)$$

for  $x \in D_r$ ,  $y \in Q^{(k)}$ .

Since  $D_1 = Q^{(n)}$ , one obtains that

$$D_r = Q^{(n)} \times (Q^{(k)})^{r-1} = \{(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_r) : x_1 \in Q^{(n)}, x_2, \dots, x_r \in Q^{(k)}\},$$

for each  $r \geq 2$ .

The following proposition will be used in section 3.

**Proposition 2.2.** *For each pair  $(p, q)$  of positive integers and  $x_1 \in Q^{(n)}$ ,  $x_2, \dots, x_{p+q} \in Q^{(k)}$ , it holds that*

$$f^{p+q}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{p+q}) = f^p(f^q(x_1, \dots, x_q)x_{q+1}, \dots, x_{p+q}). \quad (2.3)$$

**Proof.** For  $p = 1$ , (2.3) holds by (2.2). For  $q = 1$ , (2.3) can be shown by induction on  $p$ , and for  $p \geq 2$ ,  $q \geq 2$  by induction on  $p + q$ .  $\square$

The following statement is clear.

**Proposition 2.3.** *If  $r \geq 2$ , then there is at most one  $(m + rk, m)$ -operation  $f^{(r)}$ , such that*

$$f^{(r)}(x_1 x_2 \dots x_r) = f^r(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_r) \quad (2.4)$$

for each  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_r) \in D_r$ . Such an operation  $f^{(r)}$  do exist iff the equality:

$$f^r(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_r) = f^r(x'_1, x'_2, \dots, x'_r), \quad (2.5)$$

holds for every  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_r), (x'_1, x'_2, \dots, x'_r) \in D_r$ , such that  $x_1 x_2 \dots x_r = x'_1 x'_2 \dots x'_r$ .  $\square$

We say that  $(Q, f)$  is a fully commutative  $(n, m)$ -semigroup iff  $(Q, f^{(2)})$  is a well-defined fully commutative  $(n + k, m)$ -groupoid. As is mentioned in 1.2, we will omit the prefix "fully commutative" and say simply " $(n, m)$ -semigroup". By Proposition 2.3, it follows that  $(Q, f)$  is an  $(n, m)$ -semigroup iff the equality

$$f^2(x, y) = f^2(x', y'), \quad (2.6)$$

i.e.,

$$f(f(x)y) = f(f(x')y'), \quad (2.7)$$

holds for all  $x, x' \in Q^{(n)}$ ,  $y, y' \in Q^{(k)}$ , such that  $xy = x'y'$ .

By the proposition that will be proved below, it follows that this definition of the notion of an  $(n, m)$ -semigroup is equivalent to the definition in [2].

**Proposition 2.4.** *The following conditions are equivalent:*

(i)  $(Q, f)$  is an  $(n, m)$ -semigroup.

(ii) The equality

$$f(f(xa)by) = f(f(xb)ay) \quad (2.8)$$

holds, for every  $a, b \in Q$ ,  $x \in Q^{(n-1)}$ ,  $y \in Q^{(k-1)}$ .

**Proof.** (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii) follows by (2.7). Suppose that (ii) holds, but that (i) does not. Then there are  $t, t' \in Q^{(n)}$  and  $u, u' \in Q^{(k)}$ , such that

$$tu = t'u', \quad f(f(t)u) \neq f(f(t')u'), \quad (2.9)$$

where  $\rho(u, u')$  is the lowest possible value. Then  $u \neq u'$ , because for  $u = u'$  we would have  $t = t'$ , which contradicts the inequality in (2.9). Therefore

$s = \rho(u, u') > 0$ . Since  $|u| = |u'|$ , one obtains that there are  $a, b \in Q$ , such that  $|u|_a > |u'|_a$ ,  $|u|_b < |u'|_b$ . Then there are  $x \in Q^{(n-1)}$ ,  $y \in Q^{(k-1)}$ , such that  $u = ay$ ,  $t = xb$ . By (ii):

$$f(f(t)u) = f(f(xb)ay) = f(f(xa)by), \quad r = \rho(by, u') < s = \rho(u, u'),$$

which is a contradiction of the minimality of  $s$ .  $\square$

**Remark.** Supposing that  $k \geq m$ , beside the infinite set of polynomial mappings  $\{f^r : r \geq 1\}$  in the given  $(n, m)$ -groupoid  $(Q, f)$ , one can also define a finite set of polynomials as follows.

First, since  $k \geq m$ , there is a unique pair of integers  $(q, p)$  such that  $k = qm + p$ ,  $q \geq 1$ ,  $0 \leq p < m$ . Therefore, if  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_r \in Q^{(n)}$ ,  $y \in Q^{(s)}$  are such that  $rm + s = n (= (q+1)m + p)$ , then

$$z = f(f(x_1)f(x_2)\dots f(x_r)y) \in Q^{(m)} \quad (2.10)$$

and  $z$  does not depend on the disposition of  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_r$ . For  $r = 1$ , we have  $f^2(x_1, y)$ , and hence we suppose that  $r \geq 2$ . Then,  $s = (q+1-r)m + p$ .

Let  $(Q^{(n)})^{(+)}$  be a free commutative semigroup with the basis  $Q^{(n)}$ , where the product of  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_r \in Q^{(n)}$  will be denoted by  $x_1 \bullet x_2 \bullet \dots \bullet x_r$  in  $(Q^{(n)})^{(+)}$  to make a distinction of their product  $x_1 x_2 \dots x_r$  in  $Q^{(+)}$ . If we put  $D_{[r]} = (Q^{(n)})^{(r)} \times Q^{(s)}$  and

$$f^{[r+1]}(x_1 \bullet x_2 \bullet \dots \bullet x_r, y) = f(f(x_1)f(x_2)\dots f(x_r)y), \quad (2.11)$$

we come to a new set  $\{f^{[3]}, f^{[4]}, \dots, f^{[q+2]}\}$  of polynomial operations, such that  $f^{[r+1]}$  has the domain  $D_{[r]}$  and is defined by (2.11). Also, for  $r = q+1$  in (2.11) we have that  $s = p$ . Hence, for  $p = 0$  and  $r = q+1$  we have that  $D_{[r]} = (Q^{(n)})^{(d+1)}$ , and (2.11) obtains the form

$$f^{[q+1]}(x_1 \bullet x_2 \bullet \dots \bullet x_{q+1}) = f(f(x_1)f(x_2)\dots f(x_{q+1})).$$

## 3. THE GENERAL ASSOCIATIVE LAW

Below we assume that  $(Q, f)$  is an  $(n, m)$ -semigroup. We will prove the following proposition in several steps.

**Theorem 3.1.** *For every positive integer  $r$ ,  $(Q, f^{(r)})$  is an  $(m + rk, m)$ -semigroup.*

(For  $r = 1$ , the theorem is true by assumption.)

First, we will prove the following:

**Lemma 3.2.** *Let  $r \geq 2$ ,  $x_i \in Q^{(n)}$  and  $x_\nu \in Q^{(k)}$  for each  $\nu: 2 \leq \nu \leq r$ , and let  $x_i = y_i a$ ,  $x_j = b y_j$ ,  $a, b \in Q$ , for given  $i, j$ , such that  $1 \leq i < j \leq r$ . Then*

$$f^r(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_r) = f^r(x'_1, x'_2, \dots, x'_r), \quad (3.1)$$

where  $x'_\nu = x_\nu$  for  $\nu \neq i, j$ , and  $x'_i = y_i b$ ,  $x'_j = a y_j$ .

**Proof.** It suffices only to prove the case  $j = i + 1$ .

For  $r = 2$ , (3.1) is in fact (2.8).

Suppose that (3.1) is true for a given  $r \geq 2$ . To show that (3.1) is also true when  $r$  is changed to  $r + 1$ , we will use the equality (2.3) for  $p + q = r + 1$ . If  $i < r$ , i.e.  $i + 1 < r + 1$ , then we put  $q = i + 1$  in (2.3) and use the inductive hypothesis. For  $i = r$ , we put  $q = 1$  in (2.3) and we again use the inductive hypothesis.  $\square$

Using this lemma in almost the same way as the proof of the part (ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i) in Proposition 2.4, one can show the following:

**Proposition 3.3.** *For each positive integer  $r$ ,  $(Q, f^{(r)})$  is an  $(m + rk, m)$ -groupoid.  $\square$*

It remains to be shown that, for each  $r \geq 2$ ,  $(Q, f^{(r)})$  is an  $(m + rk, m)$ -semigroup, i.e., that

$$f^{(r)}(f^{(r)}(xa)by) = f^{(r)}(f^{(r)}(xb)ay) \quad (3.2)$$

holds for every  $a, b \in Q$ ,  $x, y \in Q^{(+)}$ , such that  $|xa| = m + rk$ ,  $|by| = rk$ .

Therefore, representing  $xa$  and  $by$  in the form

$$xa = x_1x_2 \cdots x_r a, \quad by = by_1y_2 \cdots y_r,$$

where  $|x_1| = n, |x_2| = \cdots = |x_{r-1}| = |x_r a| = k = |by_1| = |y_2| = \cdots = |y_r|$ , we use (2.4) and (2.3) to represent the left-hand side of (3.2) in the form

$$f^{2r}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{r-1}, x_r a, by_1, y_2, \dots, y_r). \quad (3.3)$$

Then, applying equality (3.1) in (3.3), and performing a reverse procedure from the previous one, we would get the right-hand side of (3.2).

This completes the proof of Theorem 3.1.

The equality in the following proposition is known as the *General Associative Law* (GAL) for fully commutative  $(n, m)$ -semigroups.

**Proposition 3.4.** *Let  $(Q, f)$  be an  $(n, m)$ -semigroup. Then*

$$f^{(r)}(f^{(p_1)}(x_1) f^{(p_2)}(x_2) \cdots f^{(p_s)}(x_s) y) = f^{(r+p_1+p_2+\cdots+p_s)}(x_1x_2 \cdots x_s y), \quad (3.4)$$

where  $|x_\nu| = m + kp_\nu$  for  $1 \leq \nu \leq s$ ,  $sm + |y| = m + rk$ , and  $r, p, s$  are given positive integers. (Here, it is possible that  $|y| = 0$ , i.e.  $y = e$ ).

**Proof.** For  $s = 1$ , (3.4) has the form

$$f^{(r)}(f^{(p)}(x)y) = f^{(r+p)}(xy) \quad (3.5)$$

(where  $p$  stands for  $p_1$ , and  $x$  for  $x_1$ ) which can be proved using (2.4) and (2.3). Then, supposing that (3.4) is true for some  $s-1 \geq l$ , we substitute  $f^{(p_1)}(x_1)y$  with  $z$  in the left-hand side of (3.4), apply first the inductive hypothesis and then (3.5), we obtain (3.4).  $\square$

**Remark 1.** Fully commutative  $(m+k, m)$ -groups are defined in [2]. Namely, a fully commutative  $(m+k, m)$ -semigroup is a *fully commutative  $(m+k, m)$ -group* if for each  $a \in Q^{(k)}$ ,  $b \in Q^{(m)}$  there is an  $x \in Q^{(m)}$  such that  $f(ax) = b$ . These are also considered in: [7], [8], [9], [6]. In [2] it is shown that every infinite set is a carrier of a fully commutative  $(m+k, m)$ -group, that for



$m \geq 2$  there is no finite fully commutative  $(m + k, m)$ -group with more than two elements, and that there are non-isomorphic fully commutative  $(m + k, m)$ -groups with a two-element carrier. In [7] it is noted that a structure of a fully commutative  $(m + k, m)$ -group can be built on every algebraically closed field, and in [8] the class of affine and the class of projective  $(m + k, m)$ -groups are defined. In [9], the class of affine and the class of projective  $(m + k, m)$ -groups with sets of complex numbers as their carriers are studied. We also note that in [5], [8] and [10] several axiom systems of the class of  $(m + k, m)$ -groups are obtained.

Following the idea of [10], a proposition analogous to Theorem 1 in [5] for fully commutative  $(m + k, m)$ -groups can be stated and proved.

**Remark 2.** The class of fully commutative  $(m + k, m)$ -groups is a subclass of the class of fully commutative  $(m + k, m)$ -quasigroups, defined in [3]. Namely, a fully commutative  $(m + k, m)$ -groupoid  $(Q, f)$  is said to be a  $(m + k, m)$ -quasigroup iff for each  $x \in Q^{(k)}$ ,  $y \in Q^{(m)}$  there is a unique  $z \in Q^{(m)}$ , such that  $f(xz) = y$ . It is shown in [3] that each cancellative fully commutative  $(m + k, m)$ -groupoid is embeddable in a fully commutative  $(m + k, m)$ -quasigroup. It is also shown there that, if  $q \geq 3$ , then there is a fully commutative  $(q, q-1)$ -quasigroup with  $q + 1$  elements. On the other hand, there is no fully commutative  $(m + k, m)$ -quasigroup with  $q + 1$  elements for  $2 \leq q \leq m$ . We note that there are many open problems on finite fully commutative  $(m + k, m)$ -quasigroups.

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### Резиме

#### ЗА ПОТПОЛНО КОМУТАТИВНИТЕ $(n, m)$ -ГРУПОИДИ

Во неколку трудови (на пример [2] и [8]) за потполно комутативни векторско вредносни групoиди се разгледуваат соодветни својства со помош на комутативни векторско вредносни групoиди. Главната цел на оваа работа е „автономно“ испитување на класата потполно комутативни векторско вредносни групoиди, т.е. испитување без да се напушти самата класа.

**Клучни зборови:** векторско вредносна оперција, потполно комутативен векторско вредносен групoид (полугрупа, група)

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