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On an implication-free reduct of MV_n chains

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Abstract

Let \mathbf{L}_{n+1} be the MV-chain on the n+1 elements set $\mathbf{L}_{n+1} = \{0, 1/n, 2/n, \dots, (n-1)/n, 1\}$ in the algebraic language $\{\rightarrow, \neg\}$ [3]. As usual, further operations on \mathbf{L}_{n+1} are definable by the following stipulations: $1 = x \rightarrow x$, $0 = \neg 1$, $x \oplus y = \neg x \rightarrow y$, $x \odot y = \neg(\neg x \oplus \neg y)$, $x \land y = x \odot (x \rightarrow y)$, $x \lor y = \neg(\neg x \land \neg y)$. Moreover, we will pay special attention to the also definable unary operator $*x = x \odot x$.

In fact, the aim of this paper is to study the $\{^*, \neg, \lor\}$ -reducts of the MV-chains \mathbf{L}_{n+1} , that will be denoted as \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^* , i.e. the algebra on \mathbf{L}_{n+1} obtained by replacing the implication operator \rightarrow by the unary operation * which represents the square operator $^*x = x \odot x$ and which has been recently used in [4] to provide, among other things, an alternative axiomatization for the four-valued matrix logic $J_4 = \langle \mathbf{L}_4, \{1/3, 2/3, 1\} \rangle$. In this contribution we make a step further in studying the expressive power of the * operation, in particular we will focus on the question for which natural numbers n the structures \mathbf{L}_{n+1} and \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^* are term-equivalent. In other words, for which n the Lukasiewicz implication \rightarrow is definable in \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^* , or equivalenty, for which n \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^* is in fact an MV-algebra. We also show that, in any case, the matrix logics $\langle \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^*, F \rangle$, where F is an order filter, are algebraizable. What we present here is a work in progress.

Term-equivalence between L_{n+1} and L_{n+1}^*

Let X be a subset of L_{n+1} . We denote by $\langle X \rangle^*$ the subalgebra of \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^* generated by X (in the reduced language $\{^*, \neg, \lor\}$). For $n \ge 1$ define recursively $(^*)^n x$ as follows: $(^*)^1 x = ^*x$, and $(^*)^{i+1}x = ^*((^*)^i x)$, for $i \ge 1$.

A nice feature of the \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^* algebras is that we can always define terms characterising the principal order filters $F_a = \{b \in \mathbf{L}_{n+1} \mid a \leq b\}$, for every $a \in \mathbf{L}_{n+1}$.

Proposition 1. For each $a \in L_{n+1}$, the unary operation Δ_a defined as

$$\Delta_a(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x \in F_a \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

is definable in \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^* . As a consequence, for every $a \in L_{n+1}$, the operation χ_a that corresponds to the characteristic function of a (i.e. $\chi_a(x) = 1$ if x = a and $\chi_a(x) = 0$ otherwise) is definable as well.

Proof. The case a = 1 corresponds to the Monteiro-Baaz Delta operator and, as is well-known, it can be defined as $\Delta_1(x) = (*)^n x$. For a = 0 define $\Delta_a(x) = \Delta_1(x) \vee \neg \Delta_1(x)$; then $\Delta_a(x) = 1$ for every x. Now, assume 0 < a = i/n < 1. It is not difficult to show that one can always find a sequence of terms (operations) $t_1(x), \ldots, t_m(x)$ over $\{*, \neg\}$ such that $t_1(t_2(\ldots(t_m(x))\ldots)) = 1$

if $x \in F_a$ while $t_1(t_2(\ldots(t_m(x))\ldots)) < 1$ otherwise. Then $\Delta_a(x) = \Delta_1(t_1(t_2(\ldots(t_m(x))\ldots)))$ for every x.

As for the operations χ_a , define $\chi_1 = \Delta_1$, $\chi_0 = \neg \Delta_{1/n}$, and if 0 < a < 1, then define $\chi_a = \Delta_a \wedge \neg \Delta_{a-1/n}$.

It is now almost immediate to check that the following implication-like operation is definable in every \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^* : $x \Rightarrow y = 1$ if $x \leq y$ and 0 otherwise. Indeed, \Rightarrow can be defined as

$$x \Rightarrow y = \bigvee_{0 \le i \le j \le n} (\chi_{i/n}(x) \land \chi_{j/n}(y)).$$

Actually, one can also define Gödel implication on \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^* by putting $x \Rightarrow_G y = (x \Rightarrow y) \lor y$.

On the other hand, it readily follows from Proposition 1 that all the \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^* algebras are simple. Indeed, if $a > b \in \mathbf{L}_{n+1}$ would be congruent, then $\Delta_a(a) = 1$ and $\Delta_a(b) = 0$ should be so. Recall that an algebra is called *strictly simple* if it is simple and does not contain proper subalgebras. It is clear then that in the case of \mathbf{L}_{n+1} and \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^* algebras, they are strictly simple if $\{0, 1\}$ is their only proper subalgebra.

Remark 2. It is well-known that \mathbf{L}_{n+1} is strictly simple iff n is prime. Note that, for every n, if $\mathbf{B} = (B, \neg, \rightarrow)$ is an MV-subalgebra of \mathbf{L}_{n+1} , then $\mathbf{B}^* = (B, \lor, \neg, \ast)$ is a subalgebra of \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^* as well. Thus, if \mathbf{L}_{n+1} is not strictly simple, then \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^* is not strictly simple as well. Therefore, if n is not prime, \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^* is not strictly simple. However, in contrast with the case of \mathbf{L}_{n+1} , n being prime is not a sufficient condition for \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^* being strictly simple. In Lemma 7 below we will provide some examples of prime n for which \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^* is not strictly simple, in view of Theorem 6.

Lemma 3. \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^* is strictly simple iff $\langle (n-1)/n \rangle^* = \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^*$.

Proof. The 'only if' direction is trivial. In order to prove the converse, assume that $\langle a_1 \rangle^* = \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^*$ for $a_1 = (n-1)/n$. For $i \geq 1$ let $a_{i+1} = t_i(a_i)$ such that $t_i(x) = *x$ if x > 1/2, and $t_i(x) = \neg x$ otherwise. Since \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^* is finite, there is $1 \leq i < j$ such that $a_j = a_i$ and so $A_1 := \{a_i \mid i \geq 1\} = \{a_i \mid 1 \leq i \leq k\}$ for some k such that $a_i \neq a_j$ if $1 \leq i, j \leq k$. Let $A = A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \{0, 1\}$ where $A_2 = \{\neg a \mid a \in A_1\}$. Since *1 = 1 and *x = 0 if $x \leq 1/2$, A is the domain of a subalgebra \mathbf{A} of \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^* over $\{^*, \neg, \lor\}$ such that $a_i \in A$, hence $\langle a_1 \rangle^* \subseteq \mathbf{A}$. But $\mathbf{A} \subseteq \langle a_1 \rangle^*$, by construction. Therefore $\mathbf{A} = \langle a_1 \rangle^* = \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^*$.

Fact: Under the current hypothesis (namely, $\langle a_1 \rangle^* = \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^*$): if n is even then n = 2 or n = 4. Indeed, suppose that $\langle a_1 \rangle^* = \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^*$ and n is even. If n = 2 or n = 4 then clearly \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^* is strictly simple. Now, assume n > 4. Observe that: (1) for any $a \in \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^* \setminus \{0, 1\}$, *a = i/n such that i is even; and (2) if i < n is even then $\neg(i/n) = (n - i)/n$ such that n - i is even. That being so, if $i/n \in (A_1 \cup A_2) \setminus \{a_1, \neg a_1\}$ (recall the process described above) then i is even. But then, for instance, $3/n \notin \mathbf{A} = \langle a_1 \rangle^* = \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^*$, a contradiction. This proves the Fact.

From the **Fact**, assume now that n is odd, and let a = ((n+1)/2)/n and b = ((n-1)/2)/n. Since $\neg a = b$, $\neg b = a$ and $a, b \in A$ then, by construction of A, there is $1 \le i \le k$ such that either $a = a_i$ or $b = a_i$. If $a = a_i$ then $a_{i+1} = *a = 1/n$ and so $a_{i+2} = \neg a_{i+1} = \neg 1/n = (n-1)/n = a_1$. Analogously it can be proven that, if $b = a_i$ then $a_1 = a_j$ for some j > i. This shows that $A_1 = \{a_1, \ldots, a_k\}$ is such that $a_{k+1} = a_1$ (hence $a_k = 1/n$). Now, let $c \in \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^* \setminus \{0, 1\}$ such that $c \ne a_1$. If $c \in A_1$ then the process of generation of A from c will produce the same set A_1 and so $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^*$, showing that $\langle c \rangle = \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^*$. Otherwise, if $c \in A_2$ then $\neg c \in A_1$ and, by the same argument as above, it follows that $\langle c \rangle = \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^*$. This shows that \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^* is strictly simple. \Box

Lemma 4. If \mathbf{L}_{n+1} is term-equivalent to \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^* then \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^* is strictly simple.

Proof. If \mathbf{L}_{n+1} is term-equivalent to \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^* then \odot is definable in \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^* , and hence $\langle (n-1)/n \rangle^* =$ \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^* . Indeed, we can obtain $(n-i-1)/n = ((n-1)/n) \odot ((n-i)/n)$ for $i=1,\ldots,n-1$, and $1 = \neg 0$. By Lemma 3 it follows that \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^* is strictly simple.

Corollary 5. If \mathbf{L}_{n+1} is term-equivalent to \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^* then n is prime.

Proof. If \mathbf{L}_{n+1} is term-equivalent to \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^* then \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^* is strictly simple, by Lemma 4. By Remark 2 it follows that n must be prime. \square

Theorem 6. \mathbf{L}_{n+1} is term-equivalent to \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^* iff \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^* is strictly simple.

Proof. The 'only if' part is Lemma 4. For the 'if' part, since \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^* is strictly simple then, for each $a, b \in L_{n+1}$ where $a \notin \{0, 1\}$ there is a definable term $\mathbf{t}_{a,b}(x)$ such that $\mathbf{t}_{a,b}(a) = b$. Otherwise, if for some $a \notin \{0,1\}$ and $b \in L_{n+1}$ there is no such term then $\mathbf{A} = \langle a \rangle^*$ would be a proper subalgebra of \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^* (since $b \notin \mathbf{A}$) different from $\{0, 1\}$, a contradiction. By Proposition 1 the operations $\chi_a(x)$ are definable for each $a \in L_{n+1}$, then in \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^* we can define Lukasiewicz implication \rightarrow as follows:

$$x \to y = (x \Rightarrow y) \lor \left(\bigvee_{n > i > j \ge 0} \chi_{i/n}(x) \land \chi_{j/n}(y) \land \mathbf{t}_{i/n, a_{ij}}(x)\right) \lor \left(\bigvee_{n > j \ge 0} \chi_1(x) \land \chi_{j/n}(y) \land y\right)$$

where $a_{ij} = 1 - i/n + j/n$.

where $a_{ij} = 1 - i/n + j/n$.

We have seen that n being prime is a necessary condition for \mathbf{L}_{n+1} and \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^* being termequivalent. But this is not a sufficient condition: in fact, there are prime numbers n for which \mathbf{L}_{n+1} and \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^* are not term-equivalent.

Lemma 7. If n is a prime Fermat number greater than 5 then \mathbf{L}_{n+1} and \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^* are not termequivalent.

Proof. Recall that a Fermat number is of the form $2^{2^k} + 1$, with k being a natural number. We are going to prove that if n is a prime Fermat number and $a_1 = (n-1)/n$, then $\langle a_1 \rangle^*$ is a proper subalgebra of \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^* (recall Theorem 6 and Lemma 3). Thus, let n > 5 be a prime Fermat number, that is, a prime number of the form $n = 2^m + 1$ with $m = 2^k$ and k > 1. The (m-1)-times iterations of * applied to a_1 produce ((n+1)/2)/n, that is: $(*)^{m-1}(a_1) = ((n+1)/2)/n$. Since *(((n+1)/2)/n) = 1/n, the constructive procedure for generating the algebra $\langle a_1 \rangle^*$ described in the proof of Lemma 3 shows that $\langle a_1 \rangle^* = \mathbf{A}$ has 2m+2 elements: m elements in A_1 , plus m elements in A_2 corresponding to their negations, plus 0 and 1. Since $2m+2 < 2^m+1 = n$ as n > 5, $\langle a_1 \rangle^*$ is properly contained in \mathcal{L}_{n+1} , and it is different from $\{0, 1\}$.

The first Fermat prime number greater than 5 is n = 17. It is easy to see that

$$\langle 16/17 \rangle^* = \{0, 1/17, 2/17, 4/17, 8/17, 9/17, 13/17, 15/17, 16/17, 1\}$$

Actually, we do not have a full characterisation of those prime numbers n for which \mathbf{L}_{n+1} and \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^* are term-equivalent. But computational results show that for prime numbers until 8000, about 60% of the cases yield term-equivalence.

Algebraizability of $\langle \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^*, F_{i/n} \rangle$

Given the algebra \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^* , it is possible to consider, for every $1 \leq i \leq n$, the matrix logic $\mathbf{L}_{i,n+1}^* = \langle \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^*, F_{i/n} \rangle$. In this section we will shown that all the $\mathbf{L}_{i,n+1}^*$ are algebraizable in the sense of Blok-Pigozzi [1], and the quasivarieties associated to $\mathbf{L}_{i,n+1}^*$ and $\mathbf{L}_{j,n+1}^*$ are the same, for every i, j.

Observe that the operation $x \approx y = 1$ if x = y and $x \approx y = 0$ otherwise is definable in \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^* . Indeed, it can be defined as $x \approx y = (x \Rightarrow y) \land (y \Rightarrow x)$. Also observe that $x \approx y = \Delta_1((x \Rightarrow_G y) \land (y \Rightarrow_G x))$ as well.

In order to prove the main result of this section, we state the following:

Lemma 8. For every n, the logic $L_{n+1}^* := L_{n,n+1}^* = \langle \mathbf{L}_{n+1}^*, \{1\} \rangle$ is algebraizable.

Proof. It is immediate to see that the set of formulas $\Delta(p,q) = \{p \approx q\}$ and the set of pairs of formulas $E(p,q) = \{\langle p, \Delta_0(p) \rangle\}$ satisfy the requirements of algebraizability. \Box

Blok and Pigozzi [2] introduce the following notion of equivalent deductive systems. Two propositional deductive systems S_1 and S_2 in the same language are *equivalent* if there are translations $\tau_i : S_i \to S_j$ for $i \neq j$ such that: $\Gamma \vdash_{S_i} \varphi$ iff $\tau_i(\Gamma) \vdash_{S_j} \tau_i(\varphi)$, and $\varphi \dashv_{S_i} \tau_j(\tau_i(\varphi))$. From very general results in [2] it follows that two equivalent logic systems are indistinguishable from the point of view of algebra, namely: if one of the systems is algebraizable then the other will be also algebraizable w.r.t. the same quasivariety. This will be applied to $L_{i,n+1}^*$.

Lemma 9. The logics L_{n+1}^* and $L_{i,n+1}^*$ are equivalent, for every n and for every $1 \le i \le n-1$. *Proof.* It is enough to consider the translation mappings $\tau_1 : L_{n+1}^* \to L_{i,n+1}^*$, $\tau_1(\varphi) = \Delta_1(\varphi)$, and $\tau_{i,2} : L_{i,n+1}^* \to L_{n+1}^*$, $\tau_{i,2}(\varphi) = \Delta_{i/n}(\varphi)$.

Finally, as a direct consequence of Lemma 8, Lemma 9 and the observations above, we can prove the following result.

Theorem 10. For every n and for every $1 \le i \le n$, the logic $L_{i,n+1}^*$ is algebraizable.

As an immediate consequence of Theorem 10, for each logic $L_{i,n+1}^*$ there is a quasivariety $\mathcal{Q}(i,n)$ which is its equivalent algebraic semantics. Moreover, by Lemma 9 and by Blok and Pigozzi's results, $\mathcal{Q}(i,n)$ and $\mathcal{Q}(j,n)$ coincide, for every i, j. The question of axiomatising $\mathcal{Q}(i,n)$ is left for future work.

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