

A NOTE ON HOMOMORPHIC MAPPINGS OF QUASIGROUPS INTO MULTIPLICATIVE SYSTEMS

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The study of normality theories for general quasigroups and loops became productive when that study was restricted to a study of homomorphisms of quasigroups on quasigroups.¹ The existence of a loop with homomorphic image which is not a quasigroup is then pertinent to this study. In this note we exhibit such a loop and show that certain properties of our example are necessary. In particular, if the homomorphic image of a quasigroup is a finite or an associative multiplicative system, this image is a quasigroup. A deeper statement is that of Theorem 4—finiteness of the kernel of a loop homomorphism into a multiplicative system is a sufficient condition for the image of this homomorphism to be a loop.

We make use of the following definitions: A *multiplicative system* M is a nonvacuous set of elements a, b, c, \dots such that to each ordered pair of elements a, b , there corresponds in M a uniquely defined element ab called the product. If the product is defined for a (possibly vacuous) subset of the set of ordered pairs, then M is called a *partial multiplicative system*. If M_1 and M_2 are partial multiplicative systems, M_1 is said to be *imbedded* in M_2 if $M_1 \subseteq M_2$ and products in M_2 coincide with those in M_1 whenever they are defined in M_1 . A partial multiplicative system has an *identity element* e if the products ea and ae are defined for each element a and $ea = ae = a$. A mapping of a multiplicative system M on a multiplicative system \bar{M} which preserves products is called a *homomorphism* of M . A multiplicative system G in which the equations $ax = b$ and $ya = b$ have unique solutions for each pair of elements a, b in G is called a *quasigroup*. A *loop* is a quasigroup with identity element.

THEOREM 1. *If J is a partial multiplicative system, then J can be imbedded in a multiplicative system M which has the additional properties:*

- (1) *If a and b are elements of M , there is at least one x and at least one y in M such that $ax = b$ and $ya = b$.*
- (2) *If $x \neq y$ but $ax = ay$ (or $xa = ya$) in M , then a, x, y , and $ax = ay$ (or $xa = ya$) are all in J .*

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¹ Cf. [1, p. 513]; [2, p. 450]; [3, p. 769]; [4, Theorem 10A]; and [5]. (Numbers in brackets refer to the bibliography.)

(Note that (1) asserts that all equations are solvable in M , while (2) states that the solutions are unique except possibly for those equations possessing in J more than one solution. Hence, in particular, if J has both cancellation laws, M is a quasigroup.)

We define first an elementary extension K of a partial multiplicative system J as follows: Let K consist of all elements of J together with new elements z_{ab} , x_{ab} , y_{ab} defined in the following manner:

Each ordered pair of elements a, b in J for which ab is not in J gives rise to an element z_{ab} in K , the element z_{ab} being uniquely defined by the relation $z_{ab} = ab$ and the requirement that $z_{ab} = z_{cd}$ if and only if $a = c$ and $b = d$. Similarly, to each ordered pair of elements in J for which there is no x in J satisfying $xa = b$, there corresponds an element x_{ab} in K for which $(x_{ab})a = b$ is the defining relation, and to each ordered pair of elements a, b in J for which there is no y in J satisfying $ay = b$, there corresponds an element y_{ab} in K defined by the relation $a(y_{ab}) = b$. Again, $x_{ab} = x_{cd}$ or $y_{ab} = y_{cd}$ if and only if $a = c$ and $b = d$.

The set K is a partial multiplicative system having the following properties:

- (i) If a, b is an ordered pair of elements in J , ab is a uniquely defined element of K .
- (ii) If a and b are elements of J , there is at least one x and at least one y in K such that $ax = b$ and $ya = b$.
- (iii) If $x \neq y$, but $ax = ay$ (or $xa = ya$) in M , then a, x, y , and $ax = ay$ (or $xa = ya$) are all in J .

Consider the chain of partial multiplicative systems

$$J = J_0 \subseteq J_1 \subseteq J_2 \subseteq \dots \subseteq J_i \subseteq J_{i+1} \subseteq \dots$$

where J_{i+1} is an elementary extension of J_i for $i = 1, 2, \dots$. Let

$$M = \cup J_i$$

be the set-theoretic sum² of the J_i .

If a and b are elements of M , there exists an integer k such that a and b are elements of J_k , and therefore there exists a unique element ab in J_{k+1} . Thus to each ordered pair of elements a, b in M there corresponds a product ab in M . Furthermore, if a and b are in J_k , then J_{k+1} contains elements x and y such that $ax = b$ and $ya = b$.

If $x \neq y$, but $ax = ay$ in M , then a, x, y , and $ax = ay$ all lie in some J_k and $x \neq y$ in J_k . It follows that a, x, y , and $ax = ay$ are elements of J_i , $i = k - 1, k - 2, \dots, 0$; that is, these elements lie in J . This proves the theorem.

² Clearly M is countable if J is countable.

COROLLARY 1. *If J is a partial multiplicative system with identity element e , then J may be imbedded in a multiplicative system M with identity e , having properties (1) and (2) of the theorem.*

For, in the construction of the elementary extension K of J , we require now only the additional condition imposed on the symbols z_{ab} , x_{ab} , and y_{ab} that they satisfy the relations $(z_{ab})e = e(z_{ab}) = z_{ab}$, and so forth.

Suppose, now, that J is commutative (that is, ab is in J if and only if ba is in J , and $ab = ba$). Then if ab is undefined in J , ba is also undefined, and we may let $z_{ab} = ab = ba$ in K . Similarly, if there is in J no solution x of the equation $xa = b$, there is no solution of $ay = b$, and we may define $s_{ab} = x_{ab} = y_{ab}$ in K by the relations $(s_{ab})a = a(s_{ab}) = b$. Hence we have the following corollary.

COROLLARY 2. *If J is a partial multiplicative system which is commutative, then J may be imbedded in a commutative multiplicative system M having properties (1) and (2) of the theorem.*

We shall employ Theorem 1 in constructing an example as follows:

Let J be the set consisting of the four elements $\beta_1, \beta_2, \beta_3, \beta_4$ with the following products defined:

$$\beta_1\beta_k = \beta_k\beta_1 = \beta_k, \quad k = 1, 2, 3, 4,$$

$$\beta_2\beta_2 = \beta_2\beta_4 = \beta_4\beta_2 = \beta_4\beta_4 = \beta_3.$$

It is to be noted that J is a commutative partial multiplicative system with identity element β_1 . The equation $\beta_2x = \beta_3$ has two distinct solutions in J , and thus J cannot be imbedded in a quasigroup.

Let J be imbedded in a system M , as in Theorem 1, with elements $\beta_k, k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$. By Corollary 1, β_1 may be taken to be the identity element of M . Then M is a multiplicative system with the following properties:

(1) There exist positive integers h and k such that for each pair β_i and $\beta_m, \beta_i\beta_h = \beta_m$ and $\beta_k\beta_i = \beta_m$.

(2) If $\beta_i\beta_h = \beta_i\beta_k$, or if $\beta_h\beta_i = \beta_k\beta_i$, where $h < k$, then $h = 2, k = 4$, and $i = 2$ or $i = 4$.

Let A be a countably infinite loop³ with elements $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \dots$ where α_1 is the identity of A . We construct a system G whose elements are the ordered pairs of elements $(\beta_i, \alpha_j), i, j = 1, 2, 3, \dots$, with β_i in M and α_j in A .⁴ The product of two elements in G is defined by:

³ A may be a group.

⁴ A similar construction has been employed by Bruck; see [4, p. 166].

$$(P) \quad (\beta_i, \alpha_j)(\beta_h, \alpha_k) = (\beta_i\beta_h, \alpha_n)$$

where the subscript n of α_n is determined in the following way: Let α_q be the uniquely determined element $\alpha_j\alpha_k$ in A ; then in (P)

- (1) If $i=h=2$, or if $i=h=4$, let $n=2q-1$,
- (2) If $i=2, h=4$, or if $i=4, h=2$, let $n=2q$,
- (3) In all other cases, let $n=q$.

It is easily verified that G is a loop with identity (β_1, α_1) . The set H of elements (β_i, α_i) , $i=1, 2, 3, \dots$, is a loop isomorphic with A under the correspondence

$$(\beta_i, \alpha_i) \leftrightarrow \alpha_i, \quad i = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

The definition of product in G implies that the correspondence

$$(\beta_i, \alpha_j) \rightarrow \beta_i, \quad i, j = 1, 2, 3, \dots,$$

is a homomorphism of G on M . The kernel of this homomorphism is H .

By Corollary 2 of Theorem 1, M may be chosen to be commutative. If, furthermore, A is commutative, then G will have the same property. Commutativity, then, is not a sufficient condition that a quasigroup have only quasigroup images.

It is to be noted that in the example M is neither finite nor associative, and H is not finite. We shall show that these are necessary properties of the example.

In general, let the quasigroup G be homomorphic to the multiplicative system G' . If the elements of G are a, b, c, \dots , let a', b', c', \dots be their corresponding images in G' . We have immediately the following lemmas:

LEMMA 1. *If a' and b' are any two elements of G' , then x' and y' exist in G' such that $a'x'=b'$ and $y'a'=b'$.*

LEMMA 2. *The system G' is a quasigroup if and only if $a'b'=a'c'$ and $b'a'=c'a'$ each implies $b'=c'$.*

THEOREM 2. *If the homomorphic image G' of a quasigroup G is finite, then G' is a quasigroup.⁵*

Let b'_1, b'_2, \dots, b'_n be the elements of G' , n a positive integer. Then by Lemma 1, for given $i, b'_i b'_1, b'_i b'_2, \dots, b'_i b'_n$ are n distinct elements of G' . Right-hand cancellation is similarly established.

THEOREM 3. *If the homomorphic image G' of a quasigroup G is associative, then G' is a quasigroup.*

⁵ Cf. [5, Theorem 4.13].

A multiplicative system which satisfies Lemma 1 and is associative is known to be a group (see [7, p. 19]).

If S is a subset of G , let $O[S]$ be the cardinal number of elements in S . Obviously

$$(A) \quad O[S] = O[aS] = O[Sa]$$

if a is any element of G .

We define $R(a)$ to be the set of elements g in G such that $g' = a'$ in G' . Then

$$(B) \quad \begin{aligned} R(a)b &\subseteq R(ab), \quad \text{and} \\ aR(b) &\subseteq R(ab); \end{aligned}$$

for if $g = d_1b$ where $d_1' = a'$, then $g' = d_1'b' = a'b' = (ab)'$, and g lies in $R(ab)$. The second statement follows in the same way.

Let a and b be any elements of G . There exists x in G such that $a = bx$. By (B), $R(b)x \subseteq R(bx) = R(a)$, and thus $O[R(b)x] \leq O[R(a)]$. By (A), $O[R(b)] = O[R(b)x]$. It follows that $O[R(b)] \leq O[R(a)]$. But a and b were any elements of G . We have proved the following lemma.

LEMMA 3. *If a and b are any elements of G , then $O[R(a)] = O[R(b)]$.*⁶

LEMMA 4. *If G' is the homomorphic image of the quasigroup G , then G' is a quasigroup if and only if $R(ab) = aR(b) = R(a)b$.*

Let $R(ab) = aR(b) = R(a)b$. If $a'b' = a'c'$, then ac is an element of $R(ab) = aR(b)$, and c lies in $R(b)$, that is, $c' = b'$. By Lemma 2, G' is a quasigroup.

Conversely, let G' be a quasigroup. Let $g = xb$ be an element of $R(ab)$. Then $g' = x'b' = a'b'$, and by Lemma 2, $x' = a'$. Thus x lies in $R(a)$, and g lies in $R(a)b$. It follows that $R(a)b \supseteq R(ab)$. By (B), however, $R(a)b \subseteq R(ab)$. Then $R(a)b = R(ab)$, and by a similar argument $aR(b) = R(ab)$.

LEMMA 5. *If $O[R(a)]$ is finite, G' is a quasigroup.*

By (B), $R(ab) \supseteq aR(b)$. By Lemma 3 and (A), $O[R(ab)] = O[R(b)] = O[aR(b)]$. Since this order is finite, $R(ab) = aR(b)$. Similarly, $R(ab) = R(a)b$, and by Lemma 4, G' is a quasigroup.

THEOREM 4. *If G is a loop homomorphic to the multiplicative system G' , and if the kernel of the homomorphism is finite, then G' is a loop.*

If e is the identity of G , then $R(e)$ is the kernel of the homomorphism. The theorem follows by Lemma 5.

⁶ Cf. [3, p. 770].

