

## On medial-like identities

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### Abstract

The description of the quasigroups that satisfy the identities of the form  $(a \cdot b) \cdot (c \cdot d) = (\pi(a) \cdot \pi(b)) \cdot (\pi(c) \cdot \pi(d))$ , where  $\pi$  is a certain permutation on  $\{a, b, c, d\}$ , is given. Those quasigroups include internally medial ( $ab \cdot cd = ac \cdot bd$ ), externally medial ( $ab \cdot cd = db \cdot ca$ ) and palindromic ( $ab \cdot cd = dc \cdot ba$ ) quasigroups. There are six identities that are the equivalents of commutativity, and fourteen identities are the equivalents of commutative mediality.

It is well-known that a groupoid  $(Q, \cdot)$  is medial ([1]; entropic in [5]) if it satisfies

$$(a \cdot b) \cdot (c \cdot d) = (a \cdot c) \cdot (b \cdot d) \quad (M)$$

i.e.

$$ab \cdot cd = ac \cdot bd \quad (M)$$

for all  $a, b, c, d \in Q$ . In the identity  $(M)$  we interchange the internal pair of the variables and now we could look for the identity in which the external pair is interchanged

$$ab \cdot cd = db \cdot ca \quad (M_e)$$

or the identity in which the both pairs are interchanged

$$ab \cdot cd = dc \cdot ba. \quad (P)$$

Therefore, we could call  $(M)$  *internal mediality* and  $(M_e)$  *external mediality* (paramediality in [2], [3]). The identity  $(P)$  we shall call *palindromity*.

**Proposition 1.** *For any groupoid  $(Q, \cdot)$ , any two of the three identities  $(M)$ ,  $(M_e)$  and  $(P)$  imply the third one.*

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*Proof.*  $((M) \& (M_e) \Rightarrow (P)) \quad ab \cdot cd = ac \cdot bd = dc \cdot ba.$   
 $((P) \& (M_e) \Rightarrow (M)) \quad ab \cdot cd = dc \cdot ba = ac \cdot bd.$   
 $((P) \& (M) \Rightarrow (M_e)) \quad ab \cdot cd = dc \cdot ba = db \cdot ca. \quad \square$

**Proposition 2.** *Let  $(Q, \cdot)$  be a commutative groupoid. Then  $(Q, \cdot)$  is palindromic. Further, the constraints  $(M)$  and  $(M_e)$  are equivalent, i.e. a commutative groupoid  $(Q, \cdot)$  is internally medial if and only if it is externally medial.*

*Proof.* The first statement is obvious, and the second one follows from the previous proposition.  $\square$

**Proposition 3.** *Let  $(Q, \cdot)$  be an idempotent groupoid. If it is externally medial or palindromic, then it is commutative.*

*Proof.* Any externally medial groupoid satisfies  $xx \cdot yy = yx \cdot yx$ , and for palindromic quasigroup  $xx \cdot yy = yy \cdot xx$  is valid. Therefore, if the groupoid is idempotent, i.e.  $xx = x$  holds for all  $x \in Q$ , it is commutative.  $\square$

**Remark 1.** There are idempotent internally medial groupoids (moreover quasigroups) which are not commutative. For instance, take  $Z_3$  and define multiplication by  $x \cdot y = x + 2y$ .

**Proposition 4.** *Let  $(Q, \cdot)$  be an internally medial or externally medial or palindromic quasigroup. Its center is empty or  $Q$ .*

*Proof.* The center is the set of all  $c \in Q$  which commutes with all elements of  $Q$ . Therefore, if the center is not empty and  $c$  is in the center, then any  $a, b \in Q$  can be written in the form  $a = cx = xc$ ,  $b = cy = yc$  for some  $x, y \in Q$ . Then  $(M)$  implies  $ab = cx \cdot yc = cy \cdot xc = ba$ ,  $(M_e)$  implies  $ab = xc \cdot cy = yc \cdot cx = ba$ ,  $(P)$  implies  $ab = cx \cdot yc = cy \cdot xc = ba$ , i.e. in any case  $(Q, \cdot)$  is commutative.  $\square$

**Proposition 5.** *A loop is internally medial or externally medial if and only if it is an abelian group.*

*Proof.*  $(\Rightarrow)$  If  $(Q, \cdot)$  is internally medial or externally medial loop it is commutative, since a loop has nonempty center. Now, put the unit element for  $b$  and associativity follows. Sufficiency  $(\Leftarrow)$  is obvious.  $\square$

**Proposition 6.** *A loop is palindromic if and only if it is commutative.*

*Proof.* Notice that a loop has nonempty center.  $\square$

**Corollary 1.** *A group is internally medial or externally medial or palindromic if and only if it is an abelian group.*

**Remark 2.** As we know, every commutative quasigroup (groupoid) is palindromic, but the converse is not true. If we take an abelian group  $(Q, +)$ , then quasigroup  $(Q, -)$  satisfies  $(P)$ , but is not commutative. Notice that  $(Q, -)$  is internally medial and externally medial.

**Proposition 7.** *A quasigroup  $(Q, \cdot)$  is palindromic if and only if exists its automorphism  $\alpha$  such that*

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

*holds for all  $x, y \in Q$ .*

*Proof.*  $(\Rightarrow)$  For arbitrary  $a, b \in Q$  put  $ab = u, ba = v$  and take permutation  $\alpha = L_v^{-1}R_u$  (where  $L_v$  is left translation for  $v$  and  $R_u$  is right translation for  $u$  i.e.  $L_v(x) = v \cdot x$  and  $R_u(x) = x \cdot u$ , for any  $x \in Q$ ).

Then we have  $L_v\alpha(xy) = R_u(xy) = xy \cdot ab = ba \cdot yx = L_v(yx)$  and therefore  $\alpha(xy) = yx$ . Further, for any  $x, y \in Q$  taking  $x = x_1x_2, y = y_1y_2$  we have  $\alpha(xy) = yx = y_1y_2 \cdot x_1x_2 = x_2x_1 \cdot y_2y_1 = \alpha(x_1x_2) \cdot \alpha(y_1y_2) = \alpha(x) \cdot \alpha(y)$  i.e.  $\alpha$  is an automorphism.

$(\Leftarrow)$  If  $\alpha$  is an automorphism such that  $\alpha(x \cdot y) = y \cdot x$  then follows  $ab \cdot cd = \alpha(cd \cdot ab) = \alpha(cd) \cdot \alpha(ab) = dc \cdot ba$  i.e. quasigroup is palindromic.  $\square$

**Proposition 8.** *If  $(Q, \cdot)$  is internally or externally medial quasigroup, then it satisfies Thomsen's closure condition, i.e.*

$$x_1y_2 = x_2y_1 \quad \text{and} \quad x_1y_3 = x_3y_1 \quad \text{imply} \quad x_2y_3 = x_3y_2$$

*for all  $x_1, x_2, x_3, y_1, y_2, y_3 \in Q$ . Therefore, any internally and any externally medial quasigroup is an abelian group isotope.*

*Proof.* Let us suppose  $x_1y_2 = x_2y_1$  and  $x_1y_3 = x_3y_1$  hold and take  $z \in Q$ . Now, for internally medial quasigroup we get

$$x_2y_3 \cdot y_1z = x_2y_1 \cdot y_3z = x_1y_2 \cdot y_3z = x_1y_3 \cdot y_2z = x_3y_1 \cdot y_2z = x_3y_2 \cdot y_1z$$

and for externally medial quasigroup we have

$$x_2y_3 \cdot zx_1 = x_1y_3 \cdot zx_2 = x_3y_1 \cdot zx_2 = x_2y_1 \cdot zx_3 = x_1y_2 \cdot zx_3 = x_3y_2 \cdot zx_1.$$

Hence, in both cases,  $x_2y_3 = x_3y_2$ .

Since Thomsen's closure condition is valid in  $(Q, \cdot)$  it follows that  $(Q, \cdot)$  is isotopic to an abelian group (cf. [1], [5]).  $\square$

**Proposition 9.** *For a quasigroup  $(Q, \cdot)$  and  $e, f \in Q$  let us define binary operation  $+$  on  $Q$  by*

$$xe + fy = xy$$

*for all  $x, y \in Q$ . If  $(Q, \cdot)$  is internally or externally medial quasigroup, then  $(Q, +)$  is an abelian group.*

*Proof.* It is well-known (and easy to check) that  $(Q, +)$  is a loop (with the unity  $0 = fe$ ). If  $(Q, \cdot)$  is internally or externally medial quasigroup then it is isotopic to an abelian group and therefore loop  $(Q, +)$  is an abelian group isotope too. Because of Albert's theorem (cf. [1]),  $(Q, +)$  is an abelian group.  $\square$

**Proposition 10.** ([6], [4]) *Let  $(Q, \cdot)$  be internally or externally medial quasigroup. Then there is an abelian group  $(Q, +)$ , an element  $q \in Q$  and group automorphisms  $\alpha, \beta$  such that*

$$x \cdot y = \alpha(x) + \beta(y) + q$$

*for all  $x, y \in Q$ . For internally medial quasigroup  $\alpha\beta = \beta\alpha$  is fulfilled, and for externally medial quasigroup  $\alpha\alpha = \beta\beta$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $(Q, +)$  be the abelian group defined in the previous proposition and  $\varphi(x) = R_e(x) = xe$ ,  $\psi(x) = L_f(x) = fx$  for all  $x \in Q$ . For internally medial quasigroup and externally medial quasigroup we get respectively

$$\varphi(\varphi(a) + \psi(b)) + \psi(\varphi(c) + \psi(d)) = \varphi(\varphi(a) + \psi(c)) + \psi(\varphi(b) + \psi(d)),$$

$$\varphi(\varphi(a) + \psi(b)) + \psi(\varphi(c) + \psi(d)) = \varphi(\varphi(d) + \psi(b)) + \psi(\varphi(c) + \psi(a)).$$

The first equality implies

$$\varphi(a + b) + \psi(\varphi(0) + \psi(0)) = \varphi(a + \psi(0)) + \psi(\varphi\psi^{-1}(b) + \psi(0)),$$

$$\varphi(\varphi(0) + \psi(0)) + \psi(c + d) = \varphi(\varphi(0) + \psi\varphi^{-1}(c)) + \psi(\varphi(0) + d),$$

and the second one gives

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(a + b) + \psi(\varphi(0) + \psi(0)) &= \varphi(\varphi(0) + b) + \psi(\varphi(0) + \psi\varphi^{-1}(a)), \\ \varphi(\varphi(0) + \psi(0)) + \psi(c + d) &= \varphi(\varphi\psi^{-1}(d) + \psi(0)) + \psi(c + \psi(0)). \end{aligned}$$

In both cases it follows that there are such permutations  $\varphi_1, \varphi_2, \psi_1, \psi_2$  on  $Q$  for which

$$\varphi(a + b) = \varphi_1(a) + \varphi_2(b), \quad \psi(c + d) = \psi_1(c) + \psi_2(d).$$

Hence,  $\varphi$  and  $\psi$  are quasi-automorphisms of the abelian group  $(Q, +)$ . It implies that there are automorphisms  $\alpha, \beta$  of  $(Q, +)$  and  $q_1, q_2 \in Q$  such that

$$\varphi(x) = \alpha(x) + q_1, \quad \psi(x) = \beta(x) + q_2.$$

Therefore, putting  $q = q_1 + q_2$  we have

$$x \cdot y = \alpha(x) + \beta(y) + q.$$

Now, for internally medial quasigroup we get

$$\alpha(\alpha(a) + \beta(b)) + \beta(\alpha(c) + \beta(d)) = \alpha(\alpha(a) + \beta(c)) + \beta(\alpha(b) + \beta(d))$$

and putting  $a = c = d = 0$  we obtain  $\alpha\beta = \beta\alpha$ .

For externally medial quasigroup we have

$$\alpha(\alpha(a) + \beta(c)) + \beta(\alpha(b) + \beta(d)) = \alpha(\alpha(d) + \beta(c)) + \beta(\alpha(b) + \beta(a))$$

and putting  $b = c = d = 0$  it follows  $\alpha\alpha = \beta\beta$ . □

**Remark 3.** It is widely known that K. Toyoda (cf. [6]) proved the previously mentioned proposition for internally medial quasigroups, which is commonly named Toyoda’s theorem (see also [1], [5]). The proposition was proved in [4] for externally medial quasigroups (see also [2], [3]). We gave the above proof to stress that it is the same for both types of quasigroups, as is expected.

Any of the identities  $(M), (M_e), (P)$  is of the form

$$ab \cdot cd = (\pi(a) \cdot \pi(b)) \cdot (\pi(c) \cdot \pi(d))$$

where  $\pi$  is a certain permutation on  $\{a, b, c, d\}$ . Therefore we would like to look on such identities on the quasigroups for any permutation  $\pi$ . Beside the

identities  $(M)$ ,  $(M_e)$ ,  $(P)$  and trivial identity  $ab \cdot cd = ab \cdot cd$  which is fulfilled in any groupoid, we have the following twenty "medial-like" identities more:

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 ab \cdot cd = ab \cdot dc & (C_1), & ab \cdot cd = ba \cdot cd & (C_2), \\
 ab \cdot cd = ba \cdot dc & (C_3), & ab \cdot cd = cd \cdot ab & (C_4), \\
 ab \cdot cd = cd \cdot ba & (C_5), & ab \cdot cd = dc \cdot ab & (C_6), \\
 ab \cdot cd = ac \cdot db & (CM_1), & ab \cdot cd = ad \cdot bc & (CM_2), \\
 ab \cdot cd = ad \cdot cb & (CM_3), & ab \cdot cd = bc \cdot ad & (CM_4), \\
 ab \cdot cd = bc \cdot da & (CM_5), & ab \cdot cd = bd \cdot ac & (CM_6), \\
 ab \cdot cd = bd \cdot ca & (CM_7), & ab \cdot cd = ca \cdot bd & (CM_8), \\
 ab \cdot cd = ca \cdot db & (CM_9), & ab \cdot cd = cb \cdot ad & (CM_{10}), \\
 ab \cdot cd = cb \cdot da & (CM_{11}), & ab \cdot cd = da \cdot bc & (CM_{12}), \\
 ab \cdot cd = da \cdot cb & (CM_{13}), & ab \cdot cd = db \cdot ac & (CM_{14}).
 \end{array}$$

**Proposition 11.** *For a quasigroup  $(Q, \cdot)$  and  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, 6\}$ ,  $(C_i)$  is valid if and only if the quasigroup is commutative.*

*Proof.*  $(\Leftarrow)$  is obvious.  $(\Rightarrow)$  is evident for  $(C_1), (C_2), (C_4)$ . For  $(C_3)$  put  $c = d$ ; for  $(C_5)$  put  $c = b$ ,  $d = a$ ; for  $(C_6)$  put  $c = a$ ,  $d = b$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 12.** *For a quasigroup  $(Q, \cdot)$  and  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, 14\}$ ,  $(CM_i)$  holds if and only if the quasigroup is both commutative and internally medial.*

*Proof.*  $((CM_1), \Leftarrow)$  is obvious.

$((CM_1), \Rightarrow)$  Put  $c = b$  and commutativity follows; hence  $(M)$ .

$((CM_2), \Leftarrow)$   $ab \cdot cd = ba \cdot cd = bc \cdot ad = ad \cdot bc$ .

$((CM_2), \Rightarrow)$  Put  $d = b$  and commutativity follows; therefore  $ab \cdot cd = ba \cdot cd = bd \cdot ac = ac \cdot bd$ .

$((CM_3), \Leftarrow)$  Commutative internally medial quasigroup satisfies  $(CM_2)$ , hence  $(CM_3)$  follows.

$((CM_3), \Rightarrow)$  Put  $c = a$  and commutativity follows; hence  $(CM_2)$  and therefore  $(M)$ .

$((CM_4), \Leftarrow)$  Commutative internally medial quasigroup satisfies  $(CM_2)$ , hence  $(CM_4)$  follows.

$((CM_4), \Rightarrow)$  Put  $c = a$  and commutativity follows; hence  $(CM_2)$  and therefore  $(M)$ .

$((CM_5), \Leftarrow)$  Commutative internally medial quasigroup satisfies  $(CM_2)$ , hence  $(CM_5)$  follows.

$((CM_5), \Rightarrow)$  Because of  $ab \cdot cd = bc \cdot da = cd \cdot ab$  commutativity follows; hence  $(CM_2)$  and therefore  $(M)$ .

$((CM_6), \Leftarrow)$  is obvious.

$((CM_6), \Rightarrow)$  Put  $c = b$  and commutativity follows; hence  $(M)$ .

$((CM_7), \Leftarrow)$  is obvious.

$((CM_7), \Rightarrow)$  Put  $d = a$  and commutativity follows; hence  $(M)$ .

$((CM_8), \Leftarrow)$  is obvious.

$((CM_8), \Rightarrow)$  Put  $c = b$  and commutativity follows; hence  $(M)$ .

$((CM_9), \Leftarrow)$  is obvious.

$((CM_9), \Rightarrow)$  Put  $d = a$  and commutativity follows; hence  $(M)$ .

$((CM_{10}), \Leftarrow)$  Commutative internally medial quasigroup satisfies  $(CM_2)$ , hence  $(CM_{10})$  follows.

$((CM_{10}), \Rightarrow)$  Put  $d = b$  and commutativity follows; hence  $(CM_2)$  and therefore  $(M)$ .

$((CM_{11}), \Leftarrow)$  Commutative internally medial quasigroup satisfies  $(CM_2)$ , hence  $(CM_{11})$  follows.

$((CM_{11}), \Rightarrow)$  Put  $c = a$  and commutativity follows; hence  $(CM_2)$  and therefore  $(M)$ .

$((CM_{12}), \Leftarrow)$  Commutative internally medial quasigroup satisfies  $(CM_2)$ , hence  $(CM_{12})$  follows.

$((CM_{12}), \Rightarrow)$  Because of  $ab \cdot cd = da \cdot bc = cd \cdot ab$  commutativity follows; hence  $(CM_2)$  and therefore  $(M)$ .

$((CM_{13}), \Leftarrow)$  Commutative internally medial quasigroup satisfies  $(CM_2)$ , hence  $(CM_{13})$  follows.

$((CM_{13}), \Rightarrow)$  Put  $d = b$  and commutativity follows; hence  $(CM_2)$  and therefore  $(M)$ .

$((CM_{14}), \Leftarrow)$  is obvious.

$((CM_{14}), \Rightarrow)$  Put  $d = a$  and commutativity follows; hence  $(M)$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 2.** *For a quasigroup  $(Q, \cdot)$  and  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, 14\}$ ,  $(CM_i)$  is valid if and only if the quasigroup is both commutative and externally medial.*

**Corollary 3.** ([3]) *If  $(CM_i)$  is fulfilled in a quasigroup  $(Q, \cdot)$  for some  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, 14\}$ , i.e. if  $(Q, \cdot)$  is internally or externally medial quasigroup which is commutative, then there is an abelian group  $(Q, +)$ , an element  $q \in Q$  and group automorphisms  $\alpha$  such that*

$$x \cdot y = \alpha(x + y) + q$$

*is valid for all  $x, y \in Q$ .*  $\square$

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