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## TRANSFERABLE PRINCIPAL CONGRUENCES AND REGULAR ALGEBRAS

IVAN CHAJDA

A variety  $\mathcal{V}$  is *regular* if any two congruences on each  $\mathfrak{A} \in \mathcal{V}$  coincide whenever they have a congruence class in common. B. Csákány [2] gave the following characterization of regular varieties:

**Theorem A.** *For a variety  $\mathcal{V}$ , the following conditions are equivalent:*

- (1)  $\mathcal{V}$  is regular;
- (2) there exist ternary polynomials  $p_1, \dots, p_n$  over  $\mathcal{V}$  such that

$(p_1(x, y, z) = z \text{ and } \dots \text{ and } p_n(x, y, z) = z) \text{ if and only if } x = y.$

If we apply this theorem in the case of known regular varieties: *groups, quasigroups, rings, modules, Boolean algebras*, etc., we have  $n = 1$  in the condition (2) above. Since all of the quoted varieties are *permutable* ones, we can ask about the dependence of these properties. The aim of this paper is to characterize such varieties with  $n = 1$  in (2).

**Definition.** *An algebra  $\mathfrak{A}$  has Transferable Principal Congruences (briefly TPC) if for any elements  $a, b, c$  of  $\mathfrak{A}$  there exists an element  $d$  of  $\mathfrak{A}$  such that  $\theta(a, b) = \theta(c, d)$ . A variety  $\mathcal{V}$  has TPC if each  $\mathfrak{A} \in \mathcal{V}$  has TPC.*

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $\mathcal{V}$  be a variety. The following conditions are equivalent:*

- (1)  $\mathcal{V}$  has TPC;
- (2) there exist a ternary polynomial  $p$  and 5-ary polynomials  $q_1, \dots, q_m$  such that

$$p(x, x, z) = z$$

$$q_1(z, p(x, y, z), x, y, z) = x$$

$$q_m(p(x, y, z), z, x, y, z) = y$$

$$q_j(p(x, y, z), z, x, y, z) = q_j(z, p(x, y, z), x, y, z) \text{ for } j = 2, \dots, m.$$

**Proof.** (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2): Let  $\mathcal{V}$  have TPC and let  $F_3(x, y, z)$  be a free algebra of  $\mathcal{V}$  with free generators  $x, y, z$ . Then there exists  $w \in F_3(x, y, z)$  such that

$$\theta(x, y) = \theta(z, w).$$

Then  $w = p(x, y, z)$  for some ternary polynomial  $p$  and  $x = y$  implies  $z = w$ , i.e.  $p(x, x, z) = z$ .

We have  $\langle x, y \rangle \in \theta(z, w)$ , and according to [1] there exist binary algebraic functions  $\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_m$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} x &= \varphi_1(z, w) \\ \varphi_{j-1}(w, z) &= \varphi_j(z, w) \quad (j=2, \dots, m) \\ y &= \varphi_m(w, z). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, there exist 5-ary polynomials  $q_1, \dots, q_m$  with  $q_i(u, v, x, y, z) = \varphi_i(u, v)$  and (2) is proved.

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (1): Let  $\mathfrak{A} \in \mathcal{V}$  and  $a, b, c$  be elements of  $\mathfrak{A}$ . Put  $d = p(a, b, c)$  and prove  $\theta(a, b) = \theta(c, d)$ . Clearly

$$\langle c, d \rangle = \langle p(a, a, c), p(a, b, c) \rangle \in \theta(a, b).$$

Conversely, (2) implies

$$\begin{aligned} a &= q_1(c, d, a, b, c), \quad b = q_m(d, c, b, c) \quad \text{and} \\ q_{j-1}(d, c, a, b, c) &= q_j(c, d, a, b, c) \quad \text{for } j=2, \dots, m, \end{aligned}$$

i.e.  $\langle a, b \rangle \in \theta(c, d)$  proving  $\theta(a, b) = \theta(c, d)$ .

**Example.** For groups, we can put  $m = 1$  and

$$\begin{aligned} p(x, y, z) &= x \cdot y^{-1} \cdot z \\ q_1(v, w, x, y, z) &= w \cdot z^{-1} \cdot y. \end{aligned}$$

For Boolean algebras, we have  $m = 1$  and

$$\begin{aligned} p(x, y, z) &= x \oplus y \oplus z \\ q_1(v, w, x, y, z) &= w \oplus y \oplus z, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$a \oplus b = (a' \wedge b) \vee (a \wedge b').$$

It can be a reasonable conjecture that  $m = 1$  in (2) of Theorem 1 if  $\mathcal{V}$  is permutable. However, also the converse assertion is valid:

**Theorem 2.** For a variety  $\mathcal{V}$ , the following conditions are equivalent:

- (1)  $\mathcal{V}$  is permutable and has TPC;
- (2) there exist a 3-ary polynomial  $p$  and 4-ary polynomial  $q$  such that

$$p(x, x, z) = z$$

$$q(z, x, y, z) = x$$

$$q(p(x, y, z), x, y, z) = y.$$

**Proof.** (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2): Denote by  $D(a, b)$  the least diagonal subalgebra of  $F_3(x, y, z) \times F_3(x, y, z)$  containing the pair  $\langle a, b \rangle$  of elements  $a, b$  of  $F_3(x, y, z)$ , where  $F_3(x, y, z)$  is a free algebra of  $\mathcal{V}$  with free generators  $x, y, z$ . By the Theorem of Werner [4],  $\theta(a, b) = D(a, b)$  for each  $a, b$  of  $F_3(x, y, z)$  because of the permutability of  $\mathcal{V}$ . Since  $\mathcal{V}$  has TPC, there exists  $w \in F_3(x, y, z)$  such that

$$D(x, y) = D(z, w),$$

i.e.  $\langle x, y \rangle \in D(z, w)$ . It implies that there exists a unary algebraic function  $\varphi$  over  $F_3(x, y, z)$  such that

$$x = \varphi(z), \quad y = \varphi(w),$$

i.e.  $x = q(z, x, y, z)$ ,  $y = q(w, x, y, z)$  for some 4-ary polynomial  $q$ . Analogously to the proof of Theorem 1, we have  $w = p(x, y, z)$  with  $p(x, x, z) = z$ .

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (1): By Theorem 1, (2) implies TPC. Put

$$t(x, y, z) = q(p(y, z, y), x, z, y).$$

Then clearly  $t(x, x, z) = z$  and  $t(x, z, z) = x$  proving the permutability of  $\mathcal{V}$ .

**Theorem 3.** For a variety  $\mathcal{V}$ , the following conditions are equivalent:

- (1)  $\mathcal{V}$  has TPC;
- (2) there exists a ternary polynomial  $p$  such that

$$p(x, y, z) = z \text{ if and only if } x = y.$$

**Proof.** (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2): By Theorem 1, there exists a ternary polynomial  $p$  with  $p(x, x, z) = z$ . Further, if  $p(x, y, z) = z$ , then (2) of Theorem 1 implies

$$x = q_1(z, z, x, y, z) = \dots = q_m(z, z, y, z) = y$$

proving (2).

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (1): Let  $\mathfrak{A} \in \mathcal{V}$  and  $a, b, c$  be elements of  $\mathfrak{A}$ . Put  $d = p(a, b, c)$ . Then clearly  $\langle c, d \rangle \in \theta(a, b)$ , i.e.

$$\theta(c, d) \subseteq \theta(a, b).$$

In the factor algebra  $\mathfrak{A}/\theta(c, d)$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} [c]_{\theta(c, d)} &= [d]_{\theta(c, d)} = [p, (a, b, c)]_{\theta(c, d)} = \\ &= p([a]_{\theta(c, d)}, [b]_{\theta(c, d)}, [c]_{\theta(c, d)}). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\mathfrak{A}/\theta(c, d) \in \mathcal{V}$ , it implies

$$[c]_{\theta(c, d)} = [b]_{\theta(c, d)}$$

proving the converse inclusion  $\theta(a, b) \subseteq \theta(c, d)$ .

**Corollary.** *If a variety  $\mathcal{V}$  has TPC, it is regular.*

The concept of regularity can be weakened in the case of varieties with nullary operations, see [3]:

A variety  $\mathcal{V}$  with nullary operation 0 is *weakly regular* (with respect to 0) if every congruence  $\theta$  on  $\mathfrak{A} \in \mathcal{V}$  is uniquely determined by its congruence class  $[0]_{\theta}$ .

As mentioned in [3] if we tend from regularity to weak regularity (with respect to 0), we need only to replace  $z$  by 0 in the conditions and proofs. Hence the Theorem A (B. Csákány [2]) gives immediately:

**Theorem B.** *Let  $\mathcal{V}$  be a variety with nullary operation 0. The following conditions are equivalent:*

- (1)  $\mathcal{V}$  is weakly regular;
- (2) *there exist binary polynomials  $b_1, \dots, b_n$  such that  $(b_1(x, y) = 0$  and ... and  $b_n(x, y) = 0)$  if and only if  $x = y$ .*

We have  $n = 1$  in (2) of Theorem B for some “nice” varieties. E.g. for *groups* or *Boolean algebras* we have  $n = 1$  and  $b_1(x, y) = x - y$  or  $b_1(x, y) = x \oplus y$ , respectively. On the contrary, there are weakly regular “nice” varieties with  $n > 1$ , e.g. the *variety of all implicative semilattices*. Recall that it is a variety  $\mathcal{V}$  with one nullary operation 1 and one binary operation (denoted by juxtaposition) fulfilling the axioms:

$$\begin{aligned} (ab)a &= a \\ a(bc) &= b(ac) \\ (ab)b &= (ba)a \\ aa &= 1. \end{aligned}$$

In this case we have

$$(ab = 1 \text{ and } ba = 1) \text{ if and only if } a = b,$$

thus  $\mathcal{V}$  is weakly regular but  $n = 2$ . One can easily see on  $F_2(a, b) \in \mathcal{V}$ , that there cannot be  $n = 1$ . Thus it is also reasonable to ask when  $n = 1$ . Introduce:

An algebra  $\mathfrak{A}$  with nullary operation 0 has *0-Transferable Principal Congruences* (briefly 0-TPC) if for each  $a, b$  of  $\mathfrak{A}$  there exists  $c$  of  $\mathfrak{A}$  such that  $\theta(a, b) = \theta(0, c)$ . A variety  $\mathcal{V}$  with nullary operation 0 has 0-TPC if each  $\mathfrak{A} \in \mathcal{V}$  has 0-TPC.

The proofs of the following theorems are quite similar to those of Theorems 1, 2, 3 and hence omitted:

**Theorem 4.** For a variety  $\mathcal{V}$  with nullary operation 0, the following conditions are equivalent:

- (1)  $\mathcal{V}$  has 0-TPC;
- (2) there exist binary polynomial  $b$  and 4-ary polynomials  $r_1, \dots, r_m$  such that

$$b(x, x) = 0$$

$$r_1(0, b(x, y), x, y) = x$$

$$r_m(b(x, y), 0, x, y) = y$$

$$r_{j-1}(b(x, y), 0, x, y) = r_j(0, b(x, y), x, y) \text{ for } j = 2, \dots, m.$$

**Theorem 5.** For a variety  $\mathcal{V}$  with nullary operation 0, the following conditions are equivalent:

- (1)  $\mathcal{V}$  is permutable and has 0-TPC;
- (2) there exist a binary polynomial  $b$  and ternary polynomial  $t$  such that

$$b(x, x) = 0$$

$$t(0, x, y) = x$$

$$t(b(x, y), x, y) = y.$$

**Theorem 6.** For a variety  $\mathcal{V}$  with nullary operation 0, the following conditions are equivalent:

- (1)  $\mathcal{V}$  has 0-TPC;
- (2) there exists a binary polynomial  $b$  such that

$$b(x, y) = 0 \text{ if and only if } x = y.$$

**Corollary.** If a variety  $\mathcal{V}$  with nullary operation 0 has 0-TPC, it is weakly regular (with respect to 0).

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ПЕРЕМЕСТИТЕЛЬНЫЕ ГЛАВНЫЕ КОНГРУЭНЦИИ И РЕГУЛЯРНЫЕ  
АЛГЕБРЫ

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Резюме

Многообразие  $\mathcal{V}$  имеет Переместительные главные конгруэнции, если для каждой алгебры  $\mathfrak{A} \in \mathcal{V}$  и любых элементов  $a, b, c \in \mathfrak{A}$  существует элемент  $d \in \mathfrak{A}$  такой, что  $\theta(a, b) = \theta(c, d)$ . Такие многообразия, очевидно, регулярны. Мы даем условие Мальцева, характеризующее многообразие с Переместительными главными конгруэнциями и тоже специальные случаи и обобщения таких многообразий.