

## THE CLASS OF *BCC*-ALGEBRAS IS NOT A VARIETY

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**Abstract.** Kiyoshi Iséki posed an interesting problem whether the class of *BCK*-algebras is a variety. In connection with the problem, the author introduced a notion of *BCC*-algebras. In this note, we shall show that the class of *BCC*-algebras is not a variety. The result in this note was lectured on by Hiroakira Ono at Jagiellonian University in Poland in June 1981. A. Wroński [4], who began to study the problem since Ono's lecture, proved that the class of *BCK*-algebras is not a variety. (For the definitions and notations undefined here, see the reference [2].)

A *BCC*-algebra is an algebra  $A = \langle A; \rightarrow, 1 \rangle$  of type  $\langle 2, 0 \rangle$  such that for every  $x, y, z \in A$  the following conditions are satisfied:

- (1)  $(y \rightarrow z) \rightarrow ((x \rightarrow y) \rightarrow (x \rightarrow z)) = 1,$
- (2)  $x \rightarrow x = 1,$
- (3)  $x \rightarrow 1 = 1,$
- (4)  $1 \rightarrow x = x,$
- (5) if  $x \rightarrow y = 1$  and  $y \rightarrow x = 1$ , then  $x = y.$

(2) follows from the others.

We have the axiom system of *BCK*-algebras (but dual form), if we exchange (1) for  $(x \rightarrow y) \rightarrow ((y \rightarrow z) \rightarrow (x \rightarrow z)) = 1.$

Let  $F$  be the set of all terms, generated by two variables  $x$  and  $y$ , in the *BCC*-language.

**Definition 1.** We define the set  $X$ ,  $Y$  and  $\mathbf{1}$  by the following inductive definition such that  $\{X, Y, \mathbf{1}\}$  is a partition of  $F$ :

- (1)  $x \in X, y \in Y$  and  $1 \in \mathbf{1},$
- (2) if  $s \in X$  or  $s \in Y$ , then  $s \rightarrow t \in \mathbf{1},$
- (3) if  $s \in \mathbf{1}$ , then  $s \rightarrow t$  belongs to the set which  $t$  belongs to.

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**Lemma 2.** *If a class  $K$  of BCC-algebras is a variety, then there exist  $s \in X$  and  $t \in Y$  such that  $s = t \in Id(K)$ .*

**Lemma 3.** *The rightmost variable of any term in  $X$  (or  $Y$ ) is  $x$  (or  $y$ , respectively).*

We now define Gentzen-type system  $LC$ .  $LC$  is a Gentzen's LJ-type system. In the following,  $\Gamma, \Delta, \Sigma$  denote finite (possibly empty) sequences of terms separated by commas.  $\Theta$  denotes a sequence which consists of at most one term. The followings are axioms and rules of inference of  $LC$ .

Axioms:

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha &\Rightarrow \alpha \quad (\text{for any variable } \alpha), \\ &\Rightarrow 1. \end{aligned}$$

Rules of Inference:

$$\text{cut: } \frac{\Gamma \Rightarrow t \quad \Sigma, t, \Delta \Rightarrow \Theta}{\Sigma, \Gamma, \Delta \Rightarrow \Theta}$$

$$\Rightarrow \rightarrow: \frac{s, \Gamma \Rightarrow t}{\Gamma \Rightarrow s \rightarrow t} \quad \rightarrow \Rightarrow: \frac{\Gamma \Rightarrow s \quad \Sigma, t, \Delta \Rightarrow \Theta}{\Sigma, \Gamma, s \rightarrow t, \Delta \Rightarrow \Theta}$$

$$T \Rightarrow: \frac{\Gamma, \Delta \Rightarrow \Theta}{\Gamma, t, \Delta \Rightarrow \Theta} \quad \Rightarrow T: \frac{\Gamma \Rightarrow}{\Gamma \Rightarrow t}$$

**Remark.** For any term  $t$ ,  $t \Rightarrow t$  is provable in  $LC$ .

By the induction on the length of proof, we can prove that  $s \rightarrow t = 1$  is satisfied in all BCC-algebras if  $s \Rightarrow t$  is provable in  $LC$ . Conversely, we can show that  $s \Rightarrow t$  is provable in  $LC$  if  $s \rightarrow t = 1$  is satisfied in all BCC-algebras, by using the Lindenbaum algebra of  $LC$ . Hence, by the condition (5), we have

**Theorem 4.** *For any  $s$  and  $t$ ,  $s = t$  is satisfied in all BCC-algebras if and only if both  $s \Rightarrow t$  and  $t \Rightarrow s$  are provable in  $LC$ .*

**Remark.** Let  $LKK$  is a Gentzen-type system obtained from  $LC$  by adding to it the following rule of inference:

$$I \Rightarrow: \frac{\Gamma, s, t, \Delta \Rightarrow \Theta}{\Gamma, t, s, \Delta \Rightarrow \Theta}$$

We can also show that  $s = t$  is satisfied in all BCK-algebras if and only if both  $s \Rightarrow t$

and  $t \Rightarrow s$  are provable in *LKK*.

Similarly to Gentzen [1], we can prove the cut elimination theorem.

**Theorem 5.** (Cut Elimination Theorem). *If  $\Gamma \Rightarrow \Theta$  is provable in LC (or LKK), then it is provable without a cut in LC (or LKK, respectively).*

**Corollary 6.** *Both the word problems for free BCC-algebra and for free BCK-algebra are solvable.*

**Lemma 7.** *If  $\Gamma, s \Rightarrow t$  is provable in LC, then either the rightmost variable of  $s$  is the same as that of  $t$  or  $\Gamma \Rightarrow t$  is provable in LC.*

*Proof.* We prove this by the induction on the length of the cut free proof of  $\Gamma, s \Rightarrow t$ . When the length is 1 (that is, the proof consists of only an axiom sequent), obviously this lemma holds.

We consider the case that  $\rightarrow \Rightarrow$  is the last rule of inference.

$$\rightarrow \Rightarrow: \frac{\Gamma \Rightarrow s_1 \quad \Sigma, s_2, \Delta \Rightarrow t}{\Sigma, \Gamma, s_1 \rightarrow s_2, \Delta \Rightarrow t}$$

If  $\Delta$  is an empty sequence, then  $s$  equals  $s_1 \rightarrow s_2$ . By the inductive hypothesis, either the rightmost variable of  $s_2$  is the same as that of  $t$  or  $\Sigma \Rightarrow t$  is provable in *LC*. In the former case, the rightmost variable of  $s$  is the same as that of  $t$ . In the latter case,  $\Sigma, \Gamma \Rightarrow t$  is provable in *LC*.

Suppose that  $\Delta$  is not empty. We can denote  $\Delta$  by  $\Delta_1, s$ . By the inductive hypothesis, either the rightmost variable of  $s$  is the same as that of  $t$  or  $\Sigma, s_2, \Delta_1 \Rightarrow t$  is provable in *LC*. In the former case, of course, the rightmost variable of  $s$  is the same as that of  $t$ . In the latter case,  $\Sigma, \Gamma, s_1 \rightarrow s_2, \Delta_1 \Rightarrow t$  is provable in *LC*.

In the case that another is the last rule, the proof is similar. Q. E. D.

**Lemma 8.** *If an identity  $s = t$  is satisfied in all BCC-algebras and  $s \in X$ , then the rightmost variable of  $s$  is the same as that of  $t$ .*

*Proof.* By Theorem 4,  $t \Rightarrow s$  is provable in *LC*. By Lemma 7, either the rightmost variable of  $s$  is the same as that of  $t$  or  $\Rightarrow s$  is provable in *LC*. Suppose that  $\Rightarrow s$  is provable in *LC*. Then both  $1 \Rightarrow s$  and  $s \Rightarrow 1$  are provable in *LC*. Therefore,  $s = 1$  is satisfied in all *BCC*-algebras. But  $s = 1$  is not satisfied in the simple *BCC*-algebra which has two elements. So  $\Rightarrow s$  is not provable in *LC*. Q. E. D.

By Lemma 2, Lemma 3 and Lemma 8, we have

**Theorem 9.** *The class of all BCC-algebras is not a variety.*

#### References

- [1] G. Gentzen: Untersuchungen über das logische Schliessen. *Math. Z.*, **39** (1935), 176–210, 405–431. Translated in [3].
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