# DERIVATIONS OF WEAK BCC-ALGEBRAS

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ABSTRACT. We describe derivations of weak BCC-algebras (called also BZ-algebras) in which the condition (xy)z = (xz)y is satisfied only in the case when elements x, y belong to the same branch.

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

BCC-algebras were introduced by Y.Komori [9] as a generalization of BCK-algebras. In view of strongly connections with a BIK<sup>+</sup>-logic, BCC-algebras are also called BIK<sup>+</sup>algebras (cf. [12] or [13]). Nowadays, many mathematicians, especially from China, Japan and Korea, have been studying various generalizations of BCC-algebras. All these algebras have one distinguished element and satisfy some common identities playing a crucial role in these algebras.

One of very important identities is the identity (xy)z = (xz)y. It holds in BCK-algebras and in some generalizations of BCK-algebras, but not in BCC-algebras. BCC-algebras satisfying this identity are BCK-algebras (cf. [2] or [3]). Therefore, it makes sense to consider such BCC-algebras and some of their generalizations for which this identity is satisfied only by elements belonging to some subsets. Such study has been initiated by W.A. Dudek in [4].

In this paper we will study derivations of weak BCC-algebras in which the condition (xy)z = (xz)y is satisfied only in the case when elements x, y belong to the same branch.

## 2. Preliminaries

The BCC-operation will be denoted by juxtaposition. Dots will be used only to avoid repetitions of brackets. For example, the formula ((xy)(zy))(xz) = 0 will be written in the abbreviated form as  $(xy \cdot zy) \cdot xz = 0$ .

**Definition 2.1.** A weak *BCC-algebra* is a system  $(G; \cdot, 0)$  of type (2, 0) satisfying the following axioms:

- $(i) \quad (xy \cdot zy) \cdot xz = 0,$
- (*ii*) xx = 0,
- (*iii*) x0 = x,
- $(iv) \quad xy = yx = 0 \Longrightarrow x = y.$

Weak BCC-algebras are called BZ-algebras by many mathematicians, especially from China and Korea (cf. [6], [11], [14] or [15]), but we save the first name because it coincides with the general concept of names presented in the book [7] for algebras of logic.

A weak BCC-algebra satisfying the identity

 $(v) \quad 0x = 0$ 

is called a *BCC-algebra*. A BCC-algebra with the condition

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 $(vi) \quad (x \cdot xy)y = 0$ 

is called a BCK-algebra.

One can prove (see [2] or [3]) that a BCC-algebra is a BCK-algebra if and only if it satisfies the identity

 $(vii) \quad xy \cdot z = xz \cdot y.$ 

An algebra  $(G; \cdot, 0)$  of type (2, 0) satisfying the axioms (i), (ii), (iii), (iv) and (vi) is called a *BCI-algebra*. A weak BCC-algebra is a BCI-algebra if and only if it satisfies (vii).

In any weak BCC-algebra we can define a natural partial order  $\leqslant$  by putting

$$x \leqslant y \Longleftrightarrow xy = 0.$$

Directly from the axioms of weak BCC-algebras we can see that the following two implications

$$(viii) \quad x \leqslant y \Longrightarrow xz \leqslant yz,$$

 $(ix) \quad x \leqslant y \Longrightarrow zy \leqslant zx$ 

are valid for all  $x, y, z \in G$ .

The set of all minimal (with respect to  $\leq$ ) elements of G is denoted by I(G). Elements belonging to I(G) are called *initial*.

In the investigation of algebras connected with various types of logics an important role plays the so-called *Dudek's map*  $\varphi$  defined as  $\varphi(x) = 0x$ . The main properties of this map in the case of weak BCC-algebras are collected in the following theorem proved in [6].

Theorem 2.2. Let G be a weak BCC-algebra. Then

- (1)  $\varphi^2(x) \leqslant x$ ,
- (1)  $r \in \mathbb{C}$   $\varphi(x) = \varphi(y),$ (2)  $x \leqslant y \Longrightarrow \varphi(x) = \varphi(y),$ (3)  $\varphi^3(x) = \varphi(x),$ (4)  $\varphi^2(xy) = \varphi^2(x)\varphi^2(y),$

(4) 
$$\varphi^{-}(xy) = \varphi^{-}(x)\zeta$$

for all  $x, y \in G$ .

**Theorem 2.3.**  $I(G) = \{a \in G : \varphi^2(a) = a\}.$ 

The proof of this theorem is given in [5]. Comparing this result with Theorem 2.2 (4) we obtain

**Corollary 2.4.** I(G) is a subalgebra of G.

**Corollary 2.5.**  $I(G) = \varphi(G)$  for any weak BCC-algebra G.

The set

$$B(a) = \{ x \in G : a \leq x \},\$$

where  $a \in I(G)$  is called a *branch* of G initiated by a. The branch initiated by 0 is the greatest BCC-algebra contained in G.

**Definition 2.6.** A weak BCC-algebra G is called *solid* if (vii) is valid for all x, y belonging to the same branch and arbitrary  $z \in G$ .

Such weak BCC-algebras were introduced in [4].

**Definition 2.7.** A non-empty subset A of a weak BCC-algebra G is called a *BCC-ideal* if (1)  $0 \in A$ ,

(2)  $y \in A$  and  $xy \cdot z \in A$  imply  $xz \in A$ .

Using (viii) and (ix) it is not difficult to see that B(0) is a BCC-ideal of each weak BCC-algebra. The relation ~ defined by

$$x \sim y \iff xy, \, yx \in B(0)$$

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is a congruence on G. Its equivalence classes coincide with branches of G, i.e.,  $B(a) = C_a$ for any  $a \in I(G)$  (cf. [5]). So, B(a)B(b) = B(ab) and  $xy \in B(ab)$  for  $x \in B(a), y \in B(b)$ . In the following part of this paper, we will need those two propositions proved in [5].

**Proposition 2.8.** Elements  $x, y \in G$  are in the same branch if and only if  $xy \in B(0)$ .  $\Box$ 

**Proposition 2.9.** If  $x, y \in B(a)$ , then also  $x \cdot xy$  and  $y \cdot yx$  are in B(a).

One of important classes of weak BCC-algebras is the class of group-like weak BCCalgebras called also anti-grouped BZ-algebras [14], i.e., weak BCC-algebras containing only one-element branches. A special case of such algebras are group-like BCI-algebras described in [1].

The conditions under which a weak BCC-algebra is group-like are found in [5] and [14]. Below we present some of these conditions.

**Theorem 2.10.** A weak BCC-algebra G is group-like if and only if at least one of the following conditions is satisfied:

- (1)  $\varphi^2(x) = x \text{ for all } x \in G,$
- (2)  $\varphi(xy) = yx$  for all  $x, y \in G$ ,
- (3)  $xy \cdot zy = xz$  for all  $x, y, z \in G$ ,
- (4) Ker  $\varphi = \{0\}.$

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### 3. Derivations of weak BCC-algebras

In the theory of rings, the properties of derivations play an important role. In [8] Jun and Xin applied the notion of derivations in ring and near-ring theory to BCI-algebras, and they also introduced a new concept called a regular derivation in BCI-algebras. In [10] Ch. Prabpayak and U. Leerawat applied the notion of regular derivation in BCI-algebras to BCC-algebras. Here we give some results for derivations in solid weak BCC-algebras.

**Definition 3.1.** Let G be a weak BCC-algebra. A map  $d: G \longrightarrow G$  is called a *left-right* derivation (briefly, (l, r)-derivation) of G, if it satisfies the identity

(1) 
$$d(xy) = d(x)y \wedge xd(y),$$

where  $x \wedge y$  means  $y \cdot yx$ .

If d satisfies the identity

(2) 
$$d(xy) = xd(y) \wedge d(x)y,$$

then it is called a *right-left derivation* (briefly, (r, l)-derivation) of G. A map d which is both a (l, r)- and a (r, l)-derivation is called a *derivation*. Any d with the property d(0) = 0 is called *regular*.

**Example 3.2.** Let  $G = \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$  be a weak BCC-algebra with the operation  $\cdot$  defined as follows:

·	0	1	2	3
0	0	0	0	0
1	1	0	1	0
2	2	2	0	0
3	3	3	1	0

Table 3.1.

Consider two maps  $d_1, d_2: G \longrightarrow G$  defined by

$$d_1(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & if \quad x \in \{0, 1, 3\}, \\ 2 & if \quad x = 2, \end{cases}$$
$$d_2(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & if \quad x \in \{0, 1\}, \\ 2 & if \quad x \in \{2, 3\}. \end{cases}$$

Then it can be easily checked that  $d_1$  is both a (l, r)- and (r, l)-derivation of G and  $d_2$  is a (r, l)-derivation but not a (l, r)-derivation.

**Example 3.3.** Let  $G = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$  be a weak BCC-algebra with the operation  $\cdot$  defined as follows:

·	0	1	2	3	4	5
0	0	0	2	2	2	2
1	1	0	2	2	2	2
2	2	2	0	0	0	0
3	3	2	1	0	0	0
4	4	2	1	1	0	1
5	5	2	1	1	1	0

Table 3.2.

Define a map  $d: G \longrightarrow G$  by

$$d_1(x) = \begin{cases} 2 & if \quad x \in \{0, 1\}, \\ 0 & if \quad x \in \{2, 3, 4, 5\} \end{cases}$$

Then it is easily checked that d is a non-regular derivation of G.

**Theorem 3.4.** The endomorphism  $\varphi^2$ , where  $\varphi$  is the Dudek's map, is a regular derivation of each solid weak BCC-algebra.

*Proof.* From Theorem 2.2 it follows that the map  $d(x) = \varphi^2(x)$  is a regular endomorphism and d(x) = a for all  $x \in B(a)$ . Thus for  $x \in B(a)$ ,  $y \in B(b)$ , according to Proposition 2.9, we have d(xy) = ab.

On the other hand,

$$d(x)y \wedge xd(y) = ay \wedge xb = xb \cdot (xb \cdot ay).$$

Since, by the assumption, a weak BCC-algebra G is solid and elements xb, ay are in the same branch, we have

$$(xb \cdot (xb \cdot ay)) \cdot ay = (xb \cdot ay)(xb \cdot ay) = 0.$$

which means that

$$d(x)y \wedge xd(y) = xb \cdot (xb \cdot ay) \leqslant ay \leqslant ab$$

by (ix). Thus  $d(x)y \wedge xd(y) \leq ab$ . This, in view of Corollary 2.4, gives  $d(x)y \wedge xd(y) = ab$ . Hence  $d(x)y \wedge xd(y) = ab = d(xy)$ .

Now,

 $xd(y) \wedge d(x)y = xb \wedge ay = ay \cdot (ay \cdot xb)$ 

Since  $ay, ab \in B(ab)$  we have  $(ay \cdot (ay \cdot xb)) \cdot ab = (ay \cdot ab)(ay \cdot xb) \leq by \cdot (ay \cdot xb)$  from (i) and (viii). But by = 0 and we have  $0 \cdot (ay \cdot xb) = 0$ , because  $ay \cdot xb \in B(0)$ . So,  $xd(y) \wedge d(x)y = ab = d(xy)$ . Therefore d is a regular derivation of G.

**Corollary 3.5.** A map  $d : G \longrightarrow G$  such that d(x) = a for all  $x \in B(a)$ , is a regular derivation of each solid weak BCC-algebra.

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**Theorem 3.6.** For any derivation d of a solid weak BCC-algebra G elements x and d(d(x)) are in the same branch.

*Proof.* Indeed, let  $x \in B(a)$  and y = d(x). Then from (1) we obtain

$$d(xy) = d(x)y \wedge xd(y) = yy \wedge xd(y) = 0 \wedge xd(y) = xd(y) \cdot (xd(y) \cdot 0) = 0.$$

Thus d(xy) = 0 for y = d(x). This together with (2) and Theorem 2.2 gives

$$0 = d(xy) = xd(y) \land d(x)y = xd(y) \land 0 = 0(0 \cdot xd(y)) \leqslant xd(y).$$

Hence  $xd(y) \in B(0)$ , which shows (by Proposition 2.8) that elements x and d(y) = d(d(x)) are in the same branch.

Example 3.3 shows that x and d(x) may not be in the same branch if d is not regular.

**Theorem 3.7.** A (l,r)-derivation d of a solid weak BCC-algebra G is regular if and only if for every  $x \in G$  elements x and d(x) belongs to the same branch.

*Proof.* Let d be a regular (l, r)-derivation of a solid weak BCC-algebra G. Then for any  $x \in G$  we have

$$0 = d(xx) = d(x)x \wedge xd(x) = xd(x) \cdot (xd(x) \cdot d(x)x),$$

which implies  $xd(x) \leq xd(x) \cdot d(x)x$ . From this, by (viii), we obtain

$$0 = xd(x) \cdot xd(x) \leqslant (xd(x) \cdot d(x)x) \cdot xd(x) = (xd(x) \cdot xd(x)) \cdot d(x)x = 0 \cdot d(x)x$$

So,  $d(x)x \in B(0)$ . This, according to Proposition 2.8, shows that x and d(x) are in the same branch.

Conversely, if for every  $x \in G$  elements x and d(x) are in the same branch B(a), then also d(x),  $d(d(x)) \in B(a)$ . So, xd(x), d(x)x and d(d(x))x are in B(0). Thus  $0 = 0 \cdot d(x)x = 0 \cdot xd(x) = 0 \cdot d(d(x))x$ . Hence

$$\begin{aligned} d(0) &= d(0 \cdot d(x)x) = (d(0) \cdot d(x)x) \land (0 \cdot d(d(x)x)) \\ &= (d(0) \cdot d(x)x) \land (0 \cdot (d(d(x))x \land d(x)d(x))) \\ &= (d(0) \cdot d(x)x) \land (0 \cdot (d(d(x))x \land 0)) \\ &= (d(0) \cdot d(x)x) \land (0 \cdot 0(0 \cdot d(d(x))x)) \\ &= (d(0) \cdot d(x)x) \land 0 = 0(0 \cdot (d(0) \cdot d(x)x)) \\ &= \varphi^2(d(0) \cdot d(x)x) = \varphi^2(d(0)) \cdot \varphi^2(d(x)x) \\ &= \varphi^2(d(0)) \cdot 0 = \varphi^2(d(0)), \end{aligned}$$

by Theorem 2.2. In this way we obtain  $\varphi^2(d(0)) = d(0)$ , which in view of Theorem 2.3 means that  $d(0) \in I(G)$ . Since 0 and d(0) are in the same branch and  $d(0) \in I(G)$ , it must be d(0) = 0, i.e., d is regular.

**Theorem 3.8.** A (r, l)-derivation d of a solid weak BCC-algebra G is regular if and only if for every  $x \in G$  elements x and d(x) belong to the same branch.

*Proof.* The proof is analogous to the proof of the previous theorem.  $\Box$ 

**Corollary 3.9.** A derivation d of a solid weak BCC-algebra G is regular if and only if for every  $x \in G$  elements x and d(x) are in the same branch.

**Theorem 3.10.** Let d be a self-map of a weak BCC-algebra G. Then the following holds:

- (1) if d is a regular (l, r)-derivation of G, then  $d(x) = d(x) \wedge x$ ,
- (2) if d is a (r, l)-derivation of G, then  $d(x) = x \wedge d(x)$  for all  $x \in G$  if and only if d is regular.

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*Proof.* (1) Let d be a regular (l, r)-derivation of G. Then for any  $x \in G$  we have  $d(x) = d(x0) = d(x)0 \wedge xd(0) = d(x) \wedge x$ .

(2) If d is a (r, l)-derivation of G and  $d(x) = x \wedge d(x)$  for all  $x \in G$ , then, in particular,  $d(0) = 0 \wedge d(0) = 0$ . Hence d is regular.

Conversely, if 
$$d(0) = 0$$
, then  $d(x) = d(x0) = xd(0) \land d(x)0 = x \land d(x)$ .

**Corollary 3.11.** For a derivation d of solid weak BCC-algebra G the following conditions are equivalent:

- (1) d is regular,
- (2)  $d(x) \leq x$  for every  $x \in G$ ,
- (3) d(a) = a for every  $a \in I(G)$ .

*Proof.*  $(1) \Longrightarrow (2)$  For any regular derivation d from Theorem 3.10 (2) we have

$$d(x)x = (x \wedge d(x)) \cdot x = (d(x) \cdot d(x)x) \cdot x = d(x)x \cdot d(x)x = 0,$$

because elements x and d(x) belong to the same branch (Corollary 3.9). This proves (2). Implications (2)  $\implies$  (3) and (3)  $\implies$  (1) are obvious.

**Corollary 3.12.**  $d(B(a)) \subset B(a)$  for any regular derivation d of a solid weak BCC-algebra G.

*Proof.* Let  $x \in B(a)$ . Since, by Theorem 3.7, x and d(x) are in the same branch, we have  $d(x) \in B(a)$ . Thus  $d(B(a)) \subset B(a)$ .

In general  $d(B(a)) \neq B(a)$ . A simple example of a derivation with this property is a derivation  $d = \varphi^2$  used in Theorem 3.4.

Corollary 3.13. Let d be a regular derivation of solid weak BCC-algebra G. Then:

- (1)  $d(x)y \leq xd(y)$ ,
- $(2) \quad d(xy) = d(x)y$

for all  $x, y \in G$ .

*Proof.* (1) Applying (viii) and (ix) to Corollary 3.11 (2) we obtain

$$d(x)y \leqslant xy \leqslant xd(y)$$

which proves (1).

(2) From the above

$$d(xy) = xd(y) \wedge d(x)y = d(x)y \cdot (d(x)y \cdot xd(y)) = d(x)y \cdot 0 = d(x)y.$$

This completes the proof.

**Theorem 3.14.** A solid weak BCC-algebra G is group-like if and only if  $\text{Ker } d = \{0\}$  for each regular derivation d of G.

*Proof.* In a group-like weak BCC-algebra  $B(0) = \{0\}$ . Since for any  $x \in \text{Ker } d$  we have d(x) = 0 and  $0 \in B(0)$ , Corollary 3.9 implies  $x \in B(0)$ , So, x = 0, i.e., Ker  $d = \{0\}$ .

Conversely, let Ker  $d = \{0\}$  for any regular derivation d of G. Then, in particular, for  $d = \varphi^2$  (Theorem 3.4) we have Ker $\varphi^2 = \{0\}$ . But, as it is not difficult to see,  $B(0) \subset$  Ker  $\varphi^2$ . Hence  $B(0) = \{0\}$ . Theorem 2.10 (4) completes the proof.

**Theorem 3.15.** A derivation d of a solid weak BCC-algebra G is regular if and only if  $d(A) \subset A$  for all BCC-ideals A of G.

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*Proof.* For a regular derivation of a solid weak BCC-algebra by Theorem 3.10 (2) and Corollary 3.9 we have  $d(x) = x \wedge d(x) \leq x$  for all  $x \in G$ . Let  $x \in A$ . Then  $d(x)x = 0 \in A$ , and consequently  $d(x) \in A$  because A is a BCC-ideal. Hence  $d(A) \subset A$  for any BCC-ideal A of G.

Conversely, if  $d(A) \subset A$  for each BCC-ideal A of G, then also for  $A = \{0\}$ . Thus  $d(\{0\}) \subset \{0\}$ . Hence d(0) = 0, i.e., d is regular.

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