

## A REPRESENTATION OF BOUNDED COMMUTATIVE BCK-ALGEBRAS

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**ABSTRACT.** In this note, we prove a representation theorem for bounded commutative BCK-algebras

**KEY WORDS AND PHRASES:** Bounded commutative BCK-algebra, ideal, prime ideal, quotient BCK-algebras, spectral space

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### 1. INTRODUCTION

The representation theory of various algebraic structures has been extensively studied. The corresponding representation theory for BCK-algebras remains to be developed. Rousseau and Thaheem [1] proved a representation theorem for a positive implicative BCK-algebra as BCK-algebra of self-mappings which apparently does not possess many algebraic properties. Cornish [2] constructed a bounded implicative BCK-algebra of multipliers corresponding to a bounded implicative BCK-algebra, but no representation of these algebras has been studied there. The purpose of this note is to prove a representation theorem for a bounded commutative BCK-algebra. We essentially prove that a bounded commutative BCK-algebra  $X$  is isomorphic to the bounded commutative BCK-algebra  $\widehat{X}$  of mappings acting on the associated spectral space of  $X$ . Our approach depends on the theory of quotient BCK-algebras as developed by Iséki and Tanaka [3] and the theory of prime ideals of commutative BCK-algebras. Before we develop our results, we recall some technical preliminaries for the sake of completeness. A BCK-algebra is a system  $(X, *, 0, \leq)$  (denoted simply by  $X$ ), satisfying (i)  $(x * y) * (x * z) \leq z * y$  (ii)  $x * (x * y) \leq y$  (iii)  $x \leq x$  (iv)  $0 \leq x$  (v)  $x \leq y, y \leq x$  imply  $x = y$ , where  $x \leq y$  if and only if  $x * y = 0$  for all  $x, y, z \in X$ . If  $X$  contains an element  $1$  such that  $x \leq 1$  for all  $x \in X$ , then  $X$  is said to be bounded.  $X$  is said to be commutative if  $x \wedge y = y \wedge x$  for all  $x, y \in X$ , where  $x \wedge y = y * (y * x)$ . A non-empty set  $A$  of a BCK-algebra  $X$  is said to be an ideal of  $X$  if  $0 \in A$  and  $x, y * x \in A$  imply  $y \in A$ . A proper ideal  $A$  of a commutative BCK-algebra  $X$  is said to be prime if  $x \wedge y \in A$  implies  $x \in A$  or  $y \in A$ . It is well-known that every maximal ideal in a commutative BCK-

algebra is prime (see e.g. [4]). The theory of prime ideals plays an important role in the study of commutative BCK-algebras. For some information about prime ideals, we refer to [5] which contains further references about the theory of prime ideals. A subset  $S$  of a commutative BCK-algebra is said to be  $\wedge$ -closed if  $x \wedge y \in S$  whenever  $x, y \in S$ .

We now state the following theorem known as the prime ideal theorem (see [6, Theorem 2.4] and [5, Corollary 3]).

**THEOREM A.** *Let  $I$  be an ideal and  $S$  be a  $\wedge$ -closed set of a commutative BCK-algebra  $X$  such that  $S \cap I = \emptyset$ . Then there exists a prime ideal  $P$  such that  $I \subseteq P$  and  $P \cap S = \emptyset$ .*

**COROLLARY B.** *Let  $I$  be an ideal of a commutative BCK-algebra  $X$  and  $a \in X$  such that  $a \notin I$ . Then there exists a prime ideal  $P$  such that  $a \notin P$  and  $I \subseteq P$ .*

The above corollary follows from Theorem A by choosing  $s = \{a\}$ . If a non-trivial commutative BCK-algebra and  $I = \{0\}$ , then Corollary B ensures the existence of a prime ideal in  $X$ . We now recall the definition of a quotient BCK-algebra. If  $X$  is a BCK-algebra and  $A$  is an ideal of  $X$ , then we define an equivalence relation  $\sim$  on  $X$  by  $x \sim y$  if and only if  $x * y, y * x \in A$ . Let  $C_x = \{y \in X : x * y, y * x \in A\}$ . Let  $C_x = \{y \in X : x * y, y * x \in A\}$  denote the equivalence class containing  $x \in X$ . Then one can see that  $C_0 = A$  and  $C_x = C_y$  if and only if  $x \sim y$ . Let  $X/A$  denote the set of all equivalence classes  $C_x, x \in X$ . Then  $X/A$  is a BCK-algebra (known as quotient BCK-algebra) with  $C_x * C_y = C_{x*y}$ , and  $C_x \leq C_y$  if and only if  $x * y \in A$ , and  $C_0 = A$  is the zero of  $X/A$  (see for instance [3-7]). If  $X$  is bounded commutative, then  $X/A$  is also bounded commutative with  $C_1$  as the unit element. For the general theory of BCK-algebras and other undefined terminology and notations used here, we refer to Iséki and Tanaka [3-7] and Cornish [8].

**2. A REPRESENTATION THEOREM**

Throughout  $X$  denotes a bounded commutative BCK-algebra. Let  $Spec(X)$  denote the set of all prime ideals of  $X$ , called the spectrum of  $X$ . It has been shown in [5] that  $Spec(X)$  is a compact topological space referred to as the spectral space associated with  $X$ . It is well-known that

$$\bigcap_{P \in Spec(X)} P = \{0\} \text{ (see e.g. [8]).}$$

**DEFINITION 2.1.** For any  $x \in X$ , we define a mapping

$$\hat{x} : Spec(X) \rightarrow \bigcup_{P \in Spec(X)} X/P$$

where  $\hat{x}(P)$  denotes the image of  $x$  into  $X/P$ .

It is easy to see that  $\hat{x}(P) = C_0$  if and only if  $x \in P$ .

We denote by  $\hat{X}$ , the set of all mappings  $\hat{x}, x \in X$ . For any  $\hat{x}, \hat{y} \in \hat{X}$ , we define the following operations on  $\hat{X}$ .

$$\hat{x} * \hat{y} = (\widehat{x * y}) \text{ and } \hat{x} \leq \hat{y} \text{ if and only if } \hat{x} * \hat{y} = \hat{0}.$$

These operations are well-defined because of the properties of quotient algebras. Indeed, as  $\hat{x}(P)$  is the canonical image of  $x$  in  $X/P$ , namely the class  $C_x$  relative to  $P$ , and the union  $\bigcup_{P \in Spec(X)} X/P$  is disjoint

Routine verifications similar to ones for quotient BCK-algebras (see e.g. [3]) lead to the following

**PROPOSITION 2.2.**  $(\hat{X}, *, \hat{0})$  is a bounded commutative BCK-algebra.

We now prove the following representation result.

**THEOREM 2.3.** *The mapping  $\phi : x \in X \rightarrow \hat{x} \in \hat{X}$  is an isomorphism.*

**PROOF.** That  $\phi$  is surjective homomorphism follows from the definition (because the mapping  $x \in X \rightarrow C_x \in X/P$  is the canonical homomorphism). To prove that  $\phi$  is injective it is enough to show

that  $\phi(x) = \widehat{0}$  if and only if  $x = 0$ . For any  $P \in \text{Spec}(X)$ ,  $\phi(x)(P) = \widehat{0}$  implies that  $x \in P$  for all  $P \in \text{Spec}(X)$  and hence  $x \in \bigcap_{P \in \text{Spec}(X)} P = \{0\}$ . Thus  $x = 0$ . This completes the proof.

We provide an example to explain some essential ideas developed above.

**EXAMPLE 2.4** ([3, p 363]) Let  $X = \{0, a, b, 1\}$  be a set. Define a binary operation  $*$  on  $X$  as in Table 1.

$*$	0	a	b	1
0	0	0	0	0
a	a	0	a	0
b	b	b	0	0
1	1	b	a	0

Table 1

The  $(X, *, 0)$  is a bounded commutative BCK-algebra with  $P = \{0, a\}$  and  $Q = \{a, b\}$  as prime ideals (cf Table 2).

$\wedge$	0	a	b	1
0	0	0	0	0
a	0	a	0	a
b	0	0	b	b
1	1	a	b	1

Table 2

Then  $\text{Spec}(X) = \{P, Q\}$ ,  $X/P = \{\{0, a\}, \{b, 1\}\}$ ,  $X/Q = \{\{0, b\}, \{a, 1\}\}$ ,  $X/P, X/Q$  are disjoint and  $\bigcup_{P \in \text{Spec}(X)} X/P$  is the disjoint union as defined above. The rest of the calculations can easily be made to get the representation of  $X$  in this case.

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