

# On Quasi-ideals and Bi-ideals of Hypersemigroups and Ternary Hypersemigroups

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## Abstract

It is known that if  $S$  is a regular semigroup or a regular ordered semigroup, then the quasi-ideals and the bi-ideals of  $S$  coincide. The converse does not hold in general [4]. The purpose of this paper is to show that the results mentioned are true for hypersemigroups and ternary hypersemigroups.

## 1 Introduction

A non-empty set  $S$  together with a binary operation  $\cdot$  on  $S$ , denoted by  $xy$  for any  $x, y$  in  $S$ , is called a *semigroup* if  $x(yz) = (xy)z$  for any  $x, y, z$  in  $S$ . For non-empty subsets  $A$  and  $B$  of a semigroup  $S$ , the product  $AB$  is defined to be a subset of  $S$  such that  $AB = \{ab \mid a \in A, b \in B\}$ . A non-empty subset  $Q$  of a semigroup  $S$  is called a *quasi-ideal* (of  $S$ ) if  $QS \cap SQ \subseteq Q$ , and a non-empty subset  $B$  of  $S$  is called a *bi-ideal* (of  $S$ ) if  $BB \subseteq B$  and if  $BSB \subseteq B$ . Observe that every quasi-ideal of  $S$  is a bi-ideal of  $S$ , and a bi-ideal of  $S$  need not be a quasi-ideal of  $S$ . An element  $a$  of a semigroup  $S$  is said to

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be *regular* if  $a = axa$  for some  $x$  in  $S$ , and  $S$  is said to be *regular* if every element of  $S$  is regular. It is known that if  $S$  is a regular semigroup, then the quasi-ideals and the bi-ideals of  $S$  coincide, and the converse statement does not hold in general. It is also known that the results on any semigroup mentioned before are also true for any ordered semigroup. An *ordered semigroup*  $(S, \cdot, \leq)$  consists of a semigroup  $(S, \cdot)$  together with a partial order  $\leq$  on  $S$  that is compatible with the semigroup operation. That is, for any  $x, y, z$  in  $S$ , if  $x \leq y$ , then  $zx \leq zy$  and  $xz \leq yz$ . A non-empty subset  $Q$  of an ordered semigroup  $S$  is called a *quasi-ideal* of  $S$  if  $(QS) \cap (SQ) \subseteq Q$  and for any  $x$  in  $Q$  and  $y$  in  $S$ , if  $y \leq x$ , then  $y \in Q$ . A non-empty subset  $B$  of  $S$  is called a *bi-ideal* of  $S$  if  $BB \subseteq B$ ,  $BSB \subseteq B$ , and for any  $x$  in  $B$  and  $y$  in  $S$ , if  $y \leq x$ , then  $y \in B$ . Observe that every quasi-ideal of  $S$  is a bi-ideal of  $S$ , and a bi-ideal of  $S$  need not be a quasi-ideal of  $S$ . An element  $a$  of an ordered semigroup  $S$  is said to be *regular* if  $a \leq axa$  for some  $x$  in  $S$ , and  $S$  is said to be *regular* if every element of  $S$  is regular. It is known that if  $S$  is a regular ordered semigroup, then the quasi-ideals and the bi-ideals of  $S$  coincide, and the converse statement does not hold in general [4].

Algebraic hyperstructures have been studied extensively and several applications have also been investigated [1], [2].

The purpose of this paper is to show that the known results mentioned above are also true for hypersemigroups and for ternary hypersemigroups.

## 2 On hypersemigroups

Let  $S$  be a non-empty set and let  $P(S)$  denote the set of all subsets of  $S$ . A mapping  $\circ : S \times S \rightarrow P(S) \setminus \{\emptyset\}$  is called a *hyperoperation* on  $S$ , and a pair  $(S, \circ)$  is called a *hypergroupoid*. For non-empty subsets  $A$  and  $B$  of  $S$ , let

$$A \circ B = \cup \{a \circ b \mid a \in A, b \in B\}.$$

If  $x \in S$ , we write  $A \circ x$  for  $A \circ \{x\}$  and write  $x \circ A$  for  $\{x\} \circ A$ .

A hypergroupoid  $(S, \circ)$  is said to be a *hypersemigroup* if

$$x \circ (y \circ z) = (x \circ y) \circ z$$

for any  $x, y, z$  in  $S$ . That is,

$$\bigcup_{w \in y \circ z} x \circ w = \bigcup_{v \in x \circ y} v \circ z$$

for any  $x, y, z$  in  $S$ .

A non-empty subset  $Q$  of a hypersemigroup  $S$  is called a *quasi-ideal* (of  $S$ ) if  $(Q \circ S) \cap (S \circ Q) \subseteq Q$ , and a non-empty subset  $B$  of  $S$  is called a *bi-ideal* of  $S$  if  $B \circ B \subseteq B$  and if  $B \circ S \circ B \subseteq B$ . Observe that every quasi-ideal of  $S$  is a bi-ideal of  $S$ . Indeed, if  $Q$  is a quasi-ideal of  $S$ , then

$$Q \circ Q \subseteq (Q \circ S) \cap (S \circ Q) \subseteq Q \text{ and } QSQ \subseteq (Q \circ S) \cap (S \circ Q) \subseteq Q.$$

Hence  $Q$  is a bi-ideal of  $S$ . An element  $a$  of a hypersemigroup  $S$  is said to be *regular* if  $a \in a \circ x \circ a$  for some  $x$  in  $S$ , and  $S$  is said to be a *regular hypersemigroup* if every element of  $S$  is regular.

**Theorem 2.1.** *If  $(S, \circ)$  is a regular hypersemigroup, then the quasi-ideals and the bi-ideals of  $S$  coincide.*

*Proof.* Assume  $(S, \circ)$  is a regular hypersemigroup. Let  $B$  be a bi-ideal of  $S$ . To show that  $(B \circ S) \cap (S \circ B) \subseteq B$ , let  $x \in (B \circ S) \cap (S \circ B)$ . By assumption, there exists  $y \in S$  such that  $x \in x \circ y \circ x$ . This implies

$$x \in (B \circ S) \circ S \circ (S \circ B) \subseteq B \circ S \circ B \subseteq B.$$

Therefore,  $B$  is a quasi-ideal of  $S$ . Hence the quasi-ideals and the bi-ideals of  $S$  coincide. □

**Remark 2.2.** *The converse of Theorem 2.1 does not hold in general as the following example shows.*

**Example:** Let  $S = \{a, b, c, d, e\}$  be a hypersemigroup with a hyperoperation defined by:

$\circ$	$a$	$b$	$c$	$d$	$e$
$a$	$\{a\}$	$\{b, e\}$	$\{c, a\}$	$\{b, e\}$	$\{b, e\}$
$b$	$\{b, e\}$	$\{b, e\}$	$\{b, e\}$	$\{b, e\}$	$\{b, e\}$
$c$	$\{a\}$	$\{b, e\}$	$\{c, a\}$	$\{b, e\}$	$\{b, e\}$
$d$	$\{d, b, e\}$	$\{b, e\}$	$\{d, b, e\}$	$\{b, e\}$	$\{b, e\}$
$e$	$\{e\}$	$\{e\}$	$\{e\}$	$\{e\}$	$\{e\}$

Since  $d$  is not regular, we have that  $S$  is not regular. The quasi-ideals of  $S$  are  $\{e\}, \{b, e\}, \{a, b, e\}, \{a, b, c, e\}, \{b, d, e\}, \{a, b, d, e\}, S$ . The bi-ideals and the quasi-ideals of  $S$  coincide.

### 3 On ternary hypersemigroups

Let  $T$  be a non-empty set and let  $P(T)$  denote the set of all subsets of  $H$ . A map  $f : T \times T \times T \rightarrow P(T) \setminus \{\emptyset\}$  is called a *ternary hyperoperation* on  $T$ , and  $(T, f)$  is called a *ternary hypergroupoid*. For non-empty subsets  $A, B$ , and  $C$  of  $T$ , the set product  $f(A, B, C)$  is defined by:

$$f(A, B, C) = \cup\{f(a, b, c) \in P(T) \setminus \{\emptyset\} \mid a \in A, b \in B, c \in C\}.$$

For example, we write  $f(A, B, x)$  for  $f(A, B, \{x\})$ ,  $f(A, y, x)$  for  $f(A, \{y\}, \{x\})$ , and  $f(x, B, C)$  for  $f(\{x\}, B, C)$ .

A ternary hypergroupoid  $(T, f)$  is called a *ternary hypersemigroup* if

$$f(f(x_1, x_2, x_3), x_4, x_5) = f(x_1, f(x_2, x_3, x_4), x_5) = f(x_1, x_2, f(x_3, x_4, x_5))$$

for any  $x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5$  in  $T$  [5]. A non-empty subset  $H$  of a ternary hypersemigroup  $T$  is called a *ternary subhypersemigroup* of  $T$  if  $f(H, H, H) \subseteq H$ . A non-empty subset  $I$  of a ternary hypersemigroup  $T$  is called a *left* (resp. *right*, *lateral*) *ideal* (of  $T$ ) if  $f(T, T, I) \subseteq I$  (resp.  $f(I, T, T) \subseteq I$ ,  $f(T, I, T) \subseteq I$ ). Observe that  $f(a, T, T) \cup a$  (resp.  $f(T, a, T) \cup f(T, T, a, T, T) \cup a$ ,  $f(T, T, a) \cup a$ ) is a left (resp. right, lateral) ideal of  $T$ . For non-empty subsets  $X_1, X_2, X_3, X_4, X_5$  of  $T$ , we have that

$$f(f(X_1, X_2, X_3), X_4, X_5) = f(X_1, f(X_2, X_3, X_4), X_5) = f(X_1, X_2, f(X_3, X_4, X_5));$$

then we write

$$f(X_1, X_2, X_3, X_4, X_5)$$

for  $f(f(X_1, X_2, X_3), X_4, X_5)$ . A non-empty subset  $Q$  of a ternary hypersemigroup  $T$  is called a *quasi-ideal* (of  $T$ ) if

$$f(Q, T, T) \cap (f(T, Q, T) \cup f(T, T, Q, T, T)) \cap f(T, T, Q) \subseteq Q.$$

This is equivalent to

$$\begin{aligned} f(Q, T, T) \cap f(T, Q, T) \cap f(T, T, Q) &\subseteq Q \\ &\text{and} \\ f(Q, T, T) \cap f(T, T, Q, T, T) \cap f(T, T, Q) &\subseteq Q. \end{aligned}$$

A non-empty subset  $B$  of a ternary hypersemigroup  $T$  is called a *bi-ideal* (of  $T$ ) if  $f(B, B, B) \subseteq B$  and if  $f(B, T, B, T, B) \subseteq B$ . Observe that every quasi-ideal is a bi-ideal. Indeed, if  $Q$  is a quasi-ideal, then

$$f(Q, Q, Q) \subseteq f(Q, T, T) \cap f(T, Q, T) \cap f(T, T, Q) \subseteq Q \text{ and} \\ f(Q, T, Q, T, Q) \subseteq f(Q, T, T) \cap f(T, T, Q, T, T) \cap f(T, T, Q) \subseteq Q.$$

Hence  $Q$  is a bi-ideal. An element  $a$  of a ternary hypersemigroup  $T$  is said to be *regular* if  $a \in f(a, x, a, y, a)$  for some  $x, y$  in  $T$ , and  $T$  is said to be a *regular ternary hypersemigroup* if every element of  $T$  is regular.

**Theorem 3.1.** *A ternary hypersemigroup  $(T, f)$  is regular if and only if  $f(R, M, L) = R \cap M \cap L$  for any right ideal  $R$ , lateral ideal  $M$ , and left ideal  $L$  of  $T$ .*

*Proof.* Assume that  $f(R, M, L) = R \cap M \cap L$  for any right ideal  $R$ , lateral ideal  $M$ , and left ideal  $L$  of  $T$ . Let  $a \in T$ . Setting  $R = f(a, T, T) \cup a, M = f(T, a, T) \cup f(T, T, a, T, T) \cup a, L = f(T, T, a) \cup a$ . Then  $a \in R \cap M \cap L = f(R, M, L)$ . We have  $a \in f(f(a, T, T) \cup a, f(T, a, T) \cup f(T, T, a, T, T) \cup a, f(T, T, a) \cup a) \subseteq f(a, T, a)$ . So  $a \in f(a, T, a)$ , and hence there exists an element  $x \in T$  such that  $a \in f(a, x, a)$ . This implies that  $a$  is regular and hence  $T$  is regular.

Assume  $T$  is a regular ternary hypersemigroup. Let  $R, M$  and  $L$  be a right ideal, a lateral ideal and a left ideal, respectively. Then  $f(R, M, L) \subseteq R \cap M \cap L$ . Let  $a \in R \cap M \cap L$ . By assumption, we have  $a \in f(a, x, a)$  for some  $x \in T$ . We have  $a \in f(a, x, a) = f(f(a, x, a), f(x, a, x), f(a, x, a)) \in f(R, M, L)$ . Thus  $R \cap M \cap L \subseteq f(R, M, L)$ . So  $f(R, M, L) = R \cap M \cap L$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 3.2.** *Let  $(T, f)$  be a regular ternary hypersemigroup and  $Q$  a non-empty subset of  $T$ . Then  $Q$  is a quasi-ideal if and only if  $f(Q, T, Q, T, Q) \cap f(Q, T, T, Q, T, T, Q) \subseteq Q$ .*

*Proof.* Assume  $f(Q, T, Q, T, Q) \cap f(Q, T, T, Q, T, T, Q) \subseteq Q$ . Consider

$$\begin{aligned} & f(Q, T, T) \cap (f(T, Q, T) \cup f(T, T, Q, T, T)) \cap f(T, T, Q) \\ = & f(f(Q, T, T), (f(T, Q, T) \cup f(T, T, Q, T, T)), f(T, T, Q)) \\ = & f(Q, T, T, T, Q, T, T, T, Q) \cup f(Q, T, T, T, T, Q, T, T, T, Q) \\ \subseteq & f(Q, T, Q, T, Q) \cup f(Q, T, T, Q, T, T, Q) \\ \subseteq & Q. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $Q$  is a quasi-ideal. Conversely, if  $Q$  is a quasi-ideal, then

$f(Q, T, T) \cap f(T, Q, T) \cap f(T, T, Q) \subseteq Q$ . Consider

$$\begin{aligned} & f(Q, T, Q, T, Q) \cap f(Q, T, T, Q, T, T, Q) \\ & \subseteq f(Q, T, T, Q, T, T, Q) \\ & \subseteq f(Q, T, T) \cap f(T, Q, T) \cap f(T, T, Q) \\ & \subseteq Q. \end{aligned}$$

We have  $f(Q, T, Q, T, Q) \cap f(Q, T, T, Q, T, T, Q) \subseteq Q$ . □

**Theorem 3.3.** *If  $(T, f)$  is a regular ternary hypersemigroup, then the quasi-ideals and the bi-ideals of  $T$  coincide.*

*Proof.* If  $B$  is a bi-ideal, then  $f(B, T, B, T, B) \cap f(B, T, T, B, T, T, B) \subseteq B$ . Consequently, by Theorem 3.2,  $B$  is a quasi-ideal. □

**Remark 3.4.** *The converse of Theorem 3.3 does not hold in general as the following example shows.*

**Example:** Let  $T' = \{a, b, c, d, e\}$  be a ternary hypersemigroup with a ternary hyperoperation  $f$  defined by:

$f$	$a$	$b$	$c$	$d$	$e$
$aa$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$
$ab$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$
$ac$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$
$ad$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$
$ae$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$

$f$	$a$	$b$	$c$	$d$	$e$
$ba$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$
$bb$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$
$bc$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$
$bd$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$
$be$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$

$f$	$a$	$b$	$c$	$d$	$e$
$ca$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$
$cb$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$
$cc$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$	$\{a, b, c\}$	$\{a\}$	$\{a, b, c\}$
$cd$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$
$ce$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$	$\{a, b, c\}$	$\{a\}$	$\{a, b, c\}$

$f$	$a$	$b$	$c$	$d$	$e$
$da$	$\{a, b, d\}$	$\{a, b, d\}$	$\{a, b, d\}$	$\{a, b, d\}$	$\{a, b, d\}$
$db$	$\{a, b, d\}$	$\{a, b, d\}$	$\{a, b, d\}$	$\{a, b, d\}$	$\{a, b, d\}$
$dc$	$\{a, b, d\}$	$\{a, b, d\}$	$\{a, b, d\}$	$\{a, b, d\}$	$\{a, b, d\}$
$dd$	$\{a, b, d\}$	$\{a, b, d\}$	$\{a, b, d\}$	$\{a, b, d\}$	$\{a, b, d\}$
$de$	$\{a, b, d\}$	$\{a, b, d\}$	$\{a, b, d\}$	$\{a, b, d\}$	$\{a, b, d\}$

$f$	$a$	$b$	$c$	$d$	$e$
$ea$	$\{a, b, d\}$	$\{a, b, d\}$	$\{a, b, d\}$	$\{a, b, d\}$	$\{a, b, d\}$
$eb$	$\{a, b, d\}$	$\{a, b, d\}$	$\{a, b, d\}$	$\{a, b, d\}$	$\{a, b, d\}$
$ec$	$\{a, b, d\}$	$\{a, b, d\}$	$T'$	$\{a, b, d\}$	$T'$
$ed$	$\{a, b, d\}$	$\{a, b, d\}$	$\{a, b, d\}$	$\{a, b, d\}$	$\{a, b, d\}$
$ee$	$\{a, b, d\}$	$\{a, b, d\}$	$T'$	$\{a, b, d\}$	$T'$

Since  $b$  is not regular, we have that  $T'$  is not regular. The quasi-ideals of  $T'$  are  $\{a\}, \{a, b\}, \{a, b, c\}, \{a, b, d\}, \{a, b, c, d\}, T'$ . The bi-ideals and the quasi-ideals of  $T'$  coincide.

**Remark 3.5.** *The results in this section hold true for any ternary semigroup [3].*

**Example:** Let  $T'' = \{a, b, c, d, e\}$  be a ternary semigroup with a ternary operation  $f$  defined by:

$f$	$a$	$b$	$c$	$d$	$e$	$f$	$a$	$b$	$c$	$d$	$e$
$aa$	$a$	$b$	$c$	$a$	$e$	$ba$	$b$	$c$	$b$	$b$	$b$
$ab$	$b$	$c$	$b$	$b$	$b$	$bb$	$c$	$b$	$c$	$c$	$c$
$ac$	$c$	$b$	$c$	$c$	$c$	$bc$	$b$	$c$	$b$	$b$	$b$
$ad$	$a$	$b$	$c$	$a$	$e$	$bd$	$b$	$c$	$b$	$b$	$b$
$ae$	$c$	$b$	$c$	$c$	$c$	$be$	$b$	$c$	$b$	$b$	$b$

$f$	$a$	$b$	$c$	$d$	$e$	$f$	$a$	$b$	$c$	$d$	$e$	$f$	$a$	$b$	$c$	$d$	$e$
$ca$	$c$	$b$	$c$	$c$	$c$	$da$	$d$	$b$	$c$	$d$	$e$	$ea$	$c$	$b$	$c$	$c$	$c$
$cb$	$b$	$c$	$b$	$b$	$b$	$db$	$b$	$c$	$b$	$b$	$b$	$eb$	$b$	$c$	$b$	$b$	$b$
$cc$	$c$	$b$	$c$	$c$	$c$	$dc$	$c$	$b$	$c$	$c$	$c$	$ec$	$c$	$b$	$c$	$c$	$c$
$cd$	$c$	$b$	$c$	$c$	$c$	$dd$	$d$	$b$	$c$	$d$	$e$	$ed$	$c$	$b$	$c$	$c$	$c$
$ce$	$c$	$b$	$c$	$c$	$c$	$de$	$c$	$b$	$c$	$c$	$c$	$ee$	$c$	$b$	$c$	$c$	$c$

Since  $e$  is not regular, we have that  $T''$  is not regular. The quasi-ideals of  $T''$  are  $\{b, c\}, \{a, b, c\}, \{b, c, d\}, \{a, b, c, d\}, \{b, c, e\}, \{a, b, c, e\}, \{b, c, d, e\}, T''$ . The bi-ideals and the quasi-ideals of  $T''$  coincide.

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