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# ATOMIC HYPER BCK-ALGEBRAS

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ABSTRACT. In this manuscript, we introduce the concept of an atomic subset of the hyper BCK-algebra and study its properties. Also, we give a characterization of the atomic hyper BCK-algebra and show that there are exactly (up to isomorphism) n atomic hyper BCK-algebras H with |H| = n for any natural number n.

#### 1. Introduction and preliminaries

The study of BCK-algebras was initiated by Y. Imai and K. Iséki [2] in 1966 as a generalization of the concept of set-theoretic difference and propositional calculi. Since then a great deal of literature has been produced on the theory of BCK-algebras. The hyper structure theory (called also multi algebras) was introduced in 1934 by F. Marty at the 8th congress of Scandinavian Mathematicians. In [4], Y. B. Jun et al. applied the hyper structures to BCK-algebras, and introduced the notion of a hyper BCK-algebra which is a generalization of BCK-algebra, and investigated some related properties. Now, we follow [1] and [4] and introduce the concept of an atomic subset of the hyper BCK-algebra and study its properties.

Let H be a non-empty set endowed with a hyper operation " $\circ$ ", that is, • is a function from  $H \times H$  to  $\mathcal{P}^*(H) = \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{H}) \setminus \{\phi\}$ . For two subset A and B of H, denote by  $A \circ B$  the set  $\bigcup_{a \in A, b \in B} a \circ b.$  We shall use  $x \circ y$  instead of

 $x \circ \{y\}, \{x\} \circ y, \text{ or } \{x\} \circ \{y\}.$ 

**Definition 1.1** ([4]). By a hyper BCK-algebra we mean a non-empty set Hendowed with a hyper operation "o" and a constant 0 satisfying the following axioms:

(H1)  $(x \circ z) \circ (y \circ z) \ll x \circ y$ , (H2)  $(x \circ y) \circ z = (x \circ z) \circ y$ , (H3)  $x \circ H \ll \{x\},\$ 

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(H4)  $x \ll y$  and  $y \ll x$  imply x = y

for all  $x, y, z \in H$ , where  $x \ll y$  is defined by  $0 \in x \circ y$  and for every  $A, B \subseteq H$ ,  $A \ll B$  is defined by  $\forall a \in A, \exists b \in B$  such that  $a \ll b$ . In such case, we call " $\ll$ " the hyper order in H.

**Theorem 1.2** ([4]). In any hyper BCK-algebra H, the following hold:

(a1)  $0 \circ 0 = \{0\}$ , (a2)  $0 \ll x$ , (a3)  $x \ll x$ , (a4)  $A \ll A$ , (a5)  $A \ll 0$  implies  $A = \{0\}$ , (a6)  $A \subseteq B$  implies  $A \ll B$ , (a7)  $0 \circ x = \{0\}$ , (a8)  $x \circ y \ll x$ , (a9)  $x \circ 0 = \{x\}$ , (a10)  $y \ll z$  implies  $x \circ z \ll x \circ y$ , (a11)  $x \circ y = \{0\}$  implies  $(x \circ z) \circ (y \circ z) = \{0\}$  and  $x \circ z \ll y \circ z$ , (a12)  $A \circ \{0\} = \{0\}$  implies  $A = \{0\}$ for all  $x, y, z \in H$  and  $A, B \subseteq H$ .

**Definition 1.3** ([4]). Let H be a hyper *BCK*-algebra. Then

(i) A non-empty subset S of H is called a *hyper subalgebra* of H if S is a hyper BCK-algebra with respect to the hyper operation " $\circ$ " on H.

**Definition 1.4** ([4]). Let H be a hyper BCK-algebra. Then, a non-empty subset I of H with  $0 \in I$  is called a weak hyper BCK-ideal of H if it satisfies:  $(\forall x, y \in H)(x \circ y \subseteq I, \text{ and } y \in I \Longrightarrow x \in I)$ ; hyper BCK-ideal of H if it satisfies:  $(\forall x, y \in H)(x \circ y \ll I \text{ and } y \in I \Longrightarrow x \in I)$ ; reflexive hyper BCK-ideal of H if it is a hyper BCK-ideal of H and satisfies:  $(\forall x \in H) x \circ x \subseteq I;$  strong hyper BCK-ideal of H if it satisfies:  $(\forall x, y \in I)(x \circ y \land I = K)$  if  $X \circ y \in I$  and  $y \in I \implies x \in I)$  is an  $y \in I \implies x \in I$ .

**Theorem 1.5** ([4]). Let S be a non-empty subset of a hyper BCK-algebra H. Then S is a hyper subalgebra of H if and only if  $x \circ y \subseteq S$  for all  $x, y \in S$ .

**Theorem 1.6** ([4]). Let H be a hyper BCK-algebra. Then the set  $S(H) := \{x \in H | x \circ x = \{0\}\}$  is a hyper subalgebra of H, which is called BCK-part of H.

**Theorem 1.7** ([3]). Let A be a subset of a hyper BCK-algebra H. If I is a hyper BCK-ideal of H such that  $A \ll I$ , then A is contained in I.

**Theorem 1.8** ([1]). Let  $\Theta$  be a regular congruence relation on H and  $\frac{H}{\Theta} = \{[x]_{\Theta} \mid x \in H\}$ . Then  $\frac{H}{\Theta}$  with hyperoperation " $\circ$ " and hyperorder "<" which is defined as follows, is a hyper BCK-algebra which is called quotient hyper BCK-algebra,

 $[x]_\Theta \circ [y]_\Theta = \{[z]_\Theta : z \in x \circ y\}, \ [x]_\Theta < [y]_\Theta \Longleftrightarrow [0]_\Theta \in [x]_\Theta \circ [y]_\Theta.$ 

**Theorem 1.9** ([1]). Let  $\Theta$  be a regular congruence relation on H. Then

 $[0]_{\Theta}$  is a reflexive hyper BCK-ideal of  $H \iff \frac{H}{\Theta}$  is a BCK-algebra.

## 2. Main results

**Definition 2.1.** Let H be a hyper BCK-algebra. Then

(i) An element a belong to H is said to be an *atom* if it satisfies:

 $(\forall x \in H)(x \ll a \Longrightarrow x = 0 \text{ or } x = a).$ 

(ii) A subset A of H is said to be *atomic* if each element of A is an atom.

**Example 2.2.** Consider a hyper *BCK*-algebra  $H = \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$  with the following Cayley table:

0	0	1	2	3
0	{0}	$\{0\}$	$\{0\}$	$\{0\}$
1	{1}	$\{0, 1\}$	$\{0\}$	$\{1\}$
2	{2}	$\{2\}$	$\{0, 1, 2\}$	$\{2\}$
3	{3}	$\{3\}$	$\{3\}$	$\{0,3\}$

It is easy to verify that the element 1 is an atom and the subset  $A := \{0, 1\}$  is atomic but the subset  $B := \{0, 2\}$  is not atomic.

Now, we consider the property of atomic subsets. The following lemma shows that the concept of weak hyper BCK-ideal and hyper BCK-ideal is the same when the subset is atomic.

**Lemma 2.3.** Let H be a hyper BCK-algebra and let  $A \subseteq H$  be atomic. Then

A is a weak hyper BCK-ideal of  $H \iff A$  is a hyper BCK-ideal of H.

*Proof.* ( $\Longrightarrow$ ) It is clear that  $0 \in A$ . Suppose that  $x, y \in H$  such that  $x \circ y \ll A$  and  $y \in A$ . Let  $t \in x \circ y$ . Then, by Theorem 1.2(a8), there exists  $a \in A$  such that  $t \ll a$ . Since A is atomic, it follows from definition 2.1 that t = 0 or t = a. Hence  $x \circ y \subseteq A$ . Since A is a weak hyper BCK-ideal of H and  $y \in A$ , it follows from Definition 1.4 that  $x \in A$ . Therefore A is a hyper BCK-ideal of H.

 $(\Leftarrow)$  It follows from Theorem 3.21 [4].

**Lemma 2.4.** Let H be a hyper BCK-algebra. If  $A \subseteq H$  is atomic, then  $a \circ x \subseteq \{0, a\}$  for all  $a \in A$  and  $x \in H$ .

*Proof.* Let  $a \in A$  and  $x \in H$ . It follows from Theorem 1.2(a8) that  $t \ll a$  for any  $t \in a \circ x$ . Since A is atomic, it follows that t = 0 or t = a. Hence  $a \circ x \subseteq \{0, a\}$ .

By using Lemma 2.4, we have the following corollary.

**Corollary 2.5.** Every atomic subset of a hyper BCK-algebra is a hyper subalgebra.

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**Lemma 2.6.** If a hyper BCK-algebra H is atomic, then

(i)  $x \circ y \subseteq \{0, x\}$  for all  $x, y \in H$ ,

(ii)  $x \circ y = \{x\}$  for all  $x, y \in H$  with  $x \neq y$ .

*Proof.* (i) By using Lemma 2.4, the result holds.

(ii) Let  $x, y \in H$  be such that  $x \neq y$ . If x = 0, then  $x \circ y = 0 \circ y = \{0\} = \{x\}$  by Theorem 1.2(a7). If  $x \neq 0$ , then by (i) it is enough to show that  $0 \notin x \circ y$ . If not, then  $x \ll y$  and so x = 0 or x = y, which contracts with hypothesis. Therefore  $x \circ y = \{x\}$ .

We suppose that the hyper BCK-algebra is atomic and consider its properties.

**Theorem 2.7.** Every subset containing 0 of an atomic hyper BCK-algebra is a strong hyper BCK-ideal.

*Proof.* Let H be an atomic hyper BCK-algebra, and let  $0 \in A \subseteq H$ . Suppose  $x \in H$  and  $y \in A$  be such that  $x \circ y \cap A \neq \phi$ . Then we may assume that  $a \in A$  and  $a \in x \circ y$ . Since  $x \circ y \ll x$  by Theorem 1.2(a8), it follows that  $a \ll x$ . Since H is atomic, we get a = 0 or a = x. If a = 0, then  $x \ll y$  and so x = 0 or x = y, which implies  $x \in A$ . If a = x, then  $x \in A$ . Therefore A is a strong hyper BCK-ideal of H.

**Theorem 2.8.** Let H be an atomic hyper BCK-algebra and let K be an arbitrary hyper BCK-algebra. If  $f : H \longrightarrow K$  is an epimorphism, then f(A) is atomic for all  $(\phi \neq)A \subseteq H$ . In particular, K is atomic.

*Proof.* Assume that  $f(x) \ll f(y)$  for some  $x, y \in A$ . Then  $0 \in f(x) \circ f(y) = f(x \circ y)$ . Hence there exists  $t \in x \circ y$  such that f(t) = 0. By Corollary 2.5, we have  $x \circ y \subseteq A$ . Thus  $t \in A$ . Since  $x \circ y \ll x$ , it follows that  $t \ll x$  and so t = 0 or t = x. If t = 0, then  $x \ll y$ , which implies that x = 0 or x = y. Hence f(x) = 0 or f(x) = f(y). If t = x, then f(x) = f(t) = 0. Therefore f(A) is an atomic subset of K. Since f is surjective, f(H) = K and so K is atomic.  $\Box$ 

**Proposition 2.9.** Let H and K be two atomic hyper BCK-algebras. If there exists a bijection mapping  $f : H \longrightarrow K$  such that f(0) = 0, then

f is an isomorphism 
$$\iff f(S(H)) = S(K).$$

*Proof.* Let f(S(H)) = S(K). We will show that f is an isomorphism. By the hypothesis, it is enough to show that f is a homomorphism, that is,  $f(x \circ y) = f(x) \circ f(y)$  for all  $x, y \in H$ . Let  $x, y \in H$ . We consider the following cases:

(i)  $x, y \in S(H)$ .

This implies  $f(x), f(y) \in S(K)$  by hypothesis. If x = y, then  $x \circ y = \{0\}$ and so  $f(x \circ y) = \{0\}$ . Since f is a bijection mapping and x = y, we get f(x) = f(y) and so  $f(x) \circ f(y) = \{0\}$  because  $f(x) = f(y) \in S(K)$ . If  $x \neq y$ , then  $f(x) \neq f(y)$ . It follows from Lemma 2.6(ii) that  $x \circ y = \{x\}$  and so  $f(x) \circ f(y) = \{f(x)\}$ . Hence  $f(x \circ y) = f(x) \circ f(y)$ .

(ii)  $x, y \notin S(H)$ .

This implies  $f(x), f(y) \notin S(K)$  by hypothesis. If x = y, then  $x \circ y = \{0, x\}$  by Lemma 2.6 and assumption (ii). Hence  $f(x \circ y) = \{0, f(x)\}$ . Since f is a bijection mapping and x = y, we get f(x) = f(y) and so  $f(x) \circ f(y) = \{0, f(x)\}$  because  $f(x), f(y) \notin S(K)$ . If  $x \neq y$ , then  $f(x) \neq f(y)$ . It follows from Lemma 2.6(ii) that  $x \circ y = \{x\}$  and  $f(x) \circ f(y) = \{f(x)\}$ . Hence  $f(x \circ y) = f(x) \circ f(y)$ .

(iii)  $x \in S(H)$ ,  $y \notin S(H)$  or  $x \notin S(H)$ ,  $y \in S(H)$ .

This implies  $x \neq y$  and similar to proof of (i), we get  $f(x \circ y) = \{f(x)\} = f(x) \circ f(y)$ . Therefore f is an isomorphism.

Conversely, let f be an isomorphism. For any  $x \in S(H)$ , we have

$$f(x) \circ f(x) = f(x \circ x) = f(\{0\}) = \{0\}.$$

This shows that  $f(x) \in S(K)$ . Hence  $f(S(H)) \subseteq S(K)$ . Let  $y \in S(K)$ . Since f is surjective, we have y = f(x) for some  $x \in H$ . It follows that  $\{0\} = y \circ y = f(x) \circ f(x) = f(x \circ x)$  and so f(t) = 0 for all  $t \in x \circ x$ . Since f is one-to-one, t = 0. Hence  $x \circ x = \{0\}$  and so  $x \in S(H)$ . Therefore  $y = f(x) \in f(S(H))$  and so  $S(K) \subseteq f(S(H))$ , which completes the proof.  $\Box$ 

**Proposition 2.10.** Let H be a set, and let  $0 \in A \subseteq H$ . Define a hyper operation " $\circ$ " on H as follows:

(2.1) 
$$x \circ y = \begin{cases} \{0\}, & \text{if } x = 0 \text{ or } x = y \in A \\ \{0, x\}, & \text{if } x = y \notin A \\ \{x\}, & x \neq y \end{cases}$$

Then  $(H, \circ, 0)$  is an atomic hyper BCK-algebra and S(H) = A.

*Proof.* Let  $x, y, z \in H$ . We show that H satisfies the axioms of the hyper BCK-algebra.

(H1)  $(x \circ z) \circ (y \circ z) \ll x \circ y.$ 

By the definition of hyper operation " $\circ$ ", it is enough to show that if whenever  $x \circ y = \{0\}$ , then  $(x \circ z) \circ (y \circ z) = \{0\}$ . It follows from  $x \circ y = \{0\}$  that  $x \ll y$ , and so x = 0 or  $x = y \in A$  by Definition 1.1. It is easy to check that  $(x \circ z) \circ (y \circ z) \ll x \circ y = \{0\}$ , that is,  $(x \circ z) \circ (y \circ z) = \{0\}$ . Therefore (H1) holds.

(H2)  $(x \circ y) \circ z = (x \circ z) \circ y.$ 

We consider the following cases:

- (i) y = z and  $x \neq y$ .
- In this case, by using (2.1), we have  $(x \circ y) \circ z = x \circ z = \{x\} = x \circ y = (x \circ z) \circ y$ . (ii)  $y \neq z$  and  $x = y \in A$ .

In this case, we have  $(x \circ y) \circ z = \{0\} = x \circ y = (x \circ z) \circ y$  by (2.1).

(iii)  $y \neq z$  and  $x = y \notin A$ .

In this case, it follow from (2.1) that  $(x \circ y) \circ z = \{0, x\} \circ z = \{0, x\} = x \circ y = (x \circ z) \circ y$ .

(iv)  $y \neq z, x \neq y$  and  $x \neq z (y \neq z \text{ and } x = z)$ .

In this case, we have  $(x \circ y) \circ z = \{x\} \circ z = \{x\} = x \circ z = (x \circ z) \circ y$ . Therefore (H2) holds.

(H3)  $x \circ H \ll x$ .

It is clear.

(H4) If  $x \ll y$  and  $y \ll x$ , then x = y.

Since  $x \ll y$  and  $y \ll x$ , it follows from definition of " $\ll$ " that  $0 \in x \circ y$  and  $0 \in y \circ x$ . If x = 0, then  $y \circ x = \{y\}$  by (2.1), and so y = 0. Hence x = y. If  $x \neq 0$  and  $x \circ y = \{0\}$ , then  $x = y \in A$  by (2.1). If  $x \neq 0$  and  $x \circ y = \{0, x\}$ , then  $x = y \notin A$ . Therefore (H4) holds and so H is a hyper *BCK*-algebra. Now, let  $x, y \in H$  be such that  $x \ll y$ . Thus  $0 \in x \circ y$ . It follows from (2.1) that x = 0 or x = y. Therefore H is atomic.

**Theorem 2.11.** For any natural number n, there are exactly (up to isomorphism) n atomic hyper BCK-algebras such H, where |H| = n.

*Proof.* Let *n* be a natural number, and let *H* be a set with |H| = n. By Proposition 2.10, there exists an atomic hyper *BCK*-algebra *H* such that |S(H)| = |A|, where  $(\phi \neq)A$  be an arbitrary subset of *H*. Since |A| has *n* choice, that is, |A| = 1, 2, ..., n, the assertion is immediate consequence of Proposition 2.9.

Now, we give some properties of quotient of atomic hyper BCK-algebra.

**Lemma 2.12.** Let H be an atomic hyper BCK-algebra with  $S(H) = \{0\}$ , and let  $\Theta$  be a regular congruence relation on H. If the hyper BCK-ideal  $[0]_{\Theta}$  is reflexive, then  $[0]_{\Theta} = H$ .

*Proof.* By Lemma 2.6, we have  $x \circ x \subseteq \{0, x\}$  for every  $x \in H$ . It follows from  $S(H) = \{0\}$  that  $x \circ x = \{x\}$  for all  $x \in H$ . Since  $[0]_{\Theta}$  is reflexive, we have  $x \circ x \subseteq [0]_{\Theta}$  and so  $x \in [0]_{\Theta}$ . Therefore  $H = [0]_{\Theta}$ .

**Corollary 2.13.** Let H be an atomic hyper BCK-algebra such that  $S(H) = \{0\}$ , and let  $\Theta$  be a regular congruence relation on H. Then

$$\frac{H}{\Theta}$$
 is BCK-algebra if and only if  $\frac{H}{\Theta} = \{0\}.$ 

*Proof.* If  $\frac{H}{\Theta}$  is a *BCK*-algebra, then  $[0]_{\Theta}$  is reflexive by Theorem 1.9. It follows from Lemma 2.12 that  $[0]_{\Theta} = H$  and so  $\frac{H}{\Theta} = \{0\}$ . Conversely, it is clear.  $\Box$ 

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