

## Recap

affine = polynomially equivalent  
to a module

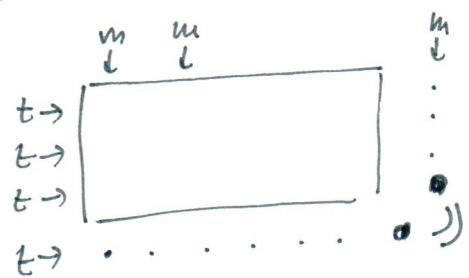
abelian =  $\forall t \in \text{Clo}(A) \quad \forall \bar{x}, \bar{y} \in A^k \quad \forall \bar{u}, \bar{v} \in A^\ell$   
 $t(\bar{x}, \bar{u}) = t(\bar{x}, \bar{v}) \Rightarrow t(\bar{y}, \bar{u}) = t(\bar{y}, \bar{v})$

- Ex.
- affine
  - unary

Equivalent def. :  $k=1$

$\nwarrow$  affine  $\Rightarrow$  abelian and

has Mal'cev polynomial, which is central  
 exactly one



abelian + Mal'cev  $\Rightarrow$  affine

When abelian  $\Rightarrow$  affine?

- ✓ if  $HSP(\underline{A})$  congruence permutable  
 $\Leftrightarrow \underline{A}$  has a Mal'cev term operation
- ✓ if  $HSP(\underline{A})$  congruence distributive  
 $\Leftrightarrow \underline{A}$  has a majority term operation
  - only singleton algebras are abelian
- ✓ if  $HSP(\underline{A})$  congruence modular (generalizes both !)  
[ Herrmann '77 ]
- ✓ if  $\underline{A}$  is finite and satisfies any nontrivial Mal'cev condition
  - (generalizes all above for finite algebras)
  - [ Hobby, McKenzie '80s - Tame congruence theory  
easy proof via absorption]

Example  $(\mathbb{Q}; \frac{x+y}{2})$

- abelian
- satisfies a nontrivial idempotent Mal'cev condition  $(x*y = y*x)$
- no Mal'cev polynomial operation  
(use  $\leq$ )

## Relational characterization of abelianess

Proposition  $\underline{A}$  algebra.  $\oplus$

(i)  $\underline{A}$  is abelian

(ii)  $\Delta$  ( $= \{(a,a); a \in A\}$ ) is a block of a congruence of  $\underline{A}^2$

Proof: Note: (ii)  $\Leftrightarrow$

$\Delta$  is a block of  $Cg_{\underline{A}^2}(\Delta^2)$

Recall (?)  $\underline{B}$  algebra,  $X \subseteq B \times B$

$Cg_{\underline{B}}(X) = \text{transitive symmetric closure of } \{(p(a), p(b)); (a, b) \in X, p \text{ unary polynomial op.}\}$

$Cg_{\underline{A}^2}(\Delta^2) = \text{trans. sym. d. of } \{(p(a), p(b)); a, b \in A, p \text{ unary polynomial op. of } \underline{A}^2\}$

$= \dots \{t((a), (d_1), \dots, (d_n)), t((b), (d_1), \dots, (d_n)); a, b, \bar{c}, \bar{d} \in A^*, t \in \text{Clo}(\underline{A})\}$

$\Delta$  is a block of  $\uparrow$  iff

$t((a), (d_1), \dots) \in \Delta \Leftrightarrow t((b), (d_1), \dots)$

iff (i) (def. of abelianess with  $k=1$ )

□

## Example

Let  $\underline{A} = (\{\underline{0}, \underline{1}\}; \dots)$ ,  $\underline{A}$  has a Mal'cev polynomial operation ( $\circ$  or  $\dots$ ),  $R := \{\underline{000}, \underline{011}, \underline{101}, \underline{110}\} \leq \underline{A}^3$ .

Claim:  $\underline{A}$  is affine (ie  $\underline{A}$  poly.eq. to  $(\mathbb{Z}_2, +)$ )

- Note:  $R(xyz) \text{ iff } x+y+z = 0 \pmod{2}$

- By proposition, enough to find congruence  $\sim$  of  $\underline{A}^2$  whose block is  $\{(0,0), (1,1)\} = \Delta$

→ Find  $\sim \leq (\underline{A}^2)^2 = \underline{A}^4$  whose block is  $\Delta$

- How to produce subpowers (= compatible rel's)?  
→ pp-definitions

→ pp-define from  $R$  a relation  $S \leq \underline{A}^4$

so that when viewed as  $\sim \subseteq (\underline{A}^2)^2$  it is an equivalence whose one block is  $\Delta$

$$S(x, y, x', y') \stackrel{\text{def}}{=}$$

## A taste of commutator theory

Def.  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in \text{Con } A$ ,  $\alpha$  centralizes  $\beta$  modulo  $\delta$ ,  
written  $C(\alpha, \beta; \delta)$  if  $x_1 \alpha y_1, x_2 \alpha y_2, \dots$

$$\forall t \in \text{Clo}(A) \quad \forall \bar{x}, \bar{y} \in A^k \quad \bar{x} \not\sim \bar{\alpha} \bar{y}$$

$$\forall \bar{u}, \bar{v} \in A^\ell \quad \bar{u} \not\sim \bar{\beta} \bar{v}$$

$$t(\bar{x}, \bar{u}) \not\sim t(\bar{x}, \bar{v}) \Rightarrow t(\bar{y}, \bar{u}) \not\sim t(\bar{y}, \bar{v})$$

### Remarks

- $A$  abelian if  $C(\text{id}_A, \text{id}_A; 0_A)$
  - def:  $\alpha \leq \beta$  in  $\text{Con } A$ .  $\beta$  abelian over  $\alpha$  if  $C(\beta, \beta; \alpha)$
  - def:  $\alpha, \beta \in \text{Con } A$ . commutator of  $\alpha, \beta$  is the smallest  $\delta$  such that  $C(\alpha, \beta; \delta)$ 
    - well defined
    - $[\alpha, \beta] \leq \alpha^{-1} \beta$
    - in general  $[\alpha, \beta] \neq [\beta, \alpha]$  (but = in CM)
  - def.  $A$  solvable if ...  
nilpotent if ....
  - .... in groups it matches the standard concepts
- no need to memorize

Proposition  $\underline{G}$  group,  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in \text{Con } \underline{G}$ ,

$A, B, D$  the corresponding normal subgroups  
(ie  $A = \langle \alpha \rangle$ ,  $B = \langle \beta \rangle$ ,  $D = \langle \gamma \rangle$ )

Then  $C(\alpha, \beta; \gamma)$  iff  $\forall a \in A \ \forall b \in B \ ab = ba$   
 $\quad \quad \quad (\Leftrightarrow aba^{-1}b^{-1} \in D)$

Proof: • WLOG  $\gamma = 1$  (as  $C(\alpha, \beta; \gamma)$  in  $\underline{A}$  iff  
 $C(\alpha/\gamma, \beta/\gamma; 0)$  in  $\underline{A}/\gamma$ )

$$\Rightarrow \underset{x_1}{1} \cdot \underset{u_1}{b} \cdot \underset{x_2}{l^{-1}} \cdot \underset{u_2}{b^{-1}} = \underset{y_1}{1} \cdot \underset{v_1}{l} \cdot \underset{y_2}{l^{-1}} \cdot \underset{v_2}{l^{-1}} \quad \text{Note } \frac{\bar{u}}{x} \times \frac{\bar{v}}{y}$$

$$\Rightarrow a \cdot b \cdot \bar{a}^{-1} \cdot \bar{b}^{-1} = a \cdot l \cdot \bar{a}^{-1} \cdot \bar{l}^{-1} = 1$$

$\Leftarrow$  we assume  $\forall a \in A \ \forall b \in B \ ab = ba$  ( $aba^{-1}b^{-1} = 1$ )

①  $\forall \bar{w}_1, \bar{w}_2 \in \bar{B} \ \forall r \in \text{clo}(\underline{A}) \ r(\bar{w}_1) r(\bar{w}_2)^{-1} \in B$

②  $\forall w_1, w_2 \in B \ \forall b \in B \ w_1^{-1} b w_2 = w_2^{-1} b w_1$

Prf:  $\underbrace{w_2^{-1} b w_2}_{\in A} \stackrel{?}{=} b$   
 $\quad \quad \quad || \quad b \quad w_2 w_1^{-1} w_1 w_2^{-1}$

UA2

2.7

•  $x \neq y, \bar{u} \beta \bar{v}, t \in \text{Clo}(A)$

want  $t(x, \bar{u}) = t(x, \bar{v}) \Rightarrow t(y, \bar{u}) = t(y, \bar{v})$

will prove  $t(x, \bar{u}) t(x, \bar{v})^{-1} = t(y, \bar{u}) t(y, \bar{v})^{-1}$

•  $t(x_1, \dots, x_n) = z_1 \cdot z_2 \cdot \dots \cdot z_m$  where each  $z_i$   
is  $x_i^{\pm 1}, x_2^{\pm 1}, \dots$ , or,  $x_n^{\pm 1}$

induction on  $m$ 

$$m=1 \quad \begin{cases} t(x_1, \dots, x_n) = x_1 & x x^{-1} \stackrel{?}{=} y y^{-1} \checkmark \\ t(x_1, \dots, x_n) = x_2 & u, v^{-1} \stackrel{?}{=} u, v^{-1} \checkmark \end{cases} \quad \begin{matrix} \text{similarly } x_1^{-1} \\ x_2^{-1}, x_3^{\pm 1}, \dots \end{matrix}$$

ind. step: •  $t(x_1, \dots, x_n) = x_1 s(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  similarly  $x_1^{-1}$

$$\text{LHS} = x_1 s(x, \bar{u}) (x_1 s(x, \bar{v}))^{-1} =$$

$$= x_1 s(x, \bar{u}) s(x, \bar{v})^{-1} x_1^{-1} =$$

$$\stackrel{\text{IH}}{=} x_1 \underbrace{s(y, \bar{u}) s(y, \bar{v})^{-1}}_{\text{in B by } \textcircled{1}} x_1^{-1} =$$

$$\stackrel{\text{IH}}{=} y_1 s(y, \bar{u}) s(y, \bar{v})^{-1} y_1^{-1} = \text{RHS}$$

•  $t(x_1, \dots, x_n) = x_2 s(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  similarly  $x_2^{-1}, x_3^{\pm 1}, \dots$

$$\text{LHS} = u_1 s(x, \bar{u}) s(x, \bar{v})^{-1} v_1^{-1}$$

$$\stackrel{\text{IH}}{=} u_1 s(y, \bar{u}) s(y, \bar{v})^{-1} v_1^{-1}$$

$$= \text{RHS}$$