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# Deductive Systems of BCK-Algebras

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## Abstract

In this paper we shall give some results on irreducible deductive systems in BCK-algebras and we shall prove that the set of all deductive systems of a BCK-algebra is a Heyting algebra. As a consequence of this result we shall show that the annihilator  $F^*$  of a deductive system  $F$  is the pseudocomplement of  $F$ . These results are more general than that the similar results given by M. Kondo in [7].

**Key words:** BCK-algebras, deductive system, irreducible deductive system, Heyting algebras, annihilators.

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## 1 Introduction and preliminaries

In [7] it was shown that the set of all ideals (or deductive systems, in our terminology) of a BCK-algebra  $\mathbf{A}$  is a pseudocomplement distributive lattice and that the annihilator  $F^*$  of a deductive system  $F$  of  $\mathbf{A}$  is the pseudocomplement of  $F$ . Related results on annihilators in Hilbert algebras and Tarski algebras (or also called commutative Hilbert algebras [6] or Abbot's implication algebras) are given in [2] and [3]. On the other hand, it was shown in [9] that the set of deductive systems  $Ds(\mathbf{A})$  of a BCK-algebra  $\mathbf{A}$  is an infinitely distributive lattice, and thus it is a Heyting algebra. In this note we will give a description of this fact and we shall prove that the annihilator  $F^*$  of the deductive system  $F$  can be obtained as  $F^* = F \Rightarrow \{1\}$ , where  $\Rightarrow$  is the Heyting implication defined in the lattice  $Ds(\mathbf{A})$ .

In the remaining part of this section we shall review some results on BCK-algebras. In section 2 we shall study the notion of irreducible deductive system. In particular, we shall give a generalization of a result given in [8] for BCK-algebras with supremum. In Section 3 we shall prove that the lattice of deductive system of a BCK-algebra is a Heyting algebra.

**Definition 1** An algebra  $\mathbf{A} = \langle A, \rightarrow, 1 \rangle$  of type  $(2, 0)$  is a *BCK-algebra* if for all  $a, b, c \in A$  the following conditions hold:

1.  $a \rightarrow a = 1$ ,
2.  $(a \rightarrow b) \rightarrow ((b \rightarrow c) \rightarrow (a \rightarrow c)) = 1$ ,
3.  $a \rightarrow (b \rightarrow c) = b \rightarrow (a \rightarrow c)$ ,
4.  $a \rightarrow (b \rightarrow a) = 1$
5.  $a \rightarrow b = 1$  and  $b \rightarrow a = 1$ , implies  $a = b$ .

If  $\mathbf{A}$  is a BCK-algebra and we define the binary relation  $\leq$  on  $\mathbf{A}$  by  $a \leq b$  if and only if  $a \rightarrow b = 1$ , then  $\leq$  is a partial order in  $\mathbf{A}$ .

Let us recall that in all BCK-algebras  $\mathbf{A}$  the following properties are satisfied:

- P1  $1 \rightarrow a = a$ ,
- P2  $a \rightarrow ((a \rightarrow b) \rightarrow b) = 1$
- P3  $a \rightarrow b \leq (c \rightarrow b) \rightarrow (c \rightarrow a)$ ,
- P4  $a \rightarrow b = ((a \rightarrow b) \rightarrow b) \rightarrow b$ ,
- P5 if  $a \leq b$ , then  $c \rightarrow a \leq c \rightarrow b$  and  $b \rightarrow c \leq a \rightarrow c$ .

A BCK-algebra *with supremum*, or BCK $^\vee$ -algebra is an algebra

$$\mathbf{A} = \langle A, \rightarrow, \vee, 1 \rangle$$

where  $\langle A, \rightarrow, 1 \rangle$  is a BCK-algebra,  $\langle A, \vee, 1 \rangle$  is a join-semilattice, and  $a \rightarrow b = 1$  if and only if  $a \vee b = b$ . For  $a, b \in A$  we define inductively  $a \rightarrow_n b$  as  $a \rightarrow_0 b = b$  and  $a \rightarrow_{n+1} b = a \rightarrow ((a \rightarrow_n b))$ .

Let  $\mathbf{A}$  be a BCK-algebra. A *deductive system* or *filter* of  $\mathbf{A}$  is a nonempty subset  $F$  of  $A$  such that  $1 \in F$ , and for every  $a, b \in A$ , if  $a, a \rightarrow b \in F$ , then  $b \in F$ . It is clear that if  $F$  is a deductive system,  $a \leq b$  and  $a \in F$ , then  $b \in F$ . The set of all deductive system of a BCK-algebra  $\mathbf{A}$  is denoted by  $Ds(\mathbf{A})$ . The deductive system generated by a set  $X \subseteq A$  is denoted by  $\langle X \rangle$ . Let us recall that

$$\langle X \rangle = \{a \in A : x_1 \rightarrow (\dots(x_n \rightarrow a)\dots) = 1 \text{ for some } x_1, \dots, x_n \in X\}.$$

In particular,  $\langle x \rangle = \{a \in A : x \rightarrow (\dots(x \rightarrow a)\dots) = x \rightarrow_n a = 1\}$ .

Let  $\mathbf{A}$  be a BCK-algebra. In [9] (see also [10]) it was proved that the structure  $\langle Ds(\mathbf{A}), \vee, \wedge, \{1\}, A \rangle$  is a bounded (infinitely) distributive lattice where the operations  $\wedge$  and  $\vee$  are defined by:

$$\begin{aligned} F_1 \wedge F_2 &= F_1 \cap F_2 \\ F_1 \vee F_2 &= \{a \in A : \exists(x, y) \in F_1 \times F_2; x \rightarrow (y \rightarrow a) = 1\}. \end{aligned}$$

We note that

$$F \vee \langle a \rangle = \{c \in A : a \rightarrow_n c \in F \text{ for some } n \geq 0\}$$

for  $F \in Ds(\mathbf{A})$  and  $a \in A$ . Indeed, let  $c \in F \vee \langle a \rangle$ . Then there exist  $x \in F$  and  $n \geq 0$  such that  $x \rightarrow (y \rightarrow c) = 1$  and  $a \rightarrow_n y = 1$ . Since  $x \rightarrow (y \rightarrow c) = 1 \in F$ ,  $y \rightarrow c \in F$ . So,  $y \rightarrow c \leq (a \rightarrow_n y) \rightarrow (a \rightarrow_n c) = 1 \rightarrow (a \rightarrow_n c) = a \rightarrow_n c \in F$ .

## 2 Irreducible deductive systems

In [8] the separation theorem for BCK<sup>∨</sup>-algebras was proved. In this section following the paper [1], we prove a separation theorem for any BCK-algebra.

Let  $\mathbf{A}$  be a BCK-algebra. A deductive system  $F$  is *irreducible* if and only if for any  $F_1, F_2 \in Ds(\mathbf{A})$  such that  $F = F_1 \cap F_2$ , we have  $F = F_1$  or  $F = F_2$ . We denote by  $X(\mathbf{A})$  the set of all irreducible deductive systems of a BCK-algebra  $\mathbf{A}$ .

**Lemma 2** *Let  $\mathbf{A}$  be a BCK-algebra. Let  $F \in Ds(\mathbf{A})$ . Then  $F$  is irreducible if and only if for every  $a, b \notin F$  there exist  $c \notin F$  and  $n \geq 0$  such that  $a \rightarrow_n c$ ,  $b \rightarrow_n c \in F$ .*

**Proof**  $\Rightarrow$ ) Let  $a, b \notin F$ . Let us consider the deductive systems  $F_a = \langle F \cup \{a\} \rangle = F \vee \langle a \rangle$  and  $F_b = \langle F \cup \{b\} \rangle = F \vee \langle b \rangle$ . Since  $F \neq F_a$  and  $F \neq F_b$ , then by irreducibility of  $F$  we have  $F \subset F_a \cap F_b$ . It follows that there exists  $c \in (F_a \cap F_b) - F$ . Then  $a \rightarrow_n c \in F$  and  $b \rightarrow_m c \in F$  for some  $n, m \geq 0$ . If we assume that  $n \geq m$ , then by property P4 we have that  $b \rightarrow_m c \leq b \rightarrow_n c$ . So,  $a \rightarrow_n c \in F$  and  $b \rightarrow_n c \in F$ .

$\Leftarrow$ ). Let  $F_1, F_2 \in Ds(\mathbf{A})$  such that  $F = F_1 \cap F_2$ . Suppose that  $F \neq F_1$  and  $F \neq F_2$ . Then there exist  $a \in F_1 - F$  and  $b \in F_2 - F$ . So, by the assumption, there exists  $c \notin F$  and  $n \geq 0$  such that  $a \rightarrow_n c \in F$  and  $b \rightarrow_n c \in F$ . As,  $a, a \rightarrow_n c \in F_1$  and  $F_1 \in Ds(\mathbf{A})$ , then  $c \in F_1$ . Similarly,  $c \in F_2$ . Thus,  $c \in F_1 \cap F_2 = F$ , which is a contradiction.  $\square$

Let  $\mathbf{A}$  be a BCK-algebra. A subset  $I$  of  $A$  is called an *ideal* of  $\mathbf{A}$  if:

1. If  $b \in I$  and  $a \leq b$ , then  $a \in I$ .
2. If  $a, b \in I$  there exists  $c \in I$  such that  $a \leq c$  and  $b \leq c$ .

The set of all ideals of  $\mathbf{A}$  will be denoted by  $Id(\mathbf{A})$ .

**Theorem 3** *Let  $\mathbf{A}$  be a BCK-algebra. Let  $F \in Ds(\mathbf{A})$  and  $I \in Id(\mathbf{A})$  such that  $F \cap I = \emptyset$ . Then there exists  $P \in X(\mathbf{A})$  such that  $F \subseteq P$  and  $P \cap I = \emptyset$ .*

**Proof** Let us consider the following subset of  $Ds(\mathbf{A})$ :

$$\mathcal{F} = \{H \in Ds(\mathbf{A}) : F \subseteq H \text{ and } H \cap I = \emptyset\}.$$

Since  $F \in \mathcal{F}$ , then  $\mathcal{F} \neq \emptyset$ . It is clear that the union of a chain of elements of  $\mathcal{F}$  is also in  $\mathcal{F}$ . So, by Zorn's lemma, there exists a maximal element  $P$  of  $\mathcal{F}$ . We

prove that  $P \in X(\mathbf{A})$ . Let  $a, b \notin P$  and let us consider the deductive systems  $P_a = \langle P \cup \{a\} \rangle$  and  $P_b = \langle P \cup \{b\} \rangle$ . Clearly,  $P \subset P_a \cap P_b$ . Then,  $P_a, P_b \notin \mathcal{F}$ . Thus,  $P_a \cap I \neq \emptyset$  and  $P_b \cap I \neq \emptyset$ . It follows that there exist  $x, y \in I$  such that  $a \rightarrow_n x \in P$  and  $b \rightarrow_m y \in P$  for some  $n, m \geq 0$ . Suppose that  $m \leq n$ . Then  $b \rightarrow_m y \leq b \rightarrow_n y \in P$ . Since  $I$  is an ideal, there exists  $c \in I$  such that  $x \leq c$  and  $y \leq c$ . So,  $a \rightarrow_n x \leq a \rightarrow_n c \in P$  and  $b \rightarrow_n y \leq b \rightarrow_n c \in P$ . Therefore, by Lemma 2, we conclude that  $P \in X(\mathbf{A})$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 4** *Let  $\mathbf{A}$  be a BCK-algebra. Let  $F \in Ds(\mathbf{A})$ .*

1. *For each  $a \notin F$  there exists  $P \in X(\mathbf{A})$  such that  $a \notin P$  and  $F \subseteq P$ .*
2.  $F = \bigcap \{P \in X(\mathbf{A}) : F \subseteq P\}$ .

### 3 Annihilators

Let us recall that a *Heyting algebra* is an algebra  $\langle A, \vee, \wedge, \Rightarrow, 0, 1 \rangle$  of type  $(2, 2, 2, 0, 0)$  such that  $\langle A, \vee, \wedge, 0, 1 \rangle$  is a bounded distributive lattice and the operation  $\Rightarrow$  satisfies the condition:  $a \wedge b \leq c$  if and only if  $a \leq b \Rightarrow c$ , for all  $a, b, c \in A$ . The *pseudocomplement* of an element  $x \in A$  is the element  $x^* = x \Rightarrow 0$ .

Let  $\mathbf{A}$  be a BCK-algebra. Let  $a \in A$ . Define the set  $[a] = \{x \in A : a \leq x\}$ . We note that in general the set  $[a] \notin Ds(\mathbf{A})$ .

For each pair  $F, H \in Ds(\mathbf{A})$  let us define the subset  $F \Rightarrow H$  of  $A$  as follows:

$$F \Rightarrow H = \{a \in A : [a] \cap F \subseteq H\}.$$

**Theorem 5** *Let  $\mathbf{A}$  be a BCK-algebra. Let  $F, H \in Ds(\mathbf{A})$ . Then*

1.  $F \Rightarrow H \in Ds(\mathbf{A})$ .
2.  $F \Rightarrow H = \{x \in A : (x \rightarrow f) \rightarrow f \in H \text{ for each } f \in F\}$ .
3.  $\langle Fi(A), \vee, \wedge, \Rightarrow, \{1\}, A \rangle$  is a Heyting algebra.

**Proof** 1. Since,  $[1] \cap F = \{1\} \subseteq H$ , then  $1 \in F \Rightarrow H$ .

Let  $x, x \rightarrow y \in F \Rightarrow H$ . Then,  $[x] \cap F \subseteq H$  and  $[x \rightarrow y] \cap F \subseteq H$ . Let  $z \in [y] \cap F$ . As,  $y \leq z$ , then by the property P5,  $x \rightarrow y \leq x \rightarrow z$ . By property P4., we have  $x \rightarrow z \in F$ . Thus,

$$x \rightarrow z \in [x \rightarrow y] \cap F.$$

On the other hand, as  $x \leq (x \rightarrow z) \rightarrow z$  and  $z \leq (x \rightarrow z) \rightarrow z$ , we get  $(x \rightarrow z) \rightarrow z \in [x] \cap F$ . Therefore,

$$x \rightarrow z, (x \rightarrow z) \rightarrow z \in H,$$

and consequently  $z \in H$ . So,  $F \Rightarrow H \in Ds(\mathbf{A})$ .

2. We prove that

$$F \Rightarrow H \subseteq G = \{x \in A : (x \rightarrow f) \rightarrow f \in H \text{ for each } f \in F\}.$$

Let  $x \in A$  such that  $[x] \cap F \subseteq H$ . Let  $f \in F$ . Since,  $x \leq (x \rightarrow f) \rightarrow f$  and  $f \leq (x \rightarrow f) \rightarrow f$ , then  $(x \rightarrow f) \rightarrow f \in [x] \cap F \subseteq H$ . Thus,  $x \in G$ .

Let  $x \in G$ . Let  $y \in A$  such that  $x \leq y$  and  $y \in F$ . Since  $(x \rightarrow y) \rightarrow y \in H$  and  $x \rightarrow y = 1$ , then  $1 \rightarrow y = y \in H$ . Thus,  $x \in F \Rightarrow H$ .

3. Let  $F, H, K \in Ds(\mathbf{A})$ . Then it is easy to check that

$$F \cap H \subseteq K \text{ if and only if } F \subseteq H \Rightarrow K.$$

Thus,  $\langle Ds(\mathbf{A}), \vee, \wedge, \Rightarrow, \{1\}, A \rangle$  is a Heyting algebra.  $\square$

As a corollary we have the following result, first given by M. Kondo in [7].

**Corollary 6** *Let  $\mathbf{A}$  be a BCK-algebra. The annihilator of a deductive system  $F$  is the deductive system*

$$F^* = F \Rightarrow \{1\} = \{x \in A : [x] \cap F = \{1\}\}.$$

**Proof** It is immediate by the above theorem.  $\square$

For BCK<sup>∨</sup>-algebras we can give the following result which generalize a similar result given by M. Kondo in [7] for commutative BCK-algebras.

**Proposition 7** *Let  $\mathbf{A}$  be a BCK<sup>∨</sup>-algebra. Then for every  $F \in Ds(\mathbf{A})$*

$$F^* = \{x \in A : x \vee f = 1 \text{ for each } f \in F\}.$$

**Proof** Let  $x \in A$  such that  $x \vee f = 1$  for each  $f \in F$ . We prove that  $[x] \cap F = \{1\}$ . Let  $a \in A$  such that  $x \leq a$  and  $a \in F$ . Then  $a = x \vee a = 1$ . Thus,  $x \in F^*$ .

Let  $x \in F^*$ . Then  $[x] \cap F = \{1\}$ . Since  $x \leq x \vee f$ ,  $f \leq x \vee f$ , for each  $f \in F$ , and as  $F$  is increasing, then  $x \vee f \in [x] \cap F$ . Thus,  $x \vee f = 1$ , for each  $f \in F$ .  $\square$

Now we prove that the annihilator of a subset  $X$  is the annihilator of the deductive system generated by  $X$ . This result was proved for Tarski algebras in [2].

**Theorem 8** *Let  $\mathbf{A}$  be a BCK<sup>∨</sup>-algebra. Then for every subset  $X$  of  $A$ , we have  $X^* = \langle X \rangle^*$ .*

**Proof** Since  $X \subseteq \langle X \rangle$ , then  $\langle X \rangle^* \subseteq X^*$ . Let  $x \in X^*$ . We prove that for every  $a \in \langle X \rangle$ ,  $x \vee a = 1$ . Suppose that there exists  $a \in \langle X \rangle$  such that  $a \vee x \neq 1$ . Then there exist  $x_1, \dots, x_k \in X$  such that

$$x_1 \rightarrow (x_2 \rightarrow \dots (x_k \rightarrow a) \dots) = 1.$$

As  $x \in X^*$ ,  $x \vee x_i = 1$  for every  $x_i \in \{x_1, \dots, x_k\}$ . Since,  $a \vee x \neq 1$ , by Theorem 3 there exists an irreducible deductive system  $P$  such that  $x \notin P$ ,  $a \notin P$  and taking into account that  $x \vee x_i = 1$ , then  $x_i \in P$  for every  $x_i \in \{x_1, \dots, x_k\}$ . But since,  $x_1 \rightarrow (x_2 \rightarrow \dots (x_k \rightarrow a) \dots) = 1 \in P$ , then  $a \in P$ , which is a contradiction. Thus,  $a \vee x = 1$  for every  $a \in \langle X \rangle$  and consequently  $x \in \langle X \rangle^*$ .  $\square$

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