# A marriage of groups and Boolean algebras. In memory of Steven R. Givant

Andréka, H. and Németi, I.

## **Relation Algebras**

Already in his 1941 article, Tarski remarked that the theory of relation algebras seemed to be a kind of union of the theories of Boolean algebras and of groups. The penultimate theorem we shall discuss provides an explanation of this connection.

RA = Groups + BA

### GROUPS

Group: (A, •, 1', <sup>-1</sup>)

binary operation
a•b in A, for all a,b
Invertible monoid

Brandt groupoid: (A, •, I, <sup>-1</sup>)

partial binary operation
 a b in A, for some a,b
 Invertible monoid

#### Polygroupoid: (A, •, I, <sup>-1</sup>)

- many-valued binary operation
   a•b subset of A, for all a,b
- Invertible monoid

**Group**: (A, ●, 1′, <sup>-1</sup>)

binary operationa•b in A, for all a,b

Invertible monoid

• associative: a(bc)=(ab)c

1' is identity: a1' = 1'a =a

<sup>-1</sup> is inverse:  $aa^{-1} = a^{-1}a = 1'$ 

Brandt groupoid: (A, •, I, <sup>-1</sup>)

partial binary operation
a•b in A, for some a,b

Invertible monoid

associative: a(bc)=(ab)c if ab, bc exist

e in I is identity: ae = a, ea =a, if exist

<sup>-1</sup> is inverse: aa <sup>-1</sup>a=a, and aa <sup>-1</sup>a exists

Polygroupoid:  $(A, \bullet, I, -1)$ 

- multivalued binary operation
- a•b subset of A, for all a,b

Invertible monoid

- associative: a(bc)=(ab)c
- l is set of identities: al = la =a
- <sup>-1</sup> is inverse: multivalued version

Polygroupoid: (A, •, I, <sup>-1</sup>)

- multivalued binary operation
- a•b subset of A, for all a,b

Invertible monoid

associative: a(bc)=(ab)c complex multiplication

I is identity: al=la=a

<sup>-1</sup> is inverse:

a in bc iff b in  $ac^{-1}$  iff c in  $b^{-1}a$ .



Complex multiplication: XY = unionof { ab : a in X, b in Y}

### GROUPS

Cayley representation

Cayley representation: A is set of permutations on a set Composition, identity map, inverse



Suc = { (0,1), (1,2), (2,3), (3,0) }



#### Group: (A, ●, 1', ⁻¹) ● binary operation

#### Inverse

Cayley representation: A is set of permutations on a set Composition, identity map, inverse



 $Suc^{-1} = \{ (1,0), (2,1), (3,2), (0,3) \}$ 



Group: (A, ●, 1', ⁻¹) ● binary operation Composition, identity

Cayley representation: A is set of permutations on a set Composition, identity map, inverse



Suc<sup>-1</sup> = { (1,0), (2,1), (3,2), (0,3) } Suc<sup>2</sup> = { (0,2), (1,3), (2,0), (3,1) }



#### Cayley representation of Z<sub>6</sub>



#### **BRANDT GROUPOIDS**

#### Brandt groupoid structure

Structure:

Copies of a group on the full graph on I







Brandt groupoid:  $(A, \bullet, I, -1)$ 

• partial binary operation

Brandt groupoid with I={p,q} and G=Z<sub>3</sub>

![](_page_12_Figure_1.jpeg)

### POLYGROUPOIDS

Polygroupoid:  $(A, \bullet, I, -1)$ 

Structure:

• many-valued binary operation

Theorem (Comer, 1983) Polygroupoids are exactly atom-structures of atomic relation algebras.

RA = SCm PG.

Representation of a polygroupoid:
Elements of A with binary relations
as composition of binary relations
I as identity relation
-1 as converse of a relation

Complete representations of RA: determined by polygroupoid Incomplete representations of RA: determined by BA structure Subject of second part of the talk

# STORY

- Representation theorem of Jónsson and Tarski 1952
- Discovery of Roger Maddux 1991
- Idea of Steven Givant 1991
- Vision of Steve Comer 1983

# Loop polygroupoids

a is a loop if there is x in I such that xax=a.

A polygroupoid is a loop-polygroupoid iff the product on loops is a partial function. LPG

A relation algebra is measurable iff the identity is the sum of atoms, and for each subidentity atom x the square x;1;x is the supremum of functional elements. MRA

The structure of LPGs is very similar to BGs:

Groups on the vertices, but different groups possible,

Factor groups on the edges.

Plus a common factor group in the middle of each triangle.

#### LOOP POLYGROUPOIDS

![](_page_17_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### LOOP POLYGROUPOIDS

#### REPRESENTABLE EXAMPLES

![](_page_19_Figure_0.jpeg)

Multicategory (on blackboard)

![](_page_19_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_20_Figure_0.jpeg)

**Fig. 10.3** (a) The Cayley representation of the group complex algebra  $\mathfrak{C}$ . (b) The same representation with a reordered base set to show that the representation of  $\iota$  is an equivalence relation on *G* with equivalence classes  $\{0,2,4\}$  and  $\{1,3,5\}$ . (c) The induced representation of  $\mathfrak{C}/\iota$ . (d) The induced representation with a reordered base set. (e) The contracted representation of  $\mathfrak{C}/\iota$ .

#### Loop polygroupoid with $I=\{p,q,r\}$ and $G_x=Z4$ and $G_{xy}=Z1$

![](_page_21_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_21_Figure_2.jpeg)

Loop polygroupoid with I={p,q,r} and  $G_x$ =Z4 and  $G_{xy}$ =Z2

![](_page_22_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_22_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_23_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_23_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_23_Picture_2.jpeg)

Loop polygroupoid with  $I=\{p,q,r\}$  and  $G_x=Z_1$ 

Pair dense RA:  $(A, \bullet, I, {}^{-1})$ all the groups are one- or two-element

![](_page_24_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_24_Figure_2.jpeg)

Loop polygroupoid with  $I=\{p,q,r,s,t\}$  and  $G_x=Z_2$  or  $G_x=Z_1$ 

Pair dense RA:  $(A, \bullet, I, {}^{-1})$ all the groups are one- or two-element

![](_page_25_Figure_1.jpeg)

Loop polygroupoid with I={p,q,r,s,t} and  $G_p=G_q=G_r=G_{pq}=Z_2$ , all the others are  $Z_1$ 

![](_page_26_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_27_Figure_0.jpeg)

Theorem (G): Representable LPGs are exactly the structures belonging to group systems.

#### Problem: are all LPGs representable?

Partial results (AG): LPGs with I having less than 5 elements are representable. LPGs with all groups direct products of at most two finite cyclic groups are representable. LPGs with less than "three levels" are representable.

Surprise (AG): There is a nonrepresentable LPG with I having 5 elements, the groups on the vertices Z2xZ2xZ2, the groups on the edges Z2xZ2, and the group in the middle Z2.

## NONREPRESENTABLE LPG

On blackboard

![](_page_29_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_30_Picture_0.jpeg)

#### Loop polygroupoid: (A, •, I, -1)

partial binary operation on loops

 $\mathsf{G}_{\mathsf{x}\mathsf{y}}$ G<sub>x</sub>€  $G_v$  $A = \{ (x,g,y) : x,y \text{ in } I \text{ and } g \text{ in } G_{xy} \}$  $(x,g,y) \bullet (y,h,z) = \{ (x, ghC_{xyz}, z) \}$ 

Structure:

Groups on the vertices, factor groups on the edges of the full graph on I, a group with a shift in the middle of each triangle

Loop polygroupoid structure in general

Representation Theorem for LPG (AG): LPGs are exactly the structures belonging to shifted group systems.

element of factor group  $G_{xyz}$  of Gx $C_{xyz}$  is called the shift in the triangle xyz

Conditions on next slide

- (i)  $\varphi_{xx}$  is the identity function on  $G_x/\{e_x\}$ , where  $e_x$  is the identity element of  $G_x$ .
- (ii)  $\varphi_{yx}$  is the inverse of  $\varphi_{xy}$ . In particular,  $K_{xy} = H_{yx}$ .
- (iii)  $\varphi_{xy}[H_{xz}/H_{xy}] = H_{yz}/H_{yx}.$

Assume that (iii) holds. Define  $\varphi_{xy}^z(g/(H_{xy} \circ H_{xz})) = \varphi_{xy}(g/H_{xy}) \circ H_{yz}$ . (iv)  $\varphi_{xy}^z \mid \varphi_{yz}^x = \tau(C_{xyz}) \mid \varphi_{xz}^y$ .

(v)  $C_{xyy} = H_{xy}$ . (vi)  $\varphi_{xz}[C_{xyz}] = C_{zyx}^{-1}$ . (vii)  $\varphi_{xy}[C_{xyz}] = C_{zyx}^{-1}$ . (viii)  $C_{xyz} \circ C_{xzw} = \varphi_{yx}[C_{yzw} \circ H_{yx}] \circ C_{xyw}$ .

# **Open Problems**

OProblem1.

Are these all the nonrepresentable LPGs?

OProblem2. Can each measurable RA be embedded into an atomic measurable RA?

OProblem3. Are all representable measurable RAs completely representable?

# The same for other structures, general systems theory

![](_page_34_Picture_1.jpeg)

Steven Givant · Hajnal Andréka Simple Relation Algebras D Springer