

## ON $Hom(-, -)$ AS DIFFERENCE ALGEBRAS

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**Abstract.** In this paper, we investigate some properties of  $Hom(-, -)$  as difference algebras. Also we define the orthogonal subsets of difference algebras and study their properties.

### 1. Introduction

In [1], Hausdorff introduced the ordered group, which is a general algebraic system combining a partial ordered set and a group. In [2], Imai and Iséki introduced a new notion, called a *BCK-algebra*. The inverse of the group operation and the set difference operation have many common properties. In [4], Meng combined these properties with a partial ordered set, and constructed the notion of the difference algebra. We know that the class of *BCI*-algebras is a proper subclass of difference algebras; the class of ordered groups is also a proper subclass of difference algebras. It is worth to study difference algebras. Recently, Roh et al. ([6]) introduced the concept of the quotient difference via ideal and investigated some interesting properties. In [7], they also introduced the concept of nil subsets by using nilpotent elements, and investigated some related properties. In this paper, we investigate some properties of  $Hom(-, -)$  as difference algebras. Also we define the orthogonal subsets of difference algebras and study their properties.

### 2. Preliminaries

**Definition 2.1.**([4]) An algebra  $(X; *, \leq, 0)$  with a binary operation “ $*$ ”, a nullary operation “ $0$ ” and a partial binary relation “ $\leq$ ” on  $X$  is called a *difference algebra* if it satisfies, for all  $x, y, z \in X$ :

- (D1)  $(X; \leq)$  is a poset,
- (D2)  $x \leq y$  implies  $x * z \leq y * z$ ,
- (D3)  $(x * y) * z \leq (x * z) * y$ ,
- (D4)  $0 \leq x * x$ ,
- (D5)  $x \leq y$  if and only if  $x * y \leq 0$ .

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Roh et al. ([6]) gave examples which the conditions (D1), (D2), (D3), (D4) and (D5) are independent each other.

**Example 2.2.**([4]) Let  $\mathbb{R}$  denote the set of all real numbers. If we specify ordinary subtraction as the operation  $*$ , natural order as  $\leq$ , zero as the nullary operation  $0$ , then  $(\mathbb{R}; *, \leq, 0)$  is a difference algebra.

**Example 2.3.**([4]) Suppose that  $(X; *, 0)$  is a *BCI*-algebra and  $\leq$  is the *BCI*-order. Then  $(X; *, \leq, 0)$  is a difference algebra.

**Remark.** In above examples, we know that the class of *BCI*-algebras is a proper subclass of the difference algebras; the class of ordered groups is also a proper subclass of difference algebras.

**Example 2.4.** ([6]) Let  $X := \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$  be a set with the following table:

*	0	1	2	3
0	0	0	3	3
1	1	0	3	2
2	2	3	0	1
3	3	3	0	0

Define a binary relation “ $\leq$ ” by  $x \leq y$  if and only if  $x * y = 0$ . Then  $(X; *, \leq, 0)$  is a difference algebra.

**Example 2.5.**([6]) Let  $(X; *, \leq, 0)$  be a difference algebra with the following table:

*	0	1	2	3	4
0	0	0	0	3	3
1	1	0	0	3	3
2	2	2	0	3	3
3	3	3	3	0	0
4	4	3	3	1	0

Define a binary relation “ $\leq$ ” by  $x \leq y$  if and only if  $x * y = 0$ . Then  $(X; *, \leq, 0)$  is a difference algebra.

Now we give some elementary and fundamental properties of difference algebras.

**Theorem 2.6.**([4]) *In any difference algebra  $X$ , the following hold: for any  $x, y, z \in X$ ,*

- (1)  $(x * y) * z = (x * z) * y$ ,
- (2)  $x * x = 0$ ,
- (3)  $x * y \leq z$  implies  $x * z \leq y$ ,
- (4)  $(x * (x * y)) * y = 0$ ,
- (5)  $x \leq y$  implies  $z * y \leq z * x$ ,
- (6)  $x * (x * (x * y)) = x * y$ ,
- (7)  $x * 0 = x$ ,
- (8)  $0 * (x * y) = (0 * x) * (0 * y)$ ,
- (9)  $(x * y) * (x * z) \leq z * y$ .

In what follows, the letter  $X$  denotes a difference algebra unless otherwise specified.

**Definition 2.7.**([6]) A non-empty subset  $S$  of  $X$  is called a *subalgebra* of  $X$  if  $x * y \in S$  whenever  $x, y \in S$ .

**Definition 2.8.**([6]) A non-empty subset  $A$  of  $X$  is called an *ideal* of  $X$  if

- (I1)  $0 \in A$ ,
- (I2)  $x * y \in A$  and  $y \in A$  imply  $x \in A$ ,
- (I3)  $x \leq y$  and  $y \in A$  imply  $x \in A$ .

**Example 2.9.**([6]) Let  $X$  be the set of all real numbers and  $F(X)$  be the set of all real-valued functions on  $X$ . Suppose that  $\leq$  is the pointwise order:

$$f \leq g \text{ if and if for all } x \in X, f(x) \leq g(x).$$

The operation  $*$  is defined by the formula

$$(f * g)(x) := f(x) - g(x) \text{ for all } x \in X.$$

The nullary operation  $0$  is the constant function  $0$ . Then  $(F(X); *, \leq, 0)$  is a difference algebra. Let  $P(X) := \{f \in F(X) | f(x) \geq 0\}$  for all  $x \in R$ . Then  $P(X)$  is an ideal of  $F(X)$ , but it is not a subalgebra of  $F(X)$ . Thus we know that an ideal of a difference algebra may not be a subalgebra.

**Definition 2.10.**([7]) An ideal  $A$  of  $X$  is said to be *closed* if

- (I4)  $0 * x \in A$  for all  $x \in A$ .

We know that every closed ideal in a difference algebra is a subalgebra but converse is not true (See [6]).

### 3. $\text{Hom}(-, -)$ as Difference Algebras

Let  $X := (X; *X, \leq, 0_X)$  and  $Y := (Y; *Y, \leq', 0_Y)$  be difference algebras. A mapping  $f$  from a poset  $(X; \leq)$  into a poset  $(Y; \leq')$  is called a *Harris map* ([5]) if for any incomparable elements  $x, y \in X$ , either  $f(x) = f(y)$  or  $f(x)$  and  $f(y)$  are incomparable. We

denote the fact that  $x$  and  $y$  are incomparable by  $x||y$ . A mapping  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is called a (*difference*) *homomorphism* if

(Hi)  $f(x *_X y) = f(x) *_Y f(y)$  for any  $x, y \in X$ ,

(Hii)  $f$  is a Harris map.

Note that  $f(0_X) = 0_Y$ , since  $x *_X x = 0$ . Let  $Ker(f) := \{x \in X | f(x) = 0_Y\}$  be the kernel of  $f$ . If a mapping  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  satisfies (Hi), then it is order preserving, i.e.,  $x \leq y$  implies  $0_Y = f(x *_X y) = f(x) *_Y f(y)$ , i.e.,  $f(x) \leq f(y)$ . Define the trivial homomorphism  $0$  as  $0(x) = 0$  for all  $x \in X$ .

**Example 3.1.** In Example 2.5, if we define a map  $\varphi : X \rightarrow X$  by  $\varphi(0) = \varphi(1) = \varphi(2) = 0$ ,  $\varphi(3) = \varphi(4) = 3$ , then it is easy to verify that  $\varphi$  is a homomorphism.

Let  $hom(X, Y)$  denotes the set of all homomorphisms between difference algebras  $X$  and  $Y$ . For any  $f, g \in hom(X, Y)$ , define a mapping  $f * g : X \rightarrow Y$  by  $(f * g)(x) := f(x) * g(x)$  for any  $x \in X$ . A subset  $A$  of  $hom(X, Y)$  is said to have a *kernel intersection property* if  $Ker(f * g) = Ker(f) \cap Ker(g)$  for any  $f, g \in A$ . Denote by  $Hom(X, Y)$  the set of all homomorphisms having the kernel intersection property.

**Example 3.2.** Let  $X := \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$  be a set with the following table:

*	0	1	2	3
0	0	1	2	3
1	1	0	3	2
2	2	3	0	1
3	3	2	1	0

Then  $(X; *, \leq, 0)$  is a difference algebra. By routine calculations, there are 16 homomorphisms from  $X$  to itself. Among them we can find that  $Hom(X, X) = \{f_1, f_2, f_3, f_4\}$ , where  $f_1(0) = f_1(1) = f_1(2) = f_1(3) = 0$ ;  $f_2(0) = f_2(1) = 0, f_2(2) = f_2(3) = 1$ ;  $f_3(0) = f_3(1) = 0, f_3(2) = f_3(3) = 2$ ;  $f_4(0) = f_4(1) = 0, f_4(2) = f_4(3) = 3$ .

**Definition 3.3.** A difference algebra  $X$  is said to be *medial* if for any  $x, y, z, w \in X$ ,

$$(x * y) * (z * w) = (x * z) * (y * w).$$

**Example 3.4.** Every lattice ordered group (or po-group)  $G$  is a difference algebra. Since for any  $x, y, z, w \in G$ ,  $(x - y) - (z - w) = (x - z) - (y - w)$ ,  $(G; -, \leq, 0)$  is a medial difference algebra.

**Lemma 3.5.** Let  $X$  be a difference algebra and let  $Y$  be a medial difference algebra. Then  $f * g \in Hom(X, Y)$  for any  $f, g \in Hom(X, Y)$ .

**Proof.** For any  $x, y \in X$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} (f * g)(x * y) &= f(x * y) * g(x * y) \\ &= (f(x) * f(y)) * (g(x) * g(y)) \\ &= (f(x) * g(x)) * (f(y) * g(y)) \quad [ \cdot : Y : \text{medial} ] \\ &= (f * g)(x) * (f * g)(y). \end{aligned}$$

This means that  $f * g$  satisfies (Hi).

Assume that  $f * g$  is not a Harris map, where  $f, g$  are Harris maps. Then there are incomparable elements  $x, y \in X$  such that  $(f * g)(x)$  and  $(f * g)(y)$  are not equal and not incomparable. This means that either  $(f * g)(x) < (f * g)(y)$  or  $(f * g)(y) < (f * g)(x)$ . Without loss of generality, we let  $(f * g)(x) < (f * g)(y)$ . Since  $Y$  is medial,  $0 = (f * g)(x) * (f * g)(y) = (f(x) * g(x)) * (f(y) * g(y)) = (f(x) * f(y)) * (g(x) * g(y)) = f(x * y) * g(x * y) = (f * g)(x * y)$  and hence  $x * y \in Ker(f * g) = Ker(f) \cap Ker(g)$ . Hence  $0 = f(x * y) = f(x) * f(y)$ ,  $0 = g(x * y) = g(x) * g(y)$ , i.e.,  $f(x) \leq f(y)$ ,  $g(x) \leq g(y)$ . Since  $f, g$  are Harris maps and  $x$  and  $y$  are incomparable, we obtain  $f(x) = f(y)$  and  $g(x) = g(y)$ . Thus,  $(f * g)(x) = f(x) * g(x) = f(y) * g(y) = (f * g)(y)$ , a contradiction. This proves that  $f * g$  satisfies (Hii). Hence  $f * g \in Hom(X, Y)$ .

**Theorem 3.6.** *Let  $X$  be a difference algebra and let  $Y$  be a medial difference algebra. Then  $(Hom(X, Y); *, 0)$  is also a medial difference algebra.*

**Proof.** Straightforward.

A difference algebra  $X$  is called a  $\Gamma$ -difference algebra if whenever  $x * y = y * x$ ,  $x = y$  for every  $x, y \in X$ .

**Theorem 3.7.** *If  $X$  is a difference algebra and  $Y$  is a medial  $\Gamma$ -difference algebra, then  $Hom(X, Y)$  is a medial  $\Gamma$ -difference algebra.*

**Proof.** Assume that  $f * g = g * f$  for  $f, g \in Hom(X, Y)$ . Then  $f(x) * g(x) = (f * g)(x) = (g * f)(x) = g(x) * f(x)$  for any  $x \in X$ . Since  $Y$  is a  $\Gamma$ -difference algebra, we have  $f(x) = g(x)$  for any  $x \in X$ . Hence  $f = g$ . Thus  $Hom(X, Y)$  is a medial  $\Gamma$ -difference algebra.

For any elements  $x, y$  in a difference algebra  $X$ , let us write  $x * y^n$  for

$$(\dots((x * y) * y) * \dots) * y$$

where  $y$  occurs  $n$  times. We say that an element  $x$  in a difference algebra  $X$  is a nilpotent element if  $0 * x^n = 0$  for some positive integer  $n$ . If every element  $x$  of  $X$  is nilpotent, then  $X$  is called a *nil difference algebra* ([7]).

**Example 3.8.** The difference algebra in Example 3.2 is nil.

**Theorem 3.9.** *Let  $X$  be a difference algebra and let  $Y$  be a medial difference algebra. If  $Y$  is nil, then  $Hom(X, Y)$  is nil.*

**Proof.** Let  $f \in \text{Hom}(X, Y)$  and let  $x \in X$ . Since  $Y$  is nil, there exists  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  such that  $0 * f(x)^n = 0$ . Hence

$$\begin{aligned} 0(x) &= 0 * f(x)^n \\ &= (\cdots ((0(x) * f(x)) * f(x)) * \cdots) * f(x) \quad [f(x) \text{ occurs } n \text{ times}] \\ &= (\cdots ((0 * f) * f) * \cdots) * f(x) \quad [f \text{ occurs } n \text{ times}] \\ &= (0 * f^n)(x). \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $0 * f^n = 0$ . The proof is complete.

Let  $X$  be a difference algebra and let  $Y$  be a medial difference algebra. Let  $M$  and  $\Theta$  be subsets of  $X$  and  $\text{Hom}(X, Y)$ , respectively. We define orthogonal subsets  $M^\perp$  and  $\Theta^\perp$  of  $M$  and  $\Theta$  respectively by

$$M^\perp := \{f \in \text{Hom}(X, Y) \mid f(x) = 0 \text{ for all } x \in M\}$$

and

$$\Theta^\perp := \{x \in X \mid f(x) = 0 \text{ for all } f \in \Theta\}.$$

**Proposition 3.10.** *Let  $X$  be a difference algebra and let  $Y$  be a medial difference algebra. Then we have the following:*

- (1)  $\{0\}^\perp = \text{Hom}(X, Y)$ , where  $0$  is the zero element of  $X$ .
- (2)  $X^\perp = \{0\}$ , where  $0$  is the zero homomorphism.
- (3) If  $M_1 \subseteq M_2 \subseteq X$ , then  $M_2^\perp \subseteq M_1^\perp$ .
- (4)  $M \subseteq (M^\perp)^\perp$ , where  $M \subseteq X$ .
- (5)  $M^\perp = ((M^\perp)^\perp)^\perp$ , where  $M \subseteq X$ .
- (6)  $\{0\}^\perp = X$ , where  $0$  is the zero homomorphism.
- (7)  $\text{Hom}(X, Y)^\perp = \{0\}$ , where  $0$  is the zero element of  $X$ .
- (8) If  $N_1 \subseteq N_2 \subseteq \text{Hom}(X, Y)$ , then  $N_2^\perp \subseteq N_1^\perp$ .
- (9)  $N \subseteq (N^\perp)^\perp$ , where  $N \subseteq \text{Hom}(X, Y)$ .
- (10)  $N^\perp = ((N^\perp)^\perp)^\perp$ , where  $N \subseteq \text{Hom}(X, Y)$ .

**Proof.** (1), (2), (6) and (7) follows easily from definitions of  $M^\perp$  and  $\Theta^\perp$ . (4) and (9) are easy.

(3) Assume that  $M_1 \subseteq M_2 \subseteq X$ . Let  $f \in M_2^\perp$ . Then  $f(x) = 0$  for all  $x \in M_2$ . This implies  $f(x) = 0$  for all  $x \in M_1$ , because  $M_1 \subseteq M_2$ . Hence  $f \in M_1^\perp$  and  $M_2^\perp \subseteq M_1^\perp$ .

For (5) apply (9) to  $M^\perp$  for  $M^\perp \subseteq ((M^\perp)^\perp)^\perp$  and apply (3) to (4) for  $((M^\perp)^\perp)^\perp \subseteq M^\perp$ .

(8) and (10) are similar to the cases of (3) and (5) respectively.

**Theorem 3.11.** *Let  $X$  be a difference algebra and let  $Y$  be a medial difference algebra. Let  $M$  and  $\Theta$  be subsets of  $X$  and  $\text{Hom}(X, Y)$  respectively. Then  $M^\perp$  and  $\Theta^\perp$  are subalgebras of  $\text{Hom}(X, Y)$  and  $X$  respectively.*

**Proof.** Straightforward.

A non-empty subset  $N$  of  $X$  is said to be *normal* of  $X$  if  $(x * a) * (y * b) \in N$  for any  $x * y, a * b \in N$ . Since  $x * 0 = x$ , every normal subset of  $X$  is a subalgebra of  $X$ , but the converse need not be true in general.

**Example 3.12.** In Example 2.9, let  $S := \{f \in F(X) \mid f(0) = 0\}$ . Then  $S$  is a normal subalgebra of a difference algebra  $(F(X); *, \leq, 0)$ .

**Example 3.13.** In Example 2.4, let  $N := \{0, 3\}$ . Then  $N$  is a closed ideal of  $X$ . But  $N$  is not normal, since  $2 * 1 = 3, 3 * 2 = 0 \in N$  but  $(2 * 3) * (1 * 2) = 1 * 3 = 2 \notin N$ .

**Example 3.14.** Let  $X := \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$  be a set with the following table:

*	0	1	2	3
0	0	2	1	3
1	1	0	3	2
2	2	3	0	1
3	3	1	2	0

Define a binary relation “ $\leq$ ” by  $x \leq y$  if and only if  $x * y = 0$ . Then  $(X; *, \leq, 0)$  is a difference algebra and  $N := \{0, 3\}$  is a normal subalgebra of  $X$ .

**Example 3.15.** In Example 2.5, if we let  $I := \{0, 3\}$ , then  $I$  is a subalgebra, but not normal, since  $3 * 2 = 3, 4 * 2 = 3 \in I$ , but  $(4 * 3) * (2 * 2) = 1 * 0 = 1 \notin I$ .

**Theorem 3.16.** Let  $X$  be a difference algebra, let  $Y$  be a medial difference algebra,  $M \subseteq X$  and  $\Theta \subseteq Hom(X, Y)$ . Then  $M^\perp$  and  $\Theta^\perp$  are normal subalgebras of  $Hom(X, Y)$  and  $X$ , respectively.

**Proof.** Let  $f * g, h * k \in M^\perp$ . Then for any  $x \in M$ , we have  $(f * g)(x) = f(x) * g(x) = 0$  and  $(h * k)(x) = h(x) * k(x) = 0$ . Since  $Y$  is medial,  $(f * h)(x) * (g * k)(x) = (f(x) * h(x)) * (g(x) * k(x)) = (f(x) * g(x)) * (h(x) * k(x)) = 0$ . Therefore  $(f * h) * (g * k) \in M^\perp$ . Thus  $M^\perp$  is a normal subalgebra of  $Hom(X, Y)$ .

If  $x * y, a * b \in \Theta^\perp$ , then  $f(x * y) = 0$  and  $f(a * b) = 0$  for all  $f \in \Theta$ . Hence we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 f((x * a) * (y * b)) &= f(x * a) * f(y * b) \\
 &= (f(x) * f(a)) * (f(y) * f(b)) \\
 &= (f(x) * f(y)) * (f(a) * f(b)) \quad [ \because Y : \text{medial} ] \\
 &= f(x * y) * f(a * b) = 0 * 0 = 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $(x * a) * (y * b) \in \Theta^\perp$ . Thus  $\Theta^\perp$  is a normal subalgebra of  $X$ .

**Theorem 3.17.** *Let  $X, Y$  and  $Z$  be difference algebras. If  $Z$  is medial, then to each homomorphism  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  there corresponds a unique homomorphism*

$$f^* : \text{Hom}(Y, Z) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(X, Z) \quad (*)$$

that satisfies  $f^*(g)(x) = (g \circ f)(x)$  for all  $x \in X$  and all  $g \in \text{Hom}(Y, Z)$ .

**Proof.** For each  $g \in \text{Hom}(Y, Z)$  we define a mapping  $\mu : X \rightarrow Z$  by  $\mu(x) := g(f(x))$  for all  $x \in X$ . Since  $g$  and  $f$  are homomorphisms,  $\mu$  is a homomorphism and  $\mu \in \text{Hom}(X, Z)$ . Define  $f^* : \text{Hom}(Y, Z) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(X, Z)$  by  $f^*(g) := g \circ f$ , for any  $g \in \text{Hom}(Y, Z)$ .

To prove that  $f^*$  is a homomorphism, let  $g, g' \in \text{Hom}(Y, Z)$ . Then for any  $x \in X$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} f^*(g * g')(x) &= ((g * g') \circ f)(x) = (g * g')(f(x)) \\ &= g(f(x)) * g'(f(x)) = f^*(g)(x) * f^*(g')(x) \\ &= (f^*(g) * f^*(g'))(x). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $x$  is arbitrary, it follows that  $f^*(g * g') = f^*(g) * f^*(g')$ . We claim that  $f^*$  is a Harris map. For any  $g_1$  and  $g_2$  of  $\text{Hom}(Y, Z)$  with  $g_1(y) || g_2(y)$  for any  $y \in Y$ , we have

$$f^*(g_1)(x) = (g_1 \circ f)(x) = g_1(f(x)) || g_2(f(x)) = (g_2 \circ f)(x) = f^*(g_2)(x)$$

for any  $x \in X$ . Therefore  $f^*$  is a homomorphism. The fact that  $(*)$  holds for all  $x \in X$  obviously determines  $f^*(g)$  uniquely. This completes the proof.

**Theorem 3.18.** *Let  $X, Y$  and  $Z$  be difference algebras and let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be a homomorphism. If  $Z$  is medial, then  $\text{Ker}(f^*) = \text{Im}(f)^\perp$  and  $\text{Ker}(f) = \text{Im}(f^*)^\perp$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $\phi \in \text{Ker}(f^*)$ . Then  $f^*(\phi) = 0$  and hence  $f^*(\phi)(x) = (\phi \circ f)(x) = 0$  for all  $x \in X$ . Hence  $\phi \in \text{Im}(f)^\perp$  and  $\text{Ker}(f^*) \subseteq \text{Im}(f)^\perp$ . Similarly  $\text{Im}(f)^\perp \subseteq \text{Ker}(f^*)$ . Hence  $\text{Ker}(f^*) = \text{Im}(f)^\perp$ . Next for any  $\mu \in \text{Im}(f^*)$  there exists a homomorphism  $g : Y \rightarrow Z$  such that  $f^*(g) = \mu$ . Then for any  $x \in \text{Ker}(f)$ ,  $\mu(x) = f^*(g)(x) = (g \circ f)(x) = g(f(x)) = g(0) = 0$ , which implies that  $x \in \text{Im}(f^*)^\perp$  and that  $\text{Ker}(f) \subseteq \text{Im}(f^*)^\perp$ .

Conversely, let  $x \in \text{Im}(f^*)^\perp$ . Assume that  $x \notin \text{Ker}(f)$ , i.e.,  $f(x) \neq 0$ . Choose a homomorphism  $g : Y \rightarrow Z$  with  $g(f(x)) \neq 0$ . If we set  $f^*(g) := \mu$ , then  $\mu \in \text{Im}(f^*)$  and hence  $\mu(x) = f^*(g)(x) = (g \circ f)(x) \neq 0$ . This means that  $x \notin \text{Im}(f^*)^\perp$  which is a contradiction. Thus  $x \in \text{Ker}(f)$  and  $\text{Im}(f^*)^\perp \subseteq \text{Ker}(f)$ . This completes the proof.

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