

# On the local closure of clones on countable sets

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**ABSTRACT.** We consider clones on countable sets. If such a clone has quasigroup operations, is locally closed and countable, then there is a function  $f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  such that the  $n$ -ary part of  $C$  is equal to the  $n$ -ary part of  $\text{Pol Inv}^{[f(n)]} C$ , where  $\text{Inv}^{[f(n)]} C$  denotes the set of  $f(n)$ -ary invariant relations of  $C$ .

## 1. Results

We investigate clones on infinite sets [10, 11, 5]. For a clone  $C$  on  $A$ , its local closure  $\overline{C}$  consists of all those finitary operations on  $A$  that can be interpolated at each finite subset of their domain by a function in  $C$ , and we have  $\overline{C} = \text{Pol Inv } C$ . Here, as in [10],  $\text{Inv } C$  denotes the set of those finitary relations on  $A$  that are preserved by all functions in  $C$ , and for a set  $R$  of relations on  $A$ ,  $\text{Pol } R$  denotes the set of those finitary operations on  $A$  that preserve all relations in  $R$ . A clone is called *locally closed* if it is equal to its local closure.  $C$  is called a *clone with quasigroup operations* if there are three binary operations  $\cdot, \setminus, / \in C$  such that  $\langle A, \cdot, \setminus, / \rangle$  is a quasigroup [3, p. 24]. Theorem 1.1 states that a clone with quasigroup operations on a countable set is either locally closed, or its local closure  $\text{Pol Inv } C$  is uncountable.

**Theorem 1.1.** *Let  $A$  be a set with  $|A| = \aleph_0$ , and let  $C$  be a clone with quasigroup operations on  $A$ . If  $|\text{Pol Inv } C| \leq \aleph_0$ , then  $C = \text{Pol Inv } C$ .*

This theorem does not hold for clones without quasigroup operations. We say that  $C$  is *constantive* if it contains all unary constant operations.

**Theorem 1.2.** *There exist a set  $A$  with  $|A| = \aleph_0$  and a constantive clone  $C$  on  $A$  such that  $|\text{Pol Inv } C| = \aleph_0$  and  $C \neq \text{Pol Inv } C$ .*

For a clone  $C$  on  $A$ ,  $\text{Inv}^{[m]} C$  denotes the set of  $m$ -ary invariant relations of  $C$ . It is well known that a function  $f$  lies in  $\text{Pol Inv}^{[m]} C$  if and only if it can be interpolated at every  $m$ -element subset of its domain by a function in  $C$ ; this is discussed, e.g., in [9] and in [4, Lemma 7] and stated in Lemma 3.1. We write  $C^{[n]}$  for the set of  $n$ -ary functions in  $C$ . Let  $B$  be any set, and let  $F \subseteq A^B$ . A subset  $D$  of  $B$  is a *base of equality* for  $F$  if for all  $f, g \in F$  with  $f|_D = g|_D$ , we have  $f = g$ . Theorem 1.1 can be extended in the following way:

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**Theorem 1.3.** *Let  $A$  be a set with  $|A| = \aleph_0$ , and let  $C$  be a clone on  $A$  with quasigroup operations. Then the following are equivalent:*

- (1)  $|\text{Pol Inv } C| \leq \aleph_0$ .
- (2) For each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $C^{[n]}$  has a finite base of equality.
- (3)  $|C| \leq \aleph_0$  and  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N} \exists k \in \mathbb{N} : C^{[n]} = (\text{Pol Inv}^{[k]} C)^{[n]}$ .
- (4)  $|C| \leq \aleph_0$  and  $C = \text{Pol Inv } C$ .

A weaker version of this result was proved in [1]. As an application, we obtain, e.g., that a countably infinite integral domain  $R$  cannot be affine complete: If it is affine complete, then the clone  $C$  of polynomial functions of  $R$  satisfies (3), and therefore the unary polynomials have a finite base of equality  $D$ . But  $f(x) = 0$  and  $g(x) = \prod_{d \in D} (x - d)$  show that this is not possible. In fact, Theorem 1.3 extracts a common idea of several “non-affine completeness” results [6, 8]. The proofs are given in Section 4.

**2. Finite bases of equality**

Theorems 1.1 and 1.3 rely on the following observation. In a less general context, this observation appears in [1, Theorem 2], and large parts of its proof are verbatim copies from [1] and [2, pp.51-52].

**Lemma 2.1.** *Let  $A$  be a set with  $|A| = \aleph_0$ , let  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ , and let  $C$  be a clone on  $A$  with quasigroup operations. If  $|(\text{Pol Inv } C)^{[m]}| \leq \aleph_0$ , then  $C^{[m]}$  has a finite base of equality.*

*Proof.* Let  $\bar{C} := \text{Pol Inv } C$ . In the case that  $\bar{C}^{[m]}$  is finite, its subset  $C^{[m]}$  is also finite. Then for every  $f, g \in C^{[m]}$  with  $f \neq g$ , we choose  $a_{(f,g)} \in A^m$  such that  $f(a_{(f,g)}) \neq g(a_{(f,g)})$ . Then  $D := \{a_{(f,g)} \mid f, g \in C^{[m]}, f \neq g\}$  is a base of equality for  $C^{[m]}$ . Hence, we will from now on assume  $|\bar{C}^{[m]}| = \aleph_0$ . Let  $a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots$  and  $f_0, f_1, f_2, \dots$  be complete enumerations of  $A^m$  and  $\bar{C}^{[m]}$ , respectively. Furthermore, we abbreviate the set  $\{a_i \mid i \leq r\}$  by  $A(r)$ . Seeking a contradiction, we suppose that there is no finite base of equality for  $C^{[m]}$ . We shall construct a sequence  $(n_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}_0}$  of non-negative integers and a sequence  $(g_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}_0}$  of elements of  $C^{[m]}$  with the following properties:

- (1)  $\forall k \in \mathbb{N}_0 : g_k|_{A(n_k)} \neq f_k|_{A(n_k)}$ ,
- (2)  $\forall k \in \mathbb{N}_0 : n_{k+1} > n_k$ ,
- (3)  $\forall k \in \mathbb{N}_0 : g_{k+1}|_{A(n_k)} = g_k|_{A(n_k)}$ .

We construct the sequences inductively. We choose  $g_0 \in C^{[m]}$  such that  $g_0 \neq f_0$ , and  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}_0$  minimal with  $g_0(a_{n_0}) \neq f_0(a_{n_0})$ . If we have already constructed  $g_k$  and  $n_k$ , we construct  $g_{k+1}$  and  $n_{k+1}$  as follows: in the case that  $g_k|_{A(n_k)} \neq f_{k+1}|_{A(n_k)}$ , we set  $g_{k+1} := g_k$  and  $n_{k+1} := n_k + 1$ . In the case  $g_k|_{A(n_k)} = f_{k+1}|_{A(n_k)}$ , we first show that there exists a function  $h \in C^{[m]}$  with

$$g_k|_{A(n_k)} = h|_{A(n_k)} \text{ and } h \neq f_{k+1}. \tag{2.1}$$

Suppose that, on the contrary, every  $h \in C^{[m]}$  with  $g_k|_{A(n_k)} = h|_{A(n_k)}$  satisfies  $h = f_{k+1}$ . In this case,  $g_k = f_{k+1}$ , and therefore  $f_{k+1} \in C^{[m]}$ . We will show next that  $A(n_k)$  is a base of equality of  $C^{[m]}$ . To this end, let  $r, s \in C^{[m]}$  with  $r|_{A(n_k)} = s|_{A(n_k)}$ . We define  $t(x) := r(x) \setminus (s(x) \cdot f_{k+1}(x))$ . Then for every  $x \in A(n_k)$ , we have  $t(x) = r(x) \setminus (r(x) \cdot f_{k+1}(x)) = f_{k+1}(x) = g_k(x)$ . Hence,  $t = f_{k+1}$ . Therefore, for every  $x \in A^m$ , we have  $r(x) \setminus (s(x) \cdot f_{k+1}(x)) = f_{k+1}(x)$ , thus  $s(x) \cdot f_{k+1}(x) = r(x) \cdot f_{k+1}(x)$ , and therefore  $(s(x) \cdot f_{k+1}(x))/f_{k+1}(x) = (r(x) \cdot f_{k+1}(x))/f_{k+1}(x)$ , which implies  $s(x) = r(x)$ . Thus,  $r = s$ , which completes the proof that  $A(n_k)$  is a base of equality of  $C^{[m]}$ , contradicting the assumption that no such base exists. Hence, there is  $h \in C^{[m]}$  that satisfies (2.1). Continuing in the construction of  $g_{k+1}$ , we set  $g_{k+1} := h$ , and we choose  $n_{k+1}$  to be minimal with  $h(a_{n_{k+1}}) \neq f_{k+1}(a_{n_{k+1}})$ .

Since for every  $a \in A^m$ , the sequence  $(g_k(a))_{k \in \mathbb{N}_0}$  is eventually constant, we may define a function  $l: A^m \rightarrow A$  by  $l(a) := \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} g_k(a)$ . We will now show that  $l \in \overline{C}^{[m]}$ . The clone  $\overline{C}$  contains exactly those functions that can be interpolated at every finite subset of their domain with a function in  $C$ . Hence, we show that  $l$  can be interpolated at every finite subset  $B$  of  $A^m$  by a function in  $C$ . Since  $\bigcup_{i \in \mathbb{N}_0} A_i = A^m$ , there is  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $B \subseteq A(n_k)$ . Since  $l|_{A(n_k)} = g_k|_{A(n_k)}$ , the function  $g_k \in C^{[m]}$  interpolates  $l$  at  $B$ . We conclude that the function  $l$  lies in  $\overline{C}^{[m]}$ . Thus,  $l$  is equal to  $f_k$  for some  $k \in \mathbb{N}_0$ . Since  $l|_{A(n_k)} = g_k|_{A(n_k)}$  and  $g_k|_{A(n_k)} \neq f_k|_{A(n_k)}$ , we obtain  $l|_{A(n_k)} \neq f_k|_{A(n_k)}$ , a contradiction. Hence,  $C^{[m]}$  has a finite base of equality.  $\square$

**Lemma 2.2** (cf. [7, Lemma 1] and [1, Proposition 2]). *Let  $C$  be a clone on the set  $A$ , let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $D$  be a finite base of equality for  $C^{[n]}$ , and let  $k := |D| + 1$ . Then  $C^{[n]} = (\text{Pol Inv}^{[k]} C)^{[n]}$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $l \in (\text{Pol Inv}^{[k]} C)^{[n]}$ . Then  $l$  can be interpolated at every subset of  $A^n$  with at most  $k$  elements by a function in  $C^{[n]}$ . Hence, there is  $f \in C^{[n]}$  such that  $f|_D = l|_D$ . If  $f = l$ , then  $l \in C^{[n]}$ . In the case  $f \neq l$ , we take  $y \in A^n$  such that  $f(y) \neq l(y)$ . Now we choose  $g \in C^{[n]}$  such that  $g|_{D \cup \{y\}} = l|_{D \cup \{y\}}$ . Then  $f(y) \neq g(y)$  and  $f|_D = g|_D$ , contradicting the assumption that  $D$  is a base of equality for  $C^{[n]}$ .  $\square$

### 3. A compactness property for local interpolation

For two sets  $A$  and  $B$ , a set of functions  $F \subseteq A^B$ , and  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , the set  $\text{Loc}_k F$  is defined as the set of those functions that can be interpolated at every subset of  $B$  with at most  $k$  elements by a function in  $F$  [9]. If  $C$  is a clone, and  $F = C^{[m]}$  is its  $m$ -ary part, then  $\text{Loc}_k(C^{[m]})$  is the set of  $m$ -ary functions on  $A$  that preserve the  $k$ -ary relations in  $\text{Inv } C$ .

**Lemma 3.1** (cf. [9, p. 31, Theorem 4.1]). *Let  $C$  be a clone on the set  $A$ , and let  $k, m \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then  $\text{Loc}_k(C^{[m]}) = (\text{Pol Inv}^{[k]} C)^{[m]} = (\text{Pol Inv}^{[k]}(C^{[m]}))^{[m]}$ .*

For countable sets  $A$ , we obtain the following result.

**Theorem 3.2.** *Let  $A$  be a set with  $|A| \leq \aleph_0$ , and let  $C$  be a clone on  $A$  with quasigroup operations such that  $|C^{[m]}| \leq \aleph_0$ . If  $\bigcap_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \text{Loc}_k(C^{[m]}) = C^{[m]}$ , then there exists  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\text{Loc}_n(C^{[m]}) = C^{[m]}$ .*

*Proof.* By Lemma 3.1 and the assumptions,

$$C^{[m]} = \bigcap_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \text{Loc}_k(C^{[m]}) = \bigcap_{k \in \mathbb{N}} (\text{Pol Inv}^{[k]} C)^{[m]} = (\text{Pol Inv } C)^{[m]}.$$

Now Lemma 2.1 yields a finite base of equality for  $C^{[m]}$ , and now by Lemma 2.2, there is  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $C^{[m]} = (\text{Pol Inv}^{[n]} C)^{[m]} = \text{Loc}_n(C^{[m]})$ .  $\square$

For an arbitrary  $m$ -ary operation  $f$  on the set  $A$ , we say that the property  $I(f, n, C)$  holds if  $f$  can be interpolated by a function in  $C$  at each subset of  $A^m$  with at most  $n$  elements. Theorem 3.2 yields the following compactness property: if  $C$  is a countable clone with quasigroup operations, if  $A$  is countable, and if  $\forall f \in A^{A^m} : ((\forall k \in \mathbb{N} : I(f, k, C)) \Rightarrow f \in C)$  holds, then there is a natural number  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\forall f \in A^{A^m} : (I(f, n, C) \Rightarrow f \in C)$  holds.

**4. Proofs of the theorems from Section 1**

*Proof of Theorem 1.3.* (1) $\Rightarrow$ (2): Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Since  $(\text{Pol Inv } C)^{[n]} \subseteq \text{Pol Inv } C$ , we have  $|(\text{Pol Inv } C)^{[n]}| \leq \aleph_0$ . Lemma 2.1 now yields a finite base of equality for  $C^{[n]}$ .

(2) $\Rightarrow$ (3): Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , and let  $D \subseteq A^n$  be a finite base of equality for  $C^{[n]}$ . We set  $k := |D| + 1$  and obtain  $C^{[n]} = (\text{Pol Inv}^{[k]} C)^{[n]}$  from Lemma 2.2. The mapping  $\varphi: C^{[n]} \rightarrow A^D, f \mapsto f|_D$  is injective, therefore  $|C^{[n]}| \leq \aleph_0$ . Since for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have  $|C^{[n]}| \leq \aleph_0$ , we have  $|C| \leq \aleph_0$ .

(3) $\Rightarrow$ (4): Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , and let  $k$  be taken from (3). Then we have that  $(\text{Pol Inv } C)^{[n]} \subseteq (\text{Pol Inv}^{[k]} C)^{[n]} = C^{[n]}$ .

(4) $\Rightarrow$ (1): This is obvious.  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem 1.1.* The statement of Theorem 1.1 is given by the implication (1) $\Rightarrow$ (4) of Theorem 1.3.  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem 1.2.* Let  $A := \mathbb{N}_0$ , and let  $p(x) := x \bmod 2$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{N}_0$ . For  $a \in \mathbb{N}_0$ , we define  $g_a: \mathbb{N}_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_0$  by

$$g_a(x) := \begin{cases} p(x) & \text{if } x < a, \\ x & \text{if } x \geq a, \end{cases}$$

with  $c_a(x) := a$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{N}_0$ . Let  $M := \{g_a \mid a \in \mathbb{N}_0\} \cup \{c_a(x) \mid a \in \mathbb{N}_0\}$ . We will first show that  $\langle M, \circ, g_0 \rangle$  is a submonoid of  $\langle \mathbb{N}_0^{\mathbb{N}_0}, \circ, \text{id}_{\mathbb{N}_0} \rangle$ . To this end, it is sufficient to show that  $g_a \circ g_b \in M$  for all  $a, b \in \mathbb{N}_0$ . Since  $g_0 = g_1 = g_2 = \text{id}_{\mathbb{N}_0}$ , we may assume  $a \geq 3$  and  $b \geq 3$ . We will show

$$g_a(g_b(x)) = g_{\max(a,b)}(x) \text{ for all } x \in \mathbb{N}_0. \tag{4.1}$$

If  $x < b$ , then  $g_a(g_b(x)) = g_a(p(x)) = p(p(x)) = p(x) = g_{\max(a,b)}(x)$ . If  $x \geq b$  and  $x < a$ , then  $g_a(g_b(x)) = g_a(x)$ ; since in this case  $b \leq a$ , so  $g_a(x) = g_{\max(a,b)}(x)$ . If  $x \geq a$  and  $x \geq b$ , then  $g_a(g_b(x)) = g_a(x) = x = g_{\max(a,b)}(x)$ . From (4.1), we deduce that  $M$  is closed under composition. Now let  $C$  be the clone on  $\mathbb{N}_0$  that is generated by  $M$ ; this clone consists of all functions  $(x_1, \dots, x_n) \mapsto m(x_j)$  with  $n, j \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $m \in M$  and  $j \leq n$ . Let  $\overline{C} := \text{Pol Inv } C$ . Next, we show

$$p \in \overline{C}. \tag{4.2}$$

To prove (4.2), we show that  $p$  can be interpolated at every finite subset  $B$  of  $\mathbb{N}_0$  by a function in  $C$ . Let  $a := \max(B)$ . Then  $g_{a+1}|_B = p|_B$ . This completes the proof of (4.2). Now we show

$$\overline{C}^{[1]} = C^{[1]} \cup \{p\}. \tag{4.3}$$

We only have to establish  $\subseteq$ . It is helpful to write down the list of values of some of the functions in  $M \cup \{p\}$ .

$c_3$	333333...
$c_2$	222222...
$c_1$	111111...
$c_0$	000000...
$p$	010101...
id	012345...
$g_3$	010345...
$g_4$	010145...
$g_5$	010105...

Let  $f \in \overline{C}^{[1]}$  with  $f \neq p$ , and let  $k \in \mathbb{N}_0$  be minimal with  $f(k) \neq p(k)$ . Let  $g \in C^{[1]}$  be such that  $g|_{\{0, \dots, k\}} = f|_{\{0, \dots, k\}}$ . We distinguish three cases.

Case  $k = 0$ : Then  $g(0) \neq 0$ , and therefore  $g = c_{g(0)}$ . If  $f = c_{g(0)}$ , we have  $f \in C$ . If  $f \neq c_{g(0)}$ , we let  $y$  be minimal with  $f(y) \neq g(0)$ . We interpolate  $f$  at  $\{0, y\}$  by a function  $h \in C$ . This function  $h$  is not constant and satisfies  $h(0) \neq 0$ . Such a function does not exist in  $C$ , therefore the case  $f \neq c_{g(0)}$  cannot occur.

Case  $k = 1$ : Then  $g(1) \neq 1$ . By examining the functions in  $M$ , we see that  $g = c_0$ . If  $f = c_0$ , we have  $f \in C$ . If  $f \neq c_0$ , we let  $y$  be minimal with  $f(y) \neq 0$ . Interpolating  $f$  at  $\{0, 1, y\}$  by  $h \in C$ , we obtain a function  $h \in C$  with  $h(0) = h(1) = 0$  and  $h(y) \neq 0$ . Such a function does not exist in  $C$ ; this contradiction shows  $f = c_0$  and therefore  $f \in C$ .

Case  $k \geq 2$ : Then  $g = g_k$ . If  $f = g_k$ , then  $f \in C$ . If  $f \neq g_k$ , we choose  $y$  minimal with  $f(y) \neq g_k(y)$  and interpolate  $f$  at  $\{0, 1, \dots, k\} \cup \{y\}$  by a function  $h \in C$ . Again, such a function is not available in  $C$ , and therefore  $f = g_k \in C$ .

Thus, every  $f \in \overline{C}^{[1]}$  with  $f \neq p$  is an element of  $C$ . By its definition,  $C$  contains all constant unary operations in  $\mathbb{N}_0$ . Since  $C$  preserves the relation

$\rho = \{(a, b, c, d) \in A^4 \mid a = b \text{ or } c = d\}$ ,  $\overline{C}$  also preserves  $\rho$ . Therefore, by [10, Lemma 1.3.1(a)], every function in  $\overline{C}$  is essentially unary and hence of the form  $l(x_1, \dots, x_n) = f(x_j)$  with  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ , and  $f \in \overline{C}^{[1]} = M \cup \{p\}$ . This implies that  $\overline{C}$  is countable. The function  $p$  witnesses  $C \neq \overline{C}$ .  $\square$

**5. Constantive clones**

In constantive clones, a finite base of equality for the functions of arity  $m$  yields finite bases of equality for all other arities. This will allow us to refine Theorem 1.3.

**Lemma 5.1.** *Let  $C$  be a clone on the set  $A$ , let  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ , and let  $D \subseteq A^m$  be a base of equality for  $C^{[m]}$ . Then the projection of  $D$  to the first component  $\pi_1(D)$  is a base of equality for  $C^{[1]}$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $f, g \in C^{[1]}$  with  $f|_{\pi_1(D)} = g|_{\pi_1(D)}$ . Let  $f_1(x_1, \dots, x_m) := f(x_1)$  and  $g_1(x_1, \dots, x_m) := g(x_1)$ . Then for every  $(d_1, \dots, d_m) \in D$ , we have  $f_1(d_1, \dots, d_m) = f(d_1) = g(d_1) = g_1(d_1, \dots, d_m)$ , and therefore  $f_1 = g_1$ , which implies  $f = g$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 5.2.** *Let  $A$  be a set, let  $C$  be a constantive clone on  $A$ , and let  $D \subseteq A$  be a base of equality for  $C^{[1]}$ . Then for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $D^n$  is a base of equality for  $C^{[n]}$ .*

*Proof.* We proceed by induction on  $n$ . If  $n = 1$ ,  $D^1 = D$  is a base of equality for  $C^{[1]}$  by assumption. For the induction step, let  $n \geq 2$ , and suppose that  $D^{n-1}$  is a base of equality for  $C^{[n-1]}$ . Let  $f, g \in C^{[n]}$  and assume  $f|_{D^n} = g|_{D^n}$ . We first show

$$f|_{A \times D^{n-1}} = g|_{A \times D^{n-1}}. \tag{5.1}$$

Let  $(a, d_2, \dots, d_n) \in A \times D^{n-1}$ , and define  $f_1(x) := f(x, d_2, \dots, d_n)$  and  $g_1(x) := g(x, d_2, \dots, d_n)$  for  $x \in A$ . Then  $f_1, g_1 \in C^{[1]}$  and  $f_1|_D = g_1|_D$ . Hence,  $f_1 = g_1$ , and thus  $f(a, d_2, \dots, d_n) = f_1(a) = g_1(a) = g(a, d_2, \dots, d_n)$ , which completes the proof of (5.1).

We prove  $f = g$ . Let  $(b_1, \dots, b_n) \in A^n$ ; for all  $x_2, \dots, x_n \in A$ , define  $f_2(x_2, \dots, x_n) := f(b_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  and  $g_2(x_2, \dots, x_n) := g(b_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$ . By (5.1),  $f_2|_{D^{n-1}} = g_2|_{D^{n-1}}$ , and thus by the induction hypothesis,  $f_2 = g_2$ . Thus,  $f(b_1, \dots, b_n) = g(b_1, \dots, b_n)$ .  $\square$

Hence, for constantive clones we can give the following slight refinement of Theorem 1.3.

**Theorem 5.3.** *Let  $A$  be a set with  $|A| = \aleph_0$ , let  $C$  be a constantive clone on  $A$  with quasigroup operations, and let  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then the following are equivalent:*

- (1)  $|\text{Pol Inv } C|^{[1]} \leq \aleph_0$ .
- (2)  $C^{[1]}$  has a finite base of equality.
- (3)  $C^{[m]}$  has a finite base of equality.

- (4)  $|C| \leq \aleph_0$  and  $\exists d \in \mathbb{N} \forall n \in \mathbb{N} : C^{[n]} = (\text{Pol Inv}^{[d^n+1]} C)^{[n]}$ .  
 (5)  $|C| \leq \aleph_0$  and  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N} \exists k \in \mathbb{N} : C^{[n]} = (\text{Pol Inv}^{[k]} C)^{[n]}$ .  
 (6)  $|C| \leq \aleph_0$  and  $C = \text{Pol Inv } C$ .

*Proof.* (1) $\Rightarrow$ (2): This is Lemma 2.1.

(2) $\Rightarrow$ (3): This is Lemma 5.2.

(3) $\Rightarrow$ (2): This is Lemma 5.1.

(2) $\Rightarrow$ (4): Let  $D$  be a finite base of equality for  $C^{[1]}$ . Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , and set  $k := |D|^n + 1$ . By Lemma 5.2,  $D^n$  is a base of equality for  $C^{[n]}$ , and Lemma 2.2 yields  $C^{[n]} = (\text{Pol Inv}^{[k]} C)^{[n]}$ . Since  $D^n$  is a finite base of equality, the mapping  $f \mapsto f|_{D^n}$  is an injective mapping from  $C^{[n]}$  to  $A^{D^n}$ , making  $C^{[n]}$  countable. Since  $C^{[n]}$  is countable for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we obtain  $|C| \leq \aleph_0$ .

(4) $\Rightarrow$ (5): Set  $k := d^n + 1$ .

(5) $\Rightarrow$ (6): Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , and let  $k$  be produced by (5). Then we have that  $(\text{Pol Inv } C)^{[n]} \subseteq (\text{Pol Inv}^{[k]} C)^{[n]} = C^{[n]}$ .

(6) $\Rightarrow$ (1): We have  $(\text{Pol Inv } C)^{[1]} \subseteq \text{Pol Inv } C \subseteq C$ .  $\square$

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