

## ABSTRACT RELATIONS BETWEEN FUNCTIONAL CLONES

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UDC 512.56

Keywords: *functional clone, universal algebra.*

*Functional clones on a set  $A$  are investigated at an abstract level, i.e., up to isomorphism of universal algebras  $\langle A; F \rangle$ , with their signature treated as an unindexed set. Abstract relations are introduced on a collection  $F_A$  of all functional clones on  $A$ , and the question of their coincidence is discussed.*

Recall that a *functional clone on a set  $A$*  is an arbitrary collection of functions on  $A$  which is closed under superposition and includes all selector functions  $e_n^i(x_1, \dots, x_n) = x_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n$ ) on the set  $A$ . As a rule, a collection  $F_A$  of all functional clones on  $A$  is treated as an ordered set (a lattice) under set-theoretic inclusion  $\subseteq$  (see, e.g., [1]). In [2], we proposed a natural topology  $\tau$  on  $F_A$ , which transforms a lattice  $\langle F_A; \wedge, \vee \rangle$  into a continuous lattice  $\langle F_A; \wedge, \vee, \tau \rangle$ . For any collection  $S$  of functions on a set  $A$ , by  $\langle S \rangle$  we denote the least functional clone on  $A$  including the collection  $S$ .

A classical and, in essence, exhaustive example of functional clones on a set  $A$  is given by collections  $Tr(\mathfrak{A})$  of termal functions of universal algebras  $\mathfrak{A} = \langle A; \sigma \rangle$  with universe  $A$  (for any  $F \in F_A$ , we have  $F = Tr(\langle A; F \rangle)$ ; here, the collection of signature functions of an algebra  $\langle A; F \rangle$  consists of all functions occurring in the clone  $F$ ). Therefore, it seems natural to examine functional clones on a set  $A$  at an abstract level—up to isomorphism of universal algebras  $\langle A; F \rangle$ , with their signature treated as an unindexed set. In fact, this corresponds to a rational equivalence relation for universal algebras, which was introduced by Mal'tsev in [3]. On a collection  $F_A$  of functional clones on a set  $A$ , we introduce an equivalence relation  $\sim$  corresponding to such an approach. Namely, for  $F_1, F_2 \in F_A$ , we set

$F_1 \sim F_2$  if there exists a permutation  $\pi$  on  $A$  conjugating the collections  $F_1$  and  $F_2$ , i.e.,  $F_1 = \pi F_2 \pi^{-1} = \{\pi f(\pi^{-1}x_1, \dots, \pi^{-1}x_n) \mid f \in F_2\}$ .

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Such an approach suggests introduction of another relation  $\ll$  on  $F_A$ , i.e., for  $F_1, F_2 \in F_A$ , we set  $F_1 \ll F_2$  ( $F_1$  is poorer than  $F_2$ ; in other words,  $F_1$  is not richer than  $F_2$ ) if there exists a permutation  $\pi$  on  $A$  such that  $\pi F_1 \pi^{-1} \subseteq F_2$ .

The relation  $\ll$  is a quasiorder relation, inducing an equivalence relation  $\approx$  on  $F_A$  corresponding to a given quasiorder, i.e., for  $F_1, F_2 \in F_A$ , we set  $F_1 \approx F_2$  if  $F_1 \ll F_2$  and  $F_2 \ll F_1$ . The relation  $\sim$  implies the relation  $\approx$ , and so it is natural to suppose that  $\sim$  and  $\approx$  coincide, as conjectured in [4]. However, this is not so. The following holds:

**THEOREM 1.** The relations  $\sim$  and  $\approx$  coincide on a collection  $F_A$  of all functional clones on a set  $A$  if and only if  $A$  is finite.

**Proof.** That  $\sim$  and  $\approx$  on  $F_A$  coincide for finite sets  $A$  was proved in [4]. We cite the proof here to make our discussion self-contained. Recall that an  $n$ -fragment  $F_{(n)}$  of a clone  $F$  ( $n \in \omega$ ) is a collection of all not more than  $n$ -ary functions from  $F$ .

Let  $A$  be a finite set,  $F', F'' \in F_A$ , and  $F' \approx F''$ ; i.e., there exist permutations  $\pi_1$  and  $\pi_2$  on  $A$  such that  $\pi_1 F' \pi_1^{-1} \subseteq F''$  and  $\pi_2 F'' \pi_2^{-1} \subseteq F'$ . Then  $\pi_1 F'_{(n)} \pi_1^{-1} \subseteq F''_{(n)}$  and  $\pi_2 F''_{(n)} \pi_2^{-1} \subseteq F'_{(n)}$  for any  $n \in \omega$ ; i.e.,  $\pi_2 \pi_1 F'_{(n)} \pi_1^{-1} \pi_2^{-1} \subseteq \pi_2 F''_{(n)} \pi_2^{-1} \subseteq F'_{(n)}$  for any  $n$ . For finite sets  $A$ ,  $n$ -fragments of clones on  $A$  are finite, and conjugation by permutations on  $A$  acts on the fragments of clones injectively. Therefore, the following equalities hold:

$$\pi_2 \pi_1 F'_{(n)} \pi_1^{-1} \pi_2^{-1} = \pi_2 F''_{(n)} \pi_2^{-1} = F'_{(n)}.$$

Since  $F' = \bigcup_{n \in \omega} F'_{(n)}$  and  $F'' = \bigcup_{n \in \omega} F''_{(n)}$ , it is also true that  $\pi_2 F''_{(n)} \pi_2^{-1} = F'_{(n)}$ ; i.e.,  $F' \sim F''$  in this case.

Now we show that for infinite sets  $A$ , there exist clones  $F'$  and  $F''$  on  $A$  such that  $F' \approx F''$  and  $F' \not\sim F''$ . To do this, we make use of a sequence of functions  $f_i$  ( $i = 2, 3, \dots$ ) on a set  $3 = \{0, 1, 2\}$ , which were derived in [5] (see also [6]), in constructing on  $3 = \{0, 1, 2\}$  a clone with countable basis.

For any  $i = 2, 3, \dots$ , we put

$$f_i(x_1, \dots, x_i) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x_1 = \dots = x_{j-1} = x_{j+1} = \dots = x_i = 2, \\ & x_j = 1 \text{ for some } 1 \leq j \leq i; \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Let  $G_n = \langle \{f_2, f_3, \dots, f_{n+1}\} \rangle$ . We show that a chain of clones  $G_1 \subseteq G_2 \subseteq \dots \subseteq G_n \subseteq G_{n+1} \subseteq \dots$  is strictly increasing, and that no permutation  $\pi$  on  $3 = \{0, 1, 2\}$  conjugates the clones  $G_n$  and  $G_m$  for  $n \neq m$ . Assume to the contrary that there exists a permutation  $\pi$  on  $\{0, 1, 2\}$  such that  $\pi G_m \pi^{-1} = \{\pi g(\pi^{-1}x_1, \dots, \pi^{-1}x_n) \mid g(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in G_m\} = G_n$ , where  $n < m$ . The ranges of functions  $f_i$  generating clones  $G_j$  coincide with a set  $\{0, 1\}$ , and so the permutation  $\pi$  conjugating the clones  $G_m$  and  $G_n$  either is identical or is the transpose  $(0, 1)$ . In any case, for  $i = 2, 3, \dots$ , the function  $\pi f_i(\pi^{-1}x_1, \dots, \pi^{-1}x_i)$  will not be identically equal to zero on  $\{0, 1, 2\}$ . The equality

$\pi G_m \pi^{-1} = G_n$ , as well as the inclusion  $\pi\{f_m\}\pi^{-1} \in G_n$ , ensures that

$$\pi f_m(\pi^{-1}x_1, \dots, \pi^{-1}x_m) = t(x_1, \dots, x_m), \quad (*)$$

where  $t(x_1, \dots, x_m)$  is a term of a signature  $\langle f_2, \dots, f_{n+1} \rangle$ , i.e.,  $t(x_1, \dots, x_m) = f_r(t_1, \dots, t_r)$ , where  $r < m$  and  $t_i$  are terms of the same signature. The function  $f_m$  essentially depends on its arguments  $x_1, \dots, x_m$ , and so the situation where all terms  $t_1, \dots, t_r$  are variables is excluded. Also impossible is the situation in which some pair of the terms  $t_1, \dots, t_r$  is distinct from variables; otherwise (values for that pair will be just 0 or 1) the right-hand side of equality (\*) is identically equal to zero, whereas the function  $\pi f_m(\pi^{-1}x_1, \dots, \pi^{-1}x_m)$  is not. Thus, exactly one of the terms  $t_1, \dots, t_r$  is distinct from variables. Since  $r \geq 2$ , a term  $t$  has the form  $f_r(t_1, x_j, \dots)$ , where  $1 \leq j \leq m$ . If  $x_j = 1$  or  $x_j = 0$ , then the right-hand side of (\*) assumes value 0. On the other hand, if  $\pi$  is an identical permutation on  $\{0, 1, 2\}$ , then the left-hand side assumes value 1, provided that  $x_j = 1$  and  $x_i = 2$  for  $i \neq j$ . For the case where  $\pi = (0, 1)$ , the same fact holds with  $x_j = 0$  and  $x_i = 2$  for  $i \neq j$ .

Therefore, the chain of clones  $G_1 \subset G_2 \subset \dots \subset G_n \subset G_{n+1} \subset \dots$  on the set  $\{0, 1, 2\}$  is strictly increasing, and its constituent clones are pairwise not conjugate via permutations on  $\{0, 1, 2\}$ .

Now we consider a partition of an infinite set  $A$  into subsets  $A_i$  ( $i \in \omega + 1$ ) such that  $A_0 = \{a, b, c, d\}$ ,  $A_n = \{0^n, 1^n, 2^n\}$  for  $n \in \omega \setminus \{0\}$ , and  $|A_\omega| = |A|$ . Here the elements  $a, b, c, d, 0^n, 1^n, 2^n$  are pairwise disjoint.

For any function  $g(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  on  $\{0, 1, 2\}$  and any  $m \in \omega \setminus \{0\}$ , on the set  $A$  we define a function  $g^m(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  such that for  $b_1, \dots, b_n \in A$ ,

$$g^m(b_1, \dots, b_n) = \begin{cases} k^m & \text{if } \{b_1, \dots, b_n\} \subseteq A_m, \langle b_1, \dots, b_n \rangle = \langle e_1^m, \dots, e_n^m \rangle, \\ & \text{and } g(e_1, \dots, e_n) = k; \\ a & \text{otherwise, if in addition } \{b_1, \dots, b_n\} \neq \{a\}, \{b\}, \{c\}, \{d\}, \\ b & \text{if } \{b_1, \dots, b_n\} = \{a\}, \\ c & \text{if } \{b_1, \dots, b_n\} = \{b\}, \\ d & \text{if } \{b_1, \dots, b_n\} = \{c\}, \\ a & \text{if } \{b_1, \dots, b_n\} = \{d\}. \end{cases}$$

Let  $I'$  and  $I''$  be infinite subsets of the set  $\omega \setminus \{0\}$  such that  $I' = \{i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_n < i_{n+1} < \dots\}$ ,  $I'' = \{j_1 < j_2 < \dots < j_n < j_{n+1} < \dots\}$ , and  $I' \not\subseteq I''$ .

We denote by  $F'$  a functional clone on a set  $A$  generated by the following collection of functions:

$$\begin{aligned} & \bigcup_{m=1}^{\infty} \{g^m(x_1, \dots, x_n) \mid g(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in G_{i_m}, m \in \omega \setminus \{0\}\} \\ & \cup \{e_n^i(x_1, \dots, x_n) \mid 1 \leq i \leq n, n \in \omega\}. \end{aligned}$$

In a similar way, we define a clone  $F''$  using the set  $I''$  instead of  $I'$ .

For any sets  $B \subseteq C$  and any functional clone  $F$  on  $C$ , if the set  $B$  is closed with respect to functions in  $F$ , then we write  $F \upharpoonright B$  to denote a functional clone on  $B$  which consists of restrictions of the functions in  $F$  to the set  $B$ . Thus, a bijection  $\varphi_m : \{0, 1, 2\} \rightarrow \{0^m, 1^m, 2^m\}$  such that  $\varphi_m(i) = i^m$  will conjugate  $G_{i_m}$  with  $F' \upharpoonright A_m$  and  $G_{j_m}$  with  $F'' \upharpoonright A_m$ .

By the definition of clones  $F'$  and  $F''$ , the remark on restrictions of  $F'$  and  $F''$  to sets  $A_n$  ( $n \in \omega \setminus \{0\}$ ), and the condition that for any  $m$  there are  $m' \in I'$  and  $m'' \in I''$  for which  $G_{i_m} \subseteq G_{j_{m'}}$  and  $G_{j_m} \subseteq G_{i_{m''}}$ , the relations  $F' \ll F''$  and  $F'' \ll F'$  hold.

It remains to observe that  $F' \approx F''$ . Assume the contrary, letting  $\pi$  be some permutation on  $A$  such that  $\pi F' \pi^{-1} = F''$ . The only three-element subsets of  $A$  closed with respect to functions in  $F'$  (in  $F''$ ) are the sets  $A_n$  ( $n \in \omega \setminus \{0\}$ ). Thus, for any  $k \in \omega \setminus \{0\}$  there exists  $s \in \omega \setminus \{0\}$  such that  $\pi(\{0^k, 1^k, 2^k\}) = \{0^s, 1^s, 2^s\}$ . By the choice of sets  $I'$  and  $I''$ , there is  $i_n$  for which  $i_n \in I'$  and  $i_n \notin I''$ . In view of our remark on three-element subsets of  $A$ , there is  $s$  such that  $\pi F' \upharpoonright A_{i_n} \pi^{-1} = F'' \upharpoonright A_{j_s}$ , and  $\pi \upharpoonright A_{i_n}$  will be a bijection of the set  $\{0^{i_n}, 1^{i_n}, 2^{i_n}\}$  onto the set  $\{0^{j_s}, 1^{j_s}, 2^{j_s}\}$ . In this case  $F' \upharpoonright A_{i_n}$  is conjugate to a clone  $G_{i_n}$  via a map  $\varphi_{i_n}^{-1}$ . The same holds for  $F'' \upharpoonright A_{j_s}$  and  $G_{j_s}$ . As a result, we conclude that the clones  $G_{i_n}$  and  $G_{j_s}$  are conjugate for  $i_n \neq j_s$ , which is a contradiction with the initial choice of clones  $G_j$  ( $j \in \omega$ ). Hence  $F' \approx F''$ . The theorem is proved.

The proof of Theorem 1 (due to the proper choice of sets  $I'$  and  $I''$ ) implies the following:

**COROLLARY.** For infinite sets  $A$ , there exist clones  $F$  on  $A$  such that the class  $F/\approx$  contains at least continuum many pairwise non  $\sim$ -equivalent clones on  $A$ .

Let us dwell on one more question concerning the relation  $\sim$  on the collection  $F_A$ , the answer to which will separate situations with finite and infinite  $A$ .

**THEOREM 2.** The relations  $F' \subseteq F''$  and  $F' \sim F''$  for functional clones on a set  $A$  imply that the clones  $F'$  and  $F''$  will be equal if and only if  $A$  is finite.

**Proof.** For the case of a finite  $A$ , the relations  $F' \subseteq F''$  and  $F' \sim F''$  for  $F', F'' \in F_A$  imply the same relations for  $n$ -fragments of clones  $F'$  and  $F''$  with any  $n \in \omega$ . However, the relations  $F'_{(n)} \subseteq F''_{(n)}$  and  $F'_{(n)} \sim F''_{(n)}$ , in view of the fact that the collections  $F'_{(n)}$  and  $F''_{(n)}$  are finite, imply the equality  $F'_{(n)} = F''_{(n)}$  and hence also  $F' = F''$ .

Now we give an example of clones  $F'$  and  $F''$  on an infinite set  $A$  such that  $F' \subseteq F''$ ,  $F' \sim F''$ , and  $F' \neq F''$ . Consider a partition of  $A$  into subsets  $A_n$  ( $n \in \omega + 1$ ) such that  $A_0 = \{a\}$ ,  $A_n = \{0^n, 1^n, 2^n\}$  ( $n \in \omega \setminus \{0\}$ ),  $|A_n| = 3$  ( $n \in \omega \setminus \{0\}$ ), and  $|A_\omega| = |A|$ . Let  $\varphi_n$  be a bijection of the set  $\{0, 1, 2\}$  onto the set  $A_n$  as defined in the proof of Theorem 1.

Let  $G_1 \subset G_2 \subset \dots \subset G_n \subset G_{n+1} \subset \dots$  be a sequence of functional clones on  $A$  as specified in the proof of Theorem 1.

For any function  $g(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  on a set  $\{0, 1, 2\}$  and any  $m \in \omega \setminus \{0\}$ , on  $A$  we define a function

$g^m(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  such that for  $b_1, \dots, b_n \in A$ ,

$$g^m(b_1, \dots, b_n) = \begin{cases} k^m & \text{if } \{b_1, \dots, b_n\} \subseteq A_m, \langle b_1, \dots, b_n \rangle = \langle e_1^m, \dots, e_n^m \rangle, \\ & \text{and } g(e_1, \dots, e_n) = k; \\ a & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Let  $F'$  be a clone on  $A$  generated by a collection of functions  $\bigcup_{m=2}^{\infty} \{g^m(x_1, \dots, x_n) \mid g(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in G_{i_{m-1}}, m \in \omega \setminus \{0\}\} \cup \{e_n^i(x_1, \dots, x_n) \mid 1 \leq i \leq n, n \in \omega\}$ , and let  $F''$  be a clone generated by the functions in  $\bigcup_{m=1}^{\infty} \{g^m(x_1, \dots, x_n) \mid g(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in G_{i_m}, m \in \omega \setminus \{0\}\} \cup \{e_n^i(x_1, \dots, x_n) \mid 1 \leq i \leq n, n \in \omega\}$ .

The inclusion  $F' \subseteq F''$  is obvious, as is the inequality  $F' \neq F''$ . Now we let  $\pi$  be a permutation on a set  $A$ , which is a bijection of  $A_\omega$  onto  $A_\omega \cup A_1$ , and let  $\pi(0^n) = 0^{n+1}$ ,  $\pi(1^n) = 1^{n+1}$ , and  $\pi(2^n) = 2^{n+1}$  for  $n \in \omega \setminus \{0\}$ . Clearly,  $\pi$  conjugates the clones  $F'$  and  $F''$ . The theorem is proved.

To sum up, we will collect together the known properties of collections  $F_A$  of functional clones on sets  $A$ , which distinguish between the cases of finite  $A$  and infinite  $A$ .

**Claim.** (1) The relations  $\sim$  and  $\approx$  coincide on  $F_A$  if and only if  $A$  is finite.

(2) The conjunction of  $\sim$  and  $\subseteq$  on  $F_A$  coincides with the equality relation  $=$  if and only if  $A$  is finite.

(3) The topological space  $\langle F_A; \tau \rangle$  is compact if and only if  $A$  is finite.

Recall that a topology  $\tau$  on  $F_A$ , which was introduced in [2], is induced by a metric on  $F_A$  based on the minimal arity of functions distinguishing one clone from another.

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