Introduction
Ternary Case
n-ary Case
Some Properties in Mal'ev-Algebras
DEF Construction
Main Result

# Higher Commutators in Mal'cev Algebras— Properties and Applications

Erhard Aichinger, Nebojša Mudrinski

Department of Algebra Johannes Kepler University Linz

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### Outline

- Introduction
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- n-ary Case
- Some Properties in Mal'cev Algebras
- DEF Construction
- Main Result



### E. Aichinger, P. Mayr

For different primes p, q there are precisely 17 clones on  $\mathbb{Z}_{pq}$  that contain the addition of  $\mathbb{Z}_{pq}$  and all constant operations.

### Idziak's Conjecture

For a square-free natural number n, there are only finitely many polynomially inequivalent expansions of  $\langle \mathbb{Z}_n, + \rangle$ .

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There are countably many clones on  $\mathbb{Z}_p \times \mathbb{Z}_p$  that contain f(x, y, z) = x - y + z and all constant operations.

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## **Our Goal**

#### Question 1

Is there a finite set A such that there are uncountably many clones on A that contain a Mal'cev operation?

#### Question 2

Given a finite algebra **A** with Mal'cev operation, is there an  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that the following is true: if a function f preserves all n-ary relations that are invariant under all polynomial functions, then f is a polynomial function.



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### Ternary commutator ideal

If  $A, B, C \in Id V, V = \langle V, +, F \rangle$  then the ideal [A, B, C] is generated by the set

$$\{p(a,b,c)\,|\,a\in A,b\in B,c\in C,p\in \mathsf{Pol}_3\,\mathbf{V}$$

such that 
$$p(x, y, z) = 0$$
 whenever  $x = 0 \lor y = 0 \lor z = 0$ .

- $[A, [B, C]] \leq [A, B, C]$
- $\bullet [A, [B, C]] \neq [A, B, C]$

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- $[A, [B, C]] \leq [A, B, C]$
- $[A, [B, C]] \neq [A, B, C],$ 
  - Example:  $[V, [V, V]] \neq [V, V, V]$  for  $\mathbf{V} = \langle \mathbb{Z}_4, +, 2xyz \rangle$

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### **Bulatov's Definition**

### Definition (Ternary centralizer)

Let **A** be an algebra and  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \eta$  be congruences of **A**. Then we say that  $\alpha, \beta$  centralize  $\gamma$  modulo  $\eta$  if for every polynomial  $f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z})$  and  $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}, \mathbf{d}, \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}$  vectors from **A** such that:  $\mathbf{a} \equiv \mathbf{b} \pmod{\alpha}$ ,  $\mathbf{c} \equiv \mathbf{d} \pmod{\beta}$ ,  $\mathbf{u} \equiv \mathbf{v} \pmod{\gamma}$  and

$$f(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{c}, \mathbf{u}) \equiv f(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{c}, \mathbf{v}) \pmod{\eta}$$
  
 $f(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{d}, \mathbf{u}) \equiv f(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{d}, \mathbf{v}) \pmod{\eta}$   
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we have  $f(\mathbf{b}, \mathbf{d}, \mathbf{u}) \equiv f(\mathbf{b}, \mathbf{d}, \mathbf{v}) \pmod{\eta}$ .

# Bulatov's Definition $[\alpha, \beta, \gamma]$

### Definition (Ternary commutator)

 $[\alpha, \beta, \gamma] :=$  the smallest congruence  $\eta$  such that  $C(\alpha, \beta, \gamma; \eta)$ .

### Higher commutator ideal

If  $A_1,\ldots,A_n\in \text{Id}\, V$ ,  $V=\langle V,+,F\rangle$  then  $[A_1,\ldots,A_n]$  is generated by the set

$$\{p(a_1, \dots, a_n) \mid a_i \in A_1, 1 \le i \le n, p \in Pol_n V$$

such that  $p(x_1,...,x_n) = 0$  whenever  $\exists i$  such that  $x_i = 0$ .

# Bulatov's Definition $C(\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_n; \eta)$

### Definition (Higher centralizer)

Let **A** be an algebra,  $\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_n, \eta \in \text{Con } \mathbf{A}$ . Then we say that  $\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_{n-1}$  centralize  $\alpha_n$  modulo  $\eta$  if for all polynomials  $f(\mathbf{x}_1, \ldots, \mathbf{x}_n)$  and  $\mathbf{a}_1, \ldots, \mathbf{a}_{n-1}, \mathbf{b}_1, \ldots, \mathbf{b}_{n-1}, \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}$  vectors from **A** such that:  $\mathbf{a}_i \equiv \mathbf{b}_i \pmod{\alpha_i}$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ ,  $\mathbf{u} \equiv \mathbf{v} \pmod{\alpha_n}$  and

$$f(\mathbf{x}_1,\ldots,\mathbf{x}_{n-1},\mathbf{u}) \equiv f(\mathbf{x}_1,\ldots,\mathbf{x}_{n-1},\mathbf{v}) \pmod{\eta},$$

for all 
$$(\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{n-1}) \in {\{\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{b}_1\}} \times \dots \times {\{\mathbf{a}_{n-1}, \mathbf{b}_{n-1}\}}$$
 and  $(\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{n-1}) \neq (\mathbf{b}_1, \dots, \mathbf{b}_{n-1})$ , we have

$$f(\mathbf{b}_1,\ldots,\mathbf{b}_{n-1},\mathbf{u})\equiv f(\mathbf{b}_1,\ldots,\mathbf{b}_{n-1},\mathbf{v})\pmod{\eta}.$$

# Bulatov's Definition $[\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_n]$

### Definition (Higher commutator)

 $[\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_n] :=$  the smallest congruence  $\eta$  such that  $C(\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_n; \eta)$ .

#### Theorem

**A** an arbitrary algebra and  $\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_n, \beta_1, \ldots, \beta_n \in \mathsf{Con}\,\mathsf{A}$ 

- $\alpha_1 \leq \beta_1, \ldots, \alpha_n \leq \beta_n \Rightarrow [\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_n] \leq [\beta_1, \ldots, \beta_n]$

#### Claim

If **A** is in congruence modular variety and  $\pi$  any permutation of the set  $\{1,\ldots,n\}$  then

$$[\alpha_1,\ldots,\alpha_n]=[\alpha_{\pi(1)},\ldots,\alpha_{\pi(n)}]$$



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# Improvement of Bulatov's Definition

#### **Theorem**

Let **A** be an algebra,  $\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_n, \eta$  be congruences of **A**. Then  $C(\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_n; \eta)$  if for every  $f \in \text{Pol}_n \mathbf{A}$  and  $a_1, \ldots, a_{n-1}, b_1, \ldots, b_{n-1}, u, v \in A$  such that:  $a_i \equiv b_i \pmod{\alpha_i}$ ,  $1 \le i \le n$ ,  $u \equiv v \pmod{\alpha_n}$  and

$$f(x_1,\ldots,x_{n-1},u)\equiv f(x_1,\ldots,x_{n-1},v)\pmod{\eta},$$

for all  $(x_1, \ldots, x_{n-1}) \in \{a_1, b_1\} \times \cdots \times \{a_{n-1}, b_{n-1}\}$  and  $(x_1, \ldots, x_{n-1}) \neq (b_1, \ldots, b_{n-1})$ , then we have

$$f(b_1,\ldots,b_{n-1},u) \equiv f(b_1,\ldots,b_{n-1},v) \pmod{\eta}.$$

- $[\alpha_0, \ldots, \alpha_k] \leq \eta$  iff  $C(\alpha_0, \ldots, \alpha_k; \eta)$
- If  $\eta \leq \alpha_0, \dots, \alpha_k$ , then  $[\alpha_0/\eta, \dots, \alpha_k/\eta] = ([\alpha_0, \dots, \alpha_k] \vee \eta)/\eta$
- $\bigvee_{i \in I} [\alpha_0, \dots, \alpha_{j-1}, \rho_i, \alpha_{j+1}, \dots, \alpha_k] = [\alpha_0, \dots, \alpha_{j-1}, \bigvee_{i \in I} \rho_i, \alpha_{j+1}, \dots, \alpha_k].$
- $[\alpha_0, [\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_k]] \leq [\alpha_0, \alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_k].$

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- $\bigvee_{i \in I} [\alpha_0, \dots, \alpha_{j-1}, \rho_i, \alpha_{j+1}, \dots, \alpha_k] = [\alpha_0, \dots, \alpha_{j-1}, \bigvee_{i \in I} \rho_i, \alpha_{j+1}, \dots, \alpha_k].$
- $[\alpha_0, [\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_k]] \leq [\alpha_0, \alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_k].$

# A Description of the Commutator

#### Theorem

$$[lpha_0,\ldots,lpha_n]$$
 is generated by  $\{ig(c(b_0,\ldots,b_n),c(a_0,\ldots,a_n)ig)\,|\,b_0,\ldots,b_n,a_0,\ldots,a_n\in A,b_i\equiv_{lpha_i}a_i,$   $c\in ext{Pol }\mathbf{A},\,c(x_0,\ldots,x_n)=c(a_0,\ldots,a_n) ext{ if }\exists i ext{ such that }x_i=a_i\}.$ 

### Theorem (For principal congruences)

$$lpha_i = \Theta_{\mathbf{A}} \left< (a_i, b_i) \right>, 0 \le i \le n.$$
 
$$[lpha_0, \ldots, lpha_n] = \left\{ \left( c(b_0, \ldots, b_n), c(a_0, \ldots, a_n) \right) \mid c \in \operatorname{Pol} \mathbf{A}, \ c(x_0, \ldots, x_n) = c(a_0, \ldots, a_n) \ \text{if} \ \exists i \ \text{such that} \ x_i = a_i \right\}.$$

# A Description of the Commutator

#### Theorem

$$[\alpha_0,\ldots,\alpha_n]$$
 is generated by

$$\{(c(b_0,\ldots,b_n),c(a_0,\ldots,a_n))\mid b_0,\ldots,b_n,a_0,\ldots,a_n\in A,b_i\equiv_{\alpha_i}a_i,$$

$$c \in \text{Pol } \mathbf{A}, \ c(x_0, \dots, x_n) = c(a_0, \dots, a_n) \text{ if } \exists i \text{ such that } x_i = a_i \}.$$

### Theorem (For principal congruences)

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$$c \in \text{Pol } \mathbf{A}, \ c(x_0, \dots, x_n) = c(a_0, \dots, a_n) \text{ if } \exists i \text{ such that } x_i = a_i \}.$$

# Two Important Properties

#### Theorem

lf

$$[\underbrace{1,\ldots,1}_{n}]>0$$

then  $\exists c \in \mathsf{Pol}_n \mathbf{A}$  and  $\theta, \theta_0, \dots, \theta_{n-1} \in A$  such that  $c(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}) = \theta$  whenever  $\exists i : x_i = \theta_i$ , and  $\exists (a_0, \dots, a_{n-1}) \in A^n$  such that  $c(a_0, \dots, a_{n-1}) \neq \theta$ .

If 
$$[\underbrace{1,\ldots,1}] = 0$$
, then  $\langle \operatorname{Pol}_{n-1} \mathbf{A} \cup \{m\} \rangle = \operatorname{Pol} \mathbf{A}$ .

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If 
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# **Example For One Proof**

$$D_{p(b_0,b_1,a_2),(a_0,a_1)}^{(2)}(\mathsf{E}_{x_2}^{(2)}(\mathsf{F}_{p(b_0,b_1,a_2),a_2}(p)))(x_0,x_1) = \\ m \left( \begin{array}{c} m(m\begin{pmatrix} p(x_0,x_1,x_2) \\ p(x_0,x_1,a_2) \\ p(b_0,b_1,a_2) \\ \end{array} \right), m\begin{pmatrix} p(a_0,x_1,x_2) \\ p(a_0,x_1,a_2) \\ p(b_0,b_1,a_2) \\ \end{array} \right), p(b_0,b_1,a_2) \right) \\ m(m\begin{pmatrix} p(x_0,a_1,x_2) \\ p(x_0,a_1,x_2) \\ p(x_0,a_1,a_2) \\ p(b_0,b_1,a_2) \\ \end{array} \right), m\begin{pmatrix} p(a_0,a_1,x_2) \\ p(a_0,a_1,x_2) \\ p(b_0,b_1,a_2) \\ p(b_0,b_1,a_2) \\ \end{array} \right) p(b_0,b_1,a_2)$$

### One Partial Solution

#### Theorem

Let **A** be a finite Mal'cev algebra with congruence lattice of height two. Then there is an  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that: if a function f preserves all n-ary relations that are invariant under all polynomial functions, then f is a polynomial function.