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TRANSITIVITY OF PRINCIPAL TOLERANCES  
IS NOT A MAL'CEV PROPERTY

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Polynomial conditions for a variety of algebras to have transitive principal tolerances (alias to be principal tolerance trivial) were given in several papers, cf. [1], [3] and [4]. However, none of them are Mal'cev ones.

**Theorem.** *Transitivity of principal tolerances is not a Mal'cev property.*

**Proof.** Let  $\mathcal{V}$  be the variety of all algebras  $\langle A, \wedge, \vee, u \rangle$  of the type  $(2, 2, 1)$  that satisfy the distributive lattice identities. Put  $A = \{0, a, 1\}$ ,  $0 \neq a \neq 1 \neq 0$ , and define the operations  $\wedge$  and  $\vee$  as in the three-element distributive lattice with the least element 0 and the greatest element 1. Further, let  $u = (0 \rightarrow 1, a \rightarrow a, 1 \rightarrow 0)$ . In this way, we have obtained an algebra in  $\mathcal{V}$ . It is obvious that the principal tolerance  $T(0, a) = \{0, a\}^2 \cup \{a, 1\}^2$  is not transitive. Hence  $\mathcal{V}$  has not transitive principal tolerances even though it satisfies all the identities holding in the variety of all distributive lattices, which has transitive principal tolerances (see [2]). Q.E.D.

**Example 1.** The variety of all distributive lattices has transitive principal tolerances (cf. [2]).

**Example 2.** The variety of all monounary algebras  $\langle A, f \rangle$  that satisfy  $f(f(x)) = x$  has not transitive principal tolerances even though all its free algebras have (cf. [3]).

For the comparison's sake, we include a list of polynomial conditions for the transitivity of principal tolerances that are based on the author's result [3], Thm. 1.

**Proposition.** *Let  $\mathcal{V}$  be a variety of algebras. The following conditions are equivalent:*

(E) *for any  $n \in \mathbf{N}$ , any  $(n + 2)$ -ary polynomials  $f_1, g, f_2$  and any  $n$ -ary polynomials  $s, t, u, v$  such that*

$$f_1(s(\mathbf{x}), t(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x}) = g(u(\mathbf{x}), v(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x})$$

$$f_2(t(\mathbf{x}), s(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x}) = g(v(\mathbf{x}), u(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x})$$

*are  $\mathcal{V}$ -identities there exist  $(n + 2)$ -ary polynomials  $g_1, f, g_2$  such that*

$$f_1(t(\mathbf{x}), s(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x}) = g_1(u(\mathbf{x}), v(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x})$$

$$f(s(\mathbf{x}), t(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x}) = g_1(v(\mathbf{x}), u(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x})$$

$$f(t(\mathbf{x}), s(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x}) = g_2(u(\mathbf{x}), v(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x})$$

$$f_2(s(\mathbf{x}), t(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x}) = g_2(v(\mathbf{x}), u(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x})$$

are  $\mathcal{V}$ -identities;

(F) for any  $n \in \mathbf{N}$ , any  $(n + 2)$ -ary polynomials  $f_1, f_2$  and any  $n$ -ary polynomials  $s, t$  there exist  $(n + 2)$ -ary polynomials  $g_1, f, g_2$  such that

$$f_1(t(\mathbf{x}), s(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x}) = g_1(f_1(s(\mathbf{x}), t(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x}), f_2(t(\mathbf{x}), s(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x})$$

$$f(s(\mathbf{x}), t(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x}) = g_1(f_2(t(\mathbf{x}), s(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x}), f_1(s(\mathbf{x}), t(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x})$$

$$f(t(\mathbf{x}), s(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x}) = g_2(f_1(s(\mathbf{x}), t(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x}), f_2(t(\mathbf{x}), s(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x})$$

$$f_2(s(\mathbf{x}), t(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x}) = g_2(f_2(t(\mathbf{x}), s(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x}), f_1(s(\mathbf{x}), t(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x})$$

are  $\mathcal{V}$ -identities;

(G<sub>4</sub>) for any  $n \in \mathbf{N}$  and any  $(n + 4)$ -ary polynomials  $f_1, f_2$  there exist  $(n + 4)$ -ary polynomials  $g_1, f, g_2$  such that

$$f_1(z, y, \mathbf{w}, y, z) = g_1(f_1(y, z, \mathbf{w}, y, z), f_2(z, y, \mathbf{w}, y, z), \mathbf{w}, y, z)$$

$$f(y, z, \mathbf{w}, y, z) = g_1(f_2(z, y, \mathbf{w}, y, z), f_1(y, z, \mathbf{w}, y, z), \mathbf{w}, y, z)$$

$$f(z, y, \mathbf{w}, y, z) = g_2(f_1(y, z, \mathbf{w}, y, z), f_2(z, y, \mathbf{w}, y, z), \mathbf{w}, y, z)$$

$$f_2(y, z, \mathbf{w}, y, z) = g_2(f_2(z, y, \mathbf{w}, y, z), f_1(y, z, \mathbf{w}, y, z), \mathbf{w}, y, z)$$

are  $\mathcal{V}$ -identities;

(G<sub>2</sub>) for any  $n \in \mathbf{N}$  and any  $(n + 2)$ -ary polynomials  $f_1, f_2$  there exist  $(n + 4)$ -ary polynomials  $g_1, f, g_2$  such that

$$f_1(z, y, \mathbf{w}) = g_1(f_1(y, z, \mathbf{w}), f_2(z, y, \mathbf{w}), \mathbf{w}, y, z)$$

$$f(y, z, \mathbf{w}, y, z) = g_1(f_2(z, y, \mathbf{w}), f_1(y, z, \mathbf{w}), \mathbf{w}, y, z)$$

$$f(z, y, \mathbf{w}, y, z) = g_2(f_1(y, z, \mathbf{w}), f_2(z, y, \mathbf{w}), \mathbf{w}, y, z)$$

$$f_2(y, z, \mathbf{w}) = g_2(f_2(z, y, \mathbf{w}), f_1(y, z, \mathbf{w}), \mathbf{w}, y, z)$$

are  $\mathcal{V}$ -identities.

Sketch of proof. (E)  $\Rightarrow$  (F): Set the first projection for  $g$ .

(F)  $\Rightarrow$  (G<sub>4</sub>): Set the sequence  $\mathbf{w}, y, z$  for  $\mathbf{x}$ , the  $(n + 1)$ -st projection for  $s$  and the  $(n + 2)$ -nd projection for  $t$ .

(G<sub>4</sub>)  $\Rightarrow$  (G<sub>2</sub>): The  $(n + 2)$ -ary polynomials  $f_1, f_2$  may be assumed to be  $(n + 4)$ -ary.

(G<sub>2</sub>)  $\Rightarrow$  (E): Put  $\mathbf{w} \equiv \mathbf{x}$ , assume (G<sub>2</sub>) yields  $g'_1, f', g'_2$ . Set  $s(\mathbf{x})$  for  $y$  and  $t(\mathbf{x})$  for  $z$ . Take

$$g_1(p, q, \mathbf{x}) \equiv g_1(g(p, q, \mathbf{x}), g(q, p, \mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x}, s(\mathbf{x}), t(\mathbf{x}))$$

$$f(p, q, \mathbf{x}) \equiv f'(p, q, \mathbf{x}, s(\mathbf{x}), t(\mathbf{x}))$$

$$g_2(p, q, \mathbf{x}) \equiv g'_2(g(q, p, \mathbf{x}), g(p, q, \mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x}, s(\mathbf{x}), t(\mathbf{x}))$$

and we are done.

Remark. Conditions (E), (F), and (G<sub>2</sub>) were formulated in [3], [4], and [1] respectively, and proved to be equivalent to the transitivity of principal tolerances, condition (G<sub>4</sub>) is new.

Boldface  $x$  stands for  $x_1, \dots, x_n$ , boldface  $w$  for  $w_1, \dots, w_n$ .

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