

## SOME EXISTENCE CONDITIONS FOR VECTOR VALUED GROUPS

*Dončo Dimovski*

### ABSTRACT

The main results in this paper are the following theorems:

**Theorem 1.** Let  $A [ ]$  be an  $(n+1, n)$ -group,  $n > 2$  and  $1 < |A| < \infty$ . Then each prime divisor  $p$  of  $n(n+1)$  is also a divisor of  $|A|$ .

**Theorem 2.** If  $A [ ]$  is a commutative  $(n+1, n)$ -group,  $n > 2$ , then  $|A| = 1$ .

These results give partial answers to the questions, asked by Ć. Čupona, about the existence of finite  $(n, m)$ -groups and about embeddability of commutative, cancellative  $(n, m)$ -semigroups in commutative  $(n, m)$ -groups, when  $m$  is not a divisor of  $n$ .

In [1],  $(n, m)$ -groups are defined. We state here the definition.

An  $(n, m)$ -semigroup ( $k = n - m > 0$ )  $A [ ]$  is an associative mapping  $[ ]: A^n \rightarrow A^m$ , denoted by

$[ ]: (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \mapsto [x_1 x_2 \dots x_n]$ , which satisfies

$[[x_1 \dots x_n] x_{n+1} \dots x_{2k+m}] = [x_1 \dots x_t [x_{t+1} \dots x_{t+n}] x_{t+n+1} \dots x_{2k+m}]$   
for each  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, k\}$ . In this case we write

$[x_1 \dots x_{2k+m}]$  for  $[[x_1 \dots x_n] x_{n+1} \dots x_{2k+m}]$ .

An  $(n, m)$ -semigroup  $A [ ]$  is called *cancellative* if it satisfies the following condition: For each  $a \in A^k$ ,  $x, y \in A^m$ ,

$$[a x] = [a y] \text{ or } [x a] = [y a], \text{ implies } x = y.$$

An  $(n, m)$ -semigroup is called *commutative* if the following identity is satisfied:

$$[x_1 \dots x_n] = [x_{i_1} x_{i_2} \dots x_{i_n}], \text{ for any permutation}$$

$$j \mapsto i_j \text{ of } \{1, 2, \dots, n\}.$$

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An  $(n, m)$ -semigroup  $A [ ]$  is called an  $(n, m)$ -group if for each  $\mathbf{a} \in A^k$ ,  $\mathbf{b} \in A^m$ , there exist  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in A^m$  such that  $[\mathbf{a} \mathbf{x}] = \mathbf{b} = [\mathbf{y} \mathbf{a}]$ .

Theorem 1 says that there exist finite sets which do not admit an  $(n + 1, n)$ -group structure. This theorem gives a partial answer to a question about the existence of finite vector valued groups, asked by Ć. Čupona in the Seminar of the Institute for Algebra and Geometry at the Mathematical Faculty in Skopje. Also this question can be found (not exactly in this form) in the list of problems from [1].

Theorem 2 gives a partial answer to Problem 5.4. from [1] which is: Is it true that any commutative, cancellative  $(n, m)$ -semigroup is an  $(n, m)$ -sub-semigroup of a commutative  $(n, m)$ -group?

In the following,  $A [ ]$  will be an  $(n + 1, n)$ -group.

*Proposition 1.* (See [1, 3.2. (d)])  $A^n$  with the operation

$$\mathbf{a} \mathbf{b} = [\mathbf{a} \mathbf{b}] \text{ is a group.}$$

*Proof.* (i) The multiplication in  $A^n$  is well defined because  $[\dots [[a_1 \dots, \dots a_n b_1] b_2] \dots b_n]$  is well defined in an  $(n + 1, n)$ -semigroup.

(ii) The multiplication in  $A^n$  is associative because

$$\mathbf{a} (\mathbf{b} \mathbf{c}) = \mathbf{a} [\mathbf{b} \mathbf{c}] = [\mathbf{a} [\mathbf{b} \mathbf{c}]] = [[\mathbf{a} \mathbf{b}] \mathbf{c}] = [\mathbf{a} \mathbf{b}] \mathbf{c} = (\mathbf{a} \mathbf{b}) \mathbf{c}.$$

(iii) Let  $\mathbf{a} = (a_1, \dots, a_n) \in A^n$ , and  $\mathbf{b} \in A^n$ . For  $a_1$  and  $\mathbf{b}$  there exists  $\mathbf{z}_1 \in A^n$  such that  $[a_1 \mathbf{z}_1] = \mathbf{b}$  (since  $A [ ]$  is an  $(n + 1, n)$ -group). For  $a_1$  and  $\mathbf{z}_1$  there exists  $\mathbf{z}_2 \in A^n$  such that  $[a_2 \mathbf{z}_2] = \mathbf{z}_1$ . After  $n$  steps we will find  $\mathbf{z}_n = \mathbf{x} \in A^n$  such that  $[a_1 a_2 \dots a_n \mathbf{x}] = [\mathbf{a} \mathbf{x}] = \mathbf{b}$ . Hence, for each  $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b} \in A^n$  there exists  $\mathbf{x} \in A^n$  such that  $\mathbf{a} \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$ . Similarly, for each  $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b} \in A^n$  there exists  $\mathbf{y} \in A^n$  such that  $\mathbf{y} \mathbf{a} = \mathbf{b}$ . (i), (ii) and (iii) imply that  $A^n$  is a group. ■

*Proposition 2.* Let  $a \in A$ , and  $\mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c} \in A^n$ . If  $[\mathbf{a} \mathbf{b}] = [\mathbf{a} \mathbf{c}]$  then  $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{c}$ . If  $[\mathbf{b}, a] = [\mathbf{c}, a]$  then  $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{c}$ . ( $A [ ]$  is a cancellative  $(n + 1, n)$ -semigroup.)

*Proof.* Let  $\mathbf{e} = (e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n)$  be the identity in the group  $A^n$ , and let  $[\mathbf{a} \mathbf{b}] = [\mathbf{a} \mathbf{c}]$ . Then.

$[\mathbf{e} a] \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{e} [\mathbf{a} \mathbf{b}] = [\mathbf{a} \mathbf{b}] = [\mathbf{a} \mathbf{c}] = \mathbf{e} [\mathbf{a} \mathbf{c}] = [\mathbf{e} a] \mathbf{c}$ , which implies that  $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{c}$ , because this is an equation in the group  $A^n$ . ■

*Proposition 3.* The identity  $\mathbf{e}$  in  $A^n$  is equal to  $(e, e, \dots, e, e)$  for an element  $e \in A$ .

*Proof.* Let  $\mathbf{e} = (e_1, \dots, e_n)$ . We will show that  $e_1 = e_2 = \dots = e_n = e$ . For each  $x \in A$ ,

$$[e_1 \dots e_n e_1 \dots e_{n-1} x] = (e_1, \dots, e_{n-1}, x) = [e_1 \dots e_{n-1} x e_1 \dots e_n],$$

which implies, by Proposition 2, that for each  $x \in A$ ,  $(e_n e_1 \dots e_{n-1} x) = [x e_1 \dots e_n]$ . Now for  $x \in A$  and  $y \in A^n$   $(e_n e_1 \dots e_{n-1}) [x y] = [e_n e_1 \dots e_{n-1} x y] = [x e_1 \dots e_n y] = [x [e_1 \dots e_n y]] = [x y] = e [x y]$ . Now we can cancel by  $[x y]$  and get that  $(e_n, e_1, \dots, e_{n-1}) = (e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n)$ , which implies that  $e_1 = e_2 = \dots = e_n$  ■.

The element  $(x, x, \dots, x, x) \in A^i$  will be denoted by  $x^i$  or  $(x^i)$ .

*Proposition 4.* Let  $i \in \{1, \dots, n - 1\}$ . If  $[e e^i] = e$ , then  $|A| = 1$ .

*Proof.*  $[e e^i] = e$  implies that  $[e^i e] = e$ . Let  $x \in A$ . Then  $(e^{n-1}, x) = e (e^{n-1}, x) = [e e^{n-1} x] = [e e^i e^{n-1} x] = [e^{n+i-1} x]$ , and  $(e^{n-1}, x) = (e^{n-1}, x) = [e^{n-1} x e] = [e^{n-1} x e^i e] = [e^{n-1} x e^i]$ . So, for each  $x \in A$ ,  $[e^i e^{n-i-1} x e^i] = [e^{n-1} x e^i] = [e^{n+i-1} x] = [e^i e^{n-1} x]$ , which implies, by Proposition 2, that  $(e^{n-i-1}, x, e^i) = (e^{n-1}, x)$ . Hence, for each  $x \in A$ ,  $x = e$ , i.e.  $|A| = 1$ . ■

*Proposition 5.* Let  $1 < |A| < \infty$ . Then  $n$  is a divisor of  $|A|^n$ .

*Proof.* We will show that  $[e^{n+1}] \in A^n$  has order  $n$ , and because  $A^n$  is a finite group it will imply that  $n$  is a divisor of  $|A|^n$ .

$$[e^{n+1}]^n = [e^{n(n+1)}] = [e^{nn+n}] = [e^{nn} e] = [e^{nn}] = e^n = e.$$

Let  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n - 1\}$  and let  $[e^{n+1}]^i = e$ . Then  $e = [e^{ni+i}] = [(e^n)^i e^i] = [e e^i]$ , which together with  $1 < |A|$  contradicts Proposition 4. Hence,  $[e^{n+1}]$  has order  $n$ . ■

*Proposition 6.* If  $[x_1 x_2 \dots x_{n+1}] = e$ , then for each  $1 \leq i \leq n + 1$ ,  $[x_i x_{i+1} \dots x_{n+1} x_1 \dots x_{i-1}] = e$ .

*Proof.*  $[x_1 x_2 \dots x_{n+1}] = e$  implies that  $(x_1, \dots, x_n) [x_{n+1} e] = e = [x_{n+1} e] (x_1, \dots, x_n) = [x_{n+1} e x_1 \dots x_n] = [x_{n+1} x_1 \dots x_n]$ . ■

*Proposition 7.* If  $[x_1 x_2 \dots x_{n+1}] = e$ , then there is a positive integer  $m$ , such that  $n + 1 = mr$ ; for each  $1 \leq i < m$ ,  $x_i = x_{i+m} = \dots = x_{i+(r-1)m}$ ; and  $|\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m\}| = m$ .

*Proof.* Let  $[x_1 x_2 \dots x_{n+1}] = e$ . If  $x_i \neq x_j$  for  $i \neq j$ , then  $m = n + 1$ , and  $|\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n+1}\}| = n + 1$ . Suppose that  $x_i = x_j$  for some  $i \neq j$ . Then Propositions 2 and 6 imply that  $x_1 = x_k$  for some  $k \neq 1$ . Let  $s$  be the smallest integer such that  $x_1 = x_s$ , and let  $m = s - 1$ . Then from the equation

$$[x_1 x_2 \dots x_m x_1 x_{m+2} \dots x_{2m} x_{2m+1} \dots x_{3m} x_{3m+1} \dots x_{n+1}] = [x_1 x_{m+2} \dots x_{2m} x_{2m+1} \dots x_{3m} x_{3m+1} \dots x_{n+1} x_1 x_2 \dots x_m]$$

we get that  $x_m = x_{2m} = x_{3m} = \dots = x_{rm}$ ,  $n + 1 = rm$ ; and for each  $1 \leq i < m$ ,  $x_i = x_{m+i} = x_{2m+i} = \dots = x_{(r-1)m+i}$ . ■



Let  $x \in A$ . Then  $[x e] \in A^n$ , and there is an element  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \in A^n$ , such that  $[x e](x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = e$ . This implies that  $[xx_1x_2 \dots x_n] = e$ . For  $x \in A$ , let  $B_x$  be the set  $\{x, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_m\}$  such that  $[(xx_2x_3 \dots x_m)^r] = e$ , for some  $r$  with  $mr = n + 1$ . Propositions 2 and 7, show that  $B_x$  is uniquely and well determined by  $x$ .

*Proposition 8.*  $B_x \cap B_y \neq \emptyset$  implies  $B_x = B_y$ .

*Proof.* Let  $B_x = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m\}$ ,  $B_y = \{y_1, y_2, \dots, y_k\}$ ,  $x = x_1, y = y_1$ ,  $mr = n + 1 = ks$ , and  $[(x_1x_2 \dots x_m)^r] = e = [(y_1y_2 \dots y_k)^s]$ . Let  $B_x \cap B_y \neq \emptyset$ . Then there are  $i$  and  $j$  such that  $x_i = y_j$ , and

$$[(y_j y_{j+1} \dots y_k y_1 \dots y_{j-1})^s] = e = [(x_i x_{i+1} \dots x_m x_1 \dots x_{i-1})^r].$$

Now, Proposition 2 implies that  $r = s$ ,  $m = k$  and  $B_x = B_y$ . ■

*Proposition 9.* Let  $B_x = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m\}$  for  $x = x_1$  and  $n + 1 = mr$ . If  $|A| \neq 1$ , then  $[ex_1x_2 \dots x_m]$  has order  $r$  in the group  $A^n$ .

*Proof.*  $[e x_1 \dots x_m]^r = [(x_1 \dots x_m)^r] = e$ . Let  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, r - 1\}$  and let  $[e x_1x_2 \dots x_m]^i = e = [e(x_1 \dots x_m)^i]$ . Let  $n + 1 = mi + t$  where  $t \geq m$ . Then  $[e^{n-t}(x_1 \dots x_m)^i e^t] = e = [e^{n-t+1}(x_1 \dots x_m)^i e^{t-1}]$ , which implies, by Proposition 2, that  $((x_1, \dots, x_m)^i, e^{t-1}) = (e, (x_1, \dots, x_m)^i, e^{t-2})$ . This equation implies that  $x_1 = x_2 = \dots = x_m = e$ , which contradicts Proposition 4, because

$$e = [(x_1x_2 \dots x_m)^r] = [e^{n+1}] = [e e]. \blacksquare$$

*Proof of Theorem 1.* Let  $p$  be a prime divisor of  $n$ . Then  $p$  is a divisor of  $|A|^n$  by Proposition 5, which implies that  $p$  is a divisor of  $|A|$ .

Proposition 8 tells us that we can write  $A$  as a disjoint union of the sets  $B_x$ . Let  $A = (\cup B_x^1) \cup (\cup B_x^2) \cup \dots \cup (\cup B_x^t)$ , where  $B_x^i$  are the sets  $B_x$  that have  $r_i$  elements,  $n + 1 = p_1 > p_2 > \dots > p_t = 1$ , and  $n + 1 = p_i r_i$  for each  $i$ . Let  $d$  be the greatest common divisor for  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_t$ . Since  $A = \cup B_x$ , it follows that  $d$  is a divisor of  $|A|$ . Let  $p$  be a prime divisor of  $n + 1$ . If  $p$  is a divisor of each  $p_i$  then  $p$  is a divisor of  $d$ , and so is a divisor of  $|A|$ . If there is  $i$  such that  $p$  is not a divisor of  $p_i$ , then  $p$  is a divisor of  $r_i$  (because  $n + 1 = p_i r_i$ ). By Proposition 9,  $r_i$  is a divisor of  $|A|^n$ , and so  $p$  is a divisor of  $|A|$ . ■

*Corollary 1.* Let  $A [ ]$  be an  $(n + 1, n)$ -group, and  $1 < |A| < \infty$ . Then  $|A|$  is even.

*Proof.* For each  $n$ , 2 is a divisor of  $n(n + 1)$ . ■

*Theorem 3.* Let  $A [ ]$  be an  $(n + 1, n)$ -group,  $n \geq 2$  and  $1 < |A| < \infty$ . Then, for each divisor  $m \neq 1$  of  $n$ , each prime divisor  $p$  of  $m + 1$  is also a divisor of  $|A|$ .

*Proof.* Since  $A [ ]$  is an  $(n + 1, n)$ -group, it can be made into an  $(n + t, n)$ -group for each  $t \geq 1$ . (See [1, 3.2. (c)]). Let  $n = ms$ , for  $m \neq 1$ . Then we have an  $(n + m, n)$  i.e.  $((m + 1)s, ms)$  - group structure on  $A$ . This structure gives us an  $(m + 1, m)$ -group structure on  $A^s$ . Now we apply Theorem 1. ■

*Corollary 2.* Let  $A [ ]$  be an  $(n, m)$ -group,  $m \geq 2$ ,  $n = (r + 1)s$ ,  $m = rs$  and  $1 < |A| < \infty$ . Then, for each divisor  $h$  of  $r$ , each prime divisor  $p$  of  $(h + 1)n(n + 1)$  is a divisor of  $|A|$ . ■

*Proof of Theorem 2.* Let  $A [ ]$  be a commutative  $(n + 1, n)$ -group,  $n \geq 2$  and let  $e = (e, e, \dots, e)$  be the identity in the group  $A$  (Proposition 3). Commutativity implies that  $[e x] = [e^{n-1} x e]$  for each  $x \in A$ . After cancelling we get that  $x = e$ , for each  $x \in A$ . Here we use the fact that  $n \geq 2$ . Hence  $|A| = 1$ . ■

*Corollary 3.* If  $S [ ]$  is a nontrivial ( $|S| \neq 1$ ) cancellative, commutative  $(n + 1, n)$  - semigroup,  $n \geq 2$ , then  $S [ ]$  is not an  $(n + 1, n)$ -sub-semigroup of a commutative  $(n + 1, n)$ -group. ■

#### REFERENCES

- [1] Čupona, G.: Vector valued semigroups, Semigroup Forum Vol. 26 (1983) 65-74.

#### Резиме

#### НЕКОИ УСЛОВИ ЗА ПОСТОЕЊЕ НА ВЕКТОРСКО ВРЕДНОСНИ ГРУПИ

Дончо Димовски

Главните резултати во оваа работа се следните теореми:

*Теорема 1.* Нека  $A [ ]$  е  $(n + 1, n)$ -група,  $n > 2$  и  $1 < |A| < \infty$ . Тогаш секој прост делител  $p$  на  $n(n + 1)$  е исто така и делител на  $|A|$ . ■

*Теорема 2.* Ако  $[ ]$  е комутативна  $(n + 1, n)$ -група,  $n > 2$ , тогаш  $|A| = 1$ .

Овие резултати даваат делумни одговори на прашањата, поставени од Г. Чупона, за постоење на конечни  $(n, m)$ -групи и за сместување на комутативни  $(n, m)$ -полугрупи со кратење во комутативни  $(n, m)$ -групи, кога  $m$  не е делител на  $n$ .