



## New algebraic properties of middle Bol loops II

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### Abstract:

A loop  $(Q, \cdot, \backslash, /)$  is called a middle Bol loop (MBL) if it obeys the identity  $x(yz \backslash x) = (x/z)(y \backslash x)$ . To every MBL corresponds a right Bol loop (RBL) and a left Bol loop (LBL). In this paper, some new algebraic properties of a middle Bol loop are established in a different style. Some new methods of constructing a MBL by using a non-abelian group, the holomorph of a right Bol loop and a ring are described. Some equivalent necessary and sufficient conditions for a right (left) Bol loop to be a middle Bol loop are established. A RBL (MBL, LBL, MBL) is shown to be a MBL (RBL, MBL, LBL) if and only if it is a Moufang loop.

**Keywords:** Bol loops; Middle Bol loops; Moufang loops.

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## 1. Introduction

Let  $G$  be a non-empty set. Define a binary operation  $(\cdot)$  on  $G$ . If  $x \cdot y \in G$  for all  $x, y \in G$ , then the pair  $(G, \cdot)$  is called a *groupoid* or *Magma*. If each of the equations:

$$a \cdot x = b \quad \text{and} \quad y \cdot a = b \quad \text{for all } a, b \in G$$

has unique solutions in  $G$  for  $x$  and  $y$  respectively, then  $(G, \cdot)$  is called a *quasigroup*.

If there exists a unique element  $e \in G$  called the *identity element* such that for all  $x \in G$ ,  $x \cdot e = e \cdot x = x$ , then  $(G, \cdot)$  is called a *loop*. We write  $xy$  instead of  $x \cdot y$ , and stipulate that  $\cdot$  has lower priority than juxtaposition among factors to be multiplied. For instance,  $x \cdot yz$  stands for  $x(yz)$ .

Let  $x$  be a fixed element in a groupoid  $(G, \cdot)$ . The left and right translation maps of  $G$ ,  $L_x$  and  $R_x$  respectively can be defined by

$$yL_x = x \cdot y \quad \text{and} \quad yR_x = y \cdot x.$$

It can now be seen that a groupoid  $(G, \cdot)$  is a quasigroup if its left and right translation mappings are bijections or permutations. Since the left and right translation mappings of a loop are bijective, then the inverse mappings  $L_x^{-1}$  and  $R_x^{-1}$  exist. Let

$$x \backslash y = yL_x^{-1} = y\mathcal{L}_x = x\mathcal{R}_y \quad \text{and} \quad x/y = xR_y^{-1} = x\mathbf{R}_y = y\mathbf{L}_x$$

and note that

$$x \backslash y = z \iff x \cdot z = y \quad \text{and} \quad x/y = z \iff z \cdot y = x.$$

Hence,  $(G, \backslash)$  and  $(G, /)$  are also quasigroups. Using the operations  $(\backslash)$  and  $(/)$ , the definition of a loop can be stated as follows.

**Definition 1.1.** (i)  $x \cdot (x \backslash y) = y$ ,  $(y/x) \cdot x = y$  for all  $x, y \in G$ ,

(ii)  $x \backslash (x \cdot y) = y$ ,  $(y \cdot x)/x = y$  for all  $x, y \in G$  and

(iii)  $x \backslash x = y/y$  or  $e \cdot x = x$  for all  $x, y \in G$ .

We also stipulate that  $(/)$  and  $(\backslash)$  have higher priority than  $(\cdot)$  among factors to be multiplied. For instance,  $x \cdot y/z$  and  $x \cdot y \backslash z$  stand for  $x(y/z)$  and  $x(y \backslash z)$  respectively.

In a loop  $(G, \cdot)$  with identity element  $e$ , the *left inverse element* of  $x \in G$  is the element  $xJ_\lambda = x^\lambda \in G$  such that

$$x^\lambda \cdot x = e$$

while the *right inverse element* of  $x \in G$  is the element  $xJ_\rho = x^\rho \in G$  such that

$$x \cdot x^\rho = e.$$

For an overview of the theory of loops, readers may check [2, 3, 4, 6, 10, 14, **16**, 22].

A loop satisfying the identical relation

$$(1.1) \quad (xy \cdot z)y = x(yz \cdot y)$$

is called a right Bol loop (Bol loop, RBL). A loop satisfying the identical relation

$$(1.2) \quad (x \cdot yx)z = x(y \cdot xz)$$

is called a left Bol loop (LBL). A loop satisfying the identical relation

$$(1.3) \quad xy \cdot zx = x(yz) \cdot x$$

is called a Moufang loop.

A loop  $(Q, \cdot)$  is called a middle Bol if it satisfies the identity

$$(1.4) \quad x(yz \setminus x) = (x/z)(y \setminus x)$$

It is known that the identity (1.4) is universal under loop isotopy and that the universality of (1.4) implies the power associativity of the middle Bol loops (Grecu and Syrbu [7]. Furthermore, (1.4) is a necessary and sufficient condition for the universality of the anti-automorphic inverse property (Syrbu [20]). Middle Bol loops were originally introduced in 1967 by Belousov [1] and were later considered in 1971 by Gwaramija [9], who proved that a loop  $(Q, \circ)$  is middle Bol if and only if there exists a right Bol loop  $(Q, \cdot)$  such that

$$(1.5) \quad x \circ y = (y \cdot xy^{-1})y, \text{ for every } x, y \in Q.$$

This result of Gwaramija [9] is formally stated below:

**Theorem 1.1.** *If  $(Q, \cdot)$  is a left (right) Bol loop then the groupoid  $(Q, \circ)$ , where  $x \circ y = y(y^{-1}x \cdot y)$  (respectively,  $x \circ y = (y \cdot xy^{-1})y$ ), for all  $x, y \in Q$ , is a middle Bol loop and, conversely, if  $(Q, \circ)$  is a middle Bol loop then there exists a left (right) Bol loop  $(Q, \cdot)$  such that  $x \circ y = y(y^{-1}x \cdot y)$  (respectively,  $x \circ y = (y \cdot xy^{-1})y$ ), for all  $x, y \in Q$ .*

**Remark 1.1.** *Theorem 1.1 implies that if  $(Q, \cdot)$  is a left Bol loop and  $(Q, \circ)$  is the corresponding middle Bol loop then  $x \circ y = x/y^{-1}$  and  $x \cdot y = x//y^{-1}$ , where  $"/$  ( $//$ ) is the right division in  $(Q, \cdot)$  (respectively, in  $(Q, \circ)$ ). Similarly, if  $(Q, \cdot)$  is a right Bol loop and  $(Q, \circ)$  is the corresponding middle Bol loop then  $x \circ y = y^{-1} \backslash y$  and  $x \cdot y = y//x^{-1}$ , where  $\backslash$  ( $//$ ) is the left (right) division in  $(Q, \cdot)$  (respectively, in  $(Q, \circ)$ ). Hence, middle Bol loops are isotrophs of left and right Bol loops.*

*If  $(Q, \circ)$  is a middle Bol loop and  $(Q, \cdot)$  is the corresponding left Bol loop, then  $(Q, *)$ , where  $x * y = y \cdot x$ , for every  $x, y \in Q$ , is the corresponding right Bol loop for  $(Q, \circ)$ . So,  $(Q, \cdot)$  is a left Bol loop,  $(Q, *)$  is a right Bol loop and*

$$x \circ y = y(y^{-1}x \cdot y) = [y * (x * y^{-1})] * y,$$

*for every  $x, y \in Q$ .*

After then, middle Bol loops resurfaced in literature not until 1994 and 1996 when Syrbu [18, 19] considered them in-relation to the universality of the elasticity law.

In 2003, Kuznetsov ([13]), while studying gyrogroups (a special class of Bol loops) established some algebraic properties of middle Bol loop and designed a method of constructing a middle Bol loop from a gyrogroup. According to him, in a middle Bol loop  $(Q, \cdot)$  with identity element  $e$ , the following are true.

1. The left inverse element  $x^\lambda$  and the right inverse element  $x^\rho$  to an element  $x \in Q$  coincide:  $x^\lambda = x^\rho$ .
2. If  $(Q, \cdot, e)$  is a left Bol loop and  $"/$  is the right inverse operation to the operation  $\cdot$ , then the operation  $x \circ y = x/y^{-1}$  is a middle Bol loop  $(Q, \circ, e)$ , and every one middle Bol loop can be obtained in a similar way from some left Bol loop.

These confirm the observations of earlier authors mentioned above.

In 2010, Syrbu [20] studied the connections between structure and properties of middle Bol loops and of the corresponding left Bol loops. It was noted that two middle Bol loops are isomorphic if and only if the corresponding left (right) Bol loops are isomorphic, and a general form of the autotopisms of middle Bol loops was deduced. Relations between different sets of elements, such as nucleus, left (right, middle) nuclei, the set of Moufang elements, the center, e.t.c. of a middle Bol loop and left Bol loops were established.

In 2012, Grecu and Syrbu [7] proved that two middle Bol loops are isotopic if and only if the corresponding right (left) Bol loops are isotopic. They also proved that a middle Bol loop  $(Q, \circ)$  is flexible if and only if the corresponding right Bol loop  $(Q, \cdot)$  satisfies the identity

$$(yx)^{-1} \cdot (x^{-1} \cdot y^{-1})^{-1} x = x.$$

In 2012, Drapal and Shcherbacov [5] rediscovered the middle Bol identities in a new way.

In 2013, Syrbu and Grecu [21] established a necessary and sufficient condition for the quotient loops of a middle Bol loop and of its corresponding right Bol loop to be isomorphic.

In 2014, Grecu and Syrbu [8] established:

1. that the commutant (centrum) of a middle Bol loop is an AIP-subloop and
2. a necessary and sufficient condition for the commutant to be invariant under the existing isotropy between middle Bol loop and the corresponding right Bol loop.

In 1994, Syrbu[18], while studying loops with universal elasticity  $(xy \cdot x = x \cdot yx)$  established a necessary and sufficient condition  $(xy/z)(b \setminus xz) = x(b \setminus [(by/z)(b \setminus xz)])$  for a loop  $(Q, \cdot, \setminus, /)$  to be universally elastic. Furthermore, he constructed some finite examples of loops in which this condition and the middle Bol identity  $x(yz \setminus x) = (x/z)(y \setminus x)$  are equivalent, and then posed an open problem of investigating if these two identities are also equivalent in all other finite loops.

In 2012, Drapal and Shcherbacov [5] reported that Kinyon constructed a non-flexible middle Bol loop of order 16. This necessitates a reformulation of the Syrbu's open problem. Although the above authors also reported

that Kinyon reformulated the Syrbu's open problem as follows: Let  $Q$  be a loop such that every isotope of  $Q$  is flexible and has the AAIP. Must  $Q$  be a middle Bol loop? Jaiyéolá and David [11] initiated the preparation of the ground for different reformulation of Syrbu's open problem based on the fact that the algebraic properties and structural properties of middle Bol loops have been studied in the past relative to their corresponding right (left) Bol loop. In this work, we continue our earlier study

1. by digging out some new algebraic properties of a middle Bol loop;
2. developing new methods of constructing a middle Bol loop;
3. by establishing necessary and sufficient condition(s) for a right (left) Bol loop to be a middle Bol loop.

Jaiyéolá et al. [12] studied the holomorphy of middle Bol loops.

**Definition 1.2.** Let  $(L, \cdot)$  be a loop. The pair  $(H, \circ)$  given by  $H = A(L) \times L$  where  $A(L) \leq AUM(L, \cdot)$  and  $(\alpha, x) \circ (\beta, y) = (\alpha\beta, x\beta \cdot y)$  for all  $(\alpha, x), (\beta, y) \in H$  is a loop called the  $A(L)$ -Holomorph of  $(L, \cdot)$ .

We shall need the following results.

**Lemma 1.1.** (Jaiyéolá and David [11]) Let  $(Q, \cdot, \backslash, /)$  be a loop. The following are equivalent.

1.  $(Q, \cdot, \backslash, /)$  is a middle Bol loop.
2.  $x(yz \backslash x) = (x/z)(y \backslash x)$  for all  $x, y, z \in Q$ .
3.  $(x/yz)x = (x/z)(y \backslash x)$  for all  $x, y, z \in Q$ .

**Theorem 1.2.** (Pflugfelder [14])

A RBL (LBL)  $(Q, \cdot)$  is a Moufang loop if and only if any of the following is true:

1.  $(Q, \cdot)$  is a LIPL (RIPL).
2.  $(Q, \cdot)$  is a LAPL (RAPL).
3.  $(Q, \cdot)$  is a flexible loop.
4.  $(Q, \cdot)$  is a LBL (RBL).

5.  $(Q, \cdot)$  is a dissociative loop.
6.  $(Q, \cdot)$  is a AAIPL.

**Theorem 1.3.** (Solarin and Sharma [17]) Let  $H$  be a subgroup of a non-abelian group  $G$  and let  $A = H \times G$ . For  $(h_1, g_1), (h_2, g_2) \in A$ , define;

$$(h_1, g_1) \circ (h_2, g_2) = (h_1 h_2, h_2 g_1 h_2^{-1} g_2),$$

then  $(A, \circ)$  is a right Bol loop.

**Theorem 1.4.** (Robinson [15])

Let  $(L, \cdot)$  be a loop with an  $A(L)$ -Holomorph  $(H, \circ)$ .  $(H, \circ)$  is a right Bol loop if and only if

1.  $(L, \cdot)$  is a right Bol loop and
2.  $x^{-1} \cdot x\alpha \in N_\rho(L, \cdot)$  for all  $\alpha \in A(L)$  and  $x \in L$ .

Consider  $(G, \cdot)$  and  $(H, \circ)$  being two groupoids (quasigroups, loops). Let  $A, B$  and  $C$  be three bijective mappings from  $G$  onto  $H$ . The triple  $\alpha = (A, B, C)$  is called an isotopism of  $(G, \cdot)$  onto  $(H, \circ)$  if and only if

$$xA \circ yB = (x \cdot y)C \quad \forall x, y \in G.$$

So,  $(H, \circ)$  is called a groupoid (quasigroup, loop) isotope of  $(G, \cdot)$ .

If  $C = I$ , the identity map on  $G$  so that  $H = G$ , then the triple  $\alpha = (A, B, I)$  is called a principal isotopism of  $(G, \cdot)$  onto  $(G, \circ)$  and  $(G, \circ)$  is called a principal isotope of  $(G, \cdot)$ . Eventually, the equation of relationship now becomes

$$x \cdot y = xA \circ yB \quad \forall x, y \in G$$

which is easier to work with. But taking  $A = R_g$  and  $B = L_f$  for some  $f, g \in G$ , the relationship now becomes

$$x \cdot y = xR_g \circ yL_f \quad \forall x, y \in G \quad \text{or} \quad x \circ y = xR_g^{-1} \cdot yL_f^{-1} \quad \forall x, y \in G.$$

With this new form, the triple  $\alpha = (R_g, L_f, I)$  is called an  $f, g$ -principal isotopism of  $(G, \cdot)$  onto  $(G, \circ)$ ,  $f$  and  $g$  are called translation elements of  $G$  or at times written in the pair form  $(g, f)$ , while  $(G, \circ)$  is called an  $f, g$ -principal isotope of  $(G, \cdot)$ .

The last form of  $\alpha$  above gave rise to an important result in the study of loop isotopes of loops.

**Theorem 1.5.** (Pflugfelder [14]) Let  $(G, \cdot)$  and  $(H, \circ)$  be two isotopic loops. For some  $f, g \in G$ , there exists an  $f, g$ -principal isotope  $(G, *)$  of  $(G, \cdot)$  such that  $(H, \circ) \cong (G, *)$ .

With this result, to investigate the isotopic invariance of an isomorphic invariant property in loops, one simply needs only to check if the property in consideration is true in all  $f, g$ -principal isotopes of the loop. A property is isotopic invariant if whenever it holds in the domain loop i.e  $(G, \cdot)$  then it must hold in the co-domain loop i.e  $(H, \circ)$  which is an isotope of the former. In such a situation, the property in consideration is said to be a universal property hence the loop is called a universal loop relative to the property in consideration. Like we mentioned earlier on, middle Bol loops are universal.

Recall that for any quasigroup  $(Q, \cdot)$ , the group of autotopisms is given by

$$AUT(Q, \cdot) = \{T = (U, V, W) \in SYM(Q)^3 \mid xU \cdot yV = (x \cdot y)W \ \forall x, y \in Q\}.$$

We now introduce the set of anti-autotopisms giving by

$$AAUT(Q, \cdot) = \{T' = \langle U', V', W' \rangle \in SYM(Q)^3 \mid xU' \cdot yV' = (y \cdot x)W' \ \forall x, y \in Q\}.$$

Define  $\circ$  and  $\odot$  on  $SYM(Q, \cdot)^3$  such that for all  $[A_1, B_1, C_1], [A_2, B_2, C_2] \in SYM(Q)^3$ :

$$[A_1, B_1, C_1] \circ [A_2, B_2, C_2] = [A_1A_2, B_1B_2, C_1C_2] \in SYM(Q)^3 \text{ and}$$

$$[A_1, B_1, C_1] \odot [A_2, B_2, C_2] = [B_1A_2, A_1B_2, C_1C_2] \in SYM(Q)^3.$$

## 2. Main Results

### 2.1. Algebraic Properties of a Middle Bol Loop

**Theorem 2.1.** Let  $(Q, \cdot, \backslash, /)$  be a middle Bol loop. Then, for all  $x, y, z, g \in Q$ :

1.  $x \cdot ([yz]/g) \backslash (xg) = [(xg)/z] [y \backslash (xg)]$ .
2.  $\langle \mathbf{L}_{xg}, \mathcal{R}_{xg}, \mathbf{R}_g \mathcal{R}_{xg} L_x \rangle \in AAUT(Q, \cdot)$ .
3.  $\mathbf{R}_g \mathcal{R}_{xg} L_x = \mathcal{R}_{xg} L_{xg} = \mathbf{L}_{xg} R_{xg}$ .
4.  $x \cdot (y/g) \backslash (xg) = (xg) [y \backslash (xg)]$ .



5.  $x \cdot y \backslash (xg) = (xg) \left[ (yg) \backslash (xg) \right] = (xg) / (yg) \cdot xg.$
6.  $(y/x)^{-1} = x^{-1} \backslash y^{-1}.$
7.  $(y/g) \backslash g = g(y \backslash g).$
8.  $x \cdot g^{-1} \backslash (xg) = (xg)^2.$
9.  $g^{-1} \cdot x \backslash (xg) = xg.$
10.  $(xy) \backslash (x \cdot xy) = y \backslash (xy).$

**Proof.** Let  $(Q, \cdot, \backslash, /)$  be a middle Bol loop with an arbitrary loop isotope  $(H, \circ, , )$ . Then by Theorem 1.5, for some  $f, g \in G$ , there exists  $f, g$ -principal isotope  $(Q, *, \nwarrow, \nearrow)$  of  $(Q, \cdot, \backslash, /)$  such that  $(H, \circ, , ) \cong (Q, *, \nwarrow, \nearrow)$ . So,

$$x \cdot y = xR_g \circ yL_f \iff x * y = xR_g^{-1} \cdot yL_f^{-1} = x/g \cdot f \backslash y \quad \forall x, y \in G.$$

$(Q, *, \nwarrow, \nearrow)$  is a middle Bol loop if and only if

$$(2.1) \quad x * [(y * z) \nwarrow x] = (x \nearrow g) * (y \nwarrow x)$$

It is easy to check that

$$(2.2) \quad x \nearrow y = x / (f \backslash y) \cdot g \text{ and } x \nwarrow y = f \cdot (x/g) \backslash y$$

Applying (2.2) to the LHS and RHS of (2.1), we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{LHS} &= x * [(y * z) \nwarrow x] = x * \left[ (y/g \cdot f \backslash z) \nwarrow x \right] = x * \left\{ f \cdot \left[ (y/g \cdot f \backslash z) / g \right] \backslash x \right\} \\ &= x/g \cdot \left[ (y/g \cdot f \backslash z) / g \right] \backslash x. \\ \text{RHS} &= (x \nearrow g) * (y \nwarrow x) = \left[ x / (f \backslash z) \cdot g \right] * \left[ f \cdot (y/g) \backslash x \right] = \left[ x / (f \backslash z) \right] \cdot \left[ (y/g) \backslash x \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, LHS=RHS if and only if

$$(2.3) \quad x \cdot \left[ (yz) / g \right] \backslash (xg) = \left[ (xg) / z \right] [y \backslash (xg)]$$

$$(2.4) \quad \iff (yz) \mathbf{R}_g \mathcal{R}_{xg} L_x = z \mathbf{L}_{xg} \cdot y \mathcal{R}_{xg}$$

$$(2.5) \quad \iff \left\langle \mathbf{L}_{xg}, \mathcal{R}_{xg}, \mathbf{R}_g \mathcal{R}_{xg} L_x \right\rangle \in AAUT(Q, \cdot)$$

Put  $y = e, z = e$  in (2.4) separately to get

$$(2.6) \quad \mathbf{R}_g \mathcal{R}_{xg} L_x = \mathcal{R}_{xg} L_{xg} = \mathbf{L}_{xg} R_{xg}$$

$$(2.7) \quad \iff x \cdot y \backslash (xg) = (xg) \left[ (yg) \backslash (xg) \right] = (xg)/(yg) \cdot xg$$

So, we have proved 1. to 5. according to (2.3) to (2.7) while the proof of 6. to 10. are achieved by making appropriate substitutions in (2.7).  $\square$

**Theorem 2.2.** *Let  $(Q, \cdot, \backslash, /)$  be a middle Bol loop. Then, for all  $x, y, z, f \in Q$ :*

1.  $\left\{ (fx)/(f \backslash (yz)) \right\} x = \left[ (fx)/z \right] \left[ y \backslash (fx) \right]$ .
2.  $\langle \mathbf{L}_{fx}, \mathcal{R}_{fx}, \mathcal{L}_f \mathbf{L}_{fx} R_x \rangle \in AAUT(Q, \cdot)$ .
3.  $\mathcal{L}_f \mathbf{L}_{fx} R_x = \mathbf{L}_{fx} R_{fx} = \mathcal{R}_{fx} L_{fx}$ .
4.  $(fx)/(f \backslash y) \cdot x = (fx)/y = fx \cdot y \backslash (fx)$ .
5.  $(fx)/y \cdot x = (fx)/(fy) \cdot fx = fx \cdot (fy) \backslash (fx)$ .
6.  $(x \backslash y)^{-1} = y^{-1}/x^{-1}$ .
7.  $f/(f \backslash y) = f/y \cdot f, (fx)/f \cdot fx = fx \cdot x$ .
8.  $(fx)^2 = (fx)/f^{-1} \cdot x$ .
9.  $(yx)/y = (yx \cdot x)/(yx)$ .

**Proof.** The proof is similar to that of Theorem 2.1 based on the fact that by Lemma 1.1, identities (1.4) and  $(x/yz)x = (x/z)(y \backslash x)$  equivalently define a MBL.  $\square$

**Lemma 2.1.** *Let  $(Q, \cdot)$  be a quasigroup.*

1. For all  $T'_1, T'_2 \in AAUT(Q, \cdot), T'_1 \odot T'_2 \in AUT(Q, \cdot)$ .
2.  $T' = \langle U, V, W \rangle \in AAUT(Q, \cdot) \iff T'^{-1} = \langle V^{-1}, U^{-1}, W^{-1} \rangle \in AAUT(Q, \cdot)$ .
3. For all  $T \in AUT(Q, \cdot)$  and  $T' \in AAUT(Q, \cdot), T \odot T' \in AAUT(Q, \cdot)$ .
4. For all  $T \in AUT(Q, \cdot)$  and  $T' \in AAUT(Q, \cdot), T' \circ T \in AAUT(Q, \cdot)$ .
5. For any anti-autotopism of  $(Q, \cdot)$ , any two components uniquely determine the third.

**Proof.** Recall that

$$AUT(Q, \cdot) = \{T = (U, V, W) \in SYM(Q) | xU \cdot yV = (x \cdot y)W \quad \forall x, y \in Q\}$$

and

$$AAUT(Q, \cdot) = \{T' = \langle U', V', W' \rangle \in SYM(Q) | xU' \cdot yV' = (y \cdot x)W' \quad \forall x, y \in Q\}.$$

Then,

1. Let  $T'_1 = \langle U', V', W' \rangle, T'_2 = \langle U'_2, V'_2, W'_2 \rangle \in AAUT(Q, \cdot)$ , then

$$x(V'_1 U'_2) \cdot y(U'_1 V'_2) = (xV'_1)U'_2 \cdot (yU'_1)V'_2 = (yU'_1 \cdot xV'_1)W'_2 = (xy)W_1 W_2.$$

That is,

$$\begin{aligned} T'_1 \odot T'_2 &= \langle U'_1, V'_1, W'_1 \rangle \odot \langle U'_2, V'_2, W'_2 \rangle \\ &= \langle V'_1 U'_2, U'_1 V'_2, W'_1 W'_2 \rangle \in AUT(Q, \cdot). \end{aligned}$$

2.  $T' = \langle U', V', W' \rangle \in AAUT(Q, \cdot) \Leftrightarrow xU' \cdot yV' = (y \cdot x)W'$

$$\Leftrightarrow (x \cdot y)W'^{-1} = yV'^{-1} \cdot xU'^{-1}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \langle V'^{-1}, U'^{-1}, W'^{-1} \rangle \in AAUT(Q, \cdot).$$

- 3.

$$\begin{aligned} x(VU') \cdot y(UV') &= (xV)U' \cdot (yU)V' \\ &= (yU \cdot xV)W' \\ &= (y \cdot x)WW' \end{aligned}$$

That is,

$$\begin{aligned} T \odot T' &= (U, V, W) \odot \langle U', V', W' \rangle \\ &= \langle VU', UV', WW' \rangle \in AAUT(Q, \cdot) \end{aligned}$$

4. Also,

$$\begin{aligned} x(U'U) \cdot y(V'V) &= (xU')U \cdot (yV')V \\ &= (xU' \cdot yV')W \\ &= (y \cdot x)W'W. \end{aligned}$$

That is,  $T' \circ T = \langle U', V', W' \rangle \cdot (U, V, W)$

$$= \langle U'U, V'V, W'W \rangle \in AAUT(Q, \cdot).$$

5. We shall now verify that any two components of an anti-autotopism uniquely determines the third. Let  $T_1 = \langle U_1, V_1, W_1 \rangle, T_2 = \langle U_2, V_2, W_2 \rangle \in AAUT(Q, \cdot)$ , then

$$xU_1 \cdot yV_1 = (y \cdot x)W_1 \text{ and } xU_2 \cdot yV_2 = (y \cdot x)W_2.$$

Assume  $U_1 = U_2$  and  $V_1 = V_2$ , then  $(y \cdot x)W_1 = (y \cdot x)W_2 \Rightarrow W_1 = W_2$ . Assume  $U_1 = U_2$  and  $W_1 = W_2$ , then  $xU_1 \cdot yV_1 = xU_2 \cdot yV_2 \Rightarrow yV_1 = yV_2 \Rightarrow V_1 = V_2$ . Assume  $V_1 = V_2$  and  $W_1 = W_2$ , then  $xU_1 \cdot yV_1 = xU_2 \cdot yV_2 \Rightarrow xU_1 = xU_2 \Rightarrow U_1 = U_2$ .

□

**Lemma 2.2.** Let  $(Q, \cdot, \backslash, /)$  be a loop.

1. The following are equivalent.
  1.  $(Q, \cdot, \backslash, /)$  is a middle Bol loop.
  2.  $\langle \mathbf{L}_x, \mathcal{R}_x, \mathcal{R}_x L_x \rangle \in AAUT(Q, \cdot)$  for all  $x \in Q$ .
  3.  $\langle \mathbf{L}_x, \mathcal{R}_x, \mathbf{L}_x R_x \rangle \in AAUT(Q, \cdot)$  for all  $x \in Q$ .
2. The following are equivalent.
  1.  $(Q, \cdot)$  is a left Bol loop.
  2.  $(R_x L_x, L_x^{-1}, L_x) \in AUT(Q, \cdot)$  for all  $x \in Q$ .
3. The following are equivalent.
  1.  $(Q, \cdot)$  is a right Bol loop.
  2.  $(R_x^{-1}, L_x R_x, R_x) \in AUT(Q, \cdot)$  for all  $x \in Q$ .

**Proof.**

1. Write the identities in Lemma 1.1 in anti-autotopic forms.
2. Write (1.2) in autotopic form.
3. Write (1.1) in autotopic form.

□

**Theorem 2.3.** A RBL  $(Q, \cdot)$  is a Middle Bol loop if and only if any of the following is true:

1.  $(Q, \cdot)$  is a LIPL.
2.  $(Q, \cdot)$  is a LAPL.
3.  $(Q, \cdot)$  is a flexible loop.
4.  $(Q, \cdot)$  is a LBL.
5.  $(Q, \cdot)$  is a dissociative loop.
6.  $(Q, \cdot)$  is a AAIPL.
7.  $(Q, \cdot)$  is a Moufang loop.
8.  $(Q, \cdot, \backslash, /)$  obeys the identity  $x(xy \cdot x)^{-1} \cdot (zx^{-1}) \backslash x = x(zy \cdot x)^{-1} \cdot x$ .

**Proof.** We shall need Lemma 2.1, Lemma 2.2 and Theorem 1.2.

$$\begin{aligned}
 (R_x^{-1}, L_x R_x, R_x) \odot \langle \mathbf{L}_x, \mathcal{R}_x, \mathbf{L}_x R_x \rangle &= \left\langle L_x R_x \mathbf{L}_x, R_x^{-1} \mathcal{R}_x, R_x \mathbf{L}_x R_x \right\rangle \\
 &= \left\langle L_x R_x \mathbf{L}_x, \mathbf{R}_x \mathcal{R}_x, R_x \mathbf{L}_x R_x \right\rangle \in AAUT(Q, \cdot) \iff \\
 (2.8) \quad x/(xy \cdot x) \cdot (z/x) \backslash x &= x/(zy \cdot x) \cdot x
 \end{aligned}$$

A loop  $(Q, \cdot)$  is a RIPL if and only if  $a/b = ab^{-1}$  for all  $a, b \in Q$ . So, (2.8) is true if and only if

$$x(xy \cdot x)^{-1} \cdot (zx^{-1}) \backslash x = x(zy \cdot x)^{-1} \cdot x.$$

Since a RBL which is also a MBL (has AAIP) is a Moufang loop, then (2.8) is equivalent to any of the properties 1. to 7.  $\square$

**Theorem 2.4.** A LBL  $(Q, \cdot)$  is a Middle Bol loop if and only if any of the following is true:

1.  $(Q, \cdot)$  is a RIPL.
2.  $(Q, \cdot)$  is a RAPL.
3.  $(Q, \cdot)$  is a flexible loop.
4.  $(Q, \cdot)$  is a RBL.
5.  $(Q, \cdot)$  is a dissociative loop.
6.  $(Q, \cdot)$  is a AAIPL.
7.  $(Q, \cdot)$  is a Moufang loop.
8.  $(Q, \cdot, \backslash, /)$  obeys the identity  $x/(x^{-1}y) \cdot (x \cdot zx)^{-1}x = x/(x \cdot zy)^{-1} \cdot x$ .

**Proof.** This is similar to the proof of Theorem 2.3.  $\square$

**Theorem 2.5.** Let  $(Q, \cdot)$  be a RBL (MBL, LBL, MBL).  $(Q, \cdot)$  is a MBL (RBL, MBL, LBL) if and only if  $(Q, \cdot)$  is a Moufang loop.

**Proof.** We shall need Lemma 2.1 and Lemma 2.2.

$$\langle \mathbf{L}_x, \mathcal{R}_x, \mathbf{L}_x R_x \rangle \circ (R_x^{-1}, L_x R_x, R_x) = \langle \mathbf{L}_x R_x^{-1}, \mathcal{R}_x L_x R_x, \mathbf{L}_x R_x R_x \rangle$$

$$= \langle \mathbf{L}_x \mathbf{R}_x, \mathcal{R}_x L_x R_x, \mathbf{L}_x R_x^2 \rangle \in AAUT(Q, \cdot) \iff$$

$$(x/y)/x \cdot [x(z \setminus x) \cdot x] = [x/(zy)]x \cdot x$$

$$\iff (xy \cdot x^{-1})[x(zx) \cdot x] = [x(yz)]x \cdot x \iff xy \cdot zx = x(yz) \cdot x \iff$$

$(Q, \cdot)$  is a Moufang loop. This settles the fact that if  $(Q, \cdot)$  is a RBL (MBL), then  $(Q, \cdot)$  is a MBL (RBL) if and only if  $(Q, \cdot)$  is a Moufang loop.

$$\langle \mathbf{L}_x, \mathcal{R}_x, \mathbf{L}_x R_x \rangle \circ (R_x L_x, L_x^{-1}, L_x) = \langle \mathbf{L}_x R_x L_x, \mathcal{R}_x L_x^{-1}, \mathbf{L}_x R_x L_x \rangle$$

$$= \langle \mathbf{L}_x R_x L_x, \mathcal{R}_x \mathcal{L}_x, \mathbf{L}_x R_x L_x \rangle \in AAUT(Q, \cdot) \iff$$

$$\left[ x \cdot (x/y)x \right] \left[ x \setminus (z \setminus x) \right] = \left[ x/(zy) \right] x$$

$$\iff \left[ x \cdot (xy^{-1})x \right] \left[ x^{-1}(z^{-1}x) \cdot x \right] = x \cdot \left[ x(y^{-1}z^{-1}) \right] x \iff xy \cdot zx = [x(yz)]x \iff$$

$(Q, \cdot)$  is a Moufang loop. This settles the fact that if  $(Q, \cdot)$  is a LBL (MBL), then  $(Q, \cdot)$  is a MBL (LBL) if and only if  $(Q, \cdot)$  is a Moufang loop.  $\square$

## 2.2. Construction of a Middle Bol Loop from a Right Bol Loop

The Construction of a middle Bol loop from a right Bol loop is given below: Let  $B = \{1, 2, 3, \dots, 8\}$  and let  $(B, \cdot)$  be the loop with the following multiplication Table 2.1.

Then from the right Bol loop  $(B, \cdot)$  with multiplication Table 2.1, a middle Bol loop  $(B, \circ)$  can be obtained with the relation (1.5). The multiplication Table 2.2 represents the middle Bol loop  $(B, \circ)$ .

$\cdot$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2	2	1	4	3	6	5	8	7
3	3	4	1	2	8	7	5	6
4	4	3	2	1	7	8	6	5
5	5	6	7	8	1	2	3	4
6	6	5	8	7	2	1	4	3
7	7	8	5	6	4	3	1	2
8	8	7	6	5	3	4	2	1

Table 2.1: A right Bol Loop of order 8

$\circ$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2	2	1	4	3	6	5	8	7
3	3	4	1	2	7	8	6	5
4	4	3	2	1	8	7	5	6
5	5	6	7	8	1	2	3	4
6	6	5	8	7	2	1	4	3
7	7	8	6	5	3	4	1	2
8	8	7	5	6	4	3	2	1

Table 2.2: A Middle Bol Loop of order 8

**Theorem 2.6.** *Let  $(L, \cdot)$  be a right Bol loop with an  $A(L)$ -Holomorph  $(H, \circ)$  such that  $x^{-1} \cdot x\alpha \in N_p(L, \cdot)$  for all  $\alpha \in A(L)$  and  $x \in L$ . Let  $\odot$  be a binary operation defined on  $H$  such that*

$$(\alpha, x) \odot (\beta, y) = \left( \beta\alpha, [y\alpha \cdot (xy^{-1})]y \right) \text{ for all } (\alpha, x), (\beta, y) \in H.$$

*Then,  $(H, \odot)$  is a middle Bol loop.*

**Proof.** We rely on Theorem 1.4 and the relation (1.5). Note that

$$(\beta, y)^{-1} = (\beta^{-1}, (y^{-1})\beta^{-1}) \text{ and } (\alpha, x) \circ (\beta, y) = (\alpha\beta, x\beta \cdot y).$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So, } (\alpha, x) \odot (\beta, y) &= \left\{ (\beta, y) \circ [(\alpha, x) \circ (\beta, y)^{-1}] \right\} \circ (\beta, y) \\ &= \left( \beta\alpha\beta^{-1}, y\alpha\beta^{-1} \cdot (x\beta^{-1} \cdot (y\beta^{-1})^{-1}) \right) \circ (\beta, y) \\ &= \left( \beta\alpha, (y\alpha \cdot xy^{-1})y \right). \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

### 2.3. Construction of a Middle Bol Loop from a Non-abelian Group

**Theorem 2.7.** *Let  $H$  be a subgroup of a non-abelian group  $G$  and let  $A = H \times G$ . For  $(h_1, g_1), (h_2, g_2) \in A$ , define;*

$$(h_1, g_1) \square (h_2, g_2) = (h_2h_1, h_2h_1h_2^{-1}g_2h_2h_1^{-1}h_2^{-1}g_1),$$

*then  $(A, \square)$  is a non-associative middle Bol loop.*

**Proof.** We need (1.5) and Theorem 1.3. Note that  $(h_1, g_1)^{-1} = (h_1^{-1}, h_1^{-1}g_1^{-1}h_1)$ . Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} (h_1, g_1)[(h_2, g_2)] &= [(h_2, g_2) \circ ((h_1, g_1) \circ (h_2, g_2)^{-1})] \circ (h_2, g_2) \\ &= \left[ (h_2, g_2) \circ (h_1h_2^{-1}, h_2^{-1}g_1g_2^{-1}h_2) \right] \circ (h_2, g_2) \\ &= \left( h_2h_1h_2^{-1}, h_1h_2^{-1}g_2h_2h_1^{-1}h_2^{-1}g_1g_2^{-1}h_2 \right) \circ (h_2, g_2) \\ &= \left( h_2h_1h_2^{-1}h_2, h_2h_1h_2^{-1}g_2h_2h_1^{-1}h_2^{-1}g_1g_2^{-1}h_2h_2^{-1}g_2 \right) \\ &= \left( h_2h_1, h_2h_1h_2^{-1}g_2h_2h_1^{-1}h_2^{-1}g_1 \right). \end{aligned}$$

To test that this loop is not associative, let  $(h_1, g_1), (h_2, g_2), (h_3, g_3) \in A$ , then



$$\begin{aligned}
LHS &= (h_1, g_1) \square [(h_2, g_2) \square (h_3, g_3)] = (h_1, g_1) \square \left( h_3 h_2, h_3 h_2 h_3^{-1} g_3 h_3 h_2^{-1} h_3^{-1} g_2 \right) \\
&= \left( h_3 h_2 h_1, h_3 h_2 h_1 (h_3 h_2)^{-1} h_3 h_2 h_3^{-1} g_3 h_3 h_2^{-1} h_3^{-1} g_2 h_3 h_2 h_1^{-1} \right. \\
&\quad \left. (h_3 h_2)^{-1} h_3 h_2 h_3^{-1} g_3 h_3 h_2^{-1} h_3^{-1} g_2 \right) \\
&= \left( h_3 h_2 h_1, h_3 h_2 h_1 h_2^{-1} h_3^{-1} h_3 h_2 h_3^{-1} g_3 h_3 h_2^{-1} h_3^{-1} g_2 h_3 h_2 h_1^{-1} h_2^{-1} h_3^{-1} \right. \\
&\quad \left. h_3 h_2 h_3^{-1} g_3 h_3 h_2^{-1} h_3^{-1} g_2 \right) \\
&= \left( h_3 h_2 h_1, h_3 h_2 h_1 h_3^{-1} g_3 h_3 h_2^{-1} h_3^{-1} g_2 h_3 h_2 h_1^{-1} h_3^{-1} g_3 h_3 h_2^{-1} h_3^{-1} g_2 \right). \\
RHS &= [(h_1, g_1) \square (h_2, g_2)] \square (h_3, g_3) = \left( h_2 h_1, h_2 h_1 h_2^{-1} g_2 h_2 h_1^{-1} h_2^{-1} g_1 \right) \\
&\quad \square (h_3, g_3) \\
&= \left( h_3 h_2 h_1, h_3 h_2 h_1 h_3^{-1} g_3 h_3 (h_2 h_1)^{-1} h_3^{-1} h_2 h_1 h_2^{-1} g_2 h_2 h_1^{-1} h_2^{-1} g_1 \right) \\
&= \left( h_3 h_2 h_1, h_3 h_2 h_1 h_3^{-1} g_3 h_3 h_1^{-1} h_2^{-1} h_3^{-1} h_2 h_1 h_2^{-1} g_2 h_2 h_1^{-1} h_2^{-1} g_1 \right). \\
LHS &\neq RHS \text{ and hence, } (A, \square) \text{ is a non-associative middle Bol loop. } \square
\end{aligned}$$

## 2.4. Construction of a Middle Bol Loop from the Ring $\mathbf{Z}_2$

**Theorem 2.8.** Let  $(\mathbf{Z}_2, +, \cdot)$  be the ring of integers modulo 2 and  $Q = \mathbf{Z}_2^3$ . Define on  $Q$  the operation  $(\cdot)$  as follows:

$$(2.9) \quad (i, j, k) \cdot (p, q, r) = (i + p, j + q, k + r + jp + jpq + ijq)$$

$(Q, \cdot)$  is a middle Bol loop.

**Proof.** In (2.9), put  $m = i + p, n = j + q, s = k + r + jp + jpq + ijq$ , so that

$$(i, j, k) \cdot (p, q, r) = (m, n, s).$$

Let  $x = (i, j, k), y = (p, q, r)$  and  $z = (m, n, s)$  such that  $x \cdot y = z \Rightarrow x = z/y$  and  $y = x \setminus z$ . Then,

$$z/y = (m, n, s)/(p, q, r) = (i, j, k)$$

where  $i = m - p, j = n - q, k = s - (r + jp + jpq + ijq)$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
k &= s - \left( r + (n - q)p + (n - q)pq + (m - p)(n - q)q \right) \\
&= s - \left( r + np - pq + npq - pq^2 + (mn - mq - np + pq)q \right) \\
&= s - \left( r + np - pq + npq - pq^2 + mnq - mq^2 - npq + pq^2 \right) \\
&= s - r - np + pq - mnq + mq^2.
\end{aligned}$$

$$i = m + p, j = n + q, k = s + r + np + pq + mnq + mq^2.$$

Hence,

$$(i, j, k) = (m + p, n + q, s + r + np + pq + mnq + mq^2) = (m, n, s)/(p, q, r).$$

Also,

$$x \setminus z = (i, j, k) \setminus (m, n, s) = (p, q, r)$$

where  $p = m - i, q = n - j, r = s - (k + jp + jpq + ijq)$ .

$$\begin{aligned} r &= s - [k + j(m - i) + j(m - i)(n - j) + ij(n - j)] \\ &= s - [k + jm - ij + j(mn - jm - in + ij) + ijn - ij^2] \\ &= (k + jm - ij + jmn - j^2m - ijn + ij^2 + ijn - ij^2) \\ &= s - k - jm + ij - jmn + j^2m. \end{aligned}$$

So,  $p = m + i, q = n + j, r = s + k + jm + ij + jmn + j^2m$ .

$$(p, q, r) = (m + i, n + j, s + k + jm + ij + jmn + j^2m) = (i, j, k) \setminus (m, n, s).$$

Now, we are ready to verify the middle Bol identity

$$x(yz \setminus x) = (x/z)(y \setminus x).$$

Let  $LHS = x(yz \setminus x)$ , then

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{LHS} &= (i, j, k)[(p, q, r)(m, n, s) \setminus (i, j, k)] \\
&= (i, j, k)(p + m, q + n, r + s + q + qm + qmn + pqn) \setminus (i, j, k) \\
&= (i, j, k) \left( i + p + m, j + q + n, k + r + s + qm + qmn + pqn \right. \\
&\quad \left. + (q + n)i + (p + m)(q + n) + (q + n)ij + (q + n)^2i \right) \\
&= (i, j, k) \left( i + p + m, j + q + n, k + r + s + qm + qmn + pqn + iq \right. \\
&\quad \left. + in + pq + np + qm + mn + ijq + ijn + iq^2 + in^2 \right) \\
&= (i, j, k) \left( i + p + m, j + q + n, k + r + s + qmn + pqn + iq + in + \right. \\
&\quad \left. pq + np + mn + ijq + ijn + iq^2 + in^2 \right) \\
&= \left( i + i + p + m, j + j + q + n, k + k + r + s + qmn + pqn + iq \right. \\
&\quad \left. + in + pq + np + mn + ijq + ijn + iq^2 + in^2 + j(i + p + m) \right. \\
&\quad \left. + j(i + p + m)(j + q + n) + ij(j + q + n) \right) \\
&= \left( p + m, q + n, r + s + qmn + pqn + iq + in + pq + np + mn \right. \\
&\quad \left. + ijq + ijn + iq^2 + in^2 + ij + jm + jp + j(ij + in + iq + jm \right. \\
&\quad \left. + mn + mq + jp + np + pq) + ij^2 + ijn + ijq \right) \\
&= \left( p + m, q + n, s + r + qmn + pqn + iq + in + pq + np + mn \right. \\
&\quad \left. + ijq + ijn + iq^2 + in^2 + ij + jm + jp + ij^2 + ijn + ijq + j^2m + jmn \right. \\
&\quad \left. + jmq + j^2p + jnp + jpq + ij^2 + ijn + ijq \right) \\
&= \left( p + m, q + n, s + r + qmn + pqn + iq + in + pq + np + mn \right. \\
&\quad \left. + iq^2 + in^2 + ij + jm + jp + j^2m + jmq + j^2p + jnp + jpq + ijn \right) \\
&= \left( m + p, n + q, s + r + jm + mn + ijn + pq + iq^2 + jp + ij \right. \\
&\quad \left. + in + np + j^2p + jnp + npq + qmn + jmn + iq + j^2m + jmq \right. \\
&\quad \left. + jpq + ijq + in^2 \right)
\end{aligned}$$

Similarly, let  $\text{RHS} = (x/z)(y \setminus x)$ , then

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{RHS} &= [(i, j, k)/(m, n, s)][(p, q, r) \setminus (i, j, k)] \\
&= (i + m, j + n, k + s + jm + mn + ijn + in^2) (i + p, j + q, k + r + qi + pq + qij + q^2i) \\
&= (i + m + i + p, j + n + j + q, k + s + jm + mn + ijn + pq + iq^2 + iq + in^2 + k + r
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& +iq + ijq + (j+n)(i+p) + (j+n)(i+p)(j+q) + (i+m)(j+n)(j+q) \\
& = \left( i+m+i+p, j+n+j+q, k+s+jm+mn+ijn+pq+iq^2+iq+in^2+ijq \right. \\
& \quad \left. +ij+jp+in+np + (ij+jp+in+np)(j+q) + (ij+in+jm+mn)(j+q) \right) \\
& = \left( m+p, n+q, s+r+jm+mn+ijn+pq+iq^2+iq+in^2+ijq+ij+jp+in+np+ij^2 \right. \\
& \quad \left. +j^2p+ijn+jnp+ijq+jpq+iqn+npq+ij^2+ijn+j^2m+jmn+ijq+iqn+jqm+qmn \right) \\
& = \left( m+p, n+q, s+r+jm+mn+ijn+pq+iq^2+jp+ij+in+np+j^2p+jnp+npq \right. \\
& \quad \left. +qmn+jmn+iq+j^2m+jmq+jpq+ijq+in^2 \right) \\
& (i, j, k)[(p, q, r)(m, n, s) \setminus (i, j, k)] = [(i, j, k)/(m, n, s)][(p, q, r) \setminus (i, j, k)]. \quad \square
\end{aligned}$$

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