

# Note on the Cardinality of some Sets of Clones

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## Abstract

All minimal clones containing a three-element grupoid have been determined in [3]. In this paper we solve the problem of the cardinality of the set of clones which contain some of these clones.

## 1 Notation and Preliminaries

Denote by  $\mathbf{N}$  the set  $\{1, 2, \dots\}$  of positive integers and for  $k, n \in \mathbf{N}$ , set  $E_k = \{0, 1, \dots, k-1\}$ . We say that  $f$  is an  $i$ -th projection of arity  $n$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n$ ) if  $f \in P_k^{(n)}$  and  $f$  satisfies the identity  $f(x_1, \dots, x_n) \approx x_i$ .

For  $n, m \geq 1$ ,  $f \in P_k^{(n)}$  and  $g_1, \dots, g_n \in P_k^{(m)}$ , the superposition of  $f$  and  $g_1, \dots, g_n$ , denoted by  $f(g_1, \dots, g_n)$ , is defined by  $f(g_1, \dots, g_n)(a_1, \dots, a_m) = f(g_1(a_1, \dots, a_m), \dots, g_n(a_1, \dots, a_m))$  for all  $(a_1, \dots, a_m) \in E_k^m$ . A set

A set  $C$  of operations on  $E_k$  is called a clone if it contains all the projections and is closed under superposition.

For an arbitrary set  $F$  of operations on  $E_k$  there exists the least clone containing  $F$ . This clone is called the clone generated by  $F$ , and will be denoted by  $\langle F \rangle_{\text{CL}}$ . Instead of  $\langle \{f\} \rangle_{\text{CL}}$  we will write simply  $\langle f \rangle_{\text{CL}}$ . For a clone  $C$  and  $n \geq 1$  we denote by  $C^{(n)}$  the set of  $n$ -ary operations from  $C$ .

The clones on  $E_k$  form an algebraic lattice  $\text{Lat}(E_k)$  whose least element is the clone of all projections and whose greatest element is the clone of all operations on  $E_k$ . The atoms (dual atoms) of  $\text{Lat}(E_k)$  are called minimal (maximal) clones.

A full description of all clones for  $k = 2$  was given by Post, for  $k = 3$  a complete list of all maximal clones was found by Iablonskiĭ and all minimal clones were determined by Csákány.

Let  $h$  be a positive integer. A subset  $\rho$  of  $E_k^h$  (i.e. a set of  $h$ -tuples over  $E_k$ ) is an  $h$ -ary relation on  $E_k$ . An  $n$ -ary operation  $f$  on  $E_k$  preserves  $\rho$  if for every  $h \times n$  matrix  $X = [x_{ij}]$  over  $E_k$  whose columns are all  $h$ -tuples from  $\rho$  we have  $(f(x_{00}, \dots, x_{0(n-1)}), \dots, f(x_{(h-1)0}, \dots, x_{(h-1)(n-1)})) \in \rho$ . The set of all operations on  $E_k$  preserving a given relation  $\rho$  is denoted  $\text{Pol}\rho$ .

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Let  $k = 3$  and let  $\phi$  be a permutation of  $E_3$ . To each  $n$ -ary function  $f$  we assign  $f^\phi$ , called *conjugate* of  $f$ , defined by  $f^\phi(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}) = \phi(f(\phi^{-1}(x_0), \dots, \phi^{-1}(x_{n-1})))$ . The map  $f \rightarrow f^\phi$  carries each clone  $C$  onto the clone  $C^\phi$ ; in particular  $\langle f \rangle_{CL}^\phi = \langle f^\phi \rangle_{CL}$ , and  $g \in \langle f \rangle_{CL}$  implies  $g^\phi \in \langle f^\phi \rangle_{CL}$ . We can permute the variables of  $f$  as well: for a permutation  $\psi$  of  $E_n$  put  $f_\psi(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}) = f(x_{\psi(0)}, \dots, x_{\psi(n-1)})$ . Remark that always  $(f^\phi)_\psi = (f_\psi)^\phi$ . Note also that  $\langle f_\psi \rangle_{CL} = \langle f \rangle_{CL}$  for any  $\psi$ . The conjugations and permutations of variables generate a permutation group  $T_n$  of order  $3n!$  on the set of all  $n$ -ary functions on  $E_3$ .

A binary idempotent function with Cayley table

	0	1	2
0	0	$n_5$	$n_4$
1	$n_3$	1	$n_2$
2	$n_1$	$n_0$	2

is denoted by  $b_n$ , where  $n = n_0 + 3n_1 + 3^2n_2 + 3^3n_3 + 3^4n_4 + 3^5n_5$ .

It is proved in [3] that every minimal clone on  $E_3$  containing an essential binary operation is a conjugate of exactly one of the following twelve clones:  $\langle b_i \rangle_{CL}$  with  $i \in \{0, 8, 10, 11, 16, 17, 26, 33, 35, 68, 178, 624\}$ . The following table shows the binary functions on  $E_3$  which generate minimal clones.

$xy \rightarrow$	00	01	02	10	11	12	20	21	22
$b_0$	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2
$b_8$	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	2	2
$b_{10}$	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	2
$b_{11}$	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	2
$b_{16}$	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	1	2
$b_{17}$	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	2	2
$b_{26}$	0	0	0	0	1	2	2	2	2
$b_{33}$	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	0	2
$b_{35}$	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	2	2
$b_{68}$	0	0	0	2	1	1	1	2	2
$b_{178}$	0	0	2	0	1	1	2	1	2
$b_{624}$	0	2	1	2	1	0	1	0	2

## 2 Results

**Theorem 2.1** *The cardinality of the set of clones on  $E_3$  containing a conjugate of  $\langle b_j \rangle_{CL}, j \in \{0, 8, 11, 17, 33, 35\}$  is continuum.*

*Proof.* The proof is based on the operations of Janov–Mučnik.

We shall define a countable set of operations  $F$  and an operation  $g$  so that for all  $f \in F, f \notin \langle (F \setminus \{f\}) \cup \{g\} \rangle_{CL}$ . This implies that for each  $G, H \subseteq F$ , from  $G \neq H$  it follows  $\langle G \cup \{g\} \rangle_{CL} \neq \langle H \cup \{g\} \rangle_{CL}$ . In this way we get a set of distinct clones of a continuum cardinality.

For  $i = 1, \dots, m$  denote by  $\mathbf{e}_i$  the  $m$ -tuples  $(1, \dots, 1, 2, 1, \dots, 1)$  with 2, at the  $i$ -th place. Let  $A_m = \{\mathbf{e}_1, \dots, \mathbf{e}_m\}$ .

For  $m > 2$ , consider the  $m$ -ary operation  $f_m$  (Janov–Mučnik,[5]) which takes the value 1 on  $A_m$  and 0 otherwise.

Modifying an idea which is attributed to Rónyai in [1], we define the relations  $\rho_m \subseteq E_3^m$  on  $E_3$  for  $m > 2$ :  $\rho_m = A_m \cup B_m$ , where  $B_m = \{(b_1, \dots, b_m) | b_j = 0 \text{ for some } j, 1 \leq j \leq m\}$ .

In what follows we prove that for each  $i \neq m$  and  $j \in \{0, 8, 11, 17, 33, 35\}$ ,  $f_i$  and  $b_j$  preserve  $\rho_m$  while  $f_m$  does not.

Let  $X = [x_{ij}]$  be the  $m \times m$  matrix with  $x_{11} = \dots x_{mm} = 2$  and  $x_{ij} = 1$  otherwise. The  $i$ -th column of  $X$  is  $\mathbf{e}_i \in \rho_m (i = 1, \dots, m)$  while the values of  $f_m$  on the rows of  $X$  form  $(f_m(\mathbf{e}_1), \dots, f_m(\mathbf{e}_m))^T = (1, \dots, 1)^T \notin \rho$ . Hence,  $f_m \notin \text{Pol} \rho_m$ .

Suppose to the contrary that  $f_i$  doesn't preserve  $\rho_m$  for some  $i \neq m$ . Then there is an  $m \times i$  matrix  $X$  with all columns in  $\rho_m$  and with rows  $\mathbf{a}_1, \dots, \mathbf{a}_m$  such that  $\mathbf{b} := (f_i(\mathbf{a}_1), \dots, f_i(\mathbf{a}_m))^T \notin \rho$ . Since  $\text{im} f_i = \{0, 1\}$  and  $B_m \subset \rho_m$  clearly  $\mathbf{b} = (1, \dots, 1)^T$ . By the definition of  $f_i$  there exist  $1 \leq j_1, \dots, j_m \leq i$  such that  $\mathbf{a}_k = \mathbf{e}_{j_k}$  for all  $k = 1, \dots, m$ . If  $j_k = j_l$  for some  $1 \leq k < l \leq m$  then the  $j_k$ -th column of  $X$  contains at least two 2s and so does not belong to  $\rho_m$ . As  $i \neq m$  we can choose  $k \in \{1, \dots, i\} \setminus \{j_1, \dots, j_m\}$ . Clearly, the  $k$ -th column of  $X$  is  $(1, \dots, 1)^T \notin \rho_m$ .

If  $b_j, j \in \{0, 8, 11, 17, 33, 35\}$  does not preserve  $\rho$  then there exist  $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b} \in \rho$  such that  $(b_j(a_1, b_1), \dots, b_j(a_m, b_m)) \notin \rho$ , i.e.  $(b_j(a_1, b_1), \dots, b_j(a_m, b_m)) \in \{1, 2\}^m \setminus A_m$ . It follows that  $((b_j(a_1, b_1), \dots, b_j(a_m, b_m))) = \mathbf{a}$  since  $b_j(a_l, b_l) = 1$  implies  $a_l = 1$  and  $b_j(a_l, b_l) = 2$  implies  $a_l = 2$ . So, we get a contradiction.

The set of clones of the form  $\langle G \cup \{b_0, b_8, b_{11}, b_{17}, b_{33}, b_{35}\} \rangle_{\text{CL}}, G \subseteq \{f_2, f_3, \dots\}$  has a continuum cardinality. □

**Theorem 2.2** *The cardinality of the set of clones on  $E_3$  containing a conjugate of  $\langle b_j \rangle_{\text{CL}}, j \in \{10, 16, 26, 68\}$  is at least  $\aleph_0$ .*

Proof.

Let  $\{0, 1, 2\} = \{p, q, r\}$ , and for  $i = 1, \dots, m$  denote by  $\mathbf{e}_i$  the  $m$ -tuples  $(p, \dots, p, r, p, \dots, p)$  with  $r$  at the  $i$ -th place. Let  $A_m = \{\mathbf{e}_1, \dots, \mathbf{e}_m\}$ .

For  $m > 2$ , consider the  $m$ -ary operation  $f_m$  (similar to the Janov–Mučnik operations :

$$f_m(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{cases} p & \text{if } \mathbf{x} \in A_m, \\ q & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} .$$

Define the following relations  $\rho_m \subseteq E_3^m$  on  $E_3$  for  $m > 2$ :  $\rho_m = E_3^m \setminus \{(p, \dots, p)\}$ .

In what follows we prove that  $f_i$  preserves  $\rho_m$  if and only if  $i > m$ .

Suppose to the contrary that  $f_i$  doesn't preserve  $\rho_m$  for some  $i > m$ . Then there is an  $m \times i$  matrix  $X$  with all columns in  $\rho_m$  and with rows  $\mathbf{a}_1, \dots, \mathbf{a}_m$  such that  $\mathbf{b} := (f_i(\mathbf{a}_1), \dots, f_i(\mathbf{a}_m))^T \notin \rho$ , i.e.  $\mathbf{b} = (p, \dots, p)^T$ . By the definition of  $f_i$ ,  $\mathbf{a}_k = \mathbf{e}_{j_k}, 1 \leq j_k \leq i$ , for all  $k = 1, \dots, m$ . Since  $i > m$ ,  $i - m + 1$  column has to be equal  $(p, \dots, p)$ , which gives a contradiction.

Let  $i \leq m$  and  $X = [x_{ij}]$  be the  $m \times i$  matrix with  $x_{lj} = p$  if  $l \neq j$  and  $x_{jj} = r$  for  $j \in \{1, \dots, i-1\}$ ,  $l \in \{1, \dots, m\}$ ,  $x_{1i} = \dots = x_{(i-1)i} = p$  and  $x_{ii} = \dots = x_{mi} = r$ . The values of  $f_i$  on the rows of  $X$  form  $(p, \dots, p) \notin \rho$ .

We shall prove that  $b_{10}$  and  $b_{16}$  preserve  $\rho_m$  with  $r = 1, p = 2$  and  $q = 0$ ;  $b_{26}$  preserves  $\rho_m$  with  $p = 1, q = 0$ , and  $r = 2$ ; and  $b_{68}$  preserves  $\rho_m$  with  $p = 0, q = 2$ , and  $r = 1$ .

Suppose to the contrary that  $b_j, j \in \{10, 16, 26, 68\}$  does not preserve  $\rho_m$ . Then, there is an  $m \times 2$  matrix with both columns in  $\rho_m$  such that  $(b_j(x_1, y_1), \dots, b_j(x_m, y_m)) = (p, \dots, p)$ . Therefore by the definition of  $b_j$  clearly  $x_l = p, l \in \{1, \dots, m\}$  for each  $j \in \{10, 16, 26, 68\}$ . Thus, the first column of  $X$  is  $(p, \dots, p)^T \notin \rho$ , a contradiction.

So, we proved that for each  $j \in \{10, 16, 26, 68\}$ , the set  $\{\bigcup_{m>2} f_m\}$  satisfies  $\langle \bigcup_{i>m} \{f_m\} \cup \{b_j\} \rangle_{CL} \supset \langle \bigcup_{i>m+1} \{f_m\} \cup \{b_j\} \rangle_{CL} \supset \langle \bigcup_{i>m+2} \{f_m\} \cup \{b_j\} \rangle_{CL} \dots$ , proving that there are at least  $\aleph_0$  clones containing  $\langle b_j \rangle_{CL}$ .  $\square$

It is still an open problem to determine a cardinality of the set of clones that contain a clone generated by  $b_{178}$  and  $b_{624}$ .

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