



## Minimal (clones with a Taylor operation)

Marcin Kozik

joint work with: L. Barto, Z. Brady, A. Bulatov and D. Zhuk



## Notation and conventions

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In 1977 Walter Taylor provided equations holding in every idempotent variety, which “is not interpretable into *Sets*”.

Operations satisfying these equations are called **Taylor operations**.



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... and we know that, for a finite  $A$ , the definitions coincide.





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  - Malcev conditions;
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- and I will argue that MTCs are easier.

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- Some basic properties of MTCs.





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- Some basic properties of MTCs.
- Absorption (Zhuk) in MTCs.
- Edges (Bulatov) in MTCs.
- Random properties of MTCs.
- Open problems.



## Basic properties of MTCs

## Fact

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be an MTC on  $A$ ,  $B \subseteq A$  and  $f \in \mathcal{C}$ :

- $f(B, \dots, B) = B$ ,

Then  $B$  is a subuniverse of  $\mathcal{C}$ .



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## Proof.

$$c_A(c_B(x_1, \dots, x_p), c_B(x_2, \dots, x_p, x_1), \dots, c_B(x_p, x_1, \dots, x_{p-1}))$$

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In fact if  $\mathcal{C}$  is an MTC, then so is every member of  $\text{HSP}_{\text{fin}}(\mathcal{C})$ .



## Absorption in MTCs



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## Theorem (Zhuk)

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a Taylor clone, then

1.  $\mathcal{C}$  has a 2-absorbing subuniverse, or
2.  $\mathcal{C}$  has a 3-absorbing subuniverse, or
3.  $\mathcal{C}/\alpha$  is abelian for some congruence  $\alpha$ , or
4.  $\mathcal{C}/\alpha$  is polynomially complete for some congruence  $\alpha$ .





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I.e. “Because we do not know anything better.”





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**Center** = “3-absorbing subuniverse” in MTCs.





## Absorption is strong in MTCs

### Fact

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a MTC and  $B$  a 2-absorbing subuniverse, then

- $x = y \vee (x \in B \wedge y \in B)$  is a congruence of  $\mathcal{C}$ ;

There exist a unique, smallest 2-absorbing subuniverse of  $A$ .







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- $B \cup D$  is a subuniverse;
- if  $B \cap D = \emptyset$  then  $B^2 \cup D^2$  is a congruence on  $B \cup D$ .



Edges in MTCs

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A graph of an algebra is connected.



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Set  $B$  is **stable** if, for every edge  $(a, b)$ ,  $a/\theta \cap B \neq \emptyset$  implies  $b/\theta \cap B \neq \emptyset$ .



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## Theorem

In an MTC a subset is 2-absorbing if and only if it is stable.



## Random properties of MTCs

## Fact

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a MTC on  $A$ .

- $\mathcal{C}$  is generated by a cyclic operation of prime arity  $> |A|$ .
- $\mathcal{C}$  is generated by a **Siggers operation**:  $s(a, r, e, a) = s(r, a, r, e)$ .
- $\mathcal{C}$  is generated by a ternary operation (any operation witnessing all the edges generates  $\mathcal{C}$ ).



Open problems

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Some (embarrassing) open questions:

- Does every  $\{a, b\}$  form an edge of an MTC?
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Some more general questions:

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How about commutator theory?
- How about TCT in MTCs?
- Can a structural characterization of MTCs be proposed?
- and extended to Taylor clones, or general algebras?



Under the hood





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### Theorem

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implies (with some effort)

## Theorem (Zhuk)

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a Taylor clone, then

1.  $\mathcal{C}$  has a 2-absorbing subuniverse, or
2.  $\mathcal{C}$  has a 3-absorbing subuniverse, or
3.  $\mathcal{C}/\alpha$  is abelian for some congruence  $\alpha$ , or
4.  $\mathcal{C}/\alpha$  is polynomially complete for some congruence  $\alpha$ .





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A clone on  $\{0, 1, 2\}$  is generated by  $m(a, b, c) =$

$$= \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } \{a, b, c\} = \{0, 1, 2\} \\ \text{maj}(a, b, c) & \text{otherwise;} \end{cases}$$

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- $m$  is cyclic;
- clone is simple;
- at least two majority edges;
- $\text{Clo}(m)$  **is not** an MTC.

