Describing cyclic extensions of Bol loops

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Abstract. It was shown in [4] that if a Moufang loop G factorizes as G = NH where N is a normal subloop and $H = \langle u \rangle = \langle u^3 \rangle$ is a cyclic group then the structure of G is determined by the binary operation of N, the intersection $N \cap H$ and how u permutes the elements of N as a semi-automorphism of N. Here it is shown that if G is Moufang with $H = \langle u \rangle \neq \langle u^3 \rangle$ or if G is a Bol loop, not necessarily Moufang, then the structure of G is determined by the binary operation of N, the intersection $N \cap H$, how u permutes the elements of N and either of the two binary operations $x *_1 y = (xu)(u \setminus y)$ or $x *_{-1} y = (xu^{-1})(u^{-1} \setminus y)$ of N.

1. Introduction

A quasigroup (Q, \cdot) is a set Q with a binary operation \cdot such that for any $a, b \in Q$, the equations $a \cdot x = b$ and $y \cdot a = b$ have unique solutions $x, y \in Q$ respectively. A quasigroup is a *loop* if it contains a two-sided identity element. A *right Bol loop* is a loop Q which, for all $x, y, z \in Q$, satisfies the right Bol relation

$$((zx)y)x = z((xy)x).$$

Similarly, a loop Q is a *left Bol loop* provided it satisfies the right Bol relation

$$x(y(xz)) = (x(yx))z.$$

Recently the structure and construction of Bol loops has caught the attention of many including Chein and Goodaire [1, 2] along with Foguel, Kinyon and Phillips [3].

Here the focus will be on (right) Bol loops of the form Q = NH where $N \leq Q$ and $H = \langle u \rangle$ is cyclic. It is well known for groups that the binary operation of Qdepends only on the binary operation of N, the intersection $N \cap H$ and how Hacts on N. Likewise, it was shown in [4] that the same is true for Moufang loops as long as $H = \langle u \rangle = \langle u^3 \rangle$. Generalizing to Bol loops, it is shown here how such extensions depend on the maps

$$f_{m,n} : N \longrightarrow N$$
$$g \longmapsto (u^m(gu^n))u^{-m-n}.$$

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Furthermore, the structure of Q depends not only on the structure of N, the intersection $N \cap H$ and the maps $f_{n,m}$ but also on the Bol loops $(N, *_i)$ where

$$x *_i y = (xu^i)(u^i \backslash y).$$

For instance, there exists a nonassociative right Bol loop Q = NH of order eight (the mirror version of the left Bol loop LeftBolLoop(8,2) in GAP [5]) where $N \cong C_2 \times C_2$, $H \cong C_2$ and $f_{m,n} : N \to N$ is the identity map for all $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$. But since Q is nonassociative, $Q \not\cong C_2 \times C_2 \times C_2$. This is because the cyclic extension also depends on the Bol loop $(N, *_1)$ which is not the Klein four-group but rather the cyclic group of order four.

2. Preliminaries

For every element, say a, of a quasigroup Q one can define the right translation $R_a: Q \longrightarrow Q$ by $(x)R_a = xa$ and the left translation $L_a: Q \longrightarrow Q$ by $(x)L_a = ax$. By definition of a quasigroup, all such translations are bijections of Q. Let

$$x \setminus y = y L_x^{-1}$$
 and $x/y = x R_y^{-1}$

and note that

$$x \setminus y = z \iff y = xz$$
 and $x/y = w \iff x = wy$.

Such operations \backslash and / are called the left and right divisions respectively. The *multiplication group* of Q, denoted by Mlt(Q), is the permutation group generated by all left and right translations of Q. If Q is a loop with an identity element 1 then the *inner mapping group* of Q, denoted by Inn(Q), is the stabilizer of 1 in Mlt(Q).

Two quasigroups $(Q_1, *)$ and (Q_2, \circ) are called *isotopic* if there exist three bijections $f, g, h: Q_1 \longrightarrow Q_2$ such that $f(x * y) = g(x) \circ h(y)$ for any $x, y \in Q_1$.

Lemma 1. Every quasigroup (Q, *) is isotopic to a loop. For $a, b \in Q$, (Q, *) is isotopic to (Q, \circ) where

$$x \circ y = (x)R_{b}^{-1} * (y)L_{a}^{-1}$$

or equivalently

$$(x * b) \circ (a * y) = x * y.$$

Here $(a * b) \circ x = x = x \circ (a * b)$ for any $x \in Q$.

A loop Q is said to be *power-associative* if for any element $x \in Q$, the subloop generated by x is a group. A loop Q is *diassociative* if for any $x, y \in Q$, the subloop generated by x and y is a group. A loop Q is *left power-alternative*, if for any $x, y \in Q$,

$$x^m(x^n y) = x^{m+n} y$$

for all integers m and n. Similarly, Q is right power-alternative, if for any $x, y \in Q$,

$$(yx^m)x^n = yx^{m+n}$$

for all integers m and n. A loop Q is *power-alternative* if it is both left and right power-alternative.

Robinson [6] made the simple observation that right (left) Bol loops are right (left) power-alternative. Let Q be a right Bol loop with $u \in Q$ and define $x *_i y = (xu^i)(u^i \setminus y)$ for any $x, y \in Q$. Since right Bol loops are right power-alternative,

$$x *_i y = (xu^i)(u^i \backslash y)$$
$$= (x/u^{-i})(u^i \backslash y)$$

and $(Q, *_i)$ is a loop isotopic to Q.

Lemma 2. (cf. [7]) Let Q be a (right) Bol loop. Then all loop isotopes of Q are isomorphic to Q.

From this it follows that $(Q, *_i)$ is a right Bol loop isomorphic to the original loop Q.

3. Diassociative Bol loops

It is well known that a Bol loop is diassociative if and only if it is a Moufang loop. As mentioned in [4], cyclic extensions Q = NH resulting in such loops depend on more than just how H acts on N when $\langle u^3 \rangle \leq \langle u \rangle = H$.

Theorem 1. Let Q be a right Bol loop. Suppose Q = NH where $N \leq Q$ and $H = \langle u \rangle$. If Q is diassociative then for any $x, y \in N$ and any $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$

$$(xu^m)(yu^n) = (x *_{2m+n} f^m(y))u^{m+n}$$
(1)

where

$$\begin{aligned} f: N &\longrightarrow N \\ g &\longmapsto ugu^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

and $(Q, *_i)$ is a right Bol loop isomorphic to Q with $x *_i y = (xu^i)(u^i \setminus y) = (xu^i)(u^{-i}y)$.

Proof. By Lemma 2, $(Q, *_i)$ is isomorphic to Q. For any $x, y \in N$ and any $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$

$$(xu^{m}) (yu^{n}) = (xu^{m}) (u^{n} \cdot u^{-n}y \cdot u^{n}) = [(xu^{m})u^{n} \cdot (u^{-n}y)] u^{n} = [(xu^{m+n}) (u^{m} \cdot u^{-m-n}yu^{-m} \cdot u^{m})] u^{n} = [(xu^{m+n})u^{m} \cdot (u^{-m-n}yu^{-m})] u^{m} \cdot u^{n} = [(xu^{2m+n}) (u^{-2m-n}f^{m}(y))] u^{m} \cdot u^{n} = (x *_{2m+n} f^{m}(y)) u^{m+n}.$$

If $2m + n \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ then, from Equation (1) of [4], the binary operation $*_{2m+n}$ is uniquely determined by $f: g \mapsto ugu^{-1}$. But if $2m + n \not\equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ then $x *_{2m+n} y$ depends on f along with either of the two operations $*_1$ or $*_{-1}$.

Lemma 3. Let Q be a diassociative Bol loop with $u \in Q$. For any $x, y \in Q$ define $x *_i y = (xu^i)(u^{-i}y)$ and $f: Q \longrightarrow Q$ as $f(x) = uxu^{-1}$. If $2m + n \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$, that is $2m + n \equiv 3k + 1$, then

$$x *_{2m+n} y = f^k (f^{-k}(x) *_1 f^{-k}(y))$$

Likewise, if $2m + n \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$ and 2m + n = 3k + 2 then

$$x *_{2m+n} y = f^{k+1} (f^{-k-1}(x) *_{-1} f^{-k-1}(y))$$

Proof. If 2m + n = 3k + 1 then, by using Equation (1) of [4],

$$x *_{2m+n} y = (xu^{3k+1})(u^{-3k-1}y)$$

= $(xuu^{3k})(u^{-1}f^{-3k}(y)u^{-3k})$
= $f^k(f^{-k}(xu)f^{2k}(u^{-1}f^{-3k}(y)))$
= $f^k(f^{-k}(x)u \cdot u^{-1}f^{-k}(y))$
= $f^k(f^{-k}(x) *_1 f^{-k}(y)).$

Similarly, if 2m + n = 3k + 2 then $x *_{2m+n} y = f^{k+1} (f^{-k-1}(x) *_{-1} f^{-k-1}(y))$. \Box

Note that for any integers *i* and *k*, $x *_i y = f^k (f^{-k}(x) *_{i-3k} f^{-k}(y))$. In other words

$$f^{k}(x *_{i} y) = f^{k}(x) *_{i+3k} f^{k}(y).$$
(2)

From [4] it is known that if Q = NH is a Moufang loop where $N \leq Q$ and $H = \langle u \rangle = \langle u^3 \rangle$ then the binary operation of Q depends only on the binary operation of N, the intersection $N \cap H$ and how u permutes the elements in N. Thus without loss it can be assumed that $H = \langle u \rangle \neq \langle u^3 \rangle$ in which case the binary operation of Q also depends on the loops $(N, *_1)$ and $(N, *_{-1})$.

Theorem 2. Let Q be a right Bol loop. Suppose Q = NH where $N \leq Q$ and $H = \langle u \rangle$ with $\langle u^3 \rangle \leq H$. If Q is diassociative then for any $x, y \in N$

$$(xu^{m})(yu^{n}) = \begin{cases} f^{k} (f^{-k}(x) *_{1} f^{m-k}(y)) u^{m+n} & \text{if } 2m+n = 3k+1; \\ f^{k+1} (f^{-k-1}(x) *_{-1} f^{m-k-1}(y)) u^{m+n} & \text{if } 2m+n = 3k+2; \end{cases}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} f: N &\longrightarrow N \\ g &\longmapsto ugu^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

and $(Q, *_i)$ is a right Bol loop isomorphic to Q with $x *_i y = (xu^i)(u^{-i}y)$.

Proof. By Theorem 1, $(xu^m)(yu^n) = (x *_{2m+n} f^m(y))u^{m+n}$ for any $x, y \in N$. If 2m + n = 3k + 1 then, by Lemma 3,

$$x *_{2m+n} f^{m}(y) = f^{k} (f^{-k}(x) *_{1} f^{-k}(f^{m}(y)))$$
$$= f^{k} (f^{-k}(x) *_{1} f^{m-k}(y)).$$

Hence, $(xu^m)(yu^n) = f^k (f^{-k}(x) *_1 f^{m-k}(y)) u^{m+n}$. Similarly, if 2m + n = 3k + 2then $(xu^m)(yu^n) = f^{k+1} (f^{-k-1}(x) *_{-1} f^{m-k-1}(y)) u^{m+n}$.

From this we see that these extensions by cyclic groups with orders divisible by three depend on the permutation $f(x) = uxu^{-1}$ along with the binary operations $*_1$ and $*_{-1}$. In Section 4 it will be shown that such extensions depend on f along with just one of the binary operations $*_1$ or $*_{-1}$.

Proposition 1. Suppose Q = NH is a loop where $N \leq Q$ and $H = \langle u \rangle$. For any $x, y \in N$ let

$$f: N \longrightarrow N$$
$$g \longmapsto (ug)u^{-1}$$

and $x *_i y = (xu^i)(u^{-i}y)$. If Q is a diassociative right Bol loop then

$$(x *_{t-s} y) *_t (z *_{t+s} f^s(x)) = x *_{2r-s} ((y *_t z) *_{2r} f^s(x))$$
(3)

for any $r, s, t \in \mathbb{Z}$ and any $x, y, z \in N$. Furthermore, Q is a diassociative right Bol loop if and only if equations (1), (2) and (3) hold.

Proof. Let $x, y, z \in Q$ and $k, m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$. Using Equations (1) and (2) it follows that

$$\left((xu^k) (f^{-k}(y)u^m) \right) \left((f^{-k-m}(z)u^n)(xu^k) \right) =$$

$$= (x *_{2k+m} y) u^{k+m} \cdot \left(f^{-k-m}(z) *_{2n+k} f^n(x) \right) u^{n+k}$$

$$= \left((x *_{2k+m} y) *_{3k+2m+n} f^{k+m} (f^{-k-m}(z) *_{2n+k} f^n(x)) \right) u^{2k+m+n}$$

$$= \left((x *_{2k+m} y) *_{3k+2m+n} (z *_{4k+3m+2n} f^{k+m+n}(x)) \right) u^{2k+m+n}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} (xu^{k}) \Big[(f^{-k}(y)u^{m})(f^{-k-m}(z)u^{n}) \cdot (xu^{k}) \Big] &= \\ &= (xu^{k}) \left[\left(f^{-k}(y) *_{2m+n} f^{-k}(z) \right) u^{m+n} \cdot (xu^{k}) \right] \\ &= (xu^{k}) \left[\left(f^{-k}(y) *_{2m+n} f^{-k}(z) \right) *_{k+2m+2n} f^{m+n}(x) \cdot u^{k+m+n} \right] \\ &= \left[x *_{3k+m+n} f^{k} \left(\left(f^{-k}(y) *_{2m+n} f^{-k}(z) \right) *_{k+2m+2n} f^{m+n}(x) \right) \right] u^{2k+m+n} \\ &= \left[x *_{3k+m+n} \left(f^{k} \left(f^{-k}(y) *_{2m+n} f^{-k}(z) \right) *_{4k+2m+2n} f^{k+m+n}(x) \right) \right] u^{2k+m+n} \\ &= \left[x *_{3k+m+n} \left((y *_{3k+2m+n} z) *_{4k+2m+2n} f^{k+m+n}(x) \right) \right] u^{2k+m+n}. \end{aligned}$$

By letting s = k + m + n, t = 3k + 2m + n and r = 2k + m + n (i.e., k = r - s, m = t + s - 2r and n = s - t + r)

$$\left((xu^k)(f^{-k}(y)u^m)\right)\left((f^{-k-m}(z)u^n)(xu^k)\right) = (x*_{t-s}y)*_t(z*_{t+s}f^s(x))$$

 and

$$(xu^k) \left[(f^{-k}(y)u^m)(f^{-k-m}(z)u^n) \cdot (xu^k) \right] = x *_{2r-s} ((y *_t z) *_{2r} f^s(x)).$$

Hence, Q satisfies the Moufang identities if and only if Equations (1), (2) and (3) hold.

Note that by letting y = 1, Equation (3) simplifies to

$$x *_t (z *_{t+s} f^s(x)) = x *_{2r-s} (z *_{2r} f^s(x)).$$

Since the right hand side of the equality is independent of t,

$$x *_{t_1} (z *_{t_1+s} f^s(x)) = x *_{t_2} (z *_{t_2+s} f^s(x))$$

for any $t_1, t_2 \in \mathbb{Z}$. Similarly, by letting z = 1 in Equation (3) and using a similar argument it follows that

$$(x *_{t_1} y) *_{t_1+s} f^s(x) = x *_{t_2} (y *_{t_2+s} f^s(x))$$

for any $t_1, t_2 \in \mathbb{Z}$. Therefore, from Equation (3) it follows that if Q is a diassociative right Bol loop then

$$(x *_{n-k} y) *_n (z *_{n+k} f^k(x)) = x *_{m-k} ((y *_n z) *_m f^k(x))$$
$$= (x *_{\ell-k} (y *_n z)) *_\ell f^k(x)$$

for any $x, y, z \in Q$ and $k, m, n, \ell \in \mathbb{Z}$.

4. The general case

Here Theorem 1 will be generalized for cyclic extensions resulting in arbitrary right Bol loops. The following is a useful lemma that will be used to prove the main result.

Lemma 4. If Q is a right Bol loop with $u \in Q$ then $u \setminus x = (u^{-1}(xu)) u^{-1}$ for any $x \in Q$.

Proof. For any $x \in Q$,

$$u \left[\left(u^{-1}(xu) \right) u^{-1} \right] = \left((uu^{-1})(xu) \right) u^{-1}$$

= $(xu)u^{-1}$
= x .

Theorem 3. If Q = NH is a right Bol loop with $N \leq Q$ and $H = \langle u \rangle \leq Q$ then for any $x, y \in N$ and any $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$

$$(xu^{m})(yu^{n}) = (x *_{2m+n} f_{m,n}(y)) u^{m+n}$$
(4)

where

$$f_{m,n}: N \longrightarrow N$$
$$g \longmapsto (u^m (gu^n)) u^{-m-n}$$

and $(Q, *_i)$ is a right Bol loop isomorphic to Q with $x *_i y = (xu^i)(u^i \setminus y)$.

Proof. By Lemma 2, $(Q, *_i)$ is isomorphic to Q. Furthermore, for any $x, y \in N$ and any $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$

$$(xu^{m}) (yu^{n}) = ((xu^{2m+n}u^{-m-n})(yu^{n}))u^{-m-n}u^{m+n} = [(xu^{2m+n})[(u^{-m-n}(yu^{n}))u^{-m-n}]]u^{m+n} = [(xu^{2m+n})[(u^{-2m-n}u^{m}(yu^{n}))u^{m} \cdot u^{-2m-n}]]u^{m+n} = [(xu^{2m+n})[[u^{-2m-n}((u^{m}(yu^{n}))u^{-m-n} \cdot u^{2m+n})]u^{-2m-n}]]u^{m+n} = [(xu^{2m+n})[[u^{-2m-n}((u^{m}(yu^{n}))u^{-m-n} \cdot u^{2m+n})]u^{-2m-n}]]u^{m+n} = [(xu^{2m+n})[[u^{-2m-n}(f_{m,n}(y)u^{2m+n})]u^{-2m-n}]]u^{m+n} = [(xu^{2m+n})(u^{2m+n} \setminus f_{m,n}(y))]u^{m+n} = (x *_{2m+n} f_{m,n}(y))u^{m+n}.$$

Since right Bol loops are right power-alternative, it should be noted that $f_{m,n}: g \mapsto (u^m (gu^n)) u^{-m-n}$ is the identity map whenever m = 0. Therefore, from Theorem 3, it follows that in any right Bol loop $x(yu^n) = (x *_n y)u^n$.

Proposition 2. Suppose Q is a right Bol loop with $u \in Q$. Let

$$\begin{array}{c} f_{i,j}: Q \longrightarrow Q \\ g \longmapsto \left(u^i \left(g u^j \right) \right) u^{-i-j} \end{array}$$

and $(Q, *_i)$ be the right Bol loop isomorphic to Q with $x *_i y = (xu^i)(u^i \setminus y)$. Then by knowing the maps $f_{i,j}$ along with $(Q, *_n)$ and $(Q, *_{n+1})$ for some fixed integer n, the Bol loop $(Q, *_k)$ is uniquely determined for any integer k.

Proof. Since Q is a right Bol loop,

$$z((xu^{n-2m})u^{3m-n} \cdot (xu^{n-2m})) = ((z(xu^{n-2m}))u^{3m-n})(xu^{n-2m})$$

for any $z, x \in N$ and any $n, m \in \mathbb{Z}$. Therefore, by Theorem 3,

$$z((xu^{n-2m})u^{3m-n} \cdot (xu^{n-2m})) = ((z(xu^{n-2m}))u^{3m-n})(xu^{n-2m})$$

$$\implies z((xu^m)(xu^{n-2m})) = (((z*_{n-2m}x)u^{n-2m})u^{3m-n})(xu^{n-2m})$$

$$\implies z((x*_n f_{m,n-2m}(x))u^{n-m}) = ((z*_{n-2m}x)u^m)(xu^{n-2m})$$

$$\implies (z*_{n-m}(x*_n f_{m,n-2m}(x)))u^{n-m} = ((z*_{n-2m}x)*_n f_{m,n-2m}(x))u^{n-m}$$

$$\implies z*_{n-m}(x*_n f_{m,n-2m}(x)) = (z*_{n-2m}x)*_n f_{m,n-2m}(x).$$
(5)

By letting m = -1, Equation (5) becomes

$$z *_{n+1} (x *_n f_{-1,n+2}(x)) = (z *_{n+2} x) *_n f_{-1,n+2}(x).$$

Whereas, by replacing n with n + 1 and m with 1, Equation (5) becomes

$$z *_n (x *_{n+1} f_{1,n-1}(x)) = (z *_{n-1} x) *_{n+1} f_{1,n-1}(x).$$

Hence, with the operations $*_n$ and $*_{n+1}$, both $z *_{n+2} x$ and $z *_{n-1} x$ can be determined for any elements z and x. By induction, $*_k$ can then be obtained for any $k \in \mathbb{Z}$.

Since $*_0$ is just the original binary operation of N, by letting n be either 0 or -1, it immediately follows that for any integer k the Bol loop $(Q, *_k)$ is uniquely determined by the maps $f_{i,j}$, the subloop N and either $(N, *_1)$ or $(N, *_{-1})$.

Corollary 1. If Q = NH is a right Bol loop with $N \leq Q$ and $H = \langle u \rangle \leq Q$ then for any $x, y \in N$ and any $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$ the product $(xu^m)(yu^n)$ is uniquely determined by the subloops N and $N \cap H$ along with the maps

$$\begin{array}{c} f_{m,n}: N \longrightarrow N \\ g \longmapsto \left(u^m \left(g u^n \right) \right) u^{-m-n} \end{array}$$

and one of the two Bol loops $(N, *_1)$ or $(N, *_{-1})$ where $x *_i y = (xu^i)(u^i \setminus y)$.

But if [Q, N] = 2 then much of the Cayley table of $(N, *_1)$ may be determined by N and the maps $f_{i,j}$.

Proposition 3. Suppose Q = NH is a right Bol loop with $N \leq Q$ and $H = \langle u \rangle \leq Q$ where [Q:N] = 2. Then for any $z \in N$ and

$$y \in \{x *_2 f_{1,0}(x) \mid x \in N\} = \{(x(f_{1,0}(x)u^2))u^{-2} \mid x \in N\} \subseteq N\}$$

 $z *_1 y = (zu)(u \setminus y)$ is uniquely determined by the binary operation of N and

$$f_{1,0}: N \longrightarrow N$$
$$g \longmapsto (ug)u^{-1}.$$

Proof. By Lemma 4, for any $a, x \in Q$,

$$a *_{2} f_{1,0}(x) = (au^{2}) (u^{2} \setminus f_{1,0}(x))$$

= $(au^{2}) (u^{-2} (f_{1,0}(x)u^{2}) \cdot u^{-2})$
= $(au^{2} \cdot u^{-2}) (f_{1,0}(x)u^{2}) \cdot u^{-2}$
= $a (f_{1,0}(x)u^{2}) \cdot u^{-2}.$

Since Q is a right Bol loop, for any $x, z \in N$, z((xu)x) = ((zx)u)x. Thus, by Theorem 3,

$$\begin{aligned} z((xu)x) &= ((zx)u)x\\ \implies & z((x*_2 f_{1,0}(x))u) = ((zx)*_2 f_{1,0}(x))u\\ \implies & (z*_1 (x*_2 f_{1,0}(x)))u = ((zx)*_2 f_{1,0}(x))u\\ \implies & z*_1 (x*_2 f_{1,0}(x)) = (zx)*_2 f_{1,0}(x)\\ \implies & z*_1 \left(x \left(f_{1,0}(x)u^2\right) \cdot u^{-2}\right) = (zx) \left(f_{1,0}(x)u^2\right) \cdot u^{-2}. \end{aligned}$$

Since $[Q:N] = 2, u^2 \in N$. Hence, for any elements $z \in N$ and

$$y \in \{x *_2 f_{1,0}(x) \mid x \in N\} = \{(x(f_{1,0}(x)u^2))u^{-2} \mid x \in N\} \subseteq N,\$$

 $z *_1 y$ is uniquely determined by $f_{1,0}$ and the binary operation of N.

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