

O N  $\sigma$ -P E R M U T A B L E   n - G R O U P O I D S

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A B S T R A C T

In this paper  $\sigma$ -permutable  $n$ -groupoids are defined and considered. An  $n$ -groupoid  $(G, f)$  is called  $\sigma$ -permutable, where  $\sigma$  is a permutation of the set  $\{1, \dots, n+1\}$ , iff  $f(x_{\sigma_1}, \dots, \dots, x_{\sigma_n}) = x_{\sigma(n+1)} \iff f(x_1, \dots, x_n) = x_{n+1}$  for all  $x_1, \dots, x_{n+1} \in G$ .  $\sigma$ -permutable  $n$ -groupoids are a generalization of several classes of  $n$ -groupoids. Examples of  $\sigma$ -permutable  $n$ -groupoids are given and some of their properties described. Several conditions under which  $\sigma$ -permutable  $n$ -groupoids are  $n$ -groups are determined.

1.   N O T A T I O N   A N D   D E F I N I T I O N S

We shall use the following abbreviated notation:

$$f(x_1, \dots, x_k, x_{k+1}, \dots, x_{k+s}, x_{k+s+1}, \dots, x_n) = f(x_1, \overset{k}{\underset{k}{X}}, x_{k+s+1}^n),$$

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whenever  $x_{k+1} = x_{k+2} = \dots = x_{k+s} = x$  ( $x_1^j$  is the empty symbol for  $i > j$  and for  $i > n$ , also  $\binom{0}{x}$  is the empty symbol).

To avoid repetitions we assume throughout the whole text that  $n > 2$ .

We say that an  $n$ -groupoid  $(G, f)$  is  $k$ -solvable, where  $k \in \{1, \dots, n\} = N_n$  is fixed, iff the equation

$$f(a_1^{k-1}, x, a_{k+1}^n) = b$$

has a solution  $x \in G$  for all elements  $a_1^n, b \in G$ . If the solution is unique, then  $(G, f)$  is called an uniquely  $k$ -solvable  $n$ -groupoid. If this equation has a unique solution for every  $k \in N_n$ , then  $(G, f)$  is called an  $n$ -quasigroup.

An  $n$ -groupoid  $(G, f)$  is  $(i, j)$ -commutative iff

$$f(x_1^{i-1}, x_i, x_{i+1}^{j-1}, x_j, x_{j+1}) = f(x_1^{i+1}, x_j, x_{i+1}^{j-1}, x_i, x_{j+1}^n)$$

for all  $x_1^n \in G$  and some fixed  $1 \leq i < j \leq n$ . If  $(G, f)$  is  $(i, j)$ -commutative for every pair  $(i, j)$ ,  $i, j \in N_n$ , then it is commutative.

An  $n$ -groupoid  $(G, f)$  is  $(i, j)$ -associative, where  $1 \leq i < j \leq n$ , iff

$$f(x_1^{i-1}, f(x_i^{n+i-1}), x_{n+i}^{2n-1}) = f(x_1^{j-1}, f(x_j^{n+j-1}), x_{n+j}^{2n-1})$$

for all  $x_1^{2n-1} \in G$ .

An  $n$ -groupoid  $(G, f)$  is associative (i.e. it is an  $n$ -semigroup) iff it is  $(i, j)$ -associative for every pair  $(i, j)$ ,  $i, j \in N_n$ . Note that for the associativity of  $(G, f)$  it is sufficient to postulate the  $(1, j)$ -associativity for all  $j \in \{2, 3, \dots, n\} = N_{2,n}$ . An associative  $n$ -quasigroup is an  $n$ -group. An  $n$ -semigroup is an  $n$ -group iff it is  $k$ -solvable for  $k = 1$  and  $k = n$  or for some  $k$  other than 1 and  $n$  (see [10], p. 213). In [11] it is proved (but this proof is not complete, cf. [4]) that an  $n$ -quasigroup is an  $n$ -group iff it is  $(i, i+1)$ -associative.

ve for some  $i \in N_{n-1}$ .

By  $S_n$  we denote the symmetric group of degree  $n$ .

If  $\sigma \in S_n$ , then  $x_{\sigma i}, x_{\sigma(i+1)}, \dots, x_{\sigma j}$  we denote by  $x_{\sigma i}^{\sigma j}$ . If  $i > j$ , then  $x_{\sigma i}^{\sigma j}$  is considered empty.

An  $n$ -quasigroup  $(Q, f)$  is called totally symmetric (TS) iff  $f(x_{\sigma 1}^{\sigma n}) = x_{\sigma(n+1)} \iff f(x_1^n) = x_{n+1}$  for all  $x_1^{n+1} \in Q$  and all  $\sigma \in S_{n+1}$ .

## 2. $\sigma$ -PERMUTABLE $n$ -GROUPOIDS

**DEFINITION 1.** Let  $\sigma \in S_{n+1}$ . An  $n$ -groupoid  $(G, f)$  is called  $\sigma$ -permutable iff for all  $x_1^{n+1} \in G$

$$f(x_1^n) = x_{n+1} \iff f(x_{\sigma 1}^{\sigma n}) = x_{\sigma(n+1)}.$$

It is easy to see that this definition can be given in another equivalent form.

**DEFINITION 2.** Let  $\sigma \in S_{n+1}$ . If  $\sigma i = n+1$  for some  $i \in N_n$ , then an  $n$ -groupoid  $(G, f)$  is  $\sigma$ -permutable iff for all  $x_1^{n+1} \in G$

$$f(x_{\sigma 1}^{\sigma(i-1)}, f(x_1^n), x_{\sigma(i+1)}^{\sigma n}) = x_{\sigma(n+1)}.$$

If  $\sigma(n+1) = n+1$ , then  $(G, f)$  is  $\sigma$ -permutable iff for all  $x_1^{n+1} \in G$

$$f(x_{\sigma 1}^{\sigma n}) = f(x_1^n).$$

$\sigma$ -permutable  $n$ -groupoids represent a generalization of various classes of  $n$ -groupoids. Among them are  $i$ -permutable  $n$ -groupoids from [14] and cyclic  $n$ -quasigroups from [12]. Indeed, if  $\sigma(n+1) = 1$  and  $\sigma k = k+1$ , for all  $k \in N_n$ , then a  $\sigma$ -permutable  $n$ -groupoid is a cyclic  $n$ -quasigroup from [12]. On the other hand, if  $\tau k = k$  for  $k = 1, \dots, i-1$ ,  $\tau i = n+1$ ,  $\tau j = j-1$

for  $j = i+1, \dots, n+1$ , then a  $\tau$ -permutable  $n$ -groupoid is an  $i$ -permutable  $n$ -groupoid from [14]. If a permutation  $\sigma \in S_{n+1}$  is a cycle  $(k, n+1)$ , then a  $\sigma$ -permutable  $n$ -groupoid is  $k$ -invertible in the sense of [3]. Some other classes of  $n$ -groupoids which are special cases of  $\sigma$ -permutable  $n$ -groupoids will be given later.

As a simple consequence of Definition 1 we obtain:

LEMMA 1. *Let  $\sigma \in S_{n+1}$  and  $H$  be a subgroup of  $S_{n+1}$  generated by  $\sigma$ . An  $n$ -groupoid  $(G, f)$  is  $\sigma$ -permutable iff it is  $\tau$ -permutable for every  $\tau \in H$ .*

LEMMA 2. *Let  $(G, f)$  be an  $n$ -groupoid. The set  $H$  of all permutations  $\sigma \in S_{n+1}$  such that*

$$f(x_{\sigma 1}^{\sigma n}) = x_{\sigma(n+1)} \iff f(x_1^n) = x_{n+1}$$

for all  $x_1^{n+1} \in G$ , is a subgroup of  $S_{n+1}$ .

The set  $H$  of all such permutations we shall denote by  $\Pi(f)$ .

The notion of  $\sigma$ -permutable  $n$ -groupoids is an extension of the notion of autoparastrophies of  $n$ -quasigroups to arbitrary  $n$ -groupoids. Namely, if  $(Q, f)$  is an  $n$ -quasigroup, then a new quasigroup  $(Q, f^\sigma)$  can be defined in the following way:

$$f^\sigma(x_{\sigma 1}^{\sigma n}) = x_{\sigma(n+1)} \iff f(x_1^n) = x_{n+1}.$$

$(Q, f^\sigma)$  is said to be a parastrophe (or conjugate) of the  $n$ -quasigroup  $(Q, f)$ . If  $f^\sigma = f$ , then  $\sigma$  is called an autoparastrophe of  $(Q, f)$ . Although it is not possible to define a new operation  $f^\sigma$  for an arbitrary  $n$ -groupoid as it is done for  $n$ -quasigroups, we see that  $\sigma$ -permutable  $n$ -groupoids generalize the notion of autoparastrophe to arbitrary  $n$ -groupoids.

**DEFINITION 3.** Let  $H$  be a subgroup of  $S_{n+1}$ . If an  $n$ -groupoid  $(G, f)$  is  $\sigma$ -permutable for every  $\sigma \in H$ , then  $(G, f)$  is called a  $H$ -permutable  $n$ -groupoid.

It is obvious that an  $n$ -groupoid  $(G, f)$  is  $H$ -permutable iff it is  $\sigma$ -permutable for all  $\sigma \in \Gamma$ , where  $\Gamma$  is a set of generators of the group  $H$ . From Lemma 1 we see that every  $\sigma$ -permutable  $n$ -groupoid is  $H$ -permutable, where  $H$  is the subgroup of  $S_{n+1}$  generated by  $\sigma$ . If  $(G, f)$  is  $H$ -permutable  $n$ -groupoid then it is, of course,  $K$ -permutable for every subgroup  $K$  of the group  $H$ .

A special case of  $H$ -permutable  $n$ -groupoids are  $H$ - $n$ -quasigroups investigated in [9].

Some other examples of  $H$ -permutable  $n$ -groupoids are the following.

1. Totally symmetric  $n$ -quasigroups are  $H$  permutable with  $H = S_{n+1}$ .
2.  $(i, j)$ -commutative  $n$ -groupoids are  $H$ -permutable, where  $H = \{(1), (i, j)\}$ . Commutative  $n$ -groupoids are  $H$ -permutable, where  $H = S_n$  and  $\sigma(n+1) = n+1$  for all  $\sigma \in H$ .
3. If  $H$  is a cyclic subgroup of  $S_{n+1}$  generated by the cycle  $(1, 2, \dots, n)$ , then  $H$ -permutable  $n$ -groupoid is a cyclic  $n$ -quasigroup described in [12].
4. Medial  $n$ -groups are  $H$ -permutable for a subgroup  $H$  of  $S_{n+1}$  generated by the cycle  $(1, n)$  (see [1]).
5. If a subgroup  $H$  of  $S_{n+1}$  is generated by the cycle  $(i, i+1, \dots, n+1)$ , then a  $H$ -permutable  $n$ -groupoid is  $i$ -permutable.
6. If  $H$  is the alternating subgroup of  $S_{n+1}$ , then a  $H$ -permutable  $n$ -groupoid is an alternating symmetric  $n$ -quasigroup from [13].
7. In [8] D.G. Hoffman has given a construction of a  $H$ -permutable  $n$ -quasigroup  $(G, f)$  of order  $mp$ , for every  $m > n$ ,  $p \geq 2$ , and every subgroup  $H$  of  $S_{n+1}$ , such that  $\Pi(f) = H$ .

**PROPOSITION 1.** *If  $(G, f)$  is a  $H$ -permutable  $n$ -groupoid, where  $H$  is a subgroup of  $S_{n+1}$ , then for every  $\sigma \in H$  such that  $\sigma(n+1) \neq n+1$  the  $n$ -groupoid  $(G, f)$  is uniquely solvable at the place  $\sigma^{-1}(n+1)$ .*

**PROOF.** Let  $\sigma \in H$  and let  $\sigma i = n+1$ . Then by Definition 2 the equation  $f(x_{\sigma 1}^{\sigma(i-1)}, y, x_{\sigma(i+1)}^{\sigma n}) = x_{\sigma(n+1)}$  has a uniquely determined solution  $y = f(x_1^n)$  for every  $x_{\sigma 1}^{\sigma(i-1)}, x_{\sigma(i+1)}^{\sigma(n+1)} \in G$ . Hence the  $H$ -permutable  $n$ -groupoid  $(G, f)$  has a unique solution at the place  $\sigma^{-1}(n+1)$ , which completes the proof.

If  $\sigma$  is a permutation from a subgroup  $H \subseteq S_{n+1}$ , then  $\sigma^{-1} \in H$  and  $\sigma^k \in H$  for every  $k = 1, 2, \dots$ , hence we have the following corollary.

**COROLLARY 1.** *Every  $\sigma$ -permutable  $n$ -groupoid  $(G, f)$ , where  $\sigma(n+1) \neq n+1$ , is uniquely solvable at the places  $\sigma^k(n+1)$ ,  $k = 1, 2, \dots$ , provided that  $\sigma^k(n+1) \neq n+1$ .*

**COROLLARY 2.** *If  $H$  is a subgroup of  $S_{n+1}$  such that for every  $j \in N_n$  there exists  $\sigma \in H$  such that  $\sigma j = n+1$ , then every  $H$ -permutable  $n$ -groupoid is an  $n$ -quasigroup. In particular, if  $H$  is a transitive permutation group, then every  $H$ -permutable  $n$ -groupoid is an  $n$ -quasigroup.*

**COROLLARY 3.** *If  $\sigma(n+1) \neq n+1$ , then every  $\sigma$ -permutable commutative  $n$ -groupoid is a totally symmetric  $n$ -quasigroup.*

From our Proposition 1 and Proposition 1 from [4] we get the following.

**PROPOSITION 2.** *A  $H$ -permutable  $n$ -groupoid  $(G, f)$  is an  $n$ -group if one of the following conditions holds:*

- (i)  $(G, f)$  is  $(i, i+1)$ -associative for some  $2 \leq i \leq n-2$  and there exist  $\sigma, \tau \in H$  such that  $\sigma^{-1}(n+1) = i < \tau^{-1}(n+1) \leq n$ ,
- (ii)  $(G, f)$  is  $(1, 2)$  or  $(n-1, n)$ -associative and there exist  $\sigma, \tau \in H$  such that  $\sigma(n+1) = 1$  and  $\tau(n+1) = n$ .

PROPOSITION 3. A  $H$ -permutable  $n$ -semigroup  $(G, f)$  is an  $n$ -group if one of the following conditions holds:

- (i) there exists  $\sigma \in H$  such that  $1 < \sigma(n+1) < n$ ,
- (ii) there exists  $\sigma, \tau \in H$  such that  $\sigma(n+1) = 1$  and  $\tau(n+1) = n$ .
- (iii) there exists  $\sigma \in H$  such that  $\sigma(n+1) = 1$  and  $\sigma(1) \neq n+1$ ,
- (iv) there exists  $\sigma \in H$  such that  $\sigma(n+1) = n$  and  $\sigma(n) \neq n+1$ .

From our Proposition 1, Corollary 1 and Proposition 1 from [4] we obtain:

PROPOSITION 4. A  $\sigma$ -permutable  $n$ -groupoid  $(G, f)$ , where  $\sigma(n+1) \neq n+1$ , is an  $n$ -group if one of the following conditions holds:

- (i) the  $(i, i+1)$ -associative law holds for  $i = \sigma(n+1)$  or  $i = \sigma^{-1}(n+1)$ , where  $2 \leq i \leq n-1$ , and  $(G, f)$  is solvable at some place  $k > i$ ,
- (ii) the  $(i, i+1)$ -associative law holds for  $i = \min\{\sigma(n+1), \sigma^{-1}(n+1)\}$ , where  $2 \leq i \leq n-1$  and  $\sigma(n+1) \neq \sigma^{-1}(n+1)$ ,
- (iii)  $\sigma(n+1) = 1$  and  $\sigma(n) = n+1$  (or  $\sigma(n+1) = n$  and  $\sigma(1) = n+1$ ) and  $(G, f)$  is  $(1, 2)$  or  $(n-1, n)$ -associative.

PROPOSITION 5. A  $\sigma$ -permutable  $n$ -semigroup, where  $\sigma(n+1) \neq n+1$ , is an  $n$ -group if one of the following conditions holds:

- (i)  $\sigma(n+1) = 1$  and  $\sigma(n) = n+1$ ,
- (ii)  $\sigma(n+1) = n$  and  $\sigma(1) = n+1$ ,

(iii)  $1 < \sigma^k(n+1) < n$  or  $1 < \sigma^{-k}(n+1) < n$  for some  $k \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ ,

(iv)  $\sigma(n+1) = 1$  (or  $\sigma(n+1) = n$ ) and  $\sigma^2(n+1) \neq n+1$ .

**PROPOSITION 6.** *Let  $(G, f)$  be a  $\sigma$ -permutable  $n$ -groupoid and let  $\sigma(n+1) = 1 = \sigma^{-1}(n+1)$ .  $(G, f)$  is an  $n$ -group iff it is (1,2)-associative and for every  $x \in G$  there exists  $\hat{x} \in G$  such that  $f(\binom{n-i}{x}, \hat{x}, \binom{i-2}{x}, y) = y$  for all  $y \in G$  and some fixed  $i \in N_{2,n}$ .*

**PROOF.** By a simple generalization of the proof of Theorem 2 from [4] and Corollary 1 from [1], we can prove that a (1,2)-associative  $n$ -groupoid  $(G, f)$  is an  $n$ -group iff for all  $x \in G$  there exist  $\hat{x}, \tilde{x} \in G$  such that

$$(1) \quad f(\binom{n-i}{x}, \hat{x}, \binom{i-2}{x}, y) = y = f(y, \binom{j-2}{x}, \tilde{x}, \binom{n-j}{x})$$

for all  $y \in G$  and some  $i, j \in N_{2,n}$ .

Now we have to prove that for a given  $n$ -groupoid the first equation from (1) implies the second. Since  $\sigma(n+1) = 1$  and  $\sigma(1) = n+1$ , then by  $\sigma$ -permutability of  $(G, f)$  we obtain that the equation  $f(y, \binom{n-1}{x}, z) = z$  implies  $f(z, \binom{n-1}{x}) = y$ . Hence  $y = f(f(y, \binom{n-1}{x}), \binom{n-1}{x}) = f(y, f(\binom{n}{x}), \binom{n-2}{x})$  by the (1,2)-associativity. This means that  $f(y, \tilde{x}, \binom{n-2}{x}) = y$  for all  $x, y \in G$  and  $\tilde{x} = f(\binom{n}{x})$ , which completes the proof.

In the same manner we can prove:

**PROPOSITION 7.** *A  $\sigma$ -permutable  $n$ -groupoid  $(G, f)$ , where  $\sigma(n+1) = n = \sigma^{-1}(n+1)$ , is an  $n$ -group iff it is  $(n-1, n)$ -associative and for every  $x \in G$  there exists  $\hat{x} \in G$  such that  $f(y, \binom{j-2}{x}, \hat{x}, \binom{n-j}{x}) = y$  for all  $y \in G$  and some  $j \in N_{2,n}$ .*

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#### REZIME

#### O $\sigma$ -PERMUTABILNIM n-GRUPOIDIMA

U radu su definisani i razmatrani  $\sigma$ -permutabilni n-grupoidi. n-grupoid  $(G, f)$  se naziva  $\sigma$ -permutabilan, gde je  $\sigma$  permutacija skupa  $\{1, \dots, n+1\}$ , ako i samo ako je  $f(x_{\sigma 1}, \dots, x_{\sigma n}) = x_{\sigma(n+1)} \Leftrightarrow f(x_1, \dots, x_n) = x_{n+1}$  za svako  $x_1, \dots, x_{n+1} \in G$ .  $\sigma$ -permutabilni n-grupoidi predstavljaju uopštenje više raznih klasa n-grupoida. Navedeni su primeri  $\sigma$ -permutabilnih n-grupoida i opisane neke njihove osobine. Odredjeno je nekoliko uslova pod kojim je  $\sigma$ -permutabilni n-grupoid n-grupa.