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## SEMISIMPLE AND SEMILOCAL PSEUDO BL-ALGEBRAS

**Abstract.** The concepts of semisimple and semilocal pseudo BL-algebras are investigated. Many facts corresponding with them are considered. Moreover, we give a negative answer to the question from [Di Nola, Georgescu and Iorgulescu (*Multiplae Valued Logic 8*: 715–750, 2002), Problem 1.33].

### 1. Introduction

BL-algebras were introduced by Hájek [10] in 1998. The class of BL-algebras contains the MV-algebras introduced by Chang ([1]). Georgescu and Iorgulescu ([6]) introduced pseudo MV-algebras which are a non-commutative generalization of MV-algebras. In 2000, there were introduced pseudo BL-algebras as a natural generalization of BL-algebras and of pseudo MV-algebras. Georgescu and Iorgulescu ([8]) made the connection between pseudo BL-algebras and pseudo BCK-algebras. Kühr ([14]) proved that pseudo BL-algebras are equivalent to certain bounded  $DR\ell$ -monoids. Iorgulescu ([13]) showed that the category of pseudo Iséki algebras is equivalent to the category of pseudo BL-algebras. Pseudo BL-algebras correspond to a pseudo-basic fuzzy logic (see [11] and [12]). The paper [2] contains definition and basic properties of pseudo BL-algebras.

In [9], there are characterized and defined some classes of pseudo BL-algebras: local, good, perfect, peculiar and bipartite pseudo BL-algebras. In this paper there are given characterizations of other classes of pseudo BL-algebras: semisimple and semilocal pseudo BL-algebras. In particular, we show that the class of semisimple pseudo BL-algebras is not a quasivariety (and therefore it is not a variety). From this we obtain that representable pseudo BL-algebras are not semisimple in general. Thus Problem 1.33 of [3] is solved.

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## 2. Preliminaries

**DEFINITION 2.1.** Let  $(A; \vee, \wedge, \odot, \rightarrow, \rightsquigarrow, 0, 1)$  be an algebra of type  $(2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 0, 0)$ .  $A$  is called a *pseudo BL-algebra* if it satisfies the following axioms, for any  $x, y, z \in A$ :

- (C1)  $(A; \vee, \wedge, 0, 1)$  is a bounded lattice,
- (C2)  $(A; \odot, 1)$  is a monoid,
- (C3)  $x \odot y \leq z \Leftrightarrow x \leq y \rightarrow z \Leftrightarrow y \leq x \rightsquigarrow z$ ,
- (C4)  $x \wedge y = (x \rightarrow y) \odot x = x \odot (x \rightsquigarrow y)$ ,
- (C5)  $(x \rightarrow y) \vee (y \rightarrow x) = (x \rightsquigarrow y) \vee (y \rightsquigarrow x) = 1$ .

In this sequel, we shall agree that the operations  $\vee, \wedge, \odot$  have priority towards the operations  $\rightarrow, \rightsquigarrow$ . A pseudo BL-algebra  $(A; \vee, \wedge, \odot, \rightarrow, \rightsquigarrow, 0, 1)$  is *nontrivial* if and only if  $0 \neq 1$ . For any pseudo BL-algebra  $(A; \vee, \wedge, \odot, \rightarrow, \rightsquigarrow, 0, 1)$ , the reduct  $\mathcal{L}(A) = (A; \vee, \wedge, 0, 1)$  is a bounded distributive lattice. A pseudo BL-chain is a pseudo BL-algebra such that its lattice order is linear.

Throughout this paper  $A$  will denote a pseudo BL-algebra. For any  $x \in A$  and  $n = 0, 1, \dots$ , we put  $x^0 = 1$  and  $x^{n+1} = x^n \odot x$ .

**PROPOSITION 2.2.** ([2]) *The following properties hold in  $A$  (for any  $x, y, z \in A$ ):*

- (a)  $x \leq y \Leftrightarrow x \rightarrow y = 1$ ;
- (b)  $y \leq x \rightarrow y, y \leq x \rightsquigarrow y$ ;
- (c)  $x \odot y \leq x, x \odot y \leq y$ ;
- (d)  $0 \odot x = x \odot 0 = 0$ ;
- (e)  $x \vee z \rightarrow y \vee z \geq x \rightarrow y$ ;
- (f)  $x \odot (y \vee z) = (x \odot y) \vee (x \odot z)$ ;
- (g)  $(x \vee y) \odot z = (x \odot z) \vee (y \odot z)$ .

For any  $x \in A$ , we define  $x^- = x \rightarrow 0$  and  $x^\sim = x \rightsquigarrow 0$ .

**PROPOSITION 2.3.** ([2]) *The following properties hold in  $A$  (for any  $x, y \in A$ ):*

- (a)  $y \leq x^- \Leftrightarrow y \odot x = 0$ ;
- (b)  $y \leq x^\sim \Leftrightarrow x \odot y = 0$ ;
- (c)  $x \leq y$  implies  $y^- \leq x^-$  and  $y^\sim \leq x^\sim$ ;
- (d)  $x \leq (x^\sim)^-, x \leq (x^-)^\sim$ ;
- (e)  $x \odot x^\sim = x^- \odot x = 0$ .

**DEFINITION 2.4.** A nonempty set  $F$  is called a *filter* of  $A$  if the following conditions hold:

- (F1) if  $x, y \in F$ , then  $x \odot y \in F$ ;
- (F2) if  $x \in F$ ,  $y \in A$  and  $x \leq y$ , then  $y \in F$ .

Under this definition,  $\{1\}$  and  $A$  are the simple examples of filters. A filter  $F$  of  $A$  is *proper* if  $F \neq A$ . We denote by  $\text{Fil}(A)$  the set of all filters of  $A$ .

**PROPOSITION 2.5.** ([2]) *If  $F \in \text{Fil}(A)$ , then:*

- (a)  $1 \in F$ ;
- (b) if  $x, y \in F$ , then  $x \wedge y \in F$ ;
- (c) if  $x \in F$ ,  $y \in A$ , then  $y \rightarrow x \in F$ ,  $y \rightsquigarrow x \in F$ .

For every subset  $X \subseteq A$ , the smallest filter of  $A$  which contains  $X$ , i.e., the intersection of all filters  $F \supseteq X$ , is called *generated* by  $X$ , and is denoted by  $[X]$ .

**REMARK 2.6.** ([2])

- (a) If  $X$  is a filter, then  $[X] = X$ .
- (b) If  $X \subseteq A$ , then  $[X] = \{y \in A : x_1 \odot x_2 \odot \cdots \odot x_n \leq y \text{ for some } n \geq 1 \text{ and } x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in X\}$ .
- (c) If  $X = \{x\}$ , then we shall write  $[x]$  instead of  $[\{x\}]$  and  $[x] = \{y \in A : x^n \leq y \text{ for some } n \geq 1\}$ .

**DEFINITION 2.7.** Let  $F$  be a proper filter of  $A$ .

- (a)  $F$  is called *prime* if for all  $x, y \in A$ ,  $x \vee y \in F$  implies  $x \in F$  or  $y \in F$ .
- (b)  $F$  is called *maximal* (or *ultrafilter*) if whenever  $H$  is a filter such that  $F \subseteq H \subseteq A$ , then either  $H = F$  or  $H = A$ .

**PROPOSITION 2.8.** ([2]) *Any ultrafilter of  $A$  is a prime filter of  $A$ .*

**PROPOSITION 2.9.** ([2]) *Any proper filter of  $A$  can be extended to an ultrafilter.*

We denote by  $\text{Max}(A)$  the set of all ultrafilters of  $A$ . Write  $\mathcal{M}(A) = \bigcap\{F : F \in \text{Max}(A)\}$ .

**DEFINITION 2.10.** A filter  $H$  of  $A$  is called *normal* if for every  $x, y \in A$ ,

$$x \rightarrow y \in H \Leftrightarrow x \rightsquigarrow y \in H.$$

We denote by  $\text{Max}_n(A)$  the set of normal ultrafilters of  $A$ . Suppose that  $A$  possesses at least one ultrafilter which is normal. We define  $\mathcal{M}_n(A) = \bigcap\{F : F \in \text{Max}_n(A)\}$ . If  $\text{Max}_n(A) = \emptyset$ , we set  $\mathcal{M}_n(A) = A$ .

From [5] (p. 499) we get

**PROPOSITION 2.11.** *If  $A$  is a pseudo BL-chain, then  $\text{Max}(A) = \text{Max}_n(A) = \{F\}$ , where  $F = \{x \in A : x^n > 0 \text{ for any } n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ .*

**PROPOSITION 2.12.** ([3]) *If  $H$  is a proper normal filter of  $A$ , then  $H$  is an ultrafilter of  $A$  if and only if for any  $x \in A$ ,*

$$x \notin H \Leftrightarrow (x^n)^- \in H \text{ for some } n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

**EXAMPLE 2.13.** ([16]) Let  $a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{R}$ , where  $\mathbb{R}$  is the set of all real numbers. We put by definition

$$(a, b) \leq (c, d) \Leftrightarrow a < c \text{ or } (a = c \text{ and } b \leq d).$$

For any  $x, y \in \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$ , we define operations  $\vee$  and  $\wedge$  as follows:  $x \vee y = \max\{x, y\}$  and  $x \wedge y = \min\{x, y\}$ . Let  $A = \{(\frac{1}{2}, b) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : b \geq 0\} \cup \{(a, b) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : \frac{1}{2} < a < 1, b \in \mathbb{R}\} \cup \{(1, b) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : b \leq 0\}$ . For any  $(a, b), (c, d) \in A$ , we put:

$$\begin{aligned} (a, b) \odot (c, d) &= \left(\frac{1}{2}, 0\right) \vee (ac, bc + d), \\ (a, b) \rightarrow (c, d) &= \left(\frac{1}{2}, 0\right) \vee \left[\left(\frac{c}{a}, \frac{d-b}{a}\right) \wedge (1, 0)\right], \\ (a, b) \rightsquigarrow (c, d) &= \left(\frac{1}{2}, 0\right) \vee \left[\left(\frac{c}{a}, \frac{ad-bc}{a}\right) \wedge (1, 0)\right]. \end{aligned}$$

Then  $(A; \vee, \wedge, \odot, \rightarrow, \rightsquigarrow, (\frac{1}{2}, 0), (1, 0))$  is a pseudo BL-algebra. Let  $H = \{(1, b) : b \leq 0\}$ . We show that it is a normal ultrafilter of  $A$ . Obviously,  $H$  is a filter. Suppose that  $(a, b), (c, d) \in A$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} (a, b) \rightarrow (c, d) \in H &\Leftrightarrow \left(\frac{1}{2}, 0\right) \vee \left[\left(\frac{c}{a}, \frac{d-b}{a}\right) \wedge (1, 0)\right] \in H \\ &\Leftrightarrow \frac{c}{a} \geq 1 \Leftrightarrow \left(\frac{1}{2}, 0\right) \vee \left[\left(\frac{c}{a}, \frac{ad-bc}{a}\right) \wedge (1, 0)\right] \in H \\ &\Leftrightarrow (a, b) \rightsquigarrow (c, d) \in H. \end{aligned}$$

By definition,  $H$  is normal. We now apply Proposition 2.12 to show that  $H$  is maximal. Let  $x = (a, b) \notin H$ . Then  $\frac{1}{2} \leq a < 1$ , and we have  $x^n = (\frac{1}{2}, 0)$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Hence  $(x^n)^- = (\frac{1}{2}, 0)^- = (\frac{1}{2}, 0) \rightarrow (\frac{1}{2}, 0) = (1, 0) \in H$ . Assume now  $x \in H$ , that is,  $x = (1, b)$ ,  $b \leq 0$ . Then  $x^n = (1, nb) \in H$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , and therefore  $(x^n)^- = (1, nb)^- = (\frac{1}{2}, -nb) \notin H$ . It is proved that  $H$  is an ultrafilter.

For a filter  $H$  and  $x \in A$ , we denote:

$$x \odot H = \{x \odot h : h \in H\} \text{ and } H \odot x = \{h \odot x : h \in H\}.$$

**PROPOSITION 2.14.** ([3]) *Let  $H$  be a filter of  $A$ . The following conditions are equivalent:*

- (a)  $H$  is normal;
- (b) for each  $x \in A$ ,  $x \odot H = H \odot x$ .

As a consequence of Remark 2.6 and Proposition 2.14 we have

**PROPOSITION 2.15.** *Let  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  be normal filters of  $A$ . Then*

$$[H_1 \cup H_2] = \{x \in A : h_1 \odot h_2 \leq x \text{ for some } h_1 \in H_1 \text{ and } h_2 \in H_2\}.$$

Following [3], for any normal filter  $H$  of  $A$ , we define a congruence  $\equiv_H$  on  $A$  by

$$x \equiv_H y \Leftrightarrow (x \rightarrow y) \odot (y \rightarrow x) \in H.$$

We also have  $x \equiv_H y \Leftrightarrow (x \rightsquigarrow y) \odot (y \rightsquigarrow x) \in H$ . Applying Proposition 2.2 (c) we get

$$(1) \quad x \equiv_H y \Leftrightarrow x \rightarrow y, y \rightarrow x \in H \Leftrightarrow x \rightsquigarrow y, y \rightsquigarrow x \in H.$$

In [3] it is proved that the map  $H \rightarrow \equiv_H$  is an isomorphism between the lattice of normal filters and the lattice of congruences of  $A$ . We denote by  $x/H$  the congruence class of an element  $x \in A$ , that is,  $x/H = x/\equiv_H$ . On the set  $A/H = \{x/H : x \in A\}$  we define the natural operations induced from those of  $A$ . The resulting quotient algebra  $(A/H; \vee, \wedge, \odot, \rightarrow, \rightsquigarrow, 0/H, 1/H)$  becomes a pseudo BL-algebra, called the *quotient algebra of  $A$  by the normal filter  $H$* . The map  $\varphi : A \rightarrow A/H$ , defined by  $\varphi(x) = x/H$  for all  $x \in A$ , is a homomorphism from  $A$  onto the quotient pseudo BL-algebra  $A/H$ .

**PROPOSITION 2.16.** ([9]) *Let  $H$  be a normal filter of  $A$  and let  $x \in A$ . Then:*

- (a)  $x/H = 1/H \Leftrightarrow x \in H$ ;
- (b)  $x/H = 0/H \Leftrightarrow x^\sim \in H \Leftrightarrow x^- \in H$ .

If  $\varphi : A \rightarrow B$  is a homomorphism of pseudo BL-algebras, then the kernel of  $\varphi$  is the set  $\text{Ker}(\varphi) = \{x \in A : \varphi(x) = 1\}$ . The following propositions are easily obtained:

**PROPOSITION 2.17.** *Let  $\varphi : A \rightarrow B$  be a homomorphism of pseudo BL-algebras. Then:*

- (a)  $\text{Ker}(\varphi)$  is a normal filter of  $A$ ;
- (b)  $A/\text{Ker}(\varphi) \cong B$ .

**PROPOSITION 2.18.** *Let  $H$  be a normal filter of  $A$ . Then there is a bijection between the filters of  $A$  containing  $H$  and the filters of  $A/H$ .*

**PROPOSITION 2.19.** *Let  $H_1, \dots, H_m$  be normal filters of  $A$  such that  $[H_i \cup H_j] = A$  for  $i, j = 1, \dots, m$  and  $i \neq j$ . Let  $x_1, \dots, x_m \in A$ . Then there is  $x \in A$  such that  $x \equiv_{H_i} x_i$  for  $i = 1, \dots, m$ .*

**Proof.** First, let  $m = 2$ . Since  $[H_1 \cup H_2] = A$ , by Proposition 2.15 there exist  $h_{12} \in H_1$  and  $h_{21} \in H_2$  such that  $h_{12} \odot h_{21} = 0$ . From Proposition 2.3 (a) we have  $h_{12} \leq h_{21}^-$ . Then  $h_{21}^- \in H_1$ , and hence  $h_{21} \equiv_{H_1} 0$  by Proposition 2.16. Since  $h_{12} \leq h_{21}^-$ , applying Proposition 2.3 (c) we get  $(h_{21}^-)^\sim \leq h_{12}^\sim$ . From Proposition 2.3 (d) we obtain  $h_{21} \leq (h_{21}^-)^\sim$ . Therefore,  $h_{21} \leq h_{12}^\sim$ , and consequently,  $h_{12}^\sim \in H_2$ . Proposition 2.16 now shows that  $h_{12} \equiv_{H_2} 0$ .

Pick  $x = (h_{12} \odot x_1) \vee (h_{21} \odot x_2)$ , where  $x_1, x_2 \in A$ . Note that using Proposition 2.2 (d) we have

$$\begin{aligned} x/H_1 &= (h_{12}/H_1 \odot x_1/H_1) \vee (h_{21}/H_1 \odot x_2/H_1) \\ &= (1/H_1 \odot x_1/H_1) \vee (0/H_1 \odot x_2/H_1) \\ &= x_1/H_1. \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $x \equiv_{H_1} x_1$ . Similarly,  $x \equiv_{H_2} x_2$ . Now let  $m$  be arbitrary. For  $i, j = 1, \dots, m$  and  $i \neq j$ , there exist  $h_{ij} \in H_i$  and  $h_{ji} \in H_j$  such that  $h_{ij} \odot h_{ji} = 0$ . Considering  $x = \bigvee_{i=1}^m (h_{i1} \odot \dots \odot h_{i,i-1} \odot h_{i,i+1} \odot \dots \odot h_{im} \odot x_i)$  and reasoning as above we see that  $x \equiv_{H_i} x_i$  for  $i = 1, \dots, m$ . ■

Let  $I$  be a nonempty set and  $(A_i : i \in I)$  be the indexed system of pseudo BL-algebras. The direct product  $\prod(A_i : i \in I)$  is defined in the usual way. We will denote by  $\pi_i, i \in I$ , the  $i$ -th projection function.

**PROPOSITION 2.20.** *Let  $A_1, \dots, A_k$  be pseudo BL-algebras and let  $A = A_1 \times \dots \times A_k$ . Then*

$$\text{Fil}(A) = \text{Fil}(A_1) \times \dots \times \text{Fil}(A_k).$$

**Proof.**  $F_i \in \text{Fil}(A_i)$  for  $i = 1, \dots, k$ , then  $F_1 \times \dots \times F_k$  is a filter of  $A$ . Conversely, if  $F$  is a filter of  $A$ , then for  $i = 1, \dots, k$ ,  $F_i = \pi_i(F)$  is a filter of  $A_i$  and  $F = F_1 \times \dots \times F_k$ . From this we conclude that the assertion follows. ■

**PROPOSITION 2.21.** ([3]) *Let  $H$  be a proper normal filter of  $A$ . Then  $A/H$  is a pseudo BL-chain if and only if  $H$  is a prime filter of  $A$ .*

An algebra  $A$  is *simple* if  $A$  has exactly two congruences:  $0_A = \{(x, x) : x \in A\}$  and  $1_A = A^2$ . Clearly, a pseudo BL-algebra  $A$  is simple if it has a unique proper normal filter. Observe that a nontrivial pseudo BL-chain

$A$  is simple if and only if  $\text{Fil}(A) = \{\{1\}, A\}$ . Indeed, let  $A$  be simple and  $F \neq \{1\}$  be a proper filter of  $B$ . By Proposition 2.9,  $F$  can be extended to an ultrafilter  $M$ . From Proposition 2.11 we see that  $M$  is normal. This contradicts the fact that  $A$  is simple. Then  $\text{Fil}(A) = \{\{1\}, A\}$ . The converse is obvious.

Proposition 2.21 and Proposition 3.2 of [4] together yield.

**PROPOSITION 2.22.** *A normal filter  $H$  of  $A$  is maximal if and only if  $A/H$  is a simple pseudo BL-chain.*

Let  $B(A)$  be the Boolean algebra of all complemented elements in the distributive lattice  $\mathcal{L}(A) = (A; \vee, \wedge, 0, 1)$ .

**PROPOSITION 2.23.** ([9]) *If  $e \in B(A)$ , then  $[e] = \{x \in A : e \leq x\}$  and  $([e]; \vee, \wedge, \odot, \rightarrow, \rightsquigarrow, e, 1)$  is a pseudo BL-algebra.*

**PROPOSITION 2.24.** ([9]) *If  $e \in B(A)$  and  $x \in A$ , then:*

- (a)  $e \odot x = e \wedge x$ ;
- (b)  $e \vee e^- = 1$  and  $e \wedge e^- = 0$ ;
- (c)  $e^- = e^\sim$  is the complement of  $e$ .

**PROPOSITION 2.25.** ([9]) *If  $A = A_1 \times A_2$ , then there is  $e \in B(A)$  such that  $A_1 \cong [e]$  and  $A_2 \cong [e^-]$ .*

**PROPOSITION 2.26.** *If  $x \in A$  and  $e \in B(A)$ , then  $(x \vee e) \odot (x \vee e^-) = x$ .*

**Proof.** Applying Propositions 2.2 (f, g) and 2.24 we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 (x \vee e) \odot (x \vee e^-) &= [(x \vee e) \odot x] \vee [(x \vee e) \odot e^-] \\
 &= [(x \odot x) \vee (e \odot x)] \vee [(x \odot e^-) \vee (e \odot e^-)] \\
 &= (x \odot x) \vee (x \wedge e) \vee (x \wedge e^-) \\
 &= (x \odot x) \vee [x \wedge (e \vee e^-)] = (x \odot x) \vee x = x. \quad \blacksquare
 \end{aligned}$$

### 3. Semisimple pseudo BL-algebras

**DEFINITION 3.1.** A pseudo BL-algebra  $A$  is *semisimple* if the intersection of all maximal congruences of  $A$  is the congruence  $0_A$ .

Since, in a pseudo BL-algebra  $A$ , the congruences are in bijective correspondence with the normal filters, it follows that  $A$  is *semisimple* if and only if  $\mathcal{M}_n(A) = \{1\}$ . Obviously, every simple pseudo BL-algebra is semisimple.

**THEOREM 3.2.** *Let  $A$  be a pseudo BL-algebra. The following are equivalent:*

- (a)  *$A$  is semisimple;*
- (b) *there is a family  $\{H_i : i \in I\}$  of normal ultrafilters of  $A$  with  $\bigcap\{H_i : i \in I\} = \{1\}$ ;*
- (c)  *$A$  is a subdirect product of simple pseudo BL-chains.*

**Proof.** (a)  $\Rightarrow$  (b): Follows from definition.

(b)  $\Rightarrow$  (c): Let  $\{H_i : i \in I\}$  be a family of normal ultrafilters of  $A$  such that  $\bigcap\{H_i : i \in I\} = \{1\}$ . Write  $A_i = A/H_i$  for  $i \in I$ . From Proposition 2.22 we deduce that  $A_i$  are simple pseudo BL-chains. Now, define  $\varphi : A \rightarrow \prod(A_i : i \in I)$  by

$$\varphi(x) = (x/H_i : i \in I) \text{ for all } x \in A.$$

Evidently,  $\varphi$  is a homomorphism. Let  $\varphi(x) = \varphi(y)$ . Then  $x/H_i = y/H_i$  for all  $i \in I$ . By (1),  $x \rightarrow y, y \rightarrow x \in \bigcap\{H_i : i \in I\} = \{1\}$ . Therefore,  $x \rightarrow y = y \rightarrow x = 1$ . From Proposition 2.2 (a) it follows that  $x = y$ . Consequently,  $\varphi$  is injective. It is easy to see that  $\pi_i \circ \varphi$  maps  $A$  onto  $A_i$ . Thus  $A$  is a subdirect product of the simple pseudo BL-chains  $A_i, i \in I$ .

(c)  $\Rightarrow$  (a): Let  $\psi : A \rightarrow \prod(A_i : i \in I)$  be an injective homomorphism, where  $A_i$  are simple BL-chains, and let  $\pi_i \circ \psi : A \rightarrow A_i$  be surjective. Set  $\text{Ker}(\pi_i \circ \psi) = H_i$  for  $i \in I$ . From Proposition 2.17 we conclude that  $H_i$  is a normal filter of  $A$  and  $A/H_i \cong A_i$ . In consequence,  $A/H_i$  is simple. By Proposition 2.22,  $H_i$  is maximal. Let  $x \in \bigcap\{H_i : i \in I\}$ . Then  $\pi_i(\psi(x)) = 1$  for all  $i \in I$ , and hence  $\psi(x) = 1$ . Since  $\psi$  is injective we obtain  $x = 1$ . Therefore,  $\bigcap\{H_i : i \in I\} = \{1\}$ . Consequently,  $A$  is semisimple. ■

**PROPOSITION 3.3.** *Any subalgebra of semisimple pseudo BL-algebra is semisimple.*

**Proof.** Let  $A$  be a semisimple pseudo BL-algebra and let  $B$  be a subalgebra of  $A$ . By Theorem 3.2, there is a family  $\{H_i : i \in I\}$  of normal ultrafilters of  $A$  such that  $\bigcap\{H_i : i \in I\} = \{1\}$ . Observe that  $H_i \cap B \in \text{Max}_n(B)$  for each  $i \in I$ . By definition,  $H_i \cap B$  is a normal proper filter of  $B$  and from Proposition 2.12 we see that it is maximal. Moreover,

$$\bigcap\{H_i \cap B : i \in I\} = \left( \bigcap\{H_i : i \in I\} \right) \cap B = \{1\} \cap B = \{1\}.$$

Now, applying Theorem 3.2 we conclude that  $B$  is a semisimple pseudo BL-algebra. ■

**PROPOSITION 3.4.** *Let  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  be semisimple pseudo BL-algebras. Then the direct product  $A = A_1 \times A_2$  is also semisimple.*

**Proof.** By Theorem 3.2 there exist families  $\{H_i : i \in I_1\} \subseteq \text{Max}_n(A_1)$  and  $\{F_i : i \in I_2\} \subseteq \text{Max}_n(A_2)$  such that  $\bigcap\{H_i : i \in I_1\} = \{1\}$  and  $\bigcap\{F_i : i \in I_2\} = \{1\}$ . Let

$$U_i = \begin{cases} H_i \times A_2 & \text{if } i \in I_1, \\ A_1 \times F_i & \text{if } i \in I_2. \end{cases}$$

We set  $I = I_1 \cup I_2$ . It is clear that  $U_i$  ( $i \in I$ ) are normal ultrafilters of  $A$  and  $\bigcap\{U_i : i \in I\} = \{1\}$ . Consequently,  $A$  is a semisimple pseudo BL-algebra. ■

In a similar way, we get the following more general result.

**THEOREM 3.5.** *Any direct product of semisimple pseudo BL-algebras is a semisimple pseudo BL-algebra.*

From Proposition 3.3 and Theorem 3.5 we have

**COROLLARY 3.6.** *The class of all semisimple pseudo BL-algebras is closed under the formation of subalgebras and direct products.*

**PROPOSITION 3.7.** *The class of all semisimple pseudo BL-algebras is not closed under the formation of ultraproducts (and hence it is not a quasivariety).*

**Proof.** Let  $[0, 1]$  be the unit interval of real numbers  $\mathbb{R}$ . For any  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ , define  $x \vee y = \max\{x, y\}$  and  $x \wedge y = \min\{x, y\}$ . For  $x, y \in [0, 1]$  we put

$$x \odot y = (x + y - 1) \vee 0 \text{ and } x \rightarrow y = (y - x + 1) \wedge 1.$$

Then  $A = ([0, 1]; \vee, \wedge, \odot, \rightarrow, \neg, 0, 1)$  is a (pseudo) BL-chain. Proposition 2.11 shows that  $\mathcal{M}_n(A) = \{x \in A : x^n > 0 \text{ for all } n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ . It is easy to see that

$$x^n = [n(x - 1) + 1] \vee 0$$

for  $x \in [0, 1]$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . We have

$$x^n > 0 \Leftrightarrow n(x - 1) + 1 > 0 \Leftrightarrow n(1 - x) < 1.$$

Hence, if  $x^n > 0$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then  $x = 1$ . Therefore,  $\mathcal{M}_n(A) = \{1\}$  and consequently,  $A$  is semisimple.

Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be an ultrafilter over  $\mathbb{N}$  containing all cofinite subsets of  $\mathbb{N}$ . Let  $B$  be the ultrapower of  $A$  determined by  $\mathcal{F}$ , in symbols,  $B = A^{\mathbb{N}}/\mathcal{F}$ . By the fundamental ultraproduct theorem,  $B$  is a (pseudo) BL-algebra. Let  $b = (b_k : k \in \mathbb{N})$ , where  $b_k = 1 - \frac{1}{k}$  for  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ . We prove that

$$(2) \quad (b^n)^-/\mathcal{F} \leq b/\mathcal{F} \text{ for all } n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Fix  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and let  $k > n$ . We have  $b_k^n = [n(b_k - 1) + 1] \vee 0 = 1 - \frac{n}{k}$ , and hence  $(b_k^n)^- = 1 - b_k^n = \frac{n}{k} \leq 1 - \frac{1}{k} = b_k$ . From this we obtain (2). Observe that  $b/\mathcal{F} \in \text{Max}_n(B)$ . On the contrary, suppose that  $b/\mathcal{F} \notin H$  for some normal ultrafilter  $H$  of  $B$ . By Proposition 2.12, there is  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $[(b/\mathcal{F})^m]^- \in H$ . From (2) it follows that  $[(b/\mathcal{F})^m]^- = (b^m)^-/\mathcal{F} \leq b/\mathcal{F}$ . Therefore,  $b/\mathcal{F} \in H$ . This contradiction shows that  $b/\mathcal{F} \in \text{Max}_n(B)$ . Since  $b/\mathcal{F} \neq 1/\mathcal{F}$ ,  $\text{Max}_n(B) \neq \{1/\mathcal{F}\}$ . Thus  $B$  is not semisimple. ■

We shall say that a pseudo BL-algebra is *representable* if it can be represented as a subdirect product of pseudo BL-chains. Kühr [14] proved that  $A$  is a representable pseudo BL-algebra if and only if there exists a family  $\{P_i : i \in I\}$  of normal prime filters of  $A$  such that  $\bigcap\{P_i : i \in I\} = \{1\}$ . Consequently, if  $A$  is semisimple, then  $A$  is representable. The converse implication is not true in general, that is, the question of [3] (Problem 1.33) has a negative answer. Indeed, the class of representable BL-algebras is a variety (see Theorem 3.4 of [14]) but the class of semisimple BL-algebras is not a variety.

#### 4. Semilocal pseudo BL-algebras

**DEFINITION 4.1.** A pseudo BL-algebra is called *semilocal* if it has only finitely many normal ultrafilters.

**THEOREM 4.2.** *Let  $A$  be a pseudo BL-algebra. The following are equivalent:*

- (a)  $A$  is semilocal;
- (b)  $A/\mathcal{M}_n(A)$  is isomorphic to a direct product of finitely many simple pseudo BL-chains;
- (c)  $A/\mathcal{M}_n(A)$  has finitely many filters.

**Proof.** For now on throughout our proof, we will let  $U$  stand for  $\mathcal{M}_n(A)$ .

(a)  $\Rightarrow$  (b): Assume that  $A$  is semilocal. If  $\text{Max}_n(A) = \emptyset$ , then  $A/U = A/A$  is a one-element pseudo BL-algebra and so it is the direct product of empty family of algebras. Now, let  $\{H_1, \dots, H_k\}$  be the set of all normal ultrafilters of  $A$ . Then  $U = H_1 \cap \dots \cap H_k$ . By Proposition 2.22,  $A/H_i$  are simple pseudo BL-chains. We define the map  $\varphi : A/U \rightarrow A/H_1 \times \dots \times A/H_k$  by  $\varphi(x/U) = (x/H_1, \dots, x/H_k)$ . Then  $\varphi$  is clearly a homomorphism. We show that  $\varphi$  is an isomorphism. Let  $(x_1/H_1, \dots, x_k/H_k) \in A/H_1 \times \dots \times A/H_k$ . Since  $[H_i \cup H_j] = A$  for  $i, j = 1, \dots, k$  and  $i \neq j$ , we conclude (by Proposition 2.19) that there exists  $x \in A$  such that  $x/H_i = x_i/H_i$  for  $i = 1, \dots, k$ . Hence  $(x_1/H_1, \dots, x_k/H_k) = (x/H_1, \dots, x/H_k) = \varphi(x/U)$ . Consequently,  $\varphi$  is surjective. Now, it suffices to show that  $\varphi$  is injective. Suppose that  $\varphi(x/U) = \varphi(y/U)$  for  $x, y \in A$ . Hence  $x/H_i = y/H_i$  for each

$i = 1, \dots, k$ . Then  $x \rightarrow y \in H_i$  and  $y \rightarrow x \in H_i$  for  $i = 1, \dots, k$ , that is,  $x \rightarrow y \in U$  and  $y \rightarrow x \in U$ . Therefore,  $x/U = y/U$ . It is proved that  $\varphi$  is an isomorphism.

(b)  $\Rightarrow$  (c): Let  $A/U \cong A_1 \times \dots \times A_k$ , where  $A_i$  are simple pseudo BL-chains for  $i = 1, \dots, k$ . Proposition 2.20 gives  $|\text{Fil}(A/U)| = |\text{Fil}(A_1) \times \dots \times \text{Fil}(A_k)|$ . Since  $\text{Fil}(A_i)$  has two elements for every  $i = 1, \dots, k$ , we have  $|\text{Fil}(A/U)| = 2^k$ . Thus  $A/U$  has finitely many filters.

(c)  $\Rightarrow$  (a): To obtain a contradiction, suppose that  $A$  has infinitely many normal ultrafilters  $F_n$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Obviously, all  $F_n/U$  are filters of  $A/U$ . Observe that

$$(3) \quad F/U = F'/U \Rightarrow F = F'$$

for all  $F, F' \in \text{Max}_n(A)$ . Let  $F/U = F'/U$  and let  $x \in F$ . Then  $x/U \in F'/U$  and hence  $x/U = y/U$  for some  $y \in F'$ . By (1),  $y \rightarrow x \in U \subseteq F'$ . Consequently,  $x \wedge y = (y \rightarrow x) \odot y \in F'$ . Therefore,  $x \in F'$ . This clearly forces  $F \subseteq F'$ . Similarly,  $F' \subseteq F$ , and we obtain  $F = F'$ . Thus (3) holds. From (3) it follows that  $A/U$  has infinitely many filters  $F_n/U$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , which is impossible. ■

**DEFINITION 4.3.** Let  $\{a_i : i \in I\}$  be a family of elements of a pseudo BL-algebra  $A$  and  $\{H_i : i \in I\}$  be a family of normal filters of  $A$ . We say that the family  $\{(a_i, H_i) : i \in I\}$  has a property (P) if for any finite subset  $J$  of  $I$ , there is  $x_J \in A$  with  $x_J \equiv_{H_i} a_i$  for any  $i \in J$ .

**DEFINITION 4.4.**  $A$  is called *maximal* if for any family  $\{(a_i, H_i) : i \in I\}$  with property (P) there exists  $x \in A$  such that  $x \equiv_{H_i} a_i$  for any  $i \in I$ .

**REMARK 4.5.** If  $A$  has finitely many normal filters, then  $A$  is maximal. Hence any simple pseudo BL-algebra is maximal.

**LEMMA 4.6.** *A finite direct product of maximal pseudo BL-algebras is a maximal pseudo BL-algebra.*

**Proof.** We only need to prove that if  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  are maximal, then  $A = A_1 \times A_2$  is also maximal. By Proposition 2.25,  $A_1 \simeq [e]$  and  $A_2 \simeq [e^-]$  with  $e \in B(A)$ . Let  $H$  be a normal filter of  $A$ . From Proposition 2.24 we conclude that  $[e]$  is a normal filter of  $A$ . Therefore,  $H \cap [e]$  is also a normal filter of  $A$ . Let  $x, y \in A$  and  $x \equiv_H y$ . We show that  $x \vee e \equiv_{H \cap [e]} y \vee e$ . Since  $x \equiv_H y$ , we have  $x \rightarrow y, y \rightarrow x \in H$ . It suffices to prove that  $x \vee e \rightarrow y \vee e, y \vee e \rightarrow x \vee e \in H \cap [e]$ . By Proposition 2.2 (b),  $x \vee e \rightarrow y \vee e \geq y \vee e \in [e]$ , that is,  $x \vee e \rightarrow y \vee e \in [e]$ . From Proposition 2.2 (e) we obtain  $x \vee e \rightarrow y \vee e \geq x \rightarrow y \in H$ . Therefore,  $x \vee e \rightarrow y \vee e \in H$ . So  $x \vee e \rightarrow y \vee e \in H \cap [e]$  and similarly,  $y \vee e \rightarrow x \vee e \in H \cap [e]$ . Thus  $x \vee e \equiv_{H \cap [e]} y \vee e$ . Likewise, we can prove that  $x \vee e^- \equiv_{H \cap [e^-]} y \vee e^-$ .

Now let  $\{(a_i, H_i) : i \in I\}$  be a family in  $A$  with the property (P). Then the families  $\{(a_i \vee e, H_i \cap [e]) : i \in I\}$  and  $\{(a_i \vee e^-, H_i \cap [e^-]) : i \in I\}$  verify the property (P) in maximal pseudo BL-algebras  $[e]$  and  $[e^-]$ , respectively. Let  $y \in [e]$  and  $z \in [e^-]$  such that  $y \equiv_{H_i \cap [e]} a_i \vee e$  and  $z \equiv_{H_i \cap [e^-]} a_i \vee e^-$  for any  $i \in I$ . Hence  $y \odot z \equiv_{F_i} (a_i \vee e) \odot (a_i \vee e^-)$ , and from Proposition 2.26 we conclude that  $y \odot z \equiv_{H_i} a_i$ . ■

**THEOREM 4.7.** *If  $A$  is a maximal pseudo BL-algebra, then it is semilocal.*

**Proof.** Let  $\mathcal{G} = \{(x_H, H) : x_H \in A, H \in \text{Max}_n(A)\}$ . Observe that the family  $\mathcal{G}$  has the property (P). Indeed, let  $\{H_1, \dots, H_m\} \subseteq \text{Max}_n(A)$ . Since  $[H_i \cup H_j] = A$  for  $i \neq j$ , we conclude from Proposition 2.19 that there exists  $x^* \in A$  such that  $x^* \equiv_{H_i} x_{H_i}$  for  $i = 1, \dots, m$ . Thus  $\mathcal{G}$  satisfies (P).

Let  $F = \{x \in A : \{H \in \text{Max}_n(A) : x \notin H\} \text{ is finite}\}$ . It is easily seen that  $F$  is a normal filter of  $A$ . Let us consider the family

$$\mathcal{H} = \{(1, F)\} \cup \{(0, H) : H \in \text{Max}_n(A)\}.$$

We will show that  $\mathcal{H}$  has the property (P). Take a subfamily

$$\{(1, F), (0, H_1), \dots, (0, H_m)\}$$

of  $\mathcal{H}$ . It is obvious that

$$(4) \quad \bigcap \{H : H \in \text{Max}_n(A) - \{H_1, \dots, H_m\}\} \subseteq F.$$

Since  $\mathcal{G}$  satisfies (P), the family

$$\{(0, H_1), \dots, (0, H_m)\} \cup \{(1, H) : H \in \text{Max}_n(A) - \{H_1, \dots, H_m\}\}$$

also satisfies (P). By assumption,  $A$  is maximal, and hence there is  $x \in A$  such that  $x/H_i = 0/H_i$  for all  $i = 1, \dots, m$  and  $x/H = 1/H$  for all  $H \in \text{Max}_n(A) - \{H_1, \dots, H_m\}$ . Proposition 2.16 shows that  $x \in H$  for all  $H \neq H_1, \dots, H_m$ . We conclude from (4) that  $x \in F$ , what implies that  $x/F = 1/F$ . Therefore,  $\mathcal{H}$  has the property (P).

By hypothesis, there exists  $y \in A$  such that  $y/F = 1/F$  and  $y/H = 0/H$  for all  $H \in \text{Max}_n(A)$ . From this we deduce that  $y \in F$  and  $y \sim \in H$  for any  $H \in \text{Max}_n(A)$ . Applying Proposition 2.3 (e) we see that  $y \notin H$  for all  $H \in \text{Max}_n(A)$ . It follows that  $\text{Max}_n(A) = \{H \in \text{Max}_n(A) : y \notin H\}$ . Since  $y \in F$ , we conclude that  $\text{Max}_n(A)$  is finite. Hence  $A$  is semilocal. ■

**THEOREM 4.8.** *For a pseudo BL-algebra  $A$ , the following are equivalent:*

- (a)  $A$  is semisimple and maximal;
- (b)  $A$  is semisimple and semilocal;
- (c)  $A$  is isomorphic to a direct product of finitely many simple pseudo BL-chains;
- (d)  $|\text{Max}_n(A)| < \aleph_0$  and  $\mathcal{M}_n(A) = \{1\}$ .

**Proof.** (a)  $\Rightarrow$  (b): Let  $A$  be semisimple and maximal. By Theorem 4.7 we have (b).

(b)  $\Rightarrow$  (c): Follows from Theorem 4.2.

(c)  $\Rightarrow$  (d): Let  $A \cong B = A_1 \times \cdots \times A_k$ , where  $A_i$  are simple pseudo BL-chains. It is clear that  $F$  is an ultrafilter of  $B$  if and only if there is an  $i \in \{1, \dots, k\}$  such that  $F = A_1 \times \cdots \times A_{i-1} \times F_i \times A_{i+1} \times \cdots \times A_k$ , where  $F_i = \{1\}$  is the unique ultrafilter of  $A_i$ . Hence (d) holds.

(d)  $\Rightarrow$  (a): By definition,  $A$  is semisimple. From Remark 4.5 we see that  $A$  is maximal. ■

From Theorem 4.8 we have

**COROLLARY 4.9.** *Let  $A$  be a semisimple pseudo BL-algebra. Then  $A$  is maximal if and only if  $A$  is semilocal.*

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