

A new  
construction of  
indecomposable  
solutions of the  
Yang-Baxter  
equation

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# A new construction of indecomposable solutions of the Yang-Baxter equation

Giuseppina Pinto

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## Definition

Let  $X$  be a non-empty set,  $r : X \times X \rightarrow X \times X$  a map and write

$$r(x, y) = (\lambda_x(y), \rho_y(x))$$

for all  $x, y \in X$ .

Then  $(X, r)$  is said to be a non-degenerate involutive set-theoretic solution of the Yang-Baxter equation if and only if the following properties hold:

- (1)  $r^2 = id_{X^2}$ ; ( $r$  is involutive)
- (2)  $\lambda_x, \rho_y \in Sym_X$  for all  $x \in X$ ; ( $r$  is non degenerate)
- (3)  $r_1 r_2 r_1 = r_2 r_1 r_2$

where  $r_1 = r \times id_X$  and  $r_2 = id_X \times r$ .

**Convention:** From now on, by a solution I mean a non-degenerate involutive set-theoretic solution.

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Indecomposable solutions of the Yang-Baxter equation

A characterization of indecomposable cycle sets

Rump (2005) showed that there is a bijective correspondence between the solutions of the Yang-Baxter equation and a particular algebraic structure: **the left non-degenerate cycle sets**.

Definition (Rump, 2005)

A *left cycle set* is a set  $X$  with a binary operation  $\cdot$  such that the left multiplication  $\sigma_x : X \rightarrow X, y \mapsto x \cdot y$  is bijective, and the equation

$$(x \cdot y) \cdot (x \cdot z) = (y \cdot x) \cdot (y \cdot z) \quad (1)$$

holds for all  $x, y, z \in X$ .

A left cycle set is said *non-degenerate* if  $\eta : X \rightarrow X, x \mapsto x \cdot x$  is bijective.

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Therefore, if  $(X, r)$  is a solution, where  $r(x, y) := (\lambda_x(y), \rho_y(x))$  then  $(X, \cdot)$  is its **left cycle set associated** defined by

$$\sigma_x := \lambda_x^{-1}$$

for every  $x \in X$ .

Vice versa if  $(X, \cdot)$  is a left non-degenerate cycle set and  $\sigma_x$  its left multiplication then, for all  $x, y \in X$

$$r(x, y) := (\sigma_x^{-1}(y), \sigma_x^{-1}(y) \cdot x)$$

is its **associated solution**.

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## Example

Let  $X$  be a set. If  $\lambda_x = \rho_x = id_X$  for all  $x \in X$  then

$$r(x, y) := (y, x)$$

for all  $x, y \in X$  is a solutions of the Yang Baxter equation and it is called *the trivial solutions*.

## Example

Let  $X$  be a set, the non-degenerate left cycle sets  $(X, \cdot)$  associated to the trivial solutions is defined by  $\sigma_x = \lambda_x^{-1} = id_X$ , i.e.

$$x \cdot y := \sigma_x(y) = y$$

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### Definition (P. Etingof, T.Schedler, A.Soloviev, 1999)

A solution  $(X, r)$  is said to be *decomposable* if there exists a non trivial partition  $X = Y \cup Z$  with  $r(Y \times Y) \subseteq Y \times Y$  and  $r(Z \times Z) \subseteq Z \times Z$ , such that the restrictions of  $r$  to  $Y \times Y$  and  $Z \times Z$  are again non-degenerate.

Otherwise it is said *indecomposable*.

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## What about cycle sets associated to indecomposable solutions?

The definition of the decomposable solutions corresponds to the definition of the decomposable non-degenerate left cycle sets and vice versa.

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### Definition (Rump, 2005)

A non-degenerate left cycle set  $X$  is said to be *decomposable* if it is an union of two disjoint subset  $X = Y \cup Z$ , such that  $\sigma_x(Y) \subseteq Y$  for all  $x \in Y$  and  $\sigma_x(Z) \subseteq (Z)$ , for all  $x \in Z$ .

Otherwise it is called *indecomposable*.

Studying indecomposable solutions means studying indecomposable non-degenerate left cycle sets.

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Why is it important to study indecomposable non-degenerate left cycle sets and so the associated indecomposable solutions?

Because from indecomposable non-degenerate left cycle sets, by some constructions, you can obtain new non-degenerate left cycle sets.



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## Example

Let  $Y = \{1, 2\}$  be the indecomposable left cycle sets defined by

$\cdot$	1	2
1	2	1
2	2	1

and let  $Z = \{3\}$  be the trivial left cycle sets.

Let's try to construct the left cycle set  $X = Y \cup Z$ .

Let's get together the two disjoint cycle sets and define a new operation on  $X$  such that  $X$  is a left cycle set. For example:

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## Example

·	1	2	3
1	2	1	3
2	2	1	3
3	1	2	3

You can only construct another one

·	1	2	3
1	2	1	3
2	2	1	3
3	2	1	3

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## Problem

How is it possible to construct indecomposable non-degenerate left cycle sets?



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## Definition

Let  $X$  be a non-degenerate left cycle set, and  $\sigma : X \rightarrow \text{Sym}_X$ ,  $x \mapsto \sigma_x$ . We denote by  $\mathcal{G}(X)$  the subgroup of  $\text{Sym}_X$  generated by the image  $\sigma(X)$  of  $\sigma$ .

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In literature it is known that

Proposition (P. Etingof, T.Schedler, A.Soloviev, 1999)

*A non-degenerate left cycle set  $X$  is indecomposable if and only if the associated permutation group  $\mathcal{G}(X)$  is transitive on  $X$ .*

Theorem (Rump, 2005)

*Every square-free non-degenerate left cycle set is decomposable.*

Recall that a non-degenerate left cycle set is *square-free* if  $q : X \rightarrow X$ ,  $x \mapsto x \cdot x$  is such that  $q = id_X$ .

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### Proposition (P. Etingof, T.Schedler, A.Soloviev, 1999)

*If  $X$  is finite and  $|X| = p$  with  $p$  a prime number. Every indecomposable non-degenerate left cycle set, up to isomorphism, is defined by  $x \cdot y := \alpha(y)$  where  $\alpha := (12 \dots p) \in \text{Sym}_X$ .*

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## Example

Let  $X$  be the cycle set defined by

$\cdot$	1	2	3
1	2	3	1
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3	2	3	1

Then  $X$  is indecomposable.

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Moreover if  $|X| \leq 8$ , by calculation, all indecomposable cycle sets have been found.

## Problem

What about cycle sets of cardinality greater than 8?



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solutions of the  
Yang-Baxter  
equation

A characterization  
of  
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cycle sets

A large family of indecomposable non-degenerate left cycle sets is obtained by Marco Castelli, Francesco Catino and G.P.

Let  $A, B$  be non trivial sets and  $I$  a left cycle set,  
 $\beta : A \times A \times I \rightarrow \text{Sym}(B)$  and  $\gamma : B \rightarrow \text{Sym}(A)$ .

Put  $\beta_{(a,b,i)} := \beta(a, b, i)$ ,  $\gamma_a := \gamma(a)$  and let  $\cdot$  be the operation on  $A \times B \times I$  given by

$$(a, b, i) \cdot (c, d, j) := \begin{cases} (c, \beta_{(a,c,i)}(d), i \cdot j), & \text{if } i = j \\ (\gamma_b(c), d, i \cdot j), & \text{if } i \neq j \end{cases}. \quad (2)$$

Then we write  $X(A, B, I, \beta, \gamma)$  to indicate  $(A \times B \times I, \cdot)$

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## Theorem (M. Castelli, F. Catino, G.P., 2017)

*Assume that for  $X(A, B, I, \beta, \gamma)$*

- 1)  $\gamma_a \gamma_b = \gamma_b \gamma_a,$
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Now we give a characterization of the indecomposable non-degenerate left cycle sets  $X := X(A, B, I, \beta, \gamma)$ .

### Definition

For every  $i \in I$  let  $H_i$  be the subgroup of  $\mathcal{G}(X)$  given by

$$H_i := \{h \in \mathcal{G}(X) \mid h(a, b, i) \in A \times B \times \{i\} \forall a \in A, b \in B\}.$$

Proposition (M. Castelli, F. Catino, G.P., in preparation)

*$X$  is indecomposable if and only if  $I$  is indecomposable and  $H_i$  is transitive on  $A \times B \times \{i\}$  for every  $i \in I$ .*

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## Example

Let  $A = B := \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ ,  $I := \{1, 2, 3\}$  be the indecomposable non-degenerate left cycle set defined by  $\sigma_1 = \sigma_2 = \sigma_3 := (123)$ ,  $\gamma_a := t_{-a-1}$  for every  $a \in A$  and

$$\beta_{(a,a,i)} = id_A \quad \beta_{(a,b,i)} := (12)$$

for all  $a, b \in A$ ,  $a \neq b$ ,  $i \in I$ .

$$H_i = \langle \{ \sigma_{(a,b,j)} \sigma_{(c,d,k)} \sigma_{(e,f,t)} \mid a, c, e \in A, b, d, f \in B, j, k, t \in I \} \rangle$$

for every  $i \in I$ .

Then  $X$  is an indecomposable non-degenerate left cycle set of cardinality 12.

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