

## Research Article

# $\mathcal{N}$ -Structures Applied to Closed Ideals in BCH-Algebras

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The notions of  $\mathcal{N}$ -subalgebras and  $\mathcal{N}$ -closed ideals in BCH-algebras are introduced, and the relation between  $\mathcal{N}$ -subalgebras and  $\mathcal{N}$ -closed ideals is considered. Characterizations of  $\mathcal{N}$ -subalgebras and  $\mathcal{N}$ -closed ideals are provided. Using special subsets,  $\mathcal{N}$ -subalgebras and  $\mathcal{N}$ -closed ideals are constructed. A condition for an  $\mathcal{N}$ -subalgebra to be an  $\mathcal{N}$ -closed ideal is discussed. Given an  $\mathcal{N}$ -structure, the greatest  $\mathcal{N}$ -closed ideal which is contained in the  $\mathcal{N}$ -structure is established.

## 1. Introduction

In [1, 2], Hu and Li introduced the notion of BCH-algebras which are a generalization of BCK/BCI-algebras. Ahmad [3] classified BCH-algebras, and decompositions of BCH-algebras are considered by Dudek and Thomys [4]. Jun et al. [5] discussed the notion of  $\mathcal{N}$ -structures and applied it to BCK/BCI-algebras. In [6], Chaudhry et al. studied closed ideals and filters in BCH-algebras. In this paper, we apply the  $\mathcal{N}$ -structures to the closed ideal theory in BCH-algebras. We introduced the notion of  $\mathcal{N}$ -subalgebras and  $\mathcal{N}$ -closed ideals in BCH-algebras, and investigate the relation between  $\mathcal{N}$ -subalgebras and  $\mathcal{N}$ -closed ideals. We provide characterizations of  $\mathcal{N}$ -subalgebras and  $\mathcal{N}$ -closed ideals. Using special subsets, we construct  $\mathcal{N}$ -subalgebras and  $\mathcal{N}$ -closed ideals. We provide a condition for an  $\mathcal{N}$ -subalgebra to be an  $\mathcal{N}$ -closed ideal. Given an  $\mathcal{N}$ -structure  $(X, \mu)$ , we make the greatest  $\mathcal{N}$ -closed ideal which is contained in  $(X, \mu)$ .

## 2. Preliminaries

By a *BCH-algebra* we mean an algebra  $(X, *, 0)$  of type  $(2, 0)$  satisfying the following axioms:

- (H1)  $x * x = 0$ ,
- (H2)  $x * y = 0$  and  $y * x = 0$  imply  $x = y$ ,
- (H3)  $(x * y) * z = (x * z) * y$

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

In a BCH-algebra  $X$ , the following conditions are valid (see [1, 4]).

- (a1)  $x * 0 = x$ ,
- (a2)  $x * 0 = 0$  implies  $x = 0$ ,
- (a3)  $0 * (x * y) = (0 * x) * (0 * y)$ ,
- (a4)  $0 * (0 * (0 * x)) = 0 * x$ .

A nonempty subset  $S$  of a BCH-algebra  $X$  is called a *subalgebra* of  $X$  if  $x * y \in S$  for all  $x, y \in S$ . A nonempty subset  $A$  of a BCH-algebra  $X$  is called a *closed ideal* of  $X$  (see [7]) if it satisfies:

- (1) (for all  $x \in X$ )( $x \in A \Rightarrow 0 * x \in A$ ),
- (2) (for all  $y \in X$ )(for all  $x \in A$ )( $y * x \in A \Rightarrow y \in A$ ).

Note that every closed ideal is a subalgebra, but the converse is not true (see [7]). Since every closed ideal is a subalgebra, we know that any closed ideal contains the element 0. Denote by  $\mathcal{S}(X)$  and  $\mathcal{O}(X)$  the set of all subalgebras and closed ideals of  $X$ , respectively.

For any family  $\{a_i \mid i \in \Lambda\}$  of real numbers, we define

$$\vee\{a_i \mid i \in \Lambda\} := \begin{cases} \max\{a_i \mid i \in \Lambda\} & \text{if } \Lambda \text{ is finite,} \\ \sup\{a_i \mid i \in \Lambda\} & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases} \quad (2.1)$$

$$\wedge\{a_i \mid i \in \Lambda\} := \begin{cases} \min\{a_i \mid i \in \Lambda\} & \text{if } \Lambda \text{ is finite,} \\ \inf\{a_i \mid i \in \Lambda\} & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \quad (2.2)$$

## 3. $\mathcal{N}$ -Closed Ideals of BCH-Algebras

Denote by  $\mathcal{F}(X, [-1, 0])$  the collection of functions from a set  $X$  to  $[-1, 0]$ . We say that an element of  $\mathcal{F}(X, [-1, 0])$  is a *negative-valued function* from  $X$  to  $[-1, 0]$  (briefly,  *$\mathcal{N}$ -function* on  $X$ ). By an  *$\mathcal{N}$ -structure* we mean an ordered pair  $(X, \mu)$  of  $X$  and an  *$\mathcal{N}$ -function*  $\mu$  on  $X$ . In what follows, let  $X$  denote a BCH-algebra and  $\mu$  an  *$\mathcal{N}$ -function* on  $X$  unless otherwise specified.

For any  *$\mathcal{N}$ -structure*  $(X, \mu)$  and  $t \in [-1, 0]$ , the set

$$C(\mu; t) := \{x \in X \mid \mu(x) \leq t\} \quad (3.1)$$

is called a *closed  $(\mu, t)$ -cut* of  $(X, \mu)$ .

Using the similar method to the transfer principle in fuzzy theory (see [8, 9]), we can consider transfer principle in  $\mathcal{N}$ -structures. Let  $A$  be a subset of  $X$  and satisfy the following property  $\mathcal{D}$  expressed by a first-order formula:

$$\mathcal{D} : \frac{t_1(x, \dots, y) \in A, \dots, t_n(x, \dots, y) \in A}{t(x, \dots, y) \in A}, \quad (3.2)$$

where  $t_1(x, \dots, y), \dots, t_n(x, \dots, y)$  and  $t(x, \dots, y)$  are terms of  $X$  constructed by variables  $x, \dots, y$ . We note that the subset  $A$  satisfies the property  $\mathcal{D}$  if, for all elements  $a, \dots, b \in X, t(a, \dots, b) \in A$  whenever  $t_1(a, \dots, b), \dots, t_n(a, \dots, b) \in A$ . For the subset  $A$  we define an  $\mathcal{N}$ -structure  $(X, \mu_A)$  which satisfies the following property

$$\bar{\mathcal{D}} : \mu_A(t(x, \dots, y)) \leq \vee \{ \mu_A(t_1(x, \dots, y)), \dots, \mu_A(t_n(x, \dots, y)) \}. \quad (3.3)$$

We establish a statement without proof, and we call it  $\mathcal{N}$ -transfer principle in  $\mathcal{N}$ -structures.

**Theorem 3.1.** ( *$\mathcal{N}$ -transfer principle*) An  $\mathcal{N}$ -structure  $(X, \mu)$  satisfies the property  $\bar{\mathcal{D}}$  if and only if for all  $\alpha \in [-1, 0]$ ,

$$C(\mu; \alpha) \neq \emptyset \implies C(\mu; \alpha) \text{ satisfies the property } \mathcal{D}. \quad (3.4)$$

*Definition 3.2.* By an  $\mathcal{N}$ -subalgebra of  $X$  we mean an  $\mathcal{N}$ -structure  $(X, \mu)$  in which  $\mu$  satisfies:

$$(\forall x, y \in X) \quad (\mu(x * y) \leq \vee \{ \mu(x), \mu(y) \}). \quad (3.5)$$

**Theorem 3.3.** For an  $\mathcal{N}$ -structure  $(X, \mu)$ , the following are equivalent:

- (1)  $(X, \mu)$  is an  $\mathcal{N}$ -subalgebra of  $X$ ;
- (2) (for all  $t \in [-1, 0]$ )  $C(\mu; t) \in \mathcal{S}(X) \cup \{\emptyset\}$ .

*Proof.* It follows from the  $\mathcal{N}$ -transfer principle. □

*Definition 3.4.* By an  $\mathcal{N}$ -closed ideal of  $X$  we mean an  $\mathcal{N}$ -structure  $(X, \mu)$  in which  $\mu$  satisfies:

$$(\forall x, y \in X) \quad (\mu(0 * x) \leq \mu(x) \leq \vee \{ \mu(x * y), \mu(y) \}). \quad (3.6)$$

It is clear that if  $(X, \mu)$  is an  $\mathcal{N}$ -closed ideal or an  $\mathcal{N}$ -subalgebra, then  $\mu(0) \leq \mu(x)$  for all  $x \in X$ .

**Table 1:** Cayley table.

*	0	1	2	3	4
0	0	0	0	0	4
1	1	0	0	1	4
2	2	2	0	0	4
3	3	3	3	0	4
4	4	4	4	4	0

**Theorem 3.5.** Every  $\mathcal{N}$ -closed ideal is an  $\mathcal{N}$ -subalgebra.

*Proof.* Let  $(X, \mu)$  be an  $\mathcal{N}$ -closed ideal of  $X$ . For any  $x, y \in X$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mu(x * y) &\leq \vee\{\mu((x * y) * x), \mu(x)\} \\
 &= \vee\{\mu((x * x) * y), \mu(x)\} \\
 &= \vee\{\mu(0 * y), \mu(x)\} \\
 &\leq \vee\{\mu(x), \mu(y)\}.
 \end{aligned} \tag{3.7}$$

Hence  $(X, \mu)$  is an  $\mathcal{N}$ -subalgebra of  $X$ . □

The converse of Theorem 3.5 may not be true as seen in the following example.

*Example 3.6.* Consider a BCH-algebra  $X = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4\}$  with the Cayley table which is given in Table 1 (see [7]). Let  $(X, \mu)$  be an  $\mathcal{N}$ -structure in which  $\mu$  is given by

$$\mu = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ -0.8 & -0.3 & -0.3 & -0.3 & -0.8 \end{pmatrix}. \tag{3.8}$$

It is easy to check that  $(X, \mu)$  is an  $\mathcal{N}$ -subalgebra of  $X$  but it is not an  $\mathcal{N}$ -closed ideal of  $X$  since  $\mu(3) = -0.3 > -0.8 = \vee\{\mu(3 * 4), \mu(4)\}$ .

In order to discuss the converse of Theorem 3.5 we need to strengthen some conditions. We first consider the following lemma.

**Lemma 3.7.** Every  $\mathcal{N}$ -subalgebra  $(X, \mu)$  of  $X$  satisfies the following inequality:

$$(\forall x \in X) \quad (\mu(x) \geq \mu(0 * x)). \tag{3.9}$$

*Proof.* For any  $x \in X$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mu(0 * x) &\leq \vee\{\mu(0), \mu(x)\} = \vee\{\mu(x * x), \mu(x)\} \\
 &= \vee\{\vee\{\mu(x), \mu(x)\}, \mu(x)\} = \mu(x),
 \end{aligned} \tag{3.10}$$

which is the desired result. □

**Theorem 3.8.** *If an  $\mathcal{N}$ -subalgebra  $(X, \mu)$  satisfies*

$$(\forall x, y \in X) \quad (\mu(y) \leq \vee\{\mu(y * x), \mu(x)\}), \quad (3.11)$$

*then  $(X, \mu)$  is an  $\mathcal{N}$ -closed ideal of  $X$ .*

*Proof.* It is straightforward by Lemma 3.7. □

**Proposition 3.9.** *Let  $(X, \mu)$  be an  $\mathcal{N}$ -closed ideal of  $X$  that satisfies the following inequality*

$$(\forall x \in X) \quad (\mu(x) \leq \mu(0 * x)). \quad (3.12)$$

*Then  $(X, \mu)$  satisfies the inequality*

$$(\forall x, y \in X) \quad (\mu(y * x) \leq \mu(x * y)). \quad (3.13)$$

*Proof.* Using (3.12), (3.6), (a3), (H1), and (H3), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mu(y * x) &\leq \mu(0 * (y * x)) \\ &\leq \vee\{\mu((0 * (y * x)) * (x * y)), \mu(x * y)\} \\ &= \vee\{\mu(((0 * y) * (0 * x)) * (x * y)), \mu(x * y)\} \\ &= \vee\{\mu(((0 * y) * (x * y)) * (0 * x)), \mu(x * y)\} \\ &= \vee\{\mu(((0 * (x * y)) * y) * (0 * x)), \mu(x * y)\} \\ &= \vee\{\mu((((0 * x) * (0 * y)) * (0 * x)) * y), \mu(x * y)\} \\ &= \vee\{\mu((0 * (0 * y)) * y), \mu(x * y)\} \\ &= \vee\{\mu(0), \mu(x * y)\} = \mu(x * y) \end{aligned} \quad (3.14)$$

for all  $x, y \in X$ . □

Using the  $\mathcal{N}$ -transfer principle, we have a characterization of an  $\mathcal{N}$ -closed ideal.

**Theorem 3.10.** *For an  $\mathcal{N}$ -structure  $(X, \mu)$ , the following are equivalent:*

- (1)  $(X, \mu)$  is an  $\mathcal{N}$ -closed ideal of  $X$ .
- (2) (for all  $t \in [-1, 0]$ )  $(C(\mu; t) \in \mathcal{C}(X) \cup \{\emptyset\})$ .

Consider two subsets of  $X$  as follows:

$$D_1 := \{x \in X \mid 0 * x = 0\}, \quad D_2 := \{x \in X \mid 0 * (0 * x) = x\}. \quad (3.15)$$

Since  $D_1$  and  $D_2$  are a closed ideal and a subalgebra, respectively, the following theorems are direct results of the  $\mathcal{N}$ -transfer principle.

**Theorem 3.11.** Let  $(X, \mu)$  be an  $\mathcal{N}$ -structure in which  $\mu$  is given by

$$\mu(x) = \begin{cases} \alpha & \text{if } x \in D_1, \\ \beta & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (3.16)$$

for all  $x \in X$  where  $\alpha < \beta$ . Then  $(X, \mu)$  is an  $\mathcal{N}$ -closed ideal of  $X$ .

**Theorem 3.12.** Let  $(X, \mu)$  be an  $\mathcal{N}$ -structure in which  $\mu$  is given by

$$\mu(x) = \begin{cases} \alpha & \text{if } x \in D_2, \\ \beta & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (3.17)$$

for all  $x \in X$  where  $\alpha < \beta$ . Then  $(X, \mu)$  is an  $\mathcal{N}$ -subalgebra of  $X$ .

We provide a condition for an  $\mathcal{N}$ -subalgebra to be an  $\mathcal{N}$ -closed ideal.

**Theorem 3.13.** Let  $(X, \mu)$  be an  $\mathcal{N}$ -subalgebra of  $X$  in which  $\mu$  satisfies

$$(\forall x, y \in X) \quad (\mu(y * x) \geq \mu(x * y)). \quad (3.18)$$

Then  $(X, \mu)$  is an  $\mathcal{N}$ -closed ideal of  $X$ .

*Proof.* Taking  $x = 0$  in (3.18) induces  $\mu(0 * y) \leq \mu(y * 0) = \mu(y)$  for all  $y \in X$ . Using (a1), (3.18), (H1), (H3), and (3.5), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mu(y) &= \mu(y * 0) \leq \mu(0 * y) \\ &= \mu((x * x) * y) = \mu((x * y) * x) \\ &\leq \vee \{ \mu(x * y), \mu(x) \} \leq \vee \{ \mu(y * x), \mu(x) \} \end{aligned} \quad (3.19)$$

for all  $x, y \in X$ . Therefore  $(X, \mu)$  is an  $\mathcal{N}$ -closed ideal of  $X$ .  $\square$

For any  $\mathcal{N}$ -structure  $(X, \mu)$  and any element  $w \in X$ , we consider the set

$$X_w := \{ x \in X \mid \mu(x) \leq \mu(w) \}. \quad (3.20)$$

Then  $X_w$  is nonempty subset of  $X$ .

**Theorem 3.14.** *If an  $\mathcal{N}$ -structure  $(X, \mu)$  is an  $\mathcal{N}$ -closed ideal of  $X$ , then  $X_w$  is a closed ideal of  $X$  for all  $w \in X$ .*

*Proof.* If  $x \in X_w$ , then  $\mu(x) \leq \mu(w)$  which implies from (3.6) that  $\mu(0 * x) \leq \mu(x) \leq \mu(w)$ . Thus  $0 * x \in X_w$ . Let  $x, y \in X$  be such that  $y \in X_w$  and  $x * y \in X_w$ . Then  $\mu(y) \leq \mu(w)$  and  $\mu(x * y) \leq \mu(w)$ . Using (3.6), we have

$$\mu(x) \leq \vee\{\mu(x * y), \mu(y)\} \leq \mu(w), \quad \text{i.e., } x \in X_w. \tag{3.21}$$

Therefore  $X_w$  is a closed ideal of  $X$ . □

**Proposition 3.15.** *Let  $(X, \mu)$  be an  $\mathcal{N}$ -structure such that  $X_w$  is a closed ideal of  $X$  for all  $w \in X$ . Then  $(X, \mu)$  satisfies the following assertion:*

$$\mu(x) \geq \vee\{\mu(y * z), \mu(z)\} \implies \mu(x) \geq \mu(y) \tag{3.22}$$

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

*Proof.* Let  $x, y, z \in X$  be such that  $\mu(x) \geq \vee\{\mu(y * z), \mu(z)\}$ . Then  $y * z \in X_x$  and  $z \in X_x$ . Since  $X_x$  is a closed ideal of  $X$ , it follows that  $y \in X_x$  so that  $\mu(y) \leq \mu(x)$ . This completes the proof. □

**Theorem 3.16.** *If an  $\mathcal{N}$ -structure  $(X, \mu)$  satisfies (3.22) and  $\mu(0 * x) \leq \mu(x)$  for all  $x \in X$ , then  $X_w$  is a closed ideal of  $X$  for all  $w \in X$ .*

*Proof.* For each  $w \in X$ , let  $x, y \in X$  be such that  $x * y \in X_w$  and  $y \in X_w$ . Then  $\mu(x * y) \leq \mu(w)$  and  $\mu(y) \leq \mu(w)$ , which imply that  $\vee\{\mu(x * y), \mu(y)\} \leq \mu(w)$ . It follows from (3.22) that  $\mu(x) \leq \mu(w)$  so that  $x \in X_w$ . If  $x \in X_w$ , then  $\mu(0 * x) \leq \mu(x) \leq \mu(w)$  by assumption. Hence  $0 * x \in X_w$ . Therefore  $X_w$  is a closed ideal of  $X$ . □

**Theorem 3.17.** *Given an  $\mathcal{N}$ -structure  $(X, \mu)$ , let  $(X, \mu^*)$  be an  $\mathcal{N}$ -structure in which  $\mu^*$  is defined by*

$$\mu^*(x) = \wedge\{t \in [-1, 0] \mid x \in \langle C(\mu; t) \rangle\} \tag{3.23}$$

for all  $x \in X$ . Then  $(X, \mu^*)$  is the greatest  $\mathcal{N}$ -closed ideal of  $X$  such that  $(X, \mu^*) \subseteq (X, \mu)$ , where  $\langle C(\mu; t) \rangle$  is a closed ideal of  $X$  generated by  $C(\mu; t)$ .

*Proof.* For any  $s \in \text{Im}(\mu^*)$ , let  $s_n = s + (1/n)$  for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Let  $x \in C(\mu^*; s)$ . Then  $\mu^*(x) \leq s$ , and so

$$\wedge\{t \in [-1, 0] \mid x \in \langle C(\mu; t) \rangle\} \leq s < s + \frac{1}{n} = s_n \tag{3.24}$$

for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Hence there exists  $t^* \in \{t \in [-1, 0] \mid x \in \langle C(\mu; t) \rangle\}$  such that  $t^* < s_n$ . Thus  $C(\mu; t^*) \subseteq C(\mu; s_n)$ , and so  $x \in \langle C(\mu; t^*) \rangle \subseteq \langle C(\mu; s_n) \rangle$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Consequently

$x \in \bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \langle C(\mu; s_n) \rangle$ . On the other hand, if  $x \in \bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \langle C(\mu; s_n) \rangle$ , then  $s_n \in \{t \in [-1, 0] \mid x \in \langle C(\mu; t) \rangle\}$  for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Therefore

$$\mu^*(x) = \wedge \{t \in [-1, 0] \mid x \in \langle C(\mu; t) \rangle\} \leq s_n = s + \frac{1}{n} \quad (3.25)$$

for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Since  $n$  is arbitrary, it follows that  $\mu^*(x) \leq s$  so that  $x \in C(\mu^*; s)$ . Thus  $C(\mu^*; s) = \bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \langle C(\mu; s_n) \rangle$ , which is a closed ideal of  $X$ . Using Theorem 3.10, we conclude that  $(X, \mu^*)$  is an  $\mathcal{N}$ -closed ideal of  $X$ . For any  $x \in X$ , let

$$s \in \{t \in [-1, 0] \mid x \in C(\mu; t)\}. \quad (3.26)$$

Then  $x \in C(\mu; s)$  and thus  $x \in \langle C(\mu; s) \rangle$ . It follows that

$$s \in \{t \in [-1, 0] \mid x \in \langle C(\mu; t) \rangle\} \quad (3.27)$$

so that  $\{t \in [-1, 0] \mid x \in C(\mu; t)\} \subseteq \{t \in [-1, 0] \mid x \in \langle C(\mu; t) \rangle\}$ . Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \mu(x) &= \wedge \{t \in [-1, 0] \mid x \in C(\mu; t)\} \\ &\geq \wedge \{t \in [-1, 0] \mid x \in \langle C(\mu; t) \rangle\} \\ &= \mu^*(x), \end{aligned} \quad (3.28)$$

and so  $(X, \mu^*) \subseteq (X, \mu)$ . Finally, let  $(X, \nu)$  be an  $\mathcal{N}$ -closed ideal of  $X$  such that  $(X, \nu) \subseteq (X, \mu)$ . Let  $x \in X$ . If  $\mu^*(x) = 0$ , then clearly  $\nu(x) \leq \mu^*(x)$ . Assume that  $\mu^*(x) = s \neq 0$ . Then  $x \in C(\mu^*; s) = \bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \langle C(\mu; s_n) \rangle$ , and so  $x \in \langle C(\mu; s_n) \rangle$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . It follows that  $\nu(x) \leq \mu(x) \leq s_n = s + (1/n)$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  so that  $\nu(x) \leq s = \mu^*(x)$  since  $n$  is arbitrary. This shows that  $(X, \nu) \subseteq (X, \mu^*)$ . This completes the proof.  $\square$

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