

Bol-Moufang rings and things, yet again

J.D. Phillips

AITP 2025, Aussois

Quasigroups

Quasigroups

A *quasigroup* is a set with a binary operation, \cdot , such that in $x \cdot y = z$, knowledge of any two of x , y and z specifies the third uniquely.

A *quasigroup* is a set with a binary operation, \cdot , such that in $x \cdot y = z$, knowledge of any two of x , y and z specifies the third uniquely.

A *quasigroup* is a set with three binary operations, \cdot , $/$, \backslash , satisfying:

$$x \cdot (x \backslash y) = y = (y / x) \cdot x$$

$$x \backslash (x \cdot y) = y = (y \cdot x) / x$$

Loops

A *loop* is a quasigroup with a two-sided identity element.

A *loop* is a quasigroup with a two-sided identity element.

Three examples:

A *loop* is a quasigroup with a two-sided identity element.

Three examples:

1. *groups*: $(x \cdot y) \cdot z = x \cdot (y \cdot z)$

A *loop* is a quasigroup with a two-sided identity element.

Three examples:

1. *groups*: $(x \cdot y) \cdot z = x \cdot (y \cdot z)$
2. *Moufang loops*: $x \cdot (y \cdot (x \cdot z)) = ((x \cdot y) \cdot x) \cdot z$

A *loop* is a quasigroup with a two-sided identity element.

Three examples:

1. *groups*: $(x \cdot y) \cdot z = x \cdot (y \cdot z)$
2. *Moufang loops*: $x \cdot (y \cdot (x \cdot z)) = ((x \cdot y) \cdot x) \cdot z$
2. *(left) Bol loops*: $x \cdot (y \cdot (x \cdot z)) = (x \cdot (y \cdot x)) \cdot z$

Notation simplifier

Juxtaposition takes priority

Juxtaposition takes priority, e.g.,

$$z(y \cdot zx) = (z \cdot yz)x$$

Juxtaposition takes priority, e.g.,

$$z(y \cdot zx) = (z \cdot yz)x$$

is shorthand for

Juxtaposition takes priority, e.g.,

$$z(y \cdot zx) = (z \cdot yz)x$$

is shorthand for

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

Left Bol: $z(y \cdot zx) = (z \cdot yz)x$

Left Bol: $z(y \cdot zx) = (z \cdot yz)x$

Right Bol: $x(zy \cdot z) = (xz \cdot y)z$

Left Bol: $z(y \cdot zx) = (z \cdot yz)x$

Right Bol: $x(zy \cdot z) = (xz \cdot y)z$

Moufang: $z(x \cdot zy) = (zx \cdot z)y$

$$(xz \cdot y)z = x(z \cdot yz)$$

$$(z \cdot xy)z = zx \cdot yz$$

$$z(xy \cdot z) = zx \cdot yz$$

Commonalities

Commonalities

1. contain only one operation,

Commonalities

1. contain only one operation,
2. exactly three distinct variables appear on each side of the equal sign, one appearing twice on each side of the equal sign, the other two appearing once each on each side of the equal sign, and

Commonalities

1. contain only one operation,
2. exactly three distinct variables appear on each side of the equal sign, one appearing twice on each side of the equal sign, the other two appearing once each on each side of the equal sign, and
3. the order in which the variables appear is the same on each side of the equal sign.

Commonalities

1. contain only one operation,
2. exactly three distinct variables appear on each side of the equal sign, one appearing twice on each side of the equal sign, the other two appearing once each on each side of the equal sign, and
3. the order in which the variables appear is the same on each side of the equal sign.

Bol-Moufang identity

Commonalities

1. contain only one operation,
2. exactly three distinct variables appear on each side of the equal sign, one appearing twice on each side of the equal sign, the other two appearing once each on each side of the equal sign, and
3. the order in which the variables appear is the same on each side of the equal sign.

Bol-Moufang identity

60 such identities

Ruth Moufang (1905–1977)

Ruth Moufang (1905–1977)



Gerrit Bol (1906–1989)

Gerrit Bol (1906–1989)

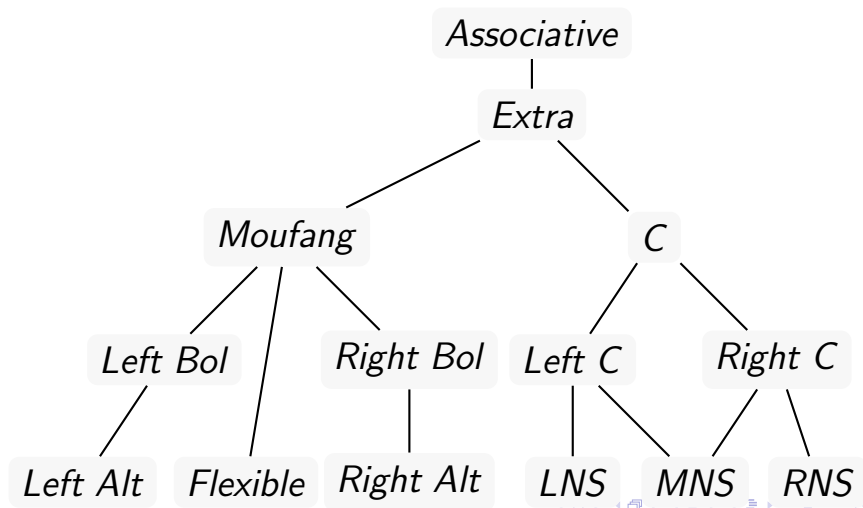


Toward a hard problem

Find/classify the varieties of loops axiomatized by a single identity of Bol-Moufang type.

The varieties of loops of Bol-Moufang type (Fenyves, '64; P. and Vojt. '05)

The varieties of loops of Bol-Moufang type (Fenyves, '64; P. and Vojt. '05)



Analogies and new territory

Analogies and new territory

Well known and investigated varieties (of these 14):

Analogies and new territory

Well known and investigated varieties (of these 14):

1. Groups,

Analogies and new territory

Well known and investigated varieties (of these 14):

1. Groups, 2. extra loops,

Analogies and new territory

Well known and investigated varieties (of these 14):

1. Groups, 2. extra loops, 3. Moufang loops,

Analogies and new territory

Well known and investigated varieties (of these 14):

1. Groups, 2. extra loops, 3. Moufang loops, 4. left Bol loops,

Analogies and new territory

Well known and investigated varieties (of these 14):

1. Groups, 2. extra loops, 3. Moufang loops, 4. left Bol loops, 5. right Bol loops,

Analogies and new territory

Well known and investigated varieties (of these 14):

1. Groups, 2. extra loops, 3. Moufang loops, 4. left Bol loops, 5. right Bol loops, 6. flexible loops,

Analogies and new territory

Well known and investigated varieties (of these 14):

1. Groups, 2. extra loops, 3. Moufang loops, 4. left Bol loops, 5. right Bol loops, 6. flexible loops, 7. left alternative loops,

Analogies and new territory

Well known and investigated varieties (of these 14):

1. Groups, 2. extra loops, 3. Moufang loops, 4. left Bol loops, 5. right Bol loops, 6. flexible loops, 7. left alternative loops, 8. right alternative loops ...

Analogies and new territory

Well known and investigated varieties (of these 14):

1. Groups, 2. extra loops, 3. Moufang loops, 4. left Bol loops, 5. right Bol loops, 6. flexible loops, 7. left alternative loops, 8. right alternative loops ...

Analogies between left and right sides of the Hasse diagram; i.e., between Moufang loops and C loops, and between left Bol loops and left C loops, and between right Bol loops and right C loops.

Analogies and new territory

Well known and investigated varieties (of these 14):

1. Groups, 2. extra loops, 3. Moufang loops, 4. left Bol loops, 5. right Bol loops, 6. flexible loops, 7. left alternative loops, 8. right alternative loops ...

Analogies between left and right sides of the Hasse diagram; i.e., between Moufang loops and C loops, and between left Bol loops and left C loops, and between right Bol loops and right C loops. So, C loops, left C loops, and right C loops are calling!

Analogies and new territory

Well known and investigated varieties (of these 14):

1. Groups, 2. extra loops, 3. Moufang loops, 4. left Bol loops, 5. right Bol loops, 6. flexible loops, 7. left alternative loops, 8. right alternative loops ...

Analogies between left and right sides of the Hasse diagram; i.e., between Moufang loops and C loops, and between left Bol loops and left C loops, and between right Bol loops and right C loops. So, C loops, left C loops, and right C loops are calling!

... 9. C loops. (Kinyon, P., Vojt., early 00's)

Analogies and new territory

Well known and investigated varieties (of these 14):

1. Groups, 2. extra loops, 3. Moufang loops, 4. left Bol loops, 5. right Bol loops, 6. flexible loops, 7. left alternative loops, 8. right alternative loops ...

Analogies between left and right sides of the Hasse diagram; i.e., between Moufang loops and C loops, and between left Bol loops and left C loops, and between right Bol loops and right C loops. So, C loops, left C loops, and right C loops are calling!

... 9. C loops. (Kinyon, P., Vojt., early 00's)

Unexplored (and alas, very thinly structured) territory:

Analogies and new territory

Well known and investigated varieties (of these 14):

1. Groups, 2. extra loops, 3. Moufang loops, 4. left Bol loops, 5. right Bol loops, 6. flexible loops, 7. left alternative loops, 8. right alternative loops ...

Analogies between left and right sides of the Hasse diagram; i.e., between Moufang loops and C loops, and between left Bol loops and left C loops, and between right Bol loops and right C loops. So, C loops, left C loops, and right C loops are calling!

... 9. C loops. (Kinyon, P., Vojt., early 00's)

Unexplored (and alas, very thinly structured) territory: *10. left C loops,*

Analogies and new territory

Well known and investigated varieties (of these 14):

1. Groups, 2. extra loops, 3. Moufang loops, 4. left Bol loops, 5. right Bol loops, 6. flexible loops, 7. left alternative loops, 8. right alternative loops ...

Analogies between left and right sides of the Hasse diagram; i.e., between Moufang loops and C loops, and between left Bol loops and left C loops, and between right Bol loops and right C loops. So, C loops, left C loops, and right C loops are calling!

... 9. C loops. (Kinyon, P., Vojt., early 00's)

Unexplored (and alas, very thinly structured) territory: *10. left C loops, 11. right C loops,*

Analogies and new territory

Well known and investigated varieties (of these 14):

1. Groups, 2. extra loops, 3. Moufang loops, 4. left Bol loops, 5. right Bol loops, 6. flexible loops, 7. left alternative loops, 8. right alternative loops ...

Analogies between left and right sides of the Hasse diagram; i.e., between Moufang loops and C loops, and between left Bol loops and left C loops, and between right Bol loops and right C loops. So, C loops, left C loops, and right C loops are calling!

... 9. C loops. (Kinyon, P., Vojt., early 00's)

Unexplored (and alas, very thinly structured) territory: *10. left C loops, 11. right C loops, 12. left nuclear square loops,*

Analogies and new territory

Well known and investigated varieties (of these 14):

1. Groups, 2. extra loops, 3. Moufang loops, 4. left Bol loops, 5. right Bol loops, 6. flexible loops, 7. left alternative loops, 8. right alternative loops ...

Analogies between left and right sides of the Hasse diagram; i.e., between Moufang loops and C loops, and between left Bol loops and left C loops, and between right Bol loops and right C loops. So, C loops, left C loops, and right C loops are calling!

... 9. C loops. (Kinyon, P., Vojt., early 00's)

Unexplored (and alas, very thinly structured) territory: *10. left C loops, 11. right C loops, 12. left nuclear square loops, 13. middle nuclear square loops,*

Analogies and new territory

Well known and investigated varieties (of these 14):

1. Groups, 2. extra loops, 3. Moufang loops, 4. left Bol loops, 5. right Bol loops, 6. flexible loops, 7. left alternative loops, 8. right alternative loops ...

Analogies between left and right sides of the Hasse diagram; i.e., between Moufang loops and C loops, and between left Bol loops and left C loops, and between right Bol loops and right C loops. So, C loops, left C loops, and right C loops are calling!

... 9. C loops. (Kinyon, P., Vojt., early 00's)

Unexplored (and alas, very thinly structured) territory: *10. left C loops, 11. right C loops, 12. left nuclear square loops, 13. middle nuclear square loops, 14. and right nuclear square loops*

Left C: $x(y \cdot yz) = (x \cdot yy)z$

$$(x \cdot xy)z = xx \cdot yz$$

$$x(x \cdot yz) = (x \cdot xy)z$$

$$x(x \cdot yz) = (xx \cdot y)z$$

Left C: $x(y \cdot yz) = (x \cdot yy)z$

$$(x \cdot xy)z = xx \cdot yz$$

$$x(x \cdot yz) = (x \cdot xy)z$$

$$x(x \cdot yz) = (xx \cdot y)z$$

C: $x(y \cdot yz) = (xy \cdot y)z$

$$N_\lambda(L) = \{ a \in L : \forall x, y \in L, a \cdot (x \cdot y) = (a \cdot x) \cdot y \}$$

$$N_\lambda(L) = \{ a \in L : \forall x, y \in L, a \cdot (x \cdot y) = (a \cdot x) \cdot y \}$$

$$N_\mu(L) = \{ a \in L : \forall x, y \in L, x \cdot (a \cdot y) = (x \cdot a) \cdot y \}$$

$$N_\lambda(L) = \{ a \in L : \forall x, y \in L, a \cdot (x \cdot y) = (a \cdot x) \cdot y \}$$

$$N_\mu(L) = \{ a \in L : \forall x, y \in L, x \cdot (a \cdot y) = (x \cdot a) \cdot y \}$$

$$N_\rho(L) = \{ a \in L : \forall x, y \in L, x \cdot (y \cdot a) = (x \cdot y) \cdot a \}$$

$$N_\lambda(L) = \{ a \in L : \forall x, y \in L, a \cdot (x \cdot y) = (a \cdot x) \cdot y \}$$

$$N_\mu(L) = \{ a \in L : \forall x, y \in L, x \cdot (a \cdot y) = (x \cdot a) \cdot y \}$$

$$N_\rho(L) = \{ a \in L : \forall x, y \in L, x \cdot (y \cdot a) = (x \cdot y) \cdot a \}$$

$$\text{Nuc}(L) = N_\lambda(L) \cap N_\mu(L) \cap N_\rho(L)$$

$$N_{\lambda}(L) = \{ a \in L : \forall x, y \in L, a \cdot (x \cdot y) = (a \cdot x) \cdot y \}$$

$$N_{\mu}(L) = \{ a \in L : \forall x, y \in L, x \cdot (a \cdot y) = (x \cdot a) \cdot y \}$$

$$N_{\rho}(L) = \{ a \in L : \forall x, y \in L, x \cdot (y \cdot a) = (x \cdot y) \cdot a \}$$

$$\text{Nuc}(L) = N_{\lambda}(L) \cap N_{\mu}(L) \cap N_{\rho}(L)$$

Theorem

Let L be a left C loop. Then, $N_{\lambda}(L) = N_{\mu}(L)$ is normal in L .

Quotients and Steiner loops

Quotients and Steiner loops

A loop is a *Steiner loop* if it is alternative, commutative, and has exponent 2.

Quotients and Steiner loops

A loop is a *Steiner loop* if it is alternative, commutative, and has exponent 2.

Theorem (P. and Vojt. '06)

The quotient of a C loop by its nucleus is a Steiner loop.

Quotients and Steiner loops

A loop is a *Steiner loop* if it is alternative, commutative, and has exponent 2.

Theorem (P. and Vojt. '06)

The quotient of a C loop by its nucleus is a Steiner loop.

A loop is a *left Steiner loop* if it is left alternative and has exponent 2.

Quotients and Steiner loops

A loop is a *Steiner loop* if it is alternative, commutative, and has exponent 2.

Theorem (P. and Vojt. '06)

The quotient of a C loop by its nucleus is a Steiner loop.

A loop is a *left Steiner loop* if it is left alternative and has exponent 2.

Theorem (Kinyon and P. '24)

The quotient of a left C loop by its left nucleus is a left Steiner loop.

Nuclear squares

Left nuclear square (LNS): $xx \cdot yz = (xx \cdot y)z$

Nuclear squares

Left nuclear square (LNS): $xx \cdot yz = (xx \cdot y)z$

Middle nuclear square (MNS): $y(xx \cdot z) = (y \cdot xx)z$

Nuclear squares

Left nuclear square (LNS): $xx \cdot yz = (xx \cdot y)z$

Middle nuclear square (MNS): $y(xx \cdot z) = (y \cdot xx)z$

Right nuclear square (RNS): $yz \cdot xx = y(z \cdot xx)$

Nuclear squares

Left nuclear square (LNS): $xx \cdot yz = (xx \cdot y)z$

Middle nuclear square (MNS): $y(xx \cdot z) = (y \cdot xx)z$

Right nuclear square (RNS): $yz \cdot xx = y(z \cdot xx)$

Wow, there's almost no structure!

Nuclear squares

Left nuclear square (LNS): $xx \cdot yz = (xx \cdot y)z$

Middle nuclear square (MNS): $y(xx \cdot z) = (y \cdot xx)z$

Right nuclear square (RNS): $yz \cdot xx = y(z \cdot xx)$

Wow, there's almost no structure! Where to even start?!

Squares in two nuclei

Squares in two nuclei

$$N_{\lambda,\mu}(L) = N_{\lambda}(L) \cap N_{\mu}(L)$$

Squares in two nuclei

$$N_{\lambda,\mu}(L) = N_{\lambda}(L) \cap N_{\mu}(L)$$

$$N_{\lambda,\rho}(L) = N_{\lambda}(L) \cap N_{\rho}(L)$$

Squares in two nuclei

$$N_{\lambda,\mu}(L) = N_{\lambda}(L) \cap N_{\mu}(L)$$

$$N_{\lambda,\rho}(L) = N_{\lambda}(L) \cap N_{\rho}(L)$$

$$N_{\mu,\rho}(L) = N_{\mu}(L) \cap N_{\rho}(L)$$

Squares in two nuclei

$$N_{\lambda,\mu}(L) = N_{\lambda}(L) \cap N_{\mu}(L)$$

$$N_{\lambda,\rho}(L) = N_{\lambda}(L) \cap N_{\rho}(L)$$

$$N_{\mu,\rho}(L) = N_{\mu}(L) \cap N_{\rho}(L)$$

Theorem (Kinyon and P., '24)

*Let L be a loop with left and middle nuclear squares.
Then $N_{\lambda,\mu}(L)$ is normal in L .*

Squares in two nuclei

$$N_{\lambda,\mu}(L) = N_{\lambda}(L) \cap N_{\mu}(L)$$

$$N_{\lambda,\rho}(L) = N_{\lambda}(L) \cap N_{\rho}(L)$$

$$N_{\mu,\rho}(L) = N_{\mu}(L) \cap N_{\rho}(L)$$

Theorem (Kinyon and P., '24)

Let L be a loop with left and middle nuclear squares. Then $N_{\lambda,\mu}(L)$ is normal in L .

Corollary (Kinyon and P., '24)

Let L be a loop with nuclear squares. Then $\text{Nuc}(L)$ is normal in L .

Bruck loops and the AIP

Automorphic inverse prop. (AIP): $(xy)^{-1} = x^{-1}y^{-1}$.

Automorphic inverse prop. (AIP): $(xy)^{-1} = x^{-1}y^{-1}$.

left Bruck loop: AIP + left Bol.

Automorphic inverse prop. (AIP): $(xy)^{-1} = x^{-1}y^{-1}$.

left Bruck loop: AIP + left Bol.

Recall: analogy between left Bol loops and left C loops.

Automorphic inverse prop. (AIP): $(xy)^{-1} = x^{-1}y^{-1}$.

left Bruck loop: AIP + left Bol.

Recall: analogy between left Bol loops and left C loops. Hence, it's time to harvest the low hanging fruit of *AIP left C loops*!

Automorphic inverse prop. (AIP): $(xy)^{-1} = x^{-1}y^{-1}$.

left Bruck loop: AIP + left Bol.

Recall: analogy between left Bol loops and left C loops. Hence, it's time to harvest the low hanging fruit of **AIP left C loops**!

Note: right C loops are mirror images of (i.e., dual to) left C loops. That is: every theorem about left C loops dualizes to a theorem about right C loops.

AIP left C loops

Lemma (Kinyon and P., '24)

In a loop with central squares, the automorphic inverse property is equivalent to the squaring map being endomorphic.

Lemma (Kinyon and P., '24)

In a loop with central squares, the automorphic inverse property is equivalent to the squaring map being endomorphic.

Lemma (Kinyon and P., '24)

Let L be a loop with squares in two nuclei. If L has the AIP or ES, then it has central squares (and hence, both AIP and ES).

AIP left C loops

Lemma (Kinyon and P., '24)

In a loop with central squares, the automorphic inverse property is equivalent to the squaring map being endomorphic.

Lemma (Kinyon and P., '24)

Let L be a loop with squares in two nuclei. If L has the AIP or ES, then it has central squares (and hence, both AIP and ES).

Theorem (Kinyon and P., '24)

Let L be a finite loop with squares in two nuclei and the AIP/ES. Then

$$L = E \times O$$

where E is a loop in which each element has order a power of two and O is a loop of odd order.

“Rings”

“Rings”

$(R, +, \cdot)$ is a “*ring*” if

1. $(R, +)$ is an abelian group
2. \cdot distributes over $+$ (left and right)
3. (R, \cdot) is a semigroup

$(R, +, \cdot)$ is a *ring* if

1. $(R, +)$ is an abelian group
2. \cdot distributes over $+$ (left and right)

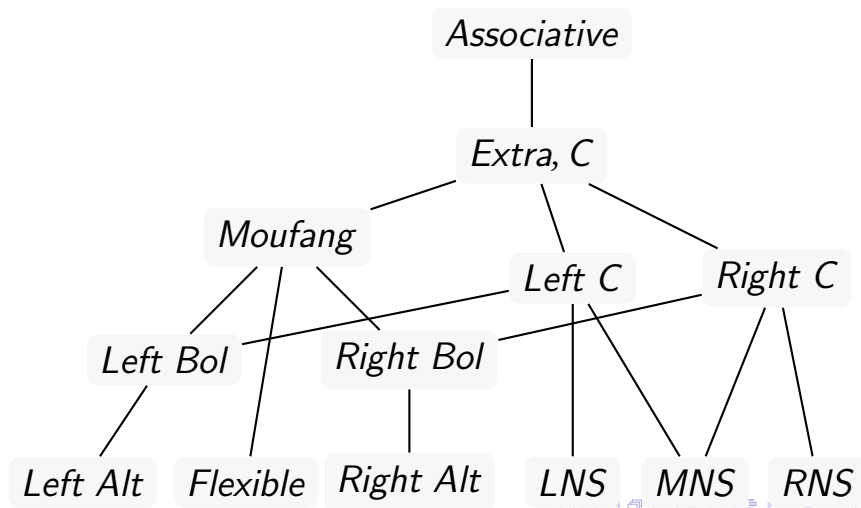
$(R, +, \cdot)$ is a *ring* if

1. $(R, +)$ is an abelian group
2. \cdot distributes over $+$ (left and right)

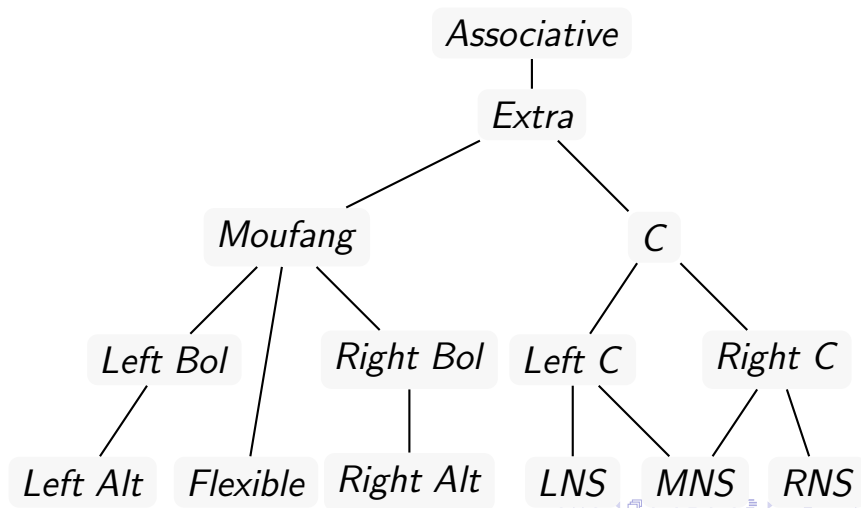
Unital ring: ring with two-sided identity element.

The varieties of unital rings of Bol-Moufang type (P. and Rowe, '24)

The varieties of unital rings of Bol-Moufang type (P. and Rowe, '24)



The varieties of loops of Bol-Moufang type (Fenyves, '64; P. and Vojt. '05)



A few comments

Proofs (implications)

Proofs (implications)

Distinguishing examples

Proofs (implications)

Distinguishing examples, magma rings

Proofs (implications)

Distinguishing examples, magma rings

Characteristic

Proofs (implications)

Distinguishing examples, magma rings

Characteristic 2

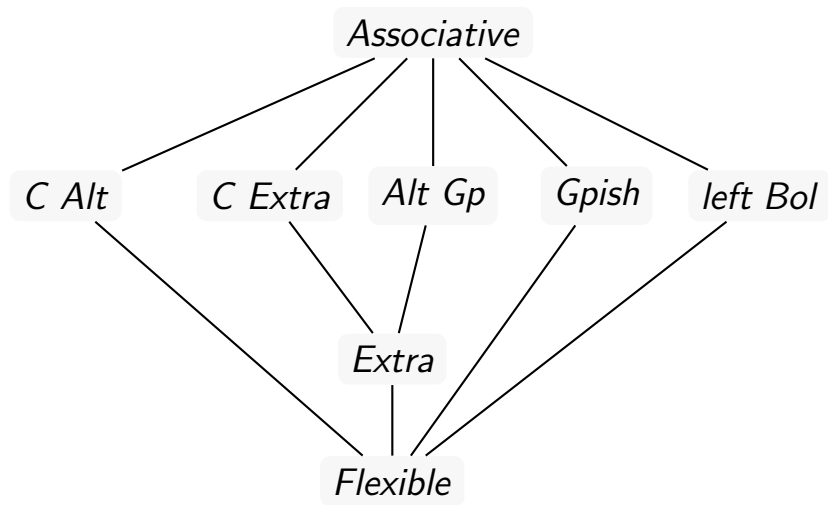
Lie Rings

A *Lie ring* is a ring with a bracket operation, $[,]$, satisfying:

1. $[x, x] = 0$,
2. $[x, y] + [y, x] = 0$,
3. $[[x, y], z] + [[y, z], x] + [[z, x], y] = 0$.

The varieties of lie rings of Bol-Moufang type

The varieties of lie rings of Bol-Moufang type



Thanks!

Thank you for your kind attention.