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## ไบเบสของกึ่งไฮเพอร์กรุ๊ป

## On Bi-Bases of Semihypergroups

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### บทคัดย่อ

จุดมุ่งหมายของบทความนี้คือการศึกษาแนวความคิดของไบเบสของกึ่งไฮเพอร์กรุ๊ป โดยแนะนำและอธิบายพัฒนาการของไบเบสของกึ่งไฮเพอร์กรุ๊ป ผลการวิจัยได้จากการขยายแนวคิดบนกึ่งกรุ๊ป  
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### ABSTRACT

The aim of this paper is to study the concept of bi-bases of a semihypergroup. The notions of bi-base of semihypergroups are introduced and described. The results obtained extend the results on semigroup.

**Keywords:** Semihypergroup, Bi-hyperideal, Bi-base, Quasi-order

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## 1. Introduction and Preliminaries

Hyperstructure theory was born in 1934 by a French mathematician, Marty [9]. He defined hypergroups, began to analyze their properties and applied them to groups and rational algebraic function. Many mathematicians have studied hypergroups from a theoretical perspective due to the applicability to many subjects of pure and applied mathematics. Fabrici [4] introduced the concepts of a two-sided base semigroup and Fabrici's results extended to ordered semigroups by Changpas and Summaprab [2]. In 2017, Changpas and Kummoon studied the notion of bi-base of a semigroup and bi-base of a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup [7 - 8]. The purpose of this paper is to introduce the concept of bi-base of a semihypergroup and extend the results in [7] to semihypergroups. Let  $H$  be a nonempty set. A mapping  $\circ: H \times H \rightarrow P^*(H)$  where  $P^*(H)$  denotes the family of all nonempty subsets of  $H$ . If  $A$  and  $B$  are two nonempty subsets of  $H$ , then, we denote

1.  $A \circ B = \bigcup_{a \in A, b \in B} a \circ b$ ,  $x \circ A = \{x\} \circ A$ ,  $A \circ x = A \circ \{x\}$  for all  $x \in H$ ,
2.  $A^m = \underbrace{A \circ A \circ \cdots \circ A}_{m-1 \text{ times}}$  for all  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ ,
3.  $a^n = \underbrace{a \circ a \circ \cdots \circ a}_{n-1 \text{ times}}$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $a \in A$ .

A system  $(H, \circ)$  is called a *semihypergroup* if for all  $x, y, z \in H$ ,  $(x \circ y) \circ z = x \circ (y \circ z)$ . A nonempty subset  $A$  of a semihypergroup  $H$  is called a *subsemihypergroup* of  $H$  if  $A \circ A \subseteq A$ . A subsemihypergroup  $A$  of a semihypergroup  $H$  is called a *bi-hyperideal* of  $H$  if  $A \circ H \circ A \subseteq A$ .

**Proposition 1.1** Let  $H$  be a semihypergroup and  $A, B, C, D$  be nonempty subsets of  $H$ .

- (1) If  $A \subseteq B$  and  $C \subseteq D$ , then  $A \circ C \subseteq B \circ D$ .
- (2)  $A \circ (B \cup C) \subseteq A \circ B \cup A \circ C$  and  $(B \cup C) \circ A \subseteq B \circ A \cup C \circ A$ .

**Proof.** (1) Assume that  $A \subseteq B$  and  $C \subseteq D$ . Let  $x \in A \circ C$ . Hence,  $x \in a \circ c$  for some  $a \in A$  and  $c \in C$ . Since  $A \subseteq B$  and  $C \subseteq D$ ,  $x \in a \circ c$  for some  $a \in B$  and  $c \in D$ . Hence,  $x \in B \circ D$ . Therefore,  $A \circ C \subseteq B \circ D$ .

(2) Let  $x \in A \circ (B \cup C)$ . Hence,  $x \in s \circ t$  for some  $s \in A$  and  $t \in B \cup C$ . There are three cases to be considered.

Case 1  $t \in B$  and  $t \notin C$ .

Hence,  $x \in s \circ t$  for some  $s \in A$  and  $t \in B$ . Thus,  $x \in A \circ B \subseteq A \circ B \cup A \circ C$ .

Case 2  $t \notin B$  and  $t \in C$ .

Hence,  $x \in s \circ t$  for some  $s \in A$  and  $t \in C$ . Thus,  $x \in A \circ C \subseteq A \circ B \cup A \circ C$ .

Case 3  $t \in B$  and  $t \in C$ .

Hence,  $x \in s \circ t$  for some  $s \in A, t \in B$  and  $t \in C$ . Thus,  $x \in A \circ B \cup A \circ C$ .

This implies that  $A \circ (B \cup C) \subseteq A \circ B \cup A \circ C$ . Similarly,  $(B \cup C) \circ A \subseteq B \circ A \cup C \circ A$ .  $\square$

From Proposition 1.1, if  $a \in A$  and  $b \in A$ , then  $a \circ b \subseteq A \circ A = A^2$ .

**Proposition 1.2** Let  $H$  be a semihypergroup and  $B_i$  be a bi-hyperideal of  $H$  for each  $i$  in an indexed set  $I$ . If  $\bigcap_{i \in I} B_i \neq \emptyset$ , then  $\bigcap_{i \in I} B_i$  is a bi-hyperideal of  $H$ .

**Proof.** Assume that  $A = \bigcap_{i \in I} B_i \neq \emptyset$ . Let  $a \in A \circ H \circ A$ . We have  $a \in b_1 \circ h \circ b_2$  for some  $b_1, b_2 \in A$  and  $h \in H$ . From  $b_1, b_2 \in A = \bigcap_{i \in I} B_i$ , so  $b_1, b_2 \in B_i$  for all  $i \in I$ . Since  $B_i$  is a bi-hyperideal for all  $i \in I$ , we have  $a \in b_1 \circ h \circ b_2 \subseteq B_i$  for all  $i \in I$ . Thus,  $a \in \bigcap_{i \in I} B_i = A$ . Therefore,  $A = \bigcap_{i \in I} B_i$  is a bi-hyperideal of  $H$ .  $\square$

**Definition 1.3** Let  $A$  be a nonempty subset of a semihypergroup  $H$ . Then, the intersection of all bi-hyperideals of  $H$  containing  $A$  is the *smallest bi-hyperideal of  $H$  generated by  $A$*  and is denoted by  $(A)_b$ .

**Proposition 1.4** Let  $A$  be a nonempty subset of a semihypergroup  $H$ . Then,

$$(A)_b = A \cup A \circ A \cup A \circ H \circ A.$$

**Proof.** Let  $B = A \cup A \circ A \cup A \circ H \circ A$ . Consider,

$$\begin{aligned} B \circ B &= (A \cup A \circ A \cup A \circ H \circ A) \circ (A \cup A \circ A \cup A \circ H \circ A) \\ &\subseteq A \circ A \cup A \circ H \circ A \subseteq B. \end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $B$  is a subsemihypergroup of  $H$ . Consider,

$$\begin{aligned} B \circ H \circ B &= (A \cup A \circ A \cup A \circ H \circ A) \circ H \circ (A \cup A \circ A \cup A \circ H \circ A) \\ &\subseteq A \circ H \circ A \cup A \circ H \circ A^2 \cup A \circ H \circ A \circ H \circ A \cup A^2 \circ H \circ A \\ &\quad \cup A^2 \circ H \circ A^2 \cup A^2 \circ H \circ A \circ H \circ A \cup A \circ H \circ A \circ H \circ A \\ &\quad \cup A \circ H \circ A \circ H \circ A^2 \cup A \circ H \circ A \circ H \circ A \circ H \circ A \\ &\subseteq A \circ H \circ A \cup A \circ H \circ H \circ A \cup A \circ H \circ H \circ H \circ A \cup A \circ H \circ H \circ A \\ &\quad \cup A \circ H \circ H \circ H \circ A \cup A \circ H \circ H \circ H \circ H \circ A \cup A \circ H \circ H \circ H \circ H \circ A \\ &\quad \cup A \circ H \circ H \circ H \circ H \circ A \cup A \circ H \circ H \circ H \circ H \circ H \circ A \\ &\subseteq A \circ H \circ A \subseteq B. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $B$  is a bi-hyperideal of  $H$  containing  $A$ .

Let  $C$  be a bi-hyperideal of  $H$  containing  $A$ . Clearly,  $A \subseteq C$ . Since  $C$  is a subsemihypergroup of  $H$ ,  $A \circ A \subseteq C \circ C \subseteq C$ . Consider,  $A \circ H \circ A \subseteq C \circ H \circ C \subseteq C$ . Thus,  $B = A \cup A \circ A \cup A \circ H \circ A \subseteq C$ . Hence,  $B$  is a smallest bi-hyperideal of  $H$  containing  $A$ . Therefore,  $(A)_b = A \cup A \circ A \cup A \circ H \circ A$ .  $\square$

**Definition 1.5** Let  $H$  be a semihypergroup. A subset  $B$  of  $H$  is called a *bi-base* of  $H$  if it satisfies the following two conditions:

- (1)  $H = (B)_b$  (i.e.,  $H = B \cup B \circ B \cup B \circ H \circ B$ ).
- (2) If  $A$  is a nonempty subset of  $B$  and  $H = (A)_b$ , then,  $A = B$ .

**Example 1.6** Let  $H = \{a, b, c, d, e\}$ . The hyperoperation is defined by

$\circ$	$a$	$b$	$c$	$d$	$e$
$a$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$	$\{a, b, c\}$	$\{a\}$	$\{a, b, c\}$
$b$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$	$\{a, b, c\}$	$\{a\}$	$\{a, b, c\}$
$c$	$\{a\}$	$\{a\}$	$\{a, b, c\}$	$\{a\}$	$\{a, b, c\}$
$d$	$\{a, b, d\}$	$\{a, b, d\}$	$H$	$\{a, b, d\}$	$H$
$e$	$\{a, b, d\}$	$\{a, b, d\}$	$H$	$\{a, b, d\}$	$H$

From [6],  $(H, \circ)$  is a semihypergroup. Consider  $B_1 = \{e\}$  and  $B_2 = \{c, d\}$ . Thus,  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  are bi-bases of  $H$ .

## 2. Main Results

In this section, we characterize bi-bases of semihypergroups and find a condition that a bi-base is a subsemihypergroup.

**Lemma 2.1** Let  $B$  be a bi-base of a semihypergroup  $H$  and  $a, b \in B$ .

If  $a \in b \circ b \cup b \circ H \circ b$ , then  $a = b$ .

**Proof.** Assume that  $a \in b \circ b \cup b \circ H \circ b$ . Suppose that  $a \neq b$ . Consider  $A = B \setminus \{a\}$ . Thus,  $A \subset B$ . Since  $A \subset B$ , we have  $(A)_b \subseteq (B)_b = H$ . Hence,  $(A)_b \subseteq H$ . From  $(B)_b = H$ , so  $x \in B \cup B \circ B \cup B \circ H \circ B$  for all  $x \in H$ . Let  $x \in H$ . There are three cases to be considered.

Case 1  $x \in B$ .

Subcase 1.1  $x \neq a$ . Thus,  $x \in B \setminus \{a\} = A \subseteq (A)_b$ .

Subcase 1.2  $x = a$ . By assumption,

$$x = a \in b \circ b \cup b \circ H \circ b \subseteq A \circ A \cup A \circ H \circ A \subseteq (A)_b.$$

Case 2  $x \in B \circ B$ . Hence,  $x \in b_1 \circ b_2$  for some  $b_1, b_2 \in B$ . There are four subcases to be considered.

Subcase 2.1  $b_1 = a$  and  $b_2 = a$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} x &\in b_1 \circ b_2 \\ &= a \circ a \\ &\subseteq (b \circ b \cup b \circ H \circ b) \circ (b \circ b \cup b \circ H \circ b) \\ &= b^4 \cup b^3 \circ H \circ b \cup b \circ H \circ b^3 \cup b \circ H \circ b^2 \circ H \circ b \\ &\subseteq A^4 \cup A^3 \circ H \circ A \cup A \circ H \circ A^3 \cup A \circ H \circ A^2 \circ H \circ A \\ &\subseteq A \circ H^2 \circ A \cup A \circ H^3 \circ A \cup A \circ H^3 \circ A \cup A \circ H^4 \circ A \\ &\subseteq A \circ H \circ A \\ &\subseteq (A)_b. \end{aligned}$$

Subcase 2.2  $b_1 \neq a$  and  $b_2 = a$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned}
 x &\in b_1 \circ b_2 \\
 &= b_1 \circ a \\
 &\subseteq (B \setminus \{a\}) \circ (b \circ b \cup b \circ H \circ b) \\
 &= (B \setminus \{a\}) \circ b \circ b \cup (B \setminus \{a\}) \circ b \circ H \circ b \\
 &\subseteq A^3 \cup A^2 \circ H \circ A \\
 &\subseteq A \circ H \circ A \cup A \circ H^2 \circ A \\
 &\subseteq A \circ H \circ A \\
 &\subseteq (A)_b.
 \end{aligned}$$

Subcase 2.3  $b_1 = a$  and  $b_2 \neq a$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned}
 x &\in b_1 \circ b_2 \\
 &= a \circ b_2 \\
 &\subseteq (b \circ b \cup b \circ H \circ b) \circ (B \setminus \{a\}) \\
 &= b \circ b \circ (B \setminus \{a\}) \cup b \circ H \circ b \circ (B \setminus \{a\}) \\
 &\subseteq A^3 \cup A \circ H \circ A^2 \\
 &\subseteq A \circ H \circ A \cup A \circ H^2 \circ A \\
 &\subseteq A \circ H \circ A \\
 &\subseteq (A)_b.
 \end{aligned}$$

Subcase 2.4  $b_1 \neq a$  and  $b_2 \neq a$ . By assumption,  $A = B \setminus \{a\}$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned}
 x &\in b_1 \circ b_2 \\
 &\subseteq (B \setminus \{a\}) \circ (B \setminus \{a\}) \\
 &= A \circ A \\
 &\subseteq (A)_b.
 \end{aligned}$$

Case 3  $x \in B \circ H \circ B$ . Hence,  $x \in b_3 \circ h \circ b_4$  for some  $b_3, b_4 \in B$  and  $h \in H$ . There are four subcases to be considered.

Subcase 3.1  $b_3 = a$  and  $b_4 = a$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned}
 x &\in b_3 \circ h \circ b_4 \\
 &= a \circ h \circ a \\
 &\subseteq (b \circ b \cup b \circ H \circ b) \circ H \circ (b \circ b \cup b \circ H \circ b) \\
 &= b \circ b \circ H \circ b \circ b \cup b \circ b \circ H \circ b \circ H \circ b \cup b \circ H \circ b \circ H \circ b \circ b \\
 &\quad \cup b \circ H \circ b \circ H \circ b \circ H \circ b
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\subseteq A \circ A \circ H \circ A \circ A \cup A \circ A \circ H \circ A \circ H \circ A \cup A \circ H \circ A \circ H \circ A \circ A \\
 &\quad \cup A \circ H \circ A \circ H \circ A \circ H \circ A \\
 &\subseteq A \circ H \circ A \\
 &\subseteq (A)_b.
 \end{aligned}$$

Subcase 3.2  $b_3 \neq a$  and  $b_4 = a$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned}
 x &\in b_3 \circ h \circ b_4 \\
 &= b_3 \circ h \circ a \\
 &\subseteq (B \setminus \{a\}) \circ H \circ (b \circ b \cup b \circ H \circ b) \\
 &= (B \setminus \{a\}) \circ H \circ b \circ b \cup (B \setminus \{a\}) \circ H \circ b \circ H \circ b \\
 &\subseteq A \circ H \circ A \circ A \cup A \circ H \circ A \circ H \circ A \\
 &\subseteq A \circ H \circ A \\
 &\subseteq (A)_b.
 \end{aligned}$$

Subcase 3.3  $b_3 = a$  and  $b_4 \neq a$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned}
 x &\in b_3 \circ h \circ b_4 \\
 &= a \circ h \circ b_4 \\
 &\subseteq (b \circ b \cup b \circ H \circ b) \circ H \circ (B \setminus \{a\}) \\
 &= b \circ b \circ H \circ (B \setminus \{a\}) \cup b \circ H \circ b \circ H \circ (B \setminus \{a\}) \\
 &\subseteq A \circ A \circ H \circ A \cup A \circ H \circ A \circ H \circ A \\
 &\subseteq A \circ H \circ A \\
 &\subseteq (A)_b.
 \end{aligned}$$

Subcase 3.4  $b_3 \neq a$  and  $b_4 \neq a$ . By assumption,  $A = B \setminus \{a\}$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned}
 x &\in b_3 \circ h \circ b_4 \\
 &\subseteq (B \setminus \{a\}) \circ H \circ (B \setminus \{a\}) \\
 &= A \circ H \circ A \\
 &\subseteq (A)_b.
 \end{aligned}$$

This implies that  $(A)_b = H$ . This is a contradiction. Therefore,  $a = b$ . □

**Lemma 2.2** Let  $B$  be a bi-base of a semihypergroup  $H$  and  $a, b, c \in B$ .

If  $a \in c \circ b \cup c \circ H \circ b$ , then  $a = b$  or  $a = c$ .

**Proof.** Assume that  $a \in c \circ b \cup c \circ H \circ b$ . Suppose that  $a \neq b$  and  $a \neq c$ .

Consider  $A = B \setminus \{a\}$ , we have  $A \subset B$ . Since  $a \neq b$  and  $a \neq c$ , we have  $b, c \in A$ .

Since  $A \subset B$ , we have  $(A)_b \subseteq (B)_b = H$ . Hence,  $(A)_b \subseteq H$ . Since  $(B)_b = H$ , we have  $x \in B \cup B \circ B \cup B \circ H \circ B$  for all  $x \in H$ . Let  $x \in H$ . There are three cases to be considered.

Case 1  $x \in B$ .

Subcase 1.1  $x \neq a$ . Thus,  $x \in B \setminus \{a\} = A \subseteq (A)_b$ .

Subcase 1.2  $x = a$ . By assumption,

$$x = a \in c \circ b \cup c \circ H \circ b \subseteq A \circ A \cup A \circ H \circ A \subseteq (A)_b.$$

Case 2  $x \in B \circ B$ . Hence,  $x \in b_1 \circ b_2$  for some  $b_1, b_2 \in B$ . There are four subcases to be considered.

Subcase 2.1  $b_1 = a$  and  $b_2 = a$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} x &\in b_1 \circ b_2 \\ &= a \circ a \\ &\subseteq (c \circ b \cup c \circ H \circ b) \circ (c \circ b \cup c \circ H \circ b) \\ &\subseteq A \circ H \circ A \\ &\subseteq (A)_b. \end{aligned}$$

Subcase 2.2  $b_1 \neq a$  and  $b_2 = a$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} x &\in b_1 \circ b_2 \\ &= b_1 \circ a \\ &\subseteq (B \setminus \{a\}) \circ (c \circ b \cup c \circ H \circ b) \\ &\subseteq A \circ H \circ A \\ &\subseteq (A)_b. \end{aligned}$$

Subcase 2.3  $b_1 = a$  and  $b_2 \neq a$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} x &\in b_1 \circ b_2 \\ &= a \circ b_2 \\ &\subseteq (c \circ b \cup c \circ H \circ b) \circ (B \setminus \{a\}) \\ &\subseteq A \circ H \circ A \\ &\subseteq (A)_b. \end{aligned}$$

Subcase 2.4  $b_1 \neq a$  and  $b_2 \neq a$ . By assumption,  $A = B \setminus \{a\}$ . We have



$$\begin{aligned}
 x &\in b_1 \circ b_2 \\
 &\subseteq (B \setminus \{a\}) \circ (B \setminus \{a\}) \\
 &= A \circ A \\
 &\subseteq (A)_b.
 \end{aligned}$$

Case 3  $x \in B \circ H \circ B$ . Hence,  $x \in b_3 \circ h \circ b_4$  for some  $b_3, b_4 \in B$  and  $h \in H$ . There are four subcases to be considered.

Subcase 3.1  $b_3 = a$  and  $b_4 = a$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned}
 x &\in b_3 \circ h \circ b_4 \\
 &= a \circ h \circ a \\
 &\subseteq (c \circ b \cup c \circ H \circ b) \circ H \circ (c \circ b \cup c \circ H \circ b) \\
 &\subseteq A \circ H \circ A \\
 &\subseteq (A)_b.
 \end{aligned}$$

Subcase 3.2  $b_3 \neq a$  and  $b_4 = a$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned}
 x &\in b_3 \circ h \circ b_4 \\
 &= b_3 \circ h \circ a \\
 &\subseteq (B \setminus \{a\}) \circ H \circ (c \circ b \cup c \circ H \circ b) \\
 &\subseteq A \circ H \circ A \\
 &\subseteq (A)_b.
 \end{aligned}$$

Subcase 3.3  $b_3 = a$  and  $b_4 \neq a$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned}
 x &\in b_3 \circ h \circ b_4 \\
 &= a \circ h \circ b_4 \\
 &\subseteq (c \circ b \cup c \circ H \circ b) \circ H \circ (B \setminus \{a\}) \\
 &\subseteq A \circ H \circ A \\
 &\subseteq (A)_b.
 \end{aligned}$$

Subcase 3.4  $b_3 \neq a$  and  $b_4 \neq a$ . By assumption,  $A = B \setminus \{a\}$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned}
 x &\in b_3 \circ h \circ b_4 \\
 &\subseteq (B \setminus \{a\}) \circ H \circ (B \setminus \{a\}) \\
 &= A \circ H \circ A \\
 &\subseteq (A)_b.
 \end{aligned}$$

This implies that  $(A)_b = H$ . This is a contradiction. Therefore,  $a = b$  or  $a = c$ . □

**Definition 2.3** Let  $H$  be a semihypergroup. For any  $a, b \in H$ , define a *quasi-order* on  $H$  by

$$a \leq_b b \text{ if and only if } (a)_b \subseteq (b)_b.$$

From Definition 2.3,  $a \not\leq_b b$  if and only if  $(a)_b \not\subseteq (b)_b$ . The following example shows that the relation  $\leq_b$  defined above is not a partial order.

**Example 2.4** Let  $H = \{a, b, c, d\}$ . The hyperoperation is defined by

$\circ$	$a$	$b$	$c$	$d$
$a$	$\{a\}$	$\{b\}$	$\{c\}$	$\{d\}$
$b$	$\{b\}$	$\{a, c\}$	$\{b, c\}$	$\{d\}$
$c$	$\{c\}$	$\{b, c\}$	$\{a, b\}$	$\{d\}$
$d$	$\{d\}$	$\{d\}$	$\{d\}$	$H$

From [5],  $(H, \circ)$  is a semihypergroup. We have that the singleton sets consisting of an element of  $H$ .

Consider  $(a)_b = a \cup a \circ a \cup a \circ H \circ a = H$  and  $(b)_b = b \cup b \circ b \cup b \circ H \circ b = H$ . We have  $(a)_b \subseteq (b)_b$  and  $(b)_b \subseteq (a)_b$ . Hence,  $a \leq_b b$  and  $b \leq_b a$ . But  $a \neq b$ . Therefore,  $\leq_b$  is not a partial order on  $H$ .

**Lemma 2.5** Let  $B$  be a bi-base of a semihypergroup  $H$ . If  $a, b \in B$  such that  $b \neq a$ , then neither  $a \leq_b b$  nor  $b \leq_b a$ .

**Proof.** Assume that  $a, b \in B$  such that  $a \neq b$ .

Case 1  $a \leq_b b$ . Thus,  $(a)_b \subseteq (b)_b$ . Consider  $a \in (a)_b \subseteq (b)_b = \{b\} \cup b \circ b \cup b \circ H \circ b$ .

Since  $a \neq b$ ,  $a \in b \circ b \cup b \circ H \circ b$ . By Lemma 2.1,  $a = b$ . This is a contradiction.

Case 2  $b \leq_b a$ . This can be proved similarly. □

**Lemma 2.6** Let  $B$  be a bi-base of a semihypergroup  $H$ . For all  $a, b, c \in B$  and  $h \in H$ ,

- (1) if  $a \in b \circ c \cup (b \circ c)^2 \cup b \circ c \circ H \circ b \circ c$ , then  $a = b$  or  $a = c$ ;
- (2) if  $a \in b \circ h \circ c \cup (b \circ h \circ c)^2 \cup b \circ h \circ c \circ H \circ b \circ h \circ c$ , then  $a = b$  or  $a = c$ .

**Proof.** (1) Assume that  $a \in b \circ c \cup (b \circ c)^2 \cup b \circ c \circ H \circ b \circ c$ . Suppose that  $a \neq b$  and  $a \neq c$ . Consider  $A = B \setminus \{a\}$ , we have  $A \subset B$ . Since  $a \neq b$  and  $a \neq c$ ,  $b, c \in A$ . Since  $A \subset B$ , we have  $(A)_b \subseteq (B)_b = H$ . Hence,  $(A)_b \subseteq H$ . Since  $(B)_b = H$ ,  $x \in B \cup B \circ B \cup B \circ H \circ B$  for all  $x \in H$ . Let  $x \in H$ . There are three cases to be considered.

Case 1  $x \in B$ .

Subcase 1.1  $x \neq a$ . Thus,  $x \in B \setminus \{a\} = A \subseteq (A)_b$ .

Subcase 1.2  $x = a$ . By assumption,

$$\begin{aligned} x &= a \in b \circ c \cup (b \circ c)^2 \cup b \circ c \circ H \circ b \circ c \\ &\subseteq A \circ A \cup A \circ H \circ A \\ &\subseteq (A)_b. \end{aligned}$$

Case 2  $x \in B \circ B$ . Hence,  $x \in b_1 \circ b_2$  for some  $b_1, b_2 \in B$ . There are four subcases to be considered.

Subcase 2.1  $b_1 = a$  and  $b_2 = a$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} x &\in b_1 \circ b_2 \\ &= a \circ a \\ &\subseteq (b \circ c \cup (b \circ c)^2 \cup b \circ c \circ H \circ b \circ c) \circ (b \circ c \cup (b \circ c)^2 \cup b \circ c \circ H \circ b \circ c) \\ &\subseteq A \circ H \circ A \\ &\subseteq (A)_b. \end{aligned}$$

Subcase 2.2  $b_1 \neq a$  and  $b_2 = a$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} x &\in b_1 \circ b_2 \\ &= b_1 \circ a \\ &\subseteq (B \setminus \{a\}) \circ (b \circ c \cup (b \circ c)^2 \cup b \circ c \circ H \circ b \circ c) \\ &\subseteq A \circ H \circ A \\ &\subseteq (A)_b. \end{aligned}$$

Subcase 2.3  $b_1 = a$  and  $b_2 \neq a$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} x &\in b_1 \circ b_2 \\ &= a \circ b_2 \\ &\subseteq (b \circ c \cup (b \circ c)^2 \cup b \circ c \circ H \circ b \circ c) \circ (B \setminus \{a\}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\subseteq A \circ H \circ A$$

$$\subseteq (A)_b.$$

Subcase 2.4  $b_1 \neq a$  and  $b_2 \neq a$ . By assumption,  $A = B \setminus \{a\}$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} x &\in b_1 \circ b_2 \\ &\subseteq (B \setminus \{a\}) \circ (B \setminus \{a\}) \\ &\subseteq A \circ A \\ &\subseteq (A)_b. \end{aligned}$$

Case 3  $x \in B \circ H \circ B$ . Hence,  $x \in b_3 \circ h \circ b_4$  for some  $b_3, b_4 \in B$  and  $k \in H$ . There are four subcases to be considered.

Subcase 3.1  $b_3 = a$  and  $b_4 = a$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} x &\in b_3 \circ k \circ b_4 \\ &= a \circ k \circ a \\ &\subseteq (b \circ c \cup (b \circ c)^2 \cup b \circ c \circ H \circ b \circ c) \circ H \circ \\ &\quad (b \circ c \cup (b \circ c)^2 \cup b \circ c \circ H \circ b \circ c) \\ &\subseteq A \circ H \circ A \\ &\subseteq (A)_b. \end{aligned}$$

Subcase 3.2  $b_3 \neq a$  and  $b_4 = a$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} x &\in b_3 \circ k \circ b_4 \\ &= b_3 \circ k \circ a \\ &\subseteq (B \setminus \{a\}) \circ H \circ (b \circ c \cup (b \circ c)^2 \cup b \circ c \circ H \circ b \circ c) \\ &\subseteq A \circ H \circ A \\ &\subseteq (A)_b. \end{aligned}$$

Subcase 3.3  $b_3 = a$  and  $b_4 \neq a$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} x &\in b_3 \circ k \circ b_4 \\ &= a \circ k \circ b_4 \\ &\subseteq (b \circ c \cup (b \circ c)^2 \cup b \circ c \circ H \circ b \circ c) \circ H \circ (B \setminus \{a\}) \\ &\subseteq A \circ H \circ A \\ &\subseteq (A)_b. \end{aligned}$$

Subcase 3.4  $b_3 \neq a$  and  $b_4 \neq a$ . By assumption,  $A = B \setminus \{a\}$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned}
 x &\in b_3 \circ k \circ b_4 \\
 &\subseteq (B \setminus \{a\}) \circ H \circ (B \setminus \{a\}) \\
 &= A \circ H \circ A \\
 &\subseteq (A)_b.
 \end{aligned}$$

This implies  $(A)_b = H$ . This is a contradiction. Therefore,  $a = b$  or  $a = c$ .

(2) Assume that  $a \in b \circ h \circ c \cup (b \circ h \circ c)^2 \cup b \circ h \circ c \circ H \circ b \circ h \circ c$ . Suppose that  $a \neq b$  and  $a \neq c$ . Consider  $A = B \setminus \{a\}$ . We have  $A \subset B$ . Since  $a \neq b$  and  $a \neq c$ ,  $b, c \in A$ . Since  $A \subset B$ , we have  $(A)_b \subseteq (B)_b = H$ . Hence,  $(A)_b \subseteq H$ . Since  $(B)_b = H$ ,  $x \in B \cup B \circ B \cup B \circ H \circ B$  for all  $x \in H$ . Let  $x \in H$ . There are three cases to be considered.

Case 1  $x \in B$ .

Subcase 1.1  $x \neq a$ . Thus,  $x \in B \setminus \{a\} = A \subseteq (A)_b$ .

Subcase 1.2  $x = a$ . By assumption,

$$\begin{aligned}
 x &= a \in b \circ h \circ c \cup (b \circ h \circ c)^2 \cup b \circ h \circ c \circ H \circ b \circ h \circ c \\
 &\subseteq A \circ H \circ A \\
 &\subseteq (A)_b.
 \end{aligned}$$

Case 2  $x \in B \circ B$ . Hence,  $x \in b_1 \circ b_2$  for some  $b_1, b_2 \in B$ . There are four subcases to be considered.

Subcase 2.1  $b_1 = a$  and  $b_2 = a$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned}
 x &\in b_1 \circ b_2 \\
 &= a \circ a \\
 &\subseteq (b \circ h \circ c \cup (b \circ h \circ c)^2 \cup b \circ h \circ c \circ H \circ b \circ h \circ c) \\
 &\quad \circ (b \circ h \circ c \cup (b \circ h \circ c)^2 \cup b \circ h \circ c \circ H \circ b \circ h \circ c) \\
 &\subseteq A \circ H \circ A \\
 &\subseteq (A)_b.
 \end{aligned}$$

Subcase 2.2  $b_1 \neq a$  and  $b_2 = a$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned}
 x &\in b_1 \circ b_2 \\
 &= b_1 \circ a
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\subseteq (B \setminus \{a\}) \circ (b \circ h \circ c \cup (b \circ h \circ c)^2 \cup b \circ h \circ c \circ H \circ b \circ h \circ c) \\
 &\subseteq A \circ H \circ A \\
 &\subseteq (A)_b.
 \end{aligned}$$

Subcase 2.3  $b_1 = a$  and  $b_2 \neq a$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned}
 x &\in b_1 \circ b_2 \\
 &= a \circ b_2 \\
 &\subseteq (b \circ h \circ c \cup (b \circ h \circ c)^2 \cup b \circ h \circ c \circ H \circ b \circ h \circ c) \circ (B \setminus \{a\}) \\
 &\subseteq A \circ H \circ A \\
 &\subseteq (A)_b.
 \end{aligned}$$

Subcase 2.4  $b_1 \neq a$  and  $b_2 \neq a$ . By assumption,  $A = B \setminus \{a\}$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned}
 x &\in b_1 \circ b_2 \\
 &\subseteq (B \setminus \{a\}) \circ (B \setminus \{a\}) \\
 &= A \circ A \\
 &\subseteq (A)_b.
 \end{aligned}$$

Case 3  $x \in B \circ H \circ B$ . Hence,  $x \in b_3 \circ k \circ b_4$  for some  $b_3, b_4 \in B$  and  $k \in H$ . There are four subcases to be considered.

Subcase 3.1  $b_3 = a$  and  $b_4 = a$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned}
 x &\in b_3 \circ k \circ b_4 \\
 &= a \circ k \circ a \\
 &\subseteq (b \circ h \circ c \cup (b \circ h \circ c)^2 \cup b \circ h \circ c \circ H \circ b \circ h \circ c) \\
 &\quad \circ H \circ (b \circ h \circ c \cup (b \circ h \circ c)^2 \cup b \circ h \circ c \circ H \circ b \circ h \circ c) \\
 &\subseteq A \circ H \circ A \\
 &\subseteq (A)_b.
 \end{aligned}$$

Subcase 3.2  $b_3 \neq a$  and  $b_4 = a$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned}
 x &\in b_3 \circ k \circ b_4 \\
 &= b_3 \circ k \circ a \\
 &\subseteq (B \setminus \{a\}) \circ H \circ (b \circ h \circ c \cup (b \circ h \circ c)^2 \cup b \circ h \circ c \circ H \circ b \circ h \circ c) \\
 &\subseteq A \circ H \circ A \\
 &\subseteq (A)_b.
 \end{aligned}$$

Subcase 3.3  $b_3 = a$  and  $b_4 \neq a$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned}
 x &\in b_3 \circ k \circ b_4 \\
 &= a \circ k \circ b_4 \\
 &\subseteq (b \circ h \circ c \cup (b \circ h \circ c)^2 \cup b \circ h \circ c \circ H \circ b \circ h \circ c) \circ H \circ (B \setminus \{a\}) \\
 &\subseteq A \circ H \circ A \\
 &\subseteq (A)_b.
 \end{aligned}$$

Subcase 3.4  $b_3 \neq a$  and  $b_4 \neq a$ . By assumption,  $A = B \setminus \{a\}$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned}
 x &\in b_3 \circ k \circ b_4 \\
 &\subseteq (B \setminus \{a\}) \circ H \circ (B \setminus \{a\}) \\
 &= A \circ H \circ A \\
 &\subseteq (A)_b.
 \end{aligned}$$

This implies  $(A)_b = H$ . This is a contradiction. Therefore,  $a = b$  or  $a = c$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 2.7** Let  $B$  be a bi-base of a semihypergroup  $H$ .

- (1) For any  $a, b, c \in B$ , if  $a \neq b$  and  $a \neq c$ , then  $a \not\leq_b b \circ c$ .
- (2) For any  $a, b, c \in B$  and  $h \in H$ , if  $a \neq b$  and  $a \neq c$ , then  $a \not\leq_b b \circ h \circ c$ .

**Proof.** Let  $B$  be a bi-base of a semihypergroup  $H$  and  $a, b, c \in B, h \in H$ .

(1) Suppose that  $a \leq_b b \circ c$ . Thus,  $(a)_b \subseteq (b \circ c)_b$ .

We have  $a \in (a)_b \subseteq (b \circ c)_b = b \circ c \cup (b \circ c)^2 \cup b \circ c \circ H \circ b \circ c$ .

By Lemma 2.6 (1), we have  $a = b$  or  $a = c$ .

(2) Suppose that  $a \leq_b b \circ h \circ c$ . Thus,  $(a)_b \subseteq (b \circ h \circ c)_b$ .

We have  $a \in (a)_b \subseteq (b \circ h \circ c)_b = b \circ h \circ c \cup b \circ h \circ c \circ b \circ h \circ c \cup b \circ h \circ c \circ H \circ b \circ h \circ c$ .

By Lemma 2.6 (2), we have  $a = b$  or  $a = c$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 2.8** A nonempty subset  $B$  of a semihypergroup  $H$  is a bi-base of  $H$  if and only if  $B$  satisfies the following conditions:

- (1) For any  $x \in H$ ,
  - (1.1) there exists  $b \in B$  such that  $x \leq_b b$ , or
  - (1.2) there exist  $b_1, b_2 \in B$  such that  $x \leq_b b_1 \circ b_2$ , or
  - (1.3) there exist  $b_3, b_4 \in B$  and  $h \in H$  such that  $x \leq_b b_3 \circ h \circ b_4$ .
- (2) For any  $a, b, c \in B$ , if  $a \neq b$  and  $a \neq c$ , then  $a \not\leq_b b \circ c$ .

(3) For any  $a, b, c \in B$  and  $h \in H$ , if  $a \neq b$  and  $a \neq c$ , then  $a \not\leq_b b \circ h \circ c$ .

**Proof.** Let  $B$  be a nonempty subset of a semihypergroup  $H$ . Assume that  $B$  is a bi-base of  $H$ . Therefore,  $H = (B)_b$ . Suppose that  $x \in H$ , so  $x \in B \cup B \circ B \cup B \circ H \circ B$ . There are three cases to be considered.

Case 1  $x \in B$ . Thus,  $x = b$  for some  $b \in B$ . This implies that  $(x)_b \subseteq (b)_b$ . Hence,  $x \leq_b b$ .

Case 2  $x \in B \circ B$ . Thus,  $x \in b_1 \circ b_2$  for some  $b_1, b_2 \in B$ . This implies that  $(x)_b \subseteq (b_1 \circ b_2)_b$ . Hence,  $x \leq_b b_1 \circ b_2$ .

Case 3  $x \in B \circ H \circ B$ . Thus,  $x \in b_3 \circ h \circ b_4$  for some  $b_3, b_4 \in B$  and  $h \in H$ .

This implies  $(x)_b \subseteq (b_3 \circ h \circ b_4)_b$ . Hence,  $x \leq_b b_3 \circ h \circ b_4$ .

The validity of (2) and (3) follows from Lemma 2.7 (1) and Lemma 2.7 (2), respectively.

Conversely, assume that  $B$  satisfies (1), (2) and (3). We show that  $B$  is a bi-base of  $H$ . Clearly,  $(B)_b \subseteq H$ . Let  $x \in H$ . From (1.1), it follows that  $x \in (x)_b \subseteq (b)_b \subseteq (B)_b$  for some  $b \in B$ . From (1.2), it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} x &\in (x)_b \\ &\subseteq (b_1 \circ b_2)_b \\ &= b_1 \circ b_2 \cup b_1 \circ b_2 \circ b_1 \circ b_2 \cup b_1 \circ b_2 \circ H \circ b_1 \circ b_2 \\ &\subseteq b_1 \circ b_2 \cup b_1 \circ H \circ b_2 \\ &\subseteq B \circ B \cup B \circ H \circ B \subseteq (B)_b \end{aligned}$$

for some  $b_1, b_2 \in B$ . From (1.3), it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} x &\in (x)_b \\ &\subseteq (b_3 \circ h \circ b_4)_b \\ &= b_3 \circ h \circ b_4 \cup b_3 \circ h \circ b_4 \circ b_3 \circ h \circ b_4 \cup b_3 \circ h \circ b_4 \circ H \circ b_3 \circ h \circ b_4 \\ &\subseteq b_3 \circ H \circ b_4 \\ &\subseteq B \circ H \circ B \\ &\subseteq (B)_b \end{aligned}$$

for some  $b_3, b_4 \in B$  and  $h \in H$ . It remains to show that  $B$  is a minimal subset of  $H$  with the property  $H = (B)_b$ . Assume that  $H = (A)_b$  for some  $A \subset B$ . There exists



$b \in B \setminus A$ . Since  $b \in B \subseteq H = (A)_b$ , we have  $b \in (A)_b$ . Thus,  $b \in A \cup A \circ A \cup A \circ H \circ A$ . Since  $b \notin A$ ,  $b \in A \circ A \cup A \circ H \circ A$ . There are two cases to be considered.

Case 1  $b \in A \circ A$ . Thus,  $b \in a_1 \circ a_2$  for some  $a_1, a_2 \in A$ . Since  $b \notin A$ ,  $b \neq a_1$  and  $b \neq a_2$ . Thus,  $(b)_b \subseteq (a_1 \circ a_2)_b$ . Hence,  $b \leq a_1 \circ a_2$ . This contradicts (2).

Case 2  $b \in A \circ H \circ A$ . Thus,  $b \in a_3 \circ h \circ a_4$  for some  $a_3, a_4 \in A$  and  $h \in H$ . Since  $b \notin A$ ,  $b \neq a_3$  and  $b \neq a_4$ . Thus,  $(b)_b \subseteq (a_3 \circ h \circ a_4)_b$ . Hence,  $b \leq a_3 \circ h \circ a_4$ . This contradicts (3).

Therefore,  $B$  is a bi-base of  $H$  and the proof is completed.  $\square$

In Example 1.6, we have that  $\{e\}$  is a bi-base of  $H$ . But  $\{e\}$  is not a subsemihypergroup of  $H$ . So, we find a condition that a bi-base is a subsemihypergroup.

**Theorem 2.9** Let  $B$  be a bi-base of a semihypergroup  $H$ .

Then,  $B$  is a subsemihypergroup of  $H$  if and only if  $B$  satisfies the conditions  $b \in b \circ c$  or  $c \in b \circ c$  for any  $b, c \in B$ .

**Proof.** Assume that  $B$  is a subsemihypergroup of  $H$ . Let  $b, c \in B$ .

Suppose that  $b \notin b \circ c$  and  $c \notin b \circ c$ . Let  $a \in b \circ c$ . Thus,  $a \neq b$  and  $a \neq c$ .

Since  $a \in b \circ c \subseteq b \circ c \cup b \circ c \circ b \circ c \cup b \circ c \circ H \circ b \circ c$  and by Lemma 2.6 (1), we have  $a = b$  or  $a = c$ . This is a contradiction.

Conversely, assume that  $b \in b \circ c$  or  $c \in b \circ c$  for any  $b, c \in B$ . Let  $a \in B \circ B$ . Thus,  $a \in b \circ c$  for some  $b, c \in B$ . Since  $a \in b \circ c \cup b \circ c \circ b \circ c \cup b \circ c \circ H \circ b \circ c$  and by Lemma 2.6 (1),  $a = b$  or  $a = c$ . Hence,  $a \in \{b, c\} \subseteq B$ . Therefore,  $B$  is a subsemihypergroup of  $H$ .  $\square$

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