IDEMPOTENTS AND ZERO DIVISORS IN COMMUTATIVE ALGEBRAS SATISFYING AN IDENTITY OF DEGREE FOUR

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Received: 19 October 2023; Revised: 4 December 2023; Accepted: 6 January 2024
Communicated by Burcu Üngör

Abstract. We study commutative algebras satisfying the identity 
\[(wx)y z + (wy)z x + (wz)x y - ((wx)y)z - ((wy)z)x - ((wz)x)y = 0\]
and characteristic of the field \(\neq 2,3\). We prove that given any \(\lambda \in F\), there exists a 
commutative algebra with idempotent \(e\), which satisfies the identity, and has 
\(\lambda\) as an eigen value of the multiplication operator \(L_e\). For algebras with idem-
potent, the containment relations for the product of the eigen spaces are not 
as precise as they are for Jordan or power-associative algebras. A great part 
of this paper is calculating these containment relations.

Mathematics Subject Classification (2020): 17A30, 17A50
Keywords: Commutative algebra, degree four identity, idempotent element,
Peirce decomposition

1. Introduction

Let \(A\) be a commutative algebra over a field \(F\) satisfying the identity
\[(wx)y z + (wy)z x + (wz)x y - ((wx)y)z - ((wy)z)x - ((wz)x)y = 0\] (1)
and characteristic of the field \(\neq 2,3\).

In the study of degree four identities not implied by commutativity, Osborn [7] 
classified those that were compatible with the possession of a unit element. Carini,
Hentzel and Piacentini Cattaneo [2] extended this work by dropping this restriction.
The identity (1) appeared as one of the additional degree four identities.

These algebras have been studied by Correa, Hentzel [3] and by Rojas-Bruma [8]. In [3] the authors assume the additional identity 
\((xx)x)x = 0\) and prove the algebra is nilpotent. In [8] the author proved the existence of trace form. Moreover 
if he assumes the existence of a non degenerate trace form, then the algebra satisfies 
the identity 
\((yx)x)x = y((xx)x)\).

The paper is structured as follows. Section 2 will be devoted to give examples 
and preliminary results. Section 3 deals with idempotent elements. Section 4 is 
devoted to zero divisors.
2. Examples and preliminaries results

Let \( A \) be a commutative algebra satisfying identity (1). Using the associator notation \((a, b, c) = (ab)c - a(bc)\) and commutativity, identity (1) can be written as

\[
(x, w, y)z + (y, w, z)x + (z, w, x)y = 0, \tag{2}
\]

or

\[
(y, wx, z) + (z, wy, x) + (x, wz, y) = 0. \tag{3}
\]

For every \( w \in A \), define the map \( G_w : A \times A \times A \rightarrow A \), by

\[
G_w(x, y, z) = (x, w, y)z + (y, w, z)x + (z, w, x)y, \quad \forall x, y, z \in A.
\]

Remark 2.1. It is clear that identity (2) is equivalent to \( G_w \equiv 0 \) for every \( w \in A \). Also, for each \( w \in A \), \( G_w \) is clearly a tri-linear map. If two variables among \( x, y, z \) are equal, then \( G_w = 0 \). In fact, take \( x = y \) for example then using commutativity for any \( w \in A \), we have

\[
G_w(x, x, z) = (x, w, x)z + (y, w, z)x + (z, w, x)y = 0 + (x, w, z)x - (x, w, z)x = 0, \quad \text{and} \quad G_w = 0.
\]

This means that \( G_w \) is a tri-linear alternating map for every \( w \in A \).

This remark implies the following result.

Lemma 2.2. Every 2 dimensional algebra over a field \( F \) satisfies identity (2).

Lemma 2.3. For every \( \lambda \in F \), there exists a two dimensional algebra satisfying identity (2) with idempotent \( e \) and where \( \lambda \) is an eigen value of the linear operator \( L_e \).

Proof. In fact the \( F \)-vector space \( A \) generated by \( e, u \) with multiplication given by

\[
e^2 = e, eu = ue = \lambda u, u^2 = \alpha e + \beta u, \quad \alpha, \beta \in F
\]

is a two dimensional algebra which (by Lemma 2.2) satisfies identity (2).

Remark 2.4. The above Lemma implies that for commutative algebras satisfying identity (1), the eigen spaces are not restricted to specific values of \( \lambda \) as they are in Jordan algebras (see Schafer [9], page 97) or Power-Associative algebras (see Albert [1], Gerstenhaber [4], Schafer [9] page 131).

Example 2.5. The following is a three dimensional algebra with an idempotent \( e \), satisfying identity (1). The basis is \( \{e, x, y\} \). The element \( e \) is an idempotent and
$x$ and $y$ are in the eigen space for $\lambda \in F$. The parameters $b_1, c_1, b_2, b_3, c_3$ and $\lambda \neq \frac{1}{2}$ are independent. The multiplication table is given by

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>$e$</th>
<th>$x$</th>
<th>$y$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$e$</td>
<td>$e$</td>
<td>$\lambda x$</td>
<td>$\lambda y$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$x$</td>
<td>$\lambda x$</td>
<td>$a_1 e + b_1 x + c_1 y$</td>
<td>$a_2 e + b_2 x + c_2 y$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$y$</td>
<td>$\lambda y$</td>
<td>$a_3 e + b_3 x + c_3 y$</td>
<td>$a_2 e + b_2 x + c_2 y$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

where $a_1 = \frac{c_1(-c_2+b_3)+c_3(-b_1+c_3)}{-1+2\lambda}$, $a_2 = \frac{b_2(-c_2+b_1)+b_1(-b_1+c_3)}{-1+2\lambda}$, $a_3 = \frac{b_2c_1-b_3c_3}{-1+2\lambda}$.

Recall that an algebra $A$ is flexible if and only if for every $x, y \in A$, $(x, y, x) = 0$. It is immediate that every commutative algebra is flexible.

**Proposition 2.6.** Let $A$ be a commutative algebra satisfying identity (1). Then the nucleus of $A$, $N(A) = \{x \in A \mid (x, A, A) = (A, x, A) = 0\}$ is an ideal of $A$.

**Proof.** It is clear that $N(A)$ is a subspace of $A$. Since $A$ is flexible, we need only to prove that for every $x \in N(A)$ and for every $y, z, w \in A$, we have

$$(xy, z, w) = 0, \text{ and } (w, xy, z) = 0.$$  

The following identity is known as the Teichmüller’s identity and it is satisfied in every non-associative algebra.

$$(xy, z, w) + (x, yz, w) + (x, y, zw) = x(y, z, w) + (x, y, zw). \tag{4}$$

Using that $x \in N(A)$, we get $(xy, z, w) = x(y, z, w)$ and flexibility and identity (2) imply that $x(y, z, w) = 0$, so $(xy, z, w) = 0$. On the other hand, flexibility and identity (3) imply that for every $x \in N(A)$, we get that $(w, xy, z) = 0$. Therefore $N(A)$ is an ideal of $A$. \hfill \square

**Proposition 2.7.** Let $A$ be a commutative algebra satisfying identity (1). Then the set $H = \{x \in A \mid (A, A, A) = (x, A, A) = 0\}$ is an ideal of $A$.

**Proof.** It is clear that $H$ is a subspace of $A$. Let $w$ be an element in $H$ and $x \in A$. Then from identity (4) we get

$$(x, y, zw) = 0 \text{ for every } y, z \in A.$$  

Let $(a, b, c)$ be an element in $(A, A, A)$ and let $w \in H$. Then identity (2) implies that

$$(wx)(a, b, c) = -(wx, b, a)c - (c, b, wx)a = 0$$

and the result follows. \hfill \square
Corollary 2.8. Let $A$ be a commutative algebra satisfying identity (1) and let $I$ be the subspace generated by the associators $(a, b, c)$. Then $H(AI) = 0$.

Proof. Let consider the elements $h \in H, x \in A, y \in I$, then $h(xy) = (hx)y - (h, x, y) = 0 - 0 = 0$ and $H(AI) = 0$. □

Remark 2.9. In [8] it is proved that if we assume that the algebra $A$ has a non-degenerate trace form, then the subspace generated by the associators $(a, b, c)$ is an ideal.

3. Idempotent elements

Let $A$ be a commutative algebra satisfying identity (1) over a field $F$ of characteristic $\not\equiv 2, 3$. Suppose that $A$ has a Peirce decomposition relative to an idempotent element $e$. This means that the operator $L_e$ given by $L_e(x) = ex$ is diagonalizable.

For each $\lambda \in F$, let $A_{\lambda} = \{a \in A \mid ea = \lambda a\}$ be the eigen space associated to the linear operator $L_e$.

Next we introduce the following notation to improve the reading of the paper. Define

$$B = \bigcup_{\lambda \in F} A_{\lambda}.$$ 

Our assumption implies that there is a basis contained in $B$.

Let $f : B \setminus \{0\} \rightarrow F$ be the map defined by

$$f(x) = \lambda \iff x \in A_{\lambda}.$$ 

Theorem 3.1. If $e$ is an idempotent element in $A$, then for all $a, b \in B \setminus \{0\}$,

$$e(ab) = (f(a) + f(b) - 1)ab \text{ when } f(a) \neq f(b).$$

Proof. From identity (1) we get:

\[
\begin{align*}
0 &= ((ea)b)e + ((eb)e)a + ((ee)a)b - ((eb)a)e - ((ec)a)e - ((eb)b)a \\
0 &= f(a)(ab)e + f(b)(fb)ab + f(a)ab - f(b)(ba)e - f(a)f(a)ab - f(b)ba \\
0 &= f(a)(ab)e + f(b)(fb)ab + f(a)ab - f(b)(ab)e - f(a)f(a)ab - f(b)ab.
\end{align*}
\]

Then

\[
\begin{align*}
0 &= (f(a) - f(b))(ab)e + (f(a) - f(b) - f(a)f(a) + f(b)f(b))ab \\
0 &= (f(a) - f(b))(ab)e + (f(a) - f(b)) - (f(a) - f(b))(f(a) + f(b))ab \\
0 &= (f(a) - f(b))(e(ab) + (1 - f(a) - f(b))ab).
\end{align*}
\]

If $f(a) \neq f(b)$, then $e(ab) = (f(a) + f(b) - 1)ab$. □
Corollary 3.2. If $\lambda \neq \mu \in F$, then $A_\lambda A_\mu \subseteq A_{\lambda + \mu - 1}$, and for every $\lambda \neq 1$, we get $A_\lambda A_1 \subseteq A_\lambda$.

Theorem 3.3. Let $a, b, c \in B \setminus \{0\}$. Then

(i) $0 = (f(a) - f(b))(ab)c + (f(b) - f(c))(bc)a + (f(c) - f(a))(ca)b$.

(ii) If $f(a) = f(c) \neq f(b)$, then $(a, b, c) = 0$.

(iii) If $f(a), f(b), f(c)$ are distinct, then

$$
\frac{(a, b, c)}{f(a) - f(c)} = \frac{(a, c, b)}{f(a) - f(b)} = \frac{(b, c, a)}{f(b) - f(a)} \quad (5)
$$

Proof. Item (ii) is immediate from item (i), so let us prove the first one. From identity (1) we obtain: $0 = ((ea)b)c + ((eb)c)a + ((ec)a)b - ((eb)a)c - ((ea)c)b - ((ec)b)a$, then

$$
0 = f(a)(ab)c + f(b)(bc)a + f(c)(ca)b - f(b)(ba)c - f(a)(ac)b - f(c)(eb)a. \quad (6)
$$

Thus, $0 = (f(a) - f(b))(ab)c + (f(b) - f(c))(bc)a + (f(c) - f(a))(ca)b$.

This proves item (i).

In order to prove item (iii) we deduce from (6) that

$$
0 = f(a)(b, a, c) + f(b)(c, b, a) + f(c)(a, c, b).
$$

Since $(b, a, c) = -(a, c, b) = (c, b, a)$ and $(c, b, a) = -(a, b, c)$ replacing in the above identity, we obtain

$$
0 = -f(a)(a, c, b) - f(a)(c, b, a) + f(c)(a, c, b)
$$

and

$$
0 = (f(a) + f(c))(a, c, b) + (f(a) - f(b))(a, b, c),
$$

that is,

$$(f(a) - f(b))(a, b, c) = (f(a) - f(c))(a, c, b).$$

If $f(a), f(b), f(c)$ are distinct, we obtain identities appearing in (5). \(\square\)

Theorem 3.4. Let $a, b, c \in B \setminus \{0\}$. If $f(a) \neq 1, f(b) \neq 1, f(a) \neq f(b)$, then $(ab)c \in B$ and $f((ab)c) = f(a) + f(b) + f(c) - 2$ whenever $(ab)c \neq 0$.

Proof. We have that $ab \neq 0$ (otherwise $(ab)c = 0$). We separate the proof in two cases.

Case 1 $f(ab) \neq f(c)$. In this case we have by Theorem 3.1

$$
f((ab)c) = f(ab) + f(c) - 1 = f(a) + f(b) + f(c) - 2.
$$
Case 2 $f(ab) = f(c)$. This condition implies
\begin{align*}
f(c) &= f(a) + f(b) - 1. 
\end{align*}
(7)
Since $f(b) \neq 1$, identity (7) implies that $f(c) \neq f(a)$. The same way, since $f(a) \neq 1$, identity (7) also implies that $f(b) \neq f(c)$. If we suppose $bc \neq 0$ and $f(bc) = f(a)$, we get
\begin{align*}
f(a) &= f(b) + f(c) - 1.
\end{align*}
Adding to (7), we get
\begin{align*}
f(c) + f(a) &= f(a) + f(c) + 2f(b) - 2.
\end{align*}
Dividing by 2, we get $f(b) - 1 = 0$, which contradicts the hypothesis of the theorem. Finally, we conclude that $bc = 0$ or $f(bc) \neq f(a)$. In the same way if we suppose $ac \neq 0$ and $f(ac) = f(b)$, we get $f(a) - 1 = 0$, which also contradicts the hypothesis of the theorem. We conclude that \{ac = 0 or f(ac) \neq f(b)\} and \{bc = 0 or f(bc) \neq f(a)\}. Using the same argument as in Case 1, we conclude that \{(ac)b = 0 or (ac)b belongs to Aμ\} and \{(bc)a = 0 or (bc)a belongs to Aμ\} where μ is given by:
\begin{align*}
\mu &= f(a) + f(b) + f(c) - 2.
\end{align*}
Finally, Theorem 3.4 item (i) implies
\begin{align*}
(ab)c &= \frac{(f(c) - f(b))(bc)a + (f(a) - f(c))(ac)b}{f(a) - f(b)},
\end{align*}
then we get that $(ab)c \in A_\mu$. \hfill \Box

Corollary 3.5. If $\lambda, \mu, \beta \in F, \lambda \neq \mu, \lambda \neq 1, \mu \neq 1, a \in A_\lambda, b \in A_\mu, c \in A_\beta$, then
\begin{align*}
(ab)c \in A_{\lambda+\mu+\beta-2}.
\end{align*}

We do not know if $A_1$ is closed under multiplication, but we can prove the following result.

Theorem 3.6. The subspace $S$ spanned by the set \{ab | a \in A_x, b \in A_{2-x}, x \in F \setminus \{1\}\} is a sub-ring of $A$ contained in $A_1 \cup \{0\}$ which absorbs multiplication from $A_1$. Furthermore $(A_1, S, A_1) = 0$.

Proof. Suppose that $f(a) \neq f(b)$ and $f(a) + f(b) - 1 = 1$. Note that this is the case when $f(a) = x \neq 1$ and $f(b) = 2 - x$. Note also that $f(b) \neq 1$.

Since $f(a) \neq f(b)$ from Theorem 3.3 item (i), we have that for every $c \in B \setminus \{0\}$, we get:
\begin{align*}
(ab)c &= \frac{-1}{f(a) - f(b)} \left[ (f(b) - f(c))(bc)a + (f(c) - f(a))(ca)b \right].
\end{align*}
If \( f(c) = 1 \), then

\[
(ab)c = \frac{-1}{f(a) - f(b)} \left[ (f(b) - 1)(bc)a + (1 - f(a))(ca)b \right].
\]

Let \( x = f(a), y = f(b) \). Then \( (A_x A_y)A_1 \subseteq (A_y A_1)A_x + (A_1 A_x)A_y \subseteq A_x A_y \subseteq A_1 \)
where last two contentions are implied by Corollary 3.2.

If \( s \in S, a, b \in A_1 \), then identity (1) implies

\[
0 = ((sa)b)c + ((sb)c)a + ((se)c)b - (sb)a - ((sa)e)b - ((sc)b)a.
\]

Thus, \( 0 = (sa)b + (sb)a + (sa)b - (sb)a - (sa)b = (a, s, b) \).\)

4. Zero divisors

Zero divisors are important in order to find relations among the different eigen spaces. The following theorem is important because allows us to found zero divisors, as is showed in Corollary 4.2 and Corollary 4.3.

**Theorem 4.1.** For every triplet \( a, b, c \) of nonzero elements in \( B \), we get:

(i) If \( f(a), f(b), f(c) \) are distinct, then \( (ab)c, (bc)a, (ca)b \) are all in the eigen space with \( \lambda = f(a) + f(b) + f(c) - 2 \).

(ii) If \( f(a), f(b), f(c) \) are distinct, then

\[
f(bc)(ab)c = f(ab)(bc)a \land f(ca)(ab)c = f(ab)(ca)b,
\]

which implies

\[
\frac{(ab)c}{f(ab)} = \frac{(bc)a}{f(bc)} = \frac{(ca)b}{f(ca)}
\]

provided that all denominators are not zero.

**Proof.** Item (i) Without loss of generality it is enough to prove that \( (ab)c \) is in the eigen space with value \( \lambda = f(a) + f(b) + f(c) - 2 \). Since \( f(a), f(b), f(c) \) are all different, at most only one of them is 1. If \( 1 \notin \{ f(a), f(b) \} \), the result follows from Theorem 3.4. Let us suppose that \( f(a) = 1 \) (the case \( f(b) = 1 \) is analogous).

Theorem 3.1 says \( ab = 0 \) or \( ab \in B \) with \( f(ab) = f(a) + f(b) - 1 = f(b) \), then \( (ab)c = 0 \) or \( (ab)c \in B \) with \( f(ab) = f(b) \neq f(c) \), then \( f((ab)c) = f(ab) + f(c) - 1 = f(b) + f(c) - 1 = 1 + f(b) + f(c) - 2 = f(a) + f(b) + f(c) - 2.\)
Corollary 4.2. Let
\[(ba)c = (f(a) + f(b) + f(c) - 2)((ab)c)\]
\[(bc)e = (f(b) + f(c) - 1)((bc)a)\]
\[(be)a = f(b)((ab)c)\]
\[-(bc)a = (-f(a) - f(b) - f(c) + 2)((bc)a)\]
Adding the identities and using identity (1), we get:
\[0 = ((ba)c) - ((bc)e) - (be)a + (bc)a = f(b) + f(c) - 1 - f(b) + f(c) - 1\]
so that identity (2) can be written as:
\[0 = f(b) + f(c) - 1 - f(b) + f(c) - 1\]
It is immediate from identity (8). We create a matrix
\[A\] whose rows (except for the last one) has the coefficients of all substitutions of this 5 taps evaluation in the basis given by Albert of this

Proof. It is immediate from identity (8).

Corollary 4.3. If \(f(a), f(b), f(c)\) are distinct and \(f(a) + f(b) = 1\), then \((ab)c = 0\).

Proof. Indeed the assumption \(f(a), f(b), f(c)\) being distinct implies \(f(b) + f(c) \neq 1\) and \(f(a) + f(c) \neq 1\), because \(f(a) + f(b) = 1\) and \(f(b) + f(c) = 1\) imply \(f(a) = f(c)\).}

Next lemma gives some particular zero divisors.

Lemma 4.4. If \(e\) is an idempotent element in \(A\), then for all \(a, b, c, d \in A\), the elements
\[x_1 = (((ee)e)c)b - (((ee)c)e)b = (((ee)e)c) - (((ee)c)e)b\]
\[x_2 = ((ee)(ad)) - ((de)(ae)) = (((ee)e)d - (((de)a)e) - (((ae)d)e)\]
satisfy \(x_1x_2 = 0\).

Proof. We want to prove that \(x_1x_2 = 0\).

We produced with Albert all possible multiplications of \(\{a, b, c, d, e\}\), \(e\) appearing 5 times and we assume the relation \(xy = yx\) to produce a basis of the resulting algebra. We define the polynomial map \(H(x, y, z, w) = (x, y, z)w + (z, y, w)x + (w, y, x)z\) so that identity (2) can be written as \(H(x, y, z, w) = 0\), and we create all substitutions into \(H(x, y, z, w)\) with up to 5 taps as is \(((H(x, y, z, w)r)s)t)u)v\).

We create a matrix \(A\) whose rows (except for the last one) has the coefficients of all substitutions of this 5 taps evaluation in the basis given by Albert of this
algebra. The last row of $A$ have the coefficients in the given basis of the identity we wanted to prove to be zero, $x_1 x_2$.

The size of the basis is 55653 that corresponds to the columns of the matrix. All identities have degree nine so the number of rows of $A$ is 29924. The columns corresponding to the elements of the basis of degree 9 are from 25729 to 55653 so the number of them is 55653 – 25729 = 29924, which coincides with number of rows of $A$. To prove $x_1 x_2 = 0$ it is enough to find a row vector $V$ such that $V A = 0$ whose the last entrance $V_{29924}$ is different from zero in the field $F$. If this is the case and we denote by $R_1, \ldots, R_{29924}$ the rows of $A$, we have that

$$\sum_{n=1}^{29924} V_n R_n = 0$$

from where we get

$$R_{29924} = -\left(\frac{1}{V_{29924}}\right) \left(\sum_{n=1}^{29923} V_n R_n\right).$$

If we assume $H(x, y, z, w) = 0$, we get that $R_n = 0$ for every $1 \leq n \leq 29923$, then $R_{29924} = 0$ and we conclude that $x_1 x_2 = 0$. Using Mathematica we found a $V$ such that $V A = 0$ whose the last entrance $V_{29924}$ is different from zero in the field $F$. If this is the case and we denote by $R_1, \ldots, R_{29924}$ the rows of $A$, we have that

$$\sum_{n=1}^{29924} V_n R_n = 0$$

from where we get

$$R_{29924} = -\left(\frac{1}{V_{29924}}\right) \left(\sum_{n=1}^{29923} V_n R_n\right).$$

If we assume $H(x, y, z, w) = 0$, we get that $R_n = 0$ for every $1 \leq n \leq 29923$, then $R_{29924} = 0$ and we conclude that $x_1 x_2 = 0$. Using Mathematica we found a $V$ such that $V A = 0$ whose the last entrance $V_{29924}$ is different from zero in the field $F$. If this is the case and we denote by $R_1, \ldots, R_{29924}$ the rows of $A$, we have that

$$\sum_{n=1}^{29924} V_n R_n = 0$$

from where we get

$$R_{29924} = -\left(\frac{1}{V_{29924}}\right) \left(\sum_{n=1}^{29923} V_n R_n\right).$$

If we assume $H(x, y, z, w) = 0$, we get that $R_n = 0$ for every $1 \leq n \leq 29923$, then $R_{29924} = 0$ and we conclude that $x_1 x_2 = 0$. Using Mathematica we found a $V$ such that $V A = 0$ and $V_{29924} = 512$. Therefore assuming $\text{char}(F) \neq 2$, we obtain the desired $V$. So $x_1 x_2 = 0$. □

Remark 4.5. In fact we obtained a smaller row vector $W$ satisfies $WS = 0$ where $S$ is a smaller matrix obtain by removing rows of $A$, but it is easy to construct the desired $V$ from $W$ by adding zeroes in the columns corresponding to the deleted rows of $A$.

Remark 4.6. In order to have a proof with a smaller matrix $A$, we can use the fact that the identities included such as $H(ee, a, e, b)$ which expands to zero, can be simplified using $ee = e$. Therefore one should be able to shorten the proof when $ee = e$ is used.

We will use the fact that $x_1 x_2 = 0$ to reduce $((ab)e)e$ even when $a$ and $b$ are in the same eigen space. We have the following result:

**Theorem 4.7.** Let $a, b, c, d \in B$. If $f(b) \neq 1$, $f(c) \neq 1$, $f(b) \neq f(c)$, $f(a) = f(d) = p$, then $(be) \left(p(1 - 2p)ad + (1 - p)(ad)e + ((ad)e)e\right) = 0$. That is, if we put $q(t) = t^2 + (1 - p)t + p(1 - 2p)$, then $(bc)(q(R_e)(ad)) = 0$.

**Proof.** We expand the individual factors in the expression of $x_1, x_2$. 

For $x_1$,

$$(((ee)e)b)e = +f(b)(bc), \quad -(((ee)e)c)b) = -f(c)(cb) = -f(c)(bc),$$

$$(((bc)e)c) = +f(b)f(b)(bc)e, \quad -(((ee)e)b)e = -f(c)f(c)(cb)e,$$

$$-(((be)e)c) = -f(b)f(b)(bc)e, \quad +(((ee)e)b) = +f(c)f(c)f(c)(cb).$$

Therefore, $x_1 = [f(b) - f(c) - f(b) + f(c)](bc) + [f(b) + f(c)](bc)e$ or

$$x_1 = (f(b) - f(c)) \left[ 1 - f(b) - f(b)f(c) - f(c^2) \right] (bc) + (f(b) + f(c))(bc)e.$$

For $x_2$,

$$((ee)(ad)) = +e(ad), \quad -((de)(ae)) = -f(a)f(d)(ad),$$

$$((ee)a)d = +f(a)(ad), \quad -(((de)a)c) = -f(d)(ad)e,$$

$$-(((ae)e)d) = -f(a)f(a)(ad) + (((ad)e)e) = +((ad)e)e.$$

We have $x_2 = +[-f(a)f(d) + f(a) - f(a)f(a)](ad) + [1 - f(d)](ad)e + ((ad)e)e$ or

$$x_2 = f(a)[-f(d) + 1 - f(a)](ad) + [1 - f(d)](ad)e + ((ad)e)e.$$

If $f(b) = f(c)$, then $x_1$ is zero. If $f(b) \neq f(c)$, then by Theorem 3.1 $(bc)e = (f(b) + f(c) - 1)bc$ and

$$x_1 = (f(b) - f(c)) \left[ 1 - f(b)^2 - f(b)f(c) - f(c^2) \right] (bc) + (f(b) + f(c))(bc)e.$$

In general we have that $(b-c)(1-b^2-bc-c^2+(b+c)(b+c-1)) = (b-1)(b-c)(c-1)$, then

$$x_1 = (f(b) - f(c))(f(c) - 1)(bc). \quad (12)$$

Thus if $f(b) = 1$ or $f(c) = 1$ or $f(b) = f(c)$, we have $x_1 = 0$.

We have that

$$x_2 = f(a)[-f(d) + 1 - f(a)](ad) + [1 - f(d)](ad)e + ((ad)e)e.$$

If $f(a) \neq f(d)$, then by Theorem 3.1 $(ad)e = (f(a)+f(d)-1)ad$, and $(ad)e = (f(a) + f(d) - 1)^2(ad)$. Then

$$x_2 = \left[ -f(a)[f(d) - 1 + f(a)] + (1 - f(a))(f(a) + f(d) - 1) + (f(a) + f(d) - 1)^2 \right] ad$$

$$= (f(a) + f(d) - 1) \left[ - f(a) + 1 - f(d) + f(a) + f(d) - 1 \right] ad = 0.$$

If $f(a) = f(d) = p$, then

$$x_2 = p(1 - 2p)(ad) + (1 - p)(ad)e + ((ad)e)e. \quad (13)$$
Finally if \( f(b) \neq 1, f(c) \neq 1, f(b) \neq f(c), f(a) = f(d) = p, \) since \( x_1x_2 = 0, \) identities (12) and (13) imply that

\[
(bc) \left( p(1 - 2p)ad + (1 - p)ad) + ((ad)e)e \right) = 0.
\]

Now if we put \( q(t) = t^2 + (1 - p)t + p(1 - 2p), \) then we have \( (bc)(q(R_e)(ad)) = 0. \)

**Discussion:** We have a formula for the eigen space of the product when the elements come from different eigen spaces.

Theorem 4.7 says that when the elements come from the same eigen space, the eigen space of the product satisfies

\[
x_2 = p(1 - 2p)(ad) + (1 - p)(ad)e + ((ad)e)e
\]

because elements like this which are not zero annihilate a good deal of the rest of the space. Namely, the product of distinct eigen spaces except \( f(a) = 1 \) or \( f(b) = 1. \)

**Remark 4.8.** We use Mathematica to make the numerical calculations in this paper. We use Professor Dave Jacob’s program “Albert” for intuition and for an independent check of our results (see [5], [6]).

**Acknowledgement.** This research is supported by FONDECYT 1170547. The authors are indebted to the referee for his/her many comments and suggestions that improve the presentation of the paper.

**Declarations**

**Disclosure statement:** The authors report there are no competing interests to declare.

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