

CANONICAL BIASOCIATIVE GROUPOIDS

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ABSTRACT. In the paper *Free biassociative groupoids*, the variety of biassociative groupoids (i.e., groupoids satisfying the condition: every subgroupoid generated by at most two elements is a subsemigroup) is considered and free objects are constructed using a chain of partial biassociative groupoids that satisfy certain properties. The obtained free objects in this variety are not canonical. By a *canonical groupoid* in a variety \mathcal{V} of groupoids we mean a free groupoid $(R, *)$ in \mathcal{V} with a free basis B such that the carrier R is a subset of the absolutely free groupoid (T_B, \cdot) with the free basis B and $(tu \in R \Rightarrow t, u \in R \ \& \ t * u = tu)$. In the present paper, a canonical description of free objects in the variety of biassociative groupoids is obtained.

1. Preliminaries

Let $G = (G, \cdot)$ be a groupoid and $a, b \in G$. We denote by $\langle a, b \rangle$ the subgroupoid of G generated by a, b and by $\langle a \rangle$ the subgroupoid generated by a . Clearly, $\langle a \rangle \subseteq \langle a, b \rangle$ and if $b \in \langle a \rangle$, then $\langle a, b \rangle = \langle a \rangle$; specially, $\langle a, a \rangle = \langle a \rangle$. The subgroupoids $\langle a, b \rangle$ and $\langle b, a \rangle$ are equal.

Let a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n be a finite sequence of elements in a groupoid G . We denote by $a_1 a_2 \cdots a_n$ the product of the sequence a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n in G defined as follows:

- i) if $n = 3$, then $a_1 a_2 a_3 \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} a_1(a_2 a_3)$ and
- ii) if $n \geq 3$, then $a_1 a_2 \cdots a_n \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} a_1(a_2 \cdots a_n)$.

We call $a_1 a_2 \cdots a_n$ the *main product* of the sequence a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n . If $n = 1$ and $n = 2$, then a_1 and $a_1 a_2$ will also be called the main products of the sequences a_1 and a_1, a_2 respectively. If $c = a_1 a_2 \cdots a_n$, then we say that c is *presented* as a main product of the sequence a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n .

Let G be a groupoid and $A \subseteq G$. If Q is the subgroupoid of G generated by A , i.e., $Q = \langle A \rangle$, then $Q = \bigcup \{A_k : k \geq 0\}$, where $A_0 = A$, $A_{k+1} = A_k \cup A_k A_k$.

If $x \in Q$, then a *hierarchy* of x in Q is the nonnegative integer $\chi_Q(x)$, defined by $\chi_Q(x) = \min\{k \in \mathbb{N}_0 : x \in A_k\}$, where \mathbb{N}_0 is the set of nonnegative integers.

2000 *Mathematics Subject Classification*: Primary 08B20; Secondary 03C05.

Key words and phrases: Groupoid, subgroupoid generated by two elements, subsemigroup, free groupoid, canonical groupoid.

In the sequel B will be an arbitrary nonempty set whose elements are called variables. By T_B we will denote the set of all groupoid terms over B in the signature \cdot . The terms are denoted by $t, u, v, \dots, x, y, \dots$. $\mathbf{T}_B = (T_B, \cdot)$ is the absolutely free groupoid with the free basis B , where the operation is defined by $(u, v) \mapsto uv$. The groupoid \mathbf{T}_B is injective, i.e., if $x, y, v, w \in T_B$, then $xy = vw \Rightarrow x = v, y = w$; in other words the operation \cdot is an injective mapping.

Note that $\mathbf{T}_B = \bigcup\{B_k : k \geq 0\}$, where $B_0 = B$, $B_{k+1} = B_k \cup B_k B_k$. The hierarchy $\chi : T_B \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_0$, defined by $\chi(t) = \min\{k \in \mathbb{N}_0 : t \in B_k\}$, for any $t \in T_B$, has the property:

$$\chi(tu) = 1 + \max\{\chi(t), \chi(u)\},$$

for all $t, u \in T_B$.

For any term $v \in T_B$ we define the *length* $|v|$ of v and the *set of subterms* $P(v)$ of v in the following way:

$$|b| = 1, |tu| = |t| + |u|; P(b) = \{b\}, P(tu) = \{tu\} \cup P(t) \cup P(u),$$

for any $b \in B$ and $t, u \in T_B$.

2. Main biproducts

Let $t, u \in T_B$ and $\langle t, u \rangle$ be the subgroupoid of \mathbf{T}_B generated by t, u :

$$\langle t, u \rangle = \{t, u, tt, tu, ut, uu, t(tt), t(tu), t(ut), t(uu), (tt)t, (tu)t, \dots\}.$$

Each element x of $\langle t, u \rangle$ is a product of a finite sequence of elements x_1, \dots, x_n ($n \geq 1$), where each x_i is either t or u , i.e., $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\} \subseteq \{t, u\}$. Any such product is constructed by the two generators t, u and therefore we call it a *binary product* or shortly *biproduct*.

Thus, if a term $x \in T_B$ is an element of $\langle t, u \rangle$, then we say that x has a *representation as a biproduct* (or shortly, x is a *biproduct*) *with the generating pair* $\{t, u\}$ and denote it by $x_{\langle t, u \rangle}$. (In this case we also say that x is the *carrier* of the biproduct $x_{\langle t, u \rangle}$.)

If $u = t$ or $u \in \langle t \rangle$, then $\langle t, u \rangle = \langle t \rangle$. In that case if $x \in \langle t \rangle$, we say again that x is a biproduct with the generator t and denote it by $x_{\langle t \rangle}$. Specially, $t \in \langle t \rangle$ and t has a representation as a biproduct with the generator t : $t_{\langle t \rangle} = t$. We say that $t_{\langle t \rangle}$ is a *trivial biproduct* of t . Since $t \in \langle t, u \rangle$ we have $t_{\langle t, u \rangle} = t$ and we say also that $t_{\langle t, u \rangle}$ is the trivial biproduct of t in $\langle t, u \rangle$.

If $t \notin \langle u \rangle$ and $u \notin \langle t \rangle$, then no two elements of the subgroupoid $\langle t, u \rangle$ are equal, since the groupoid \mathbf{T}_B is injective. Therefore:

PROPOSITION 2.1. *If t, u, x are terms of T_B and x is such that $x \in \langle t, u \rangle$, $t \notin \langle u \rangle$ and $u \notin \langle t \rangle$, then x has a unique representation as a biproduct with the generating pair $\{t, u\}$.*

Note that a term of T_B may have representations as biproducts with different pairs of generators.

EXAMPLE 2.1. Let a, b be two distinct variables and x the term $((ab)b)(ab)$.

1) $x \in \langle x \rangle$, and thus $x_{\langle x \rangle} = x$ is the biproduct of x with the generator x .

2) Put $t = (ab)b$ and $u = ab$. Then $x \in \langle t, u \rangle$ and $x_{\langle t, u \rangle} = tu$ is the biproduct of x with the generating pair $\{t, u\}$.

3) If $u = ab$ and $v = b$, then $x \in \langle u, v \rangle$ and $x_{\langle u, v \rangle} = (uv)u$ is the biproduct of x with the generating pair $\{u, v\}$.

4) $x \in \langle a, b \rangle$ and thus $x_{\langle a, b \rangle} = ((ab)b)(ab)$ is the biproduct of x with the generating pair $\{a, b\}$.

(Note that there is no biproduct of x other than those enumerated above.)

A biproduct $x_{\langle t, u \rangle}$ of a term x is said to be *maximal* in T_B if and only if for any biproduct $x_{\langle \alpha, \beta \rangle}$ of x , the hierarchy $\chi_{\langle \alpha, \beta \rangle}(x)$ does not exceed the hierarchy $\chi_{\langle t, u \rangle}(x)$, i.e., $\chi_{\langle \alpha, \beta \rangle}(x) \leq \chi_{\langle t, u \rangle}(x)$.

PROPOSITION 2.2. Any term x of T_B has a finite number of representations as a biproduct in T_B , i.e., $x \in T_B$ is the carrier of a finite number of biproducts in T_B . Any term x of T_B is the carrier of maximal biproducts in T_B .

PROOF. The length $|x|$ of any $x \in T_B$ is finite, and thus the set $P(x)$ of subterms of x is finite. As the generators of any biproduct of x are subterms of x , and the set of subterms $P(x)$ of x is finite, it follows that x has a finite number of biproducts. The set of nonnegative integers that are hierarchies of x (with respect to the pair of generators of all biproducts of x , including the pairs $\{t, t\} = \{t\}$) is finite, and thus it has the largest element. Therefore, there is the largest hierarchy of x , i.e., a maximal biproduct of x . \square

Note that a given term x of T_B may have more than one maximal biproducts.

EXAMPLE 2.2. Let $x = ((ab)b)(b^2(ab))$ (where a, b are variables). Put $t = ab$ and $u = b$. Then $x_{\langle t, u \rangle} = (tu)(u^2t)$ and $\chi_{\langle t, u \rangle}(x) = 3$. If we take $\{a, b\}$ as the generating pair, then $x_{\langle a, b \rangle} = ((ab)b)(b^2(ab))$ is a biproduct of x and $\chi_{\langle a, b \rangle}(x) = 3$. For all other biproducts $x_{\langle \alpha, \beta \rangle}$ one obtains that $\chi_{\langle \alpha, \beta \rangle}(x) \leq 3$. Thus, $x_{\langle t, u \rangle}$ and $x_{\langle a, b \rangle}$ are maximal biproducts of x .

Let $x = x_1x_2 \cdots x_m$ be the main product of x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m in T_B . If

$$\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m\} \subseteq \{t, u\},$$

for some terms t, u of T_B , then we call $x_1x_2 \cdots x_m$ the *main biproduct* of x in T_B with the generating pair $\{t, u\}$ and denote it by $x_{t, u}$. (If $u = t$, i.e., the generating "pair" is $\{t, t\}$, we write x_t instead of $x_{t, t}$.)

Below we will state some properties about main biproducts.

(1) Note that any term x of T_B has at least one main biproduct – the trivial one, x_x . If $x \in T_B \setminus B$, then $x = \alpha\beta$ for some $\alpha, \beta \in T_B$, and $x_{\alpha, \beta} = \alpha\beta$ is another main biproduct of x in T_B .

(2) The hierarchy of a main biproduct $x_1x_2 \cdots x_m$, with a generating pair $\{t, u\}$, equals $m - 1$. Therefore, if two main biproducts $x_1x_2 \cdots x_m$ and $y_1y_2 \cdots y_{m+k}$ are maximal biproducts of x in T_B , then they have to satisfy $k = 0$ (or the hierarchies would differ) and $x_i = y_i$, for $1 \leq i \leq m$.

PROPOSITION 2.3. If $x \in T_B$ has two nontrivial main biproducts $x_{t, u}$ and $x_{v, w}$ in T_B , then one generator of the one generating pair coincides with a generator of the other generating pair.

PROOF. Let $x_{t,u} = x_1x_2 \cdots x_m$ and $x_{v,w} = y_1y_2 \cdots y_n$ be two main biproducts of x in T_B . Then $x_1x_2 \cdots x_m = y_1y_2 \cdots y_n$ implies $x_1 = y_1$. Since $x_\nu \in \{t, u\}$ and $y_\lambda \in \{v, w\}$ it follows that x_1 is either t or u , and y_1 is either v or w . If, for example, $x_1 = t$ and $y_1 = v$, then $v = t$ (and in that case $x_{t,u} = x_{t,w}$). \square

Using the property (2) stated above, we obtain the following:

THEOREM 2.1. *If $x = x_1x_2 \cdots x_m$ and $x = x'_1x'_2 \cdots x'_n$ are main biproducts of x in T_B with the same generating pair $\{t, u\}$, then $m = n$ and $x_i = x'_i$, for $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$. Specially, any maximal biproduct of $x \in T_B$, that is a main biproduct, is uniquely determined.*

3. A construction of canonical biassociative groupoids

A groupoid $G = (G, \cdot)$ is said to be *biassociative* [1] if and only if for any $a, b \in G$ the subgroupoid S of G generated by $\{a, b\}$, i.e., $S = \langle a, b \rangle$, is a subsemigroup of G . The class of all biassociative groupoids will be denoted by **Bass**. This class is hereditary and closed under the formation of homomorphic images and direct products, i.e., **Bass** is a variety of groupoids.

Assuming that B is a nonempty set and $T_B = (T_B, \cdot)$ the absolutely free groupoid with the free basis B , we are looking for a *canonical groupoid* in **Bass**, i.e., a groupoid $R = (R, \star)$ with the following properties:

- i) $B \subset R \subset T_B$; ii) $tu \in R \Rightarrow t, u \in R$; iii) $tu \in R \Rightarrow t \star u = tu$
- iv) R is a free groupoid in **Bass** with the free basis B .

A "candidate" for the carrier R of the desired groupoid R is the set defined by:

$$(3.1) \quad R = \{x \in T_B : \text{every biproduct of any subterm of } x \text{ is a main biproduct}\}.$$

The following properties of R are obvious corollaries of (3.1).

PROPOSITION 3.1. a) R satisfies i) and ii).

b) $x, y \in R \Rightarrow \{xy \notin R \Leftrightarrow xy \text{ has a biproduct that is not a main biproduct in } T_B\}$.

c) $x, y \in T_B \Rightarrow \{xy \in R \Leftrightarrow x, y \in R \ \& \ \text{every biproduct of any subterm of } xy \text{ in } T_B \text{ is a main biproduct}\}$.

LEMMA 3.1. *For any $x \in R$ there is a unique maximal biproduct of x in T_B that is a main biproduct.*

PROOF. *Existence.* By Proposition 2.2, any $x \in T_B$ has maximal biproducts in T_B and thus any $x \in R$ has maximal biproducts in T_B . By the definition of R , every biproduct of any subterm of x is a main biproduct and therefore the maximal biproducts of x are main biproducts, too.

Uniqueness. Let $x \in R$ and $x_{\langle t,u \rangle}, x_{\langle v,w \rangle}$ be maximal biproducts of x in T_B . Since $x \in R$, both maximal biproducts $x_{\langle t,u \rangle}, x_{\langle v,w \rangle}$ are main biproducts and we will denote them by $x_{t,u}, x_{v,w}$. Let $x = x_1x_2 \cdots x_m$ and $x = x'_1x'_2 \cdots x'_m x'_{m+1} \cdots x'_{m+k}$, $k \geq 0$, be the representations of x as main biproducts in $\langle t, u \rangle$ and $\langle v, w \rangle$, respectively. By the property (2) we have that

$$m - 1 = \chi_{\langle t,u \rangle}(x_1x_2 \cdots x_m) = \chi_{\langle v,w \rangle}(x'_1x'_2 \cdots x'_{m+k}) = m + k - 1,$$

which implies that $k = 0$ and that $x_i = x'_i$, for $1 \leq i \leq m$. Therefore, the maximal biproducts $x_{t,u}$ and $x_{v,w}$ are in fact the same biproduct. \square

Bellow, for $x \in R$, we will denote by $x = x_1x_2 \cdots x_m$ the maximal main biproduct of x in T_B (if it is not stated otherwise).

LEMMA 3.2. *Let $x \in R$, let the maximal biproduct of x be generated by $\{t, u\}$, and let another biproduct of x be generated by $\{v, w\}$. Then $v, w \in \langle t, u \rangle$.*

PROOF. Let $x = x_1 \cdots x_m$ be the maximal biproduct of x generated by $\{t, u\}$ and let $x = x'_1 \cdots x'_n$ be another biproduct of x generated by $\{v, w\}$. By Proposition 2.3 we may put $t = v$. Both biproducts are equal and since $x \in R$, they are main biproducts. By Lemma 3.1, $n < m$, i.e., $m = n + k$, $k \geq 1$, so

$$x'_1 \cdots x'_n = x_1 \cdots x_n x_{n+1} \cdots x_{n+k}.$$

Using this facts, we obtain that $x'_i = x_i = t$, for $i \in \{1, \dots, n-1\}$. Clearly, $x'_n = w$ and $x_i \in \{t, u\}$, for $i \in \{n, \dots, n+k\}$. Therefore, $v, w \in \langle t, u \rangle$. \square

PROPOSITION 3.2. *Let $x, y \in R$ and the maximal biproducts $x = x_1x_2 \cdots x_m$, $y = y_1y_2 \cdots y_n$ have generating pairs $\{t, u\}$, $\{v, w\}$, respectively. Then $xy \in R$ if and only if (a) or (b), where*

- (a) $y \notin \langle t, u \rangle$, and for any biproduct of x with a generating pair $\{t_1, u_1\}$, if $t_1, u_1 \in \langle v, w \rangle$, then $t_1 = u_1 = x$
- (b) $y \in \langle t, u \rangle$ and $t = u = x \in B$.

PROOF. Let $xy \in R$. There are two possible cases for y : 1) $y \notin \langle t, u \rangle$ and 2) $y \in \langle t, u \rangle$.

Case 1). Since $\{v, w\}$ is the generating pair for the biproduct $y = y_1y_2 \cdots y_n$, and $y \notin \langle t, u \rangle$, we should consider the cases when some of the biproducts of x has a generating pair $\{t_1, u_1\}$, such that $t_1, u_1 \in \langle v, w \rangle$. Let $x = z_1z_2 \cdots z_k$ be such a biproduct of x . Then $z_i \in \{t_1, u_1\} \subseteq \langle v, w \rangle$. The product $xy = (z_1z_2 \cdots z_k)(y_1y_2 \cdots y_n)$ will be a main biproduct only if $k = 1$, i.e., $x = z_1$, and $z_1 = v$ or $z_1 = w$. Since $x = z_1$ is generated by $\{t_1, u_1\}$, it follows that $t_1 = u_1 = x$.

Case 2). In this case xy has a biproduct with a generating pair $\{t, u\}$. xy is a main biproduct, since $xy \in R$ and, therefore $m = 1$, i.e., $x = x_1$. The maximal biproduct of x is generated by $\{t, u\}$, so $t = u = x$. Moreover, $x \in B$, because if $x \notin B$ (for example $x = ab$, i.e., $t = u = ab$), then the biproduct of xy generated by $\{a, b\}$ can not be a main biproduct, that contradicts the assumption that $xy \in R$.

For the converse, let (a) or (b) hold. If (b) holds, then it is clear that $xy \in R$.

Let (a) holds and suppose $xy \notin R$. From 1) we obtain that $x \in \langle v, w \rangle$. Therefore, there is a biproduct of x with a generating pair $\{v, w\}$. By Lemma 3.2 it follows that $v, w \in \langle t, u \rangle$, that contradicts the assumption that $y \notin \langle t, u \rangle$. \square

Now we define an operation $*$ on R as follows. Let $x, y \in R$, $x = x_1x_2 \cdots x_m$, $y = y_1y_2 \cdots y_n$ and put

$$(3.2) \quad x * y = \begin{cases} xy, & \text{if } xy \in R \\ x_1x_2 \cdots x_my_1y_2 \cdots y_n, & \text{if } xy \notin R. \end{cases}$$

The operation $*$ is well-defined, i.e., $\mathbf{R} = (R, *)$ is a groupoid. Namely, let $x, y \in R$. If $xy \in R$, then $x * y$ is a uniquely determined element of R . If $xy \notin R$, then $z = x_1x_2 \cdots x_my_1y_2 \cdots y_n$ is a term of T_B that is a main biproduct. Clearly, every biproduct of any subterm of $x_1x_2 \cdots x_my_1y_2 \cdots y_n$ is a main biproduct. Therefore, by (3.1), $z \in R$. Since $x_1x_2 \cdots x_my_1y_2 \cdots y_n$ as a maximal biproduct in T_B is unique (by Lemma 3.1), it follows that $x * y$ is uniquely determined element of R in the case $xy \notin R$. Thus, $\mathbf{R} = (R, *)$ is a groupoid.

By (3.2) it follows directly that:

1°. If $xy \in R$, then $x, y \in R$ & $x * y = xy$ (i.e., \mathbf{R} satisfies ii) and iii)).

2°. $(\forall x, y \in R) |x * y| = |x| + |y|$.

The following three properties of \mathbf{R} (3°–5°) show that the groupoid $\mathbf{R} = (R, *)$ is free in **Bass** with the free basis B .

3°. $\mathbf{R} \in \mathbf{Bass}$.

PROOF OF 3°. We have to show that every subgroupoid of \mathbf{R} generated by two elements is a subsemigroup of \mathbf{R} .

For this purpose, let $t, u \in R$ and $\langle t, u \rangle_*$ be the subgroupoid of \mathbf{R} generated by $\{t, u\}$. According to the definition of $*$, any $x \in \langle t, u \rangle_*$ is a maximal biproduct with the generating pair $\{t, u\}$. Therefore, if $x, y, z \in \langle t, u \rangle_*$, then $x = x_1x_2 \cdots x_m$, $y = y_1y_2 \cdots y_n$, $z = z_1z_2 \cdots z_p$ ($x_i, y_j, z_k \in \{t, u\}$) and by (3.2):

$$(x * y) * z = x_1x_2 \cdots x_my_1y_2 \cdots y_nz_1z_2 \cdots z_p = x * (y * z),$$

i.e., the subgroupoid $\langle t, u \rangle_*$ is a subsemigroup of \mathbf{R} . Hence, $\mathbf{R} \in \mathbf{Bass}$.

4°. The set of primes in \mathbf{R} coincides with B and generates \mathbf{R} .

(An element a in a groupoid $\mathbf{G} = (G, \cdot)$ is said to be *prime* in \mathbf{G} if and only if $a \neq xy$, for any $x, y \in G$.)

PROOF OF 4°. If $b \in B$, then by (3.2) $b \neq x * y$, for all $x, y \in R$. Hence, every $b \in B$ is prime in \mathbf{R} . To show that no element of $R \setminus B$ is prime in \mathbf{R} , let $x \in T_B \setminus B$ be a term belonging to R . Then by (3.1), every biproduct of any subterm of x is a main biproduct, and thus the maximal biproduct of x in T_B is a main biproduct. Therefore, $x = x_1x_2 \cdots x_m$, where $m \geq 2$ (since $x \in T_B \setminus B$). Thus, $x = x_1 * (x_2 \cdots x_m)$, i.e., x is not prime in \mathbf{R} .

Let Q be the subgroupoid of \mathbf{R} generated by B , $Q = \langle B \rangle_*$. We will show that $R = Q$. Clearly, $Q \subseteq R$. To show that $R \subseteq Q$, let $x \in R$. If $x \in B$, then $x \in \langle B \rangle_* = Q$, i.e., $(x \in R \ \& \ |x| = 1 \Rightarrow x \in Q)$.

Suppose that $(x \in R \ \& \ |x| \leq k \Rightarrow x \in Q)$ is true. If $x \in R$ is such that $|x| = k + 1$, then $x = x_1x_2$ in T_B and $|x_1|, |x_2| \leq k$. By the inductive hypothesis we have $x_1, x_2 \in Q$, and since Q is a groupoid, it follows that $x = x_1x_2 = x_1 * x_2 \in Q$. Thus, $R \subseteq Q$. Therefore, $\mathbf{R} = Q = \langle B \rangle_*$.

5°. If $\mathbf{G} \in \mathbf{Bass}$ and $\lambda : B \rightarrow G$ is a mapping, then there is a homomorphism $\psi : \mathbf{R} \rightarrow \mathbf{G}$ that extends λ , i.e., $\psi(b) = \lambda(b)$, for all $b \in B$.

PROOF OF 5°. Let $\varphi : T_B \rightarrow \mathbf{G}$ be the homomorphism that extends λ . Denote by ψ the restriction of φ on R (i.e., $\psi = \varphi|_R$). It suffices to show that

$$(\forall x, y \in R) \varphi(x * y) = \varphi(x)\varphi(y).$$

Let $x, y \in R$. If $xy \in R$, then $\varphi(x * y) = \varphi(xy) = \varphi(x)\varphi(y)$. If $xy \notin R$ (i.e., $x = x_1x_2 \cdots x_m$, $y = y_1y_2 \cdots y_n$, where $x_i, y_j \in \{t, u\}$ and $m \geq 2$) then using the fact: $(x_i, y_j \in \{t, u\} \Rightarrow \varphi(x_i), \varphi(y_j) \in \{\varphi(t), \varphi(u)\})$ we have

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi(x * y) &= \varphi(x_1 \cdots x_m y_1 \cdots y_n) = \varphi(x_1) \cdots \varphi(x_m) \varphi(y_1) \cdots \varphi(y_n) \\ &= [G \in \text{Bass}] = \varphi(x_1 \cdots x_m) \varphi(y_1 \cdots y_n) = \varphi(x)\varphi(y).\end{aligned}$$

So, the conditions i)–iv) at the beginning of this section are fulfilled and thus we proved the following

THEOREM 3.1. *The groupoid $R = (R, *)$, defined by (3.1) and (3.2) is a canonical biassociative groupoid with a free basis B .*

Acknowledgements

This work is partly supported by Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts within the project "Algebraic structures". Authors would like to express their sincere gratitude to Professor G. Čupona, the project manager, and special thanks to the referee for the valuable comments and suggestions.

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