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## SOME NEW KINDS OF BCK-FILTERS IN BOUNDED BCK-ALGEBRAS

### Abstract

This paper investigates and characterizes some new types of BCK-filters in bounded BCK-algebras. We introduce the notions of EQI-filters, implicative BCK-filters, and commutative BCK-filters. We clarify the relationships among these filters and prove that every implicative BCK-filter is a commutative BCK-filter and every commutative BCK-filter is an EQI-filter, although the converses do not hold in general. We also study these filters in several important subclasses of BCK-algebras. For instance, in involutory BCK-algebras, the notions of EQI-filters, implicative BCK-filters, and commutative BCK-filters coincide, whereas they are distinct in general.

*Keywords:* BCK-filter, implicative BCK-filter, commutative BCK-filter, EQI-filter, EQI-algebras.

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## 1. Introduction

A BCK-algebra is an algebraic structure introduced by Y. Imai and K. Iséki [5] in 1966. It originated from set-theoretic considerations and is closely related to classical and non-classical logics. Since logical systems play a crucial role in computer science and artificial intelligence, research in this area is highly significant.

The class of bounded BCK-algebras includes important subclasses such as bounded commutative BCK-algebras, bounded implicative BCK-algebras, and involutory BCK-algebras. These structures contain various types of BCK-lattices. For example, S. Khosravi Shoar et al. [11] introduced the concept of PC-lattices in bounded BCK-algebras and proved that in PC-lattices satisfying condition (S), commutative BCK-algebras and involutory BCK-algebras coincide.

Filter theory, together with ideal theory, plays a vital role in studying the structure of BCK/BCI-algebras. J. Meng [8] introduced the concept of BCK-filters. W. A. Dudek and Y. B. Jun [2] studied poor and crazy filters in bounded BCK-algebras. In this paper, we introduce EQI-filters, implicative BCK-filters, and commutative BCK-filters in bounded BCK-algebras and investigate the relationships among them. We also examine these filters in several important subclasses of BCK-algebras.

## 2. Preliminaries

**DEFINITION 2.1** ([6, 3]). Let  $X$  be a set with a binary operation  $*$  and a constant  $0$ . Then  $(X; *, 0)$  is called a BCK-algebra if it satisfies the following axioms for all  $x, y, z \in X$ :

$$(BCK-1) \quad ((x * y) * (x * z)) * (z * y) = 0.$$

$$(BCK-2) \quad (x * (x * y)) * y = 0.$$

$$(BCK-3) \quad x * x = 0.$$

$$(BCK-4) \quad x * y = 0 \text{ and } y * x = 0 \text{ imply } x = y.$$

$$(BCK-5) \quad 0 * x = 0.$$

A partial ordering  $\leq$  on  $X$  is defined by  $x \leq y$  if and only if  $x * y = 0$ .

In any BCK-algebra  $X$ , for all  $x, y, z \in X$  the following statements hold:

- (I)  $(x * y) * z = (x * z) * y$ .
- (II)  $x \leq y$  implies  $x * z \leq y * z$  and  $z * y \leq z * x$ .
- (III)  $x * (x * (x * y)) = (x * y)$ .
- (IV)  $(z * x) * (y * x) \leq z * y$  and  $(x * y) * (x * z) \leq z * y$ .

DEFINITION 2.2 ([1, 5, 12, 9]). Let  $X$  be a BCK-algebra. Then for all  $x, y \in X$ :

- (i)  $X$  is called an *implicative* BCK-algebra if  $x * (y * x) = x$ .
- (ii)  $X$  is called a *commutative* BCK-algebra if  $x * (x * y) = y * (y * x)$ .
- (iii)  $X$  is called *bounded*, if there exists the greatest element of  $X$ , which is denoted by 1 (In this case for any  $x \in X$ ,  $1 * x$  is denoted by  $Nx$ ).
- (iv) If  $X$  is bounded, then  $x \in X$  is called *involution* of  $X$ , if  $NNx = x$  where  $NNx = N(Nx)$ .
- (v)  $X$  is called an *involutory* BCK-algebra, if for all  $x \in X$ ,  $NNx = x$ .

DEFINITION 2.3 ([6, 7]). Let  $I$  be a nonempty subset of BCK-algebra  $X$ . Then for all  $x, y, z \in X$ :

- (i)  $I$  is called an *ideal* of  $X$  if  $0 \in I$ ,  $y \in I$  and  $x * y \in I$  imply  $x \in I$ .
- (ii)  $I$  is called an *implicative ideal* of  $X$  if  $0 \in I$ ,  $(x * (y * x)) * z \in I$  and  $z \in I$  imply  $x \in I$ .

DEFINITION 2.4 ([8, 2]). Let  $F$  be a nonempty subset of bounded BCK-algebra  $X$ . Then for all  $x, y, z \in X$ :

- (i)  $F$  is called a *BCK-filter* of  $X$  if  $1 \in F$  and  $N(Nx * Ny) \in F$  and  $y \in F$  imply  $x \in F$ .
- (ii)  $F$  is called a *crazy filter* of  $X$  if  $1 \in F$ ,  $N(y * x) \in F$  and  $y \in F$  imply  $x \in F$ .

**THEOREM 2.5** ([8, 2]). *Let  $F$  be a nonempty subset of bounded BCK-algebra  $X$ . Then for all  $x, y \in X$ :*

(i) *If  $F$  is a BCK-filter,  $x \leq y$  and  $x \in F$ , then  $y \in F$ .*

(ii) *If  $F$  is a crazy filter,  $x \leq y$  and  $x \in F$ , then  $y \in F$ .*

**PROPOSITION 2.6** ([6, 9]). *Let  $X$  be a bounded BCK-algebra with the greatest element 1. Then for all  $x, y \in X$ :*

(i)  $N1 = 0$  and  $N0 = 1$ .

(ii)  $NNx \leq x$ .

(iii)  $Nx * Ny \leq y * x$ .

(iv)  $y \leq x$  implies  $Nx \leq Ny$ .

(v)  $Nx * y = Ny * x$ .

(vi)  $NNNx = Nx$ .

**LEMMA 2.7** ([4]). *Let  $X$  be a bounded BCK-algebra. Then for  $x, y \in X$ :*

(i) *If the greatest lower bound  $x \wedge y$  of  $x$  and  $y$  exists, then the least upper bound  $Nx \vee Ny$  of  $Nx$  and  $Ny$  exists, and  $Nx \vee Ny = N(x \wedge y)$ .*

(ii) *If  $X$  is involutory and the least upper bound  $x \vee y$  exists, then the greatest lower bound  $Nx \wedge Ny$  exists, and  $Nx \wedge Ny = N(x \vee y)$ .*

**DEFINITION 2.8** ([3]). *Let  $X$  be a BCK-algebra. Then  $(X; *, 0)$  is called a BCK-lattice, if  $(X, \leq)$  is a lattice, where  $\leq$  is the partial BCK-order on  $X$ .*

**PROPOSITION 2.9** ([4]). *Let  $X$  be a BCK-algebra. Then for all  $x, y, z \in X$ :*

(i) *if  $X$  is a BCK-lattice, then  $x * (y \wedge z) = (x * y) \vee (x * z)$ .*

(ii) *if  $X$  is an involutory BCK-lattice, then  $(x \vee y) * z = (x * z) \vee (y * z)$ .*

**THEOREM 2.10** ([2]). *Every BCK-filter is a crazy filter (but the converse does not hold in general).*

DEFINITION 2.11 ([11]). Let  $X$  be a BCK-lattice. Then  $X$  is called a PC-lattice if for all  $x, y, z \in X$  :

$$(z * x) * (y * x) = z * (x \vee y).$$

DEFINITION 2.12 ([10]). Let  $X$  be a bounded BCK-algebra. Then  $X$  is called an EQI-algebra if for all  $x \in X$  :

$$N(x * NNx) = 1.$$

THEOREM 2.13 ([10, 11, 9]). Let  $X$  be a bounded BCK-algebra. Then

- (i) Every commutative BCK-algebra is an involutory BCK-algebra.
- (ii) A bounded implicative BCK-algebra is a PC-lattice, but the converse does not hold in general.
- (iii) Every involutory BCK-algebra and PC-lattice is an EQI-algebra, but the converse does not hold in general.

DEFINITION 2.14 ([10]). Let  $I$  be an ideal of  $X$ . Then  $I$  is called an EQI-ideal of  $X$  if  $NN(x * NNx) \in I$  for all  $x \in X$ .

### 3. EQI-filters in bounded BCK-algebras

LEMMA 3.1. Let  $X$  be a bounded BCK-algebra. Then for all  $x, y, v \in X$ :

- (i)  $NN(NNx * y) = NNx * y$ .
- (ii)  $NN(Nx * y) = Nx * y$ .
- (iii)  $NN(Nx * v) * N(Nx * v) = ((Nx * x) * v) * v$ .

PROOF: Let  $x, y, v \in X$ .

(i) By Proposition 2.6 (ii),  $(NN(NNx * y)) * (NNx * y) = 0$ .

Moreover, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
(NNx * y) * NN(NNx * y) & \stackrel{(I)}{=} (NNx * NN(NNx * y)) * y \\
& \stackrel{(v)}{=} (NNN(NNx * y) * Nx) * y \\
& \stackrel{\text{Prop. 2.6(vi)}}{=} (N(NNx * y) * Nx) * y \\
& \stackrel{\text{Prop. 2.6(v)}}{=} (NNx * (NNx * y)) * y \\
& \stackrel{(v)}{=} (NNx * y) * (NNx * y) \\
& \stackrel{(BCK-3)}{=} 0.
\end{aligned}$$

Hence, by BCK-4,  $NN(NNx * y) = NNx * y$ .

(ii) By (i) and Proposition 2.6 (vi) we have

$$NN(Nx * y) = NN(NN(Nx) * y) = NN(Nx * y) = Nx * y. \quad (3.1)$$

(iii)

$$\begin{aligned}
NN(Nx * v) * N(Nx * v) & \stackrel{(ii)}{=} (Nx * v) * N(Nx * v) \\
& \stackrel{(I)}{=} (Nx * N(Nx * v)) * v \\
& \stackrel{(I)}{=} (NN(Nx * v) * x) * v \\
& \stackrel{(ii)}{=} ((Nx * v) * x) * v \\
& \stackrel{(I)}{=} ((Nx * x) * v) * v. \quad \square
\end{aligned}$$

**DEFINITION 3.2.** A BCK-filter  $F$  of  $X$  is called an *EQI-filter* if for all  $x \in X$ ,  $N(x * NNx) \in F$ .

The following example shows that EQI-filters exist and that not every BCK-filter is an EQI-filter in general.

*Example 3.3.* Let  $X = \{0, a, b, c, 1\}$  be a set, and the operation  $*$  and the partial ordering  $\leq$  on  $X$  be defined as follows:

| * | 0 | a | b | c | 1 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| a | a | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| b | b | b | 0 | b | 0 |
| c | c | a | a | 0 | 0 |
| 1 | 1 | b | a | b | 0 |

(3.2)

Then  $(X; *, 0)$  is a bounded BCK-algebra. It is easy to check that  $\{1\}$  and  $\{1, b\}$  are BCK-filters,  $\{1, b\}$  is an EQI-filter, but  $\{1\}$  is not an EQI-filter, because  $N(c * NNc) = 1 * (c * (1 * (1 * c))) = 1 * (c * (1 * b)) = 1 * (c * a) = 1 * a = b \notin \{1\}$ .

LEMMA 3.4. *Let  $X$  be a bounded BCK-algebra,  $F$  and  $E$  be BCK-filters with  $F \subseteq E$ . If  $F$  is an EQI-filter, then so is  $E$ .*

PROOF: The proof follows directly from the definition of an EQI-filter.  $\square$

THEOREM 3.5. *Let  $X$  be a bounded BCK-algebra. Then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (i)  $\{1\}$  is an EQI-filter.
- (ii) Every BCK-filter is an EQI-filter.
- (iii)  $X$  is an EQI-algebra.

PROOF: The theorem holds by Lemma 3.4, and Definition 2.12.  $\square$

If we define  $NF = \{Nx \mid x \in F\}$ , then we have the following theorem.

THEOREM 3.6. *Let  $F$  be a nonempty subset of  $X$ . Then  $F$  is an EQI-filter if and only if  $NF$  is an EQI-ideal.*

PROOF: Let  $F$  be a nonempty subset of  $X$ . Then by Definition 2.14 and 3.2, for all  $x \in X$  we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 F \text{ is an EQI-filter} &\Leftrightarrow N(x * NNx) \in F \\
 &\Leftrightarrow NN(x * NNx) \in NF \\
 &\Leftrightarrow NF \text{ is an EQI-ideal.}
 \end{aligned}$$
□

**THEOREM 3.7.** *In any EQI-algebra, the concepts of BCK-filters, EQI-filters and crazy filters coincide.*

**PROOF:** Suppose that  $X$  is an EQI-algebra. Then by Theorem 3.5, the concepts of BCK-filters and EQI-filters coincide. By Theorem 2.10, it is sufficient to prove that any crazy filter is a BCK-filter. Hence, we must prove that if  $y \in F$  and  $N(Nx * Ny) \in F$ , then  $x \in F$ . By Lemma 3.1, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 N(Nx * Ny) * N(y * x) &\stackrel{\text{Lem. 3.1(ii)}}{=} NN[N(Nx * Ny) * N(y * x)] \\
 &\stackrel{(I)}{=} NN[NN(y * x) * (Nx * Ny)] \\
 &\stackrel{(II) \text{ and Prop. 2.6(ii)}}{\leq} NN[(y * x) * (Nx * Ny)] \\
 &\stackrel{(I)}{=} NN[(y * x) * (NNy * x)] \\
 &\stackrel{(IV)}{\leq} NN(y * NNy) \\
 &\stackrel{(\text{Def. 2.12})}{=} 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore by Theorem 2.5(ii), we have  $N(y * x) \in F$ , which implies that  $x \in F$ .  $\square$

**COROLLARY 3.8.** Let  $X$  be a bounded BCK-algebra. Then in PC-lattices, involutory BCK-algebras, commutative BCK-algebras and implicative BCK-algebras, the concepts of BCK-filters, EQI-filters and crazy filters coincide.

**PROOF:** The corollary holds by Theorem 2.13, and Theorem 3.5.  $\square$

**THEOREM 3.9.** *Let  $X$  be a bounded BCK-algebra and  $F$  a nonempty subset of  $X$ . Then in PC-lattices, involutory BCK-algebras, commutative BCK-algebras and implicative BCK-algebras,  $F$  is a BCK-filter if and only if  $NF$  is an ideal of  $X$ .*

**PROOF:** The theorem holds by Corollary 3.8, Theorem 3.6, Theorem 2.13 and Theorem 3.5.  $\square$



#### 4. Implicative BCK-filters in bounded BCK-algebras

DEFINITION 4.1. A nonempty subset  $F$  of  $X$  is said to be an *implicative BCK-filter* if  $1 \in F$  and for all  $x, y, z \in X$ :  $N((Nx * (Ny * Nx)) * Nz) \in F$  and  $z \in F$  imply  $x \in F$ .

THEOREM 4.2. Any implicative BCK-filter of  $X$  is a BCK-filter, but the converse does not hold in general.

PROOF: Let  $F$  be an implicative BCK-filter of  $X$ , and suppose  $N(Nx * Ny) \in F$  and  $y \in F$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} N((Nx * (N1 * Nx)) * Ny) &= N((Nx * (0 * Nx)) * Ny) \\ &= N((Nx * 0) * Ny) = N(Nx * Ny) \in F. \end{aligned}$$

Hence by Definition 4.1, we have  $x \in F$ .  $\square$

The following example shows that the converse of Theorem 4.2 does not hold in general.

Example 4.3. Let  $X = \{0, a, b, 1\}$  be a set, and define the operation  $*$  and the partial ordering  $\leq$  on  $X$  as follows:

$$\begin{array}{c|cccc} * & 0 & a & b & 1 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ a & a & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ b & b & b & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & b & a & 0 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ | \\ b \\ | \\ a \\ | \\ 0 \end{array} \quad (4.1)$$

Then  $(X; *, 0)$  is a bounded BCK-algebra. It is easy to check that  $\{1\}$  and  $\{1, b\}$  are BCK-filters.  $\{1, b\}$  is an implicative BCK-filter, but  $\{1\}$  is not an implicative BCK-filter because  $N((Nb * (N0 * Nb)) * N1) = N((a * (1 * a)) * 0) = N((a * b)) = N0 = 1 \in \{1\}$  and  $1 \in \{1\}$ , yet  $b \notin \{1\}$ .

LEMMA 4.4. Let  $F$  be a BCK-filter of  $X$ . Then the following statements are equivalent for all  $x, y \in X$ :

- (i)  $F$  is an implicative BCK-filter.

(ii)  $N(Nx * (Ny * Nx)) \in F$  implies  $x \in F$ .

(iii)  $N(Nx * x) \in F$  implies  $x \in F$ .

PROOF: (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii): Let  $F$  be an implicative BCK-filter and  $N(Nx * (Ny * Nx)) \in F$ . We have  $1 \in F$  and

$$\begin{aligned} N((Nx * (Ny * Nx)) * N1) &= N((Nx * (Ny * Nx)) * 0) \\ &= N(Nx * (Ny * Nx)) \in F. \end{aligned}$$

So by Definition 4.1, we get  $x \in F$ .

(ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iii): Assume  $N(Nx * x) \in F$ . Then by Proposition 2.6(vi) and (I),

$$\begin{aligned} N(Nx * (N0 * Nx)) &= N(Nx * (1 * Nx)) \\ &= N(Nx * NNx) \\ &= N(NNNx * x) \\ &= N(Nx * x) \in F. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore by (ii) we have  $x \in F$ .

(iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii): Suppose  $N(Nx * (Ny * Nx)) \in F$ . Given that  $Ny * Nx \leq 1 * Nx = NNx$ , by (II) we have  $Nx * NNx \leq Nx * (Ny * Nx)$ , so  $N(Nx * (Ny * Nx)) \leq N(Nx * NNx)$ . Consequently  $N(Nx * NNx) \in F$ . Moreover, by (I) and Proposition 2.6(vi),  $N(Nx * x) = N(NNNx * x) = N(Nx * NNx) \in F$ , so by (iii) we obtain  $x \in F$ .

(ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i): This follows directly from the definition of a BCK-filter.  $\square$

THEOREM 4.5. *Let  $F$  be a BCK-filter of  $X$ . Then the following are equivalent for all  $x, y, z \in X$ :*

(i)  $F$  is an implicative BCK-filter.

(ii)  $N((Nx * Ny) * Ny) \in F$  implies  $N(Nx * Ny) \in F$ .

(iii)  $N((Nx * Ny) * Nz) \in F$  implies  $N((Nx * Nz) * (Ny * Nz)) \in F$ .

PROOF: (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii): Suppose  $F$  is an implicative BCK-filter and  $N((Nx * Ny) * Ny) \in F$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned}
(Nx * Ny) * Ny &\stackrel{\text{Prop. 2.6(ii) and (II)}}{\geq} NN(Nx * Ny) * Ny \\
&\stackrel{\text{(IV)}}{\geq} (Nx * Ny) * (Nx * NN(Nx * Ny)) \\
&\stackrel{\text{Prop. 2.6(ii) and (II)}}{\geq} NN(Nx * Ny) * (Nx * NN(Nx * Ny)).
\end{aligned}$$

Hence  $N((Nx * Ny) * Ny) \leq N(NN(Nx * Ny) * (Nx * NN(Nx * Ny)))$ . Given that  $F$  is a BCK-filter,  $N(NN(Nx * Ny) * (Nx * NN(Nx * Ny))) \in F$ . Consequently by Lemma 4.4 (ii), we have  $N(Nx * Ny) \in F$ .

(ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i): Let  $N(Nx * x) \in F$ . Then by (I),

$$N((NNx * (Nx * x)) * Nx) = N((NNx * Nx) * (Nx * x)).$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned}
N((N(Nx * NNx) * NNx) * NNx) &\stackrel{\text{(I)}}{=} N((NNNx * (Nx * NNx)) * NNx) \\
&\stackrel{\text{Prop. 2.6(iv)}}{=} N((Nx * (Nx * NNx)) * NNx) \\
&\stackrel{\text{(I)}}{=} N((Nx * NNx) * (Nx * NNx)) \\
&= N(0) \\
&= 1 \in F.
\end{aligned}$$

Thus by (ii) we have  $N((N(Nx * NNx) * NNx)) \in F$ . On the other hand,

$$\begin{aligned}
N(Nx * NN(Nx * x)) &\stackrel{\text{Prop. 2.6(iv)}}{=} N(NNNx * NN(Nx * x)) \\
&\stackrel{\text{(I)}}{=} N(NNN(Nx * x) * NNx) \\
&\stackrel{\text{Prop. 2.6(iv)}}{=} N(N(Nx * x) * NNx) \\
&\stackrel{\text{Prop. 2.6(iv)}}{=} N(N(NNNx * x) * NNx) \\
&\stackrel{\text{(I)}}{=} N(N(Nx * NNx) * NNx).
\end{aligned}$$

Hence  $N(Nx * NN(Nx * x)) \in F$ . Given that  $F$  is a BCK-filter, we get  $x \in F$ . Therefore by Lemma 4.4,  $F$  is an implicative BCK-filter.

(ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iii): Suppose  $N((Nx * Ny) * Nz) \in F$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned}
 & (((Nx * (Ny * Nz)) * Nz) * Nz) * ((Nx * Ny) * Nz) \\
 & \stackrel{(IV)}{\leq} ((Nx * (Ny * Nz)) * Nz) * (Nx * Ny) \\
 & \stackrel{(I)}{\leq} ((Nx * (Ny * Nz)) * (Nx * Ny)) * Nz \\
 & \stackrel{(IV),(II)}{\leq} (Ny * (Ny * Nz)) * Nz \\
 & \stackrel{(I)}{=} (Ny * Nz) * (Ny * Nz) \\
 & = 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

It follows that  $N((Nx * Ny) * Nz) \leq N(((Nx * (Ny * Nz)) * Nz) * Nz)$ . Hence by Theorem 2.5,  $N(((Nx * (Ny * Nz)) * Nz) * Nz) \in F$ . Consequently by (ii),

$$N((Nx * Nz) * (Ny * Nz)) = N((Nx * (Ny * Nz)) * Nz) \in F.$$

(iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii): Put  $z = y$ ; the statement clearly holds.  $\square$

**THEOREM 4.6.** *Let  $F$  and  $E$  be BCK-filters of  $X$  with  $F \subseteq E$ . If  $F$  is an implicative BCK-filter, then so is  $E$ .*

**PROOF:** Suppose  $F$  is an implicative BCK-filter,  $E$  is a BCK-filter,  $F \subseteq E$ , and  $N((Nx * Ny) * Ny) \in E$ . Set  $U = (Nx * Ny) * Ny$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned}
 (NN(Nx * U) * Ny) * Ny & \stackrel{\text{Lem. 3.1(ii)}}{=} ((Nx * U) * Ny) * Ny \\
 & \stackrel{(I)}{=} ((Nx * Ny) * U) * Ny \\
 & \stackrel{(I)}{=} ((Nx * Ny) * Ny) * U \\
 & = 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $N((NN(Nx * U) * Ny) * Ny) = N0 = 1 \in F$ . Now by Theorem 4.5 (ii), we have  $N(NN(Nx * U) * Ny) \in F$ . By Lemma 3.1, and Theorem 2.6 (vi),  $N((Nx * Ny) * U) \in F$ . On the other hand, by Proposition 2.6 (iii),

$$NN(Nx * Ny) * NNU \leq (Nx * Ny) * U.$$

Thus  $N((Nx * Ny) * U) \leq N(NN(Nx * Ny) * NNU)$ . Given that  $F$  is a BCK-filter,  $N(NN(Nx * Ny) * NNU) \in F \subseteq E$ . Because  $NU \in E$  and  $E$  is a BCK-filter, we obtain  $N(Nx * Ny) \in E$ . By Theorem 4.5,  $E$  is an implicative BCK-filter.  $\square$

**THEOREM 4.7.** *Let  $F$  be a BCK-filter of  $X$ . Then  $F$  is an implicative BCK-filter of  $X$  if and only if for every  $a \in X$ , the set*

$$B^F(a) = \{x \in X : N(Nx * Na) \in F\}$$

*is the smallest BCK-filter containing  $F$  and  $a$ .*

**PROOF:** Suppose that for every  $a \in X$ ,  $B^F(a)$  is a BCK-filter of  $X$  and  $N((Nx * Ny) * Ny) \in F$ . By Theorem 4.5, it suffices to show  $N(Nx * Ny) \in F$ . By Lemma 3.1,  $N(NN(Nx * Ny) * Ny) = N((Nx * Ny) * Ny) \in F$ , so  $N(Nx * Ny) \in B^F(y)$ . Given that  $y \in B^F(y)$  and  $B^F(y)$  is a BCK-filter, we have  $x \in B^F(y)$ . Therefore  $N(Nx * Ny) \in F$ .

Conversely, assume  $F$  is an implicative BCK-filter. If  $N(Nx * Ny) \in B^F(y)$  and  $x \in B^F(y)$ , then by definition of  $B^F(y)$  and Lemma 3.1, we obtain  $N((Nx * Ny) * Ny) = N(NN(Nx * Ny) * Ny) \in F$ . Hence by Theorem 4.5,  $N(Nx * Ny) \in F$ , which shows  $x \in B^F(y)$ . Thus  $B^F(a)$  is a BCK-filter. Clearly  $a \in B^F(a)$ . Moreover, for any  $x \in F$ , using Lemma 3.1(ii), we have  $N(NN(Nx * Na) * Nx) = N((Nx * Na) * Nx) = N((Nx * Nx) * Na) = N0 = 1 \in F$ . Given that  $F$  is a BCK-filter,  $N(Nx * Na) \in F$ , so  $x \in B^F(a)$ . Hence  $F \subseteq B^F(a)$ . If  $E$  is any BCK-filter containing  $F$  and  $a$ , then for  $x \in B^F(a)$  we have  $N(Nx * Na) \in F \subseteq E$ , and because  $a \in E$  and  $E$  is a BCK-filter, we get  $x \in E$ . Therefore  $B^F(a) \subseteq E$ .  $\square$

**THEOREM 4.8.** *Let  $X$  be an involutory BCK-algebra. Then*

- (i)  $\{1\}$  is an implicative BCK-filter.
- (ii) Every BCK-filter is an implicative BCK-filter.
- (iii) For every  $a \in X$ ,  $B(a) = B^{\{1\}}(a)$  is an implicative BCK-filter.
- (iv)  $X$  is an implicative BCK-algebra.

PROOF: (i)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (ii) follows directly from Theorem 4.6.

(ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iii):  $\{1\}$  is a BCK-filter, so by (ii) it is an implicative BCK-filter. By Theorem 4.7,  $B(a) = B^{\{1\}}(a)$  is a BCK-filter, and then by (ii) it is an implicative BCK-filter.

(iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iv): Given that  $X$  is involutory,  $NNx = x$  for all  $x \in X$ . For  $x, y \in X$ , set  $s = Nx$ ,  $t = Ny$ , so  $x = Ns$ ,  $y = Nt$ . Put  $u = N(x * (y * x))$ . Then  $N(Ns * (Nt * Ns)) = N(x * (y * x)) = u \in B(u)$ , and  $B(u)$  is an implicative BCK-filter. By Lemma 4.4(ii),  $s \in B(u)$ , hence  $N(Ns * Nu) \in \{1\}$ . Thus  $N(x * (x * (y * x))) = N(x * NN(x * (y * x))) = N(Ns * Nu) = 1$ , so  $NN(x * (x * (y * x))) = x * (x * (y * x)) = 0$ . Therefore  $x \leq x * (y * x)$ . Clearly  $x * (y * x) \leq x$ , so  $x * (y * x) = x$ . By Definition 2.2,  $X$  is an implicative BCK-algebra.

(iv)  $\Rightarrow$  (i): Let  $N(Nx * x) \in \{1\}$ . By (iv),  $x * Nx = x * (1 * x) = x$ . Hence  $N(Nx * x) = N(Nx * (x * Nx)) = N(Nx) = NNx = x \in \{1\}$ , which implies  $x = 1 \in \{1\}$ . By Lemma 4.4,  $\{1\}$  is an implicative BCK-filter.  $\square$

**THEOREM 4.9.** *In EQI-algebras, involutory BCK-algebras and PC-lattices,  $F$  is an implicative BCK-filter if and only if  $NF$  is an implicative ideal.*

PROOF: Given that  $\{1\}$  is a BCK-filter, by Theorem 3.9, we have  $N\{1\} = \{0\}$ , which is an ideal. The result then follows from Theorem 4.8 and Definition 2.3.  $\square$

## 5. Commutative BCK-filters in bounded BCK-algebras

**DEFINITION 5.1.** A BCK-filter  $F$  of  $X$  is called a *commutative BCK-filter* if for all  $x, y \in X$ ,  $N(Nx * Ny) \in F$  implies  $N(Nx * (Ny * (Ny * Nx))) \in F$ .

**THEOREM 5.2.** *Let  $F$  be an implicative BCK-filter of  $X$ . Then  $F$  is a commutative BCK-filter, but the converse does not hold in general.*

PROOF: Suppose  $F$  is an implicative BCK-filter,  $N(Nx * Ny) \in F$ , and let  $v = Ny * (Ny * Nx)$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned}
& N(Nx * Ny) * N(NN(Nx * v) * N(Nx * v)) \\
\stackrel{\text{Prop. 2.6(iii)}}{\leq} & (NN(Nx * v) * N(Nx * v)) * (Nx * Ny) \\
\stackrel{\text{Lem. 3.1(iii)}}{=} & (((Nx * x) * v) * v) * (Nx * Ny) \\
\stackrel{(I)}{=} & (((Nx * x) * (Nx * Ny)) * v) * v \\
\stackrel{(IV)}{\leq} & ((Ny * x) * v) * v \\
= & ((Ny * x) * (Ny * (Ny * Nx))) * v \\
\stackrel{(IV)}{\leq} & ((Ny * Nx) * x) * v \\
\stackrel{(I)}{=} & ((NNx * y) * x) * v \\
\stackrel{(I)}{=} & ((NNx * x) * y) * v \\
= & 0 * v \\
= & 0.
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $N(Nx * Ny) \leq N(NN(Nx * v) * N(Nx * v))$ . Given that  $N(Nx * Ny) \in F$ , we have  $N(NN(Nx * v) * N(Nx * v)) \in F$ , and by Lemma 4.4, we obtain  $N(Nx * v) = N(Nx * (Ny * (Ny * Nx))) \in F$ . Hence  $F$  is a commutative BCK-filter.  $\square$

The following example shows that the converse does not hold in general.

*Example 5.3.* Let  $X = \{0, a, b, c, 1\}$  be a set, and define the operation  $*$  and the partial ordering  $\leq$  on  $X$  as follows:

|     |     |     |     |     |     |     |       |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| $*$ | $0$ | $a$ | $b$ | $c$ | $1$ | $1$ | (5.1) |
| $0$ | $0$ | $0$ | $0$ | $0$ | $0$ | $c$ |       |
| $a$ | $a$ | $0$ | $0$ | $0$ | $0$ | $b$ |       |
| $b$ | $b$ | $b$ | $0$ | $0$ | $0$ | $a$ |       |
| $c$ | $c$ | $c$ | $b$ | $0$ | $0$ | $0$ |       |
| $1$ | $1$ | $c$ | $b$ | $a$ | $0$ |     |       |
|     |     |     |     |     |     |     |       |

Then  $(X; *, 0)$  is a bounded BCK-algebra. It is easy to check that  $\{1\}$  and  $\{1, c\}$  are BCK-filters.  $\{1, c\}$  is a commutative BCK-filter, but it is not an implicative BCK-filter because  $N(Nb * b) = N(b * b) = N(0) = 1 \in \{1, c\}$  while  $b \notin \{1, c\}$ .

**THEOREM 5.4.** *Let  $X$  be an EQI-algebra. Then every commutative BCK-filter is an EQI-filter.*

**PROOF:** Let  $F$  be a commutative BCK-filter of the EQI-algebra  $X$ . Given that every commutative BCK-filter is a BCK-filter, Theorem 3.5 implies that  $F$  is an EQI-filter.  $\square$

The following example shows that the converse of Theorem 5.4 does not hold in general.

In Example 5.3, it is easy to check that  $\{1\}$  is an EQI-filter, but it is not a commutative BCK-filter because  $N(Nc * Na) = N(a * c) = N0 = 1 \in \{1\}$ , yet  $N(Nc * (Na * (Na * Nc))) = N(a * (c * (c * a))) = N(a * (c * c)) = N(a * 0) = N(a) = c \notin \{1\}$ .

**THEOREM 5.5.** *Let  $X$  be an involutory BCK-algebra and a PC-lattice. Then the concepts of crazy filters, BCK-filters, EQI-filters and commutative BCK-filters coincide.*

**PROOF:** Assume  $X$  is an involutory BCK-algebra and a PC-lattice. By Corollary 3.8, the concepts of crazy filters, BCK-filters and EQI-filters coincide. Thus it suffices to prove that every BCK-filter is a commutative BCK-filter. Let  $F$  be a BCK-filter and  $N(Nx * Ny) \in F$ . Then



$$\begin{aligned}
N(Nx * (Ny * (Ny * Nx))) &\stackrel{(I)}{=} N(Nx * (Ny * (NNx * y))) \\
&\stackrel{\text{Def. 2.2(iii)}}{=} N(Nx * ((1 * y) * (NNx * y))) \\
&\stackrel{\text{Def. 2.11}}{=} N(Nx * (1 * (NNx \vee y))) \\
&\stackrel{\text{Def. 2.2(iii)}}{=} N(Nx * (N(NNx \vee y))) \\
&\stackrel{\text{Lem. 2.7(ii)}}{=} N(Nx * (NNNx \wedge Ny)) \\
&\stackrel{\text{Prop. 2.6(vi)}}{=} N(Nx * (Nx \wedge Ny)) \\
&\stackrel{\text{Prop. 2.9(i)}}{=} N((Nx * Nx) \vee (Nx * Ny)) \\
&= N(Nx * Ny) \in F.
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, by Definition 5.1,  $F$  is a commutative BCK-filter.  $\square$

LEMMA 5.6. *Let  $F$  and  $E$  be BCK-filters of  $X$  with  $F \subseteq E$ . If  $F$  is a commutative BCK-filter, then so is  $E$ .*

PROOF: Assume that  $F$  is a commutative BCK-filter,  $E$  is a BCK-filter,  $F \subseteq E$ , and  $u = N(Nx * Ny) \in E$ . By (I) and (BCK-3) we have

$$N((Nx * (Nx * Ny)) * Ny) = N((Nx * Ny) * (Nx * Ny)) = N(0) = 1 \in F.$$

Hence by the definition of a commutative BCK-filter,

$$N[(Nx * (Nx * Ny)) * (Ny * (Ny * (Nx * (Nx * Ny))))] = v \in F \subseteq E.$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned}
&N[Nx * (Ny * (Ny * (Nx * (Nx * Ny))))] * NN(Nx * Ny) \\
&\stackrel{\text{Lem. 3.1(ii)}}{=} N[Nx * (Ny * (Ny * (Nx * (Nx * Ny))))] * (Nx * Ny) \\
&\stackrel{(I)}{=} N(Nx * (Nx * Ny)) * (Ny * (Ny * (Nx * (Nx * Ny)))) \\
&= v \in E.
\end{aligned}$$

Thus by Definition 2.4 (i) we obtain

$$N(Nx * (Ny * (Ny * (Nx * (Nx * Ny)))))) \in E.$$

On the other hand, by Proposition 2.6 (iii), (IV) and (BCK-3),

$$N(Nx * (Ny * (Ny * (Nx * (Nx * Ny)))))) * N(Nx * (Ny * (Ny * Nx)))$$

Prop. 2.6(iii)

$$\leq (Nx * (Ny * (Ny * Nx))) * (Nx * (Ny * (Ny * (Nx * (Nx * Ny))))))$$

$$\stackrel{(IV)}{\leq} (Ny * (Ny * (Nx * (Nx * Ny)))) * (Ny * (Ny * Nx))$$

$$\stackrel{(IV)}{\leq} (Ny * Nx) * (Ny * (Nx * (Nx * Ny)))$$

$$\stackrel{(IV)}{\leq} (Nx * (Nx * Ny)) * Nx$$

$$\stackrel{(I)}{\leq} (Nx * Nx) * (Nx * Ny)$$

(BCK-3)

$$\leq 0.$$

Hence by Theorem 2.5 (i),  $N(Nx * (Ny * (Ny * Nx))) \in E$ , and by Definition 5.1 the theorem holds.  $\square$

**THEOREM 5.7.** *Let  $X$  be a bounded BCK-algebra. Then the following statements are equivalent for all  $x, y \in X$ :*

- (i)  $\{1\}$  is a commutative BCK-filter.
- (ii) Every BCK-filter is a commutative BCK-filter.
- (iii)  $Nx * (Nx * Ny) = Ny * (Ny * Nx)$ .
- (iv)  $Ny * (Nx * (Nx * Ny)) = Ny * Nx$ .

**PROOF:** (i)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (ii): This follows directly from Lemma 5.6.

(ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iii): Suppose that  $\{1\}$  is a commutative BCK-filter and let  $v = N(Nx * (Nx * Ny))$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned}
N(Nv * Ny) &= N(NN(Nx * (Nx * Ny)) * Ny) \\
&\stackrel{\text{Lem. 3.1(ii)}}{=} N((Nx * (Nx * Ny)) * Ny) \\
&\stackrel{(I)}{=} N((Nx * Ny) * (Nx * Ny)) \\
&\stackrel{(\text{BCK-3})}{=} N(0) \\
&\stackrel{(\text{BCK-3})}{=} 1 \in \{1\}.
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, by the definition of a commutative BCK-filter,

$$N(Nv * (Ny * (Ny * Nv))) \in \{1\}. \quad (\text{a})$$

By Lemma 3.1 (ii),  $Nv \leq Nx$ . Hence by (II) we have  $Ny * Nx \leq Ny * Nv$ . For the same reason,  $Ny * (Ny * Nv) \leq Ny * (Ny * Nx)$  and  $Nv * (Ny * (Ny * Nx)) \leq Nv * (Ny * (Ny * Nv))$ . Consequently,

$$N(Nv * (Ny * (Ny * Nv))) \leq N(Nv * (Ny * (Ny * Nx))).$$

Thus by (a) and Theorem 2.5 (i),  $N(Nv * (Ny * (Ny * Nx))) \in \{1\}$ . Hence  $NN(Nv * (Ny * (Ny * Nx))) = Nv * (Ny * (Ny * Nx)) = 0$ , and therefore  $Nx * (Nx * Ny) = NN(Nx * (Nx * Ny)) = Nv \leq Ny * (Ny * Nx)$ . Similarly we obtain  $Ny * (Ny * Nx) \leq Nx * (Nx * Ny)$ , so  $Ny * (Ny * Nx) = Nx * (Nx * Ny)$ .

(iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iv): By (III) and the assumption,

$$Ny * (Nx * (Nx * Ny)) = Ny * (Ny * (Ny * Nx)) = Ny * Nx.$$

(iv)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii): Suppose  $F$  is a BCK-filter and  $N(Nx * Ny) \in F$ . Then by (iv),  $N(Nx * (Ny * (Ny * Nx))) = N(Nx * Ny) \in F$ , which completes the proof.  $\square$

**THEOREM 5.8.** *Let  $X$  be an involutory BCK-algebra. Then the following statements are equivalent for all  $x, y \in X$ :*

(i)  $\{1\}$  is a commutative BCK-filter.

(ii) Every BCK-filter is a commutative BCK-filter.

$$(iii) \quad Ny * (Ny * Nx) = Nx * (Nx * Ny).$$

$$(iv) \quad Nx * (Ny * (Ny * Nx)) = Nx * Ny.$$

$$(v) \quad X \text{ is a commutative BCK-algebra.}$$

PROOF: The theorem follows from Theorem 5.7 and Definition 2.2 (ii).  $\square$

## 6. Conclusion

To investigate and characterize the structure of logical systems, the concepts of ideals and filters are very important. In this research we introduced and studied EQI-filters, implicative and commutative BCK-filters in bounded BCK-algebras. We determined the relations between these BCK-filters and surveyed them in subclasses of bounded BCK-algebras such as EQI-algebras and involutory BCK-algebras.

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