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# Locally finite quasivarieties of MV-algebras.\*

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#### Abstract

In this paper we show that every locally finite quasivariety of MV-algebras is finitely generated and finitely based. To see this result we study critical MV-algebras. We also give axiomatizations of some of these quasivarieties.

# Introduction

In [4, 5] C.C.Chang introduced MV-algebras in order to give an algebraic counterpart of the Łukasiewicz's many valued propositional calculus. In fact, the class of all MV-algebras, in a termwise equivalent presentation named Wajsberg algebras, is the equivalent variety semantics, in the sense of [1], of this calculus (see [17]).

From the equivalence between MV-algebras and many valued Lukasiewicz's logic, it is easy to see that finitary extensions of Lukasiewicz's propositional calculus correspond to subquasivarieties of MV-algebras, and axioms and rules of the calculus correspond with equations and quasiequations, respectively. Hence, finite axiomatizable finitary extensions of Lukasiewicz's propositional calculus correspond with finite axiomatizable quasivarieties of MV-algebras.

In this paper, we study finite axiomatizability of locally finite quasivarieties of MV-algebras. Concretely, we show, in Section 2, that locally finite quasivarieties and finitely generated quasivarieties of MV-algebras coincide, Theorem 2.13, and that they are finitely axiomatizable, Theorem 2.15. To prove these results, we give a characterization of critical MV-algebras, Theorem 2.11, and we see that any locally finite quasivariety of MV-algebras is generated by critical MV-algebras, Theorem 2.9. By using a result of [11], we deduce the finite axiomatizability of these quasivarieties.

In section 3, we give some examples of locally finite quasivarieties of MV-algebras, and we give an effective axiomatization for each considered quasivariety .

We include a preliminary section, Section 1, containing basic definitions, results and notation used in the paper.

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### **1** Definitions and first properties.

An **MV-algebra** is an algebra  $(A, \oplus, \neg, 0)$  of type (2, 1, 0) satisfying the following equations:

MV1.  $(x \oplus y) \oplus z \approx x \oplus (y \oplus z)$ MV2.  $x \oplus y \approx y \oplus x$ MV3.  $x \oplus 0 \approx x$ MV4.  $\neg(\neg x) \approx x$ MV5.  $x \oplus \neg 0 \approx \neg 0$ MV6.  $\neg(\neg x \oplus y) \oplus y \approx \neg(x \oplus \neg y) \oplus x$ By taking  $y = \neg 0$  in MV6, we deduce:

**MV7.**  $x \oplus \neg x \approx \neg 0$ .

Therefore, if we set  $1 = \neg 0$  and  $x \odot y = \neg(\neg x \oplus \neg y)$ , then  $\langle A, \oplus, \odot, \neg, 0, 1 \rangle$  satisfies all axioms given in [14, Lemma 2.6], and hence the above definition of MV-algebras is equivalent to Chang's definition [4]. We denote by W, the class of all MV-algebras. W is a variety since it is an equational class.

Given  $\mathbf{G} = \langle G, \wedge, \vee, +, -, 0 \rangle$  a lattice ordered abelian group and  $u \in G$  u > 0, we define the algebra  $\Gamma(\mathbf{G}, u) = \langle [0, u], \oplus, \neg, 0 \rangle$  where

- $[0, u] = \{a \in G : 0 \le a \le u\},\$
- $a \oplus b = u \land (a + b), \neg a = u a \text{ and } 0 = 0^{\mathbf{G}}.$

Then  $\Gamma(\mathbf{G}, u)$  is an MV-algebra. In fact any MV-algebra is isomorphic to the unit segment of some lattice ordered abelian group. Concretely, the category of MV-algebras is equivalent to the category of lattice ordered abelian groups with strong unit (See [6], [14]).

The following MV-algebras play an important role in the paper.

- $[0, 1] = \Gamma(\mathbf{R}, 1)$ , where **R** is the totally ordered group of the reals.
- $[0,1] \cap \mathbf{Q} = \Gamma(\mathbf{Q},1) = \langle \{\frac{k}{m} : k \leq m < \omega\}, \oplus, \neg, 0 \rangle$ , where  $\mathbf{Q}$  is the totally ordered abelian group of the rationals and  $\omega$  represents the set of all natural numbers.

For every  $0 < n < \omega$ 

•  $\mathbf{L}_n = \Gamma(\mathbf{Q}_n, 1) = \langle \{\frac{k}{n} : 0 \le k \le n\}, \oplus, \neg, 0 \rangle$ , where  $\mathbf{Q}_n = \{\frac{k}{n} : k \in \mathbb{Z}\}$  is a subgroup of  $\mathbf{Q}$  and  $\mathbb{Z}$  is the set of all integers.

•  $\mathbf{L}_{n}^{\omega} = \Gamma(\mathbf{Q}_{n} \otimes \mathbf{Z}, (1,0)) = \langle \{(\frac{k}{n}, i) : (0,0) \leq (\frac{k}{n}, i) \leq (1,0)\}, \oplus, \neg, 0 \rangle$ , where **Z** is the totally ordered group of the integers and  $\mathbf{Q}_{n} \otimes \mathbf{Z}$  is the lexicographic product of  $\mathbf{Q}_{n}$  and **Z**.

The following theorem states some well-known results on MV-algebras. (See for instance [6]).

#### Theorem 1.1

- 1. Every simple MV-algebra is isomorphic to a subalgebra of [0,1].
- 2. Every finite simple MV-algebra is isomorphic to  $\mathbf{L}_n$  for some  $n \in \omega$ .
- 3. Every finite MV-algebra is isomorphic to a direct product of finite simple MValgebras.
- 4.  $\mathbf{L}_n \subseteq \mathbf{L}_m$  if and only if n|m.

If we define 0x = 0 and for each  $n \in \omega$   $(n+1)x = x \oplus nx$ , then

**Lemma 1.2** [18, Lemma 2.2.]  $\mathbf{L}_n$  is embeddable into an MV-algebra  $\mathbf{A}$  if, and only if, there is an element  $a \in \mathbf{A}$  such that  $(n-1)(\neg a) = a$ . Moreover  $a \neq 1^{\mathbf{A}}$ .  $\Box$ 

We denote by I, H, S, P,  $\mathbb{P}_R$  and  $\mathbb{P}_U$  the operators isomorphic image, homomorphic image, substructure, direct product, reduced product and ultraproduct respectively. We recall that a class K of algebras is a **variety** if and only if it is closed by H, S and P. And a class K of algebras is a **quasivariety** if and only if it is closed by I, S and P<sub>R</sub>, or equivalently, by and I, S, P and P<sub>U</sub>. Given a class K of algebras, the variety generated by K, denoted by  $\mathbb{V}(\mathbb{K})$ , is the least variety containing K. Similarly, the quasivariety generated by a class K, which we denote by  $\mathbb{Q}(\mathbb{K})$ , is the least quasivariety containing K. We also recall that a class K of algebras is a variety if and only if it is an equational class, and K is a quasivariety if and only if it is a quasi-equational class.

### 2 Locally finite quasivarieties and critical algebras.

An algebra A is locally finite if and only if every finitely generated subalgebra is finite. A class K is locally finite if and only if every member of K is locally finite. A variety, or a quasivariety, is finitely generated if it is generated by a finite set of finite algebras.

We recall some basic properties of locally finite varieties and quasivarieties.

**Theorem 2.1** [3, page 70] Let  $\mathbb{K}$  be a finite set of finite algebras. Then  $\mathbb{V}(\mathbb{K})$  is a locally finite variety.

**Theorem 2.2** [3, page 69] A variety  $\mathbb{K}$  is locally finite if and only if

 $|X| < \omega$  implies  $|\mathbf{F}_{\mathbb{K}}(\bar{X})| < \omega$ 

where  $F_{\mathbb{K}}(\tilde{X})$  is the free algebra with respect  $\mathbb{K}$ .

From the above theorem we can deduce:

**Theorem 2.3** Let  $\mathbb{K}$  be a quasivariety. The following conditions are equivalent:

- 1.  $\mathbb{K}$  is a locally finite quasivariety
- 2.  $\mathbb{V}(\mathbb{K})$  is a locally finite variety.
- 3.  $\mathbb{K}$  is contained in a locally finite variety.

**Proof**:  $1 \Rightarrow 2$ : Assume that K is locally finite. Since K is a quasivariety, we have that  $F_{V(K)}(\bar{X}) \in K$ . Therefore if  $|X| < \omega$  then  $|F_{V(K)}(\bar{X})| < \omega$ . And by Theorem 2.2 we obtain that V(K) is locally finite.

 $2 \Rightarrow 3$ : It is trivial, since  $\mathbb{K} \subseteq \mathbb{V}(\mathbb{K})$ .

 $3 \Rightarrow 1$ : Since any subclass of a locally finite class of algebras is also locally finite, from 3 we trivially obtain 1

**Corollary 2.4** Every finitely generated quasivariety is locally finite.  $\Box$ 

We want to obtain all locally finite varieties and quasivarieties of MV-algebras. First we recall which are the varieties of MV-algebras.

**Theorem 2.5** [13, Theorem 4.11]  $\mathbb{K}$  is a proper subvariety of  $\mathbb{W}$  if and only if there exist two disjoint finite subsets I, J of natural numbers such that

$$\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{V}(\mathbf{L}_i \ i \in I, \mathbf{L}_j^{\omega} \ j \in J).$$

From the above we have:

**Lemma 2.6** Let K be a variety of MV-algebras. K is a locally finite variety if and only if  $K = V(\mathbf{L}_{n_1}, \ldots, \mathbf{L}_{n_r})$  for some  $n_1, \ldots, n_r \in \omega$ 

**Proof**: By Theorem 2.1, for every  $r < \omega$  and any  $n_1, \ldots, n_r \in \omega$ ,  $\mathbb{V}(\mathbf{L}_{n_1}, \ldots, \mathbf{L}_{n_r})$  is a locally finite variety.

If  $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{W}$ , then, since [0, 1] is not locally finite,  $\mathbb{K}$  is not locally finite. If a proper variety  $\mathbb{K}$  is not of the form  $\mathbb{V}(\mathbf{L}_{n_1}, \ldots, \mathbf{L}_{n_r})$  for some  $n_1, \ldots, n_r \in \omega$ , then by Theorem 2.5 we have that  $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{V}(\mathbf{L}_i \ i \in I, \mathbf{L}_j^{\omega} \ j \in J)$  with  $J \neq \emptyset$ . Hence there is  $j \in J$  such that  $\mathbf{L}_j^{\omega} \in \mathbb{K}$  and, since  $\mathbf{L}_j^{\omega}$  is not locally finite,  $\mathbb{K}$  is not a locally finite variety.  $\Box$  From Lemma 2.6 and Theorem 2.3 we can deduce:

**Corollary 2.7** A quasivariety of MV-algebras is locally finite if and only if it is a subquasivariety of a variety of the form  $\mathbb{V}(\mathbf{L}_{n_1}, \ldots, \mathbf{L}_{n_r})$  for some  $n_1, \ldots, n_r \in \omega$ .  $\Box$ 

A critical algebra is a finite algebra not belonging to the quasivariety generated by all its proper subalgebras. In order to study critical algebras we need to recall a general result of Model Theory.

**Theorem 2.8** [3, page 213] Every algebra is embeddable into an ultraproduct of its finitely generated subalgebras.  $\Box$ 

The interest of critical algebras is given by the following result, which is mentioned in [10, page 128], but no proof is given.

**Theorem 2.9** Every locally finite quasivariety is generated by its critical algebras.

**Proof**: Let K be a locally finite quasivariety and let  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{K}$ . By Theorem 2.8, if  $\mathcal{F} = \{\mathbf{B} \subseteq \mathbf{A} : \mathbf{B} \text{ is finitely generated}\}$ , then  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{ISP}_U(\mathcal{F})$ . Since K is locally finite we have that  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{ISP}_U(\{\mathbf{B} \subseteq \mathbf{A} : \mathbf{B} \text{ is finite}\}) \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(\mathbb{K}_{fin})$ , where  $\mathbb{K}_{fin}$  is the class of all finite algebras in K. Hence  $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{Q}(\mathbb{K}_{fin})$ .

Let  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{K}_{fin}$  then we claim that  $\mathbb{Q}(\mathbf{A}) = \mathbb{Q}(\{\mathbf{B} \subseteq \mathbf{A} : \mathbf{B} \text{ is critical }\})$ . To prove the claim we proceed by induction over the cardinal of A. If |A| = 1, then  $\mathbf{A}$  is already critical and we trivially have that  $\mathbb{Q}(\mathbf{A}) = \mathbb{Q}(\{\mathbf{B} \subseteq \mathbf{A} : \mathbf{B} \text{ is critical }\})$ .

Assume |A| = n. If **A** is critical, then  $\mathbb{Q}(\mathbf{A}) = \mathbb{Q}(\{\mathbf{B} \subseteq \mathbf{A} : \mathbf{B} \text{ is critical }\})$ .

In other case, we have that  $\mathbb{Q}(\mathbf{A}) = \mathbb{Q}(\{\mathbf{B} \subseteq \mathbf{A} : \mathbf{B} \neq \mathbf{A}\})$ . Since for  $\mathbf{B} \subsetneq \mathbf{A}$ , |B| < n, by inductive hypothesis we have that  $\mathbb{Q}(\mathbf{B}) = \mathbb{Q}(\{\mathbf{C} \subseteq \mathbf{B} : \mathbf{C} \text{ is critical }\})$ . Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{Q}(\mathbf{A}) &= \mathbb{Q}(\{\mathbf{B} : \mathbf{B} \subsetneq \mathbf{A}\}) \\ &= \mathbb{Q}(\{\mathbf{C} \subseteq \mathbf{B} : \mathbf{C} \text{ is critical and } \mathbf{B} \subsetneq \mathbf{A}\}) \\ &= \mathbb{Q}(\{\mathbf{B} \subseteq \mathbf{A} : \mathbf{B} \text{ is critical }\}). \end{aligned}$$

and the claim is proved. Thus we have that

$$\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{Q}(\mathbb{K}_{fin}) \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(\{\mathbf{B} \subseteq \mathbf{A} : \mathbf{B} \text{ is critical and } \mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{K}_{fin}\}) = \mathbb{Q}(\mathbb{K}_{Crit}) \subseteq \mathbb{K}$$

where  $\mathbb{K}_{Crit}$  is the class of all critical algebras in  $\mathbb{K}$ .  $\Box$ Our next purpose is to characterize critical MV-algebras. We need a previous result.

**Lemma 2.10** If  $\mathbf{L}_{n_0} \times \cdots \times \mathbf{L}_{n_{l-1}}$  is embeddable into  $\prod_{j \in J} \mathbf{L}_{m_j}$  where the set

 $\{m_j : j \in J\}$  is finite then

- 1. For every i < l there exists  $j \in J$  such that  $n_i | m_j$ .
- 2. For every  $j \in J$  there exists i < l such that  $n_i | m_j$ .

**Proof**: 1) If  $\mathbf{L}_{n_0} \times \cdots \times \mathbf{L}_{n_{l-1}}$  is embeddable into  $\prod_{j \in J} \mathbf{L}_{m_j}$ , then

$$\mathbf{L}_{n_1} \times \cdots \times \mathbf{L}_{n_l} \in \mathbb{V}(\prod_{j \in J} \mathbf{L}_{m_j}) = \mathbb{V}(\{\mathbf{L}_{m_j}; j \in J\}).$$

Hence, for every i < l,  $\mathbf{L}_{n_i} \in \mathbb{V}(\{\mathbf{L}_{m_j}; j \in J\})$ . Since  $\{m_j : j \in J\}$  is finite, from a result due to Jónsson [3, page 149], we deduce that the class subdirectly irreducible members of  $\mathbb{V}(\{\mathbf{L}_{m_j}; j \in J\})$  is  $\mathbb{I}(\{\mathbf{L}_n : \exists j \in J \ \mathbf{L}_n \subseteq \mathbf{L}_{m_j}\})$ . Since  $\mathbf{L}_{n_i}$  is simple, therefore subdirectly irreducible, for every i < l there exists  $j \in J$  such that  $\mathbf{L}_{n_i} \subseteq \mathbf{L}_{m_j}$ , and by 4 of Theorem 1.1  $n_i | m_j$ .

2) For each  $j \in J$  consider the natural projection:  $\pi_j : \prod_{j \in J} \mathbf{L}_{m_j} \longrightarrow \mathbf{L}_{m_j}$ . Let  $\gamma: \mathbf{L}_{n_0} \times \cdots \times \mathbf{L}_{n_{l-1}} \rightarrow \prod_{j \in J} \mathbf{L}_{m_j}$  be an embedding, then for every  $j \in J$   $\gamma_j = \pi_j \circ \gamma$  is

an homomorphism from  $\mathbf{L}_{n_0} \times \cdots \times \mathbf{L}_{n_{l-1}}$  to  $\mathbf{L}_{m_j}$ . Hence

$$\mathbf{L}_{n_0} \times \cdots \times \mathbf{L}_{n_{l-1}} / Ker(\gamma_j) \cong \gamma_j(\mathbf{L}_{n_0} \times \cdots \times \mathbf{L}_{n_{l-1}}) \subseteq \mathbf{L}_{m_j}$$

So,  $\mathbf{L}_{n_0} \times \cdots \times \mathbf{L}_{n_{l-1}}/Ker(\gamma_j)$  is simple, and by [6, Theorem 4.1.19] we have that  $Ker(\gamma_j)$  is a maximal congruence relation of  $\mathbf{L}_{n_0} \times \cdots \times \mathbf{L}_{n_{l-1}}$ . From [7, Lemma 2.3] (see also [16]) and the fact that all  $\mathbf{L}_n$ 's are simple, it can be deduced that there is k < l such that

$$Ker(\gamma_j) = L^2_{n_0} \times \cdots \times L^2_{n_{k-1}} \times \Delta_{\mathbf{L}_{n_k}} \times L^2_{n_{k+1}} \times \cdots \times L^2_{n_{l-1}}$$

Hence, for every  $j \in J$  there exists k < l such that

$$\mathbf{L}_{n_0} \times \cdots \times \mathbf{L}_{n_{l-1}} / Ker(\gamma_j) \cong \mathbf{L}_{n_k} \subseteq \mathbf{L}_{m_j}.$$

Thus  $n_k | m_j$ .

Finally we give a characterization of all critical MV-algebras.

**Theorem 2.11** An MV-algebra **A** is critical if and only if **A** is isomorphic to a finite MV-algebra  $\mathbf{L}_{n_0} \times \cdots \times \mathbf{L}_{n_{l-1}}$  satisfying the following conditions:

- 1. For every  $i, j < l, i \neq j$  implies  $n_i \neq n_j$ .
- 2. Consider the correspondence  $D: \omega \to \mathcal{P}(\omega): n \mapsto D(n) = \{d < \omega : d|n\}$ . Then there is at most one  $n_i$ , i < l, such that  $|D(n_i) \cap \{n_j : j < l\}| > 1$ .

**Proof**: Assume that  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{L}_{n_0} \times \cdots \times \mathbf{L}_{n_{l-1}}$  satisfies conditions 1) and 2). First, we will show the following:

**Claim:** Every proper subalgebra of **A** is embeddable into a subalgebra of **A** of the form  $\mathbf{L}_{d_0} \times \cdots \times \mathbf{L}_{d_{l-1}}$ , where  $d_i|n_i$  for each i < l and there exists j < l such that  $d_j \neq n_j$ .

**Proof of the claim:** Let **B** be a proper subalgebra of **A**. Since **A** is finite **B** is also finite and by Theorem 1.1, **B** is isomorphic to  $\mathbf{L}_{p_0} \times \cdots \times \mathbf{L}_{p_{r-1}}$ . For each i < l consider the natural projection:  $\pi_i : \mathbf{A} \to \mathbf{L}_{n_i}$ , if for all i < l, we write  $\gamma_i = \pi_i \mid_{\mathbf{B}}$ , then we can assume that **B** is embeddable into  $\gamma_0(\mathbf{B}) \times \cdots \times \gamma_{l-1}(\mathbf{B})$ . Moreover, since  $\gamma_i(\mathbf{B}) \subseteq \mathbf{L}_{n_i}$ , we have  $\gamma_i(\mathbf{B}) = \mathbf{L}_{d_i}$  for some  $d_i \mid n_i$ .

Assume that  $\gamma_i(\mathbf{B}) = \mathbf{L}_{n_i}$  for each i < l. Then, for every i < l,  $\mathbf{B}/Ker(\gamma_i) \cong \mathbf{L}_{n_i}$ and since  $\mathbf{L}_{n_i}$  is simple,  $Ker(\gamma_i)$  is a maximal congruence relation of **B**. From [7, Lemma 2.3] (see also [16]) and the fact that all  $\mathbf{L}_n$ 's are simple, it can be deduced that there is k < r such that

$$Ker(\gamma_i) = \mathbf{L}_{p_0}^2 \times \cdots \times \mathbf{L}_{p_{k-1}}^2 \times \Delta_{\mathbf{L}_{p_k}} \times \mathbf{L}_{p_{k+1}}^2 \times \cdots \times \mathbf{L}_{p_{r-1}}^2$$

Hence, for every i < l there exists k < r such that  $\mathbf{L}_{p_k} = \mathbf{L}_{n_i}$ . By condition (1),  $i \neq j$  implies  $n_i \neq n_j$ , so  $l \leq r$  and

$$\mathbf{B} \cong \mathbf{L}_{n_0} \times \cdots \times \mathbf{L}_{n_{l-1}} \times \mathbf{L}_{m_l} \times \cdots \times \mathbf{L}_{m_{r-1}} = \mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{L}_{m_l} \times \cdots \times \mathbf{L}_{m_{r-1}}$$

that implies  $|\mathbf{A}| \leq |\mathbf{B}|$ , which contradicts that **B** is a proper subalgebra of **A**. And the claim is proved.

Suppose that  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{Q}(\{\mathbf{B} \subsetneq \mathbf{A}\})$ , then

$$\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{ISPP}_U(\{\mathbf{L}_{d_0} \times \cdots \times \mathbf{L}_{d_{l-1}} : \forall i \ d_i | n_i; \ \exists k \ d_k \neq n_k\}).$$

Since  $\{\mathbf{L}_{d_0} \times \cdots \times \mathbf{L}_{d_{l-1}} : \forall i \ d_i | n_i; \exists k \ d_k \neq n_k\}$  is a finite set of finite MValgebras, we have that  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{ISP}(\{\mathbf{L}_{d_0} \times \cdots \times \mathbf{L}_{d_{l-1}} : \forall i \ d_i | n_i; \exists k \ d_k \neq n_k\})$ . Thus  $\mathbf{L}_{n_0} \times \cdots \times \mathbf{L}_{n_{l-1}}$  is embeddable into  $\prod_{k < n} (\mathbf{L}_{d_{0,k}} \times \cdots \times \mathbf{L}_{d_{l-1,k}})^{\alpha_k}$  where

$$\{\mathbf{L}_{d_{0,k}} \times \cdots \times \mathbf{L}_{d_{l-1,k}} : k < n\} \subseteq \{\mathbf{L}_{d_0} \times \cdots \times \mathbf{L}_{d_{l-1}} : \forall i \ d_i | n_i; \ \exists k \ d_k \neq n_k\}.$$

Since the set  $\{d_{t,k} : t < l; k \le n\}$  is finite, we can apply Lemma 2.10.

If there exists i, j < l such that  $i \neq j$  and  $n_i | n_j$ , then by conditions 1) and 2),  $n_j$  is unique. By Lemma 2.10, there exists  $\mathbf{L}_{d_{t,m}}$  such that  $n_j | d_{t,m}$ . That is, there exists

$$\mathbf{L}_{d_{0,m}} \times \cdots \times \mathbf{L}_{d_{l-1,m}} \in \{\mathbf{L}_{d_0} \times \cdots \times \mathbf{L}_{d_{l-1}} : \forall i \ d_i | n_i; \exists k \ d_k \neq n_k\}$$

such that  $n_j | d_{t,m}$  for some t < l. By condition 2),  $n_j$  does not divide any  $n_i$  other than itself. Therefore, since  $d_{t,m}$  is a divisor of  $n_t$ , we have that  $n_t = d_{t,m} = n_j$  and by 1), t = j. Since

$$\mathbf{L}_{d_{0,m}} \times \cdots \times \mathbf{L}_{d_{l-1,m}} \in \{\mathbf{L}_{d_0} \times \cdots \times \mathbf{L}_{d_{l-1}} : \forall i \ d_i | n_i; \ \exists k \ d_k \neq n_k\},\$$

there exists  $r \neq j < l$  such that  $d_{r,m}|n_r$  and  $d_{r,m} \neq n_r$ . By 2) of Lemma 2.10, there exists s, r < l such that  $s \neq r < l$  and  $n_s|d_{r,m}$ . Thus  $n_s|n_r, n_i|n_j, r \neq s, i \neq j$  and  $r \neq j$ , which contradicts condition 2).

If for all  $1 \leq i, j \leq l$  such that  $i \neq j$ ,  $n_i \not \mid n_j$ , then the same argument follows by taking any  $n_j$ , j < l.

Since A is finite and  $A \notin \mathbb{Q}(\{B \subseteq A\})$ , A is critical.

Conversely, if A is a critical MV-algebra, then A is finite and by Theorem 1.1, we can suppose, without loss of generality, that

$$\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{L}_{n_0}^{m_0} \times \cdots \times \mathbf{L}_{n_{k-1}}^{m_{k-1}}$$

for some  $n_0, \ldots, n_{k-1}, m_0, \ldots, m_{k-1} \in \omega$  and  $n_i \neq n_j$  when  $i \neq j$ . If not all  $m_i$ 's are equal to 1, then the correspondence

$$\alpha: (a(0), \ldots, a(k-1)) \mapsto \alpha(a) = \left( (\overbrace{a(0), \ldots, a(0)}^{m_0}), \ldots, (\overbrace{a(k-1), \ldots, a(k-1)}^{m_{k-1}}) \right)$$

defines an isomorphism from  $\mathbf{L}_{n_0} \times \cdots \times \mathbf{L}_{n_{k-1}}$  onto a proper subalgebra of **A**. Let  $m = max\{m_0, \ldots, m_{k-1}\}$ , then the correspondence

$$\beta: \mathbf{L}_{n_0}^{m_0} \times \cdots \times \mathbf{L}_{n_{k-1}}^{m_{k-1}} \to \mathbf{L}_{n_0}^m \times \cdots \times \mathbf{L}_{n_{k-1}}^m$$

such that for every r < k,

$$\beta((b(0),\ldots,b(k-1)))(r) = (b(r)(1),\ldots,b(r)(m_r),\underbrace{b(r)(1),\ldots,b(r)(1)}^{m-m_r}),$$

gives an embedding from A into  $\mathbf{L}_{n_0}^m \times \cdots \times \mathbf{L}_{n_{k-1}}^m \cong (\mathbf{L}_{n_0} \times \cdots \times \mathbf{L}_{n_{k-1}})^m$ . Thus  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{Q}(\mathbf{L}_{n_0} \times \cdots \times \mathbf{L}_{n_{k-1}})$ . Since A is critical, we have  $m_0, \ldots, m_{k-1} = 1$ . Hence it satisfies condition 1). Suppose condition 2) fails, then there exist j < r < k such that

$$|D(n_j) \cap \{n_m : m < k\}| > 1 \text{ and } |D(n_r) \cap \{n_m : m < k\}| > 1.$$

Thus there exist  $i \neq j$  and  $s \neq r$  such that  $n_i | n_j, n_s | n_r$  and  $j \neq r$ . Since  $n_i | n_j$ , we have that the correspondence that maps

$$(a(0),\ldots,a(j-1),a(j+1),\ldots,a(k-1))$$

to

$$(a(0),\ldots,a(j-1),a(i),a(j+1),\ldots,a(k-1)).$$

defines an isomorphism from  $\mathbf{L}_{n_0} \times \cdots \times \mathbf{L}_{n_{j-1}} \times \mathbf{L}_{n_{j+1}} \times \cdots \times \mathbf{L}_{n_{k-1}}$  onto a proper subalgebra of **A**.

Similarly the algebra  $\mathbf{L}_{n_0} \times \cdots \times \mathbf{L}_{n_{r-1}} \times \mathbf{L}_{n_{r+1}} \times \cdots \times \mathbf{L}_{n_{k-1}}$  is isomorphic to a proper subalgebra of **A**. Finally, observe that  $\mathbf{L}_{n_0} \times \cdots \times \mathbf{L}_{n_{k-1}}$  is embeddable into

$$\mathbf{L}_{n_1}^2 \times \cdots \times \mathbf{L}_{n_{j-1}}^2 \times \mathbf{L}_{n_j} \times \mathbf{L}_{n_{j+1}}^2 \times \cdots \times \mathbf{L}_{n_{r-1}}^2 \times \mathbf{L}_{n_r} \times \mathbf{L}_{n_{r+1}}^2 \times \cdots \times \mathbf{L}_{n_k}^2,$$

by means of the correspondence  $\delta$  defined as:

$$\delta(a(0),\ldots,a(k-1))(i) = \begin{cases} (a(i),a(i)) & \text{if } i \neq j,r \\ a(i) & \text{if } i = j,r \end{cases}$$

Therefore

 $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{Q}(\mathbf{L}_{n_0} \times \cdots \times \mathbf{L}_{n_{j-1}} \times \mathbf{L}_{n_{j+1}} \times \cdots \times \mathbf{L}_{n_{k-1}}, \mathbf{L}_{n_0} \times \cdots \times \mathbf{L}_{n_{r-1}} \times \mathbf{L}_{n_{r+1}} \times \cdots \times \mathbf{L}_{n_{k-1}})$ in contradiction with the fact that **A** is critical.

**Corollary 2.12** The number of non isomorphic critical MV-algebras in a proper variety of MV-algebras is finite.  $\Box$ 

**Proof**: If K is a proper variety of MV-algebras, then it is shown in [13] and [6] that K contains a finite number of  $\mathbf{L}_n$ 's. Let  $M = \{n \in \omega : \mathbf{L}_n \in \mathbb{K}\}$ , clearly  $|M| < \omega$ . By Theorem 2.11, all critical algebras in K are:

 $\mathbb{I}(\{\mathbf{L}_{n_1} \times \cdots \times \mathbf{L}_{n_l}: \text{ satisfying } (1) \text{ and } (2) \text{ of Theorem 2.11 and } n_i \in M\}).$ 

Since |M| is finite we have that the number of non isomorphic critical MV-algebras in K is finite.

From the above result we deduce :

**Theorem 2.13** A quasivariety of MV-algebras is locally finite if and only if it is finitely generated.

**Proof**: Let  $\mathbb{K}$  be a locally finite quasivariety of MV-algebras, by Corollary 2.7,  $\mathbb{V}(\mathbb{K})$  is a proper subvariety of  $\mathbb{W}$ , thus, applying Corollary 2.12 the number of non isomorphic critical MV-algebras in  $\mathbb{K}$  is finite. By Theorem 2.9,  $\mathbb{K}$  is generated by its critical algebras, therefore, since a quasivariety is closed under the operation of isomorphic images,  $\mathbb{K}$  is finitely generated.

The converse is given by Corollary 2.4

In general locally finite quasivarieties are not finitely axiomatizable, not even finitely generated quasivarieties are finitely axiomatizable. For instance: Let  $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{Q}(\mathbf{A})$  where  $\mathbf{A} = \langle \{0, 1, 2\}, f, g \rangle$  is of type (1,1) with f and g defined by f(0) = 1, g(0) = 2 and f(x) = g(x) = x for  $x \neq 0$ . Due to Gorbunov [12],  $\mathbb{K}$  is not finitely axiomatizable while it is finitely generated.(see also [8, page 149]).

We will show that locally finite quasivarieties of MV-algebras are finitely axiomatizable. For this we need the following result.

**Lemma 2.14** [11, Lemma 4.2] Let  $\mathbb{M}$  be a locally finite quasivariety of finite type, then for a quasivariety  $\mathbb{K}$  contained in  $\mathbb{M}$  the following conditions are equivalent:

- 1. K is not finitely axiomatizable relative to M.
- 2. There exists an infinite sequence  $A_1, A_2, A_3, \ldots$  of finite algebras of M satisfying:
  - (a)  $|A_i| < |A_{i+1}|$  for all *i*;
  - (b)  $\mathbf{A}_i \notin \mathbb{K}$  for all i;
  - (c) Every proper subalgebra of every  $\mathbf{A}_i$  belongs to  $\mathbb{K}$ .

From the above result and Corollary 2.12 we deduce:

**Theorem 2.15** Every locally finite quasivariety of MV-algebras is finitely axiomatizable.



**Proof**: Let  $\mathbb{K}$  be a locally finite quasivariety of MV-algebras, by Corollary 2.7,  $\mathbb{V}(\mathbb{K})$  is a proper locally finite subvariety of  $\mathbb{W}$ . Observe that any finite MV-algebra  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{V}(\mathbb{K})$  satisfying conditions (b) and (c) is critical. It follows from Corollary 2.12 that the number of non isomorphic critical MV-algebras in  $\mathbb{V}(\mathbb{K})$  is finite. Therefore it is impossible to obtain an infinite sequence of finite MV-algebras of  $\mathbb{V}(\mathbb{K})$  satisfying conditions (a), (b) and (c). Thus, by Lemma 2.14,  $\mathbb{K}$  is finitely axiomatizable relative to  $\mathbb{V}(\mathbb{K})$ . And since any variety of MV-algebras is finitely axiomatizable (see for instance [13], [6] and [9]), we have that  $\mathbb{K}$  is finitely axiomatizable.

### **3** Applications to axiomatization of concrete samples.

It is well known that every subvariety of MV-algebras is finitely axiomatizable. In fact, some effective axiomatizations are given in [9] and in [15]. To our concern, we only need to axiomatize locally finite varieties of MV-algebras. In [18] it is proved that the variety generated by  $\mathbf{L}_n$  is finitely axiomatizable and it is axiomatized by MV1,...,MV6 plus a single axiom of the form  $\varphi(x) \approx 1$ , denoted by  $v_n(x) \approx 1$ . Moreover, for every  $n_1, \ldots, n_r < \omega, \mathbb{V}(\mathbf{L}_{n_1}, \ldots, \mathbf{L}_{n_r})$  is the subvariety of  $\mathbb{W}$  defined by the equation  $v_{n_1}(x) \lor \cdots \lor v_{n_r}(x) \approx 1$  [18, Theorem 1.8]. Where  $\lor$  is defined by  $x \lor y = \neg(\neg x \oplus y) \oplus y$ .

Given a quasivariety  $\mathbb{K}$  of MV-algebras, we define the following class

$$\mathbb{K}: \mathbf{L}_n = \{ \mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{K}: \mathbf{L}_n \notin \mathbb{IS}(\mathbf{A}) \}.$$

From Lemma 1.2, the quasiequation  $(n-1)(\neg x) \approx x \Rightarrow x \approx 1$  holds in an MValgebra **A** if and only if **A** does not contain  $\mathbf{L}_n$ . Therefore  $\mathbb{K} : \mathbf{L}_n$  is axiomatized by:

{axioms of 
$$\mathbb{K}$$
}  $\cup$  { $(n-1)(\neg x) \approx x \Rightarrow x \approx 1$ }.

Therefore, since it is a quasiequational class it is a quasivariety. It is easy to see that the following properties hold

**3.1** 
$$(\mathbb{K}: \mathbf{L}_n): \mathbf{L}_m = (\mathbb{K}: \mathbf{L}_m): \mathbf{L}_n = \mathbb{K}: \mathbf{L}_n \cap \mathbb{K}: \mathbf{L}_m = \mathbb{K}: \mathbf{L}_n, \mathbf{L}_m.$$

**3.2**  $\mathbb{K}$  :  $\mathbf{L}_n = \mathbb{K}$  if and only if  $\mathbf{L}_n \notin \mathbb{K}$ .

Our first example is to identify all quasivarieties contained in  $\mathbb{V}(\mathbf{L}_p, \mathbf{L}_q)$ , where p and q are two distinct prime natural numbers. Since the only divisors of p and q are 1, p, q, by the characterization given in Theorem 2.11, we have that all critical MV-algebras contained in  $\mathbb{V}(\mathbf{L}_p, \mathbf{L}_q)$  are

$$\mathbb{I}(\{\mathbf{L}_1, \mathbf{L}_p, \mathbf{L}_q, \mathbf{L}_1 \times \mathbf{L}_p, \mathbf{L}_1 \times \mathbf{L}_q, \mathbf{L}_p \times \mathbf{L}_q\}).$$

All subquasivarieties of  $\mathbb{V}(\mathbf{L}_p, \mathbf{L}_q)$  are sketched in figure 1.





 $\{n_1,\ldots,n_l;m_1,\ldots,m_k\}$  stands for  $\mathbb{Q}(\mathbf{L}_{n_1}\times\cdots\times\mathbf{L}_{n_l},\mathbf{L}_{m_1}\times\cdots\times\mathbf{L}_{m_k})$ .

We want to give an effective axiomatization of all subquasivarieties of  $\mathbb{V}(\mathbf{L}_p, \mathbf{L}_q)$ . We know that the subvarieties are  $\mathbb{V}(\mathbf{L}_p, \mathbf{L}_q)$ ,  $\mathbb{V}(\mathbf{L}_p)$ ,  $\mathbb{V}(\mathbf{L}_q)$  and  $\mathbb{V}(\mathbf{L}_1)$ , which can be axiomatized by MV1,...,MV6 plus  $v_p(x) \lor v_q(x) \approx 1$ ,  $v_p(x) \approx 1$ ,  $v_q(x) \approx 1$  and  $v_1(x) \approx 1$  respectively. In order to give axiomatizations for the other quasivarieties we state:

**Theorem 3.3** The following equalities hold:

- 1.  $\mathbb{Q}({\mathbf{L}_p, \mathbf{L}_p \times \mathbf{L}_q}) = \mathbb{V}({\mathbf{L}_p, \mathbf{L}_q}) : \mathbf{L}_q.$
- 2.  $\mathbb{Q}({\mathbf{L}_q, \mathbf{L}_p \times \mathbf{L}_q}) = \mathbb{V}({\mathbf{L}_p, \mathbf{L}_q}) : \mathbf{L}_p.$
- 3.  $\mathbb{Q}(\mathbf{L}_p \times \mathbf{L}_q) = \mathbb{V}(\{\mathbf{L}_p, \mathbf{L}_q\}) : \mathbf{L}_p, \mathbf{L}_q.$
- 4.  $\mathbb{Q}(\mathbf{L}_1 \times \mathbf{L}_p) = \mathbb{V}(\mathbf{L}_p) : \mathbf{L}_p.$
- 5.  $\mathbb{Q}(\mathbf{L}_1 \times \mathbf{L}_q) = \mathbb{V}(\mathbf{L}_q) : \mathbf{L}_q.$

**Proof**: 1) Since  $\mathbf{L}_q$  is not contained in  $\mathbf{L}_p$  and  $\mathbf{L}_p \times \mathbf{L}_q$ , then  $\mathbb{Q}(\{\mathbf{L}_p, \mathbf{L}_p \times \mathbf{L}_q\}) \subseteq \mathbb{V}(\{\mathbf{L}_p, \mathbf{L}_q\}) : \mathbf{L}_q$ . By 3.2,  $\mathbb{V}(\{\mathbf{L}_p, \mathbf{L}_q\}) : \mathbf{L}_q$  is a proper subquasivariety of  $\mathbb{V}(\{\mathbf{L}_p, \mathbf{L}_q\})$  and it is a locally finite subquasivariety. Hence, it suffices to show that all critical

MV-algebras of  $\mathbb{V}({\mathbf{L}_p, \mathbf{L}_q})$  not containing  $\mathbf{L}_q$  belong to  $\mathbb{Q}({\mathbf{L}_p, \mathbf{L}_p \times \mathbf{L}_q})$ . The only critical MV-algebras of  $\mathbb{V}({\mathbf{L}_p, \mathbf{L}_q})$  not containing  $\mathbf{L}_q$ , up to isomorphism, are

$$\{\mathbf{L}_1, \mathbf{L}_p, \mathbf{L}_1 \times \mathbf{L}_p, \mathbf{L}_1 \times \mathbf{L}_q, \mathbf{L}_p \times \mathbf{L}_q\} \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(\{\mathbf{L}_p, \mathbf{L}_p \times \mathbf{L}_q\})$$

2) can be obtained as 1).

3) follows from 1, 2) and 3.1.

4) Since  $\mathbf{L}_1 \times \mathbf{L}_p \in \mathbb{V}(\mathbf{L}_p)$  and  $\{\mathbf{L}_1, \mathbf{L}_1 \times \mathbf{L}_p\}$  are, up to isomorphism, the only critical MV-algebras in  $\mathbb{V}(\mathbf{L}_p)$  which do not contain  $\mathbf{L}_p$ , we have  $\mathbb{Q}(\mathbf{L}_1 \times \mathbf{L}_p) = \mathbb{V}(\mathbf{L}_p) : \mathbf{L}_p$ . 5) is obtained as 4).

Using the above theorem and Lemma 1.2, we can obtain an effective axiomatization of all quasivarieties listed above. We still have three subquasivarieties of  $\mathbb{V}(\mathbf{L}_p, \mathbf{L}_q)$  without an effective axiomatization. Next result takes care of that.

**Theorem 3.4** If  $r = \max\{p, q\}$ , then

1.  $\mathbb{Q}(\mathbf{L}_p, \mathbf{L}_1 \times \mathbf{L}_q)$  is axiomatized by the axioms of  $\mathbb{V}(\mathbf{L}_p, \mathbf{L}_q) : \mathbf{L}_q$  and

$$rx pprox 1 \& r(\neg x) pprox 1 \Rightarrow v_p(y) pprox 1$$

2.  $\mathbb{Q}(\mathbf{L}_q, \mathbf{L}_1 \times \mathbf{L}_p)$  is axiomatized by the axioms of  $\mathbb{V}(\mathbf{L}_p, \mathbf{L}_q) : \mathbf{L}_p$  and

$$rx \approx 1 \& r(\neg x) \approx 1 \Rightarrow v_q(y) \approx 1.$$

3.  $\mathbb{Q}(\mathbf{L}_1 \times \mathbf{L}_p, \mathbf{L}_1 \times \mathbf{L}_q)$  is axiomatized by the axioms of  $\mathbb{V}(\mathbf{L}_p, \mathbf{L}_q) : \mathbf{L}_q, \mathbf{L}_p$  and

$$rx \approx 1 \& r(\neg x) \approx 1 \Rightarrow x \approx 1.$$

**Proof**: 1) Since  $\mathbf{L}_p, \mathbf{L}_1 \times \mathbf{L}_q$  do not contain  $\mathbf{L}_q$ , then they satisfy all axioms of  $\mathbb{V}(\mathbf{L}_p, \mathbf{L}_q) : \mathbf{L}_q$ . Moreover, since for any  $a \in \mathbf{L}_1 \times \mathbf{L}_q$ ,

$$ra = (1, 1)$$
 implies  $r(\neg a) \neq (1, 1)$ ,

the quasiequation

$$rx pprox 1 \& r(\neg x) pprox 1 \Rightarrow v_p(y) pprox 1$$

is valid in  $\mathbf{L}_1 \times \mathbf{L}_q$ . Since  $v_p(y) \approx 1$  is valid in  $\mathbf{L}_p$ , then  $\mathbf{L}_p$  is also model of

$$rx \approx 1 \& r(\neg x) \approx 1 \Rightarrow v_p(y) \approx 1$$

Therefore, all members of  $\mathbb{Q}(\mathbf{L}_p, \mathbf{L}_1 \times \mathbf{L}_q)$  are models of the above quasiequation. Since the class of all models of the quasiequation

$$rx \approx 1 \& r(\neg x) \approx 1 \Rightarrow v_p(y) \approx 1$$

in  $\mathbb{V}(\mathbf{L}_p, \mathbf{L}_q) : \mathbf{L}_q$  is a locally finite quasivariety of MV-algebras, it suffices to show that all critical MV-algebras of  $\mathbb{V}(\mathbf{L}_p, \mathbf{L}_q) : \mathbf{L}_q$  satisfying the quasiequation are included in  $\mathbb{Q}(\mathbf{L}_p, \mathbf{L}_1 \times \mathbf{L}_q)$ . The critical MV-algebras of  $\mathbb{V}(\mathbf{L}_p, \mathbf{L}_q) : \mathbf{L}_q$  are isomorphic to  $\{\mathbf{L}_1, \mathbf{L}_p, \mathbf{L}_1 \times \mathbf{L}_p, \mathbf{L}_1 \times \mathbf{L}_q, \mathbf{L}_p \times \mathbf{L}_q\}$ . Observe that they all satisfy the quasiequation, but  $\mathbf{L}_p \times \mathbf{L}_q$ . Take for instance  $x = y = (\frac{p-1}{p}, \frac{q-1}{q})$ . And since  $\{\mathbf{L}_1, \mathbf{L}_p, \mathbf{L}_1 \times \mathbf{L}_p, \mathbf{L}_1 \times \mathbf{L}_q\} \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(\mathbf{L}_p, \mathbf{L}_1 \times \mathbf{L}_q), 1)$  is proved. 2) is proved as 1).

3) Since  $\mathbf{L}_1 \times \mathbf{L}_p$ ,  $\mathbf{L}_1 \times \mathbf{L}_q \in \mathbb{V}(\mathbf{L}_p, \mathbf{L}_q) : \mathbf{L}_q, \mathbf{L}_p$  and there is no element a in  $\mathbf{L}_1 \times \mathbf{L}_p$  or in  $\mathbf{L}_1 \times \mathbf{L}_q$  which satisfies ra = (1, 1) and  $r(\neg a) = (1, 1)$ , then  $\mathbf{L}_1 \times \mathbf{L}_p, \mathbf{L}_1 \times \mathbf{L}_q$  satisfy the axioms.

Using a similar argument as in 1), we can show that  $\{\mathbf{L}_1, \mathbf{L}_1 \times \mathbf{L}_p, \mathbf{L}_1 \times \mathbf{L}_q\}$  are, up to isomorphism, the only critical MV-algebras in  $\mathbb{V}(\mathbf{L}_p, \mathbf{L}_q) : \mathbf{L}_q, \mathbf{L}_p$  satisfying the quasiequation

$$rx \approx 1 \& r(\neg x) \approx 1 \Rightarrow x \approx 1,$$

since they belong to  $\mathbb{Q}(\{\mathbf{L}_1 \times \mathbf{L}_p, \mathbf{L}_1 \times \mathbf{L}_q\}), 3)$  is proved.

Our second example are all quasivarieties contained in  $\mathbb{V}(\mathbf{L}_{p^r})$ , where p is a prime natural number and r is a natural number.

**Theorem 3.5** The class of all critical algebras in  $\mathbb{V}(\mathbf{L}_{p^r})$  is

$$\mathbb{I}\Big(\{\mathbf{L}_{p^s} : s \leq r\} \cup \{\mathbf{L}_{p^n} \times \mathbf{L}_{p^m} : n < m \leq r\}\Big).$$

**Proof**: Since  $\mathbf{L}_{p^s}$  with  $s \leq r$  and  $\mathbf{L}_{p^n} \times \mathbf{L}_{p^m}$  with  $n < m \leq r$  belong to  $\mathbb{V}(\mathbf{L}_{p^r})$  and they satisfy conditions given in Theorem 2.11, they are critical.

To prove the other inclusion, consider  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{V}(\mathbf{L}_{p^r})$  a critical MV-algebra. All divisors of  $p^r$  are  $p^s$  with  $s \leq r$ , hence, by condition 1) of Theorem 2.11,  $\mathbf{A}$  is isomorphic to

$$\mathbf{L}_{p^{n1}} \times \cdots \times \mathbf{L}_{p^{nk}}$$

such that  $n_i < n_j$  if i < j and  $n_i \le r$  for all  $1 \le i \le k$ .

If k > 2, then A does not satisfy condition 2) of Theorem 2.11, therefore it would not be critical. Hence k = 1 or k = 2.

From 2.10 we deduce the following properties:

**Lemma 3.6** Let  $n_1, \ldots, n_k < \omega$  and  $m_1, \ldots, n_k < \omega$  such that  $n_i < m_i$  for every  $1 \le i \le k$ .

- 1.  $\mathbf{L}_{p^{n_i}} \times \mathbf{L}_{p^{m_i}} \subseteq \mathbf{L}_{p^{n_j}} \times \mathbf{L}_{p^{m_j}}$  if and only if  $n_i \leq n_j$  and  $m_i \leq m_j$ .
- 2.  $\mathbf{L}_{p^{n_i}} \times \mathbf{L}_{p^{m_i}} \subseteq \mathbf{L}_{p^s} \times \mathbf{L}_{p^s}$  if and only if  $m_i \leq s$ .
- 3.  $\mathbf{L}_{p^s} \subseteq \mathbf{L}_{p^{n_j}} \times \mathbf{L}_{p^{m_j}}$  if and only if  $s \leq n_j$ .

**Theorem 3.7** Every subquasivariety of  $\mathbb{V}(\mathbf{L}_{p^r})$  is of type:

- 1.  $\mathbb{Q}(\mathbf{L}_{p^s}) = \mathbb{V}(\mathbf{L}_{p^s})$  where  $s \leq r$ .
- 2.  $\mathbb{Q}(\mathbf{L}_{p^{n_1}} \times \mathbf{L}_{p^{m_1}}, \dots, \mathbf{L}_{p^{n_k}} \times \mathbf{L}_{p^{m_k}})$  such that  $n_i < m_i \leq r$ , for every  $1 \leq i \leq k$ and  $n_i < n_j$  and  $m_i > m_j$  if i < j.
- 3.  $\mathbb{Q}(\mathbf{L}_{p^{n_1}} \times \mathbf{L}_{p^{m_1}}, \dots, \mathbf{L}_{p^{n_k}} \times \mathbf{L}_{p^{m_k}}, \mathbf{L}_{p^s})$  such that  $n_i < s < m_i \le n$ , for every  $1 \le i \le k$  and  $n_i < n_j$  and  $m_i > m_j$  if i < j.

**Proof**: Let K be a subquasivariety of  $\mathbb{V}(\mathbf{L}_{p^r})$ , by Theorem 2.13, K is finitely generated by critical MV-algebras, say  $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{Q}(\mathbf{A}_1, \ldots, \mathbf{A}_k)$ . By Theorem 3.5, for every  $1 \leq i \leq k$ 

$$\mathbf{A}_i \cong \mathbf{L}_{p^s}$$
 with  $s \leq r$  or  $\mathbf{A}_i \cong \mathbf{L}_{p^m} \times \mathbf{L}_{p^m}$  with  $n < m \leq r$ .

Therefore  $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{Q}(\{\mathbf{L}_{p^{s_1}}, \dots, \mathbf{L}_{p^{s_j}}, \mathbf{L}_{p^{n_{j+1}}} \times \mathbf{L}_{p^{m_{j+1}}}, \dots, \mathbf{L}_{p^{n_k}} \times \mathbf{L}_{p^{m_k}}\})$ . Let

$$\mathfrak{G} = \{\mathbf{L}_{p^{s_1}}, \ldots, \mathbf{L}_{p^{s_j}}, \mathbf{L}_{p^{n_{j+1}}} \times \mathbf{L}_{p^{m_{j+1}}}, \ldots, \mathbf{L}_{p^{n_k}} \times \mathbf{L}_{p^{m_k}}\}.$$

We give a recursive procedure to find a subfamily of generators satisfying our conditions and generating  $\mathbb{K}$ :

First step: Let  $m'_1 = \max\{s_1, \ldots, s_j, m_{j+1}, \ldots, m_k\}$ . If  $m'_1 = s_l$  for some  $1 \le l \le j$  then, by Lemma 3.6 and Theorem 1.1,

$$\{\mathbf{L}_{p^{s_1}},\ldots,\mathbf{L}_{p^{s_j}},\mathbf{L}_{p^{n_{j+1}}}\times\mathbf{L}_{p^{m_{j+1}}},\ldots,\mathbf{L}_{p^{n_k}}\times\mathbf{L}_{p^{m_k}}\}\subseteq\mathbb{Q}(\mathbf{L}_{p^{s_l}}).$$

Therefore  $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{Q}(\mathbf{L}_{p^{s_l}}) = \mathbb{V}(\mathbf{L}_{p^{s_l}}).$ 

Second step: If  $m'_1 \neq s_l$  for every  $1 \leq l \leq j$ , let  $n'_1 = \max\{n_i : m_i = m'_1\}$ . Consider  $\mathfrak{G}_1 = \{\mathbf{L}_{p^s} \in \mathfrak{G} : s > n'_1\} \cup \{\mathbf{L}_{p^n} \times \mathbf{L}_{p^m} \in \mathfrak{G} : n > n'_1\}$ . Observe that if  $\mathbf{L}_{p^s} \in \mathfrak{G}_1$ , then  $n'_1 < s < m'_1$  and that if  $\mathbf{L}_{p^n} \times \mathbf{L}_{p^m} \in \mathfrak{G}_1$ , then  $n'_1 < n$  and  $m < m'_1$ . Thus, by Lemma 3.6,  $\mathfrak{G} \setminus \mathfrak{G}_1 \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(\mathbf{L}_{n'_1} \times \mathbf{L}_{n''_1})$ . Therefore

$$\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{Q}(\{\mathbf{L}_{p^{n_1'}} \times \mathbf{L}_{p^{m_1'}}\} \cup \mathfrak{G}_1) = \mathbb{Q}(\mathbf{L}_{p^{n_1'}} \times \mathbf{L}_{p^{m_1'}}) \vee \mathbb{Q}(\mathfrak{G}_1)$$

Since  $\mathbf{L}_{p_1}' \times \mathbf{L}_{p_1}' \in \mathfrak{G} \smallsetminus \mathfrak{G}_1$ , then  $|\mathfrak{G}_1| < |\mathfrak{G}|$ .

At this point, we come back to first step, but using  $\mathfrak{G}_1$  instead of  $\mathfrak{G}$ . And we proceed recursively.

This algorithm ends because  $\mathfrak{G}$  is finite. At the end, we will have a finite sequence  $\mathbf{L}_{pn'_1} \times \mathbf{L}_{pn'_1}, \ldots, \mathbf{L}_{pn'_l} \times \mathbf{L}_{pn'_l}$  and probably  $\mathbf{L}_{pn'_{l+1}}$  such that they satisfy conditions given in the statement of this theorem.

Finally, we give an axiomatization for each subquasivariety of  $\mathbb{V}(\mathbf{L}_{p^r})$ .

#### Theorem 3.8

1.  $\mathbb{V}(\mathbf{L}_{p^s})$  with  $s \leq r$ , is axiomatized by

(a) MV1,...,MV6 and

(b)  $v_{p^s}(x) \approx 1$ .

- 2.  $\mathbb{Q}(\mathbf{L}_{p^{n_1}} \times \mathbf{L}_{p^{m_1}}, \dots, \mathbf{L}_{p^{n_k}} \times \mathbf{L}_{p^{m_k}})$  such that  $n_i < m_i \le n$ , for every  $1 \le i \le k$ and  $n_i < n_j$  and  $m_i > m_j$  if i < j, is axiomatized by:
  - (a) MV1,...,MV6,
  - (b)  $v_{p^{m_1}}(x) \approx 1$ ,
  - (c)  $(p^{n_k+1}-1)(\neg x) \approx x \Rightarrow x \approx 1$  and
  - (d)  $(p^{n_{j-1}+1}-1)(\neg x) \approx x \Rightarrow v_{p^{m_j}}(y) \approx 1$  for every  $2 \le j \le k$ .
- 3.  $\mathbb{Q}(\mathbf{L}_{p^{n_1}} \times \mathbf{L}_{p^{m_1}}, \ldots, \mathbf{L}_{p^{n_k}} \times \mathbf{L}_{p^{m_k}}, \mathbf{L}_{p^s})$  such that  $n_i < s < m_i \le n$ , for every  $1 \le i \le k$  and  $n_i < n_j$  and  $m_i > m_j$  if i < j, is axiomatized by:
  - (a) MV1,...,MV6,
  - (b)  $v_{p^{m_1}}(x) \approx 1$ ,
  - (c)  $(p^{s+1}-1)(\neg x) \approx x \Rightarrow x \approx 1$ ,
  - (d)  $(p^{n_{j-1}+1}-1)(\neg x) \approx x \Rightarrow v_{p^{m_j}}(y) \approx 1$  for every  $2 \leq j \leq k$  and
  - (e)  $(p^{n_k+1}-1)(\neg x) \approx x \Rightarrow v_{p^s}(y) \approx 1.$

**Proof**: 1) It is obvious by the remark given at the beginning of this section.

2) Since  $\mathfrak{G} = {\mathbf{L}_{p^{n_1}} \times \mathbf{L}_{p^{m_1}}, \dots, \mathbf{L}_{p^{n_k}} \times \mathbf{L}_{p^{m_k}}} \subseteq \mathbb{V}(\mathbf{L}_{p^{m_1}})$ , the members of  $\mathbb{Q}(\mathfrak{G})$  are models of (a) and (b).

Moreover,  $\mathbf{L}_{p^{n_{k+1}}} \not\subseteq \mathbf{A}$  for each  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathfrak{G}$ , hence  $\mathfrak{G} \subseteq \mathbb{V}(\mathbf{L}_{p^r}) : \mathbf{L}_{p^{n_{k+1}}}$  and every algebra in  $\mathfrak{G}$  is a model of (c).

By Lemma 1.2, if  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathfrak{G}$  and it does not contain  $\mathbf{L}_{p^{n_{j-1}+1}}$ , then it is a model of (d). On the other hand, if  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathfrak{G}$  is such that  $\mathbf{L}_{p^{n_{j-1}+1}} \subseteq \mathbf{A}$ , then it belongs to the variety generated by  $\mathbf{L}_{p^{m_{j}}}$ , therefore it also satisfies (d).

Since every member in  $\mathfrak{G}$  is a model of the equations and quasiequations (a), (b), (c)and (d), each member of  $\mathbb{Q}(\mathfrak{G})$  is also a model of (a), (b), (c) and (d).

To see the other inclusion, observe that (a) and (b) axiomatize  $\mathbb{V}(\mathbf{L}_{p^{m_1}})$ , hence the class of all models of (a), (b), (c) and (d) is a subquasivariety of  $\mathbb{V}(\mathbf{L}_{p^{m_1}})$ . Thus, it is a locally finite quasivariety of MV-algebras. By Theorem 2.9, it suffices to show that every critical MV-algebra in  $\mathbb{V}(\mathbf{L}_{p^{m_1}})$  satisfying (c) and (d) belongs to  $\mathbb{Q}(\mathfrak{G})$ . Let  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{V}(\mathbf{L}_{p^{m_1}})$  be a critical MV-algebra, by Theorem 3.5,

 $\mathbf{A} \cong \mathbf{L}_{p^s}$  with  $s \leq m_1$  or  $\mathbf{A} \cong \mathbf{L}_{p^n} \times \mathbf{L}_{p^m}$  with  $n < m \leq m_1$ .

If A satisfies (c), then  $\mathbf{L}_{p^{n_{k+1}}} \not\subseteq \mathbf{A}$ . Hence

 $\mathbf{A} \cong \mathbf{L}_{p^s}$  with  $s \le n_k$  or  $\mathbf{A} \cong \mathbf{L}_{p^m} \times \mathbf{L}_{p^m}$  with  $n < m \le m_1$  and  $n \le n_k$ .

 $\mathbf{A} \cong \mathbf{L}_{p^s}$ , with  $s \leq n_k$ , implies  $\mathbf{L}_{p^s} \subseteq \mathbf{L}_{p^{n_k}} \times \mathbf{L}_{p^{m_k}}$ . Thus  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{Q}(\mathcal{O})$ .

If  $\mathbf{A} \cong \mathbf{L}_{p^n} \times \mathbf{L}_{p^m}$ , with  $n < m \le m_1$  and  $n \le n_k$ , we have several possibilities:

-  $n \leq n_1$ : since  $m \leq m_1$ , by Lemma 3.6, we have  $\mathbf{L}_{p^n} \times \mathbf{L}_{p^m} \subseteq \mathbf{L}_{p^{n_1}} \times \mathbf{L}_{p^{m_1}}$ . Hence,  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{Q}(\mathfrak{G})$ .

-  $n_1 < n \leq n_k$ : there is a unique  $2 \leq j \leq k$  such that  $n_{j-1} < n \leq n_j$ . Hence,  $\mathbf{L}_{p^{n_{j-1}+1}} \subseteq \mathbf{A}$ . Since  $\mathbf{A}$  is a model of (d) and  $\mathbf{L}_{p^{n_{j-1}+1}} \subseteq \mathbf{A}$ , we have that  $\mathbf{A}$  is a model of the equation  $v_{p^{m_j}}(y) \approx 1$ . Thus  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{V}(\mathbf{L}_{p^{m_j}})$  and  $m \leq m_j$ . Moreover,  $n \leq n_j$  so, by Lemma 3.6,  $\mathbf{L}_{p^n} \times \mathbf{L}_{p^m} \subseteq \mathbf{L}_{p^{n_j}} \times \mathbf{L}_{p^{m_j}}$  and  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{Q}(\mathfrak{G})$ . 3) can be proved similarly to 2).

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