# AN ALTERNATIVE CONSTRUCTION OF THE MOUFANG LOOP $M(G, 2)$ 

Andrew Rajah and Chong Kam Yoon<br>School of Mathematical Sciences, Universiti Sains Malaysia, 11800 USM, Penang, Malaysia


#### Abstract

In [3], Orin Chein defined and constructed a class of Moufang loops called the $M(G, 2)$ with a product rule which is rather complicated. We provide an alternative definition of $M(G, 2)$ with a much simpler product rule.


## 1. Introduction \& motivation

A Moufang loop $\langle L, \cdot\rangle$ is a loop which satisfies the identity $x y \cdot z x=(x \cdot y z) x .\langle L, \cdot\rangle$ is not necessarily associative, i.e., it may not satisfy the identity $x y \cdot z=x \cdot y z$. In fact, there exists a smallest nonassociative Moufang loop of order 12 [4]. In [3], Chein showed various methods of constructing nonassociative Moufang loops. In fact in this memoir, he constructed all the nonassociative Moufang loops of order less than 64. Among the most well used and probably the simplest was a Moufang loop called $M(G, 2)$, the definition of which was given in [3, p.5, Theorem 0] as we quote below:
"If $L$ is a finite nonassociative Moufang loop for which every minimal set of generators contains an element of order 2 , then $L$ contains a nonabelian subgroup $G$ and an element $u$ of order 2 in $L$ such that each element of $L$ may be uniquely expressed in the form $g u^{\alpha}$, where $g \in G$, and $\alpha=0$ or 1 . Furthermore, the product of two elements of $L$ is given by

$$
\left(g_{1} u^{\delta}\right)\left(g_{2} u^{\epsilon}\right)=\left(g_{1}^{v} g_{2}^{\mu}\right)^{v} u^{\delta+\epsilon}
$$

where $v=(-1)^{\epsilon}$ and $\mu=(-1)^{\epsilon+\delta}$.
Conversely, given any nonabelian group $\langle G, \cdot\rangle$, the loop $L$ constructed as indicated above is a nonassociative Moufang loop. It will be denoted by $M(G, 2)$."

So in order to use the product rule above, we would first need to calculate the values of $v$ and $\mu$ before evaluating $\left(g_{1}^{v} g_{2}^{\mu}\right)^{v} u^{\delta+\epsilon}$.

The primary goal of this paper is to simplify the product rule given by Chein. We notice that $\delta$ and $\epsilon$ are the values which mainly determine the value of $\left(g_{1}^{v} g_{2}^{\mu}\right)^{v} u^{\delta+\epsilon}$. Since the values of $\delta$ and $\epsilon$ are either 0 or 1 , we should look at the four possible combinations of choices for both $\delta$ and $\epsilon$ in order to find our own simplified product rule. This is what we do in Lemma 3.1.

Thus by looking at the 4 cases mentioned, we have come up with a much simpler product rule. Next, we have shown that the loop that we construct is indeed a Moufang loop, and that it is nonassociative if $G$ is a nonabelian group.

Finally, we show that our loop is isomorphic to $M(G, 2)$.
Although there is nothing lacking in Chein's presentation of $M(G, 2)$, we wish to mention that our presentation is more similar to previously well known presentations or constructions of nonassociative Moufang loops. (See [2], [5] and [6].)

## 2. Definitions

1. A binary system $\langle L, \cdot\rangle$ in which specification of any two of the elements $x, y, z$ in the equation $x \cdot y=z$ uniquely determines the third element is called a quasigroup. If further, it contains an identity element, then it is called a loop.
2. A loop $\langle L, \cdot\rangle$ is a Moufang loop if it satisfies any of the 3 (equivalent) Moufang identities:
i) $(x \cdot y) \cdot(z \cdot x)=[x \cdot(y \cdot z)] \cdot x$,
ii) $x \cdot[y \cdot(z \cdot y)]=[(x \cdot y) \cdot z] \cdot y$,
iii) $x \cdot[y \cdot(x \cdot z)]=[(x \cdot y) \cdot x] \cdot z$.
(See [1, Lemma 3.1, p.115]. Note that when there is no danger of misinterpretation, we can write $x y$ to mean $x \cdot y$. So we will write $x y \cdot z$ instead of $(x \cdot y) \cdot z, x y \cdot z x$ instead of $(x \cdot y) \cdot(z \cdot x)$, etc., in order to simplify our presentation.)
3. A loop $\langle L, \cdot\rangle$ is a group if it satisfies the associative property $x y \cdot z=x \cdot y z$.
4. A loop $\langle L, \cdot\rangle$ is isomorphic to $\langle M, *\rangle$ if there exists a function $\phi: L \rightarrow M$ such that $\phi$ is one-to-one and onto with $\left(l_{1} \cdot l_{2}\right) \phi=\left(l_{1} \phi\right) *\left(l_{2} \phi\right), \quad \forall l_{i} \in L$.
5. Other definitions follow those in [1].

## 3. Main results

Lemma 3.1. In $M(G, 2)$,
(i) $\left(g_{1} u^{0}\right)\left(g_{2} u^{0}\right)=\left(g_{1} g_{2}\right) u^{0}$,
(ii) $\left(g_{1} u^{1}\right)\left(g_{2} u^{0}\right)=\left(g_{1} g_{2}^{-1}\right) u^{1}$,
(iii) $\left(g_{1} u^{0}\right)\left(g_{2} u^{1}\right)=\left(g_{2} g_{1}\right) u^{1}$,
(iv) $\left(g_{1} u^{1}\right)\left(g_{2} u^{1}\right)=\left(g_{2}^{-1} g_{1}\right) u^{0}, \forall g_{1}, g_{2} \in G$.

Proof. From the definition of $M(G, 2),\left(g_{1} u^{\delta}\right)\left(g_{2} u^{\epsilon}\right)=\left(g_{1}^{v} g_{2}^{\mu}\right)^{v} u^{\delta+\epsilon}$ where $v=(-1)^{\epsilon}$ and $\mu=(-1)^{\epsilon+\delta}$. So
(i) $\left(g_{1} u^{0}\right)\left(g_{2} u^{0}\right)=\left(g_{1}^{1} g_{2}^{1}\right)^{1} u^{(0+0)}=\left(g_{1} g_{2}\right) u^{0}$, because $v=(-1)^{0}=1, \mu=(-1)^{0+0}=1$,
(ii) $\left(g_{1} u^{1}\right)\left(g_{2} u^{0}\right)=\left(g_{1}^{1} g_{2}^{-1}\right)^{1} u^{(1+0)}=\left(g_{1} g_{2}^{-1}\right) u^{1}$, because $v=(-1)^{0}=1, \mu=(-1)^{0+1}=-1$,
(iii) $\left(g_{1} u^{0}\right)\left(g_{2} u^{1}\right)=\left(g_{1}^{-1} g_{2}^{-1}\right)^{-1} u^{(1+0)}=\left(g_{2} g_{1}\right) u^{1}$, because $v=(-1)^{1}=-1, \mu=(-1)^{0+1}=-1$,
(iv) $\left(g_{1} u^{1}\right)\left(g_{2} u^{1}\right)=\left(g_{1}^{-1} g_{2}^{1}\right)^{-1} u^{(1+1)}=\left(g_{2}^{-1} g_{1}\right) u^{0}$, because $v=(-1)^{1}=-1, \mu=(-1)^{1+1}=1$.

We note that the power of $g_{2}$ in each of the four possible combinations of values for $\delta$ and $\epsilon$ is always 1 or -1 , solely depending on the value of $\delta$. If $\delta=1$, the power of $g_{2}$ is -1 , but if $\delta=0$, the power of $g_{2}$ is 1 . So we can write the power of $g_{2}$ as $(-1)^{\delta}$. On the other hand, the power of $g_{1}$ is always 1 , but $g_{1}$ may appear on the left or right of $g_{2}^{(-1)^{\delta}}$, solely depending on the value of $\epsilon$. Hence, we obtain the following lemma.
Lemma 3.2. In $M(G, 2),\left(g_{1} u^{\delta}\right)\left(g_{2} u^{\epsilon}\right)=\left(g_{1}^{1-\epsilon} g_{2}^{(-1)^{\delta}} g_{1}^{\epsilon}\right) u^{\delta+\epsilon}$.
Proof. From Lemma 1, if $\delta=1$, the power of $g_{2}$ is -1 , but if $\delta=0$, the power of $g_{2}$ is 1 . So we can write the power of $g_{2}$ as $(-1)^{\delta}$. The power of $g_{1}$ is always 1 , and if $\beta=0, g_{1}$ will be multiplied on the left of $g_{2}^{(-1)^{\alpha}}$, whereas if $\epsilon=1, g_{1}$ will be multiplied on the right of $g_{2}^{(-1)^{\alpha}}$. So in any case, we can write this observation as $g_{1}^{1-\epsilon} g_{2}^{(-1)^{\delta}} g_{1}^{\epsilon}$. Therefore, $\left(g_{1} u^{\delta}\right) \cdot\left(g_{2} u^{\epsilon}\right)=\left(g_{1}^{1-\epsilon} g_{2}^{(-1)^{\delta}} g_{1}^{\epsilon}\right) u^{\delta+\epsilon}$.
Theorem 3.1. Let $\langle G, \circ\rangle$ be a group and $M=\left\{(g, \alpha) \mid g \in G, \alpha \in Z_{2}\right\}$. Define $*$ on $M$ as $\left(g_{1}, \alpha_{1}\right) *\left(g_{2}, \alpha_{2}\right)=$ $\left(g_{1}^{1-\alpha_{2}} \circ g_{2}^{(-1)^{\alpha}{ }^{1}} \circ g_{1}^{\alpha_{2}}, \quad \alpha_{1}+\alpha_{2}\right)$. Then
i) $\langle M, *\rangle$ is a Moufang loop,
ii) $|M|=2|G|$ if $|G|$ is finite,
iii) $\langle M, *\rangle$ is a not associative iff $G$ is not commutative,
iv) $\langle M, *\rangle$ is isomorphic to $M(G, 2)$.

Note 3.1. It is necessary to note that the power of $g_{1}$ should be either 0 or 1 . We can observe that when finding the product of 3 or more elements of $M$, there may be cases where we would have to obtain $g_{1}^{1-\alpha-\beta}$ where $\alpha=\beta=1$. Since the operations $1-\alpha-\beta$ and $\alpha+\beta$ are in $Z_{2}$, i.e., the addition and subtraction are congruent modulo 2, we must take $g_{1}^{1-\alpha-\beta}=g_{1}^{1}$, rather than $g_{1}^{-1}$, and $g_{1}^{\alpha+\beta}=g_{1}^{0}=1$, rather than $g_{1}^{2}$ etc., so that the powers of $g_{1}$ remain as either 0 or 1 only, whereas the powers of $g_{2}$ are either 1 or -1 .

Proof. Clearly $M$ is closed under the operation $*$. Also $*$ is well defined. So $\langle M, *\rangle$ is a binary system. Obviously $(1,0) \in M$, where 1 is the identity element of $G$, and $(1,0) *(g, \alpha)=(g, \alpha) *(1,0)=(g, \alpha), \quad \forall g \in G, \alpha \in$ $Z_{2}$. Thus $(1,0)$ is the identity element of $\langle M, *\rangle$.

For the rest of the proof we have chosen to omit writing the product rule ' $\circ$ ' between elements in $G$ since this results in no confusion but rather simplifies the presentation of our proof.

Take $(g, \alpha) \in M$. Define $(g, \alpha)^{\prime}=\left(g^{(-1)^{\alpha+1}}, \alpha\right)$. Clearly $(g, \alpha)^{\prime} \in M$. Now

$$
(g, \alpha) *(g, \alpha)^{\prime}=(g, \alpha) *\left(g^{(-1)^{\alpha+1}}, \alpha\right)=\left(g^{1-\alpha}\left[g^{(-1)^{\alpha+1}}\right]^{(-1)^{\alpha}} g^{\alpha}, \alpha+\alpha\right)=(1,0), \forall \alpha \in Z_{2}
$$

Similarly, it can be seen that $(g, \alpha)^{\prime} *(g, \alpha)=(1,0), \quad \forall \alpha \in Z_{2}$. So $(g, \alpha)^{\prime}=(g, \alpha)^{-1}$, i.e., the inverse element of $(g, \alpha)$. Thus, for every element in $M$, there exists an inverse in $M$. Take $l_{1}=(g, \alpha), \quad l_{2}=(h, \beta), \quad l_{3}=$ $(k, \gamma) \in M$. By definition, $\langle M, *\rangle$ is a Moufang loop iff

$$
\left(l_{1} * l_{2}\right) *\left(l_{3} * l_{1}\right)=\left[l_{1} *\left(l_{2} * l_{3}\right)\right] * l_{1} \quad, \forall l_{i} \in M
$$

Now

$$
l_{1} * l_{2}=(g, \alpha) *(h, \beta)=\left(g^{1-\beta} h^{(-1)^{\alpha}} g^{\beta}, \alpha+\beta\right)
$$

and

$$
l_{3} * l_{1}=(k, \gamma) *(g, \alpha)=\left(k^{1-\alpha} g^{(-1)^{\gamma}} k^{\alpha}, \alpha+\gamma\right) .
$$

So,

$$
\begin{gathered}
\left(l_{1} * l_{2}\right) *\left(l_{3} * l_{1}\right)=\left(g^{1-\beta} h^{(-1)^{\alpha}} g^{\beta}, \alpha+\beta\right) *\left(k^{1-\alpha} g^{(-1)^{\gamma}} k^{\alpha}, \alpha+\gamma\right)= \\
\left(\left[g^{1-\beta} h^{(-1)^{\alpha}} g^{\beta}\right]^{1-(\alpha+\gamma)}\left[k^{1-\alpha} g^{(-1)^{\gamma}} k^{\alpha}\right]^{(-1)^{\alpha+\beta}}\left[g^{1-\beta} h^{(-1)^{\alpha}} g^{\beta}\right]^{\alpha+\gamma}, 2 \alpha+\beta+\gamma\right)
\end{gathered}
$$

We write

$$
u=\left[g^{1-\beta} h^{(-1)^{\alpha}} g^{\beta}\right]^{1-(\alpha+\gamma)}\left[k^{1-\alpha} g^{(-1)^{\gamma}} k^{\alpha}\right]^{(-1)^{\alpha+\beta}}\left[g^{1-\beta} h^{(-1)^{\alpha}} g^{\beta}\right]^{\alpha+\gamma}
$$

Therefore

$$
\left(l_{1} * l_{2}\right) *\left(l_{3} * l_{1}\right)=(u, 2 \alpha+\beta+\gamma)
$$

On the other hand,

$$
l_{2} * l_{3}=(h, \beta) *(k, \gamma)=\left(h^{1-\gamma} k^{(-1)^{\beta}} h^{\gamma}, \beta+\gamma\right)
$$

and

$$
l_{1} *\left(l_{2} * l_{3}\right)=(g, \alpha) *\left(h^{1-\gamma} k^{(-1)^{\beta}} h^{\gamma}, \beta+\gamma\right)=\left(g^{1-(\beta+\gamma)}\left[h^{1-\gamma} k^{(-1)^{\beta}} h^{\gamma}\right]^{(-1)^{\alpha}} g^{\beta+\gamma}, \alpha+\beta+\gamma\right)
$$

Then,

$$
\begin{aligned}
{\left[l_{1} *\left(l_{2} * l_{3}\right)\right] * l_{1}=} & \left(g^{1-(\beta+\gamma)}\left[h^{1-\gamma} k^{(-1)^{\beta}} h^{\gamma}\right]^{(-1)^{\alpha}} g^{\beta+\gamma}, \alpha+\beta+\gamma\right) *(g, \alpha) \\
= & \left(\left[g^{1-(\beta+\gamma)}\left(h^{1-\gamma} k^{(-1)^{\beta}} h^{\gamma}\right)^{(-1)^{\alpha}} g^{\beta+\gamma}\right]^{1-\alpha} g^{(-1)^{\alpha+\beta+\gamma}}\right. \\
& \left.\quad\left[g^{1-(\beta+\gamma)}\left(h^{1-\gamma} k^{(-1)^{\beta}} h^{\gamma}\right)^{(-1)^{\alpha}} g^{\beta+\gamma}\right]^{\alpha}, 2 \alpha+\beta+\gamma\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

Write

$$
\begin{gathered}
v=\left[g^{1-(\beta+\gamma)}\left(h^{1-\gamma} k^{(-1)^{\beta}} h^{\gamma}\right)^{(-1)^{\alpha}} g^{\beta+\gamma}\right]^{1-\alpha} g^{(-1)^{\alpha+\beta+\gamma}} \\
{\left[g^{1-(\beta+\gamma)}\left(h^{1-\gamma} k^{(-1)^{\beta}} h^{\gamma}\right)^{(-1)^{\alpha}} g^{\beta+\gamma}\right]^{\alpha}}
\end{gathered}
$$

Therefore

$$
\left[l_{1} *\left(l_{2} * l_{3}\right)\right] * l_{1}=(v, 2 \alpha+\beta+\gamma)
$$

We see that

$$
\left(l_{1} * l_{2}\right) *\left(l_{3} * l_{1}\right)=\left[l_{1} *\left(l_{2} * l_{3}\right)\right] * l_{1} \quad, \forall l_{i} \in M
$$

iff $u=v$.
Case 1: $\alpha=0$. So

$$
u=\left(g^{1-\beta} h g^{\beta}\right)^{1-\gamma}\left[k g^{(-1)^{\gamma}}\right]^{(-1)^{\beta}}\left(g^{1-\beta} h g^{\beta}\right)^{\gamma}
$$

and

$$
v=g^{1-(\beta+\gamma)} h^{1-\gamma} k^{(-1)^{\beta}} h^{\gamma} g^{1-(\beta+\gamma)}
$$

Case 1.1: $\gamma=0$. Then $u=g^{1-\beta} h g^{\beta}(k g)^{(-1)^{\beta}}$, and $v=g^{1-\beta} h k^{(-1)^{\beta}} g^{1-\beta}$. Therefore $u=v$ for $\beta \in Z_{2}$.
Case 1.2: $\gamma=1$. Then $u=\left(k g^{-1}\right)^{(-1)^{\beta}} g^{1-\beta} h g^{\beta}$, and $v=g^{-\beta} k^{(-1)^{\beta}} h g^{-\beta}$
$=g^{\beta} k^{(-1)^{\beta}} h g^{\beta} \quad\left(-\beta=\beta\right.$, because $\left.\beta \in Z_{2}\right)$. Therefore, $u=v$ for $\beta \in Z_{2}$.
Case 2: $\alpha=1$. So

$$
u=\left(g^{1-\beta} h^{-1} g^{\beta}\right)^{-\gamma}\left(g^{(-1)^{\gamma}} k\right)^{(-1)^{1+\beta}}\left(g^{1-\beta} h^{-1} g^{\beta}\right)^{1+\gamma}
$$

and

$$
v=g^{(-1)^{1+\beta+\gamma}} g^{1-(\beta+\gamma)}\left(h^{1-\gamma} k^{(-1)^{\beta}} h^{\gamma}\right)^{-1} g^{\beta+\gamma} .
$$

Case 2.1: $\beta=0$. Thus,

$$
u=\left(g h^{-1}\right)^{-\gamma}\left(g^{(-1)^{\gamma}} k\right)^{-1}\left(g h^{-1}\right)^{1+\gamma}=\left(g h^{-1}\right)^{\gamma}\left(g^{(-1)^{\gamma}} k\right)^{-1}\left(g h^{-1}\right)^{1+\gamma} \quad\left(-\gamma=\gamma, \quad \because \gamma \in Z_{2}\right)
$$

and

$$
v=g^{(-1)^{1+\gamma}} g^{1-\gamma}\left(h^{1-\gamma} k h^{\gamma}\right)^{-1} g^{\gamma}
$$

Therefore $u=v$ for $\gamma \in Z_{2}$.
Case 2.2: $\beta=1$. So $u=\left(h^{-1} g\right)^{-\gamma} g^{(-1)^{\gamma}} k\left(h^{-1} g\right)^{1+\gamma}$, and $v=g^{(-1)^{\gamma}} g^{-\gamma}\left(h^{1-\gamma} k^{-1} h^{\gamma}\right)^{-1} g^{1+\gamma}$. therefore $u=v$ for $\gamma \in Z_{2}$. Since $u=v$ for every case, it follows that $\left(l_{1} * l_{2}\right) *\left(l_{3} * l_{1}\right)=\left[l_{1} *\left(l_{2} * l_{3}\right)\right] * l_{1}, \forall l_{i} \in M$.

Therefore, $\langle M, *\rangle$ is a Moufang loop. This proves part (i) of this theorem.
Obviously, (ii) is true, i.e., $|M|=2|G|$ if $|G|$ is finite since $\left|Z_{2}\right|=2$.
Suppose $G$ is a nonabelian group. Then there exists $g_{1}, g_{2} \in G$ such that $g_{1} g_{2} \neq g_{2} g_{1}$. Take (1, 1$),\left(g_{1}^{-1}, 0\right)$, $\left(g_{2}^{-1}, 0\right) \in M$. Using the product rule $*$, we get $\left[(1,1) *\left(g_{1}^{-1}, 0\right)\right] *\left(g_{2}^{-1}, 0\right)=\left(g_{1}, 1\right) *\left(g_{2}^{-1}, 0\right)=\left(g_{1} g_{2}, 1\right)$, and $(1,1) *\left[\left(g_{1}^{-1}, 0\right) *\left(g_{2}^{-1}, 0\right)\right]=(1,1) *\left(g_{1}^{-1} g_{2}^{-1}, 0\right)=\left(g_{2} g_{1}, 1\right)$.

Since $g_{1} g_{2} \neq g_{2} g_{1},\left[(1,1) *\left(g_{1}^{-1}, 0\right)\right] *\left(g_{2}^{-1}, 0\right) \neq(1,1) *\left[\left(g_{1}^{-1}, 0\right) *\left(g_{2}^{-1}, 0\right)\right]$. Now, suppose $G$ is an abelian group, that is $g_{1} g_{2}=g_{2} g_{1}, \forall g_{1}, g_{2} \in G$. Therefore

$$
\left(g_{1}, \alpha\right) *\left(g_{2}, \beta\right)=\left(g_{1}^{1-\beta} g_{2}^{(-1)^{\alpha}} g_{1}^{\beta}, \alpha+\beta\right)=\left(g_{1}^{1-\beta+\beta} g_{2}^{(-1)^{\alpha}}, \alpha+\beta\right)=\left(g_{1} g_{2}^{(-1)^{\alpha}}, \alpha+\beta\right)
$$

That is $\left(g_{1}, \alpha\right) *\left(g_{2}, \beta\right)=\left(g_{1} g_{2}^{(-1)^{\alpha}}, \alpha+\beta\right)$ if $G$ is abelian. Take $l_{1}=(g, \alpha), \quad l_{2}=(h, \beta), \quad l_{3}=(k, \gamma) \in M$. So

$$
\left(l_{1} * l_{2}\right) * l_{3}=[(g, \alpha) *(h, \beta)] *(k, \gamma)=\left(g h^{(-1)^{\alpha}}, \alpha+\beta\right) *(k, \gamma)=\left(g h^{(-1)^{\alpha}} k^{(-1)^{\alpha+\beta}}, \alpha+\beta+\gamma\right)
$$

Now,

$$
\begin{aligned}
& l_{1} *\left(l_{2} * l_{3}\right)=(g, \alpha) *[(h, \beta) *(k, \gamma)]=(g, \alpha) *\left(h k^{(-1)^{\beta}}, \beta+\gamma\right) \\
& =\left(g\left(h k^{(-1)^{\beta}}\right)^{(-1)^{\alpha}}, \alpha+\beta+\gamma\right)=\left(g h^{(-1)^{\alpha}} k^{(-1)^{\alpha+\beta}}, \alpha+\beta+\gamma\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

because $G$ is abelian. Thus, if $G$ is abelian, $\forall l_{1}, l_{2}, l_{3} \in M,\left(l_{1} * l_{2}\right) * l_{3}=l_{1} *\left(l_{2} * l_{3}\right)$, that is, $M$ is associative.
So $M$ is not associative iff $G$ is not commutative. Define $\phi:\langle M, *\rangle \rightarrow M(G, 2)$ as $\phi(g, \alpha)=g u^{\alpha}$. Now $\phi[(g, \alpha) *(h, \beta)]=\phi\left(g^{1-\beta} h^{(-1)^{\alpha}} g^{\beta}, \alpha+\beta\right)=\left(g^{1-\beta} h^{(-1)^{\alpha}} g^{\beta}\right) u^{\alpha+\beta}=\left(g u^{\alpha}\right) *\left(h u^{\beta}\right)$ (by Lemma 2) $=\phi(g, \alpha) * \phi(h, \beta)$. Thus, $\phi$ is a homomorphism. Clearly $\phi$ is one-to-one and onto. So it is also an isomorphism. This completes the proof of our theorem.

Remark 3.1. Note that for the product rule that we have presented in our theorem above: $\left(g_{1}, \alpha_{1}\right) *\left(g_{2}, \alpha_{2}\right)=$ $\left(g_{1}^{1-\alpha_{2}} \circ g_{2}^{(-1)^{\alpha_{1}}} \circ g_{1}^{\alpha_{2}}, \quad \alpha_{1}+\alpha_{2}\right)$. Since

$$
g_{1}^{1-\alpha_{2}}=\left\{\begin{array}{cc}
g_{1}, & \alpha_{2}=0 \\
1, & \alpha_{2}=1
\end{array} \quad \text { and } \quad g_{1}^{\alpha_{2}}= \begin{cases}1, & \alpha_{2}=0 \\
g_{1} & \alpha_{2}=1\end{cases}\right.
$$

we can suggest an alternative way of writing it, i.e.,

$$
g_{1}^{1-\alpha_{2}}=g_{1}^{\frac{1+(-1)^{\alpha_{2}}}{2}}, \quad \text { and } \quad g_{1}^{\alpha_{2}}=g_{1}^{\frac{1-(-1)^{\alpha_{2}}}{2}}
$$

to avoid the confusion brought by the power of $g_{1}$ especially when the product involves 3 or more elements of $M$. For the reader who wishes to be more careful, we can rewrite the product rule as

$$
\left(g_{1}, \alpha_{1}\right) *\left(g_{2}, \alpha_{2}\right)=\left(g_{1}^{\frac{1+(-1)^{\alpha_{2}}}{2}} \circ g_{2}^{(-1)^{\alpha_{1}}} \circ g_{1}^{\frac{1-(-1)^{\alpha_{2}}}{2}}, \quad \alpha_{1}+\alpha_{2}\right)
$$

However, since our main intention is to simplify the construction and product rule of $M(G, 2)$, we prefer to leave it in the form presented in our (main) theorem.

Remark 3.2. Actually, the statement (iv) in our theorem is essentially equivalent to parts (ii) and (iii) of this theorem. We have purposely proven (ii) and (iii) by themselves (before proving part (iv)) so that our paper would be as self-contained as possible.

## 4. Conclusion

Since the smallest nonabelian group is the symmetric group $S_{3}$, the smallest nonassociative Moufang loop that we could construct using our theorem would be the $\langle M, *\rangle$, with the set $M=S_{3} \times Z_{2}$.

We know that we can write $S_{3}=\{1,(12),(13),(23),(123),(321)\}$. In order to make the presentation of our table neater, we shall write $a=(12), b=(13), c=(23), d=(123), e=(321)$. So $\mathrm{M}=\{(1,0),(a, 0),(b, 0),(c, 0)$, $(d, 0),(e, 0),(1,1),(a, 1),(b, 1),(c, 1),(d, 1),(e, 1)\}$. We provide below the multiplication table of this $\langle M, *\rangle$.

| $*$ | $(1,0)$ | $(a, 0)$ | $(b, 0)$ | $(c, 0)$ | $(d, 0)$ | $(e, 0)$ | $(1,1)$ | $(a, 1)$ | $(b, 1)$ | $(c, 1)$ | $(d, 1)$ | $(e, 1)$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $(1,0)$ | $(1,0)$ | $(a, 0)$ | $(b, 0)$ | $(c, 0)$ | $(d, 0)$ | $(e, 0)$ | $(1,1)$ | $(a, 1)$ | $(b, 1)$ | $(c, 1)$ | $(d, 1)$ | $(e, 1)$ |
| $(a, 0)$ | $(a, 0)$ | $(1,0)$ | $(d, 0)$ | $(e, 0)$ | $(b, 0)$ | $(c, 0)$ | $(a, 1)$ | $(1,1)$ | $(e, 1)$ | $(d, 1)$ | $(c, 1)$ | $(b, 1)$ |
| $(b, 0)$ | $(b, 0)$ | $(e, 0)$ | $(1,0)$ | $(d, 0)$ | $(c, 0)$ | $(a, 0)$ | $(b, 1)$ | $(d, 1)$ | $(1,1)$ | $(e, 1)$ | $(a, 1)$ | $(c, 1)$ |
| $(c, 0)$ | $(c, 0)$ | $(d, 0)$ | $(e, 0)$ | $(1,0)$ | $(a, 0)$ | $(b, 0)$ | $(c, 1)$ | $(e, 1)$ | $(d, 1)$ | $(1,1)$ | $(b, 1)$ | $(a, 1)$ |
| $(d, 0)$ | $(d, 0)$ | $(c, 0)$ | $(a, 0)$ | $(b, 0)$ | $(e, 0)$ | $(1,0)$ | $(d, 1)$ | $(b, 1)$ | $(c, 1)$ | $(a, 1)$ | $(e, 1)$ | $(1,1)$ |
| $(e, 0)$ | $(e, 0)$ | $(b, 0)$ | $(c, 0)$ | $(a, 0)$ | $(1,0)$ | $(d, 0)$ | $(e, 1)$ | $(c, 1)$ | $(a, 1)$ | $(b, 1)$ | $(1,1)$ | $(d, 1)$ |
| $(1,1)$ | $(1,1)$ | $(a, 1)$ | $(b, 1)$ | $(c, 1)$ | $(e, 1)$ | $(d, 1)$ | $(1,0)$ | $(a, 0)$ | $(b, 0)$ | $(c, 0)$ | $(e, 0)$ | $(d, 0)$ |
| $(a, 1)$ | $(a, 1)$ | $(1,1)$ | $(d, 1)$ | $(e, 1)$ | $(c, 1)$ | $(b, 1)$ | $(a, 0)$ | $(1,0)$ | $(e, 0)$ | $(d, 0)$ | $(b, 0)$ | $(c, 0)$ |
| $(b, 1)$ | $(b, 1)$ | $(e, 1)$ | $(1,1)$ | $(d, 1)$ | $(a, 1)$ | $(c, 1)$ | $(b, 0)$ | $(d, 0)$ | $(1,0)$ | $(e, 0)$ | $(c, 0)$ | $(a, 0)$ |
| $(c, 1)$ | $(c, 1)$ | $(d, 1)$ | $(e, 1)$ | $(1,1)$ | $(b, 1)$ | $(a, 1)$ | $(c, 0)$ | $(e, 0)$ | $(d, 0)$ | $(1,0)$ | $(a, 0)$ | $(b, 0)$ |
| $(d, 1)$ | $(d, 1)$ | $(c, 1)$ | $(a, 1)$ | $(b, 1)$ | $(1,1)$ | $(e, 1)$ | $(d, 0)$ | $(b, 0)$ | $(c, 0)$ | $(a, 0)$ | $(1,0)$ | $(e, 0)$ |
| $(e, 1)$ | $(e, 1)$ | $(b, 1)$ | $(c, 1)$ | $(a, 1)$ | $(d, 1)$ | $(1,1)$ | $(e, 0)$ | $(c, 0)$ | $(a, 0)$ | $(b, 0)$ | $(d, 0)$ | $(1,0)$ |

It is easy to see that $[((13), 0) *((123), 1)] *(1,1)=((12), 0)$, but $((13), 0) *[((123), 1) *(1,1)]=((23), 0)$.
So $\langle M, *\rangle$ is nonassociative. However, we have no desire to prove that $\langle M, *\rangle$ fulfills the Moufang identity for this case since it would be too tedious. Also it is unnecessary as we have already shown it for the general case in our theorem.

## References

[1] R.H. Bruck, A Survey of Binary Systems, Springer-Verlag, New York, 1971.
[2] R.H. Bruck, Contributions to the theory of loops, Trans. Amer. Math. Soc. 60 (1946), 245-354.
[3] O. Chein, Moufang Loops of Small Order, Mem. Amer. Math. Soc. 13 (1978), no. 197, iv+131 pp.
[4] O. Chein and H. O. Pflugfelder, The smallest Moufang loop, Archiv der Mathematik 22 (1971), 573-576.
[5] A. Rajah, Moufang loops of odd order $p q^{3}$, J. Algebra 235 (2001), 66-93.
[6] C. R. B. Wright, Nilpotency conditions for finite loops, Illinois J. Math. 9 (1965), 399-409.

