

## F-rpp semigroups

**Xiaojiang Guo\***

Department of Mathematics  
Jiangxi Normal University  
Nanchang, Jiangxi 330027, P.R. China

**Xiaoping Li**

Department of Mathematics  
Jiangxi Normal University  
Nanchang, Jiangxi 330027, P.R. China

**K.P. Shum<sup>†</sup>**

Faculty of Science  
The Chinese University of Hong Kong  
Shatin, N. T., Hong Kong, China (SAR)

### Abstract

The investigation of F-rpp semigroups is initiated. After obtaining some important properties of such semigroups, the structure of a class of F-rpp semigroups is established. As an application, we give a new structure of F-regular semigroups and strongly F-abundant semigroups. Thus, the results obtained by Edwards and Guo are extended and enriched.

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## 1 Introduction

An inverse semigroup  $S$  is called *F-inverse* if there exists a group congruence  $\sigma$  on  $S$  such that every  $\sigma$ -class of  $S$  contains a greatest element with respect to the natural partial order  $\leq$  on  $S$ . F-inverse semigroups were first studied by McFadden and O'Carroll [10] in 1972. They showed that the notion of F-inverse semigroups is a generalization of residuated inverse semigroups introduced by Blyth [1]. Later on, Edwards [2] has investigated the regular semigroups with the same property of F-inverse semigroups and called them the *F-regular semigroups*. She also defined analogously the F-orthodox semigroups and showed that every F-regular semigroup is in fact an F-orthodox semigroup. She gave a complete characterization of any F-orthodox semigroup in terms of its band of idempotents  $E$ , its maximal group homomorphic image, and a particular set of endomorphisms of  $E$ .

In generalizing the orthodox semigroups, Fountain [3] considered the starred Green relations  $\mathcal{L}^*$  and  $\mathcal{R}^*$  instead of weakening the regularity of a semigroup. For elements  $a, b$  of a semigroup  $S$ , define  $a\mathcal{R}^*b$  if and only if for all  $x, y \in S^1$ ,  $xa = ya$  if and only if  $xb = yb$ .  $\mathcal{L}^*$  is dually defined. Fountain [4] then called a semigroup  $S$  *abundant* if each class of  $\mathcal{R}^*$  and  $\mathcal{L}^*$  contains an idempotent of  $S$ . Also, for an abundant semigroup  $S$ , define  $a \leq b$  if and only if for some  $e, f \in E(S)$ ,  $a = eb = bf$ . Recently, Guo [7] called an abundant semigroup  $S$  *F-abundant* if for each  $a \in S$ , the congruence class of the minimal cancellative congruence  $\sigma$  containing  $a$  has a greatest element  $m_a$  with respect to  $\leq$ . By utilizing a cancellative monoid  $M$  and a band  $B$  with identity, Guo [7] constructed a semigroup, called an SF-system, on a subset of  $M \times B$ . His construction of SF-system involved two families of endomorphisms on  $B$ . In this way, he gave a generalization of F-regular semigroups in the class of abundant semigroups.

Although, Guo [7] has provided a complete description for strongly F-abundant semigroups by using SF-systems, his method can not be directly applied to construct F-regular semigroups. The main handle is similar to the case, as stated in Edwards [2], that F-inverse semigroups are in general not extendable to F-orthodox semigroups. In order to overcome the difficulties, we introduce more general SF-system, namely, an SFR-system and the concept of F-rpp semigroups. Then, as special cases of SFR-systems, we can re-obtain the methods of construction for F-regular semigroups and strongly F-abundant semigroups.

By an *rpp semigroup*, we mean every principal right ideal of  $S$  is projective. Fountain ([5] and [6]) has shown that a semigroup  $S$  is rpp if and only if every  $\mathcal{L}^*$ -class of  $S$  contains at least one idempotent of  $S$ . This is equivalent to say that a semigroup  $S$  is rpp if for all  $a \in S$ , the left ideal of the form  $aS^1$  of  $S$ , regarded as a right  $S^1$ -system, is projective (see [5]). Thus, an rpp semigroup is

clearly a generalized abundant semigroup. As a generalization of F-abundant semigroups, we call an rpp semigroup  $S$  an *F-rpp semigroup* if there exists a left cancellative monoid congruence  $\rho$  on  $S$  such that each  $\rho$ -class contains a greatest element with respect to Lawson partial order  $\leq_\ell$  on  $S$ .

In this paper, we shall establish a structure theorem for strongly F-rpp semigroups by using SFR-systems. As an application of our result, we consider some special cases and obtain the structure theorems for F-regular semigroups and strongly F-abundant semigroups. Thus, the results obtained by Edwards in [2] and Guo in [7] are extended.

In an abundant semigroup  $S$ , we usually denote the idempotent in  $L_a^* \cap E(S)$  by  $a^*$  and the ideampotent in  $R_a^* \cap E(S)$  by  $a^\dagger$ . The reader is referred to Howie [8] and Guo [7] for other notations and terminology not given in this paper.

## 2 Preliminaries

We first cite some useful definitions, results on rpp semigroups and abundant semigroups.

**Definition 2.1** *Let  $x, y$  be elements of a rpp semigroup  $S$ . Define the following Lawson relation  $\leq_\ell$  on  $S$  by*

$$x \leq_\ell y \text{ if and only if } L^*(x) \subseteq L^*(y) \text{ and there exists } f \in E(S) \cap L_x^* \text{ such that } x = yf,$$

where  $L^*(x)$  is the left  $*$ -ideal generated by  $x$  (see Fountain [3]).

By using the same arguments as in Lawson [9] (see Lemma 2.1, Lemma 2.2, Proposition 2.5 and Proposition 2.7 in [9]), we have the following lemmas.

**Lemma 2.2** *Let  $S$  be an rpp semigroup. For  $x, y \in S$  and  $e \in E(S)$ . Then the following statements holds:*

- (i)  $\leq_\ell$  is a partial order on  $S$ , in particular,  $\leq_\ell$  coincide with the usual idempotent order  $\omega$  on  $E(S)$ , that is,  $e\omega f$  if and only if  $e = ef = fe$ .
- (ii) if  $x \leq_\ell e$ , then  $x^2 = x$  in  $S$ .
- (iii) if  $x \leq_\ell y$  and  $y$  is a regular element in  $S$ , then  $x$  is also a regular element in  $S$ .
- (iv) Let  $y^* \in L_y^* \cap E(S)$  and  $\omega(y^*) = \{f : f\omega y^*\}$ . Then  $x \leq_\ell y$  if and only if for all  $y^*$ , there exists  $f \in \omega(y^*)$  such that  $x = yf$ .
- (v) If  $x \leq_\ell y$  and  $x\mathcal{L}^*y$ , then  $x = y$ .

**Lemma 2.3** [7] *Let  $S$  be an abundant semigroup. Then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (1)  $S$  is idempotent-connected (IC);
- (2) for all  $a \in S$ , two conditions hold:
  - (i) for some [all]  $a^* \in L_a^* \cap E(S)$  and for all  $e \in \omega(a^*)$ , there exists  $b \in S$  ( $b \in E(S)$ ) such that  $ae = ba$ ;
  - (ii) for some [all]  $a^\dagger \in R_a^* \cap E(S)$  and for all  $f \in \omega(a^\dagger)$ , there exists  $c \in S$  ( $c \in E(S)$ ) such that  $fa = ac$ .

**Definition 2.4** *A congruence  $\rho$  on a semigroup  $S$  is called a left cancellative monoid congruence if  $S/\rho$  is a left cancellative monoid.*

If  $\rho$  is a left cancellative monoid congruence, mentioned in the definition of F-rpp semigroup, on an F-rpp semigroup  $S$ , then, by the definition, each  $\rho_x$ , the  $\rho$ -class of  $S$  containing  $x$ , contains a greatest element, namely,  $m_x$ . Now we let  $M_S = \{m_x : x \in S\}$ . Clearly,  $\rho_x = \{y = m_x f : f \in E(S)\}$  and the set is contained in the  $\sigma$ -class of  $S$  containing  $x$ , where  $\sigma$  is a left cancellative monoid congruence on  $S$ . Thus  $\rho$  is the smallest left cancellative monoid congruence on  $S$ .

Define a multiplication  $m_x \star m_y = m_{xy}$  on  $M_S$ . Then we can easily to check that  $(M_S, \star)$  is indeed isomorphic to  $S/\rho$ . (Note :  $M_S$  is however not necessarily a left cancellative semigroup under the semigroup multiplication!)

We now study the properties of F-rpp semigroups.

**Proposition 2.5** *Let  $S$  be an F-rpp semigroup. Then the following properties hold:*

- (i) for all  $m \in M_S$  and  $e \in E(S)$ , there exists  $f \in E(S)$  such that  $em = mf$ ;
- (ii)  $E(S)$  is a band with identity;
- (iii) for all  $m \in M_S$  and  $m^*$ ,  $m^*E(S) \subseteq E(S)m^*$ .

*Proof:* (i) Observe that  $em$  and  $m$  are in the same  $\rho$ -class, we have  $em \leq_\ell m$  and hence, by Lemma 2.2,  $em = mf$ , as required.

(ii) Obviously,  $E(S)$  is contained in the same  $\rho$ -class. Let  $m$  be the greatest element of this  $\rho$ -class. If  $e \in E(S)$  and  $e\mathcal{L}^*m$ , then  $e \leq_\ell m$  and so, by Lemma 2.2 (v),  $e = m$ , that is,  $m \in E(S)$ . Notice that  $ef\rho m$  for all  $e, f \in E(S)$ , we have  $ef \leq_\ell m$  and, again by Lemma 2.2,  $ef \in E(S)$ . Hence  $E(S)$  is a band. On the other hand, since  $e \leq_\ell m$ , we have  $e\omega m$  and so  $e = em = me$ . Hence,  $m$  is the identity of  $E(S)$ .

(iii) For all  $e \in E(S)$ , we have  $me\sigma m$  so that there exists  $f \in \omega(m^*)$  such that  $me = mf$ . This leads to  $m^*e = m^*f = f = fm^*$  since  $m\mathcal{L}^*m^*$ . Thus  $m^*E(S) \subseteq E(S)m^*$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 2.6** *Let  $S$  be an F-rpp semigroup. Then  $S$  is an F-abundant semigroup if and only if  $S$  is an idempotent-connected (IC) abundant semigroup.*

*Proof:* It is clear that an F-abundant semigroup is always an IC quasi-adequate semigroup ([7, Proposition 2.2]). Hence, we only need to prove the converse part. For this purpose, we suppose that  $S$  is an IC abundant semigroup and an F-rpp semigroup with a left cancellative monoid congruence  $\rho$  on  $S$  such that each  $\rho$ -class contains a greatest element with respect to  $\leq_\ell$ . Then  $\leq_\ell = \leq$  by [9, Theorem 2.6]. Now let  $a, b, c \in S$  and  $(ba)\rho = (ca)\rho$ . Then there exist  $e, f \in \omega(m_{ab}^*)$  such that  $ba = m_{ba}e$  and  $ca = m_{ba}f$ . It now follows that  $S$  is IC that  $ba = gm_{ba}$ , for some  $g \in E(S)$ , since  $S$  is IC. Hence, we have

$$(gb)af = gm_{ba}f = (gc)af$$

so that  $gb(af)^\dagger = gc(af)^\dagger$  since  $af\mathcal{R}^*(af)^\dagger$ , where  $(af)^\dagger \in R_{af}^* \cap E(S)$ . Notice that  $e\rho$  is the identity of  $S/\rho$ , we observe that  $(af)^\dagger\rho = g\rho$  is the identity of  $S/\rho$ , and hence we have

$$b\rho = ((g\rho)(b\rho)(af)^\dagger\rho) = ((g\rho)(c\rho)(af)^\dagger\rho) = c\rho.$$

This shows that  $\rho$  is a right cancellative congruence on  $S$ . Therefore  $\rho$  is a cancellative congruence. In other words, we have that each  $\rho$ -class of  $S$  contains a greatest element with respect to  $\leq$ . This proves that  $S$  is an F-abundant semigroup.  $\square$

Clearly, a left cancellative monoid  $M$  is an F-rpp semigroup but  $M$  is in general not an F-abundant semigroup. However, we can see that a cancellative monoid is an F-abundant semigroup but not a F-regular semigroup. Thus, we have the following relations:

**Corollary 2.7**  $\{F\text{-regular semigroups}\} \subset \{F\text{-abundant semigroups}\} \subset \{F\text{-rpp semigroups}\}.$

Recall from [9] that  $\leq_\ell = \leq$  (where  $a \leq b \Leftrightarrow a = eb = fb$  for some  $e, f \in E(S)$ ) in an IC abundant semigroup. Since every regular semigroup is an IC abundant semigroup [9], we can easily see that an F-regular semigroup is always an F-rpp semigroup. Also, by [7, p.155], we see that in an F-regular semigroup  $S$ ,  $E(S)m^* = m^*E(S)$  for all  $m \in M$  and  $m^*$ . However, in general, we do not know whether  $E(S)m_a^* = m_a^*E(S)$  in an F-rpp semigroup (F-abundant semigroup). We make the following definition.

**Definition 2.8** An F-rpp semigroup  $S$  is called *strongly F-rpp* if for all  $a \in S$ ,  $E(S)m_a^* = m_a^*E(S)$ .

Clearly, F-regular semigroups are strongly F-abundant semigroups (for strongly F-abundant semigroup, see [7]). And it is clear that a left cancellative monoid is strongly F-rpp and a cancellative monoid is strongly F-abundant. Thus, we have the following relations.

**Proposition 2.9**  $\{ F\text{-regular semigroups} \} \subset \{ \text{strongly F-abundant semigroups} \} \subset \{ \text{strongly F-rpp semigroups} \}.$

The following result is useful in the sequel.

**Lemma 2.10** [7] *Let  $x$  be an element of a band  $B$ . Then  $xB = Bx$  if and only if  $x$  is central in  $B$ .*

### 3 Strongly F-rpp semigroups

In this section, we will establish a structure theorem for strongly F-rpp semigroups. To begin with, we give some properties of strongly F-rpp semigroups.

**Proposition 3.1** *Let  $S$  be a strongly F-rpp semigroup. Then*

- (1)  $|L_m^* \cap E(S)| = 1$ , for all  $m \in M$ ;
- (2) for all  $x \in S$ , there exists a unique idempotent  $f_x \in \omega(m_x^*)$  such that  $x = m_x f_x$ . In this case,  $f_x \mathcal{L}^* x$ .

*Proof:* (1) If  $f \in L_m^* \cap E(S)$ , then  $f \mathcal{L} m^*$  so that  $f = m^* f$  and  $m^* = m^* f$ . By Lemma 2.10,  $m^*$  is central in  $E(S)$  for all  $m \in M$  and  $m^*$ . Thus  $f = m^* f = f m^* = m^*$ .

(2) By Lemma 2.2, there exists  $f \in \omega(m_x^*)$  such that  $x = m_x f$ . Now let  $p, q \in S^1$  and  $xp = xq$ . Then  $m_x f p = m_x f q$  and  $m_x^* f p = m_x^* f q$ . It follows that  $f p = f q$  since  $f \in \omega(m_x^*)$ . Together with  $x = x f$ , we see that  $x \mathcal{L}^* f$ .

Assume that  $g \in \omega(m_x^*)$  such that  $x = m_x g$ . Then  $m_x g = x = m_x f$  and so  $m_x^* g = m_x^* f$ . Hence  $g = f$ . Thus (2) holds. This completes the proof.  $\square$

**Definition 3.2** *Let  $M$  be a left cancellative monoid with identity 1, and  $E$  a band with identity  $e$ . Let*

$$\mathcal{C} : M \rightarrow E; m \mapsto c_m$$

*be a mapping of  $M$  into  $E$  satisfying the following conditions:*

- (C1) for all  $m \in M$ ,  $c_m$  is central in  $E$ ;
- (C2)  $c_1 = e$ .

Let

$$\mathcal{P} : M \times M \rightarrow E; \quad (m, n) \mapsto p_{m,n}$$

be a mapping of  $M \times M$  into  $E$  such that

(P1) for all  $m \in M$ ,  $p_{1,m} = p_{m,1} = c_m$ ;

(P2) for all  $m, n \in M$ ,  $p_{m,n} = p_{m,n}p_{1,n} \in \omega(c_{mn})$ .

Denote by  $End(E)$  the set of endomorphisms of  $E$  into itself. Define

$$\Phi : M \rightarrow End(E) \quad \text{by} \quad m \mapsto \phi_m,$$

where

$$\phi_m : E \rightarrow E \quad \text{is defined by} \quad x \mapsto x\phi_m$$

satisfying the conditions below:

(PH1)  $\phi_1$  is the identity mapping on  $E$ ;

(PH2) for all  $m \in M$  and  $x \in E$ ,  $x\phi_m \in \omega(c_m)$ .

Then, we call the above quadruple  $(M, E; \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{P}; \Phi)$  an SFR-system if the following conditions are satisfied:

(SFR1) for all  $x \in E$  and  $m, n \in M$ ,  $p_{m,n}(x\phi_m\phi_n) = (x\phi_{mn})p_{m,n}$ ;

(SFR2) for all  $m, n \in M$  and  $x \in \omega(c_m), y, z \in \omega(c_n)$

$$p_{m,n}(x\phi_n)y = p_{m,n}(x\phi_n)z \Rightarrow (x\phi_n)y = (x\phi_n)z;$$

(SFR3) for all  $m, n, t \in M$ ,  $p_{m,nt}p_{n,t} = p_{mn,t}(p_{m,n}\phi_t)$ .

Now, for a given SFR-system  $(M, E; \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{P}; \Phi)$ , we put

$$SFR = SFR(M, E; \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{P}; \Phi) = \{(m, x) \in M \times E : x \in \omega(c_m)\}.$$

Then, we define a multiplication in the SFR-system by

$$(m, x) \circ (n, y) = (mn, p_{m,n}(x\phi_n)y).$$

Since  $p_{m,n} \in \omega(c_{mn})$  and  $c_{mn}$  is central in  $E$ , we observe that  $p_{m,n}(x\phi_n)y \in \omega(c_{mn})$  and so  $(m, x) \circ (n, y) \in SFR$ . Thus  $\circ$  is well-defined.

We now have the following lemmas.

**Lemma 3.3**  $(SFR, \circ)$  is a semigroup.

*Proof:* Let  $(m, x), (n, y), (t, z) \in SFR$ . Then, by computing, we have

$$\begin{aligned} [(m, x) \circ (n, y)] \circ (t, z) &= (mn, p_{m,n}(x\phi_n)y) \circ (t, z) \\ &= (mnt, p_{mn,t}(p_{m,n}(x\phi_n)y)\phi_t)z \\ &= (mnt, p_{mn,t}(p_{m,n}\phi_t)(x\phi_n\phi_t)(y\phi_t)z) \\ &= (mnt, p_{m,nt}p_{n,t}(x\phi_n\phi_t)(y\phi_t)z) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} (m, x) \circ [(n, y) \circ (t, z)] &= (m, x) \circ (nt, p_{n,t}(y\phi_t)z) \\ &= (mnt, p_{m,nt}(x\phi_{nt})p_{n,t}(y\phi_t)z) \\ &= (mnt, p_{m,nt}p_{n,t}(x\phi_n\phi_t)(y\phi_t)z). \end{aligned}$$

This proves that  $[(m, x) \circ (n, y)] \circ (t, z) = (m, x) \circ [(n, y) \circ (t, z)]$ . Thus  $(SFR, \circ)$  is a semigroup.  $\square$

**Lemma 3.4**  $E(SFR) = \{(1, x) \in SFR : x \in E\}$  which is isomorphic to  $E$ . Moreover,  $(1, e)$  is the identity element of  $E(SFR)$ .

*Proof:* Let  $(m, x) \in E(SFR)$ . Then we have

$$(m^2, p_{m,m}(x\phi_m)x) = (m, x)^2 = (m, x)$$

and so  $m^2 = m$ . Hence  $m = 1$  since  $M$  is a left cancellative monoid. On the other hand, we have

$$(1, x)^2 = (1, p_{1,1}(x\phi_1)x) = (1, x).$$

This leads to  $E(SFR) = \{(1, x) \in SFR : x \in E\}$ . It is easy to see that

$$\theta : E(SFR) \rightarrow E; (1, x) \mapsto x$$

is an isomorphism.  $\square$

**Lemma 3.5** In the semigroup  $SFR$ ,  $(m, x)\mathcal{L}^*(1, x)$ , and hence  $SFR$  is an rpp semigroup.

*Proof:* Let  $(n, y), (t, z) \in SFR^1$  and  $(m, x)(n, y) = (m, x)(t, z)$ . Then we have

$$(mn, p_{m,n}(x\phi_n)y) = (mt, p_{m,t}(x\phi_t)z)$$

and so  $mn = mt, p_{m,n}(x\phi_n)y = p_{m,t}(x\phi_t)z$ . Thereby, we deduce that  $n = t$  since  $M$  is a left cancellative monoid. From (SFR2), the latter formula yields that  $(x\phi_n)y = (x\phi_t)z$ , that is,  $p_{1,n}(x\phi_n)y = p_{1,t}(x\phi_t)z$  since  $y, z \in \omega(c_n)$ . Thus, we have

$$(1, x)(n, y) = (n, p_{1,n}(x\phi_n)y) = (t, p_{1,t}(x\phi_t)z) = (1, x)(t, z).$$

This equality, together with the fact that

$$(m, x)(1, x) = (m, p_{m,1}(x\phi_1)x) = (m, c_mxx) = (m, x),$$

yield that  $(m, x)\mathcal{L}^*(1, x)$ , as required.  $\square$



**Lemma 3.6** *Let  $(m, x), (n, y) \in SFR$ . Then  $(m, x) \leq_\ell (n, y)$  if and only if  $m = n$  and  $x\omega y$ .*

*Proof:* If  $(m, x) \leq_\ell (n, y)$ , then, by Lemma 2.2, we have  $(1, z)\omega(1, y)$  such that  $(m, x) = (n, y)(1, z)$ . Hence we have

$$(m, x) = (n, p_{n,1}(y\phi_1)z) = (n, c_n yz) = (n, yz)$$

and so  $m = n, x = yz$ . On the other hand, we have  $(1, z)\omega(1, y)$  if and only if  $(1, z) = (1, z)(1, y) = (1, y)(1, z)$ . This leads to  $z = zy = yz$ , that is,  $z\omega y$ . But since  $x = yz$ , we have  $x = z\omega y$ .

Conversely, assume that  $m = n$  and  $x\omega y$ . Then, by the above proof, we see that  $(1, x)\omega(1, y)$ . Since  $(m, x) = (n, y)(1, x)$ , by Lemmas 2.2 and 3.5, we obtain that  $(m, x) \leq_\ell (n, y)$ . This completes the proof.  $\square$

**Lemma 3.7** *The relation  $\rho$  defined by*

$$(m, x)\rho(n, y) \text{ if and only if } m = n$$

*is a left cancellative monoid congruence on the semigroup SFR.*

*Proof:* It can be easily checked that  $\rho$  is a congruence on  $SFR$ . We still need to verify that  $SFR/\rho$  is left cancellative. However, this follows from the fact that the semigroup  $SFR/\rho$  is isomorphic to  $M$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 3.8** *The semigroup SFR is a strongly F-rpp semigroup.*

*Proof:* It is clear that the  $\rho$ -class  $\rho_{(m,x)}$  containing  $(m, x)$  is the set  $\{(m, y) \in SFR : y \in E\}$ . Hence, it follows from Lemma 3.6 that  $(m, c_m)$  is the greatest element in  $\rho_{(m,x)}$  with respect to  $\leq_\ell$ . Thus  $SFR$  is an F-rpp semigroup.

Let  $(m, x) \in SFR$ . Then, by using the above proof, we have  $m_{(m,x)} = (m, c_m)$  and, by Lemma 3.5,  $m^*_{(m,x)} = (1, c_m)$ . On the other hand,  $(1, c_m)$  is central in  $E(SFR)$  since  $c_m$  is central in  $E$ . Hence, it follows from Lemma 2.10 that  $m^*_{(m,x)}E(SFR) = E(SFR)m^*_{(m,x)}$ . Thus  $SFR$  is a strongly F-rpp semigroup.  $\square$

In the rest of this section, we will prove that any strongly F-rpp semigroup is isomorphic to some  $SFR(M, E; \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{P}; \Phi)$ . For the sake of simplicity, we always assume that  $S$  is a strongly F-rpp semigroup with a left cancellative monoid congruence  $\rho$  on  $S$  such that each  $\rho$ -class has a greatest element, and  $E$  is the idempotent band of  $S$ . We use  $(M, \star) = (M_S, \star)$  to denote the left cancellative monoid with identity 1 consisting of the greatest elements in all  $\rho$ -classes of  $S$  (in the sense of Section 2). We also use  $e = 1$  to denote the identity of  $E$ .

By Proposition 3.1, we see that  $m^*$  is central in  $E$  for all  $m \in M$ . We now see that

$$\mathcal{F} : M \rightarrow E; \quad m \mapsto d_m = m^*$$

is a mapping of  $M$  into  $E$  which satisfies conditions (C1) and (C2).

Let  $m, n \in M$ . Since  $mn \rho m \star n$ , by Proposition 3.1, there exists a unique idempotent  $f_{mn} \in \omega(d_{m \star n})$  such that  $mn = m \star n f_{mn}$  and  $f_{mn} \mathcal{L}^* mn$ . Define

$$\mathcal{Q} : M \times M \rightarrow E; \quad (m, n) \mapsto q_{m,n} = f_{mn}.$$

Then, the mapping  $\mathcal{Q}$  has the following properties:

- (i) Since  $m \star 1 = m$  and  $m = mm^*$ , we have  $m = (m \star 1)m^*$  and, by the uniqueness of  $q_{m,n}$ , we have  $q_{m,1} = m^* = d_m$ . Similarly, we have  $q_{1,m} = d_m$ . This shows that  $\mathcal{Q}$  satisfies (P1);
- (ii) Observe that  $mn = mnn^* = (m \star n)(q_{m,n}d_n)$  and  $q_{m,n} \in \omega((m \star n)^*)$ , we have that  $q_{m,n}d_n \in \omega((m \star n)^*)$ . Hence  $q_{m,n} = q_{m,n}d_n = q_{m,n}q_{1,n}$  by the uniqueness of  $q_{m,n}$ . This shows that  $\mathcal{Q}$  satisfies (P2).

Now let  $m \in M$  and  $e \in E$ . Then, by Proposition 3.1, there exists a unique idempotent  $f_{em} \in \omega(m^*)$  such that  $em = m f_{em}$ . Define a mapping

$$\theta_m : E \rightarrow E \quad \text{by} \quad e \mapsto f_{em}.$$

If  $g \in E$ , then we have

$$m f_{egm} = (egm) = em f_{gm} = m f_{em} f_{gm}$$

and so, by Proposition 3.1, we have  $f_{egm} = f_{em} f_{gm}$  since  $f_{em} f_{gm} \in \omega(m^*)$ . Thus  $(eg)\theta_m = (e\theta_m)(g\theta_m)$  and  $\theta_m$  is a homomorphism of  $E$  into itself.

Finally, we define a mapping  $\Theta$  of  $M$  into  $End(E)$ :

$$\Theta : M \rightarrow End(E) \quad \text{by} \quad m \mapsto \theta_m.$$

Then, clearly  $\Theta$  satisfies (PH1) and (PH2).

We now prove the following crucial lemma.

**Lemma 3.9**  $(M, E; \mathcal{F}, \mathcal{Q}; \Theta)$  is an SFR-system.

*Proof:* Let  $m, n \in M$  and  $x \in E$ . Since

$$\begin{aligned} (m \star n)q_{m,n}(x\phi_m\phi_n) &= mn(x\phi_m\phi_n) \\ &= xmn = x(m \star n)q_{m,n} = (m \star n)(x\phi_{m \star n})q_{m,n} \end{aligned}$$

and  $q_{m,n}(x\phi_m\phi_n), (x\phi_{m \star n})q_{m,n} \in \omega((m \star n)^*)$ , by Proposition 3.1, we have  $q_{m,n}(x\phi_m\phi_n) = (x\phi_{m \star n})q_{m,n}$ . That is, (SFR1) holds.

For  $m, n \in M$  and  $x \in \omega(d_m), y, z \in \omega(d_n)$ , if  $q_{m,n}(x\phi_n)y = q_{m,n}(x\phi_n)z$ , then we have

$$\begin{aligned} mxy &= mn(x\phi_n)y = (m \star n)q_{m,n}(x\phi_n)y \\ &= (m \star n)q_{m,n}(x\phi_n)z = mn(x\phi_n)z = mxnz \end{aligned}$$

Since  $m\mathcal{L}^*d_m = m^*$ , by the above formula, we have  $m^*xny = m^*xny$  and so  $n(x\phi_n)y = n(x\phi_n)z$ . This shows that  $n^*(x\phi_n)y = n^*(x\phi_n)z$  since  $n\mathcal{L}^*n^*$ . Consequently,  $(x\phi_n)y = (x\phi_n)z$ , and hence (SFR2) holds.

Finally, let  $m, n, t \in M$ . Since

$$\begin{aligned} (m \star n \star t)q_{m,n\star t}q_{n,t} &= m(n \star t)q_{n,t} = mnt \\ &= (m \star n)q_{m,n}t = (m \star n)t(q_{m,n}\phi_t) \\ &= (m \star n \star t)q_{m\star n,t}(q_{m,n}\phi_t) \end{aligned}$$

and  $m \star n \star t\mathcal{L}^*(m \star n \star t)^*$ , we have

$$(m \star n \star t)^*q_{m,n\star t}q_{n,t} = (m \star n \star t)^*q_{m\star n,t}(q_{m,n}\phi_t). \tag{1}$$

Since  $q_{m\star n,t}, q_{m,n\star t} \in \omega((m \star n \star t)^*)$ , we have  $q_{m,n\star t}q_{n,t}, q_{m\star n,t}(q_{m,n}\phi_t) \in \omega((m \star n \star t)^*)$  and, by the above equality (1), we obtain that  $q_{m,n\star t}q_{n,t} = q_{m\star n,t}(q_{m,n}\phi_t)$ . That is, (SFR3) also holds. This completes the proof.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.10**  $S \cong SFR = SFR(M, E; \mathcal{F}, \mathcal{Q}; \Theta)$ .

*Proof:* We only need to prove that the mapping

$$\varphi : S \rightarrow SFR = SFR(M, E; \mathcal{F}, \mathcal{Q}; \Theta); s \mapsto (m_s, f_s),$$

where  $m_s$  and  $f_s$  have the same meanings as Proposition 3.1, is an isomorphism.

By Proposition 3.1,  $\varphi$  is well-defined and for  $(m, x) \in SFR$ , we have  $(mx)\varphi = (m, x)$ . Hence  $\varphi$  is surjective. That  $\varphi$  is injective follows from Proposition 3.1.

Finally, let  $s, t \in S$ . Then we have

$$st = m_s f_s m_t f_t = m_s m_t (f_s \theta_{m_t}) f_t = (m_s \star m_t) q_{m_s, m_t} (f_s \theta_{m_t}) f_t.$$

This implies that  $f_{st} = q_{m_s, m_t} (f_s \theta_{m_t}) f_t$  by Proposition 2.1. Thus we have

$$(st)\varphi = (m_s \star m_t, q_{m_s, m_t} (f_s \theta_{m_t}) f_t) = (m_s, f_s)(m_t, f_t) = (s\varphi)(t\varphi)$$

and so  $\varphi$  is a homomorphism from  $S$  onto  $SFR$ . Hence  $\varphi$  is an isomorphism, as required.  $\square$

Summing up Proposition 3.8 and Theorem 3.10, we obtain the following structure theorem for strongly F-rpp semigroups.

**Theorem 3.11** *Let  $(M, E; \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{P}; \Phi)$  be an SFR-system. Then  $SFR(M, E; \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{P}; \Phi)$  is a strongly F-rpp semigroup.*

*Conversely, any strongly F-rpp semigroup can be constructed in this manner.*

## 4 Applications

As an applications to the structure theorem of strongly F-rpp semigroups, we will also provide the structure theorem for F-regular semigroups and strongly F-abundant semigroups because these semigroups are special cases of strongly F-rpp semigroups.

We first let  $E$  be a band which is expressible as a semilattice of rectangular bands  $E_\alpha$ , say  $E = \bigcup_{\alpha \in Y} E_\alpha$ . If  $e \in E_\alpha$  then we denote the rectangular band  $E_\alpha$  by  $E(e)$ . If  $E_\alpha E_\beta \subseteq E_\beta$  then we write  $E_\beta \leq_b E_\alpha$ .

By using Theorem 3.11, we are now able to give the following structure theorem of F-regular semigroups.

**Theorem 4.1** *Let  $(M, E; \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{P}; \Phi)$  be an SFR-system. If  $M$  is a group satisfying the following condition:*

$$(FR) \text{ for all } m \in M, p_{m^{-1},m} \in E \text{ and } E(c_m) \leq_b E(p_{m^{-1},m}), E(c_{m^{-1}\phi_m}),$$

*then  $SFR(M, E; \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{P}; \Phi)$  is an F-regular semigroup.*

*Conversely, any F-regular semigroup can be constructed in this above manner.*

*Proof:* Suppose that  $M$  is a group satisfying condition (FR). Since all F-rpp regular semigroups are F-regular semigroups, we need only prove that  $SFR = SFR(M, E; \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{P}; \Phi)$  is regular. To see this, let  $(m, x) \in SFR$ . Then, we can derive the following equalities:

$$\begin{aligned} (m, x)(m^{-1}, c_{m^{-1}})(m, x) &= (m, x)(m^{-1}m, p_{m^{-1},m}(c_{m^{-1}\phi_m})x) \\ &= (mm^{-1}m, p_{m,1}(x\phi_1)p_{m^{-1},m}(c_{m^{-1}\phi_m})x) \\ &= (m, c_mx p_{m^{-1},m}(c_{m^{-1}\phi_m})x) \\ &= (m, x(c_{m^{-1}\phi_m})x) = (m, x), \end{aligned}$$

Thereby, we have shown that  $(m, x)$  is regular and  $SFR$  is regular.

Conversely, if  $S$  is an F-regular semigroup with a left cancellative monoid congruence  $\rho$  on  $S$  such that each  $\rho$ -class of  $S$  contains a greatest element with respect to the Lawson partial order  $\leq_\ell$ , then  $S$  is a strongly F-rpp semigroup. Hence, by Theorem 3.11,  $S \cong SFR(M, E; \mathcal{F}, \mathcal{Q}; \Theta)$ . By using the arguments in Proposition 2.6,  $\rho$  is indeed a cancellative congruence on  $S$ . This leads to  $S/\rho$  is a cancellative monoid. Since  $S/\rho$  is regular,  $M \cong S/\rho$  is a group.

Now, we let  $m \in M$ . Then, by a result of Edwards [2, Theorem 3.2], there exists a unique inverse element  $m^{-1}$  of  $m$  in  $M$ . Clearly,  $m^{-1}$  in  $(M, \star)$ . Since  $m^{-1} \star m = 1$  (the identity of  $M$ ), we have  $m^{-1}m \in E(S)$  and  $q_{m^{-1},m} \in E(S)$ . Also, since  $mm^{-1}m = m$ , we have

$$d_m \mathcal{L}m \mathcal{L}m^{-1}m \mathcal{L}^* q_{m^{-1},m},$$

and consequently, we have  $E(d_m) = E(q_{m^{-1},m}) = E(m^{-1}m)$ . Observe that

$$m^{-1}m = m^{-1}d_{m^{-1}}m = m^{-1}m(d_{m^{-1}}\theta_m),$$

we can hence deduce that  $E(m^{-1}m) \leq_b E(d_{m^{-1}}\theta_m)$ . This leads to  $E(d_m) \leq_b E(d_{m^{-1}}\theta_m)$ . Thus, condition (FR) is satisfied. This completes the proof.  $\square$

We now give a construction theorem for strongly F-abundant semigroups. We first describe a structure theorem of abundant strongly F-rpp semigroups.

**Theorem 4.2** *Let  $(M, E; \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{P}; \Phi)$  be an SFR-system. If  $M$  is a cancellative monoid, then  $SFR = SFR(M, E; \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{P}; \Phi)$  is an abundant semigroup if and only if for all  $(m, x) \in SFR$ , there exists  $[m, x] \in E$  such that*

(AB1)  $([m, x]\phi_m)x = x;$

(AB2) for all  $n \in M$  and  $y, z \in \omega(c_n)$ ,

$$p_{n,m}(y\phi_m)x = p_{n,m}(z\phi_m)x \Rightarrow y[m, x] = z[m, x].$$

*Proof:* The proof follows from the following computation:

$(m, x)\mathcal{R}^*(1, [m, x])$  if and only if  $(1, [m, x])(m, x) = (m, x)$ , and for all  $(n, y), (t, z) \in SFR^1$ , we have

$$(n, y)(m, x) = (t, z)(m, x) \Rightarrow (n, y)(1, [m, x]) = (t, z)(1, [m, x]);$$

if and only if  $([m, x]\phi_m)x = x$  and for all  $(n, y), (t, z) \in SFR^1$ , we have

$$n = t, p_{n,m}(y\phi_m)x = p_{t,m}(z\phi_m)x \Rightarrow n = t, c_n(y\phi_1)[m, x] = c_t(z\phi_1)[m, x];$$

if and only if  $([m, x]\phi_m)x = x$  and for all  $n \in M$  and  $y, z \in \omega(c_n)$ , we have

$$p_{n,m}(y\phi_m)x = p_{n,m}(z\phi_m)x \Rightarrow y[m, x] = z[m, x].$$

$\square$

**Theorem 4.3** *Let  $(M, E; \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{P}; \Phi)$  be an SFR-system. If  $M$  is a cancellative monoid and for all  $(m, x) \in SFR = SFR(M, E; \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{P}; \Phi)$ , there exists  $[m, x] \in E$  satisfying the conditions (AB1) and (AB2) in Theorem 4.2 and also the following conditions are satisfied:*

(IC) for some  $y \in \omega(x)$ , there exists  $z \in E$  such that  $(z\phi_m)x = y;$

(C)  $[m, x]$  is central in  $E(S)$ ,

then  $SFR$  is a strongly F-abundant semigroup.

Conversely, any such semigroup can be constructed in the above manner.

*Proof:* Suppose that the SFR-system  $(M, E; \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{P}; \Phi)$  satisfies the conditions in the theorem. Then  $SFR$  is a strongly F-rpp semigroup. By (C),  $(1, [m, x])$  is central in  $E(S)$  and, by Lemma 2.10,  $(1, [m, x])E(S) = E(S)(1, [m, x])$ . Thus, by Proposition 2.6, it suffices to verify that  $SFR$  is an IC abundant semigroup. By Lemma 4.2,  $SFR$  is clearly an abundant semigroup.

Now let  $(m, x) \in SFR$ . Then  $(1, x)\mathcal{L}^*(m, x)\mathcal{R}^*(1, [m, x])$ . We consider the following cases:

- If  $(1, y) \in \omega((1, x))$ , then, by Lemma 3.6,  $y \in \omega(x)$ . Now, by computation and by the condition (IC), we have

$$\begin{aligned} (m, x)(1, y) &= (m, p_{m,1}(x\phi_1)y) = (m, c_mxy) = (m, xy) \\ &= (m, y) = (m, (z\phi_m)x) \quad (z \in E) \\ &= (1, z)(m, x). \end{aligned}$$

This shows that  $S$  satisfies condition (i) in Lemma 2.3.

- By Proposition 3.1, we can also see that  $S$  satisfies condition (ii) in Lemma 2.3.

Thus  $S$  is an IC abundant semigroup. This proves that  $S$  is a strongly F-abundant semigroup.

Conversely, assume that  $S$  is a strongly F-abundant semigroup. Then  $S$  is an IC abundant semigroup and a strongly F-rpp semigroup with a left cancellative monoid congruence  $\rho$  such that each  $\rho$ -class contains a greatest element. With the notations in Section 3,  $S \cong SFR(M, E; \mathcal{F}, \mathcal{Q}; \Theta)$ . By the proof of Proposition 2.6,  $\rho$  is a cancellative congruence on  $S$ , and so  $M \cong S/\rho$  is a cancellative monoid. Conditions (AB1) and (AB2) follows from Theorem 4.2. Since  $S$  is a strongly F-abundant semigroup, we have  $(1, [m, x])E(S) = E(S)(1, [m, x])$  and, by Lemma 2.10,  $(1, [m, x])$  is central in  $E(SFR)$ . Hence  $[m, x]$  is central in  $E(S)$ . That is, condition (C) holds. On the other hand, we observe that  $SFR(M, E; \mathcal{F}, \mathcal{Q}; \Theta)$  is IC. Use Lemma 2.3 (i) and refer to the above proof that  $S$  satisfies condition (i) in Lemma 2.3, we can easily check that condition (IC) also holds. This completes the proof.  $\square$

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