

# On Sandwich Sets of Elements in Regular $\Gamma$ -Semigroups

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## Abstract

The aim of this paper is to introduce an  $(\alpha, \beta, \theta)$ -sandwich set of idempotent elements and study some properties of an  $(\alpha, \beta, \theta)$ -sandwich set of elements in regular  $\Gamma$ -semigroups. We determine when an  $(\alpha, \beta, \theta)$ -sandwich set of elements is a right  $\theta$ -zero semigroup.

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## 1 Introduction

The concept of sandwich sets  $S(e, f)$  in regular semigroups was first introduced by Nambooripad [7]. This concept was used in describing the structure of regular semigroups. After that, the concept has been widely used to study the properties of regular semigroups [8], [3]. Zhu and He [15] used the sandwich set  $S(e, f)$  to show that the sandwich set on some special classes of semigroups has only one element. Petrich [9] studied characterization of one-sided sandwich sets and studied sandwich sets of elements in regular semigroups that are right zero semigroups. The other papers about sandwich sets in semigroups can be seen in [15].

The concept of  $\Gamma$ -semigroups has been studied by Sen [11] in 1981. Sen and Saha [10] changed the definition, which is more general definition and

gave the definition of the  $\Gamma$ -semigroup via a mapping as follows: A nonempty set  $S$  is called a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup if there exists a mapping from  $S \times \Gamma \times S$  to  $S$  written as  $(a, \alpha, b) \mapsto a\alpha b$  satisfying the identity  $(a\alpha b)\beta c = a\alpha(b\beta c)$  for all  $a, b, c \in S$  and  $\alpha, \beta \in \Gamma$ . In this paper, we introduce an  $(\alpha, \beta, \theta)$ -sandwich set of idempotents  $E(S)$  and study some properties of an  $(\alpha, \beta, \theta)$ -sandwich set of elements in regular  $\Gamma$ -semigroups. We determine when an  $(\alpha, \beta, \theta)$ -sandwich set of elements is a right  $\theta$ -zero semigroup and it has only one element.

## 2 Preliminary

An element  $e$  of a regular  $\Gamma$ -semigroup  $S$  is called an  $\alpha$ -idempotent [14], where  $\alpha \in \Gamma$ , if  $e\alpha e = e$ . The set of all  $\alpha$ -idempotents is denoted by  $E_\alpha(S)$  and the set  $\bigcup_{\alpha \in \Gamma} E_\alpha(S)$ , set of all  $\alpha$ -idempotents for all  $\alpha \in \Gamma$ , is denoted by  $E(S)$ .

Every element of  $E(S)$  is called an *idempotent element* of  $S$ . An element  $a$  in a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup  $S$  is *regular* [12] if there exist  $y \in S$ ,  $\alpha, \beta \in \Gamma$  such that  $x = x\alpha y\beta x$ . A  $\Gamma$ -semigroup  $S$  is said to be a *regular  $\Gamma$ -semigroup* [12] if every element in the  $\Gamma$ -semigroup is regular. For any a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup  $S$ ,  $a, x \in S$  and  $\alpha, \beta \in \Gamma$ , if  $a = a\alpha x\beta a$  and  $x = x\beta a\alpha x$  then  $x$  is called an  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -inverse of  $a$  [12]. Note that, if  $a = a\alpha x\beta a$  for some  $\alpha, \beta \in \Gamma$  then  $a\alpha x \in E_\beta(S)$  and  $x\beta a \in E_\alpha(S)$ . The set of all  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -inverses of an element  $a$  in a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup  $S$  is denoted by  $V_\alpha^\beta(a)$ . That is,

$$V_\alpha^\beta(a) := \{x \in S \mid a = a\alpha x\beta a \text{ and } x = x\beta a\alpha x\}.$$

If  $a$  is a regular element then  $V_\alpha^\beta(a) \neq \emptyset$  for some  $\alpha, \beta \in \Gamma$  [14]. In a regular  $\Gamma$ -semigroup  $S$ , we have that  $E(S)$  is a non-empty set.

*Green's equivalence relations*  $\mathcal{L}, \mathcal{R}, \mathcal{H}$  and  $\mathcal{D}$  on a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup  $S$  were studied by Chinram and Siammai [1] and showed that:

**Lemma 2.1.** [1] *Let  $S$  be a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup. Then for all  $a, b \in S$ ,*

(1)  $a\mathcal{L}b$  if and only if  $a = b$  or there exist  $x, y \in S$  and  $\alpha, \beta \in \Gamma$  such that  $a = x\alpha b$  and  $b = y\beta a$ ,

(2)  $a\mathcal{R}b$  if and only if  $a = b$  or there exist  $x, y \in S$  and  $\alpha, \beta \in \Gamma$  such that  $a = b\alpha x$  and  $b = a\beta y$ ,

(3)  $a\mathcal{H}b$  if and only if  $a\mathcal{L}b$  and  $a\mathcal{R}b$ .

**Lemma 2.2.** [1] *Let  $S$  be a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup,  $\alpha \in \Gamma$  and  $e$  be an  $\alpha$ -idempotent. Then*

(1)  $a\alpha e = a$  for all  $a \in L_e$ ,

(2)  $e\alpha a = a$  for all  $a \in R_e$ ,

(3)  $a\alpha e = a = e\alpha a$  for all  $a \in H_e$ .

### 3 Main Results

In this section, we introduce an  $(\alpha, \beta, \theta)$ -sandwich set of idempotents  $e$  and  $f$  as follow: For a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup  $S, \alpha, \beta, \theta \in \Gamma$  and  $e \in E_\alpha(S), f \in E_\beta(S)$ , we define a set  $S_\theta^{(\alpha, \beta)}(e, f)$  by

$$S_\theta^{(\alpha, \beta)}(e, f) := \{g \in V_\beta^\alpha(e\theta f) \cap E_\theta(S) \mid g\alpha e = f\beta g = g\}.$$

Then  $S_\theta^{(\alpha, \beta)}(e, f)$  may be an empty set. If  $S_\theta^{(\alpha, \beta)}(e, f) \neq \emptyset$  then  $S_\theta^{(\alpha, \beta)}(e, f)$  is called an  $(\alpha, \beta, \theta)$ -sandwich set of idempotents  $e$  and  $f$ . It is easy to verify that if  $S$  is a regular  $\Gamma$ -semigroup then  $S_\theta^{(\alpha, \beta)}(e, f) \neq \emptyset$ . From the definition, we have

**Proposition 3.1.** [2] *Let  $S$  be a regular  $\Gamma$ -semigroup,  $\alpha, \beta, \theta \in \Gamma$  and  $e \in E_\alpha(S), f \in E_\beta(S)$ . Then*

$$S_\theta^{(\alpha, \beta)}(e, f) = \{g \in E_\theta(S) \mid g\alpha e = f\beta g = g \text{ and } e\theta g\theta f = e\theta f\}.$$

**Proposition 3.2.** [2] *Let  $S$  be a regular  $\Gamma$ -semigroup and  $a \in S$ . Then there exist  $\alpha, \beta \in \Gamma, a' \in V_\alpha^\beta(a)$  such that*

$$S_\theta^{(\alpha, \beta)}(a'\beta a, a\alpha a') = a\alpha V_\alpha^\beta(a\theta a)\beta a$$

for all  $\theta \in \Gamma$ .

Furthermore, if  $a'' \in V_\alpha^\beta(a)$  then  $S_\theta^{(\alpha, \beta)}(a''\beta a, a\alpha a'') = a\alpha V_\alpha^\beta(a\theta a)\beta a$ .

In Proposition 3.2, we see that  $S_\theta^{(\alpha, \beta)}(a'\beta a, a\alpha a') = a\alpha V_\alpha^\beta(a\theta a)\beta a$  for all choice  $a' \in V_\alpha^\beta(a)$ .

For  $a \in S$  and  $\alpha, \beta \in \Gamma$ , define

$$S_\theta^{(\alpha, \beta)}(a) := S_\theta^{(\alpha, \beta)}(a'\beta a, a\alpha a').$$

Then  $S_\theta^{(\alpha, \beta)}(a)$  is called an  $(\alpha, \beta, \theta)$ -sandwich set of an element  $a$ .

**Lemma 3.3.** [2] *Let  $e$  be an  $\alpha$ -idempotent and  $b$  an  $\beta$ -idempotent of a regular  $\Gamma$ -semigroup  $S$ . If  $e$  and  $f$  are  $\mathcal{D}$ -related then there exist  $a \in S$  and  $a' \in V_\alpha^\beta(a)$  such that  $e = a'\beta a$  and  $f = a\alpha a'$ .*

We use the definition of the natural partial order on a regular  $\Gamma$ -semigroup in next proposition.

**Proposition 3.4.** [2] *Let  $a$  and  $b$  be elements of a regular  $\Gamma$ -semigroup  $S$ . Then  $a \leq b$  if and only if there exist  $\beta, \gamma \in \Gamma, f \in E_\beta(S), g \in E_\gamma(S)$  such that  $a = f\beta b = b\gamma g$ .*

**Lemma 3.5.** [2] *Let  $S$  be a regular  $\Gamma$ -semigroup and  $\alpha, \beta, \theta \in \Gamma$ . If  $e \in E_\alpha(S)$ ,  $f \in E_\beta(S)$  and  $x \in V_\alpha^\beta(e\theta f)$  for any  $\theta \in \Gamma$  then*

$$S_\theta^{(\alpha, \beta)}(e, f)\theta f = S_\beta^{(\alpha, \beta)}(x\beta e\theta f, f) = \{q \in S \mid e\theta q = e\theta f\mathcal{L}q \leq f\}$$

and

$$e\theta S_\theta^{(\alpha, \beta)}(e, f) = S_\alpha^{(\alpha, \beta)}(e, e\theta f\alpha x) = \{r \in S \mid r\theta f = e\theta f\mathcal{R}r \leq e\}.$$

For  $\theta \in \Gamma$ , a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup  $S$  is called a *right (left)  $\theta$ -zero semigroup* if  $a\theta b = b$  ( $a\theta b = a$ ) for all  $a, b \in S$ .

We shall give some necessary and sufficient conditions for a right  $\theta$ -zero semigroup  $S_\theta^{(\alpha, \beta)}(a)$ .

**Theorem 3.6.** *Let  $S$  be a regular  $\Gamma$ -semigroup and  $\alpha, \beta, \theta \in \Gamma$ , the following conditions are equivalent.*

- (1) *For any  $a \in S$ ,  $S_\theta^{(\alpha, \beta)}(a)$  is a right  $\theta$ -zero semigroup.*
- (2) *If  $e \in E_\alpha(S)$ ,  $f \in E_\beta(S)$  such that  $e\mathcal{D}f$  then  $S_\theta^{(\alpha, \beta)}(e, f)$  is a right  $\theta$ -zero semigroup.*
- (3) *If  $a \in S$  and  $x, y \in V_\alpha^\beta(a\theta a)$  then  $(a\alpha x\beta a)\theta(a\alpha y\beta a) = a\alpha y\beta a$ .*
- (4) *If  $a, x, y \in S$  with  $a\theta a = a\theta a\alpha x\beta a\theta a = a\theta a\alpha y\beta a\theta a$  then  $(a\alpha x\beta a)\theta(a\alpha y\beta a) = (a\alpha y\beta a)\theta(a\alpha y\beta a)$ .*
- (5) *If  $e \in E_\alpha(S)$ ,  $f \in E_\beta(S)$  such that  $e\mathcal{D}f$  and  $x, y \in S$ ,  $e\theta x = e\theta y = e\theta f\mathcal{L}x\mathcal{L}y$ ,  $x, y \leq f$  then  $x = y$ .*

Proof. (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2) Let  $e \in E_\alpha(S)$ ,  $f \in E_\beta(S)$  such that  $e\mathcal{D}f$ . By Lemma 3.3, there exist  $a \in S$  and  $a' \in V_\alpha^\beta(a)$  such that  $e = a'\beta a$  and  $f = a\alpha a'$ . Thus

$$S_\theta^{(\alpha, \beta)}(e, f) = S_\theta^{(\alpha, \beta)}(a'\beta a, a\alpha a') = S_\theta^{(\alpha, \beta)}(a)$$

is a right  $\theta$ -zero semigroup.

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (3) Let  $a \in S$ ,  $\theta \in \Gamma$  and  $a' \in V_\alpha^\beta(a)$ . Then  $a'\beta a\mathcal{L}a$  and  $a\mathcal{R}a\alpha a'$ , so  $a'\beta a\mathcal{D}a\alpha a'$ . By assumption, we have that  $S_\theta^{(\alpha, \beta)}(a)$  is a right  $\theta$ -zero semigroup. Let  $x, y \in V_\alpha^\beta(a\theta a)$ . By Proposition 3.2, we obtain  $a\alpha x\beta a, a\alpha y\beta a \in S_\theta^{(\alpha, \beta)}(a)$ . Thus  $(a\alpha x\beta a)\theta(a\alpha y\beta a) = a\alpha y\beta a$ .

(3)  $\Rightarrow$  (4) Let  $a, x, y \in S$  be such that  $a\theta a = a\theta a\alpha x\beta a\theta a = a\theta a\alpha y\beta a\theta a$ . Then  $x\beta a\theta a\alpha x, y\beta a\theta a\alpha y \in V_\alpha^\beta(a\theta a)$ . By hypothesis, we have

$$[a\alpha(x\beta a\theta a\alpha x)\beta a]\theta[a\alpha(y\beta a\theta a\alpha y)\beta a] = a\alpha(y\beta a\theta a\alpha y)\beta a.$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} (a\alpha y\beta a)\theta(a\alpha y\beta a) &= a\alpha x\beta a\theta a\alpha x\beta a\theta a\alpha y\beta a\theta a\alpha y\beta a \\ &= a\alpha x\beta a\theta a\alpha y\beta a\theta a\alpha y\beta a \\ &= a\alpha x\beta a\theta a\alpha y\beta a. \end{aligned}$$

(4)  $\Rightarrow$  (5) Let  $e \in E_\alpha(S)$  and  $f \in E_\beta(S)$  be such that  $e\mathcal{D}f$ . By Lemma 3.3, there exist  $a \in S$  and  $a' \in V_\alpha^\beta(a)$  such that  $e = a'\beta a$  and  $f = a\alpha a'$ . By Proposition 3.2, we have

$$a\alpha V_\alpha^\beta(a\theta a)\beta a = S_\theta^{(\alpha,\beta)}(a) = S_\theta^{(\alpha,\beta)}(e, f).$$

Let  $x, y \in S$  be such that  $e\theta x = e\theta y = e\theta f\mathcal{L}x\mathcal{L}y$  and  $x, y \leq f$ . By Lemma 3.5, we have  $x, y \in S_\theta^{(\alpha,\beta)}(e, f)\theta f$ . Then  $x, y \in a\alpha V_\alpha^\beta(a\theta a)\beta a\theta f$ . Thus there exist  $s, t \in V_\alpha^\beta(a\theta a)$  such that  $x = a\alpha s\beta a\theta f$  and  $y = a\alpha t\beta a\theta f$ . Since  $s, t \in V_\alpha^\beta(a\theta a)$ , we have  $a\theta a = a\theta a\alpha s\beta a\theta a = a\theta a\alpha t\beta a\theta a$ . By hypothesis, we have  $(a\alpha s\beta a)\theta(a\alpha t\beta a) = (a\alpha t\beta a)\theta(a\alpha s\beta a) = a\alpha t\beta a$ . It follows that

$$x = a\alpha s\beta a\alpha a'\beta a\theta f = a\alpha s\beta a\alpha a'\beta a\theta a\alpha t\beta a\theta a\alpha a' = a\alpha t\beta a\theta a\alpha a' = y.$$

(5)  $\Rightarrow$  (1) Let  $a \in S$  and  $a' \in V_\alpha^\beta(a)$ . Set  $e = a'\beta a$  and  $f = a\alpha a'$ . We will show that  $S_\theta^{(\alpha,\beta)}(e, f)\theta f$  is trivial. Let  $x, y \in S_\theta^{(\alpha,\beta)}(e, f)\theta f$ . By Lemma 3.5, we have  $e\theta x = e\theta f\mathcal{L}x \leq f$  and  $e\theta y = e\theta f\mathcal{L}y \leq f$ , so  $e\theta x = e\theta y = e\theta f\mathcal{L}x\mathcal{L}y \leq f$ . Since  $e = a'\beta a$  and  $a = a\alpha a'\beta a = a\alpha e$ , we get that  $e\mathcal{L}a$ . And since  $f = a\alpha a'$  and  $a = a\alpha a'\beta a = f\beta a$ , we obtain  $a\mathcal{R}f$ . Thus  $\mathcal{D}f$ . By hypothesis, we have  $x = y$ . Then  $S_\theta^{(\alpha,\beta)}(e, f)\theta f$  is trivial. Therefore  $S_\theta^{(\alpha,\beta)}(a)$  is a right  $\theta$ -zero semigroup.  $\square$

Let  $S$  and  $S'$  be  $\Gamma$ -semigroups and  $\theta \in \Gamma$ . The mapping  $\varphi : S \rightarrow S'$  is called an  $\theta$ -homomorphism if  $(a\theta b)\varphi = (a\varphi)\theta(b\varphi)$  for all  $a, b \in S$ . Let  $\varphi$  be an  $\theta$ -homomorphism of  $S$  into  $S'$  and let  $\psi$  be an  $\theta$ -homomorphism of  $S'$  into  $S$ . If  $\psi \circ \varphi$  is the identity mapping of  $S$  onto itself, and if  $\varphi \circ \psi$  is the identity mapping of  $S'$  onto itself, then  $\varphi$  is an  $\theta$ -isomorphism of  $S$  onto  $S'$ , and  $\psi$  is the inverse  $\theta$ -isomorphism. Such  $\theta$ -isomorphisms  $\psi$  and  $\varphi$  are called mutually inverse  $\theta$ -isomorphisms. The next theorem is very important results for the main theorem.

**Theorem 3.7.** [2] Let  $S$  be a regular  $\Gamma$ -semigroup and  $\alpha, \beta, \theta \in \Gamma$ . For  $e \in E_\alpha(S), f \in E_\beta(S)$ , the mappings

$$\varphi : x \rightarrow (x\theta f, e\theta x), \quad \psi : (y, z) \rightarrow y\alpha w\beta z$$

(where  $w \in V_\alpha^\beta(e\theta f)$ ) are mutually inverse  $\theta$ -isomorphisms between sub  $\Gamma$ -semigroup  $S_\theta^{(\alpha,\beta)}(e, f)$  and  $S_\theta^{(\alpha,\beta)}(e, f)\theta f \times e\theta S_\theta^{(\alpha,\beta)}(e, f)$ .

**Proposition 3.8.** Let  $e$  be  $\alpha$ -idempotent and  $f$  be  $\beta$ -idempotent and  $\theta \in \Gamma$ . If  $p, q \in S_\theta^{(\alpha,\beta)}(e, f)$  then  $p = p\theta q\theta p$ .

*Proof.* Let  $p, q \in S_\theta^{(\alpha,\beta)}(e, f)$ . Then  $p\theta q\theta p = p\alpha e\theta f\beta p = p$ .  $\square$

The main result show that an  $(\alpha, \beta, \theta)$ -sandwich set  $S_\theta^{(\alpha,\beta)}(a)$  has only one element and we denote the cardinality of a set  $X$  by  $|X|$ .

**Theorem 3.9.** *Let  $S$  be a regular  $\Gamma$ -semigroup and  $\alpha, \beta, \theta \in \Gamma$ , the following statements are equivalent.*

- (1) *For any  $a \in S$ ,  $|S_{\theta}^{(\alpha, \beta)}(a)| = 1$ .*
- (2) *If  $a \in S$  and  $x, y \in V_{\alpha}^{\beta}(a\theta a)$  then  $a\alpha x\beta a = a\alpha y\beta a$ .*
- (3) *If  $a, x, y \in S$  with  $a\theta a = a\theta a\alpha x\beta a\theta a = a\theta a\alpha y\beta a\theta a$  then  $(a\alpha x\beta a)\theta(a\alpha x\beta a) = (a\alpha y\beta a)\theta(a\alpha y\beta a)$ .*
- (4) *If  $a, x, y \in S$  with  $a\theta a = a\theta a\alpha x\beta a\theta a = a\theta a\alpha y\beta a\theta a$  then  $(a\alpha x\beta a)\theta(a\alpha y\beta a) = (a\alpha y\beta a)\theta(a\alpha x\beta a)$ .*
- (5) *If  $e \in E_{\alpha}(S), f \in E_{\beta}(S)$  such that  $e\mathcal{D}f$  then  $|S_{\theta}^{(\alpha, \beta)}(e, f)| = 1$ .*

Proof. (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2) Let  $a \in S$  and  $x, y \in V_{\alpha}^{\beta}(a\theta a)$ . By Corollary 3.2, we have  $S_{\theta}^{(\alpha, \beta)}(a) = a\alpha V_{\alpha}^{\beta}(a\theta a)\beta a$ . By hypothesis, we have  $a\alpha x\beta a = a\alpha y\beta a$ .

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (3) Let  $a, x, y \in S$  be such that  $a\theta a = a\theta a\alpha x\beta a\theta a = a\theta a\alpha y\beta a\theta a$ . Then  $x\beta(a\theta a)\alpha x, y\beta(a\theta a)\alpha y \in V_{\alpha}^{\beta}(a\theta a)$ . By hypothesis, we have

$$a\alpha(x\beta a\theta a\alpha x)\beta a = a\alpha(y\beta a\theta a\alpha y)\beta a.$$

(3)  $\Rightarrow$  (4) Let  $a, x, y \in S$  be such that  $a\theta a = a\theta a\alpha x\beta a\theta a = a\theta a\alpha y\beta a\theta a$ . By the hypothesis, we have

$$\begin{aligned} (a\alpha x\beta a)\theta(a\alpha y\beta a) &= (a\alpha x\beta a)\theta(a\alpha x\beta a)\theta(a\alpha y\beta a) \\ &= (a\alpha y\beta a)\theta(a\alpha y\beta a)\theta(a\alpha y\beta a) \\ &= (a\alpha y\beta a)\theta(a\alpha x\beta a)\theta(a\alpha x\beta a) \\ &= a\alpha y\beta a\theta a\alpha x\beta a. \end{aligned}$$

(4)  $\Rightarrow$  (5) Let  $e \in E_{\alpha}(S), f \in E_{\beta}(S)$  be such that  $e\mathcal{D}f$ . By Lemma 3.3, there exist  $a \in S$  and  $a' \in V_{\alpha}^{\beta}(a)$  such that  $e = a'\beta a$  and  $f = a\alpha a'$ . Let  $x, y \in S_{\theta}^{(\alpha, \beta)}(a'\beta a, a\alpha a')$ . Then  $a\alpha a'\beta x\alpha a'\beta a = x$  and  $a\alpha a'\beta y\alpha a'\beta a = y$ . Thus  $a\theta x\theta a = a\theta a$ . Similarly, we can show that  $a\theta y\theta a = a\theta a$ . Indeed,

$$(a\theta a)\alpha(a'\beta x\alpha a')\beta(a\theta a) = a\theta a = (a\theta a)\alpha(a'\beta y\alpha a')\beta(a\theta a).$$

By hypothesis, we have that

$$[a\alpha(a'\beta x\alpha a')\beta a]\theta[a\alpha(a'\beta y\alpha a')\beta a] = [a\alpha(a'\beta y\alpha a')\beta a]\theta[a\alpha(a'\beta x\alpha a')\beta a]$$

which implies that  $x\theta y = y\theta x$ . By Proposition 3.8, we get that

$$x = x\theta y\theta x = x\theta x\theta y = x\theta y = x\theta y\theta y = y\theta x\theta y = y.$$

(5)  $\Rightarrow$  (1) Let  $a \in S$ . Since  $S$  is a regular  $\Gamma$ -semigroup, there exist  $\alpha, \beta \in \Gamma$  such that  $a' \in V_{\alpha}^{\beta}(a)$ . Set  $e := a'\beta a$  and  $f := a\alpha a'$ . Then it is easy to show that  $e\mathcal{D}f$ . By hypothesis, we obtain that  $|S_{\theta}^{(\alpha, \beta)}(a)| = 1$ . □

**Corollary 3.10.** *Let  $S$  be a regular  $\Gamma$ -semigroup and  $\alpha, \beta, \theta \in \Gamma$ , the following conditions are equivalent.*

- (1) *If  $e \in E_\alpha(S), f \in E_\beta(S)$  such that  $e\mathcal{D}f$  then  $|S_\theta^{(\alpha, \beta)}(e, f)| = 1$ .*
- (2) *For any and  $x, y \in S$ ,*
  - (i) *if  $e\theta x = e\theta y = e\theta f\mathcal{L}x\mathcal{L}y$  and  $x, y \leq f$  then  $x = y$ ,*
  - (ii) *if  $x\theta f = y\theta f = e\theta f\mathcal{R}x\mathcal{R}y$  and  $x, y \leq e$  then  $x = y$ .*

*Proof.* (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2) Let  $e \in E_\alpha(S), f \in E_\beta(S)$  be such that  $e\mathcal{D}f$  and  $x, y \in S, e\theta x = e\theta y = e\theta f\mathcal{L}x\mathcal{L}y$  and  $x, y \leq f$ . By Lemma 3.5, we have  $x, y \in S_\theta^{(\alpha, \beta)}(e, f)\theta f$ . Then there exist  $p, q \in S_\theta^{(\alpha, \beta)}(e, f)$  such that  $x = p\theta f$  and  $y = q\theta f$ . By assumption,  $p = q$  which implies that  $x = p\theta f = q\theta f = y$ . Similarly, we can show that if  $x\theta f = y\theta f = e\theta f\mathcal{R}x\mathcal{R}y$  and  $x, y \leq e$ . Then  $x = y$ .

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (1) Let  $a \in S$ . Set  $e = a'\beta a$  and  $f = a\alpha a'$ . Then it is easy to show that  $e\mathcal{D}f$ . Claim that  $|S_\theta^{(\alpha, \beta)}(e, f)\theta f| = 1$  and  $|e\theta S_\theta^{(\alpha, \beta)}(e, f)| = 1$ . Let  $x, y \in S_\theta^{(\alpha, \beta)}(e, f)\theta f$ . Then  $e\theta x = e\theta f\mathcal{L}x \leq f$  and  $e\theta y = e\theta f\mathcal{L}y \leq f$ . Thus  $e\theta x = e\theta y = e\theta f\mathcal{L}x\mathcal{L}y$  and  $x, y \leq f$ . By assumption, we have  $x = y$ . Hence  $S_\theta^{(\alpha, \beta)}(e, f)\theta f$  is trivial. Similarly, we can show that  $e\theta S_\theta^{(\alpha, \beta)}(e, f)$  is trivial. By Theorem 3.7,  $S_\theta^{(\alpha, \beta)}(e, f) \cong_\theta S_\theta^{(\alpha, \beta)}(e, f)\theta f \times e\theta S_\theta^{(\alpha, \beta)}(e, f)$ . Thus  $|S_\theta^{(\alpha, \beta)}(e, f)| = 1$ . □

**Corollary 3.11.** *Let  $S$  be a regular  $\Gamma$ -semigroup and  $\alpha, \beta, \theta \in \Gamma$ . For any  $e \in E_\alpha(S), f \in E_\beta(S)$  the following conditions are equivalent.*

- (1)  *$S_\theta^{(\alpha, \beta)}(e, f)$  is a right zero  $\theta$ -semigroup.*
- (2)  *$|S_\theta^{(\alpha, \beta)}(e, f)\theta f| = 1$ .*
- (3)  *$|S_\beta^{(\alpha, \beta)}(x\beta e\theta f, f)| = 1$  for any  $x \in V_\alpha^\beta(e\theta f)$ .*

*Proof.* (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2) Let  $x, y \in S_\theta^{(\alpha, \beta)}(e, f)\theta f$ . Then  $x = s\theta f, y = t\theta f$  for some  $s, t \in S_\theta^{(\alpha, \beta)}(e, f)$ . Indeed,

$$x = s\alpha e\theta t\theta f = s\theta t\theta f = y.$$

Thus  $|S_\theta^{(\alpha, \beta)}(e, f)\theta f| = 1$ .

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (1) Suppose that  $S_\theta^{(\alpha, \beta)}(e, f)\theta f$  is trivial. Let  $x, y \in S_\theta^{(\alpha, \beta)}(e, f)$ . Then  $x\theta f = y\theta f$  which implies that  $x\theta y = x\alpha e\theta f\beta y = y\theta f\beta y = y$ . Therefore  $S_\theta^{(\alpha, \beta)}(e, f)$  is a right zero  $\theta$ -semigroup.

- (2)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (3) It follows from Lemma 3.5. □

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