

# Regular Elements of Some Semigroups of Order-Preserving Partial Transformations

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## Abstract

Let  $X$  be a chain,  $OP(X)$  the order-preserving partial transformation semigroup on  $X$  and  $OI(X)$  the order-preserving 1-1 partial transformation semigroup on  $X$ . It is known that both  $OP(X)$  and  $OI(X)$  are regular semigroups. We extend these results by characterizing the regular elements of the semigroups  $OP(X, Y)$ ,  $OI(X, Y)$ ,  $\overline{OP}(X, Y)$  and  $\overline{OI}(X, Y)$  where  $\emptyset \neq Y \subseteq X$ ,  $OP(X, Y) = \{\alpha \in OP(X) \mid \text{ran } \alpha \subseteq Y\}$ ,  $\overline{OP}(X, Y) = \{\alpha \in OP(X) \mid (\text{dom } \alpha \cap Y)\alpha \subseteq Y\}$ ,  $OI(X, Y)$  and  $\overline{OI}(X, Y)$  are defined analogously. The semigroups  $OP(X, Y)$  and  $\overline{OP}(X, Y)$  [ $OI(X, Y)$ ,  $\overline{OI}(X, Y)$ ] may be counted as generalizations of  $OP(X)$  [ $OI(X)$ ]. In addition, it is shown that each of these semigroups becomes a regular semigroup only the case that  $Y = X$ .

**Mathematics Subject Classification:** 20M20, 20M17

**Keywords:** Order-preserving partial transformation semigroup, regular element of a semigroup

## 1 Introduction

An element  $x$  of a semigroup  $S$  is called *regular* if  $x = xyx$  for some  $y \in S$  and  $S$  is called a *regular semigroup* if every element of  $S$  is regular. The set of all regular elements of  $S$  is denoted by  $\text{Reg}(S)$ .

For a nonempty set  $X$ , let  $T(X)$ ,  $P(X)$  and  $I(X)$  be the full transformation semigroup on  $X$ , the partial transformation semigroup on  $X$  and the 1-1 partial transformation semigroup (the symmetric inverse semigroup) on  $X$ , respectively. The domain and the range (image) of  $\alpha \in P(X)$  are denoted by  $\text{dom } \alpha$  and  $\text{ran } \alpha$ , respectively. For  $\alpha \in P(X)$  and  $x \in \text{dom } \alpha$ , the image of  $x$  under  $\alpha$  is written as  $x\alpha$ . Note that  $T(X) = \{\alpha \in P(X) \mid \text{dom } \alpha = X\}$ ,

$I(X) = \{\alpha \in P(X) \mid \alpha \text{ is 1-1}\}$  and  $T(X)$  and  $I(X)$  are subsemigroups of  $P(X)$ . Recall that for  $\alpha, \beta \in P(X)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{dom}(\alpha\beta) &= (\text{ran } \alpha \cap \text{dom } \beta)\alpha^{-1} \subseteq \text{dom } \alpha, \\ \text{ran}(\alpha\beta) &= (\text{ran } \alpha \cap \text{dom } \beta)\beta \subseteq \text{ran } \beta, \\ \text{for } x \in X, x \in \text{dom}(\alpha\beta) &\Leftrightarrow x \in \text{dom } \alpha \text{ and } x\alpha \in \text{dom } \beta. \end{aligned}$$

It is well-known that  $T(X)$ ,  $P(X)$  and  $I(X)$  are regular semigroups ([1], p.4). In fact,  $I(X)$  is an inverse semigroup, i.e., for every  $\alpha \in I(X)$ , there is a unique  $\beta \in I(X)$  such that  $\alpha = \alpha\beta\alpha$  and  $\beta = \beta\alpha\beta$ .

For a poset  $X$  and  $\alpha \in P(X)$ ,  $\alpha$  is said to be *order-preserving* if for  $x, x' \in \text{dom } \alpha$ ,  $x \leq x'$  implies  $x\alpha \leq x'\alpha$ . Let

$$OP(X) = \{\alpha \in P(X) \mid \alpha \text{ is order-preserving}\}.$$

We define  $OT(X)$  and  $OI(X)$  analogously. Kemprasit and Changphas [3] studied the regularity of  $OT(X)$  for certain chains  $X$ . In [5], the authors characterized the regular elements of  $OT(X)$  for any chain  $X$  and then showed that the results on  $OT(X)$  provided in [3] can be obtained as its consequences.

Symmon [6] and Magill [4] have studied the subsemigroups

$$T(X, Y) = \{\alpha \in T(X) \mid \text{ran } \alpha \subseteq Y\} \text{ and } \overline{T}(X, Y) = \{\alpha \in T(X) \mid Y\alpha \subseteq Y\}$$

of  $T(X)$ , respectively where  $Y$  is a nonempty subset of a set  $X$ . Since  $T(X, X) = \overline{T}(X, X) = T(X)$ , we can count these semigroups as generalizations of  $T(X)$ . For a chain  $X$ ,  $OT(X, Y)$  is defined in [5] analogously, i.e.,  $OT(X, Y) = \{\alpha \in OT(X) \mid \text{ran } \alpha \subseteq Y\}$ . Then  $OT(X, Y)$  may be considered as a generalization of  $OT(X)$ . In [5], the regular elements of  $OT(X, Y)$  were characterized. The regularity of  $OT(X, Y)$  was also determined. It was shown in [3] that for any chain  $X$ ,  $OP(X)$  and  $OI(X)$  are regular semigroups. In this paper, the semigroups  $OP(X, Y)$ ,  $OI(X, Y)$ ,  $\overline{OP}(X, Y)$  and  $\overline{OI}(X, Y)$  are defined similarly where  $\emptyset \neq Y \subseteq X$ , i.e.,

$$\begin{aligned} OP(X, Y) &= \{\alpha \in OP(X) \mid \text{ran } \alpha \subseteq Y\}, \\ OI(X, Y) &= \{\alpha \in OI(X) \mid \text{ran } \alpha \subseteq Y\}, \\ \overline{OP}(X, Y) &= \{\alpha \in OP(X) \mid (\text{dom } \alpha \cap Y)\alpha \subseteq Y\}, \\ \overline{OI}(X, Y) &= \{\alpha \in OI(X) \mid (\text{dom } \alpha \cap Y)\alpha \subseteq Y\}. \end{aligned}$$

Then  $OP(X, X) = \overline{OP}(X, X) = OP(X)$  and  $OI(X, X) = \overline{OI}(X, X) = OI(X)$ . Hence  $OP(X, Y)$  and  $\overline{OP}(X, Y)$  generalize  $OP(X)$  while  $OI(X, Y)$  and  $\overline{OI}(X, Y)$  generalize  $OI(X)$ . Notice that  $OP(X, Y) \subseteq \overline{OP}(X, Y)$  and  $OI(X, Y) \subseteq \overline{OI}(X, Y)$ . We characterize the regular elements of the semigroups  $OP(X, Y)$ ,  $OI(X, Y)$ ,  $\overline{OP}(X, Y)$  and  $\overline{OI}(X, Y)$  and show that  $Y = X$  is necessary for each of these semigroups to be a regular semigroup.

## 2 The Semigroups $OP(X, Y)$ and $OI(X, Y)$

In this section,  $\text{Reg}(OP(X, Y))$ ,  $\text{Reg}(OI(X, Y))$  and the regularity of  $OP(X, Y)$  and  $OI(X, Y)$  are determined.

The following result is clearly seen. It will be often used in what follows:

**Lemma 2.1.** *Let  $X$  be a chain. If  $\alpha \in OP(X)$  and  $a, b \in \text{ran } \alpha$  are such that  $a < b$ , then  $s < t$  for all  $s \in a\alpha^{-1}$  and  $t \in b\alpha^{-1}$ .*

**Theorem 2.2.** *Let  $X$  be a chain and  $\emptyset \neq Y \subseteq X$ . Then for  $\alpha \in OP(X, Y)$ ,  $\alpha \in \text{Reg}(OP(X, Y))$  if and only if  $\text{ran } \alpha = (\text{dom } \alpha \cap Y)\alpha$ .*

*Proof.* Assume that  $\alpha \in \text{Reg}(OP(X, Y))$ . Let  $\beta \in OP(X, Y)$  be such that  $\alpha = \alpha\beta\alpha$ . Then  $\text{ran}(\alpha\beta) \subseteq Y$ , so

$$\text{ran } \alpha = \text{ran}(\alpha\beta\alpha) = (\text{ran}(\alpha\beta) \cap \text{dom } \alpha)\alpha \subseteq (Y \cap \text{dom } \alpha)\alpha \subseteq \text{ran } \alpha$$

which implies that  $\text{ran } \alpha = (\text{dom } \alpha \cap Y)\alpha$ .

Conversely, assume that  $\text{ran } \alpha = (\text{dom } \alpha \cap Y)\alpha$ . Then  $x\alpha^{-1} \cap Y \neq \emptyset$  for all  $x \in \text{ran } \alpha$ . For each  $x \in \text{ran } \alpha$ , choose  $d_x \in x\alpha^{-1} \cap Y$ . Then  $d_x\alpha = x$  for all  $x \in \text{ran } \alpha$ . Define  $\beta : \text{ran } \alpha \rightarrow Y$  by

$$\beta = \left( \begin{array}{c} x \\ d_x \end{array} \right)_{x \in \text{ran } \alpha}.$$

Since  $\alpha \in OP(X)$ , by Lemma 2.1,  $\beta$  is order-preserving. Then  $\beta \in OP(X, Y)$ . Since for  $x \in \text{dom } \alpha$ ,  $x\alpha \in \text{dom } \beta$  and  $x\alpha\beta \in \text{dom } \alpha$ , it follows that  $\text{dom}(\alpha\beta\alpha) = \text{dom } \alpha$ . If  $x \in \text{dom } \alpha$ , then  $x\alpha\beta\alpha = (x\alpha)\beta\alpha = d_{x\alpha}\alpha = x\alpha$ . Therefore  $\alpha = \alpha\beta\alpha$ , so  $\alpha \in \text{Reg}(OP(X, Y))$ , as desired.  $\square$

Notice that  $\beta$  defined in the proof of Theorem 2.2 is 1-1. Then  $\beta \in OI(X, Y)$ .

**Theorem 2.3.** *Let  $X$  be a chain and  $\emptyset \neq Y \subseteq X$ . Then for  $\alpha \in OI(X, Y)$ ,  $\alpha \in \text{Reg}(OI(X, Y))$  if and only if  $\text{dom } \alpha \subseteq Y$ .*

*Proof.* Assume that  $\alpha \in \text{Reg}(OI(X, Y))$ . Since  $OI(X, Y)$  is clearly a sub-semigroup of  $OP(X, Y)$ , it follows that  $\alpha \in \text{Reg}(OP(X, Y))$ . By Theorem 2.2,  $\text{ran } \alpha = (\text{dom } \alpha \cap Y)\alpha$ . Then  $(\text{dom } \alpha)\alpha = (\text{dom } \alpha \cap Y)\alpha$ , so  $\text{dom } \alpha = \text{dom } \alpha \cap Y$  since  $\alpha$  is 1-1. Hence  $\text{dom } \alpha \subseteq Y$ .

Conversely, assume that  $\text{dom } \alpha \subseteq Y$ . Then  $\text{dom } \alpha = \text{dom } \alpha \cap Y$ , so  $\text{ran } \alpha = (\text{dom } \alpha)\alpha = (\text{dom } \alpha \cap Y)\alpha$ . From the proof of Theorem 2.2, there is a  $\beta \in OI(X, Y)$  such that  $\alpha = \alpha\beta\alpha$ . Hence  $\alpha \in \text{Reg}(OI(X, Y))$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 2.4.** *Let  $X$  be a chain,  $\emptyset \neq Y \subseteq X$  and let  $OS(X, Y)$  be  $OP(X, Y)$  or  $OI(X, Y)$ . Then  $OS(X, Y)$  is a regular semigroup if and only if  $Y = X$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose that  $Y \subsetneq X$ . Let  $a \in X \setminus Y$  and  $b \in Y$ . Then  $\alpha = \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix} \in OI(X, Y) \subseteq OP(X, Y)$ . But  $\text{dom } \alpha \cap Y = \emptyset$ ,  $\text{ran } \alpha = \{b\}$  and  $\text{dom } \alpha = \{a\} \not\subseteq Y$ , so by Theorem 2.2 and Theorem 2.3,  $\alpha \notin \text{Reg}(OS(X, Y))$ . If  $Y = X$ , then  $OP(X, Y) = OP(X)$  and  $OI(X, Y) = OI(X)$  and both  $OP(X)$  and  $OI(X)$  are regular semigroups. Hence the corollary is proved.  $\square$

### 3 The Semigroups $\overline{OP}(X, Y)$ and $\overline{OI}(X, Y)$

The purpose of this section is to characterize the elements of  $\text{Reg}(\overline{OP}(X, Y))$  and  $\text{Reg}(\overline{OI}(X, Y))$ . The regularity of  $\overline{OP}(X, Y)$  and  $\overline{OI}(X, Y)$  is also considered.

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $X$  be a chain and  $\emptyset \neq Y \subseteq X$ . Then for  $\alpha \in \overline{OP}(X, Y)$ ,  $\alpha \in \text{Reg}(\overline{OP}(X, Y))$  if and only if  $\text{ran } \alpha \cap Y = (\text{dom } \alpha \cap Y)\alpha$ .*

*Proof.* Assume that  $\alpha \in \text{Reg}(\overline{OP}(X, Y))$ . Since  $(\text{dom } \alpha \cap Y)\alpha \subseteq Y$ , we have that  $(\text{dom } \alpha \cap Y)\alpha \subseteq \text{ran } \alpha \cap Y$ . To show that  $\text{ran } \alpha \cap Y \subseteq (\text{dom } \alpha \cap Y)\alpha$ , let  $\beta \in \overline{OP}(X, Y)$  be such that  $\alpha = \alpha\beta\alpha$ . Let  $x \in \text{ran } \alpha \cap Y$ . Then  $x = a\alpha$  for some  $a \in \text{dom } \alpha$ . Thus  $x = a\alpha = a\alpha\beta\alpha = x\beta\alpha$  which implies that  $x \in \text{dom } \beta$  and  $x\beta \in \text{dom } \alpha$ . It follows that  $x \in \text{dom } \beta \cap Y$  and hence  $x\beta \in (\text{dom } \beta \cap Y)\beta \subseteq Y$ . We then deduce that  $x\beta \in \text{dom } \alpha \cap Y$ . Consequently,  $x = x\beta\alpha \in (\text{dom } \alpha \cap Y)\alpha$ . This proves that  $\text{ran } \alpha \cap Y = (\text{dom } \alpha \cap Y)\alpha$ .

For the converse, assume that  $\text{ran } \alpha \cap Y = (\text{dom } \alpha \cap Y)\alpha$ . Then  $x\alpha^{-1} \cap Y \neq \emptyset$  for all  $x \in \text{ran } \alpha \cap Y$ . For each  $x \in \text{ran } \alpha \cap Y$ , choose  $d_x \in x\alpha^{-1} \cap Y$  and for each  $x \in \text{ran } \alpha \setminus Y$ , choose  $e_x \in x\alpha^{-1}$ . Then  $d_x\alpha = x$  for all  $x \in \text{ran } \alpha \cap Y$  and  $e_x\alpha = x$  for all  $x \in \text{ran } \alpha \setminus Y$ . Define  $\beta : \text{ran } \alpha \rightarrow \text{dom } \alpha$  by

$$\beta = \begin{pmatrix} x & u \\ d_x & e_u \end{pmatrix}_{\substack{x \in \text{ran } \alpha \cap Y \\ u \in \text{ran } \alpha \setminus Y}}$$

Then  $(\text{dom } \beta \cap Y)\beta = (\text{ran } \alpha \cap Y)\beta = \{d_x \mid x \in \text{ran } \alpha \cap Y\} \subseteq Y$ . Since  $\alpha \in OP(X)$ , it follows from Lemma 2.1 that  $\beta$  is order-preserving. Hence  $\beta \in \overline{OP}(X, Y)$ . Since for  $x \in \text{dom } \alpha$ ,  $x\alpha \in \text{dom } \beta$  and  $x\alpha\beta \in \text{dom } \alpha$ , we deduce that  $\text{dom } \alpha = \text{dom}(\alpha\beta\alpha)$ . If  $x \in \text{dom } \alpha$ , then

$$x\alpha\beta\alpha = \begin{cases} d_{x\alpha}\alpha = x\alpha & \text{if } x\alpha \in Y, \\ e_{x\alpha}\alpha = x\alpha & \text{if } x\alpha \notin Y, \end{cases}$$

so  $\alpha = \alpha\beta\alpha$ . Thus  $\alpha \in \text{Reg}(\overline{OP}(X, Y))$ , as desired.  $\square$

It can be seen that  $\beta$  constructed in the proof of Theorem 3.1 is 1-1. Then  $\beta \in \overline{OI}(X, Y)$ .

**Theorem 3.2.** *Let  $X$  be a chain and  $\emptyset \neq Y \subseteq X$ . Then for  $\alpha \in \overline{OI}(X, Y)$ ,  $\alpha \in \text{Reg}(\overline{OI}(X, Y))$  if and only if  $(\text{ran } \alpha \cap Y)\alpha^{-1} \subseteq Y$ .*

*Proof.* Assume that  $\alpha \in \text{Reg}(\overline{OI}(X, Y))$ . Since  $\overline{OI}(X, Y)$  is a subsemigroup of  $\overline{OP}(X, Y)$ , we have that  $\alpha \in \text{Reg}(\overline{OP}(X, Y))$ . By Theorem 3.1,  $\text{ran } \alpha \cap Y = (\text{dom } \alpha \cap Y)\alpha$ . Then  $(\text{ran } \alpha \cap Y)\alpha^{-1} = (\text{dom } \alpha \cap Y)\alpha\alpha^{-1}$ . Since  $\alpha\alpha^{-1}$  is the identity mapping on  $\text{dom } \alpha$ , it follows that  $(\text{dom } \alpha \cap Y)\alpha\alpha^{-1} = \text{dom } \alpha \cap Y$ . Hence  $(\text{ran } \alpha \cap Y)\alpha^{-1} = \text{dom } \alpha \cap Y \subseteq Y$ .

Conversely, assume that  $(\text{ran } \alpha \cap Y)\alpha^{-1} \subseteq Y$ . But  $(\text{ran } \alpha \cap Y)\alpha^{-1} \subseteq \text{dom } \alpha$ , so  $(\text{ran } \alpha \cap Y)\alpha^{-1} \subseteq \text{dom } \alpha \cap Y$ . Thus  $(\text{ran } \alpha \cap Y)\alpha^{-1}\alpha \subseteq (\text{dom } \alpha \cap Y)\alpha \subseteq \text{ran } \alpha \cap Y$ . Since  $\alpha^{-1}\alpha$  is the identity mapping on  $\text{ran } \alpha$ , we have that  $(\text{ran } \alpha \cap Y)\alpha^{-1}\alpha = \text{ran } \alpha \cap Y$ . This implies that  $(\text{dom } \alpha \cap Y)\alpha = \text{ran } \alpha \cap Y$ . From the proof of Theorem 3.1,  $\alpha = \alpha\beta\alpha$  for some  $\beta \in \overline{OI}(X, Y)$ . Hence  $\alpha \in \text{Reg}(\overline{OI}(X, Y))$ , as desired.  $\square$

**Corollary 3.3.** *Let  $X$  be a chain,  $\emptyset \neq Y \subseteq X$  and let  $\overline{OS}(X, Y)$  be  $\overline{OP}(X, Y)$  or  $\overline{OI}(X, Y)$ . Then  $\overline{OS}(X, Y)$  is a regular semigroup if and only if  $Y = X$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose that  $Y \subsetneq X$ . Let  $a \in X \setminus Y$  and  $b \in Y$ . Then  $\alpha = \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix} \in \overline{OS}(X, Y)$ . Since  $\text{dom } \alpha \cap Y = \emptyset$ ,  $\text{ran } \alpha \cap Y = \{b\}$  and  $b\alpha^{-1} = a \notin Y$ , by Theorem 3.1 and Theorem 3.2,  $\alpha \notin \text{Reg}(\overline{OS}(X, Y))$ . If  $Y = X$ , then  $\overline{OP}(X, Y) = OP(X)$  and  $\overline{OI}(X, Y) = OI(X)$  and both  $OP(X)$  and  $OI(X)$  are regular semigroups. Therefore the corollary is proved.  $\square$

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**Received: April, 2010**