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EQUIVALENCE RELATIONS AND CONGRUENCES IN PARTIALLY ORDERED SEMIGROUPS

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ABSTRACT

In this paper the terms; equivalence relation, left congruence, right congruence, congruence generated by ρ , band, semilattice, semilattice congruence and complete are introduced. It is proved that an equivalence relation ρ on a po semigroup S is a congruence if and only if for all $a, b, c, d \in S$, $a \rho b$ and $c \rho d$ implies $(ac)\rho(bc)$. It is proved that if ρ_1 and ρ_2 are two left congruences (resp. right congruences, congruences) of a po semigroup S , then $(\rho_1 \circ \rho_2)$ is a left congruence (resp. right congruence, congruence) of S . Also it is proved that if $\rho_1, \rho_2, \dots, \rho_n$ are left congruences (resp. right congruences, congruences) of a po semigroup S , then $\rho_1 \circ \rho_2 \circ \dots \circ \rho_n$ is a left congruence (resp. right congruence, congruence) of S . It is proved that the intersection of family of congruences on a po semigroup S is again a congruence on S . Further it is proved that the union of a non-empty family of congruences on a po semigroup S is a congruence on S .

KEY WORDS : Equivalence relation, left congruence, right congruence, congruence generated by ρ , band, semilattice, semilattice congruence and complete.

1. CONGRUENCES:

DEFINITION 1.1 : A relation ρ on a po semigroup S is said to be **reflexive** on S if $x\rho x$ for all $x \in S$.

DEFINITION 1.2 : A relation ρ on a po semigroup S is said to be **symmetric** on S if $x, y \in S$ and $x\rho y$ implies $y\rho x$.

DEFINITION 1.3 : A relation ρ on a po semigroup S is said to be **transitive** on S if $x, y, z \in S$, $x\rho y, y\rho z$ implies $x\rho z$.

DEFINITION 1.4 : A relation ρ on a po semigroup S is said to be an **equivalence relation** on S if (i) $x\rho x$ for all $x \in S$, (ii) $x, y \in S$, $x\rho y$ implies $y\rho x$ (iii) $x, y, z \in S$, $x\rho y, y\rho z$ implies $x\rho z$.

NOTE 1.5 : Let S be a po semigroup. A relation ρ on S is an equivalence relation on S iff ρ is (i) reflexive (ii) symmetric and (iii) transitive.

DEFINITION 1.6 : Let S be a po semigroup. An equivalence relation ρ on S is said to be a **left congruence**, if $a, b, c \in S$, $a \rho b$ implies $(ca)\rho(cb)$.

DEFINITION 1.8 : Let S be a po semigroup. An equivalence relation ρ on S is said to be a **right congruence**, if $a, b, c \in S$, $a \rho b$ implies $(ac)\rho(bc)$.

DEFINITION 1.10 : Let S be a po semigroup. An equivalence relation ρ on S is said to be a **congruence**, if $a, b, c \in S$, $a \rho b$ implies $(ca)\rho(cb)$ and $(ac)\rho(bc)$.

NOTE 1.12 : An equivalence relation ρ on a po semigroup S is a congruence iff it is both a left congruence and a right congruence on S .



THEOREM 1.13 : An equivalence relation ρ on a po semigroup S is a congruence if and only if $a, b, c, d \in S, a \rho b$ and $c \rho d$ implies $ac \rho bd$.

Proof : Let ρ be an equivalence relation on a po semigroup S .

Suppose that ρ is a congruence on S . Let $a, b, c, d \in S, a \rho b$ and $c \rho d$

$a, b, c \in S, a \rho b$ and ρ is right congruence $\Rightarrow (ac)\rho(bc)$.

$b, c, d \in S, c \rho d$ and ρ is left congruence $\Rightarrow (bc)\rho(bd)$.

Now $(ac)\rho(bc), (bc)\rho(bd), \rho$ is transitive $\Rightarrow (ac)\rho(bd)$.

Conversely suppose that ρ is an equivalence relation on a po semigroup S such that

$a, b, c, d \in S, a \rho b$ and $c \rho d \Rightarrow (ac)\rho(bd)$.

Now $c \rho c, a \rho b \Rightarrow (ca)\rho(cb) \Rightarrow \rho$ is a left congruence.

$a \rho b, c \rho c \Rightarrow (ac)\rho(bc) \Rightarrow \rho$ is a right congruence and hence ρ is a congruence.

NOTATION 1.14 : Let ρ be a congruence relation on a po semigroup S . We denote the set $\{b \in S / a\rho b\}$ by a_ρ and is called ρ -class containing a . The set of all ρ -classes is denoted by S/ρ .

THEOREM 1.15 : If S is a po semigroup and ρ is a congruence on S then S/ρ is a semigroup with respect to the operation defined by $a_\rho b_\rho = (ab)_\rho$ for all $a_\rho, b_\rho \in S/\rho$.

Proof : If $a_\rho, b_\rho \in S/\rho$, then we define the multiplication on S/ρ ,

given by $(a_\rho)(b_\rho) = (ab)_\rho$ for all $a, b \in S$.

This is well defined, since for all $a, b, c, d \in S, a_\rho = b_\rho$ and $c_\rho = d_\rho \Rightarrow a\rho b, c\rho d$

$\Rightarrow (ac)\rho(bc), (bc)\rho(bd)$

$\Rightarrow (ac)\rho(bd) \Rightarrow (ac)_\rho = (bd)_\rho$.

Let $(a)_\rho, (b)_\rho, (c)_\rho \in S/\rho$.

Then $[(a)_\rho(b)_\rho](c)_\rho = (ab)_\rho(c)_\rho = [(ab)c]_\rho = [a(bc)]_\rho = (a)_\rho(bc)_\rho = (a)_\rho[(b)_\rho(c)_\rho]$. Therefore S/ρ is a semigroup.

DEFINITION 1.16 : Let ρ be a congruence relation on a po semigroup S . Then the semigroup S/ρ of all ρ -classes with respect to the operation defined as $(a_\rho)(b_\rho) = (ab)_\rho$ for all $a, b \in S$ is called the **quotient semigroup** of S relative to the congruence ρ .

NOTE 1.17 : If S is a po semigroup and ρ is a congruence on S , then the quotient semigroup S/ρ is not a po semigroup w. r. t the relation \preceq on S/ρ defined by means of the order \leq on S , that is, $(a)_\rho \preceq (b)_\rho \Leftrightarrow$ there exist $x \in (a)_\rho$ and $y \in (b)_\rho$ such that $x \leq y$. But the relation is not a partial order, in general.

We show it in the following example.

EXAMPLE 1.18 : We consider the po semigroup $S = \{a, b, c, d, e\}$ defined by the multiplication and the order \leq below:

a	a	b	c	d	e
a	a	e	c	d	e
b	a	e	c	d	e
c	a	e	c	d	e
d	a	e	c	d	e
e	a	e	c	d	e

β	a	b	c	d	e
a	a	e	c	d	e
b	a	b	c	d	e
c	a	e	c	d	e
d	a	e	c	d	e
e	a	e	c	d	e

and $\leq = \{(a, a), (a, d), (b, b), (c, c), (c, e), (d, d), (e, e)\}$.

For $x, y, z \in S$, we have



$$(xy)a = a = x(ya), (xy)c = c = x(yc)$$

$$(xy)d = d = x(yd), (xy)e = e = x(ye)$$

$$(xy)b = e = x(yb),$$

$$(xy)b = e = x(yb) \text{ if } y \neq b$$

$$(xb)b = e = x(bb) \text{ if } x \neq b$$

$$(bb)b = e = b(bb), (bb)b = b = b(bb).$$

Then S is a semigroup. Since $xa \leq xd, ax = dx, xc \leq xe, cx = ex$ for all $x \in S$, S is a po semigroup.

Let ρ be the congruence on S defined as follows:

$$\rho = \{ (a, a), (b, b), (c, c), (d, d), (e, e), (a, e), (e, a), (c, d), (d, c) \}.$$

Let \leq be an order on S/ρ defined by means of the order \leq on S, that is,

$$(a)_\rho \leq (b)_\rho \Leftrightarrow \text{there exist } x \in (a)_\rho \text{ and } y \in (b)_\rho \text{ such that } x \leq y.$$

We have $a_\rho = \{a, e\}, b_\rho = \{b\}$ and $c_\rho = \{c, d\}$. Also we have $a_\rho \leq c_\rho$ and $c_\rho \leq a_\rho$ but $a_\rho \neq c_\rho$. Thus \leq is not an order relation on S/ρ .

THEOREM 1.19 : Let S be a po semigroup. If ρ_1 and ρ_2 are two left congruences of S, then $(\rho_1 \circ \rho_2)$ is a left congruence on S.

Proof : Let ρ_1 and ρ_2 be two left congruences on S.

Clearly $(\rho_1 \circ \rho_2)$ is an equivalence relation on S.

Let $a, b \in S$ and $s \in S, a(\rho_1 \circ \rho_2)b$.

Since $a(\rho_1 \circ \rho_2)b$ there exists $c \in S$ such that $a \rho_1 c$ and $c \rho_2 b$.

Since ρ_1, ρ_2 are left congruences on S, it follows that $(sa)\rho_1(sc)$ and $(sc)\rho_2(sb)$

This implies that $(sa)(\rho_1 \circ \rho_2)(sb)$ and hence $(\rho_1 \circ \rho_2)$ is a left congruence on S.

From theorem 1.19, it can be easily prove the following result by induction:

COROLLARY 1.20 : Let S be a po semigroup. If $\rho_1, \rho_2, \dots, \rho_n$ are left congruences on S, then $\rho_1 \circ \rho_2 \circ \dots \circ \rho_n$ is a left congruence on S.

THEOREM 1.21 : Let S be a po semigroup. If ρ_1 and ρ_2 are two right congruences on S, then $(\rho_1 \circ \rho_2)$ is a right congruence on S.

Proof : Let ρ_1 and ρ_2 be two right congruences on S.

Suppose $a(\rho_1 \circ \rho_2)b$ holds for $a, b \in S$.

Then there exists $c \in S$ such that $a \rho_1 c$ and $c \rho_2 b$ hold.

Since ρ_1, ρ_2 are right congruences on S, it follows that $(as)\rho_1(cs)$ and $(cs)\rho_2(bs)$ for all $s \in S$. This implies that $(as)(\rho_1 \circ \rho_2)(bs)$ hold for all $s \in S$ and hence $(\rho_1 \circ \rho_2)$ is a right congruence on S.

From theorem 1.21, the following corollary can be proved easily by induction:

COROLLARY 1.22 : Let S be a po semigroup. If $\rho_1, \rho_2, \dots, \rho_n$ are right congruences on S, then $\rho_1 \circ \rho_2 \circ \dots \circ \rho_n$ is a right congruence on S.

THEOREM 1.23 : Let S be a po semigroup. If ρ_1 and ρ_2 are two congruences on S, then $(\rho_1 \circ \rho_2)$ is a congruence of S.

Proof : By theorem 1.19, $(\rho_1 \circ \rho_2)$ is a left congruence on S.

By theorem 1.21, $(\rho_1 \circ \rho_2)$ is a right congruence on S and



hence $(\rho_1 \circ \rho_2)$ is a congruence on S .

From theorem 1.23, the following result can be proved easily by induction:

COROLLARY 1.24: Let S be a po semigroup. If $\rho_1, \rho_2, \dots, \rho_n$ are congruences on S , then $\rho_1 \circ \rho_2 \circ \dots \circ \rho_n$ is a congruence of S .

THEOREM 1.25 : The intersection of any family of congruences on a po semigroup S is again a congruence on S .

Proof : Let $\{\rho_i / i \in \Delta\}$ be a family of congruences on S .

Let $\psi = \bigcap_{i \in \Delta} \rho_i$. Clearly ψ is an equivalence relation on S .

Let $a, b, c, d \in S$.

Suppose that $a \psi b, c \psi d$.

$$a \psi b, c \psi d \Rightarrow a \bigcap_{i \in \Delta} \rho_i b, c \bigcap_{i \in \Delta} \rho_i d \Rightarrow a \rho_i b, c \rho_i d \text{ for all } \rho_i$$

$$\Rightarrow ac \rho_i bd \text{ for all } \rho_i \Rightarrow ac \bigcap_{i \in \Delta} \rho_i bd \Rightarrow ac \psi bd.$$

Hence the intersection of any family of congruences on a po semigroup S is again a congruence on S .

THEOREM 1.26 : The union of any family of congruences on a po semigroup S is a congruence on S .

Proof : Let $\{\rho_i / i \in \Delta\}$ be a family of congruences on S .

Let $\psi = \bigcup_{i \in \Delta} \rho_i$ where ρ_i is a congruence on po semigroup S .

Let $a, b, c \in S$. Suppose that $a \psi b$.

$$a \psi b \Rightarrow a \bigcup_{i \in \Delta} \rho_i b \Rightarrow a \rho_i b \text{ for some } \rho_i \text{ on } S$$

$$\Rightarrow a \rho_i b \text{ for some } \rho_i \text{ on } S \text{ and } \rho_i \text{ is a congruence on } S \Rightarrow ca \rho_i cb \Rightarrow ca \bigcup_{i \in \Delta} \rho_i cb \\ \Rightarrow ca \psi cb \Rightarrow \psi \text{ is a left congruence on } S$$

$$\text{Now } a \rho_i b \text{ for some } \rho_i \text{ on } S, \rho_i \text{ is a congruence on } S \Rightarrow ac \rho_i bc \Rightarrow ac \bigcup_{i \in \Delta} \rho_i bc \\ \Rightarrow ac \psi bc \Rightarrow \psi \text{ is right congruence on } S.$$

So, ψ is a congruence on the po semigroup S . Therefore the union of a non-empty family of congruences on a po semigroup S is a congruence on S .

NOTE 1.27 : The set of all congruences on a po semigroup S is denoted by $C(S)$.

DEFINITION 1.28 : The intersection of all congruences on a po semigroup S containing a binary relation ρ on S is called the **congruence generated by ρ** .

DEFINITION 1.29 : A po semigroup S is said to be a **band** if every element of S is a idempotent.

DEFINITION 1.30 : A po semigroup S is said to be a **semilattice** if S is a commutative band.

DEFINITION 1.31 : A congruence ρ on a po semigroup S is said to be **semilattice congruence** if $a, b \in$



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$S \Rightarrow aa \rho a$ and $ab \rho ba$.

DEFINITION 1.32 : A semilattice congruence ρ on a po semigroup S is said to be **complete** if for any $a, b \in S$, $a \leq b$ implies $a \rho ab$.

NOTE 1.33 : A semilattice congruence ρ on a po semigroup S is **complete** iff $a, b \in S$, $a \leq b$ implies $a\rho(ab)$.

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