

## n-SUBSEMIGROUPS OF SOME COMMUTATIVE SEMIGROUPS

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A subset  $Q$  of a semigroup  $S$  is said to be an  $n$ -subsemigroup of  $S$  if:  $a_1, \dots, a_n \in Q \Rightarrow a_1 \dots a_n \in Q$ . Then, by  $[x_1 \dots x_n] = x_1 \dots x_n$  is defined an associative  $n$ -ary operation  $[ ]$  on  $Q$ , i.e.  $(Q; [ ])$  is an  $n$ -semigroup. If  $C$  is a class of semigroups, then the class of  $n$ -semigroups that are  $n$ -subsemigroups of  $C$ -semigroups is denoted by  $C(n)$ . A variety of semigroups  $C$  is called an  $n$ -variety of semigroups iff  $C(n)$  is a variety of  $n$ -semigroups. (Clearly, every variety of semigroups is a 2-variety.) The set of  $n$ -varieties of semigroups and its complement, in the set of varieties of semigroups, are infinite for any  $n > 3$ . ([1], [2], [3], [4]) It is also known that the set of  $n$ -varieties of commutative semigroups is infinite. ([2]) Here we show that if  $n > 3$  then the set of varieties of commutative semigroups that are not  $n$ -varieties is also infinite.

Further on, by a semigroup ( $n$ -semigroup) we will mean a commutative semigroup (commutative  $n$ -semigroup).

A variety of semigroups is defined by a set of identities of the following form:

$$x_1^{i_1} x_2^{j_2} \dots x_p^{i_p} = x_1^{j_1} x_2^{i_2} \dots x_p^{j_p}, \quad (*)$$

where:  $x_1, x_2, \dots$  are variables;  $i_v, j_v$  are nonnegative integers such that  $(\sum i_v)(\sum j_v) > 0$ . If  $i_v = j_v$ , for each  $v$ , then (\*) is called a trivial identity. (As usually, variables will be also denoted by  $x, y, z, \dots$ .)

Let  $m, s, n, k$  be positive integers such that  $s + 2 \leq m, m \not\equiv 2s + 1, m \not\equiv 2s + 2, m \equiv 1 \pmod{n-1}$  and  $m + 2 \leq k$ . Consider the following two identities:

$$x^s y^{m-s} = x^{s+2} y^{m-s-1}, \quad (m, s)$$

$$x_1 x_2 \dots x_k = x_1^2 x_2 \dots x_k. \quad (k)$$

Denote by  $(m, s; k)$  the set of the given two identities, and by  $(m, s; k)^n$  the set of identities (\*) which are consequences of  $(m, s; k)$  and the exponents satisfy the following condition:

$$\sum i_v \equiv \sum j_v \equiv 1 \pmod{n-1}.$$

Every identity (\*) which belongs to  $(m, s; k)^n$  induces an identity

$$[x_1^{i_1} \dots x_p^{i_p}] = [x_1^{j_1} \dots x_p^{j_p}] \quad [*]$$

of  $n$ -semigroups. We denote by  $[m, s; k]^n$  the set of identities [\*] such that (\*) is in  $(m, s; k)^n$ .

It is clear that if  $x^s y^{m-s} = x^i y^j$  is in  $(m, s; k)^n$ , then  $i = s, j = m - s$ , i.e.  $[m, s; k]^n$  does not contain a nontrivial identity  $[x^s y^{m-s}] = [x^i y^j]$ .

Consider the variety  $C^{(m, s; k)}$  of semigroups defined by  $(m, s; k)$ . We will show namely that  $C^{(m, s; k)}$  is not an  $n$ -variety. To prove this statement it is enough to find an  $n$ -semigroup  $(Q; [ ])$  which satisfies all identities belonging to  $[m, s; k]^n$ , but does not belong to  $C^{(m, s; k)}(n)$ .

Let  $a, b, c$  be three different objects and let  $(Q; [ ])$  be the  $n$ -semigroup with a presentation

$$\langle a, b, c; [a^{s+2} c^{m-s-2}] = [b^{s+2} c^{m-s-2}] \rangle \quad (**)$$

in the variety of  $n$ -semigroups defined by  $[m, s; k]^n$ . Let us give a more explicit construction of  $(Q; [ ])$ . First, let  $(F; [ ])$  be the free  $n$ -semigroup with a basis  $B = \{a, b, c\}$  in the variety defined by  $[m, s; k]^n$ . In other words  $F$  consists of all „commutative products of powers“  $[a^i b^j c^p]$ , such that:  $i, j, p \geq 0, i + j + p \equiv 1 \pmod{n-1}$ , and the equality

$$[a^j b^j c^p] = [a^{j'} b^{j'} c^{p'}]$$

holds in  $F$  iff the following identity

$$[x^i y^j z^p] = [x^{i'} y^{j'} z^{p'}]$$

is in  $[m, s; k]^n$ . The operation  $[ ]$  is defined in the usual way, i.e. by the following equation:

$$[[a^{i_1} b^{j_1} c^{p_1}] \dots [a^{i_n} b^{j_n} c^{p_n}]] = [a^{i_1 + \dots + i_n} b^{j_1 + \dots + j_n} c^{p_1 + \dots + p_n}].$$

Consider the minimal congruence  $\approx$  on  $(F; [ ])$  such that

$$[a^{s+2} c^{m-s-2}] \approx [b^{s+2} c^{m-s-2}].$$

Namely  $\approx$  is defined in the following way. If  $u = a^i b^j c^k$  is such that  $i + j + k \equiv 0 \pmod{n-1}$ , then:

$$[u a^{s+2} c^{m-s-2}] \sim [u b^{s+2} c^{m-s-2}] \text{ and } [u b^{s+2} c^{m-s-2}] \sim [u a^{s+2} c^{m-s-2}].$$

Now,  $\approx$  is the transitive and reflexive extension of  $\sim$ , i.e.  $u \approx v$  iff there exist  $u_0, \dots, u_t \in F$  such that  $u = u_0, v = v_t, t \geq 0$ , and  $u_{i-1} \sim u_i$  if  $i \geq 1$ . Then  $(F/\approx; [ ])$  is the desired  $n$ -semigroup  $(Q; [ ])$ . We can assume that  $a, b, c \in Q$ .

Let us show that  $[a^s c^{m-s}] \neq [b^s c^{m-s}]$  in  $(Q; [ ])$ . Namely, we first conclude that if  $[a^s c^{m-s}] = [a^i b^j c^p]$  in  $F$ , then  $i = s, j = 0, p = m - s$ . We also have that  $[a^s c^{m-s}] \sim [a^i b^j c^p]$ , for any  $i, j, p$ , and therefore  $[a^s c^{m-s}] \approx [b^s c^{m-s}]$ , i.e.  $[a^s c^{m-s}] \neq [b^s c^{m-s}]$  in  $(Q; [ ])$ .

Now, it is easy to show that  $(Q; [ ])$  does not belong to  $C^{(m, s; k)}(n)$ . Namely, if  $(Q; [ ])$  were an  $n$ -subsemigroup of a semigroup  $S \in C^{(m, s; k)}$ , then we would have

$$\begin{aligned} a^s c^{m-s} &= a^{s+2} c^{m-s-1} = a^{s+2} c^{m-s-2} c \\ &= b^{s+2} c^{m-s-2} c = b^{s+2} c^{m-s-1} = b^s c^{m-s} \end{aligned}$$

in  $S$ , and this would imply the equality  $[a^s c^{m-s}] = [b^s c^{m-s}]$  in  $(Q; [ ])$ .

Clearly, if  $m + 2 \leq k' < k''$  then  $C^{(m, s; k')}$  is a proper subvariety of  $C^{(m, s; k'')}$ , and thus if  $s$  and  $m$  are fixed positive integers such that  $s + 2 \leq m$ ,  $m \neq 2s + 1$ ,  $m \neq 2s + 2$ ,  $m \equiv 1 \pmod{n-1}$  then we have an infinite set of varieties  $\{C^{(m, s; k)} \mid k \geq n + 2\}$  of commutative semigroups which are not  $n$ -varieties.

Denote by  $C^{(m, s)}(C^{(k)})$  the variety of semigroups defined by the identity  $(m, s)((k))$ . From the above considerations it follows that  $C^{(m, s)}$  is not an  $n$ -variety. Namely, we notice again that there is not a nontrivial identity  $[x^s y^{m-s}] = [x^i y^j]$  in  $[m, s]^n$ . And, the  $n$ -semigroup  $(Q; [ ])$  with a presentation  $(**)$  in the variety of  $n$ -semigroups defined by  $[m, s]^n$  is not an  $n$ -subsemigroup of a semigroup belonging to  $C^{(m, s)}$ .

But, the variety  $C^{(k)}$  is an  $n$ -variety for every pair of positive numbers  $n, k$  such that  $n \geq 2$ . (Namely, the assumption  $k \geq n + 2$  is not necessary.) First we notice that  $(*)$  is a consequence of  $(k)$  if  $i_\nu = j_\nu$  for each  $\nu$  or  $\sum i_\nu \geq k$ ,  $\sum j_\nu \geq k$  and  $i_\nu > 0 \Leftrightarrow j_\nu > 0$ . This gives a complete description of  $[k]^n$ , as well.

Assume now that  $(Q; [ ])$  is an  $n$ -semigroup which satisfy any identity of  $[k]^n$ , i.e. each identity  $[*]$  such that

$$\sum j_\nu \equiv \sum i_\nu \equiv 1 \pmod{n-1}, \quad \sum i_\nu \geq k, \quad \sum j_\nu \geq k$$

and  $i_\nu > 0 \Leftrightarrow j_\nu > 0$ .

We have to show that  $(Q; [ ])$  is an  $n$ -subsemigroup of a semigroup belonging to  $C^{(k)}$ .

Let  $n \geq k$ , and let a binary operation  $\cdot$  be defined on  $Q$  by:

$$x \cdot y = [x y^{n-1}].$$

Then it is easy to see that  $(Q; \cdot)$  is a semigroup in  $C^{(k)}$ , and moreover that

$$x_1 x_2 \dots x_n = [x_1 x_2 \dots x_n],$$

and therefore  $(Q; [ \ ])$  is an  $n$ -subsemigroup of  $(Q; \cdot)$ .

In the general case, we consider the semigroup  $S$  with a presentation

$$\langle Q; \{a = a_1 \dots a_n \mid a = [a_1 \dots a_n] \text{ in } (Q; [ \ ])\} \rangle$$

in the variety  $C^{(k)}$ , and we have to show that:

$$a, b \in Q \Rightarrow (a = b \text{ in } S \Rightarrow a = b \text{ in } Q),$$

but here we will not give the complete proof of this statement.

#### REFERENCES

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#### $n$ — ПОТПОЛУГРУПИ ОД НЕКОИ КОМУТАТИВНИ ПОЛУГРУПИ

##### Резиме

Во работава се покажува дека множеството многубразија  $M$  комутативни полугрупи, такви што  $M(n)$  (т.е. класата од  $n$ -потполугрупи од  $M$ -полугрупи) е вистинско квазимногубразие, е бесконечно, за секое  $n > 3$ .