

Lawrence S. Husch

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*Czechoslovak Mathematical Journal*, Vol. 23 (1973), No. 1, 45–49

Persistent URL: <http://dml.cz/dmlcz/101144>

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EQUICONTINUOUS COMMUTATIVE SEMIGROUPS  
OF ONTO FUNCTIONS

L. S. HUSCH, Knoxville

(Received November 18, 1971)

Equicontinuous (or regular) groups of transformations of a space onto itself have been studied extensively [1], [2], [5]. In this note we investigate equicontinuous commutative semigroups  $G$  of functions of a space  $X$  into itself. We define a product on orbit closures which makes each orbit closure a commutative semigroup. This generalizes a result of D. MONTGOMERY on equicontinuous transformation groups [5]. If  $X$  is compact Hausdorff and each  $g \in G$  is onto, then each  $g \in G$  is a homeomorphism and each orbit closure is a topological group. This generalizes work of P. F. DUVAL, JR. and L. S. HUSCH [1] who considered the case when  $X$  is compact metric and  $G$  is generated by a single function. Finally it is shown that if  $X$  is compact Hausdorff then the closure of  $G$  in the space of continuous maps of  $X$  into itself with the compact-open topology is a topological group and each orbit closure is the continuous homomorphic image of  $G$ .

We shall assume familiarity with [4] whose notation we shall follow. [6] contains the definitions and results from the theory of semigroups which we use. Let  $(X, \mathcal{U})$  be a uniform space and let  $C(X)$  be the semigroup of continuous functions of  $X$  into itself with the topology of uniform convergence on compacta. If  $G$  is a subsemigroup of  $C(X)$ , then  $G$  is *equicontinuous* at  $x \in X$  if, for each  $U \in \mathcal{U}$ , there is a neighborhood  $V$  of  $x$  such that  $g(V) \subseteq U[g(x)]$  for each  $g \in G$ .  $G$  is *equicontinuous* if it is equicontinuous at each point of  $X$ .  $G$  is *uniformly equicontinuous* if, for each  $U \in \mathcal{U}$ , there exists  $V \in \mathcal{U}$  such that  $(g(x), g(y)) \in U$  whenever  $g \in G$  and  $(x, y) \in V$ . If  $x \in X$ , let  $O(x) = \overline{\{g(x) \mid g \in G\}}$ . Henceforth, suppose  $X$  is Hausdorff and  $G$  is commutative.

**Proposition 1.** *If  $x \in X$  such that  $G$  is uniformly equicontinuous on  $O(x)$  and if the nets  $\{g_\alpha(x), \alpha \in A\}$  and  $\{g_\beta(x), \beta \in B\}$ ,  $\{g_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in A} \cup \{g_\beta\}_{\beta \in B} \subseteq G$ , are Cauchy nets, then the net  $\{g_\alpha g_\beta(x), (\alpha, \beta) \in A \times B\}$  is a Cauchy net. ( $A \times B$  is the product directed set [4; p. 68]).*

**Proof.** Suppose  $U \in \mathcal{U}$  and choose  $V \in \mathcal{U}$  such that  $V \circ V \subseteq U$ . By uniform equicontinuity there exists  $W \in \mathcal{U}$  such that  $(y, z) \in W$  implies  $(g(y), g(z)) \in V$  for all  $g \in G$ . There exists  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  such that if  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2 \geq \alpha$  and  $\beta_1, \beta_2 \geq \beta$ , then  $(g_{\alpha_1}(x), g_{\alpha_2}(x))$  and  $(g_{\beta_1}(x), g_{\beta_2}(x))$  belong to  $W$  where  $\alpha, \alpha_1, \alpha_2 \in A$  and  $\beta, \beta_1, \beta_2 \in B$ . Note that if  $(\alpha_1, \beta_1), (\alpha_2, \beta_2) \geq (\alpha, \beta)$ , then  $(g_{\alpha_1}g_{\beta_1}(x), g_{\alpha_2}g_{\beta_2}(x)) \in U$ .

**Definition.** If  $O(x)$  is complete and  $y, z \in O(x)$ , let  $\{g_\alpha(x), \alpha \in A\}$  and  $\{g_\beta(x), \beta \in B\}$  be nets which converge to  $y$  and  $z$ , respectively. Define  $y \cdot z$  to be the limit of the net  $\{g_\alpha g_\beta(x), (\alpha, \beta) \in A \times B\}$ .

**Proposition 2.** *The product  $y \cdot z$  is well-defined; — i.e.,  $y \cdot z$  is independent of the choice of nets which converge to  $y$  and  $z$ .*

**Proof.** Suppose  $y$  is the limit of the nets  $\{g_\alpha(x), \alpha \in A\}$  and  $\{g_\gamma(x), \gamma \in \Gamma\}$  and  $z$  is the limit of the nets  $\{g_\beta(x), \beta \in B\}$  and  $\{g_\delta(x), \delta \in \Delta\}$ . Let  $a$  and  $b$  be the limits of the nets  $\{g_\alpha g_\beta(x), (\alpha, \beta) \in A \times B\}$  and  $\{g_\gamma g_\delta(x), (\gamma, \delta) \in \Gamma \times \Delta\}$ , respectively. Let  $U \in \mathcal{U}$  and choose  $V \in \mathcal{U}$  such that  $V \circ V \circ V \circ V \subseteq U$ . By uniform equicontinuity there exists  $W \in \mathcal{U}$  such that  $(a, b) \in W$  implies  $(g(a), g(b)) \in V$  for all  $g \in G$ . Choose  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta$  so that  $(g_\gamma(x), g_\alpha(x)), (g_\delta(x), g_\beta(x)) \in W$  and  $(b, g_\gamma g_\delta(x)), (g_\alpha g_\beta(x), a) \in V$ . It is easily seen that  $(b, a) \in U$  and since  $U$  is arbitrary,  $a = b$ .

**Proposition 3.** *If  $y, z \in O(x)$  such that  $z$  is the limit of the net  $\{z_\alpha, \alpha \in A\} \subseteq O(x)$ , then the net  $\{y \cdot z_\alpha, \alpha \in A\}$  converges to  $y \cdot z$ .*

**Proof.** Suppose  $y, z, z_\alpha$  ( $\alpha \in A$ ) are the limit of the nets  $\{g_\beta(x), \beta \in B\}$ ,  $\{g_\gamma(x), \gamma \in \Gamma\}$  and  $\{g_{\alpha, \delta}(x), \delta \in \Delta(\alpha)\}$ , respectively. Let  $U \in \mathcal{U}$  and choose  $V \in \mathcal{U}$  such that  $V \circ V \circ V \circ V \circ V \subseteq U$  and  $W \in \mathcal{U}$  such that  $(a, b) \in W$  implies  $(g(a), g(b)) \in V$  for all  $g \in G$ . There exists

- i)  $\alpha_1$  such that  $\alpha \in A$  and  $\alpha \geq \alpha_1$  implies  $(z, z_\alpha) \in W$ ,
- ii)  $(\beta_1, \gamma_1)$  such that  $(\beta, \gamma) \in B \times \Gamma$  and  $(\beta, \gamma) \geq (\beta_1, \gamma_1)$  implies  $(y \cdot z, g_\beta g_\gamma(x)) \in V$ ,
- iii)  $\gamma_2$  such that  $\gamma \in \Gamma$  and  $\gamma \geq \gamma_2$  implies  $(g_\gamma(x), z) \in W$ ,
- iv)  $\delta_1$  such that  $\delta \in \Delta$  and  $\delta \geq \delta_1$  implies  $(z_\alpha, g_{\alpha, \delta}(x)) \in W$ ,
- v)  $(\beta_2, \delta_2)$  such that  $(\beta, \delta) \in B \times \Delta$  and  $(\beta, \delta) \geq (\beta_2, \delta_2)$  implies  $(g_\beta g_{\alpha, \delta}(x), y \cdot z_\alpha) \in V$ .

Note that  $\delta_1$  and  $(\beta_2, \delta_2)$  depend upon  $\alpha$ . Choose  $\beta_3 \geq \beta_1, \beta_2; \gamma_3 \geq \gamma_1, \gamma_2; \delta_3 \geq \delta_1, \delta_2$ . Suppose  $\alpha \geq \alpha_1$  and choose  $(\beta, \gamma, \delta) \geq (\beta_3, \gamma_3, \delta_3)$ . Then  $(g_\beta g_{\alpha, \delta}(x), y \cdot z_\alpha), (g_\beta(z_\alpha), g_\beta g_{\alpha, \delta}(x)), (g_\beta(z), g_\beta(z_\alpha)), (g_\beta g_\gamma(x), g_\beta(z)), (y \cdot z, g_\beta g_\gamma(x)) \in V$  implies  $(y \cdot z, y \cdot z_\alpha) \in U$ .

**Proposition 4.** *If  $y, z \in O(x)$  are the limits of the nets  $\{y_\sigma, \sigma \in \Sigma\}$  and  $\{z_\alpha, \alpha \in A\}$ , respectively, which are contained in  $O(x)$  and if  $U \in \mathcal{U}$ , then there exists  $(\sigma_1, \alpha_1) \in \Sigma \times A$  such that if  $(\sigma, \alpha) \in \Sigma \times A$  and  $(\sigma, \alpha) \geq (\sigma_1, \alpha_1)$ , then  $(y_\sigma \cdot z_\alpha, y \cdot z_\alpha) \in U$ .*

**Proof.** In addition to the nets used in the previous proof, let  $y$  be the limit of the net  $\{g_{\sigma,\tau}(x), \tau \in T(\sigma)\} \subseteq O(x)$ . Choose  $V \in \mathcal{U}$  such that  $V \circ V \circ V \circ V \circ V \subseteq U$  and  $W \in \mathcal{U}$  such that  $(a, b) \in W$  implies  $(g(a), g(b)) \in V$  for all  $g \in G$ . There exists

- i)  $\sigma_1$  such that  $\sigma \in \Sigma$  and  $\sigma \geq \sigma_1$  implies  $(y, y_\sigma) \in W$ ,
- ii)  $(\beta_1, \delta_1)$  such that  $(\beta, \delta) \in B \times \Delta$  and  $(\beta, \delta) \geq (\beta_1, \delta_1)$  implies  $(y \cdot z_\alpha, g_\beta g_{\alpha,\delta}(x)) \in V$ ,
- iii)  $\beta_2$  such that  $\beta \in B$  and  $\beta \geq \beta_2$  implies  $(g_\beta(x), y) \in W$ ,
- iv)  $\tau_1$  such that  $\tau \in T$  and  $\tau \geq \tau_1$  implies  $(y_\sigma, g_{\sigma,\tau}(x)) \in W$ ,
- v)  $(\tau_2, \delta_2)$  such that  $(\tau, \delta) \in T \times \Delta$  and  $(\tau, \delta) \geq (\tau_2, \delta_2)$  implies  $(g_{\sigma,\tau} g_{\alpha,\delta}(x), y_\sigma \cdot z_\alpha) \in V$ .

Choose  $\beta_3 \geq \beta_1, \beta_2; \delta_3 \geq \delta_1, \delta_2; \tau_3 \geq \tau_1, \tau_2$ . Let  $\alpha_1 \in A$  and suppose  $(\sigma, \alpha) \in \Sigma \times A$  such that  $(\sigma, \alpha) \geq (\sigma_1, \alpha_1)$ . Choose  $(\beta, \delta, \tau) \geq (\beta_3, \delta_3, \tau_3)$  (note that  $\beta_3, \delta_3, \tau_3$  depend on  $(\sigma, \alpha)$ ); then  $(g_{\sigma,\tau} g_{\alpha,\delta}(x), y_\sigma \cdot z_\alpha), (g_{\alpha,\delta}(y_\sigma), g_{\sigma,\tau} g_{\alpha,\delta}(x)), (g_{\alpha,\delta}(y), g_{\alpha,\delta}(y_\sigma)), (g_{\alpha,\delta} g_\beta(x), g_{\alpha,\delta}(y)), (y \cdot z_\alpha, g_\beta g_{\alpha,\delta}(x)) \in V$  implies  $(y_\sigma \cdot z_\alpha, y \cdot z_\alpha) \in U$ .

From Propositions 3 and 4 we get the follow theorem.

**Theorem 5.** *Let  $(X, \mathcal{U})$  be a Hausdorff uniform space and let  $G$  be a commutative subsemigroup of  $C(X)$ . If  $x \in X$  such that  $O(x)$  is complete and  $G$  is uniformly equicontinuous on  $O(x)$ , then  $O(x)$  is a commutative topological semigroup.*

**Definition.** If  $g \in G$ , let  $O(x; g) = \{g^i(x) \mid i \text{ is a positive integer}\}$  and  $K(x; g) = \bigcap_{i=0}^{\infty} O(g^i(x); g)$ . We omit the proof of the following.

**Proposition 6.** *If  $z \in O(x; g)$ , then either  $z = g^i(x)$  for some positive integer  $i$  or  $z \in K(x; g)$ .  $z \in K(x; g)$  if and only if there exists a strictly monotone increasing sequence of positive integers  $\{i_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  such that  $z = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} g^{i_n}(x)$ .*

**Theorem 7.** *Let  $(X, \mathcal{U})$ ,  $G$  and  $x \in X$  be as in Theorem 5. If  $K(x; g)$  is nonempty for some  $g \in G$ , then  $K(x; g)$  is an ideal in  $O(x; g)$ . If  $O(x; g)$  is compact, then  $K(x; g)$  is a minimal ideal in  $O(x; g)$  and is a topological group.*

**Proof.** The first part is a consequence of Proposition 6 and the second part follows from [6; p. 109].

**Proposition 8.** *If  $z \in O(x)$  and  $g \in G$ , then  $g(z) = g(x) \cdot z$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $\{g_\alpha(x), \alpha \in A\}$  be a net which converges to  $z$ . Then  $g(z)$  is the limit of the net  $\{g g_\alpha(x), \alpha \in A\}$  and the proposition follows from the definition of multiplication in  $O(x)$ .

**Theorem 9.** *Let  $S$  be a compact Hausdorff space and let  $G$  be a commutative equicontinuous subsemigroup of  $C(X)$  such that each  $g \in G$  is onto. Then each  $g \in G$  is a homeomorphism and  $x \in O(x; g) = K(x; g)$ .*

*Proof.* Having developed the necessary machinery above, the proof of this theorem can be gotten by mimicing the proof of Theorem 33 of [1]. Since [1] has not yet appeared, we sketch a proof for completeness.

If  $y \in K(x; g)$ , then  $K(y; g) \subseteq O(g; g) \subseteq K(x; g)$  and it is easily seen that  $K(y; g)$  (with the multiplication from  $O(x)$  is an ideal in  $O(x; g)$ . By Theorem 7,  $K(y; g) = K(x; g)$ . It follows that  $K(w; g) \cap K(z; g) \neq \emptyset$  if and only if  $K(w; g) = K(z; g)$ ,  $w, z \in X$ . By using the group structure of  $K(x; g)$  and Propositions 6 and 8, one sees that  $g \upharpoonright K(x; g)$  is a homeomorphism of  $K(x; g)$  onto itself. To finish the proof it suffices to show that  $X = \bigcap_{x \in X} K(x; g)$ .

This is shown by noting that, for each  $i$ ,  $O(g^i(x); g)$  is an upper semicontinuous compact set-valued function  $X \rightarrow 2^X$  [3]. Since, for each  $i$ ,  $X = \bigcap_{x \in X} O(g^i(x); g)$  and  $K(x; g) = \bigcap_{i=0}^{\infty} O(g^i(x); g)$ , it follows from a slight modification of arguments in [3] that  $X = \bigcap_{x \in X} K(x; g)$ .

**Definition.** By [6; p. 18],  $O(x; g)$  is contained in a unique maximal subgroup  $M(x; g)$  of  $O(x)$ . If  $g, h \in G$ , then  $x \in M(x; g) \cap M(x; h)$  and, hence, by [6; p. 18],  $M(x; g) = M(x; h)$ . Let  $M(x) = M(x; g)$ .

**Theorem 10.** *Let  $X$  be a compact Hausdorff space and let  $G$  be a commutative equicontinuous subsemigroup of  $C(X)$  such that each of  $g \in G$  is onto. Then a) for each  $x \in X$ ,  $O(x)$  is a topological group, b) if  $O(x) \cap O(y) \neq \emptyset$ , then  $O(x) = O(y)$  and c) the closure of  $G$  in  $C(X)$  is an equicontinuous compact topological group and the mapping  $\lambda : \bar{G} \rightarrow O(x)$  defined by  $\lambda(g) = g(x)$  is a continuous epimorphism.*

*Proof.* a) Let  $g \in G$  and  $x \in X$ . Since  $g(x) \in O(x; g)$ ,  $g(x) \in M(x)$ . Suppose  $z \in M(x)$ ; by Proposition 8,  $g(z) = g(x) \cdot z$  and hence  $g(z) \in M(x)$ . Since  $g(M(x)) \subseteq M(x)$ , it follows that  $O(x) \subseteq M(x)$  and hence  $O(x) = M(x)$  is a topological group.

b) Suppose  $z \in O(x)$  and  $g \in G$ . Since  $g(z) = g(x) \cdot z$ ,  $g(x) \in O(z)$ . Therefore  $O(x; g) \subseteq O(z)$ ; since  $x \in O(x; g)$ ,  $O(x) = O(z)$ .

c) By [4; p. 240], the closure of  $G$  in  $C(X)$  with respect to the topology of pointwise convergence is uniformly equicontinuous; hence the closure of  $G$ ,  $\bar{G}$ , with respect to the topology of uniform convergence on compacta is also uniformly equicontinuous. Note that each element of  $\bar{G}$  is an onto map and hence by Theorem 9 is a homeomorphism. By Ascoli's Theorem [4; p. 233],  $\bar{G}$  is compact and by Theorem 1.1.15 of [6],  $\bar{G}$  is a topological group. We leave to the reader the verification of the second part.

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*Author's address:* Mathematics Department, The University of Tennessee, Knoxville 37916, U.S.A.