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# ON BASES AND MAXIMAL IDEALS IN SEMIGROUPS

### IMRICH FABRICI—TIBOR MACKO

In [4] and [5] the structure of semigroups having both one-sided and two-sided bases has been investigated. The aim of the present paper is to show the mutual relationship between bases and maximal ideals, and some relationship between one-sided bases and two-sided bases in semigroups.

A subset A of a semigroup S is right (left, two-sided) base of S if A is a smalest subset of S for which  $A \cup SA = S$  ( $A \cup AS = S$ ,  $A \cup SA \cup AS \cup SAS = S$ ) holds.

In our further considerations  $(a)_L$ ,  $((a)_R, (a)_F)$  will denote the principal left (right, two-sided) ideal, generated by an element  $a \in S$ .

Let  $a, b \in S$ . We say that  $a \leq b$  iff  $(a)_L \subset (b)_L$ . We shall consider only right bases and left ideals, but the considerations would be completely analogous for left bases and right ideals, two-sided bases and two-sided ideals, respectively.

If  $L_a$  and  $L_b$  are  $\mathcal{L}$ -classes of a semigroup S, then we shall write  $L_a < L_b$  iff  $(a)_L \subset (b)_L$ .

The following statement is known:

**Lemma 1** [7]. A non-empty subset A of S is a right base of S iff A satisfies the conditions:

(1) for any  $x \in S$  there exists  $a \in A$  such that  $x \leq a$ ,

(2) for any two distinct elements  $a_1, a_2 \in A$  neither  $a_1 \leq a_2$  nor  $a_2 \leq a_1$ .

From Lemma 1 we get that any two distinct elements of a right base A belong to two distinct  $\mathcal{L}$ -classes, and all elements of A belong to maximal  $\mathcal{L}$ -classes. Moreover, a base contains just one element from every maximal  $\mathcal{L}$ -class of S.

**Lemma 2** ([1]). Let a semigroups S contain left ideals. Then L is a maximal left ideal of S iff S-L is a maximal  $\mathcal{L}$ -class of S.

**Lemma 3** ([2]). If a semigroup S contains at least one right base, then S contains maximal left ideals.

Remark. Lemmas 2 and 3 are proved in [1] and [2] for unary algebras. We can obtain them for semigroups if we assign to a semigroup S a unary algebra  $\langle S, F \rangle$ ,

where F is the set of all left translations of S. Then all subalgebras of the algebra (S, F) correspond to all left ideals of S.

**Definition 1.** We say that a left (right, two-sided) ideal L(R, M) of S is a covered left (right, two-sided) ideal if  $L \subset S(S-L)$  ( $R \subset (S-R)S$ ,  $M \subset S(S-M)S$ ).

**Theorem 1.** Suppose that a semigroup S contains at least one right base. Then (1) S contains maximal left ideals,

(2) Every maximal left ideal  $L_i$  is of the form:  $L_i = S - L_{a_i}$ ,

(3) The intersection of all maximal left ideals of S is either the empty set, or a left covered ideal.

Proof. (1) and (2) are obtained from Lemmas 2 and 3 and the Remark above.

(3) Let  $\bigcap_{i \in I} L_i = l \neq \emptyset$ . Evidently, l is a left ideal. It is sufficient to show that l is covered. For maximal left ideals  $L_i$  the relation  $L_i = S - L_{\alpha_i}$ ,  $i \in I$  holds. Then  $l = \bigcap_{i \in I} L_i = \bigcap_{i \in I} (S - L_{\alpha_i}) = S - \bigcup_{i \in I} L_{\alpha_i}$ . Therefore, no element from the  $\mathcal{L}$ -classes  $L_{\alpha_i}$ ,  $i \in I$  belongs to l. Let us consider a right base A. (From every  $\mathcal{L}$ -class  $L_{\alpha_i}$ ,  $i \in I$  just one element belongs to A). Then  $A \cup SA = S$ . This implies  $S - A \subset SA$ ,  $A \subset \bigcup_{i \in I} L_{\alpha_i}$ .

Hence,  $S - A \supset S - \bigcup_{i \in I} L_{a_i}$ . Then  $l = S - \bigcup_{i \in I} L_{a_i} \subset S - A \subset SA \subset S(S - l)$  hence, *l* is covered, as  $A \subset S - l$ .

If a semigroup contains maximal left ideals, it does not mean that it must have a right base.

Example 1. Let  $S = \{(0, 1) \cup \{a\}\}$  and the multiplication is defined as follows:

(1) for  $r_1$ ,  $r_2 \in (0, 1)$   $r_1r_2$  is the product of real numbers.

- (2) ar = ra = 0 for any  $r \in (0, 1)$ .
- (3) aa = 0.

 $(a)_L = a \cup Sa = \{a\} \cup \{0\} = \{0, a\}$ . All the  $\mathscr{L}$ -classes are one element subsets. (0, 1) is a proper left ideal of S and evidently it is a maximal one. No element  $r \in (0, 1)$  is contained in maximal  $\mathscr{L}$ -class. Hence, S cannot have a right base.

**Theorem 2.** Let a semigroup S contain maximal left ideals. If the intersection of all maximal left ideals is either empty or a left covered ideal, then S contains at least one right base.

Proof. Let

$$l = \bigcap_{i \in I} L_i = \bigcap_{i \in I} (S - L_{a_i}) = S - \bigcup_{i \in I} L_{a_i}$$

$$\tag{1}$$

Any  $L_{a_i}$  is a maximal  $\mathscr{L}$ -class of S. Let us construct A in the following way: From every  $L_{a_i}$  we put into A just one element. We shall show that A is a right base of S.

(a) If  $l = \emptyset$ , then  $S - \bigcup_{i \in I} L_{\alpha_i} = \emptyset$ , so that  $S = \bigcup_{i \in I} L_{\alpha_i}$ . And for A we get  $A \cup SA = S$ .

However, we cannot omit even one element of A, if A should generate S, because any  $\mathcal{L}$ -class  $L_{a}$  is maximal. So,  $A \cup SA = S$ , i.e. A generates S and it is a smallest subset of S with the property:  $A \cup SA = S$ , hence, A is a right base.

(b) Let  $l \neq \emptyset$  be a left covered ideal of S. This means that  $l \subset S(S - l)$ . However,

$$l \subset S(S-l) \subset A \cup SA \tag{(*)}$$

(because we put into A one element from every  $\mathscr{L}$ -class  $L_{\alpha}$ ). From the relation (\*) we get

$$A \cup SA = S$$
,

so that A generates S. And again we cannot omit even one element from A, because any  $\mathcal{L}$ -class is a maximal one. Therefore, A is a smallest set generating S, hence a right base.

**Corollary.** Let  $L_i$ ,  $i \in I$ , be all maximal left ideals of S. If  $\bigcap_{i \in I} L_i = l$  is a minimal left ideal of S, then S contains at least one right base.

Proof. To prove our statement it is sufficient to show that the minimal left ideal, which is the intersection of all maximal left ideals, is a left covered ideal. First, the maximality of  $\mathcal{L}$ -classes  $L_{\alpha}$  implies that

$$(a_i)_L \cap L_{a_i} = \emptyset$$
 for  $i \neq j$ .

The relation (1) implies that l is an  $\mathscr{L}$ -class of S, different from all  $\mathscr{L}$ -classes  $L_{a_i}$ .  $i \in I$ . If l were a maximal  $\mathscr{L}$ -class, then we would get another maximal left ideal S - l, different from  $L_i$ ,  $i \in I$ , which contradicts the assumption that  $L_i$ ,  $i \in I$ , are all maximal left ideals of S. So, there is some  $i_0 \in I$  such that for  $a \in L_{a_{i0}}$ ,  $l \subset (a)_L$ , therefore  $l \subset Sa \subset S(S-l)$ . Hence, l is a left covered ideal of S.

2.

It is clear that if a subset  $A \subset S$  is a right (left) base of S, i.e.,  $A \cup SA = S$  $(A \cup AS = S)$ , then it holds  $A \cup SA \cup AS \cup SAS = S$ . However, this does not mean that A is a two-sided base of S too, because we do not know, whether there is no proper subset  $A_1 \subset A$ ,  $A_1 \neq A$  such that  $A_1 \cup SA_1 \cup A_1S \cup SA_1S = S$  and  $A_1$  is a minimal one.

The question arises, whether the existence of a one-sided base in S does imply the existence of a two-sided base in S. We shall show by means of an example that in general this need not be so.

First, we give an evident statement.

**Theorem 3.** Let a semigroup S contain a right (left) base A, which is finite. Then S contains a two-sided base too.

**Corollary.** Any finite semigroup contains both a one-sided and a two-sided bases.

Example 2. Let S consist of all matrices  $A_{mn}$  of type  $m \times n$ , m = 1, 2, ..., n = 1, 2, ..., n = 1, 2, ... and of an element  $z \neq A_{mn}$  for m, n = 1, 2, ... The elements of  $A_{mn}$  are real numbers. The operation in S is defined as follows:

1. Let  $A_{km}$ ,  $A_{rs}$  be any two elements of S different from z. Then

2. Let  $A_{mn}$  be any matrix of S different from z. Then  $A_{mn} \cdot z = z \cdot A_{mn} = z \cdot z = z$ . Evidently, S with the operation defined in this way, is a semigroup.

We shall show that  $A = \{E_n | n = 1, 2, ..., where E_n \text{ is the unit matrix of order } n\}$  is a right base for S. For that it is sufficient to show that the conditions (1), (2) of Lemma 1 are satisfied.

Let  $X = A_{st}$ . Then  $X = A_{st} \in (E_t)_L = E_t \cup SE_t$ , because  $A_{st} = A_{st} \cdot E_t$ , so that  $A_{st} \in SE_t$ . This implies  $(A_{st})_L \subset (E_t)_L$ , hence  $A_{st} \leq E_t$ . In the case  $X = z, z \in (E_t)_L$  for t = 1, 2, ... Hence, we have shown that for any  $X \in S$ ,  $X \leq E_n$  holds for some positive integer n.

Let  $E_t$ ,  $E_s$  be two elements of A,  $s \neq t$ . We are going to show that neither  $E_s \leq E_t$ , nor  $E_t \leq E_s$ . First we shall show that  $E_t \in (E_s)_L$  (hence  $(E_t)_L \subset (E_s)_L$  does not hold) and  $E_s \in (E_t)_L$  (i.e.,  $(E_s)_L \subset (E_t)_L$  does not hold).  $(E_s)_L$  contains all matrices  $A_{ms}$ , where m = 1, 2, ... and the element z. This is clear, because if  $X = A_{mn}$  is any matrix of S, then

$$A_{mn} \cdot E_s = \langle A_{ms} \text{ if } n = s, \\ z \text{ if } n \neq s. \rangle$$

Since  $t \neq s$  we get  $E_t \in (E_s)_L$ . Analogously  $E_s \in (E_t)_L$  can be shown. Therefore, neither  $E_s \leq E_t$  nor  $E_t \leq E_s$ . Hence  $A = \{E_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  is a right base of S. Now by Theorem 1 one can construct maximal left ideals.

In our further consideration we shall need the following

**Lemma 2.** Let Y be any matrix of S. Then, for a matrix  $X \in S$  we have  $X \in (Y)_F$  $((Y)_F = Y \cup SY \cup YS \cup SYS)$  if and only if  $h(X) \leq h(Y)$ , where h(X), h(Y) denotes the rank of X, Y respectively.

Proof. a. Let  $X \in (Y)_F$ . Then  $X \in SYS$  (evidently,  $(Y)_F = SYS$ ), so that there exist  $U, V \in S$  such that X = UYV. This implies  $h(X) \leq \min \{h(U), h(Y), h(V)\}$  (see [6], p. 101).

b. Let X, Y be matrices of S, X of type  $m \times n$ , Y of type  $p \times q$ , and let  $h(X) \le h(Y)$ . Let us denote h(X) = r, h(Y) = s. Clearly  $r \le \min\{m, n, p, q\}$  (\*)

X can be transformed by means of elementary operations to a matrix X' of the form

$$X' = \begin{pmatrix} E_r, & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $E_r$  is the unit matrix of order r and 0 are such zero matrices that X' is of the same type as X. It is known (see [3]) that X can be expressed in the following form :  $X = U_1 X' V_1$ , where  $U_1$ ,  $V_1$  are regular matrices of order m, n respectively. Then  $X' = U_1^{-1} X V_1^{-1}$ .

The same can be done for Y. We have  $Y = U_2 Y' V_2$ , and  $Y' = U_2^{-1} Y V_2^{-1}$ , where  $U_2$ ,  $V_2$  are regular matrices of order p, q respectively, and Y' is the matrix of the form

$$Y' = \begin{pmatrix} E_s, & 0\\ 0, & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Let us denote

$$A' = \begin{pmatrix} E_r, & 0 \\ 0, & 0 \end{pmatrix} \qquad B' = \begin{pmatrix} E_r, & 0 \\ 0, & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

where A' is of type  $m \times p$ , B' is of type  $q \times n$ . With regard to (\*) this is possible. Then X' = A'Y'B'.

From that we get

$$X = U_1 X' V_1 = U_1 A' Y' B' V_1 = U_1 A' U_2^{-1} Y V_2^{-1} B' V_1.$$

The product  $U_1A'U_2^{-1}$  is a matrix of type  $m \times p$ , since  $U_1$  is of type  $m \times m$ , A' of type  $m \times p$ ,  $U_2^{-1}$  of type  $p \times p$ . Similarly, the product  $V_2^{-1}B'V_1$  is a matrix of type  $q \times n$ . If we put  $A = U_1A'U_2^{-1}$ , and  $B = V_2^{-1}B'V_1$ , we have

$$X = AYB$$

therefore  $X \in SYS$ , and hence  $X \in (Y)_F$ . Lemma 2 is proved.

Now, we shall show that S does not contain maximal  $\mathcal{F}$ -classes and therefore S cannot have a two-sided base.

Let A be an arbitrary element of S. According to Lemma 2 there exists an element B of S such that  $(A)_F \subset (B)_F$  and  $(A)_F \neq (B)_F$ . (For B we can choose an arbitrary matrix whose rank is greater than the rank of the matrix A). Hence S cannot contain maximal  $\mathcal{F}$ -classes and therefore S does not contain a two-sided base.

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Katedra matematiky Chemickotechnologickej fakulty SVŠT Gorkého 5 880 37 Bratislava

### О БАЗИСАХ И МАКСИМАЛЬНЫХ ИДЕАЛАХ В ПОЛУГРУППАХ

Имрих Фабрици-Тибор Мацко

#### Резюме

В первой части работы доказаны утверждения, касающиеся соотношения между базисами полугрупп и максимальными идеалами полугрупп.

Во второй части показано, что из существования одностороннего базиса не вытекает существование двустороннего базиса.