

# Variants of semigroups - the case study of finite full transformation monoids

Igor Dolinka

[dockie@dmi.uns.ac.rs](mailto:dockie@dmi.uns.ac.rs)

Department of Mathematics and Informatics, University of Novi Sad

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# Prime suspects



Mr. Shady Corleone



Violet Moon  
(special undercover agent)

## Now seriously... co-authors



I.D.



James East  
*(U. of Western Sydney)*

## Variants of semigroups

Let  $(S, \cdot)$  be a semigroup and  $a \in S$ . Given these, one can easily define an alternative product  $\star_a$  on  $S$ , namely

$$x \star_a y = xay.$$

This is the **variant**  $S^a = (S, \star_a)$  of  $S$  with respect to  $a$ .

First mention of variants (as far as we know): [Lyapin's book from 1960](#) (in Russian).

[Magill \(1967\)](#): Semigroups of functions  $X \rightarrow Y$  under an operation defined by

$$f \cdot g = f \circ \theta \circ g,$$

where  $\theta$  is a fixed function  $Y \rightarrow X$ . For  $Y = X$ , this is exactly a variant of  $\mathcal{T}_X$ .

## History of variants – continued

Hickey (1980s): Variants of general semigroups → a new characterisation of Nambooripad's order on regular semigroups

Khan & Lawson (2001): Variants of regular semigroups (natural relation to Rees matrix semigroups). In fact, they obtain a natural generalisation of the notion of group of units for non-monoidal regular semigroups.

G. Y. Tsyaputa (2004/5): variants of finite full transformation semigroups  $\mathcal{T}_n$

- ▶ classification of non-isomorphic variants
- ▶ idempotents, Green's relations
- ▶ analogous questions for  $\mathcal{PT}_n$

A more accessible account of her results may be found in the monograph of Ganyushkin & Mazorchuk *Classical Finite Transformation Semigroups* (Springer, 2009).

## Several examples

For a group  $G$  and  $a \in G$ , we always have  $G^a \cong G$  via  $x \mapsto xa$ .  
The identity element in  $G^a$  is  $a^{-1}$ .

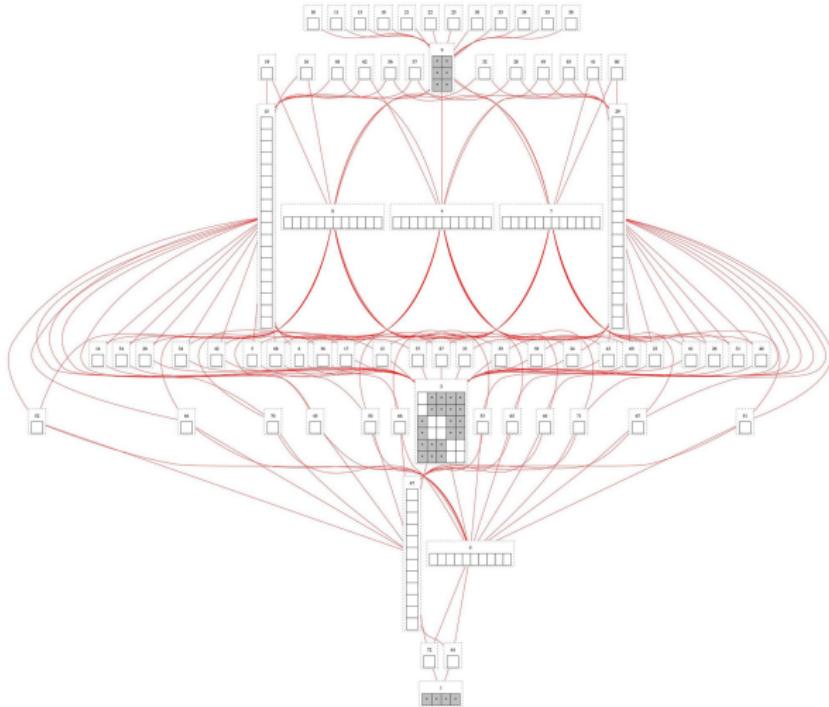
On the other hand, if  $S$  the bicyclic monoid, then  $a, b \in S$ ,  $a \neq b$  implies  $S^a \not\cong S^b$ .

If  $S$  is a monoid,  $a, u, v \in S$ , and  $u, v$  are units, then  $S^{uav} \cong S^a$  via  $x \mapsto vxu$ .

Thus, for any  $a \in \mathcal{T}_X$  there exists  $e \in E(\mathcal{T}_X)$  such that  $\mathcal{T}_X^a \cong \mathcal{T}_X^e$ .

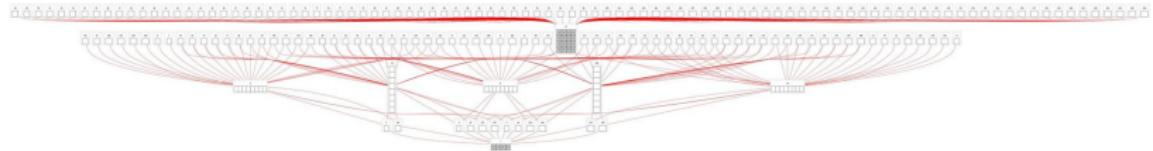
**A WORD OF CAUTION:** If  $S$  is a regular semigroup,  $S^a$  is not regular in general! However, for regular  $S$  and arbitrary  $a \in S$ ,  $\text{Reg}(S^a)$  is always a subsemigroup of  $S^a$  (Khan & Lawson).

# A word of caution, you said...?

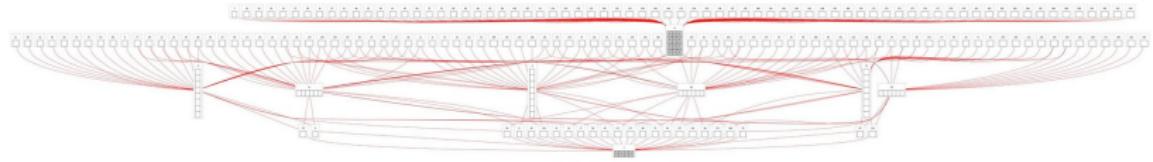


Egg-box picture of  $\mathcal{T}_4^a$  for  $a = [1, 2, 3, 3]$

# A word of caution, you said...?



Egg-box picture of  $\mathcal{T}_4^a$  for  $a = [1, 1, 3, 3]$



Egg-box picture of  $\mathcal{T}_4^a$  for  $a = [1, 1, 1, 4]$

## Three important sets

$$P_1 = \{x \in S : xa \not\sim x\}, \quad P_2 = \{x \in S : ax \not\sim x\},$$

$$P = P_1 \cap P_2$$

Easy facts:

- ▶  $y \in P_1 \Leftrightarrow L_y \subseteq P_1,$
- ▶  $y \in P_2 \Leftrightarrow R_y \subseteq P_2,$
- ▶  $\text{Reg}(S^a) \subseteq P$

## Green's relations: $\mathcal{R}^a, \mathcal{L}^a, \mathcal{H}^a, \mathcal{D}^a$

$$R_x^a = \begin{cases} R_x \cap P_1 & \text{if } x \in P_1 \\ \{x\} & \text{if } x \in S \setminus P_1, \end{cases}$$

$$L_x^a = \begin{cases} L_x \cap P_2 & \text{if } x \in P_2 \\ \{x\} & \text{if } x \in S \setminus P_2, \end{cases}$$

$$H_x^a = \begin{cases} H_x & \text{if } x \in P \\ \{x\} & \text{if } x \in S \setminus P, \end{cases}$$

$$D_x^a = \begin{cases} D_x \cap P & \text{if } x \in P \\ L_x^a & \text{if } x \in P_2 \setminus P_1 \\ R_x^a & \text{if } x \in P_1 \setminus P_2 \\ \{x\} & \text{if } x \in S \setminus (P_1 \cup P_2). \end{cases}$$

## Group $\mathcal{H}$ -classes vs group $\mathcal{H}^a$ -classes (in $P$ )

Let  $S = \mathcal{T}_4$  and  $a = [1, 2, 3, 3]$ .

$x$	Is $H_x$ a group $\mathcal{H}$ -class of $\mathcal{T}_4$ ?	Is $H_x$ a group $\mathcal{H}^a$ -class of $\mathcal{T}_4^a$ ?
[1, 1, 3, 3]	Yes	Yes
[4, 2, 2, 4]	Yes	No
[2, 4, 2, 4]	No	Yes
[1, 3, 1, 3]	No	No

## Our goal for today...

...is to conduct a thorough algebraic and combinatorial analysis of  $\mathcal{T}_X^a$  where  $|X| = n$  and  $a$  is a fixed transformation on  $X$ .

As we noted, we may assume that  $a$  is **idempotent** with  $r = \text{rank}(a) < n$ ,

$$a = \begin{pmatrix} A_1 & \cdots & A_r \\ a_1 & \cdots & a_r \end{pmatrix},$$

so that  $a_i \in A_i$  for all  $i \in [1, r]$ .

Here  $A = \text{im}(a) = \{a_1, \dots, a_r\}$  and  $\alpha = \ker(a) = (A_1 | \cdots | A_r)$ , with  $\lambda_i = |A_i|$ . Furthermore, for  $I = \{i_1, \dots, i_m\} \subseteq [1, r]$  we write  $\Lambda_I = \lambda_{i_1} \cdots \lambda_{i_m}$  and  $\Lambda = \lambda_1 \cdots \lambda_r$ .

$P_1, P_2, P$  in  $\mathcal{T}_X^a$

Let  $B \subseteq X$  and let  $\beta$  be an equivalence relation on  $X$ . We say that  $B$  **saturates**  $\beta$  if each  $\beta$ -class contains at least one element of  $B$ . Also, we say that  $\beta$  **separates**  $B$  if each  $\beta$ -class contains at most one element of  $B$ .

$$\begin{aligned}P_1 &= \{f \in \mathcal{T}_X : \text{rank}(fa) = \text{rank}(f)\} \\&= \{f \in \mathcal{T}_X : \alpha \text{ separates } \text{im}(f)\}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}P_2 &= \{f \in \mathcal{T}_X : \text{rank}(af) = \text{rank}(f)\} \\&= \{f \in \mathcal{T}_X : A \text{ saturates } \ker(f)\}\end{aligned}$$

$$P = \{f \in \mathcal{T}_X : \text{rank}(afa) = \text{rank}(f)\} = \text{Reg}(\mathcal{T}_X^a) \leq \mathcal{T}_X^a$$

## Green's relations in $\mathcal{T}_X^a$ (Tsyaputa, 2004)

$$R_f^a = \begin{cases} R_f \cap P_1 & \text{if } f \in P_1 \\ \{f\} & \text{if } f \in \mathcal{T}_X \setminus P_1, \end{cases}$$

$$L_f^a = \begin{cases} L_f \cap P_2 & \text{if } f \in P_2 \\ \{f\} & \text{if } f \in \mathcal{T}_X \setminus P_2, \end{cases}$$

$$H_f^a = \begin{cases} H_f & \text{if } f \in P \\ \{f\} & \text{if } f \in \mathcal{T}_X \setminus P, \end{cases}$$

$$D_f^a = \begin{cases} D_f \cap P & \text{if } f \in P \\ L_f^a & \text{if } f \in P_2 \setminus P_1 \\ R_f^a & \text{if } f \in P_1 \setminus P_2 \\ \{f\} & \text{if } f \in \mathcal{T}_X \setminus (P_1 \cup P_2). \end{cases}$$

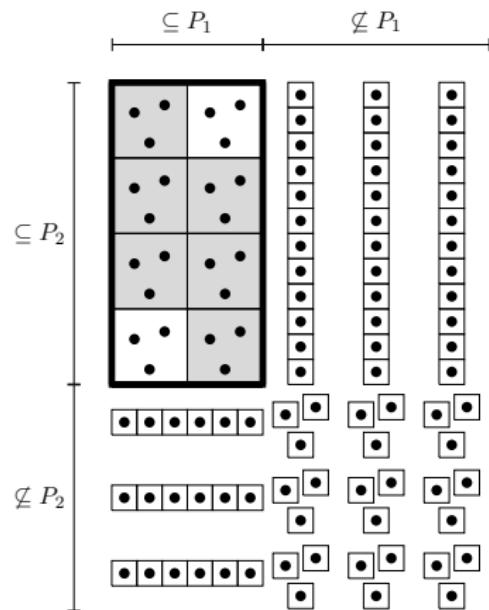
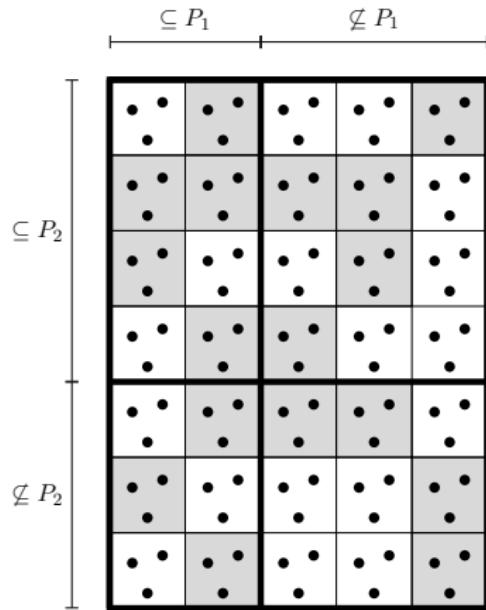
## 'High-energy semigroup theory'

- ▶ Recall that in  $\mathcal{T}_X$ , the  $\mathcal{D}$ -classes form a chain:

$$D_n > D_{n-1} > \cdots > D_2 > D_1.$$

- ▶ Each of the  $\mathcal{D}$ -classes  $D_{r+1}, \dots, D_n$  is completely ‘shattered’ into singleton ‘shrapnels’ /  $\mathcal{D}^a$ -classes in  $\mathcal{T}_X^a$ .
- ▶ Since all constant maps trivially belong to  $P$ ,  $D_1$  is preserved, and remains a right zero band.
- ▶ For  $2 \leq m \leq r$ , the class  $D_r$  separates into a single regular chunk  $D_r \cap P$  and a number of non-regular pieces, as seen on the following picture...

# 'High-energy semigroup theory'



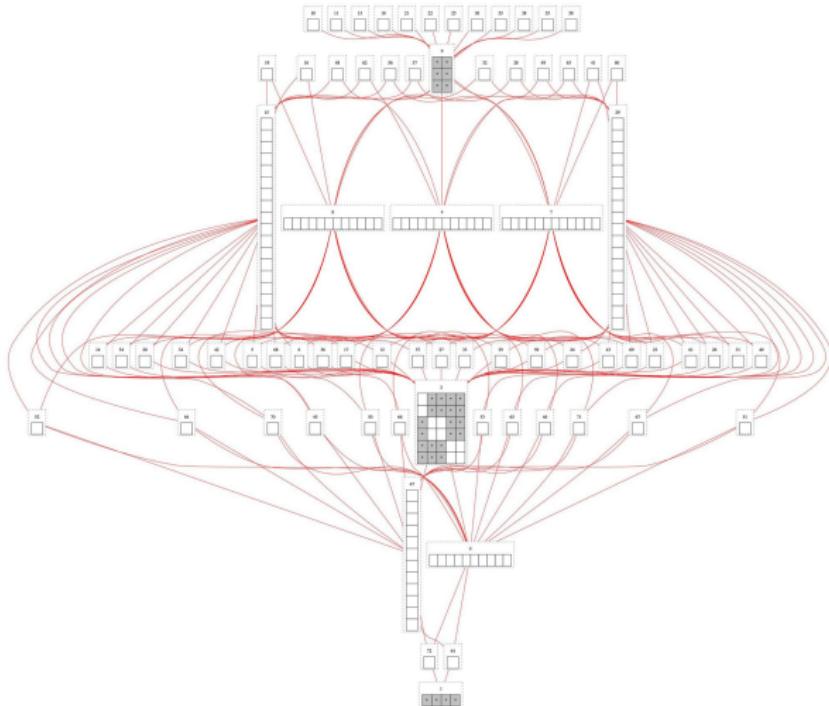
## Order of the $\mathcal{D}^a$ -classes

Let  $f, g \in \mathcal{T}_X$ . Then  $D_f^a \leq D_g^a$  in  $\mathcal{T}_X^a$  if and only if one of the following holds:

- ▶  $f = g$ ,
- ▶  $\text{rank}(f) \leq \text{rank}(aga)$ ,
- ▶  $\text{im}(f) \subseteq \text{im}(ag)$ ,
- ▶  $\ker(f) \supseteq \ker(ga)$ .

The maximal  $\mathcal{D}^a$ -classes are those of the form  $D_f^a = \{f\}$  where  $\text{rank}(f) > r$ .

# Order of the $\mathcal{D}^a$ -classes



## The rank of $\mathcal{T}_X^a$

Let  $M = \{f \in \mathcal{T}_X : \text{rank}(f) > r\}$ .

Then  $\mathcal{T}_X^a = \langle M \rangle$ ; furthermore, any generating set for  $\mathcal{T}_X^a$  contains  $M$ .

Consequently,  $M$  is the unique minimal (with respect to containment or size) generating set of  $\mathcal{T}_X^a$ , and

$$\text{rank}(\mathcal{T}_X^a) = |M| = \sum_{m=r+1}^n S(n, m) \binom{n}{m} m!,$$

where  $S(n, m)$  denotes the Stirling number of the second kind.

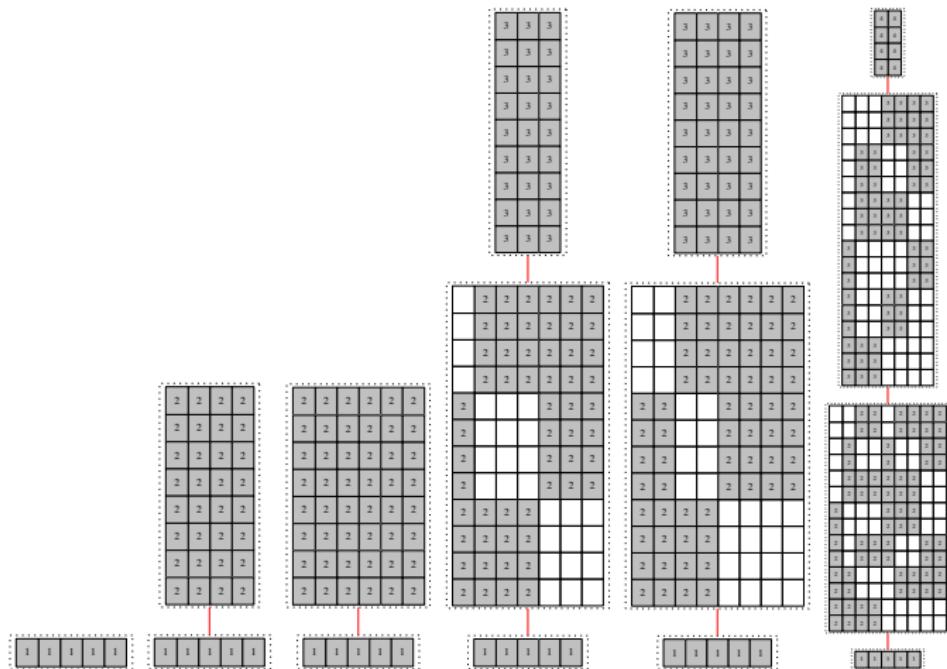
## 'Positioning' with respect to the regular classes

- ▶ If  $f \in P$ , then  $D_f^a \leq D_g^a$  if and only if  $\text{rank}(f) \leq \text{rank}(aga)$ .
- ▶ If  $g \in P$ , then  $D_f^a \leq D_g^a$  if and only if  $\text{rank}(f) \leq \text{rank}(g)$ .

Consequences:

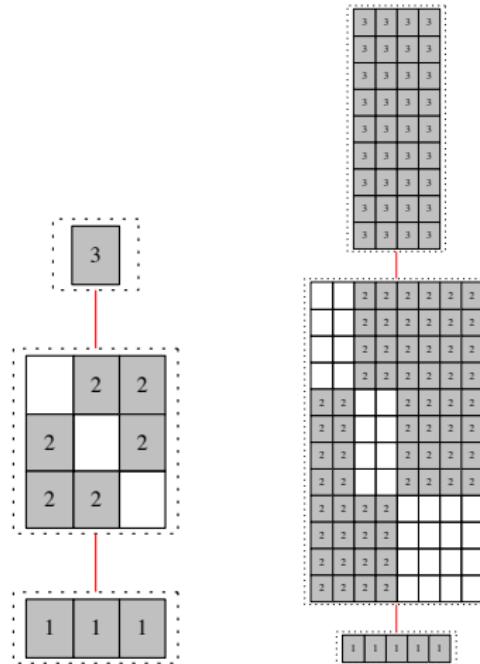
- ▶ The regular  $\mathcal{D}^a$ -classes of  $\mathcal{T}_X^a$  form a chain:  $D_1^a < \dots < D_r^a$  (where  $D_m^a = \{f \in P : \text{rank}(f) = m\}$  for  $m \in [1, r]$ ).
- ▶ 'Co-ordinatisation' of the non-regular, 'fragmented'  $\mathcal{D}^a$ -classes: if  $\text{rank}(f) = m \leq r$  and  $\text{rank}(afa) = p < m$ , then  $D_f^a$  sits below  $D_m^a$  and above  $D_p^a$ .
- ▶ The 'crown': A maximal  $\mathcal{D}^a$ -class  $D_f^a = \{f\}$  sits above  $D_r^a$  if and only if  $\text{rank}(afa) = r$ . The number of such  $\mathcal{D}^a$ -classes is equal to  $(n^{n-r} - r^{n-r})r!\Lambda$ .

# $\text{Reg}(\mathcal{T}_X^a)$ – examples



Egg-box diagrams of the regular subsemigroups  $P = \text{Reg}(\mathcal{T}_X^a)$  in the cases  
 (from left to right):  $a = [1, 1, 1, 1, 1]$ ,  $a = [1, 2, 2, 2, 2]$ ,  $a = [1, 1, 2, 2, 2]$ ,  
 $a = [1, 2, 3, 3, 3]$ ,  $a = [1, 2, 2, 3, 3]$ ,  $a = [1, 2, 3, 4, 4]$ .

Do you see what I am seeing???



Egg-box diagrams of  $\mathcal{T}_3$  (left) and  $\text{Reg}(\mathcal{T}_5^a)$  for  $a = [1, 2, 2, 3, 3]$  (right).

## No, this is not just a coincidence...!

$$\mathcal{T}(X, A) = \{f \in \mathcal{T}_X : \text{im}(f) \subseteq A\}$$

$$\mathcal{T}(X, \alpha) = \{f \in \mathcal{T}_X : \ker(f) \supseteq \alpha\}$$

- transformation semigroups with **restricted range** (Sanwong & Sommanee, 2008), and **restricted kernel** (Mendes-Gonçalves & Sullivan, 2010).

Fact:

$$\text{Reg}(\mathcal{T}(X, A)) = \mathcal{T}(X, A) \cap P_2$$

$$\text{Reg}(\mathcal{T}(X, \alpha)) = \mathcal{T}(X, \alpha) \cap P_1$$

## Structure Theorem – Part 1

$$\psi : f \mapsto (fa, af)$$

is a well-defined embedding of  $\text{Reg}(\mathcal{T}_X^a)$  into the direct product  $\text{Reg}(\mathcal{T}(X, A)) \times \text{Reg}(\mathcal{T}(X, \alpha))$ . Its image consists of all pairs  $(g, h)$  such that

$$\text{rank}(g) = \text{rank}(h) \quad \text{and} \quad g|_A = (ha)|_A.$$

Thus  $\text{Reg}(\mathcal{T}_X^a)$  is a subdirect product of  $\text{Reg}(\mathcal{T}_X^a)$  and  $\text{Reg}(\mathcal{T}(X, \alpha))$ .

## Structure Theorem – Part 2

The maps

$$\phi_1 : \text{Reg}(\mathcal{T}(X, A)) \rightarrow \mathcal{T}_A : g \mapsto g|_A$$

$$\phi_2 : \text{Reg}(\mathcal{T}(X, \alpha)) \rightarrow \mathcal{T}_A : g \mapsto (ga)|_A$$

are epimorphisms, and the following diagram commutes:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \text{Reg}(\mathcal{T}_X^a) & \\ \psi_1 \swarrow & & \searrow \psi_2 \\ \text{Reg}(\mathcal{T}(X, A)) & & \text{Reg}(\mathcal{T}(X, \alpha)) \\ \searrow & & \swarrow \\ & \mathcal{T}_A & \end{array}$$

Further, the induced map  $\phi = \psi_1\phi_1 = \psi_2\phi_2 = \text{Reg}(\mathcal{T}_X^a) \rightarrow \mathcal{T}_A$  is an epimorphism that is '**group / non-group preserving**'.

## Size and rank of $P = \text{Reg}(\mathcal{T}_X^a)$

$$|P| = \sum_{m=1}^r m! m^{n-r} S(r, m) \sum_{I \in \binom{[1,r]}{m}} \Lambda_I.$$

Let  $D$  be the top (rank- $r$ )  $\mathcal{D}^a$ -class of  $P$ .

$$\text{rank}(P) = \text{rank}(D) + \text{rank}(P : D) = r^{n-r} + 1$$

## The idempotent generated subsemigroup $\langle E_a(\mathcal{T}_X^a) \rangle_a$

- ▶  $E_a(\mathcal{T}_X^a) = \{f \in \mathcal{T}_X : (af)|_{\text{im}(f)} = \text{id}|_{\text{im}(f)}\}.$
- ▶  $|E_a(\mathcal{T}_X^a)| = \sum_{m=1}^r m^{n-m} \sum_{I \in \binom{[1,r]}{m}} \Lambda_I.$
- ▶ We obtain a pleasing generalisation of celebrated Howie's Theorem:

$$\mathcal{E}_X^a = \langle E_a(\mathcal{T}_X^a) \rangle_a = E_a(D) \cup (P \setminus D).$$

## The idempotent generated subsemigroup $\langle E_a(\mathcal{T}_X^a) \rangle_a$



$$\text{rank}(\mathcal{E}_X^a) = \text{idrank}(\mathcal{E}_X^a) = r^{n-r} + \rho_r,$$

where  $\rho_2 = 2$  and  $\rho_r = \binom{r}{2}$  if  $r \geq 3$ .

- ▶ The number of idempotent generating sets of  $\mathcal{E}_X^a$  of the minimal possible size is

$$[(r-1)^{n-r}\Lambda]^{\rho_r}\Lambda!S(r^{n-r},\Lambda)\sum_{\Gamma \in \mathbb{T}_r}\frac{1}{\lambda_1^{d_\Gamma^+(1)}\dots\lambda_r^{d_\Gamma^+(r)}}.$$

where  $\mathbb{T}_r$  is the set of all strongly connected tournaments on  $r$  vertices.

## The ideals of $P$

- ▶ The ideals of  $P$  are precisely

$$I_m^a = \{f \in P : \text{rank}(f) \leq m\}$$

for  $m \in [1, r]$ .

- ▶ They are all idempotent generated (by  $E_a(D_m^a)$ ) except  $P = I_r^a$  itself.
- ▶

$$\text{rank}(I_m^a) = \text{idrank}(I_m^a) = \begin{cases} m^{n-r} S(r, m) & \text{if } 1 < m < r \\ n & \text{if } m = 1. \end{cases}$$

## Future work

- ▶ Conduct an analogous study for variants of:
  - ▶ full linear (matrix) monoids
  - ▶ symmetric inverse semigroups
  - ▶ various diagram semigroups (partition, (partial) Brauer, (partial) Jones, wire, Kaufmann, . . . )
  - ▶ ...
- ▶ Consider an ‘Ehresmann-style’ defined small (semi)category (aka partial monoid / semigroup)  $S$ . One can turn each hom-set  $S_{ij}$  ( $i$  - domain,  $j$  - codomain) into a semigroup by fixing a ‘sandwich’ element  $a \in S_{ji}$  and defining

$$x \star y = x \circ a \circ y.$$

These **sandwich semigroups** generalise the variants.

- ▶ applicable to functions, matrices, diagrams, . . .

# THANK YOU!

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Questions and comments to:

**dockie@dmi.uns.ac.rs**

Further information may be found at:

**<http://people.dmi.uns.ac.rs/~dockie>**