

A decorative graphic in the top-left corner consisting of a grid of colored squares. The squares are arranged in a pattern that tapers to the right. The colors include light purple, medium purple, light blue, and a dark teal/green. The word "Semigroups" is written in white on a dark teal/green rectangular background that extends from the right side of the square pattern.

# Semigroups

Lecture 12

Discrete Mathematical  
Structures



# Semigroups

- Part I: Semigroup and Monoid
  - Binary operations and their properties
  - Semigroup and monoid
  - Isomorphism and homomorphism
- Part II: Fundamental Homomorphism Theorem
  - Congruence relation
  - Quotient semigroup
  - Natural homomorphism
  - Fundamental homomorphism theorem for semigroup

# Binary Operation

- Function  $f:A^n \rightarrow B$  is called an  $n$ -nary operation from  $A$  to  $B$ .

- Binary operation:  $f:A \times A \rightarrow B$

- An example: a new operation “\*” defined on the set of real number, using common arithmetic operations:

$$x*y = x+y-ab$$

Note:  $2*3 = -1$ ;  $0.5*0.7 = 0.85$

- An operation is a function, so the following are not operations:

- Let  $A=R$ , define \* on  $A$ :  $a*b$  as  $a/b$

- Let  $A=Z$ , define \* on  $A$ :  $a*b$  as a number less than  $a,b$

# Closedness of Operations

- For any operation  $f:A^n \rightarrow B$ , if  $B \subseteq A$ , then it is said that  $A$  is closed with respect to  $f$ . Or, we say that  $f$  is closed on  $A$ .  
(What does the operation table of a closed operation look like?)
- Example:
  - Set  $A = \{1, 2, 3, \dots, 10\}$ ,  $\text{gcd}$  is closed, but  $\text{lcm}$  is not.
  - Discuss the closeness of common addition on the following set:
    - $\{n \mid \text{there exists a positive integer } k, \text{ such that } 16 \mid n^k\}$
    - $\{n \mid 9 \text{ divides } 21n\}$
- Assuming  $A \subset B$ , if  $A$  is closed with respect to  $*$ , what about  $B$ ? And if  $B$  is closed with respect to  $*$ , what about  $A$ ?

# Algebraic System

## ■ Definition:

- A nonempty set  $S$  (no limitation about its elements)
- One or more operations (binary operations in most cases)
- $S$  is closed with respect to these operations

## ■ Denotation: $(S, \quad)$

## ■ Example:

- $(\mathbb{Z}, +)$ , here,  $\mathbb{Z}$  is the set of integers and  $+$  is arithmetic addition

# Operation Table

- Operation table can be used to define unary or binary operations on a finite set (usually only with several elements)

*	a	b	c	d
a	1	®	*	M
b	&	6	K	M
c	7	6	Q	0
d	G	#	~	◻

# Properties of Binary Operations

## ■ Associativity

□ Operation “ $\circ$ ” defined on the set  $A$  is associative if and only if:

$$\text{For any } x, y, z \in A, (x \circ y) \circ z = x \circ (y \circ z)$$

## ■ Commutativity

□ Operation “ $\circ$ ” defined on the set  $A$  is commutative if and only if:

$$\text{For any } x, y \in A, x \circ y = y \circ x$$

## ■ Idempotence

□ Operation “ $\circ$ ” defined on the set  $A$  is idempotent if and only if:

$$\text{For any } x \in A, x \circ x = x$$

# Identity of an Algebraic System

- For arithmetic multiplication on the set of real number, there is a specific real number 1, satisfying that for any real number  $x$ ,  $1 \cdot x = x \cdot 1 = x$
- An element  $e$  is called the identity element of an algebraic system  $(S, \quad)$  if and only if :  
For any  $x \in S$ ,  $e \cdot x = x$  and  $x \cdot e = x$ .
- Denotation:  $1_S$ , or simply 1, but remember that it is not *that* “1”.
- It is not that every algebraic system has its identity element.



# An Example about Coding

- Given an alphabet  $A=\{0,1\}$ ,  $A^*$  is the set of string of length  $n$  on  $A$ .
- Define a binary operation  $\oplus$  on  $A^*$  as follows:
  - For any  $x,y \in A^*$ ,  $x \oplus y$  is a binary string of length  $n$ , in which, the  $i$ th bit is 1 if and only if the corresponding bits in  $x$  and  $y$  are different.  
( $i=0,1,\dots,n-1$ )
- $(A^*, \oplus)$  is an algebraic system
- Satisfied properties: association, commutation, identity

# A System with Specified Properties

- Let  $(A,*)$  is a system satisfying idempotent, commutative and associative properties. Define a relation  $\leq$  on  $A$  by  $a \leq b$  iff.  $a = a*b$ . Then  $(A, \leq)$  is a poset, and for all  $a, b$  in  $A$ ,  $\text{GLB}(a, b) = a*b$
- Proof
  - Reflexivity: since  $a*a = a$ , so,  $a \leq a$  for all  $a$  in  $A$
  - Antisymmetry: if  $a \leq b$ ,  $b \leq a$ , then  $a = a*b$ , and  $b = b*a$ , but  $a*b = b*a$ , so,  $a = b$
  - Transitivity: if  $a \leq b$ ,  $b \leq c$ , then  $a = a*b$ ,  $b = b*c$ , so,  $a = a*(b*c) = (a*b)*c = a*c$ , so,  $a \leq c$
  - GLB:
    - $a*b$  is a lower bound of  $\{a, b\}$ :  $(a*b) = (a*a)*b = (a*b)*a$ , and similarly,  $(a*b) = a*(b*b) = (a*b)*b$
    - $a*b$  is GLB: if  $c \leq a$ , and  $c \leq b$ , then  $c = c*a$  and  $c = c*b$ , so,  $c = (c*a)*b = c*(a*b)$



# Axiomatic System

- Abstract system: too general
- Concrete system: too many
- Abstract algebra as a branch of modern mathematics: axiomatic system
  - Axioms of the system: usually, one or more of the properties discussed above

# Semigroup

- Axiom of semigroup

- Association

- An example  $(\{1,2\},*)$  is a semigroup, where  $*$  defined as:

For any  $x,y \in \{1,2\}$ ,  $x*y=y$

- Proof: it should be proved that for any  $x,y,z$  in  $\{1,2\}$ ,  
 $(x*y)*z = x*(y*z)$

Note: if checking by operation table, we have to check as many as 8 equations.

# Generalized Associative Law

- If  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$ ,  $n \geq 3$ , are arbitrary elements of a semigroup, then all products of the elements  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$  that can be formed by inserting meaningful parentheses arbitrarily are equal.

Proof by induction: Let  $\prod_{i=1}^n a_i = (((\dots((a_1 * a_2) * a_3) \dots * a_{n-1})) * a_n$

For any insertion of parentheses, let the last step is  $u * v$

By inductive hypothesis:  $u = \prod_{i=1}^m a_i$ ,  $v = \prod_{j=1}^{n-m} a_{m+j}$  ( $m < n$ )

$$u * v = \prod_{i=1}^m a_i * \prod_{j=1}^{n-m} a_{m+j} = \left( \prod_{i=1}^m a_i \right) * \left( \prod_{j=1}^{n-m} a_{m+j} * a_n \right) = \left( \prod_{i=1}^{n-1} a_i \right) * a_n = \prod_{i=1}^n a_i$$

# Power

- If operation “ ” is associative, then we can define the exponential function as follows:

$$x^1 = x$$

$$x^{n+1} = x^n \quad x \text{ (n is positive integer)}$$

- In addition, if “ ” has the identity, then:

$$x^0 = e \quad (e \text{ is the identity})$$

$$x^{n+1} = x^n \quad x \text{ (n is nonnegative integer)}$$

- Properties

- $x^n \cdot x^m = x^{n+m}$

- $(x^n)^m = x^{nm}$

# Several Examples of Semigroup

- Example 1:  $(A, *)$  is a semigroup satisfying that for any  $a, b$ , if  $a \neq b$ , then  $a * b \neq b * a$ , ( $a * b = b * a$  implies  $a = b$ ) show:

- (1)  $a * a = a$

Note:  $(a * a) * a = a * (a * a)$

- (2)  $a * b * a = a$

Note:  $(a * b * a) * a = a * (a * b * a)$

- (3)  $a * b * c = a * c$

Note:  $a * b * c = a * b * (c * a * c) = (a * b * c * a) * c = a * c$

# Several Examples of Semigroup

- Example 2:  $(A, *)$  is a semigroup. There exists an element  $a$  in  $A$ , such that, for any  $x$  in  $A$ , there exist  $u, v$ , such that  $a * u = v * a = x$ .

$$\exists a ( a \in A \wedge \forall x \left( x \in A \Rightarrow \exists u, v \left( \begin{array}{l} u \in A \wedge v \in A \wedge \\ (a * u = v * a = x) \end{array} \right) \right) )$$

Prove that  $A$  has an identity.

- Proof:
  - for  $a$  itself, there are also  $u_a, v_a$ , such that,  $a * u_a = a$ ;  $v_a * a = a$ .
  - For any  $x$ , exists  $u_x, v_x$  such that  $a * u_x = v_x * a = x$ 
    - $x * u_a = (v_x * a) * u_a = v_x * a = x$ , ( $u_a$  is a right identity).
    - $v_a * x = v_a * (a * u_x) = a * v_x = x$ , ( $v_a$  is also left identity).
  - $v_a * u_a = v_a = u_a$





# Monoid

- Axioms of the system

- Association

- Identity

- Examples

- $P(S)$ , where  $S$  is a set, together with the operation union or intersection are both commutative monoids

- The set of all functions  $f:S\rightarrow S$ , denoted as  $S^S$ , together with the operation of composition is a monoid

# Subsystems

## ■ Subsemigroup

- Let  $(S,*)$  be a semigroup and let  $T \subseteq S$ . If  $T$  is closed under the operation  $*$ , then  $(T,*)$ , which is obviously a semigroup itself, is called a subsemigroup of  $(S,*)$
- $(\mathbb{Z},+)$ ,  $(\mathbb{Q},+)$  are both subsemigroups of  $(\mathbb{R},+)$

## ■ Submonoid

- Let  $(S,*)$  be a monoid with identity  $e$ , and let  $T \subseteq S$ . If  $T$  is closed under the operation  $*$  and  $e \in T$ , then  $(T,*)$ , which is obviously a monoid itself, is called a submonoid of  $(S,*)$

# Examples of Subsystem

- An Example:

$$S = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & d \end{pmatrix} \middle| a, d \in R \right\} \quad T = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \middle| a \in R \right\}$$

- Let “\*” be matrix multiplication, then both  $(S, *)$  and  $(T, *)$  are both monoids.  $T$  is a subsemigroup of  $S$ , but it is not a submonoid(*why?*).

# Systems that look alike

- “Logical *or*” and “Boolean sum”

$\vee$	<b>F</b>	T
<b>F</b>	<b>F</b>	T
T	T	T

$+$	<b>0</b>	1
<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	1
1	1	1

- Note: if the signs and their meaning are ignored, the two tables are same

# Isomorphism

- Semigroup  $(S, \cdot)$  and  $(T, *)$  are isomorphic ( $S \cong T$ ) iff:  
There exist a one-to-one correspondence  $f: S \rightarrow T$ , such that:  
For any  $x, y \in S$ ,  $f(x \cdot y) = f(x) * f(y)$   
( $f$  is called an isomorphism)
- Isomorphism is an equivalence relation.
  - Reflexibility: the identity function is a one-to-one correspondence.
  - Symmetry: inverse of a one-to-one correspondence is also a one-to-one correspondence.
  - Transitivity: the composition of two one-to-one correspondence is also a one-to-one correspondence.

# Show Isomorphism of Two Systems

- Basic approach: find a one-to-to correspondence and check it for the requirements for the isomorphism
- Examples
  - “logical *OR*” semigroup  $(\{F,T\}, \vee)$  and Boolean sum semigroup  $(\{0,1\}, +)$   
isomorphism  $f: \{F,T\} \rightarrow \{0,1\}: f(F)=0, f(T)=1$
  - Positive real number multiplication semigroup  $(\mathbb{R}^+, \cdot)$  and real number addition semigroup  $(\mathbb{R}, +)$   
isomorphism  $f: \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}: f(x)=\ln x$   
Note:  $f(x)=\lg x$  is another isomorphism

# How to Negate isomorphism

- To prove semigroups  $(S, \quad)$  and  $(T, *)$  are **not** isomorphic to each other, you must prove that **any** functions from  $(S, \quad)$  to  $(T, *)$  **cannot** be an isomorphism between them.
  - Example:
    - nonzero rational number multiplication semigroup  $(\mathbb{Q}-\{0\}, \cdot)$  and rational number addition semigroup  $(\mathbb{Q}, +)$  are not isomorphic to each other
- If there exists an isomorphism  $f: \mathbb{Q}-\{0\} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$ ,  
then  $f(1)=0$  (otherwise,  $f(1 \cdot x) \neq f(1) + f(x)$ )  
However,  $f(-1)+f(-1)=f((-1) \cdot (-1))=f(1)=0$   
So,  $f(-1)=f(1)$ ,  $f$  is not one-to-one, contradiction.

# Homomorphism

- Semigroup  $(S, \cdot)$  and  $(T, *)$  are homomorphic, denoted as  $(S \sim T)$  if and only if:

There exists a **function**  $f: S \rightarrow T$  such that:

$$\text{for any } x, y \in S, f(x \cdot y) = f(x) * f(y)$$

- If  $f$  is also onto, then  $T$  is a homomorphic image of  $G_1$ .
- Note: isomorphism is a special case of homomorphism
- Example: integer addition semigroup  $(\mathbb{Z}, +)$  and mod-3 addition semigroup  $(\mathbb{Z}_3, +_3)$ 
  - homomorphism:  $f: \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_3, f(3k+r)=r$



# Isomorphism and Homomorphism: Generalized

- The discussion about isomorphism and homomorphism can be generalized to general algebraic systems
  - *Algebraic systems*  $(G_1, \quad)$  and  $(G_2, *)$  are isomorphic if and only if:
    - there exists a one-to-one correspondence  $f: G_1 \rightarrow G_2$ , such that:  
for any  $x, y \in G_1$ ,  $f(xy) = f(x) * f(y)$
  - *Algebraic systems*  $(G_1, \quad)$  and  $(G_2, *)$  homomorphic if and only if:
    - there exists a function  $f: G_1 \rightarrow G_2$ , such that:  
for any  $x, y \in G_1$ ,  $f(xy) = f(x) * f(y)$
    - And if  $f$  is onto, then  $G_2$  is a homomorphic image of  $G_1$ .

# Homomorphic Image and System Properties

## ■ Association

- Assuming that  $f: G_1 \rightarrow G_2$  is a homomorphism, and  $G_2$  is a homomorphic image of  $G_1$ , then, if  $G_1$  is associative, so is  $G_2$ , i.e. for any  $x, y, z \in G_2, (x \cdot y) \cdot z = x \cdot (y \cdot z)$

## ■ Proof:

- for any  $x', y', z' \in G_2$ , since  $f$  is onto, there must be  $x, y, z \in G_1$ , such that  $f(x) = x', f(y) = y', f(z) = z'$ . So,  $(x' * y') * z' = (f(x) * f(y)) * f(z) = f(x \cdot y) * f(z) = f((x \cdot y) \cdot z) = f(x \cdot (y \cdot z)) = f(x) * (f(y) * f(z)) = x' * (y' * z')$

## ■ Same discussion applies for commutation.

# Homomorphic Image and System Properties

## ■ Identity

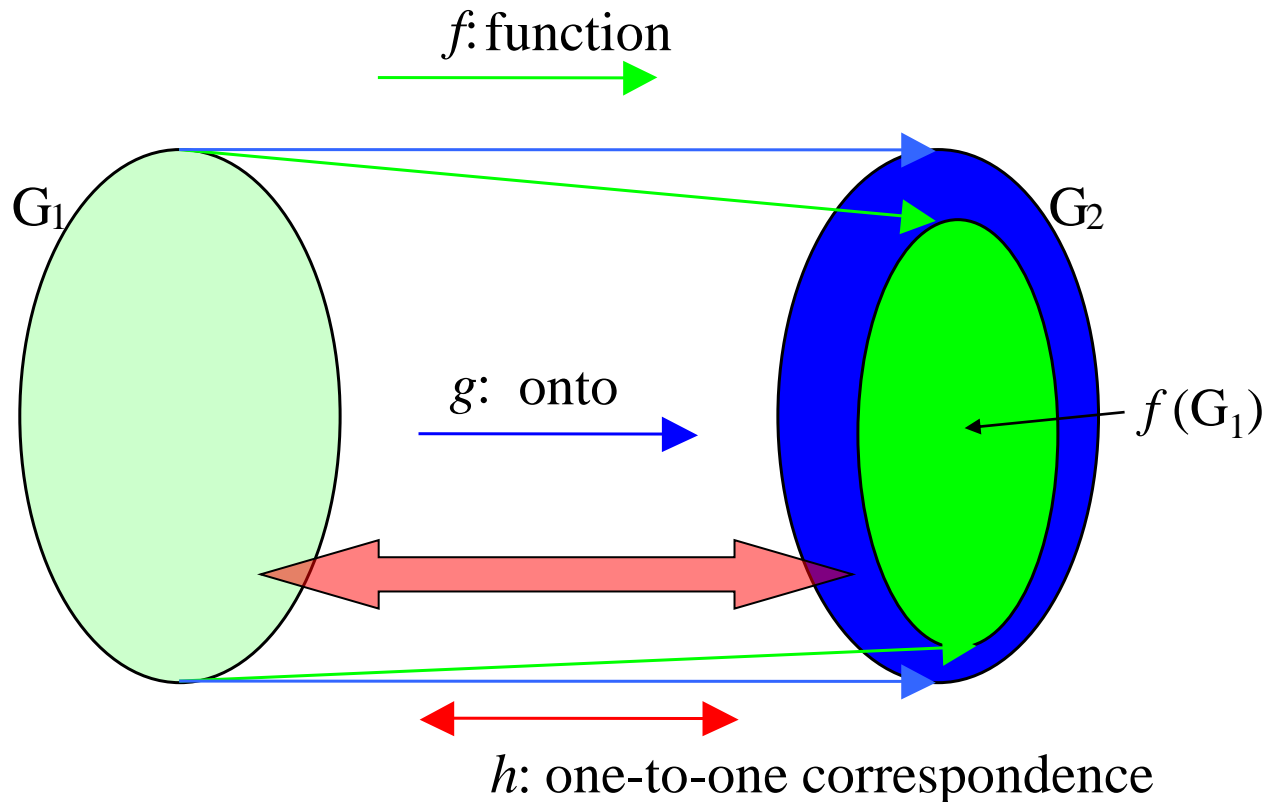
- Assuming that  $f: G_1 \rightarrow G_2$  is a homomorphism, and  $G_2$  is a homomorphic image of  $G_1$ , then, if  $G_1$  has an identity  $e$ , so does  $G_2$ , i.e. there exists  $e'$  in  $G_2$ , such that for any  $x \in G_2$ ,  
 $(x * e) = (e * x) = x$

## ■ Proof

- for any  $x' \in G_2$ , since  $f$  is onto, there must be  $x \in G_1$ , such that  $f(x) = x'$ . Let  $f(e) = e'$ , then,  $(x' * f(e)) = (f(x) * f(e)) = f(x * e) = f(x) = x'$ .  $(f(e) * x) = x$  can be proved similarly.

Note that  $f(e)$  is in  $G_2$ , so, it is the identity of  $G_2$ .

# Holding the System Properties



# Homomorphism and Subsystem

- Let  $f$  be a homomorphism from a semigroup  $(S, \cdot)$  to a semigroup  $(T, *)$ . If  $S'$  is a subsemigroup of  $(S, \cdot)$ , then

$$f(S') = \{t \in T \mid t = f(s) \text{ for some } s \in S'\}$$

the image of  $S'$  under  $f$ , is a subsemigroup of  $(T, *)$

- Proof
  - Closedness of  $f(S')$
  - Associativity hold on  $f(S')$

# Products of Semigroup

- If  $(S, \cdot)$  and  $(T, *)$  are semigroups, then  $(S \times T, \otimes)$  is also a semigroup, called **product of semigroups**  $(S, \cdot)$  and  $(T, *)$ , where  $\otimes$  is defined by  $(s_1, t_1) \otimes (s_2, t_2) = (s_1 \cdot s_2, t_1 * t_2)$
- Proof
  - Obviously,  $(S \times T, \otimes)$  is a algebraic system
  - [Associative]  $((s_1, t_1) \otimes (s_2, t_2)) \otimes (s_3, t_3) = ((s_1 \cdot s_2) \cdot s_3, (t_1 * t_2) * t_3)$   
 $= (s_1 \cdot (s_2 \cdot s_3), t_1 * (t_2 * t_3)) = (s_1, t_1) \otimes ((s_2, t_2) \otimes (s_3, t_3))$

# Products of Monoid

- If  $(S, \cdot)$  and  $(T, *)$  are monoids, with identities  $e_s$  and  $e_t$ , then  $(S \times T, \otimes)$  is also a monoid, called **product of monoids**  $(S, \cdot)$  and  $(T, *)$ , where  $\otimes$  is defined by  $(s_1, t_1) \otimes (s_2, t_2) = (s_1 \cdot s_2, t_1 * t_2)$ . And the identity of  $(S \times T, \otimes)$  is  $(e_s, e_t)$
- Proof
  - Obviously,  $(S \times T, \otimes)$  is a algebraic system
  - [Associative]  $((s_1, t_1) \otimes (s_2, t_2)) \otimes (s_3, t_3) = ((s_1 \cdot s_2) \cdot s_3, (t_1 * t_2) * t_3) = (s_1 \cdot (s_2 \cdot s_3), t_1 * (t_2 * t_3)) = (s_1, t_1) \otimes ((s_2, t_2) \otimes (s_3, t_3))$
  - [Identity] For any  $s \in S, t \in T$ ,  $(s, t) \otimes (e_s, e_t) = (s \cdot e_s, t * e_t) = (s, t)$ ; same with  $(e_s, e_t) \otimes (s, t)$

# Congruence

- An example: defining a relation on the set of integer as:  $a \equiv b \pmod{3}$  iff.  $|a-b|/3$  is an integer
  - It is an equivalence
  - equivalence class:  $\pi_1 = \{\dots -3, 0, 3, 6, 9, \dots\}$   
 $\pi_2 = \{\dots -2, 1, 4, 7, 10, \dots\}$   
 $\pi_3 = \{\dots -1, 2, 5, 8, 11, \dots\}$
- Note: if  $x_1, x_2$  are in the same class, and  $y_1, y_2$  in same class, then  $x_1 + y_1$  and  $x_2 + y_2$  are in the same class.
- Generalized: An **equivalence relation**  $R$  on the semigroup  $(S, *)$  is called a **congruence** relation if

$$aRa' \text{ and } bRb' \text{ imply } (a*b)R(a'*b')$$



# Congruence on a Free Semigroup

- Let  $A = \{0, 1\}$ .  $A^*$  is the set of all finite sequence of elements of  $A$ . Then,  $A^*$  with the operation catenation is a semigroup, called free semigroup generated by  $A$ .
- Define relation  $R$  on  $A^*$  as following:
$$\alpha R \beta \text{ iff. } \alpha \text{ and } \beta \text{ have the same number of 1's}$$
- $R$  is an equivalence
- $R$  is a congruence relation
  - Suppose  $\alpha_1$  and  $\alpha_2$  have the same number of 1's, and  $\beta_1$  and  $\beta_2$  have the same number of 1's. Note the number of the number of 1's in  $\alpha\beta$  is the sum of that in  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ , so,  $\alpha_1\beta_1$  and  $\alpha_2\beta_2$  have the same number of 1's

# All Equivalences are not Congruence

- $(\mathbb{Z}, +)$  is a semigroup, where “+” is common addition operation.
- Given a function  $f(x) = x^2 - x - 2 = (x+1)(x-2)$ , a relation on  $\mathbb{Z}$  is defined as following:

$$aRb \text{ if and only if } f(a) = f(b)$$

- $R$  is an equivalence
- $R$  is **not** a congruence relation
  - Note that  $(-1)R2$ , and,  $(-2)R3$ , but **not**  $(-3)R5$

# Quotient Semigroup

- Let  $R$  is a congruence relation on the semigroup  $(S, *)$ .  $S/R$  is the quotient set, i.e. the set of all equivalence classed.
- Define an operation  $\otimes$  from  $S/R \times S/R$  to  $S/R$  as  $[a] \otimes [b] = [a * b]$ . Note the operation is well-defined because  $R$  is a congruence relation.
  - Suppose  $([a], [b]) = ([a'], [b'])$ , then  $aRa', bRb'$ , by the definition of congruence relation,  $a * b = a' * b'$ , so  $\otimes$  is a well-defined function from  $S/R \times S/R$  to  $S/R$
- $(S/R, \otimes)$  is a semigroup, called **quotient semigroup**

# Natural Homomorphism

- Any semigroup and its corresponding quotient semigroup are onto homomorphic
- Let  $(S/R, \otimes)$  is the corresponding quotient semigroup of semigroup  $(S, *)$ , define a function  $f_R: S \rightarrow S/R$  as following:

$$f_R(a) = [a]$$

- By the definition of equivalence class,  $f_R$  is a well-defined onto function from  $S$  to  $S/R$ .
- For any  $a, b$  in  $S$ ,  $f_R(a * b) = [a * b] = [a] \otimes [b] = f_R(a) \otimes f_R(b)$ , which means  $f_R$  is a homomorphism.

# A Congruence Relation Determined by a Homomorphism

----->  $R$  defined on  $S$

It is easy to prove that  $R$  is an equivalence.

$R$  is a congruence relation:

$$f(a \odot b) = f(a) * f(b)$$

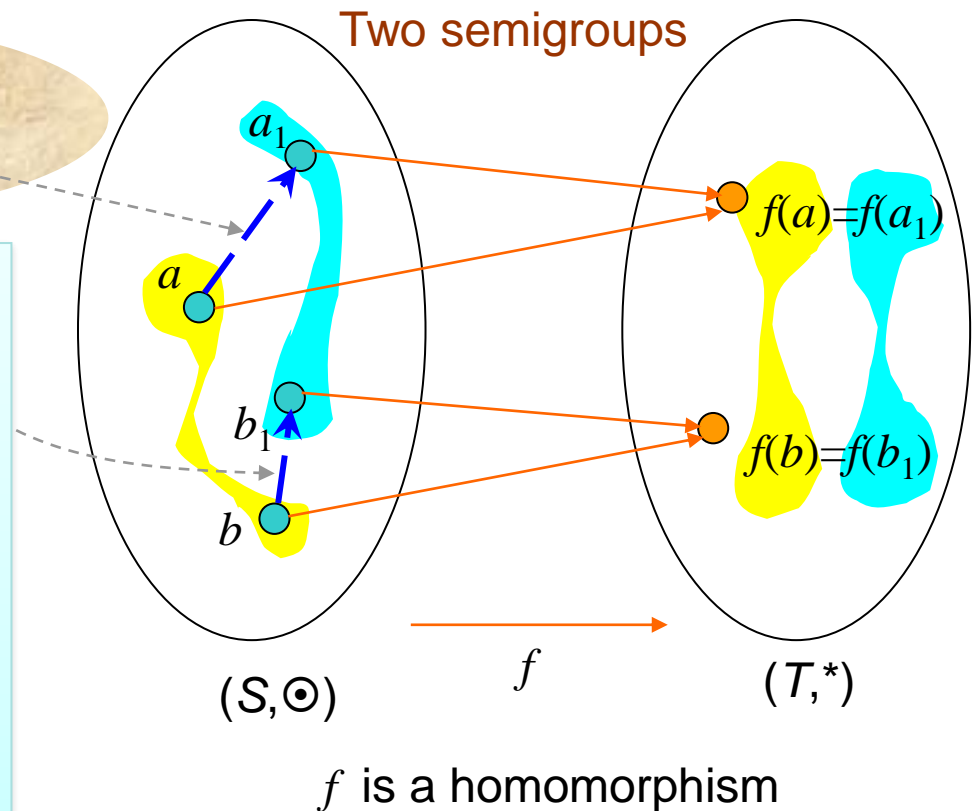
$$f(a_1 \odot b_1) = f(a_1) * f(b_1)$$

However:  $f(a) * f(b) = f(a_1) * f(b_1)$

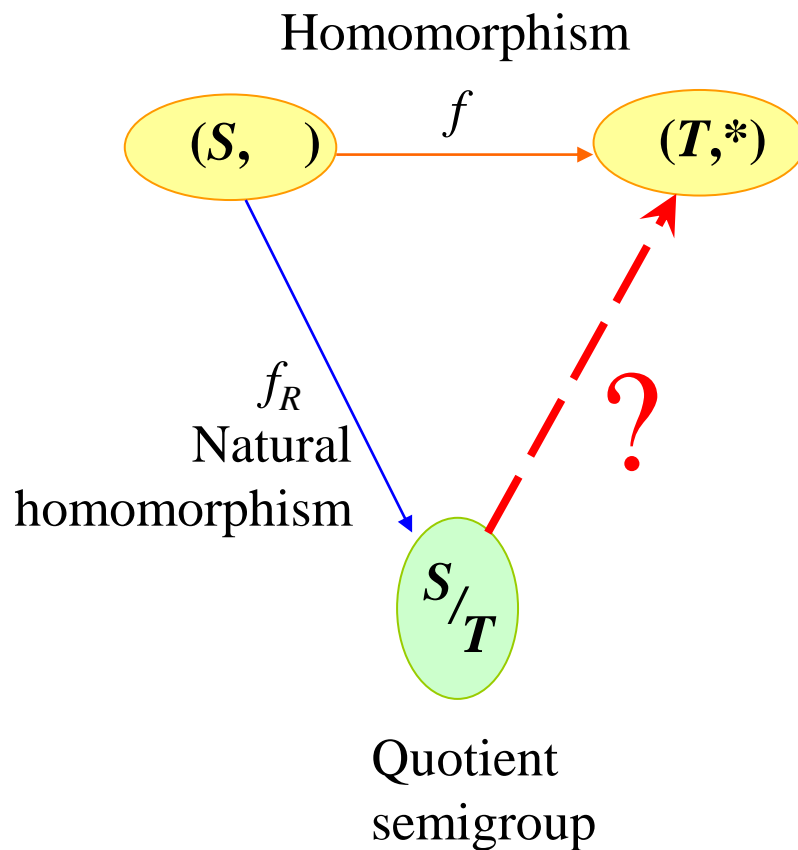
Which means:

$$f(a \odot b) = f(a_1 \odot b_1)$$

That is:  $(a \odot b) R (a_1 \odot b_1)$



# Fundamental Homomorphism Theorem



Define  $g: S/T \rightarrow T$  as following:

$g([a]) = f(a)$  for any  $[a] \in S/T$

- 1.  $g$  is a function:** that is for any other element  $a'$  in  $[a]$ ,  $g[a'] = f[a]$
- 2.  $g$  is one-to-one:** all element  $a$  having the same value of  $f(a)$  are in one equivalence class.
- 3.  $g$  is onto:** for any  $b \in T$ , there is some  $a \in S$ , such that  $f(a) = b$ , then  $g[a] = b$ .
- 4.  $g$  is an isomorphism:**  
 $g([a] \otimes [b]) = g([a \cdot b]) = f(a \cdot b) = f(a) * f(b) = g([a]) * g([b])$

# An Example of Free Semigroup

$f: A^* \rightarrow N: f(\alpha) = \text{the number of 1's in } \alpha$

**Define relation  $R$  on  $A^*$  as following:**

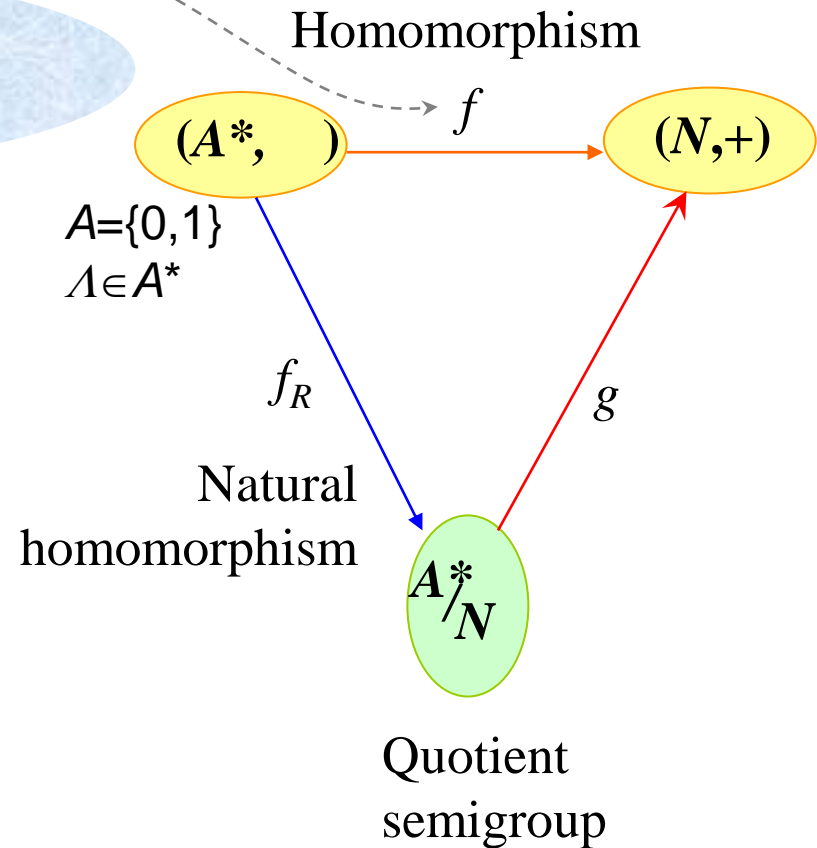
$\alpha R \beta$  iff.  $f(\alpha) = f(\beta)$

**Then, by the fundamental homomorphism theorem:**

$A^*/N \cong N,$

**and the isomorphism is:**

$g[\alpha] = \text{the number of 1's in } \alpha.$  and  $f = g \circ f_R$





# Home Assignments

- To be checked

- pp.348-: 5-8, 15-19, 20,22,25, 27-29, 32

- pp.354 -: 6,8,10,14,18,21,22,26-27, 31-32, 35-36

- pp.361 -: 2, 4, 8,10,14,16,18,23-24, 26, 28, 30