

## THE NATURAL PARTIAL ORDER ON THE ABEL-GRASSMANN'S GROUPOIDS

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**Abstract.** A left almost semigroup, or *LA*-semigroup, is a groupoid  $S$  satisfying the left invertive law

$$(1) \quad (ab)c = (cb)a,$$

for every  $a, b, c \in S$ , [8].

Condition (1) is in fact a left Abel-Grassmann's law, [4], and notion *LA*-semi-group reminds of associativity. Since concerned structure is not associative in order to avoid confusion we shall use notion Abel-Grassmann's groupoids or *AG*-groupoids.

In this paper we define relation which is a natural partial order relation on *AG*-band, *AG*<sup>\*</sup> and *AG*<sup>\*\*</sup>-groupoids. Also we introduce the notion of *r*-cancelative  $\pi$ -inverse *AG*<sup>\*</sup>-groupoid and on this structure we consider the natural partial order and maximal elements.

### 1. Introduction

On an *AG*-groupoid holds *medial* law

$$(2) \quad (ab)(cd) = (ac)(bd)$$

for every  $a, b, c, d \in S$ . It has been shown in [8] that

$$(3) \quad (ab)c = b(ca),$$

$$(4) \quad (ab)c = b(ac)$$

are equivalent on an *AG*-groupoid  $S$  for every  $a, b, c \in S$ . The *AG*-groupoid  $S$  on which holds statement (3) or (4) we denote by *AG*<sup>\*</sup>-groupoid. The set  $E(S)$  of all idempotents of an *AG*<sup>\*</sup>-groupoid  $S$  is a commutative semigroup, i.e.  $E(S)$  is a semilattice, [9].

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Let on  $AG$ -groupoid  $S$  is true

$$(5) \quad a(bc) = b(ac)$$

for every  $a, b, c \in S$ . Then this class of  $AG$ -groupoids we shall call an  $AG^{**}$ -groupoids. If  $S$  has left identity then  $S$  is an  $AG^{**}$ -groupoid, [10].

By  $N$  we denote the set of all positive integers.

**Definition 1.1.** [3] Let  $S$  be an  $AG$ -groupoid, then  $a \in S$  is an  $m$ -associative element ( $m \in N$ ) if all words length  $p \leq m$  ( $p \in N$ ) which consists of element  $a$  has the same value and those words we denote with  $a^p$ .  $\square$

Now, if  $a \in S$  is an  $m$ -associative element, then for every  $n, p, q \in N$ ,  $n \leq m$  and  $p + q = n$  we have  $a^n = a^p a^q$ .

An  $AG$ -groupoid  $S$  is called an *inverse  $AG$ -groupoid* if for each  $a \in S$  there exists  $a' \in S$  such that  $(aa')a = a$ ,  $(a'a)a' = a'$  and  $a'$  is an *inverse* for  $a$ , [9]. As usually we shall denote by  $V(a)$  the set of all inverses of  $a \in S$ . If  $a, b \in S$ ,  $a' \in V(a)$ ,  $b' \in V(b)$ , then  $a'b' \in V(ab)$ , [9].

**Definition 1.2.** [3] An  $AG$ -groupoid  $S$  is  $\pi$ -*inverse  $AG$ -groupoid* if for every  $a \in S$  there exists  $m \in N$  such that  $a$  is an  $m$ -associative element and there exists  $p \in N$  ( $p \leq m$ ) and  $a' \in S$  such that  $(a^p a')a^p = a^p$ ,  $(a' a^p)a' = a'$ .  $\square$

Then  $a$  is a  $\pi$ -regular element of  $S$ ,  $a^p$  is regular element of  $S$  and the set of all regular elements of  $S$  we denote with  $RegS$ .

Let  $S$  be a  $\pi$ -inverse  $AG$ -groupoid, then we define a mapping  $r : S \rightarrow RegS$  with  $r(a) = a^n$  where  $n$  is the smallest positive integer such that  $a^n \in RegS$ , [3].

If  $S$  is an  $\pi$ -inverse  $AG^*$ -groupoid then  $RegS$  is an inverse  $AG^*$ -groupoid and by Theorem 2.1., [3], it follows that  $S$  is a commutative inverse semigroup. For  $a \in RegS$  by  $a^{-1}$  we denote an inverse element of  $a$  (which is unique).

For some results about  $\pi$ -inverse and  $k$ -inverse semigroups see [1], [2], [5] and [6].

For undefined notions and notations we refer to [1],[2] and [7].

## 2. The natural partial order

In this paragraph we shall give the natural partial order on the set of idempotents of the  $AG$ -groupoid. We shall also modify this relation to be a natural partial order on  $AG^*$  and  $AG^{**}$ -groupoids.

**Definition 2.1.** Let  $S$  be an  $AG$ -groupoid and  $a^2 = a$  for every  $a \in S$ , then  $S$  is an  $AG$ -band.

If  $S$  is an  $AG$ -groupoid and  $E(S) \neq \emptyset$ , then from  $e, f \in E(S)$  by medial law we have  $(ef)^2 = (ef)(ef) = (ee)(ff) = ef$  and so  $E(S)$  is an  $AG$ -band.

**Lemma 2.1.** *Let  $S$  be an AG-groupoid,  $E(S) \neq \emptyset$  and  $e, f \in E(S)$ . Then*

$$e = ef \iff e = fe .$$

*Proof.* According to (1) we have

$$(i) \qquad fe = (ff)e = (ef)f$$

and dually

$$(ii) \qquad ef = (ff)e .$$

Now, if  $ef = e$  then (i) implies  $fe = ef$  i.e.  $fe = e$ . If  $fe = e$ , then (ii) implies  $ef = e$ .  $\square$

A groupoid  $S$  is a left (right) distributive if for every  $a, b, c \in S$  holds  $a(bc) = (ab)(ad)$  ( $(ab)c = (ac)(bc)$ ).

Let  $S$  be a groupoid in which holds medial law and  $a^2 = a$  for each  $a \in S$ . Then for  $a, b, c \in S$  it follows that

$$a(bc) = (aa)(bc) = (ab)(ac), \quad (ab)c = (ab)(cc) = (ac)(bc) ,$$

and so  $S$  is a left and right distributive groupoid. Hence, AG-band is a left and right distributive groupoid.

**Theorem 2.1.** *Let  $S$  be a left and right distributive groupoid in which  $a^2 = a$  for each  $a \in S$ . Then the relation  $\leq$  defined on  $S$  by*

$$e \leq f \iff e = ef = fe$$

*is a (natural) partial order relation and  $\leq$  is compatible.*

*Proof.* Clearly,  $e \leq e$  and relation  $\leq$  is reflexive. Also, from  $e \leq f$  and  $f \leq e$  it follows that  $e = f$  and relation  $\leq$  is antisymmetric. Let  $e \leq f \iff e = ef = fe, f \leq g \iff f = fg = gf$ . Then

$$eg = (ef)g = (eg)(fg) = (eg)f = (ef)(gf) = ef = e ,$$

$$ge = g(fe) = (gf)(ge) = f(ge) = (fg)(fe) = fe = e .$$

Hence,  $e \leq g$  and relation  $\leq$  is transitive and so  $\leq$  is a partial order on  $S$ .

From  $e \leq f$  and  $g \in S$  we have

$$eg = (ef)g = (eg)(fg) , \quad eg = (fe)g = (fg)(eg)$$

and so  $eg \leq fg$ . Also,

$$ge = g(ef) = (ge)(gf) , \quad ge = g(fe) = (gf)(ge)$$

and so  $ge \leq gf$ . Hence,  $\leq$  is compatible with operation on  $S$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 2.1.** *Let  $S$  be an AG-band then the relation  $\leq$  defined with*

$$e \leq f \iff e = ef$$

*is a (natural) partial order relation and  $\leq$  is compatible.*

*Proof.* By Lemma 2.1. and Theorem 2.1.  $\square$

**Lemma 2.2.** *AG\*-groupoid  $S$  satisfies all permutation identities*

$$(6) \quad (x_1x_2)(x_3x_4) = (x_{p(1)}x_{p(2)})(x_{p(3)}x_{p(4)})$$

*where  $\{p(1), p(2), p(3), p(4)\}$  means any permutation of set  $\{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4$  be an arbitrary elements from  $S$ . Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} (x_1x_2)(x_3x_4) &= (x_4(x_1x_2))x_3 = ((x_2x_4)x_1)x_3 = (x_3x_1)(x_2x_4) \\ &= (x_3x_1)(x_4x_2) = (x_3x_4)(x_1x_2). \end{aligned}$$

From this it holds that  $S^2$  is a commutative AG\*-groupoid, so it is a commutative semigroup. Now by (3) and (4) we conclude that (6) holds.  $\square$

**Lemma 2.3.** *Let  $S$  be an AG\*-groupoid,  $E(S) \neq \emptyset$ , then for every  $a \in S$  and every  $e \in E(S)$  it holds  $ea = ae$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $a \in S, e \in E(S)$ , then by (6) we have

$$ea = (ee)a = (ae)e = (ae)(ee) = (ea)(ee) = (ea)e = a(ee) = ae. \quad \square$$

If  $S$  is an AG-groupoid, then by  $S^1 = S \cup \{1\}$  we denote the groupoid in which 1 is identity ( analogously as in semigroup theory). Clearly,  $S^1$  is not an AG-groupoid.

Let  $S$  be the AG\*-groupoid, we can define relation  $\leq$  as follows:

$$(7) \quad (\forall a, b \in S) \quad a \leq b \iff (\exists e \in E(S^1)) \quad a = eb.$$

**Theorem 2.2.** *Relation  $\leq$  defined on the AG\*-groupoid  $S$  with (7) is a natural partial order relation and it is compatible.*

*Proof.* Reflexivity is obvious since for any element  $a \in S$  it holds  $a = 1a$ .

For antisymmetry let us suppose that  $a \leq b$  and  $b \leq a$ , then there exist elements  $e, f \in E(S^1)$  such that  $a = eb$  and  $b = fa$ . If  $e = 1$  or  $f = 1$  antisymmetry follows directly. If  $e, f \in E(S)$  then from (3) and (4) it holds:

$$\begin{aligned} a = eb &= e(fa) = (fe)a = (fe)(eb) = (fe)(be) \\ &= (fb)(ee) = (fb)e = (eb)f = af. \end{aligned}$$

Now by Lemma 2.3. it follows that  $a = af = fa = b$  so we have proved antisymmetry.

Now let us suppose that  $a \leq b$  and  $b \leq c$ , then exist elements  $e, f \in E(S^1)$  such that  $a = eb$  and  $b = fc$ . If  $e = 1$  or  $f = 1$  transitivity follows directly. Let  $e, f \in E(S)$  then  $a = e(fc) = (fe)c$ . Since  $fe$  belongs to  $E(S)$  it follows  $a \leq c$  and transitivity holds.

Let  $a \leq b$  and  $c \in S$  then  $a = eb$  for some  $e \in E(S^1)$ . If  $e = 1$  then compatibility is true. If  $e \in E(S)$  then

$$\begin{aligned} ac &= (eb)c = (cb)e = (cb)(ee) = (ee)(bc) = e(bc), \\ ca &= c(eb) = (ec)b = (bc)e = (bc)(ee) = (ee)(cb) = e(cb). \end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $ac \leq bc$  and  $ca \leq cb$ .  $\square$

Let  $S$  be an  $AG^{**}$ -groupoid and  $a, b, c, d \in S$ , then

$$(8) \quad (ab)(cd) = c((ab)d) = c((db)a) = (db)(ca).$$

If we consider relation  $\leq$  on an  $AG^{**}$ -groupoid then we obtain the next theorem.

**Theorem 2.3.** *Relation  $\leq$  defined as above is a natural partial order relation on an  $AG^{**}$ -groupoid  $S$  and it is compatible.*

*Proof.* Reflexivity is obvious since for any element  $a \in S$  it holds  $a = 1a$ .

For antisymmetry let us suppose that  $a \leq b$  and  $b \leq a$ , then exist elements  $e, f \in E(S^1)$  such that  $a = eb$  and  $b = fa$ . If  $e = 1$  or  $f = 1$  antisymmetry follows directly. Let  $e, f \in E(S)$  then by (5) it holds:

$$\begin{aligned} a = eb &= e(fa) \stackrel{(5)}{=} f(ea) = (ff)(ea) \stackrel{(1)}{=} ((ea)f)f \\ &\stackrel{(1)}{=} ((fa)e)f = (be)f \end{aligned}$$

and

$$b = fa = f((be)f) \stackrel{(5)}{=} (be)(ff) = (be)f = a.$$

So we have proved antisymmetry.

Now let us suppose that  $a \leq b$  and  $b \leq c$ , then exist elements  $e, f \in E(S^1)$  such that  $a = eb$  and  $b = fc$ . If  $e = 1$  or  $f = 1$  transitivity follows directly. If  $e, f \in E(S)$  then

$$a = eb = e(fc) = (ee)(fc) \stackrel{(8)}{=} (ce)(fe) \stackrel{(1)}{=} ((fe)e)c \stackrel{(1)}{=} ((ee)f)c = (ef)c.$$

Since  $ef$  belongs to  $E(S^1)$  it follows  $a \leq c$  and transitivity holds.

Let  $a \leq b$  and  $c \in S$ , then there exists  $e \in E(S^1)$  such that  $a = eb$ . If  $e = 1$  then compatibility is true. If  $e \in E(S)$  then by (8) we have

$$\begin{aligned} ac &= (eb)c = (cb)e = (cb)(ee) = (eb)(ec) = (ee)(bc) = e(bc), \\ ca &= c(eb) = e(cb) \end{aligned}$$

and so  $ac \leq bc$  and  $ca \leq cb$ .  $\square$

Since  $AG$ -groupoid with left identity is an  $AG^{**}$ -groupoid we obtain next corollary.

**Corollary 2.3.** *Let  $S$  be an  $AG$ -groupoid with left identity. The relation  $\leq$  defined on  $S$  by*

$$a \leq b \iff (\exists e \in E(S)) a = eb$$

*is a natural partial order relation on  $S$  and it is compatible.*  $\square$

### 3. The natural partial order on the $\pi$ -inverse $AG^*$ -groupoids

Let  $S$  be an  $AG^*$ -groupoid, then for each  $a \in S$  the set  $L(a) = a \cup Sa$  is a minimal left ideal of  $S$  containing  $a$ , [12].

Now, on  $AG^*$ -groupoid  $S$  for  $a, b \in S$  we define the relation  $\mathcal{L}$  by

$$a\mathcal{L}b \iff a \cup Sa = b \cup Sb.$$

Then  $\mathcal{L}$  is an equivalence relation and by  $L_a$  we denote an equivalence class for  $a \in S$ . A relation  $\preccurlyeq$  defined on  $\mathcal{L}$ -classes by

$$L_a \preccurlyeq L_b \iff a \cup Sa \subseteq b \cup Sb$$

is, clearly, a partial order on  $S/\mathcal{L}$ .

**Lemma 3.1.** *Let  $S$  be a  $\pi$ -inverse  $AG^*$ -groupoid,  $a, b \in S$  and  $a\mathcal{L}b$ , then from  $a \in \text{Reg}S$  it follows that  $b \in \text{Reg}S$ .*

*Proof.* From  $a\mathcal{L}b$  and  $a \neq b$  it follows that there exist  $u, v \in S$  such that  $b = ua$ ,  $a = vb$ . Since  $a \in \text{Reg}S$ , then there exists  $x \in \text{Reg}S$  such that  $(ax)a = a$  and  $(xa)x = x$ . Since  $\text{Reg}S$  is a commutative inverse semigroup we have  $ax = xa$ . Now

$$\begin{aligned} b &= ua = u((ax)a) \stackrel{(3)}{=} u(x(aa)) \stackrel{(4)}{=} (xu)(aa) \stackrel{(2)}{=} (xa)(ua) \\ &= (ax)(ua) = (ax)b \stackrel{(4)}{=} x(ab) \stackrel{(3)}{=} x(ba) \stackrel{(4)}{=} (bx)a \\ &= (bx)(vb) \stackrel{(6)}{=} (vx)(bb) \stackrel{(4)}{=} (b(vx))b, \\ ((vx)b)(vx) &\stackrel{(4)}{=} (x(vb))(vx) = (xa)(vx) \stackrel{(2)}{=} (xv)(ax) = (xv)(xa) \\ &\stackrel{(3)}{=} v((xa)x) = vx. \end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $b$  and  $vx$  are mutually inverse and so  $b \in \text{Reg}S$ .  $\square$

Let  $S$  be a  $\pi$ -inverse  $AG$ -groupoid, then we can define the relation  $\tilde{\mathcal{L}}$  with

$$a\tilde{\mathcal{L}}b \iff Sr(a) = Sr(b)$$

where  $a, b \in S$ . Clearly,  $r(a) \in Sr(a)$  and  $\tilde{\mathcal{L}}$  is an equivalence relation. Since  $r(a) = r(r(a))$  we have that  $a\tilde{\mathcal{L}}r(a)$ . On  $\tilde{\mathcal{L}}$ -classes we define the relation  $\preceq$  with

$$\tilde{L}_a \preceq \tilde{L}_b \iff Sr(a) \subseteq Sr(b)$$

for  $a, b \in S$ . This relation is obviously partial order relation on  $S/\tilde{\mathcal{L}}$ .

If  $S$  is a  $\pi$ -inverse  $AG^*$ -groupoid, then  $\mathcal{L} \upharpoonright_{\text{Reg}S} \equiv \tilde{\mathcal{L}} \upharpoonright_{\text{Reg}S}$  and it is well known Green's relation for commutative inverse semigroup  $\text{Reg}S$ .

**Definition 3.1.** An  $AG$ -groupoid  $S$  is an  $r$ -cancelative  $\pi$ -inverse  $AG^*$ -groupoid if for every  $a, b \in S - \text{Reg}S$  it holds

$$r(a) = r(b) \implies a = b \quad \square$$

Hence, on  $r$ -cancelative  $\pi$ -inverse  $AG^*$ -groupoid  $S$  we have  $|S - \text{Reg}S| \leq |\text{Reg}S|$ .

**Example 3.1.** Let  $S$  be a  $AG$ -groupoid defined by the following Cayley table:

	1	2	3	4
1	2	2	2	2
2	2	2	2	2
3	2	2	3	3
4	1	1	3	3

Then  $\text{Reg}S = E(S) = \{2, 3\}$ ,  $r(1) = 1^2 = 2$ ,  $r(4) = 4^2 = 3$  and  $S$  is an  $r$ -cancelative  $AG$ -groupoid.

**Theorem 3.2.** Let  $S$  be a  $r$ -cancelative  $\pi$ -inverse  $AG^*$ -groupoid. For  $a, b \in S$  we define

$$(10) \quad a \leq b \iff L_a \preceq L_b \wedge r(a) = r(a)r(b)^{-1}r(a) = r(a)r(b)^{-1}r(b).$$

Then the relation  $\leq$  is a (natural) partial order relation on  $S$ .

*Proof.* Since  $r(a) = r(a)r(a)^{-1}r(a)$  we have  $a \leq a$ . Let us suppose that  $a \leq b$  and  $b \leq a$ , then  $L_a = L_b$ ,  $r(a) = r(a)r(b)^{-1}r(a) = r(a)r(b)^{-1}r(b)$  and

$r(b) = r(b)r(a)^{-1}r(b) = r(b)r(a)^{-1}r(a)$ . Now, using the fact that  $RegS$  is a commutative semigroup, it holds

$$(11) \quad \begin{aligned} r(a) &= r(a)r(b)^{-1}r(a) = r(a)r(b)^{-1}r(b)r(a)^{-1}r(a) \\ &= r(a)r(b)^{-1}r(a)r(a)^{-1}r(b) = r(a)r(a)^{-1}r(b) = r(b). \end{aligned}$$

Now, if  $a, b \in RegS$ , then  $r(a) = a$ ,  $r(b) = b$  and by (10) holds  $a = b$ . If  $a, b \in S - RegS$ , then since  $S$  is  $r$ -cancelative from  $r(a) = r(b)$  it follows that  $a = b$ . By Lemma 2.2. the case that  $a \in RegS$  and  $b \in S - RegS$  ( $a \in RegS$ ,  $b \in S - RegS$ ) is impossible. Hence, a relation  $\leq$  is antisymmetric.

Let  $a \leq b$ ,  $b \leq c$ , then  $L_a \preceq L_c$ ,  $r(a) = r(a)r(b)^{-1}r(a) = r(a)r(b)^{-1}r(b)$  and  $r(b) = r(b)r(c)^{-1}r(b) = r(b)r(c)^{-1}r(c)$ . Now we have

$$\begin{aligned} r(a) &= r(a)r(b)^{-1}r(a) = r(a)r(b)^{-1}r(a)r(b)^{-1}r(b) \\ &= r(a)r(b)^{-1}r(b)r(a)r(b)^{-1} = r(a)r(b)^{-1}r(b)r(c)^{-1}r(b)r(a)r(b)^{-1} \\ &= r(a)r(c)^{-1}r(a)r(b)^{-1}r(b) = r(a)r(c)^{-1}r(a), \\ r(a) &= r(a)r(b)^{-1}r(b) = r(a)r(b)^{-1}r(b)r(c)^{-1}r(c) \\ &= r(a)r(c)^{-1}r(c) \end{aligned}$$

and so by (9) we have  $a \leq c$ . Hence,  $\leq$  is transitive and so  $\leq$  is a partial order relation on  $S$ .  $\square$

By the following theorem we introduce some equivalent definitions for the natural partial order on the  $r$ -cancelative  $\pi$ -inverse  $AG^*$ -groupoid.

**Theorem 3.3.** *The following statements are equivalent on the  $r$ -cancelative  $\pi$ -inverse  $AG^*$ -groupoid  $S$ :*

- (i)  $a \leq b$ ,
- (ii)  $L_a \preceq L_b \wedge \tilde{L}_a \preceq \tilde{L}_b \wedge (\exists e \in \tilde{L}_a \cap E(S)) r(a) = er(b)$ ,
- (iii)  $L_a \preceq L_b \wedge r(a) = r(a)r(a)^{-1}r(b)$ ,
- (iv)  $L_a \preceq L_b \wedge (\exists e \in E(S)) r(a) = er(b)$ .

*Proof.* (i)  $\implies$  (ii) Let  $a, b \in S$ ,  $a \leq b$  defined with (10) and  $e = r(a)r(b)^{-1}$ , then  $e^2 = r(a)r(b)^{-1}r(a)r(b)^{-1} = r(a)r(b)^{-1} = e$ , i.e.  $e \in E(S)$ . Also,  $r(a) = er(a)$ . Since  $RegS$  is a commutative semigroup we have

$$Sr(a) = Ser(a) \subseteq Se = Sr(a)r(b)^{-1} \subseteq Sr(a).$$



Hence  $\tilde{L}_e = \tilde{L}_a$  and  $e \in E(L_a) = \tilde{L}_a \cap E(S)$ . From  $r(a) = r(a)r(b)r(b)^{-1}$  it follows that  $Sr(a) \subseteq Sr(b)$  so  $\tilde{L}_a \preceq \tilde{L}_b$ .

(ii)  $\implies$  (iii) Since restriction of  $\tilde{L}$  on  $RegS$  is a known Green's relation on inverse semigroup  $RegS$ , then by Proposition 3.6.[6] from  $e \in \tilde{L}_a \cap E(S)$  we have  $e = r(a)r(a)^{-1}$ . Hence,  $r(a) = r(a)r(a)^{-1}r(b)$

(iii)  $\implies$  (iv) Is clear since  $e = r(a)r(a)^{-1} \in E(S)$ .

(iv)  $\implies$  (i) Let (iv) holds, then by commutativity of  $RegS$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} r(a)r(b)^{-1}r(a) &= er(b)r(b)^{-1}er(b) = er(b)r(b)^{-1}r(b)e \\ &= er(b)e = er(a) = r(a), \\ r(a)r(b)^{-1}r(b) &= er(b)r(b)^{-1}r(b) = er(b) = r(a) \end{aligned}$$

so (i) holds.  $\square$

We shall now describe the maximal elements on a  $\pi$ -inverse  $AG^*$ -groupoid.

**Definition 3.2.** The element  $a$  of a  $r$ -cancelative  $\pi$ -inverse  $AG^*$ -groupoid  $S$  is *maximal* if it is maximal with respect to the natural partial order  $\leq$  on  $S$ .  $\square$

Let  $S$  be a  $\pi$ -inverse  $AG$ -groupoid and let

$$A = \{x \in S \mid (\exists y \in S - RegS) x = r(y)\}, B = RegS - A,$$

then the following lemma is true.

**Lemma 3.2.** Let  $S$  be the  $r$ -cancelative  $\pi$ -inverse  $AG^*$ -groupoid, then for all  $a \in S$  it holds that  $r(a) \leq a$ .

*Proof.* If  $r(a) = a^n$  then

$$\begin{aligned} Sr(a) = Sa^n &= S(a^{n-1}a) = \bigcup_{x \in S} x(a^{n-1}a) = \bigcup_{x \in S} (a^{n-1}x)a \subseteq Sa, \\ r(a) &= (r(a)r(a)^{-1})r(a) = (r(a)r(a)^{-1})(a^{n-1}a) = \\ &= (a^{n-1}(r(a)r(a)^{-1})a) \in Sa \end{aligned}$$

and so  $r(a) \cup Sr(a) \subseteq Sa \subseteq a \cup Sa$ , whence  $L_{r(a)} \preceq L_a$ . Also,  $r(a) = er(a)$  where  $e = r(a)r(a)^{-1} \in E(S)$ . By Theorem 3.1. we have  $r(a) \leq a$ .  $\square$

**Definition 3.3.** The element  $a$  of a  $\pi$ -inverse  $AG$ -groupoid  $S$  is *strongly  $\pi$ -inverse* if

$$(\forall x \in S)((r(a) = (r(a)x)r(a) \iff x = (xr(a))x). \quad \square$$

In this case  $x \in RegS$ .

**Theorem 3.3.** *Let  $S$  be an  $r$ -cancelative  $\pi$ -inverse  $AG^*$ -groupoid, then every strongly  $\pi$ -inverse element from  $S - A$  is maximal.*

*Proof.* Suppose that  $a \in S$  is a strongly  $\pi$ -inverse element and  $b \in S$  such that  $a \leq b$ . Then by Theorem 3.1. we have  $r(a) = r(a)r(b)^{-1}r(a) = r(a)r(b)^{-1}r(b)$  and since  $a$  is strongly  $\pi$ -inverse we have  $r(b)^{-1} = r(b)^{-1}r(a)r(b)^{-1}$ . Now

$$r(b) = r(b)r(b)^{-1}r(b) = r(b)r(b)^{-1}r(a)r(b)^{-1}r(b) = r(b)r(b)^{-1}r(a) = r(a).$$

Let  $a \in S - RegS$ . If  $b \in S - RegS$  then since  $S$  is  $r$ -cancelative from  $r(a) = r(b)$  it follows that  $a = b$ . If  $b \in RegS$  then  $r(b) = b = r(a)$  and by Lemma 3.2 we have  $b \leq a$ . Now,  $a \leq b$  and  $b \leq a$  gives  $a = b$  what is impossible.

Suppose that  $a \in RegS$ . If  $b \in RegS$  then  $r(a) = a = b = r(b)$  and  $a$  is maximal element. If  $b \in S - RegS$  then  $r(a) = a = r(b)$ , which is impossible, since  $a \in B$ .

It is obvious that  $a \in A$  is not maximal element because there exists  $x \in S - RegS$  such that  $a = r(x) \leq x$ .  $\square$

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