

## RPP SEMIGROUPS SATISFYING PERMUTATION IDENTITIES

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**Abstract.** In this paper we study rpp semigroups satisfying permutation identities. In particular, we determine when a rpp semigroup will satisfy the permutation identities.

### 1. Introduction and preliminaries

Throughout this paper, we use the terminologies and notions given in [1, 2, 6]. A semigroup  $S$  is called a *rpp semigroup* if all of its principal right ideals  $aS^1$  ( $a \in S$ ), regarded as right  $S^1$ -systems, are projective. Equivalently, a semigroup is a rpp semigroup if and only if each  $\mathcal{L}^*$ -class contains at least one idempotent (see [5]). The lpp semigroup can be dually defined. According to Fountain [2], a semigroup is abundant if and only if it is both rpp and lpp. We call a rpp semigroup a *strongly rpp semigroup* [5] if for each  $a \in S$ , there exists a unique idempotent  $e$ ,  $\mathcal{L}^*$ -related to  $a$ , such that  $ea = a$ .

A semigroup  $S$  in which  $x_1x_2 \cdots x_n = x_{p_1}x_{p_2} \cdots x_{p_n}$  (1) for all  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in S$ , where  $(p_1p_2 \dots p_n)$  is a nontrivial permutation of  $(12 \dots n)$ , is termed to *satisfy the permutation identity* (1) (or a *PI-semigroup* for short). Yamada [7] investigated the PI-regular semigroups and discussed the structure of such semigroups. In [3], the author generalized the results of Yamada [7] and investigated the structure of PI-abundant semigroups. Recently, he [4] also the classification of PI-strongly rpp semigroups. The aim of this note is to study the PI-rpp semigroups, and to determine when a rpp semigroup will satisfy the permutation identities.

We first recall some known concepts and results (we only list the results for  $\mathcal{L}^*$  because the result for  $\mathcal{R}^*$  is a dual result for  $\mathcal{L}^*$ ).

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**Lemma 1.1.** [2] *Let  $S$  be a semigroup and  $a, b \in S$ . Then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (1)  $a\mathcal{L}^*b$ ;
- (2) *for all  $x, y \in S^1$ ,  $ax = ay$  if and only if  $bx = by$ .*

As an easy but useful consequence, we have

**Corollary 1.2.** [2] *Let  $a \in S$  and  $e$  be an idempotent of  $S$ . Then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (1)  $a\mathcal{L}^*e$ ;
- (2)  $ae = e$  and *for all  $x, y \in S^1$ ,  $ax = ay$  implies  $ex = ey$ .*

Evidently,  $\mathcal{L}^*$  is a right congruence on  $S$ . In general,  $\mathcal{L} \subset \mathcal{L}^*$  and when  $a$  and  $b$  are regular elements,  $a\mathcal{L}b$  if and only if  $a\mathcal{L}^*b$ . Let  $E$  be the set of idempotents of  $S$ . We write  $a^*$  to denote the typical idempotents  $\mathcal{L}^*$ -related to  $a$ .

A band  $B$  is called a (left;right) normal band if it satisfies the identity:  $(xyz = xzy; xyz = yxz) \ xyzw = xzyw$ . By [6, Theorem IV 3.1], a band  $B$  is a semilattice  $Y$  of rectangular bands  $B_\alpha$  ( $\alpha \in Y$ ). Such a decomposition of  $B$  is unique. Accordingly  $Y$  is unique up to isomorphism and so are the  $B'_\alpha$ s. Hereafter, we call  $Y$  the *structure semilattice* of  $B$  and also this decomposition is called the *structure decomposition* of  $B$ . For simplicity, if  $e \in B_\alpha$ , then we write  $E(e) = B_\alpha$  and for  $e, f \in B$ , if  $E(e) = E(e)E(f)$ , we denote  $E(e) \leq E(f)$ . Obviously,  $E(e) = E(f)$  if and only if  $E(e) \leq E(f)$  and  $E(f) \leq E(e)$ .

The following result will be used in the sequel.

**Lemma 1.3.** [3] *Let  $S$  be an abundant semigroup. Then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (1)  $S$  is a PI-semigroup and  $E$  a right normal band;
- (2)  $S$  satisfies the identity  $xyz = yxz$ .

## 2. Some characterizations for PI-rpp semigroups

In this section, we always assume that  $S$  is a rpp semigroup satisfying the permutation identity:  $x_1x_2 \cdots x_n = x_{p_1}x_{p_2} \cdots x_{p_n}$ .

**Lemma 2.1.**  *$E$  is a normal band.*

*Proof.* This is straightforward. In fact, it follows directly from the proof in [7].  $\square$

**Lemma 2.2.** *For all  $e, f \in E$  and  $a \in S$ , we have*

- (1)  $efa = eafa^*$ ;
- (2)  $eaf = eae f$ .

*Proof.* Because  $(p_1 p_2 \cdots p_n)$  is a nontrivial permutation of  $(1 2 \cdots n)$ , there exists a positive integer  $k (< n)$  such that  $p_i = i$  when  $1 \leq i < k$  but  $p_k \neq k$ . Obviously,  $k < p_k$ .

(1) Take  $x_i = e$  when  $i < k$ ,  $x_i = f$  if  $k \leq i < p_k$ ,  $x_{p_k} = a$  and  $x_i = a^*$  otherwise. Then  $e(x_1 x_2 \cdots x_n) a^* = efa$ . On the other hand, by Lemma 2.1,  $e(x_{p_1} x_{p_2} \cdots x_{p_n}) a^* = eafa^*$ . Thus by hypothesis, we obtain  $efa = eafa^*$ .

(2) Now, let  $x_i = e$  when  $1 \leq i < p_k$ ,  $x_{p_k} = a$  otherwise  $x_i = f$ . Then  $e(x_1 x_2 \cdots x_n) f = eaf$ . But  $e(x_{p_1} x_{p_2} \cdots x_{p_n}) f = eae f$  or  $eafef$ . By Lemma 2.1, we deduce that

$$eafef = eaa^* fef = eaa^* e f f = eae f.$$

Hence,  $eaf = eae f$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 2.3.** *For all  $a, b \in S$  and  $f \in E$ , if  $a = bf$ , then  $E(a^*) \leq E(f)$ .*

*Proof.* If  $a = bf$  then  $a = af$ . Now, by  $a\mathcal{L}^* a^*$ , we have  $a^* = a^* f$  and thus  $E(a^*) \leq E(f)$ .  $\square$

We now define a relation  $\eta$  on  $S$  as follows:  $a, b \in S$ :

$$a\eta b \text{ if and only if for some } f \in E(b^*), a = bf.$$

**Lemma 2.4.** (1)  $\eta$  is a congruence on  $S$  preserving  $\mathcal{L}^*$ -classes;  
 (2)  $\eta \cap \mathcal{L}^* = i_s$  (the identical mapping on  $S$ ).

*Proof.* (1) We first show that  $\eta$  is an equivalence relation. Certainly,  $x\eta x$  for every  $x \in S$ , since  $x = xx^*$ . Let  $a, b \in S$  with  $a\eta b$ . Then for some  $f \in E(b^*)$ ,  $a = bf$ . By Lemma 2.3,  $E(a^*) \leq E(f) = E(b^*)$ . It follows that  $a^* b^* \in E(a^*)$  and that  $a\eta b$  implies  $E(a^*) \leq E(b^*)$ . Since

$$a(a^* b^*) = ab^* = bfb^* = bb^* fb^* = bb^* = b,$$

we have  $b\eta a$ , and thus  $\eta$  satisfies the symmetric relation. On the other hand, by the proof above,  $b\eta a$  permits  $E(b^*) \leq E(a^*)$ . Now  $E(a^*) = E(b^*)$ . Therefore, from  $a\eta b$ , we can deduce that  $E(a^*) = E(b^*)$ . To prove the transitivity, we let  $x, y, z \in S$  with  $x\eta y, y\eta z$ . Then we have  $E(x^*) = E(y^*) = E(z^*)$ . By the hypothesis, there are  $f, g \in E(z^*)$  such that  $x = yf$  and  $y = zg$ . Accordingly,  $x = zgf$ . Notice that  $gf \in E(z^*)$ , we hence get  $x\eta z$ .



Now let  $x, y, z \in S$  and  $x\eta y$ . Then there exists  $f \in E(y^*)$  such that  $x = yf$ . Obviously,  $zx = zyf = zy(zy)^*f$ . It follows from Lemma 2.3 that  $E((zx)^*) \leq E((zy)^*)$  and  $E((zx)^*) \leq E(f)$ , and so  $(zx)^*y^* \in E((zx)^*)$ . But  $x = yf$ , this implies that  $y = xy^*$ . Now  $zy = zxy^* = zx(zx)^*y^*$ . Hence  $zx\eta zy$ . On the other hand, by

$$\begin{aligned} xz &= yfz = yy^*fz = yy^*zfz^* \quad (\text{by Lemma 2.2}) \\ &= yz(fz^*) = yz(yz)^*fz^*, \end{aligned}$$

we can deduce that  $E((xz)^*) \leq E((yz)^*)$  and  $E((xz)^*) \leq E(fz^*)$  by Lemma 2.2. A similar argument for  $y = xy^*$ , we can show that  $E((yz)^*) \leq E((xz)^*)$ . Thus  $E((xz)^*) = E((yz)^*)$ . This means that  $(yz)^*fz^* \in E((yz)^*)$ . Therefore  $xz\eta yz$ . Consequently,  $\eta$  is a congruence on  $S$ .

It remains to prove that  $\eta$  preserves  $\mathcal{L}^*$ -classes. To see this, we let  $a, b \in S$  with  $a\mathcal{L}^*b$ . For  $x\eta, y\eta \in (S/\eta)^1$  (where  $x, y \in S^1$ ), if  $(ax)\eta = (ay)\eta$ , then there exists  $f \in E((ay)^*)$  such that  $ax = ayf$ . By  $a\mathcal{L}^*b$ , we have  $bx = byf$ . Notice that  $\mathcal{L}^*$  is a right congruence,  $ay\mathcal{L}^*by$  and so  $E((ay)^*) = E((by)^*)$ . Now  $(bx)\eta = (by)\eta$ . From this equality and its dual, we can deduce that  $a\eta\mathcal{L}^*(S/\eta)b\eta$ , as required.

(2) Let  $(a, b) \in \eta \cap \mathcal{L}^*$ . Then for some  $f \in E(b^*)$ ,  $a = bf$ . Since  $a\mathcal{L}^*b$ , we have  $a^*\mathcal{L}^*b^*$ . Hence

$$a = ab^* = bfb^* = bb^*fb^* = bb^* = b.$$

Therefore  $\eta \cap \mathcal{L}^* = i_s$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 2.5.**  $S/\eta$  is a PI-rpp semigroup and  $E(S/\eta)$  a left normal band.

*Proof.* By Lemma 2.4,  $S/\eta$  is a rpp semigroup. Since  $S$  is a PI-semigroup, we easily check that  $S/\eta$  is a PI-semigroup. Notice that  $a\eta \in E(S/\eta)$  implies  $a \in E(S)$  and that  $\eta \cap (E \times E) = \mathcal{R}$ ,  $E(S/\eta) = E/\mathcal{R}$  and furthermore, it is a left normal band.  $\square$

**Lemma 2.6.** If  $E$  is a left normal band, then  $S$  satisfies the identity  $xyz = xzy$ .

*Proof.* Let  $k$  have the same meaning as that in the proof of Lemma 2.2. For all  $x, y, z \in S$ , take  $x_k = y$ ,  $x_{p_k} = z$  and  $x_i = x^*$  otherwise. Then  $x^*(x_1x_2 \cdots x_n)z^* = x^*yx^*zx^*z^*$ ,  $x^*yzx^*z^*$ ,  $x^*yx^*z$  or  $x^*yz$ . Since by hypothesis and Lemma 2.2, we have

$$\begin{aligned} x^*yx^*zx^*z^* &= x^*yx^*z = x^*yy^*x^*z = x^*yy^*x^*y^*z \\ &= x^*yy^*z = x^*yzz^* = x^*yzx^*z^*, \end{aligned}$$

Thus, we obtain that  $x^*(x_1x_2 \cdots x_n)z^* = x^*yz$ . On the other hand, we have  $x^*(x_{p_1}x_{p_2} \cdots x_{p_n})z^* = x^*zx^*yx^*z^*$ ,  $x^*zyx^*z^*$ ,  $x^*zx^*yz^*$  or  $x^*zyz^*$ . But by the hypothesis and Lemma 2.2, we have

$$\begin{aligned} x^*zx^*yz^* &= x^*zx^*yx^*z^* = x^*zz^*x^*yx^*z^* \\ &= x^*zz^*x^*z^*yx^*z^* = x^*zx^*z^*yx^*z^* \\ &= x^*zz^*yx^*z^* = x^*zyx^*z^* = x^*zyz^* \\ &= x^*zz^*yy^*z^* = x^*zz^*yy^*z^*y^* = x^*zz^*yy^* = x^*zy. \end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $x^*(x_{p_1}x_{p_2} \cdots x_{p_n})z^* = x^*zy$ . Thus, we obtain  $x^*yz = x^*zy$  and thereby, we have

$$xyz = xx^*yz = xx^*zy = xzy. \quad \square$$

Now we arrive at the main result of this section.

**Theorem 2.7.** *Let  $T$  be a rpp semigroup with set  $E$  of idempotents. Denote by  $\lambda_a$  the inner left translation of  $T$  associated with  $a(a \in T)$ . Then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (1)  *$T$  satisfies permutation identities;*
- (2)  *$T$  satisfies the identity:  $xyzw = xzyw$ ;*
- (3) *for all  $e \in E$ ,  $eTe$  is a commutative semigroup and  $\lambda_e$  is a homomorphism;*
- (4) *for all  $e \in E$ ,  $eT$  satisfies the identity:  $xyz = yxz$ , and  $\lambda_e$  is a homomorphism.*

*Proof.* (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2) Let  $T$  be a PI-semigroup. For all  $x, y, z, w \in T$ , by Lemmas 2.4-2.6  $(xyzw)\eta = (xzyw)\eta$ . Then for some  $f \in E((xzyw)^*)$ ,  $xyzw = xzywf$ . Furthermore, we also have

$$\begin{aligned} xyzw &= xyzw^* = xzywf^* \\ &= xzyw(xzyw)^*fw^* \\ &= xzyw(xzyw)^*f(xzyw)^*w^* \quad (\text{by Lemma 2.1}) \\ &= xzyw(xzyw)^*w^* = xzyw \end{aligned}$$

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (3) Suppose that (2) holds. Let  $e \in E$ . Then, for all  $x, y \in eTe$ , we have  $x = ex = xe$  and  $y = ey = ye$ . Thus

$$xy = exye = eyxe = yx$$

This means that  $eTe$  is a commutative semigroup. On the other hand, since

$$\lambda_e(x) \cdot \lambda_e(y) = exey = eexy = exy = \lambda_e(xy),$$

$\lambda_e$  is a homomorphism of  $T$  into itself. Therefore (3) holds.

(3)  $\Rightarrow$  (4) Suppose that (3) holds. It remains to prove the first part. For all  $x, y, z \in eT$ , we have  $x = ex$ ,  $y = ey$  and  $z = ez$ . Thus, since  $\lambda_e$  is a homomorphism, we have

$$\begin{aligned} xyz &= exeyez = (exe)(eye)z \\ &= (eye)(exe)z = (ey)(ex)(ez) = yxz. \end{aligned}$$

(4)  $\Rightarrow$  (2) Let  $x, y, z, w \in T$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} xyzw &= x(x^*yzw) = x(x^*y)(x^*z)(x^*w) \\ &= x(x^*z)(x^*y)(x^*w) = x(x^*zyw) = xzyw. \end{aligned}$$

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (1) This part is trivial.  $\square$

### 3. Weak-spined product

In this section, we introduce the concept of weak-spined product. A characterization of PI-rpp semigroups in terms of weak-spined product will be hence given.

Let  $T$  be a rpp semigroup whose idempotents form a subsemigroup  $E$ . Let  $Y$  be the structure semilattice of  $E$  such that  $E = \bigcup_{\alpha \in Y} E_\alpha$  is a structure decomposition of  $E$ . Now let  $B$  be a right normal band with structure semilattice  $Y$ , having the structure decomposition  $\mathcal{S}(Y; B_\alpha; \varphi_{\alpha, \beta})$ . In this case, each  $B_\alpha$  is a right zero semigroup (see [6, Corollary IV 5.18]). For  $a \in T$ , if  $a^* \in E_\alpha$  we denote  $a^+ = \alpha$ . Take  $M = \{(a, x) \in T \times B : x \in B_{a^+}\}$ . Define a multiplication on  $M$  as follows:

$$(a, x) \circ (b, y) = (ab, y\varphi_{b^+, (ab)^+}), \text{ i.e. } = (ab, zy),$$

where  $z \in B_{(ab)^+}$ . Notice that  $ab = abb^*$  implies  $(ab)^* = (ab)^*b^*$ , we have  $(ab)^+ = (ab)^+b^+$ , i.e.  $(ab)^+ \leq b^+$  ( $\leq$  is the natural order) in  $Y$ . This means that  $y\varphi_{b^+, (ab)^+} \in B_{(ab)^+}$ . Accordingly,  $(ab, y\varphi_{b^+, (ab)^+}) \in M$ . Thus "o" is well-defined, and with respect to "o",  $M$  is closed. In addition, we have the following result.

**Lemma 3.1.**  $(M, \circ)$  is a rpp semigroup.

*Proof.* At first, we shall show that  $(M, \circ)$  satisfies the associative law. Let  $(a, x), (b, y), (c, z) \in M$ . Then, by the above statement, we can show that,  $(abc)^+ \leq (bc)^+ \leq c^+$ . Hence

$$\begin{aligned} ((a, x) \circ (b, y)) \circ (c, z) &= (ab, y\varphi_{b^+, (ab)^+}) \circ (c, z) \\ &= (abc, z\varphi_{c^+, (abc)^+}) \\ &= (a, x) \circ (bc, z\varphi_{c^+, (bc)^+}) \\ &= (a, x) \circ ((b, y) \circ (c, z)). \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $(M, \circ)$  is indeed a semigroup.

It remains to prove that for all  $(a, x) \in M$ ,  $(a, x)\mathcal{L}^*(a^*, x)$ . To see this, let  $(b, y), (c, z) \in M^1$ . If  $(a, x)(b, y) = (a, x)(c, z)$ , i.e.  $(ab, y\varphi_{b^+, (ab)^+}) = (ac, z\varphi_{c^+, (ac)^+})$ , then  $ab = ac$  and  $y\varphi_{b^+, (ab)^+} = z\varphi_{c^+, (ac)^+}$ . From the above equality, we deduce that  $a^*b = a^*c$ . Consider that  $ab\mathcal{L}^*a^*b$ . It is easy to see that  $(ab)^*\mathcal{L}(a^*b)^*$  so that  $(ab)^+ = (a^*b)^+$ . But,  $(a^*b)^+ = (a^*c)^+$ . Thus  $y\varphi_{b^+, (a^*b)^+} = z\varphi_{c^+, (a^*c)^+}$ . Accordingly, we have

$$\begin{aligned} (a^*, x)(b, y) &= (a^*b, y\varphi_{b^+, (a^*b)^+}) = (a^*c, z\varphi_{c^+, (a^*c)^+}) \\ &= (a^*, x)(c, z). \end{aligned}$$

This equality, together with the fact that

$$(a, x)(a^*, x) = (aa^*, x\varphi_{(a^*)^+, (aa^*)^+}) = (a, x),$$

implies that  $(a, x)\mathcal{L}^*(a^*, x)$ , as required.  $\square$

**Definition 3.2.** We call  $(M, \circ)$  above the *weak-spined product* of  $T$  and  $B$ , and denote it by  $WS(T, B)$ .

**Lemma 3.3.** If  $T$  satisfies the identity  $xyz = xzy$ , then  $WS(T, B)$  satisfies the identity  $xyzw = xzyw$ .

*Proof.* Let  $(a, i), (b, j), (c, k), (d, l) \in WS(T, B)$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} (a, i)(b, j)(c, k)(d, l) &= (abcd, l\varphi_{d^+, (abcd)^+}) \\ &= (acbd, l\varphi_{d^+, (acbd)^+}) \\ &= (a, i)(c, k)(b, j)(d, l). \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $WS(T, B)$  satisfies the identity  $xyzw = xzyw$ .  $\square$

In virtue of the weak-spined product, the PI-rpp semigroups can be described as follows:



**Theorem 3.4.** *A rpp semigroup is a PI-semigroup if and only if it is isomorphic to the weak-spined product of a rpp semigroup satisfying the identity  $xyz = xzy$ , and a right normal band.*

*Proof.* By Lemma 3.3, it suffices to prove the “only if” part. Suppose that  $S$  is a PI-rpp semigroup with normal band  $E$ . Then by Lemma 2.5 and 2.6,  $S/\eta$  is a rpp semigroup satisfying the identity:  $xyz = xzy$ . Let  $Y$  be the structure semilattice of  $E$  and  $E = \bigcup_{\alpha \in Y} E_\alpha$  be the structure decomposition of  $E$ . Then  $E/\mathcal{L} = \bigcup_{\alpha \in Y} E_\alpha/\mathcal{L}$  is a right normal band and the structure decomposition of  $E/\mathcal{L}$ . Since  $a\eta \in E(S/\eta)$  implies  $a \in E$  and  $\eta \cap (E \times E) = \mathcal{R}$ , we can easily know that  $E(S/\eta) = E/\mathcal{R} = \bigcup_{\alpha \in Y} E_\alpha/\mathcal{R}$  and further  $Y$  is the structure semilattice of  $E(S/\eta)$ . Thus we can consider the weak-spined product  $WS(S/\eta, E/\mathcal{L})$ .

Now, we define a mapping  $\theta$ :

$$S \rightarrow WS(S/\eta, E/\mathcal{L}), x \rightarrow (x\eta, \overline{x^*}),$$

where  $\overline{x^*}$  is the congruence class of  $E$  containing  $x$  mode  $\mathcal{L}$ . In order to prove the theorem, we only need to show that  $\theta$  is an isomorphism. By Lemma 2.4,  $\theta$  is well-defined and injective. Take any element  $(a, \overline{x}) \in WS(S/\eta, E/\mathcal{L})$ , where  $x \in E$ . Since  $a \in S/\eta$ , there exists  $s \in S$  such that  $a = s\eta$ . By the definition of  $WS(S/\eta, E/\mathcal{L})$ ,  $s^* \mathcal{D}^E x$ , that is,  $x \in E(s^*)$ . Hence  $a = (sx)\eta$  and  $s\mathcal{L}^* s^* x \mathcal{L} x$ . Thus  $(sx)\theta = (a, \overline{x})$ . This means that  $\theta$  is onto. For all  $s, t \in S$ , by  $st = (st)t^*$ ,  $(st)^* = (st)^* t^*$ , and  $\overline{(st)^*} \in B_{((st)\eta)^+}$  by Lemma 2.4. Now

$$\begin{aligned} \theta(st) &= ((st)\eta, \overline{(st)^*}) = ((st)\eta, \overline{(st)^* t^*}) \\ &= (s\eta, \overline{s^*})(t\eta, \overline{t^*}) = \theta(s)\theta(t). \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $\theta$  is a homomorphism. Summing up,  $\theta$  is an isomorphism of  $S$  onto  $WS(S/\eta, E/\mathcal{L})$ . The proof is completed.  $\square$

#### 4. Special cases

Let  $S$  be a PI-rpp semigroup. By Lemma 2.1  $E$  is a band. Obviously,  $E$  satisfies permutation identities. According to Yamada [7] and Yamada and Kimura [8], there are exactly four varieties of bands defined by permutation identities. They are

- $\mathcal{SL} = [ab = ba]$  the variety of semilattices,
- $\mathcal{LN} = [abc = acb]$  the variety of left normal bands,
- $\mathcal{RN} = [abc = bac]$  the variety of right normal bands, and
- $\mathcal{N} = [abcd = acbd]$  the variety of normal bands.



In what follows, we consider PI-rpp semigroups whose idempotent bands contain in  $SL$ ,  $\mathcal{LN}$  or  $\mathcal{RN}$ .

**Proposition 4.1.** *Let  $S$  be a PI-rpp semigroup. Then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (1)  $E$  is a left normal band;
- (2)  $S$  satisfies the identity:  $xyz = xzy$ ;
- (3) for all  $e \in E$ ,  $eS$  is a commutative subsemigroup of  $S$ .

*Proof.* (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2) This follows from Lemma 2.6.

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (3) Suppose that (2) holds. Then, for  $e \in E$  and  $x, y \in eS$ , we have  $x = ex$  and  $y = ey$ . Thus

$$xy = exy = eyx = yx,$$

and this establishes (3).

(3)  $\Rightarrow$  (1) Suppose that (3) holds. Then for all  $e, f, g \in E$

$$efg = e(ef)g = (ef)(eg) = (eg)(ef) = egf$$

so that

$$(ef)^2 = e \cdot ef \cdot f = ef \in E.$$

Summing up the above,  $E$  is a left normal band.  $\square$

**Lemma 4.2.** *Let  $S$  be a PI-rpp semigroup. If  $E$  is a right normal band then  $ES = \{es : e \in E, s \in S\}$  is an abundant subsemigroup of  $S$ .*

*Proof.* Obviously,  $ES$  is a subsemigroup of  $S$ . Notice that  $E \subseteq ES$  and that  $S$  is a rpp semigroup, it is easy to see that  $ES$  is a rpp semigroup. It remains to prove that  $ES$  is an lpp semigroup. To see this, let  $e \in E$  and  $a = ea \in S$ . Let  $x, y \in (ES)^1$  with  $xa = ya$ . Since for some  $f \in E$ ,  $x = fx$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} xa &= fxa a^* = f a x a^* \text{ (by Theorem 2.7) } = f a a^* x a^* \\ &= f a^* a x a^* = a^* f a^* a x a^* \text{ (by hypothesis) } \\ &= a^* a^* a f x a^* = a^* a x a^*. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly,  $ya = a^* a y a^*$ . Now  $a^* a x a^* = a^* a y a^*$ . Thus by Lemma 1.1, we have  $(a^* a)^* x a^* = (a^* a)^* y a^*$ . But as  $a^* a a^* = a^* a$ ,  $(a^* a)^* a^* = (a^* a)^*$ . Accordingly, by the hypothesis, we have

$$\begin{aligned} (a^* a)^* x a^* &= (a^* a)^* f x a^* = f (a^* a)^* f x a^* \\ &= f f x (a^* a)^* a^* = x (a^* a)^*. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly,  $(a^*a)^*ya^* = y(a^*a)^*$ . Thus,  $x(a^*a)^* = y(a^*a)^*$ . On the other hand, since  $E$  is a right normal band, we have

$$\begin{aligned}(a^*a)^*a &= (a^*a)^*ea = e(a^*a)^*ea = e(a^*a)^*aa^* \\ &= e(a^*a)^*a^*aa^* \text{ (by Theorem 2.7)} = ea^*a(a^*a)^*a^* \\ &= ea^*aa^* = eaa^*a^* = a.\end{aligned}$$

Summing up the above facts, by Corollary 1.2, we know that  $a\mathcal{R}^*(a^*a)^*$ . Therefore  $ES$  is an lpp semigroup.  $\square$

The following result is immediate from Lemmas 1.3 and 4.2 since  $E \subseteq ES$ .

**Proposition 4.3.** *Let  $S$  be a PI-rpp semigroup. Then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (1)  $E$  is a right normal band;
- (2)  $ES$  is an abundant semigroup satisfying the identity:  $xyz = yxz$ .

By using Theorem 4.1 and 4.3, we can easily obtain the following corollary.

**Corollary 4.4.** *Let  $S$  be a PI-rpp semigroup. Then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (1)  $E$  is a semilattice;
- (2)  $ES$  is a commutative abundant semigroup.

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