

## THE ADJOINT SEMIGROUP OF A $\Gamma$ -SEMIGROUP

Elton Pasku<sup>1</sup>

**Abstract.** Given a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup  $S$  and a fixed  $\gamma_0 \in \Gamma$ , we construct a semigroup  $\Sigma_{\gamma_0}$  in such a way that there is a one to one correspondence between the set of principal one sided ideals (resp. principal quasi-ideals) of  $S$  and their counterparts in  $\Sigma_{\gamma_0}$ . This correspondence allows us to obtain several results for  $S$  without having the need to work directly with it, but working with  $\Sigma_{\gamma_0}$  instead and employing well known results of semigroup theory. For example, we obtain an analogue of the Green's theorem for  $\Gamma$ -semigroups as a corollary of the usual Green's theorem in semigroups. Also we prove that, if  $S$  is a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup and  $\gamma_0 \in \Gamma$  such that  $S_{\gamma_0}$  is a completely simple semigroup, then for every  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ ,  $S_\gamma$  is completely simple too.

*AMS Mathematics Subject Classification* (2010): 20M05; 20M12; 20M17

*Key words and phrases:*  $\Gamma$ -semigroups; ideals; completely simple semigroups

### 1. Introduction and preliminaries

Let  $S$  and  $\Gamma$  be two non empty sets. Every map from  $S \times \Gamma \times S$  to  $S$  will be called a  $\Gamma$ -multiplication in  $S$  and is denoted by  $(\cdot)_\Gamma$ . The result of this multiplication for  $a, b \in S$  and  $\gamma \in \Gamma$  is denoted by  $a\gamma b$ . According to Sen and Saha [5], a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup  $S$  is an ordered pair  $(S, (\cdot)_\Gamma)$  where  $S$  and  $\Gamma$  are non empty sets and  $(\cdot)_\Gamma$  is a  $\Gamma$ -multiplication on  $S$  which satisfies the following property

$$\forall(a, b, c, \alpha, \beta) \in S^3 \times \Gamma^2, (a\alpha b)\beta c = a\alpha(b\beta c).$$

Here we give a few notions and present some auxiliary results that will be used throughout the paper. Some of the results regarding  $\Gamma$ -semigroups may be found in [4] and [5] but for the reader's convenience we have restated them below.

Let  $S$  be a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup and  $A, B$  subset of  $S$ . We define the set

$$A\Gamma B = \{a\gamma b | a \in A, b \in B \text{ and } \gamma \in \Gamma\}.$$

For simplicity we write  $a\Gamma B$  instead of  $\{a\}\Gamma B$  and similarly we write  $A\Gamma b$ , and write  $A\gamma B$  in place of  $A\{\gamma\}B$ .

**Definition 1.1.** [4] Let  $S$  be a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup. A non empty subset  $S_1$  of  $S$  is said to be a  $\Gamma$ -subsemigroup of  $S$  if  $S_1\Gamma S_1 \subseteq S_1$ .

---

<sup>1</sup>Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Natural Sciences, University of Tirana, Albania  
e-mail: epasku@gmail.com

**Definition 1.2.** [4] A right [left] ideal of a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup  $S$  is a non empty subset  $R[L]$  of  $S$  such that  $R\Gamma S \subseteq R$ ,  $[S\Gamma L \subseteq L]$ .

The principal right ideal  $(a)_r$  generated by an element  $a$  in a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup  $S$  has been defined by [4] as the smallest right ideal of  $S$  containing  $a$ , and it is proved that  $(a)_r = a \cup a\Gamma S$ . Dually, the principal left ideal  $(a)_l$  generated by an element  $a$  exists and is given by  $(a)_l = a \cup S\Gamma a$ . By analogy with plain semigroups, Saha defined in [4] relations  $\mathcal{R}$ ,  $\mathcal{L}$  and  $\mathcal{H}$  in a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup  $S$  by setting

$$\begin{aligned}(a, b) \in \mathcal{R} &\text{ iff } (a)_r = (b)_r, \\ (a, b) \in \mathcal{L} &\text{ iff } (a)_l = (b)_l, \\ (a, b) \in \mathcal{H} &\text{ iff } (a)_r = (b)_r \text{ and } (a)_l = (b)_l.\end{aligned}$$

By analogy with the definition of quasi-ideals in plain semigroups [6] we give the following.

**Definition 1.3.** A quasi-ideal of a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup  $S$  is a non empty subset  $Q$  of  $S$  such that  $Q\Gamma S \cap S\Gamma Q \subseteq Q$ .

It is easy to see that the principal quasi-ideal  $(a)_q$  generated by  $a$  in a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup  $S$  exists and is given by

$$(a)_q = a \cup (a\Gamma S \cap S\Gamma a) = (a)_r \cap (a)_l.$$

We can now define the relation  $\mathcal{Q}$  in a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup  $S$  by setting

$$(a, b) \in \mathcal{Q} \text{ iff } (a)_q = (b)_q.$$

Similarly to plain semigroups, one can prove just as easily that relations  $\mathcal{Q}$  and  $\mathcal{H}$  in  $\Gamma$ -semigroups coincide.

Given a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup  $S$  it is obvious that to any fixed  $\gamma \in \Gamma$  one can associate to  $S$  a semigroup  $(S_\gamma, \circ)$  where  $S_\gamma = S$  and  $\circ$  is defined by setting  $x \circ y = x\gamma y$  for every  $x, y \in S$ . A remarkable result of Sen and Saha in [5] states that *if  $S$  is a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup without zero and if  $S_\gamma$  is a group for some  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ , then  $S_\gamma$  is a group for every  $\gamma \in \Gamma$* . Such a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup is called a  $\Gamma$ -group. The main purpose of our paper is to generalize Sen's and Saha's result by replacing the group condition for some  $S_\gamma$  with  $S_\gamma$  being a completely simple semigroup. Recall from [2] that for a simple semigroup  $S$  (without a zero element) the following conditions are equivalent:

- (i)  $S$  is completely simple, that is, it contains a primitive idempotent;
- (ii)  $S$  is completely regular, that is, every  $\mathcal{H}$ -class is a group;
- (iii)  $S$  satisfies  $\min_L$  and  $\min_R$ ;
- (iii)  $S$  contains at least a minimal left ideal and at least a minimal right ideal.

For further readings on semigroups the reader is referred to the monograph [2].

## 2. The adjoint semigroup $\Sigma_{\gamma_0}$

In this section we will need some notions from reductions systems which can be found in [1] and [3]. In order to make the paper self contained we will give below what is necessary to make the proofs involving reduction systems easy to follow.

An abstract reduction system is a pair  $(A, \rightarrow)$ , where the reduction  $\rightarrow$  is a binary relation on the set  $A$ . We write  $a \rightarrow b$  instead of  $(a, b) \in \rightarrow$ . In what follows we denote by  $\overset{\pm}{\rightarrow}$  the transitive closure of  $\rightarrow$ , by  $\overset{*}{\rightarrow}$  the reflexive transitive closure of  $\rightarrow$  and by  $\overset{*}{\leftrightarrow}$  the equivalence relation generated by  $\rightarrow$ . We call  $a \in A$  reducible if and only if there is a  $b \in A$  such that  $a \overset{\pm}{\rightarrow} b$ , otherwise we call it irreducible or in the normal form. If it happens that  $b$  is unique, then we denote  $b$  by  $a \downarrow$ . We call  $a$  and  $a'$  *joinable* (or *resolvable*) if and only if there is  $c$  such that  $a \overset{*}{\rightarrow} c \overset{*}{\rightarrow} a'$ , in which case we write  $a \downarrow a'$ . A reduction  $\rightarrow$  is called

- *Confluent* if and only if  $a \overset{*}{\leftarrow} c \overset{*}{\rightarrow} b \implies a \downarrow b$ .
- *Locally-Confluent* if and only if  $a \leftarrow c \rightarrow b \implies a \downarrow b$ .
- *Terminating* (or *Noetherian*) if and only if there is no infinite descending chain  $a_0 \rightarrow a_1 \rightarrow \dots$
- *Convergent* if and only if it is both confluent and terminating.

The following is known as the Newman's Lemma.

**Lemma 2.1.** *A Noetherian system is confluent if it is locally confluent.*

An important notion is that of a complete reduction system. A reduction system  $(A, \rightarrow)$  is called complete if and only if every element has a unique normal form. The following characterization of complete systems, due to Newman [3], is important because it translates the completeness in terms of confluence and termination.

**Lemma 2.2.** *A reduction system is complete if and only if it is Noetherian and confluent.*

This lemma is the reason why sometimes complete systems are called convergent. Combining Lemma 2.1 and Lemma 2.2, we get the following characterization.

**Lemma 2.3.** *A reduction system is complete if and only if it is Noetherian and locally confluent.*

To define  $\Sigma_{\gamma_0}$  we first let  $F$  be the free semigroup on the disjoint union  $S \sqcup \Gamma$ . Its elements are finite strings  $(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  where each  $x_i \in S \sqcup \Gamma$ . Now we define  $\Sigma_{\gamma_0}$  as the quotient semigroup of  $F$  by the congruence generated from the set of relations

$$((\gamma_1, \gamma_2), \gamma_1), ((x, \gamma, y), x\gamma y), ((x, y), x\gamma_0 y)$$

for all  $\gamma_1, \gamma_2$  and  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ , all  $x, y \in S$  and with  $\gamma_0 \in \Gamma$  a fixed element.

**Lemma 2.4.** *Every element of  $\Sigma_{\gamma_0}$  can be represented by an irreducible word which has the form  $(\gamma, x, \gamma')$ ,  $(\gamma, x)$ ,  $(x, \gamma)$ ,  $\gamma$  or  $x$  where  $x \in S$  and  $\gamma, \gamma' \in \Gamma$ .*

*Proof.* To prove the lemma, we show first that the reduction system arising from the given presentation is Noetherian and confluent, and therefore any element of  $\Sigma_{\gamma_0}$  is given by a unique irreducible word from  $F$ . Secondly, we show that the irreducible words have one of the five claimed forms.

If a word  $w$  of  $F$  has the form  $(u, \gamma_1, \gamma_2, v)$  where  $\gamma_1, \gamma_2 \in \Gamma$ , and  $u, v$  are possibly empty words of  $F$ , then  $w$  reduces to  $w' = (u, \gamma_1, v)$ . Now if for some  $x, y \in S$  and  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ , the word  $w$  contains a subword of the form  $(x, \gamma, y)$ , which is to say that  $w = (u, x, \gamma, y, v)$  with  $u, v$  being possibly empty words from  $F$ , then it reduces to  $w' = (u, x\gamma y, v)$ . Finally, if the word  $w$  contains two adjacent letters from  $S$ , meaning that  $w = (u, x, y, v)$  where  $u$  and  $v$  as before and  $x, y \in S$ , then it reduces to  $w' = (u, x\gamma_0 y, v)$ . In this way we obtain a reduction system made of the following three type of reductions:

$$\begin{aligned} (u, \gamma_1, \gamma_2, v) &\rightarrow (u, \gamma_1, v) \\ (u, x, \gamma, y, v) &\rightarrow (u, x\gamma y, v) \\ (u, x, y, v) &\rightarrow (u, x\gamma_0 y, v) \end{aligned}$$

which is length reducing and therefore Noetherian. To prove that it is confluent, from Newman's lemma, it is sufficient to show that it is locally confluent. As there are no inclusion ambiguities, we need to check only overlapping ones. There are only five such pairs:

- 1-  $(x, y, \gamma, z) \rightarrow (x\gamma_0 y, \gamma, z)$  and  $(x, y, \gamma, z) \rightarrow (x, y\gamma z)$ . Both resolve to  $(x\gamma_0 y\gamma z)$ .
- 2-  $(x, \gamma, y, z) \rightarrow (x, \gamma, y\gamma_0 z)$  and  $(x, \gamma, y, z) \rightarrow (x\gamma y, z)$  which resolve to  $(x\gamma y\gamma_0 z)$ .
- 3-  $(x, \gamma, y, \gamma', z) \rightarrow (x, \gamma, y\gamma' z)$  and  $(x, \gamma, y, \gamma', z) \rightarrow (x\gamma y, \gamma', z)$  which resolve to  $(x\gamma y\gamma' z)$ .
- 4-  $(x, y, z) \rightarrow (x\gamma_0 y, z)$  and  $(x, y, z) \rightarrow (x, y\gamma_0 z)$ , which resolve to  $(x\gamma_0 y\gamma_0 z)$ .
- 5-  $(\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \gamma_3) \rightarrow (\gamma_1, \gamma_3)$  and  $(\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \gamma_3) \rightarrow (\gamma_1, \gamma_2)$  which resolve to  $(\gamma_1)$ .

To complete the proof, we need to show that the irreducible words representing elements of  $\Sigma_{\gamma_0}$  have the claimed forms. Any word which has neither a prefix nor a suffix made entirely of letters from  $\Gamma$  reduces to an element of  $S$  by performing reductions of types one, two and three. Otherwise, if the word is  $(\eta, U, \eta')$  where  $\eta, \eta'$  are words from the free monoid with base  $\Gamma$  and  $U$  has neither a prefix nor a suffix made entirely of letters from  $\Gamma$ , then reduce  $\eta$  and  $\eta'$  to a single letter from  $\Gamma$  by performing reductions of the first type, and then reduce as before  $U$  to a single letter from  $S$ .  $\square$

Lemma 2.4 shows in particular that the natural epimorphism  $\mu : F \rightarrow \Sigma_{\gamma_0}$  is injective on  $S$  and  $\Gamma$ . In what follows we will identify the elements of  $\Sigma_{\gamma_0}$  with the irreducible words from  $F$  they are represented of written without brackets and commas, and if we want to multiply in  $\Sigma_{\gamma_0}$  two such words, we take their concatenation and then find its irreducible form. For instance, the product in  $\Sigma_{\gamma_0}$  of  $x$  with  $\gamma y$  is  $x \cdot \gamma y = x\gamma y$ .

We call  $\Sigma_{\gamma_0}$  the *adjoint semigroup* of the given  $\Gamma$ -semigroup. The semigroup  $\Sigma_{\gamma_0}$  satisfies the following universal property.

**Theorem 2.5.** *Let  $S$  and  $S'$  be both  $\Gamma$ -semigroups. For every homomorphism of  $\Gamma$ -semigroups  $\varphi : S \rightarrow S'$  identical on  $\Gamma$ , there is a unique homomorphism of semigroups  $\phi : \Sigma_{\gamma_0} \rightarrow \Sigma'_{\gamma_0}$  identical on  $\Gamma$  such that  $\phi\mu = \mu'\varphi$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $f : F(S \cup \Gamma) \rightarrow F(S' \cup \Gamma)$  be the homomorphism of free semigroups induced from  $\varphi$ . We prove that  $\varphi$  induces a homomorphism  $\phi : \Sigma_{\gamma_0} \rightarrow \Sigma'_{\gamma_0}$ . To do this we need to show that every relation that defines  $\Sigma_{\gamma_0}$  lies in the kernel of  $\mu'f$  where  $\mu' : F(S' \cup \Gamma) \rightarrow \Sigma'_{\gamma_0}$  is the canonical homomorphism. Indeed, for the first type of relations  $((\gamma_1, \gamma_2), \gamma_1)$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mu'f(\gamma_1, \gamma_2) &= \mu'(\varphi(\gamma_1), \varphi(\gamma_2)) \\ &= \varphi(\gamma_1) \\ &= \gamma_1 \\ &= \mu'f(\gamma_1). \end{aligned}$$

For the second type  $((x, \gamma, y), x\gamma y)$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mu'f(x, \gamma, y) &= \mu'(\varphi(x), \gamma, \varphi(y)) \\ &= \varphi(x)\gamma\varphi(y) \\ &= \varphi(x\gamma y) \\ &= \mu'f(x\gamma y), \end{aligned}$$

and for the last type  $((x, y), x\gamma_0 y)$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mu'f(x, y) &= \mu'(\varphi(x), \varphi(y)) \\ &= \varphi(x)\gamma_0\varphi(y) \\ &= \varphi(x\gamma_0 y) \\ &= \mu'f(x\gamma_0 y). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $\mu'f$  induces  $\phi : \Sigma_{\gamma_0} \rightarrow \Sigma'_{\gamma_0}$  such that  $\phi\mu = \mu'\varphi$ . Since  $\varphi$  is the restriction of  $f$  in  $S \cup \Gamma$ , then we derive that  $\phi\mu = \mu'\varphi$ . The uniqueness of  $\phi$  with the given property follows easily from the fact any other homomorphism  $\hat{\phi} : \Sigma_{\gamma_0} \rightarrow \Sigma'_{\gamma_0}$  satisfying  $\hat{\phi}\mu = \mu'\varphi$  coincides with  $\phi$  on the generators of  $\Sigma_{\gamma_0}$  and therefore equals with  $\phi$ .  $\square$

The next lemma and the subsequent proposition establish a 1-1 correspondence between principal one sided ideals and quasi ideals of  $S$ , and their counterparts of  $\Sigma_{\gamma_0}$ . This correspondence will be useful in the proof of Theorem 2.8.

**Lemma 2.6.** *Let  $x \in S$  by an arbitrary element. The following hold true.*

- (i) *The principal left ideal in  $\Sigma_{\gamma_0}$  generated by  $x$  is the set  $(x)_{\ell}^{\Sigma_{\gamma_0}} = (x)_{\ell}^{\Gamma} \cup \Gamma(x)_{\ell}^{\Gamma}$  where  $(x)_{\ell}^{\Gamma} = S\Gamma x \cup \{x\}$  is the left ideal in  $S$  generated by  $x$  and  $\Gamma(x)_{\ell}^{\Gamma}$  is a short notation for the set  $\{\gamma y : \gamma \in \Gamma \text{ and } y \in (x)_{\ell}^{\Gamma}\}$ .*

- (ii) The principal right ideal in  $\Sigma_{\gamma_0}$  generated by  $x$  is the set  $(x)_r^{\Sigma_{\gamma_0}} = (x)_r^\Gamma \cup (x)_r^\Gamma \Gamma$  where  $(x)_r^\Gamma = x\Gamma S \cup \{x\}$  is the right ideal in  $S$  generated by  $x$  and  $(x)_r^\Gamma \Gamma$  is the short notation for the set  $\{y\gamma : \gamma \in \Gamma \text{ and } y \in (x)_r^\Gamma\}$ .

*Proof.* We will make the proof for (i) only since the proof for (ii) is dual to that of (i). The elements of  $(x)_\ell^{\Sigma_{\gamma_0}} \setminus \{x\}$  are of the following five forms:

- 1-  $\gamma y \cdot x$  with  $\gamma \in \Gamma$  and  $y \in S$ . But  $\gamma y \cdot x = \gamma y \gamma_0 x$  which belongs to  $\Gamma(x)_\ell^\Gamma$ .
- 2-  $\gamma y \gamma' \cdot x$  with  $\gamma, \gamma' \in \Gamma$  and  $y \in S$ . Again  $\gamma y \gamma' \cdot x = \gamma(y\gamma'x)$  which belongs to  $\Gamma(x)_\ell^\Gamma$ .
- 3-  $\gamma \cdot x$  with  $\gamma \in \Gamma$  which obviously belongs to  $\Gamma(x)_\ell^\Gamma$ .
- 4-  $y \cdot x$  which equals to  $y\gamma_0 x$  and belongs to  $(x)_\ell^\Gamma$ .
- 5-  $y\gamma \cdot x$  which equals to  $y\gamma x$  and as before belongs to  $(x)_\ell^\Gamma$ . □

**Proposition 2.7.** For every  $x \in S$ ,  $\mathcal{Q}_x^{\Sigma_{\gamma_0}} = \mathcal{Q}_x^\Gamma$ .

*Proof.* From Lemma 2.6 we see that for every  $x \in S$ , the quasi ideal in  $\Sigma_{\gamma_0}$  generated by  $x$  is the set  $(x)_q^{\Sigma_{\gamma_0}} = (x)_\ell^\Gamma \cap (x)_r^\Gamma = (x)_q^\Gamma$ , therefore any  $y \in S$  that is contained in  $\mathcal{Q}_x^{\Sigma_{\gamma_0}}$  has to be contained in  $\mathcal{Q}_x^\Gamma$ , and conversely. It remains to prove that  $\mathcal{Q}_x^{\Sigma_{\gamma_0}}$  has no elements of the following four forms:  $\alpha y \beta$ ,  $\alpha y$ ,  $y \beta$  or  $\alpha$  where  $\alpha, \beta \in \Gamma$  and  $y \in S$ . We make the proof for the first type  $\alpha y \beta$  because the proofs for the other types of words are similar. If  $\alpha y \beta \in \mathcal{Q}_x^{\Sigma_{\gamma_0}}$ , then  $(\alpha y \beta)_r^{\Sigma_{\gamma_0}} = (x)_r^{\Sigma_{\gamma_0}}$  which is impossible since the left hand side cannot contain  $x$ . □

**Theorem 2.8.** (Green Theorem) Suppose that  $x, y$  and  $x\gamma_0 y$  for a certain  $\gamma_0 \in \Gamma$  belong to the same class  $\mathcal{H}_x^\Gamma$ . Then,  $\mathcal{H}_x^\Gamma$  is a subgroup of the semigroup  $S_{\gamma_0}$ .

*Proof.* For the particular  $\gamma_0$  stated in the theorem, we construct the semigroup  $\Sigma_{\gamma_0}$  for which we know from Proposition 2.7 that  $\mathcal{H}_x^\Gamma$  and  $\mathcal{H}_x^{\Sigma_{\gamma_0}}$  coincide. Now since  $x, y, x\gamma_0 y \in \mathcal{H}_x^\Gamma$ , we have that  $x, y, x\gamma_0 y \in \mathcal{H}_x^{\Sigma_{\gamma_0}}$ . But  $x\gamma_0 y = xy$  in  $\Sigma_{\gamma_0}$ , hence  $\mathcal{H}_x^{\Sigma_{\gamma_0}}$  satisfies the Green condition and then the Green's theorem for plain semigroups implies that  $\mathcal{H}_x^{\Sigma_{\gamma_0}}$  is a group. It is now obvious that  $\mathcal{H}_x^\Gamma$  is a subgroup of  $S_{\gamma_0}$ . □

### 3. Completely simple $\Gamma$ -semigroups

In this section we will define completely simple  $\Gamma$ -semigroups as those  $\Gamma$ -semigroups without zero such that each  $S_\gamma$  is a completely simple semigroup. It turns out that it is sufficient to assume that only a particular  $S_{\gamma_0}$  is a completely simple semigroup in order that every  $S_\gamma$  is a completely simple semigroup. This generalizes the well known result of [5] for  $\Gamma$ -groups.

**Theorem 3.1.** For a given  $\Gamma$ -semigroup  $S$  without zero, if for some  $\gamma_0 \in \Gamma$ ,  $S_{\gamma_0}$  is a completely simple semigroup, then  $S_\gamma$  is a completely simple semigroup for every  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ .

*Proof.* As in the previous theorem, we let  $\Sigma_{\gamma_0}$  be the adjoint semigroup constructed for  $\gamma_0$ . We proceed by first showing that  $\Sigma'_{\gamma_0} = \Sigma_{\gamma_0} \setminus \Gamma$  is a completely simple semigroup without zero. To show that it is simple, we note first that from Lemma 2.4  $\Sigma'_{\gamma_0}$  is a disjoint union of subsemigroups of the form  $S, \gamma S, S\gamma, \gamma S\gamma'$  for  $\gamma, \gamma'$  varying in  $\Gamma$ . If  $J$  is an ideal of  $\Sigma'_{\gamma_0}$  containing an  $x \in S$ , then  $J \cap S$  is an ideal of  $S_{\gamma_0}$  and since  $S_{\gamma_0}$  is a simple semigroup, then it follows that  $J \cap S = S$ , hence  $S \subseteq J$ . For any  $s_0 \in S_{\gamma_0}$ ,

$$S \circ s_0 \circ S = S,$$

from simplicity of  $S_{\gamma_0}$ . For any  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ , we have in  $\Sigma_{\gamma_0}$  the equality

$$(3.1) \quad \gamma S \circ s_0 \circ S = \gamma S.$$

Taking into account that  $S \subseteq J$  together with the fact that  $\gamma S \circ s_0 \subseteq \Sigma'_{\gamma_0}$  we derive from (3.1) that  $\gamma S \subseteq J$ . In the same way we get  $S\gamma \subseteq J$ . Further, since again  $S \circ s_0 \circ S = S$ , then for any  $\gamma, \gamma' \in \Gamma$ ,

$$\gamma S \circ s_0 \circ S\gamma' = \gamma S\gamma',$$

which together with the inclusions  $\gamma S, S\gamma \subseteq J$  and  $s_0 \in S \subseteq J$ , imply that  $\gamma S\gamma' \subseteq J$ .

If  $J$  contains some  $x\gamma$ , then, for any  $y \in S$ , it contains  $x\gamma y$  which lies in  $S$ , and then we proceed as before. The same argument applies if  $J$  contains some  $\gamma x$  or some  $\gamma x\gamma'$ . So we finally have that  $J = \Sigma'_{\gamma_0}$  proving the simplicity of  $\Sigma'_{\gamma_0}$ .

Now we show that  $\Sigma'_{\gamma_0}$  contains a primitive idempotent. Let  $\varepsilon_0$  be a primitive idempotent of  $S_{\gamma_0}$ . We show that  $\gamma_0\varepsilon_0\gamma_0$  is a primitive idempotent of  $\Sigma'_{\gamma_0}$ . To do this, one should observe first that any idempotent which is lower than  $\gamma_0\varepsilon_0\gamma_0$  in the natural order must have the form  $\gamma_0\varepsilon\gamma_0$  where  $\varepsilon$  is an idempotent in  $S_{\gamma_0}$ . It is obvious that any idempotent  $\varepsilon$  of  $\Sigma'_{\gamma_0}$  belonging to  $S$  cannot be lower than  $\gamma_0\varepsilon_0\gamma_0$  since  $\varepsilon \cdot (\gamma_0\varepsilon_0\gamma_0) \neq \varepsilon$ . Similar arguments apply if the idempotent is from some  $\gamma S$  or  $S\gamma$ . Finally if the idempotent has the form  $\gamma\varepsilon\gamma'$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma\varepsilon\gamma' &= (\gamma\varepsilon\gamma') \cdot (\gamma_0\varepsilon_0\gamma_0) \\ &= \gamma(\varepsilon\gamma'\varepsilon_0)\gamma_0. \end{aligned}$$

The uniqueness of the expression of elements of  $\Sigma_{\gamma_0}$  as words with letters from  $S \cup \Gamma$  (Lemma 2.4) implies that  $\gamma' = \gamma_0$ . In a similar fashion one can prove that  $\gamma = \gamma_0$ . From the assumption that  $\gamma_0\varepsilon\gamma_0 \leq \gamma_0\varepsilon_0\gamma_0$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_0\varepsilon\gamma_0 &= (\gamma_0\varepsilon\gamma_0) \cdot (\gamma_0\varepsilon_0\gamma_0) \\ &= \gamma_0(\varepsilon\gamma_0\varepsilon_0)\gamma_0 = \gamma_0\varepsilon_0\gamma_0 \quad (\text{since } \varepsilon_0 \text{ is primitive,}) \end{aligned}$$

which similarly to above implies that  $\varepsilon = \varepsilon_0$ . The assertion that  $\Sigma'_{\gamma_0}$  does not have a zero is proved easily. Thus  $\Sigma'_{\gamma_0}$  is completely simple and therefore it is completely regular. The latter means that any element of  $\Sigma'_{\gamma_0}$  lies in a

subgroup of  $\Sigma'_{\gamma_0}$ . Let  $\gamma \in \Gamma$  be arbitrary and  $\gamma x \in \gamma S$ . There is a subgroup  $G$  of  $\Sigma'_{\gamma_0}$  such that  $\gamma x \in \gamma S \cap G$ . It follows that the unit of  $G$  must have the form  $\gamma\varepsilon$  where  $\varepsilon$  is an idempotent in  $S_\gamma$ . Indeed, the unit cannot be an element  $\varepsilon \in S$  since  $\varepsilon \cdot (\gamma x) \neq \gamma x$ . Also it cannot be an element  $\alpha\varepsilon\beta \in \alpha S\beta$  since  $(\gamma x) \cdot (\alpha\varepsilon\beta) \neq \gamma x$ . Similarly one shows that the unit cannot be of the form  $\varepsilon\beta \in S\beta$ . Finally if the unit is  $\alpha\varepsilon \in \alpha S$ , then

$$\gamma x = (\alpha\varepsilon) \cdot (\gamma x) = \alpha(\varepsilon\gamma x),$$

which shows that  $\alpha = \gamma$ .

Taking into account that the unit of  $G$  is  $\gamma\varepsilon$  we show that any  $g \in G$  must have the form  $\gamma z$  with  $z \in S$ , therefore  $G \subseteq \gamma S$ . Indeed, elements of the form  $x \in S$ ,  $\alpha y\beta \in \alpha S\beta$  and  $y\beta \in S\beta$  are excluded since

$$x \neq (\gamma\varepsilon) \cdot x, \alpha y\beta \neq (\alpha y\beta) \cdot (\gamma\varepsilon) \text{ and } y\beta \neq (\gamma\varepsilon) \cdot (y\beta).$$

The remaining elements are  $\alpha y \in \alpha S$ . For such elements we have

$$\alpha y = (\gamma\varepsilon) \cdot (\alpha y) = \gamma(\varepsilon\alpha y),$$

whence  $\alpha = \gamma$  and so  $G \subseteq \gamma S$  as claimed. This shows that any element  $\gamma x \in \gamma S$  is contained in a subgroup  $G$  of  $\gamma S$ , whence  $\gamma S$  is completely regular. Using this it is easy to show that  $S_\gamma$  is completely regular too. For this it is enough to observe that  $\gamma S$  and  $S_\gamma$  are isomorphic under the map

$$\phi : \gamma S \rightarrow S_\gamma \text{ such that } \gamma x \mapsto x.$$

To complete the proof, we show that  $S_\gamma$  is a simple semigroup under the assumption that  $S_{\gamma_0}$  is simple. To this end we show that any ideal  $I$  of  $S_\gamma$  is an ideal of  $S_{\gamma_0}$  too. Indeed, let  $x \in I$  and  $s \in S_\gamma$  arbitrary elements. Denote by  $\varepsilon_x^\gamma$  the unit of the subgroup of  $S_\gamma$  containing  $x$ , then

$$s \circ x = s\gamma_0 x = s\gamma_0(\varepsilon_x^\gamma \gamma x) = (s\gamma_0 \varepsilon_x^\gamma) \gamma x \in I,$$

showing that  $I$  is a left ideal of  $S_{\gamma_0}$ . In a similar fashion with above one can show that  $I$  is a right ideal concluding the proof.  $\square$

We may now redefine a completely simple  $\Gamma$  semigroup as a  $\Gamma$  semigroup  $S$  having the property that there exists  $\gamma_0 \in \Gamma$  such that  $S_{\gamma_0}$  is a completely simple semigroup.

## Acknowledgement

The author wishes to thank the referee for the careful reading of the paper.

## References

- [1] Baader, F., Nipkow, T., Term Rewriting and All That. Cambridge University Press, 1998.

- [2] Howie, J.M., *Fundamentals of Semigroup Theory*. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1995.
- [3] Newman, M.H.A., On theories with a combinatorial definition of 'equivalence'. *Ann. of Math.* 43(2) (1942), 223-243.
- [4] Saha, N.K., On  $\Gamma$ -semigroups. *Bull. Cal. Math. Soc.* 79 (1987), 331-335.
- [5] Sen, M.K., Saha, N.K., On  $\Gamma$ -semigroups I. *Bull. Cal. Math. Soc.* 78 (1986), 180-186.
- [6] Steinfeld, O., *Quasi-ideals in semigroups and rings*. Budapest: Akademiai Kiado, 1978.

*Received by the editors July 5, 2017*

*First published online November 7, 2017*