

## Varieties of Ordered Semigroups

Martin Kuřil

### 1. Introduction

It is known that there is a bijection between all varieties of semigroups and all fully invariant congruences on the free semigroup on the set of variables  $\{x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots\}$ . It was done (more generally, for varieties of algebras) by Birkhoff in 1930's. The reader can consult Birkhoff's book [1]. So, to any variety of semigroups we have its syntactical counterpart.

In this contribution we present syntactical counterparts to varieties of ordered semigroups. Our main theorem (2.6) asserts that there is a bijection between all varieties of ordered semigroups and all fully invariant stable quasiorders on the free semigroup on the set  $\{x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots\}$  (fully invariant stable quasiorders are, roughly speaking, fully invariant congruences which do not need to be symmetric). We use the notion of identities for ordered algebras introduced by Bloom in [2]. Bloom has proved that varieties of ordered algebras are exactly classes defined by identities ([2], Theorem 2.6.). The special case of this result (when the ordered algebras are ordered semigroups) is our corollary 2.7.

A structure  $(S, \cdot, \leq)$  is called an ordered semigroup if

- (i)  $(S, \cdot)$  is a semigroup
- (ii)  $(S, \leq)$  is a (partially) ordered set
- (iii) for any  $a, b, c \in S$ ,  $a \leq b$  implies  $ca \leq cb$  and  $ac \leq bc$ .

Let  $S = (S, \cdot_S, \leq_S)$  and  $T = (T, \cdot_T, \leq_T)$  be ordered semigroups. By a homomorphism  $h : (S, \cdot_S, \leq_S) \rightarrow (T, \cdot_T, \leq_T)$  we mean a mapping  $h : S \rightarrow T$  such that, for any  $a, b \in S$ ,  $h(a \cdot_S b) = h(a) \cdot_T h(b)$  and  $a \leq_S b$  implies  $h(a) \leq_T h(b)$ . As usual, the ordered semigroup  $T$  is said to be a homomorphic image of  $S$  if there exists a surjective homomorphism  $h : S \rightarrow T$ . Further,  $T$  is said to be a substructure of  $S$  if  $T \subseteq S$  and, for any  $a, b \in T$ ,  $a \cdot_T b = a \cdot_S b$ ,  $a \leq_T b$  if and only if  $a \leq_S b$ .

Let  $\{(S_i, \cdot_i, \leq_i) \mid i \in I\}$  be a set of ordered semigroups. By a product  $\prod_{i \in I} (S_i, \cdot_i, \leq_i)$  we mean an ordered semigroup  $(\prod_{i \in I} S_i, \cdot, \leq)$  where  $(s_i)_{i \in I} \cdot (t_i)_{i \in I} = (s_i \cdot_i t_i)_{i \in I}$  and  $(s_i)_{i \in I} \leq (t_i)_{i \in I}$  if and only if  $s_i \leq_i t_i$  for all  $i \in I$ .

Let  $\mathcal{V}$  be a class of ordered semigroups. Denote by  
 $H(\mathcal{V})$  — the class of all homomorphic images of members of  $\mathcal{V}$   
 $S(\mathcal{V})$  — the class of all substructures of members of  $\mathcal{V}$   
 $P(\mathcal{V})$  — the class of all products of members of  $\mathcal{V}$ .  
 We say that  $\mathcal{V}$  is a variety provided  $H(\mathcal{V}) \subseteq \mathcal{V}$ ,  $S(\mathcal{V}) \subseteq \mathcal{V}$  and  $P(\mathcal{V}) \subseteq \mathcal{V}$ .  
 Let us denote the variety of all ordered semigroups by **OS**.

## 2. Identities for ordered semigroups

Let  $Y$  be a non-empty set. The free semigroup on  $Y$  will be denoted by  $Y^+$ .

An identity is any ordered pair  $u \preceq v$  of words  $u, v \in Y^+$ . Let  $(S, \cdot, \leq)$  be an ordered semigroup. We say that the identity  $u \preceq v$  is satisfied in  $(S, \cdot, \leq)$  if, for any homomorphism  $\varphi : Y^+ \rightarrow (S, \cdot)$ ,  $\varphi(u) \leq \varphi(v)$ . An identity is satisfied in a class  $\mathcal{V}$  of ordered semigroups if it is satisfied in any member of  $\mathcal{V}$ .

Let  $\mathcal{V} \subseteq \mathbf{OS}$  be a class of ordered semigroups. We put

$$\rho(\mathcal{V}, Y) = \{(u, v) \in Y^+ \times Y^+ \mid \text{the identity } u \preceq v \text{ is satisfied in } \mathcal{V}\}.$$

Let  $\Sigma \subseteq Y^+ \times Y^+$  be a set of identities. We put

$$[\Sigma] = \{(S, \cdot, \leq) \in \mathbf{OS} \mid (S, \cdot, \leq) \text{ satisfies all identities from } \Sigma\}.$$

Let  $S = (S, \cdot)$  be a semigroup. A binary relation  $\rho$  on  $S$  is said to be

- a quasiorder if it is a reflexive and transitive relation
- stable if, for any  $a, b, c \in S$ ,  $a\rho b$  implies  $c\rho cb$  and  $ac\rho bc$
- fully invariant if, for any endomorphism  $\varphi : S \rightarrow S$  and any  $a, b \in S$ ,  $a\rho b$  implies  $\varphi(a)\rho\varphi(b)$ .

The set of all fully invariant stable quasiorders on  $S$  will be denoted by  $\text{FISQ}(S)$ .

**2.1 Lemma.** *Let  $\Sigma \subseteq Y^+ \times Y^+$ . Then  $[\Sigma]$  is a variety of ordered semigroups.*

**PROOF.** It is easy to show the inclusions

$$H([\Sigma]) \subseteq [\Sigma], S([\Sigma]) \subseteq [\Sigma], P([\Sigma]) \subseteq [\Sigma].$$

**2.2 Lemma.** *Let  $\mathcal{V} \subseteq \mathbf{OS}$ . Then  $\rho(\mathcal{V}, Y) \in \text{FISQ}(Y^+)$ .*

PROOF. It is easy.

Let  $\rho$  be a stable quasiorder on a semigroup  $S = (S, \cdot)$ . We construct an ordered semigroup  $S/\rho = (S/\sim_\rho, \cdot, \leq)$ . We define a relation  $\sim_\rho$  on  $S$  in this way:

$$a \sim_\rho b \iff a\rho b, b\rho a \quad (a, b \in S).$$

It is easy to show that the relation  $\sim_\rho$  is a congruence on  $(S, \cdot)$ . The congruence  $\sim_\rho$  determines the semigroup  $(S/\sim_\rho, \cdot)$ . We define a relation  $\leq$  on  $S/\sim_\rho$  in the following way:

$$(a \sim_\rho) \leq (b \sim_\rho) \iff a\rho b \quad (a, b \in S).$$

We easily check that the relation  $\leq$  on  $S/\sim_\rho$  is correctly defined. Further,  $(S/\sim_\rho, \cdot, \leq)$  is an ordered semigroup. We will denote it by  $S/\rho$ .

Let  $\mathcal{V}$  be a class of ordered semigroups. By a free object in  $\mathcal{V}$  on a non-empty set  $Z$  we mean a pair  $(S, \iota)$ , where  $S \in \mathcal{V}$  and  $\iota : Z \rightarrow S$  is a mapping with the following universal property: for any ordered semigroup  $T \in \mathcal{V}$  and any mapping  $\vartheta : Z \rightarrow T$  there exists a unique homomorphism  $\psi : (S, \cdot, \leq) \rightarrow (T, \cdot, \leq)$  such that  $\psi \circ \iota = \vartheta$ . In the cases when the mapping  $\iota$  is obvious we will omit it and we will simply say that  $S$  is a free object in  $\mathcal{V}$  on  $Z$ . Notice that in any class of ordered semigroups there is, up to isomorphism, at most one free object on a given non-empty set.

**2.3 Theorem.** *Let  $\mathcal{V}$  be a variety of ordered semigroups. Then  $Y^+/\rho(\mathcal{V}, Y)$  is a free object in  $[\rho(\mathcal{V}, Y)]$  on  $Y$  and  $Y^+/\rho(\mathcal{V}, Y) \in \mathcal{V}$ . In particular,  $Y^+/\rho(\mathcal{V}, Y)$  is a free object in  $\mathcal{V}$  on  $Y$ .*

PROOF. In the case  $\rho(\mathcal{V}, Y) = Y^+ \times Y^+$  the assertion of the theorem clearly holds. So, let  $\rho(\mathcal{V}, Y) \neq Y^+ \times Y^+$ . Let  $\{(u_i, v_i) \in Y^+ \times Y^+ \mid i \in I\}$  be the set of all identities over  $Y$  which are not satisfied in  $\mathcal{V}$ . For any  $i \in I$ , let us choose  $(S_i, \cdot, \leq) \in \mathcal{V}$  and a homomorphism  $\varphi_i : Y^+ \rightarrow (S_i, \cdot)$  so that  $\varphi_i(u_i) \not\leq \varphi_i(v_i)$ . Put  $(S, \cdot, \leq) = \prod_{i \in I} (S_i, \cdot, \leq)$ . Clearly,  $(S, \cdot, \leq) \in \mathcal{V}$ . Further, let us consider a homomorphism  $\varphi = (\varphi_i)_{i \in I} : Y^+ \rightarrow (S, \cdot)$ . It holds for  $u, v \in Y^+$ :  $\varphi(u) \leq \varphi(v) \iff u\rho(\mathcal{V}, Y)v$ . Put  $T = \varphi(Y^+)$ . Then  $T$  is a subsemigroup in  $(S, \cdot)$ . We order the semigroup  $(T, \cdot)$  by the restriction of the ordering from  $(S, \cdot, \leq)$ . We have  $(T, \cdot, \leq) \in \mathcal{V}$  and  $(T, \cdot, \leq) \cong Y^+/\rho(\mathcal{V}, Y)$ . Thus  $Y^+/\rho(\mathcal{V}, Y) \in \mathcal{V}$ . It remains to prove that  $Y^+/\rho(\mathcal{V}, Y)$  is a free object in  $[\rho(\mathcal{V}, Y)]$  on  $Y$ . Let  $(P, \cdot, \leq) \in [\rho(\mathcal{V}, Y)]$ ,  $\vartheta : Y \rightarrow P$ . Let us assume that  $\psi : Y^+/\rho(\mathcal{V}, Y) \rightarrow (P, \cdot, \leq)$  is a homomorphism satisfying  $\psi \circ \iota = \vartheta$ . At the same time the mapping  $\iota : Y \rightarrow Y^+/\sim_{\rho(\mathcal{V}, Y)}$  is given by the rule  $\iota(y) = y \sim_{\rho(\mathcal{V}, Y)}$  ( $y \in Y$ ). For any  $u \in Y^+$ ,  $\psi(u \sim_{\rho(\mathcal{V}, Y)}) = \theta(u)$  where  $\theta : Y^+ \rightarrow (P, \cdot)$  is the homomorphism extending the mapping

$\vartheta$ . It can be easily shown that the rule  $\psi(u \sim_{\varrho(\mathcal{V}, Y)}) = \theta(u)$  determines correctly a homomorphism  $\psi : Y^+ / \varrho(\mathcal{V}, Y) \rightarrow (P, \cdot, \leq)$ .

**2.4 Lemma.** *Let  $\rho \in \text{FISQ}(Y^+)$ . Then  $\rho = \varrho([\rho], Y)$ .*

PROOF. Clearly,  $\rho \subseteq \varrho([\rho], Y)$ . So, we will prove the inclusion  $\varrho([\rho], Y) \subseteq \rho$ . We will show that  $Y^+ / \rho \in [\rho]$ . Let  $u, v \in Y^+, u\rho v, \varphi : Y^+ \rightarrow Y^+ / \sim_\rho$  be a homomorphism. We want to show that  $\varphi(u) \leq \varphi(v)$ . For any  $y \in Y$  let us choose  $\vartheta(y) \in Y^+$  so that  $\varphi(y) = \vartheta(y) \sim_\rho$ . Let  $\theta : Y^+ \rightarrow Y^+$  be the endomorphism extending the mapping  $\vartheta : Y \rightarrow Y^+$ . Let  $y_{i_1}, \dots, y_{i_k} \in Y$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(y_{i_1} \dots y_{i_k}) &= \varphi(y_{i_1}) \dots \varphi(y_{i_k}) \\ &= (\vartheta(y_{i_1}) \sim_\rho) \dots (\vartheta(y_{i_k}) \sim_\rho) \\ &= (\vartheta(y_{i_1}) \dots \vartheta(y_{i_k})) \sim_\rho \\ &= \theta(y_{i_1} \dots y_{i_k}) \sim_\rho. \end{aligned}$$

We have shown that, for any  $w \in Y^+, \varphi(w) = \theta(w) \sim_\rho$ . So, we want to prove that  $(\theta(u) \sim_\rho) \leq (\theta(v) \sim_\rho)$ , i.e.  $\theta(u)\rho\theta(v)$ . But it holds since  $\rho \in \text{FISQ}(Y^+)$ . Now, let  $(u, v) \in \varrho([\rho], Y)$ . We want to show that  $u\rho v$ . The identity  $u \preceq v$  is satisfied in the ordered semigroup  $Y^+ / \rho$ . Let us consider the following homomorphism  $\varphi : Y^+ \rightarrow Y^+ / \sim_\rho, \varphi(w) = w \sim_\rho$  ( $w \in Y^+$ ). Then  $\varphi(u) \leq \varphi(v), (u \sim_\rho) \leq (v \sim_\rho), u\rho v$ .

**2.5 Lemma.** *Let  $Y$  be an infinite set,  $\mathcal{V}$  be a variety of ordered semigroups. Then  $\mathcal{V} = [\varrho(\mathcal{V}, Y)]$ .*

PROOF. Clearly,  $\mathcal{V} \subseteq [\varrho(\mathcal{V}, Y)]$ . So, we will prove the inclusion  $[\varrho(\mathcal{V}, Y)] \subseteq \mathcal{V}$ . Let  $(S, \cdot, \leq) \in [\varrho(\mathcal{V}, Y)]$ . Let us consider the set  $Z = Y \cup S$ . By 2.3,  $Z^+ / \varrho(\mathcal{V}, Z)$  is a free object in  $[\varrho(\mathcal{V}, Z)]$  on  $Z$  and  $Z^+ / \varrho(\mathcal{V}, Z) \in \mathcal{V}$ . Let  $\vartheta : Z \rightarrow S$  be a surjective mapping. Since  $Y$  and  $Z$  are infinite sets,  $[\varrho(\mathcal{V}, Y)] = [\varrho(\mathcal{V}, Z)]$ , and so  $(S, \cdot, \leq) \in [\varrho(\mathcal{V}, Z)]$ . Let  $\varphi : Z^+ / \varrho(\mathcal{V}, Z) \rightarrow (S, \cdot, \leq)$  be the homomorphism satisfying  $\varphi \circ \iota = \vartheta$  ( $\iota : Z \rightarrow Z^+ / \sim_{\varrho(\mathcal{V}, Z)}, \iota(z) = z \sim_{\varrho(\mathcal{V}, Z)}$ ). Necessarily,  $\varphi$  is a surjection. Thus  $(S, \cdot, \leq) \in \mathcal{V}$ .

**2.6 Theorem.** *Let  $Y$  be an infinite set. The rules*

$$\rho \mapsto [\rho], \mathcal{V} \mapsto \varrho(\mathcal{V}, Y)$$

*determine mutually inverse order reversing bijections between all varieties of ordered semigroups and all fully invariant stable quasiorders on  $Y^+$ .*

PROOF. The theorem follows immediately from 2.4 and 2.5.

**2.7 Corollary.** *Let  $\mathcal{V}$  be a class of ordered semigroups. Then  $\mathcal{V}$  is a variety of ordered semigroups if and only if there exist a non-empty set  $Y$  and a set of identities  $\Sigma \subseteq Y^+ \times Y^+$  such that  $\mathcal{V} = [\Sigma]$ .*

The theorem 2.6 is an analogy for ordered semigroups with the classical result by Birkhoff (see, e.g., Theorem 22 in [1]) concerning the relationship between varieties of algebras of a given type and fully invariant congruences on a free algebra of words of the same type. The corollary 2.7 follows also from a result by Bloom presented in his paper on varieties of ordered algebras ([2], Theorem 2.6.).

## References

- [1] G.Birkhoff, *Lattice Theory*, Providence, Rhode Island, 1967
- [2] S.L.Bloom, *Varieties of ordered algebras*, Journal of Computer and System Sciences 13, 200 – 212 (1976)

J.E.Purkyně University  
 České mládeže 8  
 400 96 Ústí nad Labem  
 Czech Republic  
 e-mail: kurilm@pf.ujep.cz