# U-ABUNDANT SEMIGROUPS WITH LEFT CENTRAL IDEMPOTENTS

SUN Yan, REN Xue-ming, GONG Chun-mei

(School of Science, Xi'an University of Architecture and Technology, Xi'an 710055, China)

**Abstract:** In this paper, we study the semilattice decomposition of U-abundant semigroups with left central idempotents. By using this semilattice decomposition, it is proved that a semigroup S is a U-abundant semigroup with left central idempotents if and only if it is a strong semilattice of a direct product  $M_{\alpha} \times \Lambda_{\alpha}$ , where  $M_{\alpha}$  is a unipotent monoid and  $\Lambda_{\alpha}$  is a right zero band. This result is the basis of the establishing of the structure theorem of U-abundant semigroups with left central idempotents.

**Keywords:** U-abundant semigroup; left central idempotent; unipotent monoid;  $\sim$ -Green's relation

2010 MR Subject Classification: 20M10

Document code: A Article ID: 0255-7797(2015)04-0833-08

#### 1 Introduction

On a semigroup S the relation  $\widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$  is defined by the rule that for any elements a,b of S,  $a\widetilde{\mathcal{L}}b$  if and only if for all  $e \in E$ ,  $ae = a \Leftrightarrow be = b$ . The relation  $\widetilde{\mathcal{R}}$  is dually defined. The relations  $\widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$  and  $\widetilde{\mathcal{R}}$  on a semigroup S are generalizations of the familiar \*-Green's relations  $\mathcal{L}^*$  and  $\mathcal{R}^*$ . As usual, the join of  $\widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$  and  $\widetilde{\mathcal{R}}$  is denoted by  $\widetilde{\mathcal{D}}$  and the intersection of them is denoted by  $\widetilde{\mathcal{H}}$ . Clearly,  $\widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$  and  $\widetilde{\mathcal{R}}$  are equivalences, but  $\widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$  is generally not right compatible and  $\widetilde{\mathcal{R}}$  is generally not left compatible. The  $\widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$ -class containing the element a of the semigroup S is denoted by  $\widetilde{\mathcal{L}}_a$  or by  $\widetilde{\mathcal{L}}_a(S)$  in case of ambiguity. One can see that there is at most one idempotent contained in each  $\widetilde{\mathcal{H}}$ -class. Furthermore, if a and b are both regular elements of a semigroup S, then  $(a,b) \in \widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$  if and only if  $(a,b) \in \mathcal{L}$ . In particular, if S itself is a regular semigroup, then  $\widetilde{\mathcal{L}} = \mathcal{L}$  [1]. Dually, we also have  $\widetilde{\mathcal{R}} = \mathcal{R}$  on a regular semigroup S.

A monoid is a semigroup with identity. A monoid is called unipotent if it does not contain any idempotents except identity. A semigroup in which each  $\mathcal{L}^*$ -class and each  $\mathcal{R}^*$ -class contains at least one idempotent is called abundant [2]. A semigroup S is called U-semiabundant [3] if each  $\widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$ -class and each  $\widetilde{\mathcal{R}}$ -class of S contains at least one idempotent. All

<sup>\*</sup> Received date: 2013-12-31 Accepted date: 2014-10-13

**Foundation item:** Supported by National Natural Science Foundation of China (11471255); Scientific Research Program Foundation of Shanxi Provincial Education Department (14JK1412); Fundamental Research Foundation of School (JC1219); Youth Foundation of School (QN1134).

**Biography:** Sun Yan (1981–), female, born at Pingdu, Shandong, lecturer, major in semigroup algebra.

abundant semigroups and U-semiabundant semigroups form two important classes of generalized regular semigroups. Moreover, we easily see that  $\mathcal{L} \subseteq \mathcal{L}^* \subseteq \widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$  and  $\mathcal{R} \subseteq \mathcal{R}^* \subseteq \widetilde{\mathcal{R}}$ . Thus, abundant semigroups are obviously U-semiabundant semigroups, but U-semiabundant semigroups may not be abundant semigroups. This means that U-semiabundant semigroups are the generalizations of abundant semigroups in the range of generalized regular semigroups.

It is well known that a Clifford semigroup is a strong semilattice of groups [4]. And Fountain proved that an adequate semigroup with idempotents lying in the center is a strong semilattice of cancellative monoids [5]. Later on, the semilattice decomposition on abundant semigroups with left central idempotents has been investigated by Shum and Ren [6].

In this paper, we will extend the above results to the class of U-abundant semigroups in which all idempotents are left central. Thus, the results of Clifford , Fountain and Shum are all amplified. The main techniques that we use in the study are the  $\sim$ -Green's relations. For terminologies and notations not given in this paper, the reader is referred to Lawson [3] and Howie [7].

#### 2 Preliminaries

In this section, we first give some basic definitions and results concerning U-abundant semigroups with left central idempotents.

**Definition 2.1** An idempotent e of a semigroup S is called a left central idempotent if xey = exy for all  $x, y \in S^1$  and  $y \neq 1$ .

**Definition 2.2** A U-semiabundant semigroup S is called a U-abundant semigroup if S satisfies the congruence condition, that is,  $\widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$  is a right congruence and  $\widetilde{\mathcal{R}}$  is a left congruence on S respectively.

Next, S is always a U-abundant semigroup with left central idempotents, that is, S is a U-abundant semigroup and all idempotents of S are left central.

**Lemma 2.3** Each  $\widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$ -class of S contains a unique idempotent.

**Proof** Suppose  $(e, f) \in \widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$  for  $e, f \in E$ . Then, we have  $e\mathcal{L}f$ . This leads to ef = e and fe = f. Since f is a left central idempotent, we immediately have ef = fef. Thereby

$$e = ef = fef = f$$
.

**Remark** We now denote a unique idempotent in the  $\widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$ -class containing the element a of S by  $a^*$ . Then we have the following lemmas.

**Lemma 2.4** The relation  $\widehat{\mathcal{L}}$  is a congruence on S.

**Proof** Let  $(a,b) \in \widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$  for  $a,b \in S$ . In order to show that  $(ca,cb) \in \widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$  for any  $c \in S$ , we suppose that cae = ca for any  $e \in E$ . By Lemma 2.3, then there exists a unique idempotent  $c^*$  in  $\widetilde{\mathcal{L}}_c$  such that  $(c,c^*) \in \widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$ . Since  $\widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$  is a right congruence on U-abundant semigroups, we have  $(ca,c^*a) \in \widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$  for  $a \in S$ . Thus, by the definition of  $\widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$ , we get  $c^*ae = c^*a$ . Thereby  $ac^*a^*e = ac^*a^*$ , because  $c^*$  is a left central idempotent and  $a = aa^*$ . Furthermore, since  $(a,b) \in \widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$  and  $\widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$  is a right congruence on a U-abundant semigroup, we also have  $(ac^*a^*,bc^*a^*) \in \widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$ . Thus, by the definition of  $\widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$ , we immediately have  $bc^*a^*e = bc^*a^*$ .

Hence, by the left centrality of  $c^*$ , we deduce that  $c^*ba^*e = c^*ba^*$ . Finally, and again, since  $(c, c^*) \in \widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$  and  $\widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$  is a right congruence on a U-abundant semigroup, we have  $(cba^*, c^*ba^*) \in \widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$ . Thus, by the definition of  $\widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$ , we can obtain that  $cba^*e = cba^*$ . As a result, we have cbe = cb, since  $a^* = b^*$  and  $b = bb^*$ . Similarly, if cbe = cb for any  $e \in E$ , then cae = ca. This leads to  $(ca, cb) \in \widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$ . Hence,  $\widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$  is a left congruence on S. It is well known that  $\widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$  is a right congruence on a b-abundant semigroup b. This shows that b is a congruence on b.

**Lemma 2.5**  $(ab)^* = a^*b^*$  for any  $a, b \in S$ .

**Proof** It is trivial that  $(b,b^*) \in \widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$  for any  $b \in S$ . Since  $\widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$  is a congruence on a U-abundant semigroup with left central idempotents, we have  $(ab,ab^*) \in \widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$  for any  $a \in S$ . Thus, it is obvious that  $(ab)^* = (ab^*)^*$  by Lemma 2.3. Similarly, we know that  $(ab^*,a^*b^*) \in \widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$ . By using Lemma 2.3 again, we get  $(ab^*)^* = (a^*b^*)^* = a^*b^*$ . Consequently,  $(ab)^* = (ab^*)^* = a^*b^*$ .

**Lemma 2.6** Define a relation  $\sigma$  on S by  $a\sigma b$  if and only if  $a^*b^*=b^*$  and  $b^*a^*=a^*$  for any  $a,b\in S$ . Then the relation  $\sigma$  is a semilattice congruence on S.

**Proof** It is easy to see that  $\sigma$  is an equivalent relation on S. Suppose that  $a\sigma b$  for  $a,b\in S$ . Then  $a^*b^*=b^*$  and  $b^*a^*=a^*$ . By applying Lemma 2.5, we get  $(ac)^*(bc)^*=a^*c^*b^*c^*=a^*b^*c^*=b^*c^*=(bc)^*$ . By using similar arguments, we can also prove that  $(bc)^*(ac)^*=(ac)^*$ . This shows that  $(ac,bc)\in \sigma$ . Similarly,  $(ca,cb)\in \sigma$ . Hence,  $\sigma$  is a congruence on S. Now, by Lemma 2.5 and the left centrality of  $a^*$ , we have  $(ab)^*(ba)^*=a^*b^*a^*=b^*a^*a^*=(ba)^*$  and  $(ba)^*(ab)^*=(ab)^*$ . Thus, we know immediately that  $(ab,ba)\in \sigma$  by the definition of  $\sigma$ . In addition, it is obvious that  $a\sigma a^*$  and  $a\sigma a^2$  for any  $a\in S$ . We prove that  $\sigma$  is indeed a smilattice congruence on S.

**Lemma 2.7** On a U-abundant semigroup S with left central idempotents, we have

- (i)  $\widetilde{\mathcal{L}} = \widetilde{\mathcal{H}}$  and  $\sigma = \widetilde{\mathcal{R}} = \widetilde{\mathcal{D}}$ :
- (ii)  $\widetilde{\mathcal{H}}, \widetilde{\mathcal{R}}$  and  $\widetilde{\mathcal{D}}$  are all congruences on S.

**Proof** (i) Since S is a U-abundant semigroup, there exists  $e \in E$  such that  $(a, e) \in \widetilde{\mathcal{R}}$  for any  $a \in S$  and so ea = a. Thus, by Lemma 2.5, we have  $ea^* = a^*$ . On the other hand, since  $(a, a^*) \in \widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$  and  $a^*$  is a left central idempotent, we deduce that  $a = aa^* = aa^*a^* = a^*aa^* = a^*aa^* = a^*a$ , that is,  $a^*a = a$ . Thus, by using  $(a, e) \in \widetilde{\mathcal{R}}$  and the definition of  $\widetilde{\mathcal{R}}$ , we have  $a^*e = e$ . From this, together with  $ea^* = a^*$ , we can deduce that  $(a^*, e) \in \mathcal{R}$ . This leads to  $(a^*, e) \in \widetilde{\mathcal{R}}$ . Hence,  $(a, a^*) \in \widetilde{\mathcal{R}}$ . Again since  $(a, a^*) \in \widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$ , we have  $(a, a^*) \in \widetilde{\mathcal{H}}$ . Now let  $(a, b) \in \widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$  for  $a, b \in S$ . Then, we have known that  $(a, a^*) \in \widetilde{\mathcal{H}}$  and  $(b, b^*) \in \widetilde{\mathcal{H}}$ . By Lemma 2.3, we have  $a^* = b^*$  and so  $(a, b) \in \widetilde{\mathcal{H}}$ . This shows that  $\widetilde{\mathcal{L}} \subseteq \widetilde{\mathcal{H}}$ . Clearly,  $\widetilde{\mathcal{L}} = \widetilde{\mathcal{H}} \subseteq \widetilde{\mathcal{R}}$ .

Let  $(a,b) \in \widetilde{\mathcal{R}}$  for  $a,b \in S$ . Then  $(a^*,b^*) \in \widetilde{\mathcal{R}}$ , since  $\widetilde{\mathcal{L}} \subseteq \widetilde{\mathcal{R}}$ . Thus, we have  $a^*b^* = b^*$  and  $b^*a^* = a^*$ . Hence, we have  $(a,b) \in \sigma$  by the definition of  $\sigma$ . This leads to  $\widetilde{\mathcal{R}} \subseteq \sigma$ .

On the other hand, let  $(a,b) \in \sigma$  for  $a,b \in S$ . Then  $a^*b^* = b^*$  and  $b^*a^* = a^*$ . In order to show that  $(a,b) \in \widetilde{\mathcal{R}}$ , we suppose ea = a for any  $e \in E$ . By Lemma 2.5, we have  $ea^* = a^*$ . Thus  $ea^*b^* = a^*b^*$ . This implies that  $eb^* = b^*$ . And again, since  $(b,b^*) \in \widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$  and  $\widetilde{\mathcal{L}} \subseteq \widetilde{\mathcal{R}}$ , we immediately have  $(b,b^*) \in \widetilde{\mathcal{R}}$ . Thus, by using the definition of  $\widetilde{\mathcal{R}}$ , we know that eb = b. Similarly, if eb = b for any  $e \in E$ , then ea = a. As a result, we obtain  $(a,b) \in \widetilde{\mathcal{R}}$ . This leads

to  $\sigma \subseteq \widetilde{\mathcal{R}}$  and so  $\sigma = \widetilde{\mathcal{R}}$ . Now, it is easy to see that

$$\widetilde{\mathcal{D}} = \widetilde{\mathcal{L}} \vee \widetilde{\mathcal{R}} = \widetilde{\mathcal{H}} \vee \widetilde{\mathcal{R}} = \widetilde{\mathcal{R}}.$$

This shows that  $\sigma = \widetilde{\mathcal{R}} = \widetilde{\mathcal{D}}$ .

(ii) By using Lemma 2.4 and Lemma 2.6, we immediately know that  $\widetilde{\mathcal{H}}, \widetilde{\mathcal{R}}$  and  $\widetilde{\mathcal{D}}$  are all congruences on S.

### 3 Main Results

We are now going to give the characterization theorem for U-abundant semigroups with left central idempotents.

**Theorem 3.1** Let S be a semigroup. Then the following statements are equivalent:

- (i) S is a U-abundant semigroup with left central idempotents;
- (ii) S is a semilattice of direct products  $M_{\alpha} \times \Lambda_{\alpha}$ , where  $M_{\alpha}$  is a unipotent monoid and  $\Lambda_{\alpha}$  is a right zero band for every  $\alpha \in Y$ . Moreover, E is a right normal band;
- (iii) S is a strong semilattice of direct products  $M_{\alpha} \times \Lambda_{\alpha}$ , where  $M_{\alpha}$  is a unipotent monoid and  $\Lambda_{\alpha}$  is a right zero band for every  $\alpha \in Y$ .

**Proof** (i) $\Rightarrow$ (ii) Clearly,  $S = \bigcup_{\alpha \in Y} S_{\alpha}$ , where  $S_{\alpha}$  is a  $\sigma$ -class of S on a semilattice Y. We know that  $S_{\alpha} \cap E \neq \emptyset$ , since  $\sigma = \widetilde{\mathcal{R}}$  and S is a U-abundant semigroup. Let  $M_{\alpha} = S_{\alpha}e_{\alpha}$  for some  $e_{\alpha} \in S_{\alpha} \cap E$ . To show that  $M_{\alpha}$  is a unipotent monoid with an identity element  $e_{\alpha}$ . Let  $y = xe_{\alpha} \in M_{\alpha}$  for any  $x \in S_{\alpha}$ . Then  $ye_{\alpha} = xe_{\alpha} = y$ . On the other hand, by using  $\sigma = \widetilde{\mathcal{R}}$ , we get  $(y, e_{\alpha}) \in \widetilde{\mathcal{R}}$  and so  $e_{\alpha}y = y$ . Hence,  $M_{\alpha}$  is indeed a monoid with an identity element  $e_{\alpha}$ . In particular,  $M_{\alpha} = \widetilde{\mathcal{L}} = \widetilde{\mathcal{H}}$ . This means that  $M_{\alpha}$  contains a unique idempotent. Thus, we know that  $M_{\alpha}$  also is a unipotent monoid. Now, let  $\Lambda_{\alpha}$  be the set of all idempotents of  $S_{\alpha}$ , that is,  $\Lambda_{\alpha} = S_{\alpha} \cap E$ . Then it is clear that  $e\widetilde{\mathcal{R}}f$  for all  $e, f \in \Lambda_{\alpha}$ . This implies that  $\Lambda_{\alpha}$  is a right zero band. We define a mapping  $\varphi : M_{\alpha} \times \Lambda_{\alpha} \to S_{\alpha}$  by  $\varphi(x, f) = xf$  for any  $(x, f) \in M_{\alpha} \times \Lambda_{\alpha}$ . Then, for any  $(x, f), (y, k) \in M_{\alpha} \times \Lambda_{\alpha}$ , we have

$$\varphi(x, f)\varphi(y, k) = xfyk = xyfk = xyk = \varphi[(x, f)(y, k)].$$

Thus,  $\varphi$  is a morphism. Furthermore, if  $\varphi(x,f)=\varphi(y,k)$ , that is, xf=yk, then  $xfe_{\alpha}=yke_{\alpha}$ . Since  $\Lambda_{\alpha}$  is a right zero band and  $e_{\alpha}$  is an identity element in  $M_{\alpha}$ , we have x=y. In the meantime, we also have xf=xk. By using Lemma 2.5, we obtain that  $x^*f=x^*k$ . Again since  $\Lambda_{\alpha}$  is a right zero band and  $x^*\in\Lambda_{\alpha}$ , we immediately have f=k. This shows that  $\varphi$  is a monomorphism as well. In order to show that the mapping  $\varphi$  is onto. Let any  $a\in S_{\alpha}$ . Then there exists a unique idempotent  $a^*$  such that  $(a,a^*)\in\widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$ . By Lemma 2.7, we know that  $\widetilde{L}\subseteq\widetilde{R}$  and  $\sigma=\widetilde{R}$ . This means that  $(a,a^*)\in\sigma$  such that  $a^*\in S_{\alpha}$ . Hence,  $a^*\in\Lambda_{\alpha}=S_{\alpha}\cap E$ . Moreover, by using  $S_{\alpha}\cap E\neq\varnothing$ , it is natural for us to know  $ae_{\alpha}\in M_{\alpha}$  for some  $e_{\alpha}\in S_{\alpha}\cap E$ . In this case, we always have

$$(ae_{\alpha}, a^*)\varphi = ae_{\alpha}a^* = aa^* = a,$$

since  $\Lambda_{\alpha}$  is a right zero band and  $(a, a^*) \in \widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$ . This shows that the mapping  $\varphi$  is onto. In conclusion, we prove that  $S_{\alpha} \cong M_{\alpha} \times \Lambda_{\alpha}$ .

Finally, since any  $e \in E$  is a left central idempotent, we have ehg = heg for all  $e, h, g \in E$ . This show that E is a right normal band.

(ii) $\Rightarrow$ (iii) To show that  $S = \bigcup_{\alpha \in Y} S_{\alpha}$  is a strong semilattice of direct products  $M_{\alpha} \times \Lambda_{\alpha}$ , we pick any  $\alpha, \beta \in Y$  with  $\alpha \geq \beta$ . First, let  $a \in S_{\alpha}$  and  $e_{\beta} \in S_{\beta} \cap E$ . Then  $e_{\beta}a \in S_{\beta}$ . According to this fact, we define a mapping  $\theta_{\alpha,\beta} : S_{\alpha} \to S_{\beta}$  by  $a\theta_{\alpha,\beta} = e_{\beta}a$  for any  $a \in S_{\alpha}$  and some  $e_{\beta} \in S_{\beta} \cap E$ . Write  $e_{\beta}a = (u,i) \in S_{\beta}$ . Let  $g = (1_{\beta},i) \in S_{\beta} \cap E$  and  $e_{\beta} = (1_{\beta},j) \in S_{\beta} \cap E$ , where  $1_{\beta}$  is the identity element of  $M_{\beta}$ . Then

$$e_{\beta}ag = (u, i)(1_{\beta}, i) = (u, i) = e_{\beta}a$$
 (2.1)

and

$$g = (1_{\beta}, i) = (1_{\beta}, j)(1_{\beta}, i) = e_{\beta}g.$$
 (2.2)

Similarly, we let  $b = (v, l) \in S_{\alpha}$  and  $h = (1_{\alpha}, l) \in S_{\alpha} \cap E$ . Then

$$hb = b. (2.3)$$

Furthermore, since E is a right normal band, we also have

$$ge_{\beta}h = e_{\beta}gh. \tag{2.4}$$

By using (2.1), (2.2), (2.3) and (2.4), we can proof that

$$e_{\beta}ae_{\beta}b = e_{\beta}age_{\beta}hb = e_{\beta}ae_{\beta}ghb = e_{\beta}aghb = e_{\beta}ab.$$

Thus,  $a\theta_{\alpha,\beta}b\theta_{\alpha,\beta}=(ab)\theta_{\alpha,\beta}$ . This shows that  $\theta_{\alpha,\beta}$  is a morphism.

On the other hand, it is easy to prove that  $\theta_{\alpha,\alpha} = 1_{S_{\alpha}}$  for any  $\alpha \in Y$ .

Now, we let  $a=(w,k)\in S_{\alpha}$  and  $p=(1_{\alpha},k)\in S_{\alpha}\cap E$  for  $\alpha\in Y$ . Then we have pa=a. By the right normality of E, for some  $e_{\beta}\in S_{\beta}\cap E$  and  $e_{\gamma}\in S_{\gamma}\cap E$  with  $\alpha\geq \beta\geq \gamma$ , we can deduce that

$$e_{\gamma}e_{\beta}p = e_{\beta}e_{\gamma}p = e_{\beta}e_{\gamma} \cdot e_{\gamma}p = e_{\gamma}p$$

so that

$$a\theta_{\alpha,\beta}\theta_{\beta,\gamma} = e_{\gamma}(e_{\beta}a) = e_{\gamma}e_{\beta}pa = e_{\gamma}pa = e_{\gamma}a = a\theta_{\alpha,\gamma}.$$

Thus,  $\theta_{\alpha,\gamma} = \theta_{\alpha,\beta}\theta_{\beta,\gamma}$ .

Finally, let  $a \in S_{\alpha}$ ,  $b \in S_{\beta}$  for any  $\alpha, \beta \in Y$ . Then  $ab = e_{\alpha\beta}(ab) \in S_{\alpha\beta}$  for some  $e_{\alpha\beta} \in S_{\alpha\beta} \cap E$ . Since  $e_{\alpha\beta}a \in S_{\alpha\beta}$ , by using (2.1), we known that there exists  $f^2 = f \in S_{\alpha\beta}$  such that  $e_{\alpha\beta}af = e_{\alpha\beta}a$  for  $e_{\alpha\beta}a \in S_{\alpha\beta}$ . Moreover, by using (2.3), we also know that there exists  $e^2 = e \in S_{\beta}$  such that eb = b for  $b \in S_{\beta}$ . Thus, by the right normality of E again, we have

$$e_{\alpha\beta}ae_{\alpha\beta}b = e_{\alpha\beta}afe_{\alpha\beta}eb = e_{\alpha\beta}ae_{\alpha\beta}feb$$
  
=  $e_{\alpha\beta}a(e_{\alpha\beta}f)eb = e_{\alpha\beta}afeb$   
=  $e_{\alpha\beta}ab = ab$ .

This shows that  $ab = a\theta_{\alpha,\alpha\beta}b\theta_{\beta,\alpha\beta}$ . Hence,  $S = \bigcup_{\alpha \in Y} S_{\alpha}$  is indeed a strong semilattice of direct products  $S_{\alpha} = M_{\alpha} \times \Lambda_{\alpha}$ , and denote it by  $S = [Y; S_{\alpha}, \theta_{\alpha,\beta}]$ .

(iii) $\Rightarrow$ (i) Let  $S = [Y; S_{\alpha}, \theta_{\alpha,\beta}]$  be a strong semilattice of direct products  $M_{\alpha} \times \Lambda_{\alpha}$  for  $\alpha \in Y$ , where  $M_{\alpha}$  is a unipotent monoid and  $\Lambda_{\alpha}$  is a right zero band. And let  $x, y \in S^1$  with  $y \neq 1$  and  $e \in E$ . Then  $x \in S^1_{\alpha}, y \in S^1_{\beta}$  and  $e \in S_{\gamma} \cap E$  for some  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in Y$ . Write  $\alpha\beta\gamma = \delta$ , where  $\delta \in Y$ . Now, we suppose that

$$x\theta_{\alpha,\delta} = (m,t) \in S_{\delta},$$
  

$$y\theta_{\beta,\delta} = (v,l) \in S_{\delta},$$
  

$$e\theta_{\gamma,\delta} = (1_{\delta},q) \in S_{\delta}.$$

Then

$$xey = x\theta_{\alpha,\delta}e\theta_{\gamma,\delta}y\theta_{\beta,\delta} = (m,t)(1_{\delta},q)(v,l) = (mv,l).$$

Similarly, we have exy = (mv, l). Thus, xey = exy. This shows that the element e is a left central idempotent for any  $e \in E$ . In other words, S is a semigroup with left central idempotents.

It remains to show that each  $\widetilde{\mathcal{R}}$ -class of S contains at least one idempotent. Let  $a=(u,i)\in S_{\alpha}$  and  $f=(1_{\alpha},i)\in S_{\alpha}\cap E$  for any  $\alpha\in Y$ . In order to proof that  $(a,f)\in\widetilde{\mathcal{R}}$ , we assume that ea=a for any  $e\in E$ . Then  $e=(1_{\gamma},k)\in S_{\gamma}\cap E$  for some  $\gamma\in Y$ . Because S is the semilattice of  $S_{\alpha}$ , we can immediately see that  $\alpha\leq\gamma$  for  $\alpha,\gamma\in Y$ . Thus,

$$ef = (1_{\gamma}, k)\theta_{\gamma,\alpha} \cdot (1_{\alpha}, i)\theta_{\alpha,\alpha} = (1_{\alpha}, i) = f.$$

Similarly, if ef = f for any  $e \in E$ , then ea = a. Hence, we know that  $(a, f) \in \widetilde{\mathcal{R}}$ . This implies that each  $\widetilde{\mathcal{R}}$ -class of S contains at least one idempotent.

On the other hand, we need to proof that each  $\widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$ -class of S contains at least one idempotent. Let  $b = (w, h) \in S_{\alpha}$  and  $g = (1_{\alpha}, h) \in S_{\alpha} \cap E$  for any  $\alpha \in Y$ . In order to proof that  $(b, g) \in \widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$ . We assume that be = b for any  $e \in E$ . Then  $e = (1_{\gamma}, k) \in S_{\gamma} \cap E$  for some  $\gamma \in Y$  and  $\gamma \geq \alpha$ . Again, since be = b, we have

$$(w,h)(1_{\gamma},k) = (w,h)\theta_{\alpha,\alpha} \cdot (1_{\gamma},k)\theta_{\gamma,\alpha} = (w,k\theta_{\gamma,\alpha}) = (w,h).$$

This implies that  $k\theta_{\gamma,\alpha} = h$ . Hence, we have

$$ge = (1_{\alpha}, h)(1_{\gamma}, k) = (1_{\alpha}, h)\theta_{\alpha,\alpha} \cdot (1_{\gamma}, k)\theta_{\gamma,\alpha} = (1_{\alpha}, k\theta_{\gamma,\alpha}) = (1_{\alpha}, h) = g.$$

Similarly, if ge = g for any  $e \in E$ , then be = b. Thereby, we obtain that  $(b, g) \in \widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$ . This implies that each  $\widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$ -class of S contains at least one idempotent. Thus, S is a U-semiabundant semigroup.

Finally, we shall show that  $\widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$  is a right congruence. We first let  $(a,b) \in \widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$  for  $a,b \in S$ . Then a and b are the element of the same  $S_{\alpha}$  for  $\alpha \in Y$ . Clearly, if  $(a,b) \in \widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$  but

 $a \in S_{\alpha}, b \in S_{\beta}$ , since S is a U-semiabundant semigroup, there exist  $f^2 = f \in S_{\alpha} \cap E$  and  $g^2 = g \in S_{\beta} \cap E$  such that  $(a, f) \in \widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$  and  $(b, g) \in \widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$ . This implies that  $(f, g) \in \widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$ . Thus, fg = f and gf = g, where the elements  $fg, gf \in S_{\alpha\beta}, f \in S_{\alpha}$  and  $g \in S_{\beta}$ . Hence,  $\alpha = \beta$ . According to this fact, we let  $(a, b) \in \widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$  for  $a = (u, i) \in S_{\alpha}, b = (w, h) \in S_{\alpha}$ . To show that  $(ac, bc) \in \widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$  for any  $c \in S$ , we assume that ace = ac for any  $e \in E$ . Then  $c = (v, j) \in S_{\beta}$  and  $e = (1_{\gamma}, k) \in S_{\gamma}$  for some  $\beta, \gamma \in Y$ . In the meantime, we have  $\alpha, \beta \leq \gamma$  for  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in Y$ , since S is a strong semilattice of  $S_{\alpha}$ . Furthermore, we obtain that

$$(u,i)(v,j)(1_{\gamma},k) = (u,i)\theta_{\alpha,\alpha\beta} \cdot (v,j)\theta_{\beta,\alpha\beta}(1_{\gamma},k)\theta_{\gamma,\alpha\beta}$$
$$= (u\theta_{\alpha,\alpha\beta} \cdot v\theta_{\beta,\alpha\beta}, k\theta_{\gamma,\alpha\beta})$$
$$= (u\theta_{\alpha,\alpha\beta} \cdot v\theta_{\beta,\alpha\beta}, j\theta_{\beta,\alpha\beta}).$$

This implies that  $k\theta_{\gamma,\alpha\beta} = j\theta_{\beta,\alpha\beta}$ . Hence, we immediately have that

$$bce = (w, h)(v, j)(1_{\gamma}, k) = (w, h)\theta_{\alpha, \alpha\beta} \cdot (v, j)\theta_{\beta, \alpha\beta}(1_{\gamma}, k)\theta_{\gamma, \alpha\beta}$$
$$= (w\theta_{\alpha, \alpha\beta} \cdot v\theta_{\beta, \alpha\beta}, k\theta_{\gamma, \alpha\beta}) = (w\theta_{\alpha, \alpha\beta} \cdot v\theta_{\beta, \alpha\beta}, j\theta_{\beta, \alpha\beta}) = bc.$$

By using similar arguments, if bce = bc for any  $e \in E$ , then ace = ac. Thereby,  $(ac, bc) \in \widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$ . This show that  $\widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$  is a right congruence. Similarly,  $\widetilde{\mathcal{R}}$  is also a left congruence. In other words, S is a U-abundant semigroup. Now summing up the above facts, we show that the semigroup S is indeed a U-abundant semigroup with left central idempotents. The proof is completed.

**Remark** We notice here that the above theorem extends a known result of Shum and Ren (see [6], Theorem 3.1).

The following theorem can be proved by using the similar method as Theorem 3.1.

**Theorem 3.2** Let S be a semigroup. Then the following statements are equivalent:

- (i) S is a regular semigroup with left central idempotents;
- (ii) S is a strong semilattice of right groups;
- (iii) S is a right Clifford semigroup and E is a right normal band.

**Proof** We first note that  $\widetilde{\mathcal{L}} = \mathcal{L}$  and  $\widetilde{\mathcal{R}} = \mathcal{R}$  on regular semigroups. If S is a regular semigroup with left central idempotents, then by the results of Lemma 2.7, we know immediately that  $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{H} \subseteq \mathcal{R} = \mathcal{D}$  and  $\mathcal{H}, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{R}, \mathcal{D}$  are all congruences on S. Moreover, S is a completely regular semigroup. In particular, for any  $a \in S$ ,  $a^*$  is a unique idempotent of the  $\mathcal{H}$ -class containing a. It following that each  $\sigma$ -class of S is a direct product of a group and a right zero band, which is called a right group. Hence, by using the same arguments as Theorem 3.1, we can prove that (i) $\Rightarrow$ (ii). The details are omitted. For (ii) $\Rightarrow$ (iii) and (iii) $\Rightarrow$ (i), it is the dual of Theorem 4.1 in [8].

**Remark** We notice here that the above theorem extends a known result of Clifford (see [7], Theorem 2.1).

#### References

- [1] Guo Yuqi, Shum K P, Gong Chunmei. On  $(*, \sim)$ -Green's relations and ortho-lc-monoids[J]. Comm. Algebra, 2011, 39: 5–31.
- [2] Fountain J B. Abundant semigroups[J]. Proc. Lond. Math. Soc, 1982, 44(3): 103-129.
- [3] Lawson M V. Rees matrix semigroups[J]. Proc. Edinburgh Math. Soc., 1990, 33: 23-37.
- [4] Clifford A H. Semigroups admitting relatives inverse[J]. Ann. Math, 1941, 42: 1037–1049.
- [5] Fountain J B. Adequate semigroups [J]. Proc. Edinburgh Math.Soc., 1979, 22: 113–125.
- [6] Shum K P, Ren Xueming. Abundant semigroups with left central idempotents[J]. Pure Math. Appl., 1999, 10(1): 109–113.
- [7] Howie J M. An introduction to semigroup theory[M]. London: Academic Press, 1976.
- [8] Zhu Pinyu, Guo Yuqi, Shum K P. Structure and characterizations of left C-semigroups[J]. Sci. China, Series A, 1992, 6: 791–805.

## 具有左中心幂等元的U-富足半群

孙 燕,任学明,宫春梅

(西安建筑科技大学理学院,陕西西安 710055)

**摘要**: 本文研究了具有左中心幂等元的U-富足半群的半格分解. 利用半格分解, 证明了半群S为具有左中心幂等元的U-富足半群, 当且仅当S为直积 $M_{\alpha} \times \Lambda_{\alpha}$ 的强半格, 其中 $M_{\alpha}$ 是幂幺半群,  $\Lambda_{\alpha}$  是右零带. 这一结果为具有左中心幂等元的U-富足半群结构的建立奠定了基础.

**关键词**: *U*-富足半群; 左中心幂等元; 幂幺半群; ~-格林关系

MR(2010)主题分类号: 20M10 中图分类号: O152.7