

180. Note on Semigroups, which are Semilattices of Groups

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(Comm. by Kinjirô KUNUGI, M. J. A., Oct. 12, 1968)

Let S be a semigroup. Following the terminology of A. H. Clifford [1], [2] we say that S is a semilattice of groups if S is a set-theoretical union of a set $\{G_\alpha, \alpha \in I\}$ of mutually disjoint subgroups G_α such that, for every α, β in I , the products $G_\alpha G_\beta$ and $G_\beta G_\alpha$ are both contained in the same G_γ ($\gamma \in I$).

Recently the author proved the following characterization of semigroups, which are semilattices of groups (see [3]).

Theorem 1. *A semigroup S is a semilattice of groups if and only if*

$$(1) \quad L_1 \cap L_2 = L_1 L_2$$

and

$$(2) \quad R_1 \cap R_2 = R_1 R_2$$

for any two left ideals L_1, L_2 of S and right ideals R_1, R_2 of S , respectively.

In this note we give another characterization of semigroups, which are semilattices of groups.

Theorem 2. *A semigroup S is a semilattice of groups if and only if*

$$(3) \quad L \cap A = LA$$

and

$$(4) \quad R \cap A = AR$$

for any left ideal L , right ideal R , and two-sided ideal A of S .

Proof. *Necessity.* Let S be a semigroup which is a semilattice of groups. Then it is an inverse semigroup every one-sided ideal in which is a two-sided ideal (see [2]). This implies that

$$(5) \quad A \cap B = AB$$

for any two ideals A, B of S . Therefore the relations (3), (4) are satisfied.

Sufficiency. Let S be a semigroup having the properties (3) and (4) for any left ideal L , right ideal R , and two-sided ideal A of S . In case of $A = S$ the equality (3) implies

$$(6) \quad L \cap S = LS.$$

This means that any left ideal L is also a right ideal of S , whence L

is a two-sided ideal of S . Consequently the relation (1) is satisfied for any two left ideals L_1, L_2 of S .

Analogously, in case of $A=S$ the equality (4) implies that

$$(7) \quad R \cap S = SR,$$

that is, any right ideal R is a two-sided ideal of S . Therefore the relation (2) follows from (4). Finally Theorem 1 implies that S is a semilattice of groups.

Theorem 1 and Theorem 2 imply the result as follows.

Theorem 3. *For a semigroup S the following conditions are equivalent:*

- (A) S is a semilattice of groups.
- (B) $L_1 \cap L_2 = L_1 L_2$ for any two left ideals L_1, L_2 , and $R_1 \cap R_2 = R_1 R_2$ for any two right ideals R_1, R_2 of S .
- (C) $L \cap A = LA$ and $R \cap A = AR$ for any left ideal L , right ideal R , and two-sided ideal A of S .

References

- [1] A. H. Clifford: Bands of semigroups. Proc. Amer. Math. Soc., **5**, 499-504 (1954).
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