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## TOLERANCE MODULAR VARIETIES OF SEMIGROUPS

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The aim of this paper is to describe all varieties of semigroups whose tolerance lattices are modular. The present result generalizes the issue from [1] to arbitrary semigroups. In addition we give a characterization of varieties of semigroups whose (principal) tolerances are congruences.

## 1. PRELIMINARIES

Recall that a tolerance on a semigroup  $S$  is a reflexive and symmetric subsemigroup of the direct product  $S \times S$ . By  $\text{Tol}(S)$  we denote the lattice of all tolerances on  $S$  with respect to set inclusion (see [2] and [3]). Denote by  $\vee$  or  $\wedge$  the join or meet in  $\text{Tol}(S)$ , respectively. The meet evidently coincides with set intersection. For  $M \subseteq S \times S$ , we denote by  $T_S(M)$  (or simply  $T(M)$ ) the least tolerance on  $S$  containing  $M$ . It is easy to show the following:

- (1)  $(x, y) \in T(M)$  if and only if  $x = x_1 x_2 \dots x_m$  and  $y = y_1 y_2 \dots y_m$ , where either  $(x_i, y_i) \in M$  or  $(y_i, x_i) \in M$  or  $x_i = y_i \in S$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ .
- (2)  $A \vee B = T(A \cup B)$  for any  $A, B \in \text{Tol}(S)$ .

By  $\text{Con}(S)$  we denote the lattice of all congruences on  $S$ . Clearly  $\text{Con}(S)$  is a subset of  $\text{Tol}(S)$ , but it need not be a sublattice of  $\text{Tol}(S)$ . Analogously for  $M \subseteq S \times S$ , we denote by  $C_S(M)$  (or simply  $C(M)$ ) the least congruence on  $S$  containing  $M$ .

For any semigroup by  $E(S)$  we denote the set of all idempotents of  $S$ . The notation  $S^1$  stands for  $S$  if  $S$  has an identity, otherwise for  $S$  with an identity adjoined. By  $\langle a \rangle_S$  (or simply  $\langle a \rangle$ ) we denote the subsemigroup of  $S$  generated by  $a \in S$ .

Terminology and notation not defined here may be found in [4] and [5].

By  $\mathscr{V}(i_1 = i_2)$  we denote the variety of all semigroups satisfying the identity  $i_1 = i_2$ .

## 2. PRINCIPAL TOLERANCE TRIVIAL VARIETIES

**Lemma 1.** *Let  $\mathcal{V}$  be a variety of semigroups. Then every semigroup from  $\mathcal{V}$  contains an idempotent if and only if  $\mathcal{V} \subseteq \mathcal{W}(x^n x^n = x^n)$  for a positive integer  $n$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose that every semigroup from  $\mathcal{V}$  contains an idempotent. Let  $a \in S \in \mathcal{V}$ . Then  $\langle a \rangle \in \mathcal{V}$  and so  $a^m a^m = a^m$  for some positive integer  $m$ . The minimum of such  $m$  we denote by  $m(a)$ . If there exist  $a_i$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots$ ) such that  $\langle a_i \rangle \in \mathcal{V}$  and  $i \leq m(a_i)$ , then the direct product  $\prod_{i=1}^{\infty} \langle a_i \rangle$  belongs to  $\mathcal{V}$  and does not contain idempotents, which is a contradiction. Hence there exists a positive integer  $k$  such that  $m(a) \leq k$  for all  $a$ , where  $\langle a \rangle \in \mathcal{V}$ . Put  $n = k!$ . It is easy to show that  $\mathcal{V} \subseteq \mathcal{W}(x^n x^n = x^n)$ .

By  $\mathcal{Z}$  we denote the variety of all zero-semigroups, i.e.  $\mathcal{Z} = \mathcal{W}(xy = uv)$ . It is well known that  $\mathcal{Z}$  is a minimal variety in the lattice of all semigroup varieties. Put  $\mathcal{O} = \mathcal{W}(x = y)$ .

**Lemma 2.** *Let  $\mathcal{V}$  be a variety of semigroups. Then  $\mathcal{V} \cap \mathcal{Z} = \mathcal{O}$  if and only if  $\mathcal{V} \subseteq \mathcal{W}(x^n x = x)$  for a positive integer  $n$ .*

*Proof.* Assume that  $\mathcal{V} \cap \mathcal{Z} = \mathcal{O}$ . Let  $a \in S \in \mathcal{V}$ . Then  $\langle a \rangle \in \mathcal{V}$  and so  $a = a^m a$  for some positive integer  $m$ . It follows from Lemma 1 that  $\mathcal{V} \subseteq \mathcal{W}(x^n x^n = x^n)$  for a positive integer  $n$ . If  $a = a^m a$ , then  $a = (a^m)^n a = (a^n)^m a = a^n a$ . Hence  $\mathcal{V} \subseteq \mathcal{W}(x^n x = x)$ .

By  $\mathcal{S}$  we denote the variety of all semilattices, i.e.  $\mathcal{S} = \mathcal{W}(xy = yx) \cap \mathcal{W}(x^2 = x)$ . It is well known that  $\mathcal{S}$  is a minimal variety in the lattice of all semigroup varieties.

**Lemma 3.** *The following conditions for a variety  $\mathcal{V}$  of semigroups are equivalent:*

1.  $\mathcal{V} \cap \mathcal{Z} = \mathcal{O} = \mathcal{S} \cap \mathcal{V}$ .
2. Every semigroup from  $\mathcal{V}$  is completely simple.
3.  $\mathcal{V}$  is a subvariety of  $\mathcal{W}(x^n x = x) \cap \mathcal{W}((xyx)^n = x^n)$  for a positive integer  $n$ .

*Proof.* 1  $\Rightarrow$  2. See Proposition 2 of [6].

2  $\Rightarrow$  3. Evidently  $\mathcal{V} \cap \mathcal{Z} = \mathcal{O}$  and so, by Lemma 2, we have  $\mathcal{V} \subseteq \mathcal{W}(x^n x = x)$  for a positive integer  $n$ . Therefore  $\mathcal{V} \subseteq \mathcal{W}(x^n x^n = x^n)$ . Let  $a, b$  be two elements of  $S$  from  $\mathcal{V}$ . According to Rees' theorem (Theorem 3.5 of [4]),  $aba$  and  $a$  belong to the same maximal subgroup of  $S$ . Then  $(aba)^n = a^n$ . Hence  $\mathcal{V} \subseteq \mathcal{W}((xyx)^n = x^n)$ .

3  $\Rightarrow$  1. It is clear

A semigroup  $S$  is said to be (*principal*) *tolerance trivial* if every (principal) tolerance on  $S$  is a congruence. See [7] and [8]. Recall that a tolerance  $A$  on  $S$  is principal if  $A = T_S(\{a, b\})$  (or simply  $T_S(a, b)$ ) for some pair of elements  $a, b \in S$ . Tolerance trivial semigroups in which a power of each element lies in a subgroup have been described in [9] and principal tolerance trivial commutative semigroups have been described in [10].

Let  $I$  and  $J$  be non-empty sets and let  $G$  be a group. Let  $P: I \times J \rightarrow G$ . Denote

by  $M(G, I, J, P) = G \times I \times J$  the Rees matrix semigroup with the following multiplication:  $(g, i, j)(h, r, s) = (gp_{jr}h, i, s)$  where  $g, h \in G$ ,  $i, r \in I$ ,  $j, s \in J$  and  $p_{jr} = P(r, j)$ .

**Lemma 4.** *A semigroup  $M(G, I, J, P)$  is tolerance trivial if and only if  $\text{card } I \leq 2$  and  $\text{card } J \leq 2$ .*

(See Lemma in [9].)

**Lemma 5.** *Every completely simple semigroup is principal tolerance trivial.*

*Proof.* Let  $S$  be a completely simple semigroup. According to Theorem 3.5 of [4],  $S$  is isomorphic to the Rees matrix semigroup  $M(G, I, J, P)$ . We can suppose that  $S = M(G, I, J, P)$ . Let  $i \in I$  and  $j \in J$ . Put  $G_{ij} = \{(g, i, j); g \in G\}$ . It is known that  $G_{ij}$  is a subgroup of  $S$ .

Let  $Q$  be a principal tolerance on  $S$ . Then  $Q = T_S(v, w)$ , where  $v \in G_{ab}$  and  $w \in G_{cd}$  for some  $a, c \in I$  and  $b, d \in J$ . We shall show that  $Q$  is transitive. Let  $(x, y) \in Q$  and  $(y, z) \in Q$ . It follows from (1) that  $x = x_1x_2 \dots x_m$ ,  $y = y'_1y'_2 \dots y'_m$  and  $y = y''_1y''_2 \dots y''_n$ ,  $z = z_1z_2 \dots z_n$ , where  $x_i = y'_i \in S$  or  $(x_i, y'_i) = (v, w)$  or  $(x_i, y'_i) = (w, v)$  for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$  and  $y'_j = z_j \in S$  or  $(y'_j, z_j) = (v, w)$  or  $(y'_j, z_j) = (w, v)$  for all  $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$ . Clearly  $x \in G_{pq}$ ,  $y \in G_{rs}$  and  $z \in G_{tu}$  for some  $p, r, t \in I$  and some  $q, s, u \in J$ . Then  $y'_1y'_m \in G_{rs}$  and  $y''_1y''_n \in G_{rs}$ . If  $r \notin \{a, c\}$ , then  $r = p = t$  and we put  $I_0 = \{r\}$ . If  $r \in \{a, c\}$ , then  $p, t \in \{a, c\}$  and we put  $I_0 = \{a, c\}$ . Analogously we put  $J_0 = \{s\}$  if  $s \notin \{b, d\}$  and  $J_0 = \{b, d\}$  if  $s \in \{b, d\}$ . Let  $S_0 = M(G, I_0, J_0, P_0)$ , where  $P_0$  is the restriction of  $P$  to  $I_0 \times J_0$ . Therefore  $S_0$  is a subsemigroup of  $S$  and  $x, y, z \in S_0$ . Put  $Q_0 = Q \cap (S_0 \times S_0)$ . It is easy to show that  $Q_0$  is a tolerance on  $S_0$ . It follows from Lemma 4 that  $Q_0$  is a congruence on  $S_0$ , because  $\text{card } I_0 \leq 2$  and  $\text{card } J_0 \leq 2$ . Since  $(x, y) \in Q_0$  and  $(y, z) \in Q_0$ , we have  $(x, z) \in Q_0 \subseteq Q$ . Consequently  $Q$  is transitive.

A variety  $\mathcal{V}$  of semigroups is (principal) tolerance trivial if every semigroup  $S$  from  $\mathcal{V}$  has this property.

**Theorem 1.** *The following conditions for a variety  $\mathcal{V}$  of semigroups are equivalent:*

1.  $\mathcal{V}$  is principal tolerance trivial.
2.  $\mathcal{V} = \mathcal{L}$  or  $\mathcal{V}$  is a subvariety of  $\mathcal{W}(x^n x = x) \cap \mathcal{W}((xyx)^n = x^n)$  for a positive integer  $n$ .
3.  $\mathcal{V} = \mathcal{L}$  or every semigroup from  $\mathcal{V}$  is completely simple.

*Proof.*  $1 \Rightarrow 2$ . Let  $V$  be a principal tolerance trivial variety of semigroups. It follows from Theorem of [10] that every chain  $C$  (i.e. a semilattice  $C$  in which we have  $ef \in \{e, f\}$  for all  $e, f \in C$ ) from  $\mathcal{V}$  satisfies  $\text{card } C \leq 2$ . This implies that  $\mathcal{V} \cap \mathcal{S} = \emptyset$  and so according to Theorem of [10] we have:

- (3) Every commutative semigroup from  $\mathcal{V}$  is either a zero-semigroup or a group.

If  $\mathcal{V} \cap \mathcal{L} = \emptyset$ , then Lemma 3 implies that  $\mathcal{V} \subseteq \mathcal{W}(x^n x = x) \cap \mathcal{W}((xyx)^n = x^n)$  for a positive integer  $n$ .

Now, we can suppose that  $\mathcal{L} \subseteq \mathcal{V}$ . We shall show that

(4) Every commutative group from  $\mathcal{V}$  is trivial.

Assume by way of contradiction that a non-trivial group  $G$  belongs to  $\mathcal{V}$ . Choose  $Z \in \mathcal{L}$  such that  $\text{card } Z = 2$ . Then  $Z \times G$  is a commutative semigroup from  $\mathcal{V}$  which contradicts (3).

Let  $S$  be an arbitrary semigroup from  $\mathcal{V}$ . Let  $a \in S$ . Clearly  $\langle a \rangle$  is commutative and belongs to  $\mathcal{V}$ . It follows from (3) and (4) that  $a^2 = a^3$ .

We have

(5)  $\mathcal{V} \subseteq \mathcal{W}(x^2 = x^3)$ .

Further, we shall prove that  $\text{card } E(S) = 1$ . By way of contradiction suppose that  $S$  contains at least two idempotents (say  $e$  and  $f$ ). We have  $Z = \{0, z\}$ , where  $uv = 0$  for all  $u, v \in Z$ . Evidently  $S \times Z \in \mathcal{V}$  and so  $S \times Z$  is principal tolerance trivial. Put  $Q = T_{S \times Z}((e, z), (f, 0))$ . Then  $((e, 0), (f, 0)) = ((e, z), (f, 0))^2 \in Q$  and so  $((e, z), (e, 0)) \in Q$ , because  $Q$  is transitive. It follows from (1) that  $(e, z) = u_1 u_2 \dots u_m$  and  $(e, 0) = v_1 v_2 \dots v_m$ , where either  $u_i = v_i \in S \times Z$  or  $(u_i, v_i) = ((e, z), (f, 0))$  or  $(u_i, v_i) = ((f, 0), (e, z))$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ . Clearly  $m = 1$  and so  $e = f$  which is a contradiction. By (5) we have

(6)  $\mathcal{V} \subseteq \mathcal{W}(x^2 = y^2)$ .

Finally, we shall show that  $S$  is a zero-semigroup. It follows from (5) and (6) that there exists an element  $h$  of  $S$  such that  $h = u^2 = uh = hu$  for all  $u \in S$ . Assume by way of contradiction that there exist  $a, b \in S$  such that  $ab \neq h$ . Then  $a \neq h$  and  $a \notin S^1 a S \cup S a S^1$ . Indeed, if  $a = cad$ , where  $c, d \in S^1$  and  $cd \in S$ , then  $a = c^2 a d^2 = h$ , a contradiction. Hence we have  $a \neq ab$ . Put  $Q = T_S(a, ab)$ . Then  $(ab, h) = (a, ab) \cdot (b, b) \in Q$ . Since  $Q$  is a transitive tolerance on  $S$ , we have  $(a, h) \in Q$  and so, by (1), we get  $a = c_1 c_2 \dots c_m$  and  $h = d_1 d_2 \dots d_m$ , where either  $c_i = d_i \in S$  or  $(c_i, d_i) = (a, ab)$  or  $(c_i, d_i) = (ab, a)$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ . Since  $a \neq h$ , we have  $a \in S^1 a S \cup S a S^1$ , which is a contradiction. Therefore  $ab = h$ . Hence  $S$  is a zero-semigroup. Consequently  $\mathcal{V} = \mathcal{L}$ .

$2 \Rightarrow 1$ . It is easy to show that the variety  $\mathcal{L}$  is principal tolerance trivial (see Theorem of [10]). If  $\mathcal{V}$  is a subvariety of  $\mathcal{W}(x^n x = x) \cap \mathcal{W}((xyx)^n = x^n)$  for a positive integer  $n$ , then it follows from Lemma 3 and Lemma 5 that  $\mathcal{V}$  is principal tolerance trivial.

$2 \Leftrightarrow 3$ . See Lemma 3.

### 3. TOLERANCE TRIVIAL VARIETIES

By  $\mathcal{L}$  ( $\mathcal{R}$ , respectively) we denote the variety of all left (right, respectively) semi-groups, i.e.  $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{W}(xy = x)$  and  $\mathcal{R} = \mathcal{W}(xy = y)$ . It is well known that  $\mathcal{L}$  and  $\mathcal{R}$  are minimal varieties in the lattice of all semigroup varieties.

Following [11], [12] we shall say that a semigroup  $S$  has transferable tolerances (congruences) if for any elements  $a, b, c$  of  $S$  there exists an element  $d$  of  $S$  such that  $T_S(a, b) = T_S(c, d)$  ( $C_S(a, b) = C_S(c, d)$ , respectively). A variety  $\mathcal{V}$  of semigroups has transferable tolerances (congruences) if each semigroup  $S$  from  $\mathcal{V}$  has this property.

Recall that a semigroup  $S$  is said to be *tolerance (congruence) modular* if the lattice  $\text{Tol}(S)$  ( $\text{Con}(S)$ , respectively) is modular. A variety  $\mathcal{V}$  of semigroups is called *tolerance (congruence) modular* if each semigroup  $S$  from  $\mathcal{V}$  has this property. See [13].

**Theorem 2.** *The following conditions for a variety  $\mathcal{V}$  of semigroups are equivalent:*

1.  $\mathcal{V}$  is tolerance trivial.
2. For any semigroup  $S$  from  $\mathcal{V}$   $\text{Con}(S)$  is a sublattice of  $\text{Tol}(S)$ .
3.  $\mathcal{V} \cap \mathcal{L} = \mathcal{V} \cap \mathcal{S} = \mathcal{V} \cap \mathcal{L} = \mathcal{V} \cap \mathcal{R} = \emptyset$ .
4. Every semigroup from  $\mathcal{V}$  is a group.
5.  $\mathcal{V}$  is a subvariety of  $\mathcal{W}(x^n y = y) \cap \mathcal{W}(y x^n = y)$  for a positive integer  $n$ .
6.  $\mathcal{V}$  has transferable tolerances.
7.  $\mathcal{V}$  has transferable congruences.
8.  $\mathcal{V}$  is congruence permutable.
9.  $\mathcal{V}$  is congruence modular.

Proof.  $1 \Rightarrow 2$ . Clearly.

$2 \Rightarrow 3$ . Let  $S \in \mathcal{L} \cup \mathcal{S} \cup \mathcal{L} \cup \mathcal{R}$ . It is easy to show that  $\text{Tol}(S)$  is the set of all reflexive and symmetric relations on  $S$  and  $\text{Con}(S)$  is the set of all equivalences on  $S$ . Clearly  $\text{Con}(S)$  is no sublattice of  $\text{Tol}(S)$  whenever  $\text{card } S \geq 3$ . Thus we have  $\mathcal{V} \cap \mathcal{L} = \mathcal{V} \cap \mathcal{S} = \mathcal{V} \cap \mathcal{L} = \mathcal{V} \cap \mathcal{R} = \emptyset$ .

In [14] it is proved that  $\text{Con}(S)$  is a sublattice of  $\text{Tol}(S)$  for a commutative separative semigroup  $S$  if and only if  $S$  is either a group or a group with zero. This implies that  $\text{card } S \leq 2$  for every  $S$  from  $\mathcal{V} \cap \mathcal{S}$  and so  $\mathcal{V} \cap \mathcal{S} = \emptyset$ .

$3 \Rightarrow 4$ . It follows from Lemma 3 that every semigroup  $S$  from  $\mathcal{V}$  is completely simple and so, by Theorem 3.5 of [4],  $S$  is isomorphic to the Rees matrix semigroup  $M(G, I, J, P)$ . If  $\text{card } I \geq 2$ , then  $\mathcal{L} \cap \mathcal{V} \neq \emptyset$ , which is a contradiction. Therefore  $\text{card } I = 1$ . Analogously we have  $\text{card } J = 1$  and so  $S$  is a group.

$4 \Rightarrow 5$ . Apply Lemma 3.

$5 \Rightarrow 6$ . It follows from Theorem 1 of [11], where  $p(x, y, z) = xy^{n-1}z$  and  $q(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5) = x_1x_5^{n-1}x_4$ .

$6 \Rightarrow 7$ . Trivial.

$7 \Rightarrow 8$ . Let  $S \in \mathcal{L} \cup \mathcal{S} \cup \mathcal{L} \cup \mathcal{R}$  and  $\text{card } S = 3$ . It is easy to show that  $S$  has no transferable congruences and  $S$  does not belong to  $\mathcal{V}$ . The rest of the proof follows from  $3 \Rightarrow 4$ .

$8 \Rightarrow 9$ . According to Theorem 1 of [8],  $\mathcal{V}$  is tolerance trivial. The rest of the proof follows from  $1 \Rightarrow 4$ .

$9 \Rightarrow 1$ . If  $S \in \mathcal{L} \cup \mathcal{L} \cup \mathcal{R}$ , then  $\text{Con}(S)$  is the set of all equivalences on  $S$  and so  $\mathcal{L}$ ,  $\mathcal{L}$  and  $\mathcal{R}$  are not congruence modular. According to Theorem 2 of [15],  $S$  is not congruence modular. The rest of the proof follows from  $3 \Rightarrow 4$ , because every tolerance on a group is transitive.

**Corollary 1.** *A variety  $\mathcal{V}$  of commutative semigroups is principal tolerance trivial if and only if  $\mathcal{V} = \mathcal{L}$  or  $\mathcal{V}$  is tolerance trivial.*

The proof follows from Theorem 1, Theorem 2 and  $\mathcal{W}(x^n y = y) \cap \mathcal{W}(y x^n = y) \cap \mathcal{W}(x y = y x) = \mathcal{W}(x^n x = x) \cap \mathcal{W}((x y x)^n = x^n) \cap \mathcal{W}(x y = y x)$ .

#### 4. TOLERANCE MODULAR VARIETIES

**Theorem 3.** *A variety  $\mathcal{V}$  of semigroups is tolerance modular if and only if  $\mathcal{V}$  is a subvariety of*

$$\mathcal{W}((xy)^{n+1} = xy) \cap \mathcal{W}((xyx)^n = x^n)$$

for a positive integer  $n$ .

Before the proof we formulate three lemmas.

**Lemma 6.** *A variety  $\mathcal{V}$  of commutative semigroups is tolerance modular if and only if  $\mathcal{V}$  is a subvariety of  $\mathcal{W}(xyz^n = xy)$  for a positive integer  $n$ .*

See Theorem 1 in [1].

**Lemma 7.** *Let  $P = \{p, q, r, 0\}$  be a four-element semigroup with the multiplication table*

	$p$	$q$	$r$	$0$
$p$	$0$	$r$	$0$	$0$
$q$	$0$	$0$	$0$	$0$
$r$	$0$	$0$	$0$	$0$
$0$	$0$	$0$	$0$	$0$

Then the lattice  $\text{Tol}(P \times P)$  is not modular.

Proof. Put  $A = T_{P \times P}((p, p), (p, 0))$ ,  $B = T_{P \times P}((q, q), (0, q))$  and  $C = T_{P \times P}((0, r), (r, 0)) \vee A$ . We have  $((0, r), (r, 0)) = ((p, p), (p, 0)) \cdot ((0, q), (q, q)) \in (A \vee B) \wedge C$ . We shall show that  $((0, r), (r, 0)) \notin A \vee (B \wedge C)$ .

On the contrary, suppose that  $((0, r), (r, 0)) \in A \vee (B \wedge C)$ .

Case 1.  $((0, r), (r, 0)) \in A$ . It follows from (1) that  $((0, r), (r, 0)) = ((u_1, p), (p, v_1)) \cdot ((u_2, q), (q, v_2))$ , where either  $(u_1, p) = (p, v_1)$  or  $((u_1, p), (p, v_1)) = ((p, p), (p, 0))$  and  $(u_2, q) = (q, v_2)$ . Then  $u_1 = p$  and  $u_2 = q$  and so  $0 = u_1 u_2 = pq = r$ , which is a contradiction.

Case 2.  $((0, r), (r, 0)) \in B$ . According to (1), we have  $((0, r), (r, 0)) = ((u_1, p), (p, v_1)) \cdot ((u_2, q), (q, v_2))$ , where  $(u_1, p) = (p, v_1)$  and either  $(u_2, q) = (q, v_2)$  or

$((u_2, q), (q, v_2)) = ((0, q), (q, q))$ . Therefore  $v_1 = p$  and  $v_2 = q$  and so  $0 = v_1 v_2 = pq = r$ , a contradiction.

Case 3.  $((0, r), (r, 0)) \notin A \cup B$ . Then, by (1) and (2), the only possibility is  $((0, r), (r, 0)) = ((p, p), (p, 0)) \cdot ((0, q), (q, q))$  and  $((0, q), (q, q)) \in C$ , which is impossible.

Therefore the lattice  $\text{ToI}(P \times P)$  is not modular.

**Lemma 8.** Let  $Q = \{p, q, r, s\}$  be a four-element semigroup with the multiplication table

	$p$	$q$	$r$	$s$
$p$	$s$	$r$	$s$	$s$
$q$	$q$	$q$	$q$	$q$
$r$	$r$	$r$	$r$	$r$
$s$	$s$	$s$	$s$	$s$

Then the lattice  $\text{ToI}(Q \times Q)$  is not modular.

**Proof.** Put  $A = T_{Q \times Q}((q, p), (s, p))$ ,  $B = T_{Q \times Q}((p, s), (p, q))$  and  $C = T_{Q \times Q}((r, s), (s, q)) \vee A$ . We have  $((r, s), (s, q)) = ((p, s), (p, q)) \cdot ((q, p), (s, p)) \in (A \vee B) \wedge C$ . We shall show that  $((r, s), (s, q)) \notin A \vee (B \wedge C)$ .

On the contrary, suppose that  $((r, s), (s, q)) \in A \vee (B \wedge C)$ .

Case 1.  $((r, s), (s, q)) \in A$ . According to (1) we have  $((r, s), (s, q)) = \prod_{i=1}^m ((a_i, b_i), (c_i, d_i))$ , where either  $(a_i, b_i) = (c_i, d_i)$  or  $((a_i, b_i), (c_i, d_i)) = ((q, p), (s, p))$  or  $((a_i, b_i), (c_i, d_i)) = ((s, p), (q, p))$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ . It is easy to show that  $b_1 \in \{p, s\}$  and  $d_1 = q$ , which is a contradiction.

Case 2.  $((r, s), (s, q)) \in B$ . It follows from (1) that  $((r, s), (s, q)) = \prod_{i=1}^m ((a_i, b_i), (c_i, d_i))$ , where  $(a_i, b_i) = (c_i, d_i)$  or  $((a_i, b_i), (c_i, d_i)) = ((p, s), (p, q))$  or  $((a_i, b_i), (c_i, d_i)) = ((p, q), (p, s))$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ . It is easy to show that  $((a_1, b_1), (c_1, d_1)) = ((p, s), (p, q))$  and so  $m \geq 2$ . Then  $\prod_{i=2}^m a_i = q$  and so  $a_2 = q$ . Hence we have  $c_2 = q$  and so  $s = pq \prod_{i=3}^m c_i = r$ , a contradiction.

Case 3.  $((r, s), (s, q)) \notin A \cup B$ . By (1) and (2) we have  $((r, s), (s, q)) = \prod_{i=1}^m ((a_i, b_i), (c_i, d_i))$ , where  $((a_i, b_i), (c_i, d_i)) \in A \cup (B \cap C)$ . Then  $a_1 \in \{p, r\}$ ,  $\{b_1, c_1\} \subseteq \{p, s\}$ ,  $d_1 = q$  and so  $(a_1, b_1) \neq (c_1, d_1)$ . From cases 1 and 2 it follows that  $p \in \{a_1, b_1, c_1\}$  and so  $((a_1, b_1), (c_1, d_1)) \notin ((Q \times Q) \times (Q \times Q))^2$ . Thus we have  $((a_1, b_1), (c_1, d_1)) = (p, s), (p, q) \in B \cap C \subseteq C$ , which is impossible.

**Proof of Theorem 3. I.** Let  $\mathcal{V}$  be a tolerance modular variety of semigroups. It follows from Lemma 6 that

$$(7) \quad \mathcal{V} \cap \mathcal{W}(xy = yx) \subseteq \mathcal{W}(xyz^n = xy)$$



for a positive integer  $n \geq 2$ . This implies

$$(8) \quad \mathcal{V} \subseteq \mathcal{W}(x^2x^n = x^2)$$

and consequently we have

$$(9) \quad \mathcal{V} \subseteq \mathcal{W}(x^n x^n = x^n).$$

Let  $S$  be a semigroup from  $\mathcal{V}$ . Let  $a, b \in S$  and by  $U$  denote the subsemigroup of  $S$  generated by  $a, b$ . We have  $U = \langle a \rangle \cup U^1 b U^1$ . If  $\langle a \rangle \cap U^1 b U^1 = \emptyset$ , then the two-element semilattice is a homomorphic image of  $U$ , which is impossible because according to (7) every semilattice from  $\mathcal{V}$  is trivial. Consequently we have  $\langle a \rangle \cap U^1 b U^1 \neq \emptyset$  and so  $a^m \in U^1 b U^1$  for a positive integer  $m$ . It follows from (8) that  $a^2 \in U^1 b U^1$ . Hence we have

$$(10) \quad a^2 \in S^1 b S^1$$

for all  $a, b \in S$  from  $\mathcal{V}$ .

Let  $a, b, c \in S$ . We shall show that  $ab \in S^1 c S^1$ . By way of contradiction we assume that  $ab \notin S^1 c S^1$ . By  $I$  we denote the intersection of all ideals of  $S$ . It follows from (10) that  $x^2 \in I$  for every  $x \in S$  and so  $I \neq \emptyset$ . Clearly  $a, b, ab \notin I$  and  $a \neq ab \neq b \neq a$ . We shall show that  $ab \neq ba$ . Suppose that  $ab = ba$ . By  $U$  we denote the subsemigroup of  $S$  generated by  $a, b$ . According to (7), we obtain  $U \in \mathcal{W}(xyz^n = xy)$  and so  $ab = abd^n \in I$  for some  $d \in U$ , a contradiction. We have  $ab \neq ba$ . Put  $J = \{ba, aba, bab\} \cup I$  and  $T = \{a, b, ab\} \cup J$ . Evidently  $T$  is a subsemigroup of  $S$  and  $J$  is an ideal of  $T$ . Thus we have  $T \in \mathcal{V}$ . It is easy to show that the semigroup  $P$  from Lemma 7 is isomorphic to the Rees quotient  $T/J \in \mathcal{V}$ , which implies  $P \in \mathcal{V}$ , a contradiction. Therefore for all  $a, b, c \in S$  from  $\mathcal{V}$  we have

$$ab \in S^1 c S^1.$$

This implies that  $S^2$  is a simple subsemigroup of  $S$ . According to (9) and Theorem 2.55 (Munn W. D.) of [4], we have

$$(11) \quad S^2 \text{ is a completely simple semigroup}$$

for every semigroup  $S$  from  $\mathcal{V}$ .

It is well known that every completely simple semigroup is a union of groups and so, by (11),  $S^2$  is a union of groups. Therefore  $ab \in (ab)^2 S^1$  for every pair of elements  $a, b \in S$  and so, by (8), we have  $ab = (ab)^{n+1}$ . We obtain

$$(12) \quad \mathcal{V} \subseteq \mathcal{W}((xy)^{n+1} = xy).$$

By  $\mathcal{U}$  we denote the class of all semigroups  $S$  from  $\mathcal{V}$  such that  $S = S^2$ . According to (12), every subsemigroup of  $S$  from  $\mathcal{U}$  belongs to  $\mathcal{U}$ . It is easy to show that  $\mathcal{U}$  is closed under homomorphic images and direct products and so, by Birkhoff's Theorem [16],  $\mathcal{U}$  is a variety of semigroups. It follows from (11) and Lemma 3 that  $\mathcal{U} \subseteq \mathcal{W}((uvu)^k = u^k)$  for a positive integer  $k$ . Putting  $u = xy$  and  $v = z(xy)^2 z$  we obtain  $\mathcal{V} \subseteq \mathcal{W}((xyz(xy)^2 zxy)^k = (xy)^k) = \mathcal{W}((xyzxy)^{2k} = (xy)^k) \subseteq$

$\subseteq \mathcal{W}((xyzxy)^{2kn} = (xy)^{kn})$ . Hence we have

$$\mathcal{V} \subseteq \mathcal{W}((xyzxy)^n = (xy)^n).$$

Indeed, using (12), we obtain  $(xyzxy)^n = (xyzxy)^{2kn} = (xy)^{kn} = (xy)^n$ .

Now, we shall prove that

$$(14) \quad ab = a^n ab$$

for every pair of elements  $a, b$  of a semigroup  $S$  from  $\mathcal{V}$ .

If  $a \in S^2$ , then according to (12), we have  $a = a^n a$  and so (14) is true. Now we can suppose that  $a \in S \setminus S^2$ . By  $U$  we denote the subsemigroup of  $S$  generated by  $a$  and  $g = (ba)^n$ . It follows from (9) that  $g^2 = g$  and according to (13), we have

$$(15) \quad (gdg)^n = g$$

for all  $d \in U$ . We shall show that

$$(16) \quad ag = a^n ag.$$

Case 1.  $gU \cap agU \neq \emptyset$ . Then  $gd \in agU$  for some  $d \in U$  and so, by (15), we have  $g = (gdg)^n \in agU$ . Thus  $g \in a^n gU$  and, by (9), we have  $g = a^n g$ , which implies (16).

Case 2.  $agU \cap a^2U \neq \emptyset$ . Then  $agd \in a^2U$  for some  $d \in U$  and so, by (15) and (8), we obtain  $ag = a(gdg)^n \in a^2U \subseteq a^n U$ . Consequently  $ag = a^n ag$  (see (9)).

Case 3.  $a^2U \cap gU \neq \emptyset$ . Then  $gd \in a^2U$  for some  $d \in U$  and so  $g \in a^2U \subseteq a^n U$ . This implies  $g = a^n g$  and so (16) is fulfilled.

Case 4.  $gU, agU$  and  $a^2U$  are pairwise disjoint subsets of  $U$ . It is easy to prove that  $\{\{a\}, gU, agU, a^2U\}$  is a decomposition of  $U$ , the corresponding equivalence  $\rho$  is a congruence on  $U$  and the quotient semigroup  $U/\rho$  is isomorphic to the semigroup  $Q$  from Lemma 8. Since  $U, U/\rho \in \mathcal{V}$ , we have  $Q \in \mathcal{V}$ , which contradicts Lemma 8.

Therefore (16) is true and from this and (12) we have  $ab = a(ba)^n b = agb = a^n agb = a^n a(ba)^n b = a^n ab$ . Consequently (14) is proved and so we have

$$\mathcal{V} \subseteq \mathcal{W}(x^n xy = xy).$$

Dually we can get

$$\mathcal{V} \subseteq \mathcal{W}(xyy^n = xy).$$

Hence we have

$$\mathcal{V} \subseteq \mathcal{W}((xyx)^n = x^n).$$

Indeed, using (13) and (9), we obtain

$$(xyx)^n = (x^n (xyx) x^n)^n = (x^n x^n)^n = x^n.$$

II. Let  $S$  be a semigroup satisfying

$$(17) \quad S \in \mathcal{W}((xy)^{n+1} = xy) \cap \mathcal{W}((xyx)^n = x^n)$$

for a positive integer  $n$ . It is easy to show that

$$(18) \quad S \in \mathcal{W}((xy)^n (xy)^n = (xy)^n).$$

Further, we have

$$(19) \quad S \in \mathcal{W}(x^n xy = xy) \cap \mathcal{W}(xyy^n = xy).$$

Indeed,  $xyx = (xyx)^n xyx = x^n xyx$  and so

$$xy = (xy)^{n+1} = x^n (xy)^{n+1} = x^n xy.$$

Let  $a \in S$  and  $e, f \in E(S)$ . We shall show that

$$(20) \quad (eaf)^n = (ef)^n.$$

According to (17), we have  $(eaf)^n e = (eafe)^n = e$  and  $f(eaf)^n = (feaf)^n = f$ . Then  $(eaf)^n (ef)^n (eaf)^n = (ef)^n$  and so, by (17) and (18), we obtain  $(eaf)^n = ((eaf)^n \cdot (ef)^n (eaf)^n)^n = (ef)^n$ .

Now, we shall prove the following proposition:

$$(21) \quad \text{For } a, b, c, d \in S \text{ there exists } g \in E(S) \text{ such that } ab = agb \text{ and } cd = cgd.$$

First, we shall show that (21) is fulfilled for  $a, b, c, d \in E(S)$ . Put  $e = (ba)^n$  and  $f = (dc)^n$ . Using (17) and (18) we obtain  $e^2 = e$ ,  $ab = (ab)^{n+1} = a(ba)^n b = aeb$ ,  $f^2 = f$  and  $cd = cfd$ . Put  $g = (ef)^n$ . Then, by (18) and (17), we have  $g^2 = g$ ,  $ge = (ef)^n e = (efe)^n = e$  and dually  $fg = f$ . Therefore using (20) and (17) we can get  $ab = aeb = ageb = ag(ba)^n b = agb(ab)^n = agb(agb)^n = agb$  and dually  $cd = cgd$ .

Now, we shall suppose that  $a, b, c, d \in S$ . It follows from (17) that  $a^n, b^n, c^n, d^n \in E(S)$  and so  $a^n b^n = a^n g b^n$ ,  $c^n d^n = c^n g d^n$  for some  $g \in E(S)$ . According to (19), we have  $ab = a^{n+1} b^{n+1} = a^{n+1} g b^{n+1} = agb$  and  $cd = cgd$ .

Let  $A, B \in \text{Tol}(S)$  We shall show that

$$(22) \quad ABAB \subseteq AB.$$

Let  $(u, v) \in ABAB$ . Then  $(u, v) = (a_1, a_2) \cdot (b_1, b_2) \cdot (c_1, c_2) \cdot (d_1, d_2)$ , where  $(a_1, a_2), (c_1, c_2) \in A$  and  $(b_1, b_2), (d_1, d_2) \in B$ . According to (21) there exist  $g, h \in E(S)$  such that  $u = a_1 b_1 c_1 d_1 = a_1 g b_1 c_1 h d_1$  and  $v = a_2 b_2 c_2 d_2 = a_2 g h c_2 h d_2$ . Using (17) and (20) we obtain  $g b_1 c_1 h = g b_1 c_1 h (g b_1 c_1 h)^{2^n} = g b_1 c_1 h (g b_1 c_2 h)^{2^n} = g b_1 c_1 h (g b_1 c_2 h)^{2^{n-1}} g b_1 c_2 h$  and dually  $g b_2 c_2 h = g b_1 c_2 h (g b_1 c_2 h)^{2^{n-1}} g b_2 c_2 h$ . Consequently we have  $(u, v) = (a_1 g b_1 c_1 h, a_2 g b_1 c_2 h) \cdot (g b_1 c_2 h, g b_1 c_2 h)^{2^{n-1}} \cdot (g b_1 c_2 h d_1, g b_2 c_2 h d_2) \in AB$ .

Let  $A, B, C \in \text{Tol}(S)$  and  $A \subseteq C$ . We shall prove the following inclusions:

$$(23) \quad AB \cap C \subseteq A(B \cap C),$$

$$(24) \quad BA \cap C \subseteq (B \cap C) A,$$

$$(25) \quad ABA \cap C \subseteq A(B \cap C) A \quad \text{and}$$

$$(26) \quad BAB \cap C \subseteq (B \cap C) A(B \cap C).$$

Inclusion (23). Let  $(u, v) = (a_1, a_2) \cdot (b_1, b_2) \in C$ , where  $(a_1, a_2) \in A$  and  $(b_1, b_2) \in B$ . According to (21) we have  $(u, v) = (a_1g, a_2g) \cdot (gb_1, gb_2)$  for some  $g \in E(S)$ . Evidently  $(a_1g, a_2g) \in A$  and  $(gb_1, gb_2) \in B$ . Further, by (20) and (21), we have  $(gb_1, gb_2) = (ga_1g, ga_2g)^{2n} (b_1, b_2) = (ga_1g, ga_2g)^{2n-1} (ga_1gb_1, ga_2gb_2) = (ga_1g, ga_2g)^{2n-1} (gu, gv) \in C$ . Consequently  $(u, v) \in A(B \cap C)$ .

Inclusion (24). It is dual to (23).

Inclusion (25). Let  $(u, v) = (a_1, a_2) \cdot (b_1, b_2) \cdot (c_1, c_2) \in C$ , where  $(a_1, a_2), (c_1, c_2) \in A$  and  $(b_1, b_2) \in B$ . By (21) there exists  $g \in E(S)$  such that  $b_1c_1 = b_1gc_1$  and  $b_2c_2 = b_2gc_2$ . Put  $(x, y) = (a_1, a_2) \cdot (b_1(gc_1g)^2, b_2(gc_1g)^2)$ . Using (17) and (20) it is easy to show that  $(x, y) \in AB$  and  $(x, y) = (u, v) ((gc_1g)^{2n+1}, (gc_2g)^{2n-1} (gc_1g)^2) \in C$ . By (23) we have  $(x, y) \in AB \cap C \subseteq A(B \cap C)$  and so  $(u, v) = (x, y) \cdot ((gc_1g)^{3n-2} c_1, (gc_1g)^{3n-2} c_2) \in A(B \cap C) A$ .

Inclusion (26). Let  $(u, v) = (b_1, b_2) \cdot (a_1, a_2) \cdot (d_1, d_2) \in C$ , where  $(b_1, b_2), (d_1, d_2) \in B$  and  $(a_1, a_2) \in A$ . Clearly  $(u^n, v^n) \in C$ . It follows from (19) that  $(u, v) = (b_1^n, b_2^n) (u, v) (d_1^n, d_2^n)$  and so, by (18) and (20), we have  $(u^n, v^n) = (b_1^n d_1^n, b_2^n d_2^n)^n \in B$ . Hence

$$(27) \quad (u^n, v^n) \in B \cap C.$$

According to (17), (21) and (22), there exists  $g \in E(S)$  such that  $(u, v) = (u, v) \cdot (g, g) \cdot (u^n, v^n) \in BABA(u^n, v^n) \subseteq BA(u^n, v^n)$ . This means that  $(u, v) = (x, y) \cdot (u^n, v^n)$ , where  $(x, y) \in BA$ . According to (21), there exists  $h \in E(S)$  such that  $(u, v) = (xh, yh) \cdot (u^n, v^n)$ . Using (20), (18) and (27) it is easy to see that  $(xh, yh) \in BA$  and  $(xh, yh) = (x, y) (hu^n h, hv^n h)^{2n} = (xhv^n, yhv^n) (hu^n h, hv^n h)^{2n-1} = (u, v) \cdot (hu^n h, hv^n h)^{2n-1} \in C$ . Then, by (24), we have  $(xh, yh) \in BA \cap C \subseteq (B \cap C) A$ . Consequently, by (27),  $(u, v) = (xh, yh) \cdot (u^n, v^n) \in (B \cap C) A(B \cap C)$ .

We are now ready to complete the proof. We shall show that the lattice  $\text{Tol}(S)$  is modular. Let  $A, B, C \in \text{Tol}(S)$  and  $A \subseteq C$ . It follows from (1), (2), (22), (23), (24), (25) and (26) that  $(A \vee B) \wedge C = (A \cup B \cup AB \cup BA \cup ABA \cup BAB) \cap C \subseteq A \cup (B \cap C) \cup A(B \cap C) \cup (B \cap C) A \cup A(B \cap C) A \cup (B \cap C) A(B \cap C) = A \vee \vee (B \wedge C) \subseteq (A \vee B) \wedge C$ .

**Corollary 2.** *Every principal tolerance trivial variety of semigroups is tolerance modular.*

The proof follows from Theorem 1 and Theorem 3.

**Corollary 3.** *Let  $\mathcal{V}$  be a variety of semigroups and  $\mathcal{V} \cap \mathcal{Z} = \emptyset$ . Then  $\mathcal{V}$  is principal tolerance trivial if and only if  $\mathcal{V}$  is tolerance modular.*

The proof follows from Lemma 2, Theorem 1 and Theorem 3.

**Corollary 4.** *Let  $\mathcal{V}$  be a variety of commutative semigroups and  $\mathcal{V} \cap \mathcal{Z} = \emptyset$ . Then  $\mathcal{V}$  is tolerance trivial (congruence modular) if and only if  $\mathcal{V}$  is tolerance modular.*

The proof follows from Corollary 3, Theorem 2 and Corollary 1.

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