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SEMIGROUPS FOR WHICH EVERY TOTALLY IRREDUCIBLE S-SYSTEM IS  
INJECTIVE

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Abstract: We characterize those semigroups for which every totally irreducible S-system is injective. Also obtained are homological characterizations of semilattices of groups and commutative regular semigroups.

Key words: Totally irreducible, regular, injective, p-injective.

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0. Introduction. In recent years there have been many investigations into homological properties of semigroups and S-systems. Many of the questions asked are analogous to those from ring and R-module theory. For example, Fountain [3], extending the work of Feller and Gantos [2], characterized those monoids S for which every S-system is injective. This corresponded to the well-known theorem that a ring R is semisimple Artinian if and only if every R-module is injective. The fact that another equivalent condition, namely that every cyclic R-module is injective, does not carry over to semigroups was shown by Johnson and McMorris in [5].

The present note is concerned with characterizing those semigroups for which every totally irreducible S-system is injective. We obtain an analogous theorem to that of

Michler and Villamayor [7]. As a consequence we also obtain the analogue of a theorem of Kaplansky characterizing commutative regular rings. In addition we give a new homological characterization of semilattices of groups which can then be added to the list as given by Lajos [6].

In this paper,  $S$  is a monoid with zero.

A unital right  $S$ -system  $M_S$  with zero is a set  $M$  with a multiplication  $M \times S \rightarrow M$  given by  $(m, s) \mapsto ms$  such that  $m(s_1 s_2) = (ms_1)s_2$  and satisfying  $m \cdot 1 = m$  for all  $m \in M$  and having a distinguished element  $\theta \in M$  satisfying  $\theta s = \theta$  for all  $s \in S$ . We will denote this element, as well as the zero of  $S$  by  $0$ .

An  $S$ -system  $M_S$  is injective if for every  $S$ -monomorphism  $f: A_S \rightarrow B_S$  and  $S$ -homomorphism  $g: A_S \rightarrow M_S$  there is an  $S$ -homomorphism  $h: B_S \rightarrow M_S$  satisfying  $h \circ f = g$ .

An  $S$ -subsystem  $N_S$  of  $M_S$  is essential in  $M_S$  if every  $S$ -congruence on  $M$  whose restriction to  $N$  is the identity, is itself the identity on  $M$ . Note that if  $N_S$  is essential in  $M_S$  then  $N_S \cap K_S \neq 0$  for all non-zero  $S$ -subsystems  $K_S$  of  $M_S$ .

Berthiaume [1] has shown that each  $S$ -system  $M_S$  has a unique (up to isomorphism over  $M_S$ ) essential extension  $M_S$  called the injective hull of  $M_S$ .

For a ring  $R$  with identity, Michler and Villamayor [7] have shown that the following statements are equivalent:

- (1) Every proper right ideal is an intersection of maximal right ideals;
- (2) Every simple right  $R$ -module is injective.

A right  $S$ -system  $M_S$  is totally irreducible if the

only right  $S$ -congruences are the universal congruence  $\omega_M$  and the identity congruence  $i_M$ , and  $M_S \neq 0$ . Note that if  $M_S$  is totally irreducible then  $M_S$  has no proper  $S$ -subsystems. Also, since  $S$  has an identity, every congruence is modular so Theorem 6.2 of Hoehnke [4] reads that  $M_S$  is totally irreducible if and only if  $M \cong S/\mu$  where  $\mu$  is a maximal right congruence on  $S$ .

Finally, if  $f: A_S \rightarrow B_S$  is an  $S$ -homomorphism, the kernel congruence,  $\ker f$ , on  $A_S$  is given by  $\ker f = \{(x,y) \mid f(x) = f(y)\}$ . Clearly  $\ker f$  is an  $S$ -congruence on  $A_S$ .

1. Monoids whose totally irreducible  $S$ -systems are injective

Given a congruence  $\rho$  on  $S$ , let  $I(\rho)$  denote the 0-class of  $\rho$  :

$$I(\rho) = \{x \in S \mid (x, 0) \in \rho\}$$

1.1. Theorem: The following conditions are equivalent:

(1) For every proper congruence  $\rho$  on  $S$ ,  $I(\rho) = \bigcap_{\sigma \in C} I(\sigma)$  where  $C$  is the family of all maximal right congruences on  $S$  which contain  $\rho$ .

(2) Every totally irreducible  $S$ -system is injective.

Proof: If  $1 = 0$ , there is nothing to prove, so we shall assume that  $1 \neq 0$ .

(1)  $\implies$  (2): Let  $M$  be a totally irreducible  $S$ -system, let  $0 \neq x \in \hat{M}$  where  $\hat{M}$  is the injective hull of  $M$ , and define  $\lambda: S \rightarrow \hat{M}$  by  $\lambda(s) = xs$ . Then  $\ker \lambda$  is a proper right con-

gruence on  $S$ . Let  $\{\mathcal{C}_\alpha \mid \alpha \in \Lambda\}$  be the family of maximal right congruences on  $S$  which contain  $\ker \lambda$ . Let  $M_\alpha = S/\mathcal{C}_\alpha$  and define  $\mu : xS \rightarrow \prod_{\alpha \in \Lambda} M_\alpha$  by  $\mu(xs) = ([s]_\alpha)$  where  $[s]_\alpha$  is the equivalence class of  $s$  in  $M_\alpha$ . Consider  $p_\alpha \circ \mu$  where  $p_\alpha : \prod_{\alpha \in \Lambda} M_\alpha \rightarrow M_\alpha$  is the projection mapping. Suppose that  $p_\alpha \circ \mu$  is not one-to-one for all  $\alpha \in \Lambda$ . Since  $M$  is essential in  $\hat{M}$  and is totally irreducible,  $(0) \neq M = M \cap xS \subseteq xS$  and so  $\ker(p_\alpha \circ \mu)|_M = \omega_M$  for all  $\alpha \in \Lambda$ . Thus if  $xs \in M \cap xS$ ,  $\mu(xs) = 0$  and so  $s \in I(\mathcal{C}_\alpha)$  for all  $\alpha \in \Lambda$ . Thus  $s \in \bigcap_{\alpha \in \Lambda} I(\mathcal{C}_\alpha) = I(\ker(\lambda))$  and so  $\lambda(s) = xs = 0$ . Consequently  $M = xS \cap M = (0)$ , a contradiction. Thus there exists an  $\alpha \in \Lambda$  such that  $p_\alpha \circ \mu$  is one-to-one. Then  $xS \cong M_\alpha$  and so  $xS$  is totally irreducible. Hence  $M = xS \cap M = xS$  and  $x \in M$ , therefore  $M = \hat{M}$ .

(2)  $\implies$  (1): Let  $\rho$  be a proper right congruence on  $S$  and let  $\mathcal{C}$  be the family of all maximal right congruences on  $S$  which contain  $\rho$ . Let  $x \in S \setminus I(\rho)$ , and  $\rho_0$  be a right congruence on  $S$  maximal with respect to  $\rho \subseteq \rho_0$  and  $(x, 0) \notin \rho_0$ . Let  $J \subseteq S$  be the right ideal of  $S$  which is a union of  $\rho_0$  classes such that  $J/\rho_0 = [x]S$  where  $[x]$  is the  $\rho_0$  class of  $x$ . Then  $J/\rho_0$  is totally irreducible for if  $\sigma$  is a congruence on  $J$ ,  $\sigma \not\subseteq \rho_0$ , then  $\gamma = \sigma \cup \rho_0|_{S-J}$  is a congruence on  $S$  properly containing  $\rho_0$ . Thus  $(x, 0) \in \gamma$  and so  $\sigma = \omega_{J/\rho_0}$ . Thus  $J/\rho_0$  is totally irreducible; and so  $J/\rho_0$  is injective. Then we have the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 S/\varphi_0 & & \\
 \uparrow \alpha & \searrow \phi & \\
 J/\varphi_0 & = & J/\varphi_0
 \end{array}$$

where  $\alpha$  is the inclusion mapping. Let  $\sigma = \{(a,b) \in S \times S \mid \phi[a] = \phi[b]\}$ , then  $\sigma \supseteq \varphi_0$  is a congruence on  $S$ . If  $\sigma \neq \varphi_0$ , then  $(x,0) \in \sigma$  and  $[x] = \phi[x] = [0]$  and  $(x,0) \in \varphi_0$ , a contradiction. Thus  $\sigma = \varphi_0$  and  $\ker \phi = i_{S/\varphi_0}$ . Therefore,  $S/\varphi_0 \cong J/\varphi_0$  and  $S/\varphi_0$  is totally irreducible, and  $\varphi_0$  is a maximal congruence on  $S$  containing  $\varphi$ . Hence  $x \notin I(\varphi_0)$  so  $x \notin \bigcap_{\alpha \in \Lambda} I(\sigma_\alpha)$ . Thus  $\bigcap_{\alpha \in \Lambda} I(\sigma_\alpha) = I(\varphi)$ .

Remark: Using methods similar to those above, we can prove that if each proper congruence  $\varphi$  on  $S$  is the intersection of the family of all maximal congruences containing  $\varphi$ , then every totally irreducible  $S$ -system is injective. However the converse is false as seen by considering a group with zero.

The next theorem is the semigroup analogue of Kaplansky's result which states that a commutative ring  $R$  with identity is regular if and only if every simple  $R$ -module is injective.

1.2. Theorem: Let  $S$  be a commutative monoid.  $S$  is regular if and only if each totally irreducible  $S$ -system is injective.

Proof: Suppose each totally irreducible  $S$ -system is injective. Let  $a \in S \setminus a^2S$  and  $\alpha = (a^2S \times a^2S) \cup i_S$ . Let  $\varphi$  be

a maximal congruence containing  $\alpha$ . If  $(a,0) \notin \varphi$ , then  $[a]S = S/\varphi$  since  $S/\varphi$  is totally irreducible. Thus  $[1] = [a]s = [as]$  for some  $s \in S$ , and so  $(1,as) \in \varphi$ . Since  $\varphi$  is a congruence  $(a,a^2s) \in \varphi$ , but then  $(a,0) \in \varphi$  since  $(a^2s,0) \in \alpha \subseteq \varphi$ , a contradiction. Hence,  $(a,0) \in \varphi$  for every maximal congruence  $\varphi \supseteq \alpha$  so

$$a \in \bigcap_{\varphi \in C} I(\varphi) = I(\alpha) = a^2S \text{ where}$$

$C = \{ \varphi \supseteq \alpha \mid \varphi \text{ is a maximal right congruence on } S \}$ . Thus  $a \in a^2S$  for all  $a \in S$  so  $S$  is regular.

Conversely, let  $M_S$  be totally irreducible. Then there is a maximal right congruence  $\varphi$  on  $S$  with  $M \cong S/\varphi$ . A theorem of Oehmke [9] says that  $S/\varphi$  is either a group or the two element semilattice. Schein [11] defines an order  $a \leq b$  on  $M$  if  $a \in bE$  where  $E$  is the set of idempotents of  $S$ . Moreover,  $B \subseteq M$  is compatible if for every  $b \in B$  there is an  $e_b \in E$  with  $b e_b = b$  and  $b e_c = c e_b$  for all  $c \in B$ . A face of  $B \subseteq M$  is an element  $a \in M$  with  $a \geq b$  for all  $b \in B$  and  $as = at$  whenever  $Bs = Bt$  for  $s, t \in S$ . Schein [11] proved that  $M$  is injective if and only if every compatible subset of  $M$  has a face. Clearly every group and the two element semilattice are injective by Schein's result and thus  $M \cong S/\varphi$  is injective.

2. A generalization. In the theory of rings with identity, an  $R$ -module  $M$  is injective if and only if each  $R$ -homomorphism from a right ideal of  $R$  to  $M$  has an extension to all of  $R$ . These two concepts do not coincide in the theory of semigroups as shown by Berthiaume [1].

Definition: An S-system  $M_S$  is weakly injective if each S-homomorphism  $f:A \rightarrow M$  from a right ideal of S to M has an extension  $\hat{f}:S \rightarrow M$ .

An S-system  $M_S$  is p-injective if each S-homomorphism  $f:aS \rightarrow S$  from a principal right ideal of S to M has an extension  $\hat{f}:S \rightarrow M$ .

Note that since S has an identity 1, if  $\hat{f}(1) = m$ , then  $f(s) = ms$  and  $\hat{f}$  is given by left multiplication by m. In this section we characterize monoids S each of whose cyclic S-systems is p-injective and use this to generalize Theorem 1.2.

2.1. Theorem (Ming [8]): For a monoid S, the following are equivalent:

- (1) S is regular.
- (2) Every S-system is p-injective.
- (3) Every cyclic S-system is p-injective.

The proof found in [8] carries over directly.

2.2. Theorem: S is regular and  $Sa \subseteq aS$  for all  $a \in S$  if and only if every totally irreducible S-system is p-injective and every right ideal is two-sided.

Proof: If S is regular, then every S-system is p-injective by Theorem 2.1. Moreover, if J is a right ideal of S and  $a \in J$ , then  $Sa \subseteq aS \subseteq J$  and J is two-sided.

Conversely, if every right ideal is two-sided, then  $aS$  is a right ideal,  $a \in aS$  and so  $Sa \subseteq aS$ . To see that S is regular, let  $b \in S$ . If b is not regular, then  $(1,b) \notin \alpha = (bS \times bS) \cup i_S$  for otherwise  $(1,b) \in \alpha$  implies that  $(1,0) \in \alpha$  and  $\alpha = \omega_S$ . Thus  $1 = bs$  for some  $s \in S$  and  $b = bsb$ .



Likewise if  $\lambda : S \rightarrow bS$  is given by  $\lambda(s) = bs$ , then  $(1, b) \notin \ker \lambda$  for otherwise  $(1, b) \in \ker \lambda$  implies  $b = b^2$  and so  $b$  is regular. Let  $\rho$  be a congruence maximal with respect to  $\rho \supseteq \alpha \cup \ker \lambda$  and  $(1, b) \notin \rho$ . If  $\rho \subsetneq \gamma$ ,  $(1, b) \in \gamma$  but  $(b, 0) \in \alpha \subseteq \rho \subseteq \gamma$  so  $\gamma = \omega_S$ , thus  $\rho$  is a maximal right congruence, and so  $S/\rho$  is totally irreducible. Let  $\psi : bS \rightarrow S/\rho$  be defined by  $\psi(bs) = [s]$ , the equivalence class of  $s$  determined by  $\rho$ . Since  $S/\rho$  is  $p$ -injective, there is some  $c \in S$  with  $\psi(bt) = [c]bt$  for all  $t \in S$ . Thus  $[c]b = \psi(b) = \psi(b \cdot 1) = [1]$  or  $(1, cb) \in \rho$ . Now  $cb \in Sb \subseteq bS$  so  $(cb, 0) \in \alpha \subseteq \rho$  and so  $(1, 0) \in \rho$ . Then  $\rho \supseteq \omega_S$ , a contradiction.

Remark: The conditions of Theorem 2.2 are equivalent to the fact that every  $N$ -class of  $S$  is a right group (Petrich [10], p. 118).

2.3. Corollary:  $S$  is a semilattice of groups if and only if every totally irreducible  $S$ -system is  $p$ -injective and every one sided ideal is two sided.

2.4. Corollary: Let  $S$  be commutative, then  $S$  is regular if and only if every totally irreducible  $S$ -system is injective.

In a future note, we plan to investigate those semigroups for which every cyclic  $S$ -system is injective.

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