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# ON TERNARY SEMIGROUPS OF HOMOMORPHISMS OF ORDERED SETS

## Antoni Chronowski

ABSTRACT. The paper deals with the characterization of ordered sets by means of ternary semigroups of homomorphisms of ordered sets.

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

In many areas of mathematics the mutual connections between algebraic, ordered, topological structures and semigroups (groups) of some mappings of these structures are studied (e.g. [2]). In the present paper we introduce the notion of a ternary semigroup of homomorphisms of ordered sets which is the counterpart of a semigroup of endomorphisms of an ordered set. In the main theorem of this paper we give necessary and sufficient conditions for a certain characterization of ordered sets by means of ternary semigroups of homomorphisms of these sets.

## 2. BASIC DEFINITIONS

**Definition 2.1** (cf. [3]). A ternary semigroup is an algebraic structure (A, f) such that A is a nonempty set and  $f : A^3 \to A$  is a ternary operation satisfying the following associative law:

$$\begin{aligned} f(f(x_1, x_2, x_3), x_4, x_5) &= f(x_1, f(x_2, x_3, x_4), x_5) = \\ &= f(x_1, x_2, f(x_3, x_4, x_5)) \end{aligned}$$

for all  $x_1, \ldots, x_5 \in A$ .

**Definition 2.2** (cf. [3]). A nonempty subset  $I \subset A$  is called an ideal of a ternary semigroup (A, f) if  $f(I, A, A) \subset I$ ,  $f(A, I, A) \subset I$ ,  $f(A, A, I) \subset I$ .

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**Definition 2.3.** An element  $x_0 \in A$  is said to be a left zero of a ternary semigroup (A, f) if  $f(x_0, x_1, x_2) = x_0$  for all  $x_1, x_2 \in A$ .

Let X and Y be nonempty sets. Let T(X,Y) be the set of all mappings of X into Y. Put  $T[X,Y] = T(X,Y) \times T(Y,X)$ . Define the ternary operation  $f : T[X,Y]^3 \to T[X,Y]$  by the rule:

$$f((p_1, q_1), (p_2, q_2), (p_3, q_3)) = (p_1 \circ q_2 \circ p_3, q_1 \circ p_2 \circ q_3)$$

for all  $p_i, q_i \in T[X, Y]$  where i = 1, 2, 3.

The algebraic structure (T[X, Y], f) is a ternary semigroup.

**Definition 2.4.** The ternary semigroup (T[X, Y], f) is called the ternary semigroup of mappings of the sets X and Y.

It is easy to check that the ternary semigroups (T[X, Y], f) and (T[Y, X], f) are isomorphic.

A slightly modified argument applied in the proof of Theorem 3 (cf. [1]) yields the following theorem.

**Theorem 2.1.** Every ternary semigroup (A, f) is embeddable into a ternary semigroup (T[X, Y], f) of mappings of some sets X and Y.

Now we give some definitions concerning partially ordered sets. Partially ordered sets we shall simply call ordered sets. Throughout this paper we shall consider nonempty ordered sets.

**Definition 2.5.** A mapping  $p: X \to Y$  is called a homomorphism of ordered sets X and Y if

$$\forall x_1, x_2 \in X[x_1 \le x_2 \Rightarrow p(x_1) \le p(x_2)].$$

A mapping  $p: X \to Y$  is called an isomorphism of ordered sets X and Y if

(i) p is a bijection of X onto Y,

(ii)  $\forall x_1, x_2 \in X[x_1 \le x_2 \iff p(x_1) \le p(x_2)].$ 

Let H(X, Y) be the set of all homomorphisms from the ordered set X to the ordered set Y. Put  $H[X, Y] = H(X, Y) \times H(Y, X)$ . Define the ternary operation  $f: H[X, Y]^3 \to H[X, Y]$  by the rule:

$$f((p_1, q_1), (p_2, q_2), (p_3, q_3)) = (p_1 \circ q_2 \circ p_3, q_1 \circ p_2 \circ q_3)$$

for all  $(p_i, q_i) \in H[X, Y]$  where i = 1, 2, 3. The algebraic structure (H[X, Y], f) is a ternary semigroup.

**Definition 2.6.** The ternary semigroup (H[X, Y], f) is called the ternary semigroup of homomorphisms of the ordered sets X and Y.

# 3. Some properties of the ternary semigroup H[X, Y]

The symbol E(X) denotes the set of all equivalence relations on the set X. Let X and Y be ordered sets. Consider the smallest equivalence relations  $\alpha \in E(X)$  and  $\beta \in E(Y)$  containing the ordering relations of the sets X and Y, respectively. The relations  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are called the connectivity relations.

Suppose that  $p \in H(X, Y)$ . Define the mapping  $p^* : X/\alpha \to Y/\beta$  by the rule

$$p^*([x]_\alpha) = [p(x)]_\beta$$

for  $[x]_{\alpha} \in X/\alpha$ . If  $[x]_{\alpha} = [x']_{\alpha}$ , then  $(x, x') \in \alpha$ . Since p is an order-preserving mapping, it follows that  $(p(x), p(x')) \in \beta$ , and so  $[p(x)]_{\beta} = [p(x')]_{\beta}$ . Therefore the mapping p is well-defined. Suppose that  $q \in H(Y, X)$ . Define the mapping  $q^* : Y/\beta \to X/\alpha$  by the rule

$$q^*([y]_\beta) = [q(y)]_\alpha$$

for  $[y]_{\beta} \in Y/\beta$ .

Let us define the mapping  $F: H[X, Y] \to T[X/\alpha, Y/\beta]$  by the formula

$$f(p,q) = (p^*,q^*)$$

for  $(p,q) \in H[X,Y]$ . We shall prove that the mapping F is an epimorphism of the ternary semigroups H[X,Y] and  $T[X/\alpha, Y/\beta]$ . Assume that  $(p_i, q_i) \in H[X,Y]$  for i = 1, 2, 3. First we prove that  $(p_1 \circ q_2 \circ p_3)^* = p_1^* \circ q_2^* \circ p_3^*$  and  $(q_1 \circ p_2 \circ q_3)^* = q_1^* \circ p_2^* \circ q_3^*$ . Indeed,  $(p_1 \circ q_2 \circ p_3)^*([X]_\alpha) = [p_1(q_2(p_3(x)))]_\beta = p_1^*([q_2(p_3(x))]_\alpha) = p_1^*(q_2^*([p_3(x)]_\beta)) = p_1^*(q_2^*(p_3^*([X]_\alpha)))) = (p_1^* \circ q_2^* \circ p_3^*)([X]_\alpha)$  for all  $[X]_\alpha \in X/\alpha$ , and we have  $(p_1 \circ q_2 \circ p_3)^* = p_1^* \circ q_2^* \circ p_3^*$ . Similarly  $(q_1 \circ p_2 \circ q_3)^* = q_1^* \circ p_2^* \circ q_3^*$ . Therefore,  $F(f((p_1, q_1), (p_2, q_2), (p_3, q_3))) = F(p_1 \circ q_2 \circ p_3, q_1 \circ p_2 \circ q_3) = ((p_1 \circ q_2 \circ p_3)^*, (q_1 \circ p_2 \circ q_3)^*) = (p_1^* \circ q_2^* \circ p_3^*, q_1^* \circ p_2^* \circ q_3^*) = f((p_1^*, q_1^*), (p_2^*, q_2^*), (p_3^*, q_3^*)) = f(F(p_1, q_1), F(p_2, q_2), F(p_3, q_3))$ . Assume that  $(r, s) \in T[X/\alpha, Y/\beta]$ . Define the following mappings:

$$\begin{split} \mu_1 &: X \to X/\alpha, \quad \mu_1(x) = [x]_\alpha, \quad x \in X, \\ \mu_2 &: Y \to Y/\beta, \quad \mu_2(y) = [y]_\beta, \quad y \in Y. \end{split}$$

Consider the choise functions:

$$\begin{split} &\omega_1: X/\alpha \to X, \quad \omega_1([x]_\alpha) \in [x]_\alpha, \quad [x]_\alpha \in X/\alpha, \\ &\omega_2: Y/\beta \to Y, \quad \omega_2([y]_\beta) \in [y]_\beta, \quad [y]_\beta \in Y/\beta \,. \end{split}$$

Define the mappings  $p(r) = \omega_2 \circ r \circ \mu_1$  and  $q(s) = \omega_1 \circ s \circ \mu_2$ . If  $x_1, x_2 \in X$  and  $x_1 \leq x_2$  then  $(x_1, x_2) \in \alpha$ , this means that  $[x_1]_{\alpha} = [x_2]_{\alpha}$ . Thus  $p(r)(x_1) = p(r)(x_2)$ . Consequently  $p(r) \in H(X, Y)$ . Similarly  $q(s) \in H(Y, X)$ . Notice that  $p(r)^*([x]_{\alpha}) = [p(r)(x)]_{\beta} = [\omega_2(r(\mu_1(x)))]_{\beta} = [\omega_2(r([x]_{\alpha}))]_{\beta} = r([x]_{\alpha})$  for each  $[x]_{\alpha} \in X/\alpha$ . Hence  $p(r)^* = r$ . Similarly  $q(s)^* = s$ . Consequently  $F(p(r), q(s)) = (p(r)^*, q(s)^*) = (r, s)$ . Therefore F is an epimorphism.

We have obtained the following result.

**Proposition 3.1.** The ternary semigroups H[X, Y]/Ker(F) and  $T[X/\alpha, Y/\beta]$  are isomorphic.

Assume that P(X) denotes the power-set of X. Put  $P_0(X) = P(X) \setminus \{\emptyset\}$ .

**Definition 3.1.** A homomorphism  $p \in H(X, Y)$  is called a complete homomorphism of X into Y if the following two conditions are fulfilled:

(i)  $\forall A \in P_0(X)[\exists \lor A \Rightarrow (\exists \lor p(A) \land p(\lor A) = \lor p(A))],$ (ii)  $\forall A \in P_0(X)[\exists \land A \Rightarrow (\exists \land p(A) \land p(\land A) = \land p(A))].$ 

Notice that every constant homomorphism  $p \in H(X, Y)$  is a complete homomorphism. Let SH(X, Y) be the collection of all complete homomorphisms of X into Y. Put  $SH[X, Y] = SH(X, Y) \times SH(Y, X)$ . It is easy to verify that SH[X, Y]

is a ternary subsemigroup of the ternary semigroup H[X, Y]. Assume that  $(r, s) \in T[X/\alpha, Y/\beta]$ . We shall show that  $(p(r), q(s)) \in SH[X, Y]$ . Suppose that  $A \in P_0(X)$  and there exists a join  $\lor A$ . Since  $\forall x \in A : x \leq \lor A$ , it follows that  $\forall x \in A : (x, \lor A) \in \alpha$ . Hence  $\mu_1(x) = \mu_1(\lor A)$  for every  $x \in A$ . Consequently  $p(r)(A) = \{p(r)(\lor A)\}$  and  $\lor p(r)(A) = p(r)(\lor A)$ . Similarly for the meet  $\land A$ . Therefore  $p(r) \in SH(X, Y)$ . Analogously  $q(s) \in SH(Y, X)$ . Thus  $(p(r), q(s)) \in SH[X, Y]$ .

We have obtained the following

**Proposition 3.2.** The epimorphism  $F : H[X, Y] \to T[X/\alpha, Y/\beta]$  restricted to the set SH[X, Y] is an epimorphism of the ternary semigroup SH[X, Y] onto the ternary semigroup  $T[X/\alpha, Y/\beta]$ .

As a consequence, we have

**Corollary 3.1.** The ternary semigroups SH[X, Y]/Ker(F) and  $T[X/\alpha, Y/\beta]$  are isomorphic.

Let W and Z be any sets for which there exist surjections  $f_1 : X \to W$  and  $f_2 : Y \to Z$  such that  $\operatorname{Ker}(f_1) = \alpha$  and  $\operatorname{Ker}(f_2 = \beta)$ . Consider the bijections  $\varphi_1 : X/\alpha \to W$  and  $\varphi_2 : Y/\beta \to Z$  defined by the formulas:

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi_1([x]_\alpha) &= f_1(x), \quad [x]_\alpha \in X/\alpha ,\\ \varphi_2([y]_\beta) &= f_2(y), \quad [y]_\beta \in Y/\beta . \end{aligned}$$

Define the mapping  $G: T[X/\alpha, Y/\beta] \to T[W, Z]$  by the rule:

$$G(r,s) = (\varphi_2 \circ r \circ \varphi_1^{-1}, \varphi_1 \circ s \circ \varphi_2^{-1})$$

for all  $(r, s) \in T[X/\alpha, Y/\beta]$ .

It is easy to check that G is an isomorphism of the ternary semigroups  $T[X/\alpha, Y/\beta]$ and T[W, Z]. Put  $K = G \circ F$ . Thus, we conclude that K is an epimorphism of H[X, Y] onto T[W, Z].

Therefore we have obtained the following

**Proposition 3.3.** Let X and Y be ordered sets. Let  $\alpha \in E(X)$  and  $\beta \in E(Y)$  be connectivity relations. Consider the surjections  $f_1 : X \to W$  and  $f_2 : Y \to Z$  such that  $\operatorname{Ker}(f_1) = \alpha$  and  $\operatorname{Ker}(f_2) = \beta$ . Then the ternary semigroups  $T[X/\alpha, Y/\beta]$  and T[W, Z] are isomorphic. Moreover, the ternary semigroup T[W, Z] is an epimorphic image of the ternary semigroup H[X, Y] by the epimorphism K.

Assume that  $(g, h) \in T[W, Z]$ . Consider the choice functions:

$$\begin{split} \omega_1 &: X/\alpha \to X, \quad \omega_1([x]_\alpha) \in [x]_\alpha, \quad [x]_\alpha \in X/\alpha \\ \omega_2 &: Y/\beta \to Y, \quad \omega_2([y]_\beta) \in [y]_\beta, \quad [y]_\beta \in Y/\beta \end{split}$$

Define the mappings  $p(g) = \omega_2 \circ \varphi_2^{-1} \circ g \circ f_1$  and  $q(h) = \omega_1 \circ \varphi_1^{-1} \circ h \circ f_2$ . Similarly as for the mappings p(r) and q(s) we can show that  $(p(g), q(h)) \in SH[X, Y]$ . We shall prove that K(p(g), q(h)) = (g, h). Indeed,  $K(p(g), q(h)) = (G \circ H)(p(g), q(h)) =$  $(\varphi_2 \circ p(g)^* \circ \varphi_1^{-1}), \varphi_1 \circ q(h)^* \circ \varphi_2^{-1})$ . If  $w \in W$ , then there exists an  $x \in X$ such that  $f_1(x) = w$ . Therefore,  $(\varphi_2 \circ p(g)^* \circ \varphi_1^{-1})(w) = \varphi_2(p(g)^*(\varphi_1^{-1}(f_1(x)))) =$  $\varphi_2(p(g)^*([x]_{\alpha})) = \varphi_2([p(g)(x)]_{\beta}) = \varphi_2([\omega_2(\varphi_2^{-1}(g(f_1(x))))]_{\beta}) = f_2(\omega_2(\varphi_2^{-1}(g(f_1(x)))))) =$  $(f_1(x)) = g(w)$ . Thus  $\varphi_2 \circ p(g)^* \circ \varphi_1^{-1} = g$ . Similarly  $\varphi_1 \circ q(h)^* \circ \varphi_2^{-1} = h$ . Therefore K(p(g), q(h)) = (g, h).

From the foregoing it follows the following

**Proposition 3.4.** The epimorphism  $K : H[X, Y] \to T[W, Z]$  restricted to the set SH[X, Y] is an epimorphism of the ternary semigroup SH[X, Y] onto the ternary semigroup T[W, Z].

As a consequence, we have

**Corollary 3.2.** The ternary semigroups SH[X,Y]/Ker(K) and T[W,Z] are isomorphic.

Summarizing we get the following

**Corollary 3.3.** The ternary semigroups H[X,Y]/Ker(F), H[X,Y]/Ker(K), SH[X,Y]/Ker(F), SH[X,Y]/Ker(K),  $T[X/\alpha, Y/\beta]$ , T[W,Z] are isomorphic.

4. MAIN RESULT

The main result of this paper is contained in Theorem 4.1. Let X and Y be ordered sets. Consider the following sets:

$$H_0(X,Y) = \{ p \in H(X,Y) : \exists y_0 \in Y \forall x \in X : p(x) = y_0 \} , H_0(Y,X) = \{ q \in H(Y,X) : \exists x_0 \in X \forall y \in Y : q(y) = x_0 \} .$$

The homomorphisms  $p \in H_0(X, Y)$  and  $q \in H_0(Y, X)$  such that their single values are  $y_0 \in Y$  and  $x_0 \in X$  we denote by  $p_{y_0}$  and  $q_{x_0}$ , respectively. Define the partial order on the set  $H_0(X, Y)$  by the rule:

$$p_{y_0} \le p_{y'_0} \Longleftrightarrow y_0 \le y'_0$$

for  $p_{y_0}, p_{y'_0} \in H_0(X, Y)$ .

Define the partial order on the set  $H_0(Y, X)$  by the rule:

$$q_{x_0} \leq q_{x'_0} \Longleftrightarrow x_0 \leq x'_0$$

for  $q_{x_0}, q_{x'_0} \in H_0(Y, X)$ .

Put  $H_0[X, Y] = H_0(X, Y) \times H_0(Y, X)$ . It is easy to notice that  $H_0[X, Y]$  is a ternary subsemigroup of the ternary semigroup H[X, Y].

**Lemma 4.1.** Let X and Y be ordered sets. A pair of homomorphisms (p,q) is a left zero of the ternary semigroup H[X,Y] if and only if  $(p,q) \in H_0[X,Y]$ .

**Proof.** Let (p,q) be a left zero of H[X, Y]. By Definition 2.3 we have  $f((p,q), (p_1,q_1), (p_2,q_2)) = (p,q)$  for all  $(p_1,q_1), (p_2,q_2) \in H[X,Y]$ . Put  $(p_1,q_1) = (p_{y_0},q_{x_0})$  for some  $x_0 \in X$  and  $y_0 \in Y$ . Hence  $f((p,q), (p_{y_0}, q_{x_0}), (p_2, q_2)) = (p,q)$  and  $p = p \circ q_{x_0} \circ p_2, q = q \circ p_{y_0} \circ q_2$ . Therefore,  $\forall x \in X : p(x) = p(x_0)$  and  $\forall y \in Y : q(y) = q(y_0)$ , and so  $(p,q) \in H_0[X,Y]$ .

Suppose that  $(p,q) \in H_0[X,Y]$ . Consequently  $p = p_{y_0}$  and  $q = q_{x_0}$  for some  $x_0 \in X$  and  $y_0 \in Y$ . For any  $(p_1,q_1), (p_2,q_2) \in H[X,Y]$  we have:  $f((p,q), (p_1,q_1), (p_2,q_2)) = f((p_{y_0},q_{x_0}), (p_1,q_1), (p_2,q_2)) = (p_{y_0} \circ q_1 \circ p_2, q_{x_0} \circ p_1 \circ q_2) = (p_{y_0}, q_{x_0}) = (p,q)$ . Therefore, the pair (p,q) is a left zero of the ternary semigroup H[X,Y].  $\Box$ 

**Proposition 4.1.** The set  $H_0[X, Y]$  is the smallest ideal of the ternary semigroup H[X, Y].

**Proof.** It is easy to check that  $H_0[X, Y]$  is an ideal of H[X, Y]. Put  $I_0 = H_0[X, Y]$ . Let  $I \subset H[X, Y]$  be an ideal of H[X, Y]. By Lemma 4.1  $f(I_0, I, I) = I_0$ . On the other hand,  $f(I_0, I, I) \subset I$ . Hence  $I_0 \subset I$ .

**Lemma 4.2.** Let  $X_i$  and  $Y_i$  for i = 1, 2 be ordered sets. Let  $F : H[X_1, Y_1] \rightarrow H[X_2, Y_2]$  be an epimorphism of the ternary semigroups  $H[X_1, Y_1]$  and  $H[X_2, Y_2]$ . Then  $F(H_0[X_1, Y_1]) = H_0[X_2, Y_2]$ .

**Proof.** Suppose that  $(p,q) \in H_0[X_1, Y_1]$ . By Lemma 4.1 we have  $f((p,q), (p_1,q_1), (p_2,q_2)) = (p,q)$  for all  $(p_1,q_1), (p_2,q_2) \in H[X_1, Y_1]$ . Therefore,  $f(F(p,q), F(p_1,q_1), F(p_2,q_2)) = F(p,q)$  for all  $(p_1,q_1), (p_2,q_2) \in H[X_1, Y_1]$ . Again by Lemma 4.1  $F(p,q) \in H_0[X_2, Y_2]$ .

Suppose that  $(r, s) \in H_0[X_2, Y_2]$ . This implies that  $r = r_{y_2}$  and  $s = s_{x_2}$  for some  $x_2 \in X_2$  and  $y_2 \in Y_2$ . There exists a pair  $(p', q') \in H[X_1, Y_1]$  such that  $F(p', q') = (r_{y_2}, s_{x_2})$ . Assume that  $(p_{y'_1}, q_{x'_1}) \in H_0[X_1, Y_1]$  is an arbitrary fixed pair and  $(p_1, q_1) \in H[X_1, Y_1]$ . Put  $(p, q) = f((p', q'), (p_{y'_1}, q_{x'_1}), (p_1, q_1))$ . Hence  $p = p' \circ q_{x'_1} \circ p_1$  and  $q = q' \circ p_{y'_1} \circ q_1$ . Set  $y_1 = p'(x'_1)$  and  $x_1 = q'(y'_1)$ . Thus  $p = p_{y_1}$  and  $q = q_{x_1}$ , hence  $(p, q) \in H_0[X_1, Y_1]$ . We have  $F(p, q) = f(F(p', q'), F(p_{y'_1}, q_{x'_1}), F(p_1, q_1)) = f((r_{y_2}, s_{x_2}), F(p_{y'_1}, q_{x'_1}), F(p_1, q_1)) = (r_{y_2}, s_{x_2}) = (r, s)$ . Therefore, there exists a pair  $(p, q) \in H_0[X_1, Y_1]$  such that F(p, q) = (r, s).

Notice that a mapping  $F_0 : H_0[X_1, Y_1] \to H_0[X_2, Y_2]$  is an isomorphism of the ternary semigroups  $H_0[X_1, Y_1]$  and  $H_0[X_2, Y_2]$  if and only if  $F_0$  is a bijection.

Let  $X_i$  and  $Y_i$  for i = 1, 2 be ordered sets. Suppose that  $f_1 : X_1 \to X_2$  and  $f_2 :$  $Y_1 \rightarrow Y_2$  are isomorphisms of ordered sets. Define the mapping  $F : H[X_1, Y_1] \rightarrow Y_2$  $H[X_2, Y_2]$  by the rule:

(1) 
$$F(p,q) = (f_2 \circ p \circ f_1^{-1}, f_1 \circ q \circ f_2^{-1})$$

for all  $(p,q) \in H[X_1, Y_1]$ .

It is easy to check that F is an isomorphism of the ternary semigroups  $H[X_1, Y_1]$ and  $H[X_2, Y_2]$ . 

**Definition 4.1.** The mapping F defined by the formula (1) is called the isomorphism of the ternary semigroups  $H[X_1, Y_1]$  and  $H[X_2, Y_2]$  induced by the pair of isomorphisms  $(f_1, f_2)$ .

An isomorphism  $F: H[X_1, Y_1] \to H[X_2, Y_2]$  of the ternary semigroups  $H[X_1, Y_1]$ and  $H[X_2, Y_2]$  need not imply the existence of isomorphisms  $f_1 : X_1 \to X_2$  and  $f_2: Y_1 \to Y_2$  of the ordered sets  $X_1, X_2, Y_1, Y_2$ .

**Example.** Consider the following sets:

$$\begin{aligned} X_1 &= \{x_{11}, x_{12}, x_{13}\}, \quad Y_1 &= \{y_1\}, \\ X_2 &= \{x_{21}, x_{22}, x_{32}\}, \quad Y_2 &= \{y_2\}. \end{aligned}$$

Assume that  $X_2, Y_1, Y_2$  are trivially ordered sets. Define the partial order  $\leq$  in the set  $X_1$  by the following rules:  $x_{11} \leq x_{11}, x_{12} \leq x_{12}, x_{13} \leq x_{13}, x_{12} \leq x_{13}$ . Thus we have:

$$H(X_1, Y_1) = \{p_{y_1}\}, \quad H(Y_1, X_1) = \{q_{x_{11}}, q_{x_{12}}, q_{x_{13}}\}, \\ H(X_2, Y_2) = \{p_{y_2}\}, \quad H(Y_2, X_2) = \{q_{x_{21}}, q_{x_{22}}, q_{x_{23}}\}.$$

Hence

$$H[X_1, Y_1] = \{(p_{y_1}, q_{x_{11}}), (p_{y_1}, q_{x_{12}}), (p_{y_1}, q_{x_{13}})\},\$$
  
$$H[X_2, Y_2] = \{(p_{y_2}, q_{x_{21}}), (p_{y_2}, q_{x_{22}}), (p_{y_2}, q_{x_{23}})\}.$$

Thus  $H[X_1, Y_1] = H_0[X_1, Y_1]$  and  $H[X_2, Y_2] = H_0[X_2, Y_2]$ . Let us take any bijection  $F: H[X_1, Y_1] \longrightarrow H[X_2, Y_2]$ . The mapping F is an isomorphism of the ternary semigroups  $H[X_1, Y_1]$  and  $H[X_2, Y_2]$ . Notice that the ordered sets  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  are not isomorphic.

Let  $X_i$  and  $Y_i$  for i = 1, 2 be ordered sets. Let  $F : H[X_1, Y_1] \to H[X_2, Y_2]$ be an isomorphism of the ternary semigroups  $H[X_1, Y_1]$  and  $H[X_2, Y_2]$  induced by the pair of isomorphisms  $(f_1, f_2)$ . Assume that  $p_{y_1}, p_{y'_1} \in H_0(X_1, Y_1)$  and  $q, q' \in H_0(X_1, Y_1)$ . We have

$$F(p_{y_1}, q) = (f_2 \circ p_{y_1} \circ f_1^{-1}, f_1 \circ q \circ f_2^{-1}),$$
  

$$F(p_{y'_1}, q') = (f_2 \circ p_{y'_1} \circ f_1^{-1}, f_1 \circ q' \circ f_2^{-1}).$$

Notice that  $f_2 \circ p_{y_1} \circ f_1^{-1} = r_{f_2(y_1)}$  and  $f_2 \circ p_{y'_1} \circ f_1^{-1} = r_{f_2(y'_1)}$ , this means that  $r_{f_2(y_1)}, r_{f_2(y'_1)} \in H_0(X_2, Y_2)$ . If  $p_{y_1} \leq p_{y'_1}$ , then  $y_1 \leq y'_1$ . Since  $f_2(y_1) \leq f_2(y'_1)$ ,

it follows that  $r_{f_2(y_1)} \leq r_{f_2(y'_1)}$ . Conversely, suppose that  $r_{f_2(y_1)} \leq r_{f_2(y'_1)}$ . Hence  $f_2(y_1) \leq f_2(y'_1)$ , and so  $y_1 \leq y'_1$ . This means that  $p_{y_1} \leq p_{y'_1}$ . Let us denote by  $\pi_1$  and  $\pi_2$  the projections of Cartesian product. From the foregoing we have obtained the following condition:

(W<sub>1</sub>) 
$$\forall p, p' \in H_0(X_1, Y_1) \, \forall q, q' \in H_0(Y_1, X_1) [p \le p' \iff \pi_1(F(p, q)) \le \le \pi_1(F(p', q'))].$$

A similar argument yields the following condition:

$$(W_2) \quad \forall p, p' \in H_0(X_1, Y_1) \, \forall q, q' \in H_0(Y_1, X_1) [q \le q' \Longleftrightarrow \pi_2(F(p, q)) \le \\ \le \pi_2(F(p', q'))].$$

Notice that the isomorphism  $F : H[X_1, Y_1] \to H[X_2, Y_2]$  defined in the former example does not satisfy the condition  $(W_2)$ .

**Theorem 4.1.** Let  $X_i$  and  $Y_i$  for i = 1, 2 be ordered sets such that the ternary semigroups  $H[X_1, Y_1]$  and  $H[X_2, Y_2]$  are isomorphic. The isomorphism  $F : H[X_1, Y_1] \to H[X_2, Y_2]$  of the ternary semigroups  $H[X_1, Y_1]$  and  $H[X_2, Y_2]$ is induced by the pair of isomorphisms  $(f_1, f_2)$  if and only if the isomorphism Fsatisfies the conditions  $(W_1)$  and  $(W_2)$ .

**Proof.** We have proved that the isomorphism F induced by the pair of isomorphisms  $(f_1, f_2)$  satisfies the conditions  $(W_1)$  and  $(W_2)$ .

Let us assume that  $F : H[X_1, Y_1] \to H[X_2, Y_2]$  is an isomorphism of the ternary semigroups  $H[X_1, Y_1]$  and  $H[X_2, Y_2]$  such that the conditions  $(W_1)$  and  $(W_2)$  are satisfied.

In view of Lemma 4.2 we can define the mapping  $F^* : X_1 \times Y_1 \to X_2 \times Y_2$  by the formula:

(2) 
$$F^*(x_1, y_1) = (x_2, y_2) \iff F(p_{y_1}, q_{x_1}) = (r_{y_2}, s_{x_2})$$

for  $(x_1, y_1) \in X_1 \times Y_1, (x_2, y_2) \in X_2 \times Y_2.$ 

It is easy to notice that  $F^*$  is a bijection. Let  $y_0 \in Y_1$  be an arbitrary fixed element. We define the mapping  $f_1 : X_1 \to X_2$  by the rule:

(3) 
$$f_1(x_1) = x_2 \iff \pi_1(F^*(x_1, y_0)) = x_2$$

for  $x_1 \in X_1, x_2 \in X_2$ . We will prove that

$$f_1(x_1) = x_2 \Longleftrightarrow \forall y_1 \in Y_1 : \pi_1(F^*(x_1, y_1)) = x_2$$

for  $x_1 \in X_1, x_2 \in X_2$ . Suppose that  $F^*(x_1, y_0) = (x_2, y_2)$  and  $F^*(x_1, y_1) = (x'_2, y'_2)$ for an arbitrary fixed element  $y_1 \in Y_1$ , and  $x_1 \in X_1, x_2, x'_2 \in X_2, y_2, y'_2 \in Y_2$ . Thus we have

$$F^*(x_1, y_0) = (x_2, y_2) \iff F(p_{y_0}, q_{x_1}) = (r_{y_2}, s_{x_2}),$$
  
$$F^*(x_1, y_1) = (x'_2, y'_2) \iff F(p_{y_1}, q_{x_1}) = (r_{y'_1}, s_{x'_2}).$$

In view of the condition (W<sub>2</sub>) we infer that  $s_{x_2} = s_{x'_2}$ , and so  $x_2 = x'_2$ . Therefore,

(4) 
$$f_1(x_1) = x_2 \iff \forall y_1 \in Y_1 : \pi_1(F^*(x_1, y_1)) = x_2 \text{ for } x_1 \in X_1, x_2 \in X_2,$$

(5) 
$$f_1(x_1) = x_2 \iff \exists y_1 \in Y_1 : \pi_1(F^*(x_1, y_1)) = x_2 \text{ for } x_1 \in X_1, x_2 \in X_2.$$

Next we will prove that  $f_1: X_1 \to X_2$  is a bijection. Suppose that  $x_2 \in X_2$ . Let us take an arbitrary fixed element  $y_2 \in Y_2$ . Thus there exists a pair  $(x_1, y_1) \in X_1 \times Y_1$  such that  $F^*(x_1, y_1) = (x_2, y_2)$ . Therefore using the condition (5) we obtain  $f_1(x_1) = x_2$ , and so  $f_1$  is a surjection. Suppose that  $f_1(x_1) = f_1(x'_1)$  for  $x_1, x'_1 \in X_1$ . Hence  $f_1(x_1) = x_2$  and  $f_1(x'_1) = x_2$  for some  $x_2 \in X_2$ . By (3) it follows that  $F^*(x_1, y_0) = (x_2, y_2)$  and  $F^*(x'_1, y_0) = (x_2, y'_2)$  for some  $y_2, y'_2 \in Y_2$ . Hence we have  $F(p_{y_0}, q_{x_1}) = (r_{y_2}, s_{x_2})$  and  $F(p_{y_0}, q_{x'_1}) = (r_{y'_2}, s_{x_2})$ . Using (W<sub>2</sub>) we get  $q_{x_1} = q_{x'_1}$ , and so  $x_1 = x'_1$ . Therefore  $f_1$  is an injection. We shall prove that

(6) 
$$\forall x_1, x'_1 \in X_1[x_1 \leq x'_1 \Longleftrightarrow f_1(x_1) \leq f_1(x'_1)].$$

Suppose that  $x_1 \leq x'_1$  for  $x_1, x'_1 \in X_1$ . Set  $f_1(x_1) = x_2$  and  $f_1(x'_1) = x'_2$  where  $x_2, x'_2 \in X_2$ . Hence

$$f_1(x_1) = x_2 \iff \pi_1(F^*(x_1, y_0)) = x_2 ,$$
  
$$f_1(x_1') = x_2' \iff \pi_1(F^*(x_1', y_0)) = x_2' .$$

Thus  $F^*(x_1, y_0) = (x_2, y_2)$  and  $F^*(x'_1, y_0) = (x'_2, y'_2)$  for some  $y_2, y'_2 \in Y_2$ . We have

$$F^*(x_1, y_0) = (x_2, y_2) \Longleftrightarrow F(p_{y_0}, q_{x_1}) = (r_{y_2}, s_{x_2}),$$
  
$$F^*(x'_1, y_0) = (x'_2, y'_2) \Longleftrightarrow F(p_{y_0}, q_{x'_1}) = (r_{y'_2}, s_{x'_2}).$$

Since  $q_{x_1} \leq q_{x'_1}$ , the condition (W<sub>2</sub>) yields  $s_{x_2} \leq s_{x'_2}$ , that is  $x_2 \leq x'_2$ , and so  $f_1(x_1) \leq f_1(x'_1)$ . It is easy to notice that  $f_1(x_1) \leq f_1(x'_1)$  implies  $x_1 \leq x'_1$  for each  $x_1, x'_1 \in X_1$ . Therefore we have proved the condition (6).

Summarizing, the mapping  $f_1 : X_1 \longrightarrow X_2$  is an isomorphism of the ordered sets  $X_1$  and  $X_2$ .

Let  $x_0 \in X_1$  be an arbitrary fixed element. We define the mapping  $f_2 : Y_1 \to Y_2$  by the formula:

(7) 
$$f_2(y_1) = y_2 \iff \pi_2(F^*(x_0, y_1)) = y_2$$

for  $y_1 \in Y_1$  and  $y_2 \in Y_2$ . The analogous argument applied to the mapping  $f_2$  allows to prove that

(8) 
$$f_2(y_1) = y_2 \iff \forall x_1 \in X_1 : \pi_2(F^*(x_1, y_1)) = y_2$$
,

(9) 
$$f_2(y_1) = y_2 \iff \exists x_1 \in X_1 : \pi_2(F^*(x_1, y_1)) = y_2$$

for  $y_1 \in Y_1$  and  $y_2 \in Y_2$ . We can similarly show that the mapping  $f_2 : Y_1 \to Y_2$  is an isomorphism of the ordered sets  $Y_1$  and  $Y_2$ . By the conditions (4) and (8)

we get  $F^*(x_1, y_1) = (\pi_1(F^*(x_1, y_1)), \pi_2(F^*(x_1, y_1))) = (f_1(x_1), f_2(y_1))$  for each  $(x_1, y_1) \in X_1 \times Y_1$ . Consequently,

(10) 
$$F^* = (f_1, f_2)$$

We shall prove that the isomorphism F is induced by the pair of isomorphisms  $(f_1, f_2)$ . First, we shall show that the following condition is satisfied:

(11) 
$$\forall x_1 \in X_1 \forall y_1 \in Y_1 \forall (p,q) \in H[X_1,Y_1] : F(p,q)(f_1(x_1),f_2(y_1)) = (f_2(p(x_1)),f_1(q(y_1))) .$$

Suppose that  $x_1 \in X_1$ ,  $y_1 \in Y_1$ , and (p,q),  $(p_1,q_1) \in H[X_1,Y_1]$ . Hence  $f((p,q), (p_{y_1},q_{x_1}), (p_1,q_1)) = (p \circ q_{x_1} \circ p_1, q \circ p_{y_1} \circ q_1) = (p_{p(x_1)}, q_{q(y_1)})$ . We have  $F(p_{p(x_1)}, q_{q(y_1)}) = F(f((p,q), (p_{y_1},q_{x_1}), (p_1,q_1))) = f(F(p,q), F(p_{y_1},q_{x_1}), F(p_1,q_1))$ . Set F(p,q) = (r,s) and  $F(p_1,q_1) = (r_1,s_1)$ . By Lemma 4.2 we get  $F(p_{y_1},q_{x_1}) = (r_{y_2},s_{x_2})$  for some  $x_2 \in X_2$ ,  $y_2 \in Y_2$ . By(10)  $F(p_{y_1},q_{x_1}) = (r_{y_2},s_{x_2}) \iff F^*(x_1,y_1)$  ( $x_2,y_2) \iff (f_1(x_1), f_2(y_1)) = (x_2,y_2) \iff (x_2 = f_1(x_1) \land y_2 = f_2(y_1))$ . Therefore,  $F(p_{p(x_1)}, q_{q(y_1)}) = f((r,s), (r_{f_2(y_1)}, s_{f_1(x_1)}), (r_1,s_1)) = (r \circ s_{f_1(x_1)} \circ r_1, s \circ r_{f_2(y_1)} \circ s_1) = (r_{r(f_1(x_1))}, s_{s(f_2(y_1))})$ . On the other hand,  $F(p_{p(x_1)}, q_{q(y_1)}) = (r_{y_2}, s_{x_2})$  for some  $x_2 \in X_2$ ,  $y_2 \in Y_2$ . By (10)  $F(p_{p(x_1)}, q_{q(y_1)}) = (r_{y_2}, s_{x_2})$  for some  $x_2 \in X_2$ ,  $y_2 \in Y_2$ . By (10)  $F(p_{p(x_1)}, q_{q(y_1)}) = (r_{y_2}, s_{x_2}) \iff F^*(q(y_1), p(x_1)) = (x_2, y_2) \iff (f_1(q(y_1)), f_2(p(x_1))) = (r_{f_2(p(x_1))}, s_{f_1(q(y_1))})$ . Consequently,  $r(f_1(x_1)) = f_2(p(x_1))$  and  $s(f_2(y_1)) = f_1(q(y_1))$ . Thus,  $F(p,q)(f_1(x_1), f_2(y_1)) = (r,s)(f_1(x_1), f_2(y_1)) = (r(f_1(x_1)), s(f_2(y_1))) = (f_2(p(x_1)), f_1(q(y_1)))$ . Therefore we have obtained the formula (11).

For  $x_2 \in X_2$  and  $y_2 \in Y_2$  there exist  $x_1 \in X_1$  and  $y_1 \in Y_1$  such that  $f_1(x_1) = x_2$ and  $f_2(y_1) = y_2$ . Hence  $x_1 = f_1^{-1}(x_2)$  and  $y_1 = f_2^{-1}(y_2)$ . Using the formula (11) we obtain  $F(p,q)(x_2, y_2) = ((f_2 \circ p \circ f_1^{-1})(x_2), (f_1 \circ q \circ f_2^{-1})(y_2)) = (f_2 \circ p \circ f_1^{-1}, f_1 \circ q \circ f_2^{-1})(x_2, y_2)$  for any pair  $(p,q) \in H[X_1, Y_1]$ . Therefore,  $F(p,q) = (f_2 \circ p \circ f_1^{-1}, f_1 \circ q \circ f_2^{-1})$  for each  $(p,q) \in H[X_1, Y_1]$ . Finally, we conclude that the isomorphism F is induced by the pair of isomorphisms  $(f_1, f_2)$  defined by the formulas (3) and (7). The proof of Theorem 4.1 is completed.  $\Box$ 

**Definition 4.2.** Let  $X_i$  and  $Y_i$  for i = 1, 2 be ordered sets. The ternary semigroups  $H[X_1, Y_1]$  and  $H[X_2, Y_2]$  are called W-isomorphic if there exists an isomorphism  $F : H[X_1, Y_1] \to H[X_2, Y_2]$  of the ternary semigroups  $H[X_1, Y_1]$  and  $H[X_2, Y_2]$  fulfilling the conditions (W<sub>1</sub>) and (W<sub>2</sub>).

From Theorem 4.1 we deduce the following two corollaries.

**Corollary 4.1.** Let  $X_i$  and  $Y_i$  for i = 1, 2 be ordered sets. The ternary semigroups  $H[X_1, Y_1]$  and  $H[X_2, Y_2]$  are W-isomorphic if and only if the ordered sets  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  are isomorphic and the ordered sets  $Y_1$  and  $Y_2$  are isomorphic.

**Corollary 4.2.** Let  $X_i$  and  $Y_i$  for i = 1, 2 be ordered sets such that there exists an isomorphism  $G : H[X_1, Y_1] \to H[X_2, Y_2]$  of the ternary semigroups  $H[X_1, Y_1]$ and  $H[X_2, Y_2]$ . The ordered sets  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  are isomorphic and the ordered sets  $Y_1$  and  $Y_2$  are isomorphic if and only if there exists an automorphism  $\mu$  of the ternary semigroup  $H[X_1, Y_1]$  such that the isomorphism  $F = G \circ \mu$  satisfies the conditions  $(W_1)$  and  $(W_2)$ .

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