

On locally regular Rees matrix semigroups

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The aim of this paper is to investigate the behaviour of locally regular Rees matrix semigroups over a semigroup with zero and identity with respect to certain properties. This class of semigroups was defined by STEINFELD [3] in the following way.

Let H be a semigroup with zero 0 and identity e . Let $M^\circ = M^\circ(H; I, A; P)$ denote the Rees matrix semigroup over H with sandwich matrix $P = (p_{\lambda i})$ ($\lambda \in A$; $i \in I$; $p_{\lambda i} \in H$). Denote the elements of M° by $(a)_{i\lambda}$ with a in H , i in I , and λ in A . The product of the matrices $(a)_{i\lambda}$, $(b)_{j\mu}$ is defined by

$$(a)_{i\lambda} \circ (b)_{j\mu} = (ap_{\lambda j}b)_{i\mu} \quad (a, b \in H; i, j \in I; \lambda, \mu \in A).$$

We say that $M^\circ(H; I, A; P)$ is *locally regular* if $P = (p_{\lambda i})$ has the following properties:

1) in every row λ of P there exists an element $p_{\lambda j(\lambda)}$ ($j(\lambda) \in I$) which has a right inverse $p'_{\lambda j(\lambda)}$ in H , that is,

$$p_{\lambda j(\lambda)} p'_{\lambda j(\lambda)} = e;$$

2) in every column i of P there exists an element $p_{\mu(i)i}$ ($\mu(i) \in A$) which has a left inverse $p''_{\mu(i)i}$ in H , that is,

$$p''_{\mu(i)i} p_{\mu(i)i} = e;$$

3) there exists at least one element $p_{\lambda i}$ in P which has a right and left inverse in H .

One can see immediately that a Rees matrix semigroup over a group with zero is locally regular if and only if it is regular, hence, by the Rees representation theorem, if and only if it is completely 0-simple, which means that an abstract characterization of the class of locally regular Rees matrix semigroups yields a generalization of the Rees theorem. This characterization was given by STEINFELD [3] by means of the notion of similarity of one-sided ideals of a semigroup, introduced in the same paper of his.

The left ideals L_1 and L_2 of a semigroup S are said to be *left similar* if there exists a one-to-one mapping φ of L_1 onto L_2 such that $(sx)\varphi = s(x\varphi)$ for all $s \in S$ and $x \in L_1$. If, in addition, we have $x\varphi \in xS$ and $y\varphi^{-1} \in yS$ for all $x \in L_1$ and $y \in L_2$,

then we say that L_1 and L_2 are *strongly left similar* (this notion proved to be useful in [1], where it was also shown that left similarity and strong left similarity of the left ideals L_1 and L_2 are equivalent in the case when L_1 and L_2 both can be generated by regular elements). Dually one defines right similarity and strong right similarity of right ideals of a semigroup S . Let S be a semigroup with 0 such that

$$S = \bigcup_{\lambda \in A} Se_\lambda = \bigcup_{i \in I} e_i S \quad (e_\lambda^2 = e_\lambda; e_i^2 = e_i; I \cap A \neq \emptyset)$$

where Se_λ ($\lambda \in A$) [$e_i S$ ($i \in I$)] are (strongly) left [right] similar left [right] ideals of S with $Se_\mu \cap Se_\nu = 0$ ($\mu, \nu \in A$; $\mu \neq \nu$) and $e_j S \cap e_k S = 0$ ($j, k \in I$; $j \neq k$). We call a semigroup with these properties *similarly decomposable*.

Now Theorem 4.1 of STEINFELD [3] asserts that a semigroup is similarly decomposable if and only if it is isomorphic to a locally regular Rees matrix semigroup over a semigroup with zero and identity.

As far as we know, regularity and simplicity properties of similarly decomposable semigroups have not been studied yet. We are going to show that a similarly decomposable semigroup can have, but need not have such properties. To be more precise, we shall see that several properties (regularity, 0-simplicity, 0-bisimplicity, complete 0-simplicity) of a locally regular Rees matrix semigroup $M^\circ = M^\circ(H; I, A; P)$ depend solely upon the underlying semigroup H , while other properties (like inversivity, semi-simplicity, left- or right- or intra-regularity) depend also upon the sandwich matrix P of M° . However, of the latter properties we shall investigate inversivity only, for the other ones we but mentioned that the fact that M° has any of them depends on H and P (and I and A) either.

In the sequel, H will always denote a semigroup with zero 0 and identity e and $M^\circ = M^\circ(H; I, A; P)$ a locally regular Rees matrix semigroup over H .

From the multiplication law \circ of M° it follows immediately that for any $i \in I$ and $\lambda \in A$, the set $\{(a)_{i\lambda} \mid a \in H\}$ endowed with the multiplication \circ forms a subsemigroup $M_{i\lambda}^\circ$ of M° . It is well-known from the theory of completely 0-simple semigroups, that if H is a group with zero, then each $M_{i\lambda}^\circ$ is either a zero-semigroup or is isomorphic to H . The following two lemmas (the first of which includes the above mentioned result) will show that this is far from being true in general.

Lemma 1. $M_{i\lambda}^\circ$ is isomorphic to H if and only if the entry $p_{\lambda i}$ of the sandwich matrix P has a (two-sided) inverse (in H).

Proof. Suppose that $\varphi: H \rightarrow M_{i\lambda}^\circ: a \rightarrow (\varphi'(a))_{i\lambda}$ is an isomorphism, then we have $\varphi(a) = \varphi(ea) = \varphi(e) \circ \varphi(a)$; putting $a = \varphi^{-1}((e)_{i\lambda})$, herefrom we obtain that $\varphi'(e)p_{\lambda i} = e$. Similarly, $\varphi(a) = \varphi(a) \circ \varphi(e)$ implies $p_{\lambda i}\varphi'(e) = e$, thus $\varphi'(e)$ is an inverse of $p_{\lambda i}$.

Suppose now that $p_{\lambda i}$ has an inverse $p'_{\lambda i}$. We shall show that

$$\varphi: H \rightarrow M_{i\lambda}^\circ: a \rightarrow (ap'_{\lambda i})_{i\lambda}$$

is an isomorphism.

In fact,

1) φ is a homomorphism since for any $a, b \in H$ we have

$$\varphi(ab) = (abp'_{\lambda i})_{i\lambda} = (ap'_{\lambda i}bp'_{\lambda i})_{i\lambda} = (ap'_{\lambda i})_{i\lambda} \circ (bp'_{\lambda i})_{i\lambda} = \varphi(a) \circ \varphi(b),$$

2) φ is one-to-one as $ap'_{\lambda i} = bp'_{\lambda i}$ implies $a = ap'_{\lambda i}p_{\lambda i} = bp'_{\lambda i}p_{\lambda i} = b$,

3) φ is onto since for any $a \in H$ we have $(a)_{i\lambda} = (ap_{\lambda i}p'_{\lambda i})_{i\lambda} = \varphi(ap_{\lambda i})$, q.e.d.

Corollary. *If the entry $p_{\lambda i}$ of the sandwich matrix P has a one-sided inverse which is not a two-sided inverse then $M_{i\lambda}^\circ$ is neither isomorphic to H nor is it a zero semigroup.*

Note that for 1) and 2) we used only that $p'_{\lambda i}$ is a left inverse of $p_{\lambda i}$, thus φ is a monomorphism in this case already. Similarly, if $p'_{\lambda i}$ is a right inverse of $p_{\lambda i}$, then

$$\tilde{\varphi}: a \rightarrow (p'_{\lambda i}a)_{i\lambda}$$

is a monomorphism of H into $M_{i\lambda}^\circ$. This remark constitutes our

Lemma 2. *If $p_{\lambda i}$ has a one-sided inverse, $M_{i\lambda}^\circ$ contains a subsemigroup which is isomorphic to H .*

Theorem 1. $M^\circ = M^\circ(H; I, \Lambda; P)$ is 0-simple if and only if H is 0-simple.

Proof. Suppose that M° is 0-simple and let a and b be arbitrary non-zero elements of H , we have to show the existence of elements $x, y \in H$ with $xay = b$. Now choose arbitrarily $i, j \in I$ and $\lambda, \mu \in \Lambda$, then, by the 0-simplicity of M° , there exist indices $k \in I$, $\nu \in \Lambda$ and elements $x', y' \in H$ such that

$$(x')_{j\nu} \circ (a)_{i\lambda} \circ (y')_{k\mu} = (b)_{j\mu},$$

that is,

$$x'p_{\nu i}ap_{\lambda k}y' = b.$$

Thus we have $xay = b$ with $x = x'p_{\nu i}$ and $y = p_{\lambda k}y'$.

Suppose now that H is 0-simple and let $(a)_{i\lambda}$ and $(b)_{j\mu}$ be arbitrary non-zero elements of M° . Since H is 0-simple, there exist elements $x', y' \in H$ with $x'ay' = b$. Now let $\nu(i) \in \Lambda$ and $k(\lambda) \in I$ be indices for which $p_{\nu(i)i}$ has a left inverse $p''_{\nu(i)i}$ and $p_{\lambda k(\lambda)}$ has a right inverse $p'_{\lambda k(\lambda)}$, and put $x = x'p''_{\nu(i)i}$, $y = p'_{\lambda k(\lambda)}y'$. Then we have

$$(x)_{j\nu(i)} \circ (a)_{i\lambda} \circ (y)_{k(\lambda)\mu} = (xp_{\nu(i)i}ap_{\lambda k(\lambda)}y)_{j\mu} = (x'ay')_{j\mu} = (b)_{j\mu},$$

q.e.d.

Theorem 2. $M^\circ = M^\circ(H; I, \Lambda; P)$ is completely 0-simple if and only if H is completely 0-simple.

Proof. If H is completely 0-simple, it is a group with zero (since by REES [2], a completely 0-simple semigroup with identity is a group with zero). Then local

regularity of M° is equivalent to regularity by one of our first remarks, thus M° is completely 0-simple by the Rees representation theorem (s. [2]).

Suppose now that M° is completely 0-simple, then H is 0-simple by Theorem 1. On the other hand, by the Corollary of Lemma 1, H is isomorphic to a subsemigroup of M° , thus all idempotents of H are primitive. Hence H is completely 0-simple.

Theorem 3. $M^\circ = M^\circ(I; I, A; P)$ is 0-bisimple if and only if H is 0-bisimple.

Proof. We shall see that the \mathcal{R} -classes of M° are of the form

$$\{(a)_{i\lambda} | a \in R, \lambda \in A\}$$

where i is an element of I and R is an \mathcal{R} -class of H . Since the same proof gives a similar form for the \mathcal{L} -classes of M° , this implies that the \mathcal{D} -classes of M° are exactly the sets of the form

$$\{(a)_{i\lambda} | a \in D, i \in I, \lambda \in A\}$$

where D is a \mathcal{D} -class of H , which proves our assertion.

Let $a, b \in H$ with $a\mathcal{R}b$, $i \in I$ and $\lambda, \mu \in A$, we are going to show that $(a)_{i\lambda}\mathcal{R}(b)_{i\mu}$ in M° . From $a\mathcal{R}b$ it follows that there exist elements $x', y' \in H$ with $a = bx'$ and $b = ay'$. Now let $j(\lambda) \in I$ and $k(\mu) \in I$ be indices for which $p_{\lambda j(\lambda)}$ and $p_{\lambda k(\mu)}$ have right inverses $p'_{\lambda j(\lambda)}$ and $p'_{\mu k(\mu)}$, respectively, and put $x = p'_{\mu k(\mu)}x'$, $y = p'_{\lambda j(\lambda)}y'$, then we have

$$(b)_{i\mu} \circ (x)_{k(\mu)\lambda} = (bp_{\mu k(\mu)}x)_{i\lambda} = (bx')_{i\lambda} = (a)_{i\lambda}$$

and similarly $(a)_{i\lambda} \circ (y)_{j(\lambda)\mu} = (b)_{i\mu}$. Thus $(a)_{i\lambda}\mathcal{R}(b)_{i\mu}$.

We still have to show that $(a)_{i\lambda}\mathcal{R}(b)_{j\mu}$ in M° implies $i=j$ and $a\mathcal{R}b$ in H . In fact, if $(a)_{i\lambda}\mathcal{R}(b)_{j\mu}$, then there exist elements $(x)_{k\nu}$ and $(y)_{l\pi}$ with

$$(a)_{i\lambda} \circ (x)_{k\nu} = (b)_{j\mu} \quad \text{and} \quad (b)_{j\mu} \circ (y)_{l\pi} = (a)_{i\lambda},$$

that is,

$$(ap_{\lambda k}x)_{i\nu} = (b)_{j\mu} \quad \text{and} \quad (bp_{\mu l}y)_{j\pi} = (a)_{i\lambda}$$

which imply, among others, $i=j$, $a(p_{\lambda k}x) = b$ and $b(p_{\mu l}y) = a$. The last two equations give $a\mathcal{R}b$ in H , which completes the proof of our theorem.

Theorem 4. $M^\circ = M^\circ(H; I, A; P)$ is regular if and only if H is regular.

Proof. Let H be regular, $(a)_{i\lambda}$ be an arbitrary element of M° and $j(\lambda) \in I$, $\mu(i) \in A$ be indices for which $p_{\lambda j(\lambda)}$ has a right inverse $p'_{\lambda j(\lambda)}$ and $p_{\mu(i)i}$ has a left inverse $p''_{\mu(i)i}$. By the regularity of H we have $a = aya$ with some $y \in H$, thus we also have

$$(a)_{i\lambda} = (ap_{\lambda j(\lambda)}p'_{\lambda j(\lambda)}yp''_{\mu(i)i}p_{\mu(i)i}a)_{i\lambda} = (a)_{i\lambda} \circ (p'_{\lambda j(\lambda)}yp''_{\mu(i)i})_{j(\lambda)\mu(i)} \circ (a)_{i\lambda}$$

which proves the regularity of M° .

On the other hand, suppose that M° is regular, let a be an arbitrary element of H and choose any indices $i \in I$ and $\lambda \in \Lambda$. Then we have

$$(a)_{i\lambda} \circ (x)_{j\mu} \circ (a)_{i\lambda} = (a)_{i\lambda}$$

for some $x \in H$, $j \in I$ and $\mu \in \Lambda$, hence

$$a = a(p_{\lambda j} x p_{\mu i})a.$$

Thus H is also regular.

Remark. Combining the first part of this proof with the fact that if $a = axa$ then xax is a generalized inverse of a , we obtain that each element of $M_{i\lambda}^\circ$ in a regular M° has a generalized inverse in $M_{j(\lambda)\mu(i)}^\circ$.

The only if parts of Theorems 1 and 4, in the proofs of which not even local regularity of M° was made use of, were already given in the most general case by VENKATESAN [4]. Corollary 1 to Proposition 1 and Corollary 1 to Theorem 1 of VENKATESAN [4], together with our Theorem 4, give the following result for locally regular Rees matrix semigroups:

Theorem 5. $M^\circ = M^\circ(H; I, \Lambda; P)$ is a union of its completely 0-simple ideals if and only if the same is true for H .

In connection with the Corollary to Lemma 2, we should like to mention that the behaviour of the subsemigroups $M_{i\lambda}^\circ$ of M° is, in general, far from being so nice as that of H with respect to the above treated properties. As an illustration, let us see the following example:

Let H be the bicyclic semigroup $\mathcal{C}(q, r)$ with zero adjoined, $I = \Lambda = \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ and the sandwich matrix P be

$$P = \begin{pmatrix} \overset{0}{e} & \overset{1}{0} & \overset{2}{0} & \overset{3}{0} & \dots & \overset{m}{0} & \dots \\ 0 & r & q & r^3 & \dots & r^m & \dots \\ 0 & q^2 & r^2 & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & q^3 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & & & \\ 0 & q^n & 0 & 0 & & 0 & \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & & & \end{pmatrix},$$

and consider the Rees matrix semigroup $M^\circ(H; I, \Lambda; P)$. Since for all $n \geq 0$, r^n has a left inverse and q^n has a right inverse, M° is a locally regular Rees matrix semigroup. It is well-known that this H is 0-bisimple, thus the same is true for M° . If $n \geq 3$, by Lemma 2, M_{n1}° contains a subsemigroup which is isomorphic to H , however, M_{n1}° is not even regular. In fact, let $k < n$ and consider the element $(r^k q^l)_{n1}$ with some $l \geq 0$, then for any element $(r^s q^t)_{n1}$ of M_{n1}° we have

$$(r^k q^l)_{n1} \circ (r^s q^t)_{n1} \circ (r^k q^l)_{n1} = (r^k q^l q^n r^s q^t q^n r^k q^l)_{n1} = (r^k q^{l+n} r^s q^{t+n-k+l})_{n1} \neq (r^k q^l)_{n1}$$

since multiplication by $r^k q^{l+u} r^s$ from the left cannot reduce the exponent $t+n--k+l>l$ of q .

At last we give a necessary and sufficient condition that $M^\circ(H; I, A; P)$ be an inverse semigroup.

Theorem 6. *The locally regular Rees matrix semigroup $M^\circ = M^\circ(H; I, A; P)$ is an inverse semigroup if and only if the following conditions are satisfied: H is an inverse semigroup, in each row and each column of the sandwich matrix P there exists exactly one element which has a two-sided inverse (clearly, this implies $|I|=|A|$), and all the other entries of P are zero.*

Proof. Suppose first that $M^\circ(H; I, A; P)$ satisfies all these conditions, and, for any $\lambda \in A$ and $i \in I$, let $j(\lambda) \in I$ and $\mu(i) \in A$ denote the indices for which $p_{\lambda j(\lambda)}$ and $p_{\mu(i)i}$ have two-sided inverses.

Let $(a)_{i\lambda}$ and $(b)_{j\mu}$ be generalized inverses of each other, $a \neq 0$, then we have

$$a = ap_{\lambda j} bp_{\mu i} a \neq 0,$$

whence $j=j(\lambda)$ and $\mu=\mu(i)$. Suppose further that $(c)_{j(\lambda)\mu(i)}$ is also a generalized inverse of $(a)_{i\lambda}$. Then we have

$$(*) \quad a = ap_{\lambda j(\lambda)} bp_{\mu(i)i} a = ap_{\lambda j(\lambda)} cp_{\mu(i)i} a,$$

$$(**) \quad b = bp_{\mu(i)i} ap_{\lambda j(\lambda)} b, \quad c = cp_{\mu(i)i} ap_{\lambda j(\lambda)} c.$$

Multiplying the equations $(*)$ and $(**)$ from the right by $p_{\lambda j(\lambda)}$ and $p_{\mu(i)i}$, respectively, we obtain that $bp_{\mu(i)i}$ and $cp_{\mu(i)i}$ are both generalized inverses of $ap_{\lambda j(\lambda)}$ in H . In view of the inversivity of H , this implies

$$bp_{\mu(i)i} = cp_{\mu(i)i},$$

and multiplication from the right by the inverse of $p_{\mu(i)i}$ gives now $b=c$. Hence each element of M° may have at most one generalized inverse, but it does have one, since by Theorem 4 the regularity of H implies that M° is also a regular semigroup. Thus M° is an inverse semigroup.

Conversely, suppose that M° is an inverse semigroup. By Theorem 4, H is regular, and as H is isomorphic to a subsemigroup of M° by the Corollary of Lemma 1, no element of H can have more than one generalized inverse element. Thus H is an inverse semigroup.

Let $(a)_{i\lambda}$ be an arbitrary non-zero element of M° , and suppose that $(b)_{j\mu}$ is the generalized inverse of $(a)_{i\lambda}$.

We have seen in the Remark after Theorem 4 that each $(a)_{i\lambda}$ has a generalized inverse in $M_{j(\lambda)\mu(i)}^\circ$, hence we must have, by the unicity of the generalized inverse element, $j=j(\lambda)$ and $\mu=\mu(i)$. On the other hand, $(b)_{j\mu}=(b)_{j(\lambda)\mu(i)}$ has $(a)_{i\mu}$ as its generalized inverse, but it also has a generalized inverse in $M_{j(\mu(i))\mu(j(\lambda))}^\circ$, whence

$ij = (\mu(i))$ and $\lambda = \mu(j(\lambda))$. Herefrom we can conclude that the elements $p_{\lambda j(\lambda)}$ and $p_{i\mu(i)}$ have (two-sided) inverses in H . Suppose now that the element $p_{\lambda m}$ has a right inverse $p'_{\lambda m}$ in H for some $m \in I$. Then we have

$$(a)_{i\lambda} = (a)_{i\lambda} \circ (b)_{j\mu} \circ (a)_{i\lambda} = (ap_{\lambda m} p'_{\lambda m} p_{\lambda j} b p_{\mu i} a)_{i\lambda} = (a)_{i\lambda} \circ (p'_{\lambda m} p_{\lambda j} b)_{m\mu} \circ (a)_{i\lambda}$$

and

$$b = bp_{\mu i} ap_{\lambda j} b = bp_{\mu i} ap_{\lambda m} p'_{\lambda m} p_{\lambda j} b,$$

multiplying here by $p'_{\lambda m} p_{\lambda j}$ from the left we obtain that

$$(p'_{\lambda m} p_{\lambda j} b)_{m\mu} = (p'_{\lambda m} p_{\lambda j} b)_{m\mu} \circ (a)_{i\lambda} \circ (p'_{\lambda m} p_{\lambda j} b)_{m\mu},$$

that is, $(p'_{\lambda m} p_{\lambda j} b)_{m\mu}$ is also a generalized inverse of $(a)_{i\lambda}$. Since $(a)_{i\lambda}$ may have but one generalized inverse, this implies $m = j = j(\lambda)$. In other words, in each row of P there exists exactly one element which has a right inverse in H , and we have seen that this element must have a two-sided inverse. Dually we obtain the analogous result for columns.

We still have to show that all the other entries of P are zero. Suppose that, on the contrary, there exists an entry $p_{\lambda i} \neq 0$ in P , which does not have an \ast -inverse of either sides in H . As H is an inverse semigroup, $p_{\lambda i}$ has a generalized inverse a in H :

$$ap_{\lambda i} a = a \quad \text{and} \quad p_{\lambda i} ap_{\lambda i} = p_{\lambda i}.$$

Then we also have

$$a = ap_{\lambda i} a = ap_{\lambda i} ap_{\lambda i} a$$

and

$$(a)_{i\lambda} = (ap_{\lambda i} ap_{\lambda i} a)_{i\lambda} = (a)_{i\lambda} \circ (a)_{i\lambda} \circ (a)_{i\lambda},$$

thus $(a)_{i\lambda}$ is a generalized inverse of itself, which contradicts the fact that M° is an inverse semigroup, since we have seen that in such a semigroup each element $(a)_{i\lambda}$ has its generalized inverse in $M^\circ_{j(\lambda)\mu(i)}$, and now $i \neq j(\lambda)$ for $p_{\lambda i}$ does not have a right inverse. This completes the proof of Theorem 6.

Remark. For the notions occurring in the following Corollary we refer to [3]. As it is easy to show that a 0-cancellative regular semigroup with identity is a group with zero adjoined, our Theorem 6 and Theorem 5.1 in [3] imply the following result:

Corollary. *For a special similarly decomposable semigroup S the following conditions are equivalent:*

- (i) S is regular,
- (ii) S is an inverse semigroup,
- (iii) S is completely 0-simple,
- (iv) S is a Brandt semigroup.

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