## $\Gamma$ -GROUP CONGRUENCES ON REGULAR $\Gamma$ -SEMIGROUPS

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ABSTRACT. In this paper a  $\Gamma$ -group congruence on a regular  $\Gamma$ -semigroup is defined, some equivalent expressions for any  $\Gamma$ -group congruence on a regular  $\Gamma$ -semigroup and those for the least  $\Gamma$ -group congruence in particular are given.

KEY WORDS AND PHRASES. Regular  $\Gamma$ -semigroup,  $\alpha$ -idempotent, Right (left)  $\Gamma$ -ideal,

KEY WORDS AND PHRASES. Regular  $\Gamma$ -semigroup,  $\alpha$ -idempotent, Right (left)  $\Gamma$ -ideal Right (left) simple  $\Gamma$ -semigroup,  $\Gamma$ -group, Congruence, Normal family.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION.

Let S and  $\Gamma$  be two nonempty sets, S is called a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup if for all a,b,c  $\in$  S,  $\alpha,\beta\in\Gamma$  (i) a $\alpha$ b  $\in$  S and (ii) (a $\alpha$ b) $\beta$ c = a $\alpha$ (b $\beta$ c) hold. S is called regular  $\Gamma$ -semigroup if for any a  $\in$  S there exist a'  $\in$  S,  $\alpha,\beta\in\Gamma$  such that a = a $\alpha$ a' $\beta$ a. We say a' is ( $\alpha,\beta$ )-inverse of a if a = a $\alpha$ a' $\beta$ a and a' = a' $\beta$ a $\alpha$ a' hold and in this case we write a'  $\in$  V $_{\alpha}^{\beta}$ (a). An element e of S is called  $\alpha$ -idempotent if e $\alpha$ e = e holds in S. A right (left)  $\Gamma$ -ideal of a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup S is a nonempty subset I of S such that I $\Gamma$ S  $\subseteq$  I (S $\Gamma$ I  $\subseteq$  I). A  $\Gamma$ -semigroup S is said to be left (right) simple if it has no proper left (right)  $\Gamma$ -ideal. For some fixed  $\alpha\in\Gamma$  if we define aob = a $\alpha$ b for all a,b  $\in$  S then S becomes a semigroup. We denote this semigroup by S $_{\alpha}$ . Throughout our discussion we shall use the notations and results of Sen and Saha [1-2]. For the sake of completeness let us recall the following results of Sen and Saha [1].

THEOREM 1.1.  $S_{\alpha}$  is a group if and only if S is both left simple and right simple  $\Gamma$ -semigroup. (Theorem 2.1 of [1]).

COROLLARY 1.2. Let S be a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup. If  $S_{\alpha}$  is a group for some  $\alpha \in \Gamma$  then  $S_{\alpha}$  is a group for all  $\alpha \in \Gamma$ . (Corollary 2.2 of [1]).

A  $\Gamma$ -semigroup S is called a  $\Gamma$ -group if  $S_{\alpha}$  is a group for some (hence for all)  $\alpha \in \Gamma$ . THEOREM 1.3. A regular  $\Gamma$ -semigroup S will be a  $\Gamma$ -group if and only if for all  $\alpha, \beta \in \Gamma$ , eaf = fixe = f and e\beta = f fxe = e for any two idempotents e = e\alpha = and f = f\beta f of S. (Theorem 3.3 of [1]).

2. Γ-GROUP CONGRUENCES IN A REGULAR Γ-SEMIGROUP.

An equivalence relation  $\rho$  on a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup S is called a congruence if  $(a,b) \in \rho$  implies  $(c\alpha a,c\alpha b) \in \rho$  and  $(a\alpha c,b\alpha c) \in \rho$  for all  $a,b,c \in S$ ,  $\alpha \in \Gamma$ . A congruence  $\rho$  in a regular  $\Gamma$ -semigroup S is called  $\Gamma$ -group congruence if  $S/\rho$  is a  $\Gamma$ -group (In  $S/\rho$  we define  $(a\rho)\alpha(b\rho)=(a\alpha b)\rho$ ). Henceforth we shall assume S to be a regular  $\Gamma$ -semigroup and  $E_{\alpha}$  to be its set of  $\alpha$ -idempotents.

A family  $\{K_{\alpha}: \alpha \in \Gamma\}$  of subsets of S is said to be a normal family if

- (i)  $E_{\alpha} \subseteq K_{\alpha}$  for all  $\alpha \in \Gamma$ ;
- (ii) for each  $a \in K_{\alpha}$  and  $b \in K_{\beta}$ ,  $a\alpha b \in K_{\beta}$  and  $a\beta b \in K_{\alpha}$ ;
- (iii) for each  $a' \in V_{\alpha}^{\beta}(a)$  and  $c \in K_{\gamma}$ ,  $a\alpha c \gamma a'$  and  $a\gamma c \alpha a' \in K_{\beta}$ .

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Now let  $e \in E_{\alpha}$  and  $f \in E_{\beta}$  and  $\mu \in \Gamma$ . Let  $x \in V_{\theta}^{\phi}(e\mu f)$ . Then  $f\theta x \phi e \in E_{\mu}$ . Thus  $E_{\mu} \neq \phi$  for all  $\mu \in \Gamma$ , consequently  $K_{\mu} \neq \phi$  for all  $\mu \in \Gamma$ . We further note that in an orthodox  $\Gamma$ -semigroup S of Sen and Saha [2]  $\{E_{\alpha} : \alpha \in \Gamma\}$  is a normal family of S.

Let N be the collection of all normal families  $K_i$  of  $S(i \in \Lambda)$  where  $K_i = \{K_{i\alpha} : \alpha \in \Gamma\}$ . Let  $U_{\alpha} = \bigcap_{i \in \Lambda} K_{i\alpha}$  and  $U = \{U_{\alpha} : \alpha \in \Gamma\}$ . Then obviously  $E_{\alpha} \subseteq U_{\alpha}$ . Also if  $a \in U_{\alpha}$ ,  $b \in U_{\beta}$ , then  $a \in K_{i\alpha}$  for all  $i \in \Lambda$ ,  $b \in K_{i\beta}$  for all  $i \in \Lambda$ . Thus  $a\alpha b \in K_{i\beta}$  and  $a\beta b \in K_{i\alpha}$  for all  $i \in \Lambda$  implying  $a\alpha b \in U_{\beta}$  and  $a\beta b \in U_{\alpha}$ . Similarly we can show that if  $a' \in V_{\alpha}^{\beta}(a)$  and  $c \in U_{\alpha}$  then  $a\alpha c\gamma a'$ ,  $a\gamma c\alpha a' \in U_{\beta}$ . Thus U is a normal family of subsets of S and U is the least member in N if we define a partial order in N by  $K_i \leq K_j$  iff  $K_{i\alpha} \subseteq K_{j\alpha}$  for all  $\alpha \in \Gamma$ . We also observe that when S is orthodox  $\Gamma$ -semigroup,  $U = \{E_{\alpha} : \alpha \in \Gamma\}$ .

THEOREM 2.1. Let S be a regular  $\Gamma$ -semigroup. Then for each  $K = \{K_{\alpha} : \alpha \in \Gamma\} \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\rho_{K} = \{(a,b) \in S \times S : a\alpha = f\beta b \text{ for some } \alpha,\beta \in \Gamma \text{ and } e \in K_{\alpha}, f \in K_{\beta}\}$  is a  $\Gamma$ -group congruence in S.

PROOF. Let  $a \in S$  and  $a' \in V_{\alpha}^{\beta}(a)$ . Then  $a\alpha(a'\beta a) = (a\alpha a')\beta a$  implies  $(a,a) \in \rho_{\kappa}$ . Next let (a,b)  $\in \rho_K$ . Then there exist e  $\in K_{\alpha}$ , f  $\in K_{\beta}$  for some  $\alpha,\beta \in \Gamma$  such that ace = f\beta b. Let a'  $\in V_{\gamma}^{\delta}(a)$  and b'  $\in V_{\theta}^{\phi}(b)$  such that b\theta((b'\phi f\beta b)\gamma(a'\delta a)) =  $((b\theta b')\phi(a\alpha e\gamma a'))\delta a$ . But  $b'\phi f\beta b\in K_{\theta}$ ,  $a'\delta a\in K_{\gamma}$  and so  $(b'\phi f\beta b)\gamma(a'\delta a)\in K_{\theta}$ , and  $b\theta b' \in K_{\underline{b}}$ ,  $a\alpha e \gamma a' \in K_{\underline{b}}$  and so  $(b\theta b') \phi(a\alpha e \gamma a') \in K_{\underline{b}}$ . Consequently,  $(b,a) \in P_{\underline{b}}$ . Now let  $(a,b) \in \rho_{K}$ ,  $(b,c) \in \rho_{K}$ . Then there exist  $\alpha,\beta,\gamma,\delta \in \Gamma$ ,  $e \in K_{\alpha}$ ,  $f \in K_{\beta}$ ,  $g \in K_{\gamma}$ ,  $h \in K_{\delta}$  such that ace =  $f\beta b$  and  $b\gamma g = h\delta c$ . But  $ac(e\gamma g) = (ace)\gamma g = (f\beta b)\gamma g = f\beta(b\gamma g)$ =  $f\beta(h\delta c)$  =  $(f\beta h)\delta c$  where  $e\gamma g \in K_{\alpha}$  and  $f\beta h \in K_{\delta}$ . Thus  $(a,c) \in \rho_{K}$  and consequently  $\rho_{K}$  is an equivalence relation. Let  $(a,b) \in \rho_{K}$ ,  $\theta \in \Gamma$ ,  $c \in S$ . Then  $a \circ e = f \beta b$  for some  $\alpha, \beta \in \Gamma$  and some  $e \in K_{\alpha}$ ,  $f \in K_{\beta}$ . Let  $c' \in V_{\gamma}^{\delta}(c)$ ,  $y \in V_{\gamma_1}^{\delta_1}(b\theta_c)$ ,  $x \in V_{\gamma_2}^{\delta_2}(a\theta_c)$ .  $\text{Now } (a\theta c)\gamma(c'\delta((c\gamma_2x\delta_2a)\alpha e)\theta c)\gamma_1 \ (y\delta_1(b\theta c)) = (a\theta c\gamma_2x)\delta_2f\beta(b\theta c\gamma_1y)\delta_1(b\theta c). \ \text{But}$  $c\gamma_{2}x\delta_{2}a \in E_{\theta} \subseteq K_{\theta}$ , so  $(c\gamma_{2}x\delta_{2}a)\alpha e \in K_{\theta}$ ,  $c'\delta((c\gamma_{2}x\delta_{2}a)\alpha e)\theta c \in K_{\phi}$ . Again  $y\delta_1(b\theta c) \in E_{\gamma} \subseteq K_{\gamma}$  and consequently  $(c'\delta((c\gamma_2x\delta_2a)\alpha e)\theta c)\gamma_1(y\delta_1b\theta c) \in K_{\gamma}$ . By a similar argument we can show that  $(a\theta c \gamma_2 x) \delta_2 f \beta(b\theta c \gamma_1 y) \in K_{\delta}$ . Thus  $(a\theta c, b\theta c) \in \rho_K$ . Also it is immediate from the foregoing by duality that  $(c^{\theta a}, c^{\theta b}) \in \rho_{K}$ . Thus  $\rho_{K}$  is a congruence on S. Also as S is regular,  $S/\rho_{K}$  is a regular  $\Gamma$ -semigroup. Let  $e \in E_{\alpha}$ ,  $f \in E_{\beta}$ . Then eaf, fae  $\in K_{\beta}$ , e\( \beta f\),  $f \in K_{\alpha}$ . Now  $(e \alpha f) \( \beta f = (e \alpha f) \beta f \) shows that$  $(e\alpha f, f) \in \rho_{V}$  and  $(f\alpha e)\beta f = (f\alpha e)\beta f$  implies that  $(f\alpha e, f) \in \rho_{V}$ . Thus  $(e\rho_{V})\alpha (f\rho_{V}) = f\rho_{V}$ and  $(f\rho_K)\alpha(e\rho_K) = f\rho_K$ . Similarly we can show  $(e\rho_K)\beta(f\rho_K) = e\rho_K$  and  $(f\rho_K)\beta(e\rho_K) = e\rho_K$ . So it follows from Theorem 1.3 that  $S/\rho_{\chi}$  is a  $\Gamma$ -group. Thus  $\rho_{\chi}$  is a  $\Gamma$ -group congru-

For any normal family  $K = \{K_{\alpha} : \alpha \in \Gamma\}$  of S, the closure KW of K is the family defined by  $KW = \{(KW)_{\gamma} : \gamma \in \Gamma\}$  where  $(KW)_{\gamma} = \{x \in S : e\alpha x \in K_{\gamma} \text{ for some } \alpha \in \Gamma \text{ and } e \in K_{\alpha}\}$ . We call K closed if K = KW.

THEOREM 2.2. For each  $K \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\rho_K = \{(a,b) \in S * S : a \gamma b' \in (\dots, \delta \text{ for some } b' \in V_\gamma^0(b)\}$ . PROOF. Let  $(a,b) \in \rho_K$ . Then  $f \beta a = b \alpha e$  for some  $\alpha,\beta \in \Gamma$  and  $e \in K_\alpha$ ,  $f \in K_\beta$ . Then  $f \beta(a \gamma b') = b \alpha e \gamma b' \in K_\delta$  for some  $b' \in V_\gamma^\delta(b)$ . Consequently  $a \gamma b' \in (KW)_\delta$ . Conversely, let  $a \gamma b' \in (KW)_\delta$  for some  $b' \in V_\gamma^\delta(b)$ . Then  $e \alpha a \gamma b' \in K_\delta$  for some  $\alpha \in \Gamma$  and  $e \in K_\alpha$ . Therefore  $e \alpha a \gamma b' = f$  where  $f \in K_\delta$ . So  $(b \theta(a' \varphi e \alpha a) \gamma b') \delta a = b \theta(a' \varphi f \delta a)$ , for some  $a' \in V_\theta^\varphi(a)$  where  $b \theta(a' \varphi e \alpha a) \gamma b' \in K_\delta$  and  $a' \varphi f \delta a \in K_\theta$ . Consequently  $(a,b) \in \rho_K$ .

For any congruence  $\rho$  on S, let ker  $\rho = \{(\ker \rho)_{\alpha} : \alpha \in \Gamma\}$  where  $(\ker \rho)_{\alpha} = \{x \in S : \exp x \text{ for some } e \in E_{\alpha}\}$ .

LEMMA 2.3. For any K  $\in$  N, ker  $\rho_{K}$  = KW.

PROOF. To prove ker  $o_{K}$  = KW, we are to show that (ker  $\rho_{K}$ ) $_{\alpha}$  = (KW) $_{\alpha}$  for all  $\alpha \in \Gamma$ . For this let  $x \in (\ker \rho_K)_{\alpha}$  for some  $\alpha \in \Gamma$ . Then  $e\rho_K x$  for some  $e \in E_{\alpha}$  that is  $\mathrm{egf} = \mathrm{g}_{\mathsf{Y}} \mathrm{x} \text{ for some } \mathrm{g}_{\mathsf{Y}} \mathsf{Y} \in \Gamma, \ \mathrm{e} \in \mathrm{E}_{\alpha}, \ \mathrm{f} \in \mathrm{K}_{\beta}, \ \mathrm{g} \in \mathrm{K}_{\gamma}. \ \mathrm{So} \ \mathrm{g}_{\mathsf{Y}} \mathsf{X} \in \mathrm{K}_{\alpha} \ \mathrm{as} \ \mathrm{egf} \in \mathrm{K}_{\alpha}. \ \mathrm{Thus}$  $x \in (KW)_{\alpha}$ . Next let  $x \in (KW)_{\alpha}$ . Then  $g\gamma x \in K_{\alpha}$  for some  $\gamma \in \Gamma$  and  $g \in K_{\gamma}$ . Now for some  $e \in E_{\alpha} = e_{\alpha}(g_{\gamma}x) = (e_{\alpha}g)_{\gamma}x$  where  $g_{\gamma}x \in K_{\alpha}$  and  $e_{\alpha}g \in K_{\gamma}$ . Thus  $e_{\rho_{K}}x$ . Consequently  $x \in (\ker \rho_K)_{\alpha}$ . So  $(\ker \rho_K)_{\alpha} = (KW)_{\alpha}$  for all  $\alpha \in \Gamma$ . Let  $K \in \mathbb{N}$  and suppose  $a\gamma b' \in (KW)_{\delta}$  for some  $b' \in V_{\gamma}^{0}(b)$ . Then  $e^{\alpha}a\gamma b' \in K_{\delta}$  for some  $\alpha \in \Gamma$  and  $e \in K_{\alpha}$ . Then for any  $a' \in V_{\theta}^{\phi}(a)$ ,  $a'\phi(e^{\alpha}a'b')\delta a \in K_{\theta}$  and  $(a'\phi e^{\alpha}a'b'\delta a)\theta a'\phi b$ =  $(a'\phi e \alpha a) \gamma b' \delta (a \theta a') \phi b \in K_{\theta}$ . Thus  $a'\phi b \in (KW)_{\theta}$ . Conversely, suppose  $a'\phi b \in (KW)_{\theta}$  for some  $a' \in V_{\theta}^{\phi}(a)$ . Then  $f\beta(a'\phi b) \in K_{\theta}$  for some  $\beta \in \Gamma$  and  $f \in K_{\beta}$  and  $a\theta(f\beta a'\phi b)\theta a' \in K_{\phi}$ . Therefore for some  $b' \in V_{\gamma}^{\delta}(b)$ ,  $(a\theta f \beta a' \phi b \theta a') \phi (a \gamma b') = (a \theta f \beta a') \phi b \theta (a' \phi a) \gamma b' \in K_{\delta}$ . Therefore  $a\gamma b' \in (KW)_{\delta}$ . Thus  $a\gamma b' \in (KW)_{\delta}$  for some (all)  $b' \in V_{\gamma}^{\delta}(b)$  iff  $a' \oplus b \in (KW)_{\theta}$ for some (all) a'  $\in V_{\theta}^{\Phi}(a)$ . Interchanging roles of a and b we see that  $b^{\theta}a' \in (KW)_{\Phi}$ for some (all) a'  $\in V_{\theta}^{\delta}(a)$  iff b'  $\delta a \in (KW)_{\gamma}$  for some (all) b'  $\in V_{\gamma}^{\delta}(b)$ . Moreover, the symmetric property of  $\rho_{K}$  shows that  $a\gamma b' \in (KW)_{\delta}$  for some (all)  $b' \in V_{\gamma}^{\delta}(b)$  iff  $b\theta a' \in (KW)_{h}$  for some (all)  $a' \in V_{\theta}^{0}(a)$ . Thus we have the following.

LEMMA 2.4. For each  $K \in \mathbb{N}$ , app iff one of the following equivalent conditions hold.

- (i)  $a\gamma b' \in (KW)_{\delta}$  for some (all)  $b' \in V_{\gamma}^{\delta}(b)$ .
- (ii) b' $\delta a \in (KW)_{\gamma}$  for some (all) b' $\in V_{\gamma}^{\delta}(b)$ .
- (iii)  $a' \phi b \in (KW)_{\theta}'$  for some (all)  $a' \in V_{\theta}^{\phi}(a)$ .
- (iv)  $b\theta a' \in (KW)_{\phi}$  for some (all)  $a' \in V_{\theta}^{\phi}(a)$ .

Let  $\overline{N}$  denote the collection of all closed families in N, then  $\overline{N}\subseteq N$ .

THEOREM 2.5. The mapping  $K \to \rho_{\overline{K}} = \{(a,b) \in S \times S : a \gamma b' \in K_{\delta} \text{ for some } b' \in V_{\gamma}^{\delta}(b)\}$  is a one to one order preserving mapping of  $\overline{N}$  onto the set of  $\Gamma$ -group congruences on S.

PROOF. Let  $\rho$  be a  $\Gamma\text{-group}$  congruence on S. Let us denote ker  $\rho$ 

by K and (ker  $\rho$ ) $_{\alpha}$  by K $_{\alpha}$ . Then K $_{\alpha}$  = {x  $\in$  S : x $\rho$ e when e  $\in$  E $_{\alpha}$ }. Then E $_{\alpha}$   $\subseteq$  K $_{\alpha}$ . Let  $a \in K_{\alpha}$ ,  $b \in K_{\beta}$  then ape and bpf where  $e \in E_{\alpha}$  and  $f \in E_{\beta}$ . Now  $(a\alpha b)\rho = (a\rho)\alpha(b\rho)$ =  $(e\rho)\alpha(f\rho)$  =  $f\rho$ . Thus adopf, where  $f \in E_{\beta}$ . Thus ado  $\in K_{\beta}$ . Similarly abo  $\in K_{\alpha}$ . Next let  $a' \in V_{\alpha}^{\beta}(a)$  and  $c \in K_{\gamma}$ . Then cog where  $g \in E_{\gamma}$ . Then  $(a\alpha c\gamma a')\rho = (a\rho)\alpha(c\rho)\gamma(a'\rho)$ =  $(a\rho)\alpha((g\rho)\gamma(a'\rho))$  =  $(a\rho)\alpha(a'\rho)$  =  $(a\alpha a')\rho$ . Thus  $a\alpha c\gamma a'\rho a\alpha a'$  where  $a\alpha a' \in E_{\beta}$ . Hence aαςγα' $\in$   $K_{g}$ . Similarly aγcαa' $\in$   $K_{g}$ . Therefore K is a normal family of subsets of S. Next  $(KW)_{\gamma} = \{x \in S : eax \in K_{\gamma} \text{ where } e \in K_{\alpha} \text{ for some } \alpha \in \Gamma\}$ . Then  $K_{\gamma} \subseteq (KW)_{\gamma}$ . To show  $(KW)_{\gamma} \subseteq K_{\gamma}$ , let  $x \in (KW)_{\gamma}$ . Then  $e\alpha x \in K_{\gamma}$  for some  $\alpha \in \Gamma$  and  $e \in K_{\alpha}$ . Consequently  $(eax)\rho = g\rho$  where  $g \in \mathbb{E}_{\gamma}$  or,  $(e\rho)\alpha(x\rho) = g\rho$  or,  $x\rho = g\rho$  or,  $x \in \mathbb{K}_{\gamma}$ . Thus  $(\mathbb{K}\mathbb{W})_{\gamma} \subseteq \mathbb{K}_{\gamma}$ . Therefore K = KW and so K = ker  $\rho \in \overline{N}$ . Thus if  $\rho$  is a  $\Gamma$ -group congruence, then  $\ker \rho = K \in \overline{\mathbb{N}}. \text{ We shall now prove that } \rho_{K} = \rho. \text{ If (a,b)} \in \rho_{K} \text{ , then aYb'} \in \mathbb{K}_{\delta} \text{ for }$ some  $b' \in V_{\gamma}^{\delta}(b)$ . Thus  $a \gamma b' \rho h$  for some  $h \in E_{\delta}$  and  $a \rho = (a \rho) \gamma((b' \delta b) \rho) = (h \rho) \delta(b \rho) = b \rho$ . Thus  $\rho_{\kappa} \subseteq \rho$ . Conversely, if  $(a,b) \in \rho$  and  $b' \in V_{\gamma}^{0}(b)$ , then  $a\gamma b' \ni b\gamma b' \in \mathbb{F}_{0}$  and  $a \in (a,b) \in \rho_{\kappa}$ . Therefore  $\rho = \rho_K$ . Thus from above and by lemma 2.3 for any K  $\in \overline{N}$ , K  $\rightarrow \rho_K$  is a oneto-one mapping from  $\overline{N}$  onto the set of all  $\Gamma$ -group congruences on S. Also it is easy to see that  $K \to \rho_K$  is an order preserving mapping.

Let  $\tau$  be a  $\Gamma$ -group congruence on S, by the proof of Theorem 2.5  $\tau$  =  $\rho_{K}$ , where K = ker  $\tau$   $\in$   $\overline{N}$ . Thus each  $\Gamma$ -group congruence is of the form  $\rho_{K}$  for some  $K \in \overline{N} \subseteq N$ .

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Thus by lemma 2.3 we have,

THEOREM 2.6. The least  $\Gamma$ -group congruence  $\sigma$  on S is given by  $\sigma = \rho_U$  and  $\ker \sigma = UW$ . THEOREM 2.7. For any  $\Gamma$ -group congruence  $\rho_K$  with K in N, on a regular  $\Gamma$ -semigroup, the following are equivalent.

- (i)  $a\rho_{\nu}b$ .
- (ii)  $a\mu x \gamma b' \in K_{\delta}$  for some  $x \in K_{ij}$  ( $\mu \in \Gamma$ ) and some (all)  $b' \in V_{\gamma}^{\delta}(b)$ .
- (iii)  $a' \phi x \mu b \in K_{\theta}$  for some  $x \in K_{\mu}$  ( $\mu \in \Gamma$ ) and some (all)  $a' \in V_{\theta}^{\phi'}(a)$ .
- (iv) b $\mu x \theta a' \in K_{\underline{\theta}}$  for some  $x \in K_{\underline{\mu}}$  ( $\mu \in \Gamma$ ) and some (all)  $a' \in V_{\underline{\theta}}^{\varphi}(a)$ .
- (v)  $b'\delta x \mu a \in K_{\mu}$  for some  $x \in K_{\mu}$  ( $\mu \in \Gamma$ ) and some (all)  $b' \in V_{\nu}^{\delta}(b)$ .
- (vi) ace =  $f\beta b$  for some  $\alpha, \beta \in \Gamma$  and some  $e \in K_{\alpha}$ ,  $f \in K_{\beta}$ .
- (vii) eaa = b $\beta$ f for some  $\alpha, \beta \in \Gamma$  and some  $e \in K_{\alpha}$ ,  $f \in K_{\beta}$ .
- (viii)  $K_{\beta}\beta a\alpha K_{\alpha} \cap K_{\beta}\beta b\alpha K_{\alpha} \neq \phi$  for some  $\alpha,\beta \in \Gamma$ .

PROOF. (ii) => (iii) Suppose auxyb'  $\in K_{\delta}$  for some  $x \in K_{\mu}$  and  $b' \in V_{\gamma}^{\delta}(b)$ . Then for any  $a' \in V_{\theta}^{\phi}(a)$ ,  $a' \phi(a\mu x \gamma b') \delta b = (a' \phi a) \mu(x \gamma (b' \delta b)) \in K_{\theta}$  as  $a' \phi a \in K_{\theta}$  and  $x \gamma b' \delta b \in K_{\mu}$ . (iii) => (vi) Let  $a' \phi x \mu b \in K_{\theta}$  for  $a' \in V_{\theta}^{\phi}(a)$  and  $x \in K_{\mu}$ .

Then  $a\theta(a'\phi x \mu b) = (a\theta a'\phi x)\mu b$  which is (vi) as  $a'\phi x \mu b \in K_{\theta}$  and  $a\theta a'\phi x \in K_{\mu}$ . (vi) => (viii) Let  $a\alpha e = f\beta b$  for some  $\alpha,\beta \in \Gamma$  and  $e \in K_{\alpha}$ ,  $f \in K_{\beta}$ . Then we have  $f\beta a\alpha e \alpha e = f\beta f\beta b\alpha e$  implying  $K_{\beta}\beta a\alpha K_{\alpha} \cap K_{\beta}\beta b\alpha K_{\alpha} \neq \phi$ .

Thus (ii), (iii), (vi) and (viii) are equivalent.

Interchanging the roles of a and b we see that (iv), (v), (vii) and (viii) are equivalent. Also (i) and (vi) are equivalent by Theorem 2.1. Thus all the conditions (i) - (viii) are equivalent.

COROLLARY 2.8. Let  $\sigma$  denote the least  $\Gamma$ -group congruence on a regular  $\Gamma$ -semi-group S. Then the following are equivalent.

- (i) a0b.
- (ii)  $a\mu x \gamma b' \in U_{\delta}$  for some  $x \in U_{\mu}(\mu \in \Gamma)$  and some (all)  $b' \in V_{\gamma}^{\delta}(b)$ .
- (iii)  $a' \phi x \mu b \in U_{\theta}$  for some  $x \in U_{\mu}(\mu \in \Gamma)$  and some (all)  $a' \in V_{\theta}^{\phi}(a)$ .
- (iv) bux $\theta a' \in U_{b}$  for some  $x \in U_{U}(\mu \in \Gamma)$  and some (all)  $a' \in V_{\theta}^{\phi}(a)$ .
- (v)  $b'\delta x \mu a \in U_{\gamma}^{\psi}$  for some  $x \in U_{\mu}(\mu \in \Gamma)$  and some (all)  $b' \in V_{\gamma}^{\delta}(b)$ .
- (vi) age = f\beta b for some  $\alpha, \beta \in \Gamma$  and  $e \in U_{\alpha}$ ,  $f \in U_{\beta}$ .
- (vii)  $e_{\alpha}a = b\beta f$  for some  $\alpha,\beta \in \Gamma$  and  $e \in U_{\alpha}$  ,  $f \in U_{\beta}$ .
- (viii)  $U_{\beta}\beta\alpha\alpha U_{\alpha} \cap U_{\beta}\beta b\alpha U_{\alpha} \neq \phi$  for some  $\alpha,\beta \in \Gamma$ .

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