

# Pacific Journal of Mathematics

**ORDERED SEMIGROUPS IN PARTIALLY ORDERED  
SEMIGROUPS**

ROBERT JACOB KOCH

# ORDERED SEMIGROUPS IN PARTIALLY ORDERED SEMIGROUPS

R. J. KOCH

In this note we establish a local version of the following result: a locally compact connected partially ordered non-degenerate semigroup  $S$  with unit contains a non-degenerate linearly ordered local subsemigroup (containing the unit). This is an extension of a result of Gleason [2; 664] who proved a similar theorem under the additional hypotheses that

- (1)  $S$  is a semigroup with right invariant uniform structure and
- (2) for any compact neighborhood  $U$  of the identity there are nets  $\{x_i\}$  in  $S$  and  $\{n_i\}$  integers such that  $x_i \rightarrow e$  and  $x_i^{n_i} \notin U$ . A consequence of our theorem is the fact that a nondegenerate compact connected partially ordered semigroup with unit contains a standard thread joining the unit to the minimal ideal.

By a local semigroup  $S$  we mean a Hausdorff space with an open subset  $U$  and a multiplication  $m: U \times U \rightarrow S$  which is continuous and associative insofar as is meaningful. A unit is an (unique, if it exists) element  $u$  of  $U$  satisfying  $ux = xu = x$  for all  $x \in U$ . A local subsemigroup of  $S$  is a subset  $L$  containing the unit such that for some open set  $V$  about the unit,  $(V \cap L)^2 \subset L$ . We say that the local semigroup  $S$  is partially ordered if the relation  $\leq$  defined by  $a \leq b$  if and only if  $a = bc$  is reflexive and antisymmetric. In case  $S$  is a semigroup,  $S$  is partially ordered if and only if each principal right ideal has a unique generator, i.e. (assuming a unit) that  $aS = bS$  implies  $a = b$ . In this case,  $\leq$  is also transitive.

Closure is denoted by  $*$ , the null set by  $\square$ , the boundary of  $V$  by  $F(V)$ , and the complement of  $B$  in  $A$  by  $A \setminus B$ .

As in [4] we use the following topology for the space  $\mathcal{S}(X)$  of non-empty closed subsets of the space  $X$ : for open sets  $U$  and  $V$  of  $X$ , let  $N(U, V) = \{A \mid A \in \mathcal{S}(X), A \subset U, A \cap V \neq \square\}$ ; take  $\{N(U, V) \mid U, V \text{ open}\}$  for a sub-basis for the open sets of  $\mathcal{S}(X)$ . It is easy to see that if  $X$  is compact Hausdorff, so is  $\mathcal{S}(X)$ .

**THEOREM 1.** *Let  $S$  be a locally compact partially ordered local semigroup with unit  $u$ , and let  $U_0$  be a non-degenerate open connected set about  $u$  with  $U_0^\circ$  defined. Then  $S$  contains a non-degenerate compact connected linearly ordered local sub-semigroup  $L$  with  $u \in L \subset U_0$ .*

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*Proof.* Let  $U_1$  be an open set containing  $u$  with  $U_1^*$  compact and  $U_1^* \subset U_0$ . Define  $\leq$  on  $U_1^* \times U_1^*$  by:  $a \leq b$  if and only if  $a = bc$  for some  $c \in U_1^*$ . From the compactness of  $U_1^*$  it is easily seen that Graph ( $\leq$ ) is closed in  $U_1^* \times U_1^*$ . We show first that  $\leq$  is transitive on some neighborhood of  $u$ . Let  $U_2$  be an open set about  $u$  with  $U_2^2 \subset U_1$ . We claim there is an open set  $U$  containing  $u$ ,  $U \subset U_2$ , such that if  $a, b \in U^*$  with  $a = bc$  for some  $c \in U_1^*$ , then  $c \in U_2$ . If this is false, then for any open set  $U$  with  $u \in U \subset U_2$ , there are elements  $a$  and  $b$  of  $U^*$  with  $a = bc$  for some  $c \in U_1^* \setminus U_2$ . Hence there are nets  $a_\alpha$  and  $b_\alpha$  converging to  $u$  with  $a_\alpha = b_\alpha \cdot c_\alpha$  where  $c_\alpha \in U_1^* \setminus U_2$ . It follows that  $c_\alpha$  must also converge to  $u$ , a contradiction. Since  $U_2^2 \subset U_1$  it follows that  $\leq$  is transitive on  $U^*$ . Also the restriction of  $\leq$  on  $U^* \times U^*$  is closed and hence  $U^*$  is locally convex [6]. We show next that there exists an open set  $V_1$  with  $u \in V_1 \subset U$  such that  $e^2 = e \in V_1$  implies  $eU_0e \neq e$ . Suppose the contrary; we can then find a net of idempotents  $e_\alpha \rightarrow u$  with  $e_\alpha U_0 e_\alpha = e_\alpha$ . Let  $x \in U_0$ ; then  $e_\alpha = e_\alpha x e_\alpha$  converges to  $uxu = x$ , so that  $x = u$  and  $U_0$  is degenerate, a contradiction. Let  $V$  be a convex open set with  $u \in V \subset V^* \subset (V^*)^2 \subset V_1$ . Then  $e^2 = e \in V$  implies  $eU_0e \neq e$ .

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  denote the collection of all closed chains  $C$  in  $U^*$  with  $u \in C$ ,  $C \cap S \setminus V \neq \square$ , and  $(C \cap V)^2 \subset C$ . Note that  $\mathcal{C} \neq \square$ , for if  $a \in F(V)$ , then the elements  $u$  and  $a$  constitute an element of  $\mathcal{C}$ .

(i)  $\mathcal{C}$  is closed in  $\mathcal{S}(U^*)$ . We will show that  $\mathcal{C}$  is an intersection of closed set. Since the collection of all closed chains which contain  $u$  and meet  $S \setminus V$  is closed [4], it remains to show that the collection of closed chains  $C$  satisfying  $(C \cap V)^2 \subset C$  is closed. Suppose  $A$  is a closed chain with  $(A \cap V)^2 \not\subset A$ ; then there are elements  $a$  and  $b$  of  $A \cap V$  with  $ab \in S \setminus A$ . Hence there exist open sets  $U_a, U_b$ , and  $W$  containing  $a, b$ , and  $A$  respectively, with  $U_a \cdot U_b \cap W = \square$ . Now  $N(W, U_a) \cap N(W, U_b)$  is an open set about  $A$ , and contains no chain  $C$  with  $(C \cap V)^2 \subset C$ . This establishes (i).

As in [4], we define  $L(x) = \{y \mid y \leq x\}$ ,  $M(x) = \{y \mid x \leq y\}$ , and  $(x, y) = \{z \mid x < z < y\}$ . Let  $\delta$  be an open cover of  $U^*$ , and define a subset  $M_\delta$  of  $\mathcal{S}(U^*)$  by:  $C \in M_\delta$  if and only if  $C$  is a closed chain in  $U^*$ , and for any  $x$  and  $y$  in  $C$  with  $x < y$  and  $(x, y) \cap C = \square$ , there exists  $D \in \delta$  such that  $D^*$  meets both  $L(x) \cap C$ .

(ii)  $M_\delta \cap \mathcal{C} \neq \square$  for any open cover  $\delta$  of  $U^*$ . Let  $\delta$  be an open cover of  $U^*$ , and let  $\mathcal{D}$  be the collection of all closed chains  $C$  with  $u \in C \subset U$ ,  $C \in M_\delta$ , and  $(V \cap C)^2 \subset C$ . Let  $\tau$  be a maximal tower in  $\mathcal{D}$ , and let  $T = U\tau$ . Then  $T^*$  is a closed chain,  $u \in T^* \subset U^*$ , and  $(V \cap T^*)^2 \subset T^*$ . As in [4],  $T^* \in M_\delta$ , and it remains to show that  $T^* \in \mathcal{C}$ , i.e., that  $T^* \cap S \setminus V \neq \square$ . Suppose  $T^* \subset V$ ; (note then that  $T = T^*$ ) then since  $(T \cap V)^2 \subset T$ ,  $T$  is a compact chain and a semigroup. Let  $e = \inf T$ . Since  $e^2 \leq e$  and  $e^2 \in T$  we have  $e^2 = e$ . We show next that  $e$  is a zero

for  $T$ . Let  $y \in T$ , then  $ey \in T$  and  $ey \leq e$ , so  $ey = e$  and  $e$  is a left zero for  $T$ . Hence the minimal ideal  $K$  of  $T$  consists of left zeros for  $T$  [1]. Let  $f \in K$ ; then  $e \leq f$  so there exists  $c \in U_1^*$  with  $e = fc$ . Therefore  $f = fe = e$ , and  $e$  is the unique left zero, and hence a zero for  $T$ . Let  $W \in \delta$  with  $e \in W$ . If  $eU_0e \cap W \cap V$  contains an idempotent  $g \neq e$ , then  $T \cup g$  is a semigroup: for if  $x \in T$  then  $xg = x(eg) = eg = g$  and  $gx = (ge)x = g(ex) = ge = g$ . Also  $T \cup g$  is a chain, so by the maximality of  $\tau$ ,  $T = T \cup g$ , a contradiction.

Hence we may assume that  $eU_0e \cap W \cap V$  has a unique idempotent  $e$ . Since  $\leq$  is antisymmetric, the maximal subgroup of  $S$  containing  $e$  is  $e$ . Also  $eU_0e$  is a local semigroup with unit  $e$ ,  $eU_0e \neq e$ , and  $e$  is not isolated in  $eU_0e$  which is the continuous image of  $U_0$  and hence connected. Hence [5; 122] there is a non-degenerate one parameter local semigroup  $A$  with  $e \in A \subset eU_0e \cap W \cap V$ ; let  $a \in A$  with  $a \neq e$  and  $a^2 \in A$ . Define  $a^0 = e$  and let  $B_k = \bigcup_{n=0}^k a^n[a, e]$ ,  $B_\infty = \bigcup_{n=0}^\infty a^n[a, e]$  where  $[a, e]$  denotes the sub-arc of  $A$  from  $a$  to  $e$ . We assume temporarily that all products involved in forming  $B_k$  and  $B_\infty$  are defined. Each of the sets  $a^n[a, e]$  is a compact connected chain (hence an arc) with minimal element  $a^{n+1}$  and maximal element  $a^n$ . Hence  $B_k$  is a compact connected chain from  $a^{k+1}$  to  $e$ . Also  $B_\infty$  is a connected chain, hence  $B_\infty^*$  is a closed connected chain. Using the easily established commutativity of  $B_k$  and  $B_\infty^*$  it follows that for  $x \in T$  and  $b \in B_k$  (or  $B_\infty^*$ ) then  $xb = x(eb) = (xe)b = eb = b$ , and similarly  $bx = b$ . Hence  $[(T \cup B_k^2) \cap V]^2 \subset T \cup (B_k^2 \cap V)^2$  and similarly with  $B_k$  replaced by  $B_\infty^*$ . We distinguish two cases:

*Case 1:* For some  $k \geq 0$ ,  $a^{k+1} \in V$  and  $a^{k+2} \notin V$ . Then since  $V$  is convex,  $a^0, a, \dots, a^{k+1}$  are in  $V$  and all products involved in forming  $B_k$  are defined, so that  $B_k \subset V$  and  $B_{k+1} \not\subset V$ . We show first that  $B_k^2 \cap V \subset B_k$ . Let  $z \in B_k^2 \cap V$ ; then  $z = xy$  with  $x, y \in B_k$ , so  $x = a^n x'$  and  $y = a^m y'$  with  $x'$  and  $y'$  in  $[a, e]$ . Hence  $xy = a^{m+n} x' y'$ . If  $x' y' \in A$ , then since  $z \in V$  it follows that  $m + n \leq k$ . If  $x' y' \notin A$ , then  $x' y' = at$  for some  $t \in A$ , so  $xy = a^{m+n+1} t$  and  $m + n + 1 \leq k$ . In either case, then,  $z \in B_k$ . Note that  $(T \cup B_k)^2 \in M_\delta$  since  $B_k$  is a connected chain. Also  $[(T \cup B_k^2) \cap V]^2 \subset T \cup (B_k^2 \cap V)^2 \subset T \cup B_k^2$ , so that  $T \cup B_k^2 \in \mathcal{D}$ . This contradicts the maximality of  $\tau$ .

*Case 2:*  $a^k \in V$  for each  $k \geq 0$ . Using the convexity of  $V$  we see that all products involved in forming  $B_\infty$  are defined, and  $B_\infty = B_\infty^2 \subset V$ , hence  $B_\infty^* = B_\infty^{*2}$ . Since  $B_\infty^*$  is a connected chain, it follows that  $T \cup B_\infty^* \in M_\delta$ . Also  $[(T \cup B_\infty^*) \cap V]^2 \subset T \cup B_\infty^*$ , so that  $T \cup B_\infty^* \in \mathcal{D}$ , a contradiction to the maximality of  $\tau$ . The proof of (ii) is now complete.

(iii)  $M_\delta \cap \mathcal{C}$  is closed for each finite open cover  $\delta$  of  $U^*$ .

This proof is similar to that in [4], and is omitted.

For any finite open cover  $\delta$  of  $U^*$ , let  $P_\delta = M_\delta \cap \mathcal{C}$ . The collection of sets  $\{P_\delta\}$  is a descending family, so  $\bigcap P_\delta \neq \square$ . If  $C \in \bigcap P_\delta$ ,

then as shown in [4],  $C$  is an arc. Clearly  $C$  is a local semigroup, and the proof is complete.

In what follows, a *standard thread* is a compact connected semigroup irreducibly connected between a zero and a unit. The structure of standard threads is known [5; 130]. The example in [4] shows that a compact connected semigroup with zero and unit need not contain a standard thread joining the zero to the unit. The problem of finding standard threads joining zero to unit has an affirmative solution in case either

- (1)  $S$  is compact, connected, and one-dimensional [3], or
- (2)  $S$  is compact, connected, and each element is idempotent [4].

A third solution is given by the following corollary.

**COROLLARY 1.** *If  $S$  is a non-degenerate compact connected partially ordered semigroup with unit  $u$ , then the minimal ideal  $K$  consists of left zeros for  $S$ ,  $K$  consists of the set of minimal elements, and some elements of  $K$  can be joined by a standard thread to the unit.*

*Proof.* Note that  $\text{Graph}(\leq)$  is closed since  $S$  is compact. Let  $G$  be a compact group in  $S$ , with unit  $e$ . Since  $x^2 \leq x$  for each  $x \in S$ , then for  $x \in G$  we have  $e \geq x \geq x^2 \geq \dots$ , and  $\{x^n\}$  clusters at an idempotent, which must be  $e$ . We conclude that  $x = e$ , and hence that each compact group in  $S$  is trivial. From this fact it is clear that  $K$  is proper, for otherwise  $K = S$  would be a compact group [1]. From the fact that  $aS = bS$  implies  $a = b$  we conclude that each minimal right ideal is a single element, hence each element of  $K$  is a left zero for  $S$  [1]. Since a minimal element  $x$  of  $S$  is characterized by the equality  $xS = x$ , it is clear that  $K$  consists of the set of minimal elements of  $S$ , and hence that  $S \setminus K$  is convex. In the proof of the Theorem, we take  $S = U_0 = U_1 = U_2 = U$ , and  $V = S \setminus K$ . Hence there is a compact connected linearly ordered local semigroup  $L$  containing  $u$ , with  $L \cap S \setminus V \neq \emptyset$ . Since the elements of  $K$  are minimal it follows that  $L$  is a semigroup, and hence a standard thread.

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Vol. 10, No. 4

December, 1960

M. Altman, <i>An optimum cubically convergent iterative method of inverting a linear bounded operator in Hilbert space</i> . . . . .	1107
Nesmith Cornett Ankeny, <i>Criterion for <math>r</math>th power residuacity</i> . . . . .	1115
Julius Rubin Blum and David Lee Hanson, <i>On invariant probability measures I</i> . . . . .	1125
Frank Featherstone Bonsall, <i>Positive operators compact in an auxiliary topology</i> . . . . .	1131
Billy Joe Boyer, <i>Summability of derived conjugate series</i> . . . . .	1139
Delmar L. Boyer, <i>A note on a problem of Fuchs</i> . . . . .	1147
Hans-Joachim Bremermann, <i>The envelopes of holomorphy of tube domains in infinite dimensional Banach spaces</i> . . . . .	1149
Andrew Michael Bruckner, <i>Minimal superadditive extensions of superadditive functions</i> . . . . .	1155
Billy Finney Bryant, <i>On expansive homeomorphisms</i> . . . . .	1163
Jean W. Butler, <i>On complete and independent sets of operations in finite algebras</i> . . . . .	1169
Lucien Le Cam, <i>An approximation theorem for the Poisson binomial distribution</i> . . . . .	1181
Paul Civin, <i>Involutions on locally compact rings</i> . . . . .	1199
Earl A. Coddington, <i>Normal extensions of formally normal operators</i> . . . . .	1203
Jacob Feldman, <i>Some classes of equivalent Gaussian processes on an interval</i> . . . . .	1211
Shaul Foguel, <i>Weak and strong convergence for Markov processes</i> . . . . .	1221
Martin Fox, <i>Some zero sum two-person games with moves in the unit interval</i> . . . . .	1235
Robert Pertsch Gilbert, <i>Singularities of three-dimensional harmonic functions</i> . . . . .	1243
Branko Grünbaum, <i>Partitions of mass-distributions and of convex bodies by hyperplanes</i> . . . . .	1257
Sidney Morris Harmon, <i>Regular covering surfaces of Riemann surfaces</i> . . . . .	1263
Edwin Hewitt and Herbert S. Zuckerman, <i>The multiplicative semigroup of integers modulo <math>m</math></i> . . . . .	1291
Paul Daniel Hill, <i>Relation of a direct limit group to associated vector groups</i> . . . . .	1309
Calvin Virgil Holmes, <i>Commutator groups of monomial groups</i> . . . . .	1313
James Fredrik Jakobsen and W. R. Utz, <i>The non-existence of expansive homeomorphisms on a closed 2-cell</i> . . . . .	1319
John William Jewett, <i>Multiplication on classes of pseudo-analytic functions</i> . . . . .	1323
Helmut Klingen, <i>Analytic automorphisms of bounded symmetric complex domains</i> . . . . .	1327
Robert Jacob Koch, <i>Ordered semigroups in partially ordered semigroups</i> . . . . .	1333
Marvin David Marcus and N. A. Khan, <i>On a commutator result of Tausky and Zassenhaus</i> . . . . .	1337
John Glen Marica and Steve Jerome Bryant, <i>Unary algebras</i> . . . . .	1347
Edward Peter Merkes and W. T. Scott, <i>On univalence of a continued fraction</i> . . . . .	1361
Shu-Teh Chen Moy, <i>Asymptotic properties of derivatives of stationary measures</i> . . . . .	1371
John William Neuberger, <i>Concerning boundary value problems</i> . . . . .	1385
Edward C. Posner, <i>Integral closure of differential rings</i> . . . . .	1393
Marian Reichaw-Reichbach, <i>Some theorems on mappings onto</i> . . . . .	1397
Marvin Rosenblum and Harold Widom, <i>Two extremal problems</i> . . . . .	1409
Morton Lincoln Slater and Herbert S. Wilf, <i>A class of linear differential-difference equations</i> . . . . .	1419
Charles Robson Storey, Jr., <i>The structure of threads</i> . . . . .	1429
J. François Treves, <i>An estimate for differential polynomials in <math>\partial/\partial z_1, \dots, \partial/\partial z_n</math></i> . . . . .	1447
J. D. Weston, <i>On the representation of operators by convolutions integrals</i> . . . . .	1453
James Victor Whittaker, <i>Normal subgroups of some homeomorphism groups</i> . . . . .	1469