

Free Products with Amalgamation of Bands^{*)}

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In this paper, we shall study the question of which classes of bands have the strong or the special amalgamation properties. Let \mathcal{A} be the variety of bands defined by an identity $P=Q$. Then \mathcal{A} has the strong amalgamation property if and only if $P=Q$ is a permutation identity or heterotypical identity. Moreover, we shall show that the varieties of [left, right] regular bands and left [right] quasnormal bands have the special amalgamation property.

§1. Introduction

A class of algebras \mathcal{A} is said to have the *strong amalgamation property* if for any family of algebras $\{A_i: i \in I\}$ from \mathcal{A} , each having an algebra $U \in \mathcal{A}$ as a subalgebra, there exist an algebra B in \mathcal{A} and monomorphisms $\phi_i: A_i \rightarrow B$, $i \in I$, such that

- (i) $\phi_i|U = \phi_j|U$ for all $i, j \in I$,
- (ii) $A_i\phi_i \cap A_j\phi_j = U\phi_i$ for all $i, j \in I$ with $i \neq j$,

where $\phi_i|U$ denotes the restriction of ϕ_i to U . Omitting the condition (ii) gives us the definition of the *weak amalgamation property*. Adding the condition that $A_i = A_j$ for all $i, j \in I$, to the hypothesis of the definition of the strong amalgamation property gives us the definition of the *special amalgamation property*.

Note that in a class of algebras closed under isomorphisms, the weak and the special amalgamation properties together imply the strong amalgamation property. It is well-known (see [4]) that in a class of algebras closed under isomorphisms and the formation of the union of any ascending chain of algebras, each amalgamation property follows from the case in which $|I|=2$. Hence we shall consider in this paper only the case $|I|=2$.

The classes of algebras for which the strong or the weak amalgamation properties is known to hold are "groups, groups with a given operator domain, commutative groups, fields, differential fields of characteristic 0, partially ordered sets, lattices, Boolean algebras, locally finite-dimensional cylindric algebras of a given infinite dimension [7], pseudocomplemented distributive lattices \mathcal{B}_n , $n \leq 2$ or $n = \omega$ [3], semilattices, inverse semigroups [4], commutative inverse semigroups [5]". However, it is well-known (see [8], [1, Section 9.4]) that the class of semigroups does not have

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even the weak amalgamation property.

In section 2, we shall add the following classes of bands to the list above: "[left, right] normal bands, rectangular bands, left [right] zero semigroups, one element semigroups". Moreover, the variety of bands defined by an identity $P=Q$ has the strong amalgamation property if and only if $P=Q$ is a permutation identity or a hetrotypical identity.

In section 3, we shall consider the congruence extension property of [left, right] normal bands and give the another proof of the class of [left, right] normal bands to have the weak amalgamation property.

In section 4, we shall show that the classes of [left, right] regular bands and left [right] quasinormal bands do not have the weak amalgamation property, due to T. E. Hall, but they have the special amalgamation property.

The notations and terminologies are those of [1] and [12], unless otherwise stated.

§2. Strong amalgamation property

We shall first show that the class of left normal bands has the strong amalgamation property. Let L_1 and L_2 be left normal bands with a common subband U . Let the structure decompositions of L_1 , L_2 and U be $L_1 \sim \Sigma\{L_1^\alpha: \alpha \in \Gamma_1\}$, $L_2 \sim \Sigma\{L_2^\alpha: \alpha \in \Gamma_2\}$ and $U \sim \Sigma\{U_\alpha: \alpha \in \Delta\}$, respectively. We can assume without loss of generality that $L_1 \cap L_2 = U$, $\Gamma_1 \cap \Gamma_2 = \Delta$ and $L_1^\alpha \cap L_2^\alpha = U_\alpha$ for all $\alpha \in \Delta$. Let $L = L_1 \cup L_2$ and $\Gamma = (\Gamma_1^{(1)} \times \Gamma_2^{(1)}) \setminus \{(1, 1)\}$. It follows from [6, Corollary 2.2] that

$$E = \{(a, \alpha, \beta) \in L \times \Gamma: a \in L_1^\alpha \cup L_2^\beta, \alpha \in \Gamma_1^{(1)}, \beta \in \Gamma_2^{(1)}\}$$

is the free product of L_1 and L_2 in the variety of left normal bands, if its product is defined by

$$(a, \alpha, \beta)(b, \gamma, \delta) = \begin{cases} (a \cdot e(\alpha\gamma), \alpha\gamma, \beta\delta) & \text{if } a \in L_1^\alpha, \\ (a \cdot e(\beta\delta), \alpha\gamma, \beta\delta) & \text{if } a \in L_2^\beta, \end{cases}$$

where $e(\alpha)$ denotes an element of L_i^α , $i=1, 2$. Hereafter, $e(1)$ means 1.

We define a relation θ on E as follows:

- (2.1) For elements (a, α, β) , (b, γ, δ) of E , define $(a, \alpha, \beta)\theta_0(b, \gamma, \delta)$ to mean that there exist $\sigma \in \Delta$ and $u \in U_\sigma$ such that

$$(a, \alpha, \beta) = (c_1, \xi_1, \eta_1)(u, \sigma, 1)(c_2, \xi_2, \eta_2),$$

$$(b, \gamma, \delta) = (c_1, \xi_1, \eta_1)(u, 1, \sigma)(c_2, \xi_2, \eta_2),$$

for some (c_1, ξ_1, η_1) , $(c_2, \xi_2, \eta_2) \in E^1$. Let $\theta_1 = \theta_0 \cup \theta_0^{-1} \cup \iota$ and let $\theta = \theta_1^*$.

Then of course θ is the congruence on E generated by $\{((u, \sigma, 1), (u, 1, \sigma)) : u \in U_\sigma, \sigma \in \Delta\}$. Let $(a, \alpha, \beta)\theta$ denote the θ -class containing (a, α, β) . Since any homomorphic image of a left normal band is also a left normal band, E/θ is a left normal band. In order to show that E/θ is the free product of L_1 and L_2 amalgamating U in the variety of left normal bands, we need the following lemma.

LEMMA 2.1. *If $(a, \alpha, 1)\theta(b, \beta, \gamma)$, then there exist $\sigma \in \Delta^1$ and $u \in U_\sigma$ such that*

$$\begin{aligned} u \cdot e(\gamma) \in U \quad \text{and} \quad a = b(u \cdot e(\gamma)) \quad (\text{in } L_1) \quad & \text{if } b \in L_1^\beta, \\ bu \in U \quad \text{and} \quad a = (bu) \cdot e(\beta) \quad (\text{in } L_1) \quad & \text{if } b \in L_2^\gamma, \end{aligned}$$

where $U_1 = \{1\}$, $e(1) = 1$.

PROOF. Let $(a, \alpha, 1)\theta(b, \beta, \gamma)$. By the definition (2.1), there exist $(x_1, \delta_1, \varepsilon_1), (x_2, \delta_2, \varepsilon_2), \dots, (x_n, \delta_n, \varepsilon_n)$ in E such that $(a, \alpha, 1) = (x_1, \delta_1, \varepsilon_1)$, $(b, \beta, \gamma) = (x_n, \delta_n, \varepsilon_n)$ and $(x_i, \delta_i, \varepsilon_i)\theta_1(x_{i+1}, \delta_{i+1}, \varepsilon_{i+1})$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n-1$.

We use induction on n . For $n = 1$, it is obvious that the statement is true. So we assume the statement is true for $n-1$. First we consider when $(x_{n-1}, \delta_{n-1}, \varepsilon_{n-1})\theta_0(x_n, \delta_n, \varepsilon_n)$; then there exist $\sigma \in \Delta$ and $u \in U_\sigma$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} (x_{n-1}, \delta_{n-1}, \varepsilon_{n-1}) &= (c_1, \xi_1, \eta_1)(u, \sigma, 1)(c_2, \xi_2, \eta_2), \\ (x_n, \delta_n, \varepsilon_n) &= (c_1, \xi_1, \eta_1)(u, 1, \sigma)(c_2, \xi_2, \eta_2), \end{aligned}$$

for some $(c_1, \xi_1, \eta_1), (c_2, \xi_2, \eta_2)$ in E^1 .

Case I, $x_{n-1}, x_n \in L_1$. Then $c_1 \in L_1$. By the induction hypothesis, there exist $\tau \in \Delta^1$ and $v \in U_\tau$ such that

$$(2.2) \quad v \cdot e(\varepsilon_{n-1}) \in U \quad \text{and} \quad a = x_{n-1}(v \cdot e(\varepsilon_{n-1})) \quad (\text{in } L_1).$$

Then we have

$$v \cdot e(\varepsilon_n) = v \cdot e(\eta_1 \sigma \eta_2) = v \cdot e(\eta_1 \eta_2) \cdot u = v \cdot e(\varepsilon_{n-1}) \cdot u \in U,$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} x_n(v \cdot e(\varepsilon_n)) &= x_n(v \cdot e(\varepsilon_{n-1}) \cdot u) \\ &= c_1 \cdot e(\xi_1 \xi_2) \cdot u \cdot (v \cdot e(\varepsilon_{n-1})) \end{aligned}$$

(since $u, v \cdot e(\varepsilon_{n-1}) \in U^1$ and L_1 is left normal)

$$\begin{aligned} &= x_{n-1}(v \cdot e(\varepsilon_{n-1})) \\ &= a. \end{aligned}$$

Case II, $x_{n-1} \in L_1$ and $x_n \in L_2$. Then $(c_1, \xi_1, \eta_1) = 1$, and there exist $\tau \in \Delta^1$

and $v \in U_\tau$ such that the condition (2.2) is satisfied. Then we have

$$x_n v = u \cdot e(\sigma\eta_2) \cdot v = uv \cdot e(\eta_2) = uv \cdot e(\varepsilon_{n-1}) \in U,$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} (x_n v) \cdot e(\delta_n) &= (uv \cdot e(\varepsilon_{n-1})) \cdot e(\xi_2) \\ &= u \cdot e(\xi_2) \cdot (v \cdot e(\varepsilon_{n-1})) \\ &= x_{n-1}(v \cdot e(\varepsilon_{n-1})) \\ &= a. \end{aligned}$$

Case III, $x_{n-1} \in L_2$. Then $c_1 \in L_2$, and hence $x_n \in L_2$. It follows from the induction hypothesis that there exist $\tau \in \Delta^1$ and $v \in U_\tau$ such that

$$x_{n-1}v \in U \quad \text{and} \quad a = (x_{n-1}v) \cdot e(\delta_{n-1}) \quad (\text{in } L_1).$$

Then we have

$$x_n v = c_1 \cdot e(\eta_1 \sigma \eta_2) \cdot v = c_1 \cdot e(\eta_1 \eta_2) \cdot uv = (x_{n-1}v)u \in U,$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} (x_n v) \cdot e(\delta_n) &= (x_{n-1}vu) \cdot e(\xi_1 \xi_2) \\ &= (x_{n-1}v)u \cdot e(\xi_1 \xi_2) \\ &= (x_{n-1}v) \cdot e(\delta_{n-1}) \\ &= a. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly $(x_n, \delta_n, \varepsilon_n)$ satisfies the condition of the lemma when $(x_{n-1}, \delta_{n-1}, \varepsilon_{n-1})\theta_0^{-1} \cup (x_n, \delta_n, \varepsilon_n)$. Hence we have the lemma.

THEOREM 2.2. *We use the notations defined above. Then E/θ is the free product of L_1 and L_2 amalgamating U , in the variety of left normal bands. Moreover, the structure semilattice of E/θ is isomorphic to the free product of Γ_1 and Γ_2 amalgamating Δ , in the variety of semilattices.*

PROOF. Let $\phi_i: L_i \rightarrow E/\theta$, $i = 1, 2$, be mappings defined by

$$\begin{aligned} x\phi_1 &= (x, \alpha, 1)\theta & \text{if } x \in L_1^\alpha, \\ y\phi_2 &= (y, 1, \beta)\theta & \text{if } y \in L_2^\beta. \end{aligned}$$

It is clear that ϕ_1 and ϕ_2 are homomorphisms. Let x and y be elements of L_1^α and L_2^β , respectively, such that $x\phi_1 = y\phi_2$. Then $(x, \alpha, 1)\theta = (y, \beta, 1)\theta$. By the lemma above,

there exist $\sigma, \tau \in \Delta^1$, $u \in U_\sigma$ and $v \in U_\tau$ such that $x = yu$ and $y = xv$. Therefore $\alpha = \beta$ and $x = xy = (yu)y = y$. Hence ϕ_1 is a monomorphism. Similarly ϕ_2 is a monomorphism. By the definition (2.1), it is clear that $\phi_1|U = \phi_2|U$.

Next, we shall show that $L_1\phi_1 \cap L_2\phi_2 = U\phi_1$. Let x and y be elements of L_1^α and L_2^β , respectively, such that $x\phi_1 = y\phi_2$. Then $(x, \alpha, 1)\theta(y, 1, \beta)$. By the lemma above and its dual, there exist $\sigma, \tau \in \Delta^1$, $u \in U_\sigma$ and $v \in U_\tau$ such that

$$yu \in U \quad \text{and} \quad (yu) \cdot 1 = x \quad (\text{in } L_1),$$

$$xv \in U \quad \text{and} \quad (xv) \cdot 1 = y \quad (\text{in } L_2).$$

Then $x, y \in U$ and $x = y$. Thus we have $L_1\phi_1 \cap L_2\phi_2 \subseteq U\phi_1$. It is obvious $L_1\phi_1 \cap L_2\phi_2 \supseteq U\phi_1$. Hence $L_1\phi_1 \cap L_2\phi_2 = U\phi_1$.

It is clear that $\langle L_1\phi_1 \cup L_2\phi_2 \rangle = E/\theta$ and that E/θ together with ϕ_1 and ϕ_2 is the colimit of L_1 and L_2 amalgamating U . Hence E/θ is the free product of L_1 and L_2 amalgamating U , in the variety of left normal bands.

The later part of the theorem is clear.

COROLLARY 2.3. *The variety of [left, right] normal bands has the strong amalgamation property.*

PROOF. Let S_1 and S_2 be normal bands with a common subband U . It follows from [14, Theorem 4] that $S_1 = L_1 \bowtie R_1(\Gamma_1)$, $S_2 = L_2 \bowtie R_2(\Gamma_2)$ and $U = U_1 \bowtie U_2(\Delta)$, where L_1, L_2 and U_1 are left normal bands, R_1, R_2 and U_2 are right normal bands and Γ_1, Γ_2 and Δ are semilattices. We can assume without loss of generality that $L_1 \cap L_2 = U_1$, $R_1 \cap R_2 = U_2$ and $\Gamma_1 \cap \Gamma_2 = \Delta$. By Theorem 2.2 and its dual, there exist the free product T_1 , say, of L_1 and L_2 amalgamating U_1 in the variety of left normal bands, and the free product T_2 , say, of R_1 and R_2 amalgamating U_2 in the variety of right normal bands. Since T_1 and T_2 have the same structure semilattice Ω , say, which is the free product of Γ_1 and Γ_2 amalgamating Δ in the variety of semilattices, let $T_1 \sim \Sigma\{T_1^\alpha : \alpha \in \Omega\}$ and $T_2 \sim \Sigma\{T_2^\alpha : \alpha \in \Omega\}$ be the structure decompositions of T_1 and T_2 , respectively. Then it is clear that the spined product $T_1 \bowtie T_2(\Omega)$ is the free product of S_1 and S_2 amalgamating U , in the variety of normal bands. Hence the variety of normal bands has the strong amalgamation property.

COROLLARY 2.4. *The class of $M[L.N, R.N]$ -inversive semigroups has the strong amalgamation property.*

PROOF. It follows from [13, Corollary 2 and 3] that an $M[L.N, R.N]$ -inversive semigroup is isomorphic to the spined product of a commutative inverse semigroup and a [left, right] normal band. By a similar argument to the proof of Corollary 2.3 we have that the class of $M[L.N, R.N]$ -inversive semigroups has the strong amalgamation property.

The following example, due to T. E. Hall, shows that the variety of left [right] regular bands does not have even the weak amalgamation property.

EXAMPLE. Let $S = \{e, f, g, h\}$, $T = \{f, g, h, x, y\}$ and $U = \{e, f, g\}$ be a left regular band, a left normal band and a left zero semigroup, respectively, whose multiplications are defined as follows:

	<i>e</i>	<i>f</i>	<i>g</i>	<i>h</i>
<i>e</i>	<i>e</i>	<i>g</i>	<i>g</i>	<i>h</i>
<i>f</i>	<i>f</i>	<i>f</i>	<i>f</i>	<i>f</i>
<i>g</i>	<i>g</i>	<i>g</i>	<i>g</i>	<i>g</i>
<i>h</i>	<i>h</i>	<i>h</i>	<i>h</i>	<i>h</i>

	<i>f</i>	<i>g</i>	<i>h</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>y</i>
<i>f</i>	<i>f</i>	<i>f</i>	<i>f</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
<i>g</i>	<i>g</i>	<i>g</i>	<i>g</i>	<i>y</i>	<i>y</i>
<i>h</i>	<i>h</i>	<i>h</i>	<i>h</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>x</i>
<i>y</i>	<i>y</i>	<i>y</i>	<i>y</i>	<i>y</i>	<i>y</i>

Suppose that there exists a semigroup W such that $S \cup T$ can be embedded in W . Then, since W is associative,

$$ex = e(fx) = (ef)x = gx = y,$$

$$ex = e(hx) = (eh)x = hx = x.$$

Thus the elements x and y must coincide in W , a contradiction.

THEOREM 2.5. *Let \mathcal{A} be the variety of bands defined by an identity $P=Q$. Then \mathcal{A} has the strong amalgamation property if and only if $P=Q$ is a permutation identity or a heterotypical identity.*

PROOF. Suppose that $P=Q$ is neither a permutation identity nor a heterotypical identity. By [2], \mathcal{A} contains the set of left regular bands or the set of right regular bands. Then the example above implies that \mathcal{A} does not have the strong amalgamation property.

If $P=Q$ is a permutation identity, it follows from [14, Theorem 10], [5, Corollary 1] and Corollary 2.3 that \mathcal{A} has the strong amalgamation property. So let $P=Q$ be a heterotypical identity. By [11, Theorem 2], \mathcal{A} is one of the varieties of rectangular bands, left zero semigroups, right zero semigroups and one element semigroups. Then it is clear \mathcal{A} has the strong amalgamation property.

§3. Congruence extension property

THEOREM 3.1. *Let U be any subband of a normal band E and let θ be any con-*

gruence on U . Then θ extends to a congruence on E in the following sense: let Θ be the congruence on E generated by θ , then $\Theta \cap (U \times U) = \theta$.

PROOF. Put

$$\theta_1 = \{(acb, adb) \in E \times E : (c, d) \in \theta, a, b \in E^1\} \cup \iota_E.$$

Then $\Theta = \theta_1^t = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} \theta_1^n$. We make the convention that $\theta_1^0 = \iota_E$. Then $\Theta = \bigcup_{n=0}^{\infty} \theta_1^n$. Since $\theta \subseteq \Theta \cap (U \times U)$, it remains to show the following: for $n=0, 1, 2, \dots$, and for $a, b \in U$, if $(a, b) \in \theta_1^n$ then $(a, b) \in \theta$.

We use induction on n . For $n=0$, the statement is trivial. So take any integer $n > 0$ and assume the statement for $n-1$ is true. Let $(a, b) \in \theta_1^n \cap (U \times U)$. Then there exist $x, y \in E$ such that

$$a \theta_1 x \theta_1^{n-1} b, \quad a \theta_1^{n-1} y \theta_1 b.$$

Since θ_1 and hence θ_1^{n-1} are compatible, we can obtain

$$(3.1) \quad a \theta_1 (ax) \theta_1^{n-1} (ab),$$

$$(3.2) \quad b \theta_1 (yb) \theta_1^{n-1} (ab).$$

Now we prove the following lemma, before continuing the proof of Theorem 3.1.

LEMMA 3.2. For any $c \in U$ and $d \in E$, if $c \theta_1 (cd)$ then $cd \in U$ and $c \theta (cd)$.

PROOF. Since it is obvious for $c = cd$, we assume $c \neq cd$. Then there exist $(x, y) \in \theta$ and $u, v \in E^1$ such that $c = uxv$, $cd = uyv$ and $(u, v) \neq (1, 1)$.

Case I, $u \neq 1$ and $v \neq 1$:

$$cd = cccd = cuxvuyv = cyuxv = cyc \in U,$$

$$cd = (cyc) \theta (cxc) = c.$$

Case II, $u \neq 1$ and $v = 1$:

$$cd = ccd = uxuy = uxy = cy \in U,$$

$$cd = (cy) \theta (cx) = c.$$

Case III, $U = 1$ and $v \neq 1$:

$$cd = cccd = cxv yv = cyxv = cyc \in U,$$

$$cd = (cyc) \theta (cxc) = c.$$

This gives us the lemma.

Putting $c=a$, $d=x$ in (3.1), we have

$$a\theta(ax)\theta_1^{-1}(ab).$$

Since $ax, ab \in U$, it follows from the induction hypothesis that

$$a\theta(ax)\theta(ab).$$

Similarly it follows from (3.2) and the dual of Lemma 3.2 that

$$b\theta(yb)\theta(ab).$$

Then $(a, b) \in \theta$, giving the theorem.

COROLLARY 3.3. *Let U be any subband of a left [right] normal band, and let θ be any congruence on U . Then θ extends to a congruence on E in the sense of Theorem 3.1.*

From [3, Theorem 4], [6, Corollary 2.3], Theorem 3.1 and Corollary 3.3, we have the following theorem.

THEOREM 3.4. *The variety of [left, right] normal bands has the weak amalgamation property.*

§4. Special amalgamation property

We have seen that the variety of [left, right] regular bands does not have the weak amalgamation property. In this section, we shall show, however, that it has the special amalgamation property. Let $L \sim \Sigma\{L_\alpha: \alpha \in \Gamma\}$ be a left regular band and $U \sim \Sigma\{U_\alpha: \alpha \in \Delta\}$ a subband. We can assume without loss of generality that $L \supseteq U$, $\Gamma \supseteq \Delta$ and $L_\alpha \supseteq U_\alpha$ for all $\alpha \in \Delta$. Let L_1 and L_2 be left regular bands which are isomorphic to L such that $L_1 \cap L_2 = \square$, and let $v_i: L \rightarrow L_i$, $i=1, 2$, be isomorphisms. Let $U_i = Uv_i$, $L_i^\alpha = L_\alpha v_i$ and $U_i^\beta = U_\beta v_i$ for all $\alpha \in \Gamma$, $\beta \in \Delta$ and $i=1, 2$.

Let S be the free product of L_1 and L_2 in the variety of left regular bands. Hereafter, let a_i mean “ a_i is an element of L_i ”, where $i=1$ or 2 . Define a relation θ on S as follows:

$a_{i_1}a_{i_2}\cdots a_{i_r}\theta_0 b_{j_1}b_{j_2}\cdots b_{j_s}$ if and only if there exist u in U and $c_{k_1}c_{k_2}$

$\cdots c_{k_p}$, $d_{m_1}d_{m_2}\cdots d_{m_q}$ in S^1 such that

$$a_{i_1}a_{i_2}\cdots a_{i_r} = c_{k_1}c_{k_2}\cdots c_{k_p}(uv_1)d_{m_1}d_{m_2}\cdots d_{m_q},$$

$$b_{j_1}b_{j_2}\cdots b_{j_s} = c_{k_1}c_{k_2}\cdots c_{k_p}(uv_2)d_{m_1}d_{m_2}\cdots d_{m_q}.$$

Let $\theta_1 = \theta_0 \cup \theta_0^{-1} \cup \iota$, and let $\theta = \theta_1$.

It follows from [1, Section 1.5] that θ is the congruence on S . Then S/θ is a left regular band.

DEFINITION 4.1. Let a be an element of L . A sequence $(x_{i_1}, x_{i_2}, \dots, x_{i_n})$ of elements of $L_1 \cup L_2$ is said to *have property* $P_i(a)$, $i=1, 2$, if there exist $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$ in U^1 such that

- (i) $u_1 = 1$,
- (ii) $u_j(x_{i_j}v_{i_j}^{-1})v_j \in U$ if $i_j \neq i$,
- (iii) $a = \prod_{j=1}^n u_j(x_{i_j}v_{i_j}^{-1})v_j$.

LEMMA 4.2. (i) If $x_{i_1}x_{i_2}\cdots x_{i_r} = y_{j_1}y_{j_2}\cdots y_{j_s}$ (in S) and $(x_{i_1}, x_{i_2}, \dots, x_{i_r})$ has property $P_i(a)$ for some a in L , then $(y_{j_1}, y_{j_2}, \dots, y_{j_s})$ also has property $P_i(a)$.

(ii) If $x_{i_1}x_{i_2}\cdots x_{i_r}\theta_1 y_{j_1}y_{j_2}\cdots y_{j_s}$ (in S) and $(x_{i_1}, x_{i_2}, \dots, x_{i_r})$ has property $P_i(a)$, then $(y_{j_1}, y_{j_2}, \dots, y_{j_s})$ also has property $P_i(a)$.

PROOF. In order to show (i), it is sufficient to prove that if $(x_{i_1}, x_{i_2}, \dots, x_{i_r}, y_{j_1}, y_{j_2}, \dots, y_{j_s}, x_{i_1}, x_{i_2}, \dots, x_{i_r})$ has property $P_i(a)$ then $(x_{i_1}, x_{i_2}, \dots, x_{i_r}, y_{j_1}, y_{j_2}, \dots, y_{j_s})$ also has property $P_i(a)$. Let $(x_{i_1}, x_{i_2}, \dots, x_{i_r}, y_{j_1}, y_{j_2}, \dots, y_{j_s}, x_{i_1}, x_{i_2}, \dots, x_{i_r})$ have property $P_i(a)$. Then there exist $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{2r+s}, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{2r+s}$ in U^1 such that $u_1 = 1$ and

- (i) $u_k(x_{i_k}v_{i_k}^{-1})v_k, u_{r+s+k}(x_{i_k}v_{i_k}^{-1})v_{r+s+k} \in U$ if $i_k \neq i$,
- (ii) $u_k(y_{j_k}v_{j_k}^{-1})v_k \in U$ if $j_k \neq i$,
- (iii) $a = (\prod_{k=1}^r u_k(x_{i_k}v_{i_k}^{-1})v_k) (\prod_{k=r+1}^{r+s} u_k(y_{j_k}v_{j_k}^{-1})v_k) (\prod_{k=r+s+1}^{2r+s} u_k(x_{i_k}v_{i_k}^{-1})v_k)$.

Let

$$w_k = \begin{cases} u_{r+s+k}v_{r+s+k} & \text{if } i_k = i, \\ u_{r+s+k}(x_{i_k}v_{i_k}^{-1})v_{r+s+k} & \text{if } i_k \neq i, \end{cases}$$

and let $v'_{r+s} = v_{r+s} (\prod_{k=1}^r w_k)$. Then it is clear that $v'_{r+s} \in U$. Since L is a left regular band, $(x_{i_1}, x_{i_2}, \dots, x_{i_r}, y_{j_1}, y_{j_2}, \dots, y_{j_s})$ has property $P_i(a)$ with $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{r+s}, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{r+s-1}, v'_{r+s}$.

By using (i) and the definition of θ_1 , we can easily prove (ii).

The following corollary follows immediately from the lemma above.

COROLLARY 4.3. Let a be an element of L_i , $i=1, 2$. If $a\theta x_{j_1}x_{j_2}\cdots x_{j_r}$ (in S), then $(x_{j_1}, x_{j_2}, \dots, x_{j_r})$ has property $P_i(av_i^{-1})$.

THEOREM 4.4. We use the notations defined above. Then S/θ is the free product of L_1 and L_2 amalgamating U in the variety of left regular bands. Thus the variety of left regular bands has the special amalgamation property. Moreover, the structure semilattice of S/θ is isomorphic to the free product $\Gamma_{\Delta}^*\Gamma$, say, of Γ amalgamating Δ in the variety of semilattices.

PROOF. Let $\phi_i: L_i \rightarrow S/\theta$, $i=1, 2$, be mappings defined by

$$a\phi_i = a\theta \quad \text{for all } a \in L_i.$$

It is obvious that each ϕ_i , $i=1, 2$, is a homomorphism. Let a and b be any elements of L_i satisfying $a\phi_i = b\phi_i$. Then $a\theta = b\theta$. By the corollary above, there exist u and v in U^1 such that

$$a(uv_i) = b \quad \text{and} \quad b(vv_i) = a.$$

Since L_i is left regular,

$$\begin{aligned} a &= b(vv_i) = bb(vv_i) = ba = bab \\ &= a(uv_i)ab = a(uv_i)b = b^2 = b, \end{aligned}$$

and hence ϕ_i is a monomorphism.

By the definition of θ , it is obvious that $v_1\phi_1|U = v_2\phi_2|U$. Let a and b be elements of L_1 and L_2 , respectively, such that $a\phi_1 = b\phi_2$. Then we have $a\theta = b\theta$. By the corollary above, there exist u and v in U^1 such that $(av_1^{-1})u \in U$, $(bv_2^{-1})v \in U$, $bv_2^{-1} = (av_1^{-1})u$ and $av_1^{-1} = (bv_2^{-1})v$. Then we have $av_1^{-1} = bv_2^{-1} \in U$, and hence $L_1\phi_1 \cap L_2\phi_2 \subseteq Uv_1\phi_1$. It is obvious $L_1\phi_1 \cap L_2\phi_2 \supseteq Uv_1\phi_1$. Therefore $L_1\phi_1 \cap L_2\phi_2 = Uv_1\phi_1$.

By the definition of θ , it is clear that S/θ is the free product of L_1 and L_2 amalgamating U in the variety of left regular bands, and that the structure semilattice of S/θ is isomorphic to $\Gamma_2^*\Gamma$.

It follows from [10, Theorem 1] and [9, Theorem 2] that a regular band is the spined product of a left regular band and a right regular band, and that a left [right] quasinormal band is the spined product of a left [right] regular band and a right [left] normal band. By a similar argument to the proof of Corollary 2.3, we have the following corollary.

COROLLARY 4.5. *The varieties of [right] regular bands and left [right] quasinormal bands have the special amalgamation property.*

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