

# The diameter of endomorphism monoids

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## Definition

A **right congruence** on a semigroup  $S$  is an equivalence relation  $\rho$  such that for every  $a, b, c \in S$ ,

$$a \rho b \Rightarrow ac \rho bc.$$

- If  $U \subseteq S \times S$ , then the **right congruence generated by  $U$** , denoted  $\langle U \rangle$ , is the smallest right congruence containing  $U$ .

## Definition

A semigroup  $S$  is **right Noetherian** if every right congruence is finitely generated (f.g).

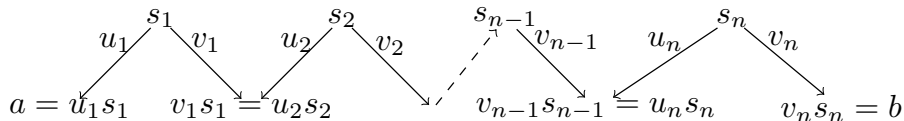
# Generating right congruences

**Lemma (Kilp, Knauer, Mikhalev, 2000)**

Let  $U \subseteq S \times S$ . Then  $a \langle U \rangle b$  if and only if either  $a = b$  or there exists a  $U$ -path from  $a$  to  $b$ , that is,

$$a = u_1 s_1, v_1 s_1 = u_2 s_2, \dots, v_n s_n = b$$

where  $(u_i, v_i) \in U \cup U^{-1}$  and  $s_i \in S^1$ .



# Pseudo-finite semigroups

- Pseudo-finite: the semigroup finiteness condition of the universal right congruence  $\omega_r^S$  being finitely generated and there being a bound on the length of sequences required to relate any two elements.
- First studied by Dales and White in 2017 with regards to Banach algebras.
- Boring property for groups: pseudo-finite groups are finite.
- Kobyashi (2007):  $\omega_r^M$  is f.g. if and only if  $M$  is of type right-FP1.
- I first joined the project for “Semigroups with finitely generated universal left congruence” (2019, Dandan, G, Q-G, Zenab).
- Clear picture for key classes including inverse semigroups, completely regular, and Rees matrix.
- Far more complex than first thought: there exists pseudo-finite regular semigroups without a completely simple minimal ideal “On minimal ideals in pseudo-finite semigroups” (2022, G,M, Q-G, R).
- Pseudo-finite transformation semigroups studied in “On the diameter of semigroups of transformations and partitions” (2023, E,G,Q-G,R).

# Diameter

## Lemma

Let  $S$  be a semigroup. Then  $\omega_r^S$  is f.g. if and only if there exists a subset  $U$  of  $S \times S$  such that for any  $a, b \in S$ , we have  $a = b$  or there exists a  $U$ -path from  $a$  to  $b$ , that is,

$$a = u_1 s_1, v_1 s_1 = u_2 s_2, \dots, v_n s_n = b$$

where  $(u_i, v_i) \in U$  and  $s_i \in S^1$ .

## Definition

Let  $S$  be a semigroup in which  $\omega_r^S$  is f.g.

- If  $\omega_r^S = \langle U \rangle$ , then define  $D_r(S; U) = \sup\{\text{length of the smallest } U\text{-path from } a \text{ to } b : a, b \in S\}$ .
- The **right diameter of  $S$**  is then  $D_r(S) = \min\{D_r(S; U) : \omega_r^S = \langle U \rangle, |U| < \infty\}$ .
- If  $D_r(S)$  is finite, then  $S$  is called **right pseudo-finite**.

# Diameter 1

- Having right diameter 1 is equivalent to the well-studied notion of the diagonal right act being f.g.
- For a semigroup  $S$ , the diagonal right  $S$ -act is the set  $S \times S$  under the right action given by  $(a, b)c = (ac, bc)$ .
- First studied implicitly by Bulman-Fleming and McDowell (1990), and formalized by Robertson et al (2001).
- Gallagher and N (2005) studied this property for many natural semigroups, including subsemigroups of  $\mathcal{T}_X$ , endomorphisms of chains, and endomorphisms of independence algebras.
- Also considered the stronger property of the diagonal right act being **monogenic**, i.e. there exists  $a, b \in S$  such that  $S \times S = (a, b)S$ .

# Hierarchy of conditions

$\omega_r^S$  is finitely generated.



$S$  is pseudo-finite.



$$D_r(S) = 1$$



The diagonal right  $S$ -act is finitely generated.



The diagonal right  $S$ -act is monogenic.

## Problem (Meta)

*Which “characteristics” of a semigroup determines its left/right diameter.*

- A “characteristic” of a semigroup could mean the existence of special elements, its properties (such as algebraic identities), or properties inherited from some other structure.
- Which characteristic is best suited for building a global theory of pseudo-finite semigroups?



## Previous methods

Previous work can be broadly broken down into two methods depending on if we view a semigroup as a transformation semigroup or abstractly (e.g. variety of semigroups).

**Transformation semigroups:** Discussed in my talk last summer.

- **Pro:** Able to manipulate concrete elements to give bounds on the diameter. Great success when a degree of transitivity is added.
- **Con:** Global structure often mysterious or unhelpful.

**Abstractly:** Which properties hold for all semigroups of a particular diameter? Most widely used method.

- **Pro:** Global structure obtained by restricting to semigroups satisfying certain conditions. E.g. no infinite diameter 1 semigroup can be commutative (Gallagher).
- **Con:** Elements are not concrete, and so can be harder to manipulate.

## Having our Baumkuchen and eating it

- Restrict to transformation monoids which have an inherited global structure to keep the benefits of both methods: Endomorphism monoids!

### Definition

A **(first order) structure**  $\mathbb{A} = (A; \mathfrak{R})$  is a set  $A$  together with a collection  $\mathfrak{R}$  of textbfbasic relations and functions defined on  $A$ .

- A semigroup is considered as a set together with a binary (associative) operation.
- Both partially ordered sets (posets) and graphs can be considered as sets together with a single binary relation.
- A semilattice can also be considered as the structure  $(Y; \wedge, \leq)$  where  $a \leq b$  if and only if  $a \wedge b = a$ .

## Definition

Let  $\mathbb{A} = (A; \mathfrak{K})$  be a structure. Then a map  $\theta: A \rightarrow A$  is an **endomorphism** of  $\mathbb{A}$  if it preserves each function and relation from  $\mathfrak{K}$ , that is, for each function  $f \in \mathfrak{K}$ , relation  $R \in \mathfrak{K}$ , and  $a_1, \dots, a_n \in A$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}((a_1, \dots, a_n)f)\theta &= (a_1\theta, \dots, a_n\theta)f, \\(a_1, \dots, a_n) \in R &\Rightarrow (a_1\theta, \dots, a_n\theta) \in R.\end{aligned}$$

The set of all endomorphisms of  $\mathbb{A}$  is denoted  $\text{End}(\mathbb{A})$ , and forms a submonoid of  $\mathcal{T}_A$ .

E.g. If  $\mathcal{Y} = (Y; \wedge, \leq)$  is a semilattice then  $\theta \in \text{End}(\mathcal{Y})$  if

$$(x \wedge y)\theta = x\theta \wedge y\theta \text{ and } x \leq y \Rightarrow x\theta \leq y\theta.$$

**Warning:** How we consider our structure (its signature) can change its endomorphism monoid. E.g. If  $Y$  is a semilattice then:

$$\text{End}(Y; \wedge) = \text{End}(Y; \wedge, \leq) \subseteq \text{End}(Y; \leq).$$

# Endomorphisms

The philosophy behind this method is that the properties of  $\text{End}(\mathbb{A})$  often depend solely on those of the underlying structure  $\mathbb{A}$ , which is easier to work with.

- **Pro:** Global structure inherited from  $\mathbb{A}$ ?
- **Pro:** Local structure (concrete maps) inherited from  $\mathbb{A}$  and the *closure* property.
- **Con:** Not all transformation monoids are the endomorphism monoid of some structure.

## Theorem

Given a monoid monoid  $M \leq \mathcal{T}_X$ , t.f.a.e.:

- (1)  $M$  is the endomorphism monoid of some (first order) structure;
- (2)  $M$  is the endomorphism monoid of some relational structure;
- (3)  $M$  is closed in the topology of pointwise convergence. That is, whenever  $\alpha \in \mathcal{T}_X$  is such that for each finite  $A \subseteq X$  there exists  $\gamma \in M$  with  $\alpha|_A = \gamma|_A$  then  $\alpha \in M$ .

Consequence: Suffices to consider relational structures!

# Original motivation

- Tackling the problem via endomorphism monoids was briefly examined by Gallagher and R. in the diameter 1 case.
- (Mostly) classified those independence algebras with endomorphism monoids being of diameter 1.
- No infinite chain (totally ordered set) can have endomorphism monoid of left or right diameter 1.

## Problem (Motivation)

*Determine why chains cannot have endomorphisms of diameter 1 (or stronger). What determines their left/right diameter?*

## Chains Part 1:

Explaining the lower bound of 2.

## Left and right units

- The diagonal right act of  $\mathcal{T}_X$  is monogenic and generated by any injective maps  $\alpha, \beta$  with disjoint images (Gallagher, R).
- The injective maps of  $\mathcal{T}_X$  correspond its *right units* i.e. elements  $a \in S$  such that there exists  $b \in S$  with  $ab = 1$ .
- The submonoid of right units of a monoid is the  $\mathcal{R}$ -class  $R_1$  of the identity.
- The **group of units** is the  $\mathcal{H}$ -class  $H_1$ .

### Proposition

$R_1 = H_1 \Leftrightarrow L_1 = H_1 \Leftrightarrow J_1 = H_1 \Leftrightarrow S$  does not contain a copy of the bicyclic monoid  $B = \langle a, b \mid ab = 1 \rangle$ .

A monoid satisfying one (and hence all) of these conditions is called **Dedekind-finite**. E.g.  $\mathcal{T}_X$  is not Dedekind-finite.

### Lemma (EGMQ-GR)

*A Dedekind-finite monoid has right/left diameter 1 if and only if it is finite.*



### Problem

*Does the right diameter of  $\text{End}(\mathbb{A})$  depend only on its right units?*

- We restrict our attention to relational structures in which there is an easy way to pass from the endomorphisms to its elements.

# Reflexive structures

- Given an  $n$ -ary relation  $R$  of a set  $A$ , we define an  $R$ -**loop** to be an element  $x \in A$  with  $(x, x, \dots, x) \in R$ .
- We call  $R$  **reflexive** if each  $x \in A$  is an  $R$ -loop.
- A relational structure  $\mathbb{A}$  is called **reflexive** if each of its basic relations are reflexive.

## Lemma

*If  $\mathbb{A}$  is reflexive then the constant map  $c_x: A \rightarrow A$  ( $a \mapsto x$ ) is an endomorphism of  $\mathbb{A}$  for each  $x \in A$ . Moreover,  $\mathcal{C}_A = \{c_x : x \in A\}$  is the minimum ideal of  $\text{End}(\mathbb{A})$ .*

## Example

Posets  $(P; \leq)$ , chains, prosets, looped graphs, and bands(!) are all reflexive.

# Posets

We restrict to posets - the results extend to any reflexive structure (but with added ugliness).

## Proposition (EGMQ-GR)

*Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be a non-trivial poset. If  $S = \text{End}(\mathbb{P})$  has monogenic diagonal right act then there exists  $\alpha, \beta \in R_1$  such that their images are unrelated under  $\leq$ , i.e. there exists no  $x, y \in P$  with  $x\alpha \geq y\beta$  or  $x\alpha \leq y\beta$ .*

## Proof.

- Suppose  $x\alpha \leq y\beta$ .
- Fix any  $u, v \in P$ .
- Then  $(c_u, c_v) = (\alpha, \beta)\delta$  for some  $\delta \in S$ .
- Hence

$$u = xc_u = (x\alpha)\delta \leq (y\beta)\delta = yc_v = v.$$

- $u$  and  $v$  chosen arbitrarily, so  $P$  is trivial, a contradiction.



## Proposition

*Let  $\mathbb{P}$  be a non-trivial poset. If  $S = \text{End}(\mathbb{P})$  has monogenic diagonal right act then there exists  $\alpha, \beta \in R_1$  such that their images are unrelated under  $\leq$ ,*

## Corollary

*If  $\mathbb{P}$  is a non-trivial chain then  $\text{End}(\mathbb{P})$  does not have monogenic diagonal right act.*

## Conjecture

*Let  $\mathbb{P}$  be a poset. If  $S = \text{End}(\mathbb{P})$  has right diameter 1, then there exists right units which are “finitely related”.*

## Chains Part 2:

Finding upper-bounds

## Higher diameters: left

### Lemma (EGMQ-GR)

Let  $S = \text{End}(\mathbb{A})$  for some reflexive structure  $\mathbb{A}$ . Then  $D_\ell(S) \leq 2$ .

Proof.

For any  $x \in A$  we have  $D_\ell(S; \{(1, c_x)\}) \leq 2$ : If  $\theta, \psi \in S$  then

$$\theta = \theta \circ 1, \theta \circ c_x = c_x = \psi \circ c_x, \psi \circ 1 = \psi.$$

Succinct:

$$(\theta, c_x) = \theta(1, c_x), \psi(c_x, 1) = (c_x, \psi).$$



### Corollary

Let  $\mathbb{P}$  be an infinite chain. Then  $D_\ell(\text{End}(\mathbb{P})) = 2$ .

## Higher diameters: right

- Let  $S = \text{End}(\mathbb{A})$  for some infinite reflexive structure  $\mathbb{A}$ .
- Recall  $\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{C}_A$  is a (right zero) minimum ideal of  $S$ , and thus  $\omega = \omega_r^S|_{\mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{C}}$  is a right congruence of  $S$ .
- Let  $D_r^S(\mathcal{C})$  denote the right diameter of  $\mathcal{C}$  corresponding to  $\omega_r^S|_{\mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{C}}$ .

### Lemma (EGMQ-GR)

Let  $S = \text{End}(\mathbb{A})$  for some reflexive structure  $\mathbb{A}$  and let  $\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{C}_A$ . Then

$$D_r^S(\mathcal{C}) \leq D_r(S) \leq D_r^S(\mathcal{C}) + 2.$$

# Swapping to orbits

- Let  $S = \text{End}(\mathbb{A})$  for some reflexive  $\mathbb{A}$  and let  $\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{C}_A$ .
- Paths in  $\omega_r^S|_{\mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{C}} = \langle U \rangle$  are of the form  $c_u \delta = c_v \delta'$  ( $\delta, \delta' \in S$ ).
- But  $c_u \delta = c_v \delta'$  if and only if  $u\delta = v\delta'$ .
- Hence any  $U$ -path from  $c_x$  to  $c_y$  is equivalent to a  $\bar{U} = \{(u, v) \in A^2 : (c_u, c_v) \in U\}$ -path

$$x = u_1 \delta_1, v_1 \delta_1 = u_2 \delta_2, \dots, v_n \delta_n = y.$$

## Lemma

$D_r^S(\mathcal{C}) = 1$  if and only if there exists a finite collection  $(u_1, v_1), \dots, (u_n, v_n) \in A \times A$  such that for each  $x, y \in A$  there exists  $1 \leq i \leq n$  and  $\delta \in \text{End}(\mathbb{A})$  with  $(x, y) = (u_i, v_i)\delta$ .

We arrive at a central concept to transformation monoids:  
(2-)oligomorphicity!



# Oligomorphic transformation monoid

- Let  $S \leq \mathcal{T}_X$  be a transformation monoid.
- $S$  acts on the right of  $X^n$  by  $(x_1, \dots, x_n)\theta = (x_1\theta, \dots, x_n\theta)$ .
- We call  $(x_1, \dots, x_n)S$  an  $n$ -**orbit**.

## Definition

$S$  is called  $n$ -**oligomorphic** if it has only finitely many  $n$ -orbits. If  $S$  is  $n$ -oligomorphic for each  $n$  then  $S$  is **oligomorphic**.

- Studied extensively by P. Cameron, M. Pech, J. Nešetřil, D. Mašulović etc.
- Oligomorphic groups are central in a number of model theoretic concepts e.g.  $\omega$ -categoricity, quantifier elimination, and homogeneity.
- Oligomorphic transformation monoids give an endomorphism-dual to these concepts.

## Corollary (EGMQ-GR)

*Let  $\mathbb{A}$  be a reflexive structure. Then  $D_r^S(\mathcal{C}_A) = 1$  if and only if  $\mathbb{A}$  is 2-oligomorphic. In which case  $D_r(\text{End}(\mathbb{A})) \leq 3$ .*

# Oligomorphic transformation monoid

## Theorem (Mašulović, 2007)

*The endomorphism of a tree (and hence a chain) is oligomorphic. Not all posets have oligomorphic endomorphism monoids.*

## Lemma (EGMQ-GR)

*The endomorphism monoid of a poset is 2-oligomorphic, with at most eight 2-orbits.*

## Corollary (EGMQ-GR)

*If  $\mathbb{P}$  is a poset then  $D_r(\text{End}(\mathbb{P})) \leq 3$ . If, further,  $\mathbb{P}$  is a chain we have  $D_r(\text{End}(\mathbb{P})) \in \{2, 3\}$ .*

## Chains Part 3:

The dichotomy on the right

# Classifying chains

- Let  $C$  be a chain with minimum  $z$  and let  $S = \text{End}(C)$ .
- We call  $C$  **min-shiftable** if there exists a right unit  $\alpha \in S$  with  $z\alpha > z$ .
- Then for each  $\theta \in S$  we may construct  $\delta_\theta \in S$  such that  $\theta = \alpha\delta_\theta$  and  $z\delta_\theta = z$ .
- $(\alpha, c_z)$ -paths of length 2:

$$\theta = \alpha\delta_\theta, c_z\delta_\theta = c_z = c_z\delta_\psi, \alpha\delta_\psi = \psi.$$

## Theorem (GEM+QG)

*Let  $C$  be an infinite chain and  $S = \text{End}(C)$ . Then  $D_r(S) = 2$  if and only if  $C$  is either min-shiftable or max-shiftable. Otherwise,  $D_r(S) = 3$ .*

- $D_r(\text{End}(\mathbb{N})) = 2$ .
- $D_r(\text{End}(1 + \mathbb{Z})) = 3$ .

# The rough idea

Monogenic diagonal right act:  $\exists \alpha, \beta \in R_1$  with unrelated images (chains discounted).



$D_r(\text{End}(\mathbb{P})) = 1$ :  $\exists \alpha, b \in R_1$  with only finitely entangled images(?) (chains still discounted).



$D_r(\text{End}(\mathbb{P})) = 2$ :  $\exists \alpha \in R_1$  of a special type (chains: move min or max).



Otherwise:  $D_r(\text{End}(\mathbb{P})) = 3$ .

Thank you!