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## Regularity of Semihypergroups of Infinite Matrices

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**Abstract**: A semigroup S is a regular semigroup if for every  $x \in S, x = xyx$  for some  $y \in S$ , and a semihypergroup  $(H, \circ)$  is a regular semihypergroup if for every  $x \in H, x \in x \circ y \circ x$  for some  $y \in H$ . If S is a semigroup and P is a nonempty subset of S, we let (S, P) denote the semihypergroup  $(S, \circ)$  where  $x \circ y = xPy$  for all  $x, y \in S$ . Let **BM**(F) be the multiplicative semigroup of all bounded  $\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$ matrices over a field F where  $\mathbb{N}$  is the set of natural numbers. It is known that **BM**(F) is a regular semigroup. Our purpose is to provide necessary and sufficient conditions for a nonempty subset **P** of **BM**(F) so that (**BM**(F), **P**) is a regular semihypergroup.

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## 1 Introduction

A semigroup S is called a *regular semigroup* if for every  $x \in S, x = xyx$  for some  $y \in S$ .

By a hyperoperation on a nonempty set H is a function  $\circ$  from  $H \times H$  into  $P(H) \setminus \{\emptyset\}$  where P(H) is the power set of H, and  $(H, \circ)$  is called a hypergroupoid. For  $A, B \subseteq H$ , let  $A \circ B = \bigcup_{\substack{a \in A \\ b \in B}} a \circ b$ . A hypergroupoid  $(H, \circ)$  is called a semihyper-

group if  $x \circ (y \circ z) = (x \circ y) \circ z$  for all  $x, y, z \in H$ . A hypergroup is a semihypergroup  $(H, \circ)$  satisfying the condition  $H \circ x = x \circ H = H$  for all  $x \in H$ . We call a semihypergroup  $(H, \circ)$  a regular semihypergroup if for every  $x \in H, x \in x \circ y \circ x$  for some  $y \in H$ . Hence every regular semigroup is a regular semihypergroup. Notice that if  $(H, \circ)$  is a hypergroup, then for every  $x \in H, x \circ H \circ x = H$ . This implies that every hypergroup is a regular semihypergroup.

Let S be a semigroup, P a nonempty subset of S and  $\circ$  the hyperoperation on S defined by  $x \circ y = xPy$  for all  $x, y \in S$ . Then  $(S, \circ)$  is a semihypergroup ([2], page 11) and  $(S, \circ)$  will be denoted by (S, P). We note here that if S is a group, then (S, P) is a hypergroup, so it is a regular semihypergroup.

Let  $\mathbb{N}$  be the set of natural numbers (positive integers) and F a field. For

 $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $\mathbf{M}_n(F)$  be the multiplicative semigroup of all  $n \times n$  matrices over F. It is well-known that  $\mathbf{M}_n(F)$  is a regular semigroup ([3], page 114) with identity  $I_n$  where  $I_n$  is the identity  $n \times n$  matrix over F.

By an  $\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$  matrix over F we mean an infinite matrix over F of the form

| $a_{11}$ | $a_{12}$ | $a_{13}$ |   |
|----------|----------|----------|---|
| $a_{21}$ | $a_{22}$ | $a_{23}$ |   |
| $a_{31}$ | $a_{32}$ | $a_{33}$ |   |
|          | :        |          |   |
| L        | •        |          | _ |

and let  $\mathbf{M}(F)$  be the set of all  $\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$  matrices over F. We give a remark that associativity (AB)C = A(BC) can fail for  $A, B, C \in \mathbf{M}(F)$  even when all products concerned make sense. The following example was given in [1]. Define  $A, B, C \in \mathbf{M}(F)$  by

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & \dots \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \end{bmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 & \dots \\ \vdots & & \vdots & & & & \end{bmatrix}$$
$$C = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots \\ -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots \\ -1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & \dots \\ -1 & -1 & -1 & 0 & \dots \\ \vdots & & & \vdots & & & \end{bmatrix}.$$

Then AB = BC = I, the identity  $\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$  matrix over F. Thus  $(AB)C = C \neq A = A(BC)$ .

For a matrix A in  $\mathbf{M}_n(F)$  or  $\mathbf{M}(F)$ , the entry of A in the  $i^{\underline{th}}$  row and the  $j^{\underline{th}}$  column will be denoted by  $A_{ij}$ . A matrix  $A \in \mathbf{M}(F)$  is called *bounded* if there is a positive integer N such that  $A_{ij} = 0$  for i > N or j > N(see [4]). Denote by  $\mathbf{BM}(F)$  the set of all bounded matrices in  $\mathbf{M}(F)$ . Then  $\mathbf{BM}(F)$  is a semigroup under matrix multiplication. For each  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $I(k) \in \mathbf{BM}(F)$  be such that

$$(I(k))_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i = j \in \{1, \dots, k\}, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Then for all  $k, l \in \mathbb{N}$ , I(k)I(l) = I(l)I(k) = I(k) if  $k \leq l$ . It is clear that if  $A \in \mathbf{BM}(F)$ and  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  are such that  $A_{ij} = 0$  for i > N or j > N, then I(k)A = AI(k) = Afor every  $k \geq N$ . It follows that  $\mathbf{BM}(F)$  is a semigroup without identity. We have from [4] that  $\mathbf{BM}(F)$  is also a regular semigroup. Hence  $\mathbf{BM}(F)$  is a regular semigroup without identity. For  $A \in \mathbf{BM}(F)$  and  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , A is called k-right [kleft] invertible if AB = I(k) [BA = I(k)] for some  $B \in \mathbf{BM}(F)$ , and B is called a k-right [k-left] inverse of A in  $\mathbf{BM}(F)$ . We observe that if  $A \in \mathbf{BM}(F)$  has a *k*-right [*k*-left] inverse in **BM**(*F*), then *A* has an infinitely many *k*-right [*k*-left] inverses in **BM**(*F*). Let *B* be a *k*-right [*k*-left] inverse of *A* and  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $A_{ij} = 0 = B_{ij}$  for i > N or j > N. Then  $B_{ii} = 0$  for all i > N. For t > N, define  $B^{(t)} \in \mathbf{BM}(F)$  by

$$B_{ij}^{(t)} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i = j = t, \\ B_{ij} & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

It is clear that  $B^{(t)} \neq B^{(r)}$  for all distinct t, r greater than N and  $AB^{(t)} = AB = I(k) [B^{(t)}A = BA = I(k)]$  for all t > N.

Our purpose is to provide the following facts.

- (1) For  $\emptyset \neq \mathbf{P} \subseteq \mathbf{M}_n(F)$ , the semihypergroup  $(\mathbf{M}_n(F), \mathbf{P})$  is regular if and only if  $\mathbf{P}$  contains an invertible matrix in  $\mathbf{M}_n(F)$ .
- (2) For  $\emptyset \neq \mathbf{P} \subseteq \mathbf{BM}(F)$ , the semihypergroup  $(\mathbf{BM}(F), \mathbf{P})$  is regular if and only if for every  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , there are elements  $A, B \in \mathbf{P}$  such that I(k)A and BI(k) are k-right invertible and k-left invertible in  $\mathbf{BM}(F)$ , respectively.

## 2 Main Results

In the remainder, F denotes any field. Recall that for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $A, B \in \mathbf{M}_n(F)$ ,  $AB = I_n$  implies that  $BA = I_n$ .

**Theorem 2.1.** Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $\mathbf{P}$  a nonempty subset of  $\mathbf{M}_n(F)$ . Then the semihypergroup  $(\mathbf{M}_n(F), \mathbf{P})$  is regular if and only if  $\mathbf{P}$  contains an invertible matrix in  $\mathbf{M}_n(F)$ .

*Proof.* Assume that  $(\mathbf{M}_n(F), \mathbf{P})$  is a regular semihypergroup. Then  $I_n \in I_n \mathbf{P}C\mathbf{P}I_n$  for some  $C \in \mathbf{M}_n(F)$ . Thus  $I_n \in \mathbf{P}C\mathbf{P}$  which implies that  $I_n = ACB$  for some  $A, B \in \mathbf{P}$ , that is,  $A(CB) = I_n$ . Hence A is invertible in  $\mathbf{M}_n(F)$ .

For the converse, let **P** has an invertible matrix in  $\mathbf{M}_n(F)$ , say A. To show that  $(\mathbf{M}_n(F), \mathbf{P})$  is a regular semihypergroup, let  $B \in \mathbf{M}_n(F)$ . Since  $\mathbf{M}_n(F)$  is a regular semigroup, B = BCB for some  $C \in \mathbf{M}_n(F)$ . Consequently,

$$B = BAA^{-1}CA^{-1}AB = BA(A^{-1}CA^{-1})AB \in B\mathbf{P}(A^{-1}CA^{-1})\mathbf{P}B.$$

**Theorem 2.2.** For  $\emptyset \neq \mathbf{P} \subseteq \mathbf{BM}(F)$ , the semihypergroup  $(\mathbf{BM}(F), \mathbf{P})$  is regular if and only if for every  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , there are  $A, B \in \mathbf{P}$  such that I(k)A is k-right invertible and BI(k) is k-left invertible in  $\mathbf{BM}(F)$ .

*Proof.* First, assume that  $(\mathbf{BM}(F), \mathbf{P})$  is a regular semihypergroup and let  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then  $I(k) \in I(k)\mathbf{P}C\mathbf{P}I(k)$  for some  $C \in \mathbf{BM}(F)$ . Thus I(k) = I(k)ACBI(k) for some  $A, B \in \mathbf{P}$ . This implies that I(k)A is k-right invertible and BI(k) is k-left invertible. For the converse, assume that for every  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , there are  $A, B \in \mathbf{P}$  such that I(k)A and BI(k) are k-right invertible and k-left invertible in  $\mathbf{BM}(F)$ , respectively. To prove that  $(\mathbf{BM}(F), \mathbf{P})$  is a regular semihypergroup, let  $C \in \mathbf{BM}(F)$ . Since  $\mathbf{BM}(F)$  is a regular semigroup, C = CDC for some  $D \in \mathbf{BM}(F)$ . Let  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  be such that  $C_{ij} = 0$  if i > N or j > N. Then I(N)C = CI(N) = C. It follows that C = CI(N)DI(N)C. By assumption, there are  $E, F \in \mathbf{P}$  such that I(N)E is N-right invertible and FI(N) is N-left invertible in  $\mathbf{BM}(F)$ . Then I(N)EK = I(N) and LFI(N) = I(N) for some  $K, L \in \mathbf{BM}(F)$ . Consequently,

$$C = CI(N)DI(N)C = CI(N)EKDLFI(N)C$$
  
=  $CE(KDL)FC \in C\mathbf{P}(KDL)\mathbf{P}C.$ 

Hence the theorem is proved.

**Remark 2.3.** For  $k \in \{1, \ldots, n\}$ , let  $I_k \in \mathbf{M}_n(F)$  be such that

$$(I_k)_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i = j \le k, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Then  $I_k I_n = I_n I_k = I_k$  for all  $k \in \{1, ..., n\}$ . For  $k \in \{1, ..., n\}$ , k-right [k-left] invertible matrices in  $\mathbf{M}_n(F)$  are defined analogously as in  $\mathbf{BM}(F)$ . If  $A, B \in$  $\mathbf{M}_n(F)$  are such that  $AB = BA = I_n$ , then for every  $k \in \{1, ..., n\}$ ,  $I_k = (I_k A)B = B(AI_k)$ . Hence to be analogous to Theorem 2.2, Theorem 2.1 can be restated as follows : For  $\emptyset \neq \mathbf{P} \subseteq \mathbf{M}_n(F)$ , the semihypergroup  $(\mathbf{M}_n(F), \mathbf{P})$  is regular if and only if for every  $k \in \{1, ..., n\}$ , there is a matrix  $A \in \mathbf{P}$  such that  $I_k A$  is k-right invertible and  $AI_k$  is k-left invertible in  $\mathbf{M}_n(F)$ .

**Example 2.4.** It is clear that if  $\mathbf{P} = \{ I(k) \mid k \in \mathbb{N} \}$ , then by Theorem 2.2,  $(\mathbf{BM}(F), \mathbf{P})$  is a regular semihypergroup.

Next, define  $A_k, B_k \in \mathbf{M}(F)$  for  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , by

$$A_1 = B_1 = I(1),$$

$$A_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & & & \end{bmatrix}, A_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots \\ \vdots & & & & & \end{bmatrix}, \dots$$

$$B_{2} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \end{bmatrix}, \quad B_{3} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & & \end{bmatrix}, \quad \dots$$

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Then  $A_1B_1 = I(1) = B_1A_1, A_2B_2 = I(2) = B_2A_2, A_3B_3 = I(3) = B_3A_3, \dots$  It follows that  $(I(k)A_k)(B_kI(k)) = (I(k)B_k)(A_kI(k)) = I(k)$  for all  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ . Hence by Theorem 2.2, if

$$\mathbf{P}_1 = \{A_k \mid k \in \mathbb{N}\} \text{ and } \mathbf{P}_2 = \{B_k \mid k \in \mathbb{N}\},\$$

then both  $(\mathbf{BM}(F), \mathbf{P}_1)$  and  $(\mathbf{BM}(F), \mathbf{P}_2)$  are regular semihypergroups.

**Remark 2.5.** For  $\emptyset \neq \mathbf{P} \subseteq \mathbf{BM}(F)$ , if  $(\mathbf{BM}(F), \mathbf{P})$  is a regular semihypergroup, then  $\mathbf{P}$  must be an infinite set. To show this, suppose that  $\mathbf{P}$  is finite. Then there is a positive integer N such that  $A_{ij} = 0$  for all  $A \in \mathbf{P}$  and i > N or j > N. Let k > N and  $B \in \mathbf{BM}(F)$  be such that  $I(k) \in I(k)\mathbf{P}B\mathbf{P}I(k)$ . Then I(k) = I(k)CBDI(k) for some  $C, D \in \mathbf{P}$ . By the property of N, I(k)C = C and DI(k) = D. Thus I(k) = CBD. Since  $D_{ik} = 0$  for all  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ , it follows that  $(CBD)_{kk} = \sum_{i \in \mathbb{N}} (CB)_{ki}D_{ik} = 0$ . It is a contradiction since  $(I(k))_{kk} = 1$ .

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