

# On the computability of the abelian kernel of an inverse semigroup

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**2021 Zassenhaus Groups and Friends Conference**  
28th May of 2021

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2 Computing the abelian kernel of an inverse semigroup

3 Applications: the problem of computing proabelian closures

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# Background: Rhodes' Type II Conjecture

*Kernel of a semigroup  $S$* : The set of all elements that relate to 1 under every relational morphism from  $S$  to a group.

Rhodes and Tilson's seminal paper (1972): A lower bound for the complexity of a semigroup by means of kernels of semigroup.

The kernel of a regular semigroup is its smallest subsemigroup closed under weak conjugation.

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## Rhodes' Type II Conjecture

**Strong form:** The kernel of every semigroup is the smallest subsemigroup closed under weak conjugation.

**Weak form:** The kernel of every semigroup is computable

# Background: Type II Theorem

Ash's proof (1991): Structural proof using inevitable graphs where inverse semigroups play an important role.

Ribes and Zaleskiĭ's proof (1993): Translation of the problem to profinite topology by Pin and Reutenauer.

- ▶ C. J. Ash, *Inevitable graphs: a proof of the type II conjecture and some related decision procedures*, Int. J. Algebra Comput., 1 (1991), 127–146.
- ▶ L. Ribes and P. Zaleskiĭ, *On the profinite topology on a free group*, Bull. London Math. Soc., 25 (1993), 37–43.



# Background: Generalised kernels

The  $\mathfrak{F}$ -kernel of a semigroup  $S$ ,  $K_{\mathfrak{F}}(S)$ : The set of all elements that relate to 1 under every relational morphism from  $S$  to a group  $G \in \mathfrak{F}$ .

$\mathfrak{F} = \mathfrak{G}$ , then  $K_{\mathfrak{F}}(S) = K(S)$ .

The generalised Rhodes' Type II Conjecture: Given a variety of groups  $\mathfrak{F}$ ,  $K_{\mathfrak{F}}(S)$  is computable.

- The computability of Mal'cev products of the form  $\mathbb{V} \circledast \mathfrak{F}$ .
- For  $\mathfrak{F}$  extension-closed: the computability of the closure of a finitely generated subgroup in the pro- $\mathfrak{F}$  topology of a free group.
- $\mathfrak{F}$ : soluble groups or groups of odd order. Model Theory and logical descriptions of formal languages.

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- Variety of all abelian groups (Delgado, 1998) or every variety of abelian groups with decidable membership (Steinberg, 1999)
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  - ▶ B. Steinberg, *Monoid kernels and profinite topologies on the free abelian group*, Bull. Austral. Math. Soc., 60 (1999), 391–402.



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- Variety of all nilpotent groups (Almeida, Shahzamanian and Steinberg, 2017)
  - ▶ J. Ameida and H. Shahzamanian and B.Steinberg, *The pro-nilpotent group topology on a free group*, J. Algebra, 480 (2017), 332–345.

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## Basis of the proof

Reduce the calculation of the abelian kernel to the calculation of the closure of certain subsets of the free commutative monoid and then test if 0 belongs to this closure.

Our approach consists on:

- Characterise how relational morphisms between inverse semigroups and abelian groups are.
- Describe the elements of a  $\mathcal{J}$ -class of an inverse semigroups which are in the abelian kernel.
- In addition, a family of finite abelian groups which provide the abelian kernel is also described.

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# The abelian kernel of an inverse semigroup

*Let  $\mathfrak{F}$  be a variety of groups and  $S$  an inverse semigroup.*

$K_{\mathfrak{F}}(S)$  is computable if, and only if,  $K_{\mathfrak{F}}(S) \cap J$  is computable, for every  $\mathcal{J}$ -class  $J$  of  $S$ .



# Abelian kernel: Starting point

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Given  $J = J_s$  a  $\mathcal{J}$ -class of  $S$ , take

$$X_J = \{t \in S : s \leq_{\mathcal{J}} t\}$$

$S \setminus X_J$  is an ideal of  $S$ . Then,  $S_J := S/(S \setminus X_J)$  is an inverse semigroup with a unique 0-minimal  $\mathcal{J}$ -class,  $J$ .

$$K_{\mathfrak{F}}(S) \cap J = K_{\mathfrak{F}}(S_J) \cap J$$

As a consequence:

$K_{\mathfrak{F}}(S) \cap J$  is computable, for every  $\mathcal{J}$ -class  $J$  of  $S$  if, and only if,  $K_{\mathfrak{F}}(\bar{S}) \cap \bar{J}$  is computable, for every inverse semigroup  $\bar{S}$  with a unique 0-minimal  $\mathcal{J}$ -class,  $\bar{J}$ .

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# Abelian kernel: Minimal pairs

- Let  $S$  be an inverse semigroup with a unique 0-minimal  $\mathcal{J}$ -class  $J$ . Then,  $J^0$  is a Brandt semigroup.
- We can consider  $J^0 = \mathcal{M}^0(G, \Lambda, \Lambda, I_\Lambda)$ , with  $G$  a group and  $\Lambda$  a set of indices

$$J^0 = \{(i, g, j) : i, j \in \Lambda, g \in G\} \cup \{0\}$$

with the product

$$(i, g, j) \cdot (i', g', j') = \begin{cases} (i, gg', j'), & j = i' \\ 0, & j' \neq i \end{cases}$$

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- Let  $\mathcal{U}_\Lambda(G)$  be the inverse semigroup of  $\Lambda \times \Lambda$  matrices which have at most one non-zero entry in  $G$  for each row and column. It holds  $\mathcal{U}_\Lambda(G)$  has a unique 0-minimal  $\mathcal{J}$ -class

$$\bar{J} = \{M_{(i,g,j)} : i, j \in \Lambda, g \in G\}$$

such that  $J^0$  and  $\bar{J}^0$  are isomorphic.

- Then, we define a homomorphism  $\phi_S: S \rightarrow \mathcal{U}_\Lambda(G)$ . For every  $s \in S$ , take  $M_s = \varphi_S(s)$ . Whenever  $M_s(i, j) = g$ , we say that  $(i, g, j)$  is a *projection of  $s$  onto  $J$* . We call  $M_s$  the *matrix of projections of  $s$  onto  $J$* .

## Definition

Let  $S$  be an inverse semigroup with a 0-minimal  $\mathcal{J}$ -class  $J$  isomorphic to  $\mathcal{M}^0(G, \Lambda, \Lambda, I_\Lambda)$ . We say that  $(S, J)$  is a *minimal pair* if  $\varphi_S$  is a monomorphism, i.e. for every  $s, t \in S$ ,  $M_s = M_t$  implies  $s = t$ .

## Proposition

*The computation of  $K_{\mathfrak{F}}(S) \cap J$  can be reduced to the case of minimal pairs  $(S, J)$ .*

## Theorem

*The  $\mathfrak{F}$ -kernel of every inverse semigroup is computable if, and only if, the  $\mathfrak{F}$ -kernel of every minimal pair with all maximal subgroups in  $\mathfrak{F}$  is computable.*



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As a consequence:  *$S$  is an inverse semigroup with a unique 0-minimal  $\mathcal{J}$ -class  $J$ , such that every maximal subgroup in  $S$  is abelian.*

In particular, we can assume  $J^0 = \mathcal{M}^0(G, \Lambda, \Lambda, I_\Lambda)$ , where  $G$  is an abelian group.

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## Key Lemma

Let  $\tau: S \rightarrow A$ , with  $A \in \mathfrak{Ab}$ . Then, the following statements hold:

- 1 For every  $i, j \in \Lambda$ ,  $\tau(i, 1, i) = \tau(j, 1, j) =: H \trianglelefteq A$ . Then, for every  $(i, g, j) \in J$ ,  $\tau(i, g, j) = x + H$ , for each  $x \in \tau(i, g, j)$ .
- 2 For every  $0 \neq s \in S$ , the equality  $\tau(i, g, j) = \tau(i', g', j')$  holds for all  $M_s(i, j) = g \neq 0$ ,  $M_s(i', j') = g' \neq 0$ .
- 3 There exists  $\bar{\tau}: S \rightarrow A/H$  such that  $|\bar{\tau}(s)| = 1$ , for every  $0 \neq s$ , and  $\bar{\tau}^{-1}(H) \cap J = \tau^{-1}(0) \cap J$ .

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## Consequences

For every minimal pair  $(S, J)$ , there exists a relational morphism  $\tau: S \dashrightarrow A \in \mathfrak{Ab}$  such that:

- $\tau^{-1}(0) \cap J = K_{\mathfrak{Ab}}(S) \cap J$ .
- for every  $0 \neq s \in S$ ,  $|\tau(s)| = 1$  and  $\tau(s) = \tau(i, g, j)$ , for each non-zero entry  $M_s(i, j) = g$  of the matrix of projections  $M_s$ .
- for every  $s, t \in S$  with  $0 \neq st$  the equality  $\tau(st) = \tau(s) + \tau(t)$  holds.



## Theorem

Let  $(S, J)$  be a minimal pair with  $J^0 = \mathcal{M}^0(G, \Lambda, \Lambda, I_\Lambda)$ . Let  $A := F_{ab, \Lambda} \oplus G$  be the infinite abelian group, where  $F_{ab, \Lambda}$  is the free abelian group over the alphabet  $\Lambda$ . Then

$$K_{\text{ab}}(S) \cap J = \{(i, g, j) : (-i + j, g) \in N\},$$

where  $N = \langle N_s : 0 \neq s \in S \rangle \trianglelefteq F_{ab, X} \oplus G$  with

$$N_s := \{(-i + j, g_1) - (-i' + j', g_2) : M_s(i, j) = g_1, M_s(i', j') = g_2\},$$

for every  $0 \neq s \in S$ .

## Remarks of the proof

- 1 The proof is constructive.
- 2 Although the quotient  $A/N$  could be not finite, in the first part of the proof, we see that every punctual relational morphism  $\tau: S \dashrightarrow B$ , which provides the abelian kernel, satisfies that  $B$  is isomorphic to a quotient of  $A/N$ .
- 3 In the second part of the proof we construct a family of abelian finite groups, which are quotient of  $A/N$ , and such that we can construct a relational morphism providing the abelian kernel.

- ④ In particular, depending on  $S$  it is possible to define a normal subgroup  $\bar{N}$  such that  $N \leq \bar{N} \trianglelefteq A$ ,  $A/\bar{N}$  is finite and we construct  $\tau: S \rightarrow A/\bar{N}$  satisfying

$$\tau^{-1}(0) \cap J = K_{\text{Ab}}(S) \cap J = \{(i, g, j) : (-i + j, g) \in N\}$$

# Applications

- Finitely generated subgroups of a free group  $F_X$  over an alphabet  $X$  and the proabelian topology
  - ① Problem of extending partial injective maps into permutations that generate an abelian group (equivalent to compute the least extendible finitely generated subgroup)
  - ② Problem of computing the proabelian closure

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  - 1 Problem of extending partial injective maps into permutations that generate an abelian group (equivalent to compute the least extendible finitely generated subgroup)
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Let  $X$  be an alphabet and let  $H$  be a finitely generated subgroup of the free group  $F_X$ .

- There exists an inverse automaton associated with  $H$ ,  $\mathcal{A}(H)$ .
- Let  $M(H)$  be the transition monoid of  $\mathcal{A}(H)$  given by the transition morphism  $\mu: \tilde{X}^* \rightarrow M(H)$ , where  $\tilde{X}^*$  is the free inverse monoid over  $X$ .
- $M(H)$  is the inverse monoid of the partial injective maps over the vertices of  $\mathcal{A}(H)$ .

### Proposition

$M(H)$  has a unique 0-minimal  $\mathcal{J}$ -class  $J$  such that  $(M(H), J)$  is a minimal pair.



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- Let  $M(H)$  be the transition monoid of  $\mathcal{A}(H)$  given by the transition morphism  $\mu: \tilde{X}^* \rightarrow M(H)$ , where  $\tilde{X}^*$  is the free inverse monoid over  $X$ .
- $M(H)$  is the inverse monoid of the partial injective maps over the vertices of  $\mathcal{A}(H)$ .

### Proposition

$M(H)$  has a unique 0-minimal  $\mathcal{J}$ -class  $J$  such that  $(M(H), J)$  is a minimal pair.

Call  $\sim$  the least automaton congruence such that  $\mathcal{A}(H)/\sim$  is extendible into a complete inverse automaton.

### Proposition

The automaton congruence is given by  $v \sim v'$  if, and only if, there exists  $m \in K_{\text{ab}}(M(H)) \cap J$  such that  $v \cdot m = v'$ .

Solution of Problem 1 is given by our main theorem. Moreover, it also gives an abelian group which can extend such partial injective maps.

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- 2 Problem of computing the proabelian closure of a finitely generated subgroup of a free group
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- Let  $A = F_{ab, \Lambda} \oplus G/G'$ , where  $J^0 \cong \mathcal{M}^0(G, \Lambda, \Lambda, I_\Lambda)$ . Let  $N = \langle N_s : s \in M(H) \rangle \trianglelefteq A$ , where

$$N_s = \{(-i+j, gG') - (-i'+j', g'G') : M_s(i, j) = g M_s(i', j') = g'\}$$

- We are able to construct  $\bar{f}: F_X \rightarrow A/N$  which gives the following result.

### Theorem

The proabelian closure of  $H$  is  $\ker \bar{f}$ . Moreover,  $\text{Cl}(H)$  is finitely generated if, and only if,  $A/N$  is finite.



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