

A certain lattice of quasivarieties

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SandGAL 2019

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In the early 1980s, Mark Sapir determined which locally finite varieties have a finite number of subquasivarieties. This talk grew out of an analysis of parts of his proof.

Definition

A finite semigroup is called **quasicritical** if it is **not** in the quasivariety generated by its proper subsemigroups.

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Examples:

- Any 2-element semigroup is quasicritical.
- A finite Abelian group is quasicritical if and only if it is a cyclic group of prime-power order.
- The only quasicritical semilattice is the 2-element semilattice **I**.

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Let \mathcal{Q} be a locally finite quasivariety, and let $\mathcal{K} \in L_q(\mathcal{Q})$. Then $\mathcal{K} = \mathbb{Q}(U)$ for some set U of quasicriticals in \mathcal{Q} .

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Theorem

If \mathcal{Q} is a locally finite quasivariety, then $L_q(\mathcal{Q})$ is finite if and only if \mathcal{Q} contains finitely many quasicriticals up to isomorphism.

\cdot	a	b
a	a	b
b	a	b

R

\cdot	e	u	0
e	e	u	0
u	0	0	0
0	0	0	0

P

\cdot	a	b
a	a	b
b	a	b

R

\cdot	e	u	0
e	e	u	0
u	0	0	0
0	0	0	0

P

The dual semigroups of **R** and **P** are denoted **L** and **Q**, respectively.

\cdot	a	b
a	a	b
b	a	b

R

\cdot	e	u	0
e	e	u	0
u	0	0	0
0	0	0	0

P

The dual semigroups of **R** and **P** are denoted **L** and **Q**, respectively.

We also write **I** for the 2-element semilattice, and **N** for the 2-element null semigroup.

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Conjecture (my motivation)

Let \mathbf{S} be a finite aperiodic semigroup. The following are equivalent:

- (i) \mathbf{S} dualisable;
- (ii) $\mathbf{S} \in \mathbb{V}(\mathbf{L}, \mathbf{R}, \mathbf{I}, \mathbf{N}) \cup \mathbb{V}(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{P}) \cup \mathbb{V}(\mathbf{L}, \mathbf{Q})$.

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So far, I have completed the proof of (ii) \implies (i), with one more case needed for the converse. A key component of the proof of (ii) \implies (i) was an explicit description of the subquasivariety lattices of $\mathbb{V}(\mathbf{L}, \mathbf{R}, \mathbf{I}, \mathbf{N})$ and $\mathbb{V}(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{P})$.

The description of $L_q(\mathbb{V}(\mathbf{L}, \mathbf{R}, \mathbf{I}, \mathbf{N}))$ turned out to be straightforward. But $L_q(\mathbb{V}(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{P}))$ was unexpectedly interesting; this will be the focus of our talk.

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Lemma (Sapir)

Up to isomorphism, the only quasicriticals in $\mathbb{V}(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{P})$ are \mathbf{R} , \mathbf{R}^0 , \mathbf{I} , \mathbf{N} , and \mathbf{P} .

Definition

Let \mathbf{A} be a (partially) ordered set. A **down-set** of \mathbf{A} is a subset U of A that is decreasing; that is, $y \leq x \in U \implies y \in U$.

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- Let us order the quasicriticals $\{\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{R}^0, \mathbf{I}, \mathbf{N}, \mathbf{P}\}$ by embedding (i.e., $\mathbf{S} \leq \mathbf{T}$ if \mathbf{S} embeds into \mathbf{T}).

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- Then every subquasivariety is generated by a down-set of this ordered set.
- This is simply because a quasivariety is closed under forming subsemigroups.

\cdot	e	u	0
e	e	u	0
u	0	0	0
0	0	0	0

P

\cdot	a	b	0
a	a	b	0
b	a	b	0
0	0	0	0

R⁰

\cdot	0	1
0	0	0
1	0	1

I

\cdot	0	\emptyset
0	0	0
\emptyset	0	0

N

\cdot	e	u	0
e	e	u	0
u	0	0	0
0	0	0	0

P

\cdot	a	b	0
a	a	b	0
b	a	b	0
0	0	0	0

R⁰

\cdot	0	1
0	0	0
1	0	1

I

\cdot	0	\emptyset
0	0	0
\emptyset	0	0

N

Ordering the quasicriticals by embedding:

\cdot	e	u	0
e	e	u	0
u	0	0	0
0	0	0	0

P

\cdot	a	b	0
a	a	b	0
b	a	b	0
0	0	0	0

R⁰

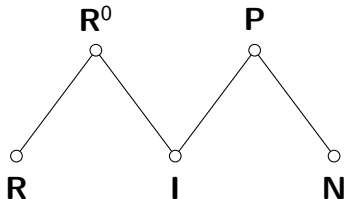
\cdot	0	1
0	0	0
1	0	1

I

\cdot	0	\emptyset
0	0	0
\emptyset	0	0

N

Ordering the quasicriticals by embedding:



·	e	u	0
e	e	u	0
u	0	0	0
0	0	0	0

P

·	a	b	0
a	a	b	0
b	a	b	0
0	0	0	0

R⁰

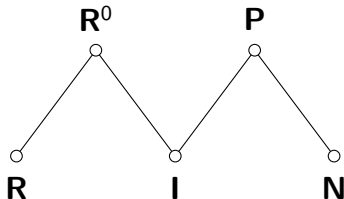
·	0	1
0	0	0
1	0	1

I

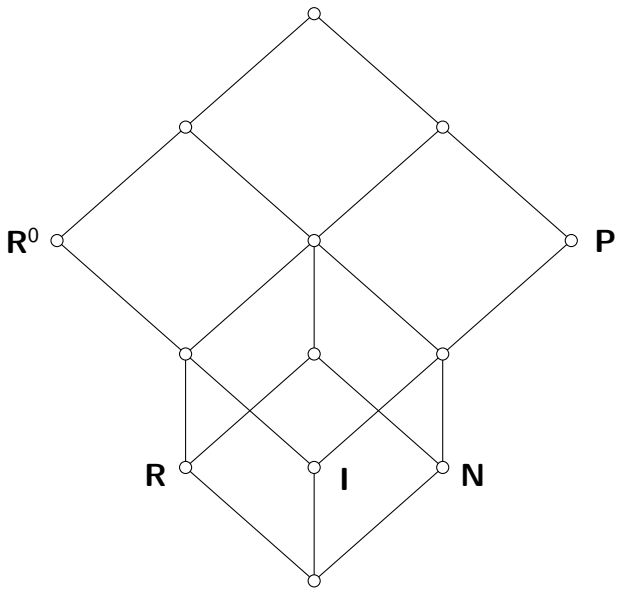
·	0	∅
0	0	0
∅	0	0

N

Ordering the quasicriticals by embedding:



Example: $\mathbb{Q}(\mathbf{R}^0, \mathbf{N})$ may also be generated by $\{\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{R}^0, \mathbf{I}, \mathbf{N}\}$.



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Definition

We denote by \mathbf{C} the 4-element semigroup below.

\cdot	e	u	a	b
e	e	u	a	b
u	a	b	a	b
a	a	b	a	b
b	a	b	a	b

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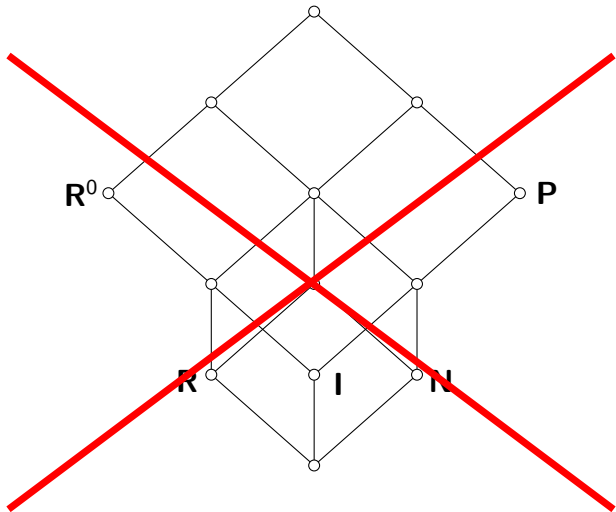
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u	a	b	a	b
a	a	b	a	b
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Proposition (\mathbf{C} = 'Counterexample')

\mathbf{C} is a quasicritical semigroup in $\mathbb{V}(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{P})$.



$L_q(\mathbb{V}(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{P}))$

Well, maybe **C** is the only other quasicritical...

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Proposition (no, it isn't)

\mathbf{C}^0 is a quasicritical semigroup in $\mathbb{V}(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{P})$.

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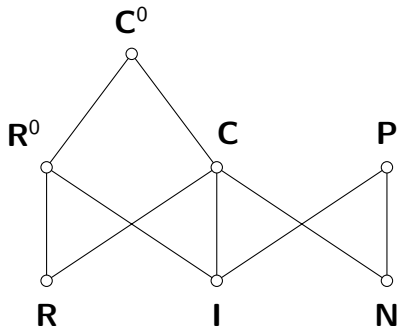
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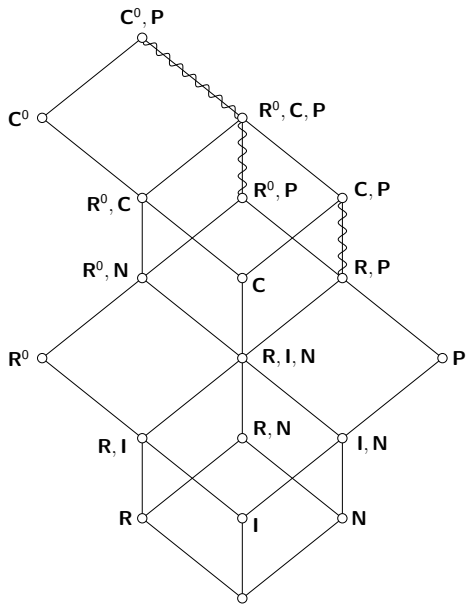
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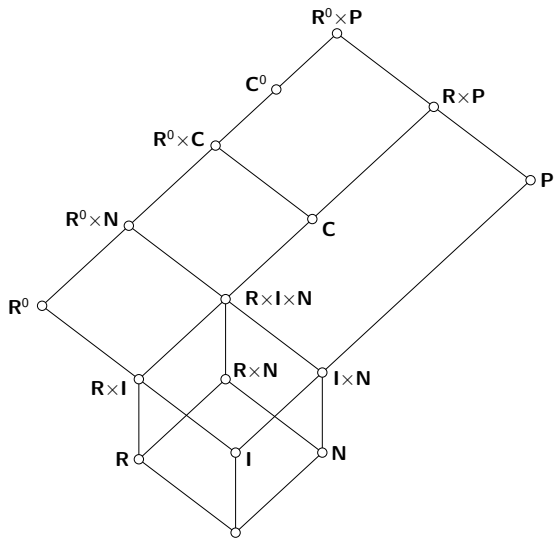
Eventually, we obtained:

Theorem (Koussas)

Up to isomorphism, the only quasicriticals in $\mathbb{V}(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{P})$ are \mathbf{R} , \mathbf{R}^0 , \mathbf{I} , \mathbf{N} , \mathbf{P} , \mathbf{C} , and \mathbf{C}^0 .







$L_q(V(R, P))$

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- The aperiodic case was surprisingly difficult, so the general case involving groups could turn out to be very difficult.
- For now, I will (hopefully) publish the results of this talk.

Grazie!