On literal varieties of languages

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Let $L \subseteq A^*$ be a regular language. We define the following relations on A^* and $A^{\Box} =$ all finite subsets of A^* , respectively : for $u, v, u_1, \ldots, u_k, v_1, \ldots, v_\ell \in A^*$,

 $u \sim_L v$ if and only if $(\forall x, y \in A^*)(xuy \in L \Leftrightarrow xvy \in L)$,

 $\{u_1,\ldots,u_k\} \, pprox_L \, \{v_1,\ldots,v_\ell\}$ if and only if

 $(\forall x, y \in A^*)(xu_1y, \ldots, xu_ky \in L \Leftrightarrow xv_1y, \ldots, xv_\ell y \in L).$

The quotient structures

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$$(O(L), \cdot) = (A^*, \cdot) / \sim_L$$
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The assignments

 $\phi_L : u \mapsto u \sim_L$ and $\psi_L : \{u_1, \dots, u_k\} \mapsto \{u_1, \dots, u_k\} \approx_L$

are called syntactic monoid/semiring homomorphisms. The monoid $(O(L), \cdot)$ is ordered by the relation $v \sim_L \leq u \sim_L$ iff $(\forall x, y \in A^*) (xuy \in L \Rightarrow xvy \in L)$. The assignments

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(i) (Eilenberg) Boolean varieties of languages correspond to pseudovarieties of finite monoids. Here L → syntactic monoid of L.
(ii) (Ésik & Co., Straubing) Literal boolean varieties of languages correspond to literal pseudovarieties of homomorphisms from finitely generated free monoids onto finite monoids. Here L → syntactic homomorphism of L.

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"Varieties" of languages

A class of (regular) languages is an operator \mathscr{V} assigning to each finite set A a set $\mathscr{V}(A)$ of regular languages over the alphabet A. Such a class is a positive variety if

- (0) for each A, we have \emptyset , $A^* \in \mathscr{V}(A)$,
- (i) each $\mathscr{V}(A)$ is closed with respect to finite unions, finite intersections and quotients, and
- (ii) for each finite sets A and B and a homomorphism
 - $f: B^* \to A^*, \ K \in \mathscr{V}(A) \text{ implies } f^{-1}(K) \in \mathscr{V}(B).$

Adding the condition

(iii) each $\mathcal{V}(A)$ is closed with respect to complements,

we get a boolean variety.

A modification of (ii) to

(iii) for each finite sets *A* and *B* and a homomorphism $f : B^* \to A^*$ with $f(B) \subseteq A, \ K \in \mathscr{V}(A)$ implies $f^{-1}(K) \in \mathscr{V}(B)$

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Let **V** be a variety of algebras of a fixed signature. Let W_A be the free **V**-algebra over the set *A*. We consider a category C of free **V**-algebras, that is, the objects are all W_A 's for sets *A*, and the homsets $C(W_B, W_A)$ consist of certain homomorphisms from W_B into W_A .

Basic example :

V = all monoids, $W_A = A^*$, $\rho \in C_{\text{lit}}(B^*, A^*)$ iff, for each $b \in B$, $\rho(b) \in A$ - literal homomorphisms.

Let

$$\mathfrak{V} = \{ \phi : W_A \twoheadrightarrow S \mid A \text{ is a set and } S \in V \}$$

be the class of all surjective homomorphisms from free V-algebras onto V-algebras; we speak about V-homomorphisms.

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$$H\mathfrak{U} = \{ \, \sigma\phi : W_A \twoheadrightarrow T \mid$$
$$T \in \mathbf{V}, \ (\phi : W_A \twoheadrightarrow S) \in \mathfrak{U}, \ \sigma : S \twoheadrightarrow T \text{ a surj. homom.} \},$$

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$$\begin{split} \mathsf{P}\,\mathfrak{U} &= \{\,(\phi_{\gamma})_{\gamma\in\Gamma}: W_{A} \twoheadrightarrow \mathsf{im}((\phi_{\gamma})_{\gamma\in\Gamma}) \mid \\ \mathcal{A}, \Gamma \text{ sets}, \; (\phi_{\gamma}: W_{A} \twoheadrightarrow S_{\gamma}) \in \mathfrak{U} \text{ for } \gamma \in \Gamma \,\} \;, \\ (\phi_{\gamma})_{\gamma\in\Gamma}: W_{A} \to \prod_{\gamma\in\Gamma} S_{\gamma}, \; u \mapsto (\phi_{\gamma}(u))_{\gamma\in\Gamma} \;. \end{split}$$

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We define the generalized C-varieties as classes of

V-homomorphisms $\mathfrak{U} \subseteq \mathfrak{V}$ closed with respect to H, S_C, P_f (products of finite families) and Po_C.

Similarly, C-pseudovarieties of finite V-homomorphisms are classes $\mathfrak{X} \subseteq Fin\mathfrak{V}$ closed with respect to H, S_C, and P_f.

An *n*-ary **V**-identity is a pair u = v where $u, v \in W_n$. A **V**-homomorphism $\phi : W_A \rightarrow S$ **C-satisfies** u = v if

 $(\forall \rho \in \mathrm{C}(W_n, W_A)) (\phi \rho)(u) = (\phi \rho)(v).$

The invention of equational logic for C-pseudovarieties of finite *V*-homomorphisms was possible only after a deep understanding of categories of such homomorphisms - see Kunc. Here we recall only the right definition of morphisms :

$$\sigma: (\phi: W_A \twoheadrightarrow S) \to (\psi: W_B \twoheadrightarrow T)$$

if $\sigma : S \rightarrow T$ is a surjective homomorphism and there exists $p \in C(W_A, W_B)$ such that $\sigma \phi = \psi p$.

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1. (LP) C-varieties of **V**-homomorphisms are exactly classes of homomorphisms determined by **V**-identities.

2. (LP) Generalized C-varieties of V-homomorphisms are exactly directed unions of C-varieties of V-homomorphisms.

3. (LP) C-pseudovarieties of finite **V**-homomorphisms are exactly classes of the form $Fin \mathfrak{U}$ where \mathfrak{U} is a directed union of C-varieties of **V**-homomorphisms. If the type is finite we can restrict ourselves to unions of chains.

4. (Kunc) C-pseudovarieties of finite V-homomorphisms are exactly classes of finite V-homomorphisms C-determined by (FinV)-pseudoidentities.

L.P., On varieties, generalized varieties and pseudovarieties of homomorphisms, Contributions to General Algebra 16, Verlag Johannes Heyn, Klagenfurt 2005, pp. 173-187

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Varieties of group languages

Languages over $X_n = \{x_1, ..., x_n\}$ corresponding to finite members of certain varieties of groups are well-known :

1. Boolean combinations of

 $\{u \in X_n^* \mid |u|_i \equiv \ell' \mod \ell\}, \ i \in \{1, \dots, n\}, \ \ell \in \mathbb{N}, \ \ell' \in \{0, \dots, \ell-1\}$

for the class of all abelian groups.

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for the class of all abelian groups satisfying $x^{\ell} = 1$.

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$$\{u \in X_n^* \mid {u \choose v} \equiv r' \mod r\}, v \in X_n^*, r \in \mathbb{N}, r' \in \{0, \dots, r-1\}$$

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$$\{u \in X_n^* \mid \binom{u}{v} \equiv r' \bmod r\}, \ v \in X_n^*, \ |v| \le c, \ r \in \mathbb{N}, \ r' \in \{0, \dots, r-1\}$$

for the class of all nilpotent groups of class $\leq c$.

Such results can be refined as follows :

1'. Disjoint unions

 $\{u \in X_n^* \mid |u|_1 \equiv \ell_1, \dots, |u|_n \equiv \ell_n \text{ mod } \ell\}, \ \ell \in \mathbb{N}, \ \ell_1, \dots, \ell_n \in \{0, \dots, \ell-1\}$

 ℓ fixed, for the class of all abelian groups.

It is not difficult to refine the results 2,3 and 4 in a similar way.

Our goal :

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Our goal :

Literal varieties of homomorphisms onto abelian groups and the corresponding languages

Our basic ingredients are the following languages : Let $n, \ell, k \in \mathbb{N}$ with $k \mid \ell$, let $\ell' \in \{0, \dots, \ell - 1\}$, let $k_1, \dots, k_n \in \{0, \dots, k - 1\}$ satisfy $k_1 + \dots + k_n \equiv \ell' \mod k$, $L(n; \ell, \ell'; k, k_1, \dots, k_n) =$ $= \{ u \in X_n^* \mid |u| \equiv \ell' \mod \ell, |u|_1 \equiv k_1, \dots, |u|_n \equiv k_n \mod k \}$.

The following are pairwise different literal varieties of homomorphisms from free monoids onto abelian groups :

$$\mathscr{V}(\ell,k) = \text{Mod}_{\text{lit}}(xy = yx, x^{\ell} = 1, x^{k} = y^{k})$$

where $\ell, k \in \mathbb{N}, k | \ell$. The corresponding literally invariant congruences on X^* are of the form

$$\rho(\ell,k) = \{ (u,v) \in X^* \times X^* \mid |u| \equiv |v| \mod \ell,$$

 $|u|_i \equiv |v|_i \mod k \text{ for } i \in \mathbb{N} \}.$

For fixed ℓ , k, the corresponding languages on X_n are exactly the disjoint unions of $L(n; \ell, \ell'; k, k_1, ..., k_n)$.

L.P., Literal varieties and pseudovarieties of homomorphisms onto abelian groups, Proc. Int. Conf. on Semigroups and Languages, Lisboa 2005, World Scientific Publishing, Singapore 2007, pp. 255-264

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Literal varieties of homomorphisms onto nilpotent groups and the corresponding languages

Dur basic ingredients are the following languages :
Let
$$n, \ell, k, r \in \mathbb{N}$$
 with $r \mid k \mid \ell$,
et $\ell' \in \{0, \dots, \ell - 1\}$,
et $k_1, \dots, k_n \in \{0, \dots, k - 1\}$ satisfy $k_1 + \dots + k_n \equiv \ell' \mod k$,
et $r_{j,i} \in \{0, \dots, r - 1\}$ for $1 \le i < j \le n$. We put
 $L(n; \ell, \ell'; k, k_1, \dots, k_n; r, r_{2,1}, \dots, r_{n,1}, \dots, r_{n,n-1}) =$
 $= \{ u \in X_n^* \mid |u| \equiv \ell' \mod \ell, |u|_1 \equiv k_1, \dots, |u|_n \equiv k_n \mod k$
 $|u|_{j,i} \equiv r_{j,i} \mod r$ for all $1 \le i < j \le n \}$.

The following are pairwise different literal varieties of homomorphisms from free monoids onto nilpotent groups of class ≤ 2 :

$$\mathscr{V}(\ell, k, r) = \text{Mod}_{\text{lit}}(\ [x, [y, z]] = 1, \ x^{\ell} = 1, \ x^{k} = y^{k}, \ [x, y]^{r} = 1$$
)

where $\ell, k, r \in \mathbb{N}, r \mid k \mid \ell$.

The corresponding literally invariant congruences on X* are of the form

$$\rho(\ell, k, r) = \{ (u, v) \in X^* \times X^* \mid |u| \equiv |v| \mod \ell,$$

 $|u|_i \equiv |v|_i \mod k \text{ for } i \in \mathbb{N}, |u|_{j,i} \equiv |v|_{j,i} \mod r \text{ for } 1 \leq i < j \}.$

For fixed ℓ , k, r, the corresponding languages on X_n are exactly the disjoint unions of

$$L(n; \ell, \ell'; k, k_1, \ldots, k_n; r, r_{2,1}, \ldots, r_{n,1}, \ldots, r_{n,n-1})$$
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$$L(n; \ell, \ell'; k, k_1, \ldots, k_n; r, r_{2,1}, \ldots, r_{n,1}, \ldots, r_{n,n-1})$$
.

Reminding type of identities :

$$([x,y][y,z][z,x])^{\alpha} = 1, x^{\beta}y^{-\beta} = [x,y]^{\gamma}.$$

A regular language *L* over a finite alphabet *A* is literally idempotent if its syntactic homomorphism $\phi_L : A^* \to O(L)$ satisfies the pseudoidentity $x^2 = x$ literally, which means

$$(\forall a \in A) a^2 \sim_L a$$

or equivalently

 $(\forall u, v \in A^*, a \in A) (uav \in L \Leftrightarrow ua^2 v \in L).$

We denote the class of all such languages by \mathscr{L} .

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We can introduce a string rewriting system which is given by rules $pa^2q \rightarrow paq$ for each $a \in A$, $p, q \in A^*$. Let \rightarrow^* be the reflexive-transitive closure of the relation \rightarrow . We say that a word $u \in A^*$ is the normal form of a word w if it satisfies the properties

 $w \to^* u$ and $(u \to^* v \text{ implies } u = v)$.

This system is confluent and terminating. Consequently, for any word $w \in A^*$, there exists the unique normal form $\overrightarrow{w} \in A^*$ of the word w. We will denote by \sim the equivalence relation on A^* generated by the relation \rightarrow . In fact, it is a congruence on A^* .

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For any language $L \subseteq A^*$, we define

$$\overline{L} = \{ w \in A^* \mid (\exists u \in L) u \sim w \}$$

which is

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Lemma

For a regular $L \subseteq A^*$, the language \overline{L} is regular, too.

A complete deterministic automaton $\mathscr{A} = (Q, A, \cdot, i, T)$ is called literally idempotent if for each $q \in Q$ and $a \in A$ we have $q \cdot a^2 = q \cdot a$.

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Lemma

For a regular $L \subseteq A^*$, the following statements are equivalent :

- (i) L is literally idempotent,
- (iii) $\overline{L} = L$,
- (iii) $\sim \subseteq \sim_L$,
- (iv) L is accepted by a literally idempotent complete deterministic finite automaton,
- (v) the (canonical) minimal DFA for L is literally idempotent,
- (vi) L is a (disjoint) union (not necessarily finite !) of the languages of the form

$$a_1^+a_2^+\ldots a_k^+, \ k\in\mathbb{N}_0, \ a_1,\ldots,a_k\in A, \ a_1\neq a_2\neq\cdots\neq a_k$$
.

The literally idempotent languages over $A = \{a\}$ are exactly: $\emptyset, \{1\}, a^+$ and a^* .

Now consider a regular language *L* over $A = \{a\}$ with the minimal deterministic automaton $\mathscr{A} = (Q, A, \cdot, i, T)$. Choose the minimal $d \in \mathbb{N}$ and then the minimal $k \in \mathbb{N}_0$ such that $i \cdot a^k = i \cdot a^{k+d}$. Let

$$M = L \cap \{1, a, \dots, a^{k-1}\}$$
 and $N = L \cap a^k \{1, a, \dots, a^{d-1}\}$.

Then $M \cup N(a^d)^*$ is a "canonical" regular expression for *L*. The situation for literally idempotent languages over $A = \{a, b\}$ is similar. Each regular language *L* over *A* is a disjoint union of the sets

 $L\cap (a\{a,b\}^*a\cup a), L\cap a\{a,b\}^*b,$

 $L\cap b\{a,b\}^*a,\ L\cap (b\{a,b\}^*b\cup b),L\cap$ 1 .

If L is literally idempotent each of the first four summands behaves similarly as a regular language over a single letter alphabet.

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If L is literally idempotent each of the first four summands behaves similarly as a regular language over a single letter alphabet.

We consider the first summand (the reasonings about the remaining ones are analogous). Let $\mathscr{A} = (Q, A, \cdot, i, T)$ be the minimal deterministic automaton for *L*. Choose the minimal $d \in \mathbb{N}$ and then the minimal $k \in \mathbb{N}_0$ such that $i \cdot a(ba)^k = i \cdot a(ba)^{k+d}$. Let

$$M = L \cap a\{1, ba, \dots, (ba)^{k-1}\}$$
 and $N = L \cap a(ba)^k \{1, ba, \dots, (ba)^{d-1}\}$.

Then $\overline{M} \cup \overline{N}((b^+a^+)^d)^*$ is a "canonical" regular expression for the first summand of *L*.

We are interested in literal positive/boolean varieties consisting of literally idempotent languages. These varieties can be induced by classical varieties in two natural ways. At first, for a class of languages \mathscr{V} , we can consider the class of languages from \mathscr{V} which are also literally idempotent languages, i.e. the intersection $\mathscr{V} \cap \mathscr{L}$. The second possibility is to consider the following operator on classes of languages: $\mathscr{V} \mapsto \overline{\mathscr{V}}$ where

 $\overline{\mathscr{V}}(A) = \{\overline{L} \mid L \in \mathscr{V}(A)\}.$

The languages of the level 1/2 over A are exactly finite unions of languages of the form

$$A^*a_1A^*a_2...a_kA^*, k \in \mathbb{N}_0, a_1,...,a_k \in A$$
. (1/2)

We denote this positive variety of languages by $\mathcal{V}_{1/2}$.

The languages of the level 1 over *A* are exactly boolean combinations of languages of the form (1/2). We denote this variety of languages by \mathscr{V}_1

(i) Finite unions of languages

 $A^*a_1A^*a_2\ldots a_kA^*,\;k\in\mathbb{N}_0,\;a_1,\ldots,a_k\in A,\;a_1\neq a_2\neq\cdots\neq a_k\;.\;\;(\mathscr{L}1/2)$

form a literal positive variety which is equal both to $\mathscr{V}_{1/2} \cap \mathscr{L}$ and $\overline{\mathscr{V}_{1/2}}$. (ii) Finite unions of languages

$$B_1^*B_2^*\ldots B_k^*, \ k\in\mathbb{N}_0, \ B_1,\ldots,B_k\subseteq A. \qquad (\mathscr{L}1/2\ c)$$

form a literal positive variety which is equal both to $(\mathscr{V}_{1/2})^{c} \cap \mathscr{L}$ and $\overline{(\mathscr{V}_{1/2})^{c}}$. (iii) Boolean combinations of languages of the form $(\mathscr{L}1/2)$ form a literal boolean variety which is equal both to $\mathscr{V}_{1} \cap \mathscr{L}$ and $\overline{\mathscr{V}_{1}}$.

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form a literal positive variety which is equal both to $(\mathscr{V}_{1/2})^{c} \cap \mathscr{L}$ and $\overline{(\mathscr{V}_{1/2})^{c}}$. (iii) Boolean combinations of languages of the form $(\mathscr{L}1/2)$ form a literal boolean variety which is equal both to $\mathscr{V}_{1} \cap \mathscr{L}$ and $\overline{\mathscr{V}_{1}}$. In general, for a positive/boolean variety \mathscr{V} , the class $\mathscr{V} \cap \mathscr{L}$ is a literal positive/boolean variety but we have only $\mathscr{V} \cap \mathscr{L} \subseteq \overline{\mathscr{V}}$ and $\overline{\mathscr{V}}$ need not to be a literal positive/boolean variety.

For more, see O. Klíma and L. Polák, On varieties of literally idempotent languages, RAIRO - Theoretical Informatics and Applications Vol. 42 No. 3, p. 583 - 598

Two variable case

Let M_n be monoid with the presentation

$$< a_1, \dots, a_n \mid a_1^2 = a_1, \dots, a_n^2 = a_n >$$

and let $M_n = \{a_1, \ldots, a_n\}^* / \approx$.

Each $\pi \in \text{Con}A^*$ with $\pi \supseteq \approx$ defines $\pi/\approx \in \text{Con}M_n$ by $u \approx \pi/\approx v \approx \text{iff}$ $u \pi v$.

Theorem (OK & LP)

 $\mathscr{V}(\{a_1,\ldots,a_n\})$'s for equational literal varieties of literally idempotent languages correspond to literally invariant congruences on M_n ; we write $\mathscr{V}(\{a_1,\ldots,a_n\}) \mapsto \kappa_{\mathscr{V}(\{a_1,\ldots,a_n\})}$. More precisely, $\kappa_{\mathscr{V}(\{a_1,\ldots,a_n\})}$ is the greatest literally invariant congruence on M_n containing all \sim_L /\approx , $L \in \mathscr{V}(\{a_1,\ldots,a_n\})$. Moreover,

 $L \in \mathscr{V}(\{a_1, \ldots, a_n\}) \text{ if and only if } \sim_L / \approx \supseteq \kappa_{\mathscr{V}(\{a_1, \ldots, a_n\})}.$

From now on, let n = 2. We write $a = a_1$, $b = a_2$ an we identify the elements of M_2 with

1,
$$u_{2\ell+1} = a(ba)^{\ell}$$
, $u_{2\ell+2} = (ab)^{\ell+1}$,
 $v_{2\ell+1} = b(ab)^{\ell}$, $v_{2\ell+2} = (ba)^{\ell+1}$, $\ell \in \mathbb{N}_0$.

On M_2 we have:

the trivial congruence $\Delta = \{ (w, w) \in M_2 \times M_2 \mid w \in M_2 \}$ and the universal congruence $\nabla = M_2 \times M_2$.

For $k \in \mathbb{N}$, $d \in \mathbb{N}$, we put

 $U_{k,d} = \{u_k, u_{k+2d}, \dots\}$ and $V_{k,d} = \{v_k, v_{k+2d}, \dots\}$;

and we write simply U_k instead of $U_{k,1}$ and V_k instead of $V_{k,1}$.

For $k, d \in \mathbb{N}$, consider the following equivalences on the set M_2 : • $\rho_{k,d}$ with non-trivial (= non-singleton) classes

 $U_{k,d}, U_{k+1,d}, \ldots, U_{k+2d-1,d}, V_{k,d}, V_{k+1,d}, \ldots, V_{k+2d-1,d}$

- σ_k with the non-trivial classes $U_k \cup U_{k+1}$ and $V_k \cup V_{k+1}$,
- τ_k with the non-trivial classes $U_k \cup V_{k+1}$ and $U_{k+1} \cup V_k$,
- v_k with the non-trivial class $U_k \cup U_{k+1} \cup V_k \cup V_{k+1}$.

Theorem (OK & LP)

Proper literally invariant congruences of the monoid M_2 are exactly the relations listed above. They are generated by

$$u_k = u_{k+2d}, u_k = u_{k+1}, u_k = v_{k+1}, u_k = v_k, \text{ respectively }.$$

The congruence ∇ is generated by a = 1.

A part of the dual of the *k*-th level of the lattice of all literally invariant congruences on M_2 is depicted below.



The whole lattice is the product of such a level with the chain $1 < 2 < \ldots$ of all positive natural numbers with ∇ and Δ adjoined. We draw the dual since we are primarily interested in the corresponding varieties of languages.

Let *L* be a literally idempotent language over the alphabet $\{a, b\}$. Let $\mathscr{A} = (Q, \{a, b\}, \cdot, i, T)$ be the minimal complete deterministic automaton for *L*. We would like to find the smallest possible $\mathscr{H}(\{a, b\})$ containing *L*. So we are looking for the greatest literally invariant congruence on M_2 contained in \sim_L .

It is well-known that the syntactic homomorphism ϕ_L can be identified with the mapping which maps $u \in \{a, b\}^*$ onto the transformation of Q induced by the word u.

Recall that the automaton \mathscr{A} is literally idempotent.

We distinguish several cases:

- (i) There is the only cycle in \mathscr{A} and it is of length 1.
- (ii) There are exactly two cycles in \mathscr{A} , both of the length 1.
- (iii) There is the only cycle in \mathscr{A} and it is of length 2.
- (iv) There is the only cycle in \mathscr{A} and it is of length 2d where $d \ge 2$ or there are exactly two cycles of lengths $2d_1$ and $2d_2$ where $d_1, d_2 \in \mathbb{N}$

or there are exactly two cycles of lengths 2d and 1.

Notice that exactly one case of (i) – (iv) happens. Let *k* be the smallest such that all words *w* of length $\geq k$ transform the initial state *i* into a cycle. In the second subcase of (iv), let *d* equal to the least common multiple of d_1 and d_2 .

Theorem (OK & LP)

The literally invariant congruence on M_2 corresponding to the language L is

 v_k in the case (i), σ_k in the case (ii), τ_k in the case (iii), $\rho_{k,d}$ in the case (iv).

The last results are from OK & LP, Literally idempotent languages and their varieties - two letter case, Proceedings AFL 2008. Notice that exactly one case of (i) – (iv) happens. Let *k* be the smallest such that all words *w* of length $\ge k$ transform the initial state *i* into a cycle. In the second subcase of (iv), let *d* equal to the least common multiple of d_1 and d_2 .

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