

# SOME PROBLEMS OF AMALGAMATION BASES \*

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In this paper, we shall pose some open problems concerned with semigroup amalgamation bases.

Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be the class of semigroups or the class of finite semigroups. A triple of semigroups  $S, T, U$  with  $U = S \cap T$  being a subsemigroup of  $S$  and  $T$  is called an *amalgam* of  $S$  and  $T$  with a *core*  $U$  in  $\mathcal{A}$  and denoted by  $[S, T; U]$ .

An amalgam  $[S, T; U]$  of  $\mathcal{A}$  is *embeddable* in  $\mathcal{A}$  if  $\xi_1(S) \cap \xi_2(T) = \xi_1(U)$ .

Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be the class of semigroups [res. the class of finite semigroups]. A semigroup  $U$  in  $\mathcal{A}$  is an *amalgamation base for all semigroups* [res. *for finite semigroups*] if any amalgam with a core  $U$  in  $\mathcal{A}$  is embeddable in  $\mathcal{A}$ .

Let  $\mathcal{T}(X)$  be the full transformation semigroups on the set  $X$  with the right to left composition. In the case that  $X$  is a finite set, it follows from Corollary C of the paper[4] that  $\mathcal{T}(X)$  is an amalgamation base for all semigroups.

Hence we pose the following problem.

**Open problem I** Is the full transformation semigroups  $\mathcal{T}(X)$  on any infinite set  $X$  is an amalgamation base for all semigroups?

T.E. Hall[1] showed that every semigroup that is an amalgamation base for all semigroups has the representation extension property. In fact, we say that a subsemigroup  $U$  of a semigroup  $S$  has *the representation extension property* in  $S$  if for any set  $X$  and any representation  $\rho : U \rightarrow \mathcal{T}(X)$ , there exists a set  $Y$  disjoint from  $X$  and a representation  $\alpha : S \rightarrow \mathcal{T}(X \cup Y)$  such that  $\alpha(u)|_X = \rho(u)$  for all  $u \in U$ .

Also we say that  $U$  has the *representation extension property* if  $U$  does so in  $S$  for any semigroup  $S$  containing  $U$  as a subsemigroup.

However the following problem is left open.

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\*This is an abstract and the paper will appear elsewhere.

**Open problem II** Does the full transformation semigroups  $\mathcal{T}(X)$  on any infinite set  $X$  have the representation extension property?

K. Shoji[3] showed that every semigroup that is an amalgamation base for finite semigroups has both the representation extension property and the anti-representation extension property<sup>1</sup>

**Open problem III** If  $U$  is an amalgamation base for finite semigroups then is it an amalgamation base for all semigroups?

T.E.Hall and M.S. Putch showed that if a finite semigroup  $U$  is an amalgamation base for finite semigroups, then all  $\mathcal{J}$ -classes of  $U$  form a chain.

**Open problem IV** If a finite semigroup  $U$  whose all  $\mathcal{J}$ -classes form a chain is an amalgamation base for all semigroups then is it an amalgamation base for finite semigroups?

## References

- [1] T. E. Hall. *Representation extension and amalgamation for semigroups*. Quart. J. Math. Oxford (2) **29**(1978), 309-334.
- [2] T. E. Hall and M.S. Putch, *The potential  $\mathcal{J}$ -relation and amalgamation bases for finite semigroups*, Proc. Amer. Math. Soc. **95**(1985), 361-364.
- [3] T. E. Hall and K. Shoji, *Finite bands and amalgamation bases for finite semigroups*, Communications in algebra **30**(2) (2002), 911-933.
- [4] K. Shoji, *Absolute flatness of the full transformation semigroups*, Journal of algebra **118**(1988) 245-254.

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<sup>1</sup> Let  $\mathcal{T}^{op}(X)$  be the full transformation semigroups on the set  $X$  with the left to right composition. A representation of a semigroup to  $\mathcal{T}^{op}(X)$  is called *anti-representation*. The anti-representation extension property is defined by substituting “representation” by “anti-representation” in the definition of the representation extension property.