

(m + k, m)-BANDS

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Abstract. In this paper p -zero $(m+k, m)$ -semigroups are defined and it is proved that there are exactly $(m+1)$ p -zero semigroups. An $(m+k, m)$ -semigroup $(Q; [])$ which is a direct product of all $(m+1)$ p -zero $(m+k, m)$ -semigroups, defined previously, is called an $(m+k, m)$ -band. Characterizations of $(m+k, m)$ -bands are given.

1. p -ZERO $(m+k, m)$ -SEMIGROUPS

First, we will introduce some notations which will be used further on:

- 1) The elements of Q^s , where Q^s denotes the s -th Cartesian power of Q , will be denoted by x_1^s .
- 2) The symbol x_i^j will denote the sequence x_i, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_j when $i \leq j$, and the empty sequence when $i > j$.
- 3) If $x_1 = x_2 = \dots = x_s = x$, then x_1^s is denoted by the symbol $\overset{s}{x}$.
- 4) The set $\{1, 2, \dots, s\}$ will be denoted by \mathbb{N}_s .

Let $Q \neq \emptyset$ and n, m are positive integers. If $[]$ is a map from Q^n into Q^m , then $[]$ is called an (n, m) -operation. A pair $(Q; [])$ where $[]$ is an (n, m) -operation is said to be an (n, m) groupoid. Every (n, m) -operation on Q induces a sequence $[]_1, []_2, \dots, []_m$ of n -ary operations on the set Q , such that

$$((\forall i \in \mathbb{N}_m) \quad [x_1^n]_i = y_i) \Leftrightarrow [x_1^n] = y_1^m.$$

Let $m \geq 2$, $k \geq 1$. An $(m+k, m)$ -groupoid $(Q; [])$ is called an $(m+k, m)$ -semigroup if for each $i \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots, k\}$

$$[x_1^i [x_{i+1}^{i+m+k}] x_{i+m+k+1}^{m+2k}] = [[x_1^{m+k}] x_{m+k+1}^{m+2k}]$$

Definition 1.1. An $(m+k, m)$ -groupoid $(Q; [])$ is said to be a projection $(m+k, m)$ -groupoid if there are $1 \leq \alpha_1 < \alpha_2 < \dots < \alpha_m \leq m+k$, such that

$$[x_1^{m+k}] = x_{\alpha_1} x_{\alpha_2} \dots x_{\alpha_m},$$

for any $x_1^{m+k} \in Q^{m+k}$.

Definition 1.2. Let $0 \leq p \leq m$. An $(m+k, m)$ -groupoid $(Q; [])$ is said to be a p -zero $(m+k, m)$ -groupoid if $[x_1^{m+k}] = x_1^p x_{p+k+1}^{m+k}$, for any $x_1^{m+k} \in Q^{m+k}$.

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The operation $[]$ for p -zero $(m+k, m)$ -groupoid will be denoted by $[]^p$. In [1] m -zero $(m+k, m)$ -groupoid is called left zero $(m+k, m)$ -groupoid, and 0-zero $(m+k, m)$ -groupoid is called right zero $(m+k, m)$ -groupoid. Left and right zero $(m+k, m)$ -groupoids are examples of $(m+k, m)$ -semigroups.

Proposition 1.3. *Any p -zero $(m+k, m)$ -groupoid $(Q; []^p)$ is an $(m+k, m)$ -semigroup.*

Proof. Let $(Q; []^p)$, $0 \leq p \leq m$ be a p -zero $(m+k, m)$ -groupoid. Then:

$$\begin{aligned} & \left[x_1^i \left[x_{i+1}^{i+m+k} \right]^p x_{i+m+k+1}^{m+2k} \right]^p = \left[x_1^i x_{i+1}^{i+p} x_{i+p+k+1}^{i+m+k} x_{i+m+k+1}^{m+2k} \right]^p = \\ & = x_1^p x_{m+2k-(m-p)+1}^{m+2k} = x_1^p x_{p+2k+1}^{m+2k} = \left[x_1^p x_{p+k+1}^{m+k} x_{m+k+1}^{m+2k} \right]^p = \\ & = \left[\left[x_1^{m+k} \right]^p x_{m+k+1}^{m+2k} \right]^p. \end{aligned} \quad \square$$

Remark 1.4. If $i \in \mathbb{N}_m$ is fixed, then either $\left[x_1^{m+k} \right]_i^p = x_i$ or $\left[x_1^{m+k} \right]_i^p = x_{i+k}$ holds in p -zero $(m+k, m)$ -semigroup $(Q; []^p)$.

Proposition 1.5. *If $(Q; [])$ is a projection $(m+k, m)$ -groupoid which is also an $(m+k, m)$ -semigroup, then $(Q; [])$ is a p -zero $(m+k, m)$ -semigroup, for some $0 \leq p \leq m$.*

Proof. Let $\left[x_1^{m+k} \right]_i = x_j$. Then $i \leq j$ and $m-i \leq m+k-j$, i.e. $i \leq j \leq k+i$. It follows $\left[x_1^{m+k} \right]_i = x_{i+q}$, where $0 \leq q \leq k$ and

$$\left[x_1^q \left[x_{q+1}^{q+m+k} \right] x_{q+m+k+1}^{m+2k} \right]_i = \left[x_{q+1}^{q+m+k} \right]_i = x_{q+i+q} = x_{i+2q}.$$

We will consider two cases: A) $m \leq k$ and B) $m > k$.

A) Let $m \leq k$.

A1. Let $i+q > m$, i.e. let $i+q = m+t$, where $t > 0$. Then $\left[\left[x_1^{m+k} \right] x_{m+k+1}^{m+2k} \right]_i = x_{m+k+t} = x_{i+q+k}$. Since $(Q; [])$ is an $(m+k, m)$ -semigroup, $\left[x_1^q \left[x_{q+1}^{q+m+k} \right] x_{q+m+k+1}^{m+2k} \right]_i = \left[\left[x_1^{m+k} \right] x_{m+k+1}^{m+2k} \right]_i$ hold in $(Q; [])$. Then $x_{i+2q} = x_{i+q+k}$. So, $i+2q = i+q+k$, i.e. $q=k$. Finally, $\left[x_1^{m+k} \right]_i = x_{i+k}$.

A2. Let $i+q \leq m \leq k$. We have $\left[x_1^k \left[x_{k+1}^{m+2k} \right] \right]_i = x_{i+q}$.

$\left[x_1^q \left[x_{q+1}^{q+m+k} \right] x_{q+m+k+1}^{m+2k} \right]_i = \left[x_1^k \left[x_{k+1}^{m+2k} \right] \right]_i$ implies that $x_{i+2q} = x_{i+q}$.

So, $i+2q = i+q$, i.e. $q=0$. Finally, $\left[x_1^{m+k} \right]_i = x_i$.

B) Let $m > k$.

B1. Let $i+q > m$ i.e. $i+q = m+t$, where $t > 0$. We have $\left[\left[x_1^{m+k} \right] x_{m+k+1}^{m+2k} \right]_i = x_{m+k+t} = x_{i+q+k}$. Then $x_{i+2q} = x_{i+q+k}$. So, $i+2q = i+q+k$ i.e. $q=k$. Finally, $\left[x_1^{m+k} \right]_i = x_{i+k}$.

B2. Let $i+q \leq m$.

B2.1. If $i+q \leq k$, then $\left[x_1^k \left[x_{k+1}^{m+2k} \right] \right]_i = x_{i+q}$. So, $i+2q = i+q$ i.e. $q=0$.

Finally, $\left[x_1^{m+k} \right]_i = x_i$.

B2.2. Let $k < i+q \leq m$. Then, $\left[\left[x_1^{m+k} \right] x_{m+k+1}^{m+2k} \right]_i = \left[x_1^{m+k} \right]_{i+q}$ implies that

$$\left[x_1^{m+k} \right]_{i+q} = \left[\left[x_1^{m+k} \right] x_{m+k+1}^{m+2k} \right]_i = \left[x_1^q \left[x_{q+1}^{q+m+k} \right] x_{q+m+k+1}^{m+2k} \right]_i = x_{i+2q}.$$

Let j be such that $i+(j-1)q \leq m$ and $i+jq > m$. Let $i+jq = m+t'$, where $t' > 0$. Then, $[x_1^{m+k}]_{i+(j-1)q} = x_{i+jq}$, $[[x_1^{m+k}] x_{m+k+1}^{m+2k}]_{i+(j-1)q} = x_{m+k+t'} = x_{i+jq+k}$ and $[x_1^q [x_{q+1}^{q+m+k}] x_{q+m+k+1}^{m+2k}]_{i+(j-1)q} = [x_{q+1}^{q+m+k}]_{i+(j-1)q} = x_{q+i+jq} = x_{i+(j+1)q}$. Thus, $i+(j+1)q = i+jq+k$ i.e. $q=k$ and $[x_1^{m+k}]_i = x_{i+k}$. \square

Propositions 1.3 and 1.5 imply that there are exactly $m+1$ projection $(m+k, m)$ -semigroups.

Remark 1.6. If $(Q; [\cdot])$ is a projection $(m+1, m)$ -groupoid then from the definition it follows that $(Q; [\cdot])$ is an p -zero $(m+1, m)$ -groupoid and so it is $(m+1, m)$ -semigroup. The following example shows that, in general, projection $(m+k, m)$ -groupoid need not be an $(m+k, m)$ -semigroup. The $(4, 2)$ -groupoid $(Q; [\cdot])$ where $[\cdot]$ is defined by $[x_1^4] = x_2^3$, is a projection $(4, 2)$ -groupoid, but not a $(4, 2)$ -semigroup.

2. $(m+k, m)$ -BANDS

Let $(A_i; [\cdot]^i)$, $i = 1, 2, \dots, t$ be $(m+k, m)$ -semigroups. Their direct product is an $(m+k, m)$ -semigroup, where the $(m+k, m)$ -operation $[\cdot]$ is defined by

$$\begin{aligned} [x_1^{m+k}] = y_1^m &\Leftrightarrow x_i = (x_{i,1}, x_{i,2}, \dots, x_{i,t}), y_j = (y_{j,1}, y_{j,2}, \dots, y_{j,t}), \\ y_{j,r} &= [x_{1,j} x_{2,j} \dots x_{m+k,j}]^r, \quad i \in \mathbb{N}_{m+k}, j \in \mathbb{N}_m, r \in \mathbb{N}_t. \end{aligned}$$

Definition 2.1. Let $\mathbf{A}_p = (A_p; [\cdot]^p)$ be p -zero $(m+k, m)$ -semigroups, $0 \leq p \leq m$. The direct product of A_m, A_{m-1}, \dots, A_0 is called $(m+k, m)$ -band.

If $(A_m \times A_{m-1} \times \dots \times A_0; [\cdot])$ is an $(m+k, m)$ -band then its $(m+k, m)$ -operation $[\cdot]$ is of the form

$$\begin{aligned} [x_1^{m+k}] = y_1^m &\Leftrightarrow x_i = (x_{i,1}, x_{i,2}, \dots, x_{i,m+1}), \\ y_j &= (x_{j,1}, x_{j,2}, \dots, x_{j,m+1-j}, x_{j+k, m+2-j}, \dots, x_{j+k, m+1}), \quad i \in \mathbb{N}_{m+k}, j \in \mathbb{N}_m. \end{aligned}$$

Proposition 2.2. An $(m+k, m)$ -semigroup $\mathbf{Q} = (Q, [\cdot])$ is an $(m+k, m)$ -band if and only if the following conditions are satisfied in \mathbf{Q} :

- (I) $[x_1^{m+k}]_i = [y_1^{i-1} x_i y_{i+1}^{i+k-1} x_{i+k} y_{i+k+1}^{m+k}]_i \quad i \in \mathbb{N}_m;$
- (II) $\left[\begin{smallmatrix} j-1 & i-1 & k-1 & m-i \\ a & a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_i \left[\begin{smallmatrix} k-1 & z & m-j \\ a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_j = \left[\begin{smallmatrix} i-1 & k-1 & j-1 & k-1 & m-i \\ a & a & a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_j \quad ,$
for a fixed element of Q and $j \leq i$;
- (III) $\left[\begin{smallmatrix} i-1 & j-1 & k-1 & m-j \\ a & a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_j \left[\begin{smallmatrix} k-1 & z & m-i \\ a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_i = \left[\begin{smallmatrix} i-1 & k-1 & m-i \\ a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_i \quad ,$ for a fixed element of Q and $j \leq i$;
- (IV) $\left[\begin{smallmatrix} j-1 & k-1 & i-1 & y & k-1 & z & m-i \\ a & a & a & a & a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_i \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-j \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_j = \left[\begin{smallmatrix} j-1 & k-1 & z & m-j \\ a & a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_j \quad ,$ for a fixed element of Q and $j \leq i$;
- (V) $\left[\begin{smallmatrix} m+k \\ x \end{smallmatrix} \right] = \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m \\ x \end{smallmatrix} \right].$

Proof. Let \mathbf{Q} be an $(m+k, m)$ -band. Then directly from the Definition 2.1 it follows that \mathbf{Q} satisfies (I), (II), (III), (IV) and (V).

Conversely, suppose that the $(m+k, m)$ -semigroup $\mathbf{Q} = (Q; [])$, satisfies (I), (II), (III), (IV) and (V), and a is a fixed element of Q .

(A) Let $A_m = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} m-1 \\ a & x_i a \\ m \end{bmatrix} \mid x \in Q \right\}$ and let $\begin{bmatrix} m-1 \\ a & x_i a \\ m \end{bmatrix}_m \in A_m$, $i \in \mathbb{N}_{m+k}$.

Then:

$$\begin{aligned} & \left[\begin{bmatrix} m-1 \\ a & x_1 a \\ m \end{bmatrix}_m \dots \begin{bmatrix} m-1 \\ a & x_{m+k} a \\ m \end{bmatrix}_m \right]_i \stackrel{(I)}{=} \left[\begin{bmatrix} i-1 \\ a & x_i a \\ m \end{bmatrix}_m \begin{bmatrix} k-1 \\ a & x_{i+k} a \\ m \end{bmatrix}_m \begin{bmatrix} m-i \\ a \\ m \end{bmatrix} \right]_i \stackrel{(IV)}{=} \\ & = \left[\begin{bmatrix} i-1 \\ a & x_i a \\ m \end{bmatrix}_m \begin{bmatrix} k-1 \\ a & a^{m-i} \\ m \end{bmatrix} \right]_i \stackrel{(II)}{=} \left[\begin{bmatrix} m-1 \\ a & x_i a \\ m \end{bmatrix}_m \begin{bmatrix} k-1 \\ a & a^{k-1} a^{m-i} \\ m \end{bmatrix} \right]_i \stackrel{(V)}{=} \\ & = \left[\begin{bmatrix} m-1 \\ a & x_i a \\ m \end{bmatrix}_m \begin{bmatrix} k-1 \\ a & a \\ m \end{bmatrix} \right] = \left[\begin{bmatrix} m-1 \\ a & x_i a \\ m \end{bmatrix}_m \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Because $\left[\begin{bmatrix} m-1 \\ a & x_1 a \\ m \end{bmatrix}_m \dots \begin{bmatrix} m-1 \\ a & x_{m+k} a \\ m \end{bmatrix}_m \right] = \left[\begin{bmatrix} m-1 \\ a & x_1 a \\ m \end{bmatrix}_m \dots \begin{bmatrix} m-1 \\ a & x_m a \\ m \end{bmatrix}_m$, $(A_m; [])$

is a left zero $(m+k, m)$ -semigroup, i.e. an m -zero $(m+k, m)$ -semigroup.

(B) Let $A_0 = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} k \\ a x^{m-1} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \mid x \in Q \right\}$ and $\begin{bmatrix} k \\ a x_i x^{m-1} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \in A_0$, $i \in \mathbb{N}_{m+k}$. Then:

$$\begin{aligned} & \left[\begin{bmatrix} k \\ a x_1 x^{m-1} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_1 \dots \begin{bmatrix} k \\ a x_{m+k} x^{m-1} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_1 \right]_i \stackrel{(I)}{=} \left[\begin{bmatrix} i-1 \\ a & x_i x^{m-1} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_1 \begin{bmatrix} k-1 \\ a x_{i+k} x^{m-1} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_1 \begin{bmatrix} m-i \\ a \\ m \end{bmatrix} \right]_i \stackrel{(III)}{=} \\ & = \left[\begin{bmatrix} i-1 \\ a & a^{k-1} \\ a & a^{m-i} \\ m \end{bmatrix}_i \right] \stackrel{(II)}{=} \left[\begin{bmatrix} i-1 \\ a & a^{k-1} a^{m-i} \\ a & a \\ m \end{bmatrix}_i \begin{bmatrix} k-1 \\ a x_{i+k} x^{m-1} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right] \stackrel{(V)}{=} \\ & = \left[\begin{bmatrix} k-1 \\ a & x_{i+k} x^{m-1} \\ a & a \\ m \end{bmatrix}_1 \right] = \left[\begin{bmatrix} k \\ a x_{i+k} x^{m-1} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_1 \right]. \end{aligned}$$

So, $(A_0; [])$ is a right zero $(m+k, m)$ -semigroup, i.e. a 0-zero $(m+k, m)$ -semigroup.

(C) Let

$$\begin{aligned} A_p &= \left\{ x \mid x \in Q, x = \left[x^{m+k-1} \right]_1 = \dots = \left[\begin{bmatrix} p-1 \\ a & x^{m+k-p} \\ p \end{bmatrix} \right]_p = \left[\begin{bmatrix} p+k \\ a & x^{m-p-1} \\ p+1 \end{bmatrix} \right] = \dots = \right. \\ &= \left. \left[\begin{bmatrix} m+k-1 \\ a & x \\ m \end{bmatrix} \right] \right\}, \quad 1 \leq p \leq m-1, \text{ and } x_j \in A_p, j \in \mathbb{N}_{m+k}. \end{aligned}$$

(C1) For $i \leq p$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \left[x_1^{m+k} \right]_i \stackrel{(I)}{=} \left[\begin{bmatrix} i-1 \\ a & x_i a^{k-1} x_{i+k} a^{m-i} \\ m \end{bmatrix} \right]_i = \left[\begin{bmatrix} i-1 \\ a & x_i a^{k-1} \left[\begin{bmatrix} i-1 \\ a & x_{i+k} a^{m+k-i} \\ m \end{bmatrix} \right]_i \\ m \end{bmatrix} \right]_i \stackrel{(IV)}{=} \\ & = \left[\begin{bmatrix} i-1 \\ a & x_i a^{k-1} a^{m-i} \\ m \end{bmatrix} \right]_i = \left[\begin{bmatrix} i-1 \\ a & x_i a^{m+k-i} \\ m \end{bmatrix} \right]_i = x_i. \end{aligned}$$

(C2) Let $i > p$. Then:

$$\begin{aligned} [x_1^{m+k}]_i &\stackrel{(I)}{=} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} i-1 \\ a x_i \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} k-1 \\ a x_{i+k} \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} m-i \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_i = \left[\begin{smallmatrix} i-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} i+k-1 \\ a x_i \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} m-i \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_i \begin{smallmatrix} k-1 \\ a x_{i+k} \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} m-i \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_i \stackrel{(III)}{=} \\ &= \left[\begin{smallmatrix} i-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} k-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} m-i \\ a x_{i+k} \end{smallmatrix} \right]_i = \left[\begin{smallmatrix} i+k-1 \\ a x_{i+k} \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} m-i \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_i = x_{i+k}. \end{aligned}$$

We have $[x_1^{m+k}] = x_1^p x_{p+k+1}^{m+k}$. So, $(A_p, [\cdot])$, $1 \leq p \leq m-1$, is a p -zero $(m+k, m)$ -semigroup.

(D) Let $\left(\begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a x_1 \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} k \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \right)_m, x_2, \dots, x_m, \left[\begin{smallmatrix} k \\ a x_{m+1} \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_1 \in A_m \times A_{m-1} \times \dots \times A_1 \times A_0$.

Define: $\alpha_0 = x_1$, $\alpha_i = \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-i \\ a \alpha_{i-1} \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} k-1 \\ a x_{i+1} \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} i-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m+1-i}$, $i \in \mathbb{N}_m$ and $\beta_0 = x_{m+1}$,

$$\beta_i = \left[\begin{smallmatrix} i-1 \\ a x_{m+1-i} \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} k-1 \\ a \beta_{i-1} \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} m-i \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_i \quad i \in \mathbb{N}_m.$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_m &= \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a \alpha_{m-1} \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} k-1 \\ a x_{m+1} \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_1 = \left[\left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a \alpha_{m-2} \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} k-1 \\ a x_m \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} m-2 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_2 \begin{smallmatrix} k-1 \\ a x_{m+1} \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_1 \stackrel{(II)}{=} \\ &= \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a \alpha_{m-2} \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} k-1 \\ a x_m \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_1 \begin{smallmatrix} m-2 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} = \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a \alpha_{m-2} \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} k-1 \\ a \beta_1 \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} m-2 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_2 \stackrel{(II)}{=} \dots \stackrel{(II)}{=} \\ &= \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a \alpha_{m-i} \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} k-1 \\ a \beta_{i-1} \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} m-i \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_i \stackrel{(II)}{=} \dots \stackrel{(II)}{=} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a \alpha_0 \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} k-1 \\ a \beta_{m-1} \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_m = \\ &= \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a x_1 \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} k-1 \\ a \beta_{m-1} \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_m = \beta_m. \end{aligned}$$

Let $\varphi : A_m \times A_{m-1} \times \dots \times A_1 \times A_0 \rightarrow Q$ be the map defined by:

$$\varphi \left(\left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a x_1 \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} k \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_m, x_2, \dots, x_m, \left[\begin{smallmatrix} k \\ a x_{m+1} \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_1 \right) = \alpha_m,$$

for any element $\left(\begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a x_1 \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} k \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \right)_m, x_2, \dots, x_m, \left[\begin{smallmatrix} k \\ a x_{m+1} \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_1 \in A_m \times A_{m-1} \times \dots \times A_1 \times A_0$.

(D1) Proof that φ is a well-defined map.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Let } \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a x_1 \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} k \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_m &= \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a u_1 \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} k \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_m, x_j = u_j, j \in \mathbb{N}_m \setminus \{1\}, \left[\begin{smallmatrix} k \\ a x_{m+1} \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_1 = \\ &= \left[\begin{smallmatrix} k \\ a u_{m+1} \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_1. \end{aligned}$$

Then, $\left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a x_1 \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} k \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_m = \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a u_1 \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} k \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_m$ implies

$$\begin{aligned} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a x_1 \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} k \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_m \begin{smallmatrix} k-1 \\ a x_1 \end{smallmatrix} \right]_m &= \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a u_1 \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} k \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_m \begin{smallmatrix} k-1 \\ a x_1 \end{smallmatrix} \right]_m \stackrel{(III)}{=} \\ \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a x_1 \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} k-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} k \\ a x_1 \end{smallmatrix} \right]_m &= \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a u_1 \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} k-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} k \\ a x_1 \end{smallmatrix} \right]_m \stackrel{(I)}{=} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} m+k \\ x_1 \end{bmatrix}_m = \begin{bmatrix} m-1 & u_1 & k-1 & x_1 \\ a & a & a & a \end{bmatrix}_m \stackrel{(V)}{\Rightarrow}$$

$$x_1 = \begin{bmatrix} m-1 & u_1 & k-1 & x_1 \\ a & a & a & a \end{bmatrix}_m.$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} k & x_{m+1} & m-1 \\ a & u_{m+1} & a \end{bmatrix}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} k & u_{m+1} & m-1 \\ a & a & a \end{bmatrix}_1 \text{ implies}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_{m+1} & k-1 & \begin{bmatrix} k & x_{m+1} & m-1 \\ a & a & a \end{bmatrix}_1 & m-1 \\ a & a & a & a \end{bmatrix}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} x_{m+1} & k-1 & \begin{bmatrix} k & u_{m+1} & m-1 \\ a & a & a \end{bmatrix}_1 & m-1 \\ a & a & a & a \end{bmatrix}_1 \stackrel{(IV)}{\Rightarrow}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_{m+1} & k-1 & x_{m+1} & m-1 \\ a & a & a & a \end{bmatrix}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} x_{m+1} & k-1 & u_{m+1} & m-1 \\ a & a & a & a \end{bmatrix}_1 \stackrel{(I)}{\Rightarrow}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} m+k \\ x_{m+1} \end{bmatrix}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} x_{m+1} & k-1 & u_{m+1} & m-1 \\ a & a & a & a \end{bmatrix}_1 \stackrel{(V)}{\Rightarrow}$$

$$x_{m+1} = \begin{bmatrix} x_{m+1} & k-1 & u_{m+1} & m-1 \\ a & a & a & a \end{bmatrix}_1.$$

$$\alpha_0 = x_1 = \begin{bmatrix} m-1 & u_1 & k-1 & x_1 \\ a & a & a & a \end{bmatrix}_m; \alpha'_0 = u_1$$

$$\alpha_1 = \begin{bmatrix} m-1 & \alpha_0 & k-1 & x_2 \\ a & a & a & a \end{bmatrix}_m = \begin{bmatrix} m-1 & \begin{bmatrix} m-1 & u_1 & k-1 & x_1 \\ a & a & a & a \end{bmatrix}_m & k-1 & x_2 \\ a & a & a & a \end{bmatrix}_m \stackrel{(III)}{=} \begin{bmatrix} m-1 & u_1 & k-1 & x_2 \\ a & a & a & a \end{bmatrix}_m =$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} m-1 & \alpha'_0 & k-1 & u_2 \\ a & a & a & a \end{bmatrix}_m = \alpha'_1$$

⋮

$$\alpha_i = \begin{bmatrix} m-i & \alpha_{i-1} & k-1 & x_{i+1} & i-1 \\ a & a & a & a & a \end{bmatrix}_{m+1-i} = \begin{bmatrix} m-i & \alpha'_{i-1} & k-1 & u_{i+1} & i-1 \\ a & a & a & a & a \end{bmatrix}_{m+1-i} = \alpha'_i,$$

$1 \leq i \leq m-1$.

Then:

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_m &= \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_{m-1} & k-1 & x_{m+1} & m-1 \\ a & a & a & a \end{bmatrix}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha'_{m-1} & k-1 & \begin{bmatrix} x_{m+1} & k-1 & u_{m+1} & m-1 \\ a & a & a & a \end{bmatrix}_1 & m-1 \\ a & a & a & a \end{bmatrix}_1 \stackrel{(IV)}{=} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} \alpha'_{m-1} & k-1 & u_{m+1} & m-1 \\ a & a & a & a \end{bmatrix}_1 = \alpha'_m. \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So, } \varphi \left(\begin{bmatrix} m-1 & x_1 & k \\ a & a & a \end{bmatrix}_m, x_2, \dots, x_m, \begin{bmatrix} k & x_{m+1} & m-1 \\ a & a & a \end{bmatrix}_1 \right) =$$

$$= \varphi \left(\begin{bmatrix} m-1 & u_1 & k \\ a & a & a \end{bmatrix}_m, u_2, \dots, u_m, \begin{bmatrix} k & u_{m+1} & m-1 \\ a & a & a \end{bmatrix}_1 \right).$$

(D2) Proof that φ is an injection.

Let

$$\varphi \left(\begin{bmatrix} m-1 & x_1 & k \\ a & a & a \end{bmatrix}_m, x_2, \dots, x_m, \begin{bmatrix} k & x_{m+1} & m-1 \\ a & a & a \end{bmatrix}_1 \right) =$$

$$= \varphi \left(\left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-1 & k \\ a & u_1 a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_m, u_2, \dots, u_m, \left[\begin{smallmatrix} k & m-1 \\ a u_{m+1} & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_1 \right) \text{ i.e. } \alpha_m = \alpha'_m.$$

Since $\alpha_m = \alpha'_m$ it follows

$$\begin{aligned} \left[x_{m+1} \begin{smallmatrix} k-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \left[\alpha_{m-1} \begin{smallmatrix} k-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} x_{m+1} \begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_1 \begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_1 &= \left[x_{m+1} \begin{smallmatrix} k-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \left[\alpha'_{m-1} \begin{smallmatrix} k-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} u_{m+1} \begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_1 \begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_1 \stackrel{(IV)}{\Rightarrow} \\ \left[x_{m+1} \begin{smallmatrix} k-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} x_{m+1} \begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_1 &= \left[x_{m+1} \begin{smallmatrix} k-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} u_{m+1} \begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_1 \stackrel{(I)}{\Rightarrow} \\ \left[x_{m+1} \begin{smallmatrix} m+k \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_1 &= \left[x_{m+1} \begin{smallmatrix} k-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} u_{m+1} \begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_1 \stackrel{(V)}{\Rightarrow} \\ x_{m+1} &= \left[x_{m+1} \begin{smallmatrix} k-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} u_{m+1} \begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_1. \end{aligned}$$

Using this:

$$\left[\begin{smallmatrix} k \\ a x_{m+1} & m-1 \end{smallmatrix} \right]_1 = \left[\begin{smallmatrix} k \\ a \left[x_{m+1} \begin{smallmatrix} k-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} u_{m+1} \begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_1 \begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_1 \stackrel{(IV)}{=} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} k \\ a u_{m+1} & m-1 \end{smallmatrix} \right]_1.$$

Since $\beta_m = \beta'_m$ it follows

$$\begin{aligned} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} x_1 \begin{smallmatrix} k-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \beta_{m-1} \right]_m \begin{smallmatrix} k-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} x_1 \right]_m &= \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} u_1 \begin{smallmatrix} k-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \beta'_{m-1} \right]_m \begin{smallmatrix} k-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} x_1 \right]_m \stackrel{(III)}{\Rightarrow} \\ \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} x_1 \begin{smallmatrix} k-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} x_1 \right]_m &= \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} u_1 \begin{smallmatrix} k-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} x_1 \right]_m \stackrel{(I)}{\Rightarrow} \\ \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m+k \\ x_1 \end{smallmatrix} \right]_m &= \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} u_1 \begin{smallmatrix} k-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} x_1 \right]_m \stackrel{(V)}{\Rightarrow} \\ x_1 &= \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} u_1 \begin{smallmatrix} k-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} x_1 \right]_m. \end{aligned}$$

Using this:

$$\left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a \\ x_1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_m = \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a \\ m-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} u_1 \begin{smallmatrix} k-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} x_1 \right]_m \begin{smallmatrix} k \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_m \stackrel{(III)}{=} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a \\ m-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} u_1 \begin{smallmatrix} k-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} a \right]_m = \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-1 \\ a \\ m-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} u_1 \begin{smallmatrix} k \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_m.$$

Let $2 \leq i \leq m$. Since

$$\alpha_m = \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-i \\ a \\ \alpha_{i-1} \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} k-1 \\ a \\ \beta_{m-i} \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} i-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m+1-i} = \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-i \\ a \\ \alpha'_{i-1} \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} k-1 \\ a \\ \beta'_{m-i} \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} i-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m+1-i} = \alpha'_m,$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-i \\ a \\ \alpha_{i-1} \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} k-1 \\ a \\ \beta_{m-i} \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} i-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m+1-i} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} k-1 \\ a \\ \alpha_{i-1} \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} i-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m+1-i} = \\ &= \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-i \\ a \\ \alpha'_{i-1} \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} k-1 \\ a \\ \beta'_{m-i} \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} i-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m+1-i} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} k-1 \\ a \\ \alpha_{i-1} \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} i-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m+1-i} \stackrel{(III)}{=} \\ &= \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-i \\ a \\ \alpha_{i-1} \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} k-1 \\ a \\ \alpha_{i-1} \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} i-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m+1-i} = \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-i \\ a \\ \alpha'_{i-1} \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} k-1 \\ a \\ \alpha_{i-1} \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} i-1 \\ a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m+1-i} \stackrel{(I)}{=} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m+k \\ \alpha_{i-1} \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m+1-i} &= \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-i & k-1 & \alpha_{i-1} & i-1 \\ a & \alpha'_{i-1} & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m+1-i} \xrightarrow{(V)} \\ \alpha_{i-1} &= \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-i & k-1 & \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m+1-i & k-1 & x_i & i-2 \\ a & \alpha_{i-2} & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m+2-i} & i-1 \\ a & \alpha'_{i-1} & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m+1-i} \xrightarrow{(IV)} \\ \alpha_{i-1} &= \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-i & k-1 & x_i & i-1 \\ a & \alpha'_{i-1} & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m+1-i} \Rightarrow \\ \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m+1-i & k-1 & x_i & i-2 \\ a & \alpha_{i-2} & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m+2-i} &= \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-i & \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m+1-i & k-1 & u_i & i-2 \\ a & \alpha'_{i-2} & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m+2-i} & k-1 & x_i & i-1 \\ a & a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m+1-i} \xrightarrow{(II)} \\ \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m+1-i & k-1 & x_i & i-2 \\ a & \alpha_{i-2} & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m+2-i} &= \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m+1-i & k-1 & \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-i & k-1 & x_i & i-1 \\ a & u_i & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m+1-i} & i-2 \\ a & \alpha'_{i-2} & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m+2-i}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m+1-i & k-1 \\ a & x_i & a \end{smallmatrix} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m+1-i & k-1 \\ a & \alpha_{i-2} & a \end{smallmatrix} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-i & k-1 \\ a & u_i & a \end{smallmatrix} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} i-2 \\ x_i & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m+1-i} \right]_{m+2-i} \right]_{m+2-i} = \\
 & = \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m+1-i & k-1 \\ a & x_i & a \end{smallmatrix} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m+1-i & k-1 \\ a & \alpha'_{i-2} & a \end{smallmatrix} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-i & k-1 \\ a & u_i & a \end{smallmatrix} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} i-1 \\ x_i & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m+1-i} \right]_{m+2-i} \right]_{m+2-i} \quad (IV)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m+1-i & x_i & a & x_i & i-2 \\ a & x_i & a & x_i & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m+2-i} = \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m+1-i & x_i & a & \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-i & u_i & a & x_i & i-1 \\ a & u_i & a & x_i & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m+1-i} & i-2 \\ a & x_i & a & \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-i & u_i & a & x_i & i-1 \\ a & u_i & a & x_i & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m+1-i} & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m+2-i} \stackrel{(I)}{\Rightarrow} \\ & \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m+k \\ x_i \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m+2-i} = \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m+1-i & x_i & a & \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-i & u_i & a & x_i & i-1 \\ a & u_i & a & x_i & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m+1-i} & i-2 \\ a & x_i & a & \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-i & u_i & a & x_i & i-1 \\ a & u_i & a & x_i & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m+1-i} & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m+2-i} \stackrel{(V)}{\Rightarrow} \\ & x_i = \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m+1-i & x_i & a & \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-i & u_i & a & x_i & i-1 \\ a & u_i & a & x_i & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m+1-i} & i-2 \\ a & x_i & a & \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-i & u_i & a & x_i & i-1 \\ a & u_i & a & x_i & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m+1-i} & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m+2-i}. \end{aligned}$$

Since $x_i = \begin{bmatrix} a & x_i & a \\ a & u_i & a & x_i & a \end{bmatrix}_{m+1-i}^m \begin{bmatrix} a \end{bmatrix}_{m+2-i}$ and $x_i, u_i \in A_{m+1-i}$,
 $2 \leq i \leq m$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 x_i &= \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m+1+k-i & i-2 \\ a & x_i a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m+2-i} = \\
 &= \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m+1+k-i & \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m+1-i & k-1 \\ a & x_i a \end{smallmatrix} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-i & u_i & k-1 & x_i & i-1 \\ a & a & a & x_i a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m+1-i} & i-2 \\ a & a & a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m+2-i} & \stackrel{(IV)}{=} \\
 &= \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m+1-i & k-1 & i-2 \\ a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-i & u_i & k-1 & x_i & i-1 \\ a & a & a & x_i a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m+1-i} & \stackrel{(II)}{=} \\
 &= \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m+1-i & k-1 & i-2 \\ a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m+2-i}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-i & \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m+1-i & a & k-1 & u_i & i-2 \\ a & a & a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m+2-i} & k-1 & x_i & i-1 \\ a & & a & x_i & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m+1-i} = \\
&= \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-i & \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m+1+k-i & u_i & i-2 \\ a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m+2-i} & k-1 & x_i & i-1 \\ a & & a & x_i & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m+1-i} = \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-i & u_i & k-1 & x_i & i-1 \\ a & a & a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m+1-i} = \\
&= \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-i & u_i & k-1 & \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-i & x_i & k+i-1 \\ a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m+1-i} & i-1 \\ a & a & a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m+1-i} \stackrel{(IV)}{=} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-i & u_i & k-1 & a & i-1 \\ a & a & a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m+1-i} = \\
&= \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-i & u_i & k+i-1 \\ a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m+1-i} = u_i.
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\left(\left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-1 & x_1 & k \\ a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_m, x_2, \dots, x_m, \left[\begin{smallmatrix} k & x_{m+1} & m-1 \\ a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_1 \right) = \left(\left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-1 & u_1 & k \\ a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_m, u_2, \dots, u_m, \left[\begin{smallmatrix} k & u_{m+1} & m-1 \\ a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_1 \right),$$

i.e. φ is an injection.

(D3) Proof that φ is a surjection.

Let $x \in Q$. Then $\left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-1 & x & k \\ a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_m \in A_m$ and $\left[\begin{smallmatrix} k & x & m-1 \\ a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_1 \in A_0$. We will prove that $\left[\begin{smallmatrix} i-1 & \left[\begin{smallmatrix} k+i & x & m-i-1 \\ a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{i+1} & m+k-i \\ a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_i \in A_i$, $1 \leq i \leq m-1$.

1. If $j \leq i$ then

$$\begin{aligned}
&\left[\begin{smallmatrix} j-1 & \left[\begin{smallmatrix} i-1 & \left[\begin{smallmatrix} k+i & x & m-i-1 \\ a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{i+1} & m+k-i \\ a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_i & m+k-j \\ a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_j \stackrel{(II)}{=} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} i-1 & \left[\begin{smallmatrix} k+i & x & m-i-1 \\ a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{i+1} & k-1 & \left[\begin{smallmatrix} j-1 & a & k-1 & m-j \\ a & a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_j & m-i \\ a & a & a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_i \stackrel{(V)}{=} \\
&= \left[\begin{smallmatrix} i-1 & \left[\begin{smallmatrix} k+i & x & m-i-1 \\ a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{i+1} & k-1 & a & m-i \\ a & a & a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_i = \left[\begin{smallmatrix} i-1 & \left[\begin{smallmatrix} k+i & x & m-i-1 \\ a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{i+1} & m+k-i \\ a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_i.
\end{aligned}$$

2. If $i < j$ then

$$\begin{aligned}
&\left[\begin{smallmatrix} k+j-1 & \left[\begin{smallmatrix} i-1 & \left[\begin{smallmatrix} k+i & x & m-i-1 \\ a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{i+1} & m+k-i \\ a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_i & m-j \\ a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_j \stackrel{(II)}{=} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} i-1 & \left[\begin{smallmatrix} j-1 & a & k-1 & \left[\begin{smallmatrix} k+i & x & m-i-1 \\ a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{i+1} & m-j \\ a & a & a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_j & k-1 & a & m-i \\ a & a & a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_i \stackrel{(II)}{=} \\
&= \left[\begin{smallmatrix} i-1 & \left[\begin{smallmatrix} i & \left[\begin{smallmatrix} j-1 & a & k-1 & a & m-j \\ a & a & a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_j & k-1 & x & m-i-1 \\ a & a & a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{i+1} & m+k-i \\ a & a & a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_i \stackrel{(V)}{=} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} i-1 & \left[\begin{smallmatrix} i & k-1 & x & m-i-1 \\ a & a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{i+1} & m+k-i \\ a & a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_i = \\
&= \left[\begin{smallmatrix} i-1 & \left[\begin{smallmatrix} k+i & x & m-i-1 \\ a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{i+1} & m+k-i \\ a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_i.
\end{aligned}$$

So, $\left[\begin{smallmatrix} i-1 & \left[\begin{smallmatrix} k+i & x & m-i-1 \\ a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{i+1} & m+k-i \\ a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_i \in A_i$, $1 \leq i \leq m-1$.

Let

$$\varphi \left(\left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-1 & x & k \\ a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_m, \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-2 & \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m+k-1 & x \\ a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m-1} & k+1 \\ a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m-1}, \dots, \left[\begin{smallmatrix} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} k+1 & x & m-2 \\ a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_2 & m+k-1 \\ a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_1, \left[\begin{smallmatrix} k & x & m-1 \\ a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_1 \right) = \alpha_m.$$

We have

$$\begin{aligned}
\alpha_1 &= \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-1 & x^{k-1} \\ a & a \end{smallmatrix} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-2 & \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m+k-1 & x \\ a & m \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m-1}^{k+1} \\ a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_m \right]_m \stackrel{(II)}{=} \\
&= \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-1 & x^{k-1} \\ a & a \end{smallmatrix} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-1 & a^{k-1} \\ a & a \end{smallmatrix} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-2 & x^{k-1} \\ a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m-1} aa \right]_{m-1} \right]_m \stackrel{(IV)}{=} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-1 & x^{k-1} \\ a & a \end{smallmatrix} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-2 & x^{k-1} \\ a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m-1} aa \right]_m \stackrel{(II)}{=} \\
&= \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-2 & \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-1 & x^{k-1} \\ a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_m^{k-1} aa \right]_{m-1} \stackrel{(I)}{=} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-2 & \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m+k & \\ x & m \end{smallmatrix} \right]_m^{k-1} aa \right]_{m-1} \stackrel{(V)}{=} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-2 & x^{k+1} \\ a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m-1}; \\
\alpha_2 &= \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-2 & \alpha_1^{k-1} \\ a & a \end{smallmatrix} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-3 & \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m+k-2 & xa \\ a & m-1 \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m-1}^{k+2} \\ a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m-2} \right]_{m-1} \stackrel{(II)}{=} \\
&= \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-2 & \alpha_1^{k-1} \\ a & a \end{smallmatrix} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-2 & a^{k-1} \\ a & a \end{smallmatrix} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-3 & x^{k-1} \\ a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m-2} a \right]_{m-1} \right]_{m-2} \stackrel{(IV)}{=} \\
&= \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-2 & \alpha_1^{k-1} \\ a & a \end{smallmatrix} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-3 & x^{k-1} \\ a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m-2} a \right]_{m-1} \stackrel{(II)}{=} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-3 & \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-2 & \alpha_1^{k-1} \\ a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m-1} \\ a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m-2} = \\
&= \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-3 & \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-2 & x^{k+1} \\ a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m-1}^{k-1} xa \right]_{m-2} \stackrel{(III)}{=} \\
&= \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-3 & \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-2 & x^{k-1} \\ a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m-1}^{k-1} aa \right]_{m-2} \stackrel{(I)}{=} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-3 & \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m+k & \\ x & m \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m-1}^{k-1} aa \right]_{m-2} \stackrel{(V)}{=} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-3 & x^{k+2} \\ a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m-2} \\
&\vdots \\
\alpha_i &= \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-i-1 & x^{k+i} \\ a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_{m-i}, 1 \leq i \leq m-1.
\end{aligned}$$

Then,

$$\begin{aligned}
\alpha_m &= \left[\alpha_{m-1}^{k-1} x^{m-1} \right]_1 = \left[\left[x^{m+k-1} \right]_1^{k-1} x^{m-1} \right]_1 \stackrel{(III)}{=} \left[x^{k-1} x^{m-1} \right]_1 \stackrel{(I)}{=} \\
&= \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m+k & \\ x & 1 \end{smallmatrix} \right]_1 \stackrel{(V)}{=} x
\end{aligned}$$

and therefore φ is a surjection.

(D4) Proof that φ is $(m+k, m)$ -homomorphism.

Let

$$\gamma_j = \left(\left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-1 & x_{j,1}^k \\ a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_m, x_{j,2}, \dots, x_{j,m}, \left[\begin{smallmatrix} k & x_{j,m+1}^{m-1} \\ a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_1 \right) \in A_m \times \dots \times A_1 \times A_0, j \in \mathbb{N}_{m+k}.$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned}
\varphi \left(\left[\gamma_1^{m+k} \right]_i \right) &= \\
&= \varphi \left(\left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-1 & x_{i,1}^k \\ a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_m, x_{i,2}, \dots, x_{i,m+1-i}, x_{i+k,m+2-i}, \dots, \left[\begin{smallmatrix} k & x_{i+k,m+1}^{m-1} \\ a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_1 \right) =
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \left[\begin{smallmatrix} i-1 & \alpha_{m-i} & k-1 & \beta_{i-1} & m-i \\ a & a & a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_i = \alpha_m. \\
[\varphi(\gamma_1) \dots \varphi(\gamma_{m+k})]_i &\stackrel{(I)}{=} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} i-1 & \varphi(\gamma_i) & k-1 & \varphi(\gamma_{i+k}) & m-i \\ a & a & a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_i = \left[\begin{smallmatrix} i-1 & \alpha'_m & k-1 & \alpha''_m & m-i \\ a & a & a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_i = \\
&= \left[\begin{smallmatrix} i-1 & \alpha'_{m-i} & k-1 & \beta'_{i-1} & m-i \\ a & a & a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_i \stackrel{k-1}{a} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} i-1 & \alpha''_{m-i} & k-1 & \beta''_{i-1} & m-i \\ a & a & a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_i \stackrel{(III)}{=} \\
&= \left[\begin{smallmatrix} i-1 & \alpha'_{m-i} & k-1 & \beta''_{i-1} & m-i \\ a & a & a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_i \stackrel{(IV)}{=} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} i-1 & \alpha'_{m-i} & k-1 & \beta'_{i-1} & m-i \\ a & a & a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_i = \\
&= \left[\begin{smallmatrix} i-1 & \alpha_{m-i} & k-1 & \beta_{i-1} & m-i \\ a & a & a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_i = \alpha_m.
\end{aligned}$$

Thus, φ is $(m+k, m)$ -homomorphism.

Hence, $(A_m \times \dots \times A_1 \times A_0; [\]) \cong \mathbf{Q}$. \square

3. A CHARACTERIZATION OF $(m+k, m)$ -BANDS

In the sequel we will give a characterization of $(m+k, m)$ -bands using the usual rectangular bands, where a rectangular band is a semigroup $(Q; *)$ that satisfies the following two identities $x * y * z = x * z$ and $x * x = x$, for each $x, y, z \in Q$.

Proposition 3.1. $\mathbf{Q} = (Q; [\])$ is an $(m+k, m)$ -band if and only if there are rectangular bands $(Q; *_i)$, $i \in \mathbb{N}_m$, such that

$$(i) (x *_i y) *_j z = x *_i (y *_j z), j \leq i;$$

$$(ii) (x *_j y) *_i z = x *_i z, j \leq i;$$

$$(iii) x *_j (y *_i z) = x *_j z, j \leq i;$$

$$\text{and } [x_1^{m+k}]_i = x_i *_i x_{i+k}, x_1^{m+k} \in Q^{m+k}, i \in \mathbb{N}_m.$$

Proof. Suppose $\mathbf{Q} = (Q; [\])$ is an $(m+k, m)$ -band. According to Proposition 2.2, (I), (II), (III), (IV) and (V) are satisfied in \mathbf{Q} . For a fixed in Q , let $*_i$ $i \in \mathbb{N}_m$, be an operation defined on Q , by $x *_i y = \left[\begin{smallmatrix} i-1 & x & k-1 & y & m-i \\ a & a & a & a & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_i$. Then using (I), (II), (III), (IV) and (V) we can obtain that $(Q; *_i)$, $i \in \mathbb{N}_m$ are rectangular bands, satisfying (i), (ii) and (iii) and $[x_1^{m+k}]_i = x_i *_i x_{i+k}$, $x_1^{m+k} \in Q^{m+k}$, $i \in \mathbb{N}_m$.

Conversely, let $(Q; *_i)$, $i \in \mathbb{N}_m$, be rectangular bands, satisfying (i), (ii) and (iii) and $[x_1^{m+k}]_i = x_i *_i x_{i+k}$, $x_1^{m+k} \in Q^{m+k}$, $i \in \mathbb{N}_m$.

Clearly, $Q = (Q; [\])$ is an $(m+k, m)$ -groupoid.

In order to prove that $Q = (Q; [\])$ is an $(m+k, m)$ -semigroup, we need to go through the following three cases: (1) $k = m$; (2) $k > m$, i.e. $k = m+s$, $s \geq 1$, and (3) $k < m$.

$$(1) [[x_1^{2m}] x_{2m+1}^{3m}]_i = [x_1^{2m}]_i *_i x_{2m+i} = (x_i *_i x_{i+m}) *_i x_{i+2m} = x_i *_i x_{i+2m}.$$

$$\text{We will prove that } [x_1^j [x_{j+1}^{j+2m}] x_{j+2m+1}^{3m}]_i = x_i *_i x_{i+2m}.$$

a) Let $i \leq j$. Then $i + m \leq j + m$. We obtain, $i + m = j + t$, for $1 \leq t \leq m$. It is also true that $i + m = j + t \leq m + t$. So $i \leq t$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} & \left[x_1^j \left[x_{j+1}^{j+2m} \right] x_{j+2m+1}^{3m} \right]_i = x_i *_i \left[x_{j+1}^{j+2m} \right]_t = x_i *_i (x_{j+t} *_t x_{j+t+m}) \stackrel{(iii)}{=} \\ & = x_i *_i x_{j+t+m} = x_i *_i x_{i+2m}. \end{aligned}$$

b) Let $j < i$. $j < i \leq m$ implies $j < m$. Let $j + t = m$, then $i = j + \lambda$, where $1 \leq \lambda \leq t$ and $i + m > j + m$.

$$\begin{aligned} & \left[x_1^j \left[x_{j+1}^{j+2m} \right] x_{j+2m+1}^{3m} \right]_i = \left[x_{j+1}^{j+2m} \right]_\lambda *_{j+\lambda} x_{j+2m+\lambda} = \\ & = (x_{j+\lambda} *_{\lambda} x_{j+\lambda+m}) *_{j+\lambda} x_{j+2m+\lambda} \stackrel{(ii)}{=} x_{j+\lambda} *_{j+\lambda} x_{j+2m+\lambda} = x_i *_i x_{i+2m}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, $\left[[x_1^{2m}] x_{2m+1}^{3m} \right]_i = \left[x_1^j \left[x_{j+1}^{j+2m} \right] x_{j+2m+1}^{3m} \right]_i$, for any $i \in \mathbb{N}_m$, $0 \leq j \leq m$. So, $(Q; [])$ is an $(2m, m)$ semigroup.

$$(2) \left[[x_1^{2m+s}] x_{2m+s+1}^{3m+2s} \right]_i = \left[x_1^{2m+s} \right]_i *_i x_{2m+s+s+i} = (x_i *_i x_{i+m+s}) *_i x_{i+2m+2s} = \\ = x_i *_i x_{i+2m+2s}. \text{ We will prove that } \left[x_1^j \left[x_{j+1}^{j+2m+s} \right] x_{j+2m+s+1}^{3m+2s} \right]_i = x_i *_i x_{i+2m+2s}.$$

a) Let $i < j \leq m + s$.

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{a1) Let } j \leq s. \text{ Then } i + s + m > s + m \geq j + m. \left[x_1^j \left[x_{j+1}^{j+2m+s} \right] x_{j+2m+s+1}^{3m+2s} \right]_i = \\ & = x_i *_i x_{j+2m+s+s-j+i} = x_i *_i x_{i+2m+2s}. \\ & \text{a2) Let } s < j \leq m + s. \text{ If } s + t = j \text{ then } s + t \leq m + s \text{ i.e. } t \leq m. \text{ So, } 1 \leq t \leq m. \\ & \text{a2.1) } i \leq t. \text{ Then } i + m + s \leq t + m + s = j + m \text{ and } j \leq m + s \leq i + m + s \leq j + m \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \left[x_1^j \left[x_{j+1}^{j+2m+s} \right] x_{j+2m+s+1}^{3m+2s} \right]_i = \\ & = \left[x^{s+t} \left[x_{j+1}^{j+2m+s} \right]_1 \dots \left[x_{j+1}^{j+2m+s} \right]_{m-t} \left[x_{j+1}^{j+2m+s} \right]_{m-t+1} \dots \left[x_{j+1}^{j+2m+s} \right]_{m-t+t} x_{j+2m+s+1}^{3m+2s} \right]_i \\ & = x_i *_i \left[x_{j+1}^{j+2m+s} \right]_{m-t+i} = x_i *_i (x_{j+m-t+i} *_{m-t+i} x_{j+m-t+i+m+s}) \end{aligned}$$

Since $i \leq m - t + i$, using (iii) we have

$$\begin{aligned} & x_i *_i (x_{j+m-t+i} *_{m-t+i} x_{j+m-t+i+m+s}) \stackrel{(iii)}{=} x_i *_i x_{j+m-t+i+m+s} = \\ & = x_i *_i x_{s+t+m-t+i+m+s} = x_i *_i x_{i+2m+2s}. \end{aligned}$$

a2.2) $i > t$. Then $i + m + s > t + m + s = j + m$.

$$\begin{aligned} & \left[x_1^j \left[x_{j+1}^{j+2m+s} \right] x_{j+2m+s+1}^{3m+2s} \right]_i = \\ & = \left[x_1^{s+t} \left[x_{j+1}^{j+2m+s} \right]_1 \dots \left[x_{j+1}^{j+2m+s} \right]_{m-t} \left[x_{j+1}^{j+2m+s} \right]_{m-t+1} \dots \left[x_{j+1}^{j+2m+s} \right]_{m-t+t} x_{j+2m+s+1}^{3m+2s} \right]_i \\ & = x_i *_i x_{j+2m+s+i-t} = x_i *_i x_{s+t+2m+s+i-t} = x_i *_i x_{i+2m+2s}. \end{aligned}$$

b) Let $i = j$. $\left[x_1^i \left[x_{i+1}^{i+2m+s} \right] x_{i+2m+s+1}^{3m+2s} \right]_i = x_i *_i x_{i+2m+s+s} = x_i *_i x_{i+2m+2s}$.

c) $i > j$. Then $i \leq m$ implies that $m > j$. Let $j + t = m$. So, $i = j + \lambda$, $1 \leq \lambda \leq t$

(clearly, $i+m+s > j+m$). We have

$$\begin{aligned} \left[x_1^j \left[x_{j+1}^{j+2m+s} \right] x_{j+2m+s+1}^{3m+2s} \right]_i &= \left[x_{j+1}^{j+2m+s} \right]_\lambda *_i x_{j+2m+s+\lambda+s} = \\ &= (x_{j+\lambda} *_\lambda x_{j+\lambda+m+s}) *_i x_{j+2m+s+\lambda+s} \end{aligned}$$

Since $\lambda \leq i$, using (ii) we have

$$(x_{j+\lambda} *_\lambda x_{j+\lambda+m+s}) *_i x_{j+2m+s+\lambda+s} \stackrel{(ii)}{=} x_{j+\lambda} *_i x_{j+2m+s+\lambda+s} = x_i *_i x_{i+2m+2s}.$$

Then $\left[[x_1^{2m+s}] x_{2m+s+1}^{3m+2s} \right]_i = \left[x_1^j \left[x_{j+1}^{j+2m+s} \right] x_{j+2m+s+1}^{3m+2s} \right]_i$, for any $i \in \mathbb{N}_m$, $0 \leq j \leq m$. So $(Q; [\cdot])$ is a $(2m+s, m)$ -semigroup.

(3) Since $k < m$, let $k+t = m$, $t \geq 1$.

First, we will prove that $\left[[x_1^{m+k}] x_{m+k+1}^{m+2k} \right]_i = x_i *_i x_{i+2k}$.

a) Let $i \leq t$. Then $i+k \leq t+k = m$. We have

$$\begin{aligned} \left[[x_1^{m+k}] x_{m+k+1}^{m+2k} \right]_i &= \left[x_1^{m+k} \right]_i *_i \left[x_1^{m+k} \right]_{i+k} = (x_i *_i x_{i+k}) *_i (x_{i+k} *_{i+k} x_{i+2k}) = \\ &= x_i *_i (x_{i+k} *_{i+k} x_{i+2k}) \end{aligned}$$

Since $i \leq i+k$, (iii) implies that:

$$x_i *_i (x_{i+k} *_{i+k} x_{i+2k}) \stackrel{(iii)}{=} x_i *_i x_{i+2k}.$$

b) Let $t < i \leq m$. Then $i = t + \lambda$, $1 \leq \lambda \leq k$ and $i+k = t + \lambda + k = m + \lambda$.

$$\begin{aligned} \left[[x_1^{m+k}] x_{m+k+1}^{m+2k} \right]_i &= \left[x_1^{m+k} \right]_i *_i x_{m+k+\lambda} = (x_i *_i x_{i+k}) *_i x_{m+k+\lambda} = \\ &= x_i *_i x_{m+k+\lambda} = x_i *_i x_{t+k+k+\lambda} = x_i *_i x_{i+2k}. \end{aligned}$$

Further on we will prove that $\left[x_1^j \left[x_{j+1}^{j+m+k} \right] x_{j+m+k+1}^{m+2k} \right]_i = x_i *_i x_{i+2k}$.

c) Let $i \leq j$. Then $i \leq j < j+t$ implies $i+k < j+t+k = j+m$. Moreover, $i+k > k \geq j$ i.e. $j < i+k < j+m$. Let $i+k = j+\lambda$ (then $i+k = j+\lambda \leq k+\lambda$ i.e. $i \leq \lambda$).

We obtain

$$\begin{aligned} &\left[x_1^j \left[x_{j+1}^{j+m+k} \right] x_{j+m+k+1}^{m+2k} \right]_i = \\ &= \left[x_1^i x_{i+1}^j \left[x_{j+1}^{j+m+k} \right]_1 \dots \left[x_{j+1}^{j+m+k} \right]_\lambda \left[x_{j+1}^{j+m+k} \right]_{\lambda+1} \dots \left[x_{j+1}^{j+m+k} \right]_m x_{j+m+k+1}^{m+2k} \right]_i = \\ &= x_i *_i \left[x_{j+1}^{j+m+k} \right]_\lambda = x_i *_i (x_{j+\lambda} *_\lambda x_{j+\lambda+k}). \end{aligned}$$

Since $i \leq \lambda$, (iii) implies that:

$$x_i *_i (x_{j+\lambda} *_\lambda x_{j+\lambda+k}) \stackrel{(iii)}{=} x_i *_i x_{j+\lambda+k} = x_i *_i x_{i+k+k} = x_i *_i x_{i+2k}.$$

d) Let $j < i$.

d1) Let $j+1 \leq i \leq j+t$ i.e. $i = j+\lambda$, $1 \leq \lambda \leq t$.

Then $i+k = j+\lambda+k \leq j+t+k = j+m$. Also, $i+k = j+\lambda+k \leq k+\lambda+k$, therefore $i \leq \lambda+k$.

$$\left[x_1^j \left[x_{j+1}^{j+m+k} \right] x_{j+m+k+1}^{m+2k} \right]_i = \left[x_{j+1}^{j+m+k} \right]_\lambda *_i \left[x_{j+1}^{j+m+k} \right]_{\lambda+k} =$$

$$= (x_{j+\lambda} *_{\lambda} x_{j+\lambda+k}) *_i (x_{j+\lambda+k} *_{\lambda+k} x_{j+\lambda+k+k}).$$

Since $\lambda \leq i$, using (ii) we have

$$(x_{j+\lambda} *_{\lambda} x_{j+\lambda+k}) *_i (x_{j+\lambda+k} *_{\lambda+k} x_{j+\lambda+k+k}) \stackrel{(ii)}{=} x_{j+\lambda} *_i (x_{j+\lambda+k} *_{\lambda+k} x_{j+\lambda+k+k}).$$

Since $i \leq \lambda + k$, by (iii) we have

$$x_{j+\lambda} *_i (x_{j+\lambda+k} *_{\lambda+k} x_{j+\lambda+k+k}) \stackrel{(iii)}{=} x_{j+\lambda} *_i x_{j+\lambda+k+k} = x_i *_i x_{i+2k}.$$

d2) Let $j + t < i$ i.e. $i = j + t + \lambda$, $1 \leq \lambda \leq k - j$. Then $j + t + k < i + k$ i.e. $j + m < i + k$.

$$\begin{aligned} & \left[x_1^j \left[x_{j+1}^{j+m+k} \right] x_{j+m+k+1}^{m+2k} \right]_i = \left[x_{j+1}^{j+m+k} \right]_{t+\lambda} *_i x_{j+m+k+\lambda} = \\ & = (x_{j+t+\lambda} *_{t+\lambda} x_{j+t+\lambda+k}) *_i x_{j+k+t+k+\lambda}. \end{aligned}$$

Since $t + \lambda \leq i$, using (ii) we have

$$(x_{j+t+\lambda} *_{t+\lambda} x_{j+t+\lambda+k}) *_i x_{j+k+t+k+\lambda} \stackrel{(ii)}{=} x_{j+t+\lambda} *_i x_{j+k+t+k+\lambda} = x_i *_i x_{i+2k}.$$

Then $\left[[x_1^{m+k}] x_{m+k+1}^{m+2k} \right]_i = \left[x_1^j \left[x_{j+1}^{j+m+k} \right] x_{j+m+k+1}^{m+2k} \right]_i$, for any $i \in \mathbb{N}_m$ $0 \leq j \leq m$.

So, $(Q; [\cdot])$ is an $(m+k, m)$ -semigroup, when $k < m$.

Since $(Q; *_i)$, $i \in \mathbb{N}_m$, are rectangular bands, satisfying (i), (ii) and (iii) and $[x_1^{m+k}]_i = x_i *_i x_{i+k}$, $x_1^{m+k} \in Q^{m+k}$, $i \in \mathbb{N}_m$, it follows that in $(Q; [\cdot])$ (I), (II), (III), (IV) and (V) are satisfied.

Hence, according to Proposition 2.2, Q is an $(m+k, m)$ -band. \square

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