

FREE $(m + k, m)$ -BANDS

VALENTINA MIOVSKA AND DONČO DIMOVSKI

Dedicated to Academician Ćorgi Čupona

Abstract. A characterization of $(m + k, m)$ -bands using the rectangular bands is given in [3]. This result is used to obtain a free $(m + k, m)$ -band.

1. INTRODUCTION

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 for $i \leq j$, and the empty sequence for $i > j$.

3) If $x_1 = x_2 = \dots = x_s = x$, then x_1^s is denoted by the symbol x^s .

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 mapping 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

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

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

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

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

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

1991 *Mathematics Subject Classification.* 20M10.

Key words and phrases. $(m + k, m)$ -band, free $(m + k, m)$ -band.

Proposition 1.1. ([3, Proposition 1.3]) *Any p -zero $(m+k, m)$ -groupoid $(Q; []^p)$ is an $(m+k, m)$ -semigroup.*

Proposition 1.2. ([3, 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 $0 \leq p \leq m$.*

Propositions 1.1 and 1.2 imply that there are exactly $m+1$ projection $(m+k, m)$ -semigroups.

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

$$[x_1^{m+k}] = y_1^m \Leftrightarrow x_i = (x_{i,1}, x_{i,2}, \dots, x_{i,t}), y_j = (y_{j,1}, y_{j,2}, \dots, y_{j,t}),$$

$$y_{j,r} = [x_{1,j}x_{2,j}\dots x_{m+k,j}]^r, i \in \mathbb{N}_{m+k}, j \in \mathbb{N}_m, r \in \mathbb{N}_t.$$

Let $\mathbf{A}_p = (A_p; []^p)$ 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 $(A_m \times A_{m-1} \times \dots \times A_0; [])$ is an $(m+k, m)$ -band then its $(m+k, m)$ -operation $[]$ is of the form

$$[x_1^{m+k}] = y_1^m \Leftrightarrow x_i = (x_{i,1}, x_{i,2}, \dots, x_{i,m+1}),$$

$$y_j = (x_{j,1}, x_{j,2}, \dots, x_{j,m+1-j}, x_{j+k,m+2-j}, \dots, x_{j+k,m+1}), i \in \mathbb{N}_{m+k}, j \in \mathbb{N}_m.$$

The next proposition gives a characterization of $(m+k, m)$ -bands as $(m+k, m)$ -semigroups in which five identities are satisfied.

Proposition 1.3. ([3, Proposition 2.2]) *An $(m+k, m)$ -semigroup $\mathbf{Q} = (Q, [])$ is an $(m+k, m)$ -band if and only if the following conditions are satisfied in \mathbf{Q} :*

$$(B I) [x_1^{m+k}]_i = [y_1^{i-1}x_i y_{i+1}^{i+k-1}x_{i+k}y_{i+k+1}^{m+k}]_i,$$

$$(B II) \left[a^{-1} \left[\begin{array}{ccc} i-1 & k-1 & m-i \\ a & x & a \end{array} \right]_i \begin{array}{cc} k-1 & m-j \\ a & z \end{array} \right]_j = \left[\begin{array}{ccc} i-1 & k-1 & j-1 \\ a & x & a \end{array} \left[\begin{array}{ccc} k-1 & m-j & \\ a & y & a \end{array} \right]_j \begin{array}{c} m-i \\ a \end{array} \right]_i,$$

$$(B III) \left[\begin{array}{ccc} i-1 & j-1 & k-1 \\ a & x & a \end{array} \left[\begin{array}{ccc} m-i & & \\ a & y & a \end{array} \right]_j \begin{array}{c} k-1 \\ a \end{array} \right]_i = \left[\begin{array}{ccc} i-1 & k-1 & m-i \\ a & x & a \end{array} \right]_i,$$

$$(B IV) \left[\begin{array}{ccc} j-1 & k-1 & i-1 \\ a & x & a \end{array} \left[\begin{array}{ccc} m-i & & \\ a & y & a \end{array} \right]_i \begin{array}{c} m-j \\ a \end{array} \right]_j = \left[\begin{array}{ccc} j-1 & k-1 & m-j \\ a & x & a \end{array} \right]_j,$$

$$(B V) \left[\begin{array}{c} m+k \\ x \end{array} \right] = \begin{array}{c} m \\ x \end{array},$$

for a fixed element $a \in Q$, $i, j \in \mathbb{N}_m$ and $j \leq i$.

The second characterization of $(m+k, m)$ -bands, using the usual rectangular bands, where a rectangular band is a semigroup $(Q; *)$ that satisfies the identities $x * y * z = x * z$ and $x * x = x$, for each $x, y, z \in Q$ is given in [3], also.

Proposition 1.4. ([3, 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*

$$(i) (x *_i y) *_j z = x *_i (y *_j z),$$

$$(ii) (x *_j y) *_i z = x *_i z,$$

(iii) $x *_j (y *_i z) = x *_j z$,
for $i, j \in \mathbb{N}_m, j \leq i$

and

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

This result of Proposition 1.4. is used to obtain a free $(m+k, m)$ -band.

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

Let B be a nonempty set. We define a sequence of sets $B_0, B_1, \dots, B_p, \dots$ by induction.

Let $B_0 = B$, B_p already defined and let $C_p = \{xy \mid x, y \in B_p\}$. Then, let

$$B_{p+1} = B_p \cup (\mathbb{N}_m \times C_p) \text{ and } \bar{B} = \bigcup_{p \geq 0} B_p.$$

Define a *length* for elements of \bar{B} , i.e. a mapping $|\cdot| : \bar{B} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ as follows:
If $a \in B$ then $|a| = 1$. Suppose that for each $u \in B_p$, $|u|$ is defined, then for $(i, xy) \in B_{p+1}$ we take $|(i, xy)| = 1 + |x| + |y|$.

By induction on the length we are going to define a mapping $\varphi : \bar{B} \rightarrow \bar{B}$.

For $a \in B$ let

$$(0) \quad \varphi(a) = a.$$

Let $u = (i, xy) \in \bar{B}$ and suppose that for each $v \in \bar{B}$ with $|v| < |u|$, $\varphi(v)$ be defined and

(i) if $\varphi(v) \neq v$ then $|\varphi(v)| < |v|$;

(ii) $\varphi(\varphi(v)) = \varphi(v)$.

Because $|x| < |u|$ and $|y| < |u|$, it follows that $\varphi(x)$ and $\varphi(y)$ are defined.

If $\varphi(x) \neq x$ or $\varphi(y) \neq y$ then let

$$(1) \quad \varphi(i, xy) = \varphi(i, \varphi(x)\varphi(y)).$$

If $\varphi(x) = x$ and $\varphi(y) = y$, we consider several cases:

For $u = (i, xx)$, let

$$(2) \quad \varphi(u) = \varphi(x);$$

For $u = (i, (j, zw)y)$, $j \leq i$, let

$$(3) \quad \varphi(u) = \varphi(i, zy);$$

For $u = (i, x(j, zw))$, $i \leq j$, let

$$(4) \quad \varphi(u) = \varphi(i, xw);$$

For $u = (i, (j, zw)y)$, $i < j$, let

$$(5) \quad \varphi(u) = \varphi(j, z(i, wy));$$

For $u = (i, x(j, xz))$, $j < i$, let

$$(6) \quad \varphi(u) = \varphi(j, xz).$$

If $\varphi(u)$ can not be defined by (1), (2), (3), (4), (5) or (6) let

$$(7) \quad \varphi(u) = u.$$

We will give some properties of φ .

Lemma 2.1. φ is a well defined mapping.

Proof. The proof of this property is by induction on the length of the elements $u = (i, xy)$ of \overline{B} .

Let $\varphi(x) \neq x$ or $\varphi(y) \neq y$. Then $|x| < |u|$, $|y| < |u|$ and from (i) we have $|\varphi(x)| < |x|$ or $|\varphi(y)| < |y|$. Hence, $|(i, \varphi(x)\varphi(y))| = 1 + |\varphi(x)| + |\varphi(x)||\varphi(y)| < 1 + |x| + |x||y| = |(i, xy)| = |u|$.

Let $\varphi(x) = x$ and $\varphi(y) = y$.

If $u = (i, xx)$ then $|x| < |u|$.

If $u = (i, (j, zw)y)$, $j \leq i$ then $|(i, zy)| = 1 + |z| + |z||y| < 1 + 1 + |z| + |z||w| + |y| + |z||y| + |z||w||y| = |(i, (j, zw)y)| = |u|$.

If $u = (i, x(j, zw))$, $i \leq j$ then $|(i, xw)| = 1 + |x| + |x||w| < 1 + |x| + |x| + |x||z| + |x||z||w| = |(i, x(j, zw))| = |u|$.

If $u = (i, (j, zw)y)$, $i < j$ then $|(j, z(i, wy))| = 1 + |z| + |z| + |z||w| + |z||w||y| < 1 + 1 + |z| + |z||w| + |y| + |z||y| + |z||w||y| = |(i, (j, zw)y)| = |u|$.

If $u = (i, x(j, xz))$, $j < i$ then $|(j, xz)| < |u|$.

Considering the fact that on the right hand side of (1), (2), (3), (4), (5) and (6) of the definition of φ , φ is applied on elements with length less than the length of u , we conclude that φ is a well defined mapping. \square

Lemma 2.2. Let $u \in \overline{B}$.

a) $|\varphi(u)| \leq |u|$.

b) If $\varphi(u) \neq u$ then $|\varphi(u)| < |u|$.

c) $\varphi(\varphi(u)) = \varphi(u)$.

Proof. By induction on the length.

a) If $\varphi(u)$ is defined by (0) or (7), then $\varphi(u) = u$. So, $|\varphi(u)| = |u|$.

If $\varphi(u)$ is defined by (1), (2), (3), (4), (5) or (6), then on the right hand side of (1), (2), (3), (4), (5) and (6) of the definition of φ , φ is applied on element v with length less than the length of u and by the inductive hypothesis $|\varphi(v)| \leq |v|$. Hence, $|\varphi(u)| = |\varphi(v)| \leq |v| < |u|$.

b) It follows from a).

c) If $\varphi(u)$ is defined by (0) or (7), then $\varphi(u) = u$. So, $\varphi(\varphi(u)) = \varphi(u)$.

If $\varphi(u)$ is defined by (1), (2), (3), (4), (5) or (6), then on the right hand side of (1), (2), (3), (4), (5) and (6) of the definition of φ , φ is applied on element v , such that $|v| < |u|$. By the inductive hypothesis $\varphi(\varphi(v)) = \varphi(v)$, hence $\varphi(\varphi(u)) = \varphi(\varphi(v)) = \varphi(v) = \varphi(u)$. \square

Lemma 2.3. Let $u = (i, xy) \in \overline{B}$. Then:

a) $\varphi(u) = \varphi(i, \varphi(x)\varphi(y))$.

b) $\varphi(u) = \varphi(i, \varphi(x)y) = \varphi(i, x\varphi(y))$.

Proof. a) If $\varphi(x) \neq x$ or $\varphi(y) \neq y$ then a) follows from (1) of the definition of φ . If $\varphi(x) = x$ and $\varphi(y) = y$, then a) is obvious.

b) By induction on the length of $u = (i, xy)$.

If $\varphi(x) \neq x$ or $\varphi(y) \neq y$ then $\varphi(u) = \varphi(i, \varphi(x)\varphi(y))$. Because $|(i, \varphi(x)\varphi(y))| < |u|$, by induction and using *a*) we have $\varphi(i, \varphi(x)\varphi(y)) = \varphi(i, \varphi(\varphi(x))\varphi(y)) = \varphi(i, \varphi(x)y)$. Similarly, $\varphi(u) = \varphi(i, x\varphi(y))$.

If $\varphi(x) = x$ and $\varphi(y) = y$, then the property is obvious. \square

Lemma 2.4. *If $u = (i, xx) \in \bar{B}$ then $\varphi(u) = \varphi(x)$.*

Proof. By induction on the length of $u = (i, xy)$.

If $\varphi(x) \neq x$ then by (1) we have $\varphi(i, xx) = \varphi(i, \varphi(x)\varphi(x))$. Then, by induction, since $|(i, \varphi(x)\varphi(x))| = 1 + |\varphi(x)| + |\varphi(x)||\varphi(x)| < 1 + |x| + |x||x| = |u|$, and using Lemma 2.3 *a*) we have $\varphi(i, \varphi(x)\varphi(x)) = \varphi(\varphi(x)) = \varphi(x)$.

If $\varphi(x) = x$, then the property follows from (2) of the definition of φ . \square

Lemma 2.5. (I) *If $u = (i, (j, zw)y)$, $j \leq i$ then $\varphi(u) = \varphi(i, zy)$.*

(II) *If $u = (i, x(j, zw))$, $i \leq j$ then $\varphi(u) = \varphi(i, xw)$.*

(III) *If $u = (i, (j, zw)y)$, $i < j$ then $\varphi(u) = \varphi(j, z(i, wy))$.*

(IV) *If $u = (i, x(j, xz))$, $j < i$ then $\varphi(u) = \varphi(j, xz)$.*

Proof. By induction on the length of $u = (i, xy)$.

(I) A) Let $\varphi(j, zw) \neq (j, zw)$ or $\varphi(y) \neq y$.

A1) If $\varphi(y) \neq y$ then, by induction and using Lemma 2.3. *b*) we have:

$$\varphi(i, (j, zw)y) = \varphi(i, (j, zw)\varphi(y)) = \varphi(i, z\varphi(y)) = \varphi(i, zy).$$

We have applied (I) on $(i, (j, zw)\varphi(y))$ because $|(i, (j, zw)\varphi(y))| < |(i, (j, zw)y)|$.

A2) Let $\varphi(j, zw) \neq (j, zw)$.

A2.1) If $\varphi(z) \neq z$ or $\varphi(w) \neq w$ then, using Lemma 2.3. *b*) and (1) of the definition of φ , we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(i, (j, zw)y) &= \varphi(i, \varphi(j, zw)y) = \varphi(i, \varphi(j, \varphi(z)\varphi(w))y) = \varphi(i, (j, \varphi(z)\varphi(w))y) \\ &= \varphi(i, \varphi(z)y) = \varphi(i, zy). \end{aligned}$$

In the above, we have applied (I) on $(i, (j, \varphi(z)\varphi(w))y)$ because $|(i, (j, \varphi(z)\varphi(w))y)| < |u|$.

A2.2) Let $\varphi(z) = z$ and $\varphi(w) = w$.

A2.2.1) Let $z = w$. Then, using Lemma 2.3. *b*) and (2) of the definition of φ , we have:

$$\varphi(i, (j, zz)y) = \varphi(i, \varphi(j, zz)y) = \varphi(i, \varphi(z)y) = \varphi(i, zy).$$

A2.2.2) Let $z = (l, z_1z_2)$, $l \leq j$. Then, by induction, using Lemma 2.3. *b*) and (3) of the definition of φ , we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(i, (j, (l, z_1z_2)w)y) &= \varphi(i, \varphi(j, (l, z_1z_2)w)y) = \varphi(i, \varphi(j, z_1w)y) = \varphi(i, (j, z_1w)y) \\ &= \varphi(i, z_1y) = \varphi(i, (l, z_1z_2)y) = \varphi(i, zy). \end{aligned}$$

We have applied (I) on $(i, (j, z_1w)y)$ and $(i, (l, z_1z_2)y)$, since their lengths are less than the length of u .

A2.2.3) Let $w = (l, w_1w_2)$, $j \leq l$. Then, by induction, using Lemma 2.3. *b*) and (4) of the definition of φ , we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(i, (j, z(l, w_1w_2))y) &= \varphi(i, \varphi(j, z(l, w_1w_2))y) = \varphi(i, \varphi(j, zw_2)y) = \varphi(i, (j, zw_2)y) \\ &= \varphi(i, zy). \end{aligned}$$

We have applied (I) on $(i, (j, zw_2)y)$, because $|(i, (j, zw_2)y)| < |u|$.

A2.2.4) Let $u = (i, (j, (l, z_1z_2)w)y)$, $j < l$. Then, by induction, using Lemma 2.3. *b*) and (5) of the definition of φ , we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(i, (j, (l, z_1 z_2)w)y) &= \varphi(i, \varphi(j, (l, z_1 z_2)w)y) = \varphi(i, \varphi(l, z_1(j, z_2 w))y) \\ &= \varphi(i, (l, z_1(j, z_2 w))y). \end{aligned}$$

If $j < l \leq i$, then by induction, since $|(i, (l, z_1(j, z_2 w))y)| < |u|$ and $|(i, (l, z_1 z_2)y)| < |u|$, we have:

$$\varphi(i, (l, z_1(j, z_2 w))y) = \varphi(i, z_1 y) = \varphi(i, (l, z_1 z_2)y) = \varphi(i, z y).$$

If $j \leq i < l$, then by induction and using Lemma 2.3. b) we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(i, (l, z_1(j, z_2 w))y) &= \varphi(l, z_1(i, (j, z_2 w)y)) = \varphi(l, z_1 \varphi(i, (j, z_2 w)y)) \\ &= \varphi(l, z_1 \varphi(i, z_2 y)) = \varphi(l, z_1(i, z_2 y)) = \varphi(i, (l, z_1 z_2)y) = \varphi(i, z y). \end{aligned}$$

We have applied (III) on $u' = (i, (l, z_1(j, z_2 w))y)$ and $u'' = (i, (l, z_1 z_2)y)$ and (I) on $u''' = (i, (j, z_2 w)y)$, since $|u'| < |u|$, $|u''| < |u|$ and $|u'''| < |u|$.

A2.2.5) Let $u = (i, (j, z(l, z w_2))y)$, $l < j$. Then, by induction, using Lemma 2.3. b) and (6) of the definition of φ , we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(i, (j, z(l, z w_2))y) &= \varphi(i, \varphi(j, z(l, z w_2))y) = \varphi(i, \varphi(l, z w_2)y) = \varphi(i, (l, z w_2)y) \\ &= \varphi(i, z y). \end{aligned}$$

We have applied (I) on $(i, (l, z w_2)y)$, since $|(i, (l, z w_2)y)| < |u|$.

B) Let $\varphi(j, z w) = (j, z w)$ and $\varphi(y) = y$.

B1) Let $y = (j, z w)$. Then, by (2) we have:

$$\varphi(i, (j, z w)(j, z w)) = \varphi(j, z w).$$

B1.1) If $j < i$ then, by induction we have:

$$\varphi(j, z w) = \varphi(i, z(j, z w)) = \varphi(i, z y).$$

We have applied (IV) on $(i, z(j, z w))$. It is possible, since $|(i, z(j, z w))| < |u|$.

B1.2) If $j = i$, then, by induction we have:

$$\varphi(i, z w) = \varphi(i, z(i, z w)) = \varphi(i, z y)$$

In the above, we have applied (II) on $(i, z(i, z w))$, because its length is less than the length of u .

B2) If $y \neq (j, z w)$ then the property follows from (3) of the definition of φ .

The above discussion completes the inductive step for (I).

(II) A) Let $\varphi(x) \neq x$ or $\varphi(j, z w) \neq (j, z w)$.

A1) If $\varphi(x) \neq x$ then, by induction and using Lemma 2.3. b) we have:

$$\varphi(i, x(j, z w)) = \varphi(i, \varphi(x)(j, z w)) = \varphi(i, \varphi(x)w) = \varphi(i, x w).$$

We have applied (II) on $(i, \varphi(x)(j, z w))$ because $|(i, \varphi(x)(j, z w))| < |u|$.

A2) Let $\varphi(j, z w) \neq (j, z w)$.

A2.1) If $\varphi(z) \neq z$ or $\varphi(w) \neq w$ then, by induction, using Lemma 2.3. b) and (1) of the definition of φ , we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(i, x(j, z w)) &= \varphi(i, x \varphi(j, z w)) = \varphi(i, x \varphi(j, \varphi(z) \varphi(w))) = \varphi(i, x(j, \varphi(z) \varphi(w))) \\ &= \varphi(i, x \varphi(w)) = \varphi(i, x w). \end{aligned}$$

We have applied (II) on $(i, x(j, \varphi(z) \varphi(w)))$ because $|(i, x(j, \varphi(z) \varphi(w)))| < |u|$.

A2.2) Let $\varphi(z) = z$ and $\varphi(w) = w$.

A2.2.1) Let $z = w$. Then, using Lemma 2.3. b) and (2), we have:

$$\varphi(i, x(j, w w)) = \varphi(i, x \varphi(j, w w)) = \varphi(i, x \varphi(w)) = \varphi(i, x w) = \varphi(i, x w).$$

A2.2.2) Let $z = (l, z_1 z_2)$, $l \leq j$. Then, by induction, using Lemma 2.3. b) and (3) of the definition of φ , we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(i, x(j, (l, z_1 z_2)w)) &= \varphi(i, x \varphi(j, (l, z_1 z_2)w)) = \varphi(i, x \varphi(j, z_1 w)) = \varphi(i, x(j, z_1 w)) \\ &= \varphi(i, x w). \end{aligned}$$

We have applied (II) on $(i, x(j, z_1w))$ since $|(i, x(j, z_1w))| < |u|$.

A2.2.3) Let $w = (l, w_1w_2)$, $j \leq l$. Then, by induction, using Lemma 2.3. b) and (4) of the definition of φ , we have:

$$\begin{aligned} & \varphi(i, x(j, z(l, w_1w_2))) = \varphi(i, x\varphi(j, z(l, w_1w_2))) = \varphi(i, x\varphi(j, zw_2)) = \varphi(i, x(j, zw_2)) \\ & = \varphi(i, xw_2) = \varphi(i, x(l, w_1w_2)) = \varphi(i, xw). \end{aligned}$$

In the above, we have applied (II) on $(i, x(j, zw_2))$ and $(i, x(l, w_1w_2))$, since their lengths are less than the length of u .

A2.2.4) Let $z = (l, z_1z_2)$, $j < l$. Then, by induction, using Lemma 2.3. b) and (5) of the definition of φ , we have:

$$\begin{aligned} & \varphi(i, x(j, (l, z_1z_2)w)) = \varphi(i, x\varphi(j, (l, z_1z_2)w)) = \varphi(i, x\varphi(l, z_1(j, z_2w))) \\ & = \varphi(i, x(l, z_1(j, z_2w))) = \varphi(i, x(j, z_2w)) = \varphi(i, xw). \end{aligned}$$

We have applied (II) on $u' = (i, x(l, z_1(j, z_2w)))$ and $u'' = (i, x(j, z_2w))$, since $|u'| < |u|$ and $|u''| < |u|$.

A2.2.5) Let $w = (l, zw_2)$, $l < j$, then, using Lemma 2.3. b) and (6) of the definition of φ , we have:

$$\begin{aligned} & \varphi(i, x(j, z(l, zw_2))) = \varphi(i, x\varphi(j, z(l, zw_2))) = \varphi(i, x\varphi(l, zw_2)) = \varphi(i, x(l, zw_2)) \\ & = \varphi(i, xw). \end{aligned}$$

B) Let $\varphi(x) = x$ and $\varphi(j, zw) = (j, zw)$.

B1) If $x = (j, zw)$, then by (2) of the definition of φ , we have:

$$\varphi(i, (j, zw)(j, zw)) = \varphi(j, zw).$$

B1.1) Let $i < j$, then, by induction and using Lemma 2.4. we have:

$$\begin{aligned} & \varphi(j, zw) = \varphi(j, z\varphi(w)) = \varphi(j, z\varphi(i, w)) = \varphi(j, z(i, w)) = \varphi(i, (j, zw)w) \\ & = \varphi(i, xw). \end{aligned}$$

We have applied (III) on $(i, (j, zw)w)$, because $|(i, (j, zw)w)| < |u|$.

B1.2) If $i = j$, then we apply (I) on $(i, (i, zw)w)$, because $|(i, (i, zw)w)| < |u|$.

Thus:

$$\varphi(i, zw) = \varphi(i, (i, zw)w) = \varphi(i, xw).$$

B2) Let $x = (l, x_1x_2)$, $l \leq i$. Then, by induction and using (3) of the definition of φ , we have:

$$\varphi(i, (l, x_1x_2)(j, zw)) = \varphi(i, x_1(j, zw)) = \varphi(i, x_1w) = \varphi(i, (l, x_1x_2)w) = \varphi(i, xw).$$

We have applied (II) on $u' = (i, x_1(j, zw))$ and (I) on $u'' = (i, (l, x_1x_2)w)$, since $|u'| < |u|$ and $|u''| < |u|$.

B3) If $\varphi(u)$ is not defined by (2) and (3) of the definition of φ , then the property follows from (4) of the definition.

The above discussion completes the inductive step for (II).

(III) A) Let $\varphi(y) \neq y$ or $\varphi(j, zw) \neq (j, zw)$.

A1) If $\varphi(y) \neq y$ then, by induction and using Lemma 2.3. b) we have:

$$\begin{aligned} & \varphi(i, (j, zw)y) = \varphi(i, (j, zw)\varphi(y)) = \varphi(j, z(i, w\varphi(y))) = \varphi(j, z\varphi(i, w\varphi(y))) \\ & = \varphi(j, z\varphi(i, wy)) = \varphi(j, z(i, wy)). \end{aligned}$$

We have applied (III) on $(i, (j, zw)\varphi(y))$ because $|(i, (j, zw)\varphi(y))| < |u|$.

A2) Let $\varphi(j, zw) \neq (j, zw)$.

A2.1) If $\varphi(z) \neq z$ or $\varphi(w) \neq w$ then, by induction, using Lemma 2.3. b) and (1) of the definition of φ , we have:

$$\varphi(i, (j, zw)y) = \varphi(i, \varphi(j, zw)y) = \varphi(i, \varphi(j, \varphi(z)\varphi(w))y) = \varphi(i, (j, \varphi(z)\varphi(w))y)$$

$$= \varphi(j, \varphi(z)(i, \varphi(w)y)) = \varphi(j, z(i, \varphi(w)y)) = \varphi(j, z\varphi(i, \varphi(w)y)) = \varphi(j, z\varphi(i, wy)) \\ = \varphi(j, z(i, wy)).$$

In the above, we have applied (III) on $u' = (i, (j, \varphi(z)\varphi(w))y)$ because $|u'| < |u|$.

A2.2) Let $\varphi(z) = z$ and $\varphi(w) = w$.

A2.2.1) Let $z = w$. Then, by induction, using Lemma 2.3. b) and (2) of the definition of φ we have:

$$\varphi(i, (j, zz)y) = \varphi(i, \varphi(j, zz)y) = \varphi(i, \varphi(z)y) = \varphi(i, zy) = \varphi(j, z(i, zy)).$$

We have applied (IV) on $u' = (j, z(i, zy))$, since $|u'| < |u|$.

A2.2.2) Let $z = (l, z_1z_2)$, $l \leq j$. Then, by induction, using Lemma 2.3. b) and (3) of the definition of φ , we have:

$$\varphi(i, (j, (l, z_1z_2)w)y) = \varphi(i, \varphi(j, (l, z_1z_2)w)y) = \varphi(i, \varphi(j, z_1w)y) = \varphi(i, (j, z_1w)y) \\ = \varphi(j, z_1(i, wy)) = \varphi(j, (l, z_1z_2)(i, wy)) = \varphi(j, z(i, wy))$$

We have applied (III) on $u' = (i, (j, z_1w)y)$ and (I) on $u'' = (j, (l, z_1z_2)(i, wy))$, since $|u'| < |u|$ and $|u''| < |u|$.

A2.2.3) Let $w = (l, w_1w_2)$, $j \leq l$. Then, by induction, using Lemma 2.3. b) and (4) of the definition of φ , we have:

$$\varphi(i, (j, z(l, w_1w_2))y) = \varphi(i, \varphi(j, z(l, w_1w_2))y) = \varphi(i, \varphi(j, zw_2)y) = \varphi(i, (j, zw_2)y) \\ = \varphi(j, z(i, w_2y)) = \varphi(j, z(l, w_1(i, w_2y))) = \varphi(j, z\varphi(l, w_1(i, w_2y))) \\ = \varphi(j, z\varphi(i, (l, w_1w_2)y)) = \varphi(j, z(i, (l, w_1w_2)y)) = \varphi(j, z(i, wy)).$$

In the above, we have applied (III) on $u' = (i, (j, zw_2)y)$ and $u'' = (i, (l, w_1w_2)y)$ and (II) on $u''' = (j, z(l, w_1(i, w_2y)))$, since $|u'| < |u|$, $|u''| < |u|$ and $|u'''| < |u|$.

A2.2.4) Let $z = (l, z_1z_2)$, $j < l$. Then, by induction, using Lemma 2.3. b) and (5) of the definition of φ , we have:

$$\varphi(i, (j, (l, z_1z_2)w)y) = \varphi(i, \varphi(j, (l, z_1z_2)w)y) = \varphi(i, \varphi(l, z_1(j, z_2w))y) \\ = \varphi(i, (l, z_1(j, z_2w))y) = \varphi(l, z_1(i, (j, z_2w)y)) = \varphi(l, z_1\varphi(i, (j, z_2w)y)) \\ = \varphi(l, z_1\varphi(j, z_2(i, wy))) = \varphi(l, z_1(j, z_2(i, wy))) = \varphi(j, (l, z_1z_2)(i, wy)) = \varphi(j, z(i, wy)).$$

We have applied (III) on $u' = (i, (l, z_1(j, z_2w))y)$, $u'' = (i, (j, z_2w)y)$ and $u''' = (j, (l, z_1z_2)(i, wy))$, since $|u'| < |u|$, $|u''| < |u|$ and $|u'''| < |u|$.

A2.2.5) Let $w = (l, zw_2)$, $l < j$, then using Lemma 2.3. b) and (6) of the definition of φ , we have:

$$\varphi(i, (j, z(l, zw_2))y) = \varphi(i, \varphi(j, z(l, zw_2))y) = \varphi(i, \varphi(l, zw_2)y) = \varphi(i, (l, zw_2)y).$$

If $l \leq i < j$, then by induction and using Lemma 2.3. b) we have:

$$\varphi(i, (l, zw_2)y) = \varphi(i, zy) = \varphi(j, z(i, zy)) = \varphi(j, z\varphi(i, zy)) \\ = \varphi(j, z\varphi(i, (l, zw_2)y)) = \varphi(j, z(i, (l, zw_2)y)) = \varphi(j, z(i, wy)).$$

We have applied (I) on $u' = (i, (l, zw_2)y)$ and (III) on $u'' = (j, z(i, zw))$, since $|u'| < |u|$ and $|u''| < |u|$.

If $i < l < j$ then by induction and using Lemma 2.3. b) we have:

$$\varphi(i, (l, zw_2)y) = \varphi(l, z(i, w_2y)) = \varphi(j, z(l, z(i, w_2y))) = \varphi(j, z\varphi(l, z(i, w_2y))) \\ = \varphi(j, z\varphi(i, (l, zw_2)y)) = \varphi(j, z(i, (l, zw_2)y)) = \varphi(j, z(i, wy)).$$

We have applied (III) on $u' = (i, (l, zw_2)y)$ and $u'' = (i, (l, zw_2)y)$ and (IV) on $u''' = (j, z(l, z(i, w_2y)))$, because $|u'| < |u|$, $|u''| < |u|$ and $|u'''| < |u|$.

B) Let $\varphi(y) = y$ and $\varphi(j, zw) = (j, zw)$.

B1) Let $y = (j, zw)$, then by induction, using Lemmas 2.3. b) and 2.4. and (2) of the definition of φ , we have:

$$\varphi(i, (j, zw)(j, zw)) = \varphi(j, zw) = \varphi(j, z\varphi(w)) = \varphi(j, z\varphi(i, ww))$$

$$= \varphi(j, z\varphi(i, w(j, zw))) = \varphi(j, z(i, w(j, zw))) = \varphi(j, z(i, wy)).$$

In the above, we have applied (II) on $u' = (i, w(j, zw))$, because $|u'| < |u|$.

B2) It is not possible $\varphi(u)$ to be defined by (3) of the definition of φ .

B3) Let $y = (l, y_1y_2)$, $i \leq l$. Then, by induction, using Lemma 2.3. b) and (4) of the definition of φ , we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(i, (j, zw)(l, y_1y_2)) &= \varphi(i, (j, zw)y_2) = \varphi(j, z(i, wy_2)) = \varphi(j, z\varphi(i, wy_2)) \\ &= \varphi(j, z\varphi(i, w(l, y_1y_2))) = \varphi(j, z(i, w(l, y_1y_2))) = \varphi(j, z(i, wy)). \end{aligned}$$

We have applied (III) on $u' = (i, (j, zw)y_2)$ and (II) on $u'' = (i, w(l, y_1y_2))$, since $|u'| < |u|$ and $|u''| < |u|$.

B4) If $\varphi(u)$ is not defined by (2), (3) and (4) of the definition of φ , then the property follows from (5) of the definition.

The above discussion completes the inductive step for (III).

(IV) A) Let $\varphi(x) \neq x$ or $\varphi(j, xz) \neq (j, xz)$.

A1) If $\varphi(x) \neq x$ then, by induction, using Lemma 2.3. b) and (1) of the definition of φ , we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(i, x(j, xz)) &= \varphi(i, \varphi(x)\varphi(j, xz)) = \varphi(i, \varphi(x)\varphi(j, \varphi(x)z)) = \varphi(i, \varphi(x)(j, \varphi(x)z)) \\ &= \varphi(j, \varphi(x)z) = \varphi(j, xz). \end{aligned}$$

We have applied (IV) on $(i, \varphi(x)(j, \varphi(x)z))$ since $|(i, \varphi(x)(j, \varphi(x)z))| < |u|$.

A2) Let $\varphi(j, xz) \neq (j, xz)$.

A2.1) In A1) we have considered the case $\varphi(x) \neq x$. Next, we consider $\varphi(x) = x$.

Let $\varphi(z) \neq z$. Then, by induction and using Lemma 2.3. b) we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(i, x(j, xz)) &= \varphi(i, x\varphi(j, xz)) = \varphi(i, x\varphi(j, x\varphi(z))) = \varphi(i, x(j, x\varphi(z))) \\ &= \varphi(j, x\varphi(z)) = \varphi(j, xz). \end{aligned}$$

We have applied (IV) on $(i, x(j, x\varphi(z)))$ since $|(i, x(j, x\varphi(z)))| < |u|$.

A2.2) Let $\varphi(z) = z$.

A2.2.1) If $x = z$ then, using Lemma 2.3. b) and (2), we have:

$$\varphi(i, x(j, xx)) = \varphi(i, x\varphi(j, xx)) = \varphi(i, x\varphi(x)) = \varphi(i, xx) = \varphi(x) = \varphi(j, xx).$$

A2.2.2) Let $x = (l, x_1x_2)$, $l \leq j$. Then, by induction and using Lemma 2.3. b) and (3) of the definition of φ , we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(i, (l, x_1x_2)(j, (l, x_1x_2)z)) &= \varphi(i, (l, x_1x_2)\varphi(j, (l, x_1x_2)z)) = \varphi(i, (l, x_1x_2)\varphi(j, x_1z)) \\ &= \varphi(i, (l, x_1x_2)(j, x_1z)) = \varphi(i, x_1(j, x_1z)) = \varphi(j, x_1z) = \varphi(j, (l, x_1x_2)z) = \varphi(j, xz). \end{aligned}$$

We have applied (I) on $u' = (i, (l, x_1x_2)(j, x_1z))$ and $u'' = (j, (l, x_1x_2)z)$ and (IV) on $u''' = (i, x_1(j, x_1z))$, because $|u'| < |u|$, $|u''| < |u|$ and $|u'''| < |u|$.

A2.2.3) Let $z = (l, z_1z_2)$, $j \leq l$. Then, by induction, using Lemma 2.3. b) and (4) of the definition of φ , we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(i, x(j, x(l, z_1z_2))) &= \varphi(i, x\varphi(j, x(l, z_1z_2))) = \varphi(i, x\varphi(j, xz_2)) \\ &= \varphi(i, x(j, xz_2)) = \varphi(j, xz_2) = \varphi(j, x(l, z_1z_2)) = \varphi(j, xz). \end{aligned}$$

In the above, we have applied (IV) on $u' = (i, x(j, xz_2))$ and (II) on $u'' = (j, x(l, z_1z_2))$ since $|u'| < |u|$ and $|u''| < |u|$.

A2.2.4) Let $x = (l, x_1x_2)$, $j < l$. Then, using Lemma 2.3. b) and (5) of the definition of φ , we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(i, (l, x_1x_2)(j, (l, x_1x_2)z)) &= \varphi(i, (l, x_1x_2)\varphi(j, (l, x_1x_2)z)) \\ &= \varphi(i, (l, x_1x_2)\varphi(l, x_1(j, x_2z))) = \varphi(i, (l, x_1x_2)(l, x_1(j, x_2z))). \end{aligned}$$

We will consider three cases.

A2.2.4.1) If $j < i < l$ then, by induction and using Lemma 2.3. b) we have:

$$\begin{aligned} & \varphi(i, (l, x_1x_2)(l, x_1(j, x_2z))) = \varphi(i, (l, x_1x_2)((j, x_2z))) = \varphi(l, x_1(i, x_2(j, x_2z))) \\ & = \varphi(l, x_1\varphi(i, x_2(j, x_2z))) = \varphi(l, x_1\varphi(j, x_2z)) = \varphi(l, x_1(j, x_2z)) = \varphi(j, (l, x_1x_2)z) \\ & = \varphi(j, xz). \end{aligned}$$

We have applied (II) on $u_1 = (i, (l, x_1x_2)(l, x_1(j, x_2z)))$, (III) on $u_2 = (i, (l, x_1x_2)((j, x_2z)))$ and $u_3 = (j, (l, x_1x_2)z)$ and (IV) on $u_4 = (i, x_2(j, x_2z))$, because $|u_\lambda| < |u|$ for $\lambda = 1, 2, 3, 4$.

A2.2.4.2) If $j < l < i$ then, by induction we have:

$$\begin{aligned} & \varphi(i, (l, x_1x_2)(l, x_1(j, x_2z))) = \varphi(i, x_1(l, x_1(j, x_2z))) = \varphi(l, x_1(j, x_2z)) \\ & = \varphi(j, (l, x_1x_2)z) = \varphi(j, xz) \end{aligned}$$

We have applied (I) on $u' = (i, (l, x_1x_2)(l, x_1(j, x_2z)))$, (IV) on $u'' = (i, x_1(l, x_1(j, x_2z)))$ and (III) on $u''' = (j, (l, x_1x_2)z)$, because $|u'| < |u|$, $|u''| < |u|$ and $|u'''| < |u|$.

A2.2.4.3) If $j < i = l$ then, by induction, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} & \varphi(i, (i, x_1x_2)(i, x_1(j, x_2z))) = \varphi(i, x_1(i, x_1(j, x_2z))) = \varphi(i, x_1(j, x_2z)) = \varphi(j, (i, x_1x_2)z) \\ & = \varphi(j, xz). \end{aligned}$$

We have applied (I) on $u' = (i, (i, x_1x_2)(i, x_1(j, x_2z)))$, (II) on $u'' = (i, x_1(i, x_1(j, x_2z)))$ and (III) on $u''' = (j, (i, x_1x_2)z)$, since $|u'| < |u|$, $|u''| < |u|$ and $|u'''| < |u|$.

A2.2.5) Let $z = (l, xz_2)$, $l < j$, then, by induction, using Lemma 2.3. b) and (6) of the definition of φ , we have:

$$\begin{aligned} & \varphi(i, x(j, x(l, xz_2))) = \varphi(i, x\varphi(j, x(l, xz_2))) = \varphi(i, x\varphi(l, xz_2)) = \varphi(i, x(l, xz_2)) \\ & = \varphi(l, xz_2) = \varphi(j, x(l, xz_2)) = \varphi(j, xz). \end{aligned}$$

We have applied (IV) on $u' = (i, x(l, xz_2))$ and $u'' = (j, x(l, xz_2))$, since $|u'| < |u|$ and $|u''| < |u|$.

B) Let $\varphi(x) = x$ and $\varphi(j, xz) = (j, xz)$.

B1) It is not possible $\varphi(u)$ to be defined by (2).

B2) Let $x = (l, x_1x_2)$, $l \leq i$. Then, by induction, using Lemma 2.3. b) and (3) of the definition of φ , we have:

$$\begin{aligned} & \varphi(i, (l, x_1x_2)(j, (l, x_1x_2)z)) = \varphi(i, x_1(j, (l, x_1x_2)z)) = \varphi(j, (i, x_1(l, x_1x_2))z) \\ & = \varphi(j, \varphi(i, x_1(l, x_1x_2))z). \end{aligned}$$

We have applied (III) on $(j, (i, x_1(l, x_1x_2))z)$ since $|(j, (i, x_1(l, x_1x_2))z)| < |u|$.

B2.1) Let $i = l$. Then, by induction and using Lemma 2.3., we have:

$$\varphi(j, \varphi(i, x_1(i, x_1x_2))z) = \varphi(j, \varphi(i, x_1x_2)z) = \varphi(j, (i, x_1x_2)z) = \varphi(j, xz).$$

We have applied (II) on $u' = (i, x_1(i, x_1x_2))$, since $|u'| < |u|$.

B2.2) Let $l < i$. Then, by induction and using Lemma 2.3. b), we have:

$$\varphi(j, \varphi(i, x_1(l, x_1x_2))z) = \varphi(j, \varphi(l, x_1x_2)z) = \varphi(j, (l, x_1x_2)z)\varphi(j, xz).$$

We have applied (IV) on $(i, x_1(l, x_1x_2))$ because $|(i, x_1(l, x_1x_2))| < |u|$.

B3) It is not possible $\varphi(u)$ to be defined by (4).

B4) Let $x = (l, x_1x_2)$, $i < l$. Then, by induction, using Lemmas 2.3. b) and 2.4. and (5) of the definition of φ , we have:

$$\begin{aligned} & \varphi(i, (l, x_1x_2)(j, (l, x_1x_2)z)) = \varphi(l, x_1(i, x_2(j, (l, x_1x_2)z))) \\ & = \varphi(l, x_1\varphi(i, x_2(j, (l, x_1x_2)z))) = \varphi(l, x_1\varphi(j, (i, x_2(l, x_1x_2))z)) \\ & = \varphi(l, x_1\varphi(i, x_2(l, x_1x_2))z) = \varphi(l, x_1\varphi(j, \varphi(i, x_1x_2)z)) = \varphi(l, x_1\varphi(j, \varphi(x_2)z)) \\ & = \varphi(l, x_1\varphi(j, x_2z)) = \varphi(l, x_1(j, x_2z)) = \varphi(j, (l, x_1x_2)z) = \varphi(j, xz). \end{aligned}$$

In the above, we have applied (III) on $u' = (j, (i, x_2(l, x_1x_2))z)$ and $u'' = (j, (l, x_1x_2)z)$ and (II) on $u''' = (i, x_2(l, x_1x_2))$, since $|u'| < |u|$, $|u''| < |u|$ and $|u'''| < |u|$.

B5) If $\varphi(u)$ is not defined by (2), (3), (4) and (5) of the definition of φ , then the property follows from (6) of the definition.

The above discussion completes the inductive step for (IV). \square

Let $Q = \varphi(\overline{B})$. If $u \in Q$ then there is $v \in \overline{B}$ such that $\varphi(v) = u$ and, by Proposition 2.2 c), we have:

$$\varphi(u) = \varphi(\varphi(v)) = \varphi(v) = u.$$

It is clear that if $\varphi(u) = u$ then $u \in \varphi(\overline{B}) = Q$. Hence, $Q = \{u \mid u \in \overline{B}, \varphi(u) = u\}$.

We define mappings $*_i : Q \times Q \rightarrow Q$, $i \in \mathbb{N}_m$ by $x *_i y = \varphi(i, xy)$.

Lemma 2.6. *For each $i \in \mathbb{N}_m$, $(Q; *_i)$ are rectangular bands that satisfy (i), (ii) and (iii) from Proposition 1.4..*

Proof. If $x, y \in Q$ then $(i, xy) \in \overline{B}$ and consequently $\varphi(i, xy) \in Q$. Hence, $*_i$ are well defined mappings i.e. $(Q; *_i)$ are groupoids for each $i \in \mathbb{N}_m$.

Let $x, y, z \in Q$, $i \in \mathbb{N}_m$. Then, using Lemmas 2.3. b) and 2.5. (I) and (II), we have:

$$(x *_i y) *_i z = \varphi(i, \varphi(i, xy)z) = \varphi(i, (i, xy)z) = \varphi(i, xz) = x *_i z,$$

and

$$x *_i (y *_i z) = \varphi(i, x\varphi(i, yz)) = \varphi(i, x(i, yz)) = \varphi(i, xz) = x *_i z.$$

Let $x \in Q$, $i \in \mathbb{N}_m$. Using Lemma 2.4. we have:

$$x *_i x = \varphi(i, xx) = \varphi(x) = x.$$

Hence, $(Q; *_i)$ are semigroups for each $i \in \mathbb{N}_m$. Moreover, $x *_i y *_i z = x *_i z$ and $x *_i x = x$, for each $i \in \mathbb{N}_m$. So, $(Q; *_i)$ are rectangular bands.

A) Let $j \leq i$. Then, $(x *_i y) *_j z = \varphi(j, \varphi(i, xy)z) \stackrel{2.3.b)}{=} \varphi(j, (i, xy)z)$.

If $j = i$ then:

$$\varphi(i, (i, xy)z) \stackrel{2.5.(I)}{=} \varphi(i, xz) = x *_i z = x *_i y *_i z = x *_i (y *_i z) = x *_i (y *_j z).$$

If $j < i$, then:

$$\varphi(j, (i, xy)z) \stackrel{2.5.(III)}{=} \varphi(i, x(j, yz)) \stackrel{2.3.b)}{=} \varphi(i, x\varphi(j, yz)) = x *_i (y *_j z).$$

Hence, $(Q; *_i)$ are rectangular bands that satisfy (i) from Proposition 1.4.

B) Let $j \leq i$. Then:

$$(x *_j y) *_i z = \varphi(i, \varphi(j, xy)z) \stackrel{2.3.b)}{=} \varphi(i, (j, xy)z) \stackrel{2.5.(I)}{=} \varphi(i, xz) = x *_i z.$$

Hence, $(Q; *_i)$ are rectangular bands that satisfy (ii) from Proposition 1.4.

C) Let $j \leq i$. Then:

$$x *_j (y *_i z) = \varphi(j, x\varphi(i, yz)) \stackrel{2.3.b)}{=} \varphi(j, x(i, yz)) \stackrel{2.5.(II)}{=} \varphi(j, xz) = x *_j z.$$

Hence, $(Q; *_i)$ are rectangular bands that satisfy (iii) from Proposition 1.4. \square

Let $[\] : Q^{m+k} \rightarrow Q^m$ be the mapping defined by:

$$(\forall x_1^{m+k} \in Q^{m+k}) [x_1^{m+k}]_i = x_i *_i x_{i+k},$$

for each $i \in \mathbb{N}_m$. According to Proposition 1.4. and Lemma 2.6., $(Q; [\])$ is an $(m+k, m)$ -band.

Theorem 2.7. *$(Q; [\])$ is a free $(m+k, m)$ -band with a basis B .*

Proof. It is clear that $B \subseteq Q$. Let $\langle B \rangle$ be the $(m+k, m)$ -subsemigroup of Q generated by B . Let $u = (i, xy) \in Q$ where $x, y \in \langle B \rangle$ and a be a fixed element of

B . Then, $\left[\begin{smallmatrix} i-1 & k-1 & m-i \\ a & x & a & y & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_i \in \langle B \rangle$, for each $i \in \mathbb{N}_m$, i.e.

$$u = \varphi(u) = \varphi(i, xy) = x *_i y = \left[\begin{smallmatrix} i-1 & k-1 & m-i \\ a & x & a & y & a \end{smallmatrix} \right]_i \in \langle B \rangle.$$

Hence, $Q \subseteq \langle B \rangle$. Because $\langle B \rangle \subseteq Q$, it follows that $Q = \langle B \rangle$ and so $(Q; [\])$ is a $(m+k, m)$ -band generated by B .

Let $(Q'; [\]')$ be another $(m+k, m)$ -band generated by B and let $\lambda : B \rightarrow Q'$ be a mapping. By induction on the length we are going to define a mapping $g : Q \rightarrow Q'$ as follows:

$$g(b) = \lambda(b), \text{ for } b \in B$$

and

$$g(i, xy) = \left[\begin{smallmatrix} i-1 & k-1 & m-i \\ g(a) & g(x) & g(a) & g(y) & g(a) \end{smallmatrix} \right]_i'.$$

Considering the fact that on the right hand side of the definition of g , g is applied on elements with length less than the length of $u = (i, xy)$, it is obvious that g is a well defined mapping.

Let $x, y \in Q$. We will prove, by induction, that $g(\varphi(i, xy)) = g(i, xy)$. If $u = (i, xy) \in Q$ then $\varphi(u) = u$ and $g(\varphi(u)) = g(u)$. If $u = (i, xy) \notin Q$ then, since $x, y \in Q$, $\varphi(i, xy)$ is not defined by (1).

A) Let $u = (i, xx)$ i.e. $\varphi(u)$ is defined by (2). Then, by induction and using the identity (B V), we have:

$$g(\varphi(i, xx)) = g(\varphi(x)) = g(x) = \left[\begin{smallmatrix} i-1 & k-1 & m-i \\ g(a) & g(x) & g(a) & g(x) & g(a) \end{smallmatrix} \right]_i' = g(i, xx).$$

We have applied the inductive hypothesis on x , since $|x| < |u|$.

B) Let $u = (i, (j, zw)y)$, $j \leq i$, i.e. $\varphi(u)$ is defined by (3). Then, by induction and using the identity (B III), we have:

$$\begin{aligned} g(\varphi(i, (j, zw)y)) &= g(\varphi(i, zy)) = g(i, zy) = \left[\begin{smallmatrix} i-1 & k-1 & m-i \\ g(a) & g(z) & g(a) & g(y) & g(a) \end{smallmatrix} \right]_i' \\ &= \left[\begin{smallmatrix} i-1 & j-1 & k-1 & m-j \\ g(a) & g(a) & g(z) & g(a) & g(w) & g(a) \end{smallmatrix} \right]_j' \left[\begin{smallmatrix} k-1 & m-i \\ g(a) & g(y) & g(a) \end{smallmatrix} \right]_i' = \left[\begin{smallmatrix} i-1 & k-1 & m-i \\ g(a) & g(j, zw) & g(a) & g(y) & g(a) \end{smallmatrix} \right]_i' \\ &= g(i, (j, zw)y). \end{aligned}$$

We have applied the inductive hypothesis on (i, zy) , since $|(i, zy)| < |u|$.

C) Let $\varphi(u)$ is defined by (4), i.e. $u = (i, x(j, zw))$, $i \leq j$. Then, by induction and using the identity (B IV), we have:

$$\begin{aligned} g(\varphi(i, x(j, zw))) &= g(\varphi(i, xw)) = g(i, xw) = \left[\begin{smallmatrix} i-1 & k-1 & m-i \\ g(a) & g(x) & g(a) & g(w) & g(a) \end{smallmatrix} \right]_i' \\ &= \left[\begin{smallmatrix} i-1 & k-1 & j-1 & k-1 & m-j \\ g(a) & g(x) & g(a) & g(a) & g(z) & g(a) & g(w) & g(a) \end{smallmatrix} \right]_j' \left[\begin{smallmatrix} m-i \\ g(a) \end{smallmatrix} \right]_i' = \left[\begin{smallmatrix} i-1 & k-1 & m-i \\ g(a) & g(x) & g(a) & g(j, zw) & g(a) \end{smallmatrix} \right]_i' \\ &= g(i, x(j, zw)). \end{aligned}$$

We have applied the inductive hypothesis on (i, xw) , since $|(i, xw)| < |u|$.

D) Let $\varphi(u)$ is defined by (5), i.e. $u = (i, (j, zw)y)$, $i < j$. Then, by induction and using the identity (B II), we have:

$$\begin{aligned}
g(\varphi(i, (j, zw)y)) &= g(\varphi(j, z(i, wy))) = g(j, z(i, wy)) = \left[g(a)^{j-1} g(z)^{k-1} g(a)^{m-j} g(a) \right]'_j \\
&= \left[g(a)^{j-1} g(z)^{k-1} \left[g(a)^{i-1} g(w)^{k-1} g(a)^{m-i} g(a) \right]'_i g(a)^{m-j} \right]'_j \\
&= \left[g(a)^{i-1} \left[g(a)^{j-1} g(z)^{k-1} g(a)^{m-j} \right]'_j g(a)^{k-1} g(y)^{m-i} g(a) \right]'_i = \left[g(a)^{i-1} g(j, zw)^{k-1} g(a)^{m-i} g(a) \right]'_i \\
&= g(i, (j, zw)y).
\end{aligned}$$

We have applied the inductive hypothesis on $(j, z(i, wy))$, since $|(j, z(i, wy))| < |u|$.

E) Let $u = (i, x(j, xz))$, $j < i$, i.e. $\varphi(u)$ is defined by (6). Then, by induction and using the identities (B V) and (B II) we have:

$$\begin{aligned}
g(\varphi(i, x(j, xz))) &= g(\varphi(j, xz)) = g(j, xz) = \left[g(a)^{j-1} g(x)^{k-1} g(a)^{m-j} g(a) \right]'_j \\
&= \left[g(a)^{j-1} \left[g(a)^{i-1} g(x)^{k-1} g(a)^{m-i} g(a) \right]'_i g(a)^{k-1} g(z)^{m-j} g(a) \right]'_j \\
&= \left[g(a)^{i-1} g(x)^{k-1} \left[g(a)^{j-1} g(x)^{k-1} g(a)^{m-j} g(a) \right]'_j g(a)^{m-i} \right]'_i \\
&= \left[g(a)^{i-1} g(x)^{k-1} g(a)^{m-i} g(j, xz) g(a) \right]'_i = g(i, x(j, xz)).
\end{aligned}$$

We have applied the inductive hypothesis on (j, xz) , since $|(j, xz)| < |u|$.

Let $x_j \in Q$, $j \in \mathbb{N}_{m+k}$. Then:

$$\begin{aligned}
g([x_1^{m+k}]_i) &= g(x_i * x_{i+k}) = g(\varphi(i, x_i x_{i+k})) = g(i, x_i x_{i+k}) \\
&= \left[g(a)^{i-1} g(x_i)^{k-1} g(a)^{m-i} g(a) \right]'_i \\
&\stackrel{(BI)}{=} [g(x_1) \dots g(x_{i-1}) g(x_i) g(x_{i+1}) \dots g(x_{i+k-1}) g(x_{i+k}) g(x_{i+k+1}) \dots g(x_{m+k})]'_i,
\end{aligned}$$

for each $i \in \mathbb{N}_m$.

Hence, g is an $(m+k, m)$ -homomorphism which is an extension for λ . So, $(Q; [\])$ is a free $(m+k, m)$ -band with a basis B. \square

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"ST. CYRIL AND METHODIUS UNIVERSITY", FACULTY OF NATURAL SCIENCES AND MATHEMATICS, INSTITUTE OF MATHEMATICS, P.O. BOX 162

E-mail address: miovska@pmf.ukim.mk

E-mail address: donco@pmf.ukim.mk