



CHAPTER I

FUNDAMENTAL INVERSE SEMIGROUPS

Munn has characterized a fundamental inverse semigroup as a certain semigroup of mappings in [5]. In this chapter, we introduce his significant result. We study further about necessary and sufficient conditions of some kinds of inverse semigroups to be fundamental. An example to show that an inverse subsemigroup and a homomorphic image of a fundamental inverse semigroup need not be fundamental is given. Moreover, it is shown that a homomorphism from a fundamental inverse semigroup which is one-to-one on the set of all idempotents is an isomorphism.

A semigroup S is said to be fundamental if and only if the only congruence on S contained in the Green's relation \mathcal{H} is the identity congruence on S .

A congruence ρ on a semigroup S is an idempotent-separating congruence if every ρ -class contains at most one idempotent of S .

Howie has shown in [4] that any inverse semigroup S has the maximum idempotent-separating congruence, $\mu(S)$ or μ , and

$$\mu = \{ (a,b) \in S \times S \mid a^{-1}ea = b^{-1}eb \text{ for all } e \in E(S) \};$$

equivalently,

$$\mu = \{ (a,b) \in S \times S \mid aea^{-1} = beb^{-1} \text{ for all } e \in E(S) \},$$

moreover, $\mu \subseteq \mathcal{H}$.

Let S be a semigroup. Any \mathcal{H} -class of S contains at most one idempotent [[2], Lemma 2.15]. Then any congruence on S contained in \mathcal{H} is an idempotent-separating congruence.

Hence, an inverse semigroup S is fundamental if and only if the maximum idempotent-separating congruence μ of S is the identity congruence.

Let X be a set. A one-to-one partial transformation of X is a one-to-one map from a subset of X onto a subset of X . For a one-to-one partial transformation α of X , let $\Delta\alpha$ and $\nabla\alpha$ denote the domain and the range of α ; respectively. Let I_X denote the set of all one-to-one partial transformations of X . If $\alpha \in I_X$ with $\Delta\alpha = \nabla\alpha = \phi$, then α is called the empty transformation and denoted by 0 . The product on I_X is defined as follows: For $\alpha, \beta \in I_X$, let $\alpha\beta = 0$ if $\nabla\alpha \cap \Delta\beta = \phi$, otherwise, let $\alpha\beta : (\nabla\alpha \cap \Delta\beta) \xrightarrow{\alpha^{-1}} (\nabla\alpha \cap \Delta\beta)\beta$ be the composite map; it is clear that $\nabla(\alpha\beta) = (\nabla\alpha \cap \Delta\beta)\beta$. Then I_X is an inverse semigroup with zero and identity,

$$E(I_X) = \{\alpha \in I_X \mid \alpha \text{ is the identity map on } \Delta\alpha\},$$

and for each $\alpha \in I_X$, the inverse map of α , α^{-1} , is the inverse element of α in I_X and $\Delta(\alpha^{-1}) = \nabla(\alpha)$, $\nabla(\alpha^{-1}) = \Delta(\alpha)$ [[2]]. The inverse semigroup I_X is called the symmetric inverse semigroup on the set X .

Let S be a semigroup. An ideal A of S is called a principal ideal if and only if $A = S^1 a S^1$ for some $a \in S$. Then, if E is a semi-lattice, then a principal ideal of E is of the form Ee for some $e \in E$.

Let E be a semilattice. The notation T_E denotes the following :

$$T_E = \{ \alpha \in I_E \mid \alpha \text{ is an isomorphism, } \Delta\alpha \text{ and } \nabla\alpha \text{ are principal ideals of } E \} .$$

Then

$$T_E = \{ \alpha \in I_E \mid \alpha \text{ is an homomorphism, } \Delta\alpha = Ee \text{ and } \nabla\alpha = Ef \text{ for some } e, f \in E \} .$$

Recall that the relation \leq defined on a semilattice E by

$$e \leq f \quad \text{if and only if } e = ef (= fe)$$

is the natural partial order on E .

Then for a semilattice E , for $e \in E$, Ee is a principal ideal of E having e as the maximum element, and hence for any $f \in E$, $f \in Ee$ if and only if $f \leq e$.

We give a following remark : Let $\alpha \in I_E$, $\Delta\alpha$ and $\nabla\alpha$ be ideals of E . If α is an isomorphism and $\Delta\alpha$ is a principal ideal, then $\nabla\alpha$ is also principal. A proof is given as follow : Let $e \in E$ such that $\Delta\alpha = Ee$. Then $e\alpha \in \nabla\alpha$. Let $x \in \nabla\alpha$. Then $x\alpha^{-1} \in \Delta\alpha = Ee$, so $x\alpha^{-1} \leq e$. Thus $(x\alpha^{-1})e = x\alpha^{-1}$. Since α is a homomorphism,

$$x(e\alpha) = ((x\alpha^{-1})e)\alpha = (x\alpha^{-1})\alpha = x$$

which implies $x \leq e\alpha$ and $x \in \nabla\alpha$. Therefore $\nabla\alpha = E(e\alpha)$ and so $(Ee)\alpha = E(e\alpha)$.

From the above proof, we also have the following : If $\alpha \in T_E$, $e \in \Delta\alpha$, then $(Ee)\alpha = E(e\alpha)$. Hence we have

$$T_E = \{ \alpha \in I_E \mid \alpha \text{ is a homomorphism, } \Delta\alpha = Ee \text{ and } \nabla\alpha = E(e\alpha) \text{ for some } e \in E \} .$$

For any $e \in E$, let ϵ_e denote the identity map on Ee . Then

$\epsilon_e \in T_E$ for all $e \in E$.

The first proposition shows that T_E is an inverse subsemigroup of I_X . The following lemma is required first :

1.1 Lemma. Let E be a semilattice. Then the following hold :

- (i) For $e, f \in E$, $Ee \cap Ef = Eef$.
- (ii) For $e, f \in E$, if $e \in Ef$ then $Ee \subseteq Ef$ and $e \leq f$.
- (iii) For $e, f \in E$, $Ee = Ef$ if and only if $e = f$.

Proof : To show $Ee \cap Ef = Eef$ for all $e, f \in E$, let $a \in Ee \cap Ef$. Then there exist $x, y \in E$ such that $a = xe = yf$. Thus $a = xee = ae$ and $a = yff = af$. Hence $a = aef$. Therefore $a \in Eef$, and so $Ee \cap Ef \subseteq Eef$. Now, since $Ee \subseteq E$, $(Ee)f \subseteq Ef$. Because $Ef \subseteq E$, $(Ef)e \subseteq Ee$. Therefore $Eef = Efe \subseteq Ee \cap Ef$. Hence $Ee \cap Ef = Eef$.

Next, we show that $e \in Ef$ implies $Ee \subseteq Ef$ and $e \leq f$. Assume $e \in Ef$. Let $a \in Ee$, then $a = xe$ for some $x \in E$. Since $e \in Ef$, $e = yf$ for some $y \in E$. Therefore $a = xyf \in Ef$. Hence $Ee \subseteq Ef$. Because $e \in Ef$, $e \leq f$.

Finally, we show that $Ee = Ef$ if and only if $e = f$ for all $e, f \in E$. Assume $e, f \in E$ such that $Ee = Ef$. Then $e \in Ee = Ef$, so $e \leq f$. Because $f \in Ef = Ee$, $f \leq e$. Therefore $e = f$. The converse of (iii) is trivial. #

1.2 Proposition [5]. Let E be a semilattice. Then T_E is an inverse subsemigroup of I_E and

$$E(T_E) \cong E^* = \{ \epsilon_e \mid e \in E \}.$$

Moreover, the mapping $\psi : E \rightarrow E^*$ defined by

$$e\psi = \epsilon_e \quad (e \in E)$$

is an onto isomorphism.

Proof : It is clear from the definition of T_E that $\alpha \in I_E$, $\alpha \in T_E$ implies $\alpha^{-1} \in T_E$.

Let $\alpha_1, \alpha_2 \in T_E$. Then $\nabla\alpha_1 = Ee_1$ and $\Delta\alpha_2 = Ee_2$ for some $e_1, e_2 \in E$. By Lemma 1.1 (i), $\nabla\alpha_1 \cap \Delta\alpha_2 \neq \phi$, $\Delta(\alpha_1\alpha_2) = (\nabla\alpha_1 \cap \Delta\alpha_2)\alpha_1^{-1} = (Ee_1 \cap Ee_2)\alpha_1^{-1} = (Ee_1e_2)\alpha_1^{-1}$. Since $e_1e_2 = e_2e_1 \in \Delta\alpha_1^{-1}$, we have $\Delta(\alpha_1\alpha_2) = E(e_1e_2)\alpha_1^{-1}$, that is, $\Delta(\alpha_1\alpha_2)$ is a principal ideal generated by $(e_1e_2)\alpha_1^{-1}$. Since $e_1e_2 \in \Delta\alpha_2$, we have $\nabla(\alpha_1\alpha_2) = (\nabla\alpha_1 \cap \Delta\alpha_2)\alpha_2 = (Ee_1e_2)\alpha_2 = E(e_1e_2)\alpha_2$. Therefore $\alpha_1\alpha_2 \in T_E$. Hence T_E is an inverse subsemigroup of I_E .

Now, we show that the semilattice of T_E is $E^* = \{\epsilon_e \mid e \in E\}$. It is clear that $E^* \subseteq E(T_E)$. To show $E(T_E) \subseteq E^*$, let $\alpha \in E(T_E)$. Then $\alpha \in E(I_E)$. Therefore α is the identity map on a subset A of E . Since $\alpha \in T_E$, $A = Ee$, for some $e \in E$, that is, $\alpha = \text{id}_{Ee} = \epsilon_e \in E^*$. Hence $E(T_E) = E^*$.

Next, we show the mapping $\psi : E \rightarrow E^*$ defined by $e\psi = \epsilon_e$ ($e \in E$) is an onto isomorphism. Obviously, ψ is onto. To show ψ is 1-1, let $e_1, e_2 \in E$ such that $e_1\psi = e_2\psi$. Then $\epsilon_{e_1} = \epsilon_{e_2}$. Then $\Delta\epsilon_{e_1} = \Delta\epsilon_{e_2}$ which implies $Ee_1 = Ee_2$. By Lemma 1.1 (iii), $e_1 = e_2$. We now show that ψ is a homomorphism. Let $e, f \in E$. Then $e\psi = \epsilon_e$, $f\psi = \epsilon_f$, $(ef)\psi = \epsilon_{ef}$ and $(e\psi)(f\psi) = \epsilon_e \epsilon_f$. Since ϵ_e is an identity map, $\Delta\epsilon_e \epsilon_f = (Ee \cap Ef)\epsilon_e^{-1} = Ee \cap Ef$. By Lemma 1.1 (i), $\Delta\epsilon_e \epsilon_f = E_{ef}$. Again, since ϵ_e and ϵ_f are identity maps,

$\epsilon_e \epsilon_f$ is the identity map on Eef . Therefore $\epsilon_{ef} = \epsilon_e \epsilon_f$.

Thus, $(e\psi)(f\psi) = (ef)\psi$. Hence ψ is a homomorphism. The proof is completed. #

A subsemigroup T of a semigroup S is said to be full if and only if $E(S) \subseteq T$.

The next theorem has been shown by Munn in [5] that any fundamental inverse semigroup S is isomorphic to a full inverse subsemigroup of $T_{E(S)}$. The following two lemmas are required first :

1.3 Lemma [5]. Let S be an inverse semigroup and let $E = E(S)$.

Then the following hold :

(i) For each $a \in S$, the map $\theta_a : Eaa^{-1} \rightarrow Ea^{-1}a$ defined by

$$x\theta_a = a^{-1}xa \quad (x \in Eaa^{-1})$$

is an onto isomorphism, and hence $\theta_a \in T_E$.

(ii) The map $\theta : S \rightarrow T_E$ defined by

$$a\theta = \theta_a \quad (a \in S)$$

is a homomorphism. Moreover, the congruence on S induced by the homomorphism θ is the maximum idempotent-separating congruence μ of S , that is,

$$\mu = \{ (a,b) \in S \times S \mid \theta_a = \theta_b \}.$$

(iii) $S\theta$ is a full inverse subsemigroup of T_E , and hence S/μ is isomorphic to $S\theta$.

Proof : (i) Let $x, y \in Eaa^{-1}$. Then $x = eaa^{-1}$ and $y = faa^{-1}$ for some $e, f \in E$, and

$$\begin{aligned}
(xy)\theta_a &= a^{-1}xya = a^{-1}(eaa^{-1})(faa^{-1})a \\
&= a^{-1}eaa^{-1}aa^{-1}faa^{-1}a = a^{-1}xaa^{-1}ya \\
&= (x\theta_a)(y\theta_a) .
\end{aligned}$$

Thus θ_a is a homomorphism. To show that θ_a is one-to-one, let $x\theta_a = y\theta_a$ where $x = eaa^{-1} \in Eaa^{-1}$ and $y = faa^{-1} \in Eaa^{-1}$. Then $a^{-1}xa = a^{-1}ya$. Thus $a^{-1}eaa^{-1}a = a^{-1}faa^{-1}a$, so $a^{-1}ea = a^{-1}fa$ which implies $a(a^{-1}ea)a^{-1} = a(a^{-1}fa)a^{-1}$. Therefore $eaa^{-1} = faa^{-1}$, that is, $x = y$. Hence θ_a is one-to-one. Next, to show θ_a is onto, let $m \in Ea^{-1}a$. Then $m = ea^{-1}a$ for some $e \in E$. Let $x = aea^{-1}aa^{-1}$. Then $x \in Eaa^{-1}$ since $aea^{-1} \in E$, and

$$\begin{aligned}
x\theta_a &= a^{-1}xa = a^{-1}(aea^{-1}aa^{-1})a \\
&= a^{-1}aea^{-1}a = ea^{-1}aa^{-1}a \quad (\text{because } a^{-1}a \in E) \\
&= ea^{-1}a = m .
\end{aligned}$$

Thus θ_a is onto. Therefore θ_a is an onto isomorphism. This proves $\theta_a \in T_E$, as required.

(ii) To show that $\theta_{ab} = \theta_a\theta_b$, for all $a, b \in S$, let $a, b \in S$. First, we claim that the map $\psi : Ea^{-1}a \rightarrow Eaa^{-1}$ defined by

$$y\psi = aya^{-1} \quad (y \in Ea^{-1}a)$$

is an onto isomorphism and ψ is θ_a^{-1} . By the same proof as in (i),

ψ is also an onto isomorphism. Next, we show that ψ is θ_a^{-1} . Let $x = ea^{-1}a \in Ea^{-1}a$ ($e \in E$). Then we have

$$\begin{aligned}
x\psi\theta_a &= (ea^{-1}a)\psi\theta_a = (aea^{-1}aa^{-1})\theta_a \\
&= a^{-1}(aea^{-1})a = ea^{-1}aa^{-1}a \\
&= ea^{-1}a = x .
\end{aligned}$$

Thus $\psi\theta_a$ is the identity map on $Ea^{-1}a$. For $y = eaa^{-1} \in Eaa^{-1}$ ($e \in E$),

we have

$$\begin{aligned} y^{\theta_a} \psi &= (eaa^{-1})^{\theta_a} \psi = (a^{-1}eaa^{-1}a)\psi \\ &= a(a^{-1}ea)a^{-1} = eaa^{-1}aa^{-1} \\ &= eaa^{-1} = y. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore $\theta_a \psi$ is the identity map on Eaa^{-1} . These imply that ψ is θ_a^{-1} . Next, consider the following :

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_{ab}^{\theta} &= E(ab)(ab)^{-1} = Eabb^{-1}a^{-1} \\ \text{and} \quad \Delta_{ab}^{\theta_a \theta_b} &= (Ea^{-1}a \cap Eb^{-1}b)^{\theta_a^{-1}} \\ &= (Ea^{-1}ab^{-1}b)^{\theta_a^{-1}} \quad (\text{by Lemma 1.1(i)}) \\ &= a(Ea^{-1}ab^{-1}b)a^{-1} \\ &= aEbb^{-1}a^{-1}. \end{aligned}$$

Claim that $Eabb^{-1}a^{-1} = aEbb^{-1}a^{-1}$. To show this, let $x \in Eabb^{-1}a^{-1}$.

Then $x = eabb^{-1}a^{-1}$ for some $e \in E$, and so $x = eaa^{-1}abb^{-1}a^{-1} = a(a^{-1}ea)bb^{-1}a^{-1}$. Since $a^{-1}ea \in E$, $x \in aEbb^{-1}a^{-1}$. Hence

$Eabb^{-1}a^{-1} \subseteq aEbb^{-1}a^{-1}$. To show $aEbb^{-1}a^{-1} \subseteq Eabb^{-1}a^{-1}$, let $y \in aEbb^{-1}a^{-1}$.

Then $y = affb^{-1}a^{-1}$ for some $f \in E$, and hence $y = (afa^{-1})abb^{-1}a^{-1}$.

Because $afa^{-1} \in E$, $y \in Eabb^{-1}a^{-1}$. Therefore $Eabb^{-1}a^{-1} = aEbb^{-1}a^{-1}$.

This shows that $\Delta_{ab}^{\theta} = \Delta_{ab}^{\theta_a \theta_b}$. To show $y^{\theta_{ab}} = y^{\theta_a \theta_b}$ for all

$y \in \Delta_{ab}^{\theta} = \Delta_{ab}^{\theta_a \theta_b}$, let $y \in \Delta_{ab}^{\theta}$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} y^{\theta_{ab}} &= (ab)^{-1}y(ab) = b^{-1}a^{-1}yab \\ &= (a^{-1}ya)^{\theta_b} = y^{\theta_a \theta_b}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore $\theta_{ab} = \theta_a \theta_b$. Hence θ is a homomorphism.

The next proof is to show that the congruence on S induced by the homomorphism θ is the maximum idempotent-separating congruence μ of S , that is, to show $\mu = \{(a,b) \in S \times S \mid \theta_a = \theta_b\}$. Let

$\rho = \{(a,b) \in S \times S \mid \theta_a = \theta_b\}$. Let $(a,b) \in \rho$. Then $\theta_a = a\theta = b\theta = \theta_b$, so $\Delta\theta_a = \Delta\theta_b$. Hence $Eaa^{-1} = Ebb^{-1}$. Let $e \in E$. Then $(eaa^{-1})\theta_a = (eaa^{-1})\theta_b$ and $(ebb^{-1})\theta_a = (ebb^{-1})\theta_b$, so $b^{-1}eaa^{-1}b = a^{-1}eaa^{-1}a = a^{-1}ea$, $a^{-1}ebb^{-1}a = b^{-1}ebb^{-1}b = b^{-1}eb$. Since $eaa^{-1} \in E$, $eaa^{-1}bb^{-1} \in Ebb^{-1}$. Therefore $(eaa^{-1}bb^{-1})\theta_a = (eaa^{-1}bb^{-1})\theta_b$ and hence $a^{-1}eaa^{-1}bb^{-1}a = b^{-1}eaa^{-1}bb^{-1}b$ which implies $a^{-1}ebb^{-1}a = b^{-1}eaa^{-1}b$. Hence $a^{-1}ea = b^{-1}eb$.

This shows $(a,b) \in \mu$. Therefore $\rho \subseteq \mu$. Next, let $(a,b) \in \mu$. Then $a^{-1}ea = b^{-1}eb$ for all $e \in E$; equivalently, $aea^{-1} = beb^{-1}$ for all $e \in E$. We want $\theta_a = \theta_b$, let $x \in \Delta\theta_a = Eaa^{-1}$. Then $x = eaa^{-1}$ for some $e \in E$, so $b^{-1}eb \in E(S)$ and

$$x = aa^{-1}eaa^{-1} = ab^{-1}eba^{-1} = bb^{-1}ebb^{-1} = ebb^{-1}$$

which belongs to Ebb^{-1} . Thus $Eaa^{-1} \subseteq Ebb^{-1}$. Similarly, we also have that $Ebb^{-1} \subseteq Eaa^{-1}$. Therefore $\Delta\theta_a = \Delta\theta_b$. Let $x \in Eaa^{-1} = Ebb^{-1}$. Then $x = eaa^{-1}$, $x = fbb^{-1}$ for some $e, f \in E$. Hence $x = eaaa^{-1} = ex = efbb^{-1}$ and $x = ffbb^{-1} = fx = feaa^{-1} = efaa^{-1}$. It then follows that

$$a^{-1}xa = a^{-1}efaa^{-1}a = a^{-1}efa$$

and

$$b^{-1}xb = b^{-1}efbb^{-1}b = b^{-1}efb.$$

Since $ef \in E$ and $(a,b) \in \mu$, $a^{-1}efa = b^{-1}efb$. Thus $a^{-1}xa = b^{-1}xb$. Hence $x\theta_a = x\theta_b$. This shows that $\theta_a = \theta_b$ which implies $(a,b) \in \rho$. Therefore $\mu \subseteq \rho$. Hence $\mu = \rho$ as desired.

(iii) We now show that $S\theta$ is a full inverse subsemigroup of T_E and $S/\mu \cong S\theta$. Since S is an inverse semigroup and $S\theta$ is a homomorphic image of S , $S\theta$ is an inverse subsemigroup of T_E [Introduction, page 4]. To show $E(T_E) \subseteq S\theta$, let $\epsilon_e \in E(T_E)$ ($e \in E$). It is clearly

seen that $\epsilon_e = \theta_e$. Then $\epsilon_e = e\theta \in S\theta$. Hence $E(T_E) \subseteq S\theta$. Therefore $S\theta$ is a full inverse subsemigroup of T_E . Since μ is the congruence induced by the homomorphism θ , we have $S/\mu \cong S\theta$. #

1.4 Lemma. Let $\alpha, \beta \in I_X$, X be a nonempty set. If $\alpha \mathcal{H} \beta$, then $\Delta\alpha = \Delta\beta$ and $\nabla\alpha = \nabla\beta$.

Proof : Suppose $\alpha \mathcal{H} \beta$. Then $\alpha \mathcal{L} \beta$ and $\alpha \mathcal{R} \beta$, so $I_X\alpha = I_X\beta$ and $\alpha I_X = \beta I_X$. Since $\alpha \in I_X\beta$ and $\beta \in I_X\alpha$, $\alpha = \gamma\beta$ and $\beta = \gamma'\alpha$ for some $\gamma, \gamma' \in I_X$. From $\alpha = \gamma\beta$, we have $\nabla\alpha \subseteq \nabla\beta$, and from $\beta = \gamma'\alpha$, we have $\nabla\beta \subseteq \nabla\alpha$. Hence $\nabla\alpha = \nabla\beta$. Since $\alpha \in \beta I_X$ and $\beta \in \alpha I_X$, $\alpha = \beta\lambda$ and $\beta = \alpha\lambda'$ for some $\lambda, \lambda' \in I_X$. Since $\alpha = \beta\lambda$, $\Delta\alpha \subseteq \Delta\beta$. Since $\beta = \alpha\lambda'$, we have $\Delta\beta \subseteq \Delta\alpha$. Therefore $\Delta\alpha = \Delta\beta$. #

1.5 Theorem [5] . Let S be an inverse semigroup and $E = E(S)$. Then S is fundamental if and only if S is isomorphic to a full inverse subsemigroup of T_E .

Proof : First, let S be isomorphic to a full inverse subsemigroup S' of T_E . Let $(\alpha, \beta) \in \mu(S')$, the maximum idempotent-separating congruence of S' . Since $\mu(S') \subseteq \mathcal{H}'$, the Green's relation \mathcal{H} on S' , it follows from Lemma 1.4 that $\Delta\alpha = \Delta\beta$ and $\nabla\alpha = \nabla\beta$. Then there exists $e \in E$ such that $\Delta\alpha = Ee = \Delta\beta$. Let $g \in Ee$. Then $Eg \subseteq Ee$ and $g \leq e$ by Lemma 1.1 (ii). Thus $g = ge = eg$. Therefore

$$\Delta(\epsilon_g \alpha) = (\nabla \epsilon_g \cap \Delta\alpha) \epsilon_g^{-1} = Eg \cap Ee = Ege = Eg.$$

Since $\Delta\alpha = Ee$, we have $\nabla\alpha^{-1} = Ee$; and hence

$$\begin{aligned}
\Delta(\alpha^{-1}\epsilon_g\alpha) &= (E\alpha\cap Eg)\alpha \\
&= (Eg)\alpha \quad (\text{Lemma 1.1 (i)}) \\
&= (Eg)\alpha \\
&= E(g\alpha) = \Delta(\epsilon_{g\alpha}) .
\end{aligned}$$

But $\alpha^{-1}\epsilon_g\alpha$ is an idempotent in T_E , hence $\alpha^{-1}\epsilon_g\alpha$ is the identity map on $\Delta(\alpha^{-1}\epsilon_g\alpha) = \Delta(\epsilon_{g\alpha})$ which implies $\alpha^{-1}\epsilon_g\alpha = \epsilon_{g\alpha}$. Similarly, $\beta^{-1}\epsilon_g\beta = \epsilon_{g\beta}$. Because S' is full and $\epsilon_g \in E(T_E)$, $\epsilon_g \in E(S')$. But $(\alpha, \beta) \in \mu(S')$, so $\alpha^{-1}\epsilon_g\alpha = \beta^{-1}\epsilon_g\beta$. Thus $\epsilon_{g\alpha} = \epsilon_{g\beta}$ and hence $Eg\alpha = \Delta(\epsilon_{g\alpha}) = \Delta(\epsilon_{g\beta}) = Eg\beta$. By Lemma 1.1 (iii), $g\alpha = g\beta$. Since this holds for all $g \in Ee$, it follows that $\alpha = \beta$. Thus $\mu(S')$ is the identity congruence on S' . Hence S' is fundamental, and then S is fundamental.

Conversely, assume S is fundamental. Let θ be the homomorphism from S into T_E defined as in Lemma 1.3 (ii). By Lemma 1.3 (iii), $S\theta$ is a full inverse subsemigroup of T_E and $S/\mu \cong S\theta$. Because S is fundamental, $\mu = \iota$, the identity congruence on S , and so $S/\mu \cong S$. Hence $S \cong S\theta$ which is a full inverse subsemigroup of T_E . #

From Theorem 1.5, the following corollary follows easily:

1.6 Corollary. If E is a semilattice, then T_E is a fundamental inverse subsemigroup of I_E .

Let S be a semigroup and T be a subset of S . The centralizer of T in S is the set $\{x \in S \mid xt = tx \text{ for all } t \in T\}$ which is denoted by $C(T)$. Because any two idempotents of an inverse semigroup commute,

it follows that for any inverse semigroup S , $E(S) \subseteq C(E(S))$.

It has been shown in [4] that an inverse semigroup S is fundamental if and only if $E(S) = C(E(S))$, the centralizer of $E(S)$ in S .

A symmetric inverse semigroup on any set is fundamental.

1.7 Theorem [1] . For any set X , I_X is fundamental.

Proof : To show that I_X is fundamental, it suffices to show $C(E(I_X)) = E(I_X)$. Because I_X is an inverse semigroup, $E(I_X) \subseteq C(E(I_X))$. Suppose $C(E(I_X)) \neq E(I_X)$. Then there exists $\alpha \in C(E(I_X))$ such that $\alpha \notin E(I_X)$. Since

$$E(I_X) = \{ \beta \in I_X \mid \beta \text{ is the identity map on } \Delta\beta \},$$

α is not the identity map on $\Delta\alpha$. Then there exists $x \in \Delta\alpha$ such that $x\alpha \neq x$. Let δ be the identity map on the set $\{x\}$. Then $\delta \in E(I_X)$, Since $\Delta\delta = \nabla\delta = \{x\}$, we have

$$\Delta(\delta\alpha) = (\nabla\delta \cap \Delta\alpha)\delta^{-1} = (\{x\} \cap \Delta\alpha)\delta = \{x\}.$$

If $x \in \nabla\alpha$, then

$$\Delta(\alpha\delta) = (\nabla\alpha \cap \Delta\delta)\alpha^{-1} = (\nabla\alpha \cap \{x\})\alpha^{-1} = \{x\alpha^{-1}\}.$$

If $x \notin \nabla\alpha$, then $\alpha\delta = 0$. Since $x\alpha \neq x$ and α is one-to-one, $x \neq x\alpha^{-1}$. Hence $\Delta(\delta\alpha) \neq \Delta(\alpha\delta)$, so $\delta\alpha \neq \alpha\delta$. It follows that $\alpha \notin C(E(I_X))$, which is a contradiction. Thus $C(E(I_X)) = E(I_X)$. This proves I_X is fundamental as required. #

Let S be a semilattice. Then $E(S) = S = C(E(S))$. Hence S is fundamental. An another way to prove this, let $a, b \in S$ such that $a \wedge b$. Then $aea^{-1} = beb^{-1}$ for all $e \in E(S) = S$. Since S is a semilattice,

$a^2 = a = a^{-1}$ and $b^2 = b = b^{-1}$, and so $ae = be$ for all $e \in E(S) = S$.

Then

$$a = a^2 = ba$$

and

$$b = b^2 = ab = ba,$$

so $a = b$. This shows that μ is the identity congruence on S , and therefore S is fundamental.

Let G be a group. Then $E(G) = \{1\}$ where 1 is the identity of G . Then $C(E(G)) = G$. Hence the group G is fundamental if and only if G is a trivial group.

Let S be a semigroup. For each $a \in S$, let H_a denote the \mathcal{H} -class of S containing a . If e is an idempotent of S , then H_e is the maximum subgroup of S having e as its identity [Introduction, page 7].

Let $S = \bigcup_{\alpha \in Y} G_\alpha$ be a semilattice Y of groups G_α . For each $\alpha \in Y$, let e_α denote the identity of the group G_α . Then

$$E(S) = \{ e_\alpha \mid \alpha \in Y \}.$$

Since S is the disjoint union of the subgroups G_α , it follows that for each $\alpha \in Y$, G_α is the maximum subgroup of S having e_α as its identity. Therefore, G_α is an \mathcal{H} -class of S for all $\alpha \in Y$. Moreover, \mathcal{H} is a congruence. To show this, let $a, b, c \in S$ and $a \mathcal{H} b$. Then $a, b \in G_\beta$ for some $\beta \in Y$. Let $\lambda \in Y$ and $c \in G_\lambda$. Then $ac, bc, cb \in G_{\beta\lambda}$ and so $ac \mathcal{H} bc$ and $ca \mathcal{H} cb$. Hence \mathcal{H} is an idempotent-separating congruence. But the maximum idempotent-separating congruence μ is contained in \mathcal{H} . Therefore $\mu = \mathcal{H}$. Thus, if

$S = \bigcup_{\alpha \in Y} G_\alpha$ is fundamental, then $S = E(S) = \{e_\alpha \mid \alpha \in Y\}$.

Hence any semilattice Y of groups is fundamental if and only if it is a semilattice which is isomorphic to Y .

We further study an inverse subsemigroup and a homomorphic image of a fundamental inverse semigroup. We can show that an inverse subsemigroup and a homomorphic image of a fundamental inverse semigroup are not necessarily fundamental. An example is given as follows :

Let $X = \{a, b\}$. Then the symmetric inverse semigroup on X , I_X , is fundamental [Theorem 1.7]. Let G_X be the permutation group on X . Then G_X is a group of order 2 and it is an inverse subsemigroup of I_X . Because G_X is not a nontrivial group, G_X is not fundamental.

Let 0 and 1 be the zero and the identity of I_X and $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \alpha_4, \alpha_5$ be one-to-one partial transformations on X defined as follow :

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta\alpha_1 &= \{a\} &= \nabla\alpha_1 &, \\ \Delta\alpha_2 &= \{b\} &= \nabla\alpha_2 &, \\ \Delta\alpha_3 &= \{a\}, &\nabla\alpha_3 &= \{b\}, \\ \Delta\alpha_4 &= \{b\}, &\nabla\alpha_4 &= \{a\}, \end{aligned}$$

$$\Delta\alpha_5 = \{a, b\} = \nabla\alpha_5 \text{ such that } a\alpha_5 = b, \quad b\alpha_5 = a.$$

Hence $I_X = \{0, \alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \alpha_4, \alpha_5, 1\}$ and its multiplication table is as follows :

·	0	α_1	α_2	α_3	α_4	α_5	1
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
α_1	0	α_1	0	α_3	0	α_3	α_1
α_2	0	0	α_2	0	α_4	α_4	α_2
α_3	0	0	α_3	0	α_1	α_1	α_3
α_4	0	α_4	0	α_2	0	α_2	α_4
α_5	0	α_4	α_3	α_2	α_1	1	α_5
1	0	α_1	α_2	α_3	α_4	α_5	1

Let $T = \{0, \alpha_5, 1\}$. From the above table, we have T as a subsemigroup of I_X . Since $\alpha_5^{-1} = \alpha_5$, T is an inverse subsemigroup of S . Moreover, $\alpha_5^2 = 1$, so $E(T) = \{0, 1\}$. It is clearly seen that T is commutative. Then the centralizer of $E(T)$ in T is T . Hence, $C(E(T)) = T \neq E(T)$, so T is not fundamental [[4], Theorem 2.7].

Let $A = \{0, \alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \alpha_4\}$. It follows from the table that A is an ideal of I_X and $I_X = A \cup \{\alpha_5, 1\}$.

To show that $T = \{0, \alpha_5, 1\}$ is a homomorphic image of I_X , let $\psi : I_X \rightarrow T$ be defined by

$$\alpha\psi = \begin{cases} \alpha & \text{if } \alpha \in \{\alpha_5, 1\} \\ 0 & \text{if } \alpha \in A \end{cases} ,$$

Let $\alpha, \beta \in I_X$.

Case $\alpha, \beta \in A$. Since A is a subsemigroup of I_X , $\alpha\beta \in A$, so $\alpha\psi, \beta\psi, \alpha\beta\psi$ are all 0. Therefore $(\alpha\beta)\psi = (\alpha\psi)(\beta\psi)$.

Case $\alpha, \beta \in \{\alpha_5, 1\}$. Then $\alpha\beta \in \{\alpha_5, 1\}$ and hence

$$(\alpha\beta)\psi = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \alpha = \beta = 1, \\ 1 & \text{if } \alpha = \beta = \alpha_5, \\ \alpha_5 & \text{if either } \alpha = \alpha_5, \beta = 1 \text{ or } \alpha = 1, \beta = \alpha_5, \end{cases}$$

and

$$(\alpha\psi)(\beta\psi) = \begin{cases} 1 \cdot 1 = 1 & \text{if } \alpha = \beta = 1, \\ \alpha_5 \alpha_5 = 1 & \text{if } \alpha = \beta = \alpha_5, \\ \alpha_5 1 = \alpha_5 & \text{if } \alpha = \alpha_5, \beta = 1, \\ 1 \alpha_5 = \alpha_5 & \text{if } \alpha = 1, \beta = \alpha_5. \end{cases}$$

Case $\alpha \in A, \beta \in \{\alpha_5, 1\}$. Then $\alpha\beta, \beta\alpha \in A$ since A is an ideal of S .

Therefore

$$\alpha\psi = 0, (\alpha\beta)\psi = 0, (\beta\alpha)\psi = 0, \text{ so}$$

$$(\alpha\psi)(\beta\psi) = 0 = (\alpha\beta)\psi$$

and

$$(\beta\psi)(\alpha\psi) = 0 = (\beta\alpha)\psi.$$

Hence ψ is an onto homomorphism. Thus T is a homomorphic image of I_X .

The following proposition shows that a homomorphic image of a fundamental inverse semigroup S by a homomorphism which is one-to-one on $E(S)$ is isomorphic to S , and hence it is fundamental.

1.7 Proposition. Let $\psi : S \rightarrow T$ be a homomorphism from an inverse semigroup S onto an inverse semigroup T such that for $e, f \in E(S)$, $e\psi = f\psi$ implies $e = f$. If S is fundamental, then ψ is an onto isomorphism, and hence T is isomorphic to S .

Proof : Let ρ be the congruence on S induced by ψ , that is,

$$a\rho b \iff a\psi = b\psi \quad (a, b \in S).$$

Since ψ is one-to-one on $E(S)$, each class of ρ contains at most one idempotent of S . Then ρ is an idempotent-separating congruence on S , and hence $\rho \subseteq \mu$, the maximum idempotent-separating congruence on S . Because S is fundamental, μ is the identity congruence, so ρ is the identity congruence on S . Then ψ is one-to-one. Therefore ψ is an onto isomorphism, and hence T is isomorphic to S . #