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# On Monoids over which All Strongly Flat Right S-Acts Are Regular

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**Abstract**: This paper investigates the characterizations of monoids over which all strongly flat right S-acts are regular. It is shown that all strongly flat right S-acts are regular if and only if S is a right PSF monoid and every left collapsible submonoid of S contains a left zero. This result gives a new answer to the problem in Kilp and Knauer<sup>[7]</sup>.

Key words: strong flat S-acts; regular S-acts. MSC(2000): 20M30, 18G05 CLC number: O152.7

### 1. Introduction

Let S be a monoid. The definitions of right S-act A and left S-act B can be found in [1]. Strong flatness and regular property of right acts over a monoid S have been the topic of many papers on homological classification of monoids during last decades (see for example [2] and the references cited there). In [3], Stenström called a right S-act A strongly flat, if the functor  $A \otimes$ -(from the category of left S-acts to the category of sets) preserves pullbacks and equalizers. In fact the author has shown that A is strongly flat if and only if it satisfies the following condition (P) and (E):

$$(\forall a, a' \in A)(\forall s, s' \in S)(as = a's' \Rightarrow (\exists a'' \in A)(\exists u, v \in S)(a = a''u \land a' = a''v \land us = vs')).$$
((P))

$$(\forall a \in A)(\forall s, s' \in S)(as = as' \Rightarrow (\exists a' \in A)(\exists u \in S)(a = a'u \land us = us')). \tag{(E)}$$

According to Knauer<sup>[4]</sup>, a right S-act A is projective if and only if  $A \simeq \coprod e_i S$  for  $e_i^2 = e_i \in S$ . As one would expect, projective  $\Rightarrow$  strongly flat  $\Rightarrow$  property (E). It is also known that these three concepts are distinct<sup>[5,6]</sup>.

Regular right S-acts were introduced by Tran Lam Hach in [8] and were investigated by many authors. A right S-act A is called regular if for any  $a \in A$ , there exists a homomorphism  $f: aS \to S$  such that  $af(a) = a^{[7,8]}$ . It is known that a von Neumann regular monoid S is an example of regular right S-act. It was proved in [8] that A is regular if and only if all cyclic subacts of A are projective.

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A monoid S is said to be right reversible if for any  $p, q \in S$ , there exist  $u, v \in S$  such that up = vq. A monoid S is said to be left collapsible if for any  $p, q \in S$ , there exists  $r \in S$  such that rp = rq.

A monoid S is called a right PP monoid if and only if every principal right ideal of S is projective. It is well-known that S is right PP if and only if for any  $s \in S$ , there exists an idempotent  $e \in S$ , such that, se = s and for all  $x, y \in S$ , sx = sy implies ex = ey. Right PP monoids were investigated by Fountain in [8] and Kilp in [9].

According to Knauer<sup>[6]</sup>, an element  $u \in S$  is called left semi-cancellable if us = ut  $(s, t \in S, u \in S)$  implies that there exists  $r \in S$  such that u = ur and rs = rt. In [10], a monoid S is called a right PSF monoid if every principal right ideal of S is strongly flat. It was discussed in [10] that, S is a right PSF monoid if and only if every element of S is left semi-cancellable. It is clear that a right PP monoid must be a right PSF monoid.

As in [12], S is called a right P(P) monoid if and only if every principal right ideal of S satisfies condition (P), and if and only if us = ut  $(s, t \in S, u \in S)$  implies that there exists  $p, q \in S$  such that u = up = uq and ps = qt.

In [7], it was shown that if all strongly flat left S-acts are regular, then S is a left PP monoid such that all cyclic strongly flat left S-acts are projective. And if S is a left PP monoid such that all cyclic strongly flat left S-acts are projective, then all finitely generated strongly flat left S-acts are regular. But the problem of characterizations of monoids over which all strongly flat left S-acts are regular remains open. In [1] the authors proved the following result:

**Theorem 1.1** The following conditions on S are equivalent:

- (1) All strongly flat left S-acts are regular.
- (2) All left S-acts having the property (E) are regular.
- (3) S is a left PP monoid and satisfies  $(FP_2)$ .

According to Knauer<sup>[6]</sup>, a monoid S is said to have property (FP<sub>2</sub>) if for any set M of idempotents of S with the property: for  $e_1, \dots, e_n, f_1, \dots, f_m \in M$ , there exists  $f \in M$  such that  $e_1 \cdots e_n f = f_1 \cdots f_m f$ , then the subsemigroup of S generated by M contains a right zero.

In this paper, we provide some new characterizations of monoids over which all strongly flat right S-acts are regular. It is shown that all strongly flat right S-acts are regular if and only if S is a right PSF monoid and every left collapsible submonoid of S contains a left zero, and if and only if S is a right PP monoid and every left collapsible submonoid of S contains a left zero.

#### 2. Main results

**Lemma 2.1**<sup>[7]</sup> The following conditions on S are equivalent:

- (1) All projective right S-acts are regular.
- (2) S is a right PP monoid.

**Lemma 2.2**<sup>[9]</sup> Let A be a right S-act, the following conditions for  $a \in A$  are equivalent:

(1) aS is a projective right S-act.

(2) There exists  $e^2 = e \in S$  such that ae = a and as = at implies es = et where  $s, t \in S$ .

**Lemma 2.3**<sup>[2]</sup> The following conditions on S are equivalent:

- (1) All strongly flat cyclic right S-acts are projective.
- (2) If  $P \subseteq S$  is a left collapsible submonoid, then P contains a left zero.

**Theorem 2.4** The following conditions on S are equivalent:

(1) All strongly flat right S-acts are regular.

(2) All right S-acts having the property (E) are regular.

(3) S is a right PSF monoid and if  $P \subseteq S$  is a left collapsible submonoid, then P contains a left zero.

**Proof**  $(2) \Rightarrow (1)$ . is clear.

 $(1) \Rightarrow (3)$ . Suppose all strongly flat right S-acts are regular, then all projective right S-acts are regular. By Lemma 2.1 S is a right PP monoid. Obviously S is a right PSF monoid. Again applying (1), we get that all cyclic strongly flat right S-acts are projective. By Lemma 2.3, if  $P \subseteq S$  is a left collapsible submonoid, then P contains a left zero.

 $(3) \Rightarrow (2)$ . Assume A is an arbitrary right S-act having the property (E) and a an arbitrary element of A. Since a1 = a for every  $a \in A$ , it follows that the set  $P_a = \{s \in S \mid a = as\}$  is non-empty, and  $P_a$  is a submonoid of S.

First, we show that  $P_a$  contains a left zero. For any  $x, y \in P_a$ , we have a = ax = ay. Because A satisfies condition (E), there exist  $a_1 \in A$  and  $u \in S$  such that  $a = a_1u$  and ux = uy. Since S is a right PSF monoid, every element of S is left semi-cancellable. For ux = uy, there exists  $r \in S$  such that u = ur and rx = ry. Then  $ar = a_1ur = a_1u = a$ . Clearly  $r \in P_a$ . Thus  $P_a$ is a left collapsible submonoid of S. By our assumption, it contains a left zero e, and certainly ae = a.

Now as = at, where  $a \in A$  and  $s, t \in S$ . Condition (E) implies the existence of  $a' \in A$  and  $x \in S$  such that a = a'x and xs = xt. Since S is a right PSF monoid, there exists  $p \in S$  such that x = xp and ps = pt. Hence ap = a'xp = a'x = a, and this means that  $p \in P_a$ . But e is a left zero of  $P_a$ , so we get ep = e. Consequently ps = pt implies es = (ep)s = e(ps) = e(pt) = (ep)t = et. Now by Lemma 2.2, A is regular.

By [11] a left S-act A is called a CSF S-act if all cyclic subacts of A are strongly flat. Let A be a left S-act and  $a \in A$ . The cyclic subact Sa is strongly flat if and only if for  $sa = ta(s, t \in S)$  there exists  $r \in S$  such that ra = a and sr = tr.

**Corollary 2.5**<sup>[11]</sup> The following conditions on S are equivalent:

- (1) All free left S-acts are CSF S-acts.
- (2) All projective left S-acts are CSF S-acts.
- (3) All strongly flat left S-acts are CSF S-acts.
- (4) S is a left PSF monoid.

**Corollary 2.6** The following conditions on S are equivalent:

(2) All right S-acts having the property (E) are regular.

(3) S is a right PP monoid and if  $P \subseteq S$  is a left collapsible submonoid, then P contains a left zero.

**Proposition 2.7** If S is a right P(P) monoid and every right reversible submonoid of S contains a left zero, then all strongly flat right S-acts are regular.

**Proof** Suppose A is an arbitrary right S-act having the property (E). For every  $a \in A$ , we shall show that aS is a projective right S-act. By Lemma 2.2, we only need to show that there exists  $e(=e^2) \in S$  such that ae = a and as = at implies es = et where  $s, t \in S$ .

Let  $P_a = \{s \in S \mid a = as\}$ . It is clear that  $P_a \neq \emptyset$ , and  $P_a$  is a submonoid of S. For any  $x, y \in P_a$ , we get a = ax = ay. Because A satisfies condition (E), for ax = ay, there exist  $a_1 \in A$  and  $u \in S$  such that  $a = a_1u$  and ux = uy. Since S is a right P(P) monoid, there exist  $p, q \in S$  such that u = up = uq and px = qy. Hence  $ap = a_1up = a_1u = a$  and  $aq = a_1uq = a_1u = a$ , which implies  $p, q \in P_a$ . Thus  $P_a$  is a right reversible submonoid of S. By the assumption, it contains a left zero e, and it is clear that ae = a.

Now as = at, where  $a \in A$  and  $s, t \in S$ , since A satisfies condition (E) and there exist  $a' \in A$ and  $x \in S$  such that a = a'x, and xs = xt. Since S is a right P(P) monoid, there exist  $p_1, q_1 \in S$ such that  $x = xp_1 = xq_1$  and  $p_1s = q_1t$ . Then  $ap_1=a'xp_1 = a'x = a$  and  $aq_1=a'xq_1 = a'x = a$ . This means  $p_1, q_1 \in P_a$ . But e is a left zero of  $P_a$ , so we have  $ep_1 = eq_1 = e$ . Finally  $p_1s = q_1t$ implies  $es = (ep_1)s = e(p_1s) = e(q_1t) = (eq_1)t = et$ . Thus the result follows.

By [12] a right S-act A is called a right C(P) act if all cyclic subacts of A satisfy condition (P). Let A be a right S-act and  $a \in A$ , the cyclic subact aS satisfies condition (P) if and only if for  $as = at(s, t \in S)$  there exists  $p, q \in S$  such that a = ap = aq and ps = qt. Then we have the following:

**Corollary 2.8**<sup>[12]</sup> The following conditions on S are equivalent:

- (1) All free right S-acts are C(P) S-acts.
- (2) All projective right S-acts are C(P) S-acts.
- (3) All strongly flat right S-acts are C(P) S-acts.
- (4) All strongly flat cyclic right S-acts are C(P) S-acts.
- (5) S is a right P(P) monoid.

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# 关于所有强平坦右 S-系是正则系的幺半群

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**摘要**:本论文考虑了所有强平坦右 S-系是正则系的幺半群的刻画,证明了所有强平坦右 S-系 是正则 S-系当且仅当 S 是右 PSF 幺半群并且 S 的每一个左 collpasible 子幺半群包含左零元. 该结果对 Kilp 和 Knauer 在文献 [7] 中的问题给出了一个新的回答..

关键词: 强平坦 S-系; 正则 S-系.