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Collect. Math. 46, 1-2 (1995), 35-48
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# Congruences associated with inverse transversals 

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#### Abstract

An inverse transversal of a regular semigroup $S$ is an inverse subsemigroup of $S$ that contains a unique inverse $x^{\circ}$ of every element $x$ of $S$. Here we consider the congruences on such a semigroup, considered as an algebra of type $(2,1)$. The structure of such semigroups being known, with 'building bricks' the inverse subsemigroup $S^{\circ}$ and the sub-bands $\mathrm{I}=\left\{x x^{\circ} ; x \in S\right\}, \Lambda=\left\{x^{\circ} x ; x \in\right.$ $S\}$, we investigate how congruences on $S$ are related to congruences on these building bricks.


Throughout this paper ${ }^{1}$ we shall be concerned with a regular semigroup $S$ with an inverse transversal. Basically, an inverse transversal is an inverse subsemigroup $T$ of $S$ with the property that $|T \cap V(x)|=1$ for every $x \in S$, where $V(x)$ denotes as usual the set of inverses of $x$ in $S$. Defining $x^{\circ}$ by $T \cap V(x)=\left\{x^{\circ}\right\}$, we can write $T$ as $S^{\circ}=\left\{x^{\circ} ; x \in S\right\}$. The structure of regular semigroups having inverse transversals has been determined by Saito [4]. Here we shall be interested in congruences on
${ }^{1}$ NATO Collaborative Research Grant 910765 is gratefully acknowledged.
such semigroups. We denote by Con $S$ the complete lattice of congruences on $S$. We shall say that $\vartheta \in \operatorname{Con} S$ is a ${ }^{\circ}$-congruence if

$$
(a, b) \in \vartheta \Rightarrow\left(a^{\circ}, b^{\circ}\right) \in \vartheta .
$$

The set of ${ }^{\circ}$-congruences on $S$, i.e. the set of congruences on the algebra $\left(S, \cdot{ }^{\circ}\right)$, will be denoted by $\overline{\mathrm{Con}} S$. It is readily seen that $\overline{\mathrm{Con}} S$ is a complete sublattice of $\overline{\mathrm{Con}} S$. In order to investigate $\overline{\mathrm{Con}} S$ we require the following known facts.

If $E(S)$ is the set of idempotents of $S$ then, as established by Tang [6],

$$
\mathrm{I}=\left\{x x^{\circ} ; x \in S\right\}=\left\{e \in E(S) ; e=e e^{\circ}\right\}
$$

is a sub-band of $S$; moreover, it is left regular [i.e. $(\forall i, j \in \mathrm{I}) i j i=i j$ ]. Dually

$$
\Lambda=\left\{x^{\circ} x ; x \in S\right\}=\left\{f \in E(S) ; f=f^{\circ} f\right\}
$$

is a sub-band of $S$; moreover, it is right regular [i.e. $(\forall e, f \in \Lambda) e f e=f e]$. We have that I $\cap \Lambda=E\left(S^{\circ}\right)$, the semilattice of idempotents of $S^{\circ}$ and an inverse transversal of both I, $\Lambda$.

Important properties of the operation $x \mapsto x^{\circ}$ are:

$$
\begin{equation*}
(\forall x \in S) x^{000}=x^{\circ} . \tag{1}
\end{equation*}
$$

In fact, both $x^{00 \circ}$ and $x^{\circ}$ belong to $S^{\circ} \cap V\left(x^{\circ \circ}\right)$.

$$
\begin{equation*}
S \text { is orthodox if and only if }(x y)^{\circ}=y^{\circ} x^{\circ} \text { for all } x, y \in S . \tag{2}
\end{equation*}
$$

This is established in [4].

$$
\begin{equation*}
(\forall x, y \in S)(x y)^{\circ}=\left(x^{\circ} x y\right)^{\circ} x^{\circ}=y^{\circ}\left(x y y^{\circ}\right)^{\circ} . \tag{3}
\end{equation*}
$$

This is established in [3].

$$
\begin{equation*}
(\forall x, y \in S)\left(x^{\circ} y\right)^{\circ}=y^{\circ} x^{\circ \circ} \quad \text { and } \quad\left(x y^{\circ}\right)^{\circ}=y^{\circ \circ} x^{\circ} . \tag{4}
\end{equation*}
$$

In view of the above result of Tang, this follows from [5, Proposition 2.2]. It may also be proved directly. For example, since I is left regular we have

$$
y^{\circ} x^{\circ \circ} \cdot x^{\circ} y \cdot y^{\circ} x^{\circ \circ}=y^{\circ} y y^{\circ} x^{\circ \circ} x^{\circ} y y^{\circ} x^{\circ \circ}=y^{\circ} y y^{\circ} x^{\circ \circ} x^{\circ} x^{\circ \circ}=y^{\circ} x^{\circ \circ},
$$

and similarly $x^{\circ} y \cdot y^{\circ} x^{\circ \circ} \cdot x^{\circ} y=x^{\circ} y$. It follows that $y^{\circ} x^{\circ \circ} \in S^{\circ} \cap V\left(x^{\circ} y\right)$ and therefore $y^{\circ} x^{\circ \circ}=\left(x^{\circ} y\right)^{\circ}$.

## Theorem 1

Let $S$ be a regular semigroup with an inverse transversal $S^{\circ}$. If $X \in\left\{I, S^{\circ}, \Lambda\right\}$ then Con $X=\overline{\operatorname{Con}} X$.

Proof. It is well known that on an inverse semigroup every congruence $\vartheta$ is such that $(a, b) \in \vartheta$ implies $\left(a^{-1}, b^{-1}\right) \in \vartheta$. It follows immediately that Con $S^{\circ}=\overline{\operatorname{Con}} S^{\circ}$.

Suppose now that $\imath \in$ Con I. If $(i, j) \in \imath$ then $\left(i^{\circ}, i^{\circ} j\right)=\left(i^{\circ} i, i^{\circ} j\right) \in \imath$ whence $\left(i^{\circ} j^{\circ}, i^{\circ} j\right)=\left(i^{\circ} j^{\circ}, i^{\circ} j j^{\circ}\right) \in \imath$ and therefore $\left(i^{\circ}, i^{\circ} j^{\circ}\right) \in \imath$. Interchanging $i, j$ and using the fact that $i^{\circ}, j^{\circ} \in E\left(S^{\circ}\right)$ and therefore commute, we obtain $\left(i^{\circ}, j^{\circ}\right) \in \imath$. Hence Con $I=\overline{\mathrm{Con}} \mathrm{I}$, and similarly Con $\Lambda=\overline{\mathrm{Con}} \Lambda$.

Definition. Given $\imath \in \mathrm{Con} \mathrm{I}, \pi \in \operatorname{Con} S^{\circ}, \lambda \in \operatorname{Con} \Lambda$ we shall say that $(\imath, \pi, \lambda)$ is a linked triple if, for all $i_{1}, i_{2} \in \mathrm{I}$ all $x_{1}, x_{2} \in S^{\circ}$, and all $l_{1}, l_{2} \in \Lambda$,

$$
\begin{align*}
& \left(i_{1}, i_{2}\right) \in \imath,\left(l_{1}, l_{2}\right) \in \lambda \Rightarrow\left\{\begin{array}{l}
\left(l_{1} i_{1}\left(l_{1} i_{1}\right)^{\circ}, l_{2} i_{2}\left(l_{2} i_{2}\right)^{\circ}\right) \in \imath \\
\left(\left(l_{1} i_{1}\right)^{\circ},\left(l_{2} i_{2}\right)^{\circ}\right) \in \pi \\
\left(\left(l_{1} i_{1}\right)^{\circ} l_{1} i_{1},\left(l_{2} i_{2}\right)^{\circ} l_{2} i_{2}\right) \in \lambda
\end{array}\right. \\
& \left(i_{1}, i_{2}\right) \in \imath,\left(x_{1}, x_{2}\right) \in \pi \Rightarrow\left(x_{1} i_{1} x_{1}^{\circ}, x_{2} i_{2} x_{2}^{\circ}\right) \in \imath \\
& \left(l_{1}, l_{2}\right) \in \lambda,\left(x_{1}, x_{2}\right) \in \pi \Rightarrow\left(x_{1}^{\circ} l_{1} x_{1}, x_{2}^{\circ} l_{2} x_{2}\right) \in \lambda
\end{align*}
$$

To observe that $(\delta)$ and $(\epsilon)$ are meaningful, it suffices to show that, for example, if $i \in \mathrm{I}$ then $x^{\circ \circ} i x^{\circ} \in \mathrm{I}$ for every $x \in S$. This follows from the fact that

$$
\begin{array}{rlr}
x^{\circ \circ} i x^{\circ}\left(x^{\circ \circ} i x^{\circ}\right)^{\circ} & =x^{\circ \circ} i x^{\circ} x^{\circ \circ}\left(x^{\circ \circ} i x^{\circ} x^{\circ \circ}\right)^{\circ} \\
& =x^{\circ \circ} i x^{\circ} x^{\circ \circ}\left(i x^{\circ} x^{\circ \circ}\right)^{\circ} x^{\circ} \\
& =x^{\circ \circ} i x^{\circ} x^{\circ \circ} x^{\circ} x^{\circ \circ} i^{\circ} x^{\circ} \quad \text { since I is orthodox } \\
& =x^{\circ \circ} i i^{\circ} x^{\circ} \\
& =x^{\circ \circ} i x^{\circ}
\end{array}
$$

We shall denote by $\operatorname{LT}(S)$ the set of linked triples. It is clear that $\operatorname{LT}(S)$ is a subset of Con $\mathrm{I} \times \operatorname{Con} S^{\circ} \times$ Con $\Lambda$ and as such inherits the cartesian order of the latter.

Guided by property $(\beta)$ above, we introduce the following notion.
Definition. We shall say that $\vartheta \in \operatorname{Con} S$ is braided if, for all $i_{1}, i_{2} \in \mathrm{I}$ and all $l_{1}, l_{2} \in \Lambda$,

$$
\left.\left(i_{1}, i_{2}\right) \in \vartheta\right|_{\mathrm{I}},\left.\left.\left(l_{1}, l_{2}\right) \in \vartheta\right|_{\Lambda} \Rightarrow\left(\left(l_{1} i_{1}\right)^{\circ},\left(l_{2} i_{2}\right)^{\circ}\right) \in \vartheta\right|_{S^{\circ}} .
$$

We shall denote the set of braided congruences on $S$ by $\mathrm{BrCon} S$. It is readily seen that $\operatorname{BrCon} S$ is a complete sublattice of Con $S$. Clearly, we have

$$
\overline{\mathrm{Con}} S \subseteq \operatorname{BrCon} S \subseteq \operatorname{Con} S
$$

To each $(\imath, \pi, \lambda) \in \operatorname{Con} \mathrm{I} \times \operatorname{Con} S^{\circ} \times$ Con $\Lambda$ we associate the relation $\Psi(\imath, \pi, \lambda)$ defined on $S$ by

$$
(a, b) \in \Psi(\imath, \pi, \lambda) \Longleftrightarrow\left(a a^{\circ}, b b^{\circ}\right) \in \imath,\left(a^{\circ}, b^{\circ}\right) \in \pi,\left(a^{\circ} a, b^{\circ} b\right) \in \lambda
$$

## Theorem 2

$$
\text { If }(\imath, \pi, \lambda) \in \operatorname{LT}(S) \text { then } \Psi(\imath, \pi, \lambda) \in \operatorname{BrCon} S
$$

Proof. Suppose that $(a, b) \in \Psi(\imath, \pi, \lambda)$. Then $\left(a^{\circ}, b^{\circ}\right) \in \pi$ and, for every $x \in S$,

$$
\begin{array}{rlr}
(a x)^{\circ} & =x^{\circ}\left(a^{\circ} a x x^{\circ}\right)^{\circ} a^{\circ} \\
& \stackrel{\pi}{\equiv} x^{\circ}\left(b^{\circ} b x x^{\circ}\right)^{\circ} b^{\circ} \quad \text { by }(\beta) \\
& =(b x)^{\circ} .
\end{array}
$$

Similarly, $\left((x a)^{\circ},(x b)^{\circ}\right) \in \pi$.
Now ( $\alpha$ ) gives

$$
a^{\circ} a x x^{\circ}\left(a^{\circ} a x x^{\circ}\right)^{\circ} \stackrel{\imath}{=} b^{\circ} b x x^{\circ}\left(b^{\circ} b x x^{\circ}\right)^{\circ}
$$

whence, by ( $\delta$ ), we obtain

$$
a^{\circ \circ} a^{\circ} a x x^{\circ}\left(a^{\circ} a x x^{\circ}\right)^{\circ} a^{\circ} \stackrel{\imath}{=} b^{\circ \circ} b^{\circ} b x x^{\circ}\left(b^{\circ} b x x^{\circ}\right)^{\circ} b^{\circ} .
$$

Since $\left(a a^{\circ}, b b^{\circ}\right) \in \imath$ we therefore have

$$
a x(a x)^{\circ}=a a^{\circ} \cdot a^{\circ \circ} a^{\circ} a x x^{\circ}\left(a^{\circ} a x x^{\circ}\right)^{\circ} a^{\circ} \xlongequal{\imath} b b^{\circ} \cdot b^{\circ \circ} b^{\circ} b x x^{\circ}\left(b^{\circ} b x x^{\circ}\right)^{\circ} b^{\circ}=b x(b x)^{\circ} .
$$

Similarly, $\left(x a(x a)^{\circ}, x b(x b)^{\circ}\right) \in \imath$.
Using $(\gamma)$ and $(\epsilon)$ we can show likewise that

$$
\left((a x)^{\circ} a x,(b x)^{\circ} b x\right) \in \lambda, \quad\left((x a)^{\circ} x a,(x b)^{\circ} x b\right) \in \lambda .
$$

Consequently, $\Psi(\imath, \pi, \lambda) \in \operatorname{Con} S$.
To prove that $\Psi(\imath, \pi, \lambda)$ is braided, suppose that $\left.\left(i_{1}, i_{2}\right) \in \Psi(\imath, \pi, \lambda)\right|_{\mathrm{I}}$ and $\left.\left(l_{1}, l_{2}\right) \in \Psi(\imath, \pi, \lambda)\right|_{\Lambda}$. Then $\left(i_{1}, i_{2}\right) \in \imath$ and $\left(l_{1}, l_{2}\right) \in \lambda$ and so, by $(\alpha),(\gamma)$ and Theorem 1, we have

$$
\begin{align*}
& \left(\left(l_{1} i_{1}\right)^{\circ \circ}\left(l_{1} i_{1}\right)^{\circ},\left(l_{2} i_{2}\right)^{\circ \circ}\left(l_{2} i_{2}\right)^{\circ}\right)=\left(\left[l_{1} i_{1}\left(l_{1} i_{1}\right)^{\circ}\right]^{\circ},\left[l_{2} i_{2}\left(l_{2} i_{2}\right)^{\circ}\right]^{\circ}\right) \in \tau ;  \tag{1}\\
& \left(\left(l_{1} i_{1}\right)^{\circ}\left(l_{1} i_{1}\right)^{\circ \circ},\left(l_{2} i_{2}\right)^{\circ}\left(l_{2} i_{2}\right)^{\circ \circ}\right)=\left(\left[\left(l_{1} i_{1}\right)^{\circ} l_{1} i_{1}\right]^{\circ},\left[\left(l_{2} i_{2}\right)^{\circ} l_{2} i_{2}\right]^{\circ}\right) \in \lambda .
\end{align*}
$$

It follows from (1), (2), and $(\beta)$ that $\left.\left(\left(l_{1} i_{1}\right)^{\circ \circ},\left(l_{2} i_{2}\right)^{\circ \circ}\right) \in \Psi(\imath, \pi, \lambda)\right|_{S^{\circ}}$ and therefore, by Theorem 1 again, $\left.\left(\left(l_{1} i_{1}\right)^{\circ},\left(l_{2} i_{2}\right)^{\circ}\right) \in \Psi(\imath, \pi, \lambda)\right|_{S^{\circ}}$. Hence $\Psi(\imath, \pi, \lambda)$ is braided.
Definition. A triple $(\imath, \pi, \lambda) \in \operatorname{Con} \mathrm{I} \times \operatorname{Con} S^{\circ} \times \mathrm{Con} \Lambda$ will be called balanced if

$$
\left.\imath\right|_{E\left(S^{\circ}\right)}=\left.\pi\right|_{E\left(S^{\circ}\right)}=\left.\lambda\right|_{E\left(S^{\circ}\right)} .
$$

We shall denote the ordered set of balanced linked triples by $\operatorname{BLT}(S)$.

## Theorem 3

If $(\imath, \pi, \lambda) \in \operatorname{BLT}(S)$ then $\Psi(\imath, \pi, \lambda) \in \overline{\operatorname{Con}} S$.

Proof. Given $(\imath, \pi, \lambda) \in \operatorname{BLT}(S)$ we have that $(a, b) \in \Psi(\imath, \pi, \lambda)$ implies $\left(a^{\circ}, b^{\circ}\right) \in$ $\pi$ whence $\left(a^{\circ \circ}, b^{\circ \circ}\right) \in \pi$ and therefore $\left.\left(a^{\circ \circ} a^{\circ}, b^{\circ \circ} b^{\circ}\right) \in \pi\right|_{E\left(S^{\circ}\right)}=\left.\imath\right|_{E\left(S^{\circ}\right)}$ and $\left.\left(a^{\circ} a^{\circ \circ}, b^{\circ} b^{\circ \circ}\right) \in \pi\right|_{E\left(S^{\circ}\right)}=\left.\lambda\right|_{E\left(S^{\circ}\right)}$. Consequently we see that $(a, b) \in \Psi(\imath, \pi, \lambda)$ implies $\left(a^{\circ}, b^{\circ}\right) \in \Psi(\imath, \pi, \lambda)$, whence the result follows by Theorem 2 .

## Theorem 4

The mapping $\Psi: \operatorname{BLT}(S) \rightarrow \operatorname{BrCon} S$ described by $(\imath, \pi, \lambda) \mapsto \Psi(\imath, \pi, \lambda)$ is injective and residuated, with residual $\Psi^{+}$given by $\Psi^{+}(\vartheta)=\left(\left.\vartheta\right|_{\mathrm{I}},\left.\vartheta\right|_{S^{\circ}},\left.\vartheta\right|_{\Lambda}\right)$.

Proof. If $\vartheta \in \operatorname{BrCon} S$ then taking $\imath=\left.\vartheta\right|_{\mathrm{I}}, \pi=\left.\vartheta\right|_{S^{\circ}}, \lambda=\left.\vartheta\right|_{\Lambda}$ we see that $(\beta)$, hence $(\alpha)$ and $(\gamma)$, and $(\delta),(\epsilon)$ are satisfied. Consequently, $\left(\left.\vartheta\right|_{\mathrm{I}},\left.\vartheta\right|_{S^{\circ}},\left.\vartheta\right|_{\Lambda}\right)$ is a linked triple which is clearly balanced. We can therefore define a mapping $\Phi^{+}: \operatorname{BrCon} S \rightarrow$ $\operatorname{BLT}(S)$ by $\Psi^{+}(\vartheta)=\left(\left.\vartheta\right|_{\mathrm{I}},\left.\vartheta\right|_{S^{\circ}},\left.\vartheta\right|_{\Lambda}\right)$. It is clear that $\Psi$ and $\Psi^{+}$are isotone. Now

$$
\begin{aligned}
(a, b) \in \Psi \Psi^{+}(\vartheta) & \left.\Rightarrow\left(a a^{\circ}, b b^{\circ}\right) \in \vartheta\right|_{\mathrm{I}},\left.\left(a^{\circ}, b^{\circ}\right) \in \vartheta\right|_{S^{\circ}},\left.\left(a^{\circ} a, b^{\circ} b\right) \in \vartheta\right|_{\Lambda} \\
& \Rightarrow a=a a^{\circ} \cdot a^{\circ \circ} \cdot a^{\circ} a \xlongequal{\equiv} b b^{\circ} \cdot b^{\circ \circ} \cdot b^{\circ} b=b
\end{aligned}
$$

so $\Psi \Psi^{+}(\vartheta) \subseteq \vartheta$ and therefore $\Psi \Psi^{+} \leq$id.
Observe next that for $i, j \in \mathrm{I}$ we have

$$
(i, j) \in \Psi(\imath, \pi, \lambda) \Longleftrightarrow(i, j) \in \imath,\left(i^{\circ}, j^{\circ}\right) \in \pi, \quad\left(i^{\circ}, j^{\circ}\right) \in \lambda
$$

But, by Theorem 1 and the hypothesis that $(\imath, \pi, \lambda) \in \operatorname{BLT}(S)$, we have

$$
\left.(i, j) \in \imath \Rightarrow\left(i^{\circ}, j^{\circ}\right) \in \imath\right|_{E\left(S^{\circ}\right)}=\left.\pi\right|_{E\left(S^{\circ}\right)}=\left.\lambda\right|_{E\left(S^{\circ}\right)} .
$$

Hence we see that $\left.\Psi(\imath, \pi, \lambda)\right|_{\mathrm{I}}=\imath$. Similarly, $\left.\Psi(\imath, \pi, \lambda)\right|_{\Lambda}=\lambda$ and $\left.\Psi(\imath, \pi, \lambda)\right|_{S^{\circ}}=\pi$. It follows from these observations that $\Psi^{+} \Psi(\imath, \pi, \lambda)=(\imath, \pi, \lambda)$ and therefore $\Psi^{+} \Psi=\mathrm{id}$.

Hence $\Psi$ is injective and residuated, with residual $\Psi^{+}$.

## Corollary 1

$\operatorname{BLT}(S)$ forms a lattice that is isomorphic to $\overline{\operatorname{Con}} S=\operatorname{Im} \Psi$.
Proof. It follows from Theorem 3 that $\operatorname{Im} \Psi \subseteq \overline{\operatorname{Con}} S$. But for every $\vartheta \in \overline{\operatorname{Con}} S$ we have

$$
\begin{aligned}
(a, b) \in \vartheta & \left.\Rightarrow\left(a a^{\circ}, b b^{\circ}\right) \in \vartheta\right|_{\mathrm{I}},\left.\left(a^{\circ}, b^{\circ}\right) \in \vartheta\right|_{S^{\circ}},\left.\left(a^{\circ} a, b^{\circ} b\right) \in \vartheta\right|_{\Lambda} \\
& \Rightarrow(a, b) \in \Psi \Psi^{+}(\vartheta)
\end{aligned}
$$

so $\vartheta \subseteq \Psi \Psi^{+}(\vartheta)$, whence we have equality. It follows that $\overline{\operatorname{Con}} S \subseteq \operatorname{Im} \Psi$ and therefore $\overline{\operatorname{Con}} S=\operatorname{Im} \Psi$. Now since $\Psi^{+}$is the residual of $\Psi$ we have $\Psi \Psi^{+} \Psi=\Psi$.

Thus $\Psi \Psi^{+}$acts as the identity on $\operatorname{Im} \Psi$. More precisely, if $\Psi_{*}^{+}$is the restriction of $\Psi^{+}$ to $\operatorname{Im} \Psi$ and if $\Psi_{*}: \operatorname{BLT}(S) \rightarrow \operatorname{Im} \Psi$ is the mapping induced by $\Psi$ i.e. $\Psi_{*}(\imath, \pi, \lambda)=$ $\Psi(\imath, \pi, \lambda)]$ then $\Psi_{*}^{+}$and $\Psi_{*}$ are mutually inverse isomorphisms. Consequently we have the order isomorphism $\operatorname{Im} \Psi \simeq \operatorname{BLT}(S)$.

## Corollary 2

The relation $\sim$ defined on BrCon $S$ by

$$
\left.\vartheta \sim \varphi \Longleftrightarrow \vartheta\right|_{\mathrm{I}}=\left.\varphi\right|_{\mathrm{I}},\left.\vartheta\right|_{S^{\circ}}=\varphi_{S^{\circ}},\left.\vartheta\right|_{\Lambda}=\left.\varphi\right|_{\Lambda}
$$

is a dual closure equivalence. The smallest element in the $\sim$-class of $\vartheta$ is $\Psi \Psi^{+}(\vartheta)$.
Proof. Since $\Psi$ is residuated, $\Psi \Psi^{+}$is a dual closure on $\operatorname{BrCon} S$ and the equality $\Psi^{+}=\Psi^{+} \Psi \Psi^{+}$gives

$$
\vartheta \sim \varphi \Longleftrightarrow \Psi^{+}(\vartheta)=\Psi^{+}(\varphi) \Longleftrightarrow \Psi \Psi^{+}(\vartheta)=\Psi \Psi^{+}(\varphi) .
$$

Also, the equality $\Psi \Psi^{+} \Psi=\Psi$ gives $\operatorname{Im} \Psi=\operatorname{Im} \Psi \Psi^{+}$. It follows by Corollary 1 that the fixed points of the dual closure $\Psi \Psi^{+}$are precisely the elements of $\overline{\text { Con }} S$. If $\vartheta \in$ BrCon $S$ then the smallest element in the $\sim$-class of $\vartheta$ relative to this dual closure is clearly $\Psi \Psi^{+}(\vartheta)$.

## Corollary 3

There is a lattice isomorphism $\overline{\mathrm{Con}} S \simeq(\operatorname{BrCon} S) / \sim$.
As Corollary 1 above shows, every $\vartheta \in \operatorname{Con} S$ determines uniquely, and is uniquely determined by, a balanced linked triple. Moreover, given $\pi \in \operatorname{Con} S^{\circ}$, there is a balanced linked triple whose middle component is $\pi$ if and only if $\pi$ can be extended to a ${ }^{\circ}$-congruence on $S$; and a similar statement holds for a given $\imath \in$ Con I or $\lambda \in \operatorname{Con} \Lambda$.

It is instructive at this juncture to give an example of a congruence on $S^{\circ}$ that does not extend to a ${ }^{\circ}$-congruence on $S$.

Example 1: Let $\operatorname{Sing}_{2 \times 2} \mathbb{R}$ be the semigroup of singular real $2 \times 2$ matrices and let $\operatorname{Sing}_{2 \times 2}^{*} \mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{R}}$ be the subsemigroup of those matrices whose leading element (i.e. that in the ( 1,1 )-position) is non-zero. Observe that $\operatorname{Sing}_{2 \times 2}^{*} \mathbb{R}$ consists of matrices of the form

$$
\left[\begin{array}{cc}
a & b \\
c & a^{-1} b c
\end{array}\right]
$$

where $a, b, c, \in \mathbb{R}$ with $a \neq 0$. Let $M$ be the set $\operatorname{Sing}_{2 \times 2}^{*} \mathbb{R}$ with the $2 \times 2$ zero matrix adjoined. Then, as is shown in [1, Example 9], $M$ is a regular semigroup and if we define

$$
\left[\begin{array}{cc}
a & b \\
c & a^{-1} b c
\end{array}\right]^{\circ}=\left[\begin{array}{cc}
a^{-1} & 0 \\
0 & 0
\end{array}\right],\left[\begin{array}{ll}
0 & 0 \\
0 & 0
\end{array}\right]^{\circ}=\left[\begin{array}{ll}
0 & 0 \\
0 & 0
\end{array}\right]
$$

then the subset

$$
M^{\circ}=\left\{\left[\begin{array}{ll}
x & 0 \\
0 & 0
\end{array}\right] ; x \neq 0\right\} \cup\left\{\left[\begin{array}{ll}
0 & 0 \\
0 & 0
\end{array}\right]\right\}
$$

is a inverse transversal of $M$. If $M^{1}$ denotes $M$ with the $2 \times 2$ identity matrix adjoined then an inverse transversal of $M^{1}$ is $\left(M^{1}\right)^{\circ}=\left(M^{\circ}\right)^{1}$. Consider the partition of $\left(M^{1}\right)^{\circ}$ with classes

$$
\left\{\left[\begin{array}{ll}
x & 0 \\
0 & 0
\end{array}\right] ; x \neq 0\right\} \cup\left\{\left[\begin{array}{ll}
1 & 0 \\
0 & 1
\end{array}\right]\right\} \quad \text { and } \quad\left\{\left[\begin{array}{ll}
0 & 0 \\
0 & 0
\end{array}\right]\right\}
$$

Clearly, this defines a congruence $\equiv$ on $\left(M^{1}\right)^{\circ}$. However, $\equiv$ has no extension that is a congruence on $M^{1}$, hence no extension that is a ${ }^{\circ}$-congruence on $M^{1}$. To see this, suppose that there is such an extension which we denote also by $\equiv$. Observe that $\left[\begin{array}{ll}1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0\end{array}\right] \equiv\left[\begin{array}{ll}1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1\end{array}\right]$ gives, on multiplication on the right by $\left[\begin{array}{ll}1 & 0 \\ x & 0\end{array}\right]$, the equivalence $\left[\begin{array}{ll}1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0\end{array}\right] \equiv\left[\begin{array}{ll}1 & 0 \\ x & 0\end{array}\right]$. Thus in particular, for every $x,\left[\begin{array}{ll}1 & 0 \\ x & 0\end{array}\right] \equiv$ $\left[\begin{array}{cc}1 & 0 \\ x-1 & 0\end{array}\right]$. Multiplying on the left by $\left[\begin{array}{cc}x & -1 \\ 0 & 0\end{array}\right]$, we obtain the contradiction $\left[\begin{array}{ll}0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0\end{array}\right] \equiv\left[\begin{array}{ll}1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0\end{array}\right]$.

Definition. We shall say that $\pi \in \operatorname{Con} S^{\circ}$ is special if it has an extension in $\overline{\mathrm{Con}} S$; equivalently, if it is the middle component of some balanced linked triple.

The set of special congruences on $S^{\circ}$ will be denoted by $\mathrm{SpCon} S^{\circ}$

## Theorem 5

$\pi \in \operatorname{Con} S^{\circ}$ is special if and only if

$$
\left(x_{1}, x_{2}\right) \in \pi \Rightarrow(\forall i \in \mathrm{I})(\forall l \in \Lambda) \quad\left(\left(l x_{1} i\right)^{\circ},\left(l x_{2} i\right)^{\circ}\right) \in \pi
$$

Proof. If $\pi$ is special let $\imath \in$ Con I and $\lambda \in$ Con $\Lambda$ be a such that $(\imath, \pi, \lambda) \in \operatorname{BLT}(S)$. For all $i \in \mathrm{I}, x=x^{\circ \circ} \in S^{\circ}, l \in \Lambda$ we have, since I is left regular and $\Lambda$ is right regular,

$$
l x i=l x x^{\circ} x i=x x^{\circ} l x x^{\circ} x i x^{\circ} x=x \cdot x^{\circ} l x \cdot x^{\circ} \cdot x i x^{\circ} \cdot x
$$

If now $\left(x_{1}, x_{2}\right) \in \pi$ then it follows, using properties $(\delta),(\epsilon)$ and the fact that the restrictions of $\Psi(\imath, \pi, \lambda)$ to I, $S^{\circ}, \Lambda$ are $\imath, \pi, \lambda$ respectively, that

$$
\left(l x_{1} i, l x_{2} i\right) \in \Psi(\imath, \pi, \lambda),
$$

and consequently $\left(\left(l x_{1} i\right)^{\circ},\left(l x_{2} i\right)^{\circ}\right) \in \pi$.
Conversely, suppose that $\pi$ satisfies the above condition and consider the relation $\hat{\pi}$ defined on $S$ by

$$
(a, b) \in \hat{\pi} \Longleftrightarrow(\forall i \in \mathrm{I})(\forall l \in \Lambda) \quad\left((l a i)^{\circ},(l b i)^{\circ}\right) \in \pi .
$$

Clearly, we have $\left.\pi \subseteq \hat{\pi}\right|_{S^{\circ}}$. Given $(a, b) \in \hat{\pi}$ and $x \in S$ we have, for all $i \in \mathrm{I}$ and $l \in \Lambda$,

$$
\begin{aligned}
& (l a x i)^{\circ}=(x i)^{\circ}\left(l a x i(x i)^{\circ}\right)^{\circ} \stackrel{\pi}{=}(x i)^{\circ}\left(l b x i(x i)^{\circ}\right)^{\circ}=(l b x i)^{\circ} ; \\
& (l x a i)^{\circ}=\left((l x)^{\circ} l x a i\right)^{\circ}(l x)^{\circ} \stackrel{\pi}{=}\left((l x)^{\circ} l x b i\right)^{\circ}(l x)^{\circ}=(l x b i)^{\circ} .
\end{aligned}
$$

Consequently $(a x, b x) \in \hat{\pi}$ and $(x a, x b) \in \hat{\pi}$, so we have that $\hat{\pi} \in \operatorname{Con} S$.
Observe now that

$$
(a, b) \in \hat{\pi} \Rightarrow\left(a^{\circ}, b^{\circ}\right) \in \pi
$$

In fact, if $(a, b) \in \hat{\pi}$ then taking $i=e \in E\left(S^{\circ}\right)$ and $l=f \in E\left(S^{\circ}\right)$ in the definition of $\hat{\pi}$ we obtain $\left(e^{\circ} a^{\circ} f^{\circ}, e^{\circ} b^{\circ} f^{\circ}\right) \in \pi$. Choosing in particular $e^{\circ}=a^{\circ} a^{\circ \circ}$ and $f^{\circ}=a^{\circ \circ} a^{\circ}$, we have $\left(a^{\circ}, a^{\circ} a^{\circ \circ} b^{\circ} a^{\circ \circ} a^{\circ}\right) \in \pi$ whence $\left(a^{\circ \circ}, a^{\circ \circ} b^{\circ} a^{\circ \circ}\right) \in \pi$. Interchanging $a$ and $b$ we have likewise $\left(b^{\circ \circ}, b^{\circ \circ} a^{\circ} b^{\circ \circ}\right) \in \pi$ whence $\left(b^{\circ}, b^{\circ} a^{\circ \circ} b^{\circ}\right) \in \pi$. Since $S^{\circ} / \pi$ is an inverse semigroup we see, on passing to quotients, that $\left[b^{\circ}\right]=\left[a^{\circ \circ}\right]^{-1}=\left[a^{\circ}\right]$ and hence that $\left(a^{\circ}, b^{\circ}\right) \in \pi$.

It follows from this implication that $\left.\hat{\pi}\right|_{S^{\circ}} \subseteq \pi$, whence $\left.\hat{\pi}\right|_{S^{\circ}}=\Pi$, and that $\hat{\pi} \in \overline{\mathrm{Con}} S$. Hence $\pi$ is special.

## Corollary 1

Given $\pi \in \operatorname{SpCon} S^{\circ}$ there is a biggest $\vartheta \in \overline{\operatorname{Con}} S$ that corresponds to a balanced linked triple of the form $(-, \pi,-)$, namely the relation $\hat{\pi}$ defined on $S$ by

$$
(a, b) \in \hat{\pi} \Longleftrightarrow(\forall i \in \mathrm{I})(\forall l \in \Lambda) \quad\left((l a i)^{\circ},(l b i)^{\circ}\right) \in \pi
$$

Proof. If $\pi$ is special let $\imath \in \operatorname{Con}$ I and $\lambda \in \operatorname{Con} \Lambda$ be such that $(\imath, \pi, \lambda) \in \operatorname{BLT}(S)$. For all $i_{1}, i_{2} \in \mathrm{I}$ we have, by $(\beta)$,

$$
\left.\left(i_{1}, i_{2}\right) \in \imath \Rightarrow(\forall i \in \mathrm{I})\left(i_{1} i, i_{2} i\right) \in \imath \Rightarrow(\forall i \in \mathrm{I})(\forall l \in \Lambda)\left(\left(l i_{1} i\right)^{\circ}\right),\left(l i_{2} i\right)^{\circ}\right) \in \pi
$$

which shows that $\left.\imath \subseteq \hat{\pi}\right|_{\mathrm{I}}$. Similarly we have $\left.\lambda \subseteq \hat{\pi}\right|_{\Lambda}$. It follows that

$$
(\imath, \pi, \lambda) \leq\left(\left.\hat{\pi}\right|_{\mathrm{I}},\left.\hat{\pi}\right|_{S^{\circ}},\left.\hat{\pi}\right|_{\Lambda}\right)=\Psi^{+}(\hat{\pi})
$$

and therefore $\Psi(\imath, \pi, \lambda) \subseteq \Psi \Psi^{+}(\hat{\pi})=\hat{\pi}$, whence the result follows.

## Corollary 2

If $\pi \in \operatorname{SpCon} S^{\circ}$ then the biggest balanced linked triple with middle component $\pi$ is $\left(\left.\hat{\pi}\right|_{\mathrm{I}}, \pi,\left.\hat{\pi}\right|_{\Lambda}\right)$.

## Theorem 6

The mapping $\Phi_{S^{\circ}}: \overline{\operatorname{Con}} S \rightarrow$ SpCon $S^{\circ}$ given by $\Phi_{S^{\circ}}(\vartheta)=\left.\vartheta\right|_{S^{\circ}}$ is surjective and residuated, with residual $\Phi_{S^{\circ}}^{+}$given by $\Phi_{S^{\circ}}^{+}(\pi)=\hat{\pi}$.

Proof. Clearly, both $\Phi_{S^{\circ}}$ and $\Phi_{S^{\circ}}^{+}$are isotone. For every $\pi \in \operatorname{SpCon} S^{\circ}$ we have

$$
\Phi_{S^{\circ}} \Phi_{S^{\circ}}^{+}(\pi)=\left.\hat{\pi}\right|_{S^{\circ}}=\pi
$$

so that $\Phi_{S^{\circ}} \Phi_{S^{\circ}}^{+}=\mathrm{id}$; and for every $\vartheta \in \overline{\mathrm{Con}} S$ we have, by Corollary 1 of Theorem 5,

$$
\Phi_{S^{\circ}}^{+} \Phi_{S^{\circ}}(\vartheta)=\widehat{\left.\vartheta\right|_{S^{\circ}}} \geq \vartheta
$$

so that $\Phi_{S^{\circ}}^{+} \Phi_{S^{\circ}} \geq$ id. Hence $\Phi_{S^{\circ}}$ is surjective and residuated with residual $\Phi_{S^{\circ}}^{+}$.

## Corollary

The relation $\equiv S^{\circ}$ defined on $\overline{\mathrm{Con}} S$ by

$$
\left.\vartheta \equiv_{S^{\circ}} \varphi \Longleftrightarrow \vartheta\right|_{S^{\circ}}=\left.\varphi\right|_{S^{\circ}}
$$

is a closure equivalence. The biggest element in the $\equiv_{S^{\circ}}$-class of $\vartheta$ is $\widehat{\left.\vartheta\right|_{S^{\circ}}}$. Moreover, there is a lattice isomorphism SpCon $S^{\circ} \simeq(\overline{\mathrm{Con}} S) / \equiv S^{\circ}$.

Proof. Since $\Phi_{S^{\circ}}$ is residuated, $\Phi_{S^{\circ}}^{+} \Phi_{S^{\circ}}$ is a closure with associated equivalence $\equiv_{S^{\circ}}$. Moreover, since $\Phi_{S^{\circ}}$ is surjective we have that $\Phi_{S^{\circ}}^{+}$is injective, and therefore SpCon $S^{\circ} \simeq \operatorname{Im} \Phi_{S^{\circ}}^{+}=\operatorname{Im} \Phi_{S^{\circ}}^{+} \Phi_{S^{\circ}}$, the set of closed elements.

Given now $\imath \in$ Con I, consider the relation $\hat{\imath}$ defined on $S$ by

$$
(a, b) \in \hat{\imath} \Longleftrightarrow(\forall x \in S)\left(a x(a x)^{\circ}, b x(b x)^{\circ}\right) \in \imath .
$$

We observe in passing that in this definition the range of the quantifier can be reduced to I. In fact, if $\left(a i(a i)^{\circ}, b i(b i)^{\circ}\right) \in \imath$ for all $i \in \mathrm{I}$ then for every $x \in S$ we have

$$
\left(a x(a x)^{\circ}, b x(b x)^{\circ}\right)=\left(a x x^{\circ}\left(a x x^{\circ}\right)^{\circ}, b x x^{\circ}\left(b x x^{\circ}\right)^{\circ}\right) \in \imath .
$$

## Theorem 7

If $\imath \in \operatorname{Con} \mathrm{I}$ then $\left.\hat{\imath}\right|_{\mathrm{I}}=\imath$.

Proof. For all $i, j \in \mathrm{I}$ we have $j i=j i(j i)^{\circ}$ and so, on the one hand, $\left(i_{1}, i_{2}\right) \in \imath$ implies $\left(i_{1}, i_{2}\right) \in \hat{\imath}$, whence $\left.\imath \subseteq \hat{\imath}\right|_{\mathrm{I}}$. On the other hand, if $\left.\left(i_{1}, i_{2}\right) \in \hat{\imath}\right|_{\mathrm{I}}$ then for all $i \in$ I we have $\left(i_{1} i, i_{2} i\right) \in \imath$. Taking $i=i_{1}$ we obtain $\left(i_{1}, i_{2} i_{1}\right) \in \imath$ which, on left multiplication by $i_{1}$, gives $\left(i_{1}, i_{1} i_{2}\right) \in \imath$; and taking $i=i_{2}$ we obtain $\left(i_{1} i_{2}, i_{2}\right) \in \imath$. Hence $\left(i_{1}, i_{2}\right) \in \imath$, and so we have the reverse inclusion $\hat{\imath}_{\mathrm{I}} \subseteq \imath$.

As the following example shows, not every congruence on I extends to a congruence on $S$.

Example 2: Relative to the inverse transversal $M^{\circ}$ of example 1 we have

$$
\mathrm{I}=\left\{\left[\begin{array}{ll}
1 & 0 \\
x & 0
\end{array}\right] ; x \in \mathbb{R}\right\} \cup\left\{\left[\begin{array}{ll}
0 & 0 \\
0 & 0
\end{array}\right]\right\}
$$

Consider the partition of I whose classes are:

$$
\left\{\left[\begin{array}{cc}
1 & 0 \\
x & 0
\end{array}\right] ; x \in \mathbb{R}\right\} \text { and }\left\{\left[\begin{array}{ll}
0 & 0 \\
0 & 0
\end{array}\right]\right\} .
$$

Clearly, this defines a congruence $\equiv$ on I. However, $\equiv$ has no extension that is a congruence on $M$, hence no extension that is a ${ }^{\circ}$-congruence on $M$. To see this, suppose that there is such an extension which we denote also by $\equiv$. Observe that $\left[\begin{array}{ll}1 & 0 \\ x & 0\end{array}\right] \equiv\left[\begin{array}{cc}1 & 0 \\ x-1 & 0\end{array}\right]$ gives, on multiplication on the left by $\left[\begin{array}{cc}x & -1 \\ 0 & 0\end{array}\right]$, the contradiction $\left[\begin{array}{ll}0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0\end{array}\right] \equiv\left[\begin{array}{ll}1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0\end{array}\right]$.
Definition. We shall say that $\imath \in$ Con I is special if it an extension in $\overline{\text { Con }} S$; equivalently, if it is the first component of some balanced linked triple.

The set of special congruences on I will be denoted by SpCon I.

## Theorem 8

If $\imath \in$ Con I the following statements are equivalent:
(1) $\imath \in$ SpCon I;
(2) $(i, j) \in \imath \Rightarrow(\forall x \in S)\left(x i(x i)^{\circ}, x j(x j)^{\circ}\right) \in \imath$;
(3) $\hat{\imath} \in \overline{\operatorname{Con}} S$.

Proof. (1) $\Rightarrow(2)$ : If $\imath$ is special then it is the first component of some balanced linked triple and so, for every $x \in S$, we have

$$
\begin{aligned}
i \stackrel{\imath}{\equiv} j & \Rightarrow x^{\circ} x i\left(x^{\circ} x i\right)^{\circ} \stackrel{\imath}{\equiv} x^{\circ} x j\left(x^{\circ} x j\right)^{\circ} \quad \text { by }(\alpha) \\
& \Rightarrow x^{\circ \circ} x^{\circ} x i\left(x^{\circ} x i\right)^{\circ} x^{\circ} \stackrel{\imath}{\equiv} x^{\circ \circ} x^{\circ} x j\left(x^{\circ} x j\right)^{\circ} x^{\circ} \quad \text { by }(\delta) \\
& \Rightarrow x i(x i)^{\circ}=x x^{\circ} x^{\circ \circ} x^{\circ} x i\left(x^{\circ} x i\right)^{\circ} x^{\circ} \stackrel{\imath}{\equiv} x x^{\circ} x^{\circ \circ} x^{\circ} x j\left(x^{\circ} x j\right)^{\circ} x^{\circ}=x j(x j)^{\circ} .
\end{aligned}
$$

$(2) \Rightarrow(3)$ : It is clear that $\hat{\imath}$ is a right congruence. If $(a, b) \in \hat{\imath}$ then $\left(a x(a x)^{\circ}, b x(b x)^{\circ}\right) \in \imath$ whence (2) gives, for every $y \in S$,

$$
\operatorname{yax}(y a x)^{\circ}=\operatorname{yax}(a x)^{\circ}\left(y a x(a x)^{\circ}\right)^{\circ} \stackrel{\imath}{\equiv} y b x(b x)^{\circ}\left(y b x(b x)^{\circ}\right)^{\circ}=y b x(y b x)^{\circ}
$$

and so $\hat{\imath}$ is also a left congruence.
To see that $\hat{\imath} \in \overline{\operatorname{Con}} S$, let $(a, b) \in \hat{\imath}$. Then

$$
\left(a a^{\circ}, b a^{\circ} a^{\circ \circ} b^{\circ}\right)=\left(a a^{\circ}\left(a a^{\circ}\right)^{\circ}, b a^{\circ}\left(b a^{\circ}\right)^{\circ}\right) \in \imath
$$

from which it follows on the one hand by Theorem 1 that

$$
\left(a^{\circ \circ} a^{\circ}, b^{\circ \circ} a^{\circ} a^{\circ \circ} b^{\circ}\right) \in \imath
$$

and on the other hand, taking $x=b^{\circ \circ} b^{\circ}$ in (2) using the fact that I is left regular and $\Lambda$ is right regular, that $\left(b^{\circ \circ} b^{\circ} a a^{\circ}, b^{\circ \circ} a^{\circ} a^{\circ \circ} b^{\circ}\right) \in \imath$. It follows by Theorem 1 that

$$
\left(a^{\circ \circ} a^{\circ} b^{\circ \circ} b^{\circ}, b^{\circ \circ} a^{\circ} a^{\circ \circ} b^{\circ}\right) \in \imath
$$

We deduce from ( $1^{\prime}$ ) and ( $2^{\prime}$ ) that $\left(a^{\circ \circ} a^{\circ}, a^{\circ \circ} a^{\circ} b^{\circ \circ} b^{\circ}\right) \in \imath$. In a similar way we can show that $\left(b^{\circ \circ} b^{\circ}, b^{\circ \circ} b^{\circ} a^{\circ \circ} a^{\circ}\right) \in \imath$. Since $E\left(S^{\circ}\right)$ is a semilattice, it follows that

$$
\left(a^{\circ \circ} a^{\circ}, b^{\circ \circ} b^{\circ}\right) \in \imath
$$

We now have, using ( $3^{\prime}$ ) and ( $\delta$ ),

$$
\left(a^{\circ} a^{\circ \circ}, a^{\circ} b^{\circ \circ} b^{\circ} a^{\circ \circ}\right)=\left(a^{\circ} a^{\circ \circ} a^{\circ} a^{\circ \circ}, a^{\circ} b^{\circ \circ} b^{\circ} a^{\circ \circ}\right) \in \imath
$$

Since $\hat{\imath}$ is a congruence we have that $\left(a^{\circ} a, a^{\circ} b\right) \in \hat{\imath}$, whence

$$
\left(a^{\circ} a b^{\circ} b^{\circ \circ}\left(a^{\circ} a b^{\circ} b^{\circ \circ}\right)^{\circ}, a^{\circ} b b^{\circ} b^{\circ \circ}\left(a^{\circ} b b^{\circ} b^{\circ \circ}\right)^{\circ}\right) \in \imath
$$

from which, using Theorem 1 again, we obtain

$$
\left(a^{\circ} a^{\circ \circ} b^{\circ} b^{\circ \circ}, a^{\circ} b^{\circ \circ} b^{\circ} a^{\circ \circ}\right) \in \imath
$$

It follows from ( $4^{\prime}$ ) and ( $4^{\prime}$ ) that $\left(a^{\circ} a^{\circ \circ}, a^{\circ} a^{\circ \circ} b^{\circ} b^{\circ \circ}\right) \in \imath$. Similarly, we have $\left(b^{\circ} b^{\circ \circ}, b^{\circ} b^{\circ \circ} a^{\circ} a^{\circ \circ}\right) \in \imath$. Since $E\left(S^{\circ}\right)$ is a semilattice it follows that

$$
\left(a^{\circ} a^{\circ \circ}, b^{\circ} b^{\circ \circ}\right) \in \imath
$$

Combining $\left(3^{\prime}\right),\left(6^{\prime}\right)$ and the hypothesis that $(a, b) \in \hat{\imath}$ we obtain

$$
\left(a^{\circ \circ}, b^{\circ \circ}\right)=\left.\left(a^{\circ \circ} a^{\circ} \cdot a \cdot a^{\circ} a^{\circ \circ}, b^{\circ \circ} b^{\circ} \cdot b \cdot b^{\circ} b^{\circ \circ}\right) \in \hat{\imath}\right|_{S^{\circ}} .
$$

It now follows by Theorem 1 that $\left(a^{\circ}, b^{\circ}\right) \in \hat{\imath}$ and hence that $\hat{\imath} \in \overline{\operatorname{Con}} S$.
$(3) \Rightarrow(1)$ : This is immediate from Theorem 7 .

## Corollary

Given $\imath \in$ SpCon I there is a biggest $\vartheta \in \overline{\mathrm{Con}} S$ that corresponds to a balanced linked triple of the form $(\imath,-,-)$, namely $\hat{\imath}$.

Proof. Suppose that $\vartheta \in \overline{\mathrm{Con}} S$ is such that $\left.\vartheta\right|_{\mathrm{I}}=\imath$. If $(a, b) \in \vartheta$ then for every $x \in S$ we have $(a x, b x) \in \vartheta$ whence $\left((a x)^{\circ},(b x)^{\circ}\right) \in \vartheta$ and therefore

$$
\left.\left(a x(a x)^{\circ}, b x(b x)^{\circ}\right) \in \vartheta\right|_{\mathrm{I}}=\imath
$$

which gives $(a, b) \in \hat{\imath}$. Hence $\vartheta \subseteq \hat{\imath}$.

## Theorem 9

The mapping $\Phi_{\mathrm{I}}: \overline{\operatorname{Con}} S \rightarrow$ SpCon I given by $\Phi_{\mathrm{I}}(\vartheta)=\left.\vartheta\right|_{\mathrm{I}}$ is surjective and residuated with residual $\Phi_{\mathrm{I}}^{+}$given by $\Phi_{\mathrm{I}}^{+}(\imath)=\hat{\imath}$.

Proof. Given $\imath \in$ SpCon I we have, by Theorem $8, \hat{\imath} \in \overline{\operatorname{Con}} S$. Also, by Theorem 7 , $\left.\hat{\imath}\right|_{\mathrm{I}}=\imath$. It is clear that both $\Phi_{\mathrm{I}}$ and $\Phi_{\mathrm{I}}^{+}$are isotone. Now since, for every $\imath \in \operatorname{SpCon}$ I

$$
\Phi_{\mathrm{I}} \Phi_{\mathrm{I}}^{+}(\imath)=\Phi_{\mathrm{I}}(\hat{\imath})=\left.\hat{\imath}\right|_{\mathrm{I}}=\imath
$$

we have $\Phi_{\mathrm{I}} \Phi_{\mathrm{I}}^{+}=\mathrm{id}$. Also, for every $\vartheta \in \overline{\mathrm{Con}} S$, it follows by Theorem 8 that

$$
\Phi_{\mathrm{I}}^{+} \Phi_{\mathrm{I}}(\vartheta)=\Phi_{\mathrm{I}}^{+}\left(\left.\vartheta\right|_{\mathrm{I}}\right)=\widehat{\left.\vartheta\right|_{\mathrm{I}}} \supseteq \vartheta
$$

so $\Phi_{\mathrm{I}}^{+} \Phi_{\mathrm{I}} \geq$ id. Hence $\Phi_{\mathrm{I}}$ is surjective and residuated with residual $\Phi_{\mathrm{I}}^{+}$.

## Corollary

The relation $\equiv_{\mathrm{I}}$ defined on $\overline{\operatorname{Con}} S$ by

$$
\left.\vartheta \equiv_{\mathrm{I}} \varphi \Longleftrightarrow \vartheta\right|_{\mathrm{I}}=\left.\varphi\right|_{\mathrm{I}}
$$

is a closure equivalence. The biggest element in the $\equiv_{\mathrm{I}^{-c l a s s ~}}$ of $\vartheta$ is $\widehat{\left.\vartheta\right|_{\mathrm{I}}}$. Moreover, there is a lattice isomorphism $\mathrm{SpCon} \mathrm{I} \simeq(\overline{\mathrm{Con}} S) / \equiv_{\mathrm{I}}$.

We can of course consider likewise special congruences on $\Lambda$. In so doing we obtain dual results to Theorem 7, 8, 9 .

We recall now that an inverse transversal $S^{\circ}$ is said to be multiplicative [2] if $\Lambda \mathrm{I}=E\left(S^{\circ}\right)$. When $S^{\circ}$ is multiplicative, certain simplifications arise. For example, in this case we have $l i=(l i)^{\circ}$ for all $l \in \Lambda, i \in \mathrm{I}$ whence it follows immediately that every $\vartheta \in \operatorname{Con} S$ braided, so that $\operatorname{BrCon} S=\operatorname{Con} S$. Combining this observation with Corollaries 2, 3 of Theorem 4, we obtain:

## Theorem 10

Let $S$ be a regular semigroup with an inverse transversal $S^{\circ}$. If $S^{\circ}$ is multiplicative then $\overline{\operatorname{Con}} S \simeq(\operatorname{Con} S) / \sim$ where $\sim$ is the dual closure equivalence given by

$$
\left.\vartheta \sim \varphi \Longleftrightarrow \vartheta\right|_{\mathrm{I}}=\left.\varphi\right|_{\mathrm{I}},\left.\vartheta\right|_{S^{\circ}}=\left.\varphi\right|_{S^{\circ}},\left.\vartheta\right|_{\Lambda}=\left.\varphi\right|_{\Lambda} .
$$

Definition. The elements of SpCon $\mathrm{I} \times \operatorname{SpCon} S^{\circ} \times \operatorname{SpCon} \Lambda$ will be called special triples.

We shall denote the set of balanced special triples by $\operatorname{BSpT}(S)$. Clearly, we have the inclusion $\operatorname{BLT}(S) \subseteq \operatorname{BSpT}(S)$. As the following result shows, when $S^{\circ}$ is multiplicative the reverse inclusion holds.

## Theorem 11

Let $S$ be regular semigroup with an inverse transversal $S^{\circ}$. If $S^{\circ}$ is multiplicative then every balanced special triple is a balanced linked triple.

Proof. Suppose that $(\imath, \pi, \lambda) \in \operatorname{BSpT}(S)$ and consider the balanced linked triples that correspond to $\hat{\imath}, \hat{\pi}, \hat{\lambda} \in \overline{\mathrm{Con}} S$, namely

$$
\left(\imath,\left.\hat{\imath}\right|_{S^{\circ}},\left.\hat{\imath}\right|_{\Lambda}\right),\left(\left.\hat{\pi}\right|_{\mathbf{I}}, \pi,\left.\hat{\pi}\right|_{\Lambda}\right),\left(\left.\hat{\lambda}\right|_{\mathrm{I}},\left.\hat{\lambda}\right|_{S^{\circ}}, \lambda\right) .
$$

Observe that
(1) $\left.\pi \subseteq \hat{\imath}\right|_{S^{\circ}}$ and $\left.\pi \subseteq \hat{\lambda}\right|_{S^{\circ}}$

In fact, if $\left.(a, b) \in \pi\right|_{S^{\circ}}=\pi$ then by $(\delta)$, for every $i \in \mathrm{I}$ we have $\left.\left(a i a^{\circ}, b i b^{\circ}\right) \in \hat{\pi}\right|_{\mathrm{I}}$. Since $S^{\circ}$ is in particular a quasi-ideal, i.e. $S^{\circ} S S^{\circ} \subseteq S^{\circ}[3]$, we have aia ${ }^{\circ} \in E\left(S^{\circ}\right)$ and therefore $\left.\left(a i a^{\circ}, b i b^{\circ}\right) \in \hat{\pi}\right|_{E\left(S^{\circ}\right)}=\left.\pi\right|_{E\left(S^{\circ}\right)}=\left.\imath\right|_{E\left(S^{\circ}\right)}$ whence it follows that $\left.(a, b) \in \hat{\imath}\right|_{S^{\circ}}$. Thus we see that $\left.\pi \subseteq \hat{\imath}\right|_{S^{\circ}}$. Similarly, using $(\varepsilon)$, we have $\left.\pi \subseteq \hat{\lambda}\right|_{S^{\circ}}$.
(2) $\left.\imath \subseteq \hat{\pi}\right|_{\mathrm{I}}$ and $\left.\lambda \subseteq \hat{\pi}\right|_{\Lambda}$.

In fact, if $\left(i_{1}, i_{2}\right) \in \imath$ then, for every $i \in \mathrm{I}$, we have $\left(i_{1} i, i_{2} i\right) \in \imath$ and so, by $(\beta)$, for every $l \in \Lambda$ we have $\left.\left(\left(l i_{1} i\right)^{\circ},\left(l i_{2} i\right)^{\circ}\right) \in \pi \subseteq \hat{\imath}\right|_{S^{\circ}}$ by (1). Since $S^{\circ}$ is multiplicative
this gives $\left.\left(\left(l i_{1} i\right)^{\circ},\left(l i_{2} i\right)^{\circ}\right) \in \hat{\imath}\right|_{E\left(S^{\circ}\right)}=\left.\imath\right|_{E\left(S^{\circ}\right)}=\left.\pi\right|_{E\left(S^{\circ}\right)}$ whence $\left.\left(i_{1}, i_{2}\right) \in \hat{\pi}\right|_{\mathrm{I}}$. Thus we see that $\left.\imath \subseteq \hat{\pi}\right|_{\mathrm{I}}$; and similarly $\left.\lambda \subseteq \hat{\pi}\right|_{\Lambda}$.
(3) $\left.\imath \subseteq \hat{\lambda}\right|_{\mathrm{I}}$ and $\left.\lambda \subseteq \hat{\imath}\right|_{\Lambda}$.

In fact, if $\left(i_{1}, i_{2}\right) \in \imath$ then, by $(\gamma)$, for every $l \in \Lambda$ we have $\left.\left(\left(l i_{1}\right)^{\circ} l i_{1},\left(l i_{2}\right)^{\circ} l i_{2}\right) \in \hat{\imath}\right|_{\Lambda}$. Since $S^{\circ}$ is multiplicative this gives $\left.\left(\left(l i_{1}\right)^{\circ} l i_{1},\left(l i_{2}\right)^{\circ} l i_{2}\right) \in \hat{\imath}\right|_{E\left(S^{\circ}\right)}=\left.\imath\right|_{E\left(S^{\circ}\right)}=\left.\lambda\right|_{E\left(S^{\circ}\right)}$ whence $\left.\left(i_{1}, i_{2}\right) \in \hat{\lambda}\right|_{\mathrm{I}}$. Thus we see that $\left.\imath \subseteq \hat{\lambda}\right|_{\mathrm{I}}$. Similarly, using $(\alpha)$, we have $\left.\lambda \subseteq \hat{\imath}\right|_{\Lambda}$.

It now follows from $(1),(2),(3)$ that

$$
(\imath, \pi, \lambda)=\left(\imath,\left.\hat{\imath}\right|_{S^{\circ}},\left.\hat{\imath}\right|_{\Lambda}\right) \wedge\left(\left.\hat{\pi}\right|_{\mathrm{I}}, \pi,\left.\hat{\pi}\right|_{\Lambda}\right) \wedge\left(\left.\hat{\lambda}\right|_{\mathrm{I}},\left.\hat{\lambda}\right|_{S^{\circ}}, \lambda\right) \in \operatorname{BLT}(S)
$$

as required.

## Corollary 1

If $S^{\circ}$ is multiplicative then $\overline{\operatorname{Con}} S \simeq B S p T(S)$
Proof. This follows from Corollary 1 of Theorem 4.

## Corollary 2

If $S^{\circ}$ is multiplicative and $(\imath, \pi, \lambda) \in B L T(S)$ then $\Psi(\imath, \pi, \lambda)=\hat{\imath} \cap \hat{\pi} \cap \hat{\lambda}$.

## Corollary 3

If $S^{\circ}$ is multiplicative and $\vartheta \in \overline{\operatorname{Con}} S$ then $\vartheta=\widehat{\left.\vartheta\right|_{\mathrm{I}}} \cap \widehat{\left.\vartheta\right|_{S^{\circ}}} \cap \widehat{\left.\vartheta\right|_{\Lambda}}$.

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