# Characterizations and classifications of quasitrivial semigroups

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Part I: Single-plateauedness and 2-quasilinearity

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### Weak orderings

## Recall that a *weak ordering* (or *total preordering*) on a set X is a binary relation $\leq$ on X that is total and transitive.

Defining a weak ordering on X amounts to defining an ordered partition of X

For  $X = \{a_1, a_2, a_3\}$ , we have 13 weak orderings

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$a_1 \prec a_2 \prec a_3$	$a_1 \sim a_2 \prec a_3$	$a_1\sima_2\sima_3$
$a_1 \prec a_3 \prec a_2$	$\textit{a}_1 \prec \textit{a}_2 \sim \textit{a}_3$	
$a_2 \prec a_1 \prec a_3$	$a_2 \prec a_1 \sim a_3$	
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**Definition**. (Black, 1948) Let  $\leq$  be a total ordering on X and let  $\preceq$  be a weak ordering on X. Then  $\preceq$  is said to be *single-plateaued for*  $\leq$  if

$$a_i < a_j < a_k \implies a_j \prec a_i$$
 or  $a_j \prec a_k$  or  $a_i \sim a_j \sim a_k$ 

**Examples.** On  $X = \{a_1 < a_2 < a_3 < a_4 < a_5 < a_6\}$ 

$$\begin{vmatrix} a_{3} \sim a_{4} \prec a_{2} \prec a_{1} \sim a_{5} \prec a_{6} \end{vmatrix}$$

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#### **Q:** Given $\precsim$ is it possible to find $\leq$ for which $\precsim$ is single-plateaued?

**Example:** On  $X = \{a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4\}$  consider  $\preceq$  and  $\preceq'$  defined by

 $a_1 \sim a_2 \prec a_3 \sim a_4$  and  $a_1 \prec' a_2 \sim' a_3 \sim' a_4$ 

Yes! Consider  $\leq$  defined by  $\mathsf{a}_3 < \mathsf{a}_1 < \mathsf{a}_2 < \mathsf{a}_4$ 



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### 2-quasilinear weak orderings

#### Definition.

We say that  $\preceq$  is *2-quasilinear* if

 $a \prec b \sim c \sim d \implies a, b, c, d$  are not pairwise distinct

#### Proposition

Assume the axiom of choice.

 $\precsim$  is 2-quasilinear  $\iff$   $\exists$   $\leq$  for which  $\precsim$  is single-plateaued

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Part II: Quasitrivial semigroups

### Quasitriviality

#### Definition

 $F: X^2 \to X$  is said to be *quasitrivial* (or *conservative*) if  $F(x,y) \in \{x,y\}$   $x,y \in X$ 

**Example.**  $F = \max_{\leq} \text{ on } X = \{1, 2, 3\} \text{ endowed with the usual } \leq$ 



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### Projections

#### Definition.

The projection operations  $\pi_1 \colon X^2 \to X$  and  $\pi_2 \colon X^2 \to X$  are respectively defined by

$$egin{array}{rll} \pi_1(x,y)&=&x,\qquad x,y\in X\ \pi_2(x,y)&=&y,\qquad x,y\in X \end{array}$$

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### Quasitrivial semigroups

#### Theorem (Länger, 1980)

F is associative and quasitrivial

$$\exists \ \preceq \ : F|_{A \times B} = \begin{cases} \max_{\ \preceq \ |A \times B, \ } & \text{if } A \neq B, \\ \pi_1|_{A \times B} \text{ or } \pi_2|_{A \times B}, & \text{if } A = B, \end{cases} \quad \forall A, B \in X/$$



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 $F: X^2 \to X$  is said to be  $\leq$ -preserving for some total ordering  $\leq$  on X if for any  $x, y, x', y' \in X$  such that  $x \leq x'$  and  $y \leq y'$ , we have  $F(x, y) \leq F(x', y')$ 

Definition.

We say that  $F: X^2 \to X$  is *order-preservable* if it is  $\leq$ -preserving for some  $\leq$ 

**Q:** Given an associative and quasitrivial *F*, is it order-preservable?

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2-quasilinearity :  $a \prec b \sim c \sim d \implies a, b, c, d$  are not pairwise distinct

#### Theorem

Assume the axiom of choice.

F is associative, quasitrivial, and order-preservable

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 $\exists \precsim : F$  is of the form (\*) and  $\precsim$  is 2-quasilinear



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### Final remarks

In arXiv: 1811.11113 and *Quasitrivial semigroups: characterizations and enumerations (Semigroup Forum, 2018)* 

- Characterizations and classifications of quasitrival semigroups by means of certain equivalence relations
- Characterization of associative, quasitrivial, and order-preserving operations by means of single-plateauedness
- O New integer sequences (http://www.oeis.org)
  - Number of quasitrivial semigroups: A292932
  - Number of associative, quasitrivial, and order-preserving operations: A293005
  - Number of associative, quasitrivial, and order-preservable operations: Axxxxx

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