

# Representing semigroups and groups by endomorphisms of Fraïssé limits

Part II. Groups: overt & covert

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## Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (2011)



It's so overt, it's covert – a more brutal version



# Green's relations

The **most fundamental** tool in studying the structure of semigroups. (Named after **J. Alexander "Sandy" Green (1926-2014)**.)

$$a \mathcal{R} b \iff aS^1 = bS^1 \iff (\exists x, y \in S^1) ax = b \& by = a$$

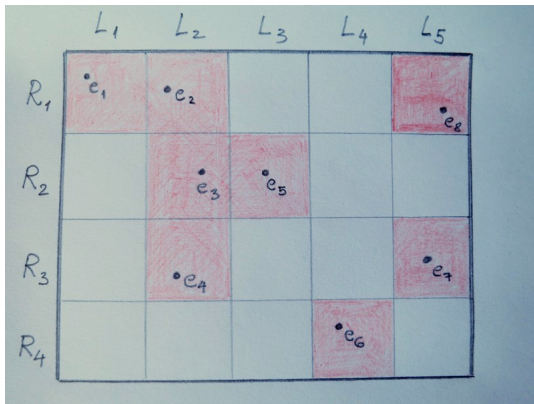
$$a \mathcal{L} b \iff S^1a = S^1b \iff (\exists u, v \in S^1) ua = b \& vb = a$$

$$\mathcal{D} = \mathcal{R} \circ \mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L} \circ \mathcal{R}$$

$$\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{R} \cap \mathcal{L}$$

$$a \mathcal{J} b \iff S^1aS^1 = S^1bS^1 \iff (\exists x, y, u, v \in S^1) uax = b \& vby = a$$

# The eggbox picture of a $\mathcal{D}$ -class



**Groups (overt):**  $\mathcal{H}$ -classes shaded red (these are all isomorphic)

maximal subgroups of a semigroup =  $\mathcal{H}$ -classes containing idempotents

# Regularity

$a \in S$  is **regular** if

$$a = axa$$

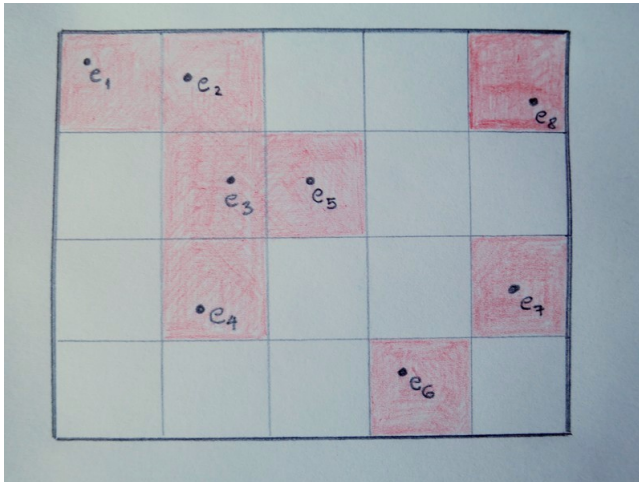
for some  $x \in S$ .

## Fact

For any  $\mathcal{D}$ -class  $D$ , either all elements of  $D$  are regular or none of them.

Hence,  $a$  is regular  $\iff a \mathcal{D} e$  for an idempotent  $e$ .

# A regular $\mathcal{D}$ -class

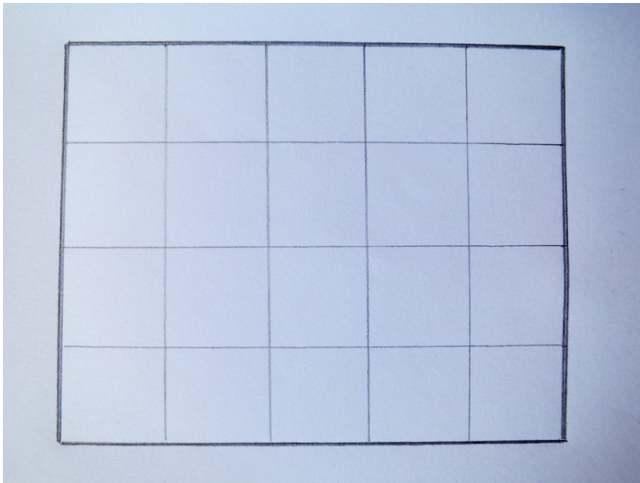


# A regular eggbox

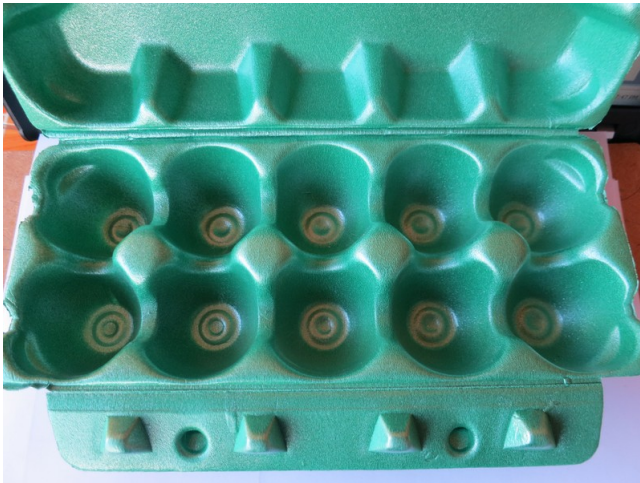




# A non-regular $\mathcal{D}$ -class



## A non-regular eggbox



## Schützenberger groups – groups the never were

There is a ‘hidden’ / covert group capturing the structure of a (non-regular)  $\mathcal{D}$ -class  $D$ , called the Schützenberger group of  $D$ .

Namely, let  $H$  be an  $\mathcal{H}$ -class within a  $\mathcal{D}$ -class  $D$ , and consider  $T_H = \{t \in S^1 : Ht \subseteq H\}$ .

Basic results of semigroup theory (Green’s Lemma) show that each  $\rho_t : H \rightarrow H$  ( $t \in T_H$ ) defined by

$$h\rho_t = ht$$

is a permutation of  $H$ .

Hence,  $S_H = \{\rho_t : t \in T_H\}$  is a permutation group on  $H$ . This is the (right) Schützenberger group of  $H$ .

# Schützenberger groups – groups the never were

## Fact

If both  $H_1, H_2$  belong to  $D$ , then  $S_{H_1} \cong S_{H_2}$ . Hence the Schützenberger group is really an invariant of a  $\mathcal{D}$ -class of a semigroup.

## Fact

If  $H$  is a group (so that  $D$  is regular), then  $S_H \cong H$ .

# A classical example: $\mathcal{T}_X$

## Fact

In  $\mathcal{T}_X$  we have:

$$(1) f \mathcal{R} g \iff \ker(f) = \ker(g);$$

$$(2) f \mathcal{L} g \iff \text{im}(f) = \text{im}(g);$$

$$(3) f \mathcal{D} g \iff \text{rank}(f) = |\text{im}(f)| = |\text{im}(g)| = \text{rank}(g);$$

$$(4) \mathcal{I} = \mathcal{D};$$

$$(5) \text{ if } e = e^2 \text{ and } \text{rank}(e) = k, \text{ then } H_e \cong \mathbb{S}_k;$$

$$(6) \mathcal{T}_X \text{ is regular.}$$

## End(A)

Let  $A$  be a first-order structure. Since  $\text{End}(A) \leq \mathcal{T}_A$ , if  $f, g \in \text{End}(A)$  are  $\mathcal{R}$ -/ $\mathcal{L}$ -related in  $\text{End}(A)$  they are certainly  $\mathcal{R}$ -/ $\mathcal{L}$ -related in  $\mathcal{T}_A$ . Hence,

$$(i) \quad f \mathcal{R} g \implies \ker(f) = \ker(g);$$

$$(ii) \quad f \mathcal{L} g \implies \text{im}(f) = \text{im}(g).$$

### Remark

We must be careful with the notion of an ‘image’ of an endomorphism if our language contains relational symbols, because besides  $\text{im}(f)$  we also have  $\langle Af \rangle$ , the induced substructure of  $A$  on  $Af$ .

### Lemma

$$f \mathcal{D} g \implies \langle Af \rangle \cong \langle Ag \rangle.$$

## Regular elements in $\text{End}(A)$

Proposition (Magill, Subbiah, 1974)

If  $f \in \text{End}(A)$  is regular, then  $\text{im}(f) = \langle Af \rangle$ .

Lemma (Magill, Subbiah, 1974)

Let  $f, g \in \text{End}(A)$  be regular. Then:

- (i)  $f \mathcal{R} g \iff \ker(f) = \ker(g)$ ;
- (ii)  $f \mathcal{L} g \iff \text{im}(f) = \text{im}(g)$ ;
- (iii)  $f \mathcal{D} g \iff \text{im}(f) \cong \text{im}(g)$ ;
- (iv) if  $e$  is idempotent, then  $H_e \cong \text{Aut}(\text{im}(e)) \cong \text{Aut}(\text{im}(f))$  for any  $f \in D_e$ .

# Schützenberger groups in $\text{End}(A)$

## Proposition

Let  $f \in \text{End}(A)$  and  $H = H_f$ .

- (i) If  $t \in T_H$ , then  $t|_{Af}$  is an automorphism of both  $\langle Af \rangle$  and  $\text{im}(f)$ ;
- (ii) the mapping  $\phi : \rho_t \mapsto t|_{Af}$  is an embedding of  $S_H$  into  $\text{Aut}(\langle Af \rangle) \cap \text{Aut}(\text{im}(f))$ .



## So, what the heck are the images of (idempotent) endomorphisms of Fraïssé limits?

Call a Fraïssé class  $\mathbf{C}$  **neat** if it consists of finite structures, and for each  $n \geq 1$  the number of isomorphism types of  $n$ -generated structures in  $\mathbf{C}$  is finite.

Examples:

- ▶ relational structures
- ▶ Fraïssé classes of algebras contained in locally finite varieties

Theorem (ID, 2012)

*Let  $\mathbf{C}$  be a neat Fraïssé class enjoying the strict AP and the 1PHEP. Then there exists an (idempotent) endomorphism  $f$  of  $F$ , the Fraïssé limit of  $\mathbf{C}$ , such that  $A \cong \text{im}(f)$  if and only if  $A$  is algebraically closed in  $\overline{\mathbf{C}}$ .*

## Algebraically clo... wait, what?

An  $L$ -formula  $\Phi(\mathbf{x})$  is **primitive** if it is of the form

$$(\exists \mathbf{y}) \bigwedge_{i < k} \Psi_i(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$$

where each  $\Psi_i$  is a **literal**: an atomic formula or its negation. No negation  $\rightarrow$  **primitive positive formula**.

Let  $\mathbf{K}$  be a class of  $L$ -structures. An  $L$ -structure  $A$  is **existentially (algebraically) closed** (in  $\mathbf{K}$ ) if for any primitive (positive) formula  $\Phi(\mathbf{x})$  and any tuple  $\mathbf{a}$  from  $A$  we have already  $A \models \Phi(\mathbf{a})$  whenever there is an extension  $A' \in \mathbf{K}$  of  $A$  such that  $A' \models \Phi(\mathbf{a})$ .

# Graphs

**Countable e.c. graphs:**  $R$  (Alice's Restaurant property)

**Countable a.c. graphs:** any finite set of vertices has a common neighbour ( $\Rightarrow$  infinitely many of them)

In the rest of this talk we will be concerned with simple graphs and study  $\text{End}(R)$ . However, all these results can be adapted for

- ▶ the random digraph,
- ▶ the random bipartite graph,
- ▶ the random (non-strict) poset,
- ▶ ...

## Proposition

*A countable graph  $(V, E)$  is a.c. if and only if there exists  $E' \subseteq E$  such that  $(V, E') \cong R$  (that is, it is e.c.). Consequently, for any a.c. graph  $\Gamma$  there is a bijective homomorphism  $R \rightarrow \Gamma$ .*

# Frucht's Theorem (1939)

Any finite group is  $\cong \text{Aut}(\Gamma)$  for a finite graph  $\Gamma$ .

de Groot / Sabidussi (1959/60)  $\Rightarrow$  automorphism groups of countable graphs include all countable groups.

**Name of the game:** Strengthen this for countable a.c. graphs.

# The team



**Point Guard:**  
Martyn Quick



**Forward:**  
"Baby" James Mitchell



**Center:**  
Jillian "Jay" McPhee



**Shooting Guard:**  
Robert "Bob" Gray



**Power Forward:**  
Dr. D

Happy 30th birthday, Jay !!! (July 28)



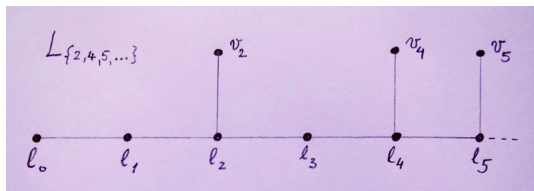
# Automorphism groups of countable a.c. graphs

## Theorem

Let  $\Gamma$  be a countable graph. Then there exist  $2^{\aleph_0}$  pairwise non-isomorphic countable a.c. graphs whose automorphism group is  $\cong \text{Aut}(\Gamma)$ .

**Proof.** For a (simple) graph  $\Delta$ , let  $\Delta^\dagger$  denote its complement.

- ▶  $\text{Aut}(\Delta^\dagger) = \text{Aut}(\Delta)$ .
- ▶  $\Delta$  any graph,  $\Lambda$  infinite **locally finite** graph  $\Rightarrow (\Delta \uplus \Lambda)^\dagger$  is a.c.
- ▶ **The central idea** – consider l.f. graphs  $L_S$  for  $S \subseteq \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0, 1\}$ :



# Automorphism groups of countable a.c. graphs

Proof (cont'd).

- ▶ Properties of  $L_S$  ( $S, T \subseteq \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0, 1\}$ ):
  - ▶ Each  $L_S$  is rigid ( $\text{Aut}(L_S) = \mathbf{1}$ ).
  - ▶  $L_S \cong L_T \iff S = T$ .
- ▶ If  $L_S$  is isomorphic to no connected component of  $\Gamma$  (and this excludes only countably many choices of  $S$ ), then

$$\text{Aut}(\Gamma \uplus L_S)^\dagger = \text{Aut}(\Gamma \uplus L_S) \cong \text{Aut}(\Gamma) \times \text{Aut}(L_S) \cong \text{Aut}(\Gamma).$$

- ▶  $S_1 \neq S_2$  yield non-isomorphic a.c. graphs.



# Images of idempotent endomorphisms

## Theorem (Bonato, Delić, 2000; ID, 2012)

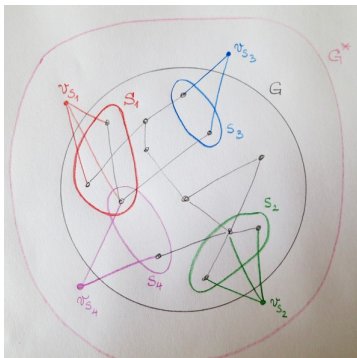
*Let  $\Gamma$  be a countable graph. There exists an idempotent  $f \in \text{End}(R)$  such that  $\text{im}(f) \cong \Gamma$  if and only if  $\Gamma$  is a.c.*

## Theorem

*If  $\Gamma$  is a countable a.c. graph, then there exists an (induced) subgraph  $\Gamma' \cong \Gamma$  of  $R$  such that there are  $2^{\aleph_0}$  idempotent endomorphisms  $f$  of  $R$  such that  $\text{im}(f) = \Gamma'$ .*

# Images of idempotent endomorphisms

Proof.



At each stage of extending a homomorphism  $\phi : \Gamma \rightarrow R_\Gamma$  to an endomorphism  $\hat{\phi}$  of  $R = R_\Gamma$ , instead of mapping  $v_S \mapsto v_{S\phi}$ , if  $\text{im}(\phi)$  is a.c. one can find a common neighbour  $w$  for  $S\phi$  **within**  $\text{im}(\phi)$ .

In this way, we achieve

$$\text{im}(\hat{\phi}) = \text{im}(\phi).$$

In fact, at each stage there are **infinitely many choices** for  $w$ , which results in  $\aleph_0^{\aleph_0} = 2^{\aleph_0}$  extensions.

# The number of regular $\mathcal{D}$ -classes with a given group $\mathcal{H}$ -class

## Theorem

- (i) *Let  $\Gamma$  be a countable graph. Then there exist  $2^{\aleph_0}$  distinct regular  $\mathcal{D}$ -classes of  $\text{End}(R)$  whose group  $\mathcal{H}$ -classes are  $\cong \text{Aut}(\Gamma)$ .*
- (ii) *Every regular  $\mathcal{D}$ -class contains  $2^{\aleph_0}$  distinct group  $\mathcal{H}$ -classes.*

## Corollary

$\text{End}(R)$  has  $2^{\aleph_0}$  regular  $\mathcal{D}$ -classes. *(You know, the ones with eggs...)*

# The size of a regular eggbox

## Theorem

Every regular  $\mathcal{D}$ -class of  $\text{End}(R)$  contains  $2^{\aleph_0}$  many  $\mathcal{R}$ - and  $\mathcal{L}$ -classes.

**Proof.** Let  $e$  be an idempotent endomorphism of  $R$ , and let  $\Gamma = \text{im}(e)$  (a.c.).

**$\mathcal{R}$ -classes:** Assume  $R$  is constructed as  $R_\Gamma$ .

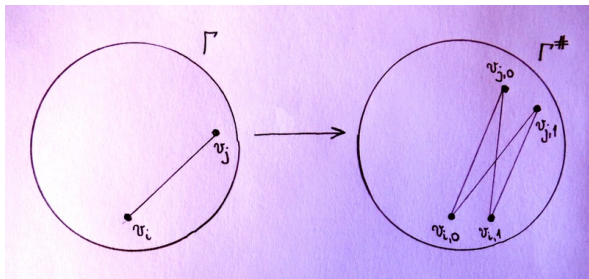
We already know that the identity mapping on  $\Gamma$  can be extended to  $f \in \text{End}(R)$  in  $2^{\aleph_0}$  ways such that  $\text{im}(f) = \text{im}(e)$ .

All such  $f$  are idempotents, and  $f \mathcal{D} e$ , moreover,  $f \mathcal{L} e$ .

However, all these idempotents are not  $\mathcal{R}$ -related.

# The size of a regular eggbox

*L*-classes: Key idea – construct the graph  $\Gamma^\#$  from  $\Gamma$  by replacing each edge by the following gadget:



Construct  $R$  around  $\Gamma^\#$ , so that  $R = R_{\Gamma^\#}$ .

$\Gamma$  a.c.  $\implies \Gamma^\#$  a.c. Hence, the identity map on  $\Gamma^\#$  can be extended to an endomorphism  $g : R \rightarrow \Gamma^\#$ .

# The size of a regular eggbox

For each **binary sequence**  $\mathbf{b} = (b_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$  define a map  $\psi_{\mathbf{b}}$  on  $\Gamma^{\#}$  by

$$v_{i,r}\psi_{\mathbf{b}} = v_{i,b_i}$$

for all  $i \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $r \in \{0, 1\}$ . Easy:  $\psi_{\mathbf{b}} \in \text{End}(\Gamma^{\#})$  and  $\text{im}(\psi_{\mathbf{b}}) \cong \Gamma$  is induced by  $\{v_{i,b_i} : i \in \mathbb{N}\}$ .

$g\psi_{\mathbf{b}} \in \text{End}(R)$  are idempotents,  $\text{im}(g\psi_{\mathbf{b}}) \cong \Gamma \Rightarrow$  all these idempotents are  $\mathcal{D}$ -related to  $e$ .

Different images  $\Rightarrow$  they are not  $\mathcal{L}$ -related.

# Non-regular eggboxes

## Theorem

Let  $\Gamma \not\cong R$  be a countable a.c. graph. Then there exists a non-regular endomorphism of  $R$  such that  $\text{im}(f) \cong \Gamma$  and  $D_f$  contains  $2^{\aleph_0}$  many  $\mathcal{R}$ - and  $\mathcal{L}$ -classes.

The **proof** is a variation of the idea of  $\Gamma^\sharp$  and binary sequences.

## Theorem

There are  $2^{\aleph_0}$  non-regular  $\mathcal{D}$ -classes in  $\text{End}(R)$ .

## Open Problem

Are there any non-regular eggboxes of some other size?

## Schützenberger groups in $\text{End}(R)$

Let  $\Gamma = (V_0, E_0)$  be a countable a.c. graph. Then, as we already know, there is a subset  $F \subseteq E_0$  such that  $(V_0, F) \cong R$ . Now build  $R_\Gamma \cong R$  around  $\Gamma$ , and let  $f : R_\Gamma \rightarrow (V_0, F)$  be an isomorphism. Then  $f$  is an injective endomorphism of  $R$ ; if  $F \neq E_0$  then  $f$  is non-regular.

### Proposition

*Let  $f$  be an injective endomorphism of  $R = (V, E)$  as described above, with  $Vf = V_0$ . Then*

$$S_{H_f} \cong \text{Aut}(\langle V_0 \rangle) \cap \text{Aut}(\text{im}(f))$$



# Schützenberger groups in $\text{End}(R)$

So, to show a universality result for Schützenberger groups in  $\text{End}(R)$ , one needs to extend the **Frucht-de Groot-Sabidussi Theorem** to countable a.c. graphs with 2-coloured edges (**blue** and **red**, say) where the ‘red graph’ is  $\cong R$ .

This is what we did via an involved construction that again uses the rigid graphs  $L_S$  (for a particular countable family of sets  $S$ ).

## Theorem

*Let  $\Gamma$  be any countable graph. There are  $2^{\aleph_0}$  non-regular  $\mathcal{D}$ -classes of  $\text{End}(R)$  such that the Schützenberger groups of the  $\mathcal{H}$ -classes within them are  $\cong \text{Aut}(\Gamma)$ .*

See [arXiv:1408.4107](https://arxiv.org/abs/1408.4107) for details.

## A few words on posets

A **poset**  $(P, \leq)$  is a.c. if for any finite  $A, B \subseteq P$  such that  $A \leq B$  there exists  $x \in P$  such that

$$A \leq x \leq B.$$

Hence, **any lattice** is a.c. when considered as a poset (but not as an algebra!).

Now by **the Birkhoff's Representation Theorem** any automorphism group of a countable/finite graph can be represented as the automorphism group of a countable/finite distributive lattice.

It follows all countable/finite groups arise as automorphism groups of countable/finite a.c. posets.

## A few words on posets

However, for **strict posets**  $(P, <)$  the notion of being a.c. changes: here we require that for all finite  $A < B$  we have  $x \in P$  such that

$$A < x < B.$$

### Open Problem

What are the automorphism groups of countable a.c. strict posets?  
(I.e. what are the maximal subgroups of  $\text{End}(\mathbb{P}, <)$ ?)

**Related work:** G. Behrendt (PEMS, 1992)

# THANK YOU!

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