# On the extension of continuous homomorphisms of topological *n*-ary semigroups

#### Wieslaw A. Dudek and Vladimir V. Mukhin

**Abstract.** We prove that each continuous homomorphism from a topological n-ary semigroup X into a topological binary semigroup Y can be extended to a continuous homomorphism from the free covering semigroup of X into a semigroup Y.

# 1. Introduction

Topologies of *n*-ary semigroups are studied by many authors in various directions. One of such directions is investigation of characters of *n*-ary semigroups, i.e., homomorphisms of topological *n*-ary semigroups into a multiplicative group of complex numbers with a module equal to 1 and natural topology (see for example [9]). The second direction is investigation of topologies induced by families of some functions such as deviations, for example [8]. The third important direction is investigation of the possibility of embedding of topological *n*-ary semigroups into binary topological semigroups and groups or finding a way to describe topological *n*-ary semigroups using other known topological structures (cf. [10]).

In [3, 4, 5, 6] various constructions of topologies for a universal covering semigroup of a topological *n*-ary semigroup was proposed. In the case on *n*-ary groups the topology of the covering group and the topology of retracts of *n*-ary groups, i.e., binary groups obtained from an *n*-ary group by blocking in an *n*-ary operation n-2 inner elements, are strongly connected with a topology of initial *n*-ary group (cf. [2] and [7]). In the case of semigroups, this relationship is not so strong.

In this paper, we consider continuous homomorphisms of topological *n*-ary semigroups into topological semigroups. It is known that every *n*-ary semigroup S can be considered as a subset of a binary semigroup  $S^*$  that is stable with respect to the multiplication of *n* elements in  $S^*$  (such binary semigroup is called *enveloping* or *covering semigroup* of an *n*-ary semigroup S).

Questions naturally arise about the possibility of extending a continuous homomorphism of an *n*-ary semigroup S into binary semigroup G to a continuous homomorphism of its covering semigroup  $S^*$  into G. The answers to these questions are devoted to the proposed work.

<sup>2010</sup> Mathematics Subject Classification: 20N15, 22A15, 22A30

Keywords: Covering (enveloping) semigroup, universal covering semigroup, free covering semigroup, n-ary semigroup, topological n-ary semigroup.

## 2. Preliminaries

The terminology of this work is the same as in [5] and [6].

Recall that a non-empty set X with an associative *n*-ary operation [] is called an *n*-ary semigroup. The result of application of [] to the sequence  $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n$ is denoted by  $[x_1^n]$ .

A binary semigroup  $(S, \cdot)$  is called a *covering semigroup* for an *n*-ary semigroup (X, []), if  $S \subseteq X$  and  $[x_1^n] = x_1 x_2 \dots x_n$  for all  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in X$  and Sis generated by X. If, in addition, the sets  $X, X^{(2)}, \dots, X^{(n-1)}$ , where  $X^{(k)} =$  $\{x_1 x_2 \cdots x_k : x_1, \dots, x_k \in X\}$  are disjoint and their union gives S, then  $(S, \cdot)$ is called the *universal covering semigroup* of an *n*-ary semigroup (X, []). Such covering semigroup there exists for each *n*-ary semigroup [4].

A mapping  $f: X \to Y$  is called a homomorphism of an n-ary semigroup (X, [])into a binary semigroup (Y, \*) if  $f([x_1^n]) = f(x_1) * f(x_2) * \ldots * f(x_n)$  is valid for all  $x_1, \ldots, x_n \in X$ . We say that  $(X, [], \tau)$  is a topological n-ary semigroup, if (X, []) is an n-ary semigroup and  $(X, \tau)$  is a topological space such that the n-ary operation [] is continuous in all variables together.

#### 3. Results

**Theorem 1.** Let  $f: X \to Y$  be a homomorphism of an n-ary semigroup (X, [])into a binary semigroup (Y, \*) and let  $(S, \cdot)$  be the universal covering semigroup of (X, []). If in a subsemigroup of (Y, \*) generated by f(X) there is a left or right cancellative element f(a), then f can be uniquely extended to a homomorphism from  $(S, \cdot)$  into (Y, \*).

*Proof.* Let  $x \in S$ . Then,  $x = x_1 x_2 \cdots x_k$  for some  $x_1, \ldots, x_k \in X$  and  $1 \leq k < n$ . If f can be extended to the homomorphism  $f_S$  from  $(S, \cdot)$  into (Y, \*), then  $f(x) = f(x_1) * f(x_2) * \ldots * f(x_k)$ . Hence this extension is unique, if it exists.

We show that the above equality defines a mapping from S to Y. To do this, it suffices to show that if  $x_1x_2\cdots x_k = y_1 * y_2 * \ldots * y_m$ , where  $1 \leq k, m < n$  and all  $x_i, y_j$  are from X, then

$$f(x_1) * f(x_2) * \ldots * f(x_k) = f(x_1) * f(x_2) * \ldots * f(x_m).$$

Let an element f(a), where  $a \in X$ , be left cancellative in a subsemigroup of a semigroup (Y, \*) generated by the set f(X). Then k = m and, consequently,  $a^{n-k}x_1x_2\cdots x_k = a^{n-k}y_1y_2\cdots y_k$ . Thus  $f([a^{n-k}x_1^k]) = f([a^{n-k}y_1^k])$ . Therefore,

$$f(a)^{n-k} * f(x_1) * \dots * f(x_k) = f(a)^{n-k} * f(y_1) * \dots * f(y_k).$$

Since f(a) is left cancellative, the last implies  $f(x_1)*\ldots*f(x_k) = f(y_1)*\ldots*f(y_k)$ . This proves that  $f_S$  is correctly defined. Obviously,  $f_S$  is an extension of the homomorphism f to the mapping from  $(S, \cdot)$  to (Y, \*). Let  $x, y \in S$ . Then  $x = x_1 x_2 \cdots x_k$  and  $y = y_1 y_2 \cdots y_m$  for some  $x_i, y_j \in X$ and  $1 \leq k, m < n$ . If k + m < n, then

$$f_S(xy) = f(x_1) * \dots * f(x_k) * f(y_1) * \dots * f(y_m) = f_S(x) * f_S(y)$$

In the case k + m = n, we have

$$f_S(xy) = f_S([x_1^k y_1^m]) = f(x_1) * \dots * f(x_k) * f(y_1) * \dots * f(y_m) = f_S(x) * f_S(y).$$

Now, if k + m > n, then

$$f_S(xy) = f_S([x_1^k y_1^{n-k}] y_{n-k+1} \cdots y_m) = f_S([x_1^k y_1^{n-k}]) * f_S(y_{n-k+1} \cdots y_m)$$
  
=  $f(x_1) * \dots * f(x_k) * f(y_1) * \dots * f(y_m) = f_S(x) * f_S(y_1)$ 

So,  $f_S$  is a homomorphism from  $(S, \cdot)$  into (Y, \*).

For a right cancellative element the proof is analogous.

In [6], the topology  $\tau_S$  on  $(S, \cdot)$  was constructed using the following construction. On a free semigroup  $F = \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} X^k$  we consider the relation  $\Omega$  defined by

$$(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_p)\Omega(y_1, y_2, \dots, y_m) \Longleftrightarrow x_1 x_2 \cdots x_p = y_1 y_2 \cdots y_m.$$

This relation is a congruence. The mapping  $\varphi$  from a quotient semigroup  $F/\Omega$  into S which the equivalence class of an element  $(x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_p) \in F$  transforms into an element  $x_1 x_2 \cdots x_p \in S$ , is an isomorphism of semigroups  $F/\Omega$  and S.

Let  $\tau$  be a topology on X,  $\tau_k$  – a topology on the Cartesian product  $X^k$  that is the product of topologies on factors,  $\tau_F$  – a topology on F that is the sum of the topologies  $\tau_k$ , k = 1, 2, ...

Using the mapping  $\varphi$  we transfer the factor topology on  $F/\Omega$  onto  $(S, \cdot)$  and denote it by  $\tau_S$ . If  $\pi$  is a canonical mapping from F to  $F/\Omega$ , then the topology  $\tau_S$  is characterized as the strongest of the topologies on S for which the mapping  $\varphi \circ \pi$  is continuous.

In [6], it was shown that if  $(X, [], \tau)$  is a topological *n*-ary semigroup, then the topological space  $(X, \tau)$  is a topological subspace of  $(S, \tau_S)$ .

**Theorem 2.** Let f be a continuous homomorphism from a topological n-ary semigroup  $(X, [], \tau)$  into a topological binary semigroup  $(Y, *, \tau_Y)$  and let  $(S, \cdot, \tau_S)$  be the universal covering semigroup of the n-ary semigroup (X, []) endowed with the topology  $\tau_S$  described above. If f can be extended to a homomorphism from  $(S, \cdot)$ to (Y, \*), then this extension is a continuous mapping.

*Proof.* Let a homomorphism f be extend to a homomorphism from  $(S, \cdot)$  to (Y, \*). From the proof of Theorem 1 it follows that this extension is representable in the form  $f_S$ . If  $x = (x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_p) \in F$ , then  $g(x) = f(x_1) * f(x_2) * \ldots * f(x_p)$  is a continuous mapping from F to Y. Moreover, we also have  $f_S(\varphi(\pi(x))) = f(x_1) * f(x_2) * \ldots * f(x_p) = g(x)$ .

From the properties of the final topology it follows that the homomorphism  $f_S$  is a continuous mapping (cf. [1]). This completes the proof.

Let (X, []) be an *n*-ary semigroup and let  $\alpha = (a_1, \ldots, a_p), \beta = (b_1, \ldots, b_q)$  be elements of  $F = \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} X^k$ . We put  $\alpha \# \beta$  if and only if there are  $(d_1, d_1, \ldots, d_t) \in F$  and two sequences of natural numbers  $k_1 < k_2 < \ldots < k_p = t, m_1 < m_2 < \ldots < m_q = t$  such that

$$a_1 = [d_1 \dots d_{k_1}], \ a_2 = [d_{k_1+1} \dots d_{k_2}], \ \dots \ a_p = [d_{k_{p-1}+1} \dots d_{k_p}]$$

 $\operatorname{and}$ 

$$b_1 = [d_1 \dots d_{m_1}], \quad b_2 = [d_{m_1+1} \dots d_{m_2}], \quad \dots \quad q_p = [d_{m_{q-1}+1} \dots d_{m_q}].$$

The relation # is reflexive and symmetric on F. Its transitive closure  $\approx$  is a congruence on F. A factor semigroup F/# is called a *free covering semigroup* of (X, []) and is denoted by  $\widehat{F}$ . By  $\star$  is denoted a binary operation on  $\widehat{F}$ . The equivalence class of  $\alpha \in F$  is denoted by  $\widehat{\alpha}$ . The topology on  $\widehat{F}$  is constructed in the same way as in [5].

Let  $\varphi$  be the canonical mapping F onto  $\widehat{F}$ . The subset  $\varphi(X)$  of  $\widehat{F}$  is stable with respect to the *n*-th iteration of  $\star$  and it is isomorphic to (X, []). So,  $\varphi(X)$  can be identified with X. Thus  $\widehat{F}$  can be represented as a union of pairwise disjoint sets  $\widehat{F} = X_1 \cup X_2 \cup \ldots \cup X_{n-1}$ , where  $X_1 = \varphi(X) = X$ ,  $X_i = \varphi(X^i) = X \star X \star \ldots \star X$ (*i*-times),  $i = 2, 3, \ldots, n-1$ .

**Theorem 3.** Every homomorphism of an n-ary semigroup (X, []) into a binary semigroup (Y, \*) can be extended to a homomorphism from a free covering semigroup of (X, []) into (Y, \*).

*Proof.* Let  $f: X \to Y$  be a homomorphism of an *n*-ary semigroup (X, []) into a binary semigroup (Y, \*). Let  $\widehat{\gamma} \in \widehat{F}$ , where  $\gamma = (x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_p) \in F$ . Define  $f_{\widehat{F}}: \widehat{F} \to Y$  by putting  $f_{\widehat{F}}(\widehat{\gamma}) = f(x_1) * f(x_2) * \ldots * f(x_p)$ . To show that  $f_{\widehat{F}}$  is a homomorphism consider an arbitrary  $\widehat{\delta} \in \widehat{F}$  such that  $\delta = (y_1, y_2, \ldots, y_q) \in F$  and  $\gamma \# \delta$ . Then there are  $(d_1, d_2, \ldots, d_t) \in F$  and two sequences of natural numbers  $k_1, k_2 < \ldots < k_p = t, m_1 < m_2 < \ldots m_q = t$  such that

$$x_1 = [d_1 \dots d_{k_1}], \quad x_2 = [d_{k_1+1} \dots d_{k_2}], \quad \dots \quad x_p = [d_{k_{p-1}+1} \dots d_{k_p}]$$

 $\operatorname{and}$ 

$$y_1 = [d_1 \dots d_{m_1}], \quad y_2 = [d_{m_1+1} \dots d_{m_2}], \quad \dots \quad y_q = [d_{m_{q-1}+1} \dots d_{m_q}].$$

Since  $f: X \to Y$  is a homomorphism, we have

$$\begin{split} f_{\widehat{F}}(\widehat{\gamma}) &= f(x_1) * f(x_2) * \ldots * f(x_p) = f([d_1^{k_1}]) * f([d_{k_1+1}^{k_2}]) * \ldots * f([d_{k_{p-1}+1}^{k_p}]) \\ &= f(d_1) * f(d_2) * \ldots * f(d_{k_p}) = f([d_1^{m_1}]) * f([d_{m_1+1}^{m_2}]) * \ldots * f([d_{m_{q-1}+1}^{m_q}]) \\ &= f(y_1) * f(y_2) * \ldots * f(y_q) = f_{\widehat{F}}(\widehat{\delta}). \end{split}$$

But the relation  $\approx$  is a transitive closure of the relation #, so we have  $f_{\widehat{F}}(\widehat{\alpha}) = f_{\widehat{F}}(\widehat{\beta})$  for all  $\widehat{\alpha}, \widehat{\beta} \in \widehat{F}$  such that  $\widehat{\alpha} = \widehat{\beta}$ . This means that the mapping  $f_{\widehat{F}}$  is

correctly defined. Obviously,  $f_{\widehat{F}}$  is a homomorphism and it is an extension of f.

Let  $(X, [], \tau)$  be a topological *n*-ary semigroup,  $\tau_k$  – a topology on the Cartesian product  $X^k$  that is a product of topologies on factors,  $\tau_F$  – a topology on F that is the sum of the topologies  $\tau_k$ ,  $k = 1, 2, ..., \tau_S$  – the factor topology on  $\hat{F}$ . If  $\pi$ is a canonical mapping from F to  $\hat{F}$ , then the topology  $\tau_S$  is characterized as the strongest of the topologies on  $\hat{F}$  for which the mapping  $\pi$  is continuous.

In [5], it was shown that if  $(X, [], \tau)$  is a topological *n*-ary semigroup, then  $(X, \tau)$  is a topological subspace of  $(\widehat{F}, \tau_s)$ .

**Theorem 4.** Let f be a continuous homomorphism from a topological n-ary semigroup  $(X, [], \tau)$  into a topological binary semigroup  $(Y, *, \tau_y)$ . Then f can be extended to a continuous homomorphism from the free covering semigroup  $(\widehat{F}, *, \tau_S)$ of  $(X, [], \tau)$  into  $(Y, *, \tau_Y)$ .

*Proof.* From the proof of Theorem 3 it follows that the extension of f to a homomorphism from  $(\widehat{F}, *, \tau_s)$  to  $(Y, *, \tau_y)$  exists and has the form  $f_{\widehat{F}}$ .

If  $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_p) \in F$ , then  $g(x) = f(x_1) * f(x_2) * \dots * f(x_p)$  is a continuous mapping from F into Y and  $f_{\widehat{F}}(\pi(x)) = f(x_1) * f(x_2) * \dots * f(x_p) = g(x)$ .

From the properties of the final topology it follows that the homomorphism  $f_{\widehat{F}}$  is a continuous mapping (cf. [1]). The theorem is proved.

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Received May 21, 2018

Faculty of Pure and Applied Mathematics, Wroclaw University of Science and Technology, Poland

E-mail: wieslaw.dudek@pwr.edu.pl

V.V. Mukhin

W.A. Dudek

Department of Mathematics and Informatics, Cherepovets State University, 162 600 Cherepovets, Russia

 $\quad \text{and} \quad$ 

Department of Informatics and Mathematics, Vologda Institute of Law and Economics of the Federal Penal Service of Russia, Vologda, Russia E-mail: mukhinv1945@yandex.ru