

## 109. On the Power Semigroup of the Group of Integers

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If  $G(\cdot)$  is a group, the power semigroup  $\mathcal{P}(G)$  is the semigroup of all nonempty subsets of  $G$  with respect to the operation defined by  $AB = \{ab : a \in A, b \in B\}$  for all  $A, B \in \mathcal{P}(G)$ . The author and Shafer [5] obtained the group of units of  $\mathcal{P}(G)$ , and Putcha [4] studied the greatest semilattice decomposition of  $\mathcal{P}(G)$  of a finite group  $G$ , but we know little about archimedean components of  $\mathcal{P}(G)$  of an infinite group  $G$ .

Let  $Z$  be the group of integers under addition and  $Z_+$  the subsemigroup of positive integers. The operation in  $\mathcal{P}(Z)$  is denoted by  $X+Y = \{x+y : x \in X, y \in Y\}$ . For  $X \in \mathcal{P}(Z)$  and  $m \in Z_+$ , we let  $mX = \underbrace{X + \cdots + X}_m$  and  $[a, b] = \{z \in Z : a \leq z \leq b\}$  if  $a, b \in Z$  with  $a \leq b$ . For

undefined terminology and basic information on commutative semigroups, the reader should refer to [1], [3].

Let  $\mathcal{P}^*(Z)$  denote the subsemigroup of  $\mathcal{P}(Z)$  consisting of all finite nonempty subsets of  $Z$ . If  $X \in \mathcal{P}^*(Z)$ , the archimedean component of  $\mathcal{P}(Z)$  containing  $X$  coincides with that of  $\mathcal{P}^*(Z)$  containing  $X$ . Let  $\mathcal{A}\{0, 1\}$  denote the archimedean component of  $\mathcal{P}(Z)$  containing the element  $\{0, 1\}$ . The purpose of this paper is to investigate the structure of  $\mathcal{A}\{0, 1\}$ .

Let  $X = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k\} \in \mathcal{P}^*(Z)$  where  $x_1 < x_2 < \dots < x_k$ . We define  $\min X = x_1$ ,  $\max X = x_k$ ,  $\text{id}(X) = x_2 - x_1$ ,  $\text{fd}(X) = x_k - x_{k-1}$ , and  $\text{md}(X) = \max\{x_2 - x_1, \dots, x_k - x_{k-1}\}$ . Note  $\text{md}(X) \geq 1$  unless  $X$  is a singleton. If  $\text{md}(X) = 1$ , i.e.  $X = [x_1, x_k]$ , then  $X$  is called *consecutive*. If  $\text{id}(X) = \text{fd}(X) = 1$ ,  $X$  is called *semi-consecutive*. The following is a main theorem in this paper.

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $X \in \mathcal{P}(Z)$ . The following are equivalent :*

- (1.1)  $X \in \mathcal{A}\{0, 1\}$ .
- (1.2)  $nX = \{0, 1\} + Y$  for some  $n \in Z_+$  and some  $Y \in \mathcal{P}(Z)$ .
- (1.3)  $nX = m\{0, 1\} + b$  for some  $n, m \in Z_+$  and some  $b \in Z$ .
- (1.4)  $X$  is semi-consecutive.
- (1.5)  $nX$  is consecutive for some  $n \in Z_+$ .

*Proof.* (1.1)  $\rightarrow$  (1.2) is obvious by archimedeaness.

(1.2)  $\rightarrow$  (1.4). If  $X = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k\}$ ,  $\min(nX) = nx_1$  and the second element of  $nX$  is  $(n-1)x_1 + x_2$ . This implies  $\text{id}(nX) = \text{id}(X)$ . Similarly