

Article

Green's Symmetries in Finite Digraphs

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Abstract: The semigroup D_V of digraphs on a set V of n labeled vertices is defined. It is shown that D_V is faithfully represented by the semigroup B_n of $n \times n$ Boolean matrices and that the Green's L, R, H, and D equivalence classifications of digraphs in D_V follow directly from the Green's classifications already established for B_n . The new results found from this are: (i) L, R, and H equivalent digraphs contain sets of vertices with identical neighborhoods which remain invariant under certain one-sided semigroup multiplications that transform one digraph into another within the same equivalence class, *i.e.*, these digraphs exhibit Green's *isoneighborhood symmetries*; and (ii) D equivalent digraphs are characterized by isomorphic inclusion lattices that are generated by their out-neighborhoods and which are preserved under certain two-sided semigroup multiplications that transform digraphs within the same D equivalence class, *i.e.*, these digraphs are characterized by Green's *isolattice symmetries*. As a simple illustrative example, the Green's classification of all digraphs on two vertices is presented and the associated Green's symmetries are identified.

Keywords: graph theory; digraph symmetries; semigroup; Green's relations; structural invariance

1. Introduction

The purpose of this paper is to discuss a semigroup-theoretic approach to digraph structural classification which uses the well known Green's L, R, H, and D relations to provide rigorous classifications of digraphs. This approach yields the following new results: (i) L, R, and H equivalent digraphs exhibit *isoneighborhood symmetries* (*i.e.*, they possess sets of vertices which have identical

neighborhoods that remain invariant under certain special one-sided semigroup digraph multiplications which transform digraphs within an equivalence class); and (ii) \mathcal{D} equivalent digraphs exhibit *isolattice symmetries* (i.e., they have isomorphic inclusion lattices generated by the closure under set union of their out-neighborhoods that are preserved under certain special two-sided semigroup digraph multiplications which transform digraphs within an equivalence class). These classifications are achieved in a direct manner by first defining the semigroup of digraphs on n labeled vertices and then by capitalizing upon the fact that this semigroup is faithfully represented by the semigroup of $n \times n$ Boolean matrices. The Green's classification of digraphs follows immediately from the well established Green's classification of the associated Boolean matrices.

The remainder of this paper is organized as follows: the next section briefly summarizes relevant topics in digraph and semigroup theory. The Green's equivalence classifications of digraphs are established and isoneighborhood class and isolattice class structural invariants are identified in Section 3. Green's symmetries are formally defined in section 4. Section 5 illustrates the theory developed in Sections 3 and 4 by providing Green's classifications of all digraphs on two vertices and identifying their Green's symmetries. Concluding remarks comprise the final section of this paper.

2. Preliminaries

A *digraph* E is the pair (V, A) where V is a finite nonempty set of vertices and a binary relation $A \subseteq V \times V$ is the set of arcs. The *order* of E is $\text{card}(V)$ and the *size* of E is $\text{card}(A)$, where $\text{card}(X)$ denotes the cardinality of set X . If $(x, y) \in A$, then x and y are adjacent in the direction from x to y ; x is an in-neighbor of y ; and y is an out-neighbor of x . The *in-neighborhood* of $x \in V$ in E is the set $\mathcal{I}(E; x)$ of all in-neighbors of x and the *out-neighborhood* of $x \in V$ in E is the set $\mathcal{O}(E; x)$ of all out-neighbors of x . The *adjacency matrix* of E is the $\text{card}(V) \times \text{card}(V)$ matrix α indexed by V with $\alpha_{x,y} = 1$ when $(x, y) \in A$ and $\alpha_{x,y} = 0$ otherwise.

A *semigroup* S is a set and an associative binary operation called multiplication defined upon the set and denoted by juxtaposition. The one-sided right (one-sided left) [two-sided] multiplication of $x \in S$ by $y \in S$ is $xy \in S$ (by $y \in S$ is $yx \in S$) [by $y, z \in S$ is $yxz \in S$]. An element $x \in S$ is an idempotent if $xx = x$. The element $e \in S$ is a left (right) identity if $es = s$ ($se = s$) for $s \in S$ and is a two-sided identity if it is both a left and a right identity. An identity $e \notin S$ can be adjoined to S by setting $S^1 = S \cup \{e\}$ and defining $se = es = s$ for $s \in S^1$. Let $S = S^1$ if S has an identity. Otherwise, let S^1 be the semigroup S with an identity adjoined.

The well known \mathcal{L} , \mathcal{R} , \mathcal{H} , and \mathcal{D} Green's equivalence relations on S partition S into a highly organized "egg box" structure using relatively simple algebraic properties of the elements of S (see for example [1]). The equivalence relation \mathcal{L} (\mathcal{R}) on a semigroup S is defined by the rule that $x\mathcal{L}y$ ($x\mathcal{R}y$) if and only if $S^1x = S^1y$ ($xS^1 = yS^1$) for $x, y \in S$ and the equivalence relation $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{L} \cap \mathcal{R}$ is similarly defined so that $x\mathcal{H}y$ if and only if $x\mathcal{L}y$ and $x\mathcal{R}y$. The relations \mathcal{L} and \mathcal{R} commute under the composition " \bullet " of binary relations and $\mathcal{D} \equiv \mathcal{L} \bullet \mathcal{R} = \mathcal{R} \bullet \mathcal{L}$ is the smallest equivalence relation containing \mathcal{L} and \mathcal{R} . For $x \in S$ and $X \in \{\mathcal{L}, \mathcal{R}, \mathcal{H}, \mathcal{D}\}$, denote the X class containing x by X_x , where $X = \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{R}, \mathcal{H}$, or \mathcal{D} when $X = \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{R}, \mathcal{H}$, or \mathcal{D} , respectively. Thus, xXy if and only if $X_x = X_y$. Furthermore, if $\mathcal{L}_x = \mathcal{L}_y$ ($\mathcal{R}_x = \mathcal{R}_y$) [$\mathcal{D}_x = \mathcal{D}_y$], then there are elements s and s' (t and t') [s, s', t , and t'] in S^1 such that $sx = y$ and $s'y = x$ ($xt = y$ and $yt' = x$) [$sxt = y$ and $s'yt' = x$]. If an \mathcal{H} class contains an idempotent, then the elements in that class form a group.

The semigroup B_n of Boolean matrices is the set of all $n \times n$ matrices over $\{0,1\}$ with multiplication $\gamma = \alpha\beta$ defined by the matrix expression

$$\gamma_{ij} = \bigvee_{k \in I} (\alpha_{ik} \wedge \beta_{kj})$$

Here, $I = \{1,2,3,\dots,n\}$ is the matrix row and column index set, \wedge denotes Boolean multiplication (*i.e.*, $0 \wedge 0 = 0 \wedge 1 = 1 \wedge 0 = 0$, $1 \wedge 1 = 1$), and \vee denotes Boolean addition (*i.e.*, $0 \vee 0 = 0$, $0 \vee 1 = 1 \vee 0 = 1 \vee 1 = 1$). The rows (columns) of any $\alpha \in B_n$ are Boolean row (column) n -vectors, *i.e.*, row (column) n -tuples over $\{0,1\}$. Let $\mathbf{0}$ ($\mathbf{1}$) denote either the zero (unit) row or zero (unit) column vector (the context in which $\mathbf{0}$ ($\mathbf{1}$) is used defines whether it is a row or column vector). The matrix with $\mathbf{0}$ in every row – *i.e.*, the zero matrix – is denoted by “ \square ” and the matrix with $\mathbf{1}$ in every row is denoted by “ ω ”. The row (column) basis $r(\alpha)$ ($c(\alpha)$) of α is the set of all row (column) vectors in α that are not Boolean sums of other row (column) vectors in α . The vector $\mathbf{0}$ is never a basis vector and the empty set \emptyset is the basis for the zero matrix. The row space $R(\alpha)$ of α is the set with $\mathbf{0}$ and all possible Boolean sums of one or more non-zero row vectors in α as its elements [2]. Let u_i be the i^{th} coordinate of $u \in R(\alpha)$. If $v \in R(\alpha)$, then $u \sqsubseteq v$ when $u_i = 1$ implies $v_i = 1$, $1 \leq i \leq n$. The space $R(\alpha)$ is the lattice $(R(\alpha), \sqsubseteq)$ under the partial order “ \sqsubseteq ” [3].

The semigroup B_V of binary relations on V is the power set of $V \times V$ with multiplication $Z = XY$ being the “composition of binary relations” defined by

$$Z = \{(x,y) \in V \times V : (x,z) \in X \text{ and } (z,y) \in Y \text{ for some } z \in V\}$$

When $\text{card}(V) = n$ and $f: V \rightarrow I$ is a bijective vertex indexing map, then B_V is isomorphic to B_n via the bijective map $\lambda: B_V \rightarrow B_n$ defined by $\lambda(X) = \chi$, where $\chi_{ij} = 1$ when $(f^{-1}(i), f^{-1}(j)) \in X$ and $\chi_{ij} = 0$ otherwise [4].

The following important lemma due to Plemmons and West [3] and Zaretskii [5] defines the properties of L , R , H , and D equivalent matrices in B_n and provides the foundation for the Green’s classifications of digraphs in D_V .

Lemma 2.1 *Let $\alpha, \beta \in B_n$.*

- (i) $L_\alpha = L_\beta$ if and only if $r(\alpha) = r(\beta)$;
- (ii) $R_\alpha = R_\beta$ if and only if $c(\alpha) = c(\beta)$;
- (iii) $H_\alpha = H_\beta$ if and only if $r(\alpha) = r(\beta)$ and $c(\alpha) = c(\beta)$;
- (iv) $D_\alpha = D_\beta$ if and only if $(R(\alpha), \sqsubseteq)$ and $(R(\beta), \sqsubseteq)$ are lattice isomorphic.

3. Green’s Equivalence Classifications of Digraphs

Let D_V be set of all digraphs on the finite vertex set V and define multiplication of digraphs by $EF = G \equiv (V,Z)$, where $E \equiv (V,X)$, $F \equiv (V,Y)$, and

$$Z = \{(x,y) \in V \times V : (x,z) \in X \text{ and } (z,y) \in Y \text{ for some } z \in V\}$$

Lemma 3.1 \mathcal{D}_V is a semigroup that is isomorphic to B_V .

Proof. It is obvious from the definition of \mathcal{D}_V that (i) “multiplication of digraphs” is the same as “composition of binary relations” and (ii) the bijective map $\Phi: \mathcal{D}_V \rightarrow B_V$ defined by $\Phi(E) = X$ preserves this multiplication. Thus, $\Phi: \mathcal{D}_V \rightarrow B_V$ is a semigroup isomorphism.

The following lemma establishes the rationale for the approach used here to determine the Green’s equivalence classifications of digraphs.

Lemma 3.2 If V and I are equipotent finite sets, then B_n is a faithful semigroup representation of \mathcal{D}_V where each digraph in \mathcal{D}_V is represented by its adjacency matrix in B_n .

Proof. This is a consequence of the fact that B_V is isomorphic to B_n [4]. In particular, let $\lambda: B_V \rightarrow B_n$ be the required semigroup isomorphism. Since – from Lemma 3.1 – $\Phi: \mathcal{D}_V \rightarrow B_V$ is also a semigroup isomorphism, then there exists a semigroup isomorphism $g: \mathcal{D}_V \rightarrow B_n$ which is the composition $g = \lambda\Phi$, where $g(E)$ is – by definition – the adjacency matrix of E .

Assume that $\text{card}(V) = n = \text{card}(I)$ and let $f: V \rightarrow I$ be the vertex indexing map associated with the isomorphism $g: \mathcal{D}_V \rightarrow B_n$ of Lemma 3.2. Observe that if α_{i^*} is the i^{th} Boolean row vector and α_{*j} is the j^{th} Boolean column vector in the adjacency matrix $\alpha = g(E)$ corresponding to digraph E , then α_{i^*} encodes the out-neighbors of vertex $f^{-1}(i)$ in digraph E according to

$$\circ(E; f^{-1}(i)) = \{f^{-1}(k) : \alpha_{ik} = 1, k \in I\}$$

and α_{*j} encodes the in-neighbors of vertex $f^{-1}(j)$ in digraph E according to

$$\mathfrak{I}(E; f^{-1}(j)) = \{f^{-1}(k) : \alpha_{kj} = 1, k \in I\}$$

For the special cases that $\alpha_{i^*} \in r(\alpha)$ and $\alpha_{*j} \in c(\alpha)$, then $\circ_r(E; f^{-1}(i)) \equiv \circ(E; f^{-1}(i))$ is a basis out-neighborhood and $\mathfrak{I}_c(E; f^{-1}(j)) \equiv \mathfrak{I}(E; f^{-1}(j))$ is a basis in-neighborhood for digraph E . Accordingly, a basis neighborhood in E is a non-empty neighborhood in E which is not the set union of other neighborhoods in E . Let $\circ_r(E)$ be the set of basis out-neighborhoods and $\mathfrak{I}_c(E)$ be the set of basis in-neighborhoods in digraph E .

Define the out-neighborhood space of E to be the set $\mathcal{N}(E)$ whose elements are the empty set and the sets generated by the closure under set union of the out-neighborhoods in E and let $(\mathcal{N}(E), \subseteq)$ be the poset ordered by the set inclusion relation “ \subseteq ”.

Lemma 3.3 $(\mathcal{N}(E), \subseteq)$ is a lattice that is isomorphic to $(\mathcal{R}(\alpha), \subseteq)$.

Proof. Observe that each row vector $v = (v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_n) \in \mathcal{R}(\alpha)$ can be uniquely represented by the set of indices $\sigma_v = \{k \in I : v_k = 1\}$. Let $\mathcal{S}(\alpha) = \{\sigma_v : v \in \mathcal{R}(\alpha)\}$ and $\theta: \mathcal{S}(\alpha) \rightarrow \mathcal{R}(\alpha)$ be the associated bijection $\theta(\sigma_v) = v$. The bijection $f: V \rightarrow I$ induces a map $\mu: \mathcal{N}(E) \rightarrow \mathcal{S}(\alpha)$ according to $\mu(\{x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_m\}) = \{f(x_1), f(x_2), f(x_3), \dots, f(x_m)\}$ with $\mu(\emptyset) = \emptyset$. The map $\mu: \mathcal{N}(E) \rightarrow \mathcal{S}(\alpha)$ is bijective because it is onto and because $\mu(X) \equiv \mu(\{x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_l\}) = \sigma_v = \mu(\{y_1, y_2, y_3, \dots, y_l\}) \equiv \mu(Y) \Rightarrow X = Y$ since f is a bijection. Thus, there exists a bijection $\psi: \mathcal{N}(E) \rightarrow \mathcal{R}(\alpha)$ given by the composition $\psi = \theta\mu$ and every row vector in $\mathcal{R}(\alpha)$ has a vertex set as its unique ψ pre-image in $\mathcal{N}(E)$. It is also clear from this

that for $u, v \in R(\alpha)$, $u \sqsubseteq v$ if and only if $\psi^{-1}(u) \subseteq \psi^{-1}(v)$. Consequently, ψ^{-1} preserves the partial order of $(R(\alpha), \sqsubseteq)$ so that the Hasse diagram for $(N(E), \subseteq)$ is identical to that for $(R(\alpha), \sqsubseteq)$. Since $(R(\alpha), \sqsubseteq)$ is a lattice, then so is $(N(E), \subseteq)$. Thus, ψ is a lattice isomorphism since it preserves lattice joins and meets.

The following main theorem identifies the invariant structural features of L , R , H , and D equivalent digraphs.

Theorem 3.4 (Digraph Structural Invariants) *Let $\alpha, \beta \in B_n$ with $g^{-1}(\alpha) = E$ and $g^{-1}(\beta) = F$.*

- (i) $L_E = L_F$ if and only if $O_r(E) = O_r(F)$;
- (ii) $R_E = R_F$ if and only if $I_c(E) = I_c(F)$;
- (iii) $H_E = H_F$ if and only if $O_r(E) = O_r(F)$ and $I_c(E) = I_c(F)$;
- (iv) $D_E = D_F$ if and only if $(N(E), \subseteq)$ and $(N(F), \subseteq)$ are lattice isomorphic.

Proof. Items (i)–(iii) follow immediately from Lemma 2.1 and Lemma 3.2. Item (iv) is a direct consequence of Lemma 2.1, Lemma 3.2, and Lemma 3.3.

Thus, the Green's L , R , and H equivalence classifications of the digraphs in D_V are based entirely upon their having (generally distinct) vertices with identical out-neighborhoods, identical in-neighborhoods, and both identical out-neighborhoods and identical in-neighborhoods, respectively. Accordingly, these digraph equivalence classes are called L , R , and H *isoneighborhood classes* and the associated sets of basis neighborhoods are structural invariants common to all digraphs within the respective isoneighborhood classes. Also, since Green's D equivalence classification of digraphs in D_V is based solely upon their having isomorphic inclusion lattices, these digraph equivalence classes are called D *isolattice classes*. Here the unlabeled underlying Hasse diagram associated with the isomorphic inclusion lattices of an isolattice class is the structural invariant shared by the equivalent digraphs. Even though D equivalent digraphs generally have distinct vertex sets as lattice elements, their identical unlabeled Hasse diagrams express the fact that their generally distinct out-neighborhoods—which correspond to the atoms of the lattice—and the set unions thereof exhibit the same relative partial order.

4. Green's Digraph Symmetries

Rosen [6] concisely defines symmetry as “immunity to a possible change”. Thus, in order to have a symmetry (a) “it must be possible to perform a change, although the change does not actually have to be performed” and (b) “some aspect of the situation would remain unchanged, if the change were performed”. Green's equivalence classifications of finite digraphs clearly demonstrate that (b) is satisfied for finite digraphs since if a digraph were somehow to change into another equivalent digraph either the basis neighborhoods would remain unchanged for digraph changes occurring within an isoneighborhood class, or the associated underlying Hasse diagram would remain invariant for changes within an isolattice class. However, in order for these structural invariants to formally qualify as digraph symmetries —i.e., *Green's L, R, H, and D symmetries*—it is necessary that condition (a) also be satisfied. As the next main theorem shows, satisfaction of condition (a) occurs within the semigroup D_V via the one- and two-sided multiplications by special *transformation digraphs* that are associated

with the Green's L, R, H, and D equivalence classes. Denote that digraph E changes—i.e., E transitions—into digraph F by $E \rightarrow F$.

Theorem 4.1 (Green's Digraph Symmetries) Let $E \in \mathcal{D}_V$.

- (i) $O_r(E)$ is a Green's L symmetry;
- (ii) $I_c(E)$ is a Green's R symmetry;
- (iii) $O_r(E)$ and $I_c(E)$ are Green's H symmetries;
- (iv) The underlying Hasse diagram for $(N(E), \subseteq)$ is a Green's D symmetry.

Proof. (i) $O_r(E)$ is a structural invariant for every digraph in the same L isoneighborhood class as E (Theorem 3.4(i)). Also, for $F \in \mathcal{D}_V$ such that $L_F = L_E$ semigroup theory guarantees the existence of a transformation digraph $C \in \mathcal{D}_V$ such that $E \rightarrow F$ according to $CE = F$; (ii) $I_c(E)$ is a structural invariant for every digraph in the same R isoneighborhood class as E (Theorem 3.4(ii)). Also, for $F \in \mathcal{D}_V$ such that $R_F = R_E$ semigroup theory guarantees the existence of a transformation digraph $H \in \mathcal{D}_V$ such that $E \rightarrow F$ according to $EH = F$; (iii) $O_r(E)$ and $I_c(E)$ are structural invariants for every digraph in the same H isoneighborhood class as E (Theorem 3.4(iii)). Also, for $F \in \mathcal{D}_V$ such that $H_F = H_E$ semigroup theory guarantees the existence of transformation digraphs $J, K \in \mathcal{D}_V$ such that $E \rightarrow F$ according to $JE = F$ and $EK = F$; (iv) The underlying Hasse diagram for $(N(E), \subseteq)$ is a structural invariant for every digraph in the same D isolattice class as E (Theorem 3.4(iv)). Also, for $F \in \mathcal{D}_V$ such that $D_F = D_E$ semigroup theory guarantees the existence of transformation digraphs $L, M \in \mathcal{D}_V$ such that $E \rightarrow F$ according to $LEM = F$. Thus, (i)–(iv) satisfy conditions (a) and (b) and the associated structural invariants are formal Green's symmetries.

5. Order Two Digraphs: An Example

Table 1 lists and labels the sixteen order two digraphs on the vertex set $V = \{a, b\}$ which form the semigroup $\mathcal{D}_{\{a, b\}}$, along with their in-neighborhood and out-neighborhood basis sets. Note that here lower case Greek letters are used as digraph labels and that—rather than the pair (V, A) —only the arc set A is used to specify each digraph. Inspection of Table 1 using Theorem 3.4 yields the following L and R equivalence classes:

$$\begin{aligned}
 L_1 &= \{\theta, \rho\} \text{ with } O_r(\theta) = O_r(\rho) = \{\{a\}, \{b\}\} \\
 L_2 &= \{\eta, \beta\} \text{ with } O_r(\eta) = O_r(\beta) = \{\{a, b\}, \{b\}\} \\
 L_3 &= \{\delta, \gamma\} \text{ with } O_r(\delta) = O_r(\gamma) = \{\{a, b\}, \{a\}\} \\
 L_4 &= \{\psi, \tau, \mu\} \text{ with } O_r(\psi) = O_r(\tau) = O_r(\mu) = \{\{a\}\} \\
 L_5 &= \{\chi, \varphi, \kappa\} \text{ with } O_r(\chi) = O_r(\varphi) = O_r(\kappa) = \{\{b\}\} \\
 L_6 &= \{\sigma, \lambda, \omega\} \text{ with } O_r(\sigma) = O_r(\lambda) = O_r(\omega) = \{\{a, b\}\} \\
 L_7 &= \{\square\} \text{ with } O_r(\square) = \emptyset
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 R_1 &= \{\theta, \rho\} \text{ with } \mathbb{I}_c(\theta) = \mathbb{I}_c(\rho) = \{\{a\}, \{b\}\} \\
 R_2 &= \{\eta, \delta\} \text{ with } \mathbb{I}_c(\eta) = \mathbb{I}_c(\delta) = \{\{a, b\}, \{b\}\} \\
 R_3 &= \{\beta, \gamma\} \text{ with } \mathbb{I}_c(\beta) = \mathbb{I}_c(\gamma) = \{\{a, b\}, \{a\}\} \\
 R_4 &= \{\psi, \chi, \sigma\} \text{ with } \mathbb{I}_c(\psi) = \mathbb{I}_c(\chi) = \mathbb{I}_c(\sigma) = \{\{a\}\} \\
 R_5 &= \{\tau, \varphi, \lambda\} \text{ with } \mathbb{I}_c(\tau) = \mathbb{I}_c(\varphi) = \mathbb{I}_c(\lambda) = \{\{b\}\} \\
 R_6 &= \{\mu, \kappa, \omega\} \text{ with } \mathbb{I}_c(\mu) = \mathbb{I}_c(\kappa) = \mathbb{I}_c(\omega) = \{\{a, b\}\} \\
 R_7 &= \{\square\} \text{ with } \mathbb{I}_c(\square) = \emptyset.
 \end{aligned}$$

Table 1. The digraphs of $D_{\{a,b\}}$ and their neighborhood basis sets.

X	A	$\mathfrak{o}_r(X)$	$\mathbb{I}_c(X)$
ω	$\{(a,a), (a,b), (b,a), (b,b)\}$	$\{\{a, b\}\}$	$\{\{a, b\}\}$
β	$\{(a,a), (a,b), (b,b)\}$	$\{\{a, b\}, \{b\}\}$	$\{\{a, b\}, \{a\}\}$
γ	$\{(a,a), (a,b), (b,a)\}$	$\{\{a, b\}, \{a\}\}$	$\{\{a, b\}, \{a\}\}$
δ	$\{(a,a), (b,a), (b,b)\}$	$\{\{a, b\}, \{a\}\}$	$\{\{a, b\}, \{b\}\}$
η	$\{(a,b), (b,a), (b,b)\}$	$\{\{a, b\}, \{b\}\}$	$\{\{a, b\}, \{b\}\}$
θ	$\{(a,b), (b,a)\}$	$\{\{a\}, \{b\}\}$	$\{\{a\}, \{b\}\}$
κ	$\{(a,b), (b,b)\}$	$\{\{b\}\}$	$\{\{a, b\}\}$
λ	$\{(b,a), (b,b)\}$	$\{\{a, b\}\}$	$\{\{b\}\}$
μ	$\{(a,a), (b,a)\}$	$\{\{a\}\}$	$\{\{a, b\}\}$
ρ	$\{(a,a), (b,b)\}$	$\{\{a\}, \{b\}\}$	$\{\{a\}, \{b\}\}$
σ	$\{(a,a), (a,b)\}$	$\{\{a, b\}\}$	$\{\{a\}\}$
τ	$\{(b,a)\}$	$\{\{a\}\}$	$\{\{b\}\}$
φ	$\{(b,b)\}$	$\{\{b\}\}$	$\{\{b\}\}$
χ	$\{(a,b)\}$	$\{\{b\}\}$	$\{\{a\}\}$
ψ	$\{(a,a)\}$	$\{\{a\}\}$	$\{\{a\}\}$
\square	\emptyset	\emptyset	\emptyset

Intersection of these L classes with these R classes generates the associated H classes—for example, $H_{11} = L_1 \cap R_1 = \{\rho, \theta\}$, $H_{45} = L_4 \cap R_5 = \{\tau\}$, and $H_{77} = L_7 \cap R_7 = \{\square\}$. Note that the digraphs in each H class satisfy the neighborhood basis set requirements established by Theorem 3.4.

Using their out-neighborhoods as generators, the out-neighborhood spaces for these digraphs are readily found (e.g., $N(\eta) = N(\beta) = \{\emptyset, \{b\}, \{a, b\}\}$ and $N(\delta) = N(\gamma) = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{a, b\}\}$). Application of the set inclusion partial order “ \subseteq ” to each out-neighborhood space yields three lattice isomorphism (denoted by “ \sim ”) chains (e.g., $(N(\eta), \subseteq) \sim (N(\beta), \subseteq) \sim (N(\delta), \subseteq) \sim (N(\gamma), \subseteq)$). These chains—in accordance with Theorem 3.4—define the following four D classes (there are four classes because the lattice $(N(\square), \subseteq)$ is isomorphic to itself):

$$\begin{aligned} D_1 &= \{\theta, \rho\} \\ D_2 &= \{\eta, \beta, \delta, \gamma\} \\ D_3 &= \{\psi, \tau, \mu, \chi, \phi, \kappa, \sigma, \lambda, \omega\} \\ D_4 &= \{\square\}. \end{aligned}$$

The diamond “ \diamond ” is the underlying Hasse diagram h_1 that is the structural invariant for the digraphs in the D_1 isolattice class; and the undirected paths of length two, length one, and length 0 (i.e., $\bullet \text{---} \bullet \text{---} \bullet$, $\bullet \text{---} \bullet$, and \bullet) are the Hasse diagrams h_2 , h_3 , and h_4 that are the structural invariants for the digraphs in the D_2 , D_3 , and D_4 isolattice classes, respectively.

The above Green’s classification of the digraphs of $D_{\{a,b\}}$ is compactly represented by the “egg box” structure for $D_{\{a,b\}}$ given in Figure 1.

Note that the rows and columns in the “egg box” correspond to R classes and L classes, respectively, and their intersections are H classes. The shaded rectangular regions correspond to D classes. The asterisk superscripts denote that the associated digraph is an idempotent. Consequently, H_{11} is a group isomorphic to the group Z_2 and H_{32} , H_{23} , H_{44} , H_{64} , H_{55} , H_{65} , H_{46} , H_{56} , H_{66} , and H_{77} are all groups isomorphic to the trivial group.

The Green’s symmetries associated with $D_{\{a,b\}}$ are easily determined from Theorem 4.1, Table 1, and Figure 1. For example: (i) the digraph transition $\rho \rightarrow \theta$ is both a D_1 and an H_{11} transition so that the Hasse diagram h_1 is the associated isolattice symmetry and the out-neighborhood set $\{\{a\}, \{b\}\}$ and the in-neighborhood set $\{\{a\}, \{b\}\}$ are the isoneighborhood symmetries; (ii) the transition $\tau \rightarrow \lambda$ is both a D_3 transition – so that h_3 is its isolattice symmetry – and an R_5 transition—so that the in-neighborhood $\{\{b\}\}$ is the isoneighborhood symmetry; (iii) $\kappa \rightarrow \chi$ is a D_3 and an L_5 transition with h_3 and the out-neighborhood $\{\{b\}\}$ as its isolattice and isoneighborhood symmetries; and (iv) the transition $\theta \rightarrow \tau$ has no *guaranteed* Green’s symmetries because the transition is neither a D -class, nor an L -class, nor an R -class transition.

Figure 1. The “Egg Box” for $D_{\{a,b\}}$.

	L ₁	L ₂	L ₃	L ₄	L ₅	L ₆	L ₇
R ₁	ρ^* θ						
R ₂		η	δ^*				
R ₃		β^*	γ				
R ₄				ψ^*	χ	σ^*	
R ₅				τ	φ^*	λ^*	
R ₆				μ^*	κ^*	ω^*	
R ₇							\square^*

6. Concluding Remarks

The classification of digraphs with finite vertex set V that is obtained from the application of Green’s equivalence relations to the digraph semigroup D_V has identified a new type of symmetry in digraphs—the Green’s isoneighborhood and isolattice symmetries. Not only are these new symmetries interesting from a purely graph theoretical perspective—they are also potentially useful to applied domains which employ digraph (or binary relation) models that are subject to change. For example, the Green’s symmetries associated with changing relationships between actors in a social network can provide insights into relationships that remain invariant (via isoneighborhood symmetries). These symmetries can also be applied to understanding the consequences of link reconfiguration in communication and sensor networks—as well as assisting in the classification and analysis of biological network data.

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