

# Rudin-Keisler Order on Tensor Product of Ultrafilters

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## ABSTRACT

Tensor product is a useful tool to identify an ultrafilter of the Cartesian product of two discrete semigroups which was first introduced by S Kochen in his paper [10].

In this paper we show that binary compositions of any two ultrafilters in the Stone - Čech compactification of a discrete semigroup are bounded above with respect to Rudin-Keisler ordering by tensor product of them. Also we have established that Rudin-Keisler ordering is preserved under some special type of homomorphisms on the Stone - Čech compactification  $\beta S$ .

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**Key Words:** Tensor product, ultrafilter, Rudin-Keisler ordering, Stone - Čech compactification.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

Given a nonempty set  $X$ , a family  $\mathfrak{F}$  of subsets of  $X$  will be a filter on  $X$  if (i)  $\emptyset \notin \mathfrak{F}$ , (ii)  $A \cap B \in \mathfrak{F}$  when  $A, B \in \mathfrak{F}$  and (iii) if  $A \in \mathfrak{F}$  and  $A \subseteq B$  then  $B \in \mathfrak{F}$ .

A filter  $\mathfrak{U}$  is called an ultrafilter on  $X$  if  $\mathfrak{U}$  is not properly contained in any filter. An ultrafilter  $\mathfrak{U}$  which contains a singleton set  $\{x_0\}$  as a member is called a principal ultrafilter. We denote this ultrafilter by  $x_0$ . For a principal ultrafilter,  $\bigcap_{U \in \mathfrak{U}} U =$  a singleton set. For further studies on ultrafilters, we refer [7]. A compactification of a space  $X$  is a compact Hausdorff space  $Y$  such that there is a topological embedding  $e : X \rightarrow Y$  with  $e(X)$  dense in  $Y$ . Whereas the Stone - Čech compactification of a Tychonoff space  $X$  is a compactification  $\beta X$  having the property that: if  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is a continuous function on any compact Hausdorff space  $Y$  then there is a unique continuous function  $\tilde{f} : \beta X \rightarrow Y$  with  $\tilde{f}|_X = f$ .

The Stone - Čech compactification of a Tychonoff space  $X$  taking maximal  $Z$ -ideals of  $X$  as points has been studied in [8] which is equivalent for a discrete space  $X$  by taking all its ultrafilters. For a discrete semigroup  $(S, \cdot)$  its Stone - Čech compactification  $\beta S$  consisting of all ultrafilters of  $S$  is topologized by taking the collection  $\{\hat{A} : A \subseteq S\}$  as a base for the topology on  $\beta S$ , where  $\hat{A} = \{p \in \beta S : A \in p\}$ . The above mentioned base is also a base for the closed sets in  $\beta S$ . Thus the Stone - Čech compactification  ${}_S$  of a discrete semigroup  $S$  is a zero- dimensional

space. We can identify each element  $s \in S$  with a principal ultrafilter, so that  $S \subseteq \beta S$ . Then the semigroup operation  $\cdot$  on  $S$  can be extended to a binary operation on  $\beta S$  as follows:

for  $s \in S, q \in \beta S, s \cdot q = \tilde{\lambda}_s(q)$ , where  $\tilde{\lambda}_s: \beta S \rightarrow \beta S$  is the continuous extension of  $\lambda_s: S \rightarrow S (\subseteq \beta S)$  defined by  $\lambda_s(x) = s \cdot x$ .

Now for  $p, q \in \beta S, p \cdot q = \tilde{\rho}_q(p)$ , where  $\tilde{\rho}_q: \beta S \rightarrow \beta S$  is the continuous extension of  $\rho_q: S \rightarrow \beta S$  defined by  $\rho_q(x) = x \cdot q$  and  $(\beta S, \cdot)$  is also a semigroup.

Also it is a compact right topological (follows from [4]) semigroup. From Ellis theorem ([4], theorem 2.5), it is clear that  $(S, \cdot)$  contains an idempotent element.

## 2 HOMOMORPHISMS ON INVERSE SEMIGROUP

**Definition 2.1.** Suppose  $(S, \cdot)$  is a discrete inverse semigroup,  $A \subseteq S$  and  $p \in \beta S$ . We define  $A^{-1} = \{x' : x \in A\}$ , and  $p' = \{A^{-1} \subseteq S : A \in p\}$ .

Obviously  $(A^{-1})^{-1} = A$  and  $(p')' = p$ .

**Proposition 2.2.**  $p \in \beta S$  if and only if  $p' \in \beta S$ .

Proof. Suppose  $p \in \beta S$ . Clearly then  $\emptyset \notin p'$ . Now if  $A, B \in p'$  then  $A^{-1}, B^{-1} \in p$ .  $p$  being an ultrafilter,  $A^{-1} \cap B^{-1} \in p$ . Then  $A \cap B = (A^{-1} \cap B^{-1})^{-1} \in p'$ . Again if  $A \in p'$  and  $A \subseteq B$  then

$A^{-1} \subseteq B^{-1}$  implies  $B^{-1} \in p$  implies  $B \in p'$ . So  $p'$  is a filter on  $S$ . Suppose  $\mathfrak{F}$  be a filter such that  $p' \subseteq \mathfrak{F}$ . Then  $p = (p')' \subseteq \mathfrak{F}'$ . Since  $p$  is an ultrafilter,  $\mathfrak{F}' = p$  and hence  $p' = \mathfrak{F}$ . The converse follows from  $(p')' = p$ .

**Notation:** For a subset  $A$  of a semigroup  $(S, \cdot)$  if  $s \in S$  then

(a)  $s^{-1}A = \{t \in S : s \cdot t \in A\}$  and

(b)  $As^{-1} = \{t \in S : t \cdot s \in A\}$ .

The following theorem follows from the continuity of  $\tilde{\lambda}_s$  and  $\tilde{\rho}_q$ .

**Theorem 2.3.** [4] For a discrete semigroup  $(S, \cdot)$  if  $x \in S, p, q \in \beta S$  then

(a)  $x \cdot p = \{A \subseteq S : x^{-1}A \in p\}$

(b)  $p \cdot q = \{A \subseteq S : \{x \in S : x^{-1}A \in q\} \in p\}$ .

**Definition 2.4.** Suppose  $(X, \tau)$  be a topological space and  $S$  be a discrete space. For  $p \in \beta S$ , we say that  $\lim_{s \rightarrow p} (x_s) = x$  if for any  $x \in U \in \tau$ , the set  $\{s \in S : x_s \in U\} \in p$ .

Clearly, for any  $p \in \beta S, \lim_{s \rightarrow p} (s) = p$ .

**Theorem 2.5.** If  $\tilde{f}$  is the continuous extension of a map  $f: S \rightarrow T$  (where  $S$  is a discrete semigroup

and  $T$  is a compact Hausdorff right topological semigroup), then  $\tilde{f}(p) = \lim_{s \rightarrow p} f(s)$ .

**Theorem 2.6.** For an inverse semigroup  $(S, \cdot)$  the mapping  $\gamma: \beta S \rightarrow \beta S$  defined by  $\gamma(p) = p'$  is

a homeomorphism.

Proof : Clearly  $\gamma$  is a bijective mapping. As  $\gamma = (\gamma^{-1})^{-1}$ , to prove the theorem it is enough to show

that  $\gamma$  is continuous. Suppose  $\hat{A}$  be a basic open set containing  $\gamma(p) = p'$ . Then  $A \in p'$ , implies  $A^{-1} \in p$ , implies  $p \in (\widehat{A^{-1}})$ . It can be easily verified that  $\gamma(\widehat{A^{-1}}) = (\gamma(A))^{-1}$ . As every element of  $S$

is a principal ultrafilter in  $\beta S$ ,  $\gamma$  is the continuous extension of the map  $x \rightarrow x'$  in  $S$ .

**Theorem 2.7.** For a commutative inverse semigroup  $(S, \cdot)$  if  $a \in S$ ,  $p, q \in \beta S$  then

(a)  $(a \cdot p)' = a' \cdot p'$

(b)  $(p \cdot q)' = p' \cdot q'$ .

(c)  $p$  is an idempotent if and only if  $p'$  is an idempotent.

Proof. (a) For any  $a \in S$  and for any  $x \in S$  we see that  $\gamma((\lambda_a)(x)) = (\lambda_a(x))' = (a \cdot x)' = (x \cdot a)' = a' \cdot x' = \lambda'_a(\gamma(x))$ . So  $\gamma \circ \lambda_a$  and  $\lambda'_a \circ \gamma$  are two continuous functions agreeing in  $S$ , a dense subspace of the Hausdorff space  $\beta S$ . Therefore  $\gamma \circ \lambda_a = \lambda'_a \circ \gamma$  on  $\beta S$ . Thus  $(a \cdot p)' = a' \cdot p'$ .

(b) For any  $q \in \beta S$  and for any  $x \in S$  we see that  $(\gamma \circ \rho_q)(x) = (\rho_q(x))' = \gamma(x \cdot q) = (x \cdot q)' = x' \cdot q'$  (from (a))  $= \rho'_q(\gamma(x)) = \rho'_q \circ \gamma$  on  $\beta S$ .

Thus  $(p \cdot q)' = p' \cdot q'$ .

(c) Follows directly from (b).

From the theorem 2.6 and 2.7 we arrive at the conclusion stated in the following corollary,

**Corollary 2.8.** The mapping  $\gamma$  is a topological isomorphism on  $\beta S$  when  $S$  is a commutative inverse semigroup.

### 3. Tensor Product and Rudin-Keisler order

**Definition 3.1** Suppose  $G$  and  $G_1$  are two discrete groups and  $p \in \beta G$ ,  $q \in \beta G_1$ . The tensor product of  $p$  and  $q$  is defined by

$$p \otimes q = \{U \subseteq G \times G_1 : \{a \in G : \{b \in G_1 : (a, b) \in U\} \in q\} \in p\}.$$

Clearly,  $p \otimes q$  is an ultrafilter of  $G \times G_1$ . From the definition, it is clear that, a subset  $U (\subseteq G \times G_1) \in p \otimes q$  if and only if  $U$  contains a set of the form  $\{(a, b) : a \in A \text{ and } b \in B_a\}$ , where  $A \in p$  and  $B_a \in q$  for each  $a \in A$ . Also if  $a \in \beta G$ ,  $b \in \beta G_1$  are principal ultrafilters, then  $a \otimes b$  is also the principal ultrafilter  $(a, b)$ .

If  $\phi: G \times G \rightarrow G$  is any bijection, then we can consider  $p \otimes q$  as the ultrafilter of  $G$  identified by  $\tilde{\phi}(p \otimes q)$ , where  $\tilde{\phi}: \beta(G \times G) \rightarrow \beta G$  is the continuous extension of  $\phi$ . Clearly for any  $a, b \in G$ ,  $a \otimes b$  will then be identified by the principal ultrafilter  $\phi(a, b)$ .

**Theorem 3.2 [8]** For any two discrete semigroups  $S$  and  $T$ , if  $p \in \beta S$ ,  $q \in \beta T$ , then  $p \otimes q = \lim_{s \rightarrow p} \lim_{t \rightarrow q} (s, t)$

**Proposition 3.3** Suppose  $G$  and  $G_1$  are two discrete groups and  $\pi_G, \pi_{G_1}$  are projection mappings from  $G \times G_1 \rightarrow G$  and  $G \times G_1 \rightarrow G_1$  respectively. For  $a \in G, b \in G_1, p, r \in \beta G, q, s \in \beta G_1$ ,

- (a)  $\tilde{\pi}_G(p \otimes q) = p$  and  $\tilde{\pi}_{G_1}(p \otimes q) = q$ .
- (b)  $p \otimes q = r \otimes s$  if and only if  $p = r$  and  $q = s$ .
- (c)  $a \otimes b + r \otimes s = (a + r) \otimes (b + s)$ .

**Proof.** (a) For any  $a \in G, b \in G_1$ ,  $\tilde{\pi}_G(p \otimes q) = \pi_G(\lim_{(a,b) \rightarrow (p,q)} (a, b)) = \lim_{(a,b) \rightarrow (p,q)} \pi_G(a, b) = \lim_{a \rightarrow p} \lim_{b \rightarrow q} (a) = p$ . Similarly, we can show that  $\tilde{\pi}_{G_1}(p \otimes q) = q$ .

(b) If  $p = r$  and  $q = s$ , then obviously,  $p \otimes q = r \otimes s$ . Conversely, if  $p \otimes q = r \otimes s$  then from (a),  $p = \tilde{\pi}_G(p \otimes q) = \tilde{\pi}_G(r \otimes s) = r$  and  $q = \tilde{\pi}_{G_1}(p \otimes q) = \tilde{\pi}_{G_1}(r \otimes s) = s$ .

(c) From theorem 3.2,  $a \otimes b + r \otimes s = (a, b) + \lim_{c \rightarrow r} \lim_{d \rightarrow s} (c, d)$  (where  $c \in G, d \in G_1$ )  
 $= \lim_{c \rightarrow r} \lim_{d \rightarrow s} (a, b) + (c, d)$   
 $= \lim_{c \rightarrow r} \lim_{d \rightarrow s} (a + c, b + d)$   
 $= (a + r) \otimes (b + s)$ .

**Theorem 3.4 [9]** Let  $(S, +)$  and  $(T, +)$  be semigroups, let  $p, r \in \beta S$ , and let  $q, w \in \beta T$ . If  $u \in \beta S, v \in \beta T$ , and  $(p \otimes q) + (r \otimes w) = u \otimes v$ , then  $u = p + r$  and  $v = q + w$ .

**Theorem 3.5** If  $p \otimes q$  is an idempotent in  $\beta(G \times G_1)$  then  $p$  and  $q$  are idempotents in  $\beta G$  and  $\beta G_1$  respectively.

**Proof**  $p \otimes q$  is an idempotent in  $\beta G \times \beta G_1 \implies (p \otimes q) + (p \otimes q) = p \otimes q$ . From theorem 3.4, this implies  $p + p = p$  and  $q + q = q$ . Then  $p$  and  $q$  are idempotents in  $\beta G$  and  $\beta G_1$  respectively.

**Theorem 3.6 [9]** Let  $(S, +)$  and  $(T, +)$  be infinite semigroups and assume that  $w, z \in \beta T$  and  $Q = \{t \in T : t + w = z\}$  is infinite. Let  $q \in Q^*$  and let  $p, r \in \beta S$ . Then  $(p \otimes q) + (r \otimes w) = (p + r) \otimes (q + w)$ .

From Theorem 3.4 and 3.6, we can say that

**Theorem 3.7** Let  $(S, +)$  and  $(T, +)$  be infinite semigroups and for any  $w, z \in \beta T$  the set  $\{t \in T : t + w = z\}$  is infinite. Then for  $p \in S^*$ ,  $q \in T^*$ ,  $p \otimes q$  is an idempotent in  $(S \times T)^*$  if and only if  $p$  and  $q$  are idempotents.

**Remark 3.8** From proposition 3.3 (a) it is clear that an ultrafilter  $p \otimes q$  of  $G \times G_1$  is a principal ultrafilter if and only if both  $p$  and  $q$  are principal ultrafilters of  $G$  and  $G_1$  respectively.

**Theorem 3.9 [8]** Let  $S$  and  $T$  be arbitrary discrete spaces and let  $f : S \rightarrow S \subseteq \beta S$  and  $g : T \rightarrow T \subseteq \beta T$  be arbitrary maps. Define  $h : S \times T \rightarrow S \times T \subseteq \beta(S \times T)$  by  $h(s, t) = (f(s), g(t))$ . Then for every  $p \in \beta S$  and  $q \in \beta T$ ,  $\tilde{h}(p \otimes q) = \tilde{f}(p) \otimes \tilde{g}(q)$ . Furthermore,  $\tilde{h}$  is injective if  $f$  and  $g$  are injective, and  $\tilde{h}$  is surjective if  $f$  and  $g$  are surjective. If  $S$  and  $T$  are semigroups and  $f$  and  $g$  are homomorphisms, then  $\tilde{h}$  is also a homomorphism.

**Theorem 3.10** For each  $a \in S$ , the mapping  $\lambda_a : \beta T \rightarrow \beta(S \times T)$  defined by  $\lambda_a(q) = a \otimes q$  is an open continuous homomorphism.

**Proof :** For any  $q \in \beta T$ , suppose  $\hat{L}$  be a basic open set containing  $\lambda_a(q) = a \otimes q$ . Then  $L \in a \otimes q$ , which implies  $L$  contains a set of the form  $\{(s, t) : s \in A \text{ and } t \in B_s\}$ , where  $A \in a$  and  $B_s \in q$  for each  $s \in A$ . Suppose  $B = B_a$ . Then  $\hat{B}$  is an open set in  $\beta T$  containing  $q$  and  $\forall r \in \hat{B}$ ,  $B \in r$  which implies  $L \in a \otimes r$ , ie  $a \otimes r \in \hat{L}$ . Thus  $\lambda_a(\hat{B}) \subseteq \hat{L}$  which implies that  $\lambda_a$  is a continuous homomorphism.

To prove that  $\lambda_a$  is an open mapping, suppose  $\hat{B}$  be a basic open set in  $\beta T$ . Then  $B \subseteq T$ . Now if  $l \in \lambda_a(\hat{B})$

then  $l = a \otimes q$ , for some  $q \in \hat{B}$ . Clearly then  $l \in \widehat{\{a\} \times B} \subseteq \lambda_a(\hat{B})$ : indeed,  $\{a\} \times B \in m$  implies for every  $U (\subseteq S \times T) \in m$ ,  $B \cap \{t \in T : (a, t) \in U\} \neq \emptyset$ . Therefore,  $\{t \in T : (a, t) \in U\} \in n$  for some  $n \in \hat{B}$ . This implies

$\{s \in S : \{t \in T : (s, t) \in U\} \in n\} \in a$ , which implies  $U \in a \otimes n$  and so  $m = a \otimes n$ . Thus  $\widehat{\{a\} \times B} \subseteq \lambda_a(\hat{B})$ . Consequently,  $\lambda_a$  is an open mapping.

The Rudin-Keisler order on the Stone - Čech compactification of a discrete semigroup is an important tool in analyzing spaces of ultrafilters. It shows how one ultrafilter can be essentially different from another.

**Definition 3.11 [4]** Let  $(S, \cdot)$  be a discrete semigroup. For  $p, q \in \beta S$ , the Rudin-Keisler order  $\leq_{RK}$

is defined by  $p \leq_{RK} q$  if there is a function  $f : S \rightarrow S$  for which  $\tilde{f}(q) = p$ .

For  $p, q \in \beta S$ , if  $p \leq_{RK} q$  and  $q \leq_{RK} p$  then we write  $p \approx_{RK} q$ . Also if  $p \leq_{RK} q$  and  $q \not\leq_{RK} p$  then we write  $p <_{RK} q$ .

**Theorem 3.12** Let  $S$  be a discrete semigroup and  $p \in \beta S$ . Then  $p \leq_{RK} q$  for every  $q \in \beta S$  if and only if  $p \in S$ .

**Proof.** Suppose  $p \leq_{RK} q$  for every  $q \in \beta S$ , then for each  $q \in \beta S$ , there is a function  $f_q : S \rightarrow S$  such that  $\tilde{f}_q(q) = p$ . Since  $\tilde{f}_q : \beta S \rightarrow \beta S$  is the continuous extension of  $f_q$ , for any  $q \in S$ ,  $\tilde{f}_q(q) = f_q(q) \in S$  implies that  $p \in S$ . Conversely, if  $p \in S$ , then the mapping  $f : S \rightarrow S$  defined by  $f(s) = p \forall s \in S$  is a continuous mapping and its continuous extension  $\tilde{f} : \beta S \rightarrow \beta S$  (being unique) must be the constant function. Therefore  $\tilde{f}(q) = p \forall q \in \beta S$ , which implies that  $p \leq_{RK} q$  for every  $q \in \beta S$ .

For further study, we use the following result from [4].

**Theorem 3.13** For a discrete space  $S$  and  $p, q \in \beta S$  the following statements are equivalent.

- (a)  $p \approx_{RK} q$ .
- (b)  $p \leq_{RK} q$  and if  $f : S \rightarrow S$  with  $\tilde{f}(q) = p$ , there exists some  $Q \in q$  such that  $f|_Q$  is injective.
- (c) There exists  $f : S \rightarrow S$  and  $Q \in q$  such that  $\tilde{f}(q) = p$  and  $f|_Q$  is injective.
- (d) There is a bijection  $g : S \rightarrow S$  such that  $\tilde{g}(q) = p$ .

For any bijective mapping  $\phi : G \times G \rightarrow G$ , and for any  $p, q \in \beta G$  as we can consider  $p \otimes q$  as an element of  $\beta G$ ,  $\otimes$  can be treated as a binary operation on  $\beta G$ . However in the following theorem we see that all the tensor product of  $p, q \in \beta G$  irrespective of the bijective mappings  $\phi : G \times G \rightarrow G$ , are Rudin-Keisler equivalent.

**Theorem 3.14** Suppose  $\phi : G \times G \rightarrow G$  and  $\psi : G \times G \rightarrow G$  be two bijective mappings and  $p, q \in \beta G$ . Then  $p \otimes_{\phi} q \approx_{RK} p \otimes_{\psi} q$ , where  $\otimes_{\phi}$  and  $\otimes_{\psi}$  are the binary operations by the tensor product under the maps  $\phi$  and  $\psi$  respectively.

**Proof:** Here  $p \otimes_{\phi} q = \tilde{\phi}(p \otimes q) = \lim_{a \rightarrow p} \lim_{b \rightarrow q} \phi(a, b)$  and  $p \otimes_{\psi} q = \tilde{\psi}(p \otimes q) = \lim_{a \rightarrow p} \lim_{b \rightarrow q} \psi(a, b)$ .

Suppose  $f = \psi \circ (\phi)^{-1}$ . Then  $f : G \rightarrow G$  is a bijective mapping. Now  $\tilde{f}(p \otimes_{\phi} q) =$

$$\tilde{f}\left(\lim_{a \rightarrow p} \lim_{b \rightarrow q} \phi(a, b)\right) = \lim_{a \rightarrow p} \lim_{b \rightarrow q} f(\phi(a, b)) =$$

$$\lim_{a \rightarrow p} \lim_{b \rightarrow q} \psi(a, b) = \tilde{\psi}(p \otimes q) = p \otimes_{\psi} q. \text{ Therefore from theorem 3.13, } p \otimes_{\phi} q \approx_{RK} p \otimes_{\psi} q.$$

From the proposition 3.3 (a) we see that if  $\pi_1 : \begin{matrix} G \times G \rightarrow G \\ (x, y) \rightarrow x \end{matrix}$  and  $\pi_2 : \begin{matrix} G \times G \rightarrow G \\ (x, y) \rightarrow y \end{matrix}$  be two projection mappings then  $\tilde{\pi}_1(p \otimes q) = p$  and  $\tilde{\pi}_2(p \otimes q) = q$ . Therefore:

**Theorem 3.15** For any discrete space  $G$ , if  $p, q \in \beta G$ , then  $p \leq_{RK} p \otimes q$  and  $q \leq_{RK} p \otimes q$ .

From theorem 3.13, theorem 3.14 and 3.15 we get the following result:

**Corollary 3.16** For any discrete space  $G$ , if  $p, q \in G^*$ , then  $p <_{RK} p \otimes q$  and  $q <_{RK} p \otimes q$ .

From the following theorem [4], we shall show that  $p \otimes q$  is an upper bound of the set of all binary compositions of  $p$  and  $q$ .

**Theorem 3.17[4]** Suppose  $G$  be a discrete space and  $\circ$  be a binary operation on  $G$ . For  $a, b, p, q \in \beta G$ , if  $a \leq_{RK} p$ ,  $b \leq_{RK} q$ , then  $a \circ b \leq_{RK} p \otimes q$ .

**Corollary 3.18** Suppose  $G$  be a discrete space and  $\circ$  be a binary operation on  $G$ . For  $p, q \in \beta G$ ,  $p \circ q \leq_{RK} p \otimes q$ .

Proof: The proof follows from theorem 3.17 by taking  $a = p$  and  $b = q$ .

**Corollary 3.19** Suppose  $G$  be a discrete space and  $p, q, r, s \in \beta G$ . If  $p \leq_{RK} r$ ,  $q \leq_{RK} s$ , then  $p \otimes q \leq_{RK} r \otimes s$ .

Proof: The proof follows from theorem 3.17 by considering the binary operation  $\circ$  as the tensor product  $\otimes$ .

**Corollary 3.20** Suppose  $G$  be a discrete space and  $p, q, r, s \in \beta G$ . If  $p \approx_{RK} r$ ,  $q \approx_{RK} s$ , then  $p \otimes q \approx_{RK} r \otimes s$ .

Proof: The proof follows from corollary 3.19.

#### 4. Homomorphism on $\square \square$ preserving Rudin-Keisler order

In this section we discuss about the continuous homomorphisms on the Stone - Čech compactification  $\beta S$  which preserve the Rudin-Keisler order of ultrafilters.

We also note that any homomorphism  $\phi: S \rightarrow S$  with  $\phi(S) \subseteq \Lambda(\beta S)$  has a unique continuous extension  $\tilde{\phi}: \beta S \rightarrow \beta S$  which is also a homomorphism.

**Theorem 4.1** For a discrete commutative semigroup  $S$ , if  $\phi: S \rightarrow S$  is a homomorphism and  $p, q \in \beta S$ , then if  $p \leq_{RK} q$  then  $\tilde{\phi}(p) \leq_{RK} \tilde{\phi}(q)$ .

**Proof:** Since  $p \leq_{RK} q$ , there is a mapping  $f: S \rightarrow S$  such that  $\tilde{f}(q) = p$ . Now  $\phi \circ f$  is a continuous mapping from  $S$  to  $S$  and  $\phi \circ f(s) = (\phi \circ f)(s) = (\phi \circ \tilde{f})(s) \forall s \in S$ . Therefore  $\phi \circ f = \tilde{\phi} \circ \tilde{f}$ , which implies  $\phi \circ f(q) = (\tilde{\phi} \circ \tilde{f})(q) = \tilde{\phi}(p)$ . Consequently  $\tilde{\phi}(p) \leq_{RK} \tilde{\phi}(q)$ .



**Corollary 4.2** For a discrete commutative semigroup  $S$ , if  $\phi: S \rightarrow S$  is a homomorphism and  $p, q \in \beta S$ , then if  $p \approx_{RK} q$  then  $\tilde{\phi}(p) \leq_{RK} q$  and  $\tilde{\phi}(q) \leq_{RK} p$ .

For every  $s \in S$ , using the continuity of the map  $\tilde{\lambda}_s: \beta S \rightarrow \beta S$  we can prove the following result:

**Corollary 4.3** For a discrete commutative semigroup  $S$ , if  $p \approx_{RK} q$  for  $p, q \in \beta S$ , then  $s + p \leq_{RK} q$  and  $s + q \leq_{RK} p$  for every  $s \in S$ .

**Definition 4.4** For a discrete semigroup  $S$ , a homomorphism  $\phi: S \rightarrow S$  is said to commute with bijections if for every bijective mapping  $f: S \rightarrow S$ ,  $\tilde{\phi} \circ \tilde{f} = \tilde{f} \circ \tilde{\phi}$ .

**Theorem 4.5** For a discrete commutative semigroup  $S$ , if  $\phi: S \rightarrow S$  is a homomorphism which commutes with bijections and  $p, q \in \beta S$ , then if  $p \approx_{RK} q$  then  $\tilde{\phi}(p) \approx_{RK} \tilde{\phi}(q)$ .

**Proof:** Since  $p \approx_{RK} q$ , by theorem 3.13 there is a bijective mapping  $g: S \rightarrow S$  such that  $\tilde{g}(q) = p$ . Now  $g \circ \phi$  is a continuous mapping from  $S$  to  $S$  and  $\widetilde{g \circ \phi}(s) = (g \circ \phi)(s) = (g \circ \tilde{\phi})(s) \forall s \in S$ . Therefore  $\widetilde{g \circ \phi} = \tilde{g} \circ \tilde{\phi}$ , which implies  $\widetilde{g \circ \phi}(q) = (\tilde{g} \circ \tilde{\phi})(q) = (\tilde{\phi} \circ \tilde{g})(q) = \tilde{\phi}(p)$ . This implies  $\tilde{\phi}(p) \leq_{RK} \tilde{\phi}(q)$ . Interchanging  $p$  and  $q$  and using the theorem 3.13 we can prove that  $\tilde{\phi}(q) \leq_{RK} \tilde{\phi}(p)$ . Consequently  $\tilde{\phi}(p) \approx_{RK} \tilde{\phi}(q)$

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