



# A Characterization of Maximal Subsemigroups of the Injective Transformation Semigroups with equal Gap and Defect

**Boorapa Singha**

*Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Chiang Mai Rajabhat University, Chiangmai, 50300, Thailand*  
*e-mail : boorapa.sin@cmru.ac.th*

**Abstract** Suppose that  $X$  is an infinite set and  $I(X)$  is the symmetric inverse semigroup defined on  $X$ . It is known that the semigroup  $A(X)$  consisting of all  $\alpha \in I(X)$  such that  $|X \setminus \text{dom } \alpha| = |X \setminus \text{ran } \alpha|$  is a factorisable inverse subsemigroup of  $I(X)$ . In 2009, all maximal subsemigroups of  $A(X)$  has been described when  $X$  is uncountable. So, it is an obvious question to ask what happens when  $X$  is countably infinite. In this paper, we answer this question by classifying all prime ideals of  $A(X)$  and apply these results to characterize all maximal subsemigroups of  $A(X)$  for an arbitrary infinite set  $X$ . Our results generalize and simplify the results obtained in 2009.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Suppose  $X$  is a non-empty set, and let  $I(X)$  denote the *symmetric inverse semigroup* on  $X$  under composition (see [1, p.29]): that is, the set of all injective mappings  $\alpha$  whose *domain*,  $\text{dom } \alpha$ , and *range*,  $X\alpha$  (or  $\text{ran } \alpha$ ) are subsets of  $X$ . We denote the composition of maps by juxtaposition, and we compose maps from left to right. As usual,  $|X|$  denotes the cardinality of  $X$  and we write  $X \setminus Y = \{x \in X : x \notin Y\}$ , where  $Y$  is a set. We also write

$$g(\alpha) = |X \setminus \text{dom } \alpha|, \quad d(\alpha) = |X \setminus X\alpha| \quad \text{and} \quad r(\alpha) = |X\alpha|,$$

and refer to these cardinals as the *gap*, the *defect* and the *rank* of  $\alpha$ , respectively. And, as usual,  $G(X)$  denotes the group of permutations of  $X$ : that is, the set of all bijective mappings from  $X$  to itself. We write

$$A(X) = \{\alpha \in I(X) : g(\alpha) = d(\alpha)\}$$

and call this the *injective transformation semigroup with equal gap and defect* defined on  $X$ . We observe that, if  $\alpha \in G(X)$ , then  $\alpha \in I(X)$  with  $g(\alpha) = d(\alpha) = 0$ . Hence,  $G(X) \subseteq A(X) \subseteq I(X)$  and we also note that  $A(X) = I(X)$  when  $X$  is finite. In addition, the set of all idempotents in  $I(X)$  and  $A(X)$  coincide, this set consists of all identity transformations on a subset  $A$  of  $X$ , written as  $\text{id}_A$ . In particular,  $\text{id}_X$  is the identity of  $I(X)$  and  $A(X)$ , and  $\emptyset$  denotes the empty (one-to-one) mapping, which acts as a zero for  $I(X)$  and  $A(X)$ .

The study of the semigroup  $A(X)$  goes back to a 1974 paper of Chen and Hsieh [2]. They showed that  $A(X)$  is a *factorisable* inverse semigroup (that is,  $A(X) = GE$ , where  $G$  is a subgroup and  $E$  is the set of idempotents of  $A(X)$ ) and any inverse semigroup can be embedded in some  $A(X)$ . In [3, p.238], Jampachon, Saichalee and Sullivan remarked that, if  $\alpha \in A(X)$  and  $\alpha\beta = \text{id}_X$  for some  $\beta \in A(X)$  then  $g(\alpha) = 0$ , therefore  $\alpha \in G(X)$ . That is,  $G(X)$  is the group of units in  $A(X)$ . They also showed that  $A(X)$  is not a *locally factorisable semigroup* (a semigroup  $S$  is locally factorisable if  $eSe$  is factorisable for every idempotent  $e$  of  $S$ ).

The semigroup  $A(X)$  can be regarded as a model for all factorisable inverse semigroups since any factorisable inverse semigroup  $S$  can be embedded in  $A(S)$ , this was proved by Sanwong and Sullivan in [4]. In the same paper, the authors also characterized Green's relations and ideals on  $A(X)$ , and they used this to describe all maximal subsemigroups of  $A(X)$  when  $X$  is uncountable. In one case, they showed that some maximal subsemigroups of  $A(X)$  are induced by maximal subsemigroups of  $G(X)$ .

The purpose of this paper is to provide a description of all maximal subsemigroups of  $A(X)$  when  $X$  is an arbitrary infinite set. In section 2, we describe all prime ideals of  $A(X)$ . In section 3, the results of section 2 are applied to determine all maximal subsemigroups of  $A(X)$  for any infinite set  $X$ , this result is a generalization of [4, Theorem 13].

In this paper, all notations and terminologies will be from [1] and [5] unless specified otherwise.

## 2. PRIME IDEALS

In this section, we give a characterization of prime ideals of  $A(X)$ . We first recall that, an ideal  $P$  of a semigroup  $S$  is termed *prime* if  $ab \in P$  implies  $a \in P$  or  $b \in P$ , equivalently,  $S \setminus P$  is a semigroup. Let  $S$  be a semigroup and  $\emptyset \neq T \subseteq S$ . Then  $\langle T \rangle$  denotes the subsemigroup of  $S$  generated by  $T$ , and, recall that a proper non-empty subsemigroup  $M$  of  $S$  is *maximal* in  $S$  if, whenever  $M \subseteq N \subseteq S$  for some subsemigroup  $N$  of  $S$ , we have  $M = N$  or  $N = S$ . Throughout this paper, to demonstrate the maximality of  $M$ , we show  $\langle M, \alpha \rangle = S$  for all  $\alpha \in S \setminus M$ , or equivalently, select  $a, b \in S \setminus M$  and show that  $a$  can be expressed as a finite product of  $b$  and elements in  $M$ .

The following result has been proved in [6, Lemma 3.1] which may be rewritten as follows.

**Lemma 2.1** ([6], Lemma 3.1). *Let  $S$  be a semigroup and suppose that  $P$  is a prime ideal of  $S$ . Then the following statements hold:*

- (a) *for any maximal subsemigroup  $M$  of  $S \setminus P$ ,  $M \cup P$  is a maximal subsemigroup of  $S$ ;*
- (b) *for any maximal subsemigroup  $N$  of  $S$  such that  $(S \setminus P) \setminus N \neq \emptyset$  and  $(S \setminus P) \cap N \neq \emptyset$ ,  $(S \setminus P) \cap N$  is a maximal subsemigroup of  $S \setminus P$ .*

From Lemma 2.1, in order to determine some maximal subsemigroups of  $A(X)$ , we first classify all of its prime ideals. To do this, we recall from [4, Theorem 5] that, for  $|X| = n \geq \aleph_0$  and for each cardinal  $p$ , let  $p'$  denote the successor of  $p$  (note that, when  $p$  is finite,  $p' = p + 1$ ). Then the ideals of  $A(X)$  are precisely the sets

$$A(r, d) = \{\alpha \in A(X) : r(\alpha) < r \text{ and } d(\alpha) \geq d\}$$

where  $1 \leq r \leq n'$  and  $0 \leq d \leq n$ . The authors also showed in [4, p.331] that, these ideals form a chain and each of these containment is proper as follows:

$$\{\emptyset\} = A(1, n) \subset A(2, n) \subset \dots \subset A(n, n) \subset A(n', n) \subset \dots \subset A(n', \aleph_0) \subset \dots \subset A(n', 1) \subset A(n', 0) = A(X).$$

In what follows, for any subset  $Y$  of  $X$ , we write  $Y = A \dot{\cup} B$  for  $Y$  is a disjoint union of  $A$  and  $B$ . We also need the fact: if  $\alpha \in I(X)$  and  $Y, Z \subseteq X$ , then  $\alpha^{-1} \in I(X)$  and  $(Y \setminus Z)\alpha = Y\alpha \setminus Z\alpha$  (as usual, we interpret  $Y\alpha$  as  $(Y \cap \text{dom } \alpha)\alpha$ ), this fact will be used without further mention. We may now describe all the prime ideals of  $A(X)$ .

**Theorem 2.2.** *Suppose that  $|X| = n \geq \aleph_0$ . The proper prime ideals of  $A(X)$  are precisely the sets  $A(n', k)$  where  $k = 1$  or  $\aleph_0 \leq k \leq n$ .*

*Proof.* If  $k = 1$ , then  $A(n', 1) = \{\alpha \in A(X) : d(\alpha) \geq 1\}$ . Thus,

$$A(X) \setminus A(n', 1) = \{\alpha \in A(X) : d(\alpha) = 0\} = G(X),$$

which is a subsemigroup (also a subgroup) of  $A(X)$ . Hence  $A(n', 1)$  is a prime ideal of  $A(X)$ . Next, suppose that  $\aleph_0 \leq k \leq n$  and let  $\alpha, \beta \in A(X) \setminus A(n', k)$ . We note that

$$A(X) \setminus A(n', k) = \{\alpha \in A(X) : d(\alpha) < k\}.$$

Then  $g(\alpha) < k$  and  $g(\beta) < k$ . Thus,

$$|X\alpha \setminus \text{dom } \beta| \leq |X \setminus \text{dom } \beta| = g(\beta) < k.$$

Consequently,

$$\begin{aligned} |\text{dom } \alpha \setminus \text{dom}(\alpha\beta)| &= |[X\alpha \setminus (X\alpha \cap \text{dom } \beta)]\alpha^{-1}| \\ &= |(X\alpha \setminus \text{dom } \beta)\alpha^{-1}| \\ &= |X\alpha \setminus \text{dom } \beta| < k. \end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$d(\alpha\beta) = g(\alpha\beta) = |X \setminus \text{dom}(\alpha\beta)| = |X \setminus \text{dom } \alpha| + |\text{dom } \alpha \setminus \text{dom}(\alpha\beta)| < k,$$

that is,  $A(X) \setminus A(n', k)$  is a subsemigroup of  $A(X)$ . Therefore,  $A(n', k)$  is a prime ideal. Conversely, suppose that  $A(r, d)$  is a proper prime ideal of  $A(X)$ . If  $r < n'$ , then a subsemigroup  $A(X) \setminus A(r, d)$  contains all transformatons of  $A(X)$  with rank  $n$ . We write  $X = C \dot{\cup} D$  where  $|C| = |D| = n$ . Then  $\text{id}_C, \text{id}_D \in A(X) \setminus A(r, d)$ , and thus  $\emptyset = \text{id}_C \cdot \text{id}_D \in A(X) \setminus A(r, d)$ , which is a contradiction since every ideal of  $A(X)$  always contains  $\emptyset$ . Hence  $r = n'$ . Now, if  $d = 0$ , then  $A(r, d) = A(n', 0) = A(X)$ , a contradiction, so, we deduce that  $d \neq 0$ . Suppose that  $d$  is finite and  $d \geq 2$ . We write  $X = E \dot{\cup} F$  where  $|E| = n, |F| = d$  and choose distinct  $x, y \in F$ . Then  $d(\text{id}_{E \cup \{x\}}) = d(\text{id}_{E \cup \{y\}}) = d - 1$ , that is,  $\text{id}_{E \cup \{x\}}, \text{id}_{E \cup \{y\}} \in A(X) \setminus A(n', d)$ . Therefore,  $\text{id}_E = \text{id}_{E \cup \{x\}} \cdot \text{id}_{E \cup \{y\}} \in A(X) \setminus A(n', d)$ , a contradiction since  $d(\text{id}_E) = d$ . Hence,  $d = 1$  or  $d$  is infinite. ■

In view of Theorem 2.2, when  $n = \aleph_0$ , there are only two proper prime ideals of  $A(X)$ , which are  $A(n', 1)$  and  $A(n', \aleph_0)$ . On the other hand, when  $n > \aleph_0$ , if there exist cardinals  $r, s$  such that  $\aleph_0 < r < s < n$ , then we have a chain of all proper prime ideals of  $A(X)$  as follows:

$$A(n', n) \subset \dots \subset A(n', s) \subset A(n', r) \subset \dots \subset A(n', \aleph_0) \subset A(n', 1),$$

these ideals play an important role in characterizing all maximal subsemigroups of  $A(X)$ , which will be shown in the next section.

To close this section, we prove following simple result, which establishes a relation between an ideal and a maximal subsemigroup of an arbitrary semigroup. This will be useful when we determine the maximal subsemigroups of  $A(X)$ .

**Lemma 2.3.** *Let  $S$  be a semigroup and suppose that  $I$  is a proper ideal of  $S$ . If  $M$  is a maximal subsemigroup of  $S$ , then either  $I \subseteq M$  or  $S \setminus I \subseteq M$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose that  $I \not\subseteq M$ . Then there exists  $\alpha \in I \setminus M$ . It follows that  $\langle M, \alpha \rangle = S$  by the maximality of  $M$ . Thus, for each  $\beta \in S \setminus I$ , we can write  $\beta = \gamma_1 \gamma_2 \dots \gamma_k$  where  $\gamma_i \in M \cup \{\alpha\}$  for all  $i = 1, \dots, k$ . Since  $\beta \notin I$ , we have  $\gamma_i \neq \alpha$  for all  $i$ . Therefore  $\beta = \gamma_1 \gamma_2 \dots \gamma_k \in M$ , that is  $S \setminus I \subseteq M$ . ■

### 3. MAXIMAL SUBSEMIGROUPS

In what follows, if  $\alpha \in I(X)$  is non-zero, then we write

$$\alpha = \begin{pmatrix} a_i \\ x_i \end{pmatrix}$$

and take as understood that the subscript  $i$  belongs to some (unmentioned) index set  $I$ , that the abbreviation  $\{x_i\}$  denotes  $\{x_i : i \in I\}$ , and that  $\text{ran } \alpha = \{x_i\}$ ,  $x_i \alpha^{-1} = \{a_i\}$  and  $\text{dom } \alpha = \{a_i : i \in I\}$ .

Refer to a remark in [7, p.157] that, there are infinitely many maximal subsemigroups of  $G(X)$  which is not a group. In [4], the authors showed that, when  $X$  is uncountable, these maximal subsemigroups of  $G(X)$  give rise to a class of maximal subsemigroups of  $A(X)$ . It is not surprising that, this result also holds for an arbitrary infinite set  $X$ , which is shown as follows.

**Lemma 3.1.** *Suppose that  $|X| = n \geq \aleph_0$ . Then each one of the following types  $M_1$ ,  $M_2$  and  $M_3$  is a maximal subsemigroup of  $A(X)$ .*

- (a)  $M_1 = A(n', 1) \cup T$ , where  $T$  is a maximal subsemigroup of  $G(X)$ ;
- (b)  $M_2 = (A(X) \setminus A(n', d)) \cup A(n', d')$ , where  $d = 1$  or  $\aleph_0 \leq d < n$ ;
- (c)  $M_3 = (A(X) \setminus A(n', n)) \cup A(n, n)$ .

*Proof.* (a) Since  $A(n', 1)$  is a prime ideal of  $A(X)$  and its complement equals  $G(X)$ , it is a direct consequent from Lemma 2.1(a) that  $A(n', 1) \cup T$  is a maximal subsemigroup of  $A(X)$  for each maximal subsemigroup  $T$  of  $G(X)$ .

(b) Suppose that  $d = 1$  or  $\aleph_0 \leq d < n$ . Then, by Theorem 2.2,  $A(n', d)$  is a prime ideal. So,  $A(X) \setminus A(n', d)$  is a subsemigroup of  $A(X)$ . Since  $A(n', d')$  is an ideal of  $A(X)$ ,

it is easily seen that  $M_2 = (A(X) \setminus A(n', d)) \cup A(n', d')$  is a subsemigroup of  $A(X)$ . To show the maximality of  $M_2$ , we let  $\delta, \epsilon \in A(X) \setminus M_2$ . Here, note that

$$M_2 = \{\alpha \in A(X) : d(\alpha) \neq d\},$$

so  $d(\delta) = g(\delta) = d(\epsilon) = g(\epsilon) = d$ . Since  $d < n$ , we have  $r(\delta) = r(\epsilon) = n$ . We now write

$$\delta = \begin{pmatrix} a_i \\ x_i \end{pmatrix}, \epsilon = \begin{pmatrix} b_i \\ y_i \end{pmatrix} \text{ where } i \in I, |I| = n$$

and suppose  $X \setminus \text{dom } \delta = \{p_j\}, X \setminus X\delta = \{q_j\}, X \setminus \text{dom } \epsilon = \{u_j\}$  and  $X \setminus X\epsilon = \{v_j\}$  where  $|J| = d$ . Then define  $\gamma, \mu \in G(X) \subseteq M_2$  by

$$\gamma = \begin{pmatrix} b_i & u_j \\ a_i & p_j \end{pmatrix}, \mu = \begin{pmatrix} x_i & q_j \\ y_i & v_j \end{pmatrix}.$$

Clearly,  $\epsilon = \gamma\delta\mu$  and hence  $M_2$  is maximal in  $A(X)$ .

(c) Similar to the proof of (b), since  $A(n', n)$  is a prime ideal and  $A(n, n)$  is an ideal of  $A(X)$ , we have  $M_3 = (A(X) \setminus A(n', n)) \cup A(n, n)$  is a subsemigroup of  $A(X)$  and we note that, in fact,

$$M_3 = \{\alpha \in A(X) : d(\alpha) < n \text{ or } r(\alpha) < n\}.$$

To prove the maximality of  $M_3$ , we let  $\delta, \epsilon \in A(X) \setminus M_3$ . Thus,  $d(\delta) = r(\delta) = d(\epsilon) = r(\epsilon) = n$ . The rest of the proof follows in a manner similar to the proof of (b), the mappings  $\delta, \epsilon, \gamma$  and  $\mu$  can be written in the same way as we did in the proof of (b), except that, in this case, we let  $|J| = |I| = n$ . Then  $\gamma, \mu \in G(X) \subseteq M_3$  and  $\epsilon = \gamma\delta\mu$ , which proves maximality of  $M_3$ . ■

In order to prove our main theorem, we also need the following two lemmas.

**Lemma 3.2.** *Suppose that  $|X| = n \geq \aleph_0$ . Let  $M$  be a maximal subsemigroup of  $A(X)$ . Then  $A(n', 2) \setminus A(n', \aleph_0) = \{\alpha \in A(X) : 2 \leq d(\alpha) < \aleph_0\} \subseteq M$ .*

*Proof.* If  $A(n', 2) \subseteq M$ , then  $A(n', 2) \setminus A(n', \aleph_0) \subseteq A(n', 2) \subseteq M$ , and the lemma is proved. On the other hand, if  $A(n', 2) \not\subseteq M$ , then Lemma 2.3 implies that

$$A(X) \setminus A(n', 2) = \{\alpha \in A(X) : d(\alpha) < 2\} \subseteq M.$$

Now, let  $\alpha \in A(n', 2) \setminus A(n', \aleph_0)$ , say  $d(\alpha) = t$  where  $2 \leq t < \aleph_0$ . Since  $t$  is finite, it follows that  $r(\alpha) = n$ . We write

$$\alpha = \begin{pmatrix} a_i \\ x_i \end{pmatrix}, i \in I \text{ and } |I| = n,$$

and suppose

$$X \setminus \text{dom } \alpha = \{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_t\} \text{ and } X \setminus X\alpha = \{y_1, y_2, \dots, y_t\}.$$

Now, we define

$$\sigma = \begin{pmatrix} a_i & b_1 \\ x_i & y_1 \end{pmatrix}, \tau = \begin{pmatrix} x_i & y_2 \\ x_i & y_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

and ensure that  $\sigma, \tau \in A(X)$  with  $d(\sigma) = d(\tau) = t - 1$ . If  $t - 1 = 1$ , then  $\sigma, \tau \in A(X) \setminus A(n', 2) \subseteq M$ . Thus,  $\alpha = \sigma\tau \in M$ . Otherwise, if  $t - 1 \geq 2$ , then the above argument can be repeated a finite number of times to show that  $\sigma = \sigma_1\sigma_2\dots\sigma_r$  and  $\tau = \tau_1\tau_2\dots\tau_r$  for some positive integer  $r$  and  $d(\sigma_j) = d(\tau_j) = 1$  for all  $j = 1, \dots, r$ . Thus,  $\alpha = \sigma\tau = \sigma_1\dots\sigma_r\tau_1\dots\tau_r \in M$ . That is,  $A(n', 2) \setminus A(n', \aleph_0) \subseteq M$  as required. ■

By using some ideas of the proof of Lemma 3.2, we can prove the following result.

**Lemma 3.3.** *Suppose that  $|X| = n \geq \aleph_0$ . Let  $M$  be a maximal subsemigroup of  $A(X)$ . Then  $A(n, n) \subseteq M$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose that  $A(X) \setminus A(n, n) \subseteq M$  and let  $\beta \in A(n, n)$ . Then  $r(\beta) < n$  and  $d(\beta) = n$ . We write

$$\beta = \begin{pmatrix} a_i \\ x_i \end{pmatrix}, i \in I \text{ and } |I| = r(\beta).$$

We also write

$$X \setminus \text{dom } \beta = \{c_j\} \dot{\cup} \{d_j\} \text{ and } X \setminus X\beta = \{e_j\} \dot{\cup} \{f_j\} \text{ where } |J| = n,$$

and define

$$\lambda = \begin{pmatrix} a_i & c_j \\ x_i & e_j \end{pmatrix}, \mu = \begin{pmatrix} x_i & f_j \\ x_i & f_j \end{pmatrix}.$$

Now,  $g(\lambda) = d(\lambda) = g(\mu) = d(\mu) = n$  and  $r(\lambda) = r(\mu) = n$ , so  $\lambda, \mu \in A(X) \setminus A(n, n) \subseteq M$ . It follows that  $\beta = \lambda\mu \in M$ , and thus  $A(n, n) \subseteq M$ . Hence,

$$A(X) = (A(X) \setminus A(n, n)) \cup A(n, n) \subseteq M,$$

which is a contradiction. Therefore,  $A(X) \setminus A(n, n) \not\subseteq M$  and it follows by Lemma 2.3 that  $A(n, n) \subseteq M$ . ■

Now, we are in a position to state and prove the main result of this paper.

**Theorem 3.4.** *Suppose that  $|X| = n \geq \aleph_0$ . If  $M$  is a maximal subsemigroup of  $A(X)$ , then  $M$  equals one of the following sets:*

- (a)  $M_1 = A(n', 1) \cup T$ , where  $T$  is a maximal subsemigroup of  $G(X)$ ;
- (b)  $M_2 = (A(X) \setminus A(n', d)) \cup A(n', d')$ , where  $d = 1$  or  $\aleph_0 \leq d < n$ ;
- (c)  $M_3 = (A(X) \setminus A(n', n)) \cup A(n, n)$ .

*Proof.* From Lemma 3.1, we have proved that  $M_1, M_2$  and  $M_3$  are maximal subsemigroups of  $A(X)$ . To complete the proof of the theorem, let  $M$  be a maximal subsemigroup of  $A(X)$ . Since  $A(n', 1)$  is a prime ideal, by Lemma 2.3, we have either  $A(n', 1) \subseteq M$  or  $G(X) = A(X) \setminus A(n', 1) \subseteq M$ . If  $A(n', 1) \subseteq M$ , then  $G(X) \cap M \neq \emptyset$  (otherwise,  $M = A(n', 1)$ , which is not a maximal subsemigroup of  $A(X)$  by Lemma 3.1(a)) and  $G(X) \setminus M \neq \emptyset$  (otherwise,  $M = A(X)$ , which is a contradiction). Then, Lemma 2.1(b) implies that  $G(X) \cap M$  is a maximal subsemigroup of  $G(X)$ . Now we can write

$$M = A(n', 1) \cup (G(X) \cap M).$$

It follows that  $M$  is a maximal subsemigroup of type  $M_1$ . In the latter case, when  $G(X) \subseteq M$ , there exists  $\alpha \in A(X) \setminus M$  and  $g(\alpha) \neq 0$ . Furthermore, Lemma 3.2 showed that  $M$  contains all transformations of  $A(X)$  such that their gap are finite and are greater than 1, this implies  $g(\alpha) = 1$  or  $\aleph_0 \leq g(\alpha) \leq n$ . Then we consider the following cases:

Case 1:  $g(\alpha) = d$  (say) where  $d = 1$  or  $\aleph_0 \leq d < n$ . Then  $\alpha \in A(n', d) \setminus M$  and it follows by Lemma 2.3 that  $A(X) \setminus A(n', d) \subseteq M$ . In addition,  $g(\alpha) = d$  also implies  $\alpha \in (A(X) \setminus A(n', d')) \setminus M$ . Using Lemma 2.3 again, we have that  $A(n', d') \subseteq M$ . We now see that  $(A(X) \setminus A(n', d)) \cup A(n', d') \subseteq M$  and equality follows by Lemma 3.1(b). Thus,  $M$  is a maximal subsemigroup of type  $M_2$ .

Case 2:  $g(\alpha) = n$ . Similar to case 1, we see that  $\alpha \in A(n', n) \setminus M$ . Consequently,  $A(X) \setminus A(n', n) \subseteq M$  by Lemma 2.3. Moreover, since  $M$  always contains  $A(n, n)$  (by Lemma 3.3), it follows that  $(A(X) \setminus A(n', n)) \cup A(n, n) \subseteq M$  and equality follows by Lemma 3.1(c). Hence, in this case, we deduce that  $M$  is a maximal subsemigroup of type  $M_3$ . This completes the proof. ■

In [4, p.333], for the cardinals  $d$  and  $e$  such that  $0 \leq d \leq e \leq n = |X|$ , the authors defined the sets

$$S[d, e] = \{\alpha \in A(X) : d \leq d(\alpha) \leq e\} \text{ and} \\ S[d, e) = \{\alpha \in A(X) : d \leq d(\alpha) < e\}.$$

Furthermore,  $S[d, e]$  and  $S(d, e)$  were defined in a similar way. They showed in [4, Theorem 13] that, when  $n > \aleph_0$ , there are only four types of maximal subsemigroups of  $A(X)$ , which are:

- (1)  $T \cup S[1, n]$ , where  $T$  is a maximal subsemigroup of  $G(X)$ ;
- (2)  $G(X) \cup S(1, n)$ ;
- (3)  $G(X) \cup S[1, d) \cup S(d, n]$ , where  $\aleph_0 \leq d < n$ ;
- (4)  $G(X) \cup S[1, n) \cup A(n, n)$ .

In view of Theorem 3.4, our result is a generalization of [4, Theorem 13] since (1) is the maximal subsemigroups of type  $M_1$ , (2) and (3) are the maximal subsemigroups of type  $M_2$  when  $d = 1$  and  $\aleph_0 \leq d < n$ , respectively, and (4) is equal to  $M_3$ . Moreover, as a specialization of Theorem 3.4 by letting  $n = \aleph_0$ , the infinite cardinal  $d$  in Theorem 3.4(b) does not exist (as it depends on infinite cardinals less than  $n$ ). Then the following corollary is immediate.

**Corollary 3.5.** *Suppose that  $|X| = \aleph_0$ . Then the maximal subsemigroups of  $A(X)$  are precisely the sets:*

- (a)  $M_1 = A(\aleph_0', 1) \cup T$ , where  $T$  is a maximal subsemigroup of  $G(X)$ ;
- (b)  $M_2 = (A(X) \setminus A(\aleph_0', 1)) \cup A(\aleph_0', 2) = \{\alpha \in A(X) : d(\alpha) \neq 1\}$ ;
- (c)  $M_3 = (A(X) \setminus A(\aleph_0', \aleph_0)) \cup A(\aleph_0, \aleph_0) = \{\alpha \in A(X) : d(\alpha) < \aleph_0 \text{ or } r(\alpha) < \aleph_0\}$ .

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