

## Maximal Centralizing Monoids and Minimal Clones

Hajime MACHIDA

(Tokyo, Japan)

For a non-empty set  $A$ ,  $\mathcal{O}_A^{(n)}$  denotes the set of  $n$ -variable functions defined on  $A$  and  $\mathcal{O}_A$  denotes the union of  $\mathcal{O}_A^{(n)}$  for all  $n > 0$ . For a subset  $F$  of  $\mathcal{O}_A$  the *centralizer*  $F^*$  of  $F$  is the set of functions in  $\mathcal{O}_A$  which commute with all functions in  $F$ .

A submonoid  $M$  of  $\mathcal{O}_A^{(1)}$  is called a *centralizing monoid* if  $M^{**} \cap \mathcal{O}_A^{(1)} = M$  holds. It is equivalent to saying that  $M$  is a unary part of some centralizer, i.e.,  $M = F^* \cap \mathcal{O}_A^{(1)}$  for some  $F \subseteq \mathcal{O}_A$ . If  $M = F^* \cap \mathcal{O}_A^{(1)}$  is satisfied for a centralizing monoid  $M$  and a subset  $F$  of  $\mathcal{O}_A$ , we call  $F$  a *witness* of  $M$ . A maximal centralizing monoid has a singleton witness.

On the three-element set  $A = \{0, 1, 2\}$ , we explicitly determine all maximal centralizing monoids. There are 10 maximal centralizing monoids. Surprisingly, all maximal centralizing monoids have some specific *minimal functions* as their witnesses. More precisely, 3 of maximal centralizing monoids have constant functions, which are minimal functions, as their witnesses and 7 of maximal centralizing monoids have majority minimal functions as their witnesses.

Furthermore, for any  $k (> 2)$  element set  $A$ , it is proved that a centralizing monoid having a constant function as its witness is always a maximal centralizing monoid.