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EPIMORPHISMS AND HETEROTYPICAL IDENTITIES-II

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**Abstract.** We find some classes of heterotypical identities whose both sides contain repeated variables and are preserved under epis in conjunction with all seminormal identities.

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1. Introduction

Let U and S be any semigroups with U a subsemigroup of S. Following Isbell [6], we say that U dominates an element d of S if for every semigroup T and for all homomorphisms  $\alpha, \beta: S \to T, u\alpha = u\beta$  for all  $u \in U$  implies  $d\alpha = d\beta$ . The set of all elements of S dominated by U is called the dominion of U in S, and we denote it by Dom(U,S). It may easily be seen that Dom(U,S) is a subsemigroup of S containing U. A semigroup U is said to be saturated if  $Dom(U, S) \neq S$  for every properly containing semigroup S, and epimorphically embedded or dense in S if Dom(U, S) = S.

A morphism  $\alpha: S \to T$  in the category of all semigroups is called an *epimorphism* (epi for short) if for all morphisms  $\beta, \gamma, \alpha\beta = \alpha\gamma$  implies  $\beta = \gamma$ . Every onto morphism is epi, but the converse is not true in general. It may easily be checked that  $\alpha: S \to T$  is epi if and only if the inclusion map  $i: S\alpha \to T$  is epi and the inclusion map  $i: U \to S$  is

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epi if and only if Dom(U, S) = S. A variety  $\mathcal{V}$  of semigroups is said to be *saturated* if all its members are saturated and *epimorphically closed* or *closed under epis* if whenever  $S \in \mathcal{V}$  and  $\varphi : S \to T$  is epi in the category of all semigroups, then  $T \in \mathcal{V}$  or equivalently whenever  $U \in \mathcal{V}$  and Dom(U, S) = S, then  $S \in \mathcal{V}$ .

An identity  $\mu$  is said to be preserved under epis in conjunction with an identity  $\tau$  if whenever S satisfies  $\tau$  and  $\mu$ , and  $\varphi: S \to T$  is an epimorphism in the category of all semigroups, then T also satisfies  $\tau$  and  $\mu$ ; or equivalently, whenever U satisfies  $\tau$  and  $\mu$  and Dom(U, S) = S, then S also satisfies  $\tau$  and  $\mu$ .

An identity of the form

$$x_1 x_2 \cdots x_n = x_{i_1} x_{i_2} \cdots x_{i_n} \ (n \ge 2)$$
 (1)

is called a permutation identity, where i is any permutation of the set  $\{1, 2, 3, \ldots, n\}$  and  $i_k$   $(1 \le k \le n)$  is the image of k under the permutation i. A permutation identity of the form (1) is said to be nontrivial if the permutation i is different from the identity permutation. Further a nontrivial permutation identity  $x_1x_2\cdots x_n = x_{i_1}x_{i_2}\cdots x_{i_n}$  is called left semicommutative if  $i_1 \ne 1$ , right semicommutative if  $i_n \ne n$  and seminormal if  $i_1 = 1$  and  $i_n = n$ . Clearly, every nontrivial permutation identity is either left semicommutative, right semicommutative, or seminormal. A semigroup S satisfying a nontrivial permutation identity is said to be permutative, and a variety  $\mathcal V$  of semigroups is said to be permutative if it admits a nontrivial permutation identity.

Commutativity [xy = yx], left normality  $[x_1x_2x_3 = x_1x_3x_2]$ , right normality  $[x_1x_2x_3 = x_2x_1x_3]$ , and normality  $[x_1x_2x_3x_4 = x_1x_3x_2x_4]$  are some of the well known permutation identities.

For any word u, the *content* of u (necessarily finite) is the set of all variables appearing in u and is denoted by C(u). An identity u = v is said to be *heterotypical* if  $C(u) \neq C(v)$ ; otherwise *homotypical*. A variety  $\mathcal{V}$  of semigroups is said to be *heterotypical* if it admits a heterotypical identity.

In [8], Khan gave a sufficient condition for a heterotypical variety to be saturated. He showed that if a semigroup variety  $\mathcal{V}$  admits a heterotypical identity of which at least one side has no repeated variable, then  $\mathcal{V}$  is saturated, and, hence, all heterotypical identities

whose atleast one side has no repeated variable are preserved under epis in conjunction with all nontrivial permutation identities. In [7], Khan had shown that all identities are preserved under epis in conjunction with commutativity. Khan [10] had further shown, jointly with Higgins [2], that all identities are preserved under epis in conjunction with left [right] semicommutativity. However Higgins [3] had shown that the identity xyx = yxy is not preserved under epis in conjunction with the normality identity  $x_1x_2x_3x_4 = x_1x_3x_2x_4$ . Therefore, it is natural to find those semigroup identities whose both sides contain repeated variables and preserved under epis in conjunction with any seminormal identity. In the present paper, we obtain some results about heterotypical identities (Theorems 3.4, 3.5 and 3.6) towards this goal, by establishing some sufficient conditions for such identities to lie in this class and thus, extending [11, Theorem 2.1 and 2.4]. However, a full determination of all such identities to be preserved under epis in conjunction with all seminormal permutation identities still remains an open problem.

## 2. Preliminaries

Now we state some results to be used in the rest of the paper. Our notation will be standard and, for any unexplained symbols and terminology, we refer the reader to Cliford and Preston [1] and Howie [4]. Further in whatever follows, we will often speak of a semigroup satisfying (1) to mean that the semigroup in question satisfies an identity of that type.

**Result 2.1** [10, Theorem 3.1]. All permutation identities are preserved under epis. A most useful characterization of semigroup dominions is provided by Isbell's Zigzag Theorem.

Result 2.2 ([6, Theorem 2.3]). Let U be a subsemigroup of a semigroup S and let  $d \in S$ . Then  $d \in Dom(U, S)$  if and only if  $d \in U$  or there exists a series of factorizations of d as follows:  $d = a_0t_1 = y_1a_1t_1 = y_1a_2t_2 = y_2a_3t_2 = \cdots = y_ma_{2m-1}t_m = y_ma_{2m}$  (2) where  $m \ge 1$ ,  $a_i \in U$  (i = 0, 1, ..., 2m),  $y_i, t_i \in S$  (i = 1, 2, ..., m), and  $a_0 = y_1 a_1, \ a_{2m-1} t_m = a_{2m}, \ a_{2i-1} t_i = a_{2i} t_{i+1}, \ y_i a_{2i} = y_{i+1} a_{2i+1} \ (1 \le i \le m-1).$ 

Such a series of factorization is called a zigzag in S over U with value d, length m and spine  $a_0, a_1, \ldots, a_{2m}$ . We refer to the equations in Result 2.2 as the zigzag equations.

**Result 2.3** [9, Result 3]. Let U be any subsemigroup of a semigroup S and let d in  $Dom(U, S) \setminus U$ . If (2) is a zigzag of minimal length m over U with value d, then  $y_j, t_j \in S \setminus U$  for all j = 1, 2, ..., m.

In the following results, let U and S be any semigroups with U dense in S.

**Result 2.4** [9, Result 4]. For any  $d \in S \setminus U$  and k any positive integer, if (2) is a zigzag of minimal length over U with value d, then there exist  $b_1, b_2, \ldots, b_k \in U$  and  $d_k \in S \setminus U$  such that  $d = b_1 b_2 \cdots b_k d_k$ .

**Result 2.5** [9, Corollary 4.2]. If U be permutative, then  $sx_1x_2 \cdots x_kt = sx_{j_1}x_{j_2} \cdots x_{j_k}t$ , for all  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k \in S$ ,  $s, t \in S \setminus U$  and any permutation j of the set  $\{1, 2, \dots, k\}$ .

The symmetrical statement in the following result is in addition to the original statement.

Result 2.6 [10, Proposition 4.6]. Assume that U is permutative. If  $d \in S \setminus U$  and (2) be a zigzag of length m over U with value d such that  $y_1 \in S \setminus U$ , then  $d^k = a_0^k t_1^k$  for each positive integer k; in particular, the conclusion holds if (2) is of minimal length. Symmetrically, if  $d \in S \setminus U$  and (2) be a zigzag of length m over U with value d such that  $t_m \in S \setminus U$ , then  $d^k = y_m^k a_{2m}^k$  for each positive integer k; in particular, the conclusion holds if (2) is of minimal length.

## 3. Main results

**Proposition 3.1:** Let U be a permutative semigroup satisfying a seminormal permutation identity of a semigroup S such that Dom(U,S) = S. If U satisfies the semigroup identity  $x_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s} = w_1^{t_1}w_2^{t_2}\cdots w_n^{t_n}z_1^{l_1}z_2^{l_2}\cdots z_m^{l_m}$  (3) then (3) also holds for all  $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_r \in S$  and  $y_1, y_2, \ldots, y_s, w_1, w_2, \ldots, w_n, z_1, \ldots, z_m$  in U, where  $p_1, p_2, \ldots, p_r, q_1, q_2, \ldots, q_s, t_1, t_2, \ldots, t_n, l_1, l_2, \ldots, l_m$  are any positive integers such that:  $(r, s, n, m \ge 1)$ ;  $p_1 \le p_2 \le \cdots \le p_{r-1} \le p_r$ ;  $q_s \le q_{s-1} \cdots \le q_2 \le q_1$ ;  $t_1 \le t_2 \le \cdots \le t_n$  and  $l_m \le l_{m-1} \cdots \le l_2 \le l_1$ .

**Proof.** Assume that U satisfies the identity (3). Therefore

$$u_1^{p_1}u_2^{p_2}\cdots u_r^{p_r}v_1^{q_1}v_2^{q_2}\cdots v_s^{q_s}=a_1^{t_1}a_2^{t_2}\cdots a_n^{t_n}b_1^{l_1}b_2^{l_2}\cdots b_m^{l_m}$$

for all  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_r, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_s, a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n, b_1, b_2, \dots, b_m \in U$ .

We show that (3) is true for all  $x_1, \ldots, x_r \in S$  and  $y_1, \ldots, y_s, w_1, \ldots, w_n, z_1, \ldots, z_m \in U$ . For  $k = 1, 2, 3, \ldots, r$ ; consider the word  $x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_k^{p_k}$  of length  $p_1 + p_2 + \cdots p_k$ . We shall show that (3) is satisfied by induction on k, assuming that the remaining elements  $x_{k+1}, x_{k+2}, \ldots, x_r \in U$ . First for k = 0, the equation (3) is vacuously satisfied. So assume next that (3) is true for all  $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_{k-1} \in S$  and all  $x_k, x_{k+1}, \ldots, x_r \in U$ . Then we shall show that (3) is true for all  $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_{k-1}, x_k \in S$  and all  $x_{k+1}, \ldots, x_r$  in U. If  $x_k \in U$ , then (3) is satisfied by inductive hypothesis. So assume that  $x_k \in S \setminus U$ . As  $x_k \in S \setminus U$  and Dom(U, S) = S, by Result 2.2, let (2) be a zigzag of minimal length m over U with value  $x_k$ . So assume that  $1 \leq k < r$ .

$$x_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}$$

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_{k-1}^{p_{k-1}} y_m^{p_k} a_{2m}^{p_k} x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} y_2^{q_2} \cdots y_s^{q_s}$$
(by zigzag equations and Result 2.6)

$$= zy_m^{(m)^{p_k}}b_1^{(m)^{p_k}}\cdots b_{k-1}^{(m)^{p_k}}a_{2m}^{p_k}x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}$$
(by Results 2.4 and 2.5 for some  $b_1^{(m)},\ldots,b_{k-1}^{(m)}\in U$  and  $y_m^{(m)}\in S\backslash U$  as  $y_m\in S\backslash U$  and  $a_{2m}=a_{2m-1}t_m$  with  $t_m\in S\backslash U$  and where  $z=x_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_{k-1}^{p_{k-1}})$ 

$$= zy_m^{(m)^{p_k}}v^{(m)}b_1^{(m)^{p_1}}\cdots b_{k-1}^{(m)^{p_{k-1}}}a_{2m}^{p_k}x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}$$
 (by Result 2.5 as  $y_m^{(m)},\ t_m\in S\backslash U$  and where 
$$v^{(m)}=b_1^{(m)^{p_k-p_1}}\cdots b_{k-1}^{(m)^{p_k-p_{k-1}}})$$

$$= zy_m^{(m)^{p_k}}v^{(m)}b_1^{(m)^{p_1}}\cdots b_{k-1}^{(m)^{p_{k-1}}}(a_{2m-1}^2t_m)^{p_k}x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}\cdots y_s^{q_s}$$

(as 
$$a_{2m-1}^2 t_m = a_{2m-1} a_{2m-1} t_m = a_{2m-1} a_{2m} \in U, y_m^{(m)}, t_m \in S \setminus U$$
 and  $U$  satisfies (3))

$$= zy_m^{(m)^{p_k}}v^{(m)}b_1^{(m)^{p_1}}\cdots b_{k-1}^{(m)^{p_{k-1}}}a_{2m-1}^{p_k}(a_{2m-1}t_m)^{p_k}x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}$$
(by Result 2.5 as  $y_m^{(m)}, t_m \in S \setminus U$ )

$$= zy_m^{(m)^{p_k}}b_1^{(m)^{p_k}}\cdots b_{k-1}^{(m)^{p_k}}a_{2m-1}^{p_k}(a_{2m-1}t_m)^{p_k}x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}$$
(by Result 2.5 as  $y_m^{(m)}, t_m \in S\backslash U$  and as  $v^{(m)} = b_1^{(m)^{p_k-p_1}}\cdots b_{k-1}^{(m)^{p_k-p_{k-1}}}$ )

$$= zy_m^{p_k}a_{2m-1}^{p_k}(a_{2m-1}t_m)^{p_k}x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s} \text{(by Result 2.5 as } y_m^{(m)}, t_m \in S \setminus U)$$

$$= z(y_m a_{2m-1})^{p_k} (a_{2m-1} t_m)^{p_k} x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} y_2^{q_2} \cdots y_s^{q_s}$$
 (by Result 2.5 as  $y_m, t_m \in S \setminus U$ )

= 
$$z(y_{m-1}a_{2m-2})^{p_k}(a_{2m-1}t_m)^{p_k}x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}$$
 (by zigzag equations)

$$= zy_{m-1}^{p_k}a_{2m-2}^{p_k}(a_{2m-1}t_m)^{p_k}x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s} \text{(by Result 2.5 as } y_{m-1},t_m\in S\backslash U)$$

$$= zy_{m-1}^{(m-1)^{p_k}}b_1^{(m-1)^{p_k}}\cdots b_{k-1}^{(m-1)^{p_k}}a_{2m-2}^{p_k}(a_{2m-1}t_m)^{p_k}x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s} \text{ (by Results 2.4 and 2.5 for some } b_1^{(m-1)},\ldots,b_{k-1}^{(m-1)}\in U \text{ and } y_{m-1}^{(m-1)}\in S\backslash U \text{ as } y_{m-1},t_m\in S\backslash U)$$

$$= zy_{m-1}^{(m-1)^{p_k}}v^{(m-1)}b_1^{(m-1)^{p_1}}\cdots b_{k-1}^{(m-1)^{p_{k-1}}}(a_{2m-2}a_{2m-1}t_m)^{p_k}x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}(\text{by Result 2.5 as }y_{m-1}^{(m-1)},t_m\in S\backslash U \text{ and where }v^{(m-1)}=b_1^{(m-1)^{p_k-p_1}}\cdots b_{k-1}^{(m-1)^{p_k-p_{k-1}}})$$

$$= zy_{m-1}^{(m-1)^{p_k}}v^{(m-1)}b_1^{(m-1)^{p_1}}\cdots b_{k-1}^{(m-1)^{p_{k-1}}}(a_{2m-3}a_{2m-1}t_m)^{p_k}x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}$$
(as  $a_{2m-3}a_{2m-1}t_m = a_{2m-3}a_{2m} \in U$  and U satisfies (3))

$$= zy_{m-1}^{(m-1)^{p_k}}v^{(m-1)}b_1^{(m-1)^{p_1}}\cdots b_{k-1}^{(m-1)^{p_{k-1}}}a_{2m-3}^{p_k}(a_{2m-1}t_m)^{p_k}x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}$$
 (by Result 2.5 as  $y_{m-1}^{(m-1)}, t_m \in S\backslash U$ )

$$= zy_{m-1}^{(m-1)^{p_k}}b_1^{(m-1)^{p_k}}\cdots b_{k-1}^{(m-1)^{p_k}}a_{2m-3}^{p_k}(a_{2m-1}t_m)^{p_k}x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}$$

(by Result 2.5 as 
$$v^{(m-1)} = b_1^{(m-1)^{p_k-p_1}} \cdots b_{k-1}^{(m-1)^{p_k-p_{k-1}}}$$
 and  $y_{m-1}^{(m-1)}, t_m \in S \setminus U$ )

$$= zy_{m-1}^{p_k} a_{2m-3}^{p_k} (a_{2m-1}t_m)^{p_k} x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} y_2^{q_2} \cdots y_s^{q_s}$$
(by Result 2.5 as  $y_{m-1}^{(m-1)}, t_m \in S \setminus U$ )

$$= z(y_{m-1}a_{2m-3})^{p_k}(a_{2m-1}t_m)^{p_k}x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}$$
(by Result 2.5 as  $y_{m-1}, t_m \in S \setminus U$ )

= 
$$z(y_{m-2}a_{2m-4})^{p_k}(a_{2m-1}t_m)^{p_k}x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}$$
 (by zigzag equations)

$$= zy_{m-2}^{p_k} a_{2m-4}^{p_k} (a_{2m-1}t_m)^{p_k} x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} y_2^{q_2} \cdots y_s^{q_s}$$
(by Result 2.5 as  $y_{m-2}, t_m \in S \setminus U$ )

:

$$= zy_2^{p_k}a_4^{p_k}(a_{2m-1}t_m)^{p_k}x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}$$

$$= zy_2^{(2)^{p_k}}b_1^{(2)^{p_k}}\cdots b_{k-1}^{(2)^{p_k}}a_4^{p_k}(a_{2m-1}t_m)^{p_k}x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s} \text{ (by Results 2.4 and 2.5 for some } b_1^{(2)},\ldots,b_{k-1}^{(2)} \in U \text{ and } y_2^{(2)} \in S\backslash U \text{ as } y_2,t_m \in S\backslash U)$$

$$= zy_2^{(2)^{p_k}}v^{(2)}b_1^{(2)^{p_1}}\cdots b_{k-1}^{(2)^{p_{k-1}}}a_4^{p_k}(a_{2m-1}t_m)^{p_k}x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}(\text{by}$$
 Result 2.5 as  $y_2^{(2)}, t_m \in S\backslash U$  and where  $v^{(2)} = b_1^{(2)^{p_k-p_1}}\cdots b_{k-1}^{(2)^{p_k-p_{k-1}}})$ 

$$= zy_2^{(2)^{p_k}}v^{(2)}b_1^{(2)^{p_1}}\cdots b_{k-1}^{(2)^{p_{k-1}}}(a_4a_{2m-1}t_m)^{p_k}x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}$$
(by Result 2.5 as  $y_2^{(2)}, t_m \in S \setminus U$ )

$$= zy_2^{(2)^{p_k}}v^{(2)}b_1^{(2)^{p_1}}\cdots b_{k-1}^{(2)^{p_{k-1}}}(a_3a_{2m-1}t_m)^{p_k}x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}$$
(as  $a_3a_{2m-1}t_m = a_3a_{2m} \in U$  and U satisfies (3))

$$= zy_2^{(2)^{p_k}}v^{(2)}b_1^{(2)^{p_1}}\cdots b_{k-1}^{(2)^{p_{k-1}}}a_3^{p_k}(a_{2m-1}t_m)^{p_k}x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}$$

(by Result 2.5 as 
$$y_2^{(2)}, t_m \in S \setminus U$$
)

$$= zy_2^{(2)^{p_k}}b_1^{(2)^{p_k}}\cdots b_{k-1}^{(2)^{p_k}}a_3^{p_k}(a_{2m-1}t_m)^{p_k}x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}$$
(by Result 2.5 as  $y_2^{(2)}, t_m \in S \setminus U$  and  $v^{(2)} = b_1^{(2)^{p_k-p_1}}\cdots b_{k-1}^{(2)^{p_k-p_{k-1}}}$ )

$$= zy_2^{p_k}a_3^{p_k}(a_{2m-1}t_m)^{p_k}x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s} \text{(by Result 2.5 as } y_2^{(2)},t_m\in S\backslash U)$$

= 
$$z(y_2a_3)^{p_k}(a_{2m-1}t_m)^{p_k}x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}$$
 (by Result 2.5 as  $y_2, t_m \in S \setminus U$ )

$$= z(y_1a_2)^{p_k}(a_{2m-1}t_m)^{p_k}x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}$$
 (by zigzag equations)

= 
$$zy_1^{p_k}a_2^{p_k}(a_{2m-1}t_m)^{p_k}x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}$$
 (by Result 2.5 as  $y_1,t_m\in S\setminus U$ )

$$= zy_1^{(1)^{p_k}}b_1^{(1)^{p_k}}\cdots b_{k-1}^{(1)}{}^{p_k}a_2^{p_k}(a_{2m-1}t_m)^{p_k}x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s} \text{ (by Results 2.4 and } 2.5 \text{ for some } b_1^{(1)},\ldots,b_{k-1}^{(1)} \in U \text{ and } y_1^{(1)} \in S\backslash U \text{ as } y_1,t_m \in S\backslash U)$$

$$= zy_1^{(1)^{p_k}}v^{(1)}b_1^{(1)^{p_1}}\cdots b_{k-1}^{(1)^{p_{k-1}}}a_2^{p_k}(a_{2m-1}t_m)^{p_k}x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}$$
(by Result 2.5 as  $y_1^{(1)}, t_m \in S\backslash U$  and where  $v^{(1)} = b_1^{(1)^{p_k-p_1}}\cdots b_{k-1}^{(1)^{p_k-p_{k-1}}}$ )

$$= zy_1^{(1)^{p_k}}v^{(1)}b_1^{(1)^{p_1}}\cdots b_{k-1}^{(1)^{p_{k-1}}}(a_2a_{2m-1}t_m)^{p_k}x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}$$
(by Result 2.5 as  $y_1^{(1)}, t_m \in S \setminus U$ )

$$= zy_1^{(1)^{p_k}}v^{(1)}b_1^{(1)^{p_1}}\cdots b_{k-1}^{(1)^{p_{k-1}}}(a_1a_{2m-1}t_m)^{p_k}x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}$$
(as  $a_2a_{2m-1}t_m = a_2a_{2m} \in U$  and U satisfies (3))

$$= zy_1^{(1)^{p_k}}v^{(1)}b_1^{(1)^{p_1}}\cdots b_{k-1}^{(1)^{p_{k-1}}}a_1^{p_k}(a_{2m-1}t_m)^{p_k}x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}$$
 (by Result 2.5 as  $y_1^{(1)}, t_m \in S\backslash U$ )

$$= zy_1^{(1)^{p_k}}b_1^{(1)^{p_k}}\cdots b_{k-1}^{(1)^{-p_k}}a_1^{p_k}(a_{2m-1}t_m)^{p_k}x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}$$
(by Result 2.5 as  $y_1^{(1)}, t_m \in S \setminus U$  and  $v^{(1)} = b_1^{(1)^{p_k-p_1}}\cdots b_{k-1}^{(1)^{-p_k-p_{k-1}}}$ )

$$= zy_1^{p_k}a_1^{p_k}(a_{2m-1}t_m)^{p_k}x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s} \text{ (by Result 2.5 as } y_1^{(1)}, t_m \in S\backslash U)$$

$$= x_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_{k-1}^{p_{k-1}}y_1^{p_k}a_1^{p_k}(a_{2m-1}t_m)^{p_k}x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s} \text{ (as } z = x_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_{k-1}^{p_{k-1}})$$

$$= x_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_{k-1}^{p_{k-1}}(y_1a_1a_{2m-1}t_m)^{p_k}x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}$$

$$\text{ (by Result 2.5 as } y_1, t_m \text{ in } S\backslash U)$$

$$= x_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_{k-1}^{p_{k-1}}(a_0a_{2m})^{p_k}x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s} \text{ (by the zigzag equations)}$$

$$= w_1^{t_1}w_2^{t_2}\cdots w_r^{t_n}z_1^{t_1}z_2^{t_2}\cdots z_r^{t_m}$$

as required.  $\Box$ 

(by inductive hypothesis as  $a_0 a_{2m} \in U$ )

**Proposition 3.2:** Let U be a permutative semigroup satisfying a seminormal permutation identity of a semigroup S such that Dom(U,S) = S. If U satisfies the semigroup identity (3), then (3) also holds for all  $x_1, \ldots, x_r, y_1, \ldots, y_s \in S$  and  $w_1, \ldots, w_n, z_1, \ldots, z_m$  in U, where  $p_1, p_2, \ldots, p_r; q_1, q_2, \ldots, q_s; t_1, t_2, \ldots, t_n, l_1, l_2, \ldots, l_m$  are any positive integers such that:  $(r, s, n, m \ge 1); p_1 \le p_2 \le \cdots \le p_{r-1} \le p_r, q_s \le q_{s-1} \cdots \le q_2 \le q_1, t_1 \le t_2 \le \cdots \le t_n$  and  $l_m \le l_{m-1} \cdots \le l_2 \le l_1$ .

**Proof:** We show that (3) is true for all  $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_r, y_1, y_2, \ldots, y_s \in S$  and  $w_1, w_2, \ldots, w_n, z_1, z_2, \ldots, z_m \in U$ . For  $k = 1, 2, 3, \ldots, s$ ; consider the word  $y_1^{q_1} y_2^{q_2} \cdots y_k^{q_k}$  of length  $q_1 + q_2 + \cdots + q_k$ . We shall show that (3) is satisfied by induction on k assuming that the remaining elements  $y_{k+1}, y_{k+2}, \ldots, y_s$  in U. For k = 0, (3) trivially holds. So assume that (3) is true for all  $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_r, y_1, y_2, \ldots, y_{k-1} \in S$  and for all  $y_k, y_{k+1}, \ldots, y_s \in U$ . Then we shall show that (3) is true for all  $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_r, y_1, y_2, \ldots, y_k \in S$  and  $y_{k+1}, \ldots, y_s \in U$ . If  $y_k \in U$ , then (3) holds by inductive hypothesis. So assume that  $y_k \in S \setminus U$ . As  $y_k \in S \setminus U$  and Dom(U, S) = S, by Result 2.2, let (2) be a zigzag of minimal length m over U with value  $y_k$ . So assume that  $1 \leq k < r$ . As the equalities (4) and (5) follow by Results 2.4 and 2.5 for some  $b_{k+1}^{(1)}, \ldots, b_r^{(1)} \in U$  and  $b_k^{(1)}, \ldots, b_r^{(1)} \in U$ 

$$z = y_{k+1}^{q_{k+1}} \cdots y_s^{q_s}$$
 and  $w^{(1)} = b_{k+1}^{(1)} {}^{q_k - q_{k+1}} \cdots b_r^{(1)} {}^{q_k - q_s}$ , we have 
$$x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} y_2^{q_2} \cdots y_s^{q_s}$$

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} \cdots y_{k-1}^{q_{k-1}} a_0^{q_k} t_1^{q_k} y_{k+1}^{q_{k+1}} \cdots y_s^{q_s} \text{ (by zigzag equations and Result 2.6)}$$

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} \cdots y_{k-1}^{q_{k-1}} a_0^{q_k} b_{k+1}^{(1)} \cdots b_s^{(1)q_k} t_1^{(1)q_k} y_{k+1}^{q_{k+1}} \cdots y_s^{q_s}$$

$$\tag{4}$$

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} \cdots y_{k-1}^{q_{k-1}} a_0^{q_k} b_{k+1}^{(1)} \cdots b_s^{(1)} w^{q_s} w^{(1)} t_1^{(1)} z^{q_k}$$

$$\tag{5}$$

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} \cdots y_{k-1}^{q_{k-1}} (y_1 a_1^2)^{q_k} b_{k+1}^{(1)} q_{k+1}^{q_{k+1}} \cdots b_s^{(1)} w^{(1)} t_1^{(1)} z$$
(by inductive hypothesis as  $y_1 a_1^2 = y_1 a_1 a_1 = a_0 a_1 \in U$ )

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} \cdots y_{k-1}^{q_{k-1}} (y_1 a_1)^{q_k} a_1^{q_k} b_{k+1}^{(1)} q_{k+1}^{q_{k+1}} \cdots b_s^{(1)} w^{(1)} t_1^{(1)} z$$
(by Result 2.5 as  $y_1, t_1^{(1)} \in S \setminus U$ )

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} \cdots y_{k-1}^{q_{k-1}} (y_1 a_1)^{q_k} a_1^{q_k} b_{k+1}^{(1)} \cdots b_s^{(1)} t_1^{(1)} z$$
(by Result 2.5 and definition of  $w^{(1)}$ )

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} \cdots y_{k-1}^{q_{k-1}} (y_1 a_1)^{q_k} a_1^{q_k} t_1^{q_k} z$$
(by Result 2.5 as  $b_{k+1}^{(1)} \cdots b_s^{(1)} t_1^{q_k} t_1^{(1)q_k} = t_1^{q_k}$ )

= 
$$x_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}\cdots y_{k-1}^{q_{k-1}}(y_1a_1)^{q_k}(a_1t_1)^{q_k}z$$
 (by Result 2.5 as  $y_1,t_1\in S\setminus U$ )

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} \cdots y_{k-1}^{q_{k-1}} (y_1 a_1)^{q_k} (a_2 t_2)^{q_k} z$$
 (by zigzag equations)

= 
$$x_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}\cdots y_{k-1}^{q_{k-1}}(y_1a_1)^{q_k}a_2^{q_k}t_2^{q_k}z$$
 (by Result 2.5 as  $y_1,t_2\in S\setminus U$ )

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} \cdots y_{k-1}^{q_{k-1}} (y_1 a_1 a_2)^{q_k} t_2^{q_k} z$$
 (by Result 2.5 as  $y_1, t_2 \in S \setminus U$ )

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} \cdots y_{k-1}^{q_{k-1}} (y_1 a_1 a_2)^{q_k} b_{k+1}^{(2)} \cdots b_s^{(2)} t_2^{(2)q_k} z_1^{q_k}$$

where the last equality follows by Results 2.4 and 2.5 for some  $b_{k+1}^{(1)}, \ldots, b_s^{(1)}$  in  $U, t_2^{(2)}$  in  $S \setminus U$  as  $y_1, t_2 \in S \setminus U$ .

As the equalities (6), (7) and (8) follow by letting  $w^{(2)} = b_{k+1}^{(2)} q_k - q_{k+1} \cdots b_s^{(2)} q_k - q_s$  and by Result 2.5 as  $y_1, t_2^{(2)} \in S \setminus U$ ; by Result 2.5 as  $y_1, t_2^{(2)} \in S \setminus U$ ; and by Result 2.5 and the definition of  $w^{(2)}$  respectively, we have

$$x_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}$$

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} \cdots y_{k-1}^{q_{k-1}} (y_1 a_1 a_2)^{q_k} b_{k+1}^{(2)} \cdots b_s^{(2)q_k} t_2^{(2)q_k} z_1^{q_k}$$

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} \cdots y_{k-1}^{q_{k-1}} (y_1 a_1 a_2)^{q_k} b_{k+1}^{(2)} \cdots b_s^{(2)} w^{(2)} t_2^{q_s} z$$
 (6)

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} \cdots y_{k-1}^{q_{k-1}} (y_1 a_1 a_3)^{q_k} b_{k+1}^{(2)} {}^{q_{k+1}} \cdots b_s^{(2)} {}^{q_s} w^{(2)} t_2^{(2)} {}^{q_k} z$$
(by inductive hypothesis as  $y_1 a_1 a_3 = a_0 a_3 \in U$ )

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} \cdots y_{k-1}^{q_{k-1}} (y_1 a_1)^{q_k} a_3^{q_k} b_{k+1}^{(2)} {}^{q_{k+1}} \cdots b_s^{(2)} {}^{q_s} w^{(2)} t_2^{(2)} {}^{q_k} z$$

$$(7)$$

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} \cdots y_{k-1}^{q_{k-1}} (y_1 a_1)^{q_k} a_3^{q_k} b_{k+1}^{(2)} \cdots b_s^{(2)} t_2^{q_k} z^{(2)}$$

$$\tag{8}$$

= 
$$x_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}\cdots y_{k-1}^{q_{k-1}}(y_1a_1)^{q_k}a_3^{q_k}t_2^{q_k}z$$
 (by Result 2.5 as  $b_{k+1}^{(2)}\cdots b_s^{(2)q_k}t_2^{(2)q_k}=t_2^{q_k}$ ) :

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} \cdots y_{k-1}^{q_{k-1}} (y_1 a_1)^{q_k} a_{2m-3}^{q_k} t_{m-1}^{q_k} z_1^{q_k} t_{m-1}^{q_k} t_{m-1}^{q_k} z_1^{q_k} t_{m-1}^{q_k} z$$

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} \cdots y_{k-1}^{q_{k-1}} (y_1 a_1)^{q_k} (a_{2m-3} t_{m-1})^{q_k} z \text{ (by Result 2.5 as } y_1, t_{m-1} \text{ in } S \setminus U)$$

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} \cdots y_{k-1}^{q_{k-1}} (y_1 a_1)^{q_k} (a_{2m-1} t_m)^{q_k} z \text{ (by zigzag equations) }$$

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} \cdots y_{k-1}^{q_{k-1}} (y_1 a_1)^{q_k} a_{2m-2}^{q_k} t_m^{q_k} z$$
 (by Result 2.5 as  $y_1, t_m \in S \setminus U$ )

= 
$$x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} \cdots y_{k-1}^{q_{k-1}} (y_1 a_1 a_{2m-2})^{q_k} t_m^{q_k} z$$
 (by Result 2.5 as  $y_1, t_m \in S \setminus U$ )

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} \cdots y_{k-1}^{q_{k-1}} (y_1 a_1 a_{2m-2})^{q_k} b_{k+1}^{(m)} \cdots b_s^{(m)} t_m^{q_k} t_m^{(m)} z$$

where the last equality follows by Results 2.4 and 2.5 for some  $b_{k+1}^{(m)}, \ldots, b_s^{(m)} \in U$  and  $t_m^{(m)} \in S \setminus U$  as  $y_1, t_m \in S \setminus U$ . As the equality (9) follows by Result 2.5 as  $y_1, t_m^{(m)} \in S \setminus U$  and where  $w^{(m)} = b_{k+1}^{(m)} \cdot \cdots \cdot b_s^{(m)} \cdot q_k - q_r$ , we have

$$x_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}$$

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} \cdots y_{k-1}^{q_{k-1}} (y_1 a_1 a_{2m-2})^{q_k} b_{k+1}^{(m) q_{k+1}} \cdots b_s^{(m) q_s} w^{(m)} t_m^{(m) q_k} z$$

$$\tag{9}$$

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} \cdots y_{k-1}^{q_{k-1}} (y_1 a_1 a_{2m-1})^{q_k} b_{k+1}^{(m) q_{k+1}} \cdots b_s^{(m) q_s} w^{(m)} t_m^{(m) q_k} z$$
(by inductive hypothesis as  $y_1 a_1 a_{2m-1} = a_0 a_{2m-1} \in U$ )

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} \cdots y_{k-1}^{q_{k-1}} (y_1 a_1 a_{2m-1})^{q_k} b_{k+1}^{(m)} \cdots b_s^{(m)} t_m^{q_k} t_m^{(m)} z$$

$$(10)$$

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} \cdots y_{k-1}^{q_{k-1}} (y_1 a_1 a_{2m-1})^{q_k} t_m^{q_k} z$$
(by Result 2.5 as  $b_{k+1}^{(m)} \cdots b_s^{(m)} t_m^{q_k} t_m^{(m)} t_m^{q_k} = t_m^{q_k}$ )

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} \cdots y_{k-1}^{q_{k-1}} (y_1 a_1 a_{2m-1} t_m)^{q_k} y_{k+1}^{q_{k+1}} \cdots y_s^{q_s}$$
(by Result 2.5 and the definition of z)

= 
$$x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} \cdots y_{k-1}^{q_{k-1}} (a_0 a_{2m})^{q_k} y_{k+1}^{q_{k+1}} \cdots y_s^{q_s}$$
 (by zigzag equations)

$$= w_1^{t_1} w_2^{t_2} \cdots w_n^{t_n} z_1^{l_1} z_2^{l_2} \cdots z_m^{l_m}$$
 (by inductive hypothesis as  $a_0 a_{2m} \in U$ ),

where equality (10) follows by Result 2.5 as  $y_1, t_m^{(m)} \in S \setminus U$  and the definition of  $w^{(m)}$ . Therefore

$$x_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}=w_1^{t_1}w_2^{t_2}\cdots w_n^{t_n}z_1^{l_1}z_2^{l_2}\cdots z_m^{l_m}$$

holds for all  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_r, y_1, y_2, \dots, y_s \in S$  and  $w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n, z_1, z_2, \dots, z_m \in U$ . By arguments similar to the proofs of Propositions 3.1 and 3.2, we may prove the following:

**Proposition 3.3:** Let U be a permutative semigroup satisfying a seminormal permutation identity of a semigroup S such that Dom(U,S) = S. If U satisfies the semigroup identity (3), then (3) also holds for all  $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_r, y_1, y_2, \ldots, y_s \in U$  and  $w_1, \ldots, w_n, z_1, \ldots, z_m$  in S, where  $p_1, p_2, \ldots, p_r, q_1, q_2, \ldots, q_s, t_1, t_2, \ldots, t_n, l_1, l_2, \ldots, l_m$  are any positive integers  $(r, s, n, m \ge 1)$ ;  $p_1 \le p_2 \le \cdots \le p_{r-1} \le p_r, q_s \le q_{s-1} \cdots \le q_2 \le q_1, t_1 \le t_2 \le \cdots \le t_n$  and  $l_m \le l_{m-1} \cdots \le l_2 \le l_1$ .

Now using Propositions 3.2 and 3.3, we have the following:

## **Theorem 3.4:** All semigroup identities of the form

$$x_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}=w_1^{t_1}w_2^{t_2}\cdots w_n^{t_n}z_1^{t_1}z_2^{t_2}\cdots z_m^{t_m};$$

are preserved under epis in conjunction with all seminormal permutation identities for all positive integers  $p_1, p_2, \ldots, p_r, q_1, q_2, \ldots, q_s, t_1, t_2, \ldots, t_n, l_1, l_2, \ldots, l_m$   $(r, s, n, m \ge 1); p_1 \le p_2 \le \cdots \le p_{r-1} \le p_r, q_s \le q_{s-1} \cdots \le q_2 \le q_1, t_1 \le t_2 \le \cdots \le t_n$  and  $l_m \le l_{m-1} \cdots \le l_2 \le l_1$ .

**Proof:** Take any  $x_1, \ldots, x_r, y_1, \ldots, y_s, w_1, \ldots, w_n, z_1, \ldots, z_m \in S$ . Then by proposition 3.2, for any  $u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_{n+m} \in U$ , we have

$$x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} y_2^{q_2} \cdots y_s^{q_s} = u_1^{t_1} u_2^{t_2} \cdots u_n^{t_n} u_{n+1}^{l_1} u_{n+2}^{l_2} \cdots u_{n+m}^{l_m}$$

$$\tag{11}$$

Again, by proposition 3.3, for any  $v_1, v_2, \ldots, v_{r+s} \in U$ , we have

$$w_1^{t_1} w_2^{t_2} \cdots w_n^{t_n} z_1^{l_1} z_2^{l_2} \cdots z_m^{l_m} = v_1^{p_1} v_2^{p_2} \cdots v_r^{p_r} v_{r+1}^{q_1} \cdots v_{r+s}^{q_s}$$

$$\tag{12}$$

Now,

$$x_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}$$

$$= u_1^{t_1} u_2^{t_2} \cdots u_n^{t_n} u_{n+1}^{l_1} u_{n+2}^{l_2} \cdots u_{n+m}^{l_m}$$
 (by equality (11))

$$= v_1^{p_1} v_2^{p_2} \cdots v_r^{p_r} v_{r+1}^{q_1} \cdots v_{r+s}^{q_s} \text{ ((as U satisfies (3))}$$

$$= w_1^{t_1} w_2^{t_2} \cdots w_n^{t_n} z_1^{l_1} z_2^{l_2} \cdots z_m^{l_m}$$
 (by equality (12))

as required.  $\Box$ 

**Theorem 3.5:** All semigroup identities of the form:

$$x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} y_2^{q_2} \cdots y_s^{q_s} = 0$$
 for all positive integers  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_r$ ; where

$$p_1 \le p_2 \le \dots \le p_{r-1} \le p_r, \ q_s \le q_{s-1} \le \dots \le q_2 \le q_1;$$

are preserved under epis in conjunction with all seminormal permutation identities.

**Proof:** As the identity  $x_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}=0$  is equivalent to the identity

$$x_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}z = z x_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s} = x_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}$$
(13)

we will show that (13) is true for all  $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_r, y_1, y_2, \ldots, y_s, z \in S$ .

So assume that U satisfies (13) and take any  $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_r, y_1, y_2, \ldots, y_s, z \in S$ . Now we show that the identity (13) is also satisfied by S.

Case(a):  $z \in S$  and  $x_1, x_2, ..., x_r, y_1, y_2, ..., y_s \in U$ .

If  $z \in U$ , then (13) is trivially satisfied. So assume that  $z \in S \setminus U$ . By Result 2.2, let (2) be a zigzag of minimal length in S over U with value z. Therefore

$$\begin{split} x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} & \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} y_2^{q_2} \cdots y_s^{q_s} z \\ &= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} y_2^{q_2} \cdots y_s^{q_s} a_0 t_1 \text{ (by zigzag equations)} \\ &= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} y_2^{q_2} \cdots y_s^{q_s} a_1 t_1 \text{ (since } U \text{ satisfies (13))} \\ &= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} y_2^{q_2} \cdots y_s^{q_s} a_2 t_2 \text{ (by zigzag equations)} \\ &= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} y_2^{q_2} \cdots y_s^{q_s} a_3 t_2 \text{ (since } U \text{ satisfies(13)))} \\ &\vdots \\ &= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} y_2^{q_2} \cdots y_s^{q_s} a_{2m-1} t_m \\ &= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} y_2^{q_2} \cdots y_s^{q_s} a_{2m} \text{ (by zigzag equations)} \\ &= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} y_2^{q_2} \cdots y_s^{q_s} a_{2m} \text{ (by zigzag equations)} \\ &= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} y_2^{q_2} \cdots y_s^{q_s} \text{ (since } U \text{ satisfies (13))}. \end{split}$$

Also 
$$zx_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}$$

$$= y_m a_{2m} x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} y_2^{q_2} \cdots y_s^{q_s}$$
 (by zigzag equations)

= 
$$y_m a_{2m-1} x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} y_2^{q_2} \cdots y_s^{q_s}$$
 (since  $U$  satisfies (13))

$$= y_{m-1}a_{2m-2}x_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}$$
 (by zigzag equations)

$$= y_{m-1}a_{2m-3}x_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s} \text{ (since } U \text{ satisfies (13))}$$

:

$$= y_1 a_1 x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} y_2^{q_2} \cdots y_s^{q_s}$$

$$= a_0 x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} y_2^{q_2} \cdots y_s^{q_s}$$
 (by zigzag equations)

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} y_2^{q_2} \cdots y_s^{q_s}$$
 (since  $U$  satisfies (13)).

Therefore  $x_1^{p_1} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} \cdots y_s^{q_s} z = z x_1^{p_1} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} \cdots y_s^{q_s} = x_1^{p_1} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} \cdots y_s^{q_s}$ , as required.

Case(b): 
$$x_1, z \in S \text{ and } x_2, ..., x_r, y_1, y_2, ..., y_s \in U$$
.

If  $x_1 \in U$ , then the result follows from Case(a). Therefore we may assume that  $x_1 \in S \setminus U$ . Then, by Result 2.2, let (2) be a zigzag of minimal length in S over U with value  $x_1$ . Now

$$x_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}z$$

= 
$$y_m^{p_1}a_{2m}^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}z$$
 (by Result 2.6 and zigzag equations)

$$= y_m^{p_1} a_{2m}^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} y_2^{q_2} \cdots y_s^{q_s}$$
 (by Case (a))

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} y_2^{q_2} \cdots y_s^{q_s}$$
 (by Result 2.6 and zigzag equations),

as required.

Similarly

$$zx_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}$$

= 
$$zy_m^{p_1}a_{2m}^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}$$
 (by Result 2.6 and zigzag equations)

$$= y_m^{p_1} a_{2m}^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} y_2^{q_2} \cdots y_s^{q_s}$$
 (by Case (a) as  $zy_m^{p_1} \in S$ )

= 
$$x_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}$$
 (by Result 2.6 and zigzag equations)

as required.

Therefore  $x_1^{p_1} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} \cdots y_s^{q_s} z = z x_1^{p_1} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} \cdots y_s^{q_s} = x_1^{p_1} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} \cdots y_s^{q_s}$ , as required.

Case(c): We assume inductively that the result is true for all  $x_1, \ldots, x_{k-1}, z \in S$  and  $x_k, \ldots, x_r, y_1, y_2, \ldots, y_s \in U$ . We shall prove that the result is also true for all  $x_1, \ldots, x_k, z \in S$  and  $x_{k+1}, \ldots, x_r, y_1, y_2, \ldots, y_s \in U$ . Again if  $x_k \in U$ , then the result follows by inductive hypothesis. So assume that  $x_k \in S \setminus U$ . Then, by Result 2.2, let (2) be a zigzag of minimal length in S over U with value  $x_k$ .

Now, we have

$$x_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}z$$

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_{k-1}^{p_{k-1}} y_m^{p_k} a_{2m}^{p_k} x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} y_2^{q_2} \cdots y_s^{q_s} z \text{ (by Result 2.6 and zigzag equations)}$$

$$= wy_m^{(m)^{p_k}}b_1^{(m)^{p_k}}\cdots b_{k-1}^{(m)^{p_k}}a_{2m}^{p_k}x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}z$$
(by Results 2.4 and 2.5 for some  $b_1^{(m)},\ldots,b_{k-1}^{(m)}\in U$  and  $y_m^{(m)}\in S\setminus U$  as  $y_m\in S\setminus U$  and  $a_{2m}=a_{2m-1}t_m$  with  $t_m\in S\setminus U$  and where  $w=x_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_{k-1}^{p_{k-1}}$ )

$$= wy_m^{(m)^{p_k}}v^{(m)}b_1^{(m)^{p_1}}\cdots b_{k-1}^{(m)^{p_{k-1}}}a_{2m}^{p_k}x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}z$$
 (by Result 2.5 as  $y_m^{(m)}, t_m \in S\backslash U$  and as  $v^{(m)} = b_1^{(m)^{p_k-p_1}}\cdots b_{k-1}^{(m)^{p_k-p_{k-1}}}$ )

= 
$$wy_m^{(m)^{p_k}}v^{(m)}b_1^{(m)^{p_1}}\cdots b_{k-1}^{(m)^{p_{k-1}}}a_{2m}^{p_k}x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}$$
 (by Case (a))

$$= wy_m^{(m)^{p_k}}b_1^{(m)^{p_k}}\cdots b_{k-1}^{(m)^{p_k}}a_{2m}^{p_k}x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}$$
(by Result 2.5 and the definition of  $v^{(m)}$ )

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_{k-1}^{p_{k-1}} y_m^{p_k} a_{2m}^{p_k} x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} y_2^{q_2} \cdots y_s^{q_s}$$

$$(\text{as } y_m^{(m)^{p_k}} b_1^{(m)^{p_k}} \cdots b_{k-1}^{(m)^{p_k}} = y_m^{p_k} \text{ and } w = x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_{k-1}^{p_{k-1}})$$

 $= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_{k-1}^{p_{k-1}} x_k^{p_k} x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} y_2^{q_2} \cdots y_s^{q_s} \text{(by Result 2.6 and zigzag equations)}.$  Similarly

$$zx_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}$$

$$= zx_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_{k-1}^{p_{k-1}}y_m^{p_k}a_{2m}^{p_k}x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}$$
(by Result 2.6 and zigzag equations)

$$= zwy_m^{(m)^{p_k}}b_1^{(m)^{p_k}}\cdots b_{k-1}^{(m)^{p_k}}a_{2m}^{p_k}x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}$$
(by Results 2.4 and 2.5 for some  $b_1^{(m)},\ldots,b_{k-1}^{(m)}\in U$  and  $y_m^{(m)}\in S\backslash U$  as  $y_m$  in  $S\backslash U$  and  $a_{2m}=a_{2m-1}t_m$  with  $t_m\in S\backslash U$  and where  $w=x_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_{k-1}^{p_{k-1}}$ )

$$= zwy_m^{(m)^{p_k}}v^{(m)}b_1^{(m)^{p_1}}\cdots b_{k-1}^{(m)^{p_{k-1}}}a_{2m}^{p_k}x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}$$
 (by Result 2.5 as  $y_m^{(m)}, t_m \in S\backslash U$  and as  $v^{(m)} = b_1^{(m)^{p_k-p_1}}\cdots b_{k-1}^{(m)^{p_k-p_{k-1}}}$ )

$$= wy_m^{(m)^{p_k}}v^{(m)}b_1^{(m)^{p_1}}\cdots b_{k-1}^{(m)^{p_{k-1}}}a_{2m}^{p_k}x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}$$
(by Case (a) as  $wy_m^{(m)^{p_k}}v^{(m)} \in S$ )

$$= wy_m^{(m)^{p_k}}b_1^{(m)^{p_k}}\cdots b_{k-1}^{(m)^{p_k}}a_{2m}^{p_k}x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}$$
(by Result 2.5 and the definition of  $v^{(m)}$ )

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_{k-1}^{p_{k-1}} y_m^{p_k} a_{2m}^{p_k} x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} y_2^{q_2} \cdots y_s^{q_s}$$

$$(\text{as } y_m^{(m)^{p_k}} b_1^{(m)^{p_k}} \cdots b_{k-1}^{(m)^{p_k}} = y_m^{p_k} \text{ and } w = x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_{k-1}^{p_{k-1}})$$

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_{k-1}^{p_{k-1}} x_k^{p_k} x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} y_2^{q_2} \cdots y_s^{q_s}$$
 (by Result 2.6 and zigzag equations).

Therefore

$$x_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}z=zx_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}\ =\ x_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s},$$

as required.

Case(d):  $x_1, x_2, ..., x_r, y_1, z \in S \text{ and } y_2, ..., y_s \in U.$ 

If  $y_1 \in U$ , then the result follows from Case(c). Therefore, we may assume that  $y_1 \in S \setminus U$ . Then, by Result 2.2, let (2) be a zigzag of minimal length in S over U with value  $y_1$ . Now as the equalities (14) and (15) follow by Results 2.4 and 2.5 for some  $b_2^{(1)}, \ldots, b_s^{(1)}$  in U and  $t_1^{(1)} \in S \setminus U$  as  $y_1, t_1 \in S \setminus U$  and where  $w^{(1)} = b_2^{q_1 - q_2} \cdots b_s^{q_1 - q_s}$  respectively, we have

$$x_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}z$$

= 
$$x_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_r^{p_r}a_0^{q_1}t_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}z$$
 (by Result 2.6 and zigzag equations)

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} a_0^{q_1} b_2^{(1)^{q_1}} \cdots b_s^{(1)^{q_1}} t_1^{(1)^{q_1}} y_2^{q_2} \cdots y_s^{q_s} z$$

$$\tag{14}$$

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} a_0^{q_1} b_2^{(1)^{q_1}} \cdots b_s^{(1)^{q_s}} w^{(1)} t_1^{(1)^{q_1}} y_2^{q_2} \cdots y_s^{q_s} z$$

$$\tag{15}$$

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} a_0^{q_1} b_2^{(1)^{q_1}} \cdots b_s^{(1)^{q_s}} hz \text{ (where } h = w^{(1)} t_1^{(1)^{q_1}} y_2^{q_2} \cdots y_s^{q_s})$$

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} a_0^{q_1} b_2^{(1)^{q_2}} \cdots b_s^{(1)^{q_s}} w^{(1)} t_1^{(1)^{q_1}} y_2^{q_2} \cdots y_s^{q_s} \text{ (by Case(c), since } hz \in S)$$

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} a_0^{q_1} b_2^{(1)^{q_1}} \cdots b_s^{(1)^{q_1}} t_1^{(1)^{q_1}} y_2^{q_2} \cdots y_s^{q_s}$$
(by Result 2.5 and definition of  $w^{(1)}$ )

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} a_0^{q_1} t_1^{q_1} y_2^{q_2} \cdots y_s^{q_s} \text{ (by Result 2.5 as } b_2^{(1)^{q_1}} \cdots b_s^{(1)^{q_1}} t_1^{(1)^{q_1}} = t_1^{q_1})$$

= 
$$x_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}$$
 (by Result 2.6 and zigzag equations)

as required.

Similarly

$$zx_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}$$

= 
$$zx_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_r^{p_r}a_0^{q_1}t_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}$$
 (by Result 2.6 and zigzag equations)

$$= zx_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_r^{p_r}a_0^{q_1}b_2^{(1)^{q_1}}\cdots b_s^{(1)^{q_1}}t_1^{(1)^{q_1}}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}$$

$$= zx_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_r^{p_r}a_0^{q_1}b_2^{(1)^{q_2}}\cdots b_s^{(1)^{q_s}}w^{(1)}t_1^{(1)^{q_1}}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}$$

(by Result 2.6 and zigzag equations)

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} a_0^{q_1} b_2^{(1)^{q_2}} \cdots b_s^{(1)^{q_s}} w^{(1)} t_1^{(1)^{q_1}} y_2^{q_2} \cdots y_s^{q_s} \text{ (by Case (c))}$$

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} a_0^{q_1} b_2^{(1)^{q_1}} \cdots b_s^{(1)^{q_1}} t_1^{(1)^{q_1}} y_2^{q_2} \cdots y_s^{q_s} \text{ (by Result 2.5 and definition of } w^{(1)})$$

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} a_0^{q_1} t_1^{q_1} y_2^{q_2} \cdots y_s^{q_s} \text{ (by Result 2.5 as } b_2^{(1)^{q_1}} \cdots b_s^{(1)^{q_1}} t_1^{(1)^{q_1}} = t_1^{q_1})$$

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} y_2^{q_2} \cdots y_s^{q_s}$$
 (by Result 2.6 and zigzag equations)

as required.

Therefore  $x_1^{p_1} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} \cdots y_s^{q_s} z = z x_1^{p_1} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} \cdots y_s^{q_s} = x_1^{p_1} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} \cdots y_s^{q_s}$ , as required.

Case(e): We assume inductively that the result is true for all  $x_1, \ldots, x_r, y_1, \ldots, y_{k-1}, z$  in S and  $y_k, \ldots, y_s \in U$ . We shall prove that the result is also true for all  $x_1, \ldots, x_r, y_1, \ldots, y_{k-1}, y_k, z \in S$  and  $y_{k+1}, \ldots, y_s \in U$ . Again if  $y_k \in U$ , then the result follows by inductive hypothesis. So assume that  $y_k \in S \setminus U$ . Then, by Result 2.2, let (2) be a zigzag of minimal length in S over U with value  $y_k$ . Now as the equalities (16) and (17) follow by Results 2.4 and 2.5 for some  $b_{k+1}^{(1)}, \ldots, b_s^{(1)}$  in U and  $t_1^{(1)} \in S \setminus U$  as  $y_1, t_1 \in S \setminus U$  and where  $v = y_{k+1}^{q_{k+1}} \cdots y_s^{q_s}$ , and by Result 2.5 as  $a_0 = y_1 a_1, y_1, t_1^{(1)} \in S \setminus U$  and where  $w^{(1)} = b_{k+1}^{q_k - q_{k+1}} \cdots b_s^{q_k - q_s}$  respectively, we have

$$x_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}z$$

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} y_2^{q_2} \cdots y_{k-1}^{q_{k-1}} a_0^{q_k} t_1^{q_k} y_{k+1}^{q_{k+1}} \cdots y_s^{q_s} z \text{ (by Result 2.6 and zigzag equations)}$$

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} y_2^{q_2} \cdots y_{k-1}^{q_{k-1}} a_0^{q_k} b_{k+1}^{(1)} \cdots b_s^{(1)} t_1^{q_k} t_1^{(1)^{q_k}} vz$$

$$(16)$$

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} y_2^{q_2} \cdots y_{k-1}^{q_{k-1}} a_0^{q_k} b_{k+1}^{(1)} \cdots b_s^{(1)} b_s^{q_s} w^{(1)} t_1^{(1)} vz$$

$$(17)$$

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} y_2^{q_2} \cdots y_{k-1}^{q_{k-1}} a_0^{q_k} b_{k+1}^{(1)} q_{k+1}^{q_{k+1}} \cdots b_s^{(1)} w^{(1)} t_1^{(1)} v$$
(by inductive hypothesis as  $w^{(1)} t_1^{(1)} vz \in S$ )

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} y_2^{q_2} \cdots y_{k-1}^{q_{k-1}} a_0^{q_k} b_{k+1}^{q_k} \cdots b_s^{q_k} t_1^{(1)^{q_k}} v$$
(by Result 2.5 and the definition of  $w^{(1)}$ )

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} y_2^{q_2} \cdots y_{k-1}^{q_{k-1}} a_0^{q_k} t_1^{q_k} y_{k+1}^{q_{k+1}} \cdots y_s^{q_s}$$
(by Result 2.5 as  $b_{k+1}^{(1)} \cdots b_s^{(1)} t_1^{(1)q_k} = t_1^{q_k}$  and the definition of  $v$ )

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} y_2^{q_2} \cdots y_{k-1}^{q_{k-1}} y_k^{q_k} y_{k+1}^{q_{k+1}} \cdots y_s^{q_s} \text{ (by Result 2.6 and zigzag equations)}.$$

Similarly

$$\begin{split} zx_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s} \\ &= zx_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_{k-1}^{q_{k-1}}a_0^{q_k}t_1^{q_k}y_{k+1}^{q_{k+1}}\cdots y_s^{q_s} \text{ (by Result 2.6 and zigzag equations)} \end{split}$$

$$= zx_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_{k-1}^{q_{k-1}}a_0^{q_k}b_{k+1}^{(1)} \cdots b_s^{(1)q_k}t_1^{(1)q_k}v$$

$$= zx_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_{k-1}^{q_{k-1}}a_0^{q_k}b_{k+1}^{(1)}{}^{q_{k+1}}\cdots b_s^{(1)}{}^{q_s}w^{(1)}t_1^{(1)}{}^{q_k}v$$

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} y_2^{q_2} \cdots y_{k-1}^{q_{k-1}} a_0^{q_k} b_{k+1}^{q_{k+1}} \cdots b_s^{q_s} w^{(1)} t_1^{(1)^{q_k}} v \text{ (by inductive hypothesis)}$$

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} y_2^{q_2} \cdots y_{k-1}^{q_{k-1}} a_0^{q_k} b_{k+1}^{(1)} \cdots b_s^{(1)} t_1^{q_k} v$$
(by Result 2.5 and the definition of  $w^{(1)}$ )

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} y_2^{q_2} \cdots y_{k-1}^{q_{k-1}} a_0^{q_k} t_1^{q_k} y_{k+1}^{q_{k+1}} \cdots y_s^{q_s}$$
(by Result 2.5 as  $b_{k+1}^{(1)} {}^{q_k} \cdots b_s^{(1)} {}^{q_k} t_1^{(1)} {}^{q_k} = t_1^{q_k}$  and the definition of  $v$ )

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} y_1^{q_1} y_2^{q_2} \cdots y_{k-1}^{q_{k-1}} y_k^{q_k} y_{k+1}^{q_{k+1}} \cdots y_s^{q_s} \text{ (by Result 2.6 and zigzag equations)}.$$

Therefore S satisfies

$$x_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}z=zx_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s}=x_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_r^{p_r}y_1^{q_1}y_2^{q_2}\cdots y_s^{q_s},$$

as required.  $\Box$ 

**Theorem 3.6:** All semigroup identities of the forms:

(i) 
$$z^q x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} = x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r}; (p_r \le p_{r-1} \cdots \le p_2 \le p_1, q \ge 0).$$
 (18)

$$(ii) \ x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} z^q = x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r}; (p_1 \le p_2 \le \cdots \le p_{r-1} \le p_r, q \ge 0). \tag{19}$$

are preserved under epis in conjunction with all seminormal permutation identities.

**Proof (i):** Assume that U satisfies (18). Take any  $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_r, z \in S$ . We shall show that the identity (18) is also satisfied by S.

Case(a):  $z \in S$  and  $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_r \in U$ .

If  $z \in U$ , then (18) is trivially satisfied. So assume that  $z \in S \setminus U$ . As  $z \in S \setminus U$ , by Result 2.2, we may let (2) be a zigzag of minimal length in S over U with value z. Now

$$z^q x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r}$$

= 
$$y_m^q a_{2m}^q x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r}$$
 (by zigzag equations and Result 2.6)

= 
$$y_m^q (a_{2m-1}a_{2m})^q x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r}$$
 (since U satisfies (18))

$$= y_m^q a_{2m-1}^q a_{2m}^q x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r}$$
 (by Result 2.5 as  $a_{2m} = a_{2m-1} t_m$  and  $y_m, t_m \in S \setminus U$ )

$$= (y_m a_{2m-1})^q a_{2m}^q x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r}$$
(by Result 2.5 as  $a_{2m} = a_{2m-1} t_m$  and  $y_m, t_m \in S \setminus U$ )

$$= (y_{m-1}a_{2m-2})^q a_{2m}^q x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r}$$
 (by zigzag equations)

$$= y_{m-1}^q a_{2m-2}^q a_{2m}^q x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r}$$
(by Result 2.5 as  $a_{2m} = a_{2m-1}t_m$  and  $y_{m-1}, t_m \in S \setminus U$ )

$$= y_{m-1}^q (a_{2m-2}a_{2m})^q x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r}$$
 (by Result 2.5 as  $a_{2m} = a_{2m-1}t_m$  and  $y_{m-1}, t_m \in S \setminus U$ )

$$= y_{m-1}^q (a_{2m-3}a_{2m})^q x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r}$$
 (as  $U$  satisfies (18))

$$= y_{m-1}^q a_{2m-3}^q a_{2m}^q x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r}$$
(by Result 2.5 as  $a_{2m} = a_{2m-1} t_m$  and  $y_{m-1}, t_m \in S \setminus U$ )

$$= (y_{m-1}a_{2m-3})^q a_{2m}^q x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r}$$
(by Result 2.5 as  $a_{2m} = a_{2m-1}t_m$  and  $y_{m-1}, t_m \in S \setminus U$ )

$$= (y_{m-2}a_{2m-4})^q a_{2m}^q x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r}$$
 (by zigzag equations)

$$= y_{m-2}^q a_{2m-4}^q a_{2m}^q x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r}$$
(by Result 2.5 as  $a_{2m} = a_{2m-1} t_m$  and  $y_{m-2}, t_m \in S \setminus U$ )

$$= y_{m-2}^q (a_{2m-4}a_{2m})^q x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r}$$
 (by Result 2.5 as  $a_{2m} = a_{2m-1}t_m$  and  $y_{m-2}, t_m \in S \setminus U$ )

 $= y_1^q (a_1 a_{2m})^q x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r}$ 

$$= y_1^q a_1^q a_{2m}^q x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r}$$
 (by Result 2.5 as  $a_{2m} = a_{2m-1} t_m$  and  $y_1, t_m \in S \setminus U$ )

$$= (y_1 a_1)^q a_{2m}^q x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r}$$
 (by Result 2.5 as  $a_{2m} = a_{2m-1} t_m$  and  $y_1, t_m \in S \setminus U$ )

$$= a_0^q a_{2m}^q x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r}$$
 (by zigzag equations)

$$= (a_0 a_{2m})^q x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r}$$
 (by Result 2.5 as  $a_0 = y_1 a_1, a_{2m} = a_{2m-1} t_m$  and  $y_1, t_m \in S \setminus U$ )

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r}$$
 (as  $U$  satisfies (18))

Case(b):  $x_1, z \in S$  and  $x_2, \ldots, x_r \in U$ .

As the equalities (20), (21) follows by Results 2.4 and 2.5 for some  $b_2^{(1)}, \ldots, b_r^{(1)}$  in U and  $t_1^{(1)} \in S \setminus U$  as  $y_1, t_1 \in S \setminus U$  and where  $v = x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r}, w^{(1)} = b_2^{p_1 - p_2} \cdots b_r^{p_1 - p_r}$ , we have

$$z^q x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} = z^q a_0^{p_1} t_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r}$$
 (by zigzag equations and Result 2.6)

$$= z^{q} a_0^{p_1} b_2^{(1)^{p_1}} \cdots b_r^{(1)^{p_1}} t_1^{(1)^{p_1}} v \tag{20}$$

$$= z^{q} a_0^{p_1} b_2^{(1)^{p_2}} \cdots b_r^{(1)^{p_r}} w^{(1)} t_1^{(1)^{p_1}} v$$
 (21)

$$= a_0^{p_1} b_2^{(1)^{p_2}} \cdots b_r^{(1)^{p_r}} w^{(1)} t_1^{(1)^{p_1}} v \text{ (by Case(a))}$$

$$= \ a_0^{p_1} b_2^{(1)^{p_1}} \cdots b_r^{(1)^{p_1}} t_1^{(1)^{p_1}} v \text{ (by Result 2.5 and the definition of } \ w^{(1)})$$

= 
$$a_0^{p_1} t_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r}$$
 (by Result 2.5 and the definition of  $v$ )

= 
$$x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r}$$
 (by Result 2.6 and zigzag equations)

as required.

Case(c): Now assume inductively that the result is true for all  $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_{k-1}, z \in S$  and  $x_k, x_{k+1}, \ldots, x_r \in U$ . We shall prove that it is true for all  $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_k, z \in S$  and  $x_{k+1}, \ldots, x_r \in U$ . If  $x_k \in U$ , then the result holds by inductive hypothesis. So we may assume that  $x_k \in S \setminus U$ . Then, by Result 2.2, we may let (2) be a zigzag of minimal length in S over U with value  $x_k$ . As the equalities (22) and (23) follow by Results 2.4 and 2.5 for some  $b_{k+1}^{(1)}, \ldots, b_r^{(1)}$  in U and  $t_1^{(1)}$  in  $S \setminus U$  as  $y_1, t_1 \in S \setminus U$  and where  $v = x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}} \cdots x_r^{p_r}$ 

and 
$$w^{(1)} = b_{k+1}^{(1)}{}^{p_k - p_{k+1}} \cdots b_r^{(1)}{}^{p_k - p_r}$$
. Now, we have

$$z^q x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r}$$

= 
$$z^q x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_{k-1}^{p_k-1} a_0^{p_k} t_1^{p_k} \cdots x_r^{p_r}$$
 (by zigzag equations and Result 2.6)

$$= z^{q} x_{1}^{p_{1}} x_{2}^{p_{2}} \cdots x_{k-1}^{p_{k}-1} a_{0}^{p_{k}} b_{k+1}^{(1)} \cdots b_{r}^{(1)} b_{k}^{p_{k}} t_{1}^{(1)} b_{k}^{p_{k}} v$$

$$(22)$$

$$= z^{q} x_{1}^{p_{1}} x_{2}^{p_{2}} \cdots x_{k-1}^{p_{k}-1} a_{0}^{p_{k}} b_{k+1}^{(1)} \cdots b_{r}^{(1)p_{r}} w^{(1)} t_{1}^{(1)p_{k}} v$$

$$(23)$$

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_{k-1}^{p_k-1} a_0^{p_k} b_{k+1}^{(1)} \cdots b_r^{(1)} w^{(1)} t_1^{(1)} v \text{ (by inductive hypothesis)}$$

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_{k-1}^{p_k-1} a_0^{p_k} b_{k+1}^{(1)} \cdots b_r^{(1)} t_1^{(1)} v \text{ (by Result 2.5 and the definition of } w^{(1)})$$

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_{k-1}^{p_k-1} a_0^{p_k} t_1^{p_k} v \text{ (by Result 2.5 as } b_{k+1}^{(1)} \cdots b_r^{(1)} t_1^{p_k} t_1^{(1)} t_1^{p_k} = t_1^{p_k})$$

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_{k-1}^{p_{k-1}} a_0^{p_k} t_1^{p_k} x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}} \cdots x_r^{p_r} \text{ (as } v = x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}} \cdots x_r^{p_r})$$

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_{k-1}^{p_{k-1}} x_k^{p_k} x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}} \cdots x_r^{p_r}$$
 (by Result 2.6 and zigzag equations)

Therefore  $z^q x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} = x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r}$  for all  $z, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_r \in S$ , as required.

**Proof (ii):** Assume that U satisfies (19). Take any  $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_r, z \in S$ . We shall show that the identity (19) is also satisfied by S.

Case(a):  $z \in S$  and  $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_r \in U$ .

If  $z \in U$ , then (19) is trivially satisfied. So assume that  $z \in S \setminus U$ . As  $z \in S \setminus U$ , by Result 2.2, we may let (2) be a zigzag of minimal length in S over U with value z. Now,

$$x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} z^q$$

= 
$$x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} a_0^q t_1^q$$
 (by zigzag equations and Result 2.6)

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} (a_0 a_1)^q t_1^q \text{ (since } U \text{ satisfies (19))}$$

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} a_0^q a_1^q t_1^q \text{ (by Result 2.5 as } a_0 = y_1 a_1 \text{ and } y_1, t_1 \in S \setminus U)$$

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} a_0^q (a_1 t_1)^q \text{ (by Result 2.5 as } a_0 = y_1 a_1 \text{ and } y_1, t_1 \in S \setminus U)$$

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} a_0^q (a_2 t_2)^q \text{ (by zigzag equations)}$$

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} a_0^q a_2^q t_2^q \text{ (by Result 2.5 as } a_0 = y_1 a_1 \text{ and } y_1, t_2 \in S \setminus U)$$

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} (a_0 a_2)^q t_2^q \text{ (by Result 2.5 as } a_0 = y_1 a_1 \text{ and } y_1, t_2 \in S \setminus U)$$

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} (a_0 a_3)^q t_2^q \text{ (as } U \text{ satisfies (19))}$$

$$:$$

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} (a_0 a_2)^q t_2^q \text{ (by Result 2.5 as } a_0 = y_1 a_1 \text{ and } y_1, t_{m-1} \in S \setminus U)$$

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} (a_0 a_{2m-3})^q t_{m-1}^q$$

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} a_0^q a_{2m-3}^q t_{m-1} \text{ (by Result 2.5 as } a_0 = y_1 a_1 \text{ and } y_1, t_{m-1} \in S \setminus U)$$

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} a_0^q (a_{2m-3} t_{m-1})^q \text{ (by Result 2.5 as } a_0 = y_1 a_1 \text{ and } y_1, t_{m-1} \in S \setminus U)$$

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} a_0^q (a_{2m-2} t_m)^q \text{ (by zigzag equations)}$$

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} a_0^q a_{2m-2}^q t_m \text{ (by Result 2.5 as } a_0 = y_1 a_1 \text{ and } y_1, t_m \in S \setminus U)$$

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} a_0^q a_{2m-2}^q t_m \text{ (by Result 2.5 as } a_0 = y_1 a_1 \text{ and } y_1, t_m \in S \setminus U)$$

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} (a_0 a_{2m-2})^q t_m^q \text{ (by Result 2.5 as } a_0 = y_1 a_1 \text{ and } y_1, t_m \in S \setminus U)$$

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} (a_0 a_{2m-2})^q t_m^q \text{ (by Result 2.5 as } a_0 = y_1 a_1 \text{ and } y_1, t_m \in S \setminus U)$$

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} (a_0 a_{2m-2})^q t_m^q \text{ (by Result 2.5 as } a_0 = y_1 a_1 \text{ and } y_1, t_m \in S \setminus U)$$

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} (a_0 a_{2m-2})^q t_m^q \text{ (by Result 2.5 as } a_0 = y_1 a_1 \text{ and } y_1, t_m \in S \setminus U)$$

$$= x_1^{p_1}$$

=  $x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} a_0^q a_{2m-1}^q t_m^q$  (by Result 2.5 as  $a_0 = y_1 a_1$  and  $y_1, t_m \in S \setminus U$ )

= 
$$x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} (a_0 a_{2m-1} t_m)^q$$
 (by Result 2.5 as  $a_0 = y_1 a_1$  and  $y_1, t_m \in S \setminus U$ )

= 
$$x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r}$$
 (as  $a_0 a_{2m-1} t_m = a_0 a_{2m} \in U$  and  $U$  satisfies (19))

as required.

Case(b):  $x_1, z \in S$  and  $x_2, \ldots, x_r \in U$ .

If  $x_1 \in U$ , then the result follows by Case (a). So assume that  $x_1 \in S \setminus U$ . As  $x_1 \in S \setminus U$ , by Result 2.2, we may let (2) be a zigzag of minimal length in S over U with value  $x_1$ . Therefore

$$x_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_r^{p_r}z^q$$

=  $y_m^{p_1} a_{2m}^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r} z^q$  (by zigzag equations and Result 2.6)

$$= y_m^{p_1} a_{2m}^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r}$$
 (by Case (a))

= 
$$x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_r^{p_r}$$
 (by Result 2.6 and zigzag equations)

as required.

Case(c): Now assume inductively that the result is true for all  $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_{k-1}, z \in S$  and  $x_k, x_{k+1}, \ldots, x_r \in U$ . We shall prove that it is true for all  $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_k, z \in S$  and  $x_{k+1}, \ldots, x_r \in U$ . If  $x_k \in U$ , then the result holds by inductive hypothesis. So we may assume that  $x_k \in S \setminus U$ . Then, by Result 2.2, we may let (2) be a zigzag of minimal length in S over U with value  $x_k$ . Now, we have

$$x_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_r^{p_r}z^q$$

= 
$$x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_{k-1}^{p_{k-1}} y_m^{p_k} a_{2m}^{p_k} x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}} \cdots x_r^{p_r} z^q$$
 (by zigzag equations and Result 2.6)

$$= wy_m^{(m)^{p_k}}b_1^{(m)^{p_k}}\cdots b_{k-1}^{(m)^{p_k}}a_{2m}^{p_k}x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}}\cdots x_r^{p_r}z^q$$
(by Results 2.4 and 2.5 for some  $b_1^{(m)},\ldots,b_{k-1}^{(m)}\in U$  and  $y_m^{(m)}\in S\backslash U$  as  $y_m\in S\backslash U$  and  $a_{2m}=a_{2m-1}t_m$  with  $t_m\in S\backslash U$  and where  $w=x_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_{k-1}^{p_{k-1}}$ )

$$= wy_m^{(m)^{p_k}}v^{(m)}b_1^{(m)^{p_1}}\cdots b_{k-1}^{(m)^{p_{k-1}}}a_{2m}^{p_k}x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}}\cdots x_r^{p_r}z^q$$
(by Result 2.5 as  $y_m^{(m)},\ t_m\in S\backslash U$  and where  $v^{(m)}=b_1^{(m)^{p_k-p_1}}\cdots b_{k-1}^{(m)^{p_k-p_{k-1}}}$ )

= 
$$wy_m^{(m)p_k}v^{(m)}b_1^{(m)p_1}\cdots b_{k-1}^{(m)p_{k-1}}a_{2m}^{p_k}x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}}\cdots x_r^{p_r}$$
 (by Case (a))

$$= wy_m^{(m)^{p_k}}b_1^{(m)^{p_k}}\cdots b_{k-1}^{(m)^{p_k}}a_{2m}^{p_k}x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}}\cdots x_r^{p_r}$$
(by Result 2.5 as  $y_m^{(m)}, t_m \in S\backslash U$  and as  $v^{(m)} = b_1^{(m)^{p_k-p_1}}\cdots b_{k-1}^{(m)^{p_k-p_{k-1}}}$ )

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_{k-1}^{p_{k-1}} y_m^{p_k} a_{2m}^{p_k} x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}} \cdots x_r^{p_r}$$

$$(\text{as } y_m^{(m)^{p_k}} b_1^{(m)^{p_k}} \cdots b_{k-1}^{(m)^{p_k}} = y_m^{p_k} \text{ and } w = x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_{k-1}^{p_{k-1}})$$

$$= x_1^{p_1} x_2^{p_2} \cdots x_{k-1}^{p_{k-1}} x_k^{p_k} x_{k+1}^{p_{k+1}} \cdots x_r^{p_r}$$
 (by zigzag equations and Result 2.6)

Therefore

$$x_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_r^{p_r}z^q = x_1^{p_1}x_2^{p_2}\cdots x_r^{p_r}$$

for all  $z, x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_r \in S$ , as required.

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